

# Inter- and intra – tumor heterogeneity

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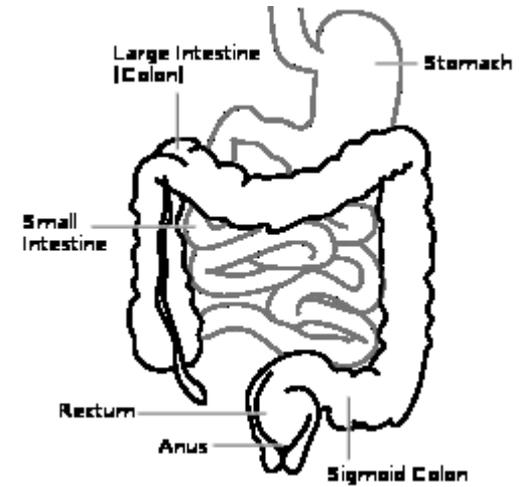
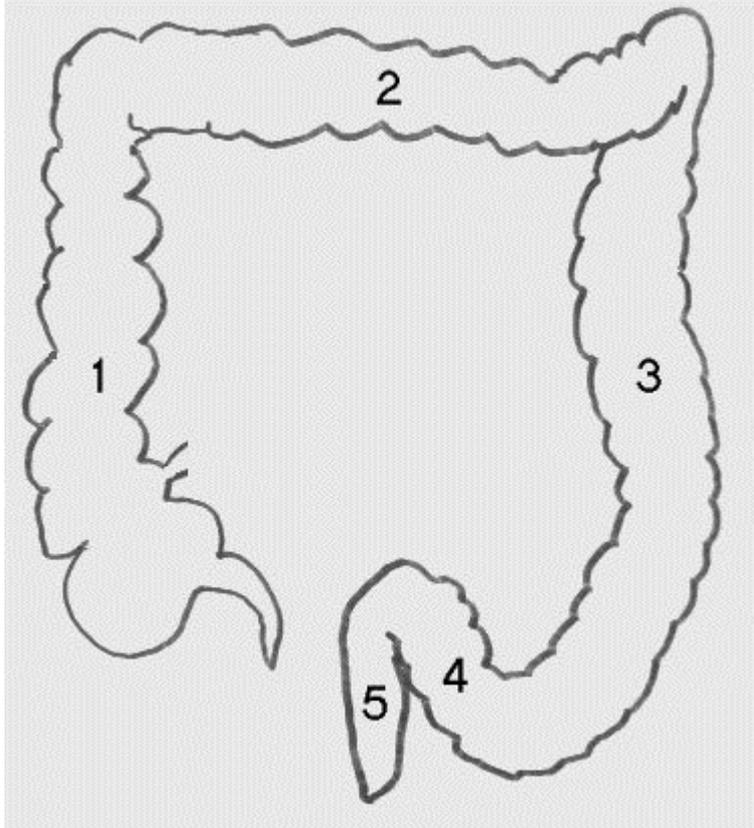
*Nature*. ; 487(7407): 330–337. doi:10.1038/nature11252.

# Comprehensive Molecular Characterization of Human Colon and Rectal Cancer

The Cancer Genome Atlas Network

## Summary

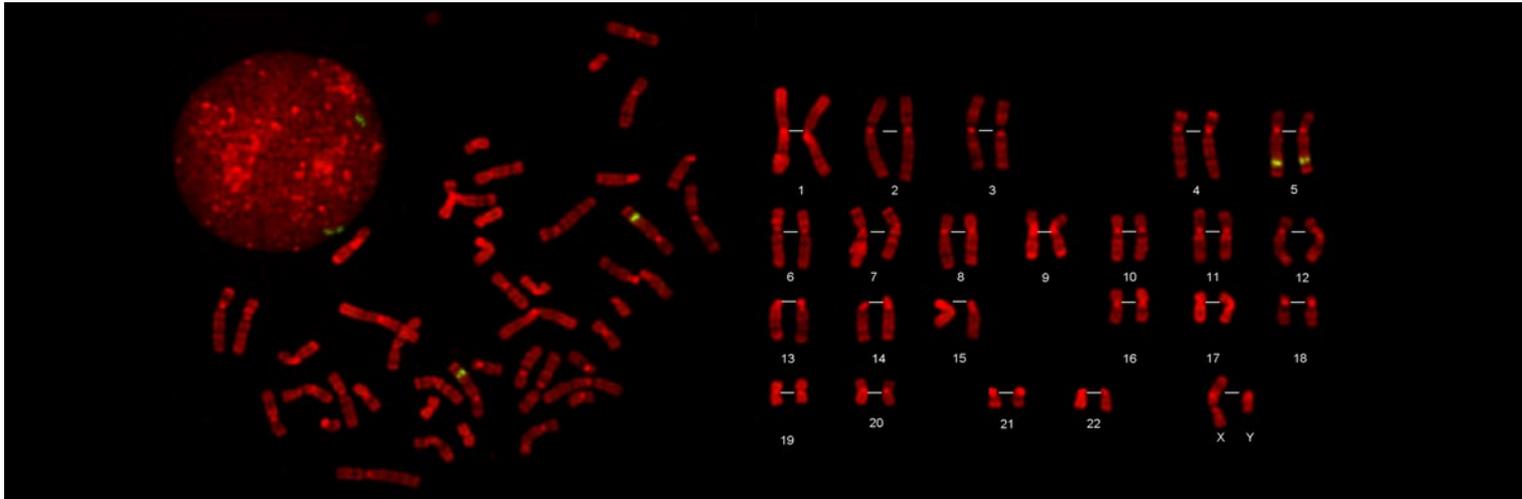
To characterize somatic alterations in colorectal carcinoma (CRC), we conducted genome-scale analysis of 276 samples, analyzing exome sequence, DNA copy number, promoter methylation, mRNA and microRNA expression. A subset (97) underwent low-depth-of-coverage whole-genome sequencing. 16% of CRC have hypermutation, three quarters of which have the expected high microsatellite instability (MSI), usually with hypermethylation and *MLH1* silencing, but one quarter has somatic mismatch repair gene mutations. Excluding hypermutated cancers, colon and rectum cancers have remarkably similar patterns of genomic alteration. Twenty-four genes are significantly mutated. In addition to the expected *APC*, *TP53*, *SMAD4*, *PIK3CA* and *KRAS* mutations, we found frequent mutations in *ARID1A*, *SOX9*, and *FAM123B/WTX*. Recurrent copy number alterations include potentially drug-targetable amplifications of *ERBB2* and newly discovered amplification of *IGF2*. Recurrent chromosomal translocations include fusion of *NAV2* and WNT pathway member *TCF7L1*. Integrative analyses suggest new markers for aggressive CRC and important role for *MYC*-directed transcriptional activation and repression.



1. *Colon ascendens*
2. *Colon transversum*
3. *Colon descendens*
4. *Colon sigmoideum*
5. *Rectum*

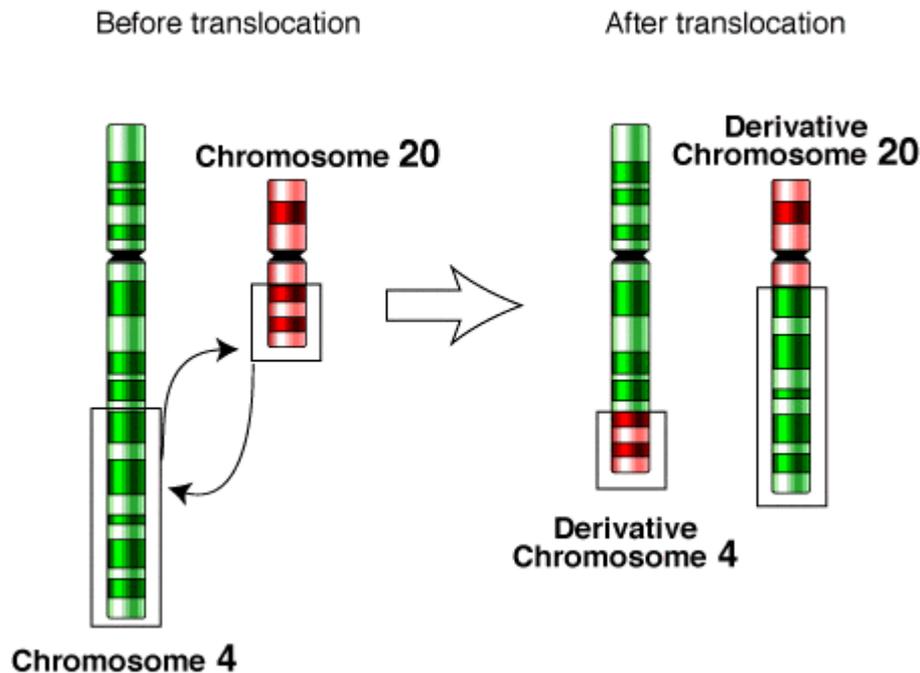
## Chromosomal Stability

Chromosome instability (CIN) involves the unequal distribution of DNA to daughter cells upon mitosis, resulting in a failure to maintain euploidy (the correct number of chromosomes) leading to aneuploidy (incorrect number of chromosomes). In other words, the daughter cells do not have the same number of chromosomes as the cell they originated from. These changes have been studied in solid tumors, which may or may not be cancerous.



## Chromosomal Translocation

A chromosome translocation is a chromosome abnormality caused by rearrangement of parts between nonhomologous chromosomes. A gene fusion may be created when the translocation joins two otherwise separated genes, the occurrence of which is common in cancer. It is detected on cytogenetics or a karyotype of affected cells. Translocations can be balanced (in an even exchange of material with no genetic information extra or missing, and ideally full functionality) or unbalanced (where the exchange of chromosome material is unequal resulting in extra or missing genes).



Translocation 4-20

## Exome Sequence

Exome sequencing (also known as targeted exome capture) is an efficient strategy to selectively sequence the coding regions of the genome as a cheaper but still effective alternative to whole genome sequencing.

Exons are short, functionally important sequences of DNA which represent the regions in genes that are translated into protein and the untranslated region (UTR) flanking them.

UTRs are usually not included in exome studies. In the human genome there are about 180,000 exons: these constitute about 1% of the human genome, which translates to about 30 megabases (Mb) in length. It is estimated that the protein coding regions of the human genome constitute about 85% of the disease-causing mutations.

Figure 1

**A.**

### Colorectal adenocarcinoma mutation rates (224 patients)

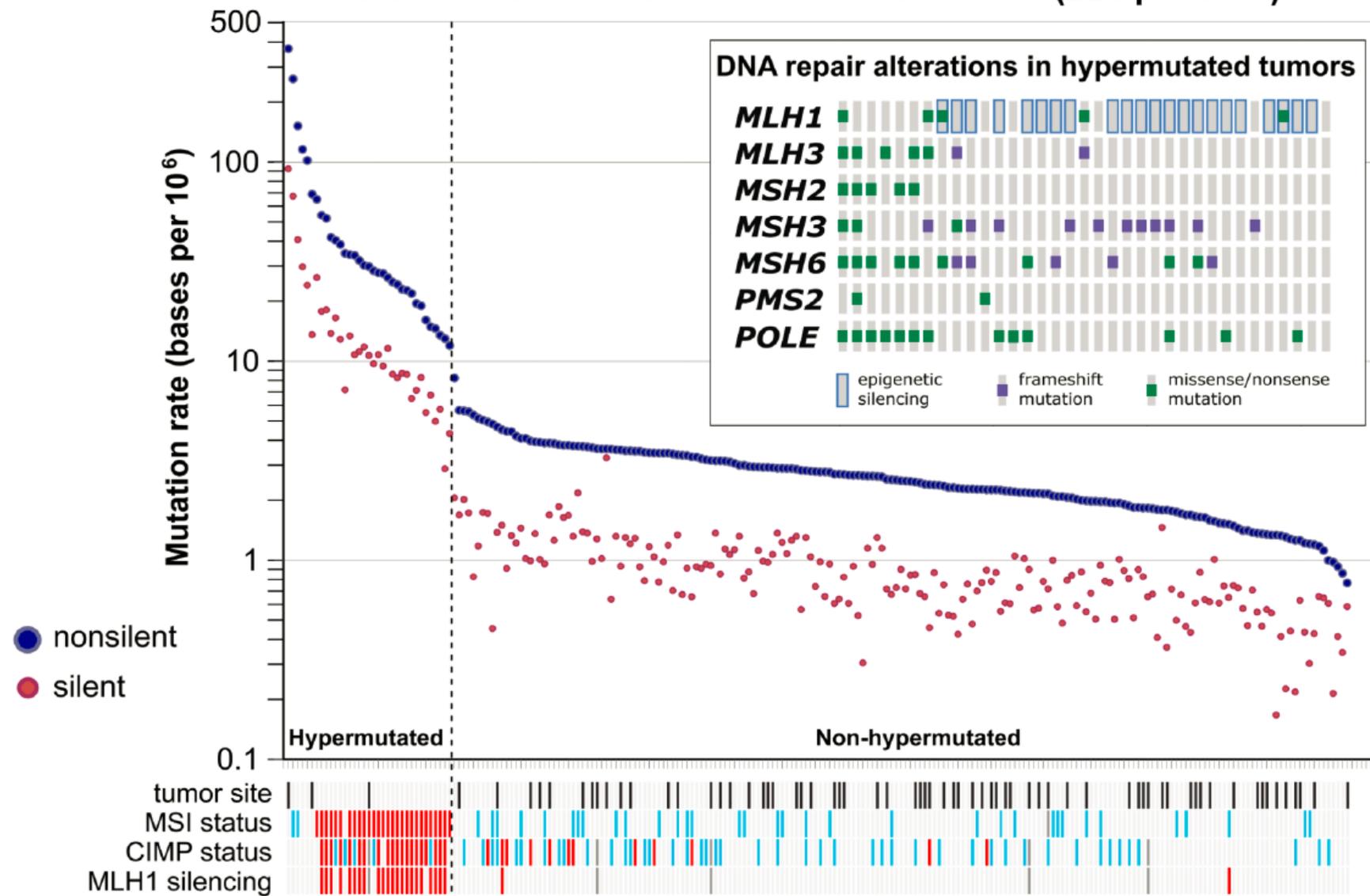
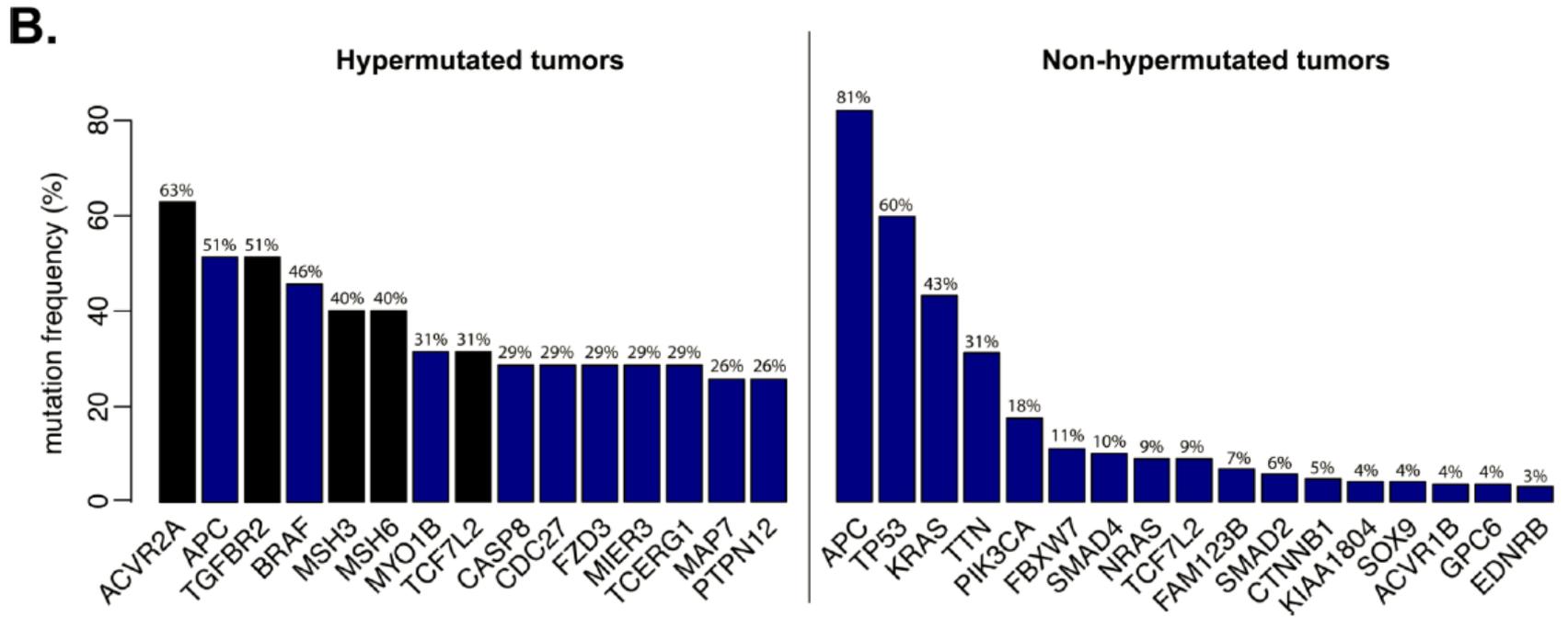


Figure 1

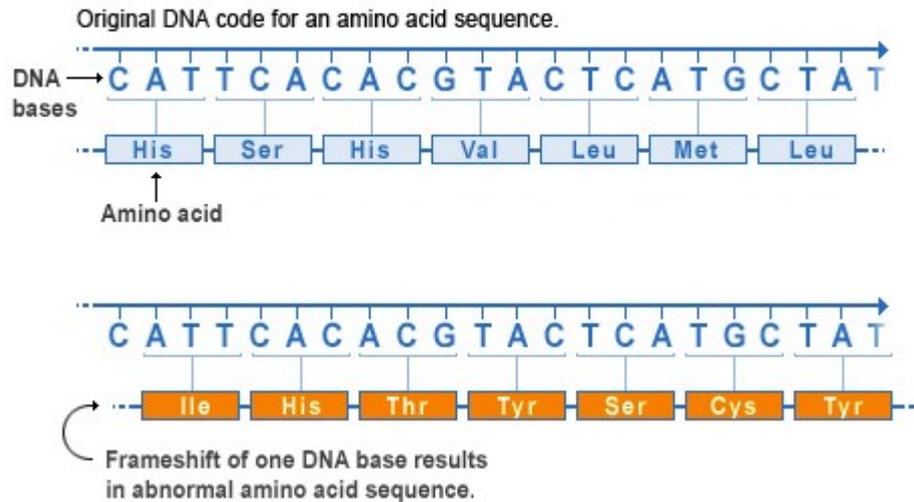


# Frameshift Mutation Nonsense Mutation

A frameshift mutation is a genetic mutation caused by a deletion or insertion in a DNA sequence that shifts the way the sequence is read.

Frameshift mutations arise when the normal sequence of codons is disrupted by the insertion or deletion of one or more nucleotides, provided that the number of nucleotides added or removed is not a multiple of three. For instance, if just one nucleotide is deleted from the sequence, then all of the codons including and after the mutation will have a disrupted reading frame. This can result in the incorporation of many incorrect amino acids into the protein. In contrast, if three nucleotides are inserted or deleted, there will be no shift in the codon reading frame; however, there will be either one extra or one missing amino acid in the final protein. Therefore, frameshift mutations result in abnormal protein products with an incorrect amino acid sequence that can be either longer or shorter than the normal protein.

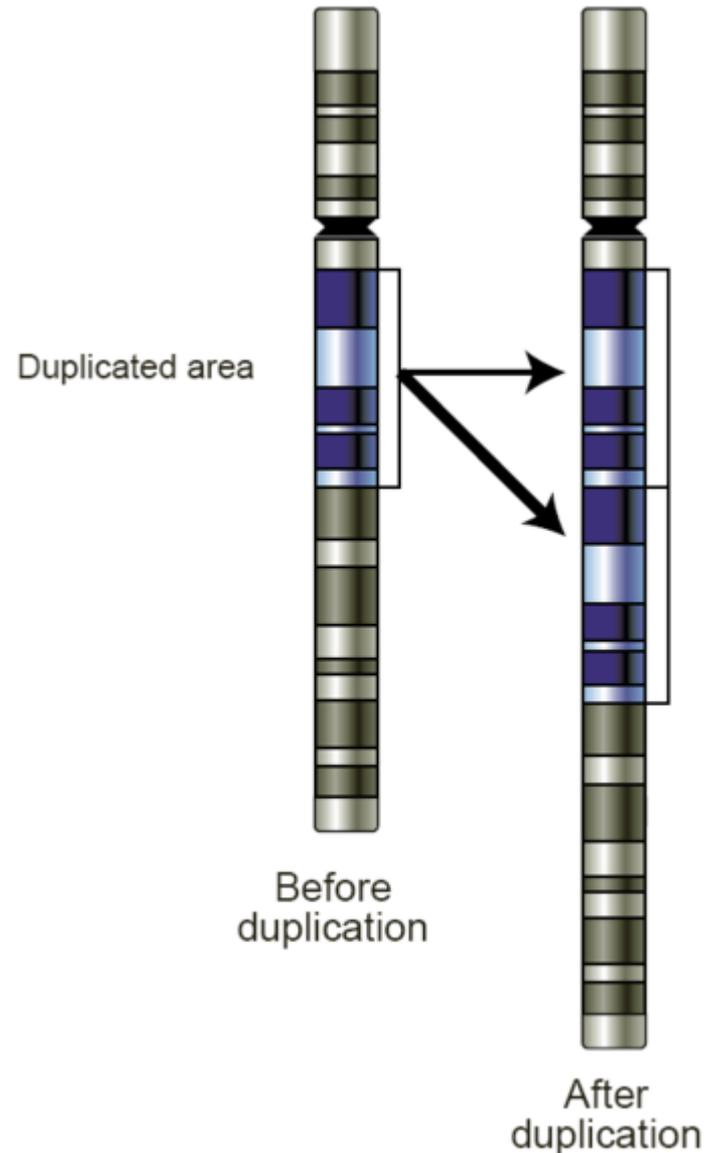
## Frameshift mutation



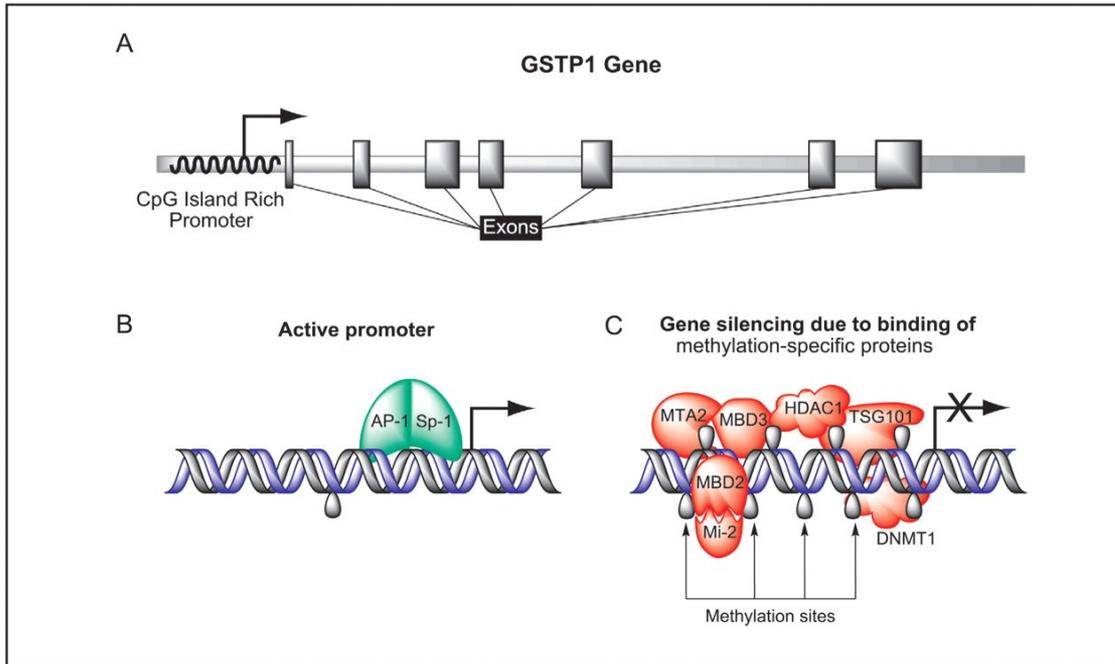
## DNA copy number

Copy-number variations (CNVs)—a form of structural variation—are alterations of the DNA of a genome that results in the cell having an abnormal number of copies of one or more sections of the DNA.

CNVs correspond to relatively large regions of the genome that have been deleted (fewer than the normal number) or duplicated (more than the normal number) on certain chromosomes. For example, the chromosome that normally has sections in order as A-B-C-D might instead have sections A-B-C-C-D (a duplication of "C") or A-B-D (a deletion of "C").



# Promoter Methylation

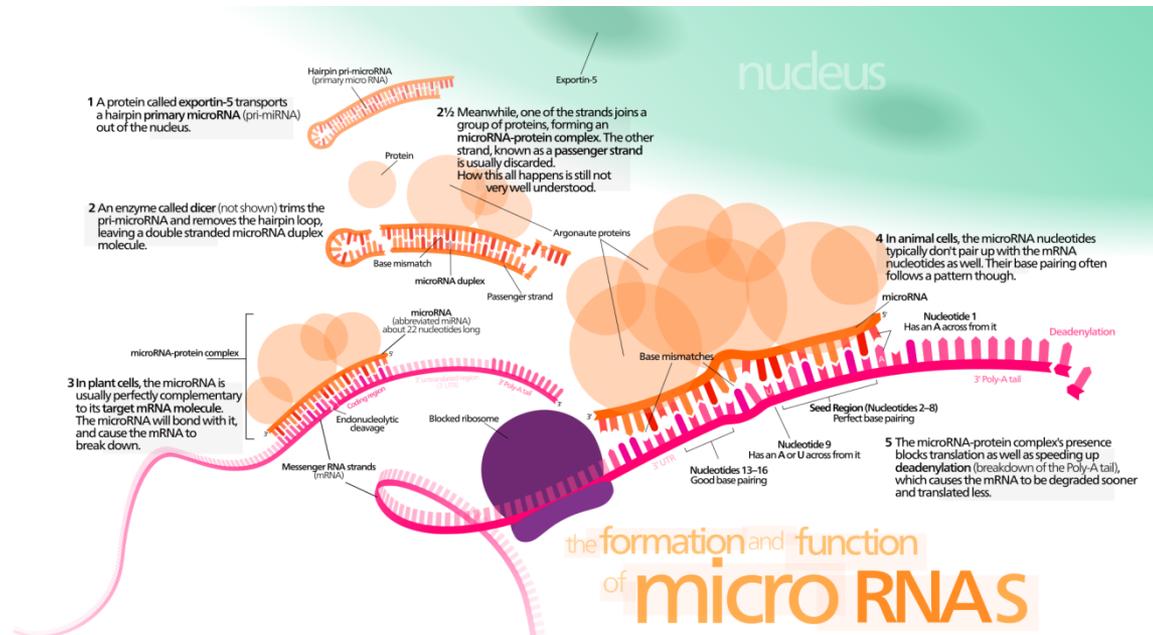
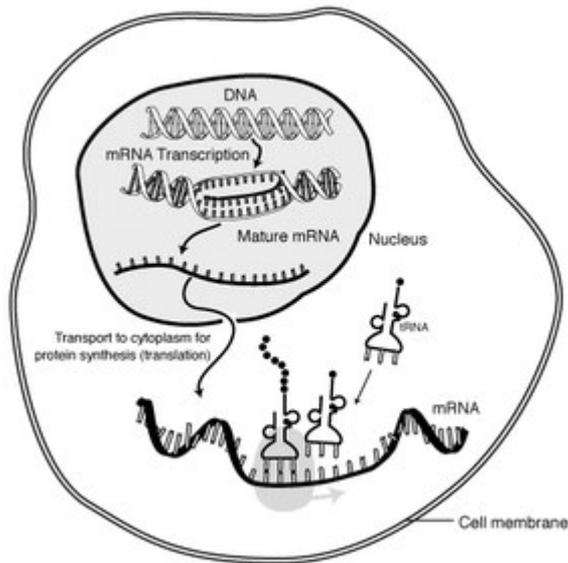


GSTP1 gene silencing by CpG island methylation.

- (A) The glutathione S-transferase Pi (GSTP1) gene has an abundance of CpG sites in the promoter region.
- (B) In healthy prostate tissue, transcription factors such as AP-1 and Sp-1 bind to the promoter and stimulate transcription.
- (C) In prostate cancer, GSTP1 CpG islands are hypermethylated. Methylation-specific proteins compete with transcription factors for binding to methylated CpG sites. In this way, hypermethylated genes, such as GSTP1, are effectively silenced.

# mRNA and miRNA

A microRNA (abbr. miRNA) is a small non-coding RNA molecule (ca. 22 nucleotides) which functions in transcriptional and post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression. miRNAs function via base-pairing with complementary sequences within mRNA molecules, usually resulting in gene silencing via translational repression or target degradation. The human genome may encode over 1000 miRNAs, which may target about 60% of mammalian genes and are abundant in many human cell types.



## MSI – Microsatellite Instability

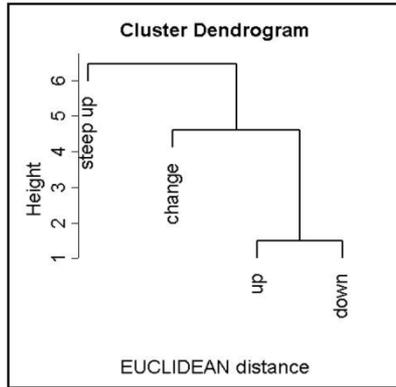
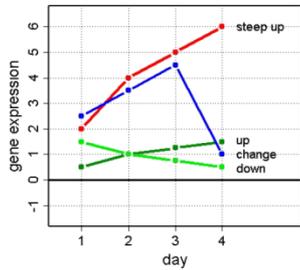
Microsatellites are repeated sequences of DNA.

Although the length of these microsatellites is highly variable from person to person, each individual has microsatellites of a set length. These repeated sequences are common, and normal. The most common microsatellite in humans is a dinucleotide repeat of CA, which occurs tens of thousands of times across the genome.

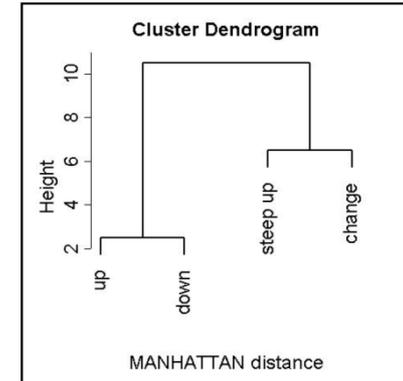
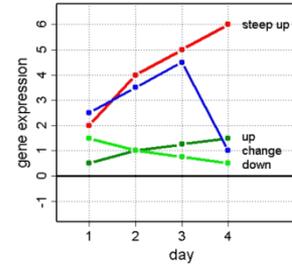
In cells with mutations in DNA repair genes, however, some of these sequences accumulate errors and become longer or shorter. The appearance of abnormally long or short microsatellites in an individual's DNA is referred to as microsatellite instability.

Microsatellite instability (MSI) is a condition manifested by damaged DNA due to defects in the normal DNA repair process. Sections of DNA called microsatellites, which consist of a sequence of repeating units of 1-6 base pairs in length, become unstable and can shorten or lengthen. Microsatellites are also known as simple sequence repeats (SSRs).

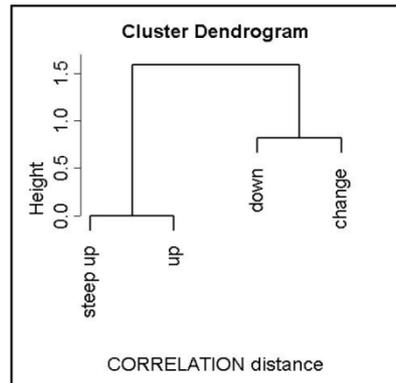
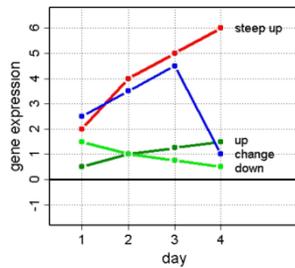
- **Euclidean distance**  
Similar values are clustered together



- **Manhattan distance**  
Similar values are clustered together (robust)

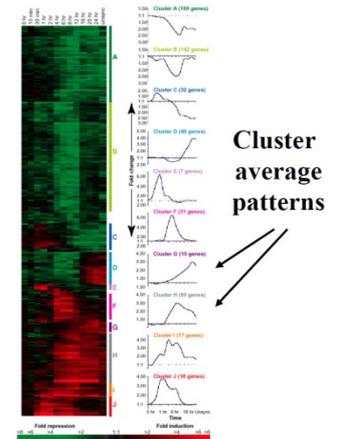
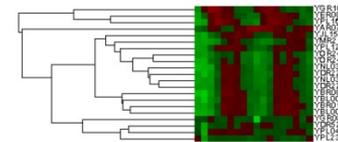


- **Correlation distance**  
Similar trends are clustered together



Iyer et al., Science, Jan 1999:

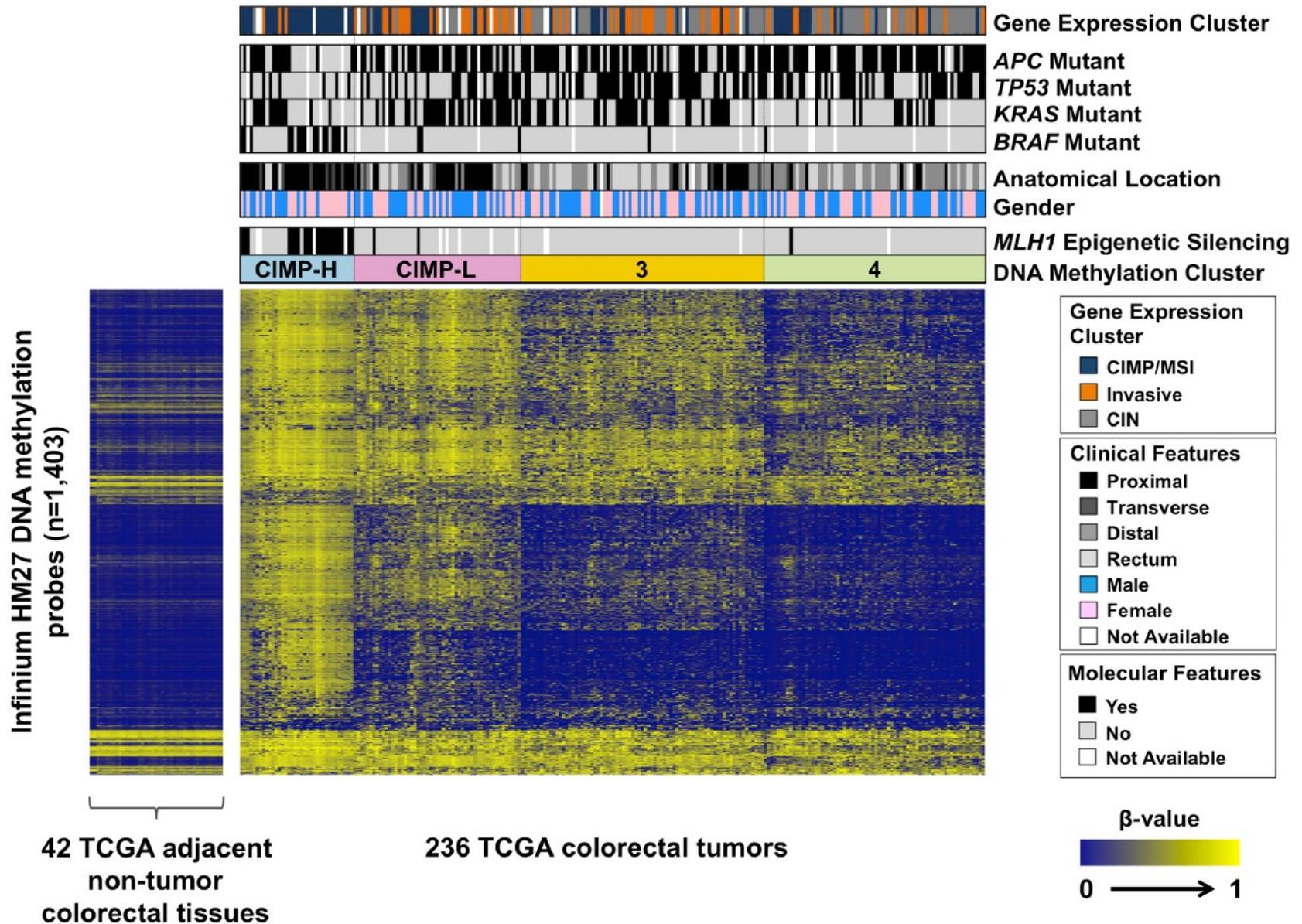
Genes from functional classes are clustered together.



## Cluster Analysis – Hierarchical clustering

1. Each object is a cluster of its own
2. Calculate the distance matrix
3. Combine the two objects which are closest to a new cluster
4. Give a value to the new cluster by calculating the mean of the two combined objects
5. Calculate the distance matrix for the new set of clusters
6. Go back to 3
7. Stop if one cluster is left.

Supplementary Figure 1



Supplementary Figure 2

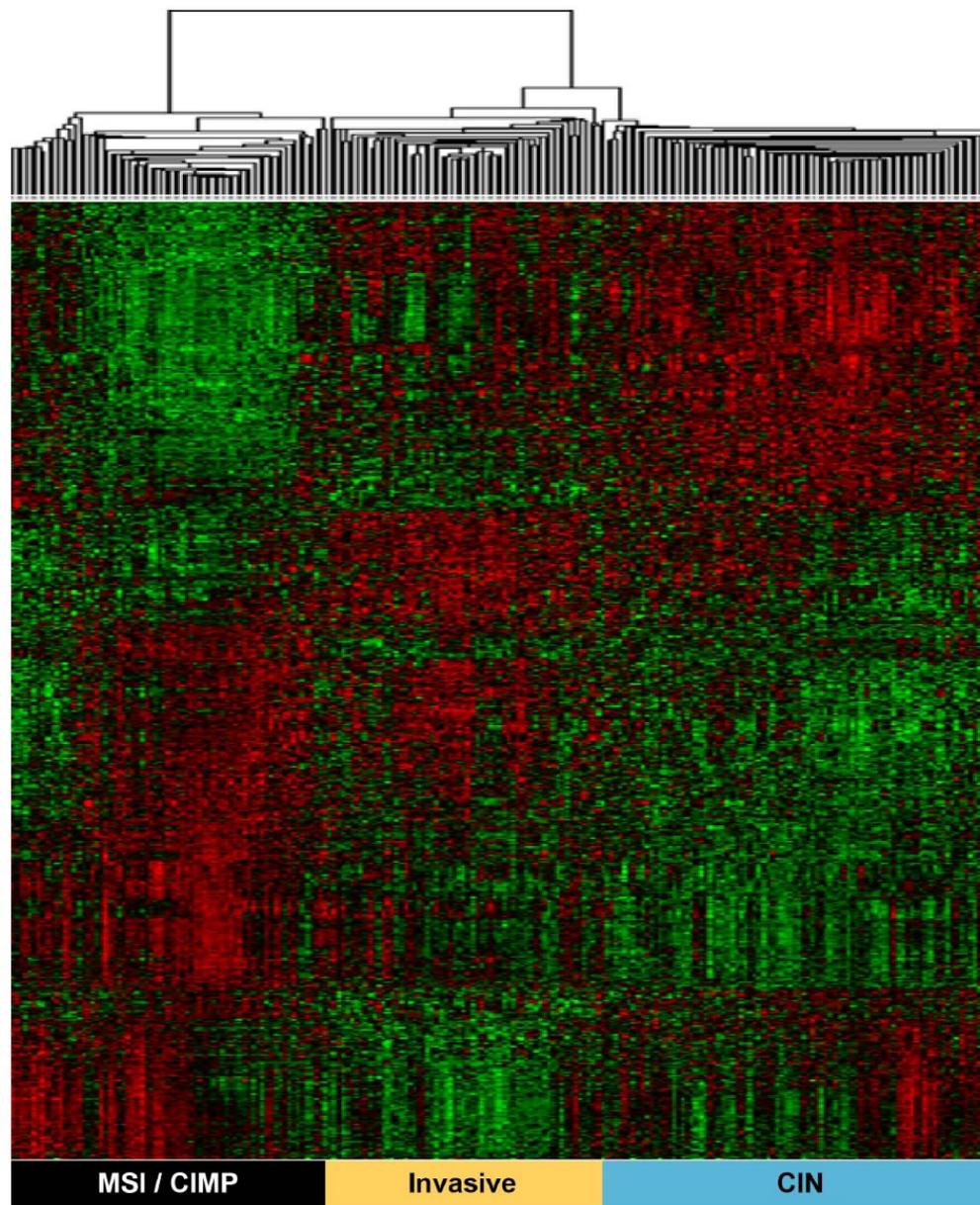
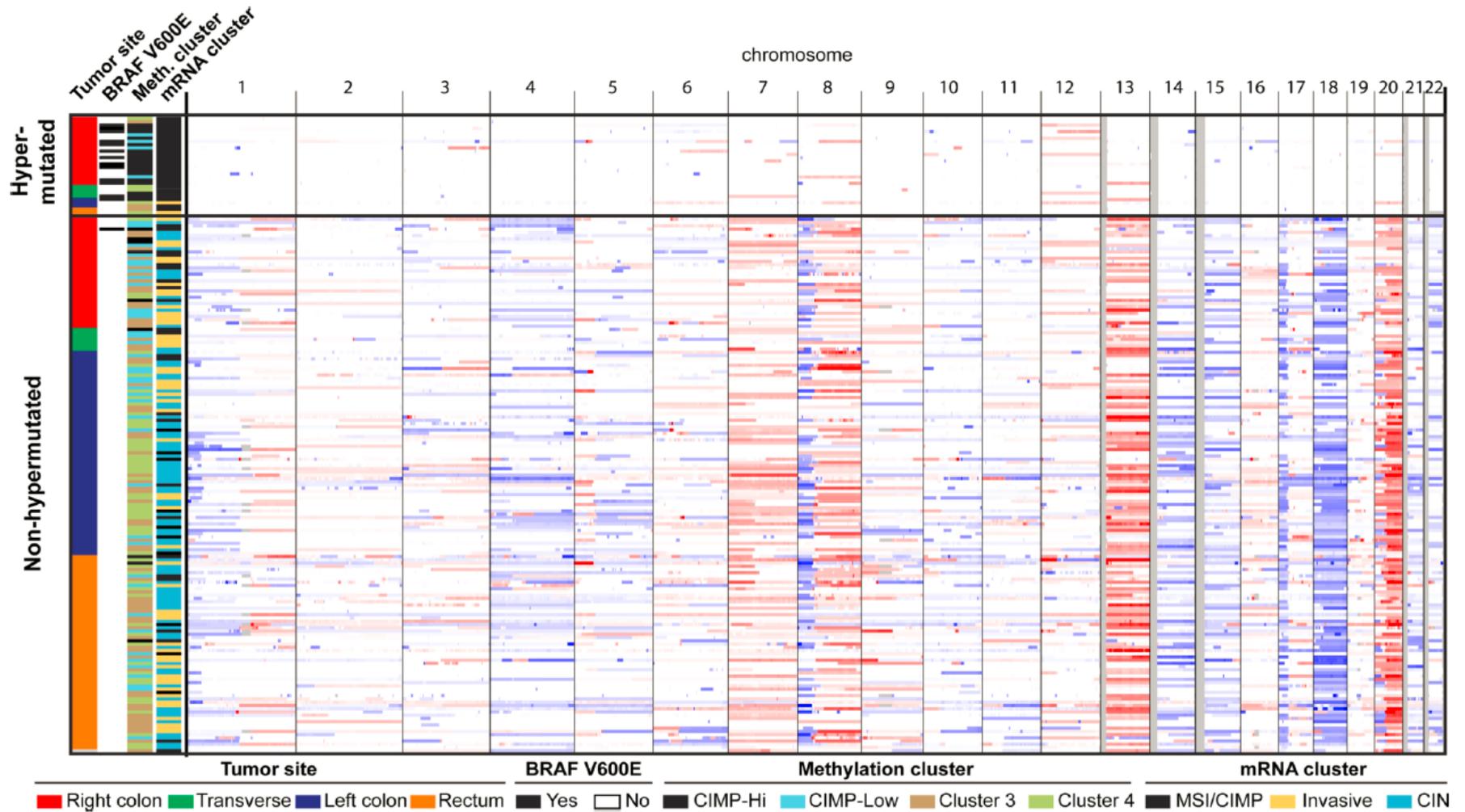
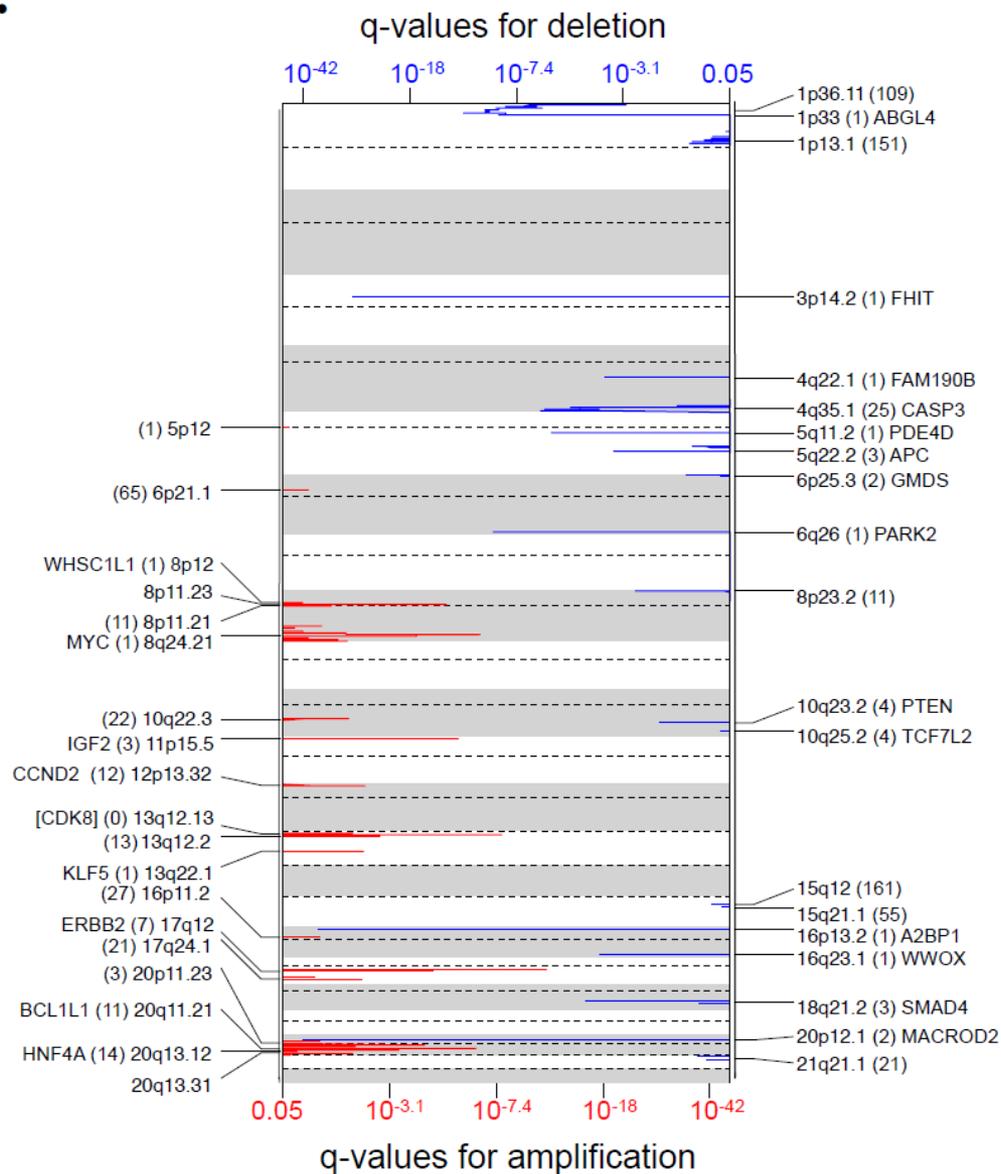
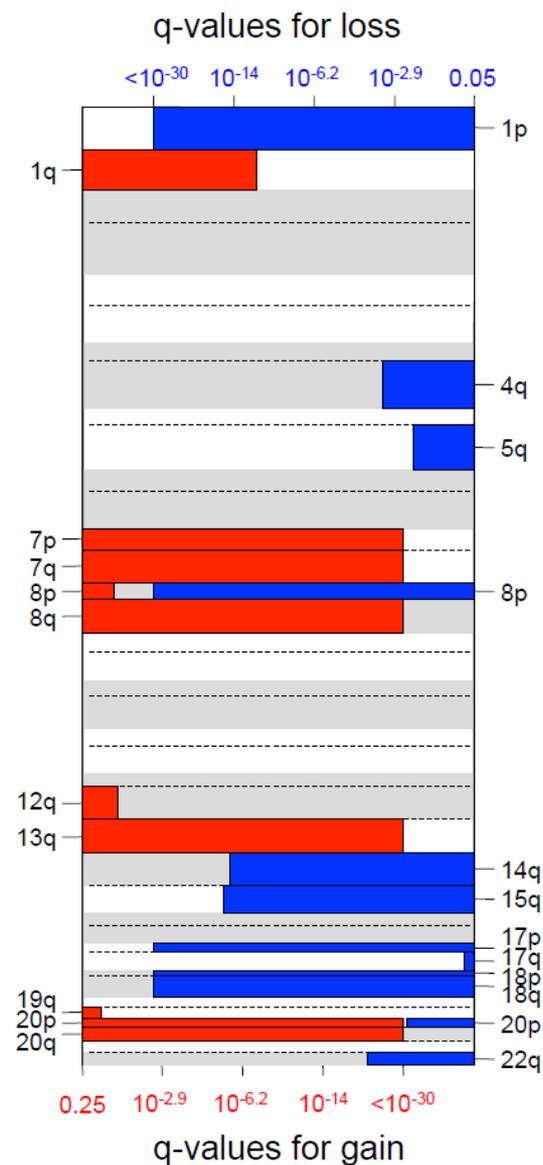


Figure 2

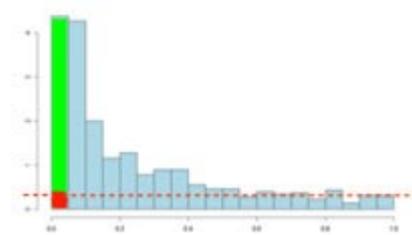
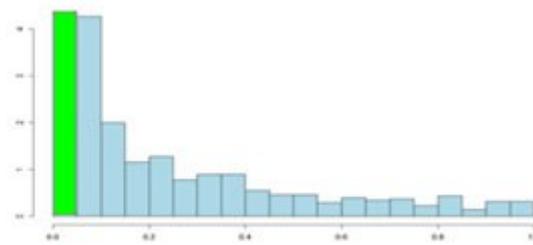
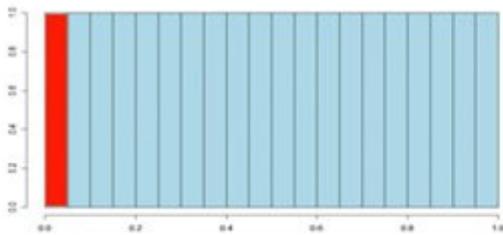


Copy-number gains in shades of red, copy-number losses in shades of blue

**A.****B.**

## q-values

q-values are the name given to the adjusted p-values found using an optimised FDR approach. The FDR approach is optimized by using characteristics of the p-value distribution to produce a list of q-values.



# Statistical significance for genomewide studies

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\*Department of Biostatistics, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195; and <sup>†</sup>Departments of Health Research and Policy and Statistics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305

## Chromosomal Stability

Chromosome instability (CIN) involves the unequal distribution of DNA to daughter cells upon mitosis, resulting in a failure to maintain euploidy (the correct number of chromosomes) leading to aneuploidy (incorrect number of chromosomes). In other words, the daughter cells do not have the same number of chromosomes as the cell they originated from. These changes have been studied in solid tumors, which may or may not be cancerous.

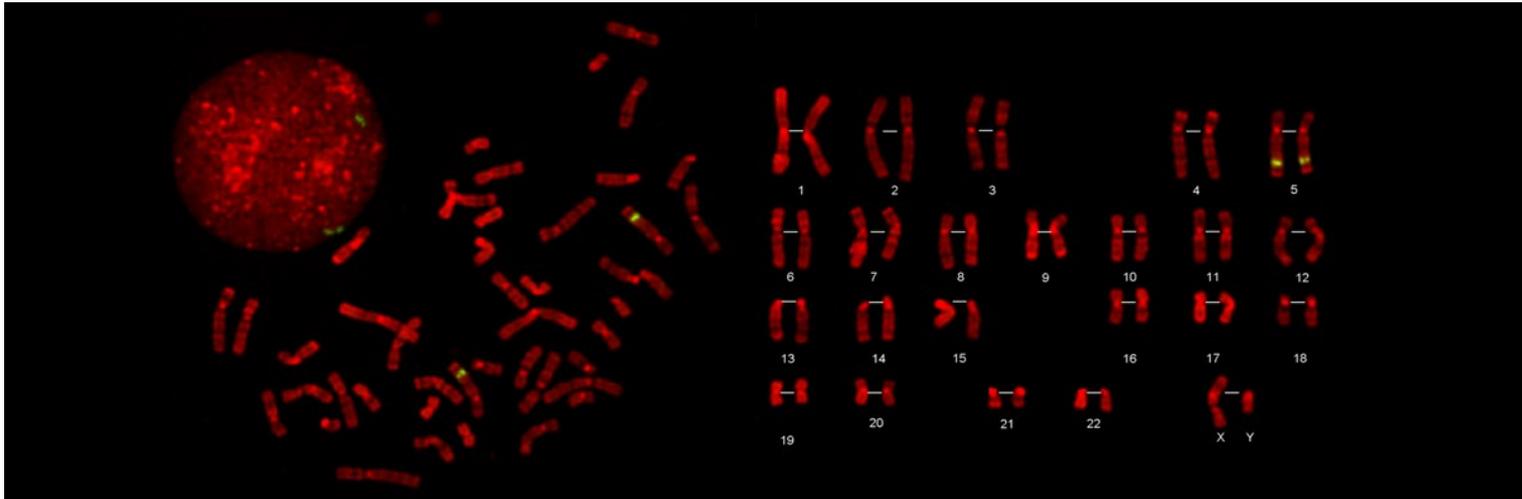


Figure 3

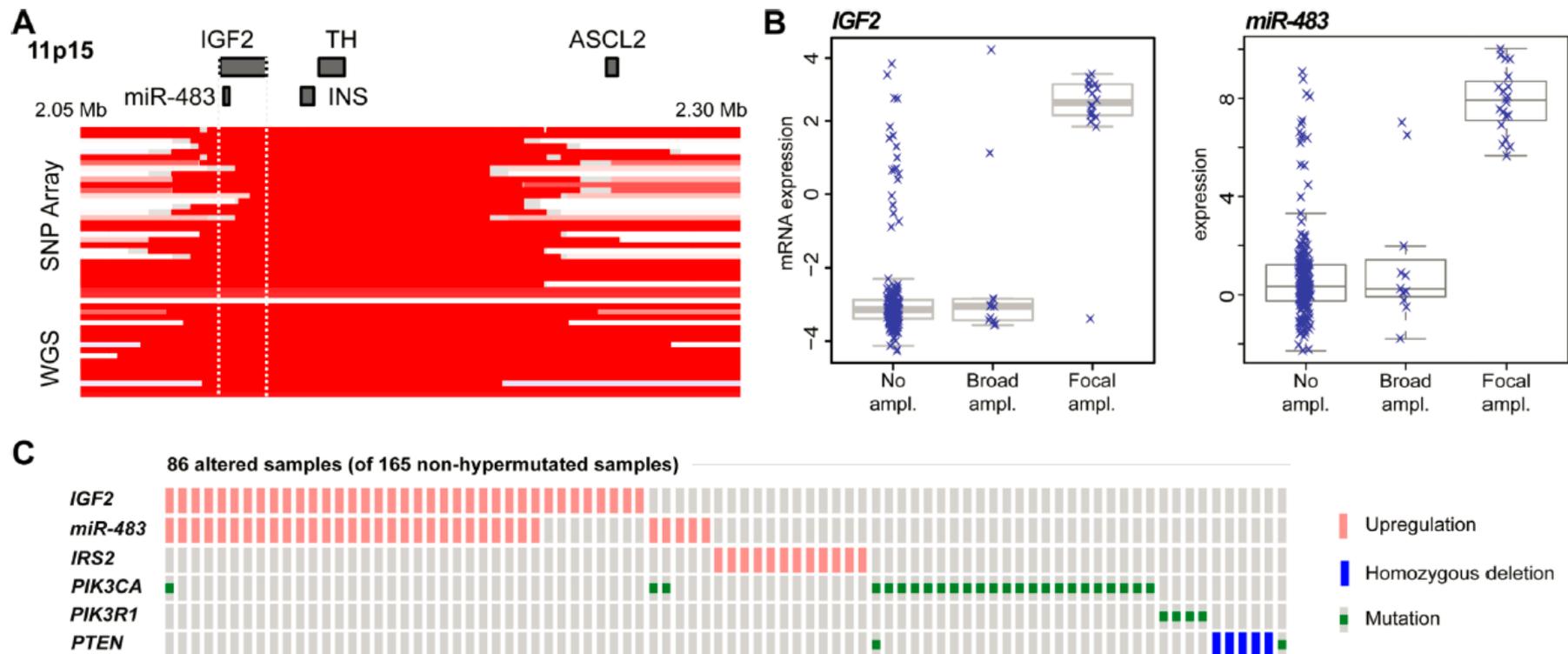


Figure 3

D

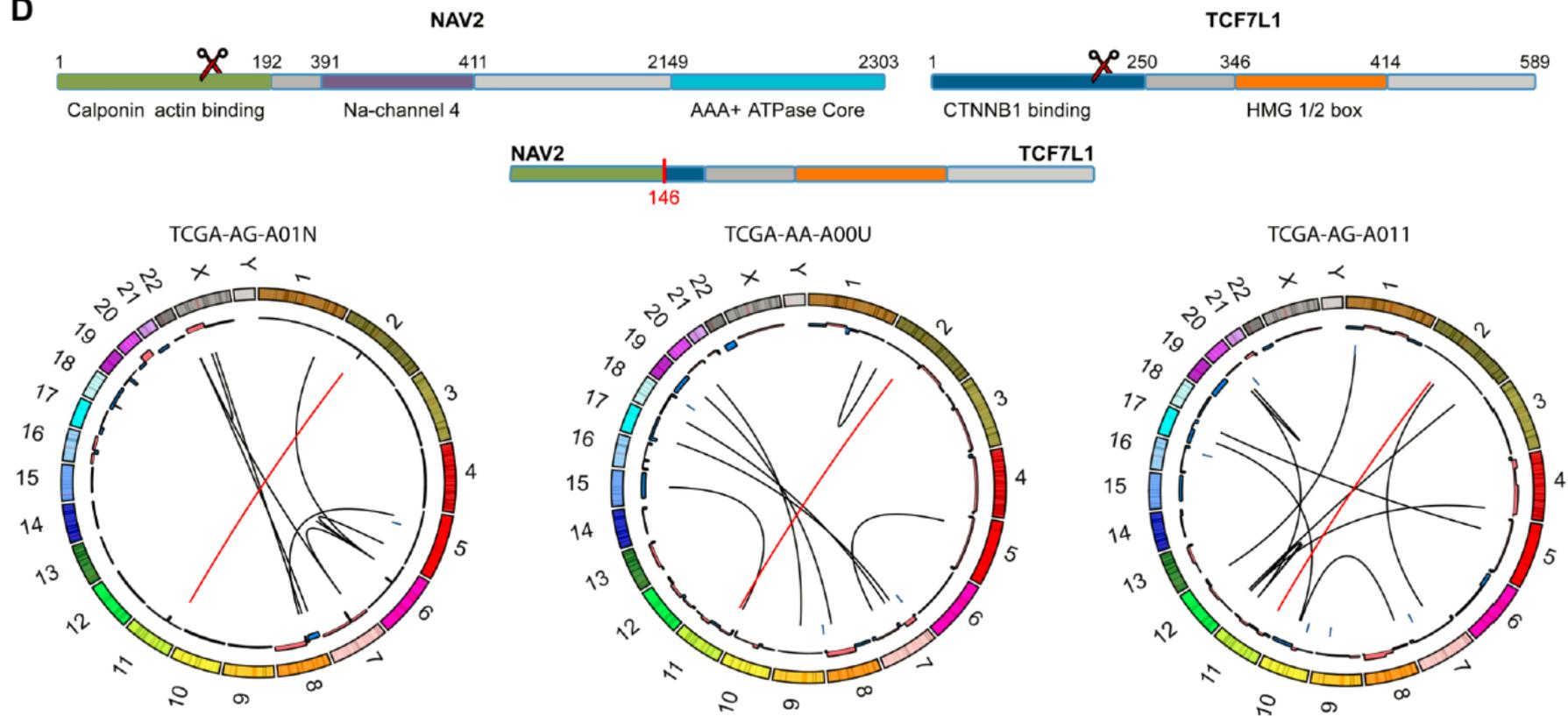
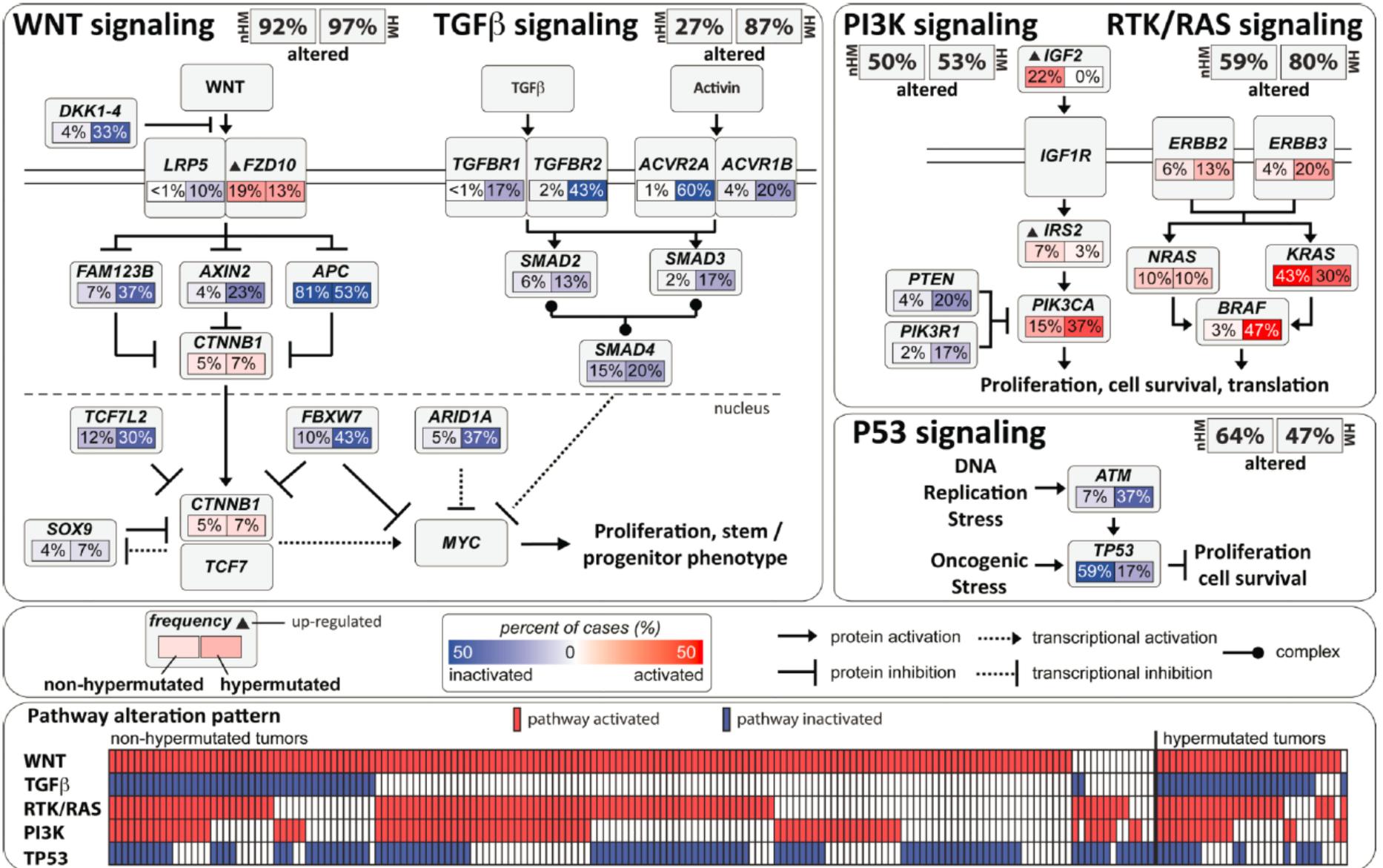
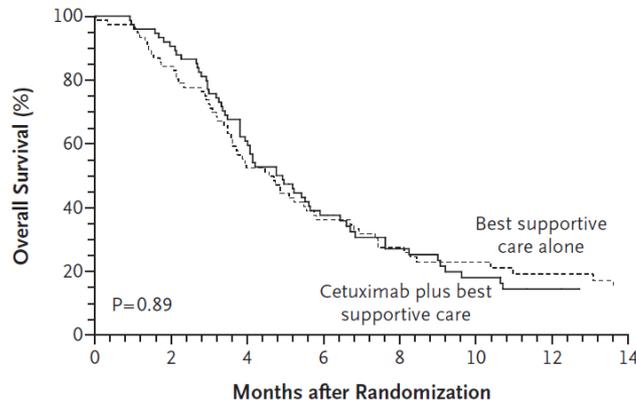


Figure 4



# Kras mutational status and cetuximab by mCRC

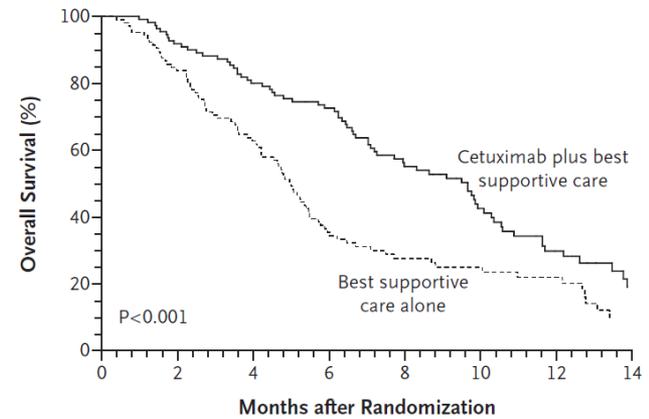
**A Mutated *K-ras***



**No. at Risk**

Cetuximab plus best supportive care	75	67	45	26	15	10	7	4
Best supportive care alone	76	64	39	26	19	12	10	7

**B Wild-type *K-ras***

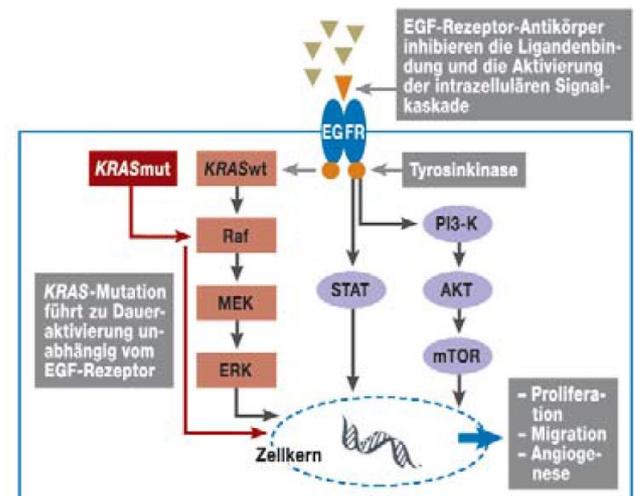


**No. at Risk**

Cetuximab plus best supportive care	110	101	88	75	48	31	19	8
Best supportive care alone	105	88	65	34	23	17	12	5

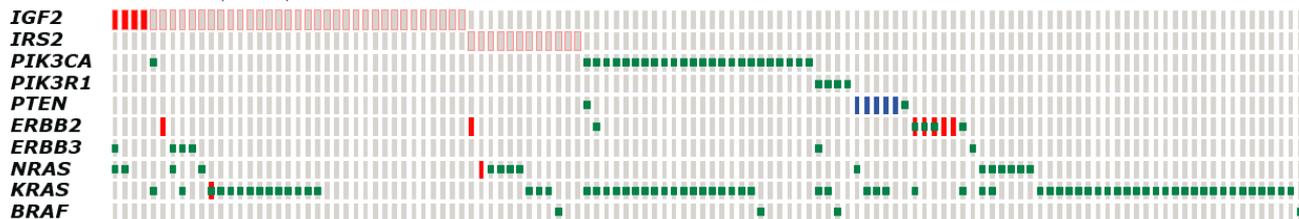
Treatment with cetuximab, a monoclonal antibody directed against the epidermal growth factor receptor, improves overall and progression-free survival and preserves the quality of life in patients with colorectal cancer that has not responded to chemotherapy. The mutation status of the *K-ras* gene in the tumor may affect the response to cetuximab and have treatment-independent prognostic value.

Deutsches Ärzteblatt, 2009



**Combined RTK/RAS/PI-3-K pathway**

125 altered cases (out of 165)



**IGF2 / PI-3-K pathway**

83 altered cases (out of 165)

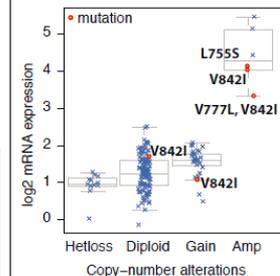


**RTK / RAS pathway**

98 altered cases (out of 165)

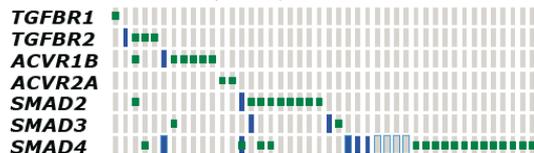


**ERBB2 amplifications and mutations**



**TGFβ pathway**

44 altered cases (out of 165)

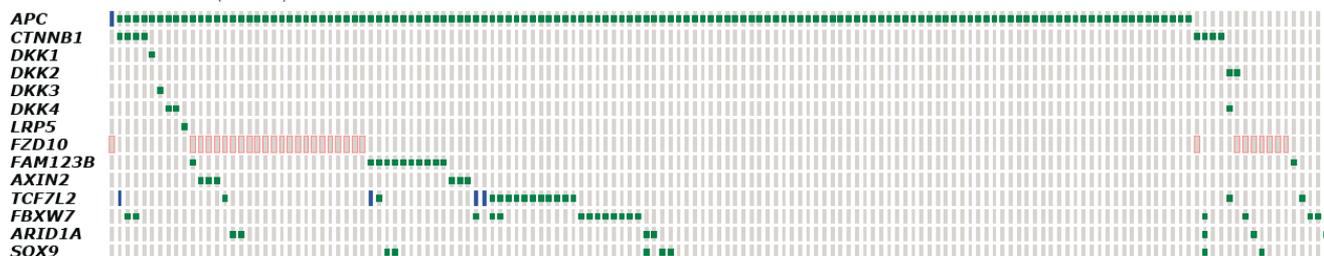


**OncoPrint Legend**

- █ Amplification
- █ Homozygous deletion
- █ up-regulation
- █ down-regulation
- █ Somatic mutation

**WNT pathway**

152 altered cases (out of 165)



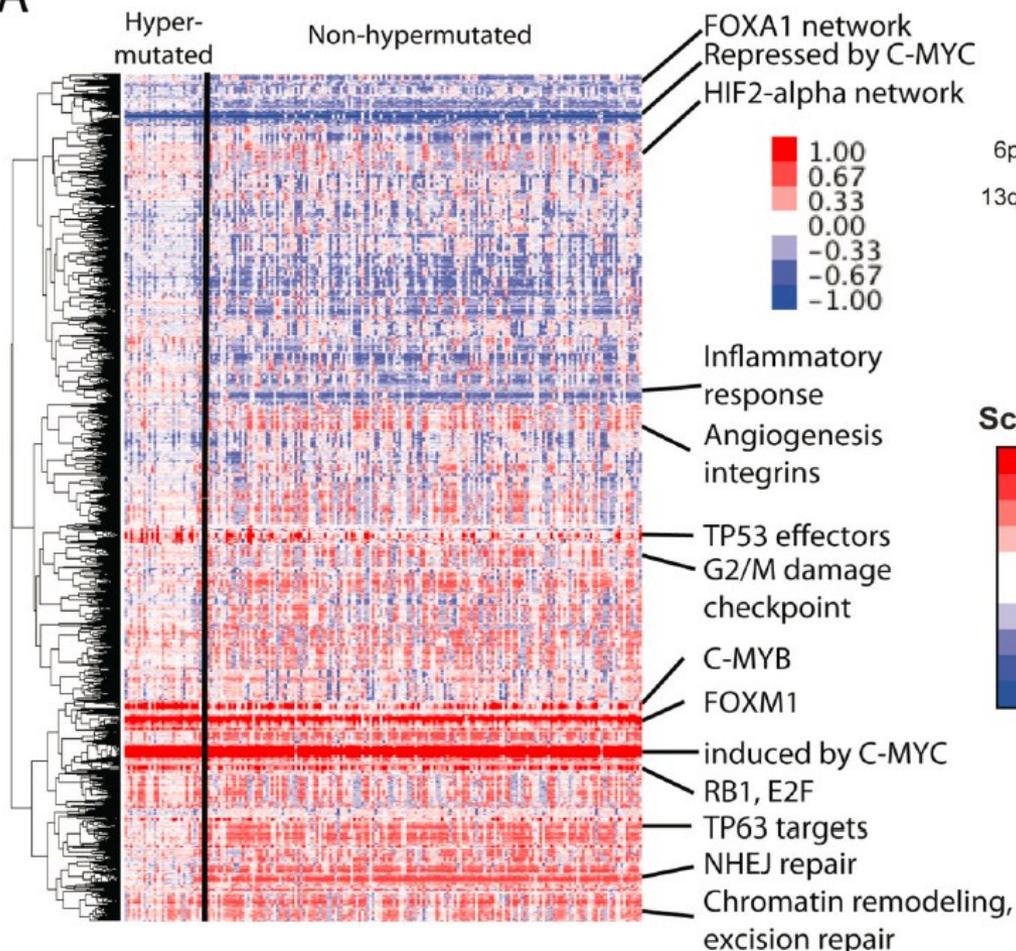
**TP53 pathway**

106 altered cases (out of 165)

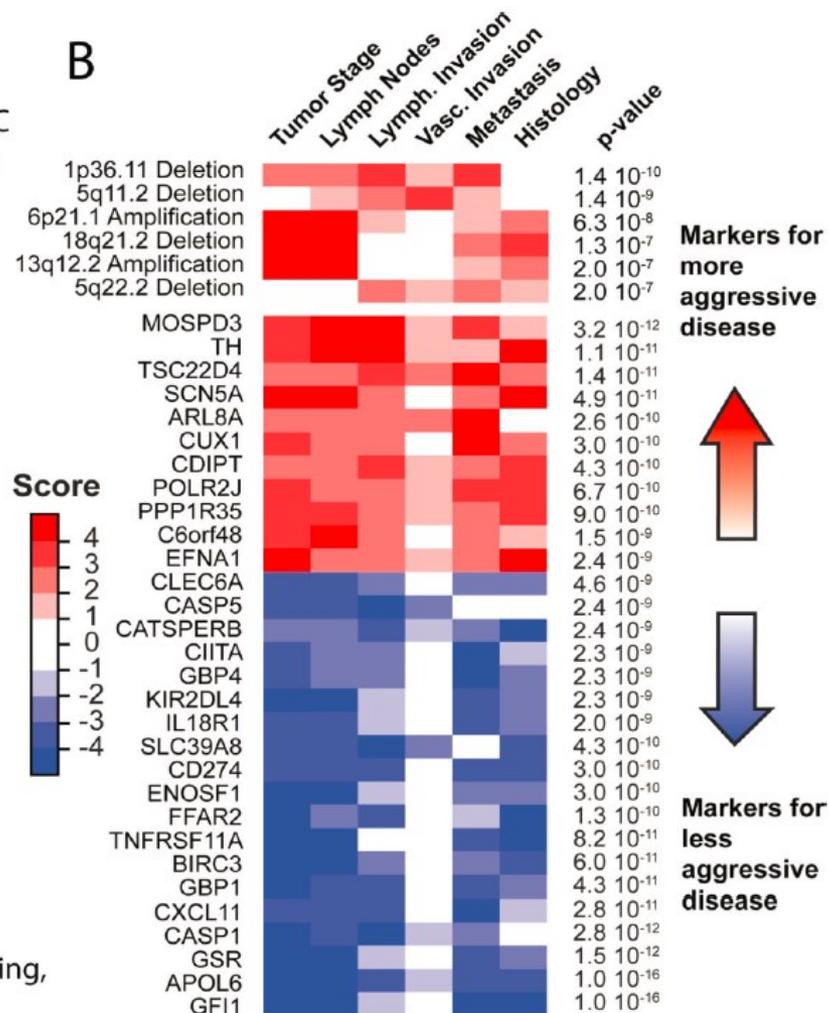


Figure 5

A



B



# Understanding cancer cell function or cell function in general

... is contingent upon our ability to acquire a better appreciation of the complexity of molecular interactions.

Technological advances allow to monitor cell function from a holistic perspective.  
Improved computational capabilities

→ Cancer System Biology

# Advances in ordering the system

Gene Ontology

Biological Process

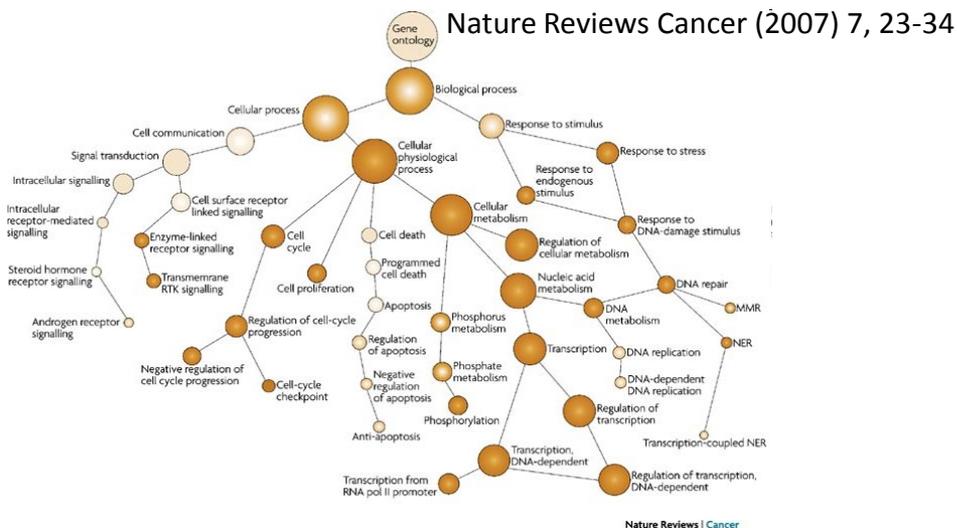
Cellular Component

Molecular Function

Open Biomedical Ontology (OBO)

Transcription factors

Functional gene sets



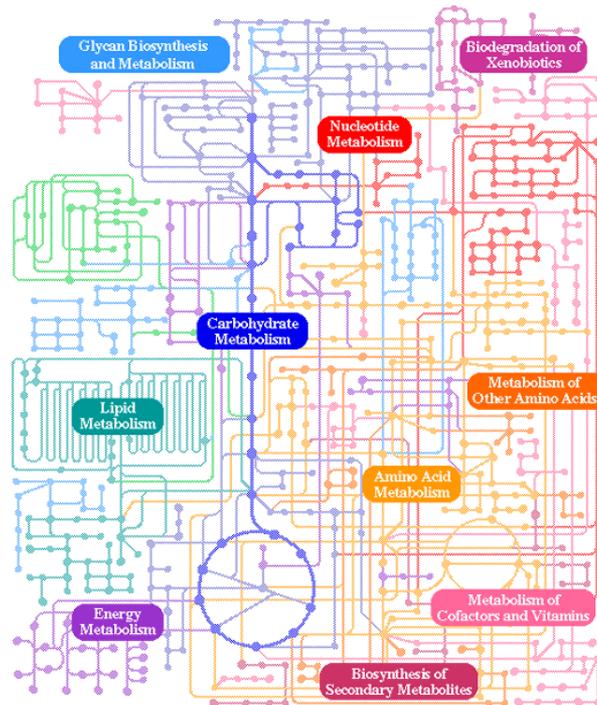
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# Strategies to identify cellular interactions

- Bottom-up approach
- Top – down approach
- Complementary merging of both

# Bottom-Up



01100 5/31/04 Image source from KEGG

A bottom-up approach is the piecing together of systems to give rise to grander systems.

It makes the original systems sub-systems of the emergent system.

In a bottom-up approach the individual base elements of the system are first specified in great detail.

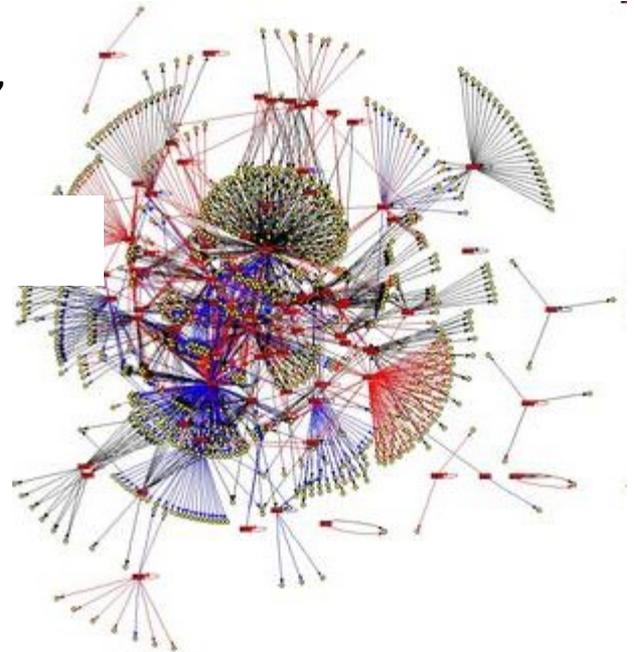
These elements are then linked together to form larger subsystems, which then in turn are linked, sometimes in many levels, until a complete top-level system is formed.

# Top-down

A top-down approach breaks a system down to gain insight into its compositional sub-systems.

In a top-down approach an overview of the system is formulated, specifying but not detailing any first-level subsystems.

Each subsystem is then refined in yet greater detail, sometimes in many additional subsystem levels, until the entire specification is reduced to base elements.



# Cancer Systems Biology: Bottom - Up

Reductionist in nature – focus is on known components, based on known and experimentally validated structures.

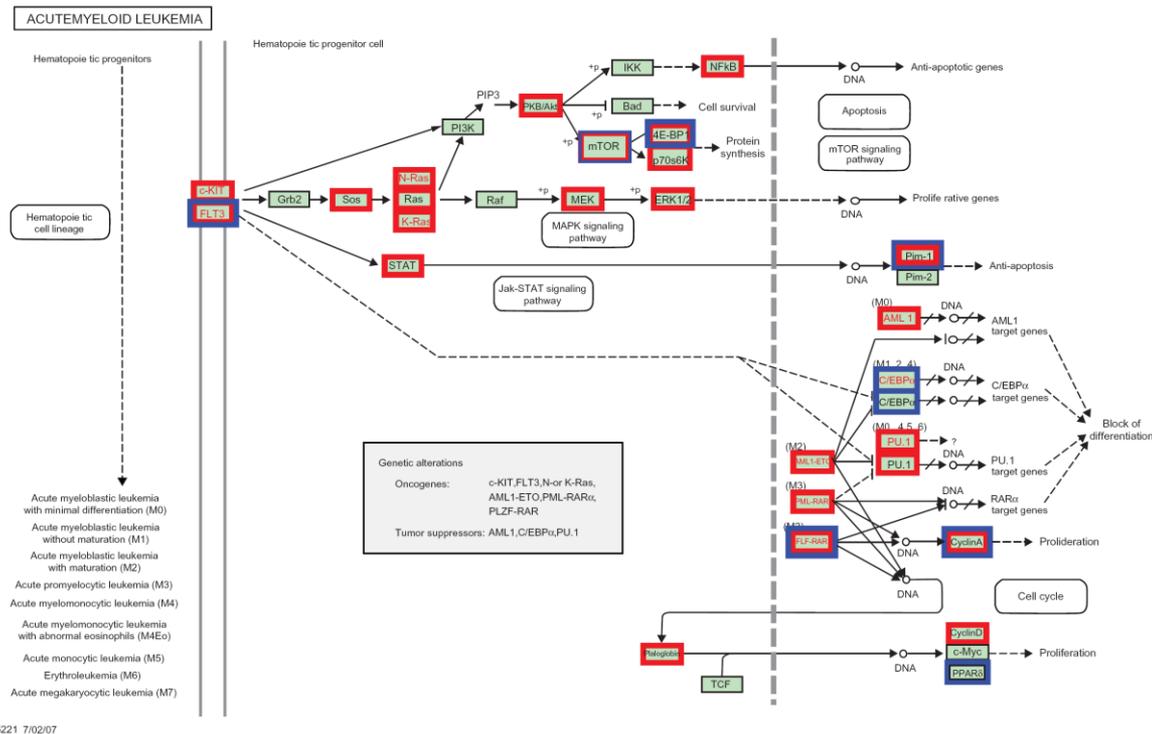
Map oncogenes / suppressor genes with known interacting genes (regulatory, developmental) previously characterized in cell lines or experimental organisms.

(Wnt, notch, hedgehog pathways) → identified as sets of interacting genes involved in *Drosophila* development.

Interactive networks are inferred from prior knowledge about the molecular interactions of their components.

# Integrating the AML signature into pathways

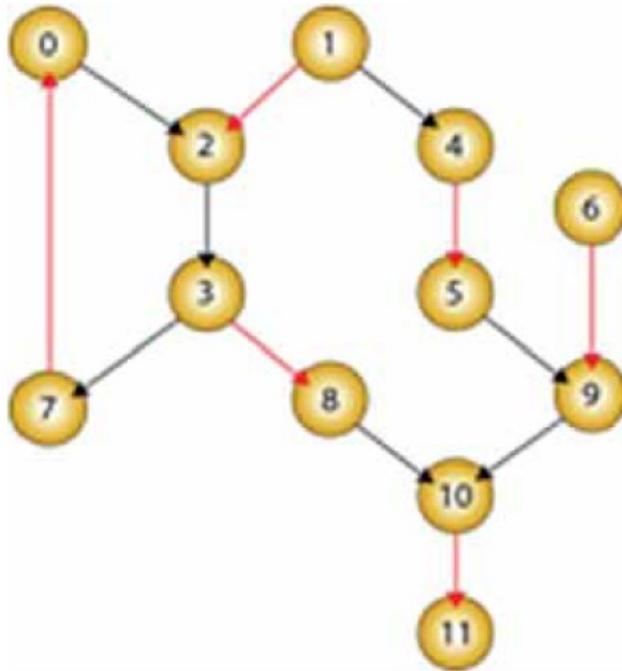
Hummel et al. *BBI* 2008:2 329-341



KEGG pathway 'acute myeloid leukemia' (hsa05221). Red boxes mark involved genes that correlate significantly with at least one of the signature genes. Blue boxes mark genes that show a significant partial correlation (in the gene association network) to at least one of the signature genes.

# Correlation versus Partial correlation

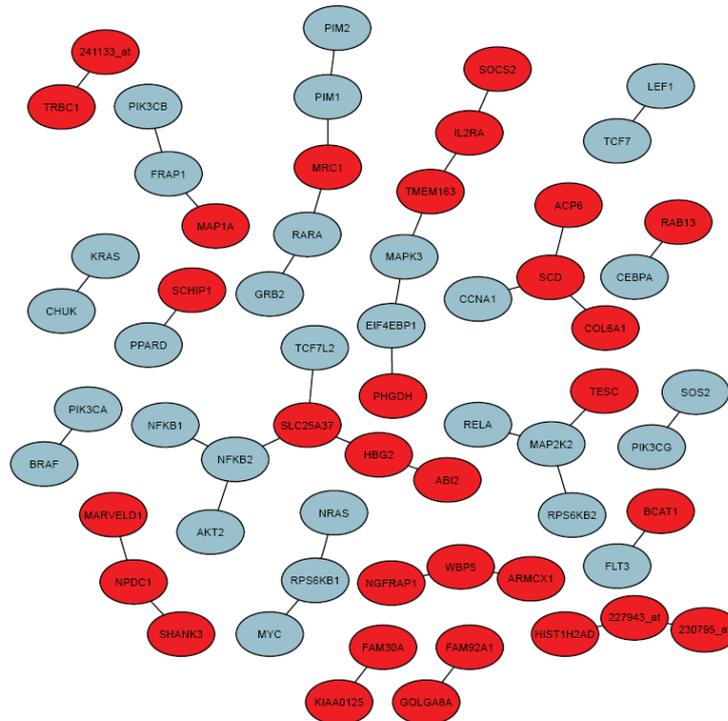
How to detect and quantify direct interaction?



Partial correlation is the basic statistical principle for the construction of statistically motivated network inference algorithms

# Integrating the AML signature into pathways

Hummel et al. *BBI* 2008:2 329-341



A gene association network between signature and AML pathway genes. Blue nodes correspond to genes in the pathway 'acute myeloid leukemia' (hsa05221), and red nodes correspond to genes in the prognostic signature.

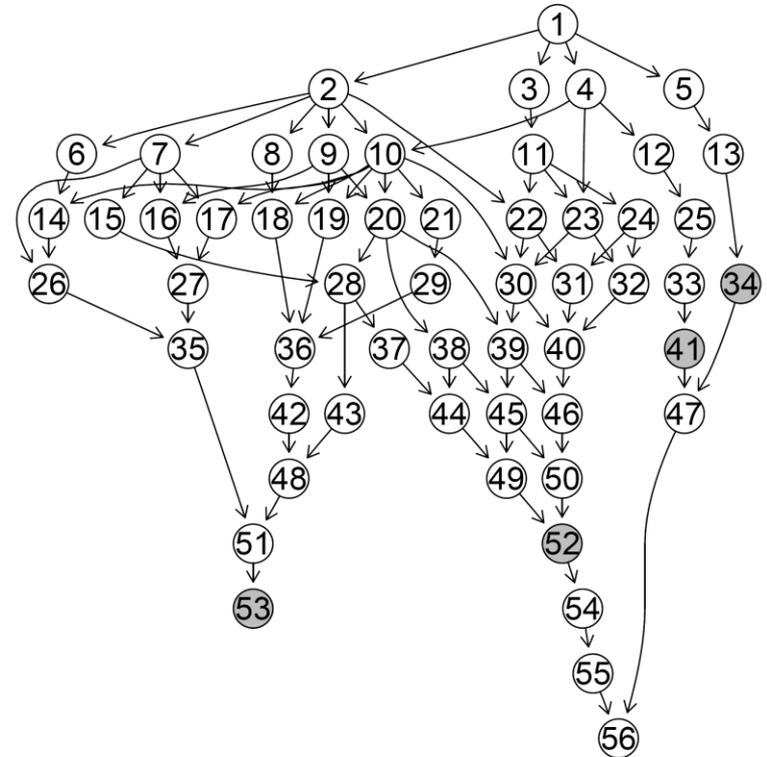


# Mapping the relevance of a hypothesis to a structure of instances

A statistical model is used to attack a complex question like:

*Is there clear evidence for a pure systematic mutation effect on the transcription activities within a certain set of genes.*

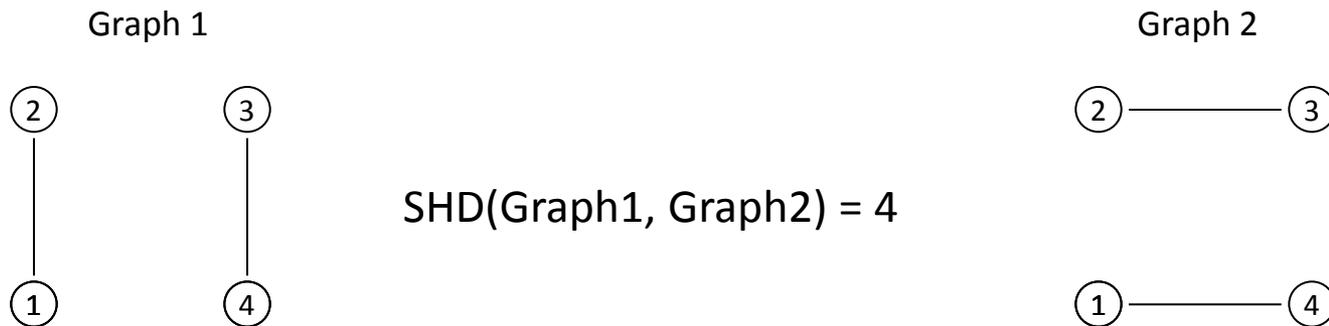
Available evidence can be located within a larger structure.



# Differential structure between networks on the same set of nodes

## Structural Hamming Distance - SHD

The Hamming distance between two strings of equal length is the number of positions at which the corresponding symbols are different. Put another way, it measures the minimum number of substitutions required to change one string into the other, or the number of errors that transformed one string into the other.



# Meta-Analyses of Cancer Pathways

Schmitberger, Lennert, Mansmann *BBI* 2011:5 13–39

Structural difference in terms of SHD within a pathway between two cancer types

		<b>Solid entities</b>					
		<b>BRE-COL</b>	<b>BRE-LUN</b>	<b>BRE-PRO</b>	<b>COL-LUN</b>	<b>COL-PRO</b>	<b>LUN-PRO</b>
CC	04110	577 (0.302)	642 (<0.002)	627 (<0.002)	435 (<0.002)	420 (<0.002)	477 (<0.002)
p53	04115	319 (0.994)	373 (<0.002)	350 (0.046)	234 (<0.002)	223 (0.016)	279 (<0.002)
Apop	04210	475 (0.054)	540 (<0.002)	475 (<0.002)	335 (<0.002)	298 (0.02)	375 (<0.002)
Wnt	04310	834 (<0.002)	919 (<0.002)	920 (<0.002)	617 (<0.002)	568 (<0.002)	701 (<0.002)
ECM	04512	435 (0.993)	477 (<0.002)	453 (0.614)	314 (0.686)	310 (0.592)	354 (0.802)
Disease specific	05210	506 (0.524)	569 (<0.002)	549 (<0.002)	393 (<0.002)	351 (<0.002)	428 (<0.002)
	05215	527 (0.998)	607 (<0.002)	596 (0.002)	416 (<0.002)	387 (0.046)	457 (0.002)
	05221	279 (0.993)	322 (0.044)	312 (0.84)	235 (0.136)	215 (0.374)	272 (0.008)
	05223	314 (0.644)	336 (<0.002)	313 (0.162)	222 (0.038)	213 (0.028)	241 (0.022)
DNA repair	04150	234 (0.418)	242 (<0.002)	268 (<0.002)	172 (<0.002)	170 (<0.002)	180 (0.004)
	03410	89 (0.744)	107 (<0.002)	107 (<0.002)	68 (<0.002)	68 (<0.002)	76 (<0.002)
	03420	145 (0.35)	163 (<0.002)	146 (<0.002)	114 (<0.002)	109 (<0.002)	107 (<0.002)
	03430	60 (0.993)	73 (0.054)	61 (0.918)	63 (0.006)	45 (0.366)	62 (0.188)
		<b>Hemic entities</b>					
		<b>ALL-AML</b>	<b>ALL-CLL</b>	<b>ALL-LYM</b>	<b>AML-CLL</b>	<b>AML-LYM</b>	<b>CLL-LYM</b>
CC	04110	581 (<0.002)	542 (<0.002)	570 (<0.002)	447 (<0.002)	453 (<0.002)	436 (<0.002)
p53	04115	300 (<0.002)	283 (0.142)	266 (0.066)	241 (<0.002)	240 (<0.002)	193 (0.128)
Apop	04210	438 (<0.002)	373 (0.118)	393 (<0.002)	345 (<0.002)	383 (<0.002)	296 (0.004)
Wnt	04310	822 (<0.002)	697 (0.05)	761 (<0.002)	585 (<0.002)	675 (<0.002)	526 (<0.002)
ECM	04512	468 (0.004)	435 (0.993)	443 (0.544)	373 (0.658)	381 (<0.002)	338 (0.52)
Disease specific	05210	503 (<0.002)	424 (0.644)	472 (<0.002)	389 (<0.002)	413 (<0.002)	336 (<0.002)
	05215	516 (<0.002)	470 (0.994)	506 (0.006)	410 (0.23)	440 (<0.002)	344 (0.562)
	05221	265 (0.002)	242 (0.994)	261 (0.008)	233 (0.386)	248 (<0.002)	195 (0.232)
	05223	307 (<0.002)	255 (0.868)	258 (0.02)	234 (0.014)	249 (<0.002)	193 (0.038)
DNA repair	04150	241 (<0.002)	223 (0.06)	225 (<0.002)	192 (<0.002)	200 (<0.002)	162 (0.002)
	03410	104 (<0.002)	85 (0.012)	91 (<0.002)	83 (<0.002)	91 (<0.002)	76 (<0.002)
	03420	132 (<0.002)	123 (0.034)	131 (<0.002)	125 (<0.002)	133 (<0.002)	100 (<0.002)
	03430	62 (0.002)	63 (0.758)	63 (<0.002)	61 (0.062)	59 (0.042)	48 (0.628)



# Cancer Systems Biology: Top - Down

- Computationally based
- Not dependent of a priory knowledge
- Infers network relationships
- Establishes a network of inferred interactions between all cellular components whether or not these interactions are currently understood on the molecular level.

# Computational advances to infer *network* or interaction between genes

Networks inferred from gene expression data

based on statistical reasoning: glasso, PC, GeneNet

Bayesian networks

based on bioinformatics techniques: ARACNE, C3NET

Networks inferred from gene silencing data (interventional data)

Nested effects models

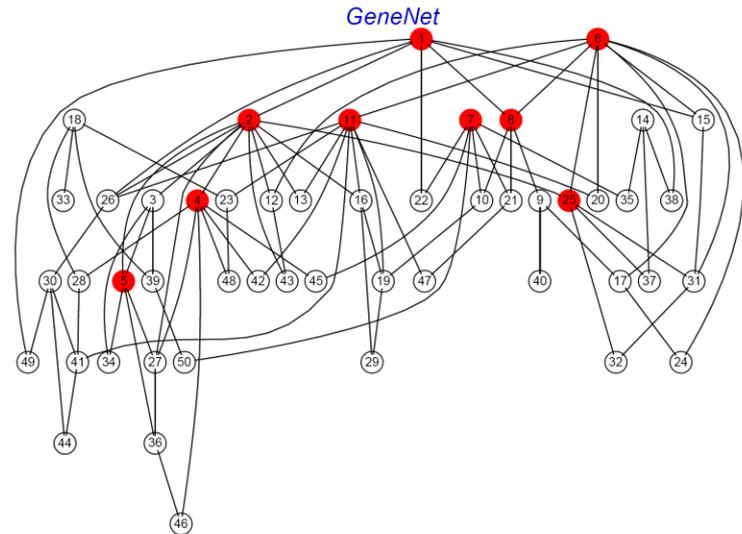
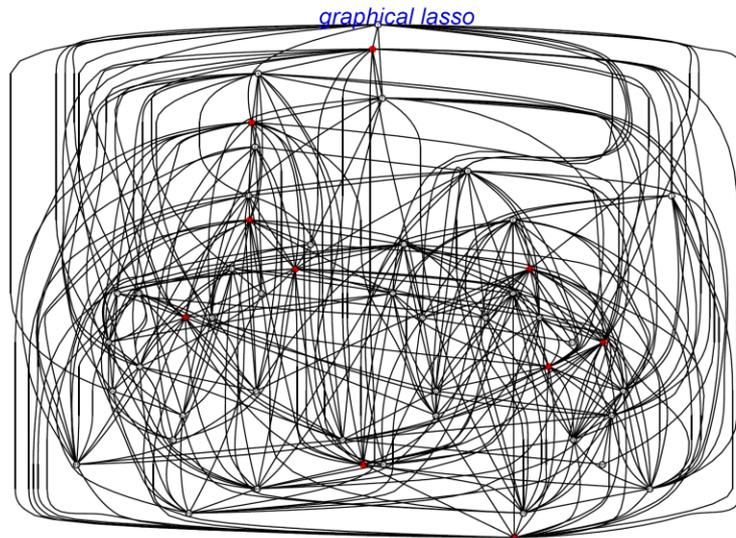
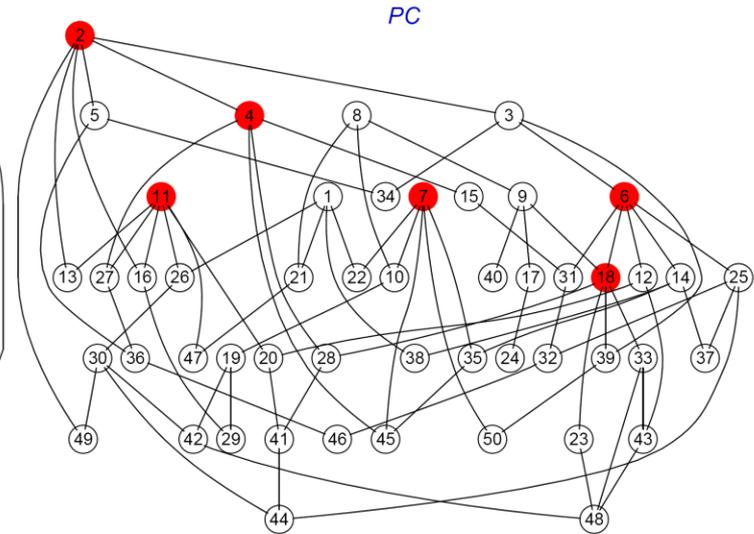
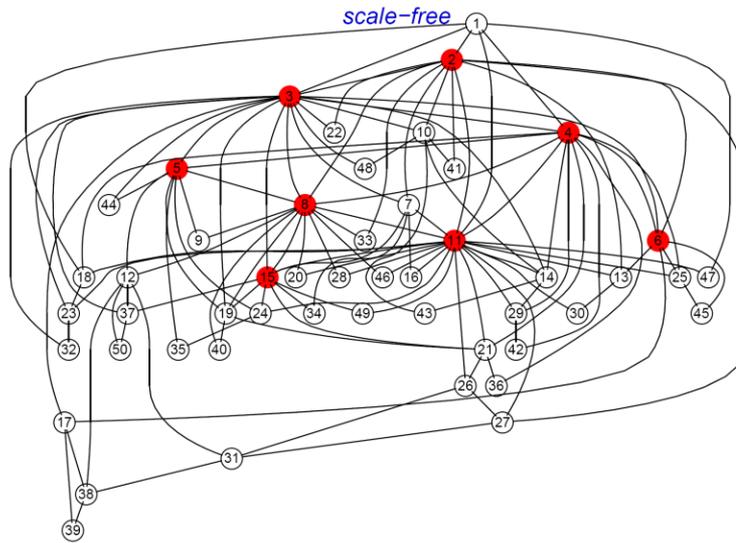
Networks inferred from time series

Empirical Bayes Dynamic Bayesian Networks

Differential interaction between networks

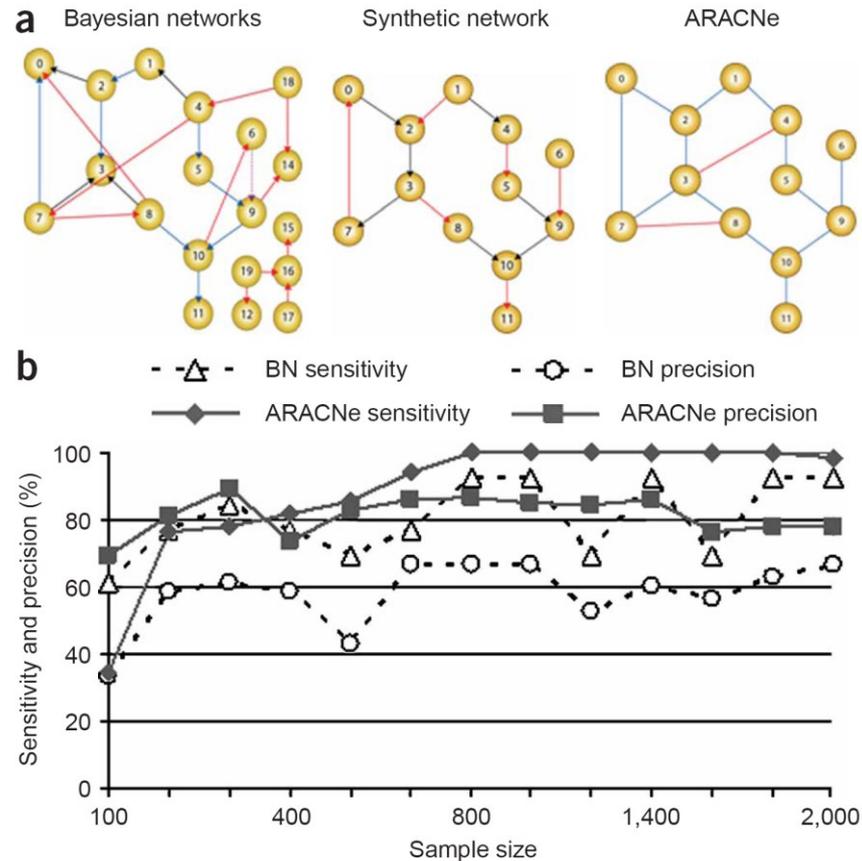
Relevant interactions can be identified by comparison

# Validation of network algorithms



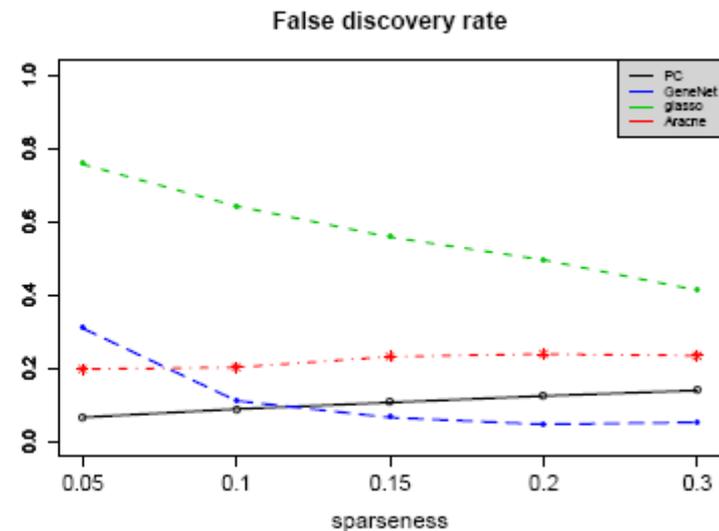
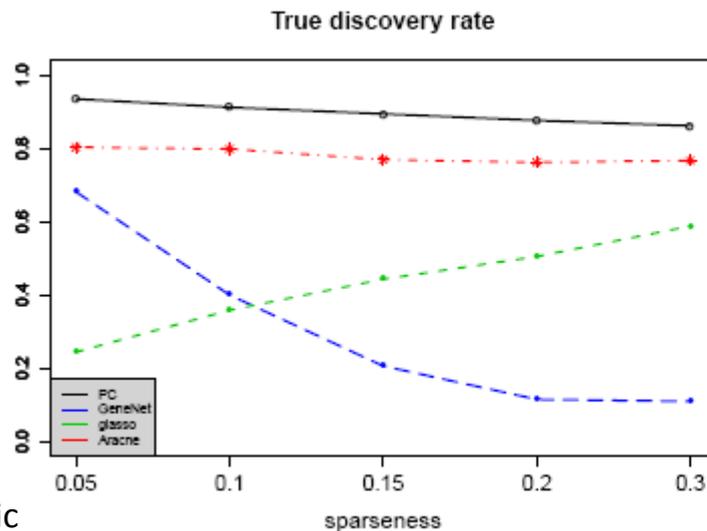
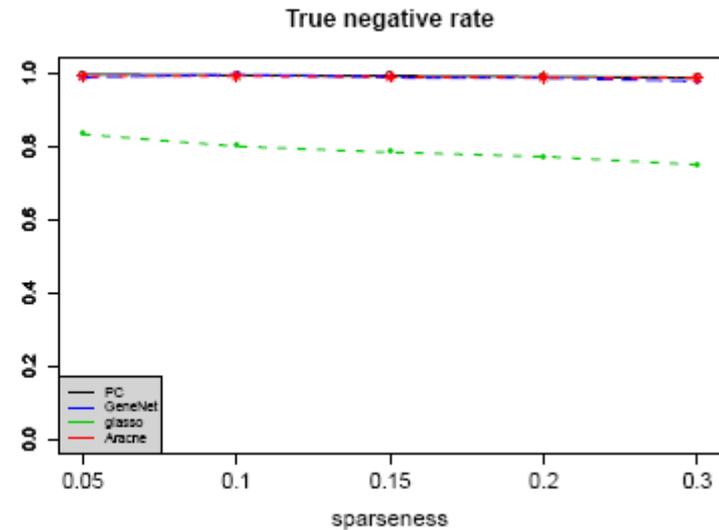
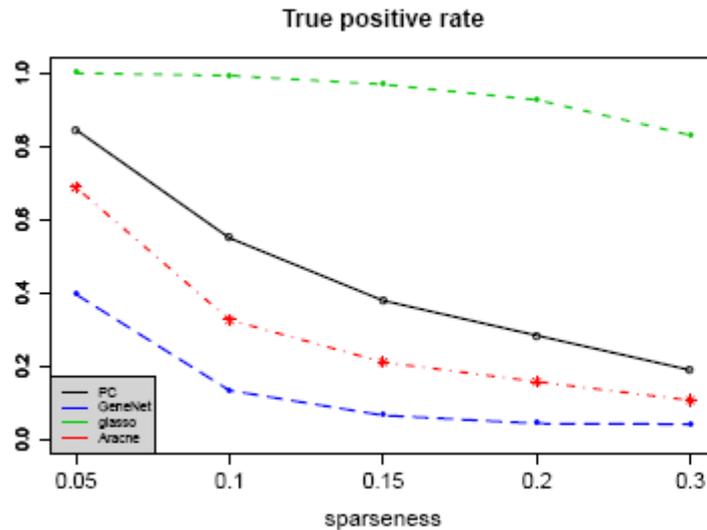
# Validating ARACNE

Basso et al. (2005) Nature Genetics, 37: 382-390



# Validation of network algorithms

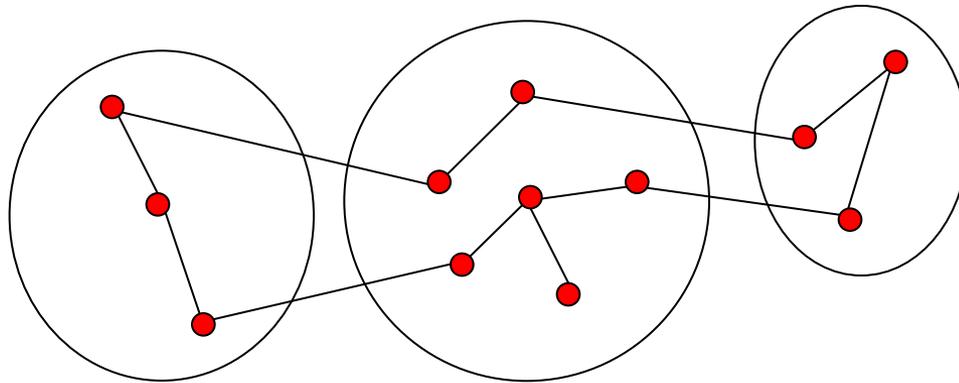
50 nodes, Sample Size 200



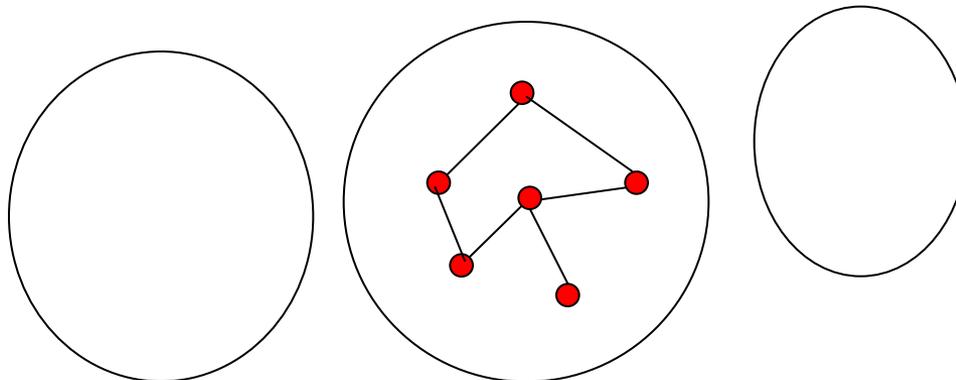


# Confounding

How does an artificial restriction to a bounded region within a wider system influences the observed interactions?



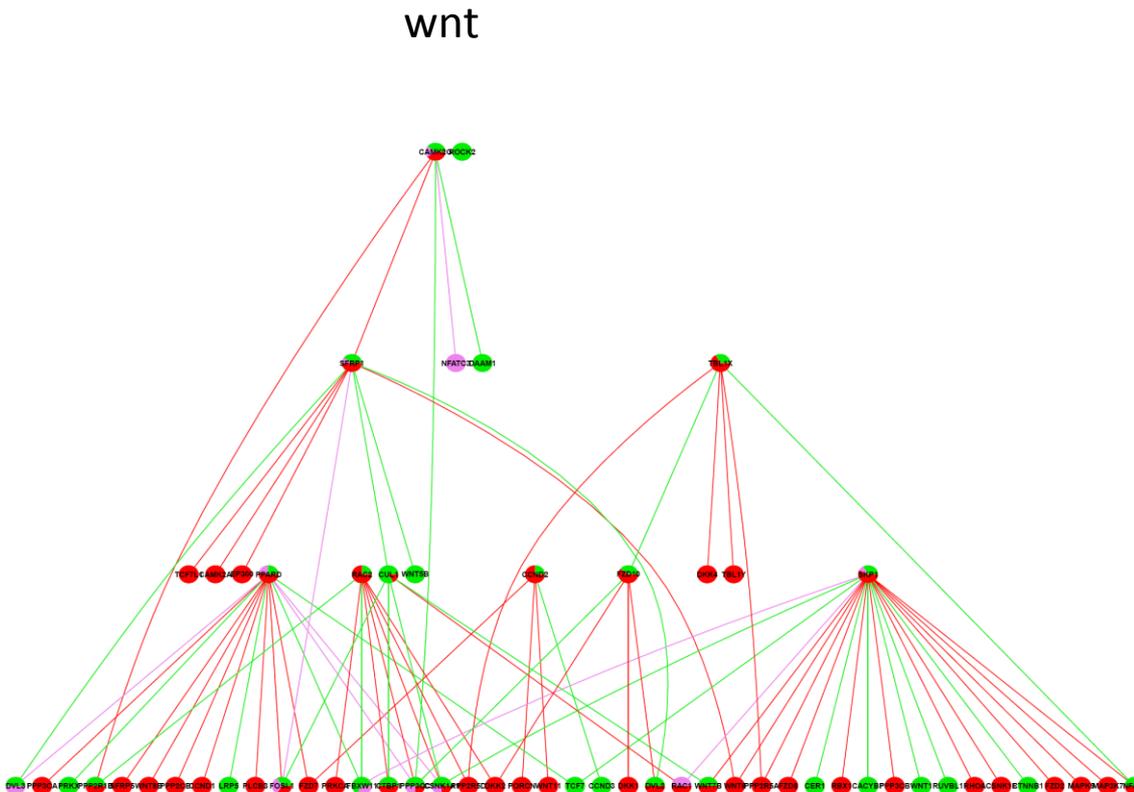
extended analysis



restricted analysis

# Confounding

Effect of MYC translocation of the network structure within specific pathways



Comparing differential interaction structure between the restricted and full inference.

**Green edges:** Differential interaction present for the inference restricted to the wnt pathway.

**Red edges:** Differential interaction which is observed within the restricted and the extended setting simultaneously.

**Purple edges:** Differential interaction only present for the extended inference.

## Bottom-Up

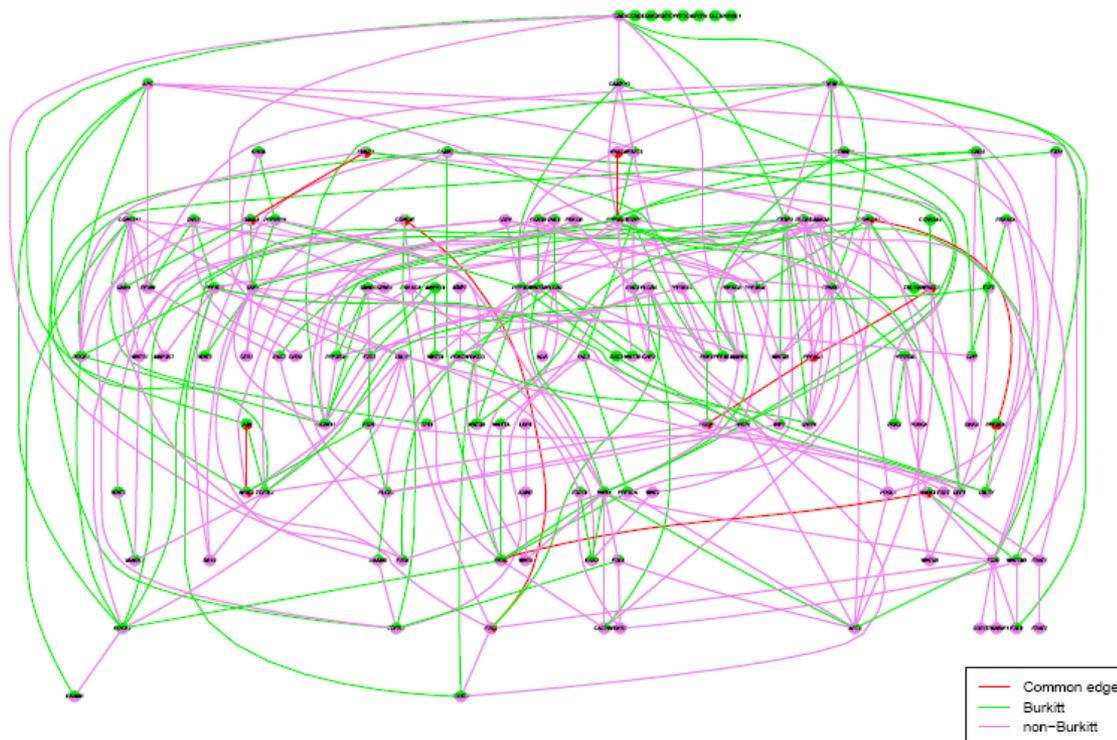
- intuitively more desirable;
- Grounded on experimental validation;
- Limitation in scope;
- The gap will widen;
- Is affected by confounding

## Top - Down

- Primary method to establish new molecular networks;
- Networks will probably stimulate new directions in laboratory studies to validate molecular interactions;
- Avoids confounding

# Complementary Merging

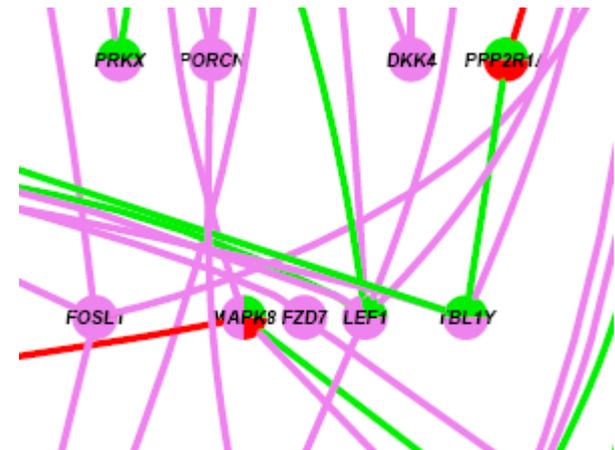
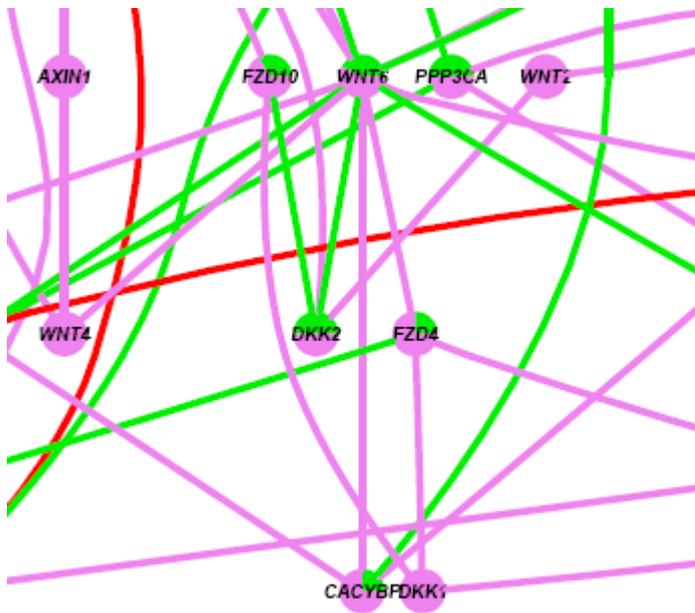
Complementary merging of the top-down and bottom-up approaches promises to be productive in helping unravel the functional complexity underlying cancer cell functions.



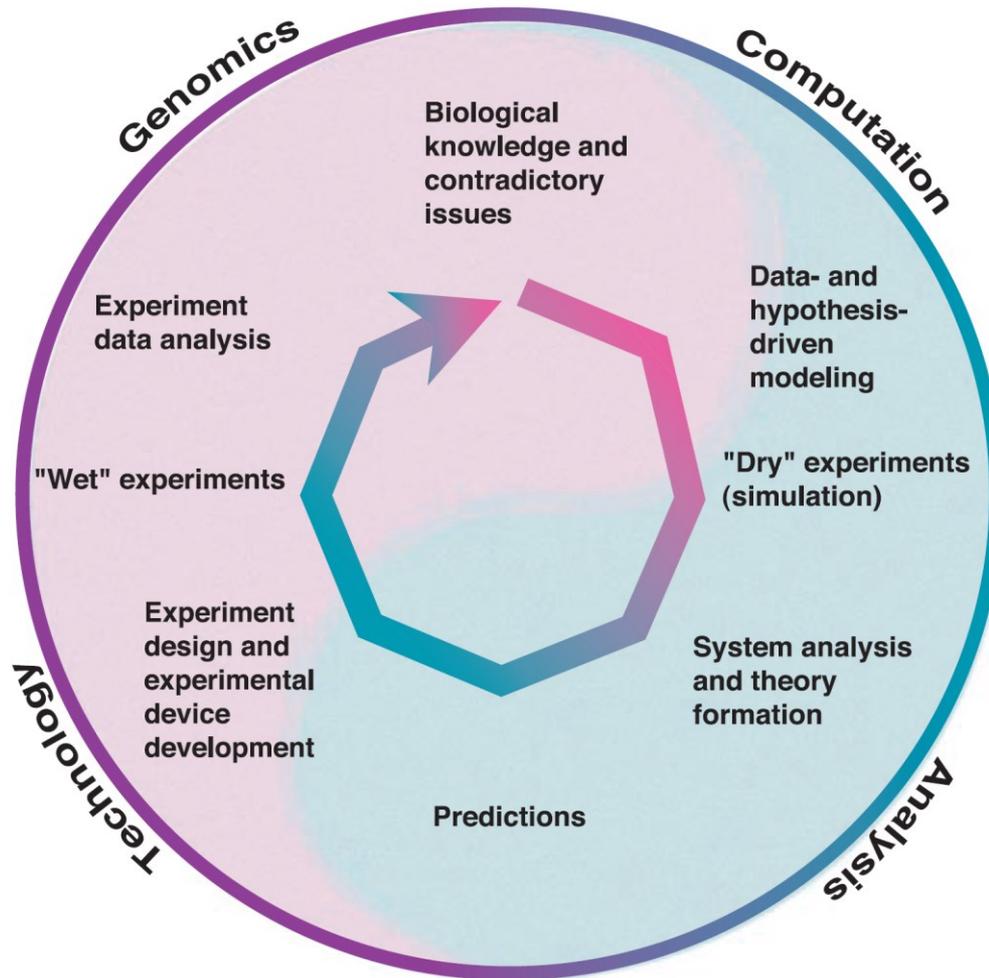
Wnt Pathway

# Complementary Merging

Complementary merging of the top-down and bottom-up approaches promises to be productive in helping unravel the functional complexity underlying cancer cell functions.



# HaematoSYS working plan



# *The* NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL *of* MEDICINE

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## Intratumor Heterogeneity and Branched Evolution Revealed by Multiregion Sequencing

Marco Gerlinger, M.D., Andrew J. Rowan, B.Sc., Stuart Horswell, M.Math., James Larkin, M.D., Ph.D., David Endesfelder, Dip.Math., Eva Gronroos, Ph.D., Pierre Martinez, Ph.D., Nicholas Matthews, B.Sc., Aengus Stewart, M.Sc., Patrick Tarpey, Ph.D., Ignacio Varela, Ph.D., Benjamin Phillimore, B.Sc., Sharmin Begum, M.Sc., Neil Q. McDonald, Ph.D., Adam Butler, B.Sc., David Jones, M.Sc., Keiran Raine, M.Sc., Calli Latimer, B.Sc., Claudio R. Santos, Ph.D., Mahrokh Nohadani, H.N.C., Aron C. Eklund, Ph.D., Bradley Spencer-Dene, Ph.D., Graham Clark, B.Sc., Lisa Pickering, M.D., Ph.D., Gordon Stamp, M.D., Martin Gore, M.D., Ph.D., Zoltan Szallasi, M.D., Julian Downward, Ph.D., P. Andrew Futreal, Ph.D., and Charles Swanton, M.D., Ph.D.

## Everolimus

Everolimus (RAD-001) is the 40-O-(2-hydroxyethyl) derivative of sirolimus and works similarly to sirolimus as an inhibitor of mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR).

It is currently used as an immunosuppressant to prevent rejection of organ transplants and treatment of renal cell cancer and other tumours. Much research has also been conducted on everolimus and other mTOR inhibitors for use in a number of cancers.

## mTOR

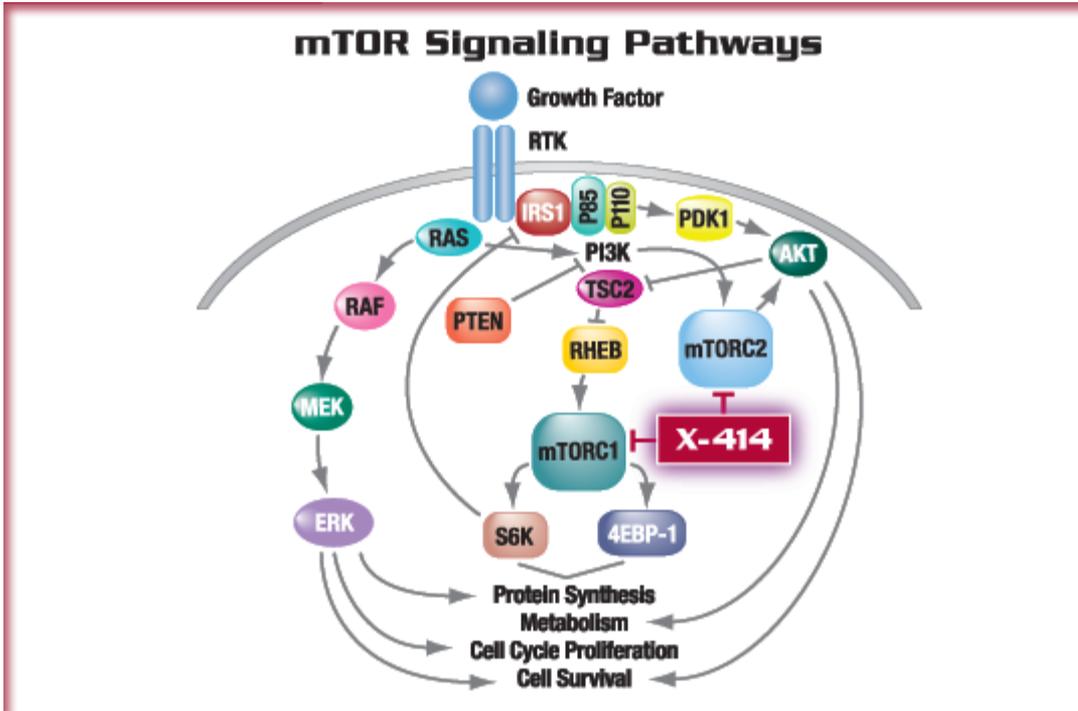
The mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR), also known as mechanistic target of rapamycin or FK506-binding protein 12-rapamycin-associated protein 1 (FRAP1), is a protein that in humans is encoded by the MTOR gene.

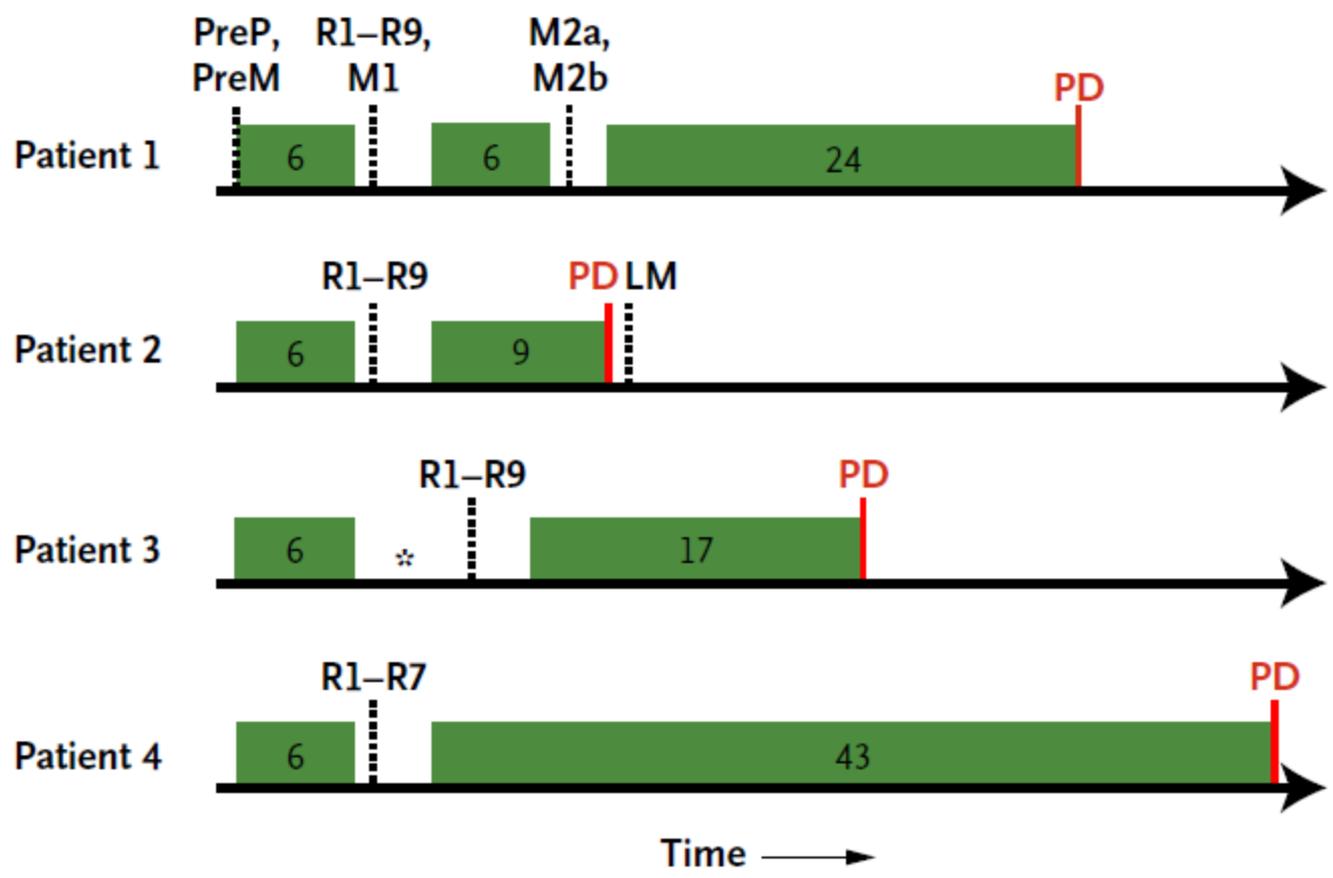
Rapamycin was discovered in a soil sample from Easter Island, known locally as Rapa Nui, in the 1970s. The bacterium *Streptomyces hygroscopicus*, isolated from that sample, produces an antifungal that researchers named rapamycin after the island.

Rapamycin arrests fungal activity at the G1 phase of the cell cycle. In mammals, it suppresses the immune system by blocking the G1 to S phase transition in T-lymphocytes. Thus, it is used as an immunosuppressant following organ transplantation.

*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* can develop resistance to rapamycin, when one of three genes is knocked out. Two of the genes were called targets of rapamycin (TOR). The third gene was already known as Fpr1. Fpr1 is the ortholog of FKBP12 binding protein in the TOR complexes. In 1994, the mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) was identified as the rapamycin target in mammals by David M. Sabatini and Solomon H. Snyder (Johns Hopkins University) and Stuart L. Schreiber (Harvard University).

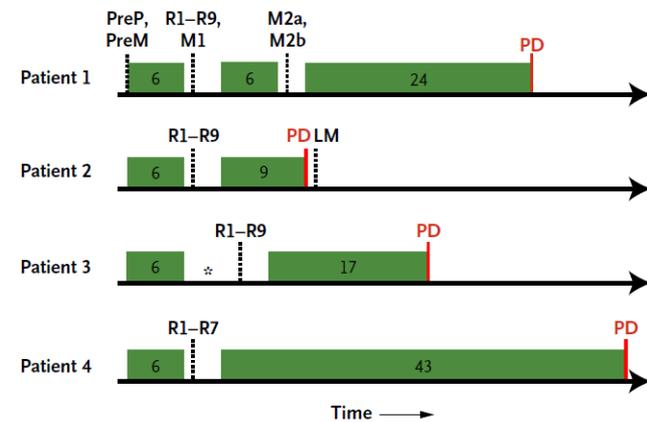
mTOR



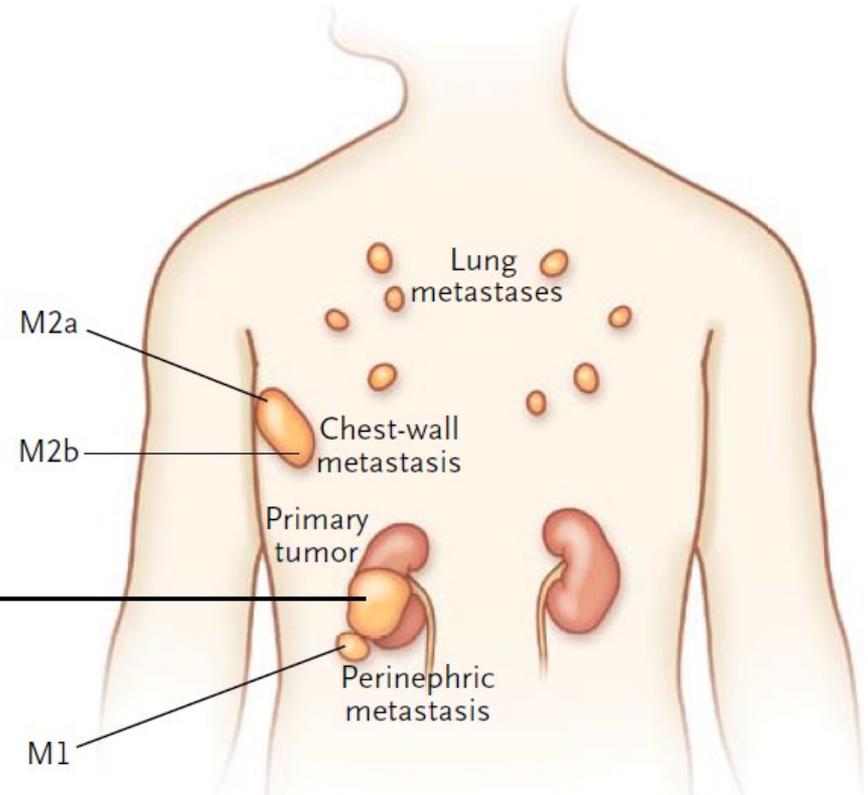
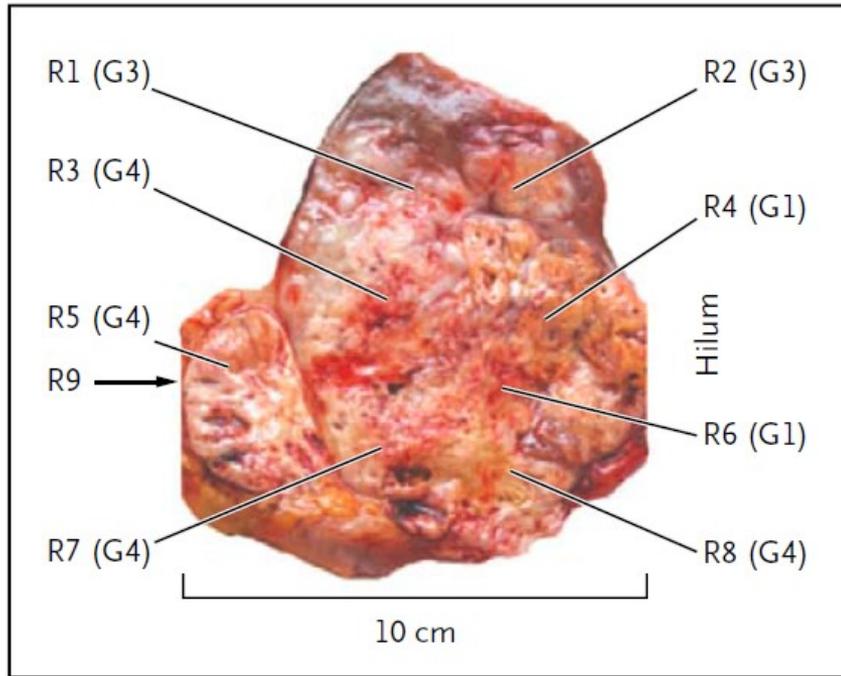


Patient 1 had a clear-cell carcinoma, pulmonary metastases, and a chest-wall metastasis. Sequencing detected a 2-bp deletion in the von Hippel-Lindau tumor-suppressor gene (*VHL*) leading to mutational inactivation, which is characteristic of clear-cell carcinoma. After 6 weeks of everolimus treatment and a 1-week washout period, a nephrectomy was performed. The patient restarted everolimus for 6 weeks and after another 1-week washout period proceeded to surgery of the chest-wall mass (Fig. 1). Computed tomography (CT) did not reveal any change in the dimensions of the primary tumor or chest-wall metastasis during everolimus treatment.

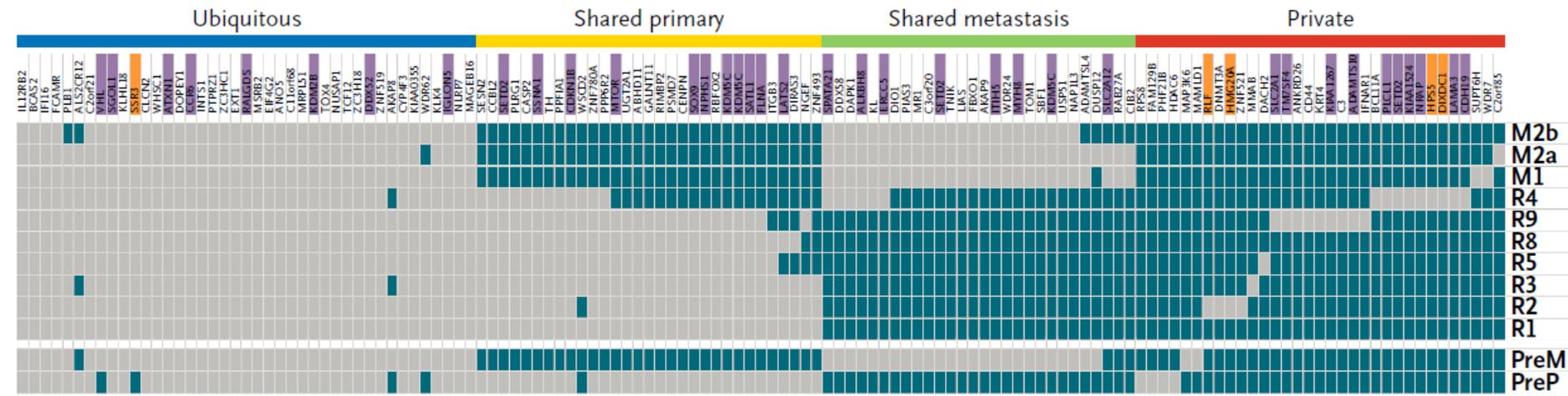
For Patient 1, we performed exon-capture multiregion sequencing on DNA from pretreatment biopsy samples of the primary tumor (PreP) and chest-wall metastasis (PreM), nine primary-tumor regions of the nephrectomy specimen (R1 to R9), a metastasis in the perinephric fat of the nephrectomy specimen (M1), two regions of the excised chest-wall metastasis (M2a and M2b), and germline DNA<sup>19</sup> (Fig. 2A). This sequencing resulted in a me-



## A Biopsy Sites

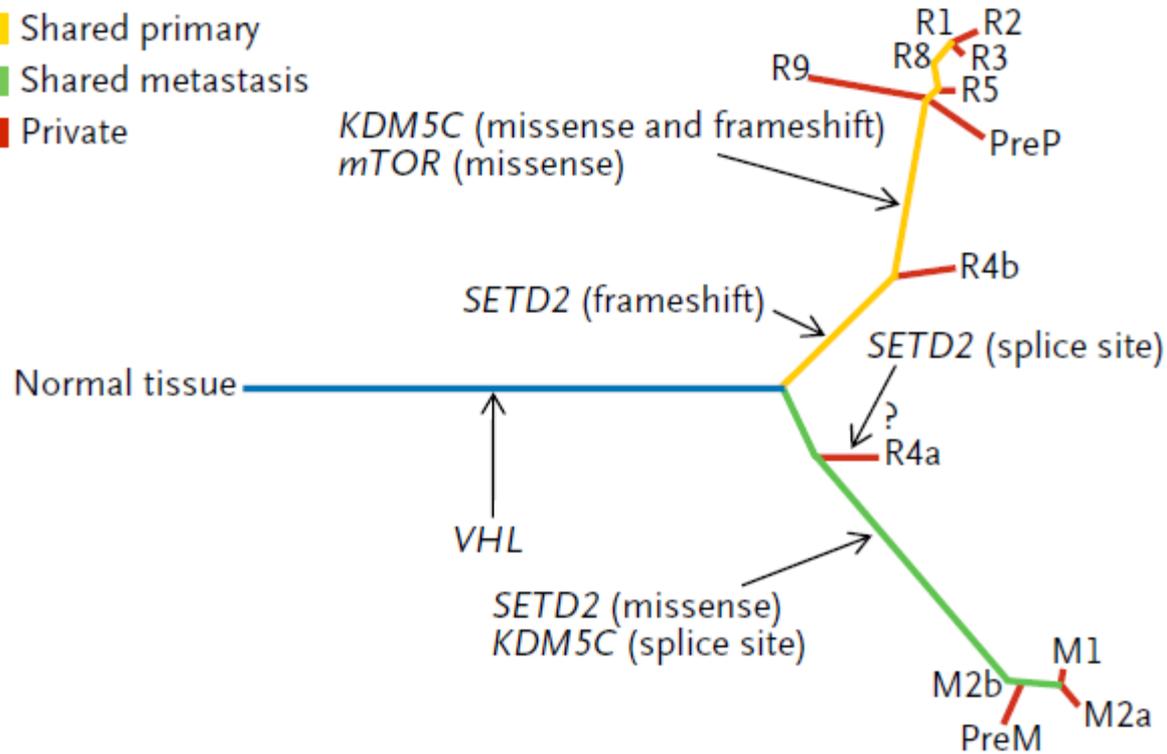


## B Regional Distribution of Mutations



### C Phylogenetic Relationships of Tumor Regions

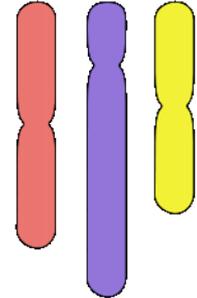
- Ubiquitous
- Shared primary
- Shared metastasis
- Private



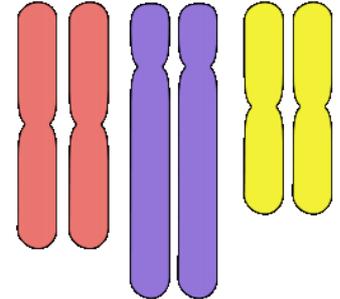
## DNA ploidy analysis

Ploidy is the number of sets of chromosomes in the nucleus of a biological cell. Normally a gamete (sperm or egg) carries a full set of chromosomes that includes a single copy of each chromosome, as aneuploidy generally leads to severe genetic disease in the offspring. The haploid number ( $n$ ) is the number of chromosomes in a gamete. Two gametes form a diploid zygote with twice this number ( $2n$ ) i.e. two copies of autosomal chromosomes. However, the sex chromosomes of diploid cells (excluding pseudoautosomal regions), which are subject to sex linkage, may be considered as haploid chromosomes, since haploid is also the term used to define a set of chromosomes with only one copy in the cell.

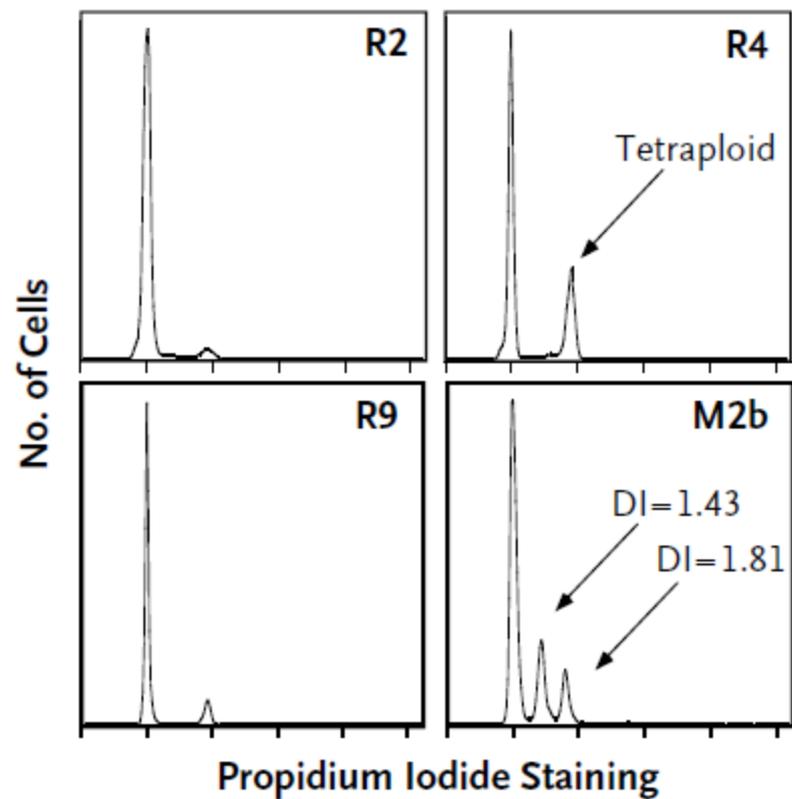
### Haploid (N)



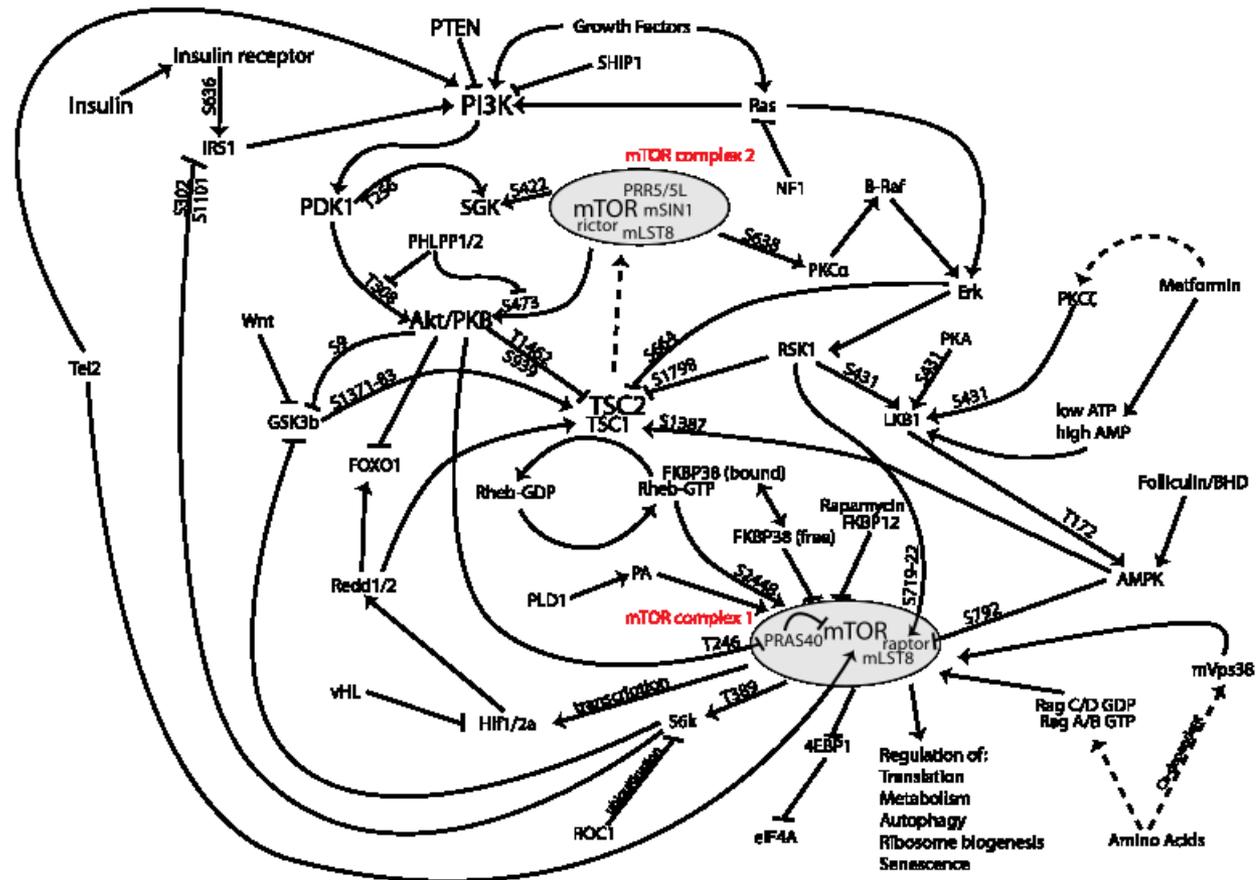
### Diploid (2N)



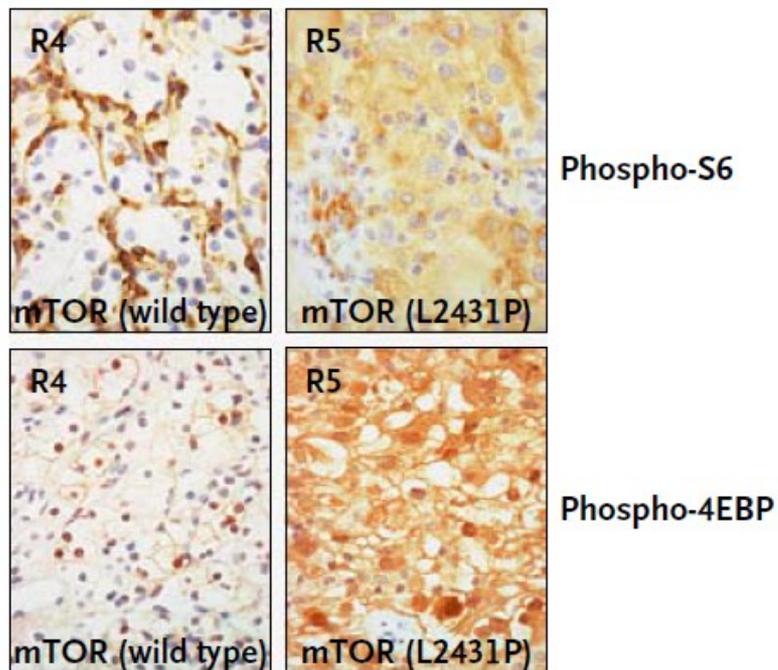
## D Ploidy Profiling



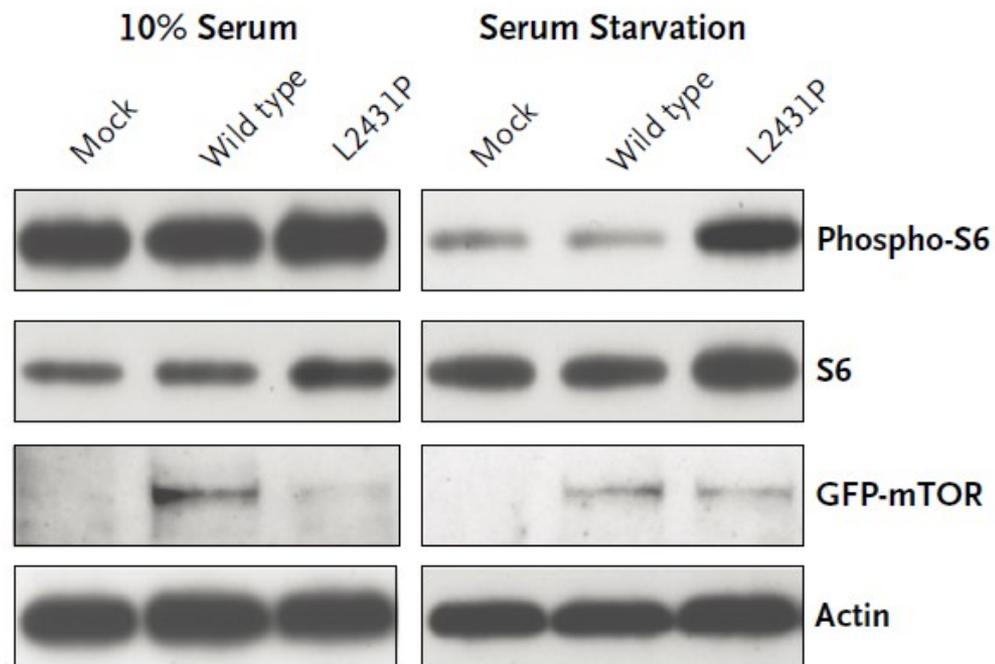
mTOR integrates the input from upstream pathways, including insulin, growth factors (such as IGF-1 and IGF-2), and amino acids. mTOR also senses cellular nutrient and energy levels and redox status. The mTOR pathway is dysregulated in human diseases, especially certain cancers. Rapamycin is a bacterial product that can inhibit mTOR by associating with its intracellular receptor FKBP12.



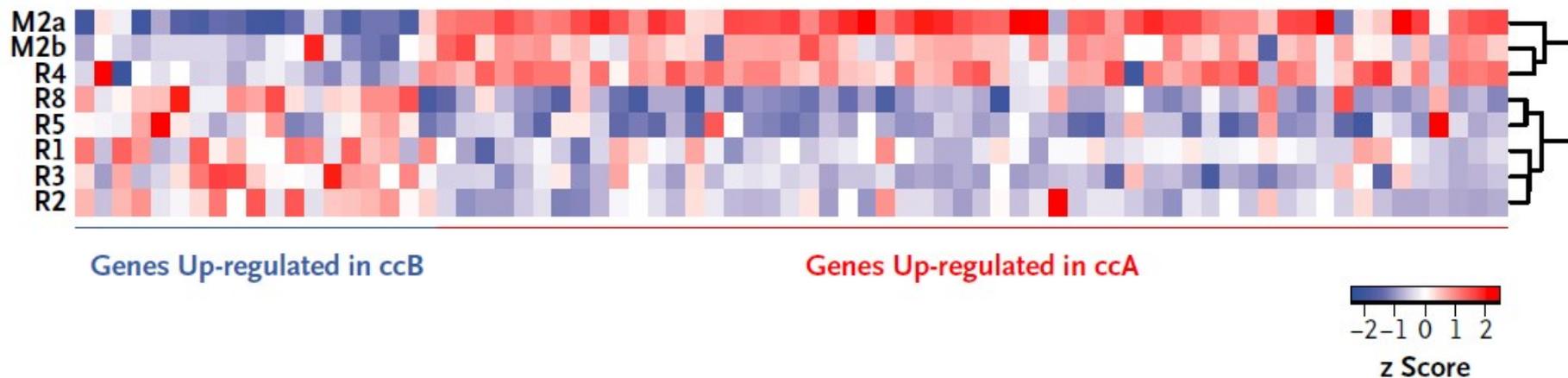
### A mTOR Staining



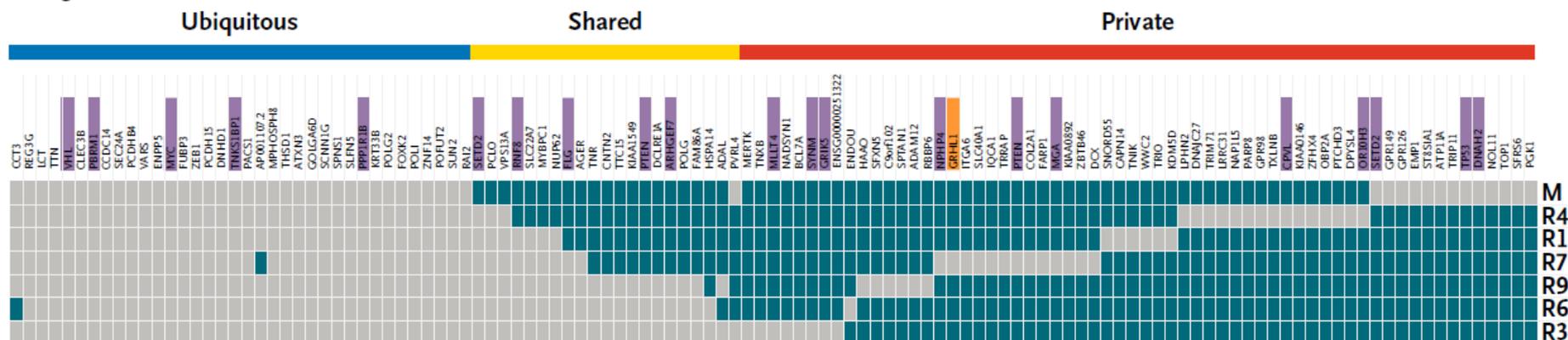
### B Immunoblotting of Caki1 Cells



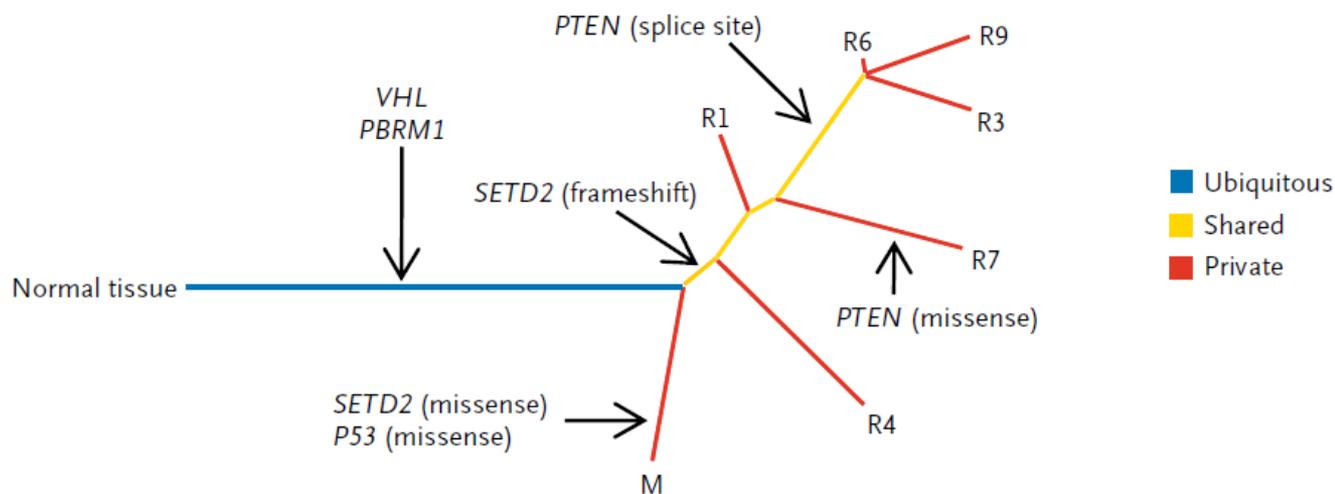
### C Prognostic Signature Genes



## A Regional Distribution of Mutations



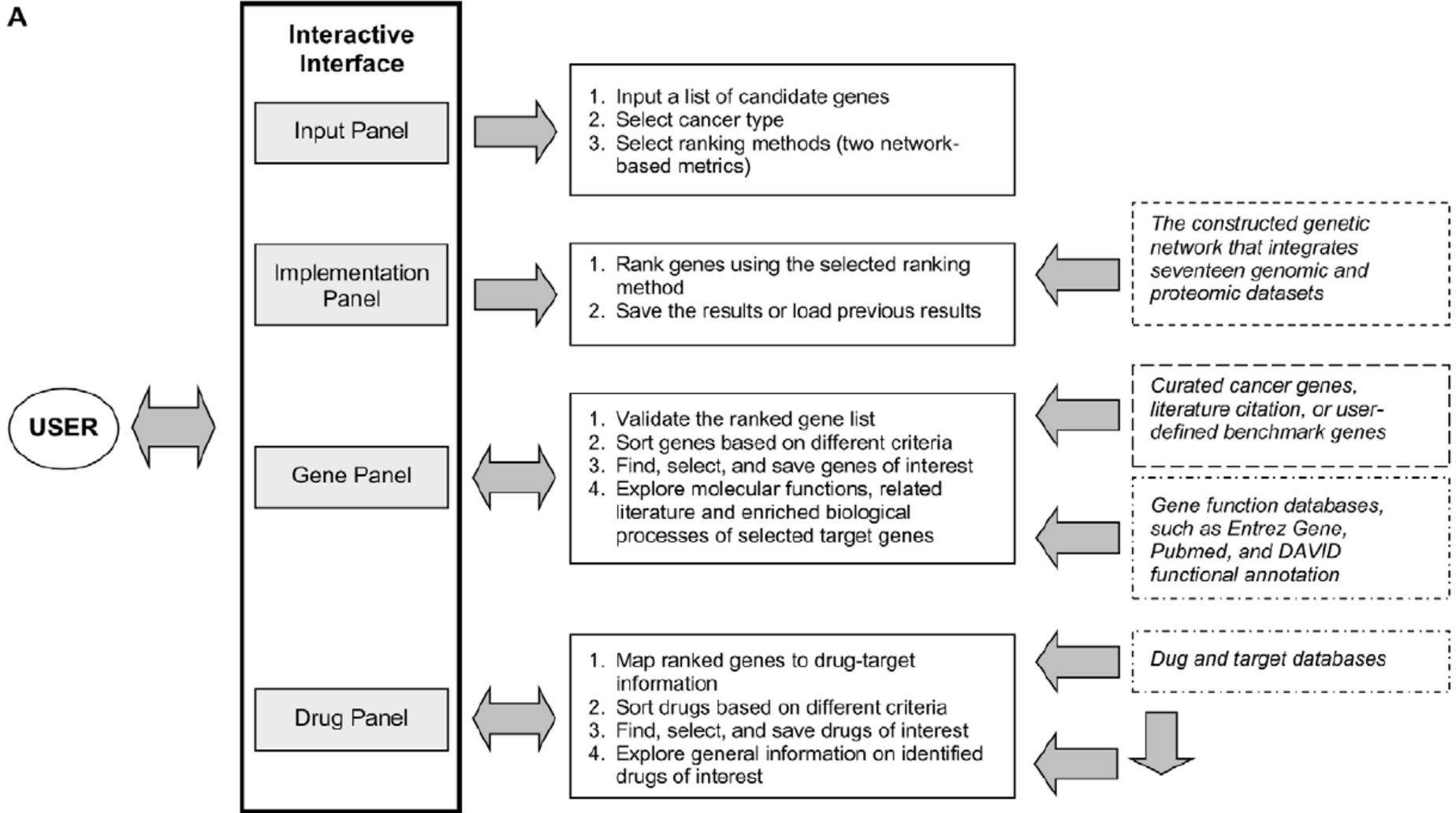
## B Phylogenetic Relationships of Tumor Regions



# TARGETgene: A Tool for Identification of Potential Therapeutic Targets in Cancer

Chia-Chin Wu<sup>1\*</sup>, David D'Argenio<sup>2</sup>, Shahab Asgharzadeh<sup>3</sup>, Timothy Triche<sup>3</sup>

A



**Table 1.** Selected Drugs Whose Targets Are Highly-Ranked (the case of Breast Cancer).

Drugs/Compounds	Target Genes (Their Ranks and Fold Changes in Cancer)	Literatures Of Breast Cancer Treatment
Dasatinib (E)*	SRC(#10; 2.623)	[45],[46]
Celecoxib (A)*	PDPK1 (#14; 2.917)	[47]
Flavopiridol (E)*	CDK5 (#41; 4.640); CDC2 (#108; 4.382); CDK4 (#50; 2.092)	[48],[49]
Staurosporine(UCN-01) (E)*	PDPK1 (#14; 2.917); MAPKAPK2 (#62; 2.138); CSK (#19; 3.724); GSK3B (#84; 2.130)	[50]
Alsterpaullone (E)	CDK5 (#41; 4.640); GSK3B (#84; 2.130); CDC2 (#108; 4.382)	[51]
Olomoucine (E)	CDK5 (#41; 4.640); CDC2 (#108; 4.382)	[52]
Trastuzumab (A)***	ERBB2 (#25; 46.856)	[53],[54]
Lapatinib (A)***	ERBB2 (#25; 46.856)	[55],[56]
Dexrazoxane (A)***	TOP2A(#302; 10.965)	[57]
Lithium (A)	GSK3B (#84)	[58]
Melatonin (A)	CALR(#651)	[59]
Calcidiol (A)	VDR (#241)	[44]
Vorinostat (A)*	HDAC3 (#307; 2.336); HDAC1 (#497; 2.286); HDAC2 (#564; 2.520)	[60]
Geldanamycin (17-AAG) (E)*	HSP90B1 (#258; 1.779); HSP90AA1 (#275; 1.920)	[61],[62]
Arsenic trioxide (A)*	AKT1 (#1; 4.566); CCND1 (#418; 3.663)	[63],[64]

Note: 1.Approved drugs are denoted as 'A'.

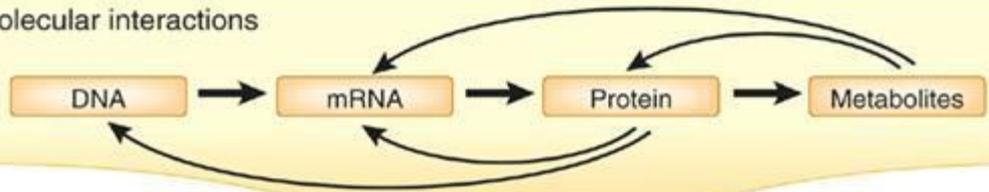
2.Experimental compounds are denoted as 'E'.

3.Drugs have been approved for the treatment of Breast Cancer are marked with \*\*\*.

4.Drugs in clinical trials for Breast Cancer are marked with \*.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0043305.t001

Molecular interactions



Network operation

