

External View

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Introduction

Use this tab to view the currently visible region in the Ensembl or UCSC Genome Browsers.

Use this tab to

- See an alternative view on the same data
- Find tracks to download and import into the IGB environment

Both Ensembl and UCSC Genome Bioinformatics sites are accessible via DAS1 data sources in IGB. And the UCSC Genome site has a Table Browser that allows you to download Genome Browser data tracks in formats IGB supports.

So if you see something worth further investigation, you can import the data directly into IGB.

View a region in an external genome browser

Depending on the genome, you can use **External View** tab to view the currently visible region in the UCSC or Ensembl genome browsers.

To view a region

- Click **External View** tab to open it
- Choose external browser from the menu
- Click **Update**

If you navigate to a new region, click the **Update** button.

External View showing TP53 in IGB and the Ensembl Genome Browser

The screenshot displays the Integrated Genome Browser (IGB) interface. The main window shows a genomic region on Chromosome 17 (Homo sapiens) with coordinates 7,559,424 to 7,601,924. The RefGene track shows multiple TP53 gene models and WRAP53 gene models. The External View panel at the bottom shows the following annotations:

- Contigs: ATP1B2-201 > protein coding, WRAP53-202 > protein coding
- Ensembl/Havana gene: < AC007421.1.3, < AC087388.9
- TP53-203 protein coding
- TP53-001 protein coding
- TP53-006 retained intron
- TP53-007 retained intron

The External View panel also includes a settings button, a dropdown menu for the external browser (set to Ensembl), and an update button. The bottom right corner shows the page number 337M of 2039M.

Import UCSC gene browser settings

If you have used a web browser to access the UCSC server and have changed the UCSC view through the browser, you can import those settings into IGB, permitting IGB to display the view in the same way as the web browser. Click the **settings** button (blue box in previous image) and follow the directions in the window.

Settings window

Customize UCSC settings

Setting the UCSC user id

If you have already customized the USCS view in a web browser, IGB can use those settings. Follow the instructions below to link your settings to IGB.

1. Obtain your user id by clicking on the "UCSC info" button. Or open <http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/cartDump> in your browser
2. Then scroll down in the opened window and copy the value of hguid into the "UCSC user id" field.
3. Click the submit button.
4. Your IGB UCSC View is now synchronized with your browser track configuration. The settings in your browser now change the view.

UCSC info UCSC user id (hguid): submit

Advice on region sizes

While you can access information on very large regions (spanning 10-15 genes), a smaller region or specific gene may return more data due to more details being available. To use ENSEMBL you must have a fairly zoomed in picture (<100,000 bp) and it must be a species that ENSEMBL curates. The same is true for UCSC, although it can handle slightly larger regions of the chromosome. A smaller region or specific gene may return more data due to more details being available.



Larger regions take longer to load.