



CANCER GENOMICS

Lecture 4: Tumor heterogeneity, Mutation power analysis, Structural variation in cancer

GENOME 541 Spring 2023
May 18, 2023

Gavin Ha, Ph.D.
Public Health Sciences Division
Human Biology Division



@GavinHa
gha@fredhutch.org

<https://github.com/GavinHaLab>

GavinHaLab.org

Outline: Probabilistic Methods for Mutation Detection

1. Additional Copy Number Analysis Features

- Allelic copy number analysis

2. Estimating tumor heterogeneity

- Modeling tumor-normal admixture
- Modeling tumor clonality and heterogeneity

3. Assessing Statistical Power for Variant Discovery

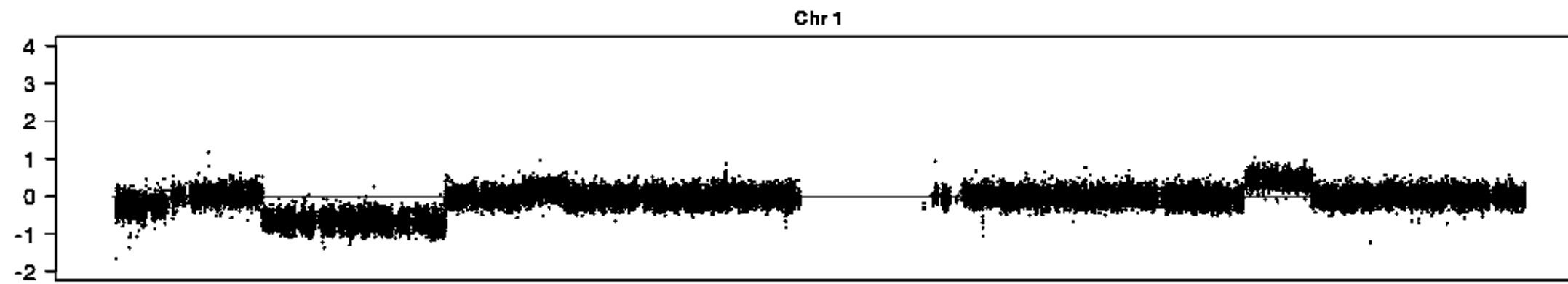
- Power calculation
- Calibrating sequencing depth for variant discovery

4. Structural Rearrangement Analysis in Cancer Genomes

- Structural variant types predicted from sequencing analysis
- Complex genomic structural rearrangement patterns

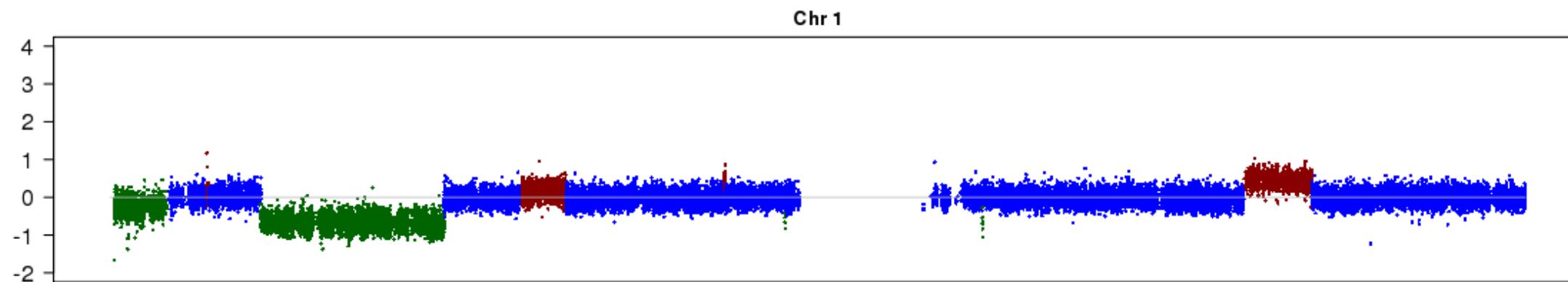
Allele-based Copy Number Analysis

Corrected log₂ ratio



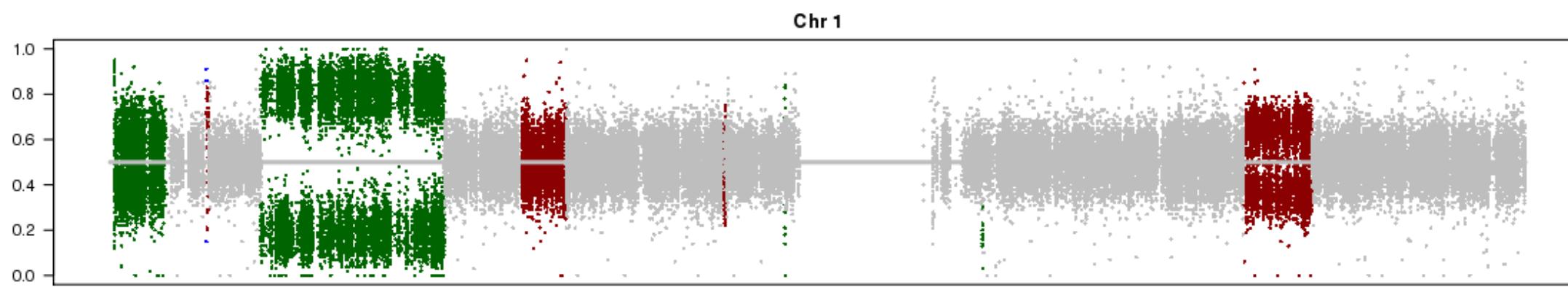
Data normalization

Copy Number (log₂ ratio)



Total Copy Number Only

Allele fraction (ref/depth)



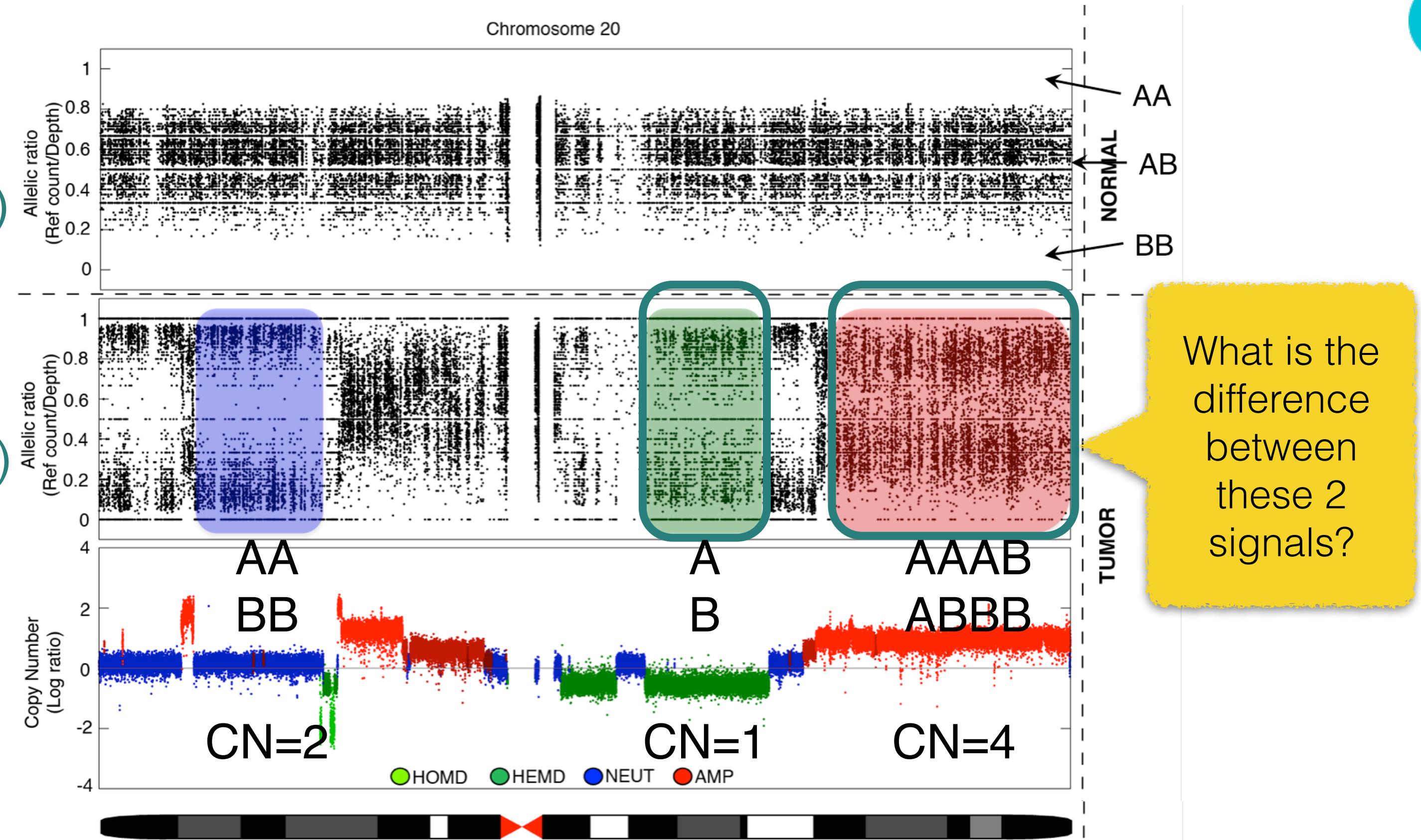
Allelic Copy Number

Copy Number Analysis: Allelic Features

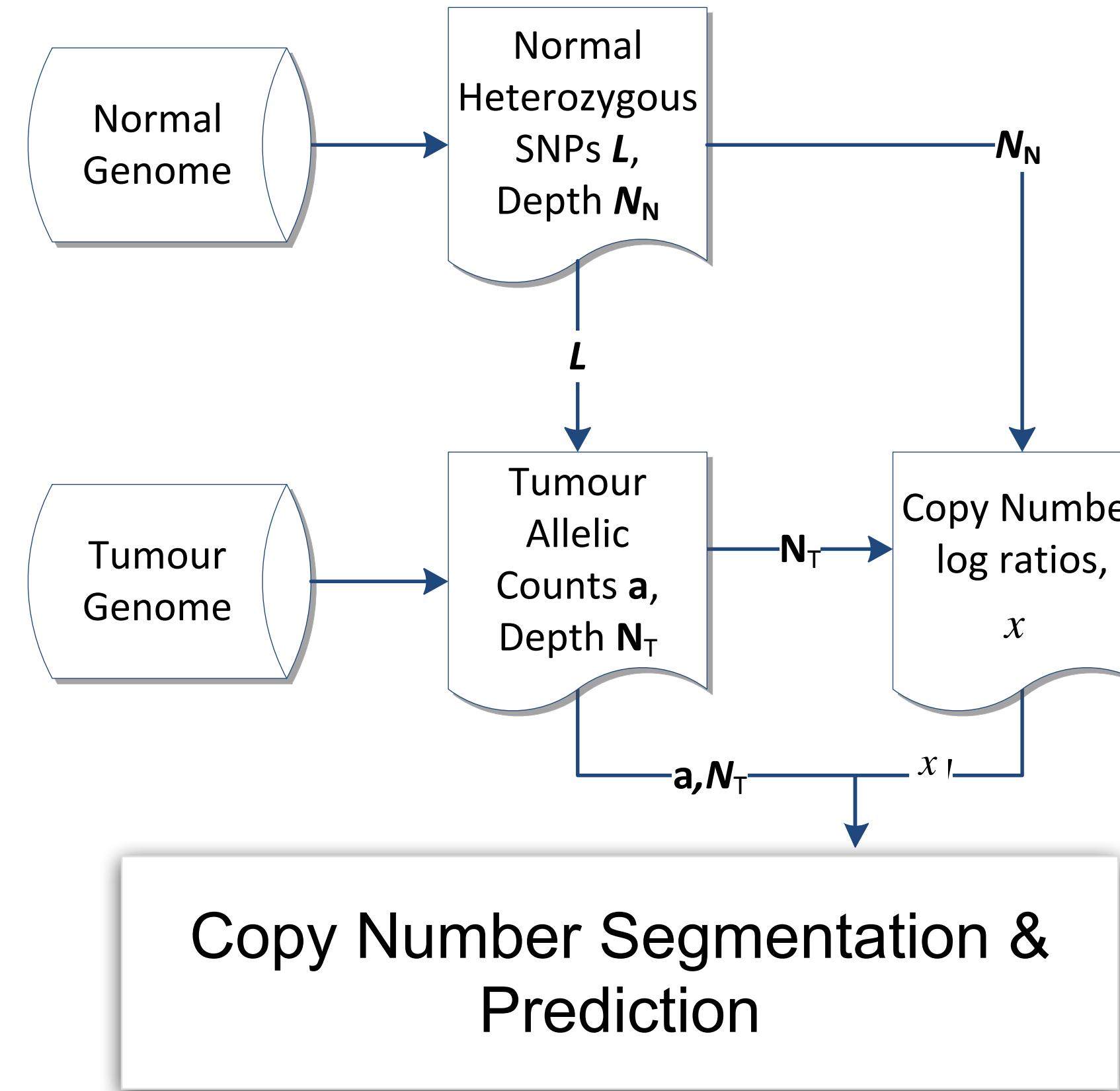
Normal
(ref/depth)

Tumor
(ref/depth)

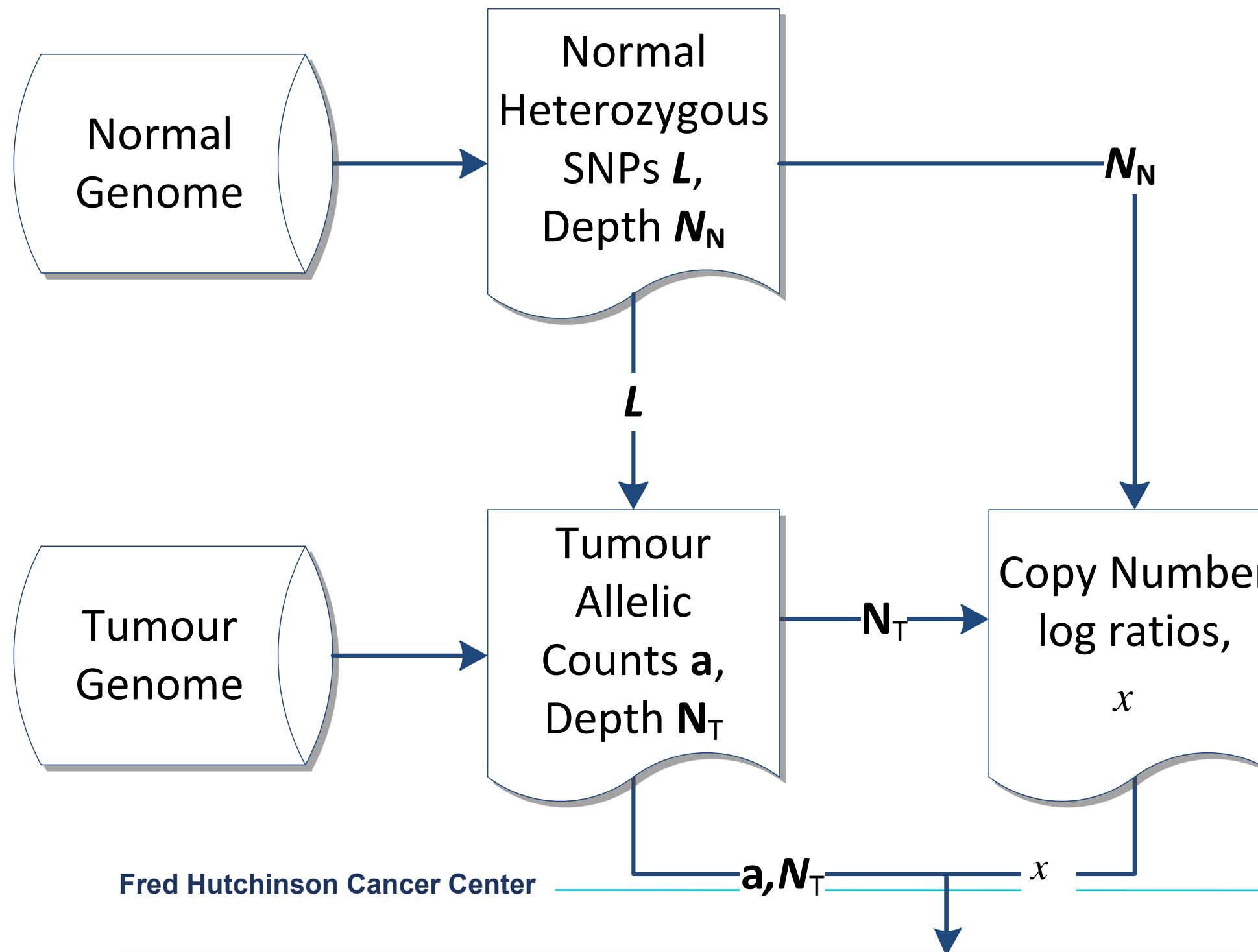
Tumor



Cancer Genome Copy Number Analysis Workflow

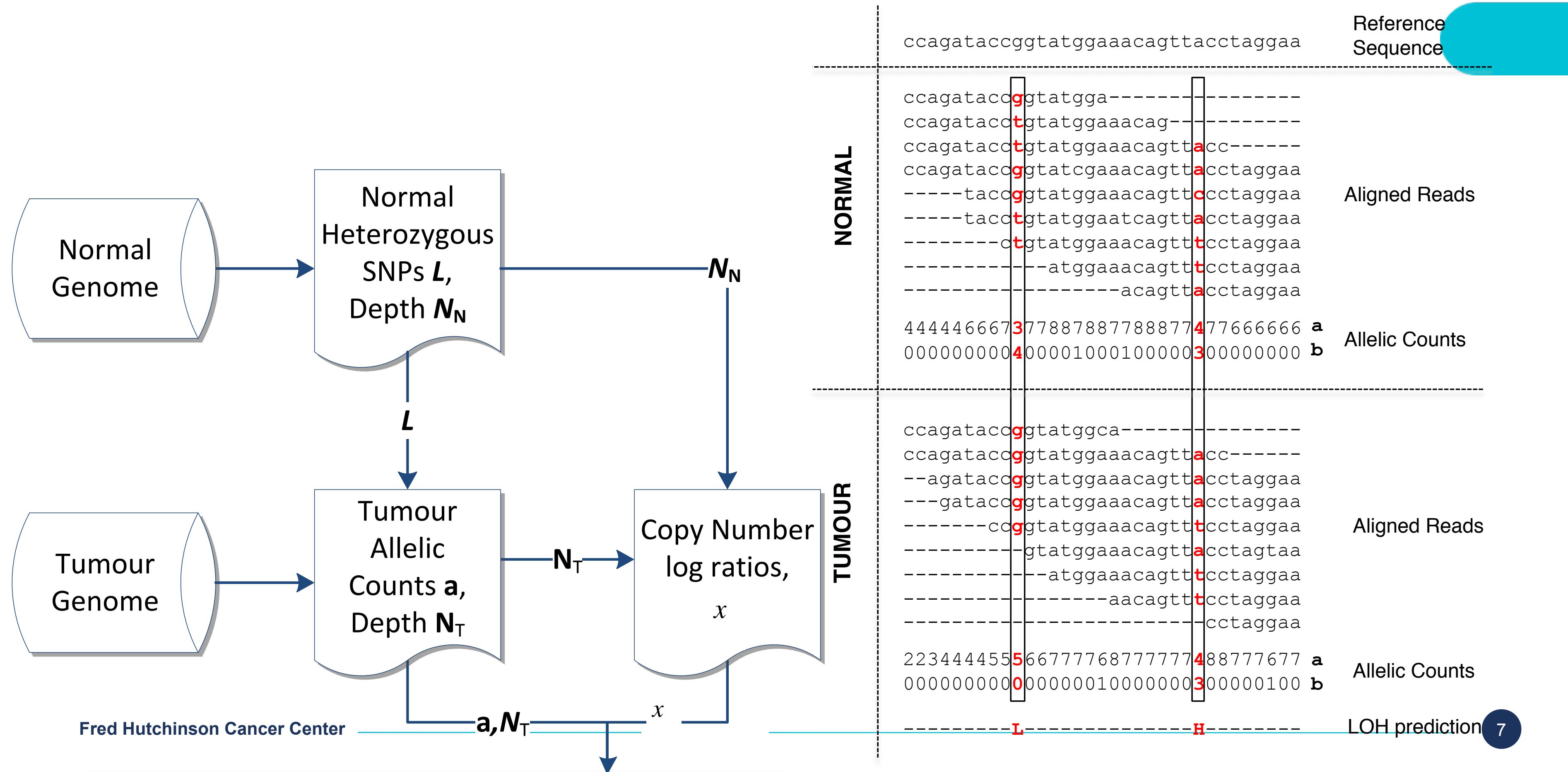


Copy Number Analysis Workflow: Allele Features



1. Correct GC/mappability biases for tumor read depth
2. Identify germline heterozygous SNP sites from normal
3. Extract read counts at SNPs from tumor
4. Perform segmentation and copy number prediction

Copy Number Analysis Workflow: Allele Features



Probabilistic Model for Allelic Copy Number Analysis

Input Data: T different genomic loci

- log ratio data $x_{1:T}$
- reference counts $a_{1:T}$ and read depth $N_{1:T}$ for SNP data

Latent State Model: copy number states

There are 8 possible joint copy number state and allele genotype states.

Transition Model

The transition model is similar to before for matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$

Emission Model: joint likelihood for log ratio and allele data

The **emission model** is a mixture of the joint distributions (multivariate)

$$p(x_t, a_t | Z_i = k, N_t, \mu^c, \sigma^2, \mu^a) = \mathcal{N}(x_t | \mu_k^c, \sigma_k^2) \times \text{Bin}(a_t | N_t, \mu_k^a)$$

Prior Model

$$p(\boldsymbol{\pi} | \boldsymbol{\delta}^\pi) = \text{Dirichlet}(\boldsymbol{\pi} | \boldsymbol{\delta}^\pi)$$

$$p(\mu_k^c | m_k, s_k) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_k^c | m_k, s_k)$$

$$p(\sigma_k^2 | \alpha_k, \beta_k) = \text{InvGamma}(\sigma_k^2 | \alpha_k^c, \beta_k^c)$$

$$p(\mu_k^a | \alpha_k, \beta_k) = \text{Beta}(\mu_k^a | \alpha_k^a, \beta_k^a)$$

$$p(A_{k,1:K} | \boldsymbol{\delta}^A) = \text{Dirichlet}(A_{k,1:K} | \boldsymbol{\delta}_k^A)$$

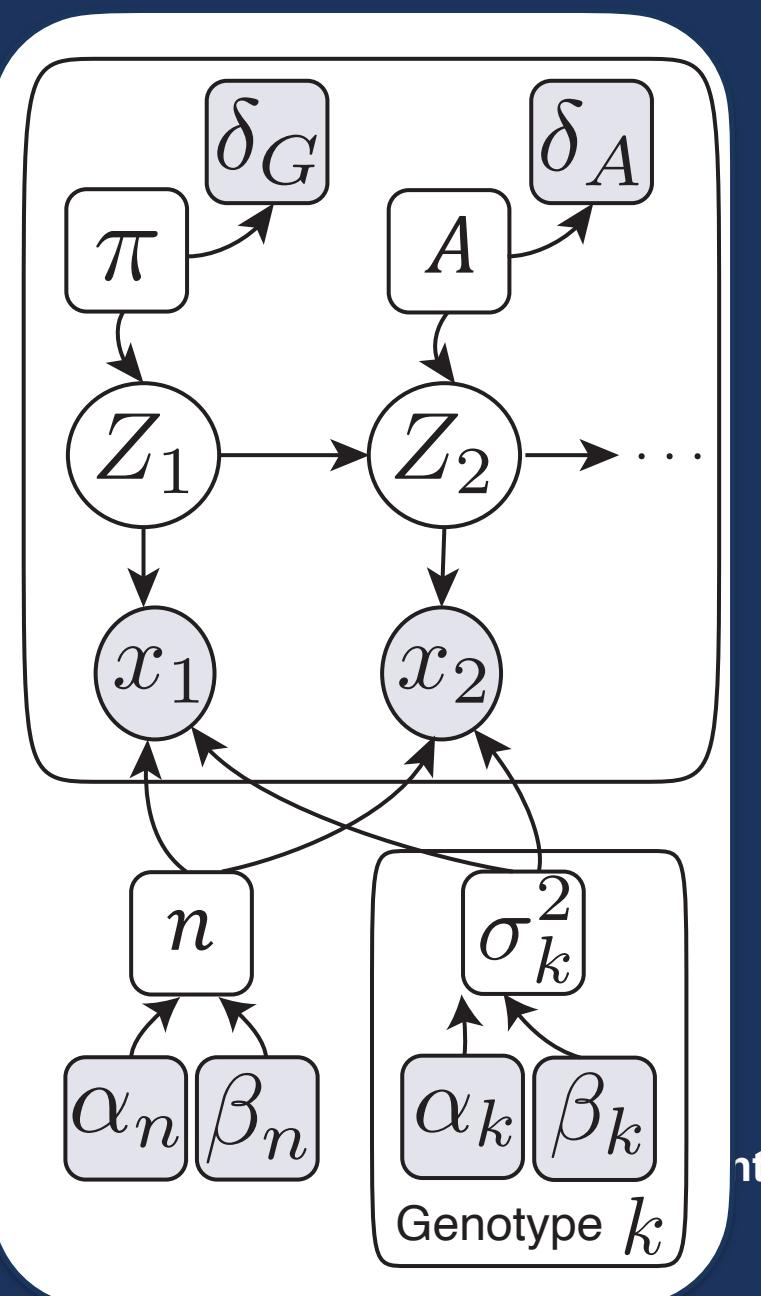
K	Genotype	CN
1	A/B	1
2	AA/BB	2
3	AB	2
4	AAA/BBB	3
5	AAB/ABB	3
6	AAAA/BBB	4
7	AAAB/ABBB	4
8	AA/BB	4

2. Estimating tumor heterogeneity

- Estimating tumor heterogeneity from copy number analysis

- References:

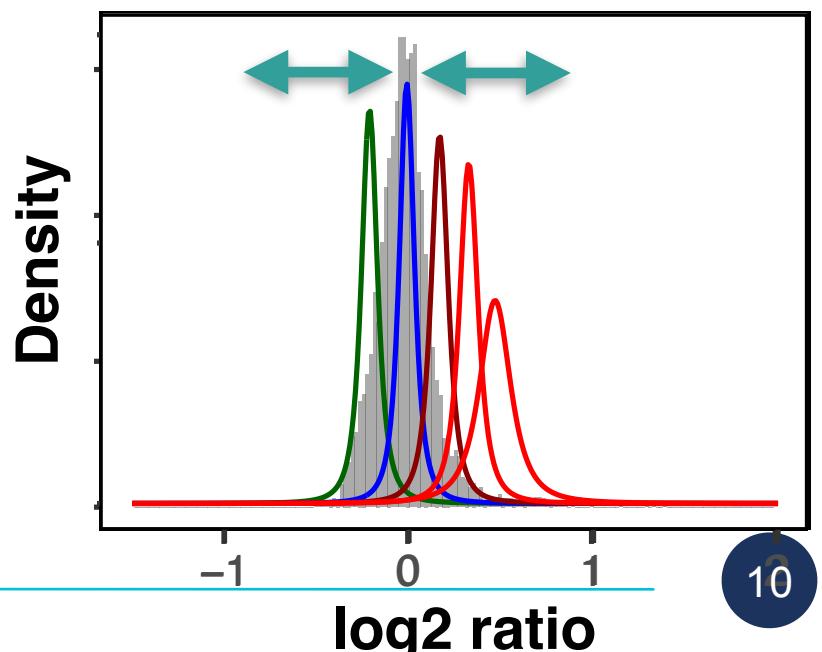
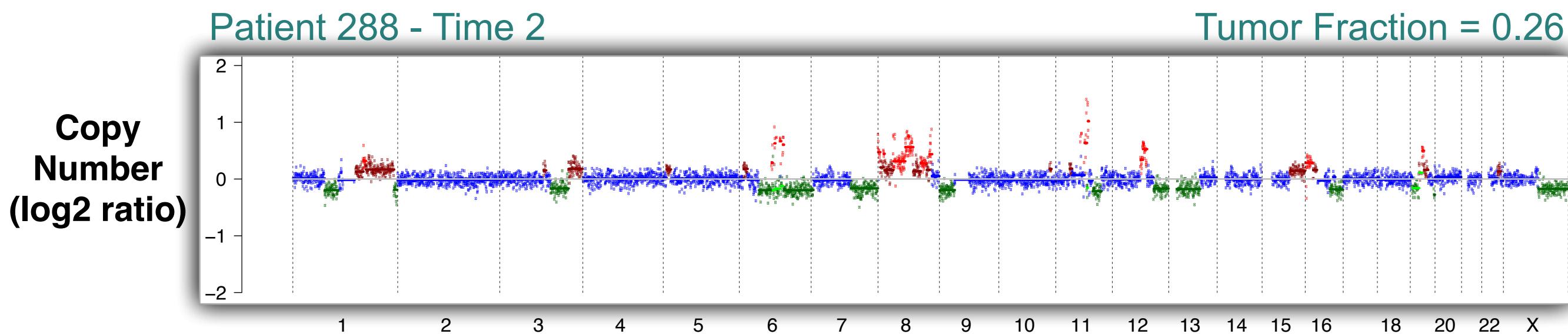
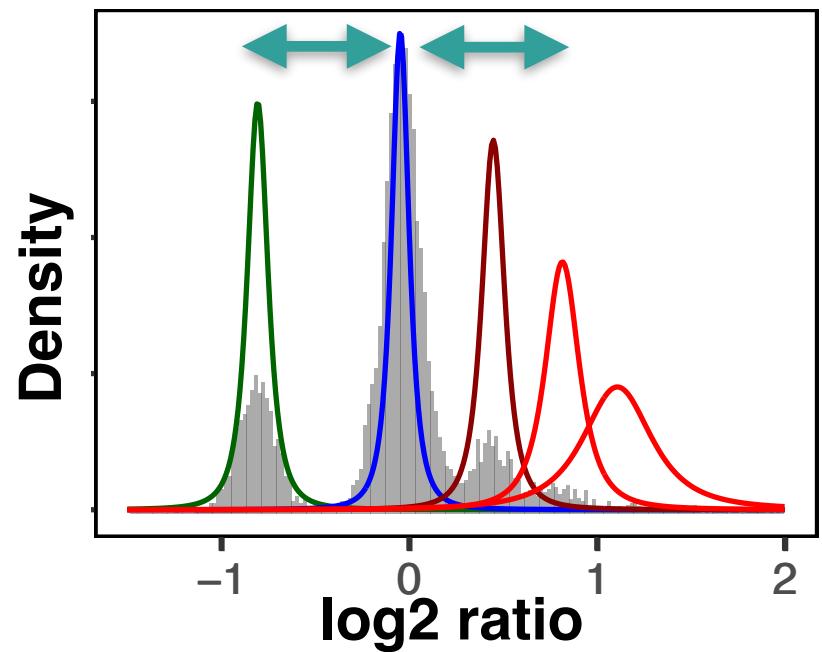
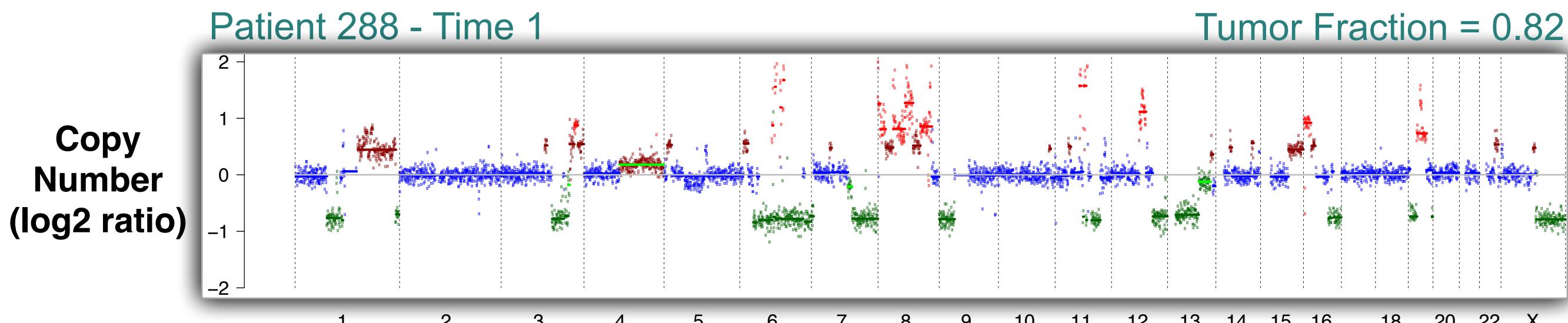
- **ichorCNA** - Adalsteinsson*, Ha* Freeman* et al. *Nature Communications* **8**:1324 (2017).
- **HMMcopy** - Ha et al. *Genome Research* **22**:1995-2007 (2012).
- **TitanCNA** - Ha et al. TITAN: inference of copy number architectures in clonal cell populations from tumor whole-genome sequencing data. *Genome Research* **24**:1881-1893 (2014).
- Murphy, K. (2012). Machine Learning: A Probabilistic Perspective. MIT Press. ISBN: 9780262018029
- Bishop, C. M. (2006). Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning (Information Science and Statistics). Springer. ISBN: 0387310738



Modeling tumor-normal admixture

Why estimate the model parameters $\mu = \{\mu_0, \dots, \mu_5\}$ and $\sigma^2 = \{\sigma_0^2, \dots, \sigma_5^2\}$?

- Data variability due to sequencing depth (technical) and *tumor heterogeneity* (biological)



Modeling tumor-normal admixture

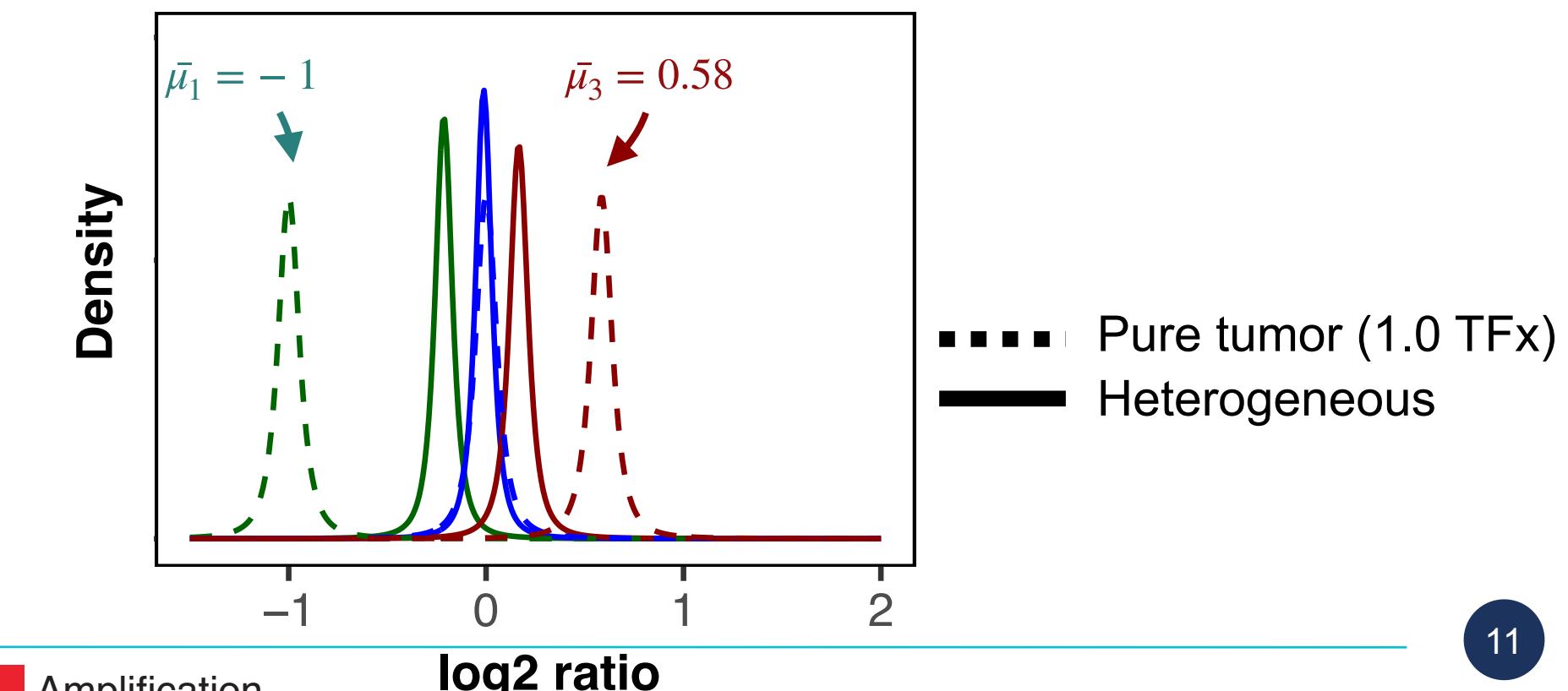
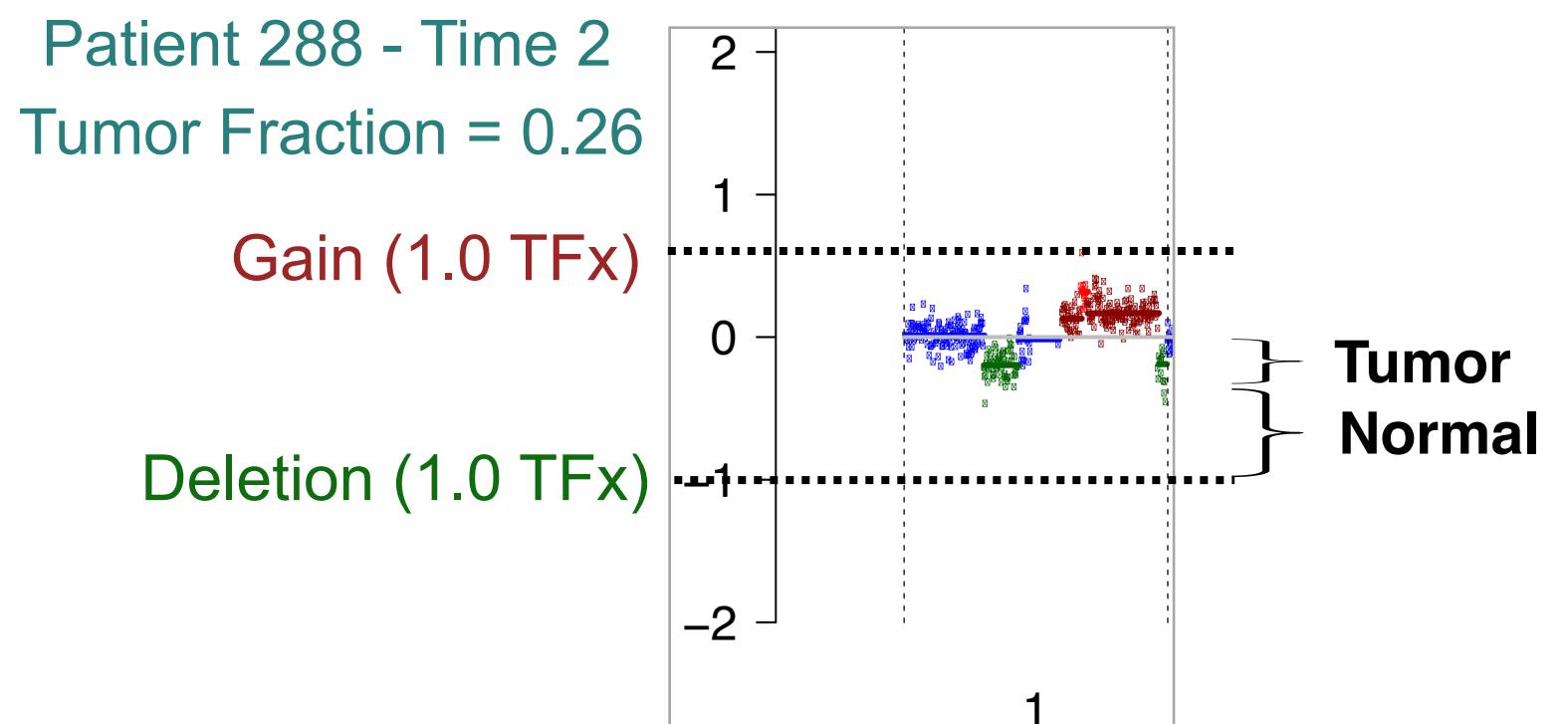
The mean (μ) of the copy number state mixture components can inform the tumor fraction.

- Recall: the log ratio input data is computed as

$$x_t = \log_2 \left(\frac{\hat{N}_t^{\text{Tumor}}}{\hat{N}_t^{\text{Normal}}} \right)$$

- For number $c_k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$, a pure tumor with 1.0 tumor fraction copy will have log ratios $\bar{\mu}_{1:K}$

$$\bar{\mu}_{1:K} = \left\{ \log_2 \left(\frac{c_{1:K}}{2} \right) \right\} =$$



Modeling tumor fraction as a parameter

- A tumor biopsy contains both tumor and normal cells

$$\text{tumor signal} \approx [(1 - n) \times \text{tumor CN}] + [n \times \text{normal CN}]$$

- n is the fraction of non-cancer cells
- $(1 - n)$ is the fraction of cancer cells
- Typically *normal CN* = 2

- Then, the expected log ratio can be written as

$$\bar{\mu}_k = \log_2 \left(\frac{c_k}{2} \right)$$

Pure tumor

$$\mu_k = \log_2 \left(\frac{2n + (1 - n)c_k}{2} \right)$$

Tumor-normal admixture
(Heterogeneous)

where $c_k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ is the tumor copy number for state k

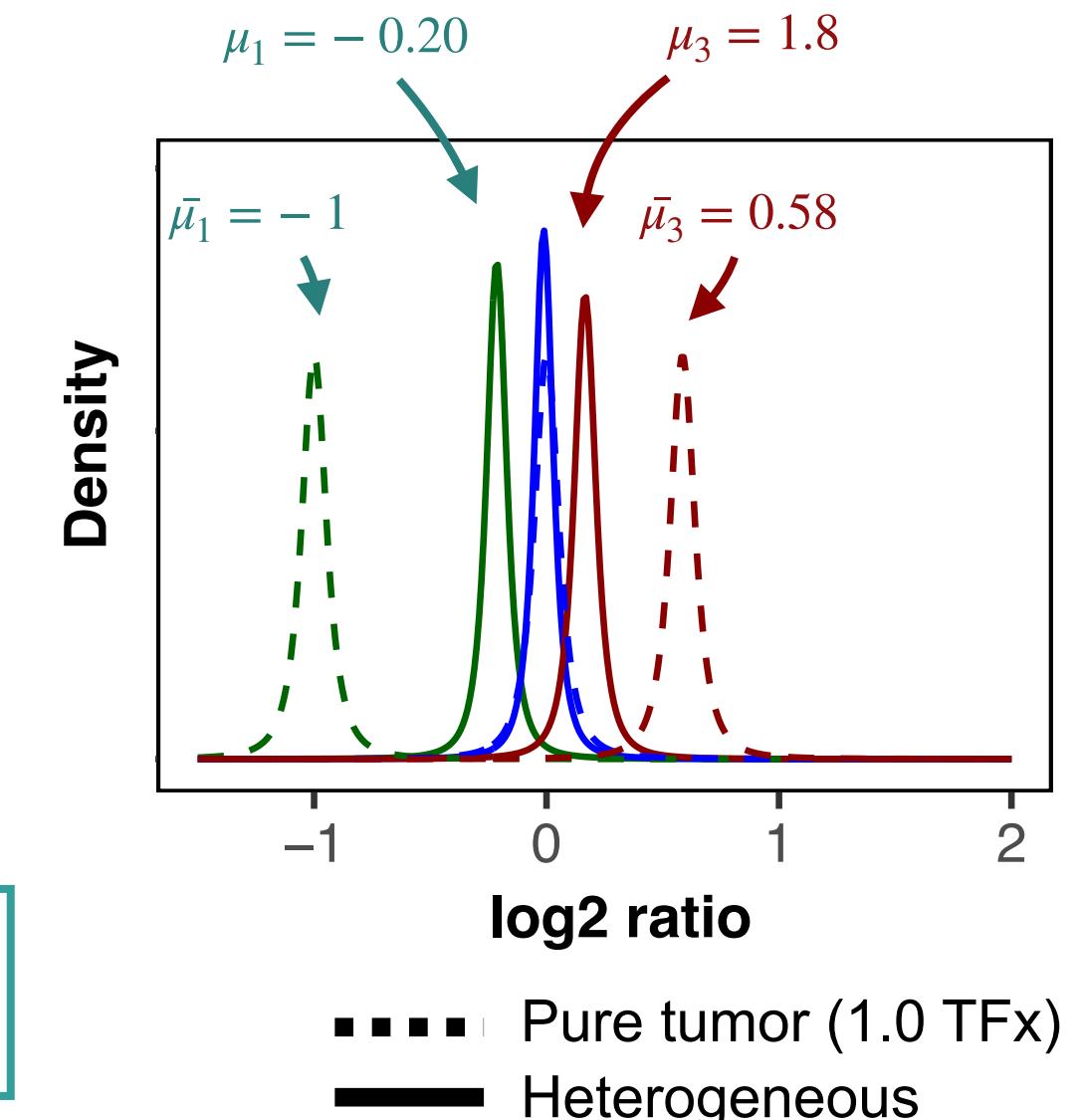
- Let's use some examples of *deletions* (CN=1) from the Slide 11:

$$\bar{\mu}_1 =$$

Pure tumor
($n = 0$)

Tumor-normal admixture
($n = 0.74$)

- Note that this formulation does not account for genome doubling in the tumor which would involve a tumor ploidy parameter ϕ and denominator of the ratio would be $2n + (1 - n)\phi$ instead of just 2



Modeling tumor fraction as a parameter

- The expected log ratio for copy number state k is

$$\mu_k = \log_2 \left(\frac{2n + (1-n)c_k}{2} \right), \text{ where } c_k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

- Recall the likelihood model:

$$p(x_i | Z_i = k, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2) = \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu_k, \sigma_k^2)$$

- Since μ_k is now a function of n , we no longer need to estimate μ_k .
- However, the non-cancer proportion n is what we want to estimate to obtain the tumor fraction $(1 - n)$.**

$$p(\mu_k | m_k, s_k) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_k | m_k, s_k)$$

$$p(n | \alpha_n, \beta_n) = \text{Beta}(n | \alpha_n, \beta_n) \quad \text{Prior for } n$$

**Log Posterior
(with n terms)**

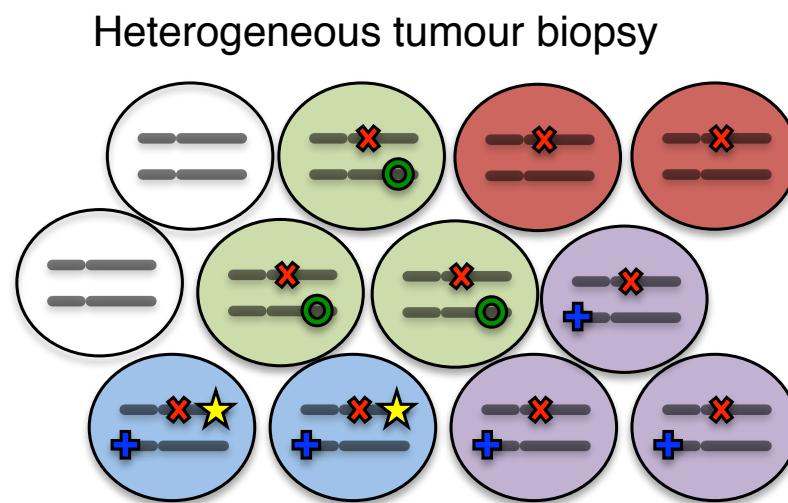
- Take the derivative wrt to n
- Equate to 0
- Find the roots to estimate n

$$\log \mathbb{P}(n) \propto \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma(Z_t = k) \log \mathcal{N}(x_t | \mu_k, \sigma_k^2) + \sum_{k=1}^K \log \text{Beta}(\mu_k | \alpha_n, \beta_n)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\log \mathbb{P}(n))}{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}} \times \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}}{\partial n} = \frac{\partial(\log \mathbb{P}(n))}{\partial n} = 0, \text{ then find } n$$

Since the Beta distribution is not conjugate with the Gaussian, we can use numerical optimization to find \hat{n} that maximizes the $\log \mathbb{P}$

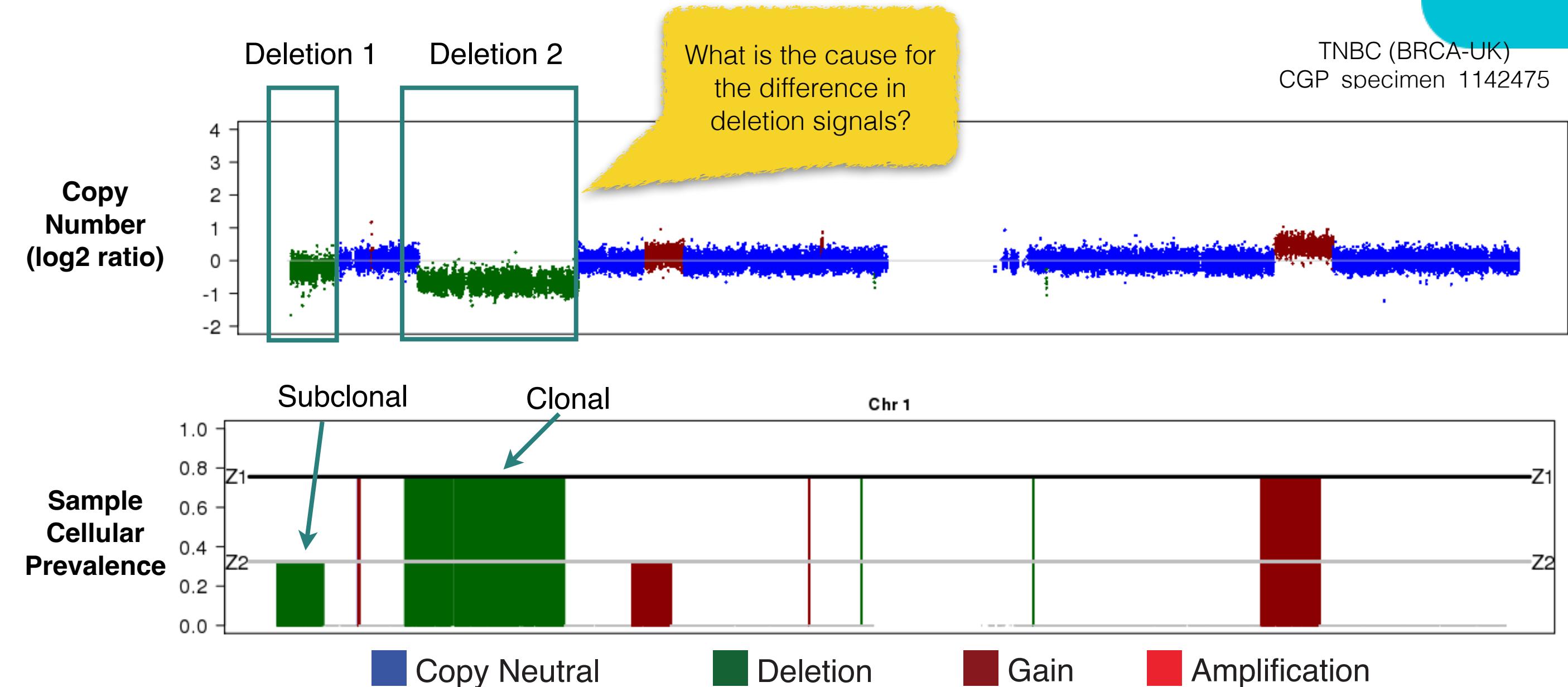
Copy Number Analysis of Subclonal Heterogeneity



Cellular prevalence

	Clonal
✖ 100%	
✚ 50%	
● 30%	
★ 20%	

Subclonal



- **Subclonal** CNA events have weaker signals compared to clonal CNAs because of contribution from *cancer cells* without the CNA event

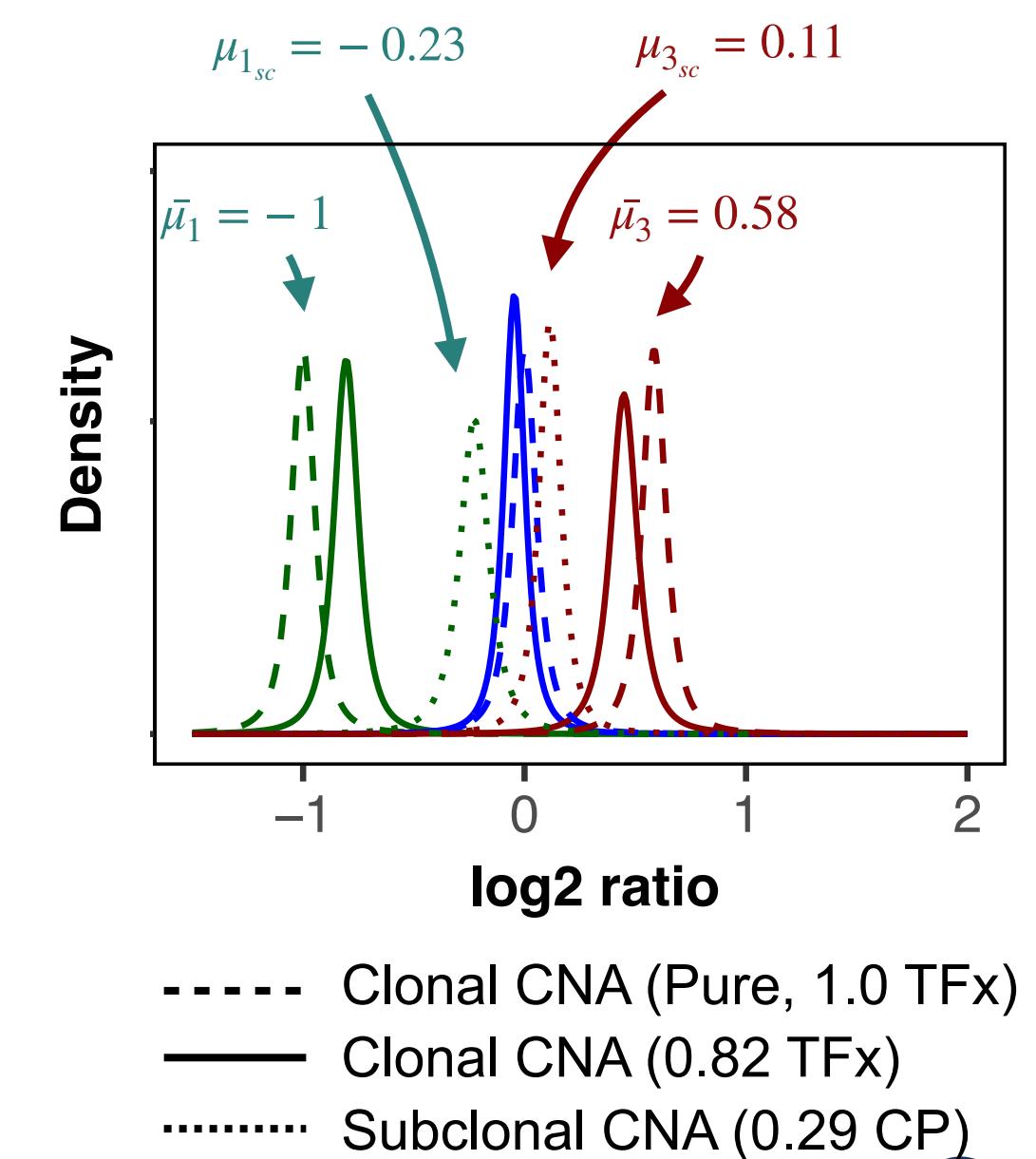
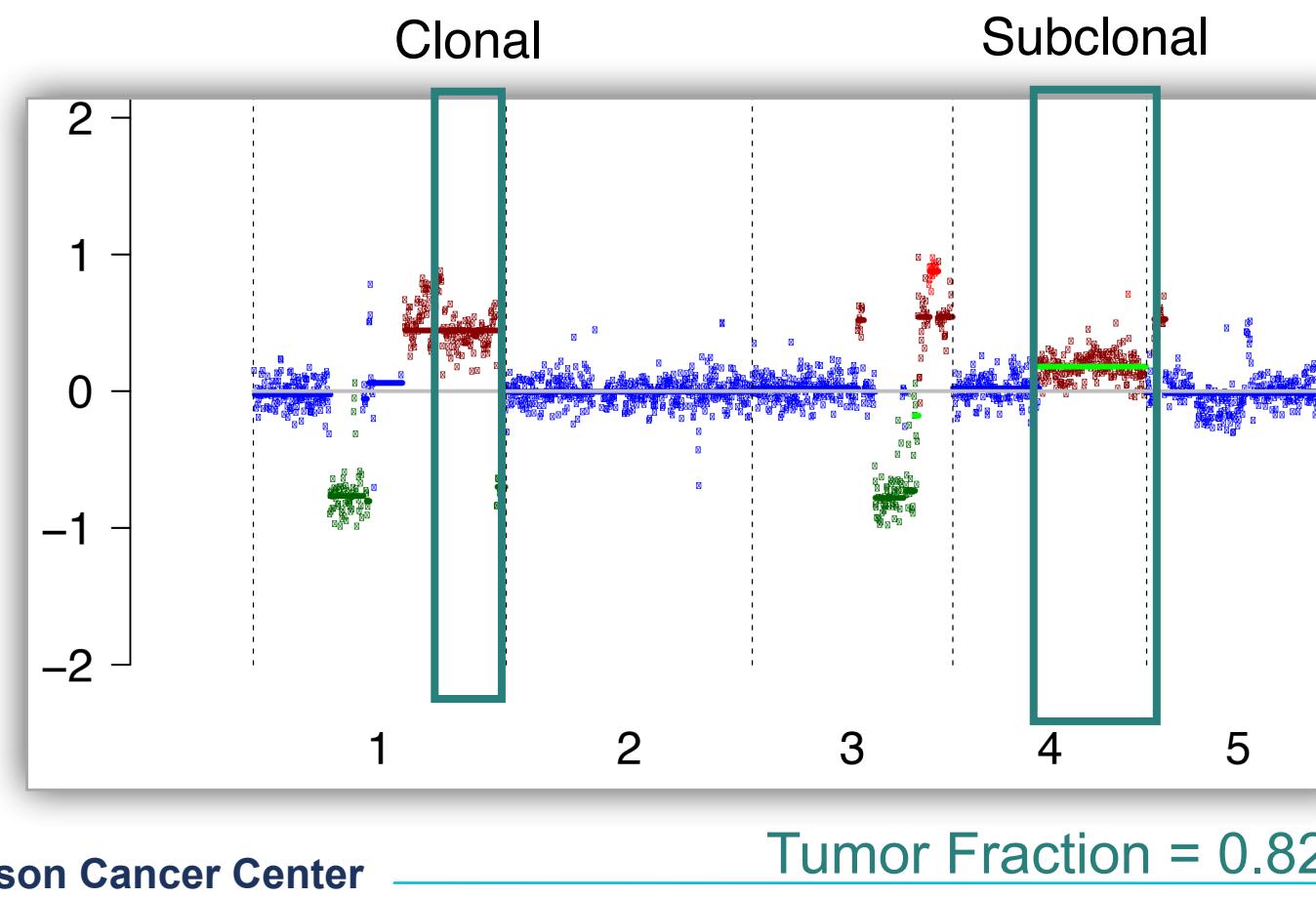
Modeling subclonal copy number

- Add two additional states for subclonal deletion and subclonal gain, $K_{sc} = \{1, 3\}$ and $K = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, K_{sc}\}$
- The expected log ratio for subclonal copy number state $k_{sc} \in \{1, 3\}$ is

$$\mu_{k_{sc}} = \log_2 \left(\frac{2n + 2(1-n)s + (1-n)(1-s)c_{k_{sc}}}{2} \right)$$

Normal Tumor w/o event Tumor w/ event

- s is the fraction of **cancer cells without CNA event**
- $(1 - s)$ is the fraction of **cancer cells with CNA event** (aka tumor cellular prevalence)



3. Assessing Statistical Power for Variant Discovery

- Power calculation
- Calibrating sequencing depth for variant discovery
- References:
 - Cibulskis et al. Sensitive detection of somatic point mutations in impure and heterogeneous cancer samples. *Nature Biotechnology* **31**:213-19 (2013)
 - Adalsteinsson et al. *Nature Communications* **8**:1324 (2017). DOI: 10.1038/s41467-017-00965-y

Sensitivity of Mutation Calling is Subject to Heterogeneity

- Tumor biopsy samples may exhibit intra-tumor heterogeneity
 - The tumor fraction (aka tumor content) influences our ability to detect an SNV at a specific locus
- Here are some questions that warrant statistical considerations:
 - What is our power (sensitivity) to detect an SNV given the read depth?
 - What read depth is required to detect an SNV at a specific power?
 - If we do not detect a mutation, is it because (1) there is no mutation? Or (2) we do not have sufficient power to make a confident call?
- Answering these questions with theoretical power calculations can help to calibrate the required sequencing depth and the expectation to detect mutations.

Power Calculation for Mutation Detection

- Let μ be the expected probability of observing a variant read at a locus
- Tumor fraction α , copy number c , and multiplicity M

$$\mu = \frac{\alpha M}{\alpha c + 2(1 - \alpha)}$$

average tumor copies average normal copies

- $\mu = \frac{\alpha}{2}$ for tumor copy number $c = 2$ and multiplicity $M = 1$ (for heterozygous SNV, e.g. AB)
- The power to detect ≥ 3 variant reads at locus i with N_i total read depth is estimated using a binomial exact test

$$p(X \geq 3) = \sum_{k=3}^N \text{Bin}(k | N, \mu)$$

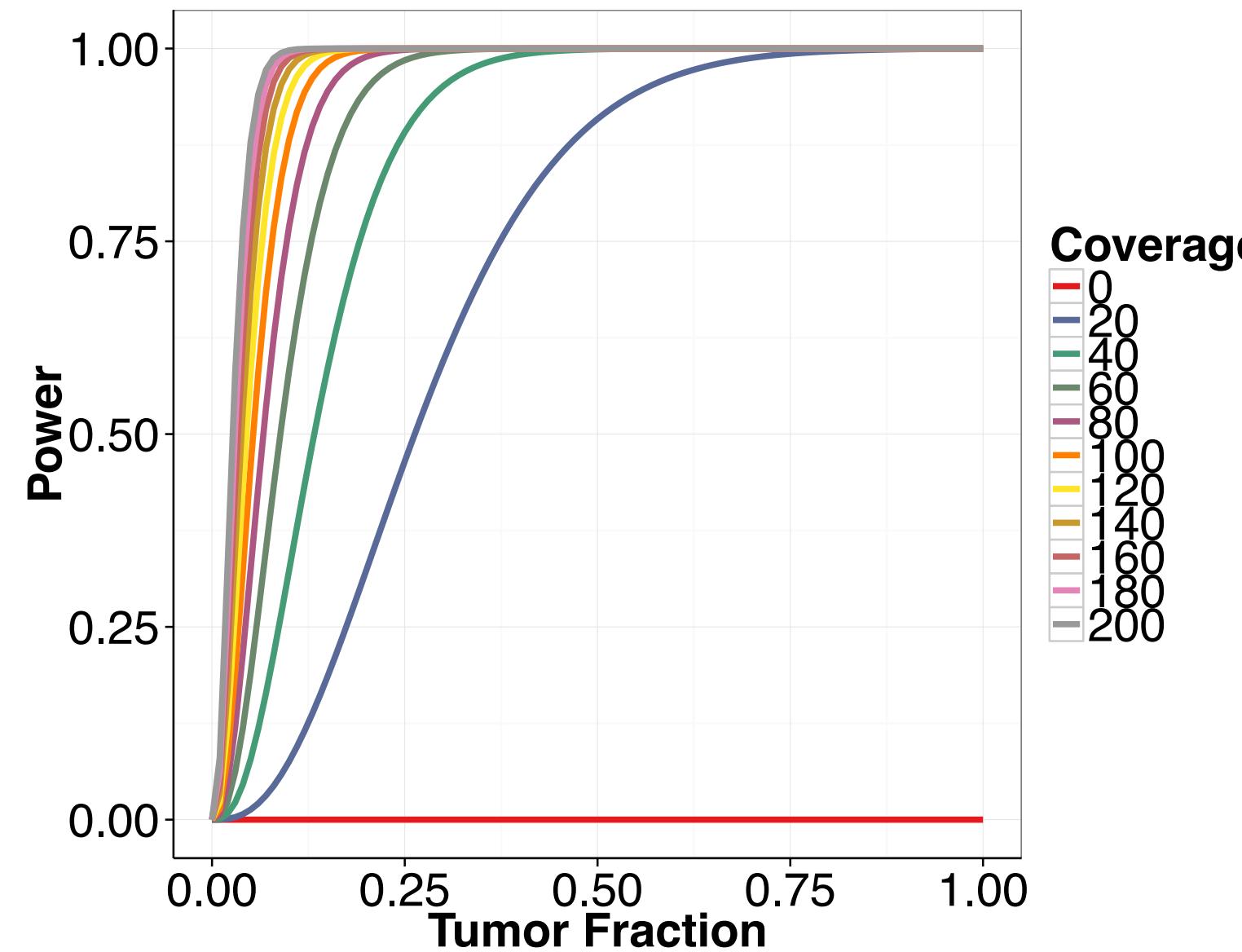
$$p(X \geq 3) = 1 - [\text{Bin}(0 | N, \mu) + \text{Bin}(1 | N, \mu) + \text{Bin}(2 | N, \mu)]$$

“average # of chromosomes with the variant tumor cells in the sample”

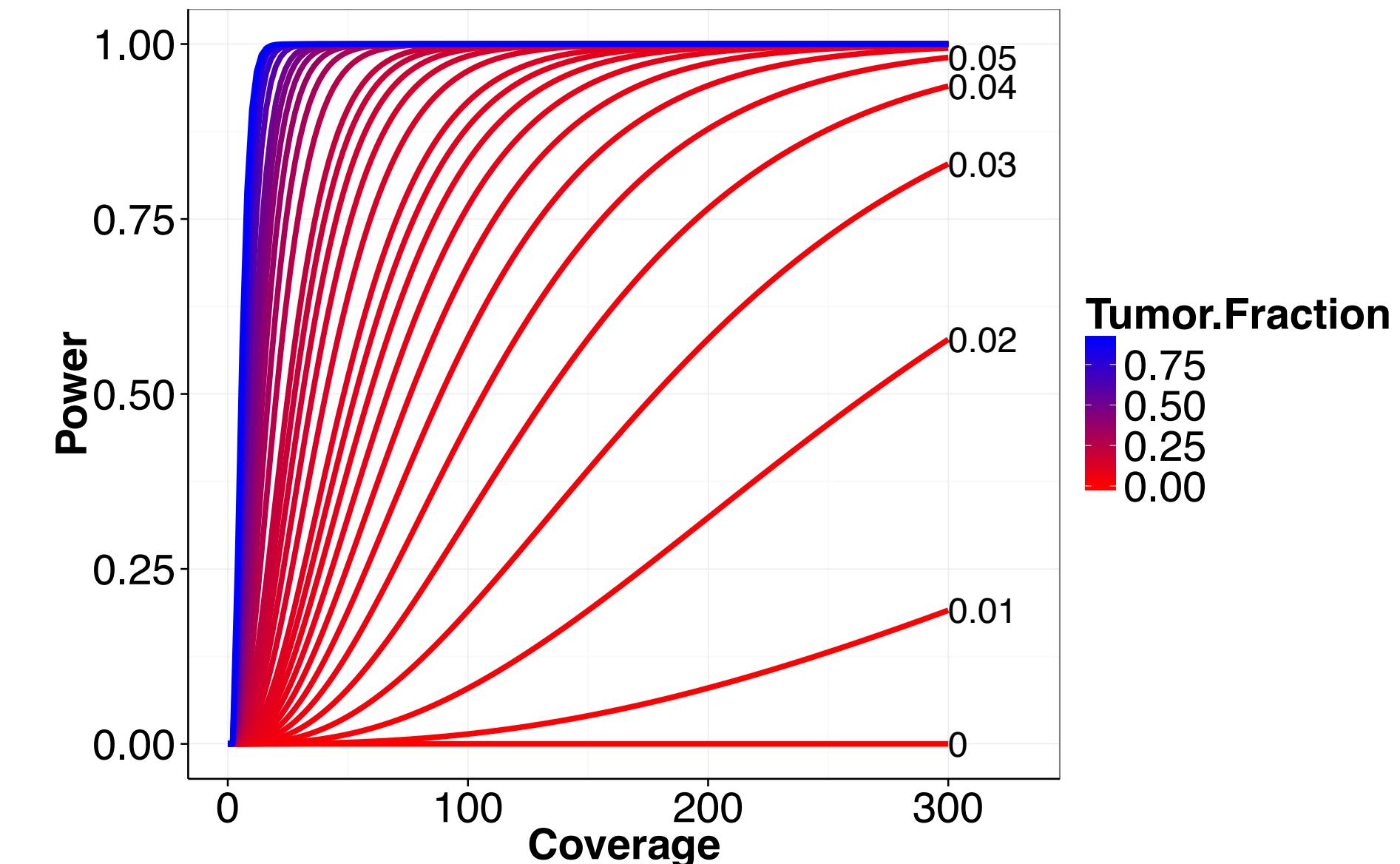
“average # of chromosomes from all cells in sample”

Power Calculation for Mutation Detection

What is our power (sensitivity) to detect an SNV at a specific tumor fraction?

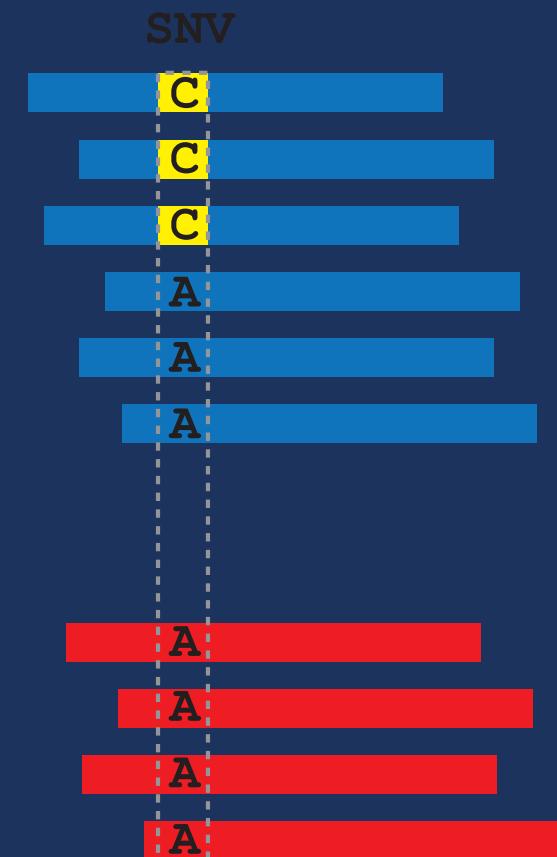


What read depth is required to detect an SNV at a specific power?

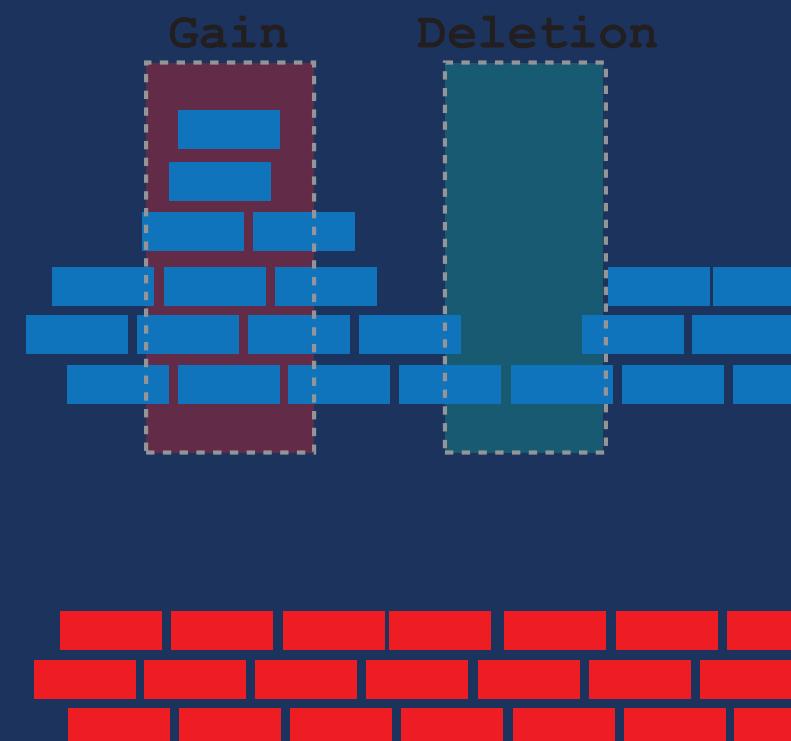


4. Structural Rearrangement Analysis of Cancer Genomes

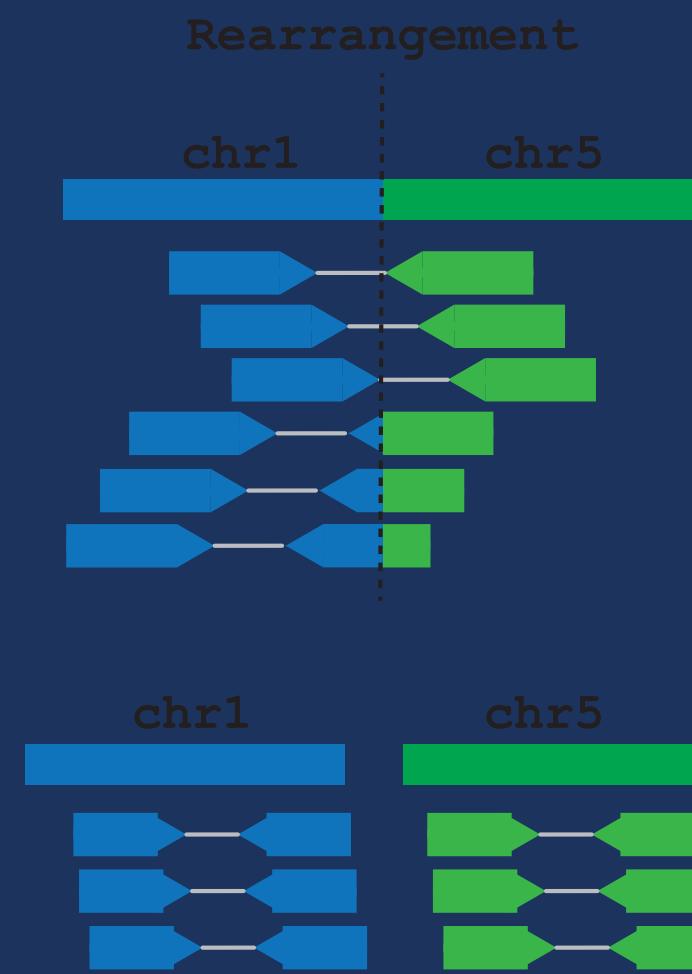
Mutations (SNV, INDEL)



Copy Number Alterations



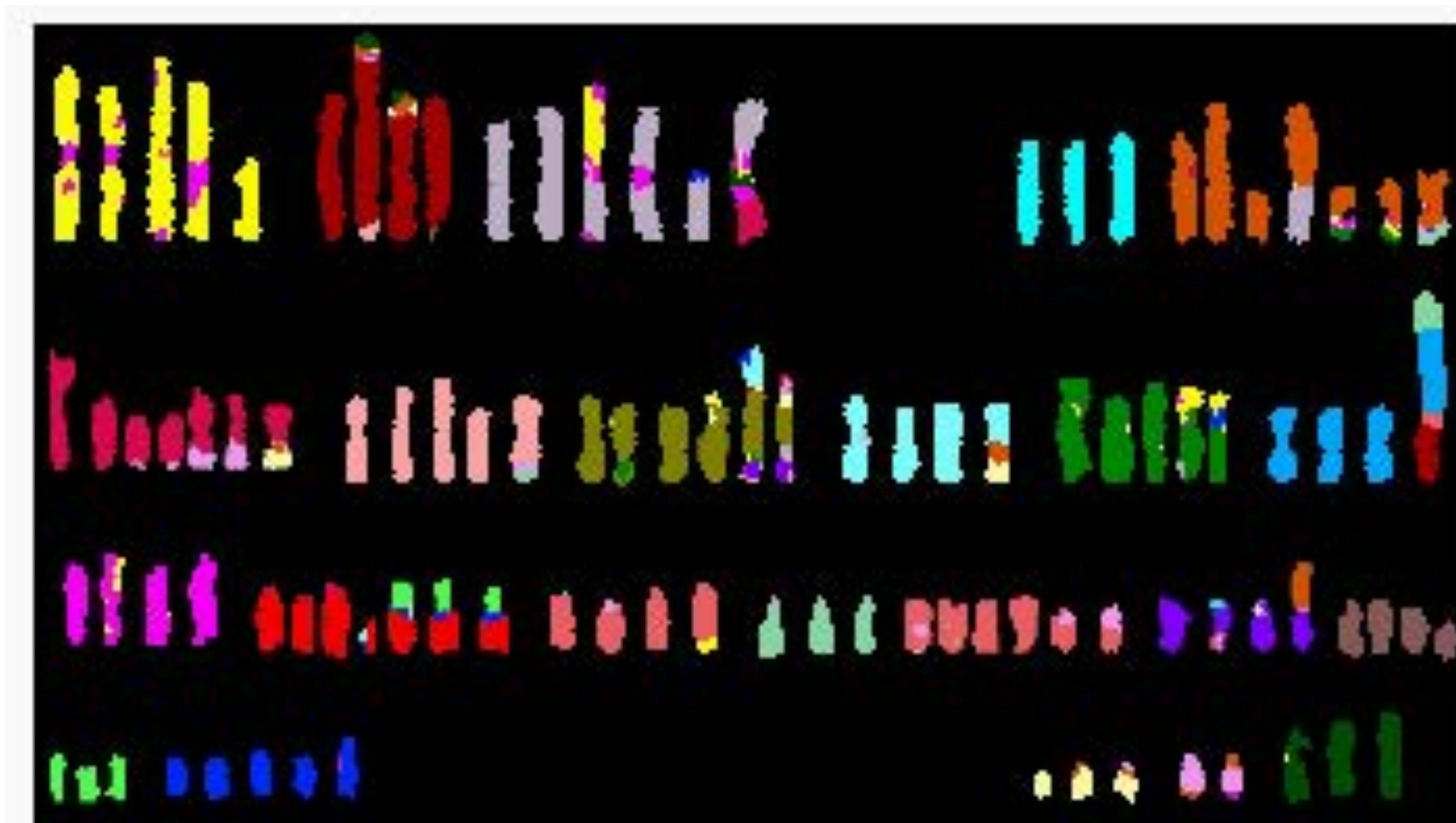
Structural Variants



4. Structural Rearrangement Analysis of Cancer Genomes

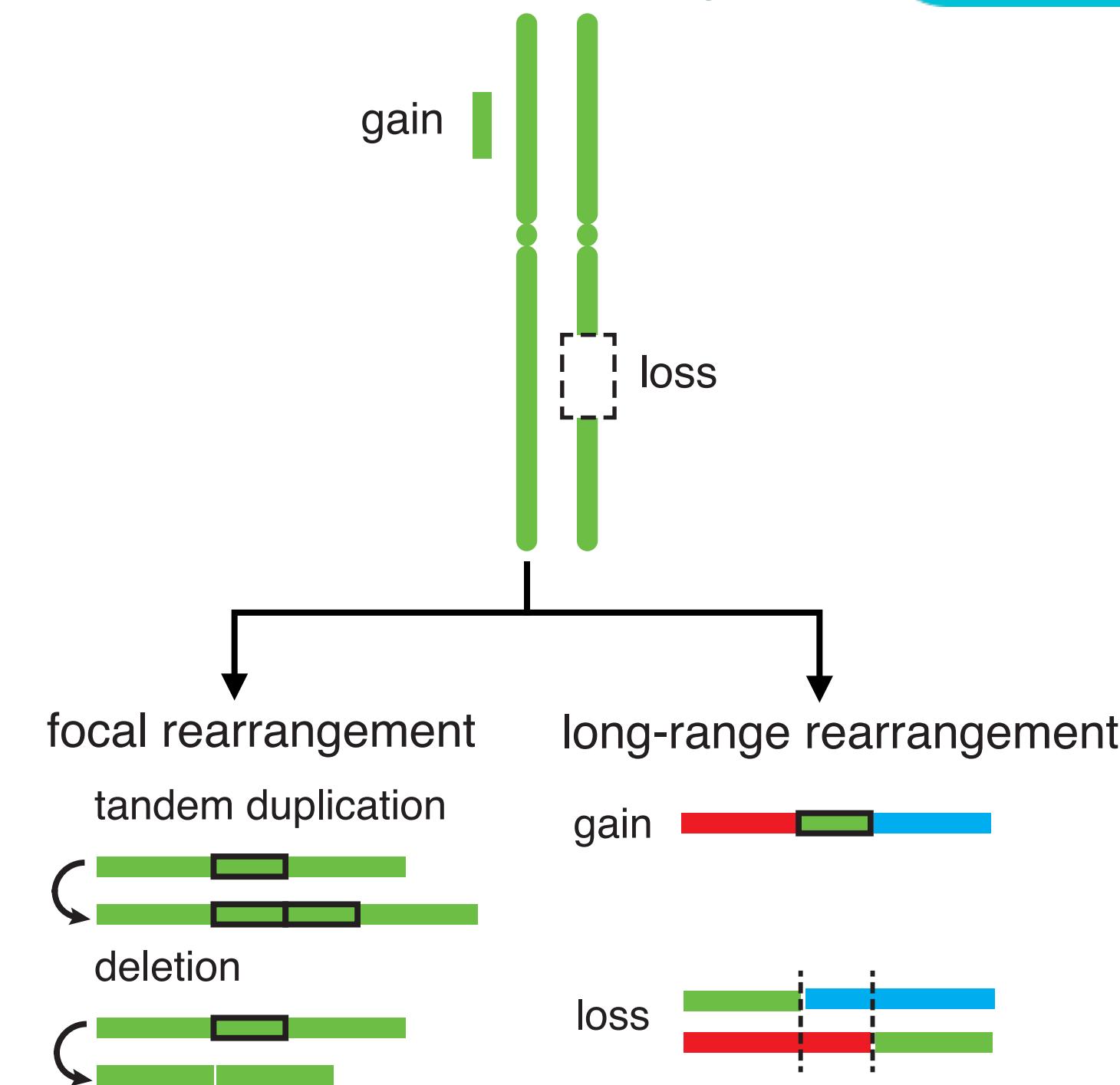
- Structural variant types predicted from sequencing analysis
- Complex genomic structural rearrangement patterns
- Brief overview of software tools

Abnormal chromosomal rearrangements are prevalent in cancer



David Huntsman, BC Cancer Agency

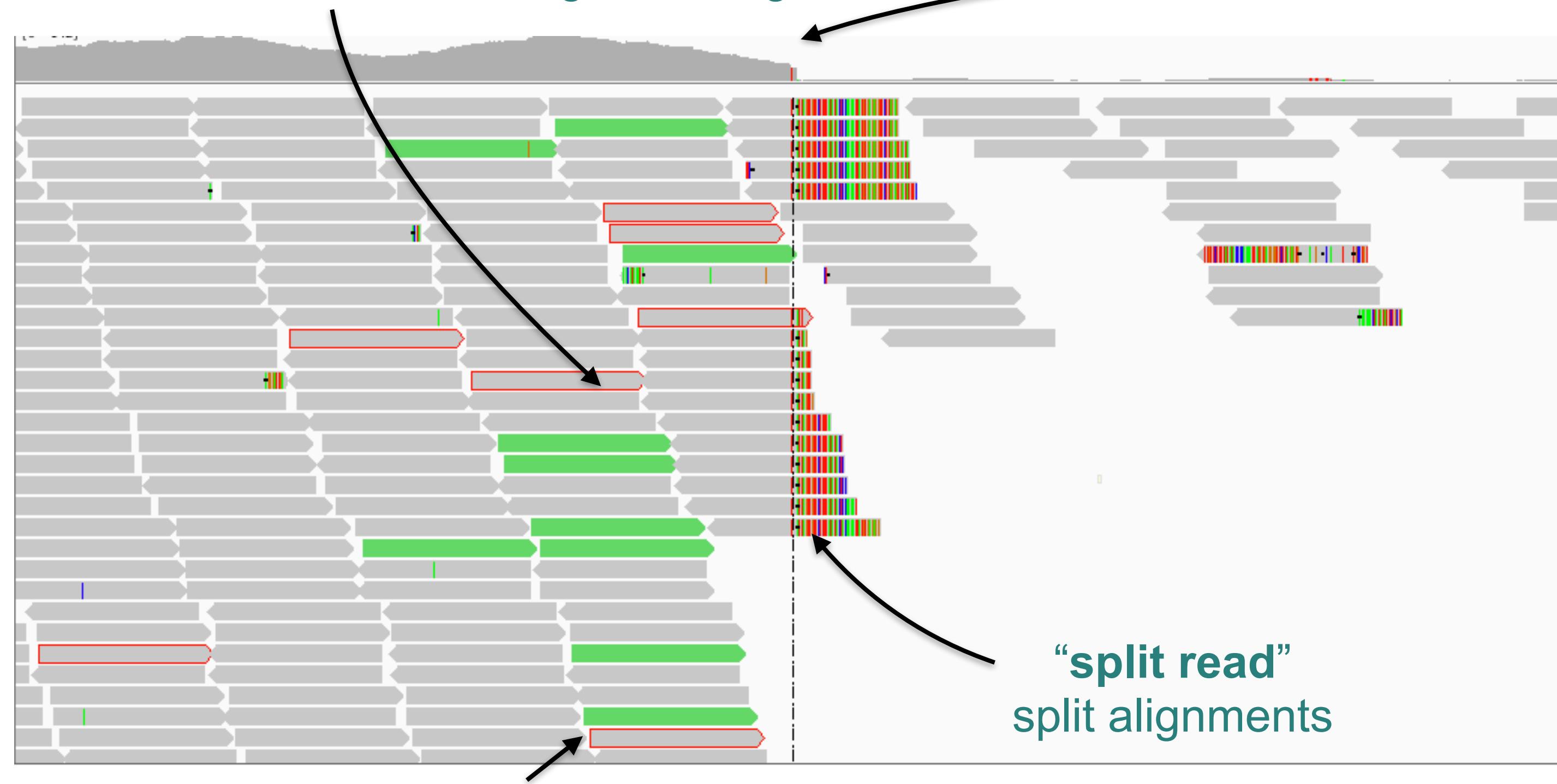
Copy number alterations (amplitude/dosage)



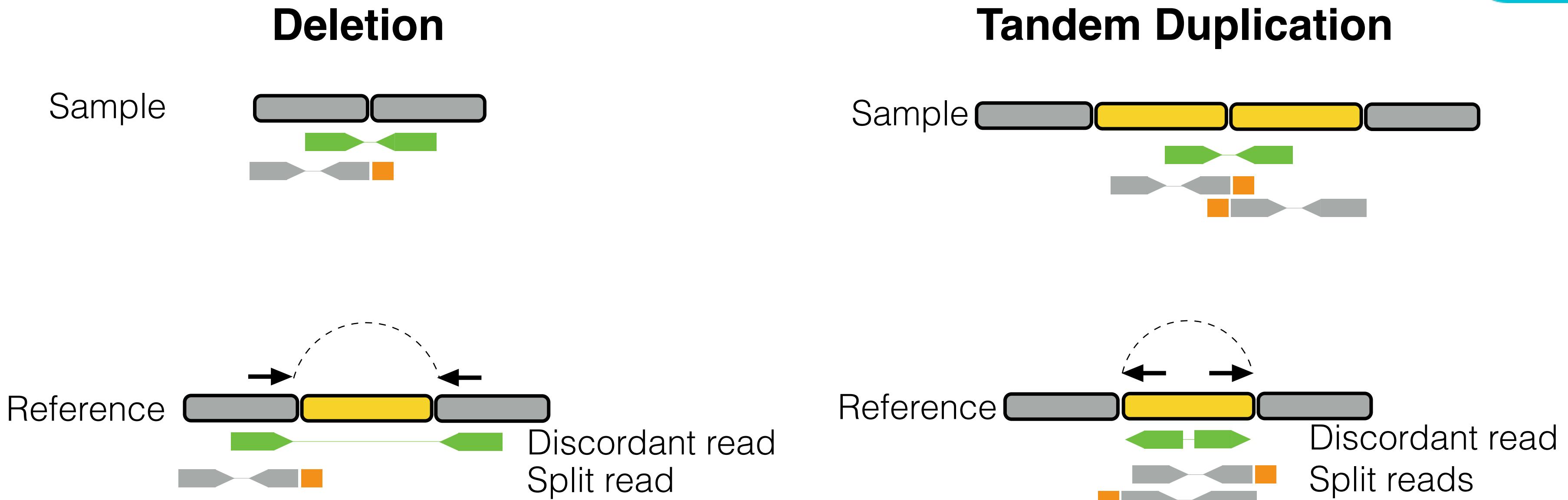
Structural rearrangements (location/configuration)

Structural Variants: Sequence Features

“discordant read pair”
read pairs with aberrant inferred fragment length



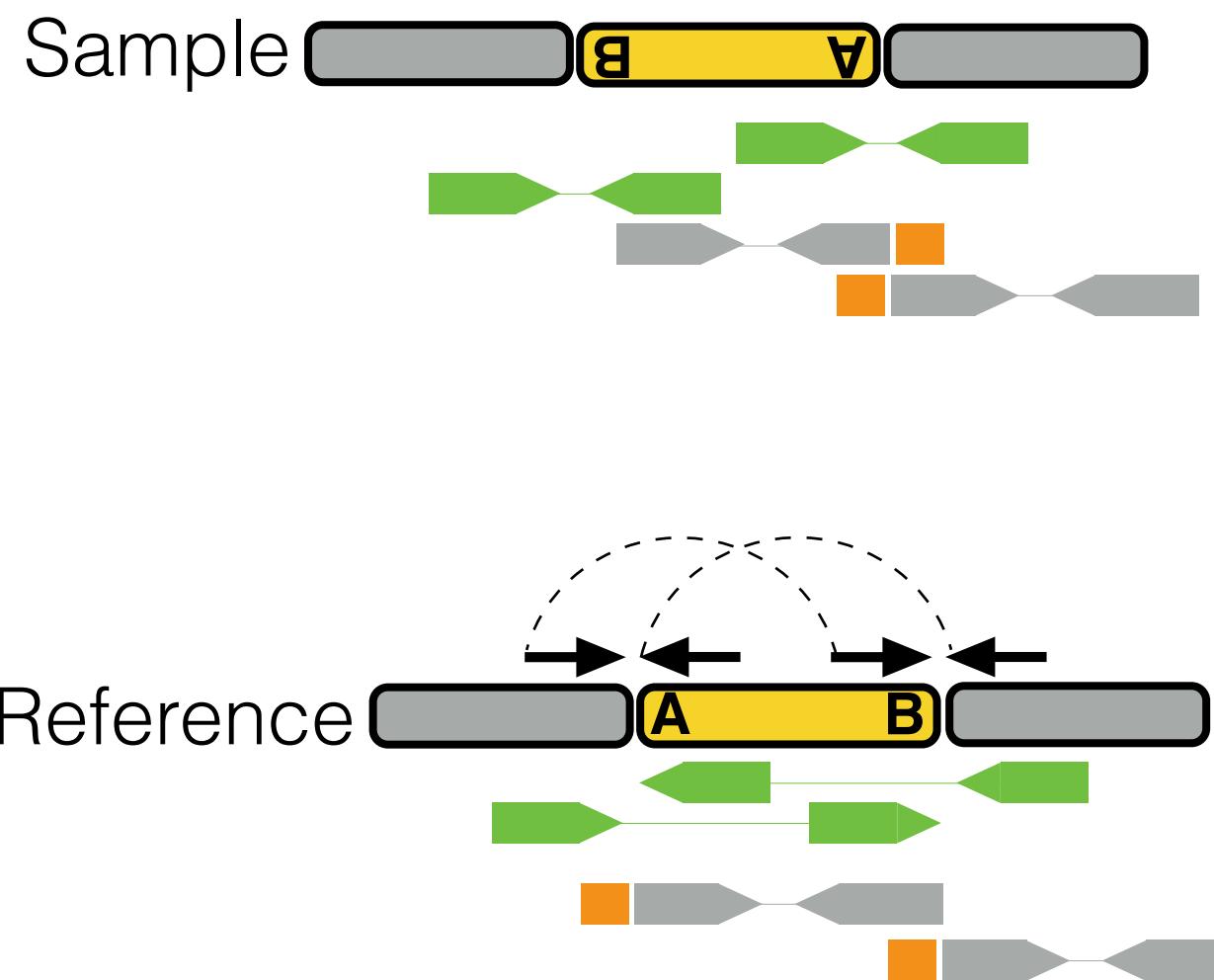
Simple Structural Variants: Deletion & Tandem Duplications



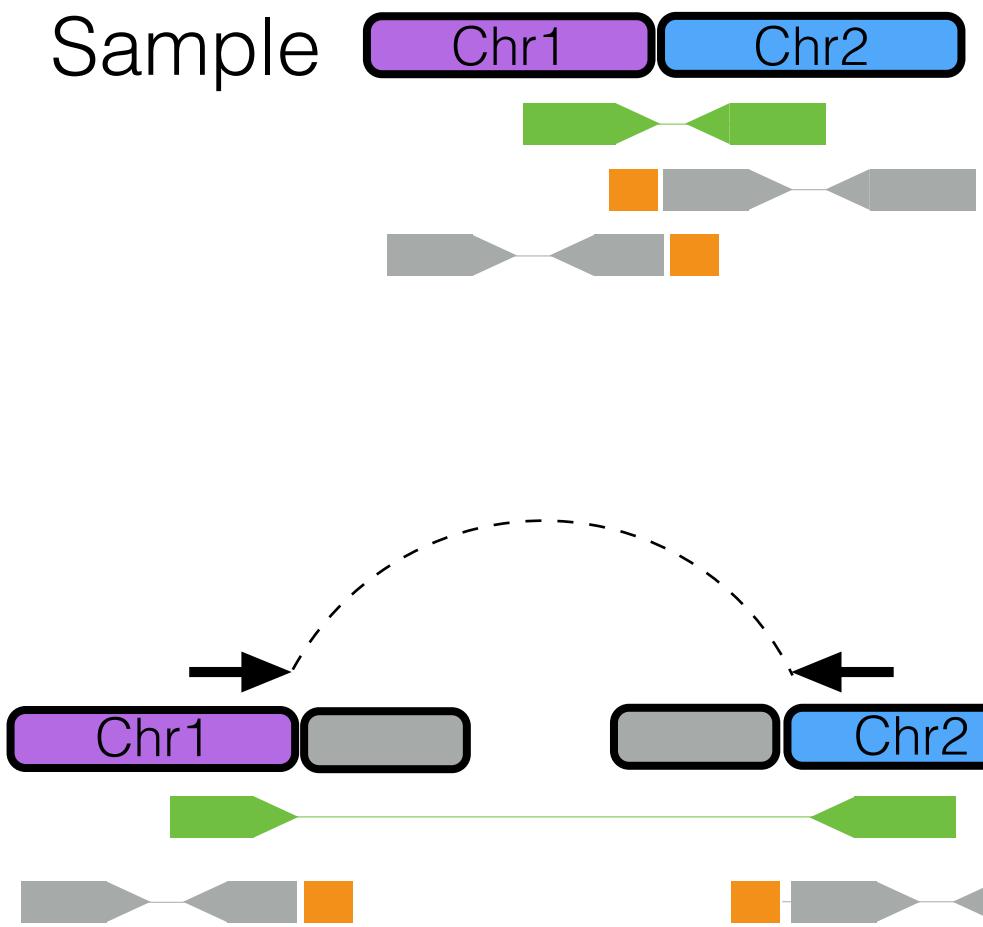
Simple Structural Variants: Inversions & Translocations



Inversion



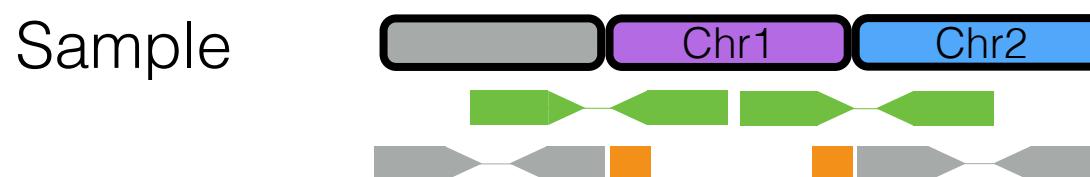
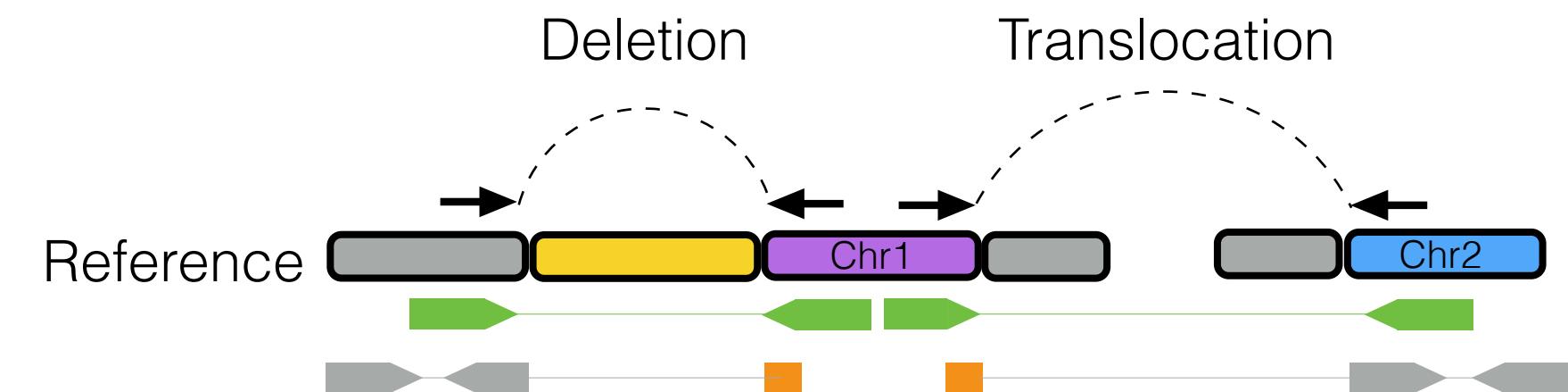
Translocation



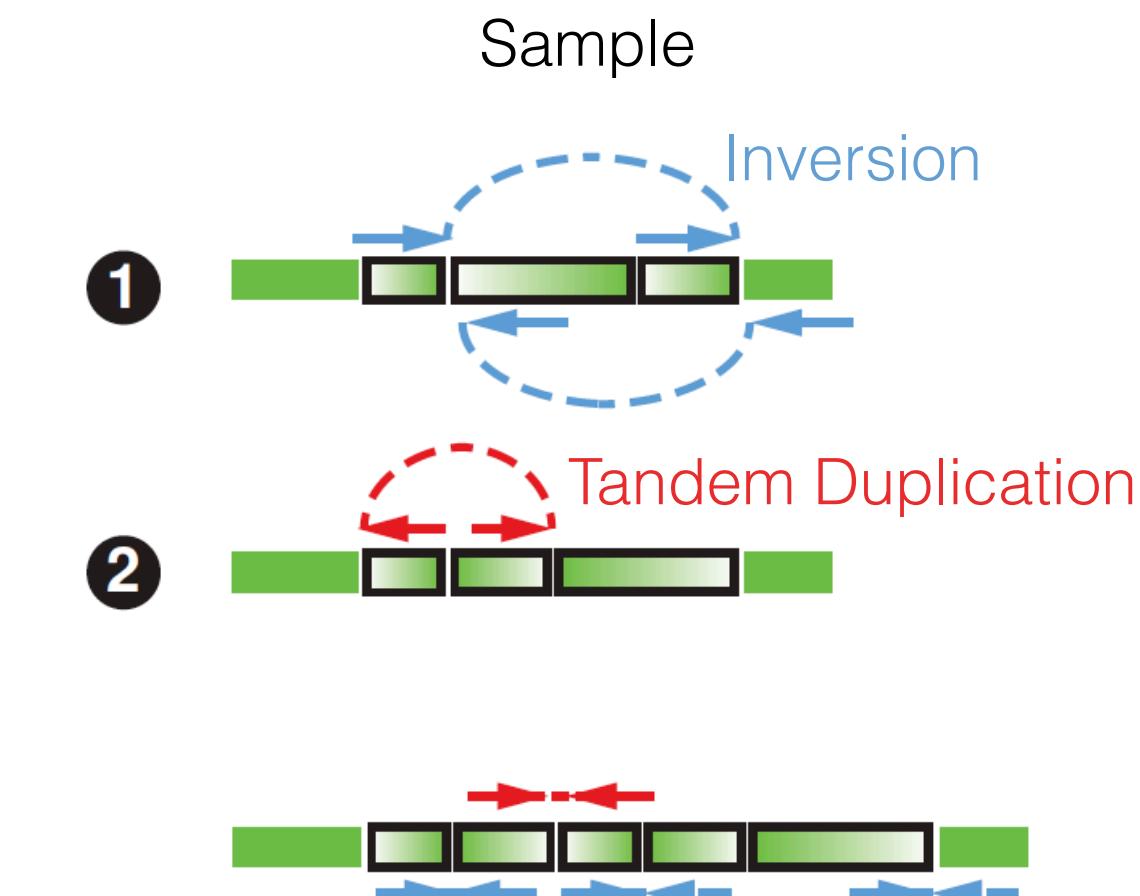
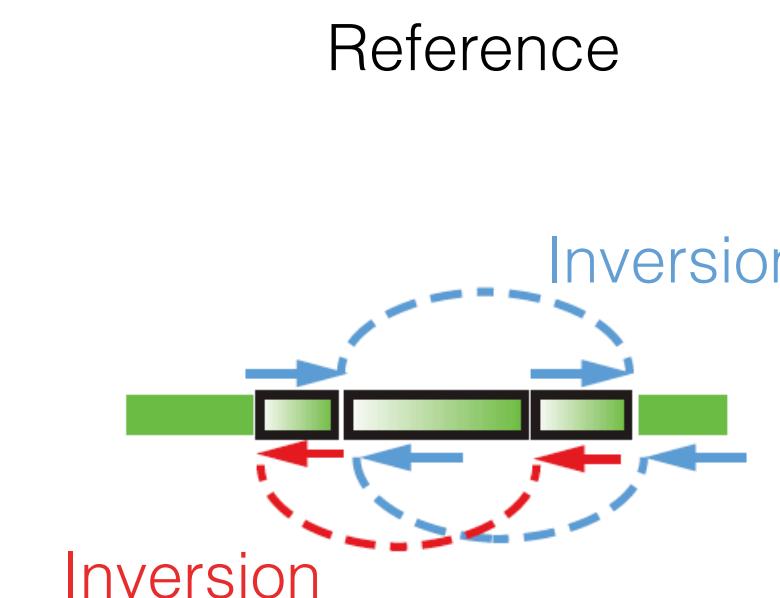
Reference
Discordant read
Split read

Complex Structural Variants of 2+ events

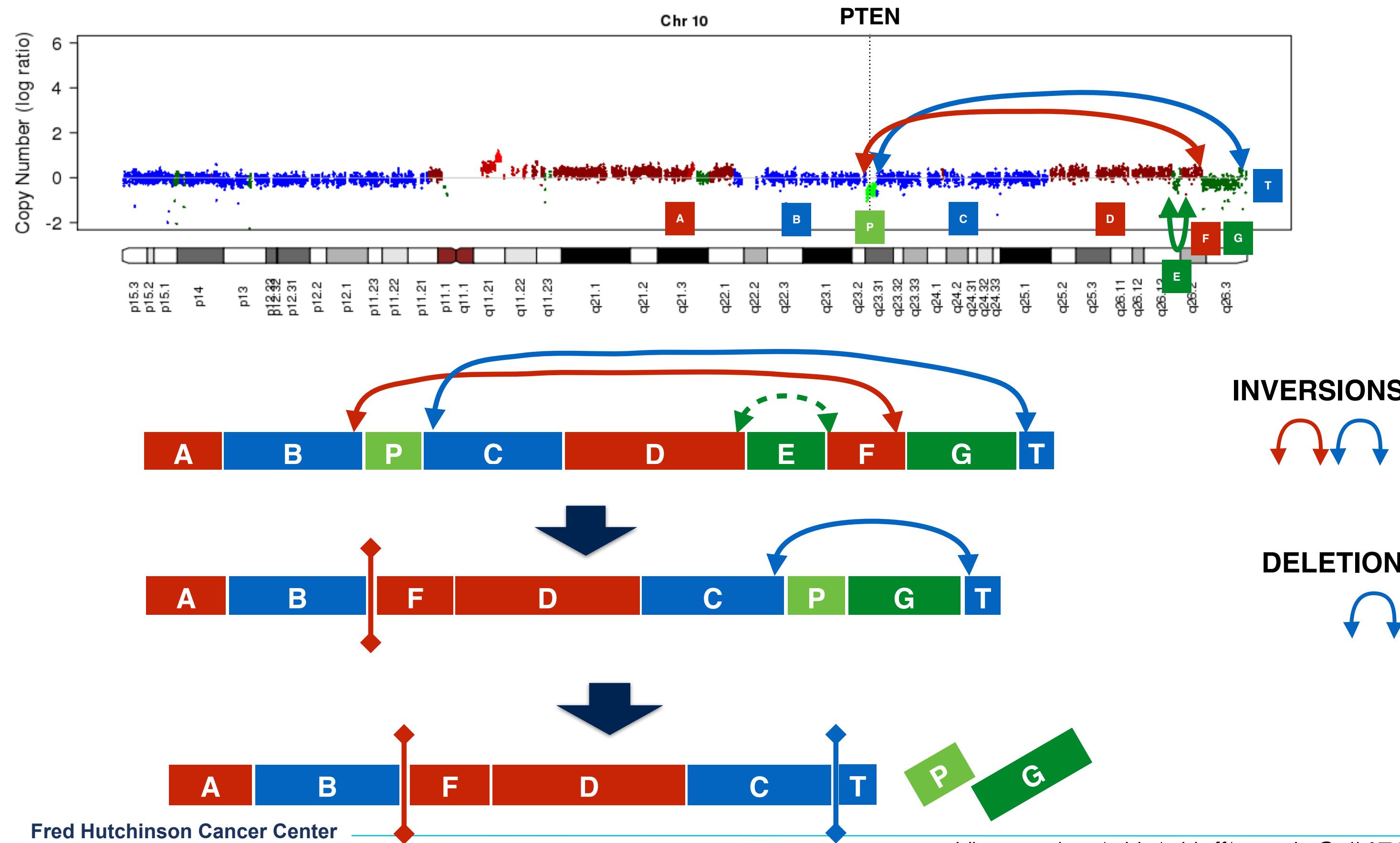
Complex Event (non-overlapping)



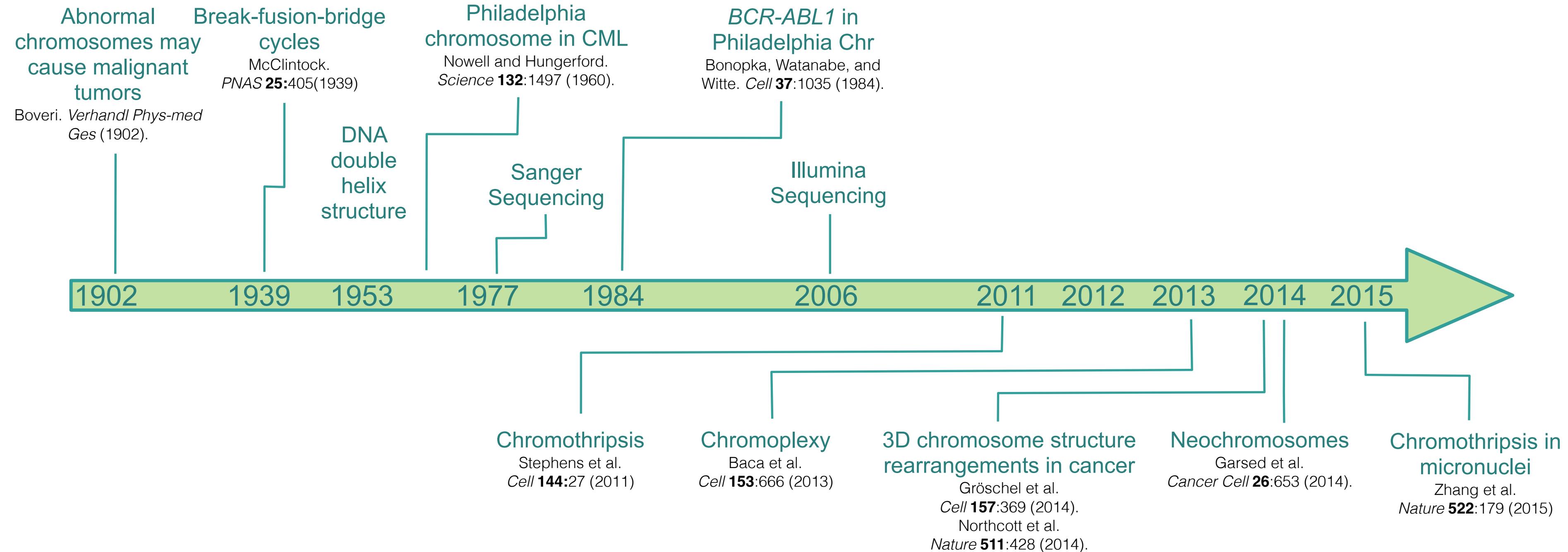
Complex Event (overlapping)



Complex Structural Variant: Example of PTEN deletion

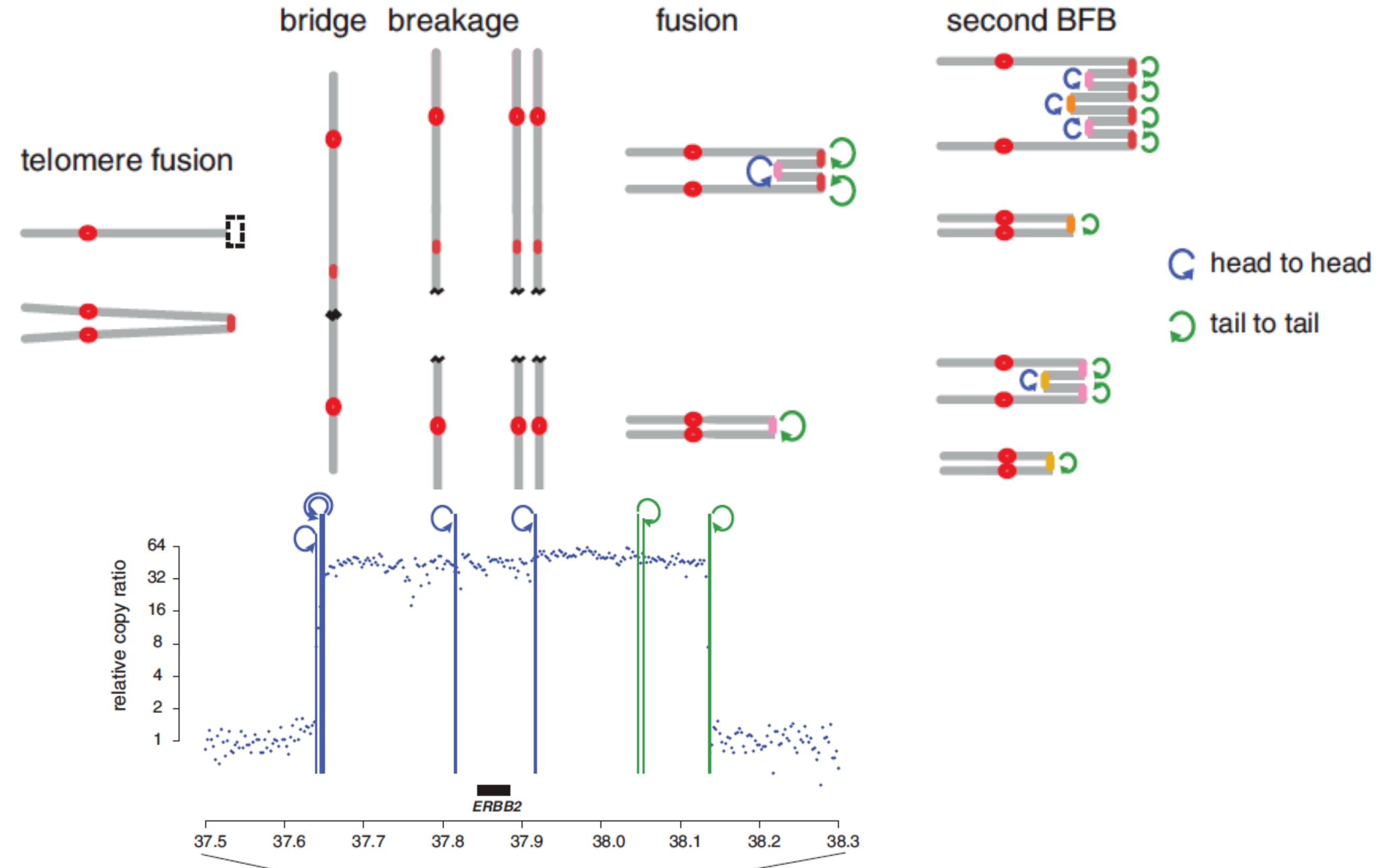


Brief History of Genome Rearrangement Discoveries in Cancer

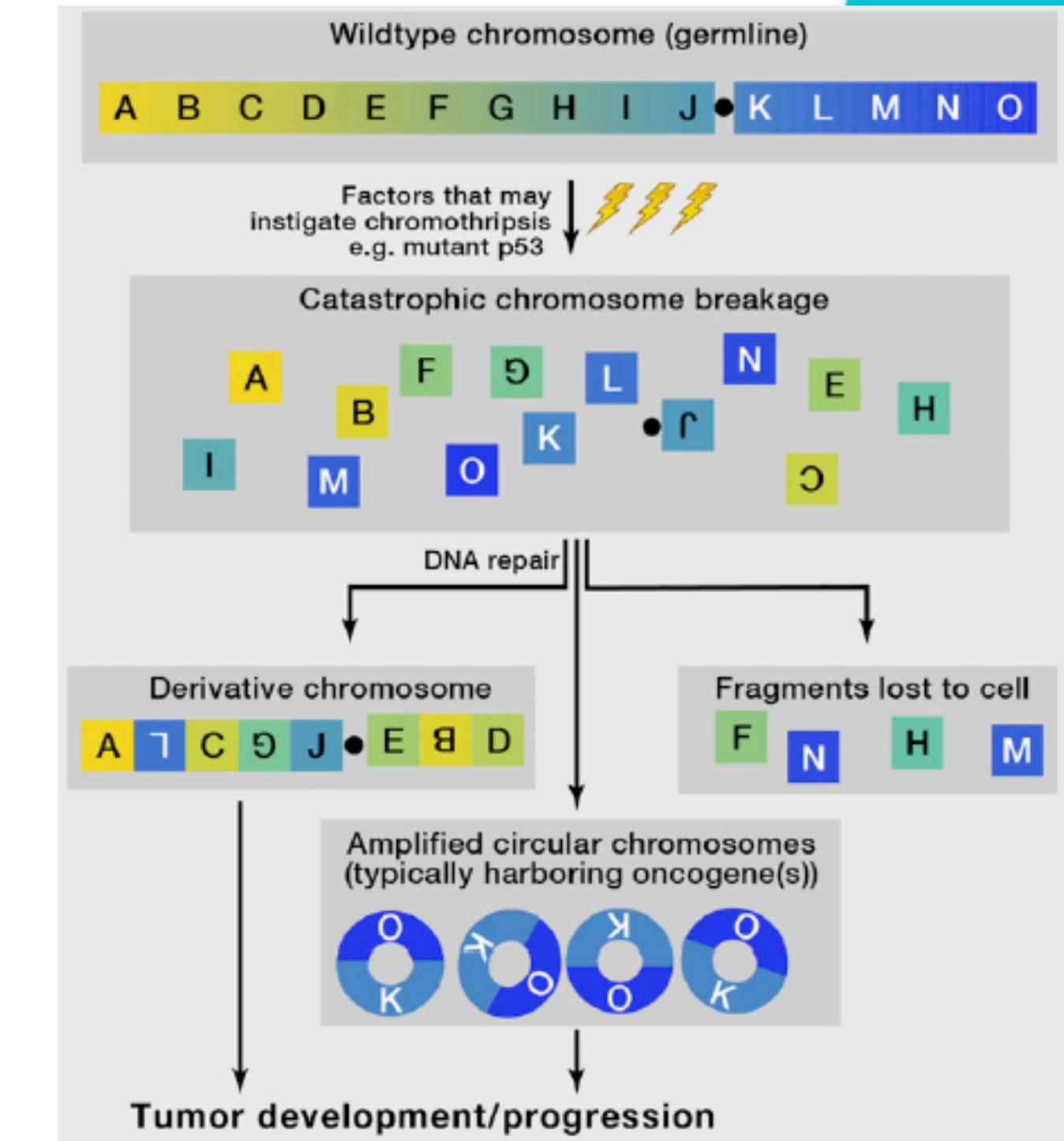
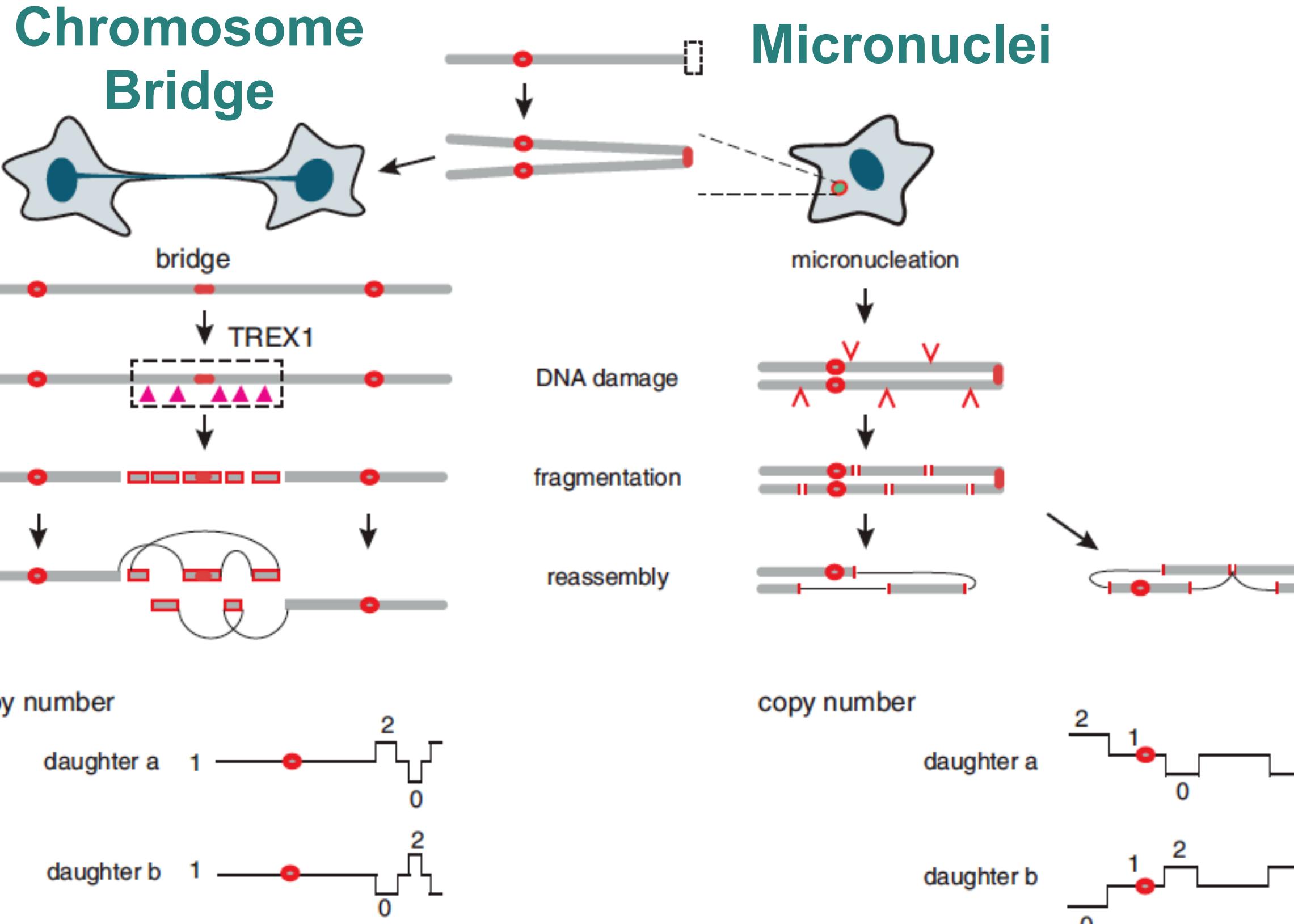


Complex Cancer Genome Rearrangement Patterns

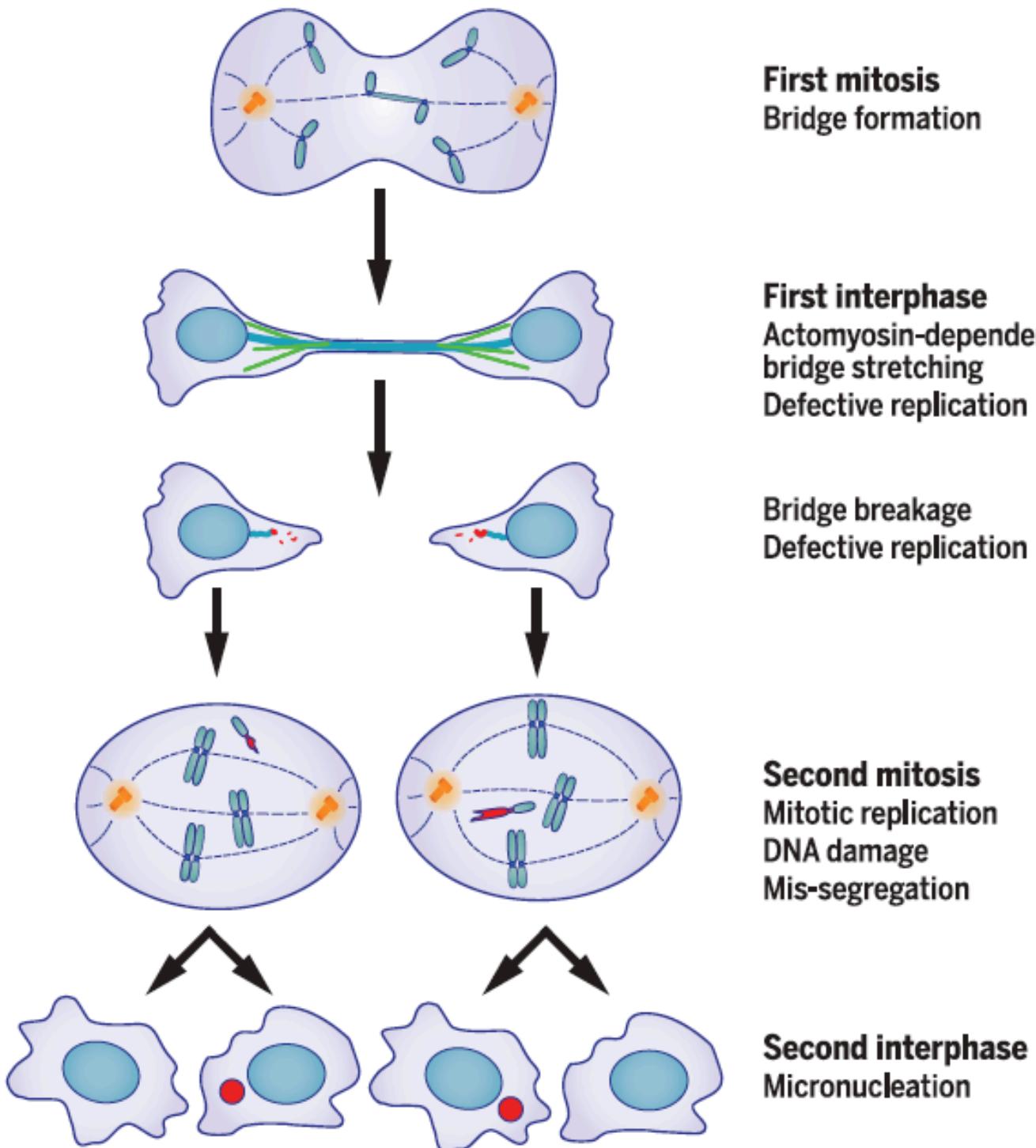
Breakage-Fusion-Bridge (BFB) Cycles



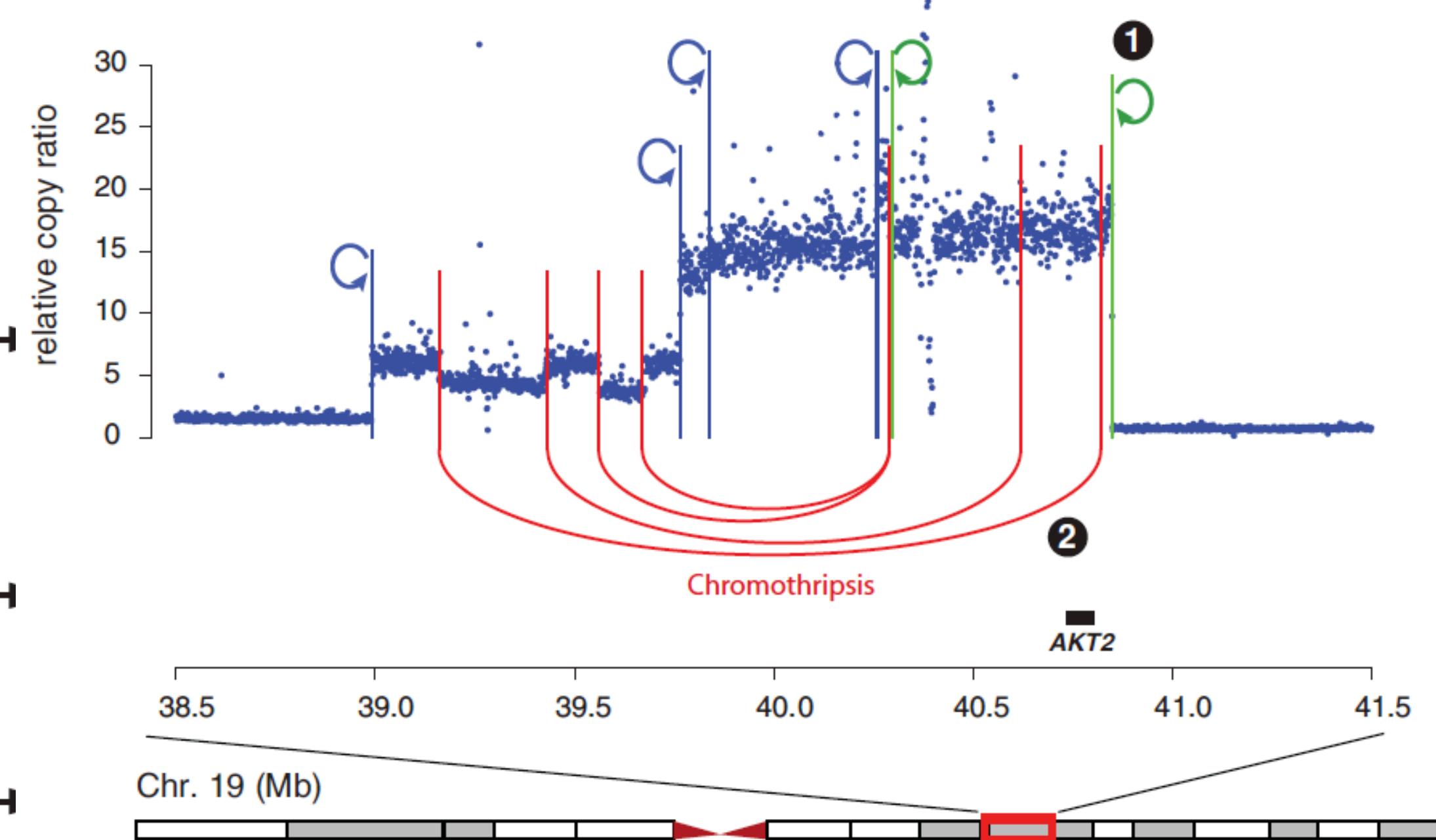
Chromothripsy: Catastrophic DNA shattering



Concurrent Breakage-Fusion-Bridge & Chromothripsis

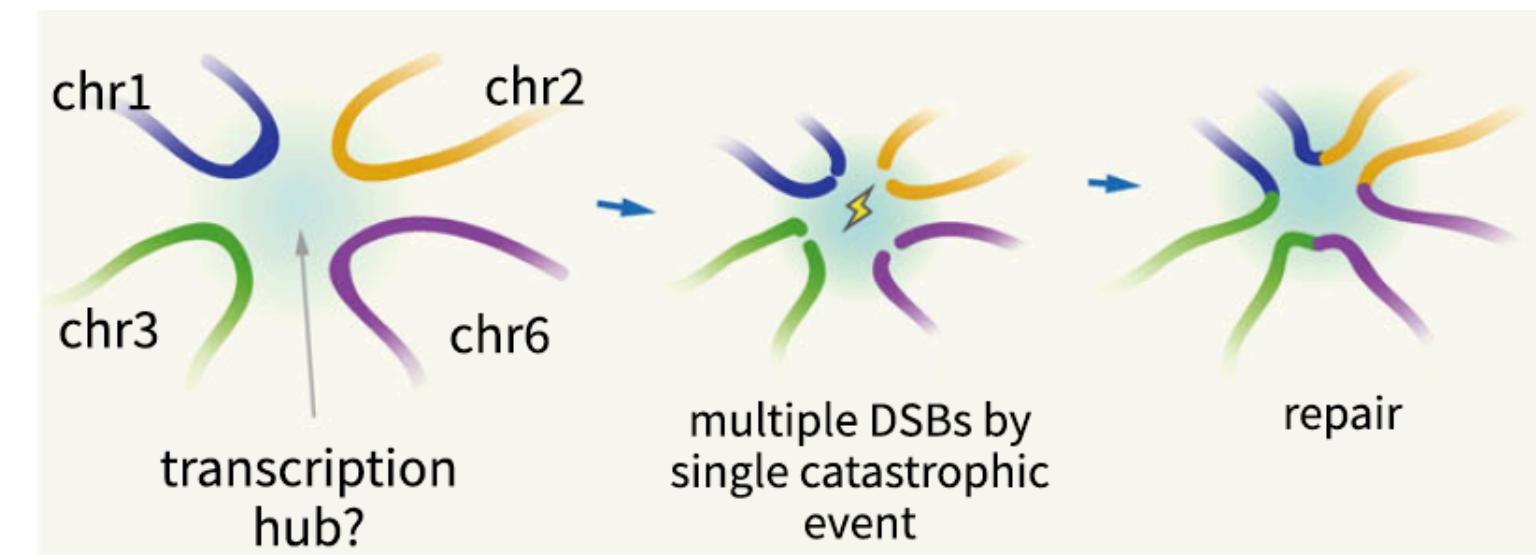


Umbreit et al. *Science* **368**:282 (2020)

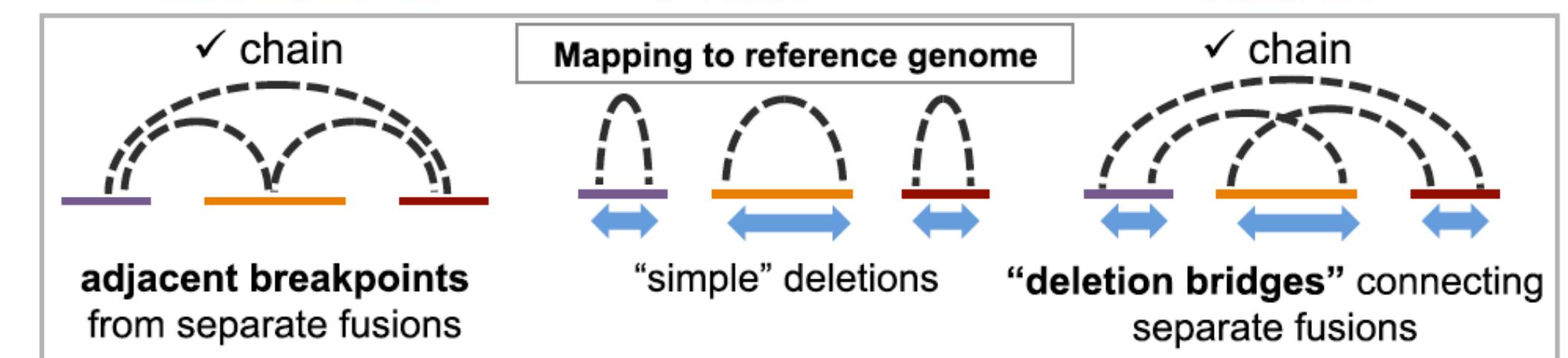
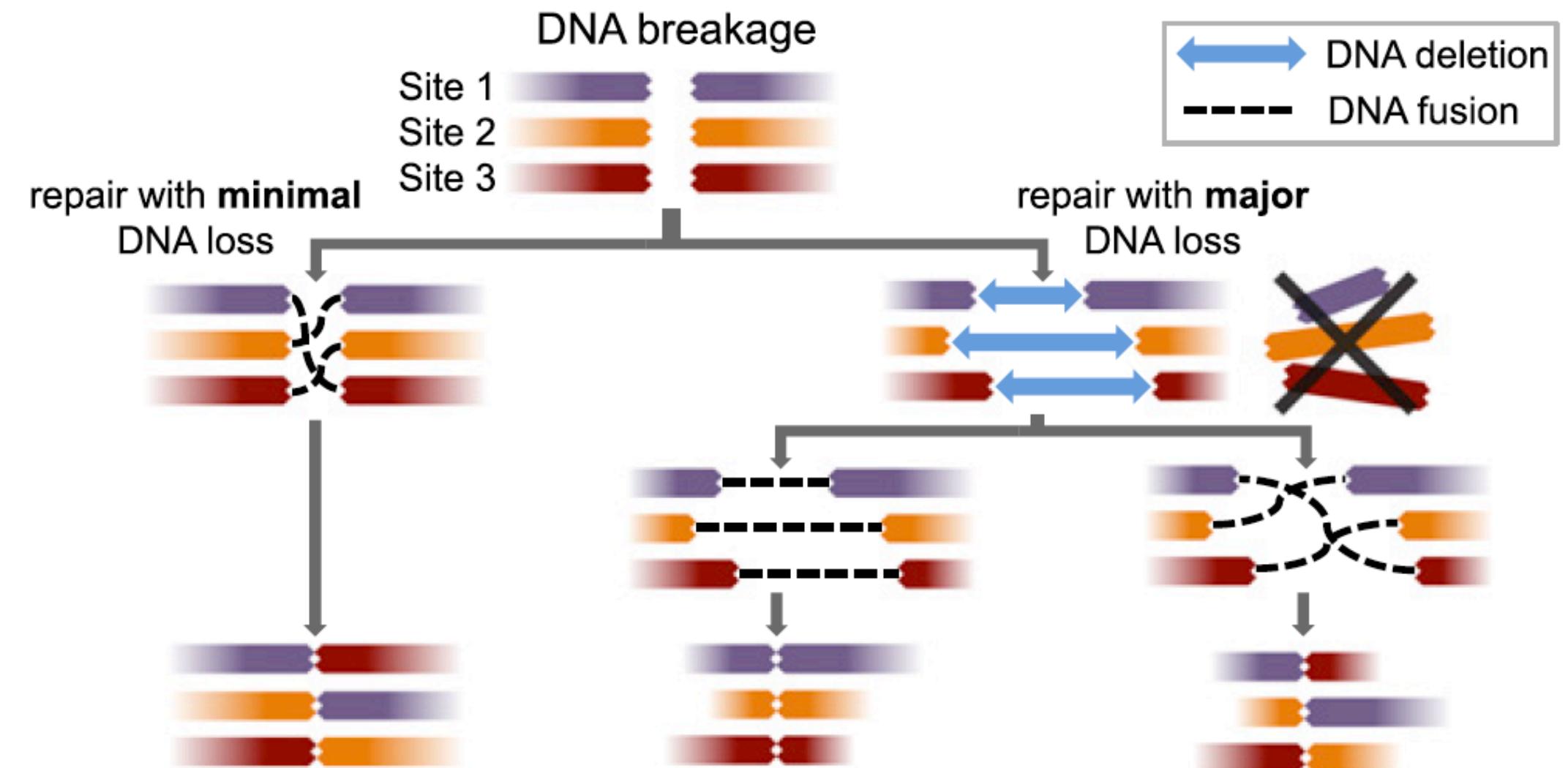


Zhang and Pellman. *CSH Symp* **80**:117-37 (2016)

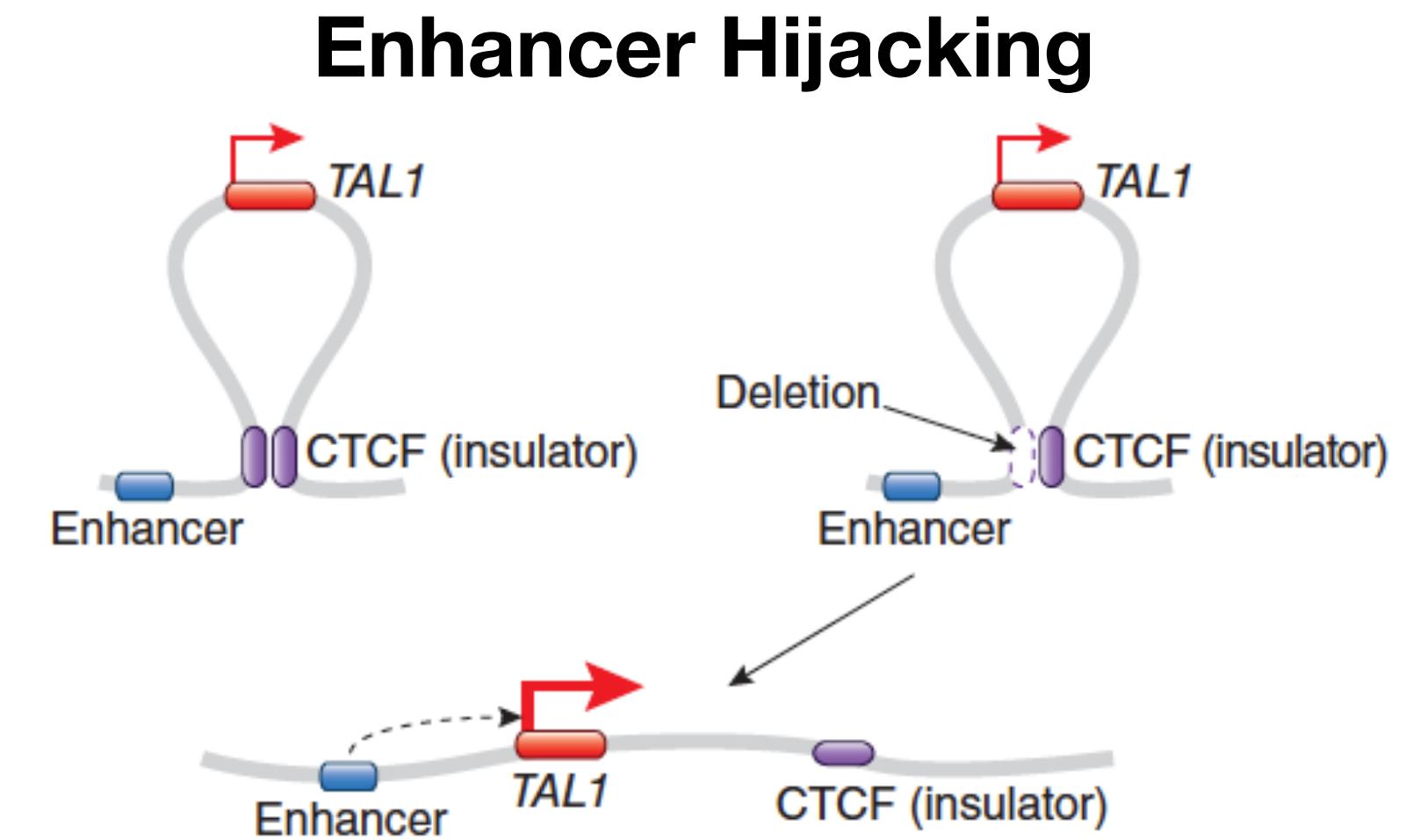
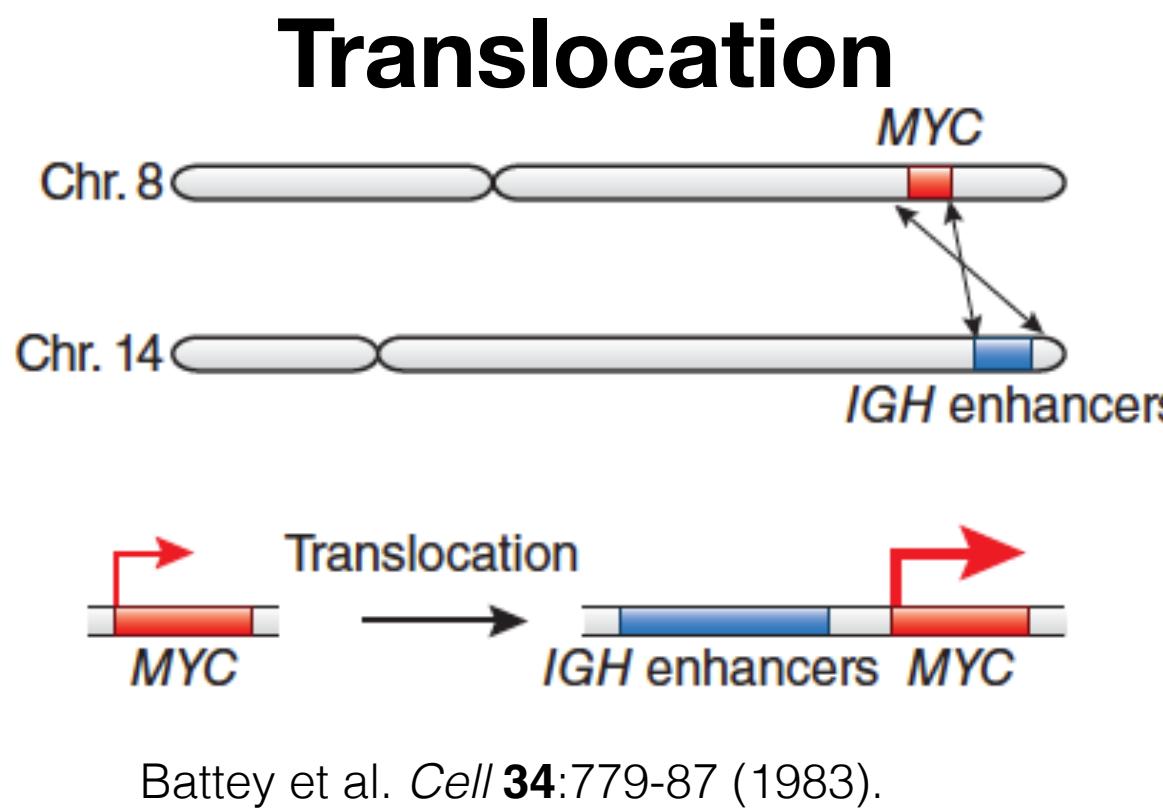
Chromoplexy: Inter-dependent disruption of DNA within close spatial proximity



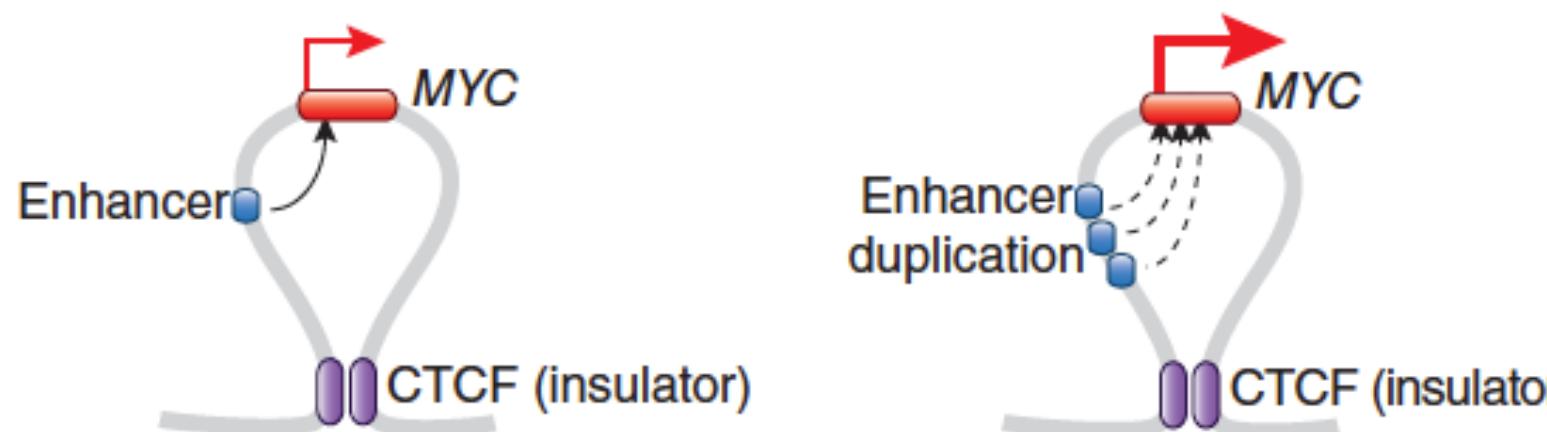
Yi and Ju. *Expt. Mol. Med.* 50:98 (2014).



Alterations of oncogene regulation and genome topology

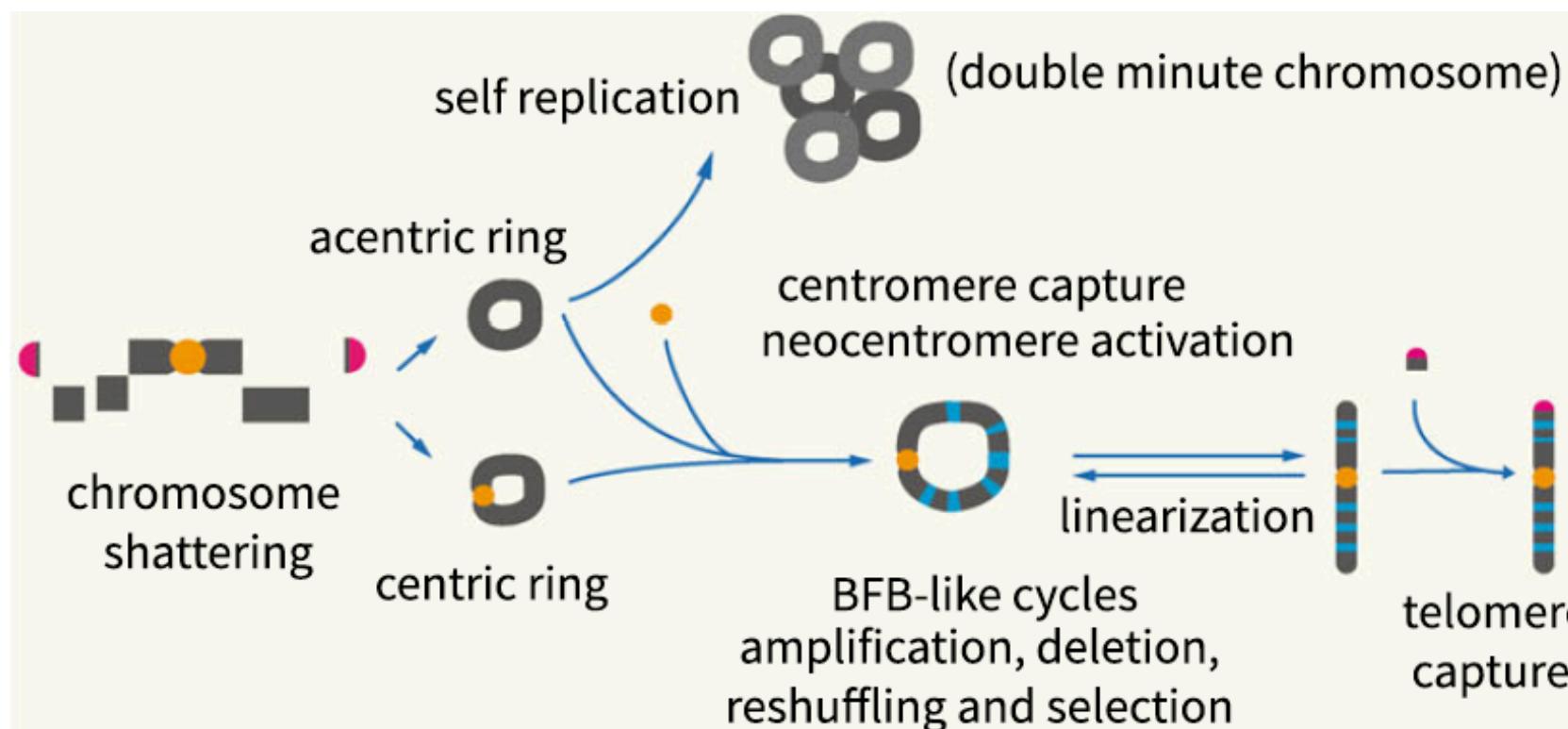


Duplication of Enhancer

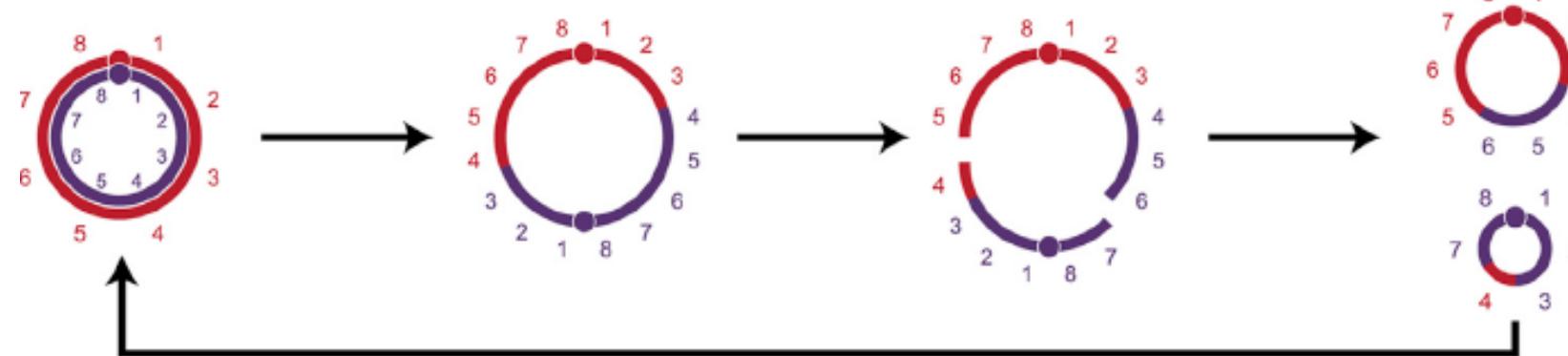


Beroukhim, Zhang, Meyerson. *Nat Genet* **49**:5-6 (2017).
Gröschel et al. *Cell* **157**:369-81 (2014).
Northcott et al. *Nature* **511**:428-34 (2014).
Hnisz et al. *Science* **351**:1454-58 (2016).
Weischenfeldt et al. *Nat Genet* **49**:65-74 (2017).

Extra-Chromosomal DNA: Double Minutes & Neo-chromosomes

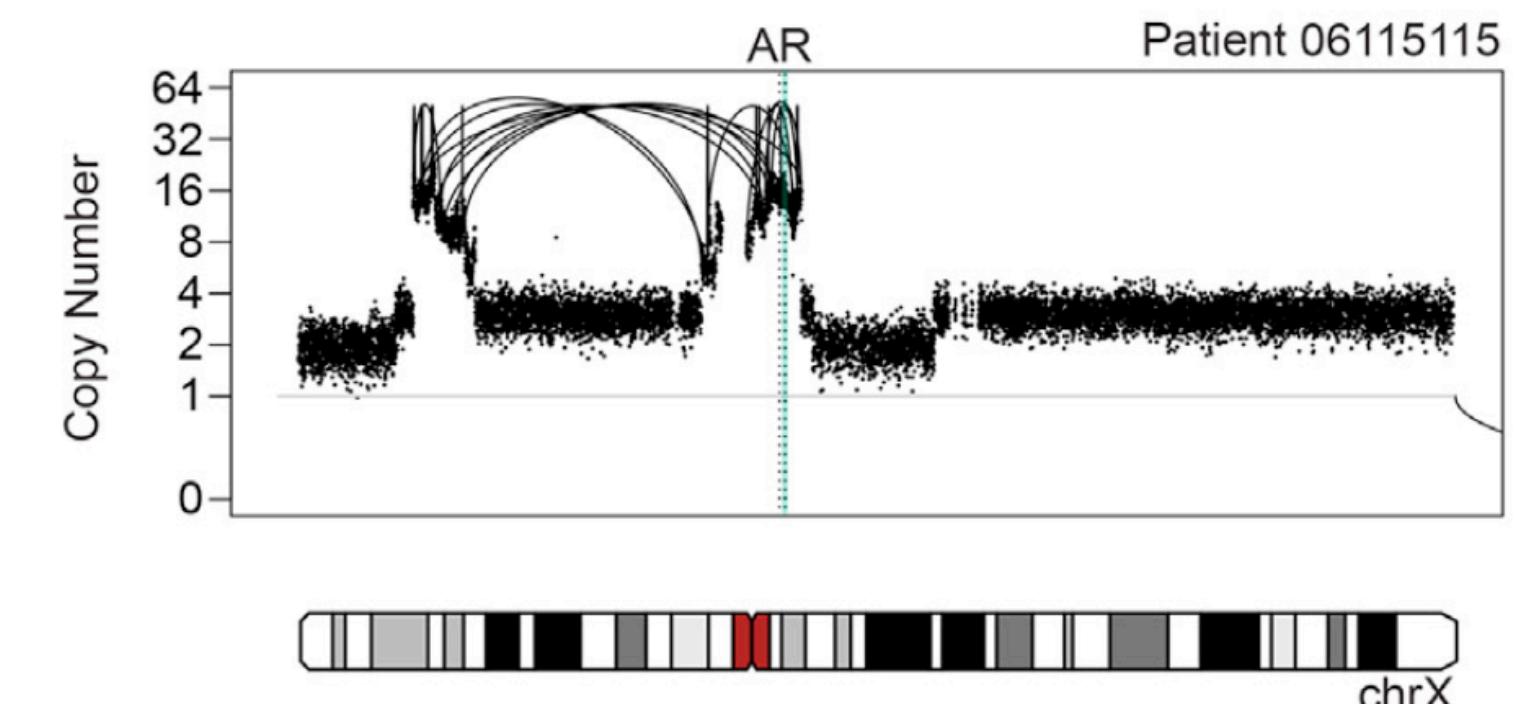
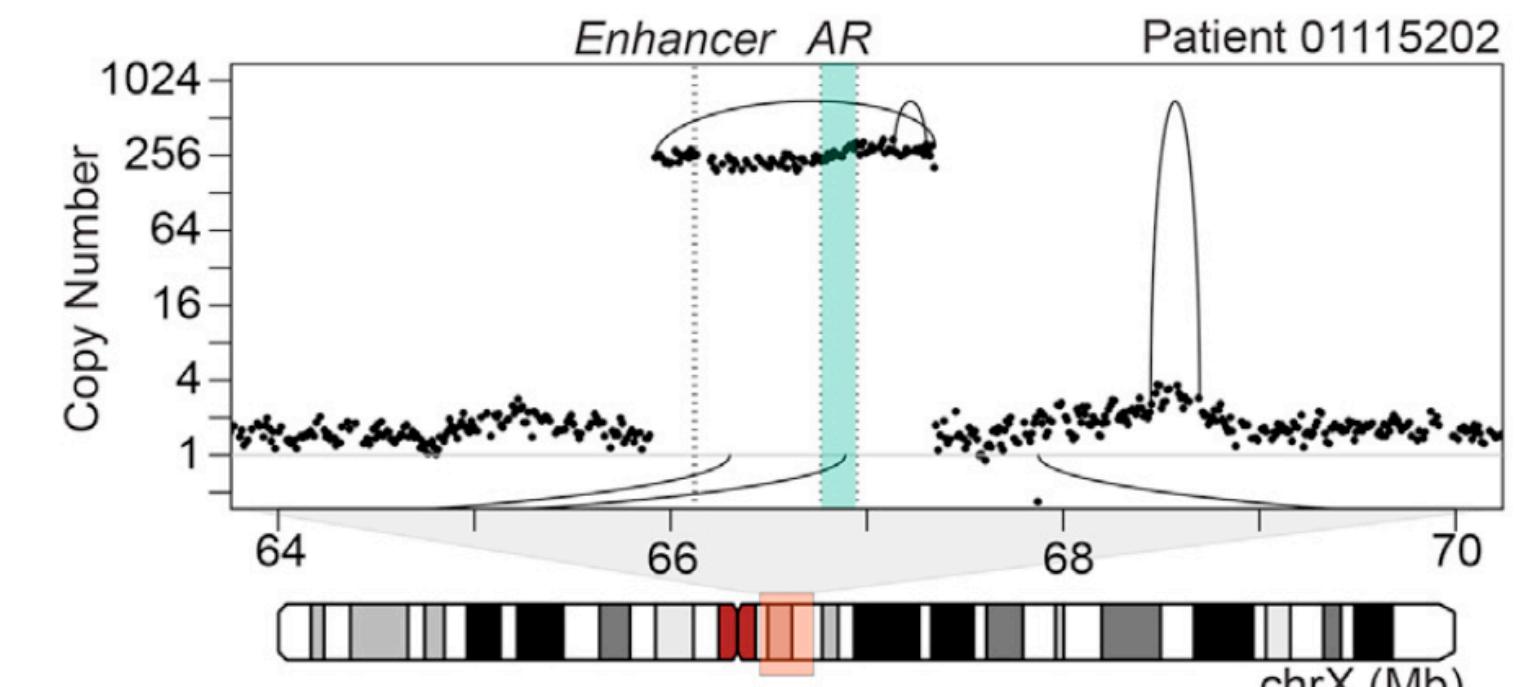


Yi and Ju. *Expt. Mol. Med.* **50**:98 (2014).



Garsed et al. *Cancer Cell* **26**:653-67 (2014).

Double Minute



Neo-Chromosomes

Structural Variation Tools for Cancer Genome Analysis

Popular SV Methods for Cancer Genomes

SV Breakpoint Methods	Discordant Reads	Split Reads	Assembly	Software	References
DELLY	✓	✓		https://github.com/dellytools/delly	Rausch et al. Genome Biol (2012)
LUMPY	✓	✓		https://github.com/arq5x/lumpy-sv	Layer et al. Genome Biol (2014)
GRIDSS	✓	✓	✓	https://github.com/PapenfussLab/gridss	Cameron et al. Genome Biol (2021)
SVABA	✓	✓	✓	https://github.com/walaj/svaba	Wala et al. Genome Res (2018)
BRASS	✓	✓	✓	https://github.com/cancerit/BRASS	Sanger Pipeline

Over 70 tools!

Complex Rearrangements	Methods	References
Chromothripsis	ShatterSeek ShatterProof	Cortés-Ciriano et al. Nat Genet (2020) Govind et al. BMC Bioinf (2014)
Chromoplexy	ChainFinder	Baca et al. Cell (2013)
Extra-chromosomal DNA	AmpliconArchitect	Deshpande et al. Nat Commun (2019)
SV clusters/footprints	ClusterSV GRIDSS	Li et al. Nature (2020) Cameron et al. Genome Res (2017)

Homework #8: Profiling copy number alterations

A. Implement a copy number alteration (CNA) caller described in Lecture 3

- Implement components of a continuous HMM in a Bayesian framework
- Learn the parameters and infer the genotypes using EM
- Predict the copy number alteration segments for a chromosome.
- Expected outputs for each question will be provided so that you can check your code.

B. Power calculations for mutation detection described in Lecture 4

Due: May 26th, 2023