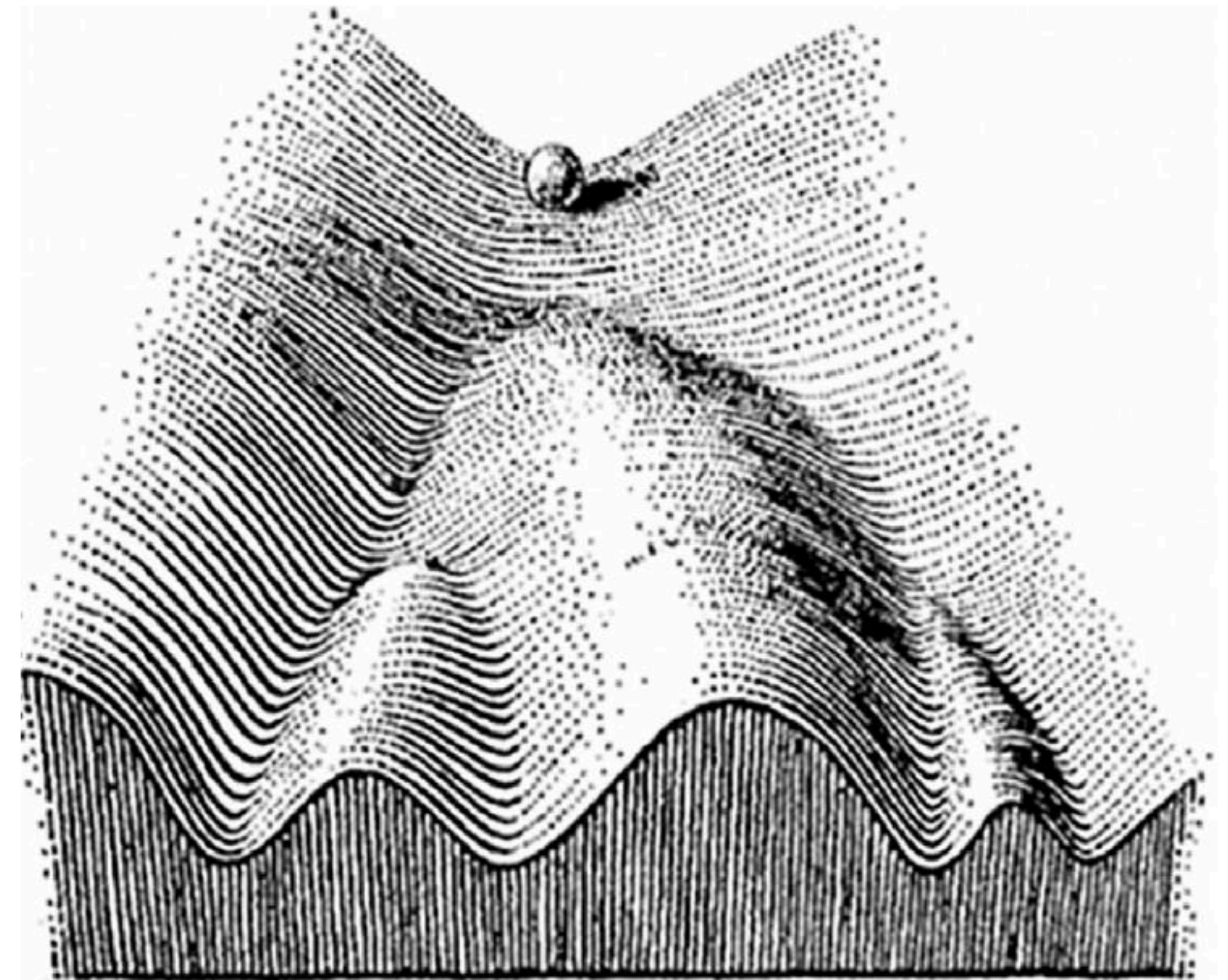


# Coherent sparse optimization predicts early cell fate bias by integrating lineage and transcriptome information

Dr. Shou-Wen Wang  
Damon Runyon Fellow

Allon Klein Laboratory  
Department of Systems Biology  
Harvard Medical School

Oct 19, 2022



# About me

**PhD in Statistical Physics**, Tsinghua University, China

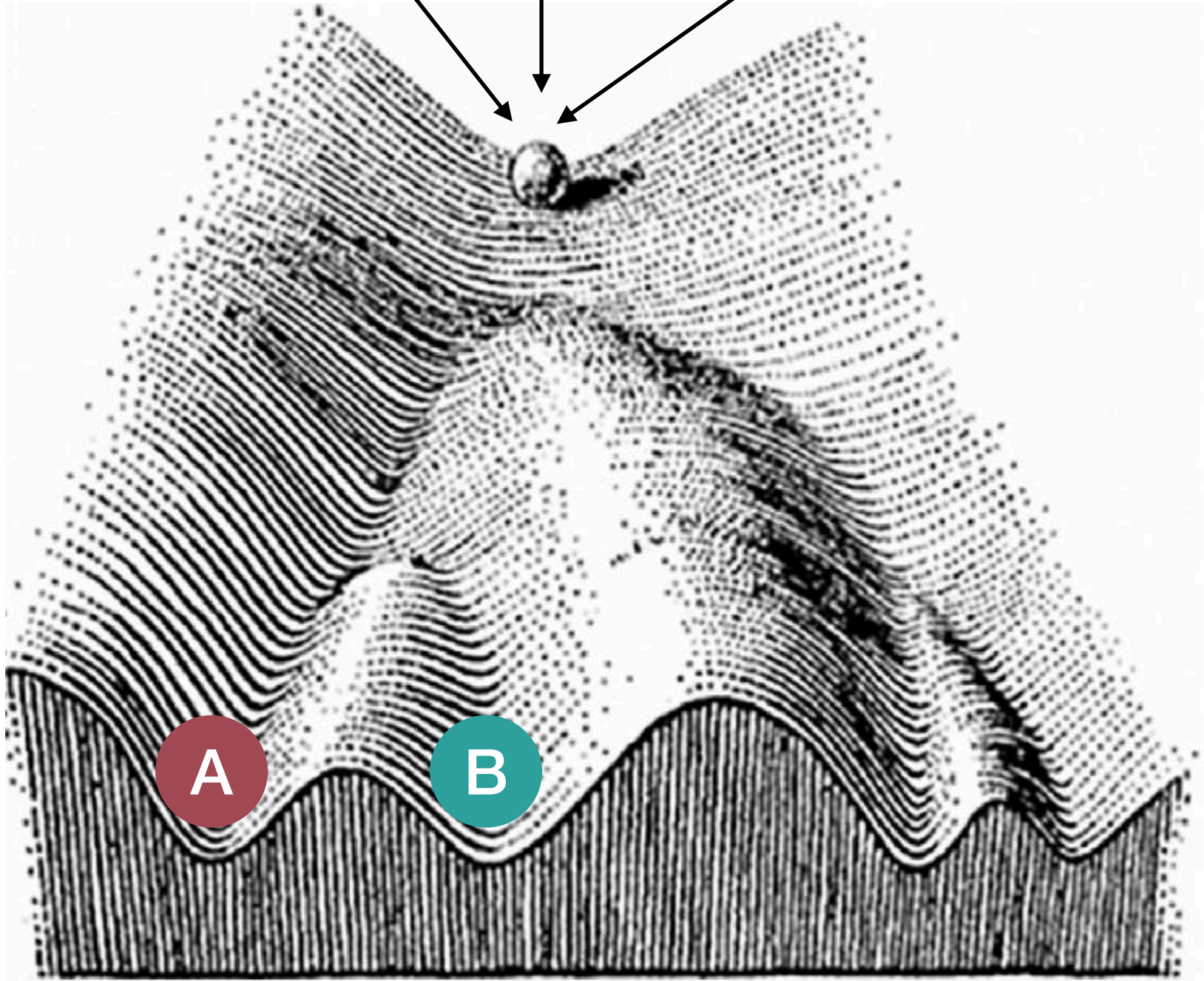
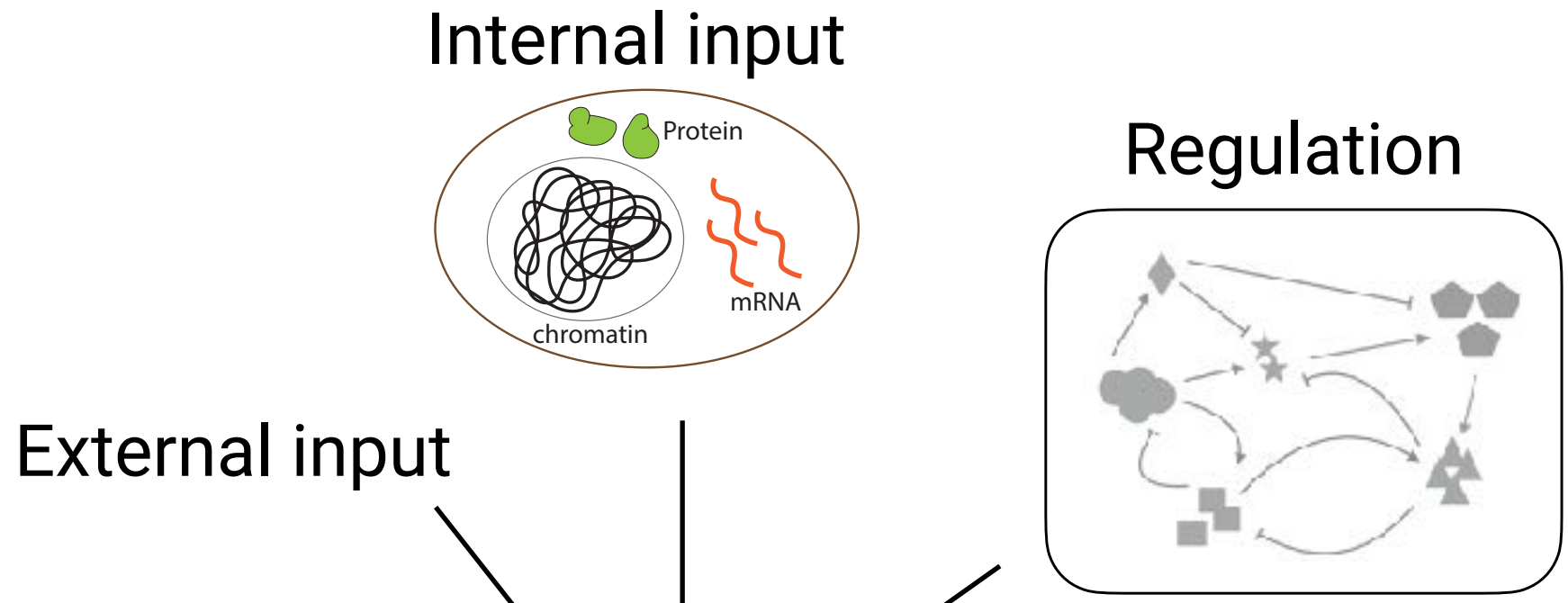
- \* Implications of hidden variables
- \* Physics of collective oscillations

**Computational Biology Postdoc**, Allon Klein lab @ Harvard

- \* Learning cell fate choice with lineage tracing

**Assistant professor @ Westlake University** in China since 2023

# Cell fate choice is a complex process

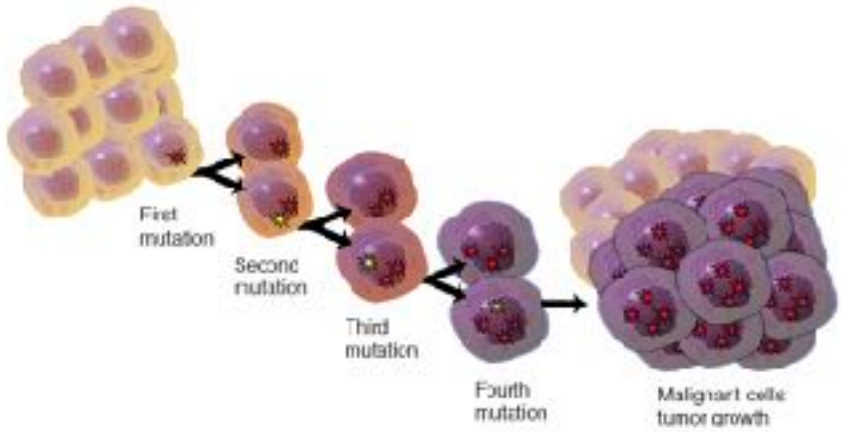


Waddington landscape

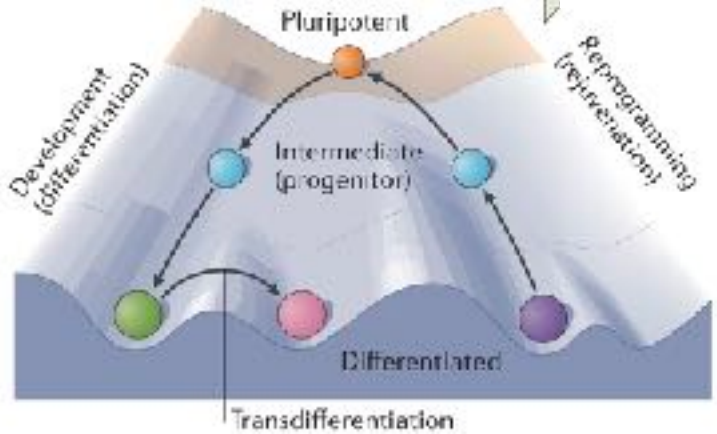
## Development



## Cancer



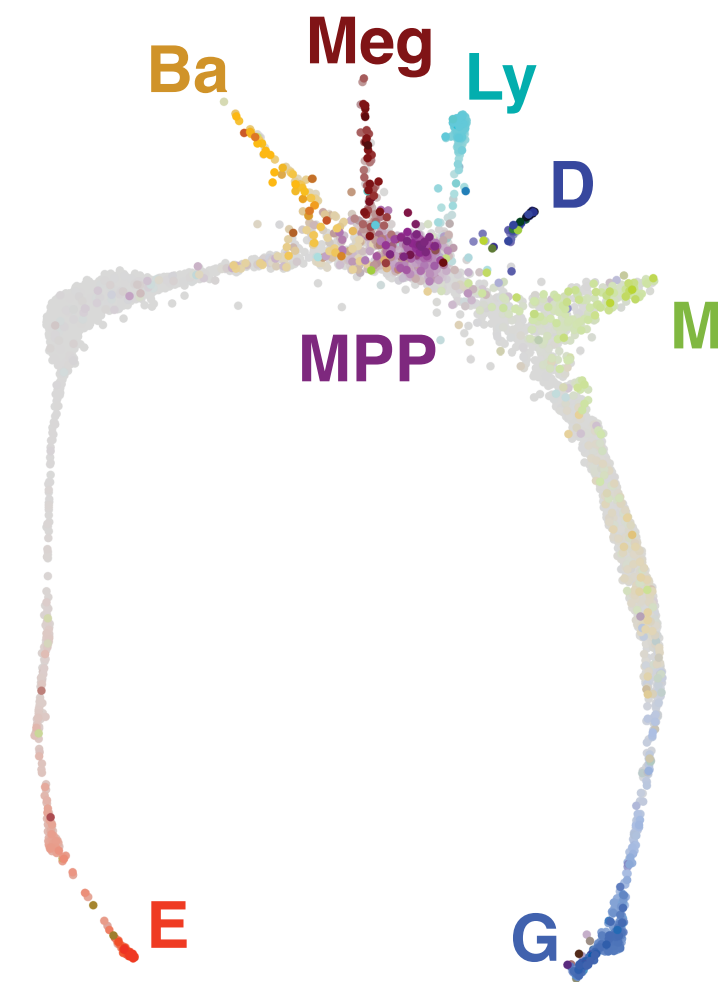
## Cell engineering



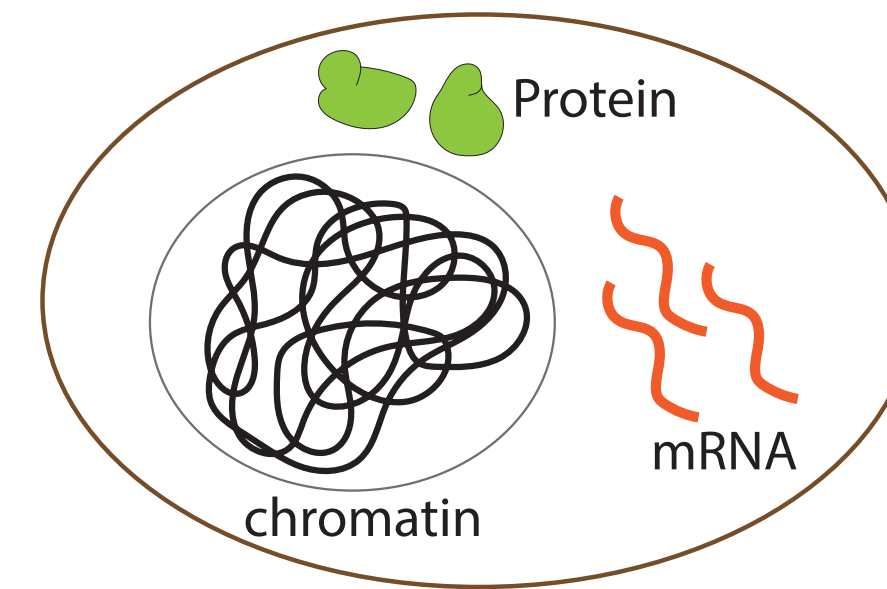
Takahashi & Yamanaka, Nat. Rev. Mol. Cell Biol. (2016)

# Single-cell assays allow us to systematically measure all cell states of a system

High-throughput scRNA-seq



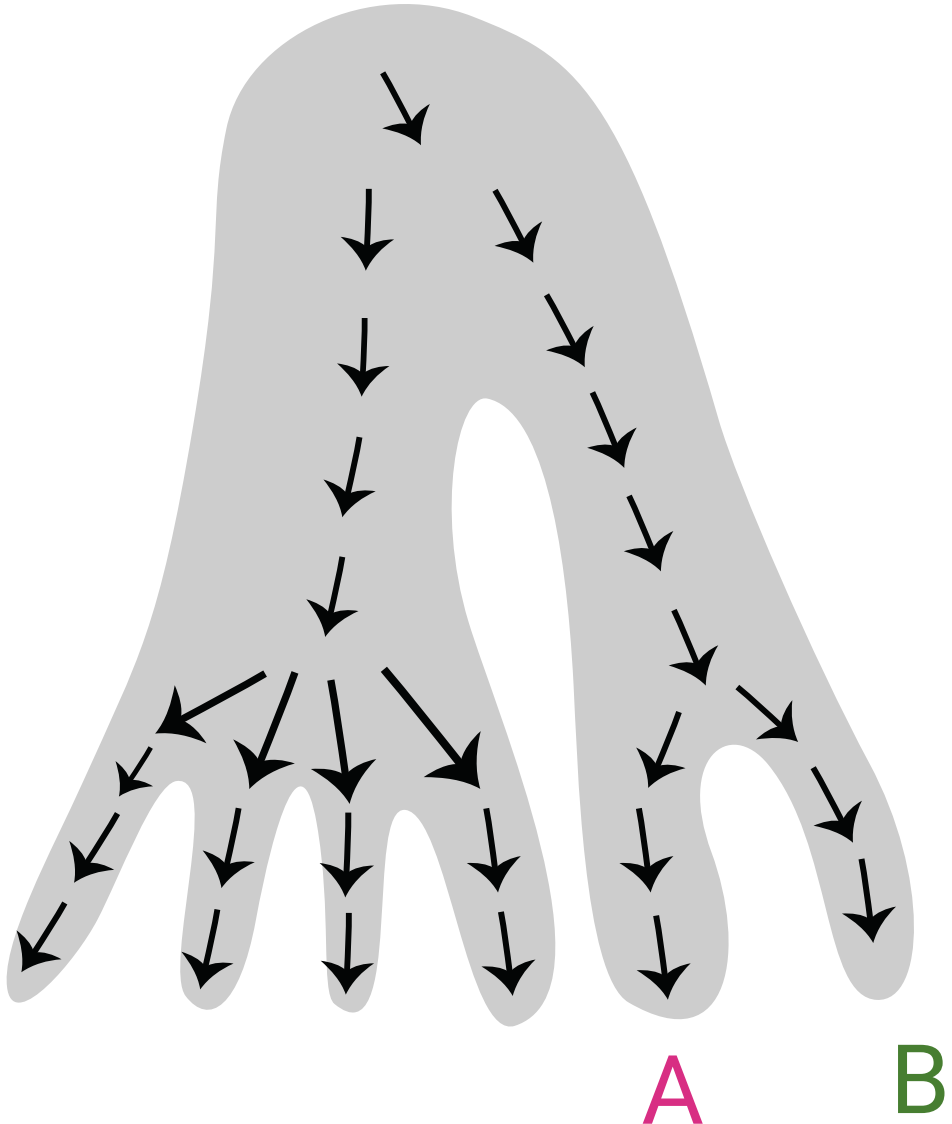
Multi-omics



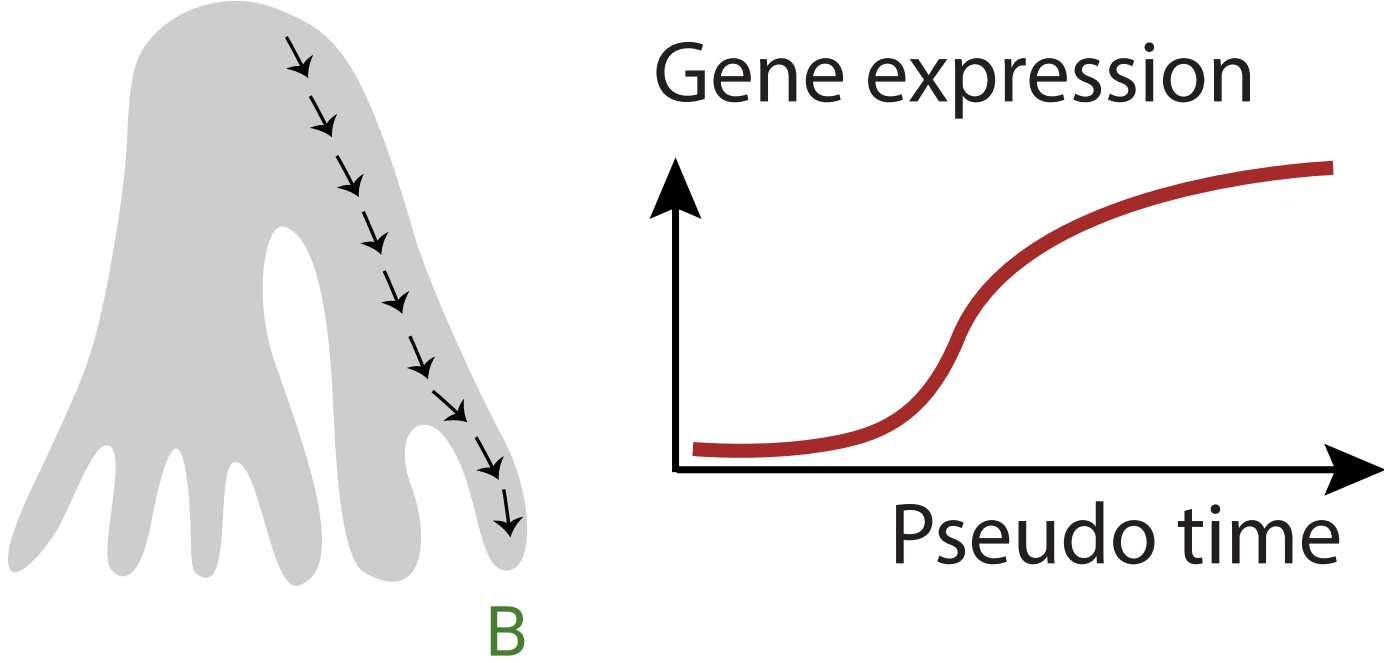
Klein *et al.*, Cell (2015)  
Macosko, ..., McCarroll, Cell (2015)  
Tusi/Wolock/Weinreb *et al.*, Nature (2018)  
Ma, ..., Buenrostro, Cell 2020  
Li, ..., Tang, Cell Research (2020)  
Rodrigues, ..., Macosko, Science (2019)

# Single-cell genomics offers opportunities to learn differentiation dynamics

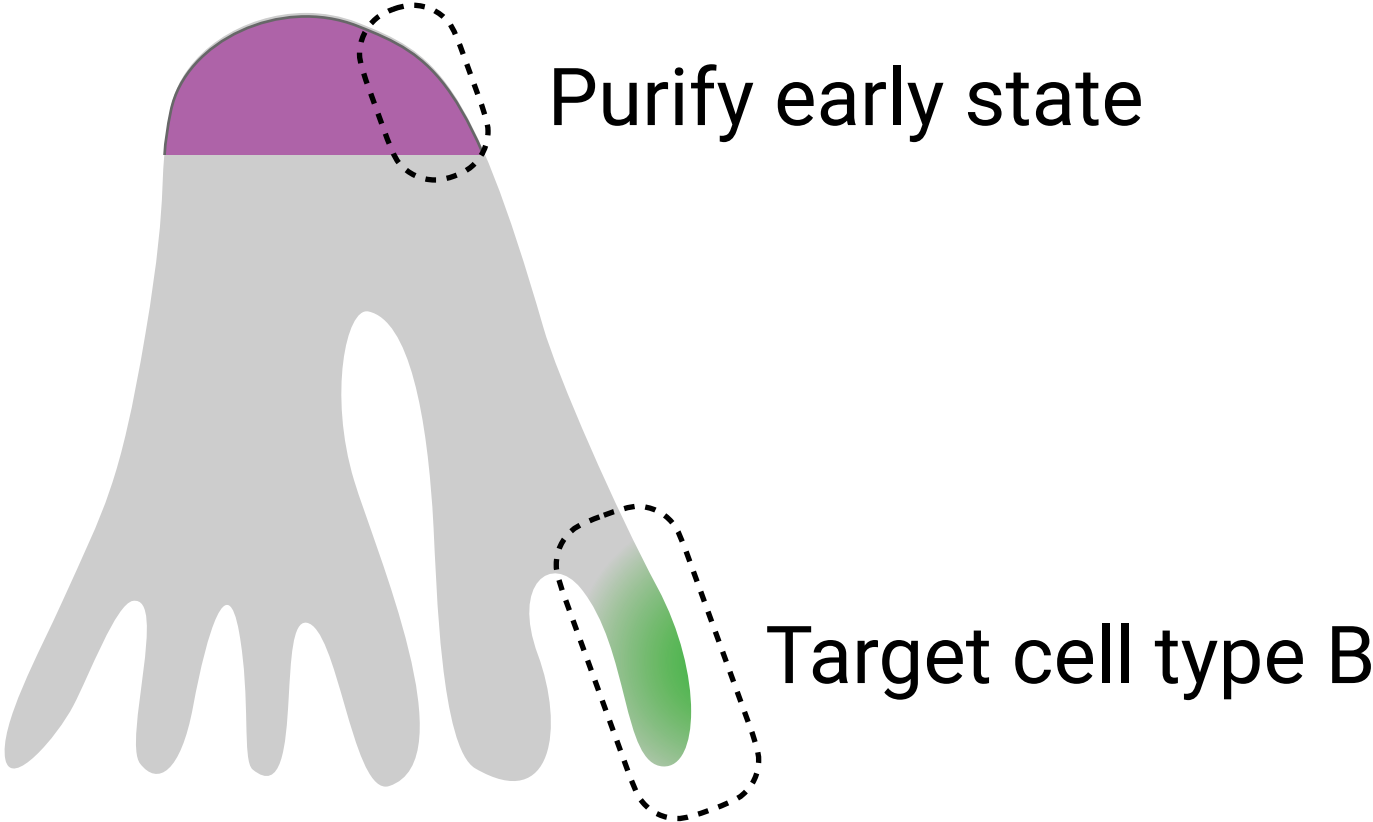
Differentiation dynamics



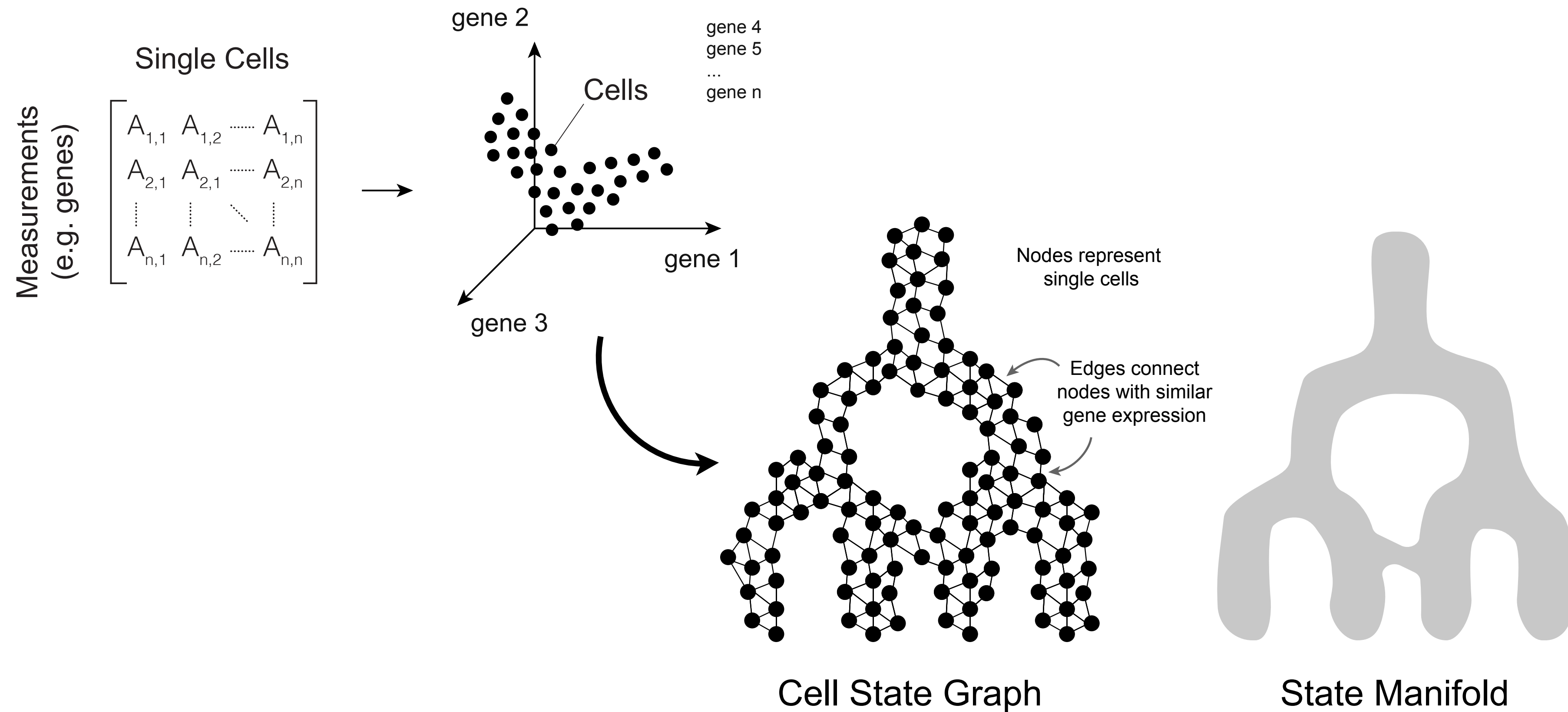
Understand gene regulation for fate choice



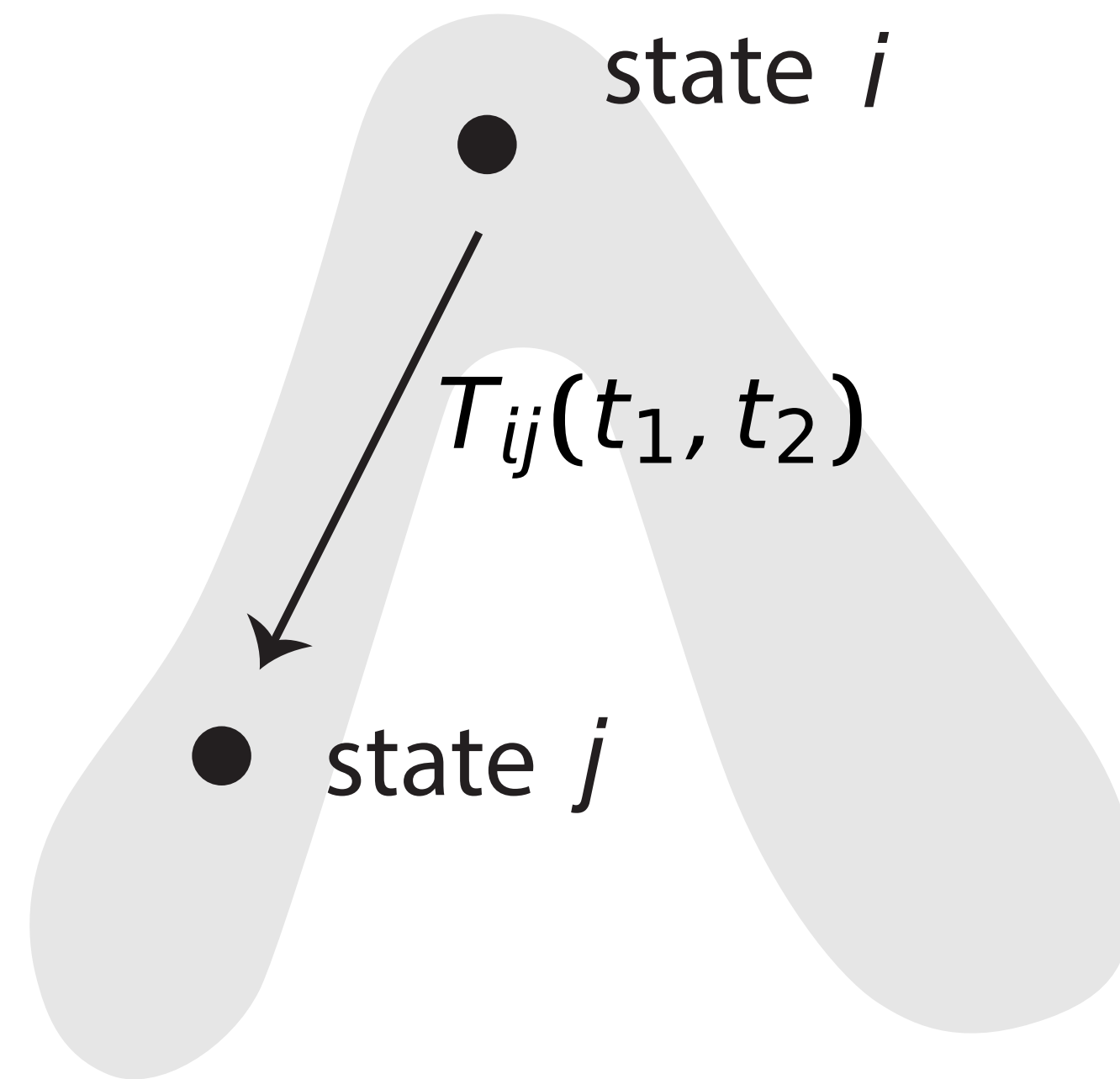
Guide cell-type engineering



# Embedding high-dimensional data to learn dynamics

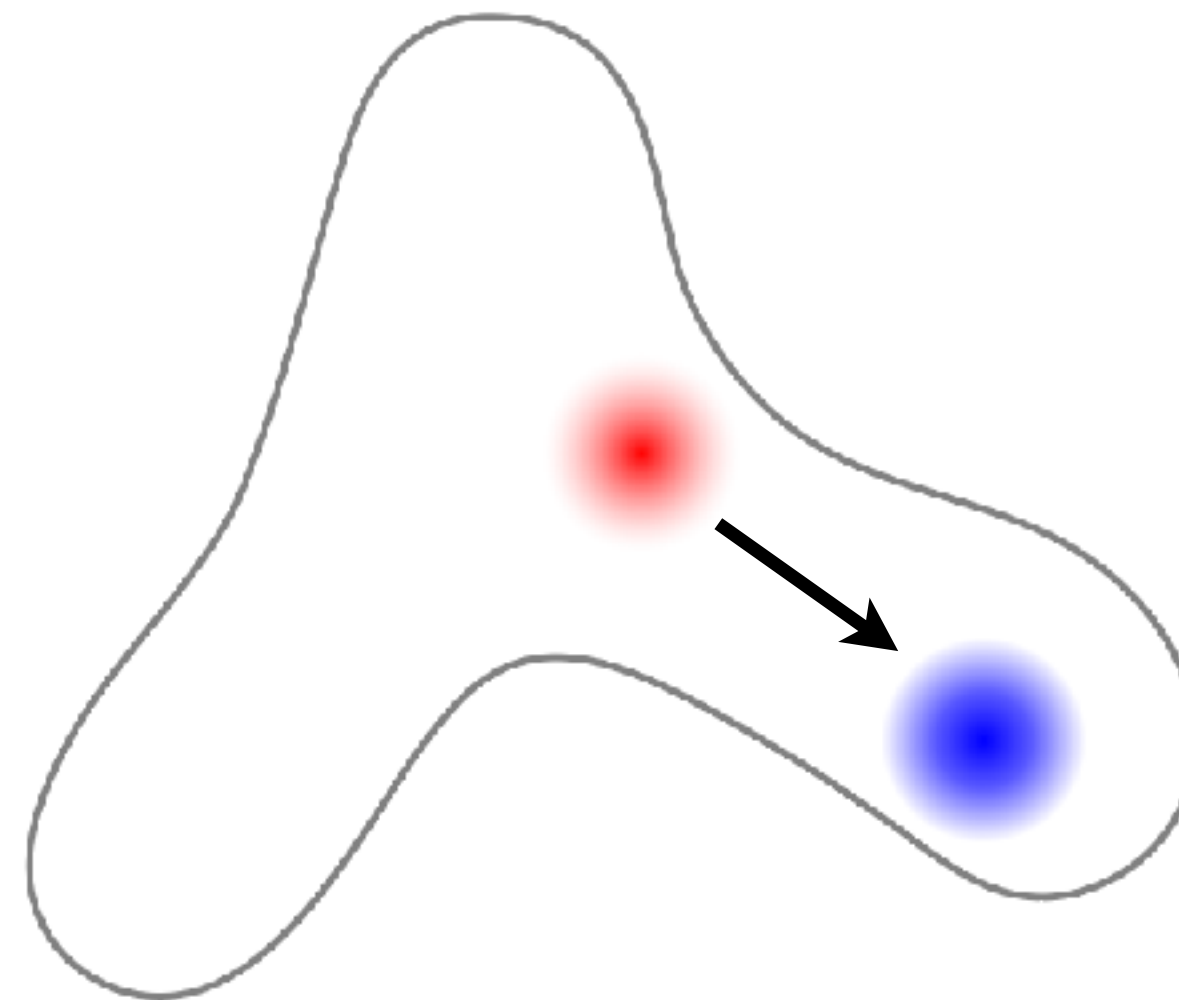
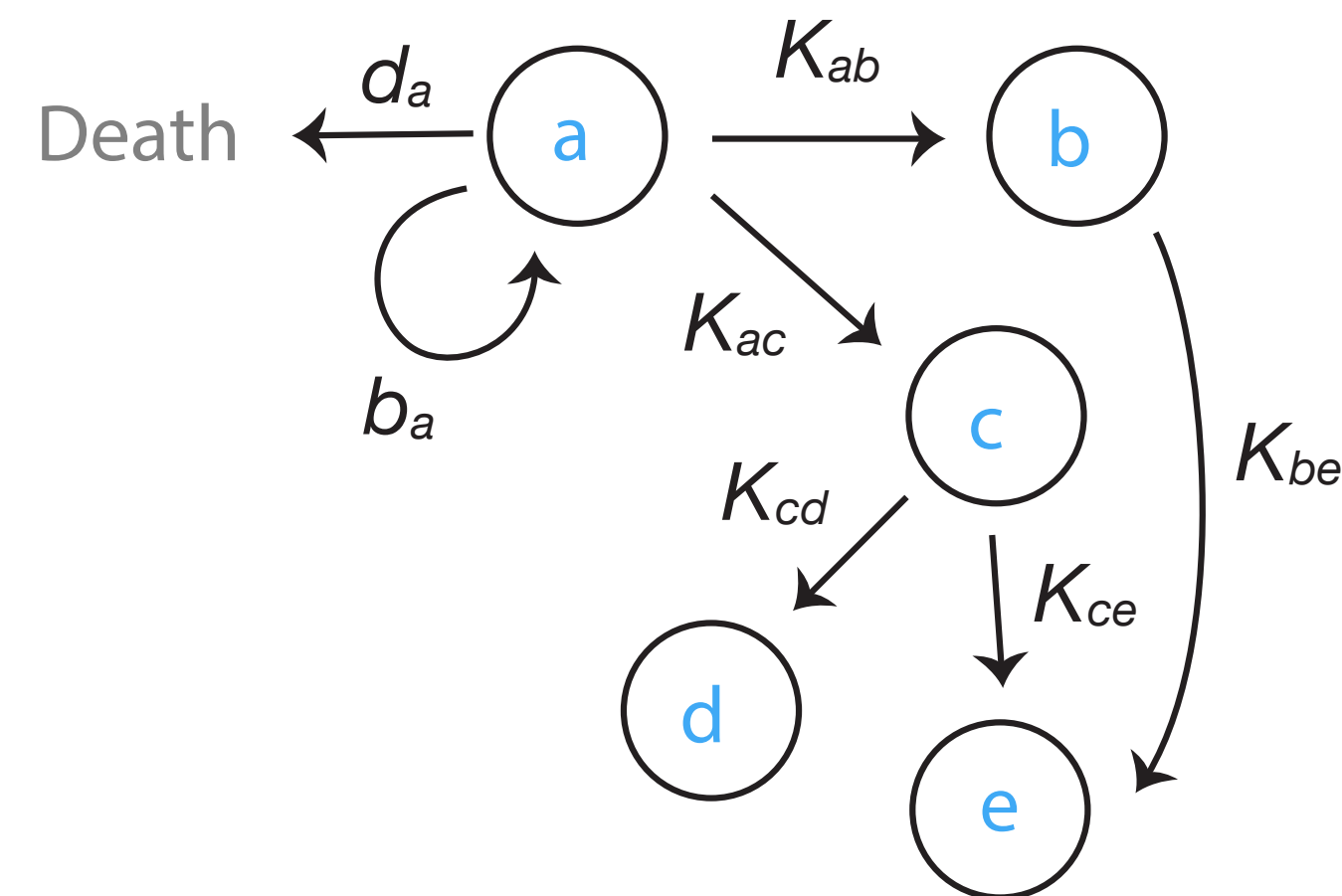


# Dynamic inference as learning the transition probability matrix



# Linking transition map to stochastic processes of cell division, death, and differentiation

Instantaneous state dynamics



Cell density:  $P_i(t) \equiv \frac{\bar{N}_i(t)}{\sum_i \bar{N}_i(t)}$

$$\vec{P}(t_2) = \vec{P}(t_1)T(t_1, t_2)$$

$$T(t_1, t_2) = \exp\left(\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \tilde{K} dt\right)$$

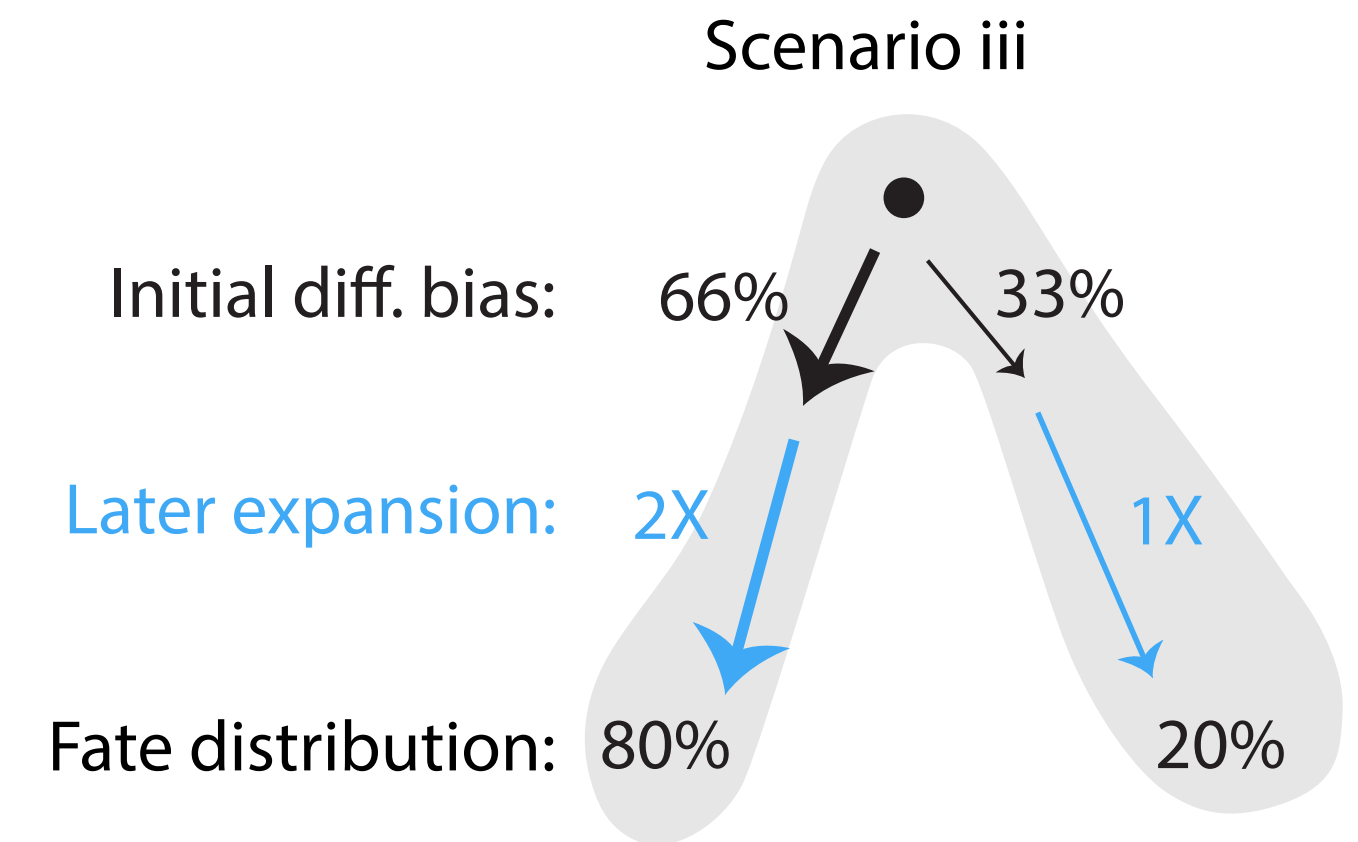
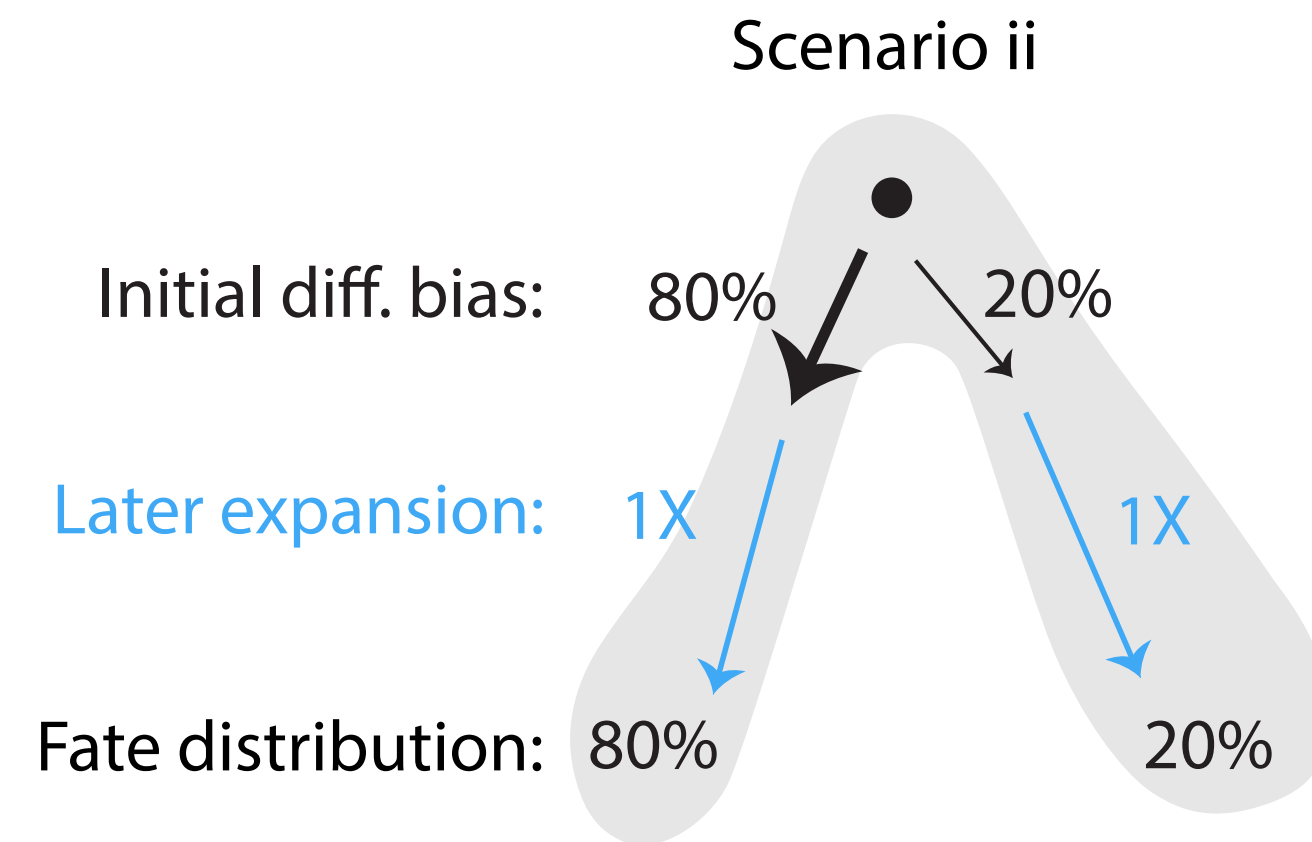
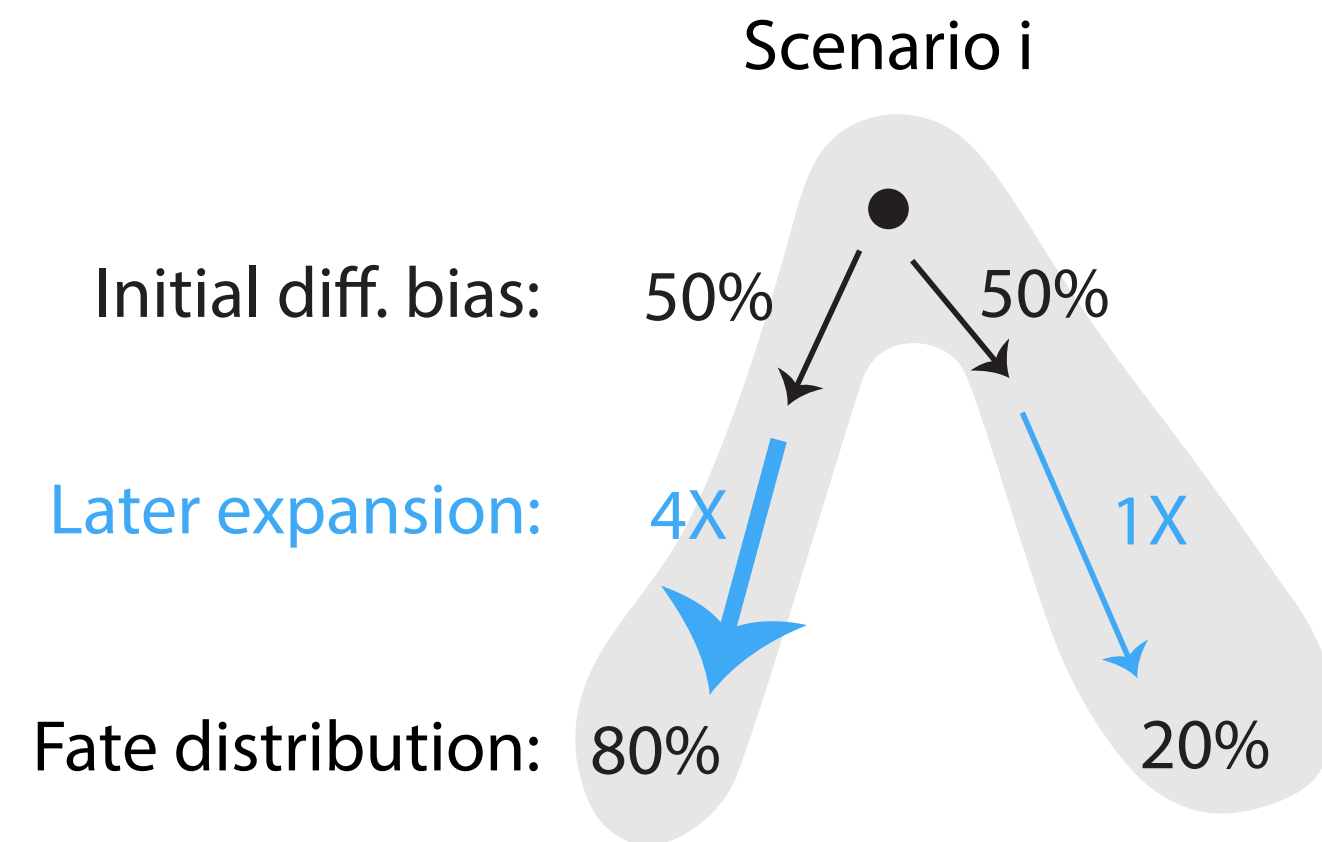
Cell number

$$\frac{d\bar{N}_i}{dt} = \sum_j \bar{N}_j K_{ji}$$

$$K_{ii} = b_i - d_i - \sum_{m \neq i} k_{im}$$

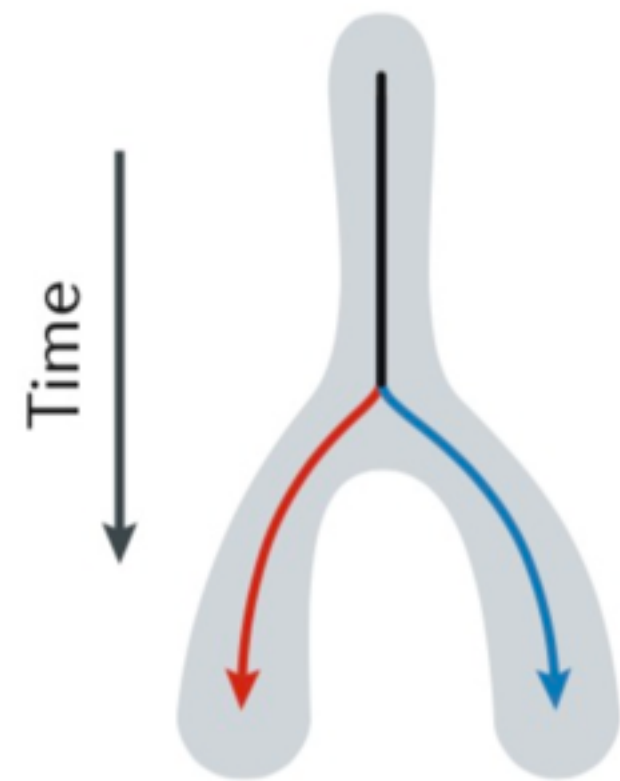


# Transition probability does not distinguish differentiation bias and expansion bias



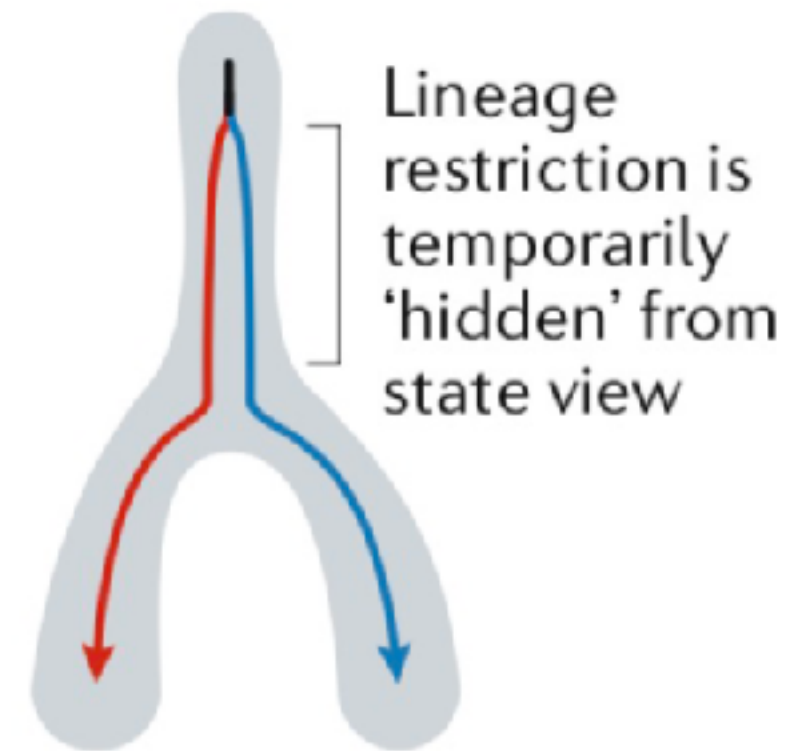
# Challenges in dynamic inference from snapshot scRNAseq data

Lineage and state are consistent

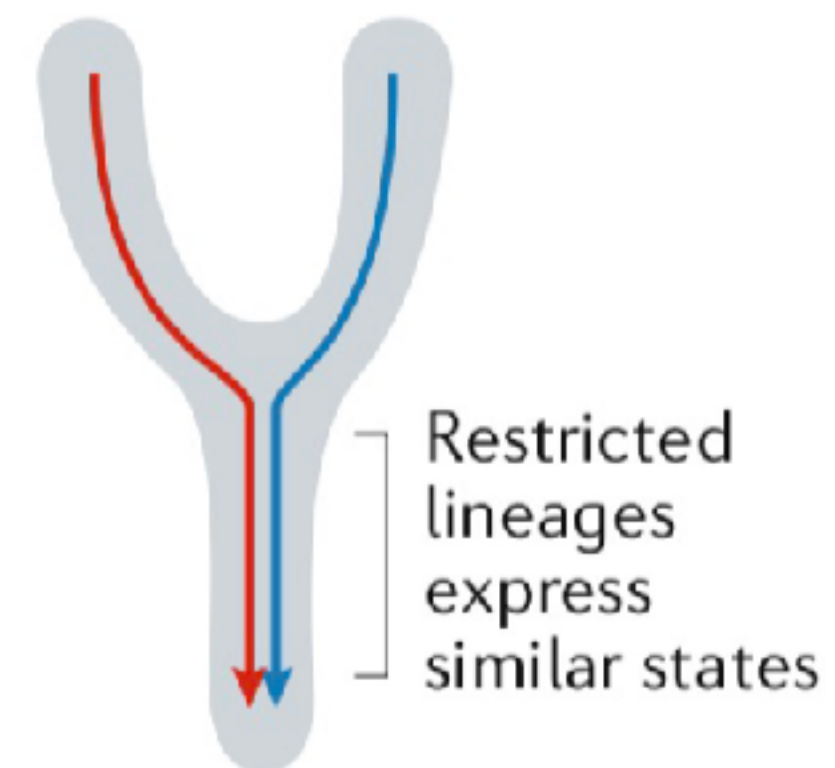


Lineage and state diverges

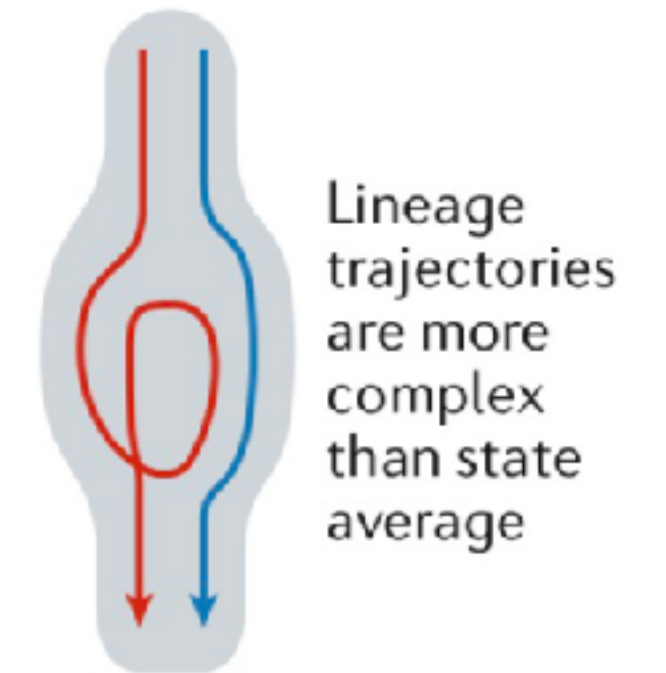
**Delayed state divergence**



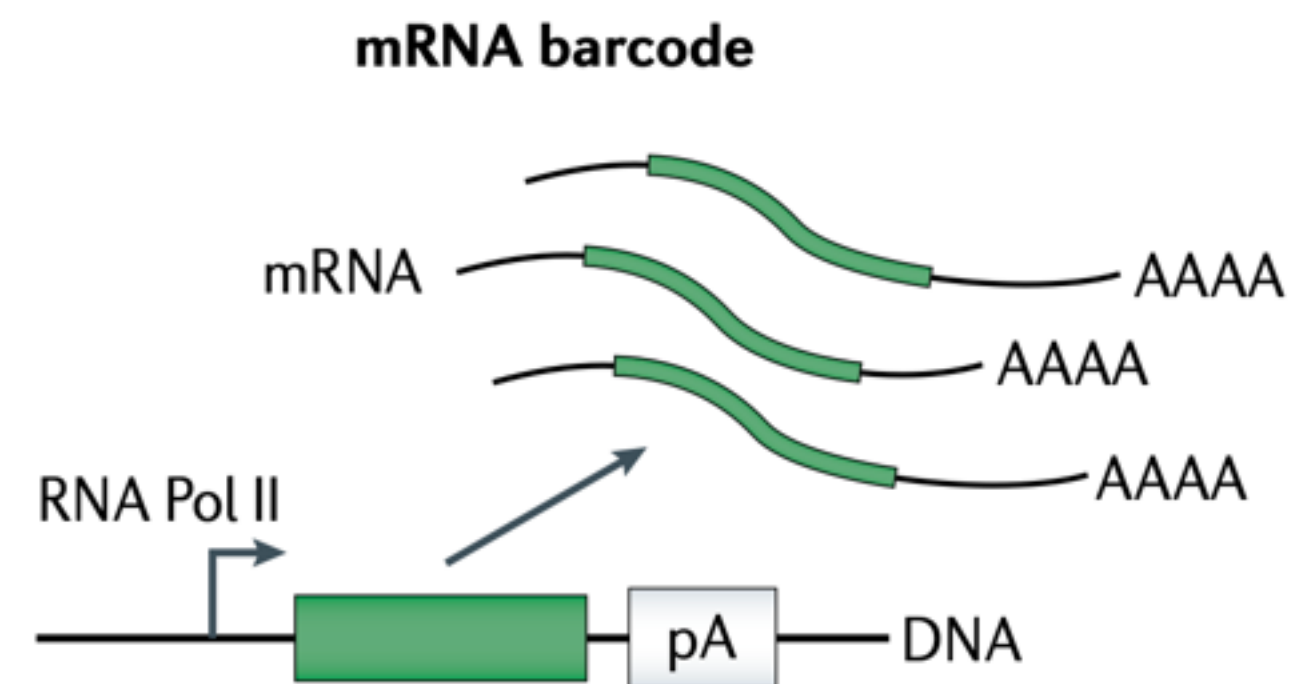
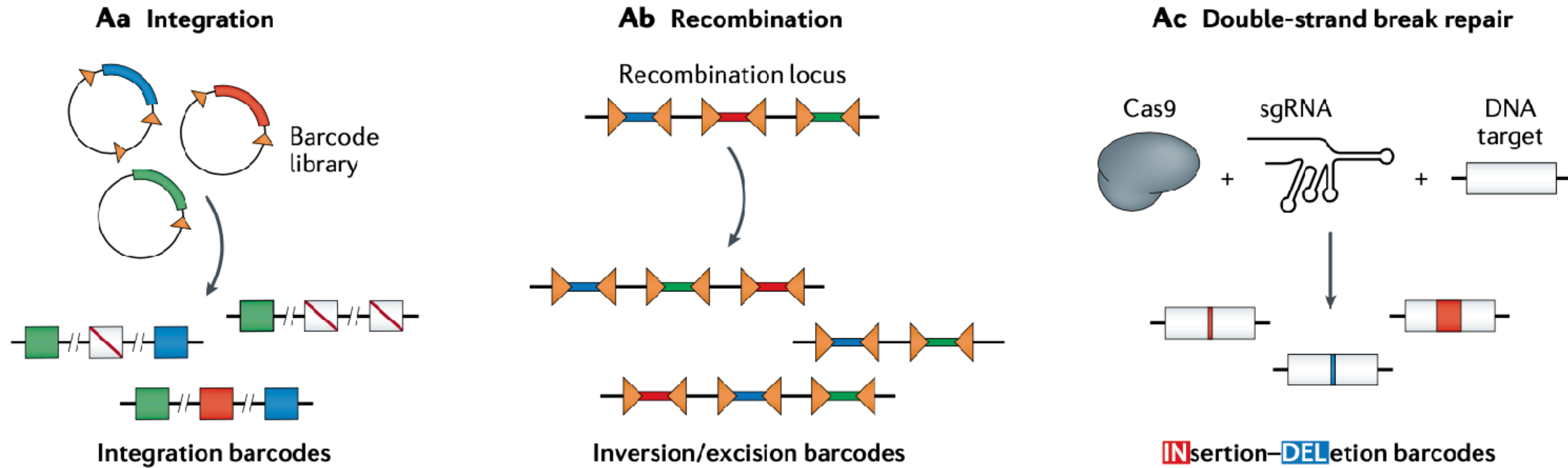
**State convergence**



**Hidden dynamics**

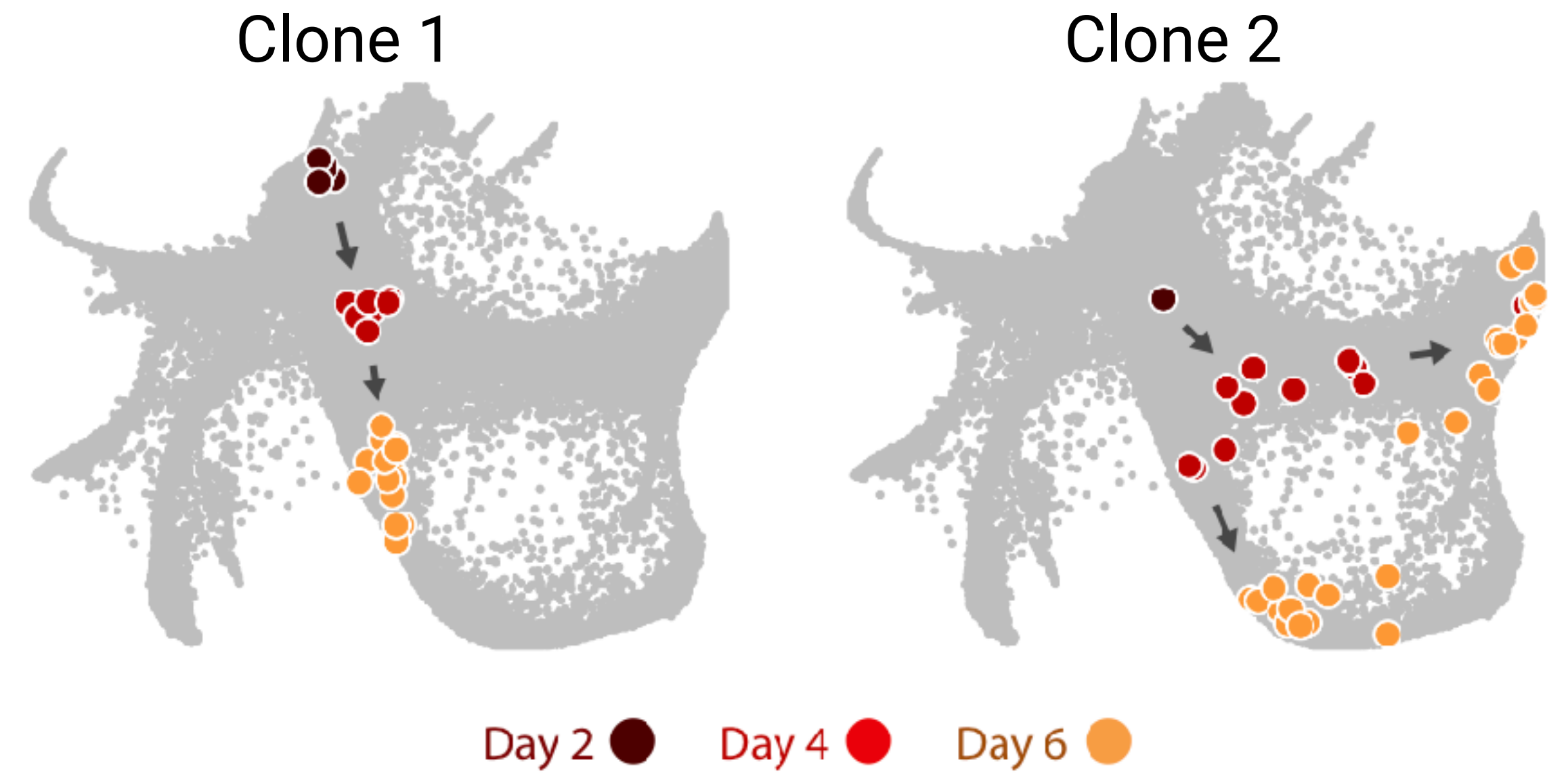
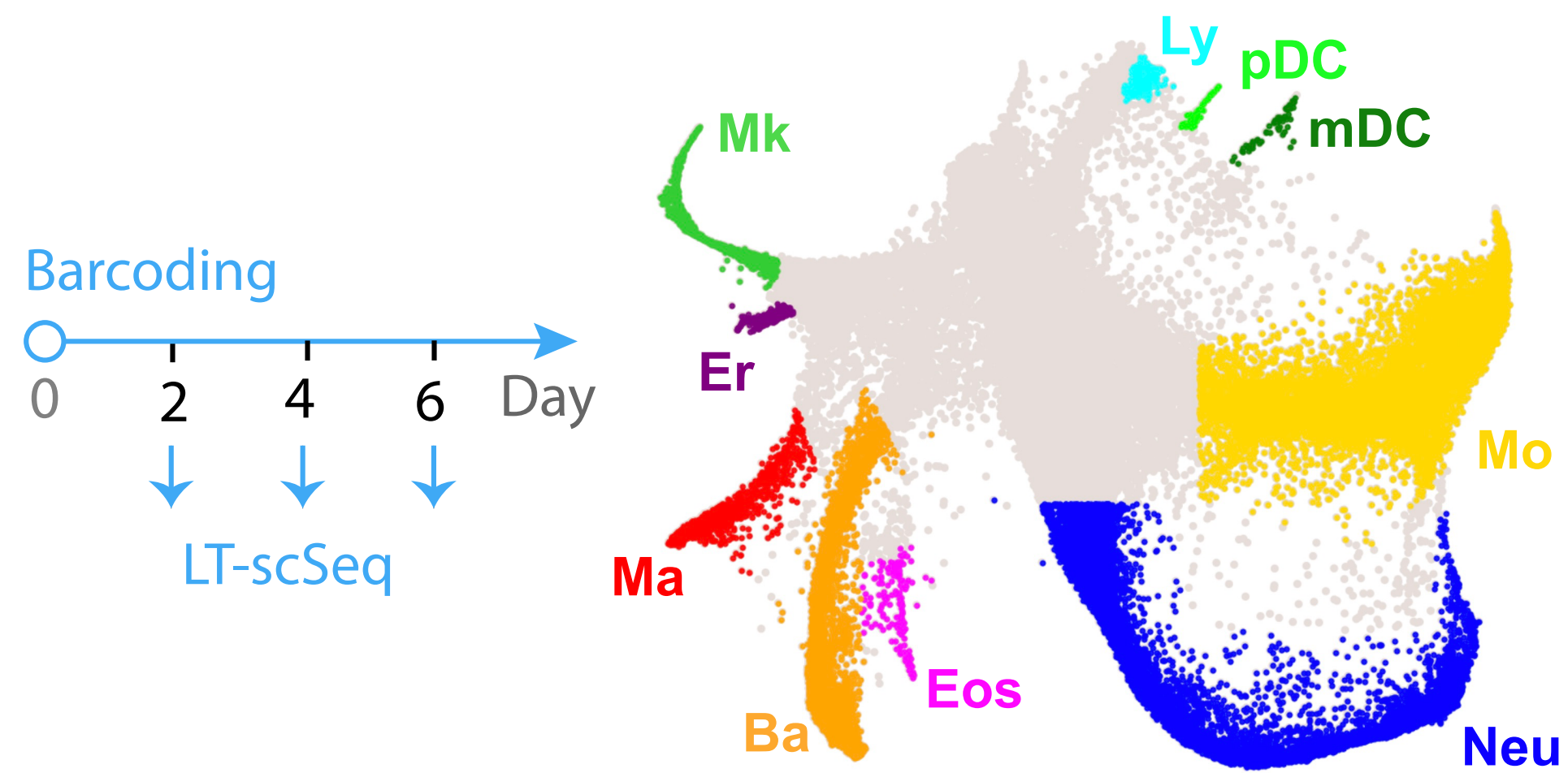


# A range of methods allow lineage-tracing with single cell genomics



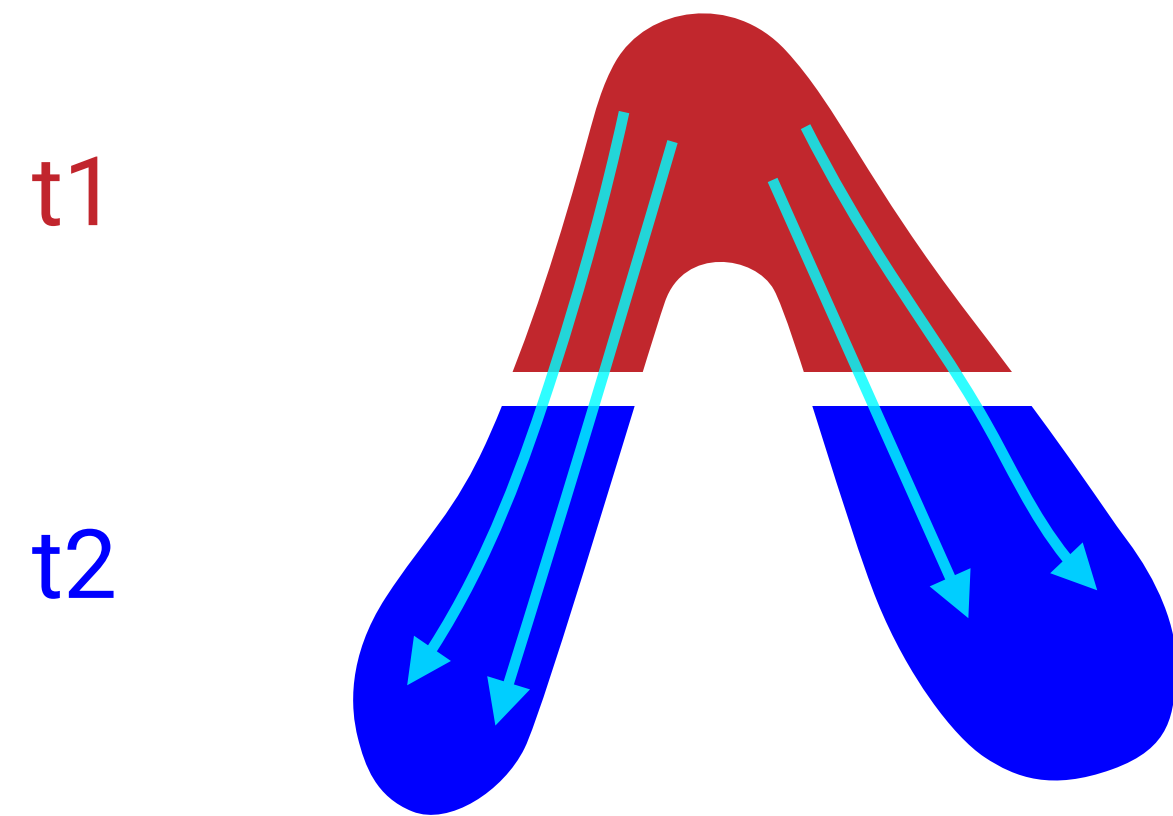
Lineage-Tracing scRNAseq (LT-scSeq)

# Example: Lineage tracing to study *in vitro* hematopoiesis



# How to constrain dynamic inference with lineage tracing?

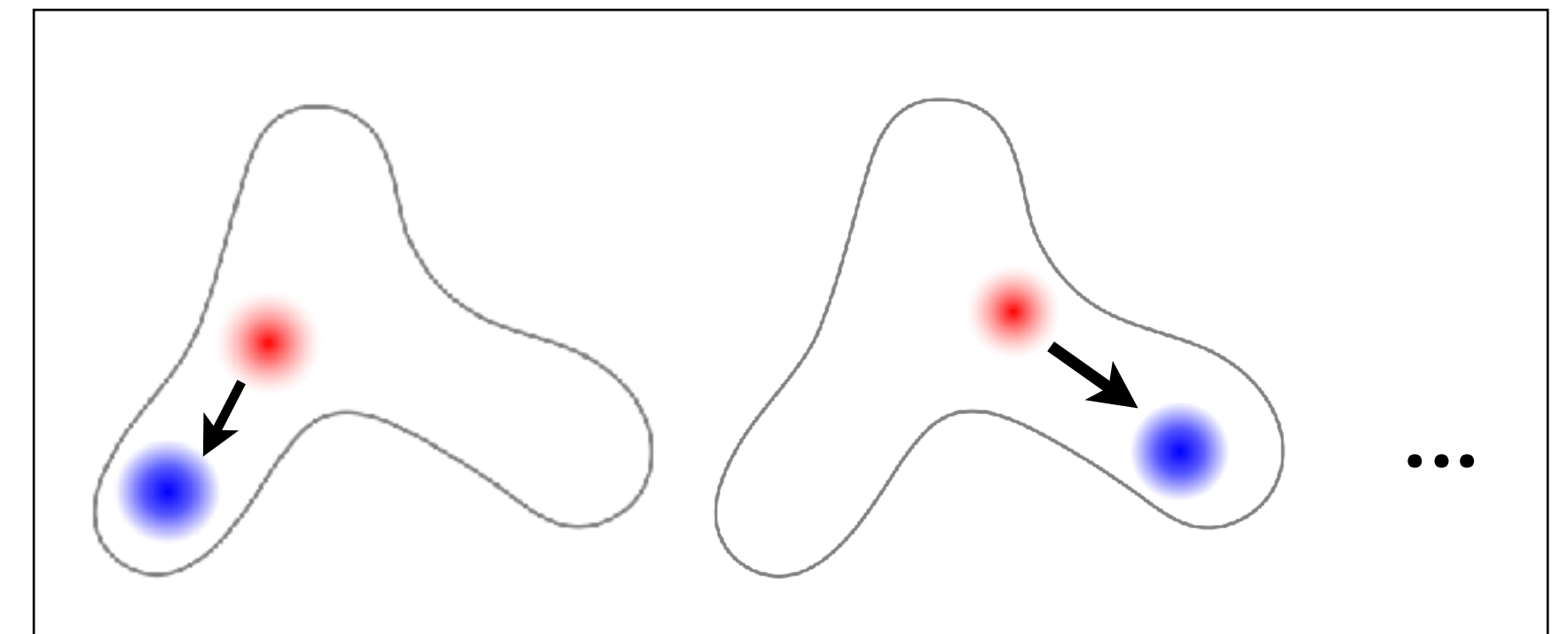
Without lineage tracing  
(e.g., using Optimal Transport)



Schiebinger, Shu et.al., Cell, 2019  
Nitzan et.al., Nature, 2019

With lineage tracing

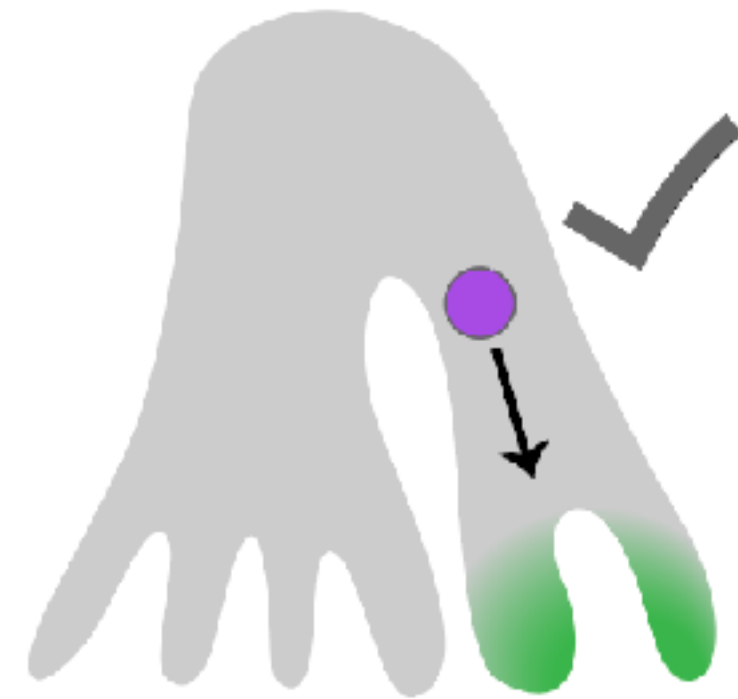
**SuperOT**: Prasad, Yang & Uhler, arXiv. 2020  
**LineageOT**: Forrow & Schiebinger, Nat. Comm. 2021



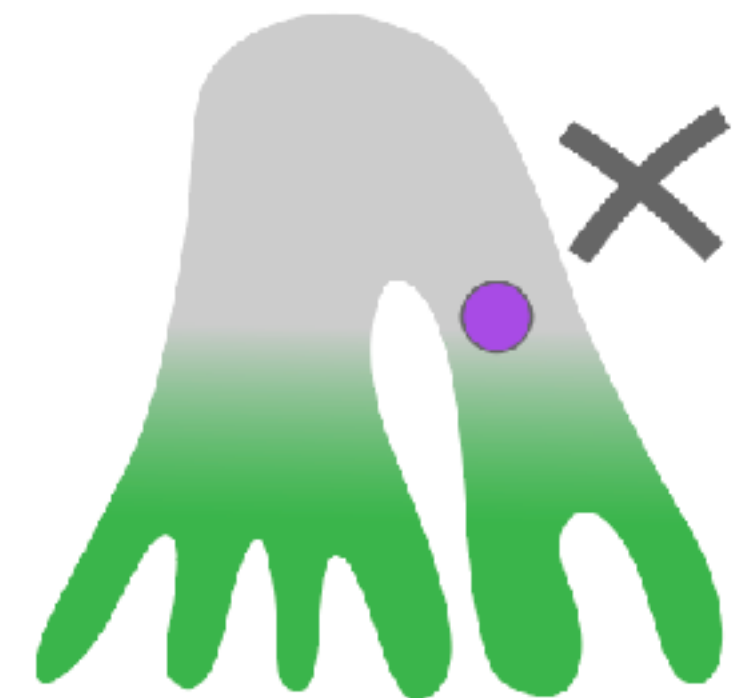
$$\sum_m \|\vec{P}(t_2; m) - \vec{P}(t_1; m)T(t_1, t_2)\|_2 < \epsilon$$

(Under-determined)

# The transition map is sparse



Sparse  
(likely)

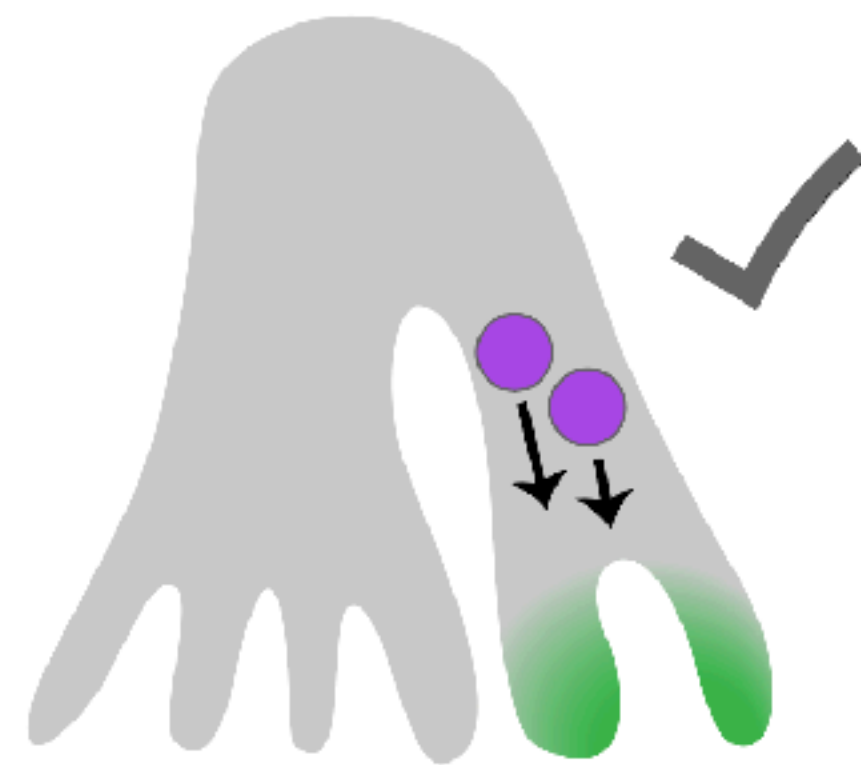


Non-sparse  
(less likely)

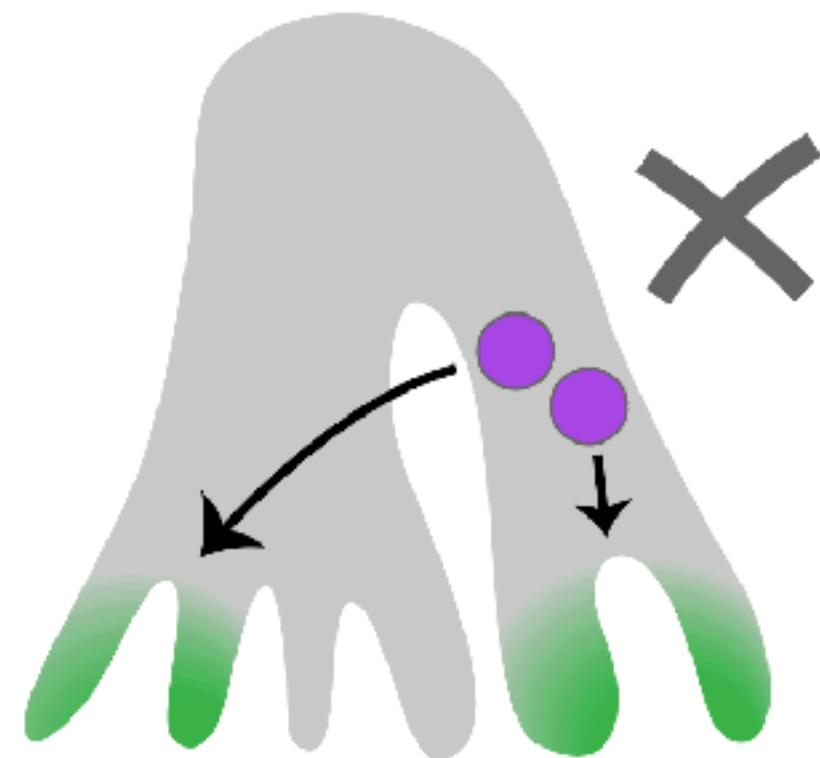
$$\min_T \underbrace{\|T\|_1}_{\text{Sparsity}}$$

$$\text{L1-norm of a matrix: } \|T\|_1 = \sum_{ij} |T_{ij}|$$

# The transition map is coherent



Coherent  
(likely)



Incoherent  
(less likely)

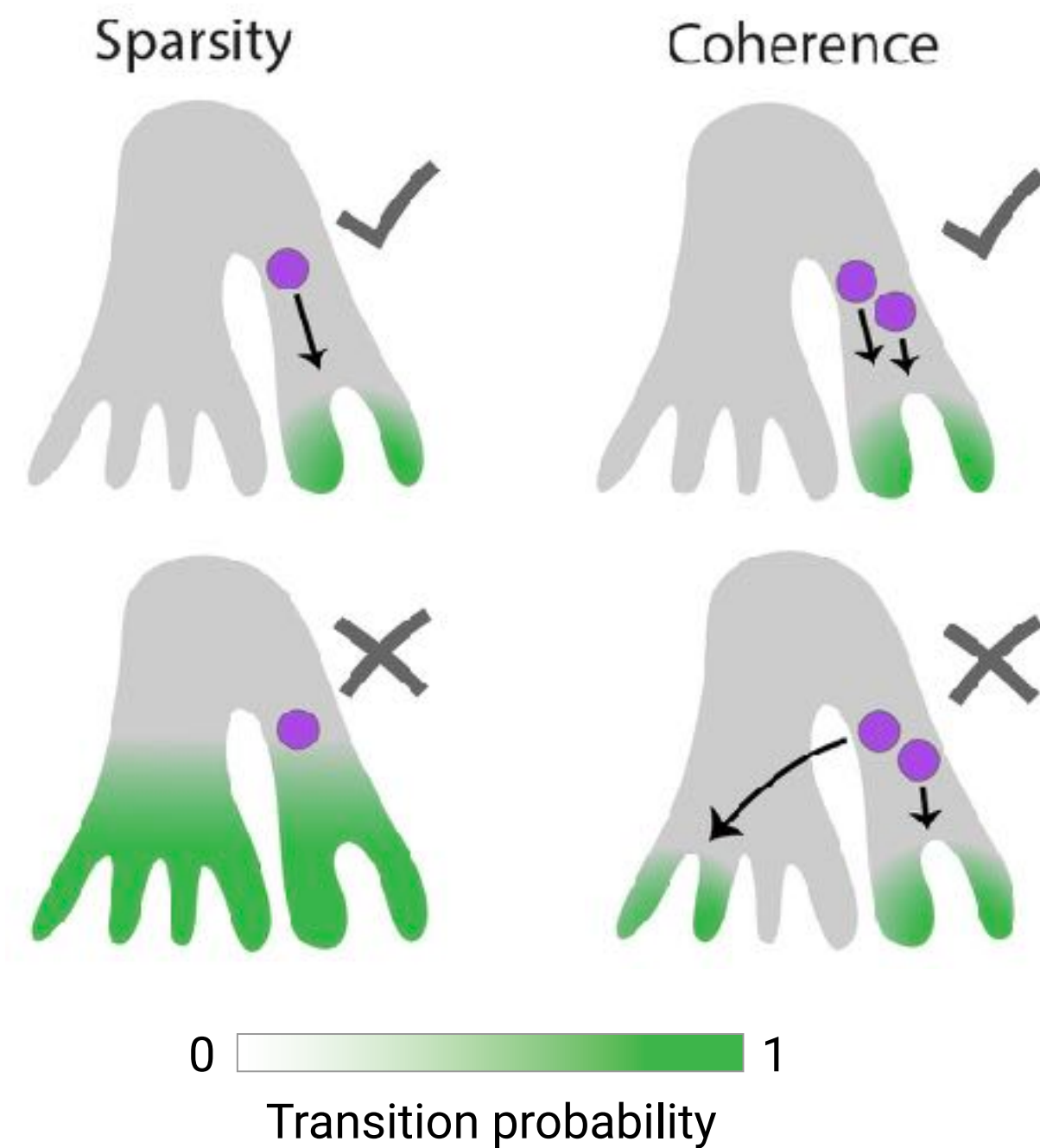
$$\min_T \underbrace{\alpha \|LT\|_2}_{\text{Coherence}}$$

$L$ : graph laplacian

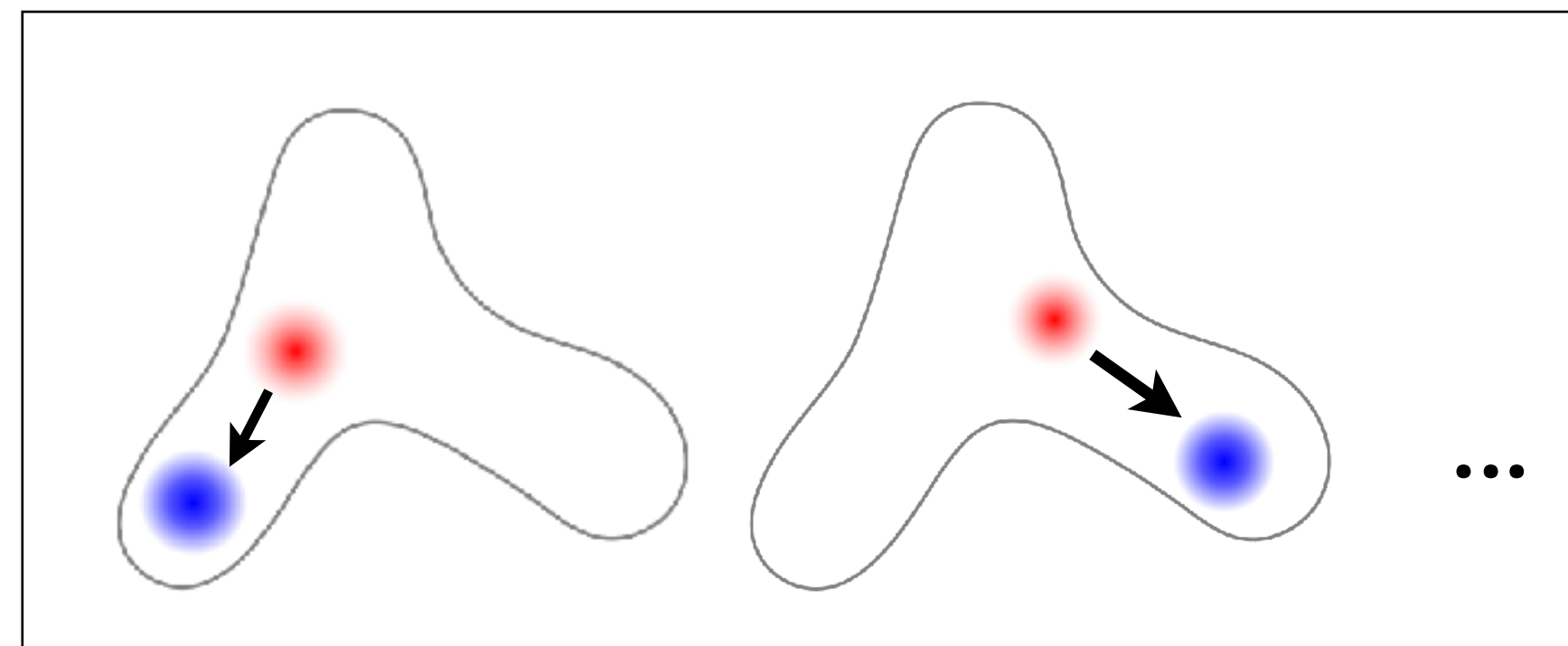
L2-norm (*Frobenius norm*) for a matrix

$$\|T\|_2 = \left( \sum_{ij} |T_{ij}|^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

# CoSpar: Coherent Sparse optimization



Clonal constraints

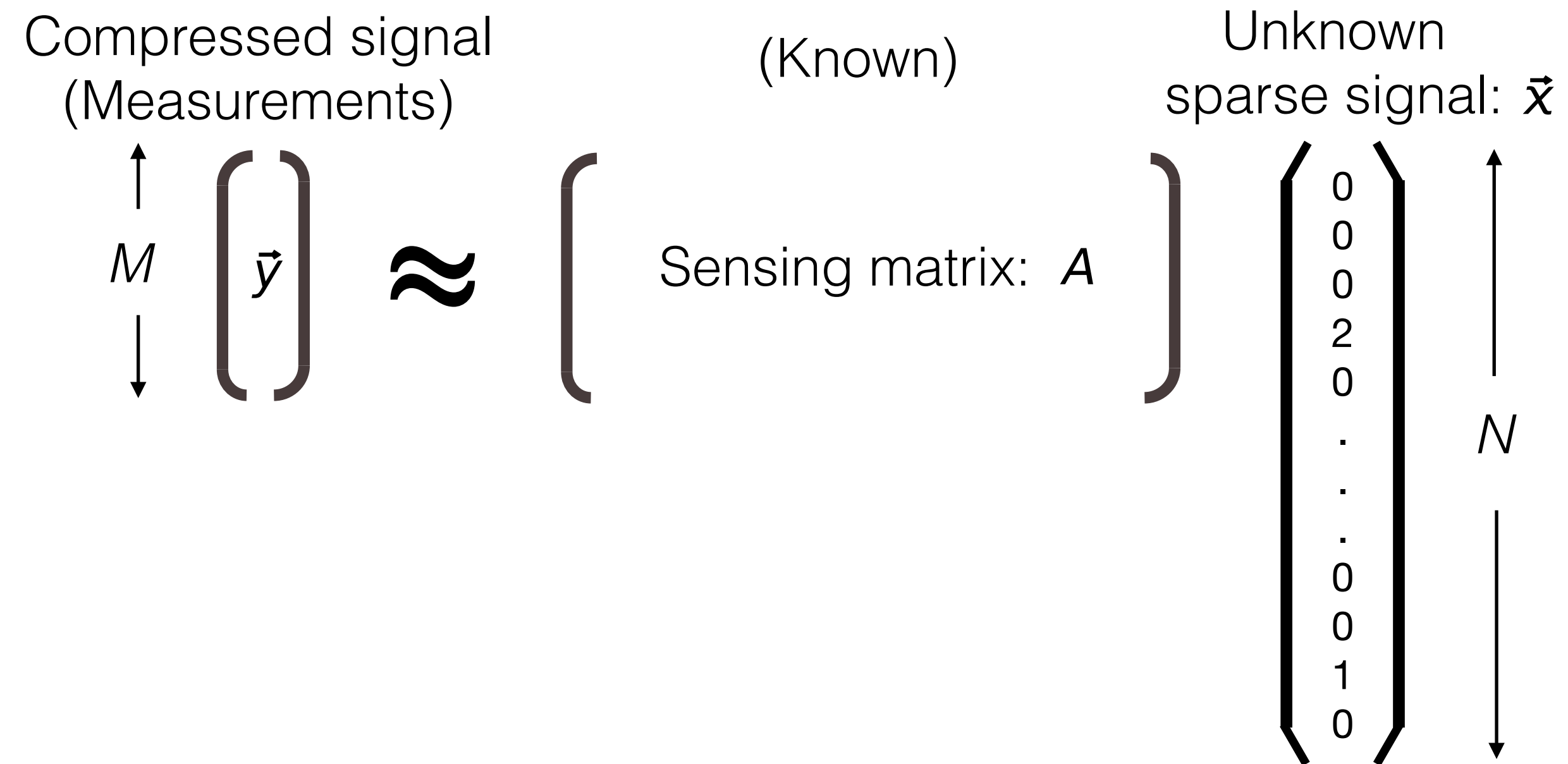


$$\min_T \underbrace{\|T\|_1}_{\text{Sparsity}} + \alpha \underbrace{\|LT\|_2}_{\text{Coherence}},$$

$$s. t. \underbrace{\|\mathbf{P}(t_2) - \mathbf{P}(t_1)T(t_1, t_2)\|_2}_{\text{Clonal constraint}} \leq \epsilon ; T \geq 0 ; \text{Normalization}$$

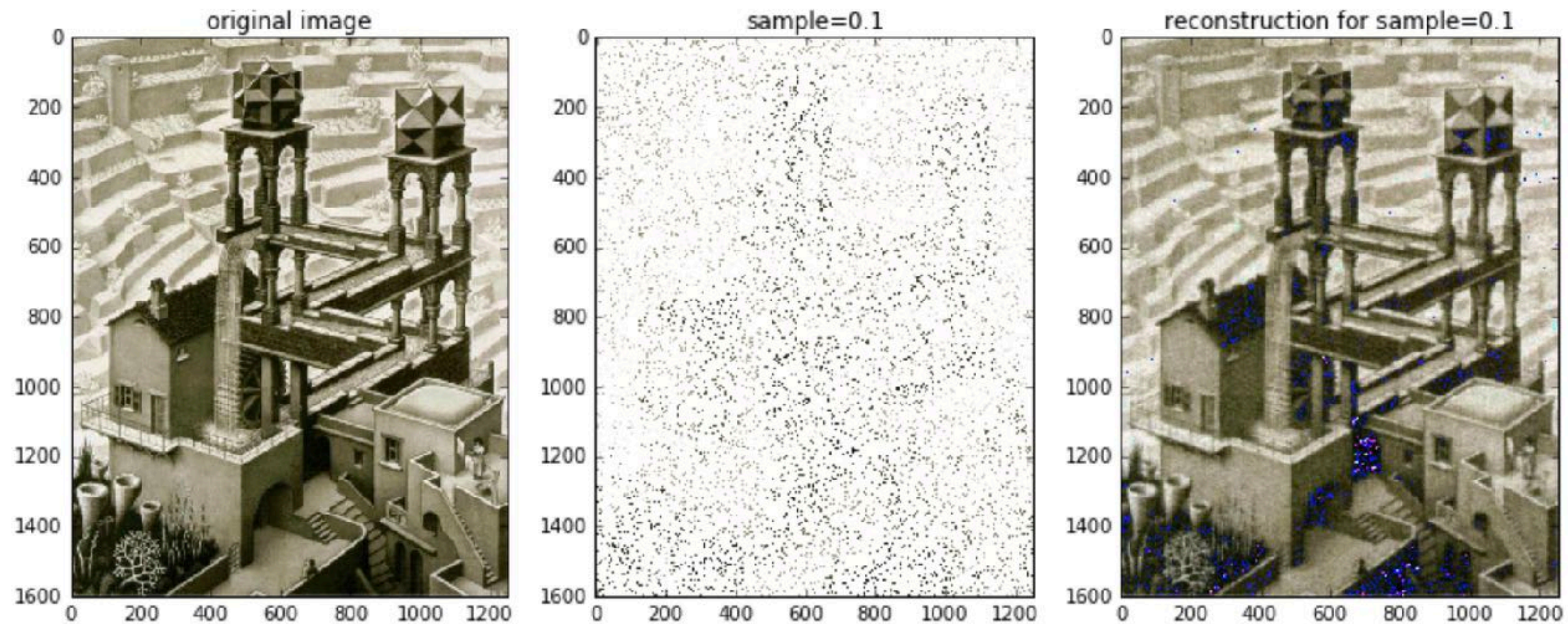


# Detour: compressed sensing for sparse signal recovery from a few measurements



$$\text{LASSO: } \min_{\vec{x}} \|\vec{x}\|_1, \quad \text{subject to } |\vec{y} - A\vec{x}| < \epsilon$$

# Detour: Compressed sensing reconstructs an image using only 10% randomly sampled pixels



# Applications of compressed sensing in biology

Infer transcriptome from random composite measurements

B. Cleary et.al., Cell, 2017  
B. Cleary et.al., Nat. Biotech. 2021

Infer regulatory network

M. Nitzan et.al., Sci. Adv., 2017

# Comparing LASSO, fused LASSO, and CoSpar

LASSO:  $\min_{\vec{x}} \|\vec{x}\|_1, \quad \text{subject to } \|\vec{y} - A\vec{x}\|_2 < \epsilon$

Tibshirani, 1996

Fused LASSO:  $\min_{\vec{x}} \|\vec{y} - A\vec{x}\|_2, \quad \text{subject to } \|\vec{x}\|_1 \leq \epsilon_1 \text{ and } \sum_j |x_j - x_{j-1}| \leq \epsilon_2$

Tibshirani et.al., 2005

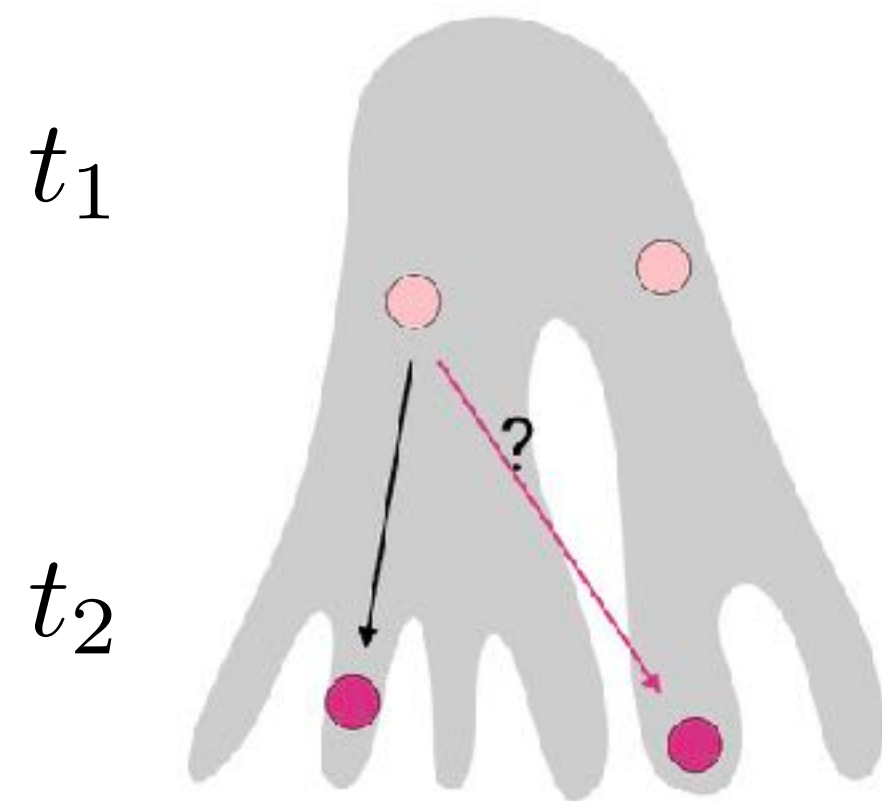
Locally smooth

CoSpar:  $\min_T \underbrace{\|T\|_1}_{\text{Sparsity}} + \alpha \underbrace{\|LT\|_2}_{\text{Coherence}}, \quad \text{s.t. } \underbrace{\|\mathbf{P}(t_2) - \mathbf{P}(t_1)T(t_1, t_2)\|_2}_{\text{Clonal constraint}} \leq \epsilon ; T \geq 0 ; \text{Normalization}$

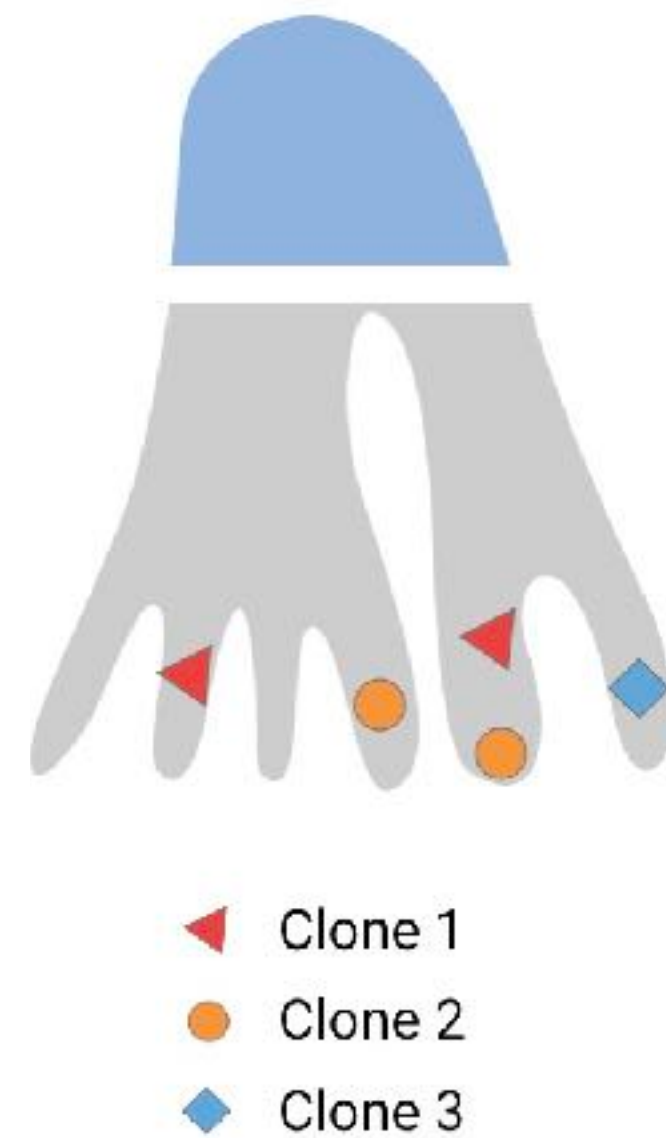
CoSpar extends LASSO and fused-LASSO by learning a **coherent** sparse **matrix** on an arbitrary cell-state **graph**

# CoSpar helps to overcome key challenges for analyzing LT-scSeq datasets

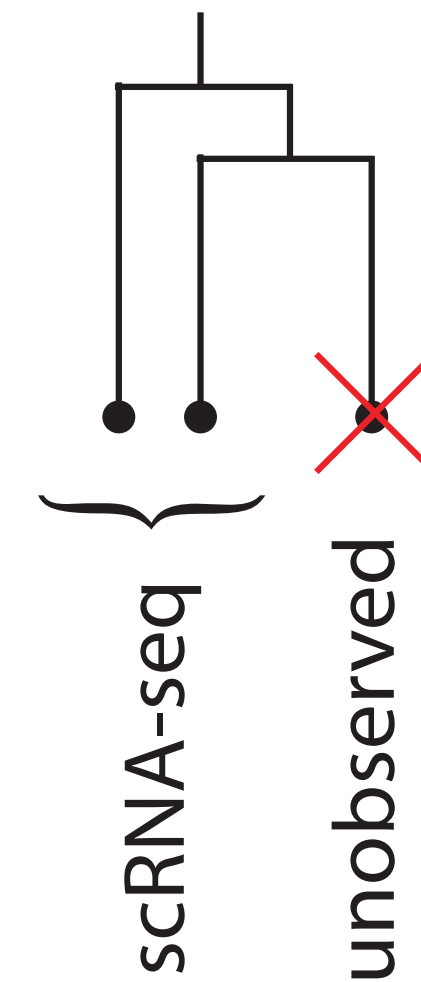
Heterogeneous early states



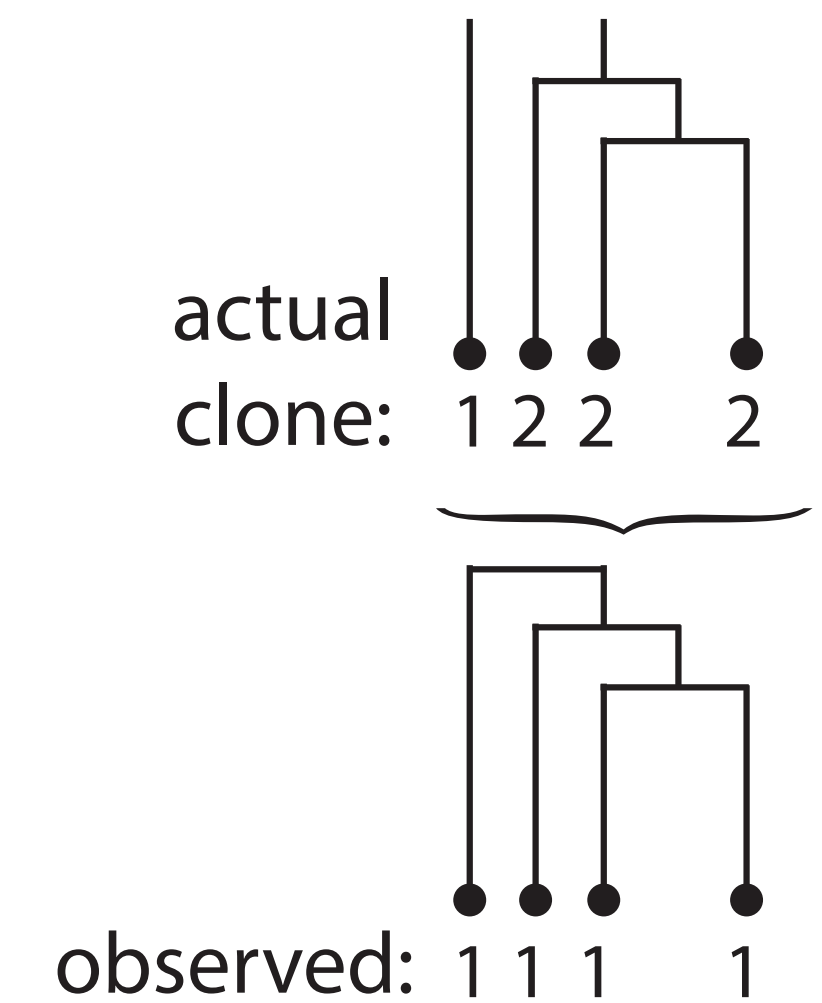
Missing early clonal states



Dropout

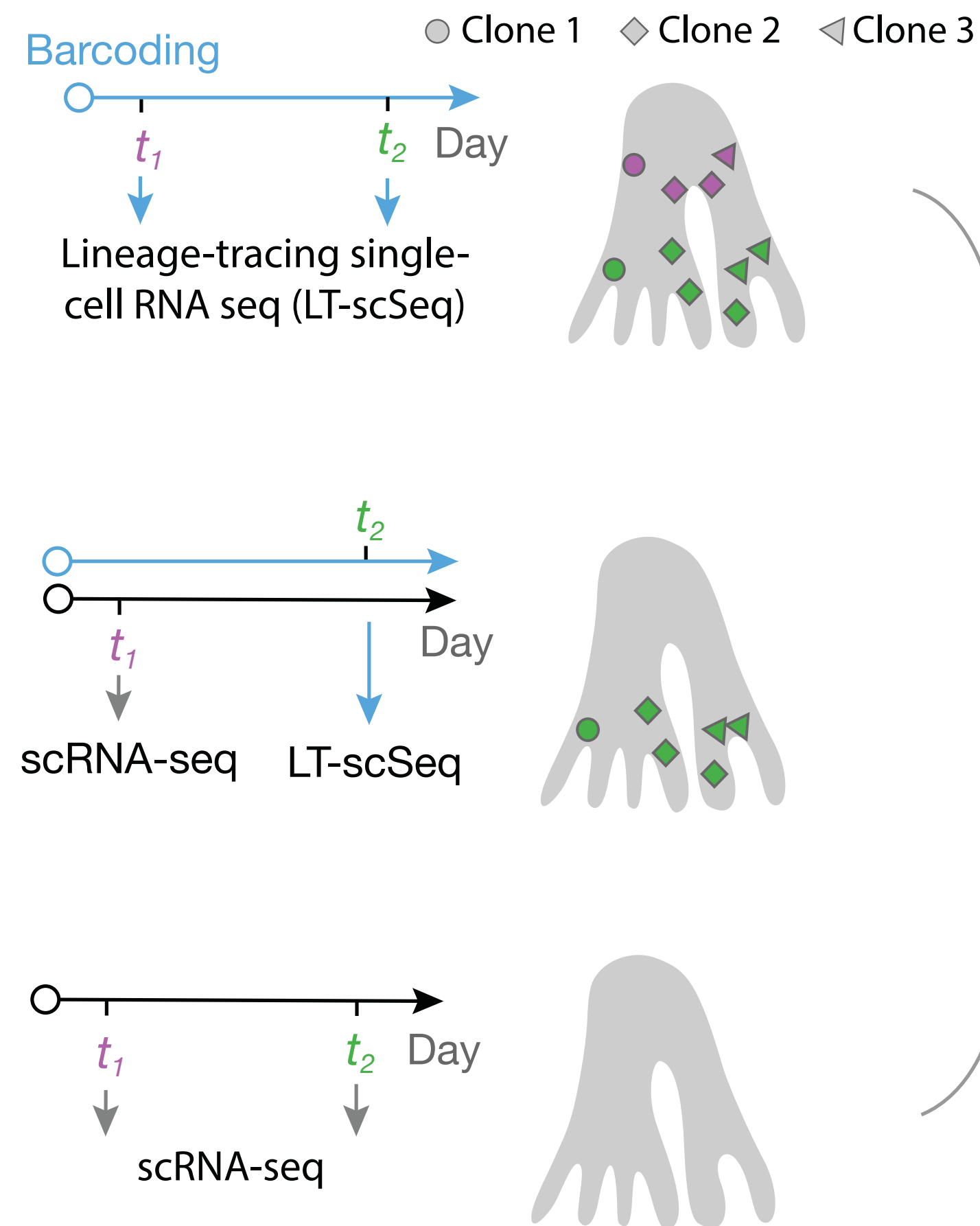


Barcode homoplasmy



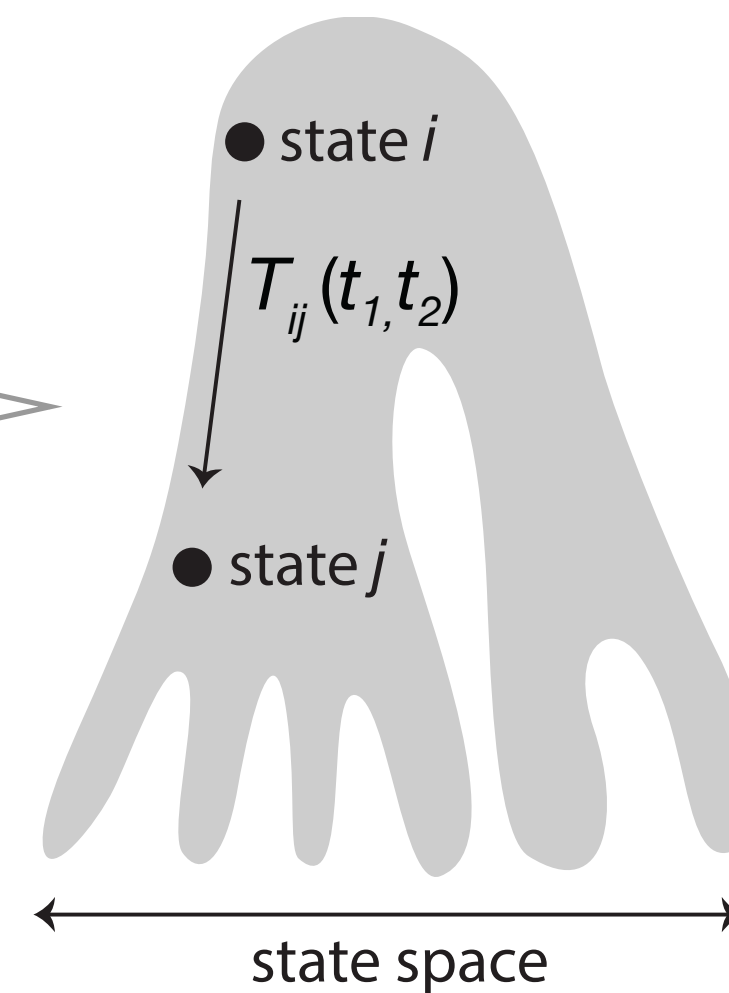
Also requires less input clonal data

# CoSpar can work with 3 different experimental designs

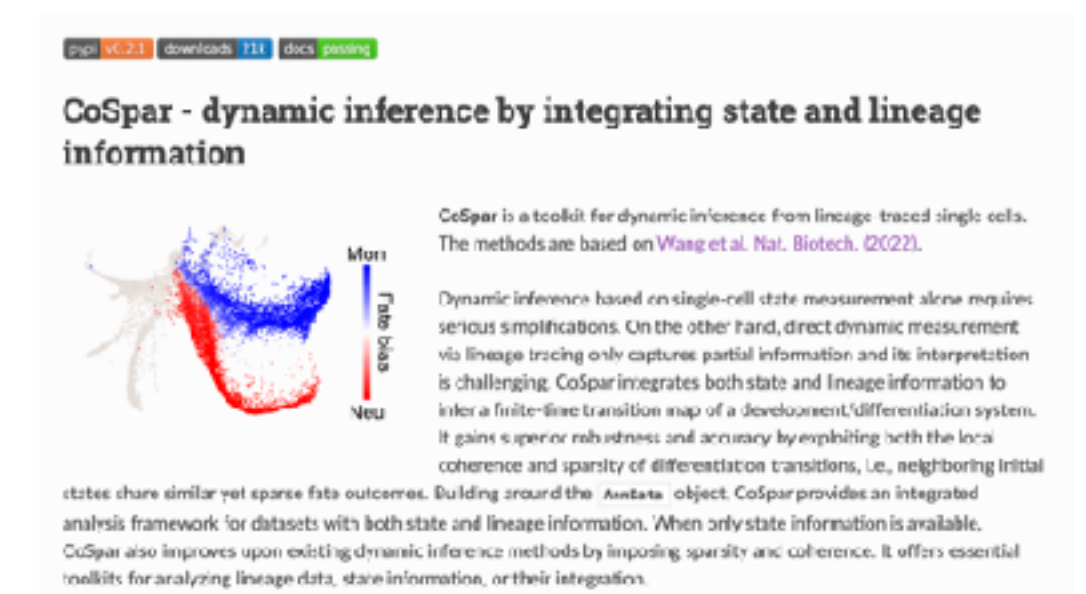


CoSpar

Transition probability map  $T$



<https://cospar.readthedocs.io/>



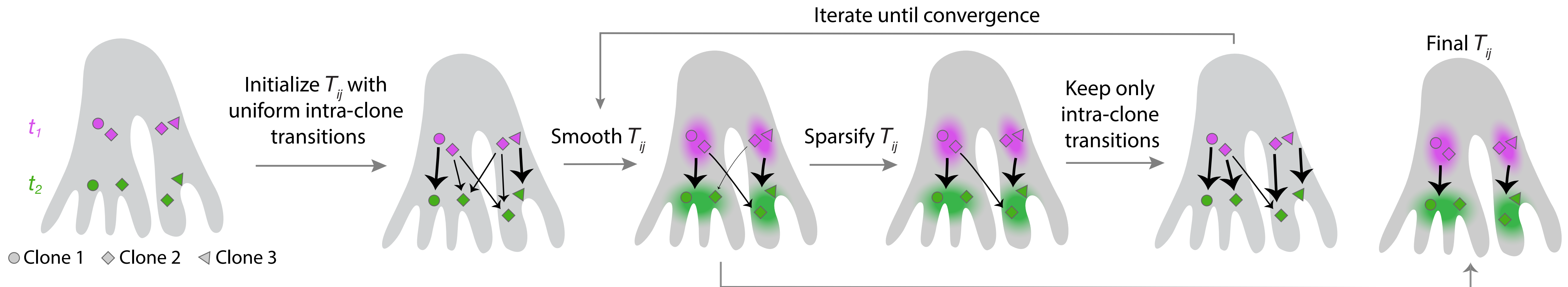
Part I: Transition map inference from re-sampled clones

Part II: Transition map inference from just one clonal time point

Part III: Applications to reprogramming and lung differentiation

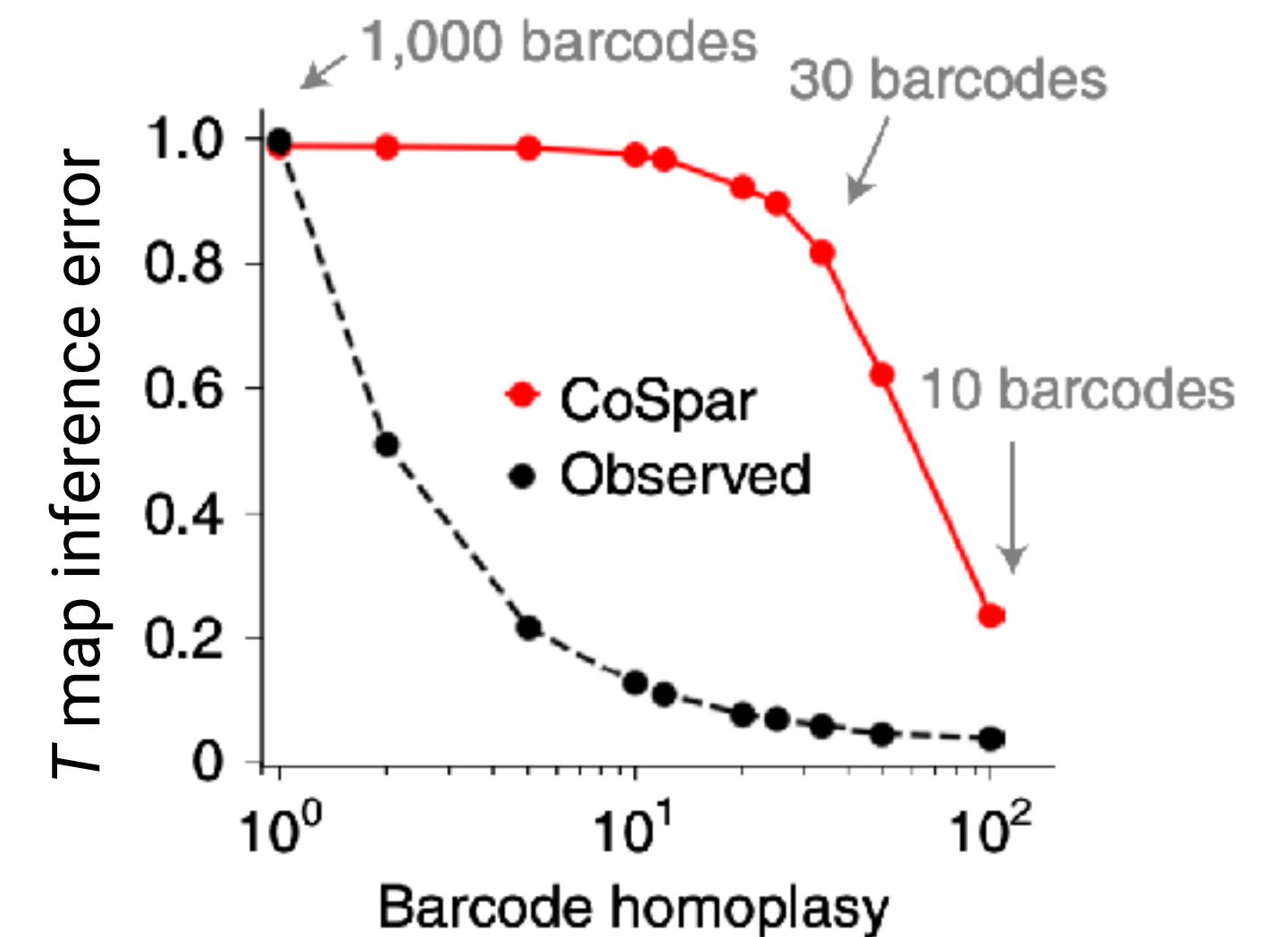
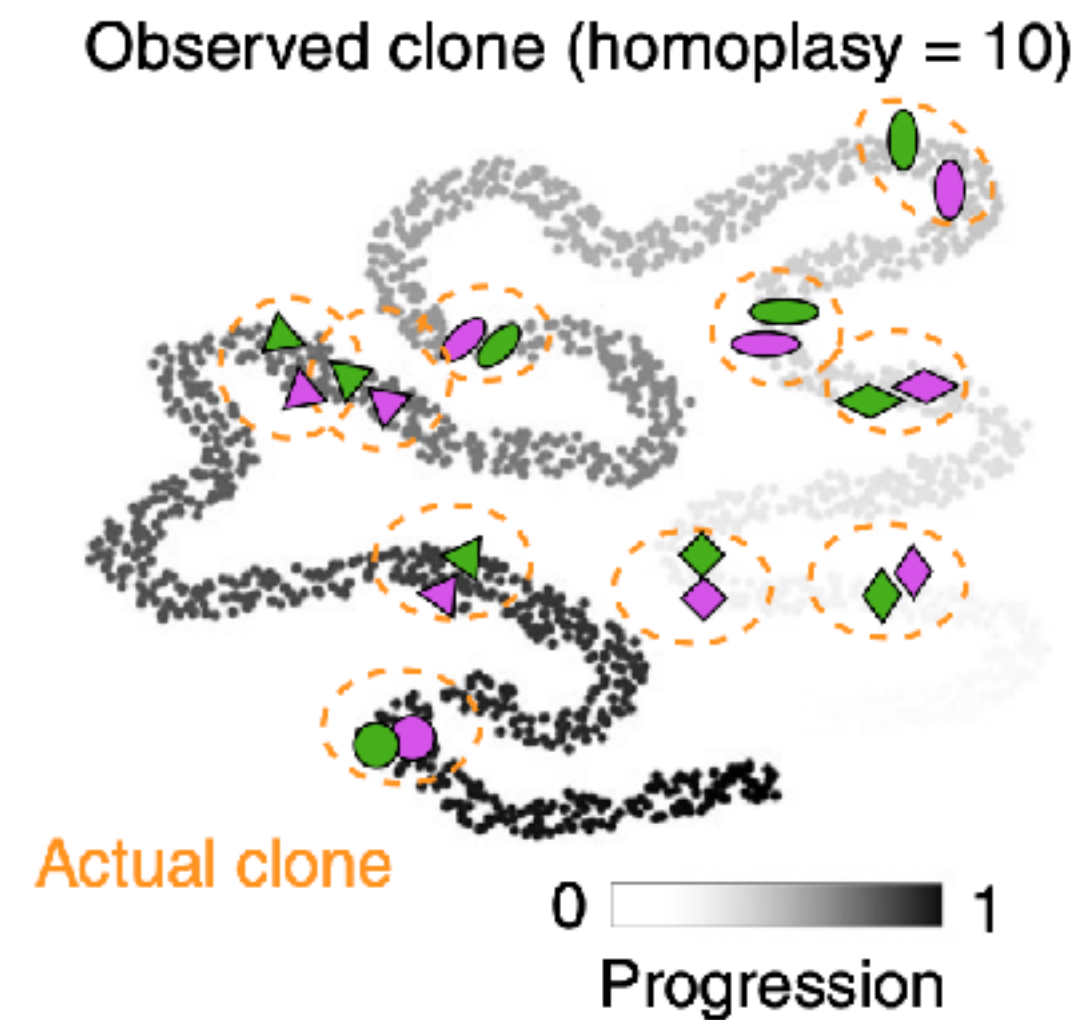
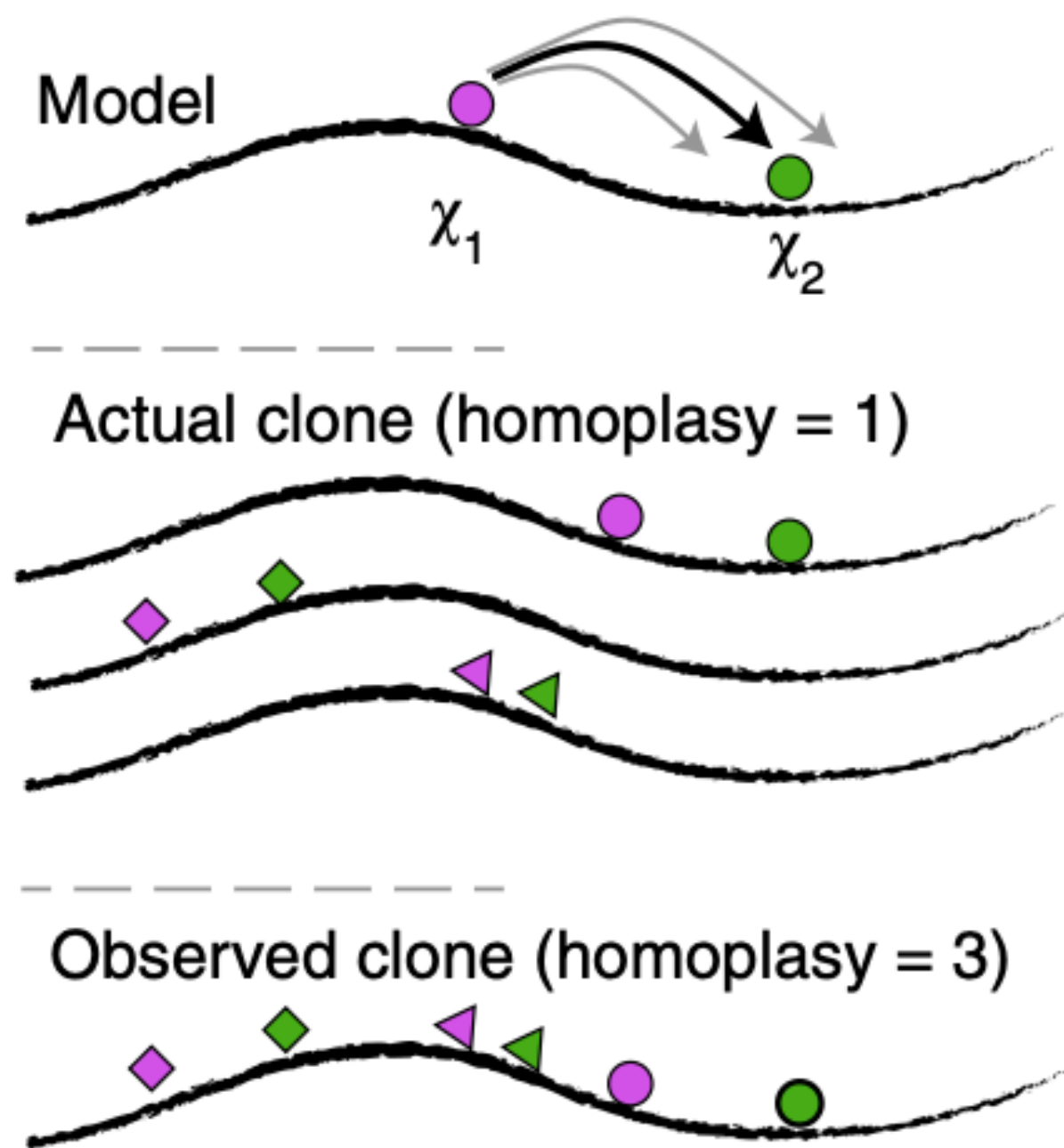
# Heuristic implementation: sequentially apply coherence, sparsity, and clonal constraints until convergence

$$\min_T \underbrace{\|T\|_1}_{\text{Sparsity}} + \alpha \underbrace{\|LT\|_2}_{\text{Coherence}}, \quad \text{s. t. } \underbrace{\|\mathbf{P}(t_2) - \mathbf{P}(t_1)T(t_1, t_2)\|_2}_{\text{Clonal constraint}} \leq \epsilon ; T \geq 0 ; \text{Normalization}$$

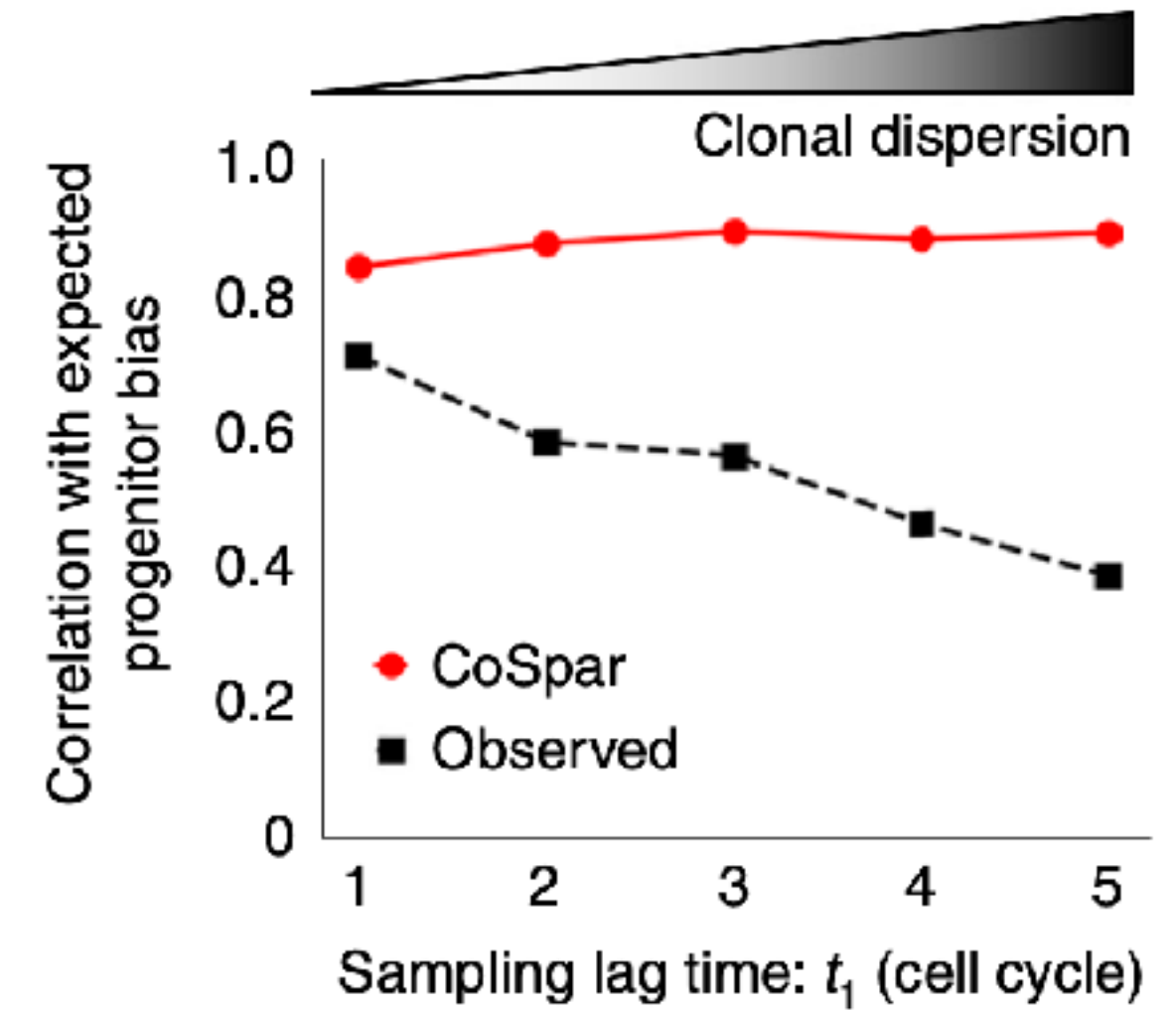
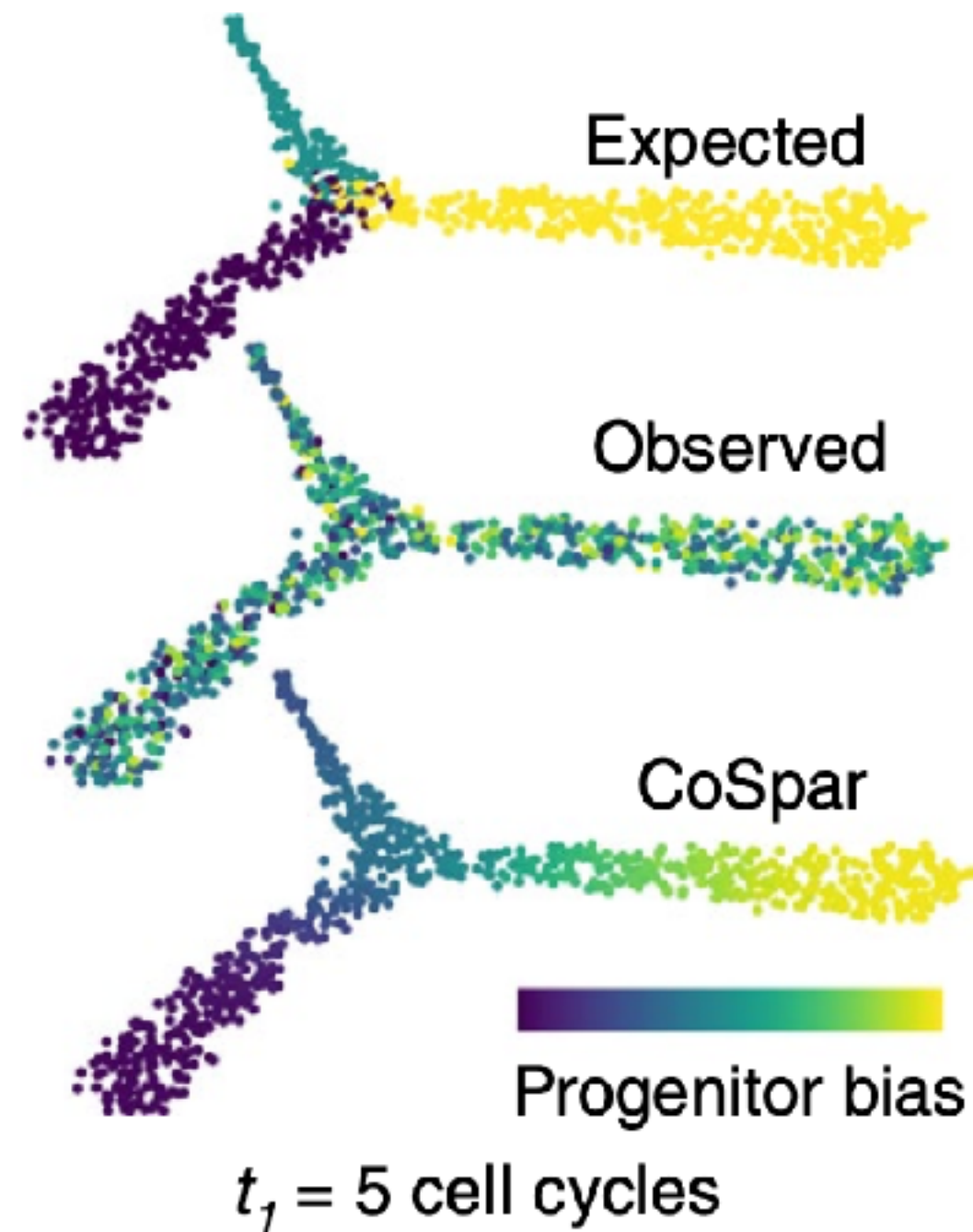
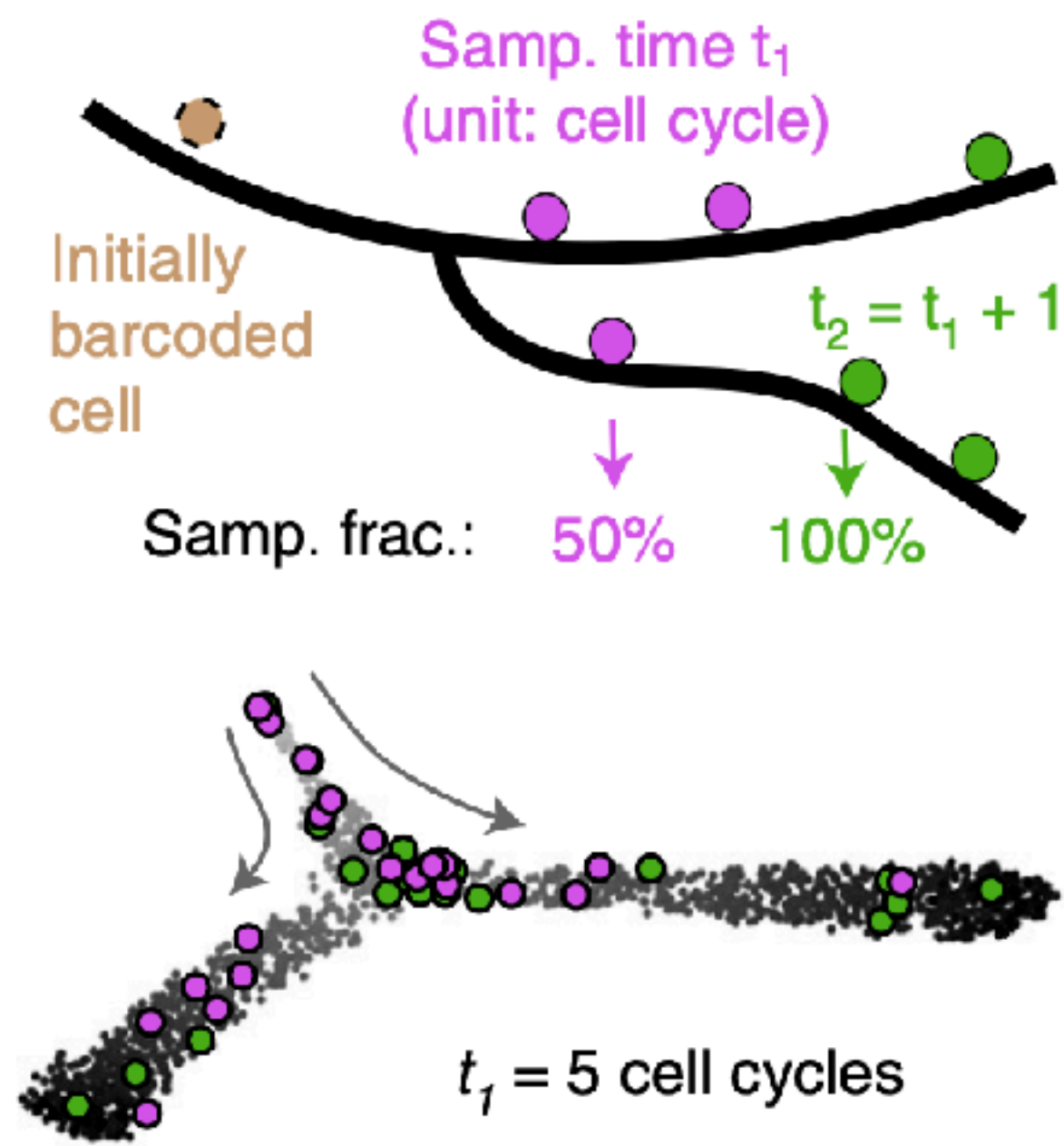




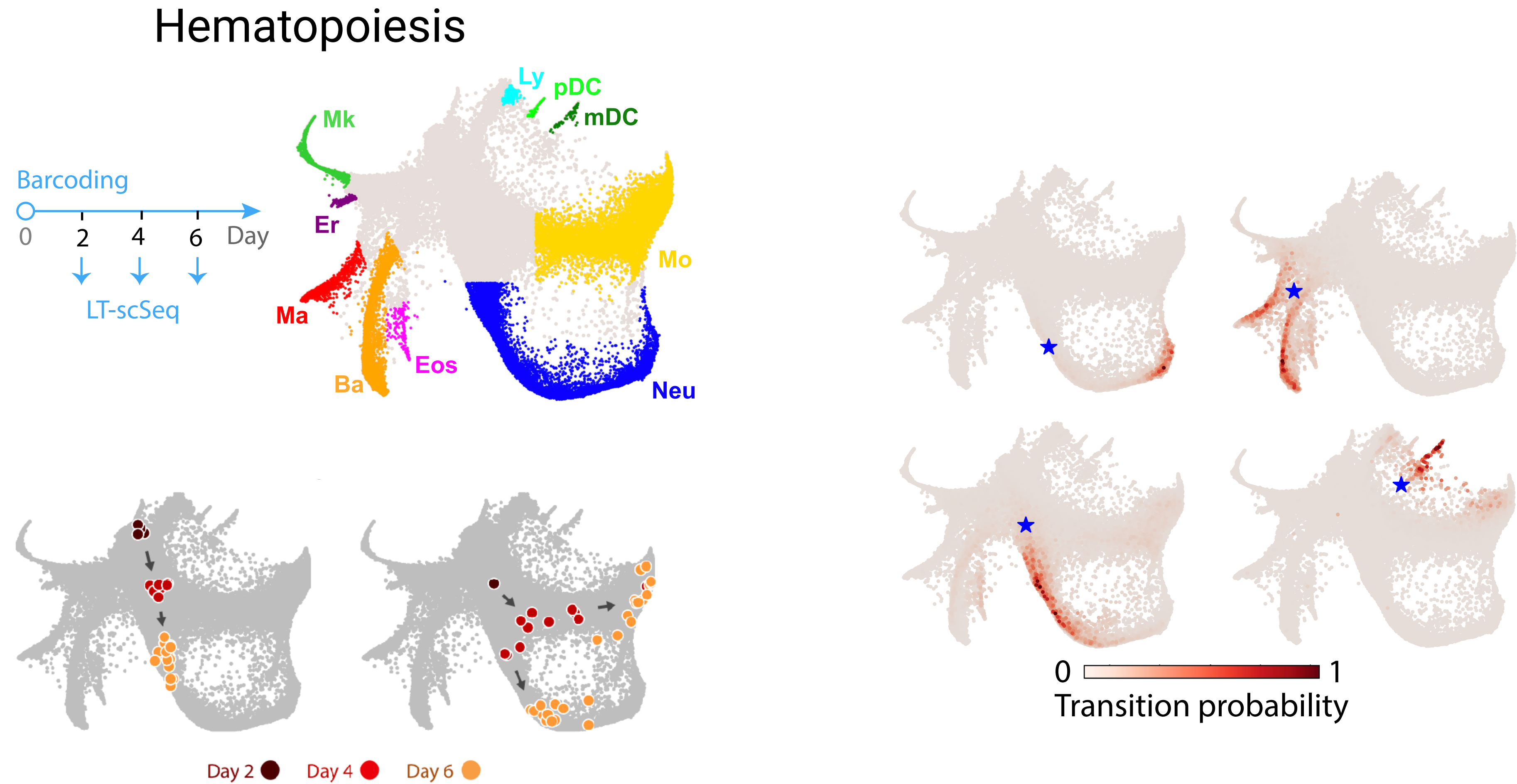
# CoSpar correctly infers transition map from a simulated linear differentiation process with extensive barcode homoplasy



# CoSpar correctly infers transition map from a simulated bifurcation process with high clonal dispersion

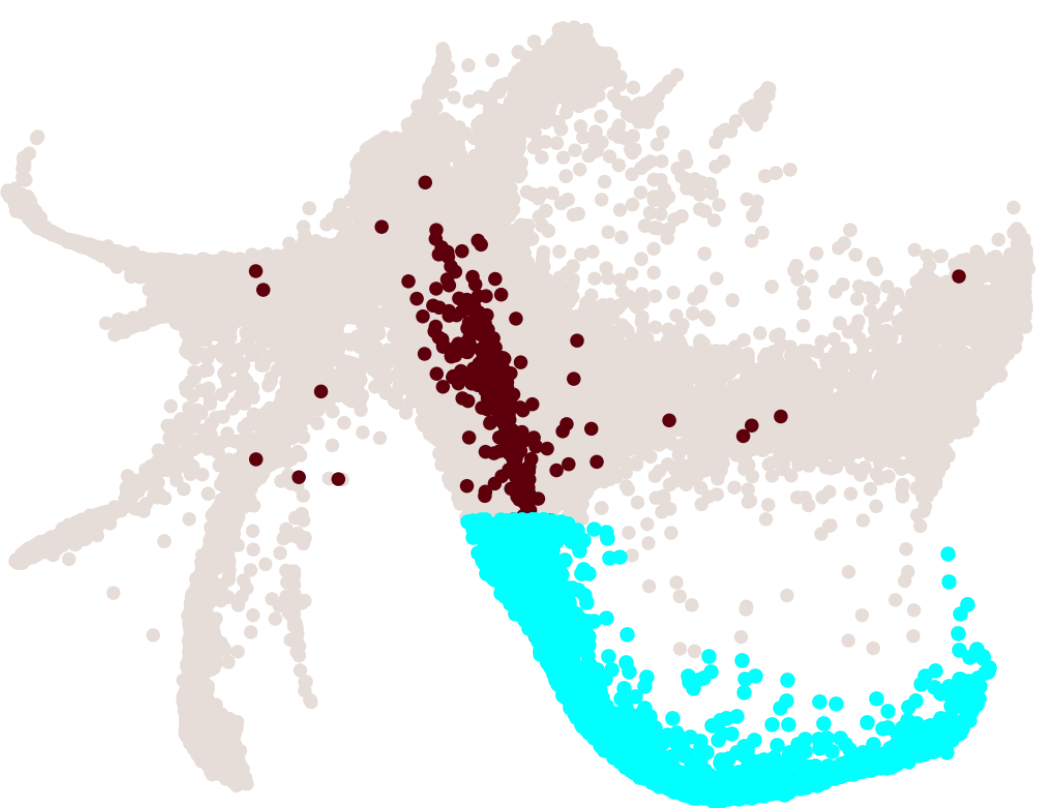


# CoSpar learns single-cell transition map in hematopoiesis

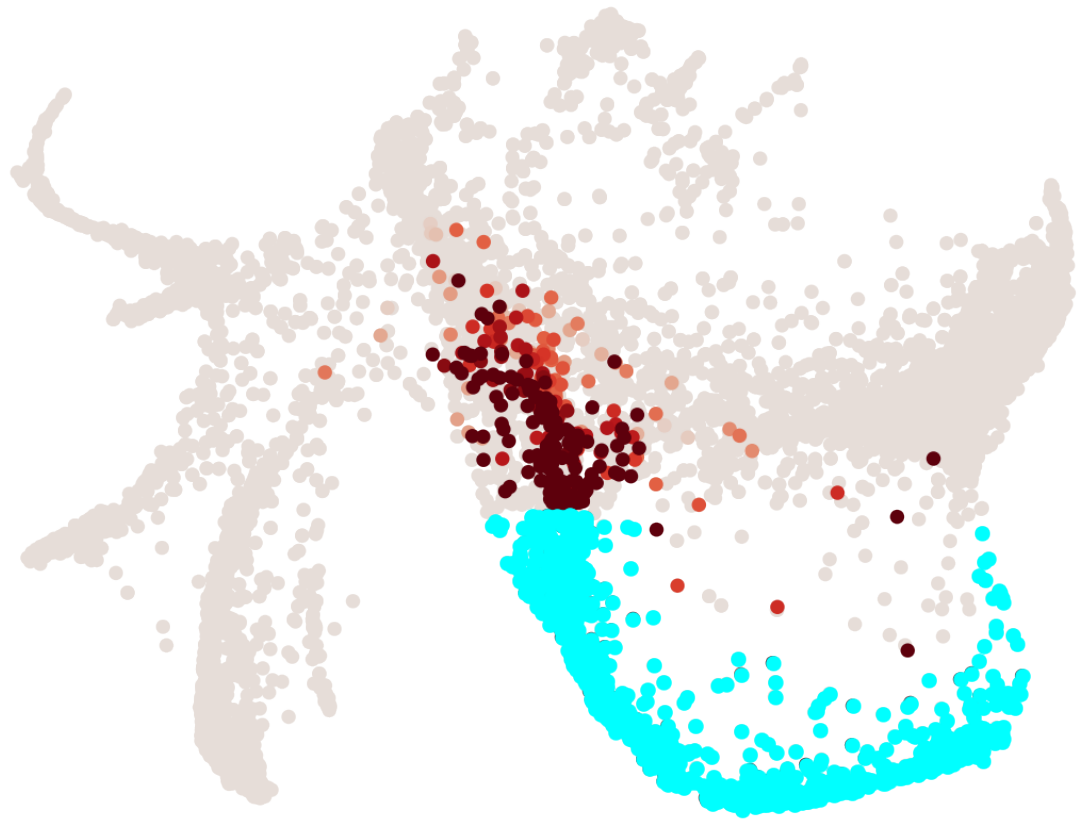
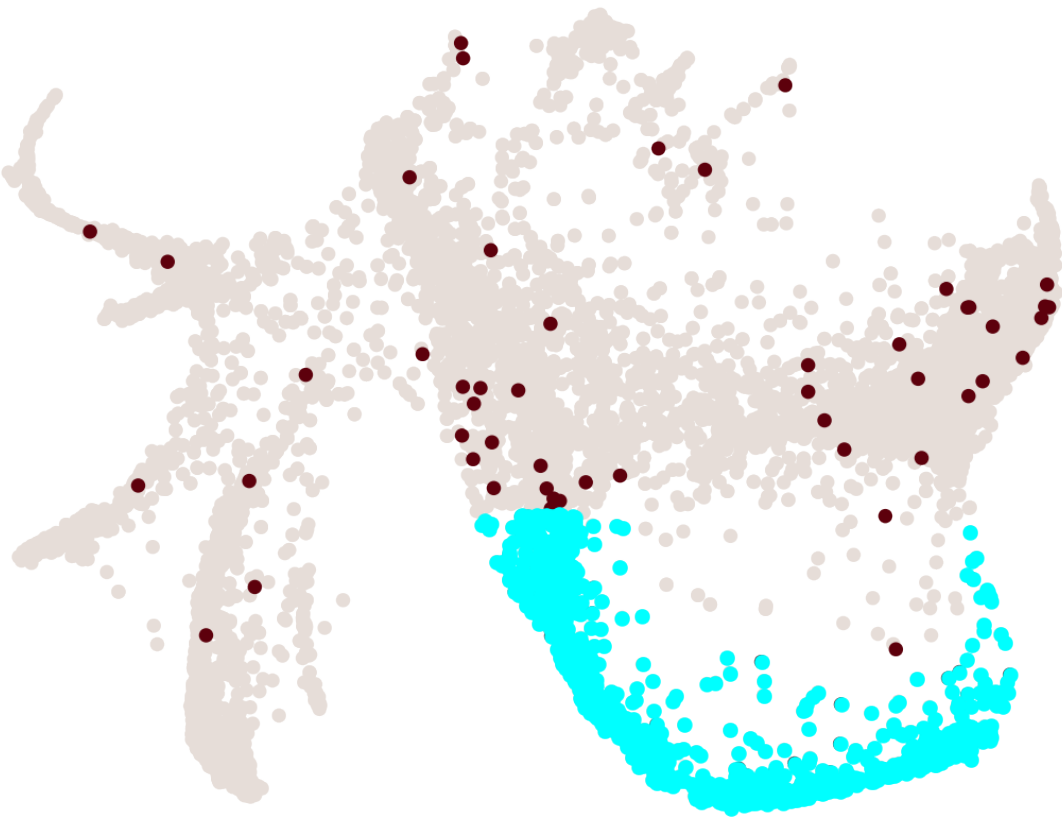


# CoSpar correctly predicts early progenitors of neutrophil using highly dispersed clones from day 4 and 6

Observed progenitors  
from all day 2-4 clones  
Method in Weinreb et al., 2020

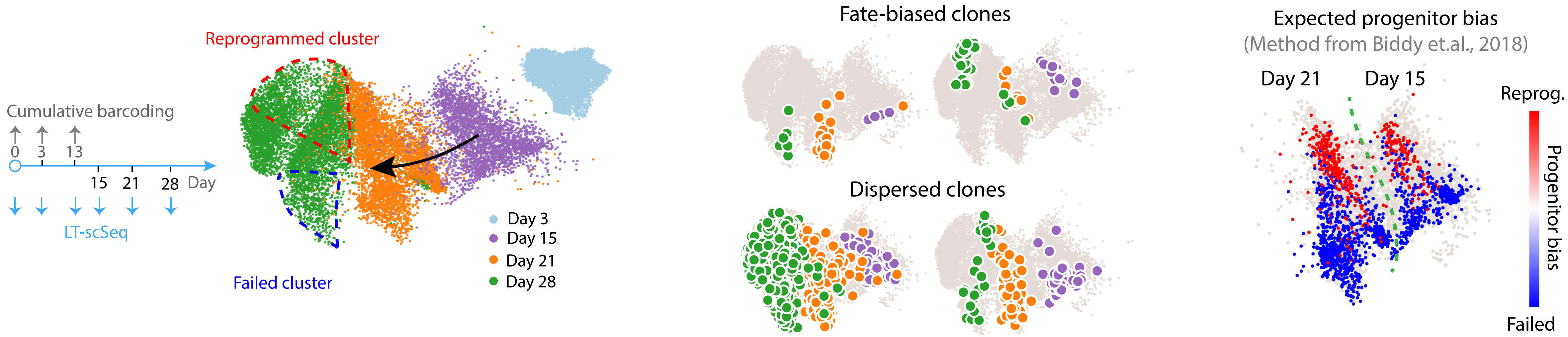


Using highly-dispersed day 4-6 clones  
(dispersion > 4.3, top 15%)  
Weinreb CoSpar

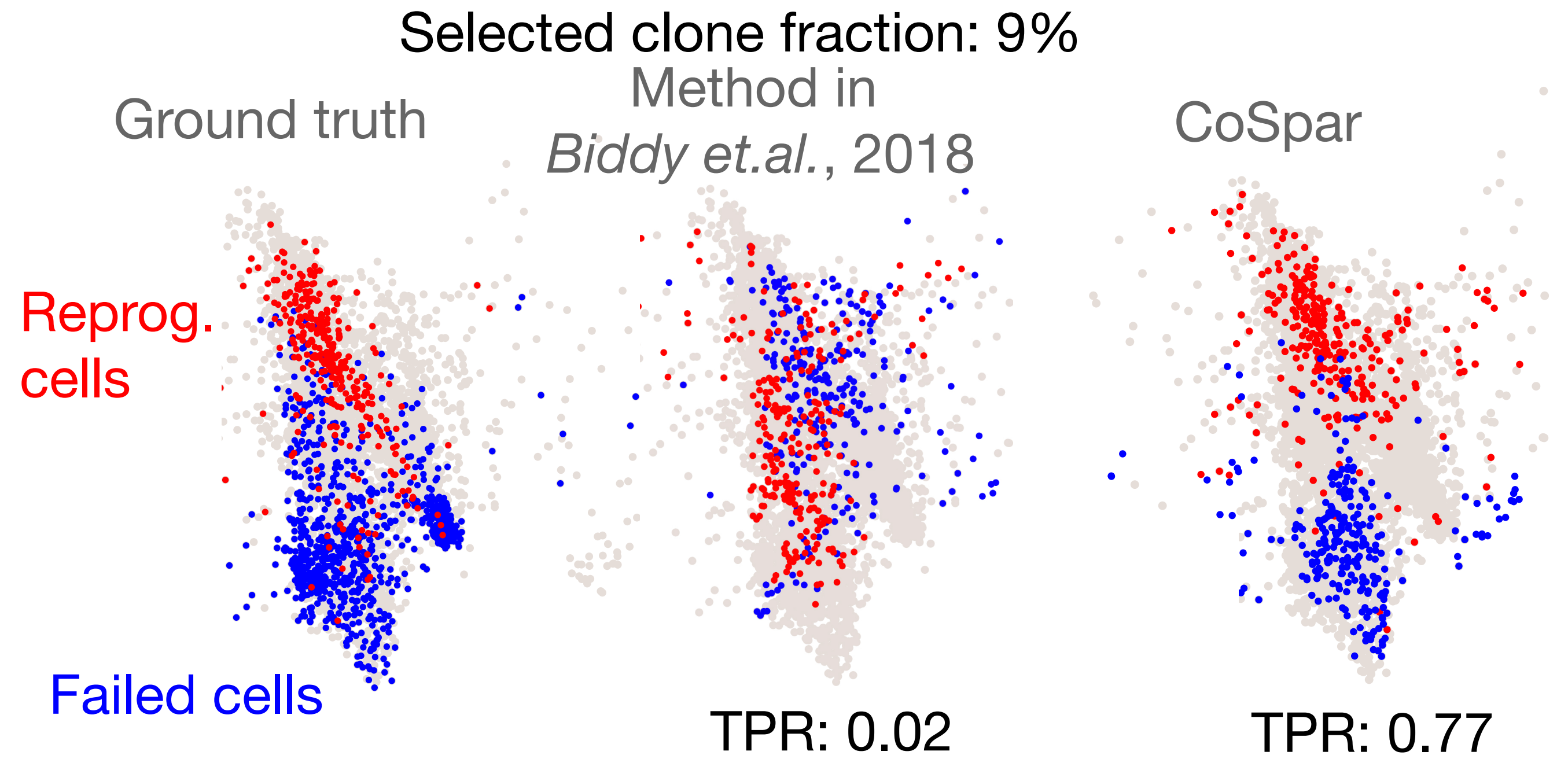
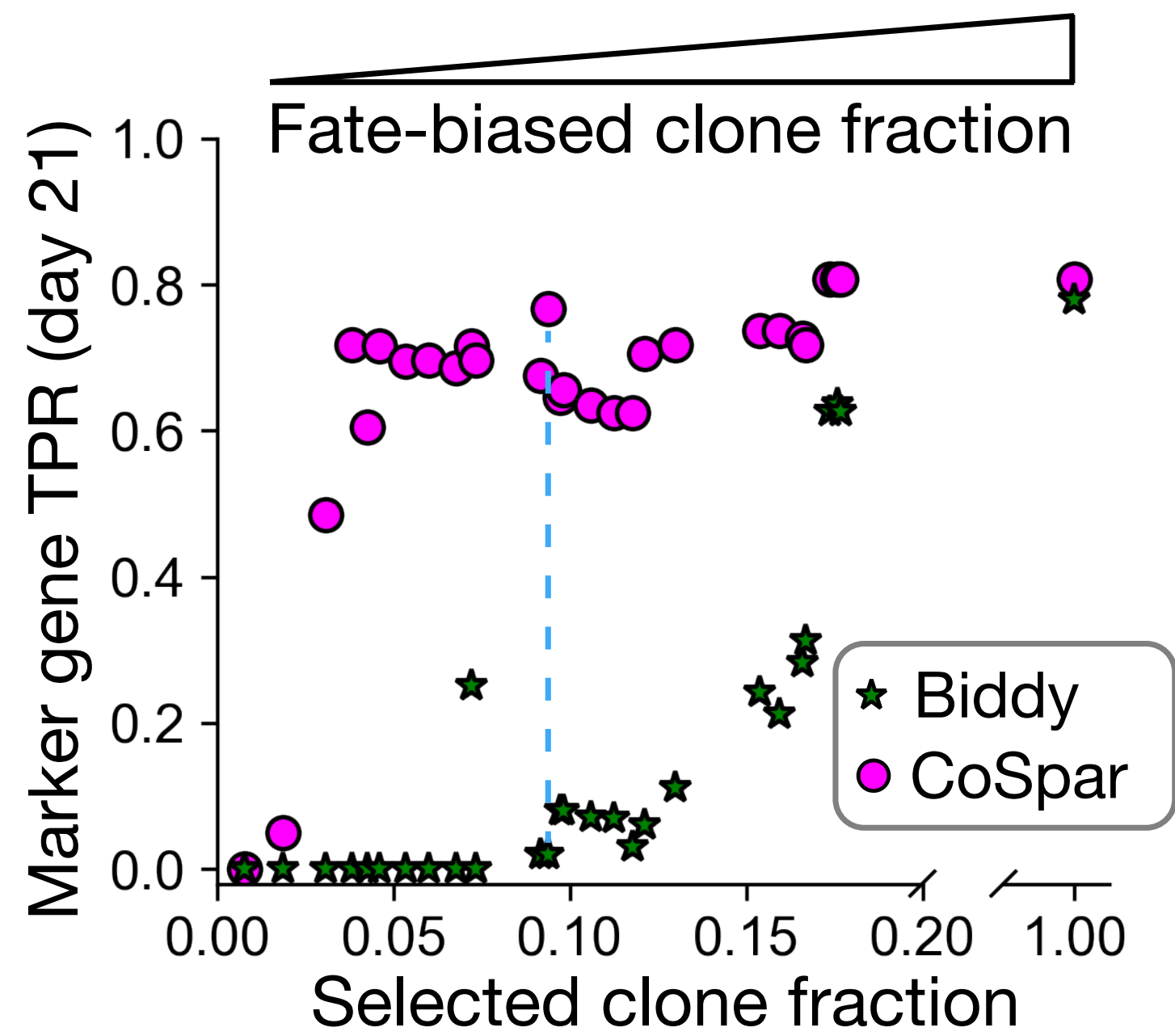


Progenitor probability  
1  
0

# Clonal re-sampling during reprogramming reveals two differentiation trajectories



# CoSpar predicts cell fate choice from as low as 5% of clones in reprogramming

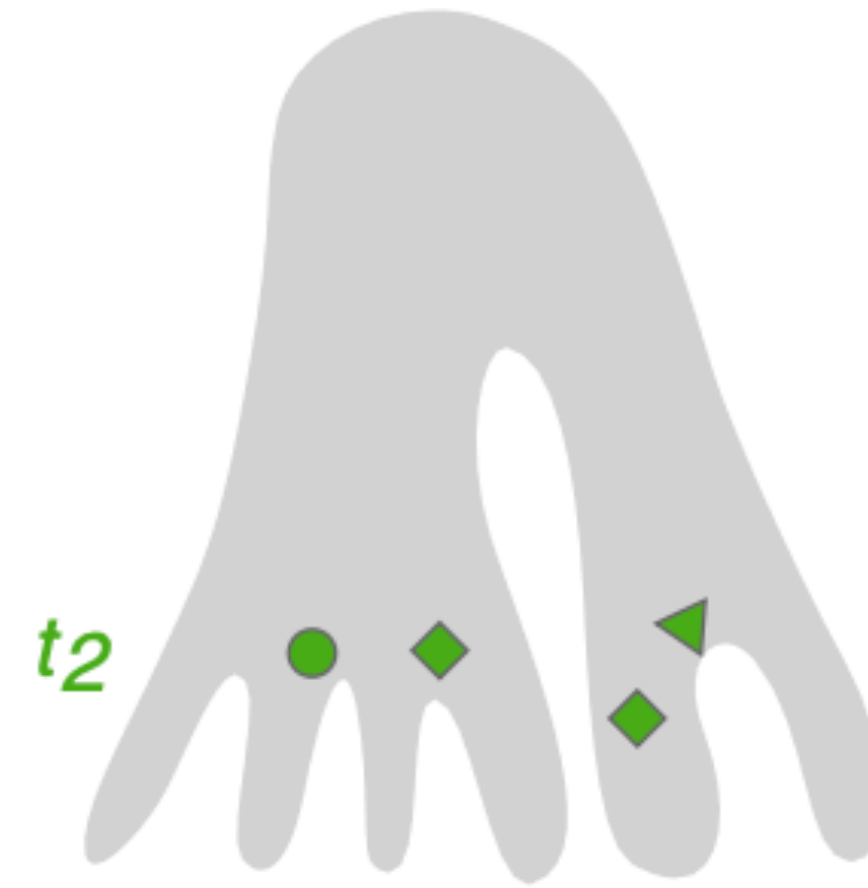
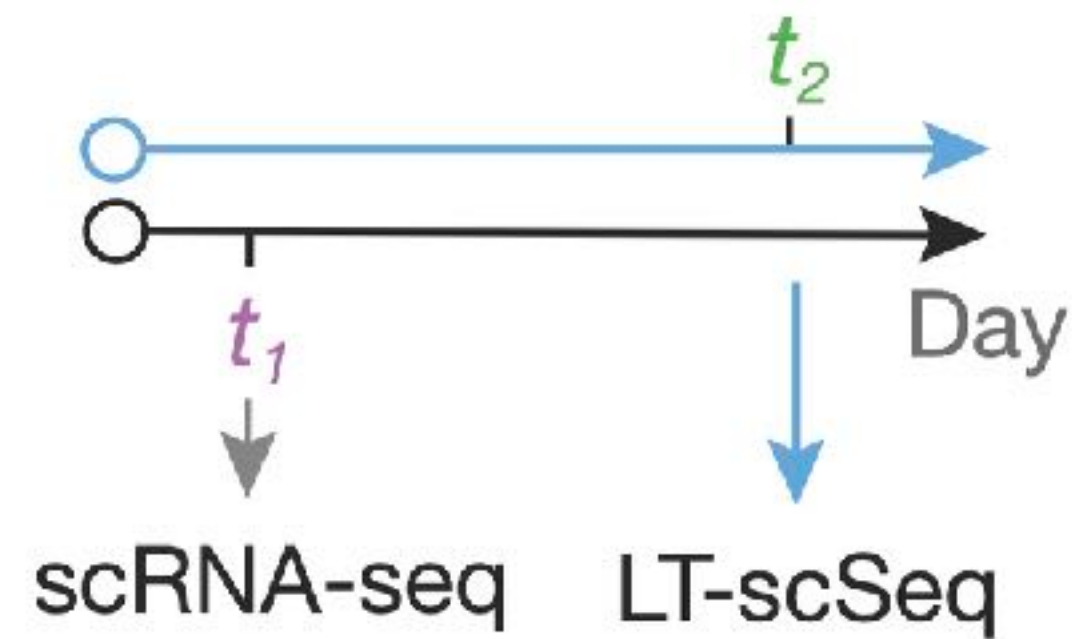


Part I: Transition map inference from re-sampled clones

Part II: Transition map inference from just one clonal time point

Part III: Applications to reprogramming and lung differentiation

# Learning transition map from a single clonal time point is an under-determined problem

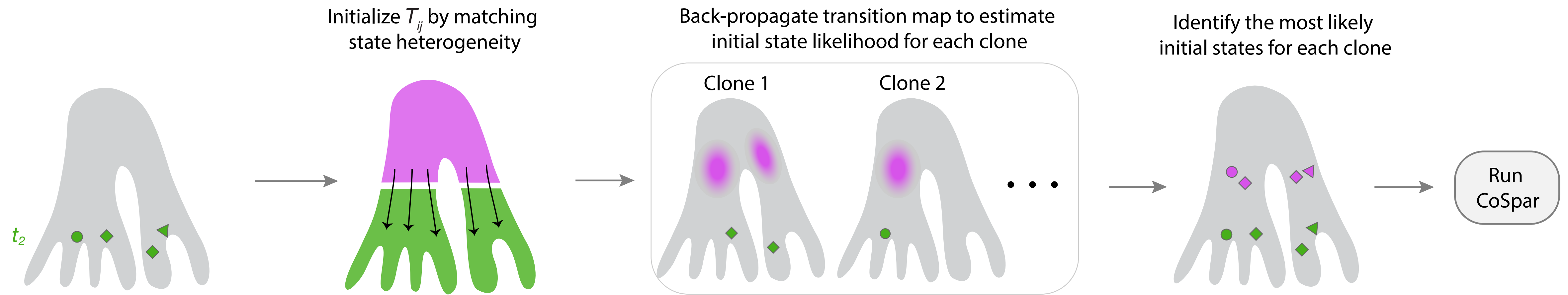


Ideal property of the transition map

- \* Coherence and sparsity
- \* Maximize transition prob. from putative progenitors to observed clonally-related cells
- \* Minimize transport cost between early and late populations (e.g. using OT)



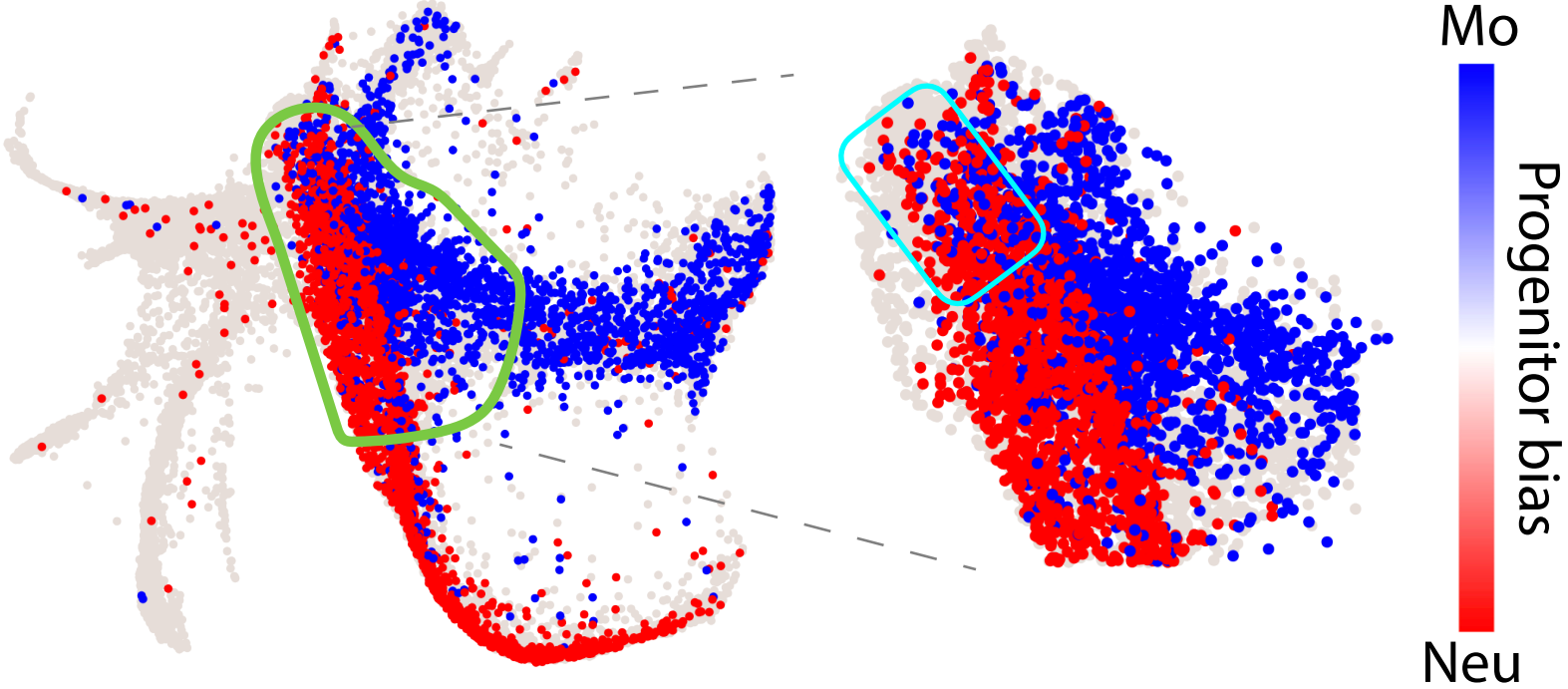
# A simple approximation: sequentially apply each constraints



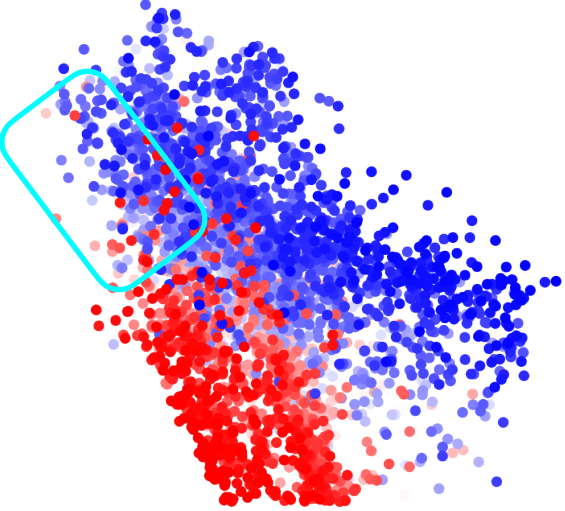
We further extends CoSpar to time-series data without clonal observations

# CoSpar predicts early fate bias in hematopoiesis, outperforming existing fate-prediction methods based on transcriptome

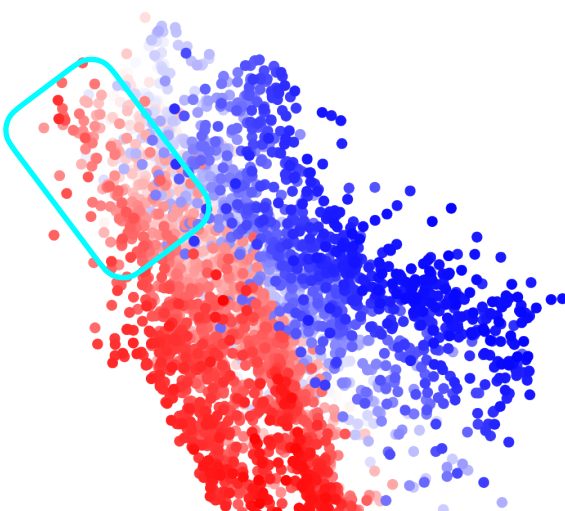
Ground truth: Method from Weinreb et al., 2020



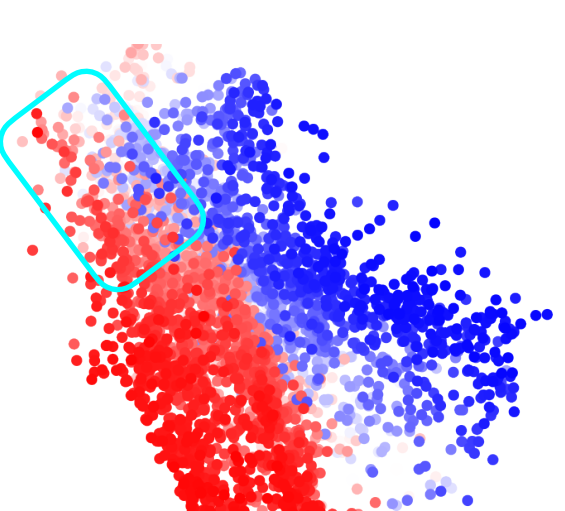
WOT: state only



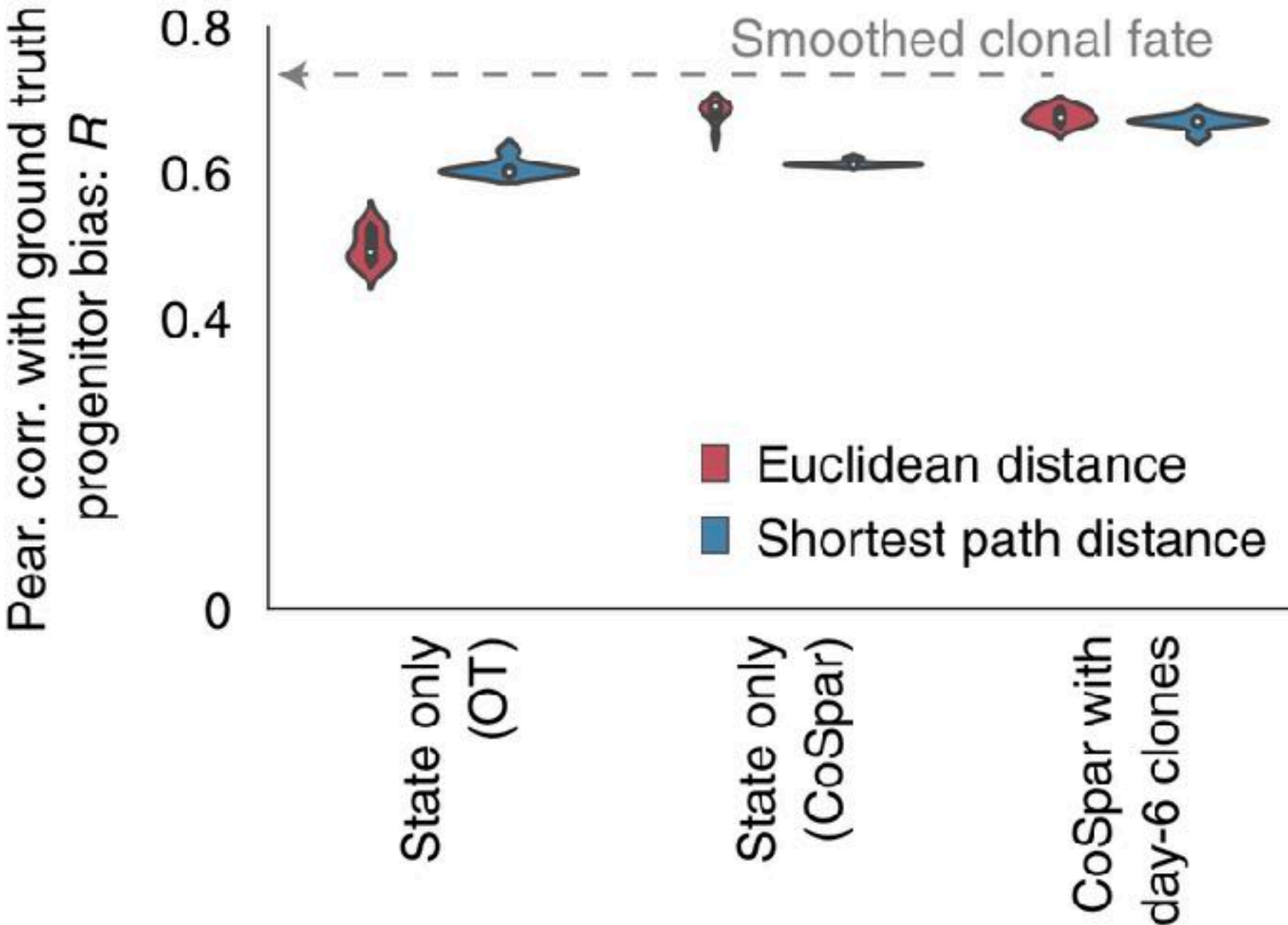
CoSpar: state only



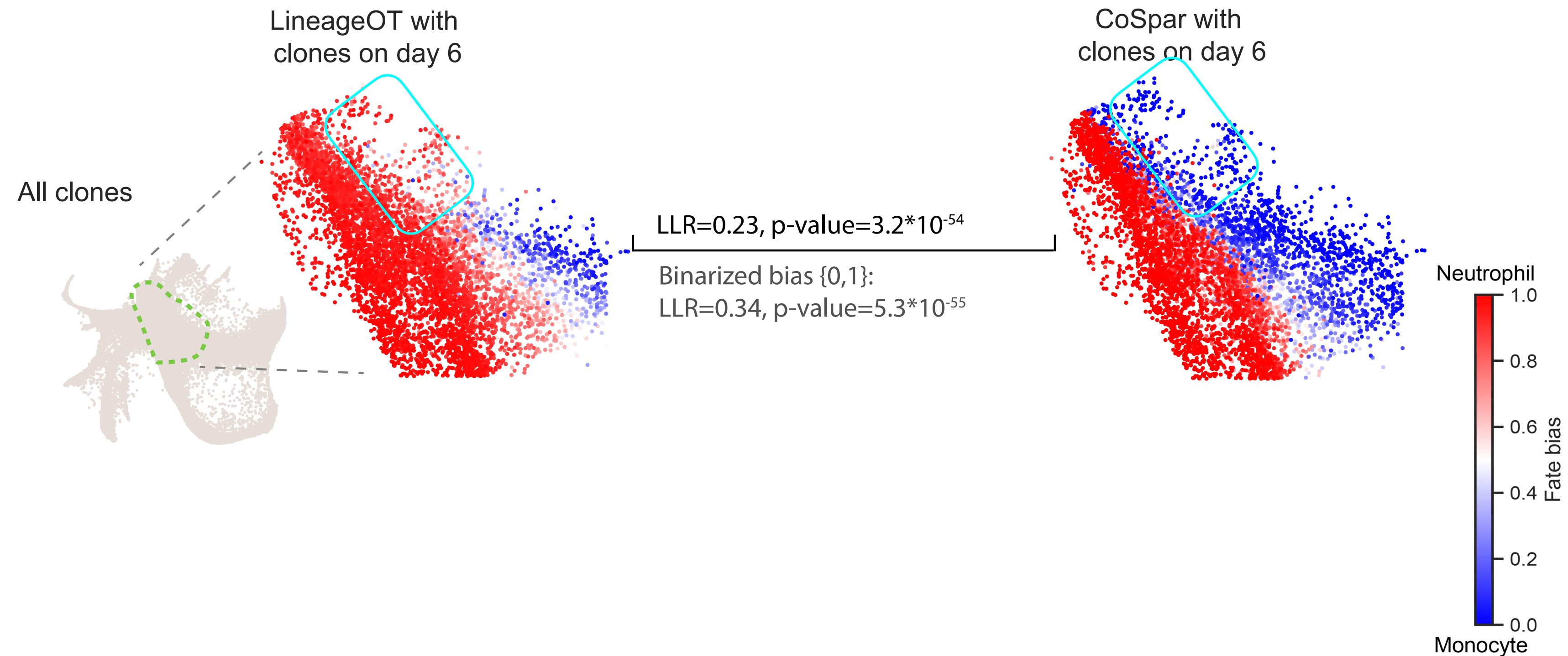
CoSpar: + day-6 clones



— Metric used: Euclidean distance —



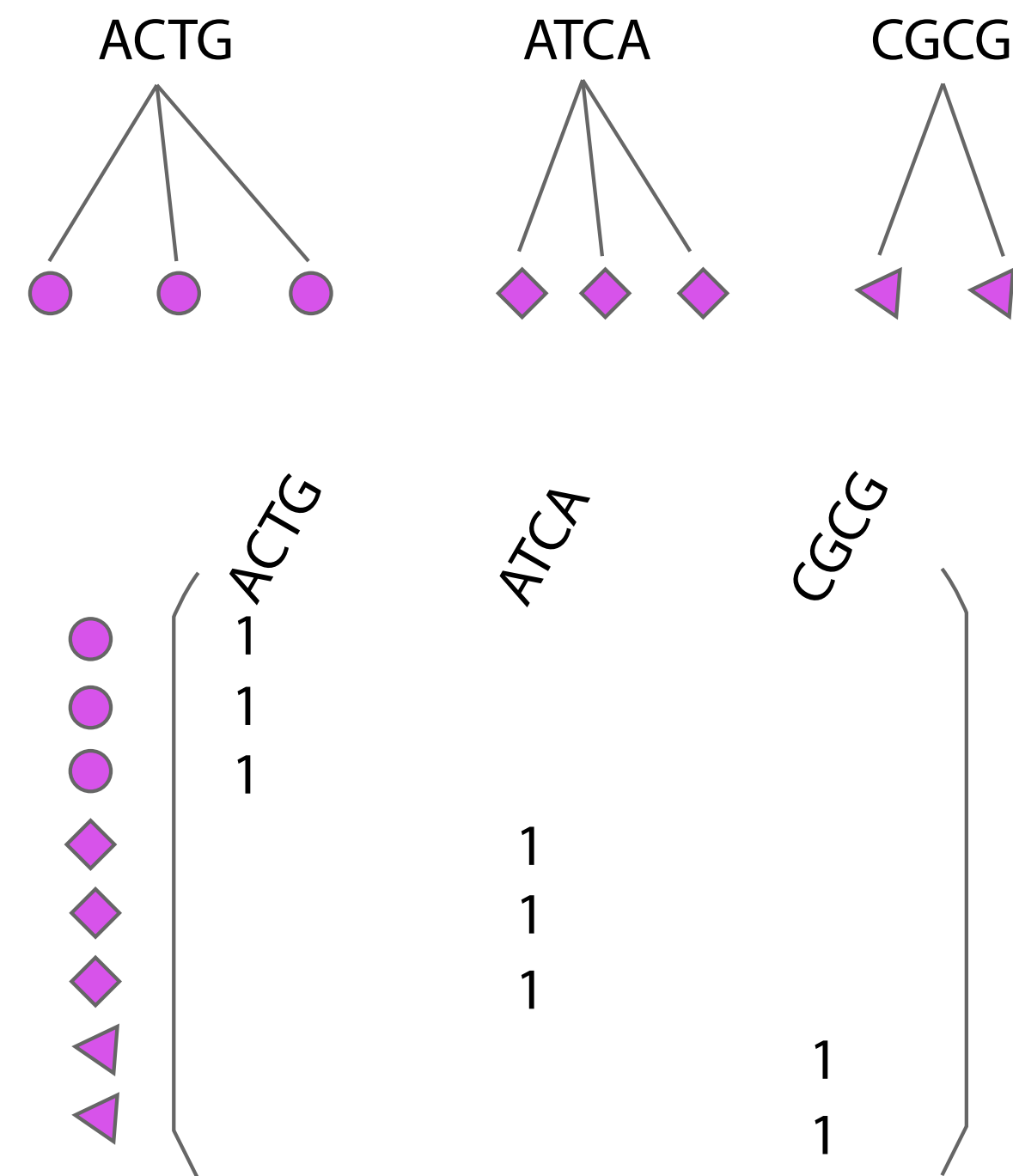
# CoSpar outperforms LineageOT that also integrates lineage and transcriptome information



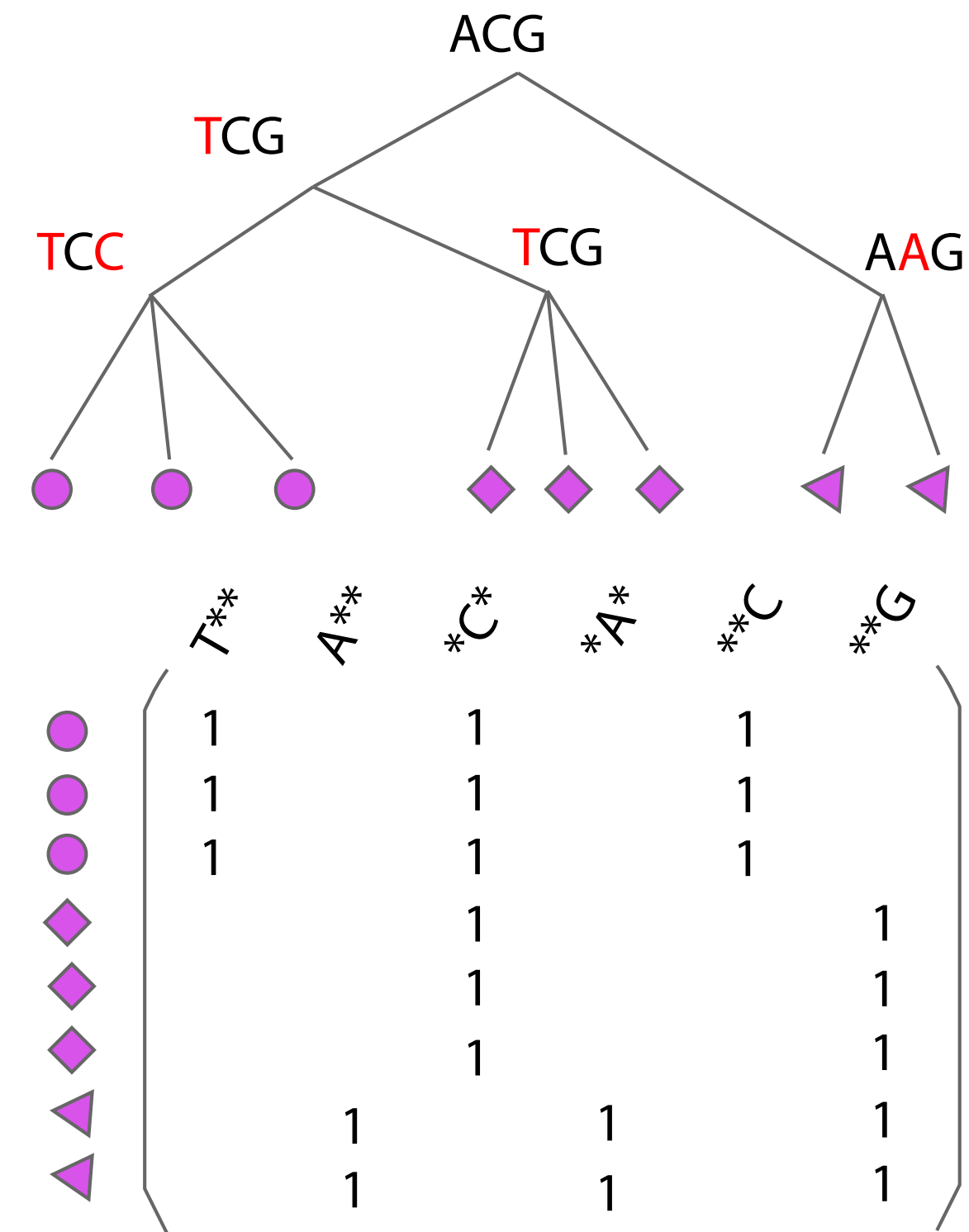
$$\text{Mean log-likelihood ratio: } \text{LLR} = \text{Mean}_i \log \left( \frac{p_i(\text{CoSpar}) + c_0}{p_i(\text{LineageOT}) + c_0} \right)$$

# Using a *cell-by-mutation* matrix as input, CoSpar works both for static and cumulative barcoding

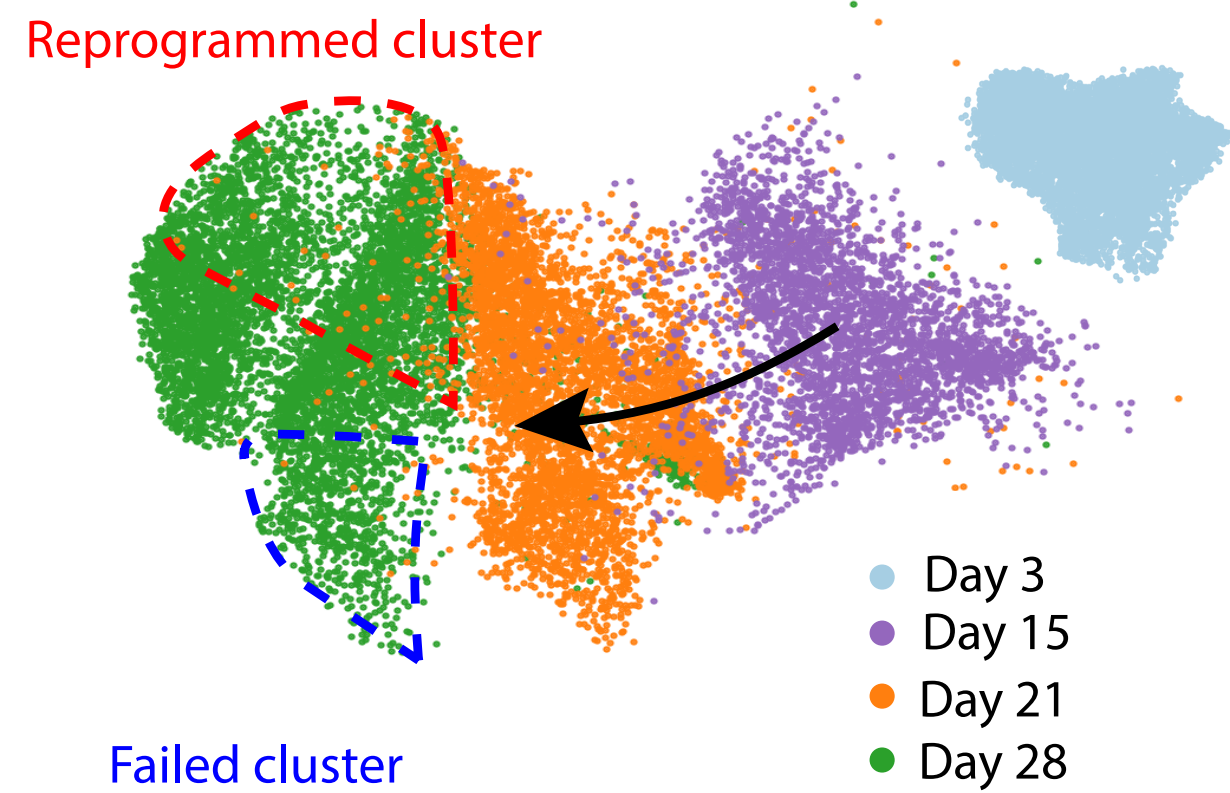
Static barcoding



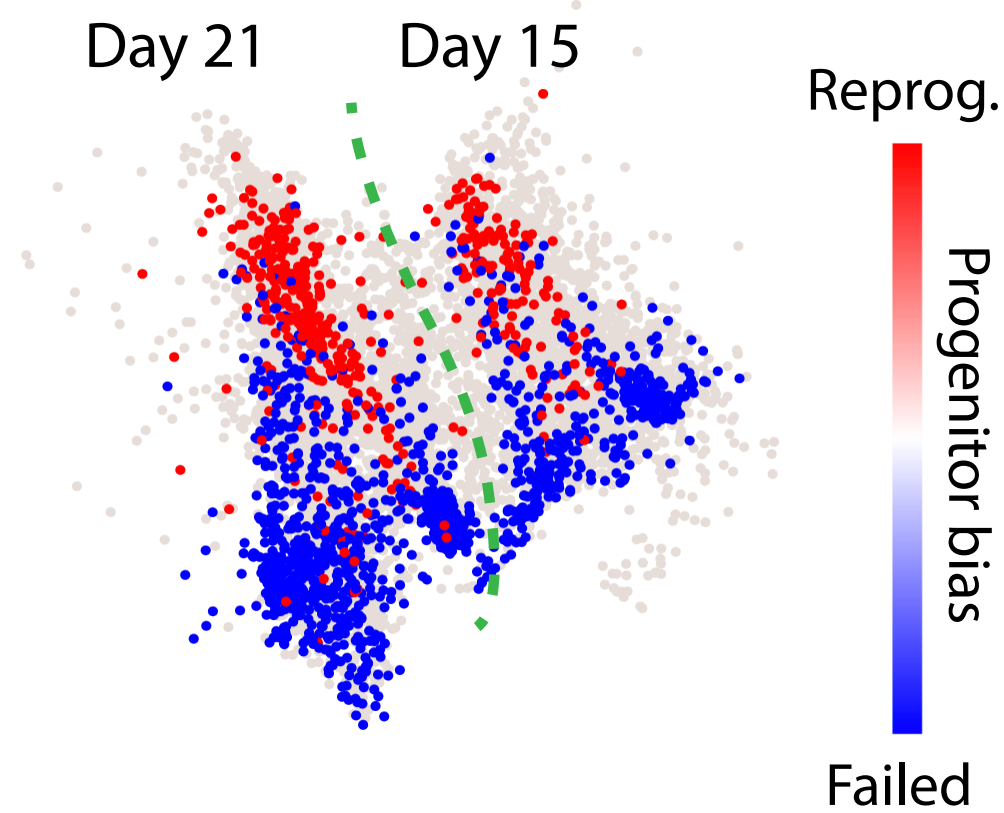
Cumulative barcoding



# CoSpar works both for static and cumulative barcoding



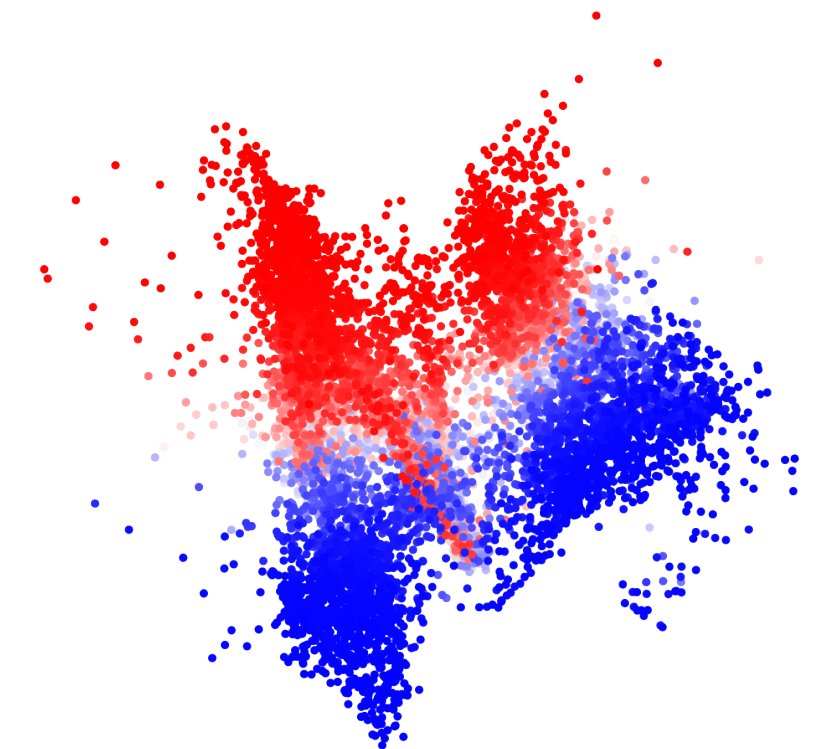
Expected progenitor bias  
(Method from Bidy et.al., 2018)



Using only clones on day 28

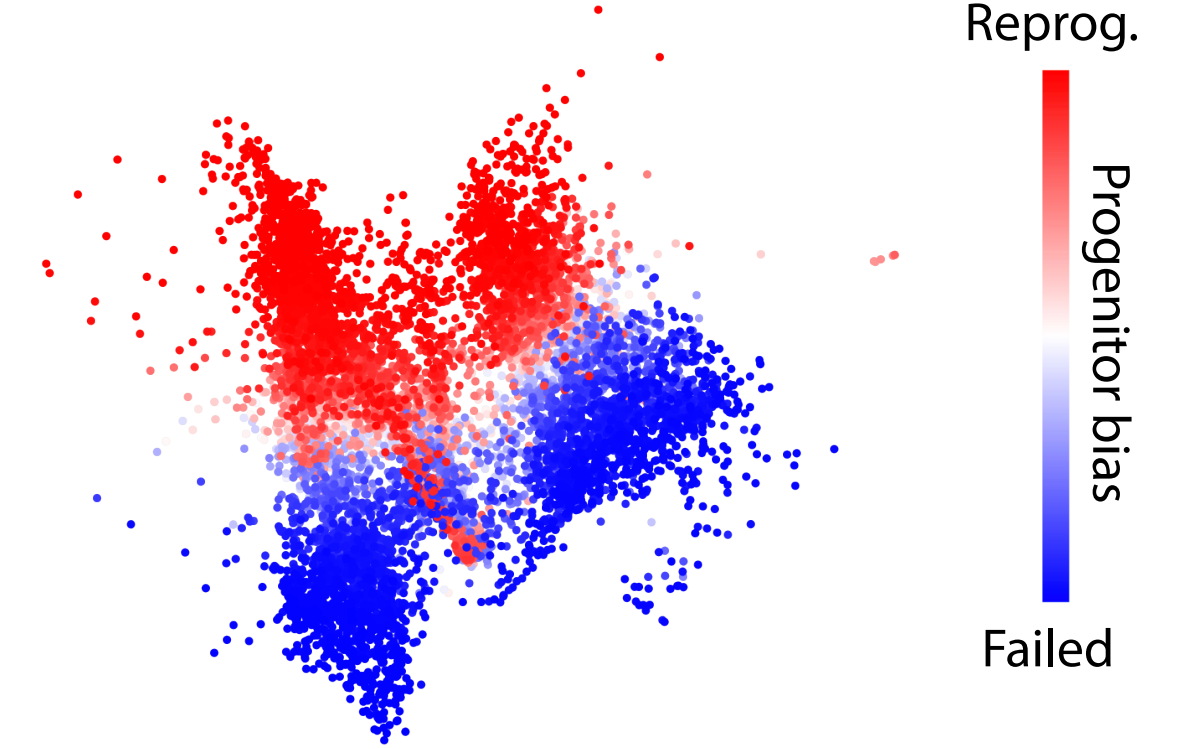
As cumulative BC

Isolate: {Tag0, Tag3, Tag13}

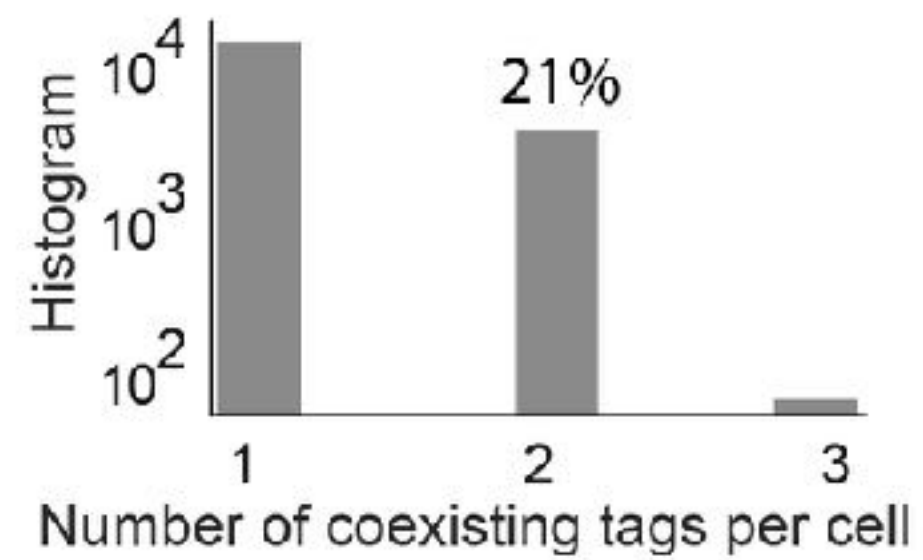
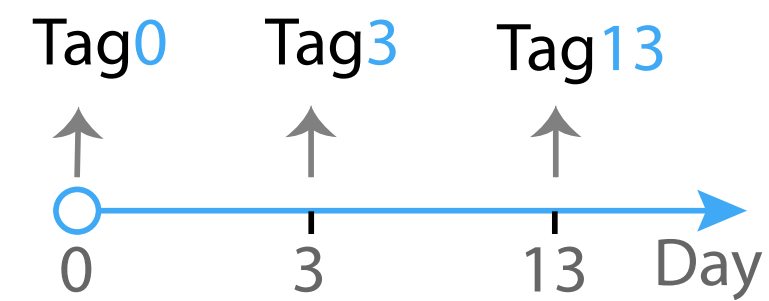


Convert to static BC

Concatenate BC: Tag0-Tag3-Tag13



Cumulative barcoding

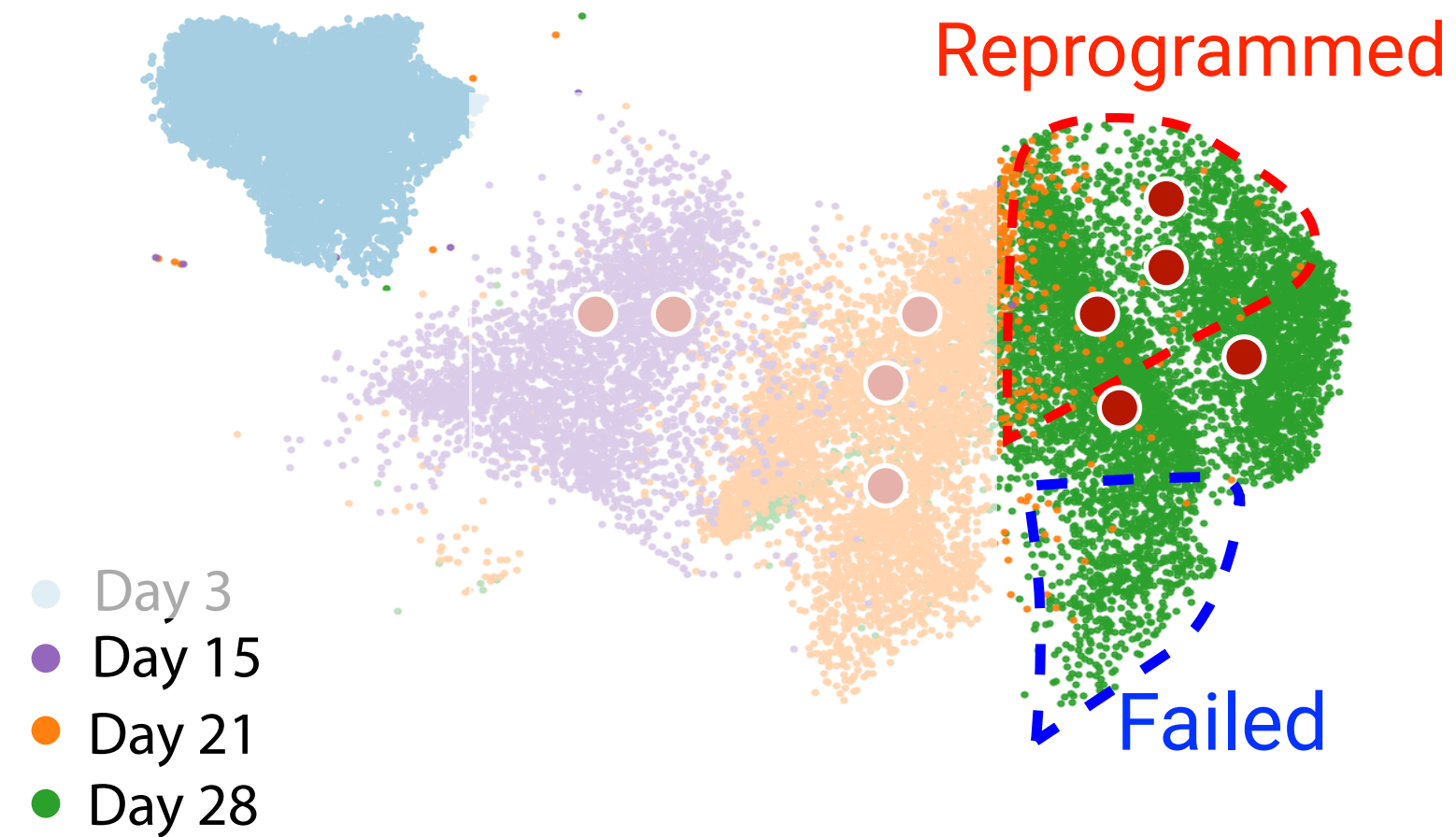


Part I: Transition map inference from re-sampled clones

Part II: Transition map inference from just one clonal time point

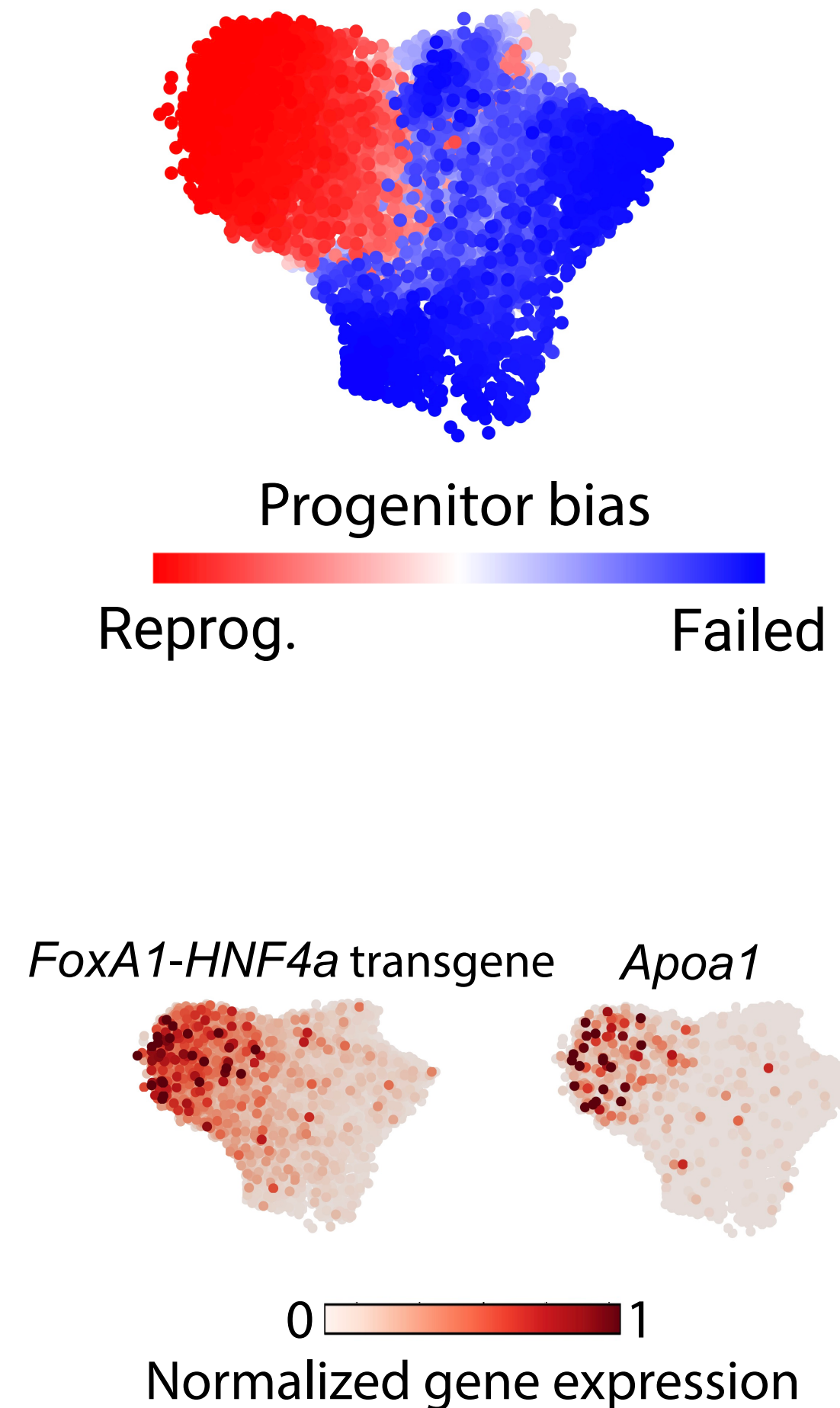
Part III: Applications to reprogramming and lung differentiation

# CoSpar reveals fate choice as early as day 3 in reprogramming

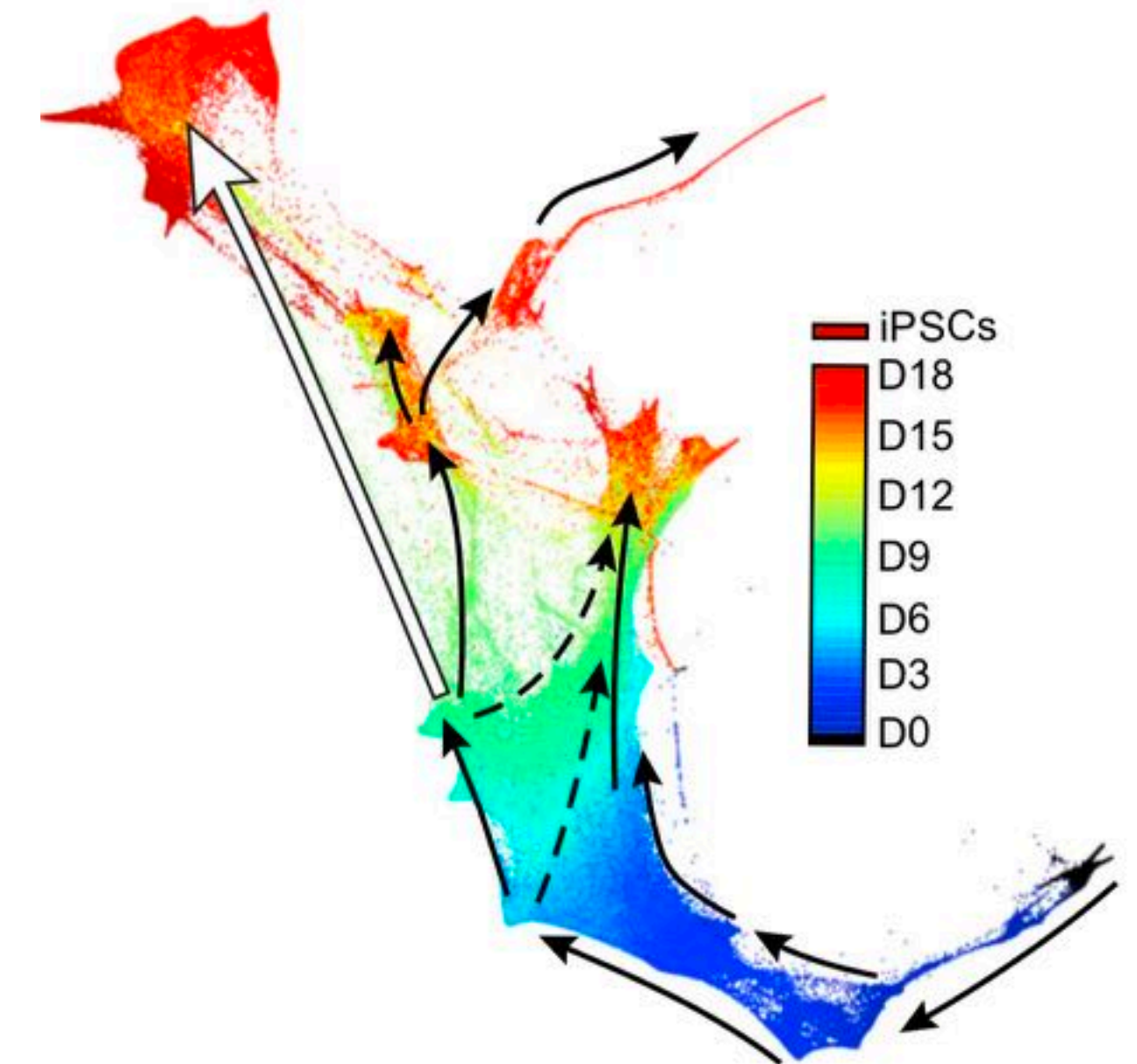


Biddy *et al.*, Nature (2018)

Map: day-3 to day-28

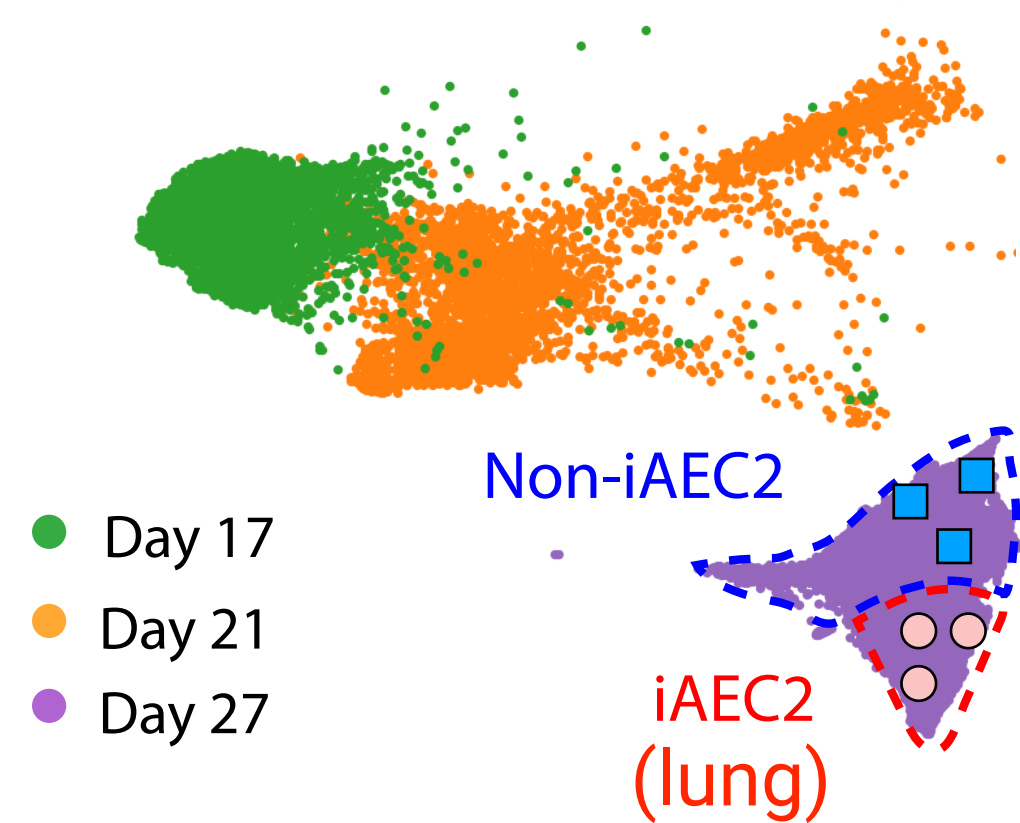
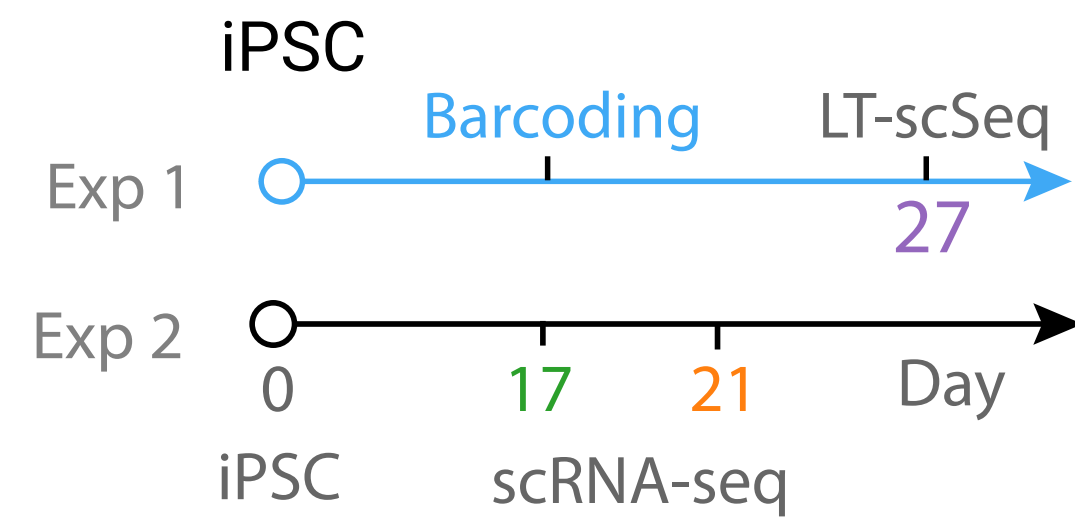


WOT: sampling every 12h over reprogramming



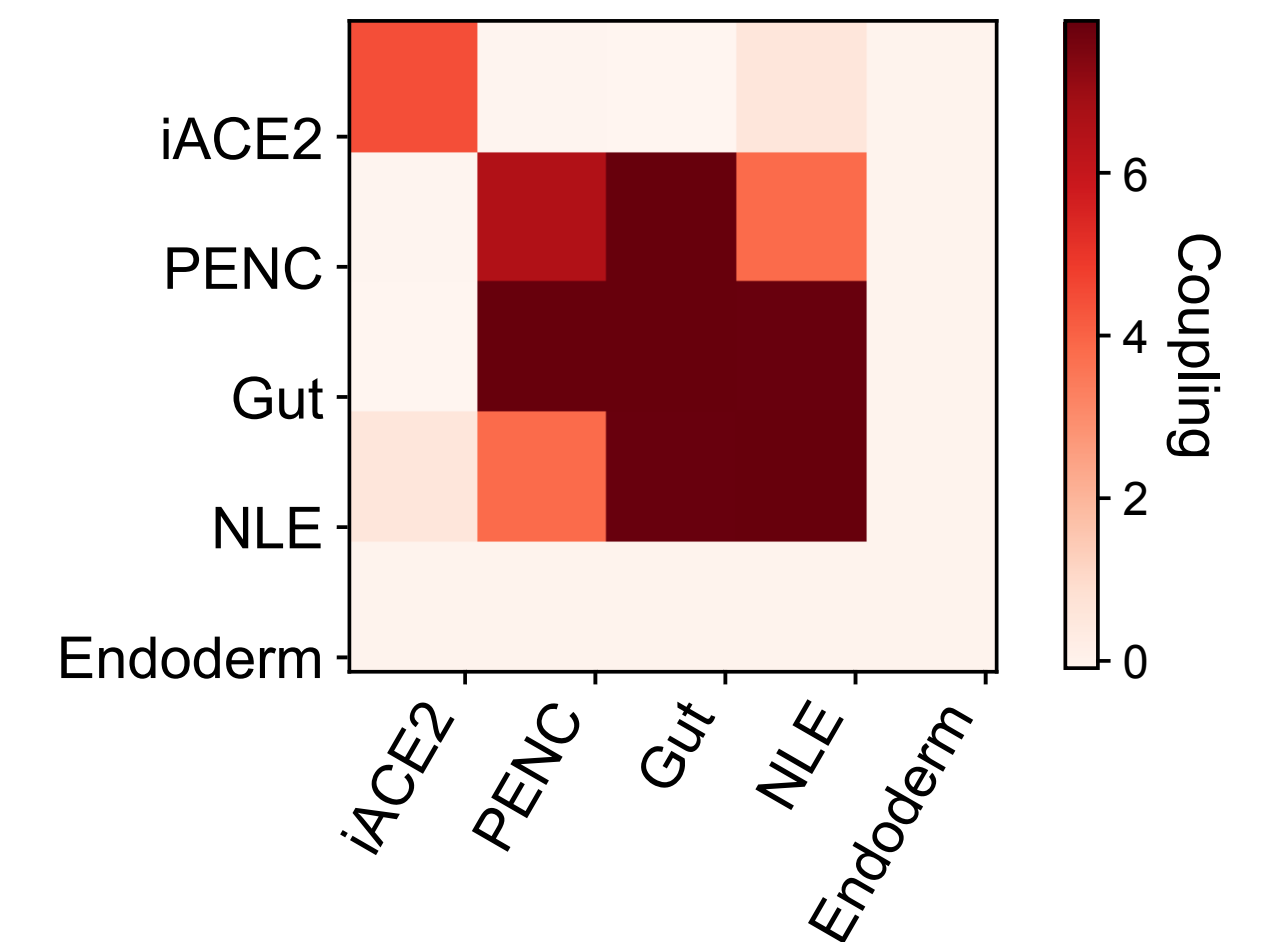
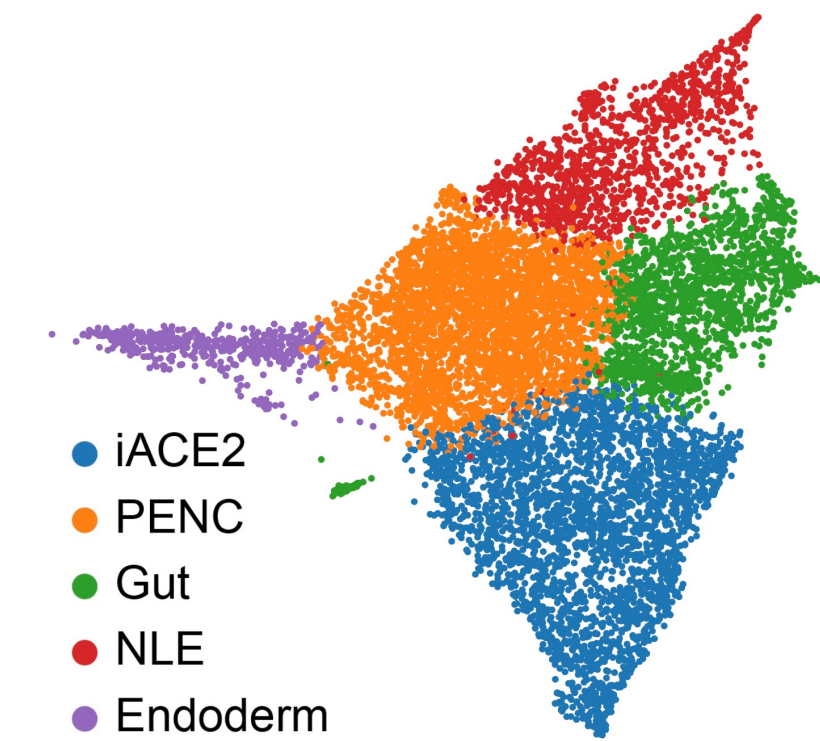
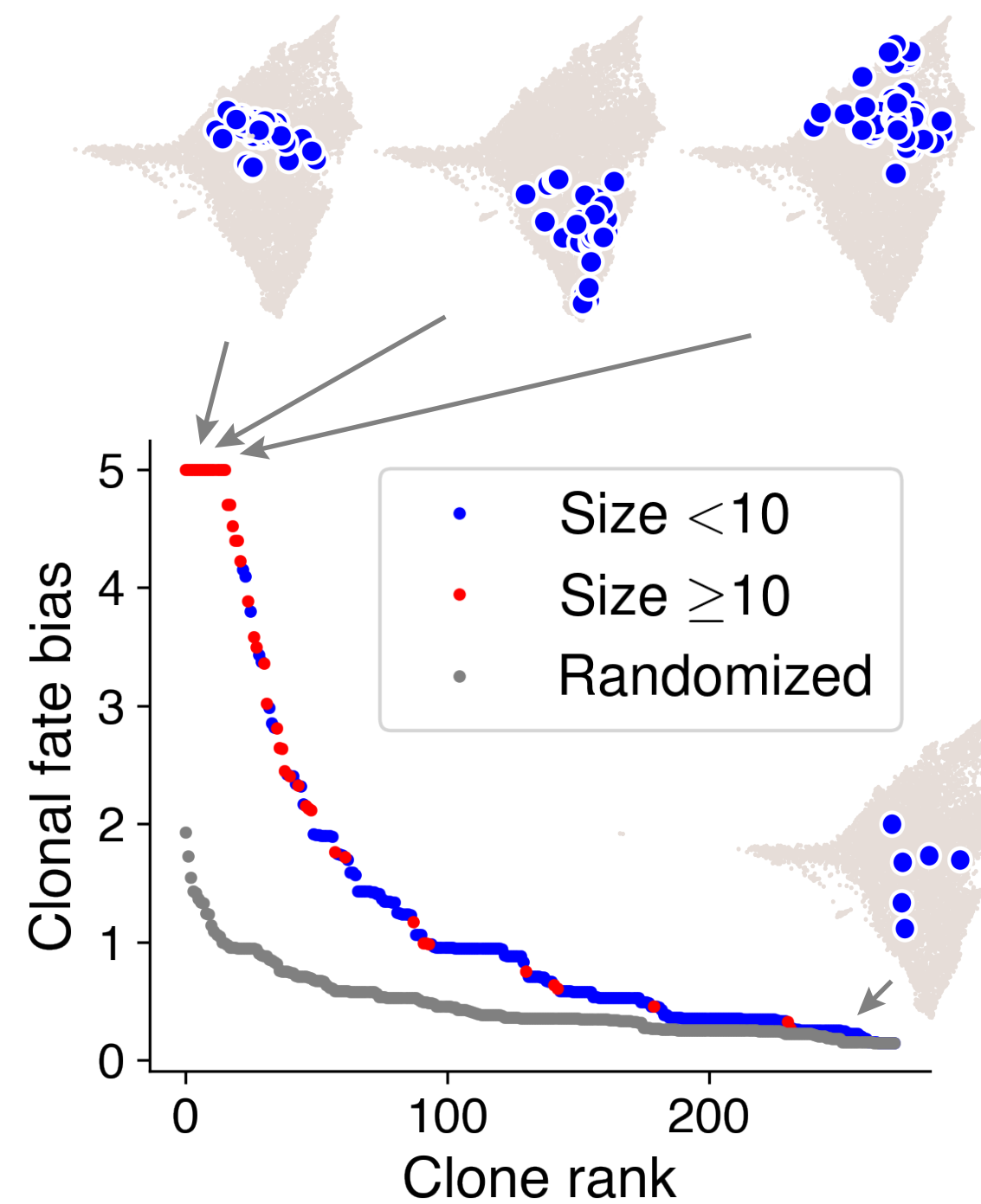
Schiebinger *et al.*, Cell (2019)

# CoSpar reveals fate choice as early as day 3 in reprogramming



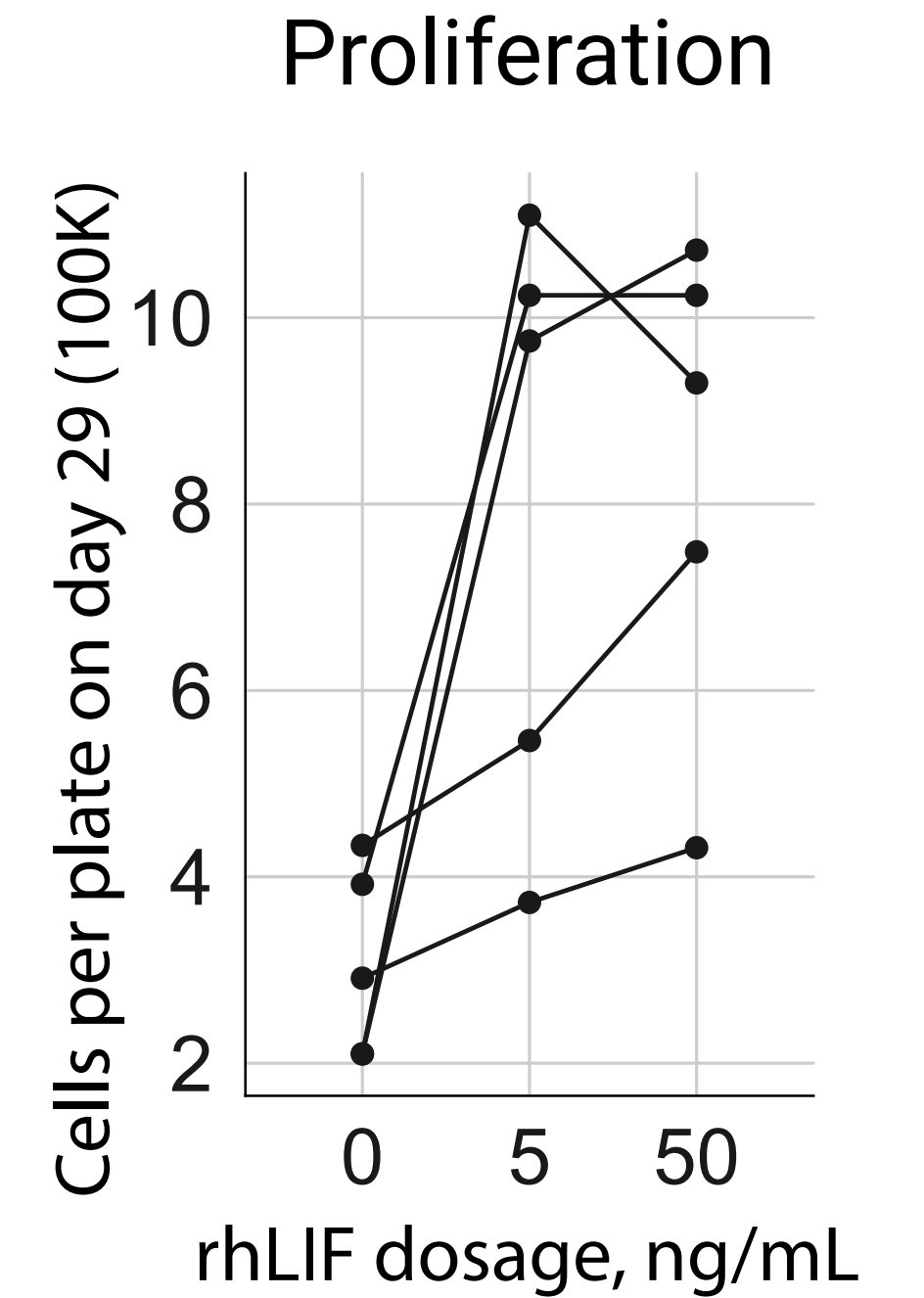
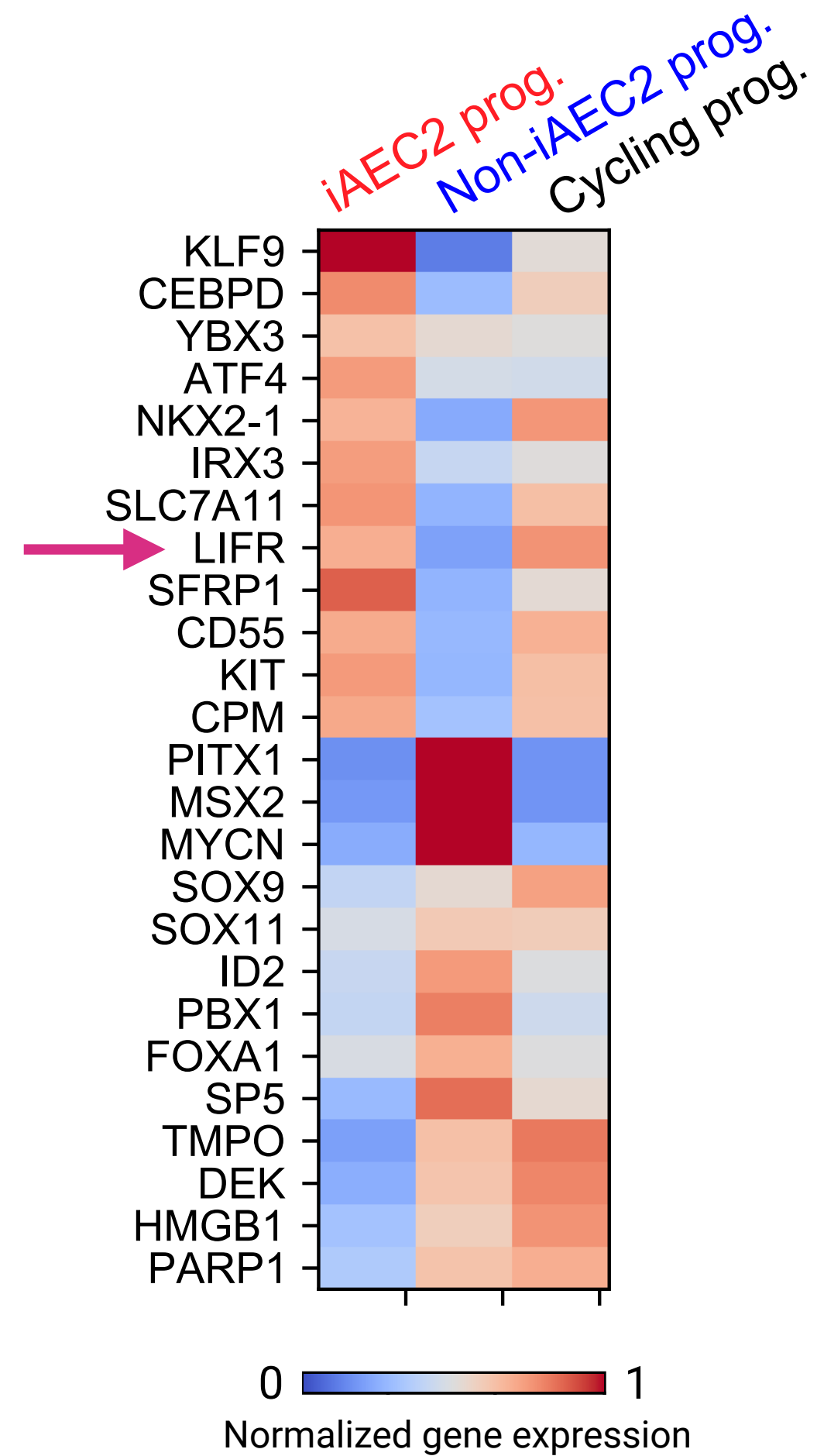
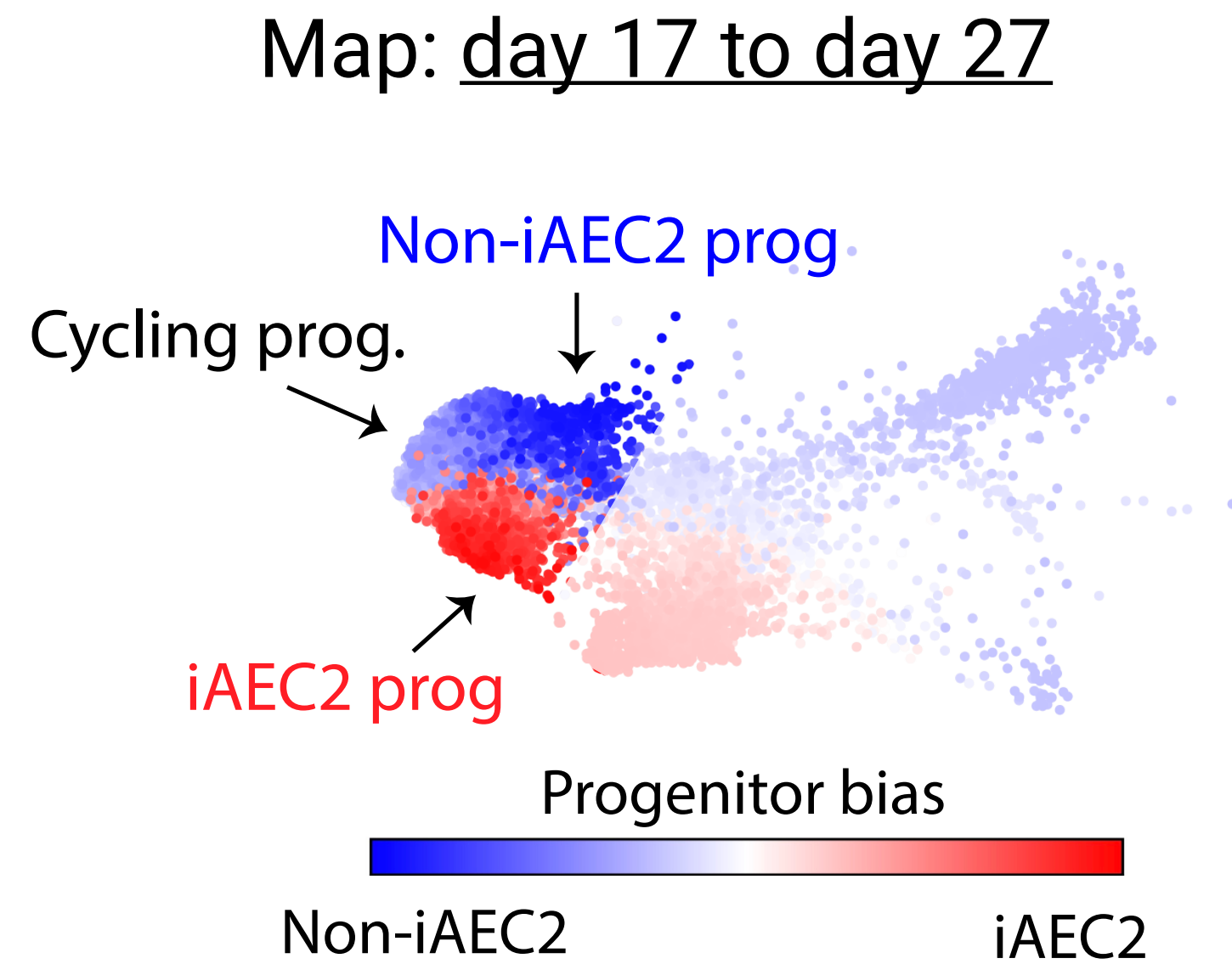
K. Hurley *et al.*, Cell Stem Cell (2020)

77% fate-biased clones ( $\geq 10$  cells)





# CoSpar predicts early fate boundary in lung differentiation



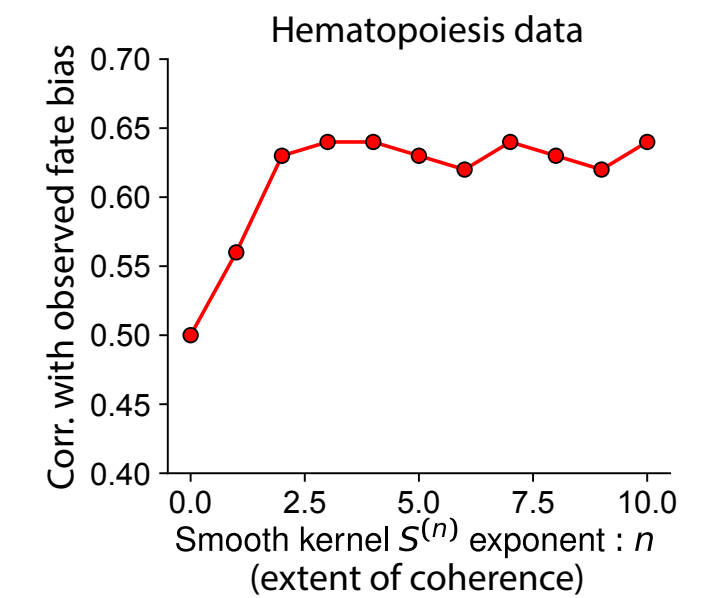
# Limitations of CoSpar

CoSpar only learns the “average” fate bias of observed states

CoSpar is sensitive to the degree of smoothing or how cell-cell similarity is measured

CoSpar would not work if early transcriptome heterogeneity relevant to fate choice is not measured or not preserved after data preprocessing

With a single clonal time point, CoSpar leans more on state information to infer transition map



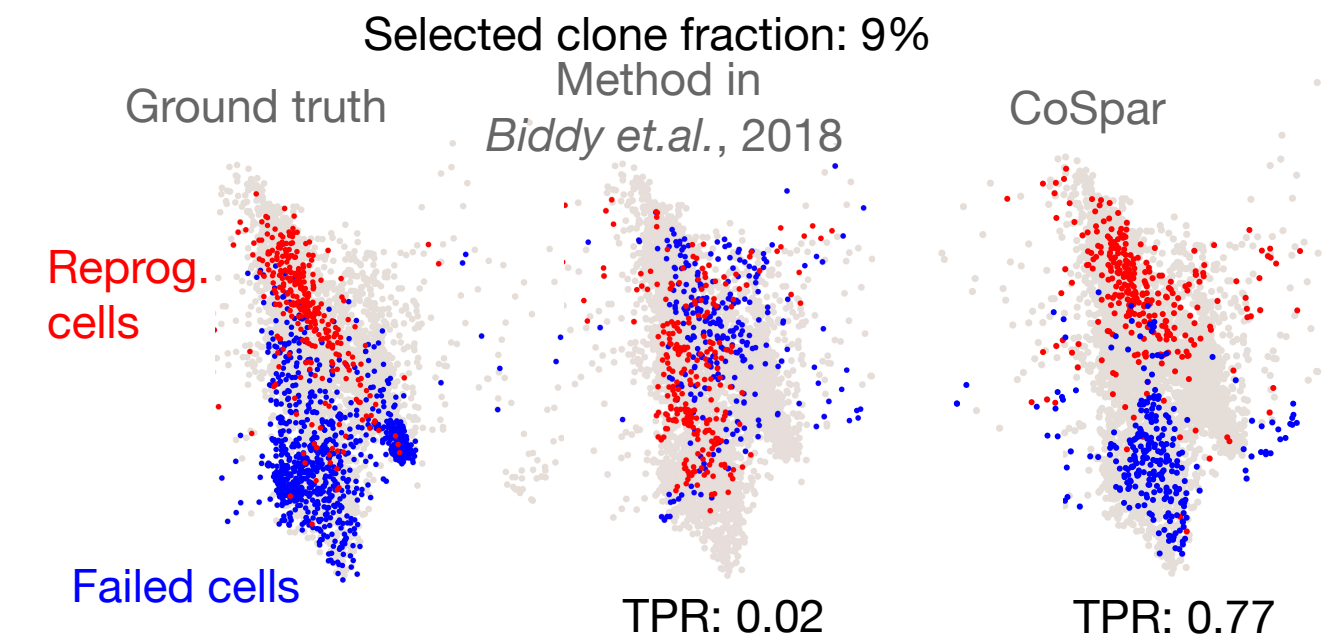
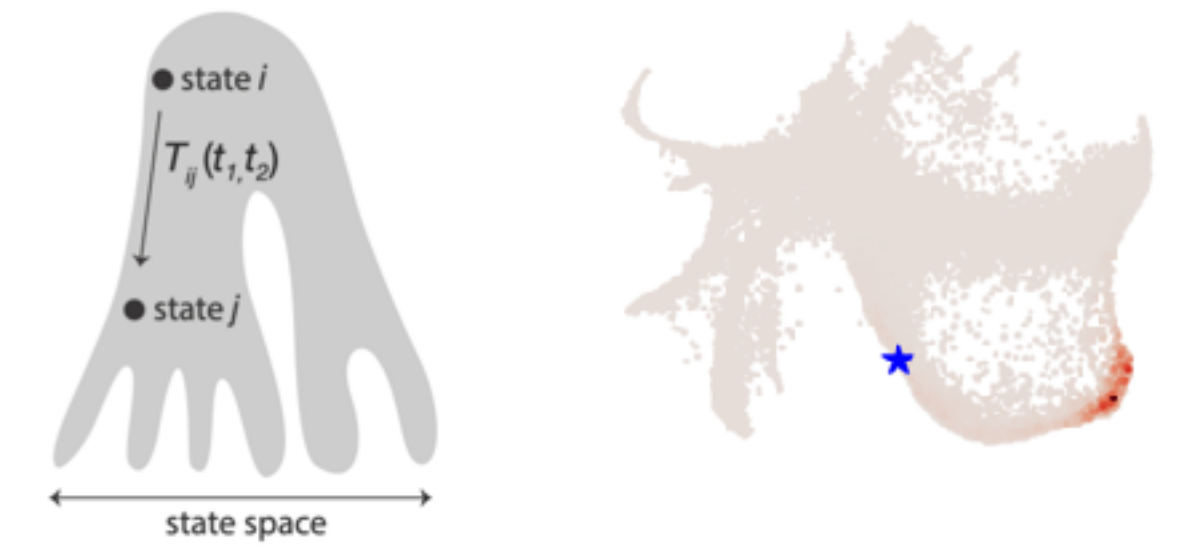
# Conclusion

CoSpar extends the framework of compressed sensing by learning a coherent and sparse transition map from re-sampled clonal data

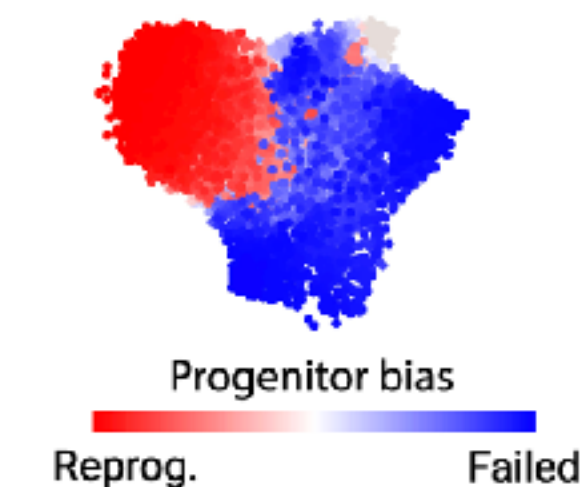
$$\min_T \underbrace{\|T\|_1}_{\text{Sparsity}} + \alpha \underbrace{\|LT\|_2}_{\text{Coherence}}, \quad \text{s.t. } \underbrace{\|\mathbf{P}(t_2) - \mathbf{P}(t_1)T(t_1, t_2)\|_2}_{\text{Clonal constraint}} \leq \epsilon ; T \geq 0 ; \text{Normalization}$$

CoSpar overcomes challenges from clonal dispersion and barcode homoplasmy, and requires much fewer clones

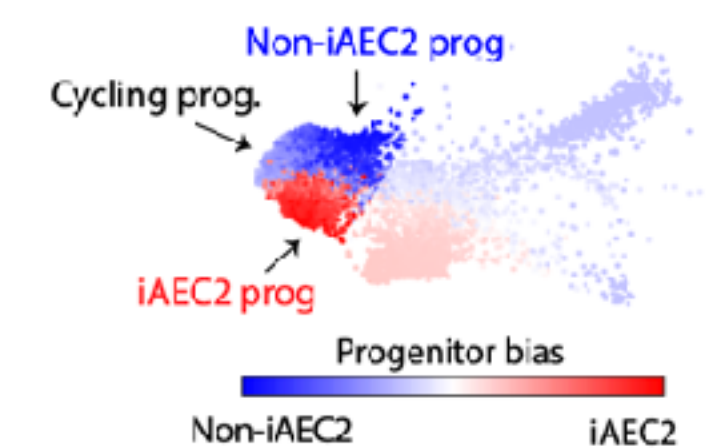
CoSpar successfully learns transition map from a single clonal time point to predict fate outcome several weeks later in reprogramming and direct lung differentiation



Map: day-3 to day-28



Map: day 17 to day 27

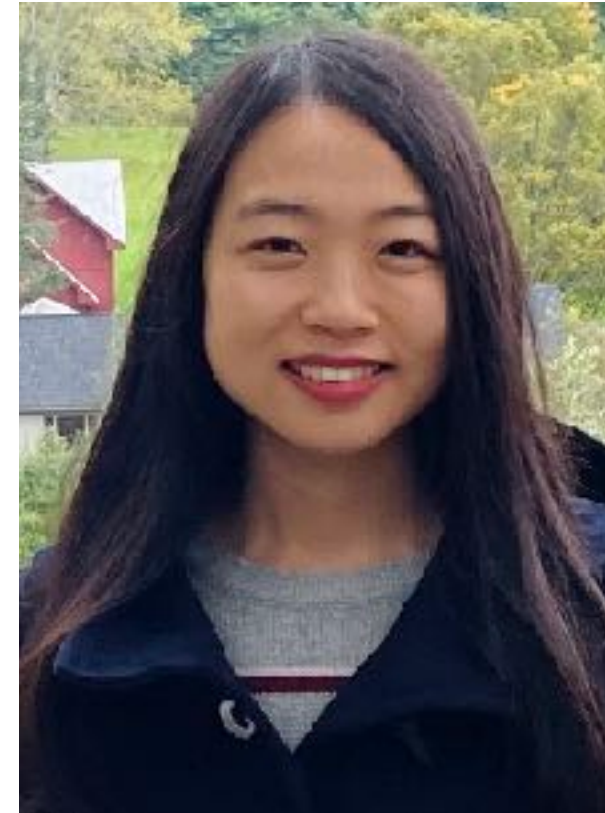


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