

# ChIP-Seq/CUT&Tag/CUT&RUN

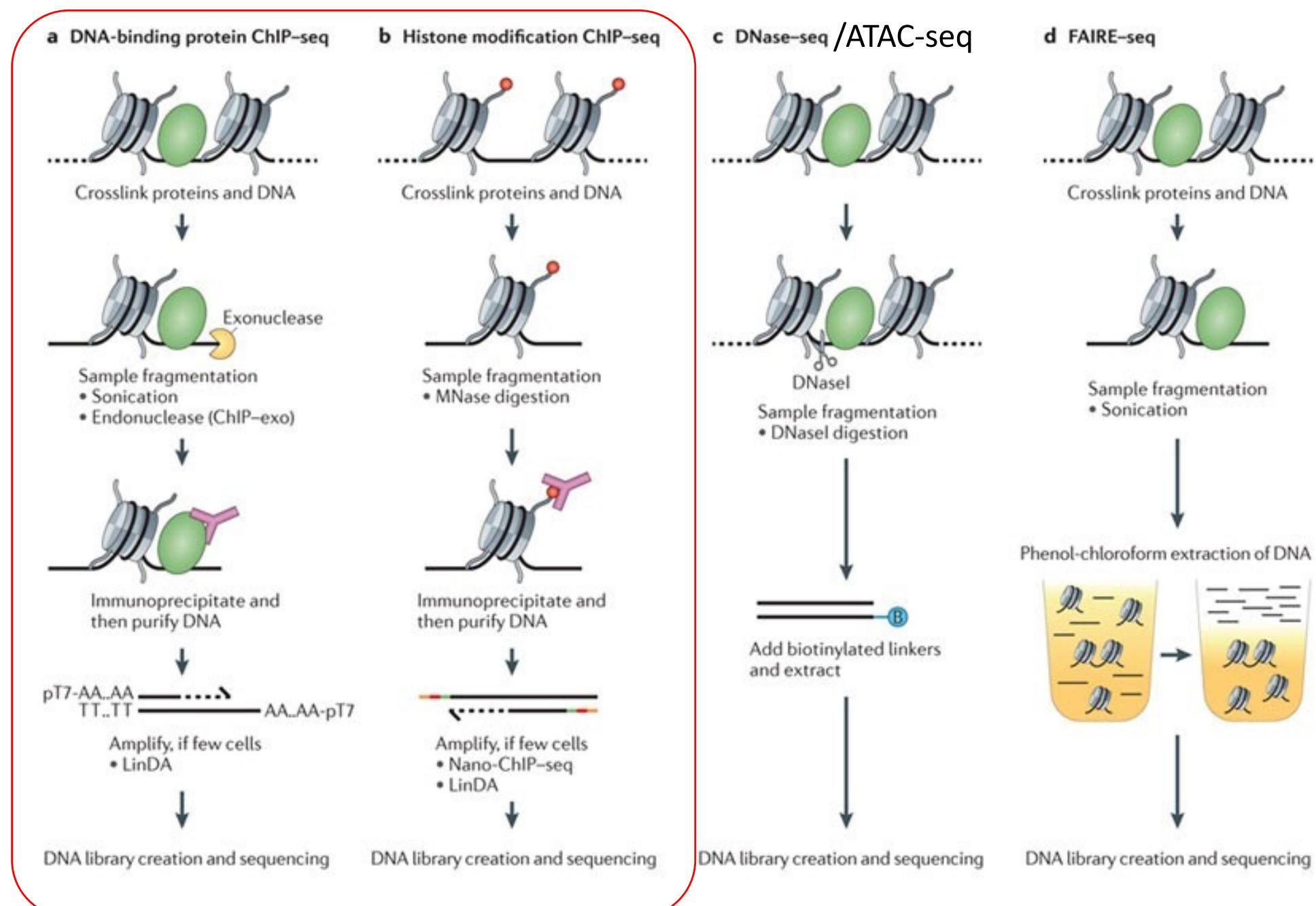
Simon Elsässer, KI/SciLifeLab/Freiburg University  
[simon.elsasser@scilifelab.se](mailto:simon.elsasser@scilifelab.se)

# Excercises – big thanks to Carmen



**Carmen Navarro**

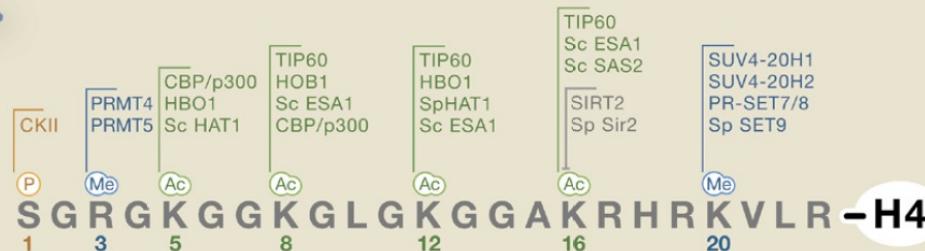
# Probing gene regulatory mechanism





# Core histone “tails” are densely modified

H1 is also  
Subject to  
modification



Methylation



Demethylation



Acetylation



Deacetylation



Ubiquitination



Isomerization



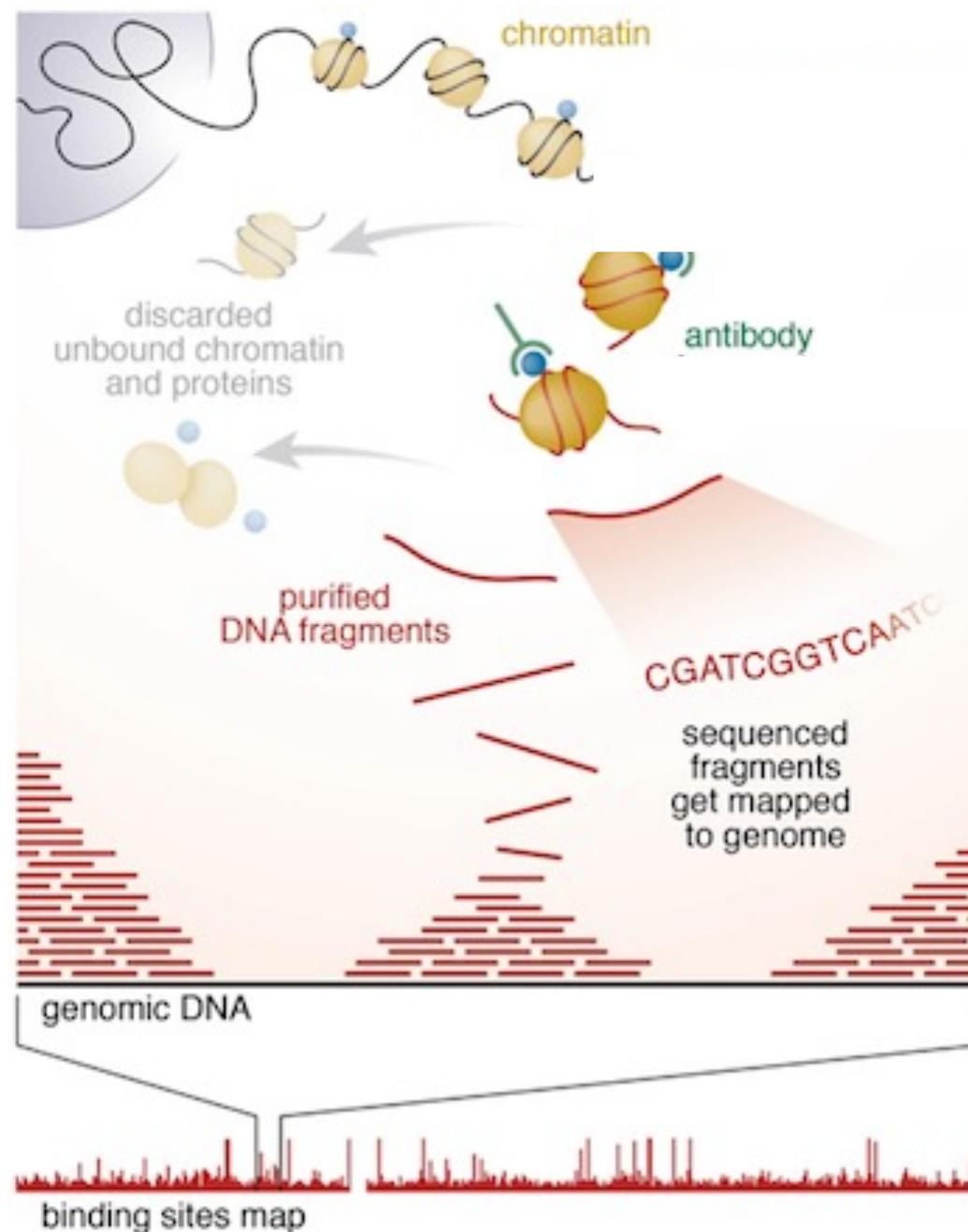
Phosphorylation

# Experimental considerations

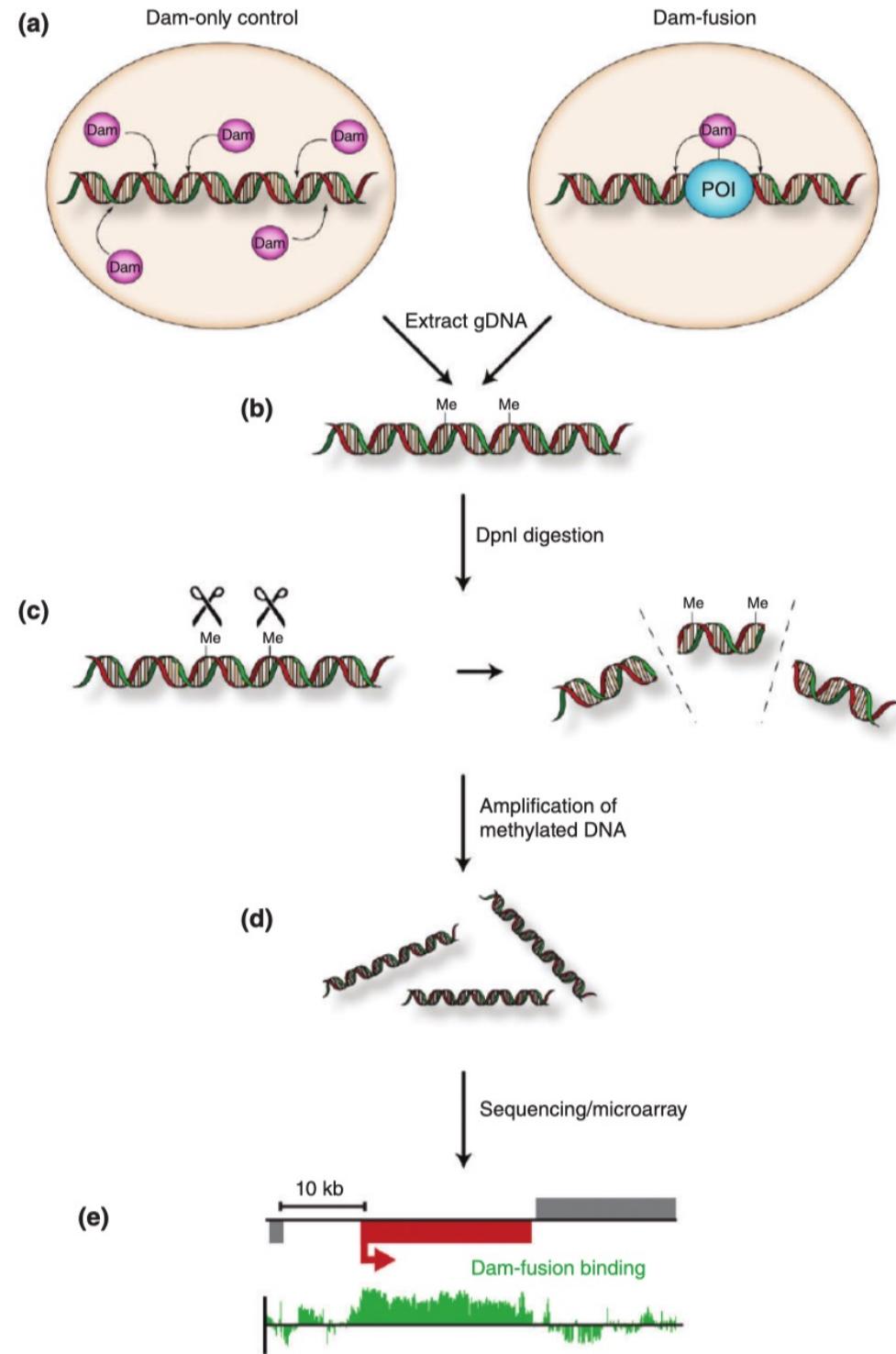
# ChIP-Seq and alternatives

- ChIP-seq
- Dam-ID
- CUT&RUN
- CUT&Tag

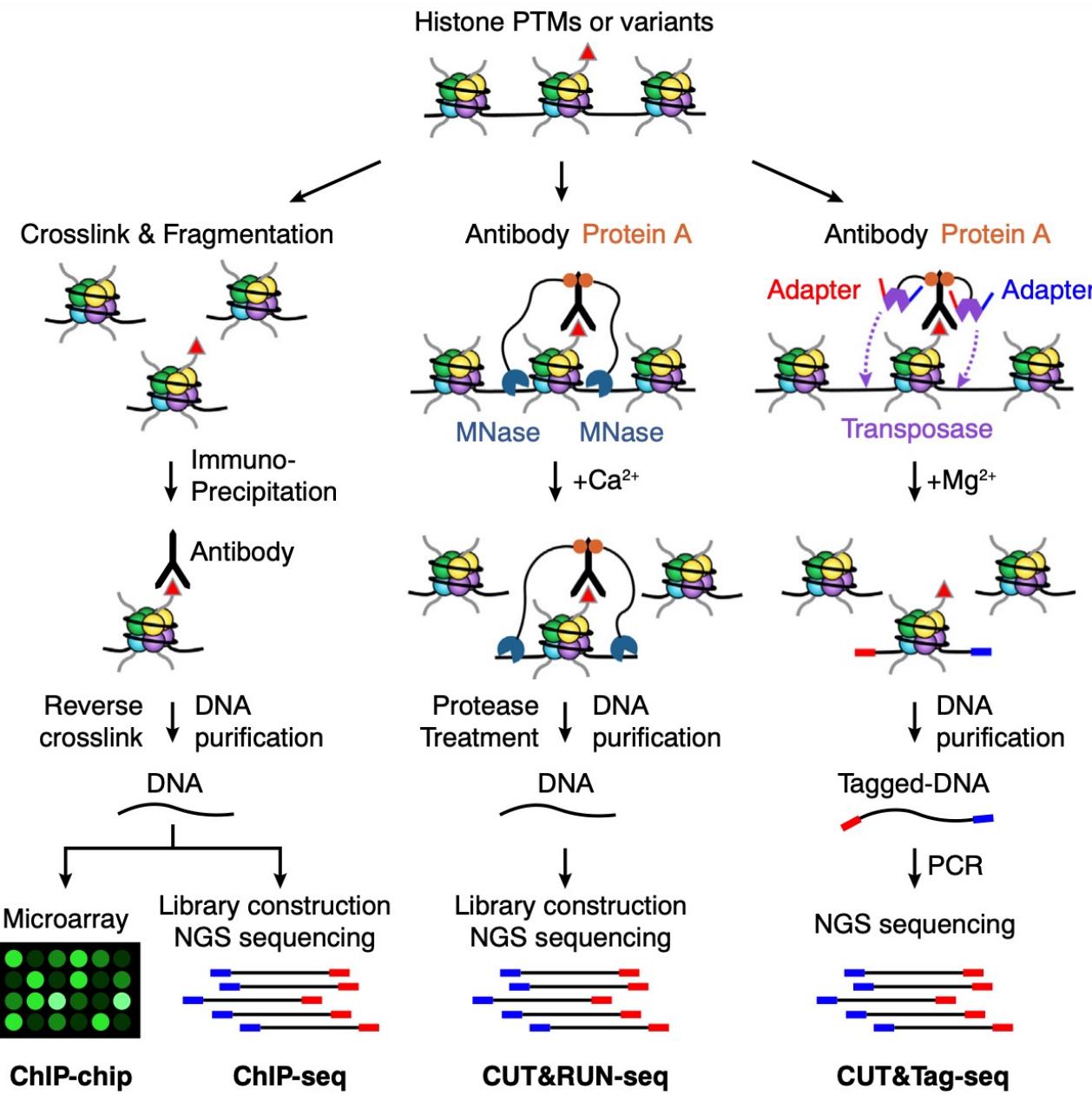
# ChIP-seq Principles



# Dam-ID



# CUT&Run, CUT&Tag



# ChIC, ChEC-Seq CUT&Run

Molecular Cell, Vol. 16, 147–157, October 8, 2004, Copyright ©2004 by Cell Press

## ChIC and ChEC: Genomic Mapping of Chromatin Proteins

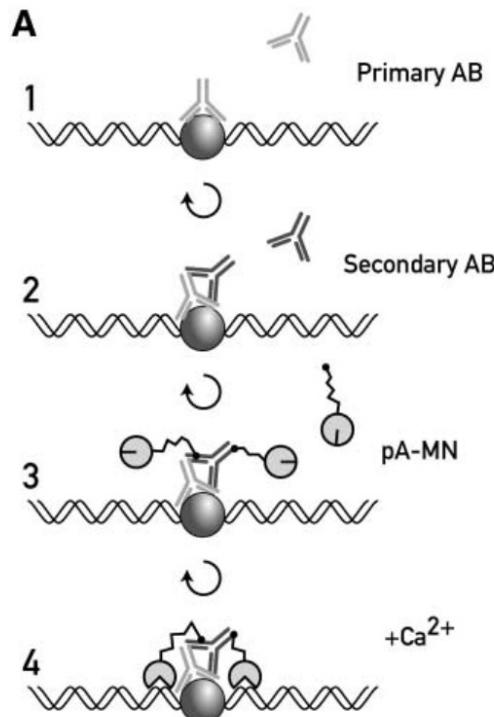
Manfred Schmid, Thérèse Durussel,  
and Ulrich K. Laemmli\*  
Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
NCCR Frontiers in Genetics  
University of Geneva  
30, Quai Ernest-Ansermet  
CH1211, Geneva 4  
Switzerland

## Technique

### ChIC: Chromatin-immuno cleavage

ble, and significant amounts are lost into the pellet during centrifugation.

While ChIP is highly successful when applied to soluble proteins, such as transcription regulatory proteins, unpublished experiments with insoluble-type proteins (such as scaffolding components) in this laboratory appeared less promising. ChIP analyses with such insoluble-type proteins appear afflicted with increased background.



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Chromosomes and Gene Expression



## An efficient targeted nuclease strategy for high-resolution mapping of DNA binding sites



Peter J Skene, Steven Henikoff\*

Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Basic Sciences Division, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, United States

Brief Communication | Published: 28 March 2019

## Single-cell chromatin immunocleavage sequencing (scChIC-seq) to profile histone modification

Wai Lim Ku, Kosuke Nakamura, Weiwu Gao, Kairong Cui, Gangqing Hu, Qingsong Tang, Bing Ni✉ & Keji Zhao✉

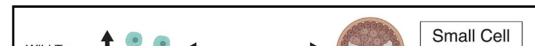
Nature Methods 16, 323–325(2019) | Cite this article

## Resource

Cell

## Profiling of Pluripotency Factors in Single Cells and Early Embryos

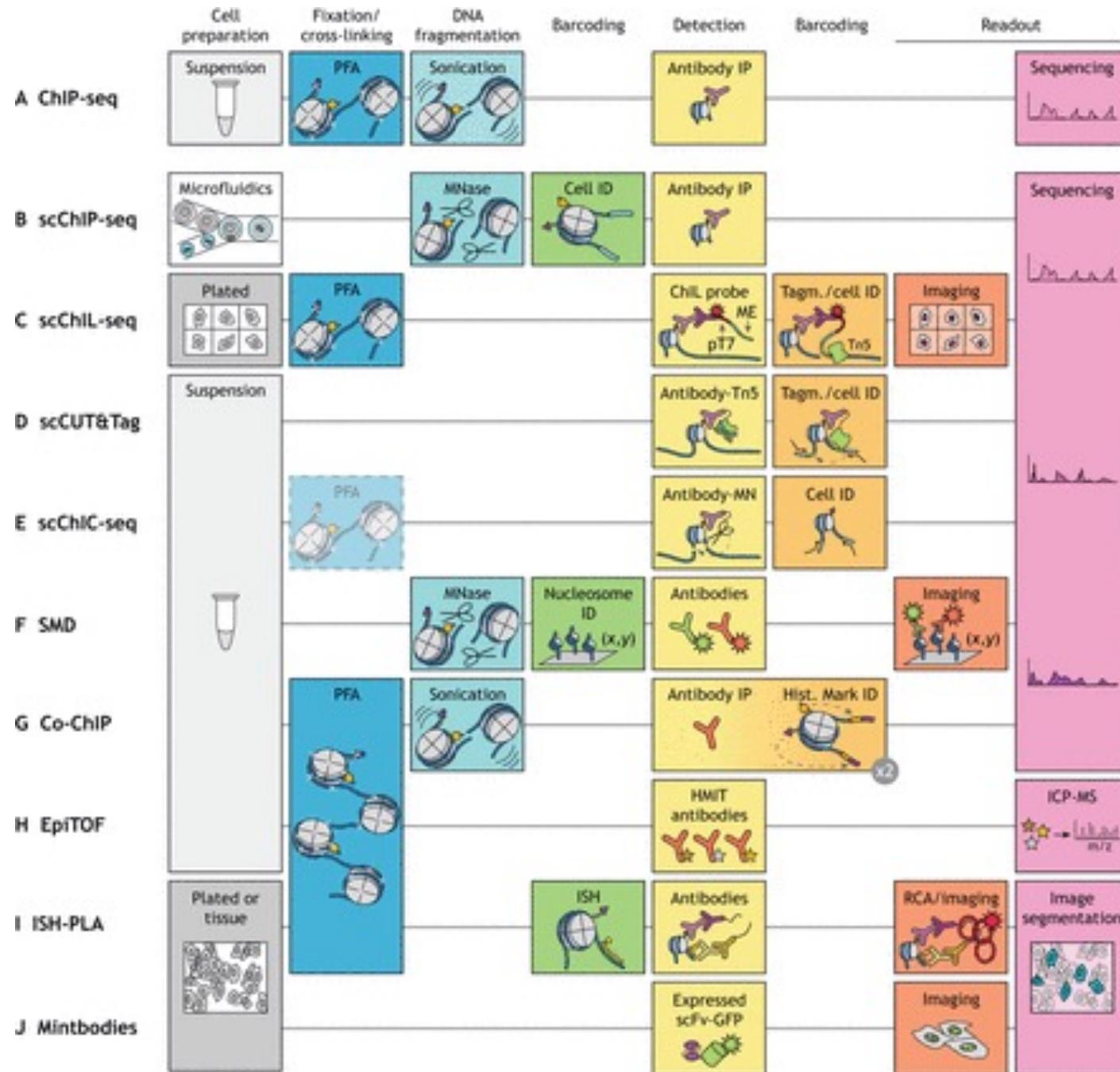
### Graphical Abstract



### Authors

Sarah J. Hainer, Ana Bošković,  
Kurtis N. McCannell, Oliver J. Rando,

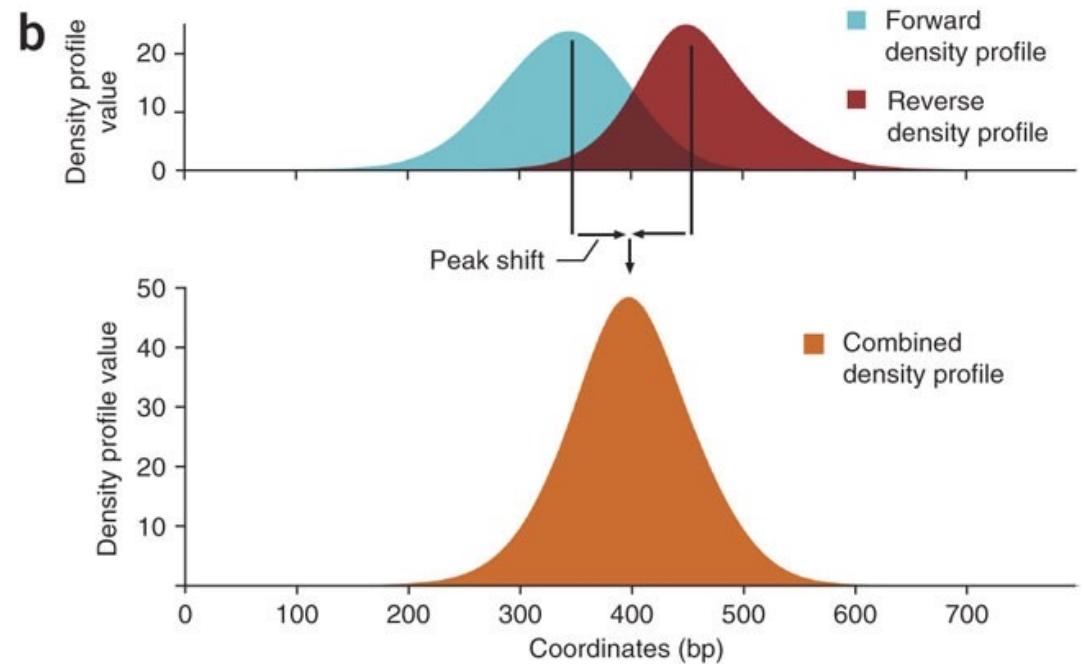
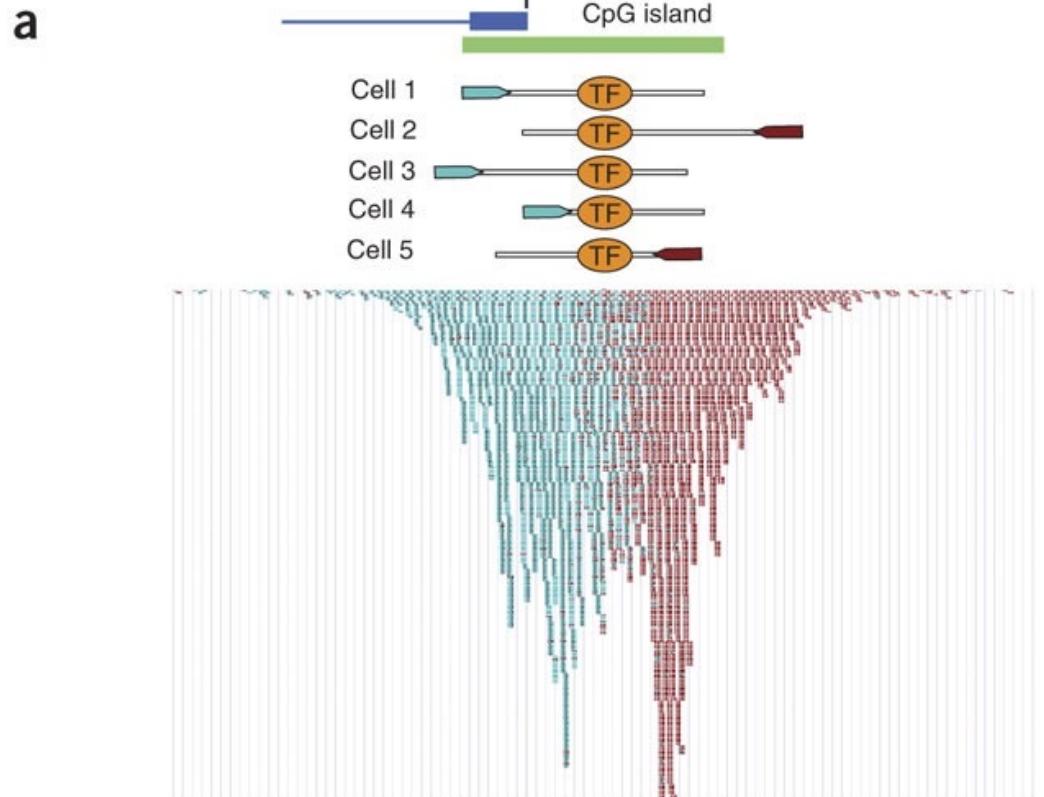
# Single-cell revolution



# ChIP-seq Principles

## Mapping transcription factor binding:

- TF-DNA interactions typically don't survive lysis and immunoprecipitation conditions --> we must crosslink the TF to the DNA beforehand

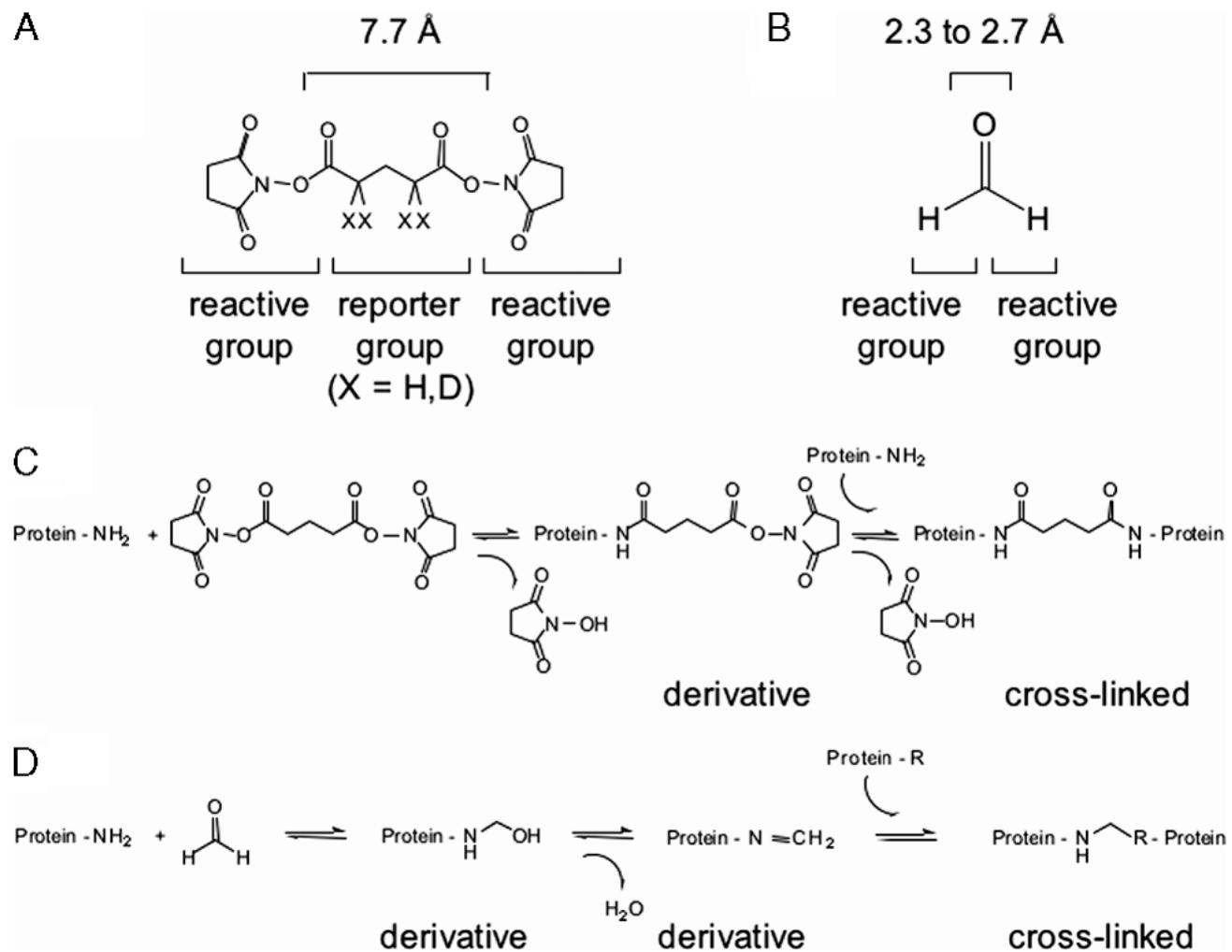


# ChIP-seq Principles

## Mapping transcription factor binding:

- TF-DNA interactions typically don't survive lysis and immunoprecipitation conditions --> we must crosslink the TF to the DNA beforehand      A

- Formaldehyde
  - ESG
  - DSG



# Crosslinking versus native ChIP

## Crosslinking

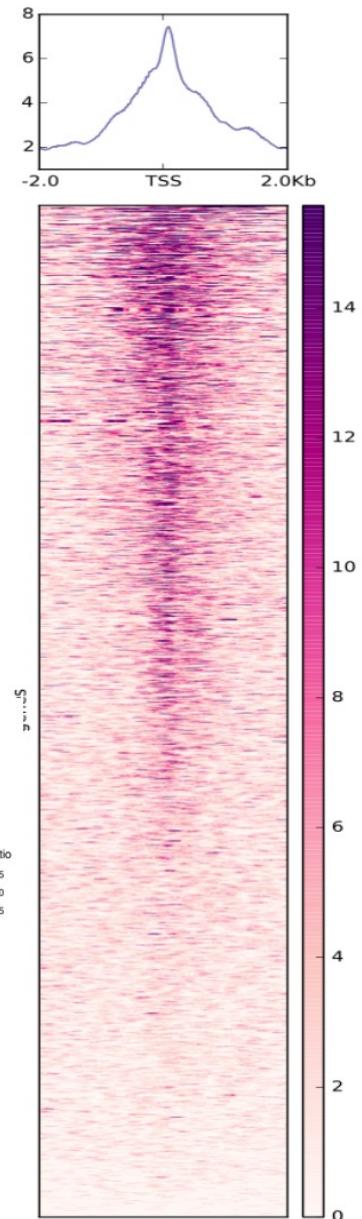
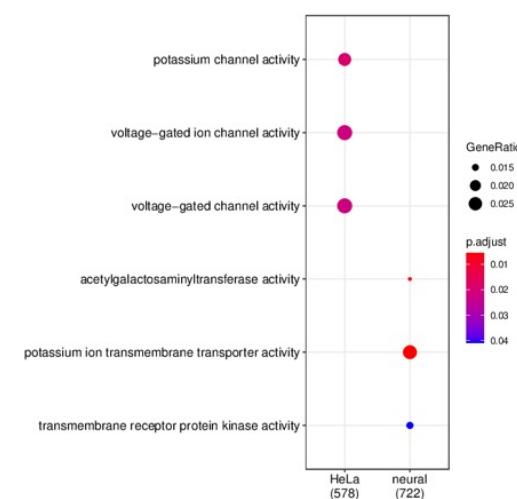
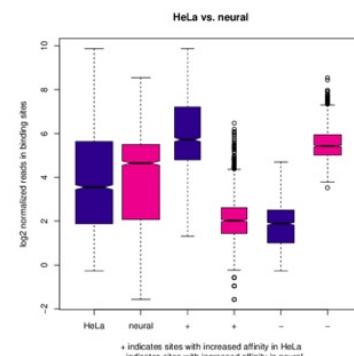
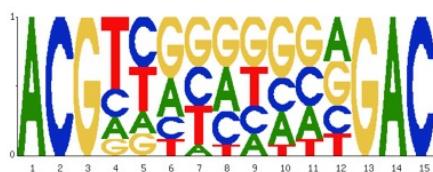
- Formaldehyde fixation
- Shearing (sonications) or MNase
- Increasing signal for weak/transient histone/DNA- interacting proteins
- fragment ends not informative with sonication

## Native

- Lower salt/detergent
- Mnase fragmentation
- Better signal-to-noise for strong chromatin interactors, histones
- Fragment ends demarcate footprint, e.g. nucleosome position

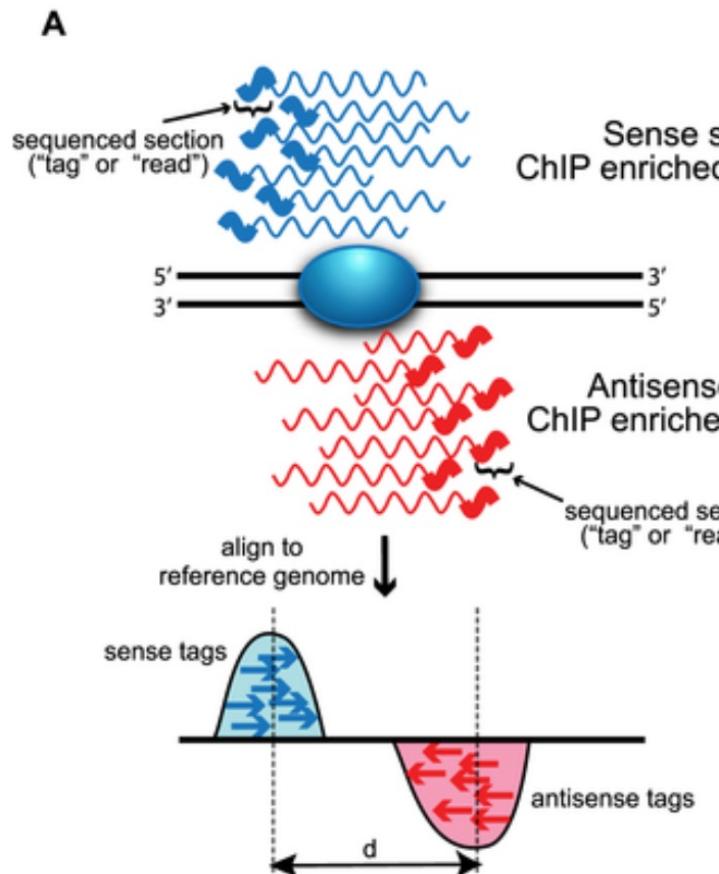
# ChIP-seq peak calling downstream analyses

- Validation (wet lab)
- Downstream analysis
  - Motif discovery
  - Annotation
  - Integration of binding and expression data
  - Integration of various binding datasets
  - Differential binding

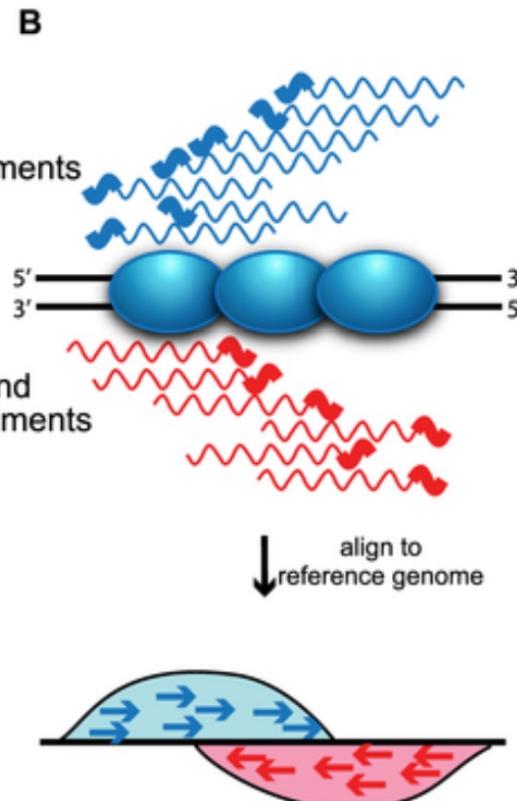


# Peak detection

Sequence-specific binding (TFs)

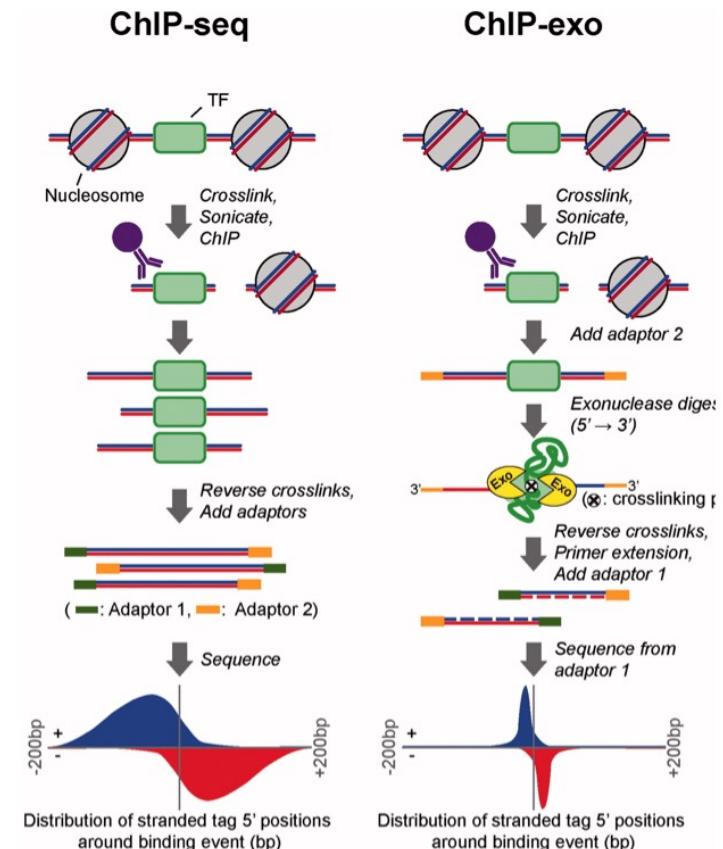
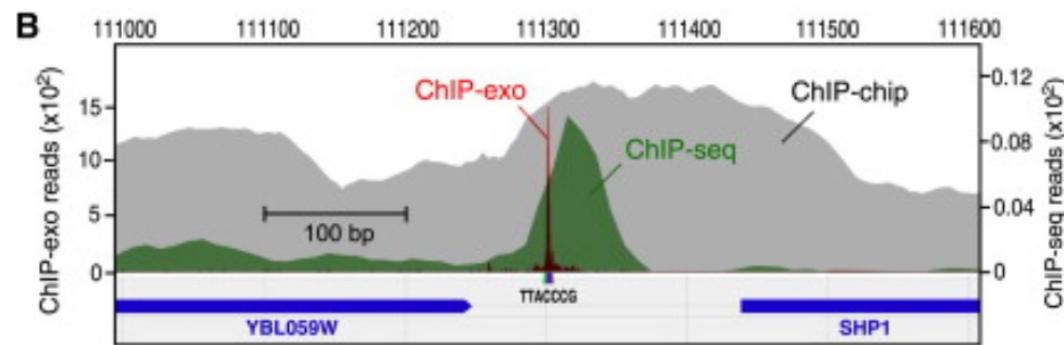
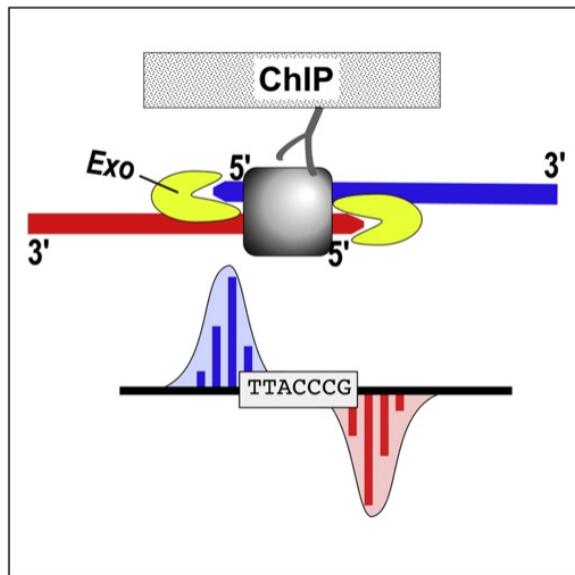


Distributed binding (histones, RNAPol2)



Wilbanks 2010

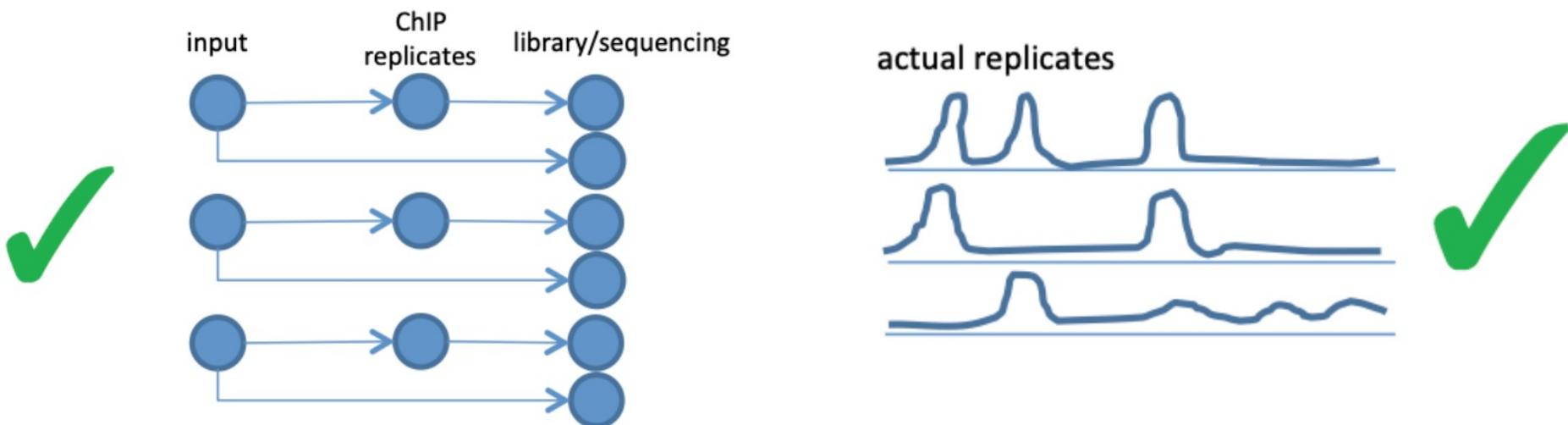
# ChIP-exo: improvement in binding site identification



Pugh 2015  
Rhee and Pugh, Cell 2011

# Experiment design

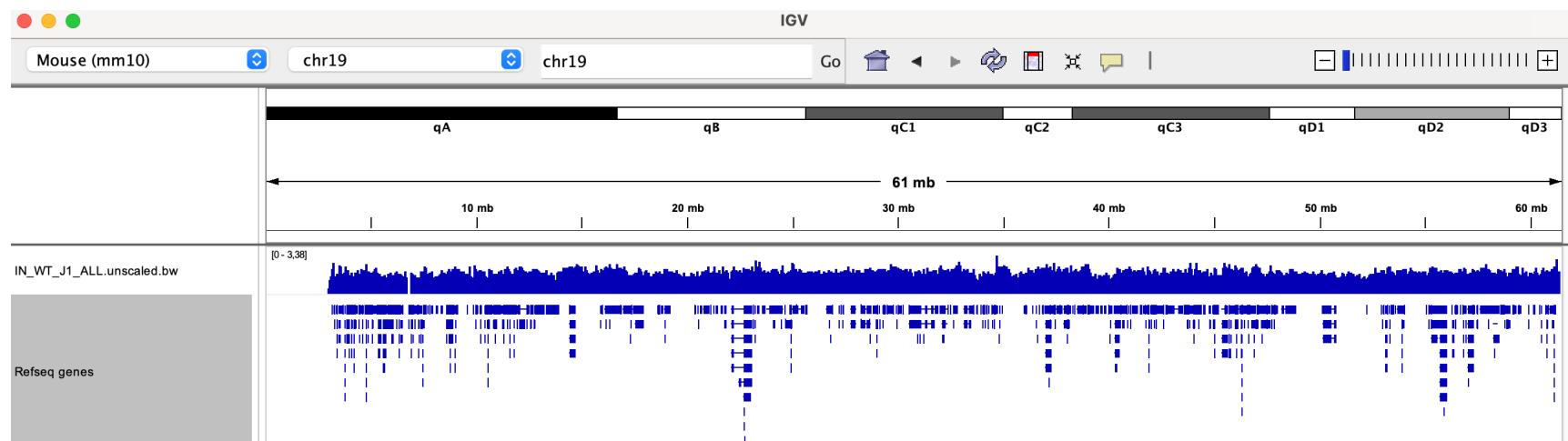
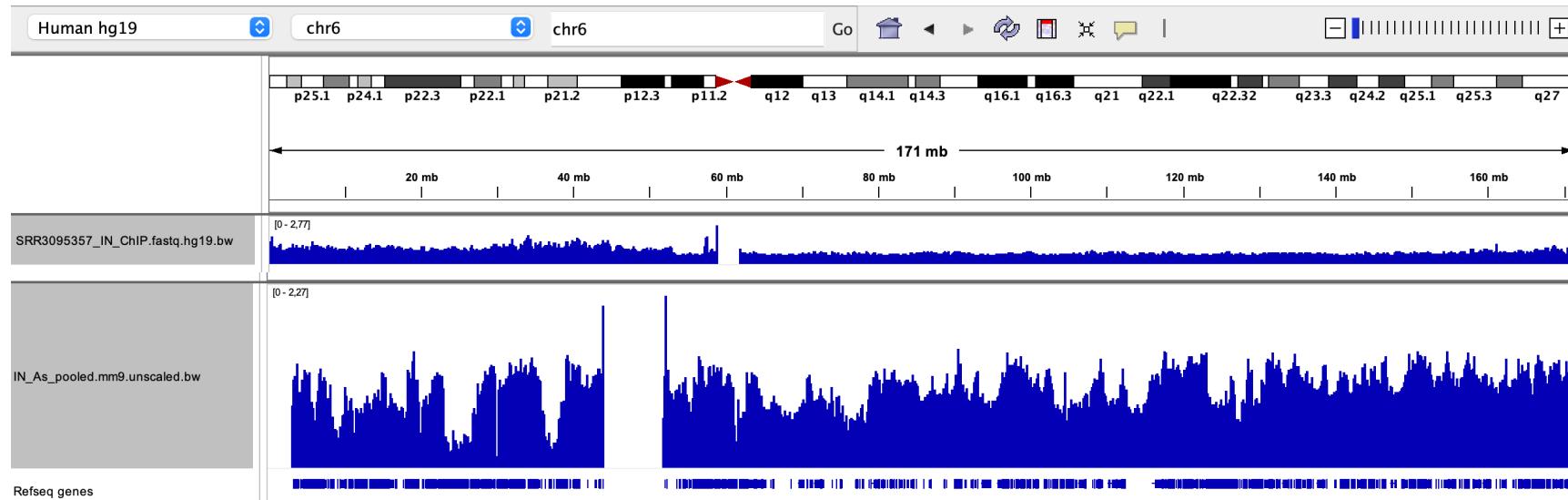
- Sound experimental design: replication, randomisation, control and blocking (R.A. Fisher, 1935)
- In the absence of a proper design, it is essentially impossible to partition biological variation from technical variation
- Please visit section *Experimental Design and Data Management* on the course website for more information



# Importance of Input

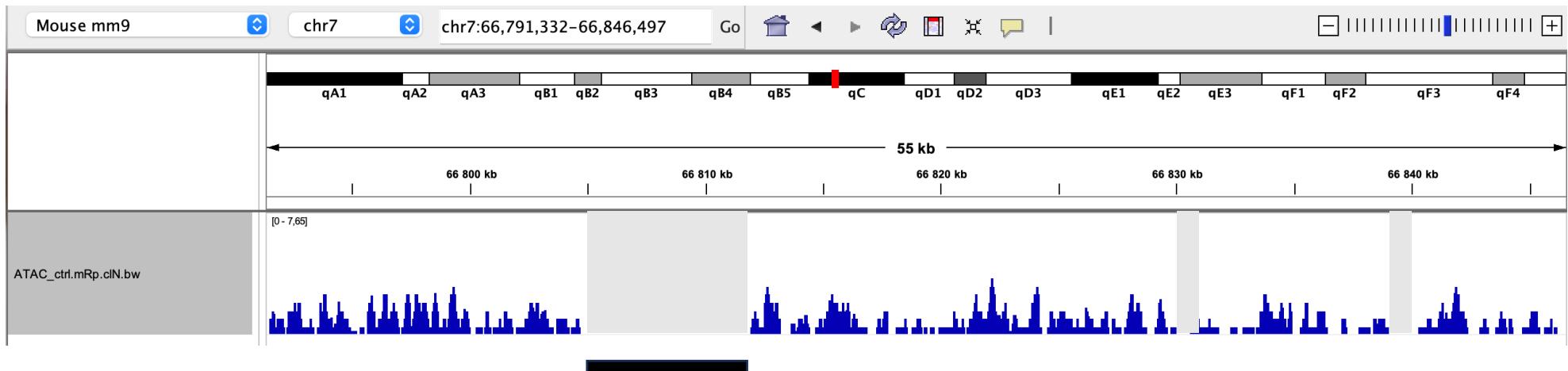
Input genomic DNA is skewed by technical and biological factors

## Different Input Examples



# The problem of missing data vs zero signal

- some tools are using "NA" in bigwig files wherever there is no read mapping (nf-core ATAC)
- some tools make blacklisted regions "0" value
- Bigwig analysis tools usually ignore NAs while "0" counts towards the calculation, e.g. bin average
- The correct way (I think) is to NA blacklisted regions but use "0" for non-covered regions



Blacklisted region

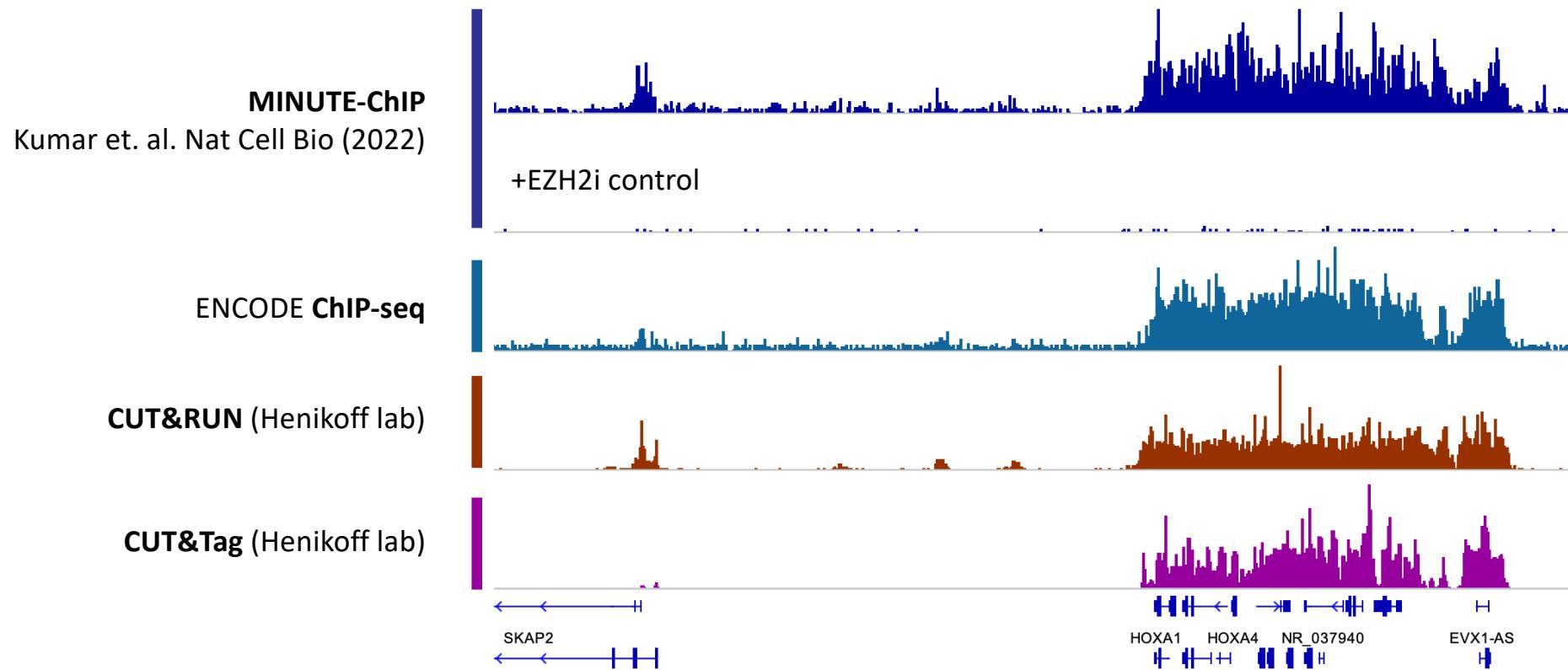
Chr1	1000345	4
Chr1	1000350	0
Chr1	1000355	0
Chr1	1000360	0
Chr1	1000365	0
Chr1	1000370	9

No read aligning here

Chr1	1000345	4
Chr1	1000350	NA
Chr1	1000355	NA
Chr1	1000360	NA
Chr1	1000365	NA
Chr1	1000370	9

# Excercise – CUT&RUN vs CUT&Tag vs ChIP

Comparison: H3K27me3 signal in human embryonic stem cells across different methods



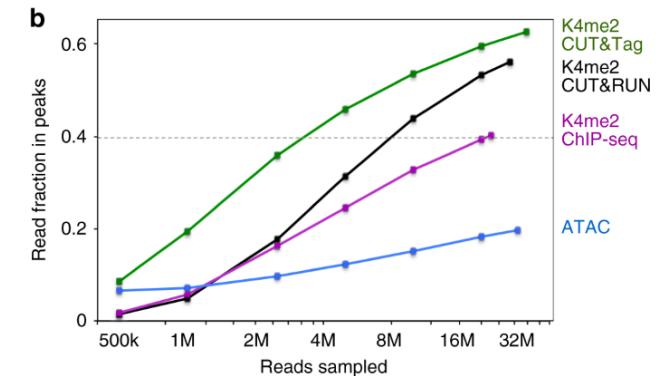
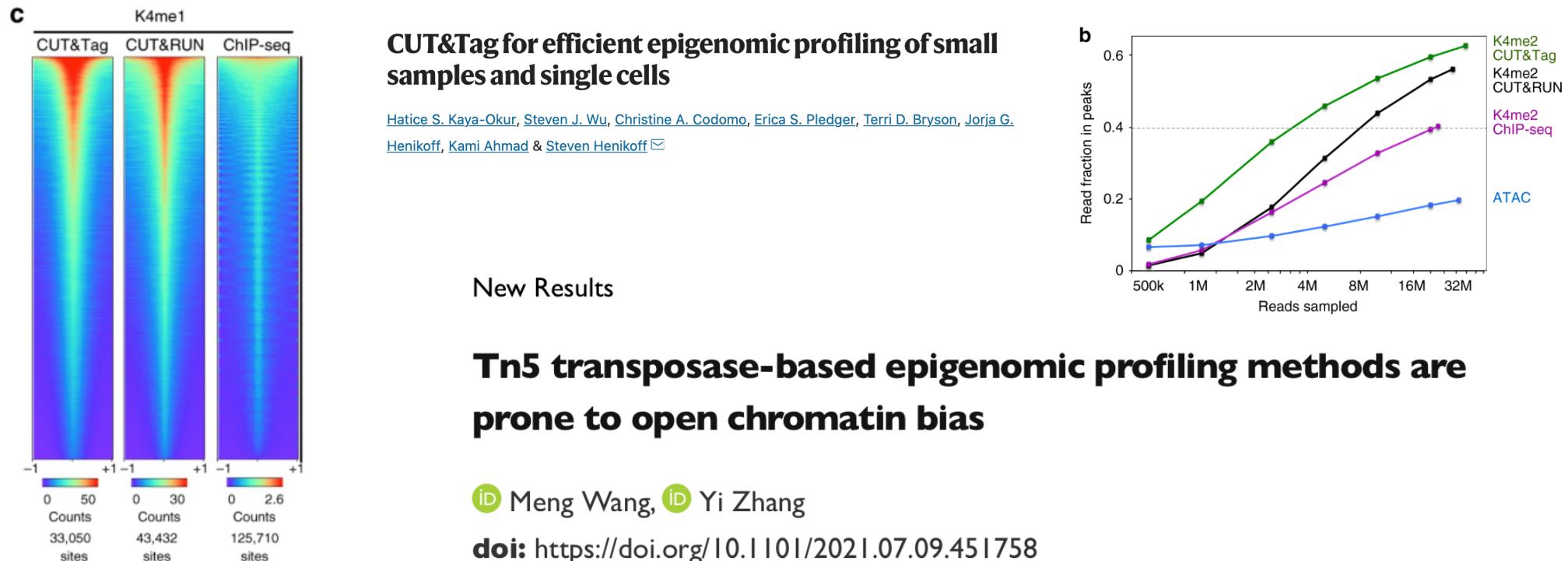
<https://nbis-workshop-epigenomics.readthedocs.io/en/latest/content/tutorials/quantitativeChip/cut-and-tag-data.html>

# ChIP-seq vs CUT&Run, CUT&Tag

Features	ChIP-Seq	CUTANA™ CUT&RUN	CUTANA™ CUT&Tag
Sample Input	Sheared Chromatin 	Cells OR nuclei 	Nuclei (recommended) 
Typical Required Cell #	> 1 Million	500K	100K
Ideal Targets	Histone PTMs & chromatin-interacting proteins	Histone PTMs & chromatin-interacting proteins, including remodelers	Histone PTMs & select validated targets
Secondary Antibody	No	No	Yes
Library Preparation	Yes	Yes	No (Direct to PCR)
Protocol Time (Cells → NGS libraries)	~ 1 week	2 days (can be automated)	2 days (can be automated)
Sequencing Depth	> 30 million	3-5 million	3-5 million
Signal : Noise	Low	High	High
Experimental Throughput	Low	High	High

# Weighing pros and cons

- Cell number needed
- Time aspect
- Signal-to-noise
- Background (think technical versus biological!)
- Reproducibility
- QCability (e.g. no input for CUT&Tag, CUT&RUN)



## CUT&Tag recovers up to half of ENCODE ChIP-seq peaks

Di Hu, Leyla Abbasova, Brian M Schilder, Alexi Nott, Nathan G Skene, Sarah J Marzi

**doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.03.30.486382>

### JOURNAL ARTICLE

**Untargeted CUT&Tag reads are enriched at accessible chromatin and restrict identification of potential G4-forming sequences in G4-targeted CUT&Tag experiments** ☈

Matthew D Thompson, Alicia K Byrd ✉

# Analysis

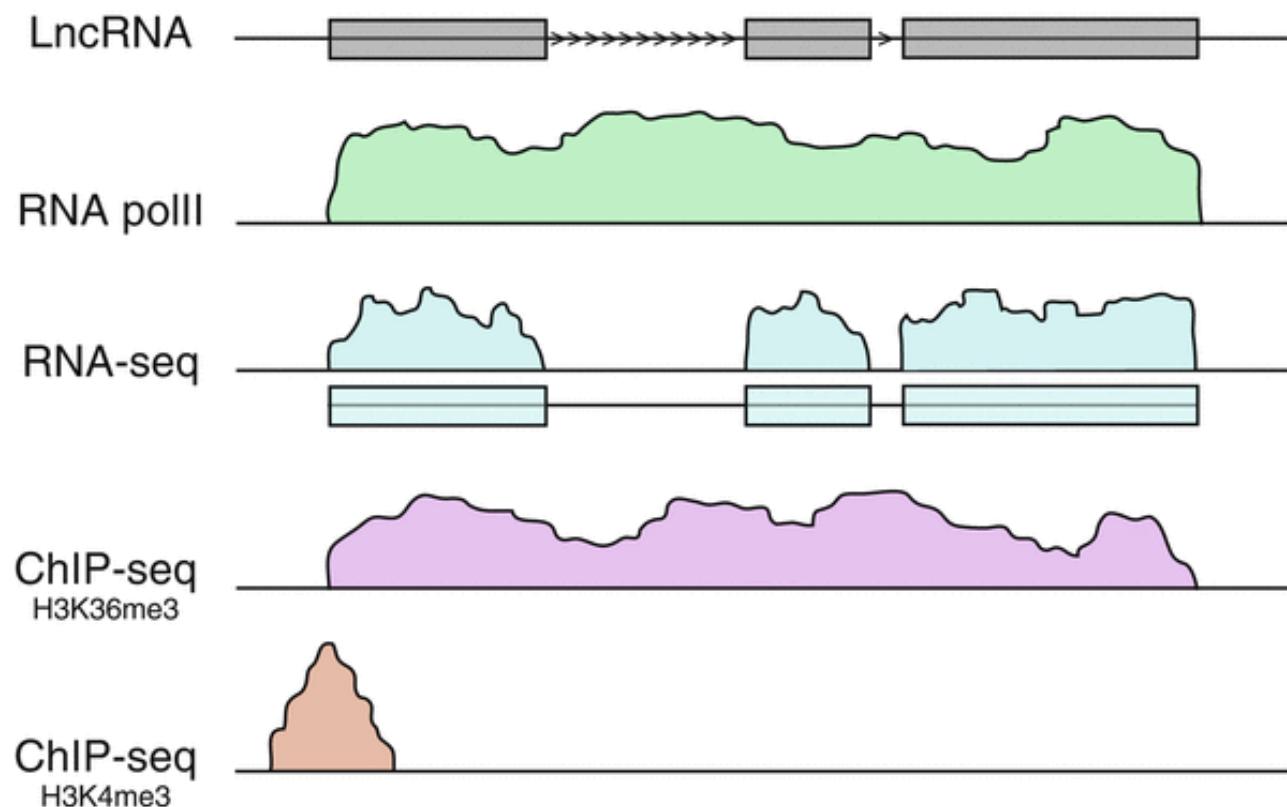
# Applications of ChIP-Seq and related methods

- Map features to genome (--> knowing where a feature is *may imply* function)
- Specific versus genome-wide feature
- Discover genome-wide correlations (--> generate experimental hypothesis --> test to establish causation)
  - Think about the meaning: “repressive chromatin”, “activating mark”, “silencing factor”
  - A histone PTM “recruits” a factor
  - A factor ‘protects’ a gene from spurious transcription
- Compare conditions, e.g. how does a knockout, inhibitor, external change in condition affect epigenome?

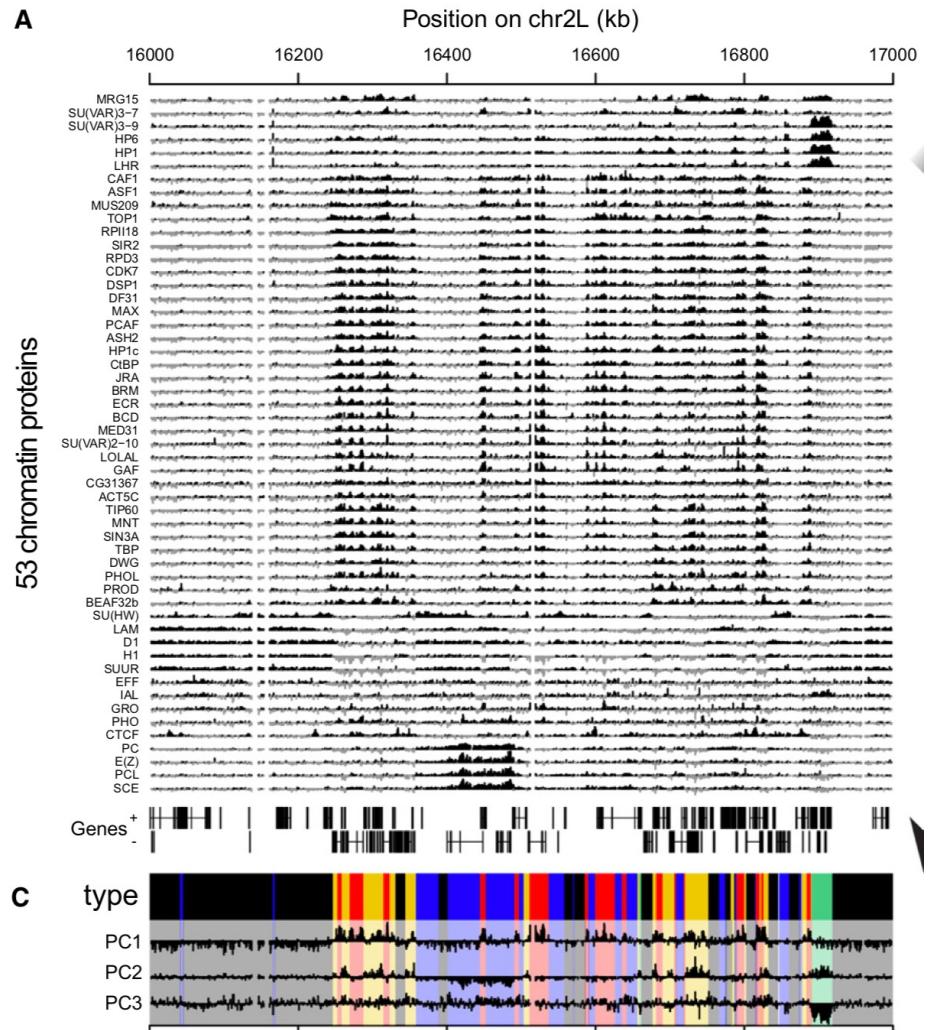
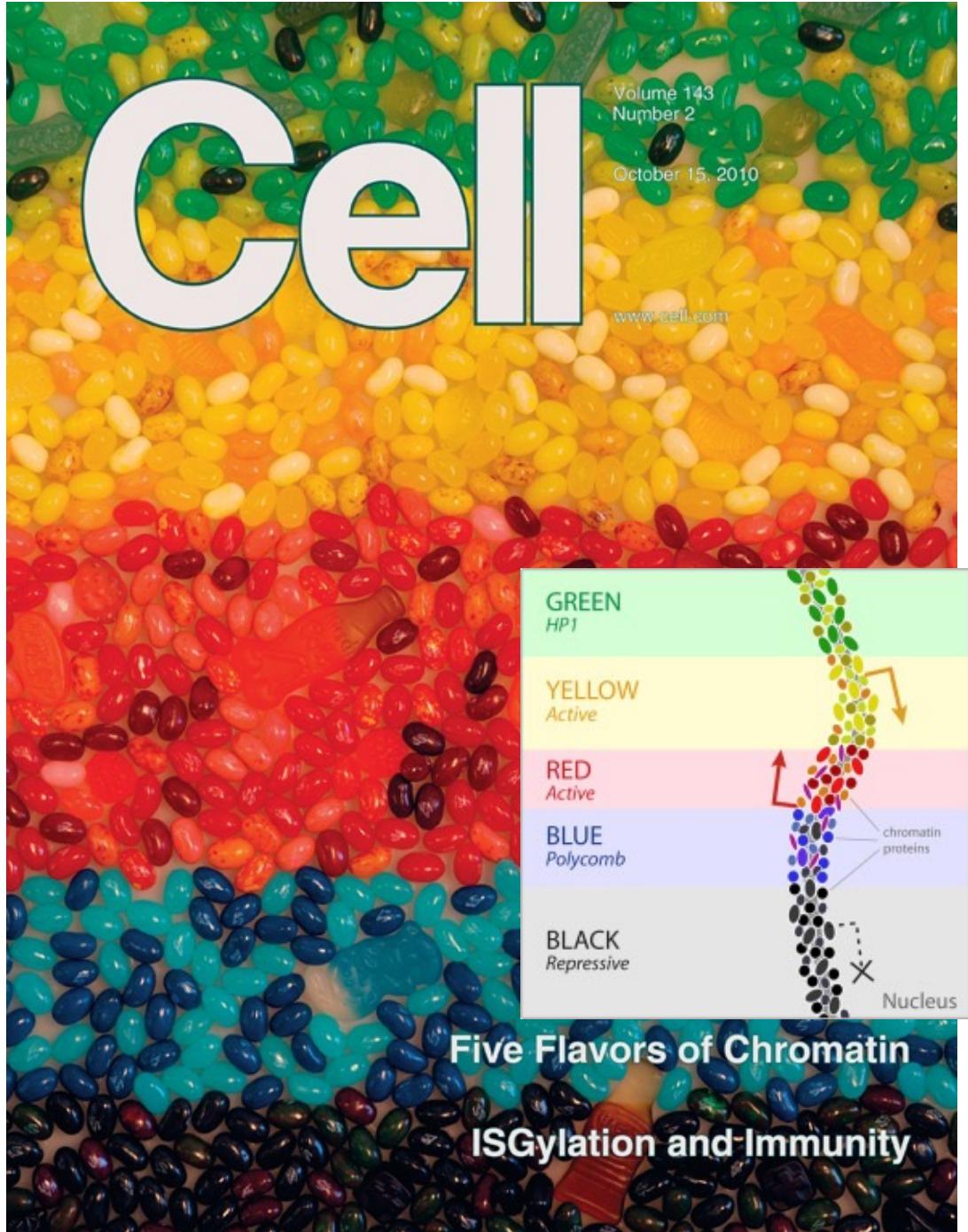
Using histone modifications to predict functional regions in the genome

# Chromatin signature reveals over a thousand highly conserved large non-coding RNAs in mammals

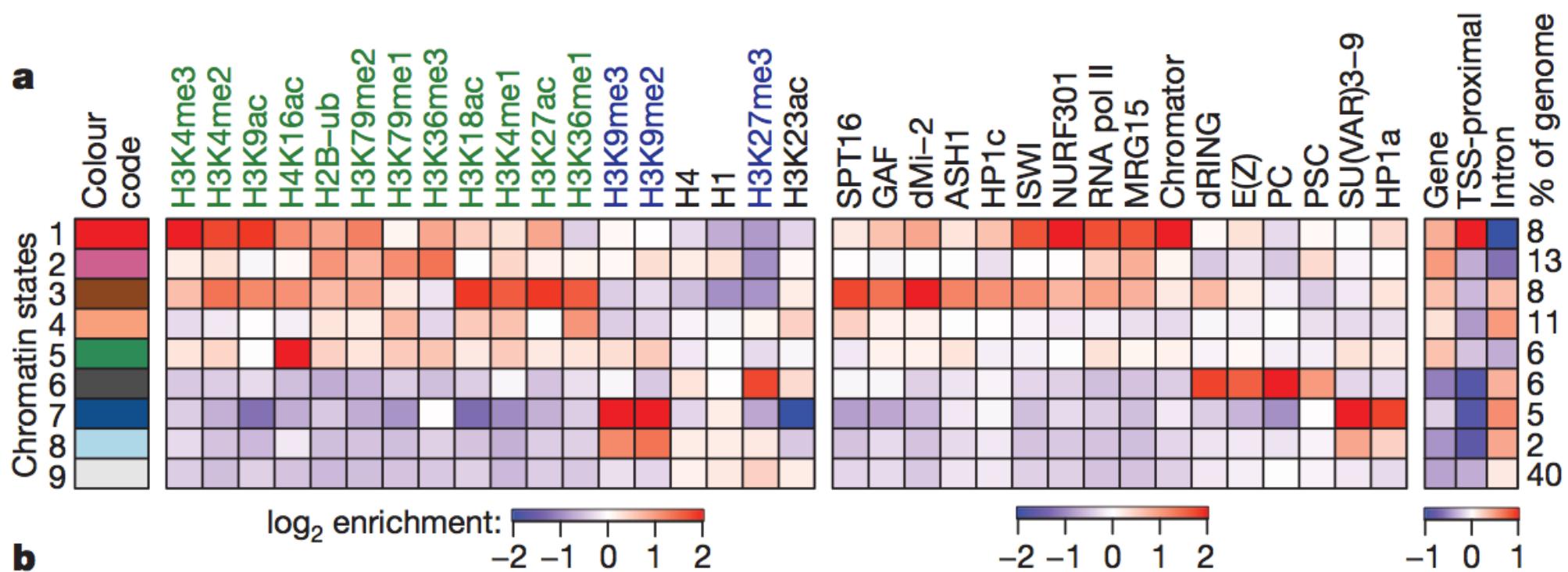
Mitchell Guttman<sup>1,2</sup>, Ido Amit<sup>1</sup>, Manuel Garber<sup>1</sup>, Courtney French<sup>1</sup>, Michael F. Lin<sup>1</sup>, David Feldser<sup>3</sup>, Maite Huarte<sup>1,6</sup>,



# Chromatin 'states' define functional regions

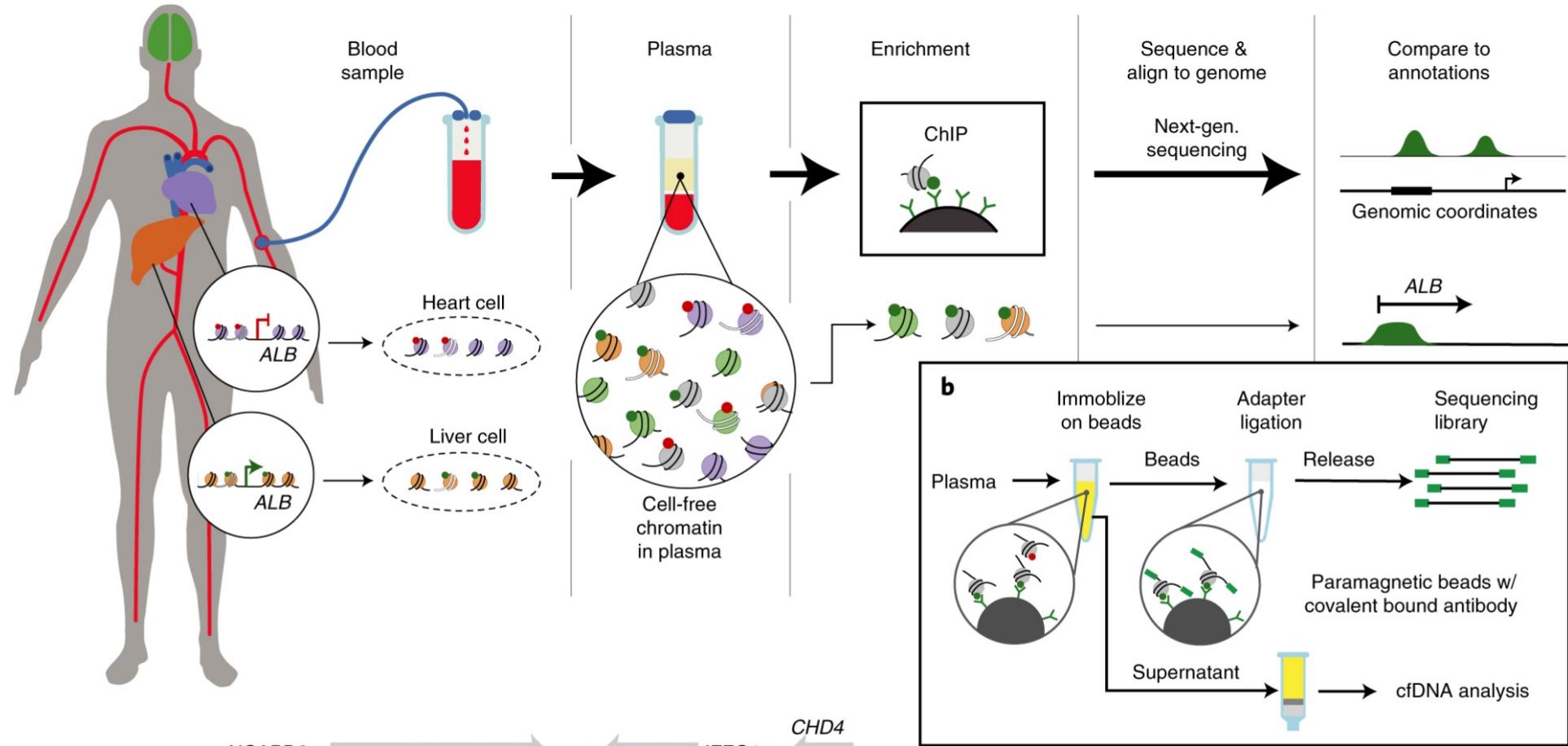


# 9 chromatin states defined by a combinatorial pattern of enrichment and depletion for specific chromatin marks



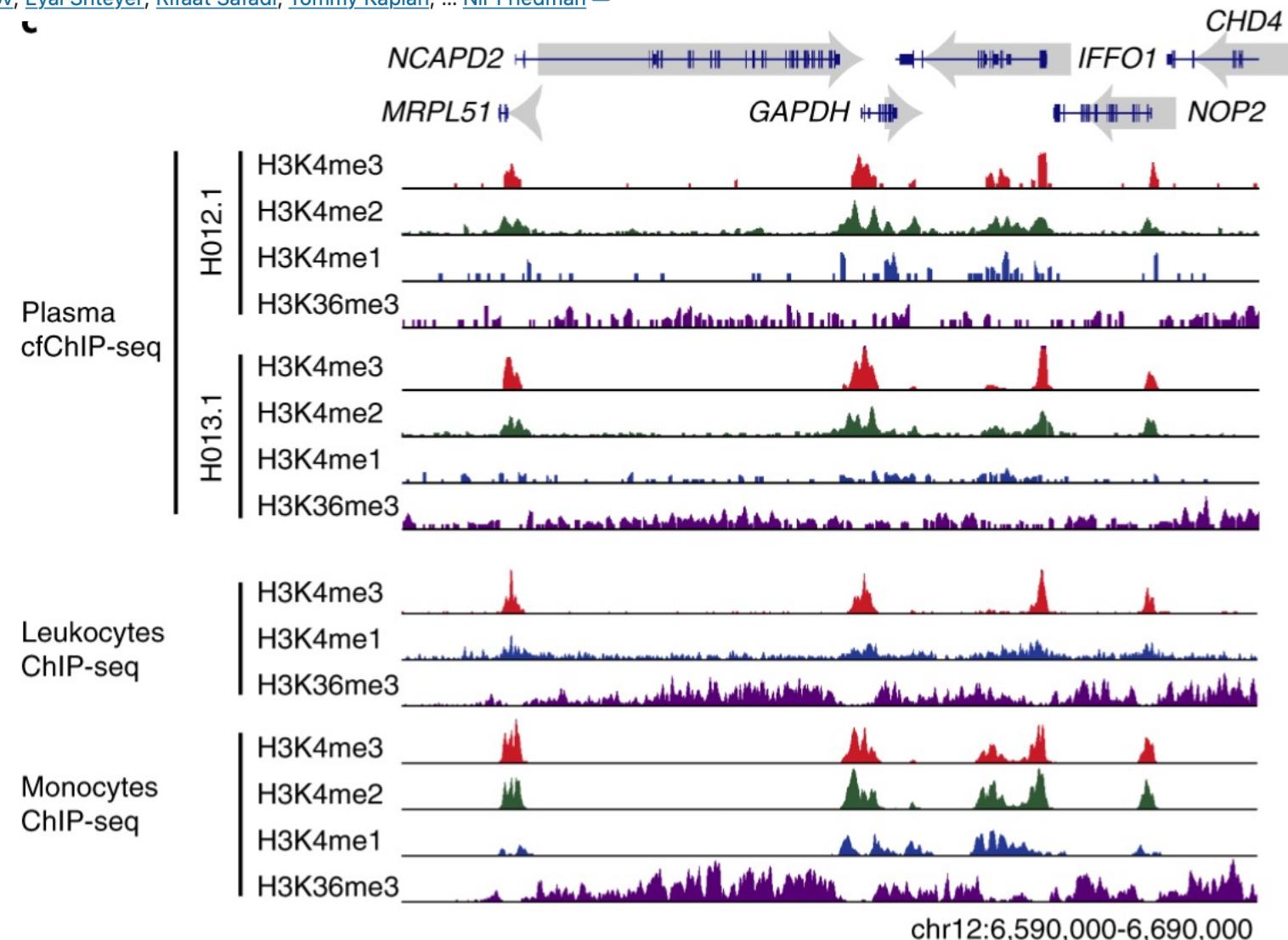
# ChIP-seq of plasma cell-free nucleosomes identifies gene expression programs of the cells of origin

Ronen Sadeh, Israa Sharkia, Gavriel Fialkoff, Ayelet Rahat, Jenia Gutin, Alon Chappleboim, Mor Nitzan, Ilana Fox-Fisher, Daniel Neiman, Guy Meler, Zahala Kamari, Dayana Yaish, Tamar Peretz, Ayala Hubert, Jonathan E. Cohen, Azzam Salah, Mark Temper, Albert Grinshpun, Myriam Maoz, Samir Abu-Gazala, Ami Ben Ya'acov, Eyal Shteyer, Rifaat Safadi, Tommy Kaplan, ... Nir Friedman 



# ChIP-seq of plasma cell-free nucleosomes identifies gene expression programs of the cells of origin

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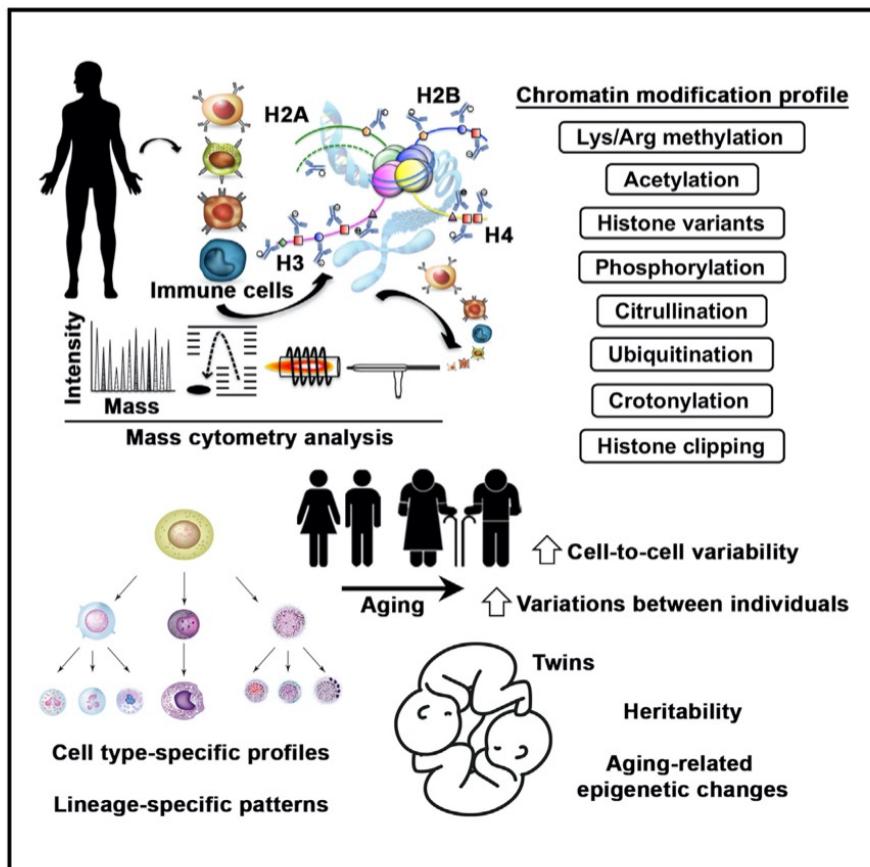
# Histone modifications in diagnostics

Cell

Article

## Single-Cell Chromatin Modification Profiling Reveals Increased Epigenetic Variations with Aging

### Graphical Abstract



### Authors

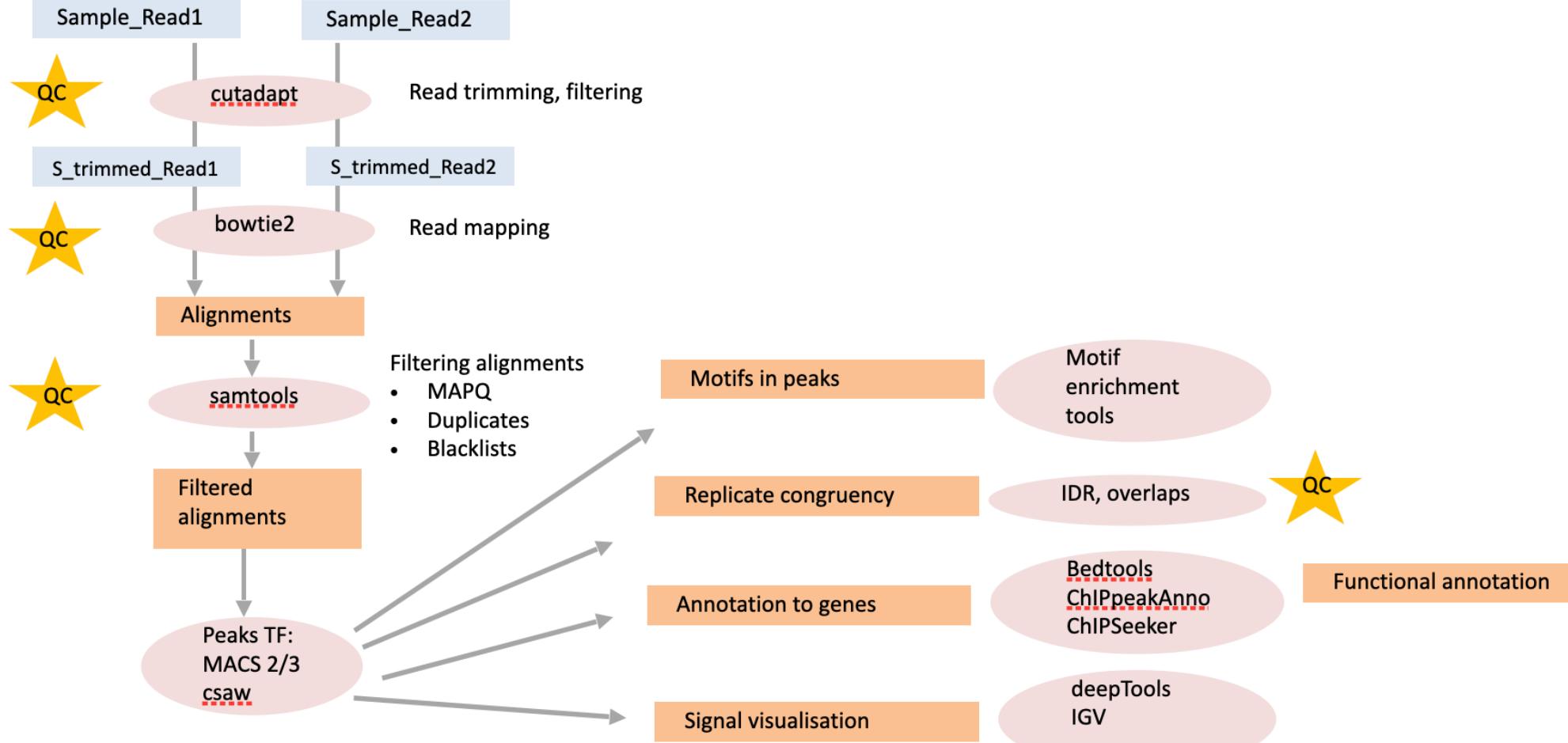
Peggie Cheung, Francesco Vallania,  
Hayley C. Warsinske, ..., Paul J. Utz,  
Purvesh Khatri, Alex J. Kuo

### Correspondence

pjutz@stanford.edu (P.J.U.),  
pkhatri@stanford.edu (P.K.),  
alex0229@stanford.edu (A.J.K.)

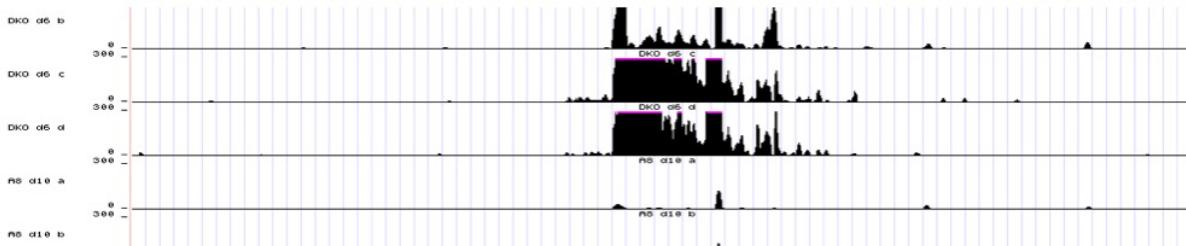
### In Brief

A global look at human chromatin shows that variability in histone modification patterns accrues with age and depends on non-heritable factors.

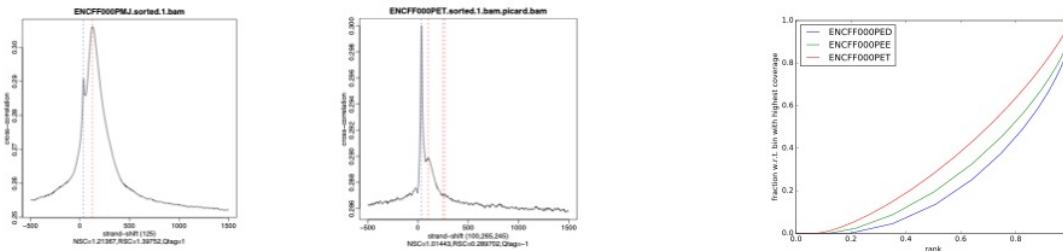


# ChIP-seq QC: did the ChIP work?

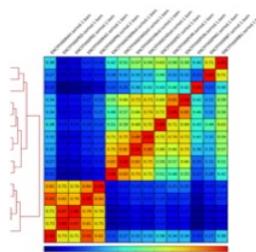
- 1. Inspect the signal (mapped reads, coverage profiles) in genome browser



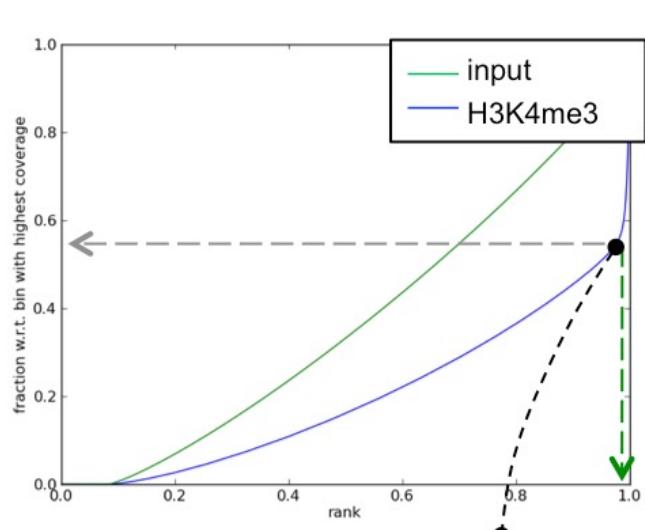
- 2. Compute peak-independent quality metrics (cross correlation, cumulative enrichment)



- 3. Assess replicate consistency (correlations between replicates of the same condition)

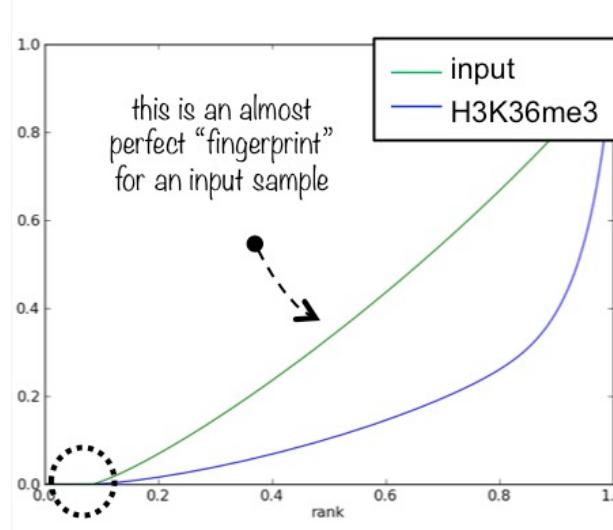


# Fingerprint plot (deepTools)

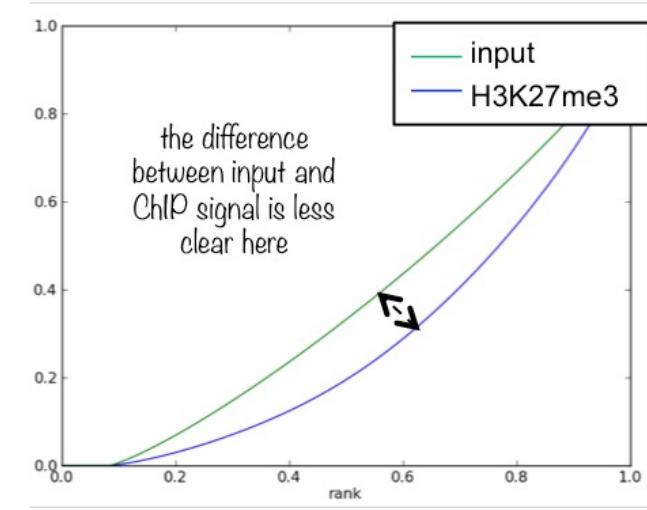


when counting the reads contained in **97%** of all genomic bins, only ca. **55%** of the maximum number of reads are reached, i.e. 3% of the genome contain a very large fraction of reads!

→ this indicates very localized, very strong enrichments!  
(as every biologist hopes for in a ChIP for H3K4me3)



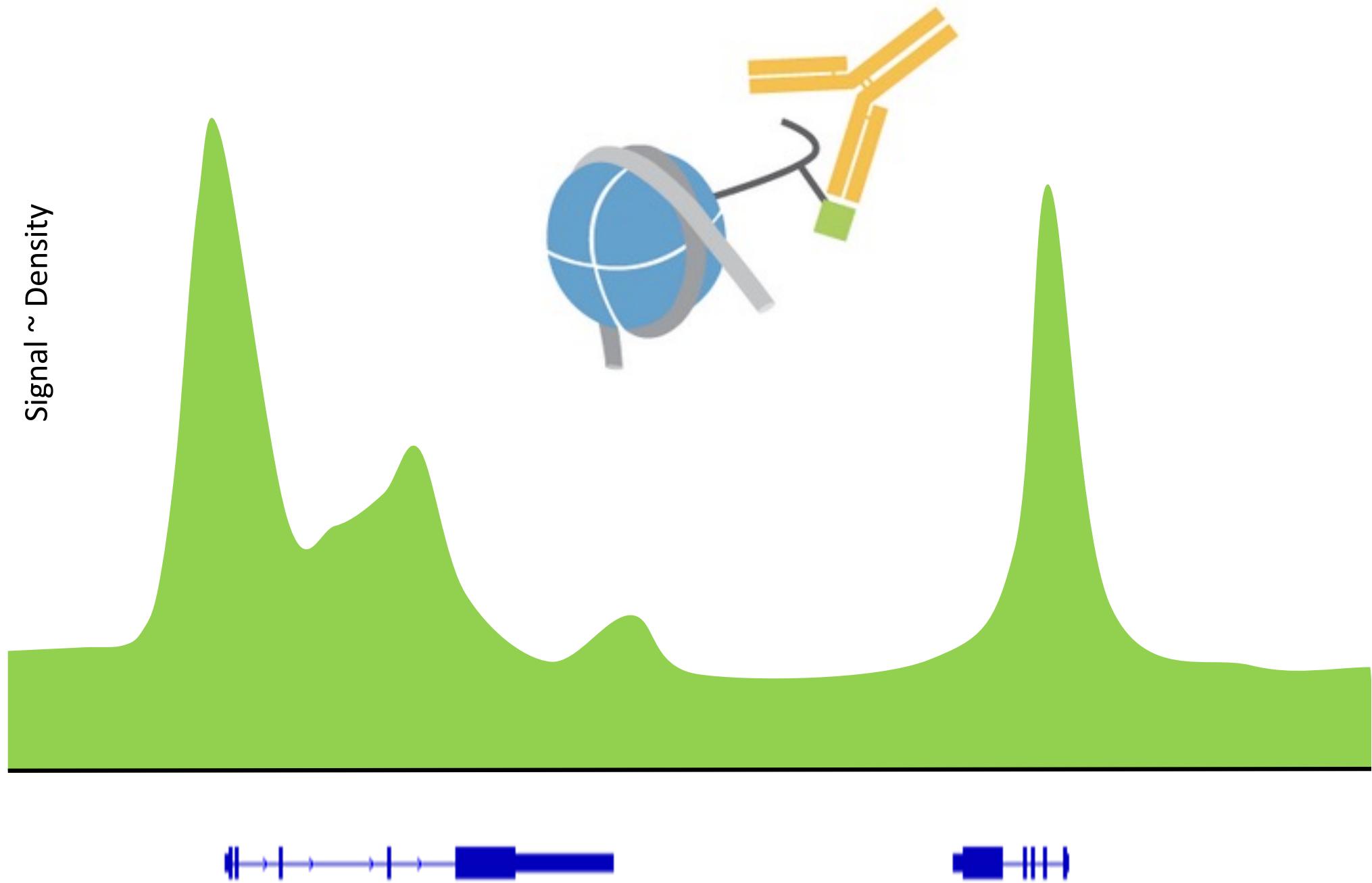
pay attention to where the curves start to rise – this already gives you an assessment of how much of the genome you have not sequenced at all (i.e. bins containing zero reads – for this example, ca. 10% of the entire genome do not have any read)



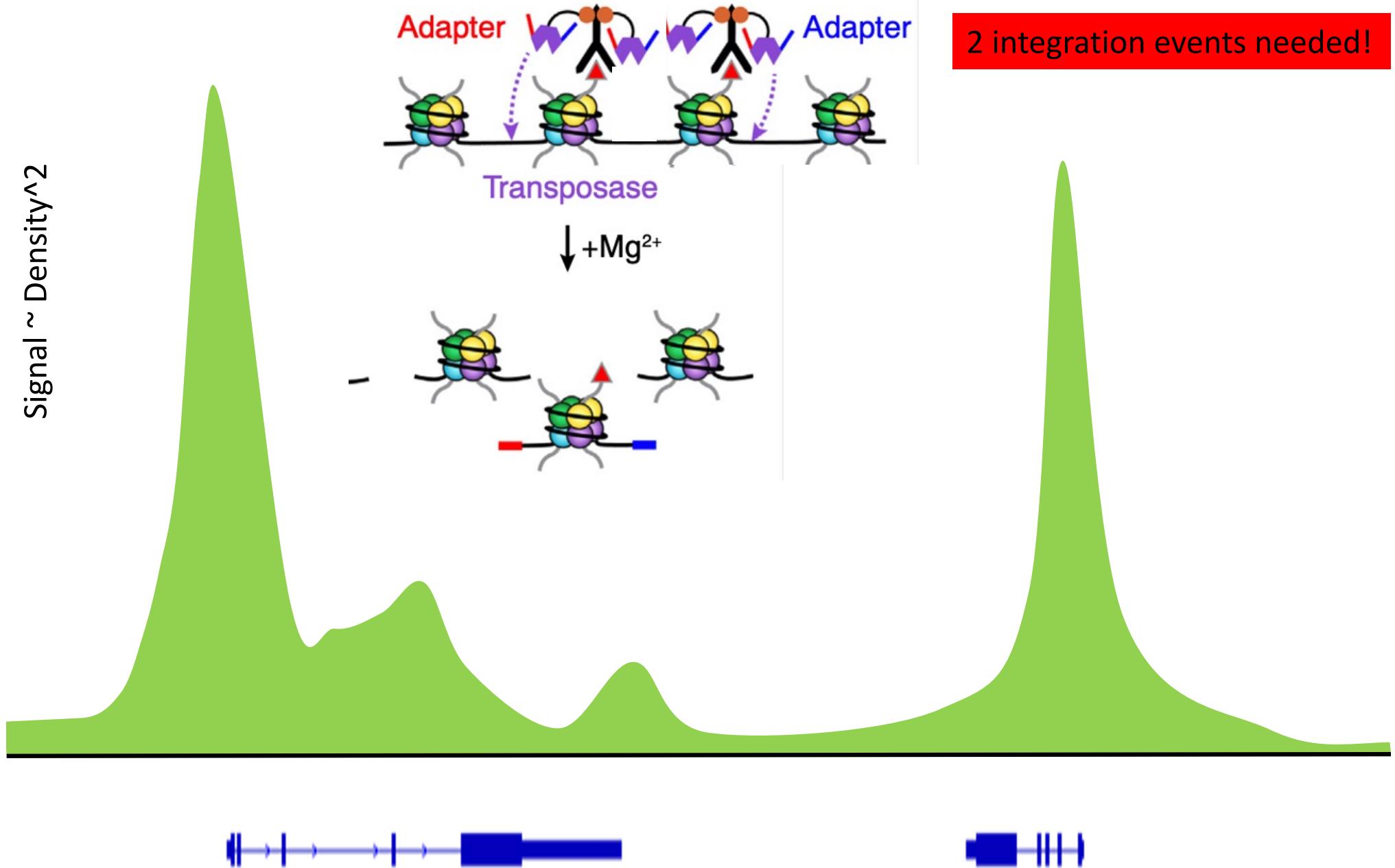
H3K27me3 is a mark that yields broad domains instead of narrow peaks

it is more difficult to distinguish input and ChIP, it does not mean, however, that this particular ChIP experiment failed

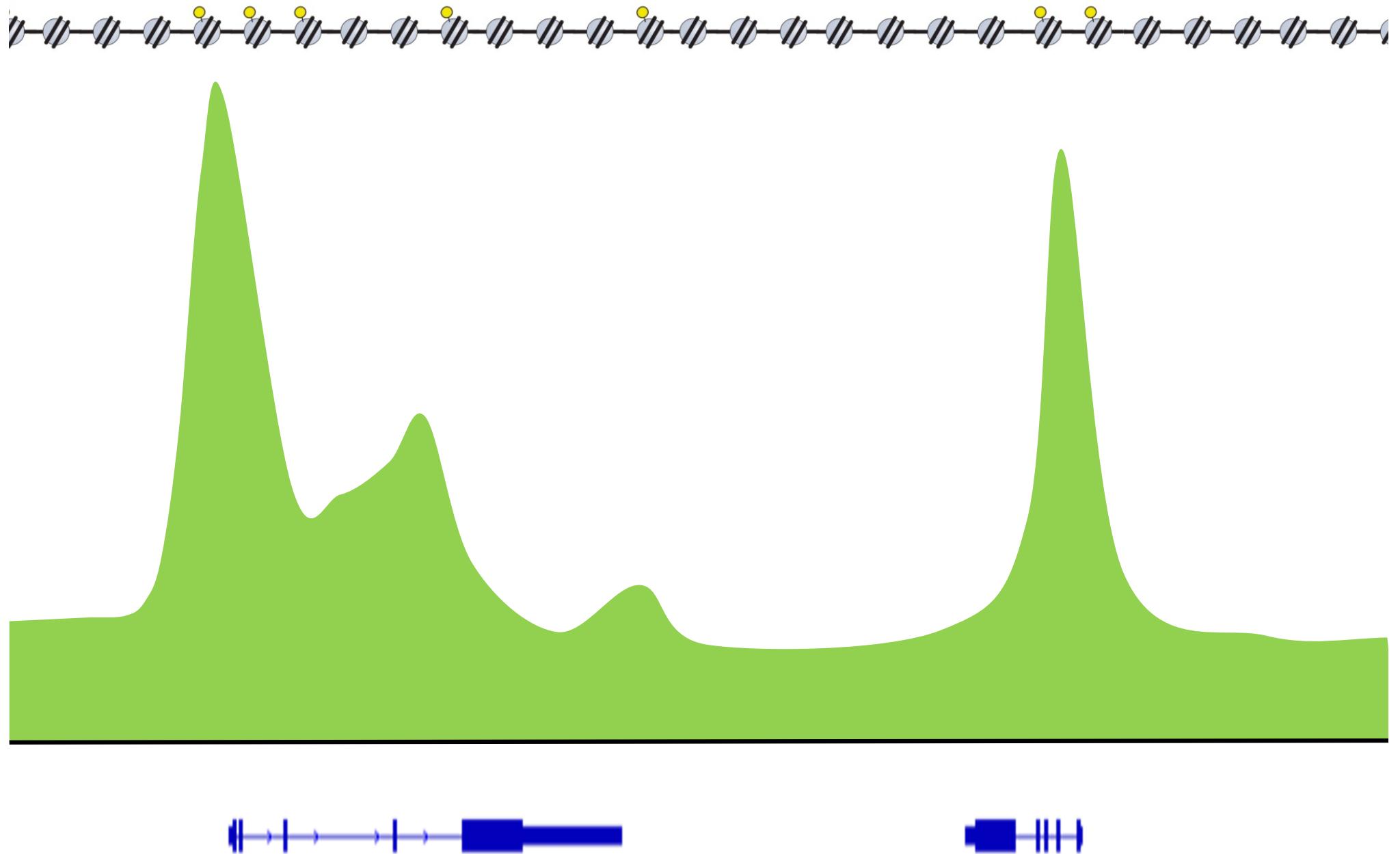
## ChIP-Seq signal (histone PTM density or Binding Protein occupancy)



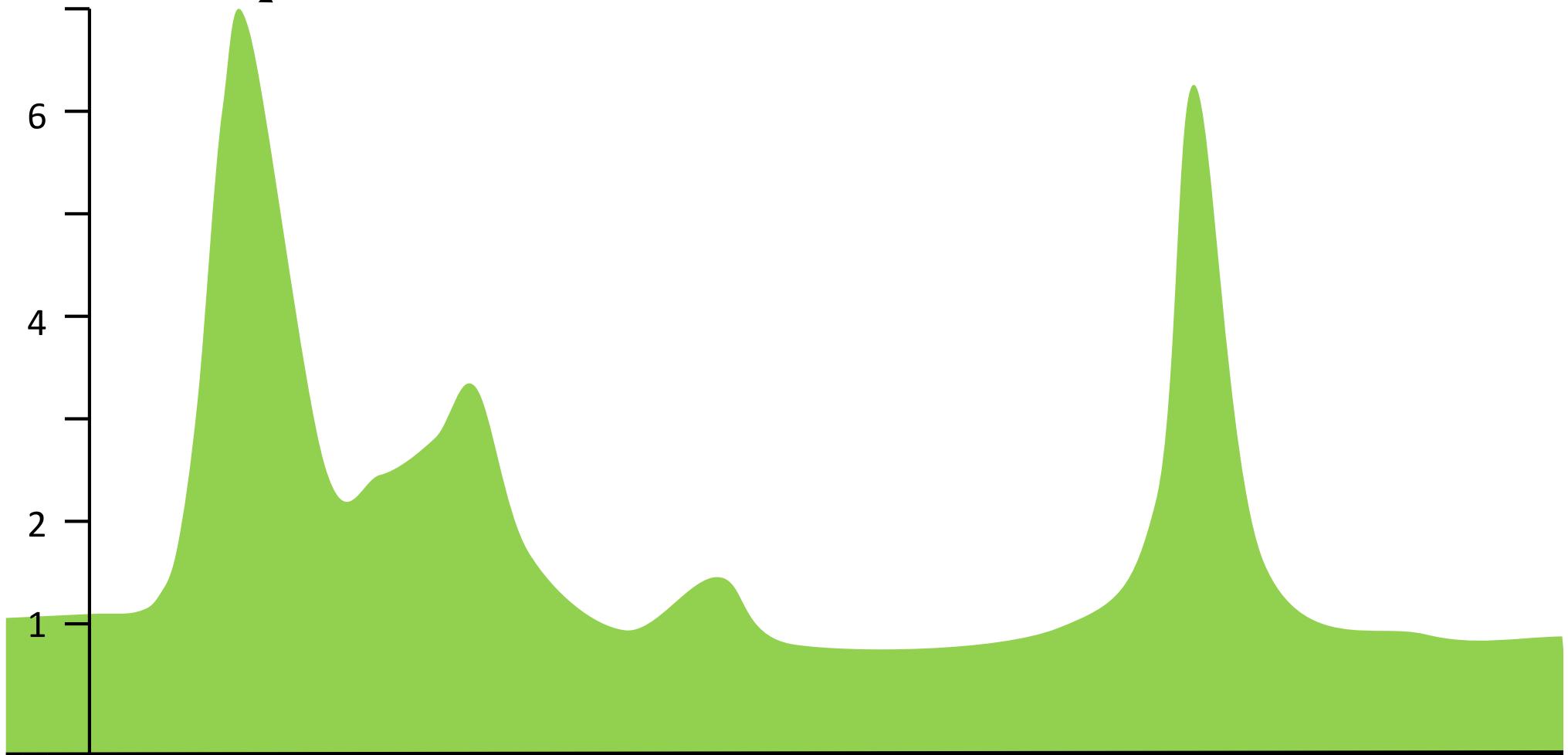
## CUT&Tag signal – is it proportional or square-proportional to the epitope density?

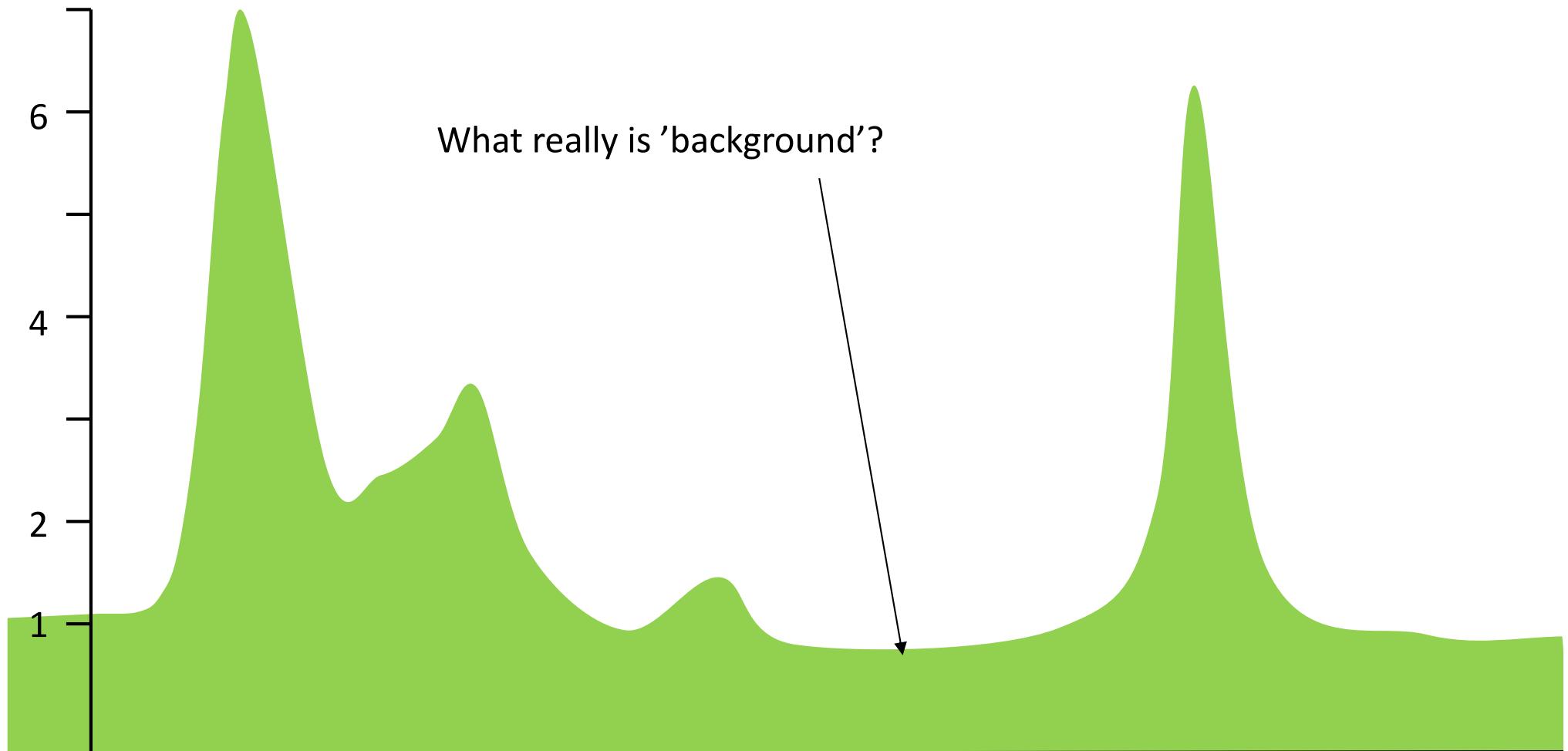


## Interpreting ChIP-Seq signal

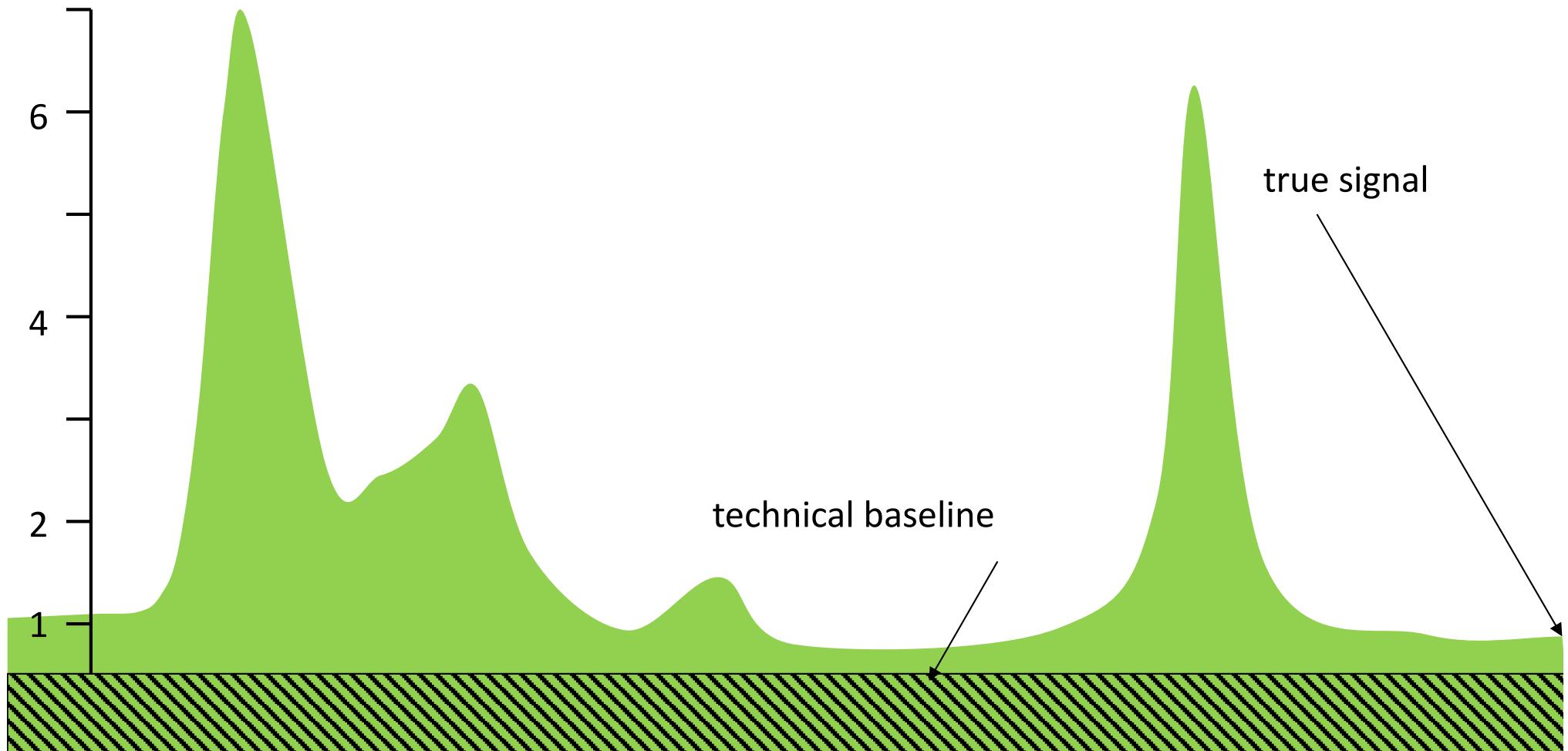


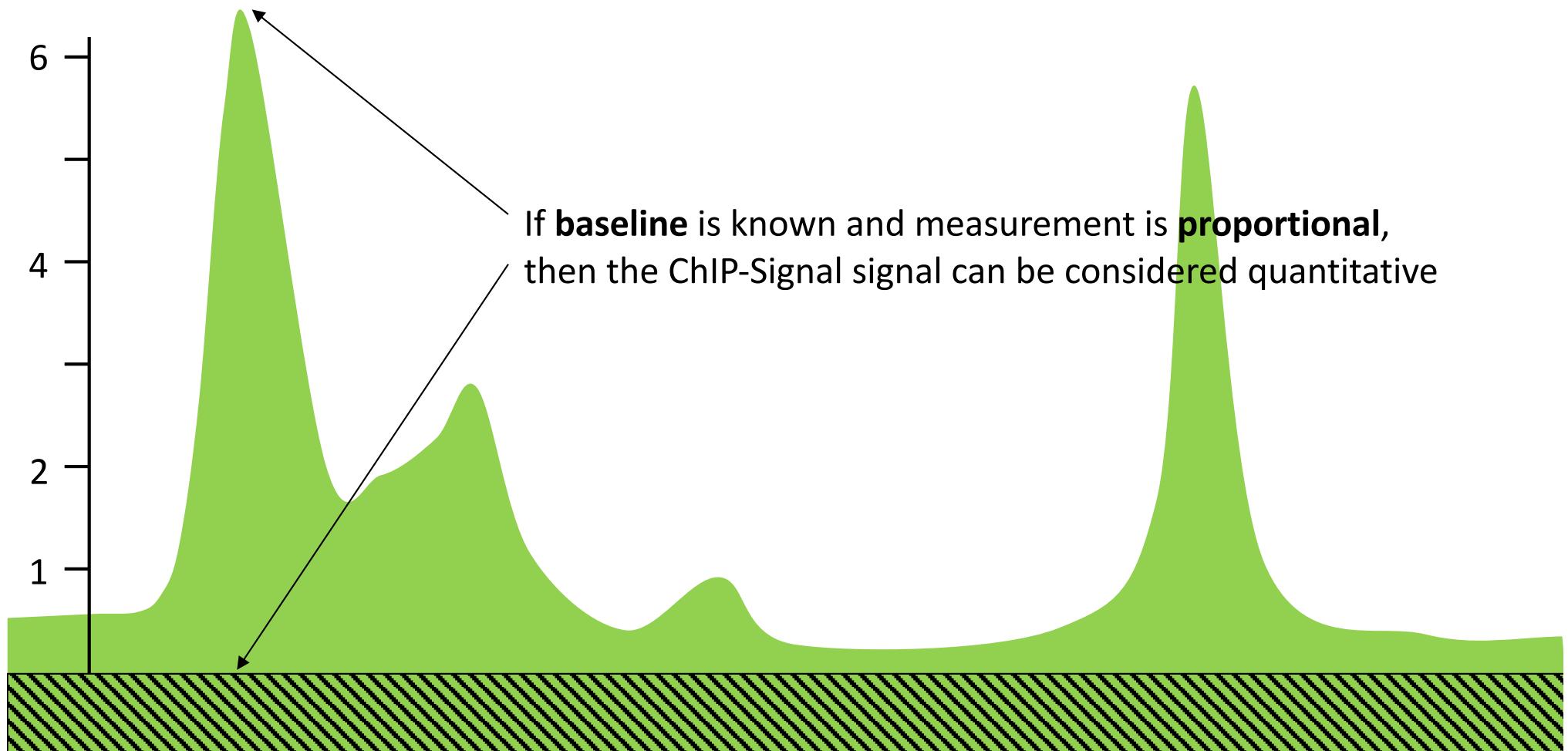
What does the peak height mean?





What really is 'background'?





# Good ChIP requires good Antibody

## Potential problems with antibodies:

- specificity modified histone (crossreactivity for other histone sites/modifications)
- specificity for target protein
- cross-reactivity to other epitopes
- Affinity/Avidity of the interaction and stability against harsh wash conditions
- sensitivity to formaldehyde modification of the target protein

2010

Cell

# ATR-X Syndrome Protein Targets Tandem Repeats and Influences Allele-Specific Expression in a Size-Dependent Manner

Martin J. Law,<sup>1,8</sup> Karen M. Lower,<sup>1,8</sup> Hsiao P.J. Voon,<sup>1</sup> Jim R. Hughes,<sup>1</sup> David Garrick,<sup>1</sup> Vip Viprakasit,<sup>3</sup> Matthew Mitson,<sup>1</sup> Marco De Gobbi,<sup>1</sup> Marco Marra,<sup>7</sup> Andrew Morris,<sup>4</sup> Aaron Abbott,<sup>4</sup> Steven P. Wilder,<sup>5</sup> Stephen Taylor,<sup>2</sup> Guilherme M. Santos,<sup>6</sup> Joe Cross,<sup>1</sup> Helena Ayyub,<sup>1</sup> Steven Jones,<sup>7</sup> Jiannis Ragoussis,<sup>4</sup> Daniela Rhodes,<sup>6</sup> Ian Dunham,<sup>5</sup> Douglas R. Higgs,<sup>1</sup> and Richard J. Gibbons<sup>1,\*</sup>

2013

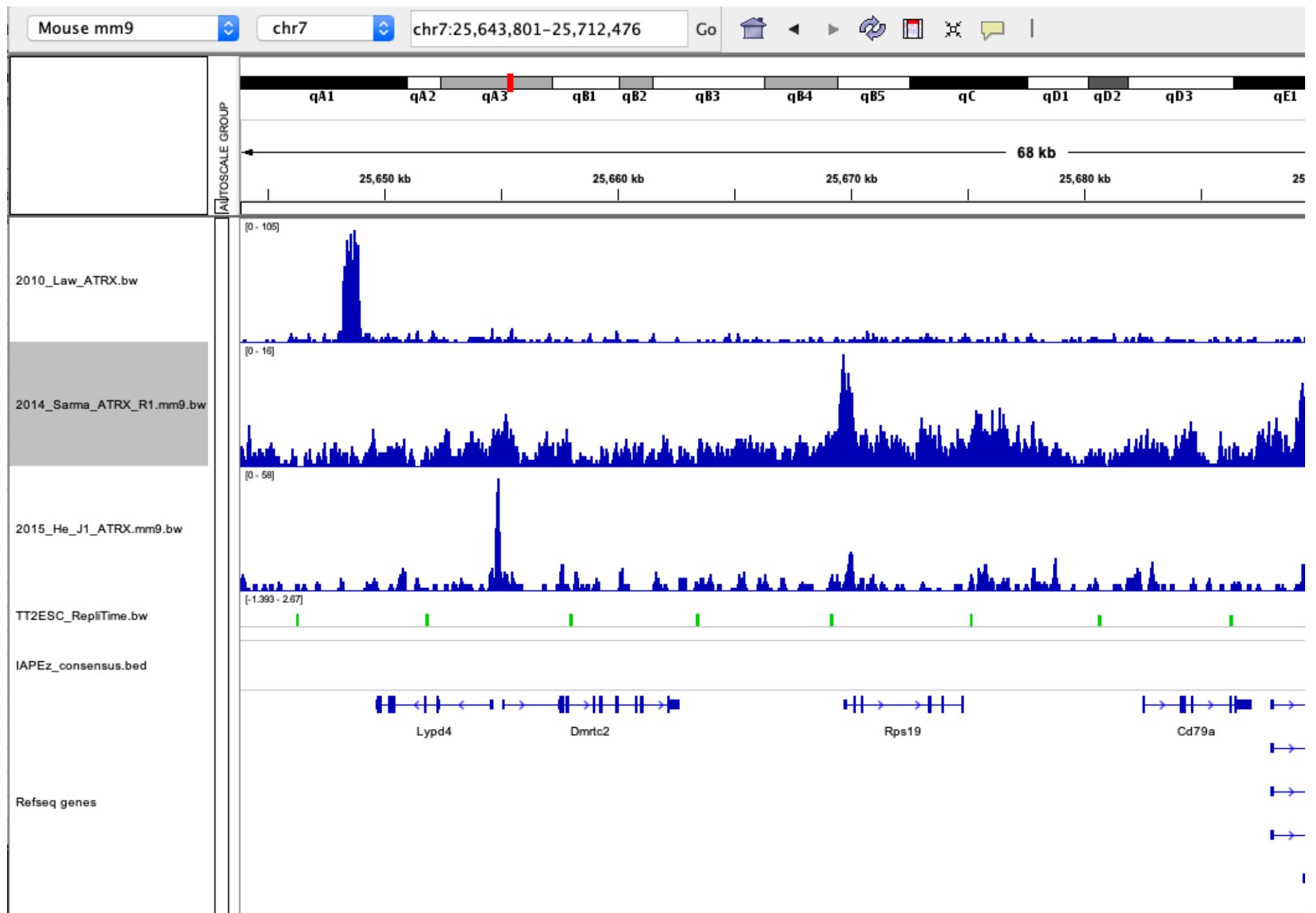
Cell

Article

# ATRX Directs Binding of PRC2 to Xist RNA and Polycomb Targets

Kavitha Sarma,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Catherine Cifuentes-Rojas,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Ayla Ergun,<sup>2,3</sup> Amanda del Rosario,<sup>5</sup> Yesu Jeon,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Forest White,<sup>5</sup> Ruslan Sadreyev,<sup>2,3,4</sup> and Jeannie T. Lee<sup>1,2,3,4,\*</sup>



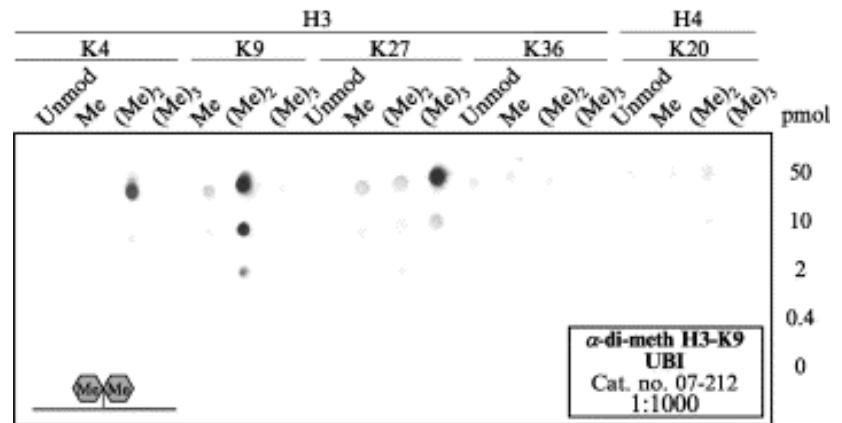


# Good ChIP requires good Antibody

Potential problems with antibodies:

background affinity for unmodified peptide epitope proximal to the site of modification

- specificity for seq. context



# Good ChIP requires good Antibody

The worse the antibody, the more ChIP will look like input

And normalizing for uneven input is tricky! Options

- ratio ChIP versus background
- background subtraction



# Cistrome Data Browser

## ⓘ Tips

- Check what factors regulate your gene of interest, what factors bind in your interval or have a significant binding overlap with your peak set. Have a try at [CistromeDB Toolkit](#).
- If you have a Transcription Factor ChIP-seq (and TF perturbed expression) data, [Cistrome-GO](#) help you predict the function of this TF.
- Please help us curate the samples which has incorrect meta-data annotation by clicking the button on the inspector page. Thank you!

Containing word(s):

Search

Options ▾

## Species

All

Homo sapiens

Mus musculus

## Biological Sources

All

1-cell pronuclei

1015c

10326

1064Sk

106A

## Factors

All

AATF

ABCC9

ACSS2

ACTB

ADNP

## Results

Batch	Species	Biological Source	Factor	Publication	Quality Control
<input type="checkbox"/>	Homo sapiens	HeLa; Epithelium; Cervix	BTAF1	Johannes F, et al. Bioinformatics 2010	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Homo sapiens	HeLa; Epithelium; Cervix	GAPDH	Johannes F, et al. Bioinformatics 2010	

<http://cistrome.org/db/#/>

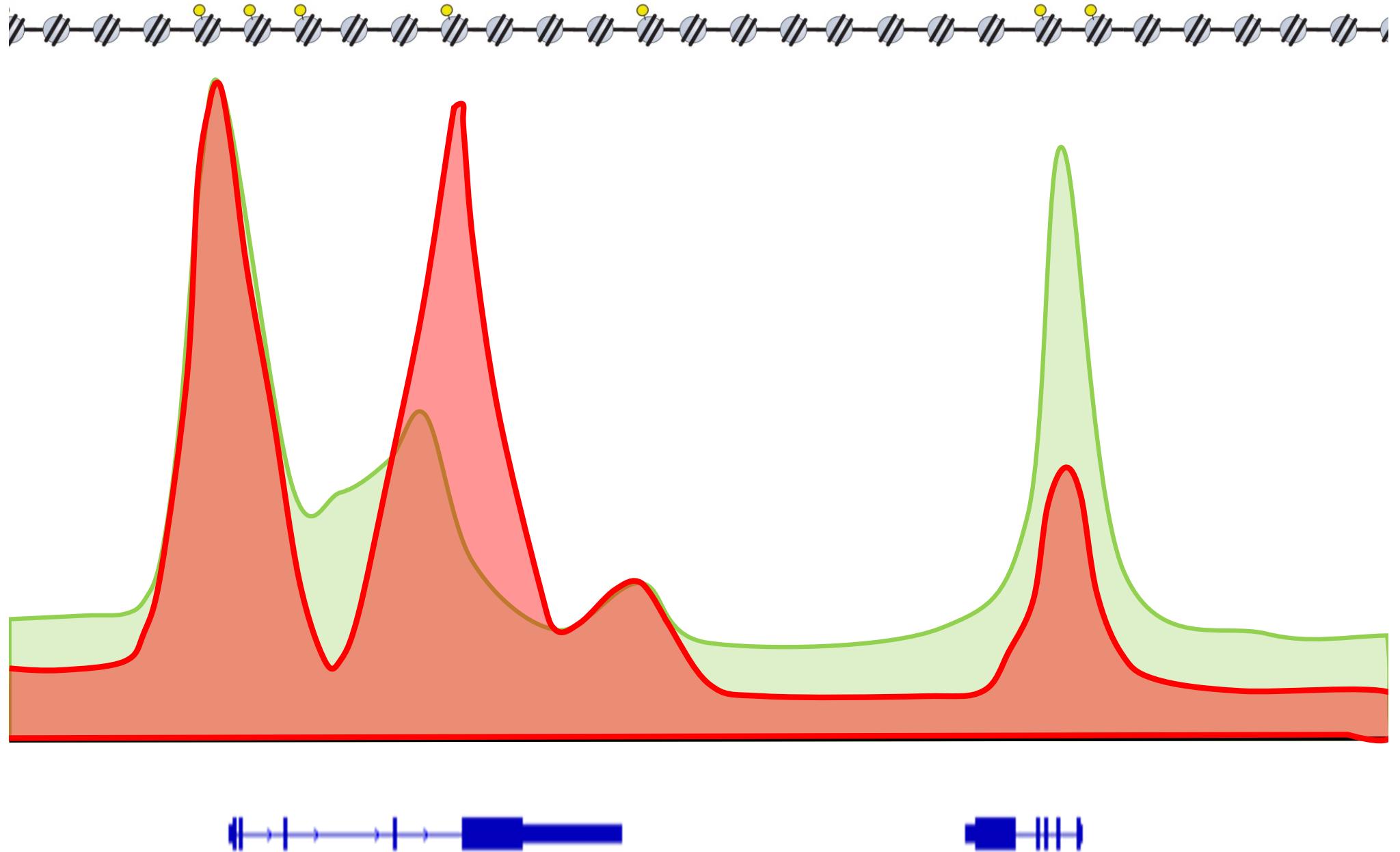


# Applications of ChIP-Seq and related methods

- Map features to genome (--> knowing where a feature is *may imply* function)
- Specific versus genome-wide feature
- Discover genome-wide correlations (--> generate experimental hypothesis --> test to establish causation)
  - Think about the meaning: “repressive chromatin”, “activating mark”, “silencing factor”
  - A histone PTM “recruits” a factor
  - A factor ‘protects’ a gene from spurious transcription
- Compare conditions, e.g. how does a knockout, inhibitor, external change in condition affect epigenome?

*These applications imply that you are interested in quantitatively comparing occupancies or levels of PTMs!*

## Interpreting ChIP-Seq signal



## **Relative quantitation** Epigenomic profiles can be compared

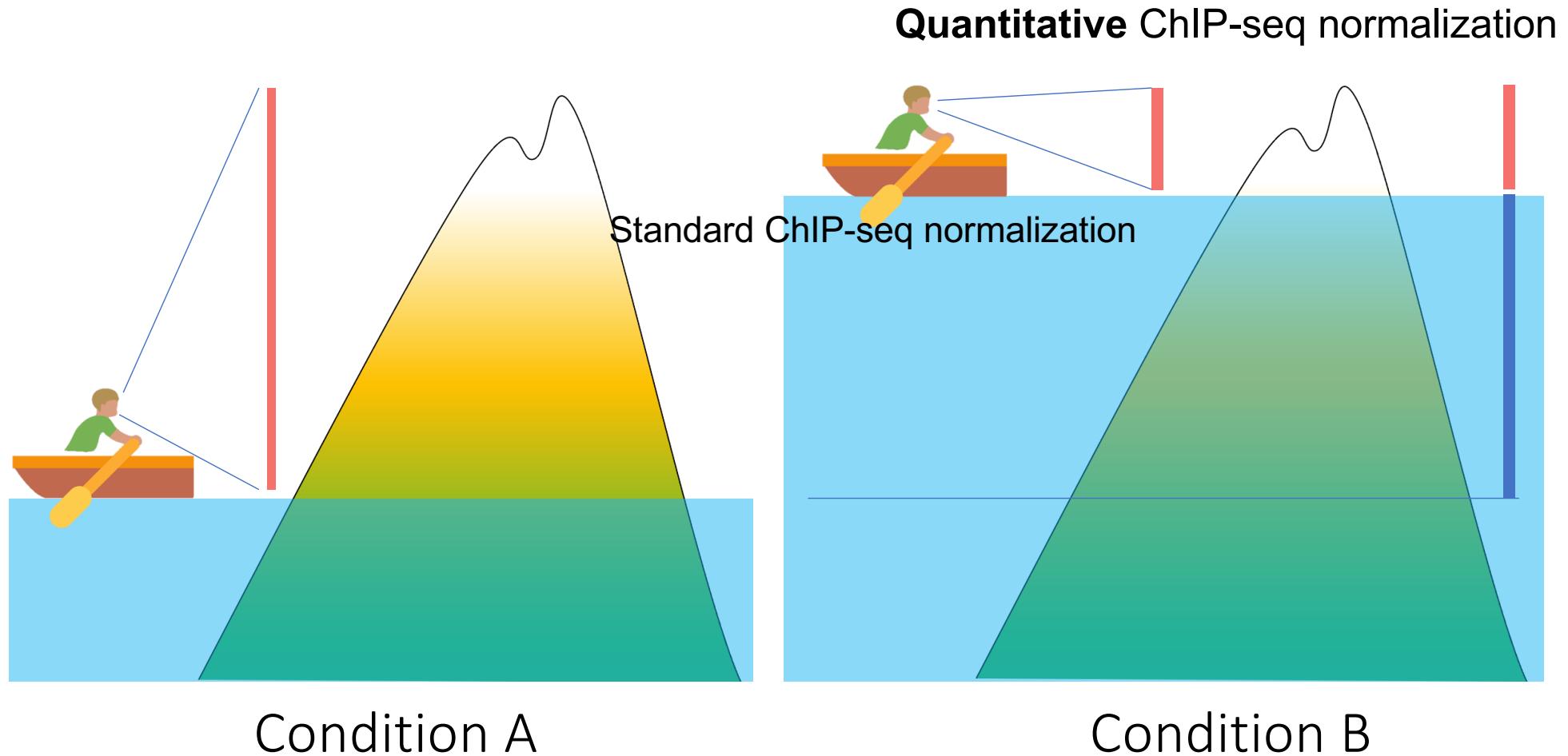
Before comparing, we need to ensure that samples are normalized. Traditional normalization brings all samples to the same effective sequencing depth, and it is assumed that then the samples can be compared quantitatively.

Normalization methods used

- RPKM/FPKM (Reads/Fragments Per Kilobase Million)
- RPGC (Reads Per Genome Coverage, “1x normalization”)

*Assumes that relative signal changes but global levels and background do not change!*

# Capturing quantitative epigenome landscapes



# Quantitative ChIP-Seq

- Measured signal (=read density) scales linear (proportional) with 'true' signal
- Signal is comparable quantitatively between samples
- Technical or batch does not influence the quantitative answer

*Absolute* quantification further requires that the output can be understood in a real-world unit (e.g. binding occupancy or PTM density in fraction/percent)

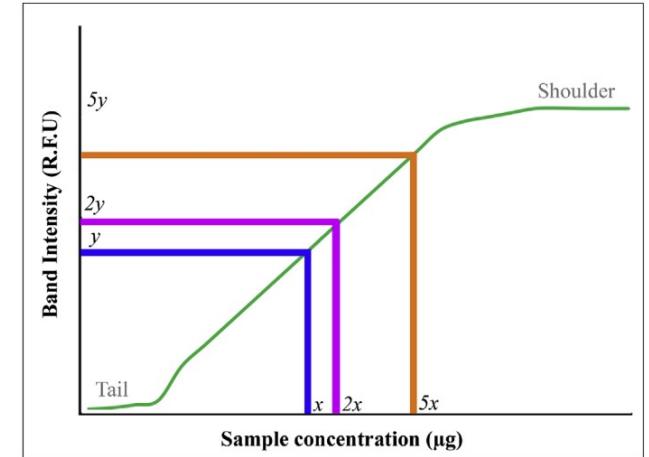


Fig. 2. Linear relationship between sample concentration and band intensity. The signal derived from the protein bands on a Western blot varies with the amount of sample extract loaded onto the protein gel. The illustrated graph depicts a linear and proportional relationship between amount of sample loaded ( $x$ ,  $2x$ ,  $5x$ ) and the relative fluorescence units (R.F.U) captured from the target bands ( $y$ ,  $2y$ ,  $5y$ ). Tail and shoulder end of the data curve capture noise and saturated signal, respectively. µg, micrograms; R.F.U, Relative fluorescence units.

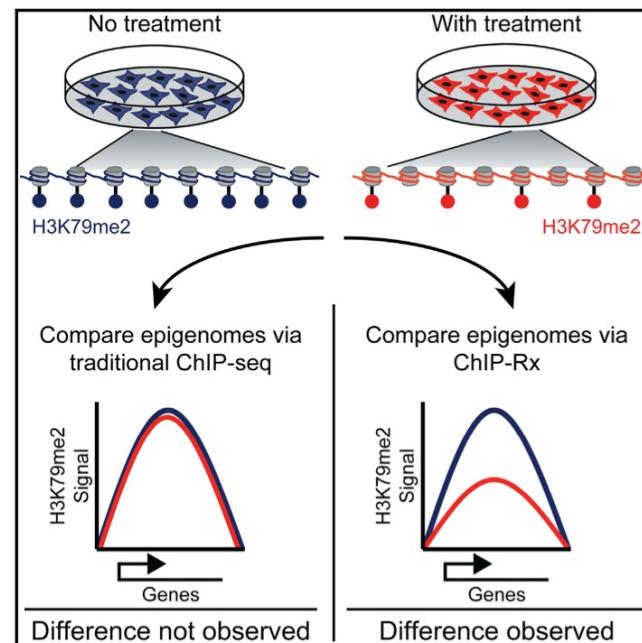
# Quantitative ChIP with *Drosophila* Spike-in

## Cell Reports

Resource

### Quantitative ChIP-Seq Normalization Reveals Global Modulation of the Epigenome

#### Graphical Abstract



#### Authors

David A. Orlando, Mei Wei Chen, ..., James E. Bradner, Matthew G. Guenther

#### Correspondence

dorlando@syros.com (D.A.O.),  
mguenther@syros.com (M.G.G.)

#### In Brief

The lack of an empirical methodology to enable normalization among chromatin immunoprecipitation coupled with massively parallel DNA sequencing (ChIP-seq) experiments has limited the precision and comparative utility of this technique. Orlando et al. describe a method, called ChIP with reference exogenous genome (ChIP-Rx), that allows one to perform genome-wide quantitative comparisons of histone modification status across cell populations using defined quantities of a reference epigenome. They use the method to detect disease-relevant epigenomic changes following drug treatment.

#### Accession Numbers

GSE60104

Biological chromodynamics: a general method for measuring protein occupancy across the genome by calibrating ChIP-seq

Bin Hu, Naomi Petela, Alexander Kurze, Kok-Lung Chan, Christophe Chapard, Kim Nasmyth

Nucleic Acids Research, Volume 43, Issue 20, 16 November 2015, Page e132,  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkv670>

Published: 30 June 2015 Article history ▾

ChIPSeqSpike: A R/Bioconductor package for ChIP-Seq data scaling according to spike-in control

Descostes N, Tsirigos A, Reinberg D

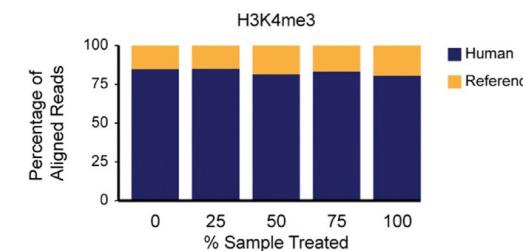
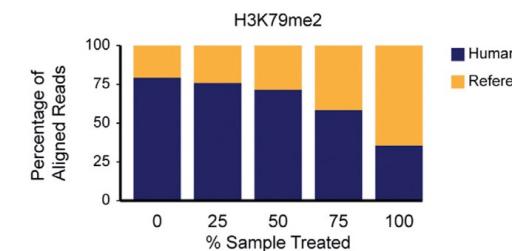
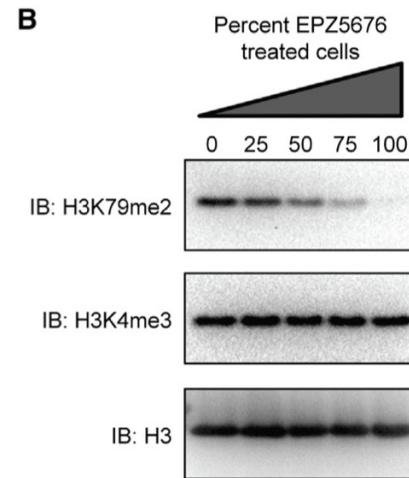
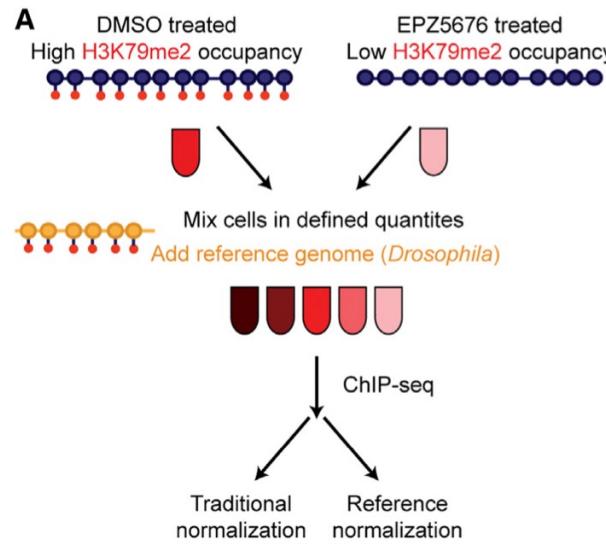
Preprint from bioRxiv, 22 Feb 2018

#### Highlights

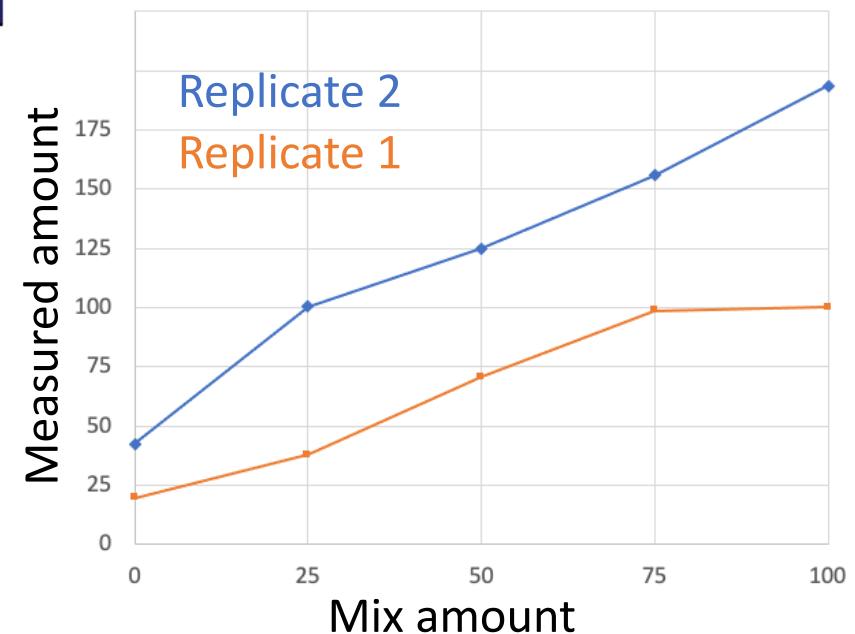
ChIP-seq is a prevailing methodology to investigate and compare epigenomic states

Lack of an empirical normalization strategy has limited the usefulness of ChIP-seq

ChIP-Rx allows genome-wide quantitative comparisons of histone modification status



Multiple replicates are essential for correct spike-in normalization!



# Practical solutions to quantitative scaling

- BAM-based, then carry along scale factor determined by BAM read counts for scaling on-the-fly
- BigWig-based, scaled bigwig file can be used in any downstream analysis

# Limitations of Spike-in ChIP

- Spike-in amount has to be accurate in relation to chromatin amount (think about error in cell counting, protein assay or pipetting)
- Alternatively, fraction Drosophila reads spiked-in needs to be determined experimentally by sequencing input. Some confusion in the field exists if or not input is taken into account
- Some confusion exists if and when a background normalization using input can be done while also using spike-in normalization (how to normalize input? divide or subtract?)
- Antibody must crossreact with the spike-in species.

# Excercise – reanalysis of Orlando data using Bioconductor package

## ChIP-seq with exogenous chromatin spike

This tutorial is included from [previous workshop](#). Thanks!

- Requirements
  - Uppmax
  - Local
- Data
- Data preparation
- Fingerprint plots
- Disclaimer
- Using [ChIPSeqSpike](#) for ChIPseq signal scaling
  - Files and directories
  - Scaling of signal to exogenous chromatin spike
  - Data visualization
    - Visualization with gene meta-profiles
    - Visualization with Boxplots
    - Correlation plots
- What to do next

## ChIPSeqSpike: A R/Bioconductor package for ChIP-Seq data scaling according to spike-in control

Descotes N, Tsirigos A, Reinberg D

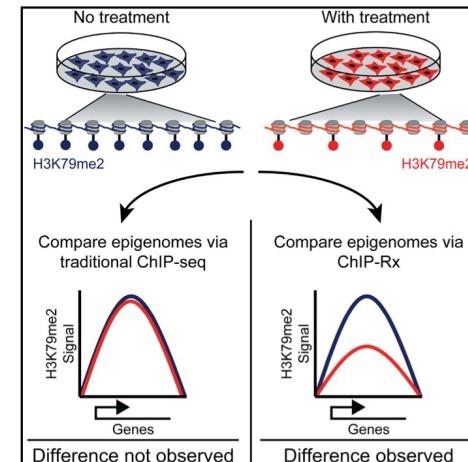
Preprint from [bioRxiv](#), 22 Feb 2018

Resource

### Cell Reports

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ChIP-Rx allows genome-wide quantitative comparisons of histone modification status

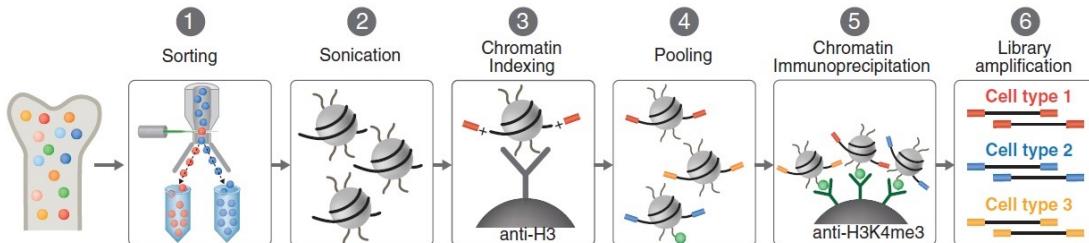
##### Accession Numbers

GSE60104



# Barcode-first methods

## I-ChIP: on-beads barcoding



## One-pot methods ChIP

### A high-throughput ChIP–Seq for large-scale chromatin studies

Christophe D Chabbert, Sophie H Adjalley, Bernd Klaus, Emilie S Fritsch, Ishaan Gupta, Vicent Pelechano, Lars M Steinmetz

Molecular Cell

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Molecular Cell

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< Previous Article Volume 61, Issue 1, p170–180, 7 January 2016

TECHNOLOGY

A Multiplexed System for Quantitative Comparisons of Chromatin Landscapes

Peter van Galen, Aaron D. Viny, Oren Ram, Russell J.H. Ryan, Matthew J. Cotton, Laura Donohue, Cem Sievers, Yotam Drier, Brian B. Laiu, Shawn M. Gillespie, Kaitlin M. Carroll, Michael B. Cross, Ross L. Levine, Bradley E. Bernstein

Published Online: December 10, 2015

Open Archive | PlumX Metrics

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.molcel.2015.11.003> | CrossMark

## Cell Reports

### Quantitative Multiplexed ChIP Reveals Global Alterations that Shape Promoter Bivalency in Ground State Embryonic Stem Cells

#### Graphical Abstract

Quantitative ChIP with large linear dynamic range

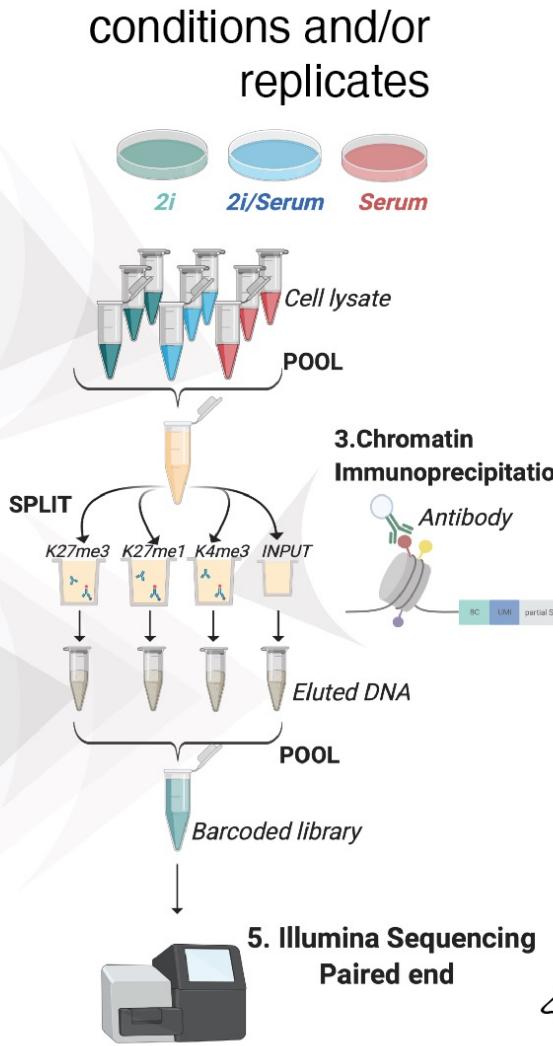
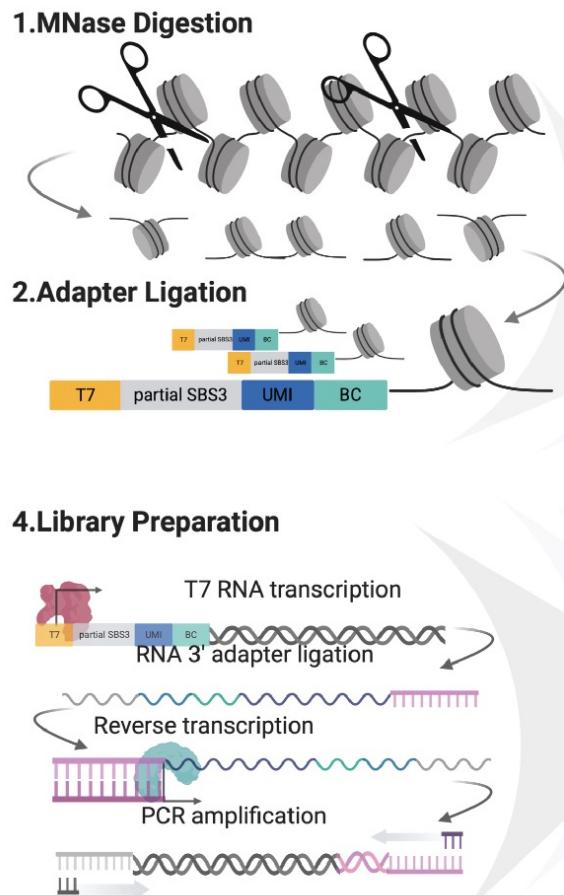
#### Authors

Banushree Kumar, Simon J. Elsässer

#### Resource

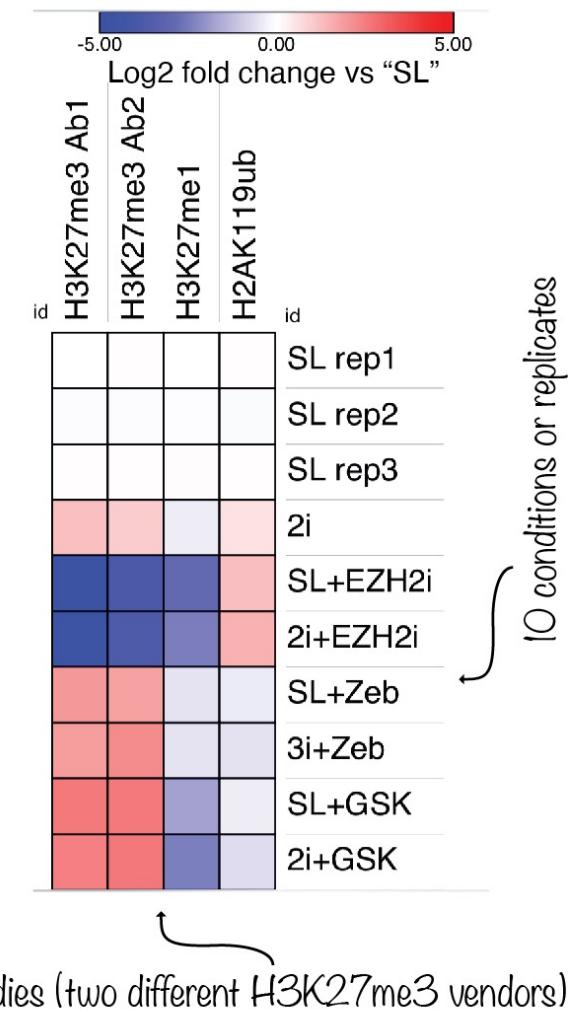
# Multiplexed ChIP (MINUTE-ChIP)

**A**

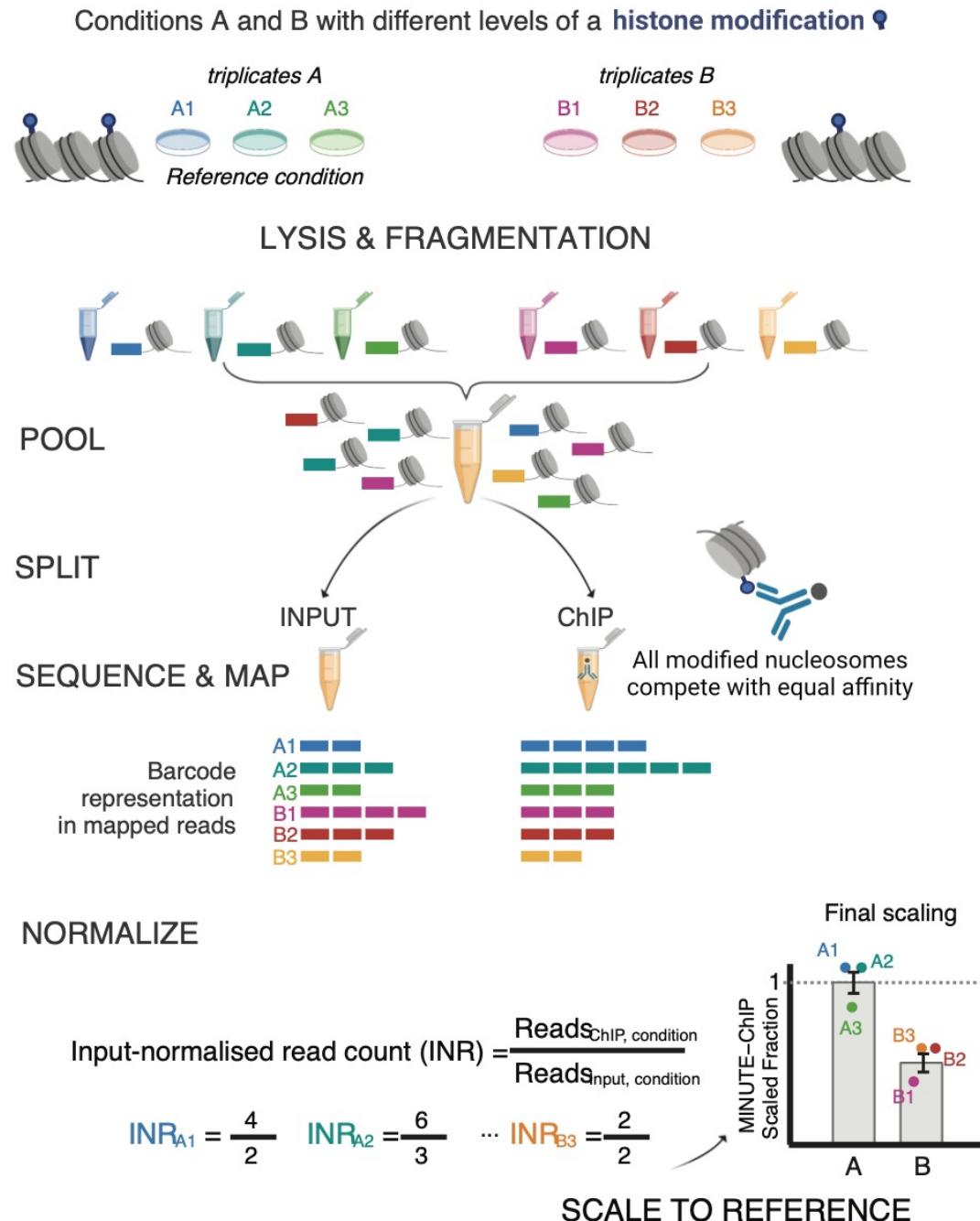


**B**

Example multiplexed ChIP



# MINUTE-ChIP Quantification

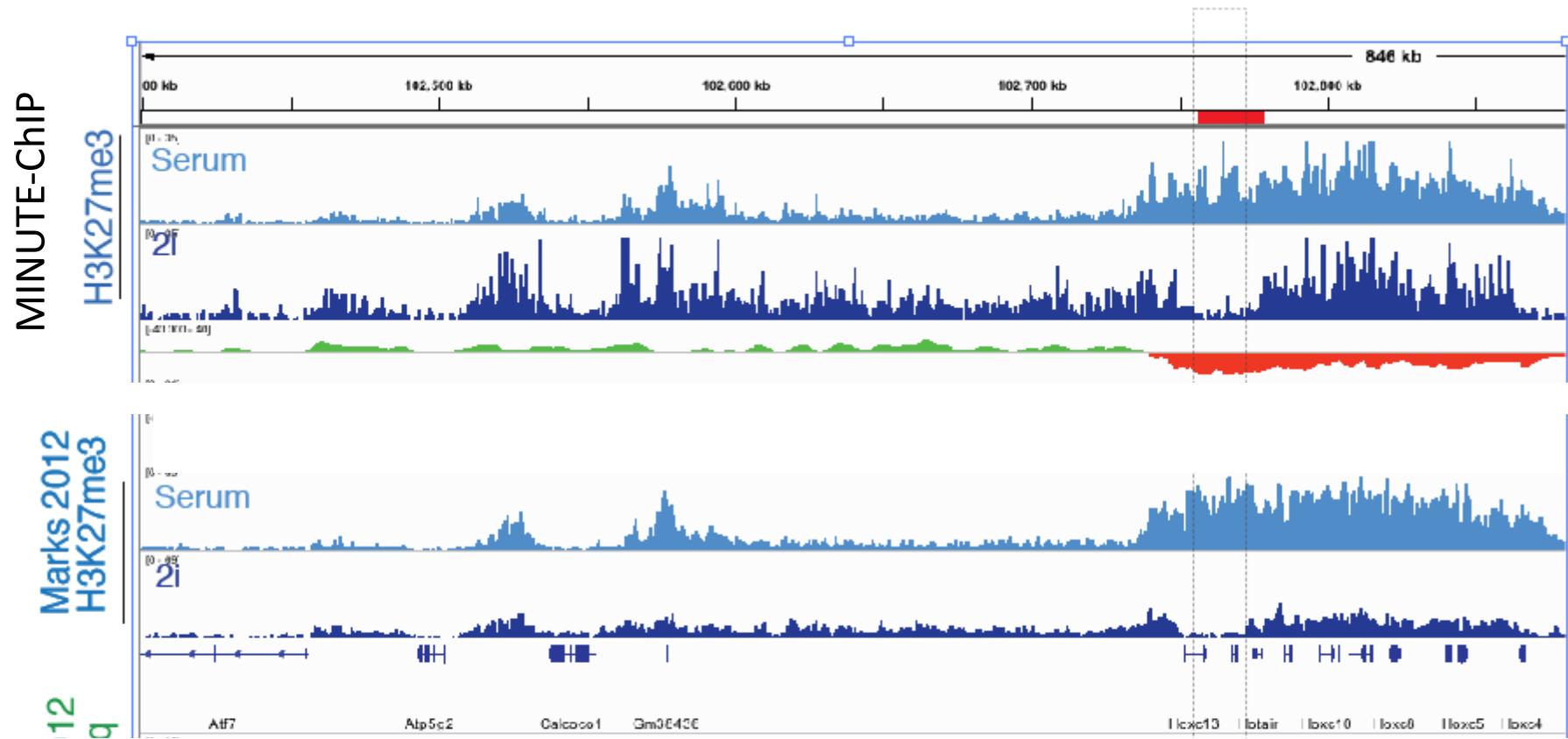


Nature Protocols upcoming:

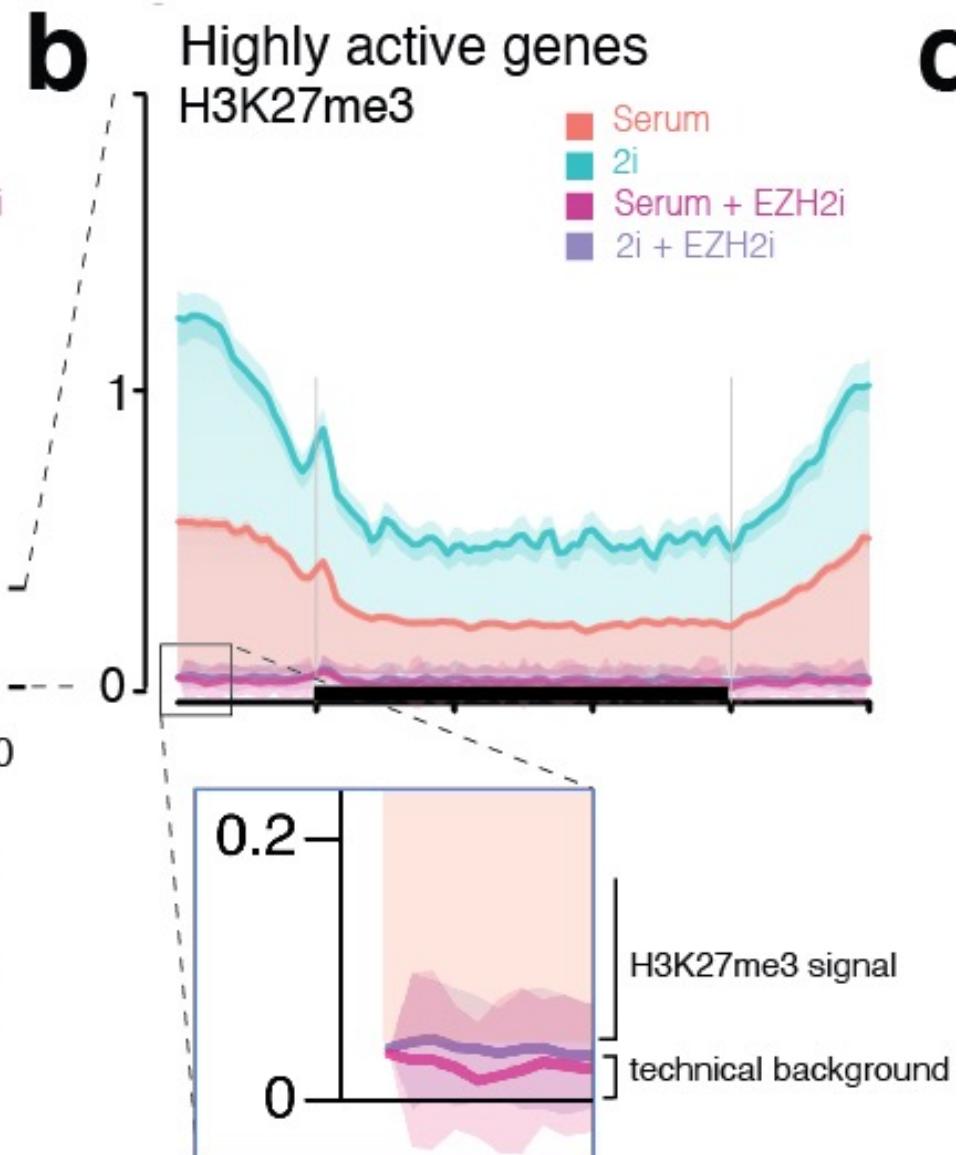
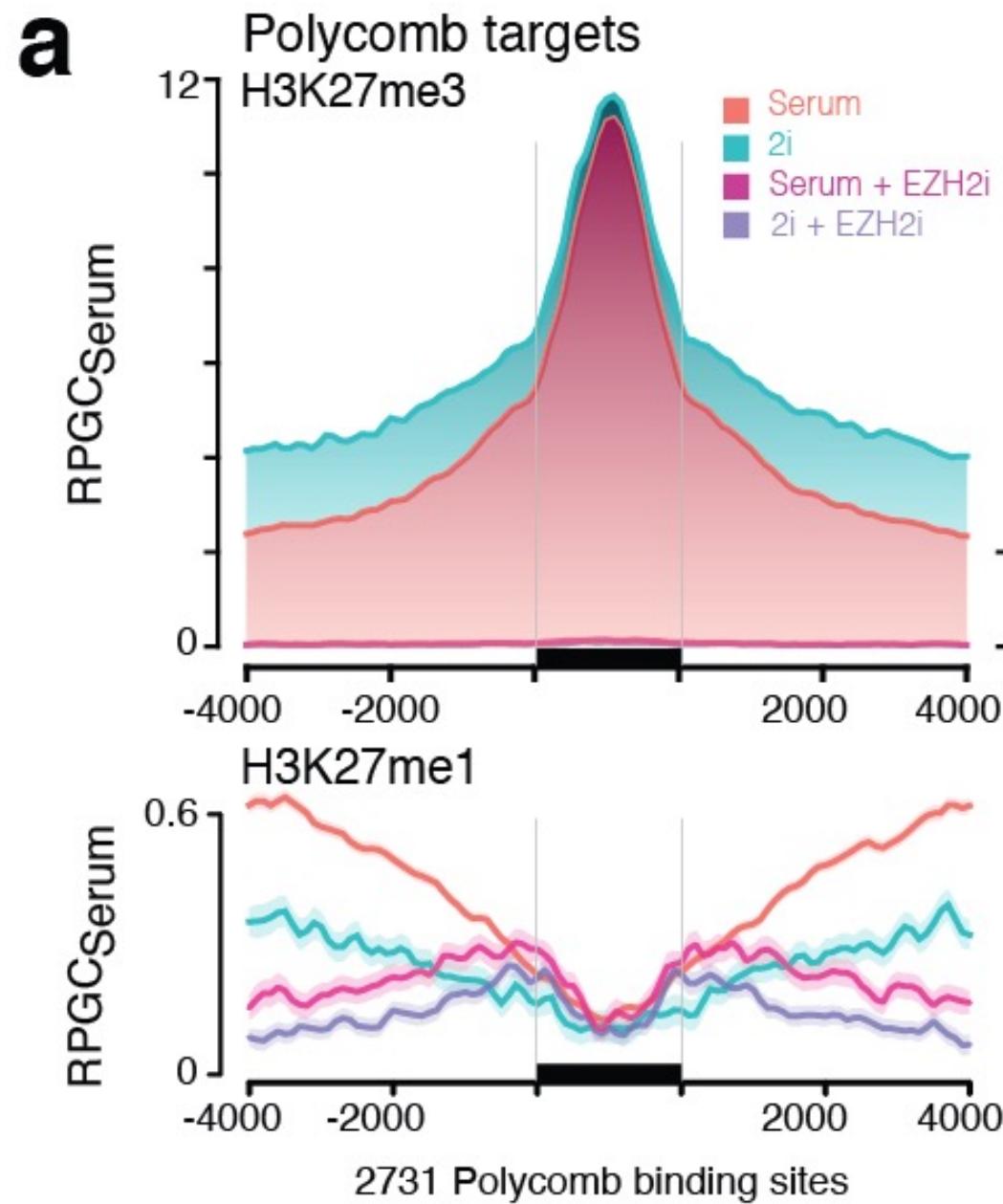
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41596-024-01058-z>

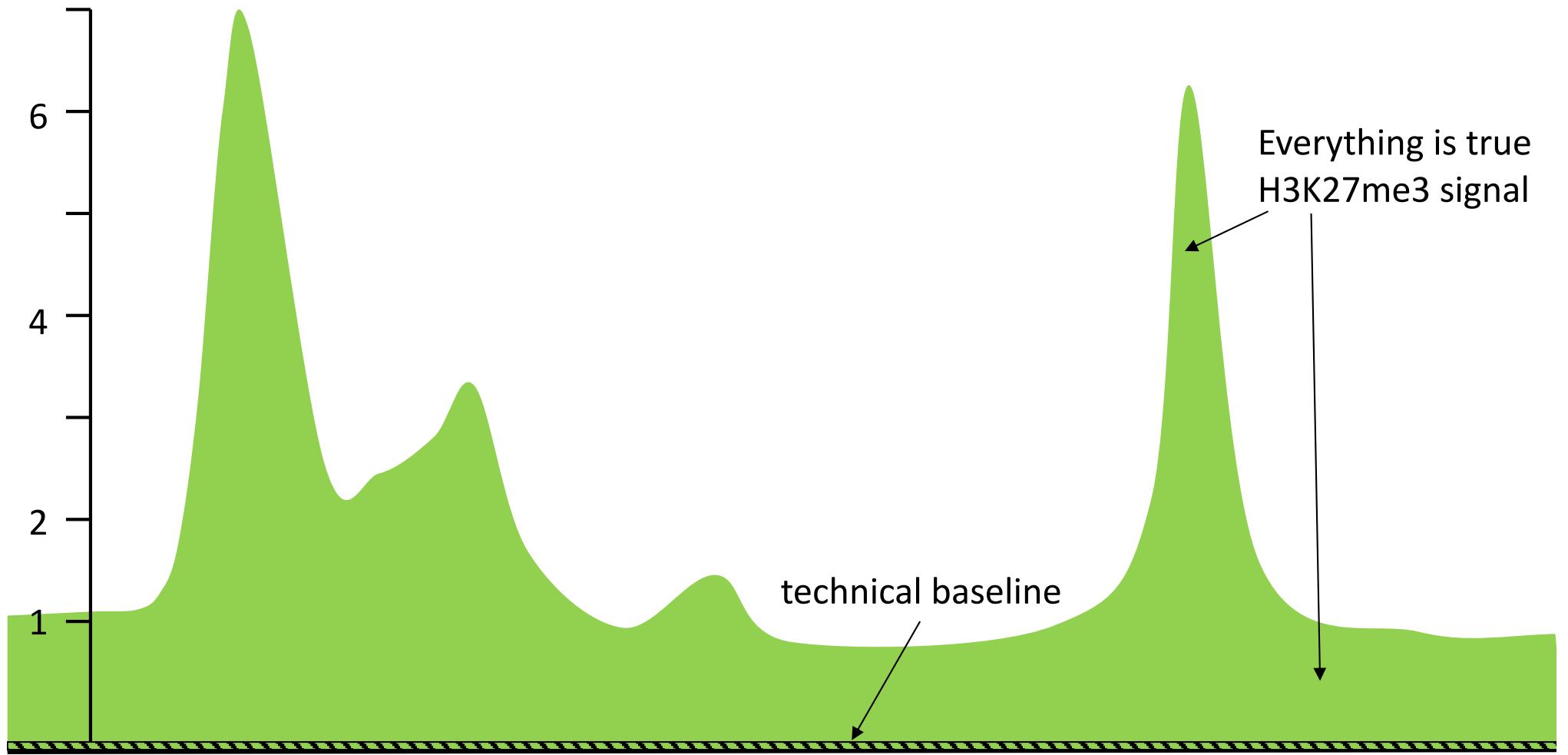
# Comparison normal and quantitative ChIP

Comparing naïve and ‘primed’ mouse embryonic stem cells

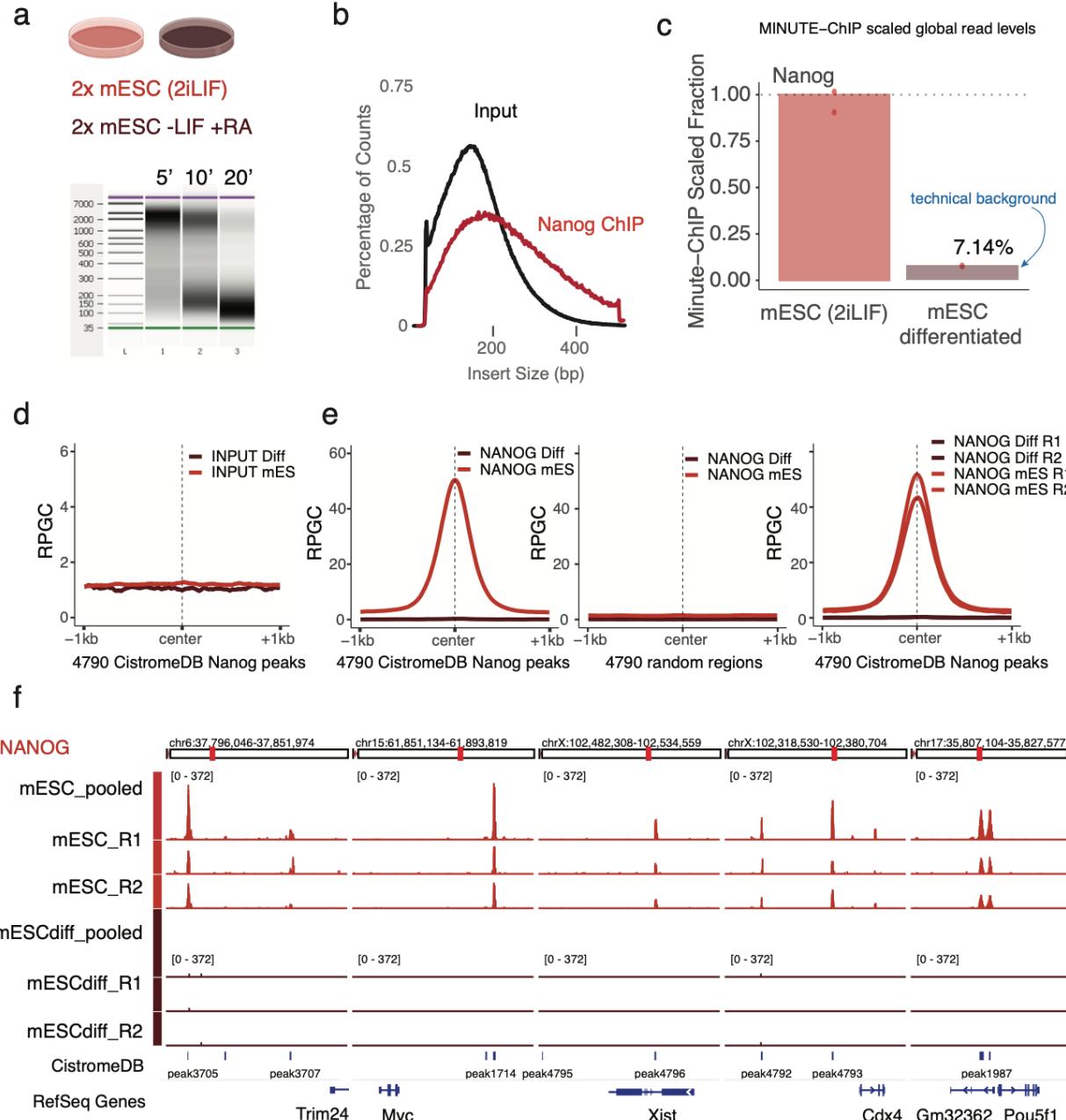


# Multiplexed ChIP has very little technical background





# MINUTE-ChIP for transcription factors



# Excercise – Reanalysis of MINUTE-ChIP data

## MINUTE-ChIP

- [Background](#)
- [Primary analysis](#)
  - [Conda environment](#)
  - [Files](#)
  - [Running Minute](#)
  - [Scaling info](#)
  - [IGV tracks](#)
- [Downstream analysis](#)
  - [Files](#)
  - [Looking at bivalent genes](#)
  - [Genome-wide bin distribution](#)

Article | [Open Access](#) | [Published: 30 May 2022](#)

## Polycomb repressive complex 2 shields naïve human pluripotent cells from trophectoderm differentiation

[Banushree Kumar](#), [Carmen Navarro](#), [Nerges Winblad](#), [John P. Schell](#), [Cheng Zhao](#), [Jere Weltner](#),  
[Laura Baqué-Vidal](#), [Angelo Salazar Mantero](#), [Sophie Petropoulos](#), [Fredrik Lanner](#)✉ & [Simon J. Elsässer](#)✉

*Nature Cell Biology* **24**, 845–857 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

# Questions?

[simon.elsässer@scilifelab.se](mailto:simon.elsässer@scilifelab.se)

