

Title: Genes identified in rodent studies of alcohol intake are enriched for heritability of human substance use

Spencer B. Huggett^{1,2}, Emma C. Johnson³, Alexander S. Hatoum³, Dongbing Lai⁴, Jason A. Bubier⁵, Elissa J. Chesler⁵, Arpana Agrawal³, Abraham A. Palmer^{6,7}, Howard J Edenberg^{4,8}, Rohan H.C. Palmer^{1,2}

1. Department of Human Genetics, Emory University, Atlanta GA
2. Behavioral Genetics of Addiction Laboratory, Department of Psychology, Emory University, Atlanta GA University
3. Department of Psychiatry, Washington University, St Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
4. Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN
5. Jackson Laboratories, Bar Harbor, ME
6. Department of Psychiatry, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA
7. Institute for Genomic Medicine, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA
8. Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, School of Medicine, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN.

Corresponding Author: Spencer B. Huggett

Behavioral Genetics of Addiction Laboratory – Department of Psychology

Emory University, 36 Eagle Row

Atlanta, GA 30322, USA

Email: Spener.B.Huggett@emory.edu;

Phone: 1 (404) 727-3126;

Fax: 1 (404) 727-0372;

words in abstract: 248

words in manuscript: 3,111

Figures: 6

Tables: 2

1
2 **Title: Genes identified in rodent studies of alcohol intake are**
3 **enriched for heritability of human substance use**
4

5 Spencer B. Huggett, Emma C. Johnson, Alexander S Hatoum, Dongbing Lai, Jason A. Bubier,
6 Elissa J. Chesler, Arpana Agrawal, Abraham A. Palmer, Howard J. Edenberg, Rohan H. C.
7 Palmer
8

9 **ABSTRACT**

10 *Background:* Rodent paradigms and human genome-wide association studies (GWASs) on drug
11 use have the potential to provide biological insight into the pathophysiology of addiction.
12

13 *Methods:* Using GeneWeaver, we created rodent alcohol and nicotine gene-sets derived from
14 19 gene expression studies on alcohol and nicotine outcomes. We partitioned the SNP-
15 heritability of these gene-sets using four large human GWASs: 1) alcoholic drinks per week, 2)
16 problematic alcohol use, 3) cigarettes per day and 4) smoking cessation. We benchmarked our
17 findings with curated human alcoholism and nicotine addiction gene-sets and performed
18 specificity analyses using other rodent gene-sets (e.g., locomotor behavior) and other human
19 GWASs (e.g., height).
20

21 *Results:* The rodent alcohol gene-set was enriched for heritability of drinks per week, cigarettes
22 per day, and smoking cessation, but not problematic alcohol use. However, the rodent nicotine
23 gene-set was not significantly associated with any of these traits. Both rodent gene-sets showed
24 enrichment for several non-substance use GWASs, and the extent of this relationship tended to
25 increase as a function of trait heritability. In general, larger gene-sets demonstrated more
26 significant enrichment. Finally, when evaluating human traits with similar heritabilities, both
27 rodent gene-sets showed greater enrichment for substance use traits.
28

29 *Conclusion:* Our results suggest that rodent gene expression studies can help to identify genes
30 that capture heritability of substance use traits in humans, yet the specificity to human
31 substance use was less than expected due to various factors such as the genetic architecture of
32 a trait. We outline various limitations, interpretations and considerations for future research.

33 **INTRODUCTION**

34 Alcohol consumption, alcohol use disorder (AUD), cigarette smoking and smoking cessation are
35 all complex, heritable phenotypes, with twin and family estimates of heritability ranging from 20-
36 70%^{1,2}. Molecular genetic studies have demonstrated that all of these behaviors are highly
37 polygenic³, meaning that many common genetic variants of small effect sizes contribute to the
38 variation in these phenotypes. Recent genome-wide association studies (GWASs) of these
39 behaviors have leveraged collaborative efforts and increasing sample sizes (currently ranging
40 from ~40,000 to over a million individuals) to identify multiple genetic loci⁴⁻⁷.

41 To prioritize the potentially relevant genes of the identified risk loci for experimental follow-up,
42 researchers often integrate functional data (i.e., transcriptomic, epigenetic, and chromatin
43 interaction data) or test whether associated genes are enriched among curated gene-sets like
44 the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG⁸). KEGG gene-sets and pathways are
45 created via computational and manual methods, primarily derived from experimental evidence in
46 model organisms⁹. They have provided a valuable resource to enhance the biological
47 understanding of complex human traits¹⁰ and inform therapeutic targets for alcohol use
48 disorder¹¹, but these pathways are thought to be incomplete and lack both tissue specificity and
49 behavioral nuance¹².

50 Animal paradigms have helped characterize the underlying neurobiological components of
51 addiction and its basic behavioral processes, but the extent to which they identify the same
52 genes that influence the genetic propensity for human substance use and use disorders
53 remains unclear. Neurobiological facets of addictive behaviors are likely to be shared across
54 mammalian species and drugs of abuse; thus, integrating evidence from rodent genetic studies
55 with human GWAS could help prioritize human GWAS signals that may represent conserved
56 aspects of the addiction pathway¹³. Unique challenges exist for cross-species data integration,
57 including homology of genes and the substantial differences between human and model
58 organism phenotypes. There is an urgent need to understand whether and under what
59 conditions genes identified in model organism genomic studies of addiction are also implicated
60 in human GWASs of related traits¹⁴. Few studies have systematically examined the overlap of
61 genes identified in rodent paradigms that model aspects of addiction¹⁵⁻¹⁸ with those identified in
62 humans. Prior studies along these lines have focused on individual genes¹⁹; polygenic cross-
63 species approaches are limited (although one recent study used genome-wide complex trait
64 analysis and polygenic score approaches and found evidence of cross-species genetic overlap
65 for nicotine consumption²⁰).

66 The goals of our study were to: 1) investigate the contribution of homologous rodent alcohol and
67 nicotine gene-sets to the genome-wide SNP heritability (h^2_{SNP}) of human alcohol and tobacco
68 use and related phenotypes, 2) assess the specificity and sensitivity of these results using
69 KEGG pathways, non-substance related gene-sets, and non-substance related GWASs and 3)
70 explore the individual behavioral paradigms that best capture genetic variation in human
71 substance use-related traits. To do this, we used GeneWeaver²¹, a cross-species functional
72 genomics database, to identify gene-sets from brain-related gene expression studies of alcohol
73 and nicotine consumption, exposure, and selective breeding paradigms in various mouse and

74 rat populations. We hypothesized that rodent substance use gene-sets would capture relevant
75 and specific genetic variation for human alcohol and tobacco use-related traits. For an overview
76 of our study, see **Figure 1**.

77 MATERIALS AND METHODS

78 ***A Priori* Gene-Sets**

79 We queried GeneWeaver's²¹ database of heterogeneous functional genomics data
80 (<https://www.geneweaver.org/>) to identify six gene-sets. Specifically, we used curated
81 publication-derived gene-sets (Tier 3; queried July 2020; search terms: ethanol, alcohol,
82 nicotine and tobacco) that included differential gene expression from mouse and rat brain
83 regions following alcohol or nicotine intake, exposure, and selective breeding experiments, as
84 well as two negative control studies that are described below. The homologous human genes
85 corresponding to the rodent genes were identified using biomaRt²²; we only used genes on
86 autosomal chromosomes because the human substance use GWASs did not include results
87 from the sex chromosomes. In total, we used gene-sets derived from 21 studies, involving a
88 total of 20 inbred or outbred genetic backgrounds of mice and rats (n=750, see **Table 1**; and
89 **Supplementary Table S1** for more details). Of these 21 studies there were 17 that focused on
90 alcohol, identifying 4,310 genes in total. To prioritize the most reliably associated genes, our
91 analyses focused on the 828 genes observed in at least two of these studies. We found two
92 studies that assessed rodent nicotine outcomes that identified 417 genes. Due to minimal
93 overlap of genes across the two nicotine studies, all genes were used. The last two studies
94 focused on non-substance gene-sets that are popular reference paradigms to isolate specific
95 aspects of drug use from the animal literature: sucrose consumption (87 genes²³) and locomotor
96 behavior (546 genes²⁴).

97 To benchmark our findings, we also investigated two curated Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and
98 Genomes (KEGG) Pathways⁸. Specifically, we examined the "Human Nicotine Addiction" (total
99 genes = 36) and "Alcoholism" (total genes = 95) pathways, to see if they accounted for a
100 significant amount of variance in the genetic predisposition of alcohol and tobacco use traits.
101 For a summary of all genes used in our partitioned heritability analyses (and their overlap), see
102 **Figure 2** and **Supplementary Table S2**.

103 **Human Substance Use GWAS Summary Statistics**

104 The relevance of the identified gene-sets were examined using summary statistics from several
105 GWASs of European ancestry including samples from the United Kingdom Biobank, Million
106 Veteran Program and the GWAS and Sequencing Consortium of Alcohol and Nicotine Use
107 (GSCAN). These are among the largest studies to date for each of the alcohol and nicotine
108 related measures. Note that these samples did not include the 23andMe data, since these data
109 are not publicly available. The individual GWASs included demographic covariates (age, sex, 5-
110 10 ancestral principal components). The data source and sample size for each measure are as
111 follows:

112 *Problematic alcohol use (PAU)*: Summary statistics for problematic alcohol use were derived
113 from a meta-analysis by Zhou et al²⁵ (N = 435,563) collapsing across alcohol dependence²⁶,
114 alcohol use disorder²⁷, and Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test-Problem items²⁸.

115 *Drinks per week (DPW)*: Drinks per week summary statistics came from a GWAS on self-
116 reported drinks per week⁵ (N = 537,349).

117 *Cigarettes per day (CPD)*: We used summary statistics from a GWAS on smokers' self-reported
118 average number of cigarettes smoked per day⁵ (N = 263,954).

119 *Smoking cessation (Cig_Cessation)*: Summary statistics for current vs. former smoking status
120 were derived from the GSCAN GWAS⁵ (N = 312,821).

121 **Partitioned Heritability Analyses**

122 We performed partitioned heritability analyses for each gene-set using Linkage Disequilibrium
123 Score Regression (LDSC)^{29,30}. Partitioned LDSC produces an estimate of whether single
124 nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) within and around the genes in a given gene-set account for
125 a significant proportion of the heritability of a given trait relative to the number of variants
126 included. Specifically, enrichment is calculated as: (proportion of SNP-heritability
127 explained)/(proportion of SNPs in gene-set relative to all other SNPs). We tested for heritability
128 enrichment using the six gene-sets described in the previous sections: 1) rodent alcohol
129 (Alcohol) 2) rodent nicotine (Nicotine), 3) alcoholism (Alcohol_KEGG), 4) human nicotine
130 addiction (Nicotine_KEGG), and two non-substance use traits: 5) rodent locomotor behavior
131 (Locomotor) and 6) rodent sugar consumption (Sucrose). We used LDSC's default gene window
132 size (100 kb) to assign SNPs to genes based on the expectation that up to 80% of local gene
133 regulatory regions occur within 100 kb of a gene³¹. Given recent evidence suggesting a
134 decrease in enrichment beyond 10 kb for CPD²⁰, we also report results from a smaller 10 kb
135 window. To determine significance, our study adjusted p-values with a Benjamini-Hochberg
136 False Discovery Rate (BH-FDR; FDR < 5%).³²

137 **Sensitivity analyses**

138 To examine the specificity of the GeneWeaver gene-sets and to provide context for
139 interpretation, we also tested the heritability enrichment of the gene-sets in 14 non-substance
140 use GWASs with a range of heritabilities and genetic correlations with substance use traits (see
141 **Table 2 and Supplementary Information**). These included neurological and neuropsychiatric
142 traits (e.g., schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease) as well as anthropometric, cardiometabolic, and
143 other traits that are theoretically unrelated to drug use (e.g., height, wearing glasses).

144 **Exploratory analyses**

145 We performed secondary analyses to evaluate patterns within our data. Because the majority of
146 the rodent studies we used pertained to alcohol, we performed exploratory analyses to
147 determine which alcohol behavioral paradigms corresponded with individual human substance
148 use traits. These analyses examined mice and rat data separately and considered various

149 categories of alcohol behavioral paradigms using a total of seven gene-sets. For mice, we
150 examined 1) binge drinking (2,317 genes), 2) naïve strain differences (e.g., differences among
151 strains selected for - or known to differ in - alcohol consumption and preference; 140 genes), 3)
152 acute exposure (30 genes) and 4) tolerance + withdrawal (159 genes). For rats, we examined 1)
153 binge drinking (1,912 genes), 2) naïve strain differences (359 genes) and 3) chronic exposure
154 (91 genes; see **Supplementary Table S1-S2** for more information). Of the 828 genes from our
155 alcohol analyses, 71.86% came from mouse paradigms of binge drinking. The seven categories
156 of rodent alcohol paradigms captured largely non-overlapping sets of genes (see
157 **Supplementary Figures S1 – S3**). Because each gene-set was derived from a smaller number
158 of studies, we included genes that occurred in only one of the datasets, unlike our main alcohol
159 analysis, which required rodent alcohol genes to appear in two or more datasets.

160 RESULTS

161 SNPs in and around genes in the rodent alcohol gene-set were enriched for human drinks per
162 week, cigarettes per day and smoking cessation (all $OR > 1.39$; all $p < 0.003$, all $p_{adj} < 0.017$;
163 10.63%-12.54% of H^2_{SNP}) - but not problematic alcohol use (**Figure 3**). In contrast, the nicotine
164 gene-set did not show significant enrichment for any human substance use trait. After multiple
165 testing correction, we found that the heritabilities of human alcohol or tobacco use were not
166 enriched for KEGG addiction pathways, rodent locomotor behavior or sucrose consumption
167 gene-sets (see **Figure 3** and **Supplementary Tables S3-S4**). Thus, of the six gene-sets we
168 examined, only the rodent alcohol gene-set showed significant enrichment.

169 Genetic correlations among all GWAS traits were estimated and reported in **Figure 4**. We
170 observed significant genetic correlations between substance use GWASs and psychiatric
171 phenotypes as well as genetic associations among tobacco traits, cardiometabolic and body
172 morphology traits (all $p_{adj} < .05$). Apart from those instances, non-substance use GWASs were
173 generally uncorrelated with alcohol and tobacco use GWASs.

174 We tested heritability enrichment for 14 non-substance use GWAS traits with the rodent gene-
175 sets. The heritability of height and hip circumference were enriched for genetic variants in and
176 around genes in the rodent alcohol and nicotine gene-sets (see **Supplementary Table S5**). In
177 addition, the rodent alcohol gene-set (but not the nicotine gene-set) contributed significantly to
178 the heritability of schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, and ankle width (see **Supplementary**
179 **Table S5**). Note that, except for Alzheimer's disease, the heritabilities of height, hip
180 circumference, schizophrenia and ankle width were significantly enriched for LDSC's conserved
181 mammalian gene-sets annotation (all $p < 0.006$; see **Supplementary Figure S4**). Additionally,
182 excluding hip circumference, the heritabilities of the 14 non-substance use traits were not
183 enriched for rodent sucrose consumption or locomotor behavior gene-sets (see **Supplementary**
184 **Table S6**).

185 When we further examined the puzzling association between rodent drug use gene-sets and
186 non-substance use traits, we found a linear relationship between a trait's heritability and the
187 significance in partitioned heritability analyses (see **Supplementary Figure S5**) as well as the
188 extent of enrichment (see **Figure 5**). These linear relationships persisted among all human

189 GWAS traits and rodent gene-sets of sucrose consumption and locomotor behavior (see
190 **Supplementary Figures S6 – S7**). Notably, rodent nicotine and alcohol gene-sets showed
191 greater enrichment and more significant p-values for the heritability of human substance use
192 than non-substance use traits of similar heritabilities (for traits with $h^2_{SNP} < 15\%$: $M_{OddsRatio} = 1.45$
193 vs. $M_{OddsRatio} = 1.12$, $t = 2.30$, $p = 0.048$; $M_{log10(P)} = 1.58$ vs. $M_{log10(P)} = 0.49$; $t = 2.36$, $p = 0.037$).

194 We compared the results of our partitioned heritability analyses when using the default 100 kb
195 window with findings from a 10 kb window. Collapsing across analyses, we found that the
196 enrichment (odds ratios; OR) and p-values did not significantly differ across 10 kb vs. 100 kb
197 windows (all $t < 1.53$, all $p > 0.126$). We report results from our 100 kb analyses in text and also
198 include the 10 kb findings in the supplement.

199 Lastly, we performed exploratory analyses to examine which of the rodent alcohol datasets
200 were driving the enrichment of the human GWAS of drinks per week, cigarettes per day and
201 smoking cessation. While most traits did not survive correction for multiple testing (FDR < 5%),
202 mouse paradigms of binge drinking (e.g., the drinking in the dark model) accounted for
203 significant genetic variance in human cigarettes per day and smoking cessation (all $p < 0.001$;
204 all $p_{adj} < 0.012$; see **Figure 6**).

205 DISCUSSION

206 Our study evaluated the hypothesis that gene-sets identified in rodent alcohol and nicotine gene
207 expression studies would be enriched for SNP-heritability in human alcohol and tobacco use
208 traits. We found that rodent paradigms related to alcohol consumption were significantly
209 enriched for heritability of alcohol consumption, tobacco smoking and smoking cessation, but
210 not problematic alcohol use. These results suggest that rodent alcohol use paradigms may
211 relate more closely to general human drug consumption than to problems arising from
212 excessive alcohol consumption and further reinforces previously reported genetic differences
213 between problematic alcohol use and consumption measures^{26,28,33}. However, results from
214 rodent nicotine exposure paradigms did not demonstrate enrichment in any human substance
215 use trait. These findings are in contrast to previous cross-species partitioned heritability
216 research that found enrichment of model organism nicotine genes in the SNP-heritability of
217 human cigarettes per day²⁰. The current study derived a smaller nicotine gene-set from less
218 animal paradigms, fewer species, used different sized windows surrounding genes and tested
219 for enrichment using an alternative methodology. Notably, our rodent alcohol gene-set included
220 a rich array of studies investigating many aspects of the biobehavioral processes of substance
221 use including: binge consumption, non-voluntary exposure, tolerance, withdrawal and drug
222 preference, whereas the rodent nicotine gene-set in the current study was limited to non-
223 voluntary (experimenter-administered) drug exposure.

224 Specificity analyses of non-substance use GWAS revealed that genes from rodent paradigms of
225 nicotine and alcohol use explained significant amounts of variance for seemingly unrelated
226 human traits (e.g., hip circumference and height). There are several possible explanations for
227 these unexpected findings. Highly heritable and highly polygenic traits were more likely to yield
228 significant enrichment – especially for larger gene-sets. For instance, two-thirds of non-

229 substance use traits with a h^2_{snp} above 20% were significantly enriched for the rodent alcohol
230 gene-set (828 genes). Our analyses revealed positive linear relationships between a trait's
231 SNP-heritability and partitioned heritability enrichment for all rodent gene-sets (see **Figure 3**
232 and **Supplementary Figures S4 – S6**). Relative to the non-substance use traits with similar
233 heritabilities (e.g., wearing glasses vs alcohol and tobacco use traits), the rodent alcohol and
234 nicotine gene-sets demonstrated greater specificity for human alcohol and tobacco traits. It
235 should be noted that the rodent gene-sets we used included only a subset of rodent genes with
236 human homologs, and may therefore be identifying the subset of human genes that are better
237 conserved across species. In support of this idea, we observed that the human traits that
238 demonstrated enrichment for rodent drug use gene-sets were also enriched for conserved
239 mammalian genes. Another point to consider is that the rodent drug use gene-sets were derived
240 from brain tissues and captured relatively large genes – particularly for alcohol (alcohol:
241 $M_{\text{gene_size}} = 82.4$ kb; nicotine: $M_{\text{gene_size}} = 69.6$ kb; all homologous genes: $M_{\text{gene_size}} = 67.1$ kb).
242 Thus, our rodent gene-sets may be comprised of genes associated with general brain
243 functionality and may increase power for partitioned heritability analyses by including more
244 SNPs in and around protein-coding genes. Likewise, larger sets of genes showed a tendency to
245 be significantly linked with a GWAS trait. Overall, our results indicate that the rodent drug use
246 genes are not necessarily *specific* to the heritability of human substance use traits. Note that the
247 amount of variance explained by any one gene-set was modest and consistent with polygenic
248 architectures for complex human traits – including substance use^{3,20}.

249 We found preliminary evidence that mouse binge drinking paradigms (drinking in the dark³⁴)
250 captured molecular mechanisms relevant for the genetic predisposition of human substance
251 use. Binge-like consumption is a critical component of substance use escalation. However, we
252 caution readers that these findings could be due to the large number of genes in the mouse
253 binge drinking gene-set (2,317 genes). Combining across many behavioral paradigms, species
254 and genetic strains generally increased prediction to a corresponding human trait (as seen in
255 the lack of enrichment for the nicotine gene-set, which only drew from studies of non-voluntary
256 nicotine exposure). Ultimately, the inclusion of a greater breadth and sophistication of genetic
257 studies of rodent behavioral paradigms may provide specificity and context to mechanisms of
258 GWAS variant action and their roles in human substance use.

259 There are several limitations of the current study. First, we limited our analyses to human
260 GWASs of European-ancestry samples to maximize sample size and statistical power.
261 Likewise, most rodent experiments rely on a small fraction of extant rodent genetic diversity due
262 to the use of domesticated populations that have been selected for success under laboratory
263 conditions and in some cases have been inbred strains. These constraints may limit the
264 generalizability of our results. Second, our animal data for nicotine intake were limited to two
265 non-voluntary nicotine exposure paradigms. Non-voluntary exposure paradigms model the
266 physiological components of drug use, but do not explicitly model human drug use *behaviors*.
267 Future cross-species genetic studies may benefit from integrating multiple behavioral
268 paradigms, strains, species, tissue types and potentially binge-like or escalated use paradigms.
269 Nevertheless, we contend that more genes are not necessarily better; larger rodent gene-sets
270 may contribute to false positives and a lack of specificity, especially if the heritability of a trait is
271 already enriched for conserved mammalian genes. Finally, our study used rodent RNA findings

272 to inform analyses about human DNA associations. Using similar data types for cross-species
273 genetics research (e.g., rodent GWAS with human GWAS) may also demonstrate utility and
274 increased precision.

275 The current analyses provide evidence that gene-sets derived from basic research in model
276 organisms show some correspondence with human GWASs of substance use, but to a lesser
277 extent and with less trait specificity than we initially hypothesized. As human GWAS sample
278 sizes continue to grow and as rodent models of drug use encompass greater depth and
279 breadth, the integration of cross-species data with human GWAS may provide additional
280 biological insight and help refine promising signals for functional follow-up.

281

282 **Acknowledgements**

283 We would like to acknowledge the following funding sources that supported this work: NIDA
284 DP1DA042103 (SBH and RHP), F32AA027435 (ECJ), Tobacco-Related Disease Research
285 Program (TRDRP) Grant: #28IR-0070 (AAP), NIH Grants: P50DA037844 (AAP), AA018776
286 (ECJ) and P50 DA039841 (ECJ), K02DA032573 (AA), MH109532 (ECJ, AA and HJE).

287

288 **Authors contribution**

289 SBH and ECJ performed analyses, made figures and tables and were responsible for writing the
290 initial version of the manuscript. All other authors were instrumental in editing the manuscript and
291 providing analytical advice for our study.

REFERENCES

1. Goldman, D., Oroszi, G. & Ducci, F. The genetics of addictions: uncovering the genes. *Nat. Rev. Genet.* **6**, 521–532 (2005).
2. Xian, H. *et al.* The heritability of failed smoking cessation and nicotine withdrawal in twins who smoked and attempted to quit. *Nicotine Tob. Res. Off. J. Soc. Res. Nicotine Tob.* **5**, 245–254 (2003).
3. Wendt, F. R. *et al.* Natural selection influenced the genetic architecture of brain structure, behavioral and neuropsychiatric traits. *bioRxiv* 2020.02.26.966531 (2020). doi:10.1101/2020.02.26.966531
4. Quach, B. C. *et al.* Expanding the genetic architecture of nicotine dependence and its shared genetics with multiple traits. *Nat. Commun.* **11**, 5562 (2020).
5. Liu, M. *et al.* Association studies of up to 1.2 million individuals yield new insights into the genetic etiology of tobacco and alcohol use. *Nat. Genet.* **51**, 237–244 (2019).
6. Johnson, E. C. *et al.* A large-scale genome-wide association study meta-analysis of cannabis use disorder. *The Lancet Psychiatry* (2020). doi:10.1016/S2215-0366(20)30339-4
7. Zhou, H. *et al.* Association of OPRM1 Functional Coding Variant With Opioid Use Disorder: A Genome-Wide Association Study. *JAMA Psychiatry* **77**, 1072–1080 (2020).
8. Kanehisa, M. & Goto, S. KEGG: kyoto encyclopedia of genes and genomes. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **28**, 27–30 (2000).
9. Kanehisa, M., Furumichi, M., Tanabe, M., Sato, Y. & Morishima, K. KEGG: new perspectives on genomes, pathways, diseases and drugs. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **45**, D353–D361 (2017).
10. González-Castro, T. B. *et al.* Identification of gene ontology and pathways implicated in suicide behavior: Systematic review and enrichment analysis of GWAS studies. *Am. J. Med. Genet. Part B, Neuropsychiatr. Genet. Off. Publ. Int. Soc. Psychiatr. Genet.* **180**, 320–329 (2019).
11. Ferguson, L. B. *et al.* A Pathway-Based Genomic Approach to Identify Medications: Application to Alcohol Use Disorder. *Brain Sci.* **9**, (2019).
12. Khatri, P., Sirota, M. & Butte, A. J. Ten Years of Pathway Analysis: Current Approaches and Outstanding Challenges. *PLOS Comput. Biol.* **8**, e1002375 (2012).
13. Reynolds, T. *et al.* Interpretation of psychiatric genome-wide association studies with multispecies heterogeneous functional genomic data integration. *Neuropsychopharmacology* **46**, 86–97 (2021).
14. Evans, L. M. *et al.* The Role of A Priori–Identified Addiction and Smoking Gene Sets in Smoking Behaviors. *Nicotine Tob. Res.* (2020).
15. Samson, H. H. & Czachowski, C. L. Behavioral measures of alcohol self-administration and intake control: rodent models. (2003).
16. Hopf, F. W. & Lesscher, H. M. B. Rodent models for compulsive alcohol intake. *Alcohol* **48**, 253–264 (2014).
17. Spear, L. P. Consequences of adolescent use of alcohol and other drugs: studies using rodent models. *Neurosci. Biobehav. Rev.* **70**, 228–243 (2016).

18. O'Dell, L. E. & Khroyan, T. V. Rodent models of nicotine reward: what do they tell us about tobacco abuse in humans? *Pharmacol. Biochem. Behav.* **91**, 481–488 (2009).
19. Adkins, A. E. *et al.* Genomewide Association Study of Alcohol Dependence Identifies Risk Loci Altering Ethanol-Response Behaviors in Model Organisms. *Alcohol. Clin. Exp. Res.* **41**, 911–928 (2017).
20. Palmer, R. H. C. *et al.* Multi-omic and multi-species meta-analyses of nicotine consumption. *Transl. Psychiatry* **11**, 98 (2021).
21. Baker, E. J., Jay, J. J., Bubier, J. A., Langston, M. A. & Chesler, E. J. GeneWeaver: a web-based system for integrative functional genomics. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **40**, D1067–D1076 (2011).
22. Durinck, S. *et al.* BioMart and Bioconductor: a powerful link between biological databases and microarray data analysis. *Bioinformatics* **21**, 3439–3440 (2005).
23. Rodd, Z. A. *et al.* Differential gene expression in the nucleus accumbens with ethanol self-administration in inbred alcohol-preferring rats. *Pharmacol. Biochem. Behav.* **89**, 481–498 (2008).
24. Philip, V. M. *et al.* High-throughput behavioral phenotyping in the expanded panel of BXD recombinant inbred strains. *Genes. Brain. Behav.* **9**, 129–159 (2010).
25. Zhou, H. *et al.* Genome-wide meta-analysis of problematic alcohol use in 435,563 individuals yields insights into biology and relationships with other traits. *Nat. Neurosci.* (2020). doi:10.1038/s41593-020-0643-5
26. Walters, R. K. *et al.* Transancestral GWAS of alcohol dependence reveals common genetic underpinnings with psychiatric disorders. *Nat. Neurosci.* **21**, 1656–1669 (2018).
27. Kranzler, H. R. *et al.* Genome-wide association study of alcohol consumption and use disorder in 274,424 individuals from multiple populations. *Nat. Commun.* **10**, 1499 (2019).
28. Sanchez-Roige, S. *et al.* Genome-Wide Association Study Meta-Analysis of the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) in Two Population-Based Cohorts. *Am. J. Psychiatry* (2018). doi:<https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ajp.2018.18040369>
29. Finucane, H. K. *et al.* Partitioning heritability by functional annotation using genome-wide association summary statistics. *Nat. Genet.* **47**, 1228–1235 (2015).
30. Bulik-Sullivan, B. K. *et al.* LD Score regression distinguishes confounding from polygenicity in genome-wide association studies. *Nat. Genet.* **47**, 291–295 (2015).
31. Gandal, M. J., Leppa, V., Won, H., Parikshak, N. N. & Geschwind, D. H. The road to precision psychiatry: translating genetics into disease mechanisms. *Nat. Neurosci.* **19**, 1397–1407 (2016).
32. Benjamini, Y. & Hochberg, Y. Controlling the false discovery rate: a practical and powerful approach to multiple testing. *J. R. Stat. Soc. Ser. B* **57**, 289–300 (1995).
33. Zhou, H. *et al.* Meta-analysis of problematic alcohol use in 435,563 individuals identifies 29 risk variants and yields insights into biology, pleiotropy and causality. *bioRxiv* 738088 (2019). doi:10.1101/738088
34. Rhodes, J. S., Best, K., Belknap, J. K., Finn, D. A. & Crabbe, J. C. Evaluation of a simple model of ethanol drinking to intoxication in C57BL/6J mice. *Physiol. Behav.* **84**, 53–63 (2005).

Figure and Table Legends

Figure 1. Schematic of our study

Image created via Biorender.com

Figure 2. A Priori Gene-sets Used in Partitioned Heritability Enrichment Analyses

Alcohol, Nicotine Sucrose and Locomotor gene-sets were derived from GeneWeaver and Alcohol_KEGG and Nicotine_KEGG gene-sets represented the Human Alcoholism and Nicotine Addiction genes, respectively. Note these plots only include genes that were homologous with humans and located on human autosomal chromosomes. Alcohol rodent genes were required to replicate across at least one other study.

Figure 3. Partitioned heritability enrichment results for human substance use GWAS.

The odds ratio and standard error are shown in the left panel and the $-\log_{10}$ pvalues on the right. Legend shows the gene sets and the number of genes in each geneset. * represents a significant result after using a BH-FDR correction for multiple testing ($p_{adj} < 0.05$).

Figure 4. Genetic Correlations of Human GWAS Traits used in Partitioned Heritability Analyses

Figure 5. Enrichment estimates increase with heritability of trait studied

Overall, substance use traits tend to show more enrichment when compared with traits of similar heritability. The dashed blue line shows the best fitting regression line of a non-substance use trait's heritability predicting the enrichment (Odd's Ratio; OR) from partitioned heritability analyses. DPW = drinks per week, PAU = problematic alcohol use, CPD = cigarettes per day and Cig_Cessation = smoking cessation, ADHD = attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; MDD = major depressive disorder; ASD = autism spectrum disorder.

Figure 6. Heritability enrichment analysis for human tobacco and alcohol use, partitioned by rodent alcohol behavioral paradigm

Barplot showing the odds ratio and (standard error) from partitioned heritability analyses. Rodent behaviors were collapsed into a few categories that recapitulate different aspects of alcohol/substance use. Only mouse models of binge drinking survived correction for multiple testing as indicated by the asterisk. DPW = drinks per week; CPD = cigarettes per day; Cig_Cessation = smoking cessation.

Table 1. Gene-sets for Alcohol, Nicotine and Non-Substance Use Behavioral Paradigms

Alcohol Gene-set						
GeneWeaver_ID	PMID	Species	Behavior	Brain_Regions	# Genes	
GS127422; GS127424; GS127426	18397380	Mouse (B6J vs B6C mice)	Naïve Alc Consum/Pref	Cotex; Hipp; Cerrebell; Str	44	
GS14962-65	15597075	Mouse (B6J vs DBA/2J mice)	Naïve Alc Consum/Pref	Amy; Str; Hipp	69	
GS216937	23550792	Mouse (HDID vs HS/NPT mice)	Naïve Binge Consum	vStr	68	
GS14921-GS14924	15002731	Mouse (B6J / DBA/2J mice)	Acute Exposure	Whole brain	74	
GS127341-GS127346	21223303	Mouse (B6J mice)	Binge Drinking	Str; PFC; VTA; Cerrebell; Hipp	1393	
		Mouse (B6J × FVB/NJ F1 mice)	Binge Drinking	VTA		
GS246643; GS246644	26482798	Mouse (B6J / DBA/2J mice)	Alc Withdrawl	Hipp	1086	
GS14925; GS14926	12886948	Mouse (HAFT vs LAFT mice)	Acute Tolerance	Whole brain	32	
GS1777	12805289	Rat (iP vs iNP rats)	Naïve Alc Consum/Pref	NAc; Amyg; PFC; Str; Hipp	129	
GS14945-GS14948	17517326	Rat (Warsaw, Low vs High Pref)	Naïve Alc Consum/Pref	NAc; Hipp; PFC	64	
GS246645; GS246646	26455281	Rat (AA, P, ANA Rats)	Naïve Alc Consum/Pref	PFC	215	
GS75752	15846778	Rat (AA, ANA Wistar Rats)	Naïve Alc Consum/Pref	ACC; NAc; Amyg; Hipp	42	
GS74017-GS74020	15052257	Rat (Wistar)	Chronic Intermittent Alc	ACC & Amyg	44	
GS75753	11772933	Rat (Lewis Rats)	Chronic Exposure	Hipp	28	
GS18838; GS18840	12462420	Rat (P rats)	Binge Drinking	Nac	65	
GS37147	19666046	Rat (iP Rats)	Binge Drinking	NAc; Amyg	345	
GS14929; GS14930	18405950	Rat (P rats)	Binge Drinking	Periaqueductal gray	266	
GS246761	27061086				1411	
Rodent Nicotine Gene-set						
GeneWeaver_ID	PMID	Species	Behavior	Brain_Regions	# Genes	
GS14888-GS14893	17504244	Mouse (B6J & C3H/HeJ Mice)	Chronic Exposure	PFC; Nac; Hipp; Amyg; VTA	374	
GS14885	17234382	Rat (Long Evans Rats)	Chronic Exposure	PFC; Str; Hipp	65	
Non-substance Gene-sets						
GeneWeaver_ID	PMID	Species	Behavior	Brain_Regions	# Genes	
GS36166-GS36193	19958391	Mouse (BXD Mice)	Locomotor Behavior	Str; Cortex; Cerrebell; Hipp; Whole Brain	546	
GS14885	8405950	Rat (iP Rats)	Sucrose Consumption	Nac; Amyg	87	

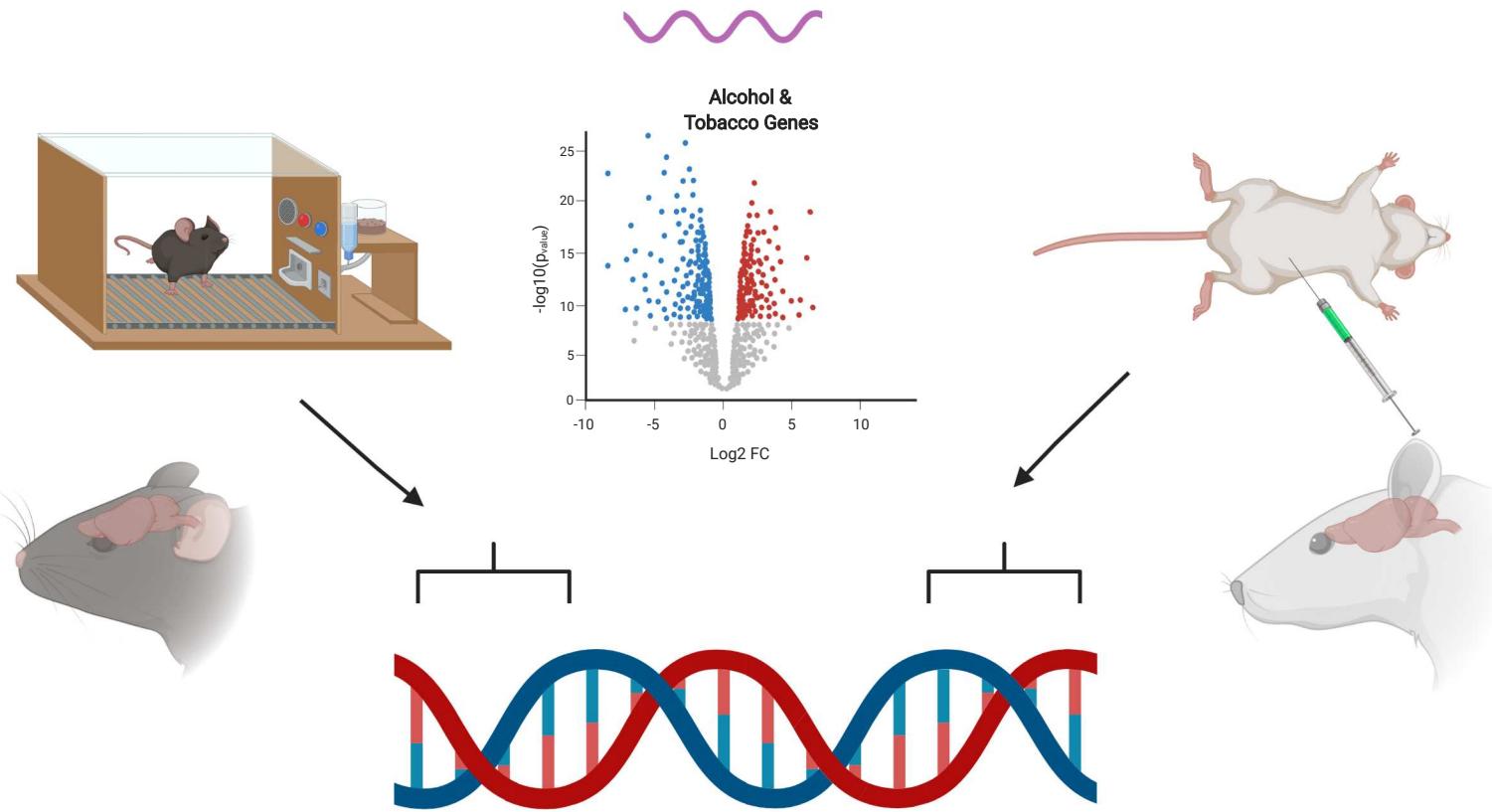
Nac = Nucleus Accumbens; Str = Striatum; vStr = Ventral Striatum; Cerrebell = Cerrebellum; Hipp = Hippocampus; Amyg = Amygdala; ACC = Anterior cingulate cortex; PFC = Pre-frontal Cortex; VTA = Ventral Tegmental Area. Note the # of genes represents the total number orthologous genes on human autosomal chromosomes from each study. For more detailed information on the studies included for these gene-sets see Supplementary Table S1.

Table 2. Human GWASs Used in Partitioned Heritability Analyses

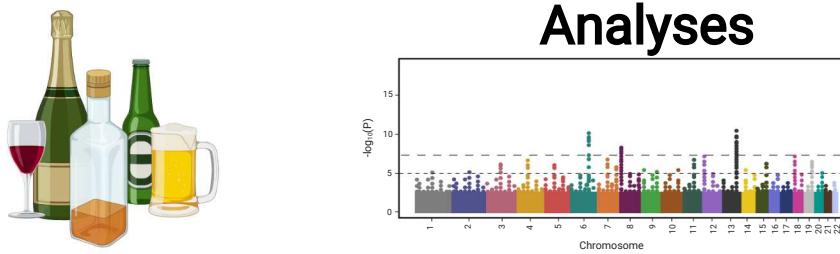
Substance Use GWASs			
GWAS	PMID	N	h^2_{SNP}
Drinks per Week	18397380	537,349	4
Problematic Alcohol Use	15597075	435,563	7
Cigarettes per Day	23550792	263,954	8
Smoking Cessation	15002731	312,821	5
Non-Substance Use GWASs			
GWAS	PMID	N	h^2_{SNP}
Side of Head Phone Used	NA	303,009	5
Tinnitus	NA	117,882	12
Wear Glasses	NA	360,677	4
Ankle Width	NA	206,589	30
Hip Circumference	NA	360,521	22
Height	NA	360,388	49
Alzheimers	30617256	455,258	33
ASD	28540026	173,773	34
ADHD	30478444	55,374	26
MDD	29700475	480,359	9
Schizophrenia	25056061	79,845	46
Bone Mineral Density	NA	206,496	32
Heart Disease	NA	361,194	16
Diabetes	NA	360,192	21

Heritability is rounded to the nearest percentage point. Note the GWASs without PMID numbers were taken from https://nealelab.github.io/UKBB_Idsc/; Genetic correlations among these GWASs are presented in Figure 3.

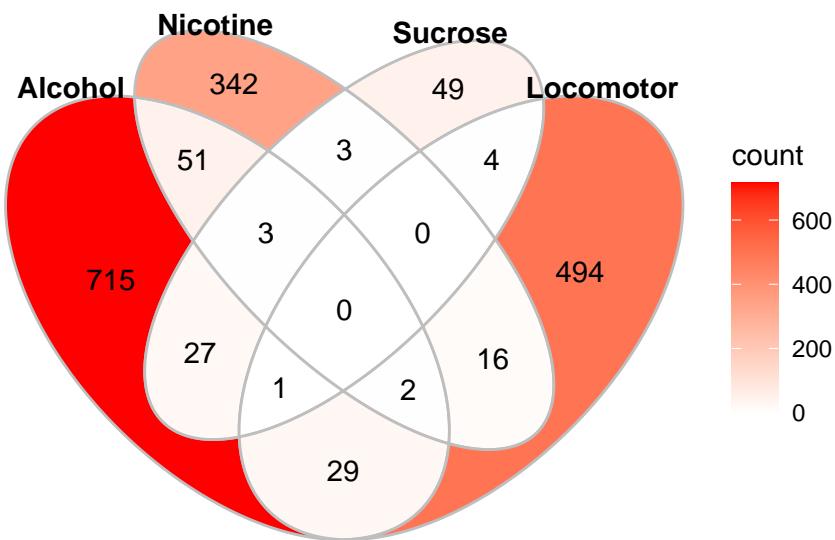
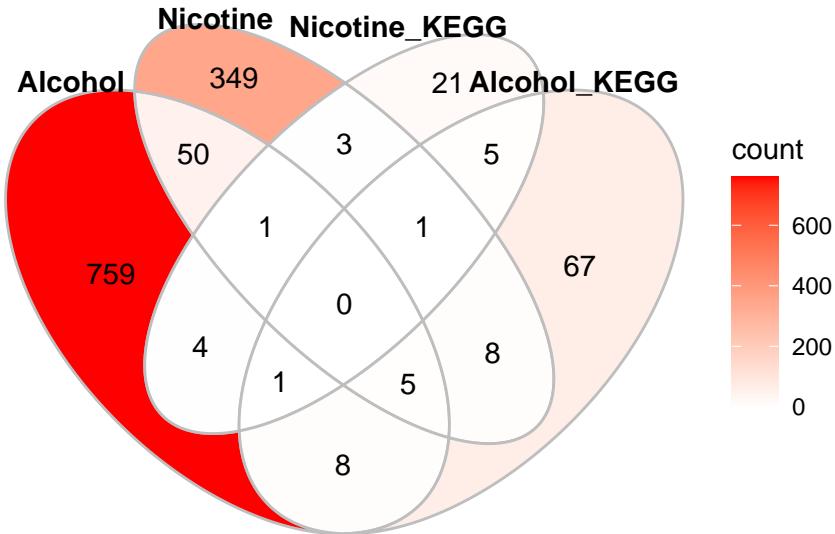
A Priori Gene-sets



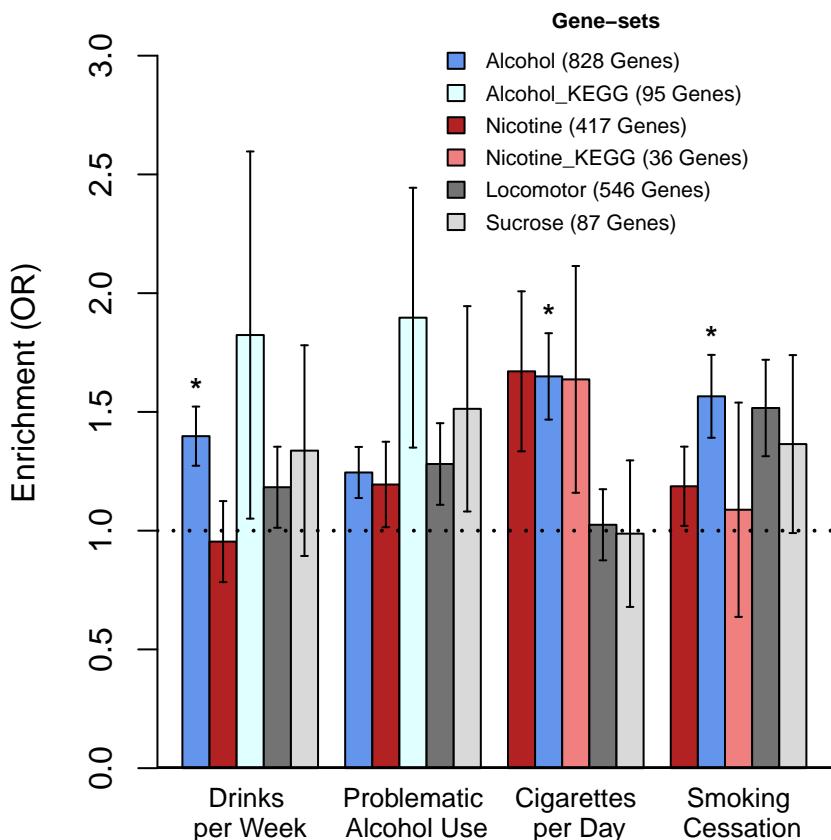
Human Partitioned Heritability Analyses



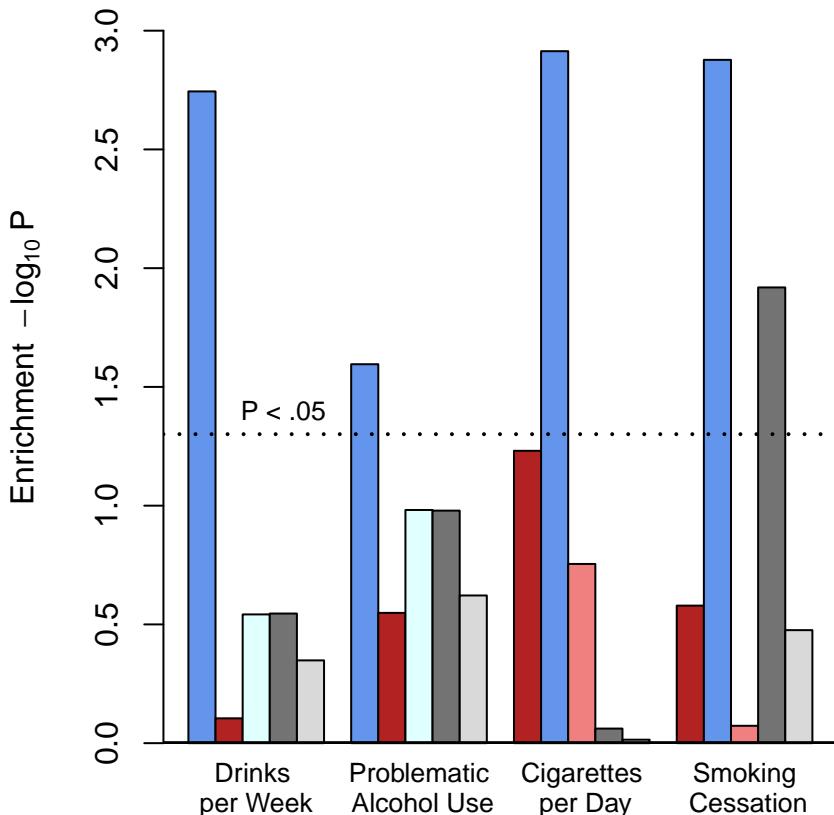
Gene-sets Used For Partitioned Heritability Analyses

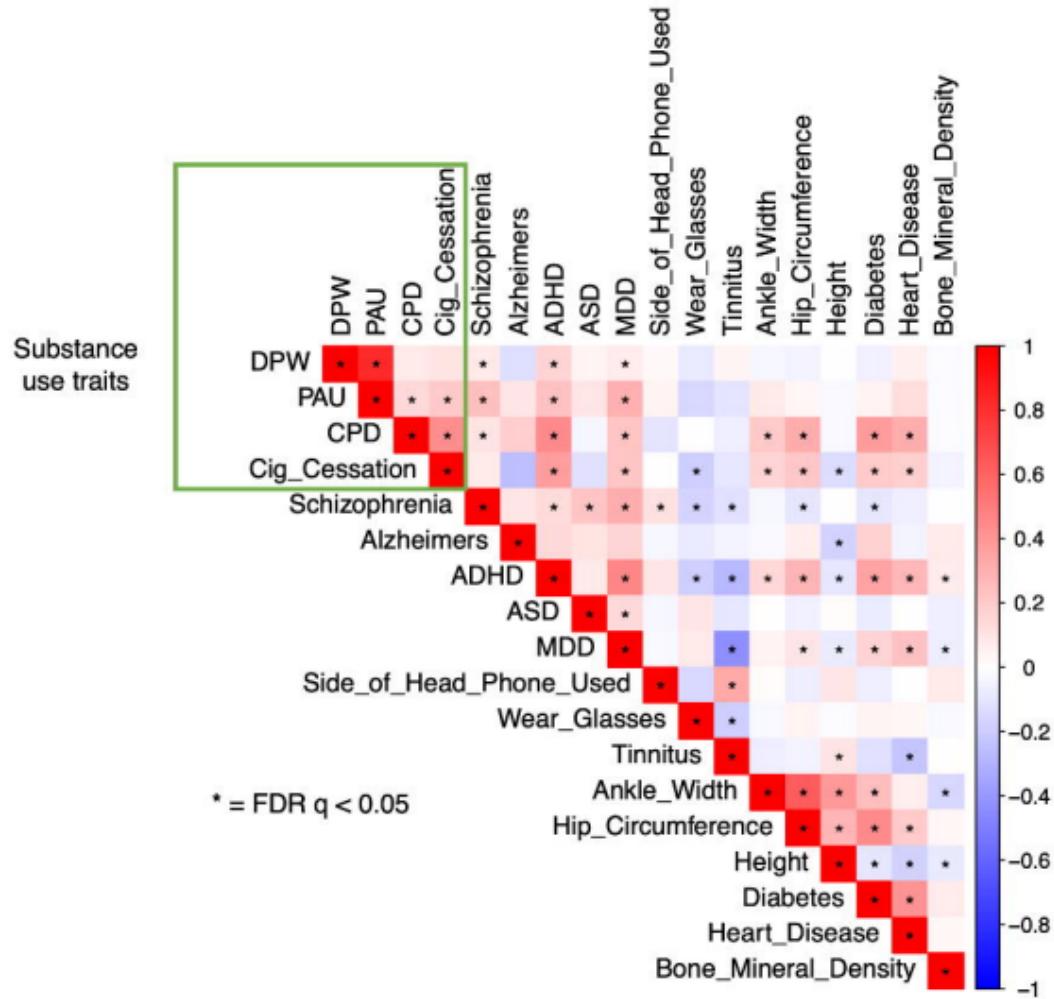


Partitioned Heritability – Human GWASs of Drug Use

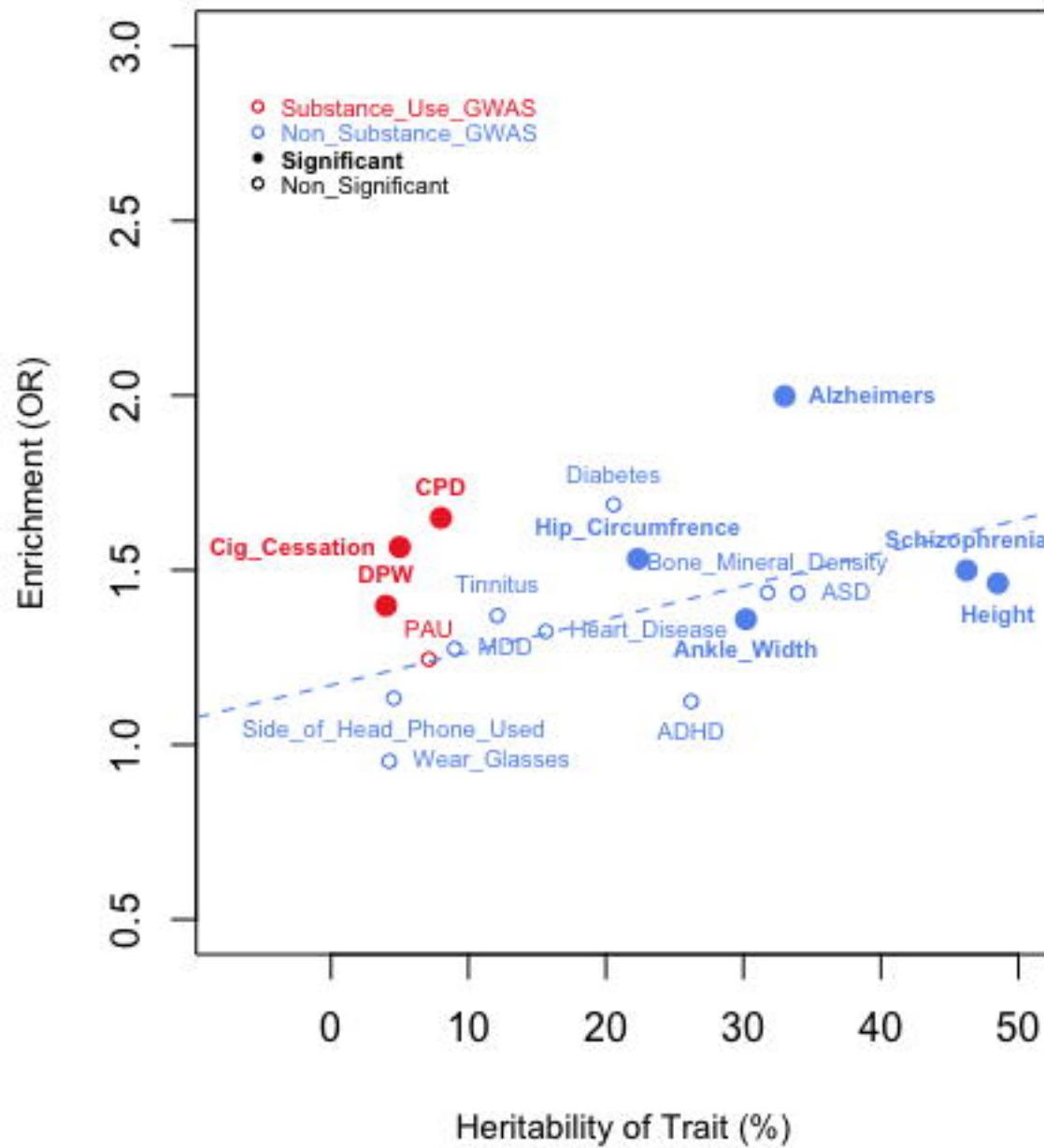


Human GWAS

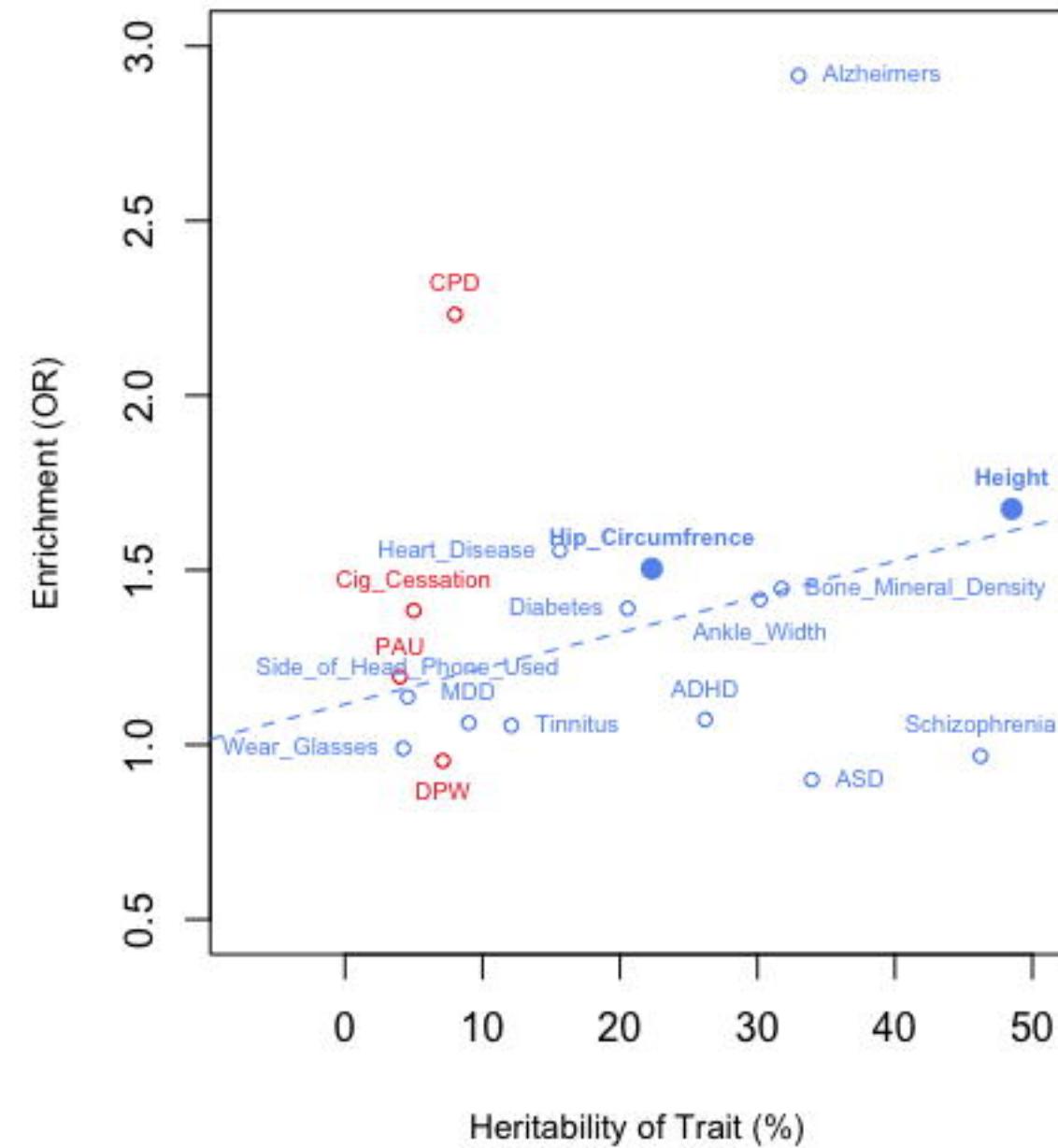




Partitioned Heritability of Rodent Alcohol Genes



Partitioned Heritability of Rodent Nicotine Genes



Partitioned Heritability of Human Substance Use Traits by Species and Alcohol Paradigms

