

# Sorting, Searching, & Aligning

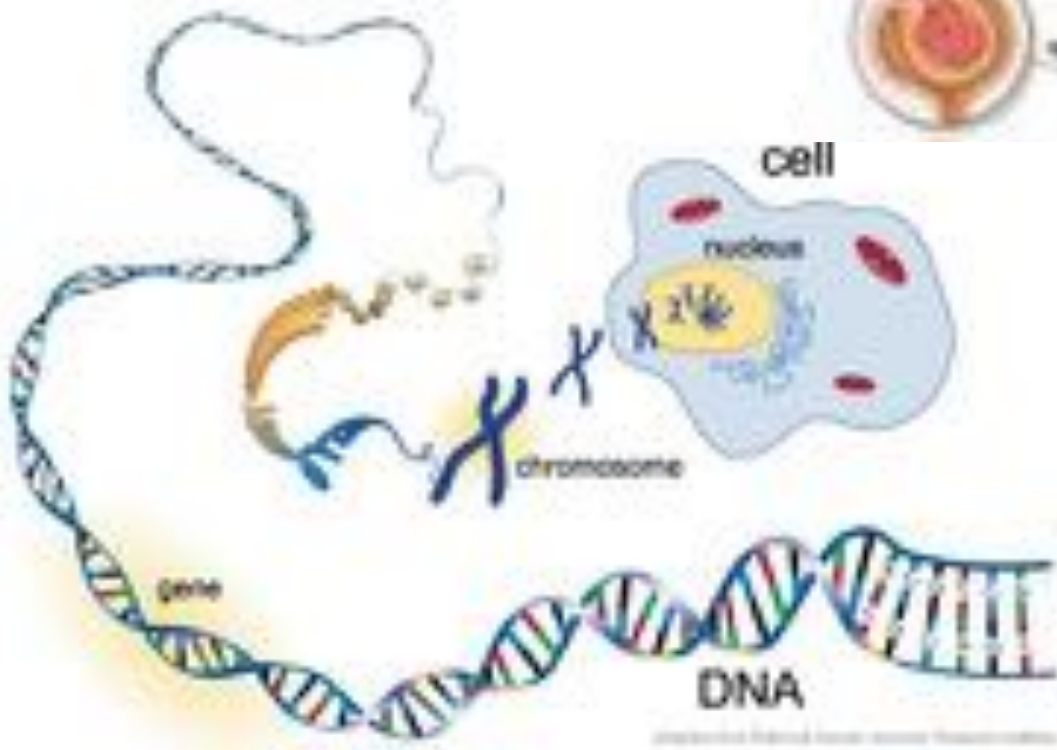
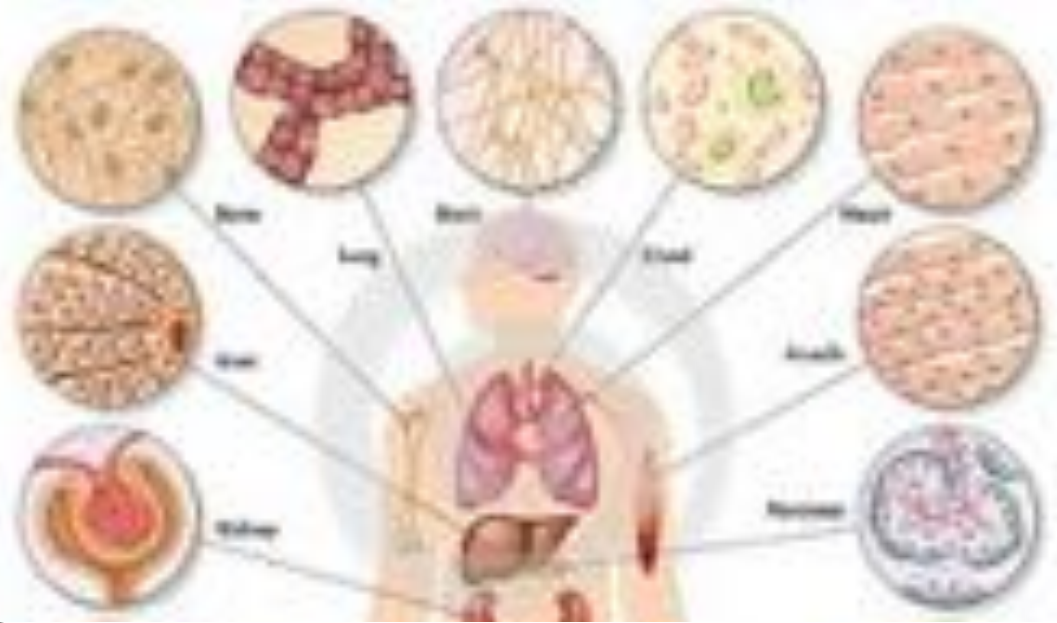
Michael Schatz

QB/Bioinformatics Lecture I  
Quantitative Biology 2014



# Cells & DNA

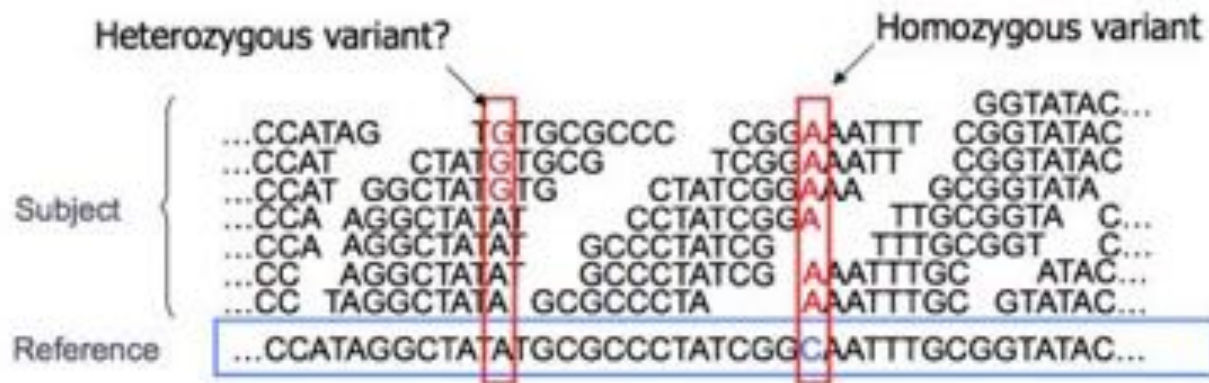
Each cell of your body contains an exact copy of your 3 billion base pair genome.



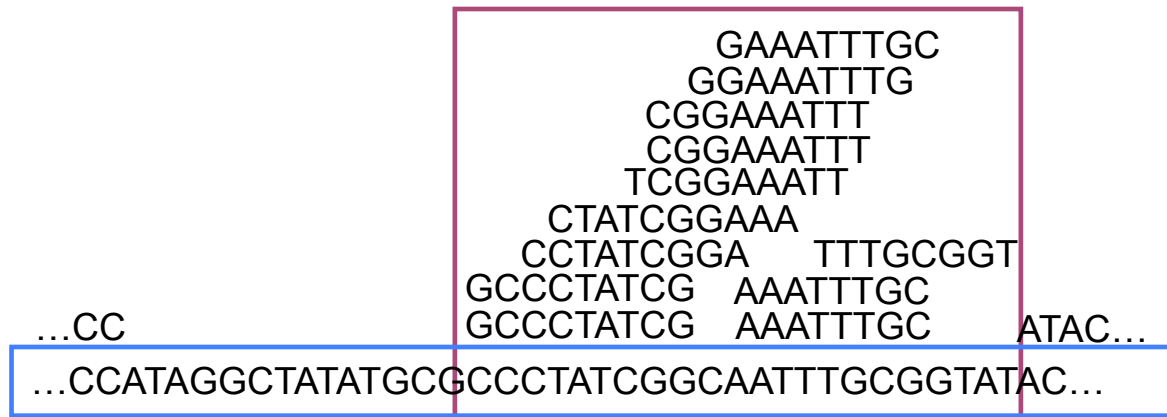
Your specific nucleotide sequence encodes the genetic program for your cells and ultimately your traits

# Short Read Applications

- Genotyping: Identify Variations



- \*-seq: Classify & measure significant peaks



# Searching for GATTACA

- Where is GATTACA in the human genome?
- Strategy I: Brute Force

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	...
T	G	A	T	T	A	C	A	G	A	T	T	A	C	C	...
G	A	T	T	A	C	A									

No match at offset 1

# Searching for GATTACA

- Where is GATTACA in the human genome?
- Strategy 1: Brute Force

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	...
T	G	A	T	T	A	C	A	G	A	T	T	A	C	C	...
	G	A	T	T	A	C	A								

Match at offset 2

# Searching for GATTACA

- Where is GATTACA in the human genome?
- Strategy I: Brute Force

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	...
T	G	A	T	T	A	C	A	G	A	T	T	A	C	C	...
		G	A	T	T	A	C	A	...						

No match at offset 3...

# Searching for GATTACA

- Where is GATTACA in the human genome?
- Strategy I: Brute Force

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	...
T	G	A	T	T	A	C	A	G	A	T	T	A	C	C	...
								G	A	T	T	A	C	A	

No match at offset 9 <- Checking each possible position takes time

# Brute Force Analysis



- Brute Force:
  - At every possible offset in the genome:
    - Do all of the characters of the query match?
- Analysis
  - Simple, easy to understand
  - Genome length =  $n$  [3B]
  - Query length =  $m$  [7]
  - Comparisons:  $(n-m+1) * m$  [21B]
- Overall runtime:  $O(nm)$ 
  - [How long would it take if we double the genome size, read length?]
  - [How long would it take if we double both?]



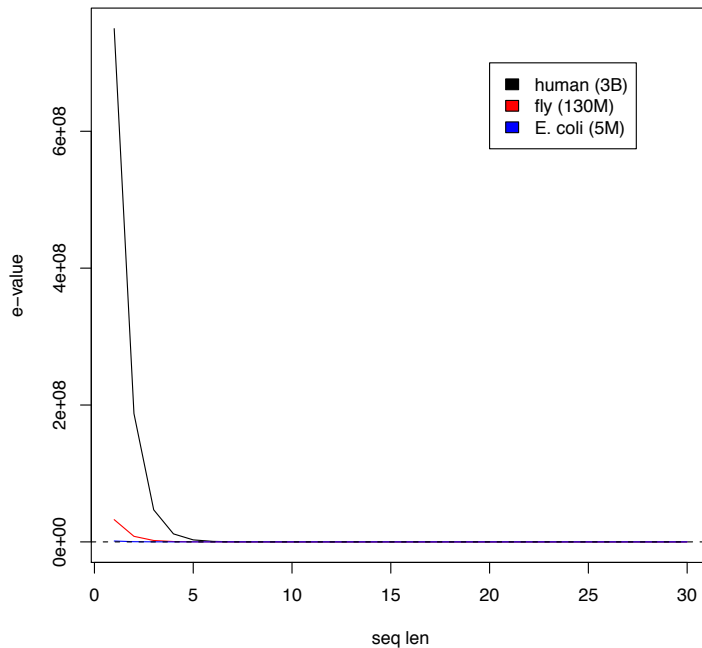
# Expected Occurrences

The expected number of occurrences (e-value) of a given sequence in a genome depends on the length of the genome and inversely on the length of the sequence

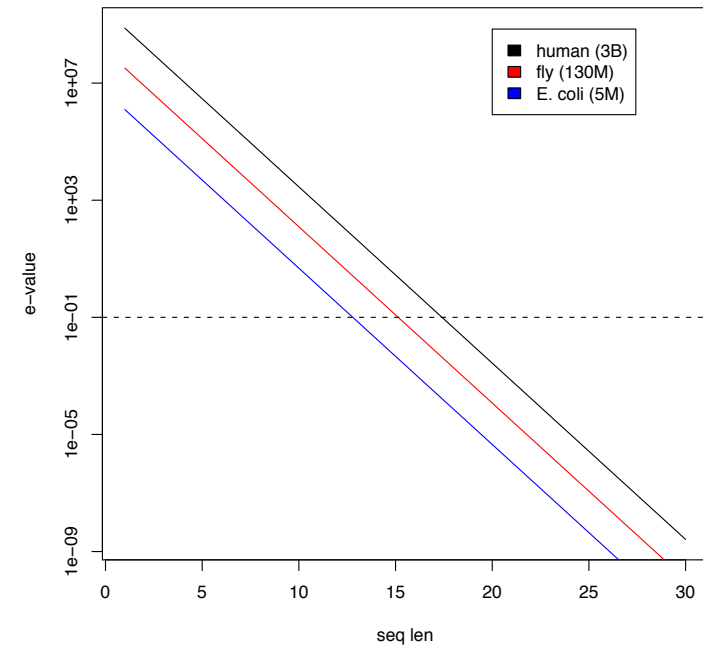
- 1 in 4 bases are G, 1 in 16 positions are GA, 1 in 64 positions are GAT, ...
- 1 in 16,384 should be GATTACA
- $E = n / (4^m)$

[183,105 expected occurrences]  
[How long do the reads need to be for a significant match?]

Value and sequence length  
cutoff 0.1



E-value and sequence length  
cutoff 0.1



# Brute Force Reflections

Why check every position?

- GATTACA can't possibly start at position 15

[WHY?]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	...
T	G	A	T	T	A	C	A	G	A	T	T	A	C	C	...
								G	A	T	T	A	C	A	

- Improve runtime to  $O(n + m)$

[3B + 7]

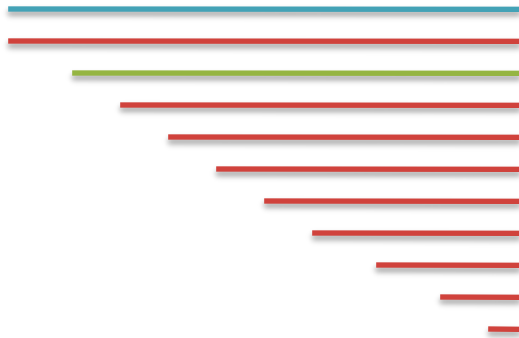
- If we double both, it just takes twice as long
- Knuth-Morris-Pratt, 1977
- Boyer-Moyer, 1977, 1991

- For one-off scans, this is the best we can do (optimal performance)

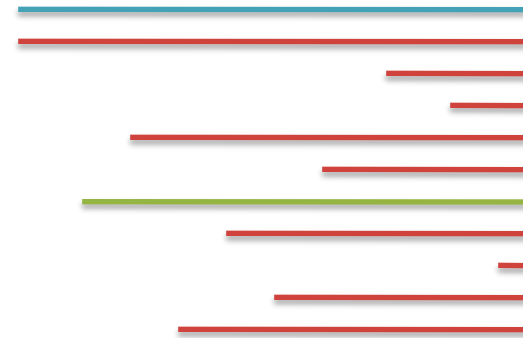
- We have to read every character of the genome, and every character of the query
- For short queries, runtime is dominated by the length of the genome

# Suffix Arrays: Searching the Phone Book

- What if we need to check many queries?
  - We don't need to check every page of the phone book to find 'Schatz'
  - Sorting alphabetically lets us immediately skip 96% (25/26) of the book *without any loss in accuracy*
- Sorting the genome: Suffix Array (Manber & Myers, 1991)
  - Sort every suffix of the genome



Split into n suffixes



Sort suffixes alphabetically

[Challenge Question: How else could we split the genome?]

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - Lo = 1; Hi = 15;

Lo  
→

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - Middle = Suffix[8] = CC

Lo  
→

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - Middle = Suffix[8] = CC  
=> Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$

Lo  
→

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - $Middle = Suffix[8] = CC$   
=> Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 15;$

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Lo  
→

Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - Middle = Suffix[8] = CC  
=> Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 15; Mid = (9+15)/2 = 12$
  - Middle = Suffix[12] = TACC

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Lo  
→

Hi  
→



# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - $Middle = Suffix[8] = CC$   
=> Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 15; Mid = (9+15)/2 = 12$
  - $Middle = Suffix[12] = TACC$   
=> Lower:  $Hi = Mid - 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 11;$

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Lo  
→

Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - $Middle = Suffix[8] = CC$   
=> Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 15; Mid = (9+15)/2 = 12$
  - $Middle = Suffix[12] = TACC$   
=> Lower:  $Hi = Mid - 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 11; Mid = (9+11)/2 = 10$
  - $Middle = Suffix[10] = GATTACC$

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Lo  
→

Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - $Middle = Suffix[8] = CC$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 15; Mid = (9+15)/2 = 12$
  - $Middle = Suffix[12] = TACC$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Lower:  $Hi = Mid - 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 11; Mid = (9+11)/2 = 10$
  - $Middle = Suffix[10] = GATTACC$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Lower:  $Hi = Mid - 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 9;$

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
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9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

Lo  
Hi  
→

# Searching the Index

- Strategy 2: Binary search
  - Compare to the middle, refine as higher or lower
- Searching for GATTACA
  - $Lo = 1; Hi = 15; Mid = (1+15)/2 = 8$
  - $Middle = Suffix[8] = CC$   
=> Higher:  $Lo = Mid + 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 15; Mid = (9+15)/2 = 12$
  - $Middle = Suffix[12] = TACC$   
=> Lower:  $Hi = Mid - 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 11; Mid = (9+11)/2 = 10$
  - $Middle = Suffix[10] = GATTACC$   
=> Lower:  $Hi = Mid - 1$
  - $Lo = 9; Hi = 9; Mid = (9+9)/2 = 9$
  - $Middle = Suffix[9] = GATTACA...$   
=> Match at position 2!

#	Sequence	Pos
1	ACAGATTACC...	6
2	ACC...	13
3	AGATTACC...	8
4	ATTACAGATTACC...	3
5	ATTACC...	10
6	C...	15
7	CAGATTACC...	7
8	CC...	14
9	GATTACAGATTACC...	2
10	GATTACC...	9
11	TACAGATTACC...	5
12	TACC...	12
13	TGATTACAGATTACC...	1
14	TTACAGATTACC...	4
15	TTACC...	11

# Binary Search Analysis

- Binary Search

Initialize search range to entire list

$\text{mid} = (\text{hi} + \text{lo}) / 2$ ;  $\text{middle} = \text{suffix}[\text{mid}]$

if query matches middle: done

else if query < middle: pick low range

else if query > middle: pick hi range

Repeat until done or empty range

[WHEN?]

- Analysis

- More complicated method

- How many times do we repeat?

- How many times can it cut the range in half?

- Find smallest  $x$  such that:  $n / (2^x) \leq 1$ ;  $x = \lg_2(n)$

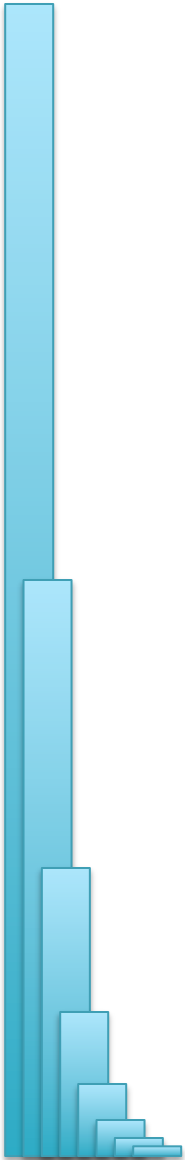
[32]

- Total Runtime:  $O(m \lg n)$

- More complicated, but **much** faster!

- Looking up a query loops 32 times instead of 3B

[How long does it take to search 6B or 24B nucleotides?]



# Suffix Array Construction

- How can we store the suffix array?  
[How many characters are in all suffixes combined?]

$$S = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = O(n^2)$$

- Hopeless to explicitly store 4.5 billion billion characters
- Instead use implicit representation
  - Keep 1 copy of the genome, and a list of sorted offsets
  - Storing 3 billion offsets fits on a server (12GB)
- Searching the array is very fast, but it takes time to construct
  - This time will be amortized over many, many searches
  - Run it once "overnight" and save it away for all future queries

Pos
6
13
8
3
10
15
7
14
2
9
5
12
1
4
11

TGATTACAGATTACC

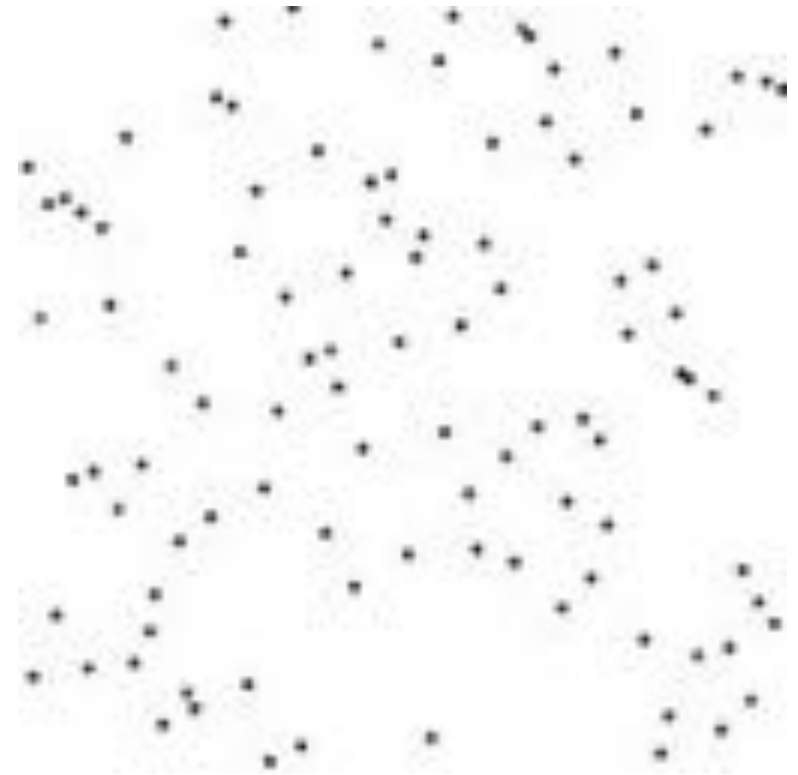
# Sorting

Quickly sort these numbers into ascending order:

14, 29, 6, 31, 39, 64, 78, 50, 13, 63, 61, 19

[How do you do it?]

6, 14, 29, 31, 39, 64, 78, 50, 13, 63, 61, 19  
6, 13, 14, 29, 31, 39, 64, 78, 50, 63, 61, 19  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 64, 78, 50, 63, 61  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 64, 78, 50, 63, 61  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 64, 78, 50, 63, 61  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 50, 64, 78, 63, 61  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 50, 61, 64, 78, 63  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 50, 61, 63, 64, 78  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 50, 61, 63, 64, 78  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 50, 61, 63, 64, 78  
6, 13, 14, 19, 29, 31, 39, 50, 61, 63, 64, 78



# Selection Sort Analysis

- Selection Sort (Input: list of n numbers)

```
for pos = 1 to n
```

```
    // find the smallest element in [pos, n]
```

```
    smallest = pos
```

```
    for check = pos+1 to n
```

```
        if (list[check] < list[smallest]): smallest = check
```

```
    // move the smallest element to the front
```

```
    tmp = list[smallest]
```

```
    list[pos] = list[smallest]
```

```
    list[smallest] = tmp
```

- Analysis

$$T = n + (n - 1) + (n - 2) + \cdots + 3 + 2 + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n + 1)}{2} = O(n^2)$$

- Outer loop: pos = 1 to n

- Inner loop: check = pos to n

- Running time: Outer \* Inner =  $O(n^2)$

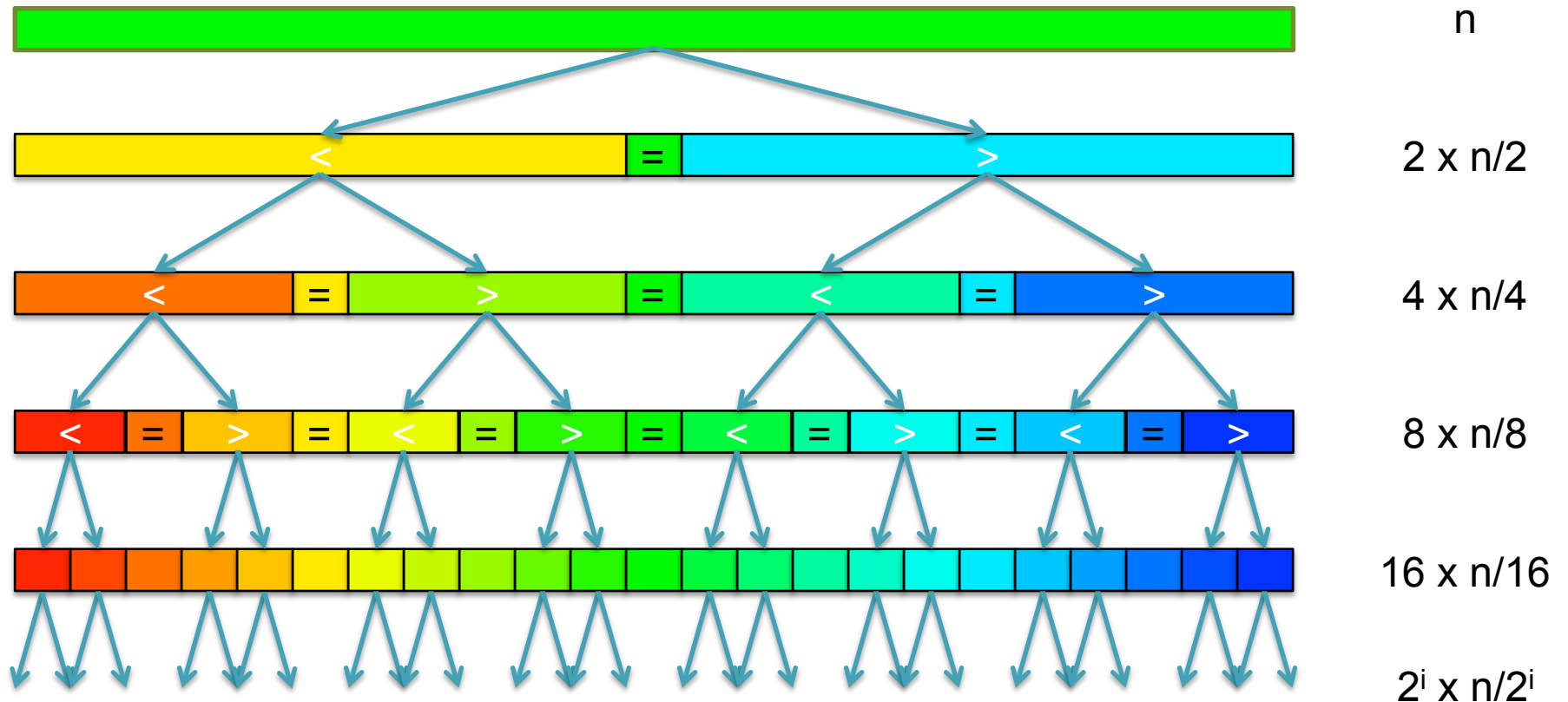
[4.5 Billion Billion]

[Challenge Questions: Why is this slow? / Can we sort any faster?]



# Divide and Conquer

- Selection sort is slow because it rescans the entire list for each element
  - How can we split up the unsorted list into independent ranges?
  - Hint 1: Binary search splits up the problem into 2 independent ranges (hi/lo)
  - Hint 2: Assume we know the median value of a list



[How many times can we split a list in half?]

# QuickSort Analysis

- QuickSort(Input: list of n numbers)

// see if we can quit

if (length(list)) <= 1): return list

// split list into lo & hi

pivot = median(list)

lo = {}; hi = {};

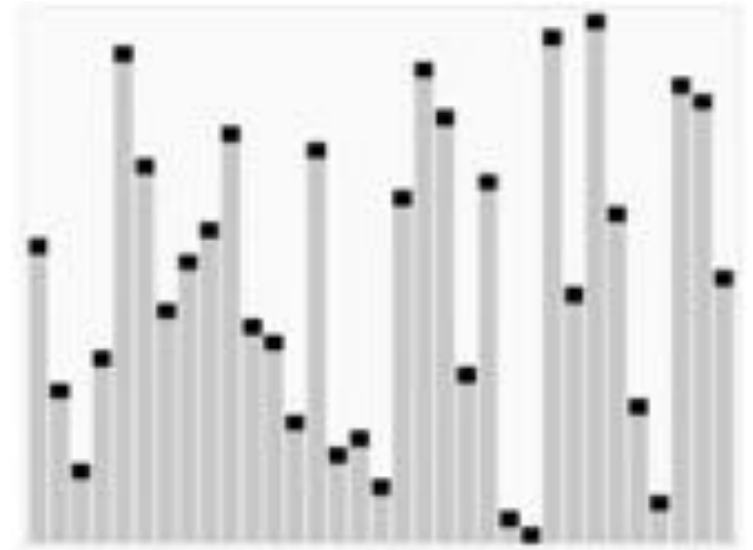
for (i = 1 to length(list))

    if (list[i] < pivot): append(lo, list[i])

    else: append(hi, list[i])

// recurse on sublists

return (append(QuickSort(lo), QuickSort(hi)))



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quicksort>

- Analysis (Assume we can find the median in  $O(n)$ )

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ O(n) + 2T(n/2) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = n + 2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \cdots + n\left(\frac{n}{n}\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lg(n)} \frac{2^i n}{2^i} = \sum_{i=0}^{\lg(n)} n = O(n \lg n) \quad [\sim 94B]$$

# QuickSort Analysis

- QuickSort(Input: list of n numbers)

```
// see if we can quit
```

```
if (length(list)) <= 1): return list
```

```
// split list into lo & hi
```

```
pivot = median(list)
```

```
lo = {}; hi = {};
```

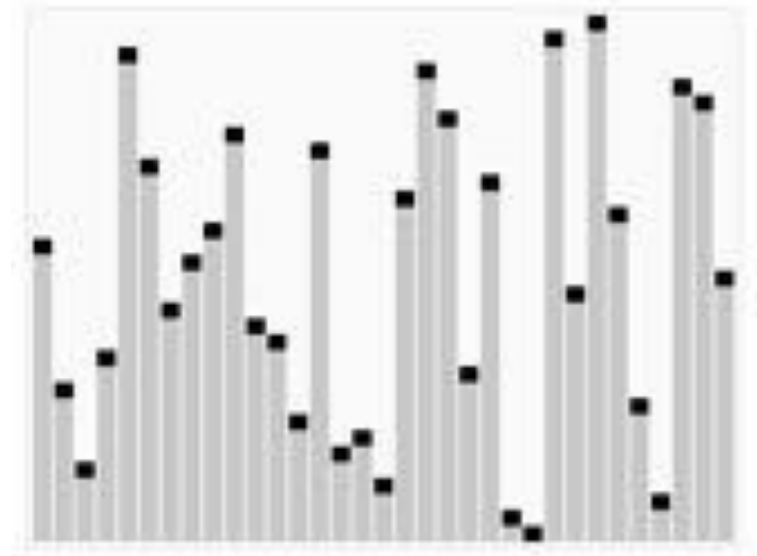
```
for (i = 1 to length(list))
```

```
    if (list[i] < pivot): append(lo, list[i])
```

```
    else:                append(hi, list[i])
```

```
// recurse on sublists
```

```
return (append(QuickSort(lo), QuickSort(hi)))
```



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quicksort>

- Analysis (Assume we can find the median in  $O(n)$ )

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ O(n) + 2T(n/2) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = n + 2\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + \cdots + n\left(\frac{n}{n}\right) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lg(n)} \frac{2^i n}{2^i} = \sum_{i=0}^{\lg(n)} n = O(n \lg n) \quad [\sim 94B]$$

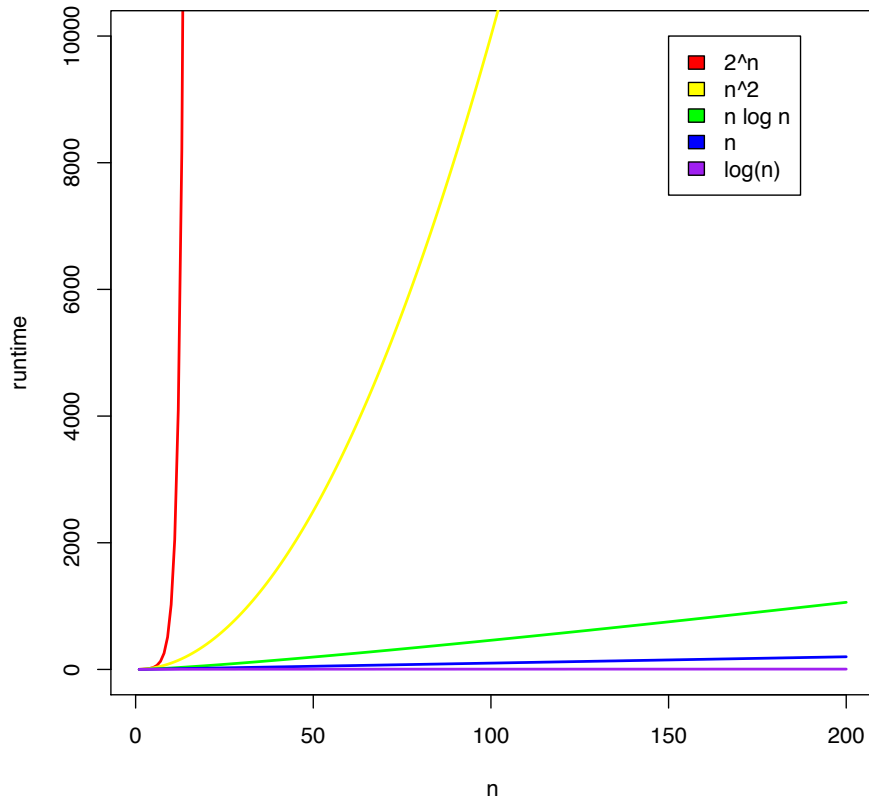
# QuickSort in Python

```
list.sort()
```

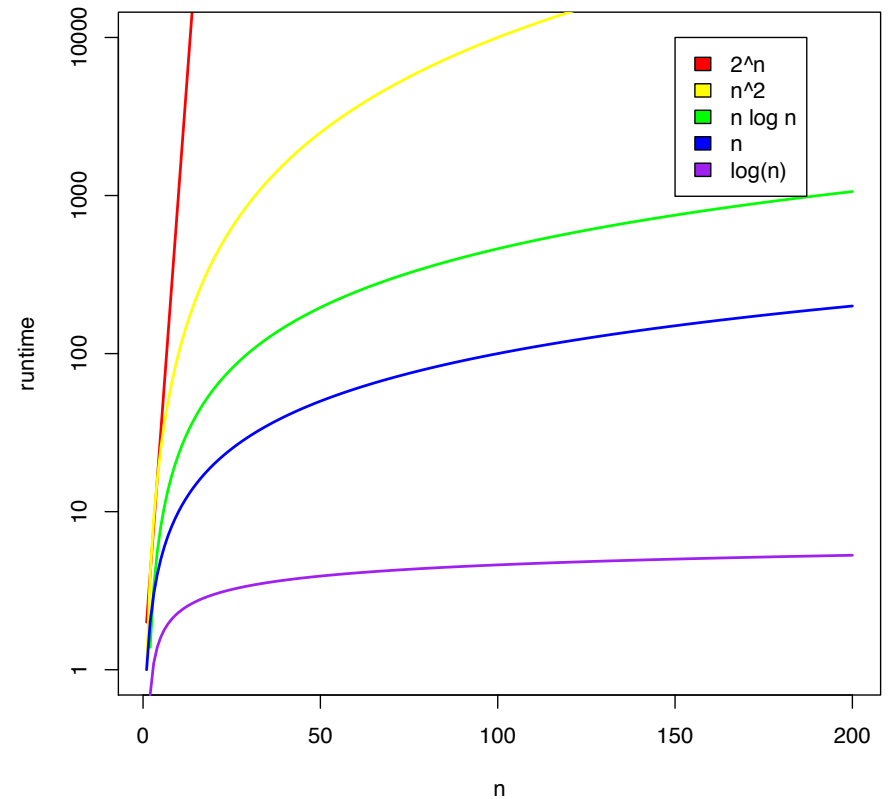
- The goal of software engineering is to build libraries of correct reusable functions that implement higher level ideas
  - Build complex software out of simple components
  - Software tends to be 90% plumbing, 10% research
  - You still need to know how they work
    - Python requires an explicit representation of the strings

# Algorithmic Complexity

Algorithm Runtimes



Algorithm Runtimes



What is the runtime as a function of the input size?



Break

# Algorithmic challenge

How can we combine the speed of a suffix array ( $O(\lg(n))$  or  $O(|q|)$ ) with the size of a brute force analysis ( $n$  bytes)?

What would such an index look like?



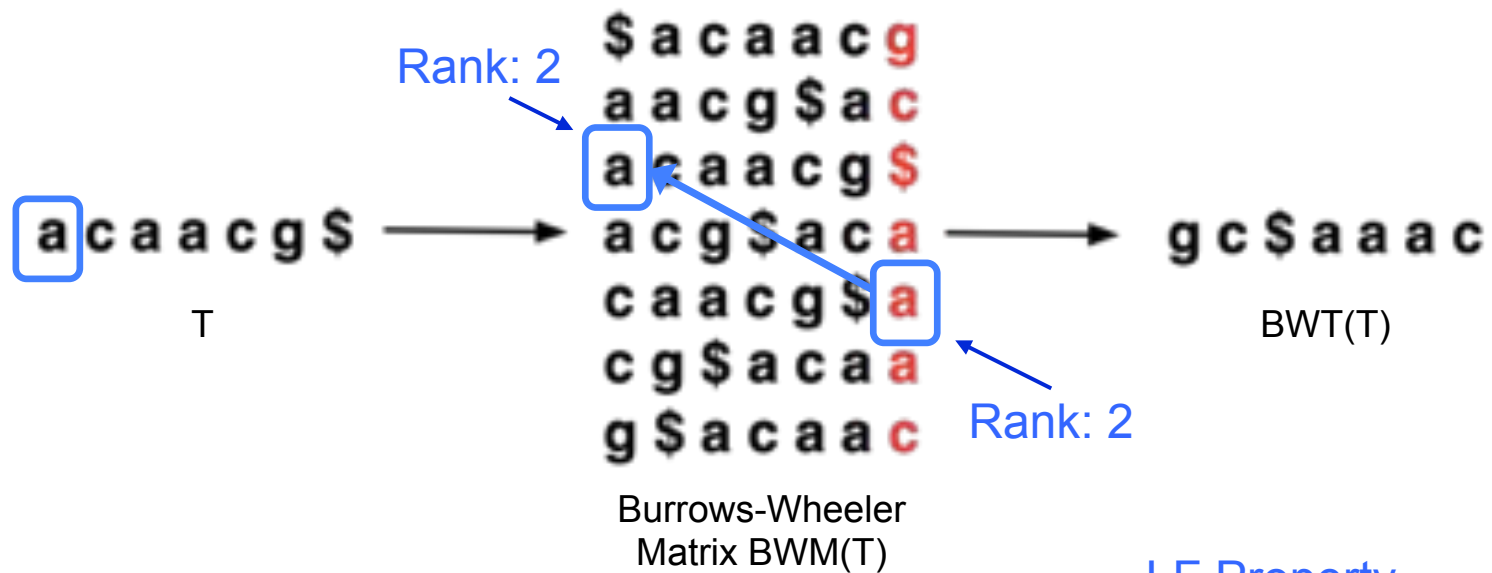
# Bowtie: Ultrafast and memory efficient alignment of short DNA sequences to the human genome

Slides Courtesy of Ben Langmead  
([langmead@umiacs.umd.edu](mailto:langmead@umiacs.umd.edu))



# Burrows-Wheeler Transform

- Reversible permutation of the characters in a text



LF Property  
implicitly encodes  
Suffix Array

- $BWT(T)$  is the index for  $T$

**A block sorting lossless data compression algorithm.**

Burrows M, Wheeler DJ (1994) *Digital Equipment Corporation*. Technical Report 124

# Burrows-Wheeler Transform

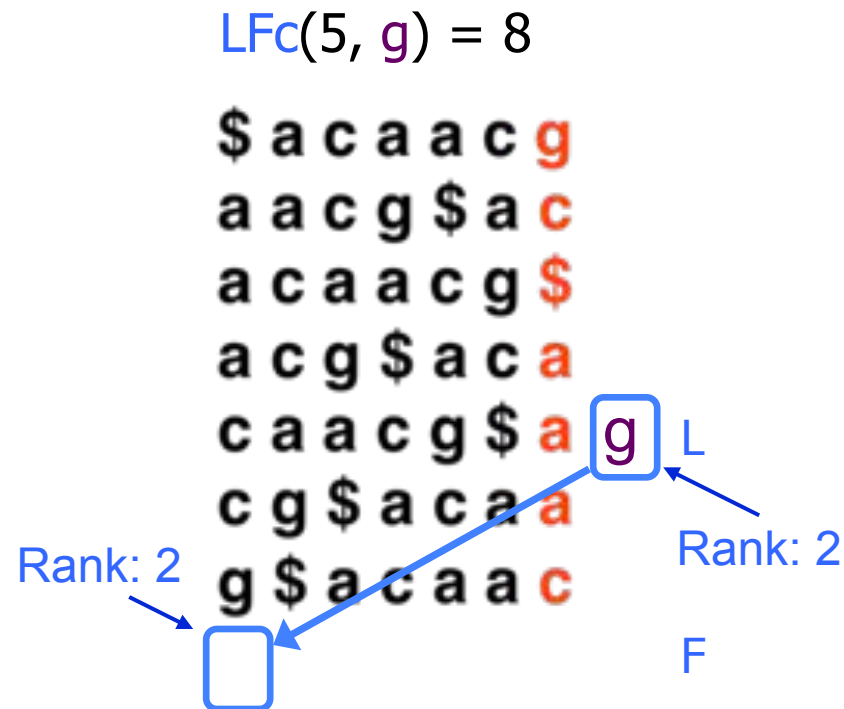
- Recreating T from BWT(T)
  - Start in the first row and apply **LF** repeatedly, accumulating predecessors along the way



[Decode this BWT string: ACTGA\$TTA]

# BWT Exact Matching

- **LFc**(r, c) does the same thing as **LF**(r) but it ignores r's actual final character and “pretends” it's c:



# BWT Exact Matching

- Start with a range, (**top**, **bot**) encompassing all rows and repeatedly apply **LFc**:

$$\text{top} = \text{LFc}(\text{top}, \text{qc}); \text{bot} = \text{LFc}(\text{bot}, \text{qc})$$

**qc** = the next character to the left in the query

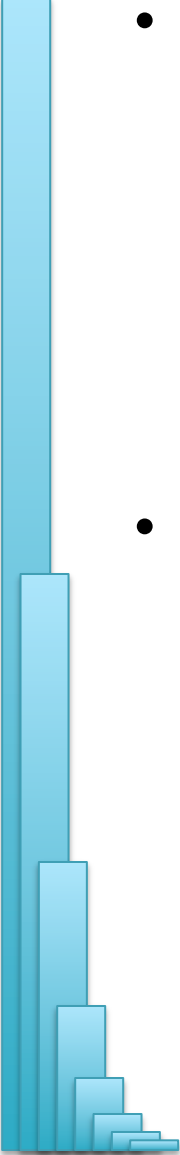


Ferragina P, Manzini G: Opportunistic data structures with applications. *FOCS. IEEE Computer Society; 2000.*

[Search for TTA this BWT string: ACTGA\$TTA]



# Algorithms Summary

- 
- Algorithms choreograph the dance of data inside the machine
    - Algorithms add provable precision to your method
    - A smarter algorithm can solve the same problem with much less work
    - Sequences are really fundamental to biology, learn the techniques to analyze them
  - Techniques
    - Binary search: Fast lookup in any sorted list
    - Divide-and-conquer: Split a hard problem into an easier problem
    - Recursion: Solve a problem using a function of itself
    - Hashing: Storing sets across a huge range of values
    - Indexing: Focus on the search on the important parts
      - Different indexing schemes have different space/time features

# Next Time

- Friday:
  - HW Review
  - Group Discussion of ENCODE
- Monday:
  - Dynamic Programming & Alignment applications
- Tuesday:
  - Graphs & Assembly
- Thursday:
  - Diversity of modern and ancient humans
- Friday:
  - Gene Finding + ChromHMM + Review

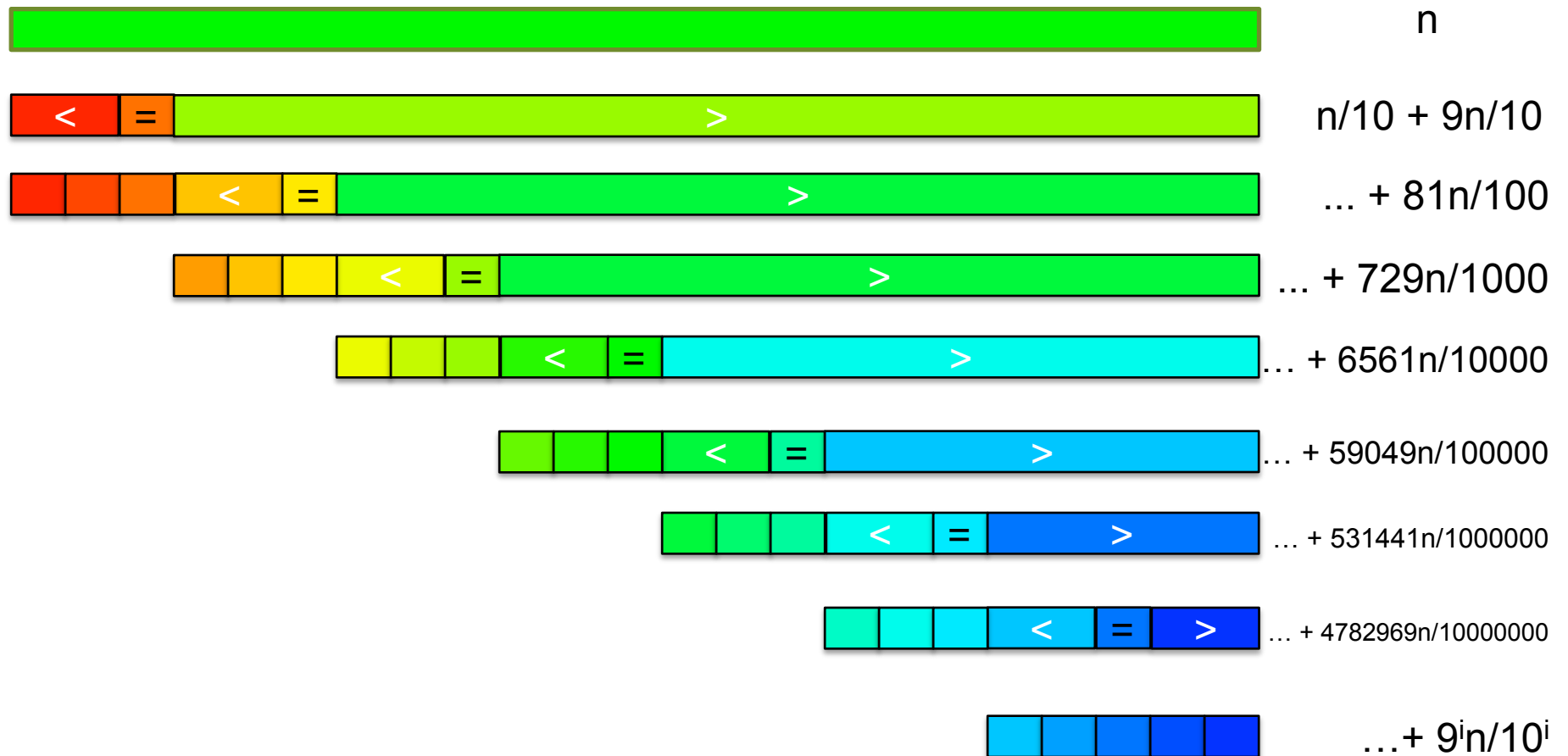
# Thank You!

<http://schatzlab.cshl.edu>  
@mike\_schatz



# Picking the Median

- What if we miss the median and do a 90/10 split instead?



[How many times can we cut 10% off a list?]

# Randomized Quicksort

- 90/10 split runtime analysis

Find smallest  $x$  s.t.

$$T(n) = n + T\left(\frac{n}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{9n}{10}\right)$$

$$(9/10)^x n \leq 1$$

$$T(n) = n + \frac{n}{10} + T\left(\frac{n}{100}\right) + T\left(\frac{9n}{100}\right) + \frac{9n}{10} + T\left(\frac{9n}{100}\right) + T\left(\frac{81n}{100}\right)$$

$$(10/9)^x \geq n$$

$$T(n) = n + n + T\left(\frac{n}{100}\right) + 2T\left(\frac{9n}{100}\right) + T\left(\frac{81n}{100}\right)$$

$$x \geq \log_{10/9} n$$

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\log_{10/9}(n)} n = O(n \lg n)$$

- If we randomly pick a pivot, we will get at least a 90/10 split with very high probability
  - Everything is okay as long as we always slice off a fraction of the list

[Challenge Question: What happens if we slice 1 element]