

Figure 1. Nonessential mouse genes evolve faster than essential genes. Average mouse-rat (a) d_N , (b) d_S , and (c) d_N/d_S values of essential and nonessential genes are shown. P -value from the test of the null hypothesis of no difference between essential and nonessential genes is shown above each comparison (Mann-Whitney U test). Error bars represent the standard error of the mean. All genes: 1,642 essential and 1,341 nonessential. Non-immune-system genes: 1,538 essential and 1,173 nonessential. Autosomal genes: 1,597 essential and 1,290 nonessential. Autosomal, non-immune-system genes: 1,494 essential and 1,129 nonessential.

