

Evaluating Splice Site Variants in VarSeq

Nathan Fortier, Ph.D. – Director of Research

CIOReview

20 most promising
Biotech Technology
Providers

pharma
TECH OUTLOOK

Top 10 Analytics
Solution Providers

Gartner.

Hype Cycle for
Life sciences



Please enter your questions into your GoToWebinar Panel



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 - Award Number 2R44 GM125432-01
 - Award Number 2R44 GM125432-02

 - Montana SMIR/STTR Matching Funds Program Grant Agreement Number 19-51-RCSBIR-005

- **PI is Dr. Andreas Scherer, CEO Golden Helix.**

- **The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.**

Golden Helix – Who We Are



Golden Helix is a global bioinformatics company founded in 1998.



Variant Calling
Filtering and Annotation
Clinical Reports
CNV Analysis
Pipeline: Run Workflows

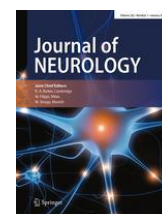
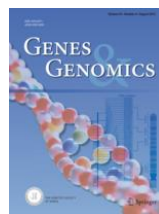
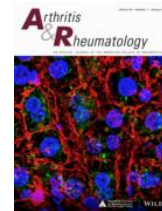
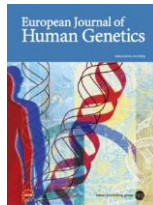
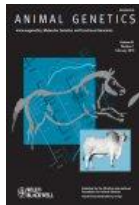
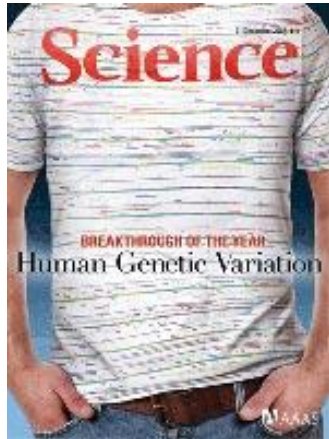


Variant Warehouse
Centralized Annotations
Hosted Reports
Sharing and Integration



GWAS
Genomic Prediction
Large-N Population Studies
RNA-Seq
CNV-Analysis

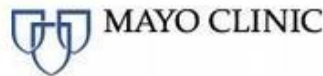
Cited in over 1,300 peer-reviewed publications



Over 400 customers globally



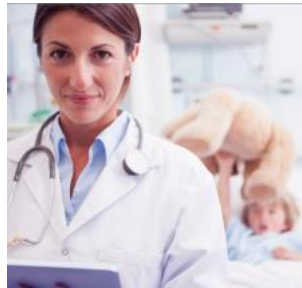
Stanford University





When you choose a Golden Helix solution, you get more than just software

- REPUTATION
- TRUST
- EXPERIENCE



- INDUSTRY FOCUS
- THOUGHT LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNITY

- TRAINING
- SUPPORT
- RESPONSIVENESS




- INNOVATION and SPEED

GENE PANEL

EXOME

GENOME

SEQUENCER

PRODUCTS	BIOINFORMATICS PIPELINE	FUNCTION
 DNaseq (Sentieon)  TNSeq (Sentieon)  VS-CNV	FASTQ BAM VCF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Single nucleotide variation ▶ Copy number variation & loss of heterozygosity ▶ Chromosomal aberration
Annotations	Annotated VCF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Public & commercial annotations to enrich genomic data sets
 VarSeq  VSReports  VSPipeline	Clinical Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Annotate & filter ▶ Visually inspect alignments ▶ Variant prioritization ▶ Clinical assessment
 VSclinical	Automated ACMG Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Clinical variant interpretation in concordance with ACMG Guidelines
 VSWarehouse	Data Warehousing Web-Enabled Interface + Powerful API: JSON, XML, TSV, CSV, SQL, FHIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Clinical assessment catalog ▶ Advanced data querying ▶ Versioning ▶ Interoperability ▶ Compliance with HIPPA, CLIA & CAP data discovery



■ Complete Support for ACMG Guideline Workflow:

- Implements a guided workflow for following the ACMG guideline scoring and classifying
- Place criteria into conceptually related groups, paired with their opposites, and formatted as answerable question.

■ Aggregate and Automate:

- Questions have supporting evidence presented with rich and interactive visuals
- Automatically computed recommendations for questions that have explicit bioinformatic evidence, with supporting reasons for each answer.

■ Expert and Beginner Friendly:

- Start with descriptive summaries and recommendations for a variant
- Deep dive into Population Catalogs, Gene Impact, Published Studies and Clinical tabs
- Integrated documentation, readings on scoring criteria and citations



▼ ACMG Classification

Scored Criteria by Strength:

Pathogenic	Very Strong		x0
	Strong		x0
	Moderate		x0
	Supporting		x0
Benign	Supporting	BP4, BP5	x2
	Strong	BS1	x1
	Stand Alone		x0

ACMG Classification:

Likely Benign

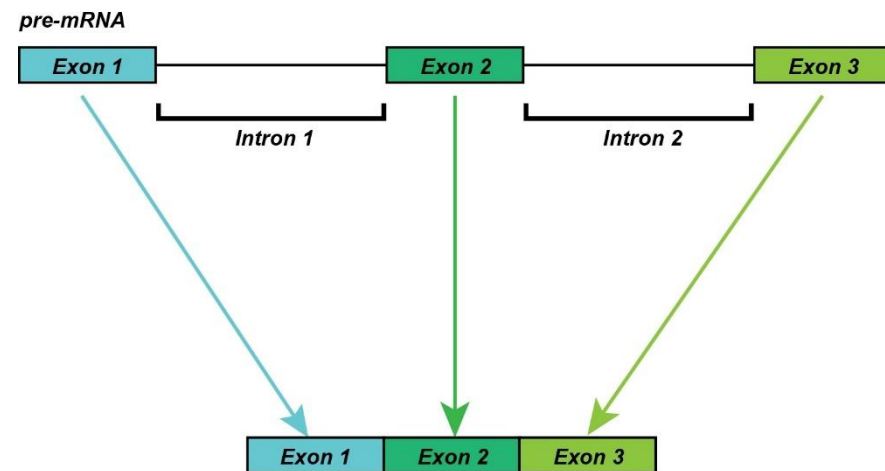
The classification of Likely Benign applies with scored criteria of 1 very strong pathogenic along with 2 or more moderate pathogenic and no benign.

Recommended Criteria:

- Perform functional assay to determine the effect of the variant in the gene.
- Establish the presence of the variant in the parents

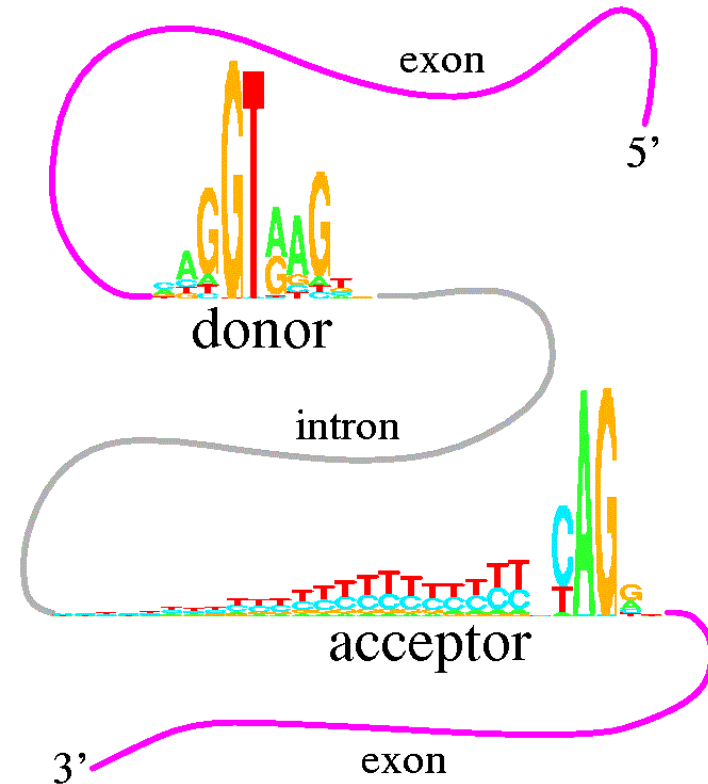


- Understanding a variant's impact on splicing is crucial
- Synonymous variants can disrupt existing splice sites or introduce novel splice sites
- Such variants can cause exon skipping or truncation





- **Introns have distinct nucleotide pairs at each end**
 - GT at the 5' end (Donor Site)
 - AG at the 3' end (Acceptor Site)
- **Area surrounding nucleotide pair is defined by a splice motif**
- **Sequences around splice sites are highly variable**
- **Machine learning and probabilistic methods are used to identify sites**





- **VSClinical supports four splice site prediction algorithms**
 - PWM: Uses position weight matrix similar to SpliceSiteFinder and Human Splice Finder
 - MaxEntScan: Approximates sequence motifs using Maximum Entropy Distribution
 - NNSplice: Identifies splice sites using neural networks
 - GeneSplicer: Uses Markov models combined with maximal dependence decomposition



[Demo in VarSeq]

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