



Machine learning in high-throughput screening and automated phenotyping

Wolfgang Huber



Progress in science is driven by technology



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Sequencing - DNA-Seq, RNA-Seq, ChiP-Seq, HiC

Microscopy & remote sensing- molecular interactions and life-cycles in single, live cells

Large scale perturbation libraries - RNAi, drugs



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Sequencing - DNA-Seq, RNA-Seq, ChiP-Seq, HiC

Microscopy & remote sensing- molecular interactions and life-cycles in single, live cells

Large scale perturbation libraries - RNAi, drugs

We work on the methods in **statistical computing**, **integrative bioinformatics** and **mathematical modelling** to turn these data into biology.



Research areas

Gene expression

- Statistics - differential expression; alternative exon usage
- 3D structure of DNA (HiC & Co.)
- Single-cell transcriptomics and noise

Simon Anders, Aleksandra Pekoswka, Alejandro Reyes, Jan Swedlow; Tibor Pakozdi
collaborations with L. Steinmetz, P. Bertone, E. Furlong, T. Hiiragi

Cancer Genomics & Precision Oncology

- Somatic mutation detection (incl subclonal)
- Phylogeny inference

Julian Gehring, Paul Pyl

collaborations with C.v.Kalle/M.Schmid, H. Glimm (NCT); J. Korbel

Genetic Interactions, pharmacogenetics (reverse genetics)

- Large-scale combinatorial RNAi & automated microscopy phenotyping
- Cancer mutations & drugs

Joseph Barry, Bernd Fischer, Felix Klein, Malgorzata Oles

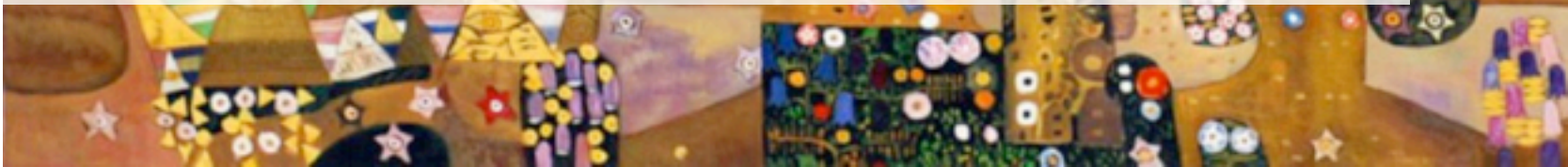
collaborations with M.Boutros (DKFZ), T.Zenz (NCT), M. Knop (Uni)

Basics of statistics

- Tools & infrastructure for software 'publication'
- Teaching

Bernd Klaus, Andrzej Oles

collaborations M.Morgan (FHCRC), R.Gentleman (Genentech)



European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL)



European Intergovernmental Research Organisation

- 20 Member States
- Founded in 1974
- Sites in Heidelberg (D), Cambridge (GB), Roma (I), Grenoble (F), Hamburg (D)
- ca. 1400 staff (▷1100 scientists) representing more than 60 nationalities



EMBL's five missions

- **Basic research**
- **Development of new technologies and instruments**
- **Technology transfer**
- **Services to the member states**
- **Advanced training**

What can you do at EMBL?

Biology

Chemistry

Physics

Mathematics

Informatics

Engineering

www.embl.org/phdprogramme

www.embl.org/postdocs

www.embl.org/jobs

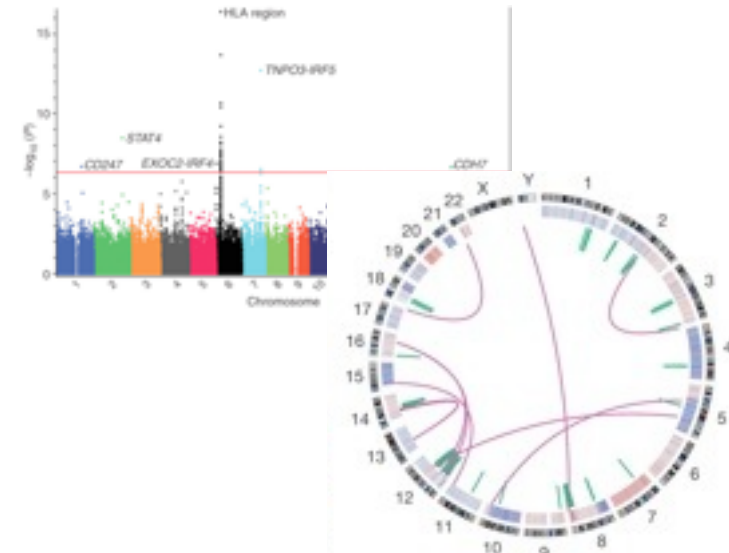


How do we know which genes do what?

Forward genetics

from phenotypes to genes

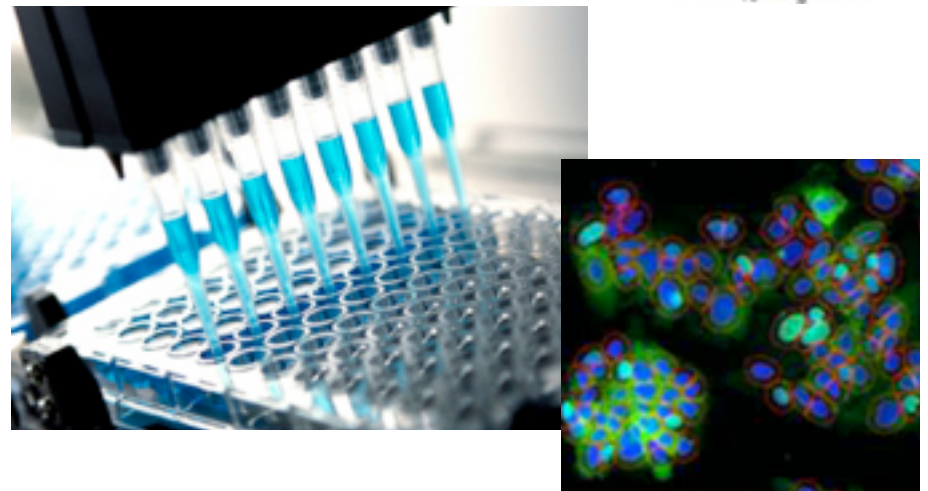
- genome-wide association studies
- sporadic/rare mutations
- cancer genome sequencing



Reverse genetics

from genes to phenotypes

- deletion libraries
- high-throughput RNAi



Forward genetics

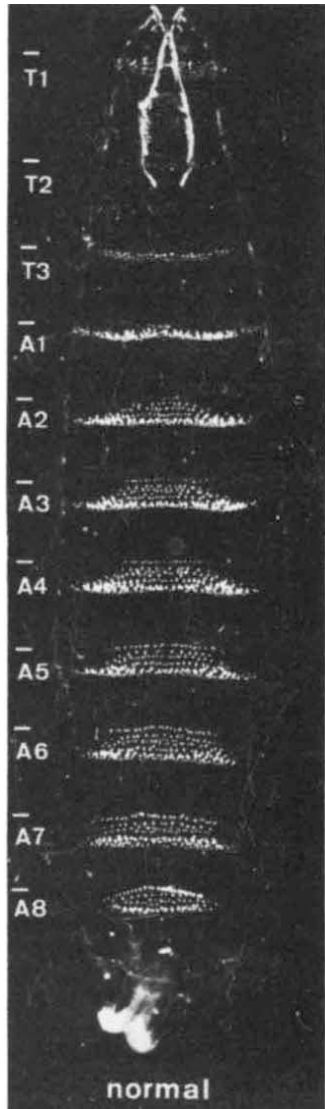
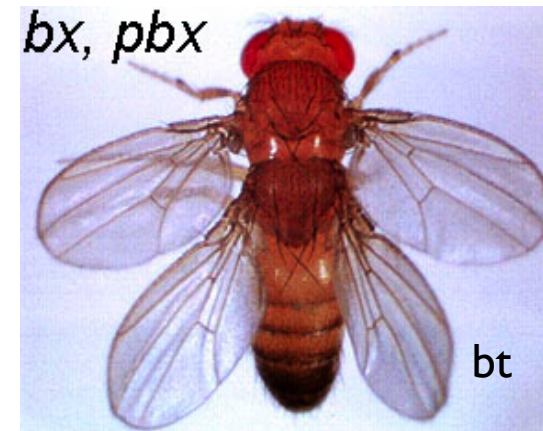
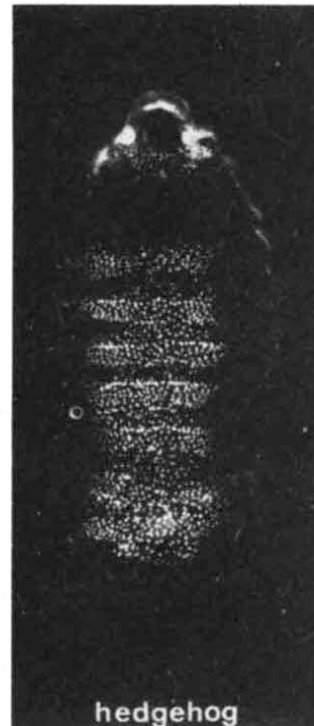
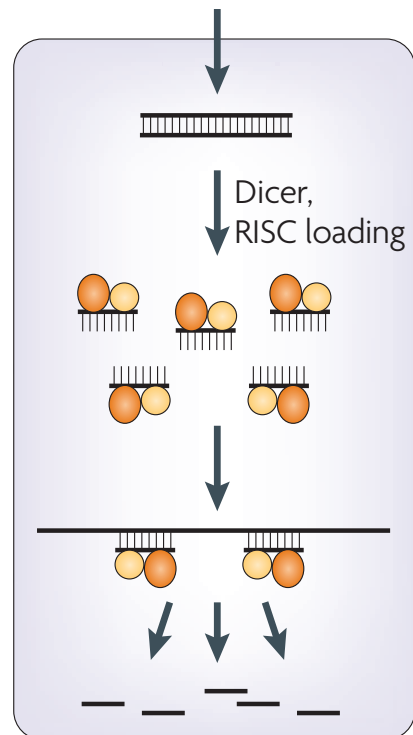
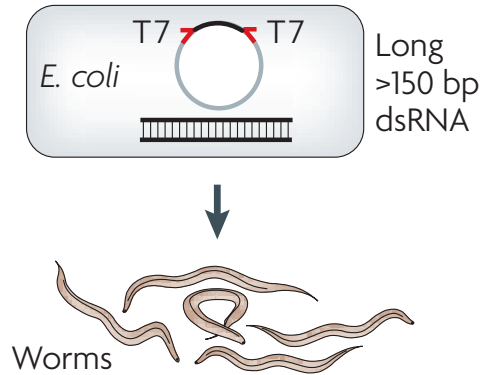


Fig. 2 Ventral cuticular pattern of (from left to right) a normal *Drosophila* larva shortly after hatching, and larvae homozygous for *gooseberry*, *hedgehog* and *patch*. The mutant larvae were taken out of the egg case before fixation. All larvae were fixed, cleared and mounted as described in ref. 22. A, abdominal segment; T, thoracic segment. For further description see text and Fig. 3. $\times 140$.

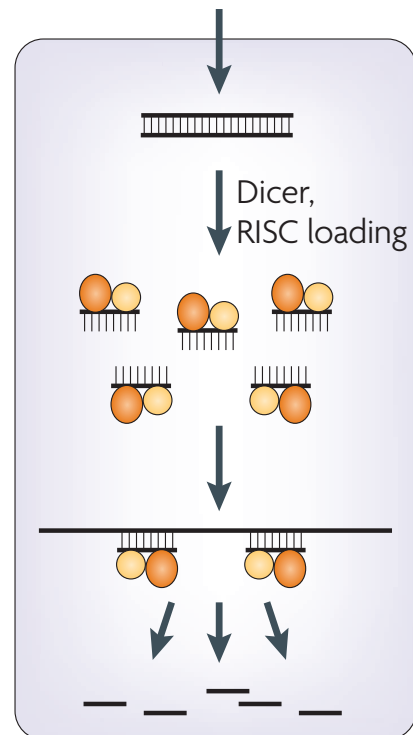
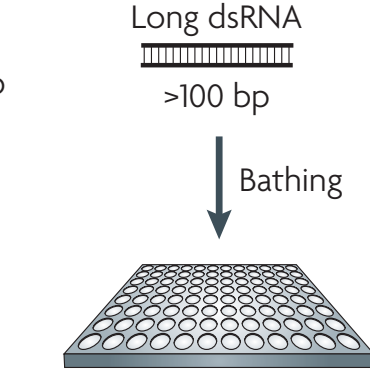


Reverse genetics: RNA interference

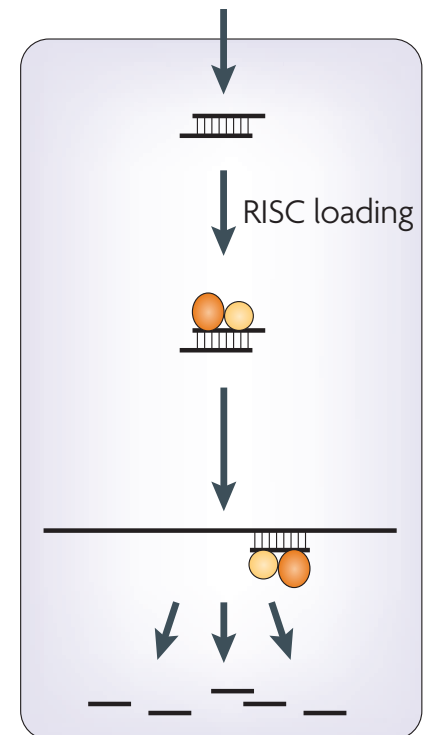
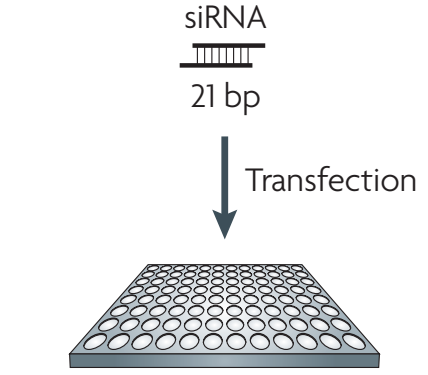
C. elegans



Drosophila



Humans



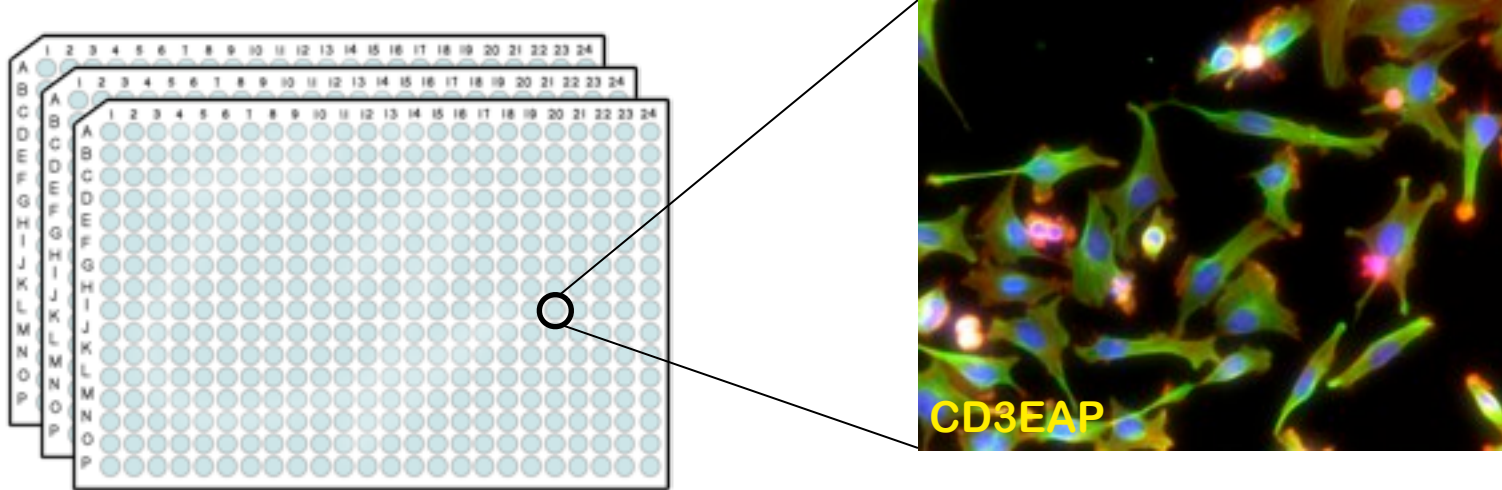
RNAi induced cell morphology phenotypes in human cells

with F. Fuchs, C. Budjan, Michael Boutros (DKFZ)

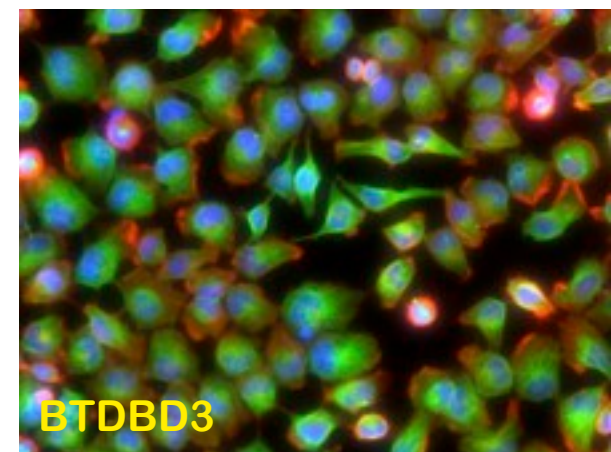
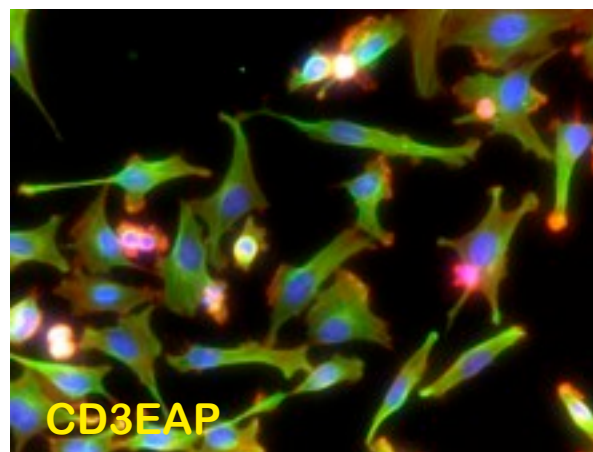
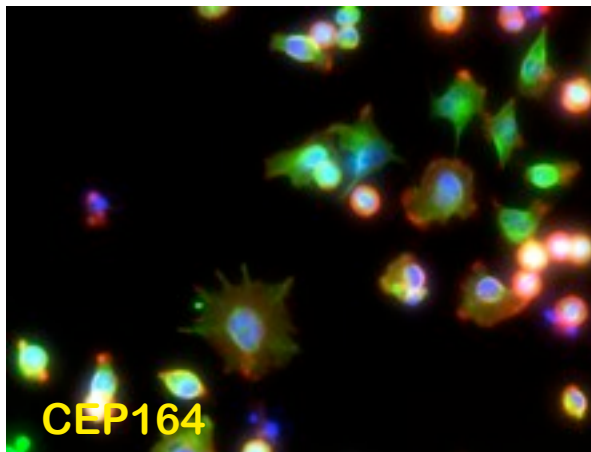
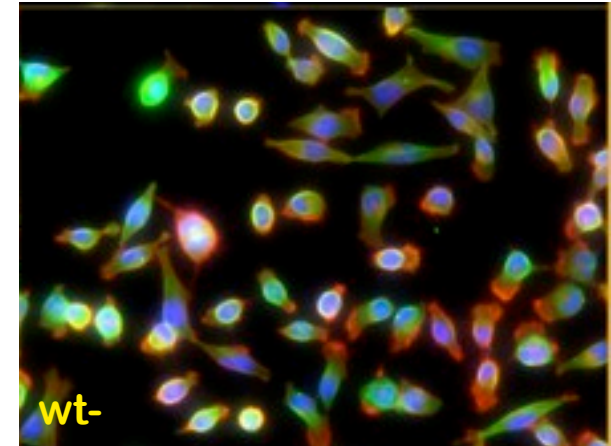
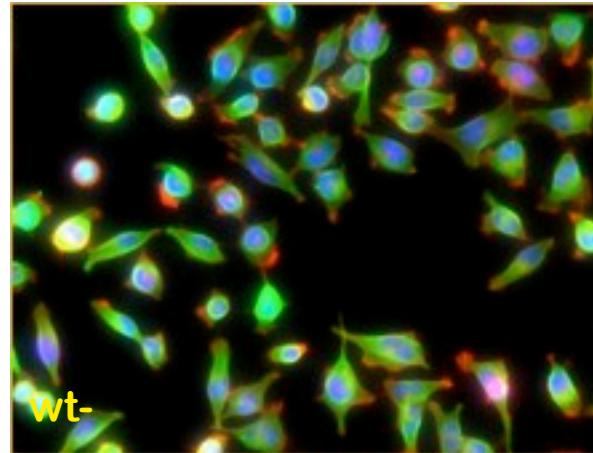
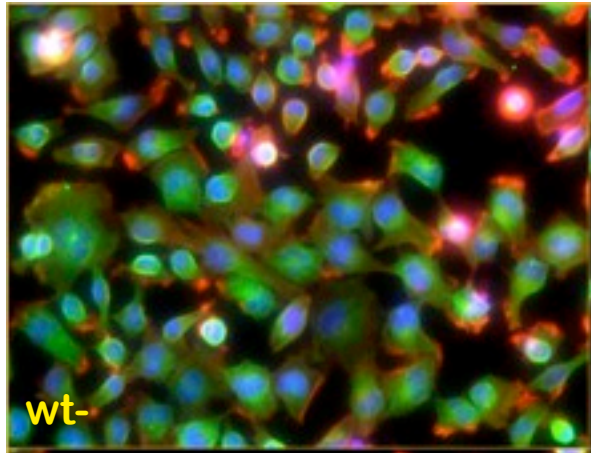
Genomewide RNAi library (Dharmacon, 22k siRNA-pools)

HeLa cells, incubated 48h, then fixed and stained

Microscopy readout: DNA (DAPI), tubulin (Alexa), actin (TRITC)

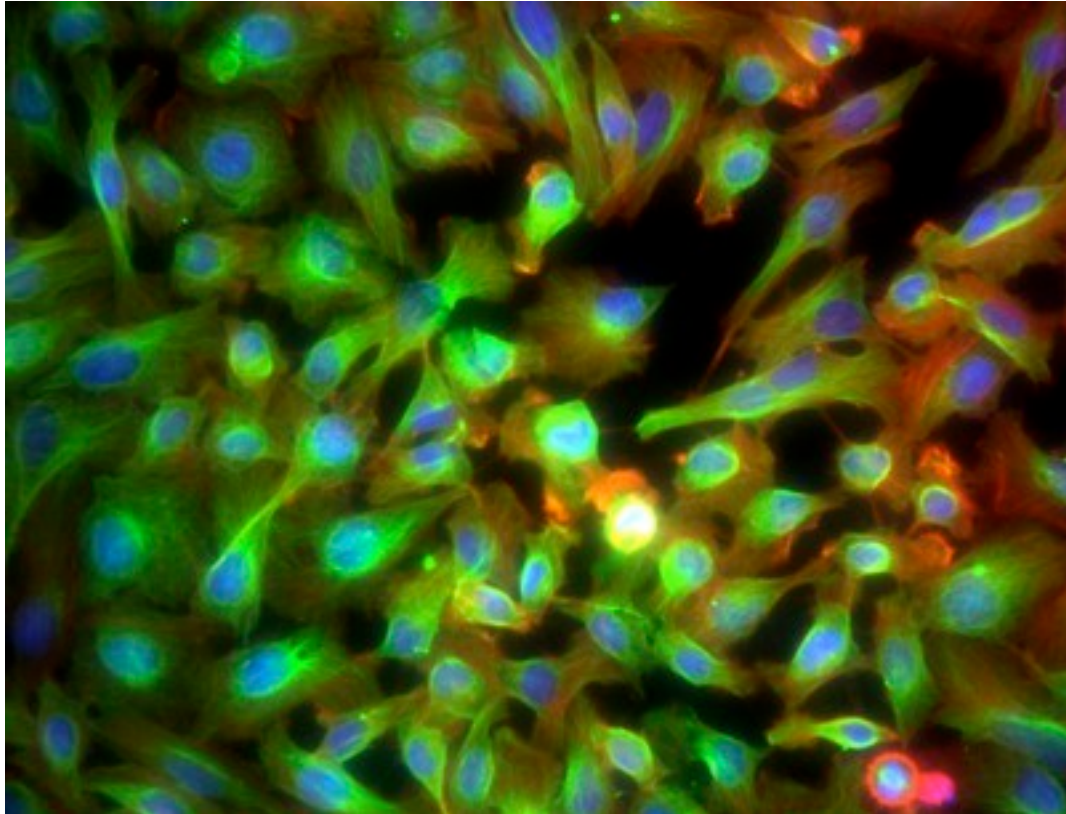


siRNA perturbation phenotypes are observed by automated microscopy



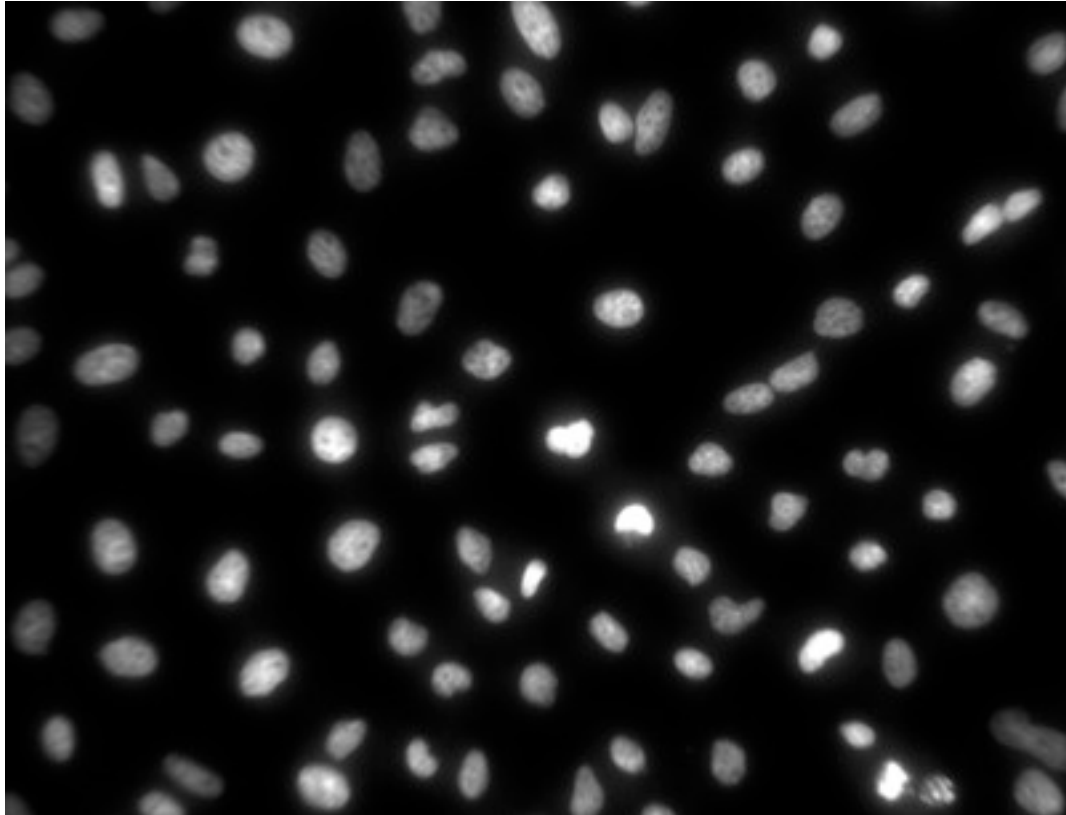
22839 wells, 4 images per well
each with DNA, tubulin, actin, 1344 x 1024 pixel at 12 bit

Cell segmentation



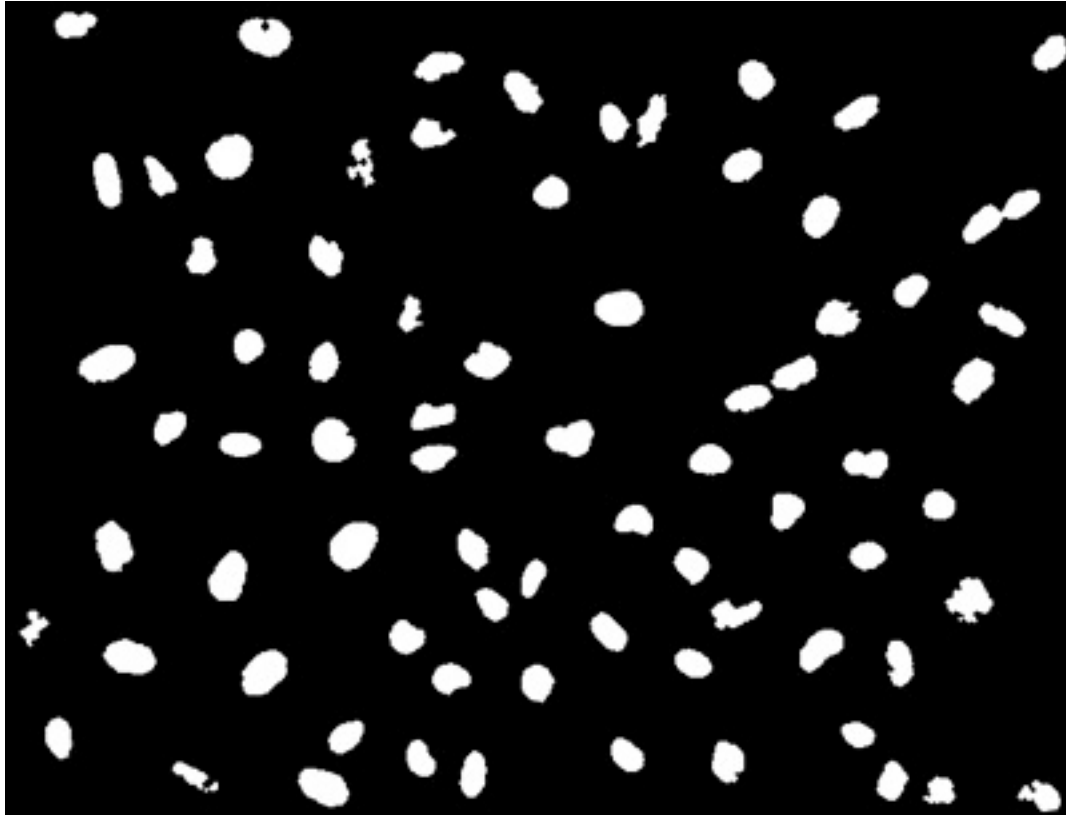
Cell segmentation

Adaptative thresholding + watershed



Cell segmentation

Adaptative thresholding + watershed

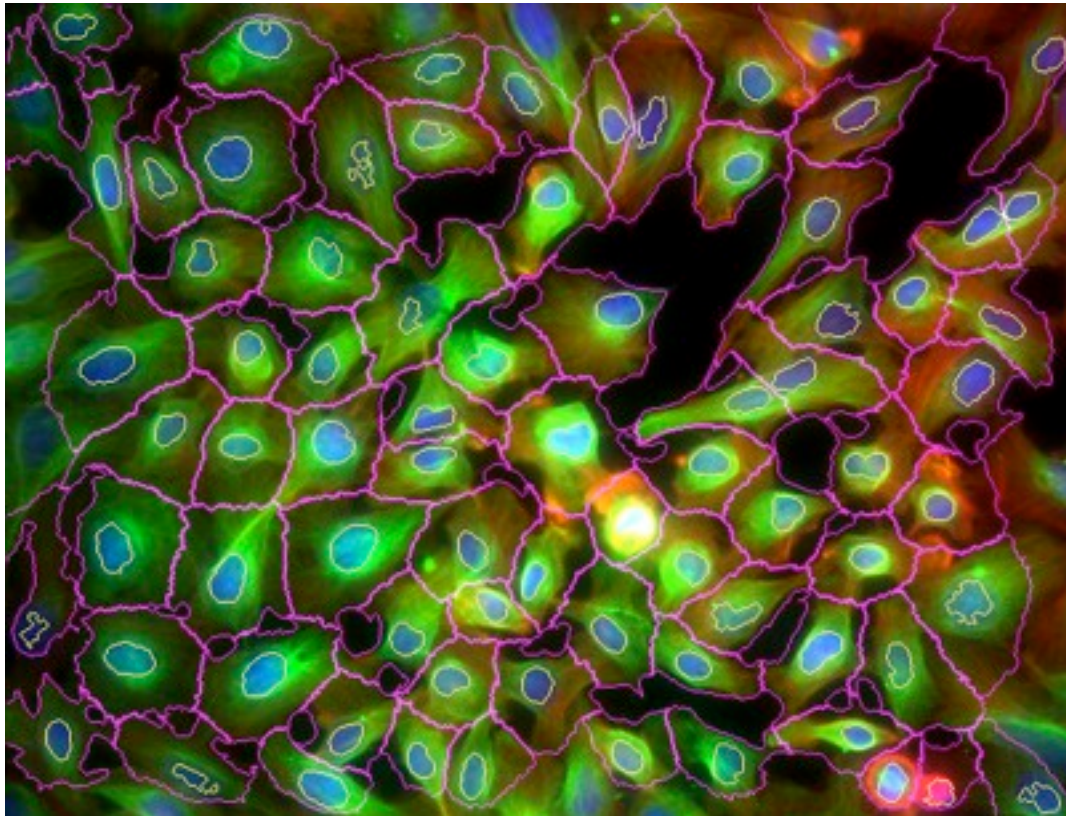


Cell segmentation

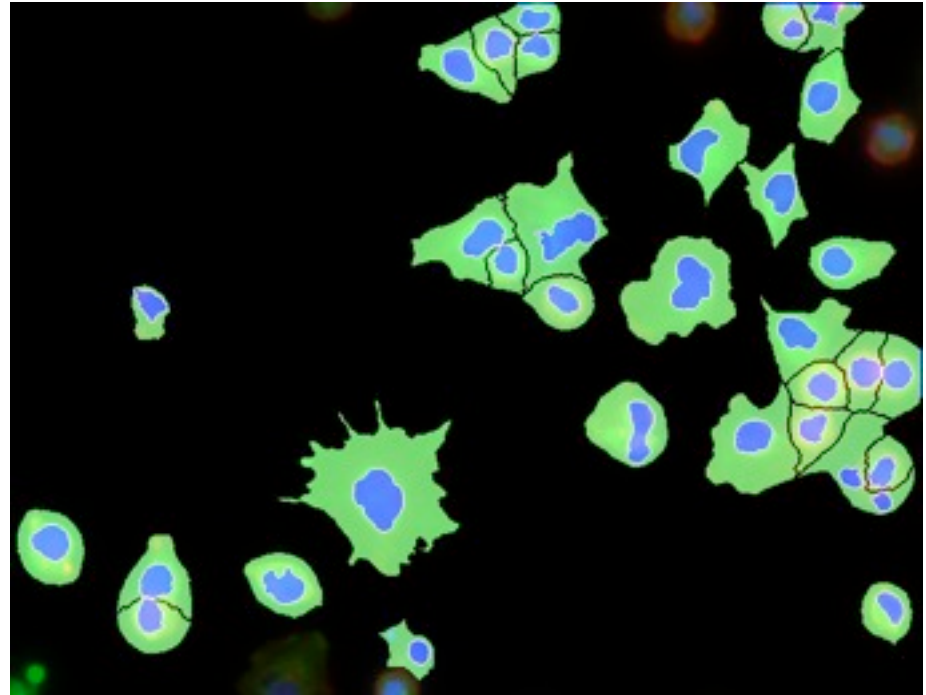
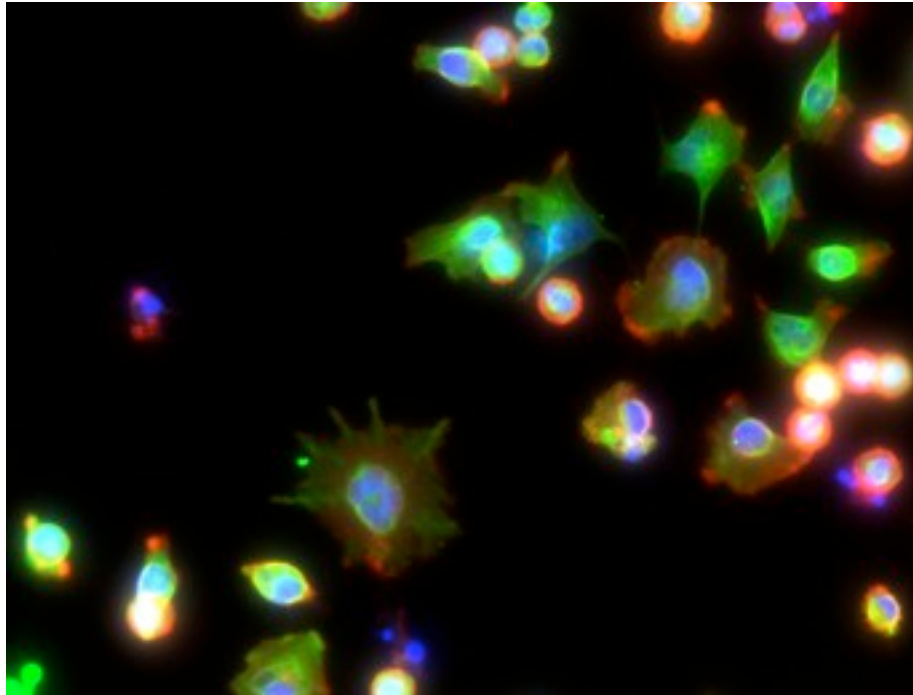
Adaptative thresholding + watershed

Voronoi segmentation using an image gradient based metric

R/Bioconductor package EBImage



Segmentation results



Fully automatic on all 88k images

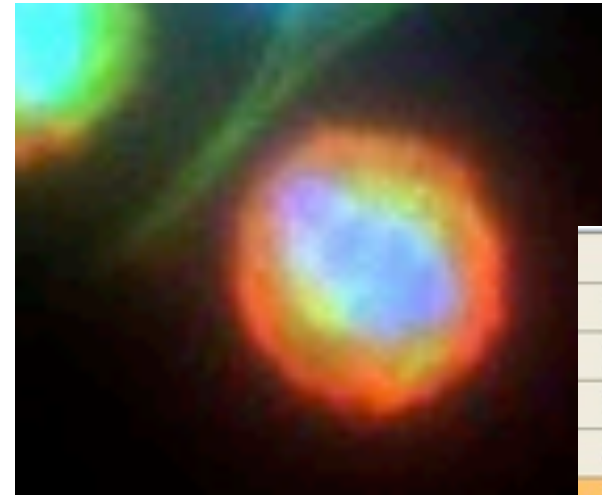
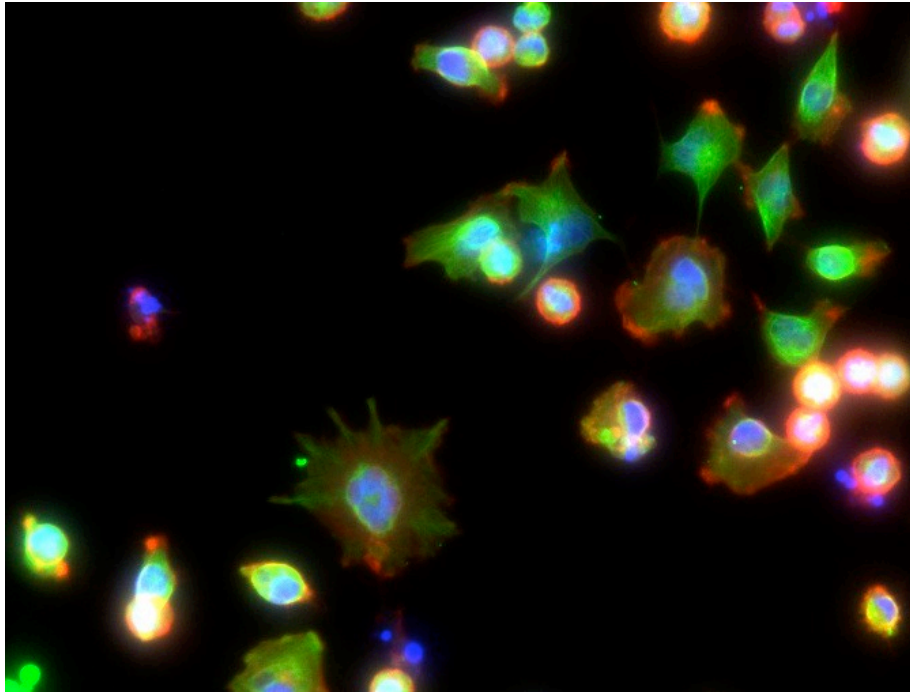
Detailed resolution of boundaries also for adjacent cells

Would not deal with overlapping cells (multilayer, tissue)

Extracting quantitative cell descriptors

translation and rotation invariant descriptors

- geometry (intensity, size, perimeter, eccentricity...)
- texture (Haralick, Zernike moments...) on each channel
- relative positions, joint distribution moments



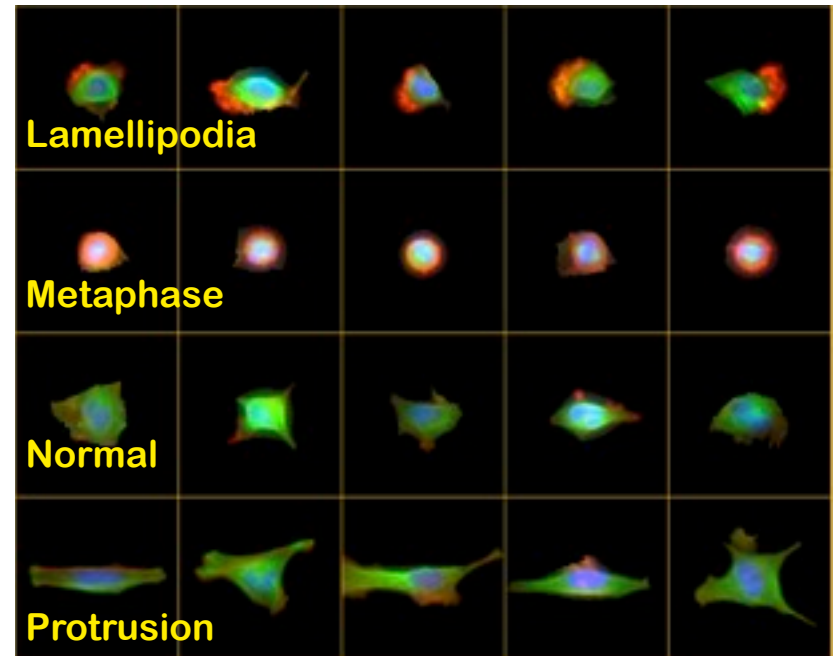
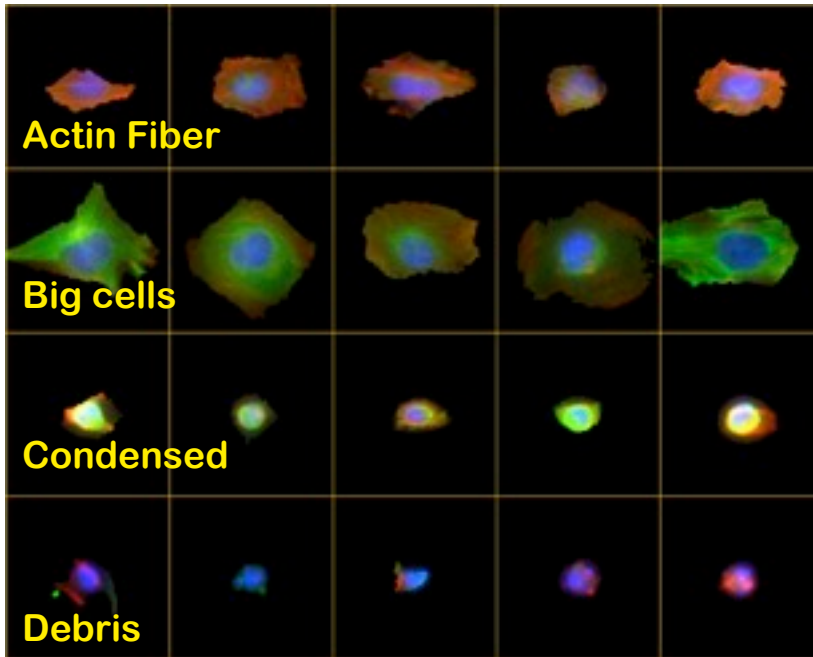
	A
1	202.12
2	11.31
3	2.22
4	4.01
5	3.14
6	15.7
7	-0.911
8	

Cell classification

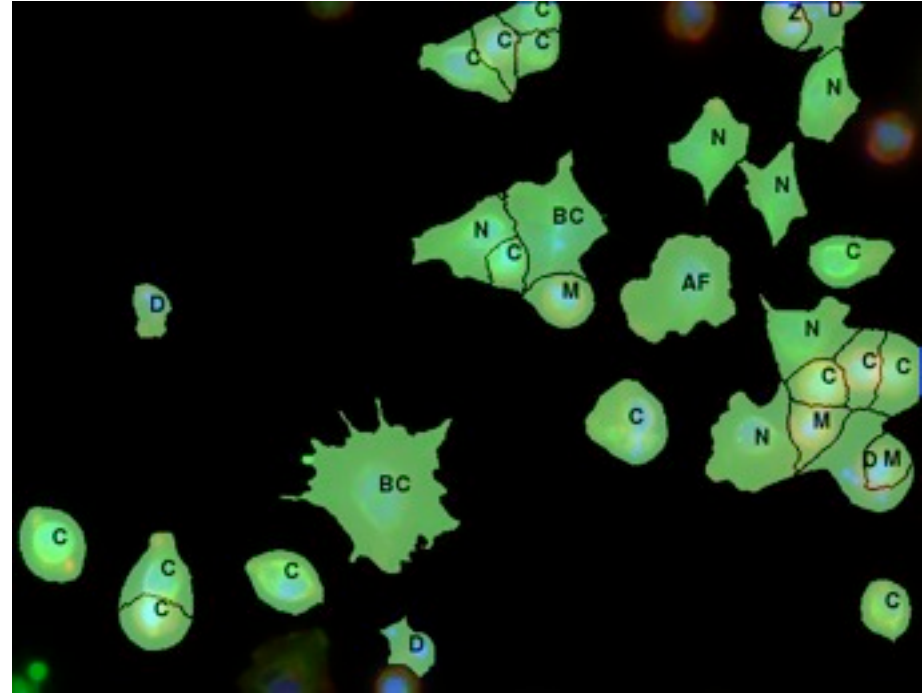
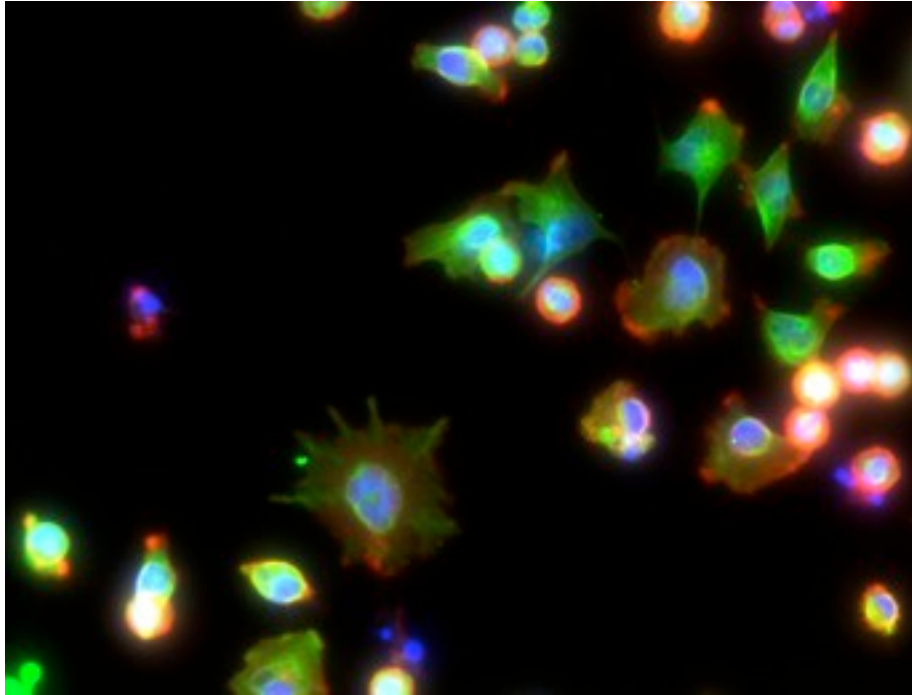
using the numeric descriptors

supervised learning, SVM

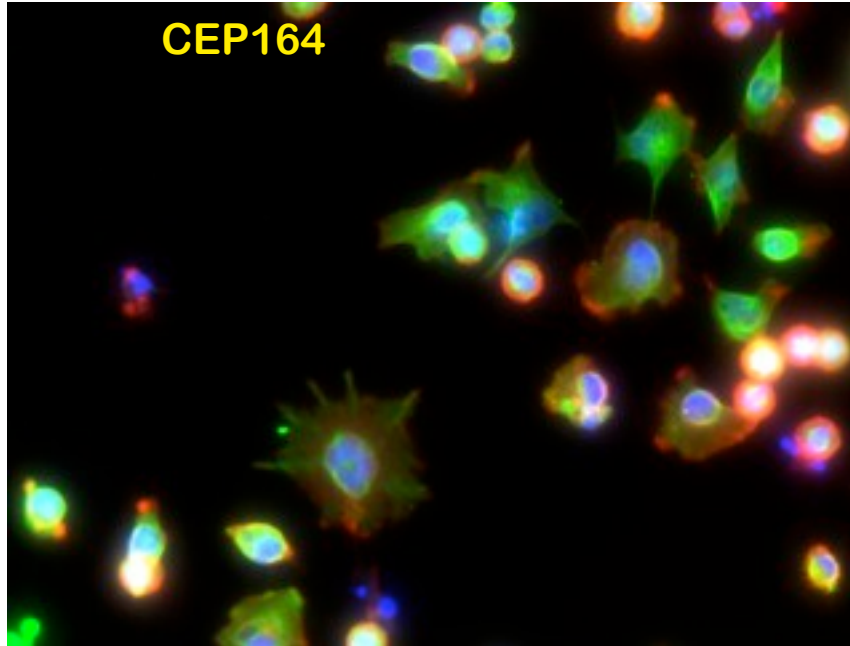
8 classes and a training set of ~3000 cells:



Cell classification



Each siRNA is characterized by its "phenotypic profile"



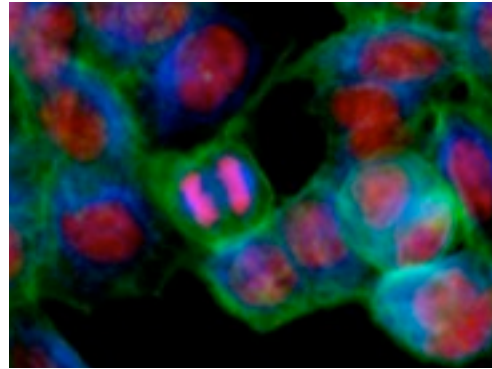
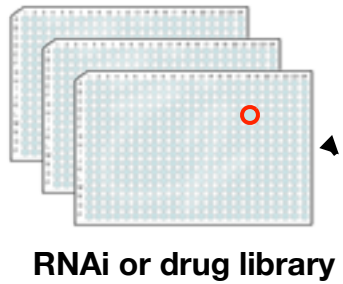
number of cells	128
average intensity	1054.8
average nuclear intensity	1225.6
average cell size	842.3
average nuclear size	278.7
average eccentricity	0.649
avg. nuclear / cell size	2.91
# AF (actin fibers)	2
# BC (big)	7
# M (mitotic)	15
# LA (lamellipodia)	0
# P (with protrusions)	17
# Z (telophase)	2

How do you measure
distance and **similarity**
in multidimensional phenotypic
profile space?

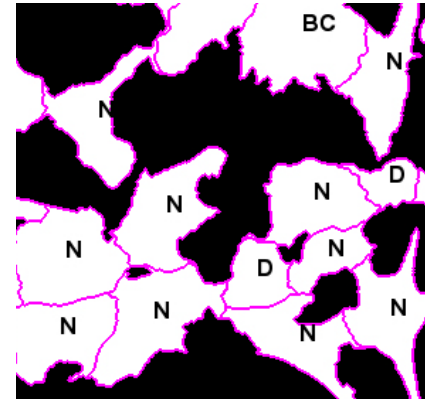
Similarity depends on the choice and weighting of descriptors



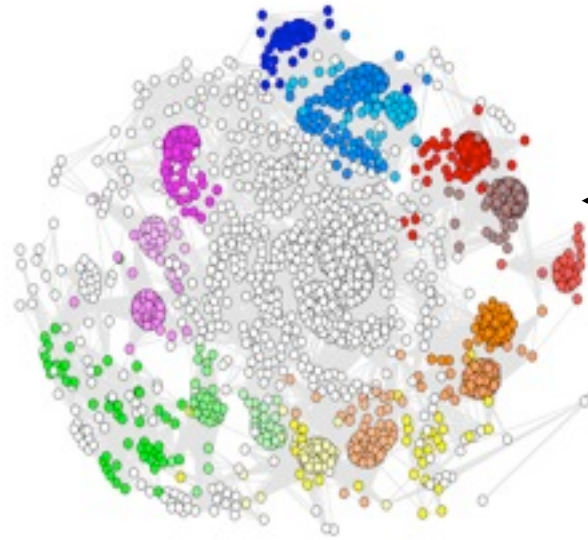
High-throughput RNAi and automated cellular phenotyping



Segmentation



Feature extraction



multivariate phenotypic landscape

	g.x	g.y	g.s	g.p	g.pdm
[1,]	123.1391	3.288660	194	67	9.241719
[2,]	206.7460	9.442248	961	153	20.513190
[3,]	502.9589	7.616438	219	60	8.286918
[4,]	20.1919	22.358418	1568	157	22.219461
[5,]	344.7959	45.501992	2259	233	35.158966
[6,]	188.2611	50.451863	2711	249	28.732680
[7,]	269.7996	46.404036	2131	180	26.419631
[8,]	106.6127	58.364243	1348	143	21.662879
[9,]	218.5582	77.299007	1913	215	25.724580
[10,]	19.1766	81.840147	1908	209	26.303760
[11,]	6.3558	62.017647	340	68	10.314127
[12,]	58.9873	86.034128	2139	214	27.463158
[13,]	245.1087	94.387405	1048	123	18.280901
[14,]	411.2741	109.198678	2572	225	28.660816
[15,]	167.8151	107.966014	1942	160	24.671533
[16,]	281.7084	121.609892	2871	209	31.577270

Quantitative cell and organelle features



Michael Boutros



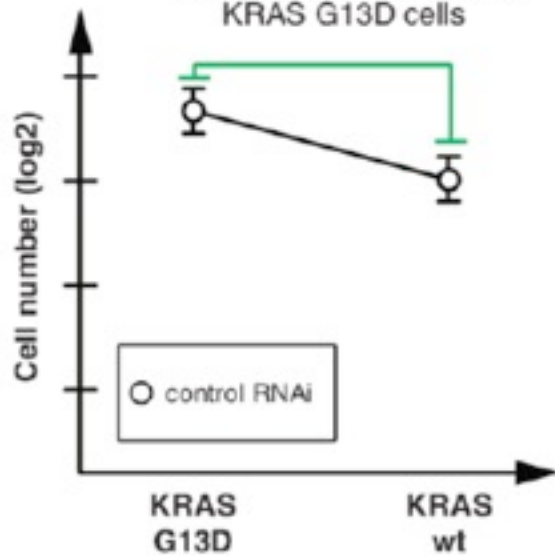
Gregoire Pau

Boutros, Bras, Huber, **Genome Biol.** 2006
 Fuchs, Pau et al. **Mol. Sys. Biol.** 2010
 Pau, Fuchs et al. **Bioinf.** 2010
 Neumann et al. **Nature** 2010
 Kuttenkoeler et al. **J. Innate Imm.** 2010

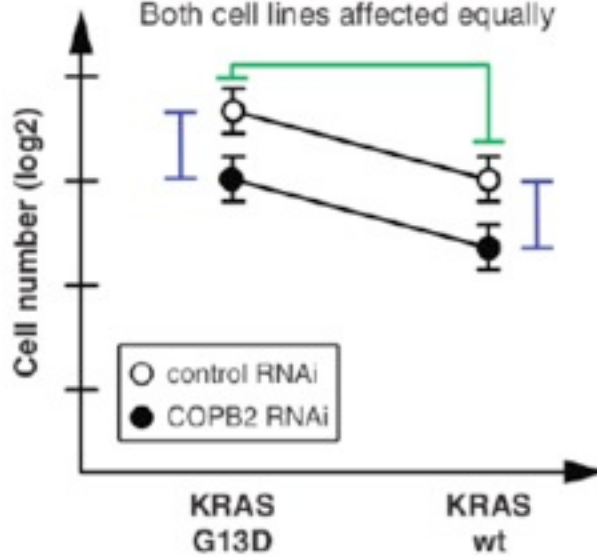
Axelsson et al. **BMC Bioinf.** 2011
 Horn et al. **Nature Methods** 2011
 Laufer et al. **Nature Methods** 2013

Genetic interactions

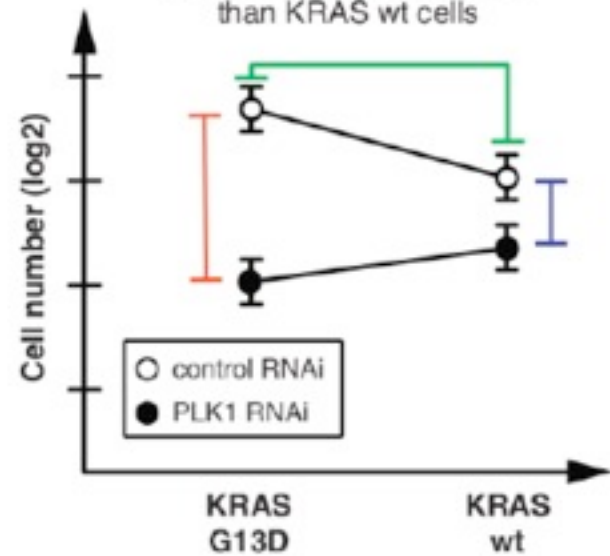
(a) Effect of genetic background:
Increased proliferation of
KRAS G13D cells



(b) RNAi phenotype,
no genetic interaction:
Both cell lines affected equally



(c) Genetic interaction:
KRAS G13D affected more
than KRAS wt cells



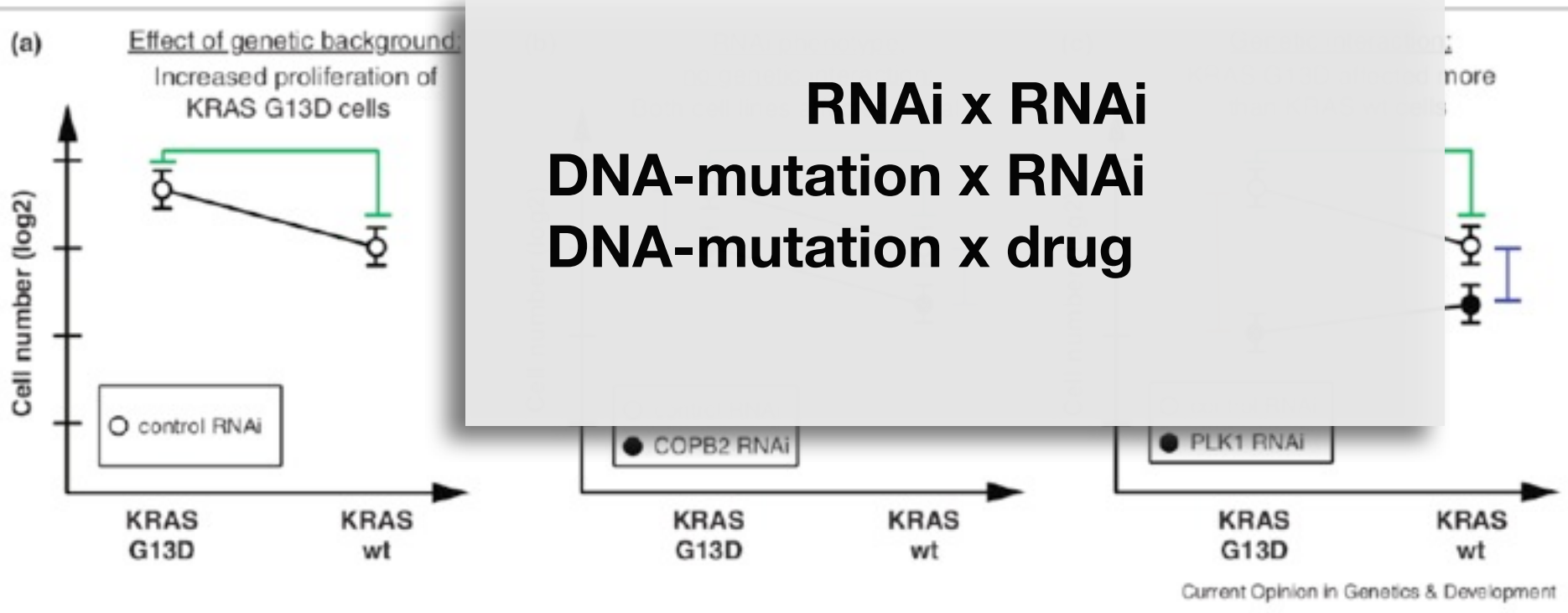
Current Opinion in Genetics & Development

Luo, J. et al., Cell (2009).

Sandmann, T. & Boutros, M.

Current Opinion in Genetics & Development (2012)

Genetic interactions

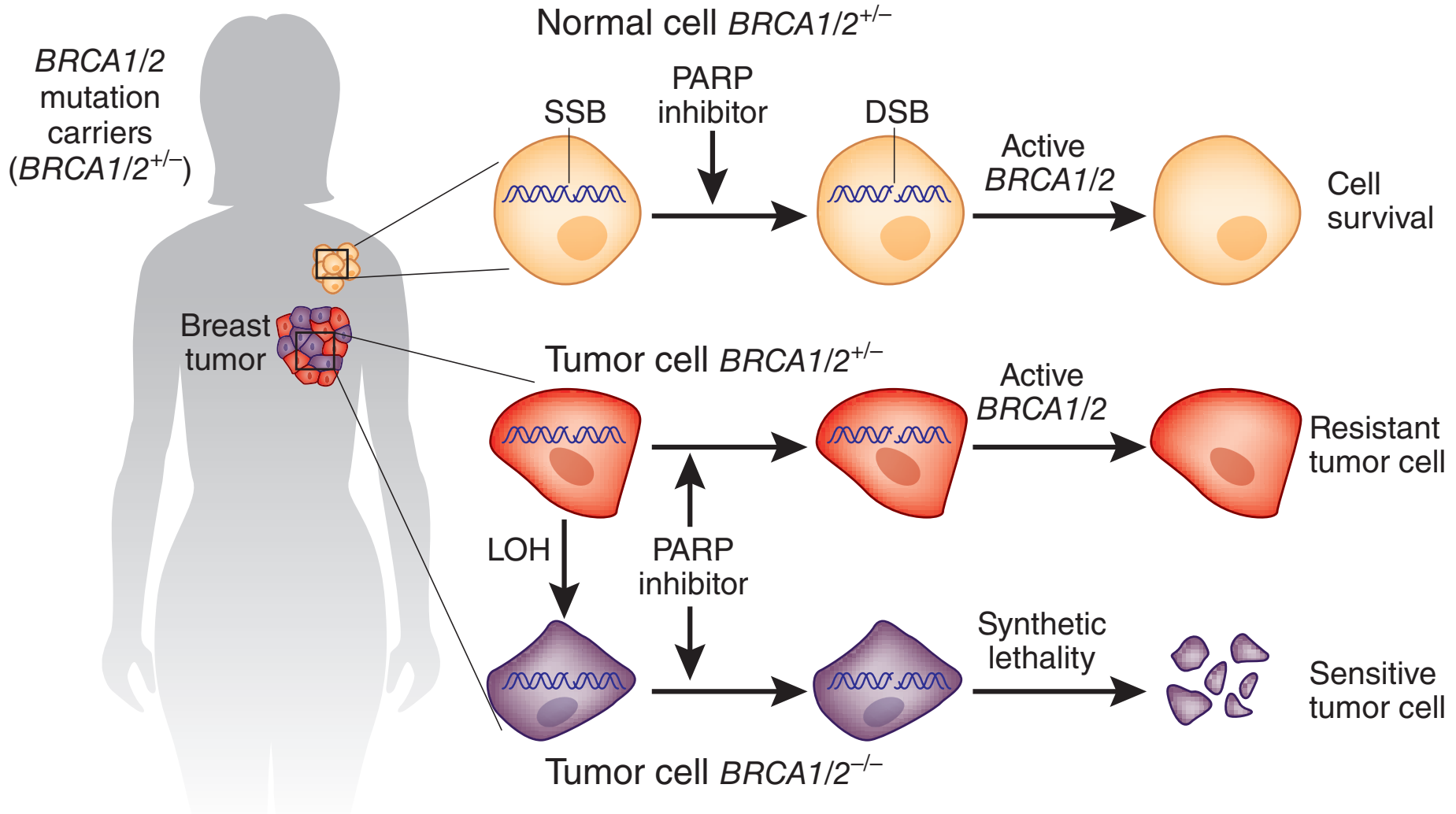


Luo, J. et al., Cell (2009).

Sandmann, T. & Boutros, M.

Current Opinion in Genetics & Development (2012)

an example of synthetic lethality



Genetic interactions

capture nonlinearity of a system

$$y = f(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

phenotype

genotype

Genetic interactions

capture nonlinearity of a system

$$y = f(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

phenotype

genotype

$$y - y^0 = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i (x_i - x_i^0)$$

Genetic interactions

capture nonlinearity of a system

$$y = f(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

phenotype

genotype

$$y - y^0 = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i (x_i - x_i^0) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n w_{ij} (x_i - x_i^0)(x_j - x_j^0) + \dots,$$

buffering, sensitization, epistasis, ...

Epistasis as the primary factor in molecular evolution

Michael S. Breen¹, Carsten Kemena¹, Peter K. Vlasov¹, Cedric Notredame¹ & Fyodor A. Kondrashov^{1,2}

25 OCTOBER 2012 | VOL 490 | NATURE | 535

Comparing amino acid substitution rates over short and long evolutionary time indicates that fitness effect of almost all mutations depends is context-dependent:

Epistasis is pervasive.



Genetic interactions for multiple phenotypes

384-well plates, microscopy readout with 3 channels

(**DAPI**, **phospho-His3**, **α Tubulin**)

Fly: 1367 x 72 genes

(Nat. Methods 2011 & unpublished)

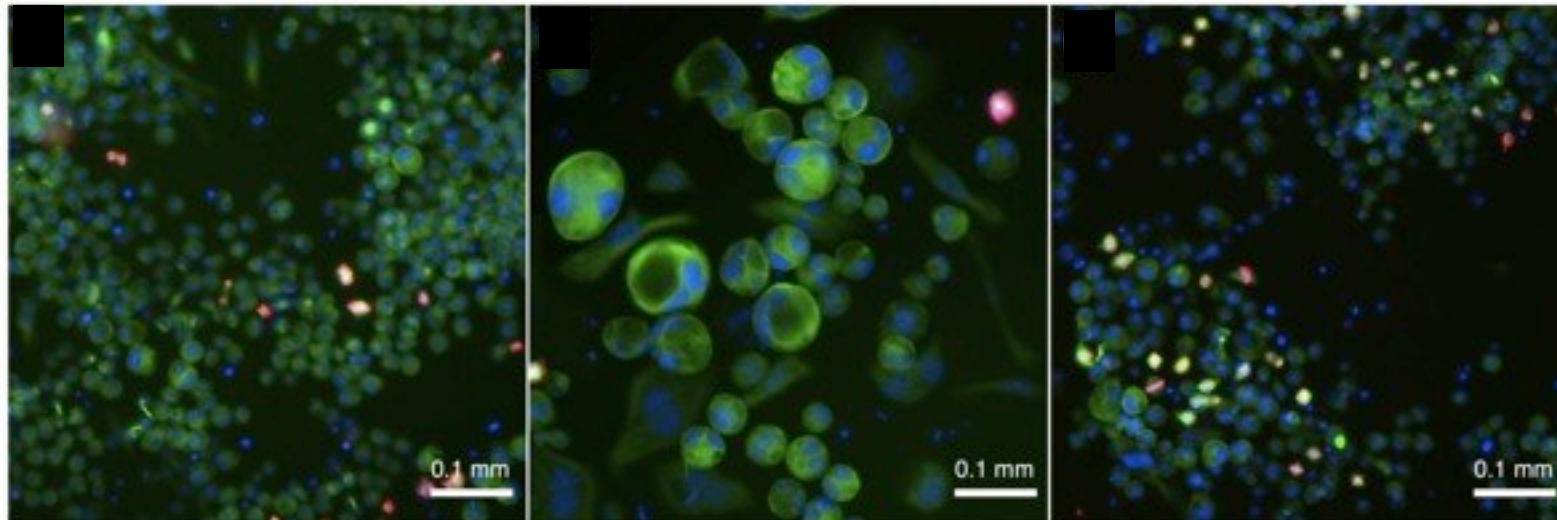
Human: 323 x 20

(Nat. Methods 2013)

neg. ctrl

Rho1 dsRNA

Dynein light chain dsRNA



Genetic interactions for multiple phenotypes

384-well plates, microscopy readout with 3 channels

(**DAPI**, **phospho-His3**, **aTubulin**)

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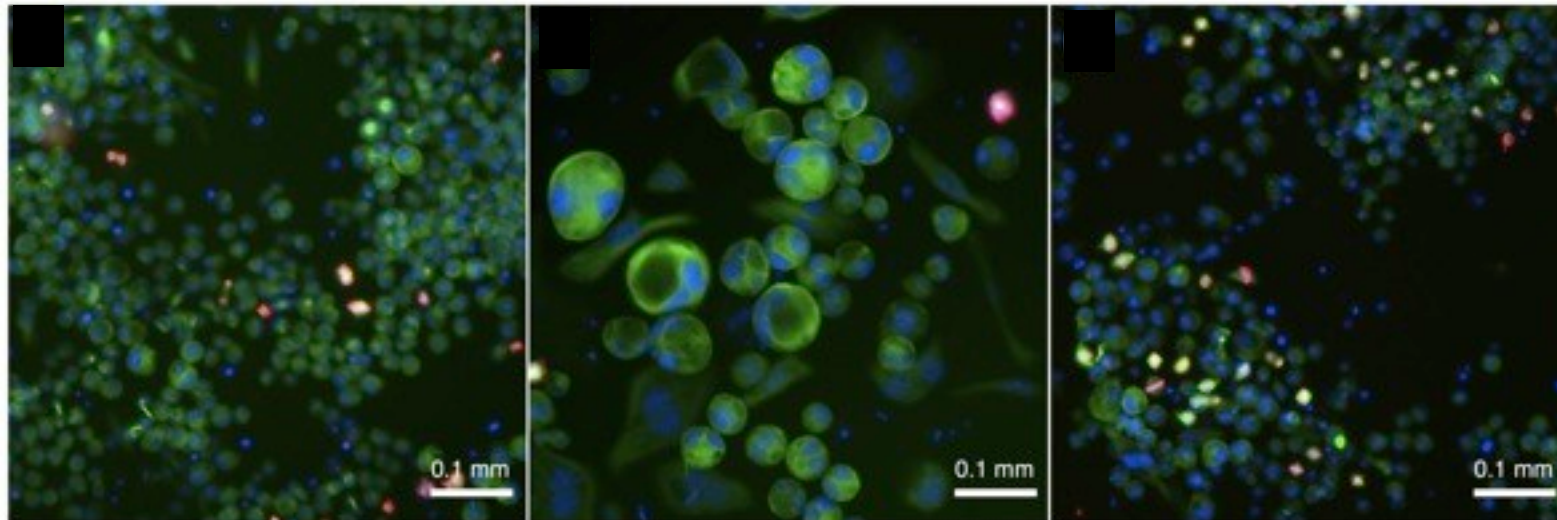
Human: 323 x 20

(Nat. Methods 2013)

neg. ctrl

Rho1 dsRNA

Dynein light chain dsRNA



number of cells

area

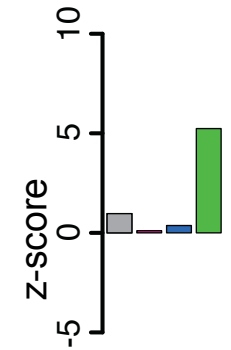
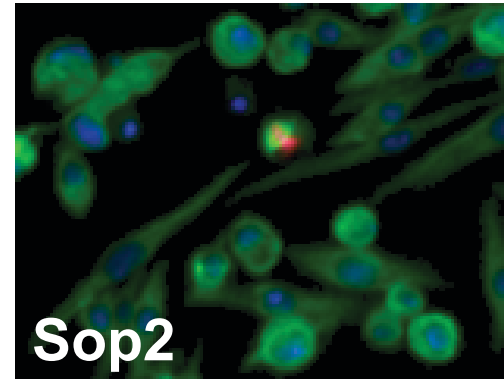
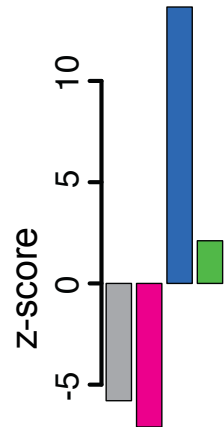
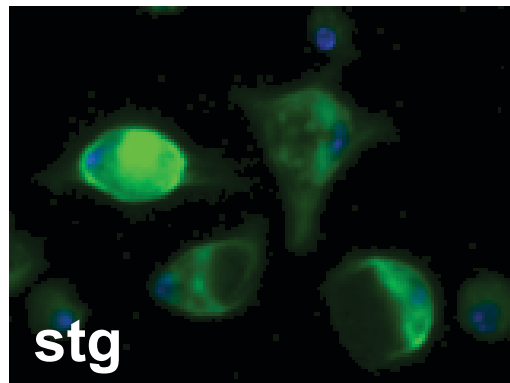
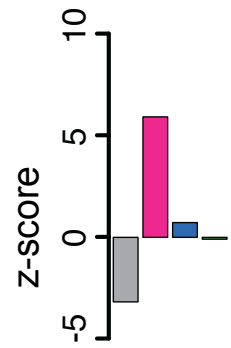
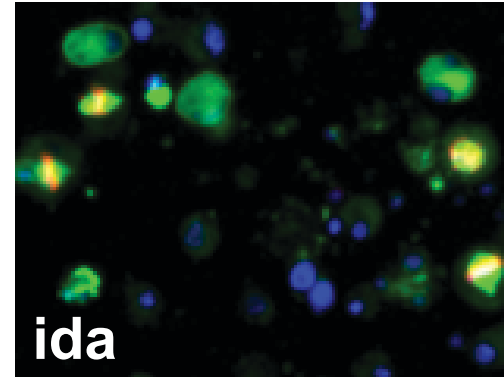
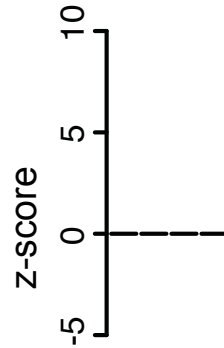
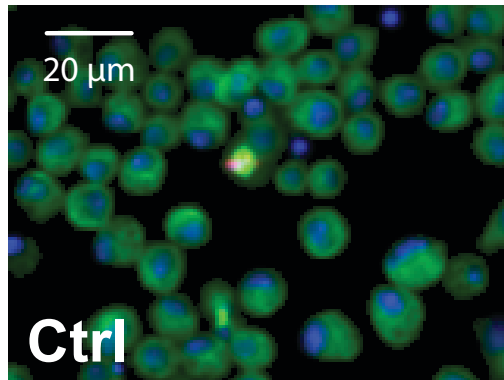
mitotic index

shape

variances

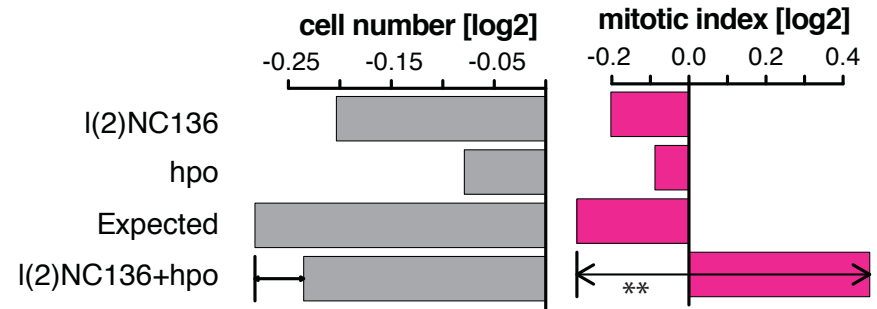
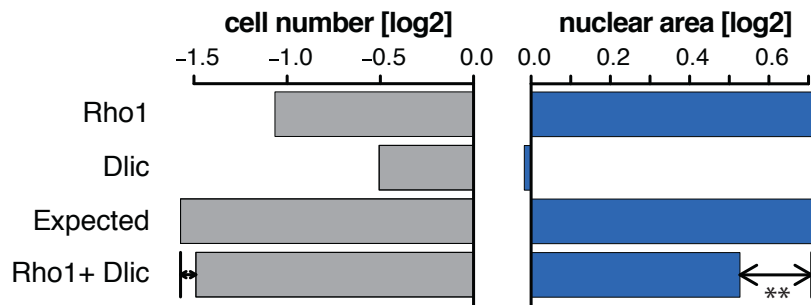
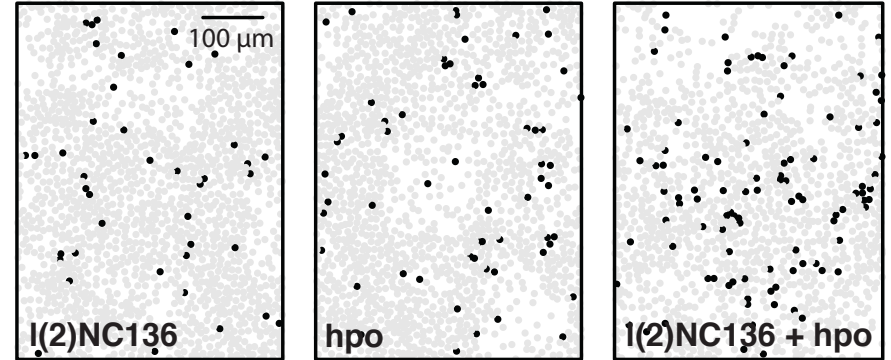
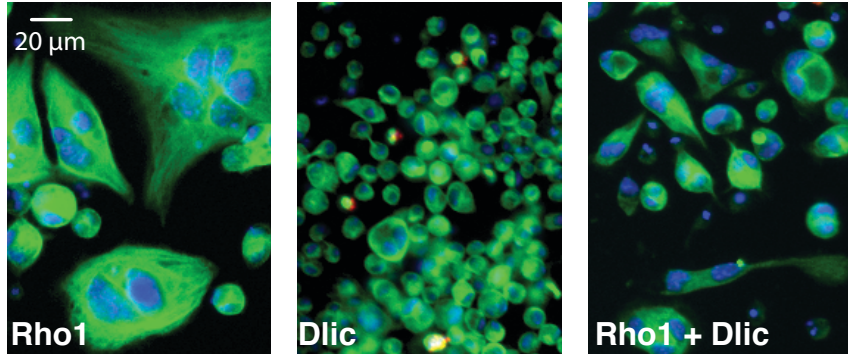


Multiple phenotypes are observed

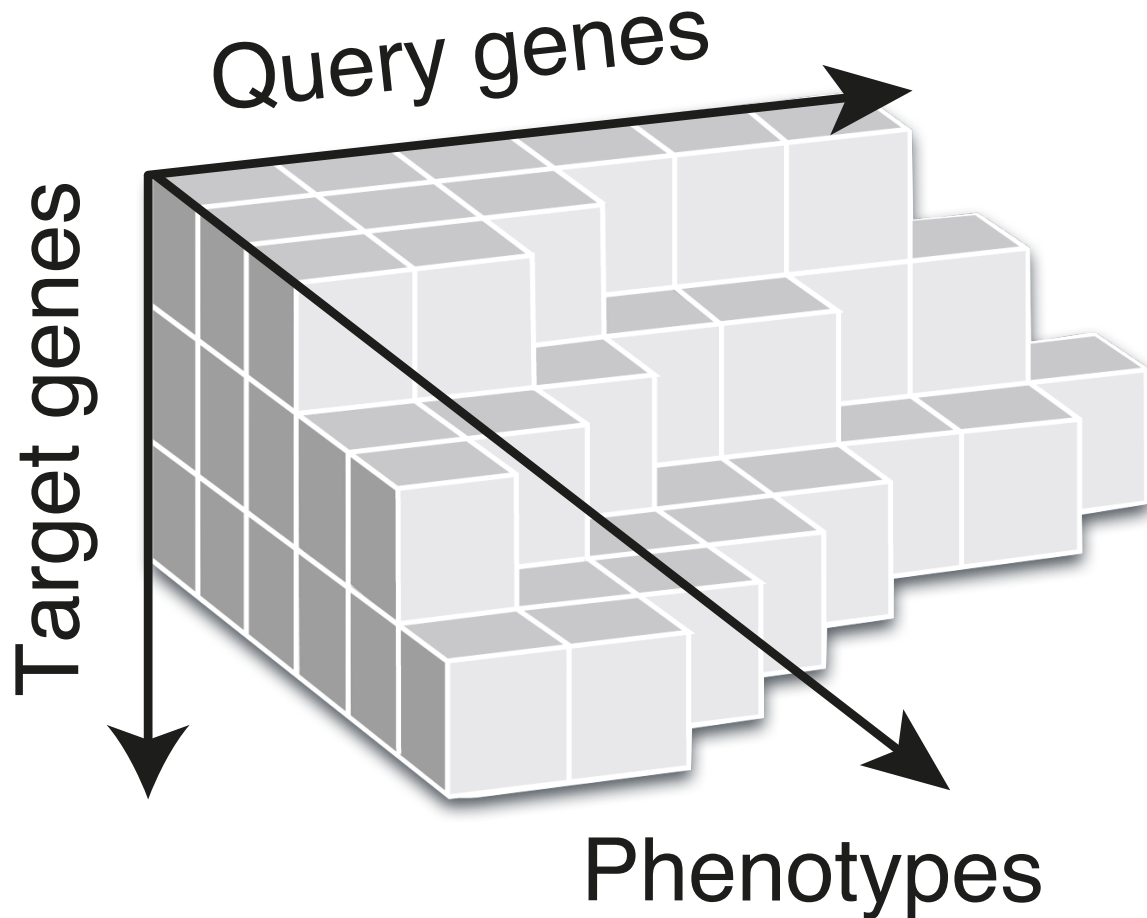


- number cells
- mitotic index
- nuclear area
- eccentricity

Distinct genetic interactions in multiple phenotypes



3D data cube



1293 target genes

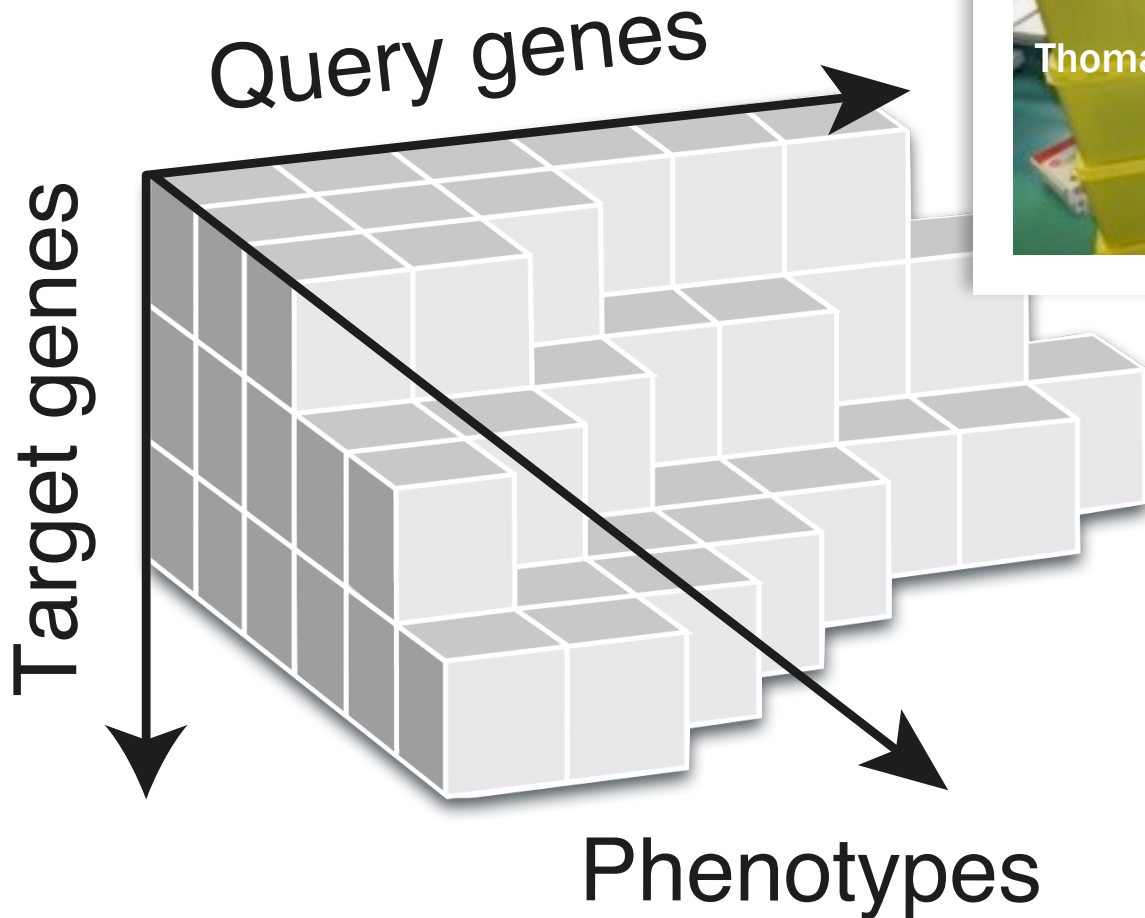
x 2 dsRNA

x **72** query genes

x 2 dsRNA

x **21** features

3D data cube



1293 target genes

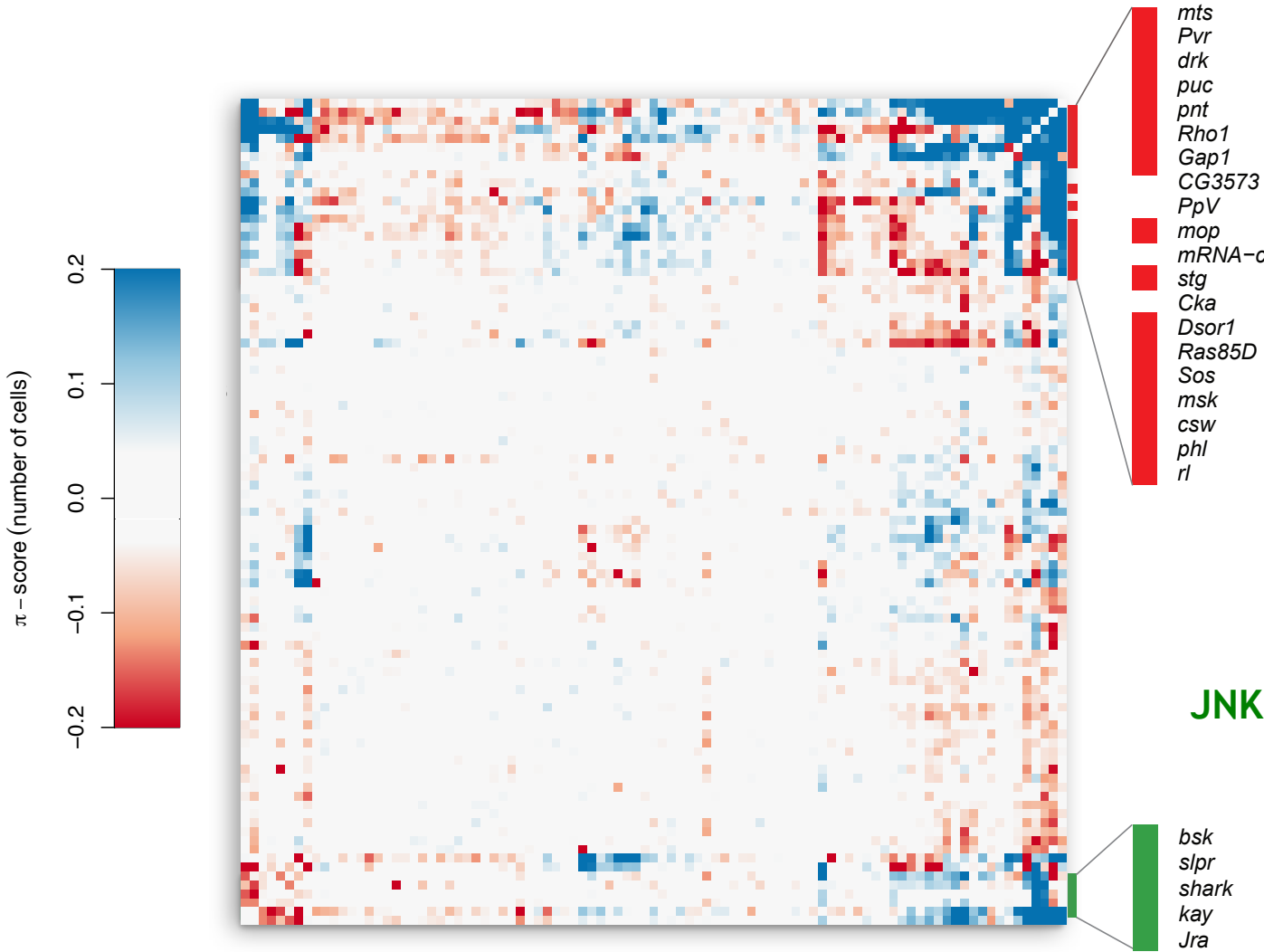
x 2 dsRNA

x **72 query genes**

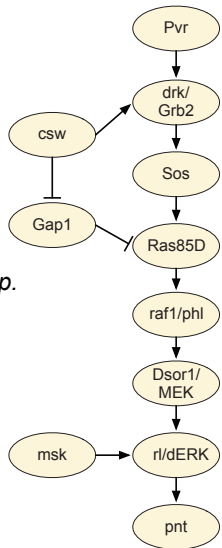
x 2 dsRNA

x **21 features**

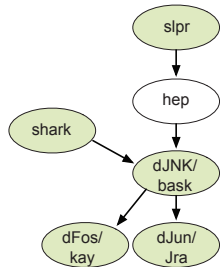
Similarity of interaction profiles reflects molecular 'pathway' relationships



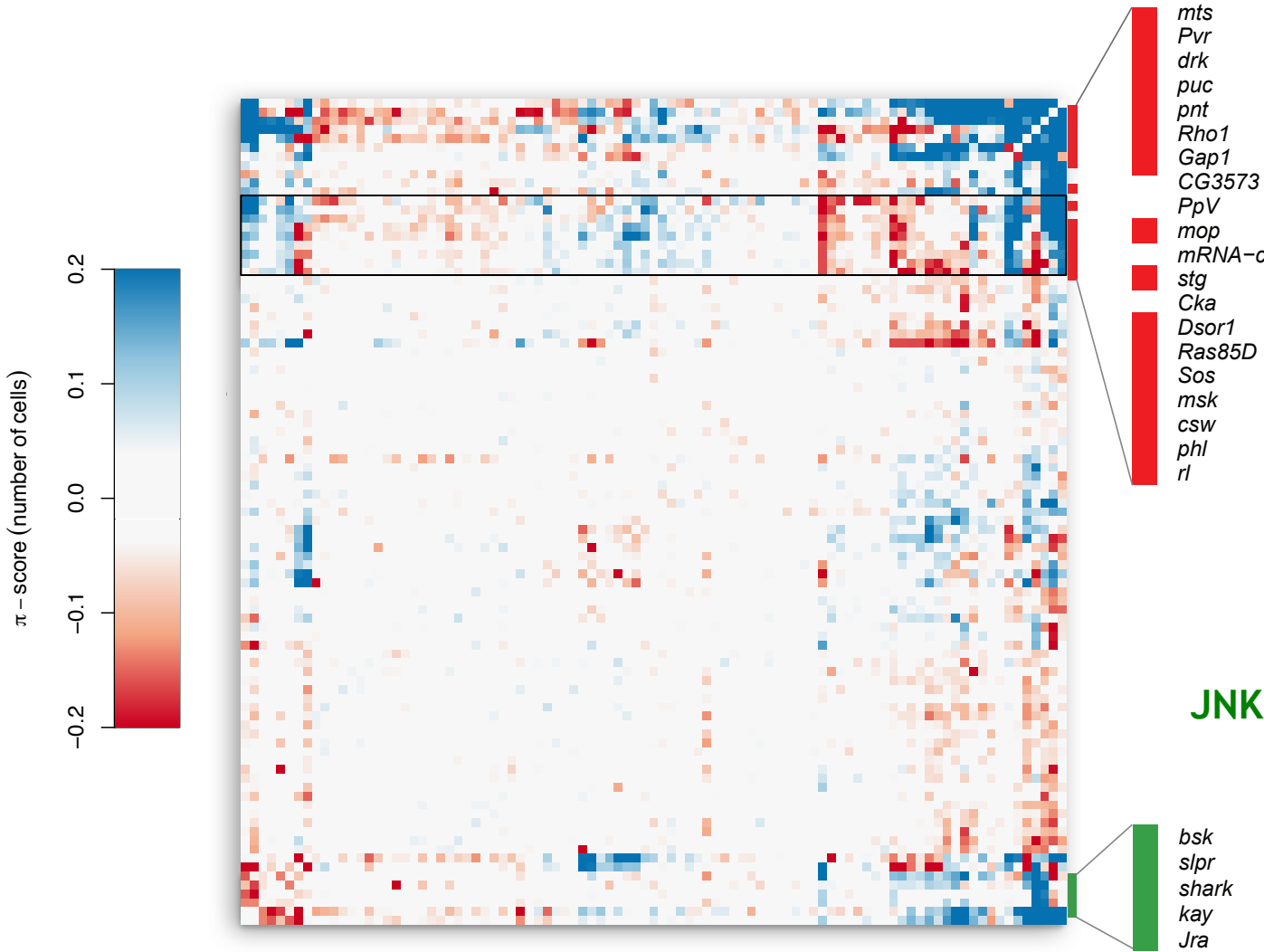
Ras pathway



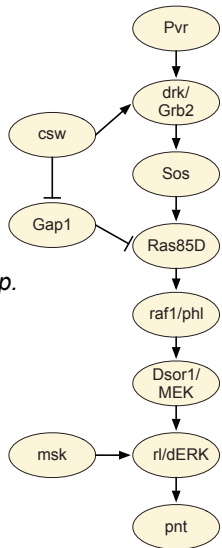
JNK pathway



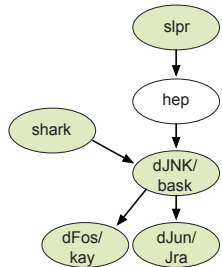
Similarity of interaction profiles reflects molecular 'pathway' relationships



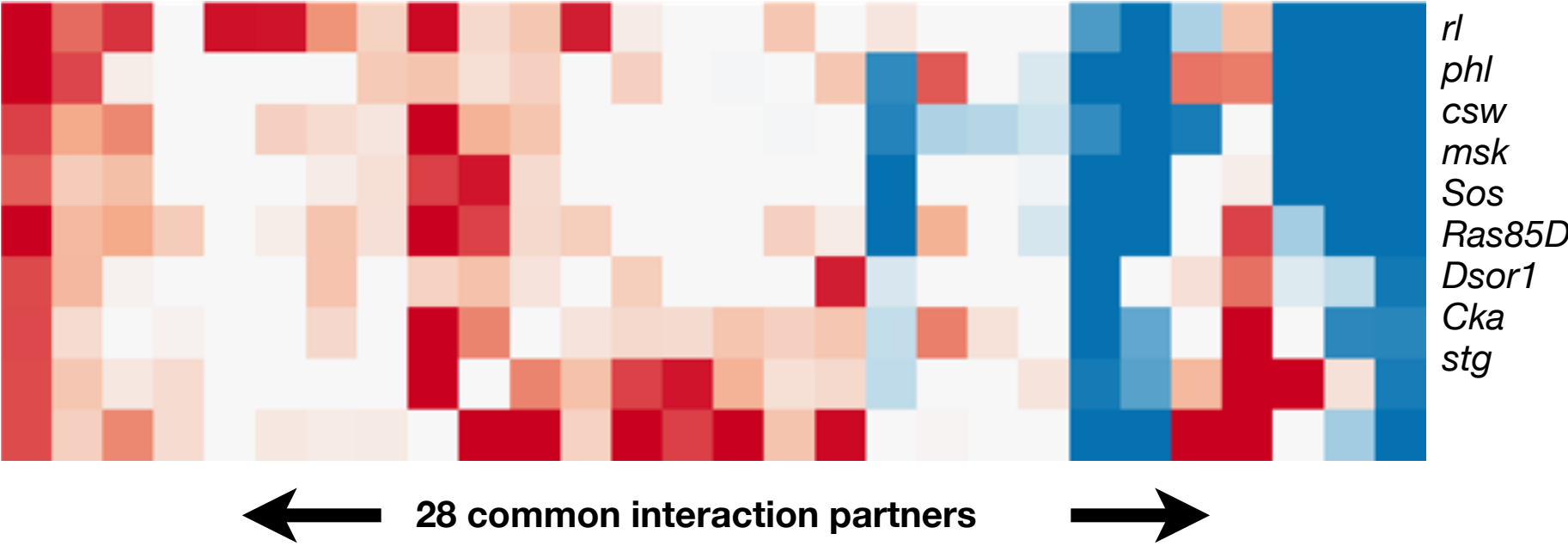
Ras pathway



JNK pathway

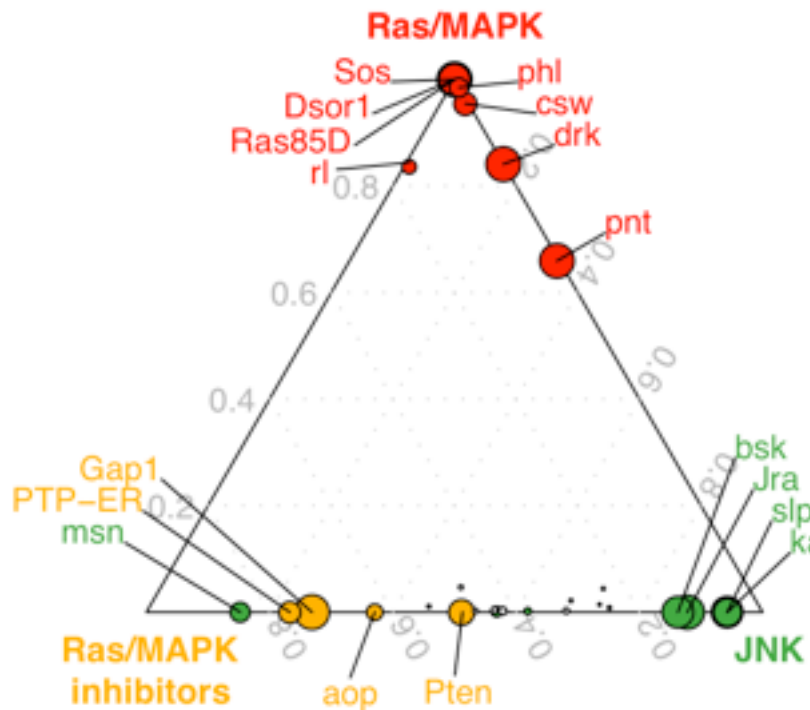


Similarity of interaction profiles reflects molecular 'pathway' relationships

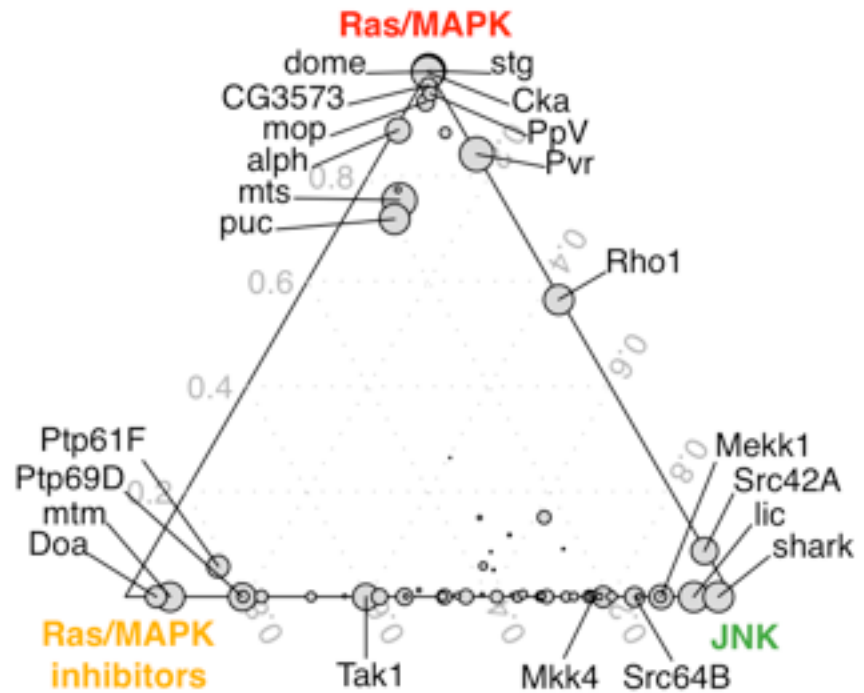


Interaction profiles predict functional roles

Classification of profiles by sparse linear discriminant analysis, 3 classes (posterior probabilities)



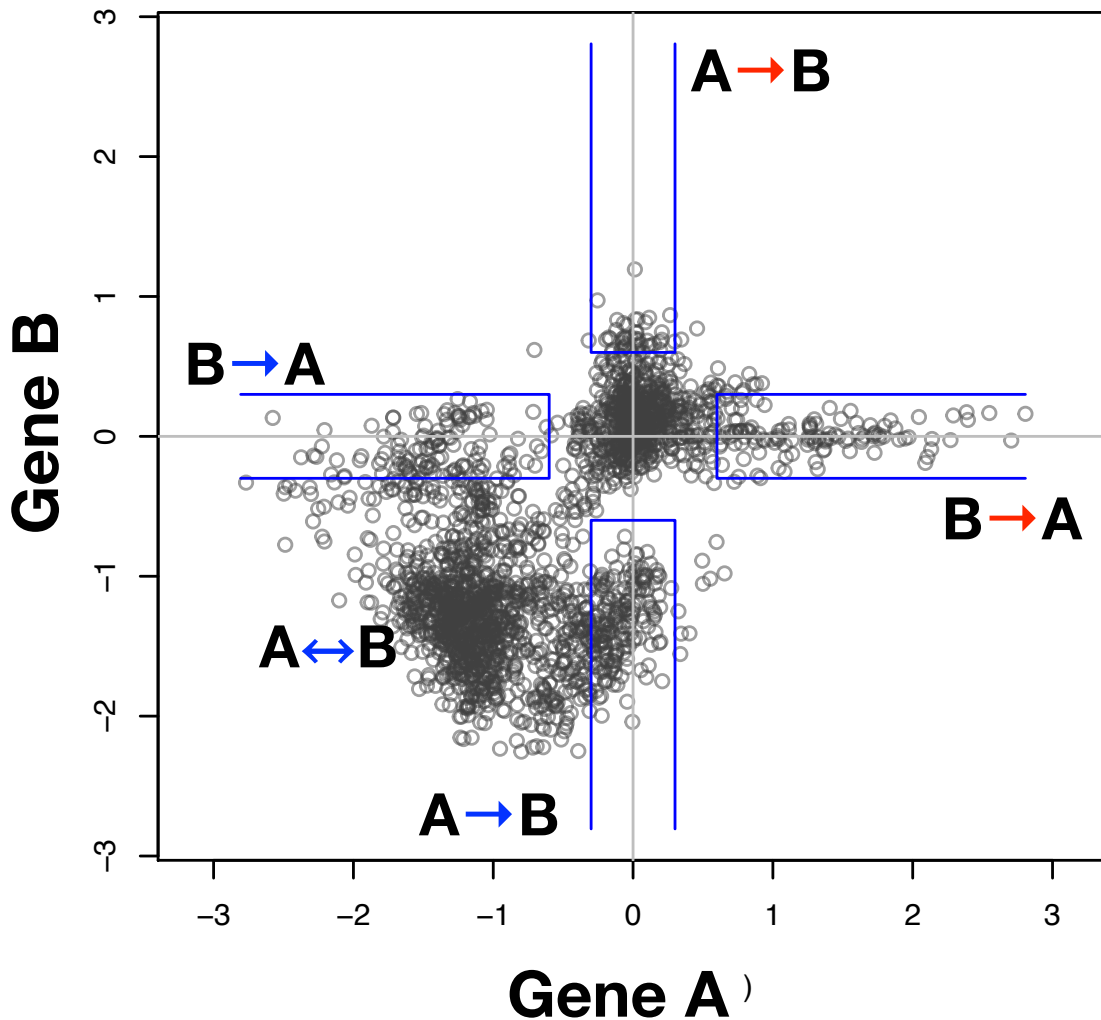
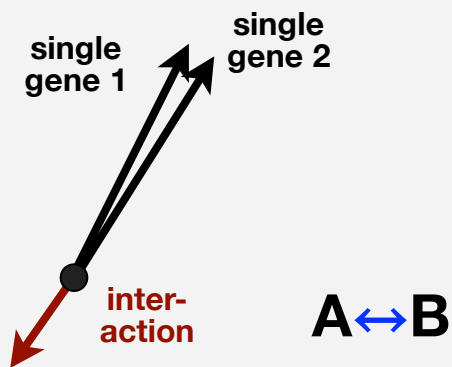
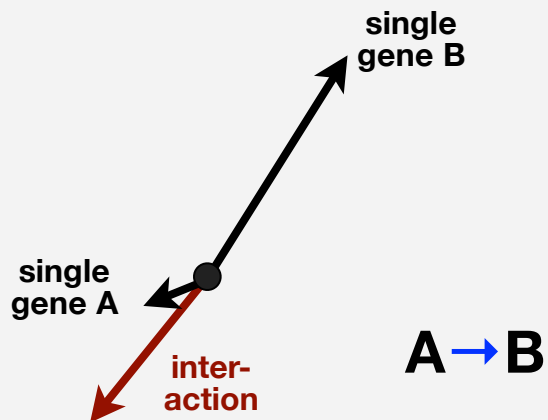
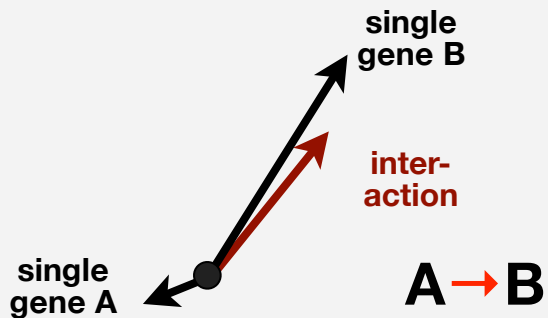
Performance on training set

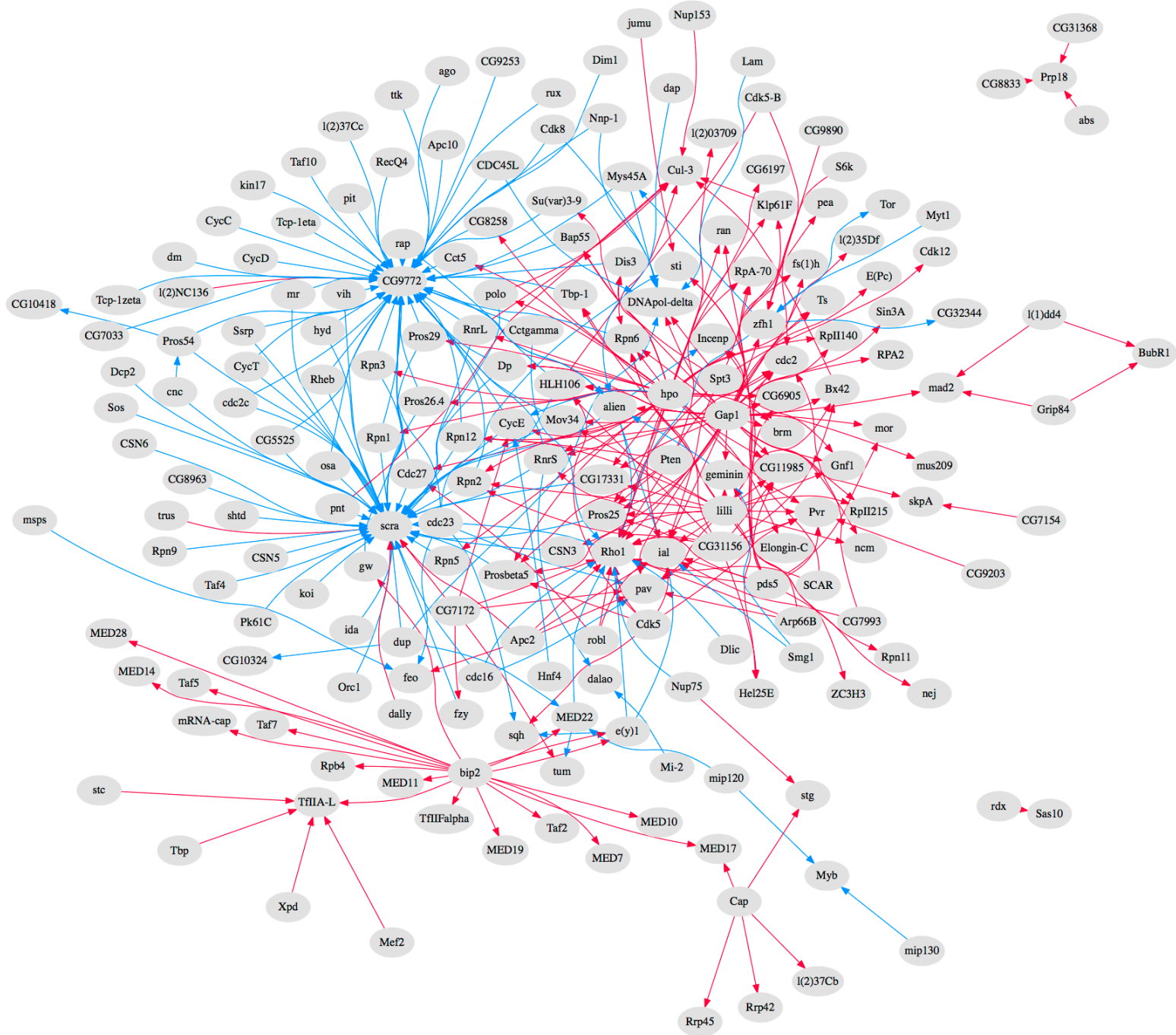


Performance on test set

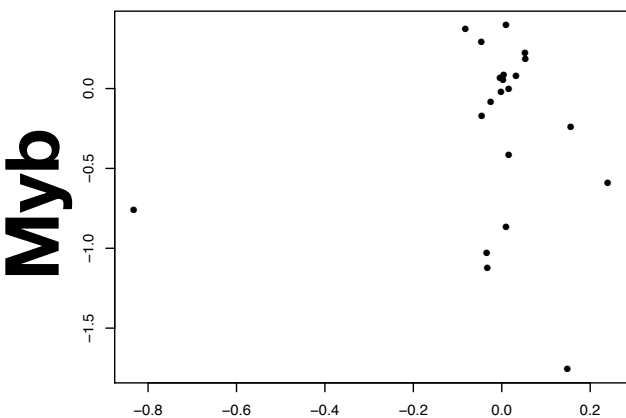


directed genetic interactions

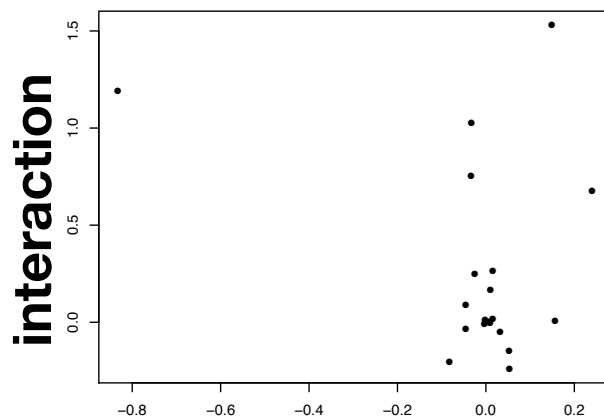




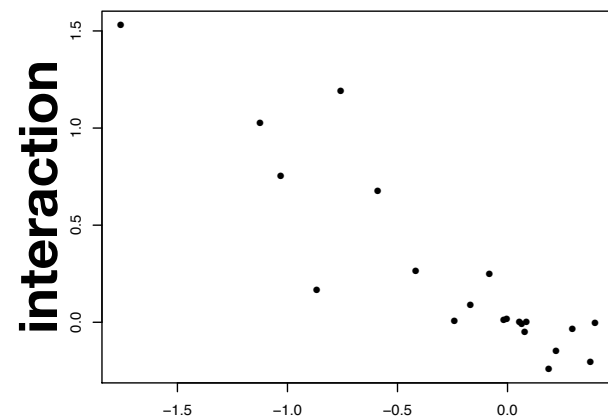
Robust manifestation of epistasis through multivariate phenotypes



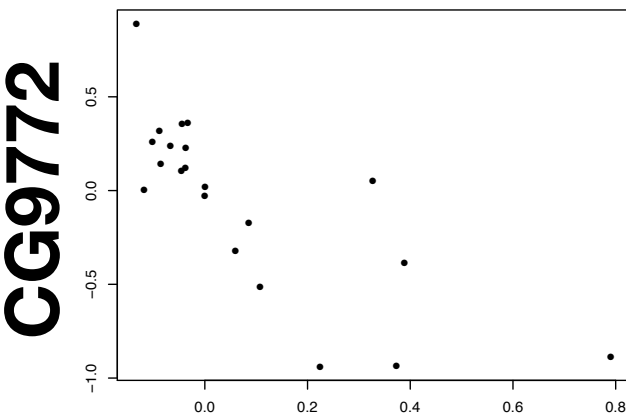
mip130



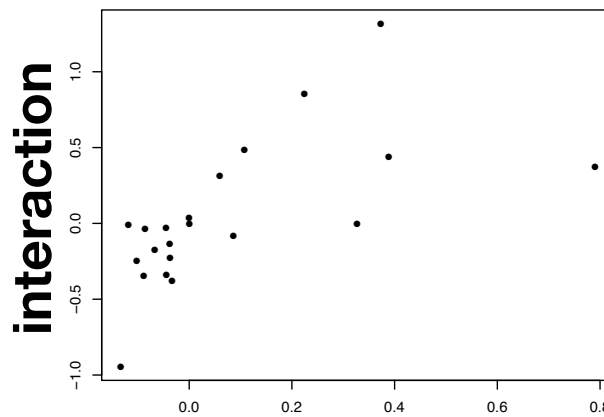
mip130



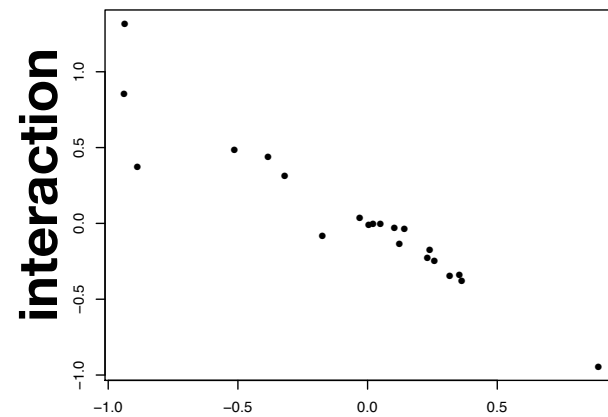
Myb



CycC



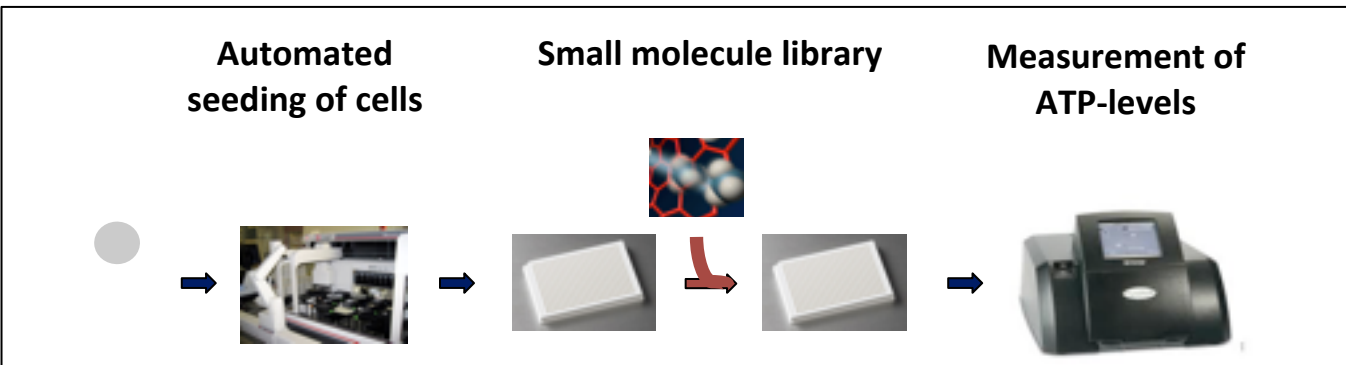
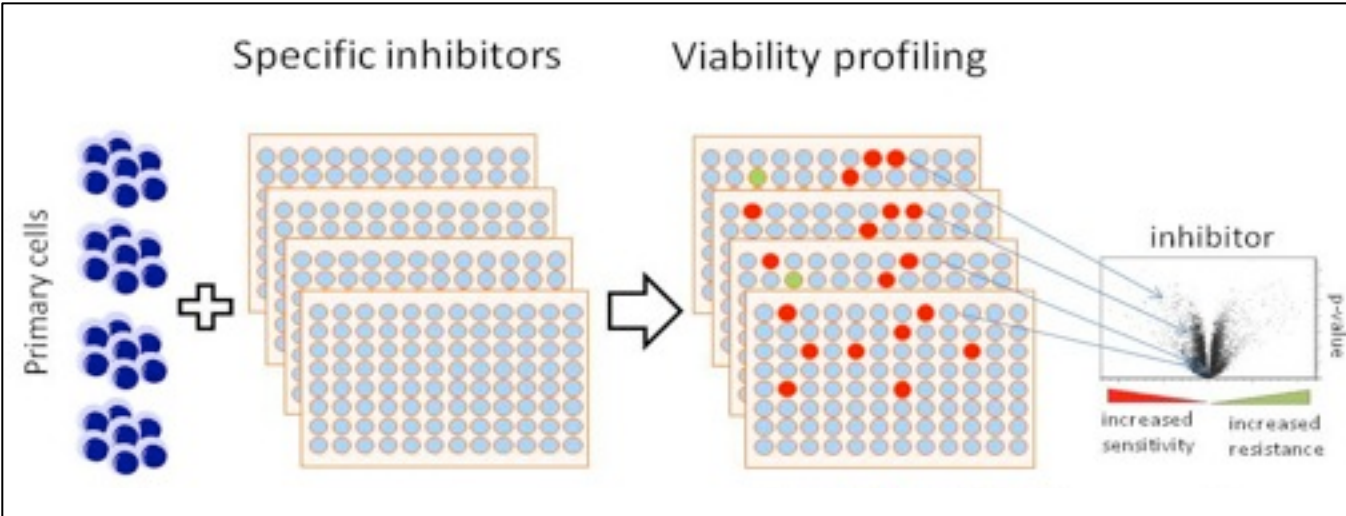
CycC



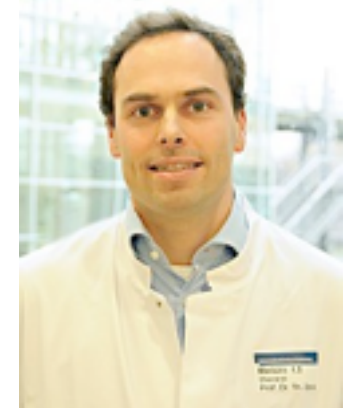
CG9772

Genotype-dependence of drug sensitivity in lymphoma and leukemia

Substance	Target
ABT-263 (Navitoclax)	Bcl-2
PCI-32765	Btk
CAL-101	PI3K δ
SNS-032	CDK 2,7,9
Olaparib (AZD2281)	PARP
Fludarabine	purine analogue
Vorinostat	HDAC I, IIa, IIb, IV
Bortezomib (PS-341)	Proteasome
MS-275 (Entinostat)	HDAC I, III
Nutlin-3	MDM2
Enzastaurin	PKC
AZD6244 (Selumetinib)	MEK1/2
BIBW2992 (Afatinib)	EGFR/ERBB2
Deforolimus	mTOR
MK-1775	WEE1
GDC-0449	HH
AT13387	Hsp90
RO4929097	gamma-secretase
XAV-939	Wnt
AZD7762	CHK1/2
ON-01910	PLK
SP600125	JNK
LY2228820	p38 MAPK



etc.



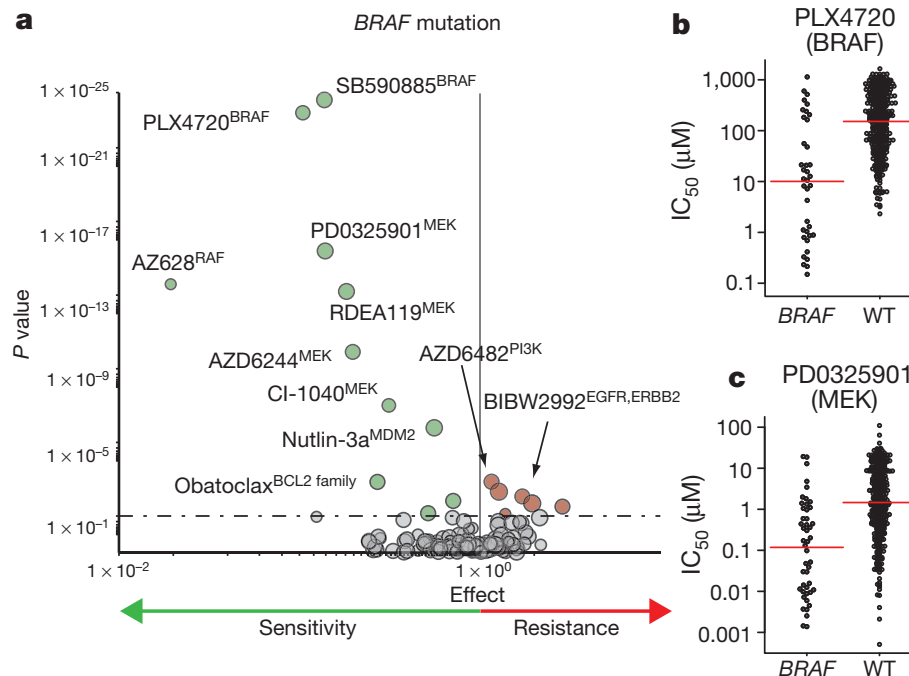
**Thorsten Zenz,
Leo Sellner, NCT**

Drug screens in pan-cancer cell line panels

Garnett 2012: Systematic identification of genomic markers of drug sensitivity in cancer cells. Nature.

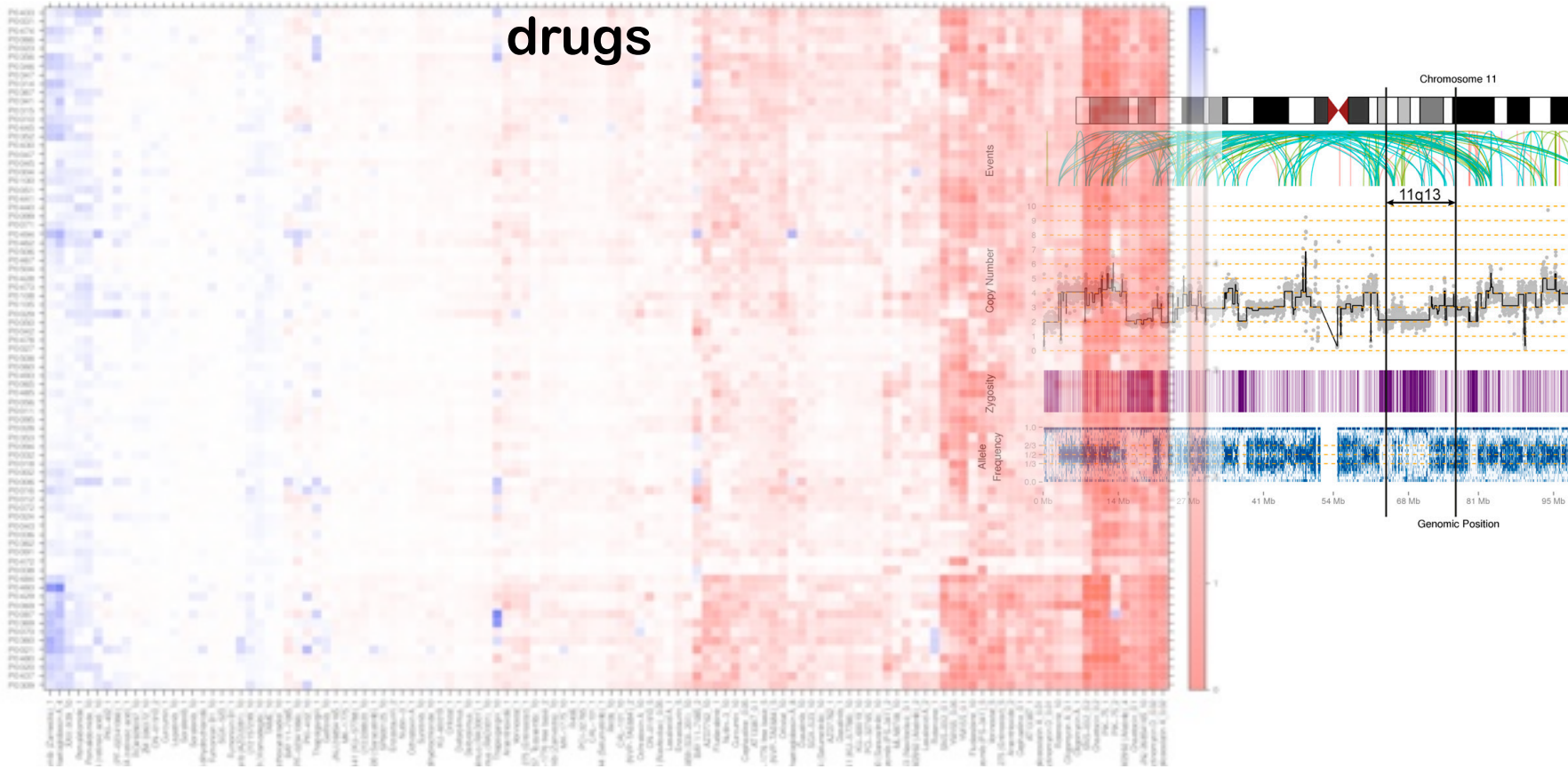
Barretina 2012: The Cancer Cell Line Encyclopedia enables predictive modelling of anticancer drug sensitivity. Nature.

Basu 2013: An Interactive Resource to Identify Cancer Genetic and Lineage Dependencies Targeted by Small Molecules. Cell.

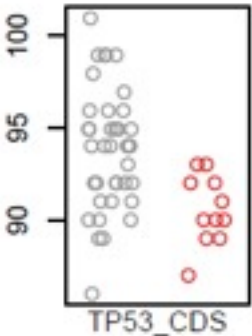


Association of (somatic) variants with drug response

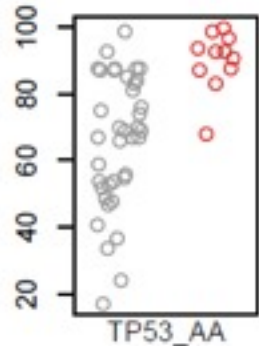
primary tumour samples



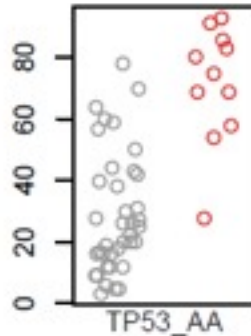
Ochratoxin A
conc=1 day 2
p=0.0002



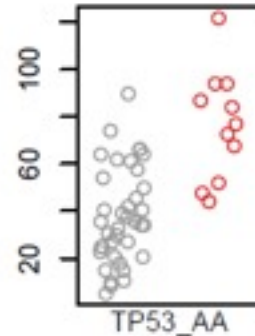
Fludarabine
conc=1 day 2
p=1.1e-06



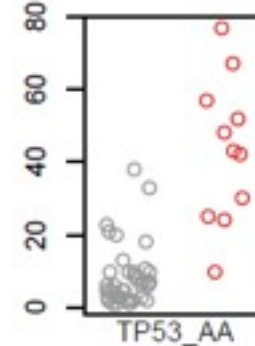
Fludarabine
conc=1 day 3
p=6.4e-06



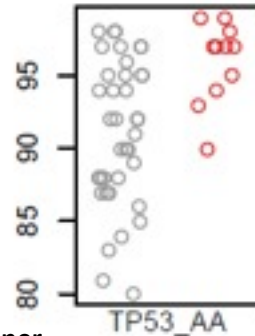
Fludarabine
conc=10 day 2
p=0.00017



Fludarabine
conc=10 day 3
p=0.00016

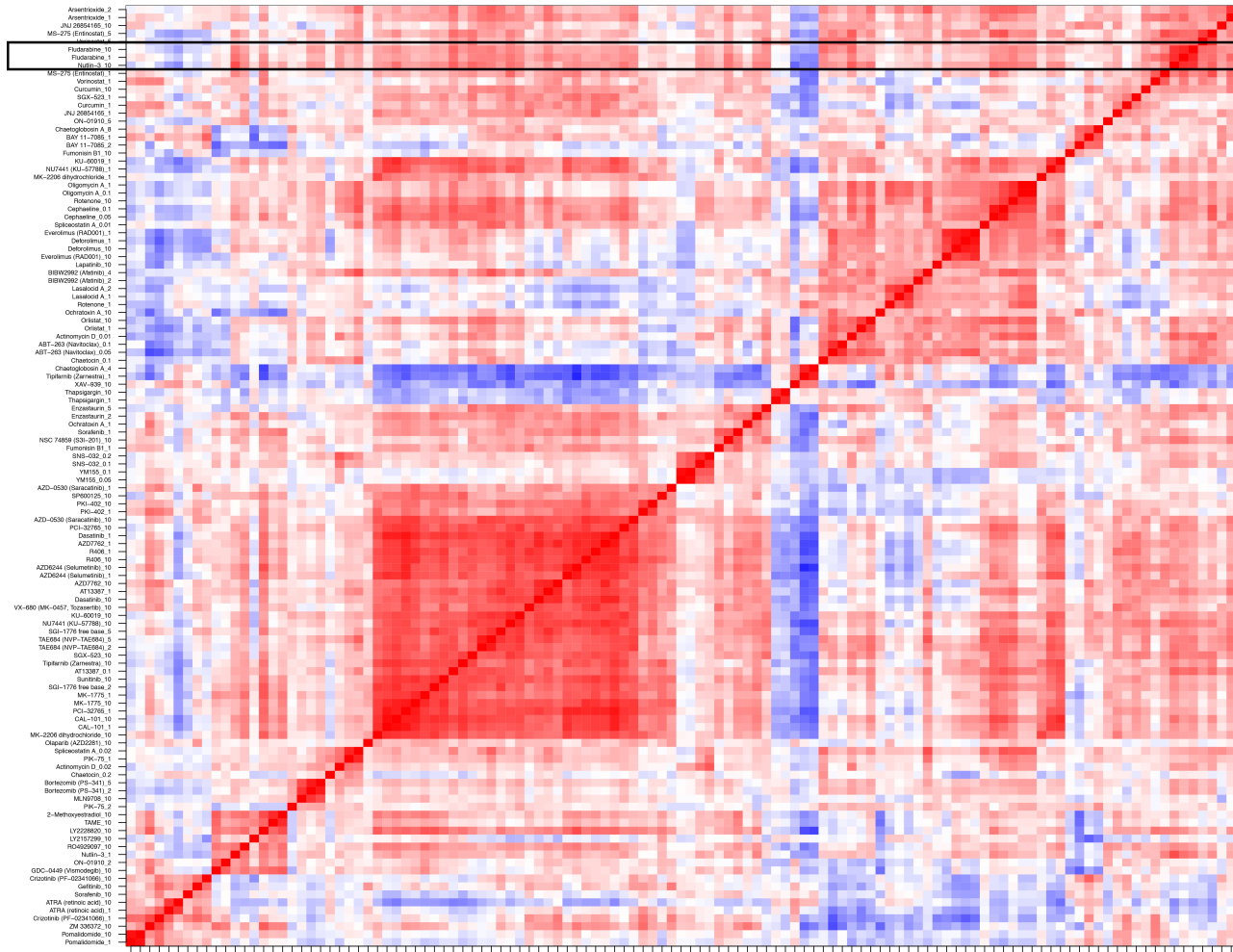


Nutlin-3
conc=1 day 3
p=0.00015



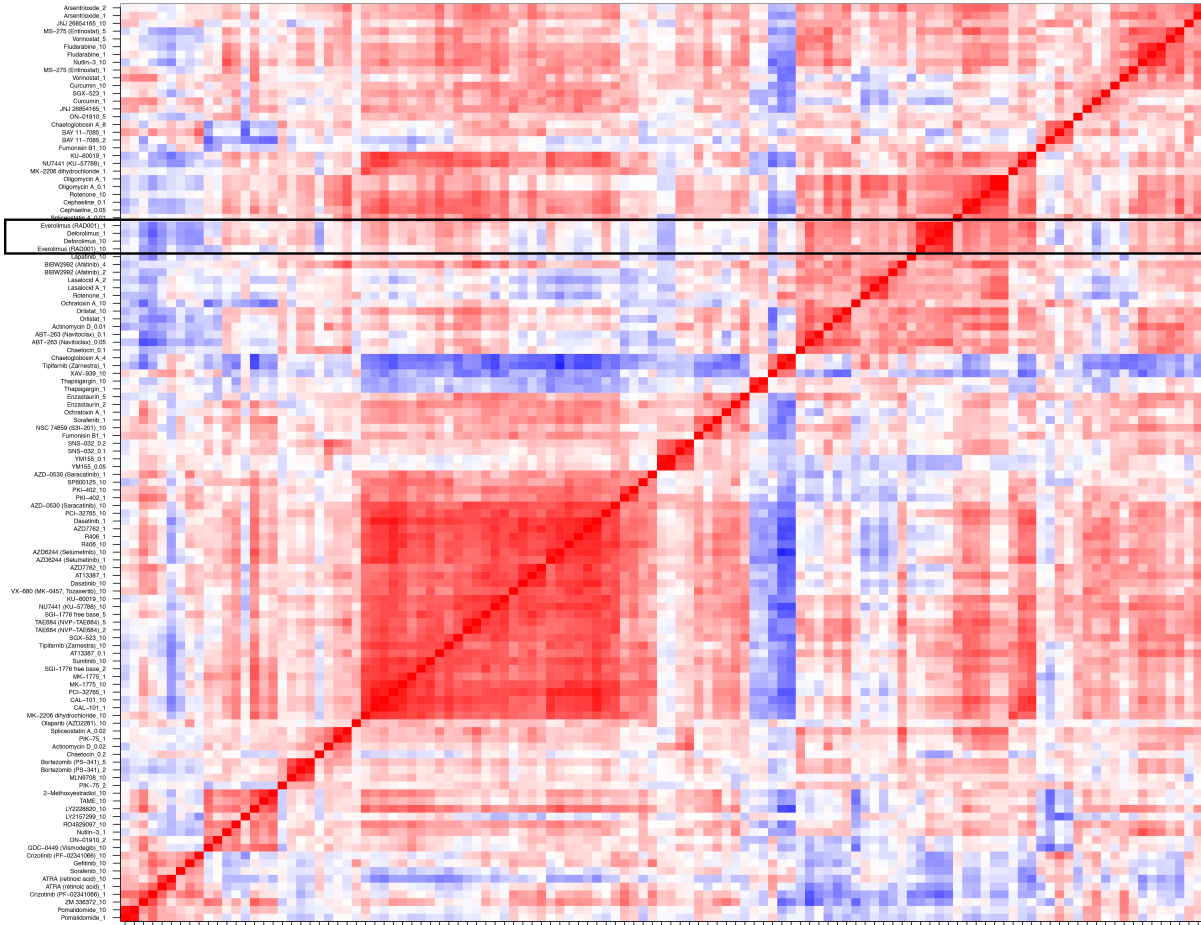
DAY 2 - Fludarabine, Nutlin-3

Correlations between drugs - day2

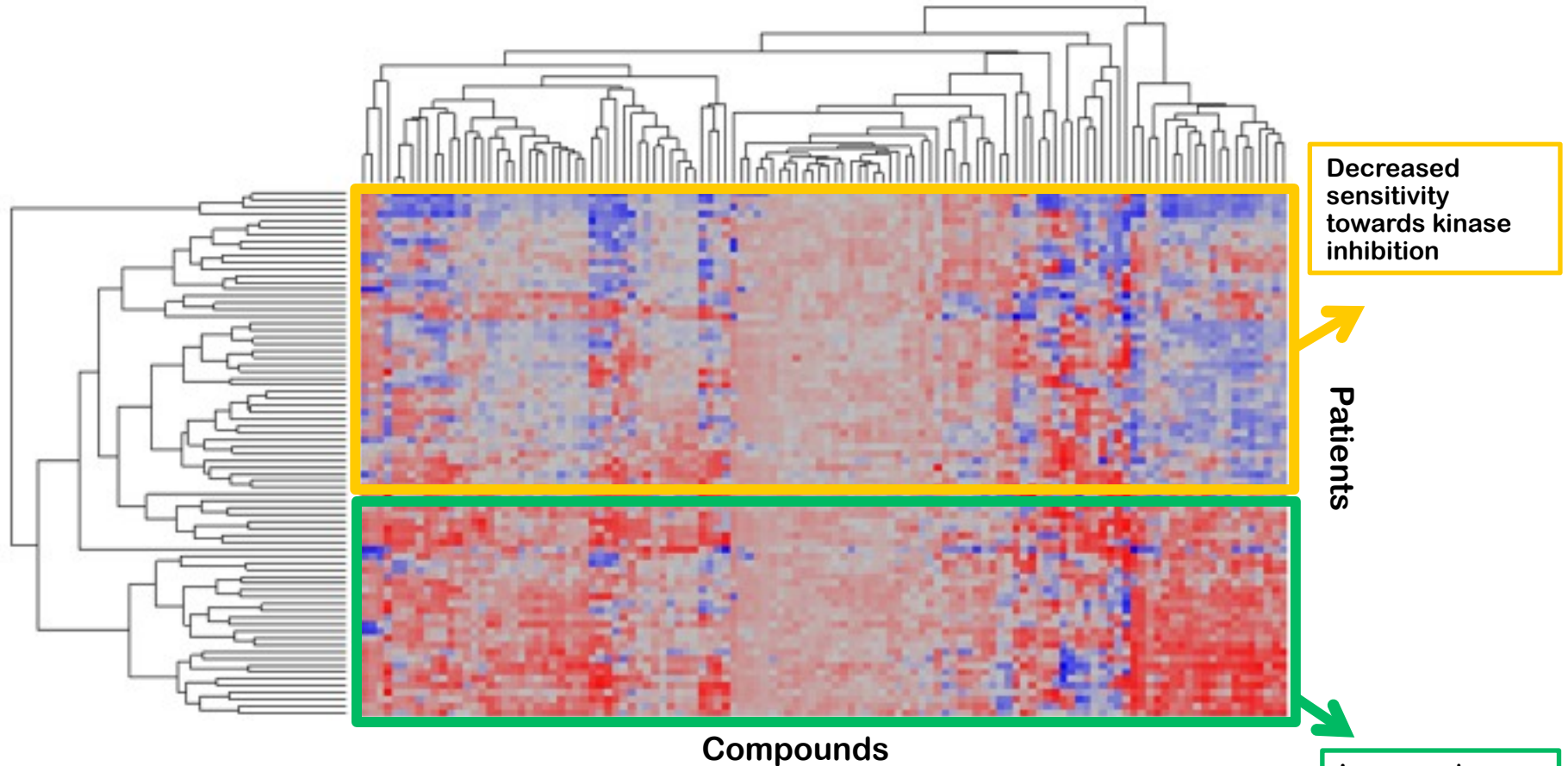


DAY 2 - Everolimus (RAD001), Deferolimus

Correlations between drugs – day2



Clustering of patients and drugs according to drug response



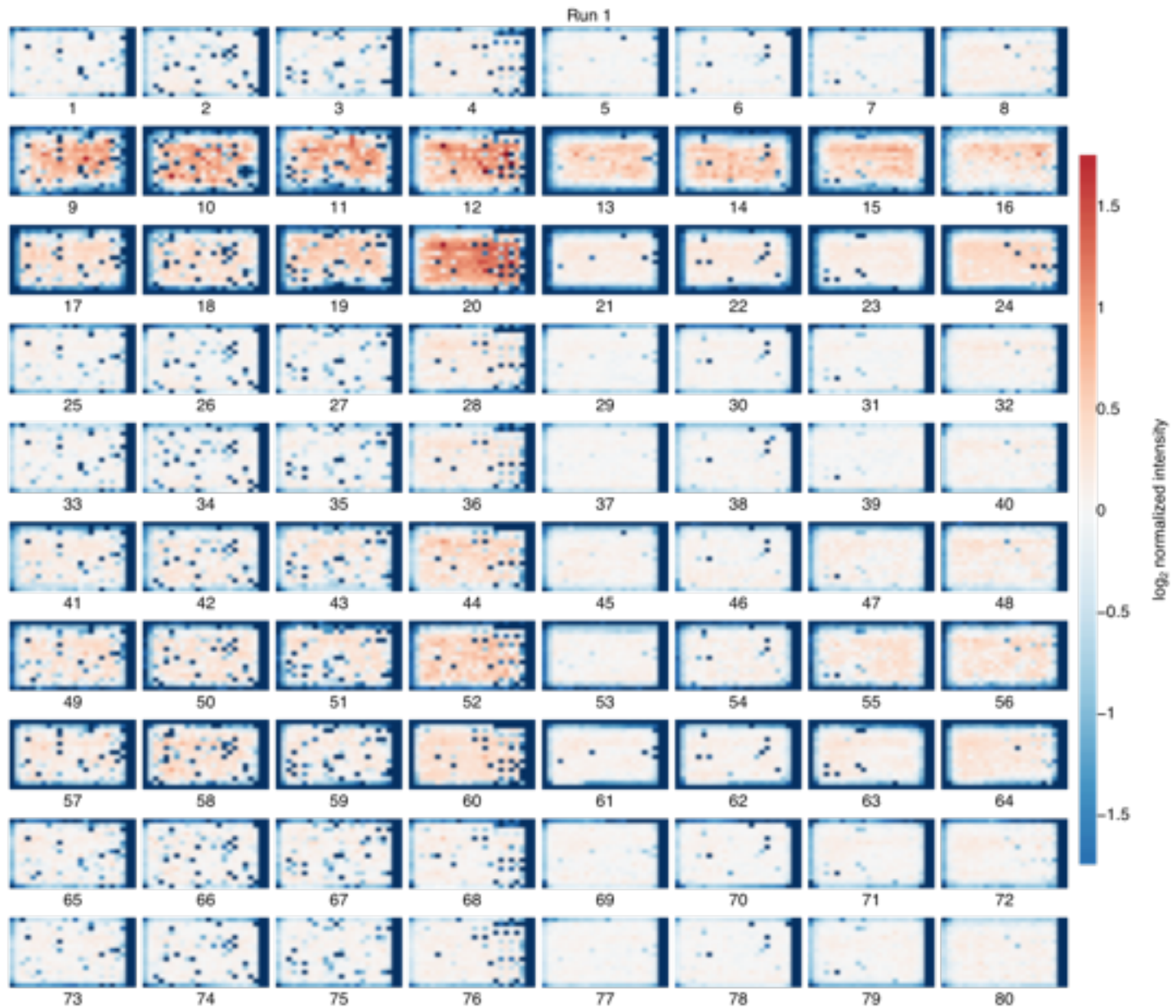
Red: more sensitivity

Blue: less sensitivity

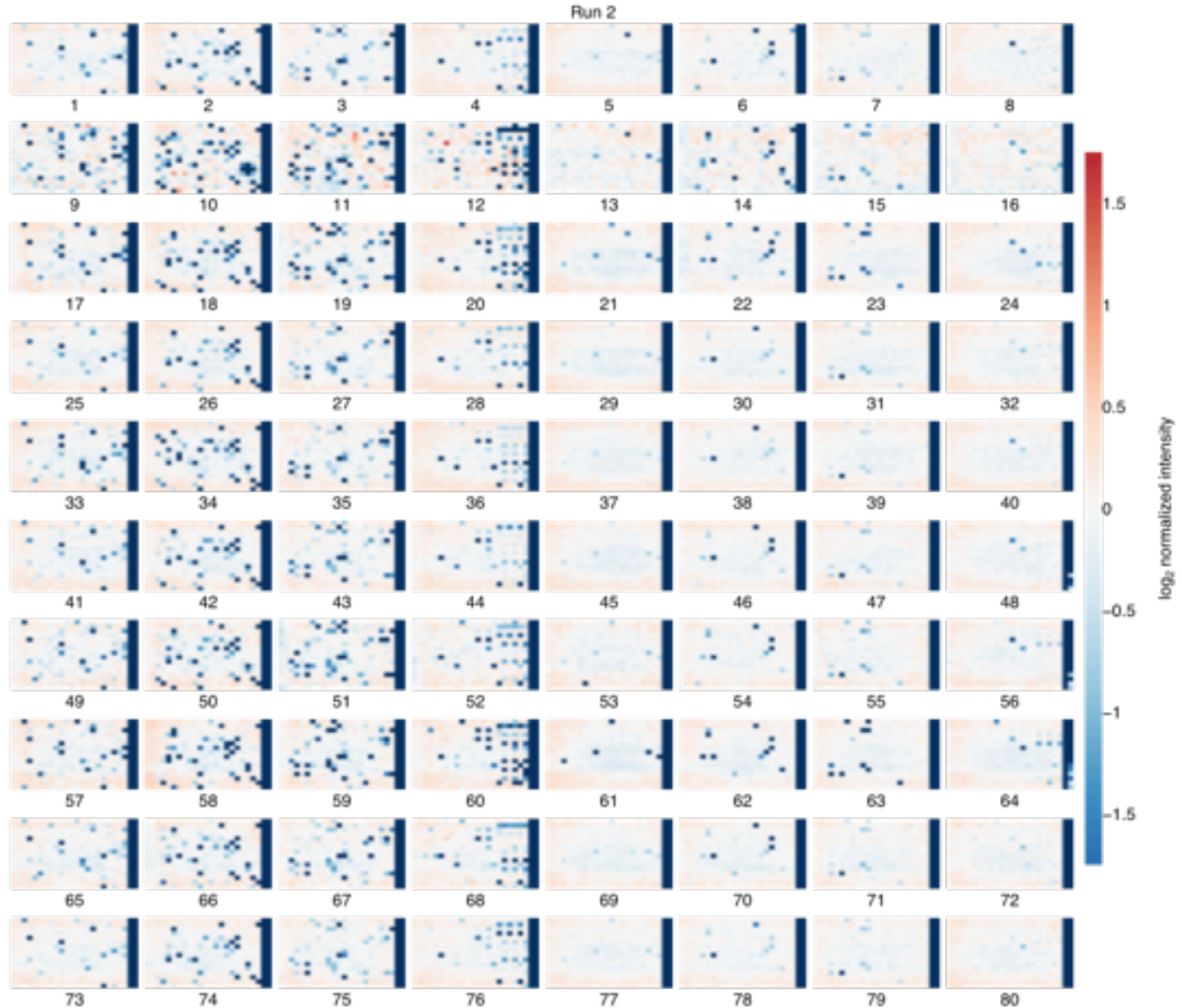


M. Oles

CLL – EMBL screen, RUN I



CLL – EMBL screen, RUN II

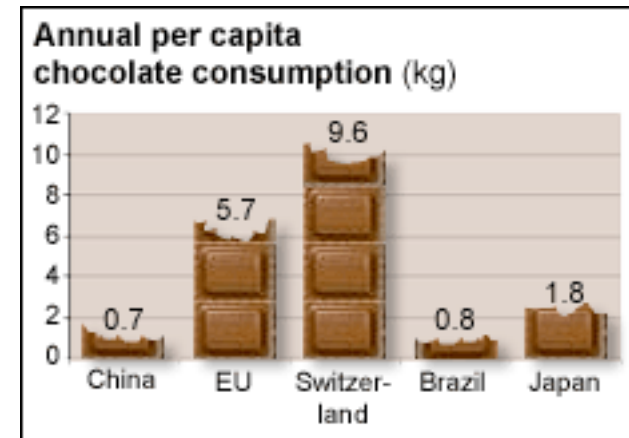


Summary

- **Many opportunities for machine learners to make a real impact in biology, 'precision' medicine**

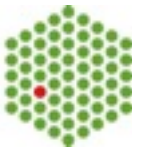
The future is bright

- 3rd generation sequencing
 - single cell everything
 - super-resolution microscopy
- for proteomics
- HT TALEN, CRISPR
 - 7 Billion humans to be genotyped, phenotyped (Google-glasses, watches), longitudinal omics
 - “Big data”
 - Multivariate statistical modelling has only just begun



The Bioconductor Project

Wolfgang Huber



EMBL



Bioconductor
OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR BIOINFORMATICS



International **open source and **open development** software project for the analysis of genomic data**

Objectives:

- **Reduce barriers to entry into this **interdisciplinary** area**
- ****Statistical** methods for the analysis of genomic data**
- **Integrate **meta-/other data** in the analysis of experimental data**
- **Publication-quality **graphics****
- **Facilitate **reproducible research****
- ****Training****

Software: accessible, extensible, interoperable, transparent, well-documented

Approach: rapid development, code re-use, self-documenting datasets

The world's largest bioinformatics project.

Collaborative software development

- **open source**
- **open development**
- **interoperability**
- **code re-use**

Code re-use

Writing good software is hard. Existing, well-used and maintained software contains fewer bugs.

Avoid re-implementation, rather produce interfaces

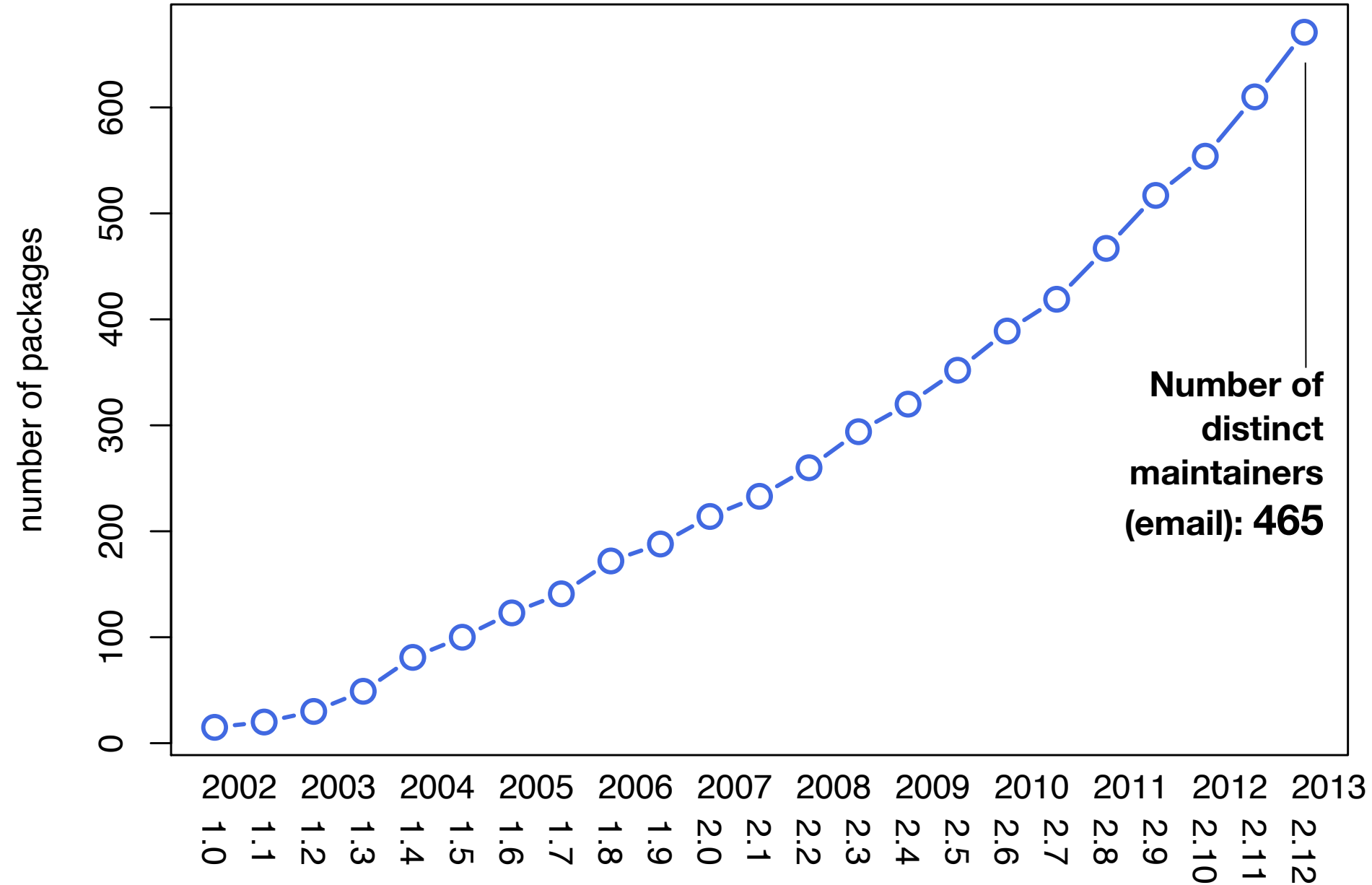
Developers can focus on new things

Software is dynamic and needs continuous maintenance and (re-)publication

**Application domains changes (μarrays ...
NGS ... 3GS)**

Software technologies change

Contributed Packages

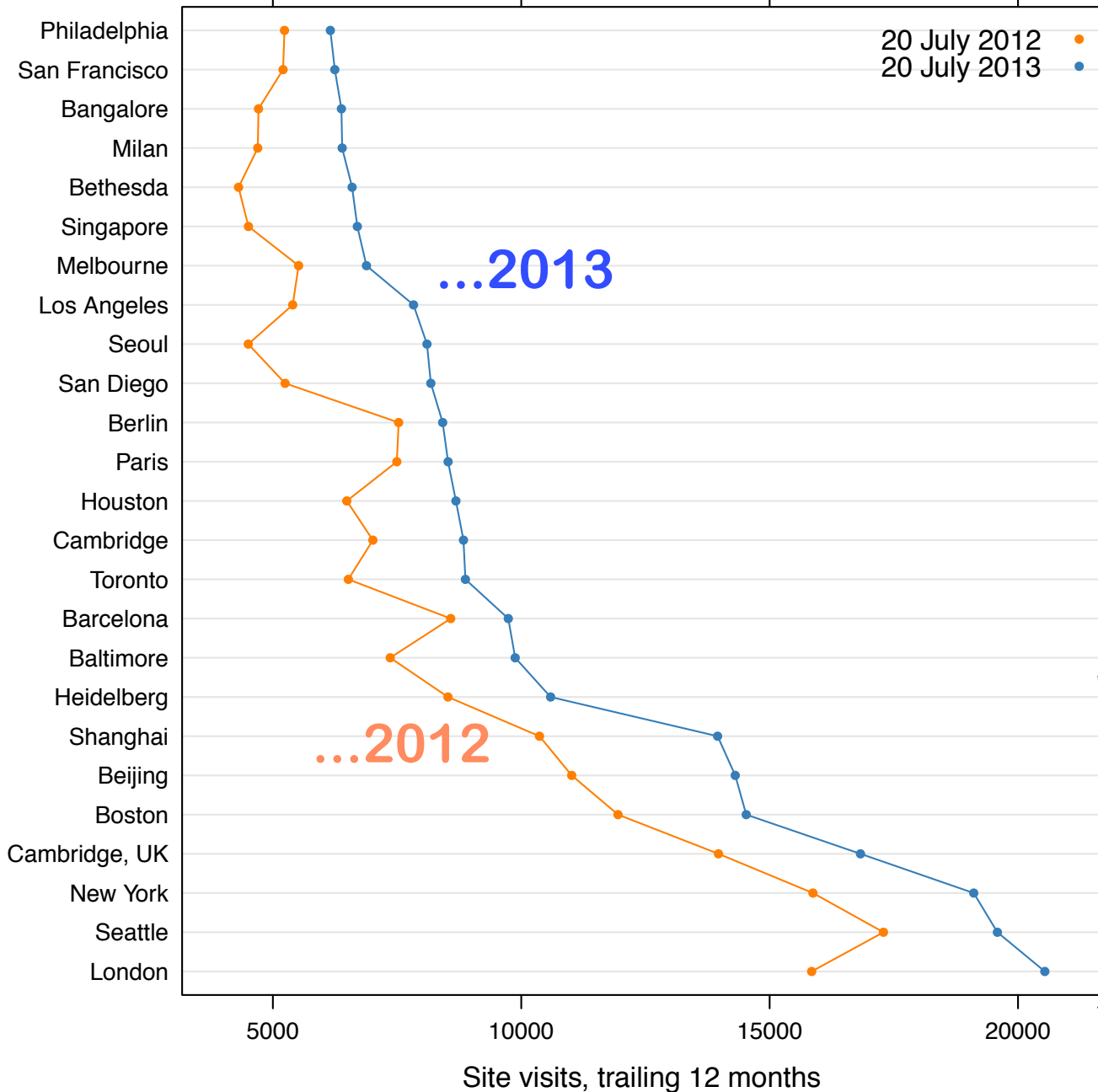


Site visits - per day



31% growth in the year
up to 6/2013

Site visits - by geographic location



Heidelberg
Shanghai
Beijing
Boston
Cambridge UK
New York
Seattle
London UK

A brief historical context

1970s John Chambers & colleagues develop the S language at Bell Labs - a language for computing with data & visualisation

FSF, GNU, Linux

1991 R. Ihaka and R. Gentleman, two professors at Uni Auckland, build an S interpreter on top of a Scheme interpreter (a Lisp dialect)

1990s: R project gathers a network of collaborators around the world, incl. package system, build server, rigorous 'R CMD check'

1998 Coming out of the microarray technology (AML/ALL, cell cycle)

2001 Bioconductor project founded at Harvard, RG, VJC, soon R. Irizarry, S. Dudoit (Berkeley), W Huber (Heidelberg)

2002 Sweave, package vignettes

2004 "the book" (published early 2005)

2006... transformation to NGS

Language selection

R - high-level interpreted language, easy & quick prototyping

Packaging protocol

Statistical methods - tests, regression, ML

Visualisation

Parallel computing

Large user community (>> bioinformatics)

R: programming with data

(cf. Niklaus Wirth: algorithms and data structures = language)

Combined text and code markup (here: LaTeX & R)

Sweave

processed document (here: PDF)

```
Anteprima File Composizione Vista Vai Strumenti Preferiti Finestra Aiuto DESeq.Rnw
\subsection{Why does it work?}\label{sec:whyitworks}
First, consider Figure-\ref{figscatterindepfilt}, which shows that among the 40–45% of genes with lowest overall counts, \Robject{rs}, there are essentially none that achieved an (unadjusted)  $p$  value less than  $10^{-4}$  (this corresponds to about  $-\log_{10}(\text{quantile}(pvalsGLM[use], 2))$  on the  $-\log_{10}$ -scale).
<<figscatterindepfilt,fig=TRUE>>=
plot(rank(rs)/length(rs), -log10(pvalsGLM), pch=16, cex=0.45)
\begin{figure}[ht]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=.5\textwidth]{DESeq-figscatterindepfilt}
\caption{Scatterplot of rank of filter criterion (overall sum of counts \Robject{rs}) versus the negative logarithm of the test statistic.}
\label{figscatterindepfilt}
\end{figure}
This means that by dropping the 40% genes with lowest \Robject{rs}, we do not lose anything substantial from our subsequent results. Second, consider the  $p$  value histogram in Figure-\ref{figh1}. It shows how the filtering ameliorates the multiple testing problem — and thus the severity of a multiple testing adjustment — by removing a background set of hypotheses whose  $p$  values are distributed more or less uniformly in  $[0,1]$ .
<<h1indepfilt,width=7,height=5>>=
h1 = hist(pvalsGLM[use], breaks=50, plot=FALSE)
h2 = hist(pvalsGLM[use], breaks=50, plot=FALSE)
colori = c("do not pass"="khaki", "pass"="powderblue")
<<figh1indepfilt,fig=TRUE>>=
barplot(height = rbind(h1$counts, h2$counts), beside = FALSE, col = colori, space = 0, main = "", ylab="frequency")
text(x = c(0, length(h1$counts)), y = 0, label = paste(c(0,1)), adj = "right", fill=rev(colori), legend=rev(names(colori)))
\begin{figure}[ht]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=.5\textwidth]{DESeq-figh1indepfilt}
\caption{Histogram of  $p$  values for all tests (\Robject{pvalsGLM}). The area shaded in blue indicates the subset of those that pass the filter, the area in khaki those that do not pass.}
\label{figh1indepfilt}
\end{figure}
DESeq.Rnw 63% (924,0) SVN-69369 (LaTeX/FPS Ref BCTe Fly Fill Noweb NWFL)
```

```
ddsLocal <- estimateDispersions(dds, fitType="local")
plotDispEsts(ddsLocal)
```

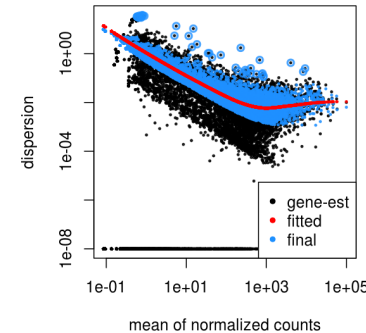


Figure 11: A dispersion estimate plot using a local regression fit is similar to that of Figure 10.

E.2 Mean dispersion

While RNA-Seq data tend to demonstrate a dispersion-mean dependence, this assumption is not appropriate for all assays. An alternative is to use the mean of all gene-wise dispersion estimates to benefit from information sharing across genes (Figure 12).

```
ddsMean <- estimateDispersions(dds, fitType="mean")
plotDispEsts(ddsMean)
```

E.3 Supply a custom dispersion fit

Any fitted values can be provided during dispersion estimation, using the lower-level functions described in the manual page for `estimateDispersionsGeneEst`. In the first line of the code below, the function `estimateDispersionsGeneEst` stores the gene-wise estimates in the metadata column `dispGeneEst`. In the last line, the function `estimateDispersionsMAP` uses this column and the column `dispFit` to generate maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimates of dispersion. The modeling assumption is that the true dispersions are distributed according to a log-normal prior around the fitted values in the column `fitDisp`. The width of this prior is calculated from the data.

Good scientific software is like a good scientific publication

- **Reproducible**
- **Peer-reviewed**
- **Easy to access by other researchers & society**
- **Builds on the work of others**
- **Others will build their work on top of it**

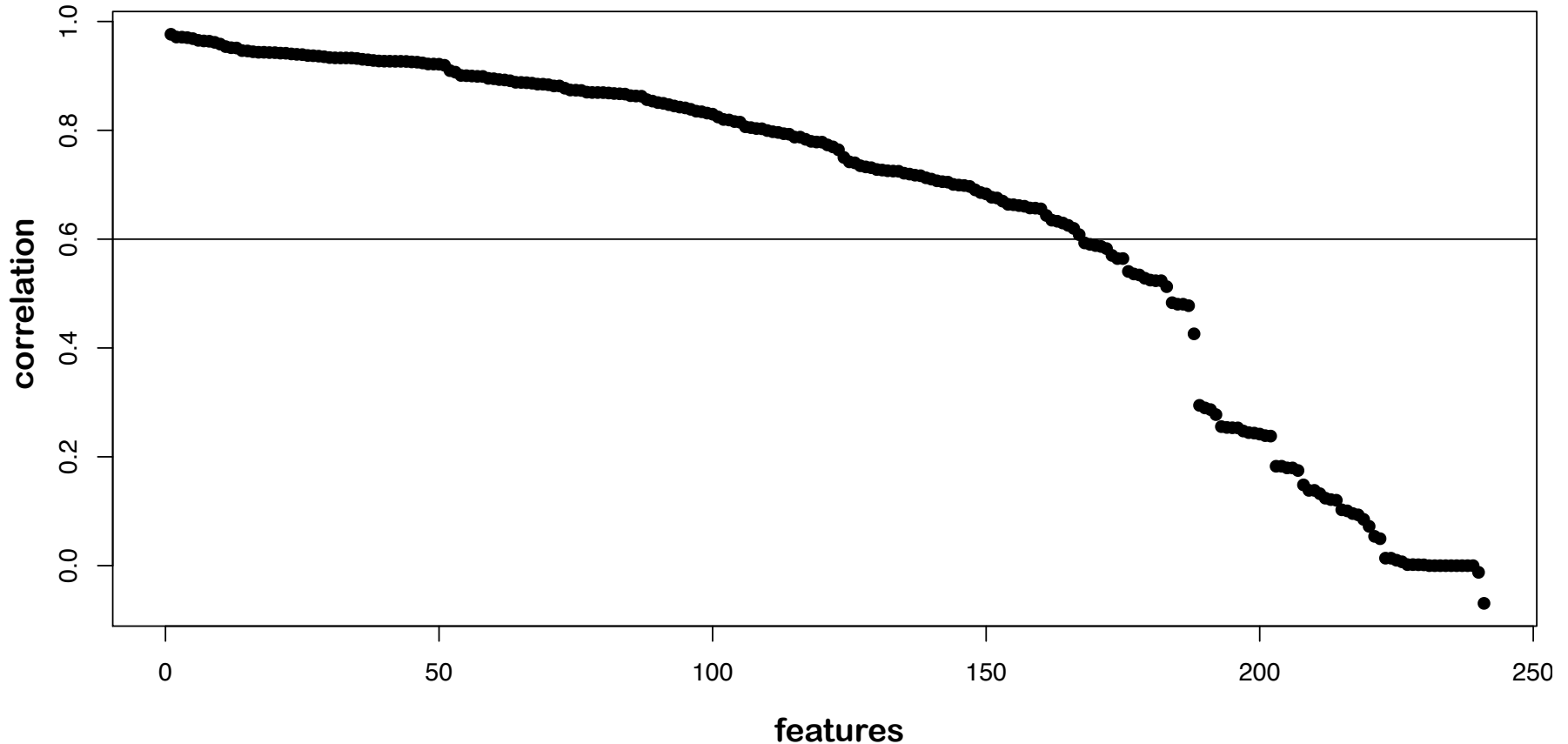


Simon Anders
Joseph Barry
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Julian Gehring
Bernd Klaus
Felix Klein
Michael Love
Malgorzata Oles
Aleksandra Pekowska
Paul-Theodor Pyl
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Christof von Kalle (NCT)
Hanno Glimm (NCT)
Lars Steinmetz (EMBL/Stanford)
Robert Gentleman (Genentech)
Martin Morgan (FHCRC)
Jan Korbel (EMBL)



Quality control of features



Quality criterium:
Correlation of interaction profiles between replicates
and number missing values
162 features passed QC

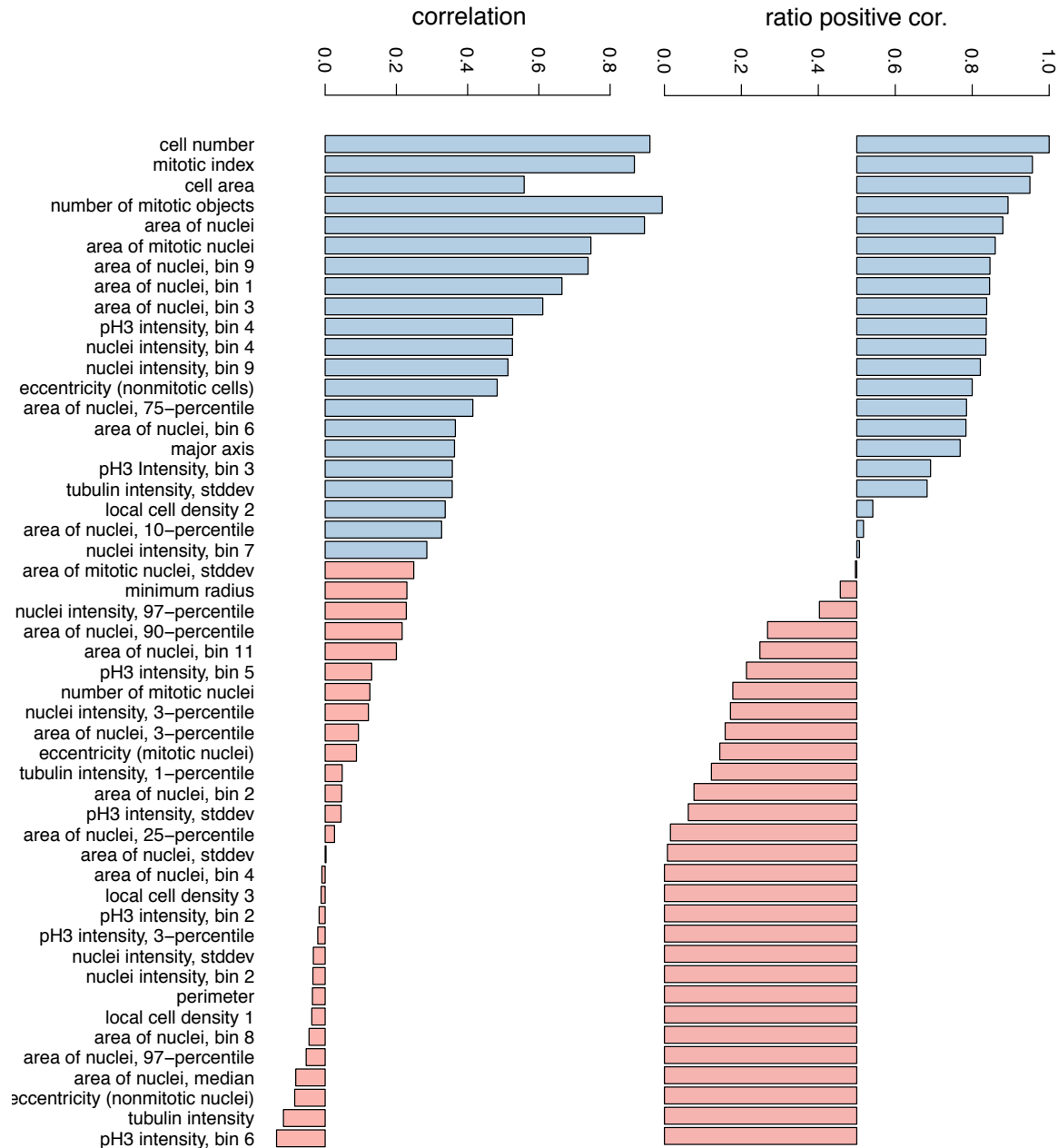
21 non-redundant features

Selection procedure:

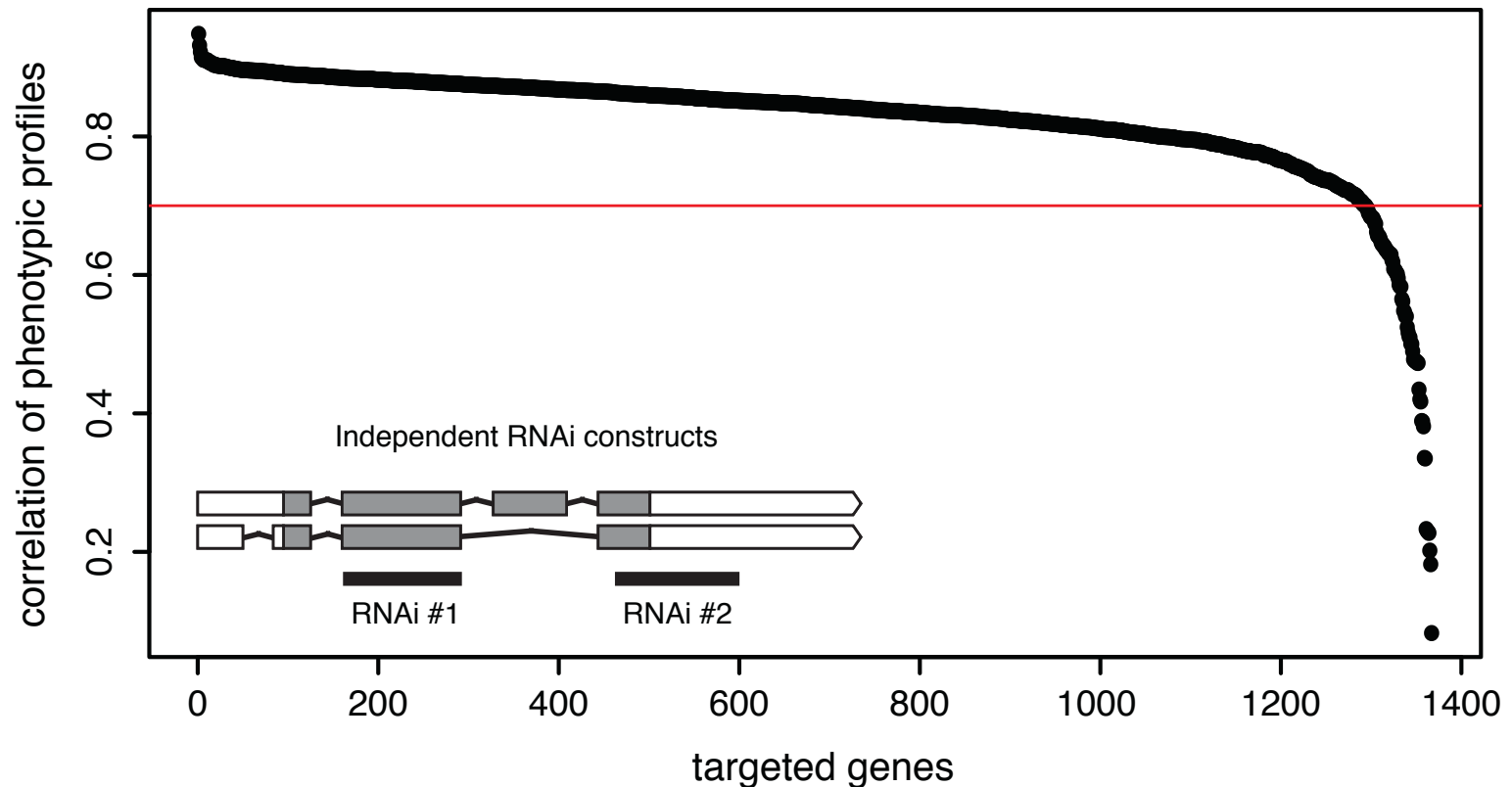
For each feature,
determine component not
yet spanned by
previously selected
features

Select the feature with
highest S/N

Stop criterion



Quality control of dsRNA designs



possible off-target effects

2 independent dsRNA designs per gene

quality criterion:

cor. of multi-phenotype interaction profile between designs

1293 genes passed QC