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1 **Rare and low-frequency coding variants alter human adult height**

2

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9

10 *Summary: 149 words*

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12 *Three figures, one table, 8 extended data figures, 2 extended data tables*

13 **SUMMARY**

14 Height is a highly heritable, classic polygenic trait with ~700 common associated variants  
15 identified so far through genome-wide association studies. Here, we report 83 height-associated  
16 coding variants with lower minor allele frequencies (range of 0.1-4.8%) and effects of up to 2  
17 cm/allele (*e.g.* in *IHH*, *STC2*, *AR* and *CRISPLD2*), >10 times the average effect of common  
18 variants. In functional follow-up studies, rare height-increasing alleles of *STC2* (+1-2 cm/allele)  
19 compromised proteolytic inhibition of PAPP-A and increased cleavage of IGFBP-4 *in vitro*,  
20 resulting in higher bioavailability of insulin-like growth factors. These 83 height-associated  
21 variants overlap genes mutated in monogenic growth disorders and highlight new biological  
22 candidates (*e.g.* *ADAMTS3*, *IL11RA*, *NOX4*) and pathways (*e.g.*  
23 proteoglycan/glycosaminoglycan synthesis) involved in growth. Our results demonstrate that  
24 sufficiently large sample sizes can uncover rare and low-frequency variants of moderate to large  
25 effect associated with polygenic human phenotypes, and that these variants implicate relevant  
26 genes and pathways.

27

28

## 29 INTRODUCTION

30 Human height is a highly heritable, polygenic trait<sup>1,2</sup>. The contribution of common DNA  
31 sequence variation to inter-individual differences in adult height has been systematically  
32 evaluated through genome-wide association studies (GWAS). This approach has thus far  
33 identified 697 independent variants located within 423 loci that together explain ~20% of the  
34 heritability of height<sup>3</sup>. As is typical of complex traits and diseases, most of the height alleles  
35 discovered so far are common (minor allele frequency (MAF) >5%) and are mainly located  
36 outside coding regions, complicating the identification of the relevant genes or functional  
37 variants. Identifying coding variants associated with a complex trait in new or known loci has the  
38 potential to pinpoint causal genes. Furthermore, the extent to which rare (MAF <1%) and low-  
39 frequency (1% < MAF ≤ 5%) coding variants also influence complex traits and diseases remains  
40 an open question. Many recent DNA sequencing studies have identified only few such variants<sup>4-</sup>  
41 <sup>8</sup>, but this limited success could be due to their modest sample size<sup>9</sup>. Some studies have  
42 suggested that common sequence variants may explain the majority of the heritable variation in  
43 adult height<sup>10</sup>, making it timely to assess whether and to what extent rare and low-frequency  
44 coding variation contributes to the genetic landscape of this model polygenic trait.

45

46 In this study, we used an ExomeChip<sup>11</sup> to test the association between 241,453 variants (83%  
47 coding with MAF ≤5%) and adult height variation in 711,428 individuals (discovery and  
48 validation sample sizes were 458,927 and 252,501, respectively). The ExomeChip is a  
49 genotyping array designed to query in very large sample sizes coding variants identified by  
50 whole-exome DNA sequencing of ~12,000 participants. The main goals of our project were to  
51 determine whether rare and low-frequency coding variants influence the architecture of a model

52 complex human trait, such as adult height, and to discover and characterize new genes and

53 biological pathways implicated in human growth.

54

## 55 RESULTS

### 56 *32 rare and 51 low-frequency coding variants associated with adult height*

57 We conducted single-variant meta-analyses in a discovery sample of 458,927 individuals, of  
58 whom 381,625 were of European ancestry. We validated our association results in an  
59 independent set of 252,501 participants. We first performed standard single-variant association  
60 analyses; technical details of the discovery and validation steps are in **Methods (Extended Data**  
61 **Figs 1-3, Supplementary Tables 1-11)**. In total, we found 606 independent ExomeChip variants  
62 at array-wide significance ( $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ), including 252 non-synonymous or splice site variants  
63 (**Methods and Supplementary Table 11**). Focusing on non-synonymous or splice site variants  
64 with MAF  $< 5\%$ , our single-variant analyses identified 32 rare and 51 low-frequency height-  
65 associated variants (**Extended Data Tables 1-2**). To date, these 83 height variants (MAF range  
66 0.1-4.8%) represent the largest set of validated rare and low-frequency coding variants associated  
67 with any complex human trait or disease. Among these 83 variants, there are 81 missense, one  
68 nonsense (in *CCND3*), and one essential acceptor splice site (in *ARMC5*) variants.

69  
70 We observed a strong inverse relationship between MAF and effect size (**Fig. 1**). Although  
71 power limits our capacity to find rare variants of small effects, we know that common variants  
72 with effect sizes comparable to the largest seen in our study would have been easily discovered  
73 by prior GWAS, but were not detected. Our results agree with a model based on accumulating  
74 theoretical and empirical evidences that suggest that variants with strong phenotypic effects are  
75 more likely to be deleterious, and therefore rarer<sup>12,13</sup>. The largest effect sizes were observed for  
76 four rare missense variants, located in the androgen receptor gene *AR* (rs137852591,  
77 MAF=0.21%,  $P_{\text{combined}}=2.7 \times 10^{-14}$ ), in *CRISPLD2* (rs148934412, MAF=0.08%,  $P_{\text{combined}}=2.4 \times 10^{-$   
78 <sup>20</sup>), in *IHH* (rs142036701, MAF=0.08%,  $P_{\text{combined}}=1.9 \times 10^{-23}$ ), and in *STC2* (rs148833559,

79 MAF=0.1%,  $P_{\text{combined}}=1.2 \times 10^{-30}$ ). Carriers of the rare *STC2* missense variant are ~2.1 cm taller  
80 than non-carriers, whereas carriers of the remaining three variants (or hemizygous men that carry  
81 the X-linked *AR*-rs137852591 rare allele) are ~2 cm shorter than non-carriers. In comparison, the  
82 mean effect size of common height alleles is ten times smaller in the same dataset. Across all 83  
83 rare and low-frequency non-synonymous variants, the minor alleles were evenly distributed  
84 between height-increasing and -decreasing effects (48% vs. 52%, respectively) (**Fig. 1** and  
85 **Extended Data Tables 1-2**).

86

### 87 *Coding variants in new and known height loci, and heritability explained*

88 Many of the height-associated variants in this ExomeChip effort are located near common  
89 variants previously associated with height. Of the 83 rare and low-frequency non-synonymous  
90 variants, two low-frequency missense variants were previously identified (in *CYTL1* and  
91 *IL11*)<sup>3,14</sup> and 47 fell within 1 Mb of a known height signal; the remaining 34 define new loci. We  
92 used conditional analysis in the UK Biobank dataset and confirmed that 38 of these 47 variants  
93 were independent from the previously described height SNPs (**Supplementary Table 12**). We  
94 validated the UK Biobank conditional results using an orthogonal imputation-based methodology  
95 implemented in the full discovery set (**Extended Data Fig. 4** and **Supplementary Table 12**). In  
96 addition, we found a further 85 common variants and one low-frequency synonymous variant (in  
97 *ACHE*) that define novel loci (**Supplementary Table 12**). Thus, our study identified a total of  
98 120 new height loci (**Supplementary Table 11**).

99

100 We used the UK Biobank dataset to estimate the contribution of the new height variants to  
101 heritability, which is  $h^2 \sim 80\%$  for adult height<sup>2</sup>. In combination, the 83 rare and low-frequency

102 variants explained 1.7% of the heritability of height. The newly identified novel common  
103 variants accounted for another 2.4%, and all independent variants, known and novel together  
104 explained 27.4% of heritability. By comparison, the 697 known height SNPs explain 23.3% of  
105 height heritability in the same dataset (vs. 4.1% by the new height variants identified in this  
106 ExomeChip study). We observed a modest positive association between MAF and heritability  
107 explained per variant ( $P=0.012$ , **Extended Data Fig. 5**), with each common variant explaining  
108 slightly more heritability than rare or low-frequency variants (0.036% vs. 0.026%, **Extended**  
109 **Data Fig. 5**).

110

### 111 *Gene-based association results*

112 To increase power to find rare or low-frequency coding variants associated with height, we  
113 performed gene-based analyses (**Methods** and **Supplementary Tables 13-15**). After accounting  
114 for gene-based signals explained by a single variant driving the association statistics, we  
115 identified ten genes with  $P < 5 \times 10^{-7}$  that harbor more than one coding variant independently  
116 associated with height variation (**Supplementary Tables 16-17**). These gene-based results  
117 remained significant after conditioning on genotypes at nearby common height-associated  
118 variants present on the ExomeChip (**Table 1**). Using the same gene-based tests in an independent  
119 dataset of 59,804 individuals genotyped on the same exome array, we replicated three genes at  
120  $P < 0.05$  (**Table 1**). Further evidence for replication in these genes was seen at the level of single  
121 variants (**Supplementary Table 18**). From the gene-based results, three genes – *CSAD*, *NOX4*,  
122 and *UGGT2* – fell outside of the loci found by single-variant analyses and are implicated in  
123 human height for the first time.

124

### 125 *Coding variants implicate biological pathways in human skeletal growth*



126 Prior pathway analyses of height loci identified by GWAS have highlighted gene sets related to  
127 both general biological processes (such as chromatin modification and regulation of embryonic  
128 size) and more skeletal growth-specific pathways (chondrocyte biology, extracellular matrix  
129 (ECM), and skeletal development)<sup>3</sup>. We used two different methods, DEPICT<sup>15</sup> and PASCAL<sup>16</sup>  
130 (**Methods**), to perform pathway analyses using the ExomeChip results to test whether coding  
131 variants could either independently confirm the relevance of these previously highlighted  
132 pathways (and further implicate specific genes in these pathways), or identify new pathways. To  
133 compare the pathways emerging from coding and non-coding variation, we applied DEPICT  
134 separately on (1) exome array-wide associated coding variants independent of known GWAS  
135 signals and (2) non-coding GWAS loci, excluding all novel height-associated genes implicated  
136 by coding variants. We identified a total of 496 and 1,623 enriched gene sets, respectively, at a  
137 false discovery rate (FDR) <1% (**Supplementary Tables 19-20**); similar analyses with PASCAL  
138 yielded 362 and 278 enriched gene sets (**Supplementary Tables 21-22**). Comparison of the  
139 results revealed a high degree of shared biology for coding and non-coding variants (for  
140 DEPICT, gene set P-values compared between coding and non-coding results had Pearson's  $r =$   
141  $0.583$ ,  $P < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$ ; for PASCAL, Pearson's  $r = 0.605$ ,  $P < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$ ). However, some pathways  
142 showed stronger enrichment with either coding or non-coding genetic variation. In general,  
143 coding variants more strongly implicated pathways specific to skeletal growth (such as ECM and  
144 bone growth), while GWAS signals highlighted more global biological processes (such as  
145 transcription factor binding and embryonic size/lethality)(**Extended Data Fig. 6**). The two  
146 significant gene sets identified by DEPICT and PASCAL that uniquely implicated coding  
147 variants were “BCAN protein protein interaction subnetwork” and “proteoglycan binding.” Both  
148 of these pathways relate to the biology of proteoglycans, which are proteins (such as aggrecan)

149 that contain glycosaminoglycans (such as chondroitin sulfate) and that have well-established  
150 connections to skeletal growth<sup>17</sup>.

151  
152 We also examined which height-associated genes identified by ExomeChip analyses were  
153 driving enrichment of pathways such as proteoglycan binding. Using unsupervised clustering  
154 analysis, we observed that a cluster of 15 height-associated genes is strongly implicated in a  
155 group of correlated pathways that include biology related to proteoglycans/glycosaminoglycans  
156 (**Fig. 2** and **Extended Data Fig. 7**). Seven of these 15 genes overlap a previously curated list of  
157 277 genes annotated in OMIM as causing skeletal growth disorders<sup>3</sup>; genes in this small cluster  
158 are enriched for OMIM annotations relative to genes outside the cluster (odds ratio=27.6,  
159 Fisher's exact  $P=1.1 \times 10^{-5}$ ). As such, the remaining genes in this cluster may be strong candidates  
160 for harboring variants that cause Mendelian growth disorders. Within this group are genes that  
161 are largely uncharacterized (*SUSD5*), have relevant biochemical functions (*GLT8D2*, a  
162 glycosyltransferase studied mostly in the context of the liver<sup>18</sup>; *LOXLA*, a lysyl oxidase expressed  
163 in cartilage<sup>19</sup>), modulate pathways known to affect skeletal growth (*FIBIN*, *SFRP4*)<sup>20,21</sup> or lead to  
164 increased body length when knocked out in mice (*SFRP4*)<sup>22</sup>.

165

### 166 ***Functional characterization of rare STC2 variants***

167 To begin exploring whether the identified rare coding variants affect protein function, we  
168 performed *in vitro* functional analyses of two rare coding variants in a particularly compelling  
169 and novel candidate gene, *STC2*. Over-expression of *STC2* diminishes growth in mice by  
170 covalent binding and inhibition of the proteinase PAPP-A, which specifically cleaves IGF  
171 binding protein-4 (IGFBP-4), leading to reduced levels of bioactive insulin-like growth factors

172 **(Fig. 3A)**<sup>23</sup>. Although there was no prior genetic evidence implicating *STC2* variation in human  
173 growth, the *PAPPA* and *IGFBP4* genes were both implicated in height GWAS<sup>3</sup>, and rare  
174 mutations in *PAPPA2* cause severe short stature<sup>24</sup>, emphasizing the likely relevance of this  
175 pathway in humans. The two *STC2* height-associated variants are rs148833559 (p.Arg44Leu,  
176 MAF=0.096%,  $P_{\text{discovery}}=5.7 \times 10^{-15}$ ) and rs146441603 (p.Met86Ile, MAF=0.14%,  
177  $P_{\text{discovery}}=2.1 \times 10^{-5}$ ). These rare alleles increase height by 1.9 and 0.9 cm, respectively, suggesting  
178 that they both partially impair *STC2* activity. In functional studies, *STC2* with these amino acid  
179 substitutions were expressed at similar levels to wild-type, but showed clear, partial defects in  
180 binding to PAPP-A and in inhibition of PAPP-A-mediated cleavage of IGFBP-4 (**Fig. 3B-D**).  
181 Thus, the genetic analysis successfully identified rare coding alleles that have demonstrable and  
182 predicted functional consequences, strongly confirming the role of these variants and the *STC2*  
183 gene in human growth.

184

### 185 *Pleiotropic effects*

186 Previous GWAS studies have reported pleiotropic or secondary effects on other phenotypes for  
187 many common variants associated with adult height<sup>3,25</sup>. Using association results from 17 human  
188 complex phenotypes for which well-powered meta-analysis results were available, we explored  
189 if rare and low-frequency height variants are also pleiotropic. We found one rare and five low-  
190 frequency missense variants associated with at least one of the other investigated traits at array-  
191 wide significance ( $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ) (**Extended Data Fig. 8** and **Supplementary Table 23**). The minor  
192 alleles at rs77542162 (*ABCA6*, MAF=1.7%) and rs28929474 (*SERPINA1*, MAF=1.8%) were  
193 associated with increased height and increased levels of LDL-cholesterol (LDL-C) and total  
194 cholesterol (TC), whereas the minor allele at rs3208856 in *CBLC* (MAF=3.4%) was associated  
195 with increased height, HDL-cholesterol (HDL-C) and triglyceride (TG), but lower LDL-C and

196 TC levels. The minor allele at rs141845046 (*ZBTB7B*, MAF=2.8%) was associated with both  
197 increased height and body mass index (BMI). The minor alleles at the other two missense  
198 variants associated with shorter stature, rs201226914 in *PIEZO1* (MAF=0.2%) and rs35658696  
199 in *PAM* (MAF=4.8%), were associated with decreased glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c) and  
200 increased type 2 diabetes (T2D) risk, respectively.  
201

## 202 **DISCUSSION**

203 We undertook an association study of nearly 200,000 coding variants in 711,428 individuals, and  
204 identified 32 rare and 51 low-frequency coding variants associated with adult height.

205 Furthermore, gene-based testing discovered 10 genes that harbor several additional rare/low-  
206 frequency variants associated with height, including three genes (*CSAD*, *NOX4*, *UGGT2*) in loci  
207 not previously implicated in height. Given the design of the ExomeChip, which did not consider  
208 variants with MAF <0.004% (or one allele in ~12,000 participants), our gene-based association  
209 results do not rule out the possibility that additional genes with such rarer coding variants also  
210 contribute to height variation; deep DNA sequencing in very large sample sizes will be required  
211 to address this question. In total, our results highlight 89 genes (10 from gene-based testing and  
212 79 from single-variant analyses (four genes have 2 independent coding variants)) that are likely  
213 to modulate human growth, and 24 alleles segregating in the general population that affect height  
214 by more than 1 cm (**Extended Data Tables 1-2** and **Table 1**). The rare and low-frequency  
215 coding variants explain 1.7% of the heritable variation in adult height. When considering all rare,  
216 low-frequency, and common height-associated variants validated in this study, we can now  
217 explain 27.4% of the heritability.

218  
219 Our analyses revealed many coding variants in genes mutated in monogenic skeletal growth  
220 disorders, confirming the presence of allelic series (from familial penetrant mutations to mild  
221 effect common variants) in the same genes for related growth phenotypes in humans. We used  
222 gene set enrichment-type analyses to demonstrate the functional connectivity between the genes  
223 that harbor coding height variants, highlighting known as well as novel biological pathways that  
224 regulate height in humans (**Fig. 2**, **Extended Data Fig. 7** and **Supplementary Tables 19-22**),  
225 and newly implicating genes such as *SUSD5*, *GLT8D2*, *LOXLA*, *FIBIN*, and *SFRP4* that have not

226 been previously connected with skeletal growth. Additional interesting height candidate genes  
227 include *NOX4*, *ADAMTS3* and *ADAMTS6*, *PTH1R*, and *IL11RA* (**Extended Data Tables 1-2**,  
228 **Supplementary Tables 17 and 24**). *NOX4*, identified through gene-based testing, encodes  
229 NADPH oxidase 4, an enzyme that produces reactive oxygen species, a biological pathway not  
230 previously implicated in human growth. *Nox4*<sup>-/-</sup> mice display higher bone density and reduced  
231 numbers of osteoclasts, a cell type essential for bone repair, maintenance, and remodelling<sup>12</sup>. We  
232 also found rare coding variants in *ADAMTS3* and *ADAMTS6*, genes that encode  
233 metalloproteinases that belong to the same family than several other human growth syndromic  
234 genes (e.g. *ADAMTS2*, *ADAMTS10*, *ADAMTSL2*). Moreover, we discovered a rare missense  
235 variant in *PTH1R* that encodes a receptor of the parathyroid hormone (PTH): PTH-PTH1R  
236 signaling is important for bone resorption and mutations in *PTH1R* cause chondrodysplasia in  
237 humans<sup>26</sup>. Finally, we replicated the association between a low-frequency missense variant in the  
238 cytokine gene *IL11*, but also found a new low-frequency missense variant in its receptor gene  
239 *IL11RA*. The IL11-IL11RA axis has been shown to play an important role in bone formation in  
240 the mouse<sup>27,28</sup>. Thus, our data confirm the relevance of this signaling cascade in human growth  
241 as well.

242

243 Overall, our findings provide strong evidence that rare and low-frequency coding variants  
244 contribute to the genetic architecture of height, a model complex human trait. This conclusion  
245 has strong implications for the prediction of complex human phenotypes in the context of  
246 precision medicine initiatives. **Indeed, although rare, large effect size variants might not explain**  
247 **most of the heritable disease risk at the population level, they are important to predict the risk to**  
248 **develop disease for individuals that carry them.** Our findings also seem to contrast sharply with

249 results from the recent large-scale T2D association study, which found only six variants with  
250 MAF <5% (ref. <sup>29</sup>). This apparent difference could simply be explained by the large difference in  
251 sample sizes between the two studies (711,428 for height vs. 127,145 for T2D). When we  
252 consider the fraction of associated variants with MAF<5% among all confirmed variants for  
253 height and T2D, we find that it is similar (9.7% for height vs. 7.1% for T2D). This supports the  
254 strong probability that rarer T2D alleles and more generally, rarer alleles for other polygenic  
255 diseases and traits, will be uncovered as sample sizes continue to increase.

256 **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

257 **Supplementary Information** is linked to the online version of the paper at

258 [www.nature.com/nature](http://www.nature.com/nature).

259

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263

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278

279 *Height meta-analyses (discovery and replication, single-variant and gene-based)*



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282 Fernando Rivadeneira, Andrew R. Wood.

283

284 *UK Biobank-based integration of height association signals group and heritability analyses*

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298 *Functional characterization of STC2*

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302 Summary genetic association results are available on the GIANT website:

303 [http://portals.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant/index.php/GIANT\\_consortium](http://portals.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant/index.php/GIANT_consortium). Reprints and

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422  
423



424 **Figure legends**

425 **Figure 1.** Variants with a larger effect size on height variation tend to be rarer. We observed an  
426 inverse relationship between the effect size (from the combined “discovery+validation” analysis,  
427 in cm on the *y*-axis) and the minor allele frequency (MAF) for the height variants (*x*-axis, from 0  
428 to 50%). We included in this figure the 606 height variants with  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ .

429

430 **Figure 2.** Heat map showing subset of DEPICT gene set enrichment results. The full heat map is  
431 available as **Extended Data Fig. 7**. For any given square, the color indicates how strongly the  
432 corresponding gene (shown on the *x*-axis) is predicted to belong to the reconstituted gene set (*y*-  
433 axis). This value is based on the gene’s *Z*-score for gene set inclusion in DEPICT’s reconstituted  
434 gene sets, where red indicates a higher *Z*-score and blue indicates a lower one. The proteoglycan  
435 binding pathway (bold) was uniquely implicated by coding variants by DEPICT and PASCAL.  
436 To visually reduce redundancy and increase clarity, we chose one representative "meta-gene set"  
437 for each group of highly correlated gene sets based on affinity propagation clustering  
438 (**Supplementary Information**). Heat map intensity and DEPICT *P*-values correspond to the  
439 most significantly enriched gene set within the meta-gene set; meta-gene sets are listed with their  
440 database source. Annotations for the genes indicate whether the gene has OMIM annotation as  
441 underlying a disorder of skeletal growth (black and grey) and the minor allele frequency of the  
442 significant ExomeChip (EC) variant (shades of blue; if multiple variants, the lowest-frequency  
443 variant was kept). Annotations for the gene sets indicate if the gene set was also found  
444 significant for EC by PASCAL (yellow and grey) and if the gene set was found significant by  
445 DEPICT for EC only or for both EC and GWAS (purple and green). Abbreviations: GO: Gene

446    Ontology; MP: mouse phenotype in the Mouse Genetics Initiative; PPI: protein-protein  
447    interaction in the InWeb database.  
448  
449    **Figure 3.** STC2 mutants p.Arg44Leu (R44L) and p.Met86Ile (M86I) show compromised  
450    proteolytic inhibition of PAPP-A. (A) Schematic representation of the role of STC2 in IGF-1  
451    signaling. Partial inactivation of STC2 by height-associated DNA sequence variation could  
452    increase bioactive IGF-1 through reduced inhibition of PAPP-A. (B) Western blot analysis of  
453    recombinant STC2 wild-type and variants R44L and M86I. (C) Covalent complex formation  
454    between PAPP-A and STC2 wild-type or variants R44L and M86I. Separately synthesized  
455    proteins were analyzed by PAPP-A Western blotting following incubation for 8 h. In the absence  
456    of STC2 (Mock lane), PAPP-A appears as a single 400 kDa band (\*). Following incubation with  
457    wild-type STC2, the majority of PAPP-A is present as the approximately 500 kDa covalent  
458    PAPP-A:STC2 complex (#), in which PAPP-A is devoid of proteolytic activity towards IGFBP-  
459    4. Under similar conditions, incubation with variants R44L or M86I appeared to cause less  
460    covalent complex formation with PAPP-A. The gels are representative of at least three  
461    independent experiments. (D) PAPP-A proteolytic cleavage of IGFBP-4 following incubation  
462    with wild-type STC2 or variants for 1-24 h. Wild-type STC2 causes reduction in PAPP-A  
463    activity, with complete inhibition of activity following 24 h incubation. Both STC2 variants  
464    show increased IGFBP-4 cleavage (*i.e.* less inhibition) for all time points analyzed. Mean and  
465    standard deviations of three independent experiments are shown. One-way repeated measures  
466    analysis of variance followed by Dunnett's post-test showed significant differences between  
467    STC2 wild-type and variants R44L ( $P<0.001$ ) and M86I ( $P<0.01$ ).  
468

469 **Extended Data Figure 1.** Flowchart of the GIANT ExomeChip height study design.

470

471 **Extended Data Figure 2.** Height ExomeChip association results. (A) Quantile-quantile plot of

472 ExomeChip variants and their association to adult height under an additive genetic model in

473 individuals of European ancestry. We stratified results based on allele frequency. (B) Manhattan

474 plot of all ExomeChip variants and their association to adult height under an additive genetic

475 model in individuals of European ancestry with a focus on the 553 independent SNPs, of which

476 469 have MAF>5% (grey), 55 have MAF between 1 and 5% (green), and 29 have MAF<1%

477 (blue). (C) Linkage disequilibrium (LD) score regression analysis for the height association

478 results in European-ancestry studies. In the plot, each point represents an LD Score quantile,

479 where the x-axis of the point is the mean LD Score of variants in that quantile and the y-axis is

480 the mean  $\chi^2$  statistic of variants in that quantile. The LD Score regression slope of the black line

481 is calculated based on Equation 1 in Bulik-Sullivan et al.<sup>30</sup> which is estimated upwards due to the

482 small number of common variants (N=15,848) and the design of the ExomeChip. The LD score

483 regression intercept is 1.4, the  $\lambda_{GC}$  is 2.7, the mean  $\chi^2$  is 7.0, and the ratio statistic of (intercept -1)

484 / (mean  $\chi^2$  -1) is 0.067 (standard error=0.012). (D) Scatter plot comparison of the effect sizes for

485 all variants that reached significance in the European-ancestry discovery results (N=381,625) and

486 results including only studies with sample sizes >5000 individuals (N=241,453).

487

488 **Extended Data Figure 3.** Height ExomeChip association results in African-ancestry

489 populations. Among the all-ancestry results, we found eight variants for which the genetic

490 association with height is mostly driven by individuals of African ancestry. The minor allele

491 frequency of these variants is <1% (or monomorphic) in all ancestries except African-ancestry

492 individuals. In individuals of African ancestry, the variants had allele frequencies between 9 and  
493 40%.

494

495 **Extended Data Figure 4.** Concordance between direct conditional effect sizes using UK  
496 Biobank (x-axis) and conditional analysis performed using a combination of imputation-based  
497 methodology and approximate conditional analysis (SSimp, y-axis). The Pearson's correlation  
498 coefficient is  $r=0.85$ . The dashed line indicates the identity line. The 95% confidence interval is  
499 indicated in both directions. Red, SNPs with  $P_{\text{cond}}>0.05$  in the UK Biobank; Green, SNPs with  
500  $P_{\text{cond}}\leq 0.05$  in the UK Biobank.

501

502 **Extended Data Figure 5.** Heritability estimated for all known height variants in the first release  
503 of the UK Biobank dataset. (A) We observed a weak but significant positive trend between  
504 minor allele frequency (MAF) and heritability explained ( $P=0.012$ ). (B) Average heritability  
505 explained per variant when stratifying the analyses by allele frequency or genomic annotation.  
506 For heritability estimations in UKBB, variants were pruned to  $r^2 < 0.2$  in the 1000 Genomes  
507 Project data set, and the heritability figures are based on  $h^2=80\%$  for height.

508

509 **Extended Data Figure 6.** Comparison of DEPICT gene set enrichment results based on coding  
510 variation from ExomeChip (EC) or non-coding variation from genome-wide association study  
511 data (GWAS). The x-axis indicates the P-value for enrichment of a given gene set using DEPICT  
512 adapted for EC data, where the input to DEPICT is the genes implicated by coding EC variants  
513 that are independent of known GWAS signals. The y-axis indicates the P-value for gene set  
514 enrichment using DEPICT, using as input the GWAS loci that do not overlap the coding

515 signals. Each point represents a meta-gene set, and the best P-value for any gene set within the  
516 meta-gene set is shown. Only significant (false discovery rate < 0.01) gene set enrichment results  
517 are plotted. Colors correspond to whether the meta-gene set was significant for EC only (blue),  
518 GWAS only (green), both but more significant for EC (purple), or both but more significant for  
519 GWAS (orange), and the most significant gene sets within each category are labeled. A line is  
520 drawn at  $x = y$  for ease of comparison.

521

522 **Extended Data Figure 7.** Heat map showing entire DEPICT gene set enrichment results  
523 (analogous to **Fig. 2** in the main text). For any given square, the color indicates how strongly the  
524 corresponding gene (shown on the x-axis) is predicted to belong to the reconstituted gene set (y-  
525 axis). This value is based on the gene's Z-score for gene set inclusion in DEPICT's reconstituted  
526 gene sets, where red indicates a higher Z-score and blue indicates a lower one. The proteoglycan  
527 binding pathway was uniquely implicated by coding variants (as opposed to common variants)  
528 by both DEPICT and the Pascal method. To visually reduce redundancy and increase clarity, we  
529 chose one representative "meta-gene set" for each group of highly correlated gene sets based on  
530 affinity propagation clustering (see **Methods** and **Supplementary Information**). Heat map  
531 intensity and DEPICT p-values correspond to the most significantly enriched gene set within the  
532 meta-gene set; meta-gene sets are listed with their database source. Annotations for the genes  
533 indicate whether the gene has OMIM annotation as underlying a disorder of skeletal growth  
534 (black and grey) and the minor allele frequency of the significant EC variant (shades of blue; if  
535 multiple variants, the lowest-frequency variant was kept). Annotations for the gene sets indicate  
536 if the gene set was also found significant for EC by the Pascal method (yellow and grey) and if  
537 the gene set was found significant by DEPICT for EC only or for both EC and GWAS (purple

538 and green). Abbreviations: GO: Gene Ontology; KEGG: Kyoto encyclopedia of genes and  
539 genomes; MP: mouse phenotype in the Mouse Genetics Initiative; PPI: protein-protein  
540 interaction in the InWeb database.

541  
542 **Extended Data Figure 8.** Heatmaps showing associations of the height variants to other  
543 complex traits;  $-\log_{10}(P\text{-values})$  are oriented with beta effect direction for the alternate allele,  
544 white are missing values, yellow are non-significant ( $P > 0.05$ ), green to blue shading for hits with  
545 positive beta in the other trait and P-values between 0.05 and  $< 2 \times 10^{-7}$  and, orange to red shading  
546 for hits with negative beta in the other trait and P-values between 0.05 to  $< 2 \times 10^{-7}$ . Short and tall  
547 labels are given for the minor alleles. Clustering is done by the complete linkage method with  
548 Euclidean distance measure for the loci. Clusters highlight SNPs that are more significantly  
549 associated with the same set of traits. **(A)** Variants for which the minor allele is the height-  
550 decreasing allele. **(B)** Variants for which the minor allele is the height-increasing allele.

551  
552 **Extended Data Table 1.** Rare variants associated with adult height. 32 missense or splice site  
553 variants with minor allele frequency  $< 1\%$  in European-ancestry participants that have  $P_{\text{combined}}$   
554  $< 2 \times 10^{-7}$ . The direction of the effect (Beta, standard deviation units) and effect allele frequency  
555 (AF) is given for the alternate (Alt) allele. Genomic coordinates are on build 37 of the human  
556 genome. For each variant, we provide the most severe annotation using the ENSEMBL Variant  
557 Effect Predictor (VEP) tool. N, sample size; Ref, reference allele; SE, standard error.

558  
559 **Extended Data Table 2.** Low-frequency variants associated with adult height. 59 variants (51  
560 missense or nonsense) with minor allele frequency between 1 and 5% in European-ancestry

561 participants that have  $P_{\text{combined}} < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ . For *TTN*-rs16866412 and *NOL8*-rs921122, the  
562 association is significant ( $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ) upon conditional analysis. The direction of the effect (Beta,  
563 standard deviation units) and effect allele frequency (AF) is given for the alternate (Alt) allele.  
564 For each variant, we provide the most severe annotation using the ENSEMBL Variant Effect  
565 Predictor (VEP) tool. N, sample size; Ref, reference allele; SE, standard error

566 **METHODS**

567 *Study design & participants*

568 The discovery cohort consisted of 147 studies comprising 458,927 adult individuals of the  
569 following ancestries: 1) European descent (N=381,625), 2) African (N=27,494), 3) South Asian  
570 (N=29,591), 4) East Asian (N=8,767); 5) Hispanic (N=10,776) and 6) Saudi (N=695). All  
571 participating institutions and coordinating centers approved this project, and informed consent  
572 was obtained from all subjects. Discovery meta-analysis was carried out in each ancestry group  
573 (except the Saudi) separately as well as in the All group. Validation was undertaken in  
574 individuals of European ancestry only (**Supplementary Tables 1-3**). Conditional analyses were  
575 undertaken only in the European descent group (106 studies, N=381,625).

576

577 *Phenotype*

578 Height (in centimeters) was corrected for age and the genomic principal components (derived  
579 from GWAS data, the variants with MAF >1% on ExomeChip, or ancestry informative markers  
580 available on the ExomeChip), as well as any additional study-specific covariates (e.g. recruiting  
581 center), in a linear regression model. For studies with non-related individuals, residuals were  
582 calculated separately by sex, whereas for family-based studies sex was included as a covariate in  
583 the model. Additionally, residuals for case/control studies were calculated separately. Finally,  
584 residuals were subject to inverse normal transformation.

585

586 *Genotype calling*

587 The majority of studies followed a standardized protocol and performed genotype calling using  
588 the designated manufacturer software, which was then followed by zCall<sup>31</sup>. For 10 studies



589 participating in the Cohorts for Heart and Aging Research in Genomic Epidemiology  
590 (CHARGE) Consortium, the raw intensity data for the samples from seven genotyping centers  
591 were assembled into a single project for joint calling<sup>11</sup>. Study-specific quality control (QC)  
592 measures of the genotyped variants was implemented before association analysis  
593 **(Supplementary Tables 1-2).**

594

### 595 *Study-level statistical analyses*

596 Individual cohorts were analyzed separately for each ancestry population, with either  
597 RAREMETALWORKER (<http://genome.sph.umich.edu/wiki/RAREMETALWORKER>) or  
598 RVTEST (<http://zhanxw.github.io/rvtests/>), to associate inverse normal transformed height data  
599 with genotype data taking potential cryptic relatedness (kinship matrix) into account in a linear  
600 mixed model. These software are designed to perform score-statistics based rare-variant  
601 association analysis, can accommodate both unrelated and related individuals, and provide  
602 single-variant results and variance-covariance matrix. The covariance matrix captures linkage  
603 disequilibrium (LD) relationships between markers within 1 Mb, which is used for gene-level  
604 meta-analyses and conditional analyses<sup>32</sup>. Single-variant analyses were performed for both  
605 additive and recessive models ([for the alternate allele](#)).

606

### 607 *Centralized quality-control*

608 The individual study data were investigated for potential existence of ancestry population  
609 outliers based on 1000 Genome Project phase 1 ancestry reference populations. A centralized QC  
610 procedure implemented in EasyQC<sup>33</sup> was applied to individual study association summary  
611 statistics to identify outlying studies: (1) assessment of possible problems in height

612 transformation, (2) comparison of allele frequency alignment against 1000 Genomes Project  
613 phase 1 reference data to pinpoint any potential strand issues, and (3) examination of quantile-  
614 quantile (QQ) plots per study to identify any problems arising from population stratification,  
615 cryptic relatedness and genotype biases. We excluded variants if they had call rate <95%, Hardy-  
616 Weinberg equilibrium  $P < 1 \times 10^{-7}$ , or large allele frequency deviations from reference populations  
617 ( $>0.6$  for all ancestry analyses and  $>0.3$  for ancestry-specific population analyses). We also  
618 excluded from downstream analyses markers not present on the Illumina ExomeChip array 1.0,  
619 variants on the Y-chromosome or the mitochondrial genome, indels, multiallelic variants, and  
620 problematic variants based on the Blat-based sequence alignment analyses. Meta-analyses were  
621 carried out in parallel by two different analysts at two sites.

622

### 623 *Single-variant meta-analyses*

624 *Discovery analyses.* We conducted single-variant meta-analyses in a discovery sample of  
625 458,927 individuals of different ancestries using both additive and recessive genetic models  
626 (**Extended Data Fig. 1** and **Supplementary Tables 1-4**). Significance for single-variant  
627 analyses was defined at array-wide level ( $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ , Bonferroni correction for 250,000 variants).  
628 The combined additive analyses identified 1,455 unique variants that reached array-wide  
629 significance ( $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ), including 578 non-synonymous and splice site variants  
630 (**Supplementary Tables 5-7**). Under the additive model, we observed a high genomic inflation  
631 of the test statistics (*e.g.*  $\lambda_{GC}$  of 2.7 in European-ancestry studies for common markers, **Extended**  
632 **Data Fig. 2** and **Supplementary Table 8**), although validation results (see below) and additional  
633 sensitivity analyses (see below) suggested that it is consistent with polygenic inheritance as  
634 opposed to population stratification, cryptic relatedness, or technical artifacts (**Extended Data**

635 **Fig. 2).** The majority of these 1,455 association signals (1,241; 85.3%) were found in the  
636 European-ancestry meta-analysis (85.5% of the discovery sample size) (**Extended Data Fig. 2**).  
637 Nevertheless, we discovered eight associations within five loci in our all-ancestry analyses that  
638 are driven by African studies (including one missense variant in the growth hormone gene *GHI*  
639 (rs151263636), **Extended Data Fig. 3**), three height variants found only in African studies, and  
640 one rare missense marker associated with height in South Asians only (**Supplementary Table**  
641 **7**).

642  
643 *Genomic inflation and confounding.* We observed a marked genomic inflation of the test  
644 statistics even after adequate control for population stratification (linear mixed model) arising  
645 mainly from common markers;  $\lambda_{GC}$  in European-ancestry was 1.2 and 2.7 for all and common  
646 markers, respectively (**Extended Data Fig. 2** and **Supplementary Table 8**). Such inflation is  
647 expected for a highly polygenic trait like height, and is consistent with our very large sample  
648 size<sup>3,34</sup>. To confirm this, we applied the recently developed linkage disequilibrium (LD) score  
649 regression method to our height ExomeChip results<sup>30</sup>, with the caveats that the method was  
650 developed (and tested) with >200,000 common markers available. We restricted our analyses to  
651 15,848 common variants (MAF  $\geq 5\%$ ) from the European-ancestry meta-analysis, and matched  
652 them to pre-computed LD scores for the European reference dataset<sup>30</sup>. The intercept of the  
653 regression of the  $\chi^2$  statistics from the height meta-analysis on the LD score estimate the inflation  
654 in the mean  $\chi^2$  due to confounding bias, such as cryptic relatedness or population stratification.  
655 The intercept was 1.4 (standard error = 0.07), which is small when compared to the  $\lambda_{GC}$  of 2.7.  
656 Furthermore, we also confirmed that the LD score regression intercept is estimated upward  
657 because of the small number of variants on the ExomeChip and the selection criteria for these

658 variants (*i.e.* known GWAS hits). The ratio statistic of (intercept -1) / (mean  $\chi^2$  -1) is 0.067  
659 (standard error = 0.012), well within the normal range<sup>30</sup>, suggesting that most of the inflation  
660 (~93%) observed in the height association statistics is due to polygenic effects (**Extended Data**  
661 **Fig. 2**).

662

663 Furthermore, to exclude the possibility that some of the observed associations between height  
664 and rare/low-frequency variants could be due to allele calling problems in the smaller studies, we  
665 performed a sensitivity meta-analysis with primarily Europe-ancestry studies totaling >5,000  
666 participants. We found very concordant effect sizes, suggesting that smaller studies do not bias  
667 our results (**Extended Data Fig. 2**).

668

669 *Conditional analyses.* The RAREMETAL R-package<sup>35</sup> and the GCTA v1.24<sup>36</sup> software were  
670 used to identify independent height association signals across the European descent meta-  
671 analysis results. RAREMETAL performs conditional analyses by using covariance matrices in  
672 order to distinguish true signals from those driven by LD at adjacent known variants. First, we  
673 identified the lead variants ( $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ) based on a 1 Mb window centered on the most  
674 significantly associated variant and performed LD pruning ( $r^2 < 0.3$ ) to avoid downstream  
675 problems in the conditional analyses due to co-linearity. We then conditioned on the LD-pruned  
676 set of lead variants in RAREMETAL and kept new lead signals at  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ . The process was  
677 repeated until no additional signal emerged below the pre-specified P-value threshold. The use of  
678 a 1Mb window in RAREMETAL can obscure dependence between conditional signals in  
679 adjacent intervals in regions of extended LD. To detect such instances, we performed joint  
680 analyses using GCTA with the ARIC and UK ExomeChip reference panels, both of which

681 comprise >10,000 individuals of European descent. With the exception of a handful of variants  
682 in a few genomic regions with extended LD (*e.g.* the HLA region on chromosome 6), the two  
683 software identified the same independent signals (at  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ ).

684

685 To discover new height variants, we conditioned the height variants found in our ExomeChip  
686 study on the previously published GWAS height variants<sup>3</sup> using the first release of the UK  
687 Biobank imputed dataset and regression methodology implemented in BOLT-LMM<sup>37</sup>. Because  
688 of the difference between the sample size of our discovery set (N=458,927) and the UK Biobank  
689 (first release, N=120,084), we applied a threshold of  $P_{\text{conditional}} < 0.05$  to declare a height variant  
690 as independent in this analysis. We also explored an alternative approach based on approximate  
691 conditional analysis<sup>36</sup>. This latter method (SSimp) relies on summary statistics available from the  
692 same cohort, thus we first imputed summary statistics<sup>38</sup> for exome variants, using summary  
693 statistics from the Wood *et al.* 2014 study<sup>3</sup>. Conversely, we imputed the top variants from the  
694 Wood *et al.* 2014 study using the summary statistics from the ExomeChip. Subsequently, we  
695 calculated effect sizes for each exome variant conditioned on the Wood *et al.* 2014 top variants  
696 in two ways. First, we conditioned the imputed summary statistics of the exome variant on the  
697 summary statistics of the Wood *et al.* 2014 top variants that fell within 5 Mb of the target  
698 ExomeChip variant. Second, we conditioned the summary statistics of the ExomeChip variant on  
699 the imputed summary statistics of the Wood *et al.* 2014 hits. We then selected the option that  
700 yielded a higher imputation quality. For poorly tagged variants ( $r^2 < 0.8$ ), we simply used up-  
701 sampled HapMap summary statistics for the approximate conditional analysis. Pairwise SNP-by-  
702 SNP correlations were estimated from the UK10K data (TwinsUK<sup>39</sup> and ALSPAC<sup>40</sup> studies ,  
703 N=3,781).

704  
705 *Validation of the single-variant discovery results.* Several studies, totaling 252,501 independent  
706 individuals of European ancestry, became available after the completion of the discovery  
707 analyses, and were thus used for validation of our experiment. We validated the single-variant  
708 association results in eight studies, totaling 59,804 participants, genotyped on the Exomechip  
709 using RAREMETAL<sup>32</sup>. We sought additional evidence for association for the top signals in two  
710 independent studies in the UK (UK Biobank) and Iceland (deCODE), comprising 120,084 and  
711 72,613 individuals, respectively. We used the same QC and analytical methodology as described  
712 above. Genotyping and study descriptives are provided in **Supplementary Tables 1-3**. For the  
713 combined analysis, we used the inverse-variance weighted fixed effects meta-analysis method  
714 using METAL<sup>41</sup>. Significant associations were defined as those with a combined meta-analysis  
715 (discovery and validation)  $P_{\text{combined}} < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ .

716  
717 We considered 81 variants with suggestive association in the discovery analyses ( $2 \times 10^{-6}$   
718  $< P_{\text{discovery}} \leq 2 \times 10^{-5}$ ). Of those 81 variants, 55 reached significance after combining discovery and  
719 replication results based on  $P_{\text{combined}} < 2 \times 10^{-7}$  (**Supplementary Table 9**). Furthermore, recessive  
720 modeling confirmed seven new independent markers with  $P_{\text{combined}} < 2 \times 10^{-7}$  (**Supplementary**  
721 **Table 10**). One of these recessive signals is due to a rare X-linked variant in the *AR* gene  
722 (rs137852591, MAF=0.21%). Because of its frequency, we only tested hemizygous men (we did  
723 not identify homozygous women for the minor allele) so we cannot distinguish between a true  
724 recessive mode of inheritance or a sex-specific effect for this variant. To test the independence  
725 and integrate all height markers from the discovery and validation phase, we used conditional  
726 analyses and GCTA “joint” modeling<sup>36</sup> in the combined discovery and validation set. This

727 resulted in the identification of 606 independent height variants, including 252 non-synonymous  
728 or splice site variants (**Supplementary Table 11**). If we only consider the initial set of lead  
729 SNPs with  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ , we identified 561 independent variants. Of these 561 variants (selected  
730 without the validation studies), 560 have concordant direction of effect between the discovery  
731 and validation studies, and 548 variants have a  $P_{\text{validation}} < 0.05$  (466 variants with  $P_{\text{validation}}$   
732  $< 8.9 \times 10^{-5}$ , Bonferroni correction for 561 tests), suggesting a very low false discovery rate  
733 (**Supplementary Table 11**).

734

### 735 *Gene-based association meta-analyses*

736 For the gene-based analyses, we applied two different sets of criteria to select variants, based on  
737 coding variant annotation from five prediction algorithms (PolyPhen2 HumDiv and HumVar,  
738 LRT, MutationTaster and SIFT)<sup>42</sup>. The mask labeled “*broad*” included variants with a MAF  
739  $< 0.05$  that are nonsense, stop-loss, splice site, as well as missense variants that are annotated as  
740 damaging by at least one program mentioned above. The mask labeled “*strict*” included only  
741 variants with MAF  $< 0.05$  that are nonsense, stop-loss, splice site, as well as missense variants  
742 annotated as damaging by all five algorithms. We used two tests for gene-based testing, namely  
743 the SKAT<sup>43</sup> and VT<sup>44</sup> tests. Statistical significance for gene-based tests was set at a Bonferroni-  
744 corrected threshold of  $P < 5 \times 10^{-7}$  (threshold for 25,000 genes and four tests). The gene-based  
745 discovery results were validated (same test and variants, when possible) in the same eight studies  
746 genotyped on the ExomeChip (N=59,804 participants) that were used for the validation of the  
747 single-variant results (see above, and **Supplementary Tables 1-3**). Gene-based conditional  
748 analyses were performed in RAREMETAL.

749

750 *Pleiotropy analyses*

751 We accessed ExomeChip data from GIANT (BMI, waist-hip ratio), GLGC (total cholesterol  
752 (TC), triglycerides (TG), HDL-cholesterol (HDL-C), LDL-cholesterol (LDL-C)), IBPC (systolic  
753 and diastolic blood pressure), MAGIC (glycaemic traits), REPROGEN (age at menarche and  
754 menopause), and DIAGRAM (type 2 diabetes). For coronary artery disease, we accessed 1000  
755 Genomes Project-imputed GWAS data released by CARDIoGRAMplusC4D<sup>45</sup>.

756

757 *Pathway analyses*

758 DEPICT is a computational framework that uses probabilistically-defined reconstituted gene sets  
759 to perform gene set enrichment and gene prioritization<sup>15</sup>. For a description about gene set  
760 reconstitution please refer to references <sup>15</sup> and <sup>46</sup>. In brief, reconstitution was performed by  
761 extending pre-defined gene sets (such as Gene Ontology terms, canonical pathways, protein-  
762 protein interaction subnetworks and rodent phenotypes) with genes co-regulated with genes in  
763 these pre-defined gene set using large-scale microarray-based transcriptomics data. In order to  
764 adapt the gene set enrichment part of DEPICT for ExomeChip data, we made two principal  
765 changes. First and foremost, because DEPICT for GWAS incorporates all genes within a given  
766 LD block around each index SNP, we modified DEPICT to take as input only the gene directly  
767 impacted by the coding SNP. Second, we adapted the way DEPICT adjust for confounders (such  
768 as gene length) by generating null ExomeChip association results using Swedish ExomeChip  
769 data (Malmö Diet and Cancer (MDC), All New Diabetics in Scania (ANDIS), and Scania  
770 Diabetes Registry (SDR) cohorts, N=11,899) and randomly assigning phenotypes from a normal  
771 distribution before conducting association analysis (see **Supplementary Information**). For the  
772 gene set enrichment analysis of the ExomeChip data, we used significant non-synonymous



773 variants statistically independent of known GWAS hits (and that were present in the null  
774 ExomeChip data; see **Supplementary Information** for details). For gene set enrichment analysis  
775 of the GWAS data, we used all loci (1) with a non-coding index SNP and (2) that did not contain  
776 any of the novel ExomeChip genes. In visualizing the analysis, we used affinity propagation  
777 clustering<sup>47</sup> to group the most similar reconstituted gene sets based on their gene memberships  
778 (see **Supplementary Information**). Within a “meta-gene set”, the best P-value of any member  
779 gene set was used as representative for comparison. DEPICT for ExomeChip was written using  
780 the Python programming language and the code can be found at  
781 <https://github.com/RebeccaFine/height-ec-depict>.

782

783 We also applied the PASCAL pathway analysis tool<sup>16</sup> to association summary statistics for all  
784 coding variants. In brief, the method derives gene-based scores (both SUM and MAX statistics)  
785 and subsequently tests for the over-representation of high gene scores in predefined biological  
786 pathways. We used standard pathway libraries from KEGG, REACTOME and BIOCARTA, and  
787 also added dichotomized ( $Z$ -score $>3$ ) reconstituted gene sets from DEPICT<sup>15</sup>. To accurately  
788 estimate SNP-by-SNP correlations even for rare variants, we used the UK10K data (TwinsUK<sup>39</sup>  
789 and ALSPAC<sup>40</sup> studies,  $N=3781$ ). In order to separate the contribution of regulatory variants  
790 from the coding variants, we also applied PASCAL to association summary statistics of only  
791 regulatory variants (20 kb upstream, gene body excluded) from the Wood et al. study<sup>3</sup>. In this  
792 way, we could classify pathways driven principally by coding, regulatory or mixed signals.

793

794 ***STC2 functional experiments***

795 *Mutagenesis, cell culture and transfection.* For the generation of STC2 mutants (R44L and  
796 M86I), wild-type STC2 cDNA contained in pcDNA3.1/Myc-His(-) (Invitrogen)<sup>23</sup> was used as a  
797 template. Mutagenesis was carried out using Quickchange (Stratagene), and all constructs were  
798 verified by sequence analysis. Recombinant wild-type STC2 and variants were expressed in  
799 human embryonic kidney (HEK) 293T cells (293tsA1609neo, ATCC CRL-3216) maintained in  
800 high-glucose DMEM supplemented 10% fetal bovine serum, 2 mM glutamine, nonessential  
801 amino acids, and gentamicin. The cells are routinely tested for mycoplasma contamination. Cells  
802 ( $6 \times 10^6$ ) were plated onto 10 cm-dishes and transfected 18 h later by calcium phosphate  
803 coprecipitation using 10  $\mu$ g plasmid DNA. Media were harvested 48 h post transfection, cleared  
804 by centrifugation, and stored at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  until use. Protein concentrations (58-66 nM) were  
805 determined by TRIFMA using antibodies described previously<sup>23</sup>. PAPP-A was expressed stably  
806 in HEK293T cells as previously reported<sup>48</sup>. Expressed levels of PAPP-A (27.5 nM) were  
807 determined by a commercial ELISA (AL-101, Ansh Labs, TX).

808

809 *STC2 and PAPP-A complex formation.* Culture supernatants containing wild-type STC2 or  
810 variants were adjusted to 58 nM, added an equal volume of culture supernatant containing  
811 PAPP-A corresponding to a 2.1-fold molar excess, and incubated at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . Samples were taken at  
812 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 16, and 24 h and stored at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ .

813

814 *Analysis of proteolytic activity.* Specific proteolytic cleavage of  $^{125}\text{I}$ -labeled IGFBP-4 is  
815 described in detail elsewhere<sup>49</sup>. Briefly, the PAPP-A:STC2 complex mixtures were diluted  
816 (1:190) to a concentration of 145 pM PAPP-A and mixed with preincubated  $^{125}\text{I}$ -IGFBP4 (10  
817 nM) and IGF-1 (100 nM) in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ . Following 1 h

818 incubation at 37°C, reactions were terminated by the addition of SDS-PAGE sample buffer  
819 supplemented with 25 mM EDTA. Substrate and co-migrating cleavage products were separated  
820 by 12% nonreducing SDS-PAGE and visualized by autoradiography using a storage phosphor  
821 screen (GE Healthcare) and a Typhoon imaging system (GE Healthcare). Band intensities were  
822 quantified using ImageQuant TL 8.1 software (GE Healthcare).

823

824 *Western blotting.* STC2 and covalent complexes between STC2 and PAPP-A were blotted onto  
825 PVDF membranes (Millipore) following separation by 3-8% SDS-PAGE. The membranes were  
826 blocked with 2% Tween-20, and equilibrated in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 500 mM NaCl, 0.1% Tween-  
827 20, pH 9 (TST). For STC2, the membranes were incubated with goat polyclonal anti-STC2  
828 (R&D systems, AF2830) at 0.5 µg/ml in TST supplemented with 2% skim milk for 1 h at 20°C.  
829 For PAPP-A:STC2 complexes, the membranes were incubated with rabbit polyclonal anti-  
830 PAPP-A<sup>50</sup> at 0.63 µg/ml in TST supplemented with 2% skim milk for 16 h at 20°C. Membranes  
831 were washed with TST and subsequently incubated with polyclonal swine anti-rabbit IgG-HRP  
832 (DAKO, P0217) or polyclonal rabbit anti-goat IgG-HRP (DAKO, P0449), respectively, diluted  
833 1:2000 in TST supplemented with 2% skim milk for 1 h at 20°C. Following washing with TST,  
834 membranes were developed using enhanced chemiluminescence (ECL Prime, GE Healthcare).  
835 Images were captured using an ImageQuant LAS 4000 instrument (GE Healthcare).

836

837

838 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

839 Summary genetic association results are available on the GIANT website:

840 [http://portals.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant/index.php/GIANT\\_consortium](http://portals.broadinstitute.org/collaboration/giant/index.php/GIANT_consortium).

841

842 **URLs**

843 ClinVar, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/clinvar/>

844 DEPICT, <http://www.broadinstitute.org/mpg/depict/>

845 ExomeChip, [http://genome.sph.umich.edu/wiki/Exome\\_Chip\\_Design](http://genome.sph.umich.edu/wiki/Exome_Chip_Design)

846 ExomeDEPICT, <https://github.com/RebeccaFine/height-ec-depict>

847 OMIM, <http://omim.org/>

848 PASCAL, <http://www2.unil.ch/cbg/index.php?title=Pascal>

849 RAREMETALWORKER, <http://genome.sph.umich.edu/wiki/RAREMETALWORKER>

850 RVTEST, <http://zhanxw.github.io/rvtests/>

**Table 1.** Ten height genes implicated by gene-based testing. These genes meet our three criteria for statistical significance: (1) gene-based  $P < 5 \times 10^{-7}$ , (2) the gene does not include variants with  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$ , and (3) the gene-based P-value is at least two orders of magnitude smaller than the P-value for the most significant variant within the gene. For each gene, we provide P-values for the four different gene-based tests applied. P-values in bold are the most significant results for a given gene. <sup>1</sup>Validation (N=59,804) and combined results using the same test and (when possible) variants. <sup>2</sup>When the gene is located in a locus identified by our single-variant analysis (1 Mb window), we conditioned the gene-based association result on genotypes at the single variant(s). <sup>3</sup>If the gene falls within a known GWAS height locus, we mention if it was predicted to be causal using bioinformatic tools (ref. <sup>3</sup>). NA, not applicable.

Gene	Discovery gene-based P-value				Validation P-value <sup>1</sup>	Combined P-value <sup>1</sup>	Conditional P-value <sup>2</sup>	Note <sup>3</sup>
	SKAT-broad	VT-broad	SKAT-strict	VT-strict				
<i>OSGIN1</i>	<b>4.3x10<sup>-11</sup></b>	4.5x10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.19	0.18	0.048	2.6x10 <sup>-12</sup>	7.7x10 <sup>-11</sup>	Known locus. No predicted causal genes.
<i>CRISPLD1</i>	2.2x10 <sup>-7</sup>	<b>6.7x10<sup>-11</sup></b>	8.5x10 <sup>-6</sup>	8.9x10 <sup>-7</sup>	0.50	1.2x10 <sup>-12</sup>	NA	Known locus, sentinel GWAS SNP not tested on ExomeChip. <i>CRISPLD1</i> was predicted to be causal.
<i>CSAD</i>	2.3x10 <sup>-8</sup>	<b>2.4x10<sup>-9</sup></b>	0.83	0.59	0.54	2.0x10 <sup>-9</sup>	NA	New locus.
<i>SNED1</i>	1.9x10 <sup>-5</sup>	<b>4.3x10<sup>-9</sup></b>	NA	NA	0.083	4.5x10 <sup>-10</sup>	1.4x10 <sup>-9</sup>	Known locus. <i>SNED1</i> was not predicted to be causal.
<i>G6PC</i>	1.3x10 <sup>-5</sup>	<b>3.6x10<sup>-8</sup></b>	5.5x10 <sup>-6</sup>	1.3x10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.24	5.2x10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.9x10 <sup>-8</sup>	Known locus, <i>G6PC</i> was not predicted to be causal. <i>G6PC</i> is mutated in glycogen storage disease Ia.
<i>NOX4</i>	5.1x10 <sup>-6</sup>	<b>1.4x10<sup>-7</sup></b>	NA	NA	0.013	5.5x10 <sup>-9</sup>	NA	New locus.
<i>UGGT2</i>	3.0x10 <sup>-5</sup>	<b>2.6x10<sup>-7</sup></b>	2.3x10 <sup>-5</sup>	4.8x10 <sup>-7</sup>	0.64	3.4x10 <sup>-7</sup>	NA	New locus.
<i>FLNB</i>	2.2x10 <sup>-6</sup>	5.1x10 <sup>-4</sup>	<b>2.4x10<sup>-9</sup></b>	3.2x10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.016	8.6x10 <sup>-11</sup>	3.6x10 <sup>-9</sup>	Known locus. <i>FLNB</i> was predicted to be causal. <i>FLNB</i> is mutated in atelosteogenesis type I.
<i>B4GALNT3</i>	2.4x10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.9x10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.8x10 <sup>-5</sup>	<b>3.1x10<sup>-7</sup></b>	0.79	4.3x10 <sup>-7</sup>	7.7x10 <sup>-7</sup>	Known locus. <i>B4GALNT3</i> was predicted to be causal.
<i>CCDC3</i>	6.3x10 <sup>-4</sup>	6.3x10 <sup>-6</sup>	3.0x10 <sup>-7</sup>	<b>5.4x10<sup>-9</sup></b>	0.080	1.2x10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.6x10 <sup>-9</sup>	Known locus. <i>CCDC3</i> was predicted to be causal.

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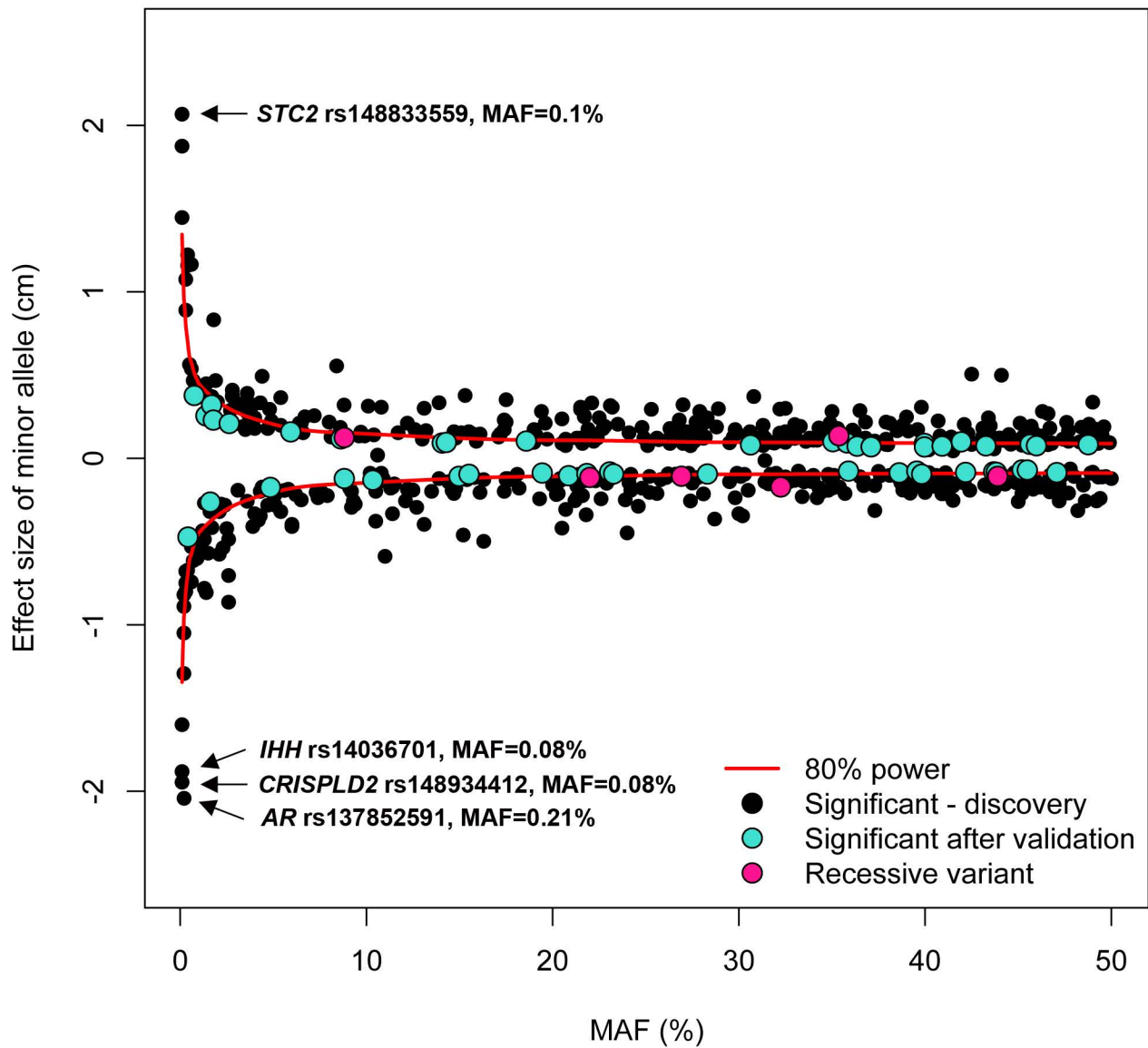
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189. Institute of Biomedicine & Physiology, University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, 70210, Finland
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192. MRC Epidemiology Unit, University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine, Institute of Metabolic Science, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ, UK
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195. Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, Department of Internal Medicine, Taichung Veterans General Hospital, Taichung 407, Taiwan
196. School of Medicine, National Yang-Ming University, Taipei 112, Taiwan
197. School of Medicine, Chung Shan Medical University, Taichung 402, Taiwan
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208. Westmead Millennium Institute of Medical Research, Centre for Vision Research and Department of Ophthalmology, University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales, 2022, Australia

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211. Department of Medicine I, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, 81377, Germany
212. DZHK (German Centre for Cardiovascular Research), partner site Munich Heart Alliance, Munich, 80802, Germany
213. Laboratory of Neurogenetics, National Institute on Aging, NIH, Bethesda, MD, 20892, USA
214. DZHK (German Centre for Cardiovascular Research), partner site Greifswald, Greifswald, 17475, Germany
215. Institute of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, University Medicine Greifswald, Greifswald, 17475, Germany
216. Department of Cardiology, Heart Center, Tampere University Hospital and School of Medicine, University of Tampere, Tampere, 33521, Finland
217. Program in Personalized Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, 21201, USA
218. Department of Medicine, Tampere University Hospital, Tampere, 33521, Finland
219. Center for Neurobehavioral Genetics, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, 90095, USA
220. Pat Macpherson Centre for Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics, Medical Research Institute, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee, DD1 9SY, UK
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224. University of Helsinki, Institute for Molecular Medicine (FIMM) and Diabetes and Obesity Research Program, Helsinki, FI00014, Finland
225. University of Tartu, Estonian Genome Center, Tartu, Estonia, Tartu, 51010, Estonia
226. School of Medicine, University of Split, Split, 21000, Croatia
227. Center for Neurogenomics and Cognitive Research, Department Complex Trait Genetics, VU University, Amsterdam, 1081 HV, The Netherlands
228. Neuroscience Campus Amsterdam, Department Clinical Genetics, VU Medical Center, Amsterdam, 1081 HV, The Netherlands
229. Department of Clinical Physiology and Nuclear Medicine, Turku University Hospital, Turku, 20521, Finland
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231. Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases, Karachi, Pakistan
232. Department of Clinical Physiology and Nuclear Medicine, Kuopio University Hospital, Kuopio, 70210, Finland
233. MRL, Merck & Co., Inc., Genetics and Pharmacogenomics, Boston, MA, 02115, USA
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235. Department of Biobank Research, Umeå University, Umeå, SE-90187, Sweden
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237. Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Quebec, H3T 1J4, Canada
238. Department of Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Unit of Family Medicine, Umeå University, Umeå, 90185, Sweden
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254. Division of Molecular Biology and Human Genetics, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University, Tygerberg, Western Cape, 7505, South Africa
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256. Anogia Medical Centre, Anogia, Greece
257. Centre for Vascular Prevention, Danube-University Krems, Krems, 3500, Austria
258. Dasman Diabetes Institute, Dasman, 15462, Kuwait
259. Diabetes Research Group, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, 21589, Saudi Arabia
260. Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University, Halifax, B3H 4R2, Canada
261. University of Amsterdam, Department of Brain & Cognition, Amsterdam, 1018 WS, The Netherlands
262. Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Institute for Medicine and Public Health, Vanderbilt Genetics Institute, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 37203, USA
263. MRL, Merck & Co., Inc., Cardiometabolic Disease, Kenilworth, NJ, 07033, USA
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277. Department of Epidemiology Research, Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen, 2200, Denmark
278. Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery, The Big Data Institute, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX3 7BN, UK
279. The Mindich Child Health and Development Institute, Ichan School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, 10069, USA
280. Departments of Pediatrics and Genetics, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, 02115, USA
281. Princess Al-Jawhara Al-Brahim Centre of Excellence in Research of Hereditary Disorders (PACER-HD), King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, 21589, Saudi Arabia



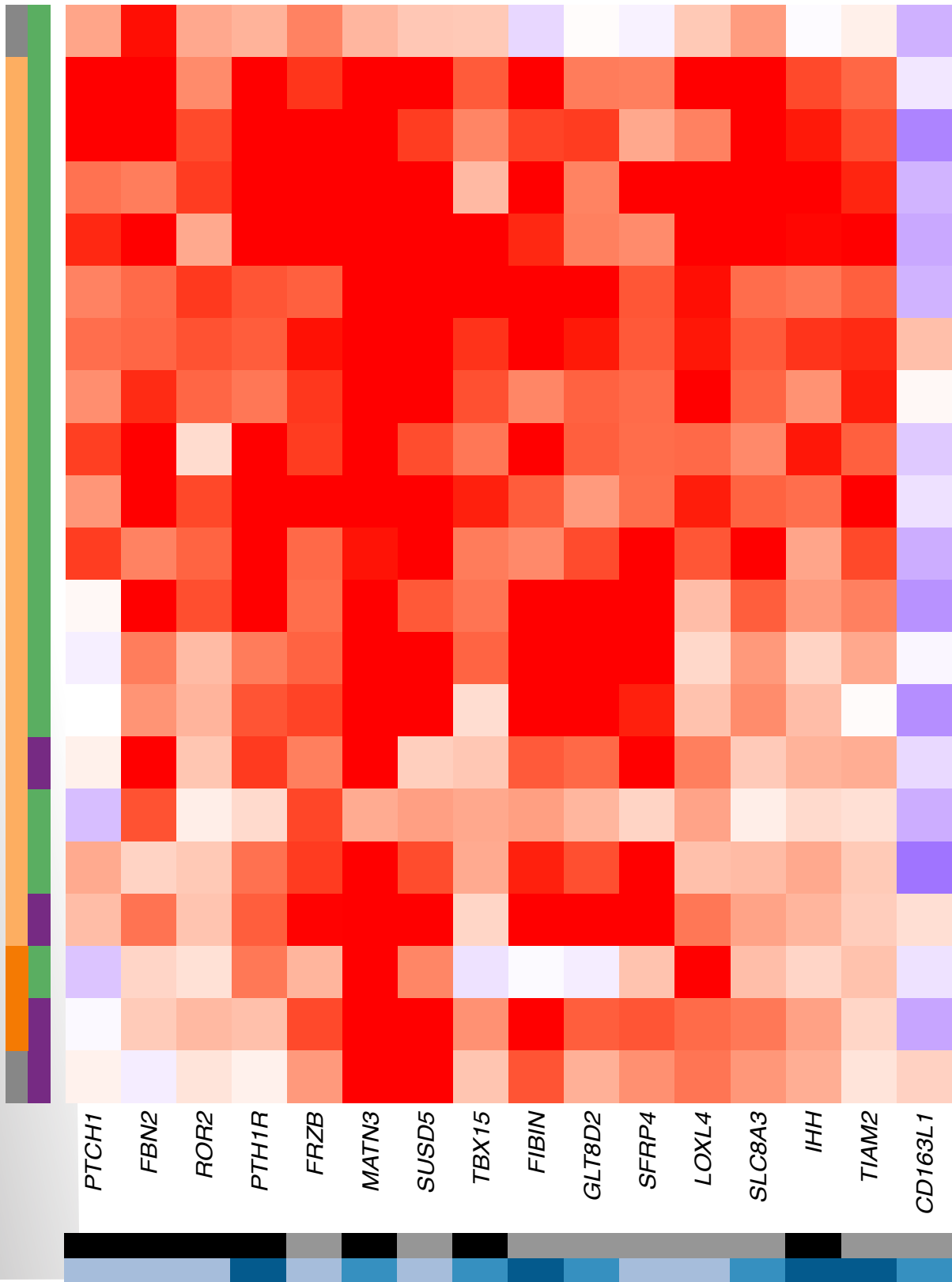
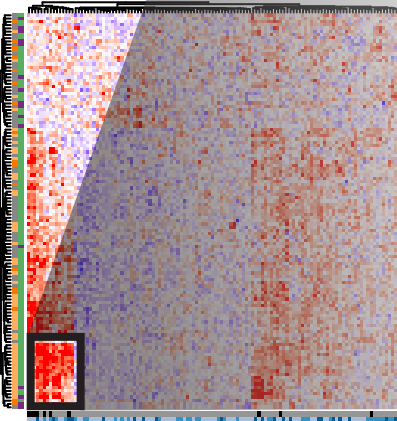
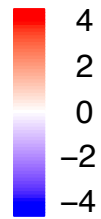
### Pascal EC Significance

- <0.01
- <0.05
- not significant

### DEPICT Significance

- EC only
- both EC and GWAS

### Pathway Z-score



- abnormal lens morphology (MP,  $3.297 \times 10^{-5}$ )
- short ulna (MP,  $2.014 \times 10^{-16}$ )
- short mandible (MP,  $1.603 \times 10^{-15}$ )
- abnormal long bone epiphyseal plate proliferative zone (MP,  $8.312 \times 10^{-18}$ )
- abnormal basicranium morphology (MP,  $1.432 \times 10^{-14}$ )
- embryonic skeletal system morphogenesis (GO,  $7.579 \times 10^{-16}$ )
- endochondral bone morphogenesis (GO,  $2.826 \times 10^{-17}$ )
- regulation of chondrocyte differentiation (GO,  $1.73 \times 10^{-14}$ )
- abnormal phalanx morphology (MP,  $2.967 \times 10^{-13}$ )
- abnormal trabecular bone morphology (MP,  $3.405 \times 10^{-17}$ )
- regulation of osteoblast differentiation (GO,  $1.662 \times 10^{-13}$ )
- platelet-derived growth factor binding (GO,  $2.16 \times 10^{-5}$ )
- abnormal cutaneous collagen fibril morphology (MP,  $6.06 \times 10^{-9}$ )
- extracellular matrix (GO,  $4.631 \times 10^{-8}$ )
- proteoglycan binding (GO,  $6.587 \times 10^{-5}$ )**
- basement membrane (GO,  $3.02 \times 10^{-5}$ )
- TGFB2 PPI subnetwork (PPI,  $7.819 \times 10^{-10}$ )
- glycosaminoglycan binding (GO,  $1.042 \times 10^{-6}$ )
- GDAP1L1 PPI subnetwork (PPI,  $1.823 \times 10^{-5}$ )
- chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan metabolic process (GO,  $5.279 \times 10^{-9}$ )
- heparan sulfate proteoglycan biosynthetic process (GO,  $1.285 \times 10^{-5}$ )

PTCH1 FBN2 ROR2 PTH1R FRZB MATN3 SUSD5 TBX15 FIBIN GLT8D2 SFRP4 LOXL4 SLC8A3 IHH TIAM2 CD163L1

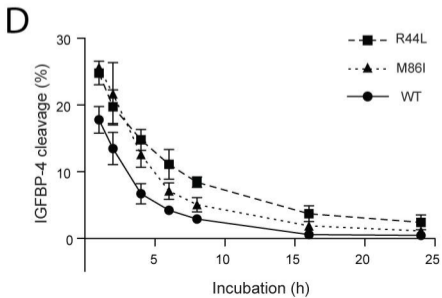
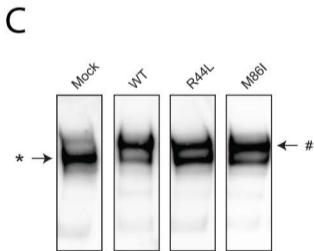
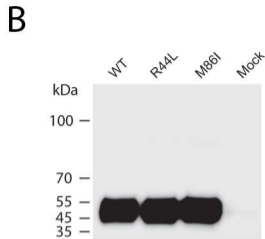
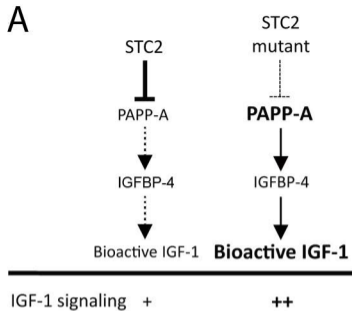
### OMIM

- yes
- no

### MAF

- rare
- low-frequency
- common





# Height Residuals Inverse Transformed (age, PCs)

**Discovery**  
RVTest, RareMetal Worker  
Summary results 147 studies  
N= 458,927 adults

**Quality Control**  
Summary results: EasyQC

## Meta-Analyses RAREMETAL

**Single Variant Analysis (SV) ALL/ per ethnicity**  
Additive, Recessive  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$

**Gene based (GB) ALL/ per ethnicity**  
NS, splice sites MAF < 5% VT and SKAT  $P < 2 \times 10^{-6}$

**SV suggestive signals**  
Additive, ( $P \geq 2 \times 10^{-7} < P \leq 2 \times 10^{-6}$ )  
81 Markers

**SV Conditional analysis CEU**  
Additive,  $P < 2 \times 10^{-7}$   
561 Markers

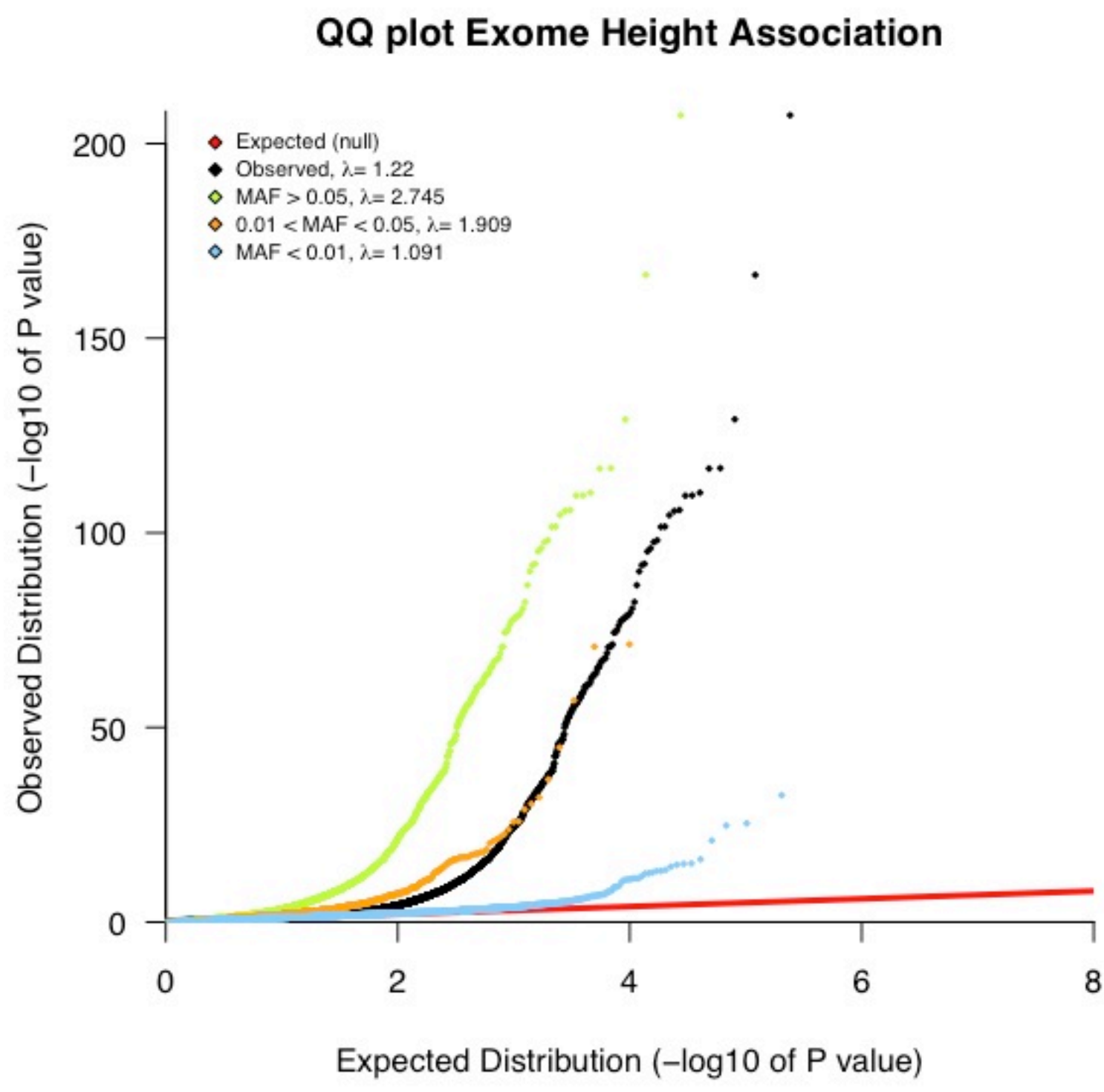
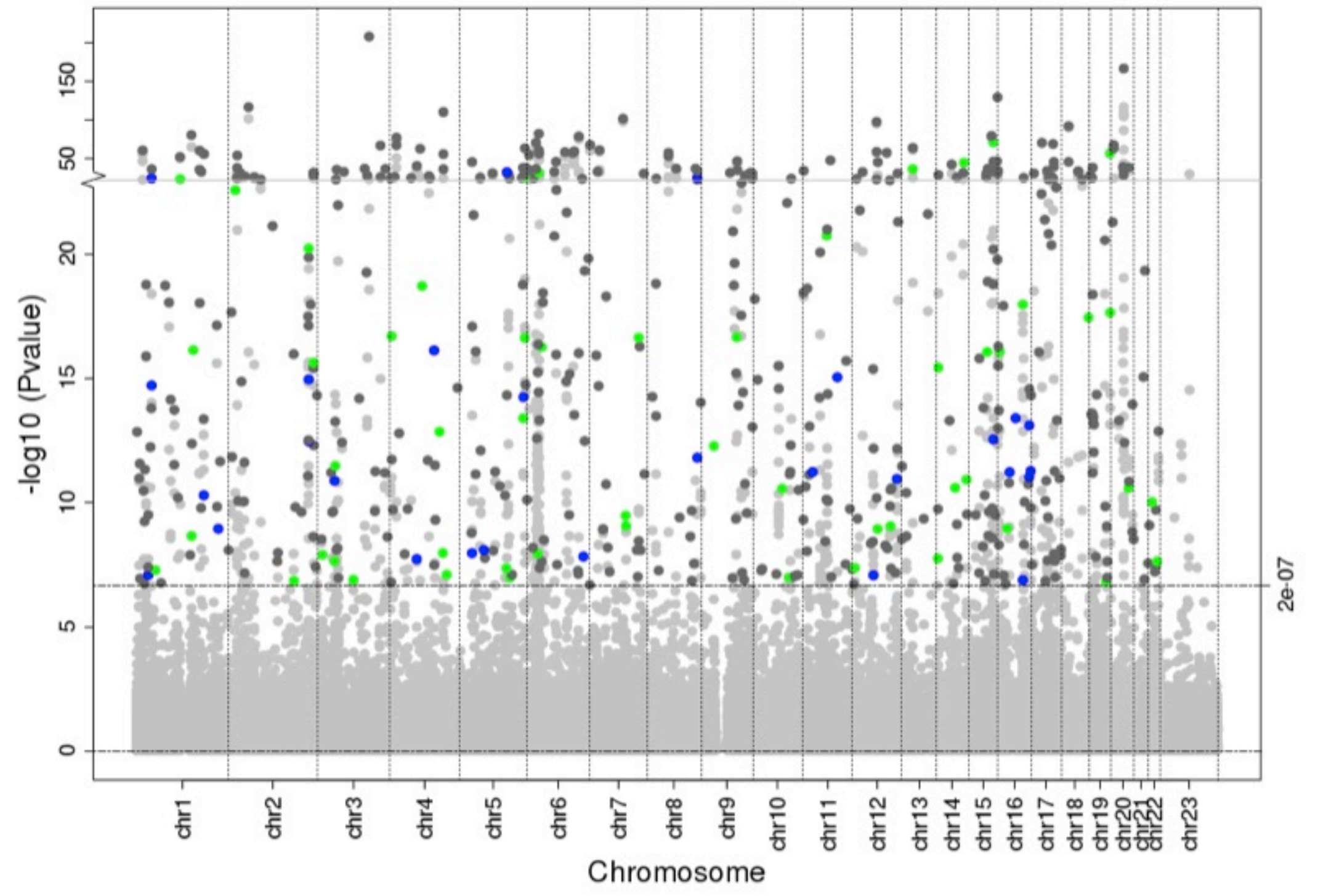
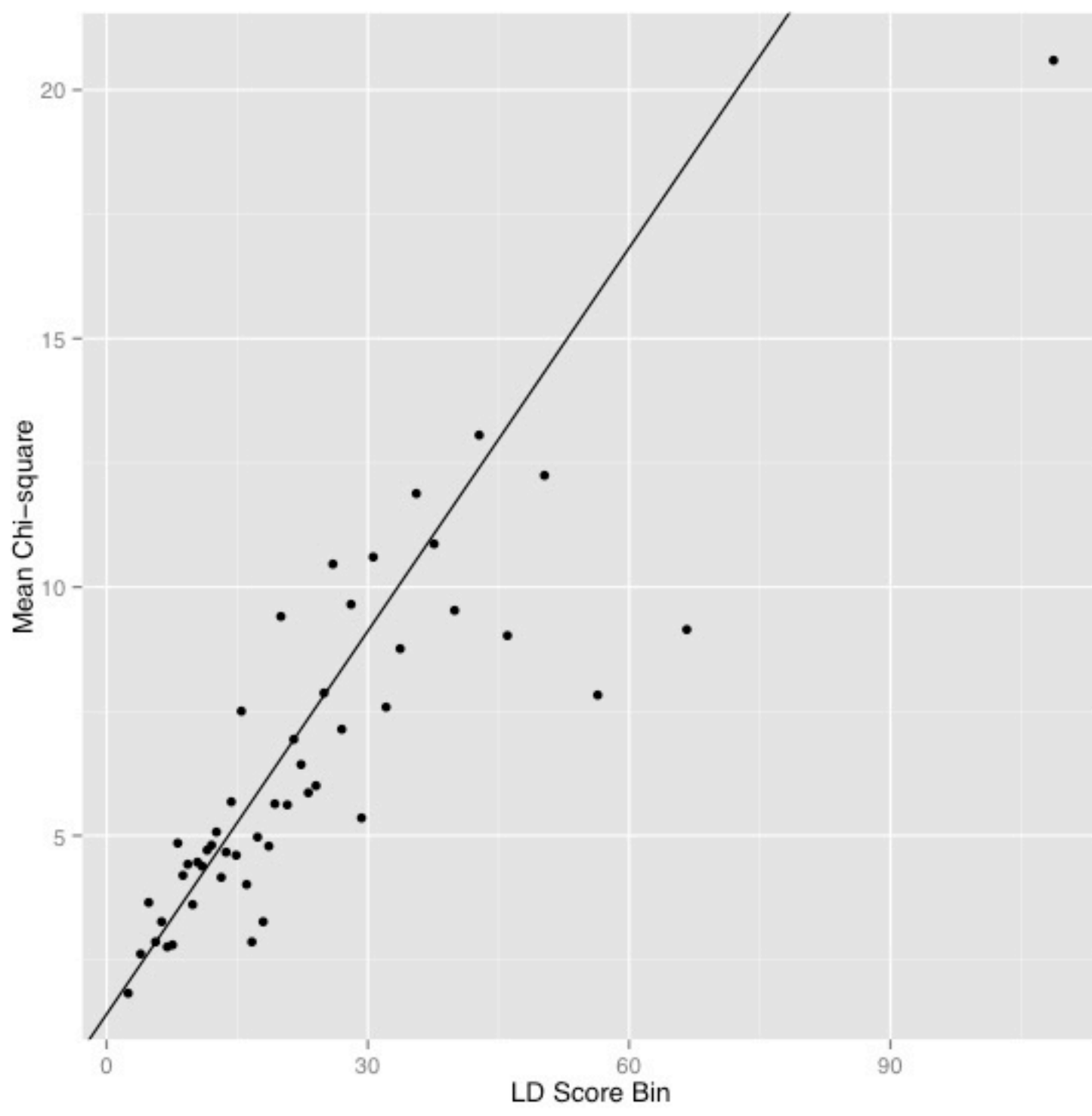
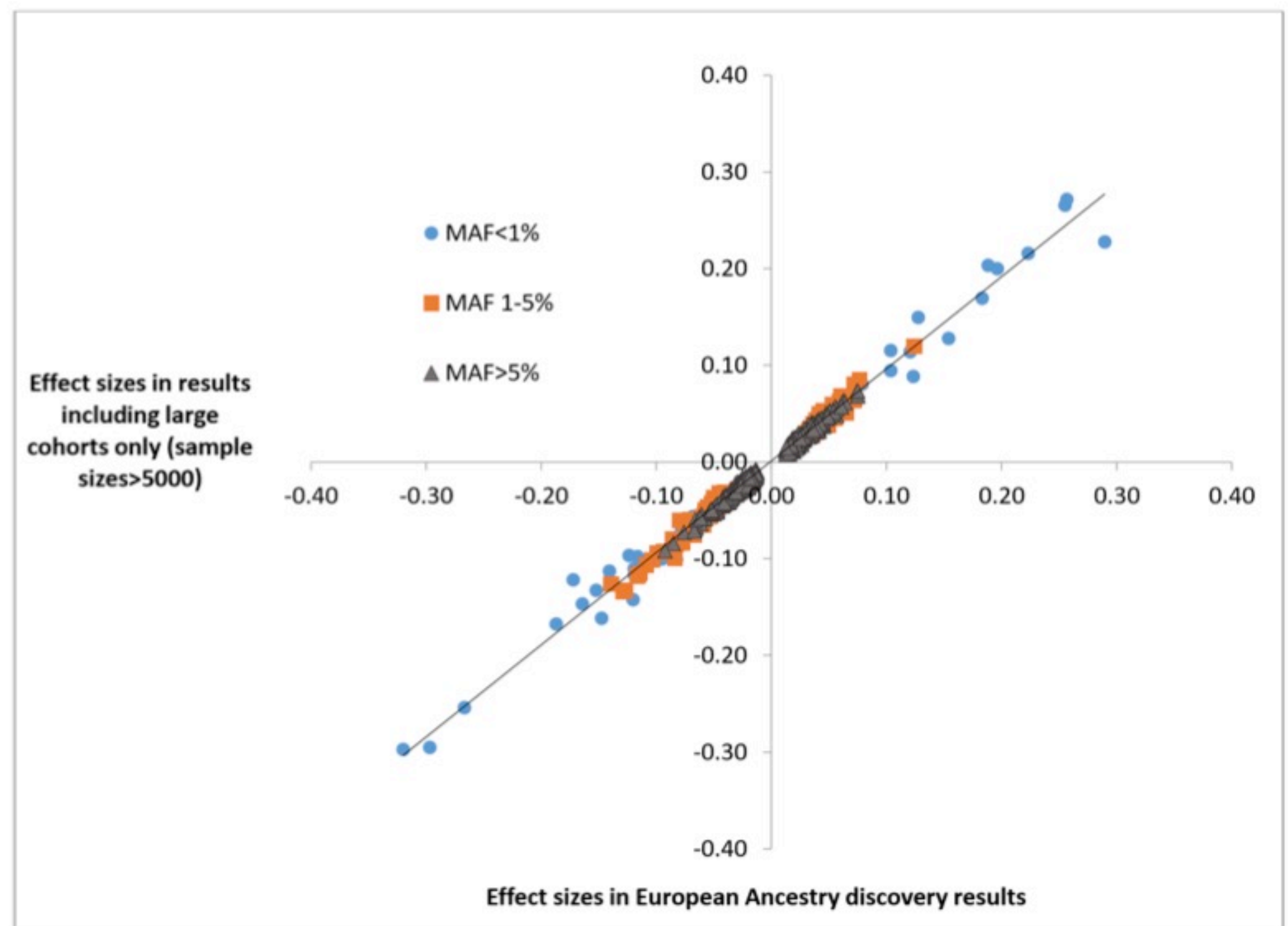
**GB signals not explained by SV association**  
no  $P_{sv} < 2 \times 10^{-7}$  in the gene;  $P_{GB}$  100X smaller  $P_{sv}$   
Significant after conditional analysis nearby SNPs

**Replication**  
8 studies ExomeChip + deCODE + UKBIOBANK  
N= 252,501 EA adults

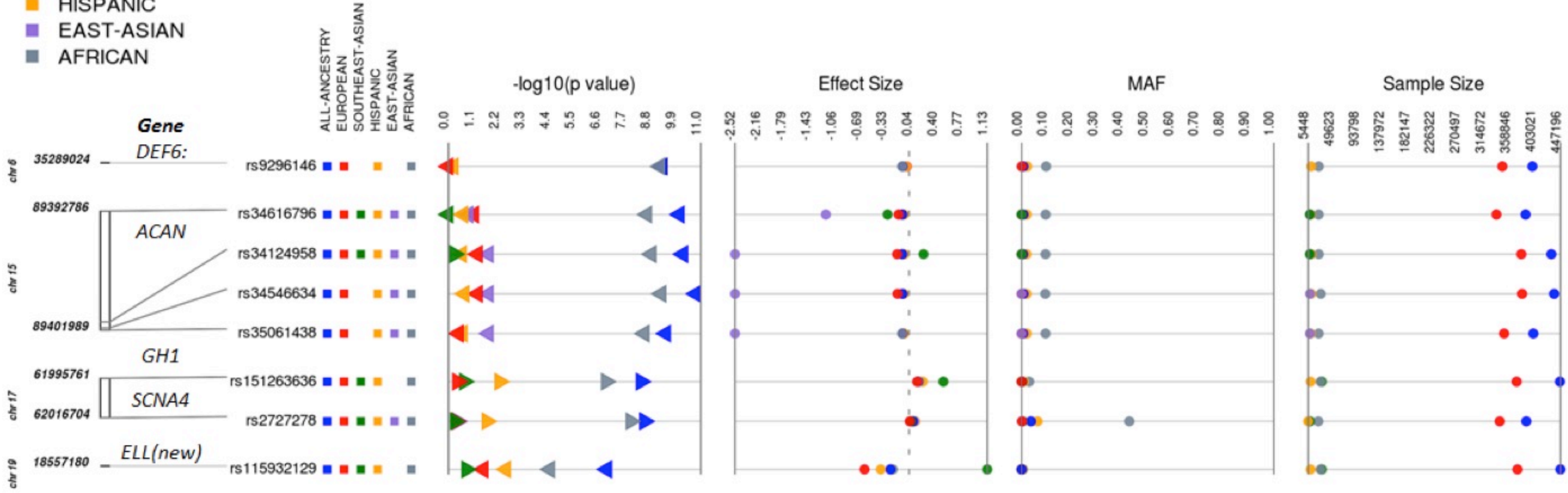
**Replication**  
8 studies ExomeChip  
N= 59,804 EA adults

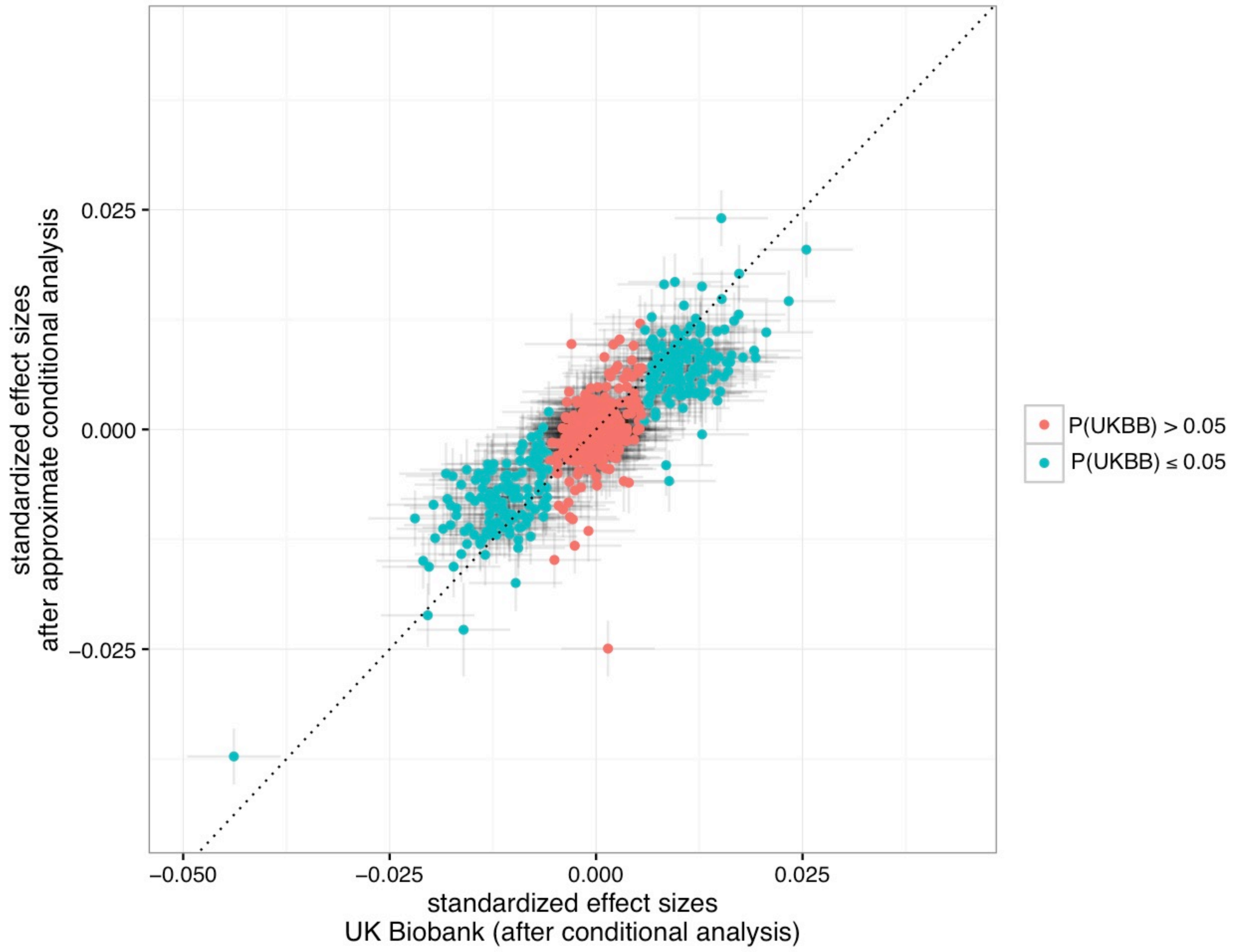
Combined analysis RAREMETAL

Combined analysis RAREMETAL

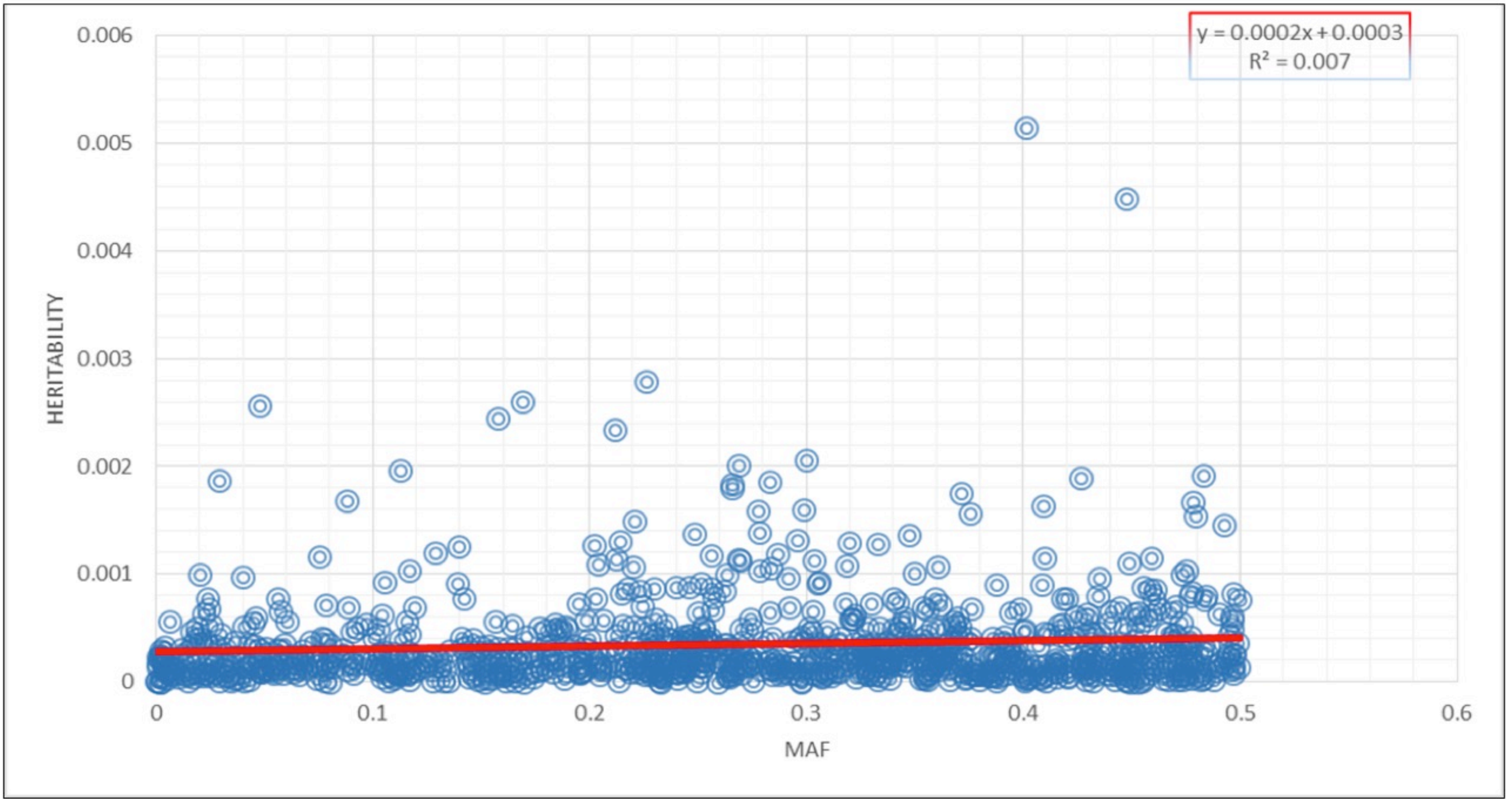
**A****B****C****D**

- ALL-ANCESTRY
- EUROPEAN
- SOUTHEAST-ASIAN
- HISPANIC
- EAST-ASIAN
- AFRICAN

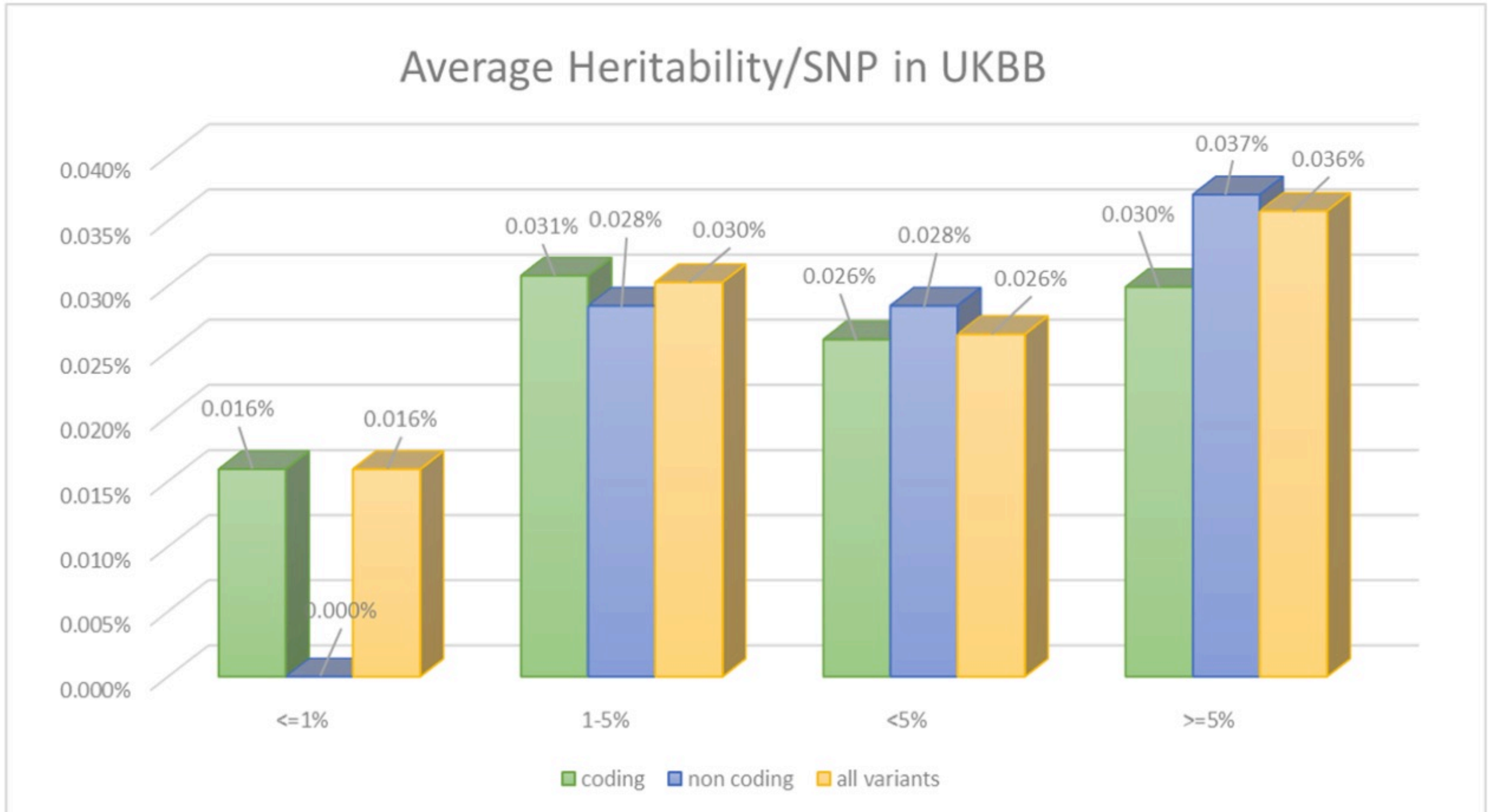




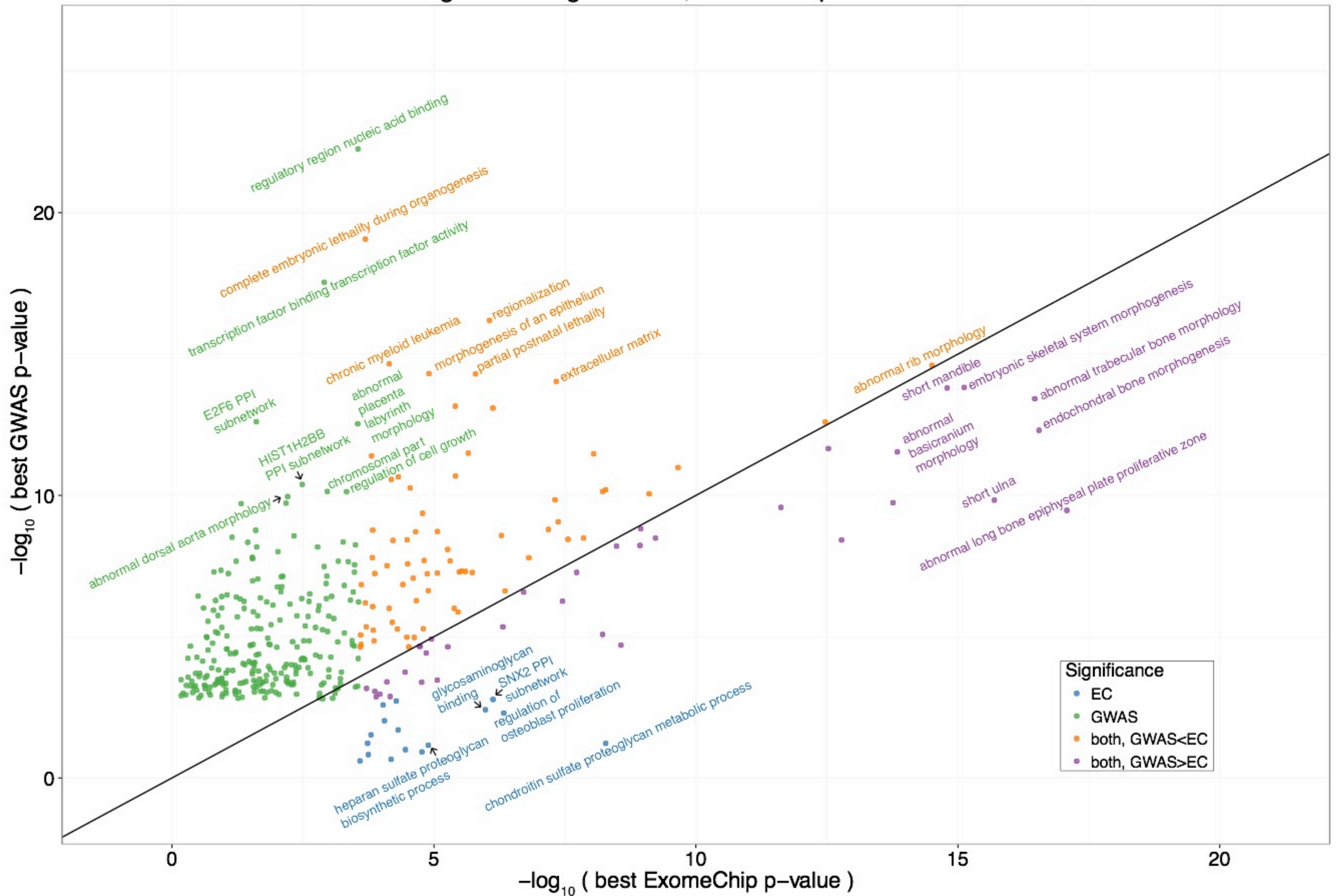
A

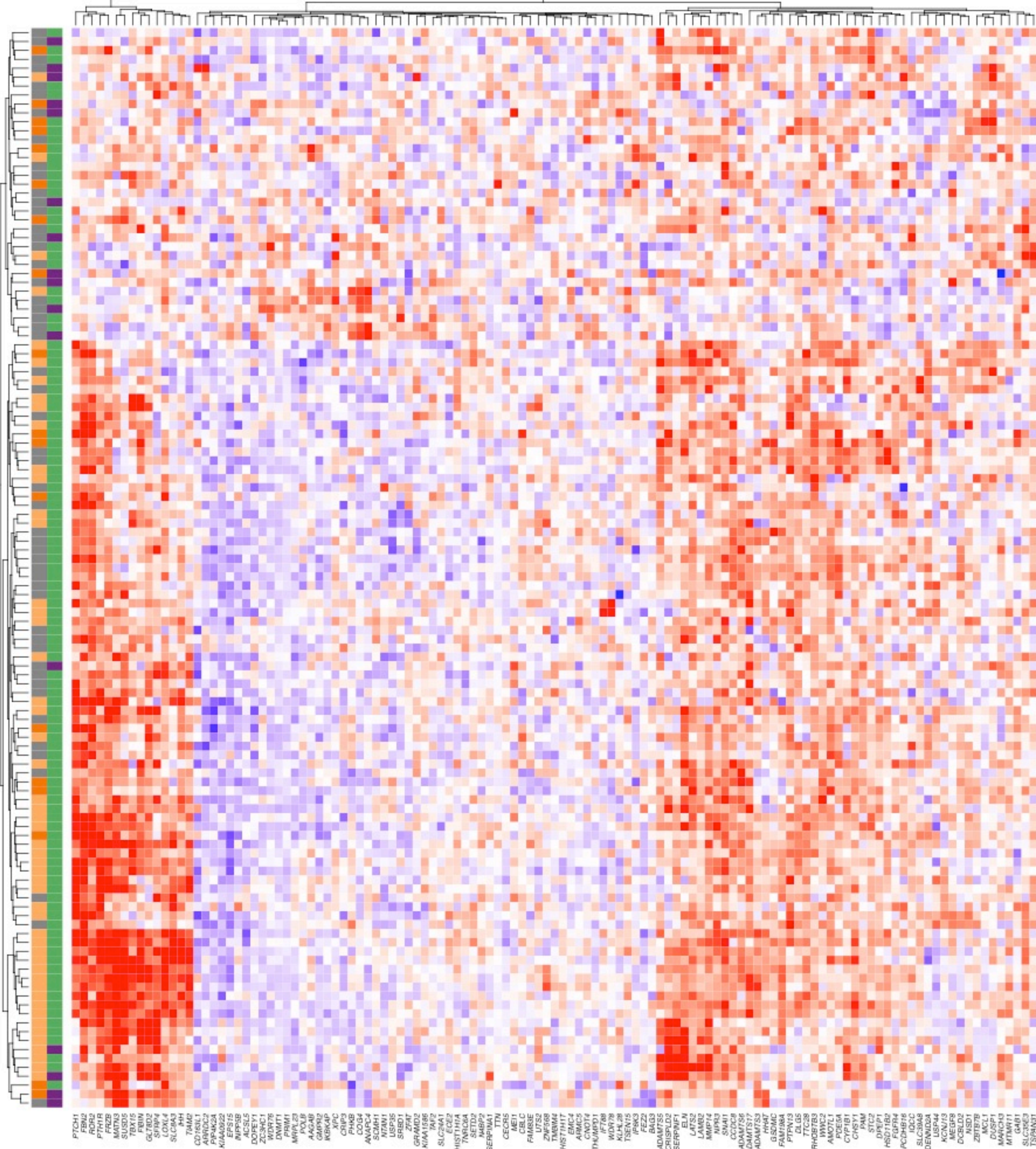
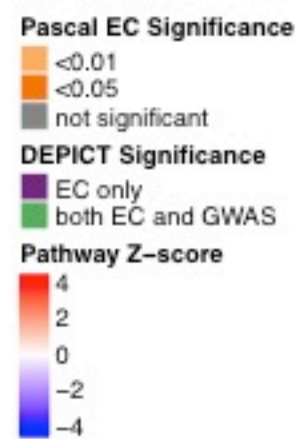


B



# Meta-gene set significance, ExomeChip versus GWAS





response to oxygen levels (GO, 0.0002528)  
ovum-producing ovary development (GO, 8.802e-05)  
blood vessel development (GO, 4.798e-05)  
response to steroid hormone stimulus (GO, 0.0001938)  
abnormal sleep pattern (MP, 1.695e-05)  
BCAN PPI subnetwork (PPI, 5.256e-05)  
decreased susceptibility to diet-induced obesity (MP, 0.0002465)  
PIAS3 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 7.877e-05)  
GADD45B PPI subnetwork (PPI, 4.838e-05)  
cellular response to radiation (GO, 0.0001582)  
SMAD3 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 3.925e-06)  
ESR1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 6.069e-05)  
nuclear import (GO, 6.531e-05)  
GSTM3 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 3.473e-06)  
GSTM1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 5.438e-06)  
MYOG PPI subnetwork (PPI, 3.253e-05)  
HAND1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 3.285e-06)  
REACTOME CDO IN MYOGENESIS (Reactome, 0.0001273)  
LRF1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 0.0002509)  
COP58 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 0.0002584)  
ACOX3 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 3.83e-05)  
DDR1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 6.249e-05)  
cyclin-dependent protein kinase inhibitor activity (GO, 1.395e-08)  
increased intestinal adenoma incidence (MP, 9.365e-05)  
REACTOME G1 PHASE (Reactome, 0.0001554)  
KEGG CELL CYCLE (Kegg, 1.544e-06)  
cyclin-dependent protein kinase holoenzyme complex (GO, 6.875e-05)  
SNX2 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 7.477e-07)  
establishment or maintenance of apical/basal cell polarity (GO, 0.0001789)  
DTL PPI subnetwork (PPI, 0.0001079)  
REACTOME FORMATION OF INCISION COMPLEX IN GG.NER (Reactome, 0.0001345)  
cell cycle checkpoint (GO, 0.0001852)  
transforming growth factor beta receptor, cytoplasmic mediator activity (GO, 3.894e-06)  
ENSG0000185214 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 1.72e-05)  
cullin-RING ubiquitin ligase complex (GO, 3.506e-05)  
KEGG CHRONIC MYELOID LEUKEMIA (Kegg, 7.16e-05)  
partial postnatal lethality (MP, 1.611e-06)  
complete embryonic lethality during organogenesis (MP, 0.0002038)  
dextrocardia (MP, 4.987e-05)  
abnormal pulmonary elastic fiber morphology (MP, 1.854e-06)  
abnormal production of surfactant (MP, 3.563e-05)  
thoracic vertebral transformation (MP, 4.921e-06)  
abnormal cervical vertebrae morphology (MP, 1.651e-05)  
abnormal heart development (MP, 2.225e-06)  
double outlet heart right ventricle (MP, 6.631e-06)  
digestive tract development (GO, 1.115e-05)  
abnormal ureter morphology (MP, 1.942e-07)  
dilated renal tubules (MP, 1.543e-07)  
renal system development (GO, 1.28e-05)  
impaired branching involved in ureteric bud morphogenesis (MP, 3.174e-05)  
decreased bone trabecula number (MP, 2.241e-05)  
development of primary sexual characteristics (GO, 1.406e-05)  
MEIS1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 5.474e-06)  
abnormal semicircular canal morphology (MP, 2.383e-05)  
branching involved in ureteric bud morphogenesis (GO, 0.0001391)  
regulation of mesenchymal cell proliferation (GO, 0.0002042)  
prostate gland morphogenesis (GO, 7.326e-05)  
regulation of organ formation (GO, 0.0001477)  
regulation of epithelial cell proliferation (GO, 4.892e-08)  
mesenchymal cell differentiation (GO, 4.401e-07)  
morphogenesis of an epithelium (GO, 1.245e-05)  
mammary gland morphogenesis (GO, 0.0001478)  
abnormal primitive streak morphology (MP, 1.6e-05)  
formation of primary germ layer (GO, 7.186e-05)  
regulation of smoothed signaling pathway (GO, 1.886e-06)  
abnormal forebrain morphology (MP, 2.497e-05)  
abnormal incisor morphology (MP, 6.551e-08)  
positive regulation of epithelial to mesenchymal transition (GO, 4.838e-07)  
cardiac chamber development (GO, 2.854e-05)  
head morphogenesis (GO, 0.0001495)  
abnormal anterior eye segment morphology (MP, 0.0001349)  
regulation of osteoblast proliferation (GO, 4.643e-07)  
regulation of biomineral tissue development (GO, 8.653e-06)  
odontogenesis (GO, 0.0001959)  
regionalization (GO, 8.721e-07)  
NOG PPI subnetwork (PPI, 1.893e-05)  
WNT11 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 1.167e-09)  
GPR113 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 4.123e-06)  
SFRP1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 1.346e-05)  
FZD6 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 0.0001444)  
regulation of Wnt receptor signaling pathway (GO, 4.258e-08)  
DVL1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 2.489e-05)  
respiratory tube development (GO, 5.925e-10)  
transmembrane receptor protein serine/threonine kinase activity (GO, 0.0002428)  
regulation of transmembrane receptor protein serine/threonine kinase signaling pathway (GO, 1.596e-06)  
response to fibroblast growth factor stimulus (GO, 8.596e-06)  
REACTOME SIGNALING BY BMP (Reactome, 2.199e-10)  
BMP6 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 2.698e-09)  
cleft secondary palate (MP, 3.395e-13)  
complete rostral lethality (MP, 6.015e-09)  
short tail (MP, 3.527e-08)  
abnormal rib morphology (MP, 3.118e-15)  
limb morphogenesis (GO, 5.267e-09)  
abnormal middle ear morphology (MP, 1.131e-09)  
abnormal incus morphology (MP, 2.947e-06)  
abnormal nasal cavity morphology (MP, 2.764e-08)  
abnormal basiophenoid bone morphology (MP, 2.382e-12)  
small otic vesicle (MP, 3.281e-09)  
FGF17 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 8.935e-09)  
encephaly (MP, 7.503e-07)  
abnormal lens morphology (MP, 3.297e-05)  
short ulna (MP, 2.014e-16)  
short mandible (MP, 1.603e-15)  
abnormal long bone epiphyseal plate proliferative zone (MP, 8.312e-18)  
abnormal basicranium morphology (MP, 1.432e-14)  
embryonic skeletal system morphogenesis (GO, 7.579e-16)  
endochondral bone morphogenesis (GO, 2.826e-17)  
regulation of chondrocyte differentiation (GO, 1.73e-14)  
abnormal phalanx morphology (MP, 2.967e-15)  
abnormal trabecular bone morphology (MP, 3.405e-17)  
regulation of osteoblast differentiation (GO, 1.662e-13)  
platelet-derived growth factor binding (GO, 2.15e-05)  
abnormal cutaneous collagen fibril morphology (MP, 6.06e-08)  
extracellular matrix (GO, 4.631e-08)  
proteoglycan binding (GO, 6.587e-05)  
basement membrane (GO, 3.02e-05)  
TGFB2 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 7.819e-10)  
glycosaminoglycan binding (GO, 1.042e-05)  
GDAP1L1 PPI subnetwork (PPI, 1.823e-05)  
chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan metabolic process (GO, 5.279e-09)  
heparan sulfate proteoglycan biosynthetic process (GO, 1.285e-05)

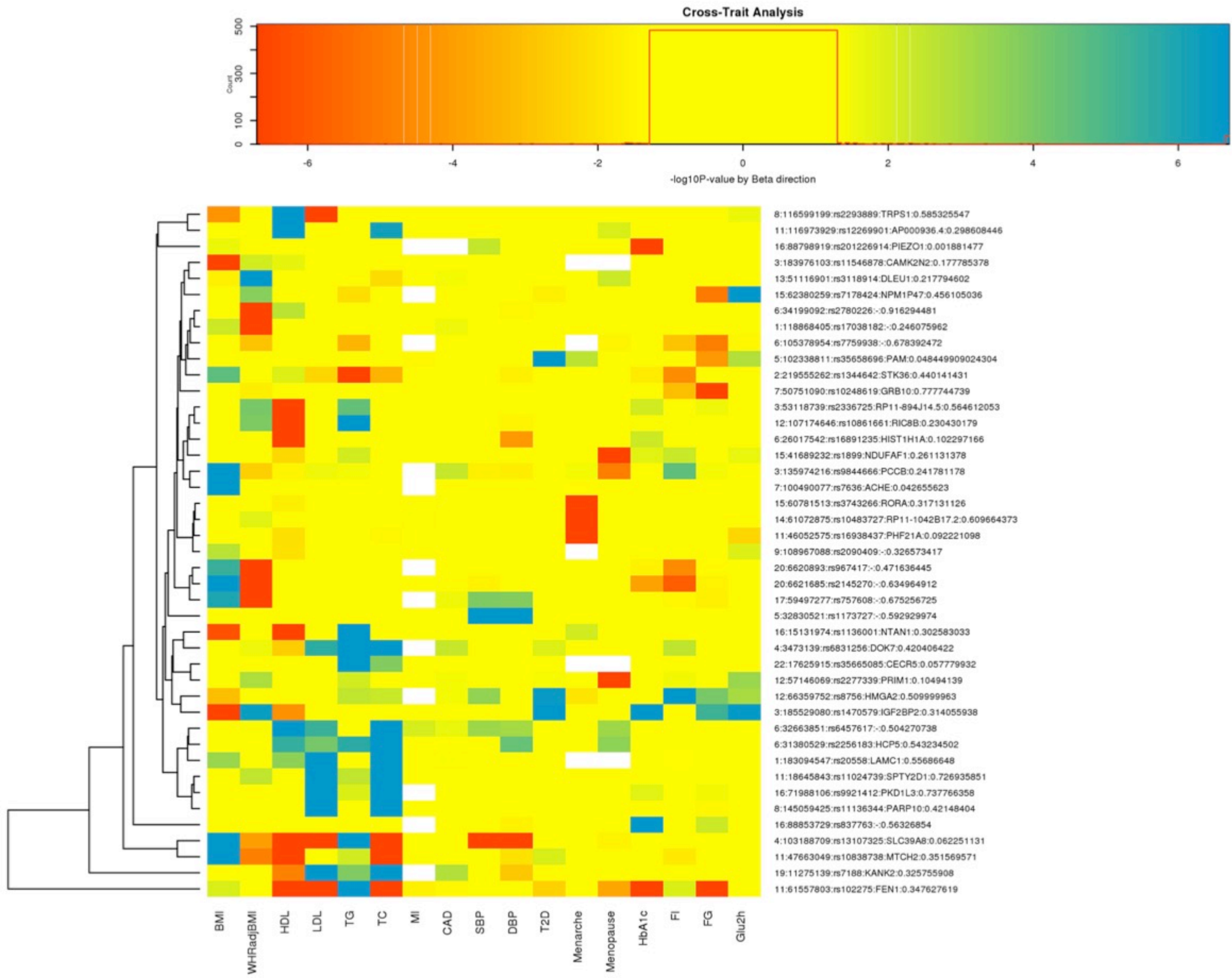
OMIM  
MAF

**OMIM MAF**

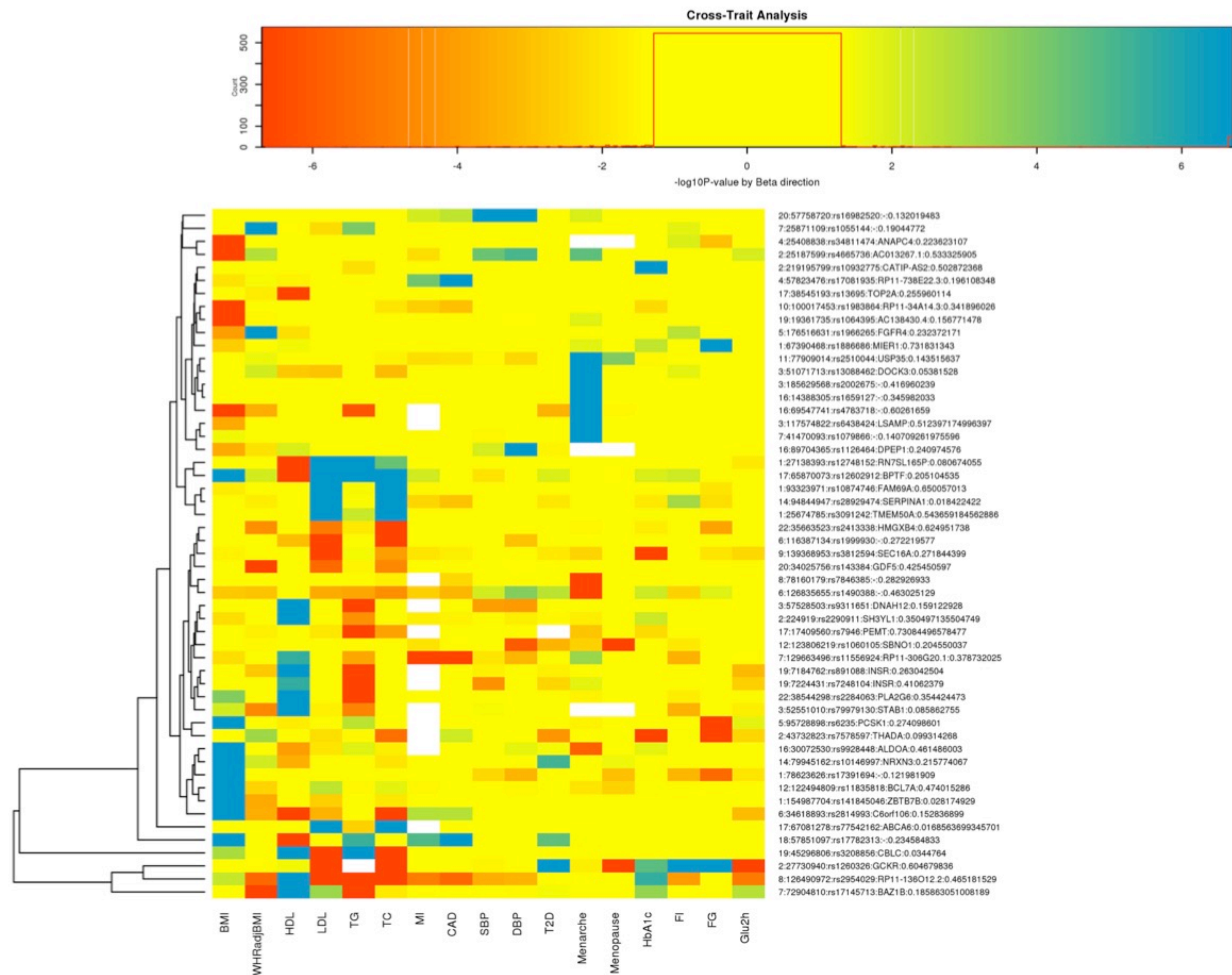
- yes rare
- no low-frequency
- common



A



B



Variant	Chr:Pos	Ref/Alt	Gene	Annotation	Discovery (N up to 381,625)				Validation (N up to 252,501)				Combined (N up to 634,126)			
					AF	Beta	SE	P-value	AF	Beta	SE	P-value	AF	Beta	SE	P-value
rs150341307	1:32673514	G/C	<i>IQCC</i>	missense	0.002	-0.141	0.026	7.92E-08	0.004	-0.116	0.025	3.83E-06	0.003	-0.128	0.018	1.34E-12
rs143365597	1:41540902	G/A	<i>SCMH1</i>	missense	0.004	0.188	0.018	1.58E-25	0.006	0.169	0.024	9.42E-13	0.005	0.181	0.014	1.35E-36
rs114233776	1:41618297	G/A	<i>SCMH1</i>	missense	0.006	-0.119	0.015	1.92E-15	0.006	-0.11	0.019	1.32E-08	0.006	-0.116	0.012	1.80E-22
rs145659444	1:149902342	C/T	<i>MTMR11</i>	missense	0.007	0.067	0.015	4.16E-06	0.006	0.083	0.019	7.11E-06	0.007	0.073	0.012	3.03E-10
rs144712473	1:183495812	A/G	<i>SMG7</i>	missense	0.006	-0.094	0.014	4.97E-11	0.008	-0.067	0.017	8.94E-05	0.007	-0.083	0.011	1.61E-14
rs144673025	1:223178026	T/C	<i>DISP1</i>	missense	0.008	-0.078	0.013	1.11E-09	0.007	-0.086	0.018	1.22E-06	0.008	-0.081	0.011	1.27E-14
rs142036701	2:219924961	G/T	<i>IHH</i>	missense	0.001	-0.32	0.04	1.09E-15	0.003	-0.263	0.043	1.48E-09	0.002	-0.294	0.029	1.85E-23
rs147445258	2:220078652	C/T	<i>ABC6</i>	missense	0.01	-0.086	0.012	3.43E-13	0.009	-0.064	0.018	4.40E-04	0.01	-0.079	0.01	2.47E-15
rs121434601	3:46939587	C/T	<i>PTH1R</i>	missense	0.003	0.154	0.023	1.30E-11	0.003	0.192	0.031	5.48E-10	0.003	0.168	0.019	1.14E-19
rs141374503	4:73179445	C/T	<i>ADAMTS3</i>	missense	0.003	-0.119	0.021	1.82E-08	0.004	-0.089	0.023	1.32E-04	0.004	-0.106	0.016	1.30E-11
rs149385790	4:120422407	T/G	<i>PDE5A</i>	missense	0.001	0.257	0.031	7.50E-17	0.005	0.19	0.033	1.28E-08	0.003	0.226	0.023	2.65E-23
rs146301345	5:32784907	G/A	<i>NPR3</i>	missense	0.003	0.128	0.022	1.05E-08	0.002	0.166	0.035	1.78E-06	0.003	0.139	0.019	7.91E-14
rs61736454	5:64766798	G/A	<i>ADAMTS6</i>	missense	0.002	-0.152	0.026	7.82E-09	0.002	-0.182	0.032	1.37E-08	0.002	-0.164	0.02	4.80E-16
rs78727187	5:127668685	G/T	<i>FBN2</i>	missense	0.006	0.183	0.015	2.47E-33	0.006	0.181	0.02	5.06E-20	0.006	0.182	0.012	1.47E-52
rs148833559	5:172755066	C/A	<i>STC2</i>	missense	0.001	0.29	0.037	5.69E-15	0.001	0.368	0.043	1.32E-17	0.001	0.323	0.028	1.15E-30
rs148543891	6:155450779	A/G	<i>TIAM2</i>	missense	0.003	-0.124	0.022	1.45E-08	0.001	-0.016	0.082	8.50E-01	0.003	-0.117	0.021	3.96E-08
rs41511151	7:73482987	G/A	<i>ELN</i>	missense	0.004	-0.086	0.018	2.63E-06	0.007	-0.061	0.019	1.51E-03	0.006	-0.074	0.013	2.31E-08
rs112892337	8:135614553	G/C	<i>ZFAT</i>	missense	0.004	0.196	0.019	4.42E-26	0.004	0.184	0.024	1.20E-14	0.004	0.191	0.015	6.12E-38
rs75596750	8:135622851	G/A	<i>ZFAT</i>	missense	0.001	0.255	0.036	1.54E-12	0.002	0.339	0.039	5.94E-18	0.002	0.293	0.027	2.05E-28
rs138273386	11:27016360	G/A	<i>FIBIN</i>	missense	0.004	-0.12	0.017	5.79E-12	0.005	-0.076	0.024	1.56E-03	0.004	-0.105	0.014	3.26E-14
rs138059525	11:94533444	G/A	<i>AMOTL1</i>	missense	0.009	-0.096	0.012	9.01E-16	0.007	-0.089	0.017	3.84E-07	0.008	-0.094	0.01	2.84E-21
rs147996581	12:58138971	G/A	<i>TSPAN31</i>	missense	0.003	-0.116	0.022	8.26E-08	0.001	-0.268	0.09	2.85E-03	0.003	-0.125	0.021	5.50E-09
rs13141	12:121756084	G/A	<i>ANAPC5</i>	missense	0.009	-0.082	0.012	1.09E-11	0.011	-0.105	0.016	1.44E-11	0.01	-0.091	0.01	1.45E-21
rs150494621	15:44153571	C/T	<i>WDR76</i>	missense	0.008	0.063	0.013	1.56E-06	0.014	0.054	0.015	3.42E-04	0.011	0.059	0.01	2.32E-09
rs141308595	15:89424870	G/T	<i>HAPLN3</i>	missense	0.001	-0.267	0.037	2.84E-13	0.002	-0.234	0.035	2.43E-11	0.002	-0.25	0.025	1.02E-22
rs141923065	16:31474091	A/G	<i>ARMC5</i>	splice acceptor	0.006	0.104	0.015	5.88E-12	0.013	0.057	0.018	1.16E-03	0.009	0.084	0.011	1.62E-13
rs34667348	16:47684830	C/A	<i>PHKB</i>	missense	0.005	0.121	0.016	3.96E-14	0.005	0.033	0.020	1.04E-01	0.005	0.088	0.013	3.43E-12
rs140385822	16:67470505	G/A	<i>HSD11B2</i>	missense	0.002	-0.148	0.028	1.27E-07	0.002	-0.124	0.035	3.38E-04	0.002	-0.139	0.022	1.97E-10
rs149615348	16:84900645	G/A	<i>CRISPLD2</i>	missense	0.007	-0.095	0.014	9.13E-12	0.008	-0.098	0.017	4.34E-09	0.008	-0.096	0.011	2.92E-19
rs148934412	16:84902472	G/A	<i>CRISPLD2</i>	missense	0.001	-0.297	0.04	7.75E-14	0.001	-0.317	0.058	3.49E-08	0.001	-0.304	0.033	2.36E-20
rs201226914	16:88798919	G/T	<i>PIEZO1</i>	missense	0.002	-0.187	0.027	5.27E-12	0.002	-0.241	0.043	1.99E-08	0.002	-0.202	0.023	8.68E-19
rs137852591	23:66941751	C/G	<i>AR</i>	missense	0.002	-0.304	0.061	7.05E-07	0.008	-0.333	0.058	7.12E-09	0.005	-0.319	0.042	2.67E-14

Variant	Chr:Pos	Ref/Alt	Gene	Annotation	Discovery (N up to 381,625)				Validation (N up to 252,501)				Combined (N up to 634,126)			
					AF	Beta	SE	P-value	AF	Beta	SE	P-value	AF	Beta	SE	P-value
rs41292521	1:51873967	G/A	EPSI5	missense	0.020	0.045	0.008	5.07E-08	0.023	0.065	0.010	7.60E-11	0.021	0.053	0.006	2.56E-17
rs61730011	1:119427467	A/C	TBX15	missense	0.042	-0.059	0.006	1.61E-24	0.046	-0.056	0.007	4.19E-15	0.044	-0.058	0.005	2.79E-36
rs11580946	1:150551327	G/A	MCL1	missense	0.014	0.061	0.010	2.16E-09	0.015	0.085	0.012	7.86E-12	0.015	0.070	0.008	1.55E-19
rs141845046	1:154987704	C/T	ZBTB7B	missense	0.028	0.058	0.007	7.30E-17	0.025	0.061	0.010	4.46E-10	0.027	0.059	0.006	3.46E-25
rs79485039	1:180886140	C/T	KIAA1614	missense	0.026	0.034	0.007	1.41E-06	0.031	0.030	0.009	4.51E-04	0.028	0.033	0.006	2.63E-09
rs52826764	2:20205541	C/T	MATN3	missense	0.026	-0.071	0.007	2.67E-23	0.028	-0.084	0.010	6.60E-19	0.027	-0.076	0.006	3.74E-41
rs16859517	2:219949184	C/T	NHEJ1	intron	0.036	0.059	0.006	5.96E-21	0.036	0.064	0.008	1.12E-15	0.036	0.061	0.005	8.20E-37
rs16866412	2:179474668	G/A	TTN	missense	0.013	-0.053	0.010	1.35E-07	0.010	-0.019	0.015	2.15E-01	0.012	-0.042	0.008	3.44E-07
rs7571816	2:233077064	A/G	DIS3L2	intron	0.025	-0.060	0.007	2.35E-16	0.023	-0.079	0.010	2.58E-15	0.024	-0.066	0.006	6.46E-31
rs2229089	3:14214524	G/A	XPC	missense	0.031	-0.038	0.007	1.22E-08	0.035	-0.020	0.008	1.68E-02	0.033	-0.030	0.005	1.29E-08
rs76208147	3:47162886	C/T	SETD2	missense	0.019	0.048	0.009	2.24E-08	0.016	0.062	0.012	2.22E-07	0.018	0.053	0.007	1.65E-13
rs35713889	3:49162583	C/T	LAMB2	missense	0.039	0.043	0.006	3.28E-12	0.045	0.060	0.007	1.33E-16	0.041	0.050	0.005	3.49E-27
rs9838238	3:98600385	T/C	DCBLD2	missense	0.047	0.029	0.005	1.23E-07	0.051	0.027	0.007	5.62E-05	0.048	0.028	0.004	1.68E-12
rs11722554	4:5016883	G/A	CYTL1	missense	0.040	-0.049	0.006	2.01E-17	0.034	-0.057	0.009	6.68E-11	0.038	-0.052	0.005	1.86E-25
rs61730641	4:87730980	C/T	PTPN13	missense	0.015	-0.086	0.010	1.94E-19	0.016	-0.094	0.012	1.38E-15	0.016	-0.089	0.008	9.43E-32
rs116807401	4:135121721	T/C	PABPC4L	missense	0.017	0.065	0.009	1.39E-13	0.016	0.045	0.012	1.33E-04	0.017	0.058	0.007	7.54E-16
rs28925904	4:144359490	C/T	GAB1	missense	0.019	-0.048	0.008	1.04E-08	0.023	-0.036	0.010	3.24E-04	0.021	-0.043	0.006	4.29E-12
rs34343821	4:154557616	C/T	KIAA0922	missense	0.011	0.059	0.011	7.75E-08	0.015	0.056	0.012	5.75E-06	0.013	0.058	0.008	2.18E-12
rs35658696	5:102338811	A/G	PAM	missense	0.048	-0.025	0.005	3.76E-06	0.053	-0.031	0.007	8.47E-06	0.050	-0.027	0.004	1.63E-10
rs34821177	5:126250812	C/T	MARCH3	missense	0.036	0.034	0.006	4.25E-08	0.029	0.027	0.009	2.45E-03	0.034	0.032	0.005	1.67E-10
rs62623707	5:135288632	A/G	LECT2	missense	0.044	-0.030	0.006	1.02E-07	0.049	-0.024	0.007	4.77E-04	0.046	-0.027	0.005	1.36E-09
rs34471628	5:172196752	A/G	DUSP1	missense	0.036	0.048	0.006	4.00E-14	0.042	0.036	0.007	1.26E-06	0.039	0.043	0.005	1.93E-20
rs28932177	5:176637471	G/A	NSD1	missense	0.028	0.063	0.007	2.38E-17	0.027	0.065	0.009	2.62E-12	0.028	0.064	0.006	4.27E-30
rs78247455	5:176722005	G/A	NSD1	missense	0.023	-0.083	0.008	1.86E-26	0.025	-0.085	0.010	8.42E-18	0.024	-0.084	0.006	2.32E-41
rs7757648	6:30851933	G/A	DDR1	intron	0.013	-0.075	0.013	1.11E-08	0.011	-0.079	0.018	1.24E-05	0.012	-0.076	0.011	4.64E-13
rs34427075	6:34730395	C/T	SNRPC	synonymous	0.014	-0.117	0.010	9.21E-33	0.016	-0.139	0.012	9.59E-31	0.015	-0.126	0.008	3.45E-60
rs33966734	6:41903798	C/A	CCND3	stop_gained	0.013	-0.140	0.017	5.51E-17	0.011	-0.101	0.018	3.41E-08	0.012	-0.122	0.012	1.28E-22
rs17277546	7:99489571	G/A	TRIM4	3'UTR	0.049	0.034	0.005	3.28E-10	0.052	0.038	0.007	2.26E-07	0.050	0.035	0.004	1.40E-17
rs7636	7:100490077	G/A	ACHE	synonymous	0.043	-0.037	0.006	8.59E-10	0.035	-0.019	0.009	2.92E-02	0.040	-0.031	0.005	2.98E-10
rs17480616	7:135123060	G/C	CNOT4	missense	0.028	0.060	0.007	2.31E-17	0.030	0.054	0.009	5.04E-10	0.029	0.058	0.005	3.90E-26
rs3136797	8:42226805	C/G	POLB	missense	0.018	0.044	0.009	1.95E-06	0.021	0.026	0.010	1.30E-02	0.019	0.036	0.007	1.88E-07
rs11575580	9:34660864	C/T	IL11RA	missense	0.016	-0.064	0.009	5.20E-13	0.020	-0.030	0.011	4.42E-03	0.018	-0.050	0.007	4.01E-13
rs921122	9:95063947	C/T	NOL8	missense	0.039	0.041	0.009	2.56E-06	0.040	0.018	0.008	3.45E-02	0.040	0.029	0.006	3.33E-06
rs41274586	10:79580976	G/A	DLG5	missense	0.017	-0.058	0.009	2.72E-11	0.017	-0.076	0.012	5.15E-11	0.017	-0.065	0.007	7.66E-20
rs41291604	10:97919011	A/G	ZNF518A	missense	0.040	0.031	0.006	9.94E-08	0.040	0.022	0.008	3.05E-03	0.040	0.028	0.005	3.91E-09
rs71455793	11:65715204	G/A	TSGA10IP	missense	0.039	-0.058	0.006	1.82E-21	0.046	-0.072	0.007	1.41E-23	0.042	-0.064	0.005	1.52E-43
rs4072796	12:7548996	C/G	CD163L1	missense	0.035	0.034	0.006	4.11E-08	0.037	0.015	0.008	6.68E-02	0.036	0.027	0.005	1.87E-08
rs61743810	12:69140339	G/C	SLC35E3	missense	0.022	-0.047	0.008	1.13E-09	0.023	-0.036	0.010	5.11E-04	0.022	-0.043	0.006	1.29E-11
rs117801489	12:104408832	T/C	GLT8D2	missense	0.017	0.053	0.009	8.72E-10	0.028	0.062	0.010	5.82E-10	0.022	0.057	0.007	1.60E-17
rs2066674	13:50842259	G/A	DLEU1	intron	0.044	0.073	0.006	2.33E-37	0.041	0.084	0.008	7.02E-25	0.043	0.077	0.005	5.66E-57
rs17880989	14:23313633	G/A	MMP14	missense	0.027	0.041	0.007	1.72E-08	0.029	0.052	0.009	7.81E-09	0.028	0.045	0.006	3.27E-16
rs34354104	14:24707479	G/A	GMPR2	missense	0.048	0.045	0.005	3.67E-16	0.050	0.047	0.007	1.34E-11	0.049	0.046	0.004	2.13E-29
rs117295933	14:45403699	C/A	KLHL28	missense	0.016	-0.045	0.009	1.55E-06	0.025	-0.036	0.010	4.13E-04	0.020	-0.041	0.007	3.05E-09
rs41286548	14:70633411	C/T	SLC8A3	missense	0.021	-0.054	0.008	2.49E-11	0.026	-0.045	0.009	2.02E-06	0.023	-0.050	0.006	2.03E-16
rs28929474	14:94844947	C/T	SERPINA1	missense	0.018	0.124	0.009	1.39E-45	0.019	0.139	0.011	2.50E-34	0.019	0.130	0.007	1.72E-75
rs41286560	14:101349454	G/T	RTL1	missense	0.024	-0.050	0.007	1.17E-11	0.028	-0.033	0.009	2.12E-04	0.026	-0.044	0.006	2.50E-15
rs116858574	15:34520687	T/C	EMC4	missense	0.014	0.047	0.010	1.16E-06	0.014	0.028	0.012	2.19E-02	0.014	0.040	0.008	1.60E-07
rs34815962	15:72462255	C/T	GRAMD2	missense	0.019	0.073	0.009	8.72E-17	0.023	0.074	0.010	3.66E-13	0.021	0.073	0.007	1.28E-27
rs16942341	15:89388905	C/T	ACAN	synonymous	0.026	-0.129	0.007	4.30E-72	0.028	-0.146	0.009	1.08E-56	0.027	-0.135	0.006	3.79E-130
rs61733564	16:4812705	A/G	ZNF500	missense	0.032	0.056	0.007	8.61E-17	0.032	0.044	0.009	2.34E-07	0.032	0.051	0.005	2.89E-21
rs113388806	16:24804954	A/T	TNRC6A	missense	0.040	0.036	0.006	1.08E-09	0.047	0.041	0.008	1.65E-07	0.043	0.038	0.005	1.90E-15
rs8052655	16:67409180	G/A	LRRC36	missense	0.043	-0.054	0.006	1.08E-18	0.043	-0.055	0.008	3.91E-13	0.043	-0.054	0.005	6.40E-31
rs77542162	17:67081278	A/G	ABCA6	missense	0.017	0.049	0.010	2.17E-06	0.023	0.051	0.010	5.58E-07	0.020	0.050	0.007	5.57E-12
rs77169818	18:74980601	A/T	GALR1	missense	0.047	-0.048	0.006	3.60E-18	0.038	-0.035	0.008	3.64E-05	0.044	-0.044	0.005	5.11E-19
rs3208856	19:45296806	C/T	CBLC	missense	0.034	0.036	0.007	1.48E-07	0.034	0.021	0.008	1.19E-02	0.034	0.030	0.005	2.96E-08
rs4252548	19:55879672	C/T	IL11	missense	0.026	-0.114	0.007	1.02E-57	0.022	-0.101	0.010	2.28E-23	0.025	-0.110	0.006	5.32E-81
rs147110934	19:55993436	G/T	ZNF628	missense	0.021	-0.084	0.010	2.28E-18	0.022	-0.098	0.011	1.17E-18	0.022	-0.090	0.007	6.33E-34
rs77885044	22:28501414	C/T	TTC28	missense	0.012	-0.067	0.010	9.47E-11	0.017	-0.069	0.012	3.24E-09	0.014	-0.068	0.008	3.93E-19
rs147348682	22:42095658	T/G	MEI1	missense	0.025	0.041	0.007	2.25E-08	0.034	0.024	0.009	6.59E-03	0.029	0.034	0.006	3.70E-10