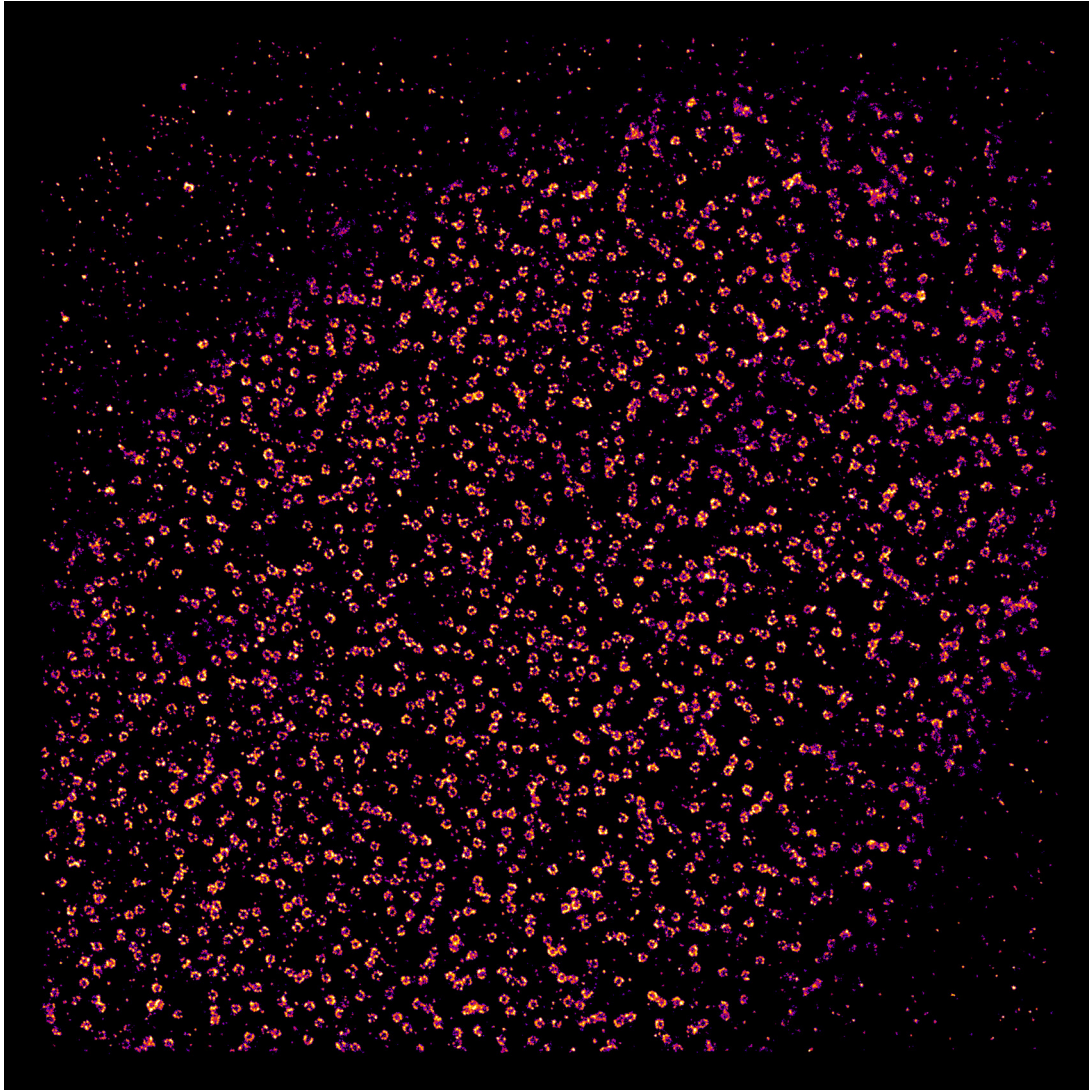


The Universe within

Gates to the genome



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At first glance, this may look like the latest view from a telescope, but it was taken by looking not out at the vastness of space, but into a human cell. What could pass for stars or distant galaxies are actually gates to the genome that is locked up inside the cell's nucleus, as imaged by a super-resolution microscope.

By combining images of thousands of these gates, called nuclear pore complexes, scientists at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg, Germany, have solved a decade-old controversy over how the pieces that form each pore's ring are arranged.

The study is published online today in *Science*, and you can read more about it here:

www.embl.org/press/2013/130711_Heidelberg. ●

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About EMBL

The European Molecular Biology Laboratory is a basic research institute funded by public research monies from 20 member states (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) and associate member state Australia. Research at EMBL is conducted by approximately 85 independent groups covering the spectrum of molecular biology. The Laboratory has five units: the main Laboratory in Heidelberg, and Outstations in Hinxton (the European Bioinformatics Institute), Grenoble, Hamburg, and Monterotondo near Rome. The cornerstones of EMBL's mission are: to perform basic research in molecular biology; to train scientists, students and visitors at all levels; to offer vital services to scientists in the member states; to develop new instruments and methods in the life sciences and to actively engage in technology transfer activities. Around 190 students are enrolled in EMBL's International PhD programme. Additionally, the Laboratory offers a platform for dialogue with the general public through various science communication activities such as lecture series, visitor programmes and the dissemination of scientific achievements.