

# Extending the phylogenetic range of systematic surveys for ncRNA prediction to trypanosomatid species

Dominic Rose

Bioinformatics Group, Institute for Computer Science, University of Leipzig

Bled, Feb 2006

## 1 Introduction

- About ncRNAs
- Motivation

## 2 Methods

- Basic ideas
- Noncoding RNA prediction using RNAz

## 3 Results

- Leishmania ncRNA predictions

# Outline

1

## Introduction

- About ncRNAs
- Motivation

2

## Methods

- Basic ideas
- Noncoding RNA prediction using RNAz

3

## Results

- Leishmania ncRNA predictions

# A short definition

Noncoding RNAs (ncRNAs) are

- Transcripts that are not translated into proteins
- Molecules that induce cellular activity without protein influence

# Noncoding RNA variety

The Noncode DB provides:

- 5,339 public sequences
- 861 organisms
- 109 traditional classes
- 26 cellular process

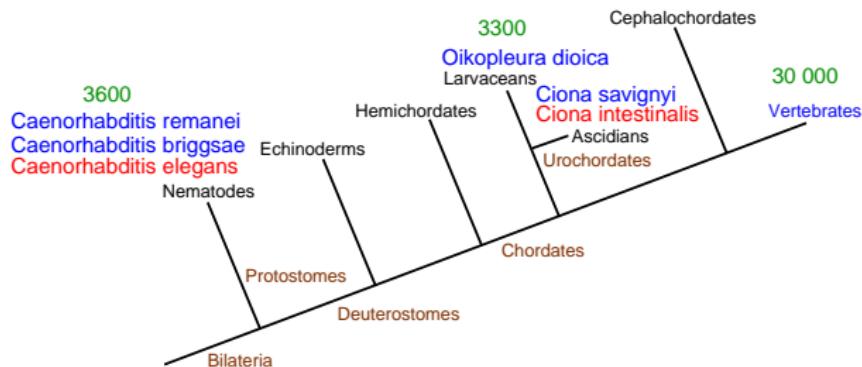
# Noncoding RNA variety

Exemplary ncRNA classes and their activities

<b>Class</b>	<b>Process</b>	<b>Function</b>
XIST	Gene silencing	Required for X chromosome inactivation.
snRNA	RNA processing	Forming the core of the spliceosome, RNA splicing.
gRNA	RNA modification	RNA editing (insertion or deletion of uridylates).
miRNA	mRNA translation	Represses translation by pairing with 3' end of target mRNA

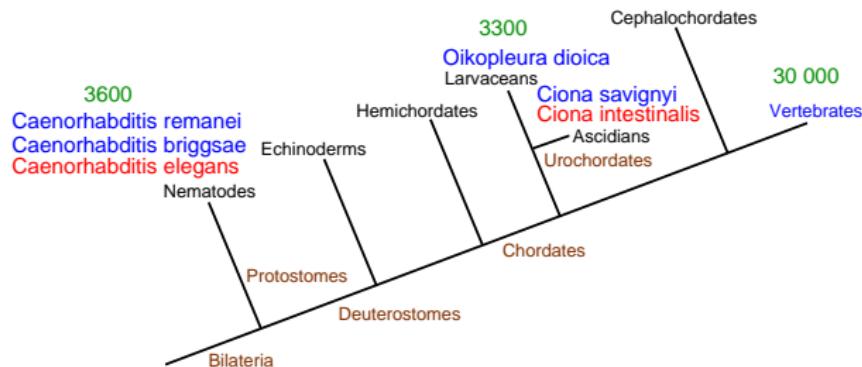
# Phylogenetic range of ncRNA predictions

RNAz-based ncRNA predictions of the past:



# Phylogenetic range of ncRNA predictions

RNAz-based ncRNA predictions of the past:



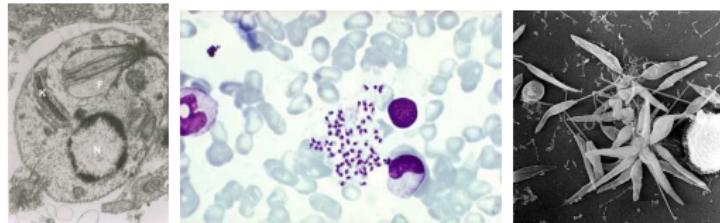
Recent screens:

- Leishmania and Trypanosoma
- Teleost fishes
- Plants???

# Objects of research

Taxonomic family: Trypanosomatidae

- Unicellular, flagellated protozoan parasites
- Leishmania: *L. major* (Lm), *L. infantum* (Li)



- Trypanosoma: *T. brucei* (Tb)



# Outline

## 1 Introduction

- About ncRNAs
- Motivation

## 2 Methods

- Basic ideas
- Noncoding RNA prediction using RNAz

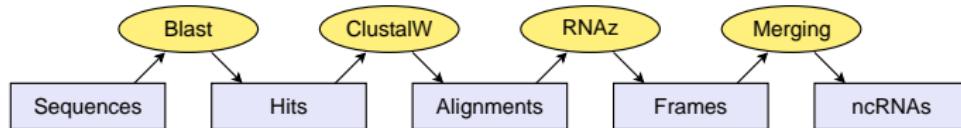
## 3 Results

- Leishmania ncRNA predictions

# Give me the RNAs...

Retrieving structural ncRNAs out of blank sequence data:

- Start with genome-wide alignments of nc DNA
- Process them with your favorite ncRNA prediction tool
- Sort the output to annotate putative ncRNAs

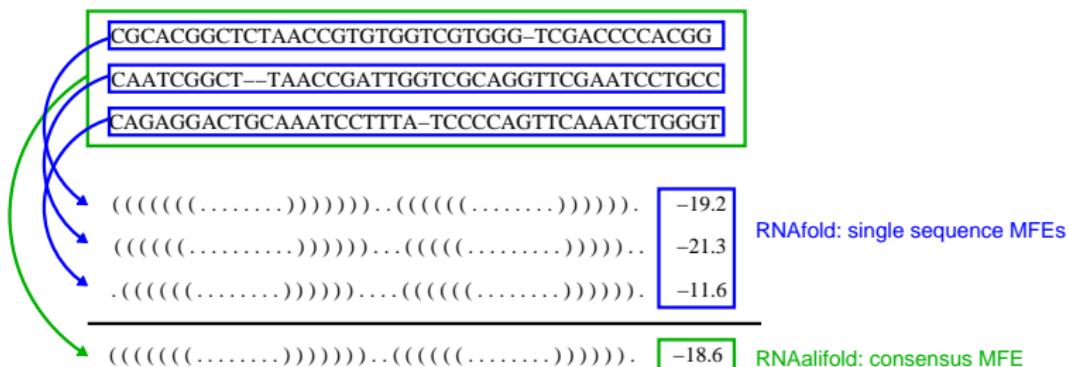


# NcRNA characteristics

General ncRNA features:

- They lack sequence signals as found in protein coding genes
- Evolutionary conserved ncRNA secondary structures indicate functionality

# The RNAz approach



- SVM classification:

- $$\text{SCI} = \frac{\text{consensus MFE}}{\text{mean single sequence MFE}}$$
 (structure conservation index)

- $$\text{z-score} = \frac{\sum \text{single sequence z-score}}{N}$$
 (thermodynamic stability)

# Outline

1

## Introduction

- About ncRNAs
- Motivation

2

## Methods

- Basic ideas
- Noncoding RNA prediction using RNAz

3

## Results

- Leishmania ncRNA predictions

# NcRNA predictions for Leishmania species

<b>screen</b>	<b>LiLm</b>	<b>LiLmTb</b>
$p > 0.5$	45,329 (18%)	149 (0.05%)
$p > 0.9$	22,187 (9%)	66 (0.02%)
$p > 0.98$	11,496	35
$p > 0.99$	8,627	19

<b>screen</b>	<b>LmLi</b>	<b>LmLiTb</b>
$p > 0.5$	53,837 (22%)	291 (0.04%)
$p > 0.9$	26,030 (12%)	108 (0.01%)
$p > 0.98$	13,355	41
$p > 0.99$	10,109	27

# Estimated sensitivities

type	$N$	$n$	$N_a$	$N_g$	$s_{Na}$	$s_{Ng}$	$s_{na}$	$s_{ng}$
	LiLmTb							
rRNA	5	12	11	21	0.46	0.24	1.09	0.57
tRNA	35	39	48	55	0.73	0.64	0.81	0.71
misc_RNA	0	0	0	9	-	0.00	-	0.00
snRNA	1	1	1	7	1.00	0.14	1.00	1.00
snoRNA	0	0	0	35	-	0.00	-	0.00
	LmLiTb							
rRNA	28	34	46	61	0.61	0.46	0.74	0.56
tRNA	45	50	65	67	0.69	0.67	0.77	0.77
snRNA	1	1	1	5	1.00	0.20	1.00	0.20

# False positive rates and specificities

LiLmTb

$p$	> 0.5	> 0.9	> 0.98	> 0.99
FPR RNAz frames	54%	31%	24%	22%
Specificity	0.985	0.997	0.999	0.999

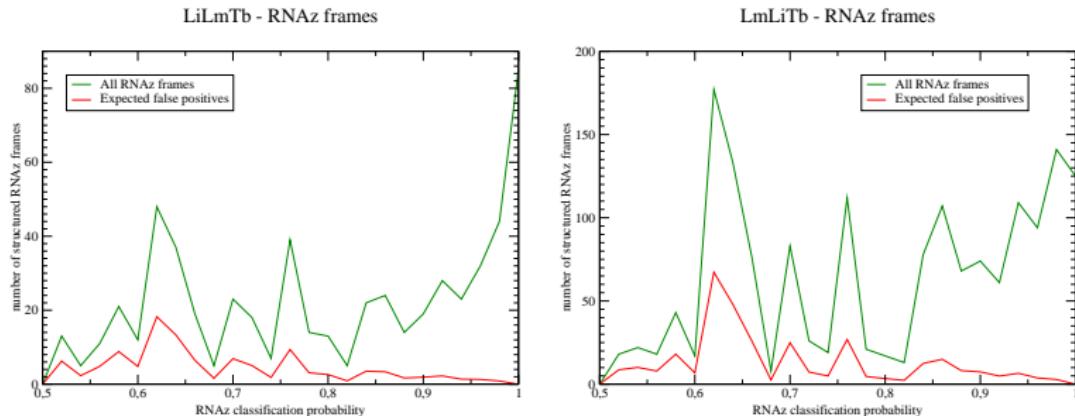
LmLiTb

$p$	> 0.5	> 0.9	> 0.98	> 0.99
FPR RNAz frames	49%	29%	35%	18%
Specificity	0.975	0.996	0.999	0.999

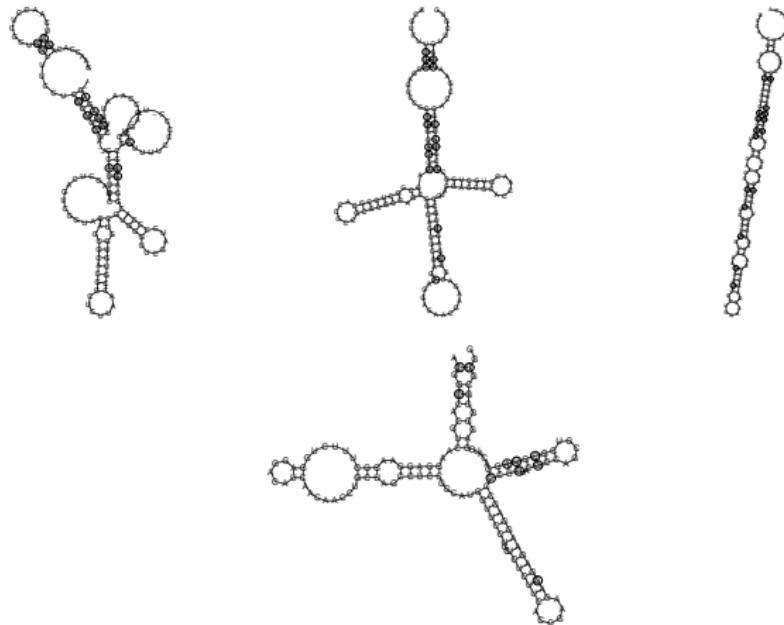
# Detection rates

	per 1 mb alignment		per 1 mb nc region	
	normal	shuffled	normal	shuffled
LiLmTb				
$p > 0.5$	9.81	5.32	20.02	10.86
$p > 0.9$	3.58	1.1	7.31	2.24
$p > 0.98$	1.44	0.34	2.93	0.69
$p > 0.99$	0.76	0.17	1.55	0.34
LmLiTb	normal	shuffled	normal	shuffled
$p > 0.5$	23.18	11.26	56.26	27.32
$p > 0.9$	7.4	2.16	17.96	5.25
$p > 0.98$	1.75	0.61	4.24	1.49
$p > 0.99$	1.27	0.22	3.08	0.54

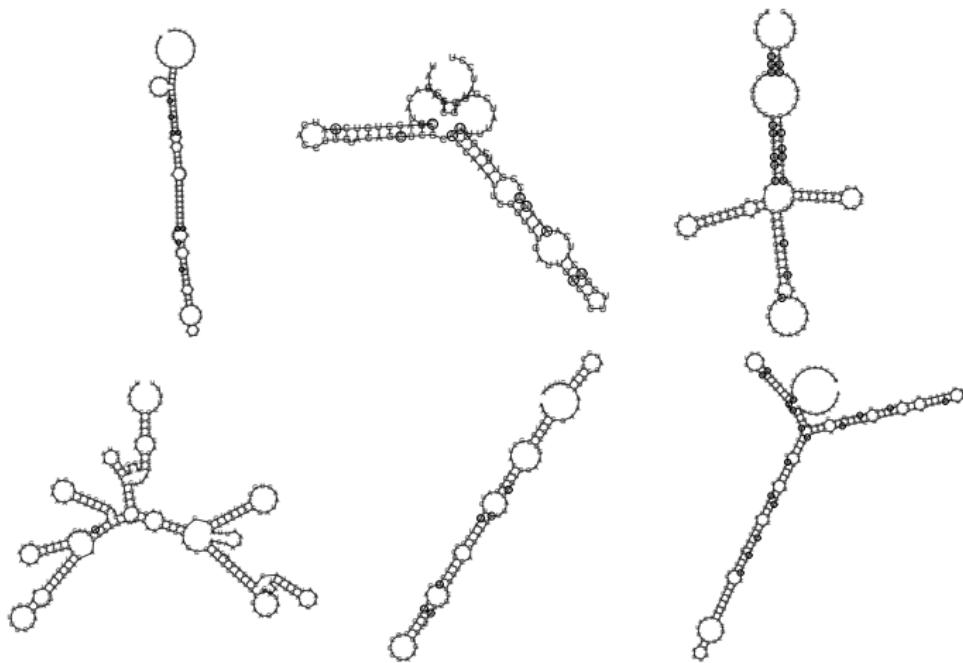
# RNA classification probability



# Exemplary consensus structures (LiLmTb)

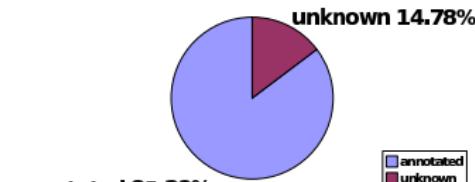
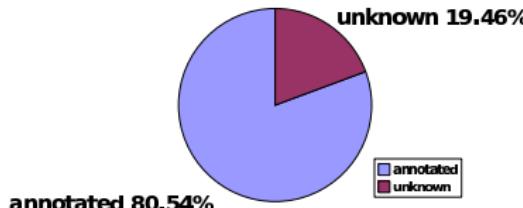


# Exemplary consensus structures (LmLiTb)



# Annotation

	LiLmTb	LmLiTb
tRNAscan-SE	56	49
RNAmicro	1	7
Noncode	2	2
Rfam	114	208
SMN (human)	1	7
SMN (L. seymouri)	2	7



# MiRNA examples obtained by RNAmicro



(Li)



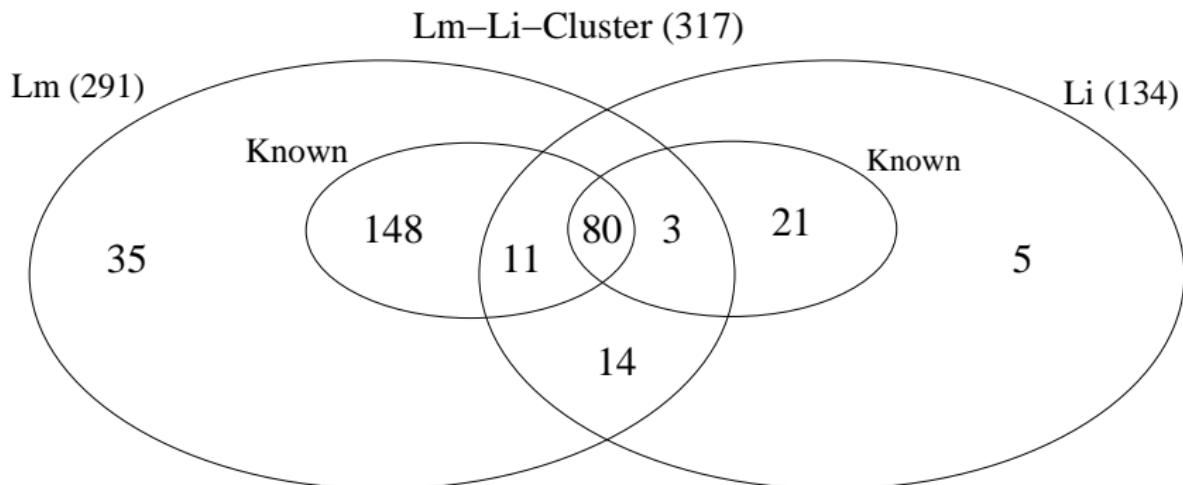
(Lm)



(Lm)

# Combining the Leishmania screens

(which Lm of LmLiTb is identifiable in LiLmTb)



# Browsing Leishmania ncRNA clusters

<http://www.bioinf.uni-leipzig.de/~dominic/projects/leish>

Leishmania ncRNA project											
LmLTb screen											
Cluster	ID	p-score	z-score	SCI	Cluster	ID	p-score	z-score	SCI	Known as	Additional info
1.1	175680	0.73	-1.58	0.82	-	-	-	-	-	Rfam "Iron response element" [bit-score=1.43]"	
2.1	175681	0.55	-1.59	0.59	-	-	-	-	-	Rfam "Iron response element" [bit-score=4.28]"	
<i>Others</i>											Rfam
28.1	175713	0.94	-1.15	0.86	-	-	-	-	-	tRNA "tRNA Met anticodon CAT, Cov score 62.62"	tRNAscan-SE "Met [CAT]" Rfam "tRNA [bit-score=67.00]"
28.2	-	-	-	-	151108	0.96	-1.26	0.76	-	tRNA "tRNA Met anticodon CAT, Cov score 62.62"	tRNAscan-SE "Met [CAT]" Rfam "tRNA [bit-score=67.80]" UTR "1000nt 5UTR"
28.3	-	-	-	-	150913	0.94	-1.15	0.86	-	tRNA "tRNA Met anticodon CAT, Cov score 62.62"	tRNAscan-SE "Met [CAT]" Rfam "tRNA [bit-score=67.80]"

# Outlook

Future work:

- RNAz will be integrated into DAS

Remember:

- RNAz is powerful but not the ultimative general ncRNA detection black box ;-) (uncertainty)
- Example: RNAz hits at CDS  
LiLmTb 149 ncRNAs, but 82 noncoding RNA signals  
LmLiTb 291 ncRNAs, but 66 noncoding RNA signals

# Thank you!!!

;-)