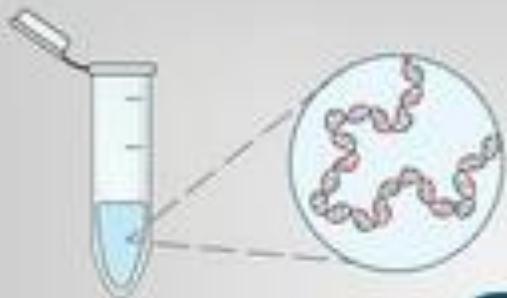
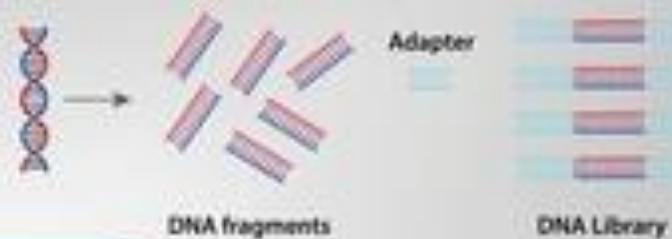


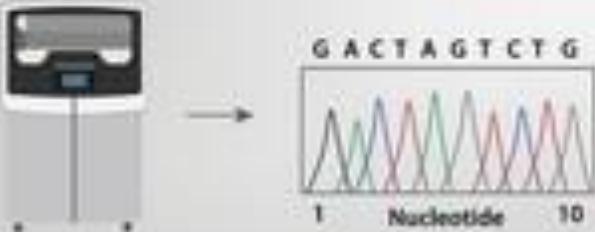
## STEP 1: DNA extraction



## STEP 2: Library preparation



### Next Generation Sequencing Workflow



## STEP 3: Sequencing

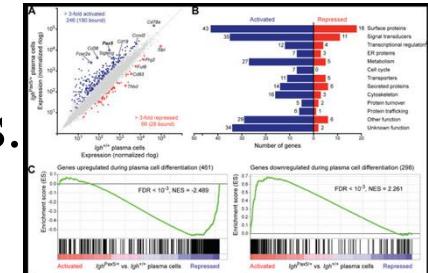
## STEP 4: Analysis

**Final Project Discussion**  
Princess Rodriguez, PhD

**MMG 3320**  
**Spring 2026**

# Final Project Prompt

- You will analyze an NGS dataset of your choosing from “start” to “finish”.
- You will begin by identifying your dataset. 
- You will then download the data.
- You will then process it. 
- You will then visualize it. 
- You will then interpret and deliver your findings.
- Along the way you will perform QUALITY CONTROL



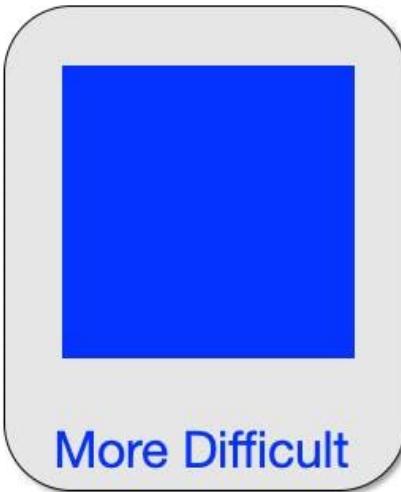
# Final Project Delivery

- All students will deliver an oral presentation to communicate their results and interpretations.
- Everyone will submit a folder with their compiled analysis... more details to come!
- Everyone must be present for the final weeks' presentations.

# Ski Trails



Easiest



More Difficult



Most Difficult



Experts Only

You will be asked to select a trail and a corresponding challenge.

*All challenge prompts below are \*specific\* to RNA-Seq. If you select a different kind of NGS dataset to analyze, I will generate a challenge prompt specific for your data type and trail.*

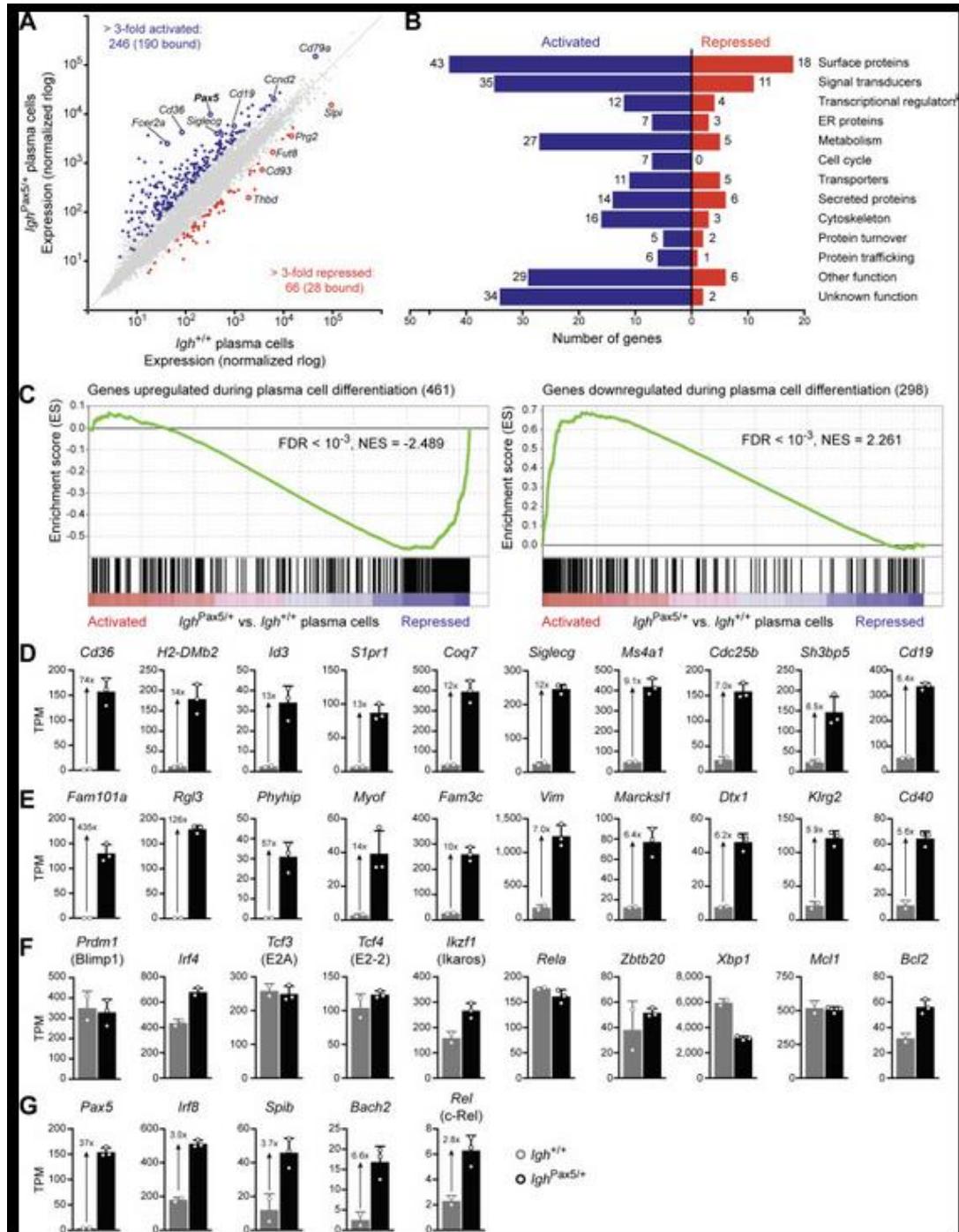
A wide-angle photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, there are green, terraced fields on a hillside. The middle ground shows more hills and mountains covered in green vegetation. The background features misty, hazy peaks under a sky filled with large, white, billowing clouds. The overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

# Green Mountain Trail

*Replicate a figure in a primary research article and then  
change one parameter at the visualization stage*

# Green Mountain Trail

## Challenge 1: Adjusting the Threshold for Differential Gene Expression (DEG)



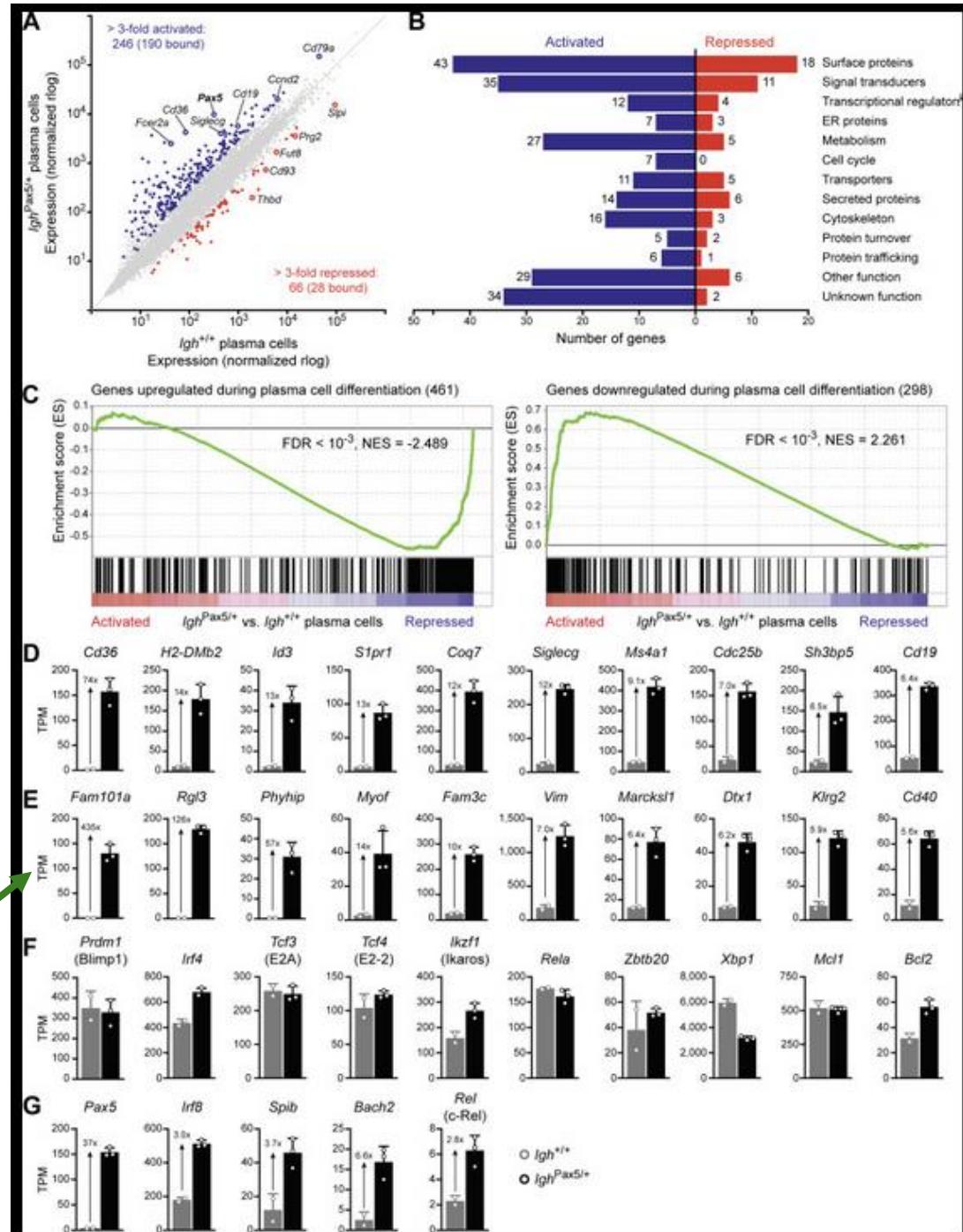
# Green Mountain Trail

## Challenge 2: Experimenting with Normalization Techniques

Compare visualizations of gene expression data normalized using two methods (e.g., TPM, CPM, vs. DESeq2's variance-stabilizing transformation).

Assess how normalization affects downstream analyses like bar or box plots.

Do you know TPM means?

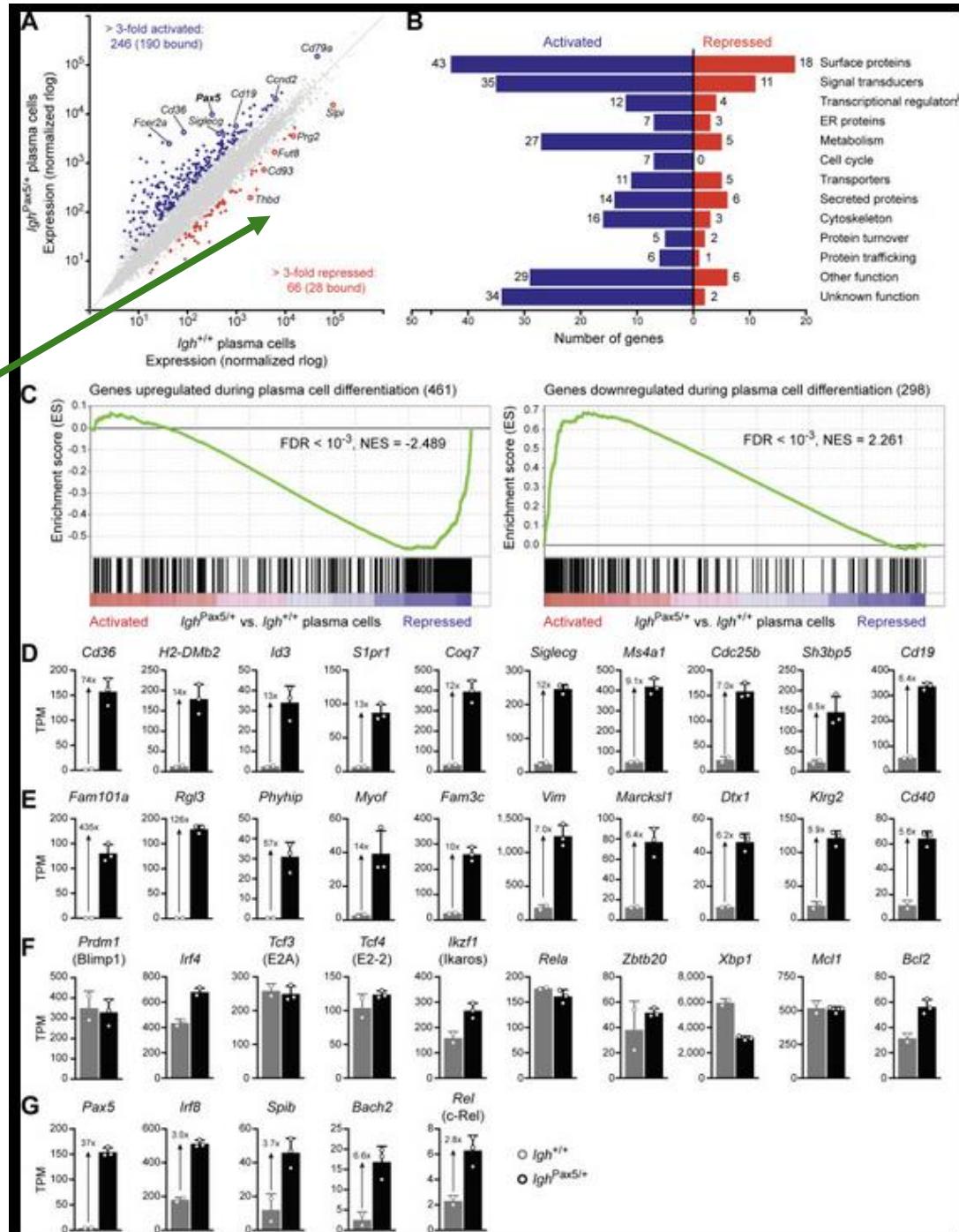


# Green Mountain Trail

How would you label this MA plot?

## Challenge 3: Changing Color Schemes/Labeling for Data Interpretation

Adjust the color scale of a heatmap (e.g., changing from a red-green to a blue-yellow color scheme) and evaluate how the choice of visualization colors influences the clarity of expression trends and ease of data interpretation.



# Blue Sky Trail

*Compare and Contrast bioinformatic tools during  
the preprocessing stage and describe its impact on  
the data interpretation*

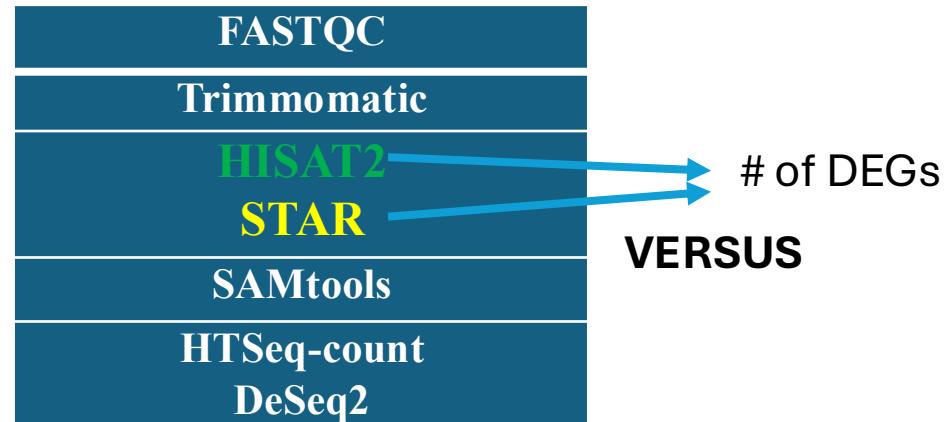
The bioinformatic pipeline we will learn in class is:

| MMG3320        | What it does...                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| FASTQC         | Quality control FASTQC files        |
| Trimmomatic    | Trim adaptors and low quality reads |
| HISAT2<br>STAR | Alignment to Genome                 |
| SAMtools       | SAM to BAM                          |
| HTSeq-count    | Create counts files                 |

### RNA-Seq and bioinformatics analysis

Total RNA prepared was extracted using TRIzol Reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) and submitted to Shanghai Personal Biotechnology, where RNA integrity was confirmed using the Illumina HiSeq X ten system at 150 bp pair-ended. Double-strand cDNA libraries were prepared and constructed using the TruSeq RNA Sample Prep Kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA). Two replicates of the RNA-Seq experiments were performed. RNA-Seq reads were quality controlled and trimmed for adapter sequences using Trim Galore. Filtered reads were aligned to hg38 using HISAT2. Read counts for each gene were carried out using HT-Seq using the hg38 refSeq refFlat GTF file accessed on July 2015. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) were analysed using the DESeq2 package ( $|fold\ change| \geq 1.5, P < 0.05$ ).

*Information on the data processing can be found ...?*



### Challenge 1: Testing Different Alignment Tools

Align the RNA-Seq reads to the reference genome using two different aligners (e.g., HISAT2 vs. STAR). Compare metrics such as alignment rate, number of uniquely mapped reads, and runtime, and discuss how the choice of aligner might affect downstream analysis.

### **RNA-Seq and bioinformatics analysis**

Total RNA prepared was extracted using TRIzol Reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) and submitted to Shanghai Personal Biotechnology, where RNA integrity was confirmed using the Illumina HiSeq X ten system at 150 bp pair-ended. Double-strand cDNA libraries were prepared and constructed using the TruSeq RNA Sample Prep Kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA). Two replicates of the RNA-Seq experiments were performed. RNA-Seq reads were quality controlled and trimmed for adapter sequences using Trim Galore. Filtered reads were aligned

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**FASTQC**

**Trimmomatic**

**HISAT2**

**SAMtools**

**HTSeq-count**

**DeSeq2**

## **Challenge 2: Evaluating Reference Genome Versions**

Map the RNA-Seq reads to two different versions of the reference genome (e.g., GRCh37 vs. GRCh38). Compare the alignment statistics and any differences in gene annotations. Discuss how the choice of reference genome might influence downstream results and biological interpretations.

### RNA-Seq and bioinformatics analysis

Total RNA prepared was extracted using TRIzol Reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) and submitted to Shanghai Personal Biotechnology, where RNA integrity was confirmed using the Illumina HiSeq X ten system at 150 bp pair-ended. Double-strand cDNA libraries were prepared and constructed using the TruSeq RNA Sample Prep Kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA). Two replicates of the RNA-Seq experiments were performed. RNA-Seq reads were quality controlled and trimmed for adapter sequences using Trim Galore. Filtered reads were aligned to hg38 using HISAT2. Read counts for each gene were carried out using HT-Seq using the hg38 refSeq refFlat GTF file accessed on July 2015. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) were analysed using the DESeq2 package ( $|fold\ change| \geq 1.5, P < 0.05$ ).

FASTQC

Trimmomatic

HISAT2

SAMtools

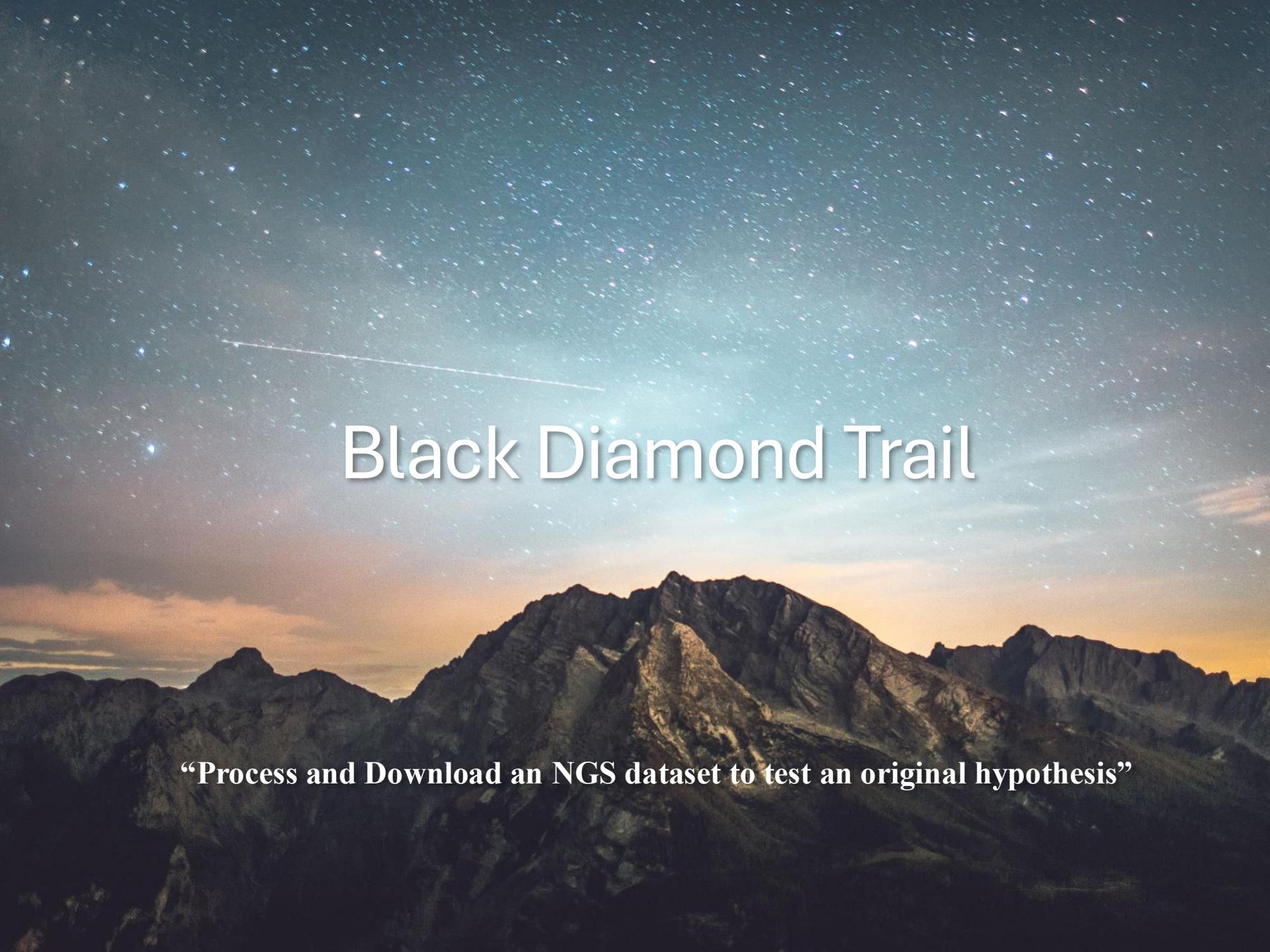
HTSeq-count

DeSeq2

### Challenge 3: Comparing Count Generation Tools

Generate counts files using two different tools (e.g., HTSeq-count vs. featureCounts). Compare the total number of assigned reads, unassigned reads, and computational efficiency. Discuss how differences in counting strategies might influence downstream analyses such as differential expression.

*The blue trail highlights the importance of tool selection during the preprocessing stage and its impact on the interpretation of RNA-Seq data.*

A wide-angle photograph of a night sky filled with stars. A prominent, long, thin white streak, likely a meteor or a satellite's orbital path, cuts across the upper portion of the frame. The sky transitions from a deep navy blue at the top to a warm orange and yellow glow near the horizon, suggesting either a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground and middle ground, the dark silhouettes of mountain peaks are visible against the lighter sky.

# Black Diamond Trail

**“Process and Download an NGS dataset to test an original hypothesis”**

# Your overall approach will be different

***You are going in with a hypothesis and using the dataset to test this hypothesis.***

“Compared to macrophages, I hypothesize that Dendritic cells activated with LPS will express an upregulation of glycolytic genes as opposed to genes required for oxidative phosphorylation.”

“Compared to macrophages, I hypothesize that Dendritic cells activated with LPS will express an upregulation of glycolytic genes as opposed to genes required for oxidative phosphorylation.”

| Dataset                            | # of replicates |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Macrophages (control)              | 3               |
| Dendritic cells (control)          | 3               |
| Macrophages + LPS                  | 3               |
| Dendritic cells + LPS              | 3               |
| Macrophages + Zeb1 KO              | 3               |
| Dendritic cells + Zeb1 KO          | 3               |
| Macrophages + Zeb1 KO<br>+ LPS     | 3               |
| Dendritic cells + Zeb1 KO<br>+ LPS | 3               |

### **Challenge 1: Creating Time-Series or Condition-Specific Plots**

If your data includes multiple time points or conditions, create a figure (e.g., line plots or heatmaps) to visualize expression changes for key genes across these conditions. Highlight patterns or trends and discuss how they support or refute your biological hypothesis.

### **Challenge 2: Comparing Pathway Expression Across Groups**

Use pathway analysis to identify key pathways enriched in a subset of your data. Create a customized plots (e.g. bar plots, dot plots, network graphs) to compare pathway activity between experimental groups not compared in the published work. Discuss how the visualization highlights the differences in pathway regulation.

### **Challenge 3: Annotating Single-Gene Expression Differences**

Select a gene of interest from your dataset and create a violin plot or boxplot comparing its expression across conditions or groups. Customize the figure to include statistical annotations (e.g., p-values or fold changes) and explain why this gene is biologically significant.

**For all black trail challenges you will be required to** design a multi-panel figure that integrates multiple layers of analysis (e.g., a heatmap for expression patterns, a volcano plot for DEG results, and a GO enrichment bar chart). Explain how the combination of figures tells a cohesive story and enhances the overall interpretation of the data.

*The black trail encourages students to think critically about data visualization while developing skills to create professional, publication-quality figures that clearly convey their original findings.*

# How do I select a trail?

## What personal goal do you have?

- "I want to be confident downloading a dataset from GEO & replicating results" - Green Trail
  - AND**
  - "I want to added challenge"  
"I want to be able to understand the difference in using varying computational tools and when I would implement them"  
"I am thinking of bioinformatics as a future profession" - Blue Trail
  - "I *want* to go to graduate school"  
"I'm in graduate school and I want to advance my research project" - Black Diamond Trail

# General

- a. This is an individual assignment unless granted permission.
- b. Each student will be allocated 15 minutes to present their findings and answer questions from the audience during the last week of class. All students are required to attend these sessions. The audience will be able to ask you questions during the presentation.

# Selecting an NGS dataset

| <b>Acceptable</b>   | <b>Unacceptable</b>     |
|---|-------------------------|
| RNA-Seq   | Single-cell RNA-Seq     |
| ChIP-Seq  | Microarray              |
| ATAC-Seq  | Spatial Transcriptomics |
| <b>Permission required:</b><br>*Research-specific<br>dataset<br>Metagenomics<br>WGS/WES |                         |

\*Beware\*

|                            | Selecting a dataset  | Download dataset   | Index Genome                       | Alignment  |
|----------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
| Estimated time to complete | 1-2 weeks  | 24 hours   | 1hr – 3 days                       | <b>3-7 days +</b>  |
| Comment                    |  | Per 5GB = 1.5 hrs = one sample                           | Depends on how large the genome is | Dependent on the number of samples<br><br>Dependent on alignment strategy  |
| Homework Assignment        | <p><b>~100 points</b></p> <p>Select dataset, and justify why dataset and trail were selected</p> | <p><b>~100 points</b></p> <p>FASTQC + interpretation</p> |                                    | <p><b>~150 points</b></p> <p>Alignment stats + interpretation</p> <p>Decision to be made on how to proceed based on interpretation</p> |
| Due dates (tentative)      | Mid Feb  | Late Feb/<br>Early March                                 |                                    | Early to Mid March   |

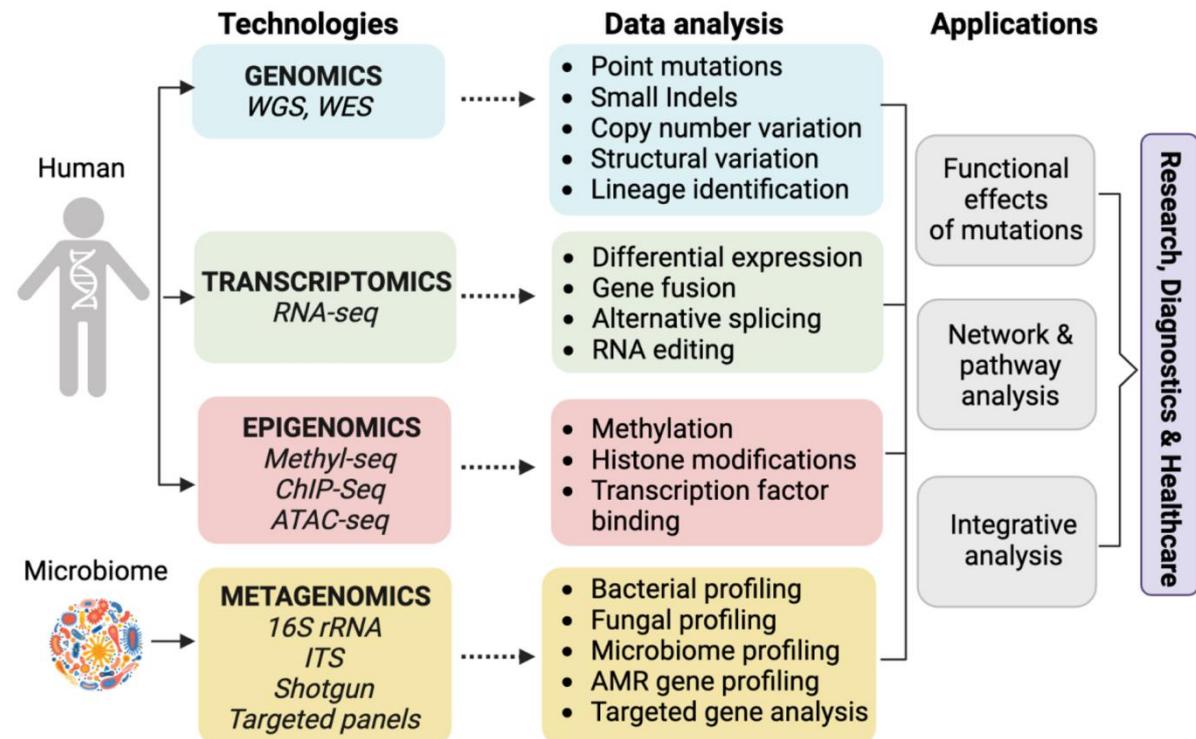
# Important Disclosures

- While in-class, we will be going through the *basic steps* of data processing using a dataset that is publicly available.
- This project requires that you use what you learned in-class and apply it to a different NGS dataset.
- ***We both will not know the quality of the published dataset you selected until about March.*** Therefore, depending on what we find we may need to pivot and change the intention of the final project goals.
- I am most familiar with advising on a human or mouse system. However, other organisms are completely fine to select. You will be in charge of understanding if for example “*...there are pathway analysis tools available for Drosophila...*” or where to find the GTF file for bacteria.
- ***We will hit many unforeseen hiccups.*** This is completely normal in the realm of bioinformatics! Be prepared to troubleshoot.
- I do not have control over how fast or slow your data will process on the VACC. The alignment step is the most COMPUTATIONAL HEAVY STEP of the ENTIRE pipeline. Please do not leave this for the last minute as the VACC does have multiple users!

# Lessons from Last Year

- If you select black trail but then see around April that your analysis is more aligned with green trail, this is 100% okay. But you must consult with me and tell me at least a week prior to your presentation that you will be *changing trails*. There will be a major point deduction if your presentation and trail selected do not match!
- If you select the black trail, I expect an original hypothesis to be tested. Points will be deducted if this original hypothesis is not present or tested.
- I had multiple students throughout the years who opted to analyze a dataset “sitting in their lab.” Some of these students were wildly successful, others were not.

# Common experimental designs for NGS



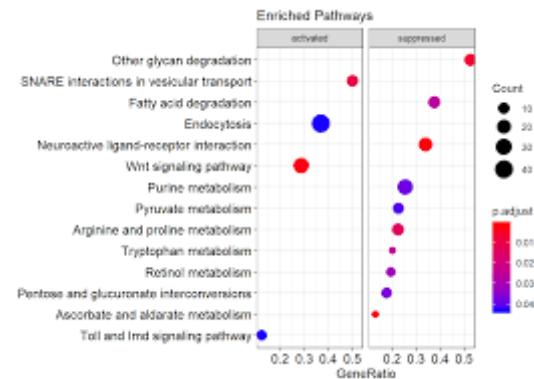
# Bulk RNA-Seq: When to Use it?

- Measures average gene expression across a tissue or cell population

Best for:

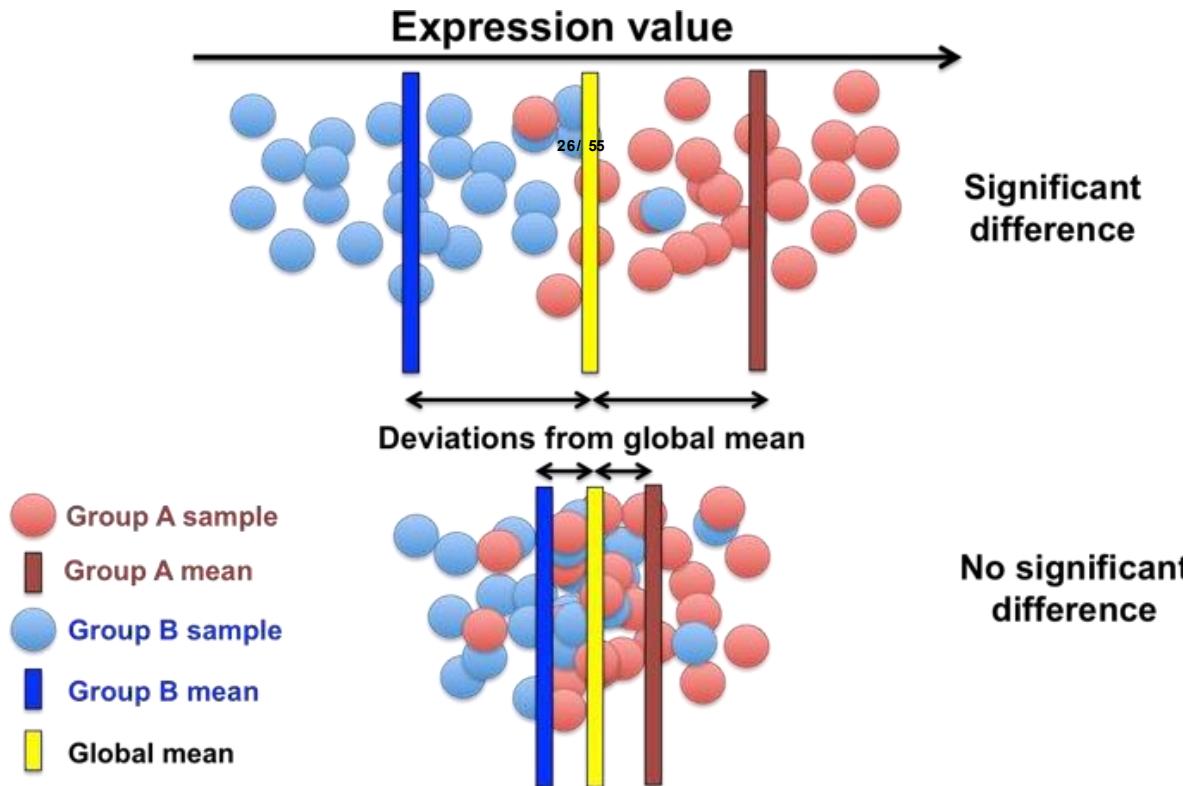
- ❖ Comparing disease vs control
- ❖ Treatment response studies

- Pros: cost effective & robust
- Limitations: obscures cell-type composition
- Useful when the research question is about global expression changes or pathways, but not cell-type resolution.



# Basic types of questions answered:

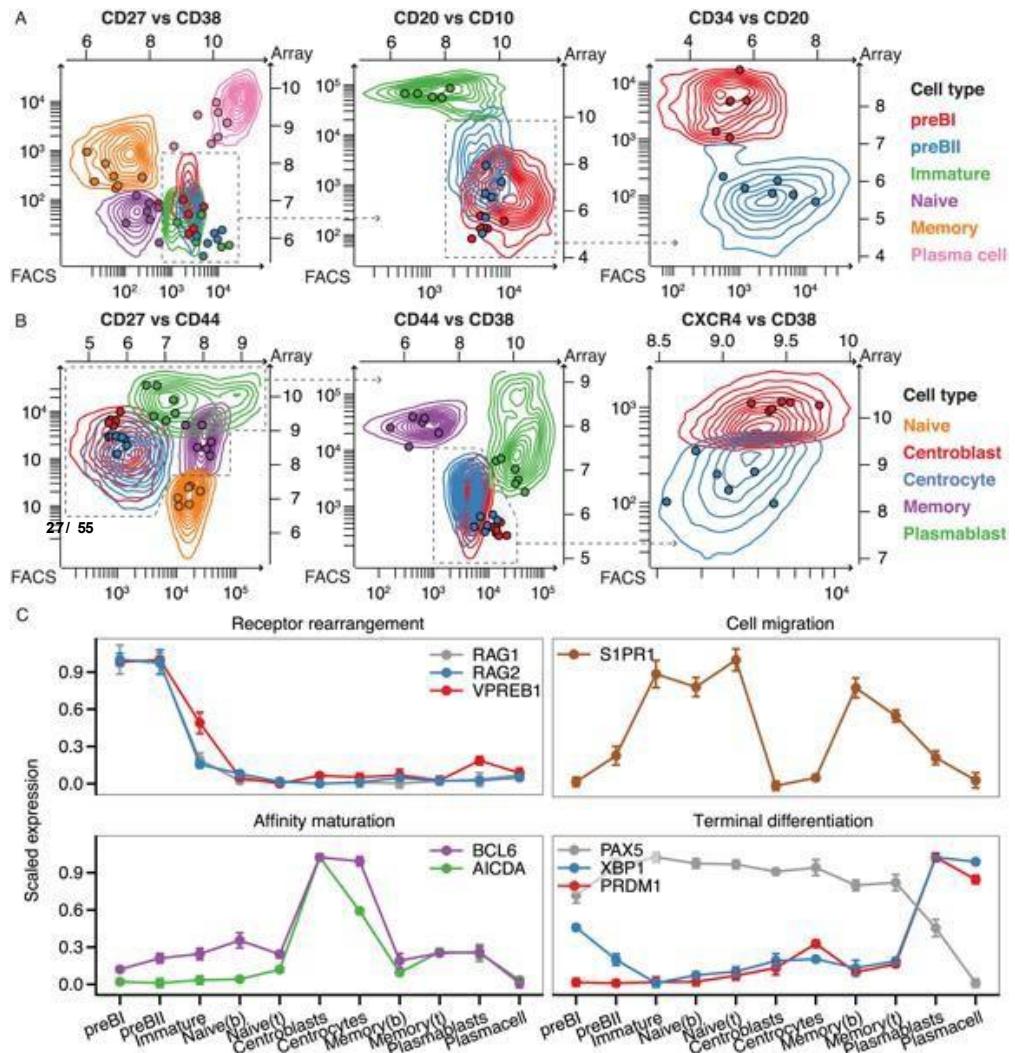
What genes are differentially expressed  
between conditions?



# Other questions answered:

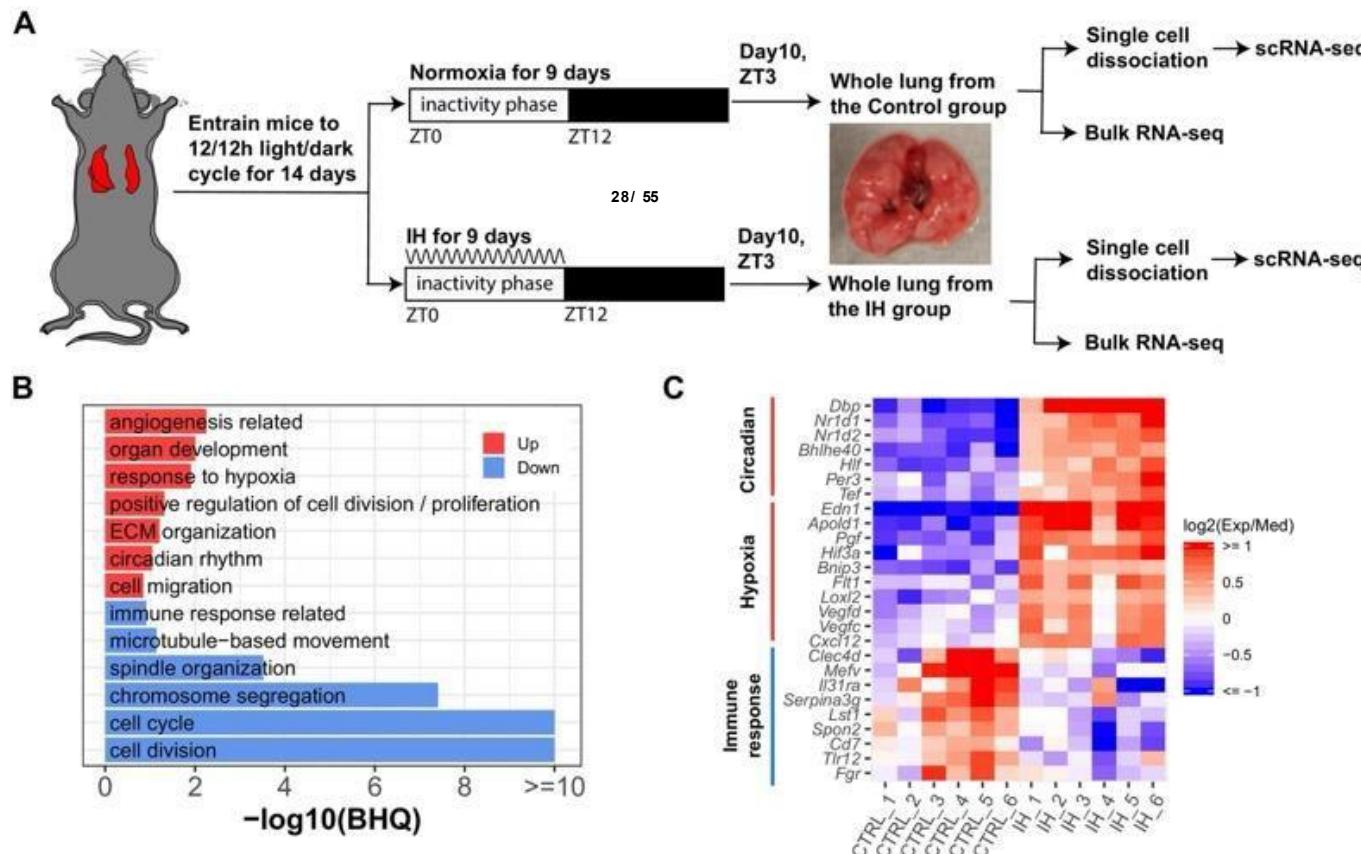
Are there any trends in gene expression across development?

Which groups of genes change similarly over time or across conditions?



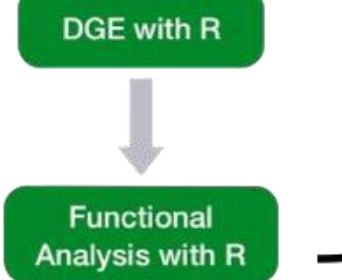
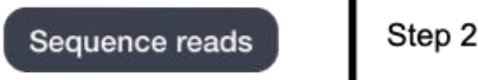
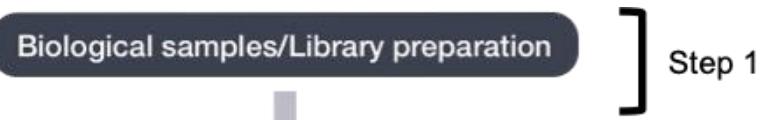
# Basic types of questions answered:

What processes or pathways are enriched in condition of interest?

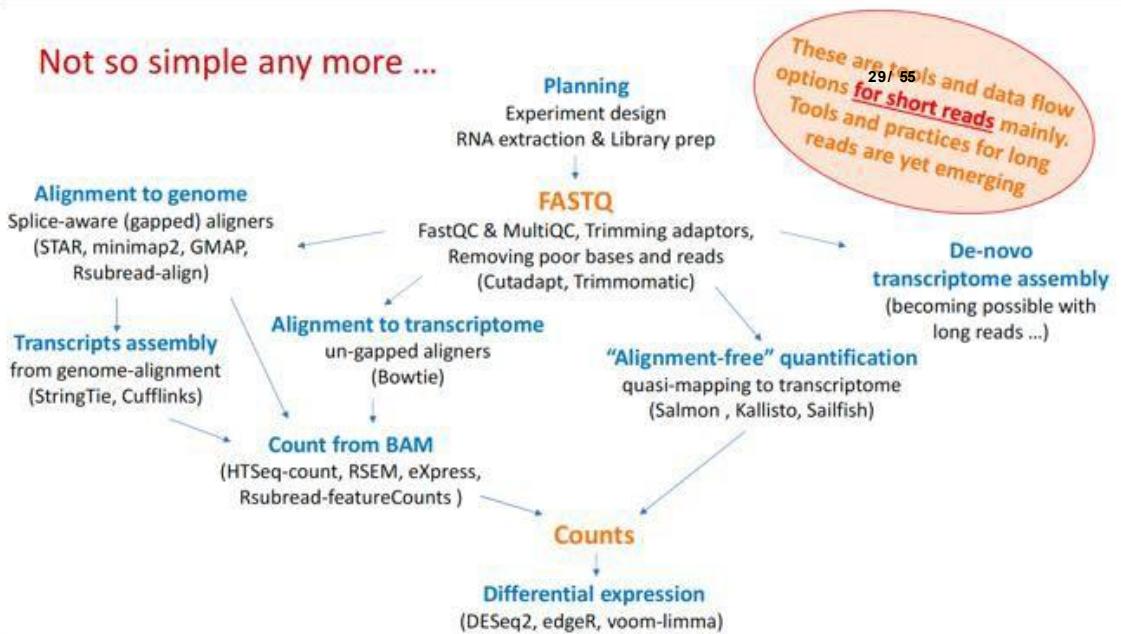


# Basic Principles

- Study Design
- Quality Assessment (UNIX)
- Trimming & Preprocessing (UNIX)
- Alignment (UNIX)
- Visualization of BAMs/counts (R)



Not so simple any more ...



# RNA-Seq led to the identification of new subtypes in B-ALL



Gu et al., 2019

# Motivation - Single cell level insights

Taste the  
average of all  
fruits

Bulk RNA-seq

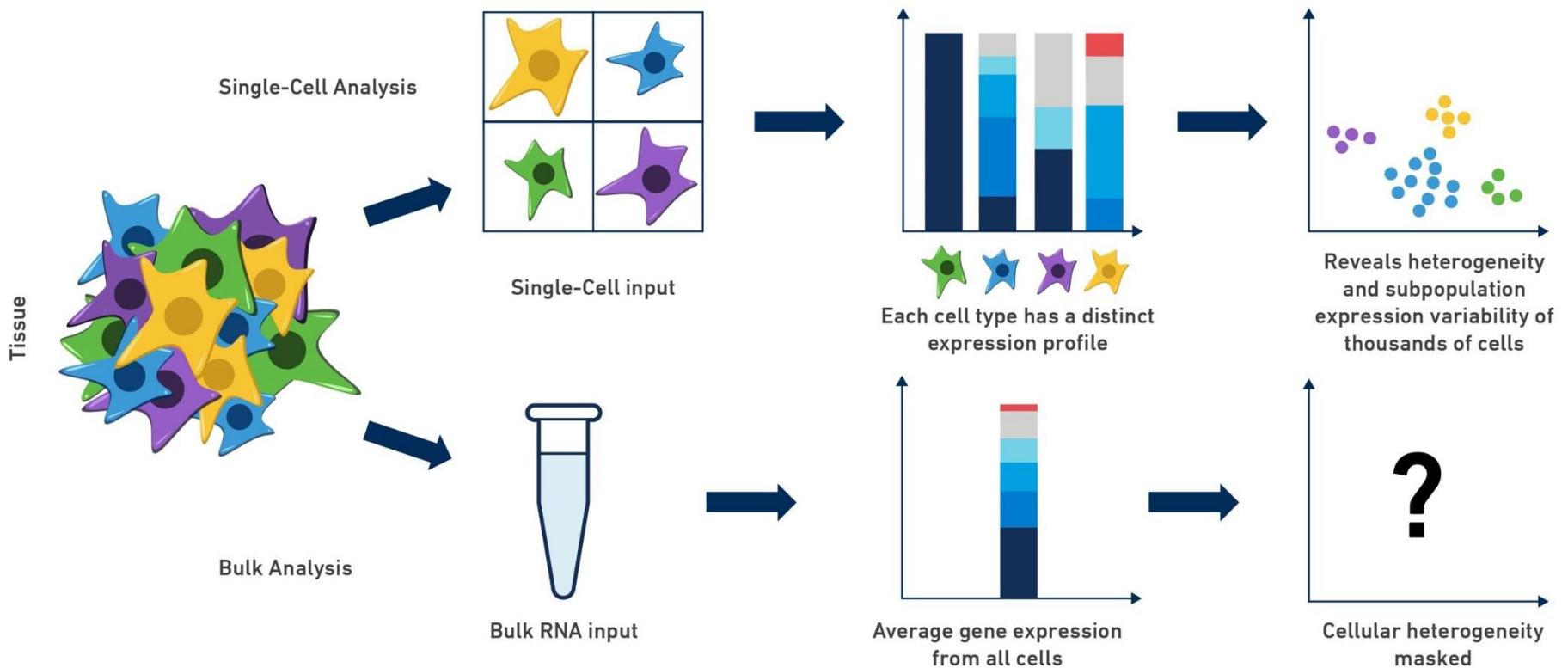


Taste each fruit individually



Single cell RNA-seq

# Bulk RNA- vs. single cell RNA-seq



# Single-Cell RNA-Seq

- Measures expression **cell-by-cell**
- Best for:
  - ❖ Identifying novel cell types/states
  - ❖ Uncovering tumor heterogeneity
  - ❖ Immune profiling
  - ❖ Understanding treatment-resistant populations
- Pros: High-resolution
- Limitations: Expensive, technological challenges as the data is noisy
- Select scRNA-seq when you suspect heterogeneity matters

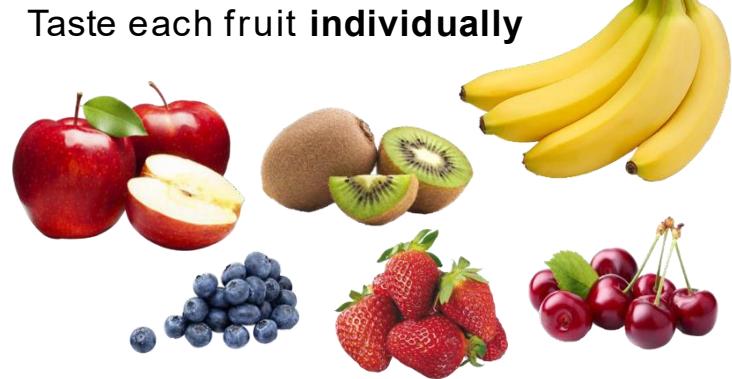
# Single cell level SPATIAL insights

Bulk RNA-seq



Taste the  
average of  
all fruits

Single cell RNA-seq



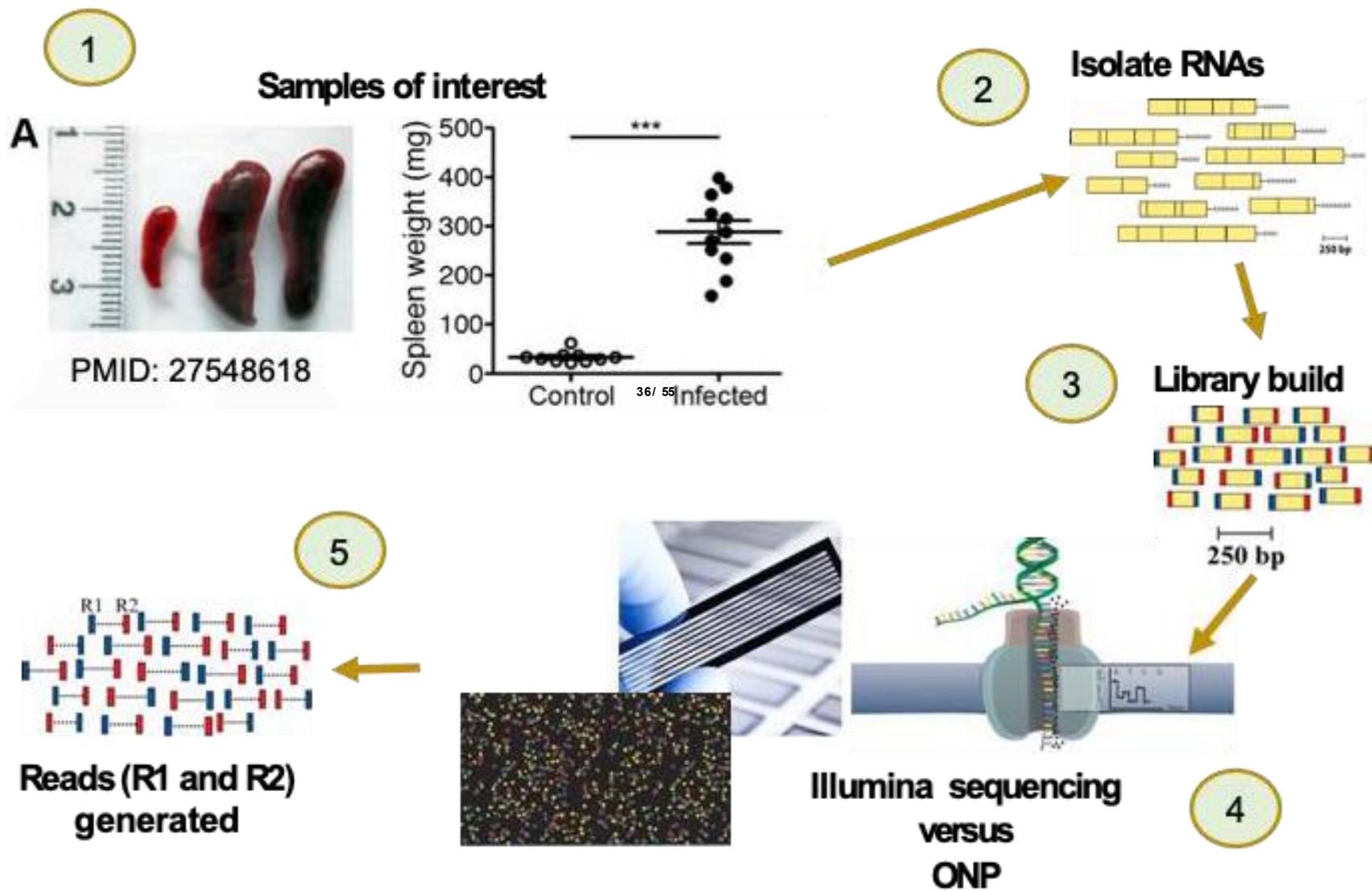
Taste each fruit **individually**

Spatial transcriptomics



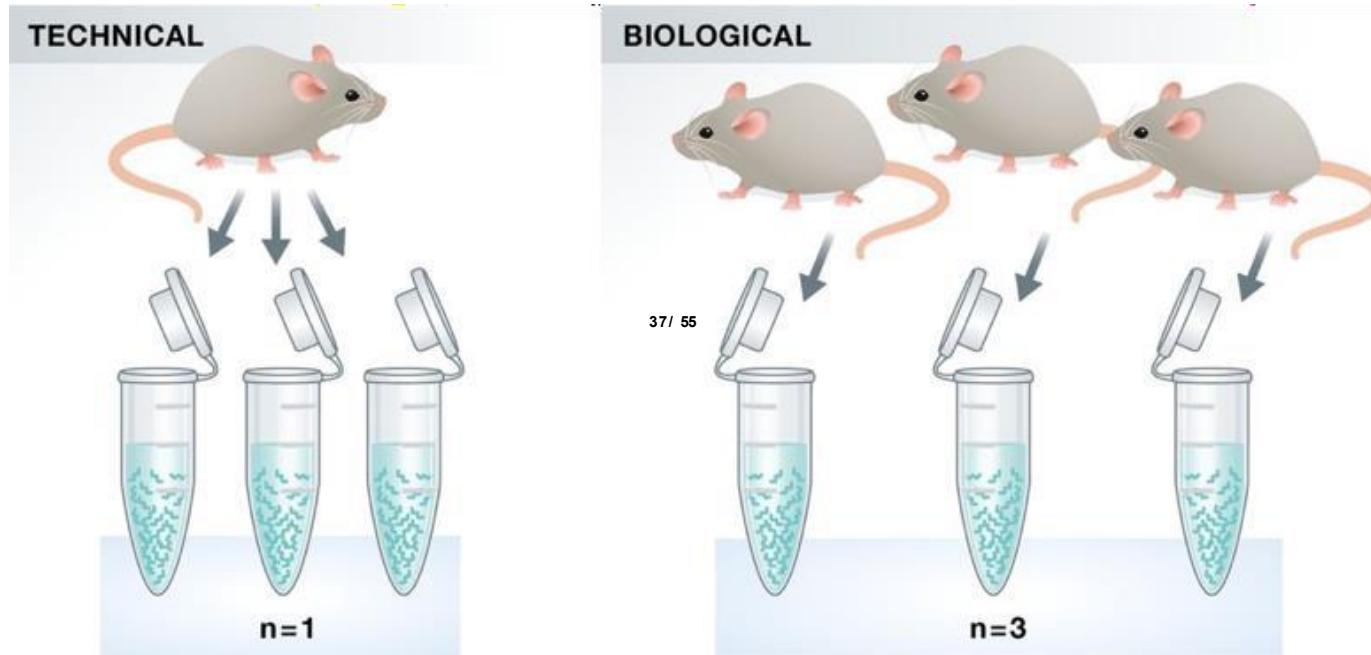
|                              | <b>Bulk RNA sequencing</b>   | <b>Single-cell RNA Sequencing</b>   | <b>High Throughput Spatial Transcriptomics</b>   |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Resolution                   | Patient-level gene expression  | Single-cell resolution  | Spatial and single-cell resolution   |
| Data Format                  | Aggregated gene expression from whole tissue   | Gene expression at the individual level   | Gene expression mapped to 2D tissue coordinates  |
| Biological Insights          | Identifies differentially expressed genes at the tissue level  | Identifies cell subpopulations and heterogeneity  | Reveals spatially variable genes, tissue structure, and cell-cell interactions   |
| Advantages/<br>Disadvantages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ High sensitivity for overall gene expression</li> <li>✗ No spatial or single-cell resolution</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ High resolution for individual cell types</li> <li>✗ Loses spatial context and cell-cell interactions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Preserves tissue architecture and spatial relationships</li> <li>✗ Lower sensitivity for minimally-expressed genes</li> </ul> |

# Experimental workflow



# Biological Replicates

Experimental replicates can be performed as **technical replicates** or **biological replicates**.

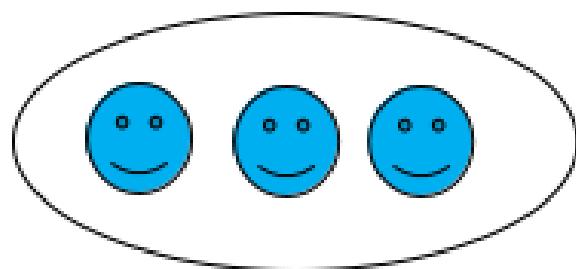


**Figure 16:** Biological Replicates

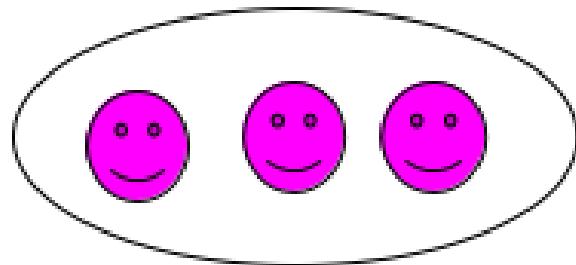
*Image credit: Klaus B., EMBO J (2015) 34: 2727-2730*

- **Technical replicates:** use the same biological sample to repeat the technical or experimental steps in order to accurately measure technical variation and remove it during analysis.
- **Biological replicates** use different biological samples of the same condition to measure the biological variation between samples.

# Biological Replicates



Condition 1



Condition 2

- ❖ To detect Differentially Expressed Genes (DEGs) between groups we should have several samples, which are also known as biological replicates

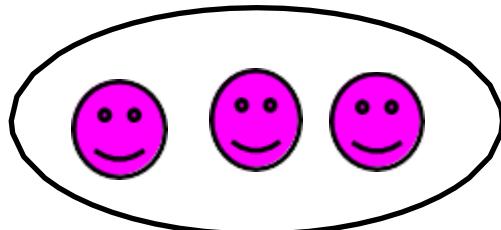
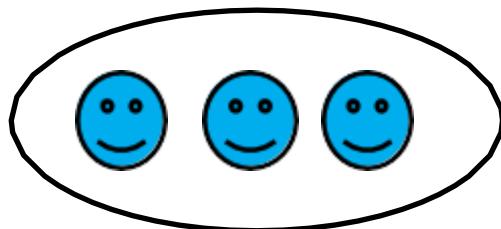
# Probability of detecting DEGs

| Replicates per group | 3 | 5   | 10  |      |
|----------------------|---|-----|-----|------|
| Fold change          | 2 | 87% | 98% | 100% |

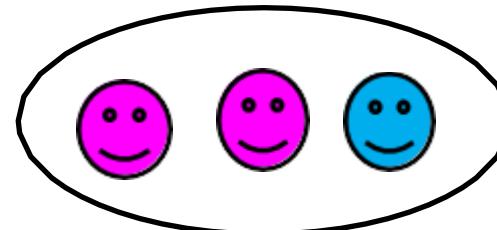
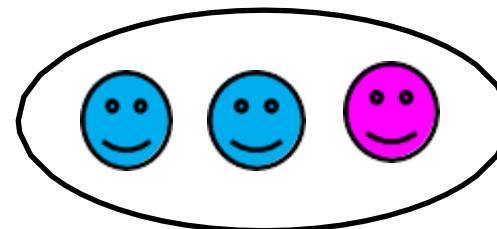


PMID: 26813401

# Grouping of Replicates



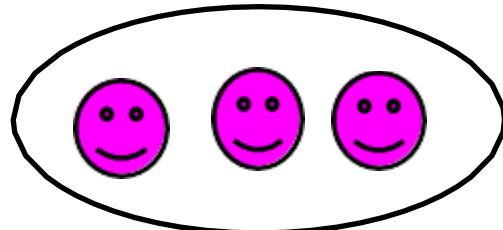
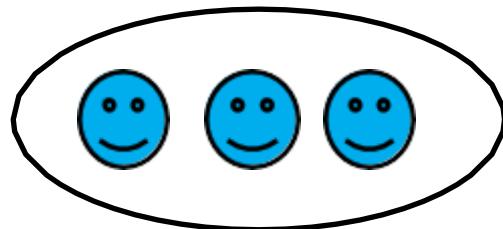
What you want



41 / 55

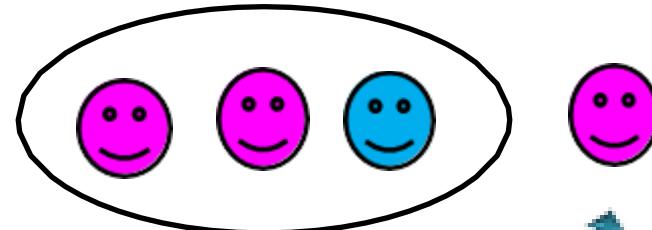
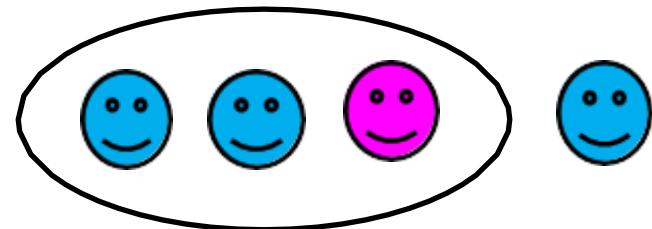
What you get

# Grouping of Replicates



What you want

42 / 55

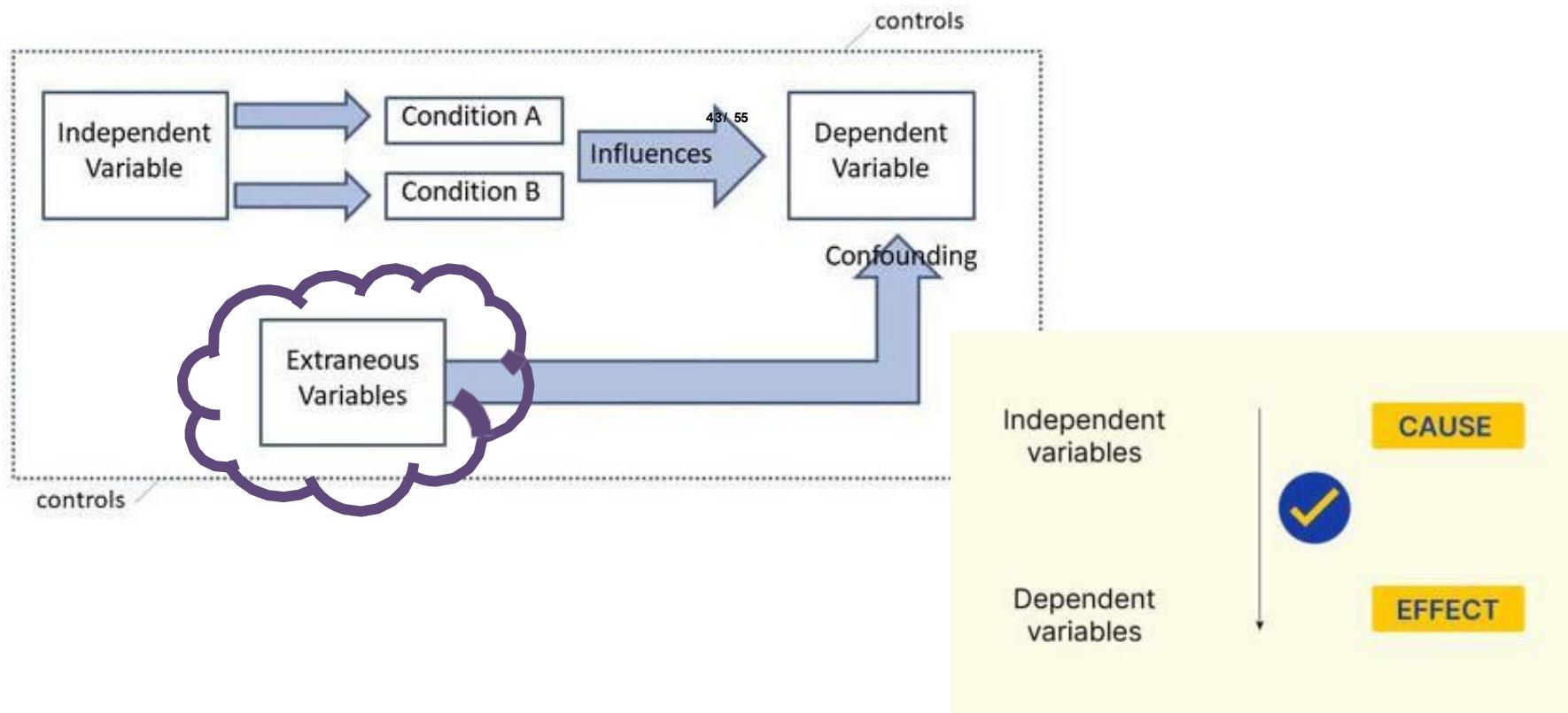


What you get

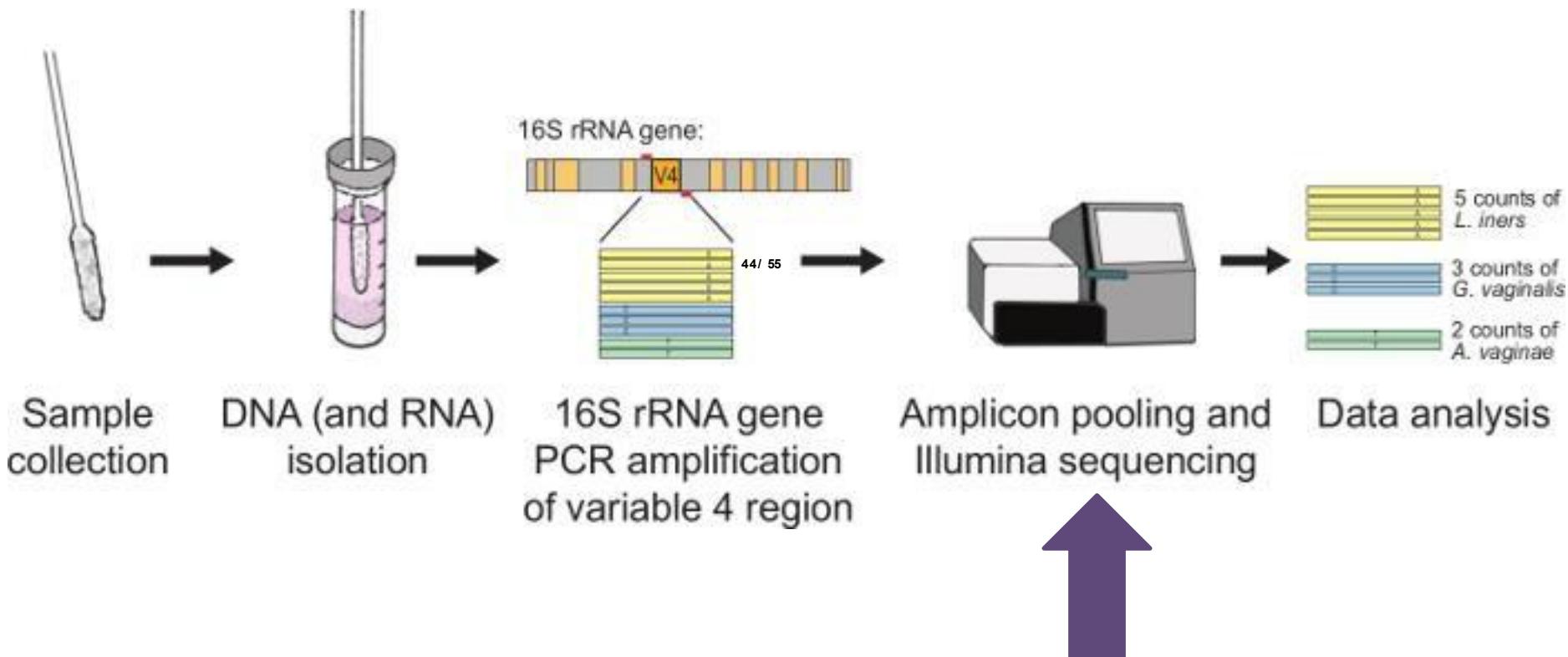
That spare comes in handy  
Highly recommend especially  
with mice!

# What causes this? Confounding variables

A variable that influences or *confounds* the relationship between an independent and dependent variable

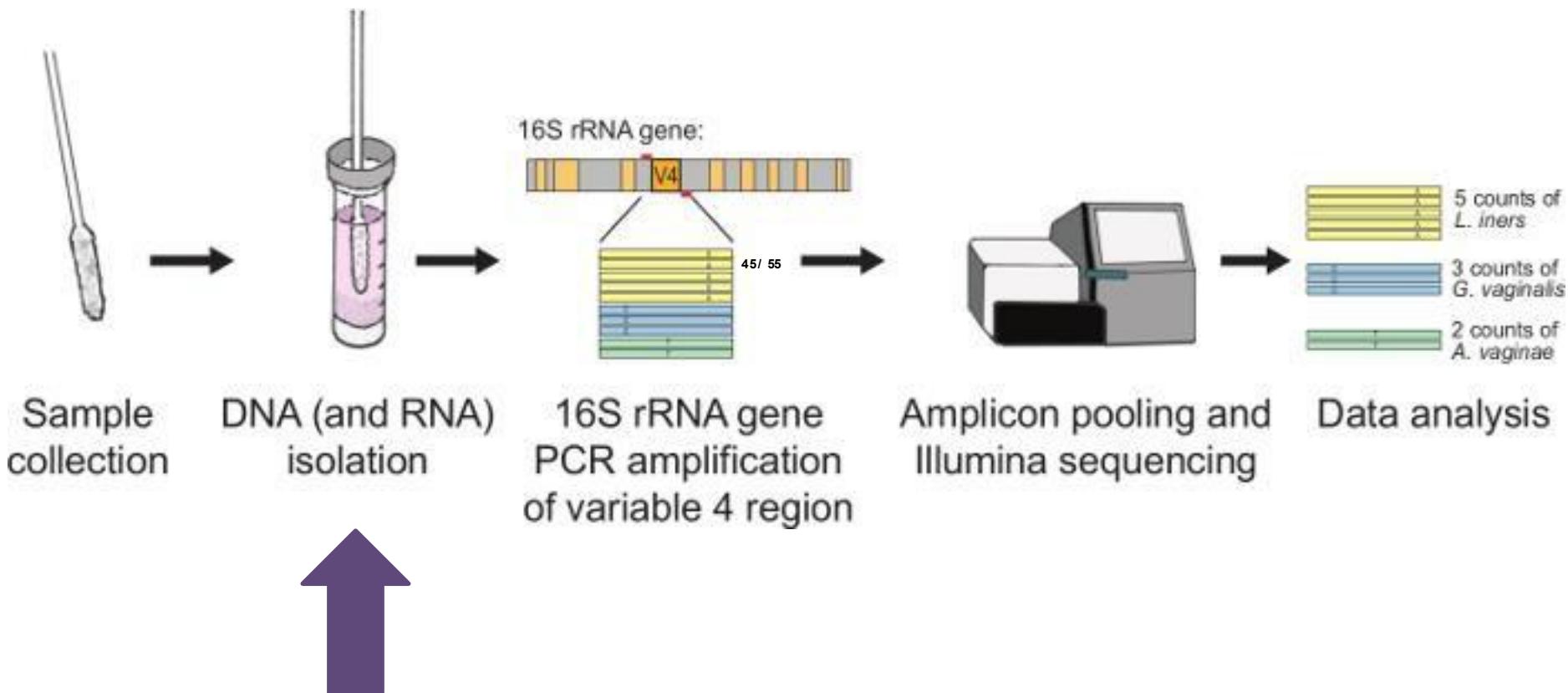


# Examples of confounding variables



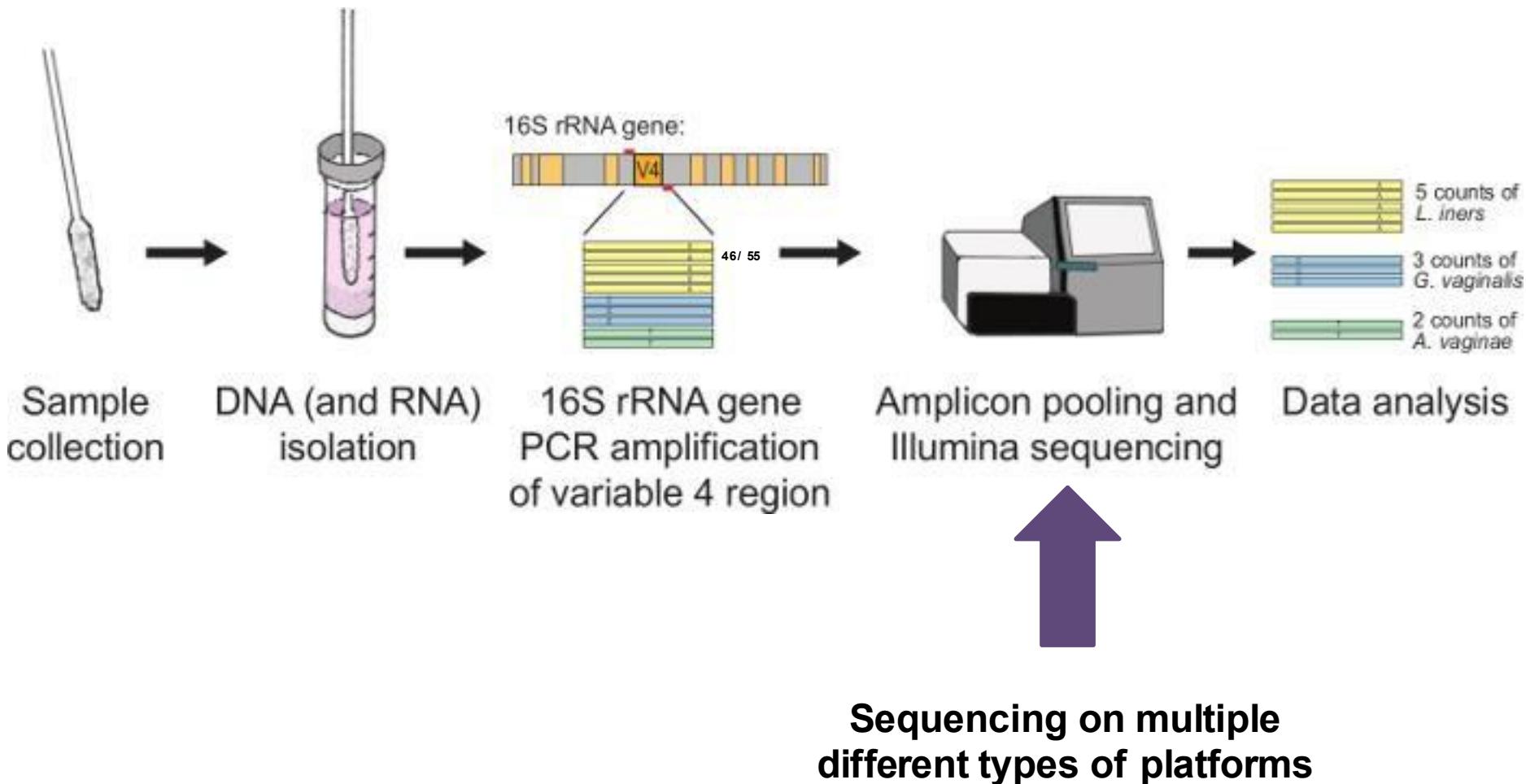
A new technician is running the sequencer

# Examples of confounding variables

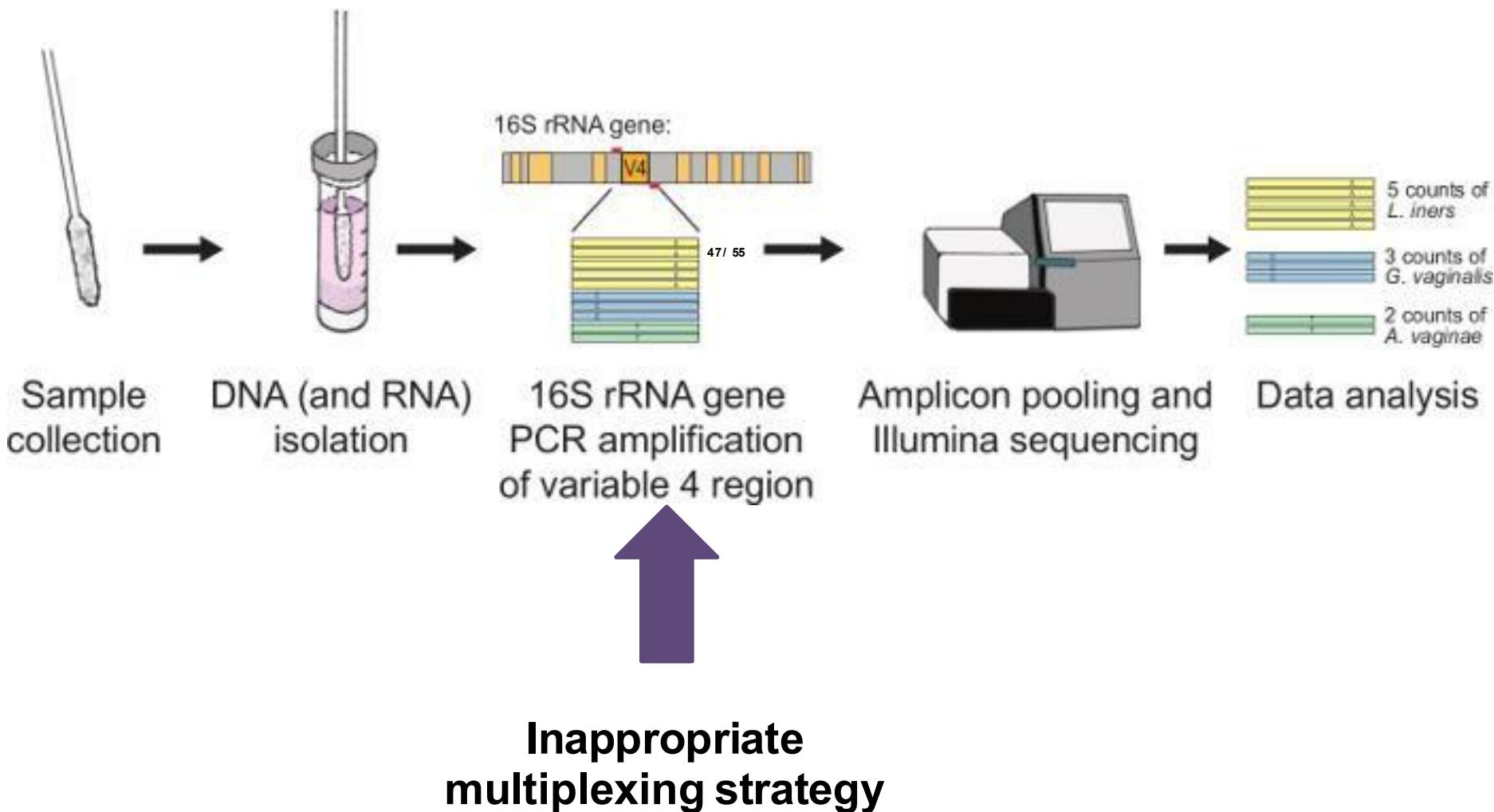


**Extracting DNA/RNA with  
two different kits!**

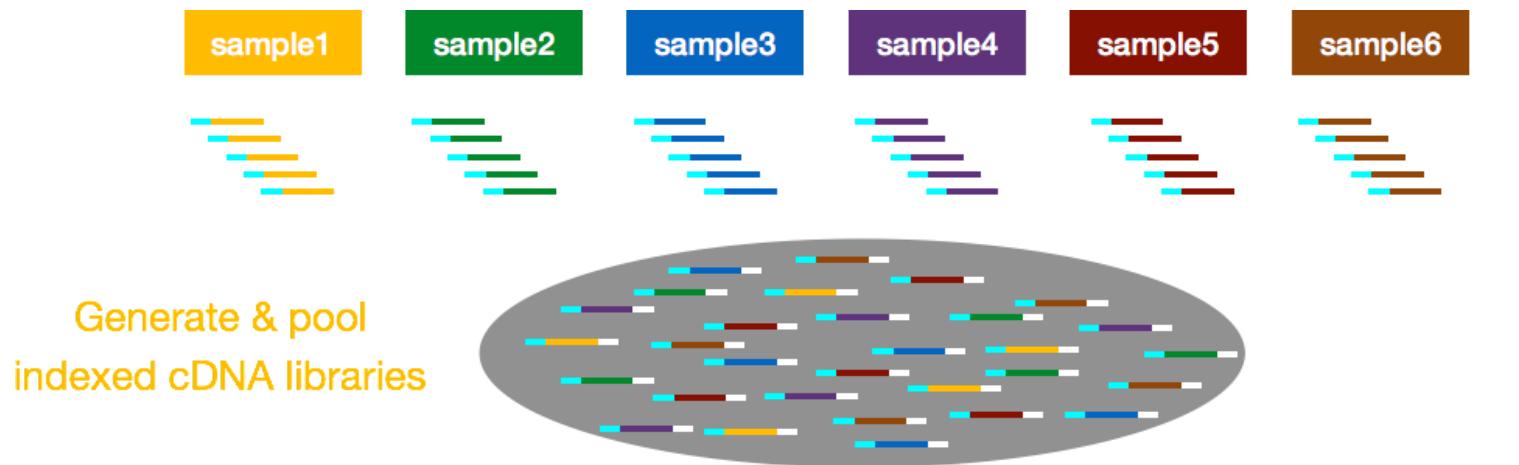
# Examples of confounding variables



# Examples of confounding variables



# Multiplexing



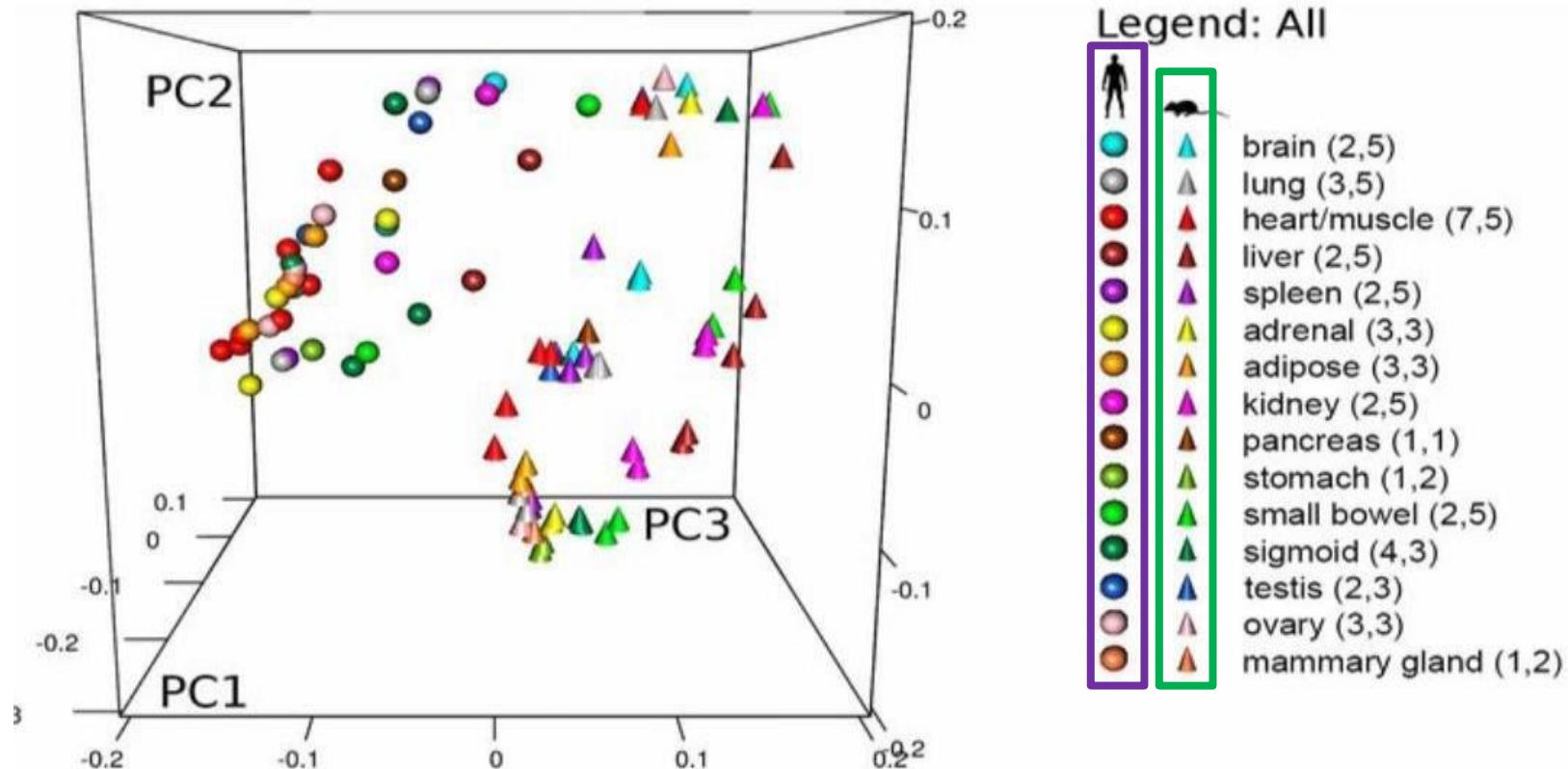
Sequence pooled  
libraries on a single  
lane



*in silico:* Demultiplex  
the data on index

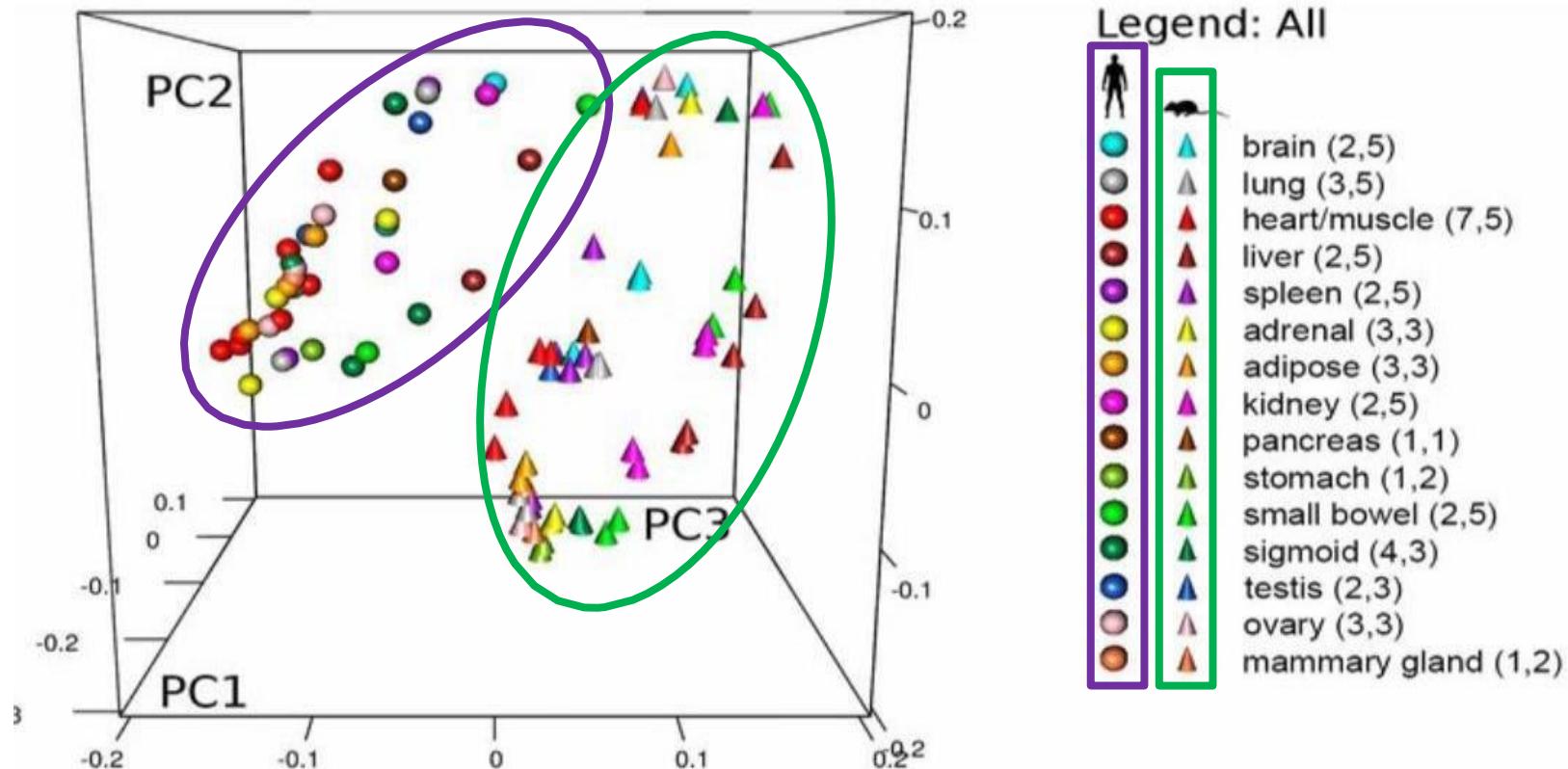


ENCODE reported that gene expression was likely to follow a species-specific rather tissue-specific pattern



<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1413624111>

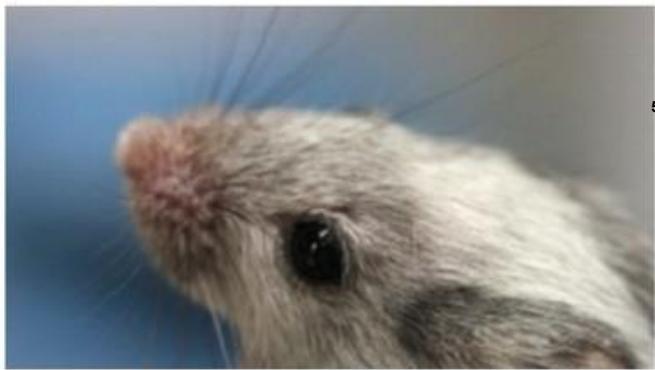
ENCODE reported that gene expression was likely to follow a species-specific rather tissue-specific pattern



Reanalysis of Mouse ENCODE data suggests mouse and human genes are expressed in tissue-specific, rather than species-specific, patterns.

May 19, 2015

JYOTI MADHUSOODANAN



WIKIMEDIA, RAMA

Late last year, members of the Mouse ENCODE consortium [reported](#) in *PNAS* that, across a wide range of tissues, gene expression was more likely to follow a [species-specific](#) rather than tissue-specific pattern. For example, genes in the mouse heart were expressed in a pattern more similar to that of other mouse tissues, such as the brain or liver, than the human heart.  
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But earlier this month, [Yoav Gilad](#) of the University of Chicago called these results into question [on Twitter](#). With a dozen or so 140-character dispatches (including three heat maps), Gilad suggested the results published in *PNAS* were an anomaly—a result of how the tissue samples were sequenced in different batches. If this “batch effect” was eliminated, he proposed, mouse and human tissues clustered in a tissue-specific manner, confirming previous results rather than supporting the conclusions reported by the Mouse ENCODE team.

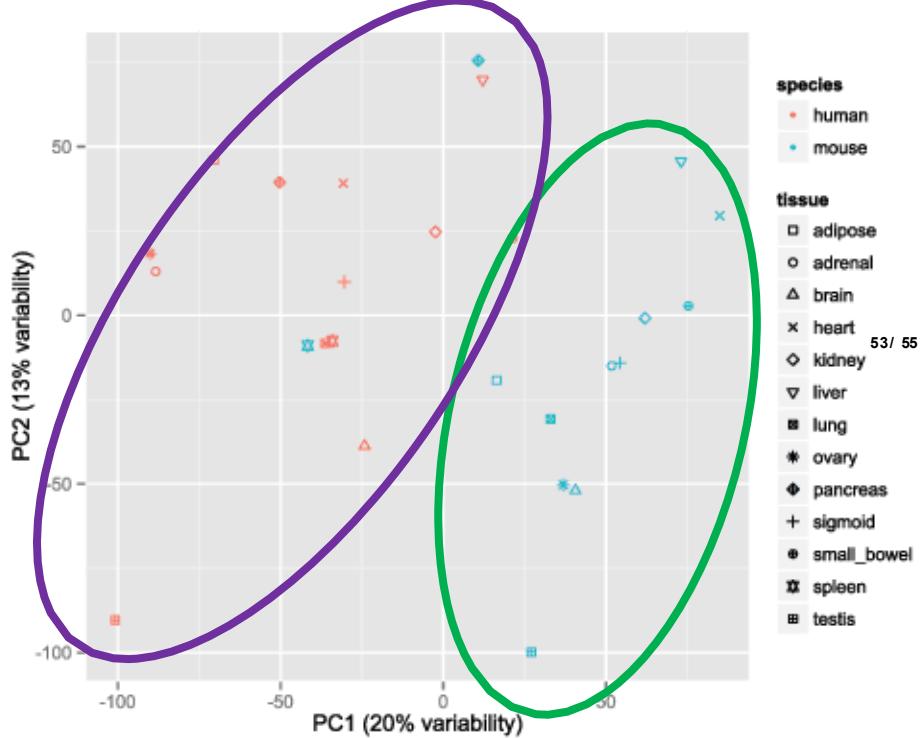
Sequence study design (sequencer ID, run ID, lane number):

| D87PMJN1<br>(run 253,<br>lane 7) | D87PMJN1<br>(run 253,<br>lane 8) | D4LHBFN1<br>(run 276,<br>lane 4)          | MONK<br>(run 312,<br>lane 6) | HWI-<br>ST373 (run<br>375, lane<br>7) |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| heart                            | adipose                          | adipose                                   | heart                        | brain                                 |
| kidney                           | adrenal                          | adrenal                                   | kidney                       | pancreas                              |
| liver                            | sigmoid<br>colon                 | sigmoid<br><small>52/ 55</small><br>colon | liver                        | brain                                 |
| small<br>bowel                   | lung                             | lung                                      | small<br>bowel               | spleen                                |
| spleen                           | ovary                            | ovary                                     | testis                       | ● human                               |
| testis                           |                                  | pancreas                                  |                              | ● mouse                               |

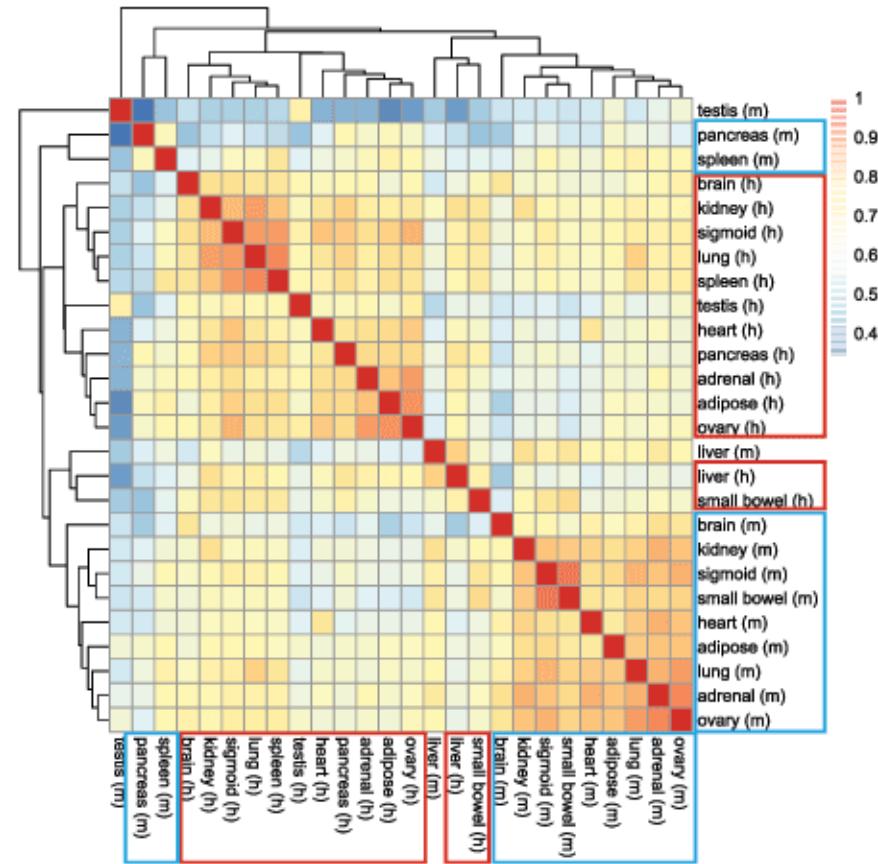
Sequencing lane (a batch effect) was almost completely confounded with species in the PNAS study. From  
 @Y\_Gilad

# Before accounting for batch effect

a



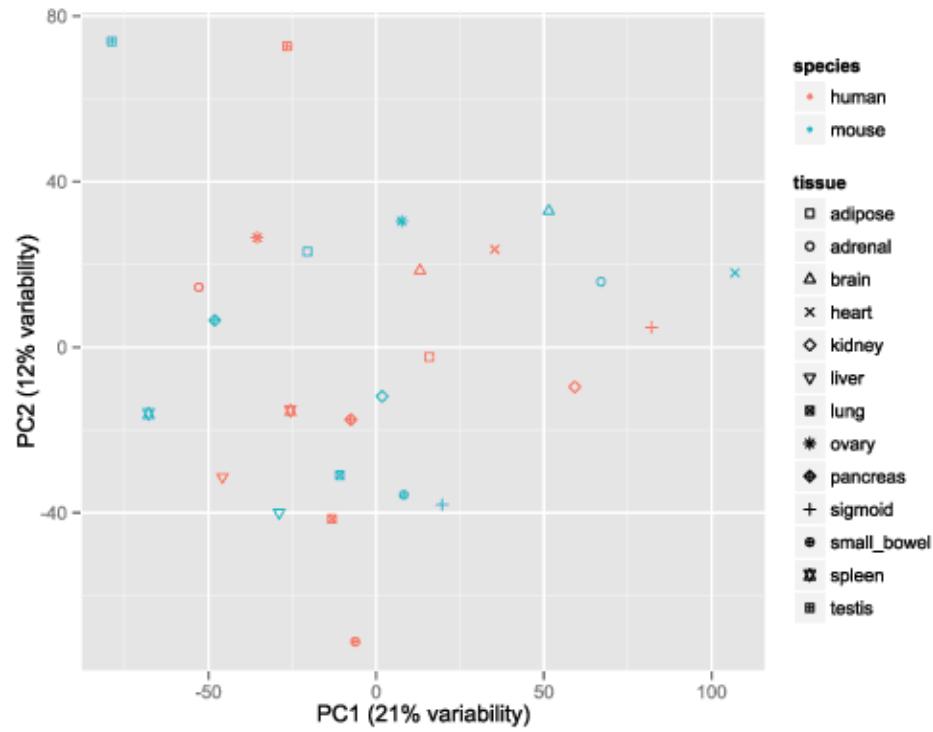
b



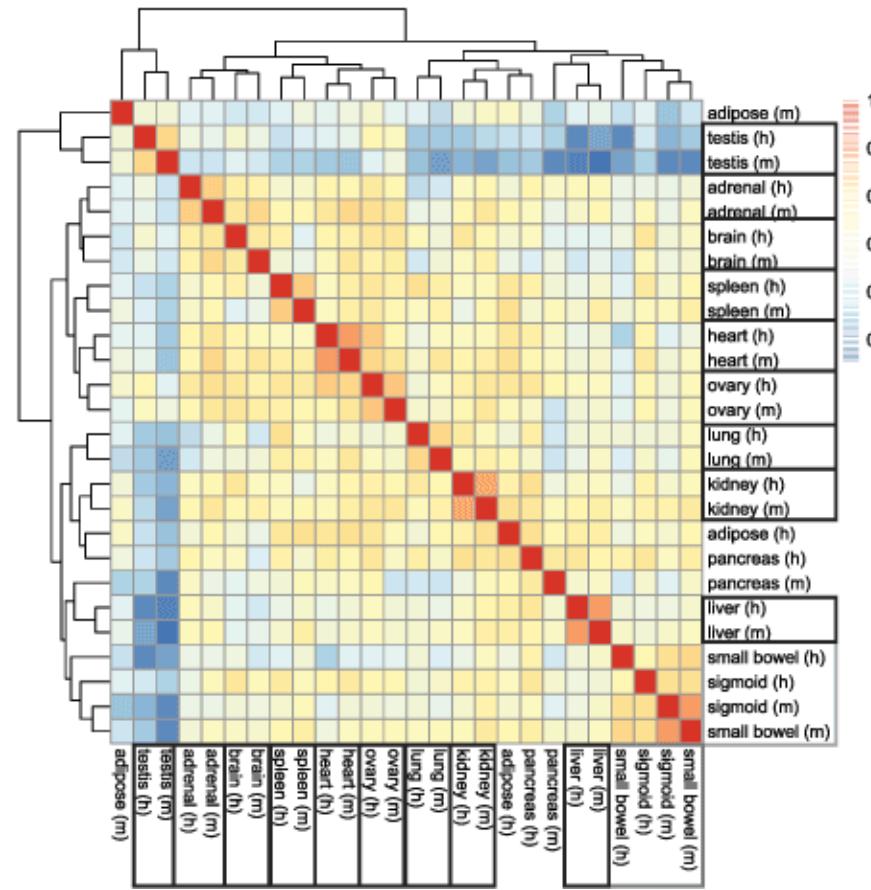
*Samples grouped by animal*

# After accounting for batch effect

a



b



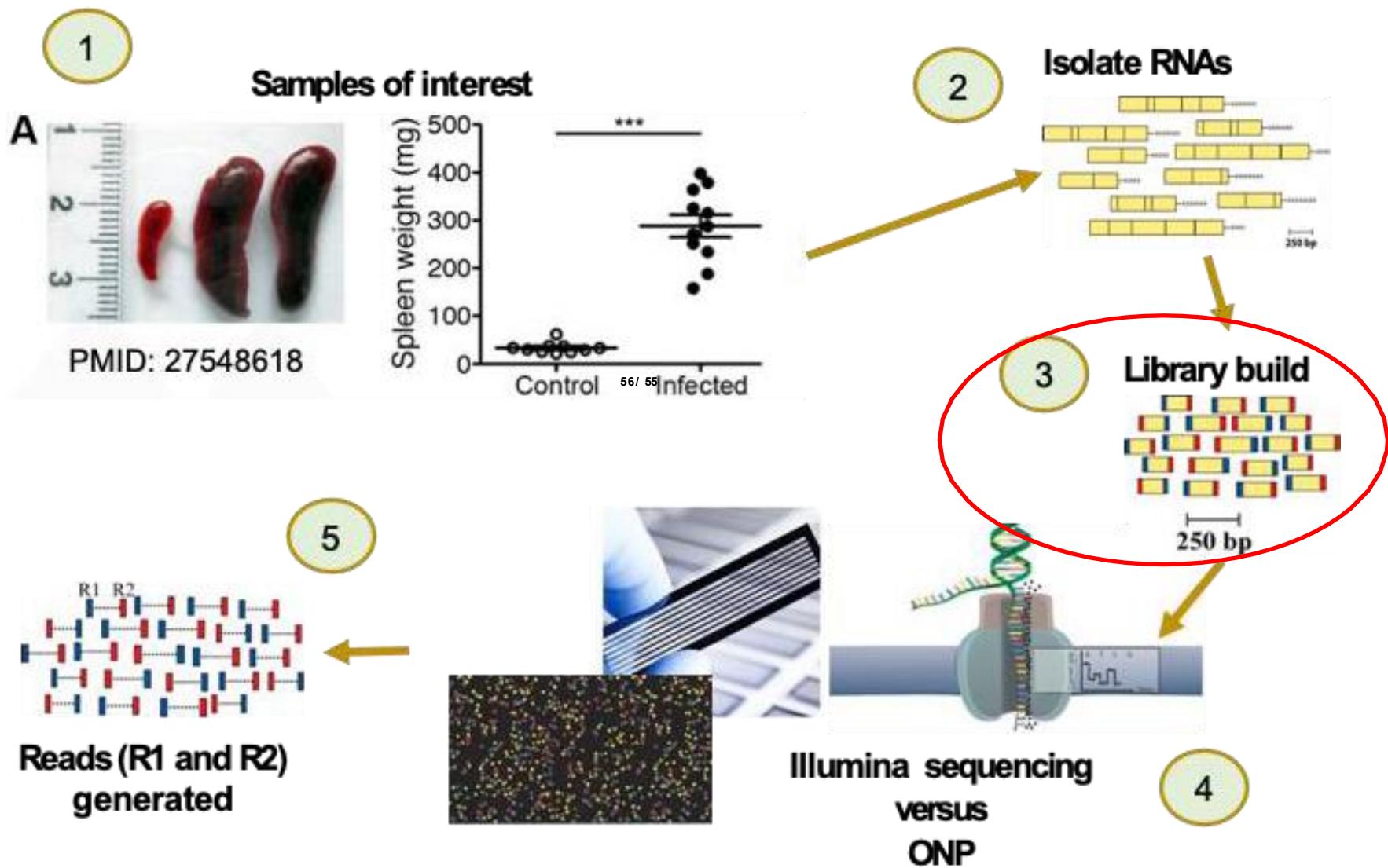
*Samples now grouped by tissue!*

# *What does this all means?*

- Its sometimes impossible for bioinformaticians to partition biological variation from technical variation, when these two sources of variation **are confounded**.
- No amount of statistical sophistication can separate confounded factors after<sup>55/ 55</sup> data have been collected.
- *...these confounding variables may or may not be in your control!*

**A well-planned experiment with an additional sample, does end up saving you time and money down the road. Its up to you to recognize this!**

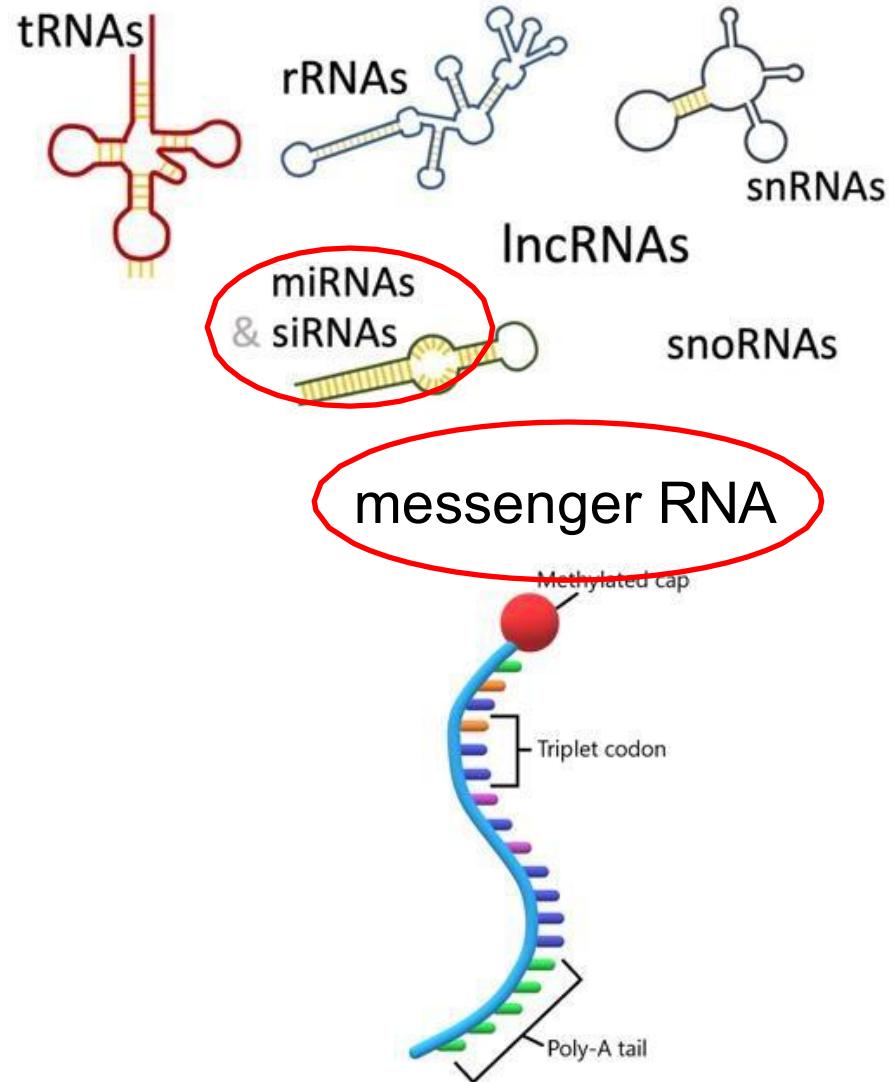
# Experimental workflow



# RNA composition

RNA comes in many different flavors

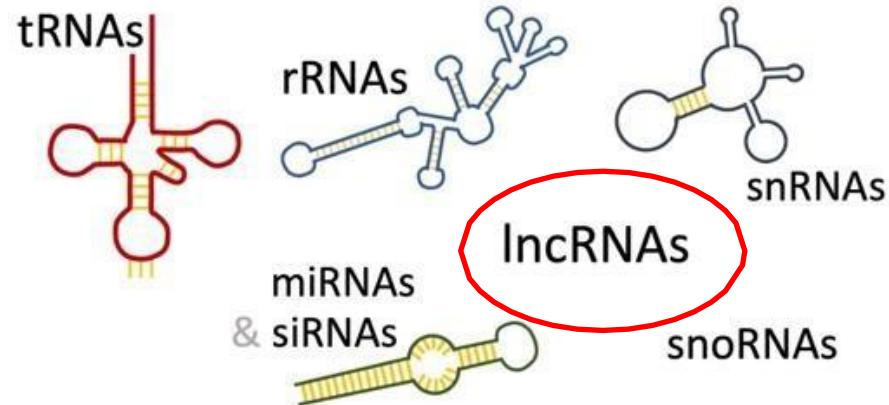
- Ribosomal-related RNAs:
  - rRNA, tRNA, snoRNA (up to 90% of RNAs)
- Protein-coding RNAs:
  - mRNA
- Regulatory RNAs:
  - microRNAs, IncRNAs



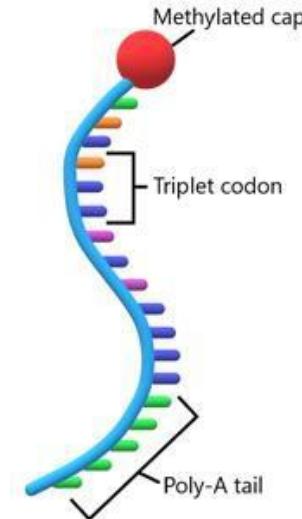
# RNA composition

RNA comes in many different flavors

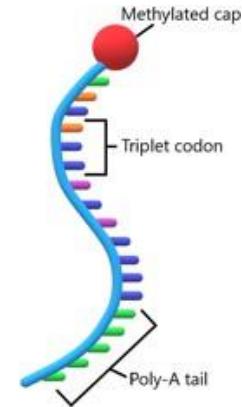
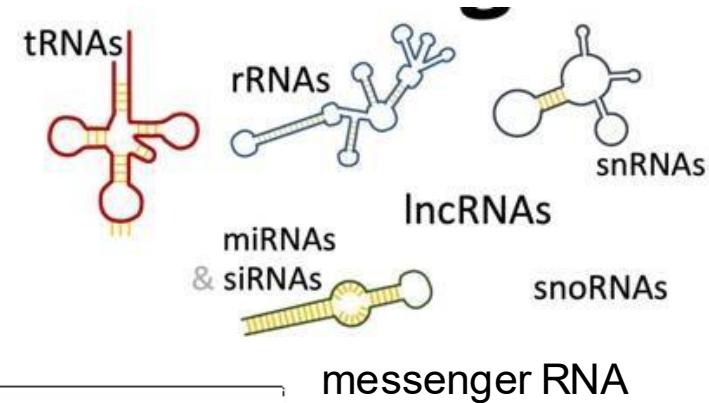
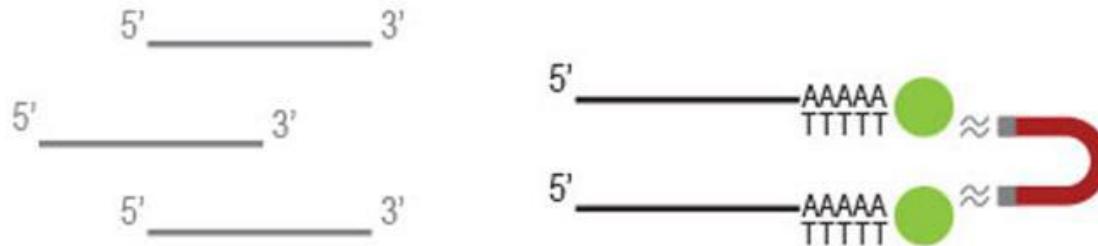
- Ribosomal-related RNAs:
  - rRNA, tRNA, snoRNA (up to 90% of RNAs)
- Protein-coding RNAs:
  - mRNA
- Regulatory RNAs:
  - microRNAs, IncRNAs



messenger RNA

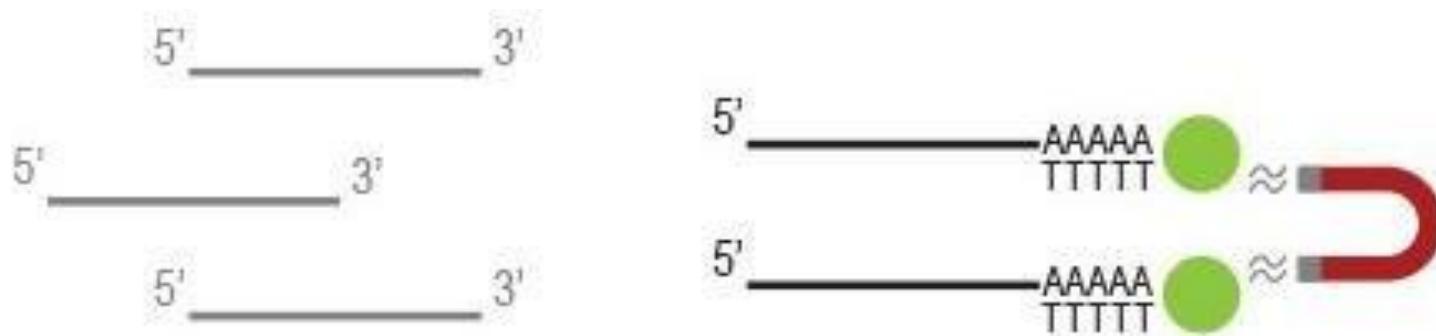


The RNA sample undergoes either selection of the mRNA (polyA selection) or depletion of the rRNA. The resulting RNA is fragmented.



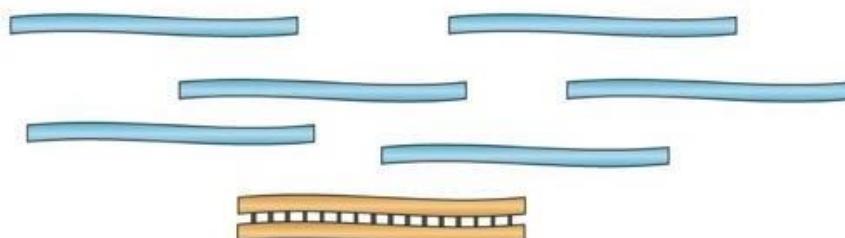
# Poly-A versus rRNA depletion?

- If you are aiming to obtain information about long non-coding RNA's I recommend performing ribosomal RNA depletion
- Bacterial mRNAs are also not poly-adenylated

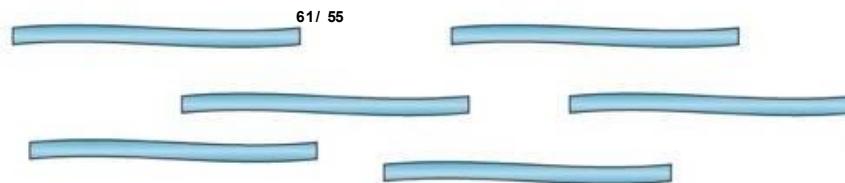


# Illumina Library preparation

① mRNA or total RNA

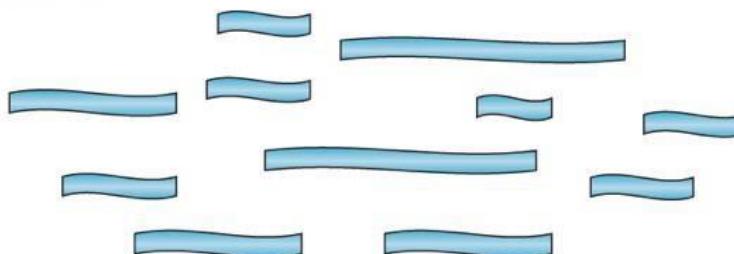


② Remove contaminant DNA

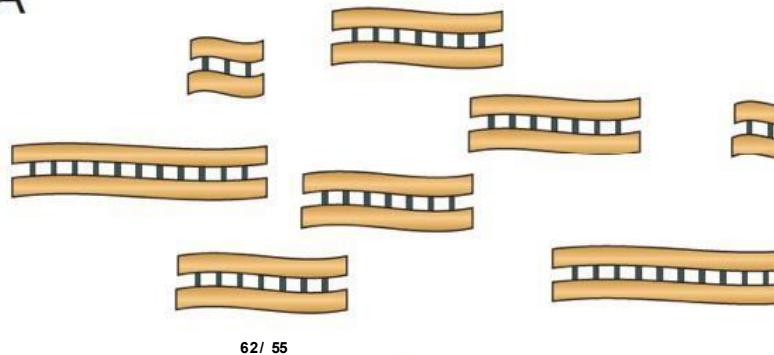


Remove rRNA?  
Select mRNA?

③ Fragment RNA

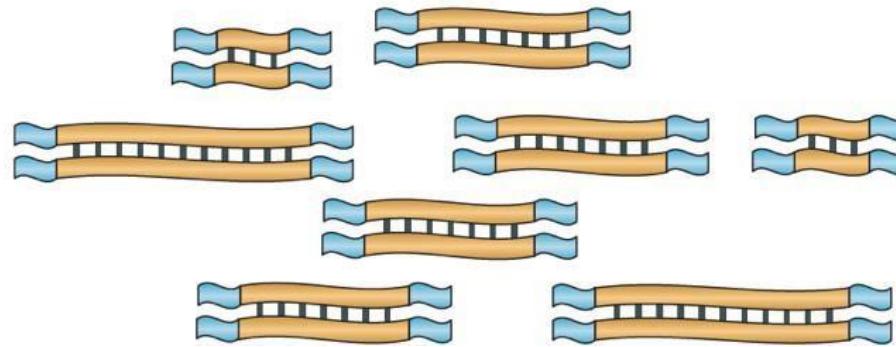


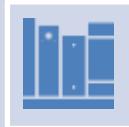
④ Reverse transcribe  
into cDNA



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⑤ Ligate sequence adaptors





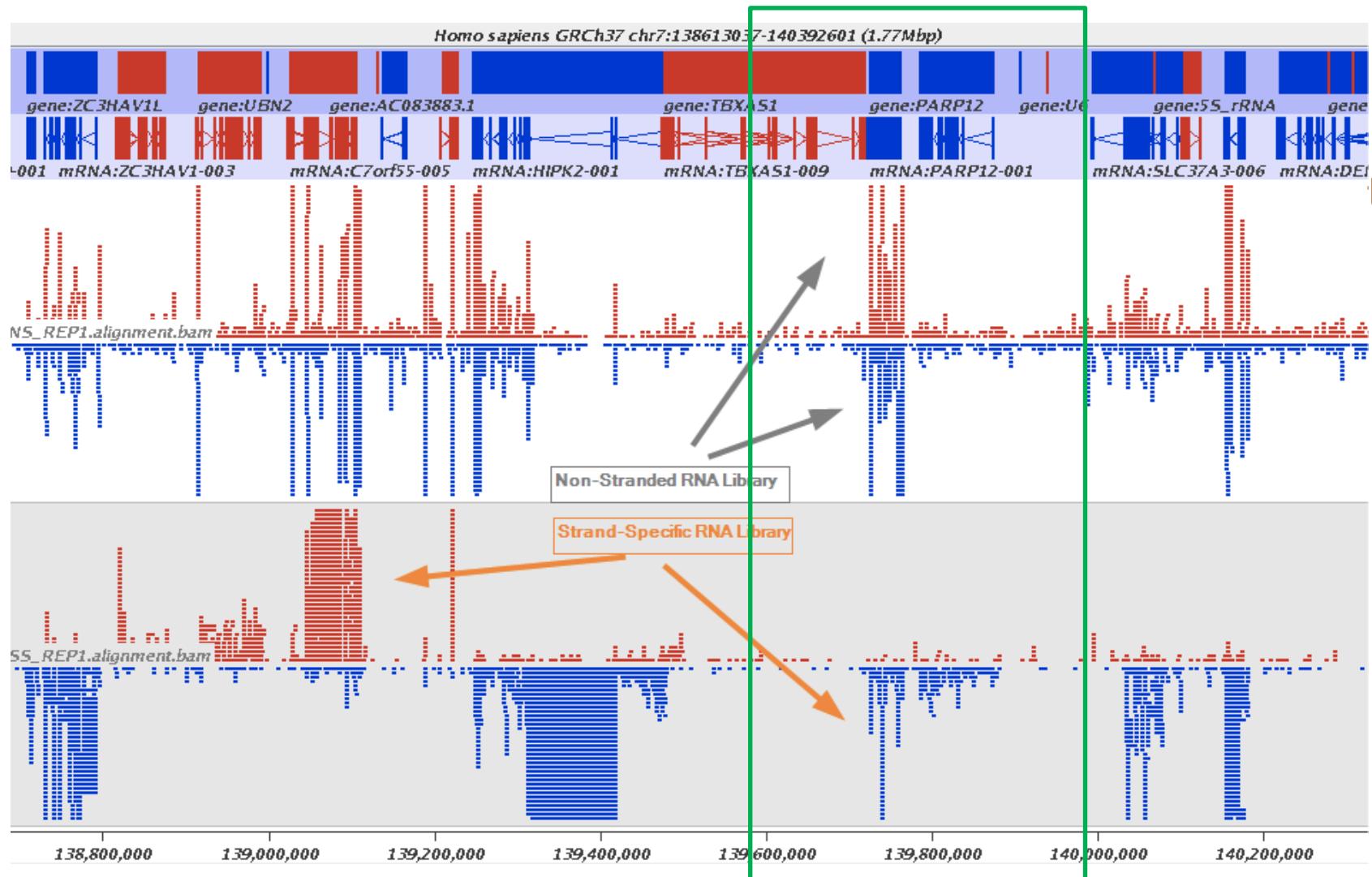
Another consideration is whether to generate strand-preserving libraries



Libraries can be stranded or unstranded



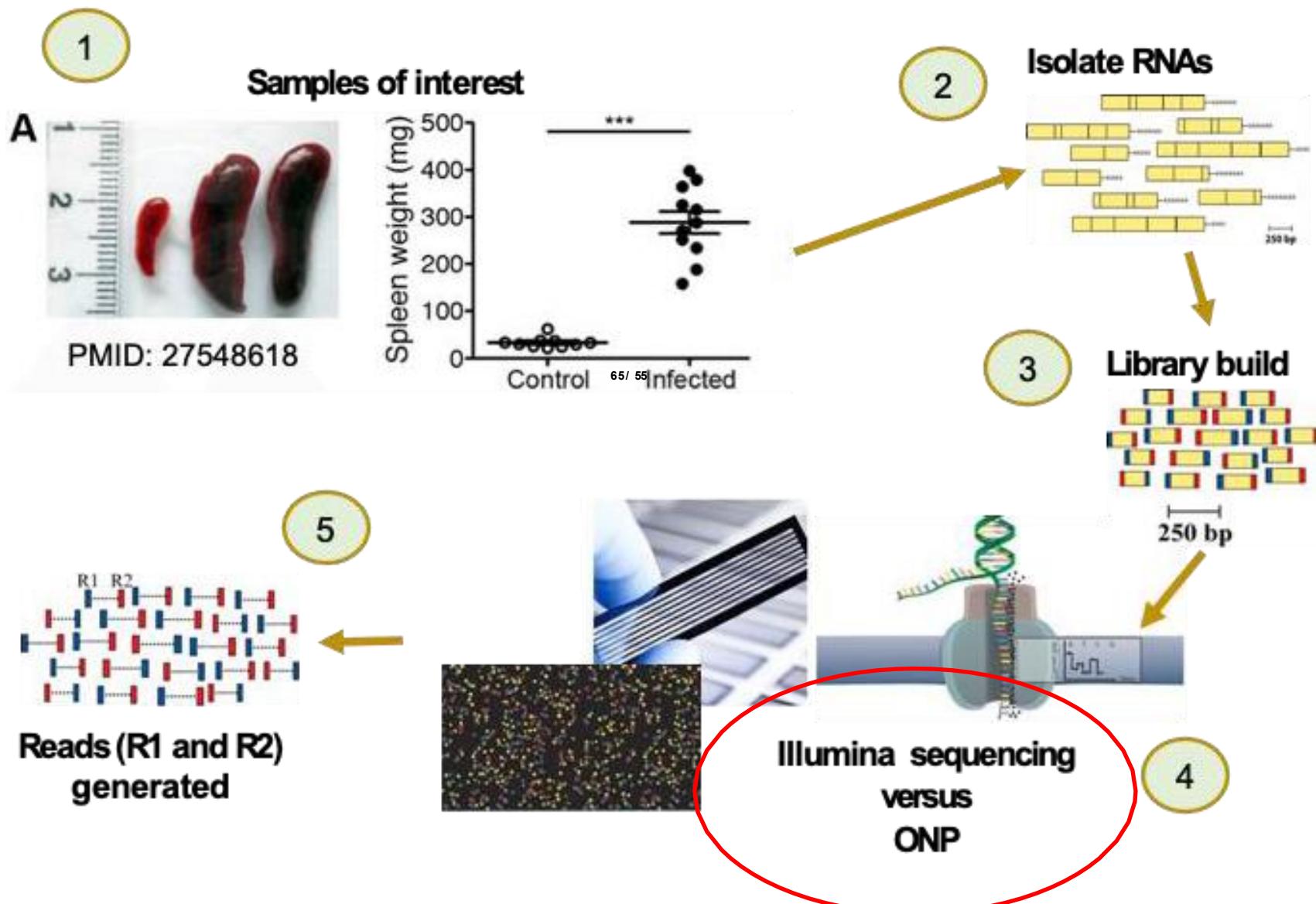
The implication of **stranded** libraries is that you could distinguish whether the reads are derived from forward or reverse-encoded transcripts



**Red = + strand**

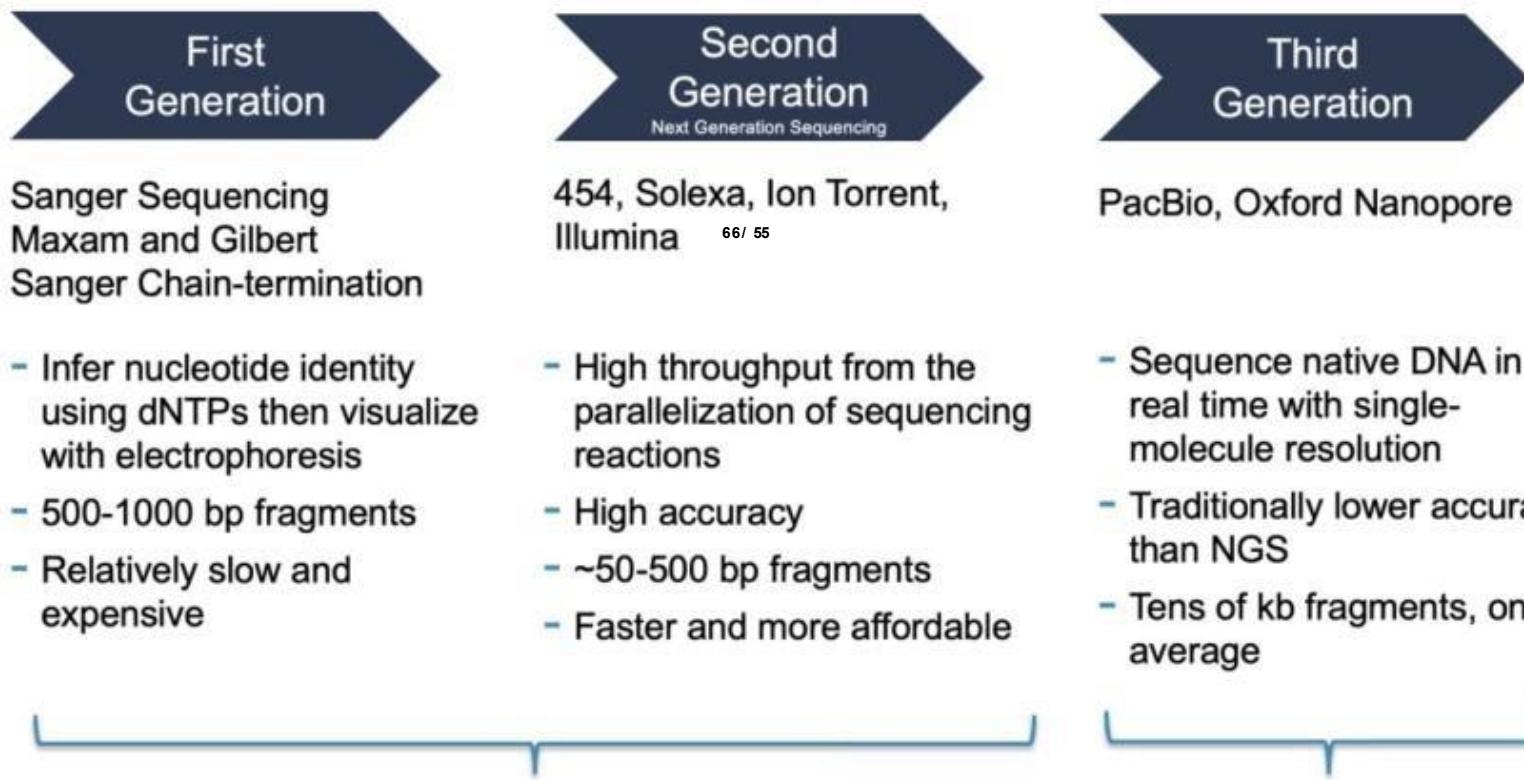
**Blue = - strand**

# Experimental workflow



# Two main approaches in NGS: short-read vs long-read

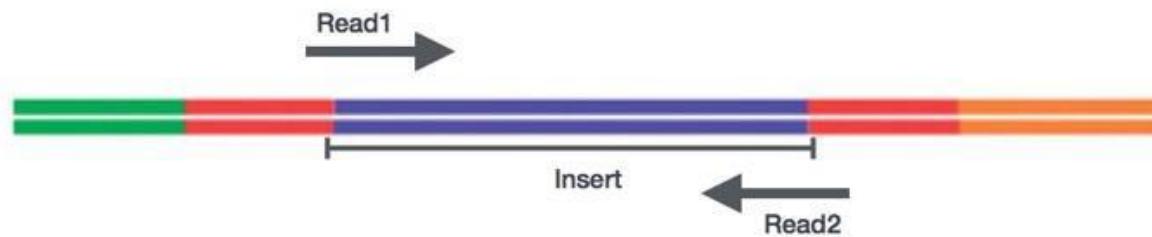
## THE EVOLUTION OF SEQUENCING



*The bioinformatic pipeline for these are different!*

# Single-end versus Paired-end

After preparation of the libraries, sequencing can be performed to generate the nucleotide sequences of the ends of the fragments, which are called **reads**. You will have the choice of sequencing a single end of the cDNA fragments (single-end reads) or both ends of the fragments (paired-end reads).



**Figure 10:** Paired End Reads

- SE => Only Read1 => one FASTQ file/sample
- PE => Read1 + Read2 => **two FASTQ files/sample**

# What is the Advantage of Longer and PE Reads?



- Reads mapping to junctions
  - With longer reads we will have more reads spanning exons
  - Isoforms or distinguishing paralogs

## ➤ Paired end reads

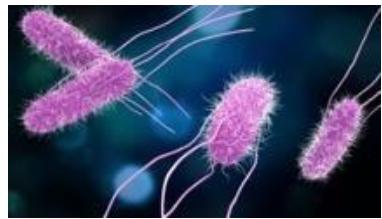
Knowing both ends of a fragment and an approximation of fragment size helps to determine the transcript from which it was derived.

# In Summary, to quantify Differential Gene Expression

- Technology: Illumina
- Read length: 50bp to 300 bp
- Paired vs single end: *doesn't matter but important to note*  
69 / 55
- Number of reads: > 15 million per sample
- Replicates: 3 biological replicates  
*minimum*

*A well-planned experiment goes a long way!*

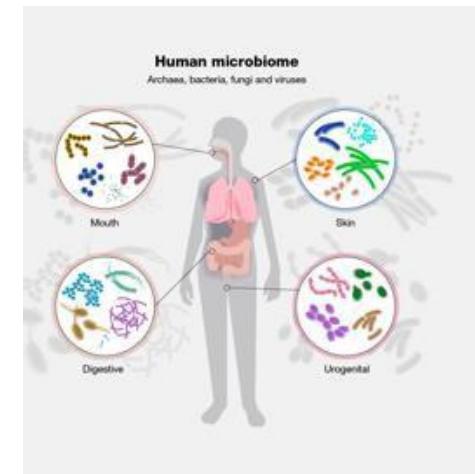
# Final projects from the years have spanned the following topics:



*Salmonella enterica*



Applications of  
organoids as research  
models

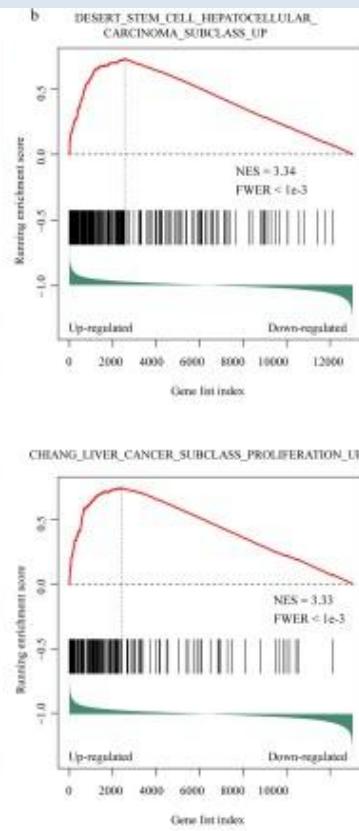
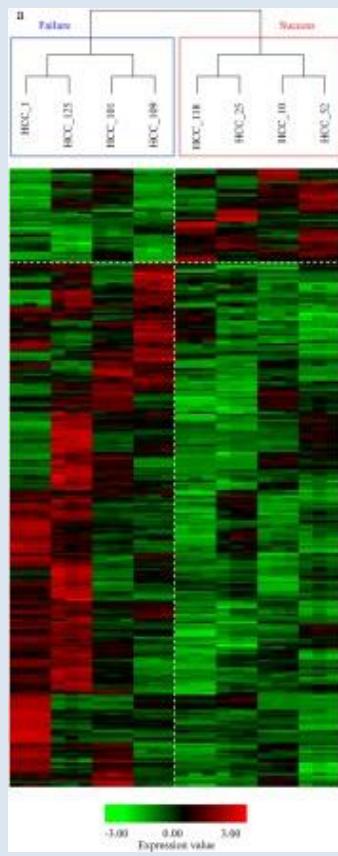


Dengue

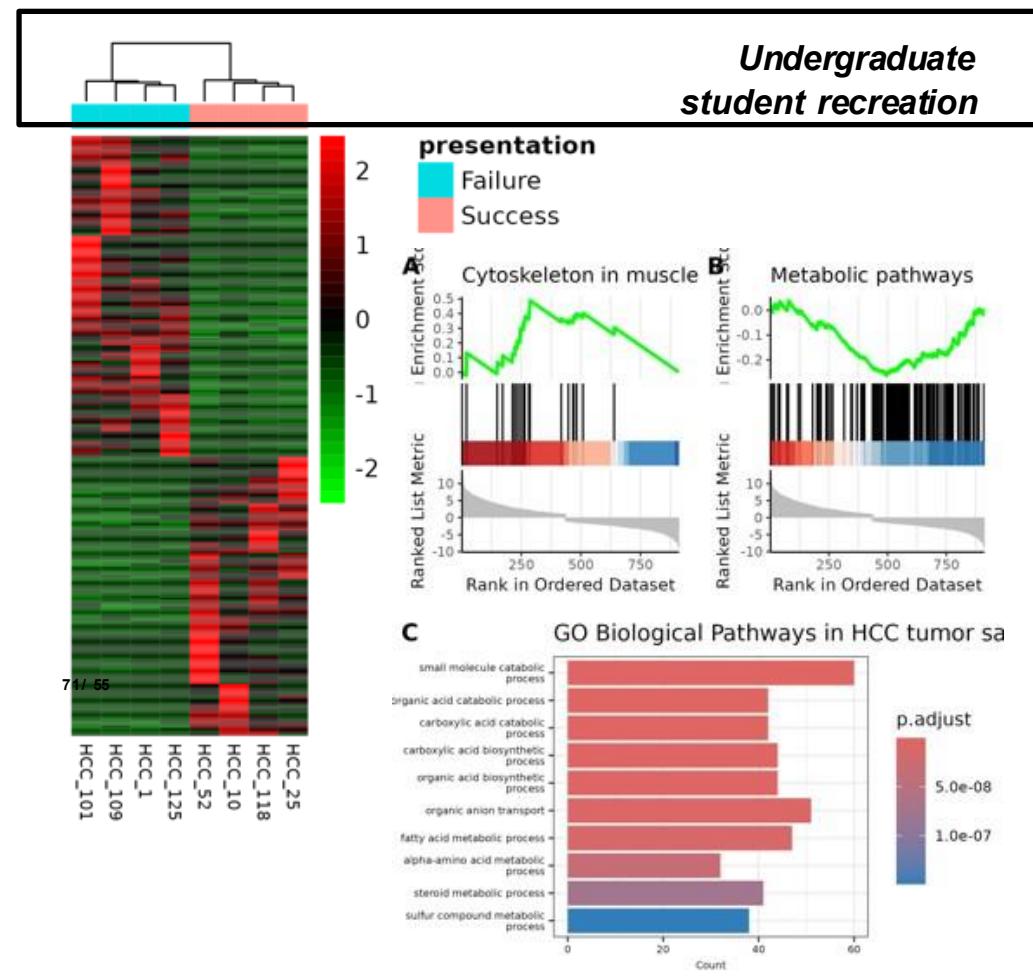
Breast cancer

And more....!

## Undergraduate student recreation



**Original Published Work**



**Green Trail**  
UG credentials:  
1-semester of intro bioinformatics

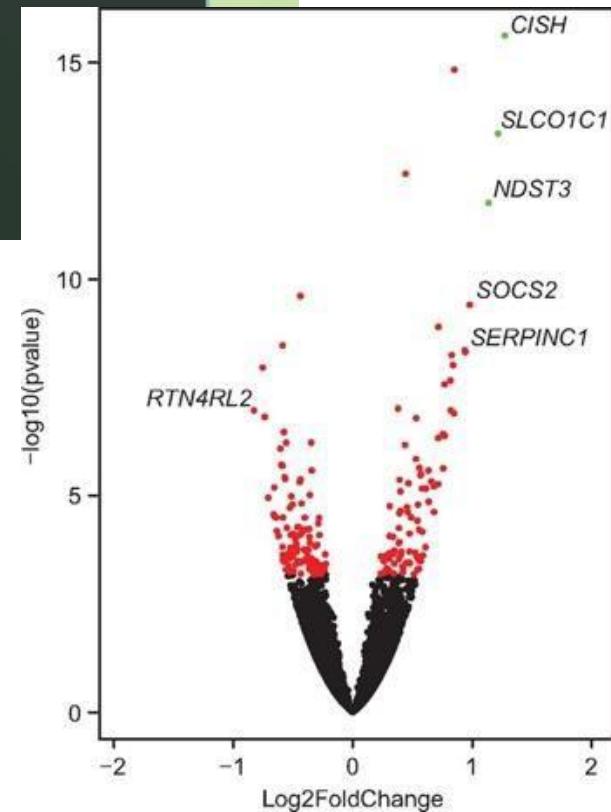
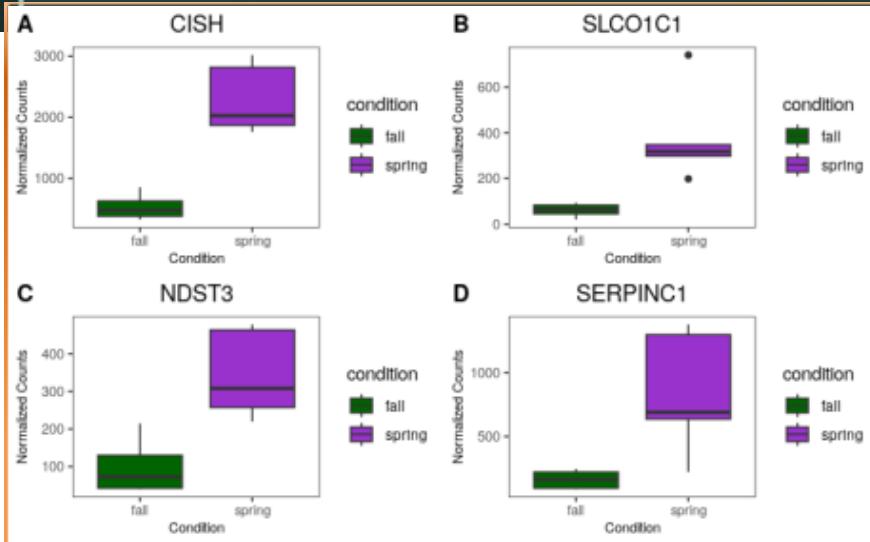
## Research Question



**Black Trail**  
UG credentials:  
1-semester of intro  
bioinformatics

Due to the strong relationship between the kidney and the heart, which differentially expressed genes in bear kidneys are related to cardiac pathways?

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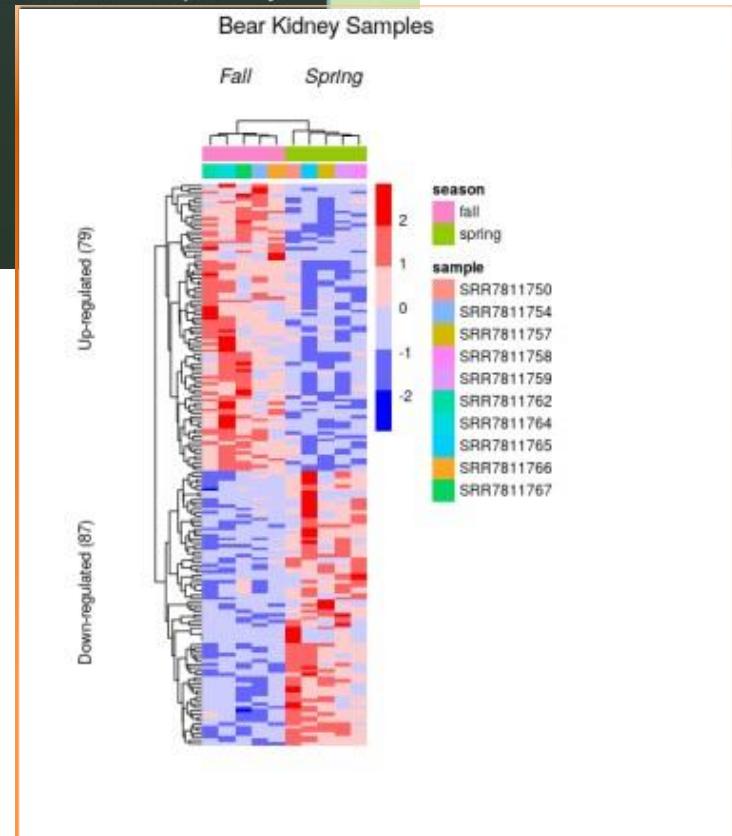
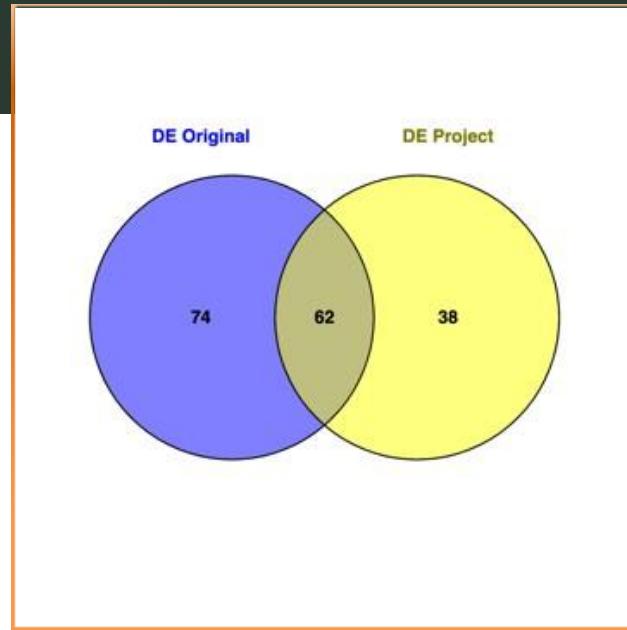


## Research Question



**Black Trail**  
UG credentials:  
1-semester of intro  
bioinformatics

Due to the strong relationship between the kidney and the heart, which differentially expressed genes in bear kidneys are related to cardiac pathways?



# Design

## How *Lactobacillus plantarum* shapes its transcriptome in response to contrasting habitats

"Aiming at elucidating how *L. plantarum* regulates and shapes its transcriptome in response to contrasting habitats."

Triplets from nine model media:

- A. mellifera L. worker bees
- D. melanogaster
- Human omnivore and vegan feces
- Table olives
- Tomato and pineapple juices
- Wheat flour hydrolysate
- Cheese broth.

François Filannino,<sup>1</sup> Maria De Angelis,<sup>1,2</sup>  
Raffaele Di Cagno,<sup>1</sup> Giorgia Gualdi,<sup>1</sup> Vincenzo Ricupero<sup>3</sup>  
and Marco Gozzini<sup>1</sup>

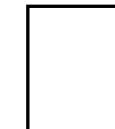
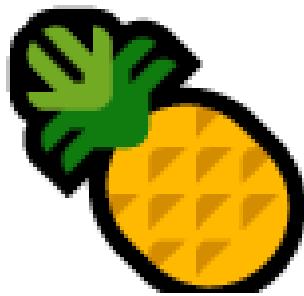
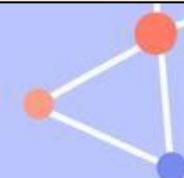
<sup>1</sup>Department of Biol., Plant and Food Sciences,  
University of Bari Aldo Moro, Bari, Italy.

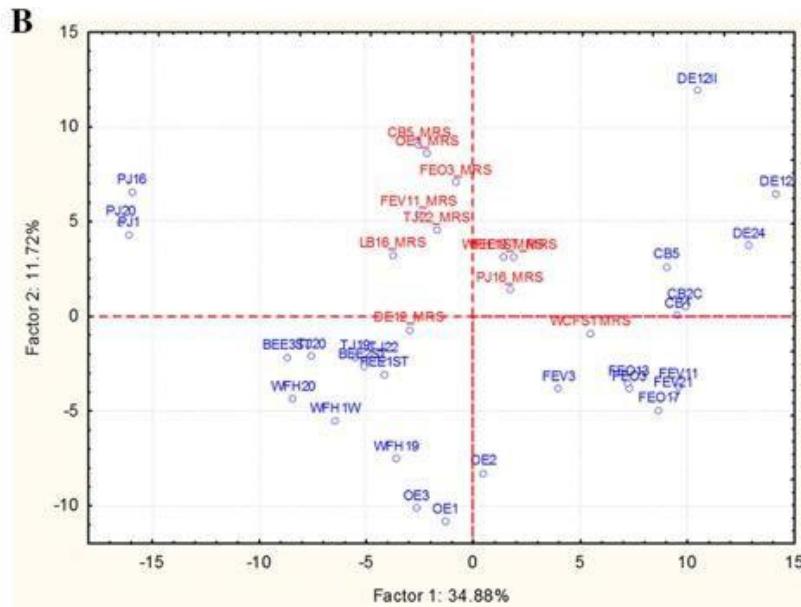
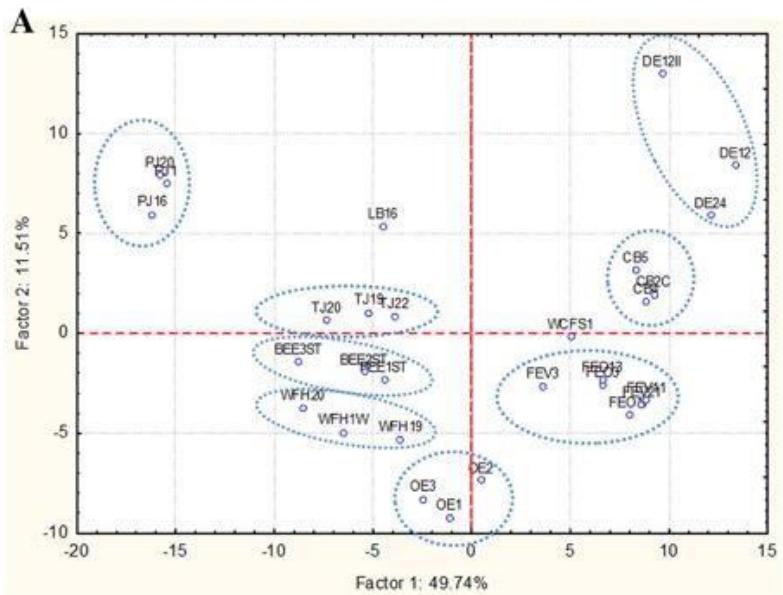
<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Science and Technology, Free University of  
Bozen, Italy

<sup>3</sup>Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences, Alma  
Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy.

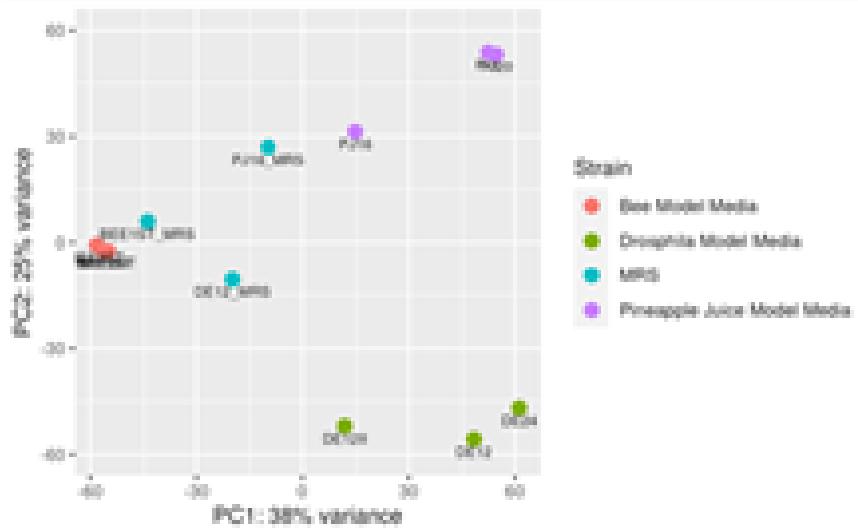
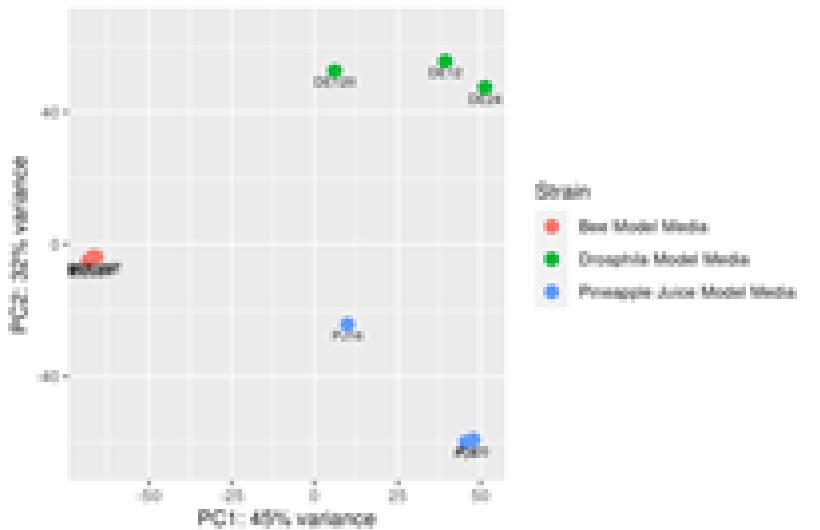
**Green Trail**  
UG credentials:  
1-semester of intro  
bioinformatics

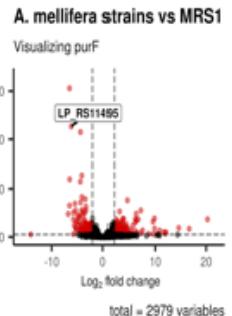
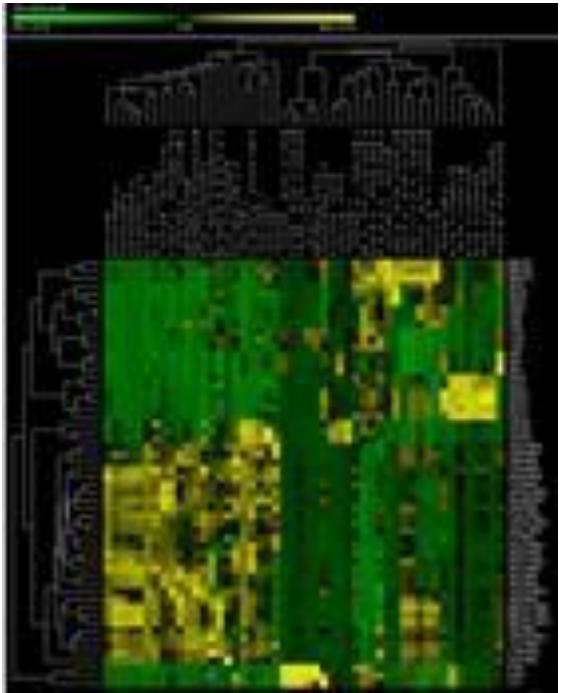
Later cultivation on MRS broth with two reference strains: WCFS1 and LB16



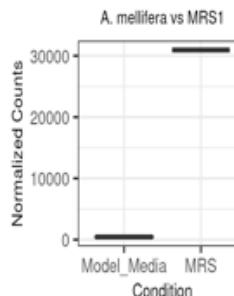


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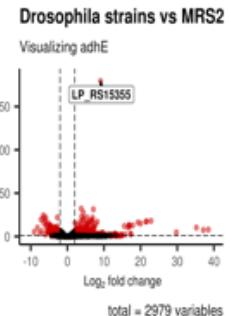




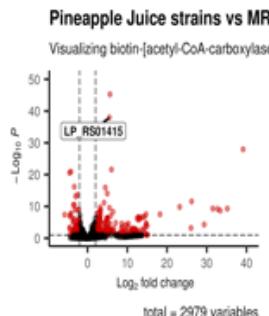
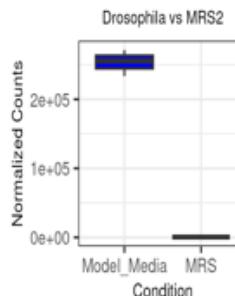
**purF**



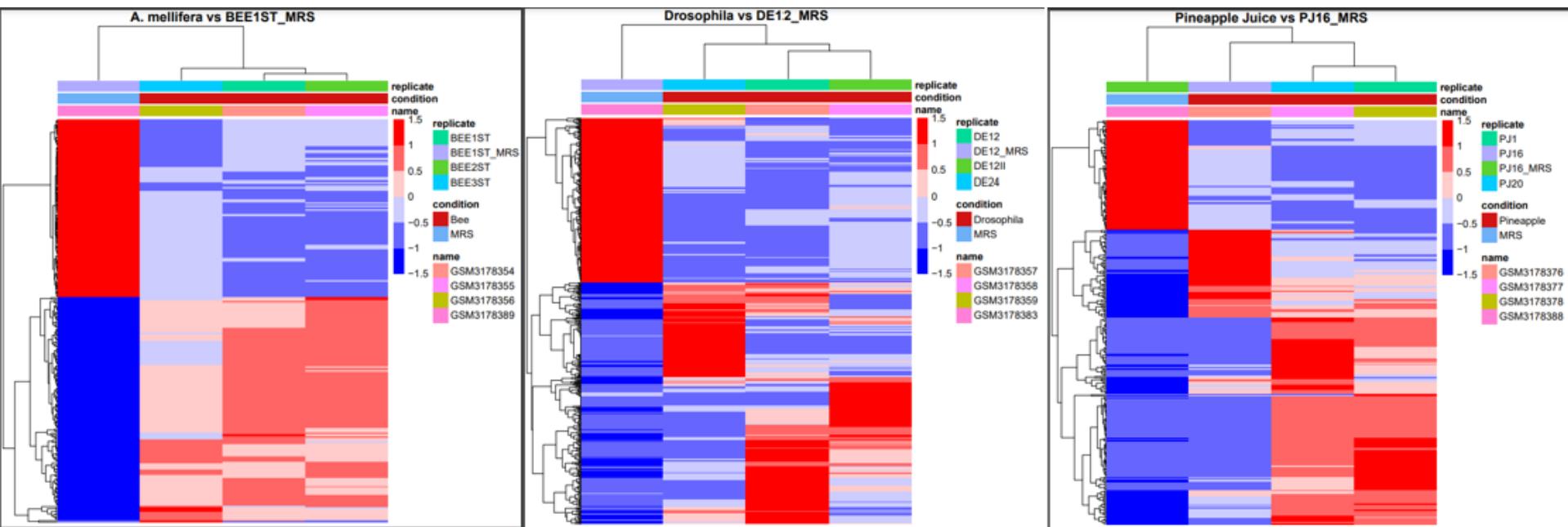
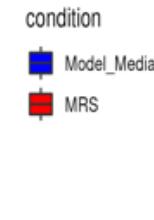
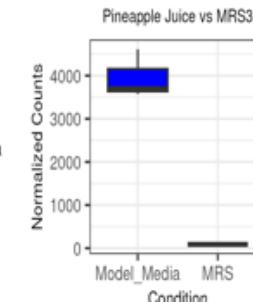
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**AdhE**



**Biotin-[acetyl-CoA-carboxylase] ligase**



# HW #5 (Due Feb 20<sup>th</sup>)

**For this homework assignment, please identify the primary research article and samples you would like to perform this bioinformatic reanalysis on.**

Keep in mind that each reanalysis will be performed with a specific, larger “goal” in mind.

These goals are specific to the trail selected and can be broadly summarized as: 1) to replicate the findings from the authors (**Green Mountain**), 2) alter the bioinformatic pipeline and understand how this impacts the final findings (**Blue Sky**), or 3) use the dataset to test an original hypothesis (**Black Diamond**).