

Practical Assembly

Michael Schatz

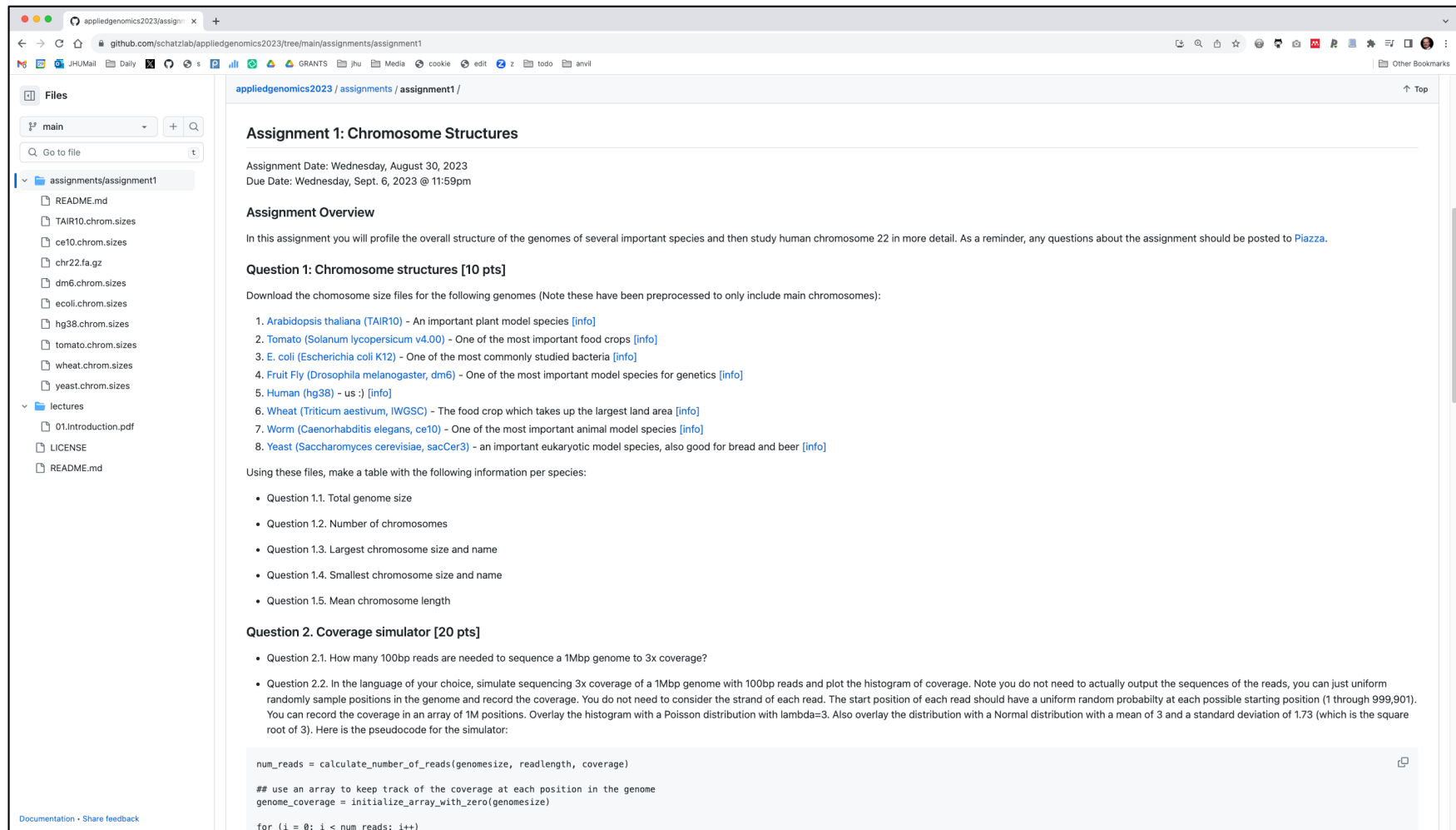
Sept 11, 2023

Lecture 4: Applied Comparative Genomics



Assignment I

Due end of day on Sept 6 (right before midnight)



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the GitHub repository page for 'appliedgenomics2023/assignments/assignment1'. The page is titled 'Assignment 1: Chromosome Structures'. It includes an 'Assignment Overview' section with a due date of Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023 @ 11:59pm. The 'Question 1: Chromosome structures [10 pts]' section asks the user to download chromosome size files for various species and create a table with specific information. The 'Question 2: Coverage simulator [20 pts]' section asks the user to simulate sequencing coverage and plot a histogram. A code block at the bottom shows a pseudocode for the simulator.

Assignment 1: Chromosome Structures

Assignment Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023
Due Date: Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2023 @ 11:59pm

Assignment Overview

In this assignment you will profile the overall structure of the genomes of several important species and then study human chromosome 22 in more detail. As a reminder, any questions about the assignment should be posted to [Piazza](#).

Question 1: Chromosome structures [10 pts]

Download the chromosome size files for the following genomes (Note these have been preprocessed to only include main chromosomes):

1. *Arabidopsis thaliana* (TAIR10) - An important plant model species [\[info\]](#)
2. *Tomato* (*Solanum lycopersicum* v4.00) - One of the most important food crops [\[info\]](#)
3. *E. coli* (*Escherichia coli* K12) - One of the most commonly studied bacteria [\[info\]](#)
4. *Fruit Fly* (*Drosophila melanogaster*, dm6) - One of the most important model species for genetics [\[info\]](#)
5. *Human* (hg38) - us :) [\[info\]](#)
6. *Wheat* (*Triticum aestivum*, IWGSC) - The food crop which takes up the largest land area [\[info\]](#)
7. *Worm* (*Caenorhabditis elegans*, ce10) - One of the most important animal model species [\[info\]](#)
8. *Yeast* (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, sacCer3) - an important eukaryotic model species, also good for bread and beer [\[info\]](#)

Using these files, make a table with the following information per species:

- Question 1.1. Total genome size
- Question 1.2. Number of chromosomes
- Question 1.3. Largest chromosome size and name
- Question 1.4. Smallest chromosome size and name
- Question 1.5. Mean chromosome length

Question 2: Coverage simulator [20 pts]

- Question 2.1. How many 100bp reads are needed to sequence a 1Mbp genome to 3x coverage?
- Question 2.2. In the language of your choice, simulate sequencing 3x coverage of a 1Mbp genome with 100bp reads and plot the histogram of coverage. Note you do not need to actually output the sequences of the reads, you can just uniformly sample positions in the genome and record the coverage. You do not need to consider the strand of each read. The start position of each read should have a uniform random probability at each possible starting position (1 through 999,901). You can record the coverage in an array of 1M positions. Overlay the histogram with a Poisson distribution with $\lambda=3$. Also overlay the distribution with a Normal distribution with a mean of 3 and a standard deviation of 1.73 (which is the square root of 3). Here is the pseudocode for the simulator:

```
num_reads = calculate_number_of_reads(genomesize, readlength, coverage)

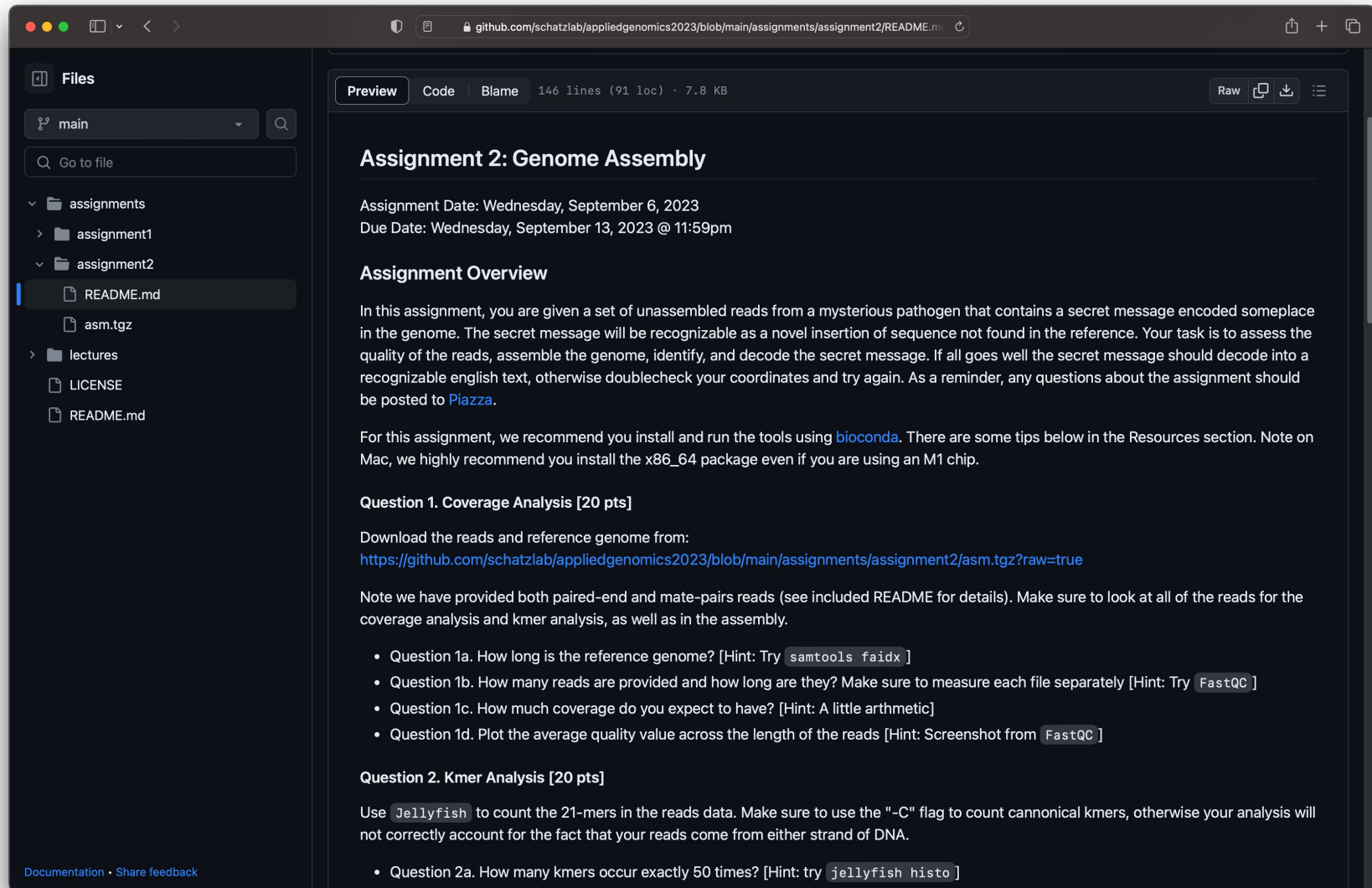
## use an array to keep track of the coverage at each position in the genome
genome_coverage = initialize_array_with_zero(genomesize)

for (i = 0; i < num_reads; i++)
```

<https://github.com/schatzlab/appliedgenomics2023/tree/main/assignments/assignment1>

Assignment 2: Genome Assembly

Due Wednesday Sept 13 by 11:59pm



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'Assignment 2: Genome Assembly'. The left sidebar displays the file structure with folders 'assignments', 'assignment1', and 'assignment2', and files 'README.md', 'asm.tgz', 'lectures', 'LICENSE', and 'README.md'. The main content area shows the 'README.md' file for 'assignment2'. The file is titled 'Assignment 2: Genome Assembly' and contains the following information:

- Assignment Date:** Wednesday, September 6, 2023
- Due Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 @ 11:59pm
- Assignment Overview:** In this assignment, you are given a set of unassembled reads from a mysterious pathogen that contains a secret message encoded someplace in the genome. The secret message will be recognizable as a novel insertion of sequence not found in the reference. Your task is to assess the quality of the reads, assemble the genome, identify, and decode the secret message. If all goes well the secret message should decode into a recognizable english text, otherwise doublecheck your coordinates and try again. As a reminder, any questions about the assignment should be posted to [Piazza](#).
- Resources:** For this assignment, we recommend you install and run the tools using [bioconda](#). There are some tips below in the Resources section. Note on Mac, we highly recommend you install the x86_64 package even if you are using an M1 chip.
- Question 1. Coverage Analysis [20 pts]**
 - Download the reads and reference genome from:
<https://github.com/schatzlab/appliedgenomics2023/blob/main/assignments/assignment2/asm.tgz?raw=true>
 - Note we have provided both paired-end and mate-pairs reads (see included README for details). Make sure to look at all of the reads for the coverage analysis and kmer analysis, as well as in the assembly.
 - Questions:
 - Question 1a. How long is the reference genome? [Hint: Try `samtools faidx`]
 - Question 1b. How many reads are provided and how long are they? Make sure to measure each file separately [Hint: Try `FastQC`]
 - Question 1c. How much coverage do you expect to have? [Hint: A little arithmetic]
 - Question 1d. Plot the average quality value across the length of the reads [Hint: Screenshot from `FastQC`]
- Question 2. Kmer Analysis [20 pts]**
 - Use `Jellyfish` to count the 21-mers in the reads data. Make sure to use the `-C` flag to count canonical kmers, otherwise your analysis will not correctly account for the fact that your reads come from either strand of DNA.
 - Question 2a. How many kmers occur exactly 50 times? [Hint: try `jellyfish histo`]

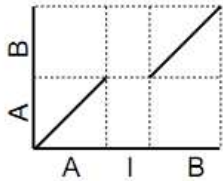
<https://github.com/schatzlab/appliedgenomics2023/tree/main/assignments/assignment2>

Check Piazza for questions!

SV Types

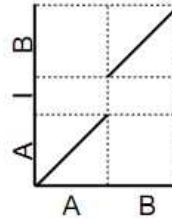
Insertion into Reference

R: AIB
Q: AB



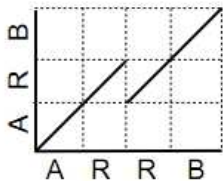
Insertion into Query

R: AB
Q: AIB



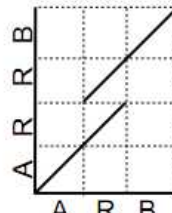
Collapse Query

R: ARRB
Q: ARB



Collapse Reference

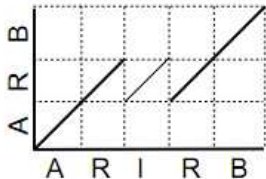
R: ARB
Q: ARRB



Collapse Query
w/ Insertion

R: ARIRB
Q: ARB

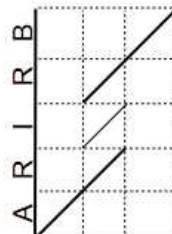
Exact tandem
alignment if I=R



Collapse Reference
w/ Insertion

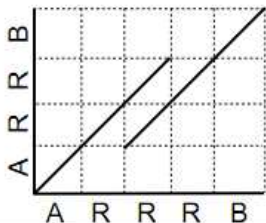
R: ARB
Q: ARIRB

Exact tandem
alignment if I=R



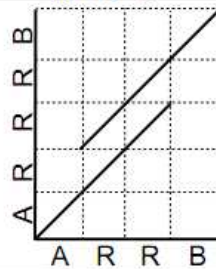
Collapse Query

R: ARRRB
Q: ARRB



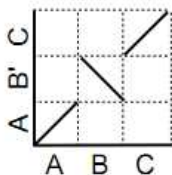
Collapse Reference

R: ARRB
Q: ARRRB



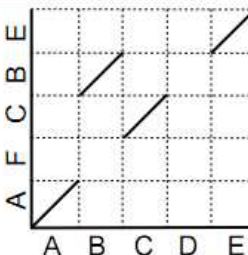
Inversion

R: ABC
Q: AB'C



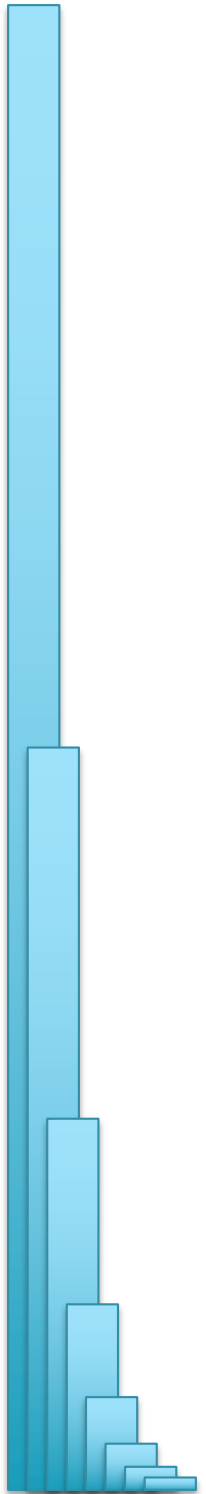
Rearrangement
w/ Disagreement

R: ABCDE
Q: AFCBE



- Different structural variation types / misassemblies will be apparent by their pattern of breakpoints
- Most breakpoints will be at or near repeats
- Things quickly get complicated in real genomes

<http://mummer.sf.net/manual/AlignmentTypes.pdf>



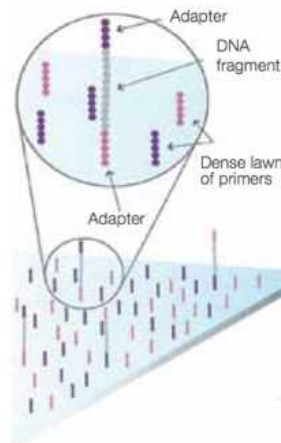
Part I: Recap

Second Generation Sequencing

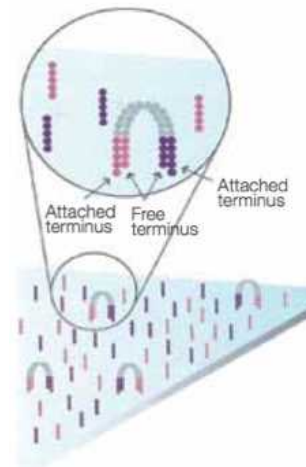


Illumina NovaSeq 6000
Sequencing by Synthesis

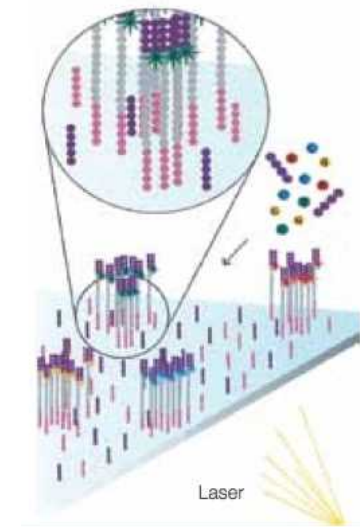
>3Tbp / day
(JHU has 4 of these!)



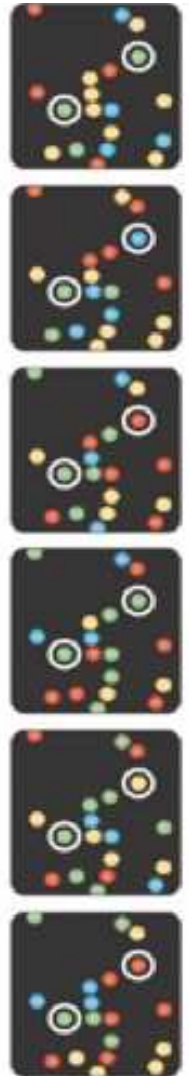
1. Attach



2. Amplify

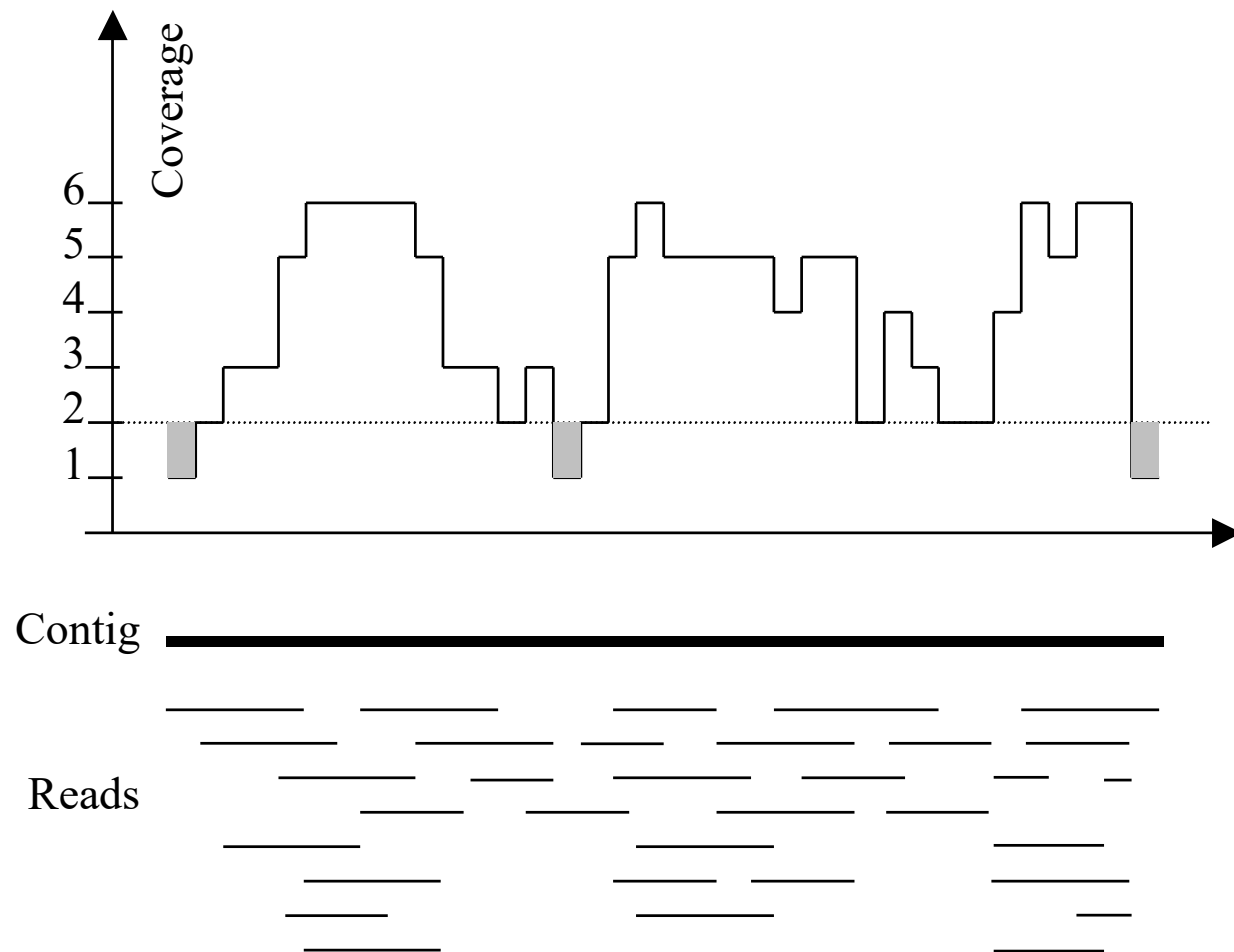


3. Image



Metzker (2010) Nature Reviews Genetics 11:31-46
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCd6B5HRaZ8>

Typical sequencing coverage



Imagine raindrops on a sidewalk

We want to cover the entire sidewalk but each drop costs \$1

If the genome is 10 Mbp, should we sequence 100k 100bp reads?

Poisson Distribution

The probability of a given number of events occurring in a fixed interval of time and/or space if these events occur with a known average rate and independently of the time since the last event.

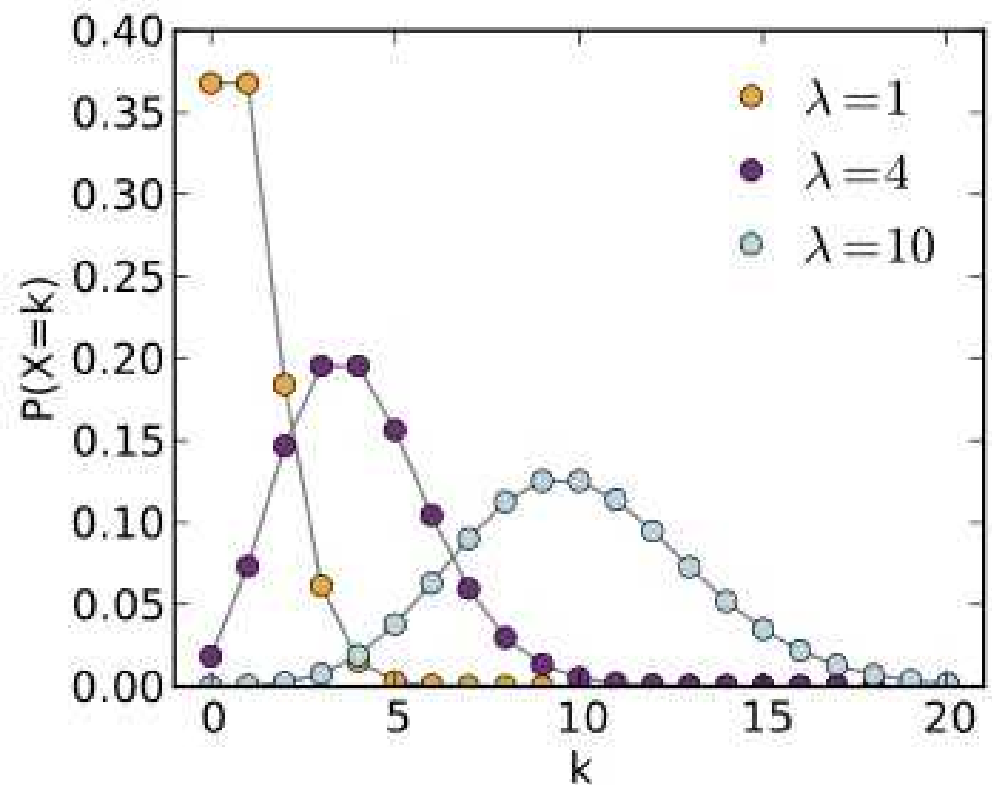
Formulation comes from the limit of the binomial equation

Resembles a normal distribution, but over the positive values, and with only a single parameter.

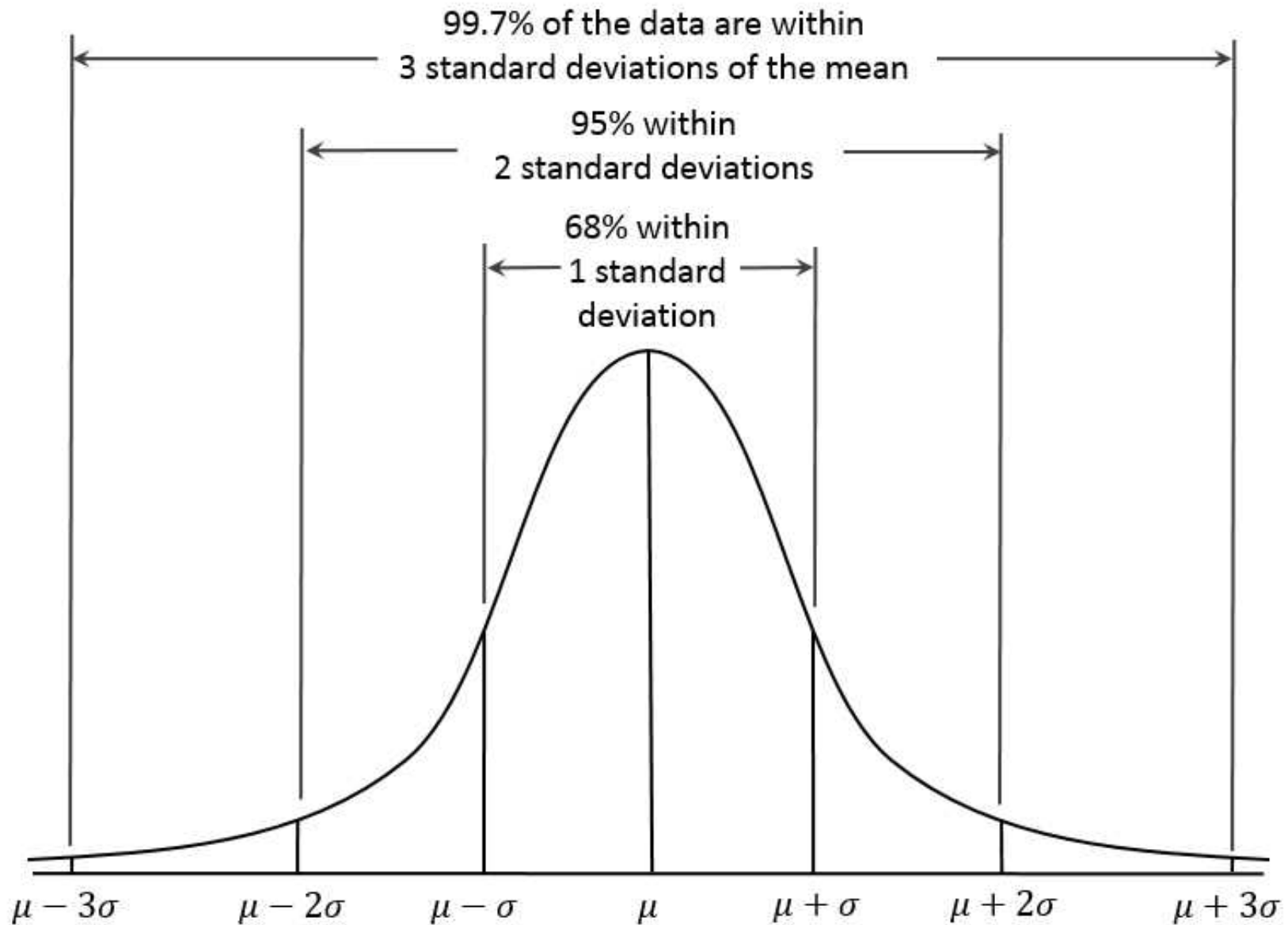
Key properties:

- ***The standard deviation is the square root of the mean.***
- ***For mean > 5, well approximated by a normal distribution***

$$P(k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$



Normal Approximation



Can estimate Poisson distribution as a normal distribution when $\lambda > 10$

Pop Quiz!

I want to sequence a 10Mbp genome to 24x coverage.
How many 120bp reads do I need?

I need $10\text{Mbp} \times 24x = 240\text{Mbp}$ of data
 $240\text{Mbp} / 120\text{bp} / \text{read} = 2\text{M}$ reads

I want to sequence a 10Mbp genome so that
>97.5% of the genome has at least 24x coverage.
How many 120bp reads do I need?

Find X such that $X - 2 \times \sqrt{X} = 24$

$$36 - 2 \times \sqrt{36} = 24$$

I need $10\text{Mbp} \times 36x = 360\text{Mbp}$ of data
 $360\text{Mbp} / 120\text{bp} / \text{read} = 3\text{M}$ reads

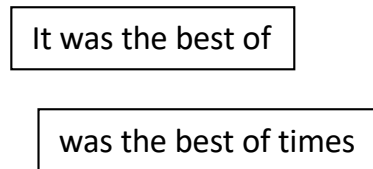


Part 2: De novo genome assembly

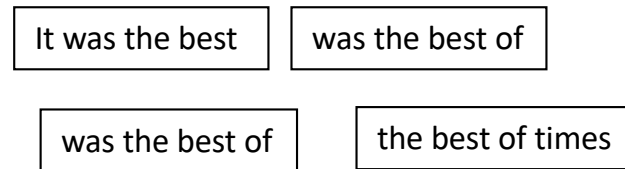
de Bruijn Graph Construction

- $G_k = (V, E)$
 - V = Length- k sub-fragments
 - E = Directed edges between consecutive sub-fragments
 - Sub-fragments overlap by $k-1$ words

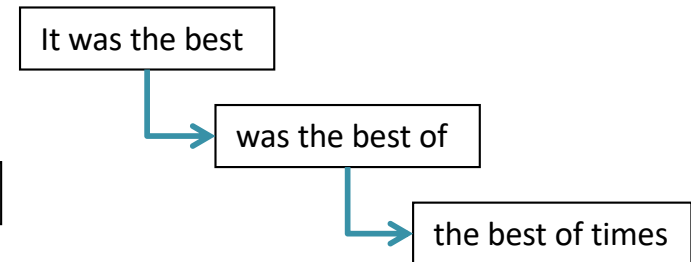
Fragments $|f|=5$



Sub-fragment $k=4$



Directed edges (overlap by $k-1$)



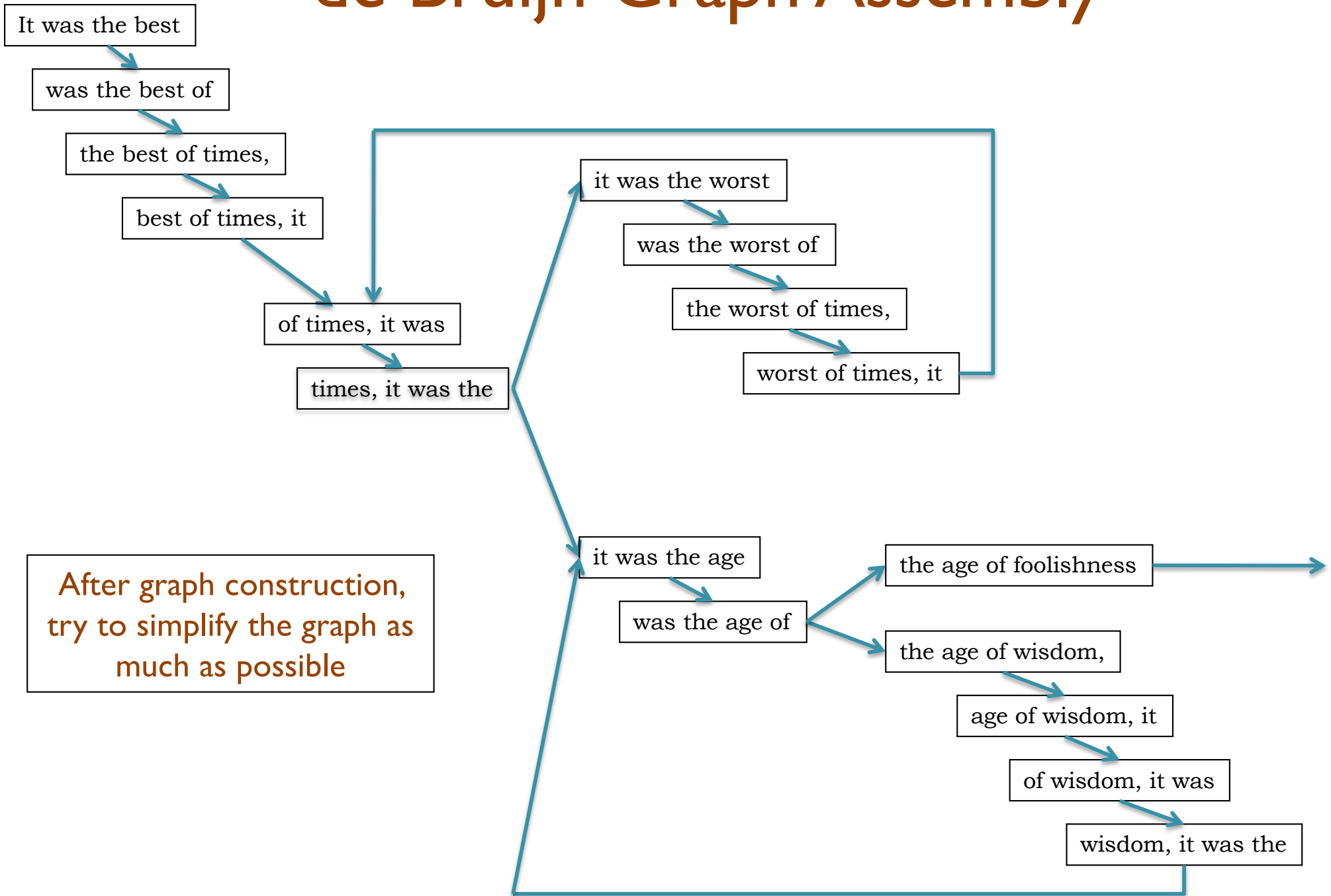
– Overlaps between fragments are implicitly computed

How to pronounce:

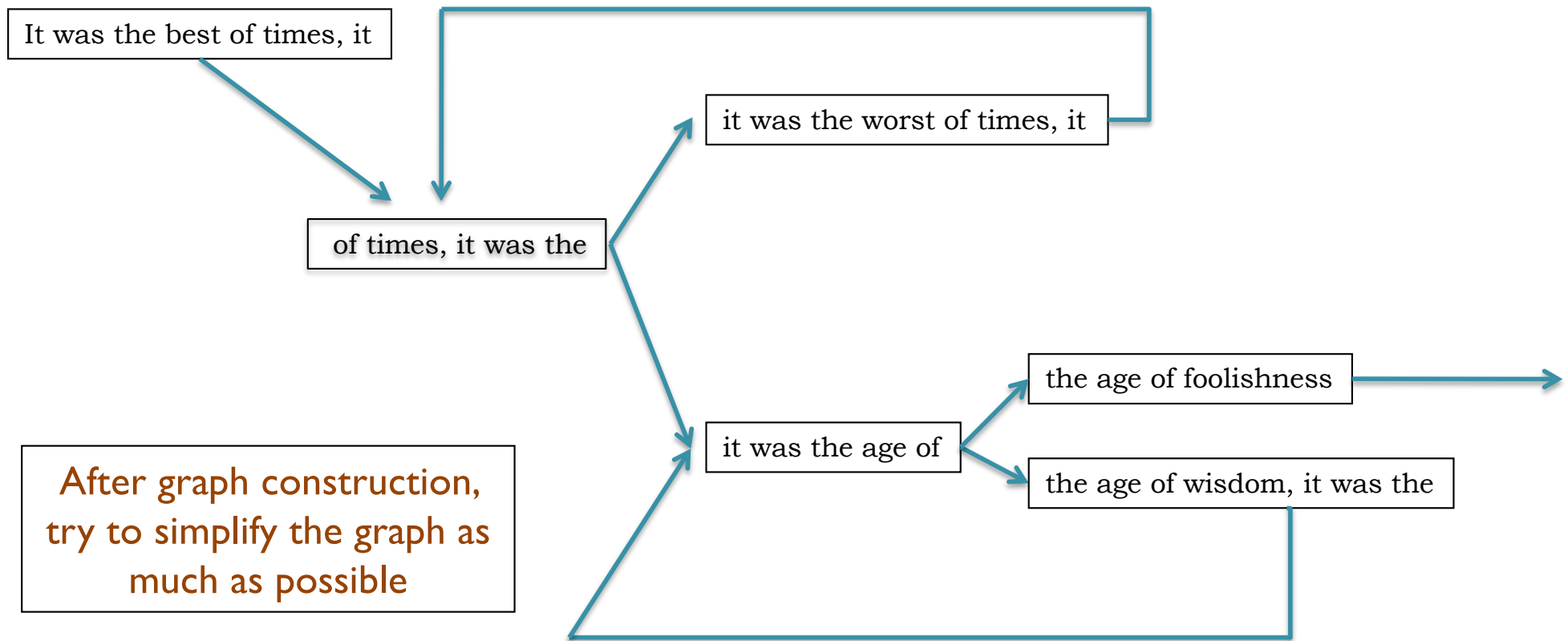
https://forvo.com/word/de_bruijn/

de Bruijn, 1946
Idury et al., 1995
Pevzner et al., 2001

de Bruijn Graph Assembly



de Bruijn Graph Assembly



Assembly Applications

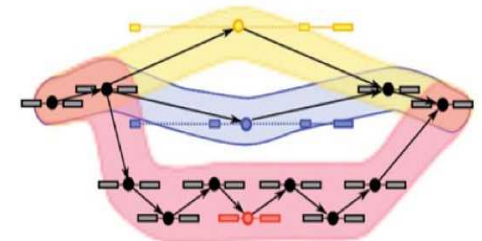
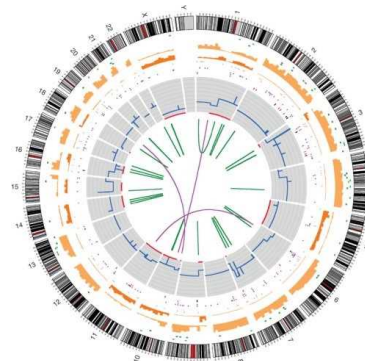
- Novel genomes



- Metagenomes

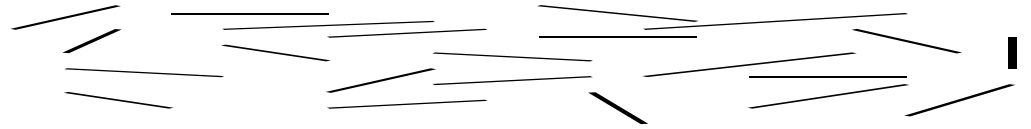


- Sequencing assays
 - Structural variations
 - Transcript assembly
 - ...



Assembling a Genome

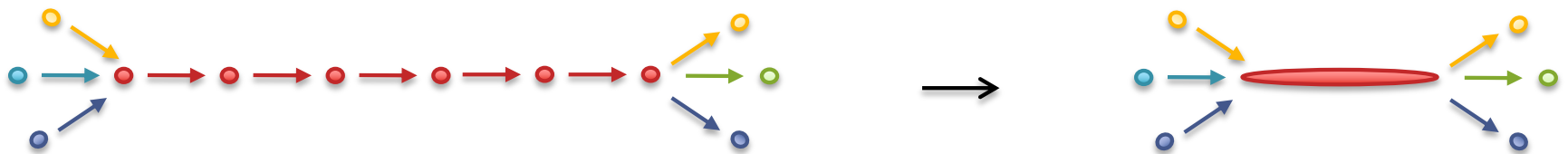
1. Shear & Sequence DNA



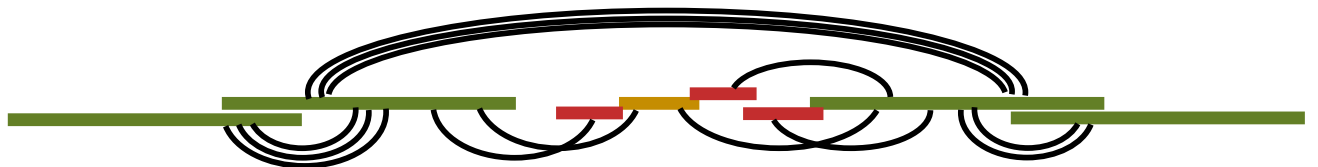
2. Construct assembly graph from reads (de Bruijn / overlap graph)

...AGCCTAGGGATGCGCGACACGT
GGATGCGCGACACGT CGCATATCCGGTTTGGT CAACCTCGGACGGAC
CAACCTCGGACGGACCTCAGCGAA...

3. Simplify assembly graph

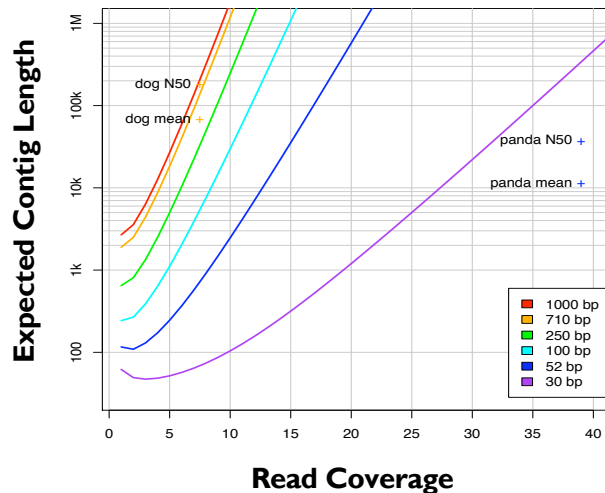


4. Detangle graph with long reads, mates, and other links



Ingredients for a good assembly

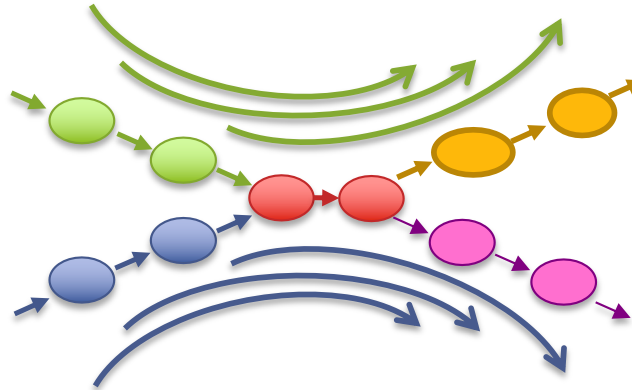
Coverage



High coverage is required

- Oversample the genome to ensure every base is sequenced with long overlaps between reads
- Biased coverage will also fragment assembly

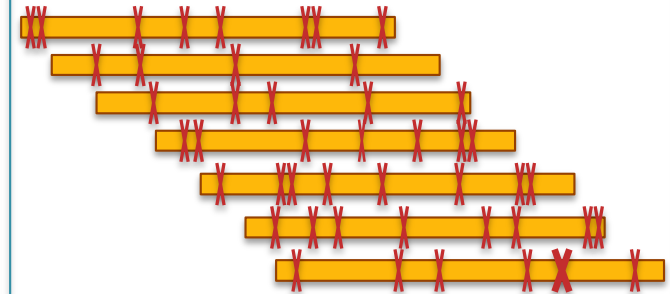
Read Length



Reads & mates must be longer than the repeats

- Short reads will have **false overlaps** forming hairball assembly graphs
- With long enough reads, assemble entire chromosomes into contigs

Quality



Errors obscure overlaps

- Reads are assembled by finding kmers shared in pair of reads
- High error rate requires very short seeds, increasing complexity and forming assembly hairballs

Current challenges in *de novo* plant genome sequencing and assembly

Schatz MC, Witkowski, McCombie, WR (2012) *Genome Biology*. 12:243

Coverage Statistics

$$\text{sequencing_coverage} = \frac{\text{total_bases_sequenced}}{\text{genome_size}}$$

$$\text{genome_size} = \frac{\text{total_bases_sequenced}}{\text{sequencing_coverage}}$$

$$\text{genome_size} = \frac{100\text{Gb}}{50\text{x}} = 2\text{Gb}$$

But how can you figure out
the coverage without a genome?

K-mer counting

Kmer-ize

Read 1: GATTACA => GAT, ATT, TTA, TAC, ACA
Read 2: TACAGAG => TAC, ACA, CAG, AGA, GAG
Read 3: TTACAGA => TTA, TAC, ACA, CAG, AGA

list

GAT	ACA	ACA: 3
ATT	ACA	
TTA	ACA	
TAC	AGA	AGA: 2
ACA	AGA	
TAC	ATT	ATT: 1
ACA	CAG	CAG: 2
CAG	CAG	
AGA	GAG	GAG: 1
GAG	GAT	GAT: 1
TTA	TAC	TAC: 3
TAC	TAC	
ACA	TAC	
CAG	TTA	TTA: 2
AGA	TTA	

sort count

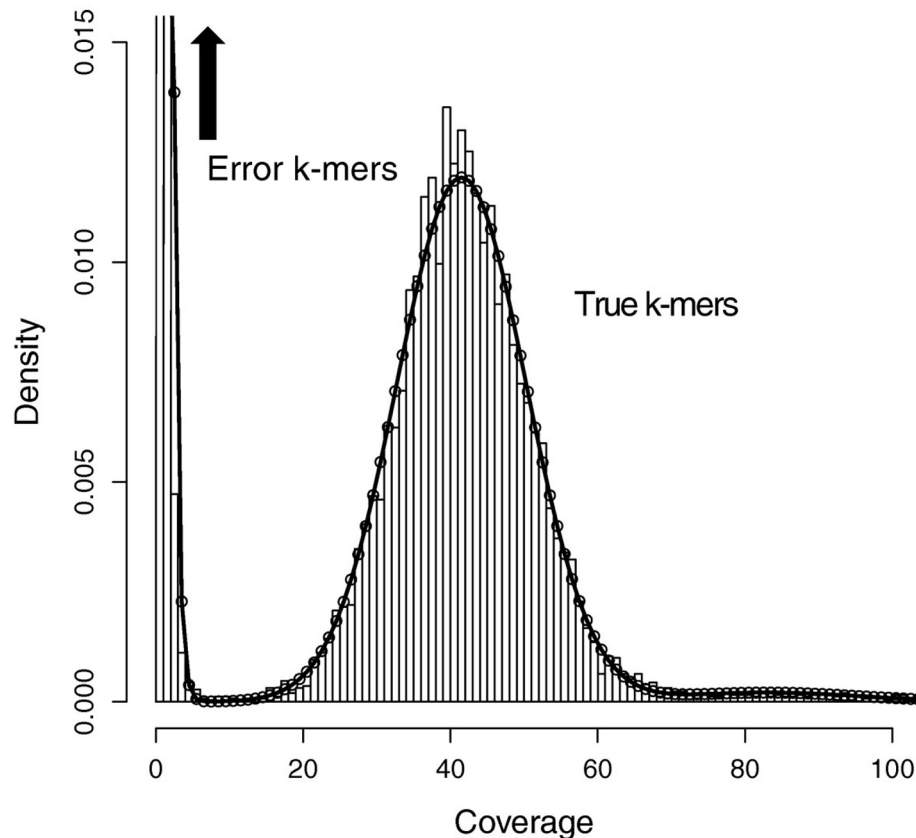
3 kmers occur 1x
3 kmers occur 2x
2 kmers occur 3x

tally

From read k-mers alone, can learn something about how frequently different sequences occur (aka coverage)

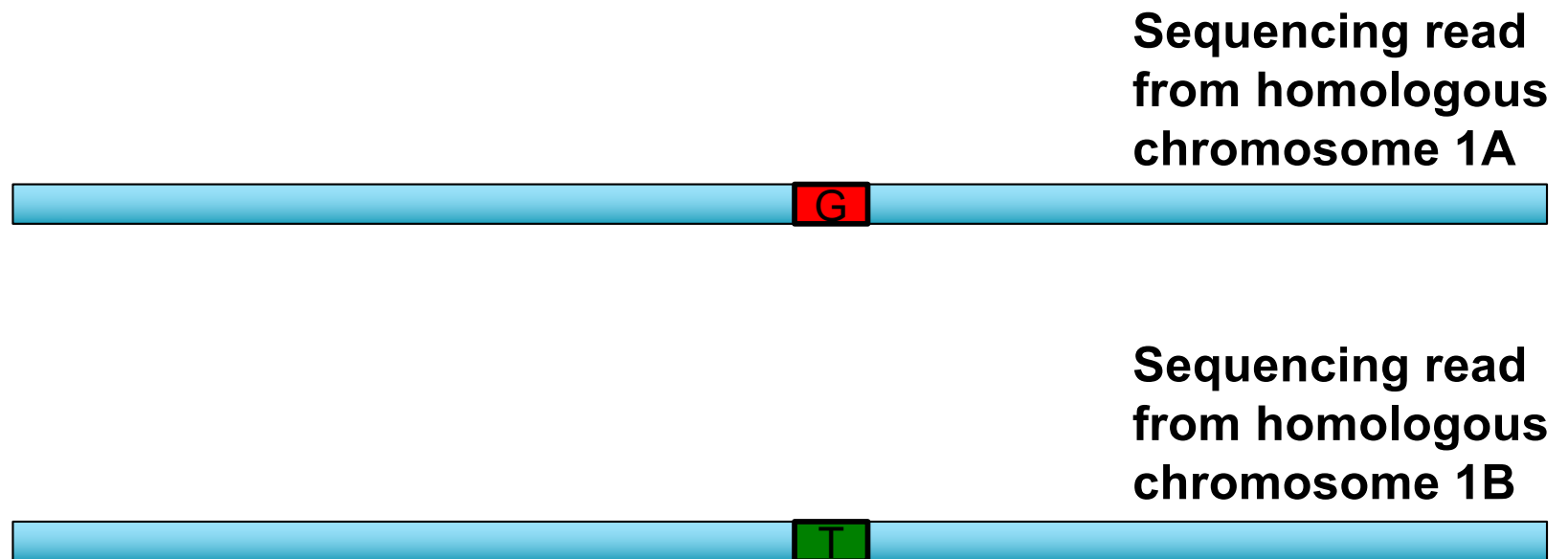
Fast to compute even over huge datasets

K-mer counting in real genomes



- The tally of k-mer counts in real genomes reveals the coverage distribution.
- Here we sequenced 120Gb of reads from a female human (haploid human genome size is 3Gb), and indeed we see a clear peak centered at 40x coverage
- There are also many kmers that only occur <5 times. These are from errors in the reads
- There are also kmers that occur many times (>>70 times). These are repeats in the genome

K-mer counting in heterozygous genomes



K-mer counting in heterozygous genomes



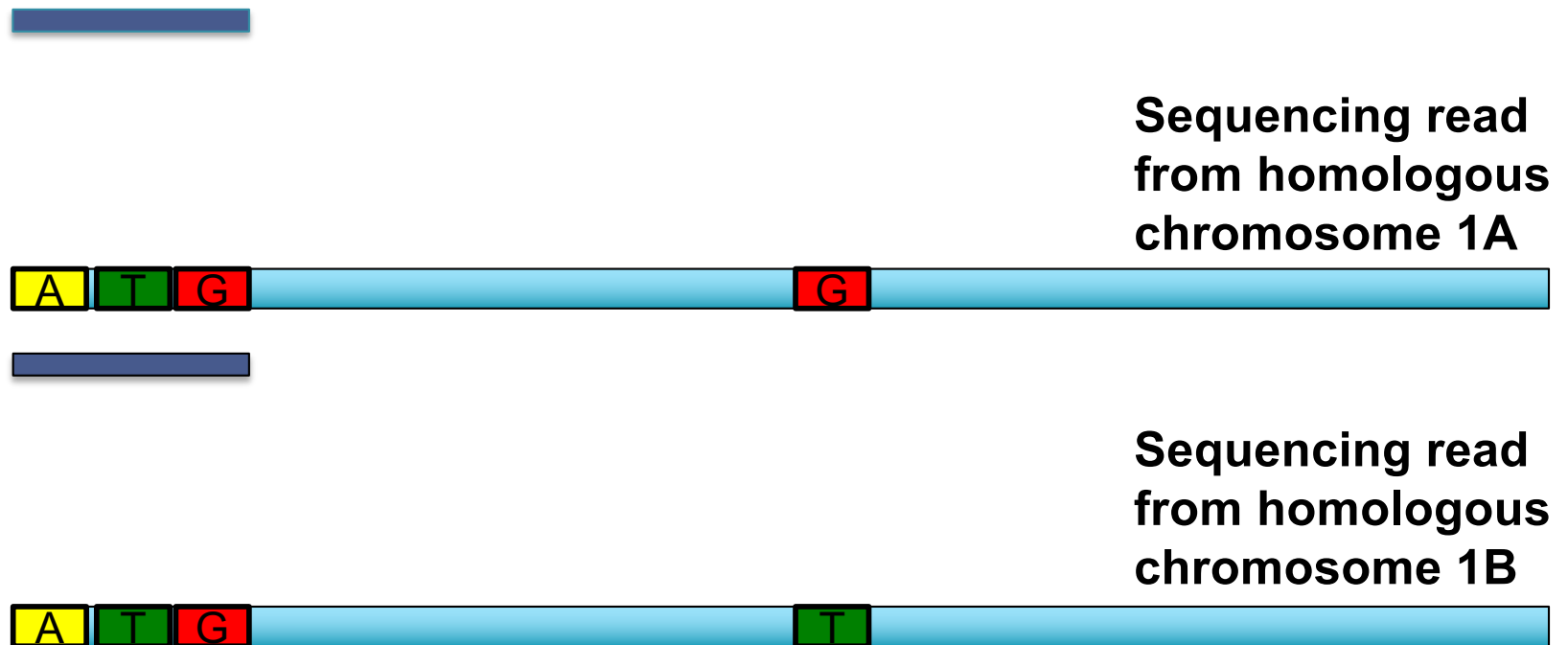
Sequencing read
from homologous
chromosome 1A



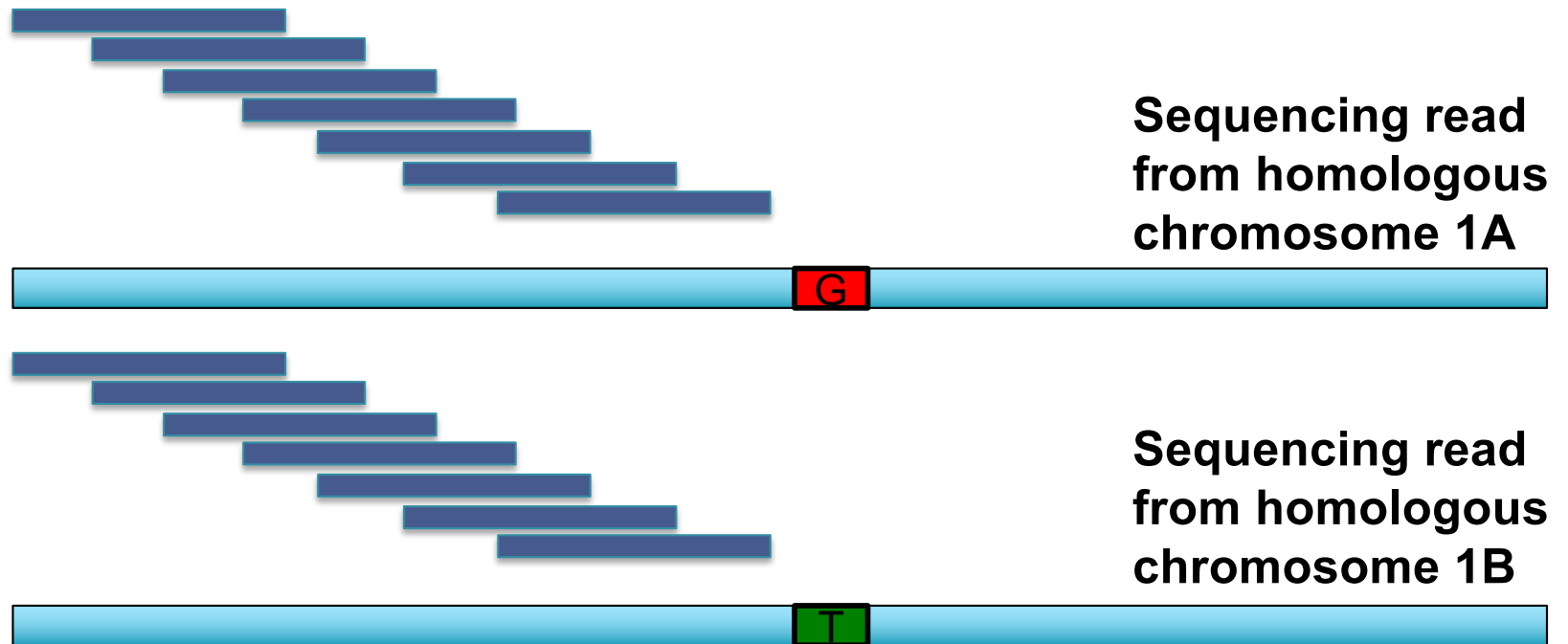
Sequencing read
from homologous
chromosome 1B



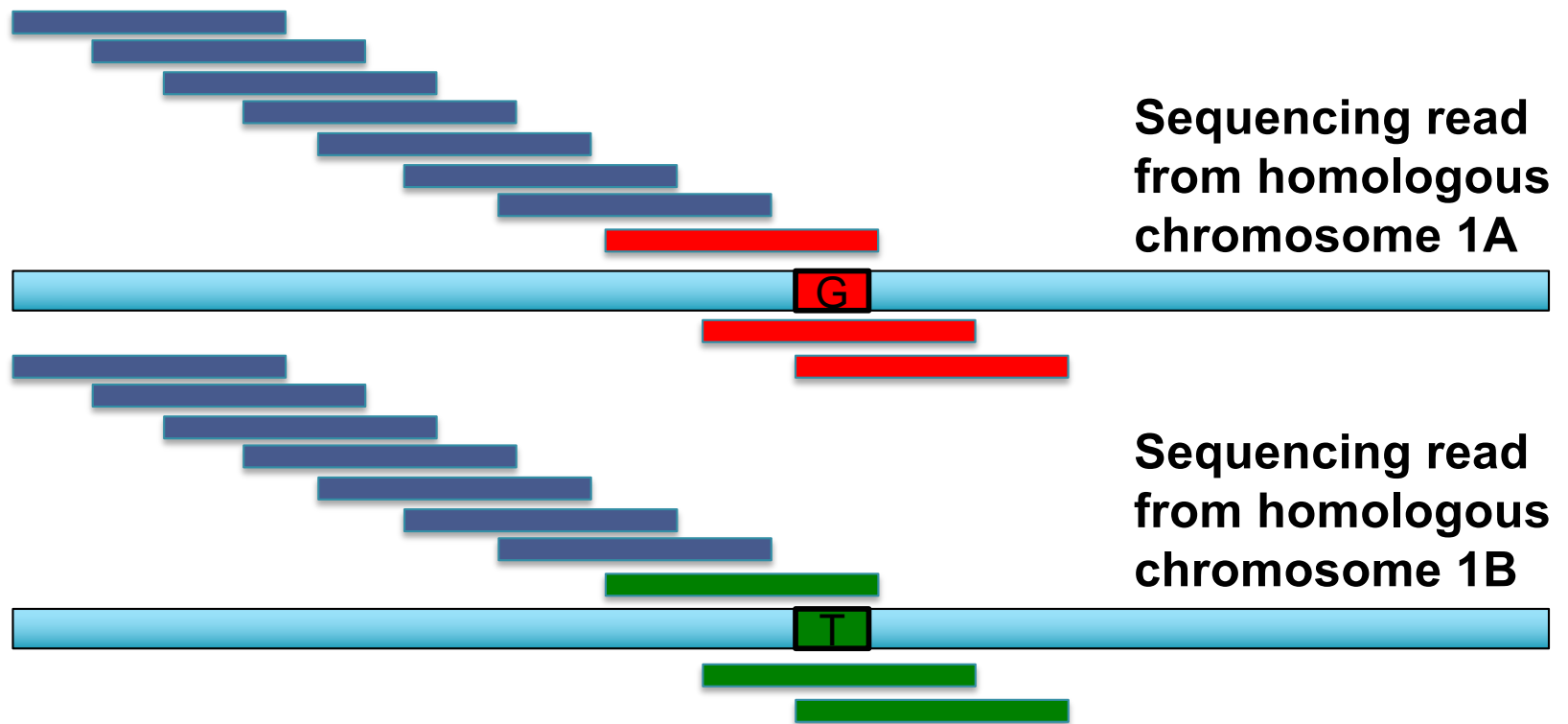
K-mer counting in heterozygous genomes



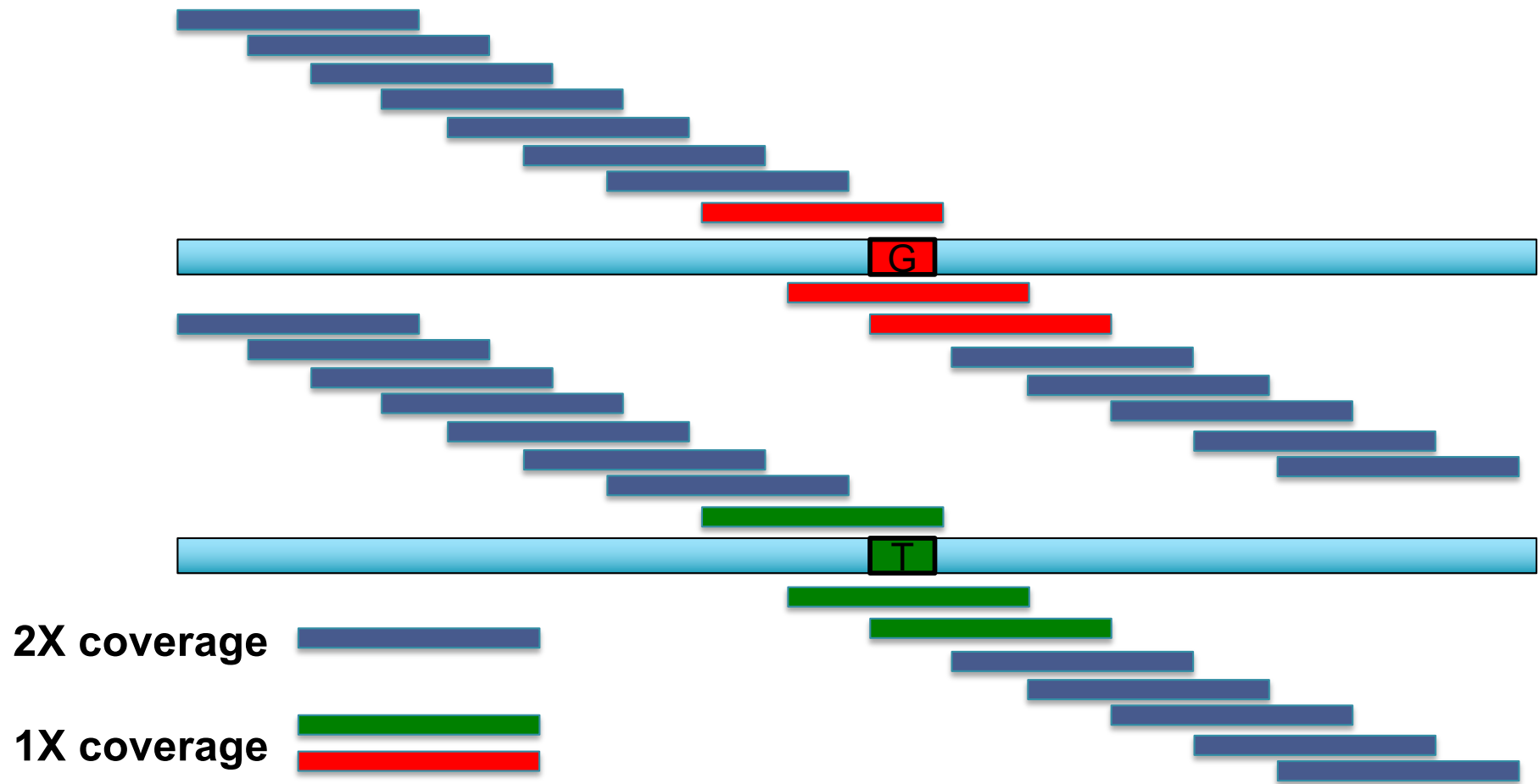
K-mer counting in heterozygous genomes



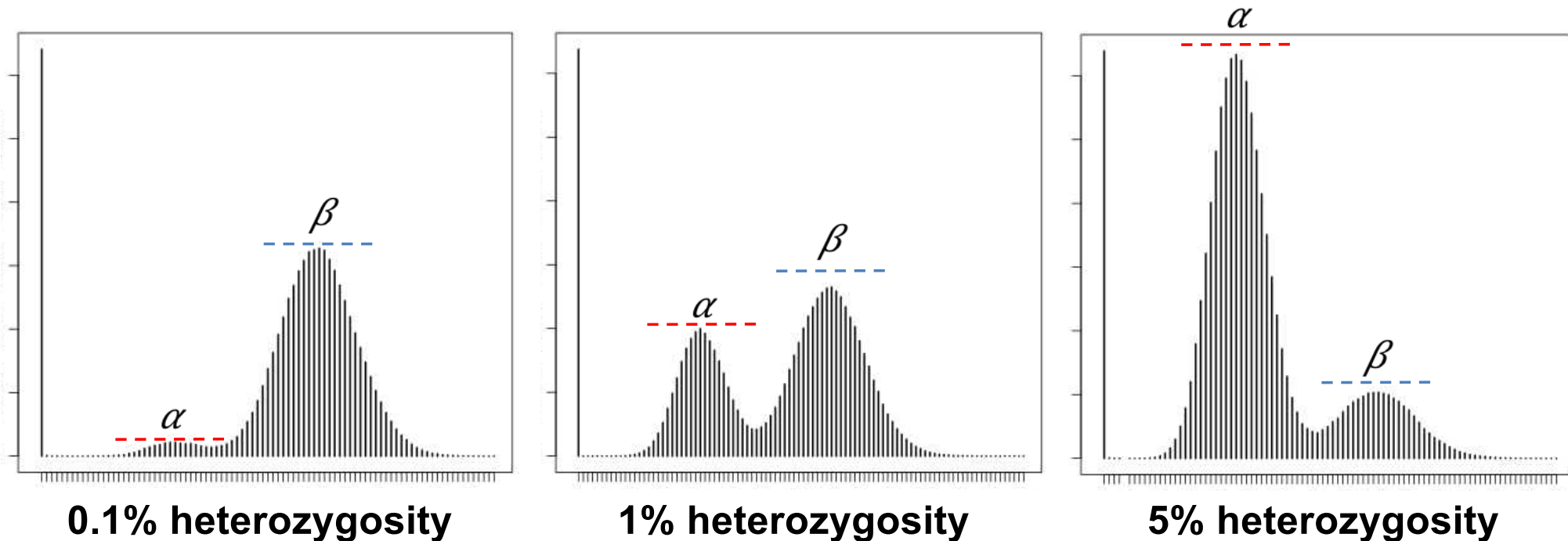
K-mer counting in heterozygous genomes



K-mer counting in heterozygous genomes



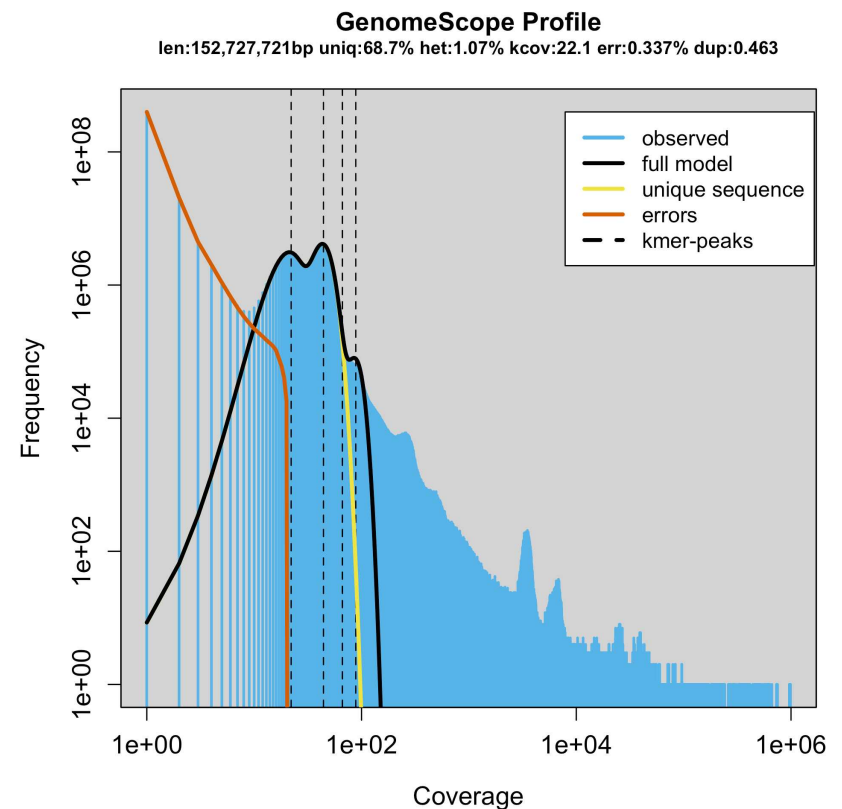
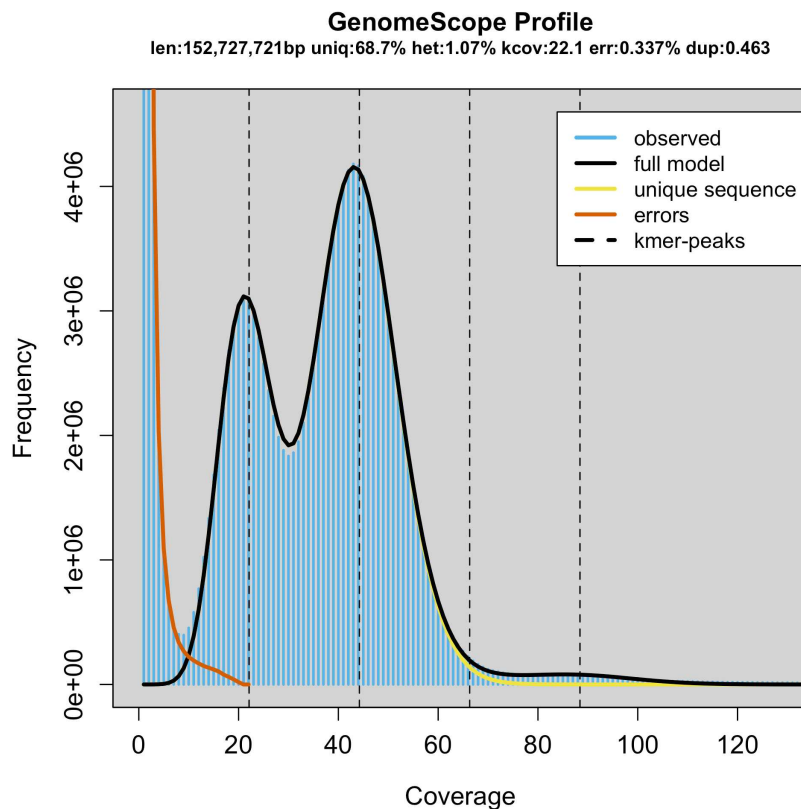
Heterozygous Kmer Profiles



- **Heterozygosity creates a characteristic “double-peak” in the Kmer profile**
 - Second peak at twice k-mer coverage as the first: heterozygous kmers average 50x coverage, homozygous kmers average 100x coverage
- **Relative heights of the peaks is directly proportional to the heterozygosity rate**
 - The peaks are balanced at around 1.25% because each heterozygous SNP creates $2 \cdot k$ heterozygous kmers (typically $k = 21$)

GenomeScope: Fast genome analysis from short reads

<http://genomescope.org>



- Theoretical model agrees well with published results:
 - Rate of heterozygosity is higher than reported by other approaches but likely correct.
 - Genome size of plants inflated by organelle sequences (exclude very high freq. kmers)

Vurture, GW*, Sedlazeck FJ*, et al. (2017) *Bioinformatics*
Ranallo-Benavidez, TR. et al. (2020) *Nature Communication*