

Epigenomics Data Analysis Workshop 2023

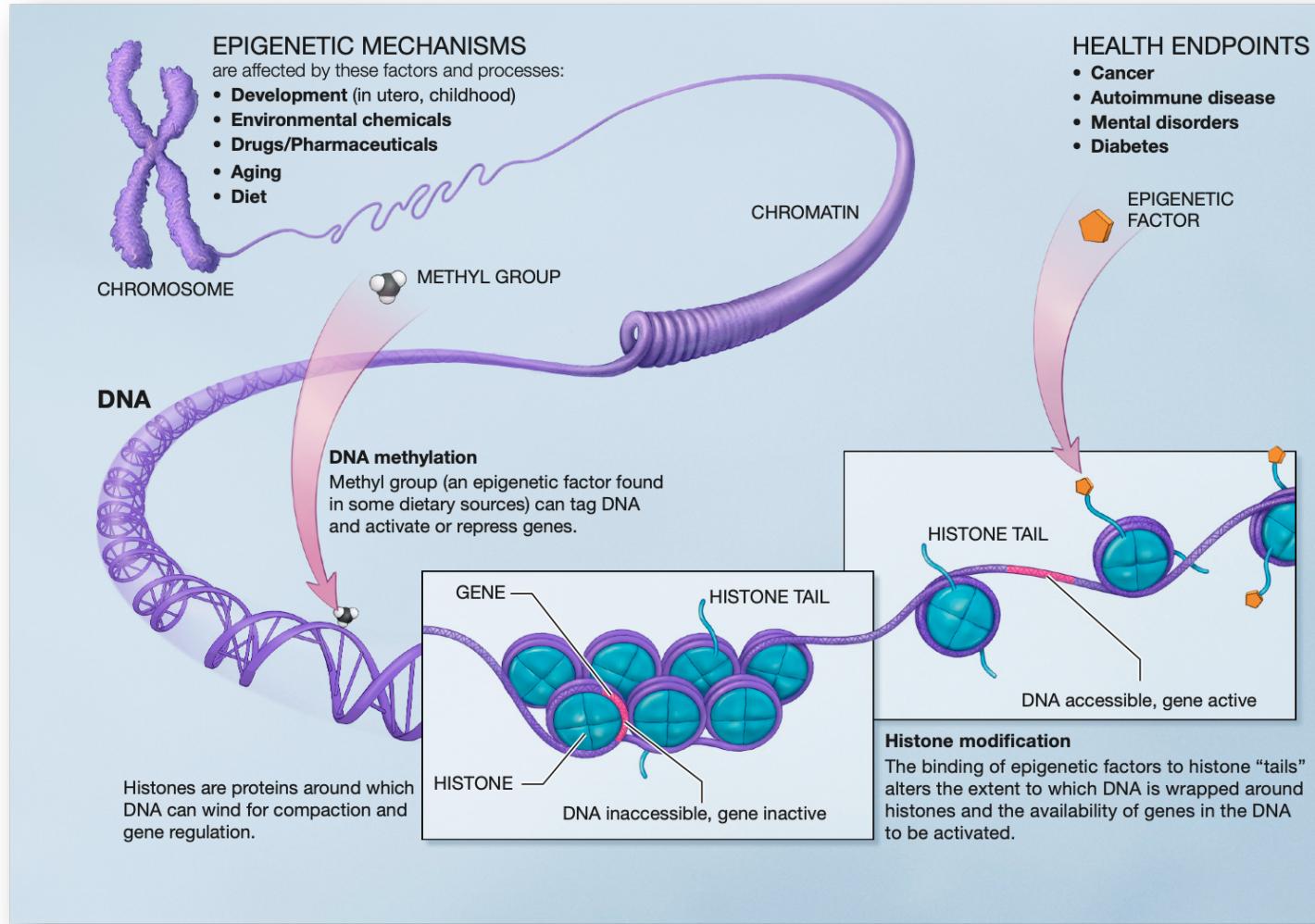
DNA Methylation

Schedule

- 09:30 - 10:15 Short introduction to DNA methylation + Overview Array exercises
- 10:15 - 10:30 UPPMAX set-up + break
- 10:30 - 12:00 Array exercises
- 10:00 - 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 - 14:00 DNA Methylation: Methods & Technologies
- 14:00 - 14:15 Break
- 14:15 - 14:30 Overview Exercises Bisulfite Sequencing
- 14:30 - 16:30 Bisulfite Sequencing Exercise
- 16:30 - 17:00 Test Yourself

Introduction to DNA methylation

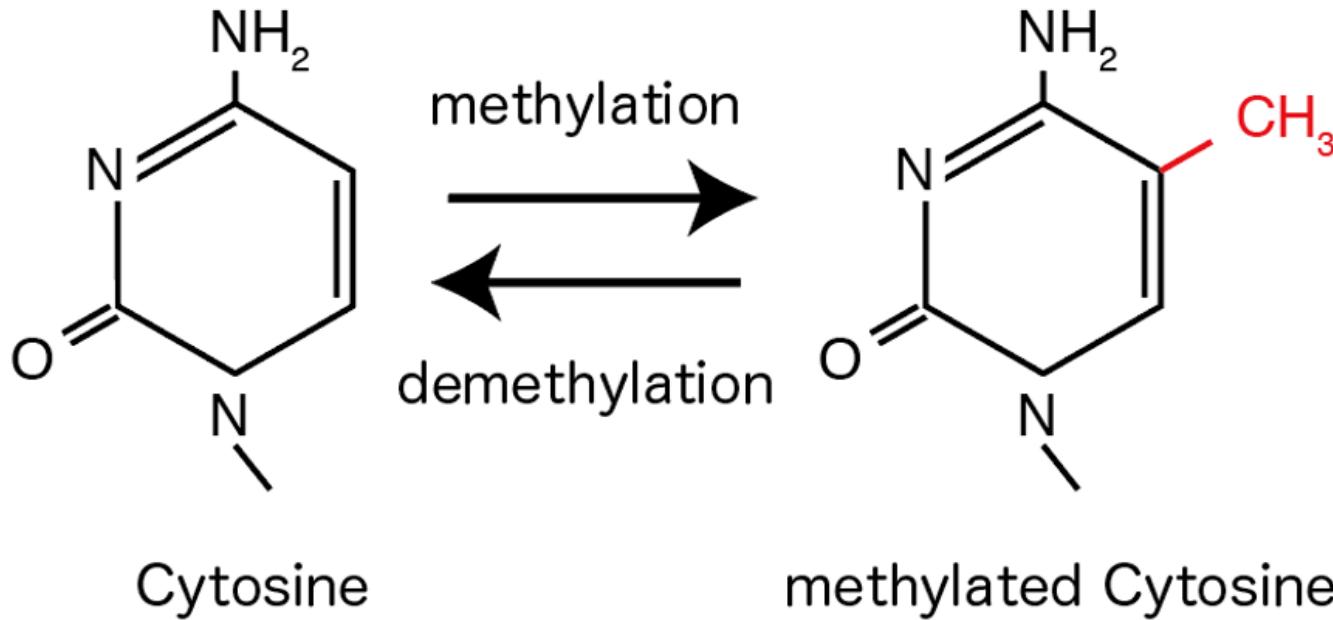
Epigenetics



source: NIH

Epigenomics Data analysis 2023: Methylation

What is DNA methylation?



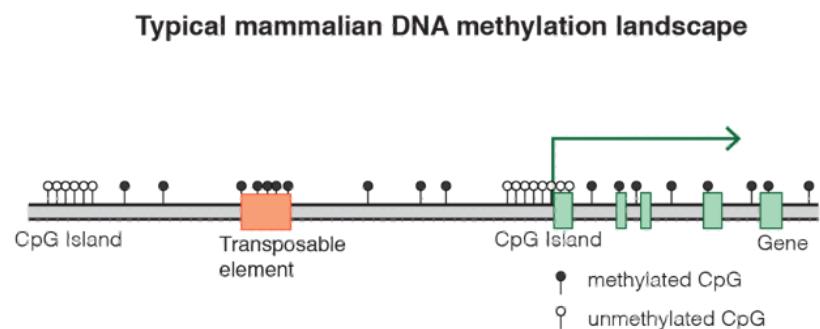
What is DNA methylation?

- Mostly found at cytosines followed by guanines
 - 90% in CpG sites
 - Default state is methylated
 - Prone to mutation -> depleted



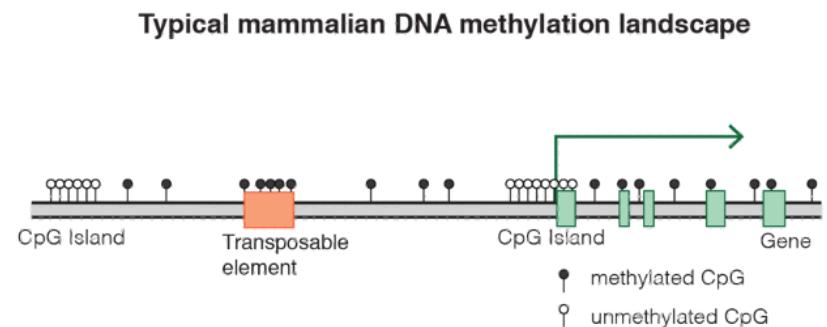
What is DNA methylation?

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- CpG sites often occurs as clusters: CpG Islands
 - Region with high frequency of CpG
 - Often associated with promoters
 - Unmethylated if gene is expressed

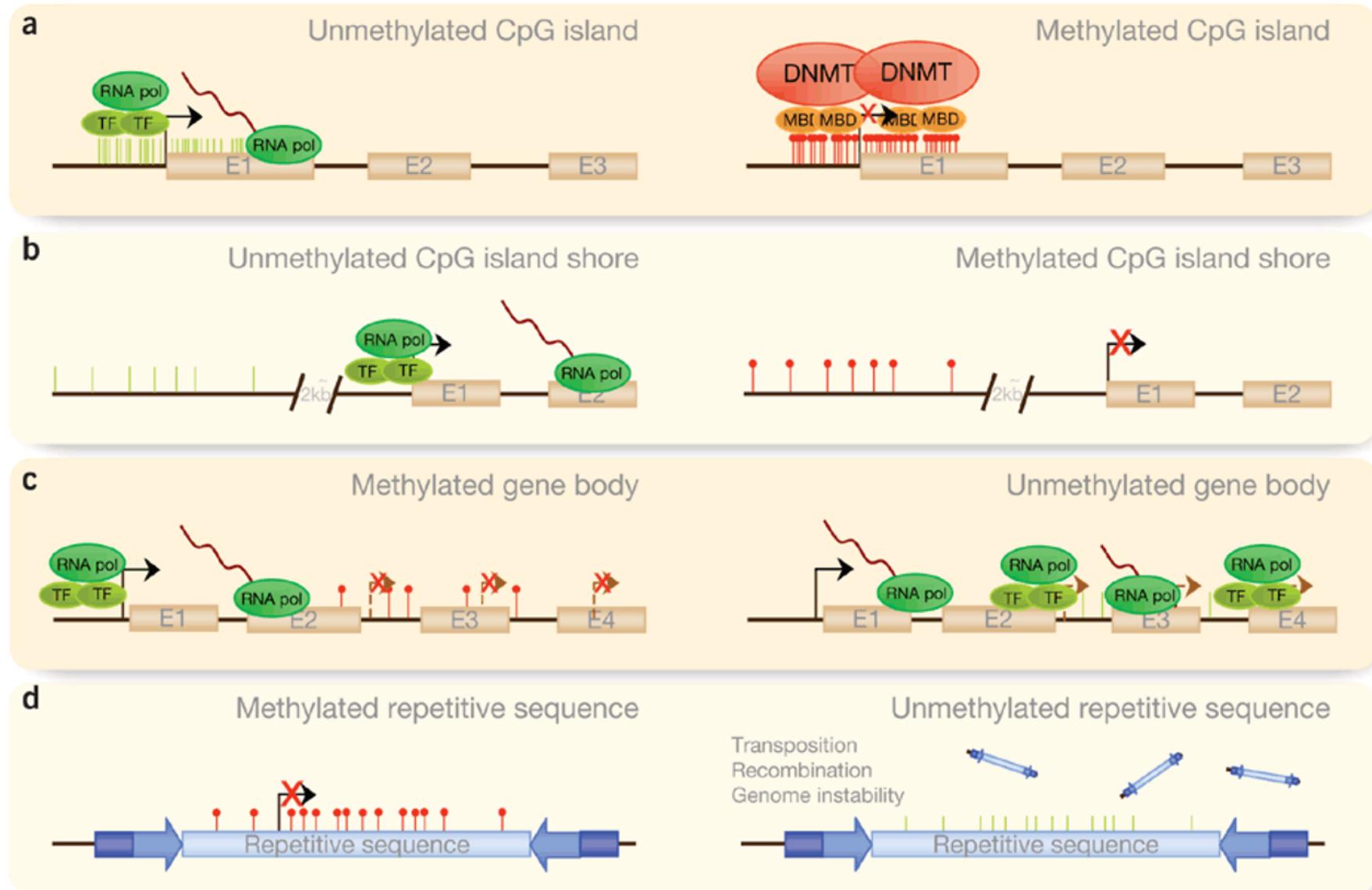


What is DNA methylation?

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 - Default state is methylated
 - Prone to mutation -> depleted
- CpG sites often occurs as clusters: CpG Islands
 - Region with high frequency of CpG
 - Often associated with promoters
 - Unmethylated if gene is expressed
- Role in development, aging, cancer, exercise, ...



Effects of Methylation



Detection of DNA methylation

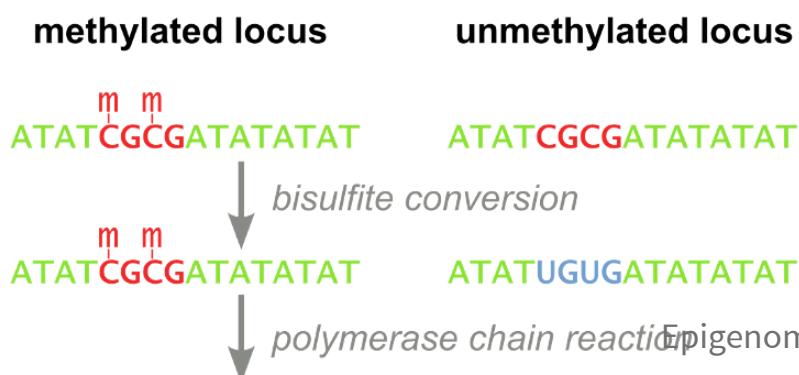
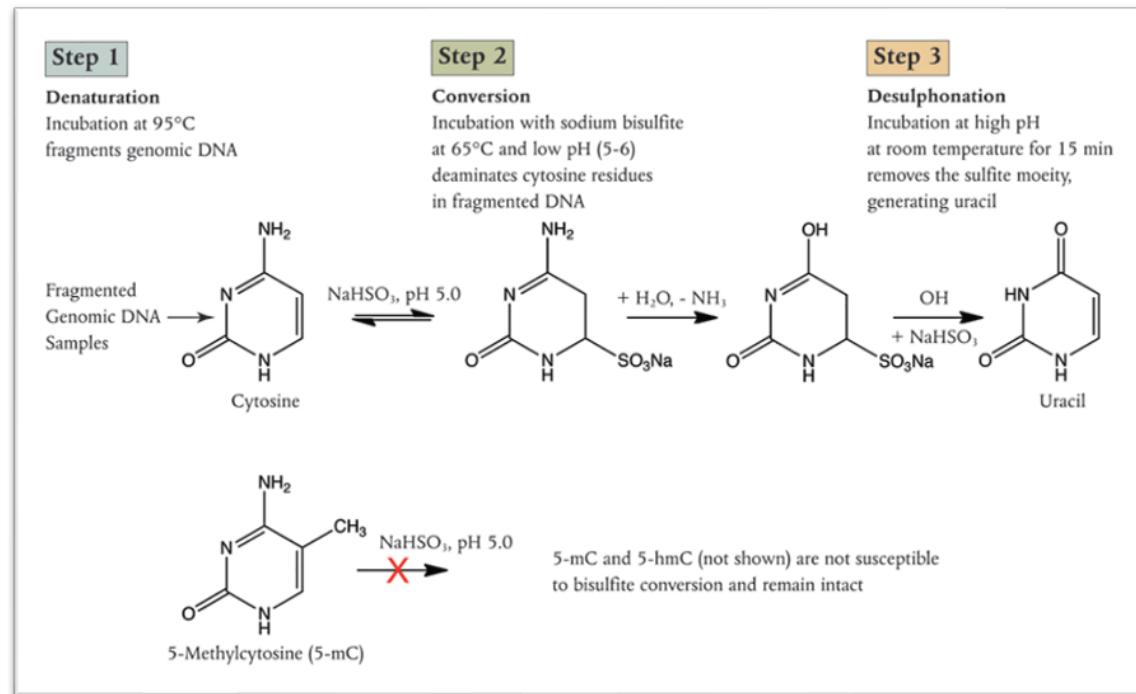
CpG Methylation					
A Site-Specific Methylation		B Global Methylation			
Method	Refs	Outcome	Method	Refs	Outcome
* Methylation-specific PCR	Herman <i>et al.</i> , 1996 Karouzakis <i>et al.</i> , 2009	Detection of methylation of a specific gene or a region	* Methylation-specific PCR of repetitive sequences	Yang <i>et al.</i> , 2004	Methylation status of repetitive sequences of the genome
* Quantitative PCR (i.e. High Melting Resolution analysis)	Candiloro <i>et al.</i> , 2011 Newman <i>et al.</i> , 2012 Kristensen <i>et al.</i> , 2013	Methylation level of a specific gene/regions of the genome	* HPLC	Kuo <i>et al.</i> , 1980 Ehrlich <i>et al.</i> , 1982	
* COBRA (combined bisulfite and restriction analysis)	Xiong and Laird, 1997 Lahtz <i>et al.</i> , 2013	Quantification of methylation frequencies at individual consecutive CpG sites	* HPCE	Li <i>et al.</i> , 2009	
* Pyrosequencing	Candiloro <i>et al.</i> , 2011 Kristensen <i>et al.</i> , 2013		* Mass spectrometry	Annan <i>et al.</i> , 1989 Coolen <i>et al.</i> , 2007	Total amount of methylated cytosines in the genome
			* Anti-5meC immunological methods (Flow cytometry, microscopy etc.)	Habib <i>et al.</i> , 1999 Piyathilake <i>et al.</i> , 2004 Brown <i>et al.</i> , 2008 Karouzakis <i>et al.</i> , 2009 Schneider and Fagagna, 2012	
			* Microarray	Weber <i>et al.</i> , 2005 Bar-Nur <i>et al.</i> , 2011 Bocker <i>et al.</i> , 2011 Walker <i>et al.</i> , 2011	Genome-mapping (methylation status of large DNA fragments)
C Global Methylation Detection Using Proxy Markers				* Next-generation sequencing (i.e. Illumina platform)	Bibikova <i>et al.</i> , 2009 Russnes <i>et al.</i> , 2011 Zong <i>et al.</i> , 2012 Glossop <i>et al.</i> , 2013 Renner <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Marker	Example Methods		Interpretation	Refs	(1) Methylation status of individual CpG dinucleotides, (2) Methylation status of gene regions with sites in the promoter region, 5'UTR, first exon, gene body, 3'UTR, and (3) Methylation status of CpG islands, shore and shelf regions (distance from the CpG islands), and non-CpG islands of the genome
	* MBD domain of MBD1 attaches to a luciferase sensor (luminometer)			Badran <i>et al.</i> , 2011	
	MBD1	* Dot blot analysis of MBD1 protein * Illumina sequencing of methylated DNA enriched by the MBD domain of MBD1	Global DNA methylation	Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 2012 Morita <i>et al.</i> , 2012	

Celik *et al.* (2014), Journal of Immunological Methods

Epigenomics Data analysis 2023: Methylation

Bisulfite Conversion

- Bisulfite conversion crucial for both arrays and sequencing
- C → U (->T)
- mC → mC (-> C)
- methylation-specific PCR, high resolution melting curve analysis, micro-array based approaches and next generation sequencing



Illumina Methylation Arrays

GoldenGate

1500 CpGs,
cancer focused

Infinium

HumanMethylation450

480K CpGs, 99% RefSeq genes

2007

2008

2011

2015

HumanMethylation450 array content.

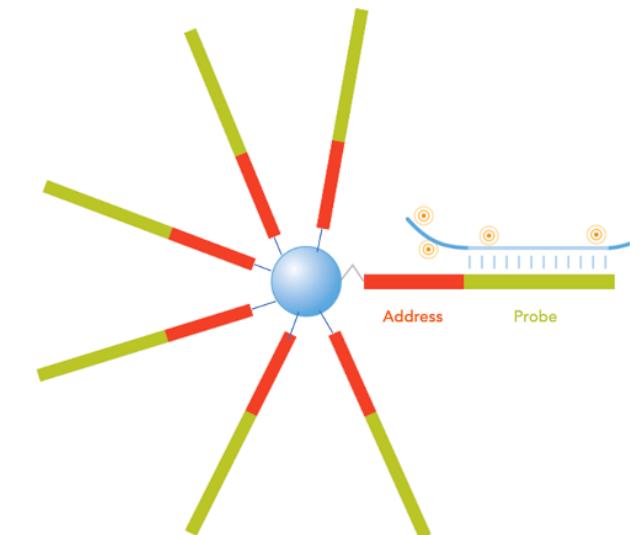
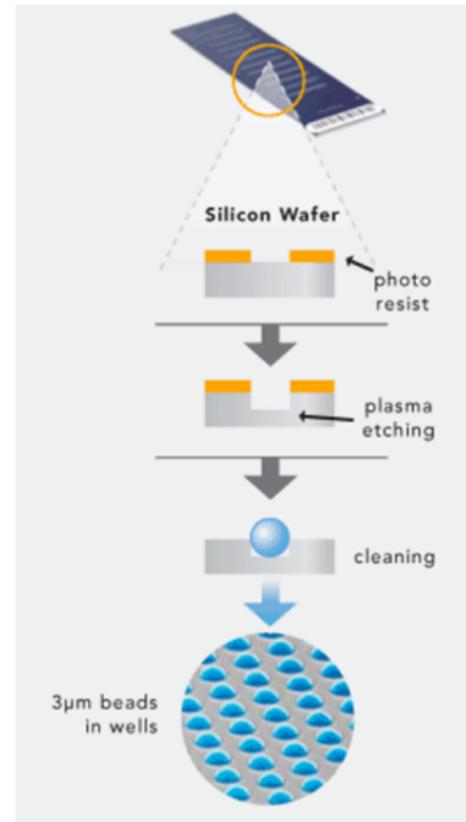
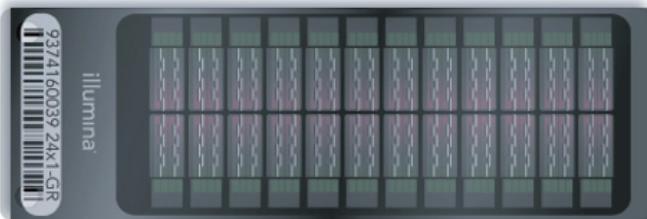
Feature type	Included on array
Total number of sites	485,577
RefSeq genes	21,231 (99%)
CpG islands	26,658 (96%)
CpG island shores (0–2 kb from CGI)	26,249 (92%)
CpG island shelves (2–4 kb from CGI)	24,018 (86%)
HMM islands ^a	62,600
FANTOM 4 promoters (High CpG content) ^a	9426
FANTOM 4 promoters (Low CpG content) ^a	2328
Differentially methylated regions (DMRs) ^a	16,232
Informatically-predicted enhancers ^a	80,538
DNase hypersensitive sites	59,916
Ensemble regulatory features ^a	47,257
Loci in MHC region	12,334
HumanMethylation27 loci	25,978
Non-CpG loci	3091

MethylationEPIC

850K CpGs, >90% 450 +
additional regulatory
regions

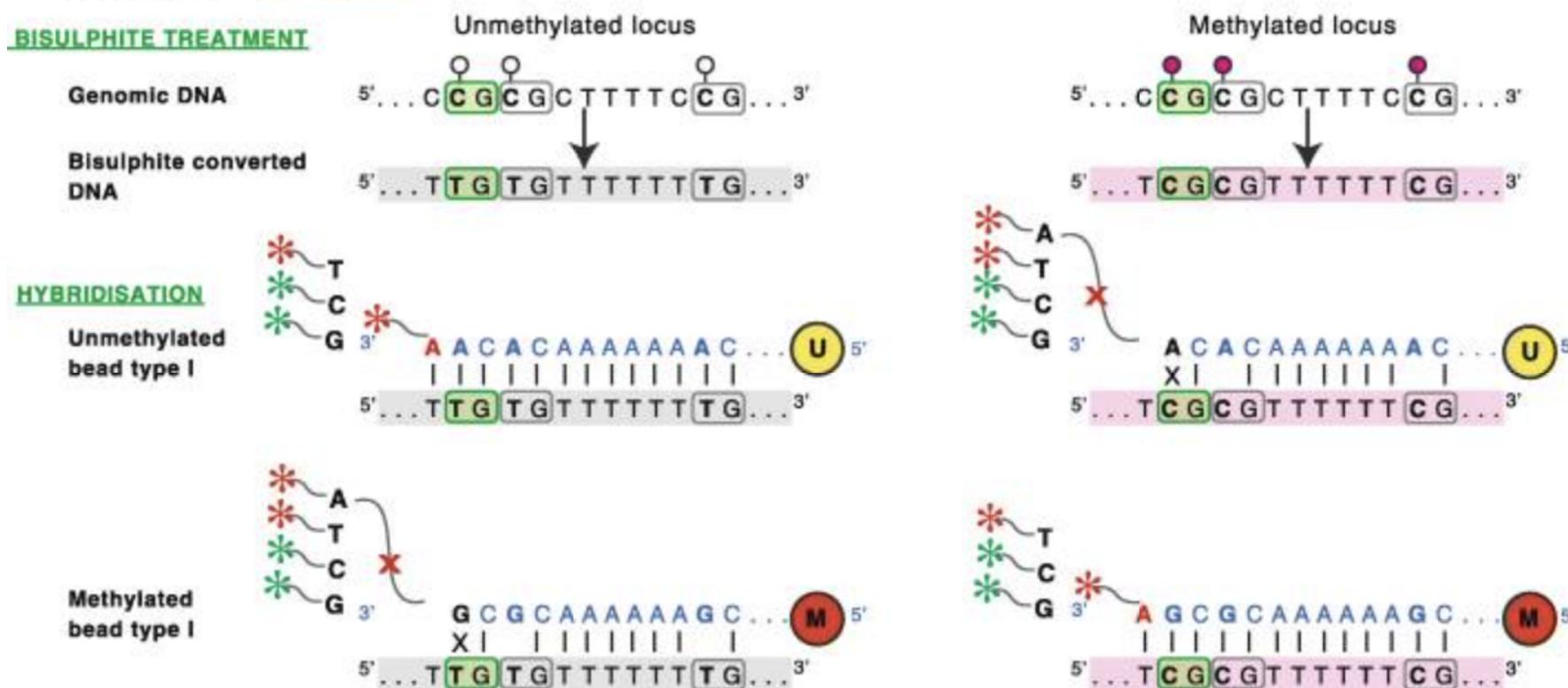
450 Array

- 50bp single stranded DNA oligos (“probes”) attached to silica beads
- 2 detection channels: red and green
- Hybrid of 2 different probe designs



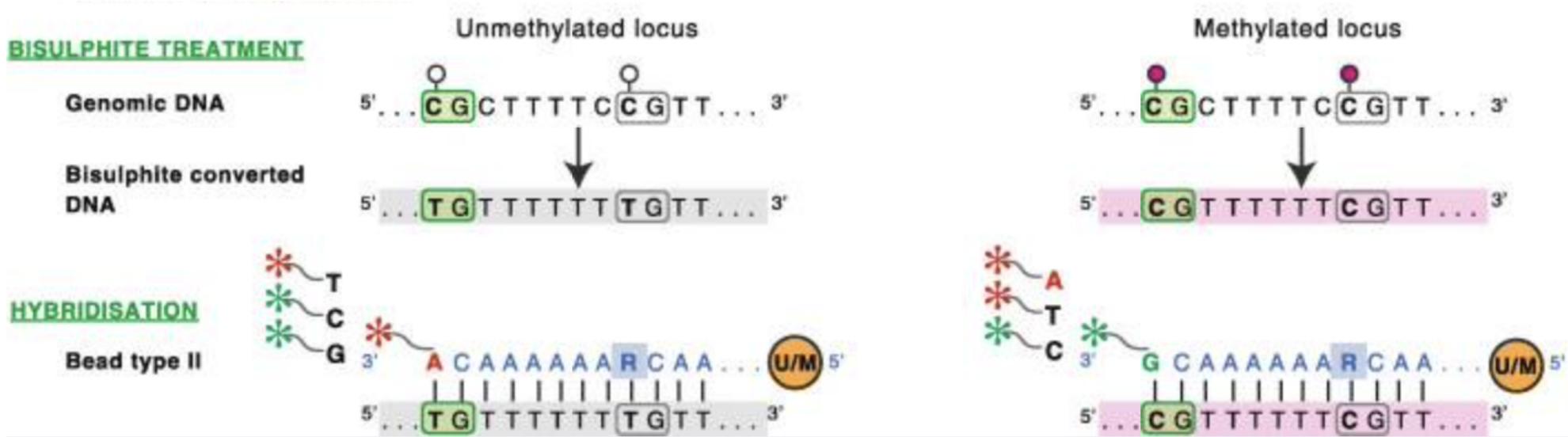
Infinium: Type I vs II design

- Type I: single color detection, two beads



Infinium: Type I vs II design

- Type II: two color detection, single bead



Infinium: Type I vs II design

Type I	Type II
Same chemistry as 27K	New from 450K on
2 beads/CpG	1 bead/CpG (fits more)
Better for CpG dense regions	better for less dense regions
More stable/reproducible	lower dynamic range

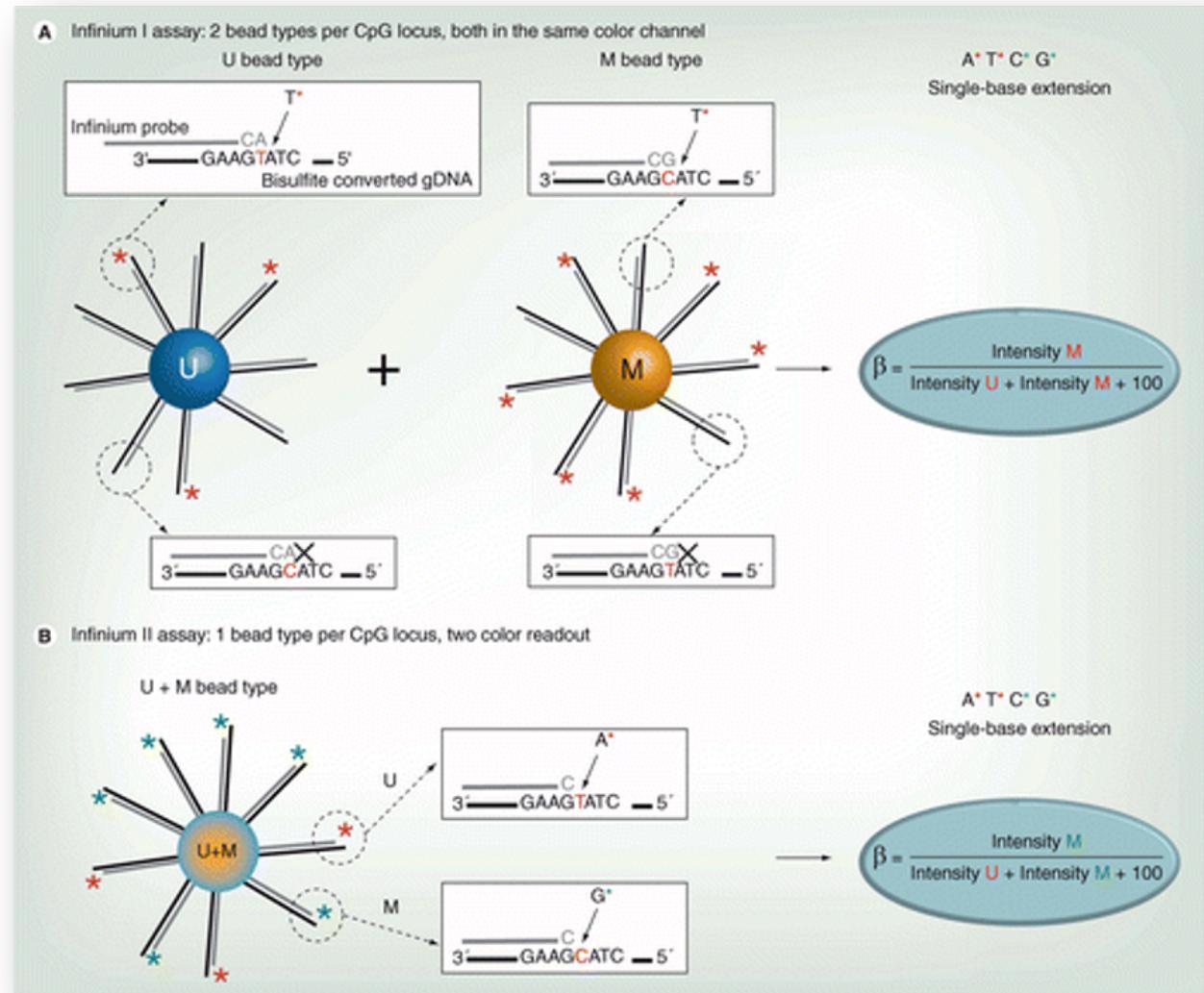
From red/green to methylation level

- Intensities are used to estimate *Beta* values; for both probe designs

$$\text{beta} = M/(M + U + 100)$$

- Beta* value between 0 and 1
- Easily interpretable, but related M-value has better statistical properties

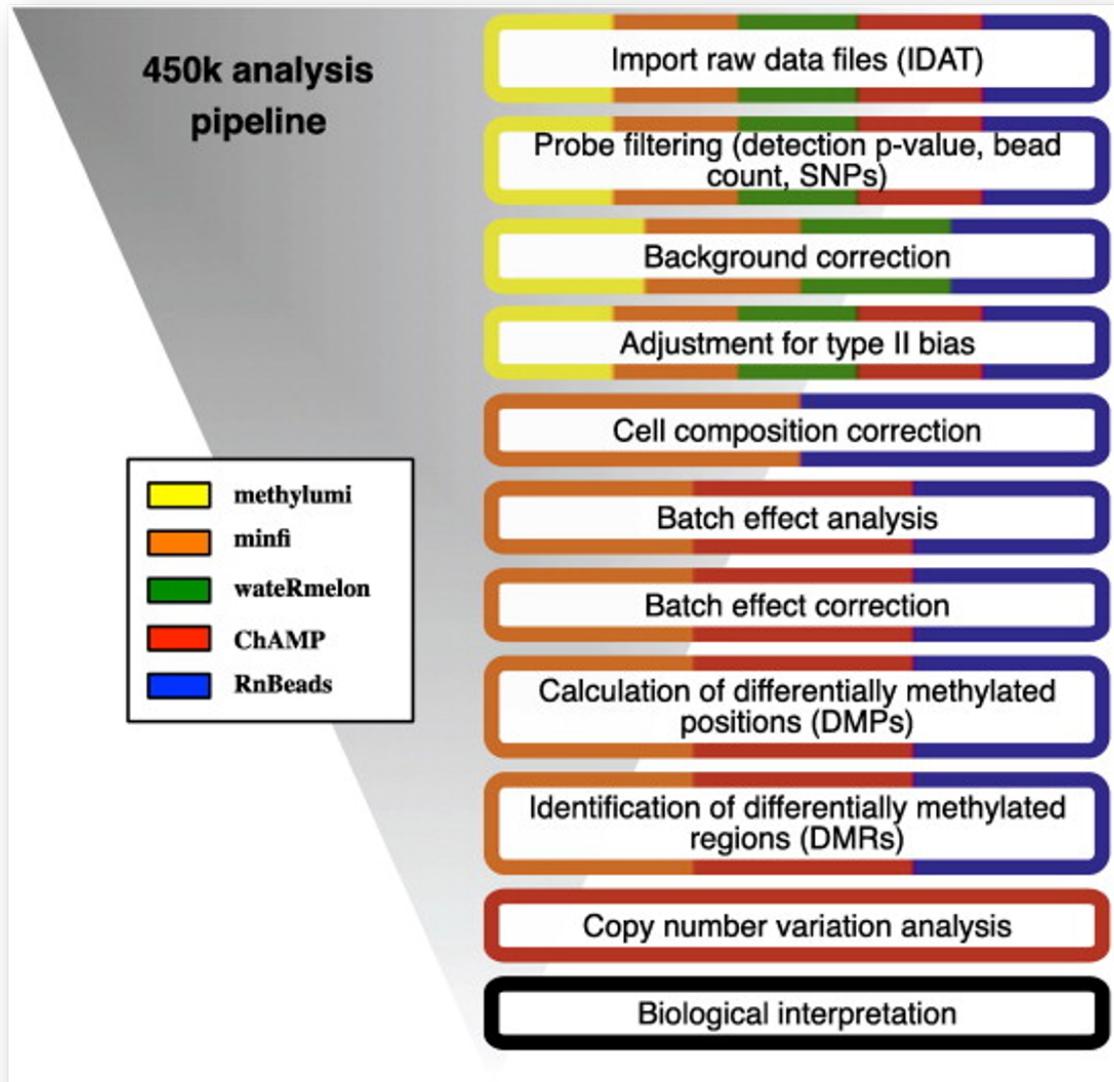
$$\text{Mvalue} = \log_2(M/U)$$



Analysis Workflow

- Typical analysis consists of different steps...
- Many tools for analyzing Illumina arrays
- R package minfi

```
1 library(minfi)
```



Import data

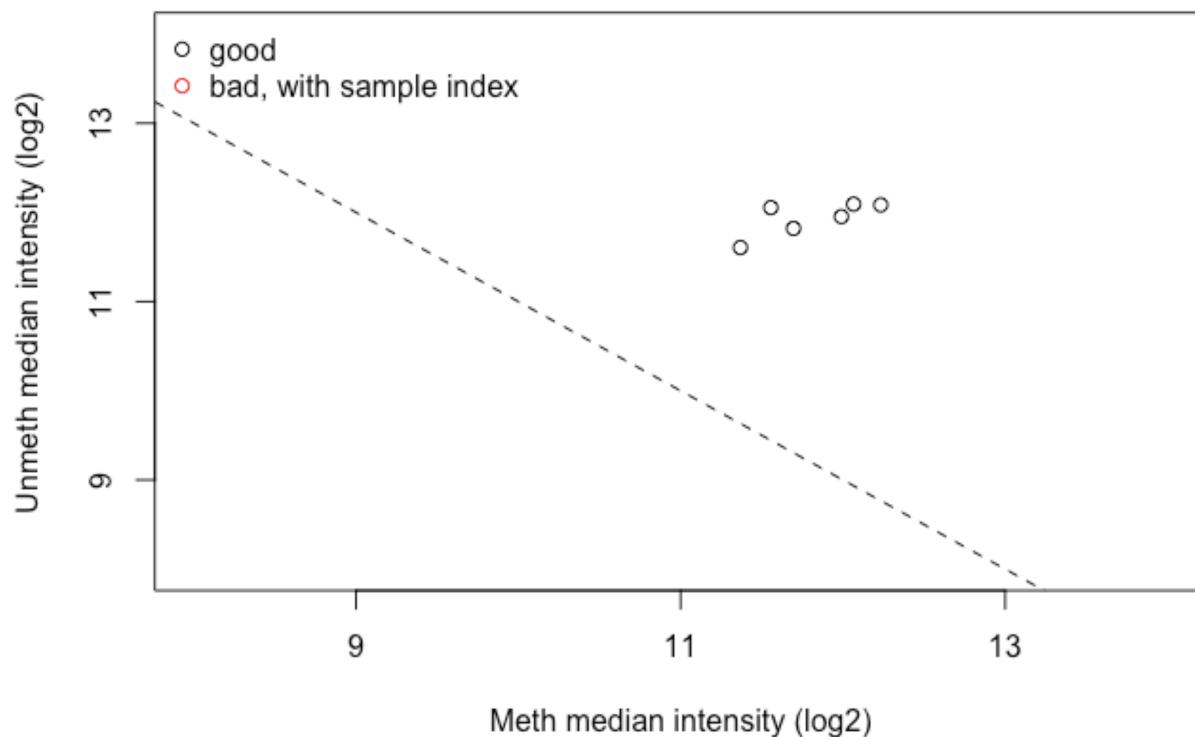
- IDAT files; slide scanner output
 - 5859594006_R01C01_Grn.idat

```
1 dataDirectory <- "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/array_data/"
2 # read in the sample sheet for the experiment
3 targets <- read.metharray.sheet(dataDirectory, pattern="SampleSheet.csv")
4 # read in the raw data from the IDAT files
5 rgSet <- read.metharray.exp(targets=targets)
6 # Go from intensity data to methylation levels
7 MSet <- preprocessRaw(rgSet)
```

Initial Quality Control

- Plot median intensity in M vs U

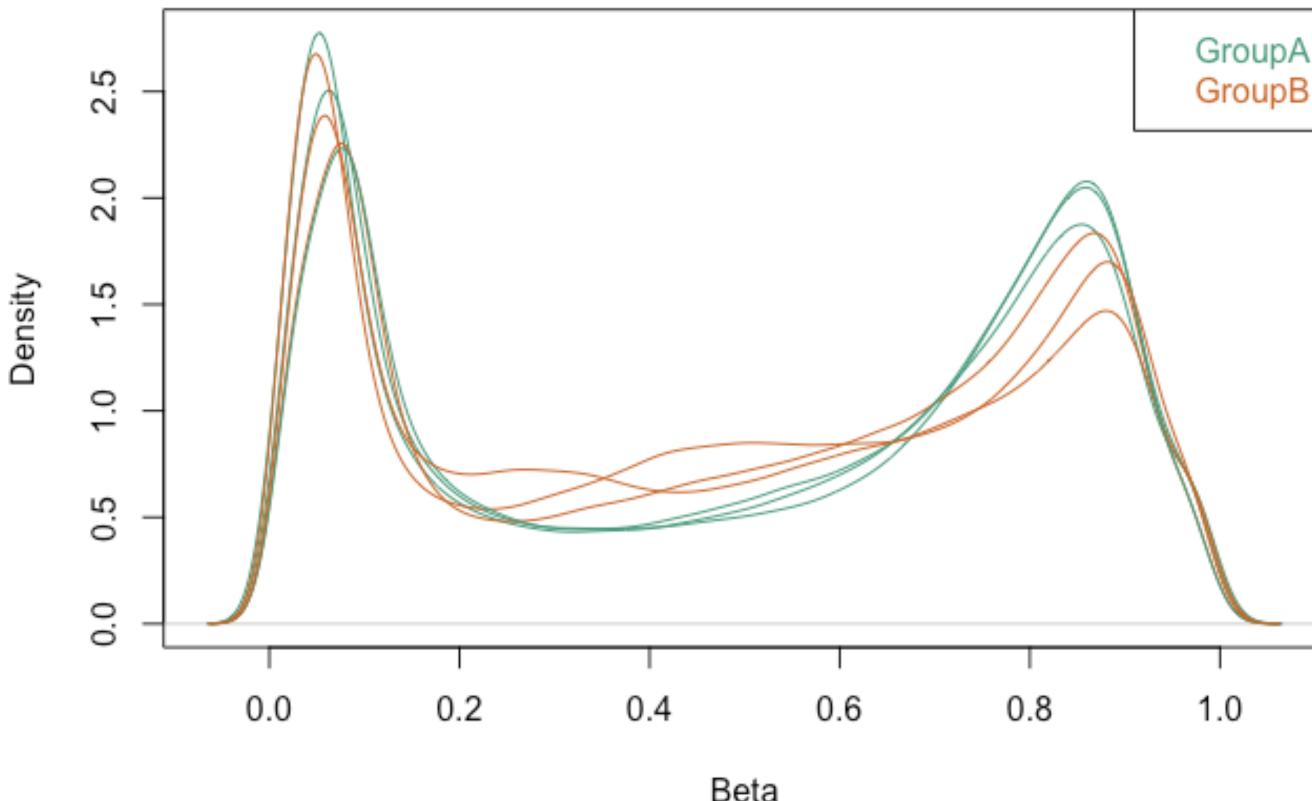
```
1 qc <- getQC(MSet)  
2 plotQC(qc)
```



Initial Quality Control

- *Beta* value density distribution

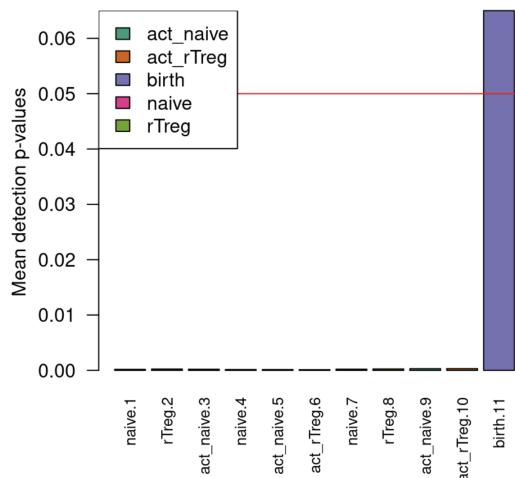
```
1 densityPlot(MSet, sampGroups = phenoData$Sample_Group)
```



Initial Quality Control

- Detection p-value: Are the intensities significantly above background?

```
1 # Calculate the detection p-values
2 detP <- detectionP(rgSet)
3 # examine mean detection p-values across all samples to identify any failed
4 barplot(colMeans(detP), las=2, cex.names=0.8, ylab="Mean detection p-values"
5 abline(h=0.05, col="red")
```

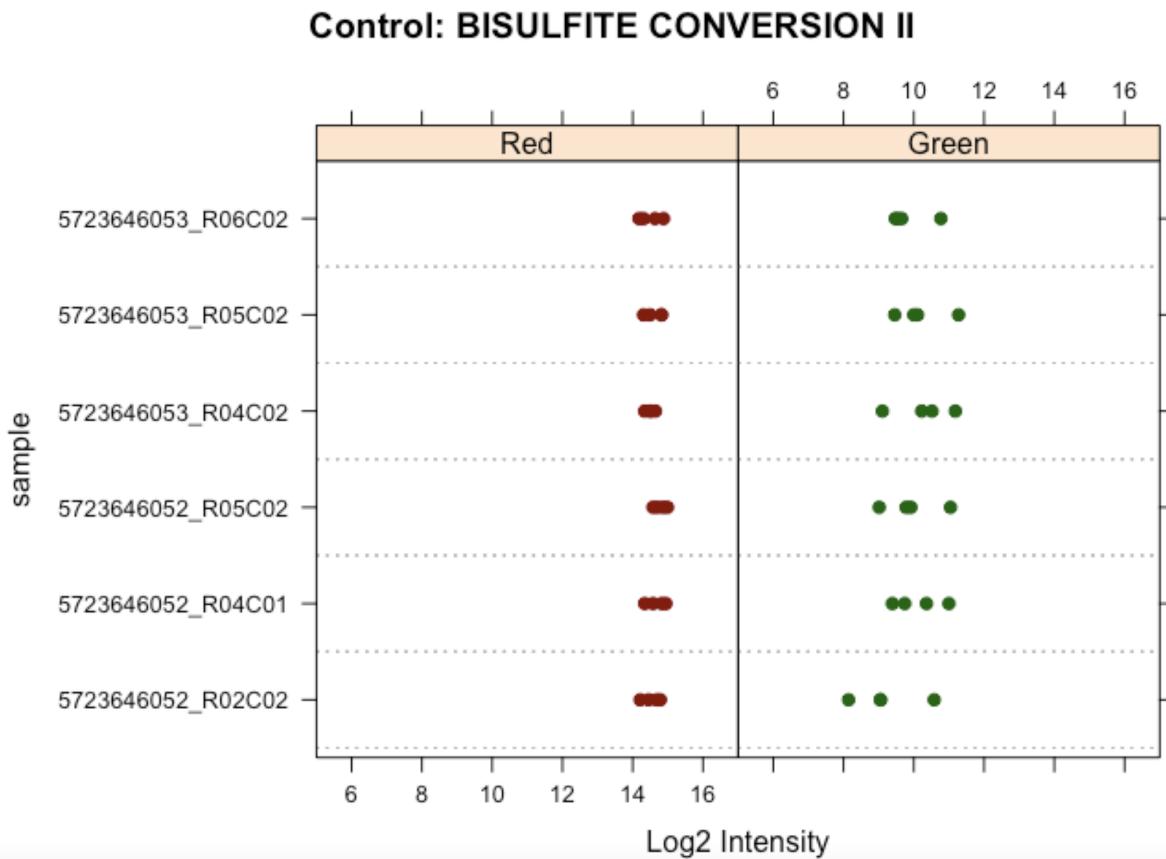


Potentially remove bad samples
and/or probes.

Initial Quality Control

- Several internal control probes for different sample preparation steps (bisulfite conversion, hybridization, ...)

```
1 controlStripPlot(RGSet, controls="BISULFITE CONVERSION II")
```



- Staining control
- Bisulfite conversion
- extension controls
- specificity controls
- hybridization controls
- target removal controls
- negative controls

Description in [Illumina manual](#)

Other considerations...

- Remove X/Y Chromosome CpGs?
- Remove CpG overlapping with known SNP and/or cross reactive probes
- Check sample structure with PCA

Many of the previous plots can be looked at interactively with [shinyMethyl](#).

[paper: A comprehensive overview of Infinium HumanMethylation450 data processing.](#)

Normalization

- Within and across array normalization

A systematic study of normalization methods for Infinium 450K methylation data using whole-genome

Ting Wang

Functional
array
study

A systematic assessment of normalization approaches for the Infinium 450K methylation platform

Michael C Wu, Bonnie R Joubert, Pei-fen Kuan, Siri E Håberg, Wenche Nystad, Shyamal D Peddada & Stephanie J London

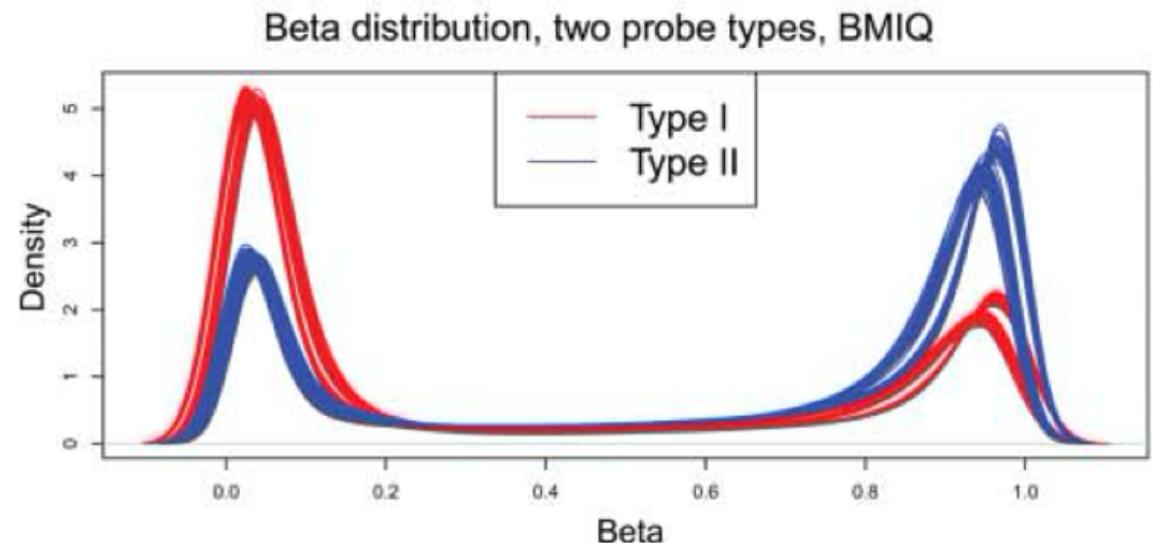
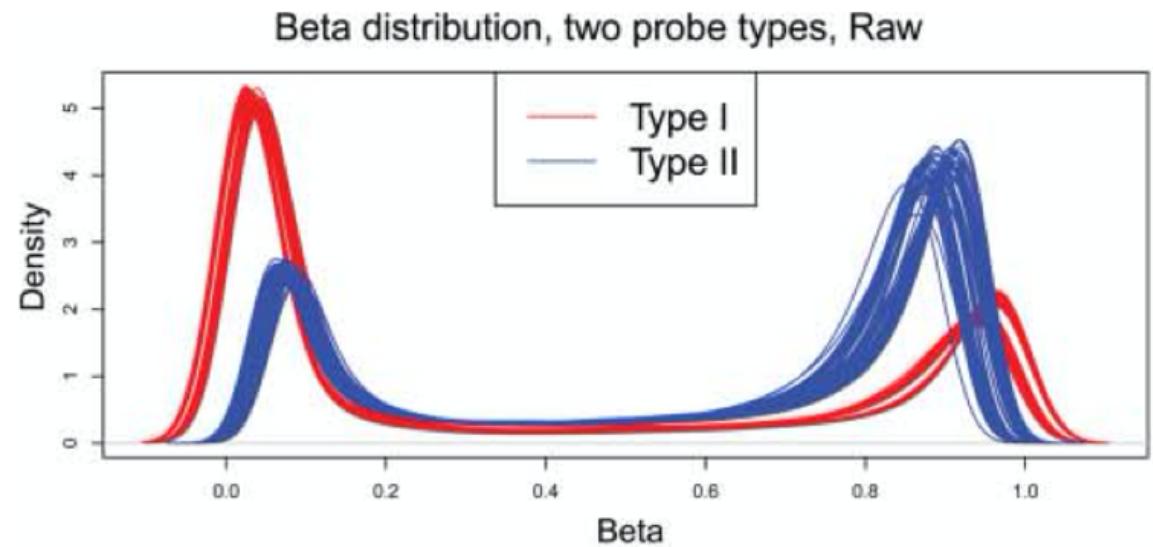
Jean-Philippe Fortin¹, Aurélie Labbe^{2,3,4}, Mathieu Lemire⁵, Brent W Zanke⁶, Thomas J Hudson^{5,7}, Elana J Fertig⁸, Celia MT Greenwood^{2,9,10} and Kasper D Hansen^{1,11*}

Normalization

- Within and across array normalization
- Within array:
 - background correction
 - dye bias adjustment
 - Type I/II bias correction
- Between array:
 - starting material
 - labeling efficiency
- [Good overview](#) + described in lab
- [An evaluation of processing methods for HumanMethylation450 BeadChip data](#)

Assess normalization case by case

- Within and across array normalization not always necessary
- Depends on biological signal

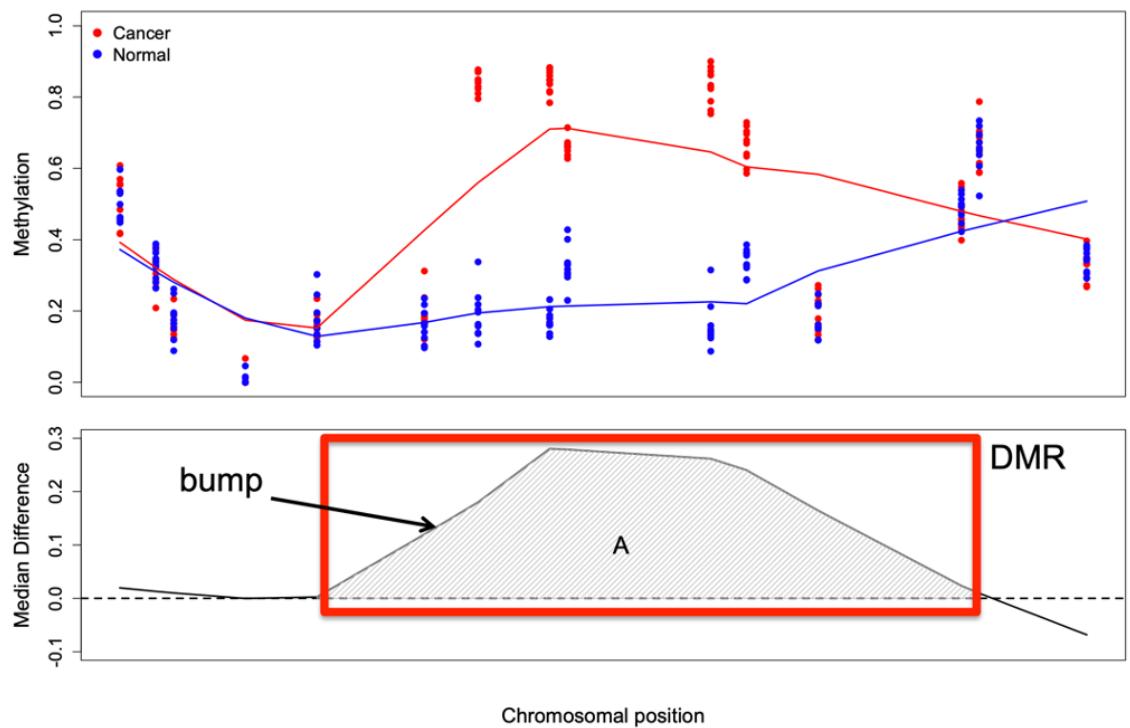


Differential Methylation

- Identification of systematic differences in methylation between groups of samples (case vs control, smokers vs non-smokers, ...)
- Usually starts on a per CpG basis
- Many ways to approach this
 - Questions being asked of data, available information on potential confounders, nature/structure of the data (repeated measures, ...)
- Some possible approaches
 - T-test and ANOVA models
 - Wilcoxon rank-sum and Kruskall Wallis test
 - Linear, logistic and Cox regression or mixed effect models
- Use M-values: $M = \log_2(M/U)$ and *Beta* minimal difference cutoff

Differential Methylation

- Single CpG often less informative than region (DMR)
- How to define region?
 - Sliding window
 - Heuristic cutoff
 - Functional units
- We will try last two in the lab



Gene Set Enrichment

- Long list of DMP or DMR.... What does it mean?
- Gene expression -> GO analysis
- Not so straightforward for methylation data!
 - CpG link to genes unclear
 - Directionality
 - Bias! Number of CpG per gene differs

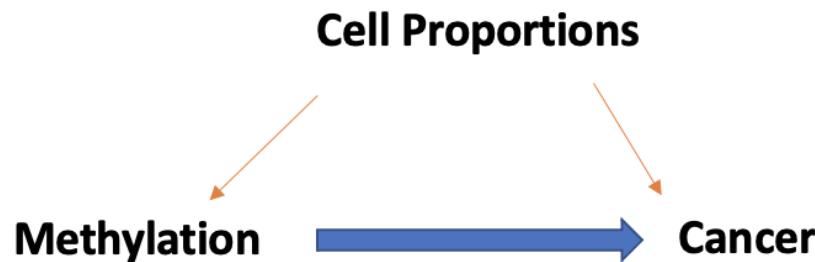
Gene-set analysis is severely biased when applied to genome-wide methylation data

Paul Geeleher^{1,2}, Lori Hartnett³, Laurance J. Egan³, Aaron Golden⁴, Raja Affendi Raja Ali³ and Cathal Seoighe^{2,*}

- [missMethyl](#), [methylGSA](#), [BioMethyl](#)

Cell Type Deconvolution

- Estimates the relative proportion of pure cell types within a sample
- Most cohort studies use data from blood samples



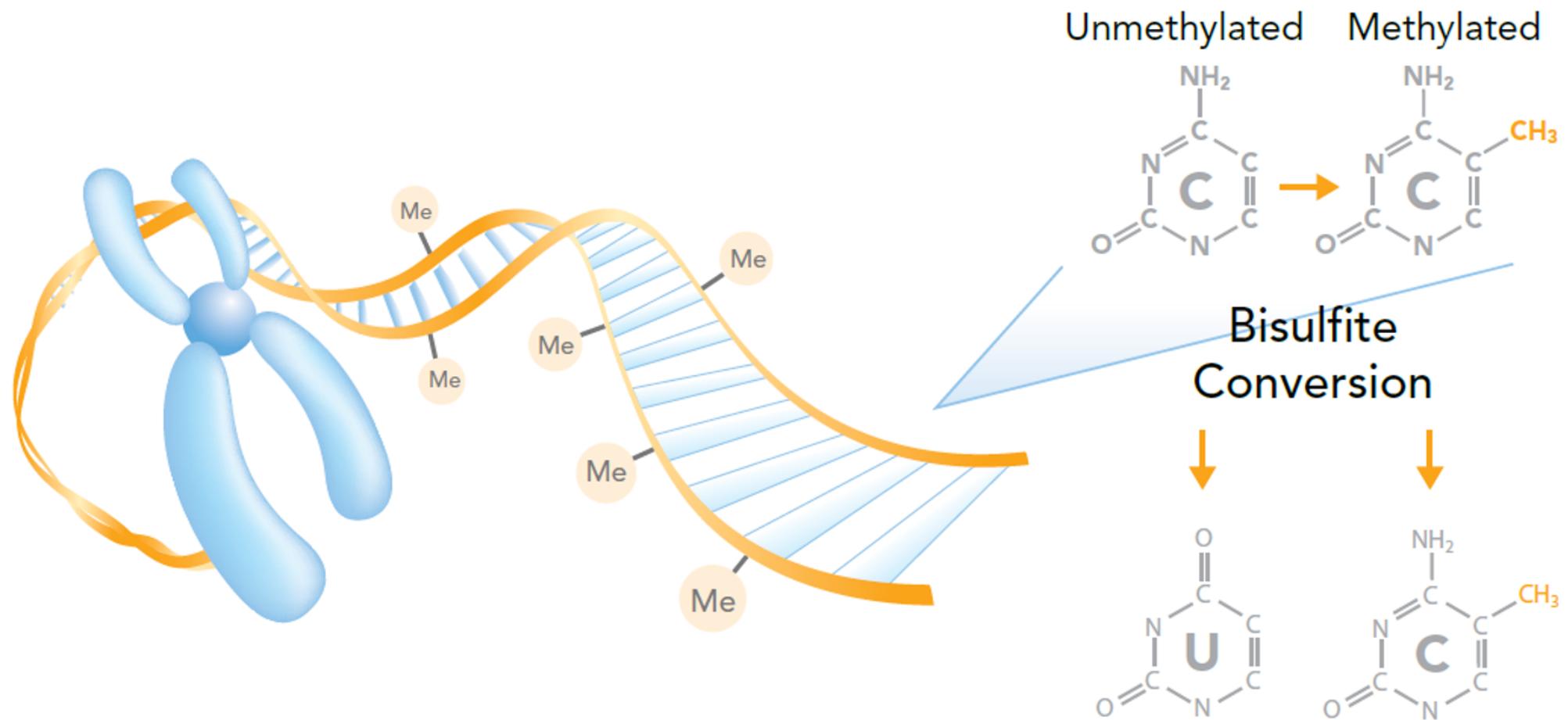
- Minfi: RGChannelSet returns relative proportions of CD4+ and CD8+ T-cells, NK cells, monocytes, granulocytes and B-cells in each sample

Datasets

- Small toy data
- IDAT files
- 10 samples: 4 different T-cell types from 3 individuals
 - Naive
 - Treg
 - act_naive
 - act_Treg
- An additional sample has been added from another study [GSE51180](#), to illustrate approaches for identifying poor quality samples.

Bisulfite Sequencing

Bisulfite Sequencing



Easy readout... in theory

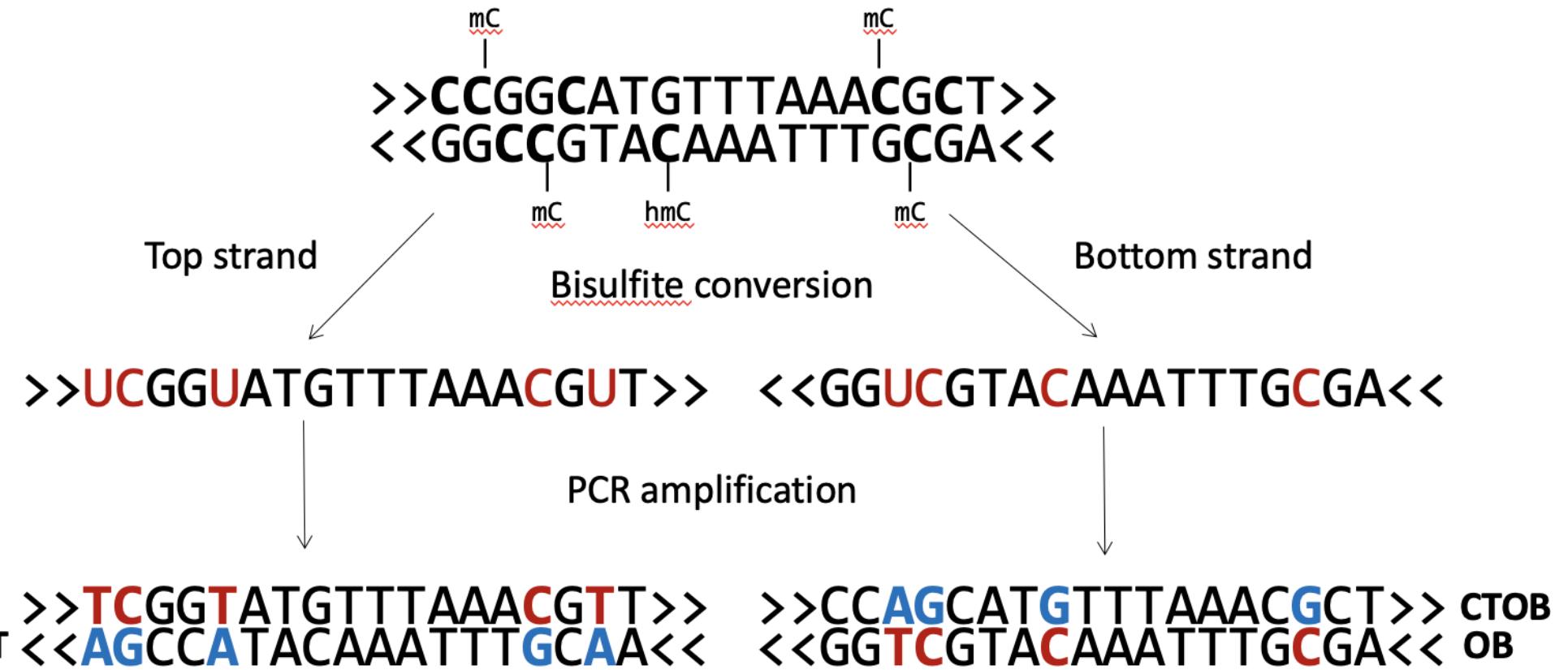
me me
CCAGTCGCTATAGCGCGATATCGTA

A large blue downward-pointing arrow, indicating a process or flow from the left towards the right.

TTAGT TGCTATAGTGCGATATTGTA

A large blue downward-pointing arrow icon.

... but not in reality



- 2 different PCR product and 4 possible different sequence strands from one genomic locus
- Each of these 4 can exist in any possible conversion state

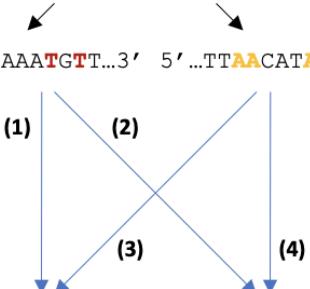
3-letter alignment



Bismarck

sequence of interest TTGGCATGTTAACGTT

5' ...TTGGTATGTTAAA**TGT**...3' 5' ...TT**AACATA**TTAAC**ATT**...3'



...TTGGTATGTTAAATGTT...
...AACCACTACAAATTACAA...
forward strand C->T converted genome

...CC**A**CAT**T**TTAAAC**A**CT...
 ...GG**T**TGT**A**AAATTG**T**G...
 forward strand G -> A converted genome
 (equals reverse strand C -> T conversion)

- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)

read sequence	TTGGCATGTTAACGTTA
genomic sequence	CCGGCATGTTAACGCTA

methylation call x z . . H z . h . .

bisulfite convert read (treat sequence as both forward and reverse strand)

align to bisulfite converted genomes

read all 4 alignment outputs and extract
the unmodified genomic sequence if the
sequence could be mapped uniquely

methylation call

h unmethylated C in CHH context

H methylated C in CHH context

x unmethylated C in CHG context

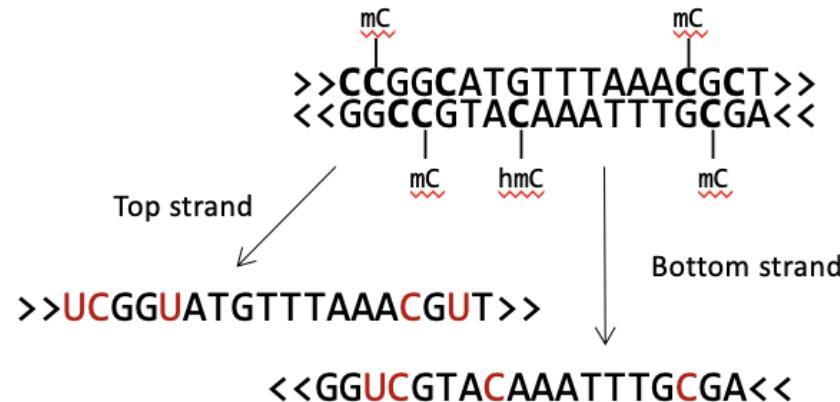
X methylated C in CHG context

α unmethylated C in CpG context

Z methylated C in CpG context

✓

Common library preparations



1) Directional libraries

(vast majority of kits, also EpiGnome/Truseq)

OT >>TCGGTATGTTAAA**CGT**T>>
<<GGT**CGT**ACAAATTG**CGA**<< OB

2) PBAT libraries

CTOT <<**AGCC**ATACAAATT**GCAA**<<
>>**CCAG**CAT**G**TTAAC**GCT**>> CTOB

3) Non-directional libraries

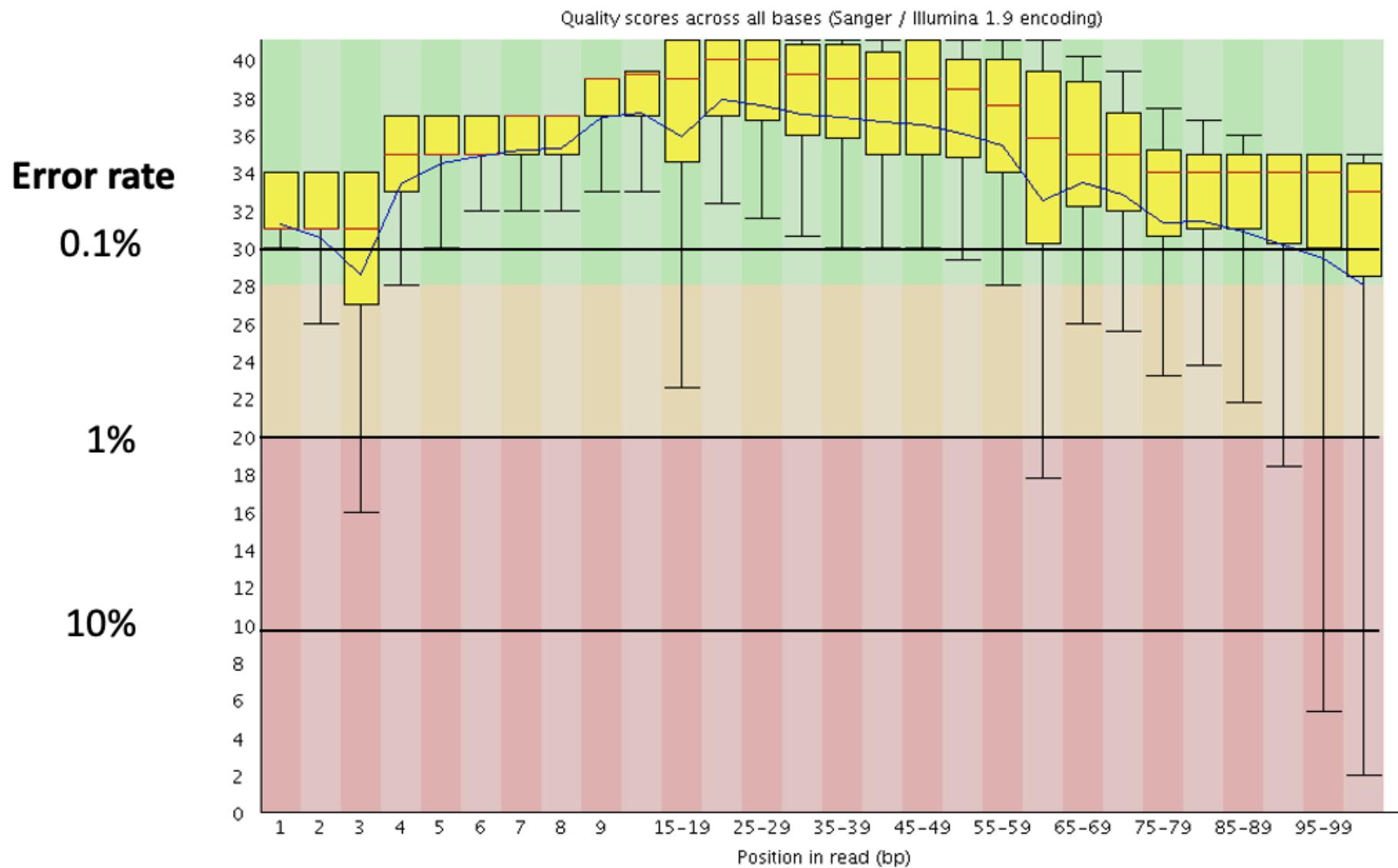
(e.g. single-cell BS-Seq, Zymo Pico Methyl-Seq)

OT >>**TC**GGTATGTTAAA**CGT**T>>
CTOT <<**AGCC**ATACAAATT**GCAA**<<
>>**CCAG**CAT**G**TTAAC**GCT**>> CTOB
<<**GGTC**GTACAAATTG**CGA**<< OB

Quality Control is essential

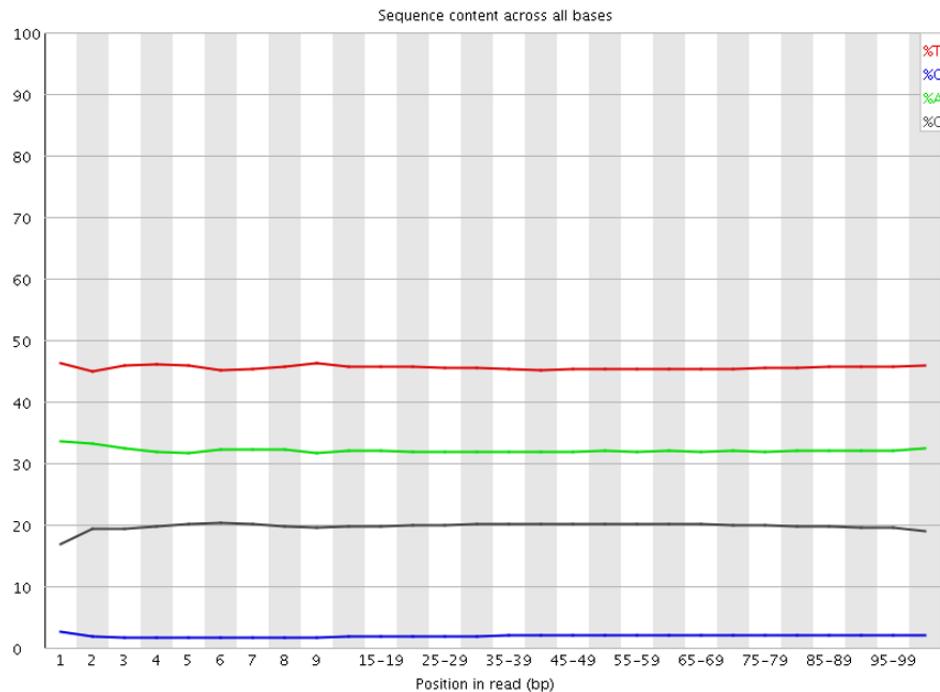
- Accurate C > T detection
- Pre-alignment
 - Base quality/composition
 - Duplication levels
 - Adapter removal

Average Base Quality

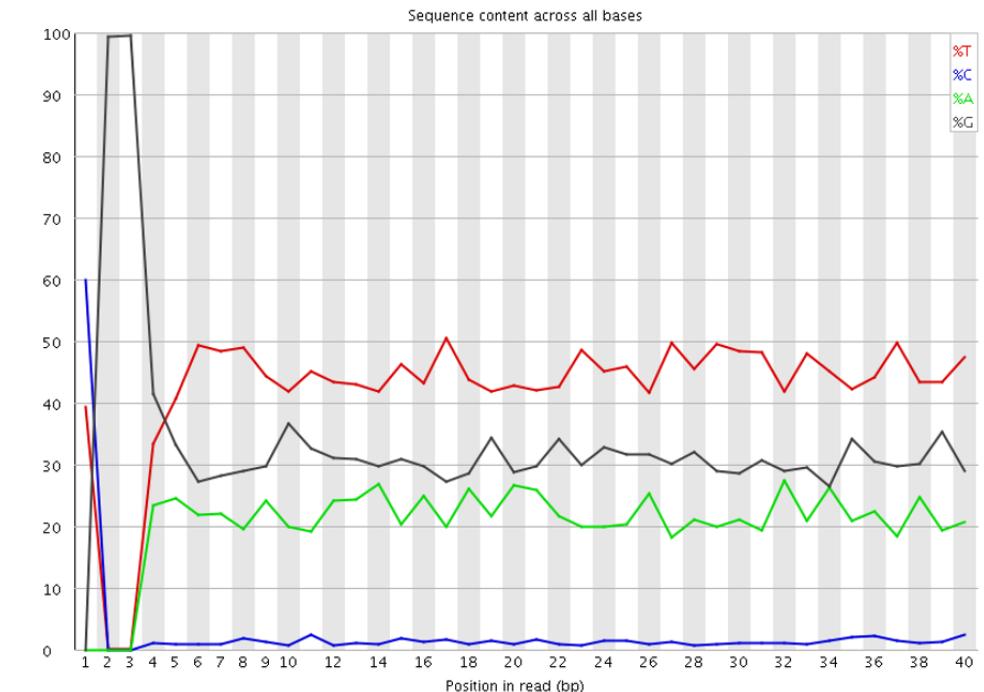


Base Composition

WGBS



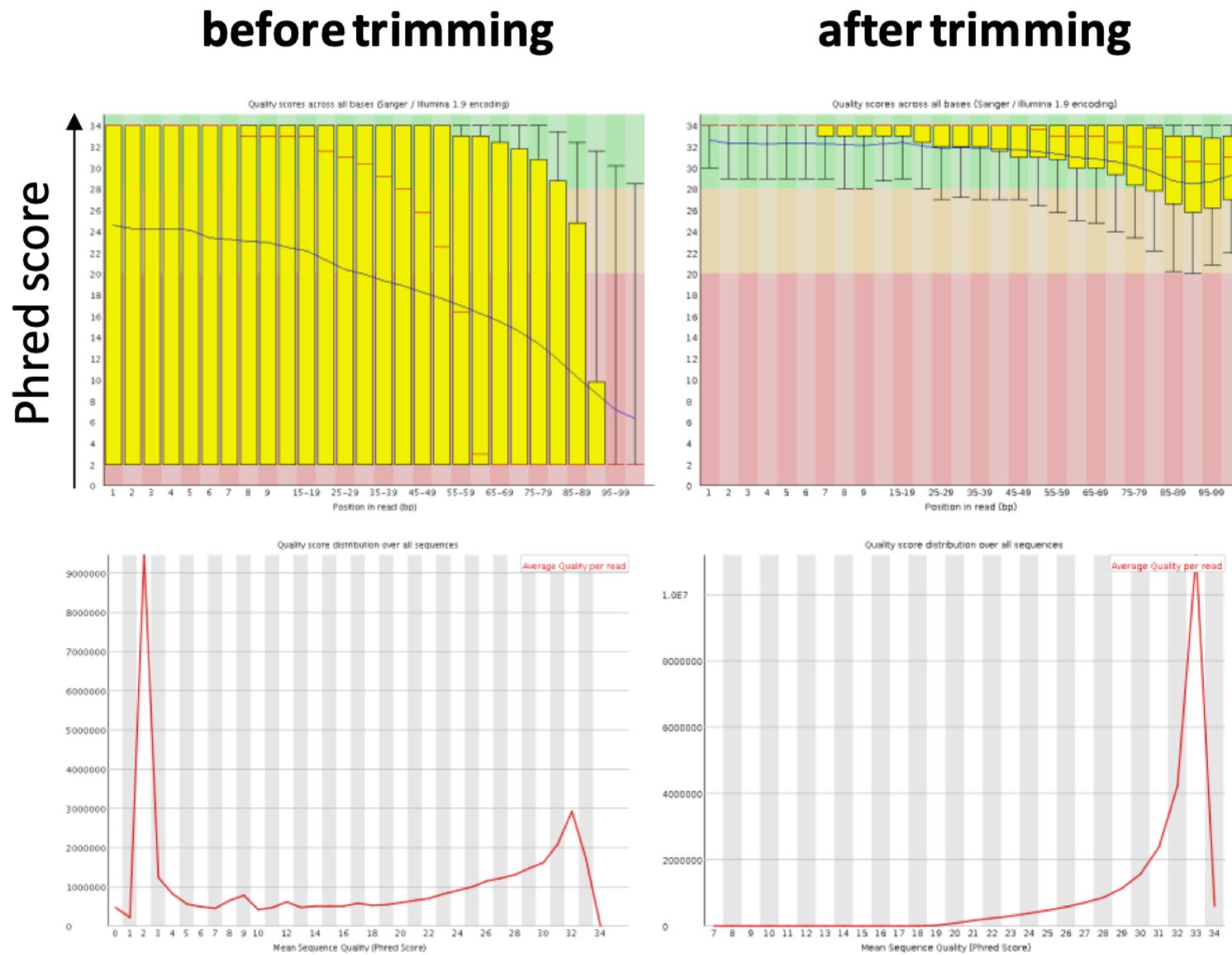
RRBS



Common bisulfite sequencing QC issues

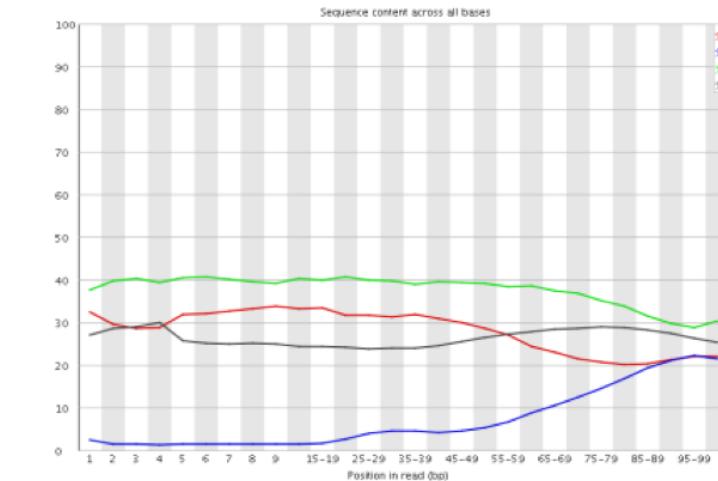
Not observed in
ChIP or RNA-Seq

Remove poor quality basecalls

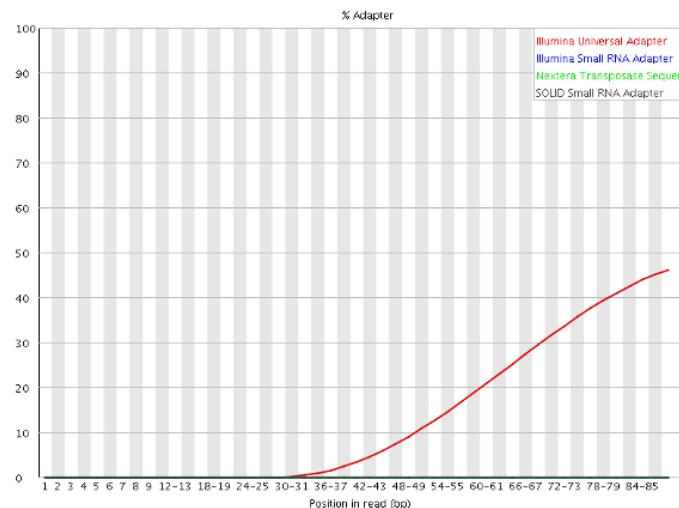


Remove adapter contamination

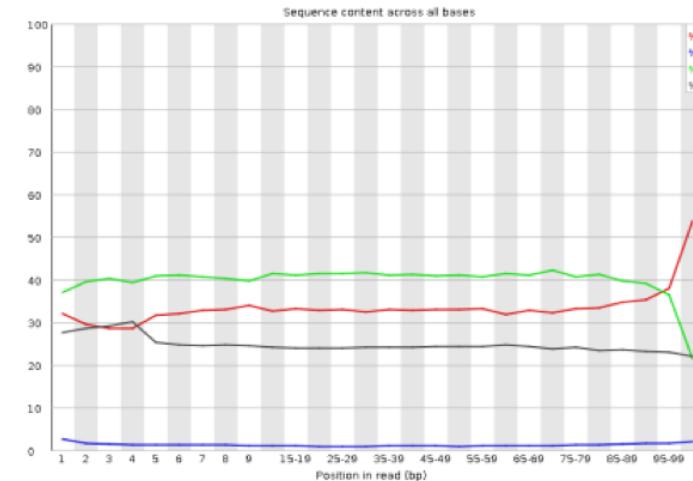
before trimming



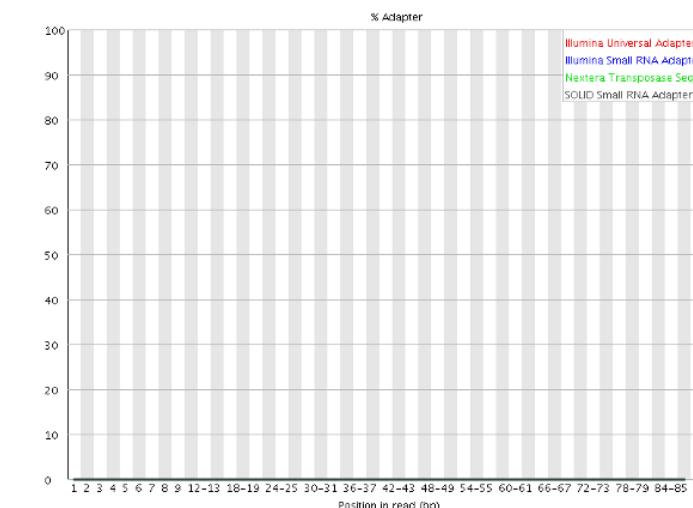
✗ Adapter Content



after trimming



✓ Adapter Content



Summary Adapter/Quality trimming

Important to trim, if not:

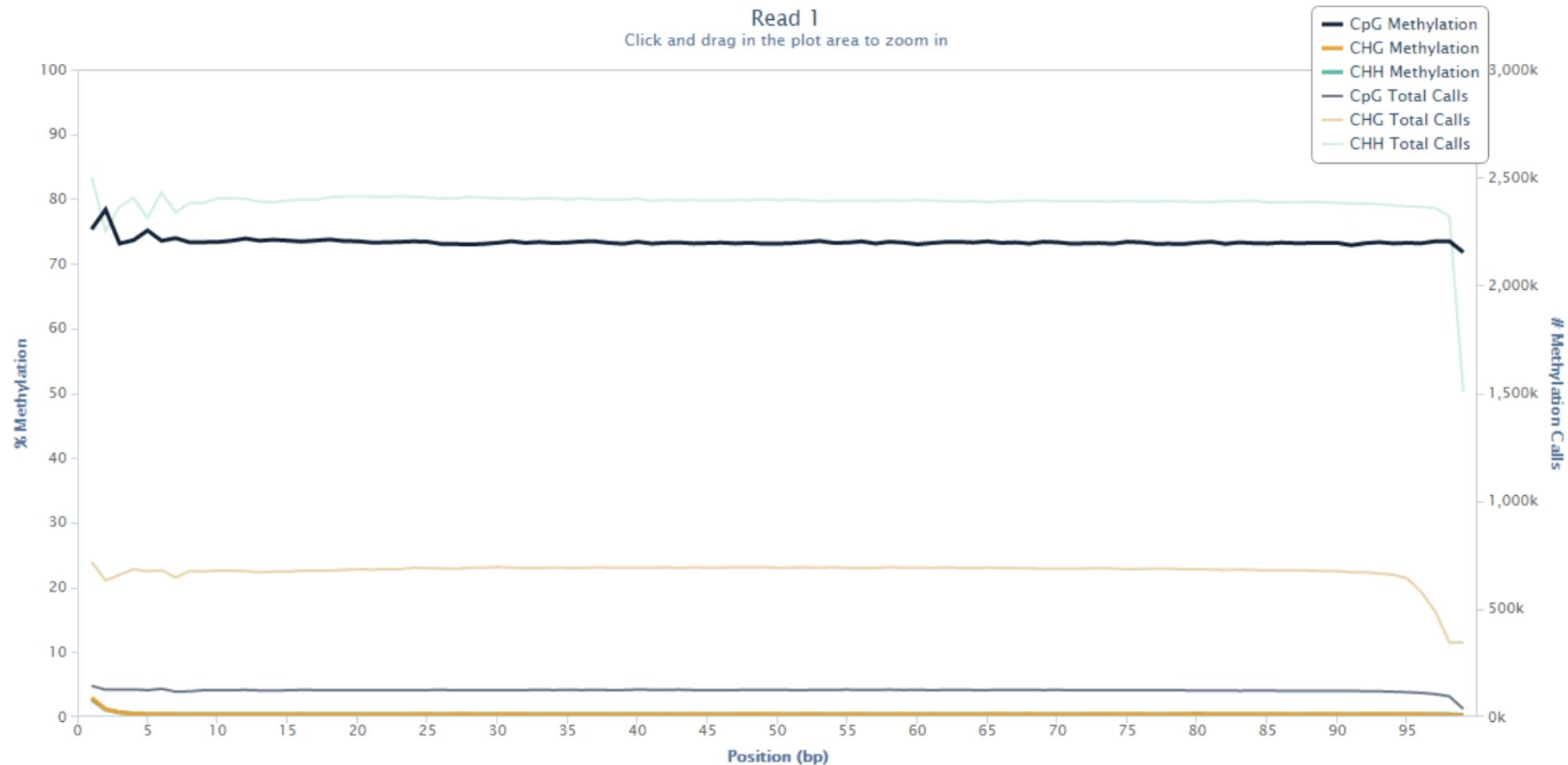
- Low mapping efficiency
- misalignments
- errors in methylation calls (adapters are methylated)
- basecall errors

Quality Control is essential

- Post-alignment
 - Incomplete conversion? non-CpG should be near 100%
 - Degradation? Check alignment rates and insert length
 - Average methylation levels
 - PCR bias? Deduplicate?

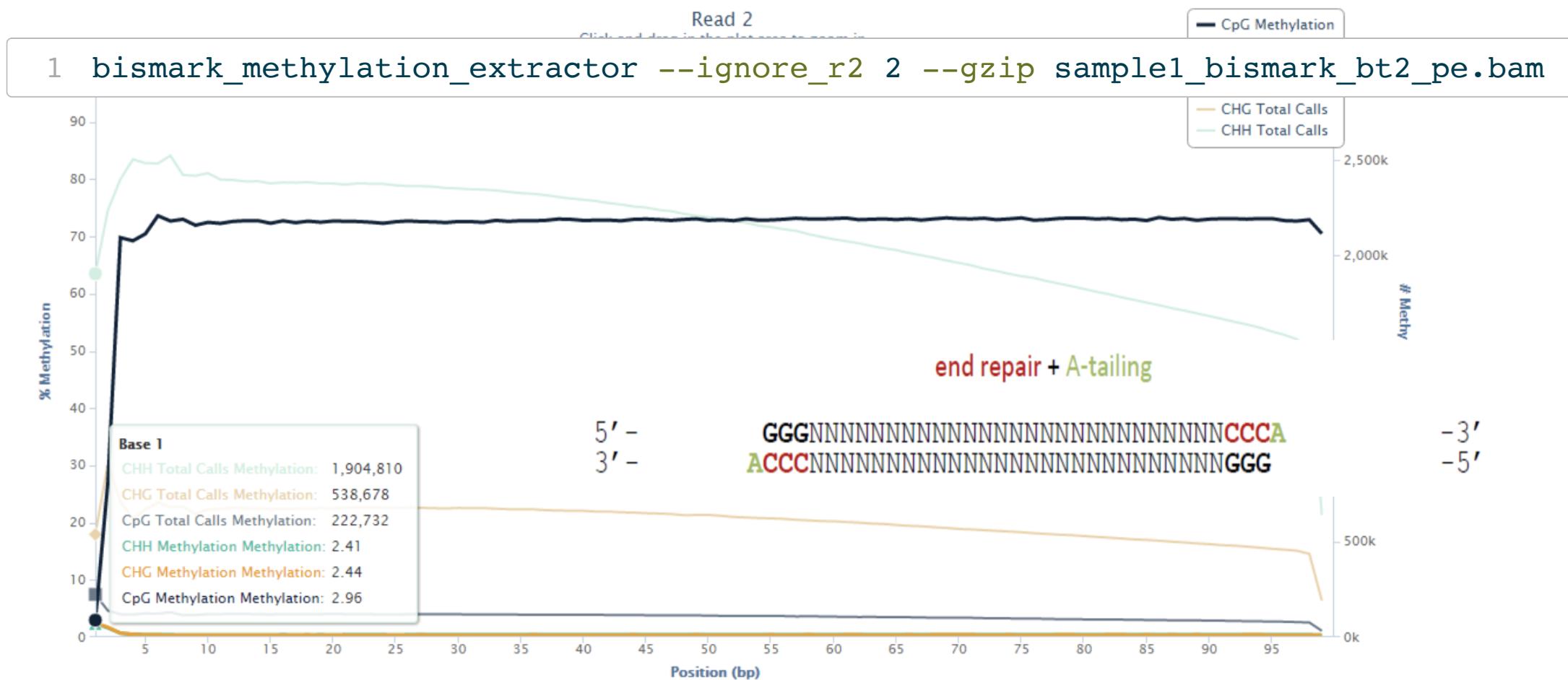
M-bias

Average methylation levels across the entire length of the read



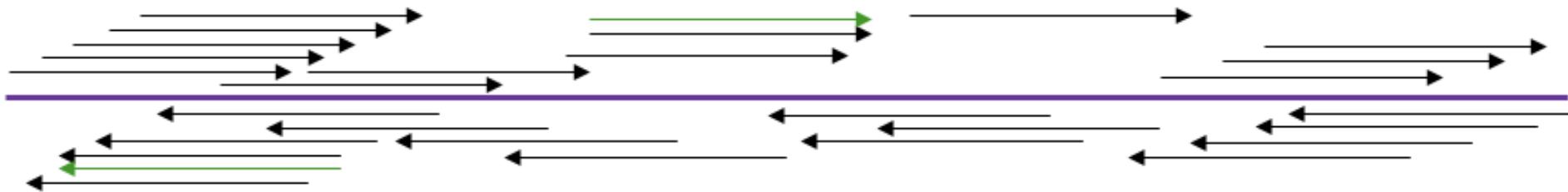
M-bias

Average methylation levels across the entire length of the read

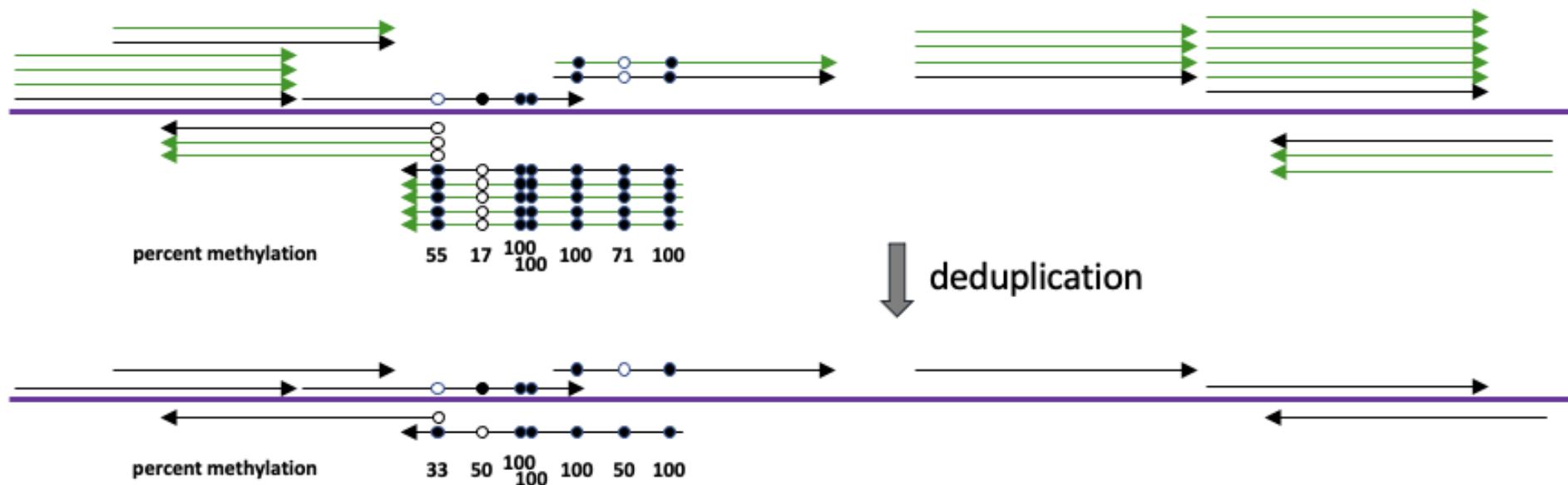


Sequence duplication

Complex/diverse library:



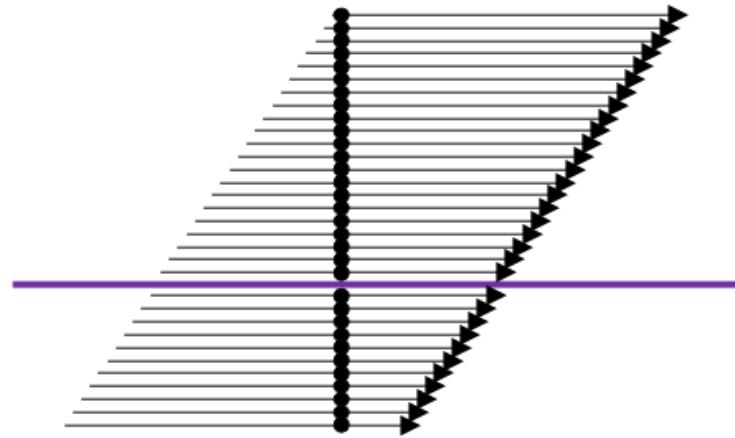
Duplicated library:



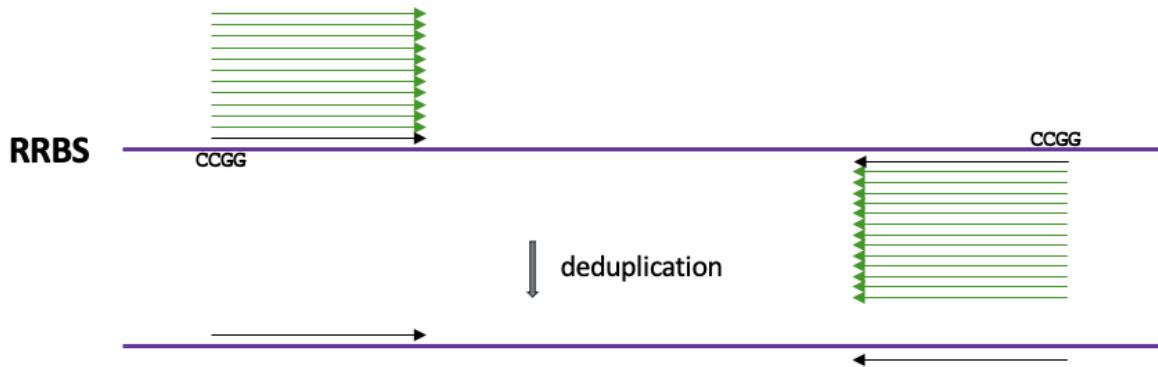
Deduplication?

Advisable for large genomes and moderate coverage

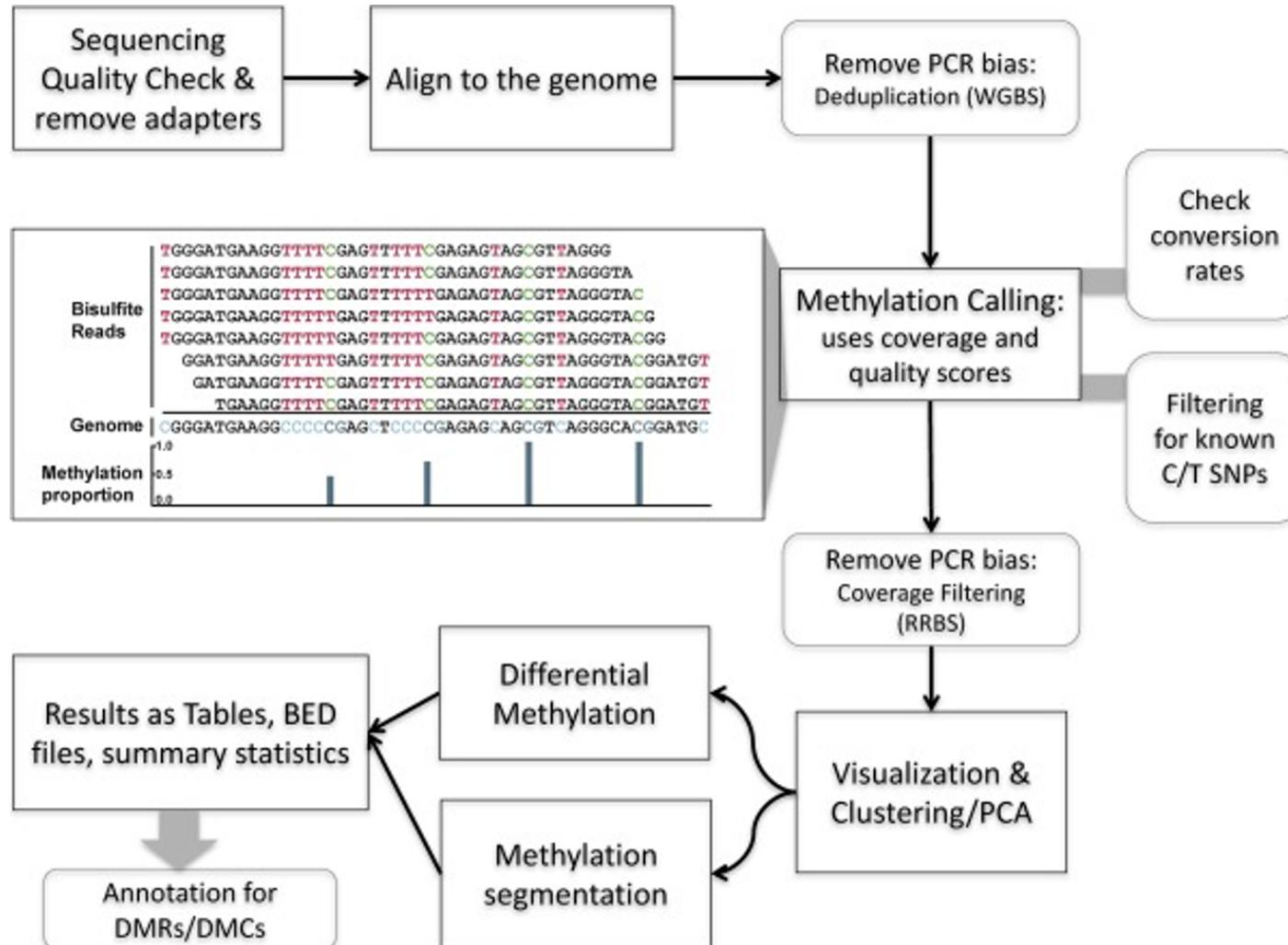
- Unlikely to sequence several genuine copies
- Should have sufficient coverage, even after dedup



NOT advisable for RRBS or other target enrichment methods - high coverage expected

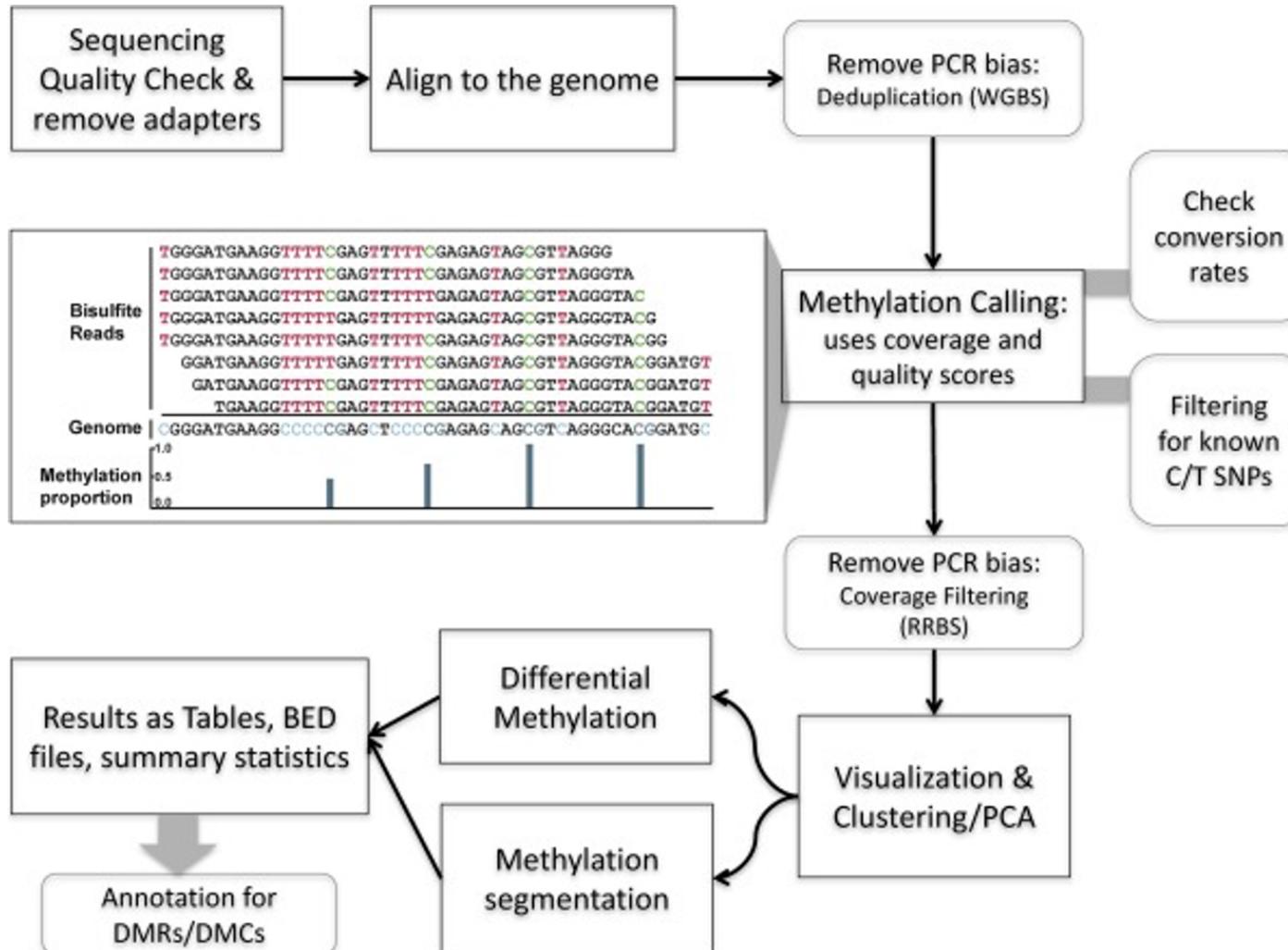


Workflow



- nf-core pipeline: methylseq
(see Thursday)
 - Preprocessing + QC
 - 2 aligners: Bismark or bwa/meth/MethylDackel
 - QC: qualimap, preseq and multiqc
 - Output ready for downstream analysis

MethylKit: R package

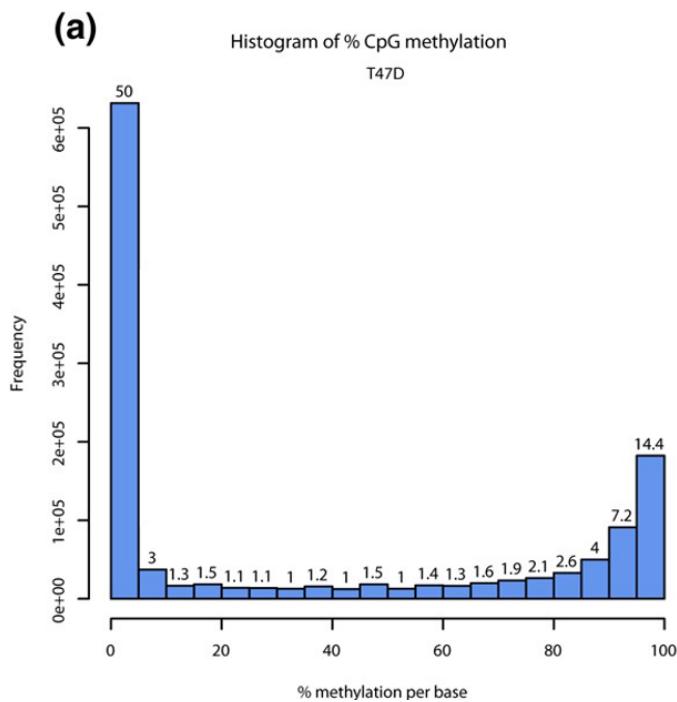


Can read Bismark coverage files as input

Descriptive statistics

Coverage file Bismark

Chr	Start	End	Methylation Prop.	# mC	# C
chr8	3052997	3052997	0.00000	0	1
chr8	3052998	3052998	53.26087	49	43
chr8	3068732	3068732	57.14286	8	6
chr8	3068733	3068733	100.00000	11	0
chr8	3089948	3089948	100.00000	5	0
chr8	3089984	3089984	100.00000	5	0

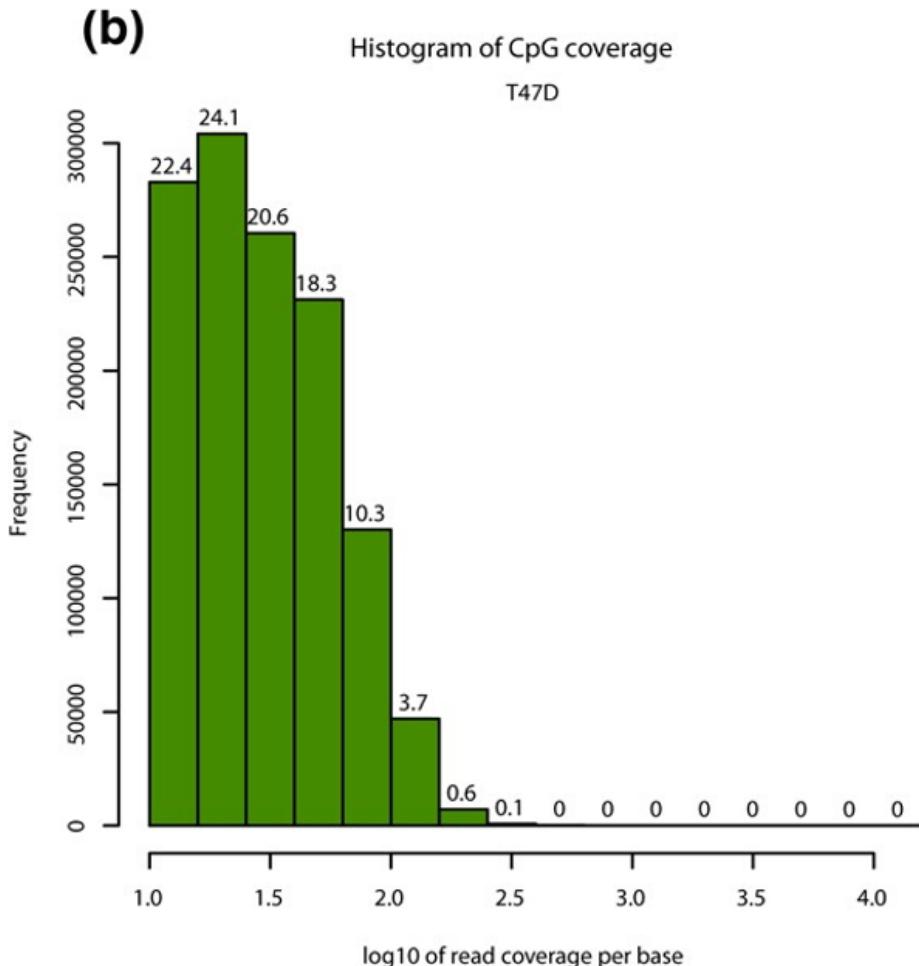


```
1 # Define the list containing the bismark coverage files.
2 file.list <- list(
3   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P6_1.bismark cov.gz"
4   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P6_4.bismark cov.gz"
5   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P8_3.bismark cov.gz"
6   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P8_6.bismark cov.gz"
7
8 # read the listed files into a methylRawList object making sure the other
9 # parameters are filled in correctly.
10 myobj <- methRead(file.list,
11   sample.id=list("Luminal_1", "Luminal_2", "Basal_1", "Basal_2"),
12   pipeline = "bismarkCoverage",
13   assembly="mm10",
14   treatment=c(1,1,0,0),
15   mincov = 10
16 )
17
18 # Get a histogram of the methylation percentage per sample
19 # Here for sample 1
20 getMethylationStats(myobj[[1]], plot=TRUE, both.strands=FALSE)
```

Descriptive statistics

Coverage Distribution

```
1 # Get a histogram of the read coverage per sample  
2 getCoverageStats(myobj[[1]], plot=TRUE, both.strands=FALSE)
```



- Secondary peak towards the right -> PCR duplication?
- Filter cutoff?

```
1 myobjfilt <- filterByCoverage(myobj,  
2                               lo.count=10,  
3                               lo.perc=NULL,  
4                               hi.count=NULL,  
5                               hi.perc=99.9)
```

Filtering

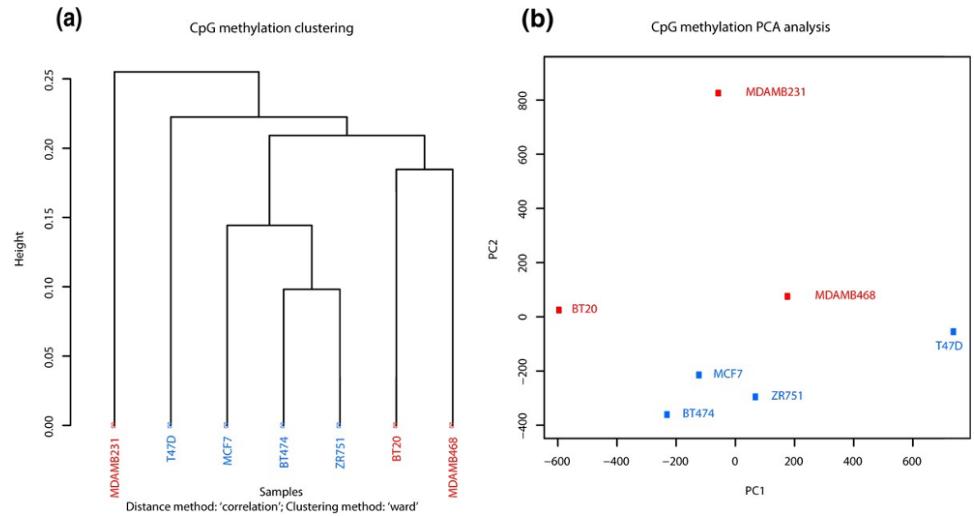
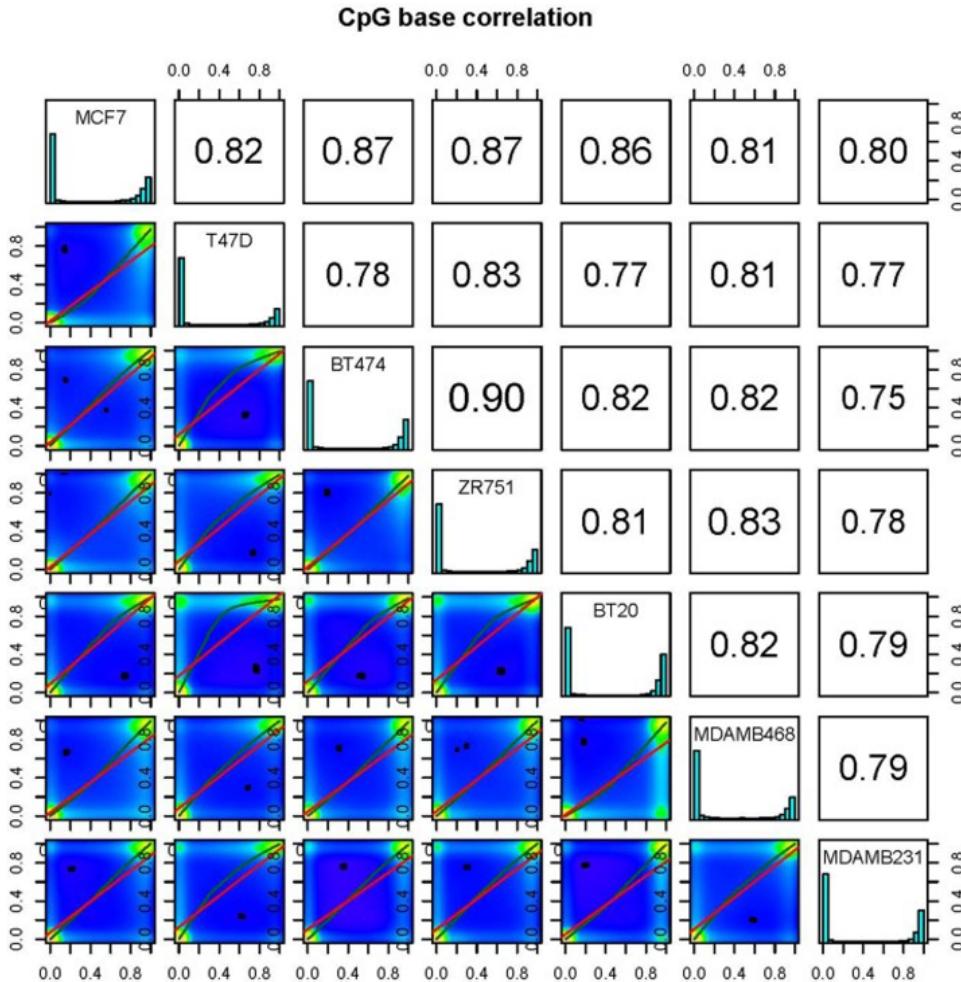
Remove CpG that have no variation

```
1 # get percent methylation matrix
2 pm=percMethylation(meth)
3
4 # calculate standard deviation of CpGs
5 sds=matrixStats::rowSds(pm)
6
7 # Visualize the distribution of the per-CpG standard deviation
8 # to determine a suitable cutoff
9 hist(sds, breaks = 100)
10
11 # keep only CpG with standard deviations larger than 2%
12 meth <- meth[sds > 2]
```

Remove SNP overlap

```
1 # give the locations of 2 example SNPs
2 mut <- GRanges(seqnames=c("chr21", "chr21"),
3                 ranges=IRanges(start=c(9853296, 9853326),
4                               end=c( 9853296,9853326)))
5
6 # select CpGs that do not overlap with mutations
7 meth <- meth[!as(meth,"GRanges") %over% mut, ]
```

Sample Structure



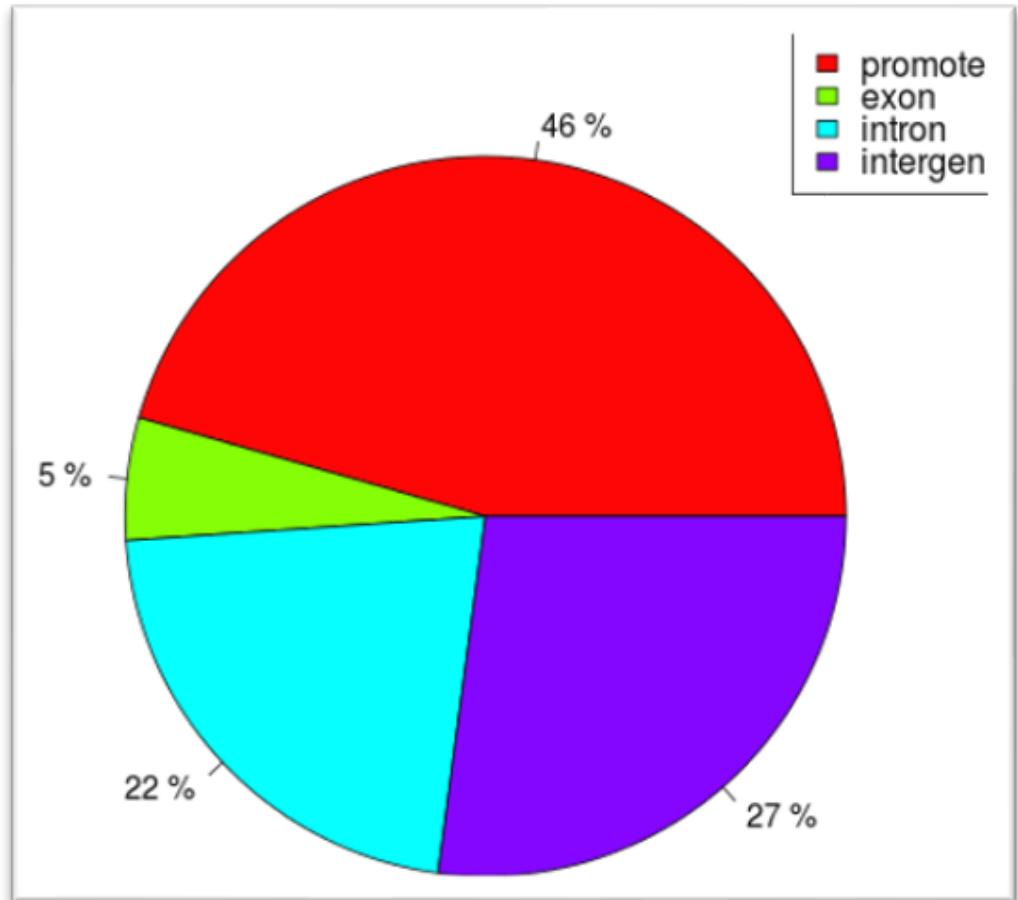
```
1 getCorrelation(meth, plot=TRUE)
2 clusterSamples(meth, dist="correlation",
                 method="ward", plot=TRUE)
3 PCASamples(meth)
```

Differential Methylation

- Many choices; often calculated by comparing proportion in methylated Cs in a test relative to control
- No replicates: Fisher's exact test
- Replicates:
 - linear regression
 - logistic regression (works with [0-1] data)
 - Beta-binomial (count data)
- Regression models can add covariantes/confounders
- Aggregate in regions (see lab)

Annotate results

- How to interpret the DMR/DMPs?
- Integrate with genome annotation datasets
 - Where in relation to gene/regulatory region?
- Genomation R package: toolkit for annotation
- Lab: basic annotation transcripts and CpG islands
- Requires some knowledge of R (GenomicRanges package)



Remarks

- Normalization somewhat less important for bisulfite sequencing (Fisher's exact is sensitive to sequencing depth)
- Gene enrichments is as difficult as for arrays, not many implemented methods ([rGREAT](#), [Goseq](#))

Lab

- Small dataset of mammary gland cells in mouse
- 4 samples: 2 luminal, 2 basal
- Bismark coverage files

Chr	Start	End	Methylation Prop.	# mC	# C
chr8	3052997	3052997	0.00000	0	1
chr8	3052998	3052998	53.26087	49	43
chr8	3068732	3068732	57.14286	8	6
chr8	3068733	3068733	100.00000	11	0
chr8	3089948	3089948	100.00000	5	0
chr8	3089984	3089984	100.00000	5	0

