Using LucidChart to Build Descendancy Diagrams



Oct 5, 2023
East Valley Phoenix DNA SIG

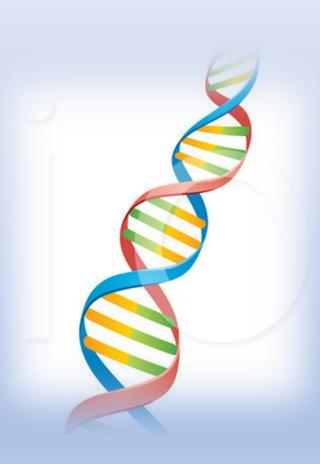
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All slides and handouts can be found at:

http://www.familytreeaz.com/Presentations/

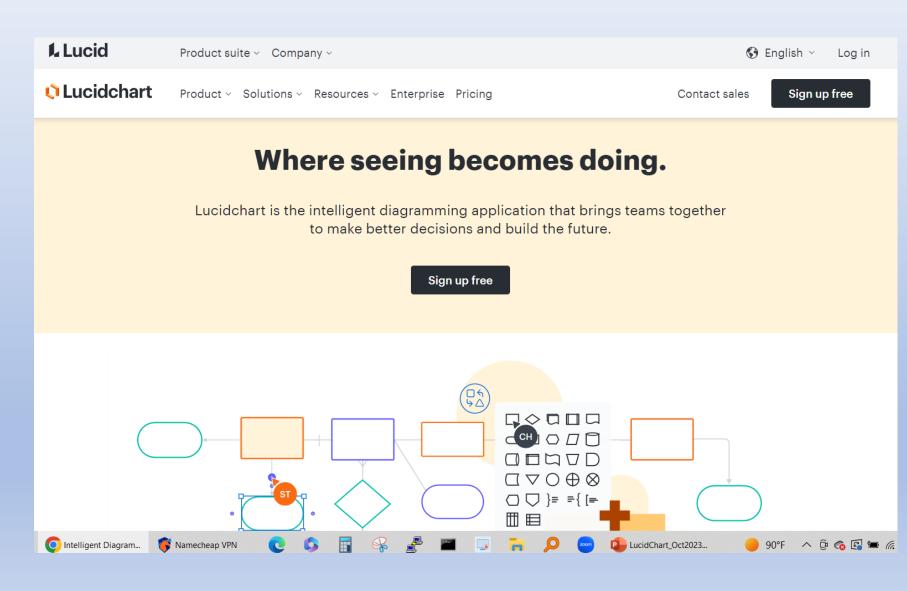


QR Code: take photo to open to presentations

What is LucidChart?

- A diagramming website that allows you to build simple...or complex...diagrams
- Website:

https://www.lucidchart.com/pages/



Free Account --- but with limits

The free plan of Lucidchart has the following limitations: 🔻



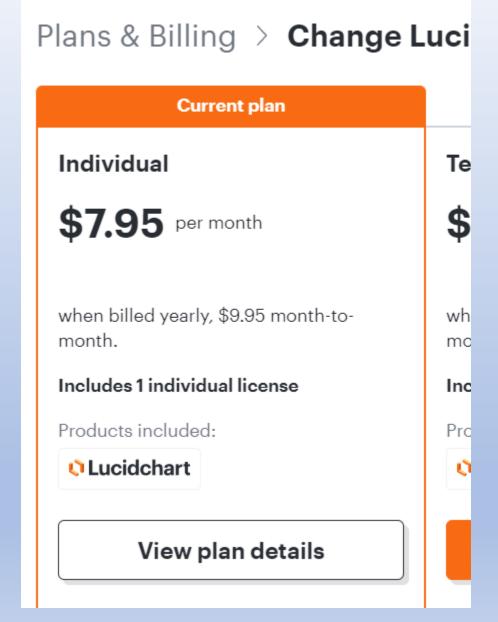
- 3 editable documents
- 60 shapes per document
- 100 templates
- No desktop app

However, free accounts can create an unlimited number of diagrams.



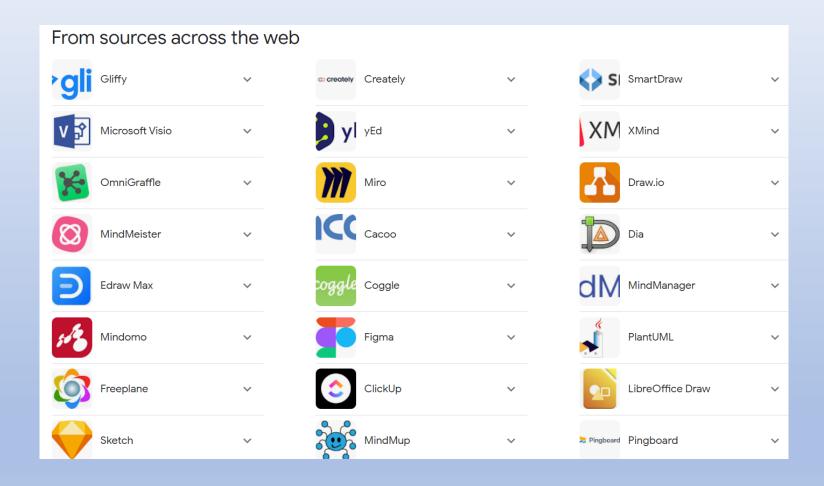
Cost

- Free for simple diagrams
- For more complex diagrams cost is ~\$100/yr



Other Alternatives?

- Scapple
- Powerpoint
- Haven't tried most of these
- Used
 Powerpoint for awhile but got hooked on LucidChart

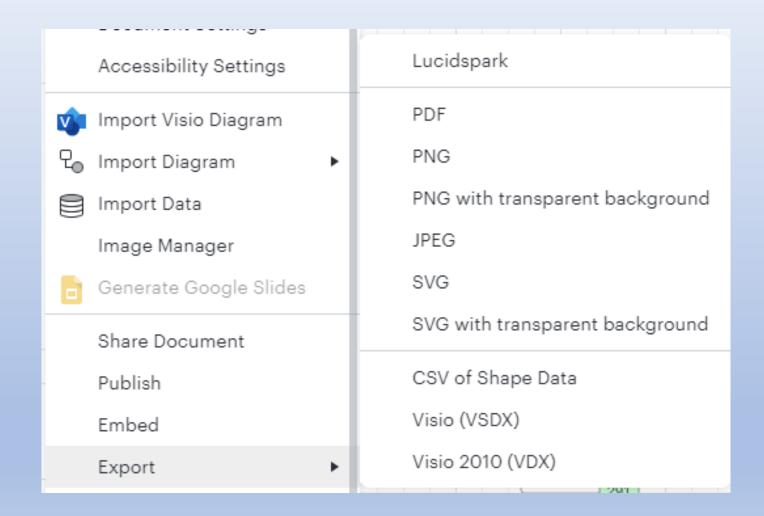


Features

 Great flexibility in creating different types of diagrams

 Excellent exporting capabilities (PDF, PNG, JPG, SVG)

 Easy to share with a team or individuals

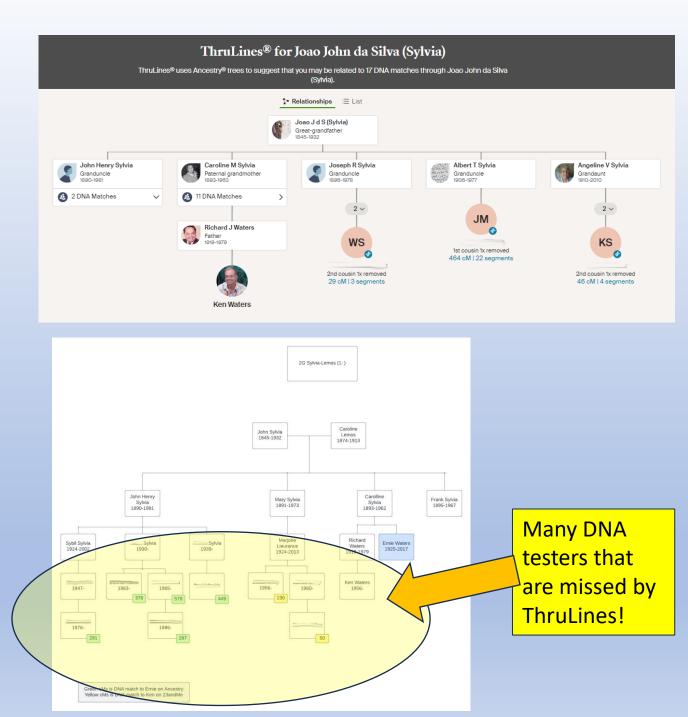


How Do I Use It?

- Building family diagrams
 - Great to share for others
 - Full control to the elements, unlike other options like Ancestry trees or ThruLines
- Specifically:
 - Building DNA descendancy diagrams for a family line

Why not use ThruLines?

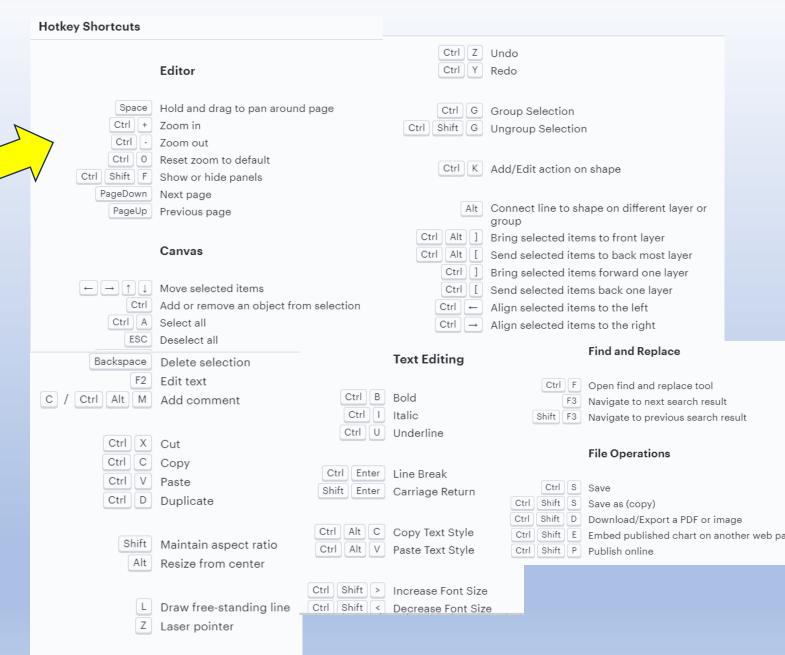
- Can eliminate questionable matches (dubious trees, obvious errors, low matches 8 cMs, etc.)
- Easy to modify for breadth as the diagram gets larger (ThruLines breaks them into sections)
- IMPORTANT: ThruLines often misses DNA matches because of poor (or no) tree connections --- you can make your own, verified trees to confirm connection
- For example, this ThruLines depiction of my great-grandfather shows only 5 DNA matches beyond my grandmother. In reality I have identified more than 40 of them!



Shortcuts

 Press [F1] to get keyboard shortcuts

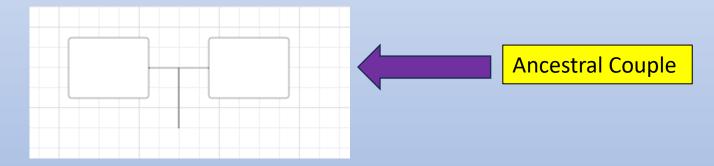
It can be a bit of a
 learning curve with these
 but you'll find with a little
 practice it can be very
 easy to quickly start a
 diagram



Open Font Manager
Open Shape Manager

What is a DNA Descendancy Diagram?

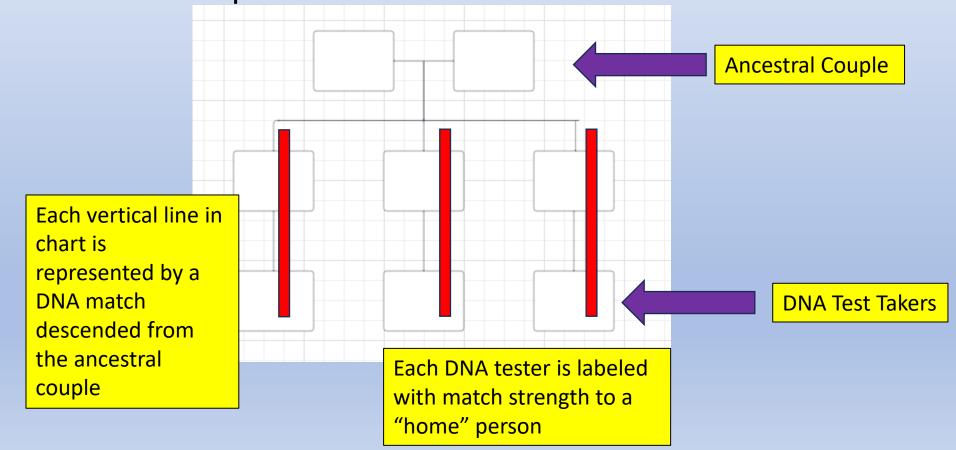
- Start with identifying a "home person" who has taken a DNA test
- Then identify an Ancestral Couple (or single ancestor) to the "home person"



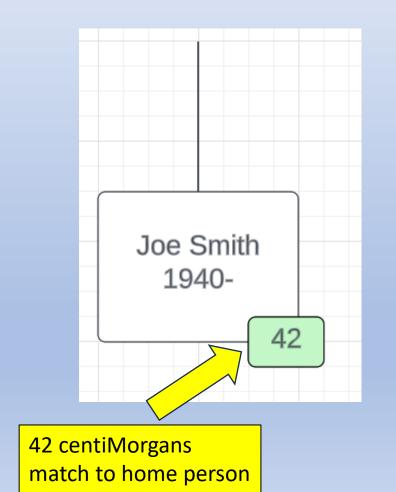
• This could be a 3rd great-grandparent couple, for example

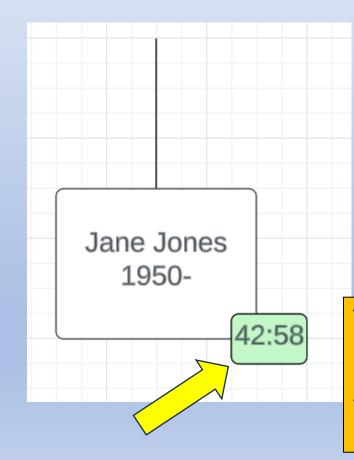
What is a DNA Descendancy Diagram?

 Build the diagram down through generations so that each DNA tested person will be represented



Add DNA Strengths to each test-taker

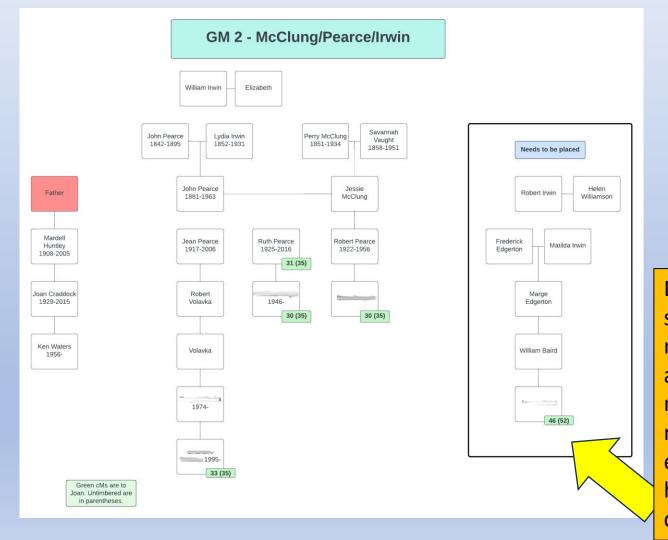




TIP: For Ancestry DNA matches I often like to include the "unTimber"'ed values as they are often more accurate

Include "DNA Islands" – genetic networks not yet connected to the main tree

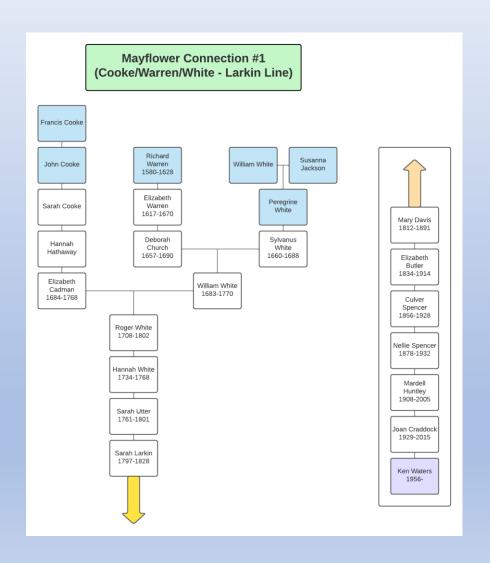
- This example is working on finding the father of my maternal grandmother
- With shared matches I have identified two different branches on this line --- presumably one is paternal and one maternal for the unknown greatgrandfather



DNA Island
showing
match(es) that
are in the genetic
network with the
main tree but
exact connection
has not yet been
determined

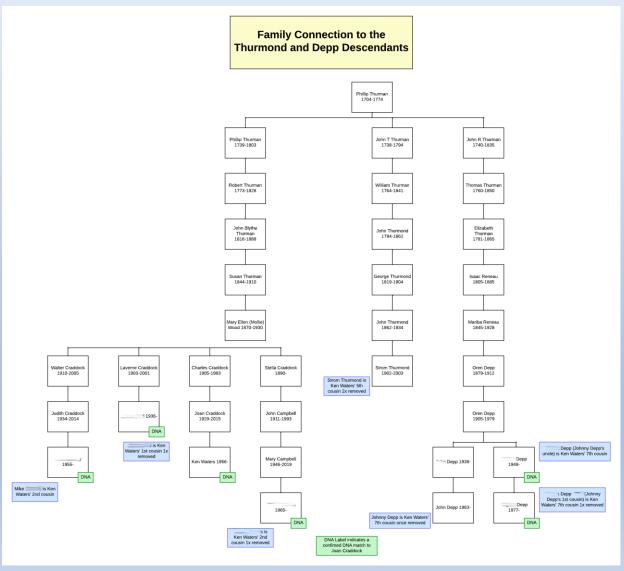
Another Useful Application – early ancestor

- Creating charts to show descendancy from an early ancestor
 - Broken into two due to the number of generations going back



Another Useful Application – cousin connections

- Showing cousins how they are related to a common ancestor
- In this case, showing how my cousins and I are related to Johnny Depp and Strom Thurmond – easy to share
- Living people have been anonymized except for me and Johnny Depp



There's a lot more to show--- but limited time

Demo?

Upcoming Classes/Presentations

Tuesday, Oct 10, 6 pm

Title: How Closely Are We Related?

Description: Learn about how DNA can be used to determine who closely related

two people are. We will explore centiMorgans and what they mean.

Saturday, Nov 18, 3 pm

Title: DNA Mysteries

Description: What mysteries can be revealed with a DNA test? We will discuss actual instances of surprise matches, how you can learn from them, and where to go from there.



All library classes that are highlighted in blue are free to attend and require no registration and held at the Red Mountain Mesa Public Library at 635 N Power Rd in Mesa (unless otherwise noted above).



Presentations:

http://familytreeaz.com/Presentations



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