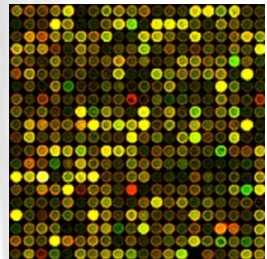


# Interpreting Gene Lists

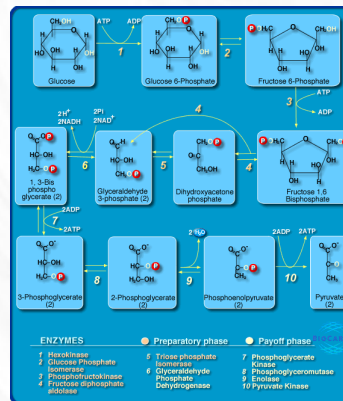
- The analysis produced 1000 hits-> Now what?
- Genome-Scale Analysis (Omics)
  - Genomics, Proteomics
- What's interesting about these genes
  - Are they enriched in known pathways, complexes, functions



Ranking or clustering

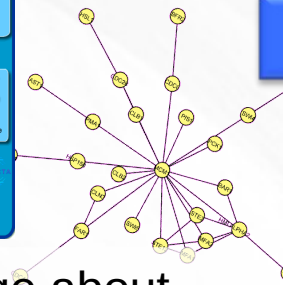


GNAQ
GNAS
DGKZ
GUCY1A3
PDE4B
PDE4D
ATP2A2
ATP2A3
NOS1
CNN1
GSTO1
NOS3
CNN2
MYLK2
CALD1
ACTA1
MYL2



Prior knowledge about cellular processes

Analysis tools



Eureka! New heart disease gene!

# **Pathway and Network Analysis**

- Any type of analysis that involves pathway or network information
- Most commonly applied to help interpret lists of genes
- Most popular type is pathway enrichment analysis, but many others are useful
- Helps gain mechanistic insight into 'omics data

# Correlation to Causation

- GWAS: find genetic markers correlated with disease – powerful approach, but:
  - genomics reduces statistical power (>multiple testing correction with >SNPs)
  - rare variants = more samples
- Associate pathways to increase power
  - Fewer pathways, organize many rare variants (damaging the system causes the disease)
- Use pathway knowledge to identify potential disease causes

# Before Analysis

- ✓ Normalization
  - ✓ Background adjustment
  - ✓ Quality control (garbage in, garbage out)
- 
- ✓ Use statistics that will increase signal and reduce noise specifically for your experiment
  - ✓ Other analyses you may want to use to evaluate changes
  - ✓ Make sure your gene IDs are compatible with software

# Where Do Gene Lists Come From?

- Molecular profiling e.g. mRNA, protein
  - Identification → Gene list
  - Quantification → Gene list + values
  - Ranking, Clustering (biostatistics)
- Interactions: Protein interactions, microRNA targets, transcription factor binding sites (ChIP)
- Genetic screen e.g. of knock out library
- Association studies (Genome-wide)
  - Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)
  - Copy number variants (CNVs)

# What Do Gene Lists Mean?

- Biological system: complex, pathway, physical interactors
- Similar gene function e.g. protein kinase
- Similar cell or tissue location
- Chromosomal location (linkage, CNVs)

Data

# Biological Questions

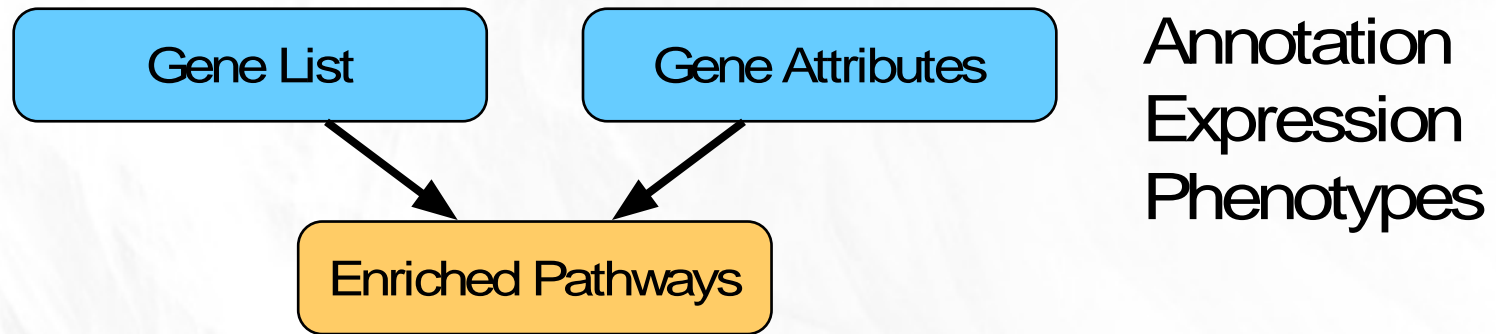
- Step 1: What do you want to accomplish with your list
  - Summarize biological processes or other aspects of gene function
  - Perform differential analysis – what pathways are different between samples?
  - Find a controller for a process (TF, miRNA)
  - Find new pathways or new pathway members
  - Discover new gene function
  - Correlate with a disease or phenotype (candidate gene prioritization)

# Biological Answers

- Computational analysis methods we will cover
  - Regulatory network analysis: find controllers
  - Pathway enrichment analysis: summarize and compare
  - Network analysis: predict gene function, find new pathway members, identify functional modules (new pathways)



# Pathway Enrichment Analysis



DAVID, GSEA, g:Profiler

- Gene identifiers
- Gene attributes/annotation
  - Gene Ontology
    - Ontology Structure
    - Annotation
  - BioMart + other sources

# Gene and Protein Identifiers

- Identifiers (IDs) are ideally unique, stable names or numbers that help track database records
  - E.g. Social Insurance Number, Entrez Gene ID 41232
- Gene and protein information stored in many databases
  - → Genes have many IDs
- Records for: Gene, DNA, RNA, Protein
  - Important to recognize the correct record type
  - E.g. Entrez Gene records don't store sequence. They link to DNA regions, RNA transcripts and proteins e.g. in RefSeq, which stores sequence.

GNAQ
GNAS
DGKZ
GUCY1A3
PDE4B
PDE4D
ATP2A2
ATP2A3
NOS1
CNN1
GSTO1
NOS3
CNN2
MYLK2
CALD1
ACTA1
MYL2

# Common Identifiers

## Gene

Ensembl [ENSG00000139618](#)

Entrez Gene [675](#)

Unigene [Hs.34012](#)

## RNA transcript

GenBank [BC026160.1](#)

RefSeq [NM\\_000059](#)

Ensembl [ENST00000380152](#)

## Protein

Ensembl [ENSP00000369497](#)

RefSeq [NP\\_000050.2](#)

UniProt [BRCA2\\_HUMAN](#) or

[A1YBP1\\_HUMAN](#)

IPI [IPI00412408.1](#)

EMBL [AF309413](#)

PDB [1MIU](#)

## Species-specific

HUGO HGNC [BRCA2](#)

MGI [MGI:109337](#)

RGD [2219](#)

ZFIN [ZDB-GENE-060510-3](#)

FlyBase [CG9097](#)

WormBase [WBGene00002299](#) or [ZK1067.1](#)

SGD [S000002187](#) or [YDL029W](#)

## Annotations

InterPro [IPR015252](#)

OMIM [600185](#)

Pfam [PF09104](#)

Gene Ontology [GO:0000724](#)

SNPs [rs28897757](#)

## Experimental Platform

Affymetrix [208368\\_3p\\_s\\_at](#)

Agilent [A\\_23\\_P99452](#)

CodeLink [GE60169](#)

Illumina [GI\\_4502450-S](#)

Red =

Recommended

# Identifier Mapping

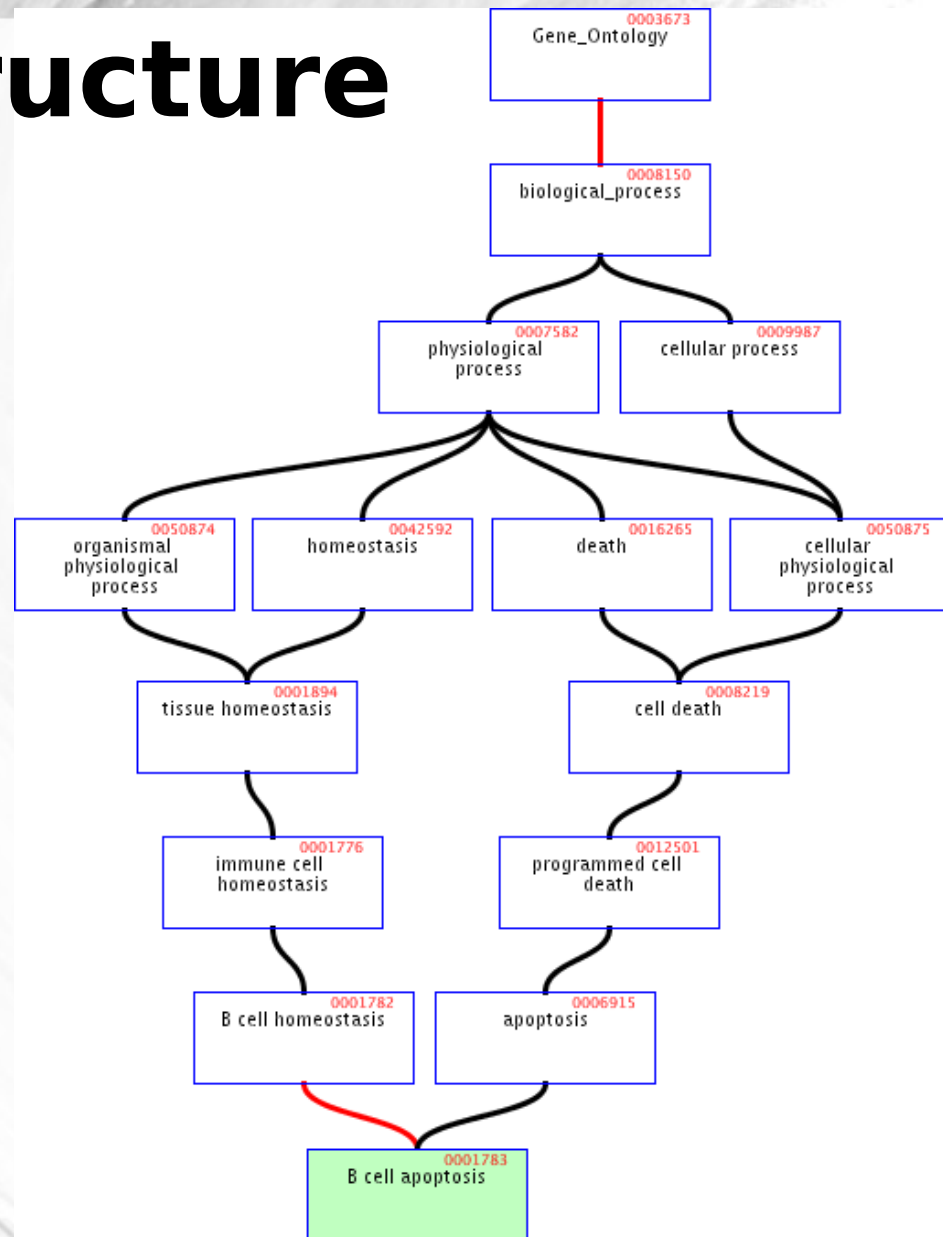
- So many IDs!
  - Software tools recognize only a handful
  - May need to map from your gene list IDs to standard IDs
- Four main uses
  - Searching for a favorite gene name
  - Link to related resources
  - Identifier translation
    - E.g. Proteins to genes, Affy ID to Entrez Gene
  - Merging data from different sources
    - Find equivalent records

# What is the Gene Ontology (GO)?

- Set of biological phrases (terms) which are applied to genes:
  - protein kinase
  - apoptosis
  - membrane
- Dictionary: term definitions
- Ontology: A formal system for describing knowledge
- [www.geneontology.org](http://www.geneontology.org)

# GO Structure

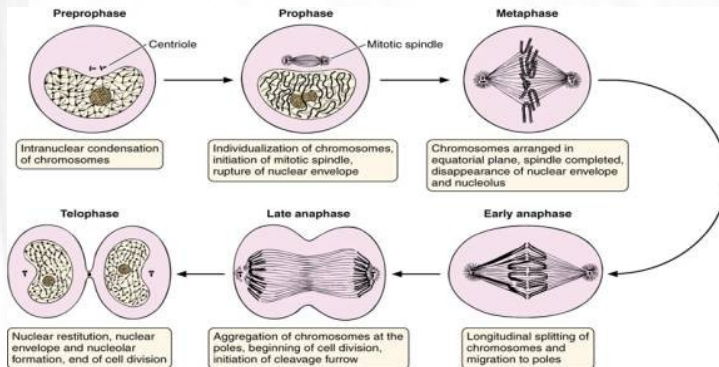
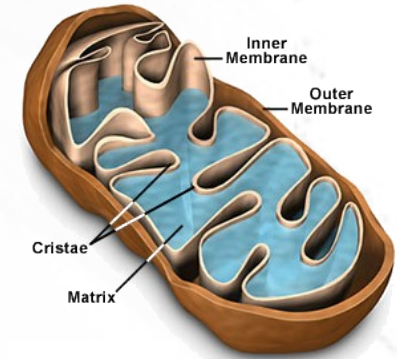
- Terms are related within a hierarchy
  - is-a
  - part-of
- Describes multiple levels of detail of gene function
- Terms can have more than one parent or child



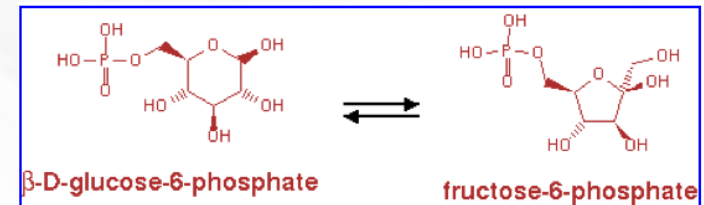


# What GO Covers?

- GO terms divided into three aspects:
  - cellular component
  - molecular function
  - biological process



Cell division



glucose-6-phosphate  
isomerase activity

# Part 1/2: Terms

- Where do GO terms come from?
  - GO terms are added by editors at EBI and gene annotation database groups
  - Terms added by request
  - Experts help with major development
  - 37104 terms, with definitions
    - 23074 biological\_process
    - 2994 cellular\_component
    - 9392 molecular\_function
    - As of June 2012



# Part 2/2: Annotations

- Genes are linked, or associated, with GO terms by trained curators at genome databases
  - Known as ‘gene associations’ or GO annotations
  - Multiple annotations per gene
- Some GO annotations created automatically (without human review)

# Species Coverage

- All major eukaryotic model organism species and human
- Several bacterial and parasite species through TIGR and GeneDB at Sanger
- New species annotations in development
- Current list:
  - <http://www.geneontology.org/GO.downloads.annotations.shtml>

# Gene Attributes

- Function annotation
  - Biological process, molecular function, cell location
- Chromosome position
- Disease association
- DNA properties
  - TF binding sites, gene structure (intron/exon), SNPs
- Transcript properties
  - Splicing, 3' UTR, microRNA binding sites
- Protein properties
  - Domains, secondary and tertiary structure, PTM sites
- Interactions with other genes

# Sources of Gene Attributes

- Ensembl BioMart (general)
  - <http://www.ensembl.org>
- Entrez Gene (general)
  - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?db=gene>
- Model organism databases
  - E.g. SGD: <http://www.yeastgenome.org/>
- Many others.....

# Ensembl BioMart

- Convenient access to gene list annotation

<b>Dataset</b>	Ensembl Genes 58
Homo sapiens genes (GRCh37)	
<b>Filters</b>	Homo sapiens genes (GRCh37)
[None selected]	
<b>Attributes</b>	
Ensembl Gene ID	
Ensembl Transcript	

Select genome

REGION:	
GENE:	
TRANSCRIPT EVENT:	
GENE ONTOLOGY:	
EXPRESSION:	
MULTI SPECIES COMPARISONS:	
PROTEIN DOMAINS:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Limit to genes ...	with Protein feature scanprosite ID(s) <input checked="" type="radio"/> Only <input type="radio"/> Excluded
<input type="checkbox"/> Limit to genes with these family or domain IDs:	Ensembl Protein Family ID(s) [e.g. ENSFM00250000000002]
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmembrane domains	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Only <input type="radio"/> Excluded
<input type="checkbox"/> Signal domains	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Only <input type="radio"/> Excluded
VARIATIONS:	

Select filters

Select attributes to download

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Features	<input type="radio"/> Homologs
<input type="radio"/> Structures	<input type="radio"/> Variations
<input type="radio"/> Transcript Event	<input type="radio"/> Sequences
GENE:	
EXTERNAL:	
EXPRESSION:	
PROTEIN DOMAINS:	

[www.ensembl.org](http://www.ensembl.org)

# Enrichment analysis

- Introduction to enrichment analysis
- Hypergeometric Test, Fisher's Exact Test
- GSEA enrichment analysis for ranked lists.
- Multiple test corrections:
  - Bonferroni correction
  - False Discovery Rate computation using Benjamini-Hochberg procedure

# The “result”

Probe Set ID	log.ratio	pvalue	adj.p
73554_at	1.4971	0.0000	0.0004
91279_at	0.8667	0.0000	0.0017
74099_at	1.0787	0.0000	0.0104
83118_at	-1.2142	0.0000	0.0139
81647_at	1.0362	0.0000	0.0139
84412_at	1.3124	0.0000	0.0222
90585_at	1.9859	0.0000	0.0258
84618_at	-1.6713	0.0000	0.0258
91790_at	1.7293	0.0000	0.0350
80755_at	1.5238	0.0000	0.0351
85539_at	0.9303	0.0000	0.0351
90749_at	1.7093	0.0000	0.0351
74038_at	-1.6451	0.0000	0.0351
79299_at	1.7156	0.0000	0.0351
72962_at	2.1059	0.0000	0.0351
88719_at	-3.1829	0.0000	0.0351
72943_at	-2.0520	0.0000	0.0351
91797_at	1.4676	0.0000	0.0351
78356_at	2.1140	0.0001	0.0359

What about the Biology???

# Slightly more informative results

Probe Set ID	Gene Symbo	Gene Title	go biological process term	go molecular function term	log.ratio	pvalue	adj.p	
73554_at	CCDC80	coiled-coil domain contain	---	---	1.4971	0.0000	0.0004	
91279_at	C1QTNF5	C1q and tumor necrosis fa	visual perception	embry	0.8667	0.0000	0.0017	
74099_at	---	---	---	---	1.0787	0.0000	0.0104	
83118_at	RNF125	ring finger protein 125	immune response	modi protein binding	zinc ion	-1.2142	0.0000	0.0139
81647_at	---	---	---	---	1.0362	0.0000	0.0139	
84412_at	SYNPO2	synaptopodin 2	---	actin binding	protein bir	1.3124	0.0000	0.0222
90585_at	C15orf59	chromosome 15 open re	---	---	1.9859	0.0000	0.0258	
84618_at	C12orf39	chromosome 12 open re	---	---	-1.6713	0.0000	0.0258	
91790_at	MYEOV	myeloma overexpressed (	---	---	1.7293	0.0000	0.0350	
80755_at	MYOF	myoferlin	muscle contraction	blo protein binding	1.5238	0.0000	0.0351	
85539_at	PLEKHH1	pleckstrin homology doma	---	binding	0.9303	0.0000	0.0351	
90749_at	SERPINB9	serpin peptidase inhibitor, anti-apoptosis	signal tr	endopeptidase inhibitor ac	1.7093	0.0000	0.0351	
74038_at	---	---	---	---	-1.6451	0.0000	0.0351	
79299_at	---	---	---	---	1.7156	0.0000	0.0351	
72962_at	BCAT1	branched chain aminotran	G1/S transition of mitotic	catalytic activity	branch	2.1059	0.0000	0.0351
88719_at	C12orf39	chromosome 12 open re	---	---	-3.1829	0.0000	0.0351	
72943_at	---	---	---	---	-2.0520	0.0000	0.0351	
91797_at	LRRC16A	leucine rich repeat contain	---	---	1.4676	0.0000	0.0351	
78356_at	TRDN	triadin	muscle contraction	receptor binding	2.1140	0.0001	0.0359	

If we are lucky, some of the top genes mean something to us

But what if they don't?

And how what are the results for other genes with similar biological functions



Apply some methods to incorporate biological knowledge into microarray analysis

The type of knowledge to deal with is rather simple: We know groups/sets of genes that for example

- Belong to the same pathway
- Have a similar function
- Are located on the same chromosome, etc...

We will assume these groupings to be given, i.e we will not discuss methods how to detect pathways, networks, gene clusters

# What is a pathway?

- No clear definition
  - Wikipedia: “In biochemistry, **metabolic pathways** are series of chemical reactions occurring within a cell. In each pathway, a principal chemical is modified by chemical reactions.”
  - These pathways describe enzymes and metabolites
- But often the word “pathway” is also used to describe gene regulatory networks or protein interaction networks
- In all cases a pathway describes a biological function very specifically

# What is a Gene Set?

- All genes involved in a pathway are an example of a Gene Set
- All genes corresponding to a Gene Ontology term are a Gene Set
- All genes mentioned in a paper of Smith et al might form a Gene Set

A Gene Set is a much more general and less specific concept than a pathway

# What is Gene Set/Pathway analysis?

The aim is to give one number (score, p-value) to a Gene Set/Pathway to answer questions like:

- Are many genes in the pathway differentially expressed (up-regulated/downregulated)?
- Can we give a number (p-value) to the probability of observing these changes just by chance?

# Pathway and Gene Set data resources

The Gene Ontology (GO) database

<http://www.geneontology.org/>

GO offers a relational/hierarchical database

- Parent nodes: more general terms
- Child nodes: more specific terms

At the end of the hierarchy there are genes/proteins

At the top there are 3 parent nodes: biological process, molecular function and cellular component

Example: we search the database for the term “inflammation”

## Term Lineage

[Switch to viewing term parents, siblings and children](#)

### ▼ Filter tree view ?

Filter Gene Product Counts

Data source

All  
AspGD  
CGD  
dictyBase

Species

All  
Anaplasma phagocy...  
Arabidopsis thaliana  
Bacillus anthraci...

View Options

Tree view ☒ Full ☐ Compact

Set filters

Remove all filters

- ▣ all : all [377382 gene products]
  - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0008150 : biological\_process [270820 gene products]
    - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0050896 : response to stimulus [30457 gene products]
      - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0009605 : response to external stimulus [5585 gene products]
        - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0009611 : response to wounding [2289 gene products]
          - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0006954 : inflammatory response [1173 gene products]
            - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0002526 : acute inflammatory response [427 gene products]
              - ⊕ ⓘ **GO:0002532 : production of molecular mediator of acute inflammatory response** [44 gene products]
  - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0006950 : response to stress [16147 gene products]
    - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0006952 : defense response [4501 gene products]
      - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0006954 : inflammatory response [1173 gene products]
        - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0002526 : acute inflammatory response [427 gene products]
          - ⊕ ⓘ **GO:0002532 : production of molecular mediator of acute inflammatory response** [44 gene products]
  - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0009611 : response to wounding [2289 gene products]
    - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0006954 : inflammatory response [1173 gene products]
      - ⊕ ⓘ GO:0002526 : acute inflammatory response [427 gene products]
        - ⊕ ⓘ **GO:0002532 : production of molecular mediator of acute inflammatory response** [44 gene products]

The genes on our array that code for one of the 44 gene products would form the corresponding “inflammation” gene set

# KEGG pathway database

KEGG = Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes

<http://www.genome.jp/kegg/pathway.html>

The pathway database gives far more detailed information than GO

- Relationships between genes and gene products

But: this detailed information is only available for selected organisms and processes

# Types of enrichment analysis

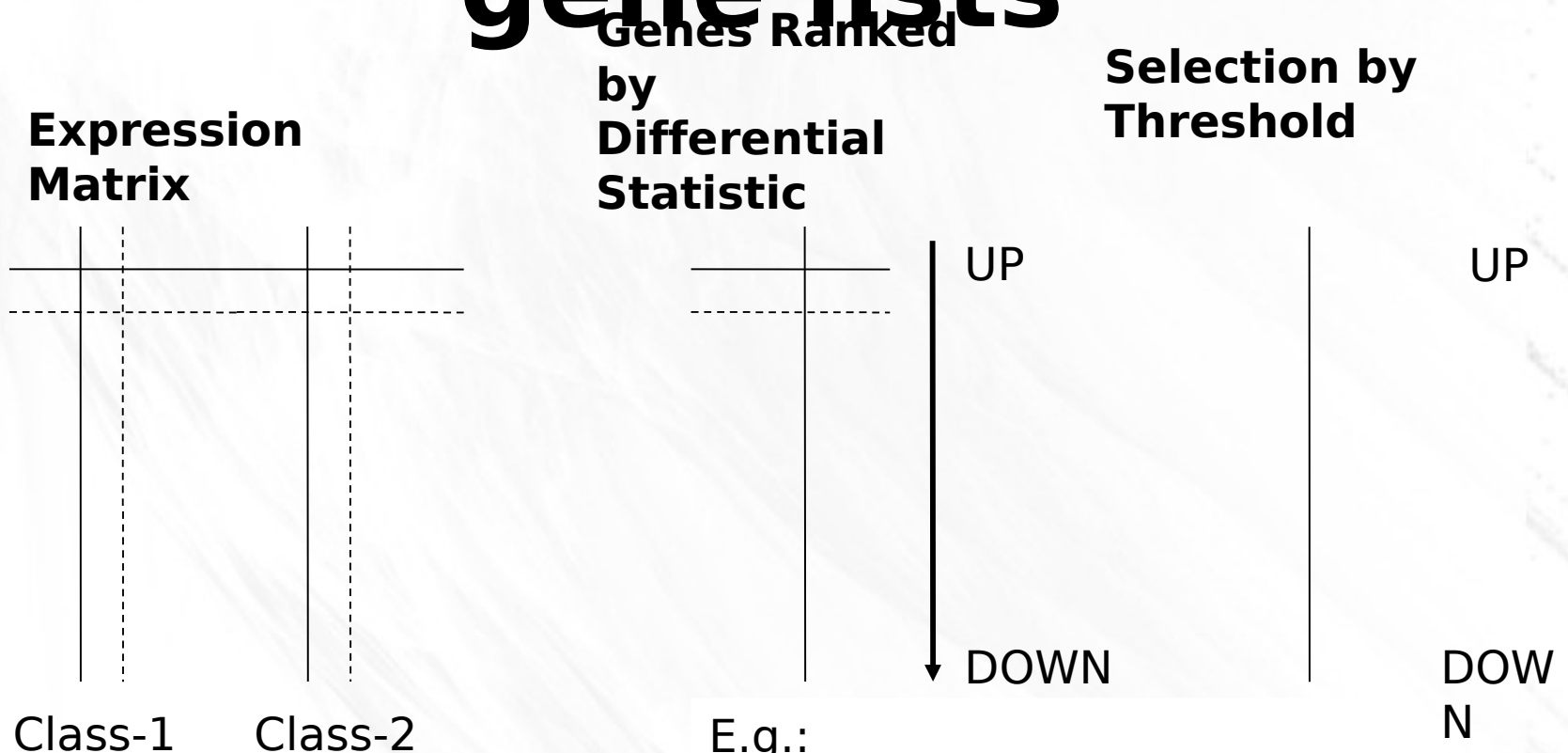
- **Gene list** (e.g. expression change  $> 2$ -fold)
  - Answers the question: **Are any gene sets surprisingly enriched (or depleted) in my gene list?**
  - Statistical test: Fisher's Exact Test (Hypergeometric test)
- **Ranked list** (e.g. by differential expression)
  - Answers the question: **Are any gene set ranked surprisingly high or low in my ranked list of genes?**
  - Statistical test: GSEA



# Gene list enrichment analysis

- Given:
  1. Gene list: e.g. RRP6, MRD1, RRP7, RRP43, RRP42 (yeast)
  2. Gene sets or annotations: e.g. Gene ontology, transcription factor binding sites in promoter
- Question: *Are any of the gene annotations surprisingly enriched in the gene list?*

# Two-class design for gene lists



E.g.:

- Fold change
- Log (ratio)
- t-test
- Significance analysis of microarrays

# Recipe for gene list enrichment test

- **Step 1:** Rank your gene list,
- **Step 2:** Select your gene sets to test for enrichment,
- **Step 3:** Run enrichment tests and correct for multiple testing, if necessary,
- **Step 4:** Interpret your enrichments
- **Step 5:** Make conclusions

# Theory component

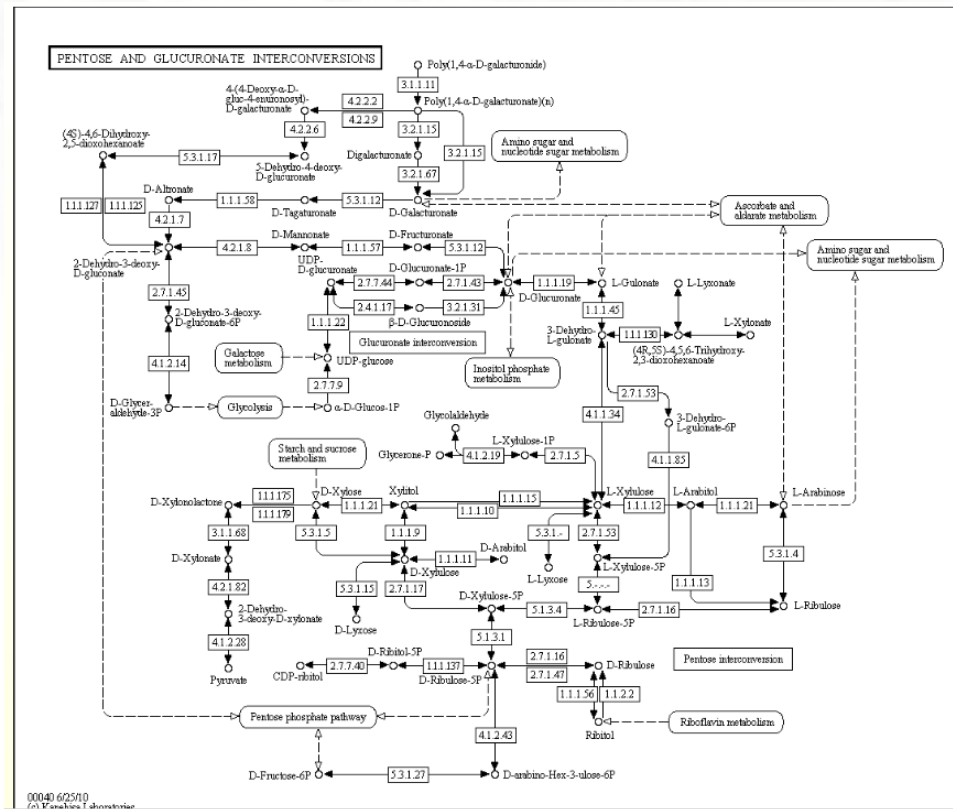
- Hypergeometric test for calculating enrichment P-values for gene lists
- GSEA for computing enrichment P-values for ranked lists
- Multiple test corrections:
  - Bonferroni
  - Benjamini-Hochberg FDR

# Important details

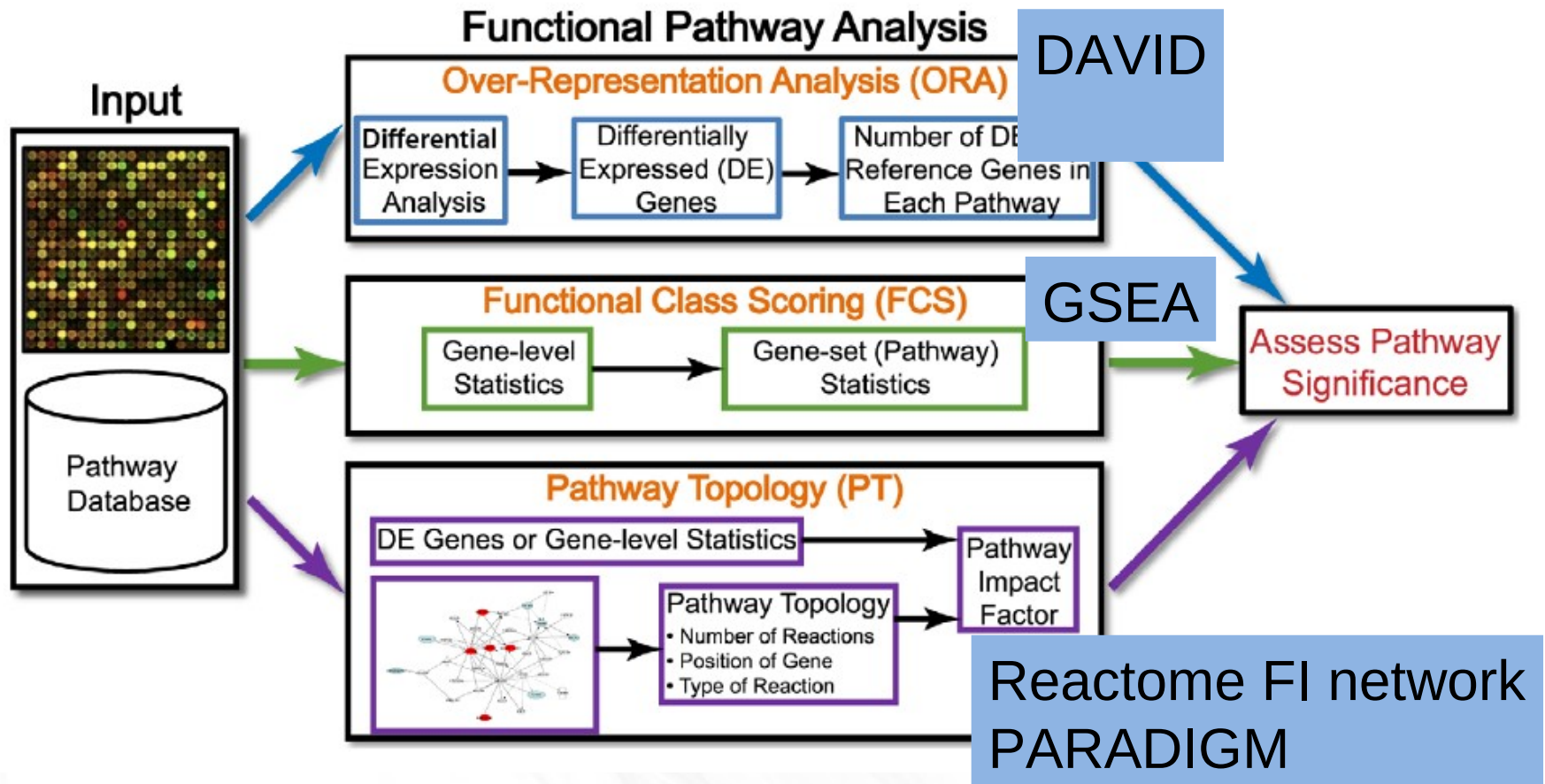
- To test for *under-enrichment* of “black”, test for *over-enrichment* of “red”.
- Need to choose “background population” appropriately, e.g., if only portion of the total gene complement is queried (or available for annotation), only use that population as background.
- To test for enrichment of more than one independent types of annotation (red vs black and circle vs square), apply Fisher’s exact test separately for each type.

# Network Analysis

# Pathway and Network Analysis of –omics Data



# Classes of Gene Set Analysis



# **Limitations of Gene Set Enrichment Analysis**

- Many possible gene sets – diseases, molecular function, biological process, cellular compartment, pathways...
- Gene sets are heavily overlapping; need to sort through lists of enriched gene sets!
- “Bags of genes” obscure regulatory relationships among them.

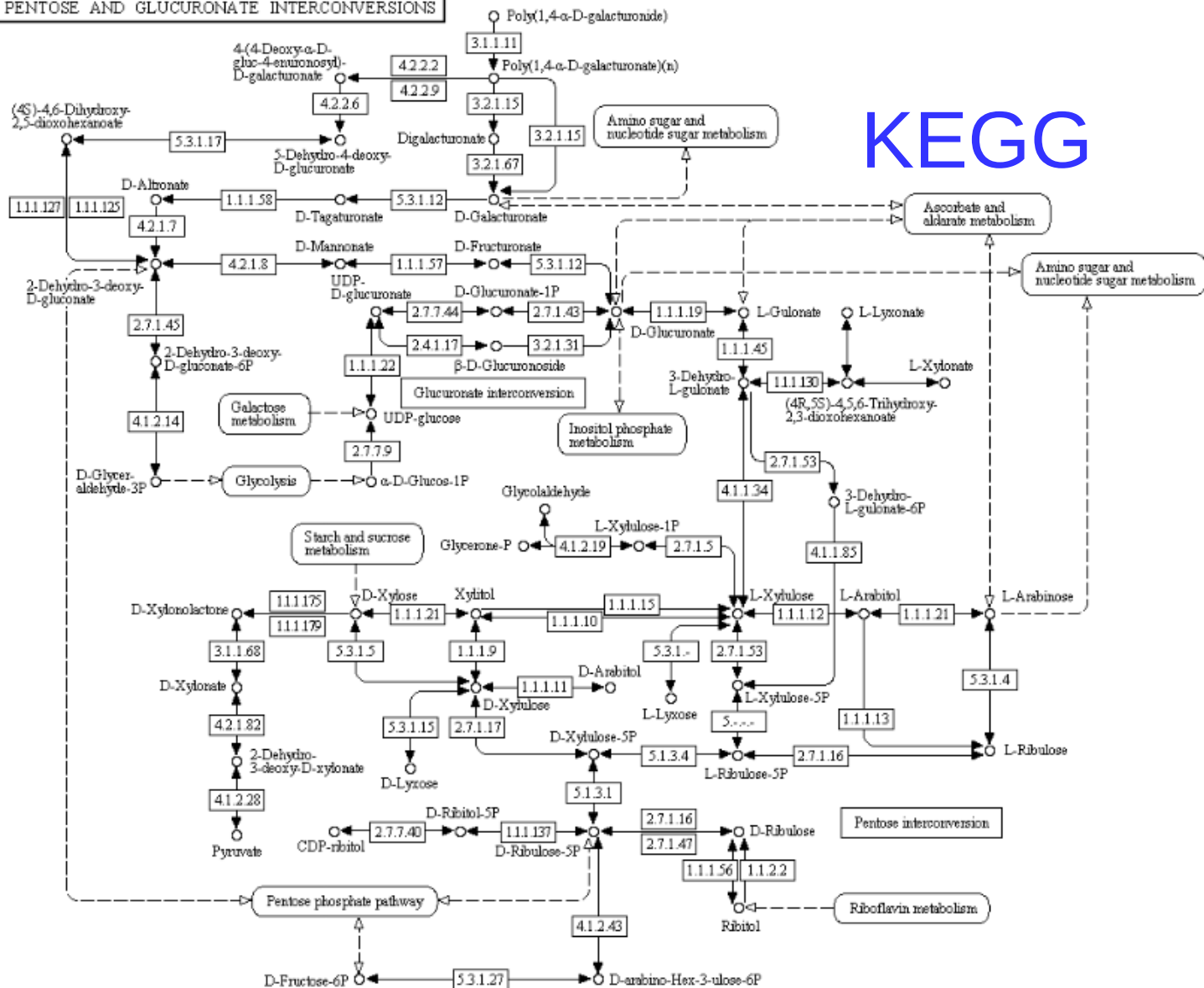


# Pathway Databases

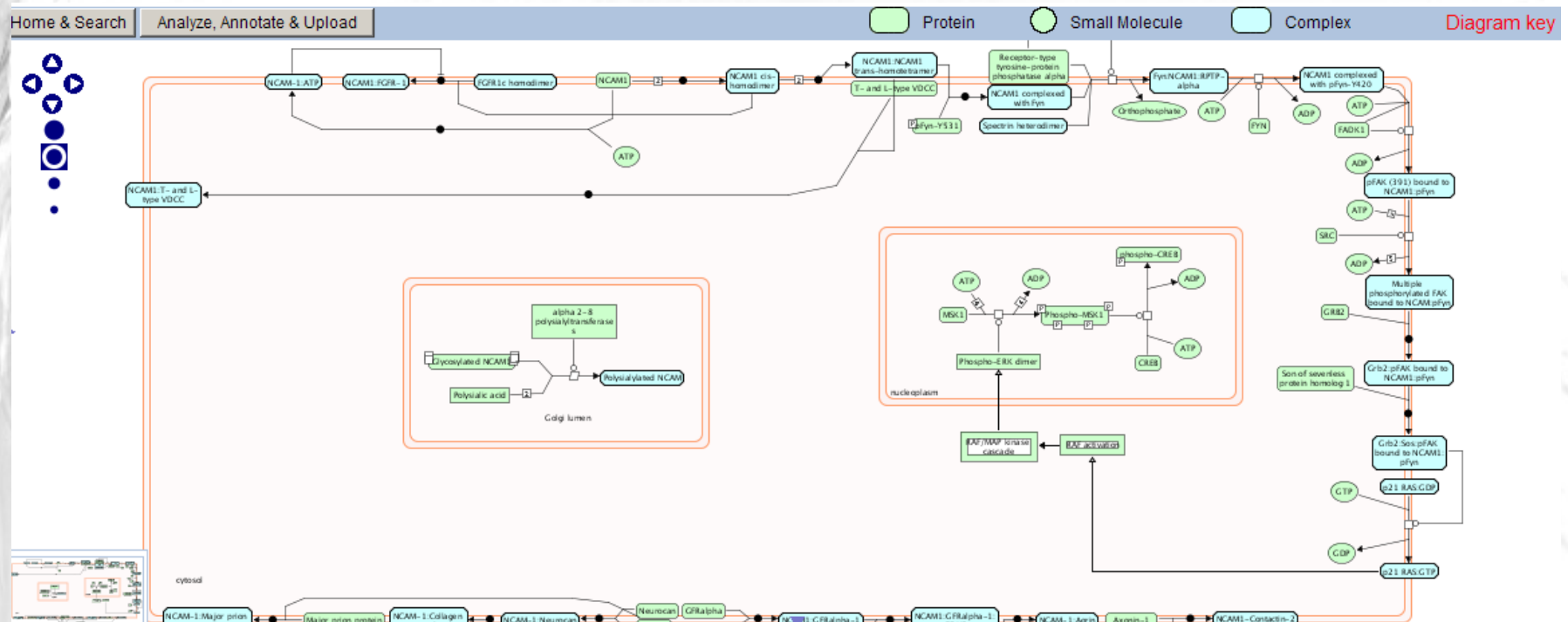
- Advantages:
  - Usually curated.
  - Biochemical view of biological processes.
  - Cause and effect captured.
  - Human-interpretable visualizations.
- Disadvantages:
  - Sparse coverage of genome.
  - Different databases disagree on boundaries of pathways.

# PENTOSE AND GLUCURONATE INTERCONVERSIONS

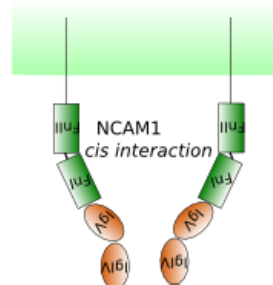
KEGG



# Reactome



NCAM1 mediated intracellular signal transduction is represented in the figure below. The Ig domains in NCAM1 are represented in orange ovals and Fn domains in green squares. The tyrosine residues susceptible to phosphorylation are represented in red circles and their positions are numbered. Phosphorylation is represented by yellow. Ig, Immunoglobulin domain; Fn, Fibronectin domain; Fyn, Proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase Fyn; FAK, focal adhesion kinase; RPTPalpha, Receptor-type tyrosine-protein phosphatase; Grb2, Growth factor receptor-bound protein 2; SOS, Son of sevenless homolog; Raf, RAF proto-oncogene serine/threonine-protein kinase; MEK, MAPK and ERK kinase; ERK, Extracellular signal-regulated kinase; MSK1, Mitogen and stress activated protein kinase 1; CREB, Cyclic AMP-responsive element-binding protein; CRE, cAMP response elements. [Ditlevsen et al 2008]

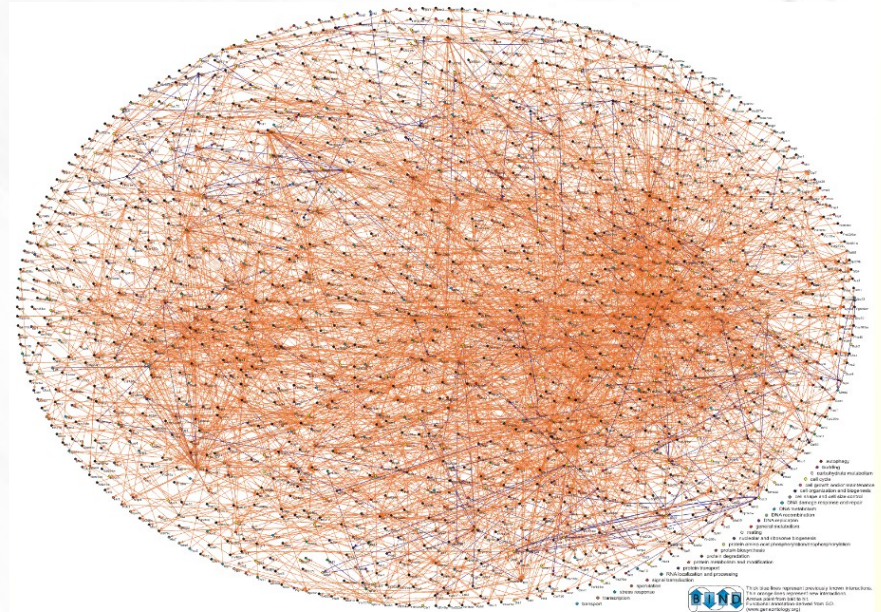


# Pathway Colorization

- Main feature offered by all pathway databases.
- Upload a gene list
- Database calculates an enrichment score on each pathway and displays ranked list.
- Browse into pathways of interest; download colorized pictures.

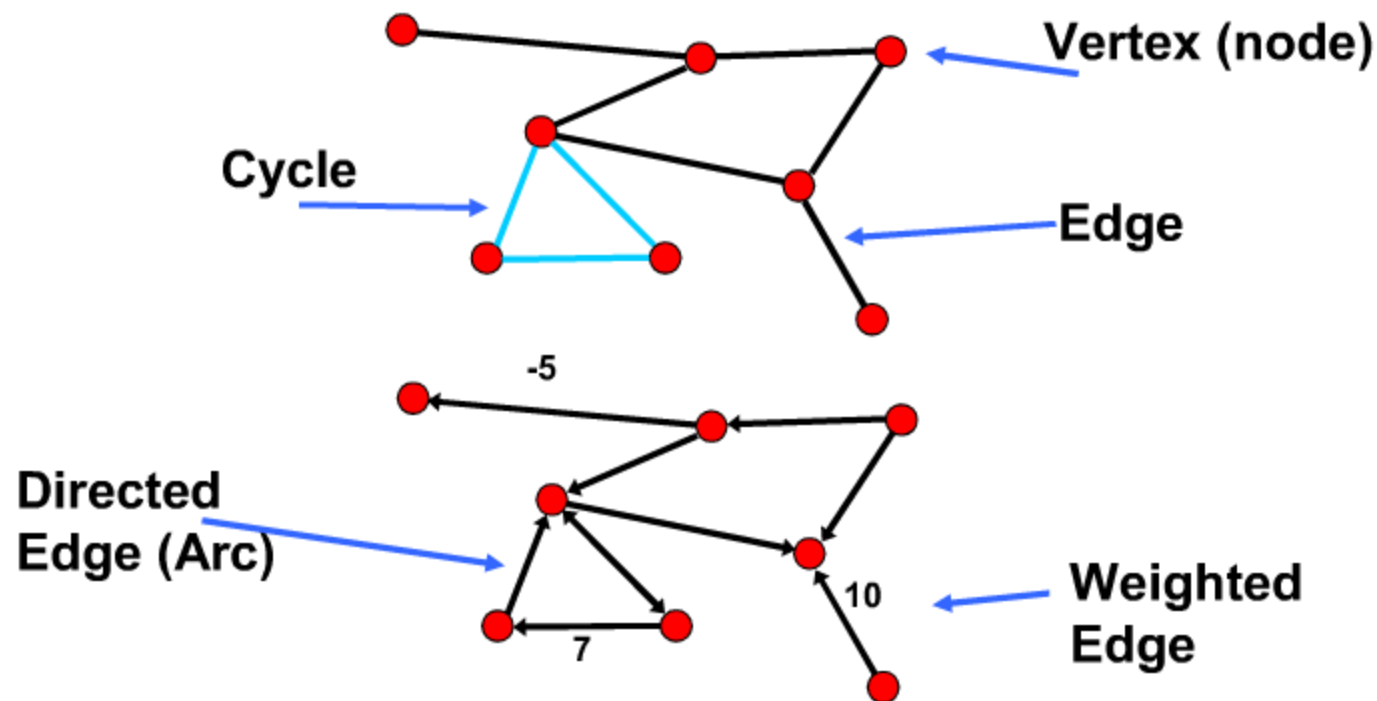
# Networks

- Pathways capture only the “well understood” portion of biology.
- Networks cover less well understood relationships:
  - Genetic interactions
  - Physical interaction
  - Coexpression
  - GO term sharing
  - Adjacency in pathways



# Networks

- E.g. Protein-protein interaction networks
- Useful if we don't know pathways
  - Could discover new pathways

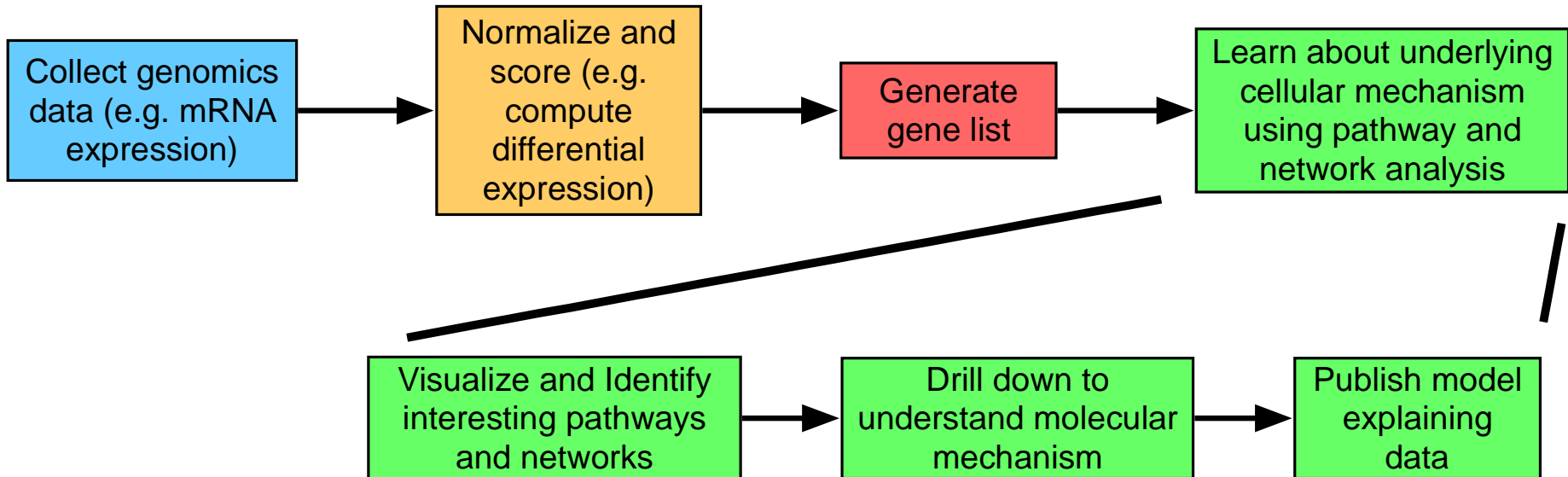




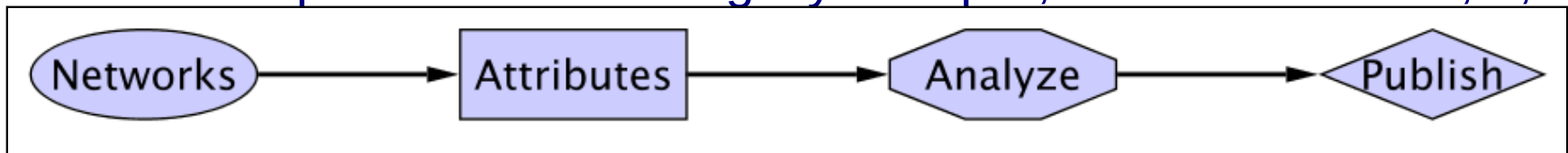
# Mapping Biology to a Network

- A simple mapping: Protein-protein interactions
  - one protein/node, one interaction/edge
- Edges can represent other relationships
  - Physical e.g. protein-protein interaction
  - Regulatory e.g. kinase activates target
  - Genetic e.g. epistasis
  - Similarity e.g. protein sequence similarity
- **Critical:** understand the mapping for network analysis

# Network Analysis Workflow



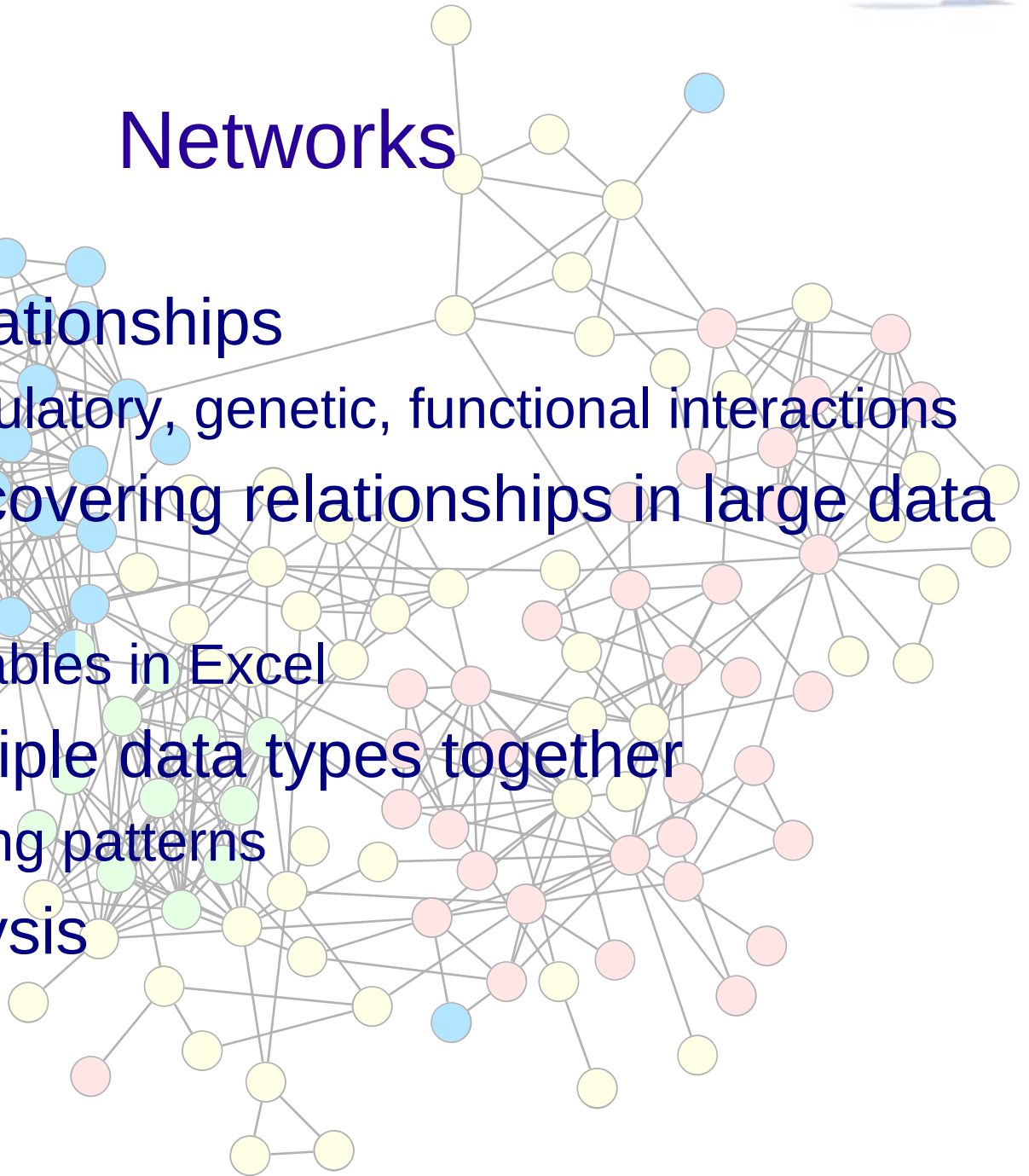
- A specific example of this workflow:
  - Cline, et al. “Integration of biological networks and gene expression data using Cytoscape”, Nature Protocols, 2,

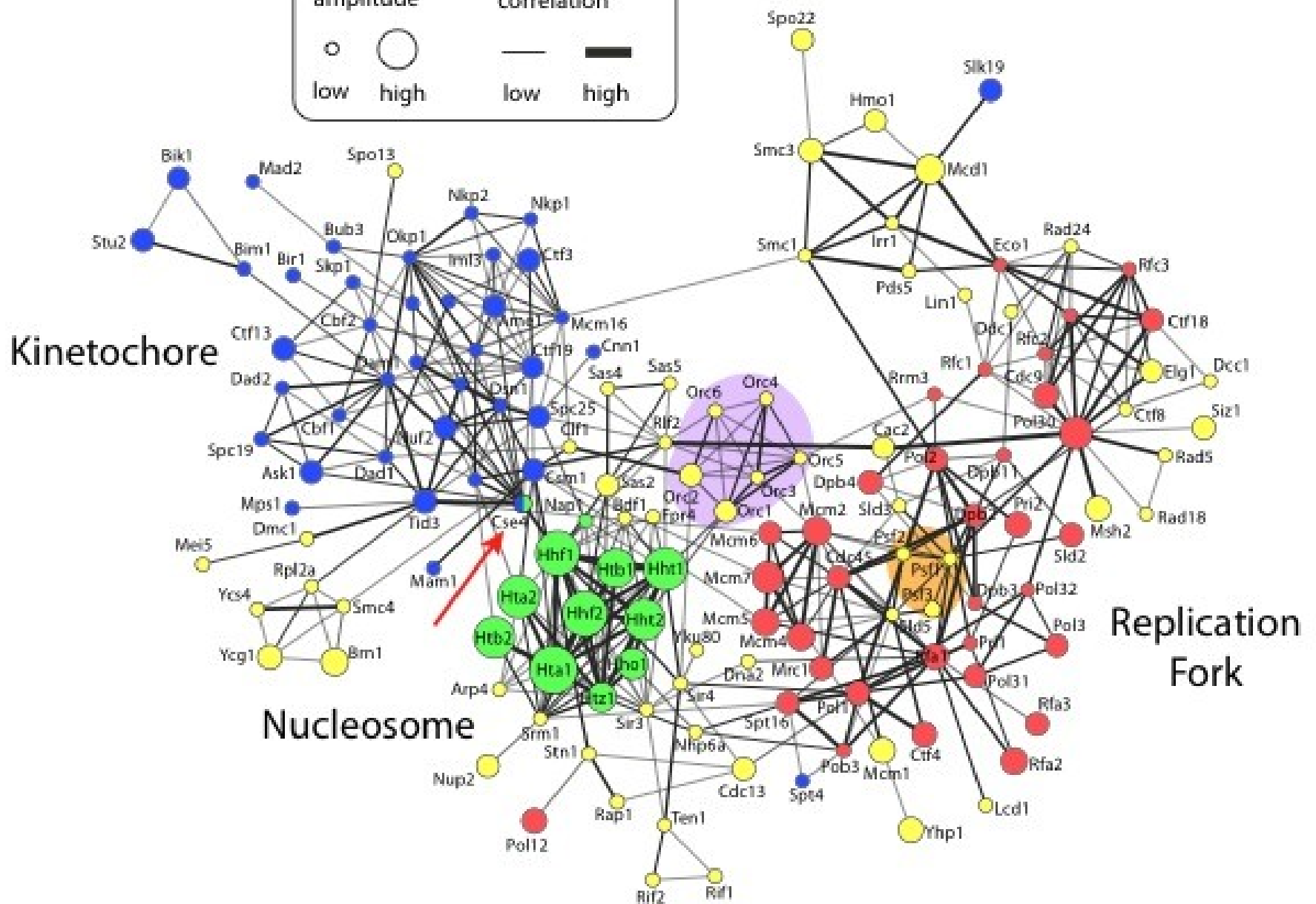




# Networks

- Represent relationships
  - Physical, regulatory, genetic, functional interactions
- Useful for discovering relationships in large data sets
  - Better than tables in Excel
- Visualize multiple data types together
  - See interesting patterns
- Network analysis



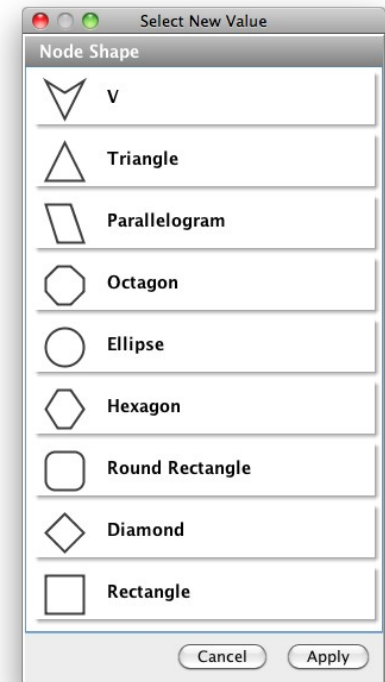
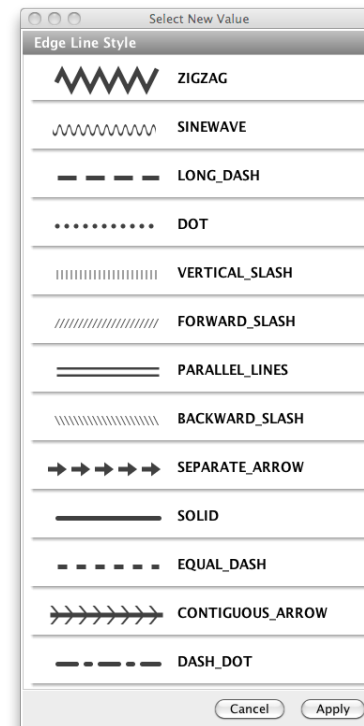
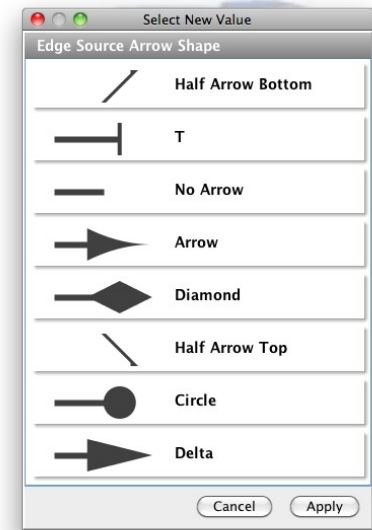


# Summary

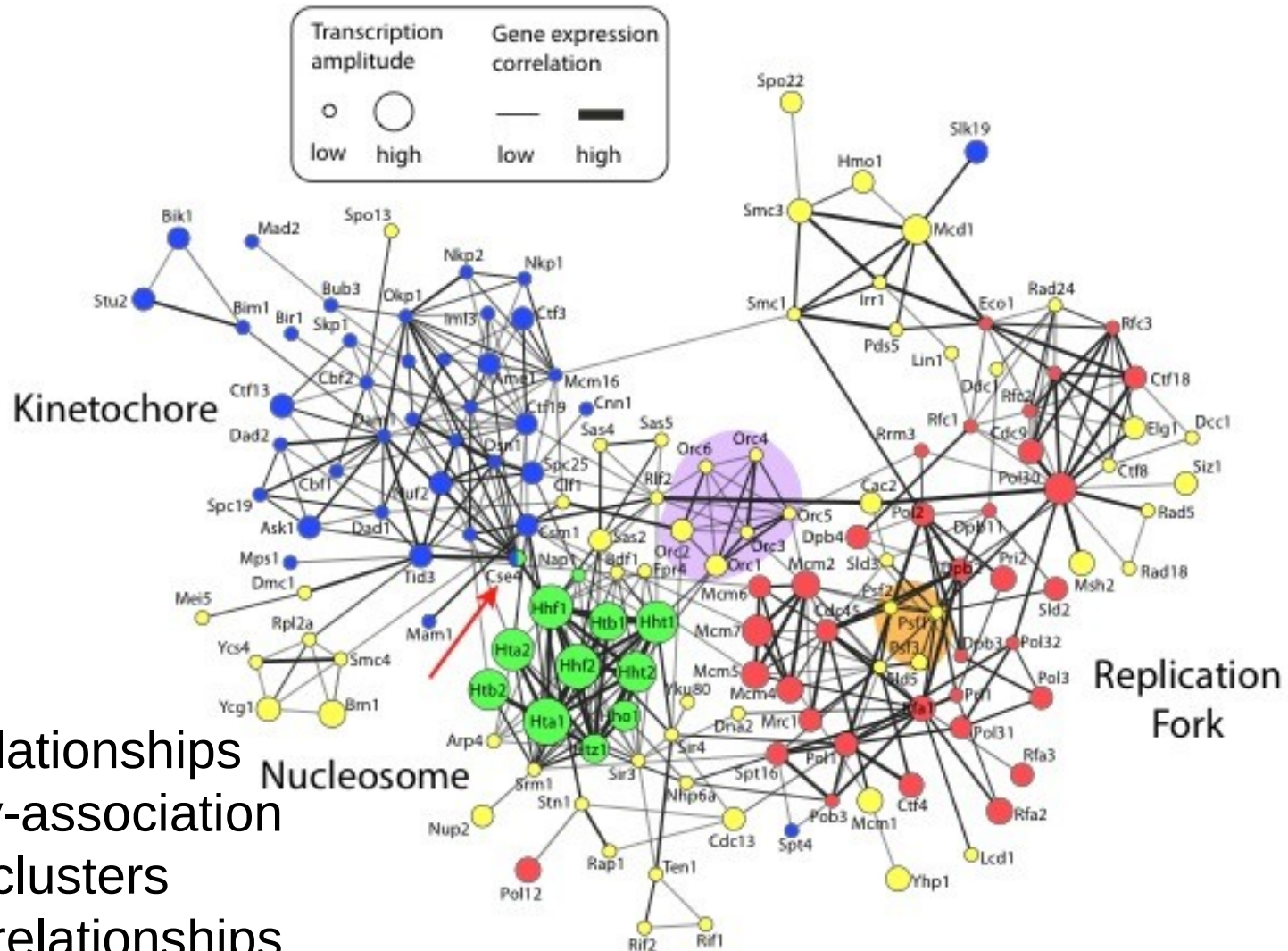
- Networks are useful for seeing relationships in large data sets
- Important to understand what the nodes and edges mean
- Important to define the biological question - know what you want to do with your gene list or network
- Many methods available for gene list and network analysis
  - Good to determine your question and search for a solution
  - Or get to know many methods and see how they can be applied to your data

# Visual Features

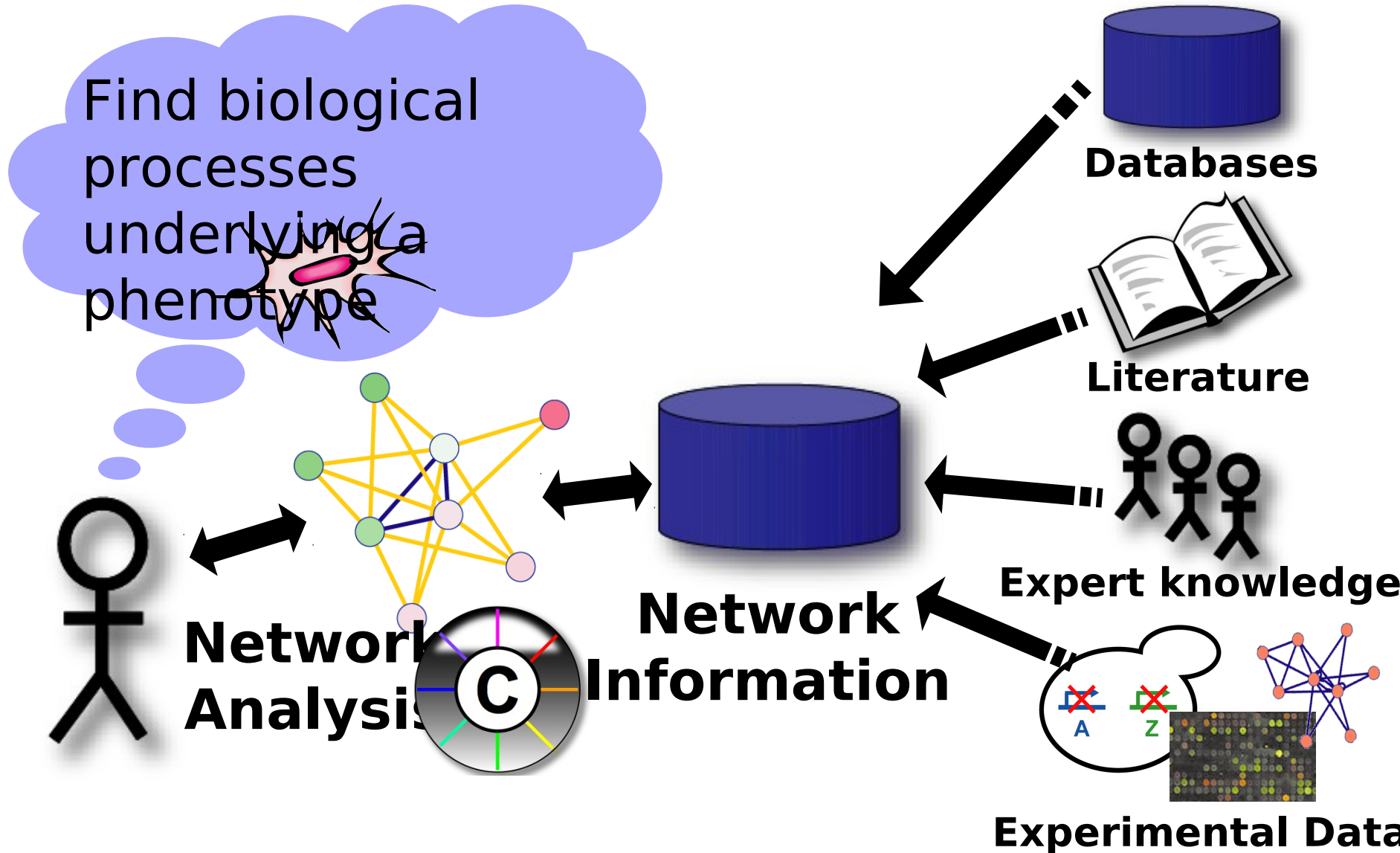
- Node and edge attributes
  - Text (string), integer, float, Boolean, list
  - E.g. represent gene, interaction attributes
- Visual attributes
  - Node, edge visual properties
  - Colour, shape, size, borders, opacity...



# Visually Interpreting a Network



# Network Analysis using Cytoscape



# Active Community

<http://www.cytoscape.org>

- 10,000s users, >5000 downloads/month
- Help
  - Documentation, data sets
  - Mailing lists
  - <http://tutorials.cytoscape.org>
- Annual Conference: TBD, North America 2014
- >200 Apps Extend Functionality
  - Build your own, requires programming

Cline MS et al. Integration of biological networks and gene expression data using Cytoscape Nat Protoc. 2007;2(10):2366-82



- Cytoscape is a useful, free software tool for network visualization and analysis
- Provides basic network manipulation features
- Apps are available to extend the functionality



# Gene List and Network Analysis Overview

