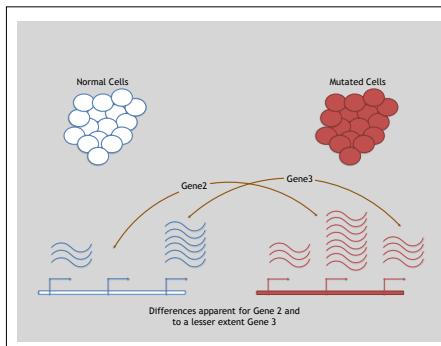
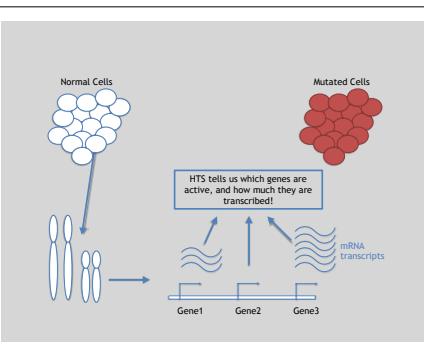
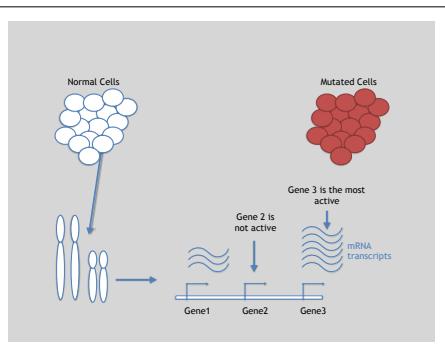
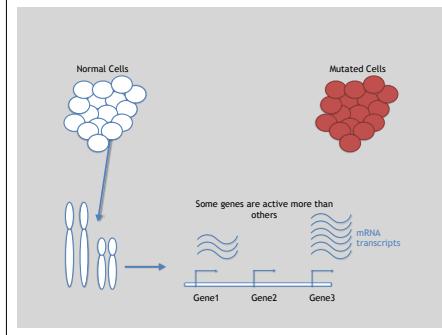
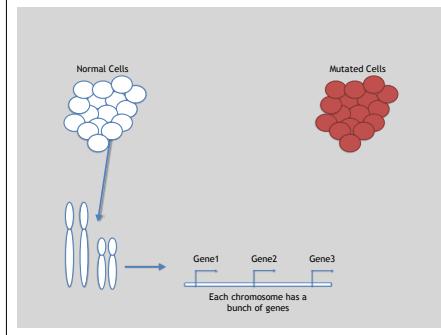
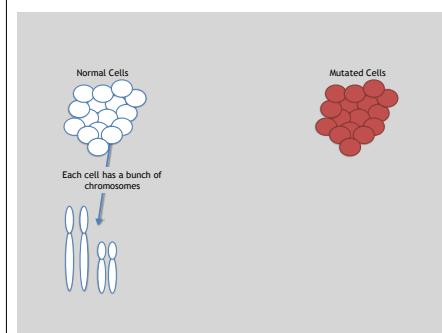
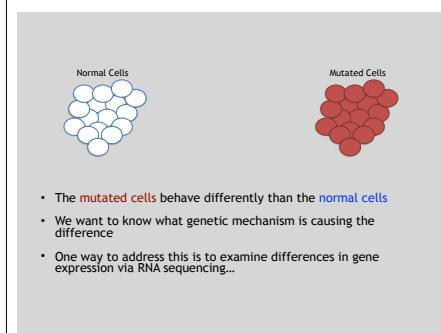


## RNA Sequencing

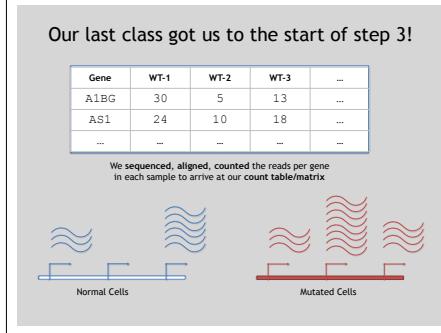
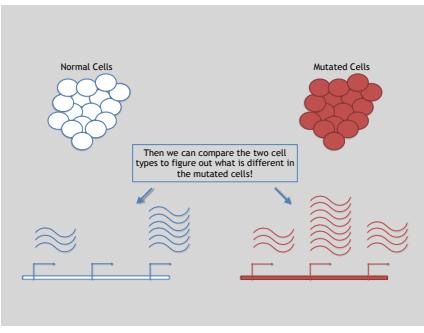
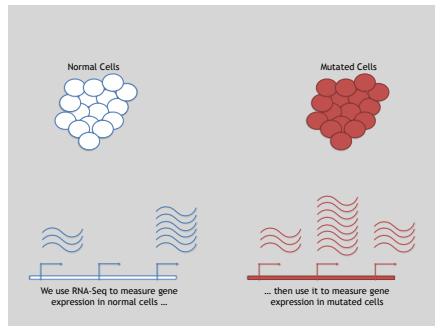
The absolute basics



**3 Main Steps for RNA-Seq:**

- 1) Prepare a sequencing library**  
(RNA to cDNA conversion via reverse transcription)
- 2) Sequence**  
(Using the same technologies as DNA sequencing)
- 3) Data analysis**  
(Often the major bottleneck to overall success!)

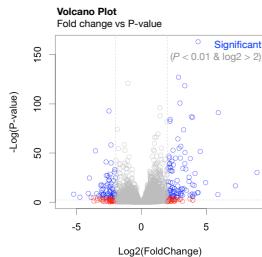
We will discuss each of these steps - but we will focus on step 3 today!



**Inputs**

Control	Reads R1	FastQ
Treatment	Reads R1	FastQ





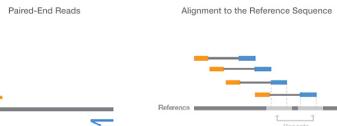
## Recent developments in RNA-Seq

- **Long read sequences:**
  - PacBio and Oxford Nanopore [[Recent Paper](#)]
- **Single-cell RNA-Seq:** [[Review article](#)]
  - Observe heterogeneity of cell populations
  - Detect sub-population
- **Alignment-free quantification:**
  - Kallisto [[Software link](#)]
  - Salmon [[Software link](#), [Blog post](#)]

## Additional Reference Slides

## Public RNA-Seq data sources

- **Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO):**
  - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>
  - Both microarray and sequencing data
- **Sequence Read Archive (SRA):**
  - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra>
  - All sequencing data (not necessarily RNA-Seq)
- **ArrayExpress:**
  - <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/arrayexpress/>
  - European version of GEO
- All of these have links between them



Paired-end sequencing enables both ends of the DNA fragment to be sequenced. Because the distance between each paired read is known, alignment algorithms can use this information to map the reads over repetitive regions more precisely. This results in much better alignment of the reads, especially across difficult-to-sequence, repetitive regions of the genome.

Taken From: <https://www.illumina.com/science/technology/next-generation-sequencing/paired-end-vs-single-read-sequencing.html>

## Count Normalization

- Normalization is required to make comparisons in gene expression
  - Between 2+ genes in one sample
  - Between genes in 2+ samples
- Genes will have more reads mapped in a sample with high coverage than one with low coverage
  - 2x depth = 2x expression
- Longer genes will have more reads mapped than shorter genes
  - 2x length = 2x more reads

## Normalization: RPKM, FPKM & TPM

- N.B. Some tools for differential expression analysis such as edgeR and DESeq2 want raw read counts - i.e. non normalized input!
- However, often for your manuscripts and reports you will want to report normalized counts
- RPKM, FPKM and TPM all aim to normalize for sequencing depth and gene length. For the former:
  - Count up the total reads in a sample and divide that number by 1,000,000 - this is our "per million" scaling.
  - Divide the read counts by the "per million" scaling factor. This normalizes for sequencing depth, giving you reads per million (RPKM)
  - Divide the RPKM values by the length of the gene, in kilobases. This gives you RPKM.

- **TPM** is very similar to RPKM and FPKM. The only difference is the order of operations:
  - First divide the read counts by the length of each gene in kilobases. This gives you reads per kilobase (RPK).
  - Count up all the RPK values in a sample and divide this number by 1,000,000. This is your "per million" scaling factor.
  - Divide the RPK values by the "per million" scaling factor. This gives you TPM.
- Note, the only difference is that you normalize for gene length first, and then normalize for sequencing depth second.

- When you use TPM, the sum of all TPMs in each sample are the same.
- This makes it easier to compare the proportion of reads that mapped to a gene in each sample.
- In contrast, with RPKM and FPKM, the sum of the normalized reads in each sample may be different, and this makes it harder to compare samples directly.