

# Making Deep Learning Understandable for Analyzing Sequential Data about Gene Regulation

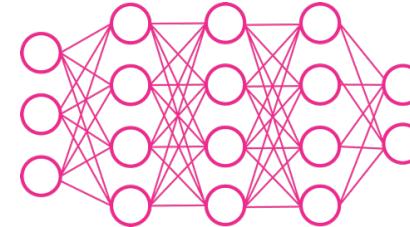
Dr. Yanjun Qi

Department of Computer Science  
University of Virginia

**Tutorial @ ACM BCB-2018**

BREAK 5mins ->Second Half

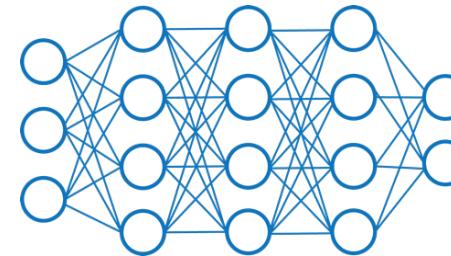
# State-of-the-art: Deep Neural Networks (DNNs)



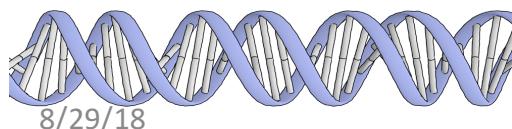
“Dog”

Can get overly sentimental at times, but  
Gus Van Sant's sensitive direction... and  
his excellent use of the city make it a  
hugely entertaining and effective film.

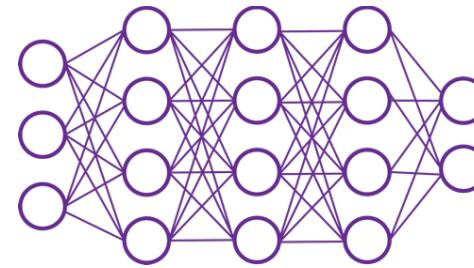
[Full Review...](#) | May 25, 2006



ATGCGATCAAGTCTG



8/29/18

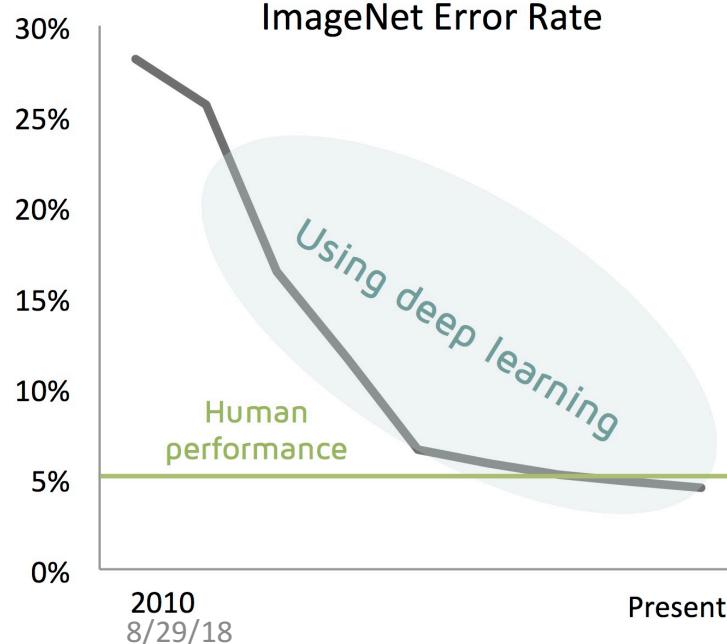
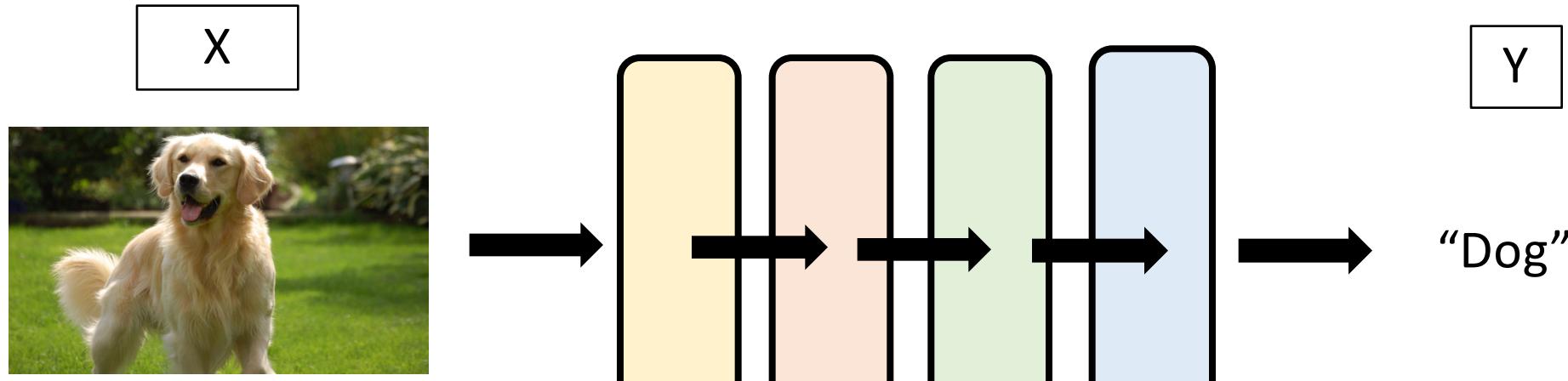


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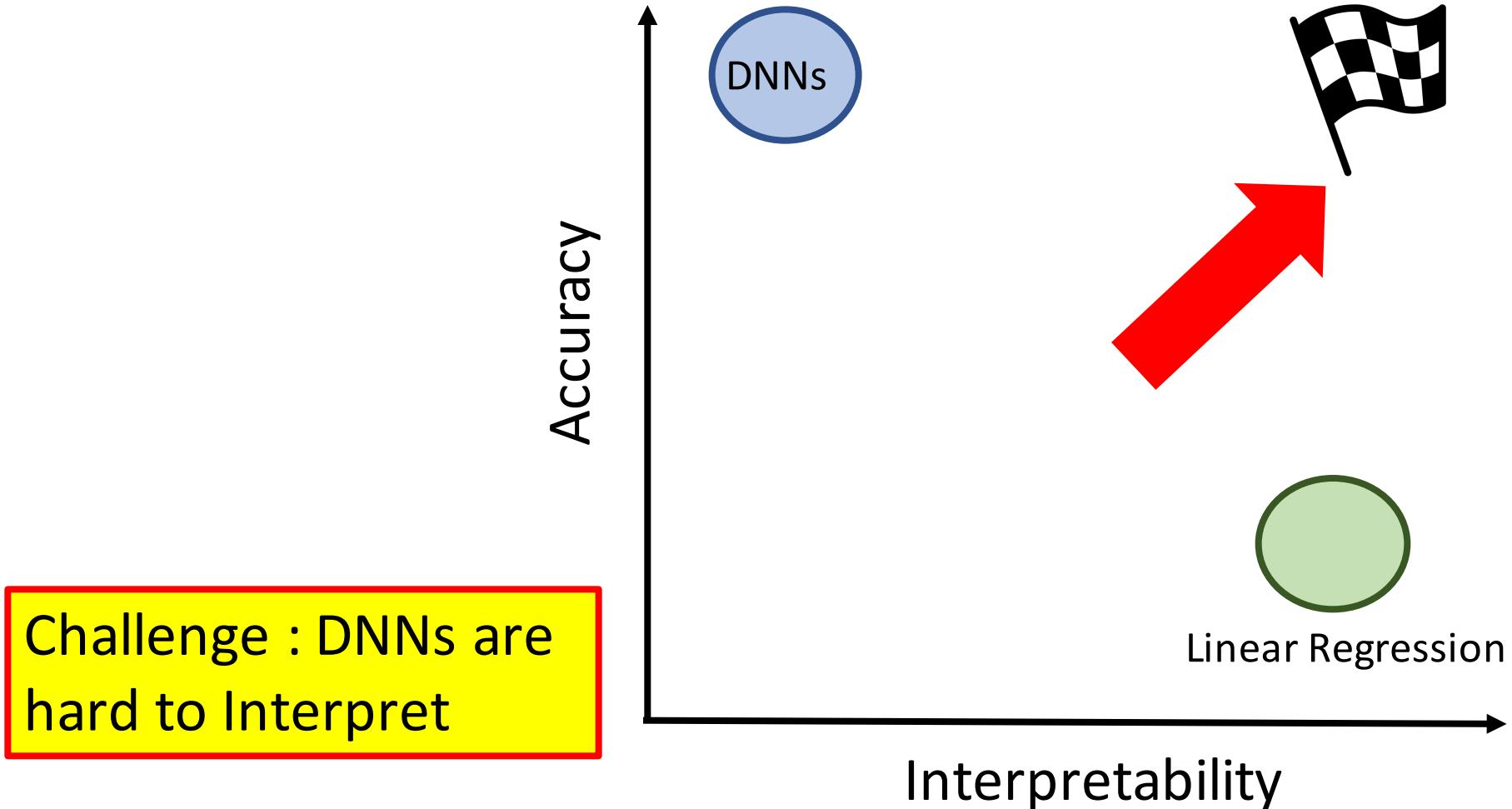
“Protein-binding Site”

# Challenge : DNNs are hard to Interpret



$$Y = f_4(f_3(f_2(f_1(X))))$$

# Our Goal: Interpretable DNNs



Challenge : DNNs are hard to Interpret

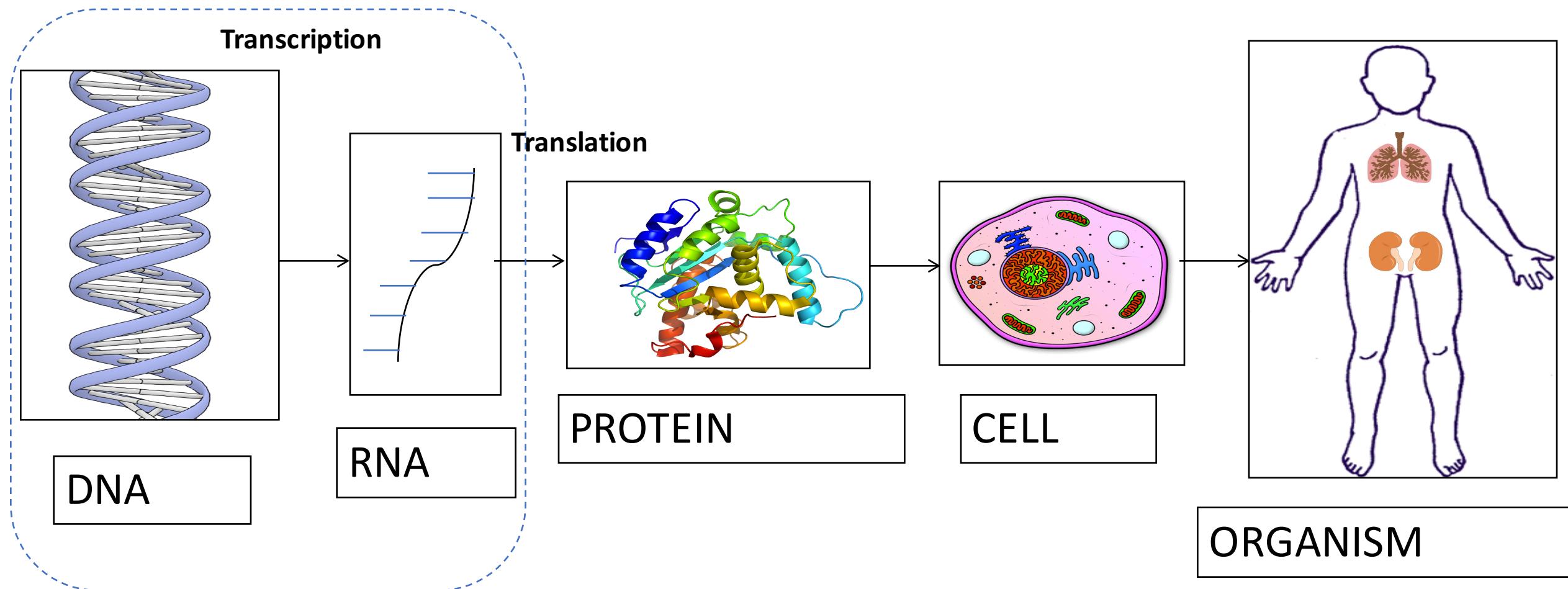
# Today

- Machine Learning: a quick review
- Deep Learning: a quick review
- Background Biology: a quick review
- Deep Learning for analyzing **Sequential Data** about Regulation:
  - DeepChrome
  - AttentiveChrome
  - DeepMotif

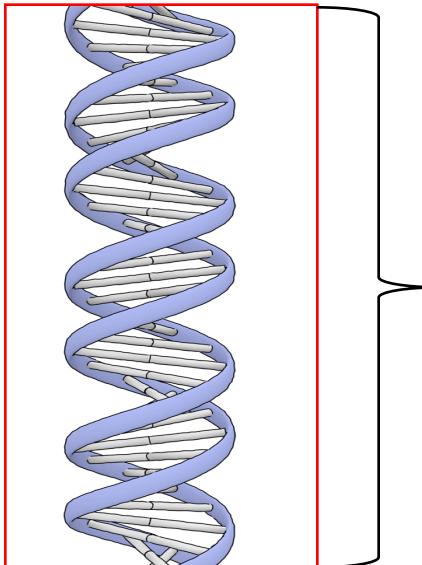
<https://qdata.github.io/deep2Read/>

<https://www.deepchrome.org>

# Biology in a Slide



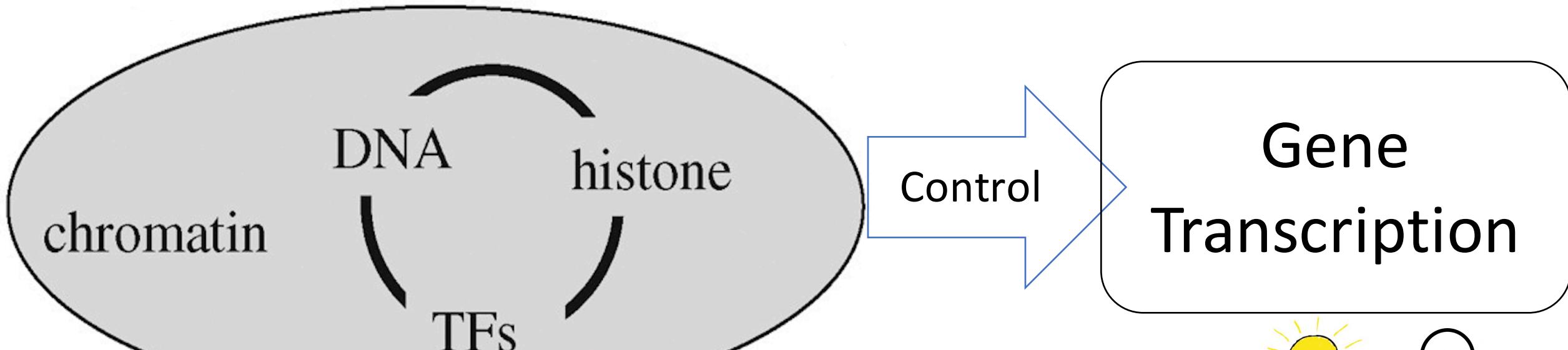
# DNA and Diseases



DNA

- Down Syndrome
  - Parkinson's Disease
  - Autism
  - Muscular Atrophy
  - Sickle Cell Disease
- .....
- .....

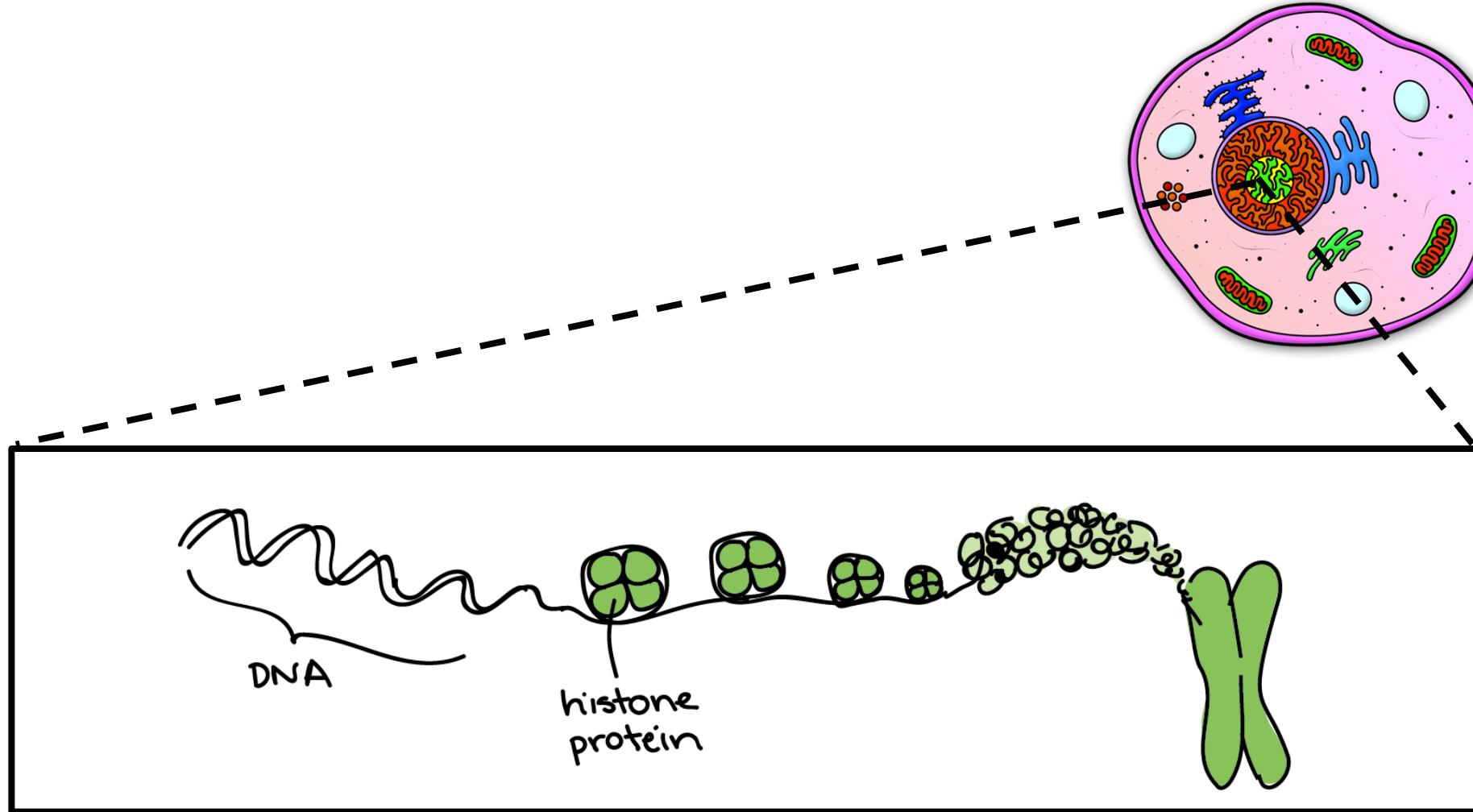
# Chromatin



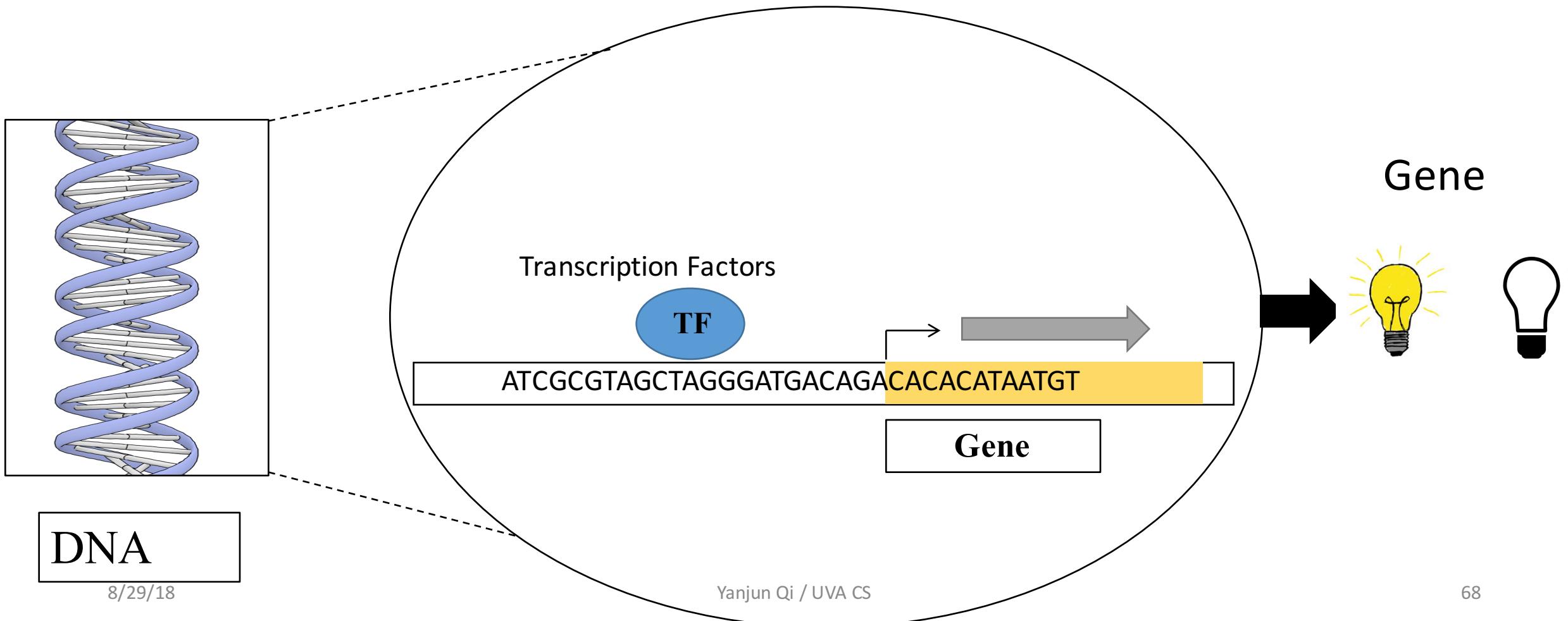
Epigenetics  
“Environment  
of the DNA”

# Histone Proteins

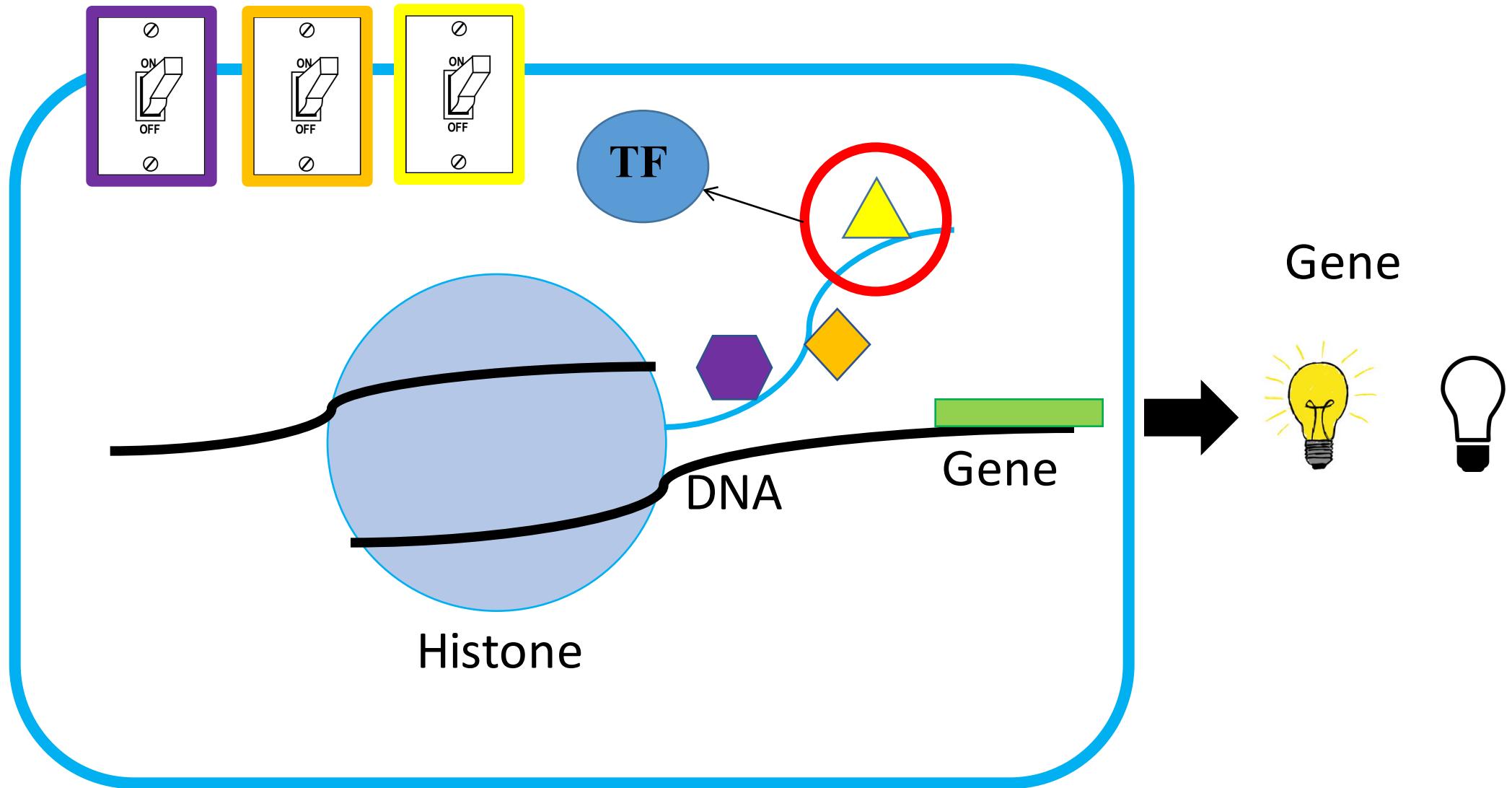
CELL



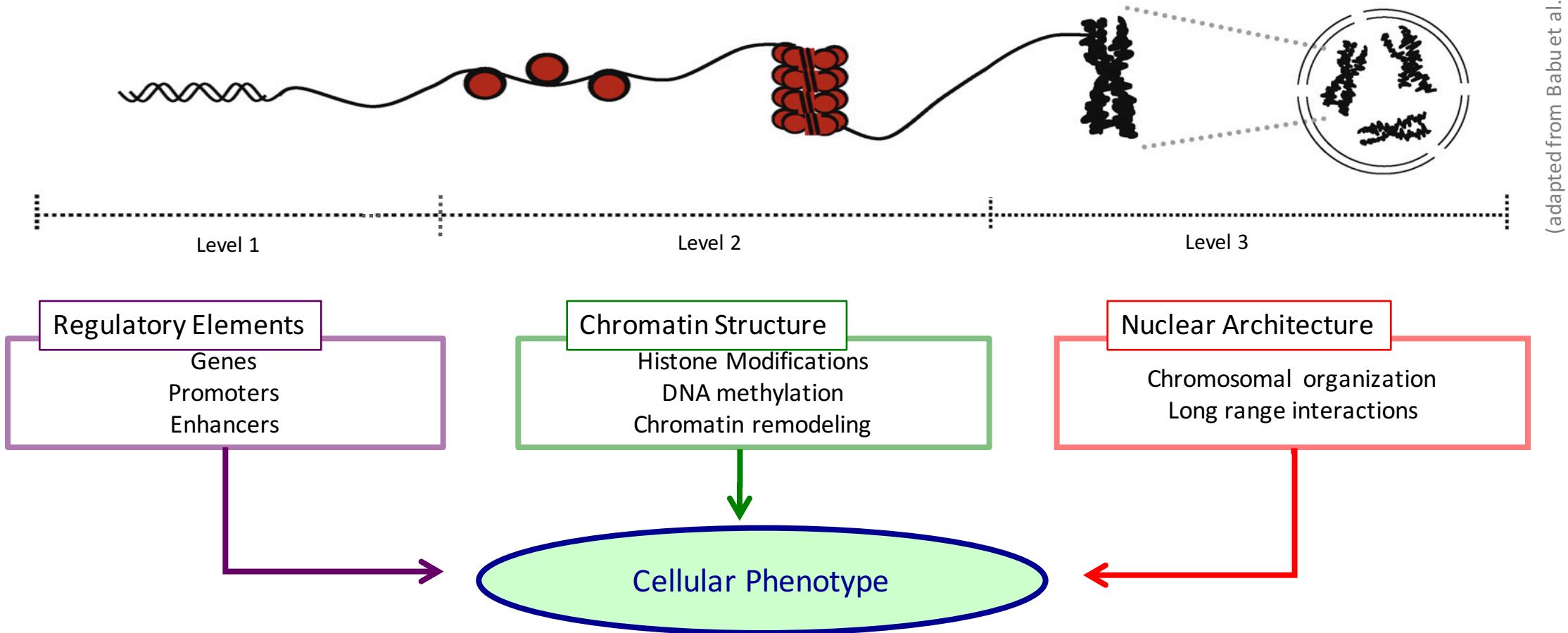
# Transcription Factor Binding => Gene Transcription

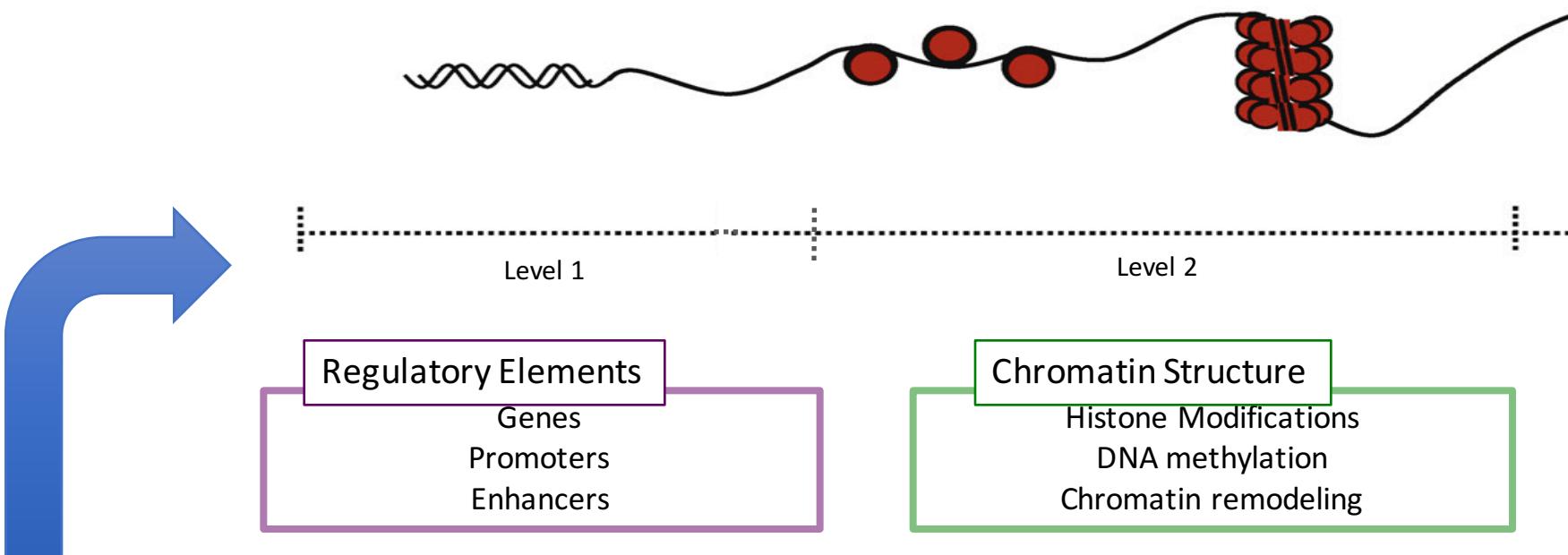


# Histone Modifications (HM)



# Genome Organization and Gene Regulation



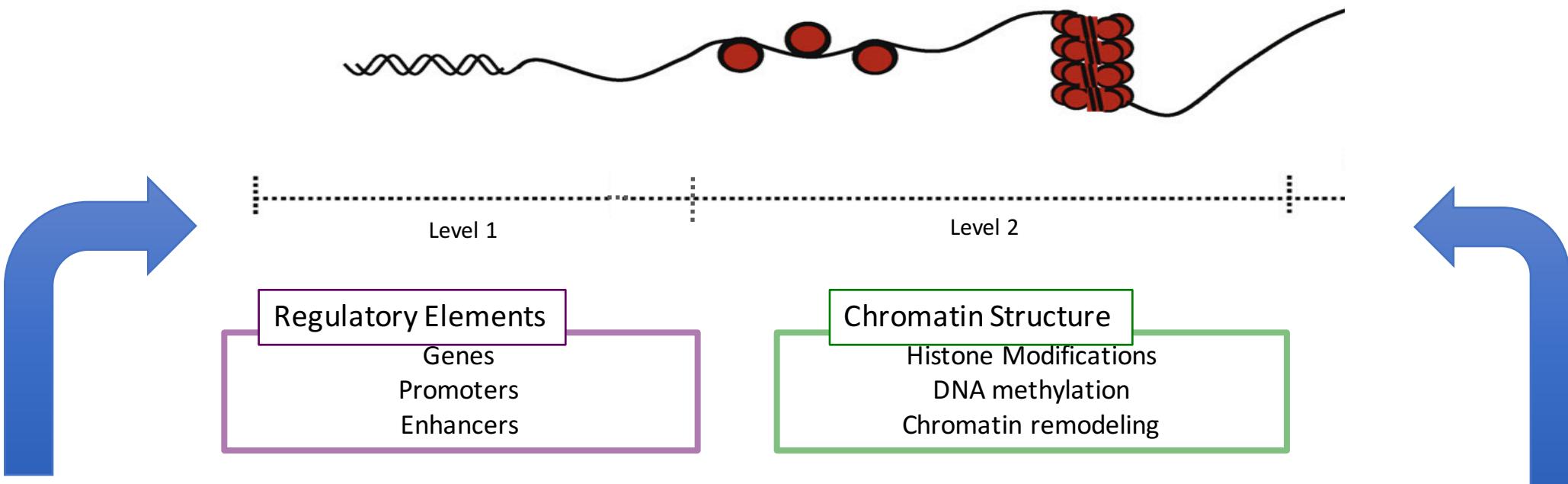


## ENCODE Project (2003-Present)

Describe the functional elements encoded in human DNA

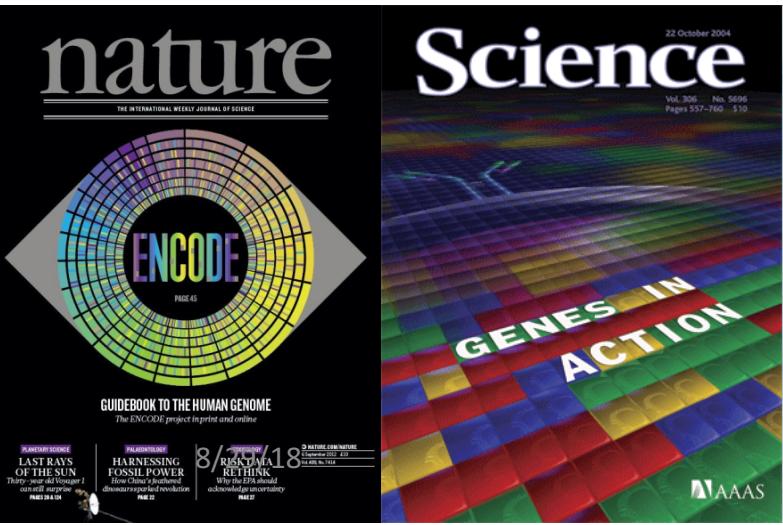


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## ENCODE Project (2003-)

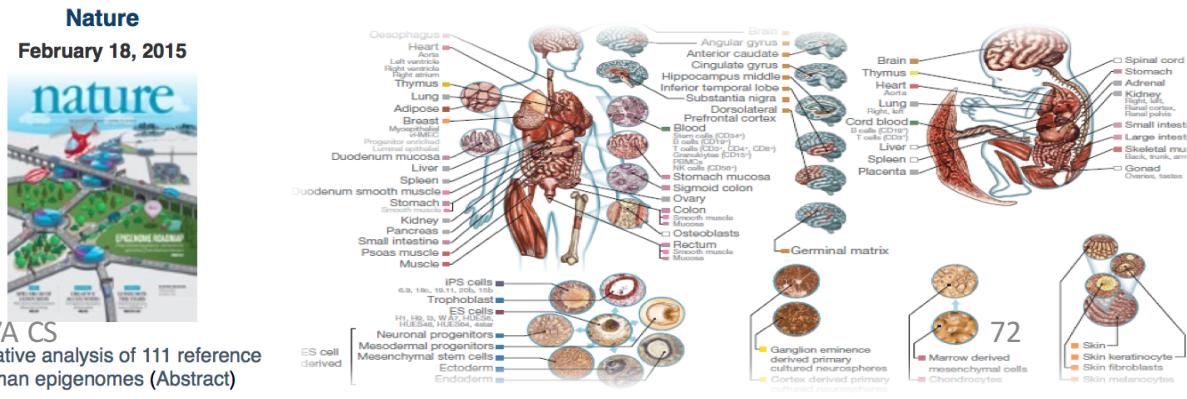
Describe the functional elements encoded in human DNA



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Integrative analysis of 111 reference human epigenomes (Abstract)

## Roadmap Epigenetics Project (REMC, 2008-)

To produce a public resource of epigenomic maps for stem cells and primary ex vivo tissues selected to represent the normal counterparts of tissues and organ systems frequently involved in human disease.

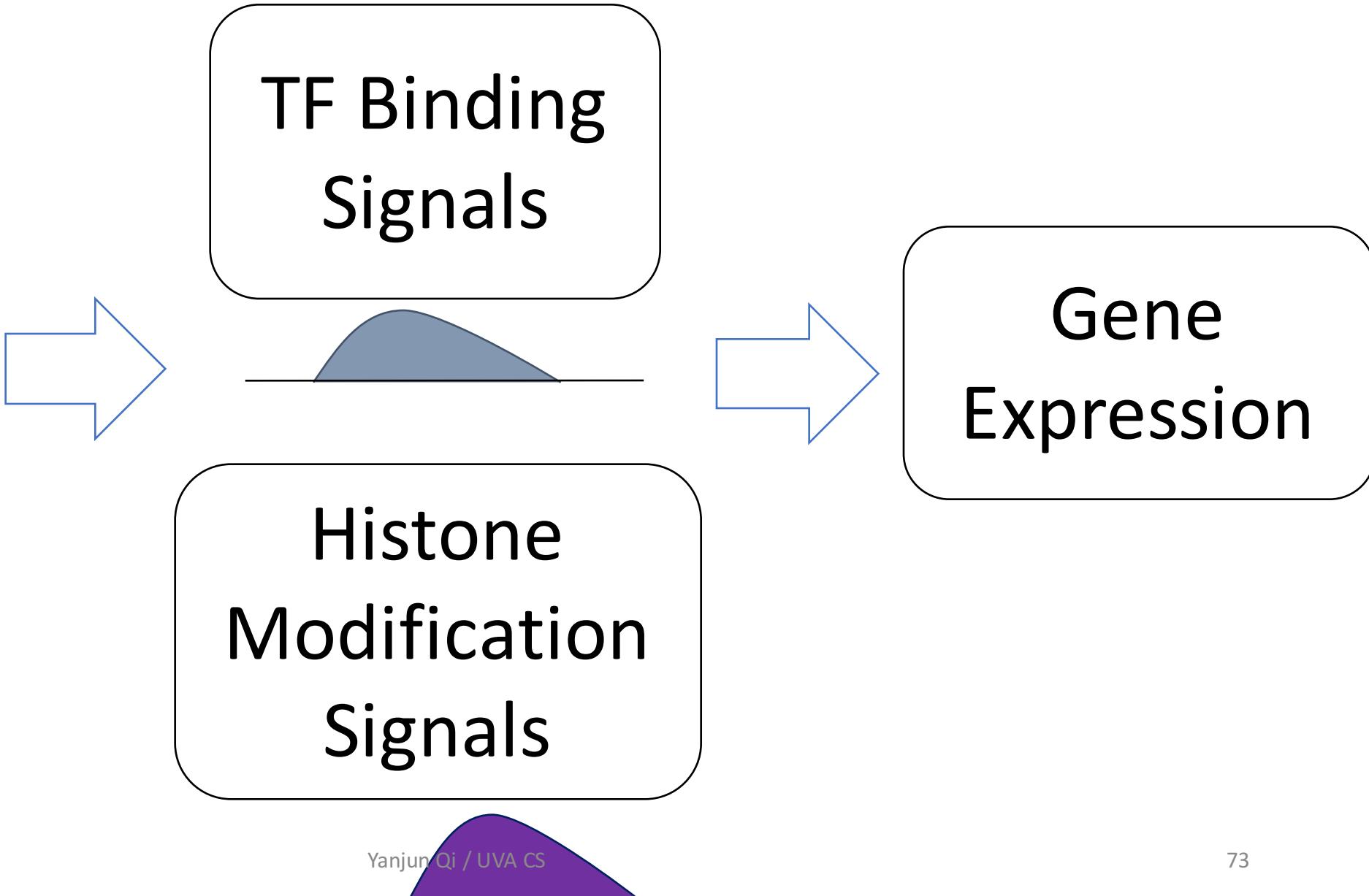


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# Many Important Data-Driven Computational Tasks

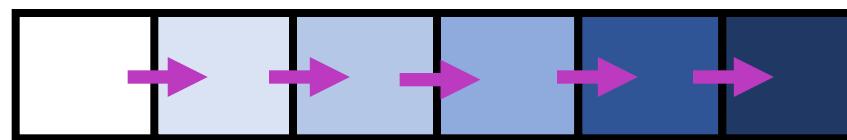
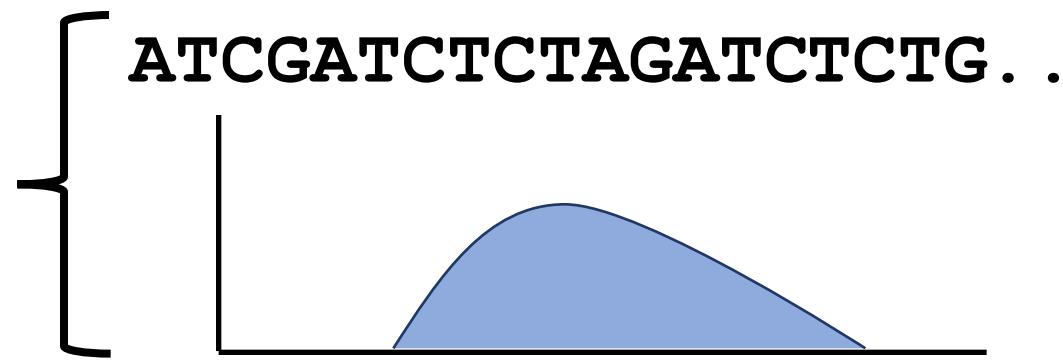
DNA  
Segments  
on  
Genomes

ATGCGATCAAGTCTG

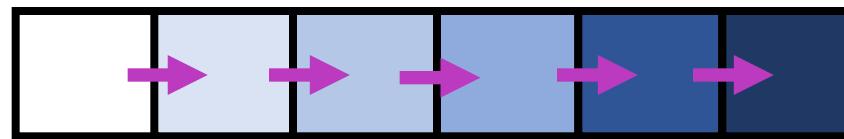
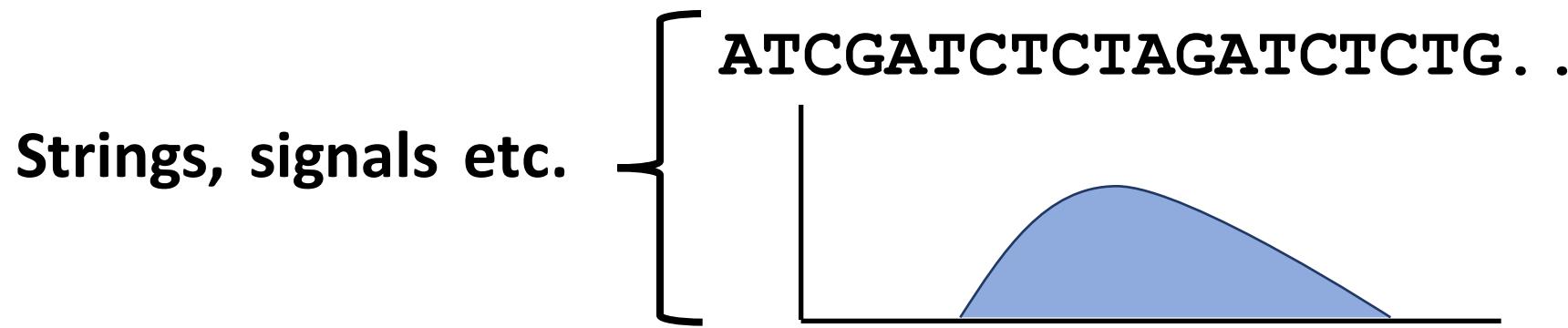


# Sequential Input (X)

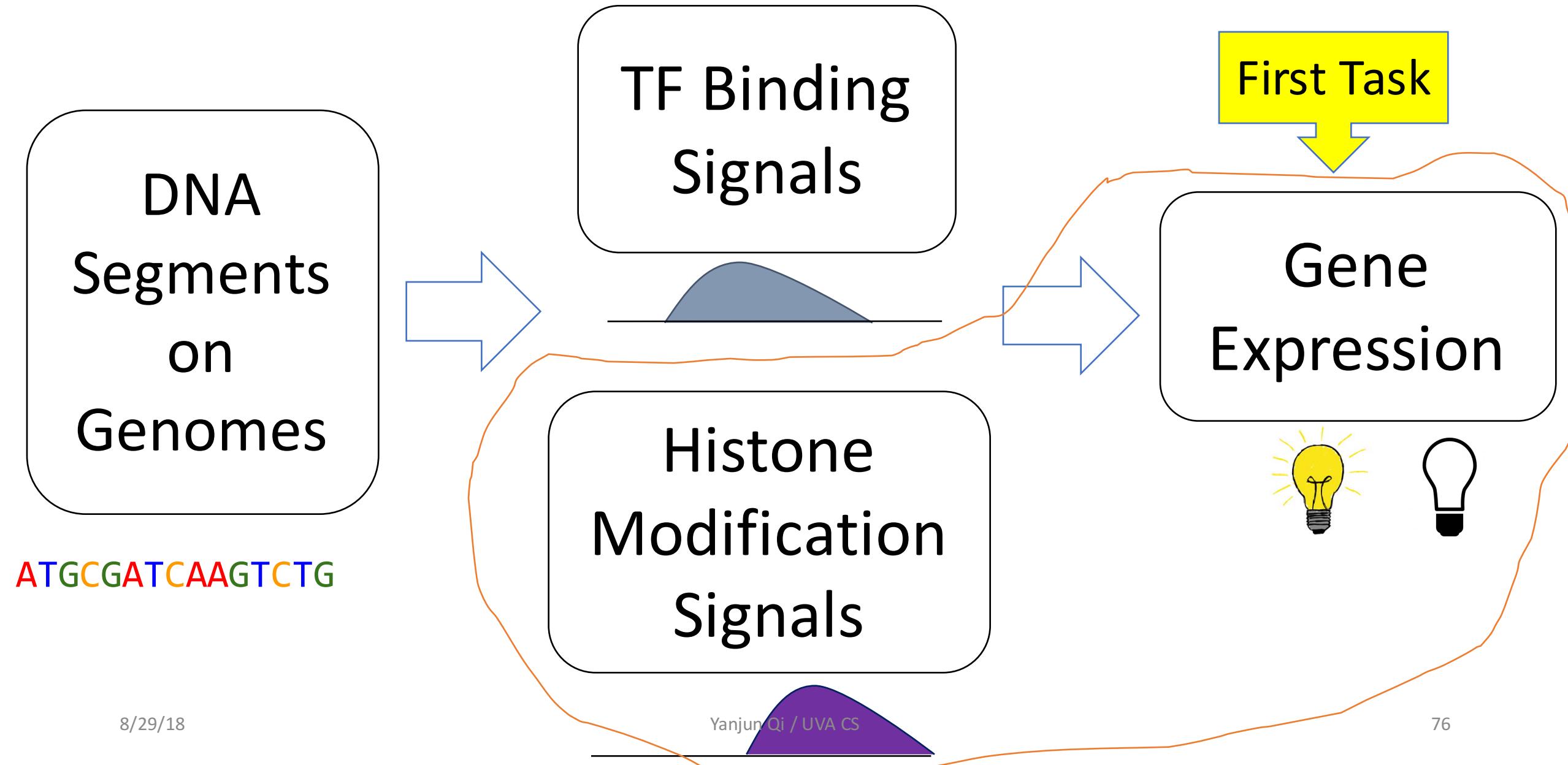
Strings, signals etc.



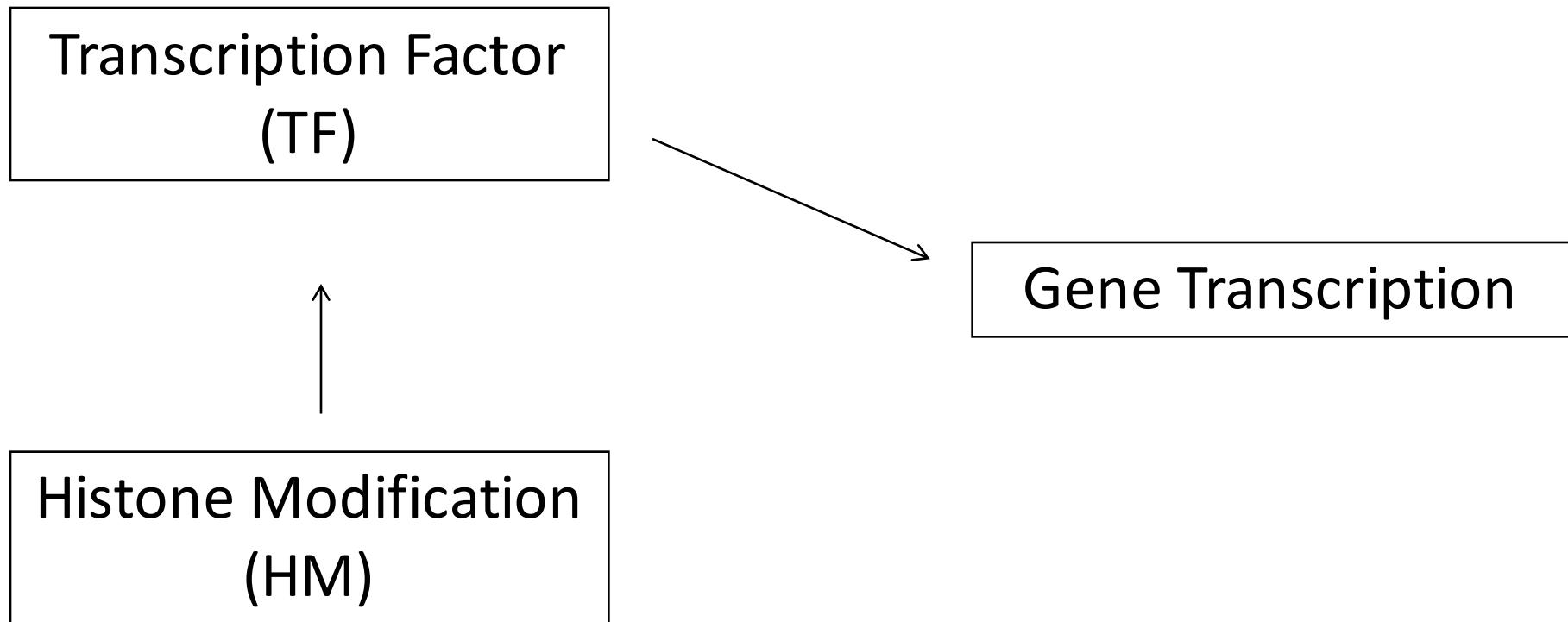
# Sequential Input (X)



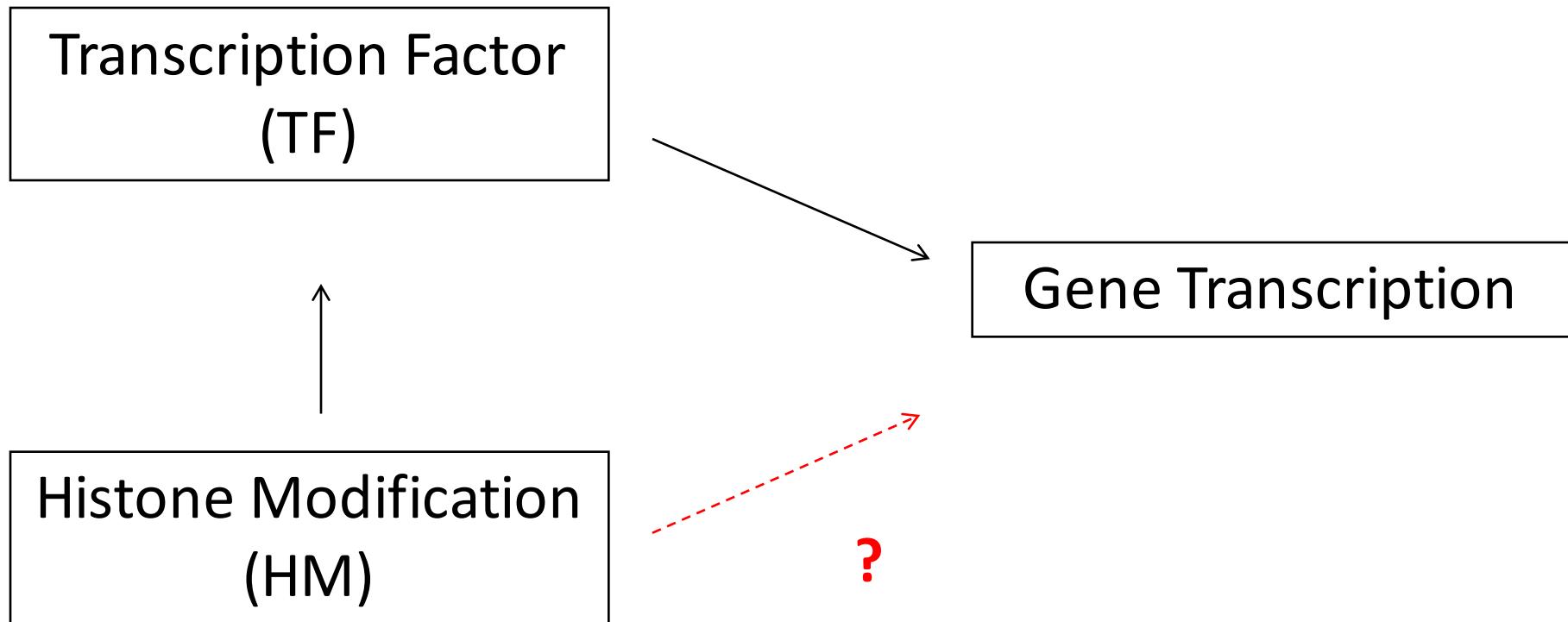
# Many Important Data-Driven Computational Tasks



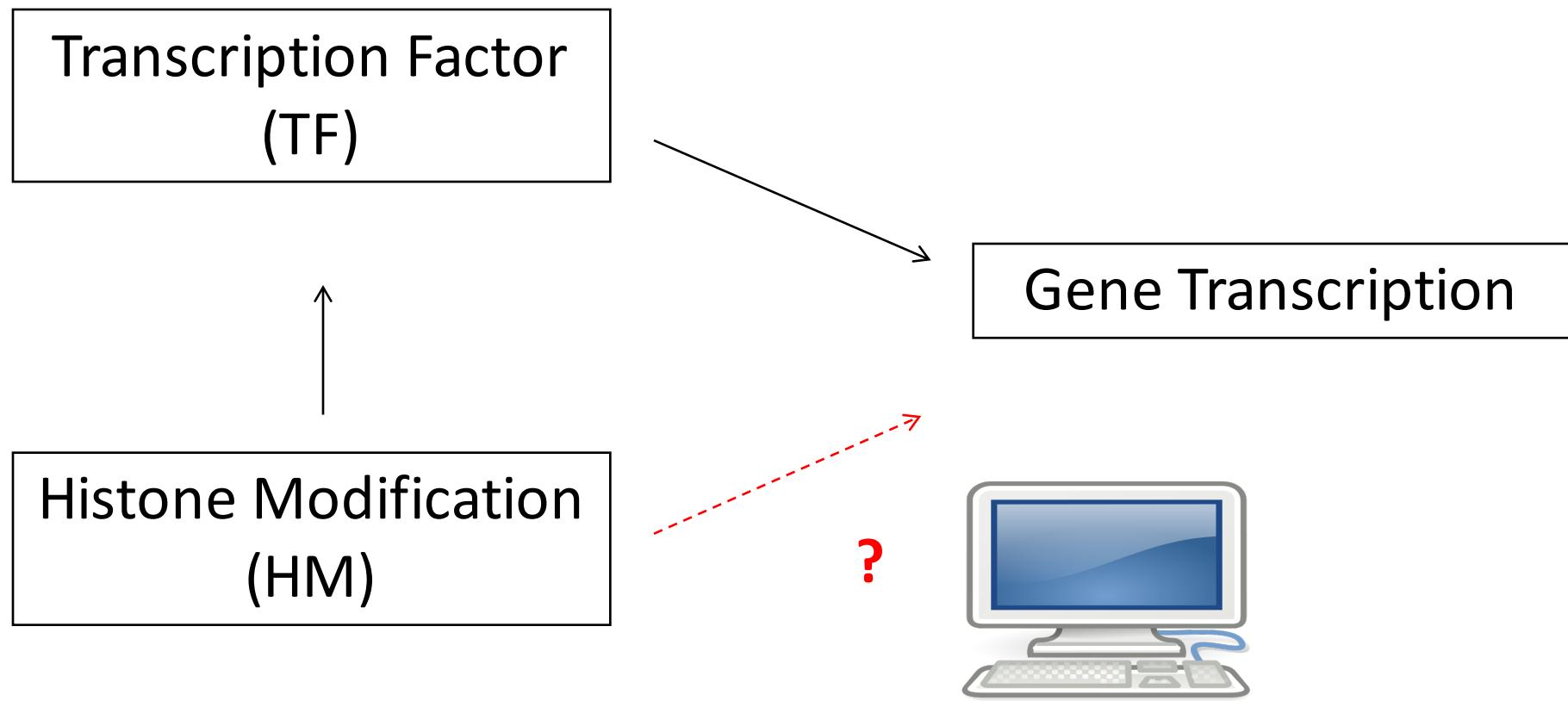
# Histone Modification and Gene Transcription



# Histone Modification and Gene Transcription



# Histone Modification and Gene Transcription

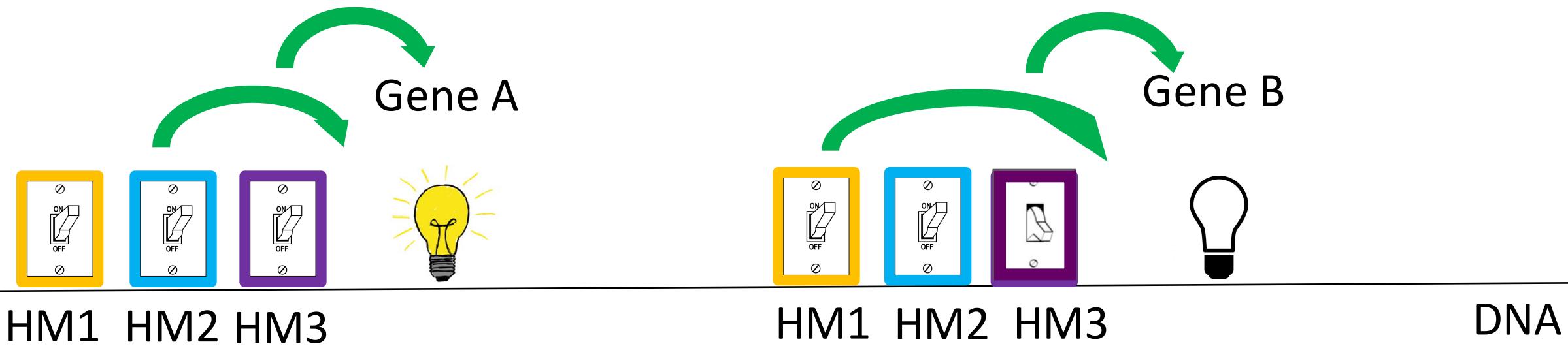


# Why Studying [HM => Gene Expression] ?

- Epigenomics:
  - Study of chemical changes in DNA and histones (without altering DNA sequence)
  - Inheritable and involved in regulating gene expression, development, tissue differentiation and suppression ...
- Modification in DNA/histones (changes in chromatin structure and function)
  - => influence how easily DNA can be accessed by TF
- Epigenome is dynamic
  - Can be altered by environmental conditions
  - Unlike genetic mutations, chromatin changes such as histone modifications are potentially reversible => **Epigenome Drug** for Cancer Cells?

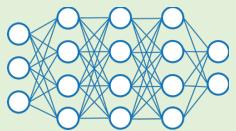
# Study how HMs influence genes?

~56 Cell Types



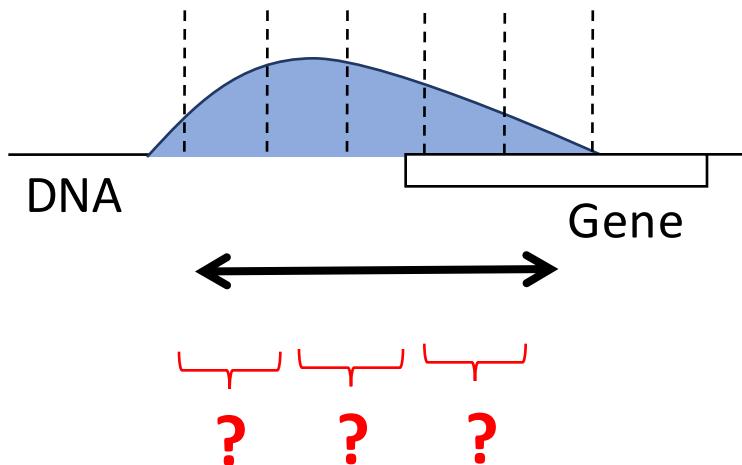
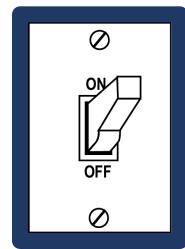
K~20 HMs  
G~30,000 Genes

81



# Task Formulation

Input:

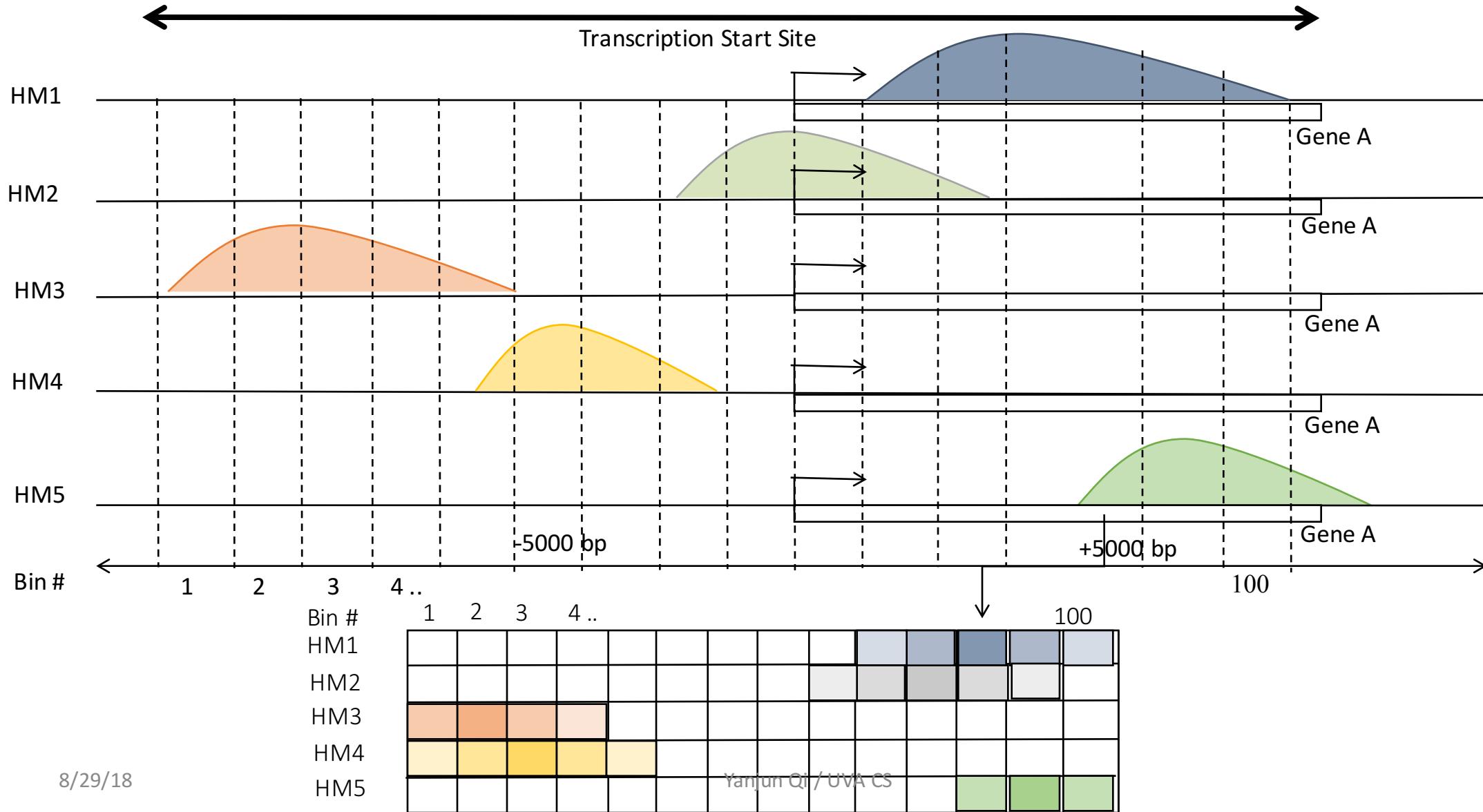


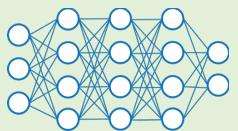
Output:



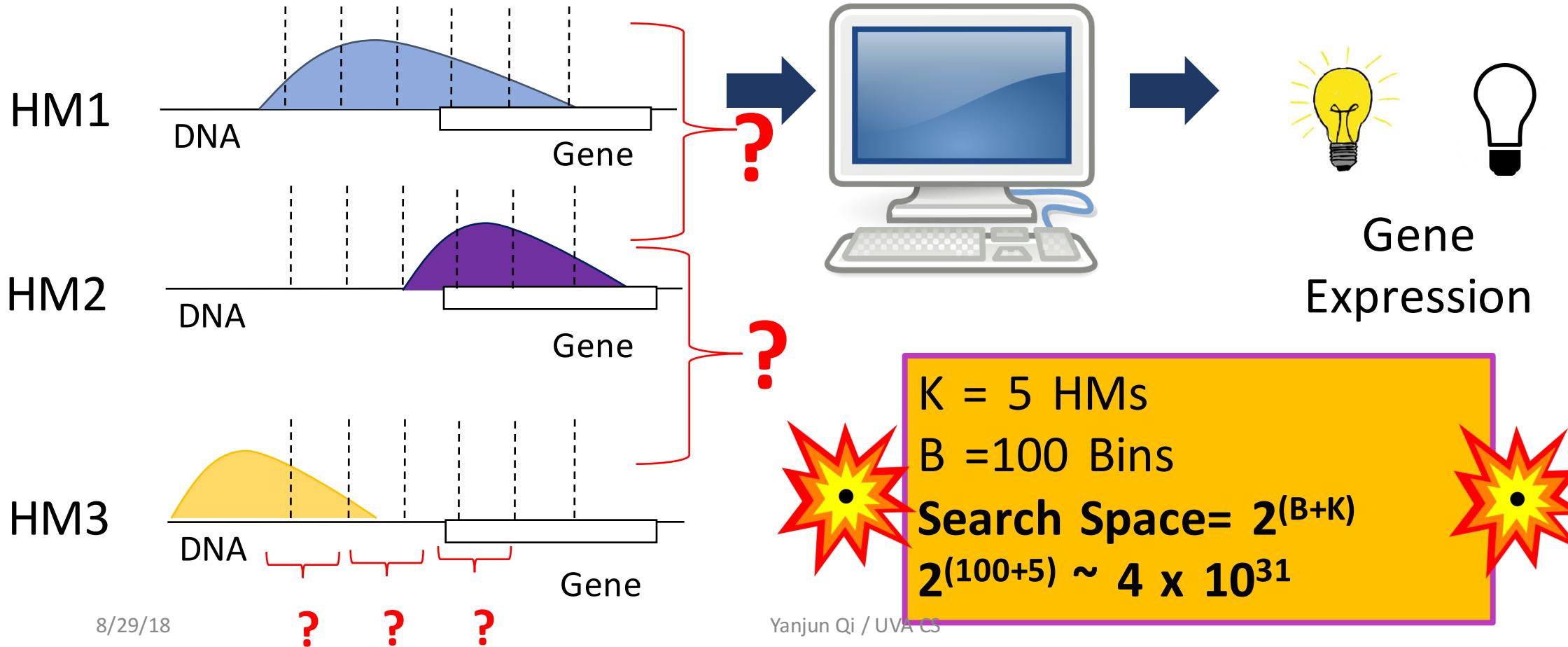
Gene  
Expression

# Input

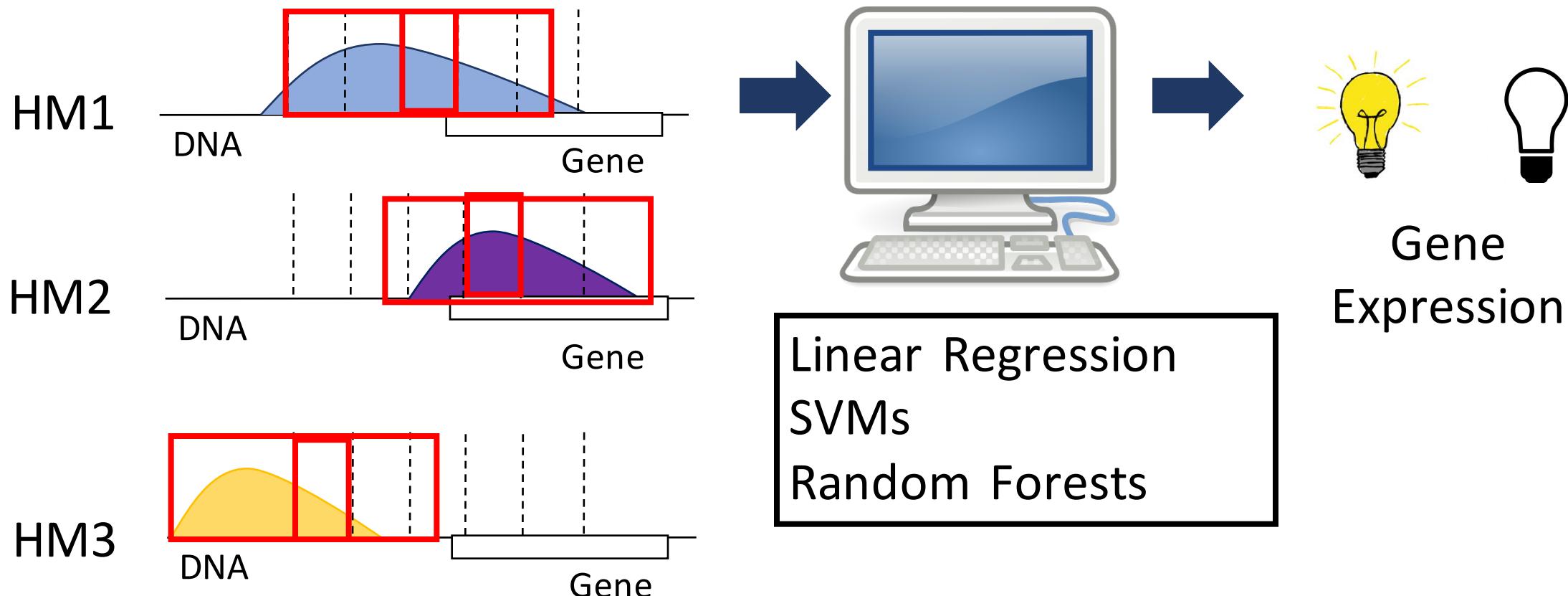




# Computational Challenge



# Related Work

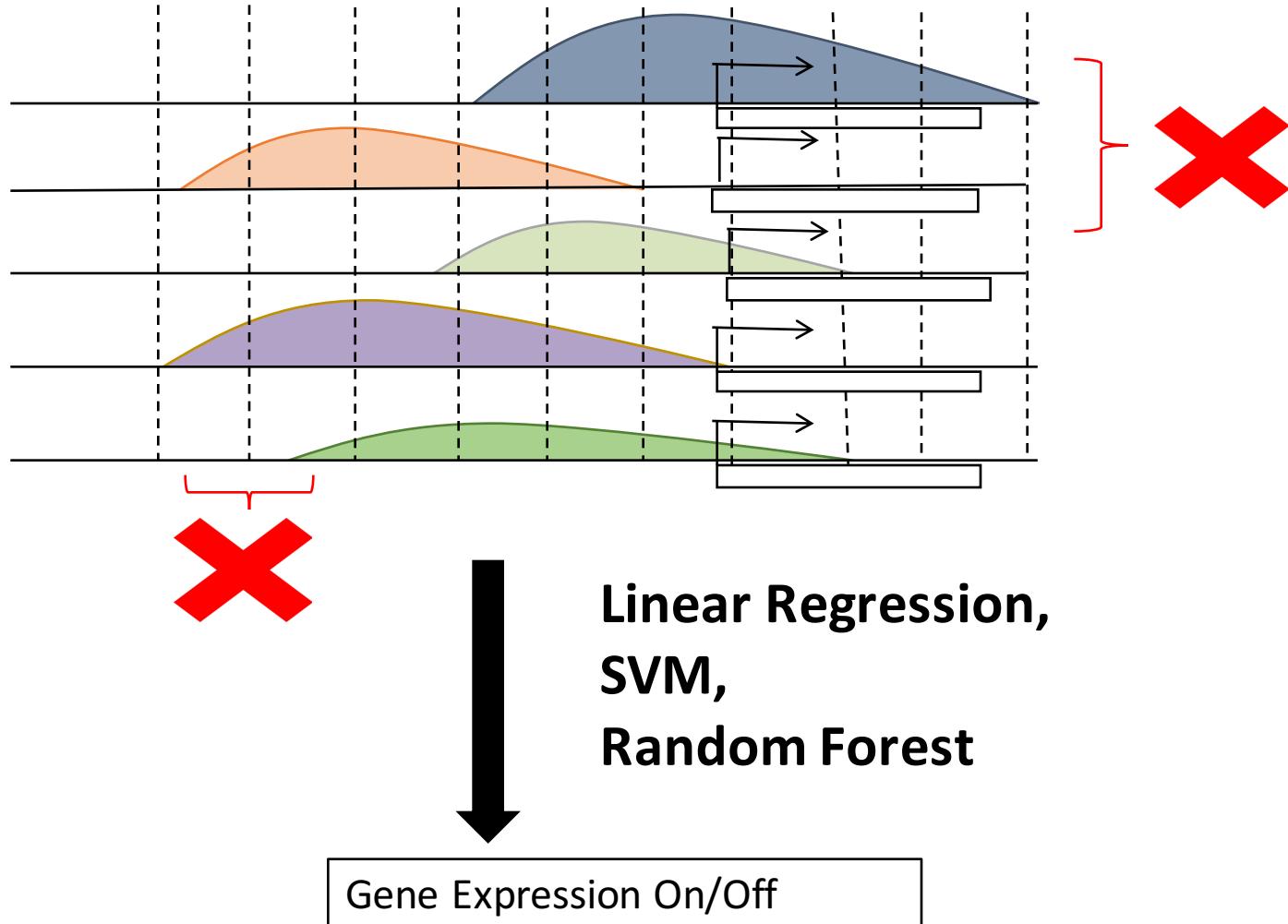


[1] Karlić, R. et al, Histone modification levels are predictive for gene expression. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2010)

[2] Cheng, C. et al, A statistical framework for modeling gene expression using chromatin features and application to modENCODE datasets. Genome Biology (2011)

[3] Dong, X. et al, Modeling gene expression using chromatin features in various cellular contexts. Genome Biology (2012)

# Drawback of Related Works



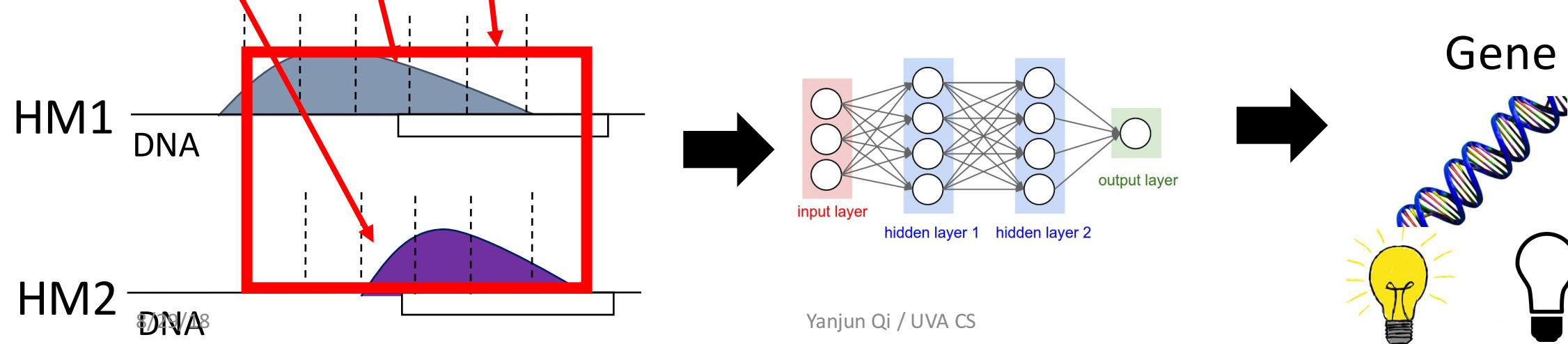
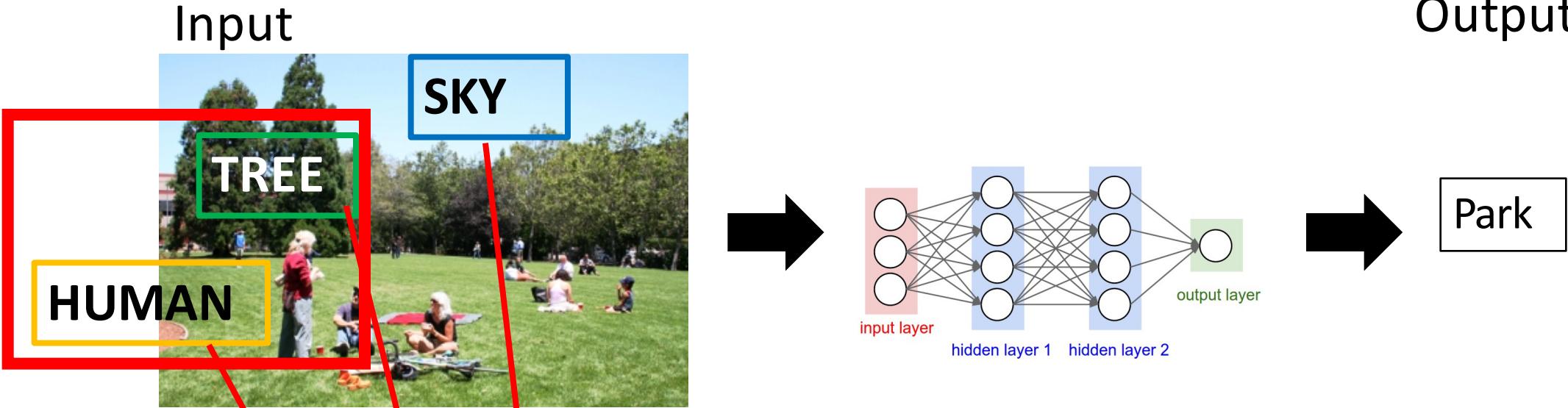
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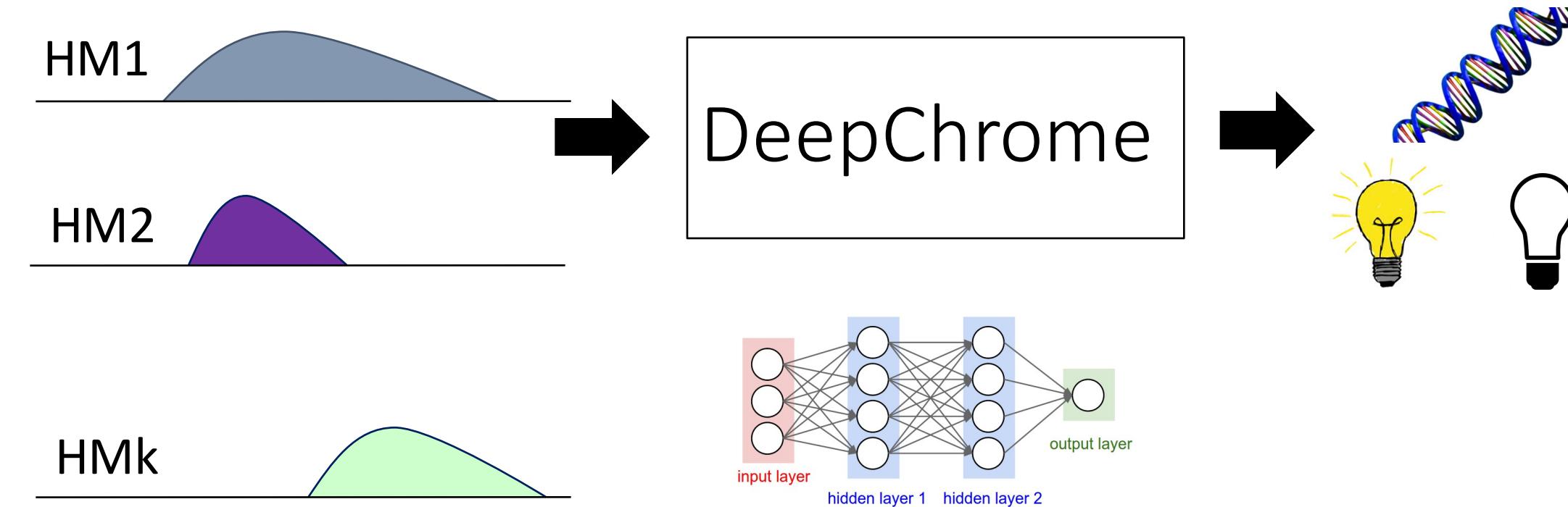
[3] Dong, X. et al. Modeling gene expression using chromatin features in various cellular contexts. *Genome Biology* (2012)

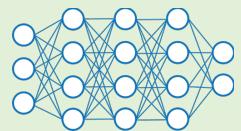
# First Solution : CNN

HM signals occupy a local region  
and look similar in different parts?

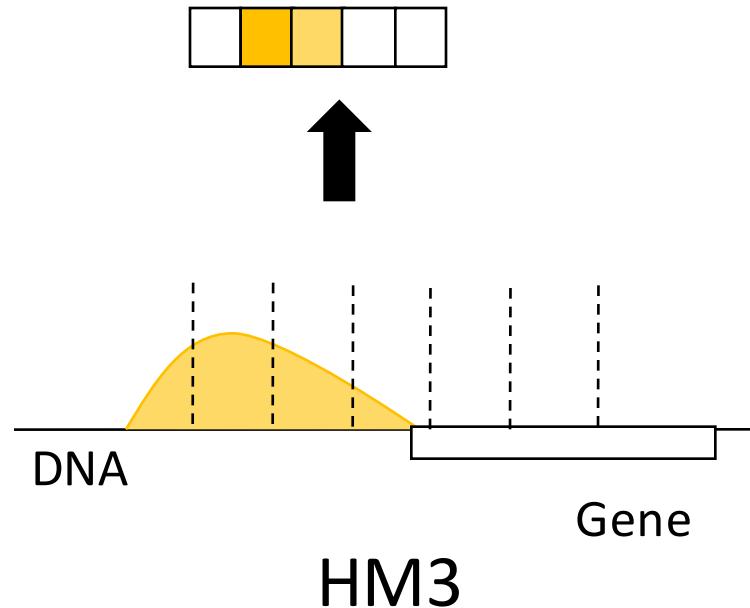
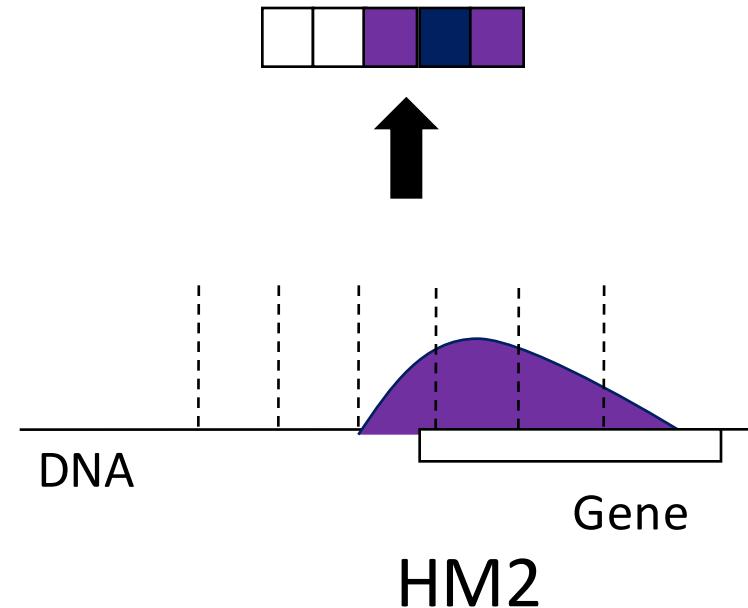
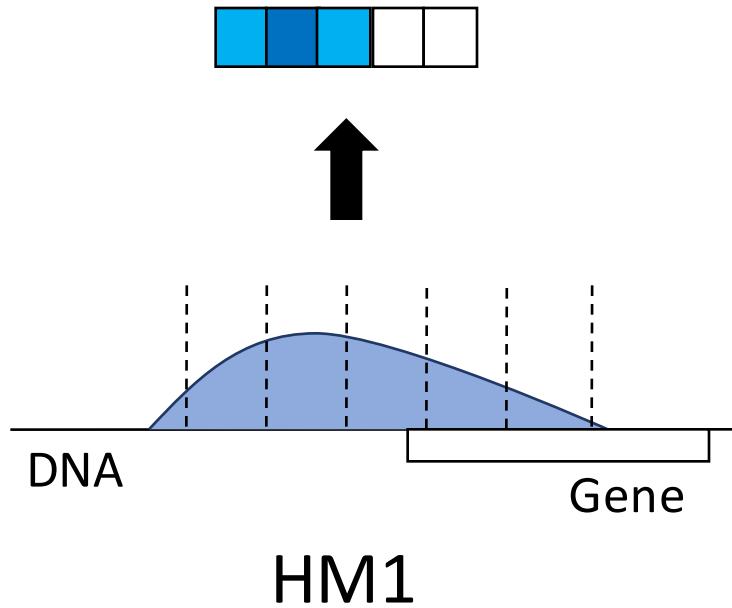


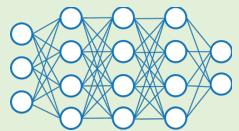
# First Solution: DeepChrome : CNN



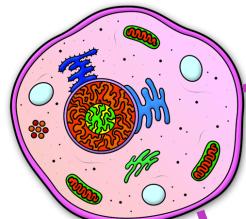


# Input ( $X$ )

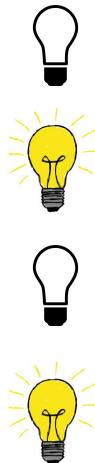




# Output (Y) Labels

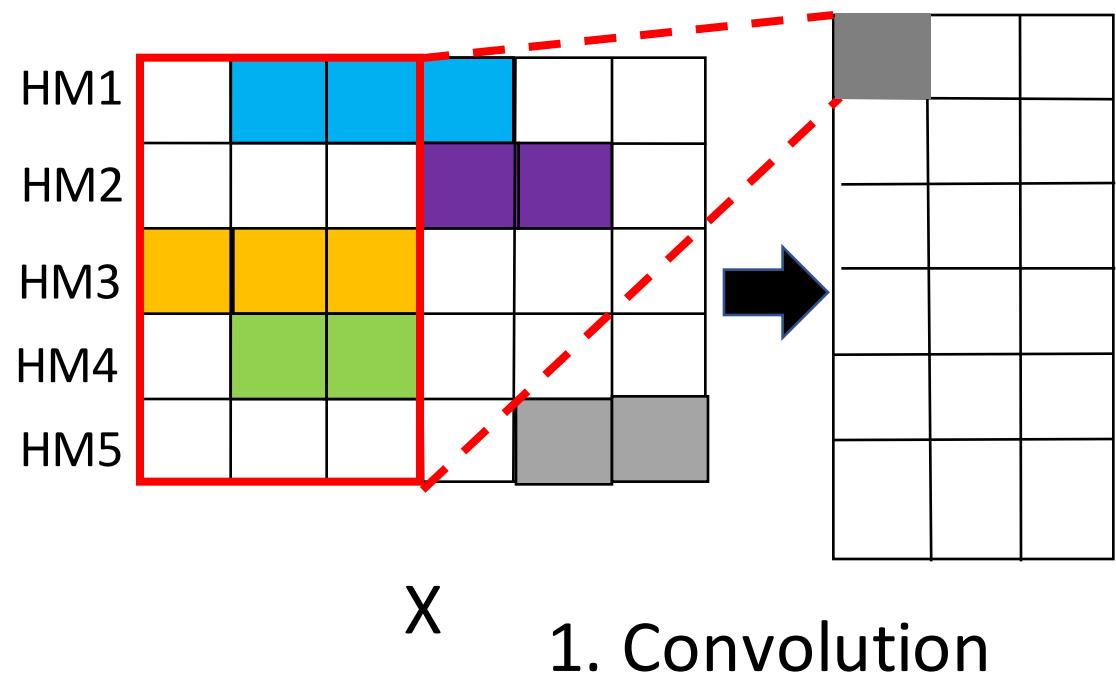


Genes	Gene Expression (RPKM)	Y Labels
RUNX1	1.296	0
SMAD2	14.902	1
MYC	3.805	0
PAX5	15.066	1
.....	.....	.....

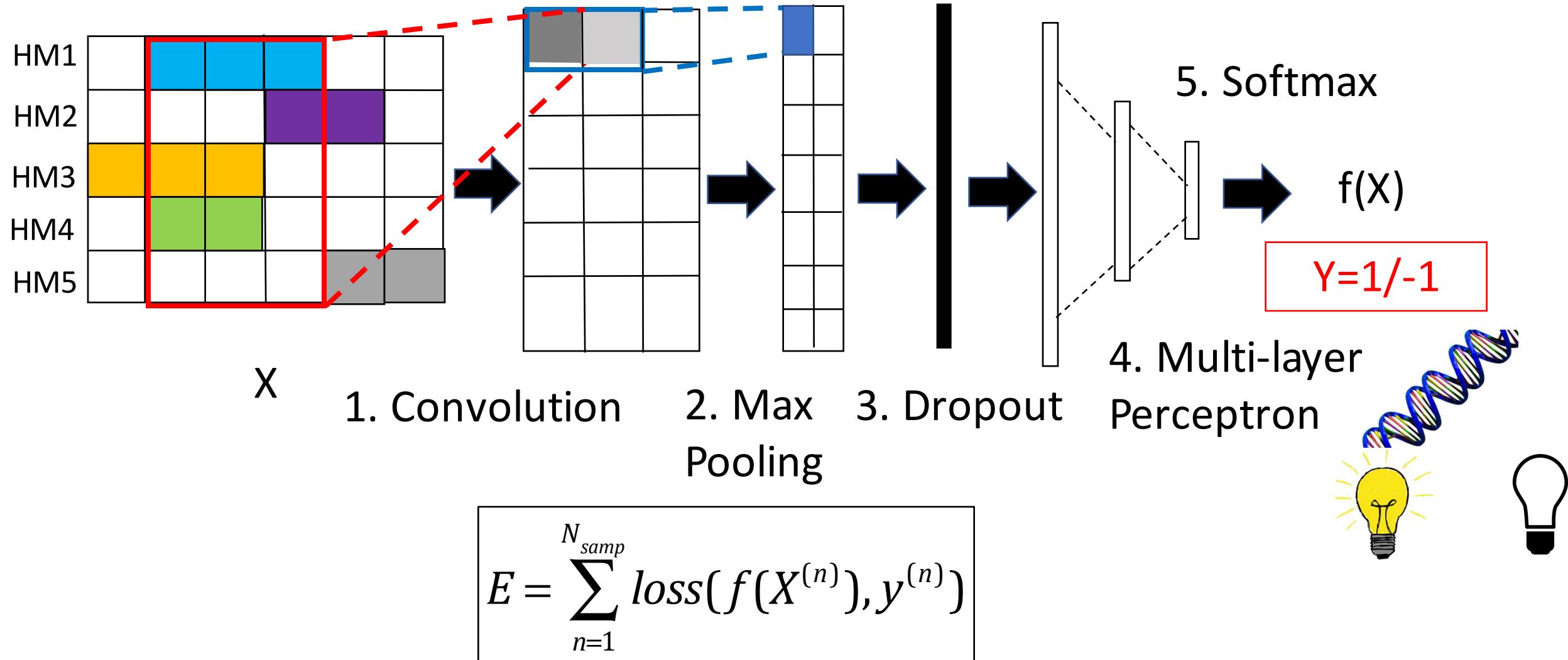


**Threshold = 10.245 (Median)**

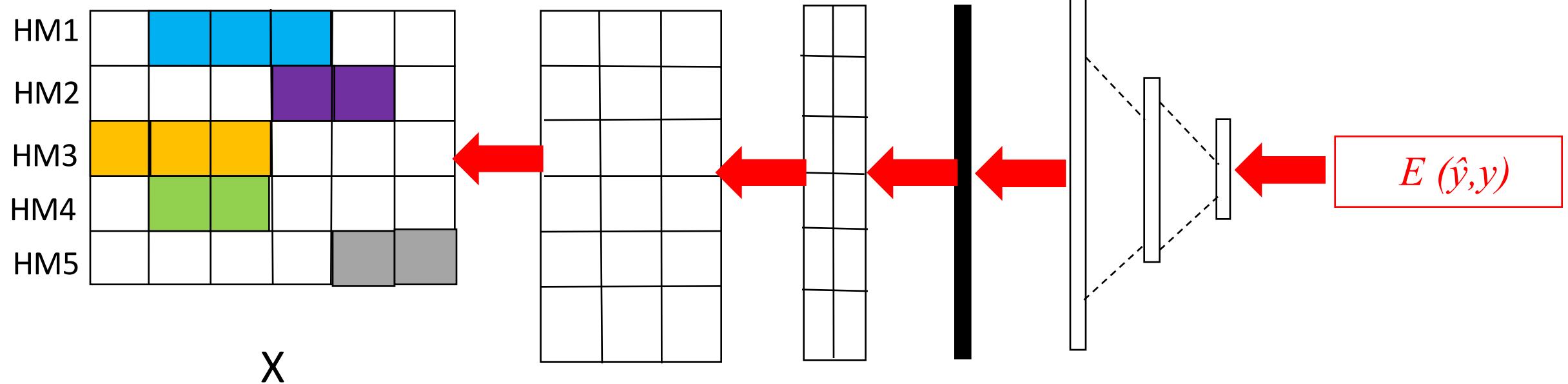
# DeepChrome: Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)



# DeepChrome: Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)



# DeepChrome: Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)



**Back-propagation:**  $\Theta \leftarrow \Theta - \eta \frac{\partial E}{\partial \Theta}$

# Experimental Setup

- Roadmap Epigenetics Project (REMC)
- **Cell-types:** 56
- **Input (HM):** ChIP-Seq Maps / 5 Tier-1 HMs

Histone Mark	Functional Category
H3K27me3	Repressor
H3K36me3	Structural Promoter
H3K4me1	Distal Promoter
H3K4me3	Promoter
H3K9me3	Repressor

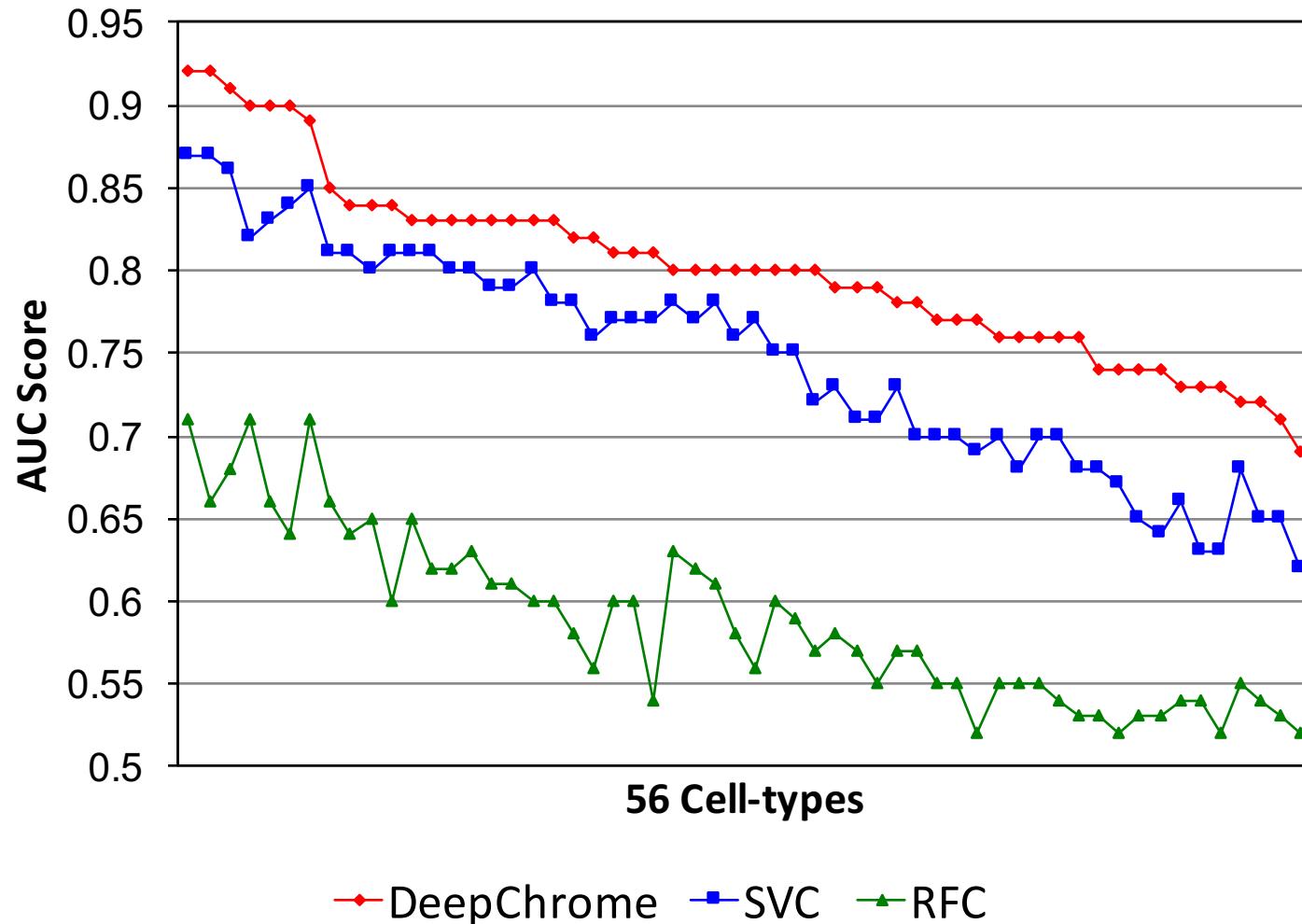
- **Output (Gene Expression):** Discretized RNA-Seq
- **Baselines:** Support Vector Classifier (SVC) and Random Forest Classifier (RFC)

Training Set  
6601 Genes

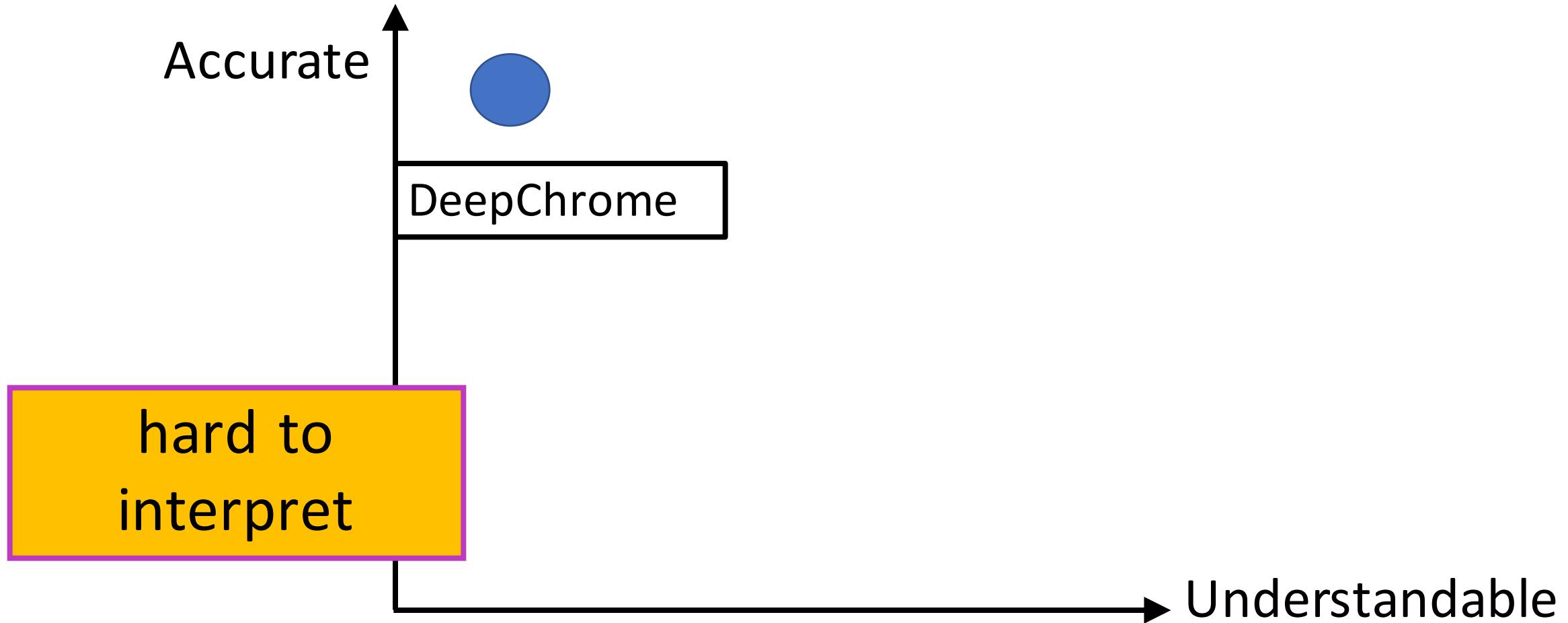
Validation Set  
6601 Genes  
Tianjun Qu / UMA CS

Test Set  
6600 Genes

# Results: Accuracy



# Summary of tools



# Solution: Interpretability by Hierarchical Attention

Input

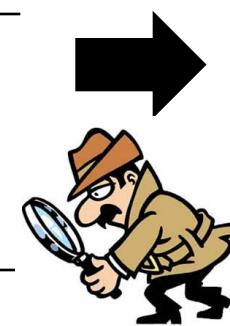
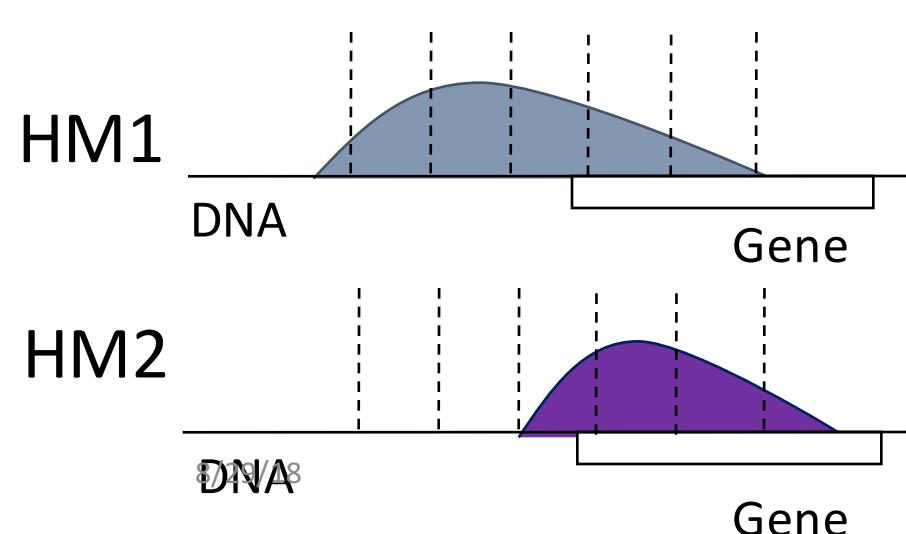
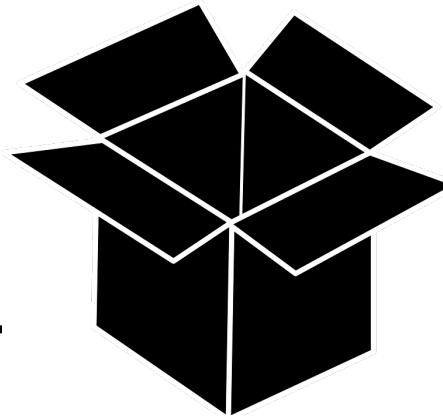


Output

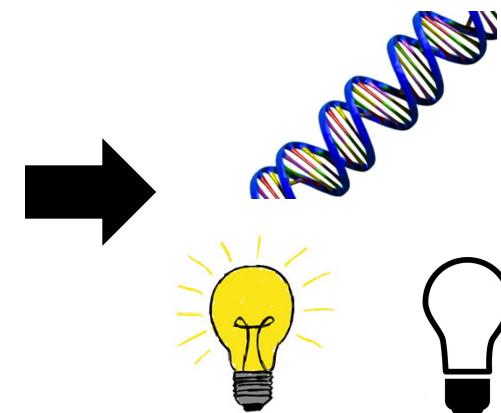
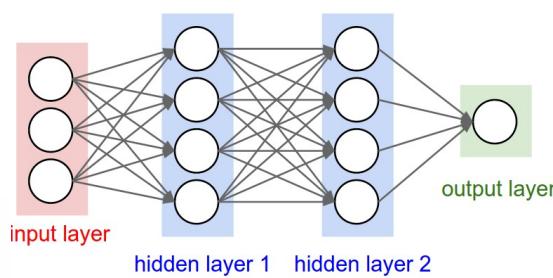
Park

Gene

Attention  
Mechanism



Yanjun Qi / UVA CS



# Solution: Interpretability by Hierarchical Attention

Input



Output

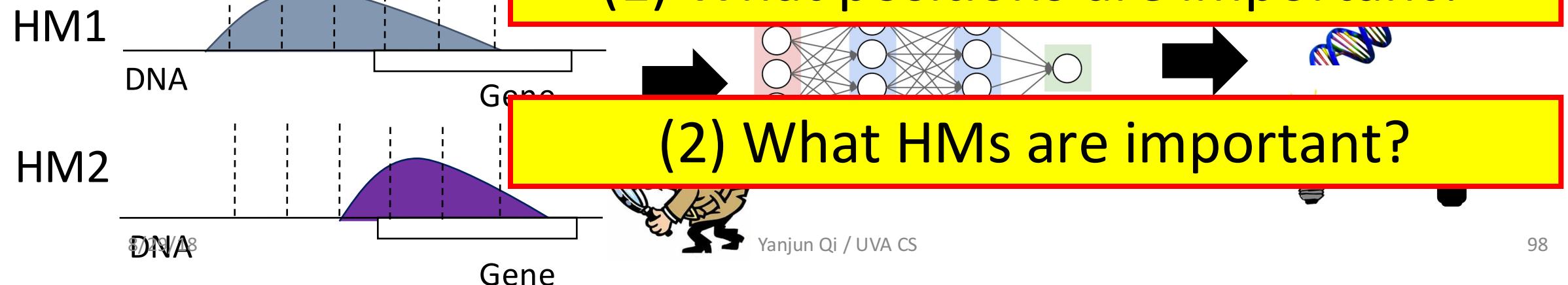
Park

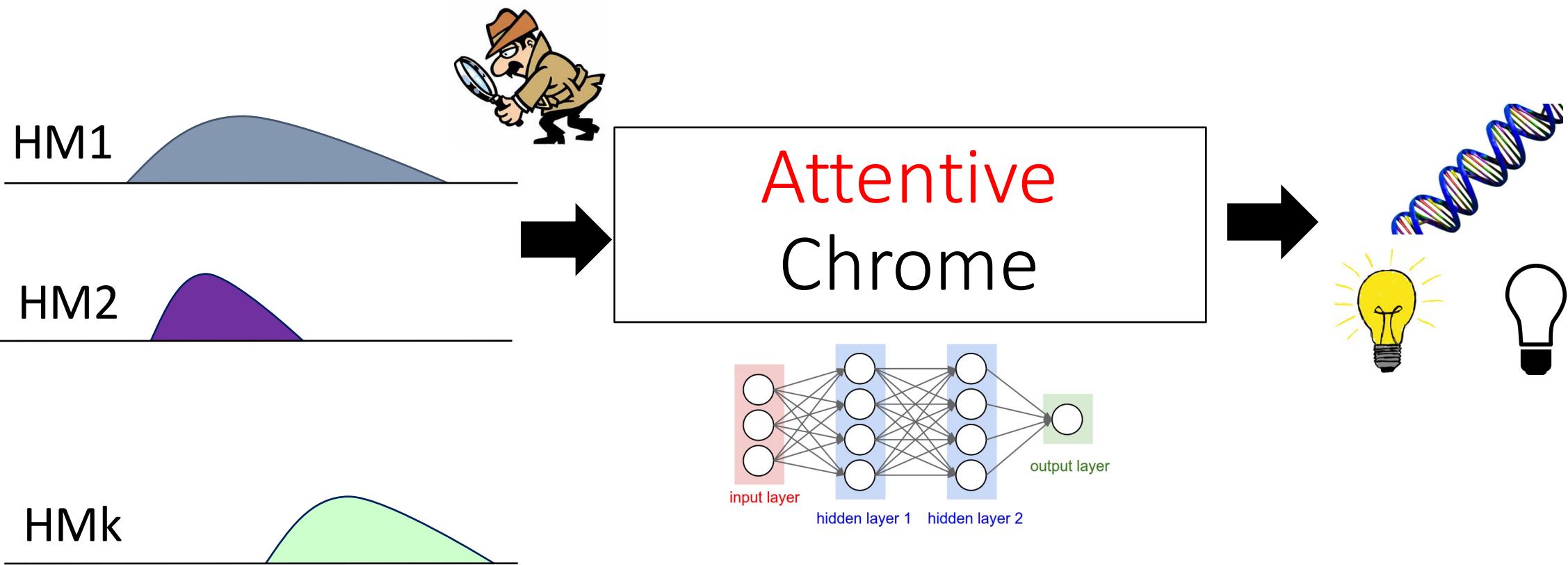
Attention  
Mechanism

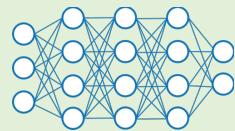


Gene

(1) What positions are important?







# AttentiveChrome

[NIPS 2017]

HM-Level  
Attention

(2) What HMs are important?

Bin-Level  
Attention

(1) What positions are important?

Input



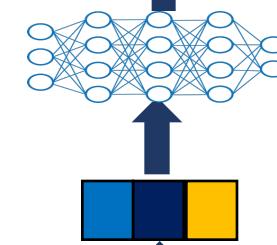
HM1



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HM2



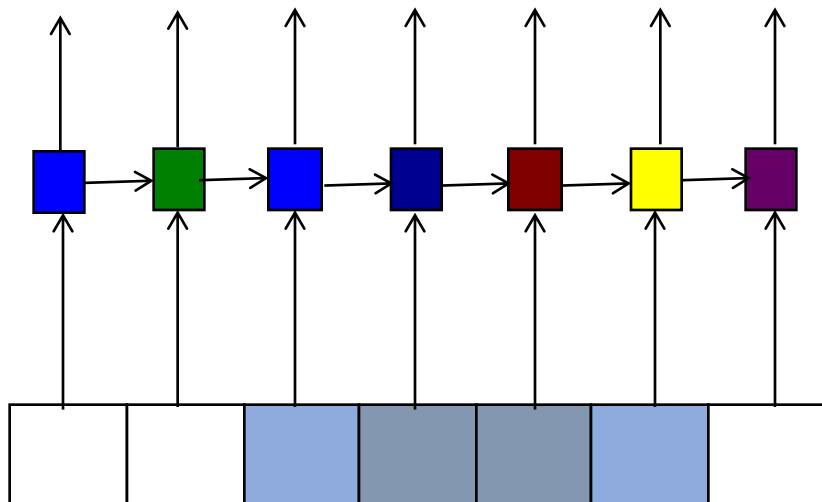
HM3



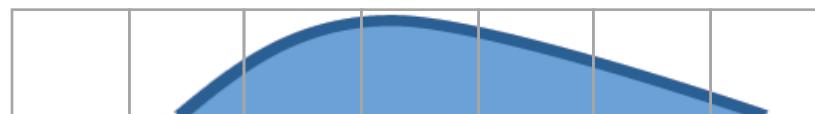
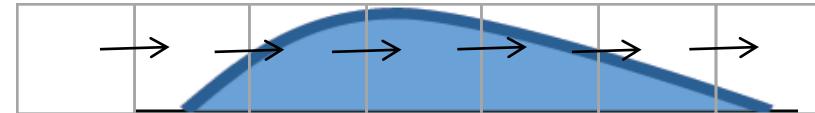
Gene  
Expression

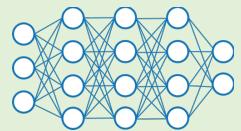
# Multiple Recurrent Neural Networks (Hierarchical RNNs)

to model each HM and the Combination of all HMs : for example on HM1

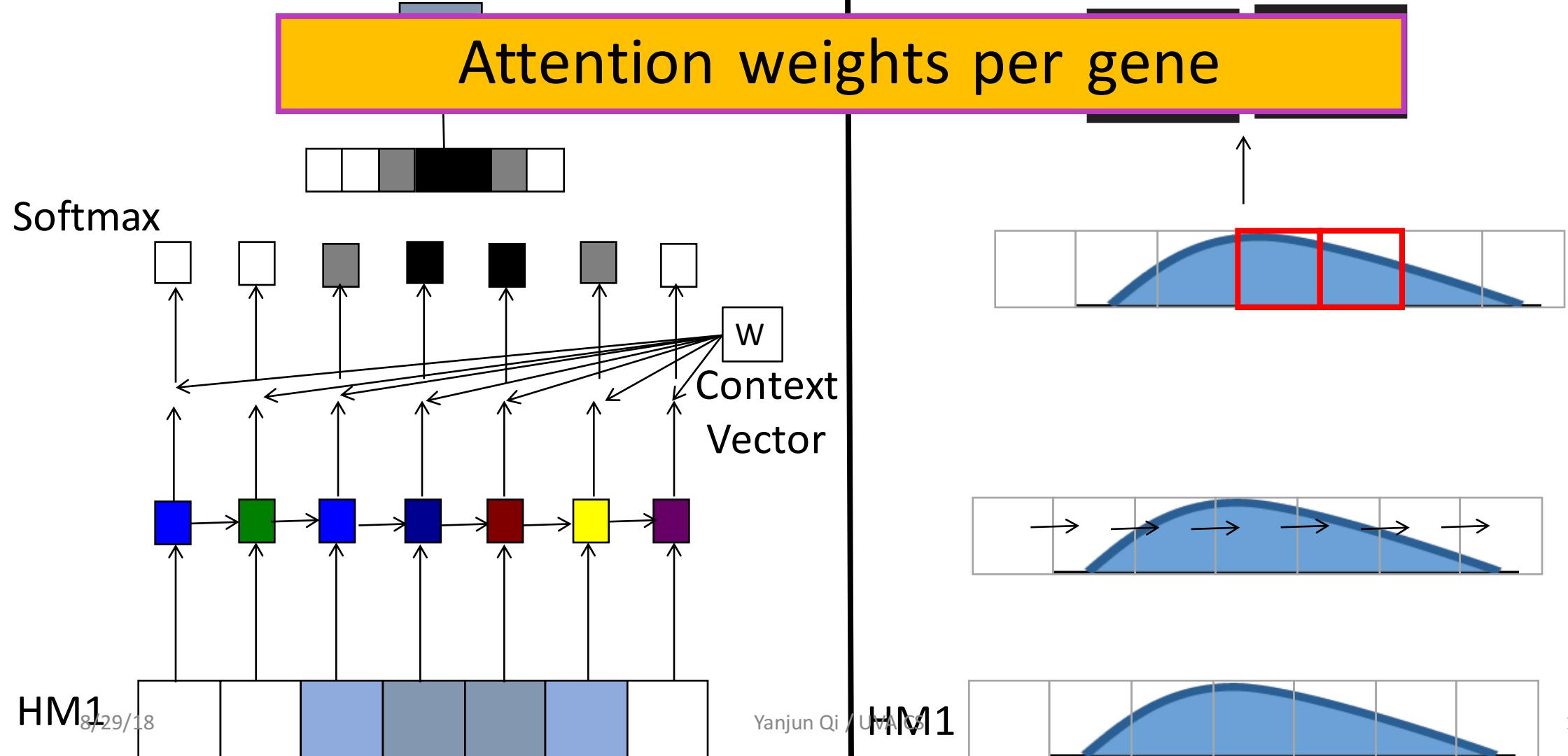


HM1

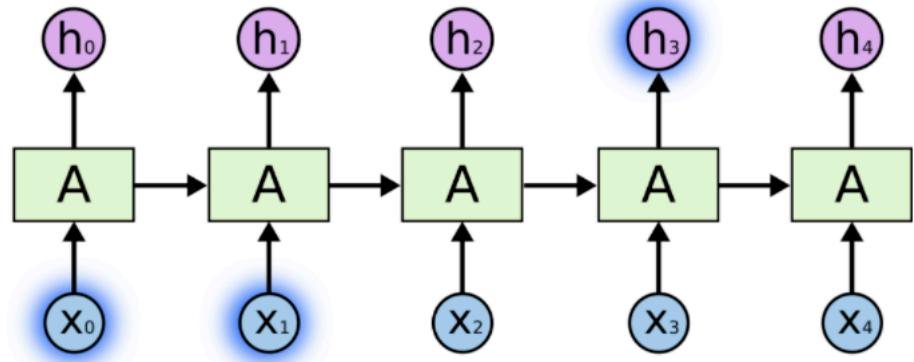




# Attention Mechanism



# Using Attention to Select RNN per-unit outputs

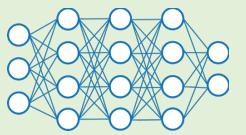


$$h_t = f_W(h_{t-1}, x_t)$$

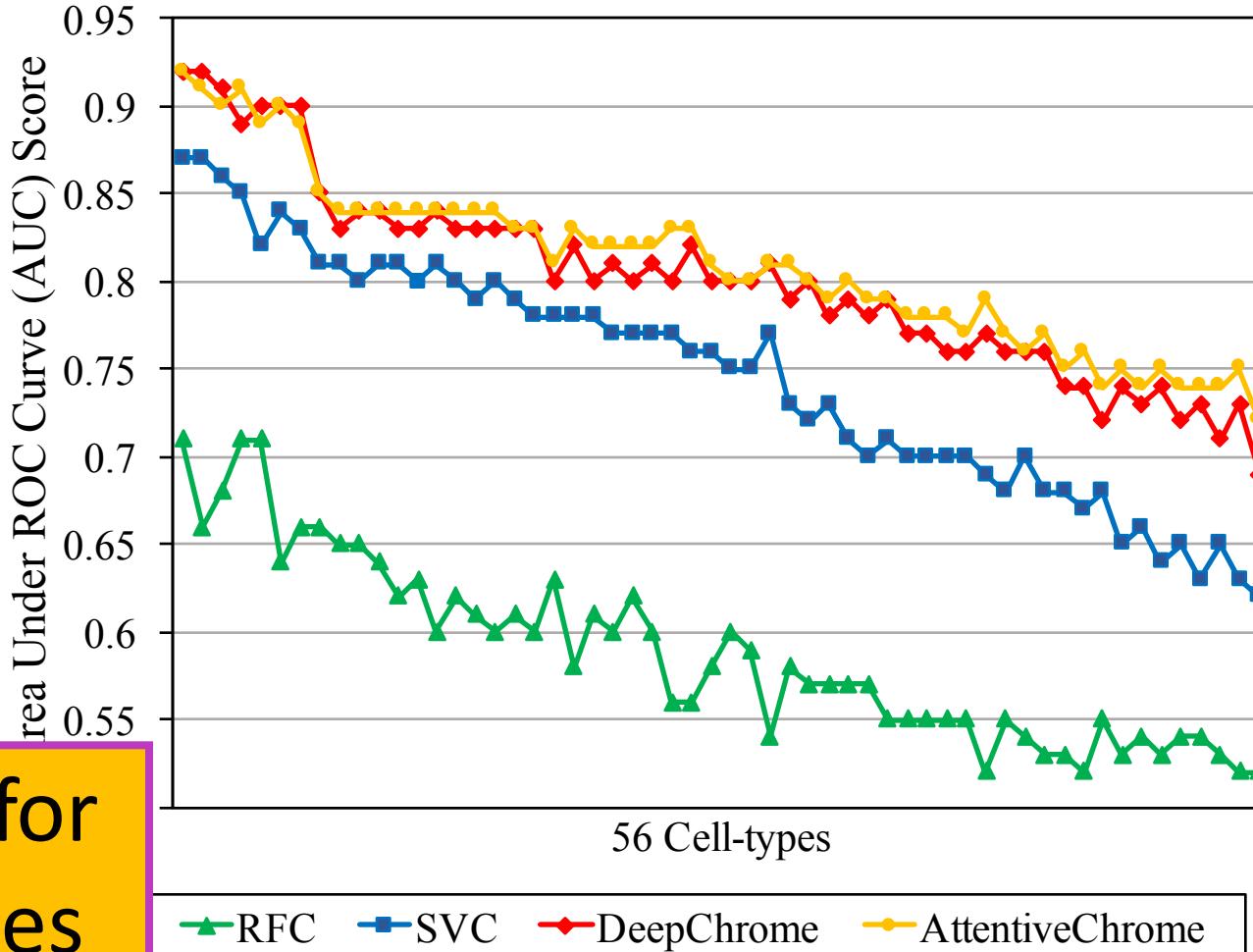
new state      /      old state      input vector at  
                  \      some time step  
                  some function  
                  with parameters W

$$\alpha_t^j = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{W}_b \mathbf{h}_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^T \exp(\mathbf{W}_b \mathbf{h}_i^j)}$$

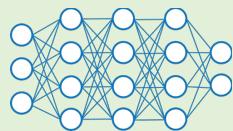
$\mathbf{W}_b$  is learned



# Prediction



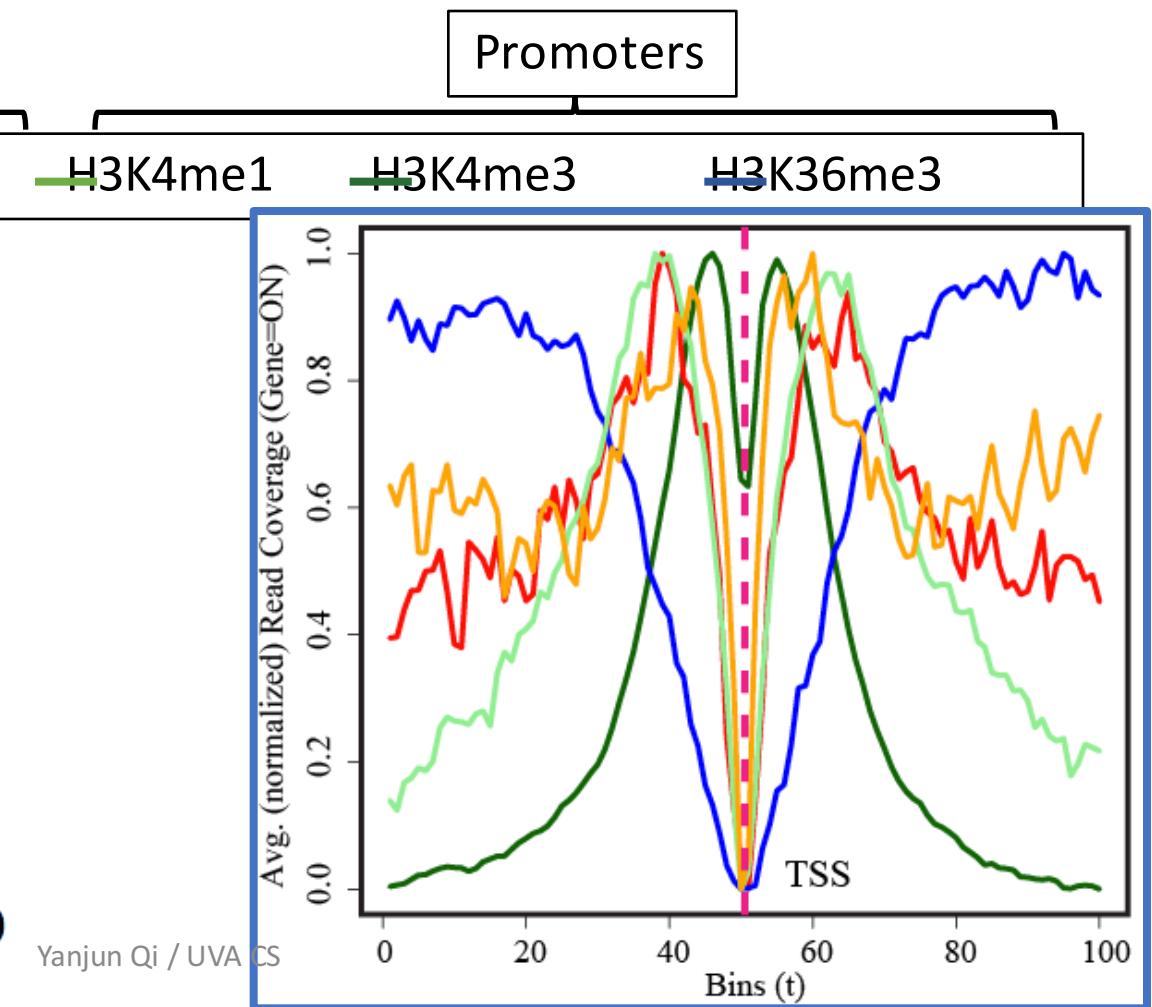
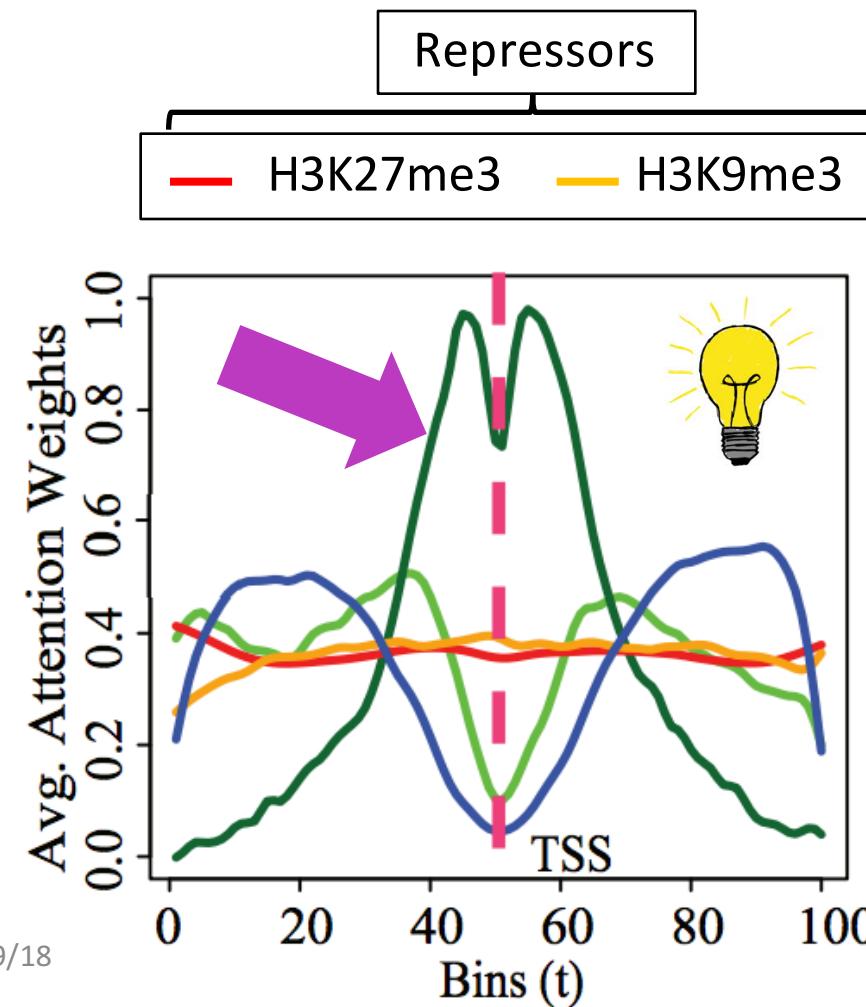
Improvement for  
49/56 Cell-types

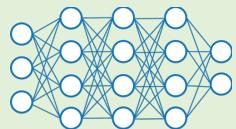


# Bin-Level Visualization

CELL TYPE: GM1

(1) What positions are important?





# HM-Level Visualization

## (2) What HMs are important?

Cell Types:

(Stem Cell)

(Blood Cell)

(Leukemia)

Color Scale



0 1

H3K27me3



H3K36me3



H3K4me1



H3K4me3



H3K9me3



PROMOTER  
DISTAL PROMOTER  
REPRESSOR

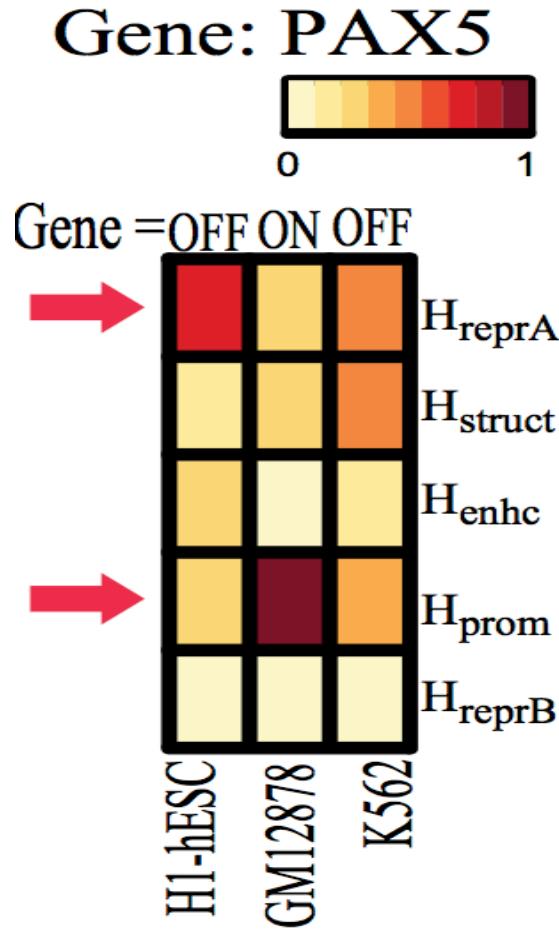


Yanjun / UVA CS

Gene: PAX5

106

# Results: HM level attention



- An important differentially regulated gene (PAX5) across three blood lineage cell types:
  - H1-hESC (stem cell),
  - GM12878 (blood cell),
  - K562 (leukemia cell).
- Trend of its global weights (beta) Verified through the literature.

$\beta$  Maps

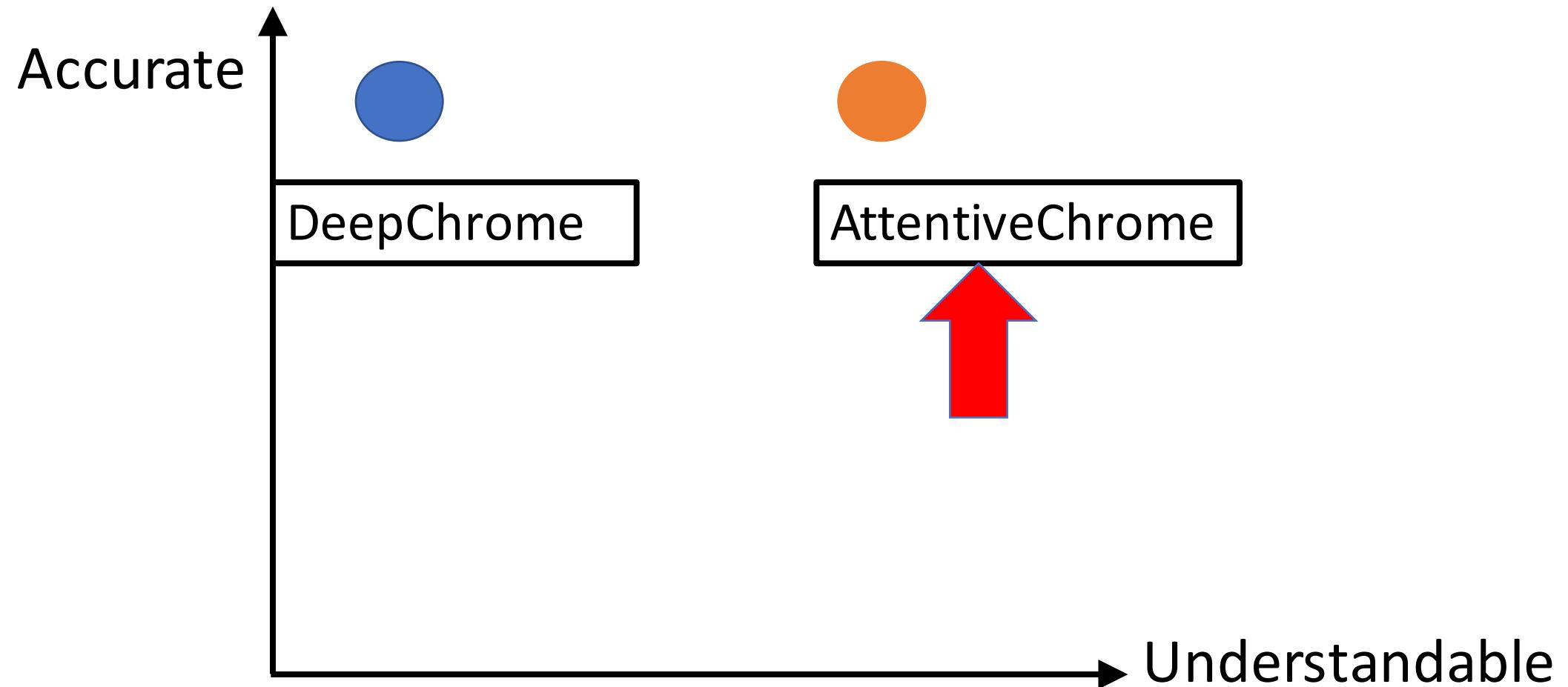
# Validation of Attention Weights (using one extra HM signals )

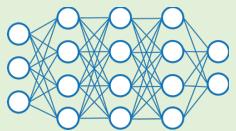
Table 3: Pearson Correlation values between weights assigned for  $H_{prom}$  (active HM) by different visualization techniques and  $H_{active}$  read coverage (indicating actual activity near "ON" genes) for predicted "ON" genes across three major cell types.

Viz. Methods	H1-hESC	GM12878	K562
$\alpha$ Map (LSTM- $\alpha$ )	0.8523	<b>0.8827</b>	<b>0.9147</b>
$\alpha$ Map (LSTM- $\alpha, \beta$ )	<b>0.8995</b>	0.8456	0.9027
Class-based Optimization (CNN)	0.0562	0.1741	0.1116
Saliency Map (CNN)	0.1822	-0.1421	0.2238

- Additional signal - H3K27ac (H-Active) from REMC
- Average local attention weights of gene=ON correspond well with H-active
- Indicating AttentiveChrome is focusing on the correct bin positions

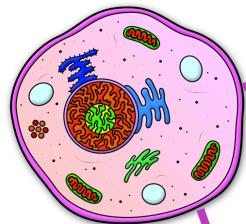
# Summary of tools





# Where are we heading?

Changing Task : Classification → Regression

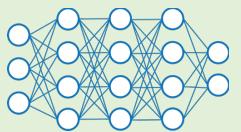


1.770  
Gene  
Expression

Genes	Gene Expression (RPKM)	Y $\log(\text{RPKM})$
RUNX1	1.296	01126
SMAD2	14.902	1.1737
MYC	3.805	0.5803
PAX5	15.066	1.779
.....	.....	.....

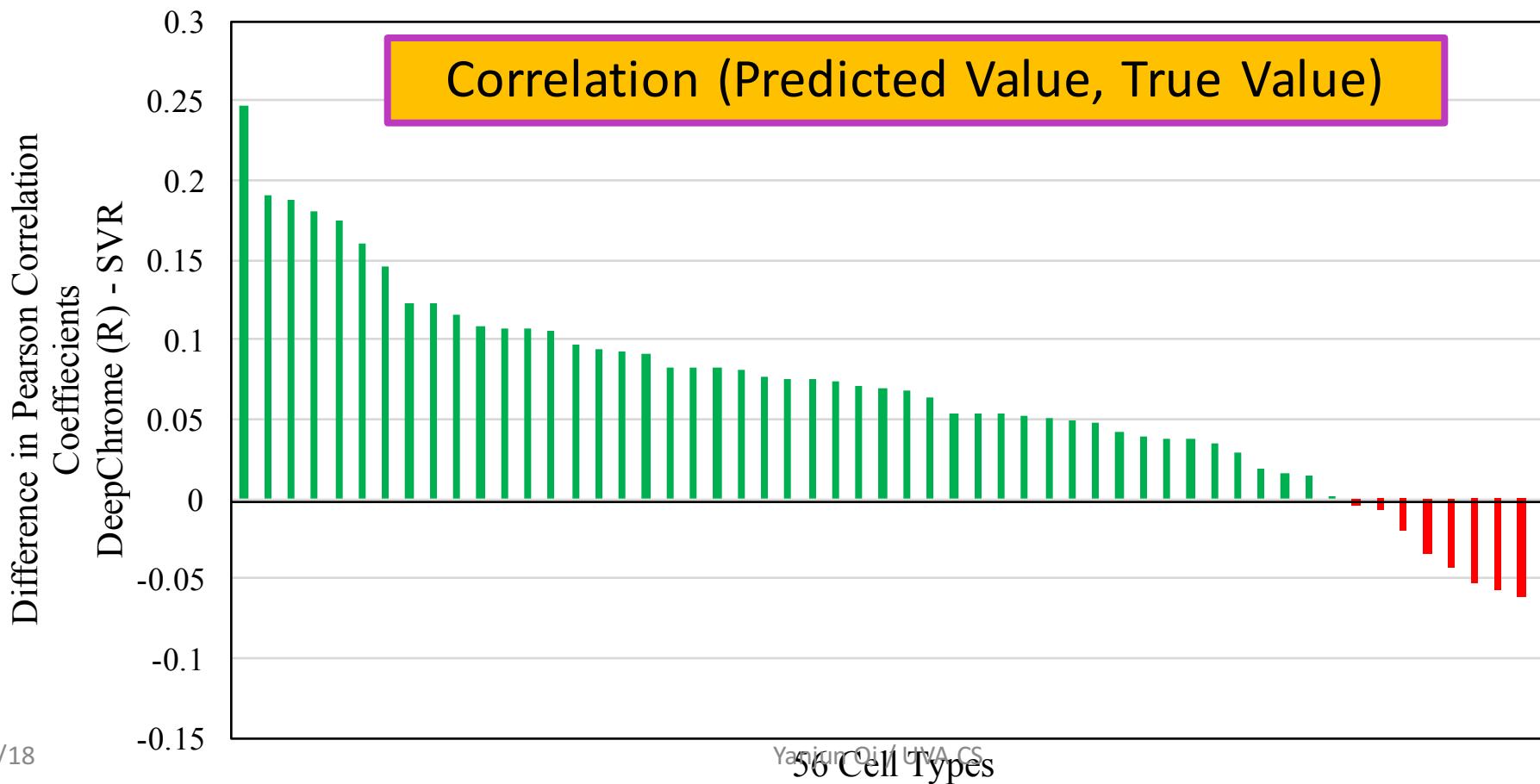
Mean Square Error  
Loss

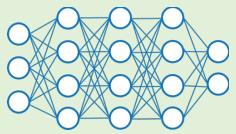
$$(Y - f(X))^2$$



# Where are we heading?

Changing Task : Classification → Regression

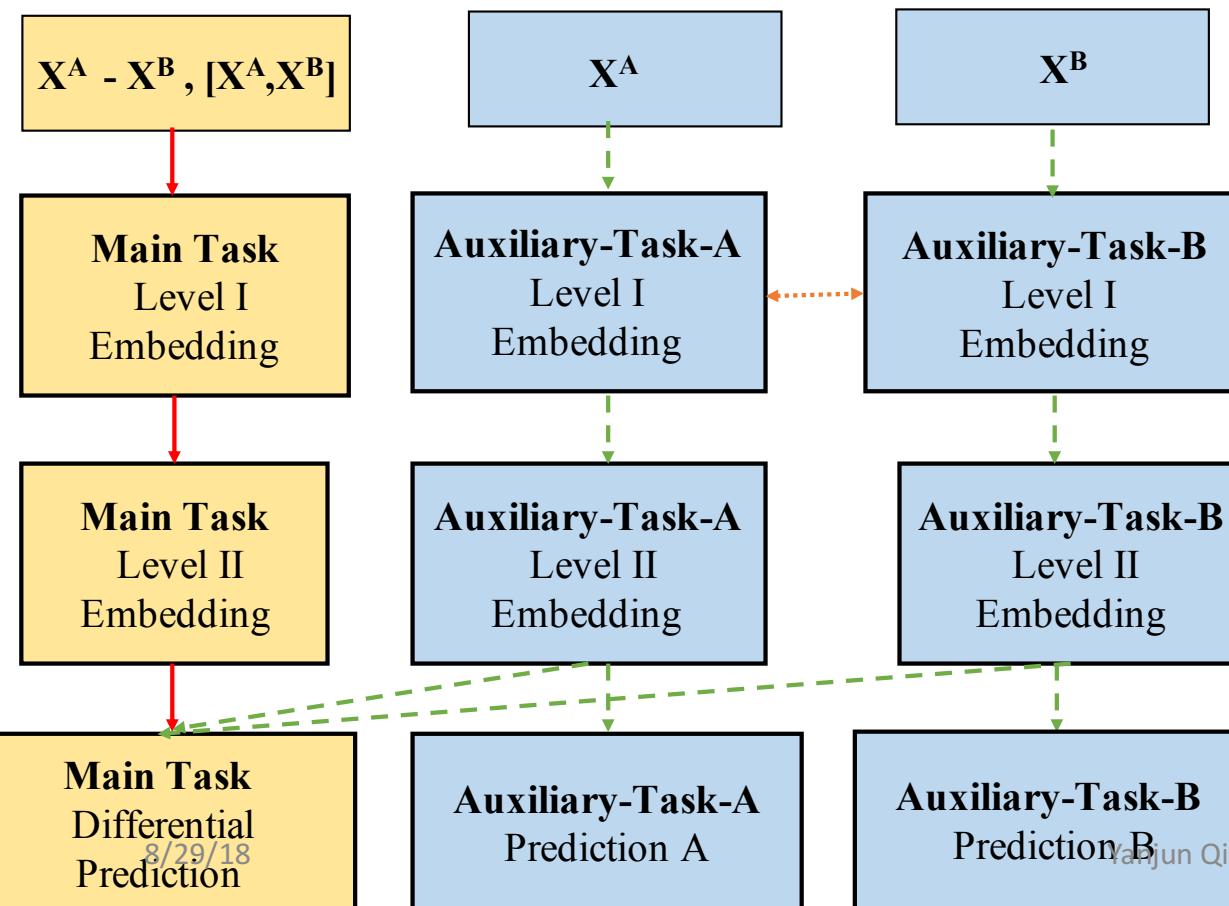




# Where are we heading?

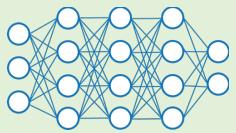
DeepDiff: Deep-learning for predicting Differential gene expression from histone modifications

## Changing Task : Cell-Specific → Cross Cell



- 1 Main Task: Differential gene expression prediction
- 2 Cell-Specific Auxiliary: Auxiliary-Task-A and Auxiliary-Task-B cell type specific prediction
- 3 Siamese Auxiliary: Siamese contrastive loss

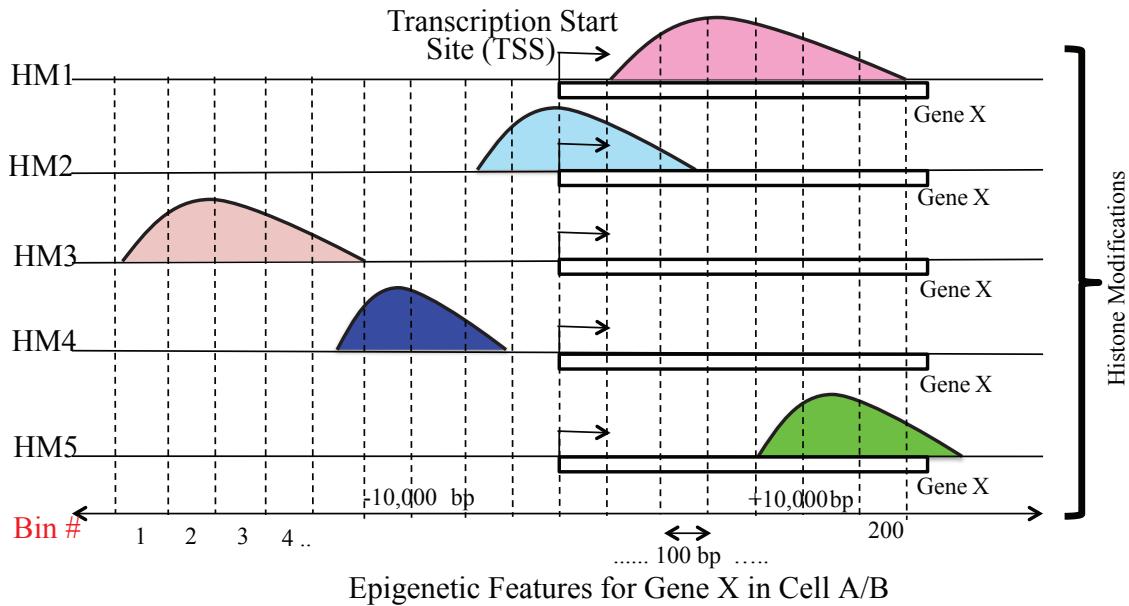
DeepDiff Variations	Objective Loss
1 Raw:d, Raw:c, Raw	$\ell_{\text{Diff}}$
2 Aux	$\ell_{\text{Diff}} + \ell_{\text{CellAux}}$
1 + 2 Raw+Aux	$\ell_{\text{Diff}} + \ell_{\text{CellAux}}$
2 + 3 Aux+Siamese	$\ell_{\text{Diff}} + \ell_{\text{CellAux}} + \ell_{\text{Siamese}}$
1 + 2 + 3 Raw+Aux+Siamese	$\ell_{\text{Diff}} + \ell_{\text{CellAux}} + \ell_{\text{Siamese}}$



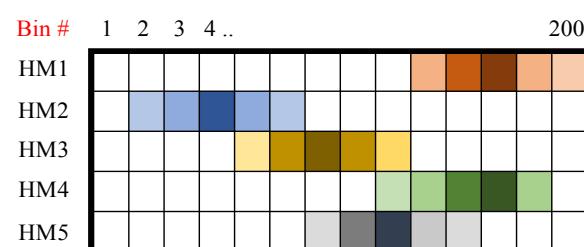
# Where are we heading?

DeepDiff: Deep-learning for predicting Differential gene expression from histone modifications

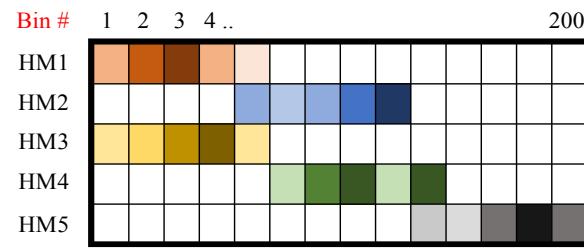
Changing Task : Cell-Specific → Cross Cell



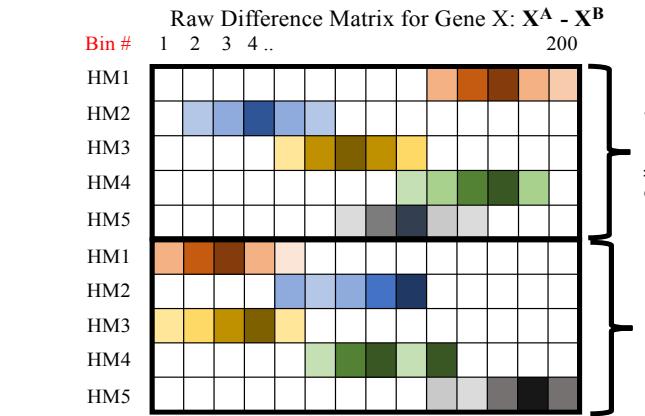
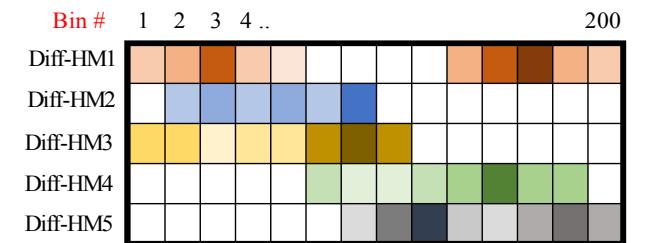
(a)



Raw Input Matrix for Gene X in Cell-type A:  $\mathbf{X}^A$

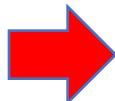


Raw Input Matrix for Gene X in Cell-type B:  $\mathbf{X}^B$

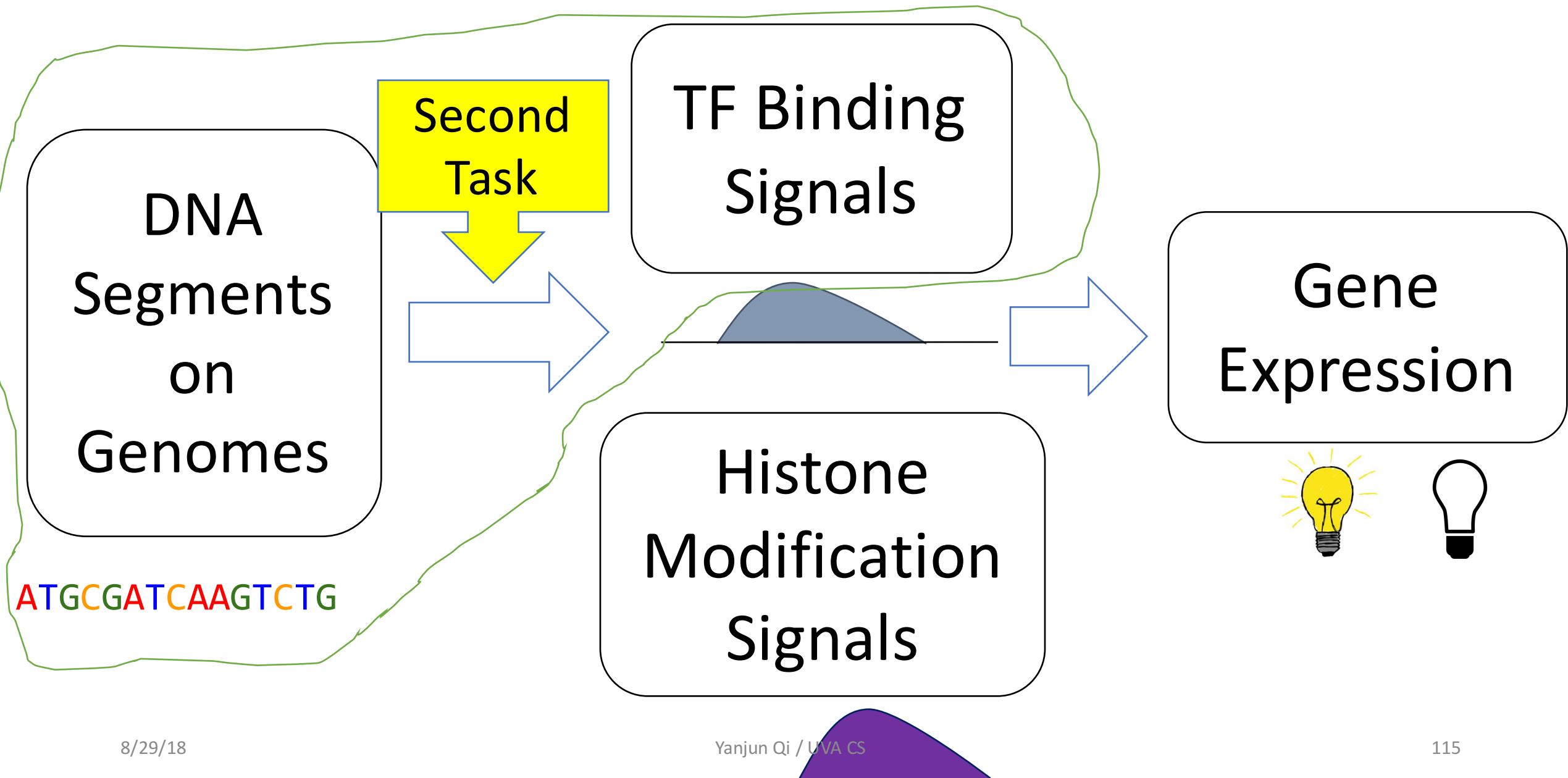


(b)

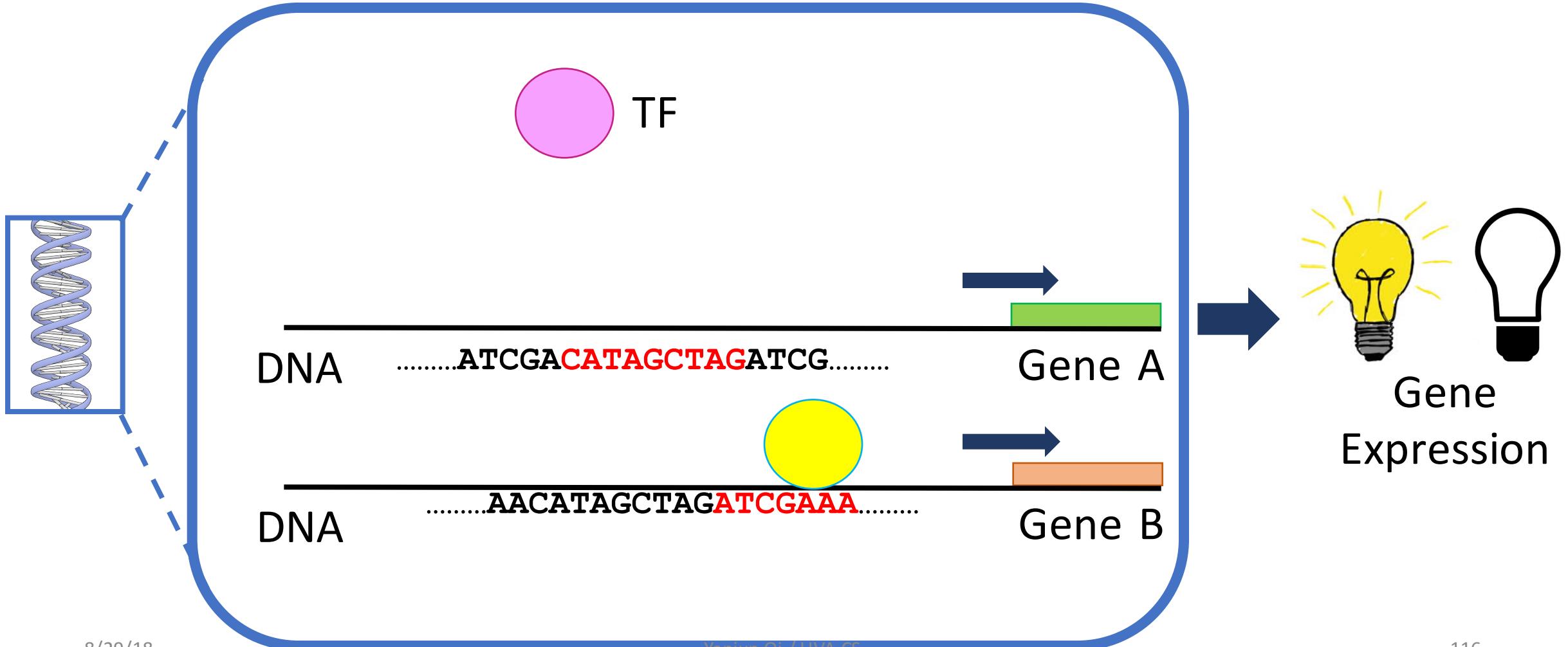
# Today

- Machine Learning: a quick review
  - Deep Learning: a quick review
  - Background Biology: a quick review
  - Deep Learning for analyzing **Sequential Data** about Regulation:
    - DeepChrome
    - AttentiveChrome
    - DeepMotif
- <https://qdata.github.io/deep2Read/>
-  <https://www.deepchrome.org>

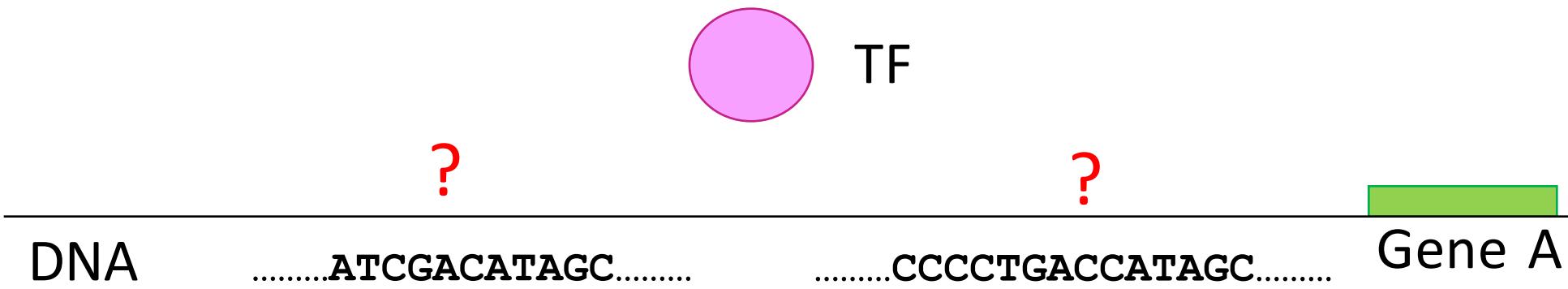
# Many Important Data-Driven Computational Tasks



# Transcription Factors



# TF-Binding Site?

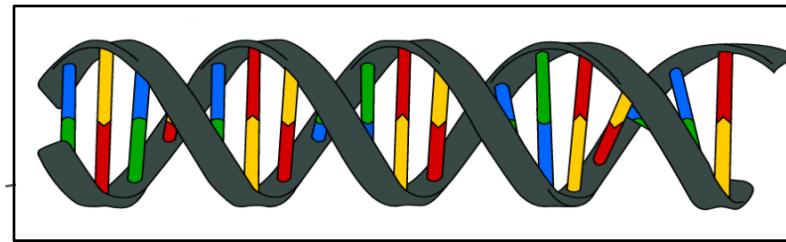


“TF-Binding Site?”

ATCGAATCCG  
CCCTCTATCG



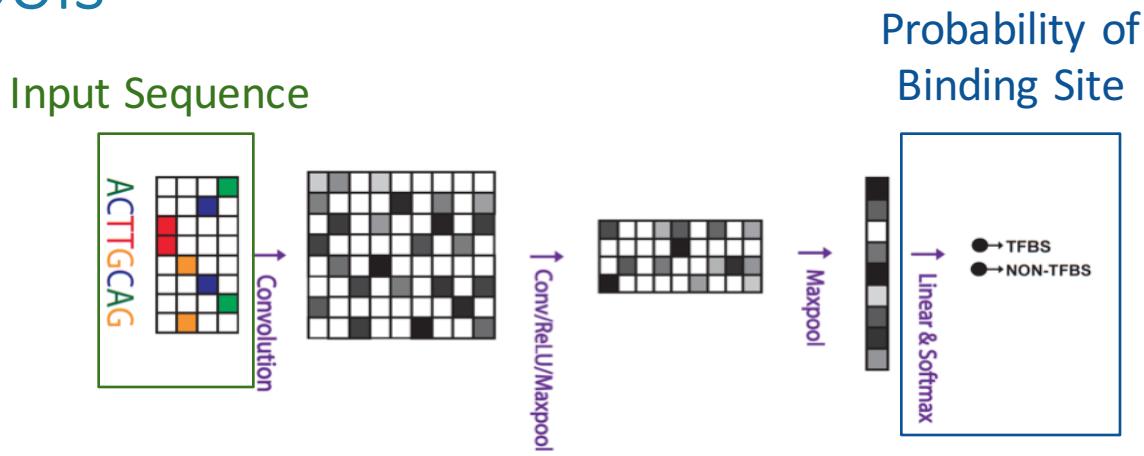
# Task: Sequence Based Functional Annotation Tasks



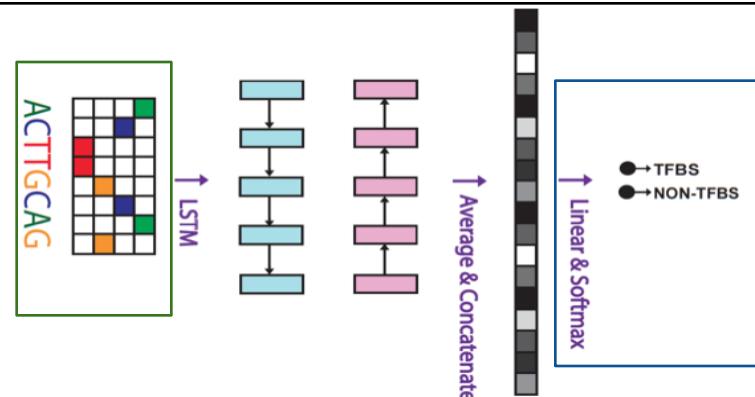
TF1                  TF2                  TF3    TF1                  TF2                  TF1                  TF3    TF2  
...**GCGACGAATCG...** **AACGATATGCT...** **CATATCATTTC...** **TGTCAAG...** **CTCGAGTC...** **TATCAAAGCTG...**

# Literature: Various DNN Tools

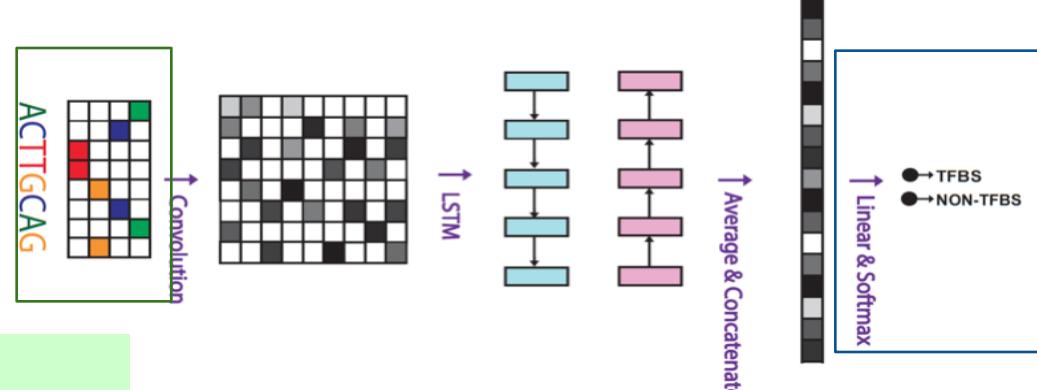
## 1. Convolutional (CNN)



## 2. Recurrent (RNN)



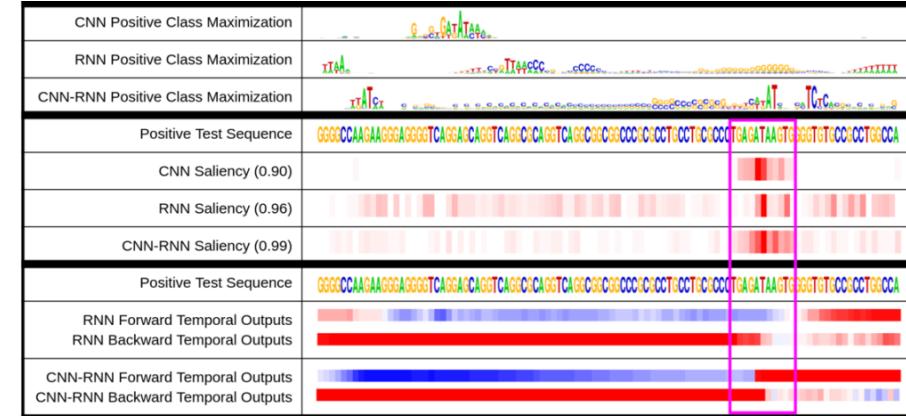
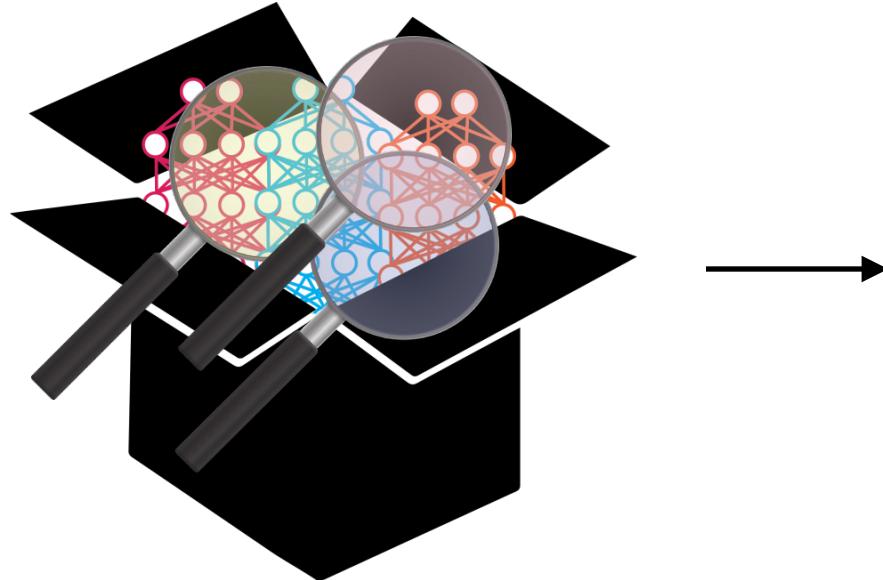
## 3. Convolutional-Recurrent (CNN-RNN)



DeepSEA, DeepBind, BASSET, DanQ, ....

# Deep Motif Dashboard: Understand DNNs by Post Analysis

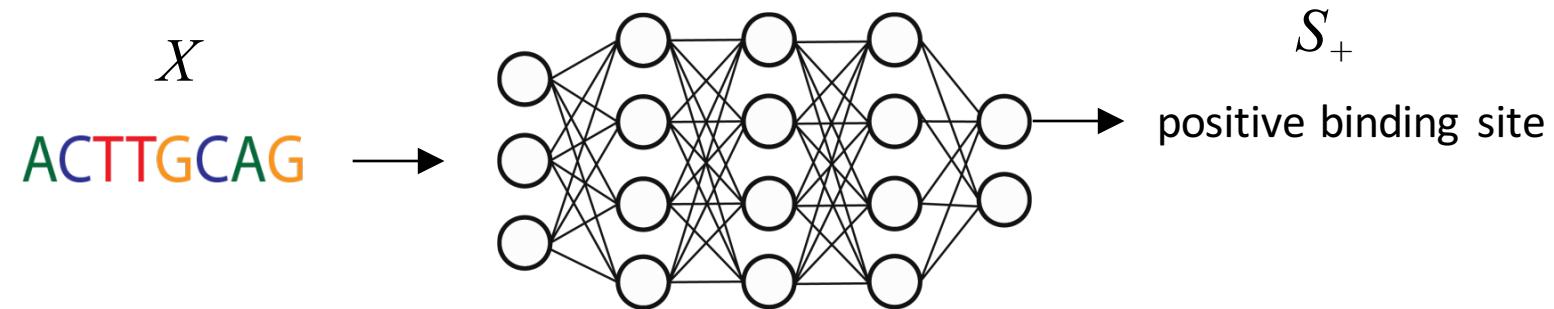
Lanchantin, Singh, Wang & Qi - Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing, 2017



1. Saliency Maps - recommending on CNN kind
2. Temporal Output Values - recommending on RNN kind
3. Class Optimization - recommending on CNN kind

# 1. Saliency Map

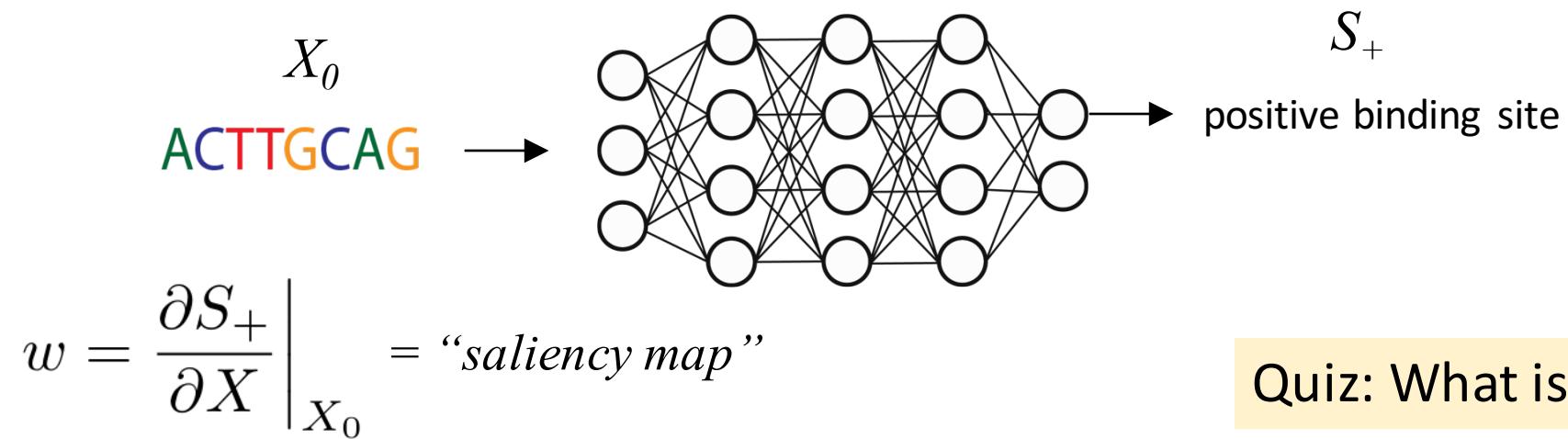
---



Which nucleotides are most important for my current-sample classification?

# 1. Saliency Map

---

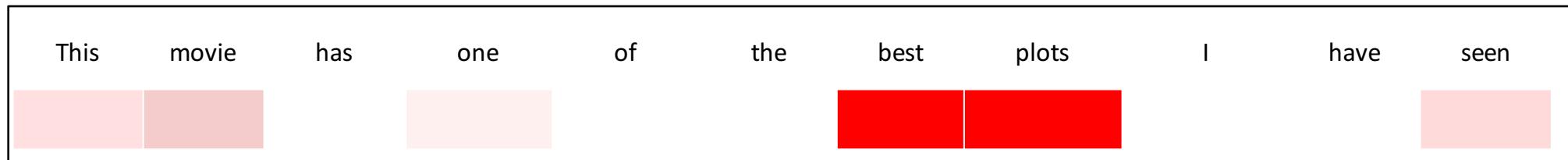
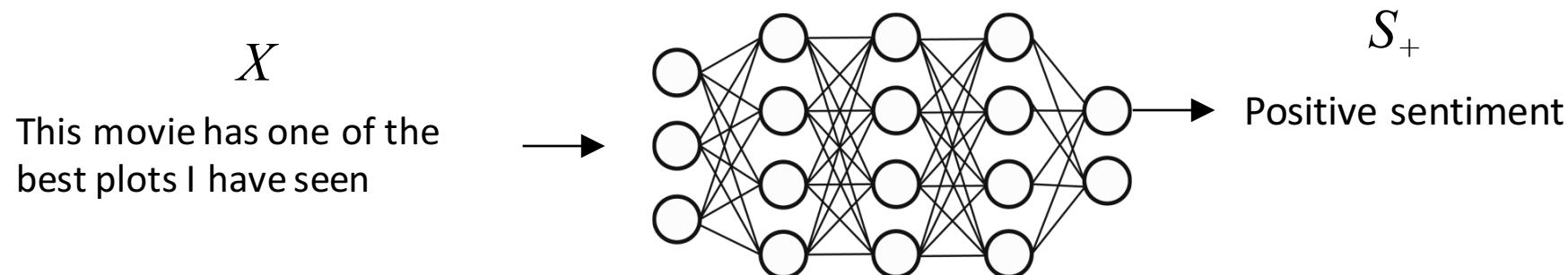


Quiz: What is gradient?

[Deep Inside Convolutional Networks: Visualising Image Classification Models and Saliency Maps, ICLR 2013](#)

# 1. Saliency Map

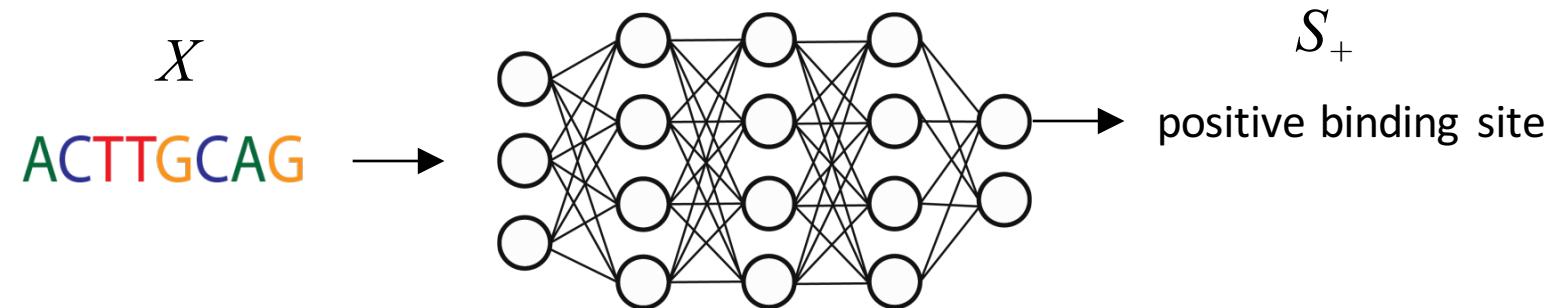
---



= important for classification

# 1. Saliency Map

---

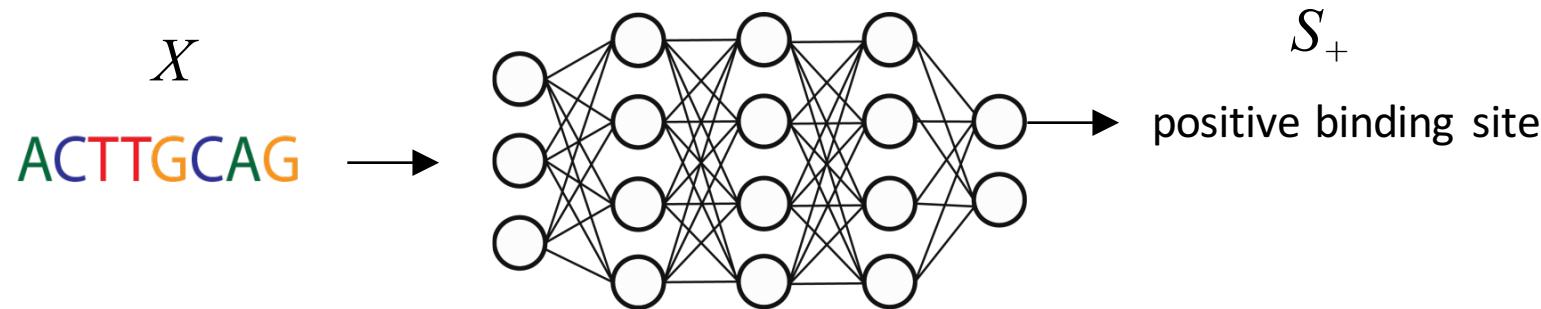


Positive Test Sequence	TGCTCGCATCCTATTGGCCACGTTAGTCACATGGCCCCACCTGGCTGCAAAGCACGCTGGAAACGTAGTCTTCTT
Saliency Map	A horizontal bar composed of vertical segments of varying heights. The segments are colored in a gradient from light pink to dark red. The heights of the segments correspond to the importance of each nucleotide in the sequence for the prediction.

█ = important nucleotide for prediction

## 2. Temporal Output Values

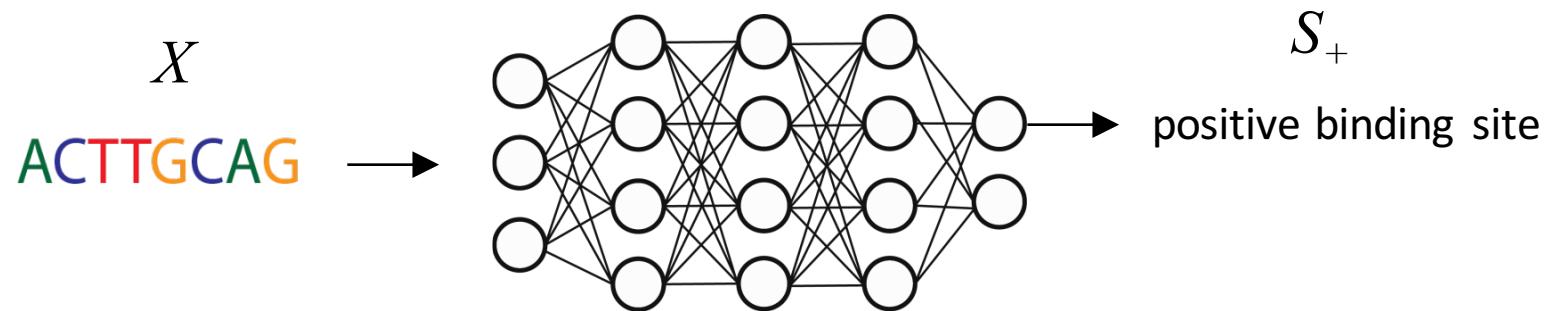
---



What are the model's predictions at each timestep of the DNA sequence?

## 2. Temporal Output Values

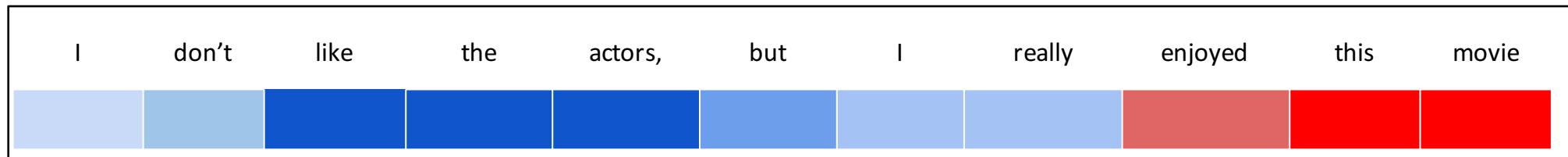
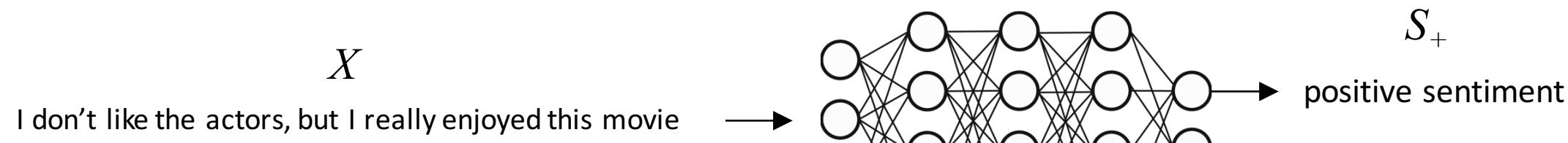
---



Check the RNN's prediction scores when we vary the input of the RNN starting from the beginning to the end of a sequence.

## 2. Temporal Output Values

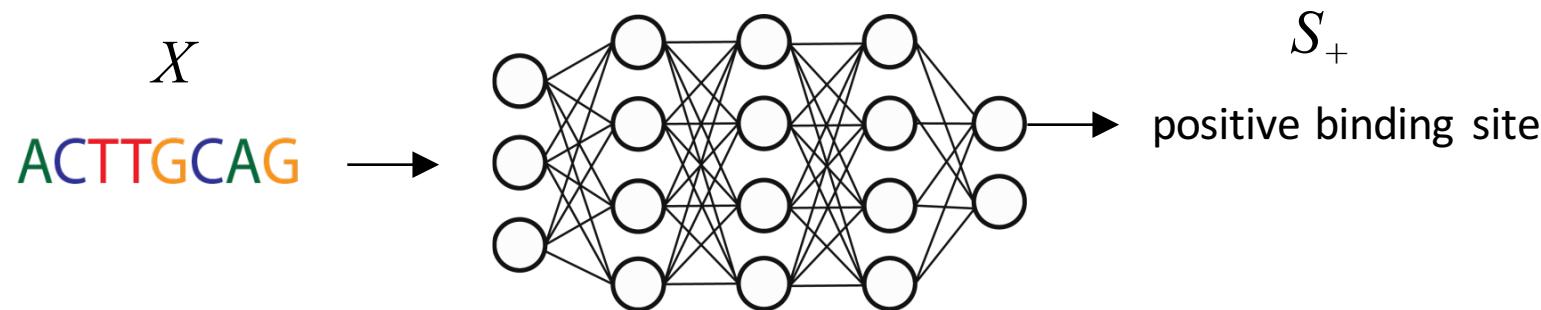
---



 = negative sentiment

 = positive sentiment

## 2. Temporal Output Values



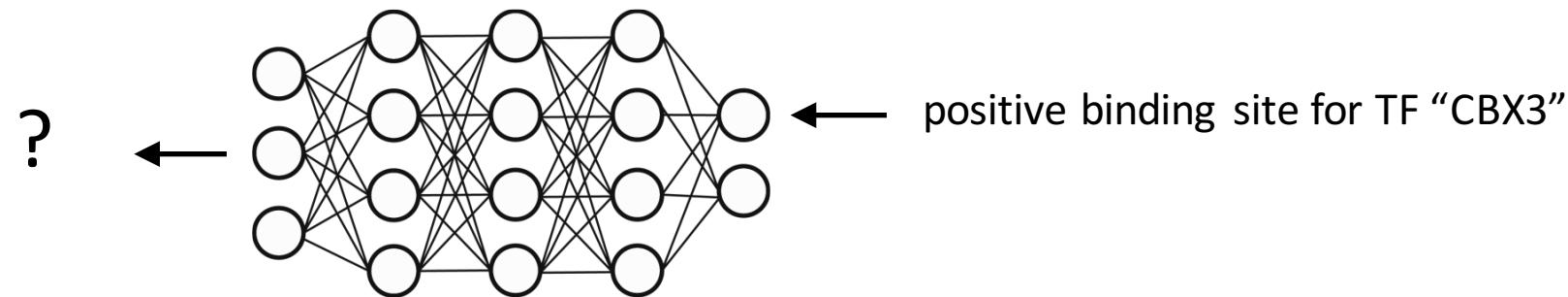
Positive Test Sequence	CTT <b>TGCTCGCATCCTATTGCCACGTTAGTCACATGGCCCCACCTGGCTGCAAAGCACGCTGGAAACGTAGTC</b> TTTCTT
RNN Forward Output	
RNN Backward Output	

= negative binding site prediction

= positive binding site prediction

### 3. Class Optimization

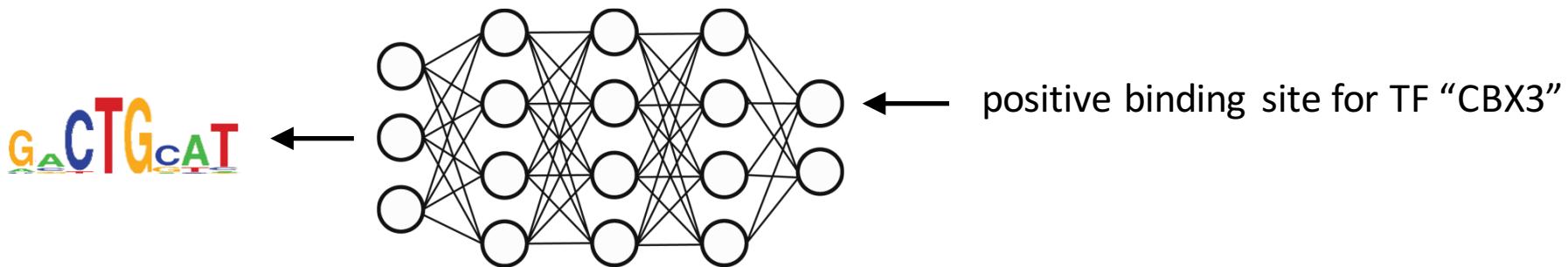
---



For a particular TF, what does the optimal binding site sequence look like?

### 3. Class Optimization

---



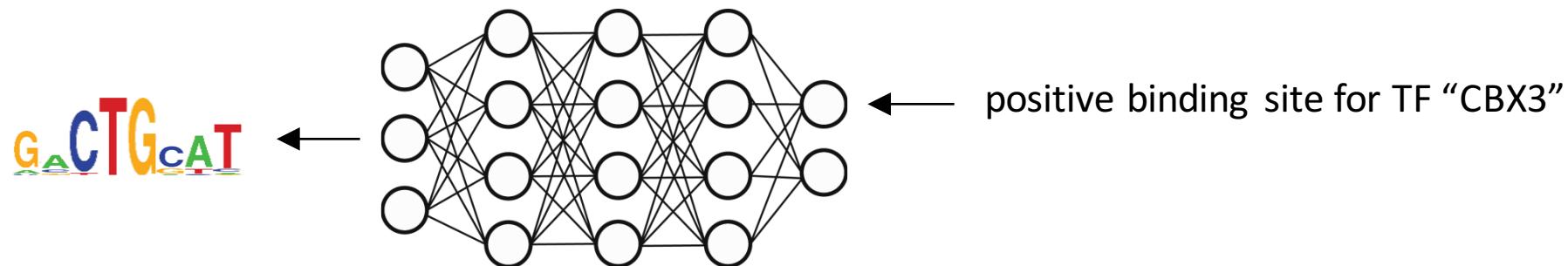
$$\arg \max_X S_+(X) + \lambda \|X\|_2^2$$

Where  $X$  is the input sequence and the score  $S_+$  is probability of sequence  $X$  being a positive binding site

[Deep Inside Convolutional Networks: Visualising Image Classification Models and Saliency Maps, ICLR 2013](#)

### 3. Class Optimization

---



Optimal binding  
site for TF “CBX3”



# Visualization Methods

---

Sequence  
Specific

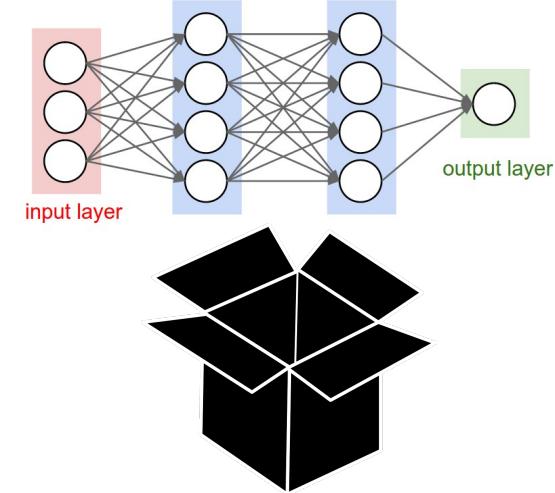
- {
  1. Saliency Maps – (CNN kind)
  2. Temporal Output Values – (RNN kind)

TF Specific

- {
  3. Class Optimization – (CNN kind)

code available at: [deepmotif.org](http://deepmotif.org)

# Related Work to Post-Understand DNN



- Deconvolution
- Perturbation-based
- Backpropagation-based
- Difference to Reference
- Influence based

Temporal Output Values

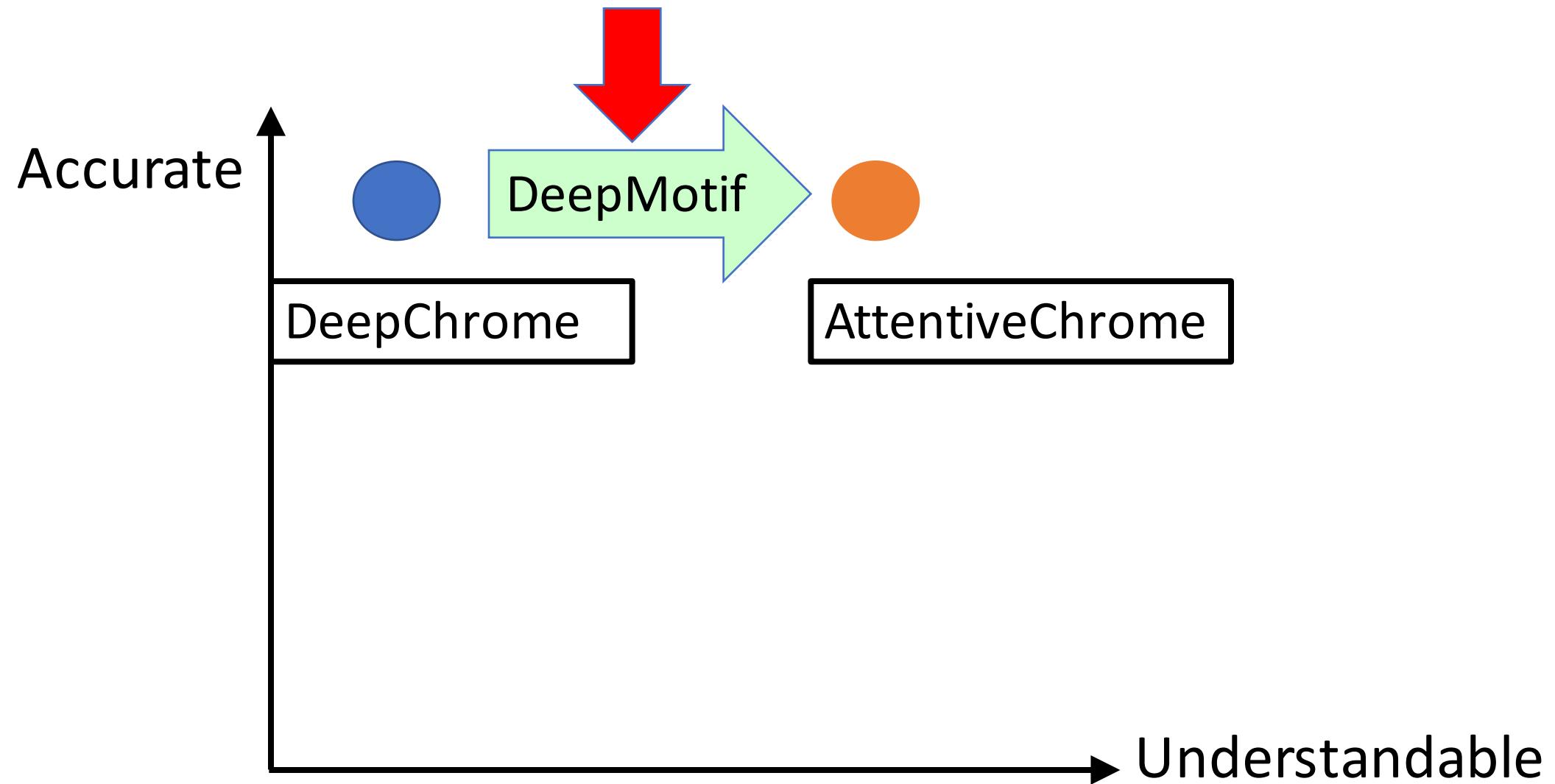
Saliency Map

Class Optimization

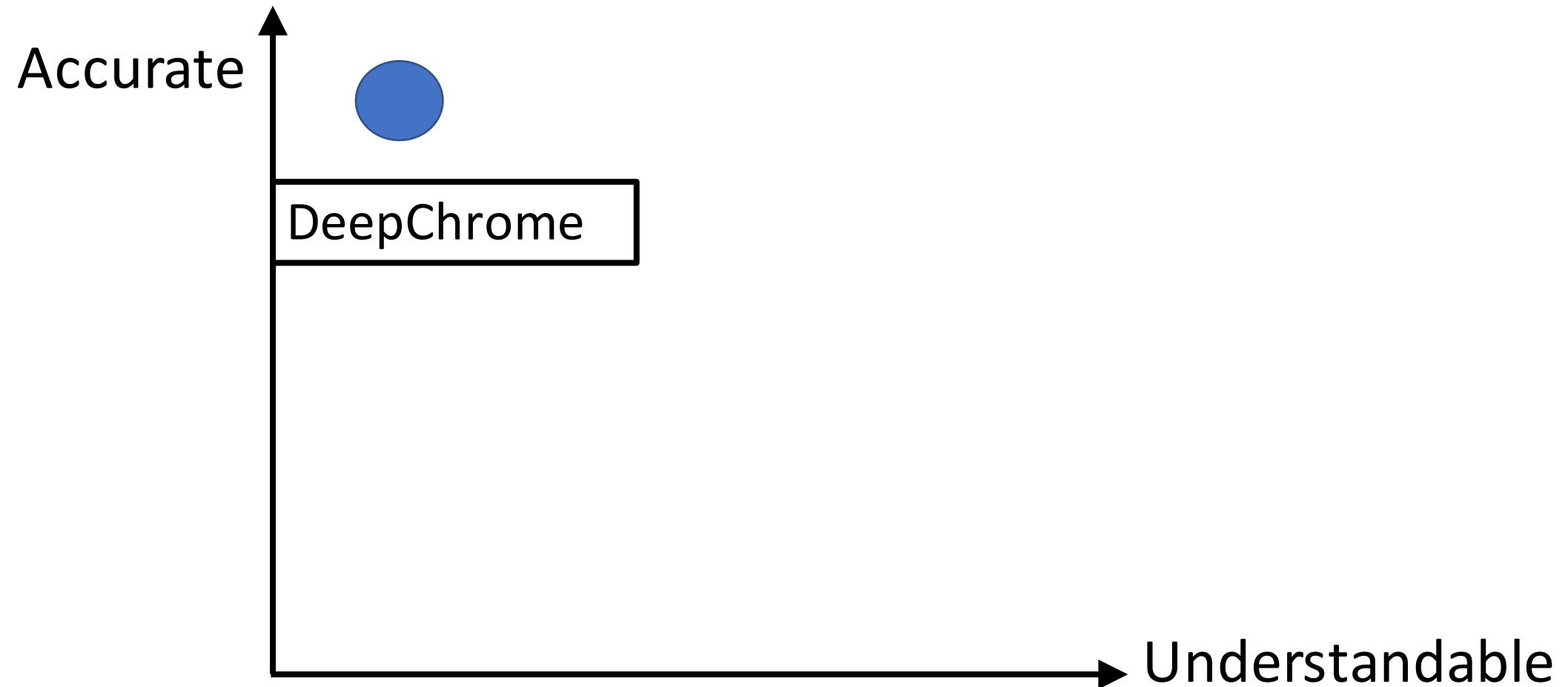
DeepLift

Influential Function / ICML27 Best Paper

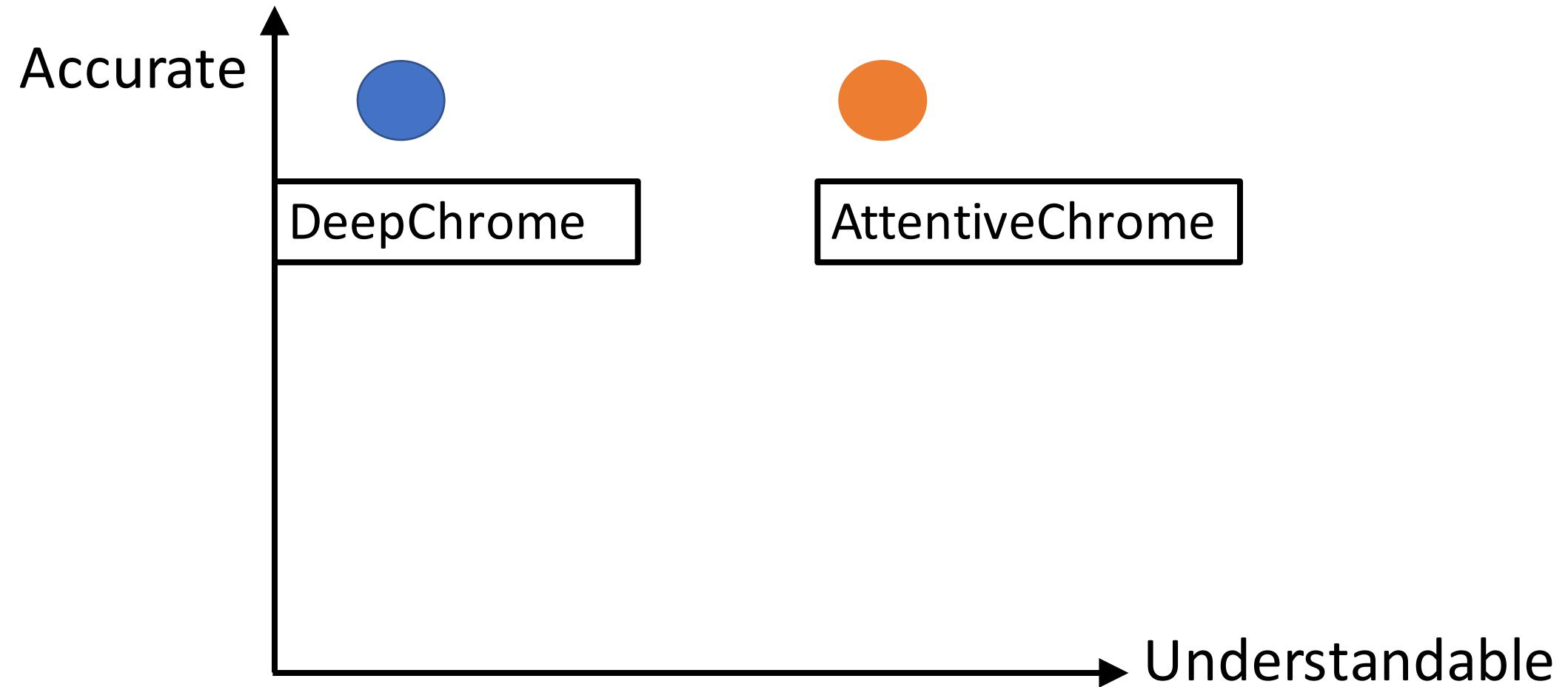
# Summary of tools



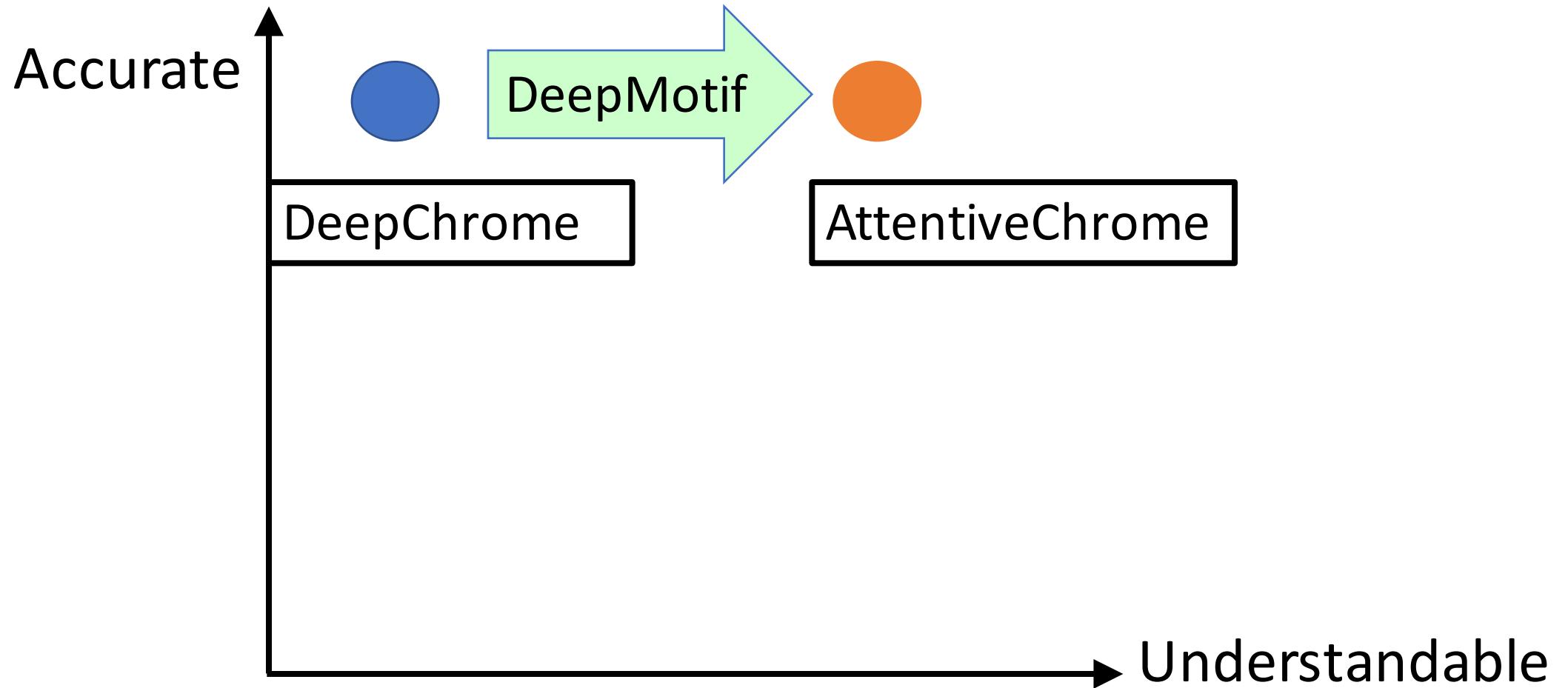
# Recap



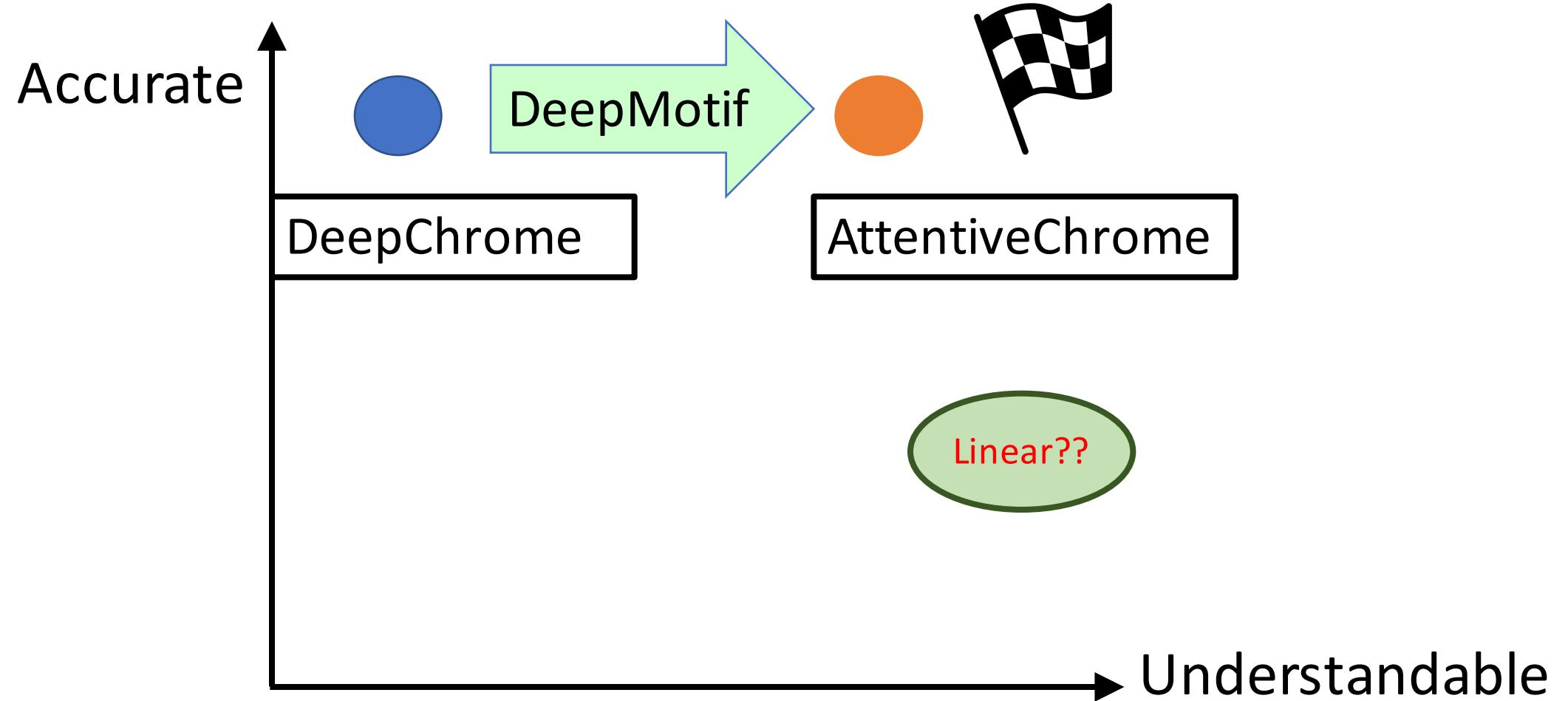
# Recap



# Recap



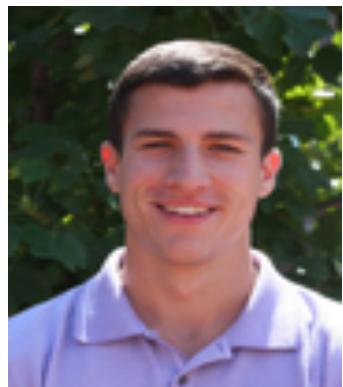
# Recap



# Acknowledgements



Ritambhara Singh



Jack Lanchantin



Arshdeep Sekhon



Beilun Wang

**UVA Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics: Dr. Mazhar Adli**

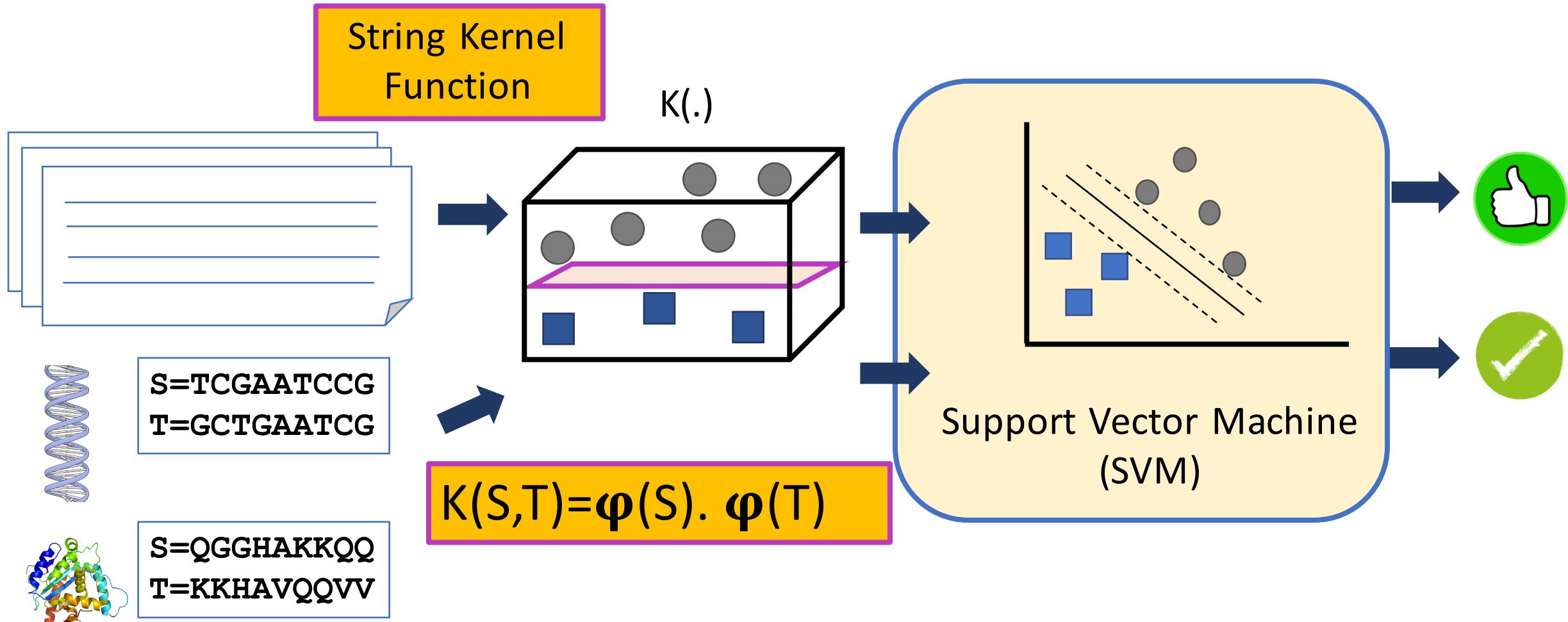
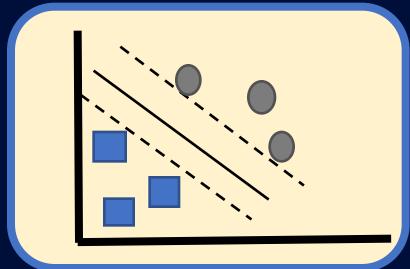


Thank you

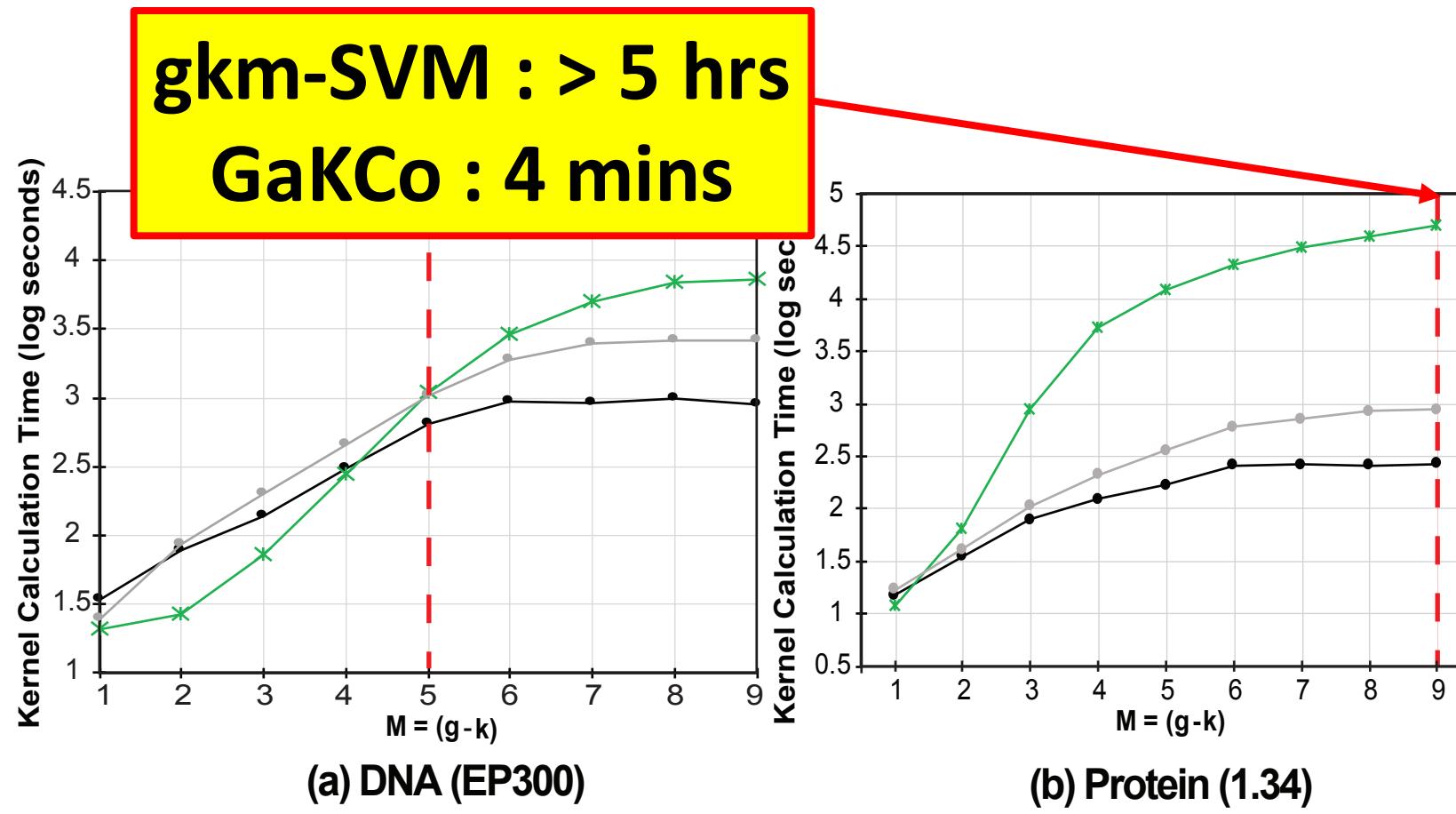
# More Tools: A Fast and Scalable Tool to Classify Biological Sequences

<https://github.com/QData/iGakco-SVM>

# String Kernel + SVM



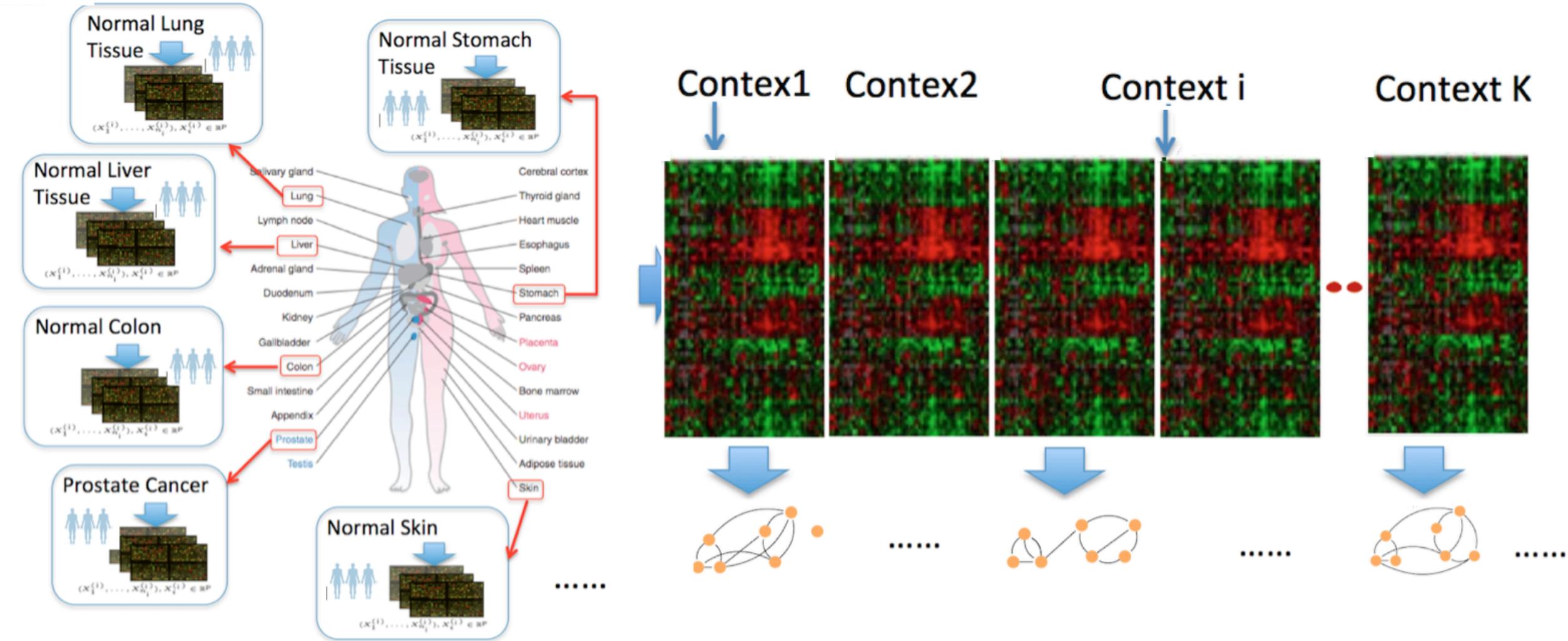
# Our Tool Scales well with increasing $\Sigma$ and $m$



# More Tools: Extracting graphs from data

<https://www.jointggm.org>

# Motivation: Graphs vary across contexts



# Limitation of Previous Methods : Storage

e.g., calculate the gradient

$$\Sigma = \text{Cov}(X) =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1n} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} & \cdots & \sigma_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{n1} & \sigma_{n2} & \cdots & \sigma_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \text{Cov}(X) =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1n} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} & \cdots & \sigma_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{n1} & \sigma_{n2} & \cdots & \sigma_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \text{Cov}(X) =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1n} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} & \cdots & \sigma_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{n1} & \sigma_{n2} & \cdots & \sigma_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

When K contexts=91, p nodes= 30K

$O(Kp^2)$  in memory

Double type: 65 TB

# Limitation of Previous Methods: Speed

Suppose they have the same iteration number T

$$K = 91, p = 30K$$

Traditional Optimization Method

---- Block Coordinate Descent :

$$O(K^3 p^4) / \text{Itera}$$

more than **2 billion years**

Current Optimization: ADMM based

---- Still needs SVD for each covariance matrix

SVD for the matrices needs

$$O(K p^3) \rightarrow 3.5 \text{ days} \\ / \text{Itera}$$

# Our Tools

- Fast and scalable estimators for joint graph discovery from heterogeneous samples
- Parallelizable algorithms
- Sharp convergence rate (sharp error bounds)

More details at: <http://www.jointggm.org/>