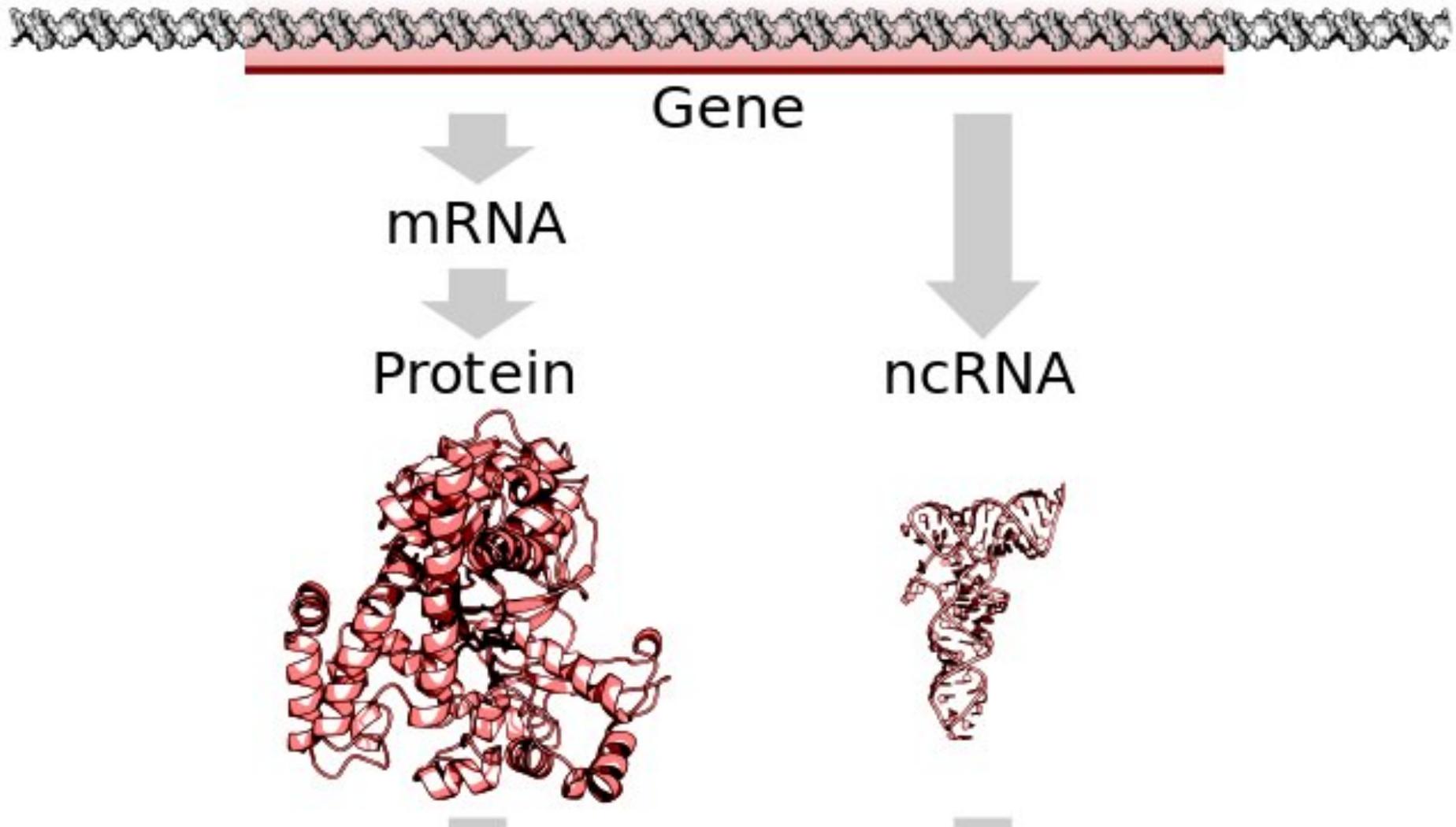
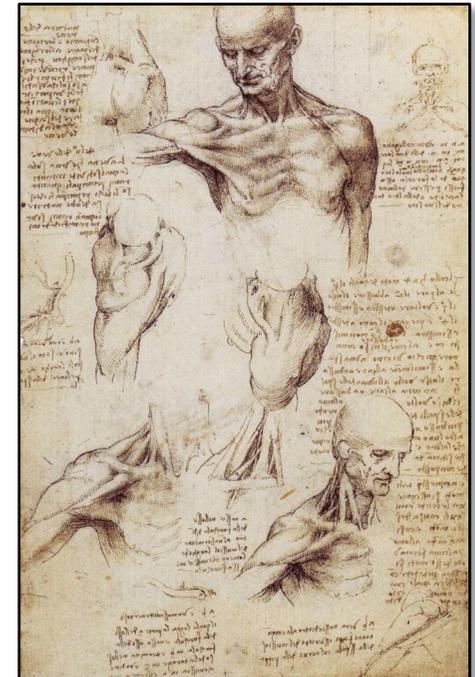
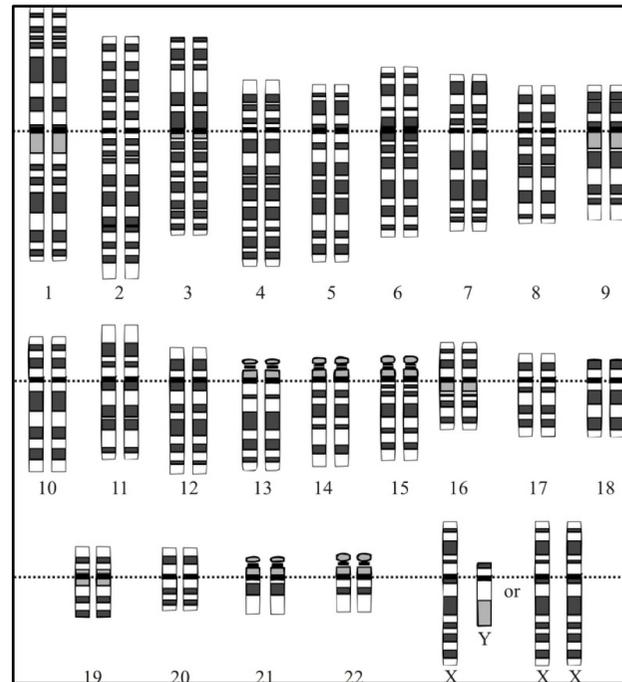
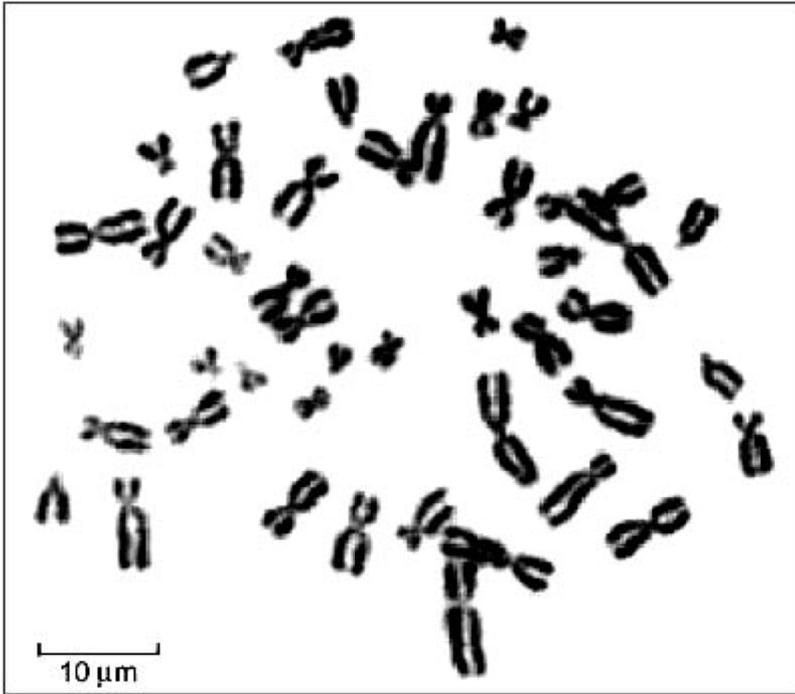


Non coding RNA Biology

AA 2021/2022

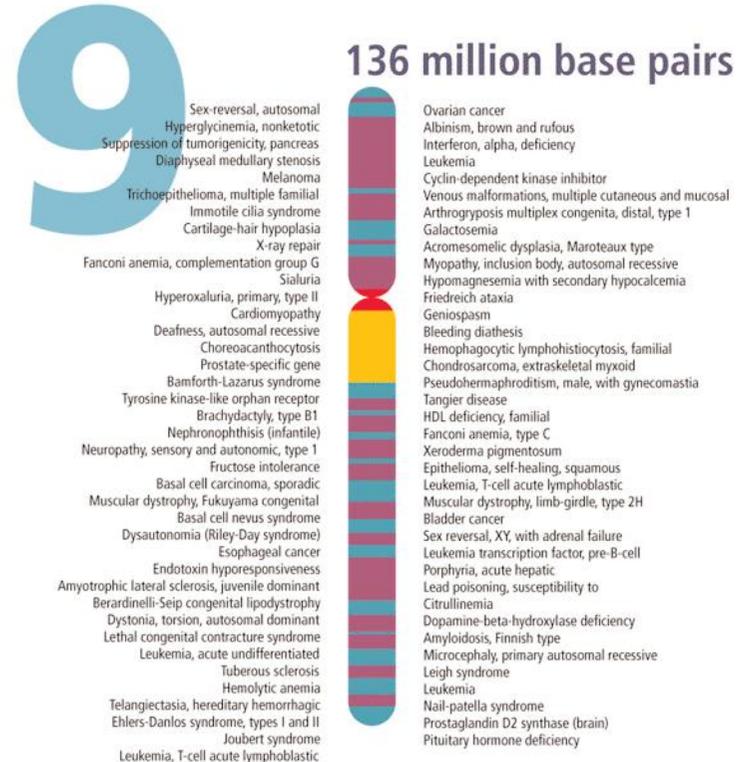
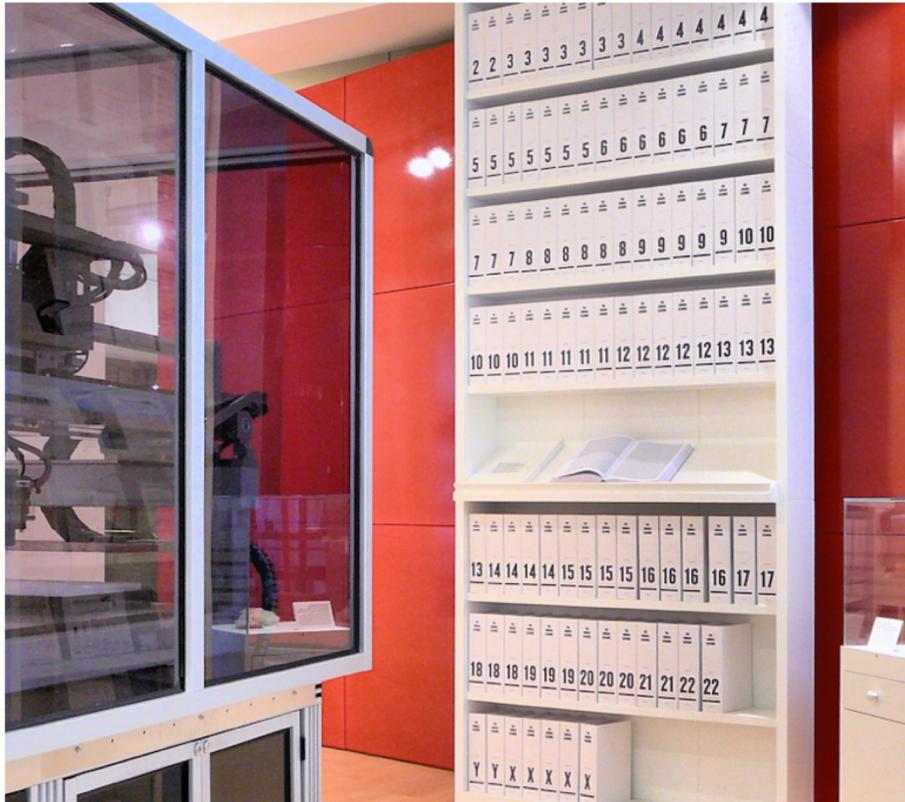


The human genome is highly structured



The human genome:
22 autosome paires
2 Sex chromosome pairs (XX o XY)
Total haploid genome 3×10^9

The human genome is highly structured



Haploid human genome: 3.2×10^9 bp (3200000000 bp)

- 22 autosomes
- 2 sex chromosomes (X ed Y)
- 19797 protein coding genes (ca 20.000)

Chromosome dimensions: 45-275 Mb;

→ $3,2 \times 10^9$ bp: haploid chromosome set

Usage of genetic information:

5.000-10.000 geni espressi da ogni cellula

☐ **100.000 different proteins (post- translational modifications per cell)**

☐ **10^8 total protein species**

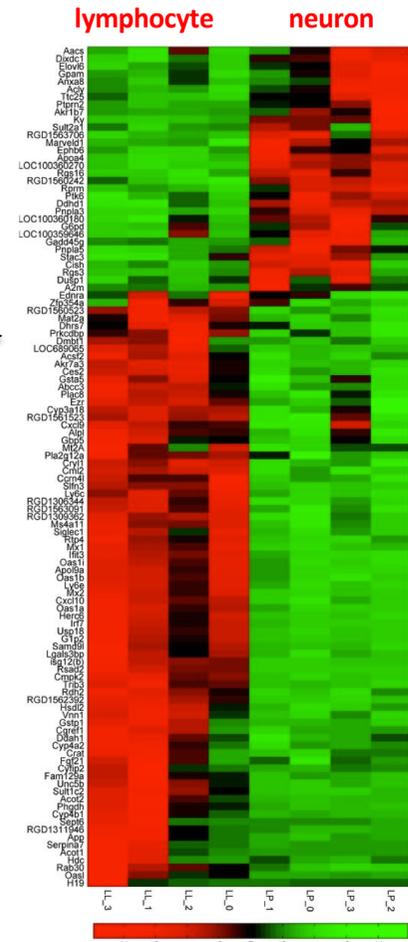
ENORMOUSE COMPLEXITY

The human genome encodes information that underlies cell specification in multi-cellular organisms

GENOMA
coding and
non-coding genes



**Specific gene expression
programs**



Cell function

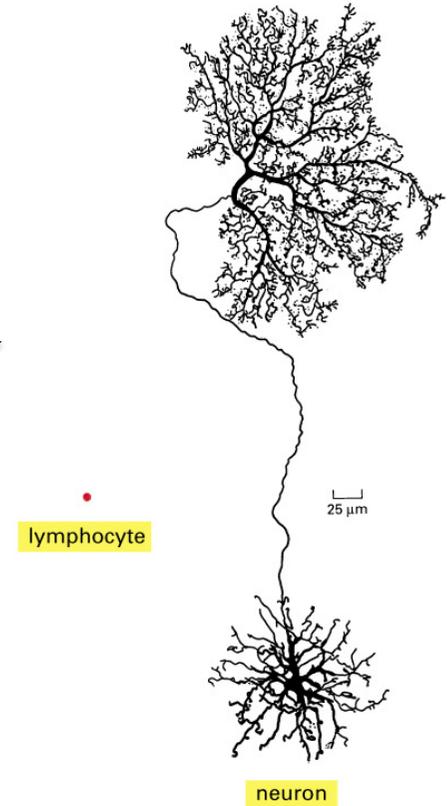


Figure 7-1. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

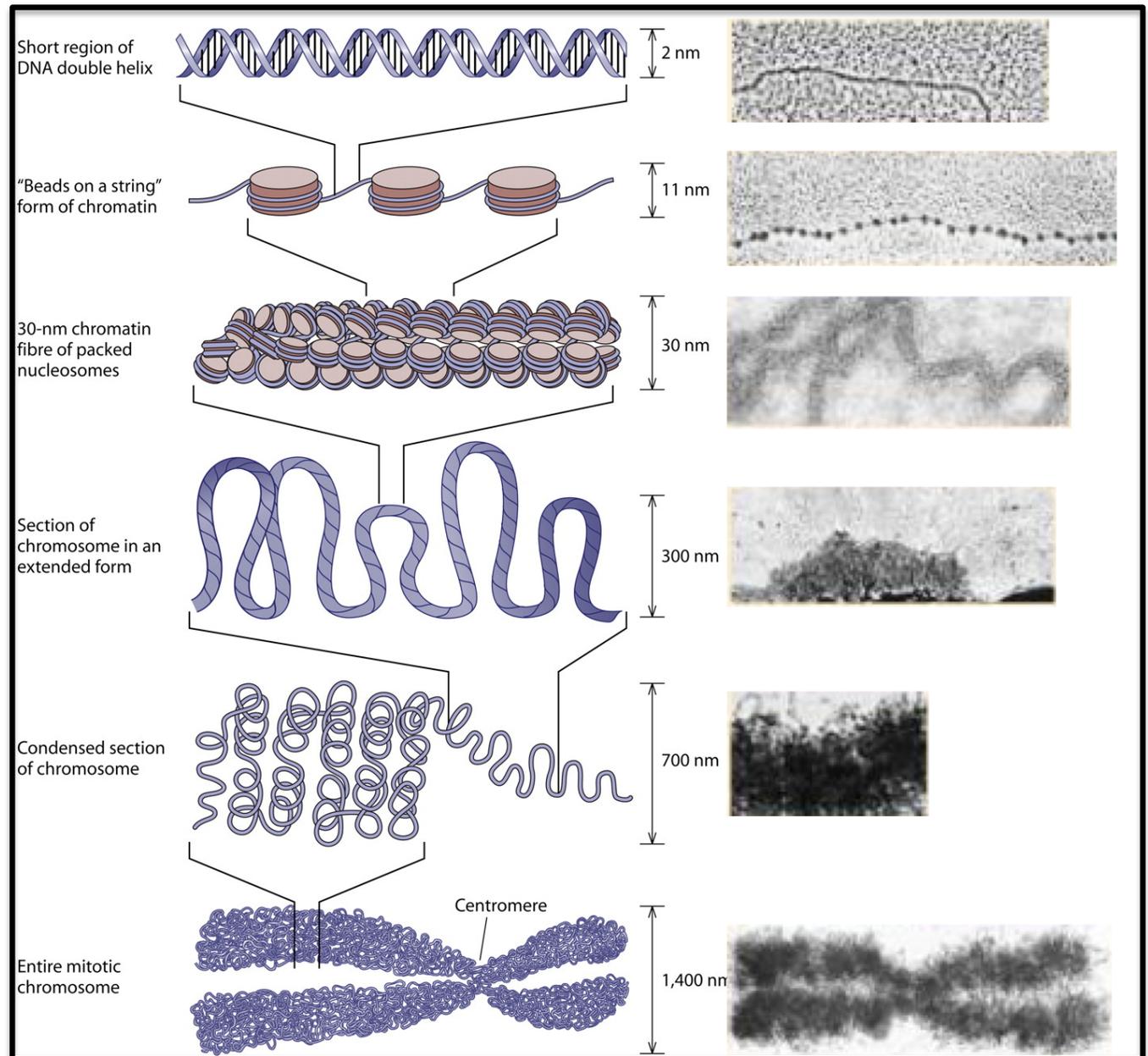
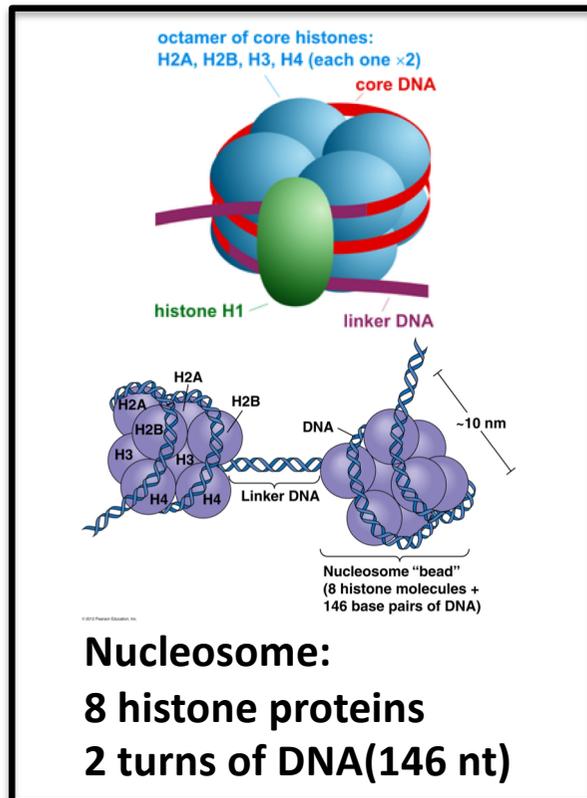
Genetic information must be highly organized

The human genome is highly structured

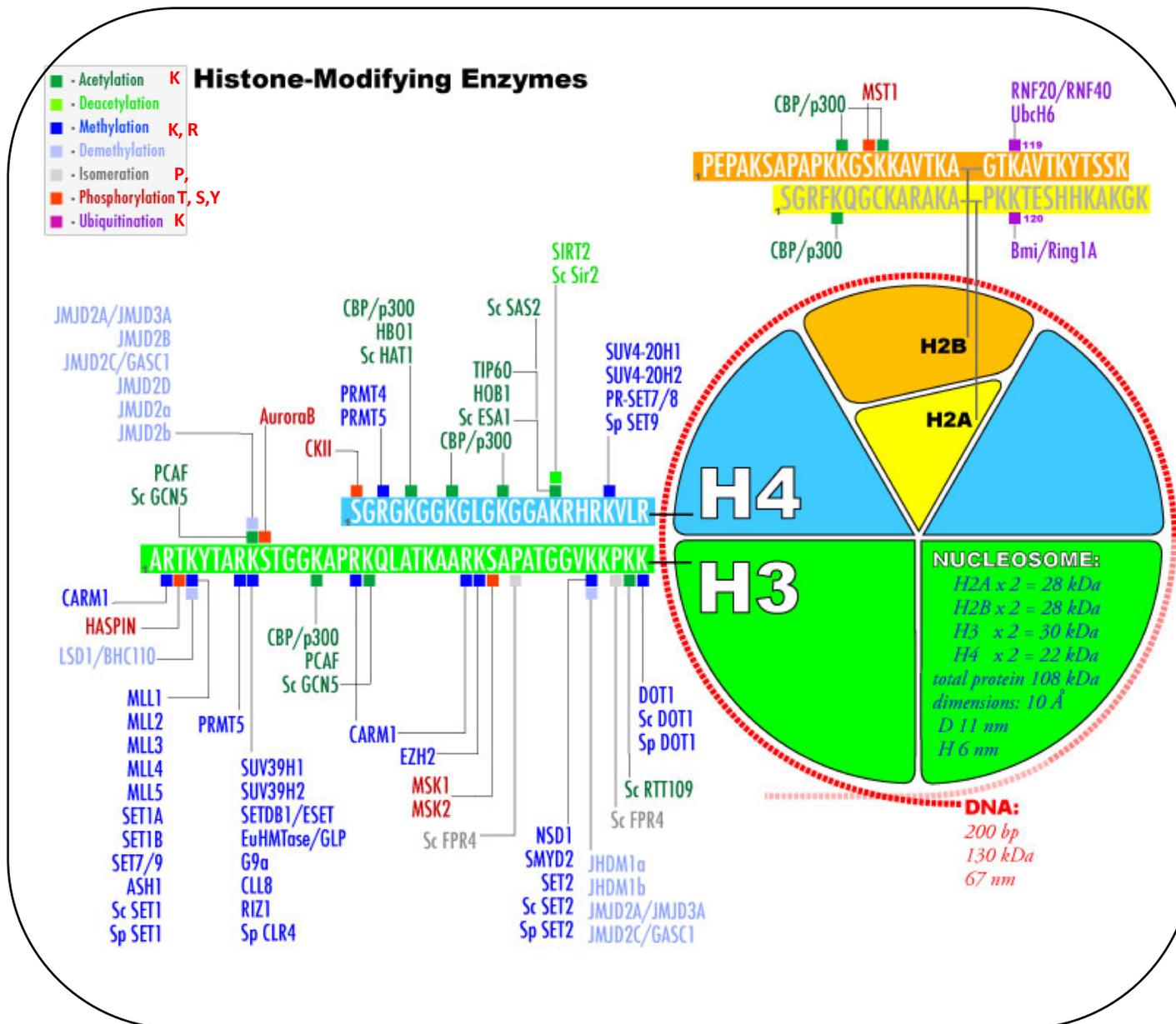
Chromatin: DNA + protein in nucleus
 Organisation of genetic information

Function:

- Packaging of DNA
- Compaction of DNA
- Definition of regions of gene
- Expression (euchromatin) or repression (heterochromatin)
- Increasing stability of DNA
- Prevention of damage
- Control of replication, gene expression
- Cell cycle



POST-TRANSLATIONAL HISTONE MODIFICATIONS



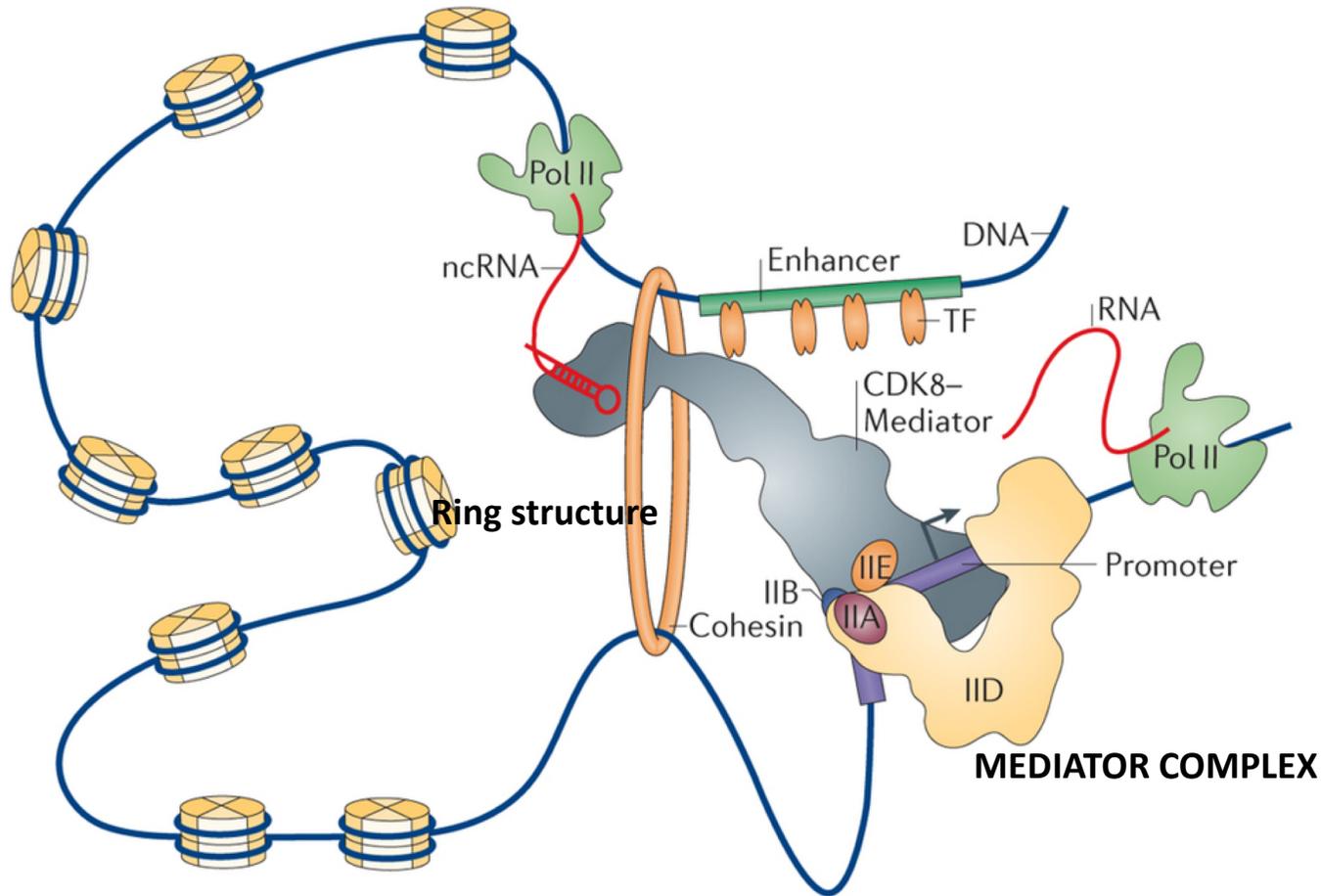
Gene expression
Control by post-translational histone modifications

- Activate transcription (H3K9 acetylation, ...)
 - Repress transcription (H3K27 trimethylation)
- can be cell type specific

Sum of all modifications = HISTONE CODE

Specific histone + modifications at promoters
Enhancers, along active Genes, site of termination

The human genome is highly structured

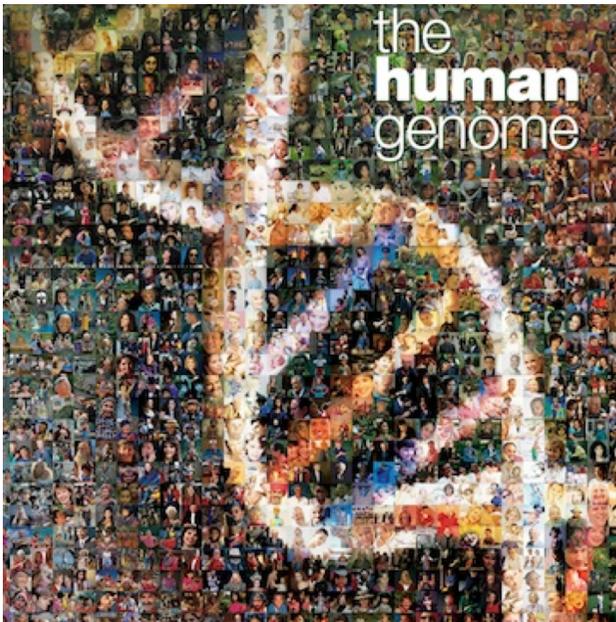


Specific transcription factors can bind promoters and enhancers

RNAs can support the use of enhancers

Enhancers are brought into vicinity to promoters and other gene regulatory Elements

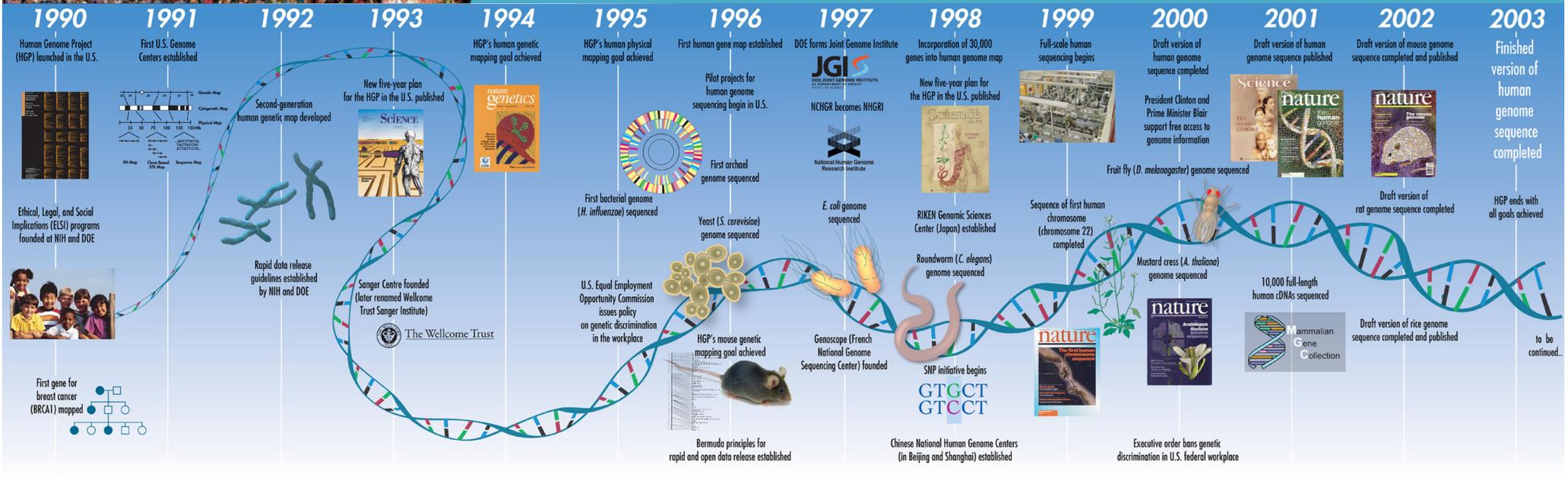
→ SPECIFIC 3 DIMENSIONAL STRUCTURE



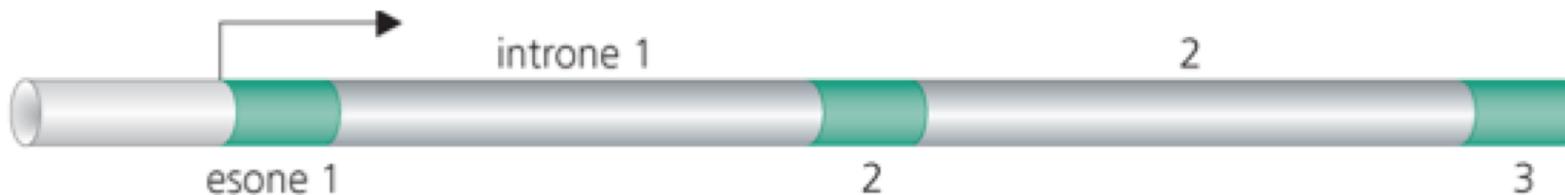
THE GENOME OF MANY ORGANISMS IS ALREADY SEQUENCED

THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT

SEQUENCING GENOMIC DNA



ISOLATE LARGE PIECES OF DNA AND SEQUENCE!



Dideoxy (Sanger) sequencing

Principle:

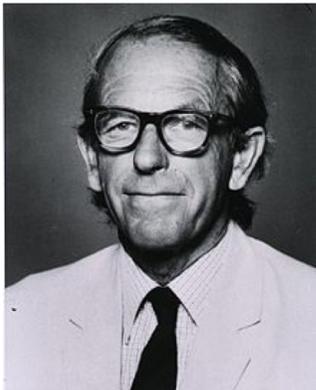
Gel electrophoresis: discrimination of 1 bp: size range below 300 bp in the lab

DNA template + ^{32}P -labelled sequencing oligo

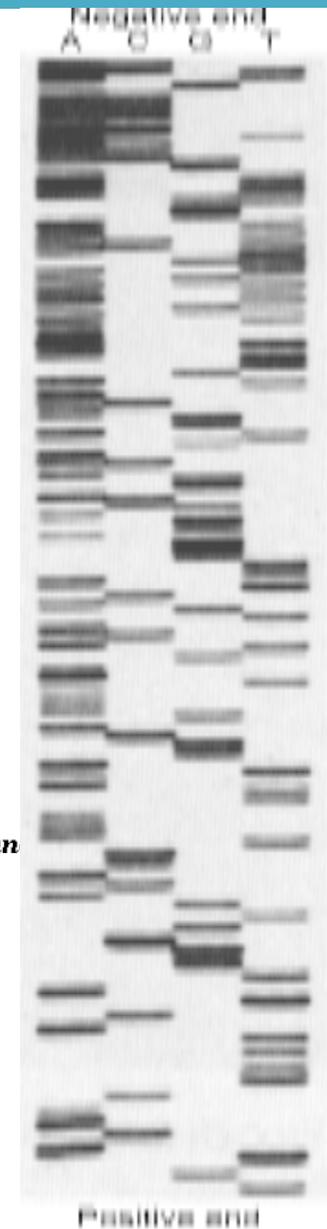
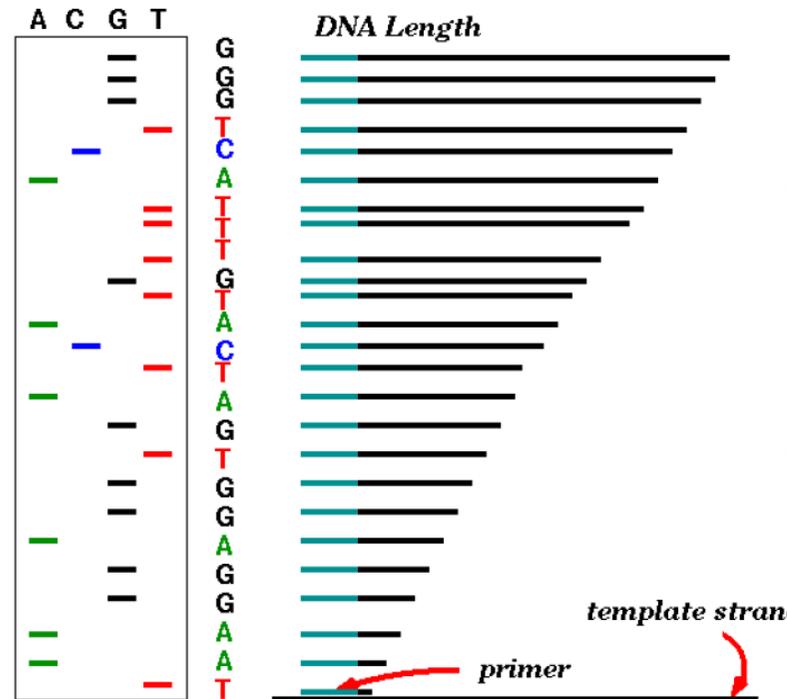
4 parallel sequencing reactions:

1. dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP + ddATP (low conc)
2. dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP + ddCTP (low conc)
3. dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP + ddGTP (low conc)
4. dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP + ddTTP (low conc)

Synthesis: starts with a ^{32}P -labeled DNA oligo
stops after incorporating a (marked) ddNTP



Frederic Sanger
Nobel Prize 1980



Dideoxy (Sanger) sequencing with Dye termination

Principle:

Gel electrophoresis: discrimination of 1 bp: size range below ~1000 bp

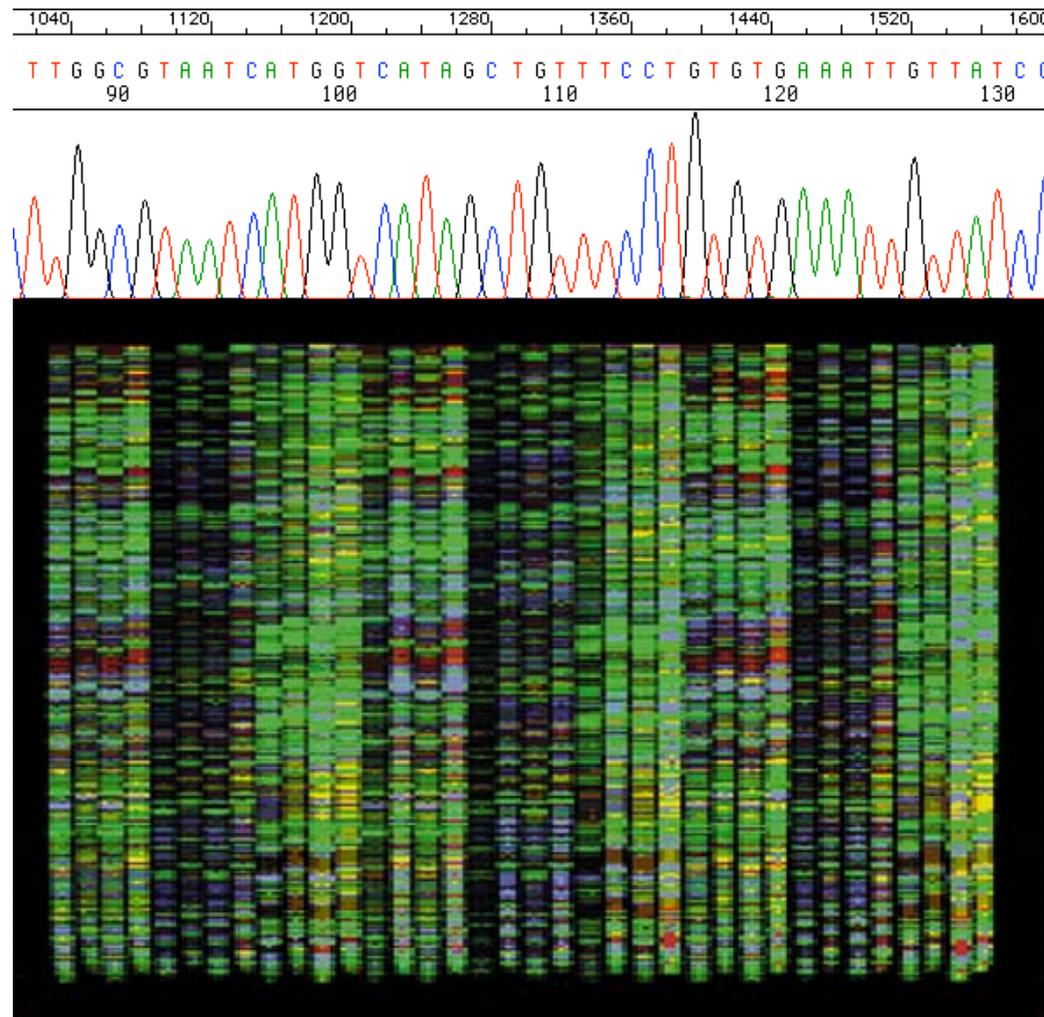
DNA template + sequencing oligo

1 sequencing reaction:

1. dATP, dCTP, dGTP, dTTP + ddATP-Dye1, ddCTP-Dye2, + ddGTP-Dye3+ddTTP-Dye4 (low conc)

Synthesis: starts with DNA oligo

stops after incorporating a (marked) ddNTP

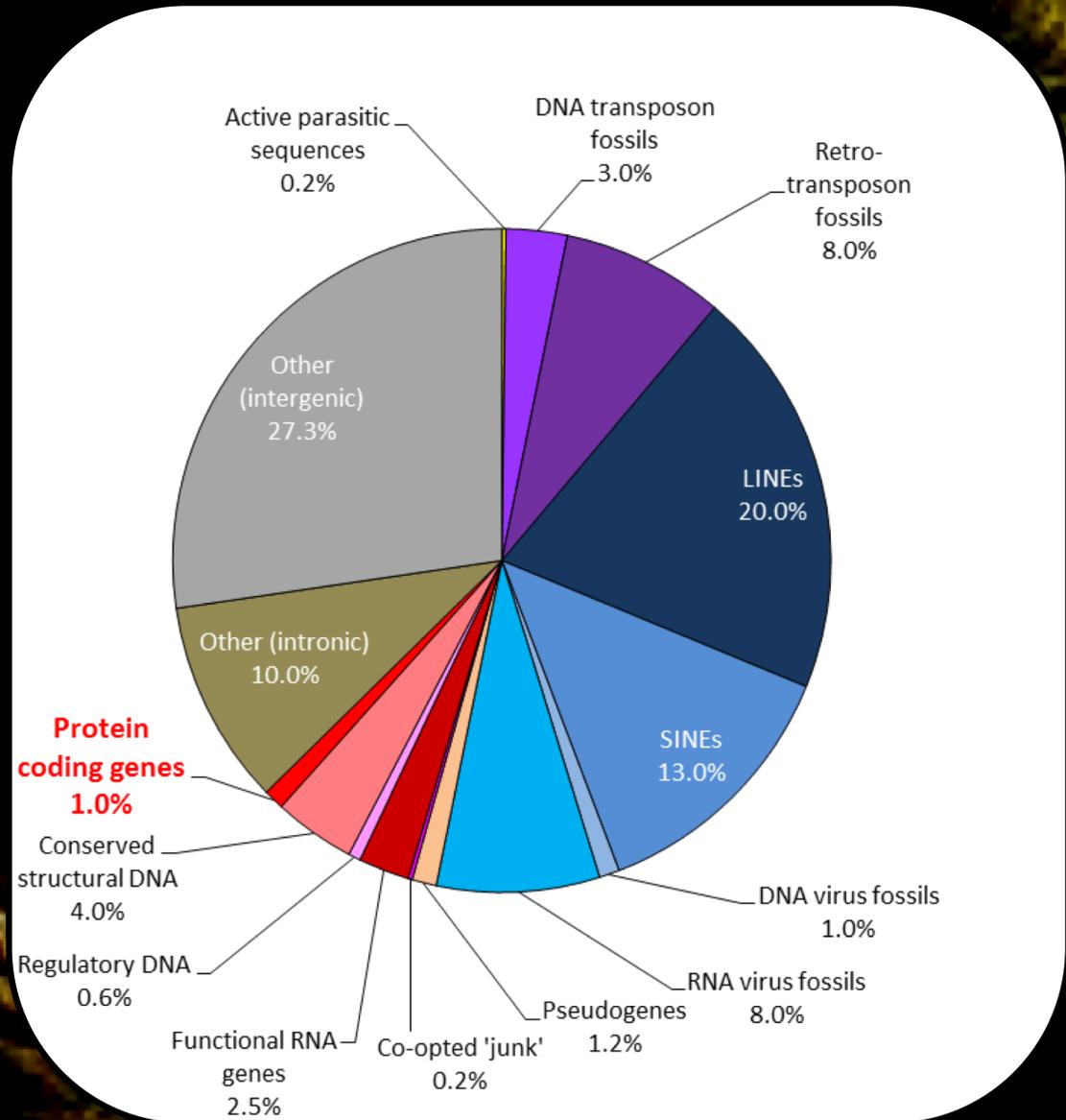


98% OF GENOMIC DNA DOES NOT ENCODE FOR PROTEINS

ca 50% transposable elements

1-2% protein coding genes

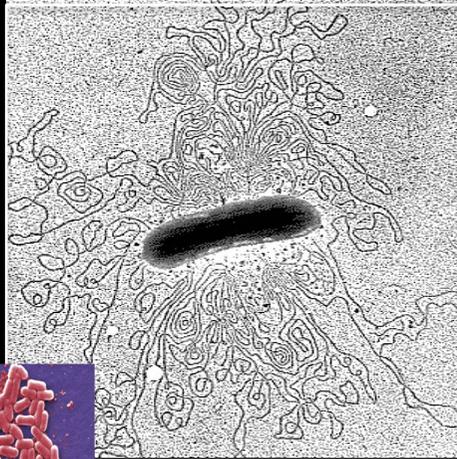
0.5-1% pseudogenes



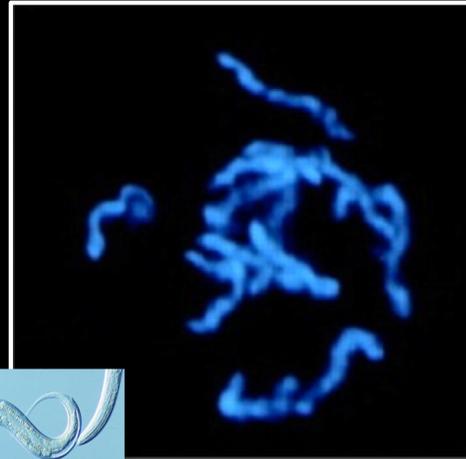
Almost all genomic sequences are subjected to transcription

THE NUMBER OF PROTEIN CODING GENES IS RELATIVELY LOW

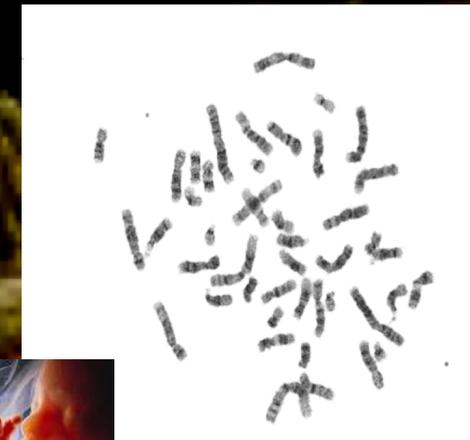
E. coli



C. elegans



H. sapiens



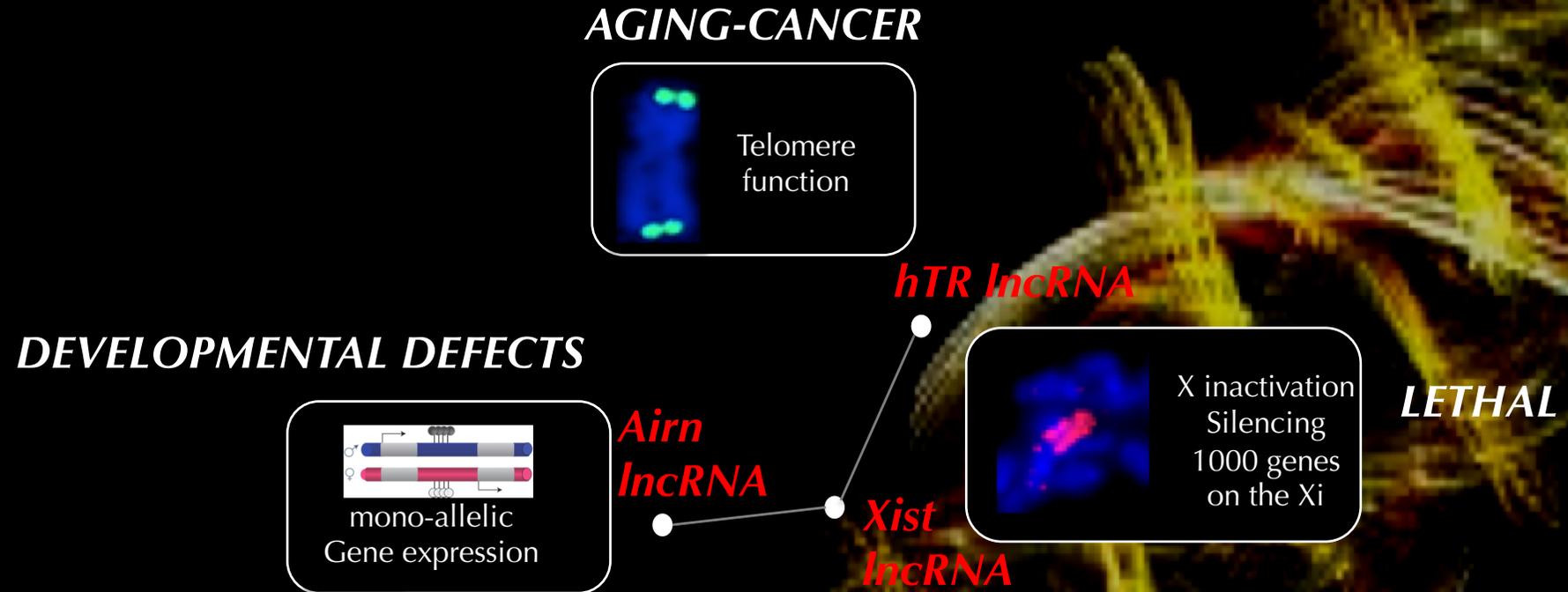
Genome	5x10 ⁶ bp	1x10 ⁸ bp	3x10 ⁹ bp
Chromosomes	1	6	23
Coding genes	6692	20541	21995
ncDNA			
non-coding RNA genes			
miRNAs			
pseudogenes			

????????????????

WHAT INFORMATION INCREASES ORGANISMAL COMPLEXITY
ncDNA derived information?

Why to study ncRNAs

1. There are things proteins cannot do

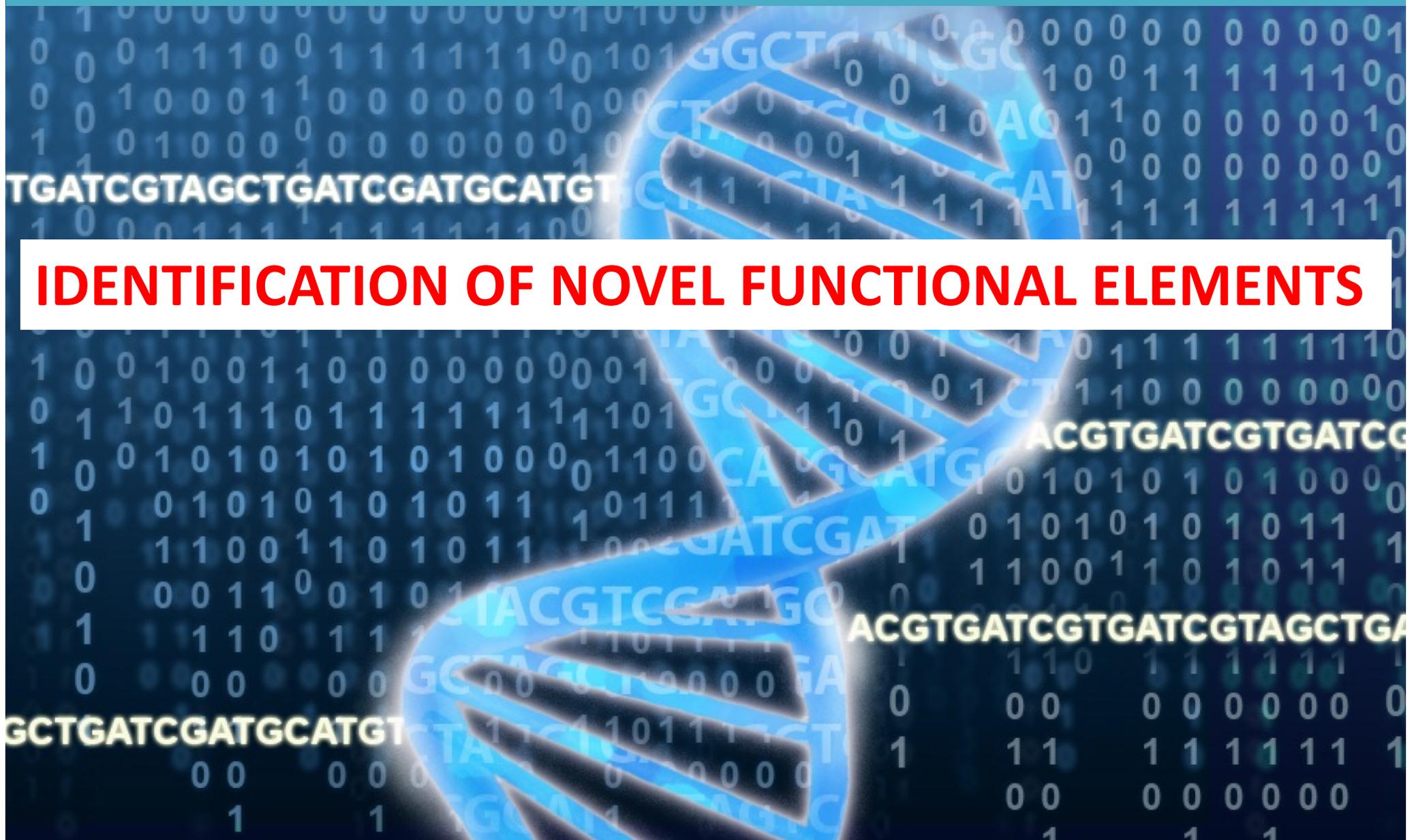


2. they have high relevance for development and pathology

Classic Sanger sequencing is inefficient and slow:
→ Establishment of massive parallel sequencing

NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING OF DNA AND RNA

IDENTIFICATION OF NOVEL FUNCTIONAL ELEMENTS



NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING OF DNA AND RNA

→ IDENTIFICATION OF ALL GENES

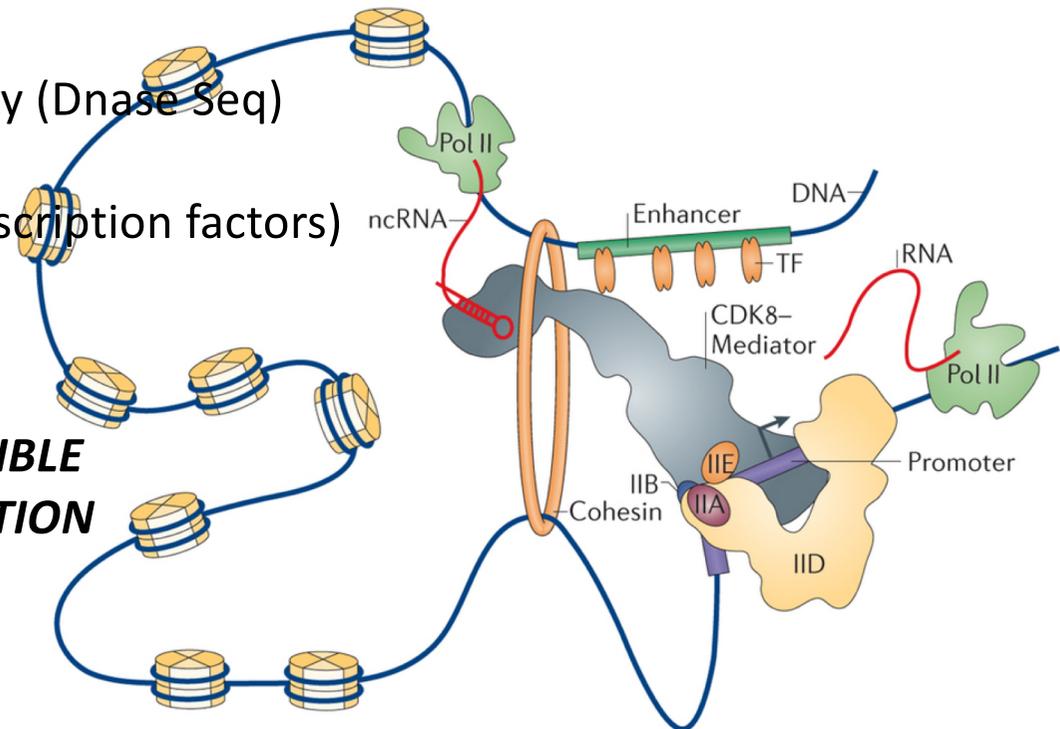
→ IDENTIFICATION OF ALL CODING AND NON-CODING TRANSCRIPTS

→ IDENTIFICATION OF REGULATORY ELEMENTS

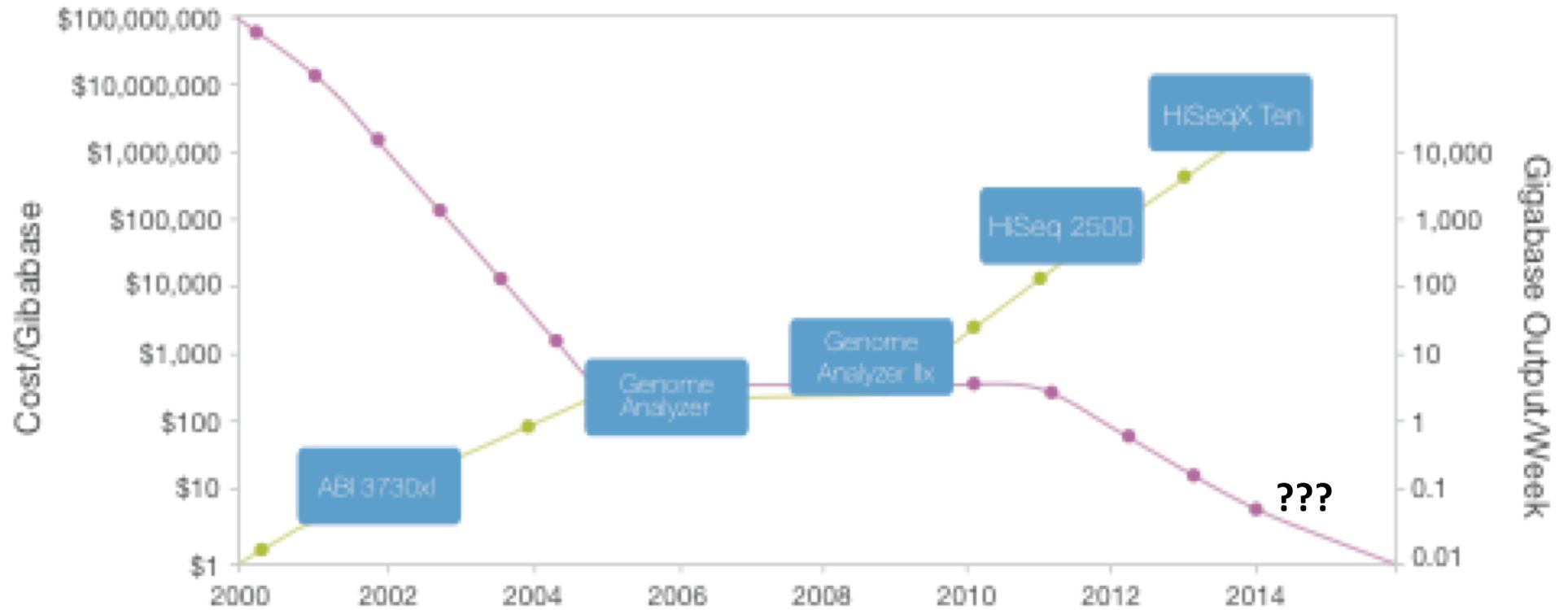
HOW CAN “NEW” = FUNCTIONAL ELEMENTS - (GENES/TRANSCRIPTS) BE IDENTIFIED?

1. DNA Sequencing (Human genome project, DNA-Seq)
2. Landscape of transcription: Sequencing of RNA (total RNA, small/large RNA, CAGE)
3. DNA methylation: High representation reduced representation bisulfite sequencing (RRBS)
4. Local chromatin structure:
 - determination of DNaseI hypersensitivity (Dnase Seq)
 - nucleosome occupancy (MNase-seq)
 - ChIP-seq (chromatin modifications, transcription factors)
 - 3 Dimensional space interaction

**GENE REGULATION AS INDICATOR OF POSSIBLE
FUNCTIONAL RELEVANCE OF lncRNA FUNCTION**



PROGRESS IN SEQUENCING POWER



**BIOINFORMATICS EFFORT
= PROCESING OF DATA**

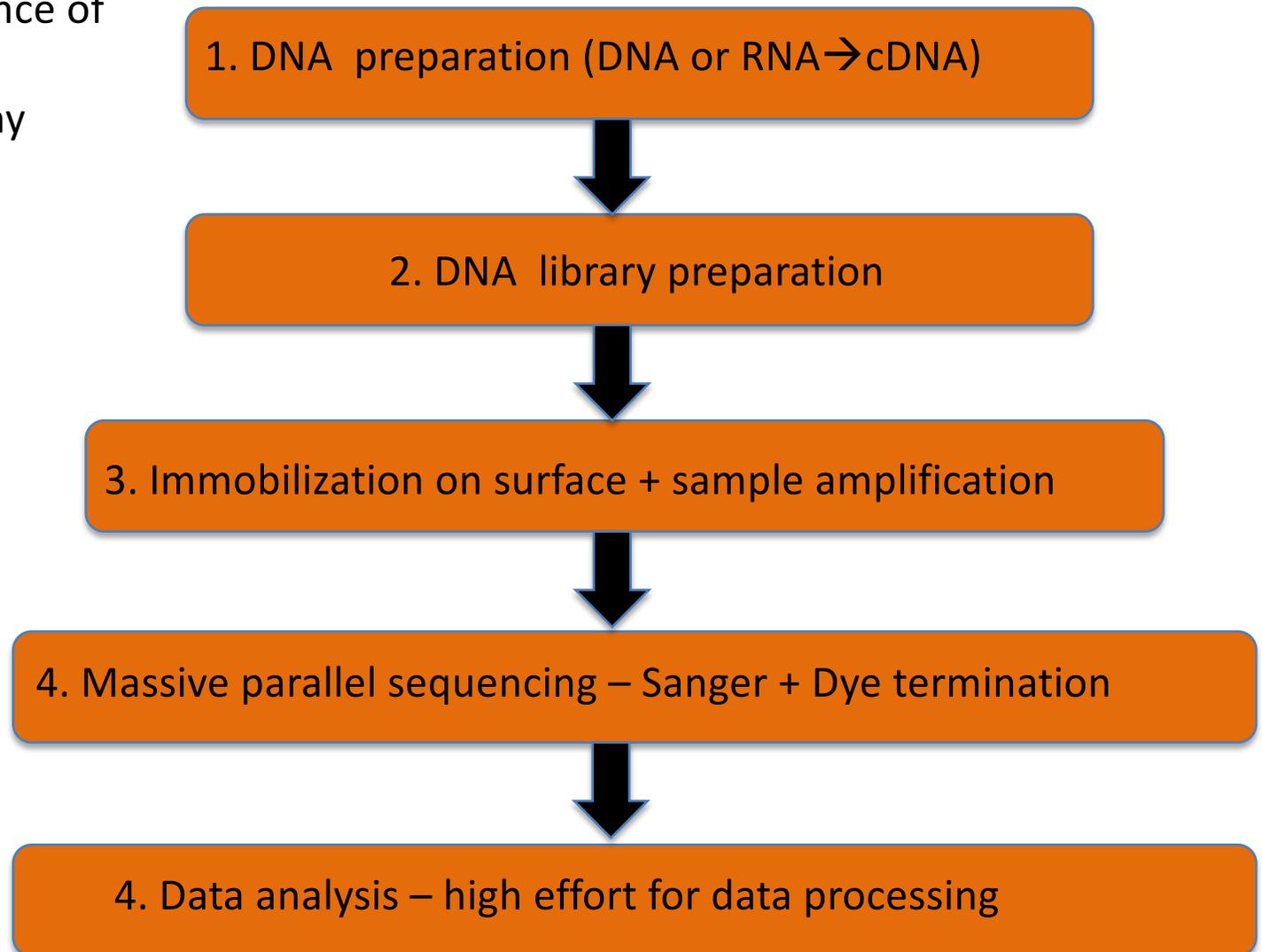
Next generation sequencing:

MASSIVE PARALLEL SEQUENCING (ILLUMINA)

DNA SEQ – genome sequence of many organisms

RNA SEQ – all RNAs of many organisms – also at low abundance

ChIP seq.....



Illumina: massive parallel sequencing Genomic DNA

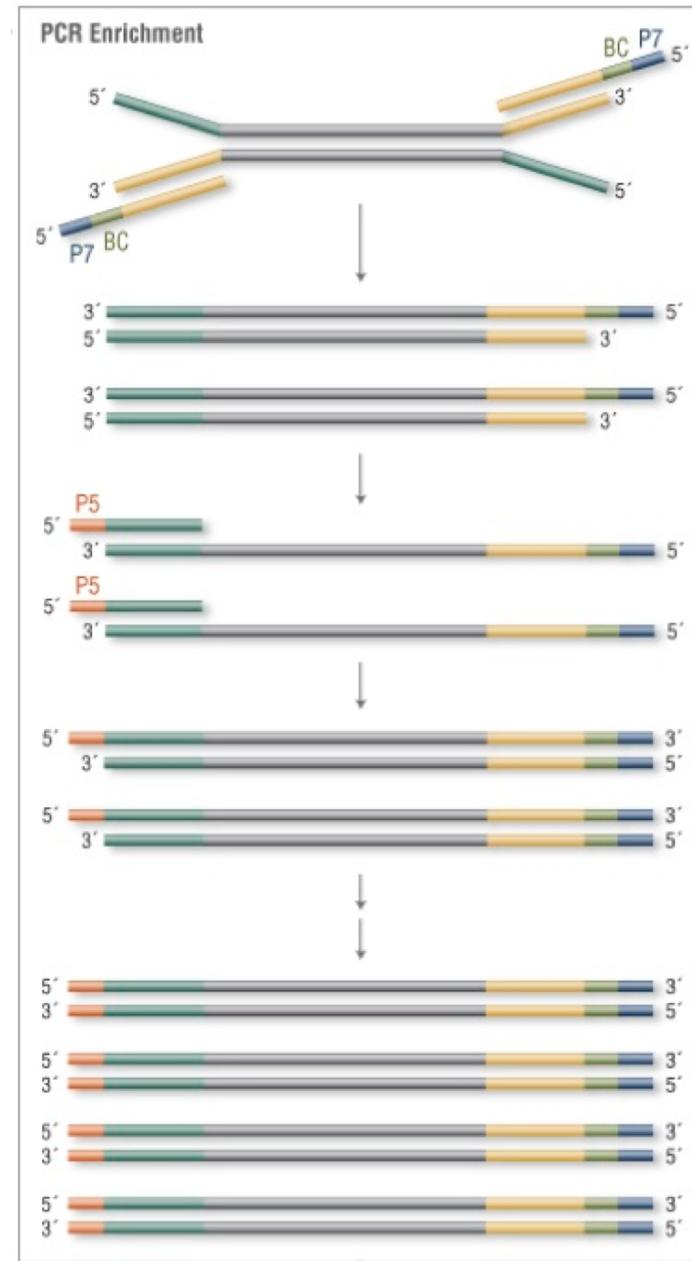
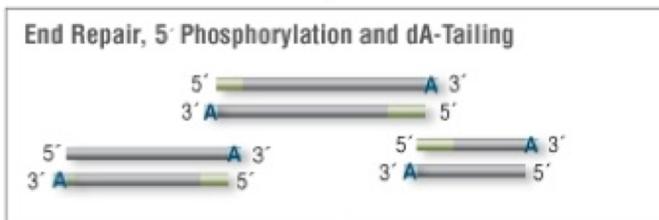
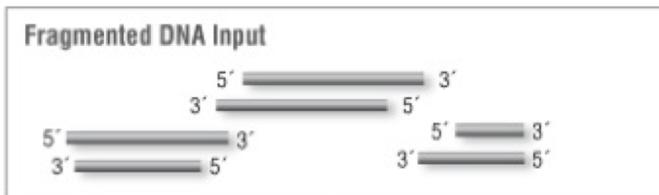
Generation of DNA libraries:

Application:

ChIP Seq

Genome Seq

Methyl Seq

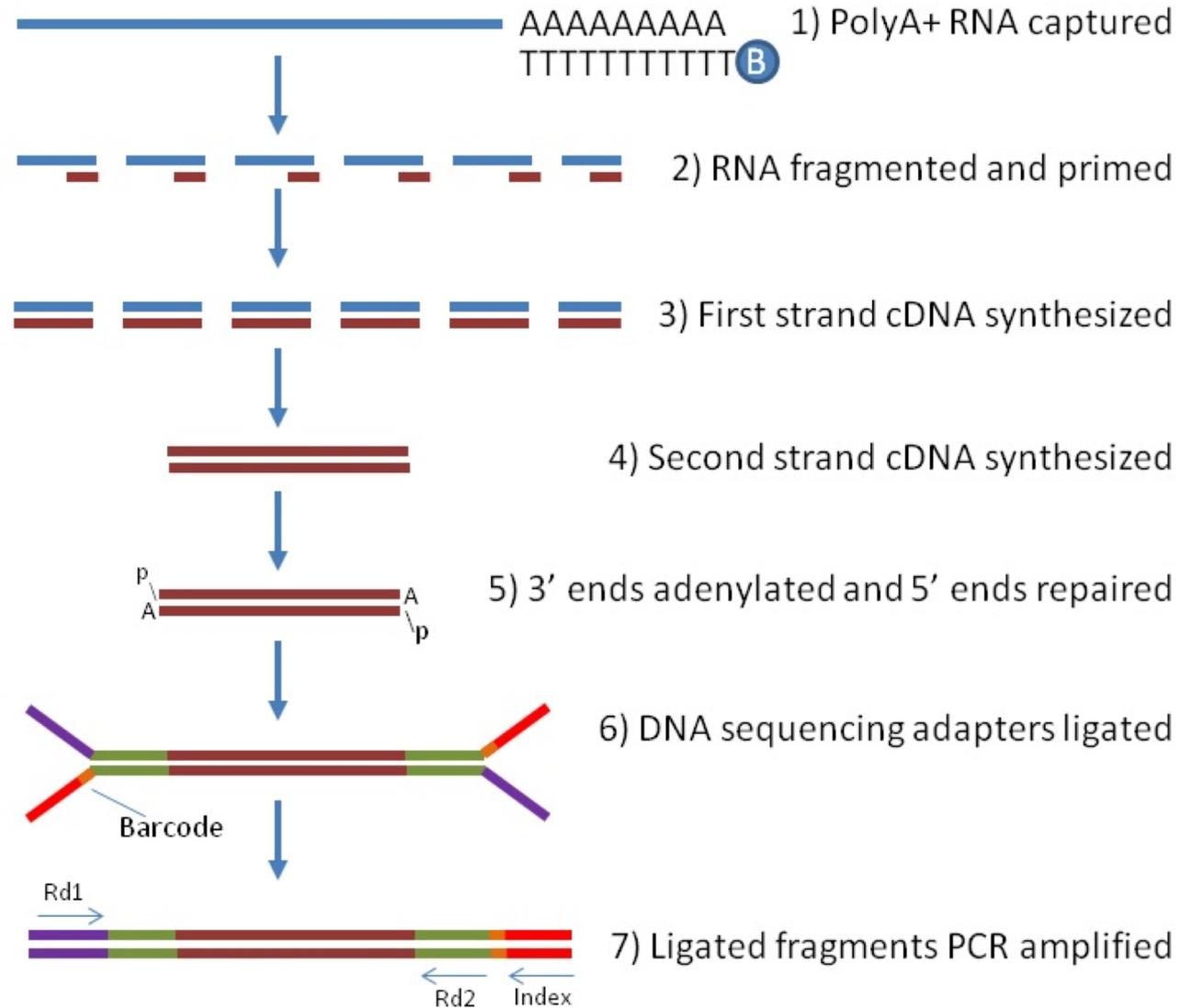


Illumina: massive parallel sequencing: ALL TRANSCRIPTS

Generation of RNA libraries:

Application:
RNA Seq

Important:
Involves cDNA synthesis



Illumina: massive parallel sequencing:

Illumina Massively Parallel Sequencing

<https://www.illumina.com/company/video-hub/pfZp5Vgsbw0.html>

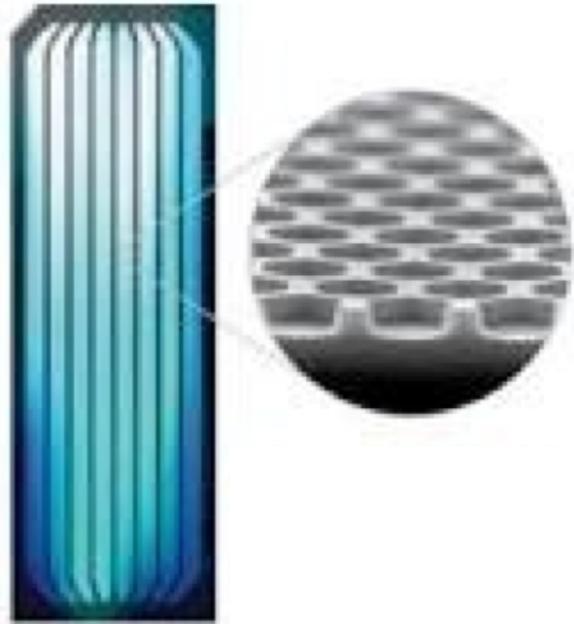
HiSeq 2000



The heart of the Illumina Massive Parallel Sequencer is the “FLOW-CELL”. A surface with millions of small wells that allow thousands of Sanger-sequencing reaction In parallel = “massive parallel sequencing”. In each well a SINGLE MOLECULE of DNA Is amplified and sequenced

Illumina offers the most potent massive sequencing instruments – leader on the market

ILLUMINA: MASSIVE PARALLEL SEQUENCING:



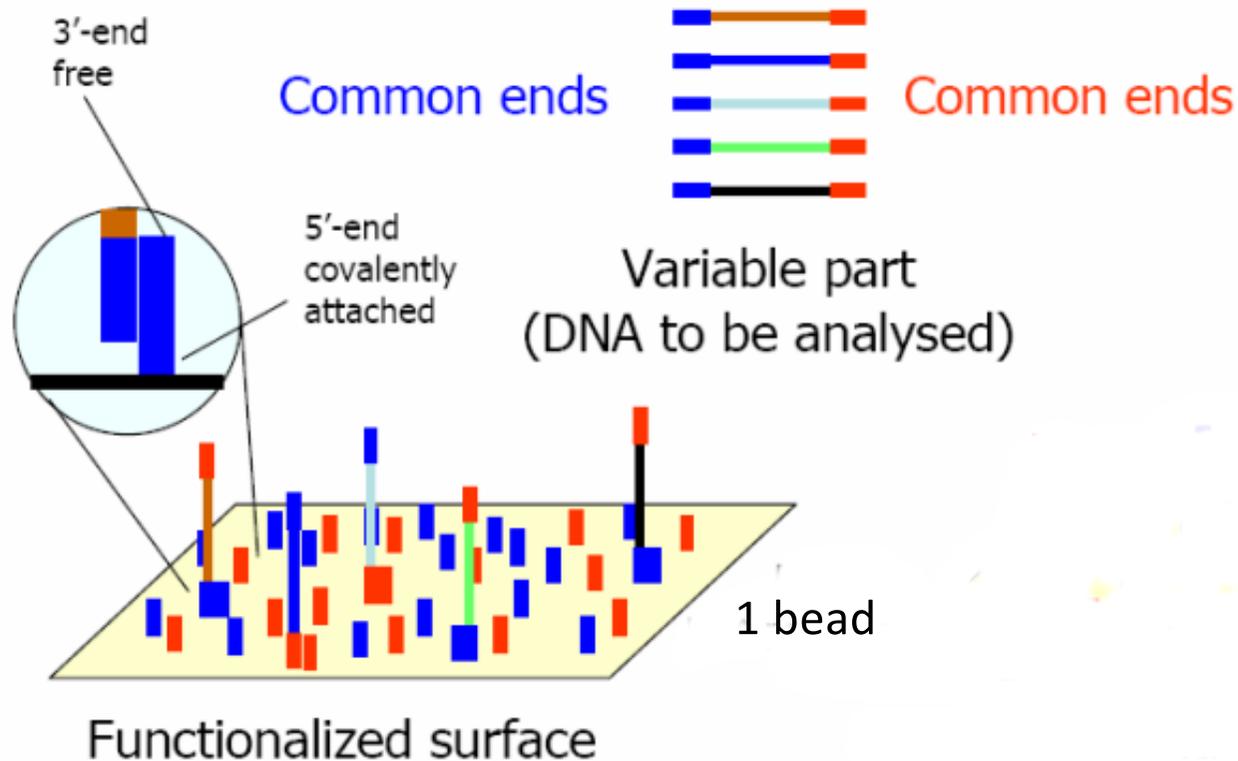
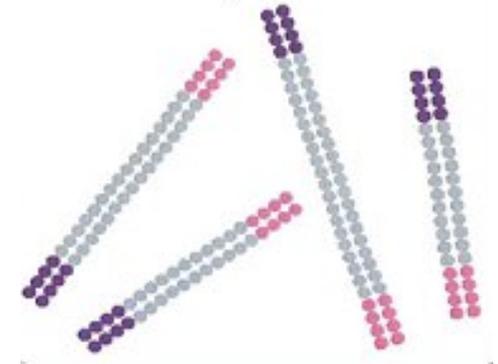
Flow cell contains surface with millions of wells

→ Each well contains beads mounted with 2 species of oligonucleotides that hybridize with adaptor oligos of DNA library

→ DNA library will be loaded onto the flow cell in a determined concentration:
ONLY ONE MOLECULE PER WELL

Illumina: massive parallel sequencing:

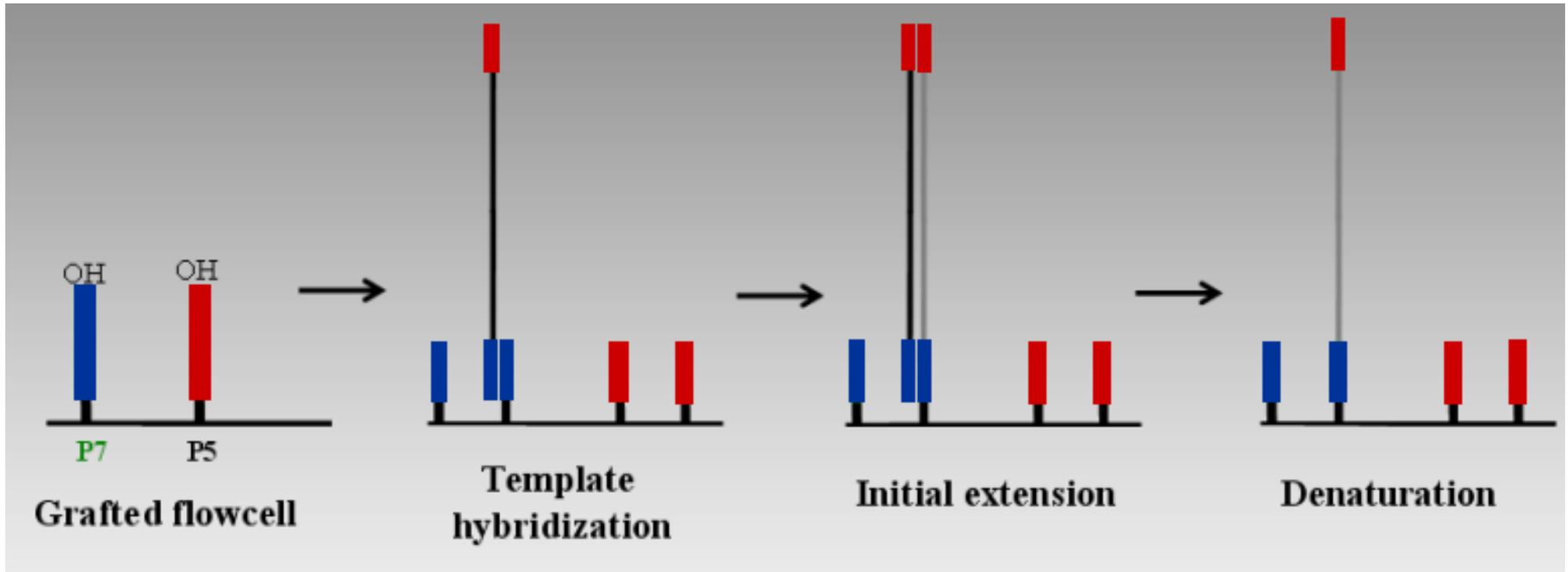
- making DNA library (~300bp fragments)
- ligation of adapters **A** and **B** to the fragments



- binding the ssDNA randomly to the flow cell surface
- complementary** primers are ligated to the surface

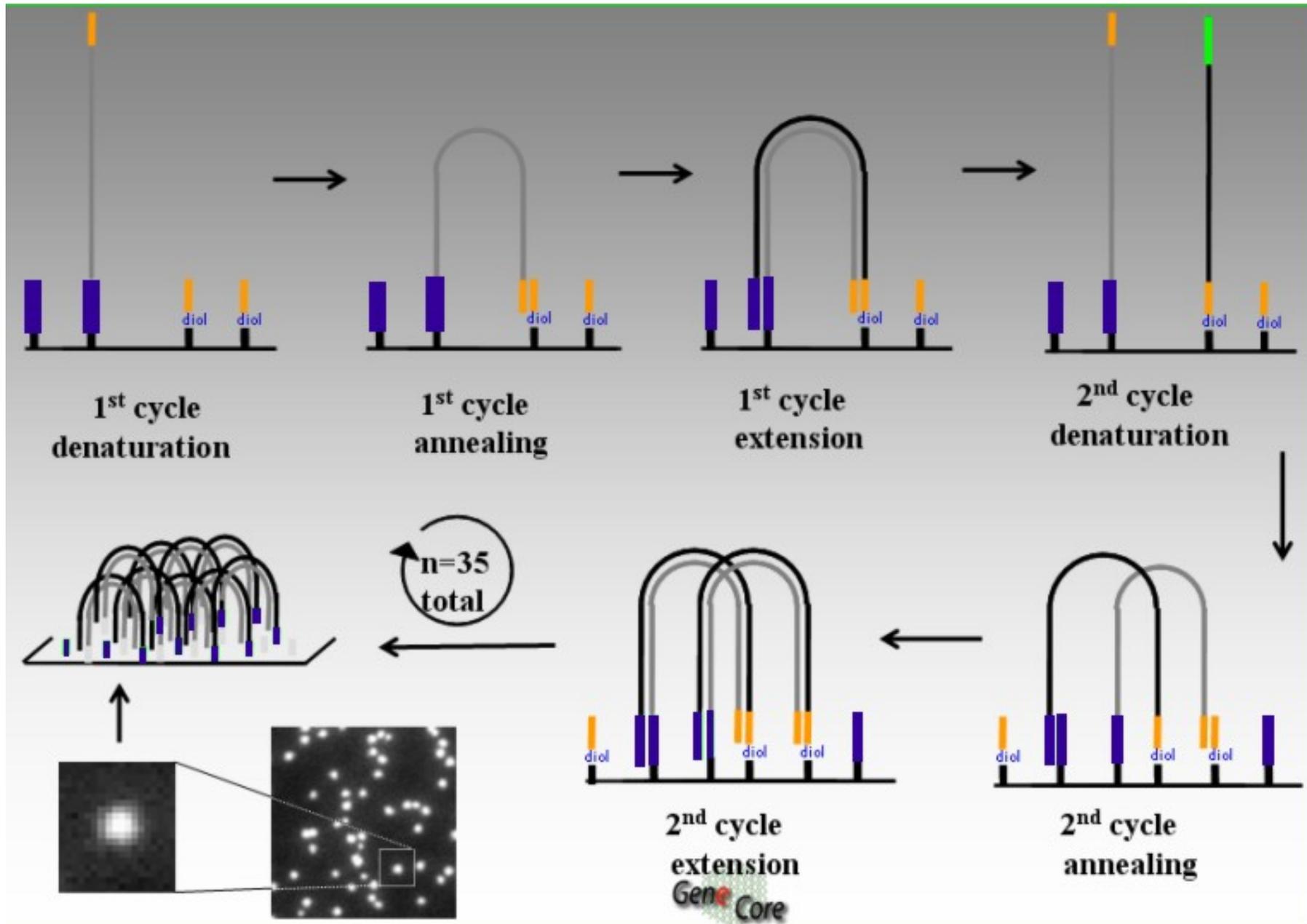
Illumina: massive parallel sequencing:

Bridge amplification:
initiation



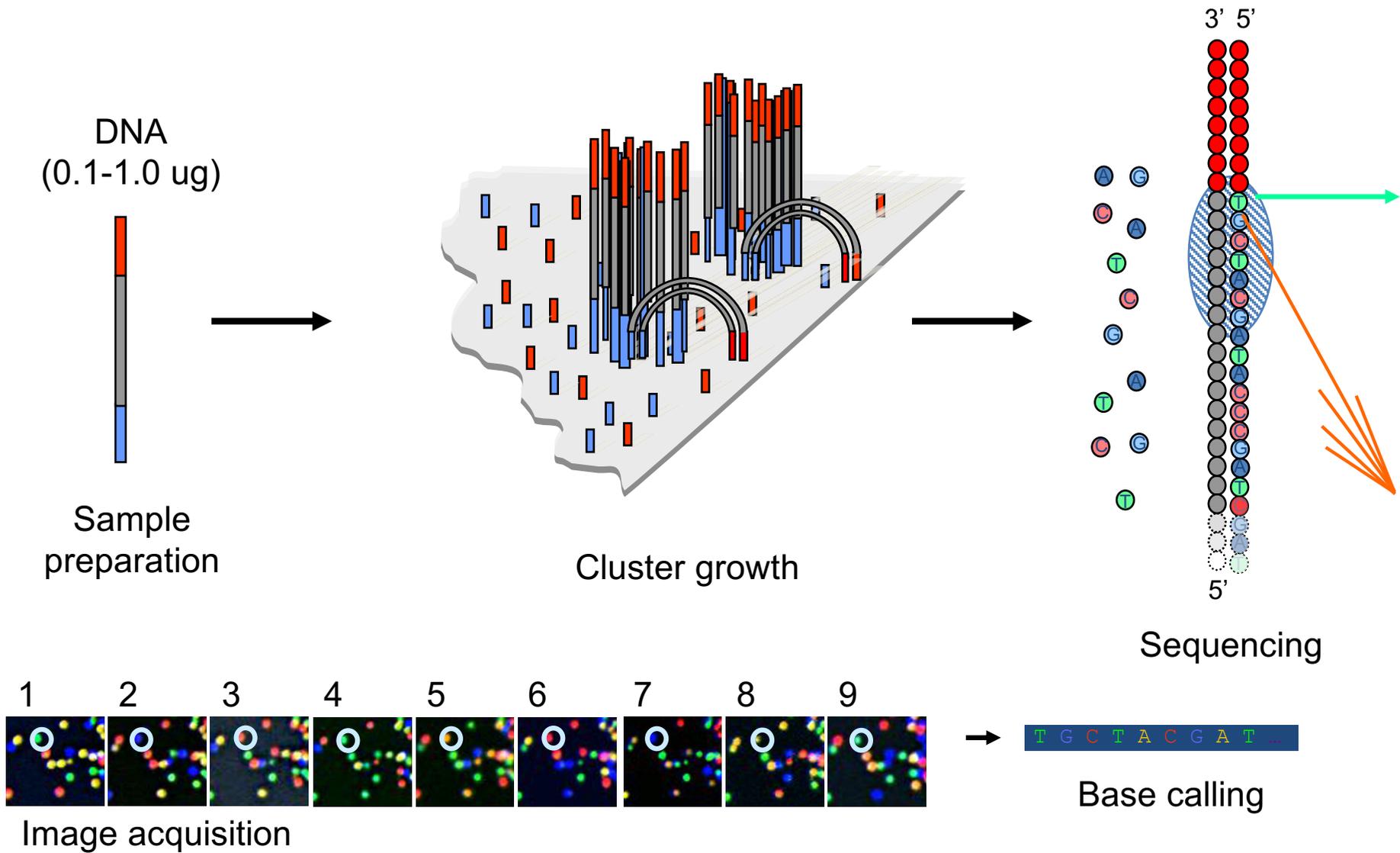
On the surface: complementary oligos

Illumina: massive parallel sequencing:

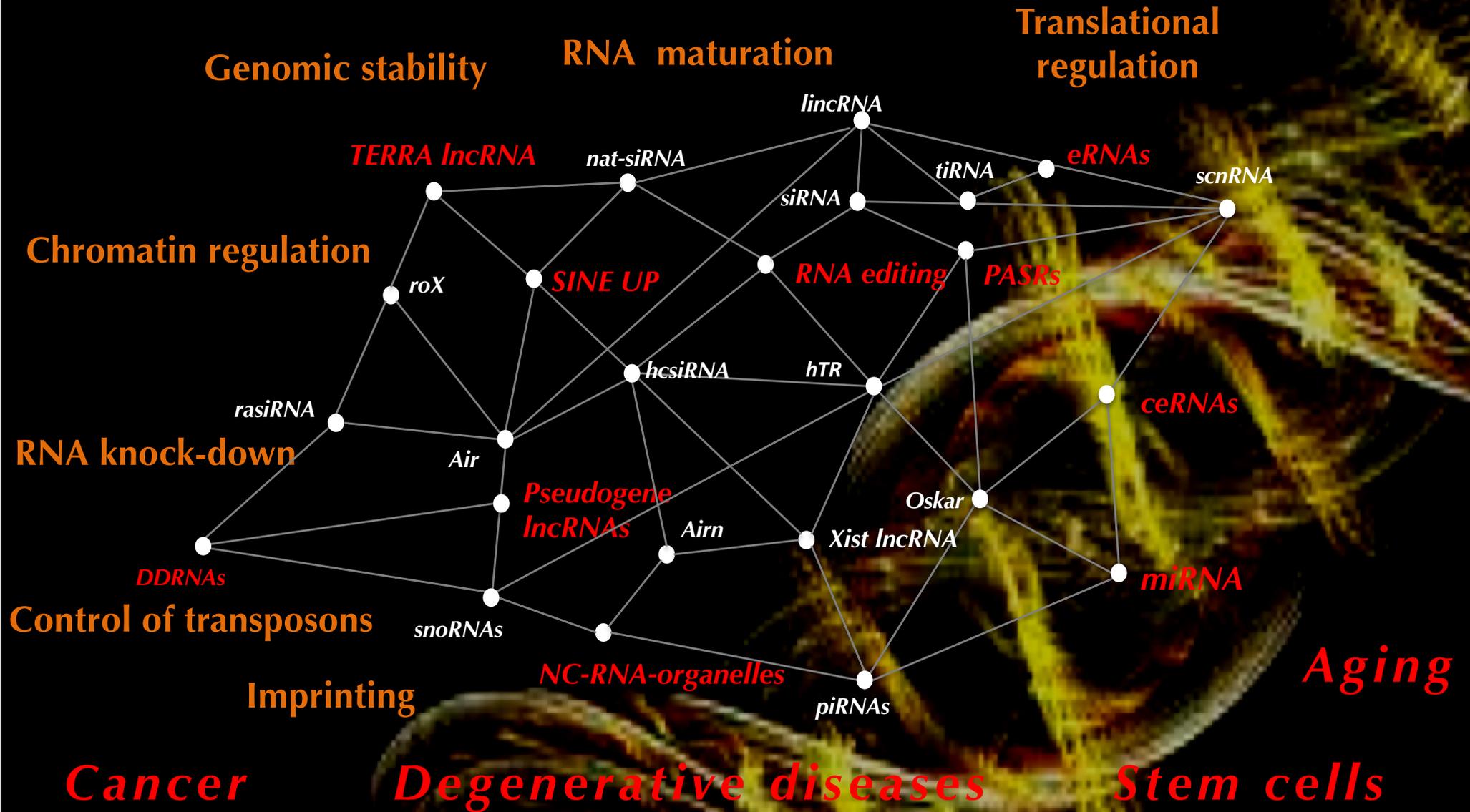


Illumina Sequencing Technology

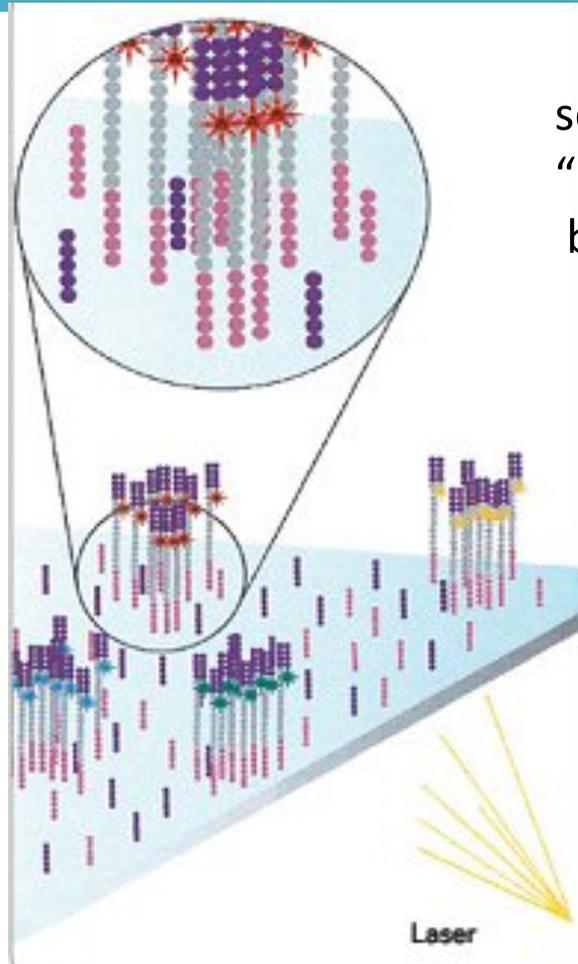
Robust Reversible Terminator Chemistry Foundation



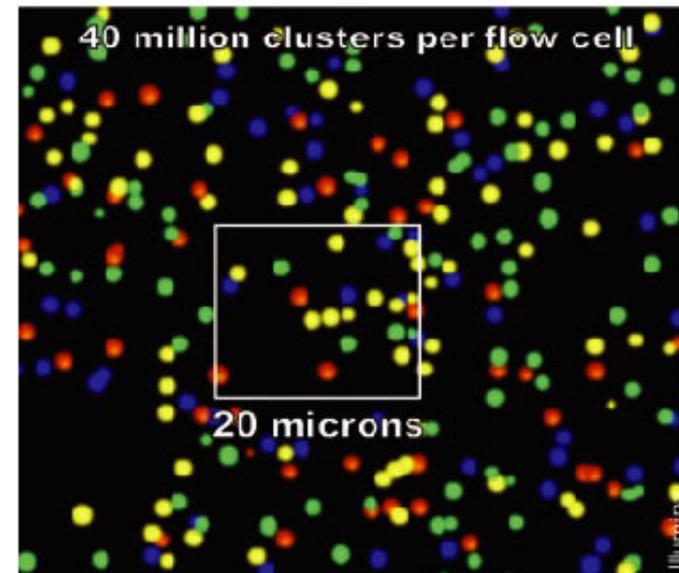
Why to study ncRNAs



Illumina: massive parallel sequencing:



sequencing by synthesis:
“reversible terminator” nucleotides
blocked + fluorescently labeled



1. Synthesis = incorporation of fluorescent nucleotide: blocking synthesis
2. dye cleavage + elimination
3. wash step
4. Scanning of fluorescent signal

1. Synthesis = incorporation of fluorescent nucleotide: blocking synthesis

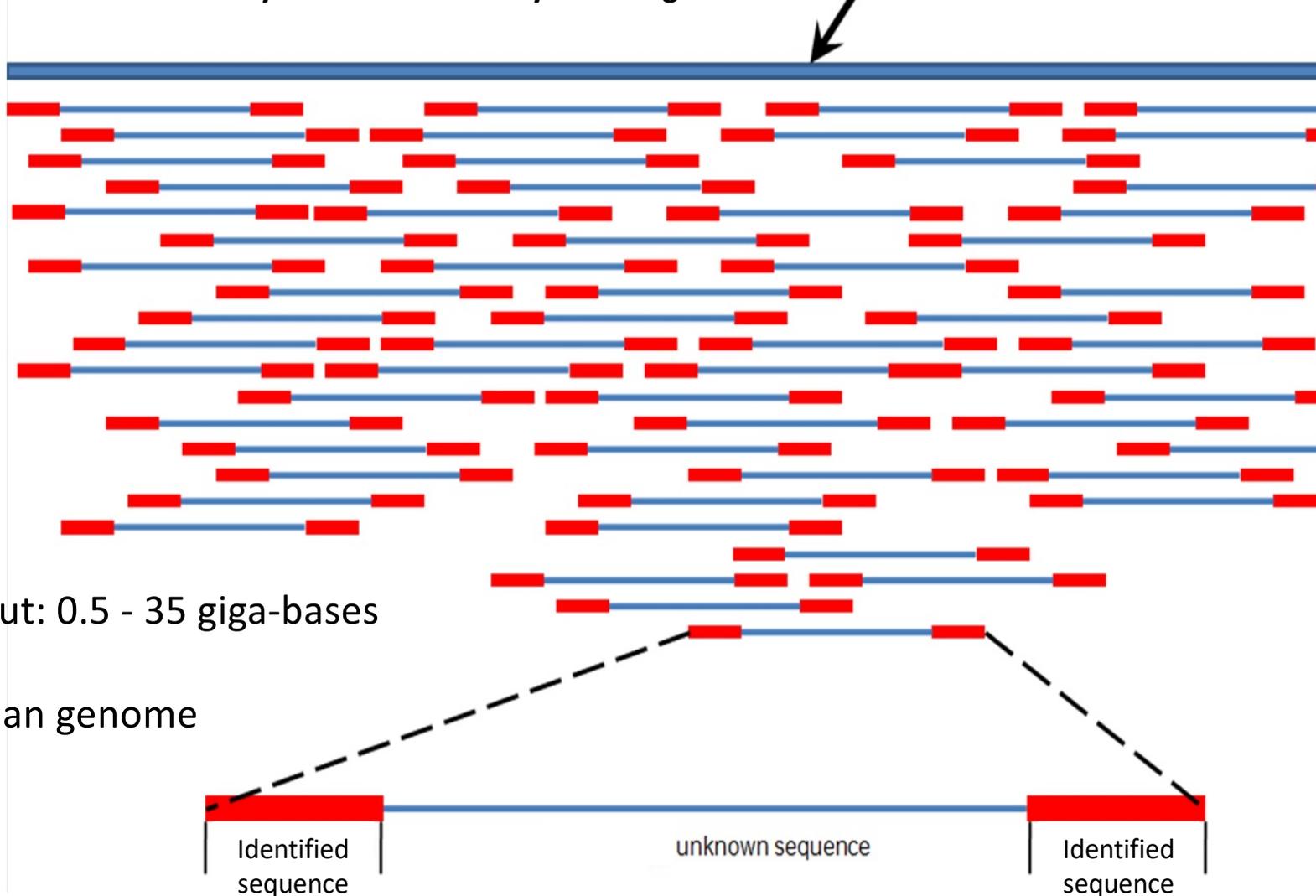
READ LENGTH: ca: 150nt from each primer (2x150nt = 300nt)

Data analysis: obtained sequence reads are aligned along genomic DNA sequence → high number of reads necessary to obtain full sequence coverage

Read length: 50 – max. 300 nt

Read does not necessarily cover entire library DNA fragment

Reference Genome Sequence

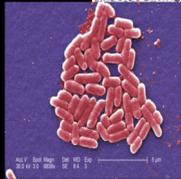
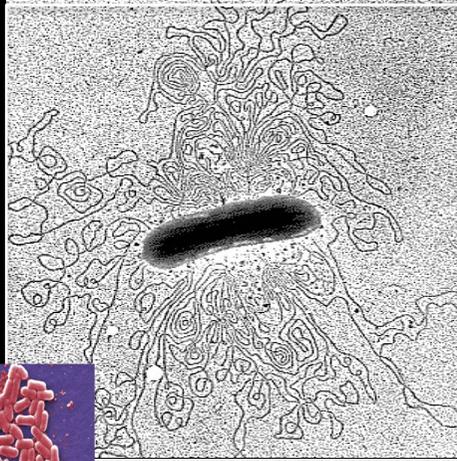


Max. output: 0.5 - 35 giga-bases
= 3.5×10^{10}
= 10x human genome

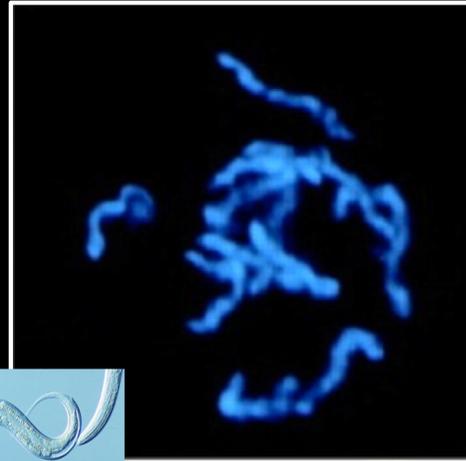
Sequence derived from one amplified cluster

Reason 1: The non-coding genome (r)evolution

E. coli



C. elegans



H. sapiens

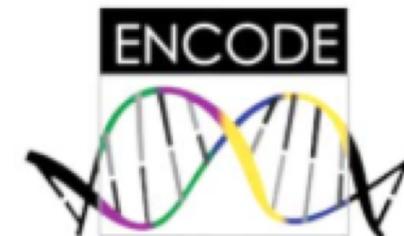


	Genome	5×10^6 bp	1×10^8 bp	3×10^9 bp
Chromosomes		1	6	23
Coding genes		6692	20541	21995
ncDNA		5%	60%	98%
non-coding RNA genes		15	23136	ca. 40000
miRNAs		0	224	4274
pseudogenes		21	1522	10616

The ENCODE PROJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF ALL FUNCTIONAL ELEMENTS IN THE REMAINING 98% OF THE HUMAN GENOME (2003)

The Encyclopedia of DNA Elements (ENCODE) is a public research project launched by the US National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) in September 2003.

Intended as a follow-up to the Human Genome Project (Genomic Research), the ENCODE project aims to identify all functional elements in the human genome.

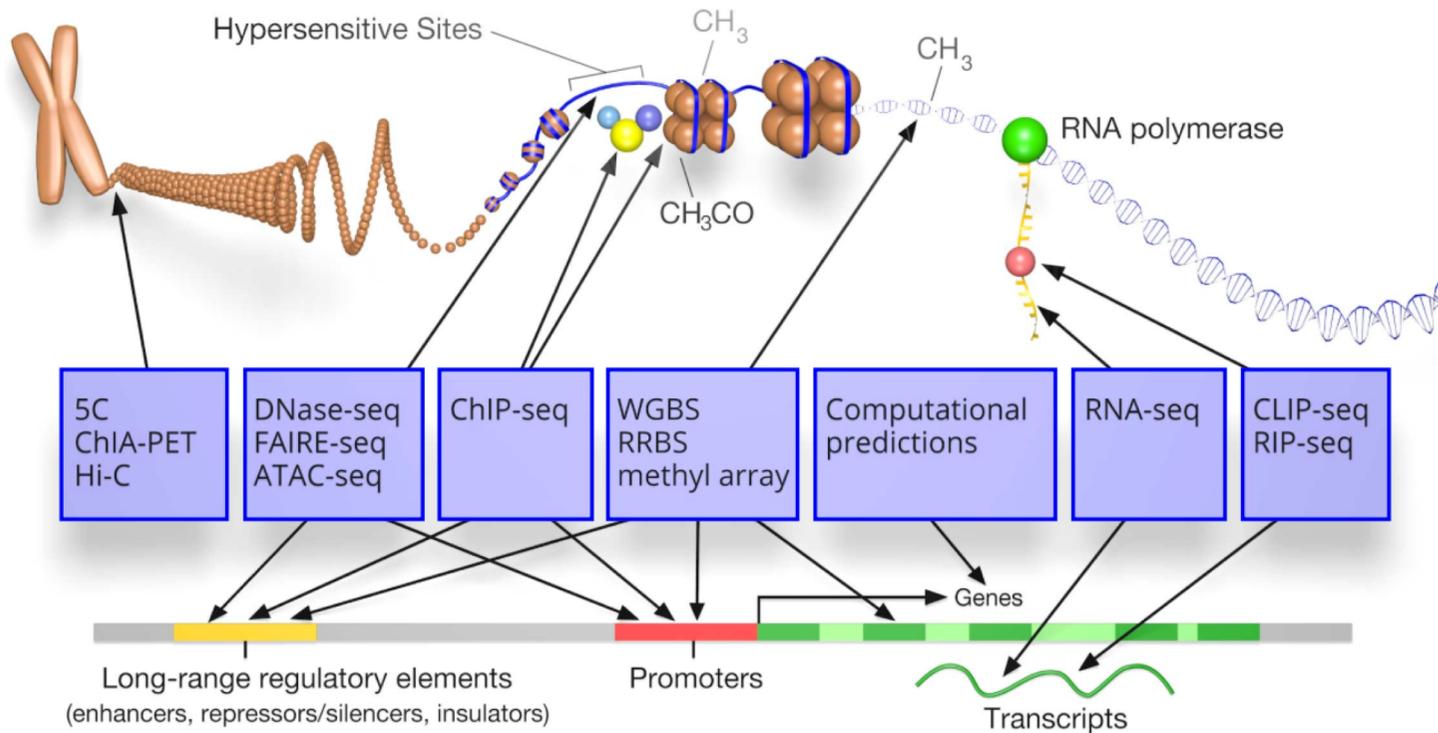


The project involves a worldwide consortium of research groups, and data generated from this project can be accessed through public databases.

ENCODE is implemented in three phases: the pilot phase, the technology development phase and the production phase.

Along the pilot phase, the ENCODE Consortium evaluated strategies for identifying various types of genomic elements. The goal of the pilot phase was to identify a set of procedures that, in combination, could be applied cost-effectively and at high-throughput to accurately and comprehensively characterize large regions of the human genome. The pilot phase had to reveal gaps in the current set of tools for detecting functional sequences, and was also thought to reveal whether some methods used by that time were inefficient or unsuitable for large-scale utilization. Some of these problems had to be addressed in the ENCODE technology development phase (being executed concurrently with the pilot phase), which aimed to devise new laboratory and computational methods that would improve our ability to identify known functional sequences or to discover new functional genomic elements. The results of the first two phases determined the best path forward for analysing the remaining 99% of the human genome in a cost-effective and comprehensive production phase.

ENCODE: Encyclopedia of DNA Elements



The ENCODE (Encyclopedia of DNA Elements) Consortium is an international collaboration of research groups funded by the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI). The goal of ENCODE is to build a comprehensive parts list of functional elements in the human genome, including elements that act at the protein and RNA levels, and regulatory elements that control cells and circumstances in which a gene is active.

[Get Started](#)



Based on an image by Darryl Leja (NHGRI), Ian Dunham (EBI), Michael Pazin (NHGRI)

HUMAN

MOUSE

WORM

FLY

<https://www.encodeproject.org>

NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING OF DNA AND RNA

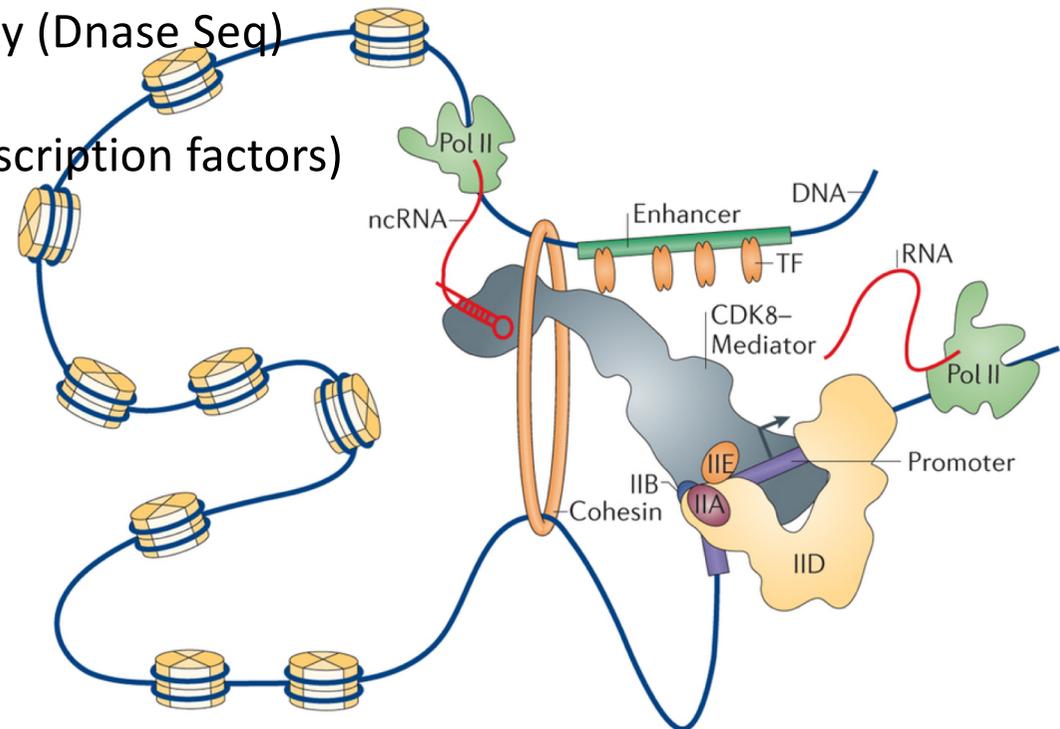
→ IDENTIFICATION OF ALL GENES

→ IDENTIFICATION OF ALL CODING AND NON-CODING TRANSCRIPTS

HOW CAN GENES/TRANSCRIPTS BE DEFINED?

1. DNA Sequencing (Human genome project, DNA-Seq)
2. Landscape of transcription: Sequencing of RNA (total RNA, small/large RNA, CAGE)
3. DNA methylation: High representation reduced representation bisulfite sequencing (RRBS)
4. Local chromatin structure:
 - determination of DNaseI hypersensitivity (Dnase Seq)
 - nucleosome occupancy (MNase-seq)
 - ChIP-seq (chromatin modifications, transcription factors)
 - 3 Dimensional space interaction

chromatin structure is combined with RNA expression data and DNA sequence to identify all genes/functional elements
The presence of regulated chromatin indicates the presence of a real functional element



ENCODE MASSIVE EXPERIMENTAL INPUT

Table 1 Summary of ENCODE experiments

Experiment	Description
DNA methylation	In 82 human cell lines and tissues: A549, Adrenal gland, AG04449, AG04450, AG09309, AG09319, AG10803, AoSMC, BE2 C, BJ, Brain, Breast, Caco-2, CMK, ECC-1, Fibrobl, GM06990, GM12878, GM12891, GM12892, GM19239, GM19240, H1-hESC, HAEpiC, HCF, HCM, HCPEpiC, HCT-116, HEEpiC, HEK293, HeLa-S3, Hepatocytes, HepG2, HIPEpiC, HL-60, HMEC, HNPCEpiC, HPAEpiC, HRCEpiC, HRE, HRPEpiC, HSMM, HTR8svn, IMR90, Jurkat, K562, Kidney, Left Ventricle, Leukocyte, Liver, LNCaP, Lung, MCF-7, Melano, Myometr, NB4, NH-A, NHBE, NHDF-neo, NT2-D1, Osteoblasts, Ovar-3, PANC-1, Pancreas, PanIslets, Pericardium, PFSK-1, Placenta, PrEC, ProgFib, RPTEC, SAEC, Skeletal muscle, Skin, SkMC, SK-N-MC, SK-N-SH, Stomach, T-47D, Testis, U87, UCH-1 and Uterus
TF ChIP-seq	A total of 119 TFs: ATF3, BATF, BCLAF1, BCL3, BCL11A, BDP1, BHLHE40, BRCA1, BRF1, BRF2, CCNT2, CEBPB, CHD2, CTBP2, CTCF, CTCFL, EBF1, EGR1, ELF1, ELK4, EP300, ESRRA, ESR1, ETS1, E2F1, E2F4, E2F6, FOS, FOSL1, FOSL2, FOXA1, FOXA2, GABPA, GATA1, GATA2, GATA3, GTF2B, GTF2F1, GTF3C2, HDAC2, HDAC8, HMG3, HNF4A, HNF4G, HSF1, IRF1, IRF3, IRF4, JUN, JUNB, JUND, MAFF, MAFK, MAX, MEF2A, MEF2C, MXI1, MYC, NANOG, NFE2, NFKB1, NFYA, NFYB, NRF1, NR2C2, NR3C1, PAX5, PBX3, POLR2A, POLR3A, POLR3G, POU2F2, POU5F1, PPARGC1A, PRDM1, RAD21, RDBP, REST, RFX5, RXRA, SETDB1, SIN3A, SIRT6, SIX5, SMARCA4, SMARCB1, SMARCC1, SMARCC2, SMC3, SPI1, SP1, SP2, SREBF1, SRF, STAT1, STAT2, STAT3, SUZ12, TAF1, TAF7, TAL1, TBP, TCF7L2, TCF12, TFAP2A, TFAP2C, THAP1, TRIM28, USF1, USF2, WRNIP1, YY1, ZBTB7A, ZBTB33, ZEB1, ZNF143, ZNF263, ZNF274 and ZZZ3
Histone ChIP-seq	A total of 12 types: H2A.Z, H3K4me1, H3K4me2, H3K4me3, H3K9ac, H3K9me1, H3K9me3, H3K27ac, H3K27me3, H3K36me3, H3K79me2 and H4K20me1
DNase-seq	In 125 cell types or treatments: 8988T, A549, AG04449, AG04450, AG09309, AG09319, AG10803, AoAF, AoSMC/serum_free_media, BE2_C, BJ, Caco-2, CD20, CD34, Chorion, CLL, CMK, Fibrobl, FibroP, Gliobla, GM06990, GM12864, GM12865, GM12878, GM12891, GM12892, GM18507, GM19238, GM19239, GM19240, H7-hESC, H9ES, HAc, HAEpiC, HA-h, HA-sp, HBMEC, HCF, HCFaa, HCM, HConF, HCPEpiC, HCT-116, HEEpiC, HeLa-S3, HeLa-S3_IFNa4h, Hepatocytes, HepG2, HESC, HFF, HFF-Myc, HGF, HIPEpiC, HL-60, HMEC, HMF, HMVEC-dAd, HMVEC-dBI-Ad, HMVEC-dBI-Neo, HMVEC-dLy-Ad, HMVEC-dLy-Neo, HMVEC-dNeo, HMVEC-LBI, HMVEC-LLy, HNPCEpiC, HPAEC, HPAF, HPDE6-E6E7, HPdLF, HPF, HRCEpiC, HRE, HRGEC, HRPEpiC, HSMM, HSMMemb, HSMMtube, HTR8svn, Huh-7, Huh-7.5, HUVEC, HVMF, iPS, Ishikawa_Estr, Ishikawa_Tamox, Jurkat, K562, LNCaP, LNCaP_Andr, MCF-7, MCF-7_Hypox, Medullo, Melano, MonocytesCD14+, Myometr, NB4, NH-A, NHDF-Ad, NHDF-neo, NHEK, NHLF, NT2-D1, Osteobl, PANC-1, PanIsletD, PanIslets, pHTE, PrEC, ProgFib, PrEC, RPTEC, RWPE1, SAEC, SKMC, SK-N-MC, SK-N-SH_RA, Stellate, T-47D, Th0, Th1, Th2, Urothelia, Urothelia_UT189, WERI-Rb-1, WI-38 and WI-38_Tamox
DNase footprint	In 41 cell types: AG10803, AoAF, CD20+, CD34+ Mobilized, fBrain, fHeart, fLung, GM06990, GM12865, HAEpiC, HA-h, HCF, HCM, HCPEpiC, HEEpiC, HepG2, H7-hESC, HFF, HIPEpiC, HMF, HMVEC-dBI-Ad, HMVEC-dBI-Neo, HMVEC-dLy-Neo, HMVEC-LLy, HPAF, HPdLF, HPF, HRCEpiC, HSMM, Th1, HVMF, IMR90, K562, NB4, NH-A, NHDF-Ad, NHDF-neo, NHLF, SAEC, SkMC and SK-N-SH RA
MNase-seq	In GM12878 and K562
3C-carbon copy (5C)	In GM12878, K562, HeLa-S3 and H1-hESC
GWAS SNP targeting	296 noncoding GWAS SNPs were assigned a target promoter

Ca.
400 Mio \$

[GENCODE](#)[Data](#)[Stats](#)[Browser](#)[Blog](#)

GENCODE:

Project that uses ENCODE data for the annotation of functional elements in the genome

<http://www.gencodegenes.org/>

Statistics about all Human GENCODE releases

* The statistics derive from the gtf files that contain only the annotation of the main chromosomes.

For details about the calculation of these statistics please see the [README_stats.txt](#) file.

Version 23 (March 2015 freeze, GRCh38) - Ensembl 81, 82

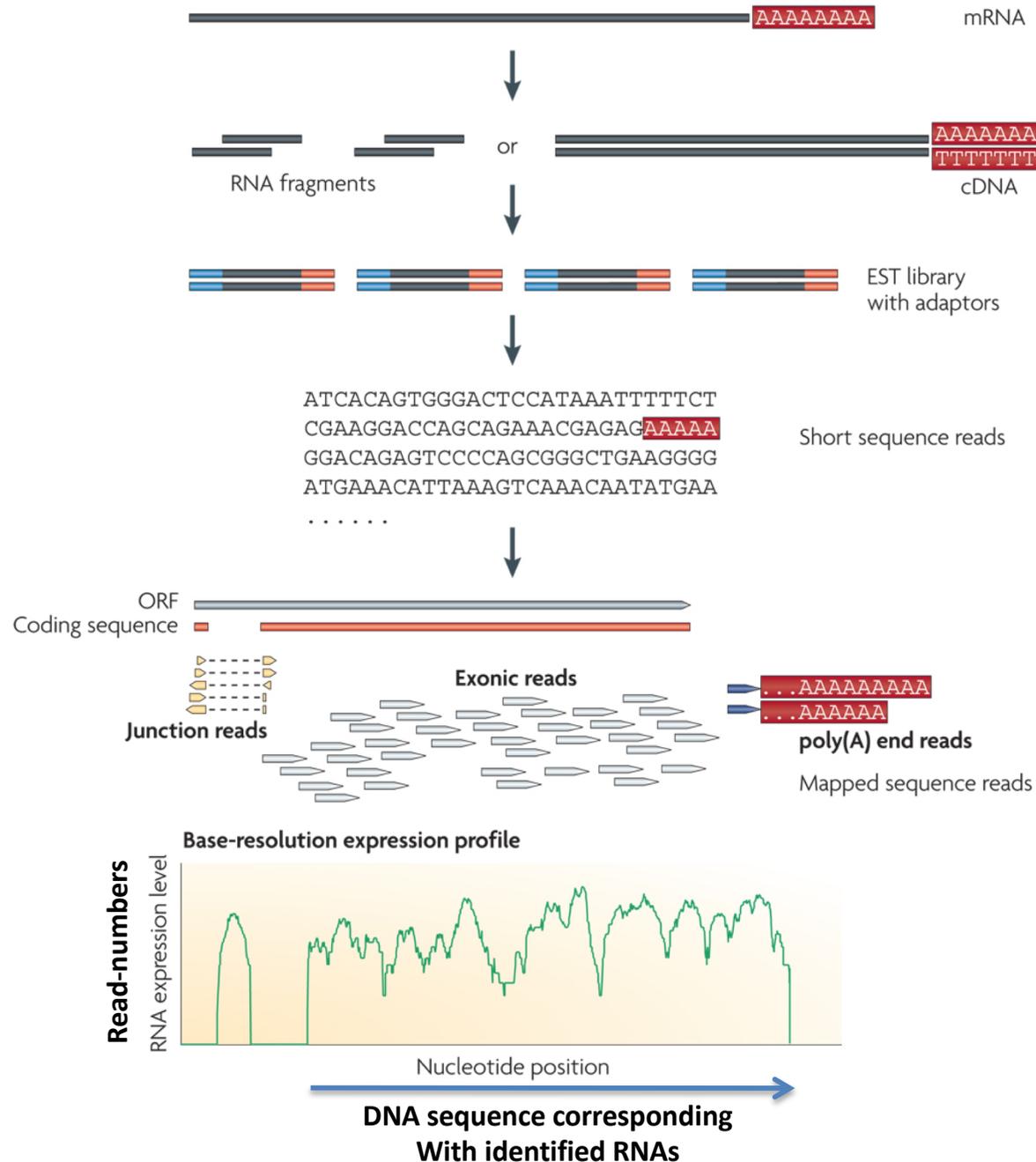
[Download release](#)

General stats

Total No of Genes	60498	Total No of Transcripts	198619
Protein-coding genes	19797	Protein-coding transcripts	79795
Long non-coding RNA genes	15931	- full length protein-coding:	54775
Small non-coding RNA genes	9882	- partial length protein-coding:	25020
Pseudogenes	14477	Nonsense mediated decay transcripts	13307
- processed pseudogenes:	10727	Long non-coding RNA loci transcripts	27817
- unprocessed pseudogenes:	3271		
- unitary pseudogenes:	172		
- polymorphic pseudogenes:	59		
- pseudogenes:	21	Total No of distinct translations	59774
Immunoglobulin/T-cell receptor gene segments		Genes that have more than one distinct translations	13556
- protein coding segments:	411		
- pseudogenes:	227		

2. RNA SEQ – TO IDENTIFY ALL SORTS OF TRANSCRIPTS

Serial Analysis of Gene Expression (SAGE, superSAGE)

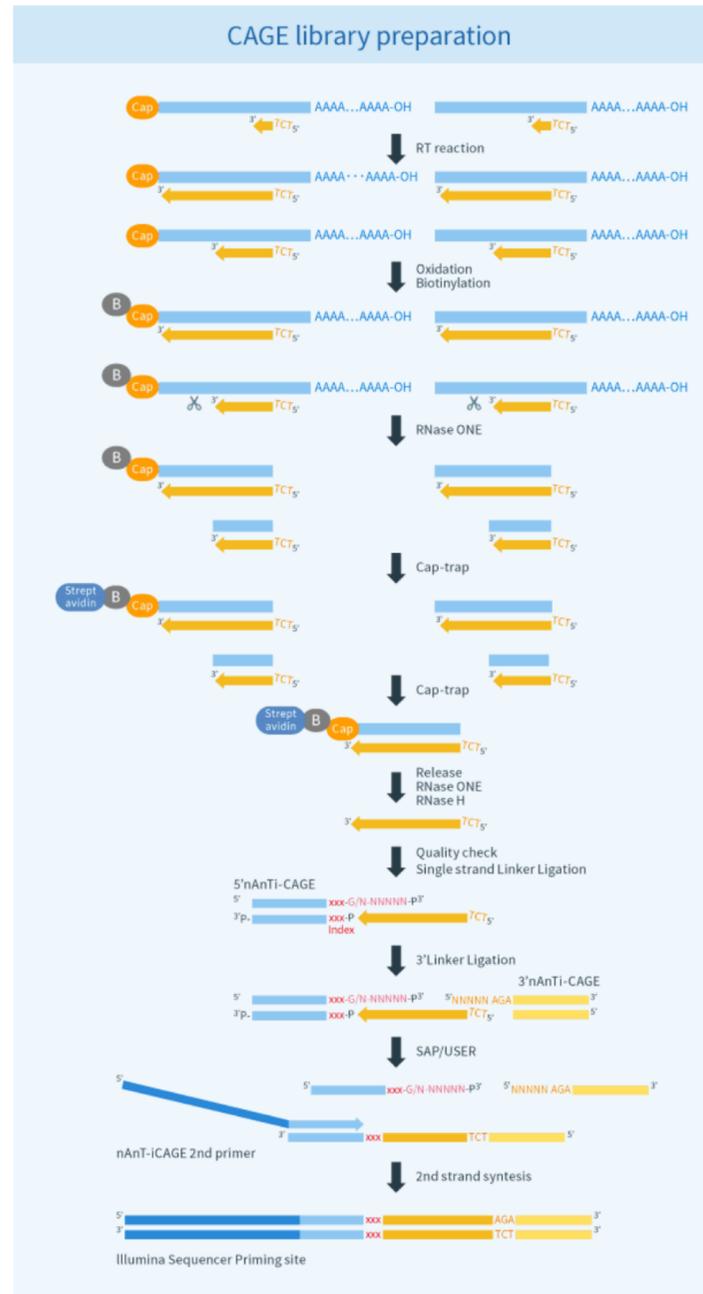
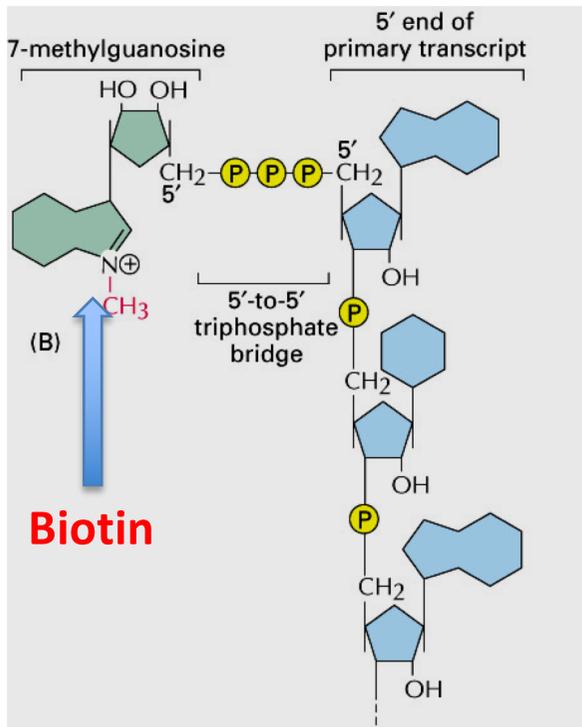


Method can also be used for all transcripts
When using a random Primers for reverse transcription

2. RNA Seq variant technology: CAGE (Cap Analysis of Gene Expression)

<http://www.osc.riken.jp/english/activity/cage/basic/>

Unlike a similar technique Serial Analysis of Gene Expression (SAGE, superSAGE) in which tags come from other parts of transcripts, CAGE is primarily used to locate an exact transcription start sites in the genome. This knowledge in turn allows a researcher to investigate promoter structure necessary for gene expression.



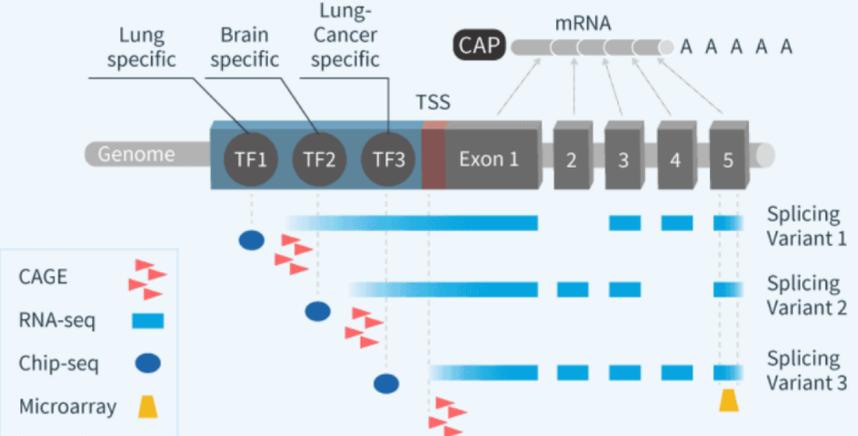
2. RNA Seq variant technology: CAGE (Cap Analysis of Gene Expression)

Sequencing, Visualization & Analysis of data

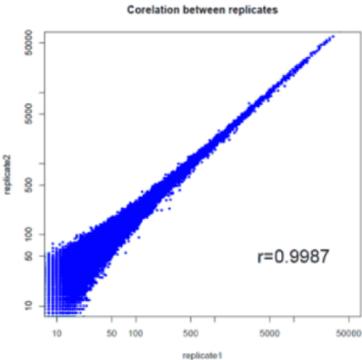
Expression Profiling



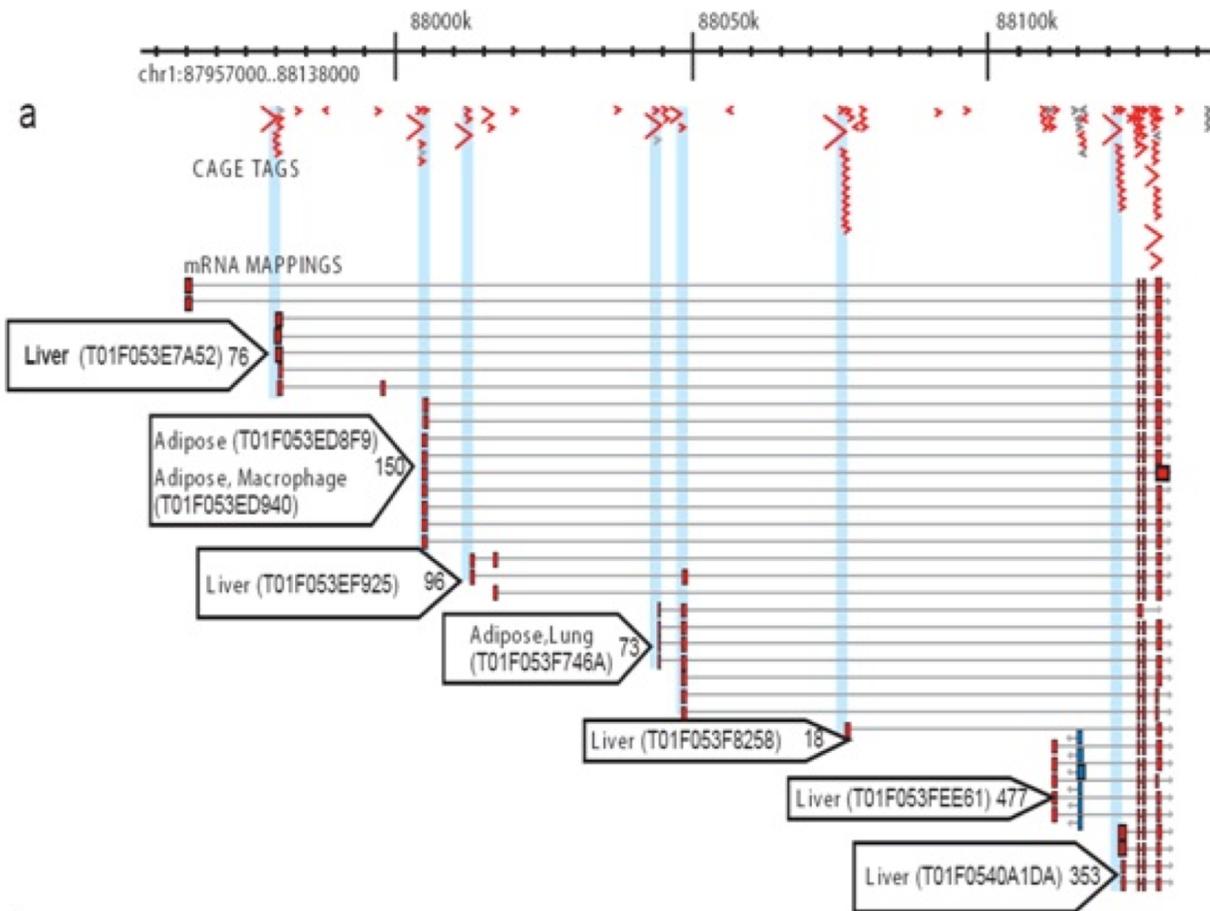
Comparison among major gene expression analysis techniques



High reproducibility



2. RNA Seq variant technology: CAGE (Cap Analysis of Gene Expression)



*Excellent tool
To identify
transcriptional
start sites*

*Help to identify up-stream
regulatory sequences =
PROMOTERS RELEVANT CpG*