

Where do genes come from? Non-coding regions of DNA

“Where do new genes come from?” is a long-standing question in genetics and evolutionary biology. A new study from researchers at the University of California, Davis, published Jan. 23 in Science Express, shows that new genes are created from non-coding DNA more rapidly than expected.

“This shows very clearly that genes are being born from ancestral sequences all the time,” said David Begun, professor of evolution and ecology at UC Davis and senior author on the paper.

“This is the first example of totally new genes still spreading through a species,” said Li Zhao, a postdoctoral researcher at UC Davis and first author on the paper.

Read the full, original story: [New Genes Spring, Spread from Non-Coding DNA](#)