



# Canadian Bioinformatics Workshops

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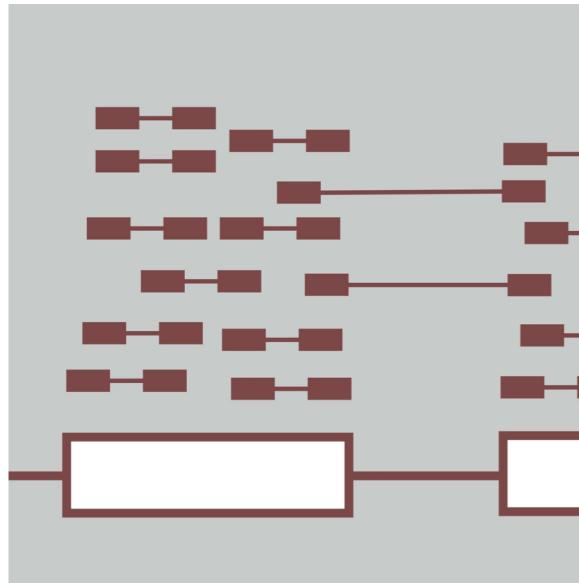
English French

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# single-cell RNA-sequencing



Allegra Petti  
Informatics for RNA-seq Analysis  
June 17-19, 2020



# Part I: Introduction to scRNA-seq, cellranger, and the loupe browser

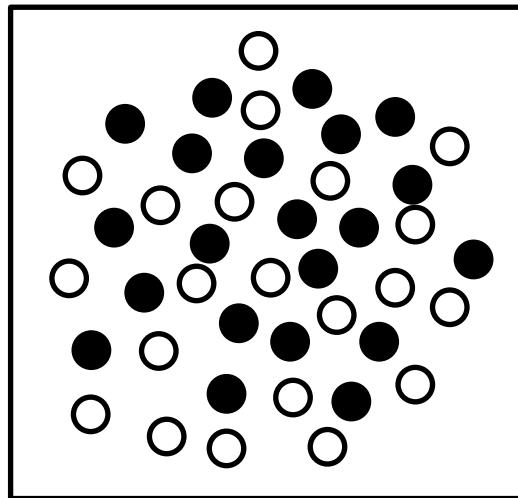
- Learning Objectives:

- Understand the applications of scRNA-seq, and how it differs from bulk RNA-seq
- Know the advantages of different scRNA-seq platforms
- Understand the 10xGenomics technology
- Learn the Cellranger commands for initial data processing of 10xGenomics data
- Understand Cellranger output files
- Learn to assess the success of your experiment
- Use the loupe browser to perform initial data exploration

# Single-cell RNA-seq captures expression heterogeneity

*Identifies and counts unique transcripts in each cell*

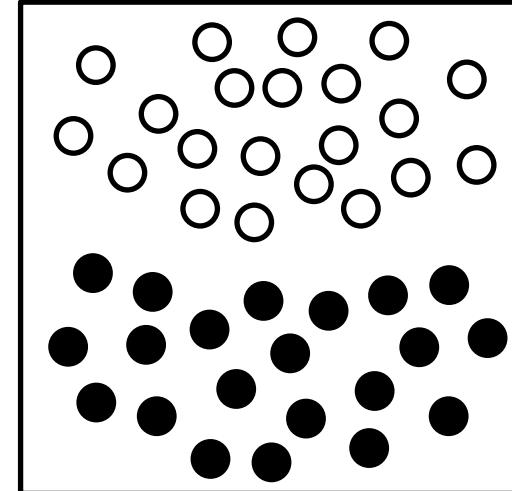
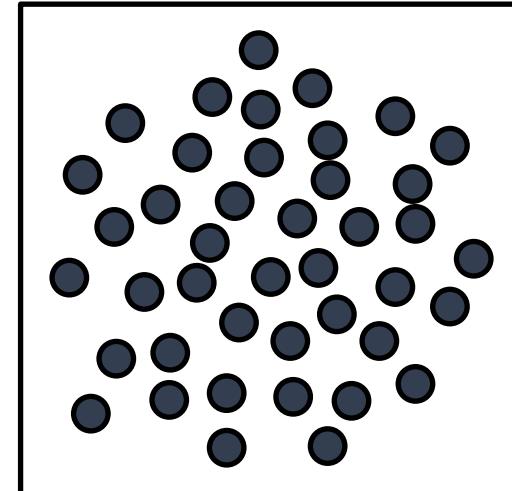
**For one gene:**



● Gene X ON  
○ Gene X OFF

Bulk

Single-cell

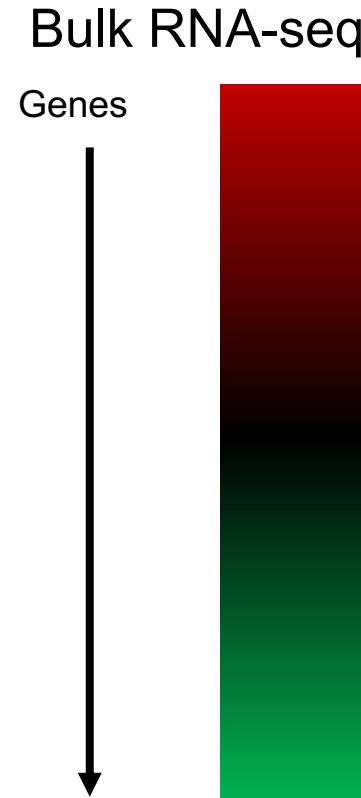


Bulk RNA-seq averages across the population

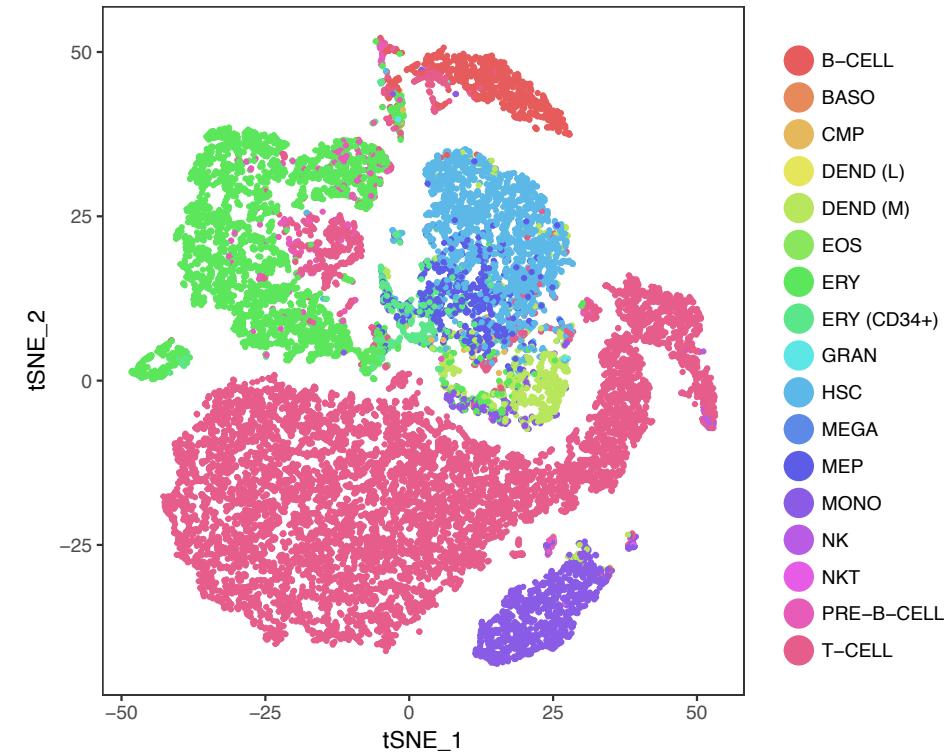
scRNA-seq reports per-cell expression and enables computational “sorting”

# Single-cell RNA-seq captures expression (and genetic) heterogeneity

*Identifies and counts unique transcripts in each cell*

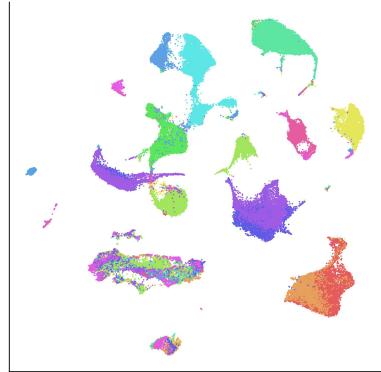


Single-cell RNA-seq  
(tSNE/UMAP plot)

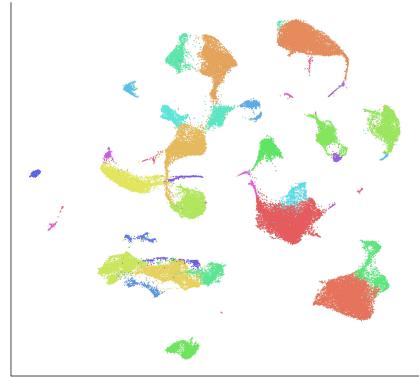


# For many genes, multiple samples:

*By Sample:*



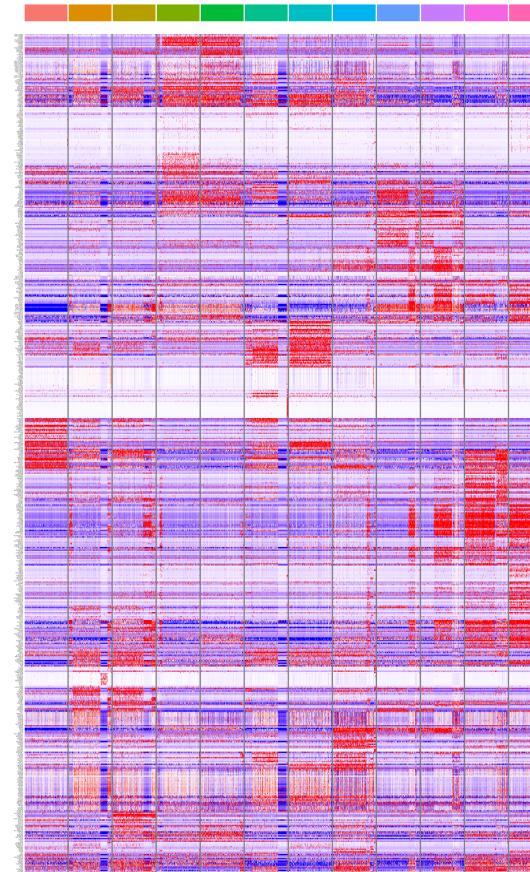
*By Cluster:*



*By Cell Type:*



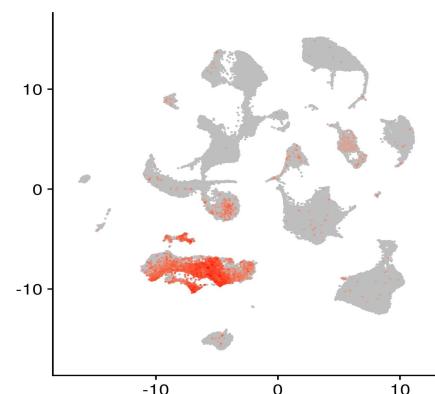
*By Gene, Cell, and Sample:*



*By Cell Cycle Phase:*



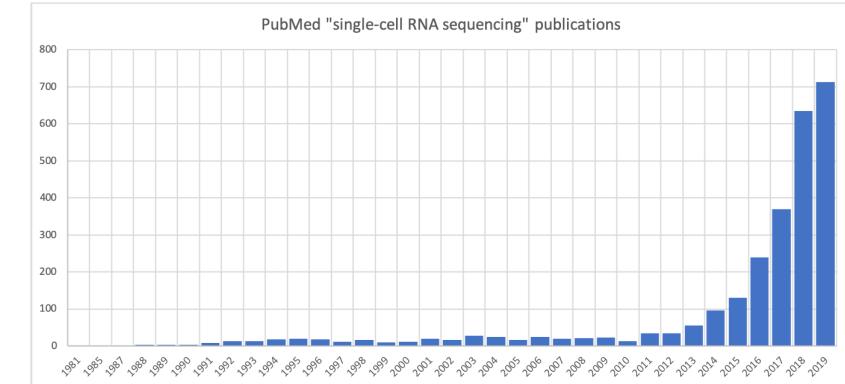
*By Gene:*



# A new era in biology and medicine?

## Community Goals

- Redefine cell “type”
- Redefine relationships among cell types
- Catalog all cell types in all diseased and normal tissues
- Discover/define new cell types



## Personalized medicine

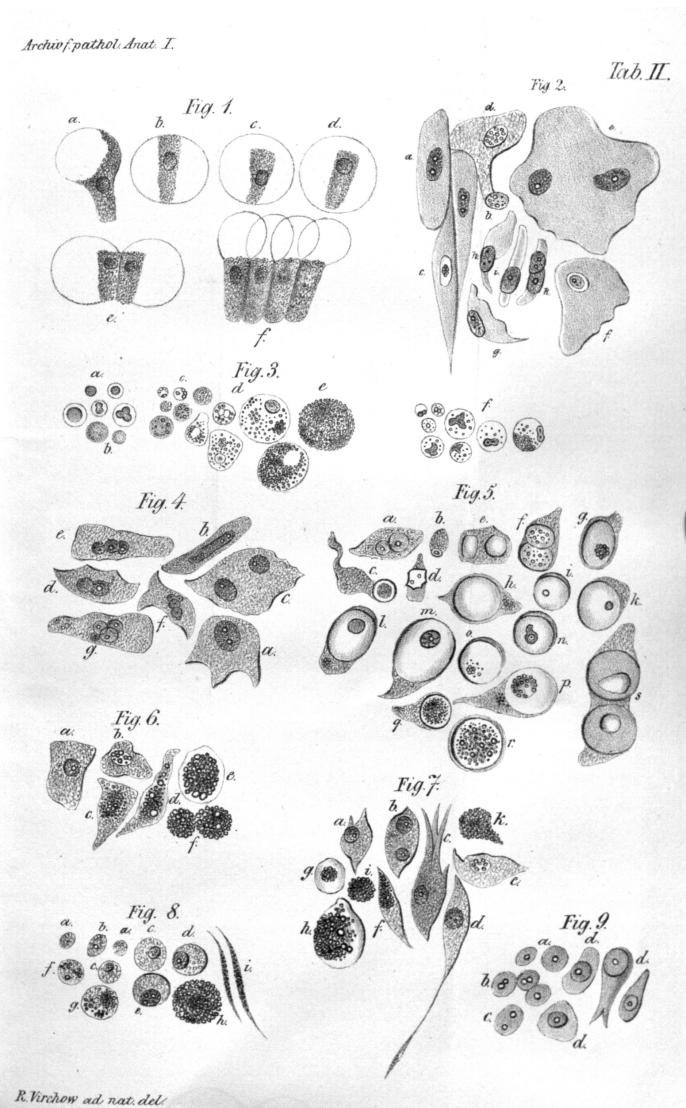
- Variation at the level of the individual - *between* individuals
- scRNA-seq: Variation at the level of the cell - *within AND between* individuals
  - High-resolution variation in diseased and normal cell types and states
  - Enables cross-patient correlations to be made at the level of individual cells



# Why the optimism?

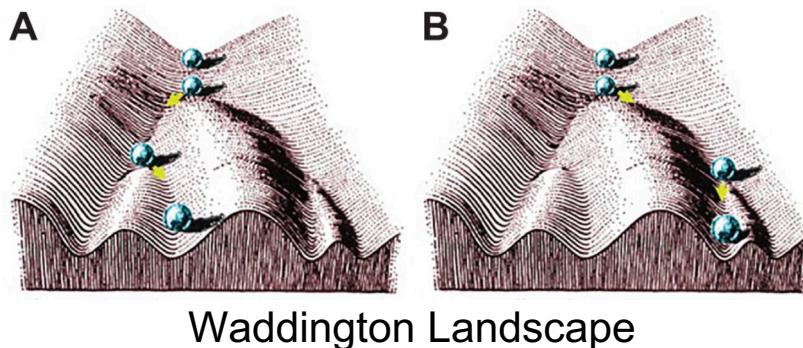
scRNA-seq in historical context of cell characterization:

1665	Hooke	Coined "cell"
mid-1800s	assorted; dye industry	Histological stains
1855	Virchow	Cellular theory
1941	Coons	Immunohistochemistry
1994	Chalfie	Individual cells with GFP
1953 1968	Coulter Fulwyler	Flow cytometry: 17-18 features/cell
2009	U. Toronto, DVS	Mass cytometry (CyTOF): ~100 features/cell
2009-2015	Tang, Klein, Macosko	single-cell RNA-seq: 2-6K features/cell (~20K/sample)

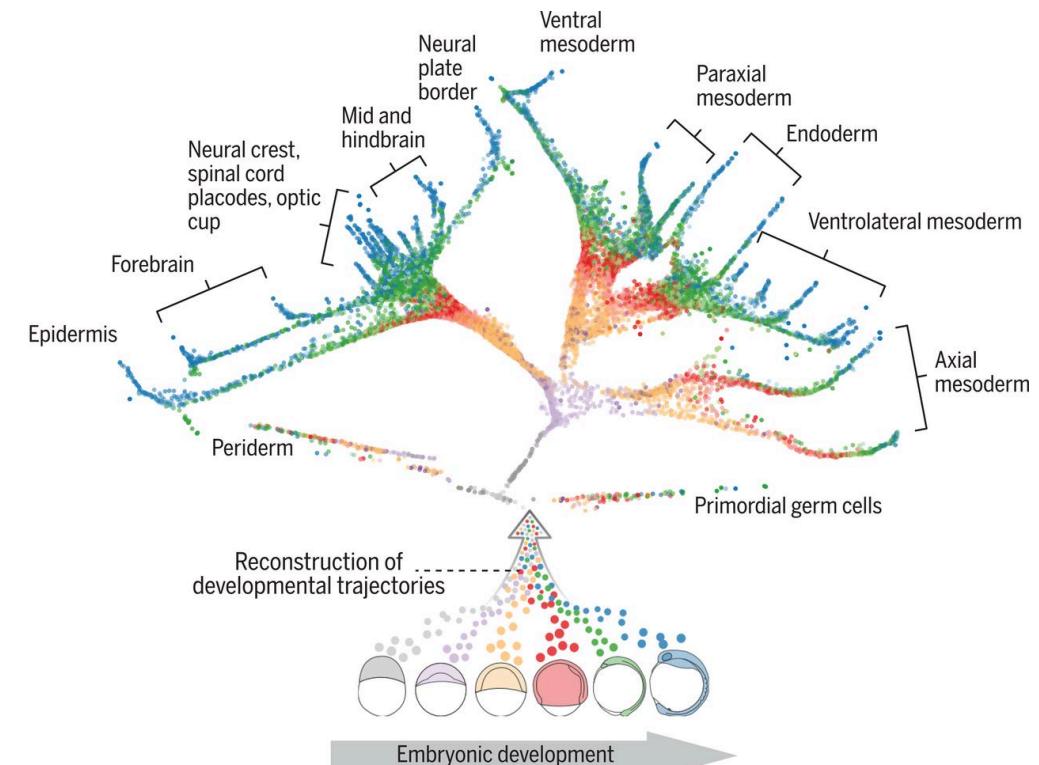


# Revisiting concept and definition of “cell type”

- Cell type - stable, “hard-wired” (e.g. by transcription factors)
- Components:
  - Function/phenotype
  - Lineage
    - often continuous (not discrete)
  - State
    - Variable and continuous
    - reprogrammable, “soft-wired” (e.g. by environment)
    - Normal range of cell states vs. pathological range



High dimensional scRNA-seq data permits detailed analysis and reconstruction of cell lineage and state:

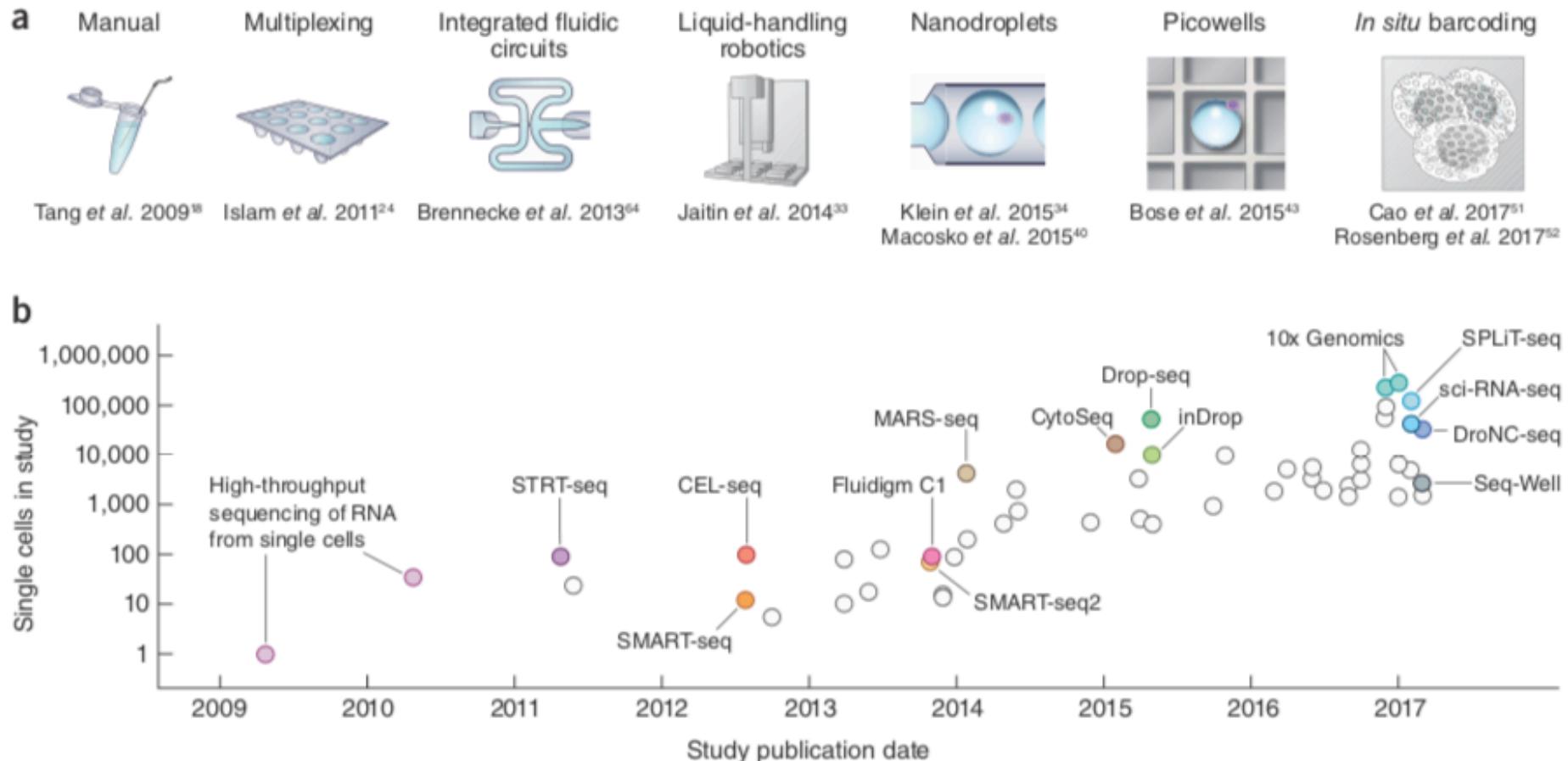


Developmental tree of early zebrafish embryogenesis

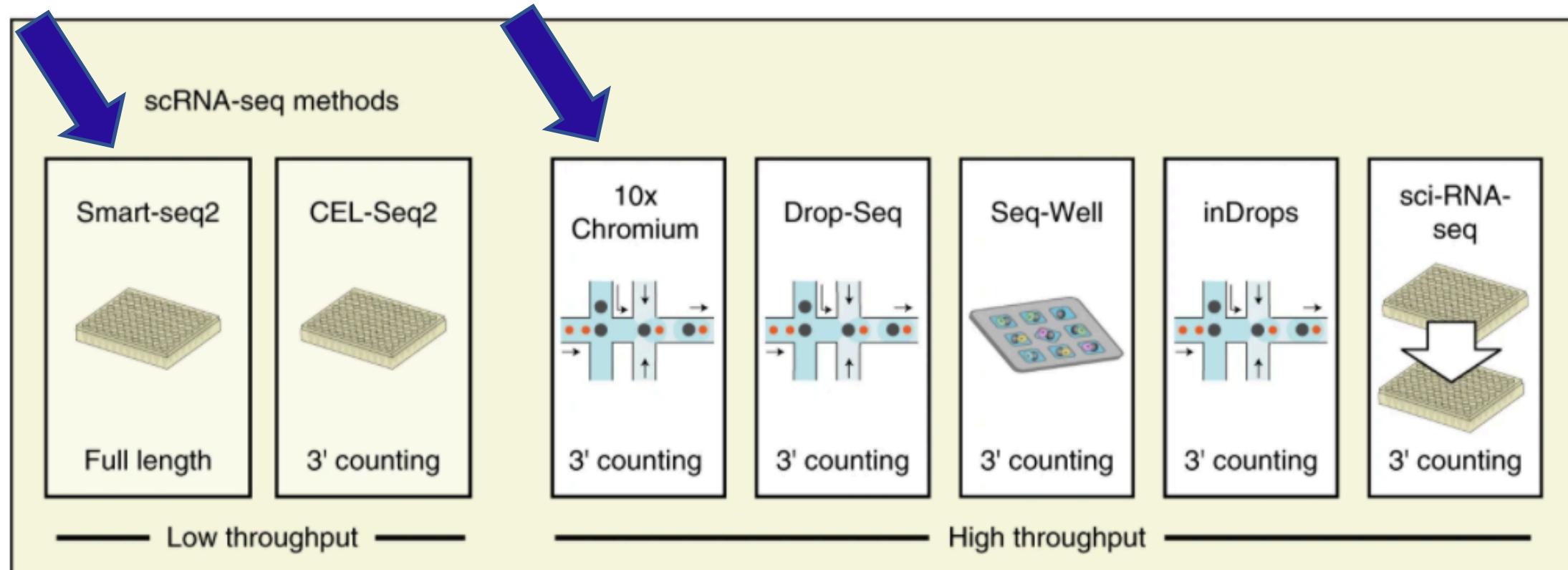
Farrell et al. Science 2018

# Technology

# Technology Development

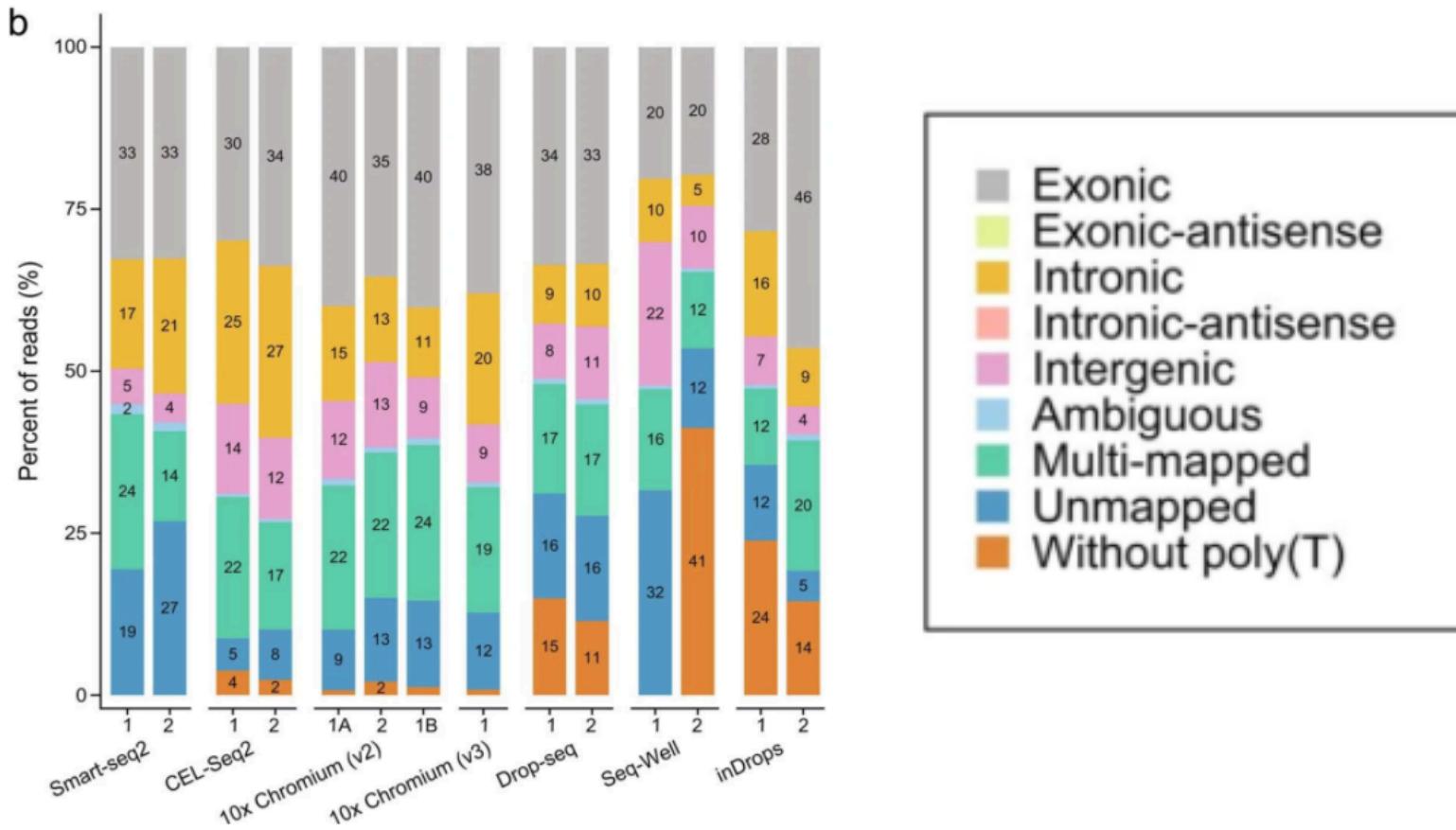


# Technology comparison

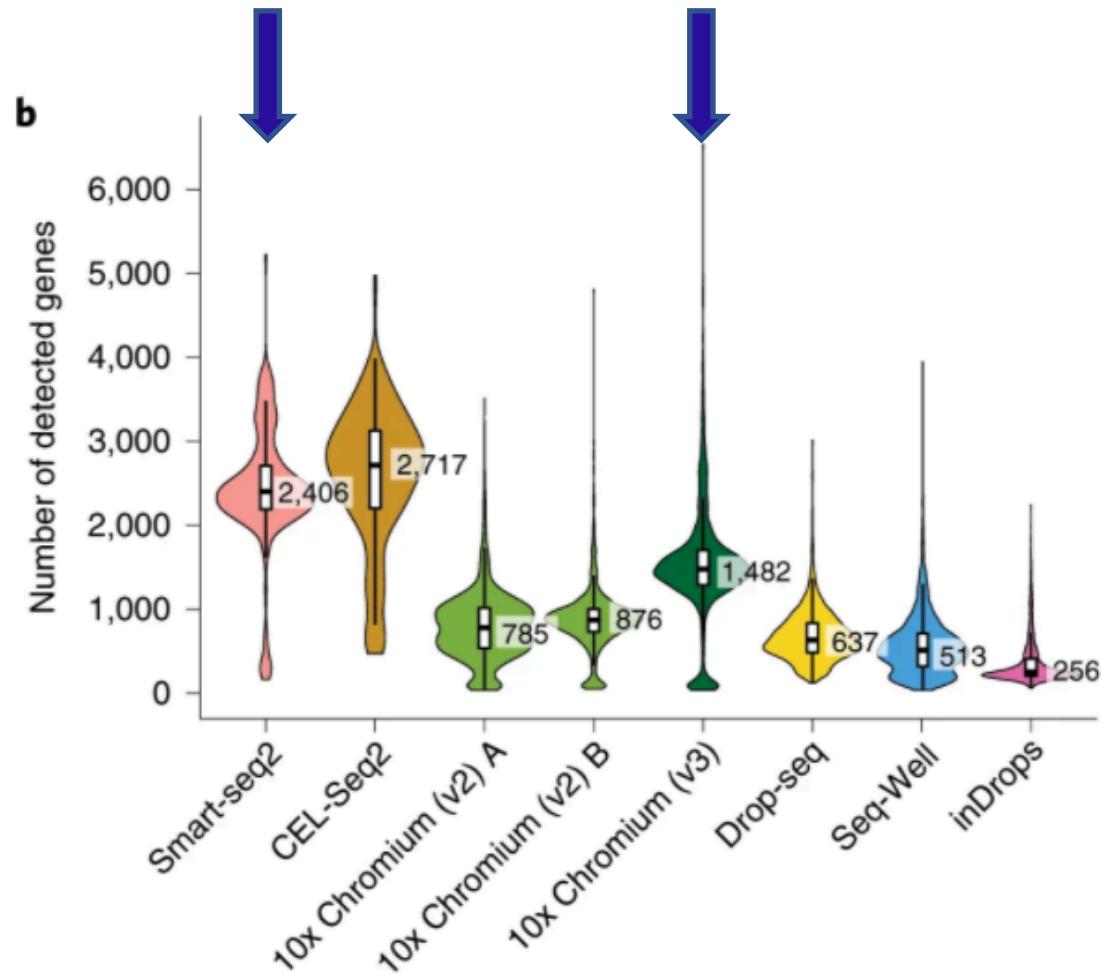


Ding J, et al. (2020) Nature Biotech. 38:737-746

# What do these methods capture?

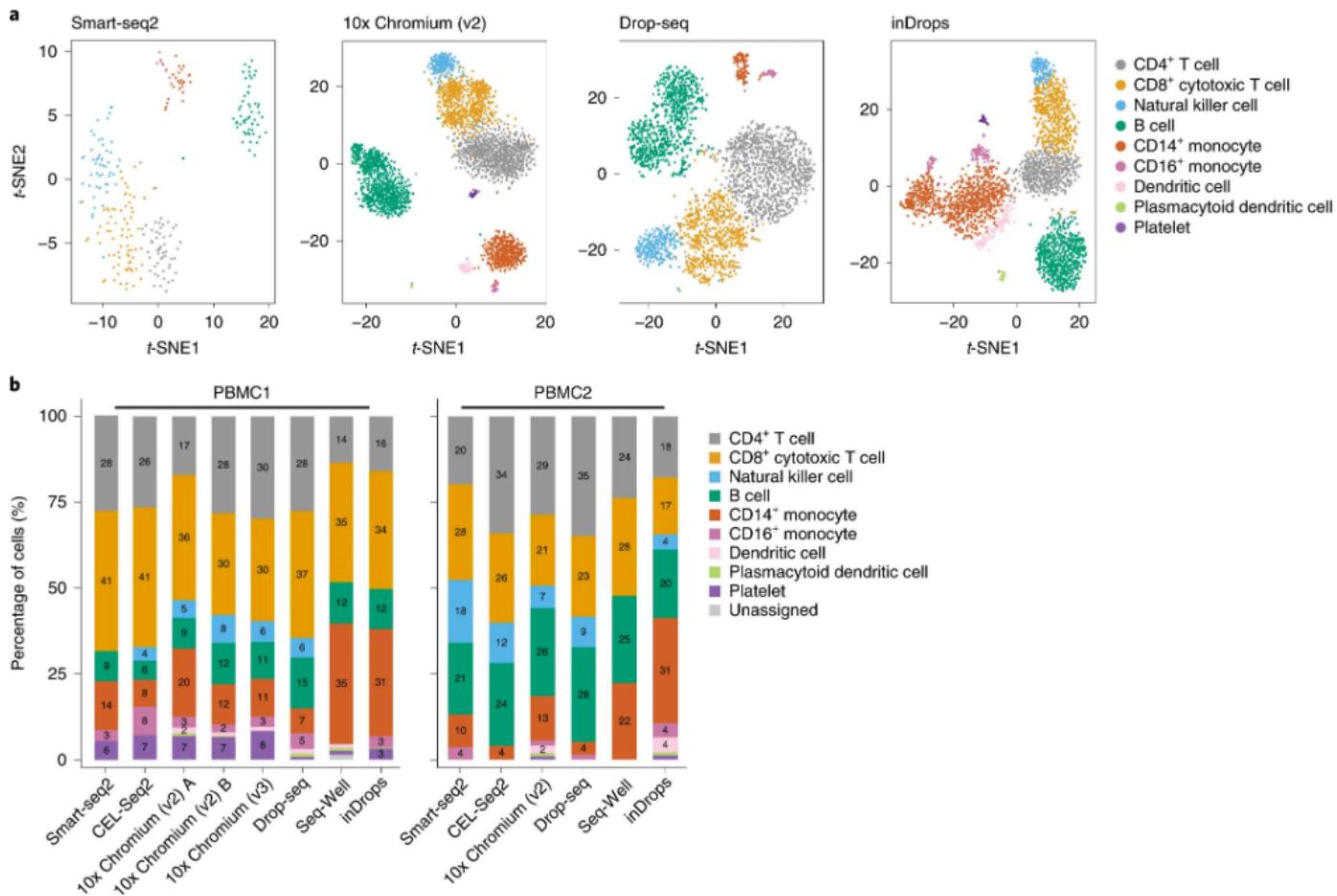


# Plate-based methods are more sensitive...



Ding J, et al. (2020) Nature Biotech. 38:737-746

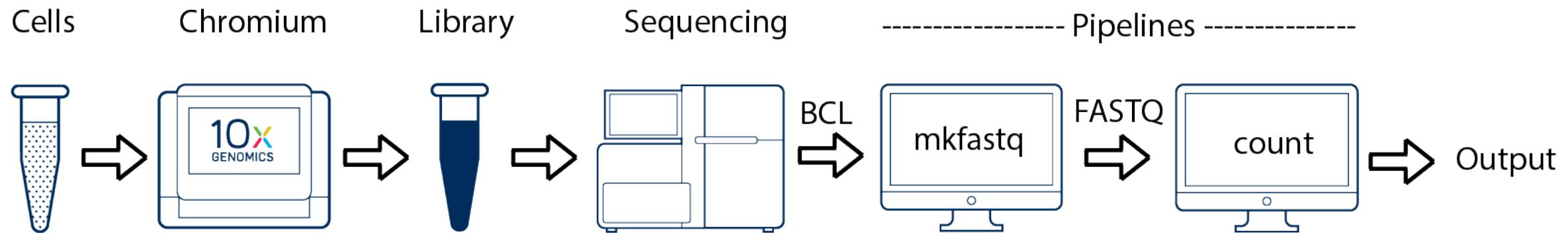
# ...but are not necessarily better



# Popular commercial platforms: 10x Genomics vs Fluidigm SMART-Seq

- **Drop-Seq: 10x Genomics**
  - 3' V3.1 GEM Gene expression
  - 5' V1 Gene expression (more sequence; less-biased coverage; TCR/BCR sequencing)
- Plate-based: Fluidigm
  - C1 SMART-Seq2: lower-throughput, more genes/cell, longer cDNAs, no UMIs
  - SMART-Seq3\*: lower-throughput, more genes/cell, longer cDNAs (uses UMIs)
- All have limitations: must choose technology best suited to application
  - Lafzi et al, *Nature Protocols* 13:2742-2757
- Extensions/Variations
  - Single-nucleus RNA-sequencing for frozen or hard-to-dissociate tissues
  - CITE-seq (aka “feature barcoding”)
  - scATAC-seq

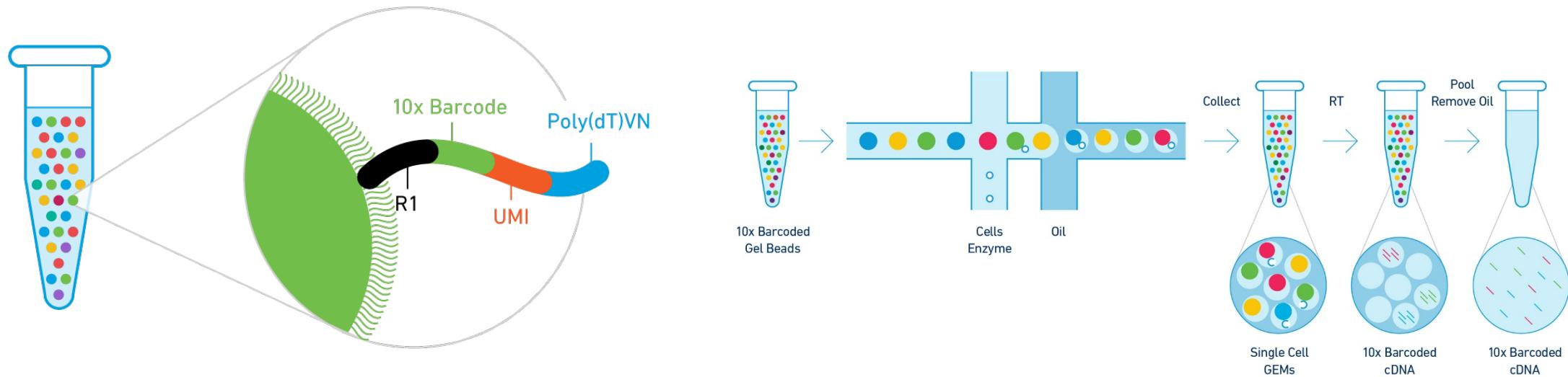
# 10xGenomics Technology, Pipeline, and Analysis



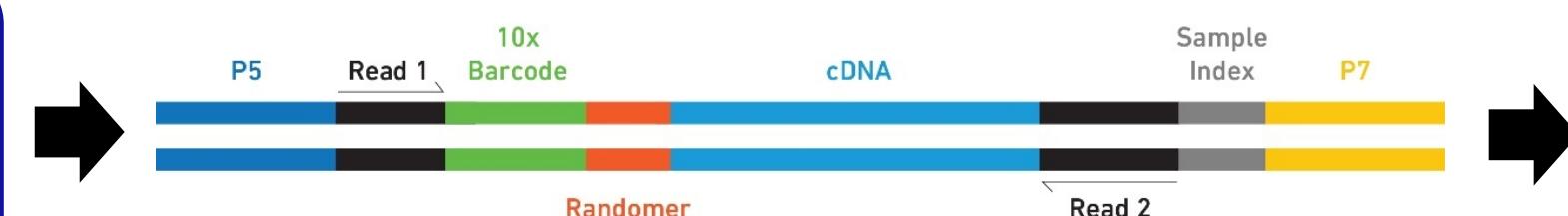
What happens in the Chromium instrument?

# “Single Cell 3’ Solution” (10x Genomics)

Barcoded bead + cell = bar-coded cDNA library



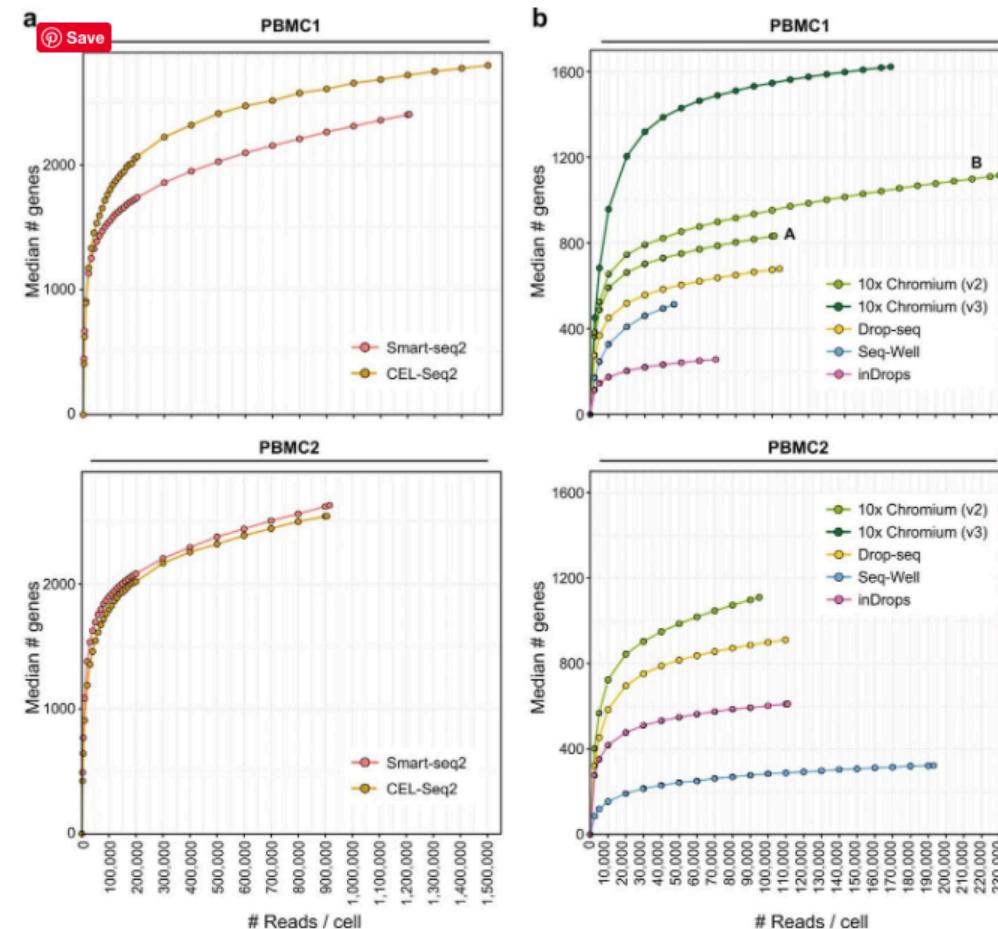
Pool  
(sample index)  
Amplify  
Fragment\*  
Add primers



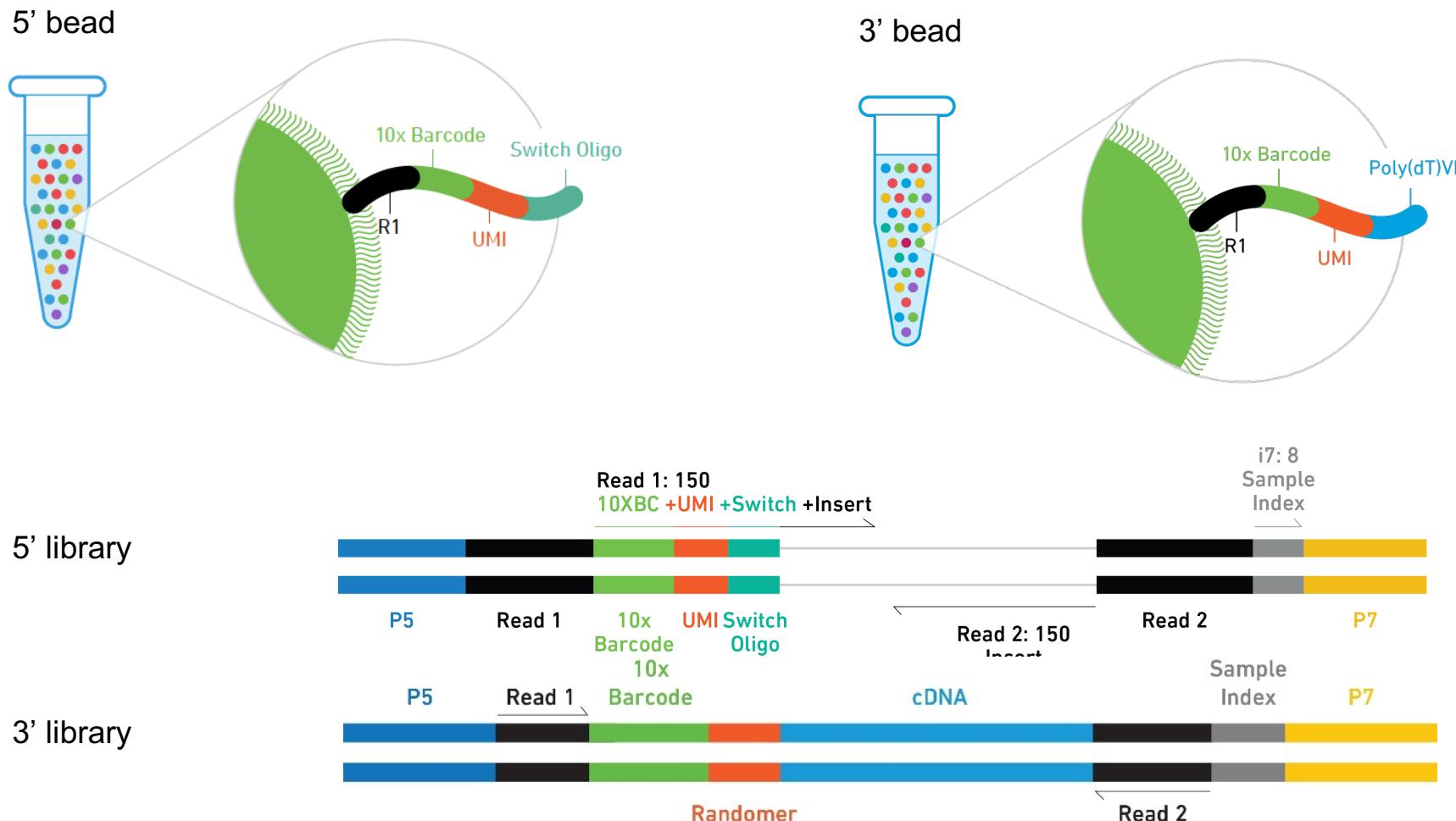
# How deeply do you need to sequence?

Rule of thumb:  
Achieve 90% saturation

**Official Recommendations (reads/cell):**  
3' V3: 20K  
3' V2: 50K  
5' 20K  
5' with variant discovery: 200K  
5' V(D)J: 5K  
Higher for cell lines

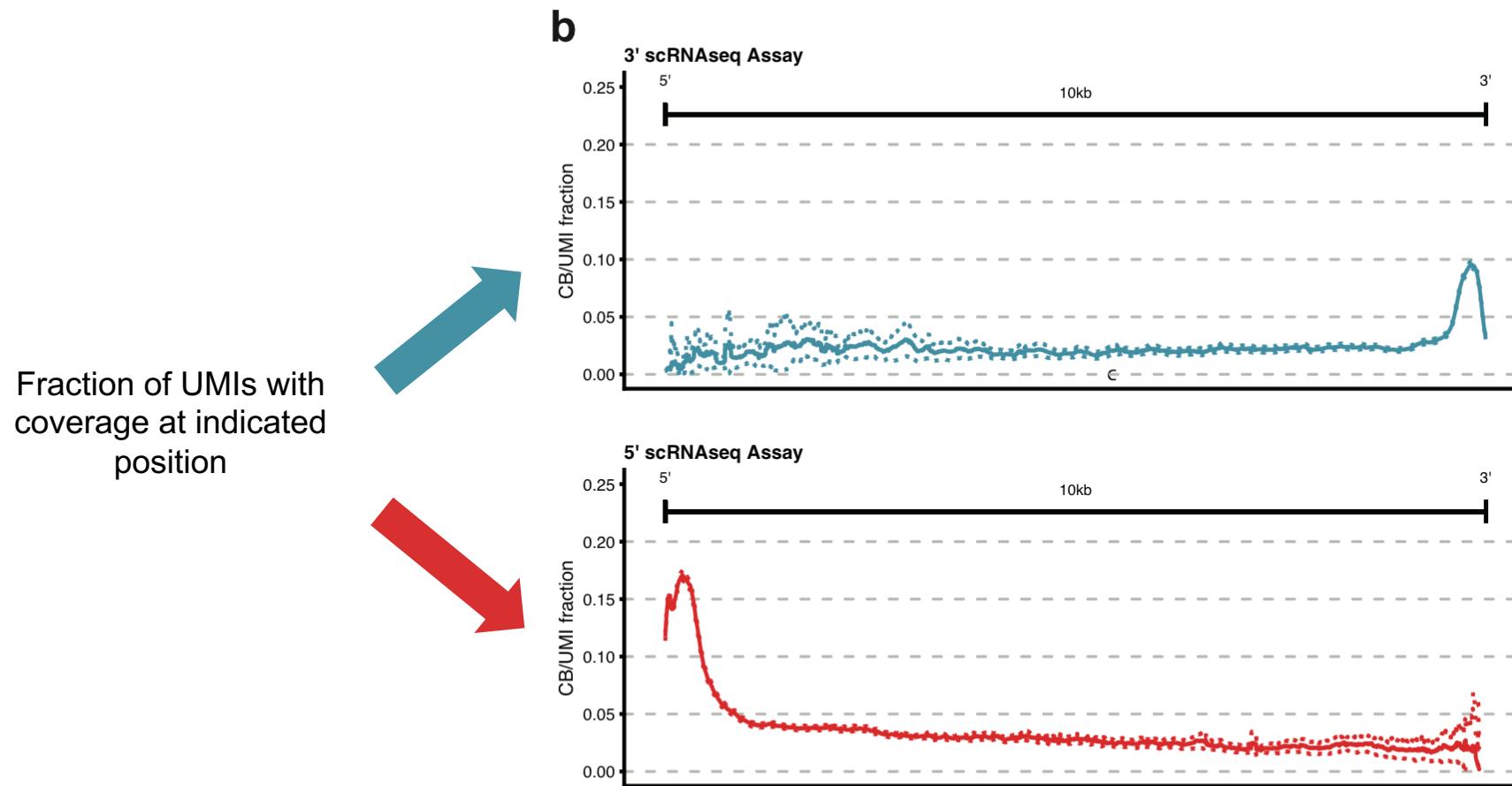


# 5' vs. 3' Chemistry

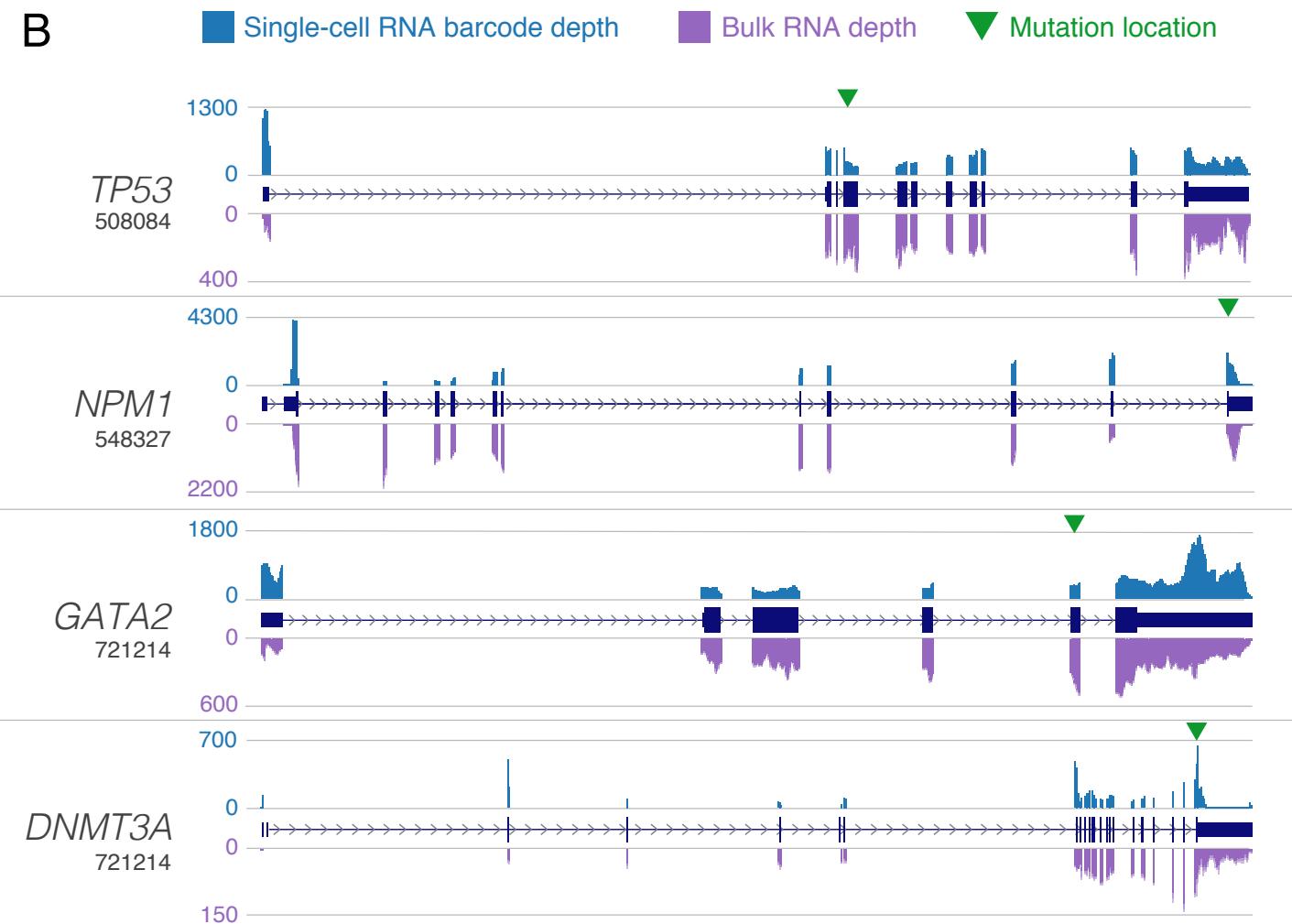


And more! [https://teichlab.github.io/scg\\_lib\\_structs/](https://teichlab.github.io/scg_lib_structs/)

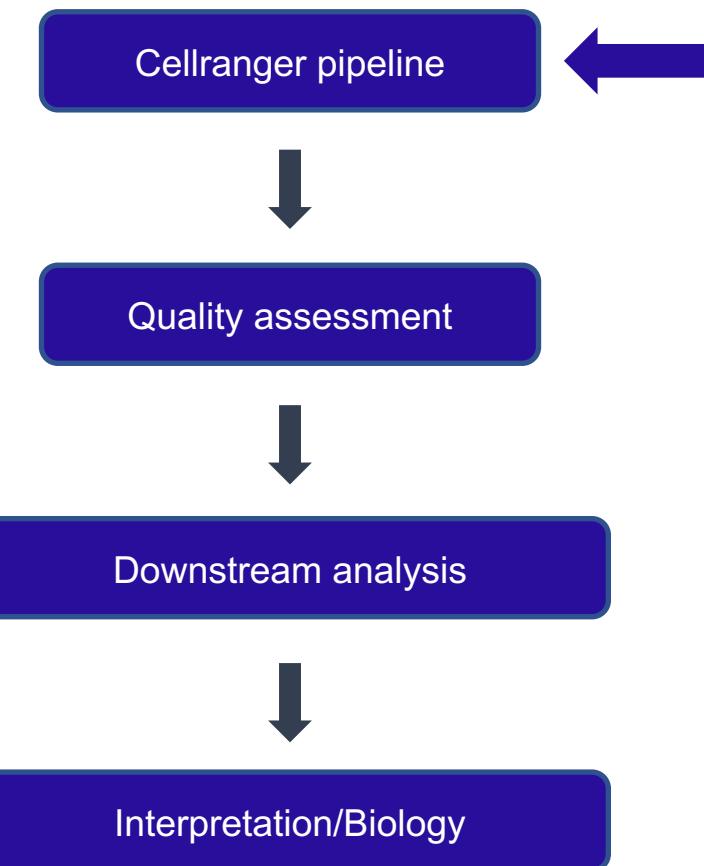
# 5' vs. 3' Transcript Coverage



# scRNA-seq recapitulates bulk transcript coverage



# Post-sequencing workflow



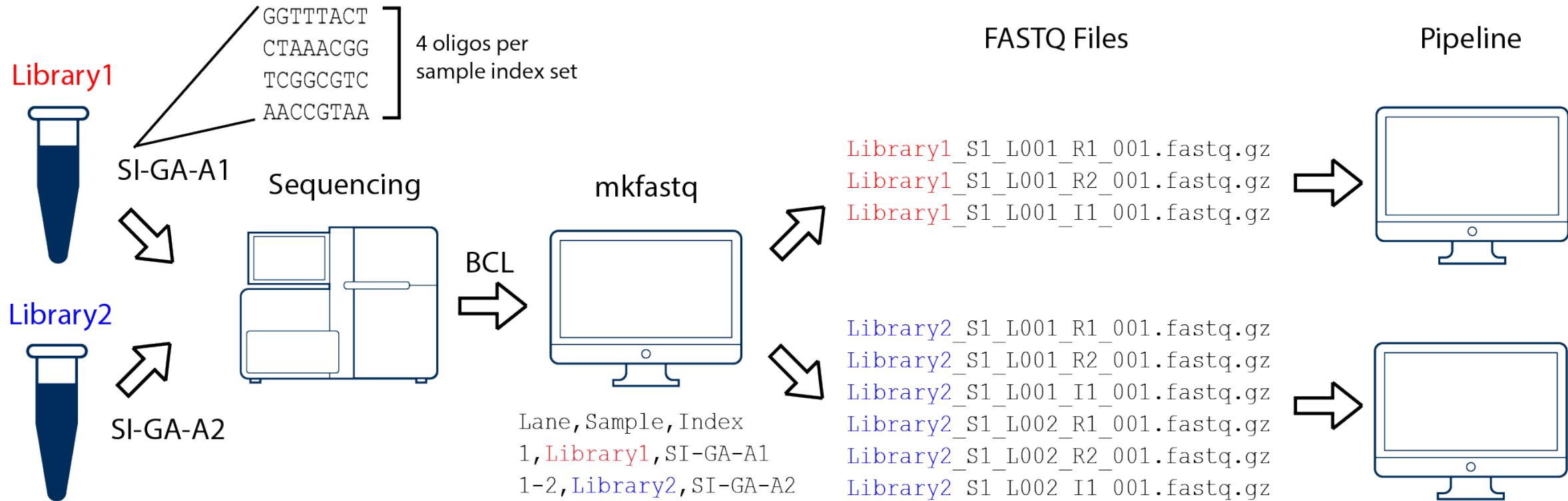
Alternative pipelines:

- kallisto bustools:  
<https://www.kallistobus.tools/>
- scumi:  
<https://bitbucket.org/jerry00/scumi-dev/src/master/>

# Cellranger

- cellranger and all dependencies (e.g. reference transcriptomes) can be downloaded from the 10x Genomics website:
- <https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/downloads/latest>
- Extensive instructions are provided here:  
[https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/pipelines/latest/using/tutorial\\_ov](https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/pipelines/latest/using/tutorial_ov)

# Cellranger Step 1: Sample demultiplexing using 'cellranger mkfastq'



<https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/pipelines/latest/using/mkfastq>

# Running the ‘cellranger mkfastq’ command

Usually done by sequencing provider

```
cellranger mkfastq -id=SampleID -run=/path/to/machine/data/directory -  
samplesheet=SampleSheet.csv -csv -qc
```

- cellranger mkfastq is a wrapper for Illumina’s bcl2fastq script, which converts basecall (bcl) files to fastq files
- -qc option is not available for NovaSeq sequencers
- If sequencing provider does this step, you should request the SampleSheet file
- Format of the SampleSheet.csv file (example only!):

Lane	Sample	Index
5	Sample1	SI-GA-E8
5	Sample2	SI-GA-E9
6	Sample1	SI-GA-E8
6	Sample2	SI-GA-E9
7	Sample1	SI-GA-E8
7	Sample2	SI-GA-E9
8	Sample1	SI-GA-E8
8	Sample2	SI-GA-E9

[https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/pipelines/latest/using/mkfastq#fastq\\_output](https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/pipelines/latest/using/mkfastq#fastq_output)

# Output of cellranger mkfastq

SampleID/FlowCellID/outs OR SampleID/outs/

fastq\_path

input\_samplesheet.csv

interop\_path

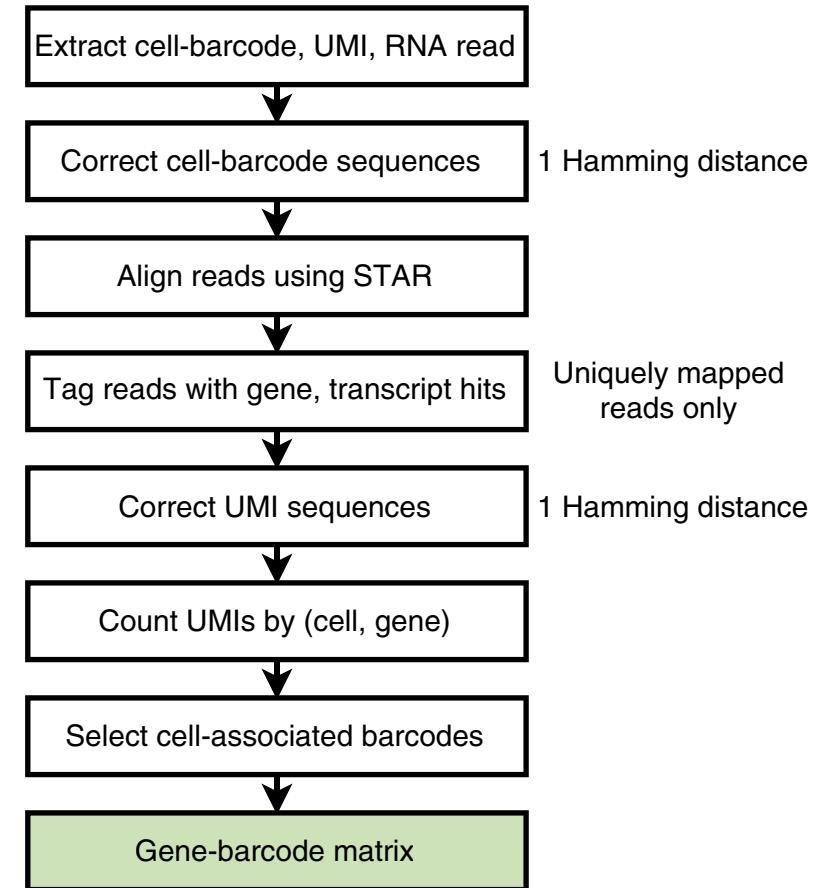
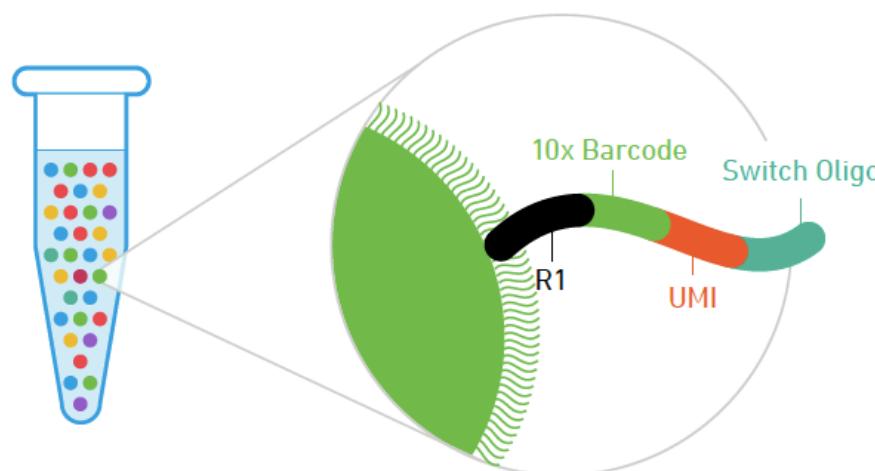
**qc\_summary.json** (not available for NovaSeq)

```
"sample_qc": {  
    "M_FD-DNMT3A_HET_5_mo-DNMT3A_HET_5_mo_10x": {  
        "1": {  
            "barcode_exact_match_ratio": 0.9749976800017514,  
            "barcode_q30_base_ratio": 0.9834758240855174,  
            "bc_on_whitelist": 0.9839895504244381,  
            "gem_count_estimate": 69920,  
            "mean_barcode_qscore": 37.59103822723894,  
            "number_reads": 32295283,  
            "read1_q30_base_ratio": 0.9848257525600684,  
            "read2_q30_base_ratio": 0.9071105899361747  
        },  
        "2": {  
            "barcode_exact_match_ratio": 0.9734708523492642,  
            "barcode_q30_base_ratio": 0.983418719089427,  
            "bc_on_whitelist": 0.9839573344922891,  
            "gem_count_estimate": 69928,  
            "mean_barcode_qscore": 37.59170178631634,  
            "number_reads": 32157686,  
            "read1_q30_base_ratio": 0.9847541041737509,  
            "read2_q30_base_ratio": 0.9074492953255405  
        },  
        "all": {  
            "barcode_exact_match_ratio": 0.9742358959445298,  
            "barcode_q30_base_ratio": 0.9834473325425862,  
            "bc_on_whitelist": 0.9839734768463497,  
            "gem_count_estimate": 72805,  
            "mean_barcode_qscore": 37.59136929848026,  
            "number_reads": 64452969,  
            "read1_q30_base_ratio": 0.9847900048459545,  
            "read2_q30_base_ratio": 0.9072795810893632  
        }  
    },  
}
```

Base quality (q20 and q30 fraction by cycle) for barcode, UMI, read1, and read 2. Example:

```
"barcode_q30_fraction_by_cycle": [  
    0.97418484019826268,  
    0.97736041198282475,  
    0.97889368916379427,  
    0.98058003575024655,  
    0.98025671019901617,  
    0.97740489509564854,  
    0.9847162345141085,  
    0.98756393926824182,  
    0.98745237160227162,  
    0.98848508862667428,  
    0.9885772992879841,  
    0.9882130163901619,  
    0.98774013989239307,  
    0.98793212425760379,  
    0.98716427813785512,  
    0.98738571452544555  
],
```

# Cellranger Overview

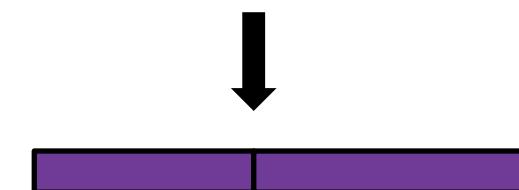
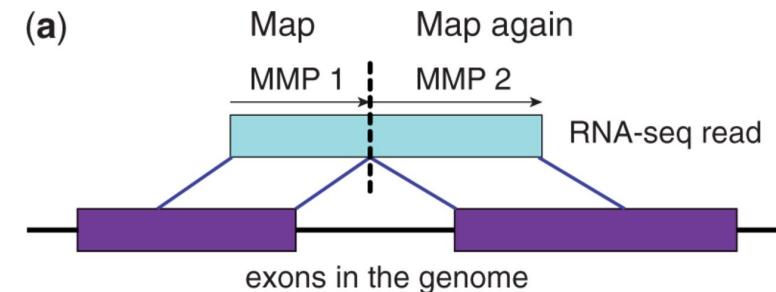
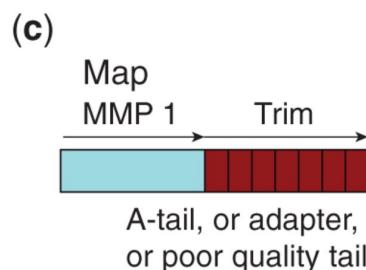
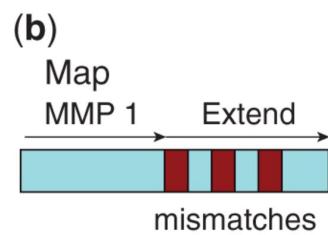
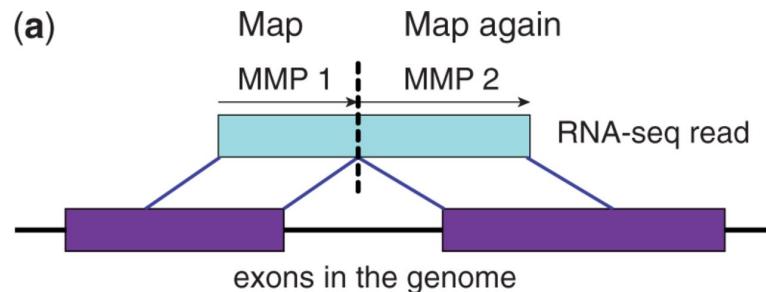


# Cellranger: STAR alignment

STAR = Spliced Transcripts Alignment to a Reference  
Aligns non-contiguous reads directly to the reference genome  
Dobin A, et al. (2013) Bioinformatics 29(1):15-21.

Step 1: Seed search for Maximum Mappable Prefix (MMP)

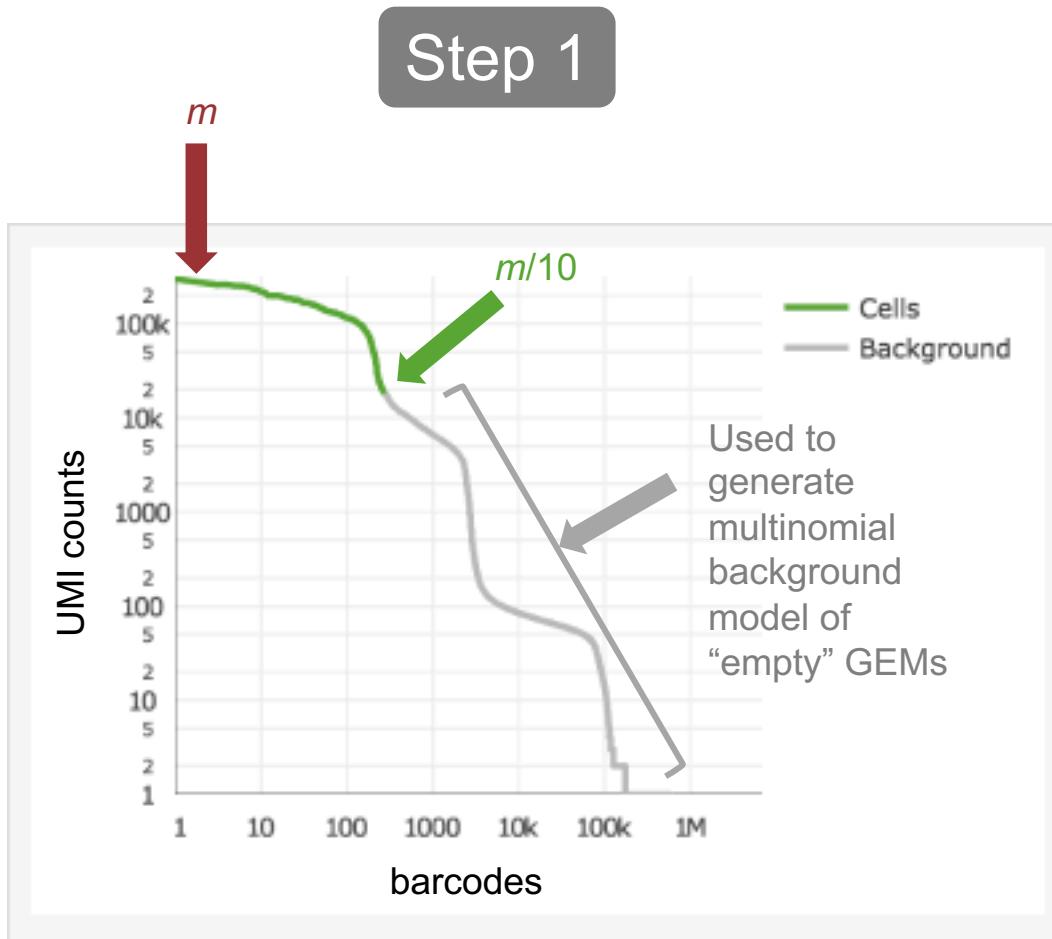
Step 2: Cluster, stitch, and score the seeds from Step 1



# Processing aligned reads

- Uses transcript annotation GTF file to bin reads into exonic, intronic, and intergenic reads
- If at least 50% of the read overlaps an exon: exonic
- Otherwise, if it intersects an intron: intronic
- Otherwise, intergenic
- Exonic loci are prioritized in the event of multi-mapping
- If an exonic read corresponds to an annotated transcript, aligned to the same strand, and compatible with single-gene annotation, it is used for UMI counting

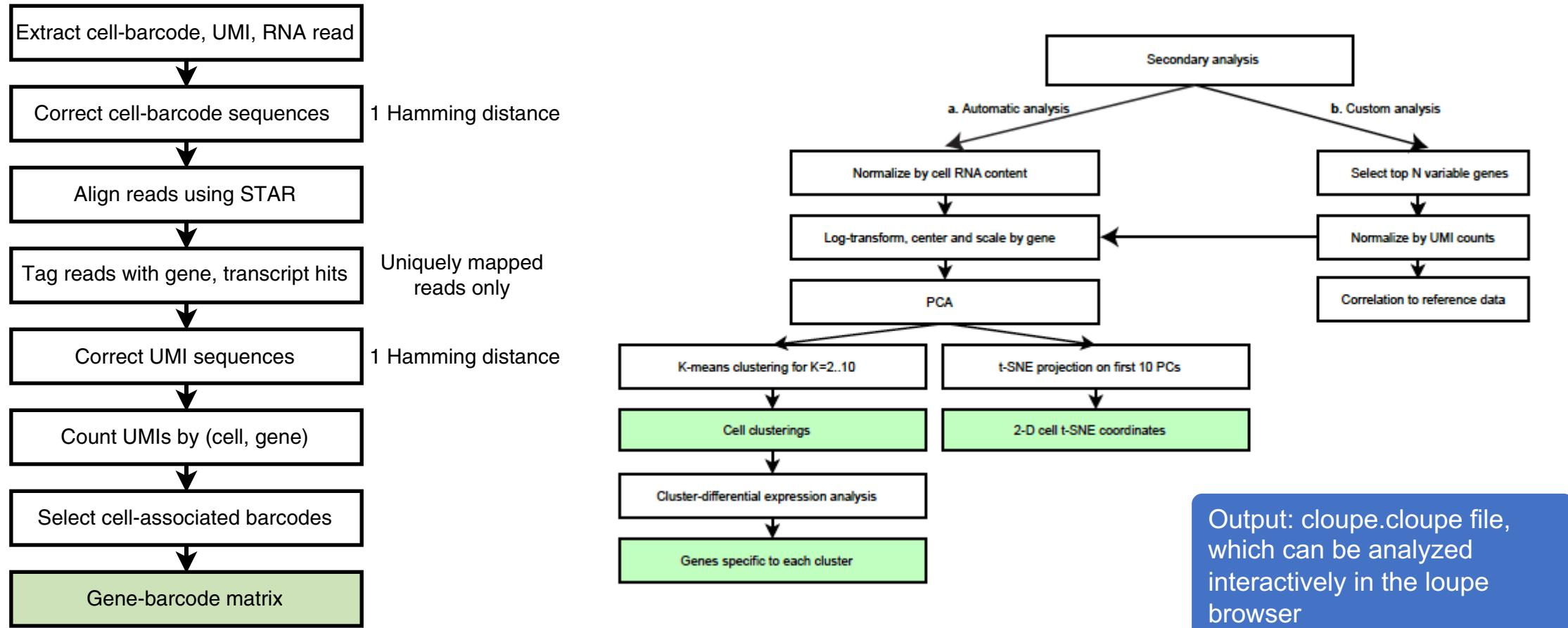
# Cellranger: Selecting barcodes (cells)



$m = 99^{\text{th}} \text{ %tile of expected cells}$

# Analysis of Gene-barcode matrix (better done yourself)

## Normalization, dimensionality reduction, data representation



Zheng, et al. 2016. Massively parallel digital transcriptional profiling of single cells. Nature Communications 8:14049

# Running ‘cellranger count’ using the command line

<https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/software/overview/welcome>

Transcript alignment, counting, barcode selection, etc, to generate feature-barcode matrix:

```
cellranger count --id=$OutName --sample=$SampleName --fastqs=/path/to/fastqs -  
indices=$SampleIndices --transcriptome=/path/to/refdata-cellranger-GRCh38-3.0.0 --  
localmem=64 --localcores=12
```

Definitions:

\$OutName = what you want the output directory to be called (using the sample name works well)

\$SampleName = sample name provided to the sequencer; in fastq file name, e.g. SampleName\_S1\_L003\_R1\_001.fastq.gz

\$SampleIndices = Set of four oligos, such as CAGTACTG,AGTAGTCT,GCAGTAGA,TTCCCGAC, OR a code like SI-GA-A2

Note that 10x Genomics provides oligo/code conversion files. 3' files are here:

<https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/index/doc/specifications-sample-index-sets-for-single-cell-3>

# Cellranger output files

B115.mri.tgz	_invocation	<b>outs</b>	_sitecheck	_vdrkill
_cmdline	_jobmode	_perf	_tags	_vdrkill._truncated_
_filelist	_log	_perf._truncated_	_timestamp	_versions
_finalstate	_mrosource	SC_RNA_COUNTER_CS	_uuid	

analysis	clustering - flat file clustering results diffexp – DEGs for each cluster pca – details about each principal component, projections, etc tsne – coordinates of each cell in t-SNE plot cloupe.cloupe – input to loupe browser for interactive analysis <b>filtered_feature_bc_matrix</b> barcodes.tsv.gz features.tsv.gz matrix.mtx.gz	filtered_feature_bc_matrix.h5 <b>metrics_summary.csv</b> – flat file QC information molecule_info.h5 possorted_genome_bam.bam possorted_genome_bam.bam.bai raw_feature_bc_matrix – not filtered for cell-associated barcodes raw_feature_bc_matrix.h5 – not filtered for cell-associated barcodes <b>web_summary.html</b> – QC information and minimal interactive analysis
----------	--	--

# Did your experiment work?

Two key QC files:

- metrics\_summary.csv
- web\_summary.html

# web\_summary.html, metrics\_summary.csv

The analysis detected some issues. [Details »](#)

Clustering Type: [Graph](#)

The analysis detected some issues. [Details »](#)

## Alert

	Value	Detail
⚠ Low Fraction Valid Barcodes	63.7%	Ideal > 75%. This usually indicates a quality issue with the Illumina I7 read for Single Cell 3' v1 or the R1 read for Single Cell 3' v2. Application performance may be affected.
⚠ Low Fraction Reads Confidently Mapped To Transcriptome	26.1%	Ideal > 30%. This can indicate use of the wrong reference transcriptome, a reference transcriptome with overlapping genes, poor library quality, poor sequencing quality, or reads shorter than the recommended minimum. Application performance may be affected.
⚠ High Fraction of Reads Mapped Antisense to Genes	16.9%	Ideal < 10%. This can indicate use of an unsupported chemistry type (e.g. using Single Cell V(D)J for gene counting). Application performance may be affected.

## Estimated Number of Cells

9,151

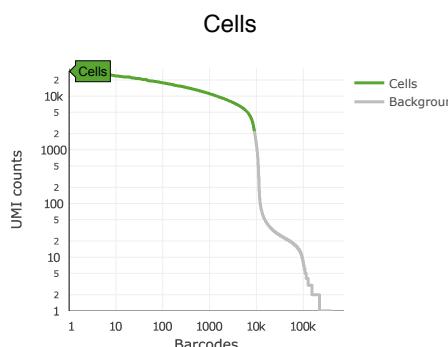
Mean Reads per Cell

147,263

Median Genes per Cell

2,206

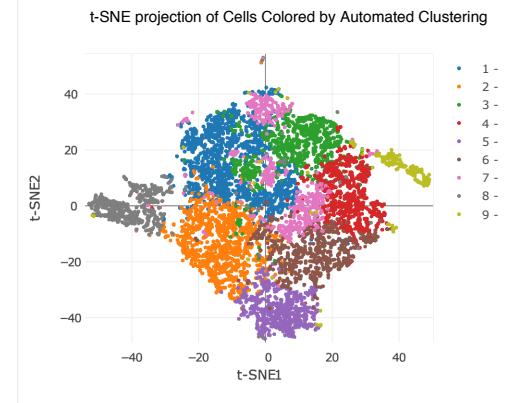
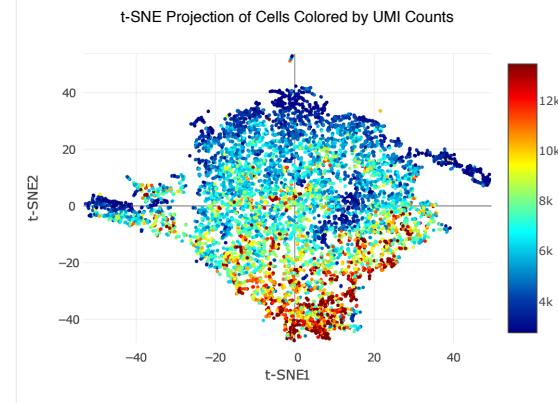
## Sequencing



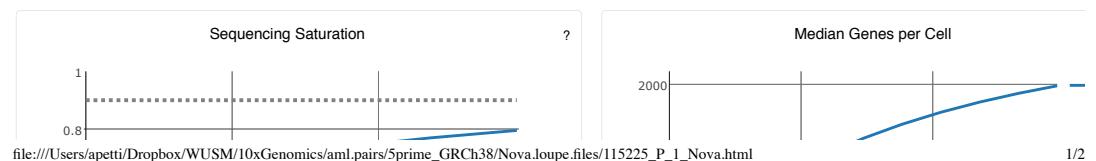
	Estimated Number of Cells
Number of Reads	1,347,604,104
Valid Barcodes	63.7%
Sequencing Saturation	89.0%
Q30 Bases in Barcode	94.9%
Q30 Bases in RNA Read	91.7%
Q30 Bases in RNA Read 2	87.5%
Q30 Bases in Sample Index	92.6%
Q30 Bases in UMI	94.7%

## Mapping

Name	115225_P_1_Nova
Description	
Transcriptome	GRCh38
Chemistry	Single Cell 5' PE
Cell Ranger Version	2.1.1



Gene ID	Gene name	Cluster 1		Cluster 2		Cluster 3		Cluster 4		Cluster 5		Cluster 6		Cluster 7		Cluster 8		Cluster 9	
		L2FC	p-value																
ENSG00000180573	HIST1H2AC	0.56	1e+00	-1.02	5e-01	0.48	1e+00	0.82	6e-01	-0.89	4e-01	-0.66	1e+00	0.29	1e+00	0.25			
ENSG00000125652	ALKBH7	0.54	1e+00	-0.01	1e+00	0.19	1e+00	-0.07	1e+00	-0.80	6e-01	-0.32	1e+00	0.09	1e+00	0.33			
ENSG00000257698	RP11-620J15.3	0.53	1e+00	-0.19	1e+00	0.01	1e+00	-0.00	1e+00	-0.23	1e+00	-0.36	1e+00	-0.01	1e+00	0.17			
ENSG00000104894	CD37	0.48	1e+00	-0.27	1e+00	0.47	1e+00	0.26	1e+00	-0.74	6e-01	-0.43	1e+00	0.14	1e+00	0.22			
ENSG00000150782	IL18	0.46	1e+00	-0.51	1e+00	0.86	9e-01	0.44	8e-01	-0.64	8e-01	-0.43	1e+00	0.02	1e+00	-0.49			
ENSG00000267453	AC004791.2	0.46	1e+00	0.29	1e+00	-0.61	1e+00	-0.19	1e+00	-0.36	1e+00	-0.04	1e+00	0.14	1e+00	0.37			
ENSG00000196531	NACA	0.45	1e+00	-0.02	1e+00	0.18	1e+00	0.05	1e+00	-0.67	7e-01	-0.16	1e+00	0.16	1e+00	0.00			
ENSG00000095932	SMIM24	0.44	1e+00	0.12	1e+00	0.15	1e+00	-0.06	1e+00	-0.13	1e+00	-0.14	1e+00	-0.00	1e+00	-1.74			
ENSG00000204628	GNB2L1	0.44	1e+00	0.10	1e+00	0.12	1e+00	-0.08	1e+00	-0.51	9e-01	-0.21	1e+00	0.01	1e+00	-0.05			
ENSG00000145708	CRHBP	0.43	1e+00	-0.26	1e+00	0.36	1e+00	0.52	8e-01	-0.55	9e-01	-0.04	1e+00	0.47	1e+00	-2.77			
ENSG00000095917	TPSD1	0.42	1e+00	-0.53	1e+00	-1.03	1e+00	0.41	9e-01	-0.55	9e-01	0.06	1e+00	0.91	1e+00	0.41			
ENSG00000105373	GLTSCR2	0.41	1e+00	0.06	1e+00	0.12	1e+00	-0.00	1e+00	-0.41	1e+00	-0.26	1e+00	-0.20	1e+00	-0.04			
ENSG00000104408	EIF3E	0.40	1e+00	0.05	1e+00	0.23	1e+00	0.09	1e+00	-0.61	8e-01	-0.13	1e+00	0.02	1e+00	-0.15			
ENSG00000263961	C1orf186	0.40	1e+00	-0.08	1e+00	0.40	1e+00	0.35	9e-01	-0.67	7e-01	-0.08	1e+00	0.25	1e+00	-1.46			
ENSG00000170891	CYTL1	0.40	1e+00	-0.18	1e+00	0.86	9e-01	0.22	1e+00	-0.47	1e+00	-0.49	1e+00	0.13	1e+00	-1.12			
ENSG00000269893	SNHG8	0.39	1e+00	0.18	1e+00	0.09	1e+00	-0.09	1e+00	-0.59	9e-01	-0.09	1e+00	0.17	1e+00	-0.33			



file:///Users/apetti/Dropbox/WUSM/10xGenomics/aml.pairs/5prime\_GRCh38/Nova.loupe.files/115225\_P\_1\_Nova.html

1/2

# Values from some real experiments

Metric	Human – Cryo. Bone Marrow	Human – Fresh Cell lines	Mouse – Cryo. Bone Marrow
Estimated Cells	7000	8500	5000
Target Reads/Cell	50K (expression), 200K (variants)		
Median Genes/Cell	2000	5600	2100
% Transcriptome mapping	>50%*	70	>70%
% Antisense Reads	~3%	~5	~3%
Fraction reads in cells	80-90%	80-90%	80-90%
Total Genes Detected	20,000	25,000	16,500
Median UMIs/Cell	5000-6000	25000	7000-8000

# Possible reasons for low quality

Metric	Human
Estimated Cells	Low viability, lysed cells
Target Reads/Cell	Rarely problematic
% Transcriptome mapping	Wrong transcriptome, low sequence quality
% Antisense Reads	Wrong chemistry, low sequence quality
Fraction reads in cells	Lysed cells, extracellular RNA

# Exploring the data using the loupe browser

Wild-type mouse (WT) compared to Knock-out (KO) mouse (2 replicates each)

File: wt\_vs\_ko\_combined.cloupe

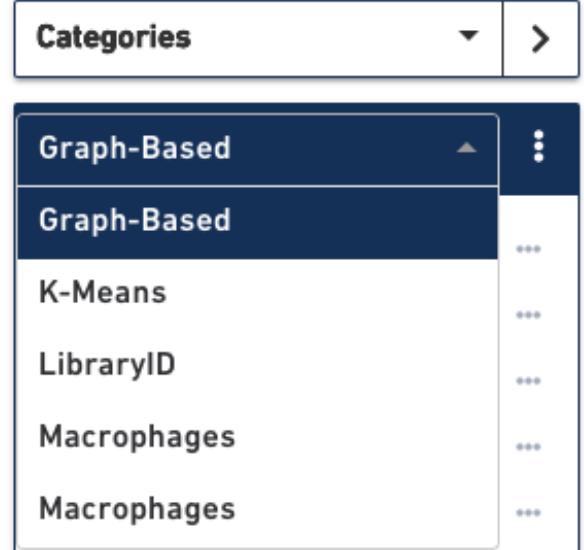
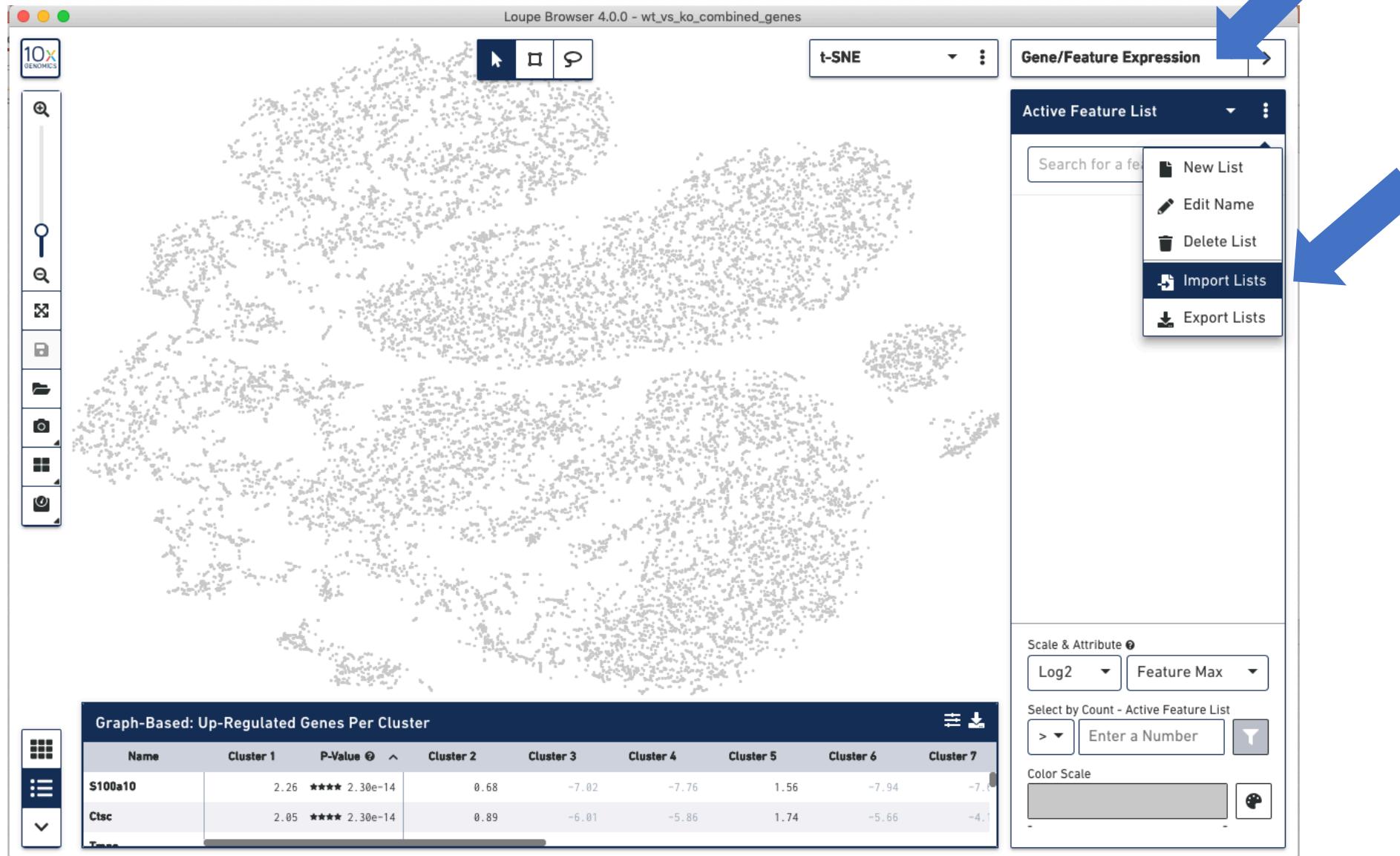


Table of differentially expressed genes in each cluster



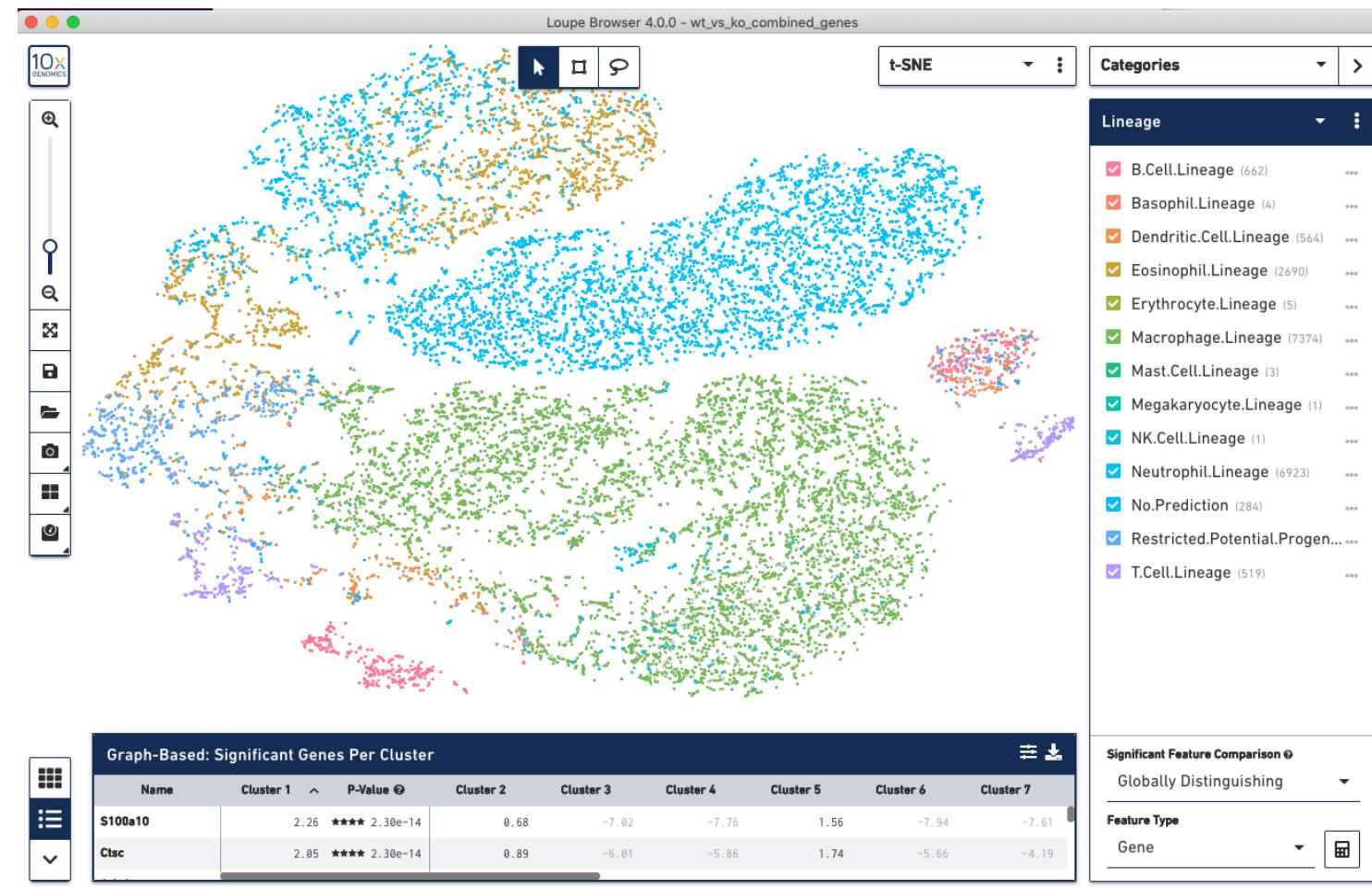
# Import a custom list of marker genes for multiple cell types



# Examine some genes and gene sets...



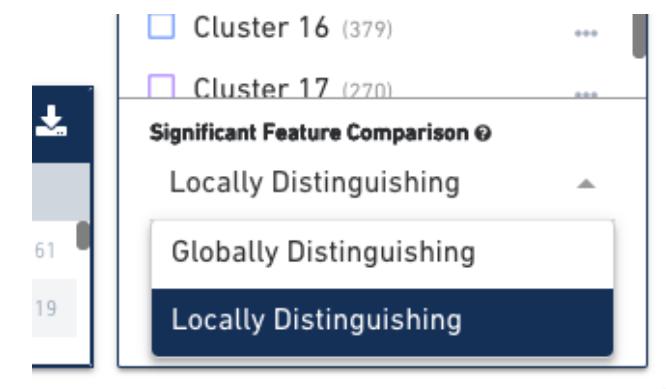
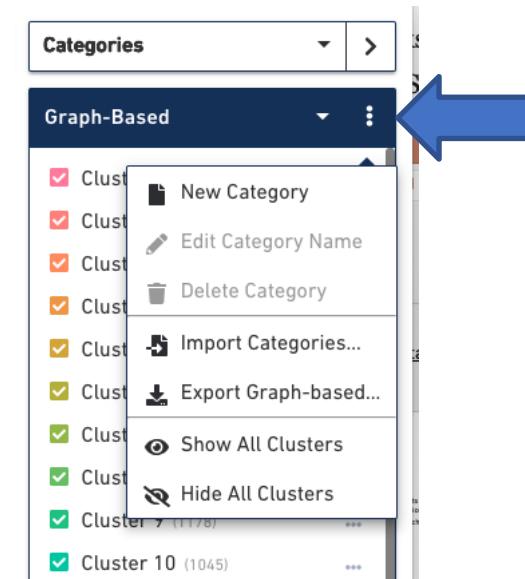
# Import a custom list of inferred cell types\*

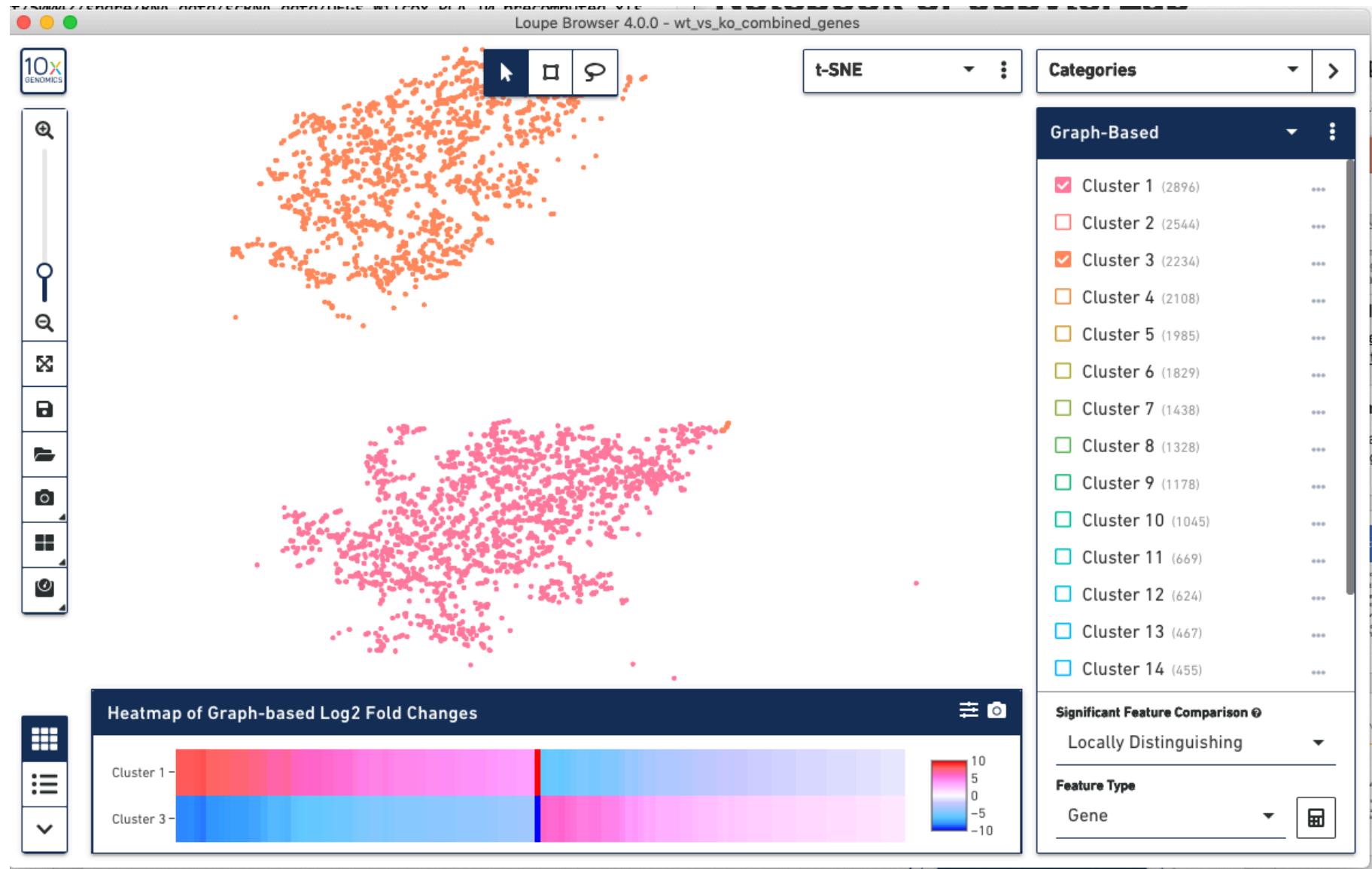


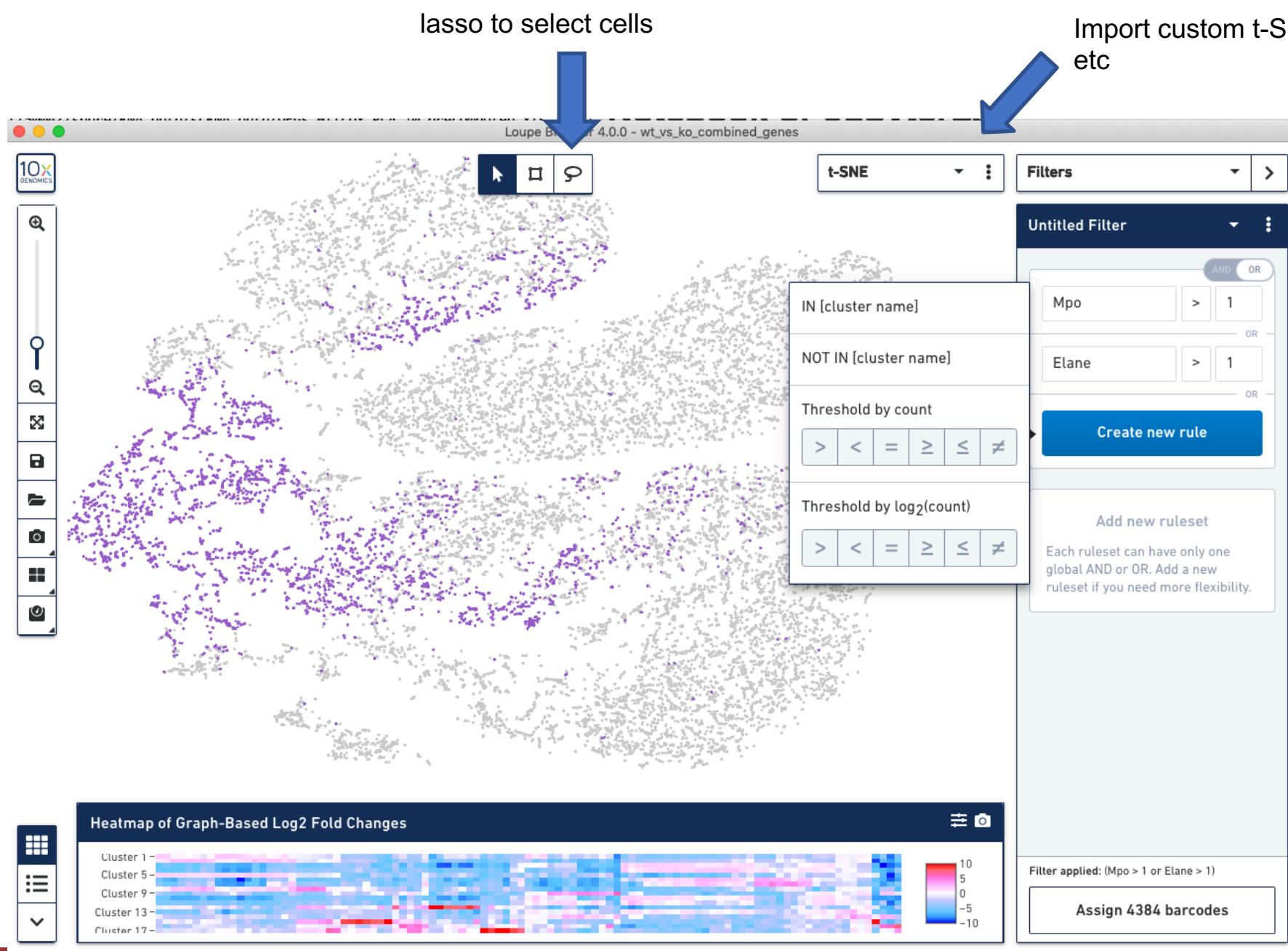
\*These cell types were inferred using an in-house nearest-neighbor algorithm and the Haemopedia database. The SingleR package is similar.

# Compare two clusters using a differential expression analysis

1. Select Categories...
2. Select Graph-Based...
3. Click the three vertical dots to access the “Hide All Clusters” option
4. Then click two clusters of your choice
5. In the Significant Feature Comparison panel, click “Locally distinguishing,” then press calculator icon







# Exercises

1. There are some significant differences in cell type composition between the WT and KO strains. What are they?
2. There are four clusters of macrophages in this data set. One cluster is missing from the KO mouse. Find this cluster, and generate a heatmap of genes that are differentially expressed across those four clusters. How is the “missing” cluster different from the others in terms of gene expression?

# We are on a Coffee Break & Networking Session

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