

# RNA Sequencing

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(Most slides by Michael Schatz)

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Lecture 10: Applied Comparative Genomics



# Review: Similarity metrics

- Hamming distance
  - Count the number of substitutions to transform one string into another

MIKESCHATZ  
| | x | | xxxx |  
MICESHATZZ  
5

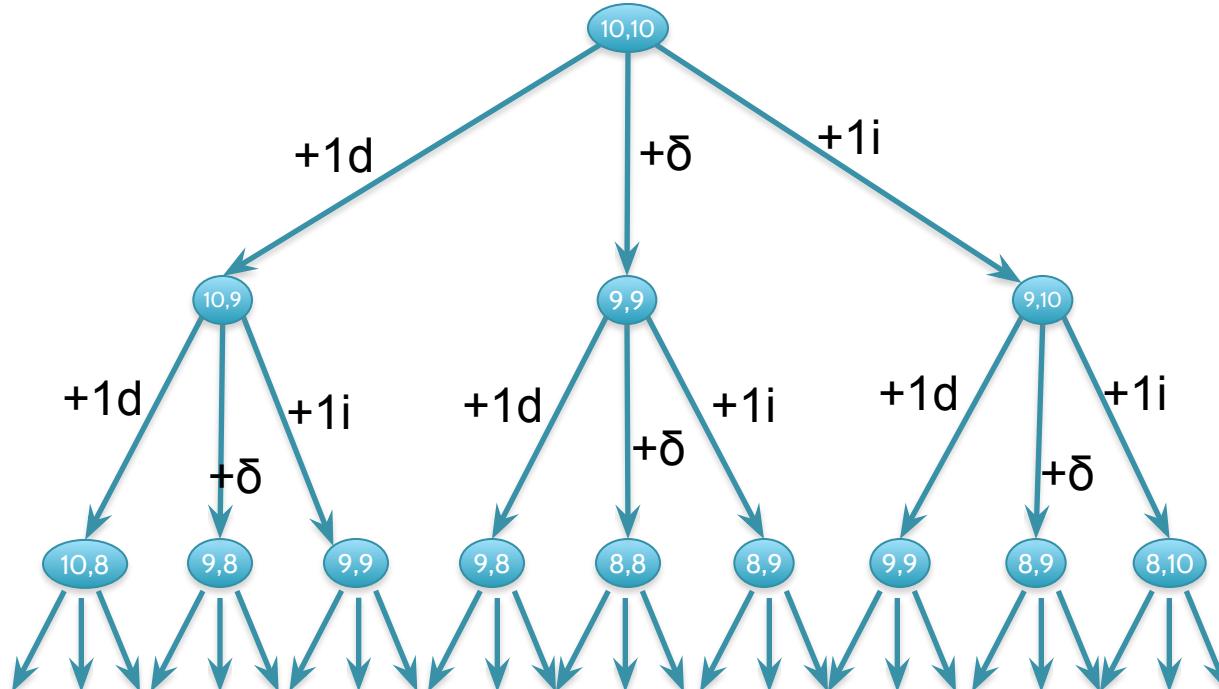
- Edit distance
  - The minimum number of substitutions, insertions, or deletions to transform one string into another

MIKESCHAT-Z  
| | x | | x | | | x |  
MICES-HATZZ

# Recursive solution

- Computation of D is a recursive process.
  - At each step, we only allow matches, substitutions, and indels
  - $D(i,j)$  in terms of  $D(i',j')$  for  $i' \leq i$  and  $j' \leq j$ .

$$D(\text{MIKESCHATZ}, \text{MICESHATZZ}) = \min\{D(\text{MIKESCHATZ}, \text{MICESHATZ}) + 1, \\ D(\text{MIKESCHAT}, \text{MICESHATZZ}) + 1, \\ D(\text{MIKESCHAT}, \text{MICESHATZ}) + \delta(z, z)\}$$



[What is the running time?]

# Recurrence Relation for D

Find the edit distance (minimum number of sub, ins, del operations) to convert one string into another

- Base conditions:

$$D(i,0) = i, \text{ for all } i = 0, \dots, n$$

$$D(0,j) = j, \text{ for all } j = 0, \dots, m$$

- For  $i > 0, j > 0$ :

$$D(i,j) = \min \{$$

$$D(i-1,j) + 1, \quad // \text{align 0 from S, 1 from T}$$

$$D(i,j-1) + 1, \quad // \text{align 1 from S, 0 from T}$$

$$D(i-1,j-1) + \delta(S(i),T(j)) \quad // \text{align 1+1 chars}$$

}

[Why do we want the min?]

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1										
I	2										
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

[What does the initialization mean?]

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0									
I	2										
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[M, M] = \min\{D[M, \emptyset] + 1, D[\emptyset, M] + 1, D[\emptyset, \emptyset] + \delta(M, M)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1								
I	2										
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MI, M] = \min\{D[MI, \emptyset] + 1, D[M, M] + 1, D[M, \emptyset] + \delta(I, M)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2							
I	2										
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIK, M] = \min\{D[MIK, \emptyset] + 1, D[MI, M] + 1, D[MI, ] + \delta(K, M)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3						
I	2										
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIKE, M] = \min\{D[MIKE,] + 1, D[MIK,M] + 1, D[MIK,] + \delta(E, M)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2										
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, M] = 9$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1									
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[M, MI] = \min\{D[M, M]+1, D[MI, \emptyset]+1, D[\emptyset, M]+\delta(M, I)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0								
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MI, MI] = \min\{D[MI, M]+1, D[M, MI]+1, D[M, M]+\delta(I, I)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1							
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIK, MI] = \min\{D[MIK, M]+1, D[MI, MI]+1, D[MI, M]+\delta(K, I)\}$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3										
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MI] = 8$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1							
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIK, MIC] = 1$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4										
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MIC] = 7$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5										
H	6										
A	7										
T	8										
Z	9										
Z	10										

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICE] = 7$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3

Distance is 3, but how?

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$$

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

Line up  
chars

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$$

Z  
Z

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

Gap in  
top  
string

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$$

- Z  
ZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$

T-Z  
TZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$

AT - Z  
ATZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	5
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$

HAT-Z  
HATZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	5	
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

Gap in  
bottom  
string

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$$

CHAT-Z  
-HATZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	5	
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$

SCHAT-Z  
S-HATZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	5	
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

Just line  
up  
mis-mat  
ches

$$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$$

KESCHAT - Z  
CES - HATZZ

# Dynamic Programming Matrix

		M	I	K	E	S	C	H	A	T	Z
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	3	2	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
E	4	3	2	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
S	5	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	6	5	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	5	
A	7	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	2	3	4
T	8	7	6	6	5	4	4	4	3	2	3
Z	9	8	7	7	6	5	5	5	4	3	2
Z	10	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	4	3

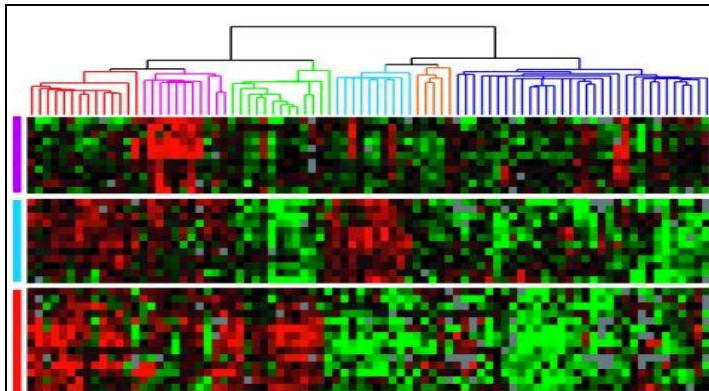
$D[MIKESCHATZ, MICESHATZZ] = 3$

MIKESCHAT-Z  
MICES-HATZZ

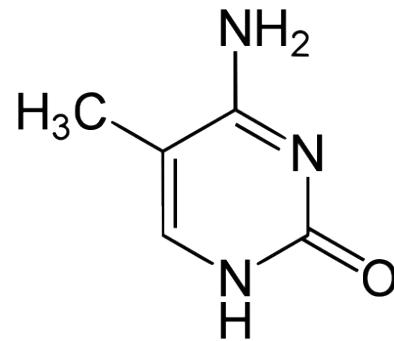
Hooray!

# \*-seq in 4 short vignettes

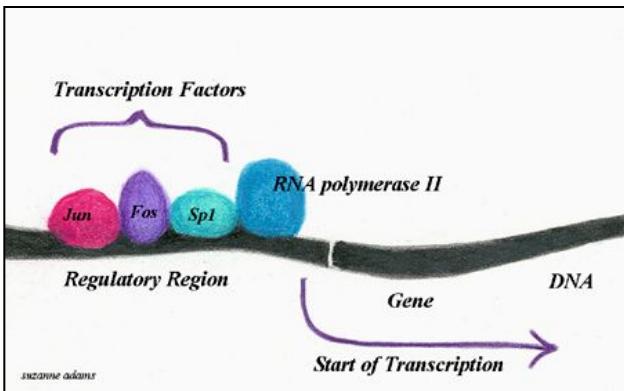
## RNA-seq



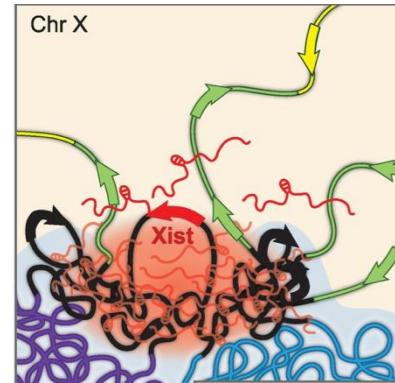
## Methyl-seq



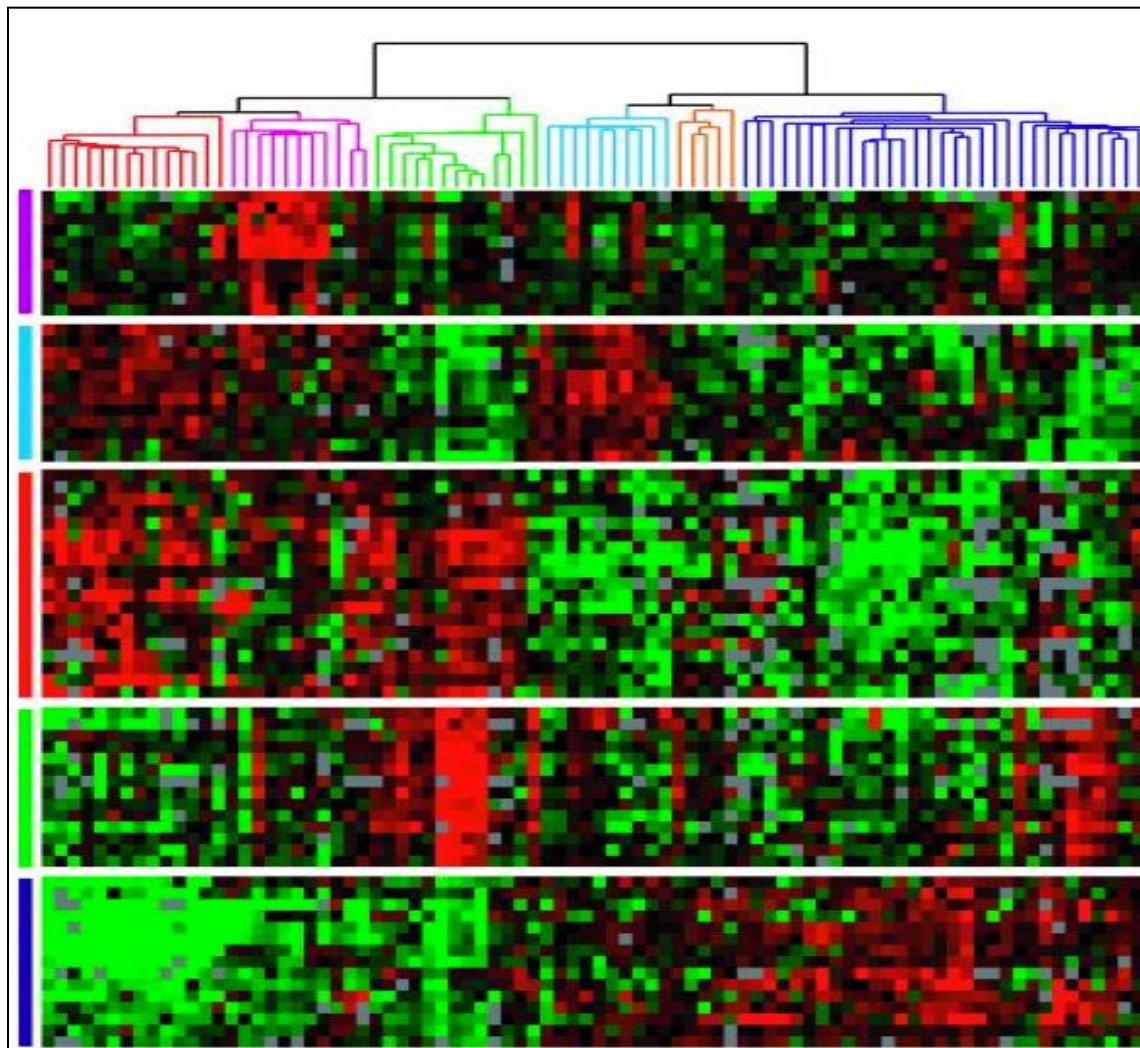
## ChIP-seq



## Hi-C

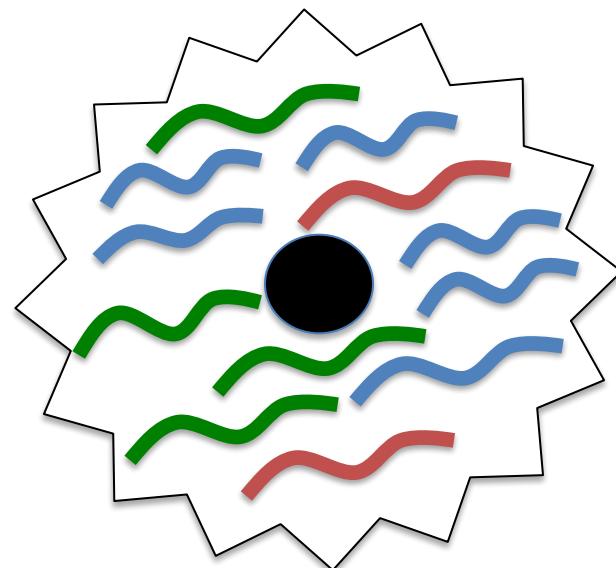


# RNA-seq

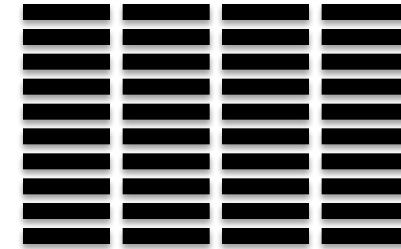


Gene expression patterns of breast carcinomas distinguish tumor subclasses with clinical implications.  
Sørlie et al (2001) PNAS. 98(19):10869-74.

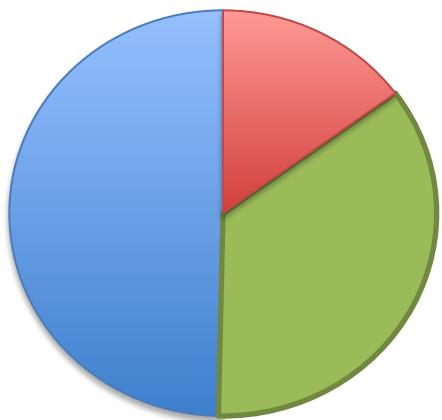
# RNA-seq Overview



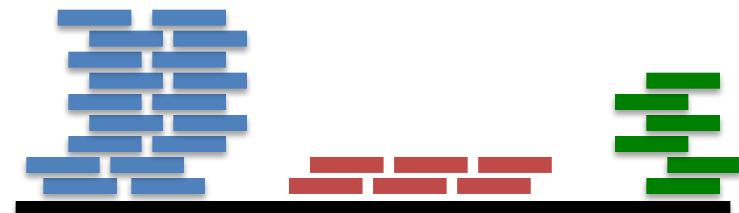
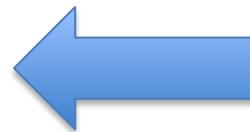
Sequencing



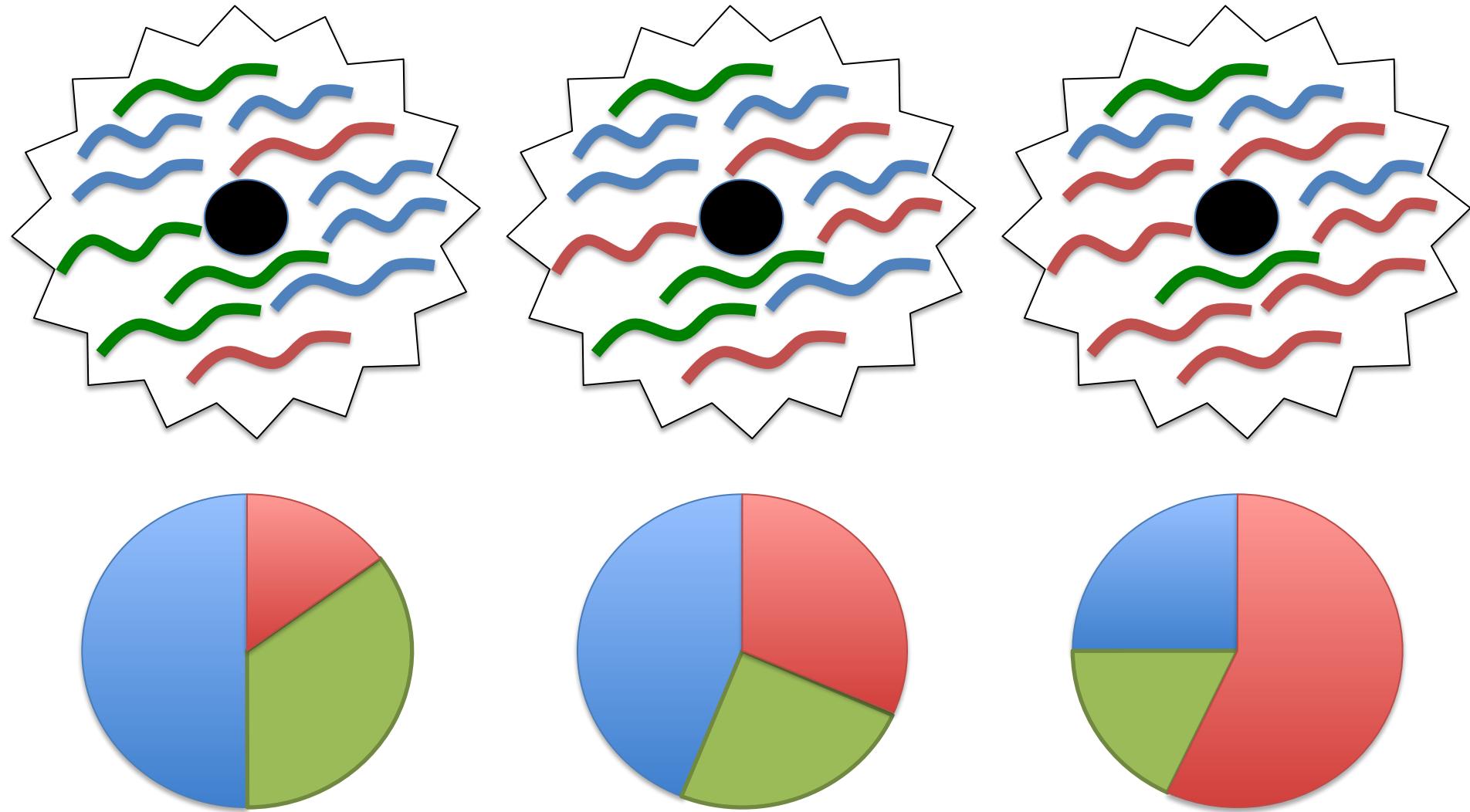
Mapping  
&  
Assembly



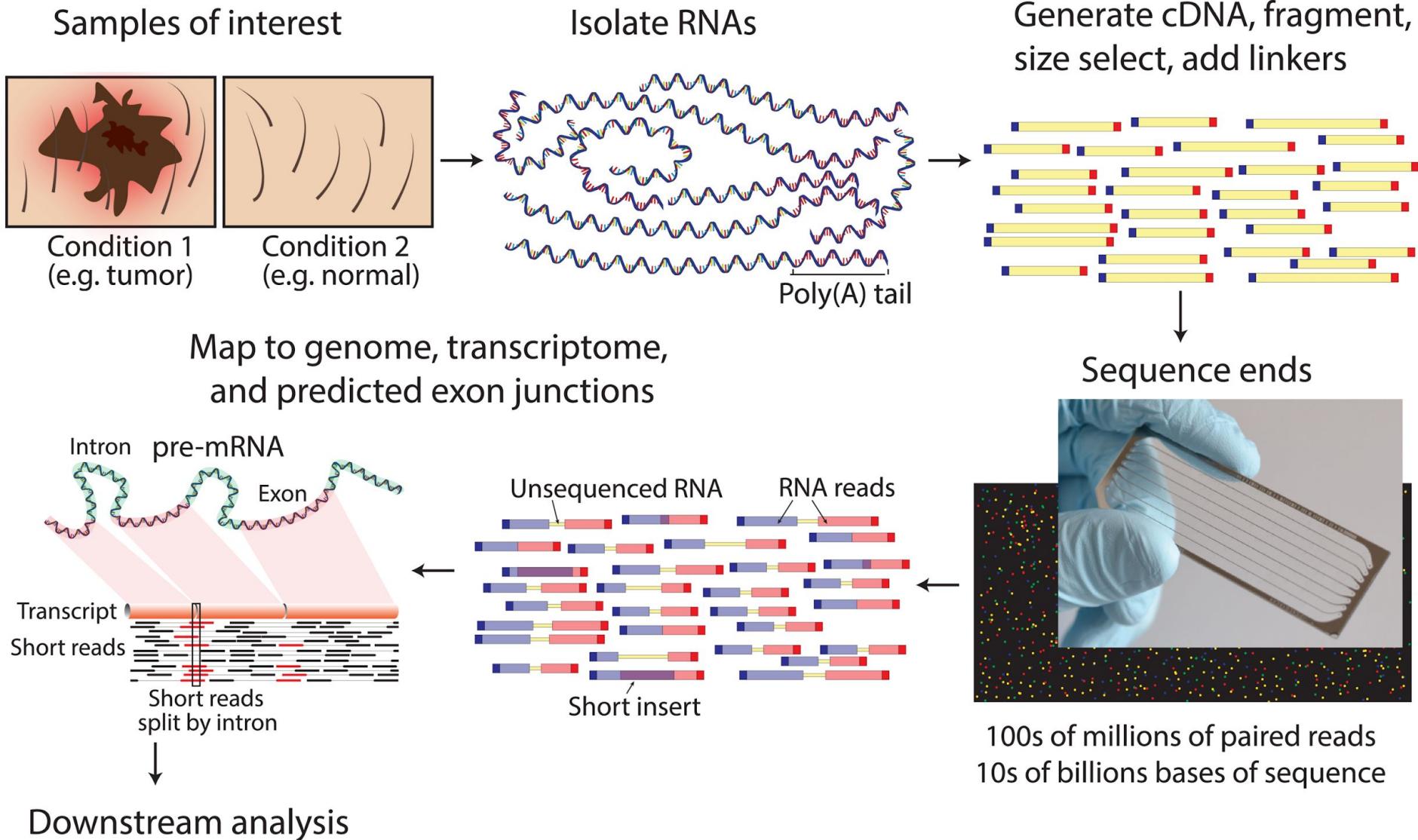
Quantification



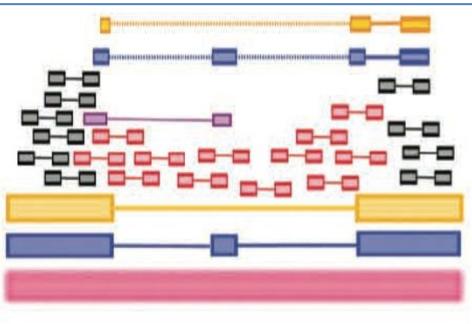
# RNA-seq Overview



# RNA-seq Overview

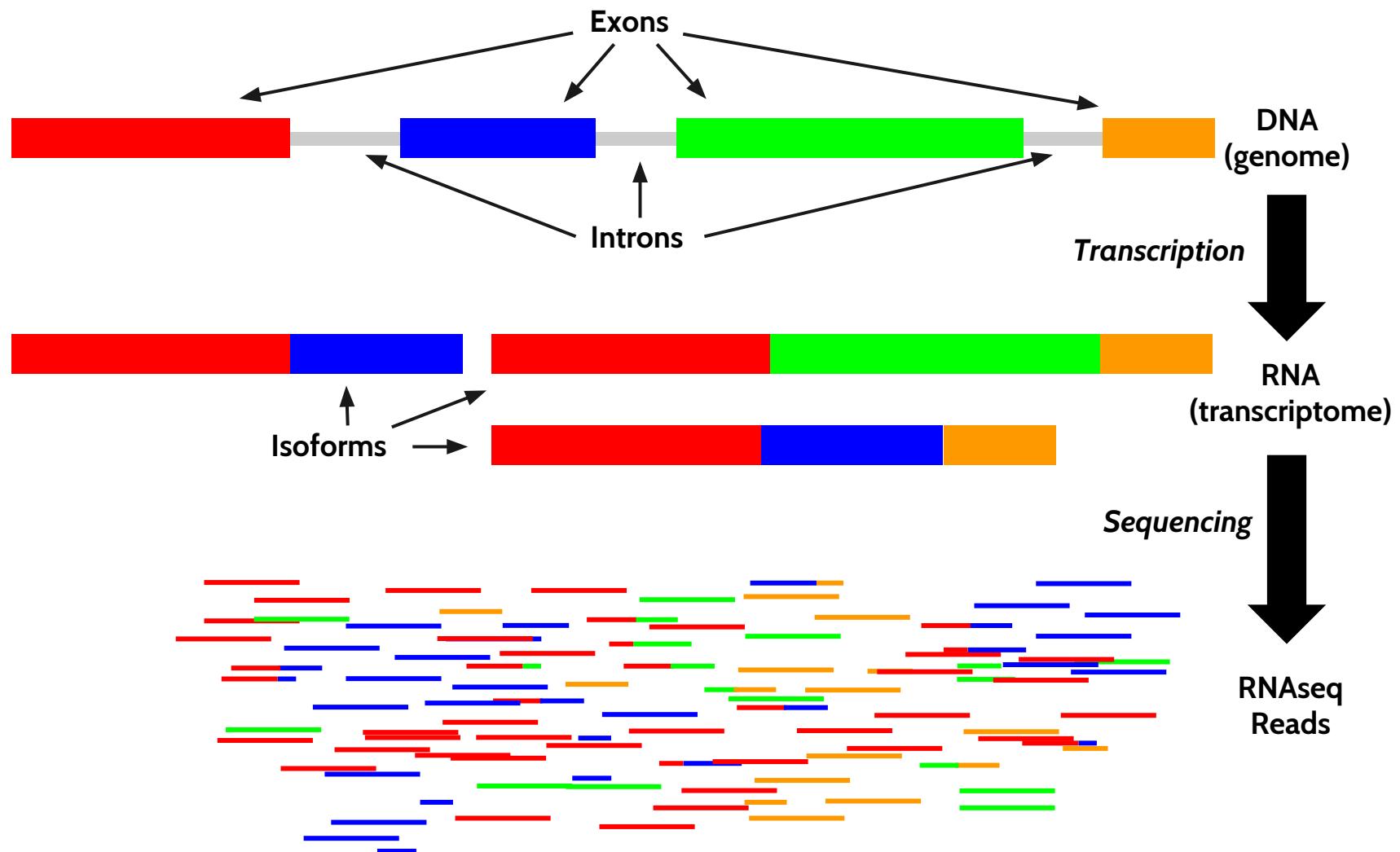


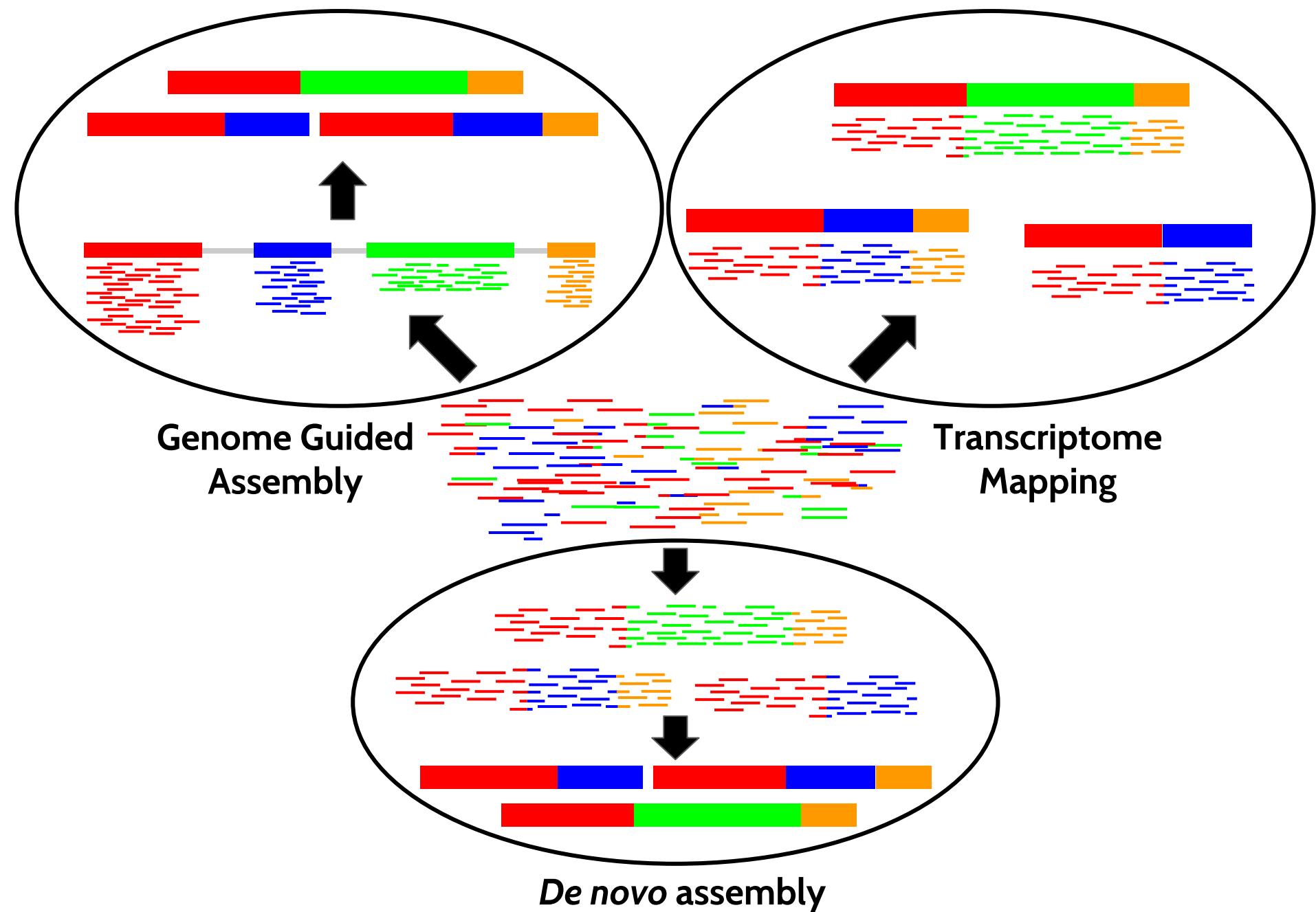
# RNA-seq Challenges



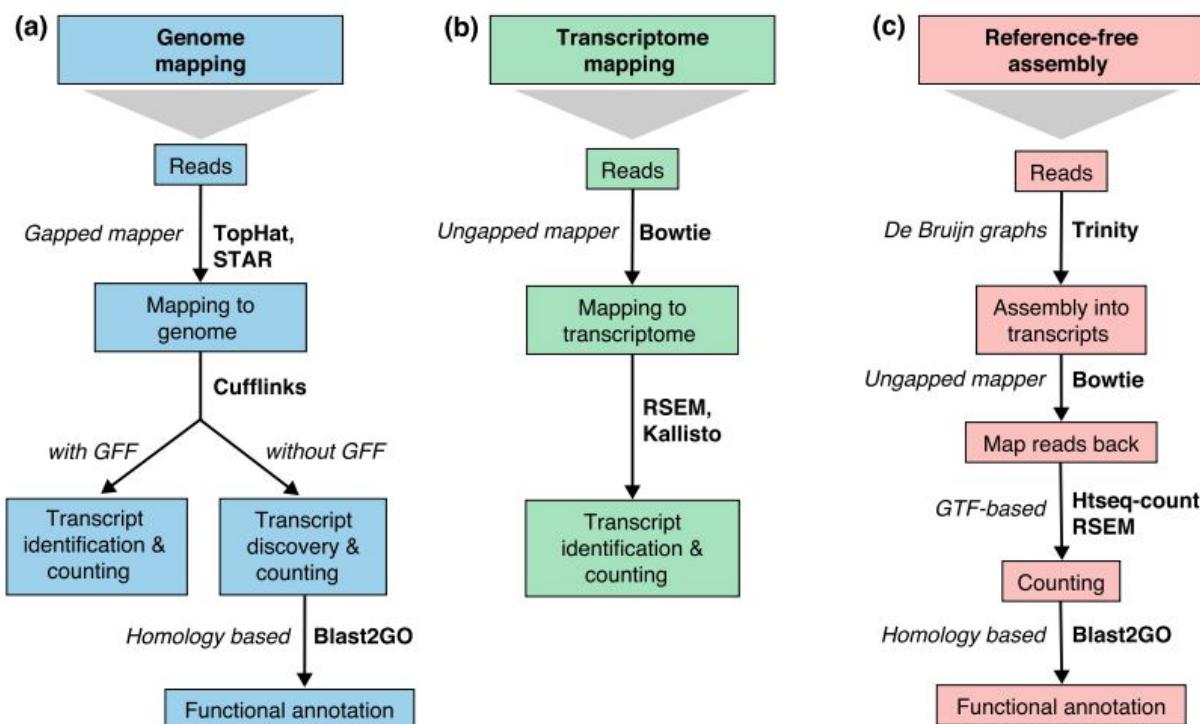
**Challenge I: Eukaryotic genes are spliced**

# Alternative Splicing





# RNA-Seq Approaches

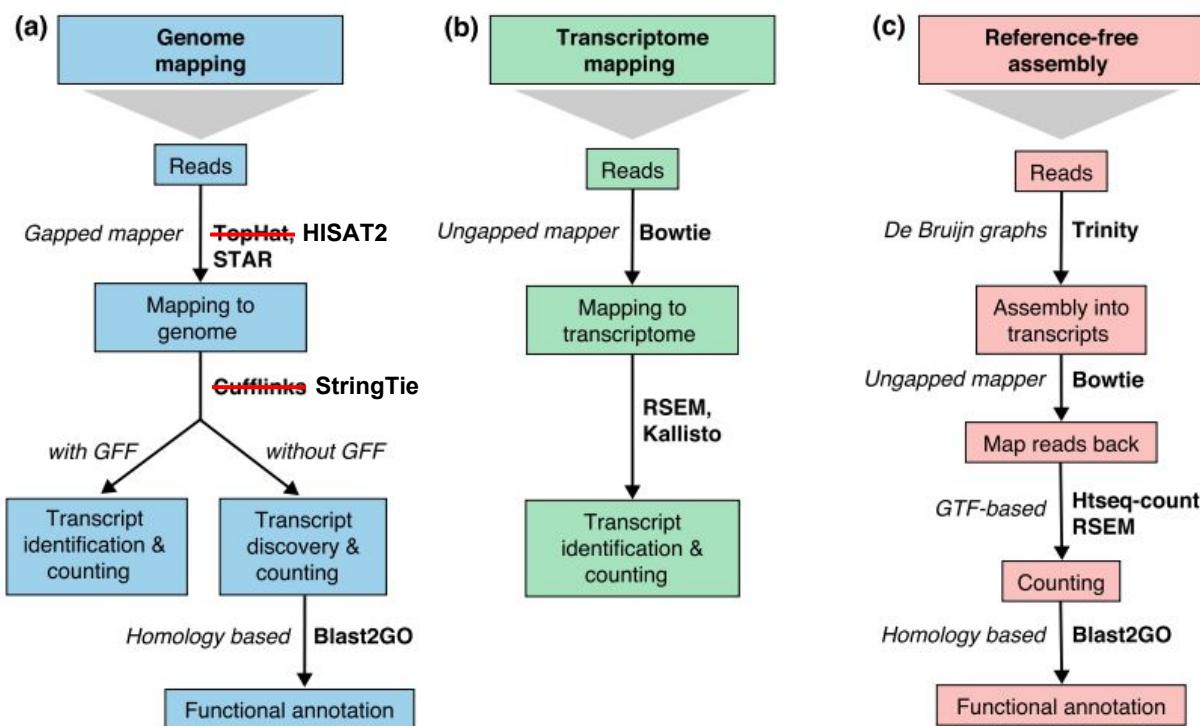


**Fig. 2** Read mapping and transcript identification strategies. Three basic strategies for regular RNA-seq analysis. **a** An annotated genome is available and reads are mapped to the genome with a gapped mapper. Next (novel) transcript discovery and quantification can proceed with or without an annotation file. Novel transcripts are then functionally annotated. **b** If no novel transcript discovery is needed, reads can be mapped to the reference transcriptome using an ungapped aligner. Transcript identification and quantification can occur simultaneously. **c** When no genome is available, reads need to be assembled first into contigs or transcripts. For quantification, reads are mapped back to the novel reference transcriptome and further analysis proceeds as in **(b)** followed by the functional annotation of the novel transcripts as in **(a)**. Representative software that can be used at each analysis step are indicated in **bold** text. Abbreviations: *GFF* General Feature Format, *GTF* gene transfer format, *RSEM* RNA-Seq by Expectation Maximization

**A survey of best practices for RNA-seq data analysis**

Conesa et al (2016) Genome Biology. doi 10.1186/s13059-016-0881-8

# RNA-Seq Approaches

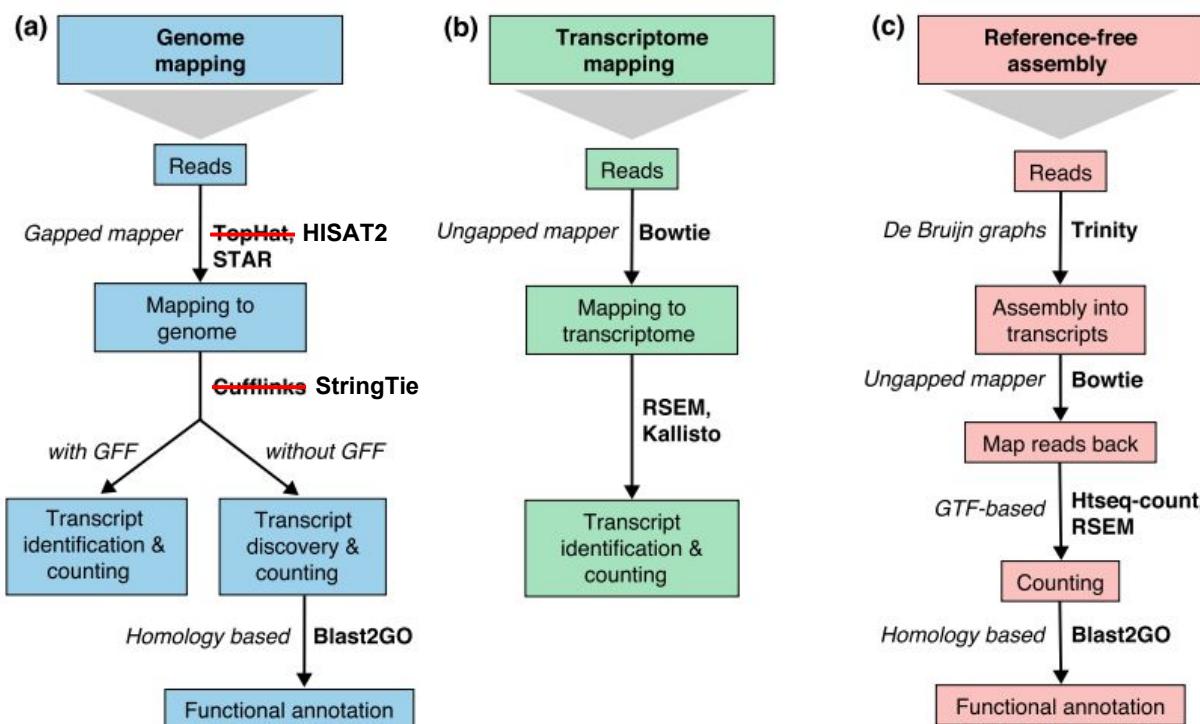


**Fig. 2** Read mapping and transcript identification strategies. Three basic strategies for regular RNA-seq analysis. **a** An annotated genome is available and reads are mapped to the genome with a gapped mapper. Next (novel) transcript discovery and quantification can proceed with or without an annotation file. Novel transcripts are then functionally annotated. **b** If no novel transcript discovery is needed, reads can be mapped to the reference transcriptome using an ungapped aligner. Transcript identification and quantification can occur simultaneously. **c** When no genome is available, reads need to be assembled first into contigs or transcripts. For quantification, reads are mapped back to the novel reference transcriptome and further analysis proceeds as in **(b)** followed by the functional annotation of the novel transcripts as in **(a)**. Representative software that can be used at each analysis step are indicated in **bold** text. Abbreviations: *GFF* General Feature Format, *GTF* gene transfer format, *RSEM* RNA-Seq by Expectation Maximization

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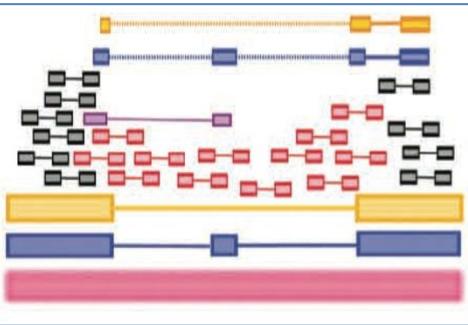
Which approach should we use?

It depends....

A survey of best practices for RNA-seq data analysis

Conesa et al (2016) Genome Biology. doi 10.1186/s13059-016-0881-8

# RNA-seq Challenges



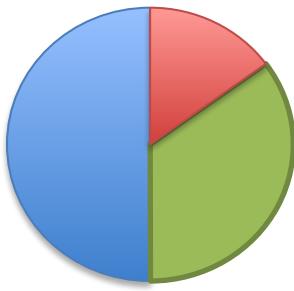
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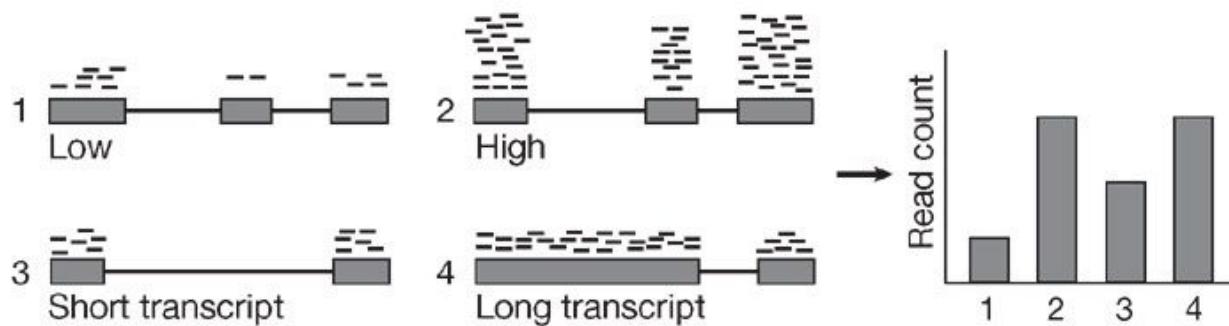
**TopHat: discovering spliced junctions with RNA-Seq.**

Trapnell et al (2009) *Bioinformatics*. 25:0 1105-1111

## Challenge 2: Read Count != Transcript abundance



# RPKM, FPKM, TPM

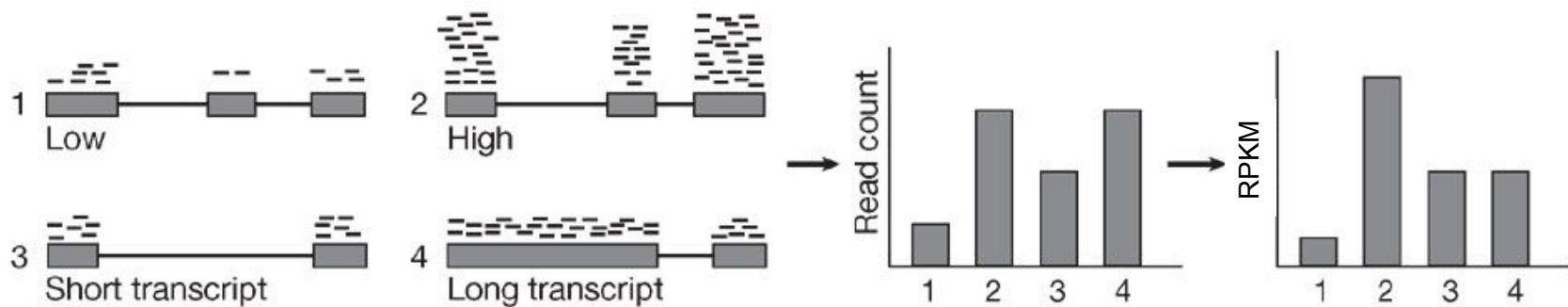


***Counting Reads that align to a gene DOESN'T work!***

- Overall Coverage: 1M reads in experiment 1 vs 10M reads in experiment 2
- Gene Length: gene 3 is 10kbp, gene 4 is 100kbp

***1. RPKM: Reads Per Kilobase of Exon Per Million Reads Mapped (Mortazavi et al, 2008)***

# RPKM, FPKM, TPM



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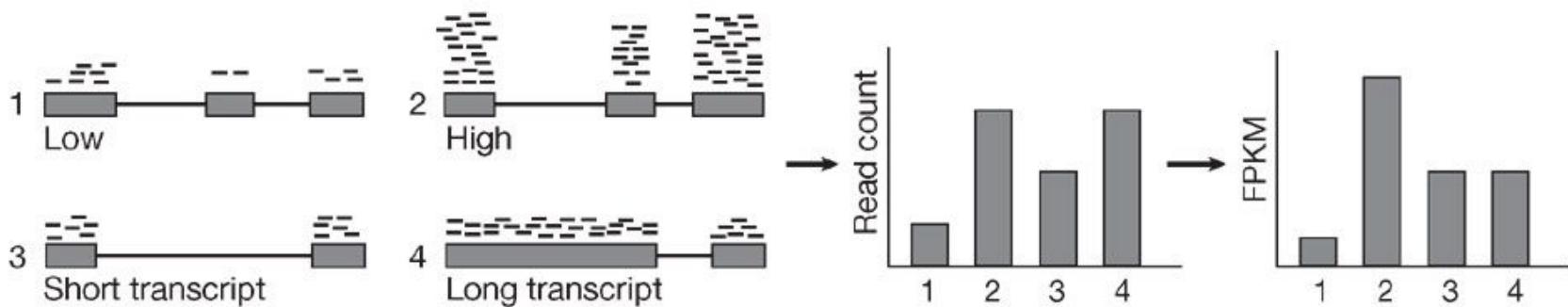
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## 1. RPKM: Reads Per Kilobase of Exon Per Million Reads Mapped (Mortazavi et al, 2008)

(Count reads aligned to gene) / (length of gene in kilobases) / (# millions of read mapped)

=> Wait a second, reads in a pair aren't independent!

# RPKM, FPKM, TPM



**Counting Reads that align to a gene DOESN'T work!**

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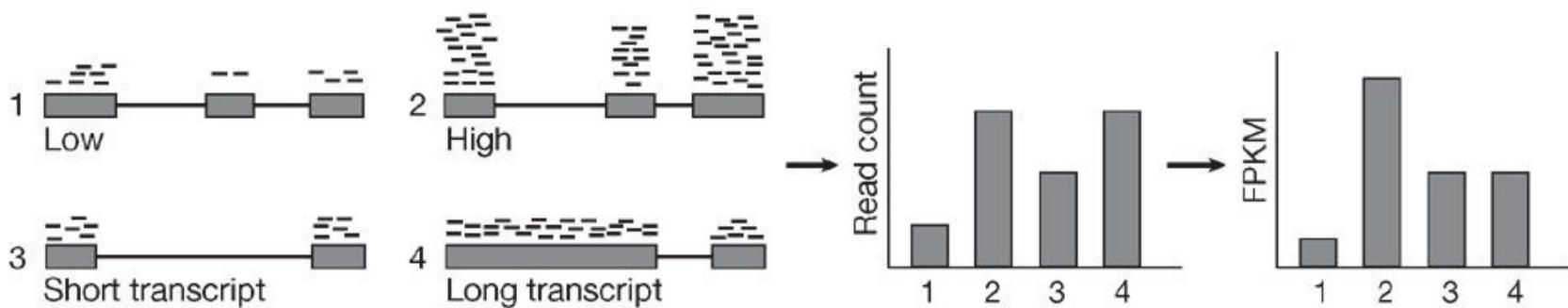
**1. RPKM: Reads Per Kilobase of Exon Per Million Reads Mapped (Mortazavi et al, 2008)**

=> Wait a second, reads in a pair aren't independent!

**2. FPKM: Fragments Per Kilobase of Exon Per Million Reads Mapped (Trapnell et al, 2010)**

- Does a much better job with short exons & short genes by boosting coverage
- Wait a second, FPKM depends on the average transcript length!

# RPKM, FPKM, TPM



**Counting Reads that align to a gene DOESN'T work!**

- Overall Coverage: 1M reads in experiment 1 vs 10M reads in experiment 2
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**2. FPKM: Fragments Per Kilobase of Exon Per Million Reads Mapped (Trapnell et al, 2010)**

=> Wait a second, FPKM depends on the average transcript length!

**3. TPM: Transcripts Per Million (Li et al, 2011)**

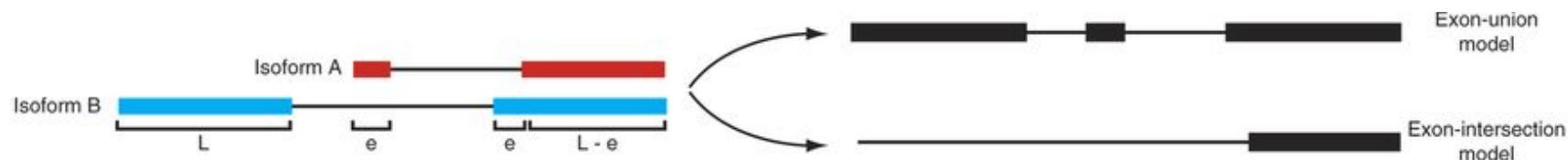
=> If you were to sequence one million full length transcripts, TPM is the number of transcripts you would have seen of type i, given the abundances of the other transcripts in your sample

=> Recommend you use TPM for all analysis, easy to compute given FPKM

$$TPM_i = \left( \frac{FPKM_i}{\sum_j FPKM_j} \right) \cdot 10^6$$

# Gene or Isoform Quantification?

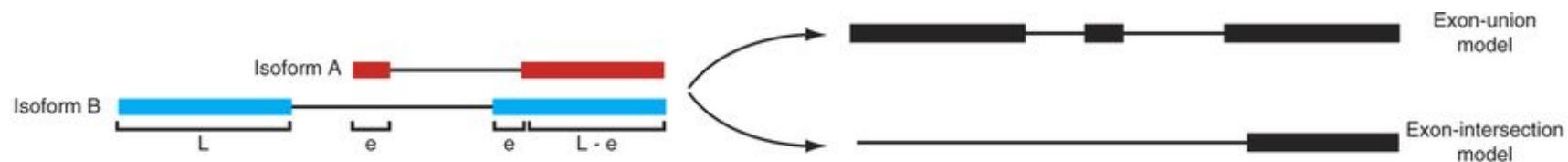
a



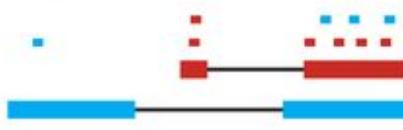
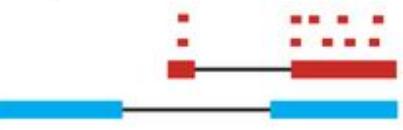
**Differential analysis of gene regulation at transcript resolution with RNA-seq**  
Trapnell et al (2013) Nature Biotechnology 31, 46–53. doi:10.1038/nbt.2450

# Gene or Isoform Quantification?

a



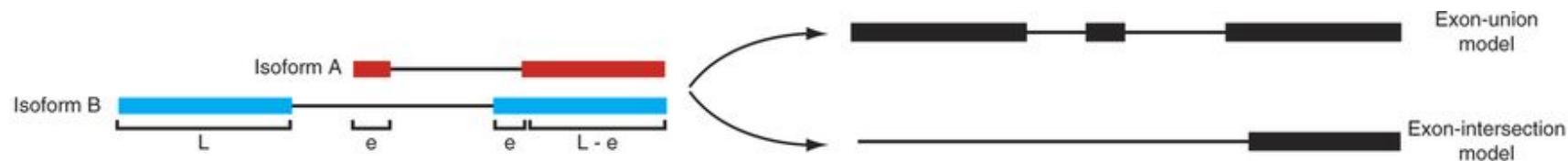
b

Condition A	Condition B	Log fold-change (union count)	Log fold-change (intersect count)	Log fold-change (true expression)
		$\log_2\left(\frac{10}{10}\right) = 0$	$\log_2\left(\frac{8}{7}\right) = 0.19$	$\log_2\left(\frac{\frac{10}{L}}{\frac{6}{L} + \frac{4}{2L}}\right) = 0.32$

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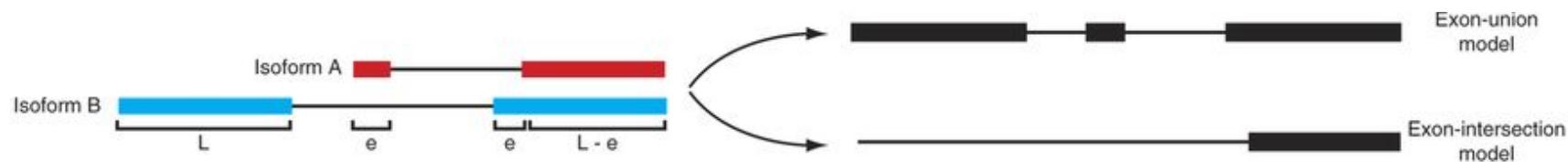
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		$\log_2\left(\frac{6}{8}\right) = -0.41$	$\log_2\left(\frac{5}{5}\right) = 0$	$\log_2\left(\frac{6/L}{8/2L}\right) = 0.58$

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# Gene or Isoform Quantification?

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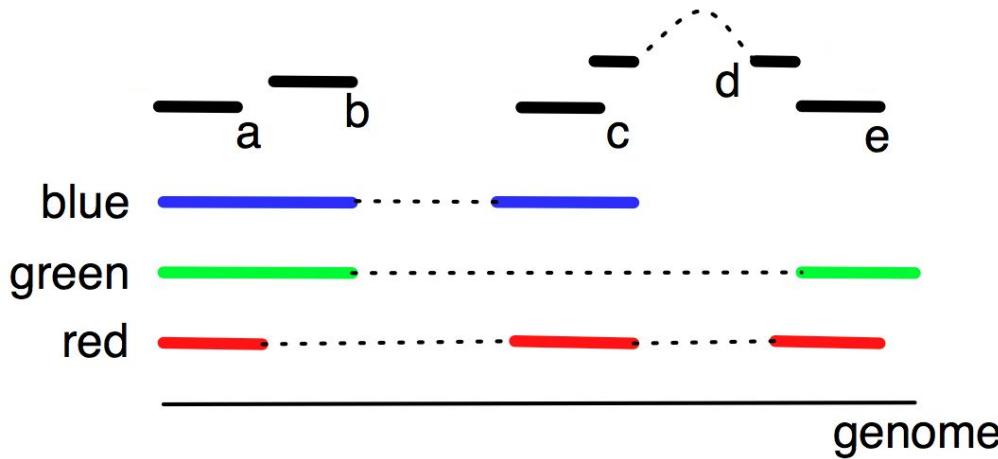
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		$\log_2\left(\frac{5}{10}\right) = -1$	$\log\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = -0.1$	$\log_2\left(\frac{5}{10} / \frac{10}{2L}\right) = 0$

**Key point : The length of the actual molecule from which the fragments derive is crucially important to obtaining accurate abundance estimates.**

**Differential analysis of gene regulation at transcript resolution with RNA-seq**  
Trapnell et al (2013) Nature Biotechnology 31, 46–53. doi:10.1038/nbt.2450

# Multi-mapping? Isoform ambiguity? Expectation Maximization to the Rescue



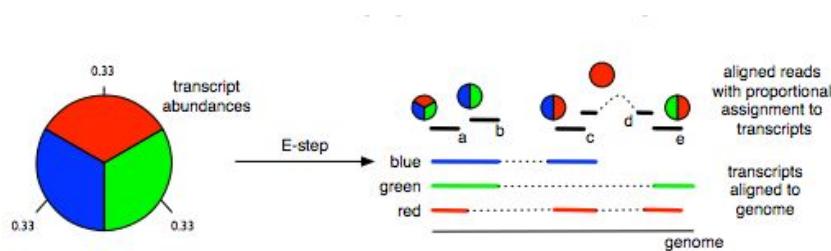
The gene has three isoforms (red, green, blue) of the same length.  
Our initial expectation is all 3 isoforms are equally expressed

There are five reads (a,b,c,d,e) mapping to the gene.

- Read a maps to all three isoforms
- Read d only to red
- Reads b,c,e map to each of the three pairs of isoforms.

What is the most likely expression level of each isoform?

# Multi-mapping? Isoform ambiguity? Expectation Maximization to the Rescue

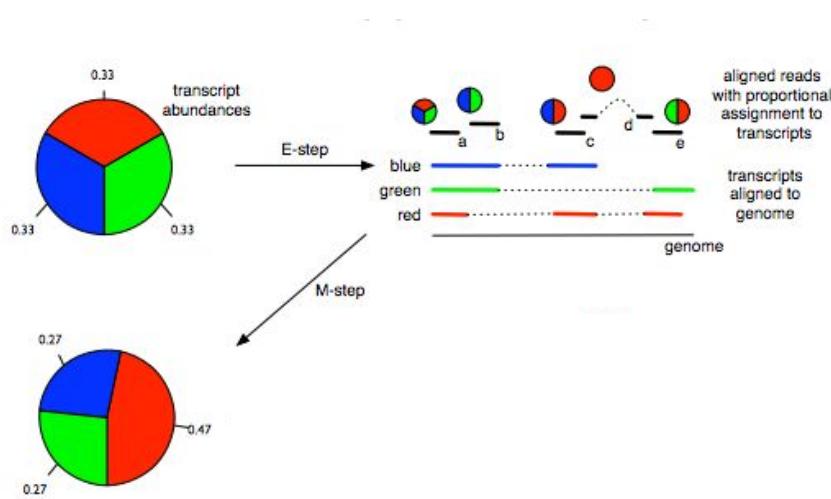


The gene has three isoforms (red, green, blue) of the same length. Initially every isoform is assigned the same abundance (red=1/3, green=1/3, blue=1/3)

There are five reads (a,b,c,d,e) mapping to the gene. Read a maps to all three isoforms, read d only to red, and the other three (reads b,c,e) to each of the three pairs of isoforms.

During the expectation (E) step reads are proportionately assigned to transcripts according to the (current) isoform abundances (RGB): a=(.33,.33,.33), b=(0,.5,.5), c=(.5,.5,.5), d=(1,0,0), e=(.5,.5,0)

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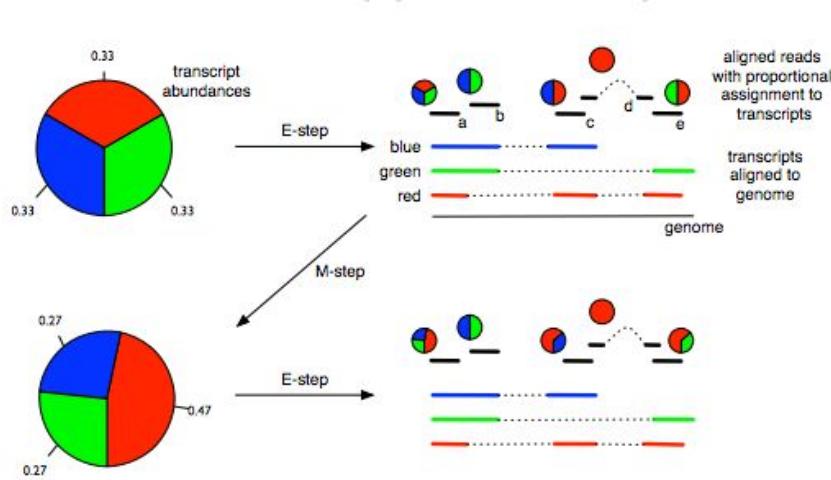
Next, during the maximization (M) step isoform abundances are recalculated from the proportionately assigned read counts:

$$\text{red: } 0.47 = (0.33 + 0.5 + 1 + 0.5)/(2.33 + 1.33 + 1.33)$$

$$\text{blue: } 0.27 = (0.33 + 0.5 + 0.5)/(2.33 + 1.33 + 1.33)$$

$$\text{green: } 0.27 = (0.33 + 0.5 + 0.5)/(2.33 + 1.33 + 1.33)$$

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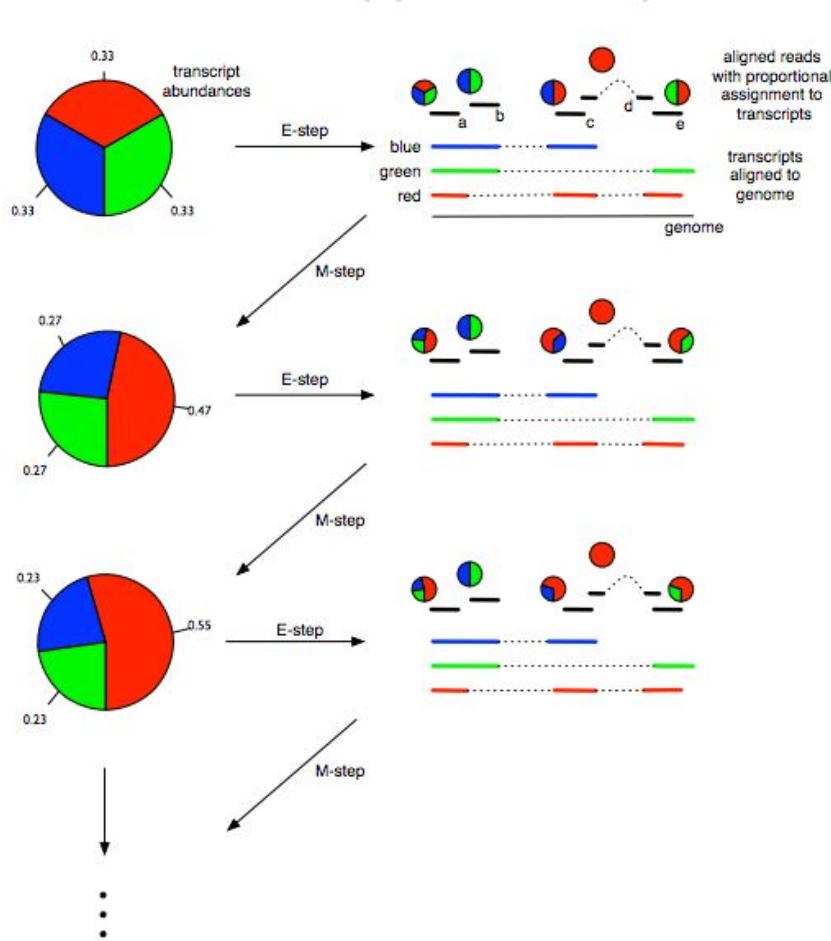
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Repeat until convergence!

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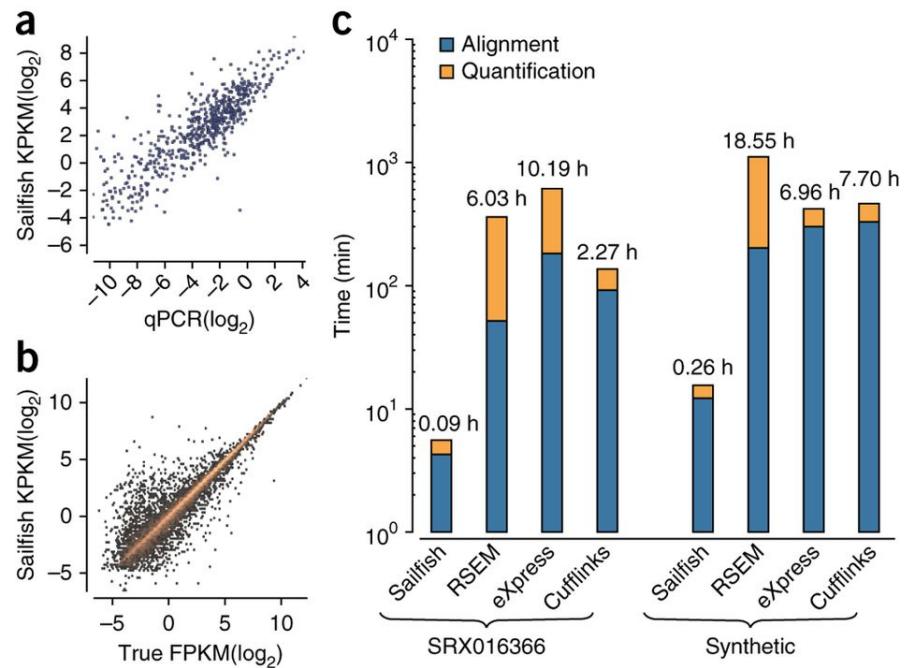
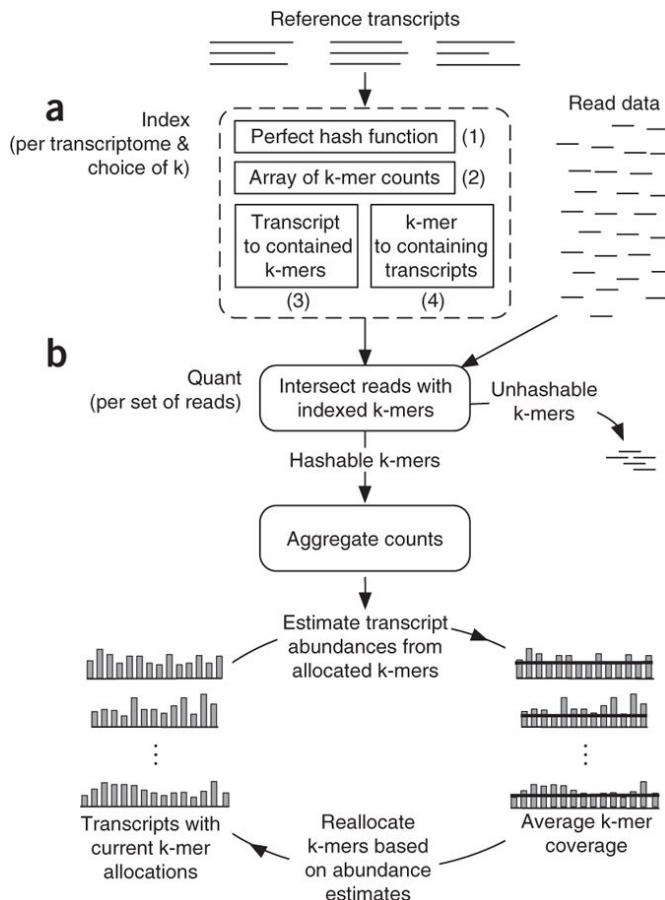
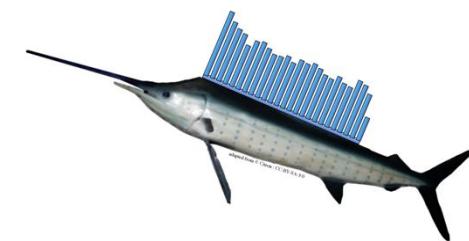
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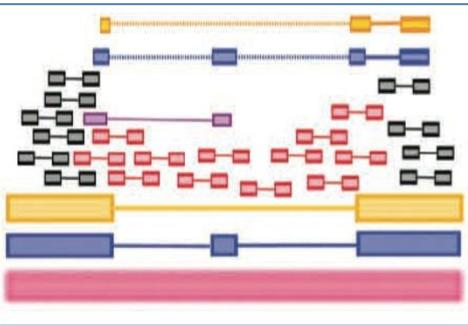
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# Sailfish: Fast & Accurate RNA-seq Quantification



**Sailfish enables alignment-free isoform quantification from RNA-seq reads using lightweight algorithms**  
 Patro et al (2014) Nature Biotechnology 32, 462–464 doi:10.1038/nbt.2862

# RNA-seq Challenges

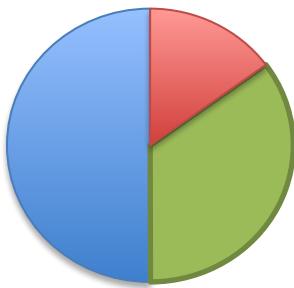


## Challenge 1: Eukaryotic genes are spliced

Solution: Use a spliced aligner, and assemble isoforms

**TopHat: discovering spliced junctions with RNA-Seq.**

Trapnell et al (2009) *Bioinformatics*. 25:0 1105-1111

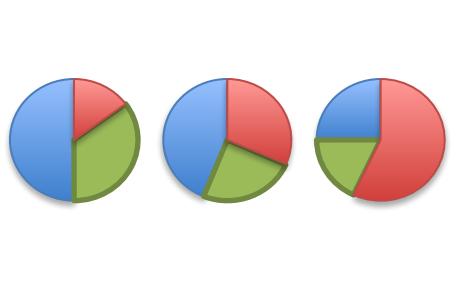


## Challenge 2: Read Count != Transcript abundance

Solution: Infer underlying abundances (e.g. TPM)

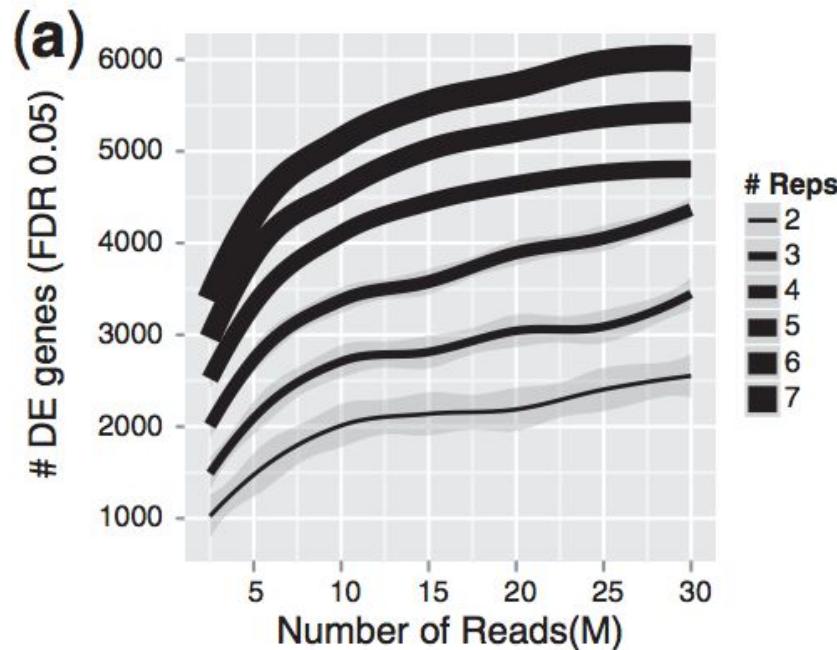
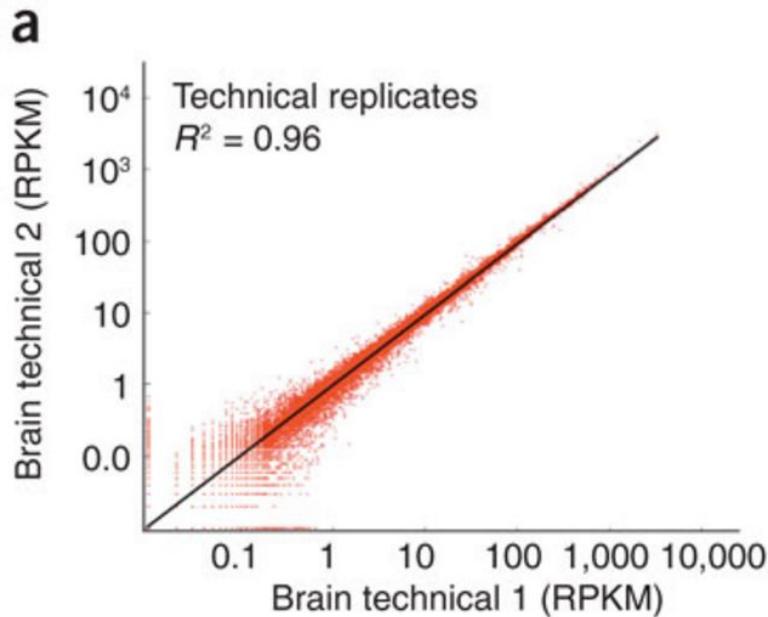
**Transcript assembly and quantification by RNA-seq**

Trapnell et al (2010) *Nat. Biotech.* 25(5): 511-515



## Challenge 3: Transcript abundances are stochastic

# How Many Replicates?

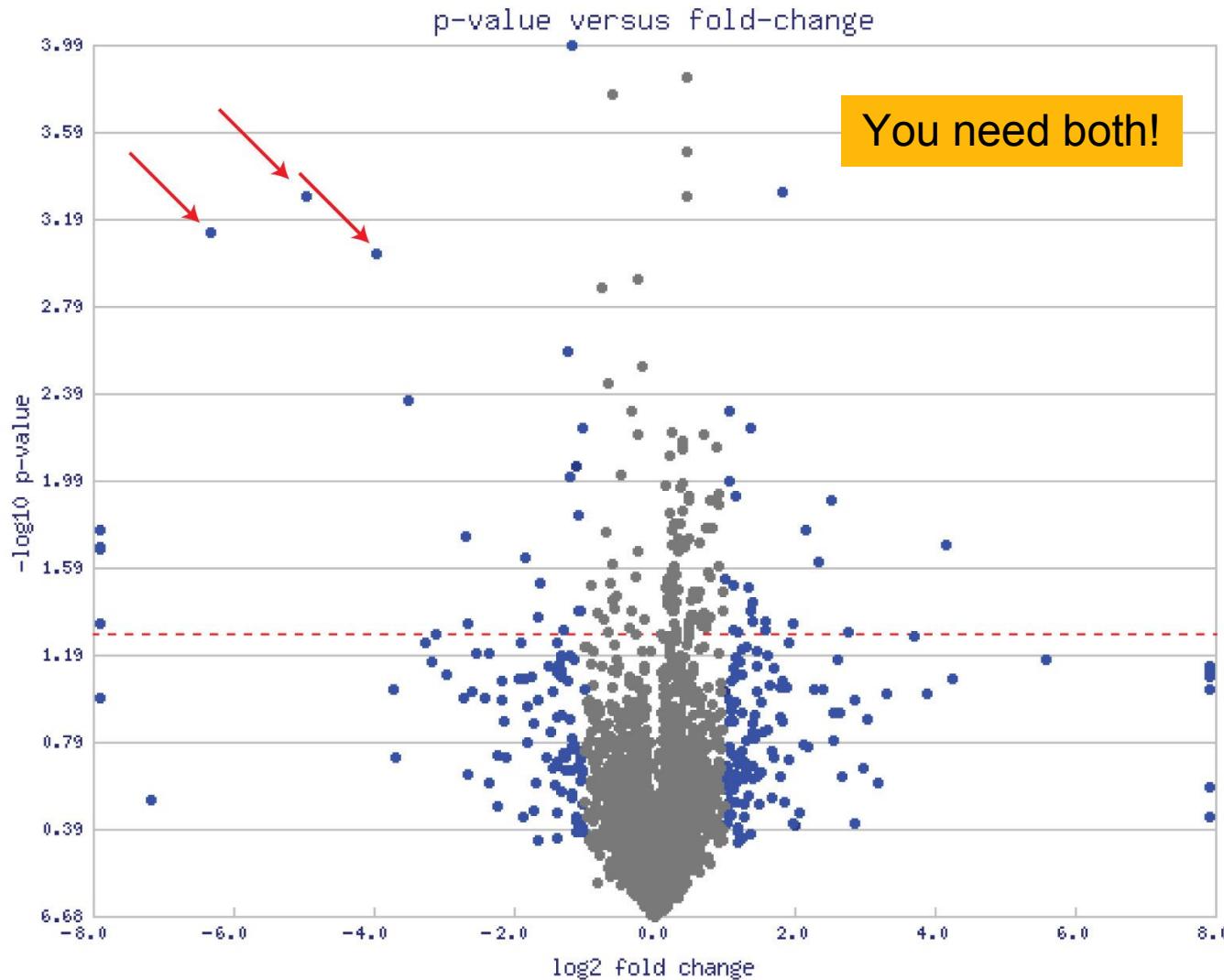


Why don't we have perfect replicates?

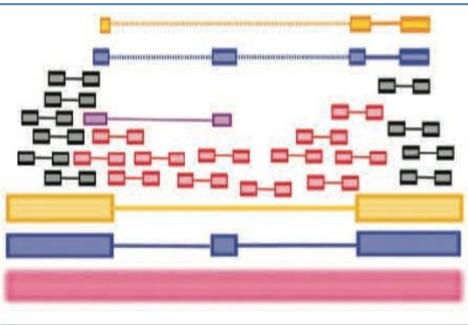
**Mapping and quantifying mammalian transcriptomes by RNA-Seq**  
Mortazavi et al (2008) Nature Methods. 5, 62-628

**RNA-seq differential expression studies: more sequence or more replication?**  
Liu et al (2013) Bioinformatics. doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btt688

# Fold Change vs P-Value



# RNA-seq Challenges

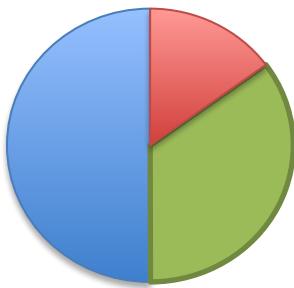


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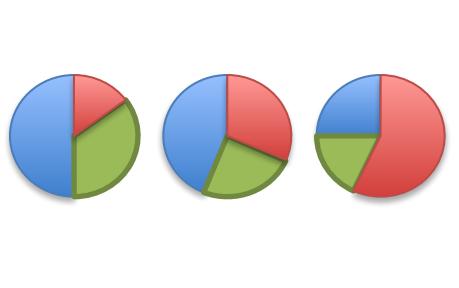


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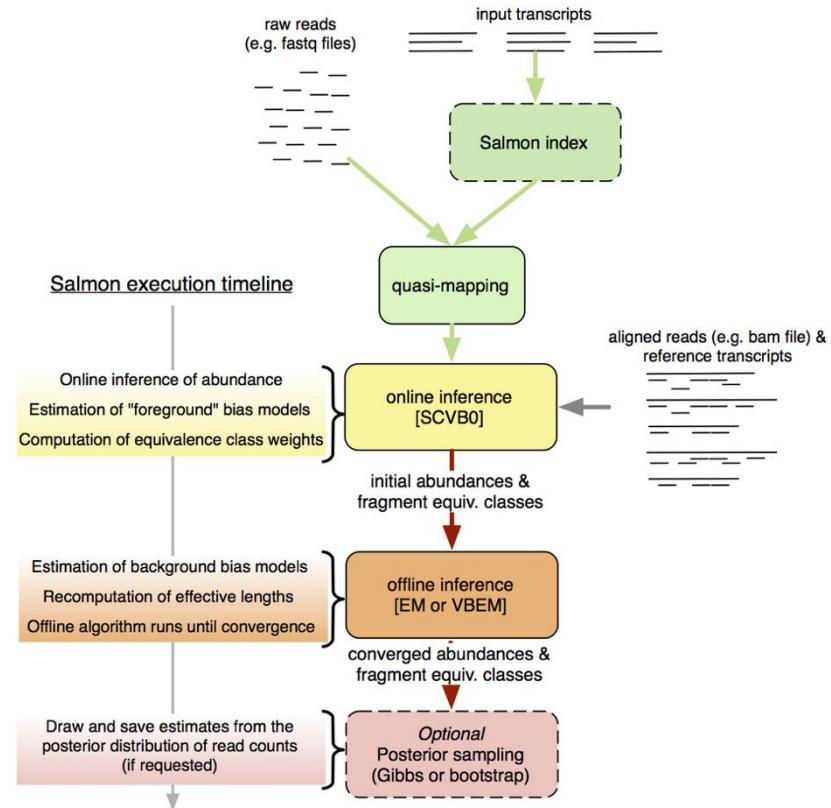
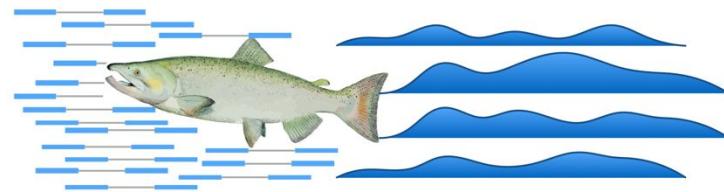
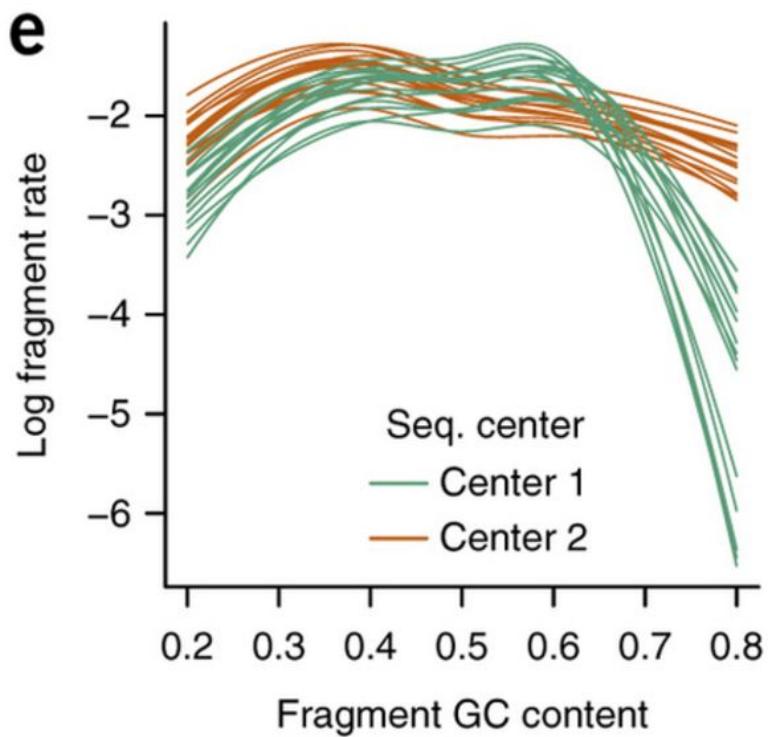
## Challenge 3: Transcript abundances are stochastic

Solution: Replicates, replicates, and more replicates

**RNA-seq differential expression studies: more sequence or more replication?**

Liu et al (2013) *Bioinformatics*. doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btt688

# Salmon: The ultimate Quantification Pipeline?



**Modeling of RNA-seq fragment sequence bias reduces systematic errors in transcript abundance estimation**  
Love et al (2016) Nature Biotechnology 34, 1287–1291 (2016) doi:10.1038/nbt.3682

**Salmon provides fast and bias-aware quantification of transcript expression**  
Patro et al (2017) Nature Methods (2017) doi:10.1038/nmeth.4197

# Genome Guided Transcriptome Assembly

Most accurate high-throughput method for novel isoform discovery

Can also be guided by annotation, and produce quantification estimates

StringTie (JHU) and Scallop (CMU) are current state of the art

nature  
biotechnology

Letter | Published: 18 February 2015

StringTie enables improved reconstruction of a transcriptome from RNA-seq reads

Mihaela Pertea, Geo M Pertea, Corina M Antonescu, Tsung-Cheng Chang, Joshua T Mendell & Steven L Salzberg 

*Nature Biotechnology* **33**, 290–295 (2015) | Download Citation 

nature  
biotechnology

Brief Communication | Published: 13 November 2017

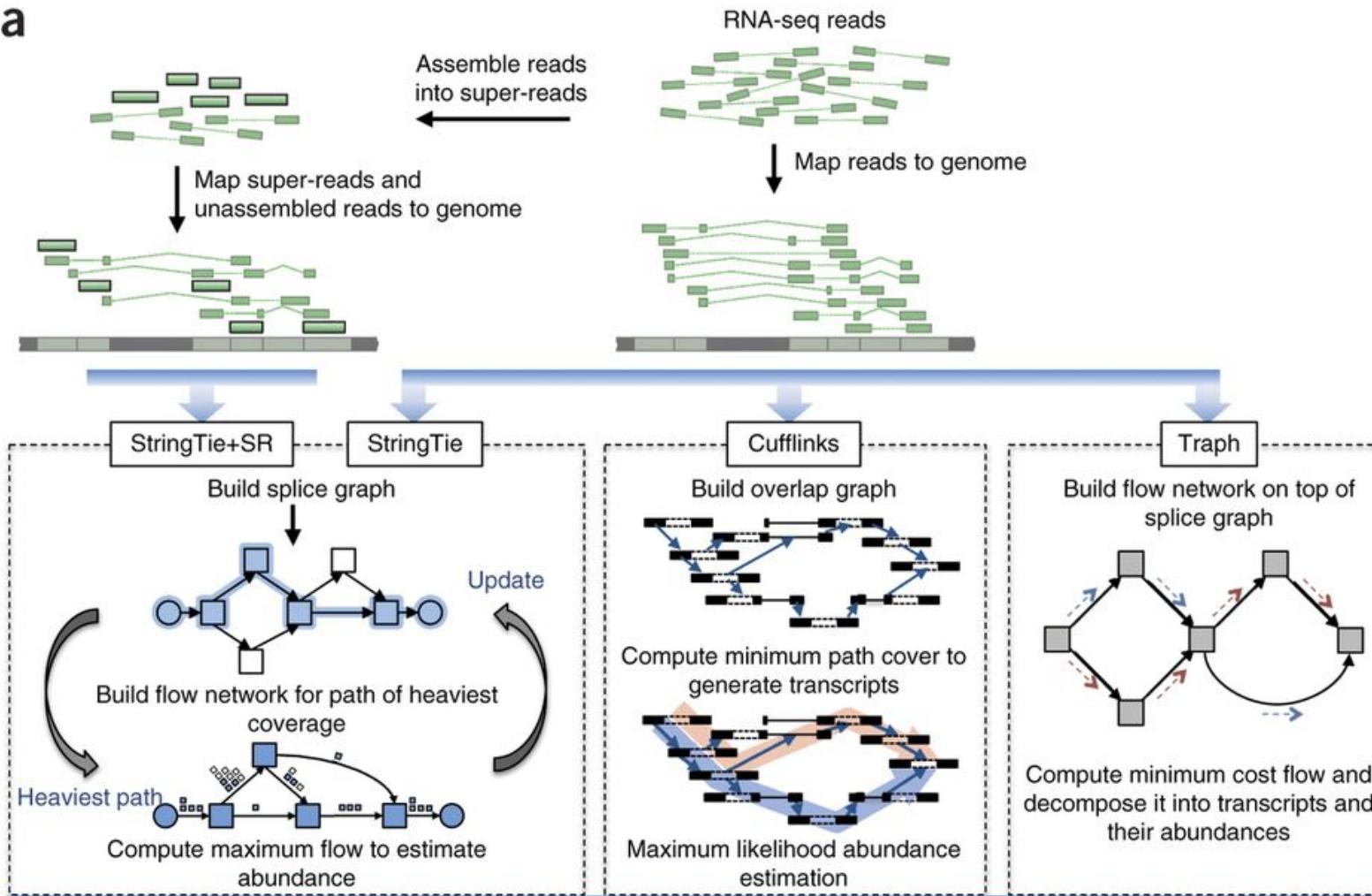
Accurate assembly of transcripts through phase-preserving graph decomposition

Mingfu Shao & Carl Kingsford 

*Nature Biotechnology* **35**, 1167–1169 (2017) | Download Citation 

# StringTie Algorithm

a



**StringTie enables improved reconstruction of a transcriptome from RNA-seq reads.**

Perteau M, et al. (2015) Nature Biotechnology. doi: 10.1038/nbt.3122.

# Long-Read RNAseq

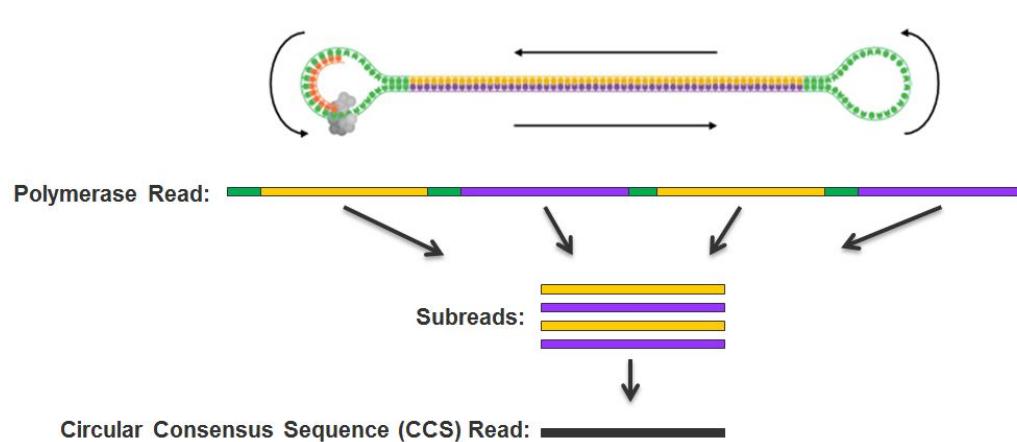
Long-read RNAseq from Pacific Biosciences (PacBio) and Oxford Nanopore Technologies (ONT) can sequence full-length transcripts, as well as large fragments.

## PacBio Iso-Seq

- Sequences cDNA multiple times to achieve higher-quality consensus read

## ONT direct RNA-seq

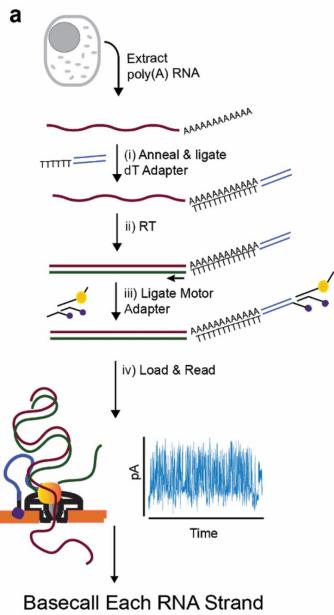
- Sequences RNA molecule directly, enabling detection of modifications and structure



[files.pacb.com/software/smrtanalysis/2.2.0/doc/smrtportal/help/!SSL!Webhelp/Portal\\_PacBio\\_Glossary.htm](http://files.pacb.com/software/smrtanalysis/2.2.0/doc/smrtportal/help/!SSL!Webhelp/Portal_PacBio_Glossary.htm)



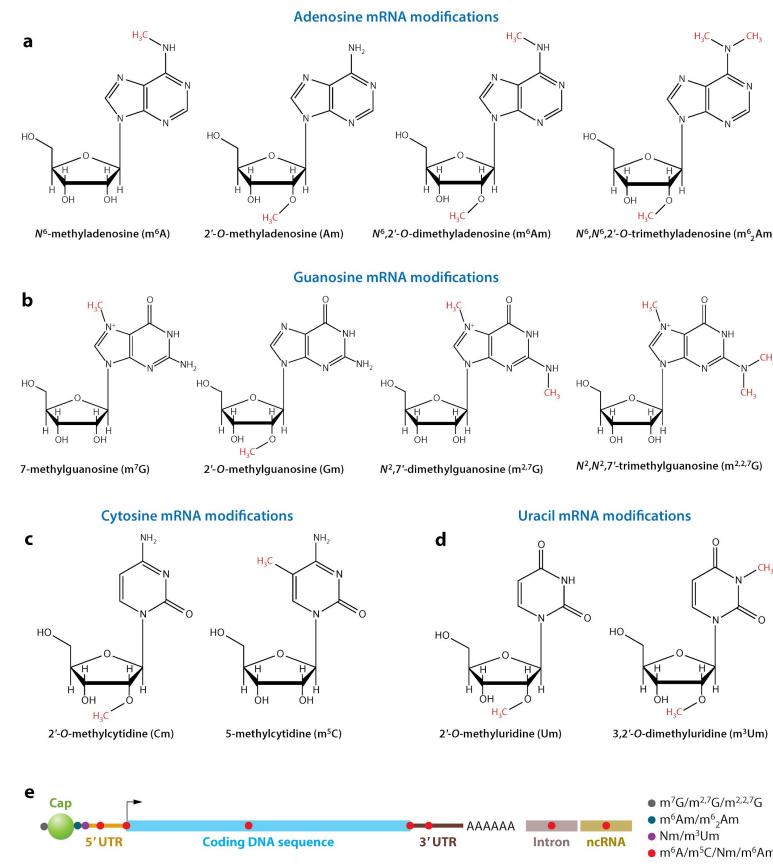
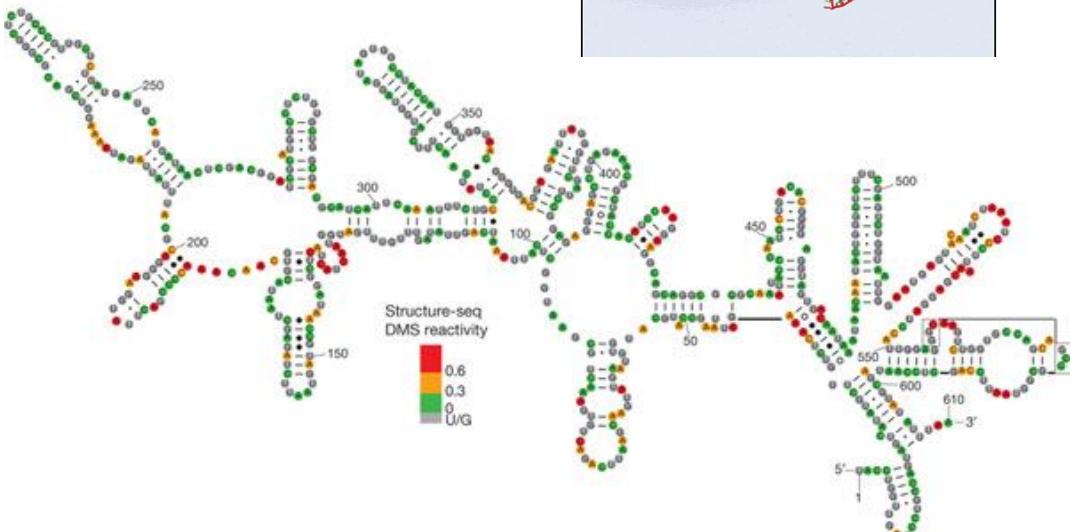
# Nanopore Direct RNAseq



cDNA sequencing erases RNA modifications and secondary structure

ONT direct RNAseq has potential to read both

On the other hand, secondary structure could also clog up the pore



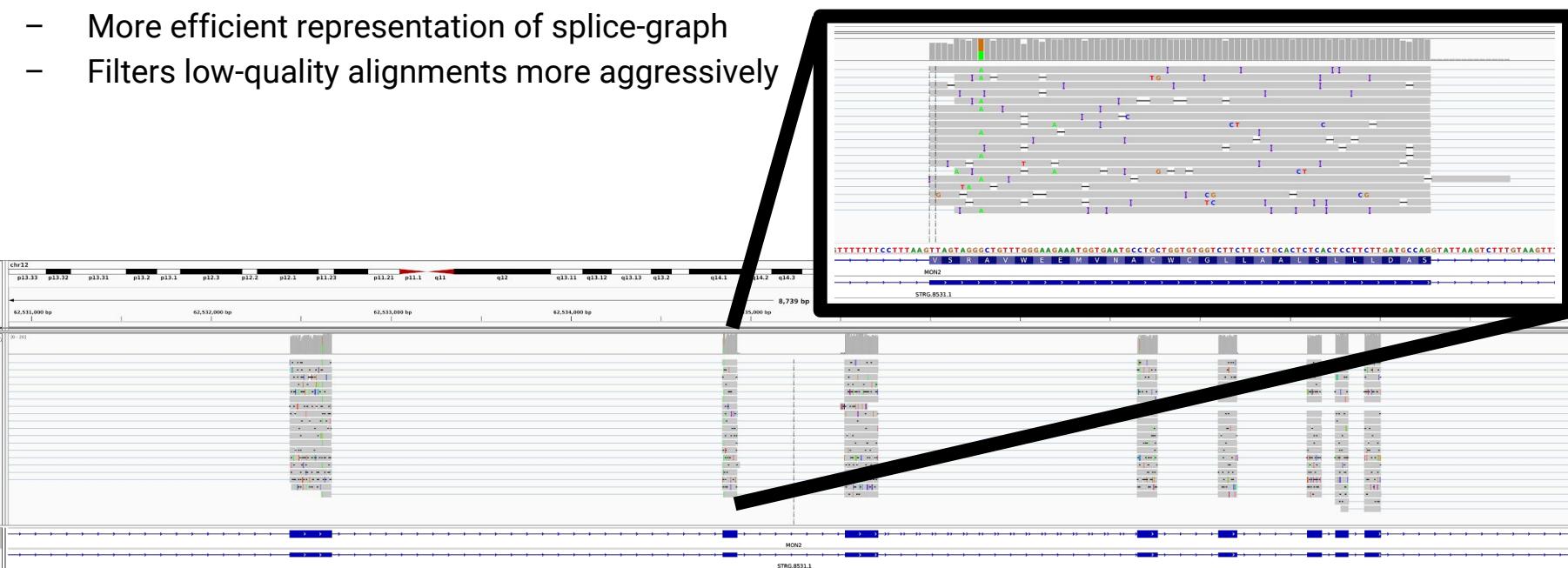
# StringTie2

- Upcoming sequel to StringTie
- Outperforms Scallop on short reads
- Supports super-reads - “synthetic” long-reads
- Can assemble noisy PacBio and ONT reads
  - High frequency of indels makes splice graph more complicated, more spurious splice-sites
  - Corrects errors by forming consensus splice-sites
  - More efficient representation of splice-graph
  - Filters low-quality alignments more aggressively



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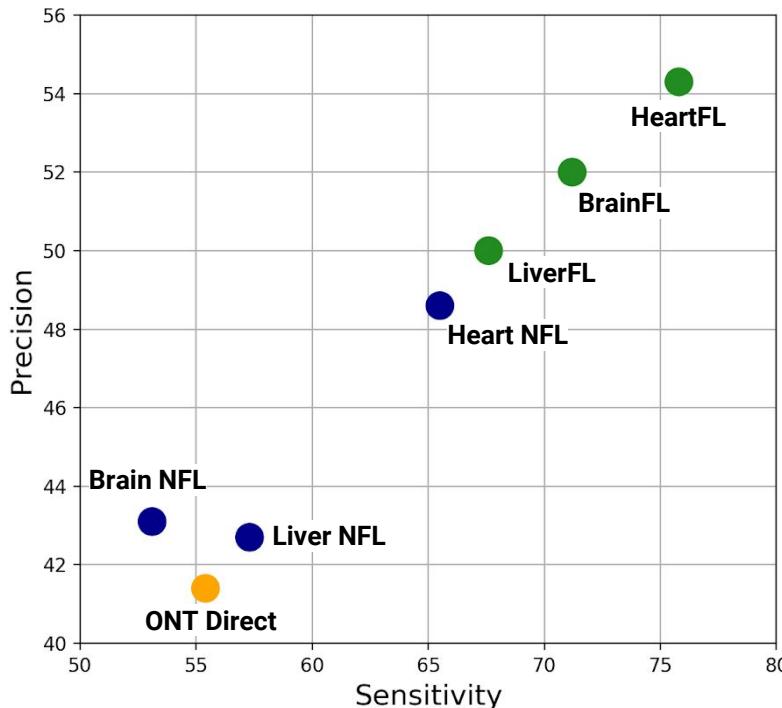


# StringTie2 on Long Reads

Tested StringTie2 on seven human long-read datasets aligned using minimap2

- Three “full-length” PacBio datasets
  - Three non-full-length PacBio datasets
  - One ONT direct RNA-seq datasets (NA12878 consortium)
- } Example datasets  
} provided by PacBio

To estimate sensitivity considered reference transcripts with  
 $\geq 2x$  average coverage,  $\geq 3x$  coverage surrounding introns



019

*Welcome to Applied Comparative Genomics*  
<https://github.com/schatzlab/appliedgenomics2>

# Questions?