

Chat Log – Interpreting Your AncestryDNA Results Saturday, June 24, 2017

NOTE: Important resources with hyperlinks discussed during the webinars are highlighted in yellow! In addition, answers are not always provided in the chat or during the video to every question.

Thomas MacEntee: 9:48 AM: Hello everyone!

Beth: 9:56 AM: I tested on Ancestry several years ago, and am wondering if I should have my brother tested.

Heather: 9:57 AM: I've tested on Ancestry and uploaded to My Heritage and GedMatch. Completely different results between Ancestry and My Heritage ethnicity results.

Deborah: 10:04 AM: How can we use Raw DNA Data?

Christine: 10:04 AM: Is there a way for me to see my DNA circles if I don't have an Ancestry.com subscription? Can that be viewed while at my local library, using their Ancestry access?

Thomas MacEntee: 10:08 AM: ISOGG <http://isogg.org>

Thomas MacEntee: 10:09 AM: ISOGG Cousin Statistics: https://isogg.org/wiki/Cousin_statistics

Joan: 10:12 AM: I just found my nephew's wife's father. She shared 2,000 cM with her half brother.

Thomas MacEntee: 10:16 AM: What Mary is showing is DNA Detectives Chart which is one of our handouts

Diane: 10:16 AM: How about double cousins?

Linda: 10:18 AM: Can you also show the percentage formula at some point in the webinar?

Lisa: 10:20 AM: It's frustrating that not everyone uploads to gedmatch. My closest matches have not.

Louise: 10:21 AM: I don't understand the significance of the chromosome browser. What does it mean ?

Lois: 10:21 AM: What is the benefit of being able to actually see your chromosome matches?

Amanda: 10:22 AM: Lisa - I think that because of Ancestry's marketing, a lot of people only test for those (lousy) ethnicity estimates; they aren't interested in their matches.

Joan: 10:22 AM: I manage 15 kits on ancestry. I did an analysis of all the kits. About 10% of everyone's matches have a private tree. About 30-40% of our matches (within 4th cousin range) have no tree at all.

Tami: 10:23 AM: What if you are adopted and don't have a tree?

Lisa: 10:24 AM: I'm adopted so I have my tree set to private since it is fairly speculative.

Linda: 10:24 AM: are you going to show how to transfer from ancestry to FTDNA?

Sue: 10:25 AM: Please explain again on trying to locate Eastern European ancestors, via Ancestry DNA & Family Tree DNA; unclear on what is Family Tree DNA. Thank you.

Vivian: 10:26 AM: Can my sister's DNA test be linked to my tree as well as her tree. I have more family members entered into my tree?

Sandra: 10:26 AM: Yes, I need to know about linking my brother's test to my tree

David: 10:26 AM: Can you have more than one test connected to the same tree?

Louise: 10:27 AM: I believe even if tree is private, they will match. Mine is private & I got many match hints

Tami: 10:27 AM: What if you're adopted and don't have a tree?

Amanda: 10:28 AM: Correct me if I am wrong, someone, but I believe if your tree is private, and my tree is public, you can see matches in my tree - but I can't see matches in your tree!

Heather: 10:31 AM: I think you're correct. If you have your tree as private then I can't see anyone in the tree. I have people contacting me, asking how we're related. I look only to find that their tree is private and I can't tell them. Frustrating.

Joan: 10:33 AM: Shared matches show up even when people have no tree or a private tree.

Phyllis: 10:35 AM: I don't bother with Matches that have Private Trees. I tried with a few and none of them responded to queries. So I figure if they want to pursue a Match with me, the Match will contact me. We both lose out until that Private Match sends a message.

Amanda: 10:35 AM: Sorry, I misspoke - yes, you can see matches, but you can't look at private trees to see if you can figure out the connection. That is what I meant.

Marguerite: 10:35 AM: I have 3 DNA results from Ancestry. my mother, husband, me. where you are showing the "i" we only have a question mark. when clicked it takes me to a definition of e.g. second cousin etc. is there a reason for this?

Sheila: 10:35 AM: Is there a way to see what features the shared DNA determine--such as red-headedness, etc.

Joan: 10:36 AM: Chromosome browser: my husband's cousin doesn't know her father. We tested a cousin of her, who we thought might also be a great nephew! We have a 1/2 sister who tested. With a chromosome browser, we can try and tell if there are differences between the 1/2 sisters and this other guy.

Joan: 10:36 AM: NO, that is not true - i have 10 people linked to my one tree

Heather: 10:37 AM: It is true. DNA test can only be linked to one person in one tree.

Kathryn: 10:37 AM: Ditto what Joan said. Every relative I have tested I have their DNA linked to them on my one tree.

Ros: 10:37 AM: Yes, you could have 10 people linked to your one tree - but those 10 people could not link to another tree

Amanda: 10:37 AM: Joan I think the question was if one single test can be linked with the same person in more than one account's trees.

Terese: 10:38 AM: I think she meant that one DNA test can be linked to one tree at a time

Patti: 10:38 AM: How do you know what notes are "private" notes in your ancestry.com tree (the ones that will not be shared if your tree is public)?

Heather: 10:38 AM: You can have 10 different DNA tests linked to one person in your one tree. That is true.

Hazel: 10:41 AM: "locked" tree = "private" tree ???

Kay: 10:41 AM: What is the purpose of locking a tree? Is this different from public versus private?

Lisa: 10:46 AM: If you're adopted, should you notate that on your name line?

Steven: 10:49 AM: Can we tell Ancestry when they have the relationship wrong. Same 2nd cousin is actually a 1st once removed. Also have a 2nd cousin listed as a third cousin due to low sharing.

Lisa: 10:49 AM: Is the pedigree and surname tree based on combination of trees or actual shared DNA?

Kelly: 10:49 AM: How do they know if paternal or maternal?

Judith: 10:50 AM: Mother Father filters: Is there any way to fool ancestry with mom's brother and dad's brother?

Joan: 10:50 AM: In reference to Patti's question. . .A note on a person can be private on a public tree. Profile page, Tools, Comments/Notes. Notes are shown to owner and editors only. The Notes on the DNA page are private to you and maybe editors of your DNA?

Jane: 10:52 AM: I've not be able to access my DNA Circles the past several days. I get the message "feature unavailable." Is anyone else experiencing this and do you know what is going on?

Joan: 10:52 AM: Also DNA circles don't show for private trees, but you can still get to them: Click on New Ancestor Discoveries and click on a person. DNA circles appear! HA

Wanda: 10:54 AM: please define triangulation again

Thomas MacEntee: 10:54 AM: Here's the ISOGG Wiki definition of Triangulation: <https://isogg.org/wiki/Triangulation>

Deena: 10:55 AM: i am a match to a close family member who i do not know of . None of that family's surname match mine . He mentioned that he was adopted and only had 2 names of men that could have been his biological father Where do I start?????

Diane: 10:57 AM: I've never seen the New Ancestor Discoveries. Where do I look? I have my DNA + admin 2 sisters.

Lisa: 10:57 AM: My ethnicity estimate is drastically different between Ancestry and FTDNA!

Amanda: 10:58 AM: Diane Kauppi - not everyone has New Ancestor Discoveries. My mom and husband do, my dad does not.

Joan: 10:59 AM: Lisa - wait til you get the ones from MyHeritage. I've tested at all the different ones, but MyHeritage shows I'm part African. All other testing places show 100% European! SURPRISE!

Thomas MacEntee: 11:00 AM: FYI - uploads of your raw data from other tests (AncestryDNA, 23andMe, National Geographic, FTDNA) to MyHeritage is FREE! See <https://dnabargains.com/review-new-myheritage-dna-ethnicity-estimates-june-2017/>

Hope: 11:01 AM: My daughter has higher percentage of Great Britain than typical native - and she was born in USA

Heather: 11:00 AM: Can someone explain why my Ancestry and MyHeritage ethnicity estimates are so different. I've not sent in to any other ones yet.

Heather: 11:02 AM: ok thanks. I know they are from different countries so have a different testing base but I was really surprised at how different

Joan: 11:03 AM: Blaine Bettinger has a webinar on Genetic Communities: https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=618

Linda: 11:08 AM: Can I tell through a half brother's DNA if his uncle is my biofather?

Sharon: 11:11 AM: I've been told to use Chrome browser instead of Firefox when I've gotten that msg.

Joan: 11:13 AM: I'm on the ancestry.com's Expert User Community which answers questions about problems directed to ancestry.com. There have been a ton of problems with Circles and NADs disappearing. Unfortunately, Ancestry.com doesn't really give us any more specific answers than they do everyone else!

Lisa: 11:13 AM: I'm working with an adoptee who has done DNA. Based on her closest match, we've determined who her birth mother is. It definitely can be done, but a close match definitely makes it easier.

Lisa: 11:14 AM: Did you say 23 and me is closest with ethnicity estimate?

Lisa: 11:14 AM: How does My Heritage fall in?

Joan: 11:15 AM: I'm working with my husband's cousin trying to find her father. I've been able to get to a community in Nebraska where her father is probably from by building the trees of her matches, but am stuck til someone talks!

Linda: 11:15 AM: Can I tell through a half brother's DNA if his uncle is my biofather?

Lisa: 11:15 AM: Joan, I hear ya!

Julie: 11:15 AM: So, to separate a half sibling or Aunt/Uncle/Niece/Nephew we would need to do the research? Not just rely on the cM estimates?

Barbara McGeachy: 11:16 AM: I'm curious about how many matches people have. I have 40 DNA Circles, 274 Shared Ancestor Hints, 1,022 4th cousins or closer; when I click on 4th cousins, I have 373 pages (at 50 per page, that's 18,650 total matches)! My tree has 15,545 people.

Elaine: 11:17 AM: How significant is a 1.9% of a particular ethnicity? What is the cut off for what is considered insignificant or "noise".

Judith: 11:17 AM: Are there different cM relationship charts for X chromosomes?

Thomas MacEntee: 11:19 AM: Promethease <https://promethease.com/>

Gail: 11:20 AM: I have two trees one for my maternal side and one for my paternal side. One has over 6000 people in it. I get confused enough about who is in what side of the family as it is, so I hate to combine them. Right now I have my father's tree linked to my DNA on ancestry, but I am getting DNA matches for people on my Mother's side. It would help to have both linked. Do I need to make a 3rd tree with both sides to use just for linking with my DNA?

Suzanne: 11:20 AM: Which relationships are 'best' to test?

Janice: 11:21 AM: Can I attach my results to different trees in succession

Janet: 11:21 AM: I have a half dozen DNA circles.

Jane: 11:23 AM: The circles are present but, when I click on them, the message "feature unavailable" appears.

Judith: 11:23 AM: Janice, you can change to another tree at any time. Go to your settings and click on the edit button by the attached tree.

Deena: 11:24 AM: I am looking for my father's side, Jewish surname BARRON from Europe who married a BARKIN anyone researching

Tami: 11:24 AM: is there a reason Ancestry doesn't separate maternal from paternal matches like FTDNA does?

Judith: 11:25 AM: On my colonial side I have 15 circles and 250 SAH hints. On my immigrant side no circles, 14 4th cousins and no hints. It makes a big difference.

Susan: 11:25 AM: Somebody is not muted...but very quiet!!

Thomas MacEntee: 11:26 AM: Here is info from Mary Eberle's website on how to download your Raw DNA Data and transfer to another site: <http://dnahunters.com/learning-center/transfer-dna-results-gedmatch/>

Joan: 11:59 AM: p.s. I think the Ancestry DNA page looks different if you have the Snavelly Google Chrome Extension installed.

Susan: 12:00 PM: Joan--I just learned about the Snavelly Tool...Do you use it?

Thomas MacEntee: 12:01 PM: AncestryDNA Helper for Google Chrome: <https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/ancestrydna-helper/hjlfmfphflaeehhpdiggoblqffelfee?hl=en-US>

Thomas MacEntee: 12:01 PM: DNAGedcom <http://dnagedcom.com/>

Joan: 12:02 PM: Oh, and something I just noticed! Ancestry has a new Beta feature called "Can we discover more from your DNA" where you answer questions (Kind of like 23andme.)

Jerry: 12:04 PM: Chrome Helper searches thru all matches, can take a while. Download in a CS file.

Sandra: 12:04 PM: Under each match there is a place you can add a note..... I have added note when I ID them but now I have added additional notes to the existing one and it will not save it.... I clicked on save and it acts like it saved but when i go back the additional notes are not there. Any suggestions?

Janice: 12:06 PM: I have both a paternal and a maternal tree on Ancestry. My DNA is connected with my paternal tree. When I change to connect it to my maternal tree, it says it has changed, but all my matches and circles still show only my paternal, nothing maternal. How can I fix this?

Joan: 12:23 PM: Marcia: Click on the match name. Then on that page, click on the name again. Now you are on the Ancestry profile page, and the button will be orange.

Joan: 12:29 PM: When I have a shared match like this I do a screen print of the shared match and I attach it to all the ancestors with a note: Joan shares ___cM with Ancestry User ID _____. Most Common Ancestor appears to be: ____

Hope: 12:29 PM: So is SAH equivalent to the shared leaf? or the leaf is indicative of SAH?

Debi: 12:29 PM: Amanda: since a prior screen had said the closest maternal ancestor was a 2nd cousin (I think Thomas said).

Joan: 12:30 PM: Then I put all that as a custom fact in the Ancestry profile page of all those ancestors so I can see it immediately.

Thomas MacEntee: 12:30 PM: QuickSheet: Citing Genetic Sources for History Research: Evidence Style <http://amzn.to/2s7KZOT>

Lisa: 12:34 PM: Jane Bartlett, a half cousin is the child of a parents 1/2 sibling

Ros: 12:36 PM: I just matched with a second cousin, but he doesn't have a tree, so I clicked on HIS shared matches, there was only one, but HE didn't have a tree *exasperated sigh"

Joan: 12:40 PM: I think you're right, Amanda. All they wanted to know was their ethnicity because Ancestry's commercials tout that. OR they think their entire ancestral tree will appear and be solved as soon as they submit their DNA.

Sue: 12:40 PM: I have gotten mixed results by contacting via Ancestry DNA - more no responses. However, the positive contacts have made up for the non-responses. I too have had at least 2 contacts via Ancestry DNA from relatives in Australia - my mon's side of the family - exciting!!!!

Joan: 12:43 PM: One of the most frequent questions asked of Ancestry re: ethnicity is "But I was told grandma was Native American and nothing is showing!"

Patricia: 12:43 PM: I have a lock of my grandmother's hair. Are there any services out there that would test the sample for DNA?

Heather: 12:43 PM: But the father and uncle might not share the same 50% right? Like my brother and I share very little the same. So we got different 50%

Lisa: 12:43 PM: My birth father's side won't test because they're proud Native Americans and we're all coming up 0%!

Mary: 12:44 PM: I am admin for my first cousin's test. She has a tree. I know I can't link to more than one tree. Should/can I make my cousin the admin of her own test?

Debi: 12:44 PM: Does Ancestry give you a price break for a bulk order?

Joan: 12:44 PM: Mary, ancestry has a great video: <https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/11/24/ask-ancestry-anne-where-is-my-native-american-dna/>

Joan: 12:45 PM: Even if they only have a couple of names it often is enough for you to build a tree just based on that person.

Lisa: 12:47 PM: This is tough material to cover quickly and without interactive visuals.

Thomas MacEntee: 12:47 PM: Wikipedia cousins: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cousin>

Joan: 12:52 PM: DNA takes a lot of time. I walk away from it for weeks sometimes.

Lisa: 12:53 PM: neophyte here!

Sheila: 12:53 PM: Is there another way to include DNA match besides altering the photo?

Joan: 12:54 PM: Maybe you can mention all the familytreewebinar classes on DNA? also yourdnaguide.com has a ton of classes.

Deborah: 12:54 PM: Does anyone use DNA matches for DAR documentation

Amanda: 12:57 PM: The 3 others are different because there are very small amounts of shared centimorgans - therefore very distant relationships.

Mary: 1:00 PM: Can RJK see the Genetic Communities of his Uncle and mother if he's not the administrator?

Laura Shea: 1:01 PM: If he is invited.

Laura Shea: 1:02 PM: There is a separate invitation to DNA records different from tree invitations.

Sharon: 1:03 PM: I have no genetic communities. Why is this?

Beth: 1:03 PM: Glad to hear the ethnicity results can change - mine did and I wondered why it seemed so different.

Sheila: 1:04 PM: My first results from Ancestry DNA said I was 98% British Isles. They have changed several times. I am now mostly Scandinavian. Can you explain this change?

Sue: 1:07 PM: My husband had 10 % Jewish ethnicity in his initial DNA results about a year ago and now he has none showing.

John: 1:09 PM: When looking at the amount of centimorgans, it also states over a certain number of segments. What are these segments, and their meaning?

Vivian Morgan: 1:09 PM: From earlier topic, need clarification--can a single DNA test be linked with the same person in more than one account?

Amanda: 1:11 PM: Vivian Morgan - maybe this will help:

<https://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/05/14/linking-ancestrydna-to-trees-now-even-to-shared-ones/>

Sandra: 1:12 PM: Is there an advantage to uploading your raw data from ancestry and uploading it to FTDNA?

Sandra Benward: 1:12 PM: I meant downloading and then uploading

Amanda: 1:12 PM: Sandra Benward - biggest advantage is that you can only do it in that direction