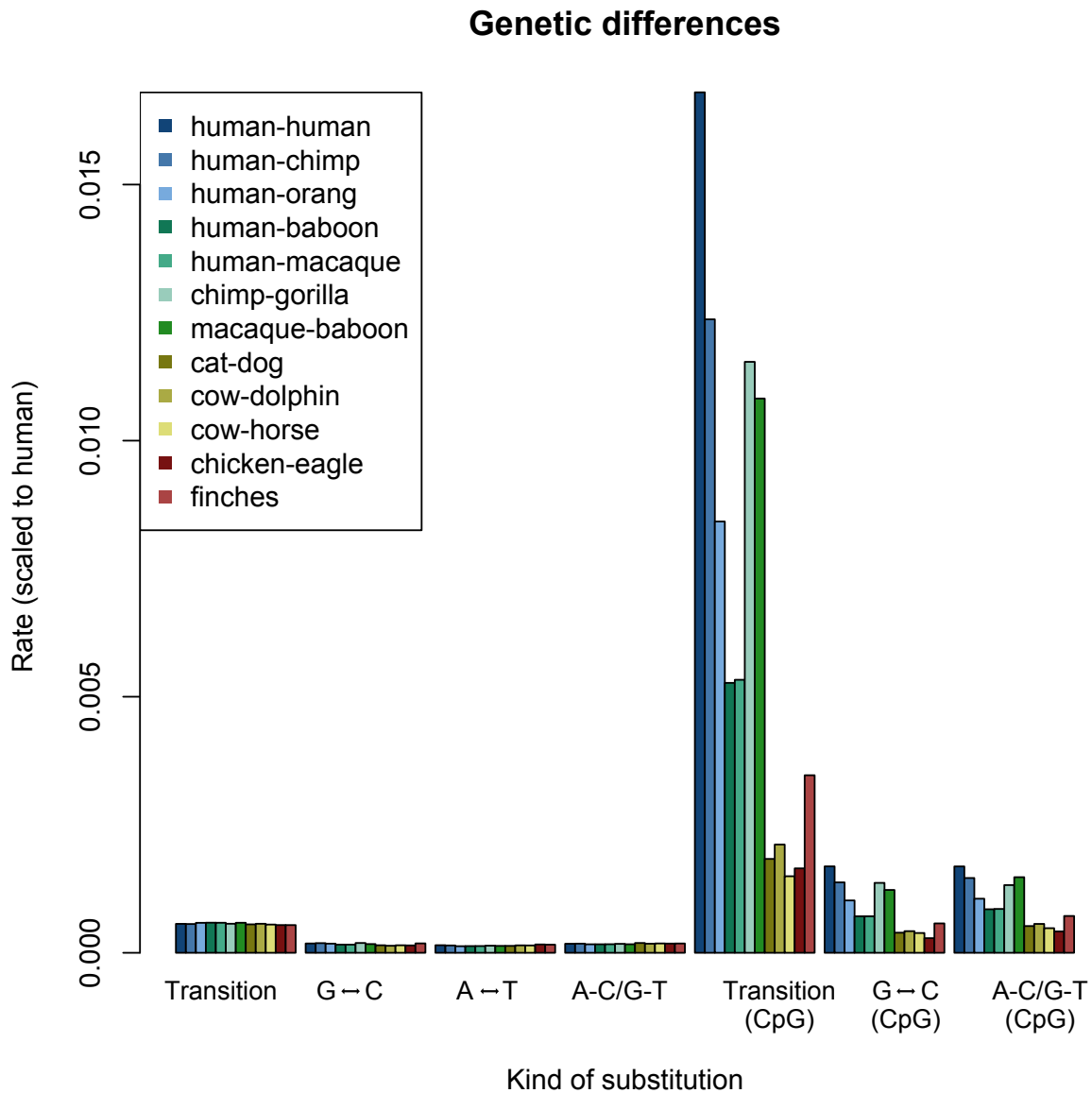


## Follow-up to “Testing Common Ancestry: It’s All About the Mutations”

The blog entry ended with the comprehensive signature of mutation, as seen in the comparison of human and chimpanzee DNA. But what happens if we look at that same signature across a broader range of species? Well, it turns out the agreement looks worse – a lot worse. Here it is for the full set of species pairs:



Even within primates, the CpG transition rate varies a lot across pairs, and overall it varies more than tenfold. That is not what I would call a very accurate prediction.

Why the very different rates? Is this a failure of the prediction of common descent?

Well, no. We can discuss why at the meeting, but here's a hint:

