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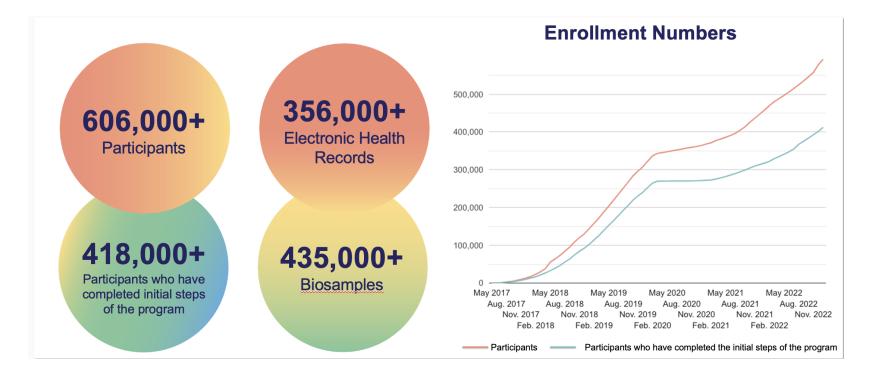
# Cloud Computing for All of Us

Alison Motsinger-Reif, PhD

National Institutes of Health • U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

### All of Us Cohort

- US-based cohort, goal to enroll over 1 million participants
  - Genetic data for all participants
- Focused on populations that are underrepresented in biomedical research (UBR)
  - >80% of participants fall into a UBR category





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Data Type		Participant Counts
Electronic Health Records	Conditions	227,740
	Drug Exposures	214,040
	Labs/Measurements	227,280
	Procedures	221,860
Whole Genome Sequencing dataset		98,560
Physical Measurements		331,300
Fitbit Measurements		12,880
Social Determinants of Health Survey responses		57,620
Lifestyle Survey responses		372,380



### **Computing in All of Us**

#### **Researcher Workbench**

- Cloud-based platform where registered researchers can access Registered and Controlled Tier data
- Cannot download data → bring the compute to the data

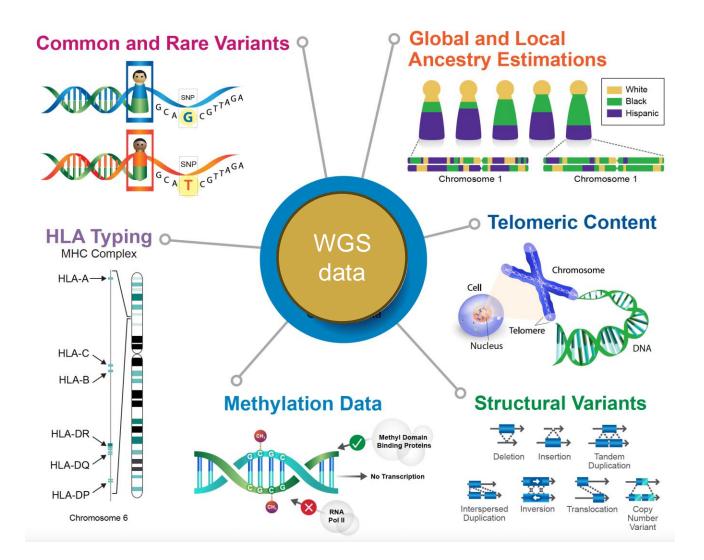
#### Workspaces

 Registered researchers use workspaces to access, store, and analyze data for specific research projects.



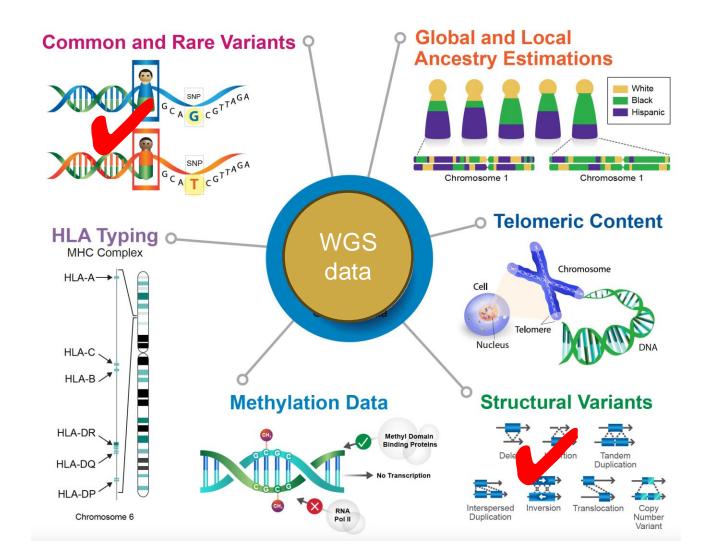


### **Types of Variants from Whole Genome Sequencing**



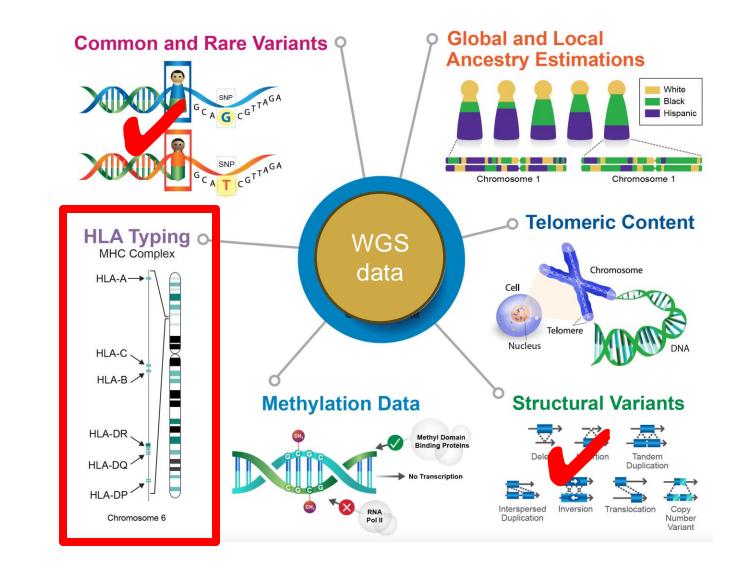


### **Types of Variants from Whole Genome Sequencing**





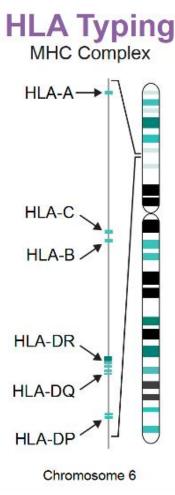
### **Types of Variants from Whole Genome Sequencing**





# The importance of HLA

- HLA genes are crucial for the immune system.
- They help present foreign substances (antigens) to immune cells.
- HLA matching is vital for successful organ transplantation.
- Certain HLA variants are linked to autoimmune diseases.
- HLA genes affect susceptibility to infectious diseases.
- They influence how individuals respond to specific medications





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#### Goal: Test for association of HLA genotypes and common, complex diseases

HLA-D Chromosome 6

HLA Typing

**MHC** Complex

HLA-A

HLA-C

HI A-B

HLA-DR

HLA-DG



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### **Workflow for Calling HLA variants**

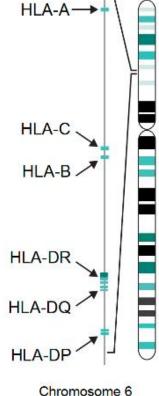
#### Assembly of HLA Alleles: Kourami

- Utilized Kourami for graph-guided assembly
- Generated four- and six-digit HLA alleles using WGS data
- Built reference panel from known HLA alleles in IPD-IMGT/HLA project database
- Assembled peptide-binding domain sequences for HLA genes
- Modified HLA graph for best paths with phasing information
- Filtered HLA alleles for clarity and accuracy

#### Amino Acid Position Inference: CookHLA and HATK

- Used CookHLA and HATK for HLA imputation
- Inferred amino acid residues
- Employed 1000 Genomes Project reference panels
- Conducted logistic regression for analysis

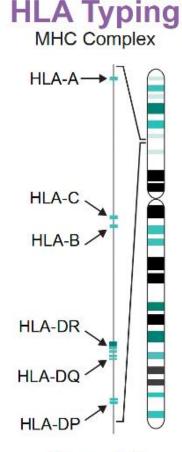
# HLA Typing MHC Complex





### Variant Calling is Computationally Expensive

- Data Volume: Massive amounts of raw sequencing data, often in gigabytes or terabytes
- Alignment: Complex alignment of billions of short reads to a reference genome
- Variant Detection: Sophisticated algorithms needed for variant identification
- Genome Complexity: Highly complex genomes with repetitive regions and structural variants
- Error Correction: Correcting sequencing errors adds computational effort
- Quality Control: Ensuring data accuracy through extensive quality control steps
- Population-Scale Studies: Analyzing large-scale studies increases computational demands



Chromosome 6

### Linear and Logistic Regression:

- Linear regression used for continuous trait-genetic variant associations
- Logistic regression employed for binary trait-genetic variant associations
- Both methods handle confounding factors and population stratification
- Crucial for uncovering the genetic basis of complex diseases



### **Challenges of Logistic Regression:**

- Suitable for binary/categorical outcomes in machine learning and statistics
- Computationally complex, challenging for large datasets
- Requires more time and computing resources than linear regression
- Involves exponentials, divisions, and gradient calculations
- Linear regression is typically faster and more computationally efficient



- Developed a fast regression (FastReg) algorithm
  - an iterative Fisher's scoring matrix that dramatically reduces need for the computing resources
  - For example, for 5,000 individuals and 10 million variants, Plink (the most commonly used GWAS software) requires approximately 12 minutes and 80 workers to conduct logistic GWAS.
  - Our FastReg algorithm can conduct the same analysis in less than half the time using a pre-formed indexable data structure (HDF5)
  - Is flexible for data types and model matrices outside genetic data use cases.



### **Project Goals**

- Perform variant calling for the HLA regions for All of Us participants
  - Testing timing now
  - Goal 10K participants
- Use FastReg to conduct association analyses with HLA variants and ~1600 common complex diseases
- Support and distribute FastReg



### **Project Team**

- Dr. David Fargo, Director of Environmental Science Cyberinfrastructure
- Greg Stamper, Computer Systems Analyst
- Matt Jordan, NIEHS Information Systems Security Officer
- Dr. Adam Burkholder, Computer Systems Analyst
- Dr. John House, Staff Scientist, BCBB
- Dr. Matthew Wheeler, Staff Scientist, BCBB



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