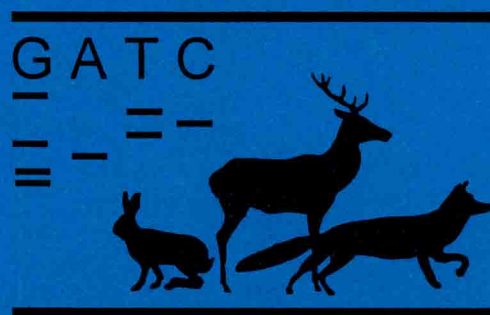


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Epigenetic Divergence Of Asian High-Mountain Voles *Alticola Macrotis* and *A. Lemminus* From South and North-Eastern Siberia

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With the aim of revealing general pattern of epigenetic divergence in Asian high-mountain voles (*Aschizomys*) 632 skulls from 11 localities of South and North-Eastern Siberia were examined in relation to frequencies of 21 non-metric traits. Additionally 312 skulls from 4 laboratory stocks were used for comparison with aborigine populations: *Alticola macrotis vinogradovi* from Altai mountains, *A. m. macrotis* from Baikal Lake vicinity and *A. lemminus* from North Yakutia and Chukotka peninsula. The sample clustering based on mean measure of divergence (MMD) values revealed the pattern which was principally congruent with traditional taxonomist's imaginations. The only exclusion is the sample from South Yakutia because of its intermediate characters that agrees with its geographic location. So we suppose that in this case we deal with united system of vicarious populations at different stages of divergence. This taxonomic pattern can be considered as an example of unfinished process of geographic speciation.

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