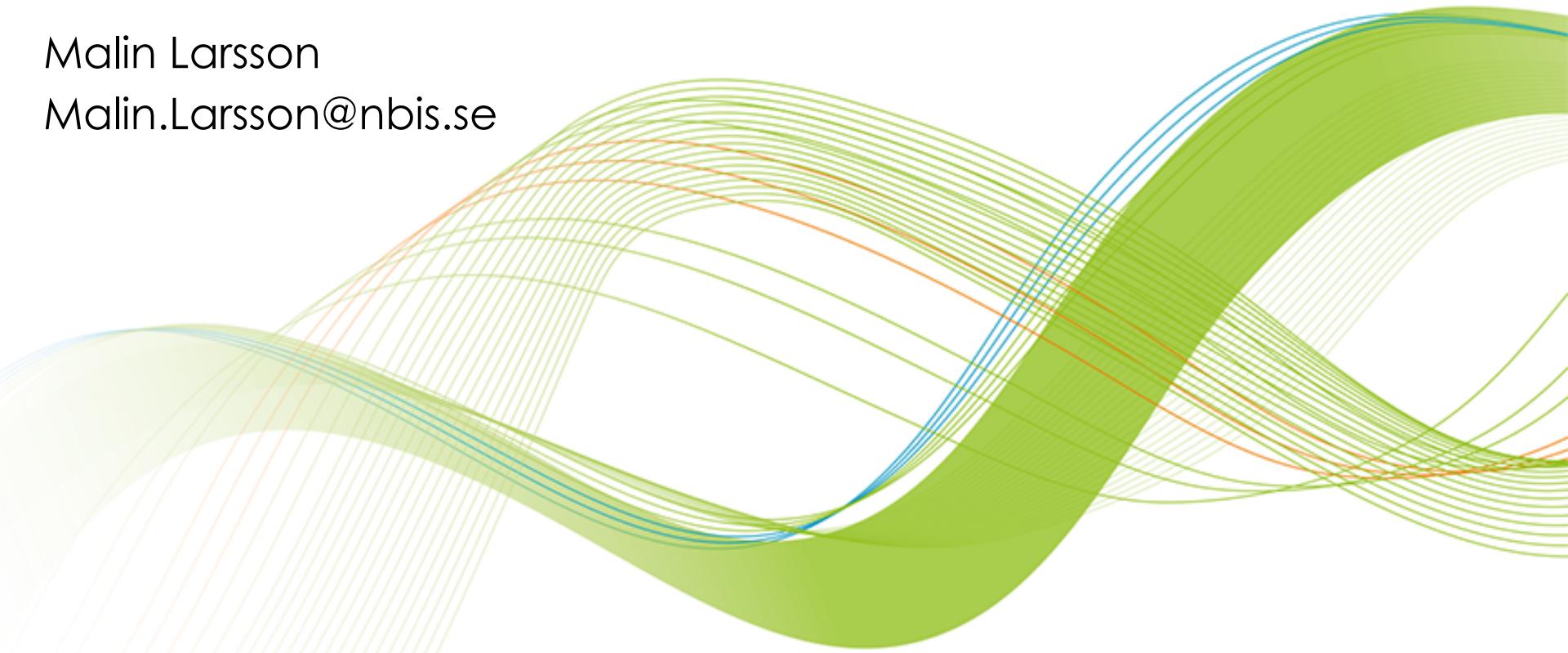

Variant Calling Workflows

Malin Larsson

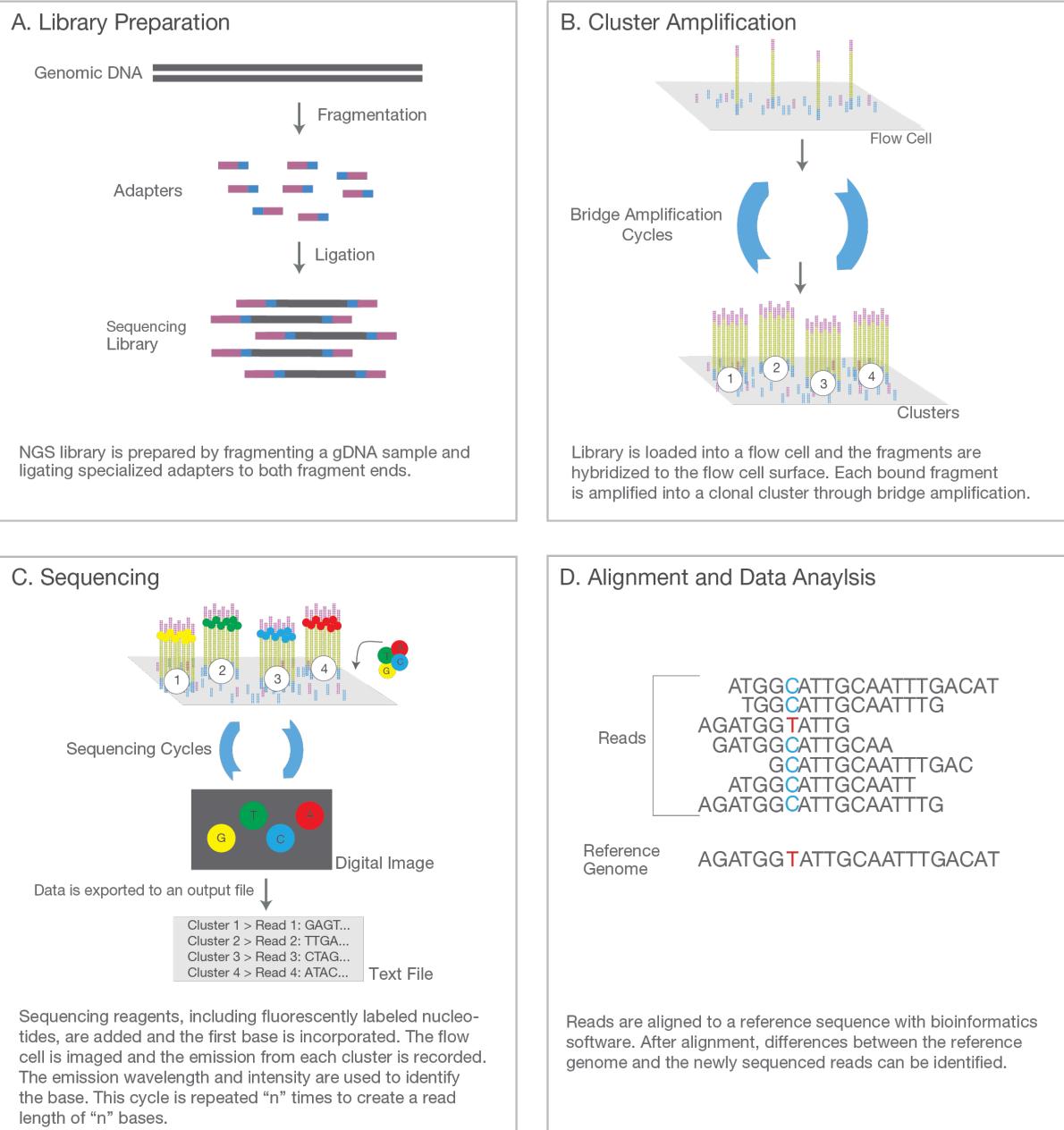
Malin.Larsson@nbis.se



Talk Overview

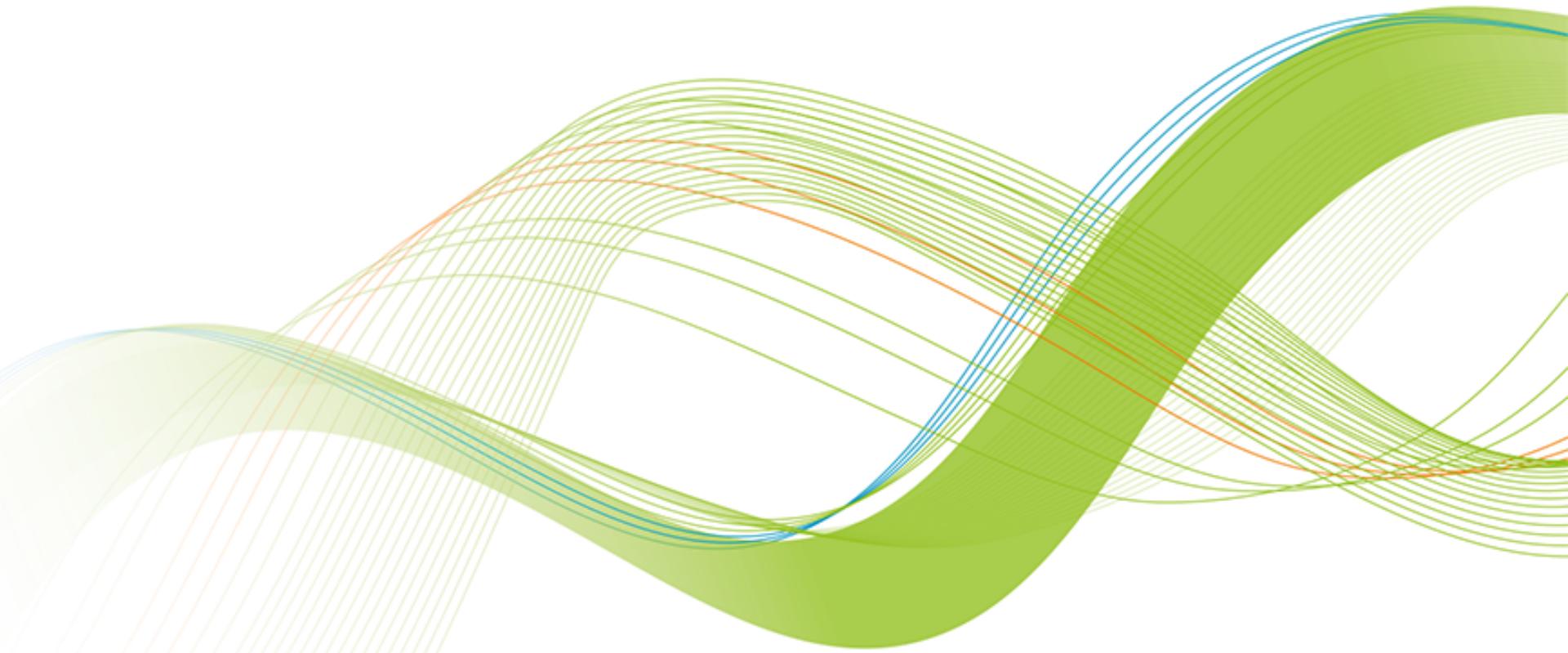
- The reference genome
- Genetic variation
- Workflows
- Basic variant calling in one sample
- Basic variant calling in cohort
- GATK Best practices

Illumina Sequencing

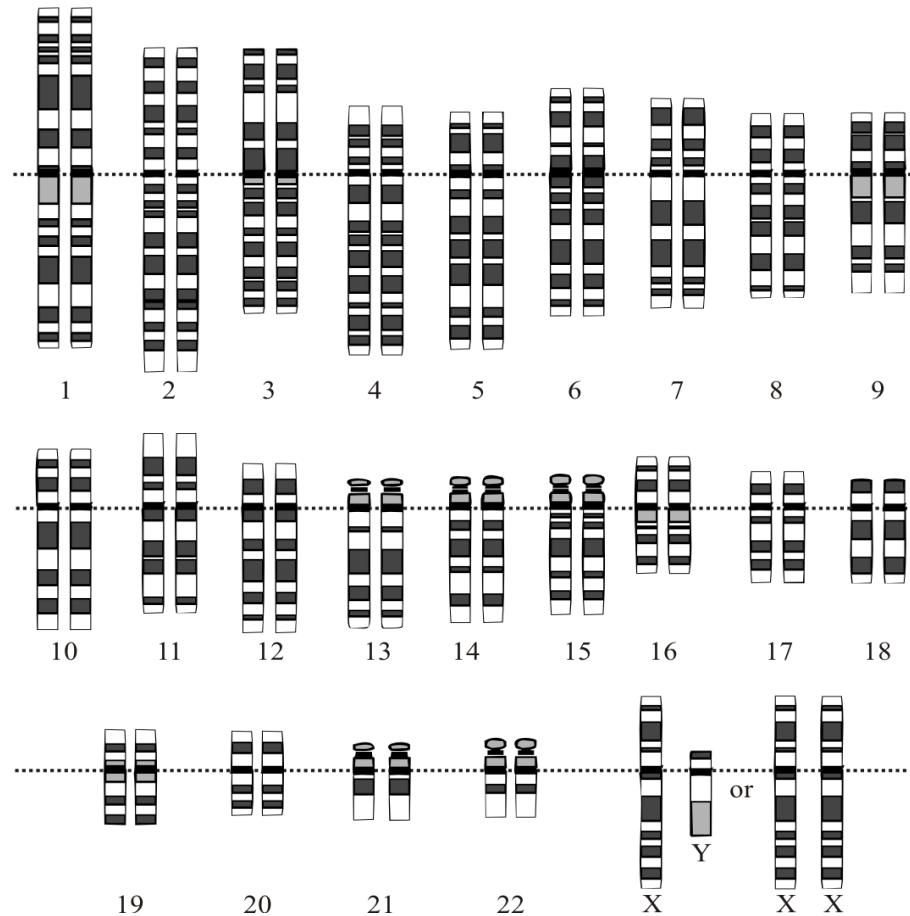


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCd6B5HRaZ8>

The reference genome sequence



Each chromosome...



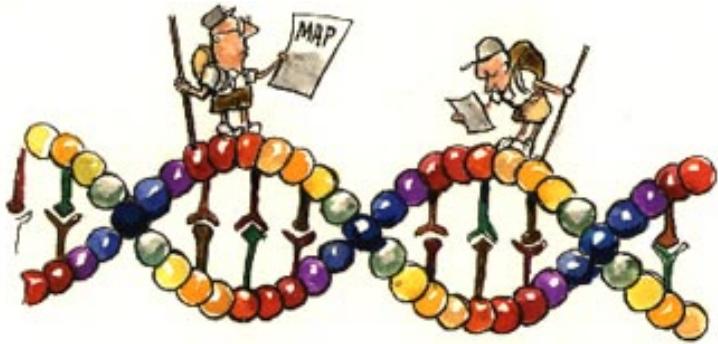
...represented by a sequence

>chr1

```
GATCACAGGTCTATCACCTATTACCACTCACGGGAGCTCTCCATGCATTGGTATTTCGTCTG  
GGGGGTGTGCACGCGATAGCATTGCGAGACGCTGGAGCCGGAGCACCTATGTCGAGTATCTGTC  
TTTGATT CCTGCCTCATTCTATT ATTATTCACGTTCAATATTACAGGCGAACATACTAC  
TAAAGTGTGTTAATTAATTAATGCTTGTAGGACATAATAACAATTGAATGTCTGCACAGCCGC  
TTTCCACACAGACATCATAACAAAAAAATTCCACCAAACCCCCCCCCTCCCCCGCTCTGCCACA  
GCACTTAAACACATCTCTGCCAAACCCAAAAACAAAGAACCTAACACCAGCCTAACCAAGATTTC  
AAATTTATCTTAGGCGGTATGCACTTTAACAGTCACCCCCCAACTAACACATTATTTCCCCT  
CCCACTCCATACTACTAATCTCATCAATACAACCCCCGCCATCCTACCCAGCACACACACACCG  
CTGCTAACCCCATACCCCGAACCAACCAACCCCAAAGACACCCCCCACAGTTATGTAGCTTACC  
TCCTCAAAGCAATACACTGAAAATGTTAGACGGGCTCACATCACCCATAAACAAATAGGTTGG  
TCCTAGCCTTCTATTAGCTCTTAGTAAGATTACACATGCAAGCATCCCCGTTCCAGTGAGTTCAC  
CCTCTAAATCACCACGATAAAAGAGGCGGTATGCACTTTAACAGTCACCCCCAGGCGGTATGCA
```

The reference genome

A reference genome is a haploid nucleic acid sequence which represents a species genome.



In 2001: The International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium published the first draft of the human genome sequence. It contained 150,000 gaps.

HG19: 250 gaps

HG38 is the latest version of the human reference genome, but we will work with HG19.

Keep track of the Reference version

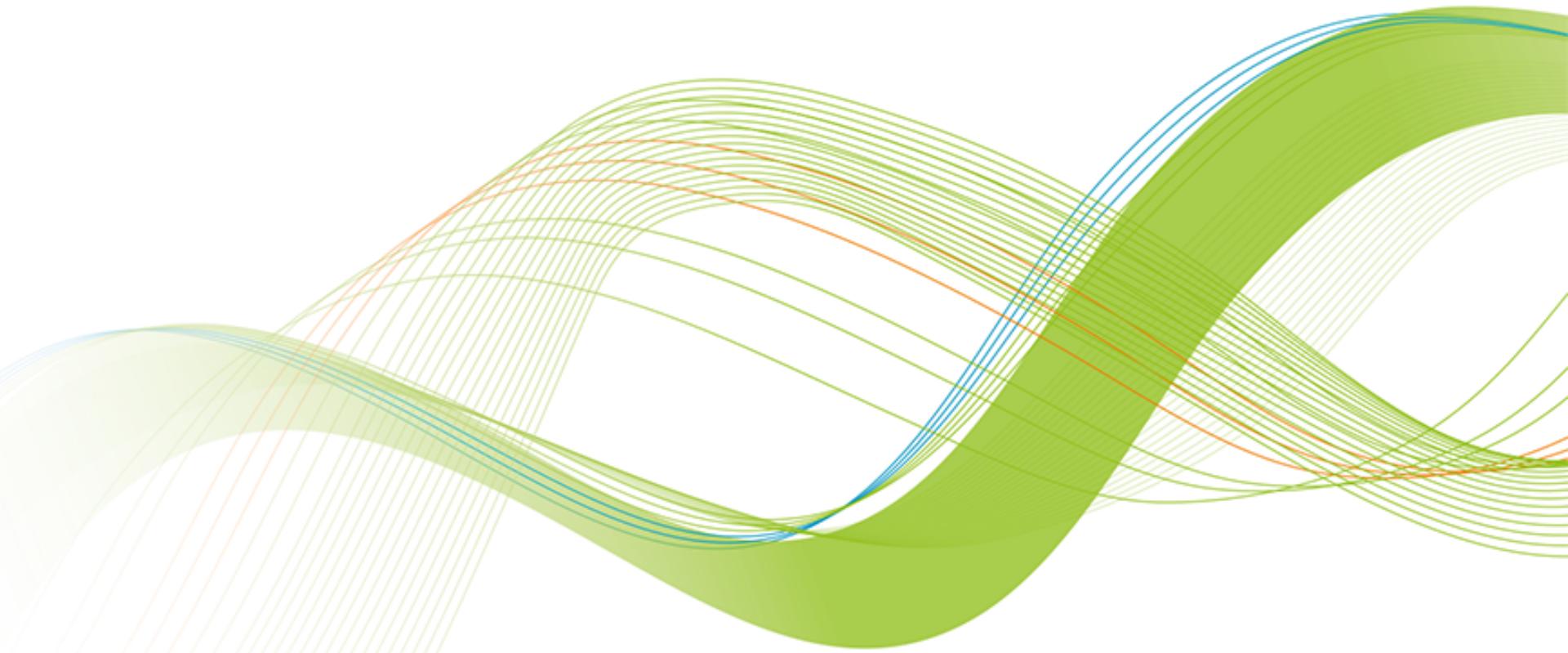
The reference genome sequence is used as input in many bioinformatics applications for NGS data:

- mapping
- visualizing
- variant calling
- annotation
- etc

You must keep track of which version of the reference genome your data was mapped to.

The same reference sequence must be used in all downstream analyses.

Genetic variation

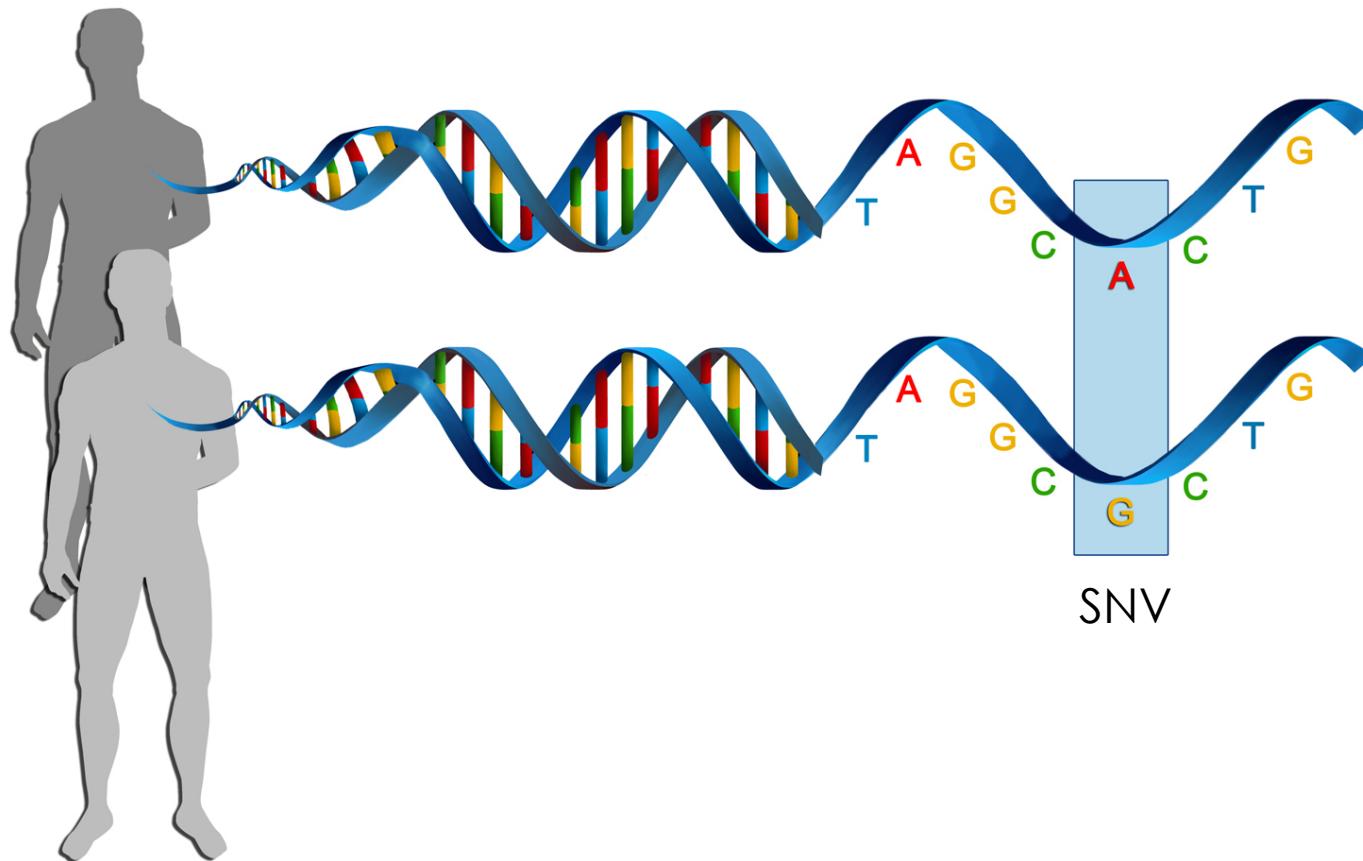


Genetic Variation



Genetic variation = differences in DNA among individuals of the same species

Single Nucleotide Variants (SNVs)



Reference- and Alternative Alleles

GGCTTTCCAACAGGTATATCTTCCCCGCTAGCTA**A**GCTAGCTACTTCAAAT

Reference allele AGCT**A**GCTA

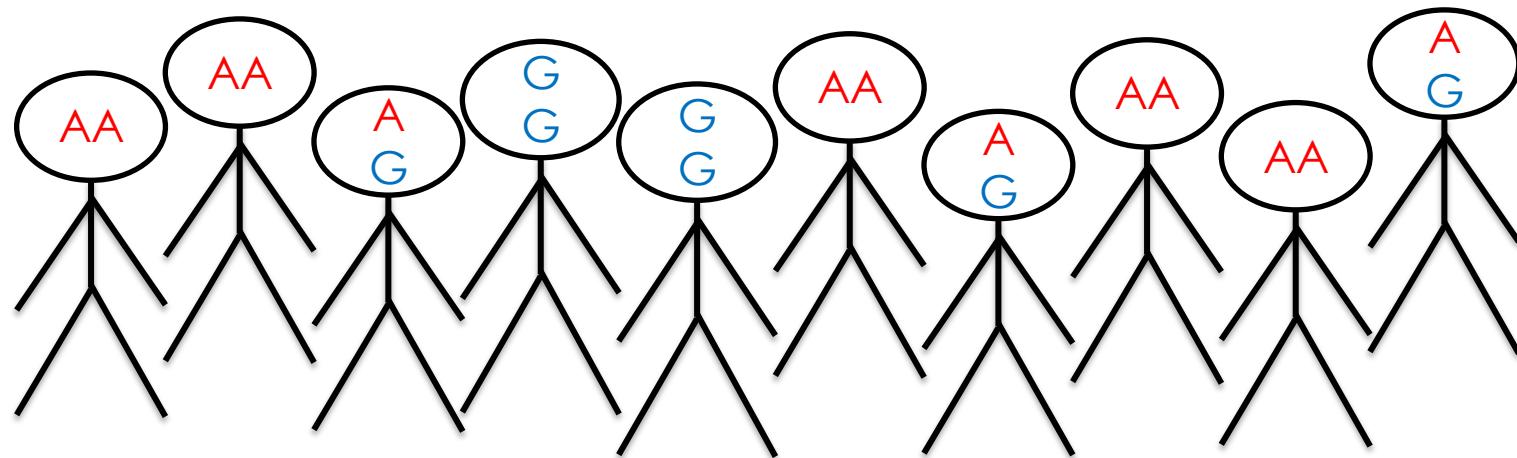
Alternative allele AGCT**G**GCTA

Reference allele = the allele in the reference genome

Alternative allele = the allele NOT in the reference genome

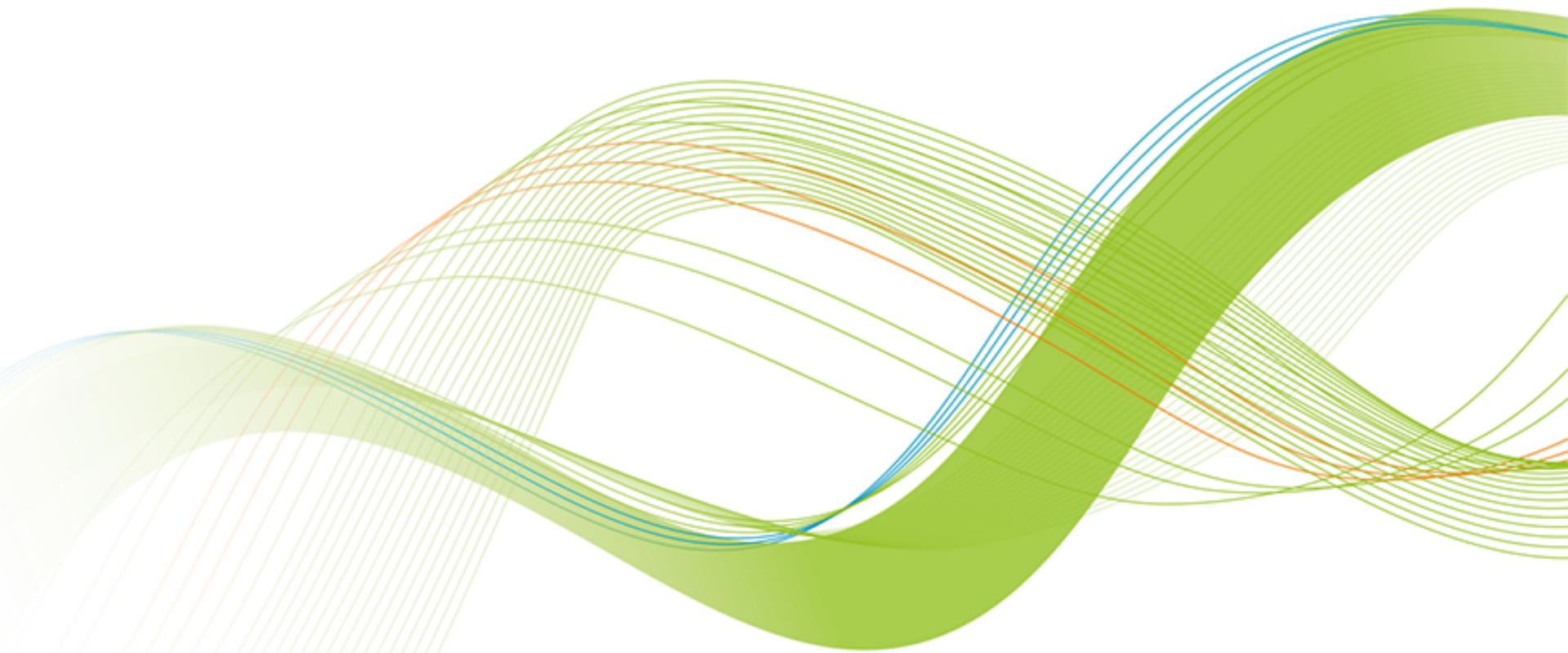
Allele frequency in a population

AACAGGTATATCTTCCCCGCTAGCTA**G**GCTAGCTACTTCCTTAGGGACTGTA
AGCT**G**GCTA

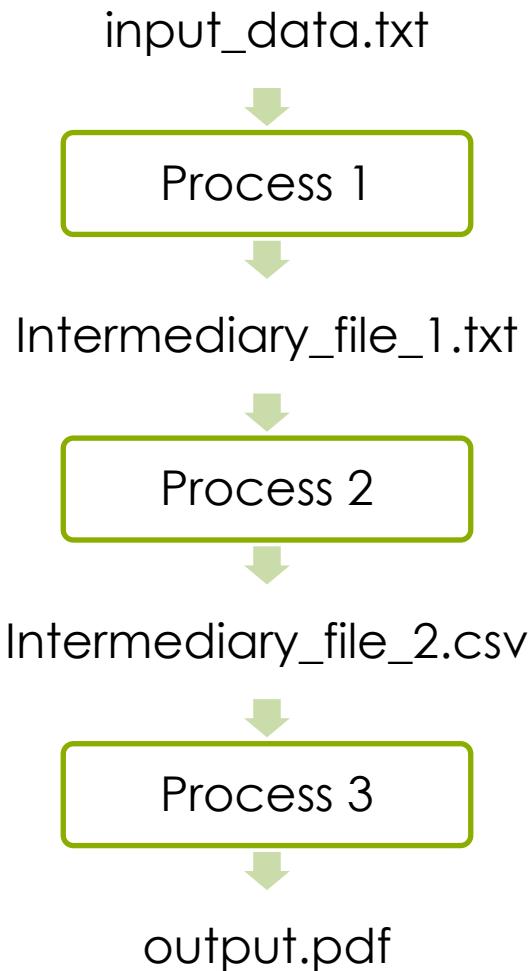


Genotypes:	AA	AG	GG
Genotype frequency:	5/10	3/10	2/10
Frequency of allele A:	$13/20 = 0.65$		
Frequency of allele G:		$7/20 = 0.35$	

Introduciton to workflows



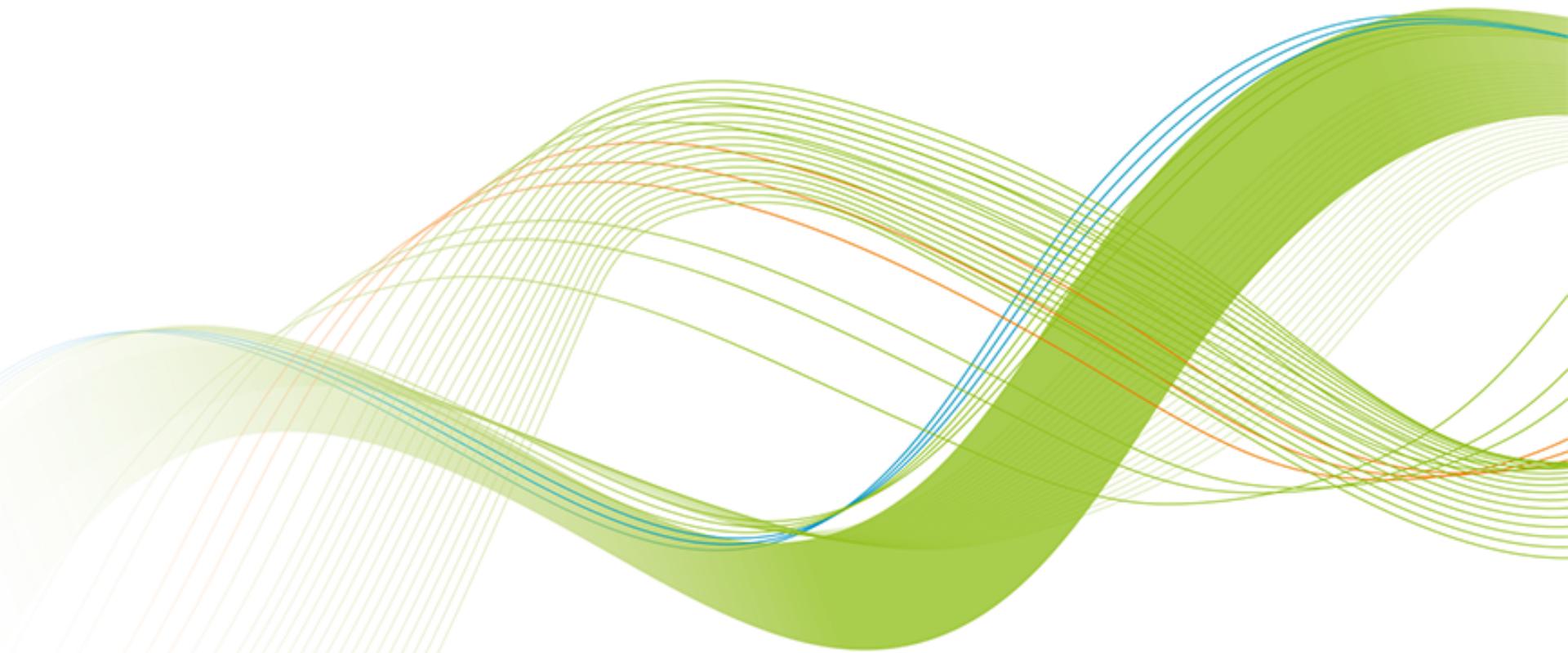
A bioinformatics workflow



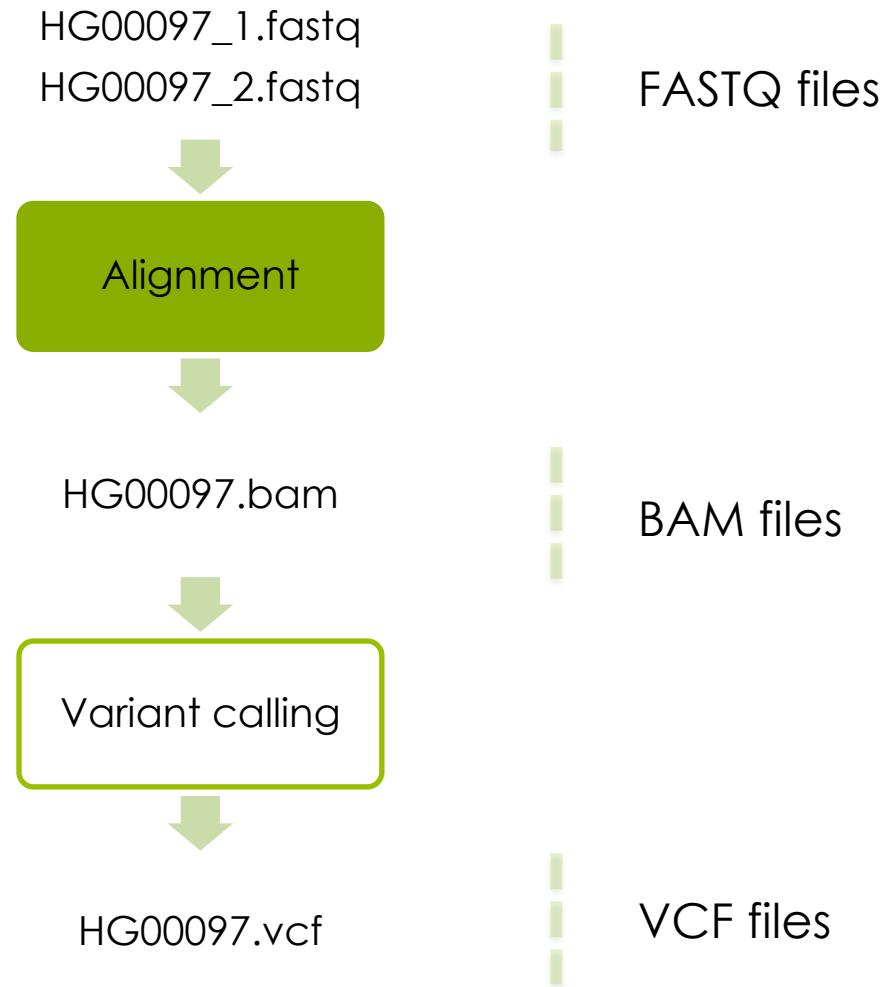
Workflow conventions

- Each process has an input and output file(s)
- Create a new output file in each process – don't overwrite the input file
- Use informative file names
- Include information of the process in output file name

Basic Variant Calling in one sample



Basic variant calling in one sample



Alignment

```
module load bwa
```

Read TCGATCC

Reference GACCTCA~~TCGATCC~~CACTG

Alignment

```
module load bwa
```

Read TCGATCC

Reference GACCTCA~~TCGATCC~~CACTG

Read TCGATCC

Reference GACCTCA~~TCGATCC~~CACTG

Burrows-Wheeler Aligner

<http://bio-bwa.sourceforge.net>

Burrows-Wheeler Aligner

Introduction

BWA is a software package for mapping low-divergent sequences against a large reference genome, such as the human genome. It consists of three algorithms: BWA-backtrack, BWA-SW and BWA-MEM. The first algorithm is designed for Illumina sequence reads up to 100bp, while the rest two for longer sequences ranged from 70bp to 1Mbp. BWA-MEM and BWA-SW share similar features such as long-read support and split alignment, but BWA-MEM, which is the latest, is generally recommended for high-quality queries as it is faster and more accurate. BWA-MEM also has better performance than BWA-backtrack for 70–100bp Illumina reads.

FAQ

How can I cite BWA?

The short read alignment component (bwa-short) has been published:

Li H. and Durbin R. (2009) Fast and accurate short read alignment with Burrows-Wheeler Transform. Bioinformatics, 25:1754–60. [PMID: [19451168](#)]

If you use BWA-SW, please cite:

Li H. and Durbin R. (2010) Fast and accurate long-read alignment with Burrows-Wheeler Transform. Bioinformatics, Epub. [PMID: [20080505](#)]

BWA:

[SF project page](#)
[SF download page](#)
[Mailing list](#)
[BWA manual page](#)
[Repository](#)

Links:

[SAMtools](#)
[MAQ](#)

Burrows-Wheeler transform of reference genome

0	googol\$	0	\$googo l
1	oogol\$g	1	gol\$go o
2	ogol\$go	2	0 googol \$
3	gol\$goo	3	l\$goog o
4	ol\$goog	4	2 ogol\$g o
5	l\$googo	5	4 ol\$goo g
6	\$googol	6	1 oogol\$ g

String Sorting

Pos

X = googol\$

i S(i) B[i]
 ↓ ↓
 (6,3,0,5,2,4,1)
 lo\$oogg

Alignment

module load bwa



Alignment

module load bwa



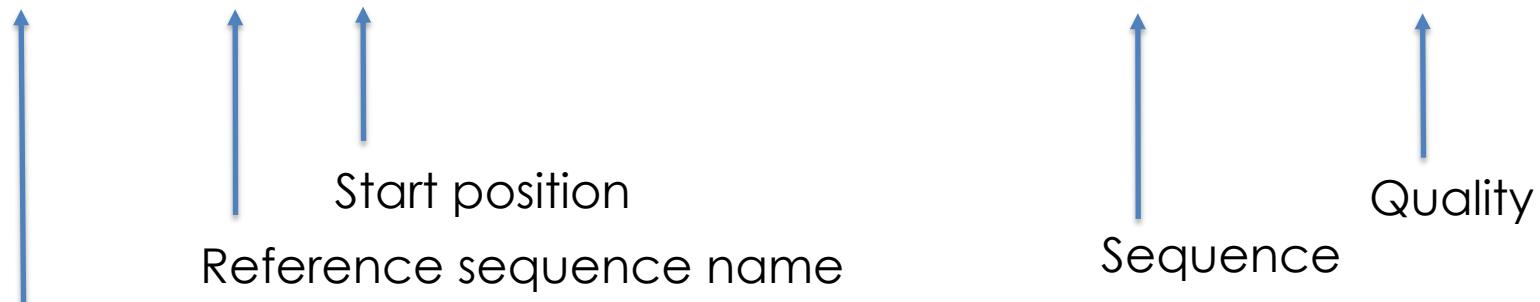
Output from mapping - Sam format

HEADER SECTION

```
@HD VN:1.6SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:2 LN:243199373
@PG ID:bwaPN:bwaVN:0.7.17-r1188 CL:bwa mem -t 1 human_g1k_v37_chr2.fasta HG00097_1.fq HG00097_2.fq
@PG ID:samtools PN:samtools PP:bwaVN:1.10 CL:samtools sort
@PG ID:samtools.1 PN:samtools PP:samtools VN:1.10 CL:samtools view -H HG00097.bam
```

ALIGNMENT SECTION

Read_001	99	2	3843448	0	101M	=	3843625	278	TTTGGTTCCATATGAAC	TTT
Read_001	147	2	3843625	0	101M	=	3843448	-278	TTATTCATTGAGCAGTGG	TG
Read_002	163	2	4210055	0	101M	=	4210377	423	TGGTACCAAAACAGAGA	TA
Read_003	99	2	4210066	0	101M	=	4210317	352	CAGAGATATAGATCAATG	GGA



Read name
(usually more
complicated)

Convert to Bam

Bam file is a binary representation of the Sam file

Read groups

- Link *sample id, library prep, flowcell* and *sequencing run* to the reads.
- Good for error tracking!
- Often needed for variant calling
- Detailed description in tutorial or
<https://gatkforums.broadinstitute.org/gatk/discussion/6472/read-groups>

RGID = Read group identifier usually derived from the combination of the sample id and run id

RGLB = Library prep identifier

RGPL = Platform (for us ILLUMINA)

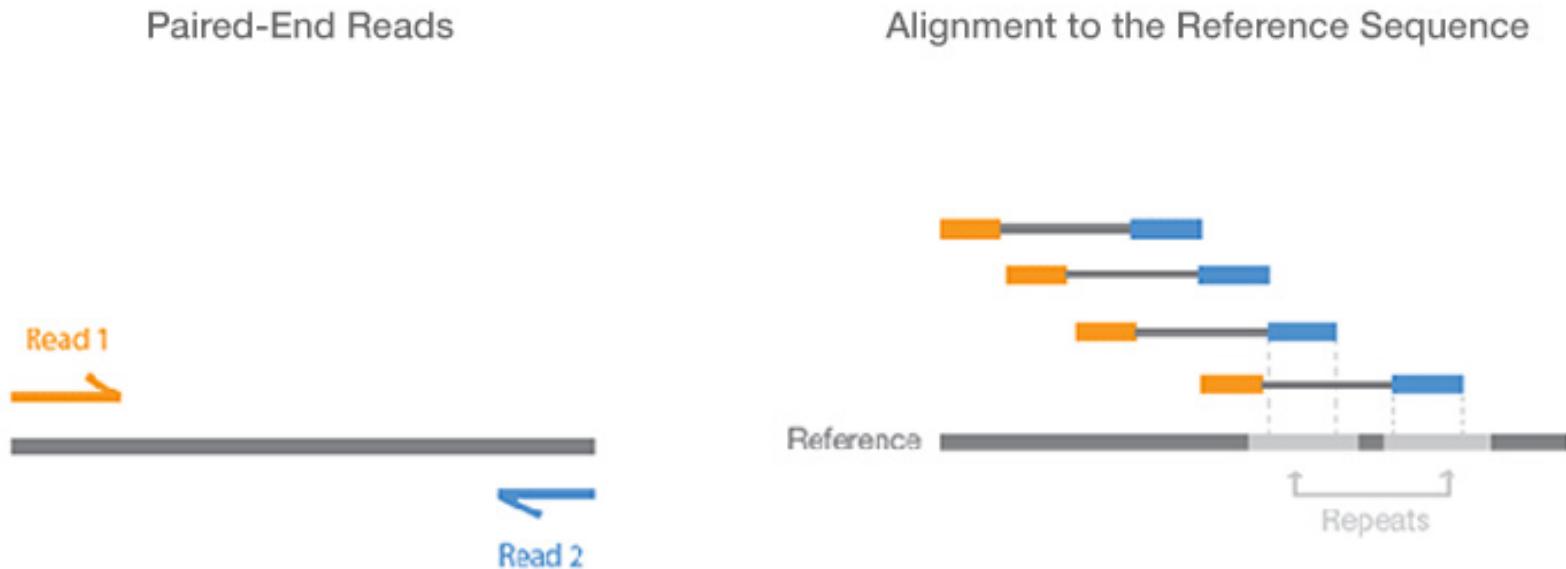
RGPU = Run identifier usually barcode of flowcell

RGSM = Sample name

File Indices

- Most large files we work with, such as the reference genome, need an index
- Allows efficient random access
- Different indices for different file-types
- Bwa index = Burrows-Wheeler transform of reference genome (several files)
- Needs index: fasta, bam vcf files

Paired-End data



Paired-end sequencing enables both ends of the DNA fragment to be sequenced. Because the distance between each paired read is known, alignment algorithms can use this information to map the reads over repetitive regions more precisely. This results in much better alignment of the reads, especially across difficult-to-sequence, repetitive regions of the genome.

Paired-end data

The forward and reverse reads are stored in two fastq files.

The order of pairs and naming is identical, except the designation of forward and reverse.

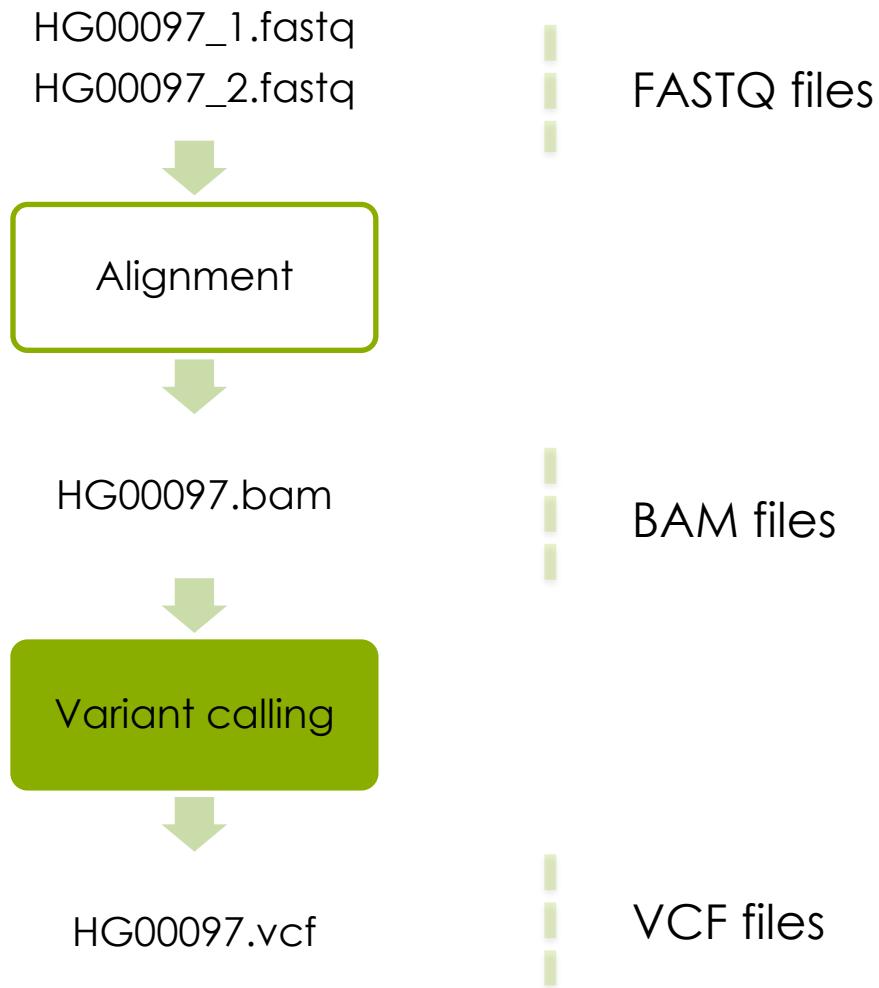
ID_R1_001.fastq

```
@HISEQ:100:C3MG8ACXX:5:1101:1160:2  
197 1:N:0:ATCACG  
CAGTTGCGATGAGAGCGTTGAGAAGTATAATAGG  
AGTTAAACTGAGTAACAGGATAAGAAATAGTGAG  
ATATGGAACGTTGTGGTCTGAAAGAAGATGT  
+  
B@CFFFFFFHHHHGJJJJJJJJFHHIIIIJJ  
JIHGIIJJJJJIJIIJJJJIIJJJJIIIEIHHIJ  
HGHHHHHDFFFEDDDDDCDDDCDDDDDDCDC
```

ID_R2_001.fastq

```
@HISEQ:100:C3MG8ACXX:5:1101:1160:  
2197 2:N:0:ATCACG  
CTTCGTCCACTTCATTATTCCCTTCATACATG  
CTCTCCGGTTAGGGTACTCTGACCTGGCCTT  
TTTCAAGACGTCCCTGACTTGATCTGAAACG  
+  
CCCFFFFFFHHHHJJJJIIJJJJJJJJJJJJJJ  
JJJJJJJJIIJGIJHBGHIIIIJJJJJJJJJJJJ  
JJJHFFFFFFDDDDDDDDDDDDDDDEDCCDDDD
```

Basic variant calling in one sample



Detecting variants in reads

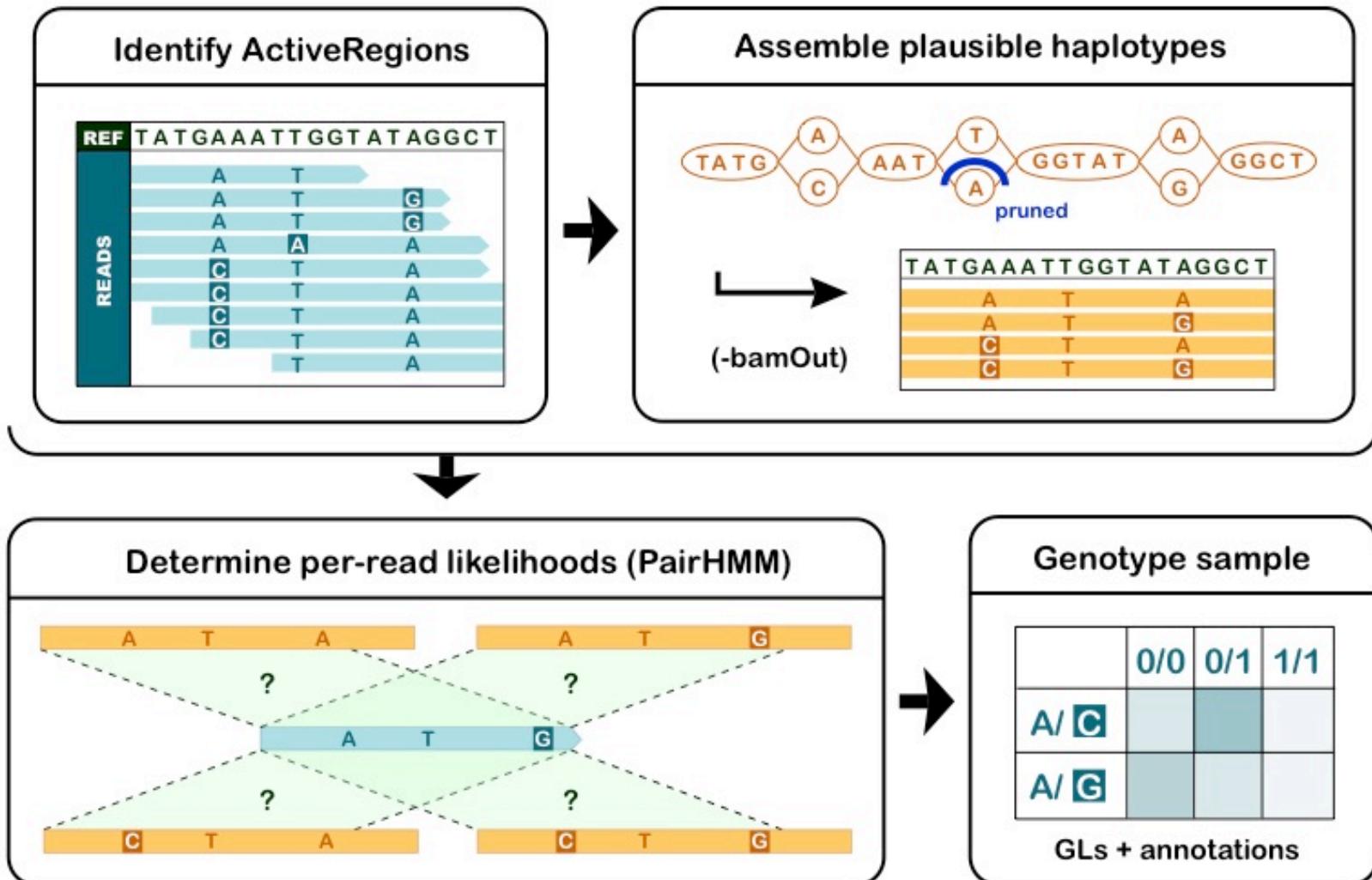
Reference:	...GTGCGTAGACTGCTAGATCGAAGA...
Sample:	...GTGCGTAGACTG A TAGATCGAAGA...
	...GTGCGTAGACTG A TAGATCGAAGA...

Allelic depths:

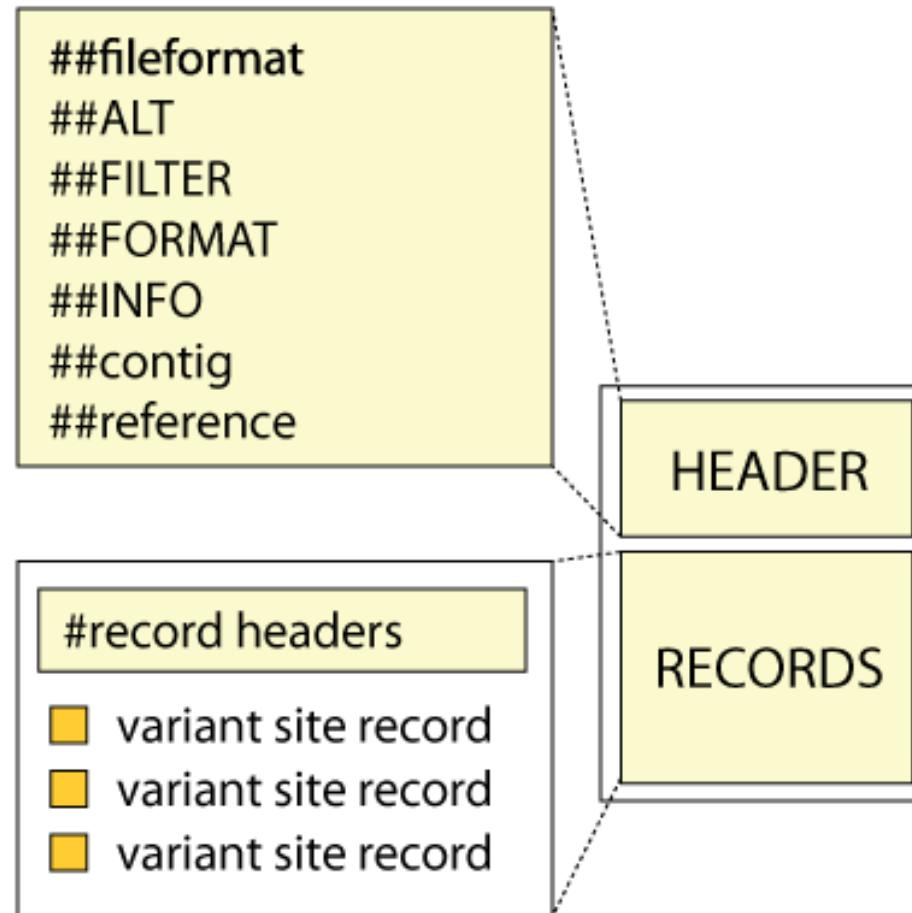
#reference alleles in a position

#alternative alleles in a position

Variant Calling HaplotypeCaller



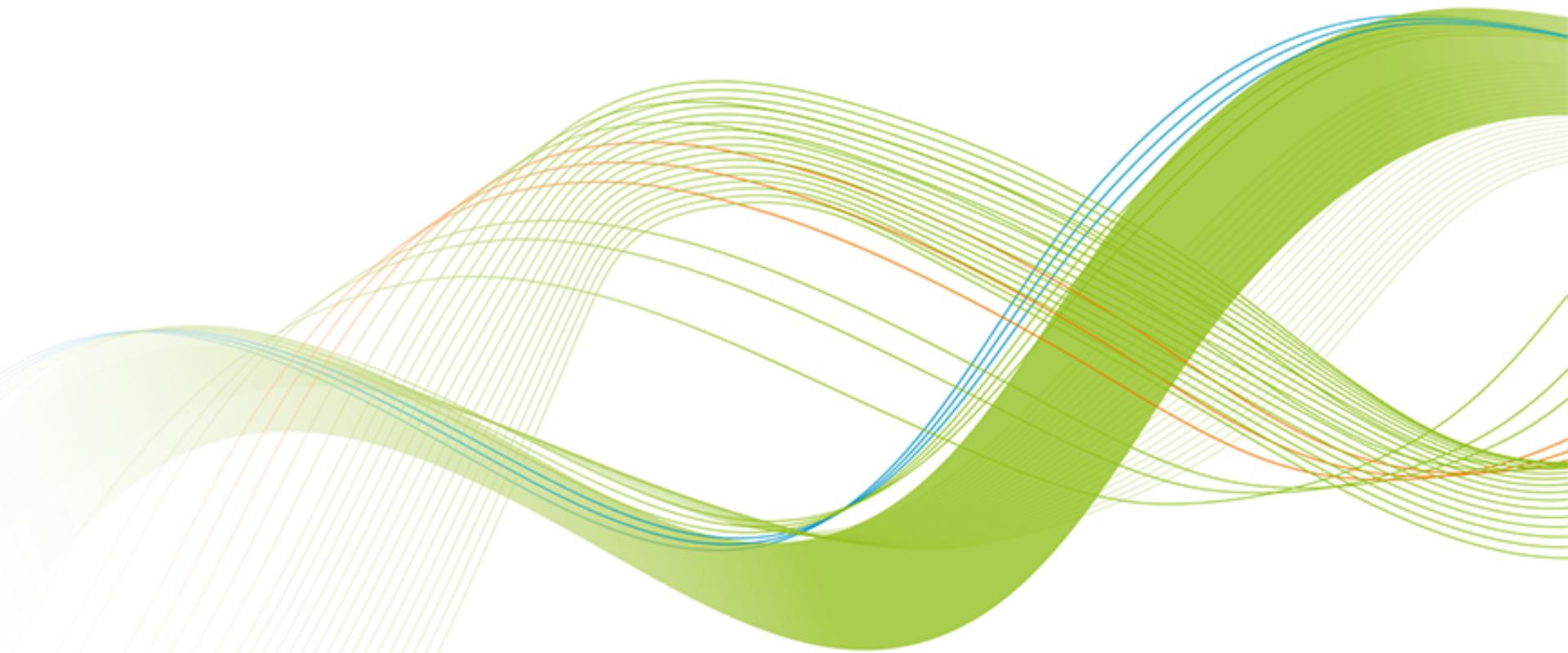
Variant Call Format (VCF)



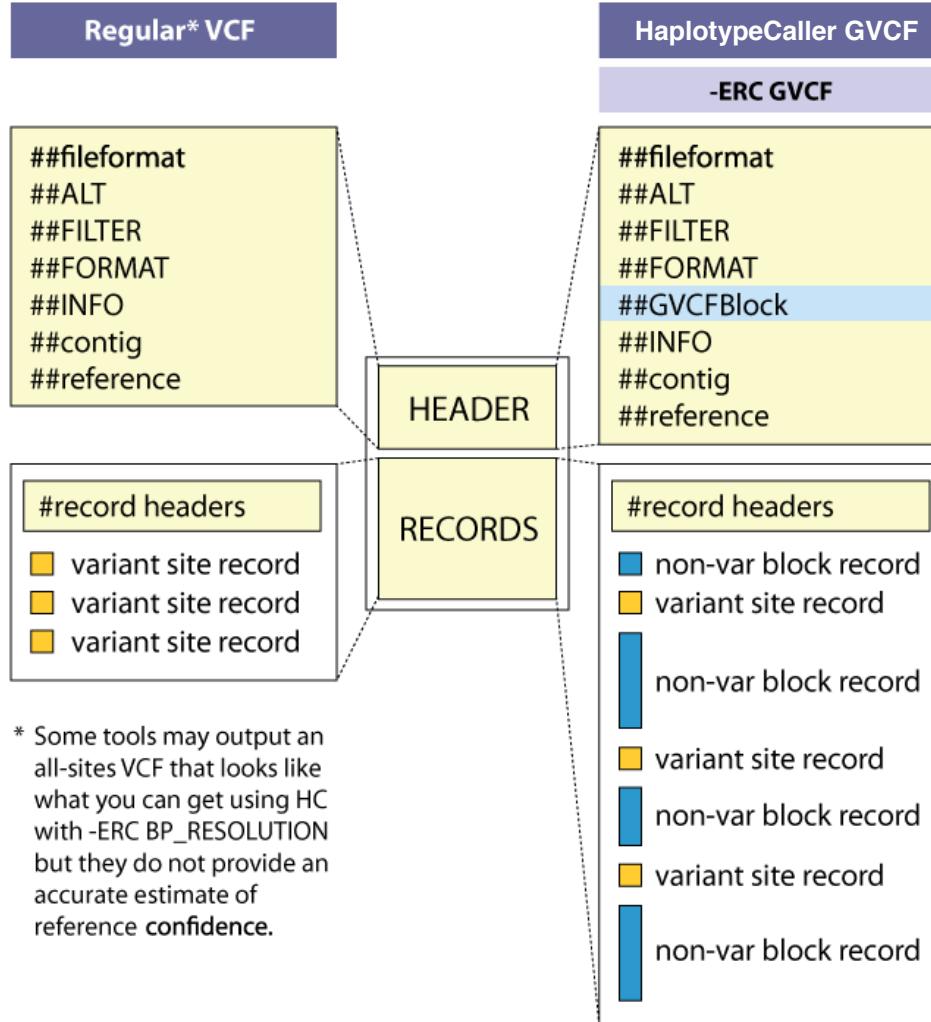
Variant Call Format (VCF)

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.3
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens"...
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP 0|0:48:1
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP 0|0:49:3
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP 0|0:54:7
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0|1:35:4
```

Variant calling in cohort

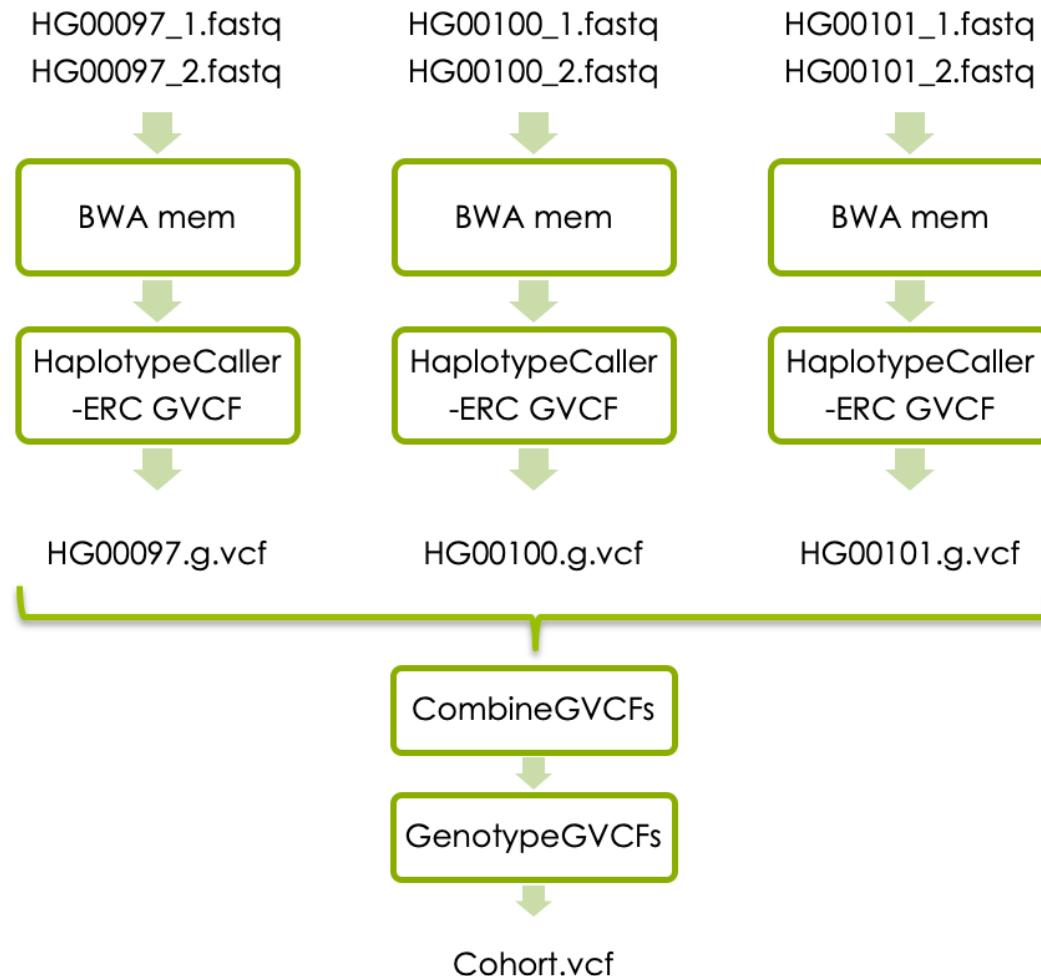


GVCF Files are valid VCFs with extra information



- GVCF has records for all sites, whether there is a variant call there or not.
- The records include an accurate estimation of how confident we are in the determination that the sites are homozygous-reference or not.
- Adjacent non-variant sites merged into blocks

Basic variant calling in cohort

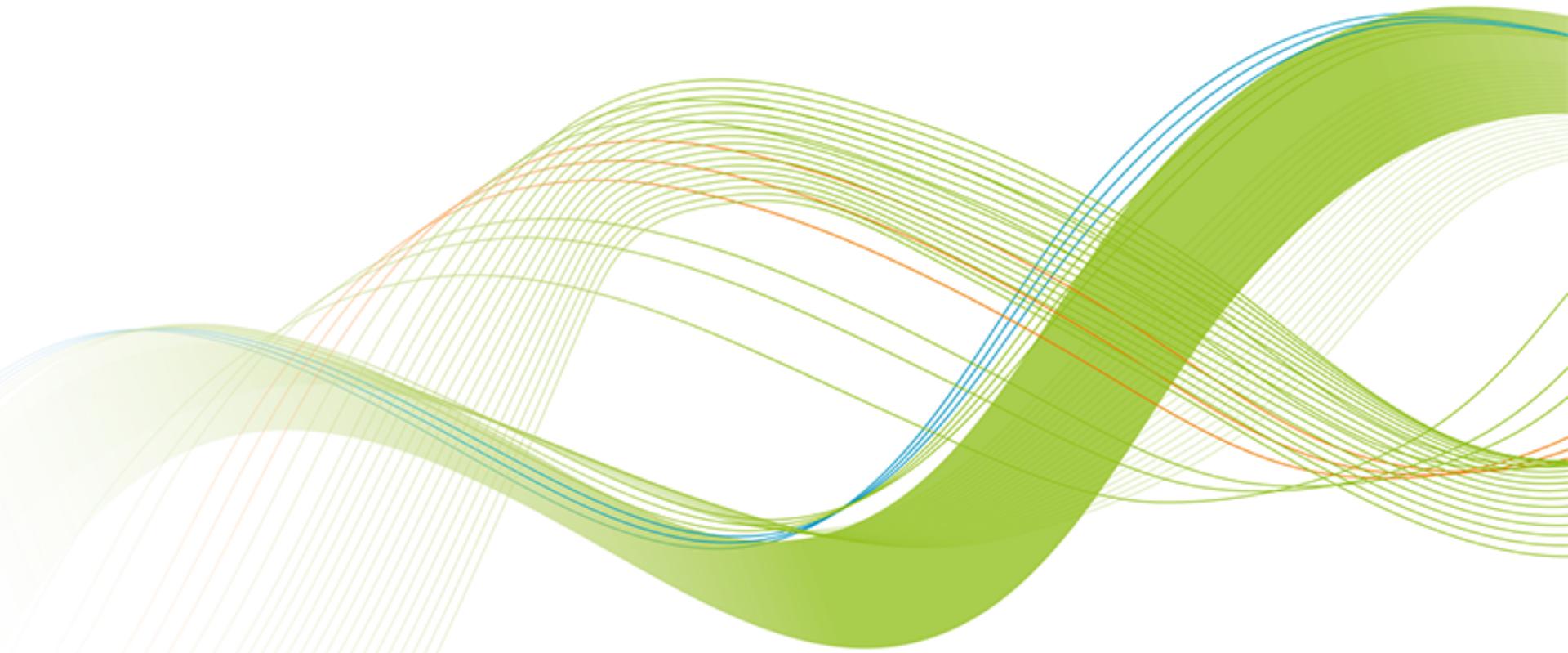


Variant Call Format (VCF)

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.3
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens"...
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP 0|0:48:1 1|0:48:8 1|1:43:5
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP 0|0:49:3 0|1:3:5 0|0:41:3
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP 0|0:54:7 0|0:48:4 0|0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0|1:35:4 0|2:17:2 1|1:40:3
```



Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK) best practice variant discovery



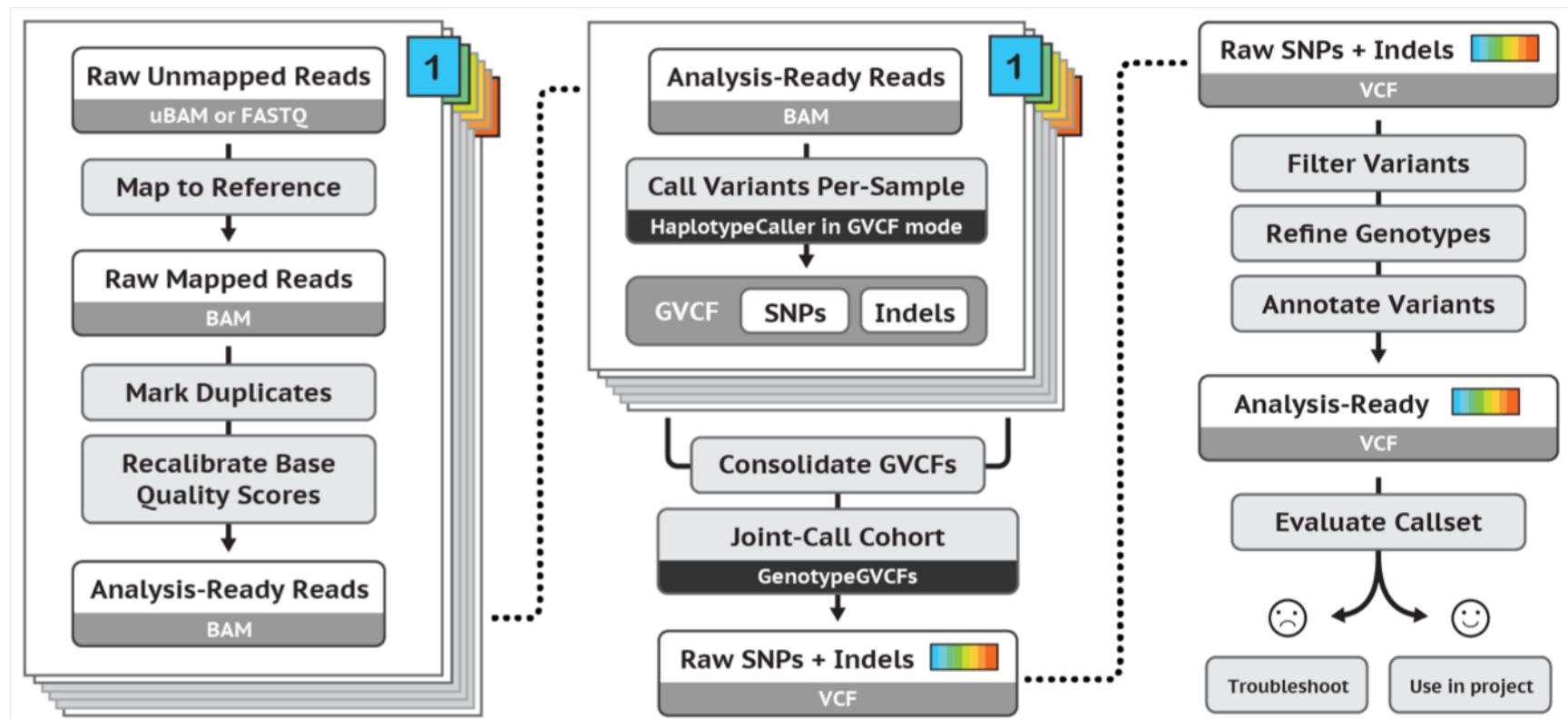
<https://gatk.broadinstitute.org>

The screenshot shows the official website for the Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK). At the top, there is a navigation bar with links to "User Guide", "Tool Index", "Blog", "Forum", "DRAGEN-GATK", "Events", "Download GATK4", and "Sign in". The main header features the "gatk" logo and the title "Genome Analysis Toolkit" with the subtitle "Variant Discovery in High-Throughput Sequencing Data". Below the header is a central diagram illustrating the workflow: "Sequencing" leads to "READS", which then connects to the "gatk best practices™" logo, and finally results in "VARIANTS". A descriptive text block below the diagram states: "Developed in the Data Sciences Platform at the [Broad Institute](#), the toolkit offers a wide variety of tools with a primary focus on variant discovery and genotyping. Its powerful processing engine and high-performance computing features make it capable of taking on projects of any size. [Learn more](#)".

Find answers to your questions. Stay up to date on the latest topics. Ask questions and help others.

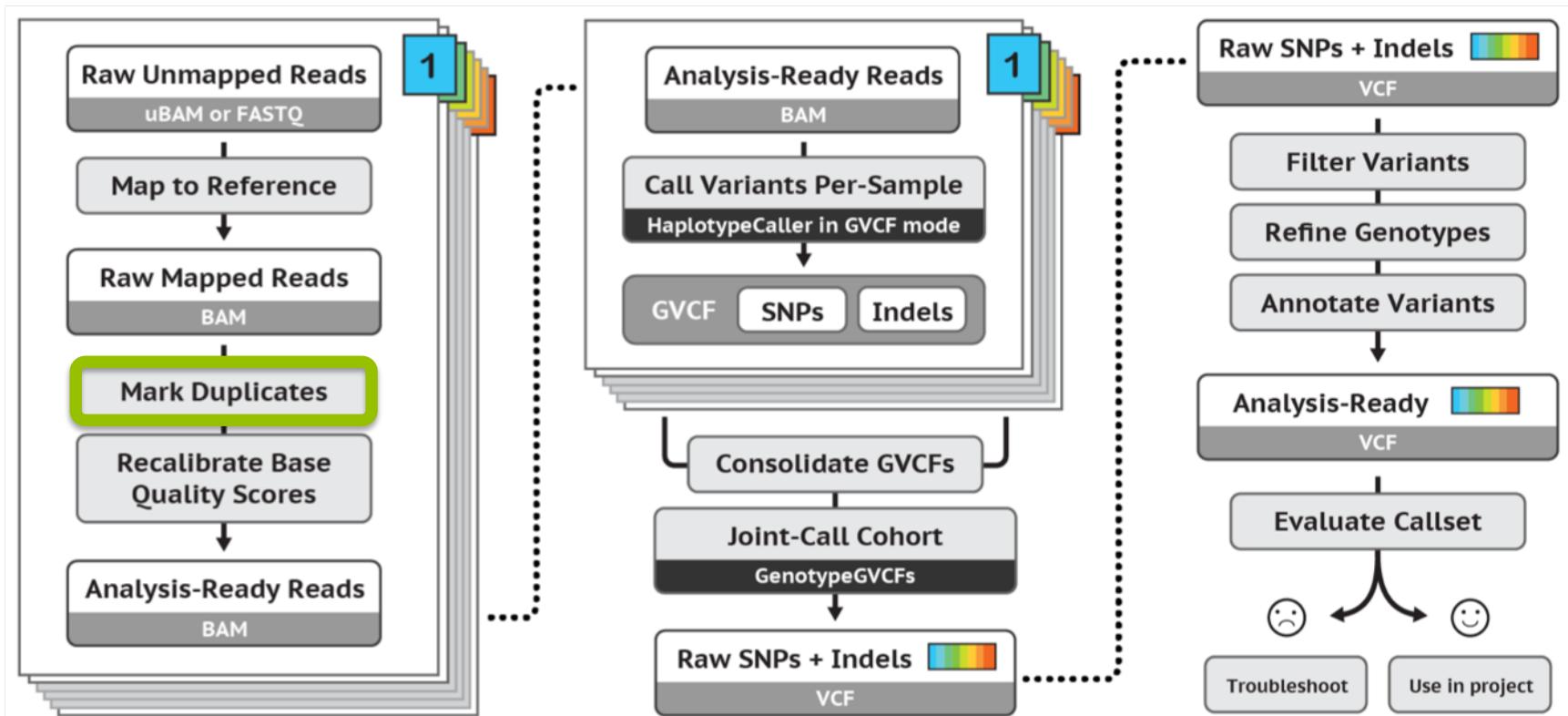
 Getting Started Best practices, tutorials, and other info to get you started	 Technical Documentation Algorithms, glossary, and other detailed resources	 Announcements Blog and events
 Tool Index Purpose, usage and options for each tool	 Forum Ask our team for help and report issues	 GATK Showcase on Terra Check out these fully configured workspaces
 DRAGEN-GATK Learn more about DRAGEN-GATK	 Download latest version of GATK The GATK package download includes all released GATK tools	 Run on Cloud
		 Run on HPC

GATK best practices workflow for variant discovery



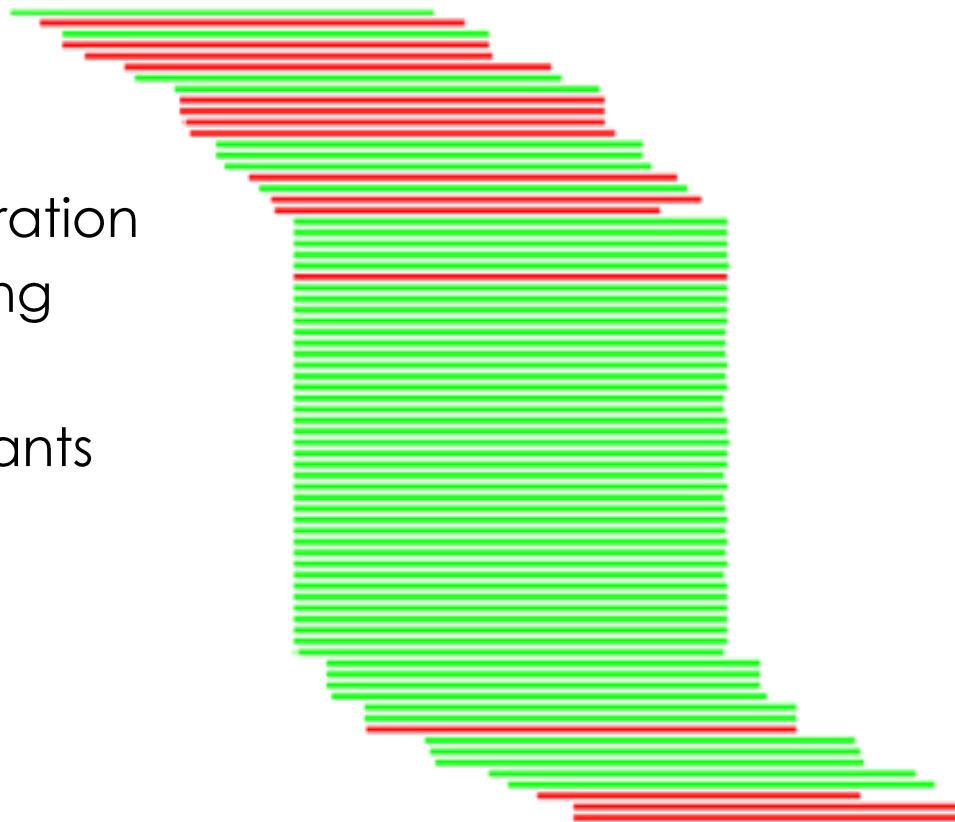
<https://software.broadinstitute.org/gatk/best-practices/>

Mark Duplicates



Duplicate reads

- PCR duplicates - library preparation
- Optical duplicates - sequencing
- Don't add unique information
- Gives false allelic ratios of variants
- Should be removed/marked



[User Guide](#)[Tool Index](#)[Blog](#)[Forum](#)[DRAGEN-GATK](#)

Need Help?

Search our documentation



[GATK](#) / [Tool Index](#) / [4.0.1.1](#)

MarkDuplicates (Picard)

[Follow](#)

GATK Team

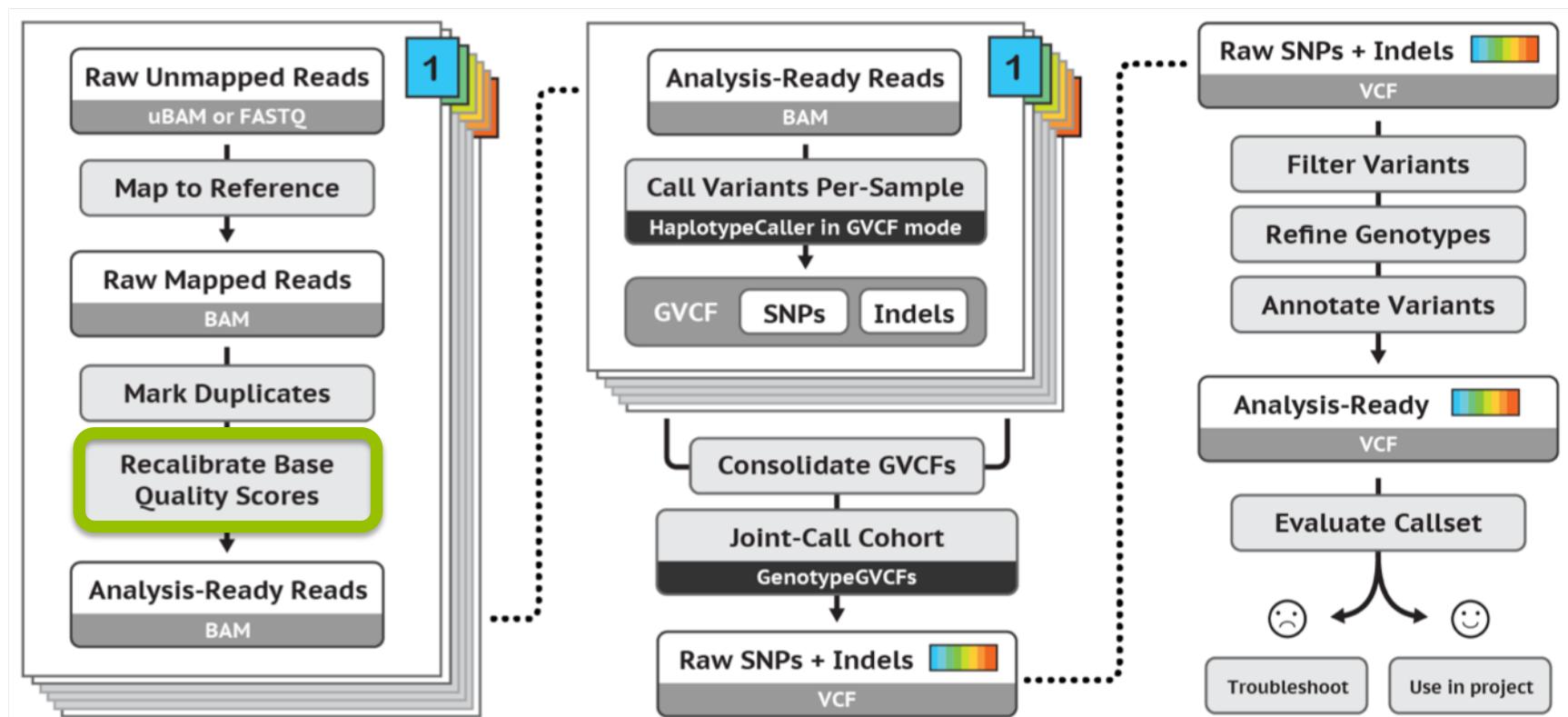
10 months ago · Updated

Identifies duplicate reads.

This tool locates and tags duplicate reads in a BAM or SAM file, where duplicate reads are defined as originating from a single fragment of DNA. Duplicates can arise during sample preparation e.g. library construction using PCR. See also [EstimateLibraryComplexity](#) for additional notes on PCR duplication artifacts. Duplicate reads can also result from a single amplification cluster, incorrectly detected as multiple clusters by the optical sensor of the sequencing instrument. These duplication artifacts are referred to as optical duplicates.

```
gatk --java-options -Xmx7g MarkDuplicates \
    -I input.bam \
    -O marked_duplicates.bam \
    -M marked_dup_metrics.txt
```

Base Quality Score Recalibration (BQSR)



Base Quality Score Recalibration (BQSR)

- During base calling, the sequencer estimates a quality score for each base. This is the quality scores present in the fastq files.
- Systematic (non-random) errors in the base quality score estimation can occur.
 - due to the physics or chemistry of the sequencing reaction
 - manufacturing flaws in the equipment
 - etc
- Can cause bias in variant calling
- **Base Qualtiy Score Recalibration** helps to calibrate the scores so that they correspond to the real per-base sequencing error rate (phred scores)

Need Help?

Search our documentation

Base Quality Score Recalibration (BQSR)



[GATK](#) / [Technical Documentation](#) / [Algorithms](#)

Base Quality Score Recalibration (BQSR) [Follow](#)



GATK Team

5 days ago · Updated

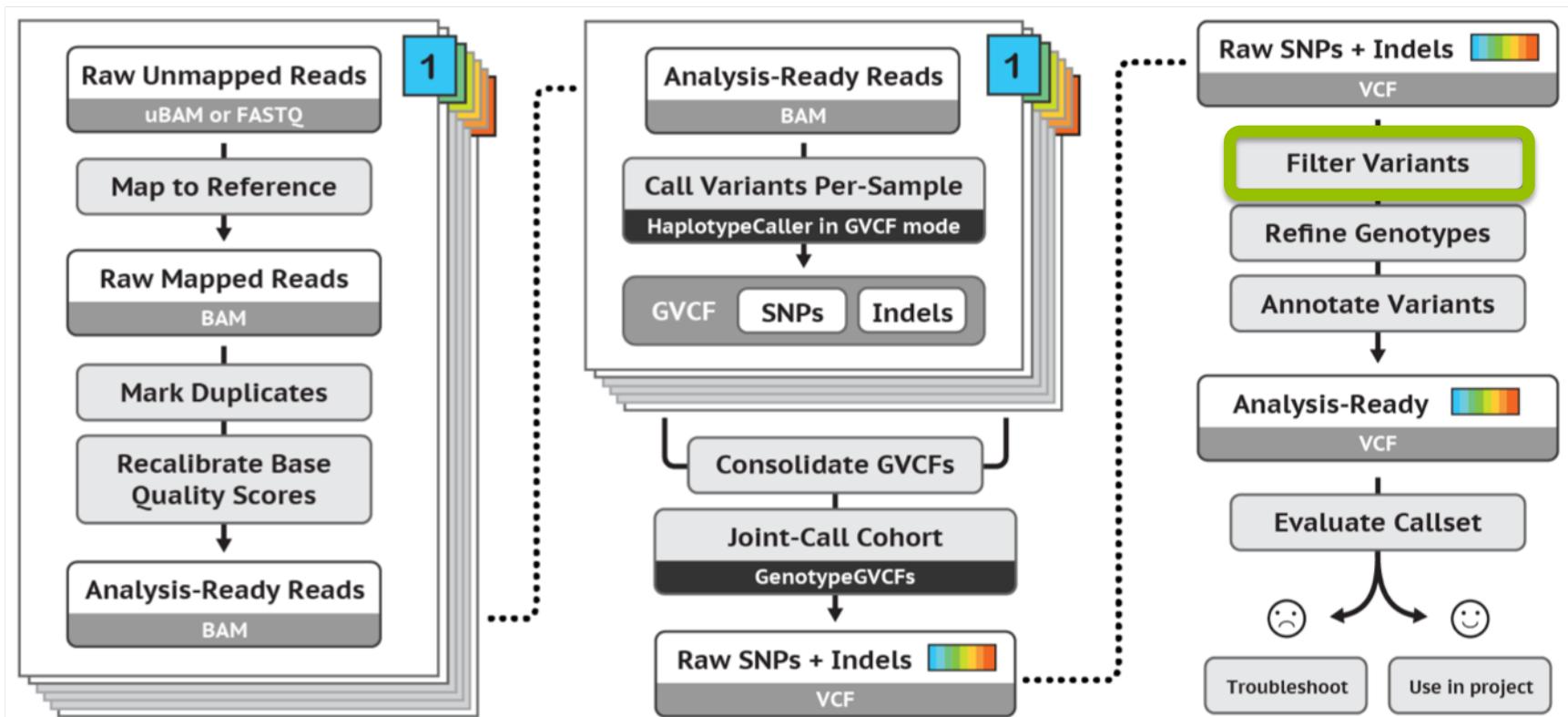
BQSR stands for Base Quality Score Recalibration. In a nutshell, it is a data pre-processing step that detects systematic errors made by the sequencing machine when it estimates the accuracy of each base call.

*Note that this **base** recalibration process (BQSR) should not be confused with **variant** recalibration (VQSR), which is a sophisticated filtering technique applied on the variant callset produced in a later step. The developers who named these methods wish to apologize sincerely to anyone, especially Spanish-speaking users, who get tripped up by the similarity of these names.*

Contents

1. Overview
 2. Base recalibration procedure details
 3. Important factors for successful recalibration
 4. Examples of pre- and post-recalibration metrics
 5. Recalibration report
-

Filter variants

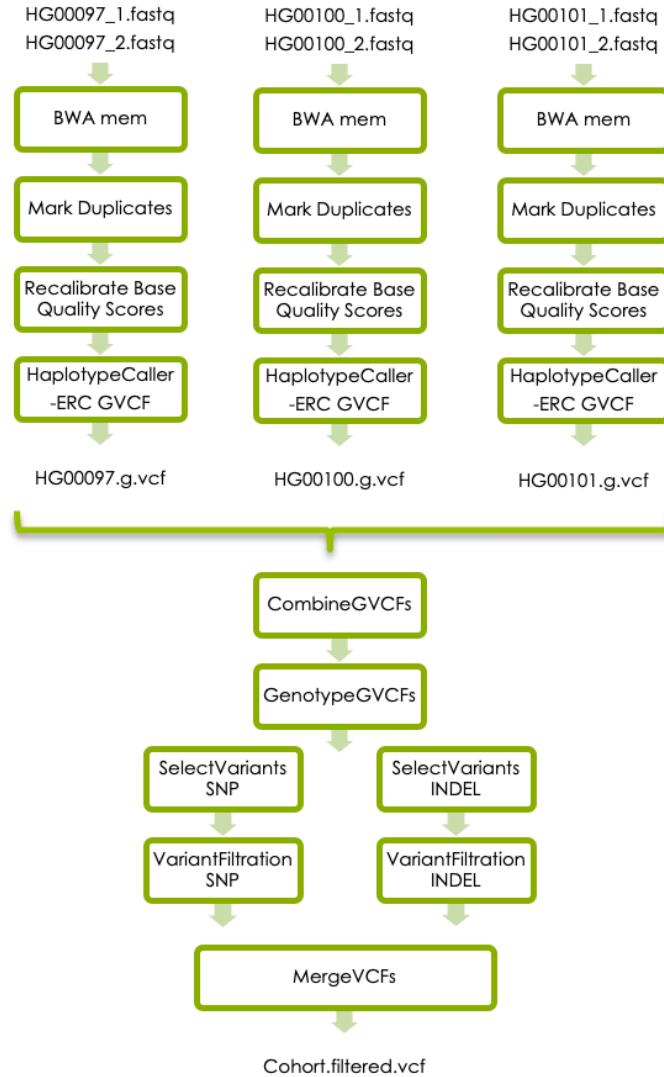


<https://software.broadinstitute.org/gatk/best-practices/>
Germline short variant discovery (SNPs + Indels)

Filtering

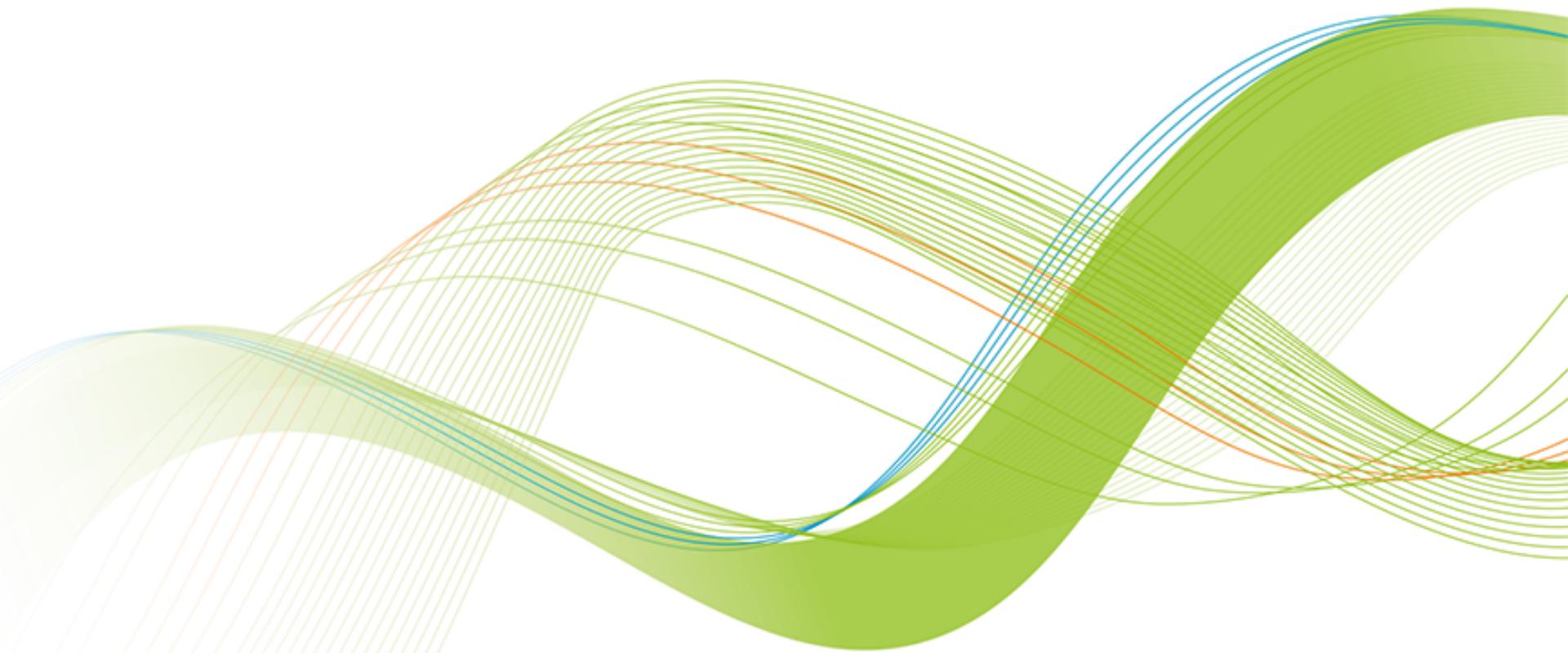
- Remove low quality variants
- Variant quality score recalibration (VQSR):
 - For large data sets (>1 WGS or >30WES samples)
 - GATK has a machine learning algorithm that can be trained to recognise "likely false" variants
 - **We do recommend to use VQSR when possible!**
- Hard filters:
 - For smaller data sets
 - Hard filters on information in the VCF file
 - For example: Flag variants with "QD < 2" and "MQ< 40.0"
 - GATK recommendations on hard filters:
<https://gatkforums.broadinstitute.org/gatk/discussion/2806/how-to-apply-hard-filters-to-a-call-set>

GATK best practices workflow



More details and links to GATK documentation is found in the lab instructions.

Introduction to computational exercise



1000 Genomes data



- Low coverage WGS data
- 3 samples
- Small region on chromosome 2

About the samples:

[https://www.internationalgenome.org
/data-portal/sample](https://www.internationalgenome.org/data-portal/sample)

Lactose and Lactase

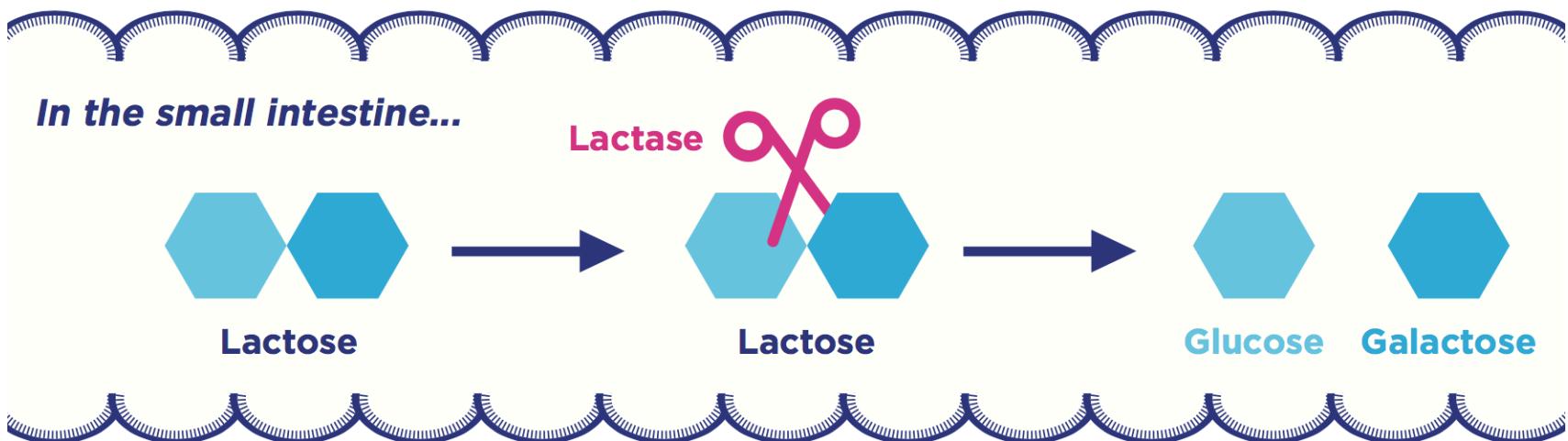
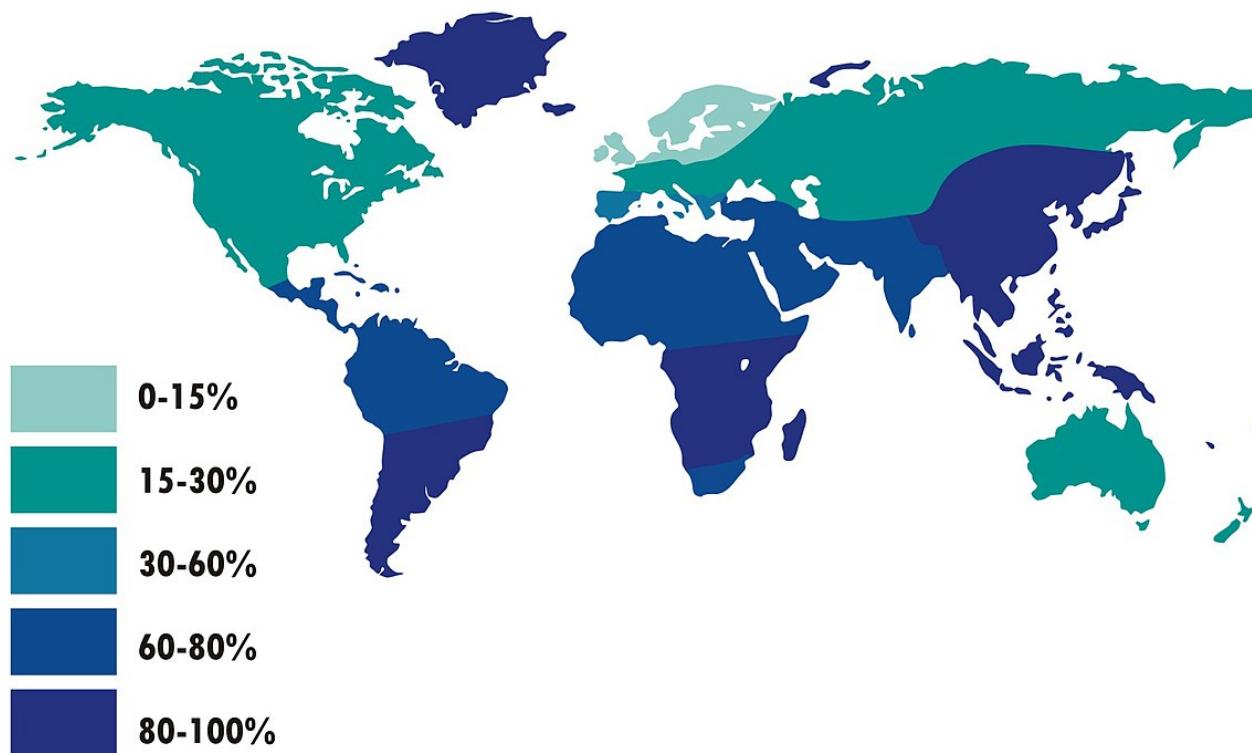


Figure 2. Lactose digestion in the intestine.

Prevalence of lactose intolerance

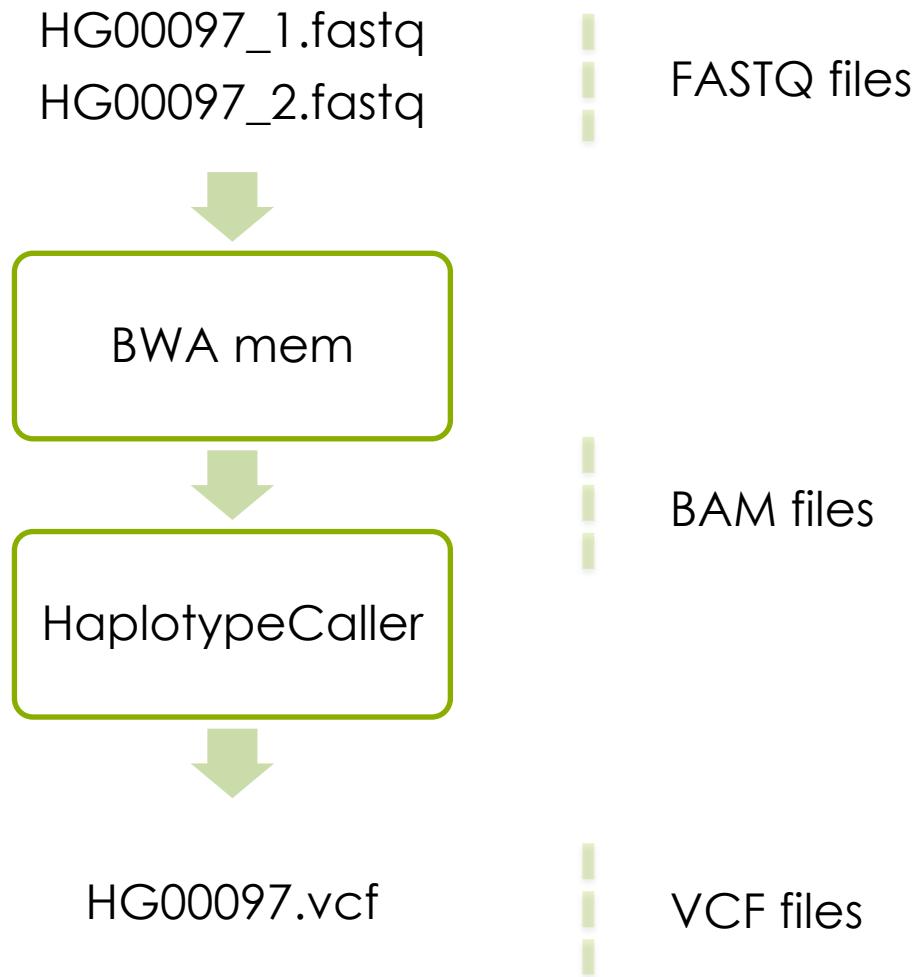
Worldwide prevalence of lactose intolerance in recent populations
(schematic)



part one:

variant calling in one sample

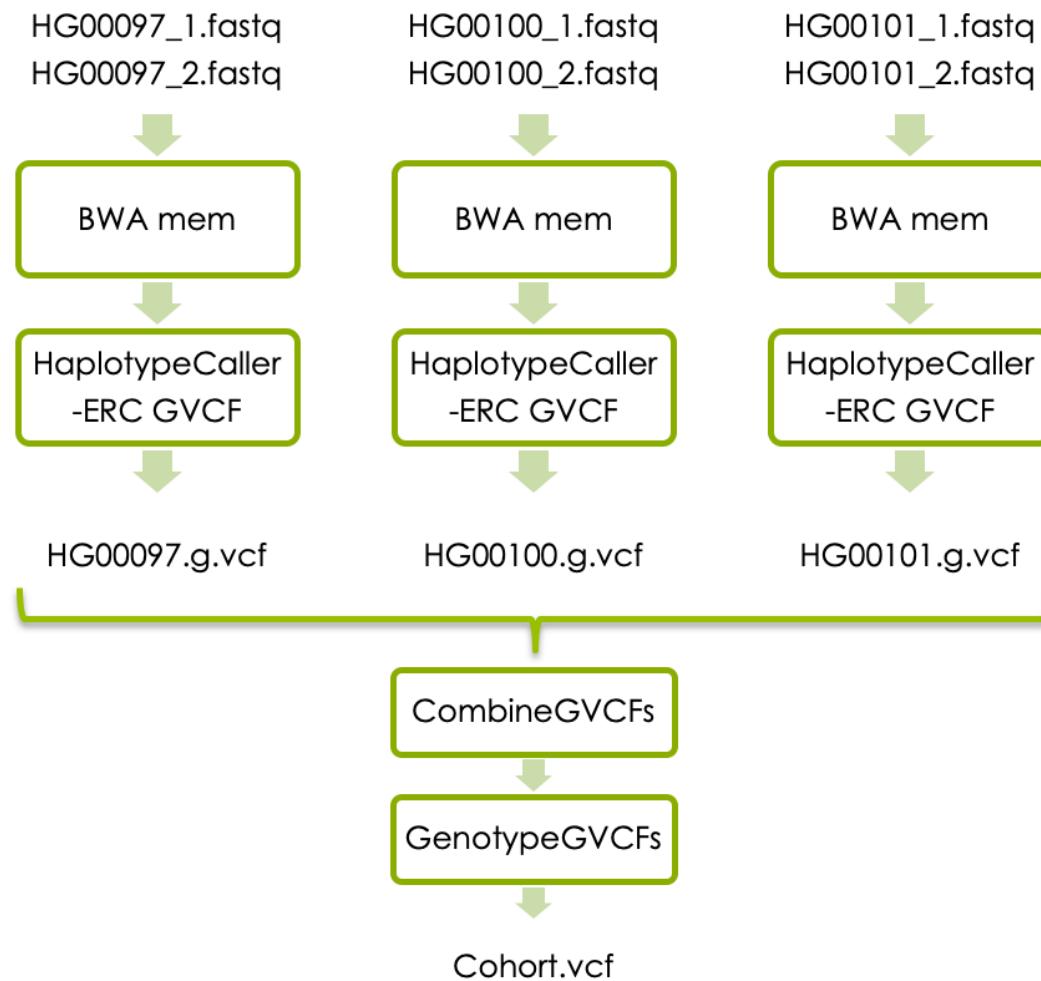
Basic variant calling in one sample



Part two (if you have time):

variant calling in cohort

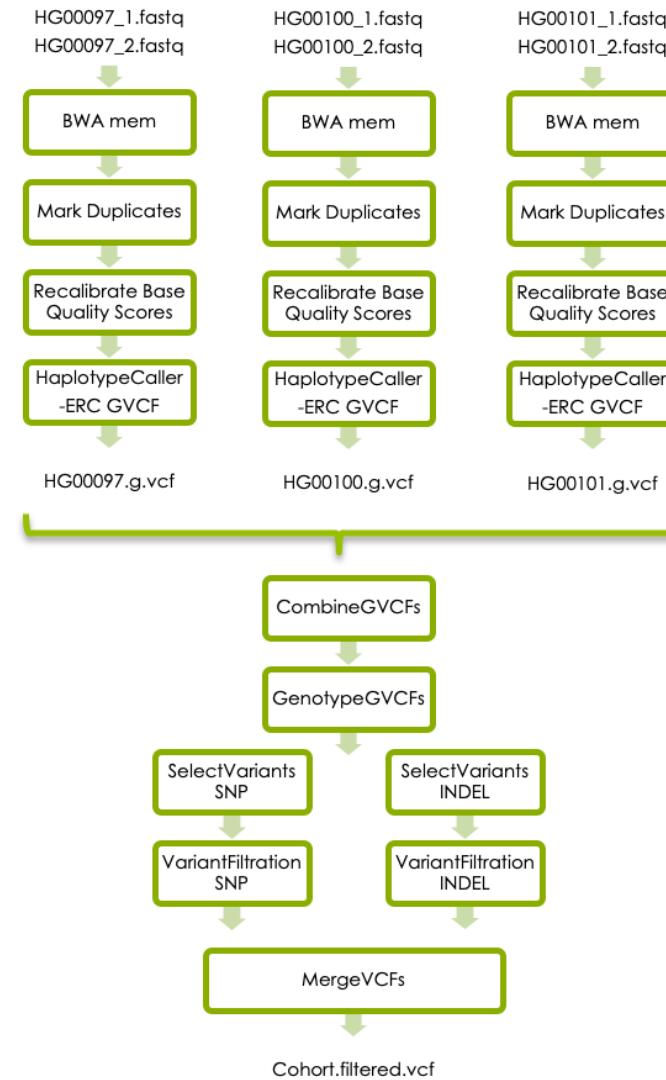
Joint variant calling workflow



Part three (if you have time):

**Follow GATK best practices for
short variant discovery**

GATK best practises



Questions?