

Computational Epigenetics

Gabriele Schweikert

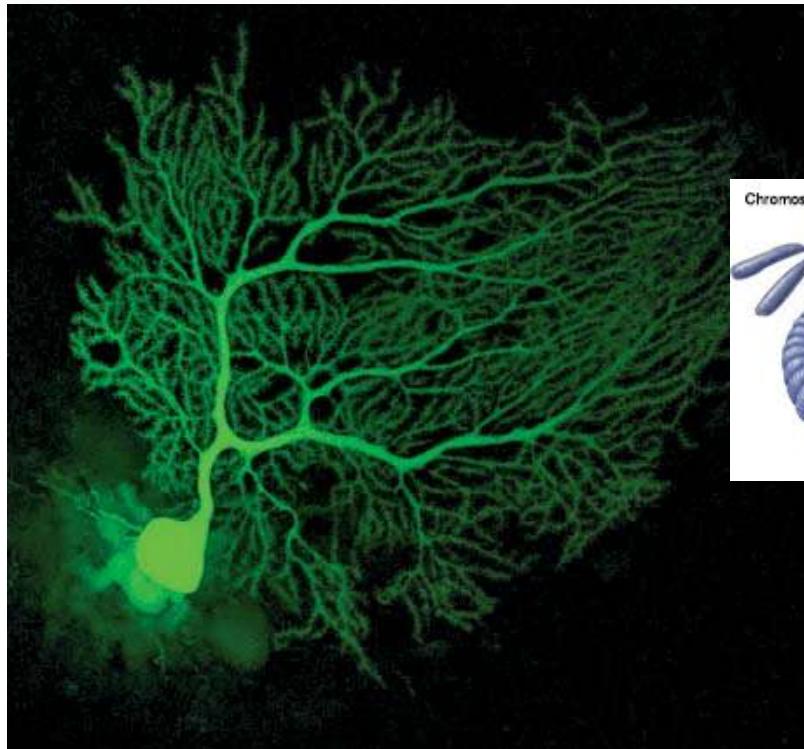
University of Dundee, UK

Universität Tübingen, Germany

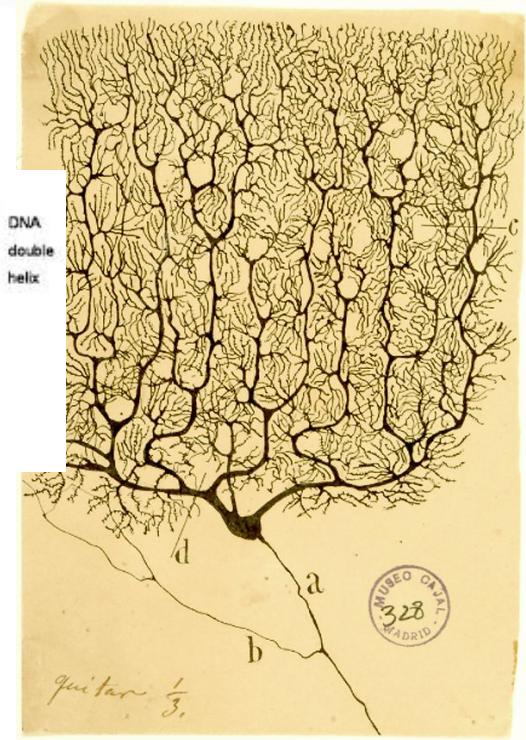
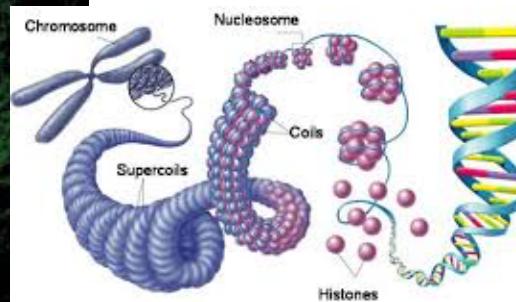


Take home message:
Bioinformatics is a little bit like learning to walk on a slack line: You will fall and encounter errors all the time. This is not because you are not clever enough. Falling is all part the fun. You just get up and try again.

Purkinje cells



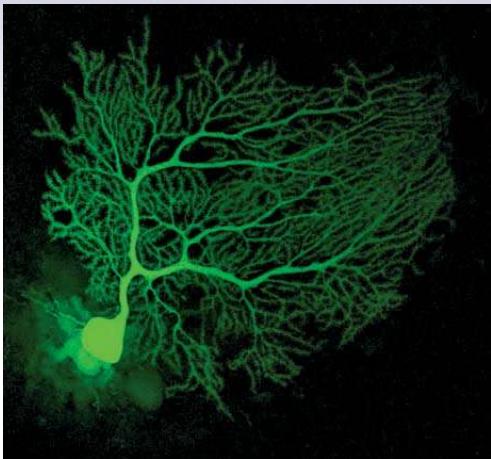
Genetic code



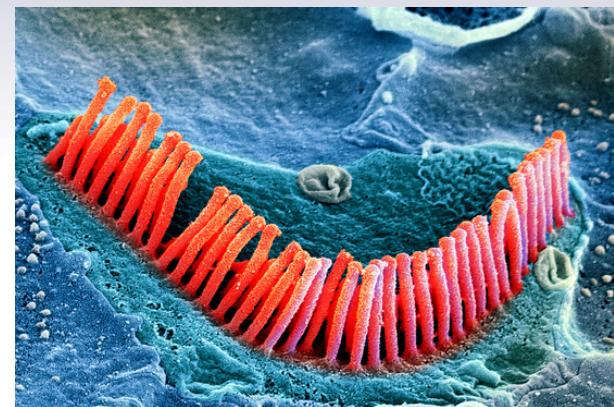
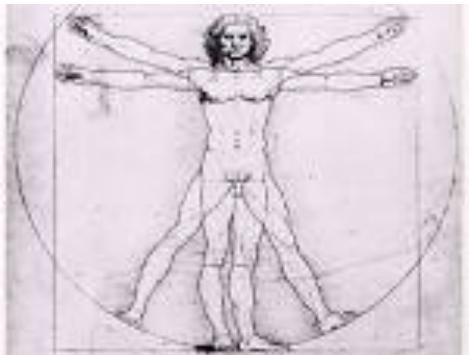
Mouse
(Maryann Martone
CCDB/NCMIR/UC San Diego)

Pigeon
(drawing: Santiago Ramón y Cajal)

Different Genomic Code => Similar phenotype

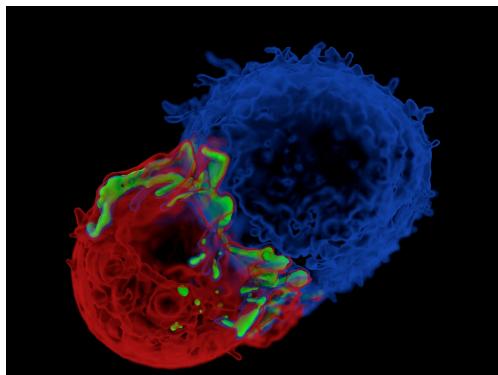


Purkinje cell

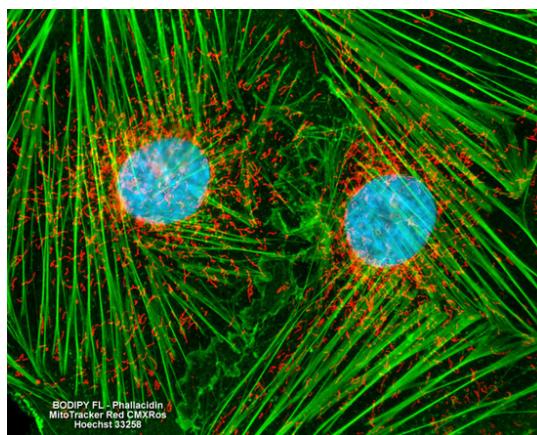


Hair cell

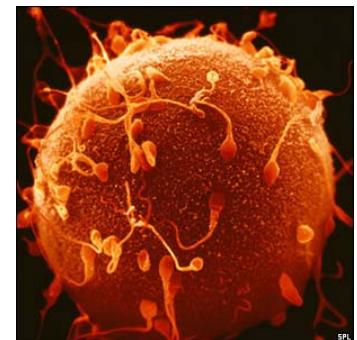
Same Genomic Code => Very Different Phenotype



T cell (blue)



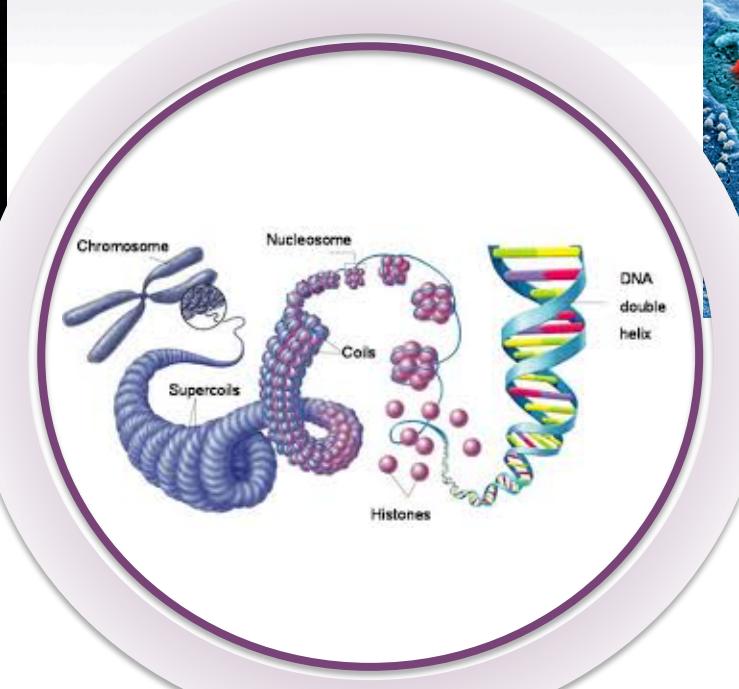
Smooth Muscle Fibroblast Cells



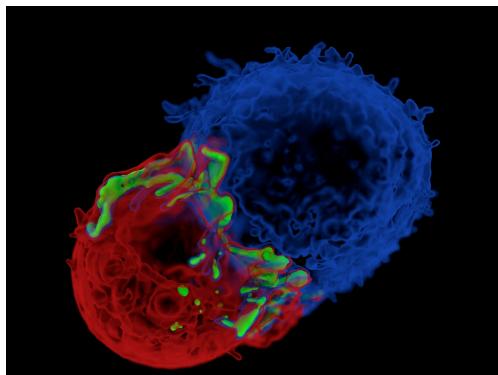
Ovum and sperms



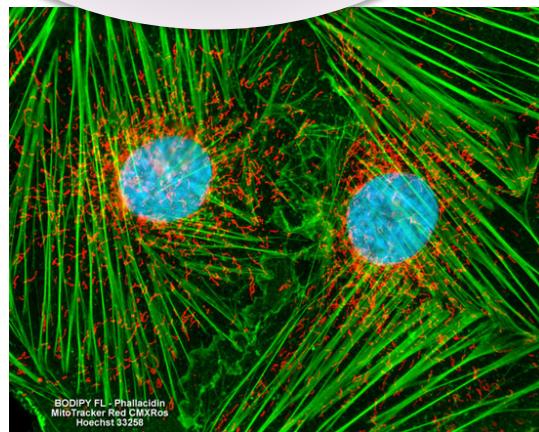
Purkinje cell



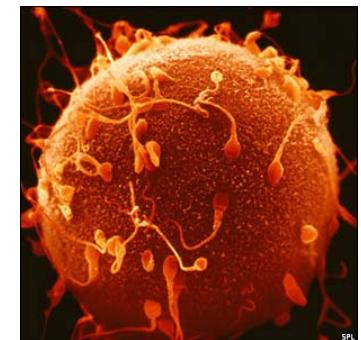
Hair cell



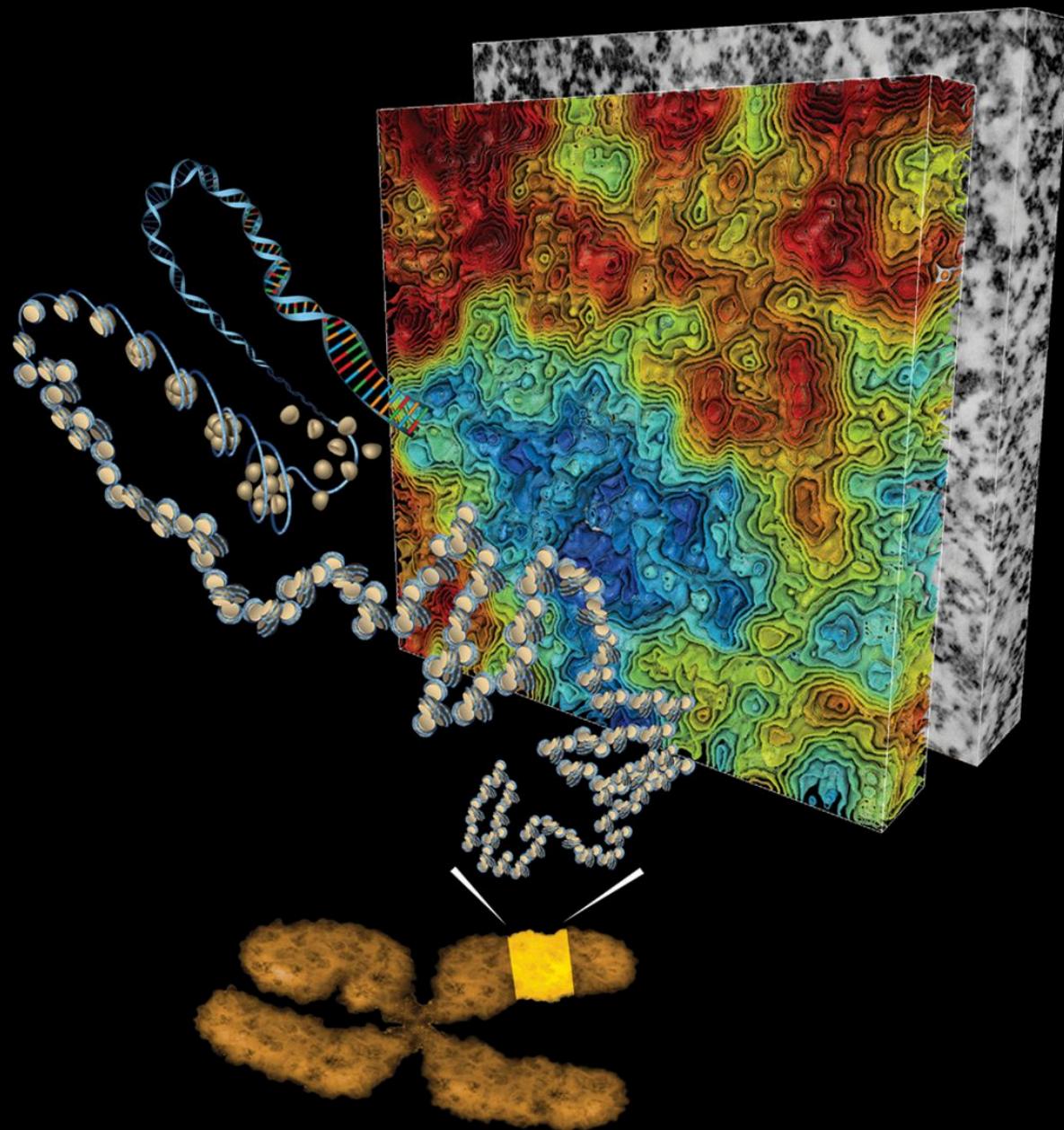
T cell (blue)



Smooth Muscle Fibroblast Cells

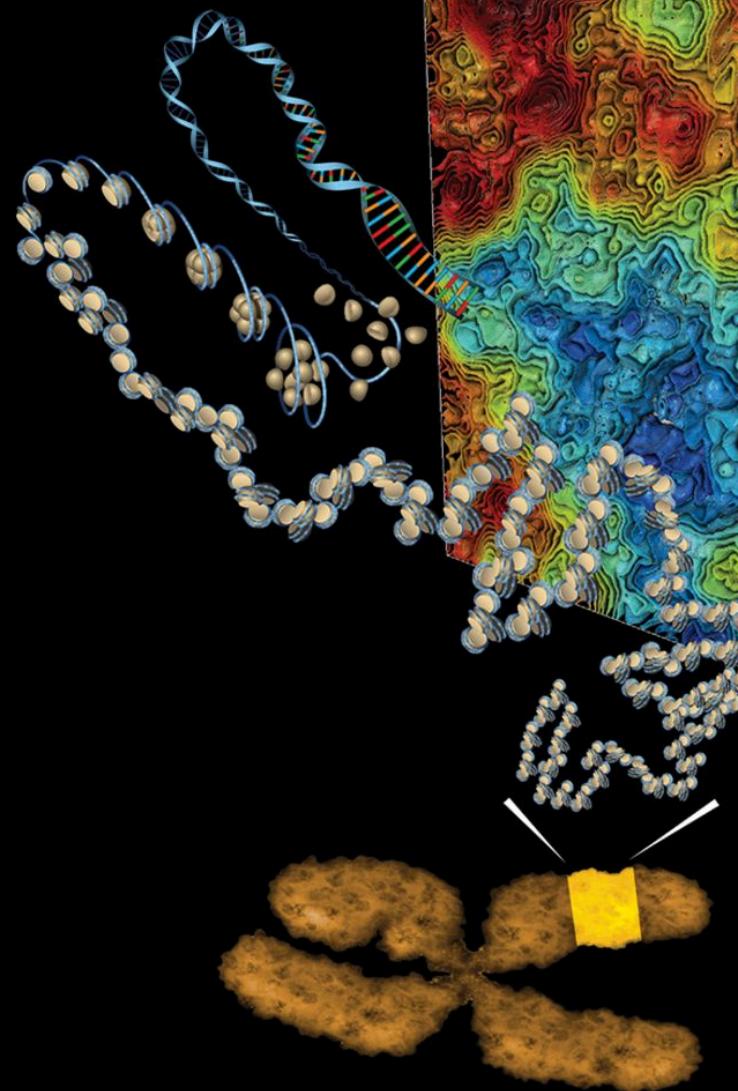


Ovum and sperms



Ou, H. D. *et al.* ChromEMT: visualizing 3D chromatin structure and compaction in interphase and mitotic cells. *Science* (2017)

Epigenetics



R. Holliday (1990):

“... mechanisms that impart *temporal and spatial control* on the activities of all those gene required for the development of a complex organisms from zygote to the adult ...”

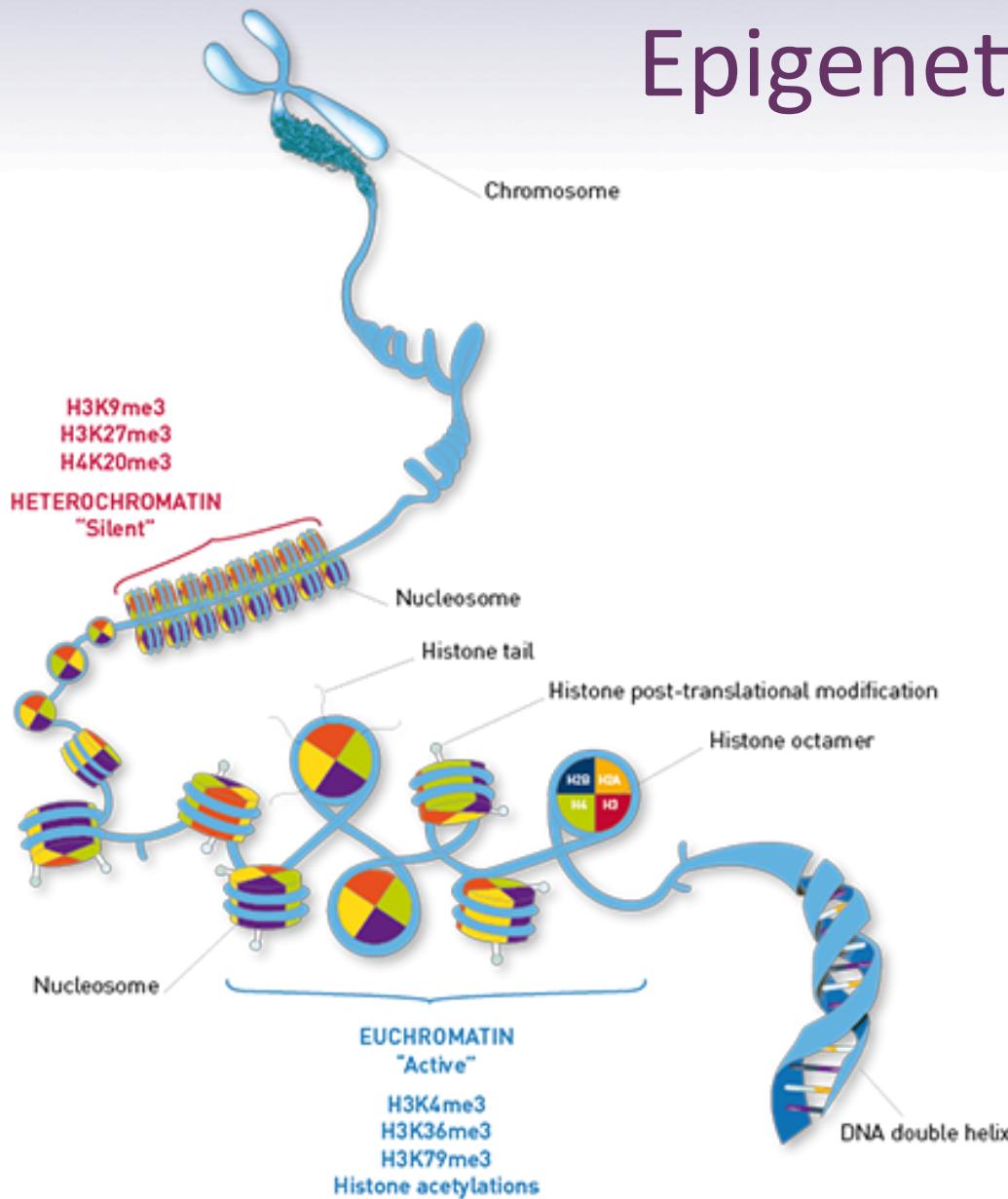
A.Riggs (1996):

“... mitotically and/or meiotically *heritable changes in gene function* that cannot be explained by changes in DNA sequence....”

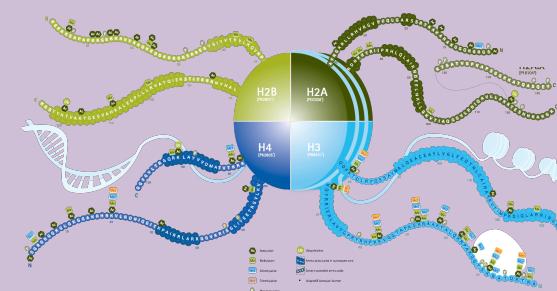
A.Bird (2007):

“the structural adaptation of chromosomal regions so as to *register, signal or perpetuate* altered activity states ”

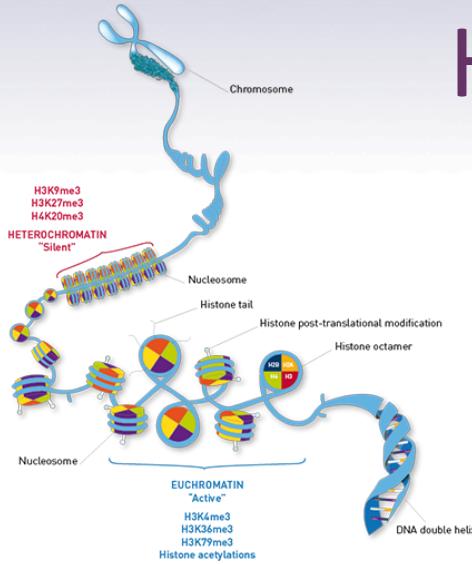
Epigenetics



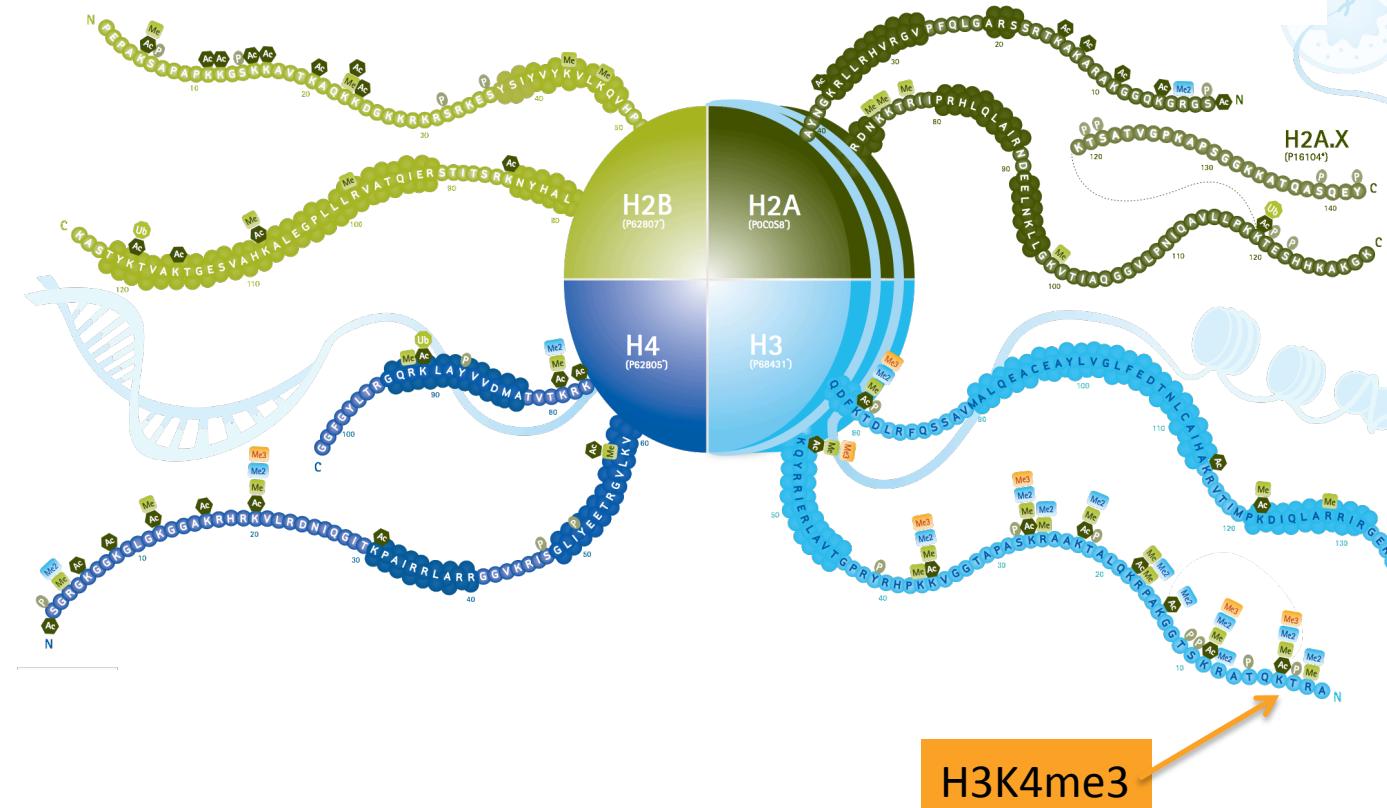
- DNA modifications (mC, hmC)
- ATP-dependent Chromatin remodeling
- Histone Modifications

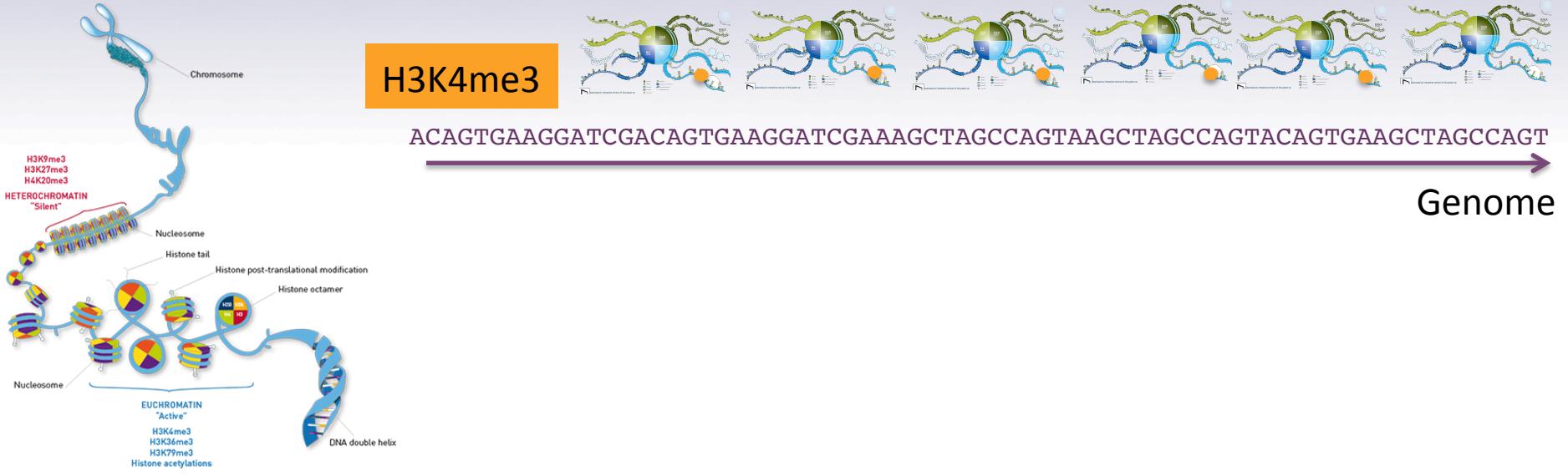


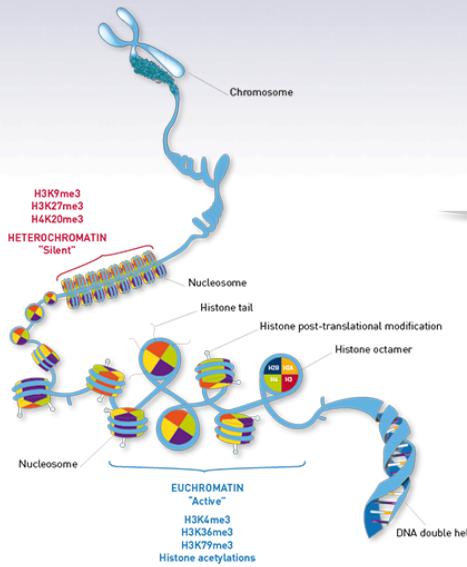
Histone Modifications



- Ac Acetylation
- Me Methylation
- Me2 Dimethylation
- Me3 Trimethylaylation
- P Phosphorylation

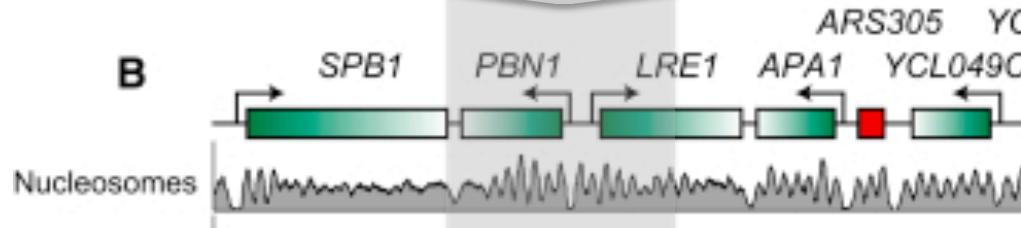






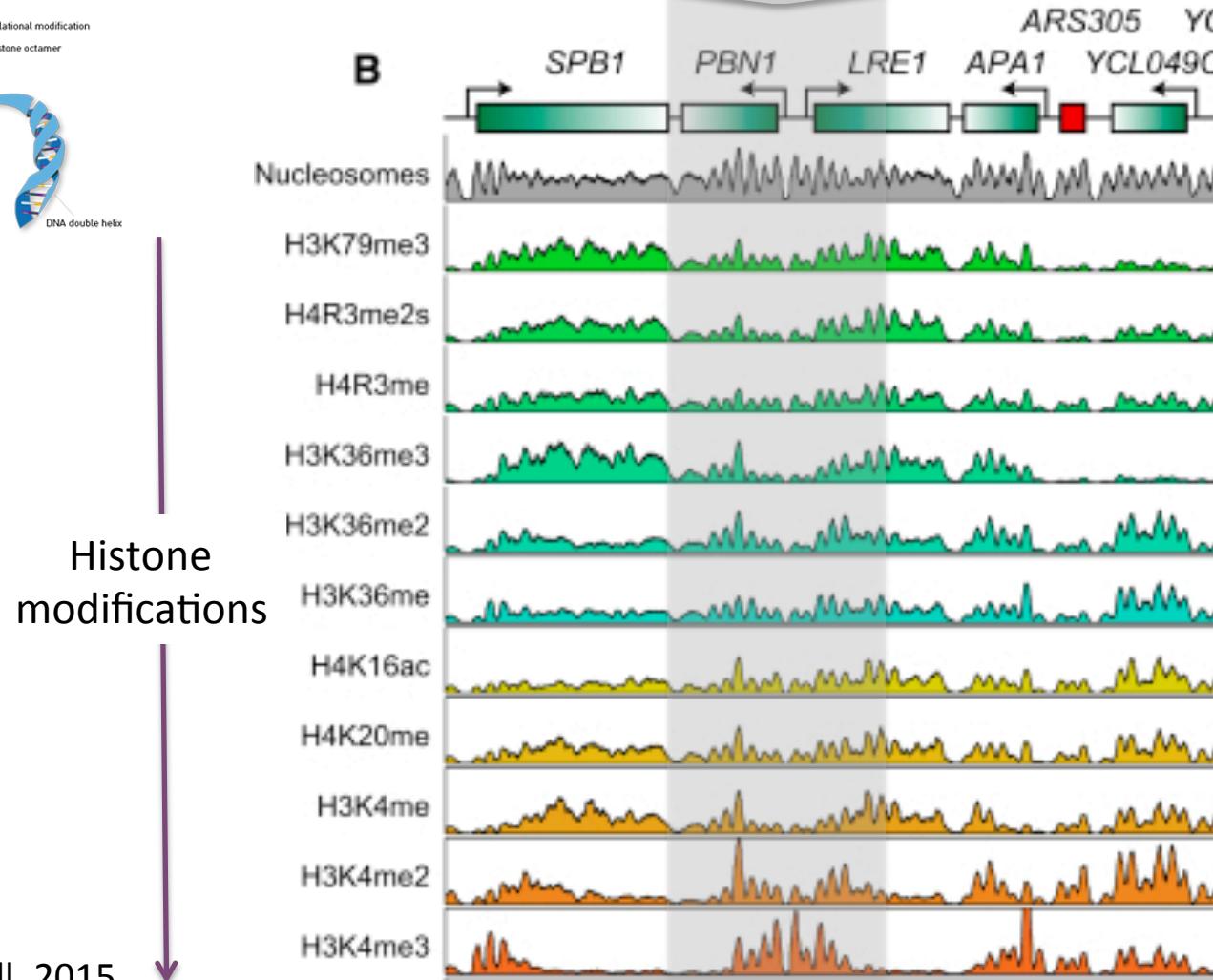
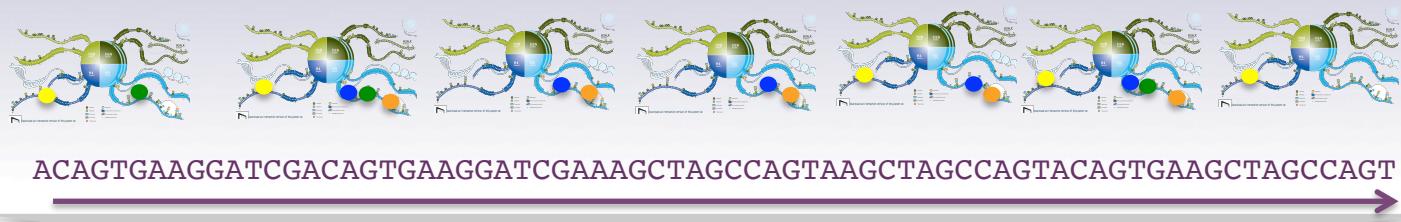
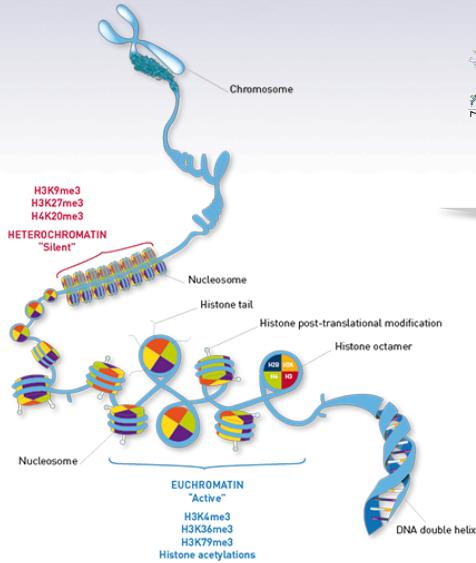
ACAGTGAAGGATCGACAGTGAAGGATCGAAAGCTAGCCAGTAAGCTAGCCAGTACAGTGAAGCTAGCCAGT

Genome



H3K4me3

H3K4me3



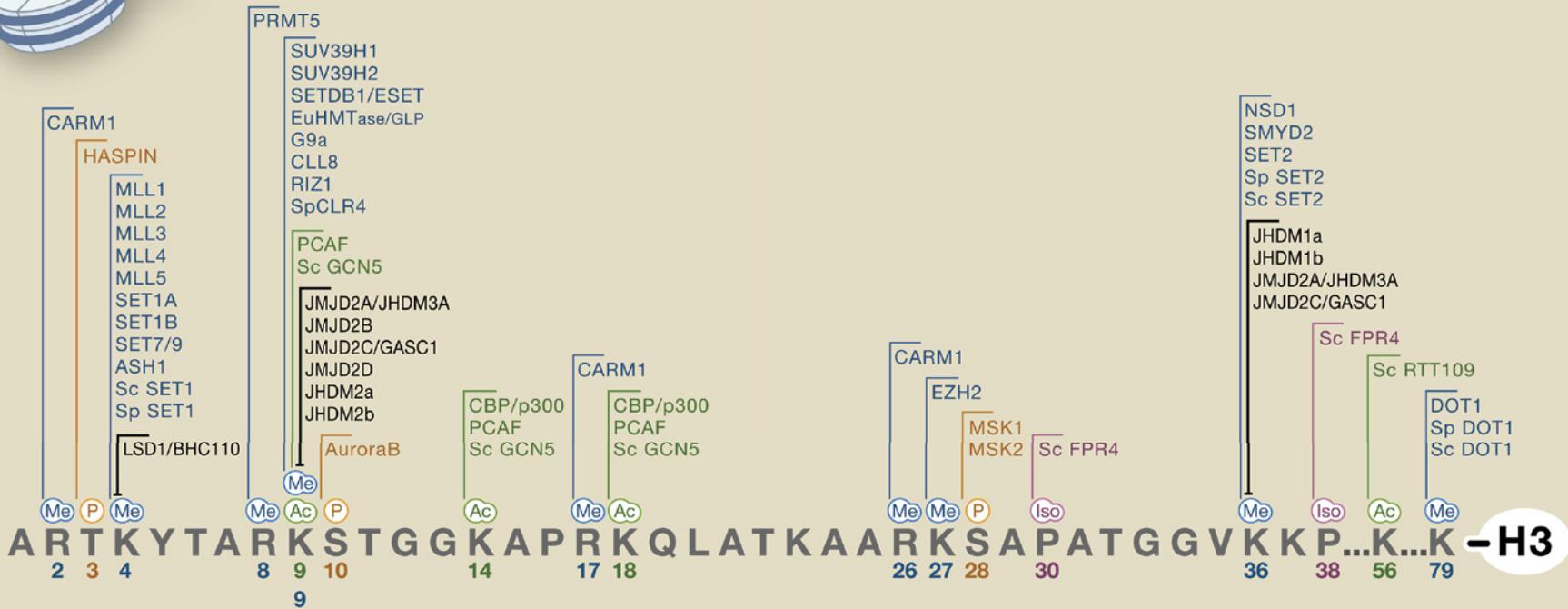
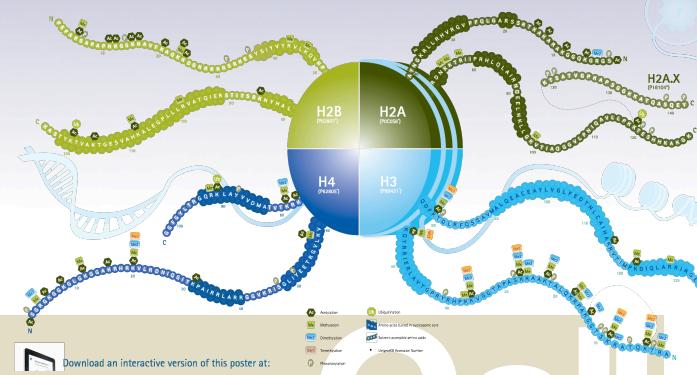
Histone Writers

SnapShot: Histone-Modifying Enzymes

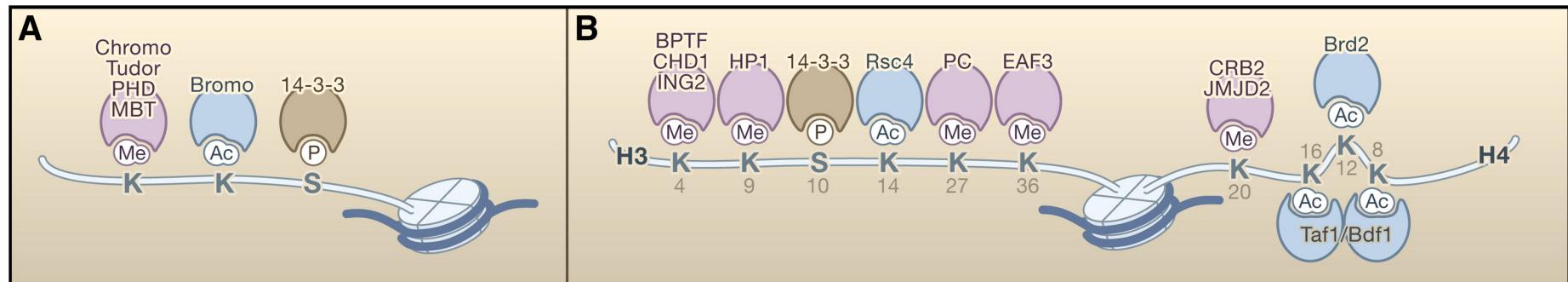
Tony Kouzarides

The Gurdon Institute, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 1QN, UK

Kouzarides, Cell. 2007

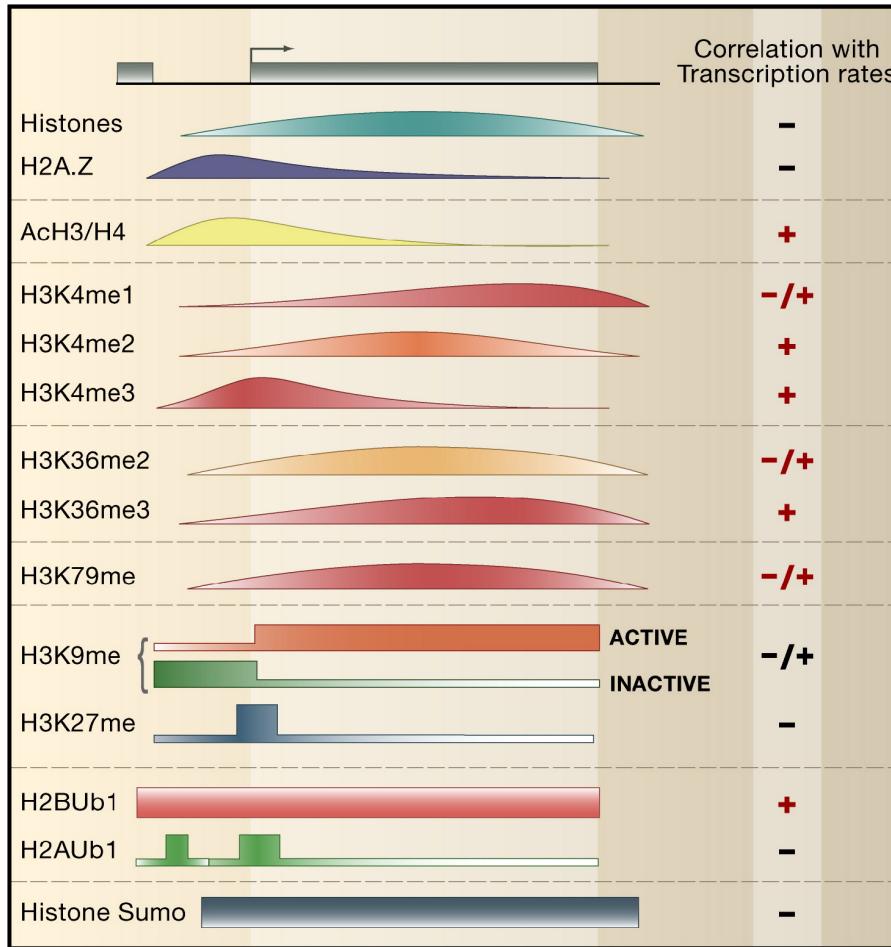


Readers of Histone Marks



Kouzarides, Chromatin Modifications and Their Function, Cell 2007

Histone Modifications Correlate with Transcription Activity

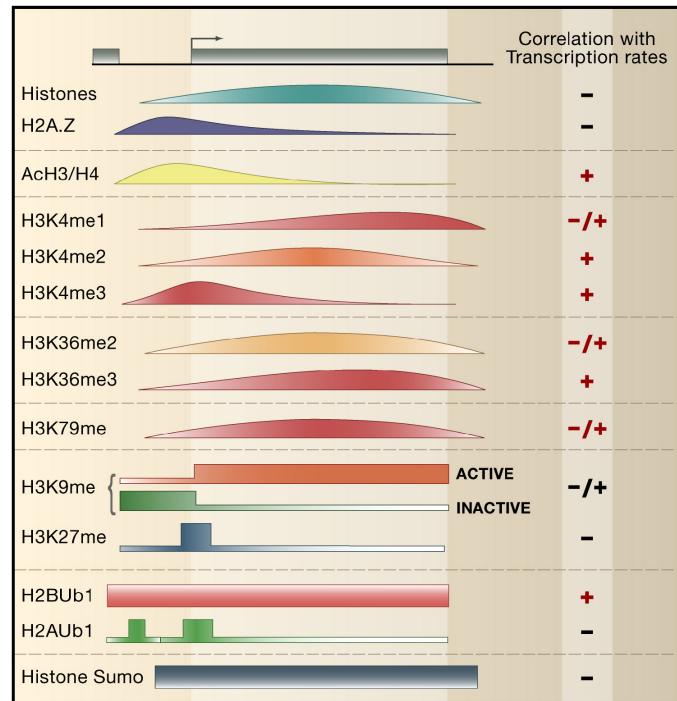


Histone Code ?

Histone Modification Patterns



Expression / Transcription Output



Histone Code ?

Complexity of Input :

- H3 contains 19 Lysines,
- can be mono-, di-, tri-methylated

$4^{19} = 280$ billion different Lysine patterns
⇒ Huge “Alphabet”



Histone Code ?

Complexity of Input :

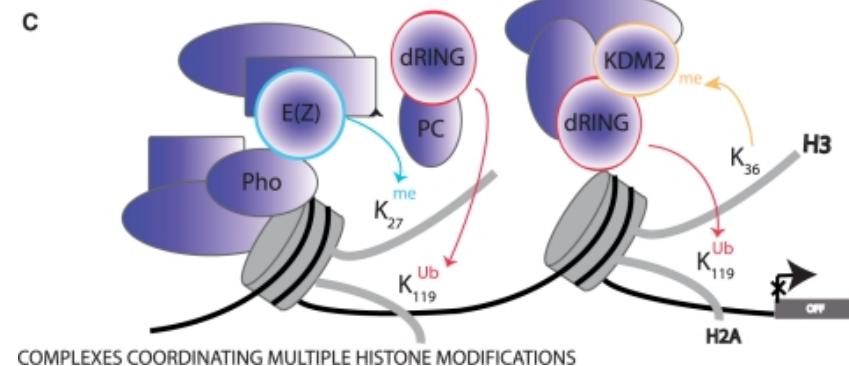
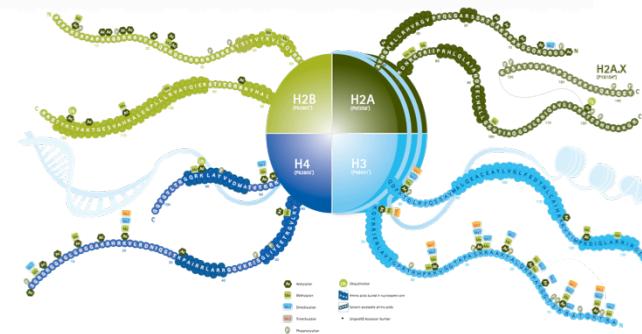
- H3 contains 19 Lysines,
- can be mono-, di-, tri-methylated

$4^{19} = 280$ billion different Lysine patterns

⇒ Huge “Alphabet”

Cross-talk between neighboring nucleosomes
(potentially forming “words”)

⇒ Further increase in complexity ?



Histone Code ?

Complexity of Input :

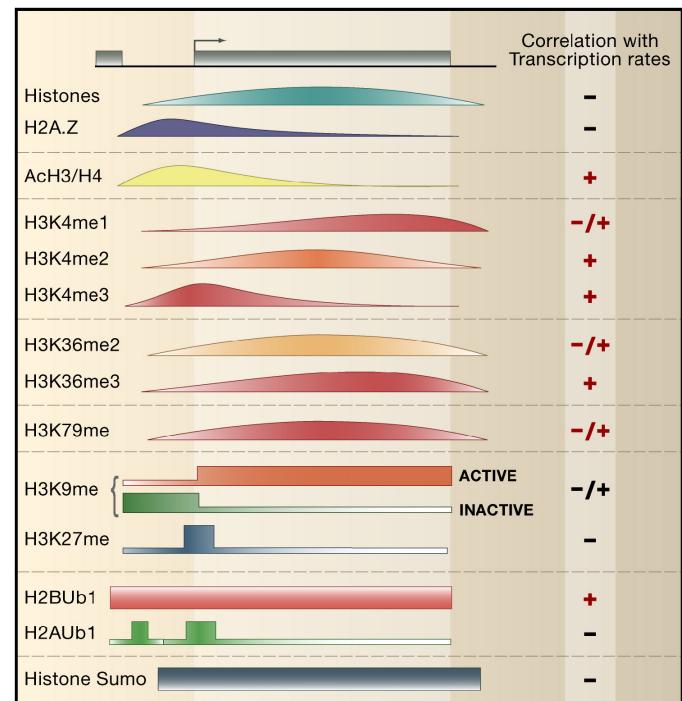
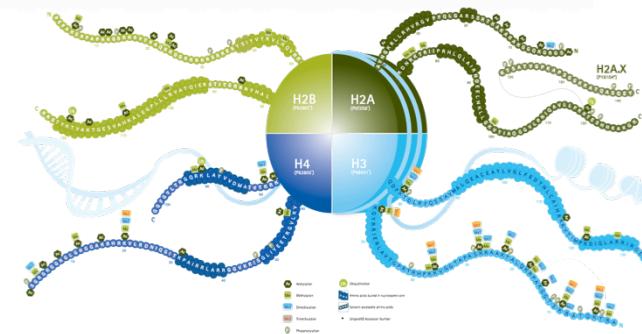
- H3 contains 19 Lysines,
- can be mono-, di-, tri-methylated

⇒ $4^{19} = 280$



Complexity of Response:

- Heterochromatin vs Euchromatin
- Promoter vs Enhancer
- Activation vs Repression vs Bivalent



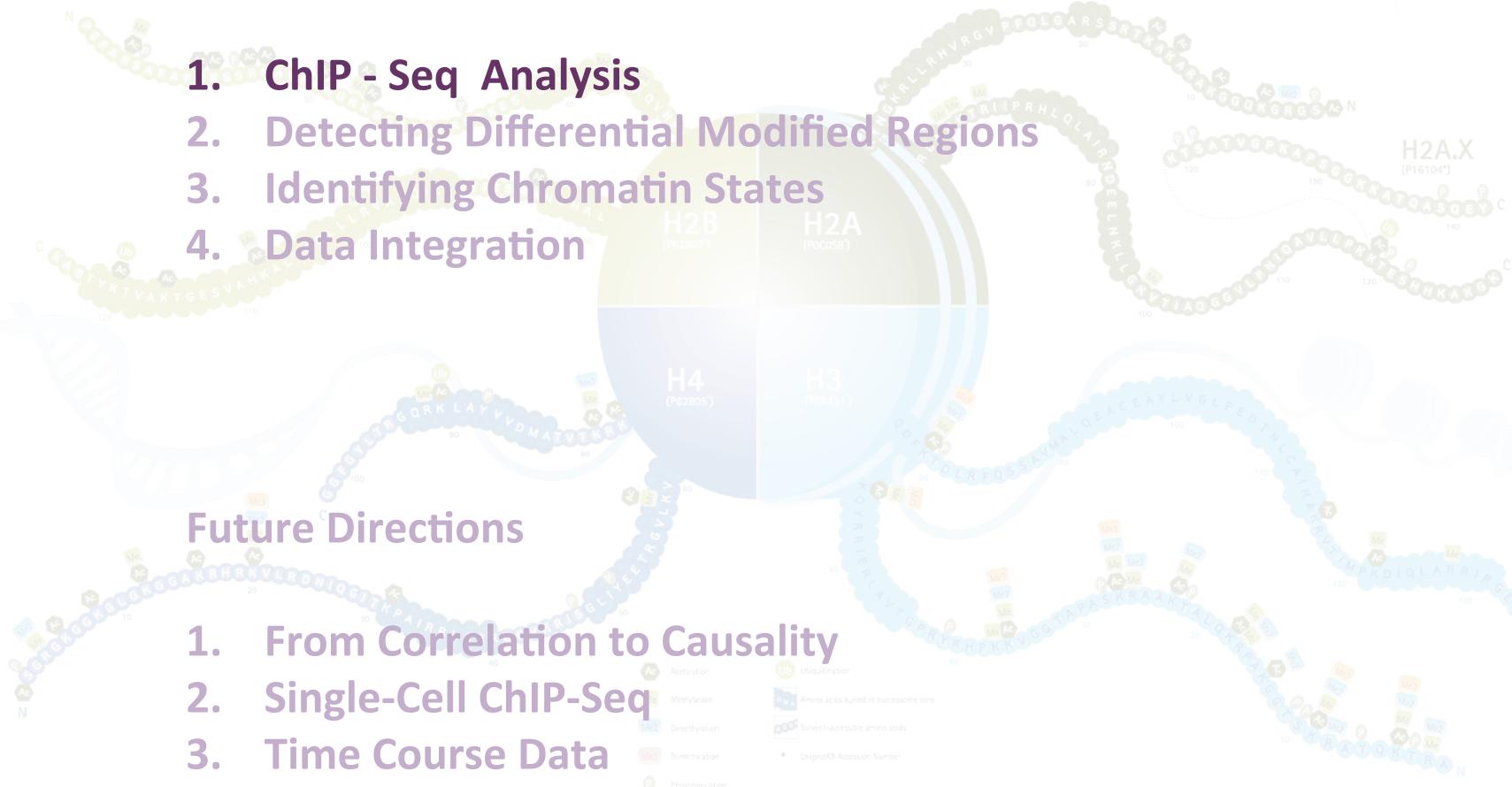
Talk Outline

Understanding the Complexity of Histone Modifications

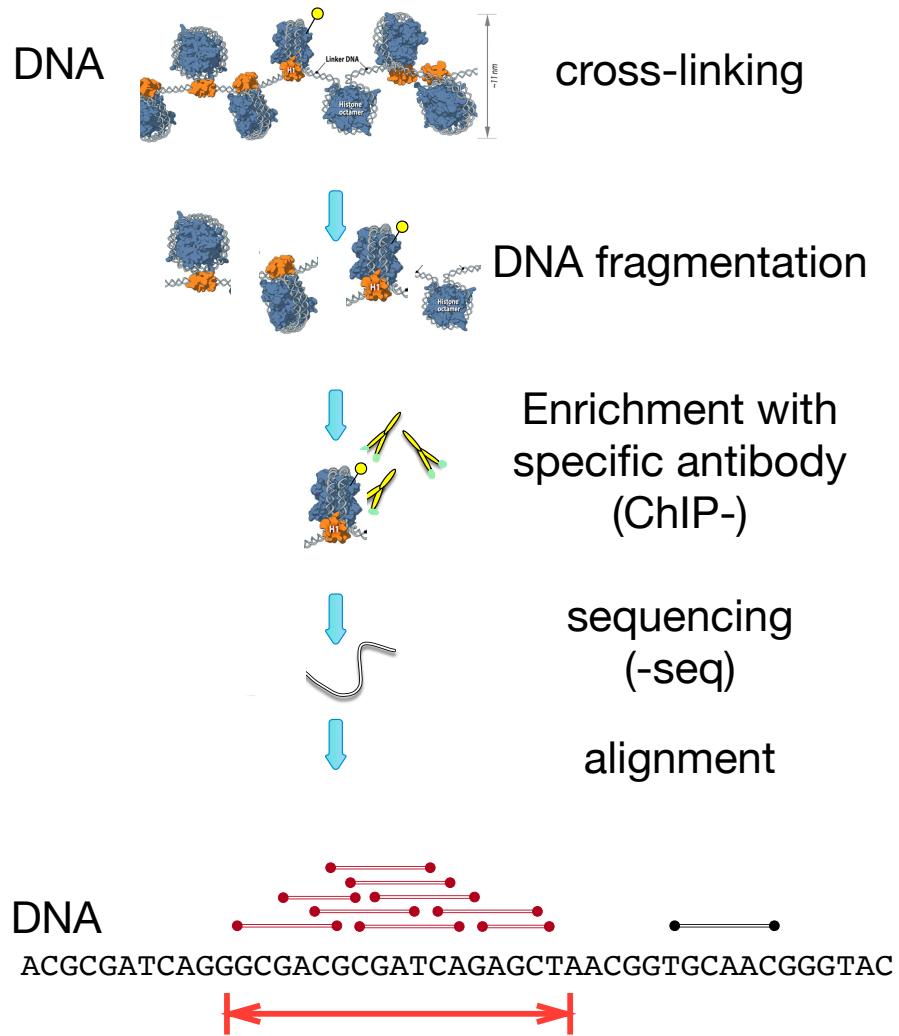
1. ChIP - Seq Analysis
2. Detecting Differential Modified Regions
3. Identifying Chromatin States
4. Data Integration

Future Directions

1. From Correlation to Causality
2. Single-Cell ChIP-Seq
3. Time Course Data



ChIP-Seq



ChIP-Seq

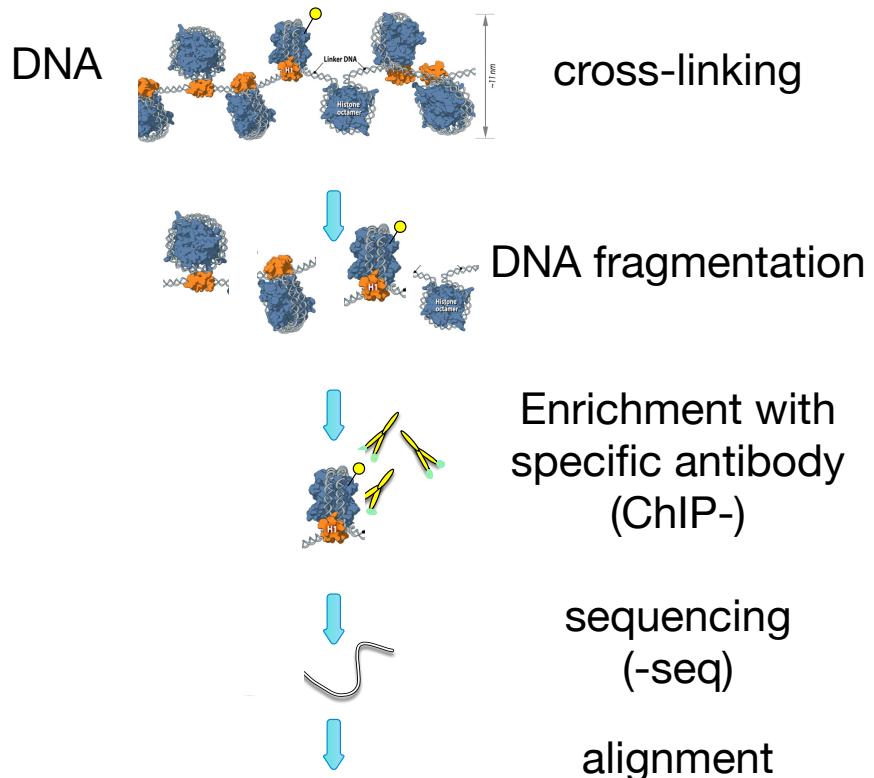
to determine

- position of histone modifications
- stability of mark

mark strength
N = 9 counts

enriched region:
'peak'

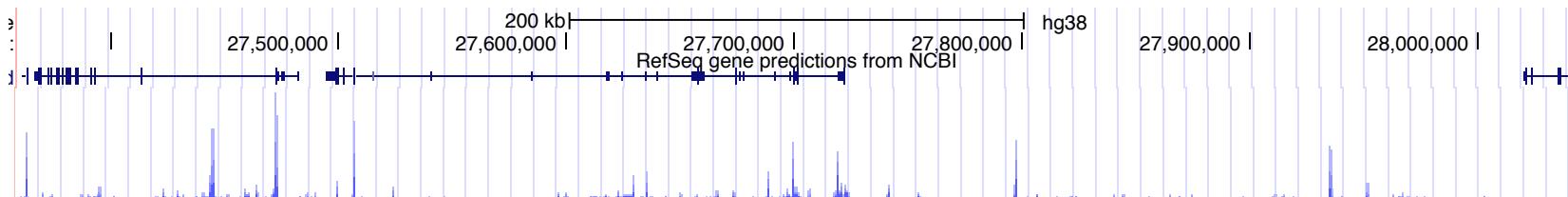
ChIP-Seq



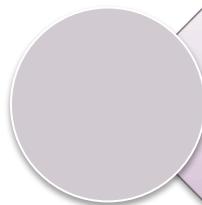
ChIP-Seq

to determine

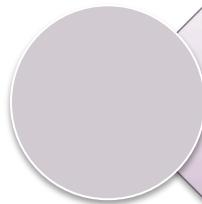
- position of histone modifications
- stability of mark



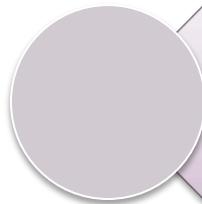
ChIP-Seq Computational Pipeline



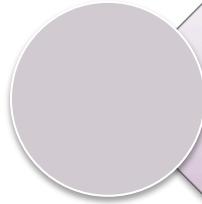
Experimental Planning



Quality Control (fastqc)

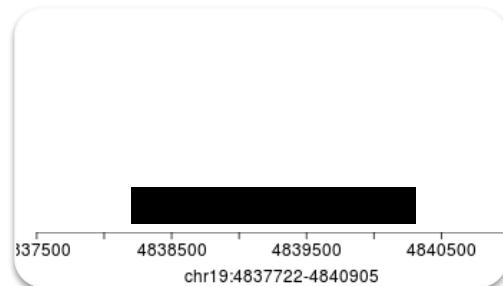
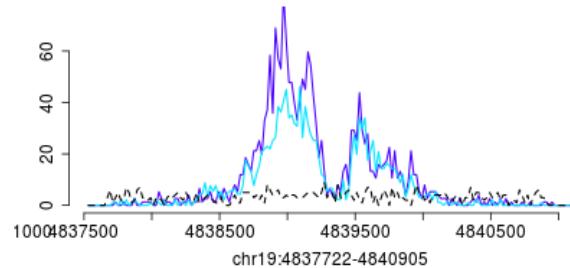


Alignment



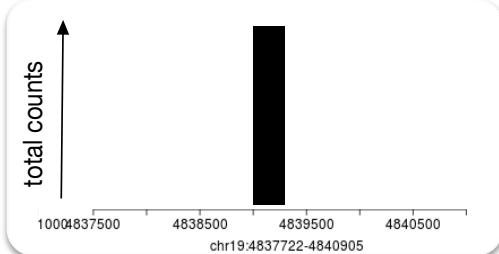
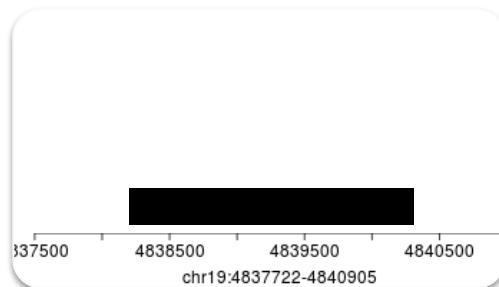
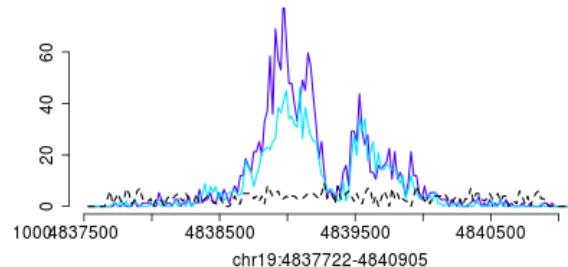
Quality Control

ChIP-Seq Analysis



Detecting Enriched Regions
Presence / Absence
(Binary signal : 1/0)

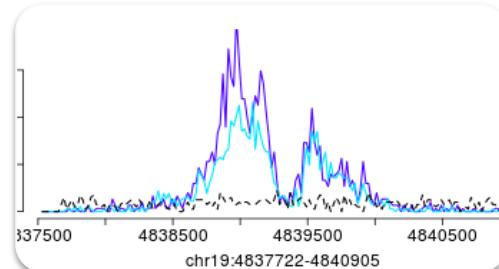
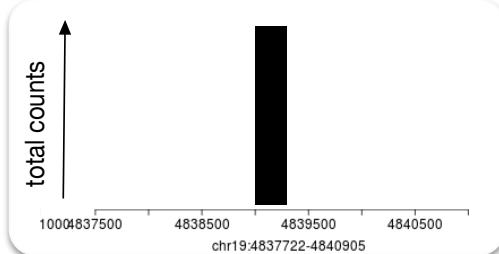
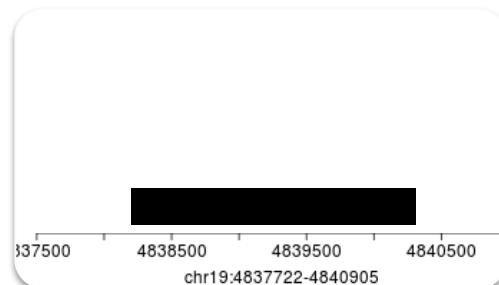
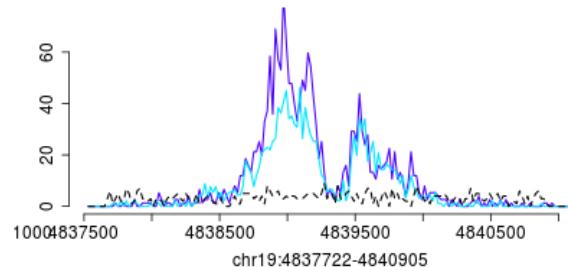
ChIP-Seq Analysis



Detecting Enriched Regions
Presence / Absence
(Binary signal : 1/0)

Quantifying Enrichments
Sum of Counts
(Count Signal: N)

ChIP-Seq Analysis

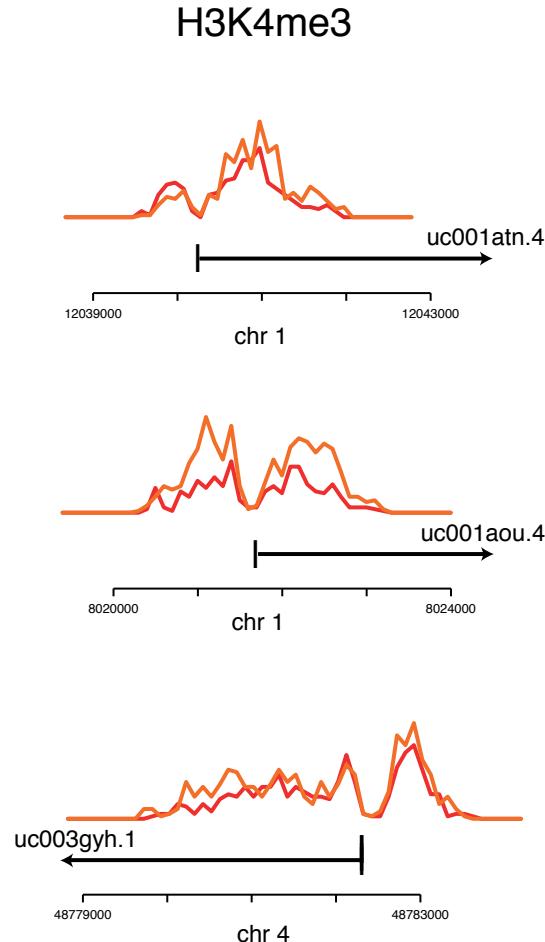


Detecting Enriched Regions
Presence / Absence
(Binary signal : 1/0)

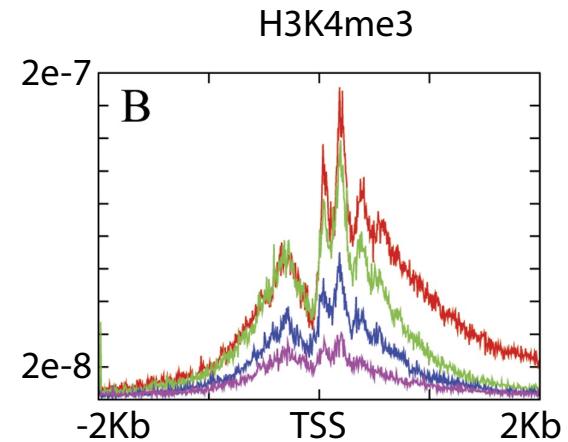
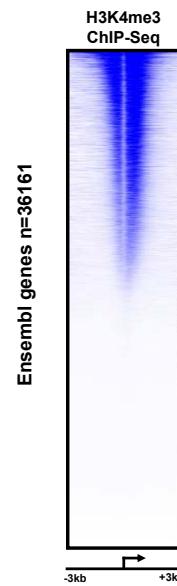
Quantifying Enrichments
Sum of Counts
(Count Signal: N)

Shape Analysis
Distribution of Reads
(Complex Signal: N^L)

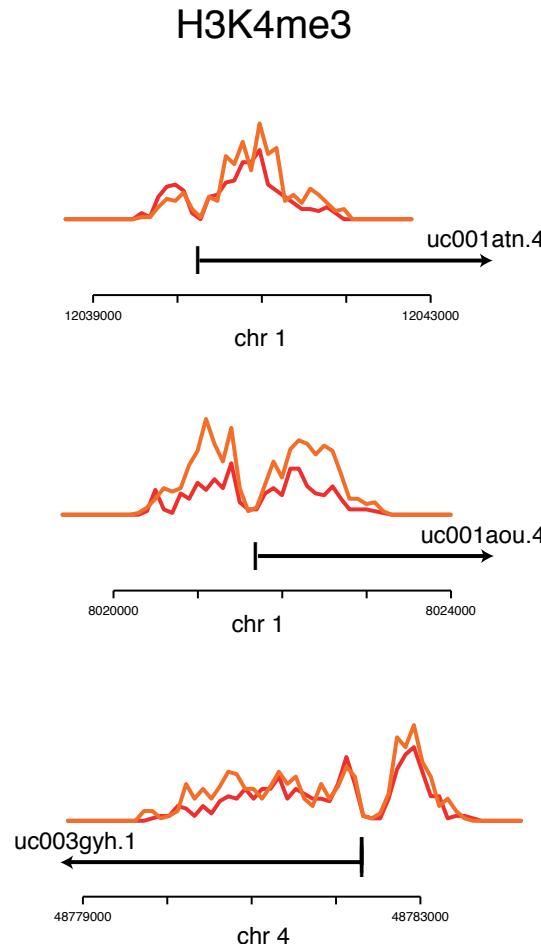
Peak Alignment and Clustering



- *shape* of epigenomic patterns mark functional features (promoters, enhancers)



Peak Alignment and Clustering

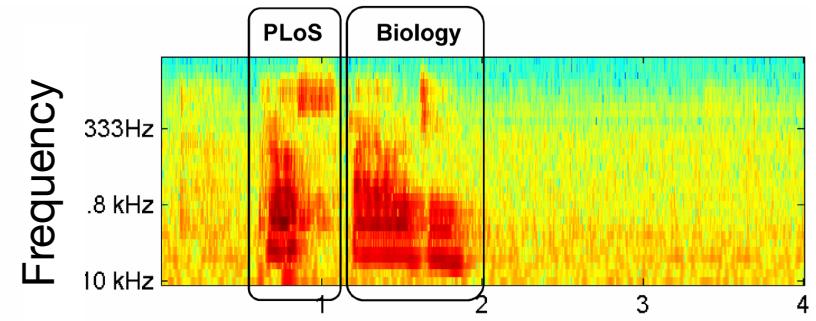
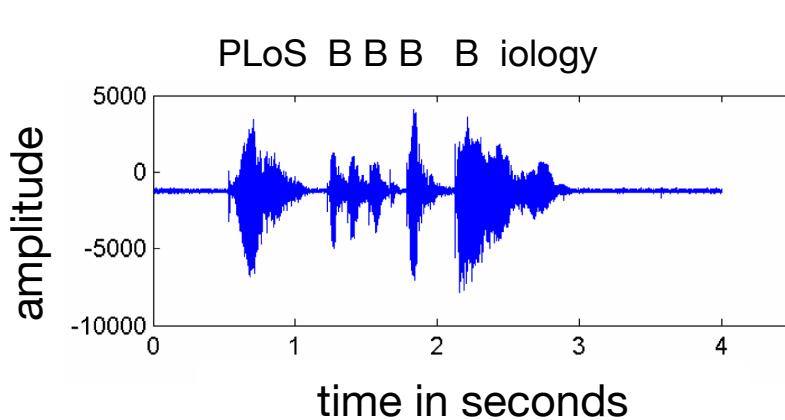
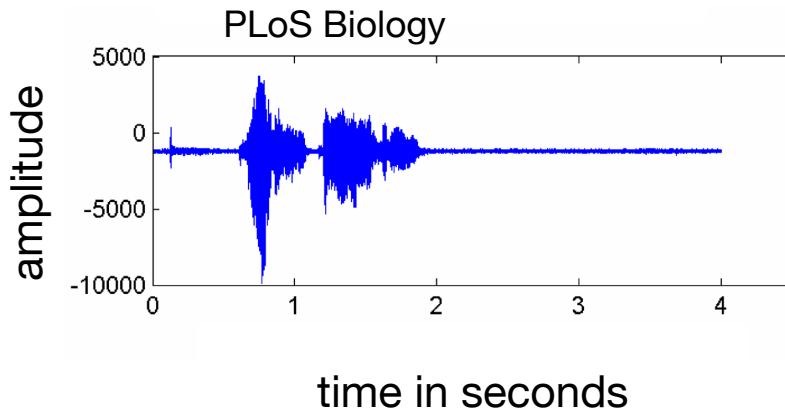


- *shape* of epigenomic patterns mark functional features (promoters, enhancers)
- epigenomic marks have local variation, which may be irrelevant for their function
- Can we classify these three peaks as the same pattern?

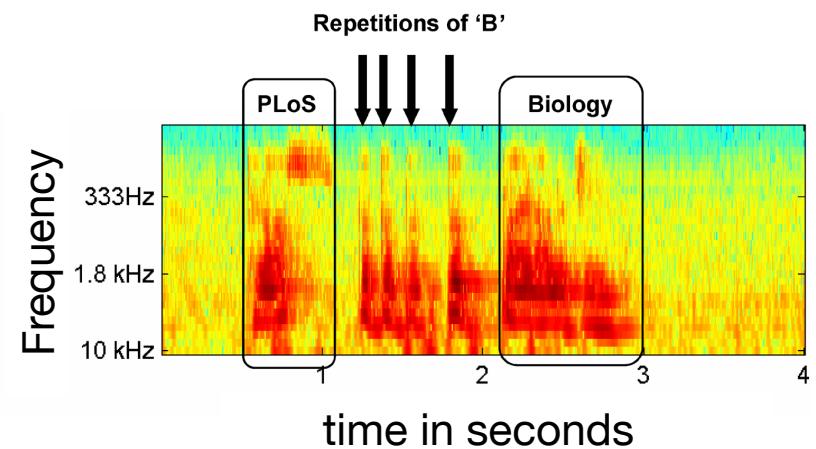
=> Dynamic Genome Warping (DGW)

Analogy: speech recognition

Dynamic Time Warping (DTW)

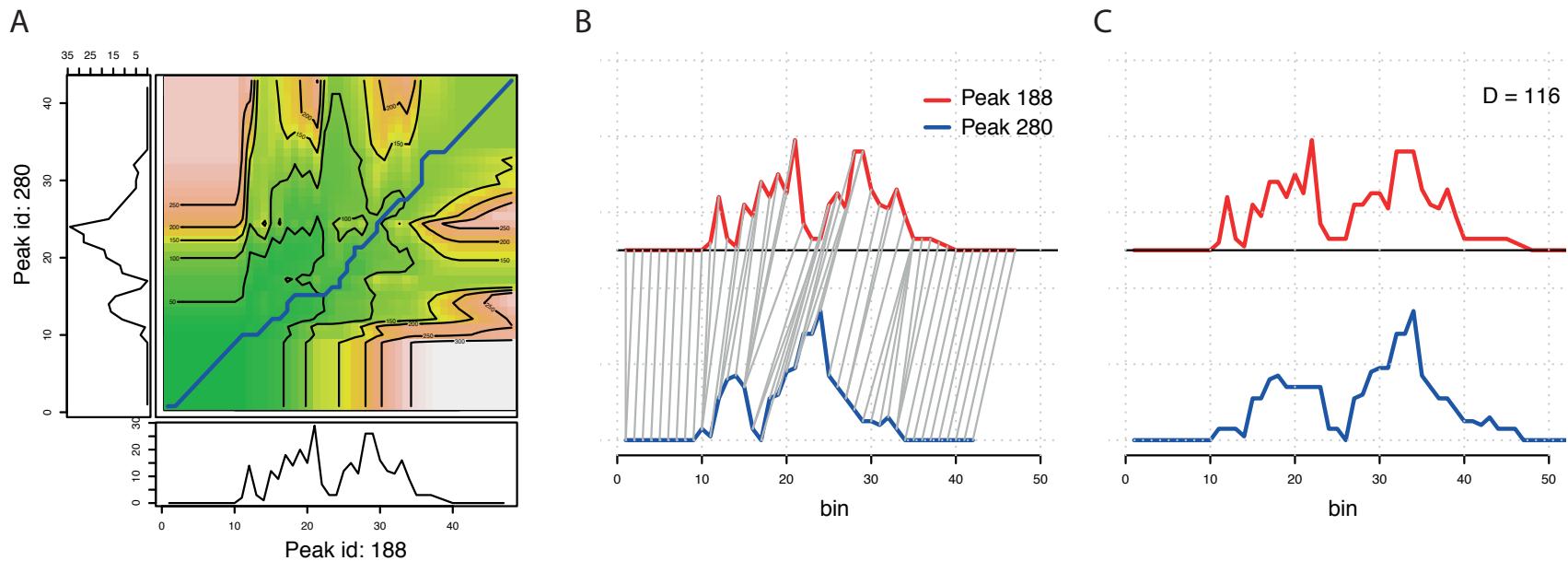


time in seconds



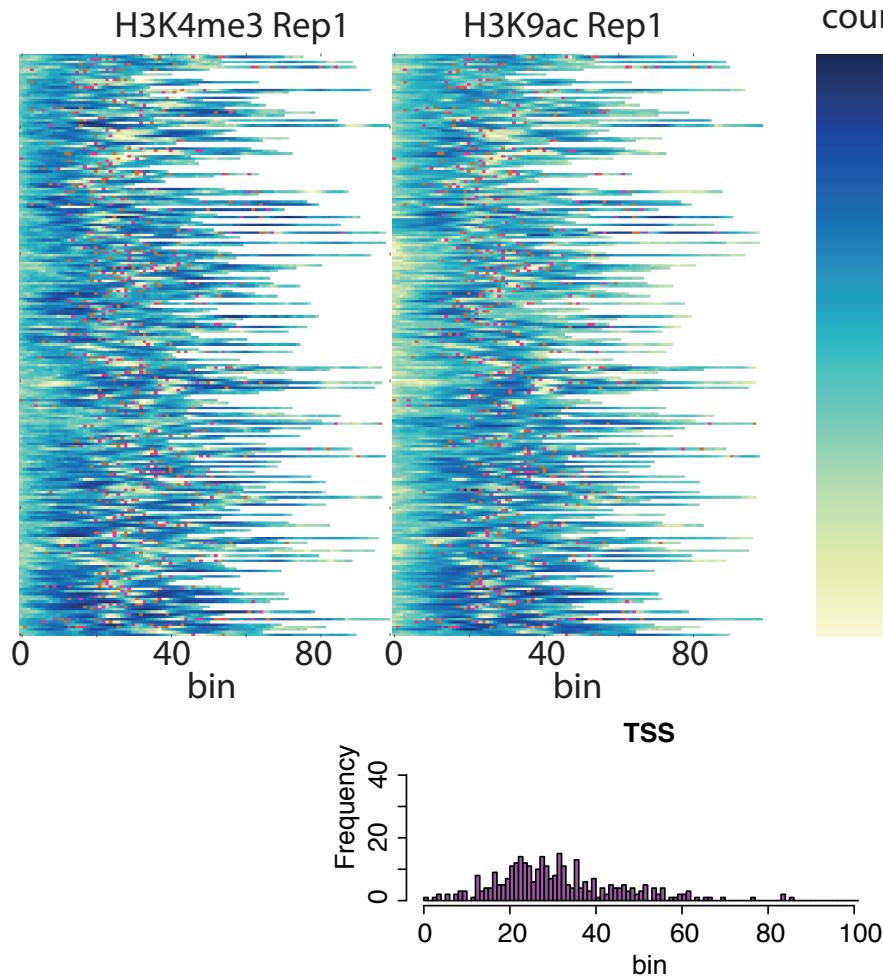
Peak Alignment Using DGW

=> Dynamic Genome Warping (DGW)

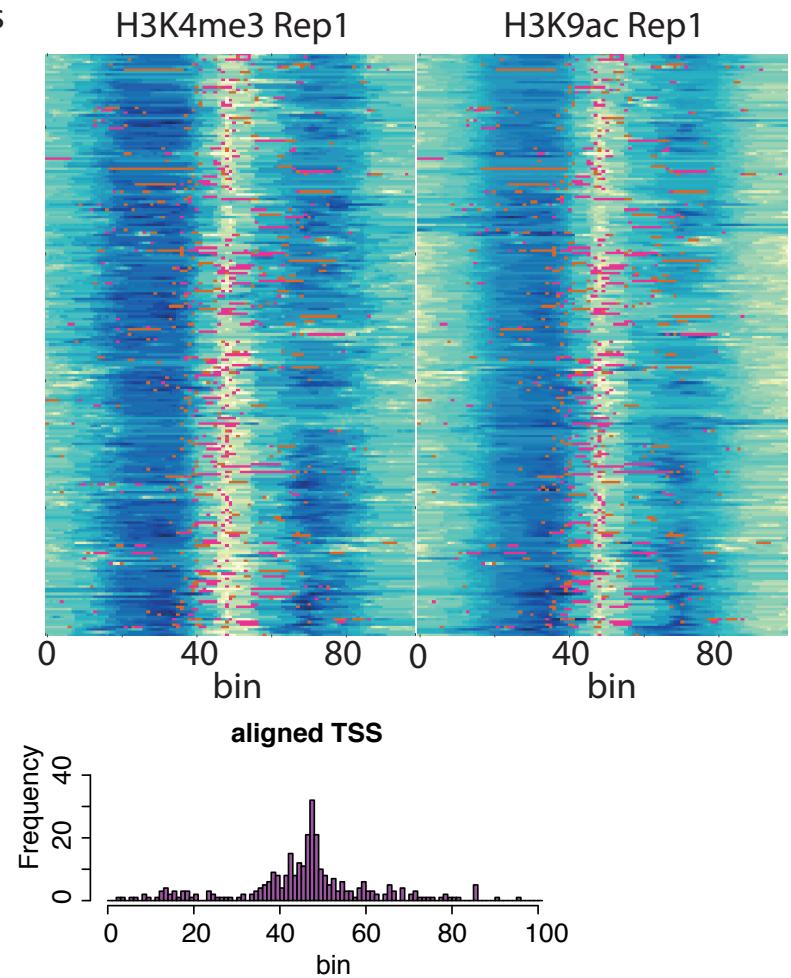


Results: DGW aligns genomic landmarks

A



B



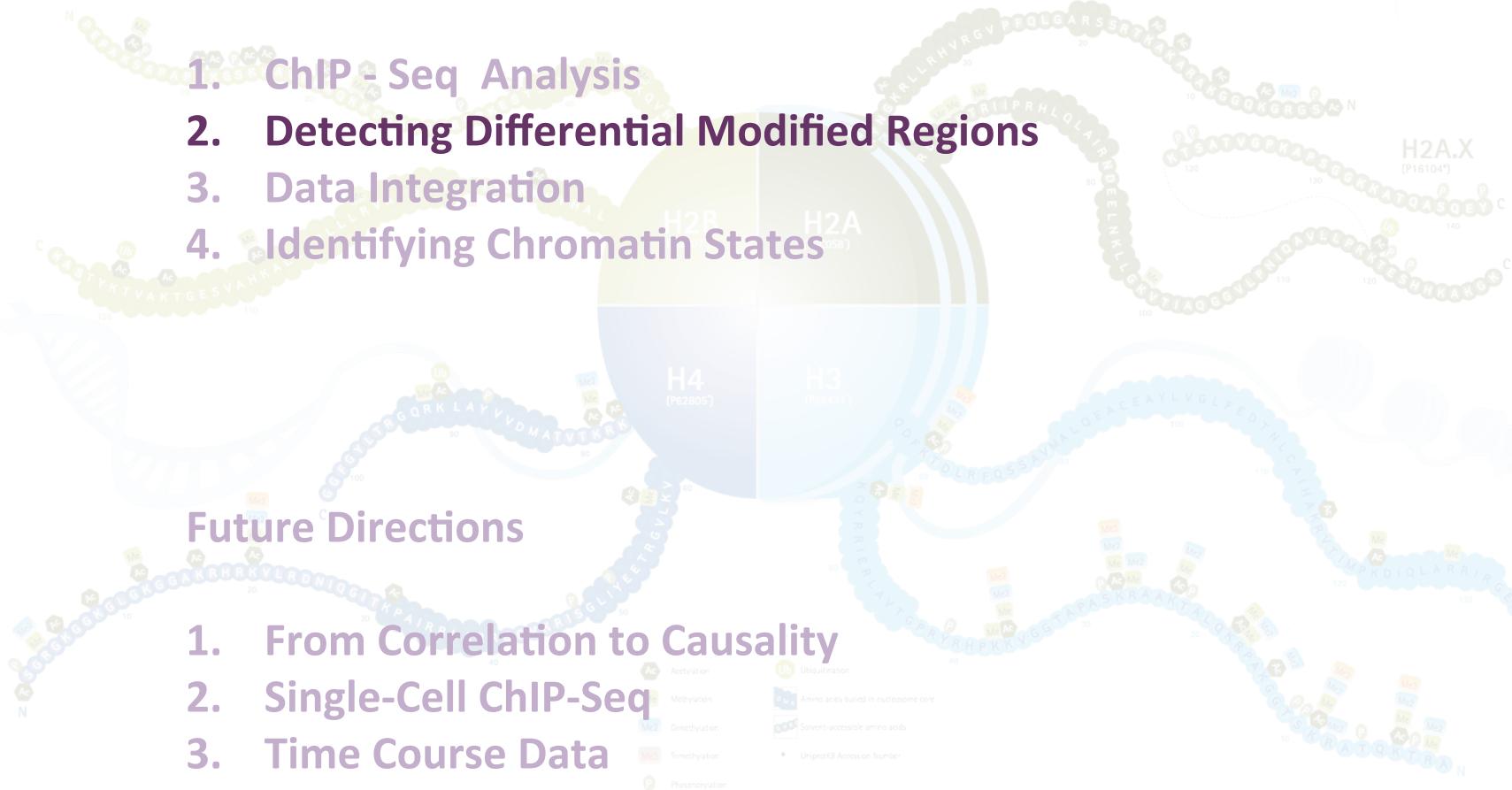
Talk Outline

Understanding the Complexity of Histone Modifications

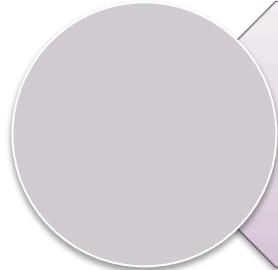
1. ChIP - Seq Analysis
2. Detecting Differential Modified Regions
3. Data Integration
4. Identifying Chromatin States

Future Directions

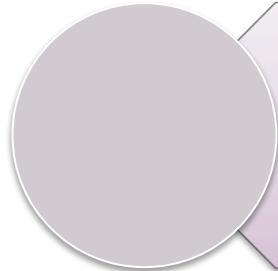
1. From Correlation to Causality
2. Single-Cell ChIP-Seq
3. Time Course Data



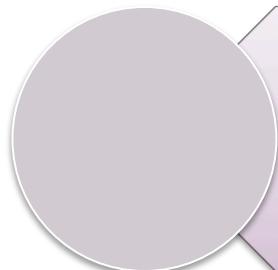
Detecting Differential Modified Regions



Comparing sets of enriched regions
Presence/absence of mark (DiffBind)

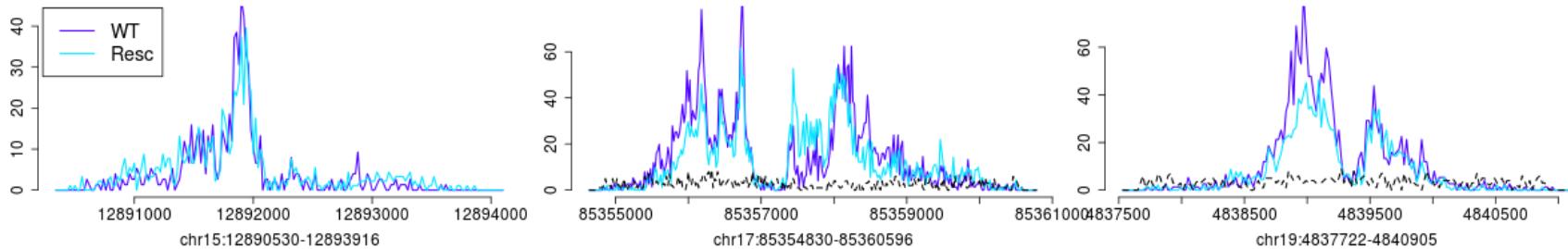


Comparing average levels of
modification (Diffbind)

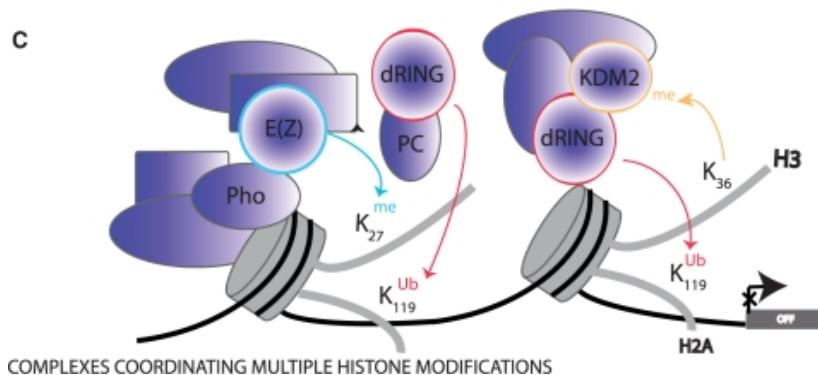


Comparing Shape of Modification
(MMDiff)

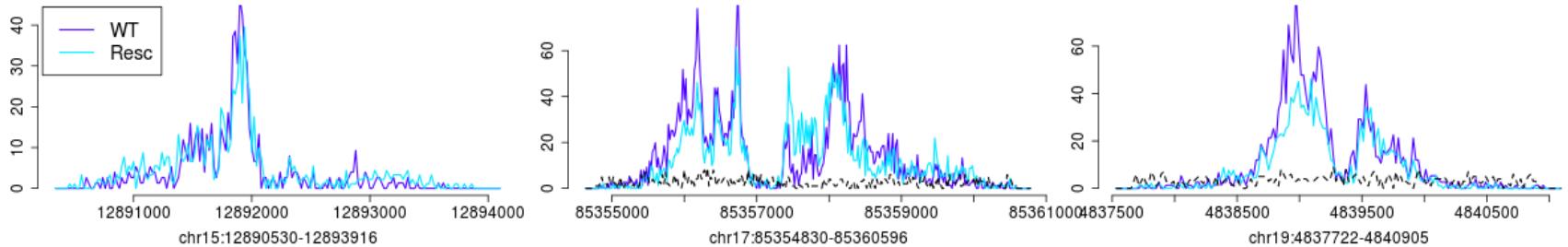
H3K4me3 at selected promoters in mES cells



Sub-structure of binding peaks are remarkably conserved between experiments.



H3K4me3 at selected promoters in mES cells



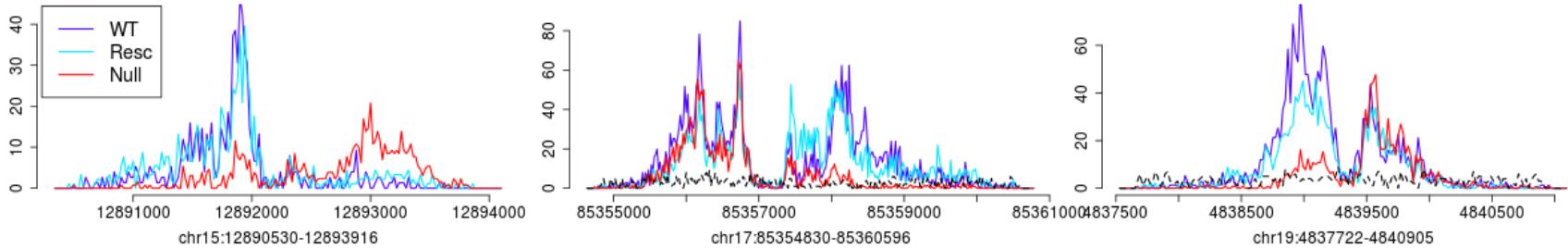
Sub-structure of binding peaks are remarkably conserved between experiments.

Is there biological function encoded in the shape of the peak?

How are they established?

=> Loss of function experiment.

H3K4me3 loss in a Cfp1 mutant



**The mark is not lost in a homogenous way.
Some parts are not affected.**

Computational Challenge:

Detect Differences in Shapes of Peaks rather than intensity

Standard approach:

extract a summary statistic (total counts)
Univariate test (e.g. negative binomial)

⇒ Low power

Our Idea:

Sequencing itself is a form of *sampling an unknown distribution on the genome*
Number of drawn samples is identical to the number of reads observed in a peak

=> Greatly increased power

Re-formulate the test question

Suppose for a peak we are given

- n observations (i.e. reads) in data set s (disease)

$$X^s = x_1^s, \dots, x_n^s$$

- m observations in data set s' (control)

$$X^{s'} = x_1^{s'}, \dots, x_m^{s'}$$

where $x^s, x^{s'}$ random variables drawn *i.i.d.* from **unknown** probability distributions p and p'

Can we decide whether $p = p'$?

MMDiff

- MMD: Maximum Mean Discrepancy
- Kernel-based non-parametric test (Gretton et al., 2008, 2012)
- retains higher order information within the testing procedure

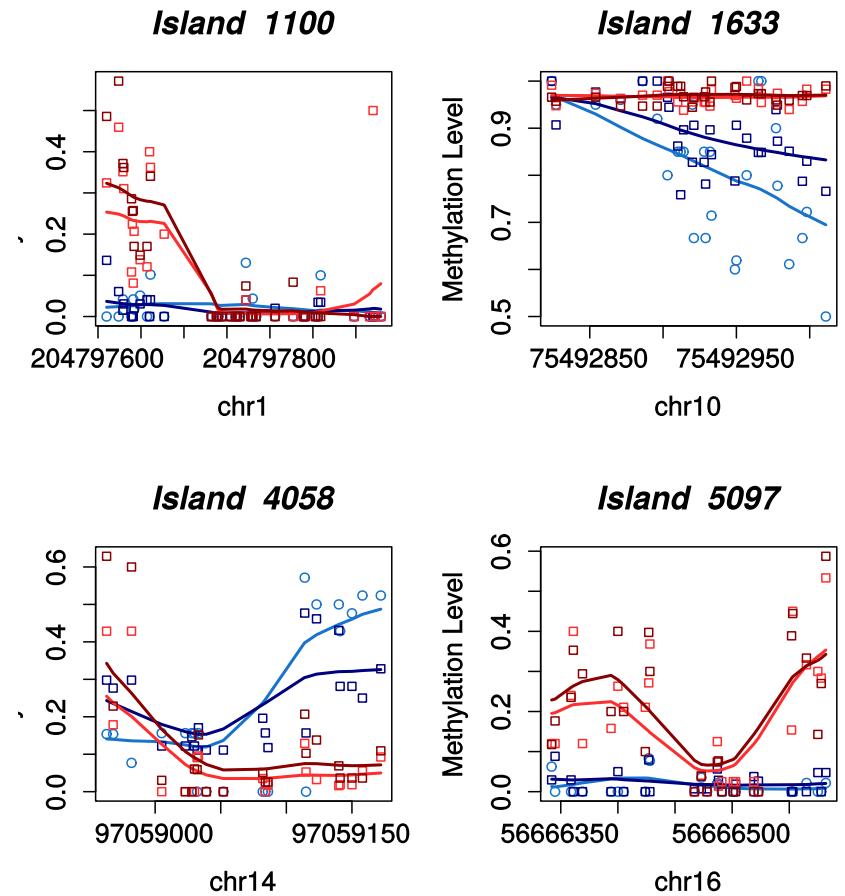
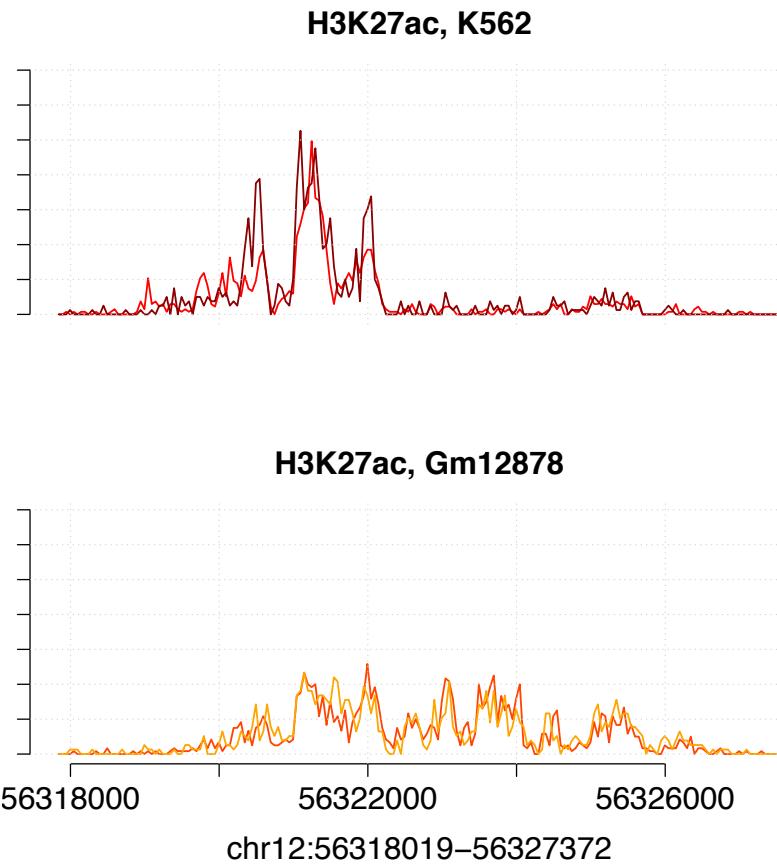
concept

Define feature map, which maps the distributions into a high dimensional reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

In this space, two distributions are identical if and only if their kernel means are identical

Distance between means is a good quantitative measure for difference between two distributions

Results



Schweikert et al., 2013

Mayo et al., 2015

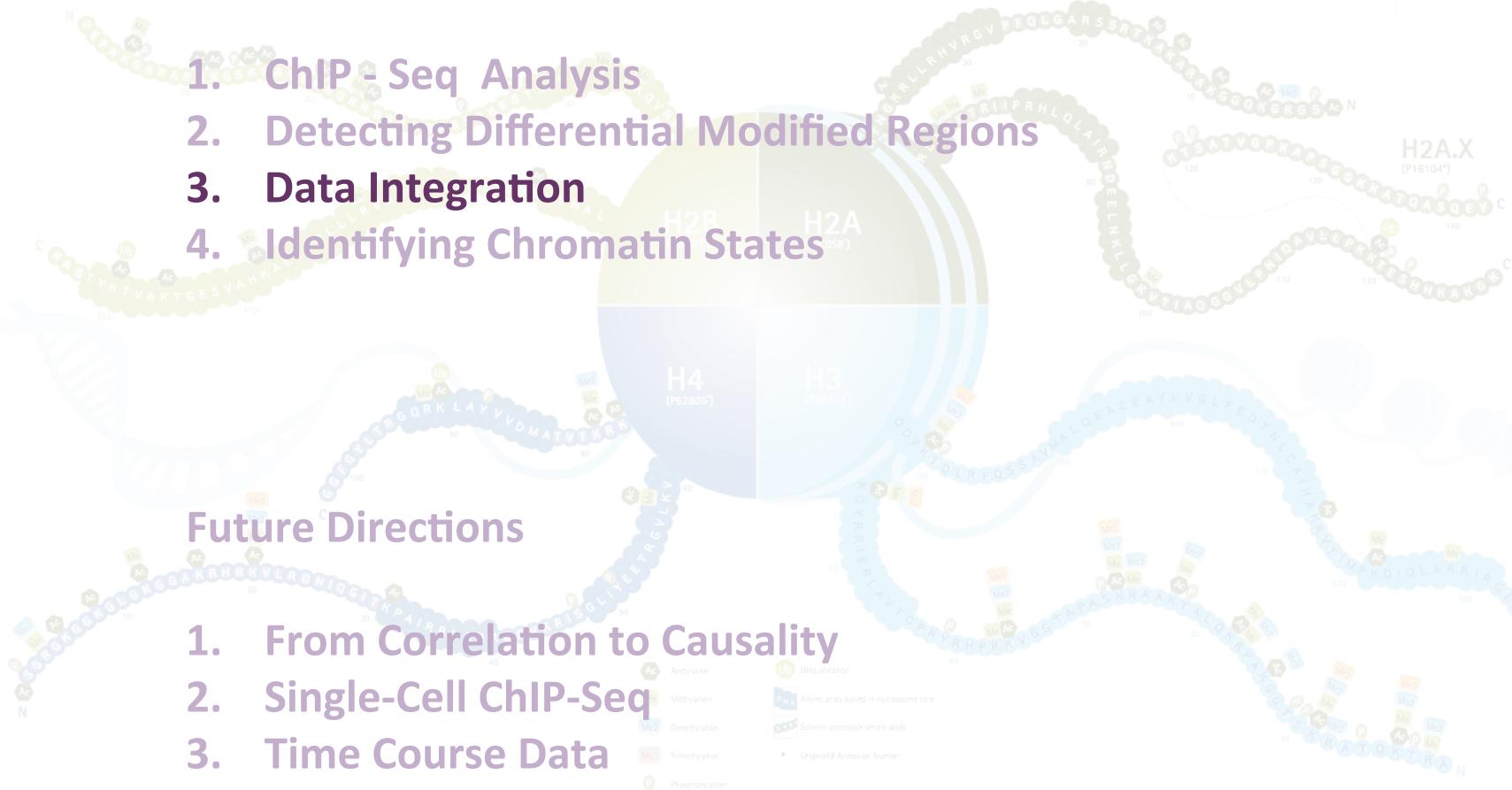
Talk Outline

Understanding the Complexity of Histone Modifications

1. ChIP - Seq Analysis
2. Detecting Differential Modified Regions
3. Data Integration
4. Identifying Chromatin States

Future Directions

1. From Correlation to Causality
2. Single-Cell ChIP-Seq
3. Time Course Data

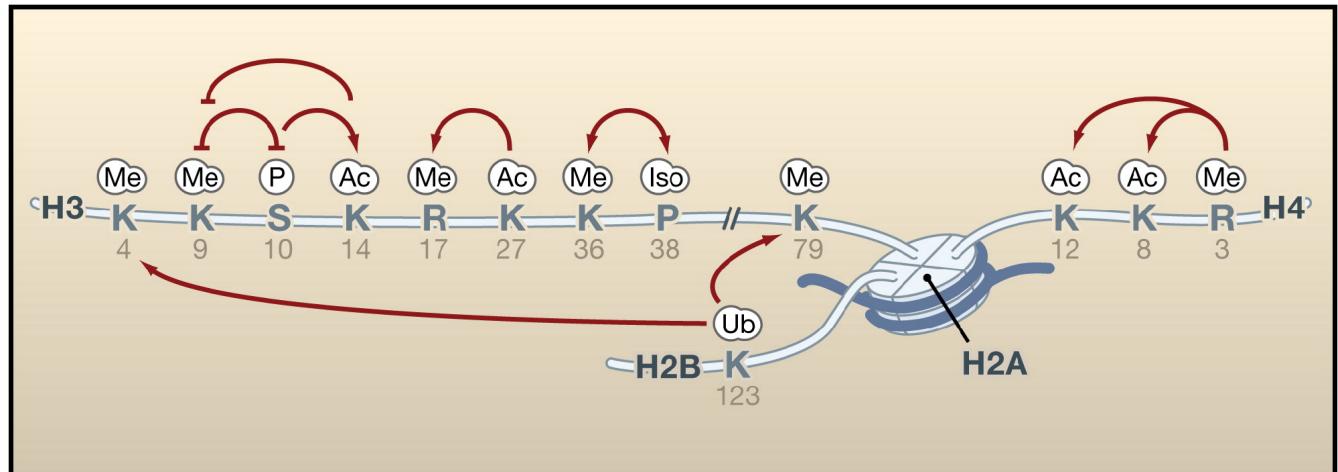
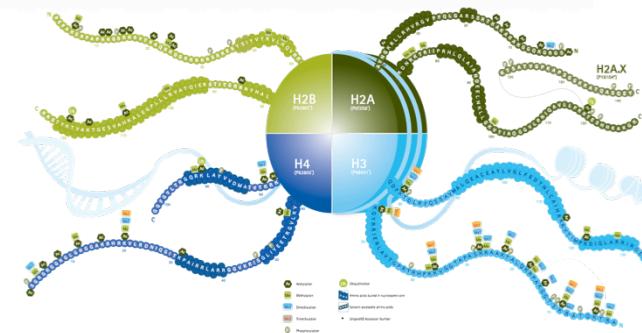


Cross-talk between different histone modifications

Complexity of Input :

- H3 contains 19 Lysines,
- can be mono-, di-, tri-methylated

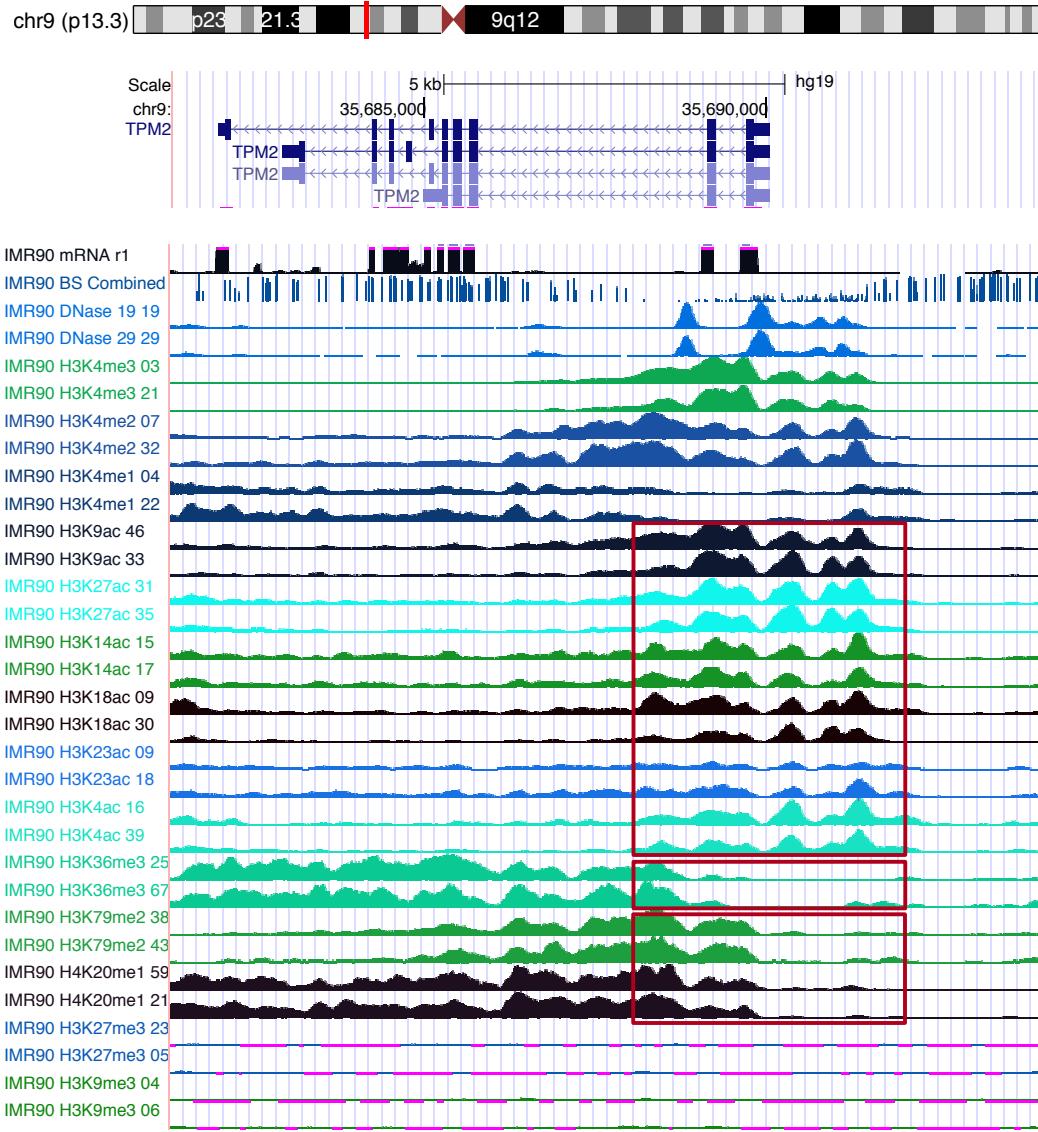
⇒ $4^{19} = 280$



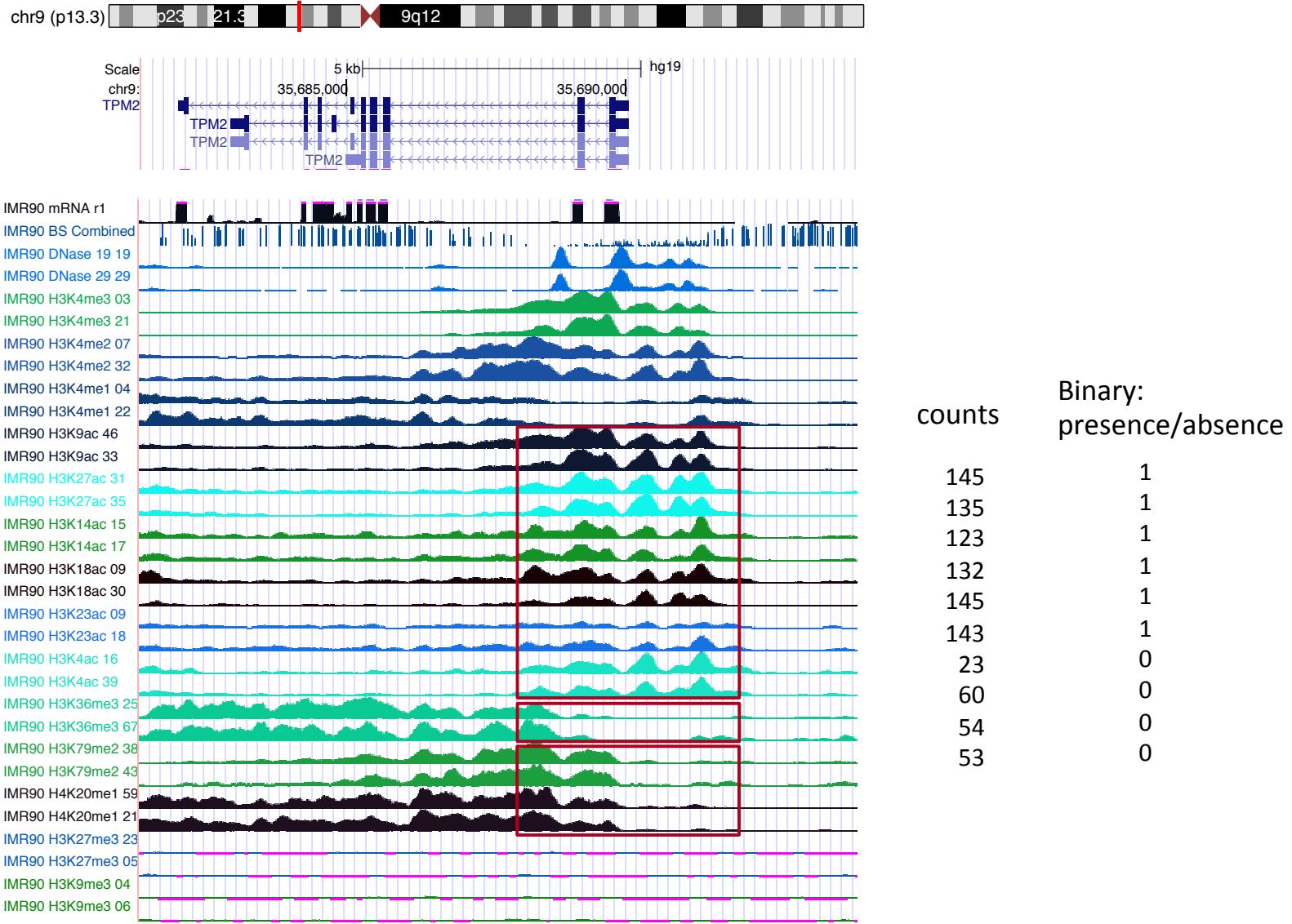
⇒ Individual marks are not independent

⇒ Reduction in Complexity

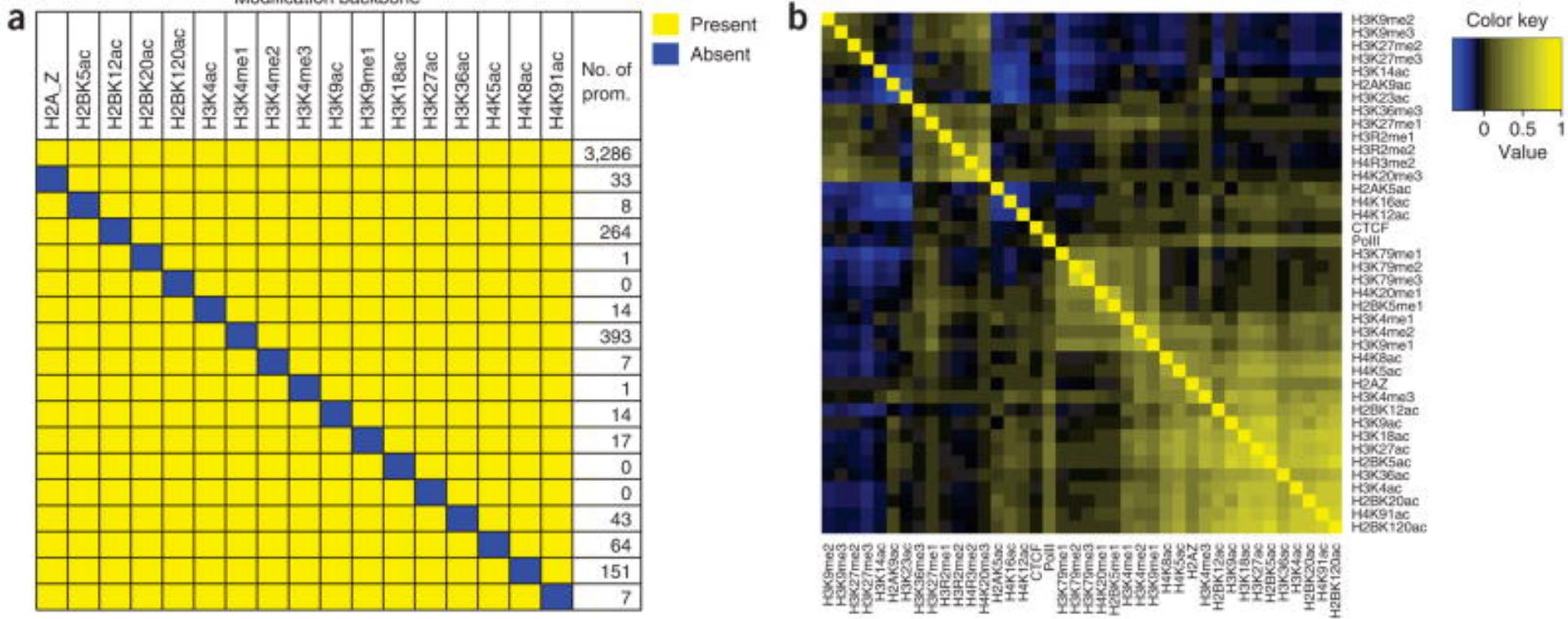
Epigenomic Crosstalk



Epigenomic Crosstalk

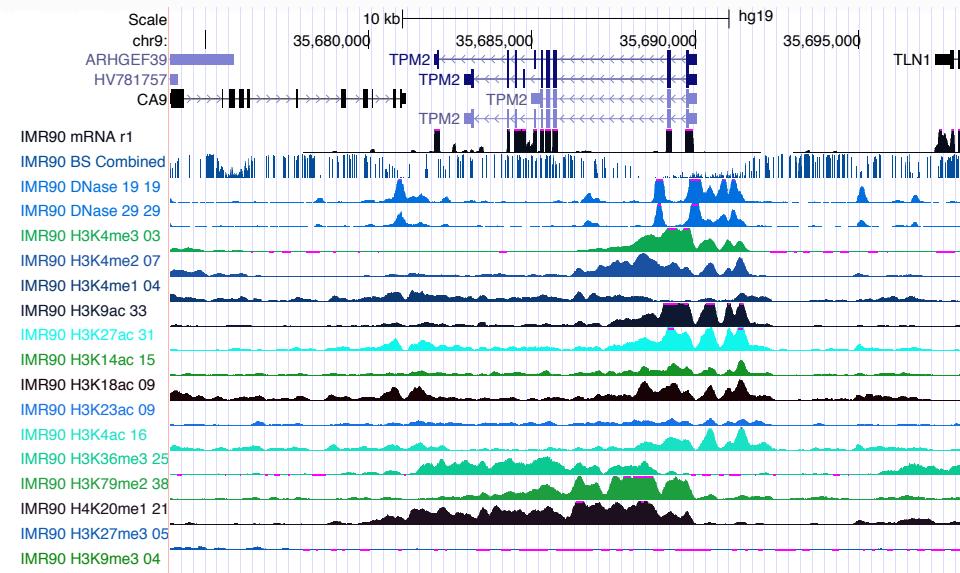


Epigenomic Crosstalk

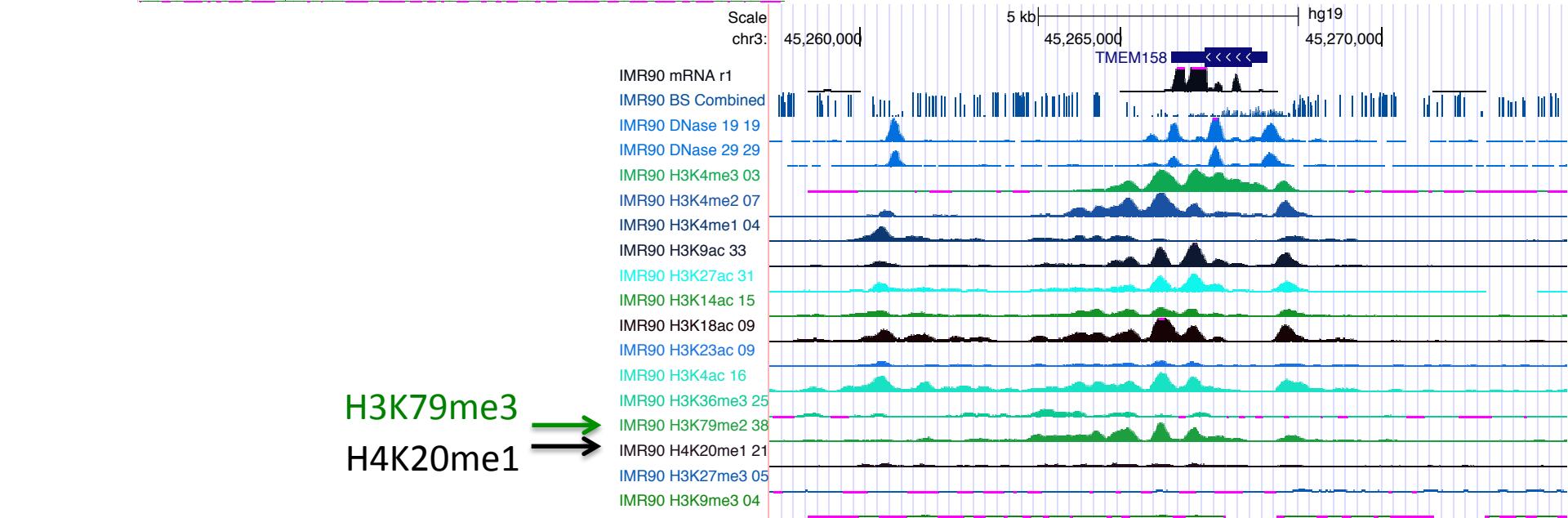


Wang et al., Combinatorial patterns of histone acetylations and methylations in the human genome, Nat Genet. 2008

Gene-Specific Associations among Histone Modifications



H3K79me3
H4K20me1



H3K79me3
H4K20me1

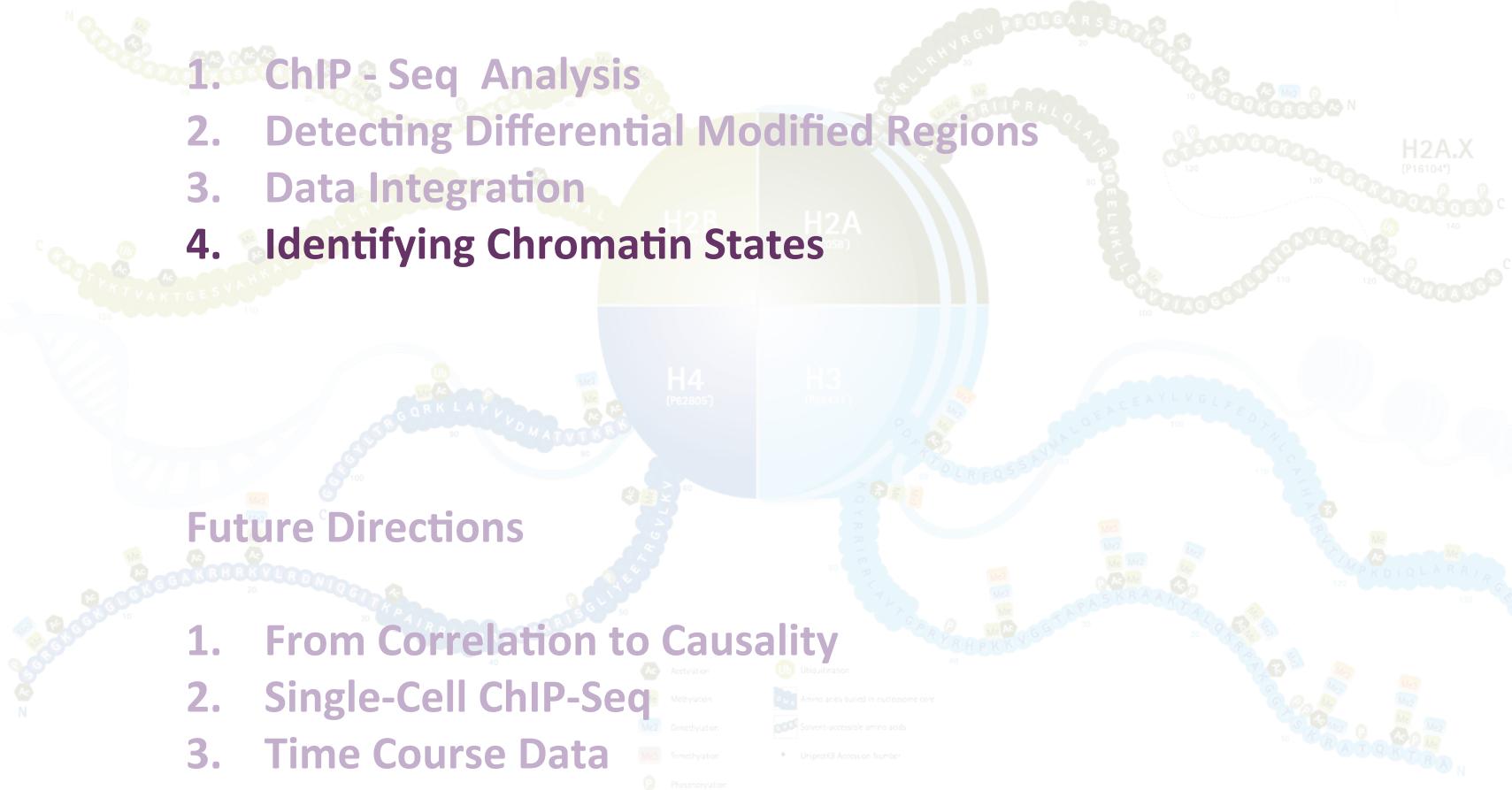
Talk Outline

Understanding the Complexity of Histone Modifications

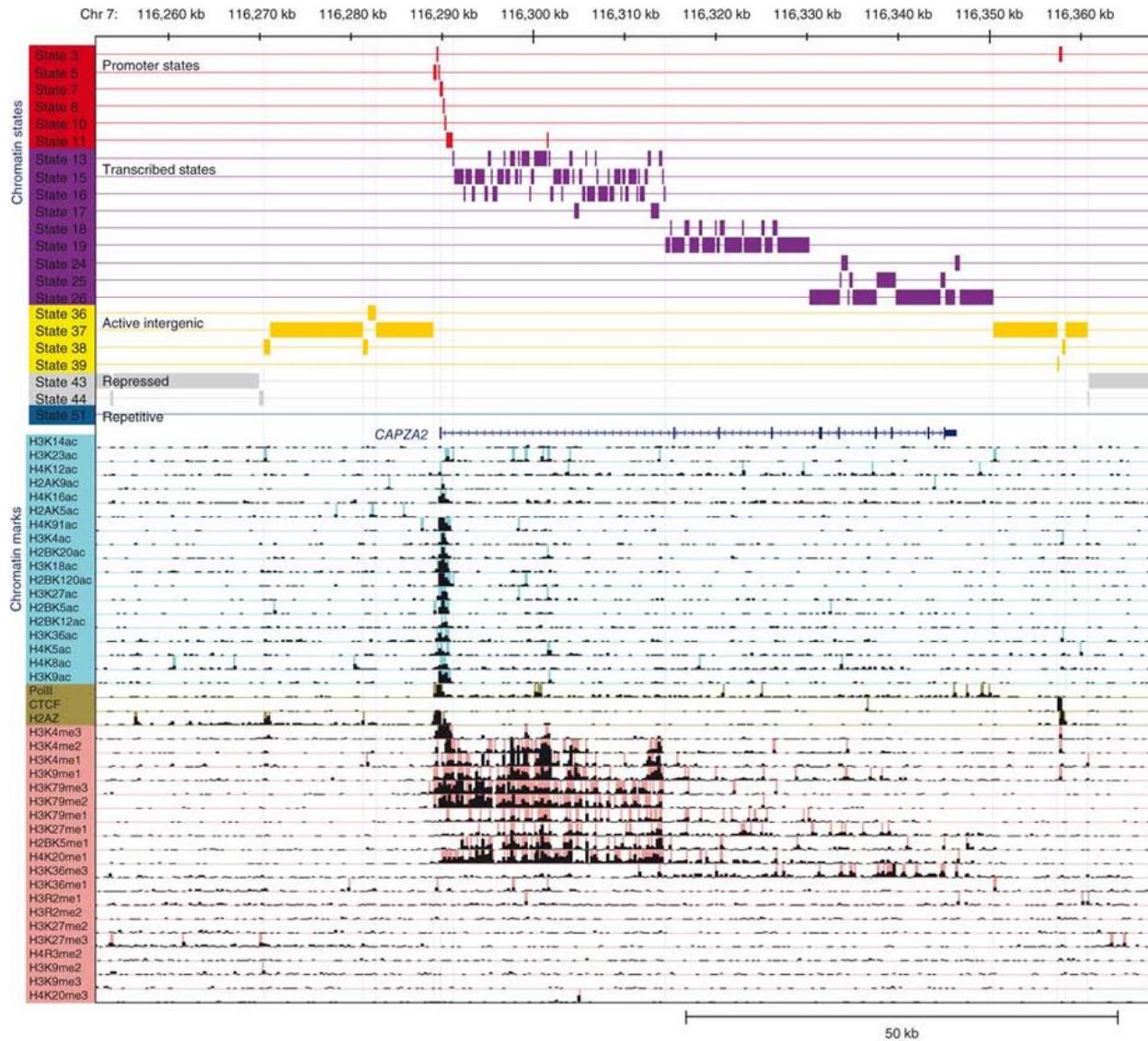
1. ChIP - Seq Analysis
2. Detecting Differential Modified Regions
3. Data Integration
4. Identifying Chromatin States

Future Directions

1. From Correlation to Causality
2. Single-Cell ChIP-Seq
3. Time Course Data



Ernst and Kellis, 2010



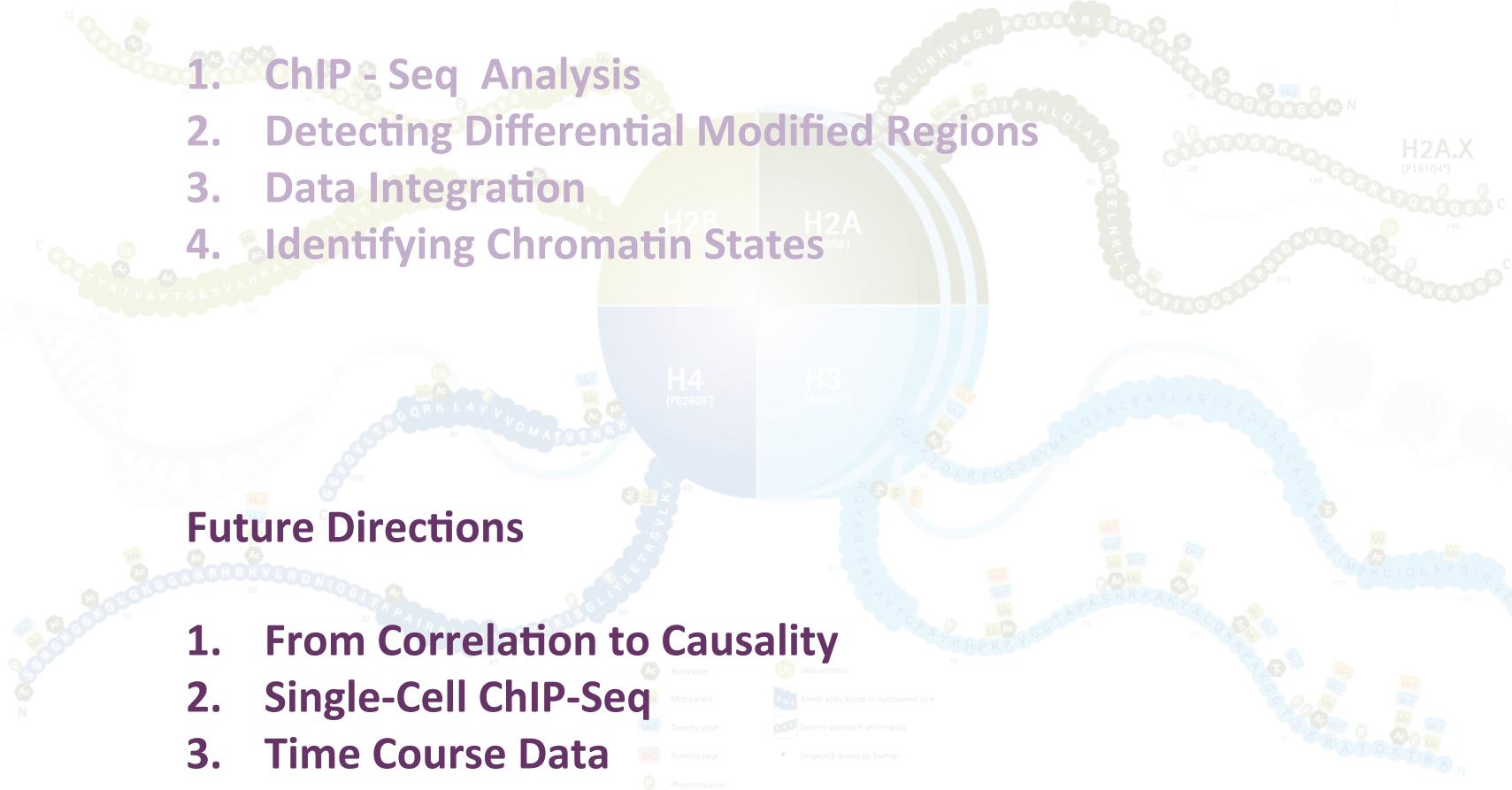
Talk Outline

Understanding the Complexity of Histone Modifications

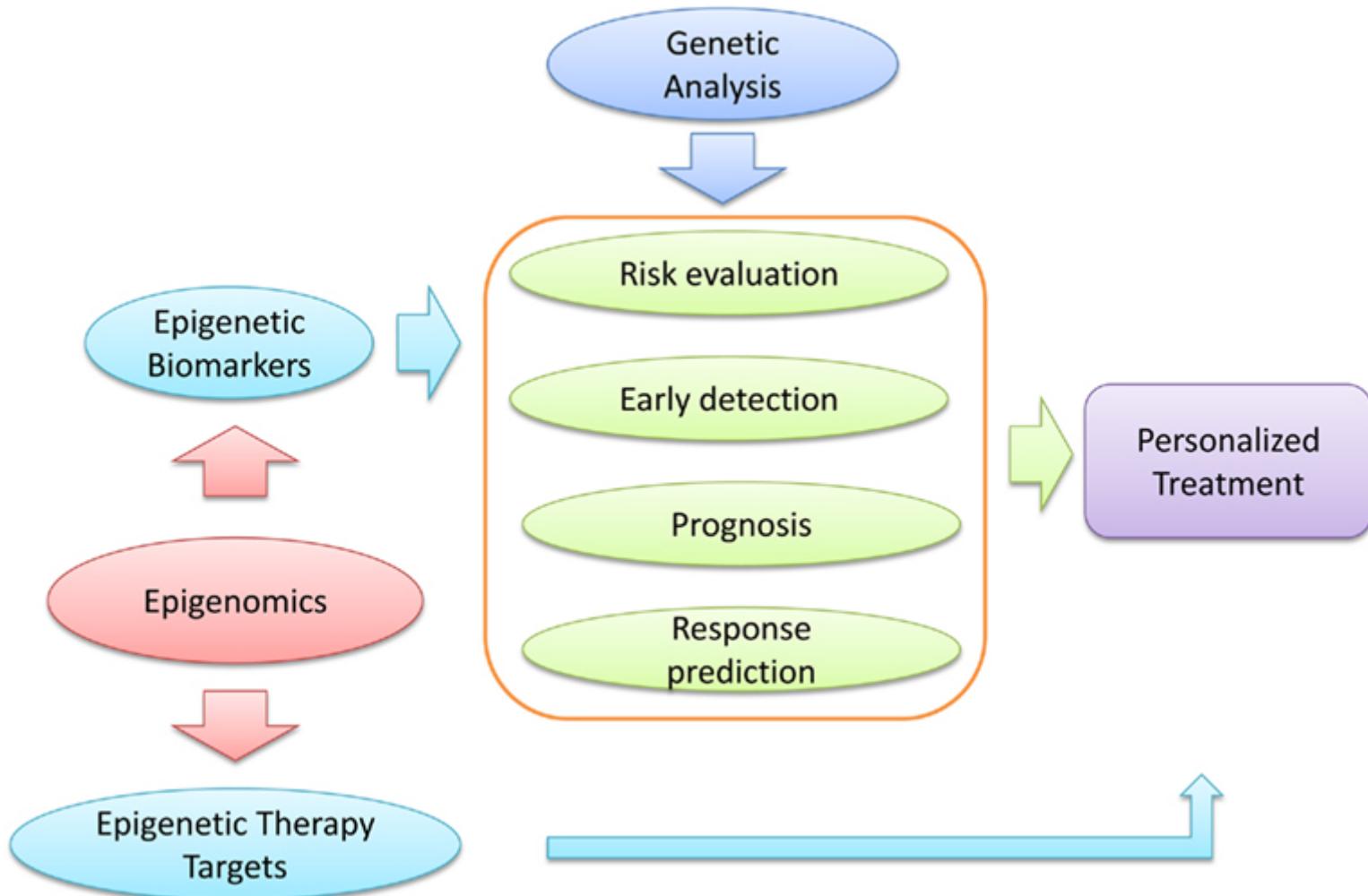
1. ChIP - Seq Analysis
2. Detecting Differential Modified Regions
3. Data Integration
4. Identifying Chromatin States

Future Directions

1. From Correlation to Causality
2. Single-Cell ChIP-Seq
3. Time Course Data

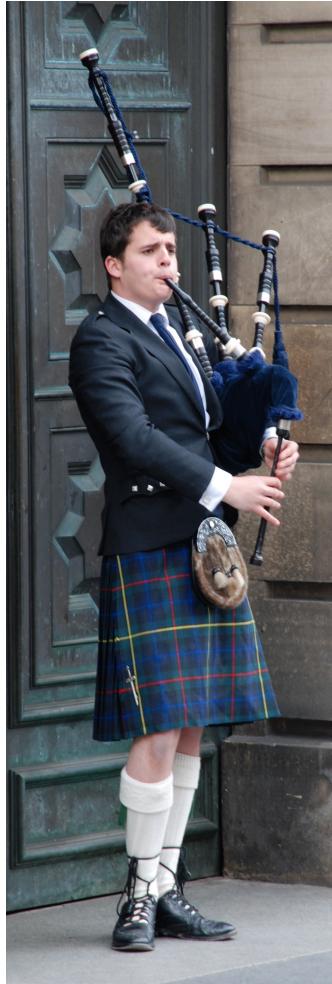


Epigenomics and Disease



ChIP-Seq Hands-On

Thanks



University of Edinburgh

- Prof. Guido Sanguinetti
- Prof. Adrian Bird

Medizinische Universitaet Wien

- Dr. Sabine Lagger
- Prof Christian Seiser

Imperial College London

- Saulius Lukauskas

Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Povo, Italy

- Roberto Visintainer

Funding: EU FP7 Marie Curie Actions / EMBO Long-Term Fellowship