

# Statistical Methods and Software for the Analysis of DNA Microarray Experiments

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[www.bioconductor.org](http://www.bioconductor.org)

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# Outline

- Introduction to the biology and technology of DNA microarrays
- Overview of the Bioconductor project
- Annotation
- Visualization
- Pre-processing: spotted and Affymetrix arrays
- Differential gene expression
- Software demo



# Acknowledgments

## Bioconductor core team

- **Ben Bolstad**, Biostatistics, UC Berkeley
- **Vince Carey**, Biostatistics, Harvard
- **Laurent Gautier**, Technical University of Denmark
- **Yongchao Ge**, Statistics, UC Berkeley
- **Robert Gentleman**, Biostatistics, Harvard
- **Jeff Gentry**, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- **Yee Hwa (Jean) Yang**, Biostatistics, UCSF
- **Jianhua (John) Zhang**, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

# References

- **Personal webpages**

[www.stat.berkeley.edu/~sandrine](http://www.stat.berkeley.edu/~sandrine)

[biosun01.biostat.jhsph.edu/~ririzarr](http://biosun01.biostat.jhsph.edu/~ririzarr)

articles and talks on: image analysis; normalization; identification of differentially expressed genes; cluster analysis; classification.

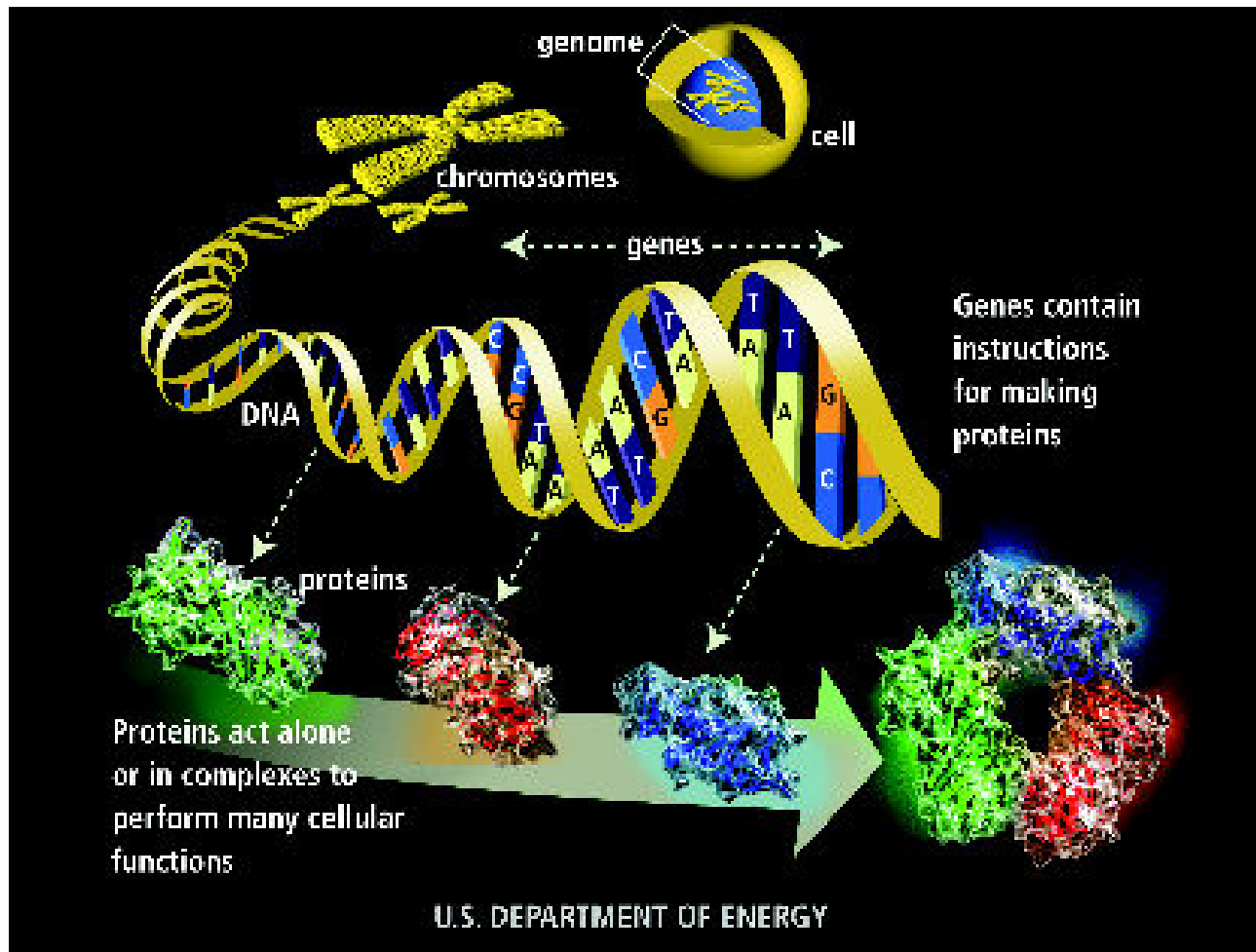
- **Bioconductor** [www.bioconductor.org](http://www.bioconductor.org)

- software, data, and documentation (vignettes);
- training materials from short courses;
- mailing list.

- **R** [www.r-project.org](http://www.r-project.org)

- software; documentation; RNews.

# From chromosomes to proteins



# Cells

- **Cells**: the fundamental working units of every living organism.
- **Metazoa**: multicellular organisms.  
E.g. humans: trillions of cells.
- **Protozoa**: unicellular organisms.  
E.g. yeast, bacteria.

# Cells

- Each cell contains a complete copy of an organism's **genome**, or blueprint for all cellular structures and activities.
- Cells are of many different types (e.g. blood, skin, nerve cells), but all can be traced back to a single cell, the fertilized egg.

# The genome

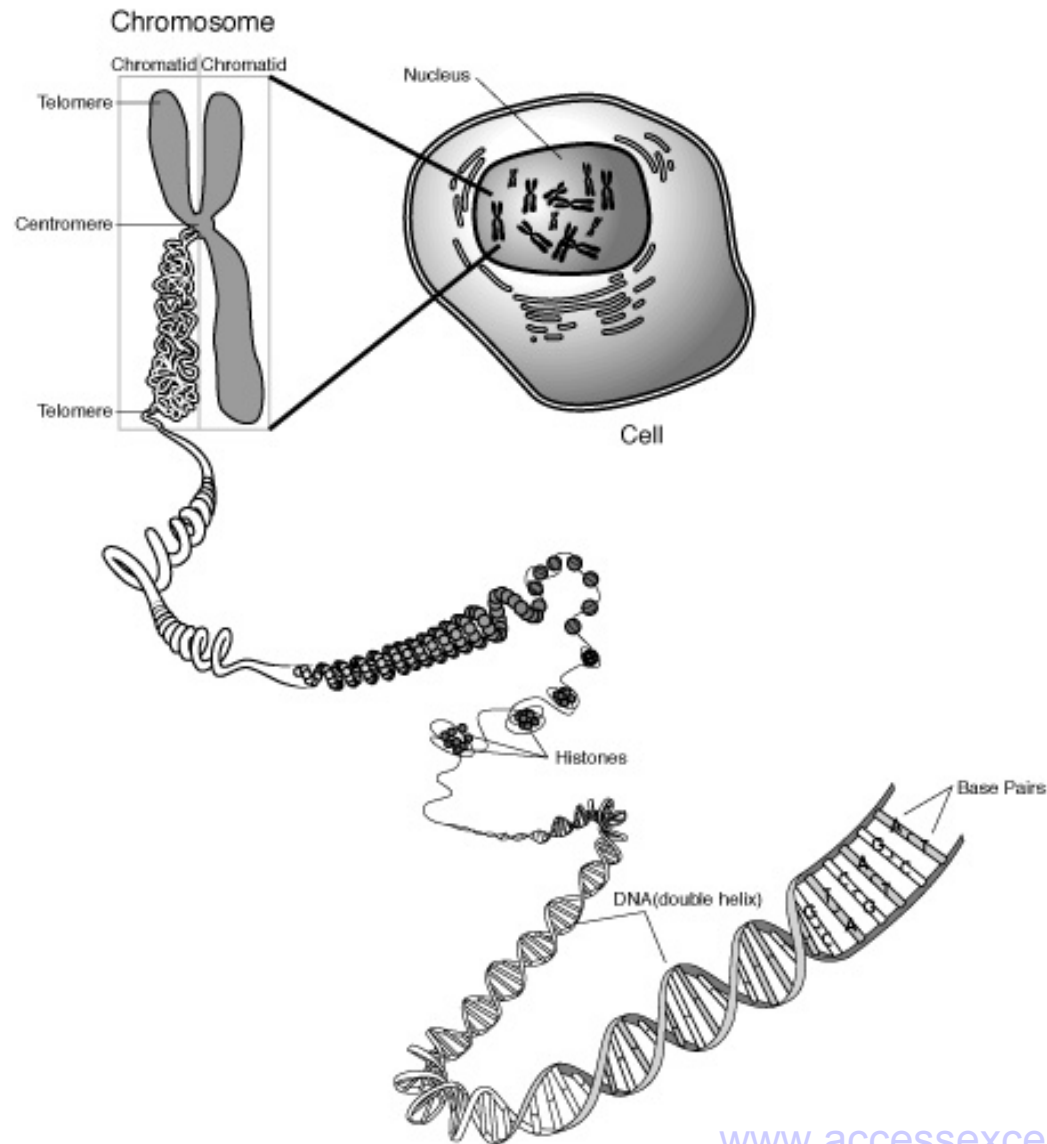
- The human genome is distributed along **23 pairs of chromosomes**
  - 22 autosomal pairs;
  - the sex chromosome pair, **XX** for females and **XY** for males.
- In each pair, one chromosome is paternally inherited, the other maternally inherited (cf. meiosis).



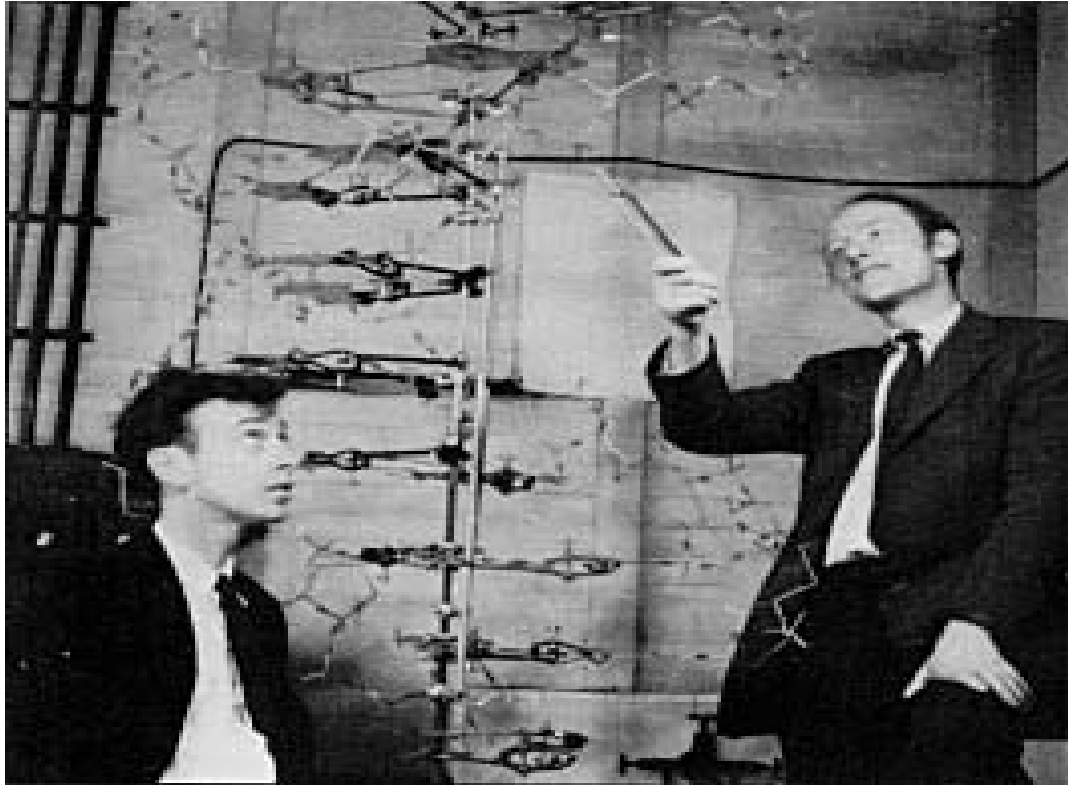
# The genome

- **Chromosomes** are made of compressed and entwined **DNA**.
- A (protein-coding) **gene** is a segment of chromosomal **DNA** that directs the synthesis of a **protein**.

# Chromosomes and DNA



# DNA



*“We wish to suggest a structure for the salt of deoxyribose nucleic acid (D.N.A.). This structure has novel features which are of considerable biological interest.”*

J.D. Watson & F. H. C. Crick. (1953). Molecular structure of Nucleic Acids. *Nature*. **171**: 737-738.

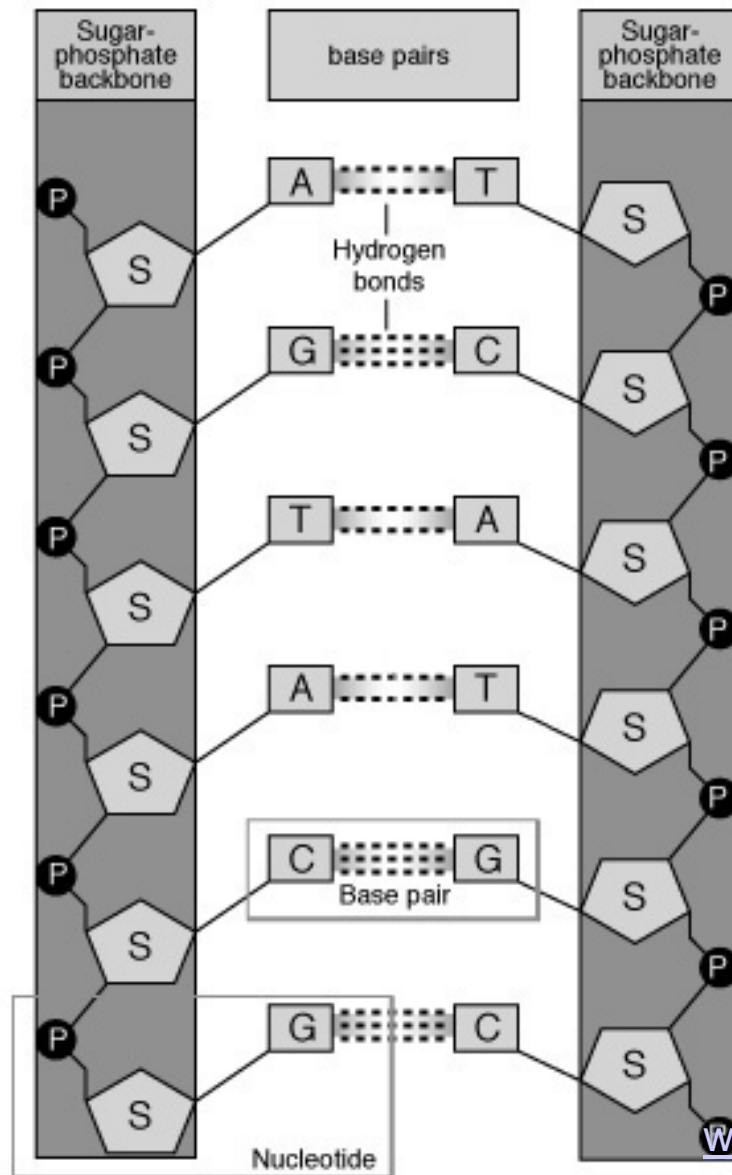
# DNA

- A **deoxyribonucleic acid** or **DNA** molecule is a double-stranded polymer composed of four basic molecular units called nucleotides.
- Each **nucleotide** comprises
  - a phosphate group;
  - a deoxyribose sugar;
  - one of four nitrogen bases:
    - purines: **adenine (A)** and **guanine (G)**,
    - pyrimidines: **cytosine (C)** and **thymine (T)**.

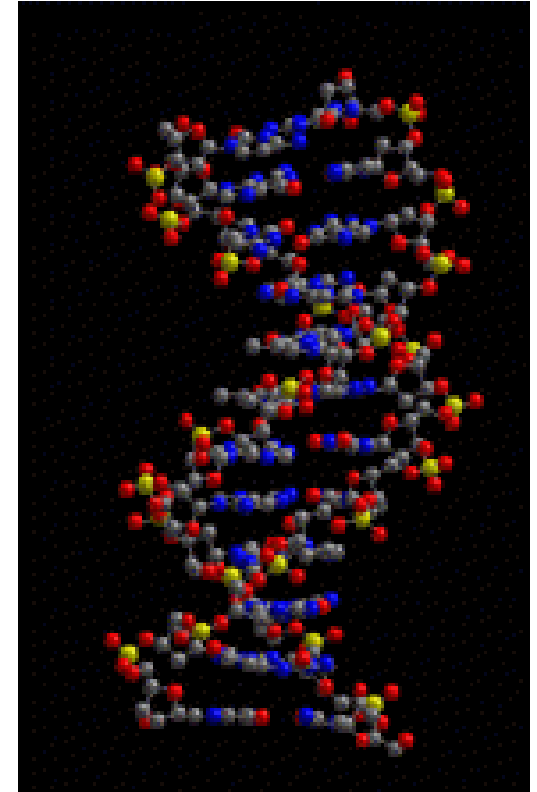
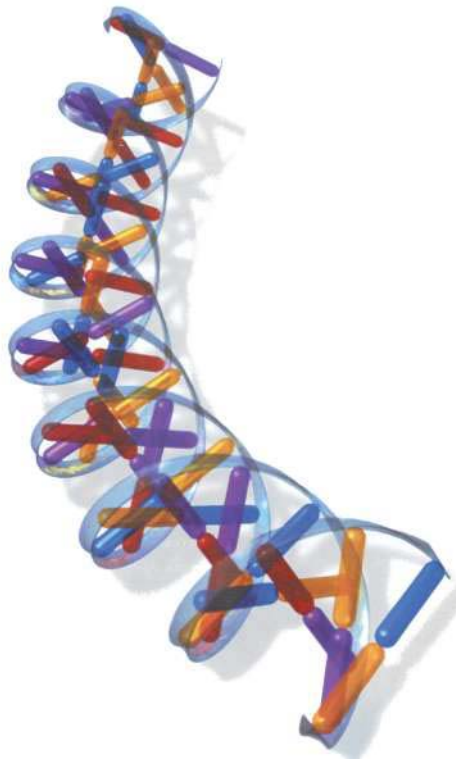
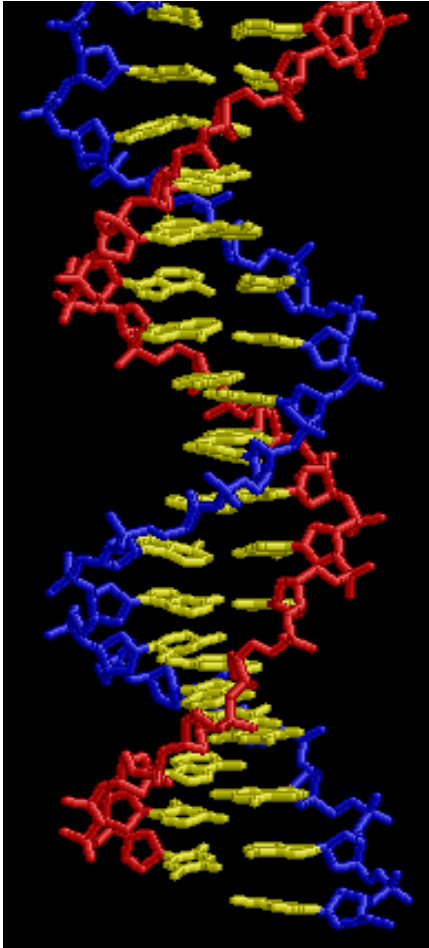
# DNA

- Base-pairing occurs according to the following rule:
  - **C pairs with G,**
  - **A pairs with T.**
- The two chains are held together by hydrogen bonds between nitrogen bases.

# DNA

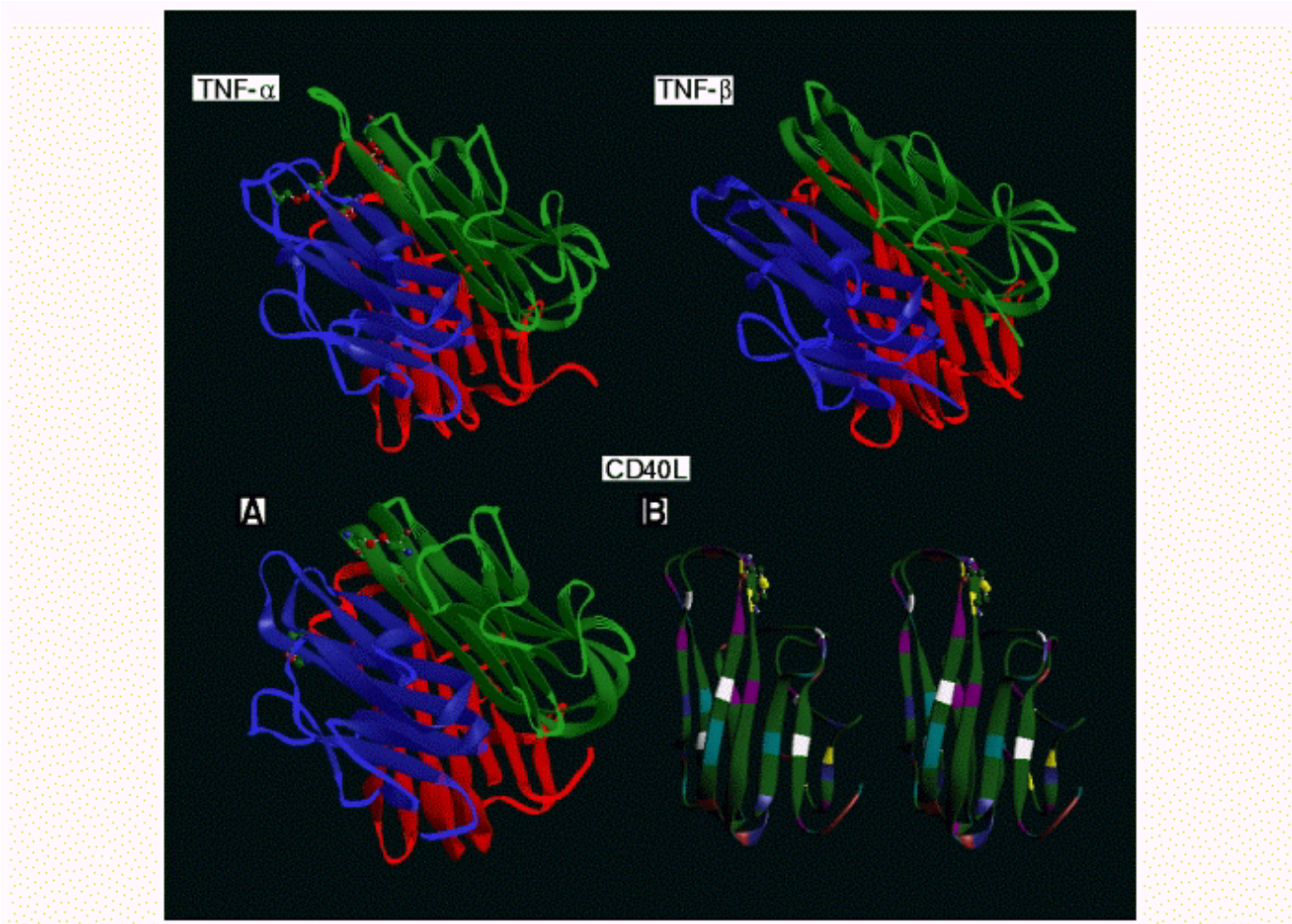


# DNA



[academy.d20.co.edu/kadets/lundberg/dnapic.html](http://academy.d20.co.edu/kadets/lundberg/dnapic.html)

# Proteins

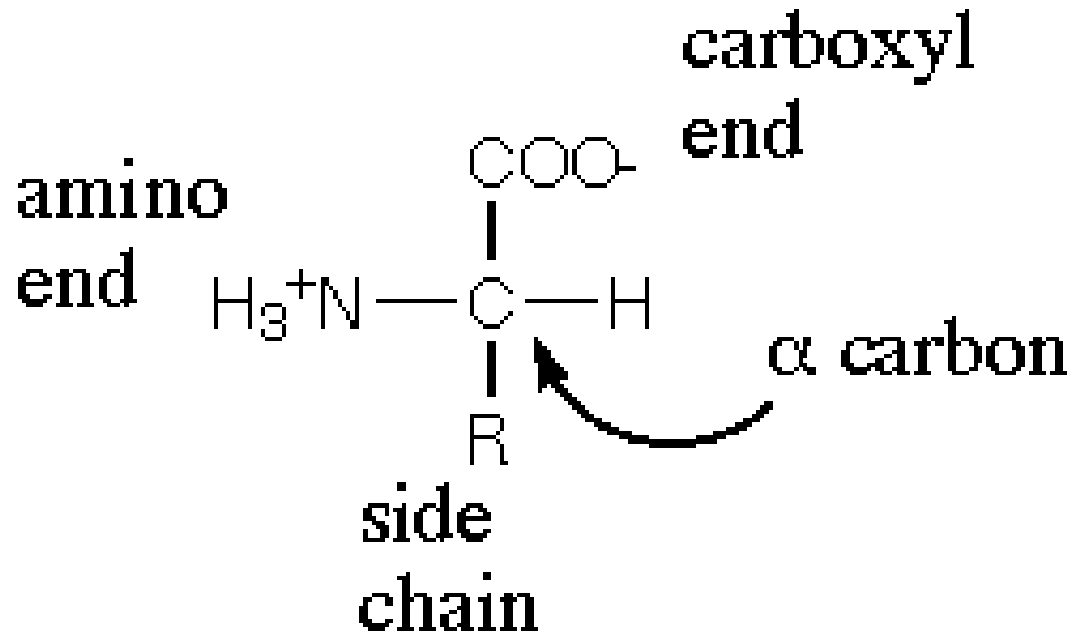




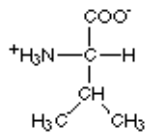
# Proteins

- **Proteins**: large molecules composed of one or more chains of amino acids, **polypeptides**.
- **Amino acids**: class of 20 different organic compounds containing a basic amino group ( $-\text{NH}_2$ ) and an acidic carboxyl group ( $-\text{COOH}$ ).
- The order of the amino acids is determined by the **base sequence** of nucleotides in the **gene** coding for the protein.
- E.g. hormones, enzymes, antibodies.

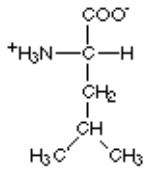
# Amino acids



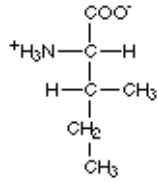
Amino acids with hydrophobic side groups



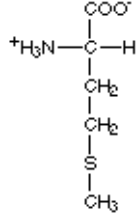
Valine  
(val)



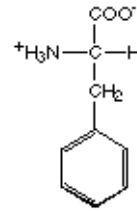
Leucine  
(leu)



Isoleucine  
(ile)



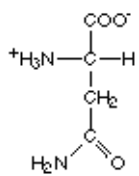
Methionine  
(met)



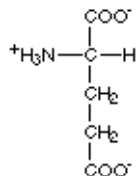
Phenylalanine  
(phe)

# Amino acids

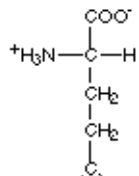
Amino acids with hydrophilic side groups



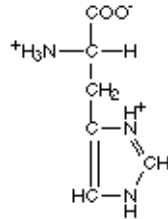
Asparagine  
(asn)



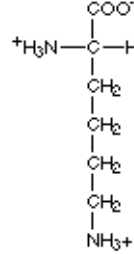
Glutamic acid  
(glu)



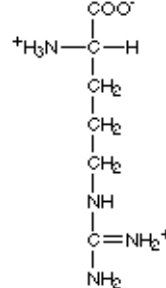
Glutamine  
(gln)



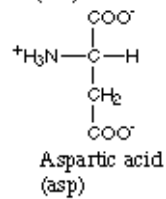
Histidine  
(his)



Lysine  
(lys)

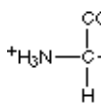


Arginine  
(arg)

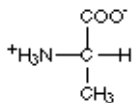


Aspartic acid  
(asp)

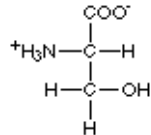
Amino acids that are in between



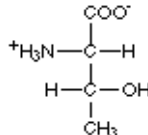
Glycine  
(gly)



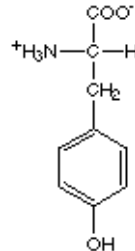
Alanine  
(ala)



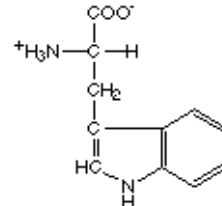
Serine  
(ser)



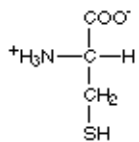
Threonine  
(thr)



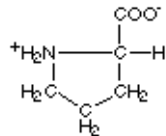
Tyrosine  
(tyr)



Tryptophan  
(trp)

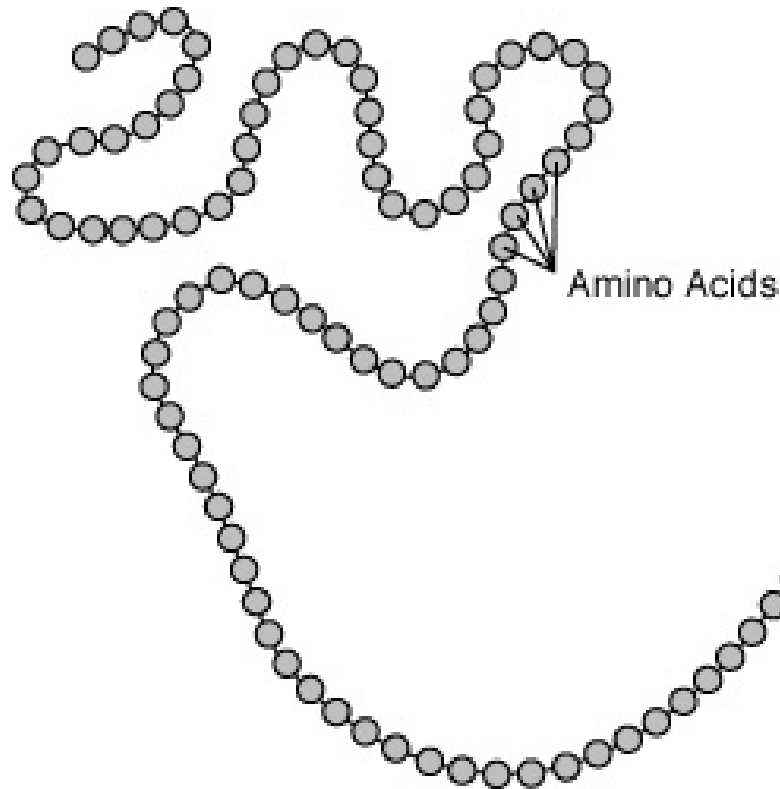


Cysteine  
(cys)

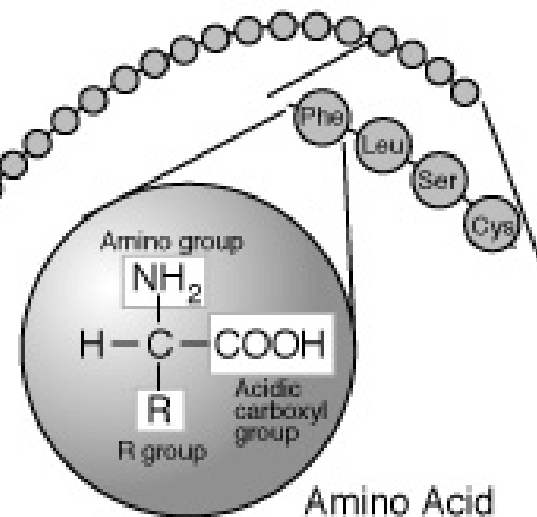


Proline  
(pro)

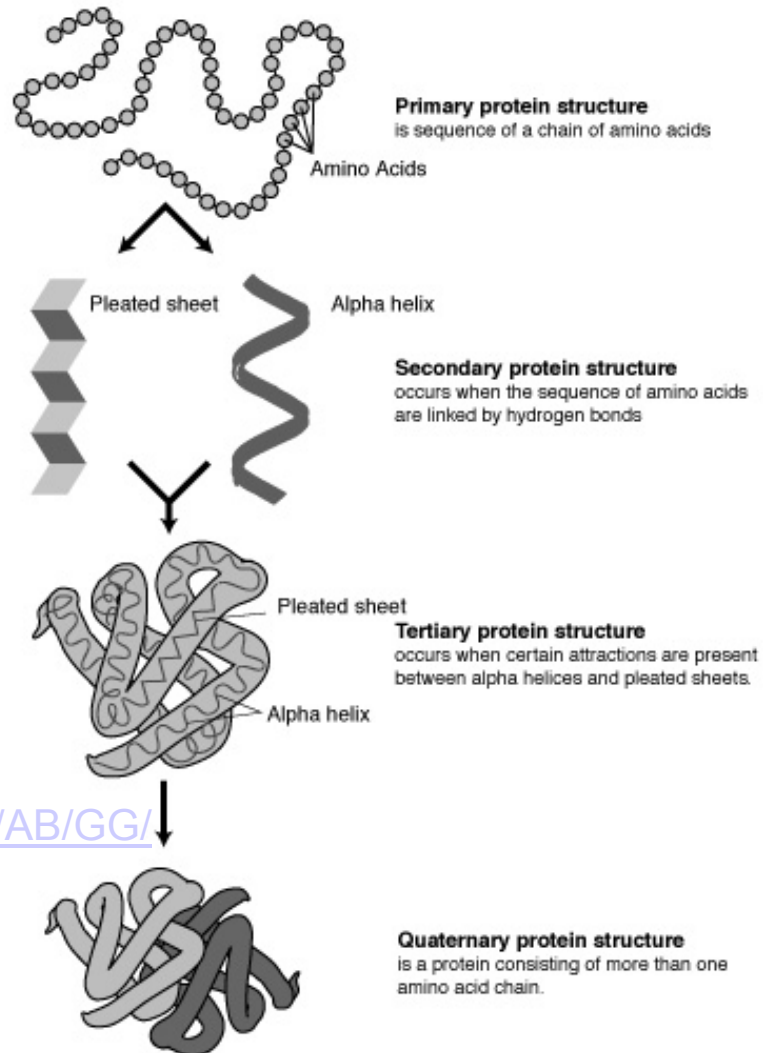
# Proteins



Primary protein structure  
is sequence of a chain of amino acids



# Proteins



# Cell types

### CELL TYPES

There are over 200 types of cells in the human body. These are assembled into a variety of types of tissue such as:

- epithelia
- connective tissue
- muscle
- nerveous tissue

Most tissues contain a mixture of cell types.

### EPITHELIA

Epithelial cells form coherent cell sheets called epithelia, which line the inner and outer surfaces of the body. There are many specialized types of epithelia.

**Absorptive cells** have numerous hairlike projections called microvilli on their free surface to increase the area for absorption.

**Ciliated cells** have cilia on their free surface that beat in synchrony to move substances such as mucus over the epithelial sheet.

**Secretory cells** are found in most epithelial layers. These specialized cells secrete substances onto the surface of the cell sheet.

Adjacent epithelial cells are bound together by cell junctions that give the sheet mechanical strength and also make it impermeable to small molecules. The sheet rests on a basal lamina.

### CONNECTIVE TISSUE

The spaces between organs and tissues in the body are filled with connective tissue made principally of a network of tough protein fibers embedded in a polysaccharide gel. This **extracellular matrix** is secreted mainly by **fibroblasts**.

Two main types of extracellular protein fibers are **collagen** and **actin**.

**Bone** is made by cells called **osteoblasts**. These secrete an extracellular matrix in which crystals of calcium phosphate are later deposited.

Cellular cells are implanted in the extracellular matrix.

Two main types of extracellular protein fibers are **collagen** and **actin**.

Networks linked together by cell processes.

**Adipose cells (fat cells)** among the largest cells in the body, are responsible for the production and storage of fat. The nucleus and cytoplasm are squeezed by a large lipid droplet.

### NERVOUS TISSUE

Nerve cells, or **neurons**, are specialized for communication. The brain and spinal cord, for example, are composed of a network of neurons among supporting **glial cells**.

The axon conducts electrical signals away from the cell body. These signals are produced by a flux of ions across the nerve cell plasma membrane.

A **synapse** is where a neuron forms a specialized junction with another neuron (or with a muscle cell). At synapses, signals pass from one neuron to another (or from a neuron to a muscle cell).

Specialized glial cells wrap around an axon to form a multilayered membrane sheath.

### SECRETORY EPITHELIAL CELLS

Secretory epithelial cells are often collected together to form a gland that specializes in the secretion of a particular substance. As illustrated, **exocrine glands** secrete their products (such as tears, mucus, and gastric juices) into ducts. **Endocrine glands** secrete hormones into the blood.

### MUSCLE

Muscle cells produce mechanical force by their contraction. In vertebrates there are three main types:

**Skeletal muscle**—this moves joints by its strong and rapid contraction. Each muscle is a bundle of muscle fibers, each of which is an enormous multinucleated cell.

**Smooth muscle**—present in digestive tract, bladder, arteries, and veins. It is composed of thin elongated cells (not striated), each of which has one nucleus.

**Cardiac muscle**—intermediate in character between skeletal and smooth muscle. It produces the heart beat. Adjacent cells are linked by electrically conducting junctions that cause the cells to contract in synchrony.

### BLOOD

**Erythrocytes (red blood cells)** are very small cells, and in mammals have no nucleus or internal membranes. When mature they are stuffed full of the oxygen-binding protein hemoglobin.

**Leucocytes (white blood cells)** protect against infections. Blood contains about one leucocyte for every 100 red blood cells. Although leucocytes travel in the circulation, they can pass through the walls of blood vessels to do their work in the surrounding tissues. There are several different kinds, including:

- Lymphocytes**—responsible for immune responses such as the production of antibodies.
- Macrophages** and **neutrophils**—move to sites of infection, where they ingest bacteria and debris.

### SENSORY CELLS

Among the most strikingly specialized cells in the vertebrate body are those that detect external stimuli. **Hair cells** of the inner ear are primary detectors of sound. They are modified epithelial cells that carry special microvilli (stereocilia) on their surface. The movement of these in response to sound vibrations causes an electrical signal to pass to the brain.

**Rod cells** in the retina of the eye are specialized to respond to light. The photosensitive region contains many membranous discs (ret) in whose membranes the light sensitive pigment rhodopsin is embedded. Light evokes an electrical signal (green arrow), which is transmitted to nerve cells in the eye, which relay the signal to the brain.

### GERM CELLS

Both sperm and egg are haploid, that is, they carry only one set of chromosomes. A sperm from the male fuses with an egg from the female, which then forms a new diploid organism by successive cell divisions.

# Differential expression

- Each cell contains a complete copy of the organism's genome.
- Cells are of many different types and states  
E.g. blood, nerve, and skin cells, dividing cells, cancerous cells, etc.
- What makes the cells different?
- **Differential gene expression**, i.e., **when**, **where**, and **how much** each gene is expressed.
- On average, 40% of our genes are expressed at any given time.

# Central dogma

The **expression** of the genetic information stored in the DNA molecule occurs in two stages:

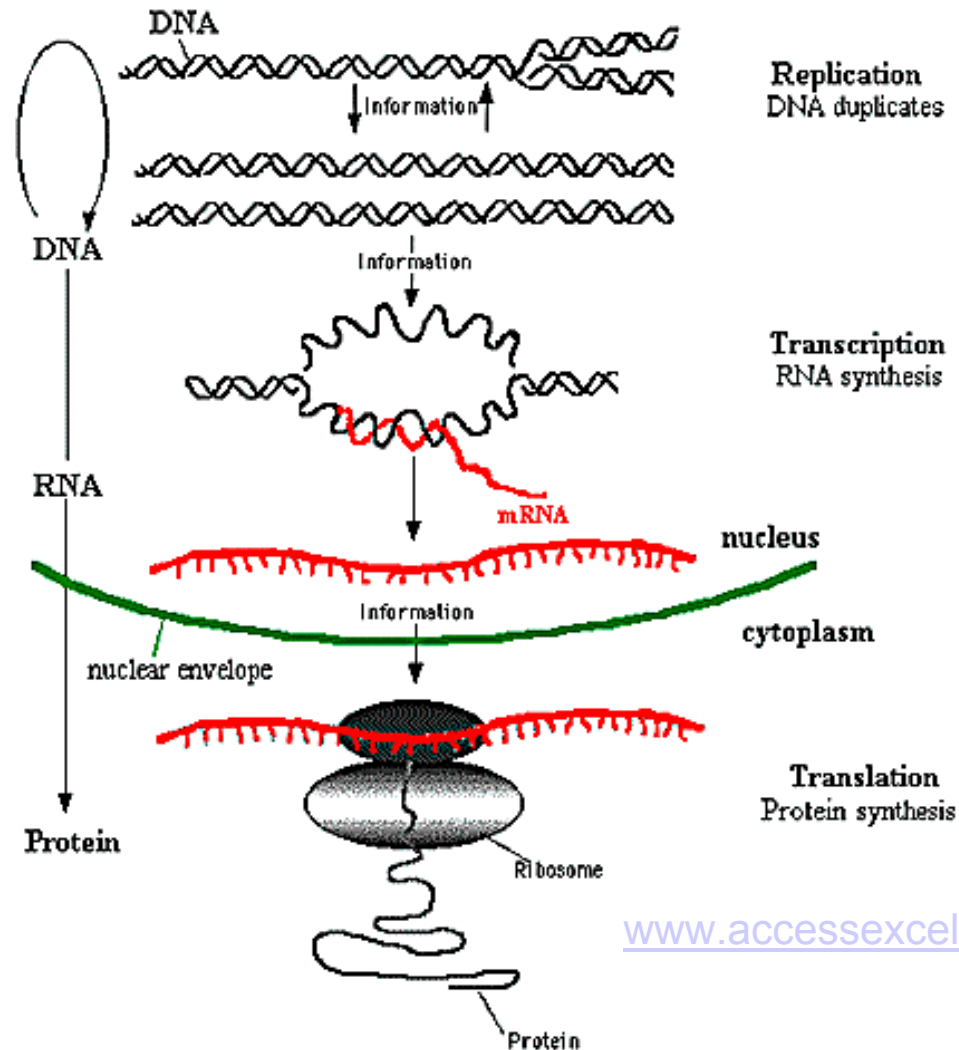
- (i) **transcription**, during which DNA is transcribed into mRNA;
- (ii) **translation**, during which mRNA is translated to produce a protein.

**DNA → mRNA → protein**

Other important aspects of regulation: methylation, alternative splicing, etc.



# Central dogma



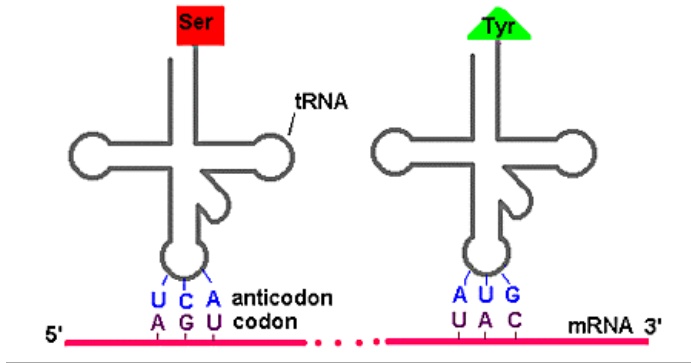
# RNA

- A **ribonucleic acid** or **RNA** molecule is a nucleic acid similar to DNA, but
  - single-stranded;
  - ribose sugar rather than deoxyribose sugar;
  - **uracil (U)** replaces thymine (T) as one of the bases.
- RNA plays an important role in protein synthesis and other chemical activities of the cell.
- Several classes of RNA molecules, including **messenger RNA (mRNA)**, transfer RNA (tRNA), ribosomal RNA (rRNA), and other small RNAs.

# The genetic code

- DNA: sequence of **four** different nucleotides.
- Proteins: sequence of **twenty** different amino acids.
- The correspondence between DNA's four-letter alphabet and a protein's twenty-letter alphabet is specified by the **genetic code**, which relates nucleotide triplets or **codons** to **amino acids**.

# The genetic code



		2nd base in codon					
		U	C	A	G		
1st base in codon	U	Phe Phe Leu Leu	Ser Ser Ser Ser	Tyr Tyr STOP STOP	Cys Cys STOP Trp	U C A G	3rd base in codon
	C	Leu Leu Leu Leu	Pro Pro Pro Pro	His His Gln Gln	Arg Arg Arg Arg	U C A G	
	A	Ile Ile Ile Met	Thr Thr Thr Thr	Asn Asn Lys Lys	Ser Ser Arg Arg	U C A G	
	G	Val Val Val Val	Ala Ala Ala Ala	Asp Asp Glu Glu	Gly Gly Gly Gly	U C A G	

## The Genetic Code

[www.accessexcellence.com/AB/GG/](http://www.accessexcellence.com/AB/GG/)

**Start codon:** initiation of translation (AUG, Met).

**Stop codons:** termination of translation.

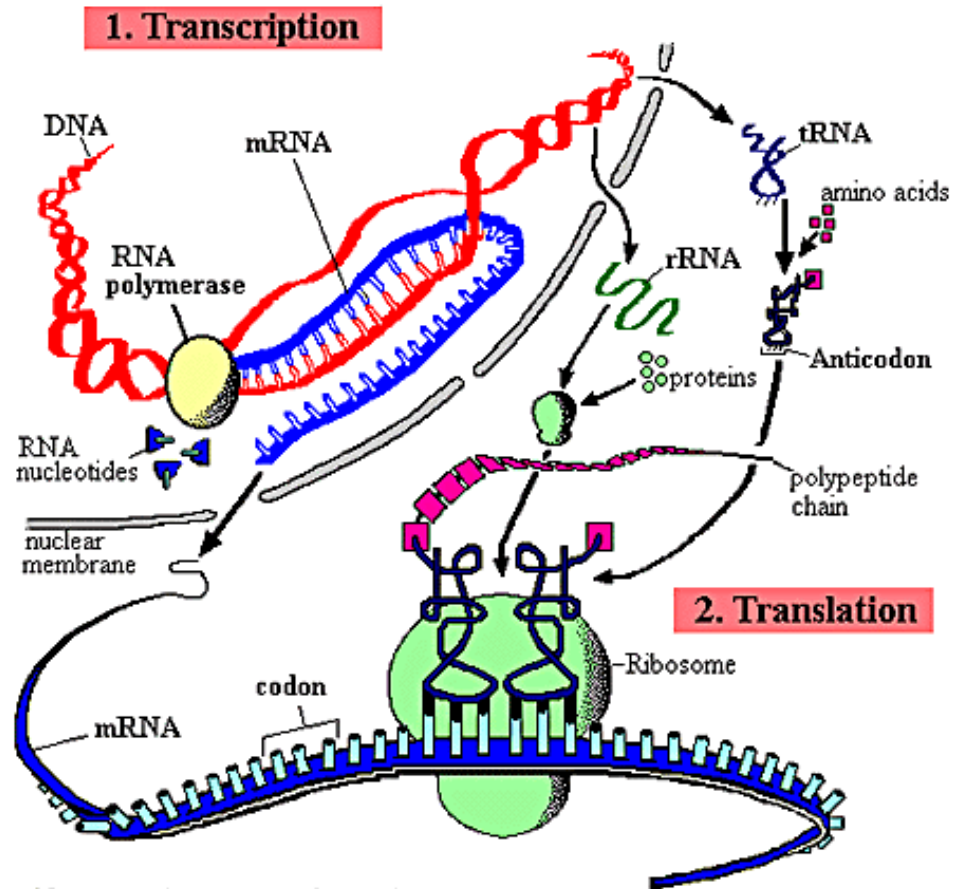
Mapping between codons and amino acids is **many-to-one**:

64 codons but only 20 a.a..

Third base in codon is often redundant,

e.g., stop codons.

# Protein synthesis



Protein synthesis

# Functional genomics

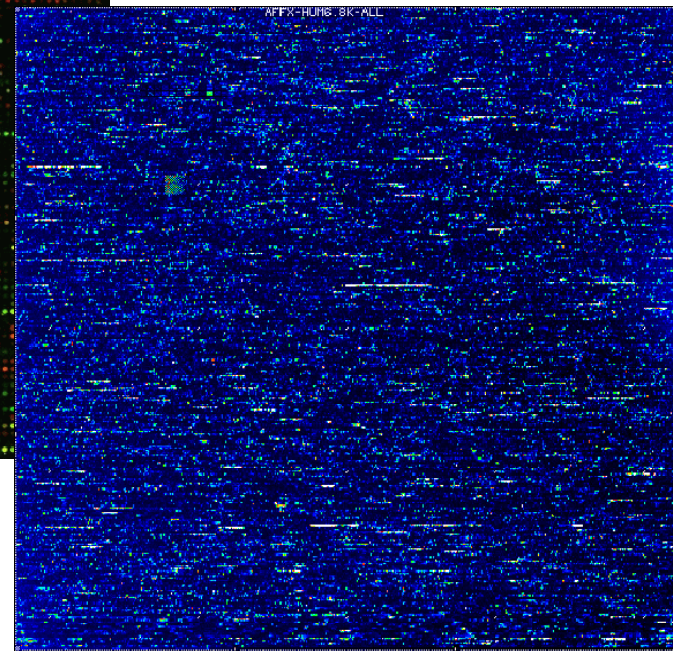
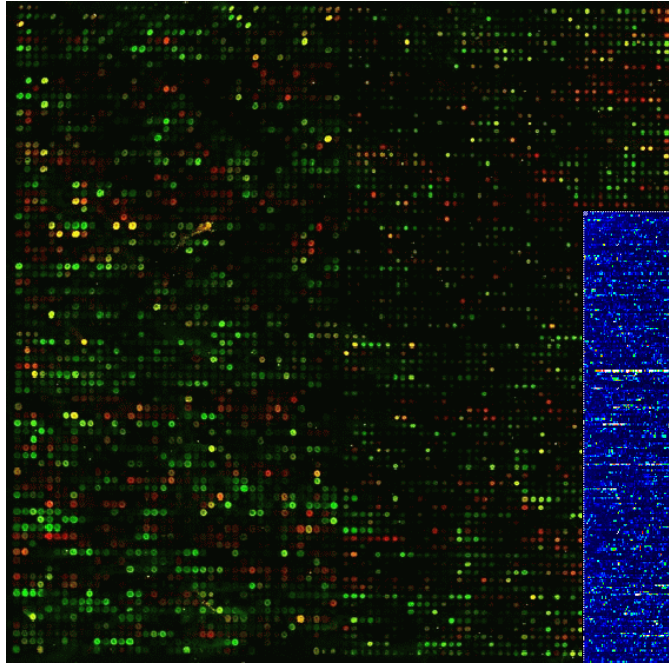
- The various **genome projects** have yielded the complete DNA sequences of many organisms.

E.g. human, mouse, yeast, fruitfly, etc.

Human: 3 billion base-pairs, 30-40 thousand genes.

- Challenge: **go from sequence to function**, i.e., define the role of each gene and understand how the genome functions as a whole.

# DNA microarrays



# DNA microarrays

- Basic principles
- Spotted DNA microarrays
- Affymetrix oligonucleotide chips



# DNA microarrays

- DNA microarray experiments are **high-throughput biological assays** for measuring the **abundance of DNA or RNA sequences** in different types of cell samples for thousands of sequences simultaneously.
- DNA microarray experiments exploit the availability of sequence data to get information on **gene expression** in different types of cells.

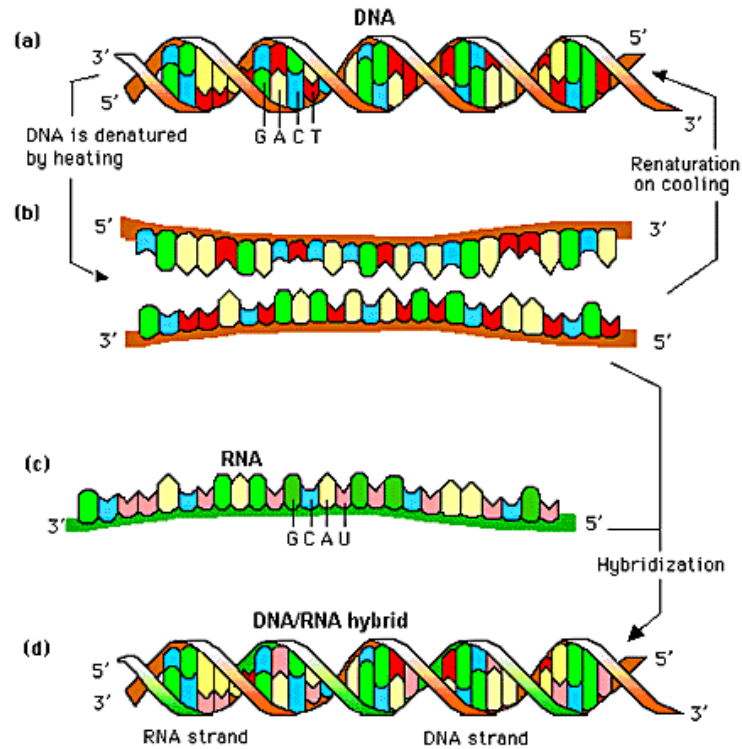
# DNA microarrays

- DNA microarrays rely on the hybridization properties of nucleic acids to monitor DNA or RNA abundance on a genomic scale in different types of cells.
- The ancestor of cDNA microarrays: the Northern blot.

# Hybridization

- **Hybridization** refers to the **annealing** of two nucleic acid strands following the base-pairing rules.
- Nucleic acid strands in a duplex can be separated, or **denatured**, by heating to destroy the hydrogen bonds.

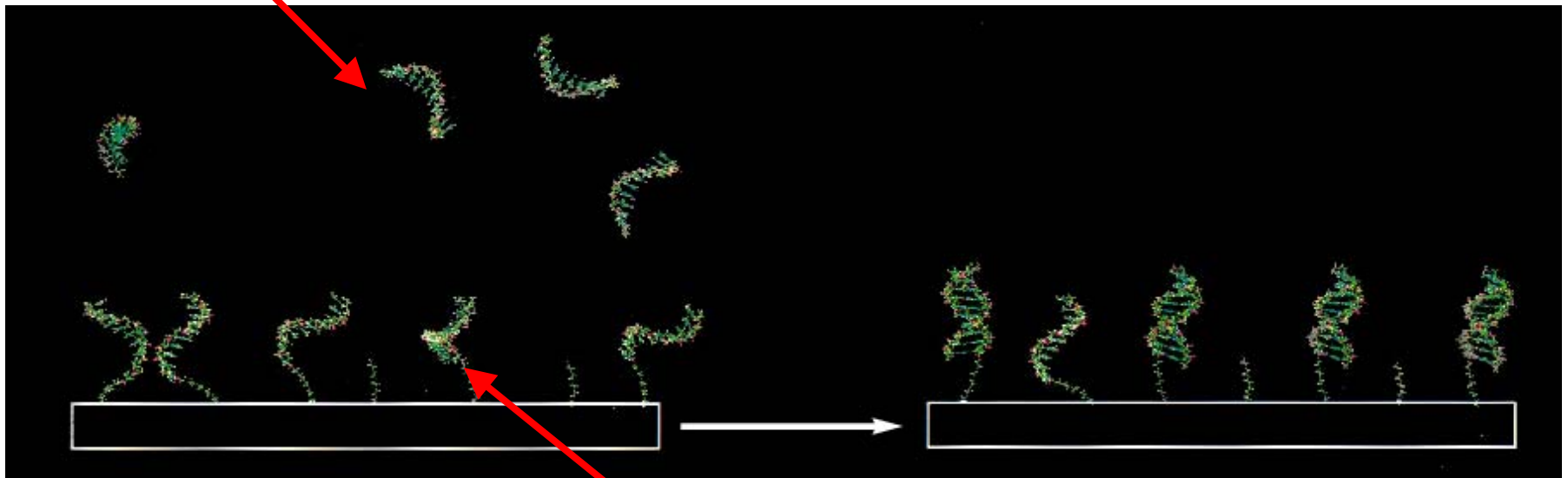
# Hybridization



## Nucleic Acid Hybridization

# DNA microarrays

Target



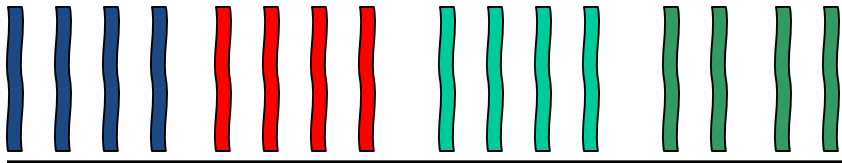
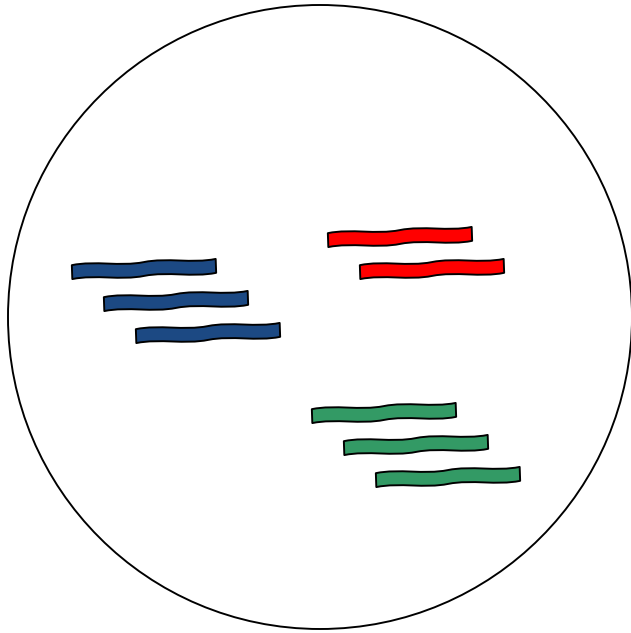
Probe

# DNA microarrays

- The extent of hybridization of DNA sequences in the **target** sample to **probe** sequences on the array reflects the abundance of the probe sequences in the target sample.
- To quantify the extent of hybridization, the target sequences are **fluorescently labeled**.
- The hybridized arrays are **scanned** and the measured fluorescence intensities are used as measures of DNA/RNA abundance.

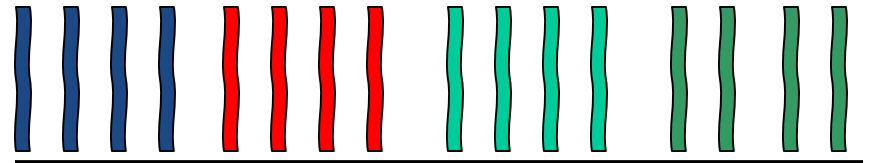
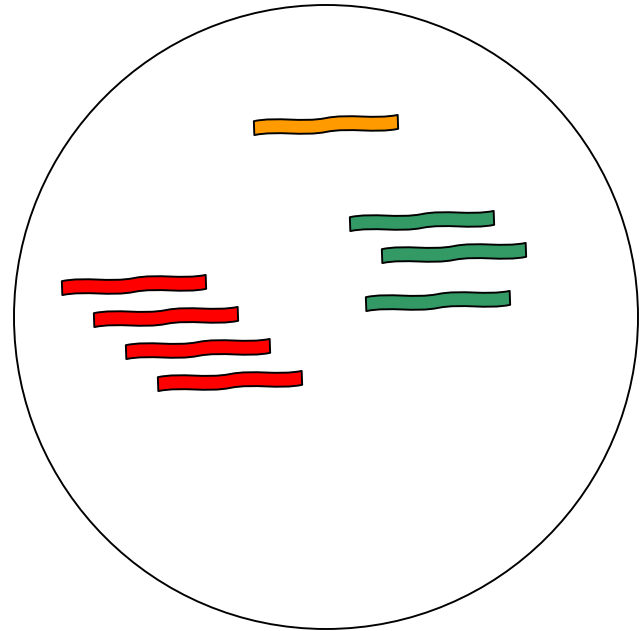
# Before labeling

Sample 1



Array 1

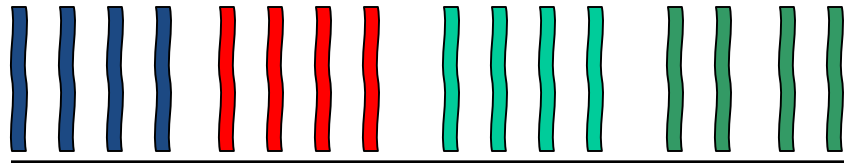
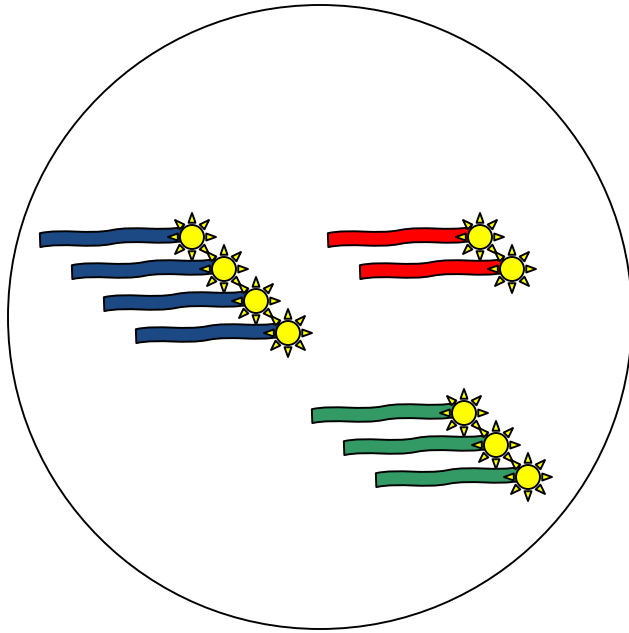
Sample 2



Array 2

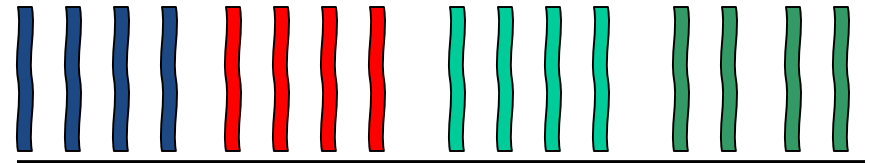
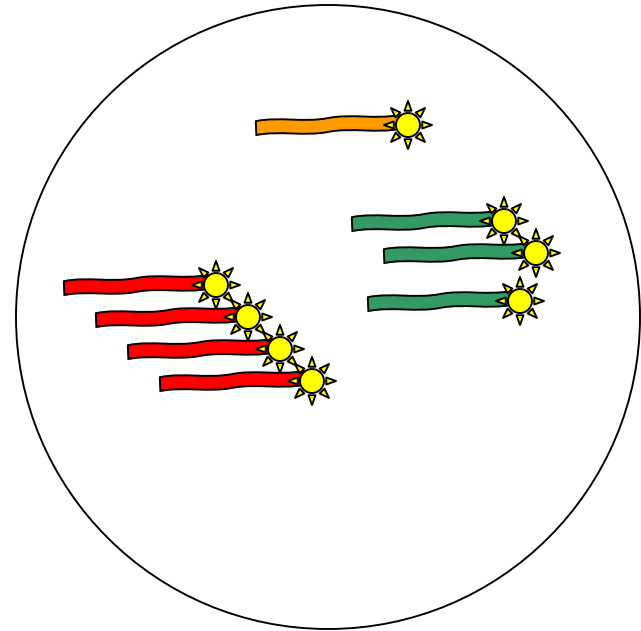
# Before hybridization

Sample 1



Array 1

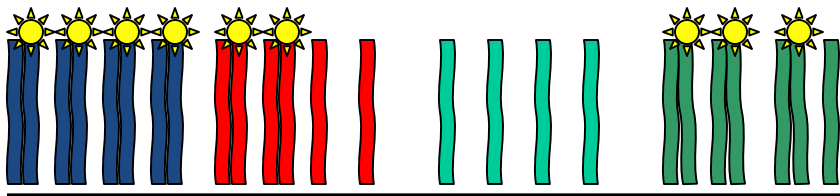
Sample 2



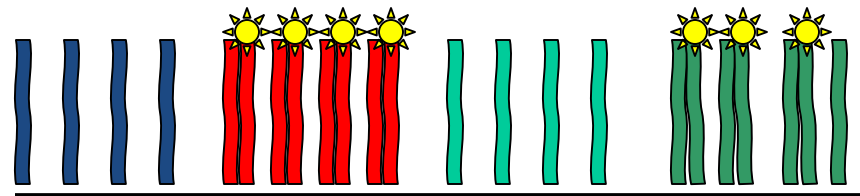
Array 2



# After hybridization

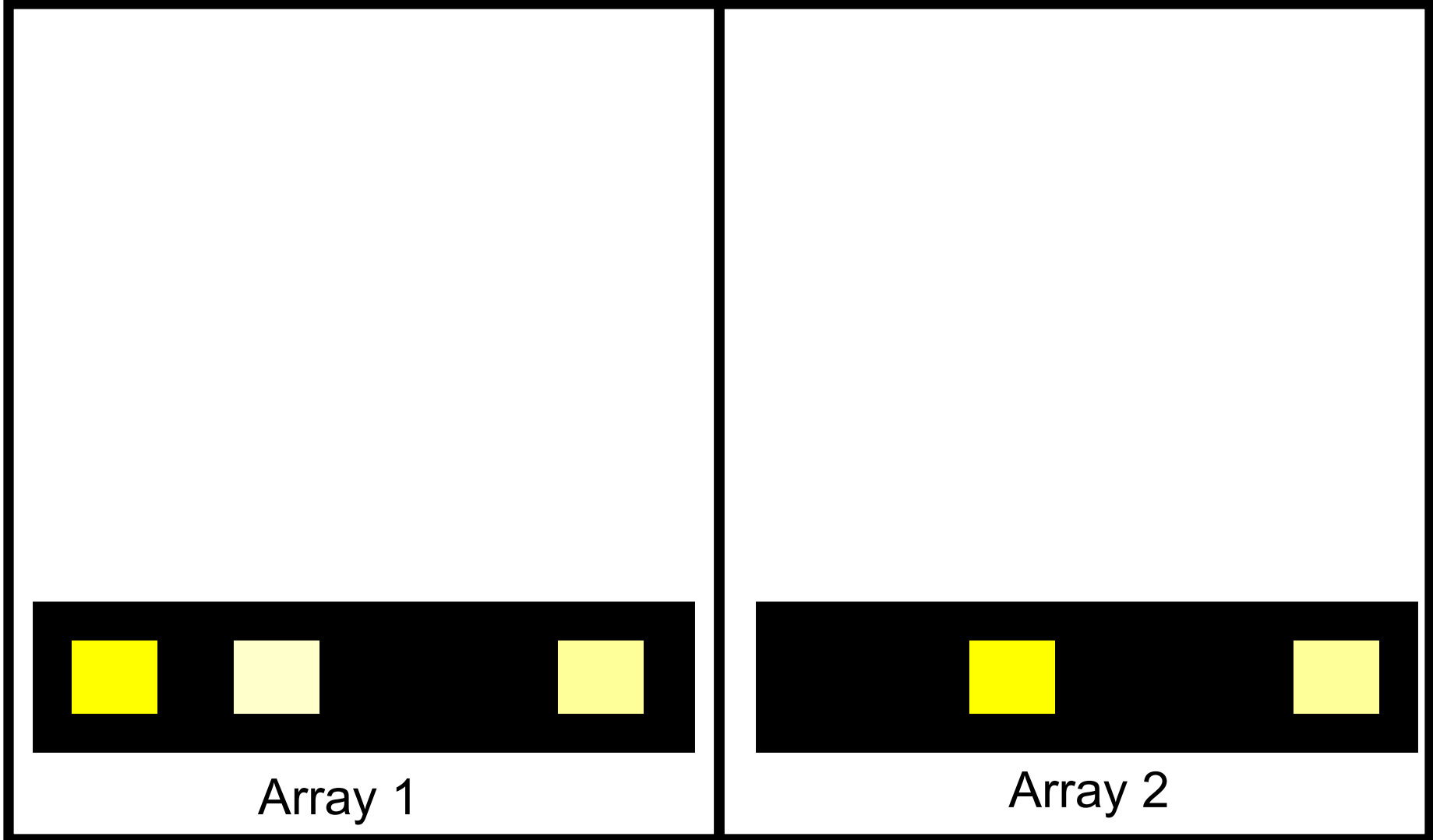


Array 1

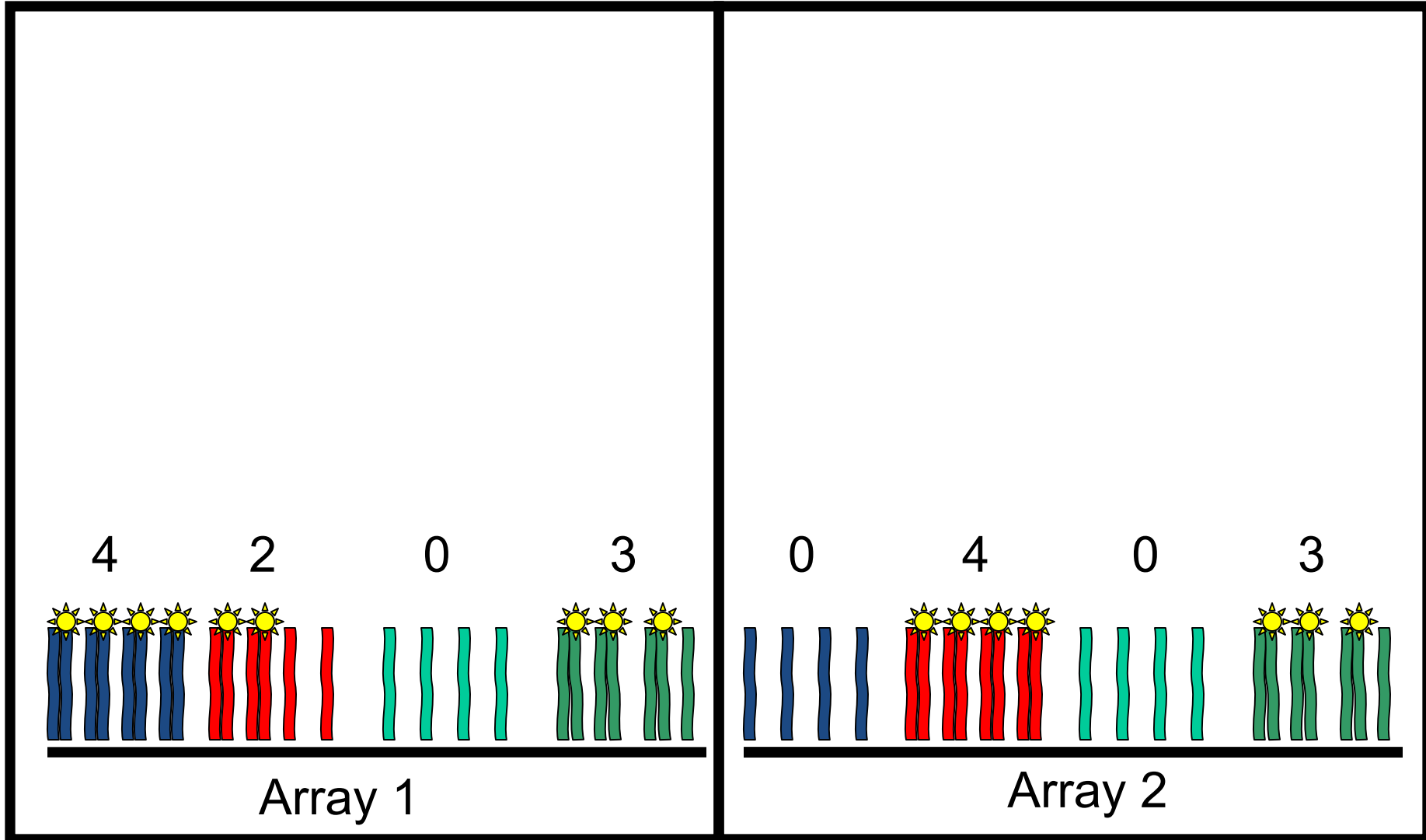


Array 2

# Scanner image



# Image quantification



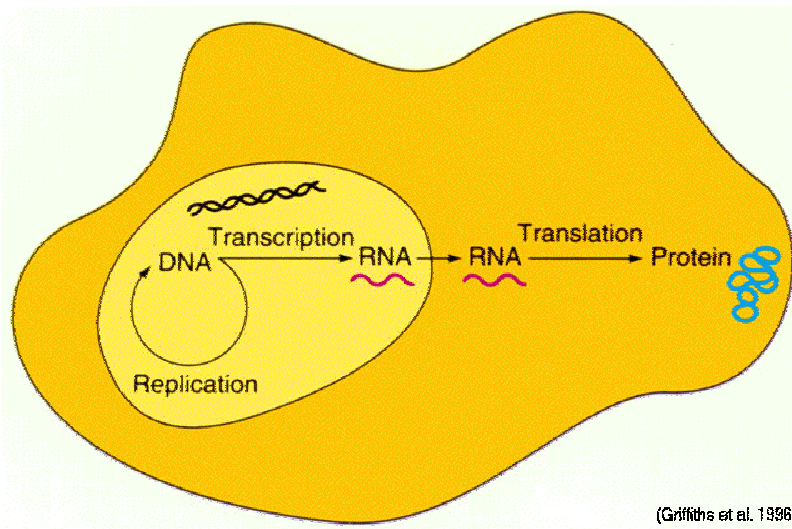
# Gene expression assays

- Spotted cDNA arrays (Brown/Botstein);
- Short oligonucleotide arrays (Affymetrix);
- Long oligonucleotide arrays (Agilent Inkjet);
- Fibre optic arrays (Illumina);
- Serial analysis of gene expression (SAGE);
- ...

# Applications of microarrays

- Measuring transcript abundance (cDNA arrays);
- Genotyping;
- Estimating DNA copy number (CGH);
- Determining identity by descent (GMS);
- Measuring mRNA decay rates;
- Identifying protein binding sites;
- Determining sub-cellular localization of gene products;
- ...

# Transcriptome



- mRNA or transcript levels sensitively reflect the state of a cell.
- Measuring protein levels (translation) would be more direct but more difficult.

# Transcriptome

- The **transcriptome** reflects
  - Tissue source: cell type, organ.
  - Tissue activity and state:
    - Stage of development, growth, death.
    - Cell cycle.
    - Disease vs. healthy.
    - Response to therapy, stress.

# Applications of microarrays

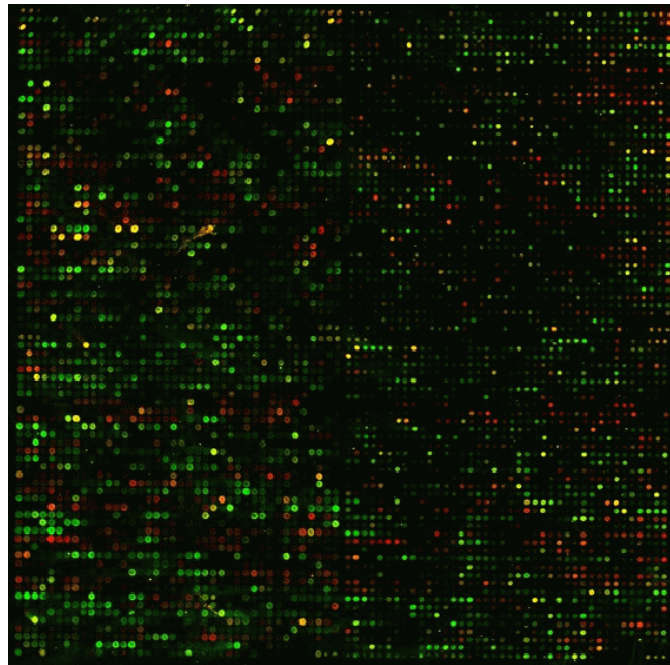
- **Cancer research:** Molecular characterization of tumors on a genomic scale
  - more reliable diagnosis and effective treatment of cancer.
- **Immunology:** Study of host genomic responses to bacterial infections.
- ...



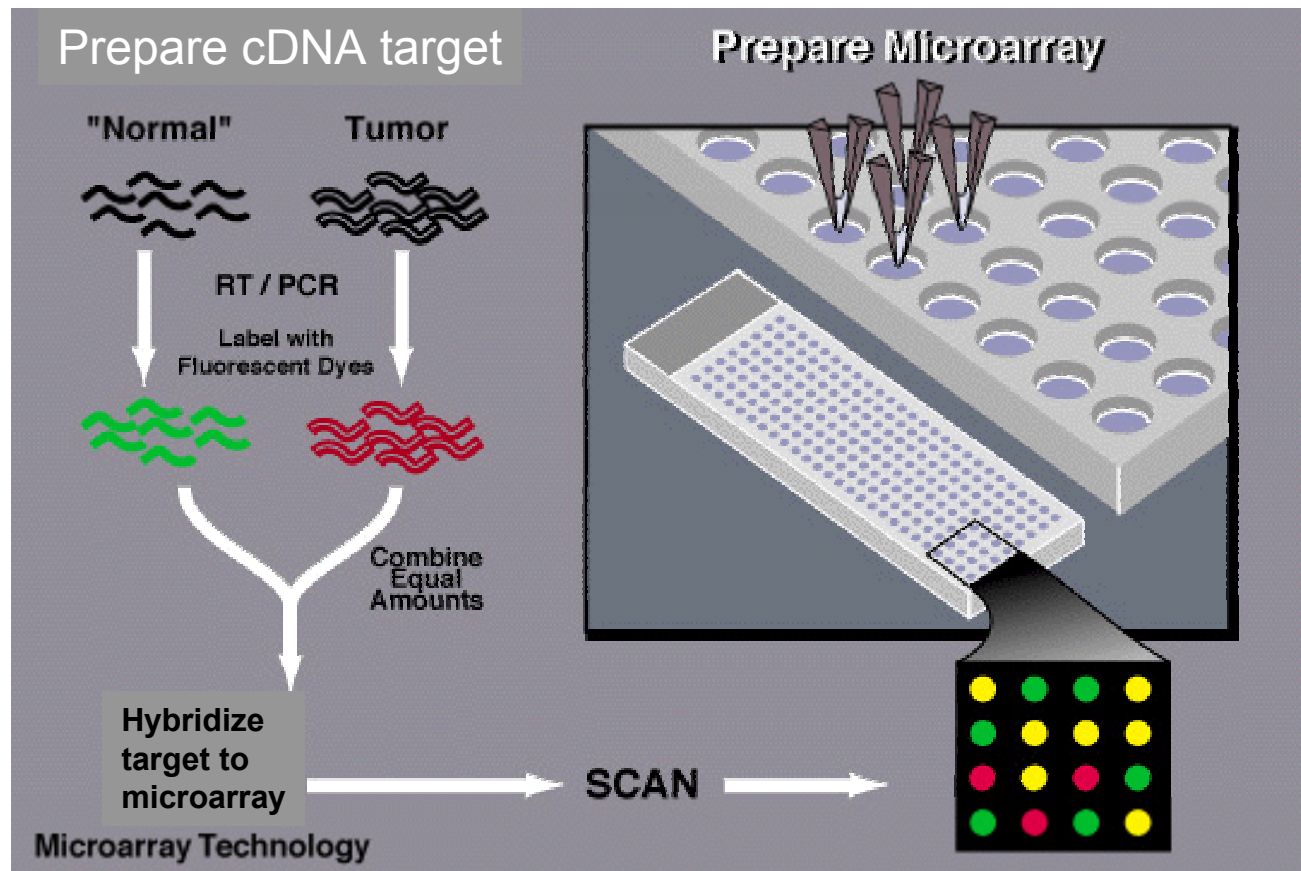
# Applications of microarrays

- Compare mRNA (transcript) levels in different types of cells, i.e., vary
  - Tissue: liver vs. brain;
  - Treatment: drugs A, B, and C;
  - State: tumor vs. non-tumor, development;
  - Organism: different yeast strains;
  - Timepoint;
  - etc.

# Spotted DNA microarrays



# Spotted DNA microarrays



# Spotted DNA microarrays

- The **relative abundance** of a spotted DNA sequence in two DNA or RNA samples may be assessed by monitoring the **differential hybridization** of these two samples to the sequence on the array.
- **Probes**: DNA sequences spotted on the array, immobile substrate.
- **Targets**: Nucleic acid samples hybridized to the array, mobile substrate.

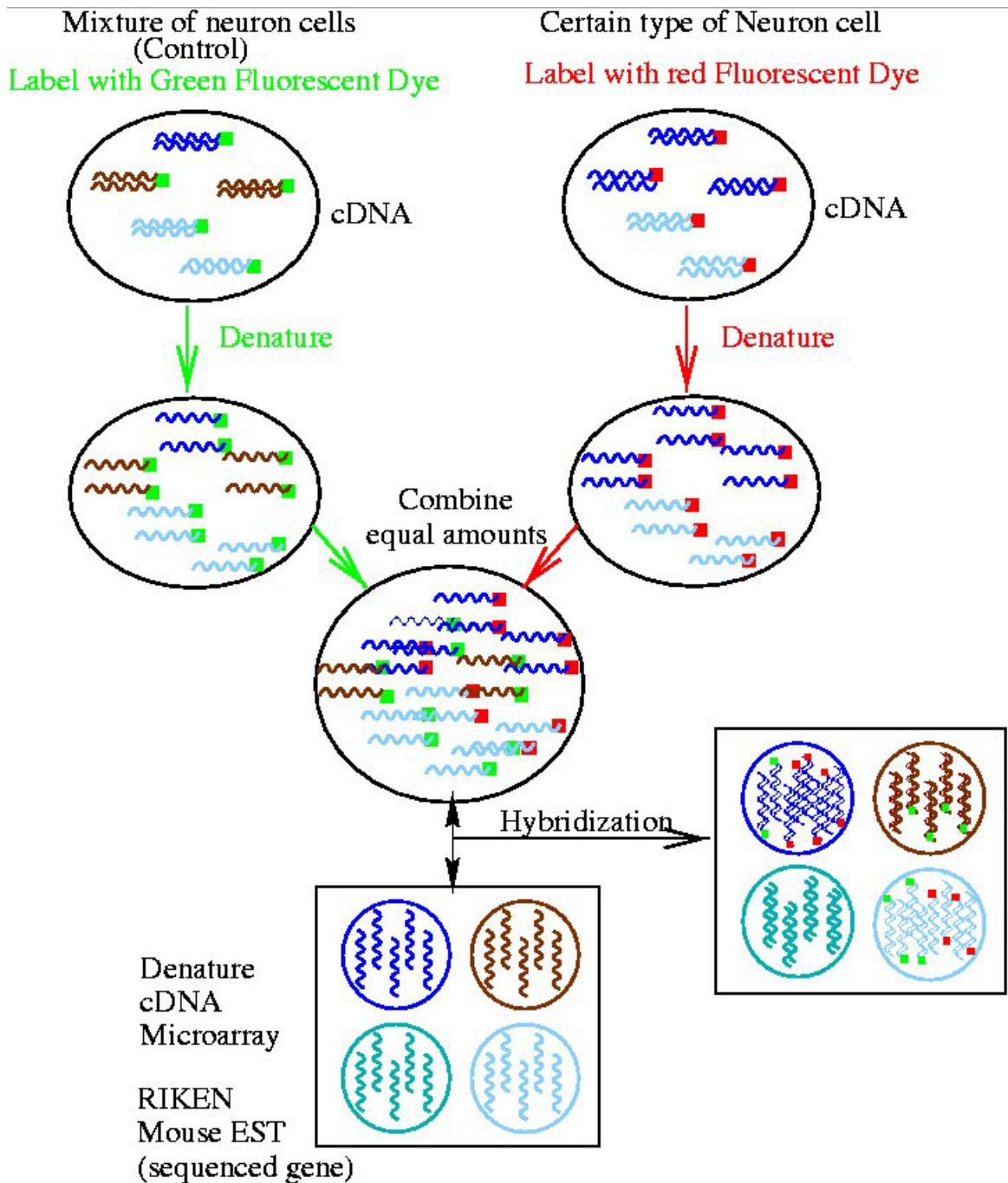
# Spotted DNA microarrays

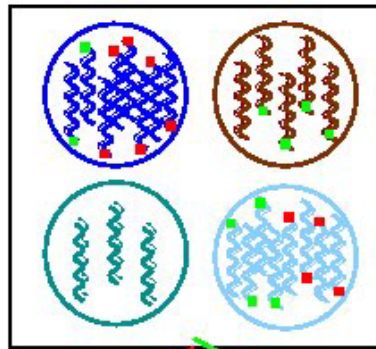
- The **ratio** of the red and green fluorescence intensities for each spot is indicative of the relative abundance of the corresponding DNA probe in the two nucleic acid target samples.

# Spotted DNA microarrays

$$M = \log_2 R/G = \log_2 R - \log_2 G$$

- **M < 0**, gene is over-expressed in green-labeled sample compared to red-labeled sample.
- **M = 0**, gene is equally expressed in both samples.
- **M > 0**, gene is over-expressed in red-labeled sample compared to green-labeled sample.





Scan for Red  
Wavelength

Scan for Green  
Wavelength

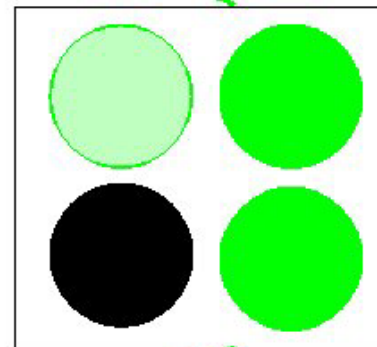
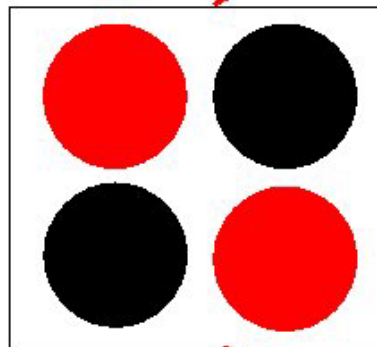
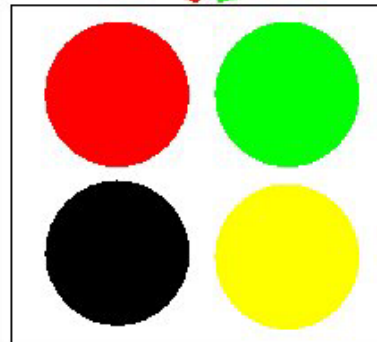


Image Programs  
ScanAlyze





# The process

## *Building the microarray:*

MASSIVE PCR



PCR PURIFICATION  
AND PREPARATION



PREPARING  
SLIDES



PRINTING



## *RNA preparation:*

CELL CULTURE  
AND HARVEST



RNA ISOLATION



cDNA PRODUCTION



## *Hybing the array:*

POST PROCESSING



ARRAY HYBRIDIZATION  
AND SCANNING



TARGET LABELING



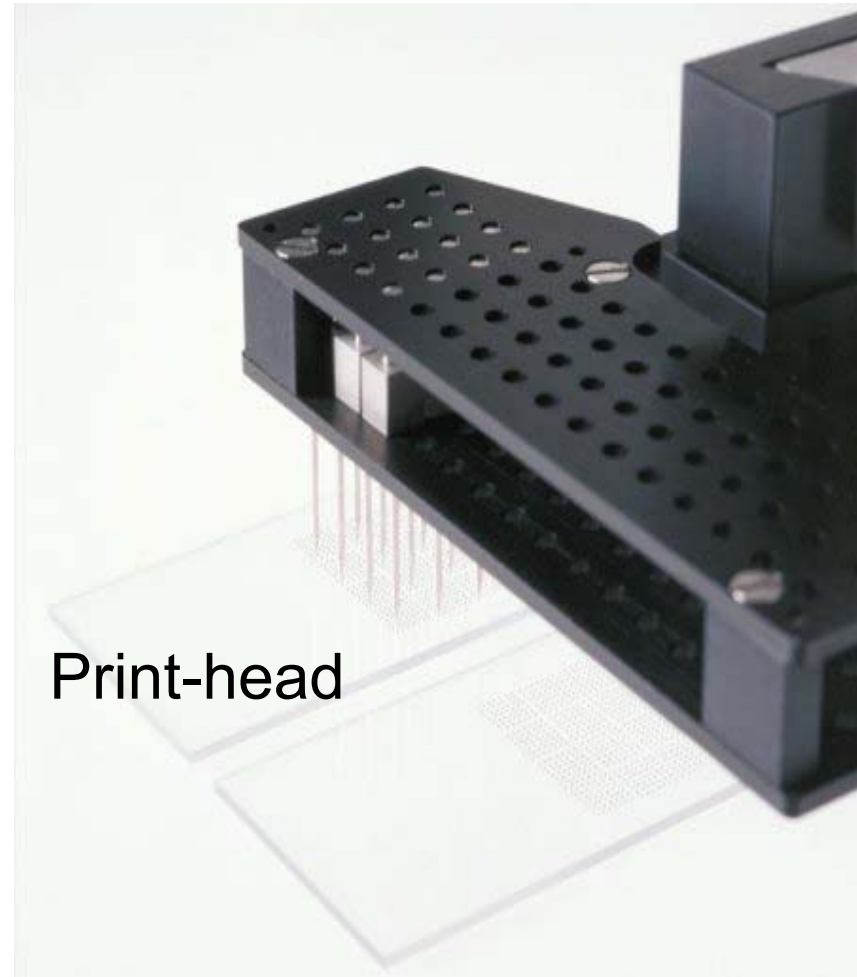
DATA ANALYSIS

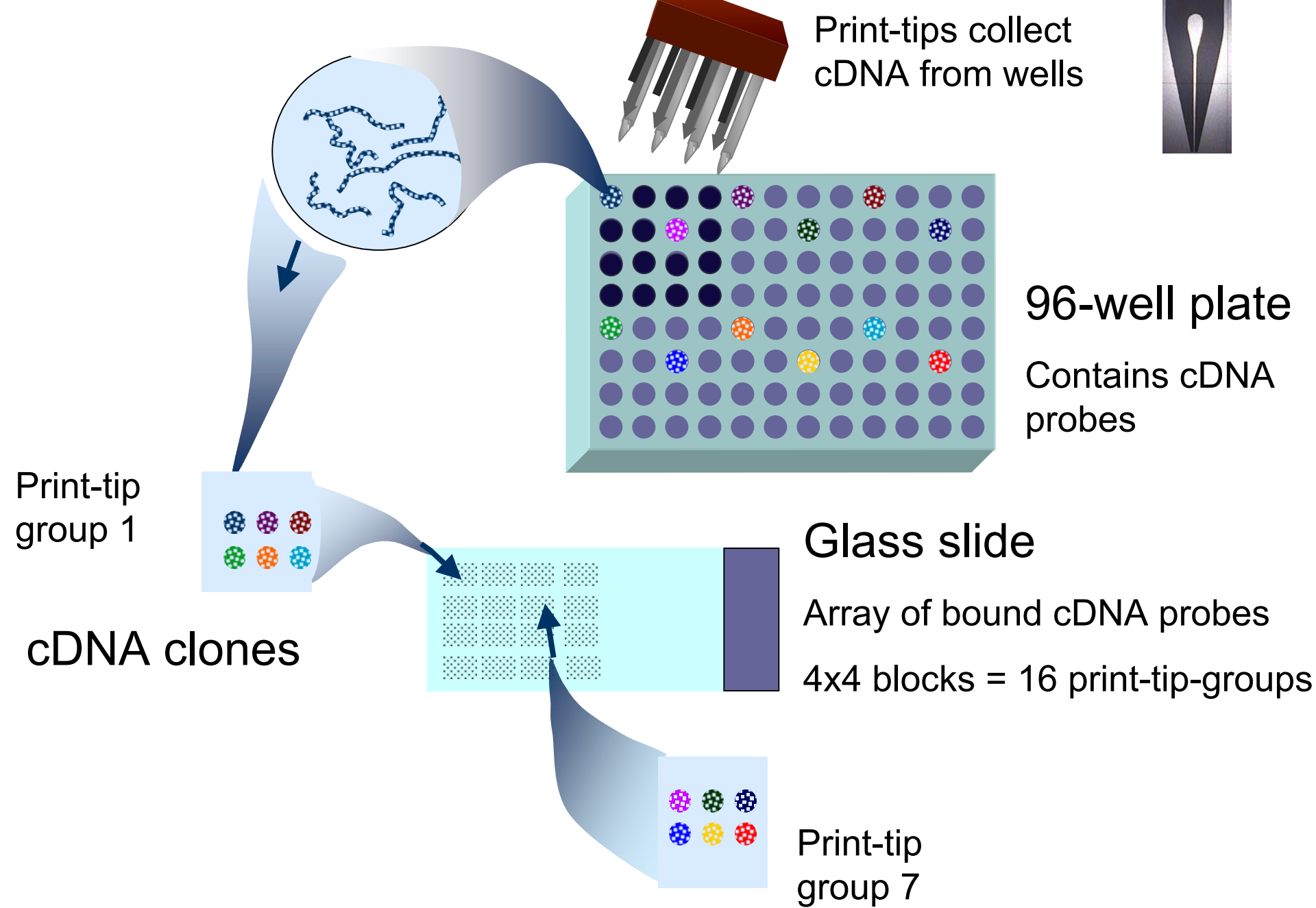


# The arrayer

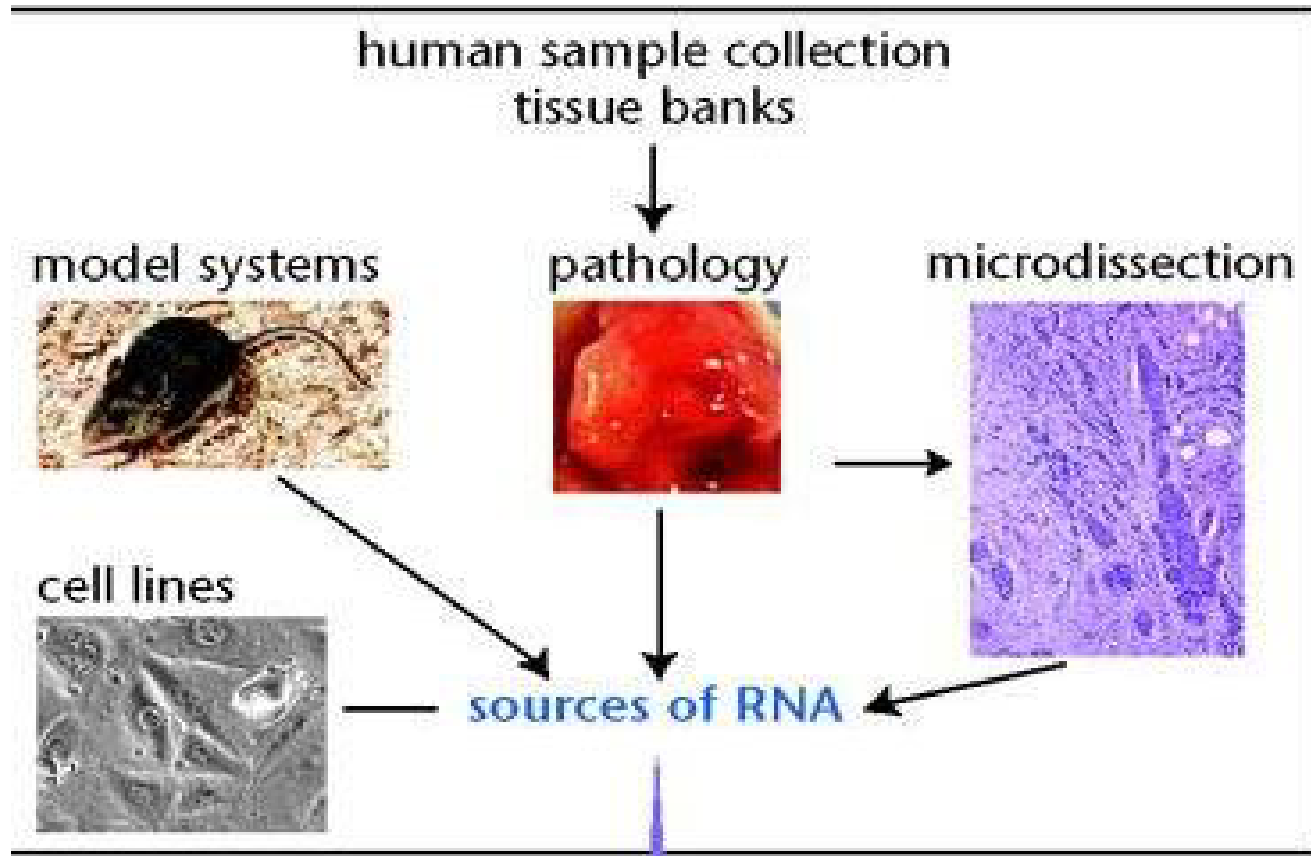


Ngai Lab arrayer, UC Berkeley

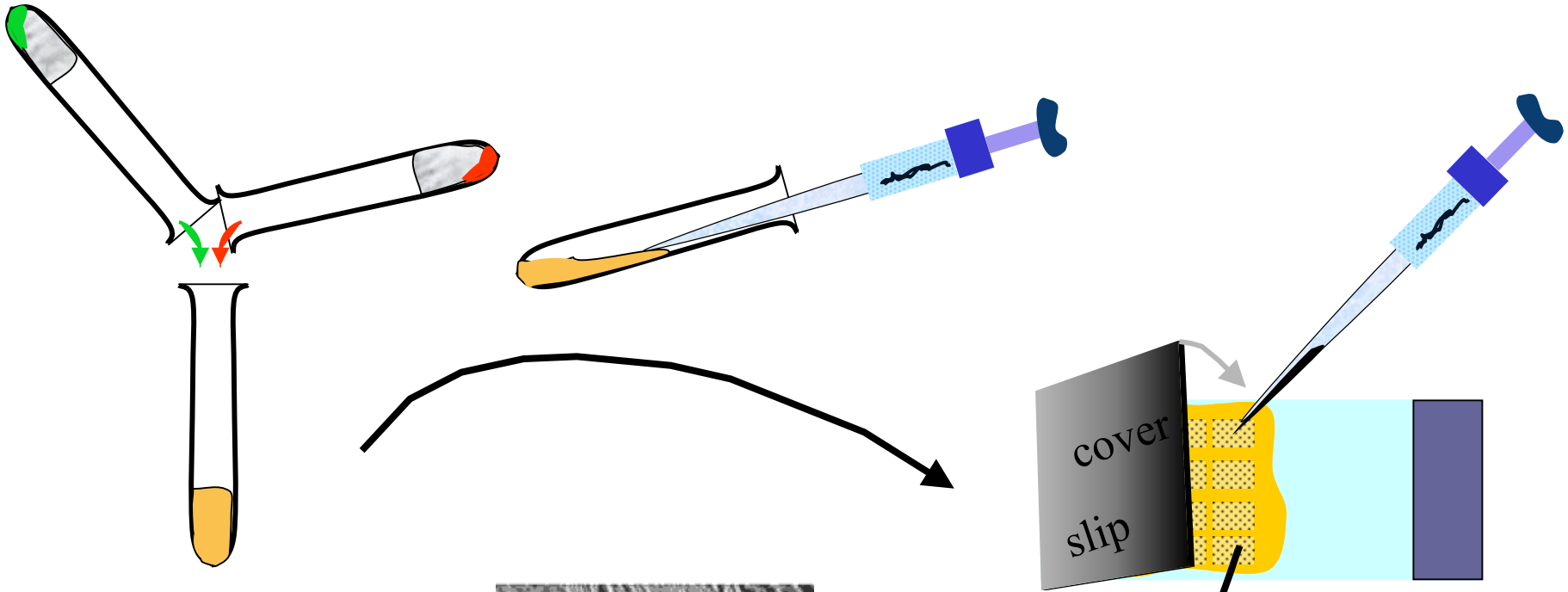




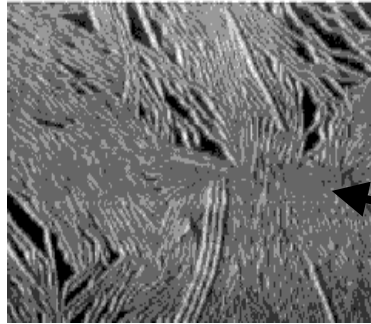
# Sample preparation



# Hybridization

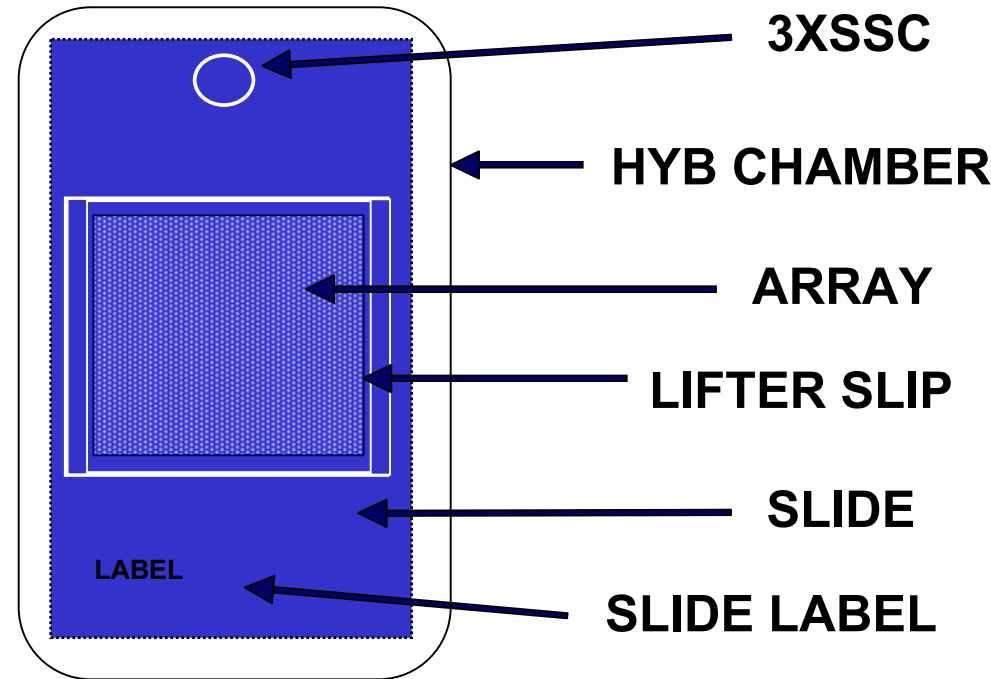


Binding of cDNA target samples to cDNA probes on the slide



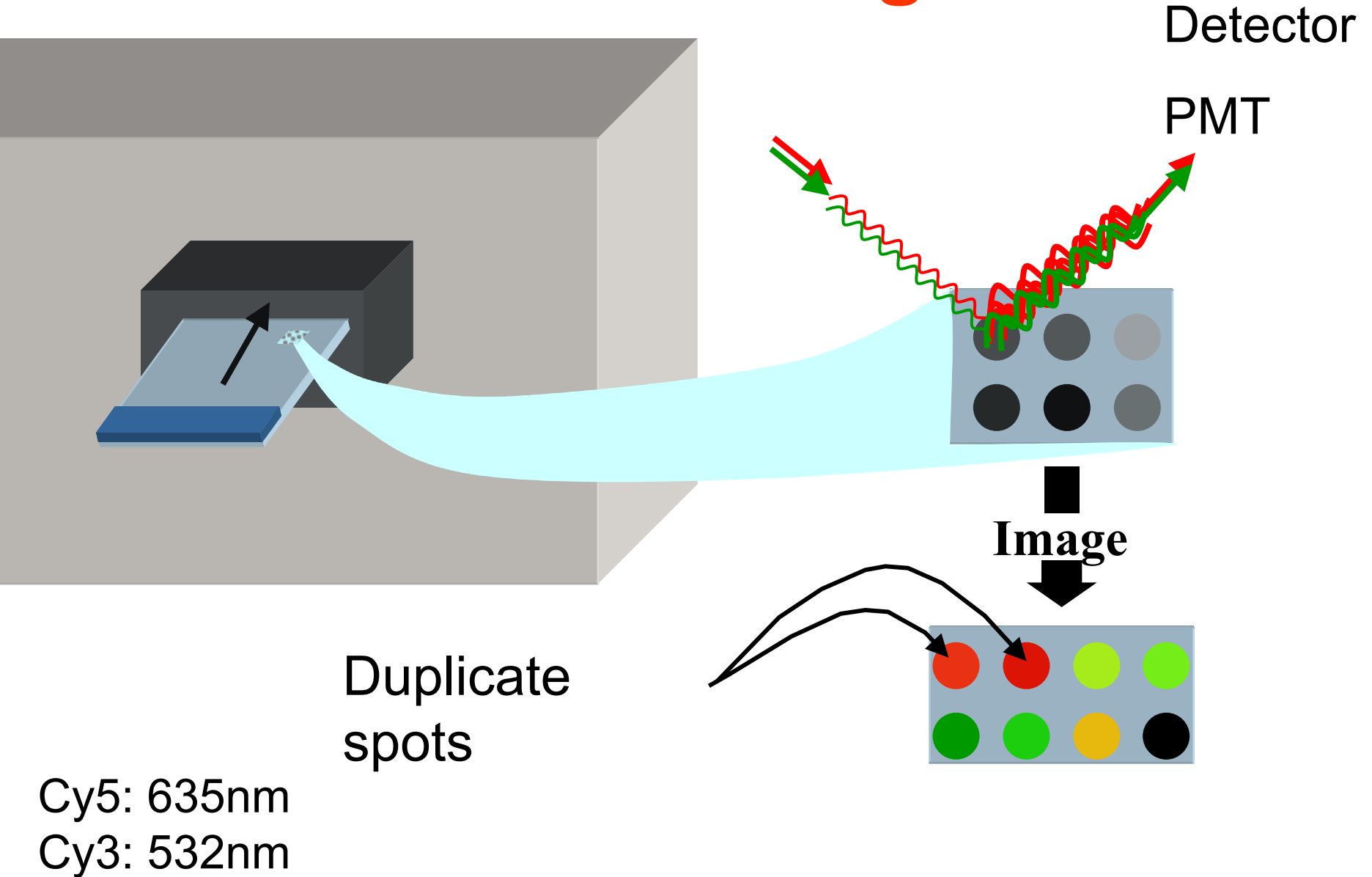
Hybridize for  
5-12 hours

# Hybridization chamber

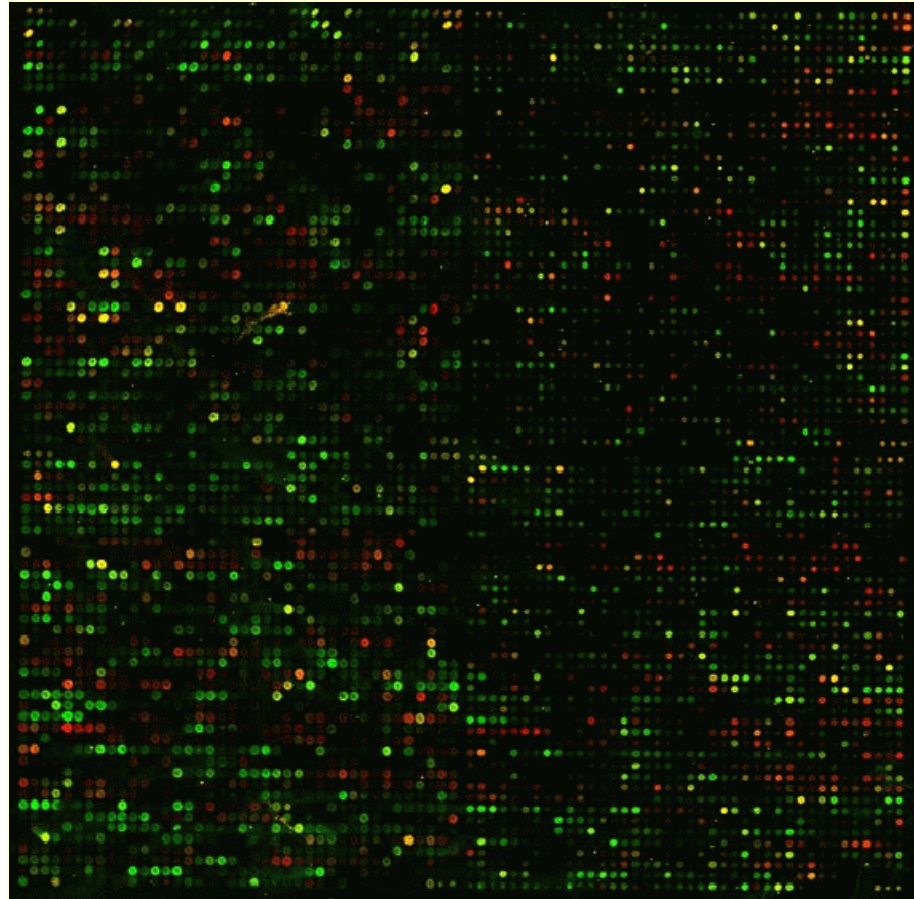


- Humidity
- Temperature
- Formamide  
(Lowers the Tmp)

# Scanning



# RGB overlay of Cy3 and Cy5 images





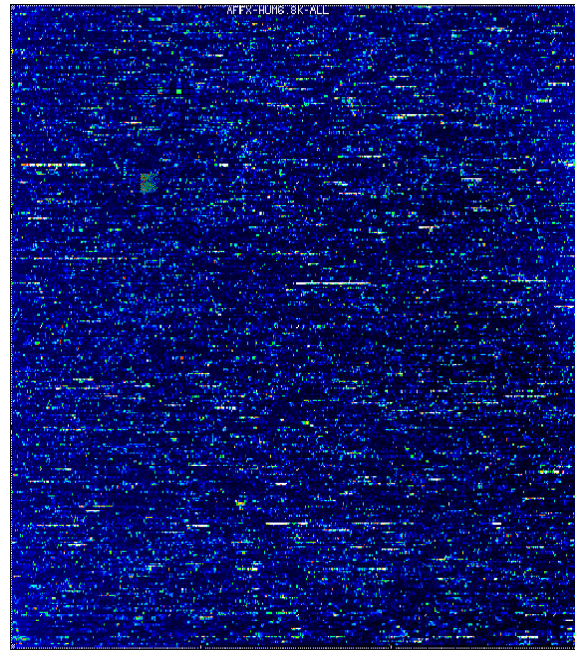
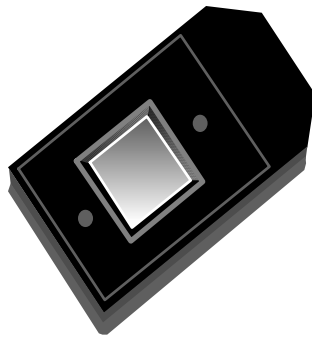
# Raw data

- Pairs of 16-bit TIFFs, one for each dye.
- E.g. Human cDNA arrays:
  - ~43K spots;
  - ~ 20Mb per channel;
  - ~ 2,000 x 5,500 pixels per image;
  - spot separation: ~ 136 $\mu$ m.
- For a “typical” array, the spot area has
  - mean = 43 pixels,
  - med = 32 pixels,
  - SD = 26 pixels.

# Animation

[www.bio.davidson.edu/courses/genomics/chip/chip.html](http://www.bio.davidson.edu/courses/genomics/chip/chip.html)

# Oligonucleotide chips



# Terminology

- Each gene or portion of a gene is represented by 16 to 20 oligonucleotides of 25 base-pairs.
- **Probe**: an oligonucleotide of 25 base-pairs, i.e., a 25-mer.
- **Perfect match (PM)**: A 25-mer complementary to a reference sequence of interest (e.g., part of a gene).
- **Mismatch (MM)**: same as PM but with a single homomeric base change for the middle (13<sup>th</sup>) base (transversion purine  $\leftrightarrow$  pyrimidine, G  $\leftrightarrow$  C, A  $\leftrightarrow$  T) .
- **Probe-pair**: a (PM,MM) pair.
- **Probe-pair set**: a collection of probe-pairs (16 to 20) related to a common gene or fraction of a gene.
- **Affy ID**: an identifier for a probe-pair set.
- The purpose of the MM probe design is to measure non-specific binding and background noise.

# Probe-pair set

## GeneChip® Expression Array Design

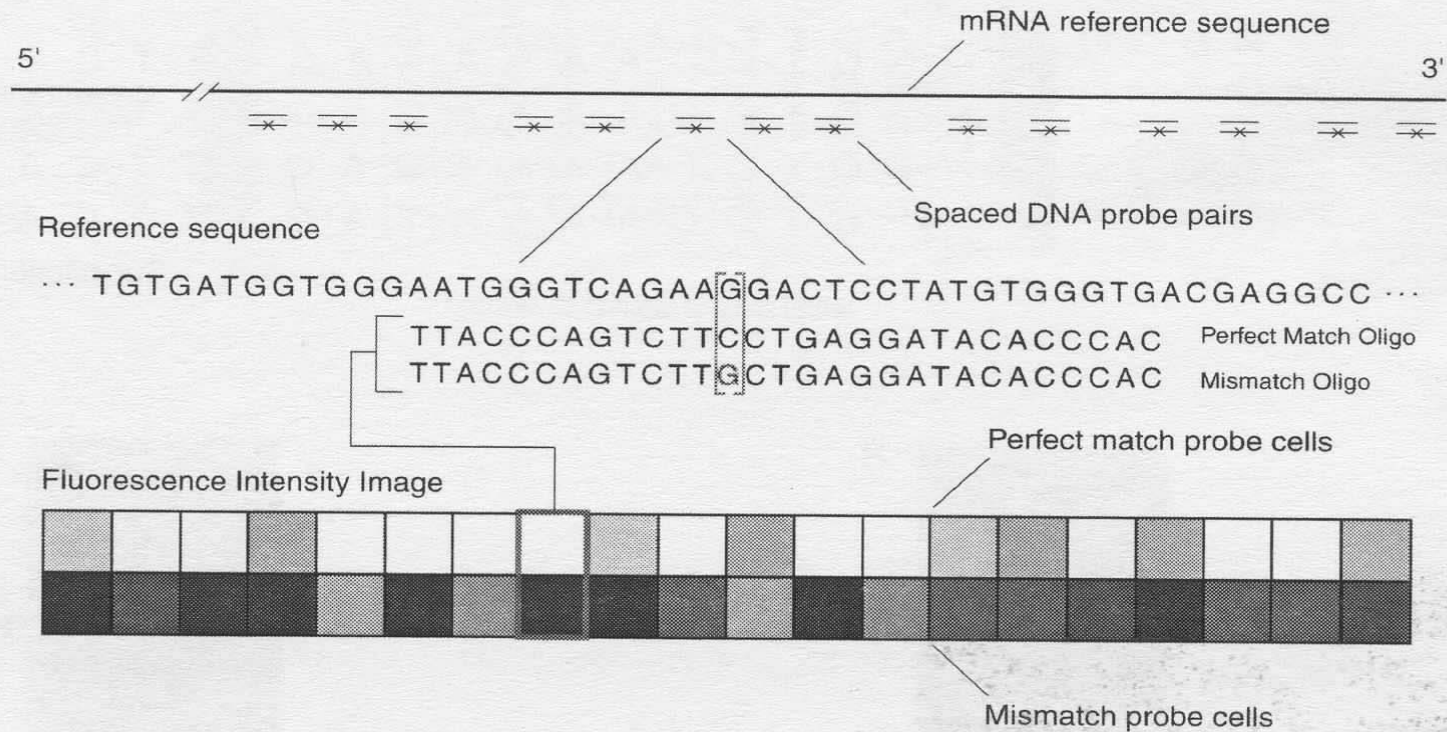


Figure 1-3 Expression tiling strategy

# Spotted vs. Affymetrix arrays

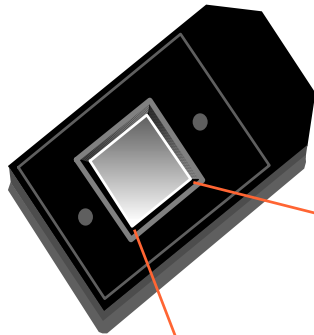
## Spotted arrays

## Affymetrix arrays

One probe per gene	16 – 20 probe-pairs per gene
Probes of varying length	Probes are 25-mers
Two target samples per array	One target sample per array

# Oligonucleotide chips

GeneChip Probe Array



1.28cm

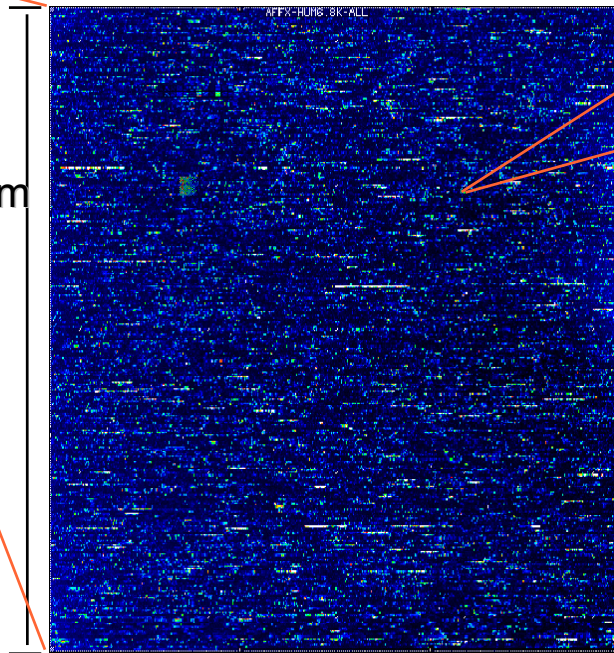
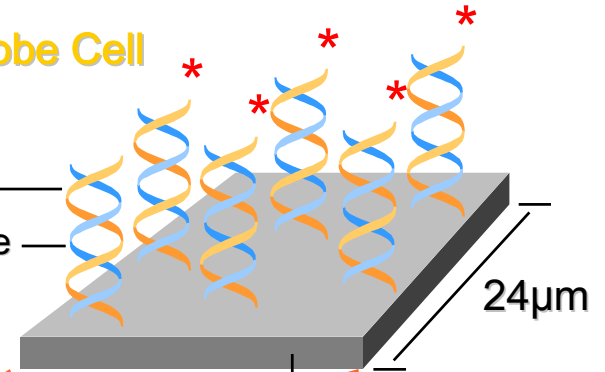


Image of Hybridized Probe Array

Hybridized Probe Cell

Single stranded,  
labeled RNA target  
Oligonucleotide probe



Millions of copies of a specific  
oligonucleotide probe

>200,000 different  
complementary probes

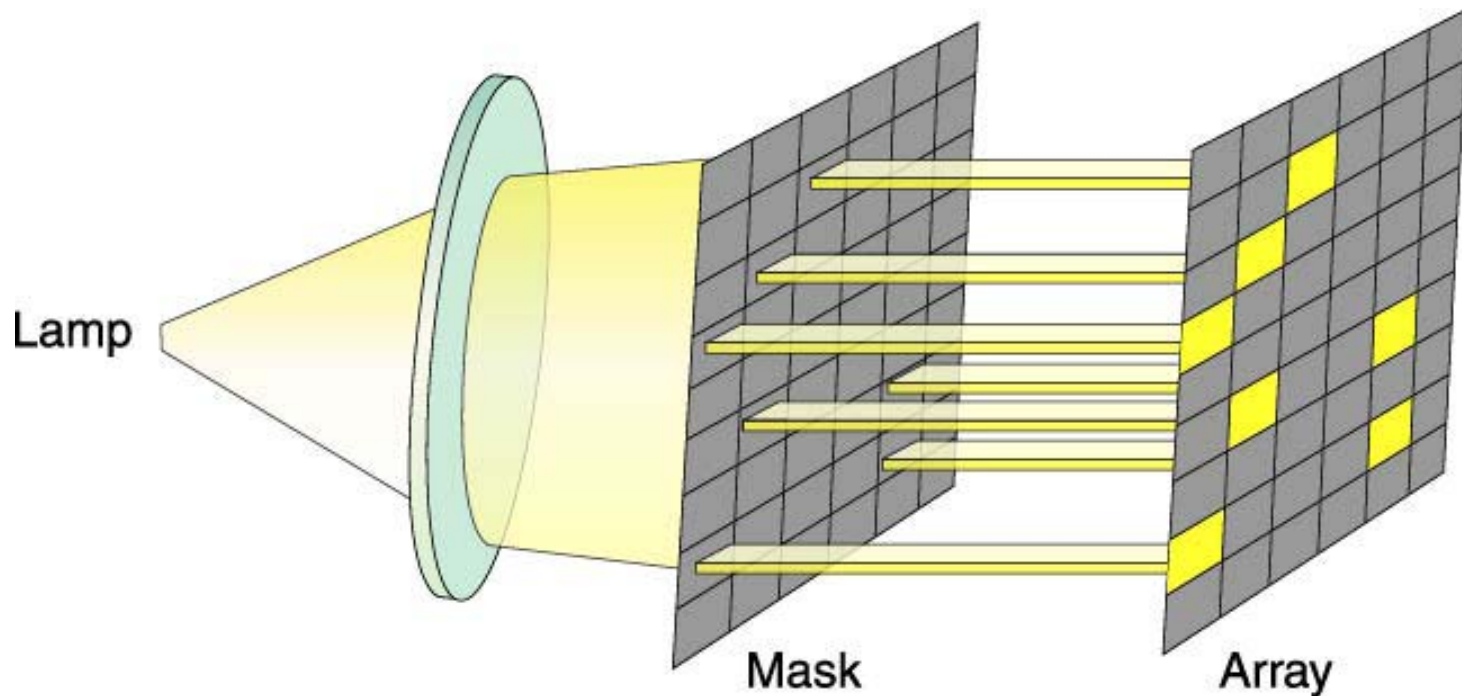
*Compliments of D. Gerhold*

# Oligonucleotide chips

- The probes are synthesized *in situ*, using combinatorial chemistry and photolithography.
- **Probe cells** are square-shaped features on the chip containing millions of copies of a single 25-mer probe. Sides are 18-50 microns.

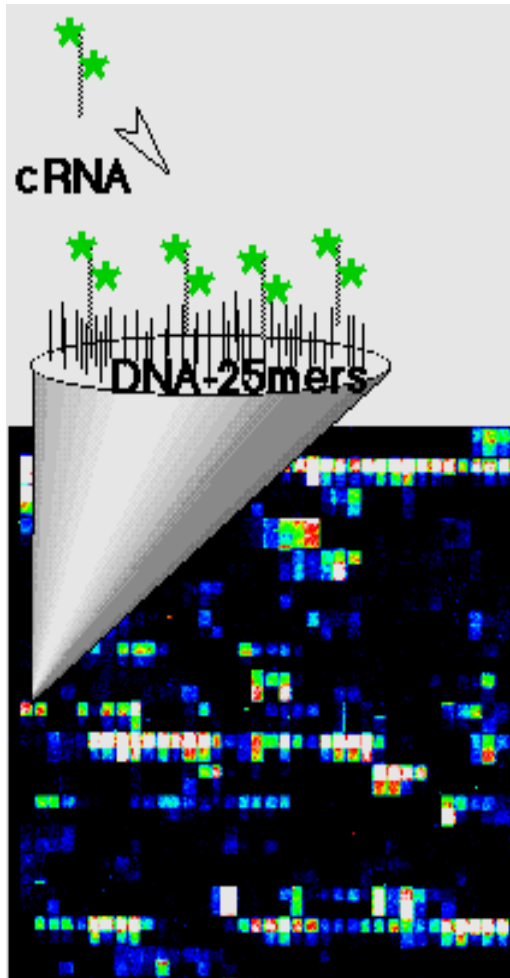


# Oligonucleotide chips



The manufacturing of GeneChip® probe arrays is a combination of photolithography and combinatorial chemistry.

# Image analysis



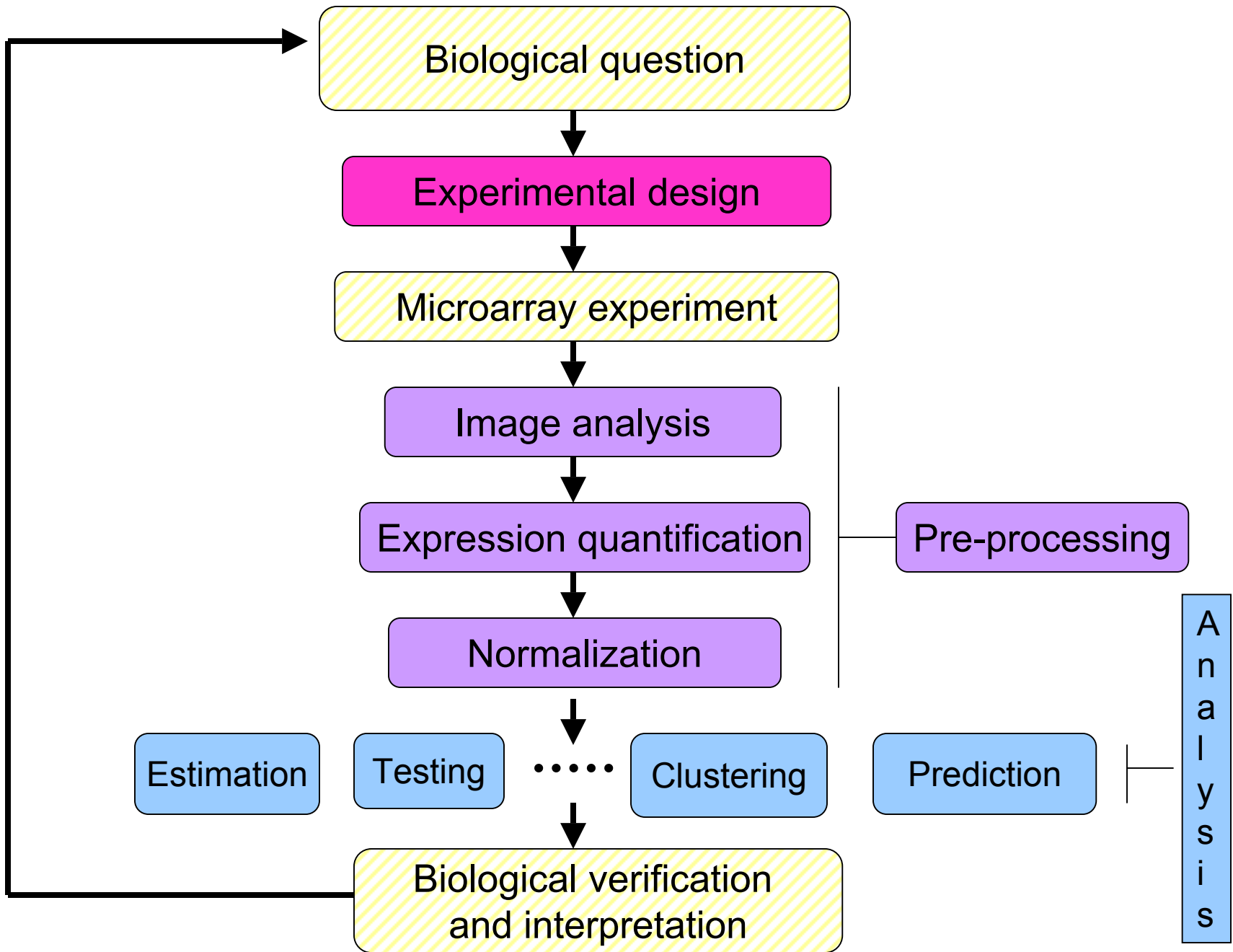
- About 100 pixels per probe cell.
- These intensities are combined to form one number representing the expression level for the probe cell oligo.
- → CEL file with PM or MM intensity for each cell.

# Expression measures

- Most expression measures are based on differences of **PM-MM**.
- The intention is to correct for background and non-specific binding.
- E.g. *MarrayArray Suite*<sup>®</sup> (MAS) v. 4.0 uses Average Difference Intensity (ADI) or  
AvDiff = average of PM-MM.
- Problem: MM may also measure signal.
- More on this in lecture *Pre-processing DNA Microarray Data*.

# WWW resources

- **Complete guide to “microarraying”**  
<http://cmgm.stanford.edu/pbrown/mguide/>  
<http://www.microarrays.org>
  - Parts and assembly instructions for printer and scanner;
  - Protocols for sample prep;
  - Software;
  - Forum, etc.
- **cDNA microarray animation**  
<http://www.bio.davidson.edu/courses/genomics/chip/chip.html>
- **Affymetrix**  
<http://www.affymetrix.com>



# Statistical computing

## Everywhere ...

- Statistical design and analysis:
  - image analysis, normalization, estimation, testing, clustering, prediction, etc.
- Integration of experimental data with biological metadata from WWW-resources
  - gene annotation (GenBank, LocusLink);
  - literature (PubMed);
  - graphical (pathways, chromosome maps).

# Outline

- Introduction to the biology and technology of DNA microarrays
- Overview of the Bioconductor project
- Annotation
- Visualization
- Pre-processing: spotted and Affymetrix arrays
- Differential gene expression
- Software demo

# **Overview of the Bioconductor Project**



# Bioconductor

- Bioconductor is an open source and open development software project for the analysis and comprehension of biomedical and genomic data.
- Software, data, and documentation are available from [www.bioconductor.org](http://www.bioconductor.org).

# Bioconductor

- The project was started in the Fall of 2001 by Robert Gentleman, at the Biostatistics Unit of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.
- There are currently 21 core developers, at various institutions in the US and Europe.
- R and the R package system are used to design and distribute software ([www.r-project.org](http://www.r-project.org)).
- First release (v 1.0): May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2002, 15 packages.
- Second release (v 1.1): November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002, 5 new packages.

# Bioconductor

There are two main classes of packages

- **End-user packages:**
  - aimed at users unfamiliar with R or computer programming;
  - polished and easy to use interfaces to a wide variety of computational and statistical methods for the analysis of genomic data.
- **Developer packages:** aimed at software developers, in the sense that they provide ``software to write software".

# Bioconductor packages

Release 1.1, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002

- General infrastructure:  
`Biobase`, `reposTools`, `rhdf5`, `tkWidgets`.
- Annotation:  
`annotate`, `AnnBuilder` → data packages.
- Graphics:  
`geneplotter`, `hexbin`.
- Pre-processing for Affymetrix oligonucleotide chip data:  
`affy`, `vsn`, CDF packages.
- Pre-processing for spotted DNA microarray data:  
`marrayClasses`, `marrayInput`, `marrayNorm`, `marrayPlots`,  
`marrayTools`, `vsn`.
- Differential gene expression:  
`edd`, `genefilter`, `multtest`, `ROC`.
- Graphs:  
`graph`.

# Ongoing efforts

- Variable (feature) selection;
- Prediction;
- Cluster analysis;
- Cross-validation;
- Multiple testing;
- Quality measures for microarray data;
- Interactions with MAGE-ML;
- Biological sequence analysis;
- Etc.

# Computing needs

- Mechanisms for facilitating the design and deployment of **portable**, **extensible**, and **scalable** software.
- Support for **interoperability** with software written in other languages.
- Tools for integrating **biological metadata** from the **WWW** in the analysis of **experimental metadata**.
- Access to a broad range of **statistical and numerical methods**.
- High-quality **visualization** and **graphics** tools that support interactivity.
- An effective, extensible **user interface**.
- Tools for producing innovative, high-quality **documentation** and **training** materials.
- Methodology that supports the **creation**, **testing**, and **distribution** of software and data modules.

# Bioconductor

- Interactive tools for linking experimental data in real time, to [biological metadata from WWW resources](#).  
E.g. PubMed, GenBank, LocusLink.
- Scenario. Normalize spotted array data with [marrayNorm](#), obtain list of differentially expressed genes from [multtest](#) or [genefilter](#), use the [annotate](#) package
  - to retrieve and search [PubMed abstracts](#) for these genes;
  - to generate an [HTML report](#) with links to [LocusLink](#) for each gene.

# Bioconductor

- **Widgets.** Small-scale graphical user interfaces (GUI), providing point & click access for specific tasks (**tkWidgets**).
- E.g. File browsing and selection for data input, basic analyses.
- **Object-oriented class/method design.** Allows efficient representation and manipulation of large and complex biological datasets of multiple types (cf. MIAME standards).



# Object-oriented programming

- The Bioconductor project has adopted the **object-oriented programming – OOP –** paradigm presented in J. M. Chambers (1998). *Programming with Data*.
- Tools for programming using the class/method mechanism are provided in the R **methods** package.
- Tutorial: [www.omegahat.org/RMethods/index.html](http://www.omegahat.org/RMethods/index.html)

# OOP

- A **class** provides a software abstraction of a real world object. It reflects how we think of certain objects and what information these objects should contain.
- Classes are defined in terms of **slots** which contain the relevant data.
- An object is an **instance** of a class.
- A class defines the structure, inheritance, and initialization of objects.

# OOP

- A **method** is a function that performs an action on data (objects).
- Methods define how a particular function should behave depending on the class of its arguments.
- Methods allow computations to be adapted to particular data types, i.e., classes.
- A **generic function** is a dispatcher, it examines its arguments and determines the appropriate method to invoke.
- Examples of generic functions include `plot`, `summary`, `print`.

# Data

- Issues:
  - complexity;
  - size;
  - evolution.
- We distinguish between **biological metadata** and **experimental metadata**.

# Experimental metadata

- Gene expression measures
  - scanned images, i.e., raw data;
  - image quantitation data, i.e., output from image analysis;
  - normalized expression measures, i.e., log ratios M or Affy measures.
- Reliability information for the expression measures.
- Information on the probe sequences printed on the arrays (array layout).
- Information on the target samples hybridized to the arrays.
- See *Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment – MIAME* – standards.

# Biological metadata

- Biological attributes that can be applied to the experimental data.
- E.g. for genes
  - chromosomal location;
  - gene annotation (LocusLink, GO);
  - relevant literature (PubMed).
- Biological metadata sources are large, complex, evolving rapidly, and typically distributed via the WWW.

# exprSet class

**exprs**

Matrix of expression measures, genes x samples

**se.exprs**

Matrix of SEs for expression measures, genes x samples

**phenoData**

Sample level covariates, instance of class **phenoData**

**annotation**

Name of annotation data

**description**

MIAME information

**notes**

Any notes

# marrayRaw class

## Pre-normalization intensity data for a batch of arrays

maRf	maGf	Matrix of red and green foreground intensities
maRb	maGb	Matrix of red and green background intensities
maW		Matrix of spot quality weights
maLayout		Array layout parameters - <b>marrayLayout</b>
maGnames		Description of spotted probe sequences - <b>marrayInfo</b>
maTargets		Description of target samples - <b>marrayInfo</b>
maNotes		Any notes

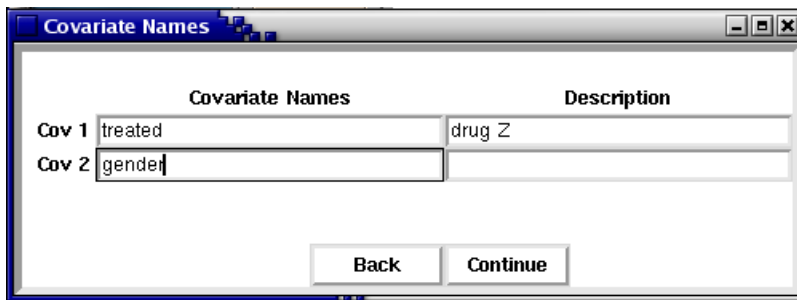


# AffyBatch class

Probe-level intensity data for a batch of arrays (same CDF)

<code>cdfName</code>	Name of CDF file for arrays in the batch	
<code>nrow</code>	<code>ncol</code>	Dimensions of the array
<code>exprs</code>	<code>se.exprs</code>	Matrices of probe-level intensities and SEs rows → probe cells, columns → arrays.
<code>phenoData</code>	Sample level covariates, instance of class <code>phenoData</code>	
<code>annotation</code>	Name of annotation data	
<code>description</code>	MIAME information	
<code>notes</code>	Any notes	

# Reading in phenoData

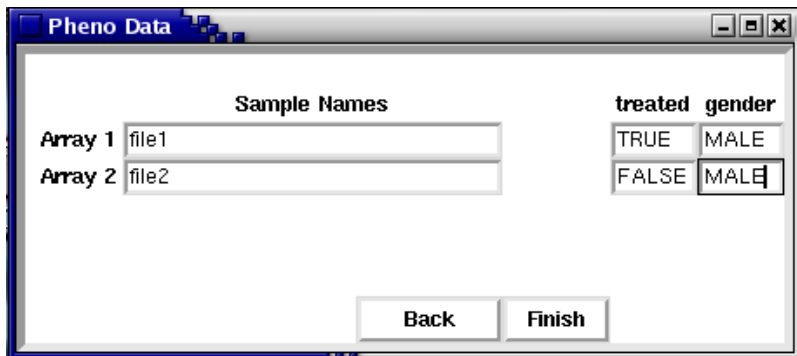


A dialog box titled "Covariate Names" with a table for entering covariate information. The table has two columns: "Covariate Names" and "Description".

	Covariate Names	Description
Cov 1	treated	drug Z
Cov 2	gender	

Buttons: Back, Continue

tkSampleNames

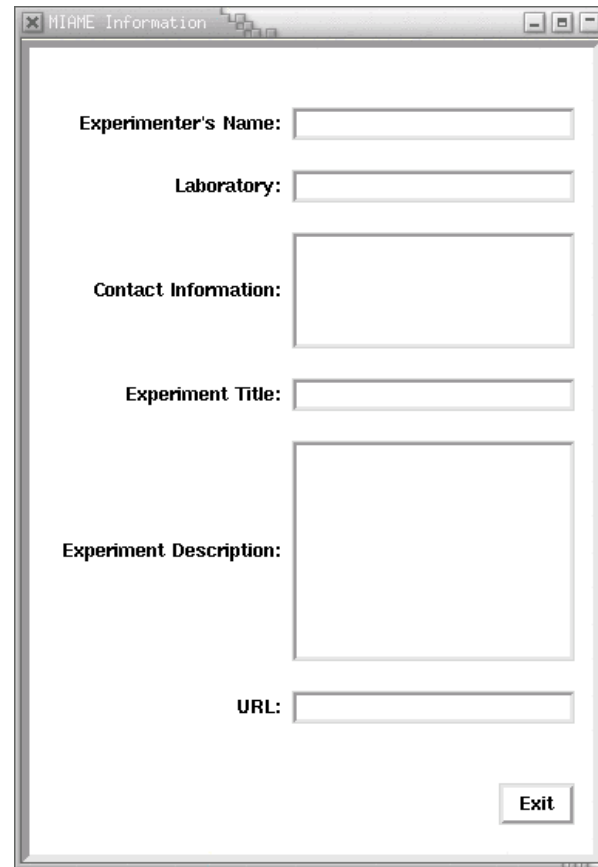


A dialog box titled "Pheno Data" with a table for entering sample information. The table has three columns: "Sample Names", "treated", and "gender".

	Sample Names	treated	gender
Array 1	file1	TRUE	MALE
Array 2	file2	FALSE	MALE

Buttons: Back, Finish

tkphenoData



A dialog box titled "MIAME Information" with several input fields for experiment details.

Fields:

- Experimenter's Name:
- Laboratory:
- Contact Information:
- Experiment Title:
- Experiment Description:
- URL:

Buttons: Exit

tkMIAME

# Pedagogy

Extensive documentation and training resources for R and Bioconductor are available on the WWW.

- R manuals and tutorials are available from the R website.
- R help system
  - detailed on-line documentation, available in text, HTML, PDF, and LaTeX formats;
  - e.g. `help(genefilter)` , `?pubmed`.
- R demo system
  - user-friendly interface for running demonstrations of R scripts;
  - e.g. `demo(marrayPlots)` , `demo(affy)` .
- Bioconductor short courses
  - modular training segments on software and statistical methodology;
  - lectures and computer labs available on WWW for self-instruction.

# Vignettes

- Bioconductor has adopted a new documentation paradigm, the vignette.
- A **vignette** is an **executable document** consisting of a collection of documentation text and code chunks.
- Vignettes form **dynamic, integrated, and reproducible statistical documents** that can be automatically updated if either data or analyses are changed.
- Vignettes can be generated using the **Sweave** function from the R **tools** package.

# Vignettes

- Each Bioconductor package contains at least one vignette, located in the `doc` subdirectory of an installed package and accessible from the help browser.
- Vignettes provide task-oriented descriptions of the package's functionality and can be used interactively.
- Vignettes are available separately from the Bioconductor website or as part of the packages.

# Vignettes

- Tools are being developed for managing and using this repository of step-by-step tutorials
  - **Biobase**: `openVignette` – Menu of available vignettes and interface for viewing vignettes (PDF).
  - **tkWidgets**: `vExplorer` – Interactive use of vignettes.
  - **reposTools**.

# Sweave

- The **Sweave** system allows the generation of integrated statistical documents intermixing text, code, and code output (textual and graphical).
- Functions are available in the R **tools** package.
- See ? **Sweave** and manual  
[www.ci.tuwien.ac.at/~leisch/Sweave/](http://www.ci.tuwien.ac.at/~leisch/Sweave/)

# Sweave input

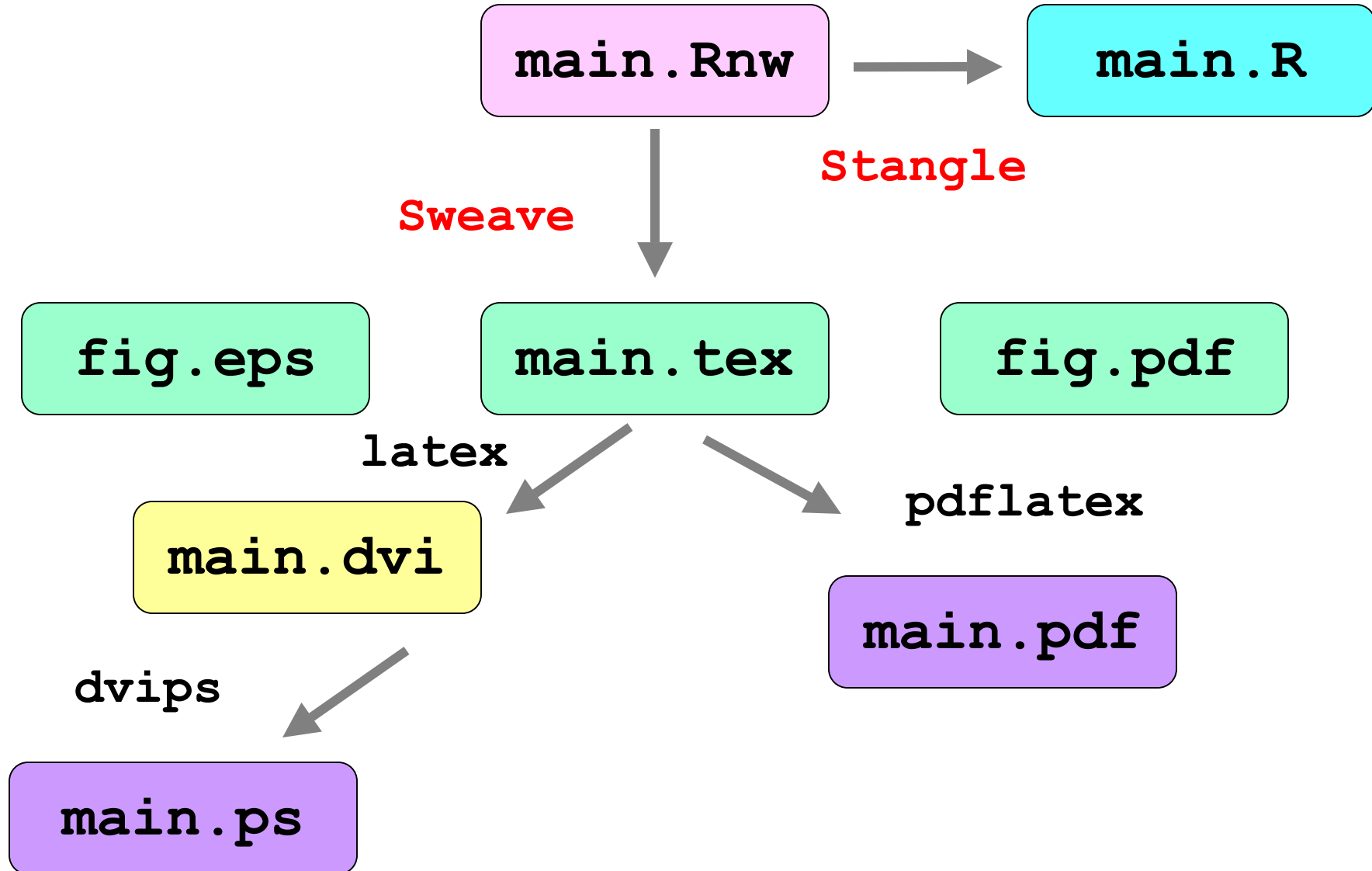
- Input: a text file which consists of a sequence of code and documentation **chunks**, or segments (noweb file).
  - **Documentation chunks**
    - start with @
    - can be text in a markup language like LaTeX.
  - **Code chunks**
    - start with `<<name>>=`
    - can be R or S-Plus code.
  - File extension: `.rnw`, `.Rnw`, `.snw`, `.Snw`.



# Sweave output

- Output: a single document, e.g., `.tex` file or `.pdf` file containing
  - the documentation text,
  - the R code,
  - the code output: text and graphs.
- The document can be automatically regenerated whenever the data, code, or documentation text change.
- **Stangle** or **tangleToR**: extract only the code.

# Sweave



# Annotation

# annotate package

- One of the largest challenges in analyzing genomic data is associating the experimental data with the available **biological metadata**, e.g., sequence, gene annotation, chromosomal maps, literature.
- Bioconductor provides two main packages for this purpose:
  - **annotate** (end-user);
  - **AnnBuilder** (developer).

# WWW resources

- Nucleotide databases: e.g. GenBank.
- Gene databases: e.g. LocusLink, UniGene.
- Protein sequence and structure databases: e.g. SwissProt, Protein DataBank (PDB).
- Literature databases: e.g. PubMed, OMIM.
- Chromosome maps: e.g. NCBI Map Viewer.
- Pathways: e.g. KEGG.
- Entrez is a search and retrieval system that integrates information from databases at NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information).

# annotate: matching IDs

## Important tasks

- Associate manufacturers or in-house probe identifiers to other available identifiers.

E.g.

Affymetrix IDs → LocusLink LocusID

Affymetrix IDs → GenBank accession number.

- Associate probes with biological data such as chromosomal position, pathways.
- Associate probes with published literature data via PubMed (need PMID).

# annotate: matching IDs

Affymetrix identifier HGU95A chips	"41046_s_at"
LocusLink, LocusID	"9203"
GenBank accession #	"X95808"
Gene symbol	"ZNF261"
PubMed, PMID	"10486218" "9205841" "8817323"
Chromosomal location	"X", "Xq13.1"

# Annotation data packages

- The Bioconductor project provides packages that contain only **data**.
- These data packages are built using **AnnBuilder**.
- They can be downloaded from the Bioconductor website and also using `update.packages`.<sup>\*\*\*</sup>  
`installDataPackage`.
- Data packages contain many different mappings to interesting data.
  - Mappings between Affy IDs and other probe IDs: **hgu95a** for HGU95A GeneChip series, also, **hgu133a**, **hu6800**, **mgu74a**, **rgu34a**.
  - Affy CDF data packages.
- The packages are updated and expanded regularly as updated and new data become available.



# annotate: matching IDs

- Much of what **annotate** does relies on **matching symbols**.
- This is basically the role of a **hash table** in most programming languages.
- In R, we rely on **environments**.
- The annotation data packages provide R environment objects containing **key** and **value** pairs for the mappings between two sets of probe identifiers.
- Keys can be accessed using the R **ls** function.
- Matching values in different environments can be accessed using the **get** or **multiget** functions.

# annotate: matching IDs

```
> library(hgu95a)
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aACCNUM)
[1] "X95808"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aLOCUSID)
[1] "9203"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aSYMBOL)
[1] "ZNF261"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aGENENAME)
[1] "zinc finger protein 261"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aSUFUNC)
[1] "Contains a putative zinc-binding
    motif (MYM)|Proteome"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aUNIGENE)
[1] "Hs.9568"
```

# annotate: matching IDs

```
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aCHR)
[1] "X"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aCHRLOC)
[1] "66457019@X"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aCHRORI)
[1] "-@X"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aMAP)
[1] "Xq13.1"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aPMID)
[1] "10486218" "9205841"  "8817323"
> get("41046_s_at", env = hgu95aGO)
[1] "GO:0003677" "GO:0007275"
```

# **annotate: matching IDs**

- Instead of relying on the general R functions for environments, new user-friendly functions have been written for accessing and working with specific identifiers.
- E.g. `getGO`, `getGODesc`, `getLL`, `getPMID`, `getSYMBOL`.

# annotate: matching IDs

```
> getSYMBOL("41046_s_at", data="hgu95a")
41046_s_at
"ZNF261"

> gg<- getGO("41046_s_at", data="hgu95a")
> getGODesc(gg, "MF")
$"c("GO:0003677", "GO:0007275")"
[1] "DNA binding"

> getLL("41046_s_at", data="hgu95a")
41046_s_at
9203

> getPMID("41046_s_at", data="hgu95a")
$"41046_s_at"
[1] 10486218 9205841 8817323
```

# annotate: querying databases

The **annotate** package provides tools for

- Searching and processing information from various WWW biological databases
  - GenBank,
  - LocusLink,
  - PubMed.
- Regular expression searching of PubMed abstracts.
- Generating nice HTML reports of analyses, with links to biological databases.

# annotate: WWW queries

- Functions for querying WWW databases from R rely on the **browseURL** function

```
browseURL ("www.r-project.org")
```

- The **XML** package is used to parse query results.

# annotate: querying GenBank

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/index.html](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/index.html)

- Given a vector of GenBank accession numbers or NCBI UIDs, the **genbank** function
  - opens a browser at the URLs for the corresponding GenBank queries;
  - returns an **XMLdoc** object with the same data.

```
genbank ("X95808" , disp="browser")
```

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?tool=biocductor&cmd=Search&db=Nucleotide&term=X95808>

```
genbank (1430782 , disp="data" ,  
        type="uid")
```



# annotate: querying LocusLink

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/LocusLink/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/LocusLink/)

- **locuslinkByID**: given one or more LocusIDs, the browser is opened at the URL corresponding to the first gene.

```
locuslinkByID ("9203")
```

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/LocusLink/LocRpt.cgi?l=9203>

- **locuslinkQuery**: given a search string, the results of the LocusLink query are displayed in the browser.

```
locuslinkQuery ("zinc finger")
```

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/LocusLink/list.cgi?Q=zinc finger&ORG=Hs&V=0>

# annotate: querying PubMed

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov)

- For any gene there is often a large amount of data available from PubMed.
- The **annotate** package provides the following tools for interacting with PubMed
  - **pubMedAbst**: a class structure for PubMed abstracts in R.
  - **pubmed**: the basic engine for talking to PubMed.

# **annotate: PubMedAbst class**

Class structure for storing and processing  
PubMed abstracts in R

- **pmid**
- **authors**
- **abstText**
- **articleTitle**
- **journal**
- **pubDate**
- **abstUrl**

# **annotate**: high-level tools for querying PubMed

- **pm.getabst**: download the specified PubMed abstracts (stored in XML) and create a list of **pubMedAbst** objects.
- **pm.titles**: extract the titles from a list of PubMed abstracts.
- **pm.abstGrep**: regular expression matching on the abstracts.

# annotate: PubMed example

```
pmid <-get("41046_s_at", env=hgu95aPMID)  
pubmed(pmid, disp="browser")
```

[http://www.ncbi.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?tool=bioconductor&cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list\\_uids=10486218%2c9205841%2c8817323](http://www.ncbi.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?tool=bioconductor&cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=10486218%2c9205841%2c8817323)

```
absts <- pm.getabst("41046_s_at",  
  base="hgu95a")  
pm.titles(absts)  
pm.abstGrep("retardation", absts[[1]])
```

# annotate: PubMed example

```
RGui - [R Console]
File Edit Misc Packages Windows Help

Slot "articleTitle":
[1] "Prediction of the coding sequences of unidentified human genes. VII. The complete sequences of 100 new cDNA clones from brain which can§

Slot "journal":
[1] "DNA Res"

Slot "pubDate":
[1] "Apr 1997"

Slot "abstUrl":
[1] "No URL Provided"

[[3]]
An object of class "pubMedAbst"
Slot "authors":
[1] "S M SM van der Maarel" "I H IH Scholten" "I I Huber" "C C Philippe" "R F RF Suijkerbuijk"
[6] "S S Gilgenkrantz" "J J Kere" "F P FP Cremers" "H H HH Ropers"

Slot "abstText":
[1] "In several families with non-specific X-linked mental retardation (XLMR) linkage analyses have assigned the underlying gene defect to t§

Slot "articleTitle":
[1] "Cloning and characterization of DXS6673E, a candidate gene for X-linked mental retardation in Xq13.1."

Slot "journal":
[1] "Hum Mol Genet"

Slot "pubDate":
[1] "Jul 1996"

Slot "abstUrl":
[1] "No URL Provided"

> pm.titles(absts)
[[1]]
[1] "Cloning and mapping of members of the MYM family." §
[2] "Prediction of the coding sequences of unidentified human genes. VII. The complete sequences of 100 new cDNA clones from brain which can§
[3] "Cloning and characterization of DXS6673E, a candidate gene for X-linked mental retardation in Xq13.1." §

> pm.abstGrep("retardation", absts[[1]])
[1] TRUE FALSE TRUE
>
```

R 1.5.1 - A Language and Environment

# annotate: PubMed HTML report

- The new function `pmAbst2HTML` takes a list of `pubMedAbst` objects and generates an HTML report with the titles of the abstracts and links to their full page on PubMed.

```
pmAbst2HTML (absts [[1]], filename="pm.html")
```

BioConductor Abstract List - Netscape

File Edit View Go Communicator Help

Back Forward Reload Home Search Netscape Print Security Shop Stop

Bookmarks Location: file:///C:/Sandrine/Current/Talks/EMBO03/pm.html What's Related

Google Sandrine Dudoit Welcome to Bioc PH 240D - Sprin Group In Biosta Berkeley Progra Home Page, Stat

## BioConductor Abstract List

Article Title	Publication Date
<a href="#">Conditional targeting of the DNA repair enzyme hOGG1 into mitochondria.</a>	Nov 2002
<a href="#">Inter-individual variation, seasonal variation and close correlation of OGG1 and ERCC1 mRNA levels in full blood from healthy volunteers.</a>	Sep 2002
<a href="#">A limited association of OGG1 Ser326Cys polymorphism for adenocarcinoma of the lung.</a>	May 2002
<a href="#">Protection of human lung cells against hyperoxia using the DNA base excision repair genes hOgg1 and Fpg.</a>	Jul 2002
<a href="#">The human OGG1 DNA repair enzyme and its association with orolaryngeal cancer risk.</a>	Jul 2002
<a href="#">Human OGG1 undergoes serine phosphorylation and associates with the nuclear matrix and mitotic chromatin in vivo.</a>	Jun 2002
<a href="#">hOGG1 Ser(326)Cys polymorphism and modification by environmental factors of stomach cancer risk in Chinese.</a>	Jun 2002
<a href="#">Association of the hOGG1 Ser326Cys polymorphism with lung cancer risk.</a>	Apr 2002
<a href="#">Reciprocal "flipping" underlies substrate recognition and catalytic activation by the human 8-oxo-guanine DNA glycosylase.</a>	Mar 2002
<a href="#">Expression of 8-oxoguanine DNA glycosylase is reduced and associated with neurofibrillary tangles in Alzheimer's disease brain.</a>	Jan 2002
<a href="#">Structure and chromosome location of human OGG1.</a>	Month 1999
<a href="#">Expression and differential intracellular localization of two major forms of human 8-oxoguanine DNA glycosylase encoded by alternatively spliced OGG1 mRNAs.</a>	May 1999
<a href="#">Genetic polymorphisms and alternative splicing of the hOGG1 gene, that is involved in the repair of 8-hydroxyguanine in damaged DNA.</a>	Jun 1998
<a href="#">Augmented expression of a human gene for 8-oxoguanine DNA glycosylase (MutM) in B lymphocytes of the dark zone in lymph node germinal centers.</a>	Nov 1997
<a href="#">Opposite base-dependent reactions of a human base excision repair enzyme on DNA containing 7,8-dihydro-8-oxoguanine and abasic sites.</a>	Oct 1997
<a href="#">Molecular cloning and functional expression of a human cDNA encoding the antimutator enzyme 8-hydroxyguanine-DNA glycosylase.</a>	Jul 1997
<a href="#">Cloning and characterization of hOGG1, a human homolog of the OGG1 gene of Saccharomyces cerevisiae.</a>	Jul 1997

Document: Done

pmAbst2html  
function from  
annotate package

[pm.html](#)



# annotate: analysis reports

- A simple interface, [ll.htmlpage](#), can be used to generate an HTML report of analysis results.
- The page consists of a table with one row per gene, with links to LocusLink.
- Entries can include various gene identifiers and statistics.

## BioConductor Gene Listing

Golub et al. data, genes with permutation maxT adjusted p-value < 0.01

Locus Link Genes

LocusID	Gene name	Chromosome	ALL mean	AML mean	t-statistic	raw p-value	adj p-value
<a href="#">7791</a>	X95735_at	7	-0.295	1.59	-10.6	2e-05	2e-05
<a href="#">1471</a>	M27891_at	20	-0.81	2.08	-9.78	2e-05	2e-05
<a href="#">2184</a>	M55150_at	15	0.488	1.24	-8.03	2e-05	0.00014
<a href="#">4067</a>	M16038_at	8	-0.284	1.1	-7.98	2e-05	0.00016
<a href="#">334</a>	L09209_s_at	11	-0.162	1.36	-7.97	2e-05	2e-04
<a href="#">6929</a>	M31523_at	19	0.855	-0.391	7.55	2e-05	5e-04
<a href="#">5928</a>	X74262_at	1	0.869	-0.565	7.42	2e-05	0.00078
<a href="#">7155</a>	Z15115_at	3	1.94	0.945	7.35	2e-05	0.001
<a href="#">26999</a>	L47738_at	5	0.734	-0.779	7.31	2e-05	0.00114
<a href="#">4602</a>	U22376_cds2_s_at	6	1.86	0.294	7.28	2e-05	0.00116
<a href="#">65108</a>	HG1612-HT1612_at	1	1.91	0.888	7.11	2e-05	0.0017
<a href="#">34</a>	M91432_at	1	0.431	-0.771	7.08	2e-05	0.0018
<a href="#">5925</a>	L41870_at	13	-0.438	-1.3	7.08	2e-05	0.0018
<a href="#">546</a>	U72936_s_at	NA	-0.097	-1.07	7.07	2e-05	0.0018
<a href="#">7430</a>	X51521_at	6	1.92	1.07	7.06	2e-05	0.00186
<a href="#">4056</a>	U50136_ma1_at	5	0.71	1.51	-6.97	2e-05	0.00232
<a href="#">54741</a>	Y12670_at	1	-0.167	0.892	-6.96	2e-05	0.00238
<a href="#">7203</a>	X74801_at	1	0.611	-0.183	6.95	2e-05	0.00238
<a href="#">3576</a>	Y00787_s_at	4	-0.371	2.32	-6.87	2e-05	0.00288
<a href="#">6709</a>	J05243_at	9	0.413	-0.982	6.86	2e-05	0.00288
<a href="#">1725</a>	U26266_s_at	19	-0.209	-1.16	6.85	4e-05	0.00294
<a href="#">3205</a>	U82759_at	7	-0.64	0.504	-6.82	2e-05	0.00306
<a href="#">945</a>	M23197_at	19	-0.881	0.354	-6.79	2e-05	0.0033
<a href="#">1509</a>	M63138_at	11	1.21	2.12	-6.77	2e-05	0.00344
<a href="#">6955</a>	M12959_s_at	14	1.13	0.132	6.76	2e-05	0.00352
<a href="#">967</a>	X62654_ma1_at	12	0.0513	1.33	-6.76	2e-05	0.00352
<a href="#">5341</a>	X07743_at	2	-0.959	0.535	-6.74	2e-05	0.00378
<a href="#">140465</a>	M31211_s_at	12	0.108	-0.953	6.71	2e-05	0.00404
<a href="#">7336</a>	U62136_at	8	-0.163	-0.92	6.68	2e-05	0.00428
<a href="#">3660</a>	X15949_at	4	-0.541	-1.33	6.61	2e-05	0.00492
<a href="#">9655</a>	U72936_s_at	NA	-0.097	-1.07	7.07	2e-05	0.0018

l1.htmlpage  
function from  
**annotate**  
package

[genelist.html](#)

# **annotate: chromLoc class**

Location information for one gene

- **chrom**: chromosome name.
- **position**: starting position of the gene in bp.
- **strand**: chromosome strand +/-.

# **annotate: chromLocation class**

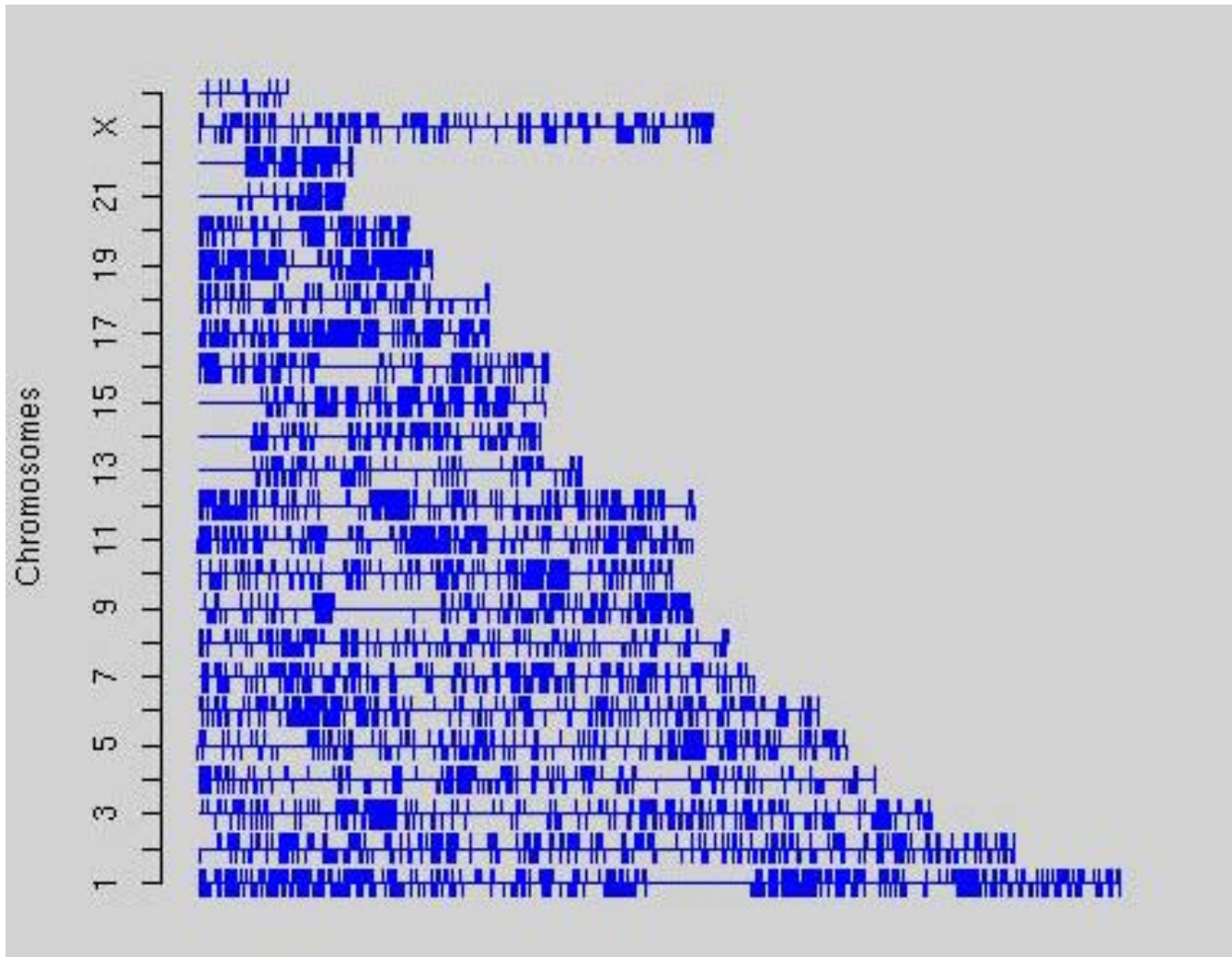
Location information for a set of genes

- **species**: species that the genes correspond to.
- **datSource**: source of the gene location data.
- **nChrom**: number of chromosomes for the species.
- **chromNames**: chromosome names.
- **chromLocs**: starting position of the genes in bp.
- **chromLengths**: length of each chromosome in bp.
- **geneToChrom**: hash table translating gene IDs to location.

Function **buildChromClass**.

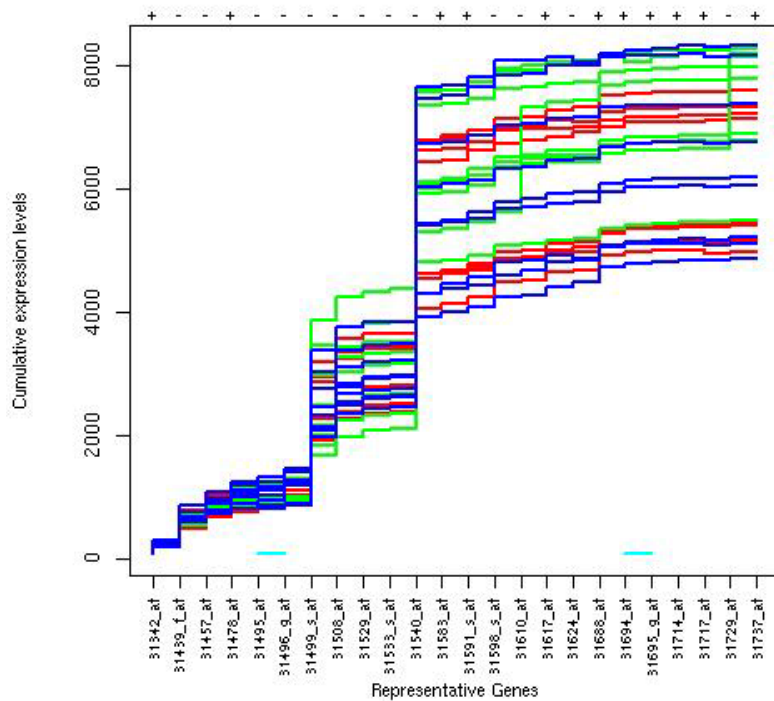
# Visualization

# geneplotter: cPlot

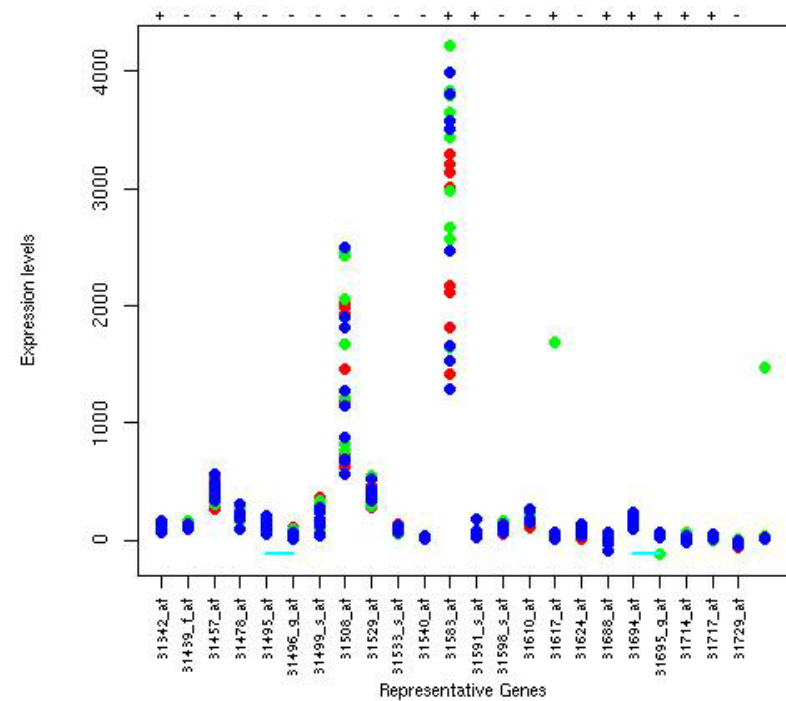


# geneplotter: aLongChrom

Cumulative expression levels by genes in chromosome 1  
scaling method: none



Expression levels by genes in chromosome 1  
scaling method: none



# geneplotter: alongChrom

