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# Introduction to Next Generation Sequencing

Olga Vinnere Pettersson, Uppsala University

*Scientific Lead of Planetary Biology Strategic Area, SciLifeLab*

*ERGA Vice-chair*

*EVOMICS,  
Český Krumlov  
2026-01-12*



# Outline

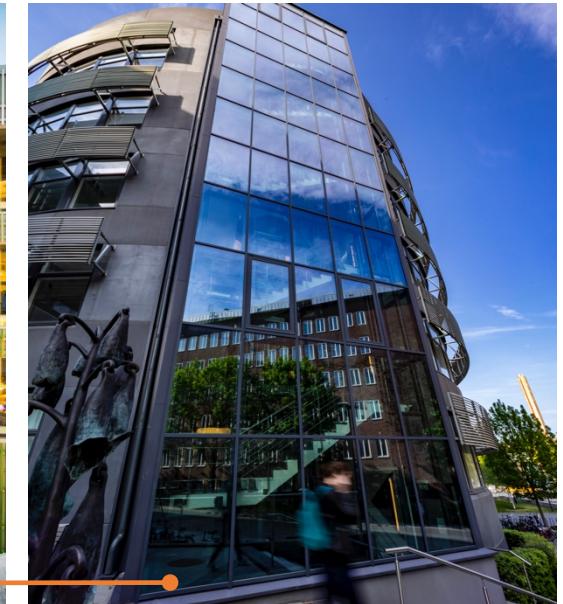
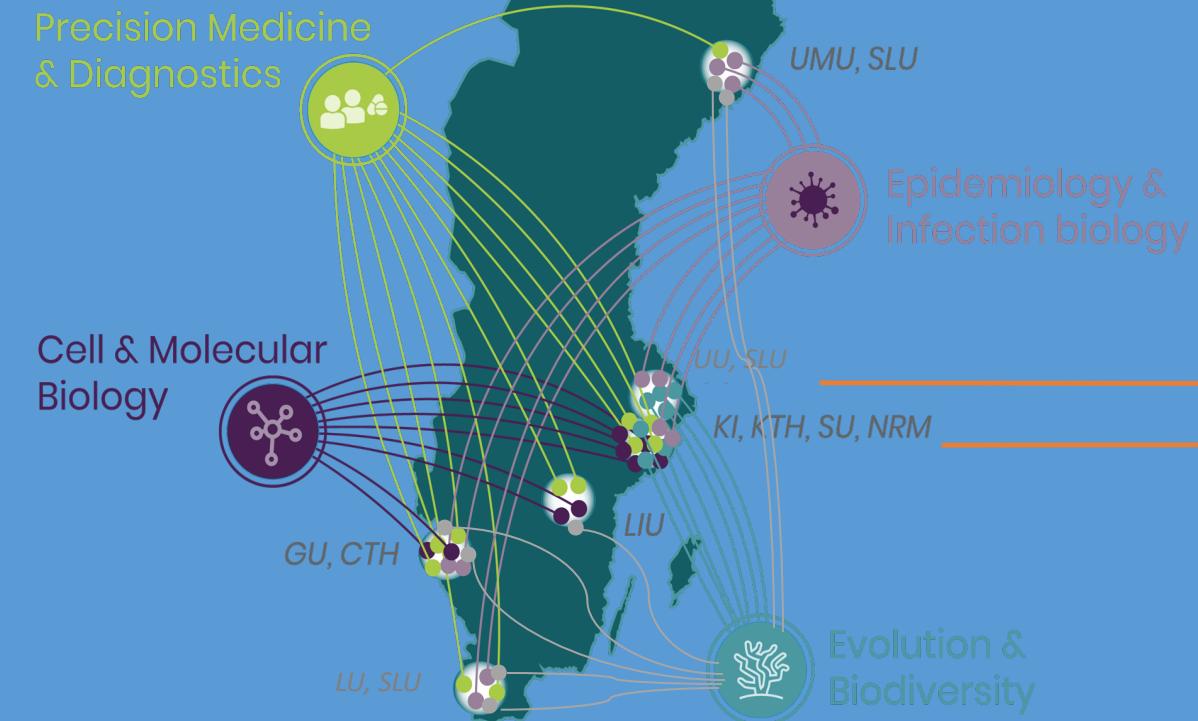
- Brief history of Genomics
- What is sequencing?
- Glossary
- How do sequencing technologies work?
  - Short reads: Illumina, Ion, MGI, Element Biosciences (Aviti), Roche
  - Long reads: PacBio and ONT



Where am I from: SciLifeLab



Sweden's national center for  
molecular biosciences



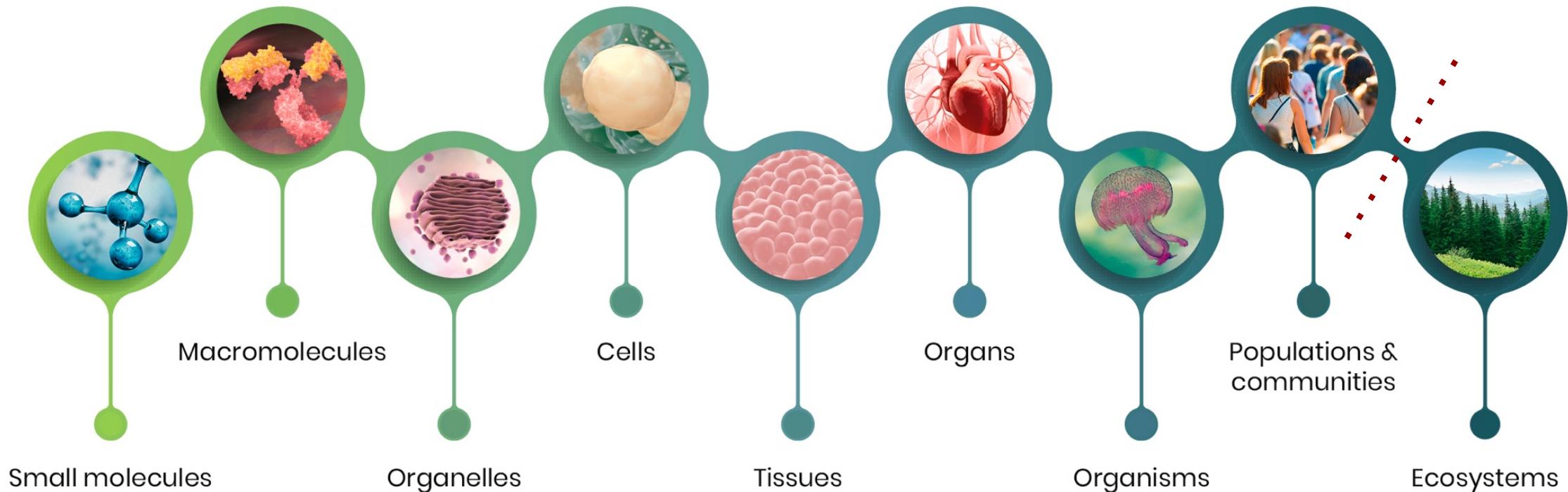
Connecting strong research  
environments

# Enabling research across the full spectrum of life science



## SciLifeLab infrastructure technologies:

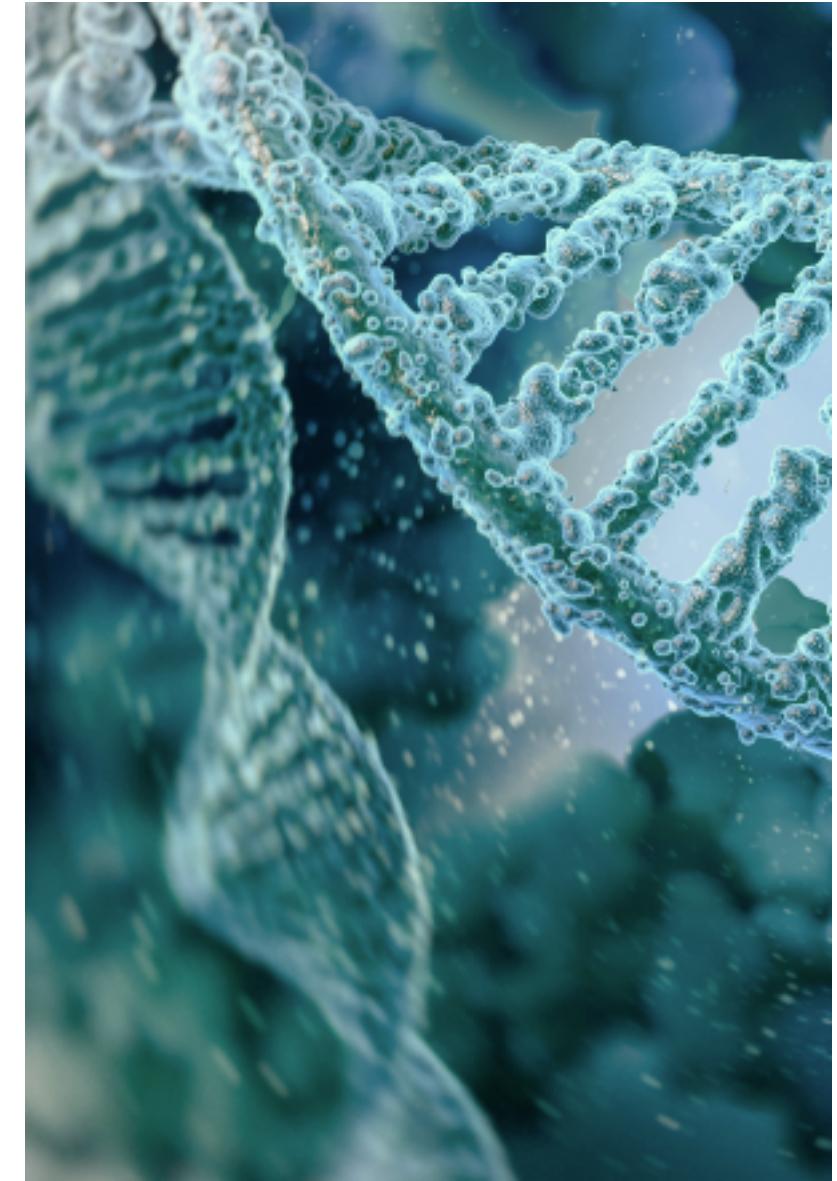
- Can be used to study the molecular aspects of life **ranging from the atomic scale up to entire ecosystems**
- Are applicable across a **large spectrum of disciplines and research fields** in life science
- Are **available to all academic researchers in Sweden** on equal terms
- Are available to **healthcare and industry** all over the country, as well as international users



# SciLifeLab Genomics Platform



- Consists of:
  - **National Genomics Infrastructure** – 3rd largest NGS core in Europe
  - Ancient DNA facility
- Advanced user support (even without previous NGS experience):
  - ✓ Project design
  - ✓ Choice of sequencing technology and methodology
  - ✓ Sample requirements and experimental design
  - ✓ DNA and RNA extraction for reference genome sequencing
  - ✓ Ancient DNA extraction and library construction
  - ✓ Sequencing
  - ✓ Primary data analysis





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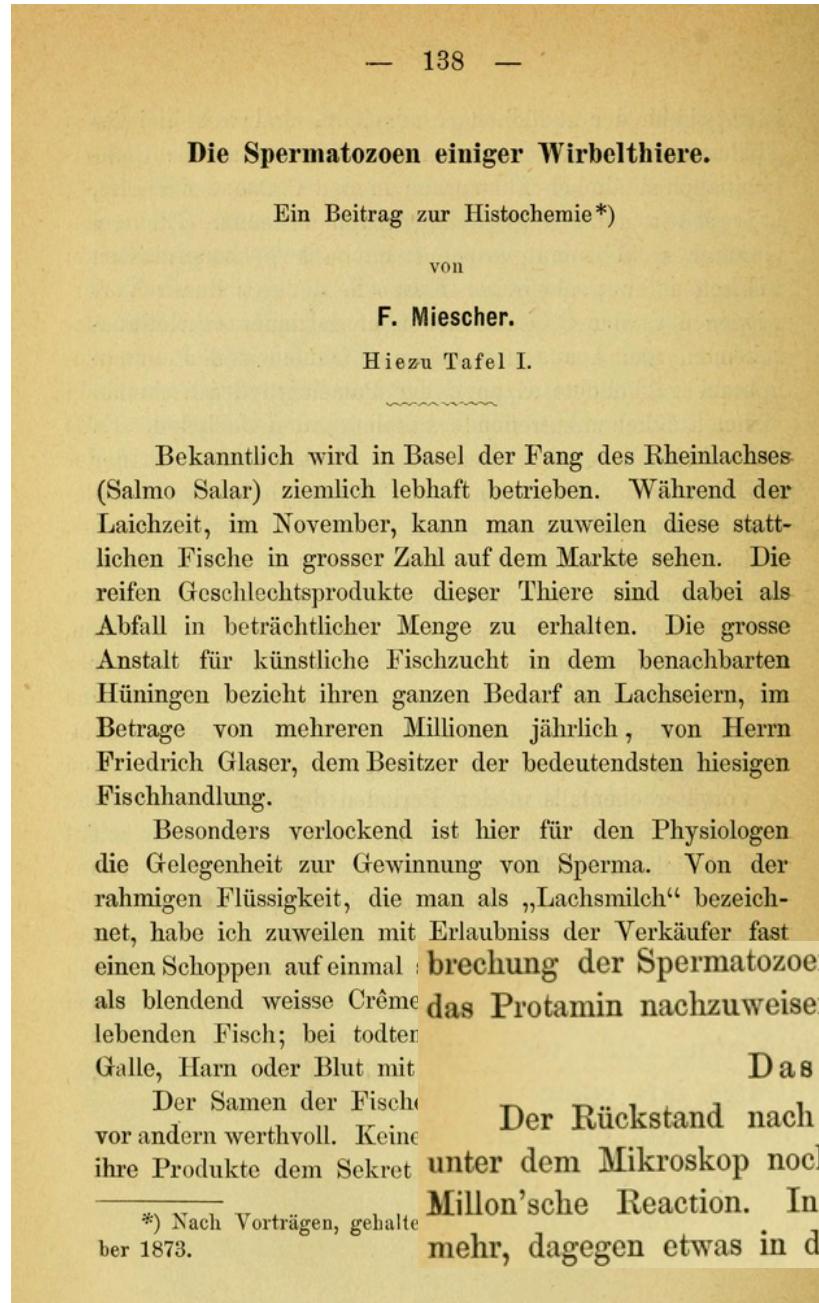
## Brief history of Genomics and NGS



# It all begun in late 19th century...



**Johannes Friedrich Miescher**  
(13 August 1844 – 26 August 1895)



\*) Nach Vorträgen, gehalten  
ber 1873.

Bekanntlich wird in Basel der Fang des Rheinlachses (*Salmo Salar*) ziemlich lebhaft betrieben. Während der Laichzeit, im November, kann man zuweilen diese stattlichen Fische in grosser Zahl auf dem Markte sehen. Die reifen Geschlechtsprodukte dieser Thiere sind dabei als Abfall in beträchtlicher Menge zu erhalten. Die grosse Anstalt für künstliche Fischzucht in dem benachbarten Hüningen bezieht ihren ganzen Bedarf an Lachseichern, im Betrage von mehreren Millionen jährlich, von Herrn Friedrich Glaser, dem Besitzer der bedeutendsten hiesigen Fischhandlung.

Besonders verlockend ist hier für den Physiologen die Gelegenheit zur Gewinnung von Sperma. Von der rahmigen Flüssigkeit, die man als „Lachsmilch“ bezeichnet, habe ich zuweilen mit Erlaubniss der Verkäufer fast einen Schoppen auf einmal als blendend weisse Crème lebenden Fisch; bei todter Galle, Harn oder Blut mit brechung der Spermatozoenköpfe erkennbar sind, ist auch das Protamin nachzuweisen.

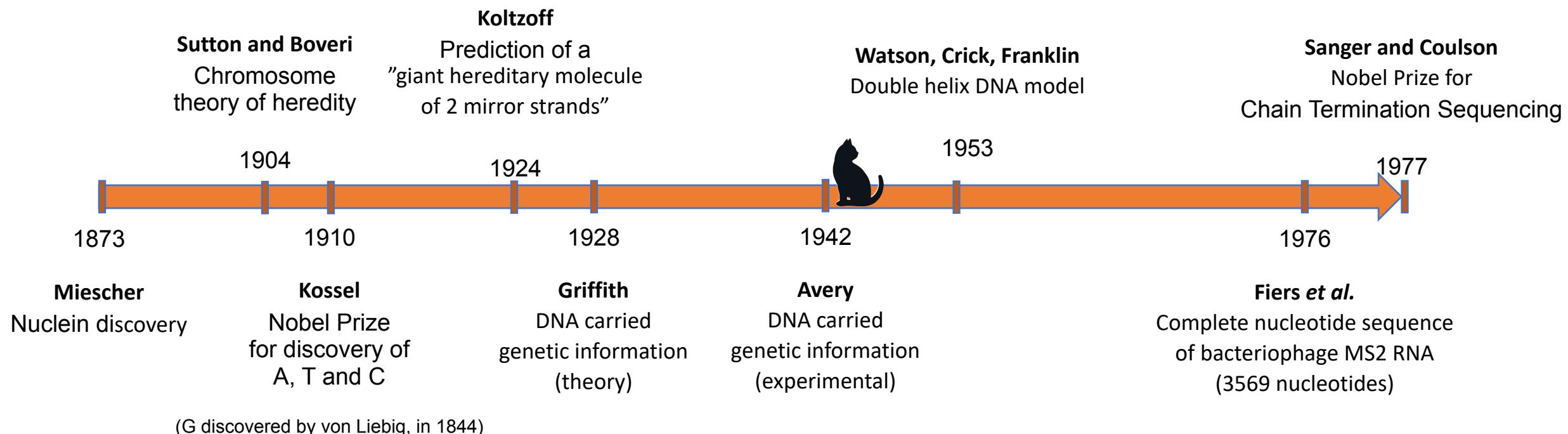
## Das Nuclein.

Der Rückstand nach Extraction mit Salzsäure zeigt unter dem Mikroskop noch Hülle und Inhalt und gibt die Millon'sche Reaction. In Kochsalzlösung quillt er nicht mehr, dagegen etwas in destillirtem Wasser.

Der Samen der Fische vor andern werthvoll. Keine ihre Produkte dem Sekret



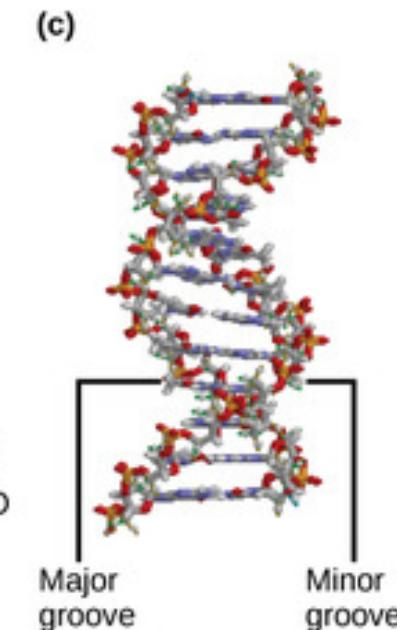
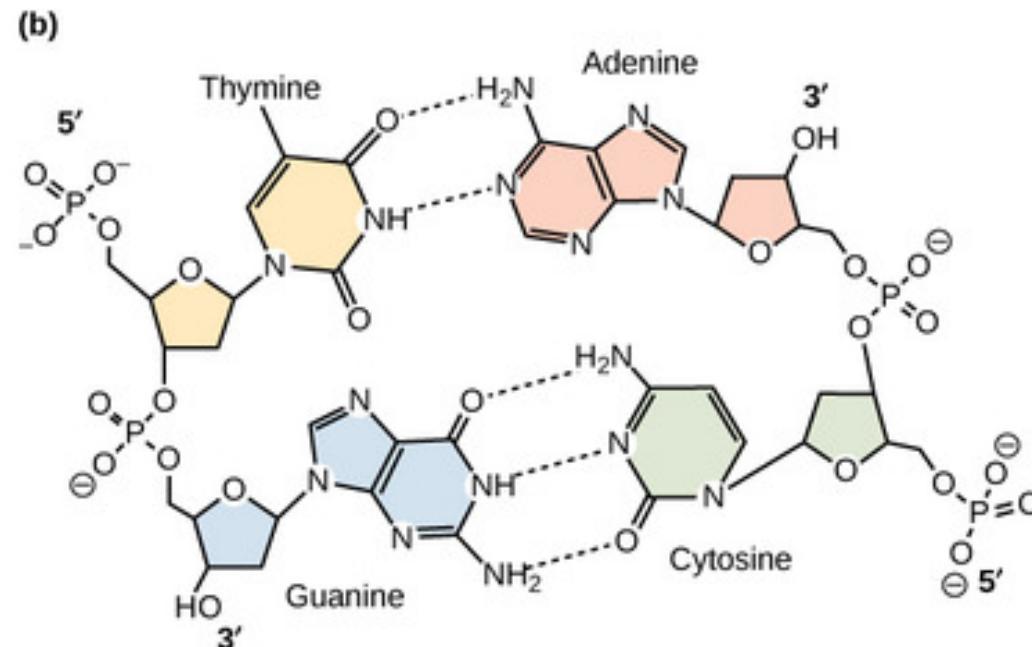
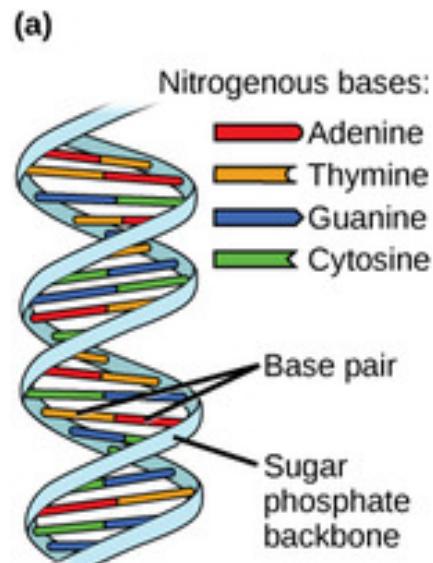
# From Miescher to Sanger



1944, Schrödinger:  
Heredity must be carried by a solid, large, stable molecular structure - aperiodic crystal



# What is sequencing?



<https://figures.boundless-cdn.com>

**Sequencing** is the process of arranging items, steps, or elements in a specific, logical order



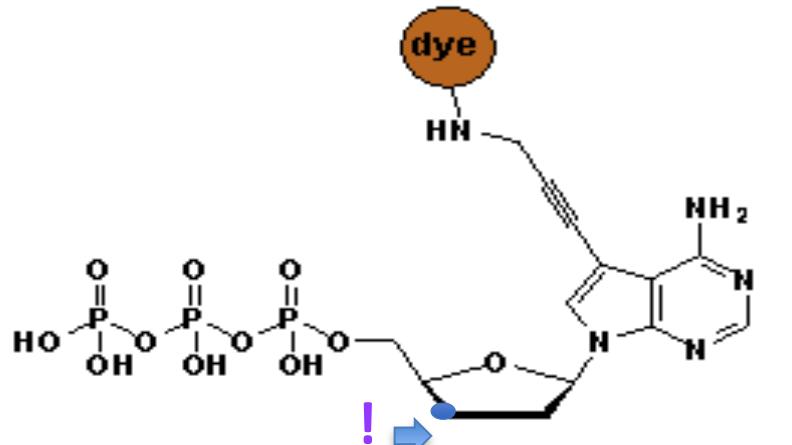
# Once upon a time...

- Fredrik Sanger and Alan Coulson

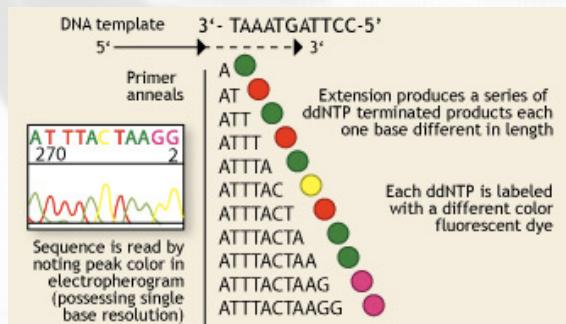
Chain Termination Sequencing (1977)

Nobel prize 1980

Principle:



SYNTHESIS of DNA is randomly **TERMINATED** at different points  
Separation of fragments that are 1 nucleotide different in size

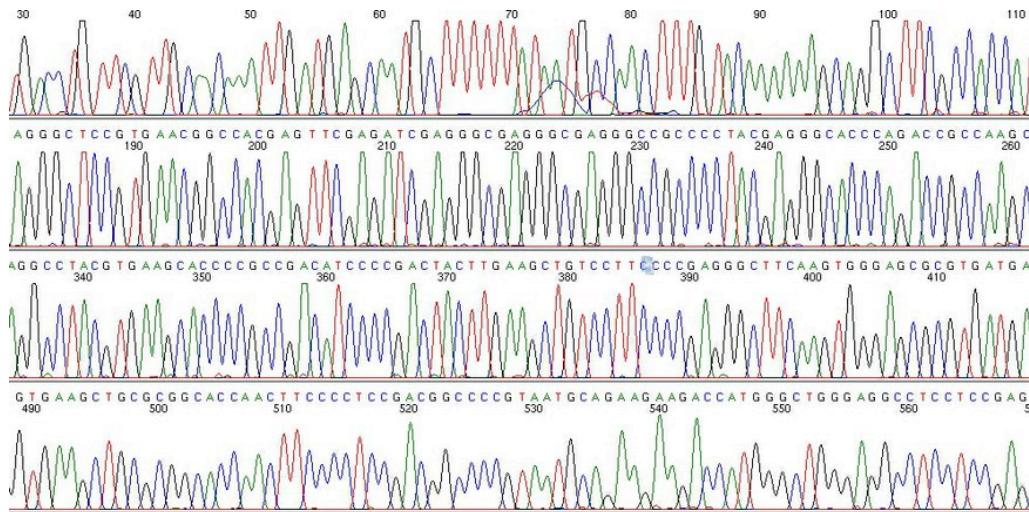
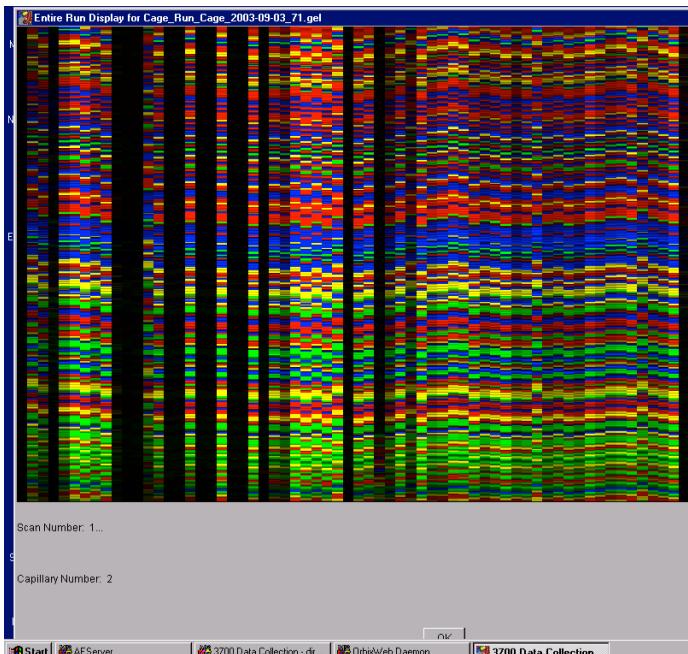


**1 molecule sequenced at a time = 1 read**

**Capillary sequencer: 384 reads per run**



# Sanger sequencing

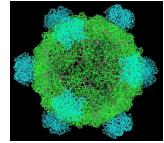


```
>eugene3.02190008
ATGTGGGAATTGTACCAACCAATTCTTCAGCTACTATCATGTCAGATCAAAGAACAA
CACCCCTCCAATGTAGAACTTAAATCCAAATGCAAGCCATGACGAAGATGATGAAAGAATGAATTC
CGTATGGGAATGTGTGACAGACTTGAGAAAGTGGAAAACAAGGTAATGTCAGAACATGTACCC
GACGTGAGAAAGGGTGGGCTGACCAAAATCAAACAATGGCAGAGGGCTAAAGGCCAAGGTGGGCTG
ATTATGCGGATTTGAGGTGGACTTGATGATATTGTTGATGGGTTTAAGGATGAGACCATAGGCCA
TCAAAAAGGTTCAACACCATGAAACCGAAGGGATTTCATGTATTTGACGGGGTGTATGGCAAAAG
AAAATGAGGATTCAAAGGAGAGGTCAAAGGGAGAGAAATAAAGAGATTGGTGTCTAAAAATGAAT
CCAAGAGTCTATACCGTATTCTAGGGAGATGAAGCAAGAACTTGATGTGTTAATGGCAATAGTCATG
CCAACAAGCTTCAGAAAAGAGGGAGAAAATACGCTGCAATGATGATATACGAAATAGAATGGATGCTACT
TTCATCAAAGTGGTGGCGACGATTGTTGGCAAGAAAAGAACTCCAAAGGCTCAAAAGGAGGCTAAG
aatttggtcattaa
```

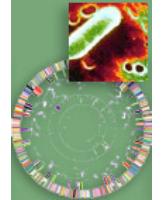
Chromatogram file size: c:a 250 kb  
FASTA file size: 12 kb

Prerequisite: amplified DNA

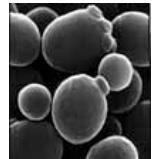
# At the very beginning of genome sequencing era...



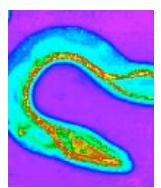
- First DNA genome: virus  $\phi$  X 174 - 5 368 bp (1977)



- First organism: *Haemophilus influenzae* - 1.5 Mb (1995)



- First eukaryote: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* - 12.4 Mb (1996)



- First multicellular organism: *Cenorhabditis elegans* - 100 MB (1998)



- First plant: *Arabidopsis thaliana* - 157 Mb (2000)

# The Yeast Genome project



## Life with 6000 Genes

A. GOFFEAU, B. G. BARRELL, H. BUSSEY, R. W. DAVIS, B. DUJON, H. FELDMANN, F. GALIBERT, J. D. HOHEISEL, C. JACQ, [..], AND S. G. OLIVER  
[& Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 25 Oct 1996 • Vol 274, Issue 5287 • pp. 546-567 • DOI: 10.1126/science.274.5287.546



*"The genome of the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* has been completely sequenced through **an international effort involving some 600 scientists in Europe, North America, and Japan**. It is the largest genome to be completely sequenced so far (a record that we hope will soon be bettered) and is the first complete genome sequence of a eukaryote."*

*"New graduate students are already wondering how we all managed in the "dark ages" before the sequence was completed. We must now tackle a much larger challenge, that of elucidating the function of all of the novel genes revealed by that sequence. **As with the sequencing project itself, functional analysis will require a worldwide effort.** In Europe, a new research network called *EUROFAN* [for European Functional Analysis Network has been established to undertake the systematic analysis of the function of novel yeast genes. Parallel activities are underway in Germany, Canada, and Japan. In the United States, the National Institutes of Health has recently sent out a request for applications for "Large-Scale Functional Analysis of the Yeast Genome."*"



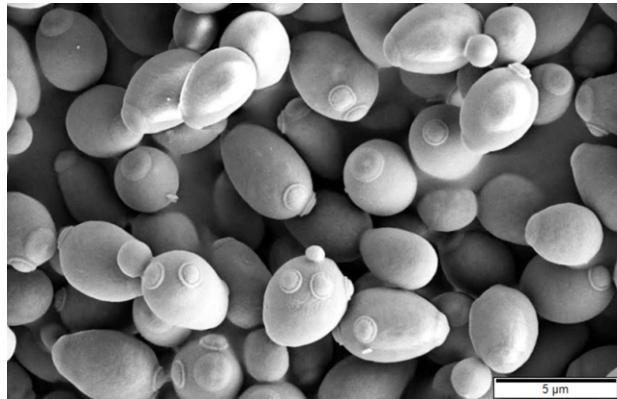
**GENETICS**  
Information for Authors Editorial Board Submit a Manuscript

Genetics. 2013 Jun; 194(2): 291-299.  
doi: 10.1534/genetics.113.151258

The Modest Beginnings of One Genome Project  
David B. Kaback<sup>1</sup>

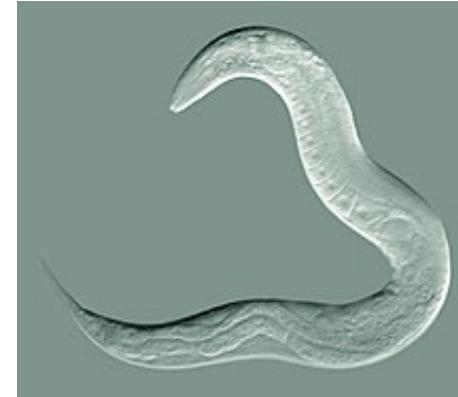
PMCID: PMC3664842  
PMID: 23733847

# First genomic references



1/3 of genes related to human by homology

Basic cell functions



Human disease gene discovery

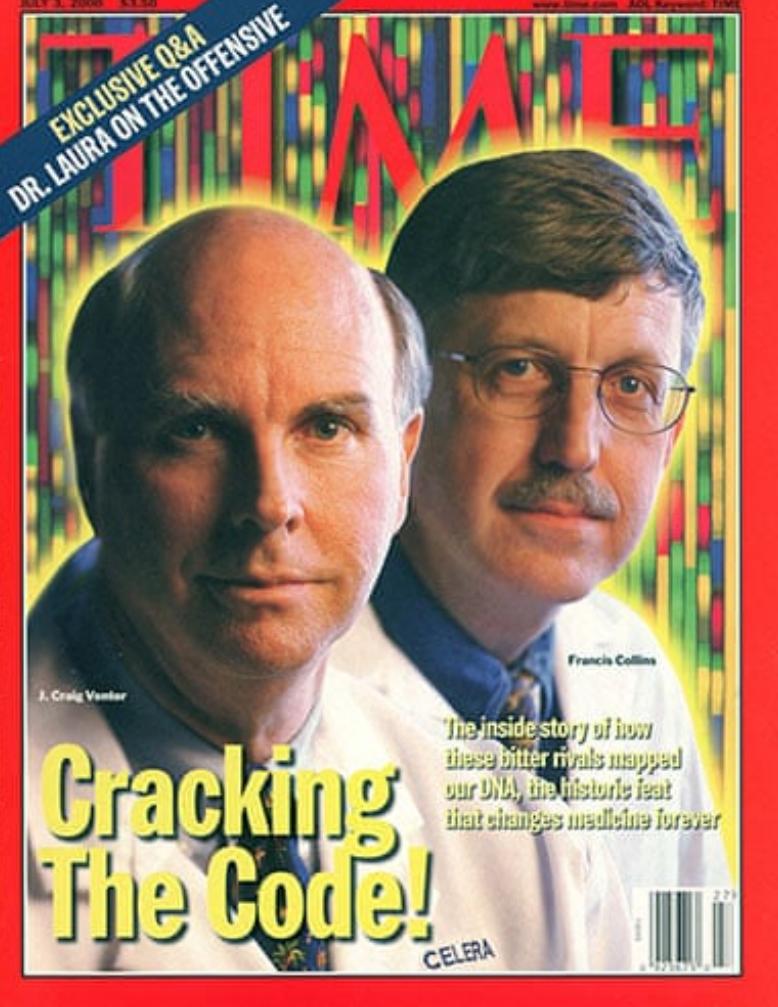


Phenotypical traits



Plant genome structure and function

*But it was not enough...*



It is thus important that we identify here what real benefits and liabilities might emerge from the contemplated sequencing activity, which would aim at capturing the entire human genome in a period of 10 or 12 years. Do we have the technologies necessary to do this, and do we have the computational power and algorithms needed to integrate and analyze this data? Will this information provide both clinical and basic benefits of such magnitude to warrant an accelerated effort?

GENOME SEQUENCING WORKSHOP

MARCH 3 & 4, 1986

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

SPONSOR

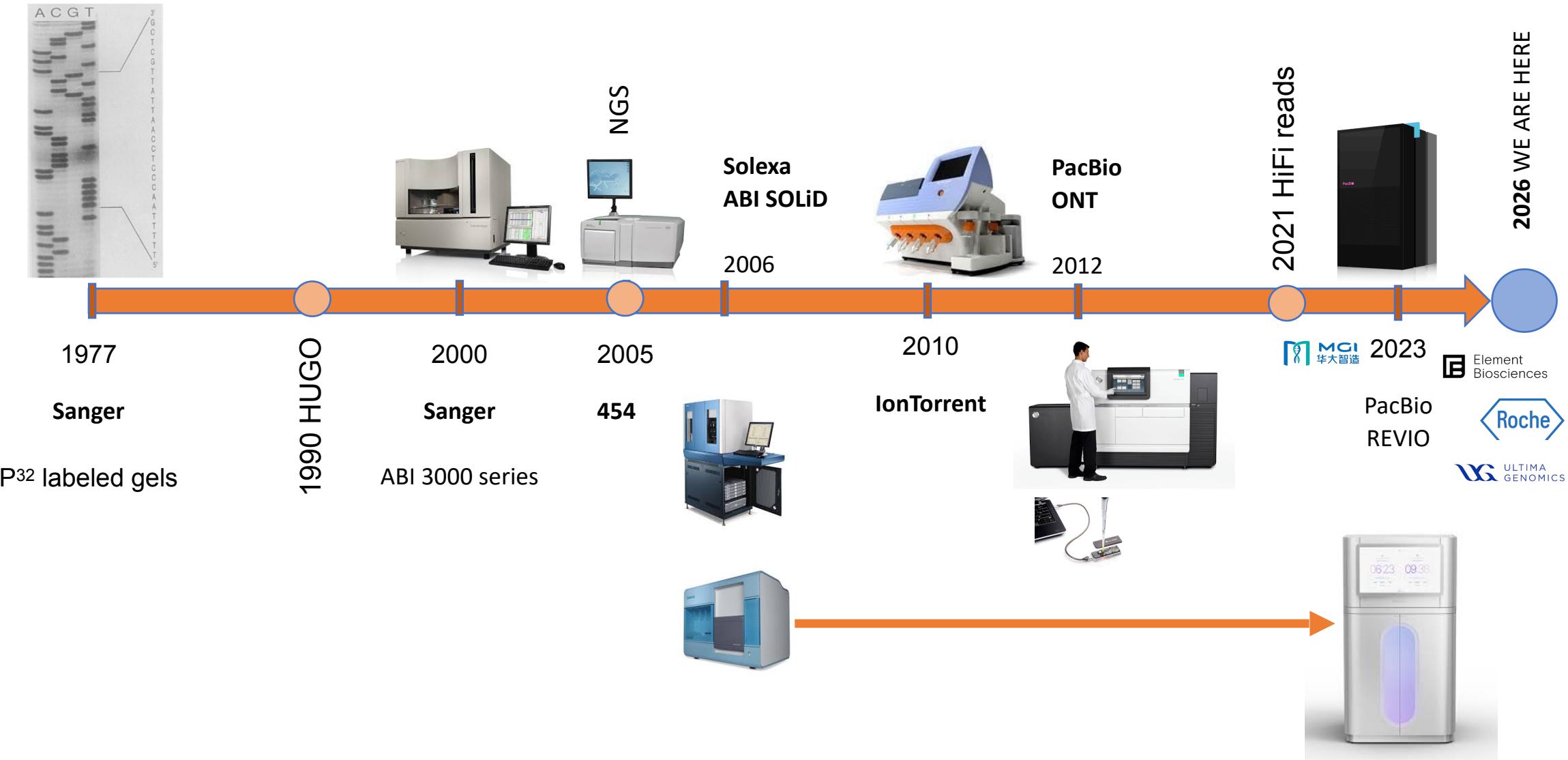
DOE

OFFICE OF HEALTH AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

HOST  
LIFE SCIENCES DIVISION  
LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY



# An outcome of HUGO – Genomic Revolution





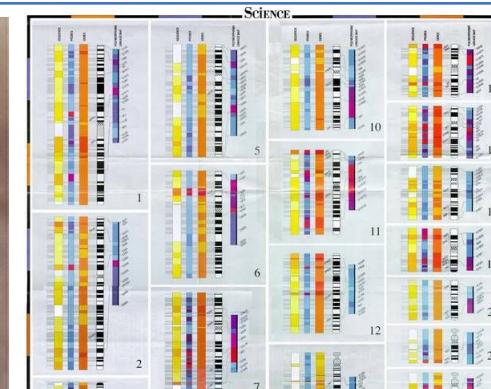
# Just a comparison

1990 - 2003

HUGO

Sanger traditional

\$2.7 bln

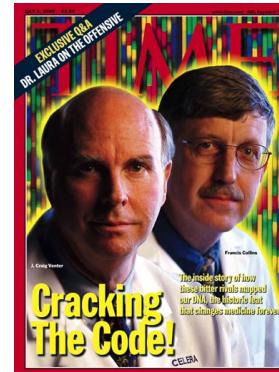


2007

Craig Venter's genome

Sanger ABI 3730

\$300 mln



2008

Jim Watson's genome

454 FLX

\$1 mln

**TODAY**

*any human*

**\$200-600** with short reads

**\$1-3k** with long reads

# Outcome of genomics revolution: paradigm shift

Single genes

Complete genomes

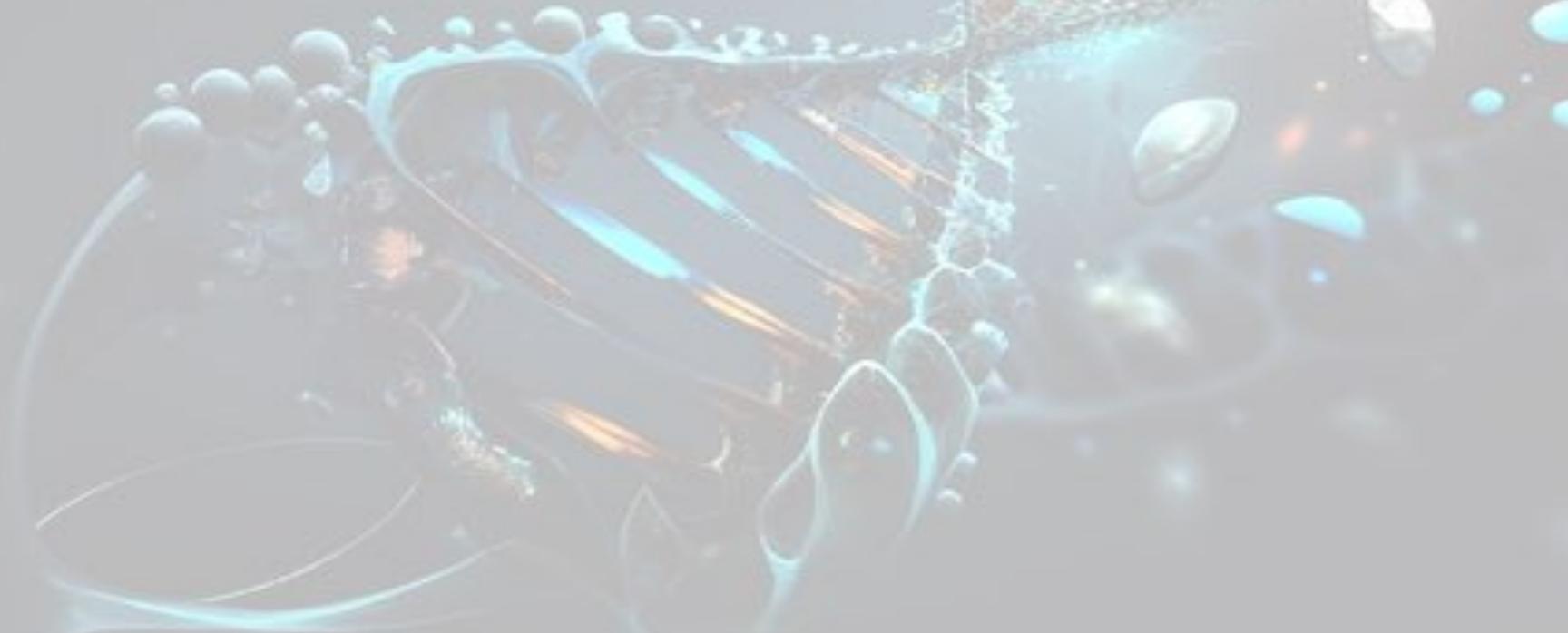
# Outcome of genomics revolution: paradigm shift

Single genes

**Single transcripts**

Complete genomes

**Whole transcriptomes**



# Outcome of genomics revolution: paradigm shift

Single genes

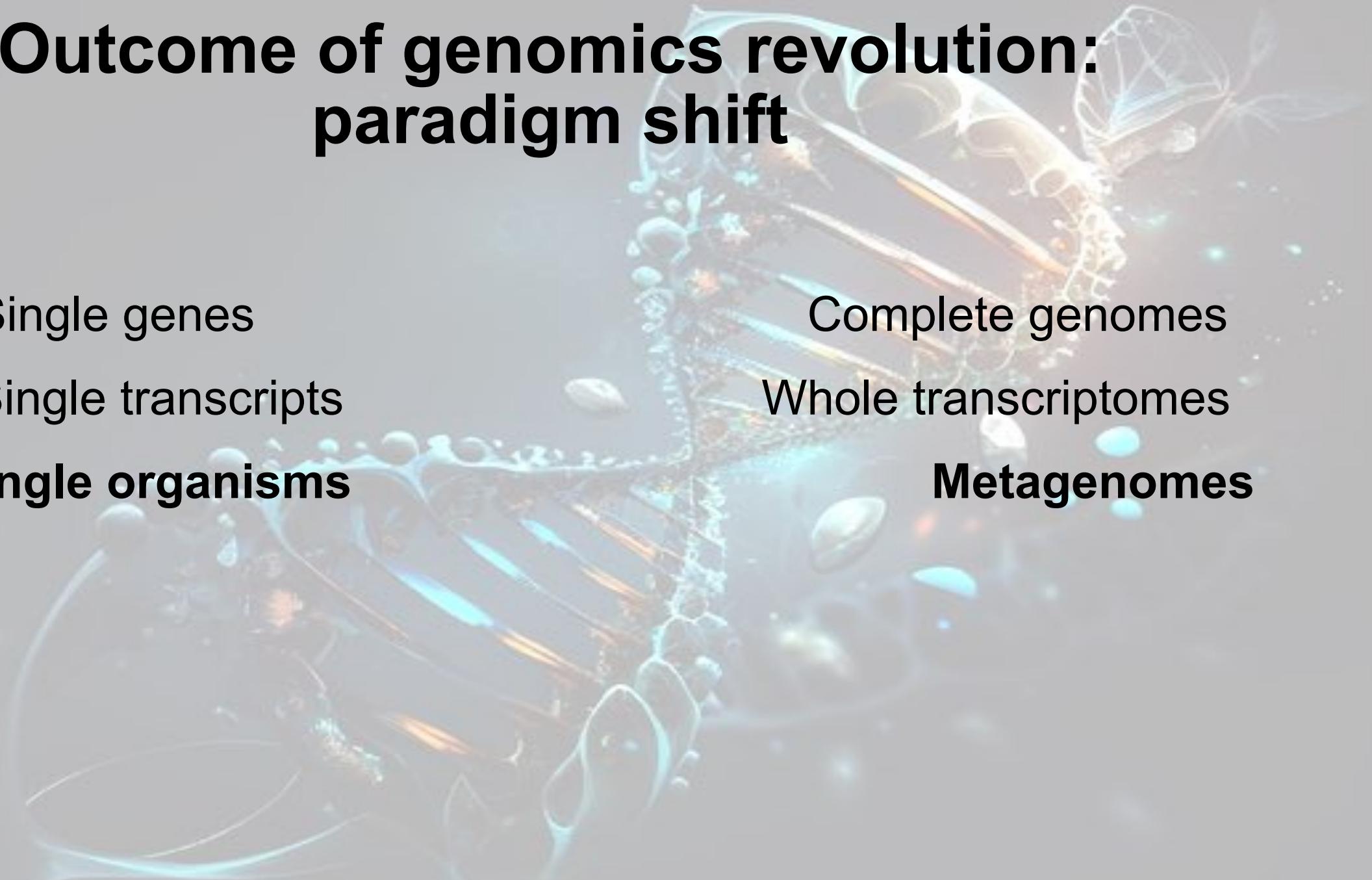
Single transcripts

**Single organisms**

Complete genomes

Whole transcriptomes

**Metagenomes**



# Outcome of genomics revolution: paradigm shift

Single genes

Single transcripts

Single organisms

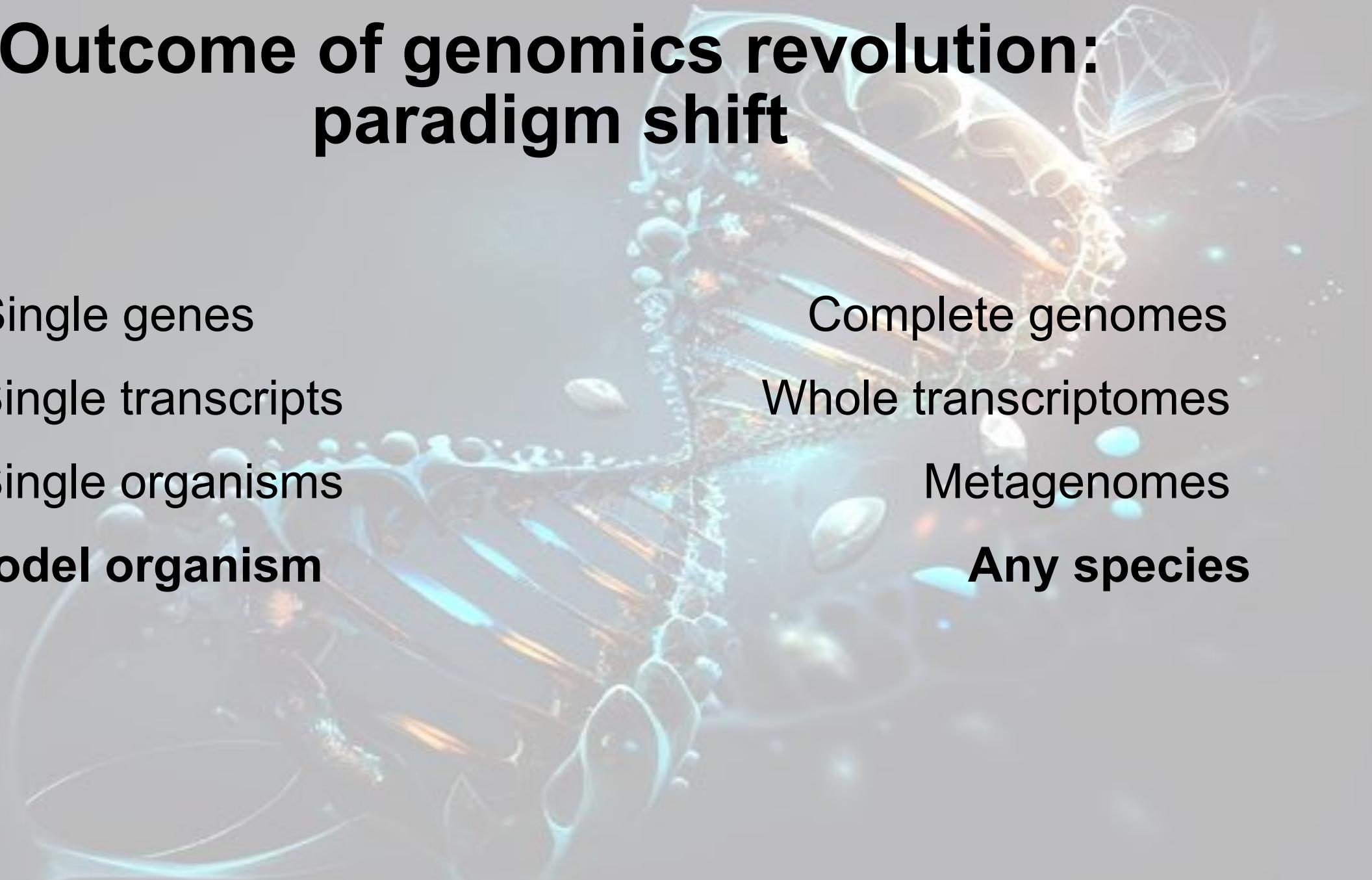
**Model organism**

Complete genomes

Whole transcriptomes

Metagenomes

**Any species**



# Outcome of genomics revolution: paradigm shift

Single genes

Single transcripts

Single organisms

Model organism

Complete genomes

Whole transcriptomes

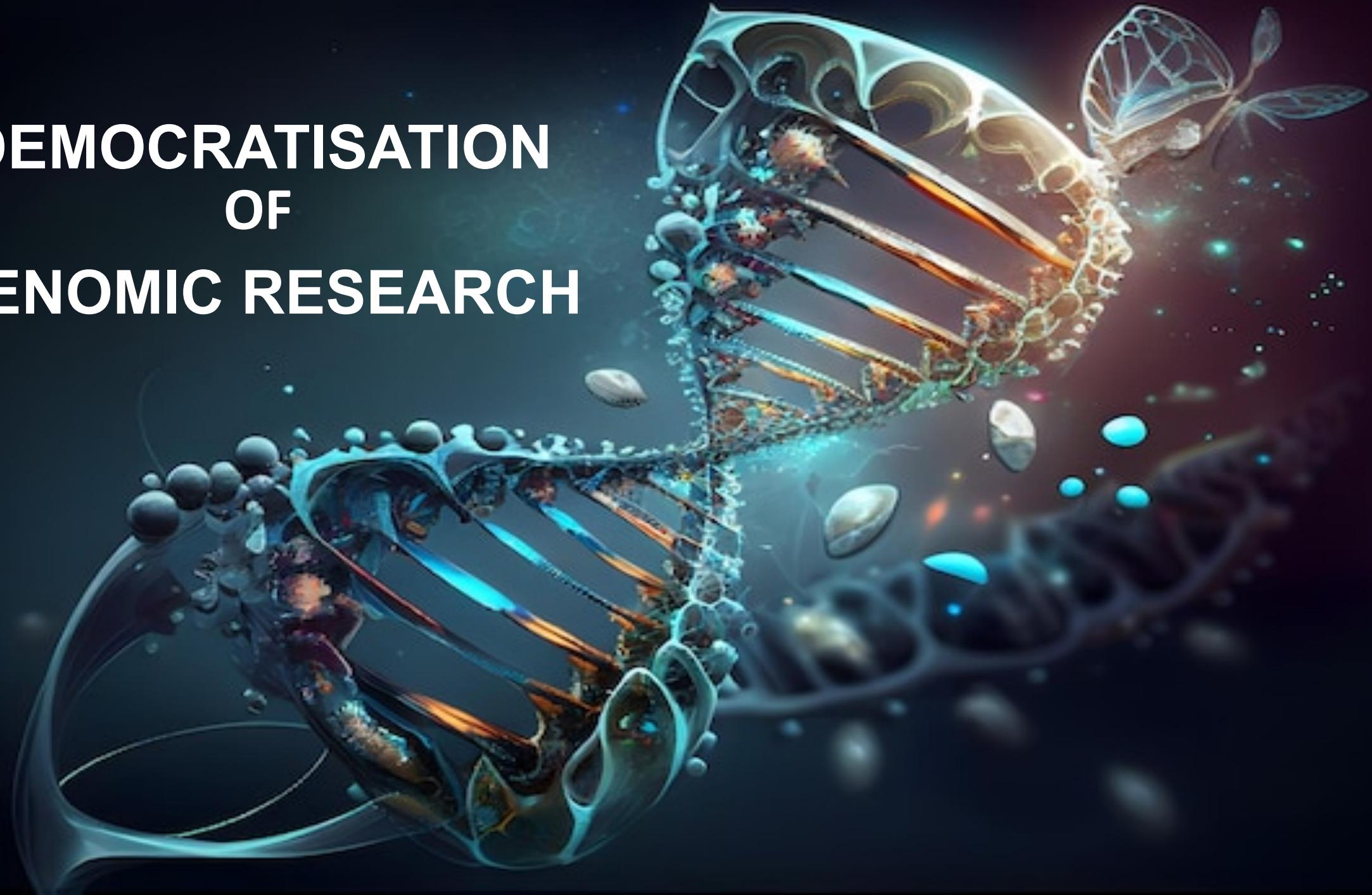
Metagenomes

Any species

Available to highly specialized labs

Available to anyone

# DEMOCRATISATION OF GENOMIC RESEARCH





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# Sequencing technologies: theory and principles



# NGS market overview / Read length



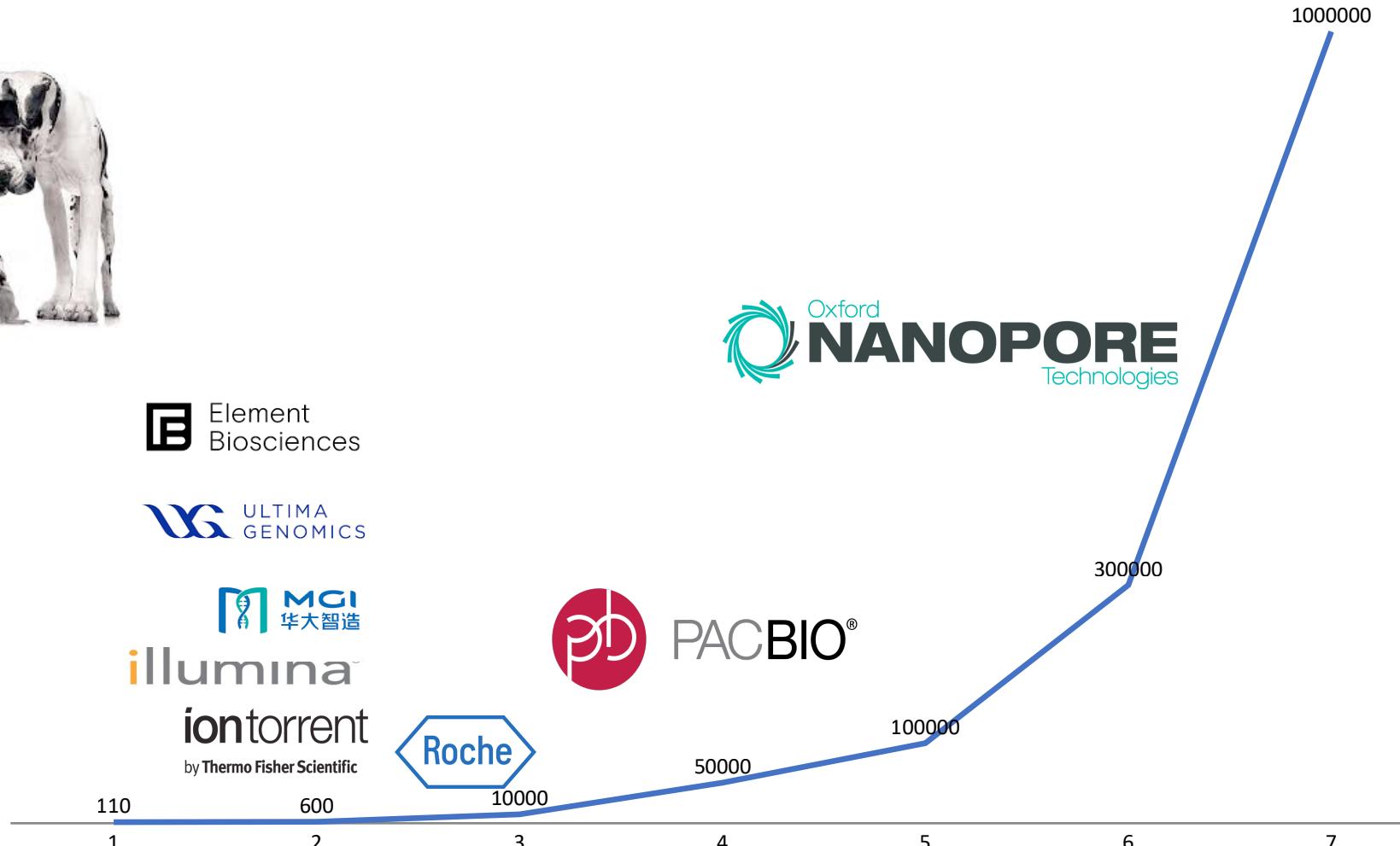
 Element  
Biosciences

 ULTIMA  
GENOMICS

  
illumina  
iontorrent  
by Thermo Fisher Scientific

 PACBIO®

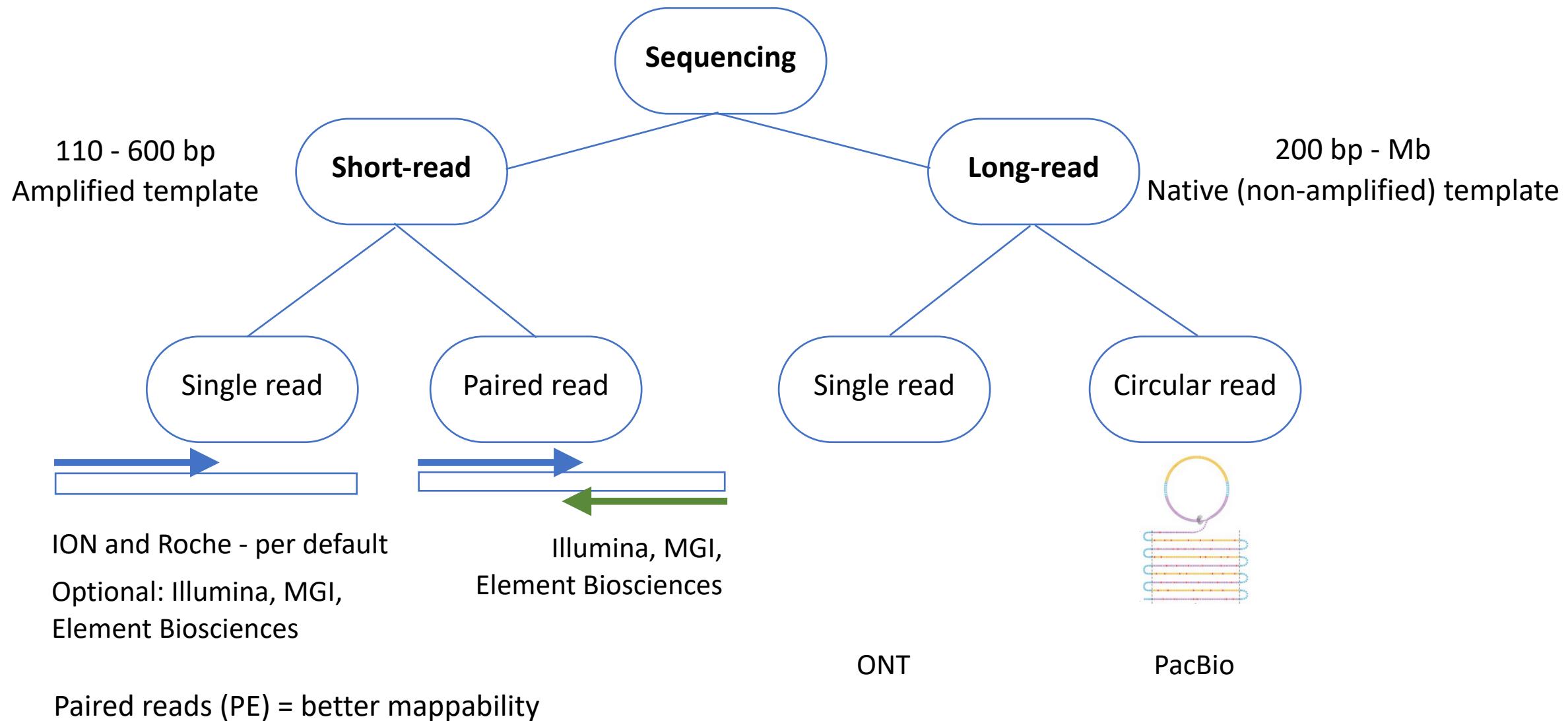
 Roche



Before going into details, let's understand the main principles.



# Types of sequencing by **read length**





# Any NGS starts with a library

Template (aka “insert”)



Adaptor ligation



Tells the reaction  
where to start



OR:

Barcode and  
adaptor ligation



Barcodes different  
samples for pooling

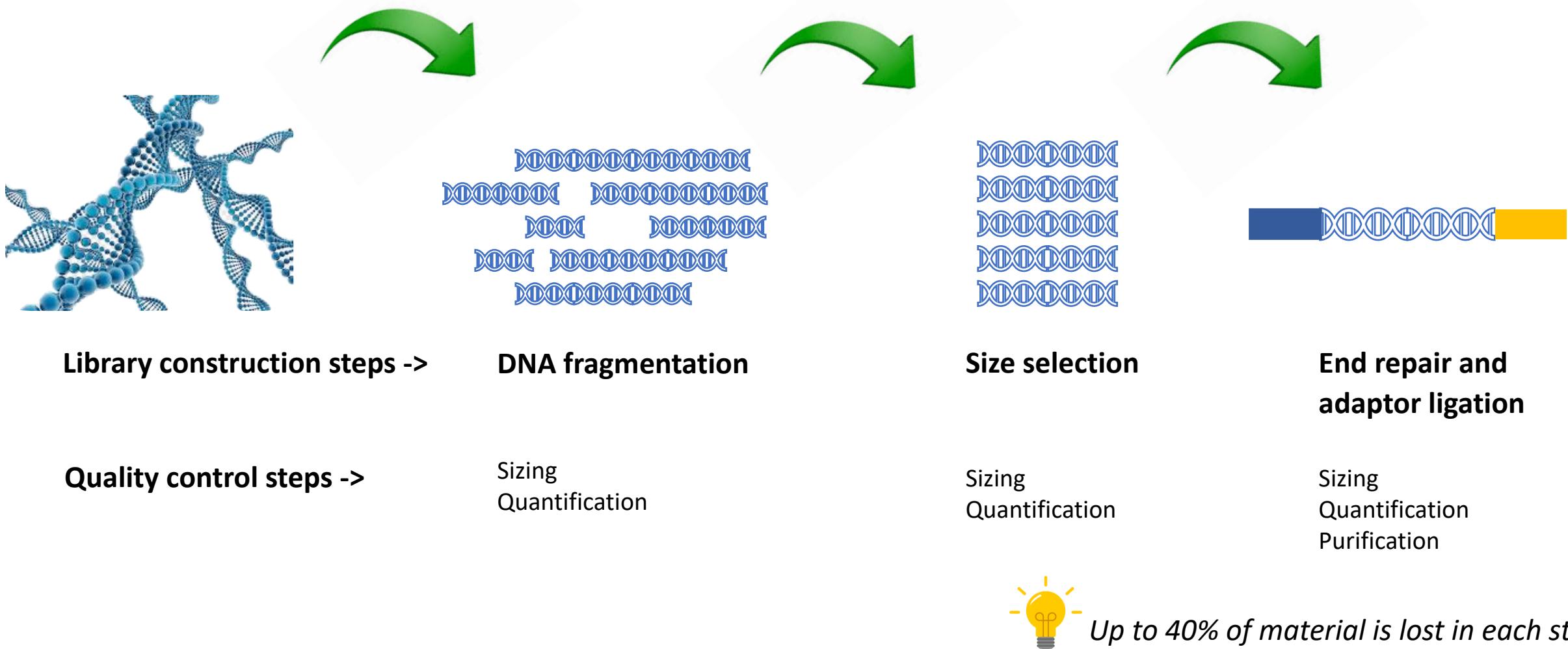


Type of adaptor, primer and insert size are technology- and application-specific



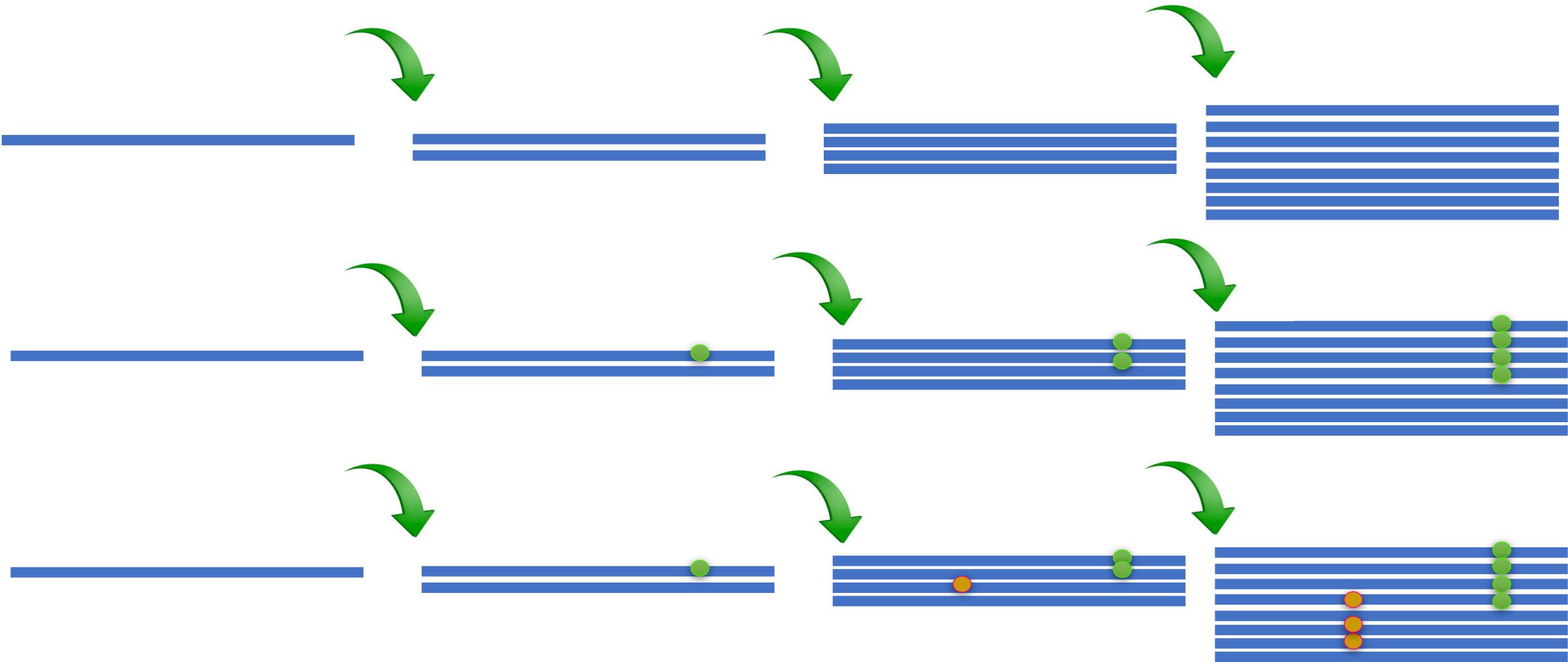
For all short-read technologies: libraries have to be amplified

# NGS library construction procedure





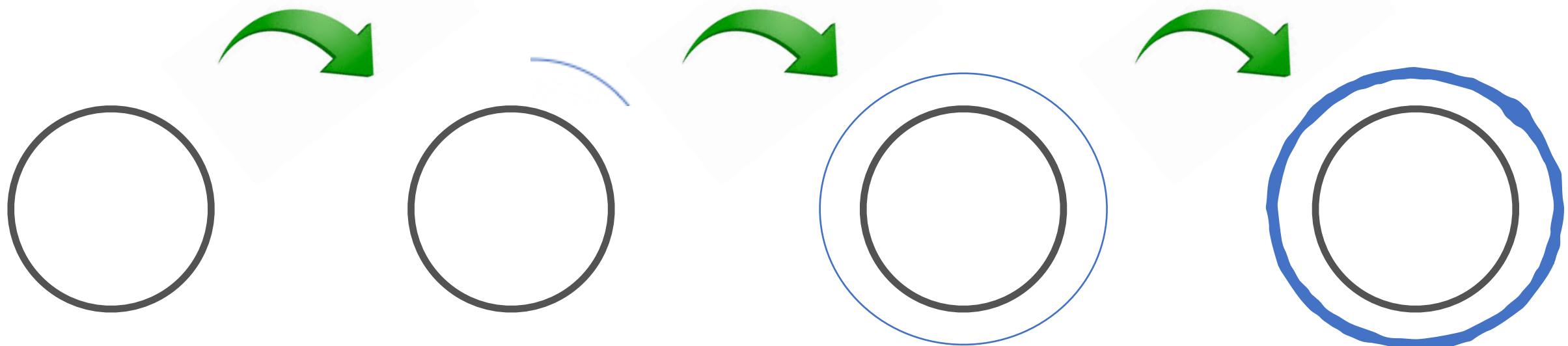
# Amplification: PCR (Copy of a copy)





# Amplification: Rolling circle (RCA)

(Copy of the same molecule)



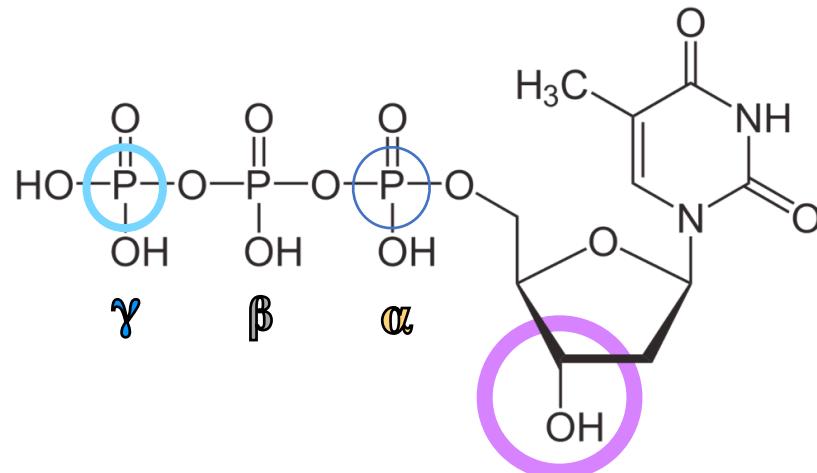


# DNA synthesis - Back to school!

## SBS-sequencing by synthesis

### Sequencing fuel:

Deoxyribonucleoside triphosphates (dNTP)



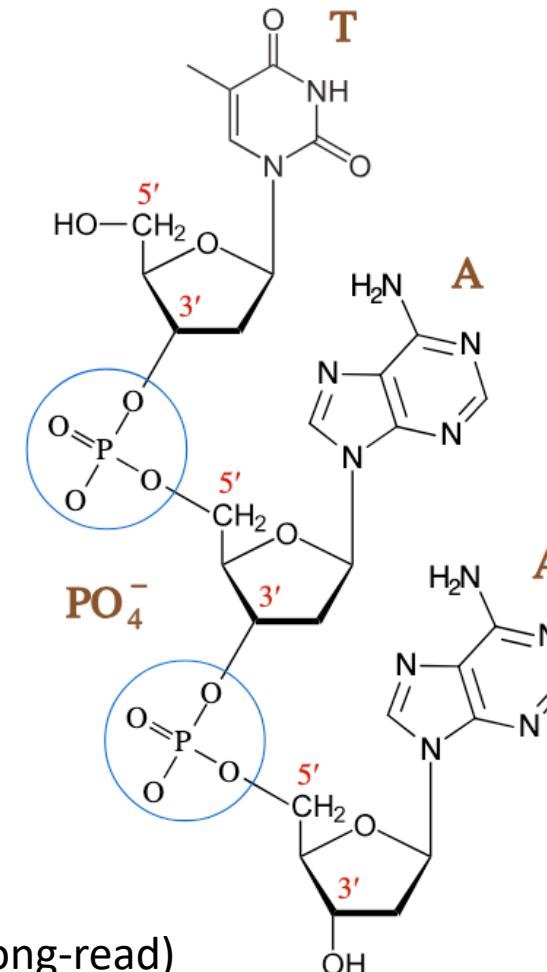
### Phosphate groups

α Gets attacked to form a bond

γ Where “dye” is attached

Present = reaction happens (long-read)

Blocked = reaction stops (most short-read)



### DNA polymerization:

Pyrophosphate is released  
(and with that - color signal)

O of 3'-OH stays put  
H is released as a proton, H<sup>+</sup>

### Nucleotide incorporation

Short reads: 1 at a time (cycle)

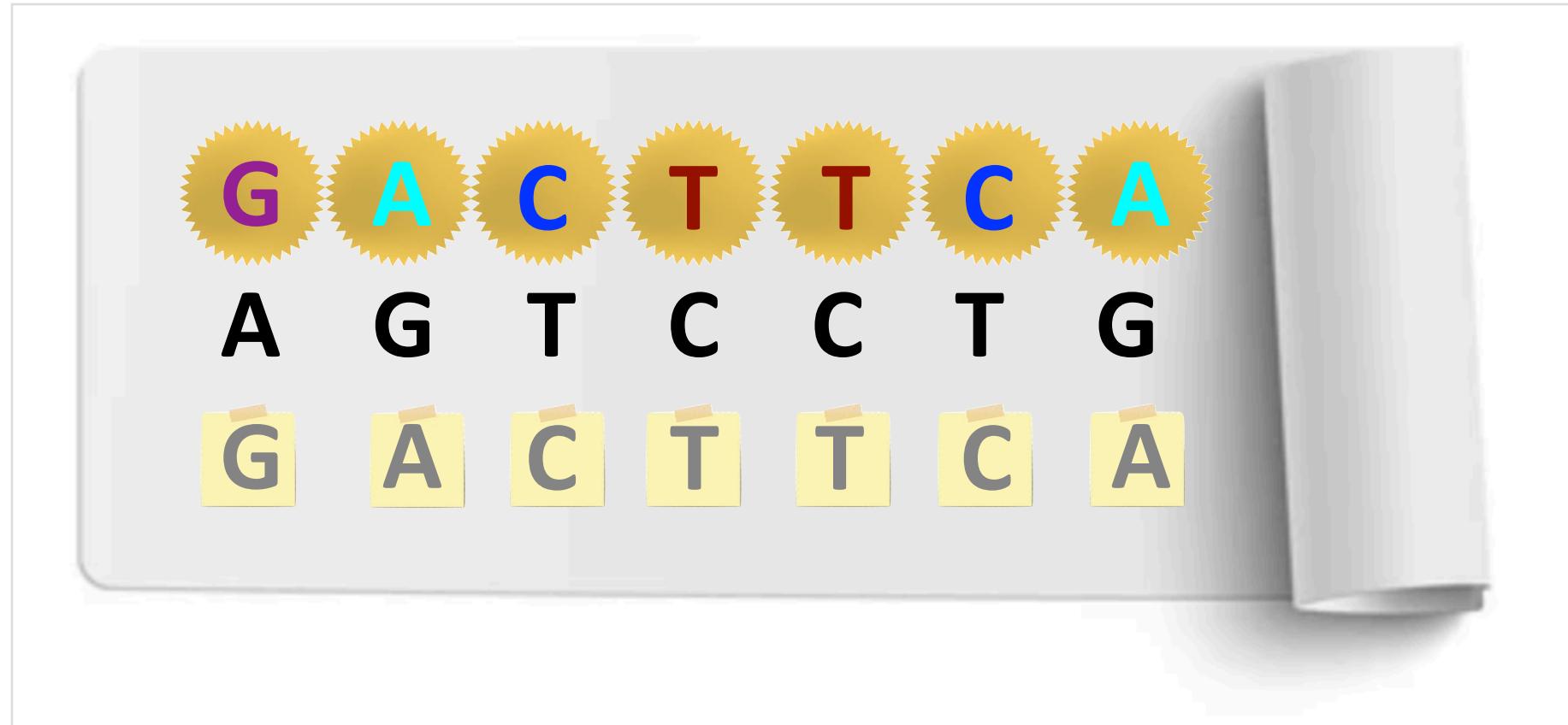
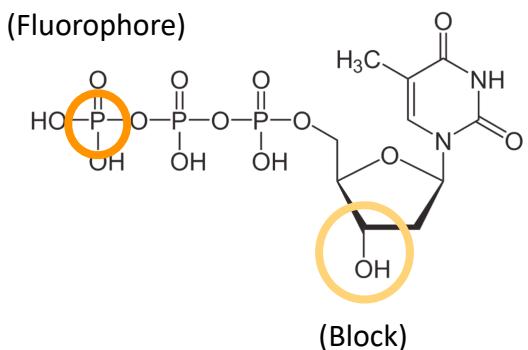
Long reads: constant flow



# Mode of sequencing: SBS and SBB

## Sequencing by Synthesis

dNTP\* is **BOUNDED**



## Sequencing by Binding

dNTP\* **presented**, **removed**, and then a **native** nucleotide is bound



*SBB is gentler than SBS*



# SBS and SBB comparison

Traits:	SBS	SBB
<b>Core differences</b>	Detection = incorporation Modified nucleotides Errors locked in	Detection -> incorporation Natural nucleotides Errors can reset
<b>Quality drop with cycle</b>	Steep	Shallow
<b>Read accuracy</b>	Lower	Higher
<b>End-of-read noise</b>	Common	Reduced
<b>Phasing errors</b>	Common	Rare



*SBS is prone to phasing errors*



# Q-score

**Q (quality) score** - measurement of machine confidence that the base (A, G, T, C) was correctly identified

Q-Score	Accuracy	Error Rate	Probability of a Wrong Call
Q10	90%	1 in 10	10% chance of error
Q20	99%	1 in 100	1% chance of error
Q30	99.9%	1 in 1,000	0.1% chance of error
Q40	99.99%	1 in 10,000	0.01% chance of error
Q50	99.999%	1 in 100,000	0.001% chance of error

**Why it matters?** Example:

Looking for a rare mutation (SNP), appears 1 in 5000 DNA molecules

Q30 = 1 error per 1 000 bases -> the somatic mutation will be drowned in the noise of incorporated errors

To correctly call a 1:5000 rare SNP, one needs a technology with Q40 or higher



# Types of sequencing errors

**Indels:** Insertions and deletions - machine sees something that is not there

**Insertion**

Actual: A T G C  
Read: A T **T** G C

**Deletion**

Actual: A T G C  
Read: A T T C

**Substitutions:** incorporation of wrong bases

Actual: A T G C  
Read: A T **A** C

**Homopolymers:** stretches of the same nucleotide

Actual: A A A A  
Read1: A A A A  
Read2: A A A  
Read3: A A A A A



*All technologies have their own error profiles*



Short break and then:

Finally, the technologies...

Current leader on the NGS market

Instrument	Run time	Max output	Max reads/run	Max read length, bp
iSeq	9.5 – 19 hrs	1.2 Gb	4 mln	PE 150
MiniSeq	4-24 hrs	7.5 Gb	25 mln	PE 150
MiSeq	4-55 hours	15 Gb	25 mln	PE 300
NextSeq series	12-48 hours	120-300 Gb	0.4 – 1 bln	PE 150
NovaSeq 6000	13-44 hours	6 Tb	26 bln	PE 250
NovaSeq X Plus	15-18 hrs	16 Tb	52 bln	PE 150

**Technology highlight:** bridge amplification

**Used for:** everything

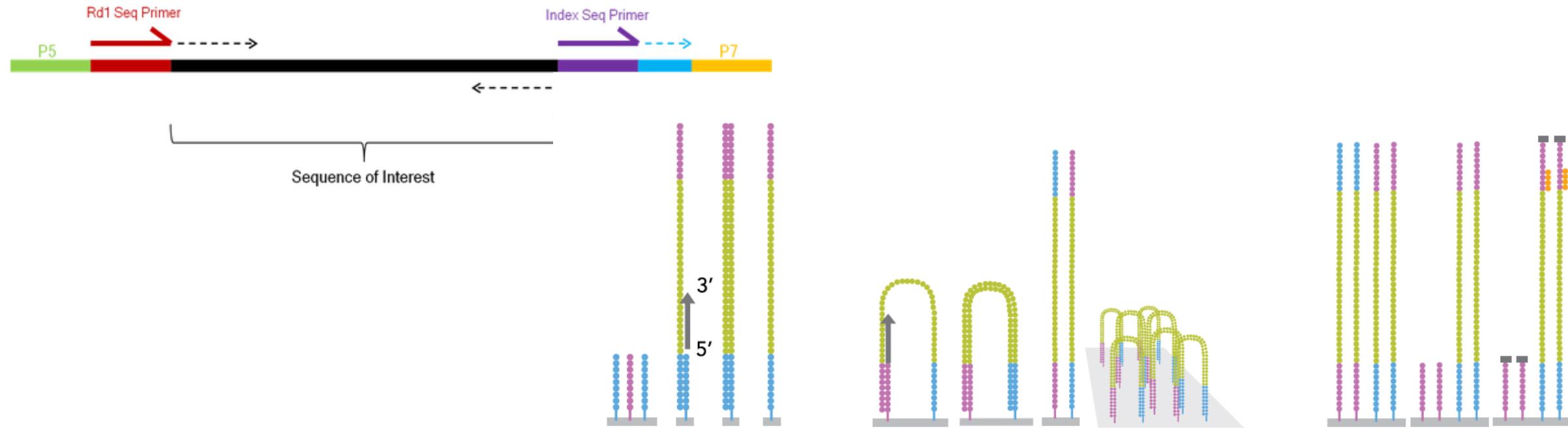
**Strength:** cheap; robust data analysis pipelines

**Weakness:** more bias than people think, GC-bias





# Illumina: bridge amplification



4-Channel Chemistry

	A	G	T	C
Image 1	●			
Image 2		●		
Image 3			●	
Image 4				●
Result	A	G	T	C

2-Channel Chemistry

	A	G	T	C
Image 1	●			
Image 2		●		
Result	A	G	T	C

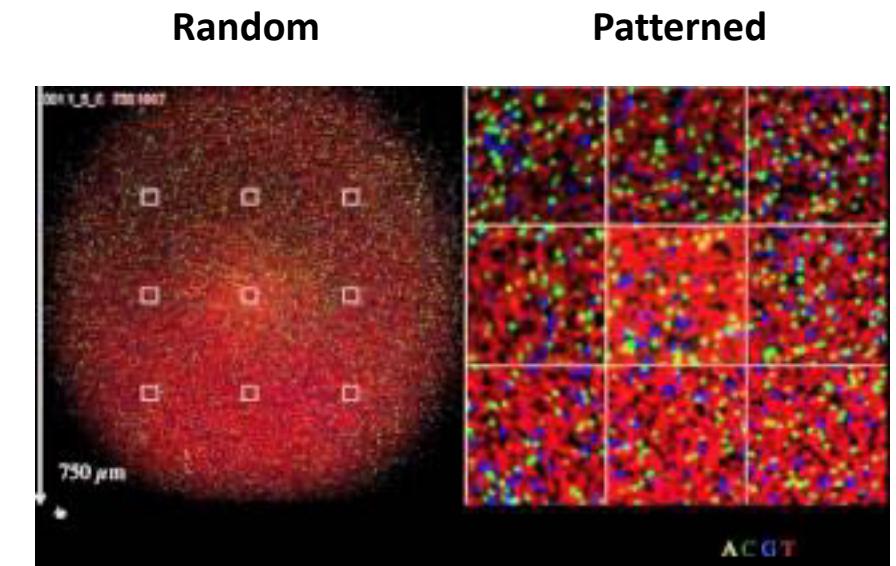
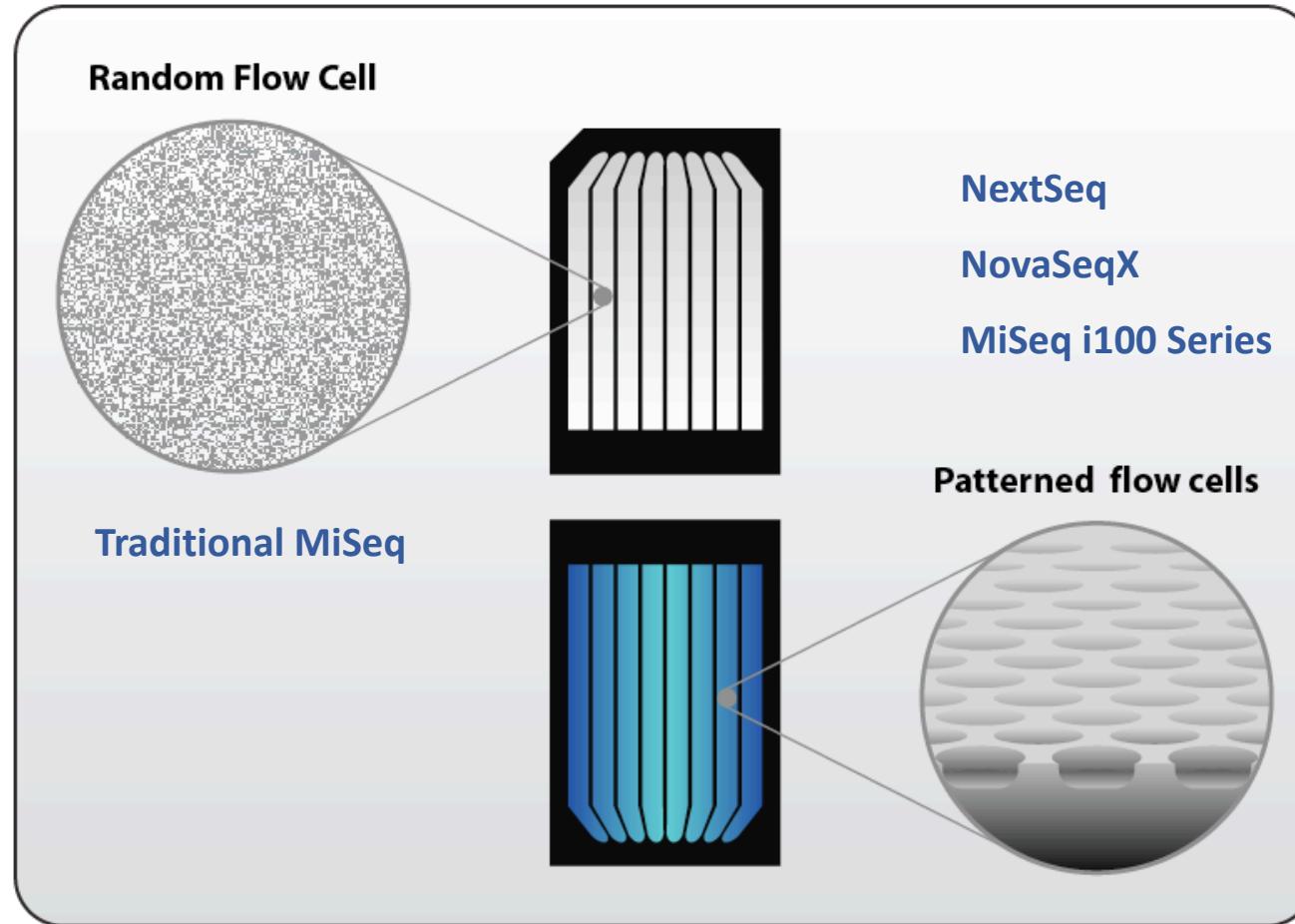
1-Channel Chemistry

	A	G	T	C
Image 1	●			
Image 2		●		
Result	A	G	T	C

----- Intermediate chemistry step -----



# Illumina flow cells: important differences



1 flow cell per run



# ION (ThermoFischer)

**ThermoFisher**  
SCIENTIFIC

Instrument	Run time	Max output	Max reads/run	Max read length, bp
Gene Studio S5	3 - 24 hrs	50 Gb	150 mln	SE 600
Genexus	14-24 hrs	20 Gb	60 mln	SE 400

**Technology highlight:** H<sup>+</sup> ion-sensitive field effect transistors

**Used for:** gene panels, advantage in clinical setting

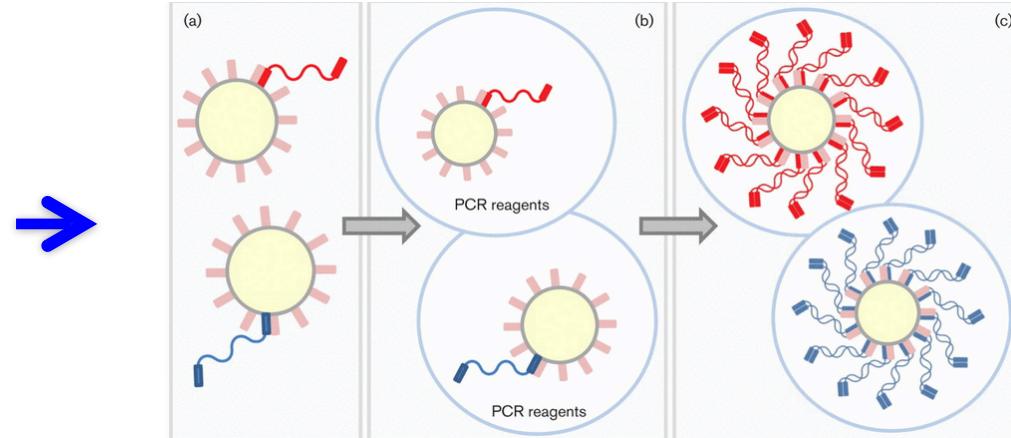
**Strength:** scalable, very fast turn-around, inbuilt analysis software

**Weakness:** limited number of applications, AT-bias, (homopolymers bias)

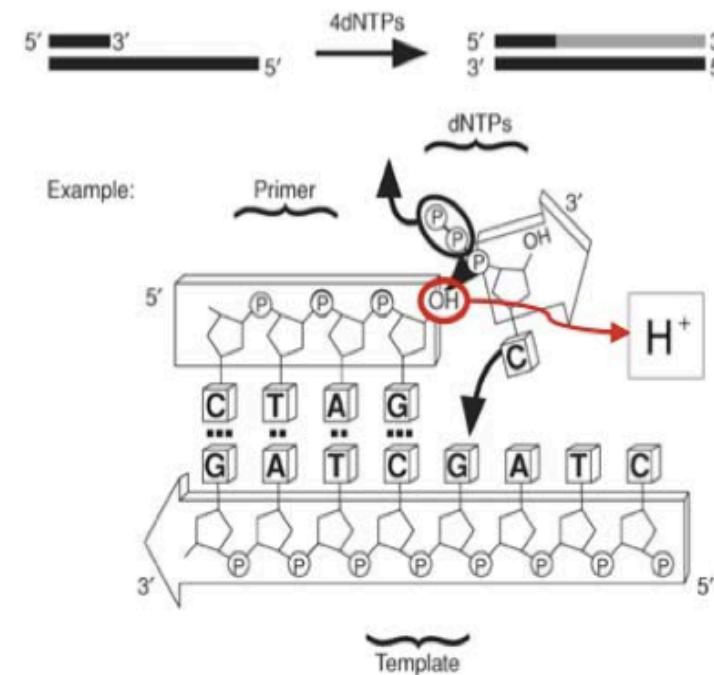
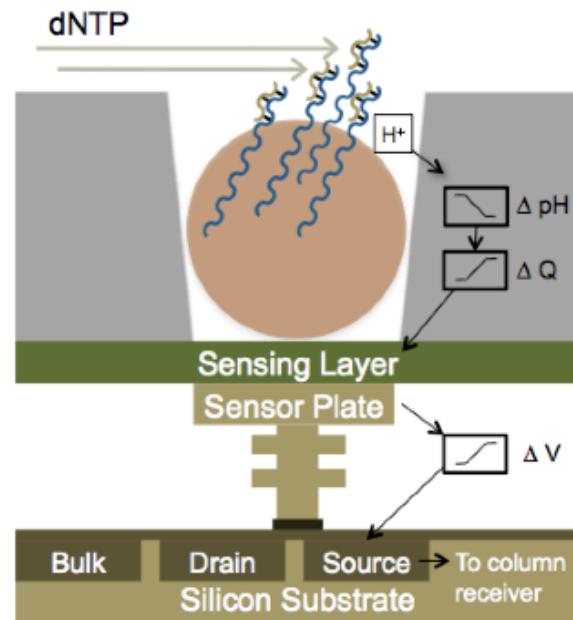




# Ion Torrent: H<sup>+</sup> ion-sensitive field effect transistors

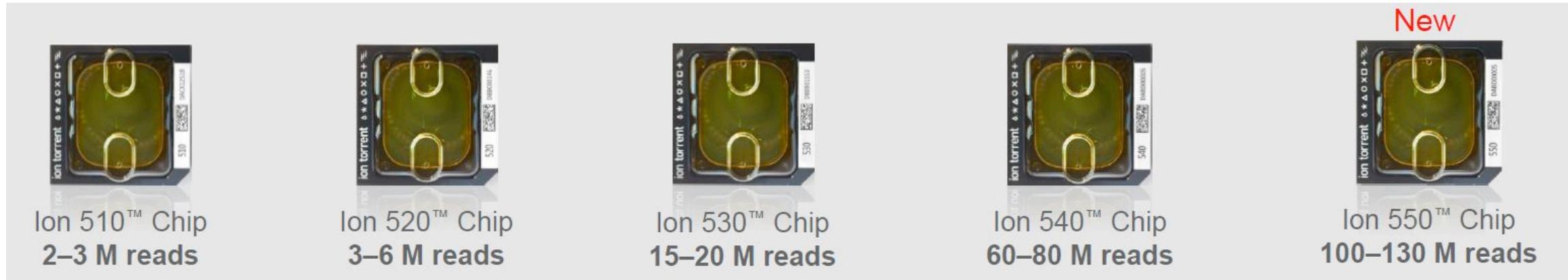


<https://doi.org/10.1099/vir.0.043182-0>





# Ion technology: scalability



1 chip per run



Instrument	Run time	Max output	Max reads/run	Max read length, bp
UG 100	12 - 14 hrs	2.4 Tb	6-8 bln	SE 300
UG 100 Solaris	14 hrs	3.6 Tb	10-12 bln	SE 300
UG Solaris Boost	24 hrs	unspecified*	100 bln/day	SE 300

\* based on 100 billion reads/day

**Technology highlight:** no flow cell, lots of AI

**Used for:** potentially - everything, still new on the market

**Strength:** very cheap but accurate

**Weakness:** Few analysis pipelines available, GC-bias, analysis bias

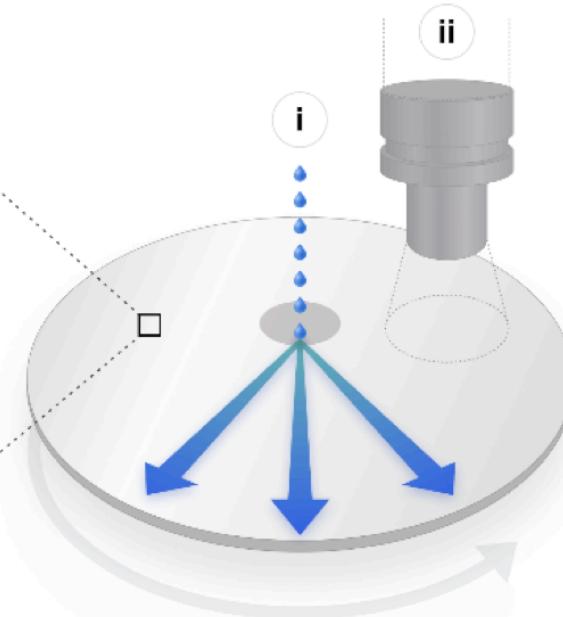
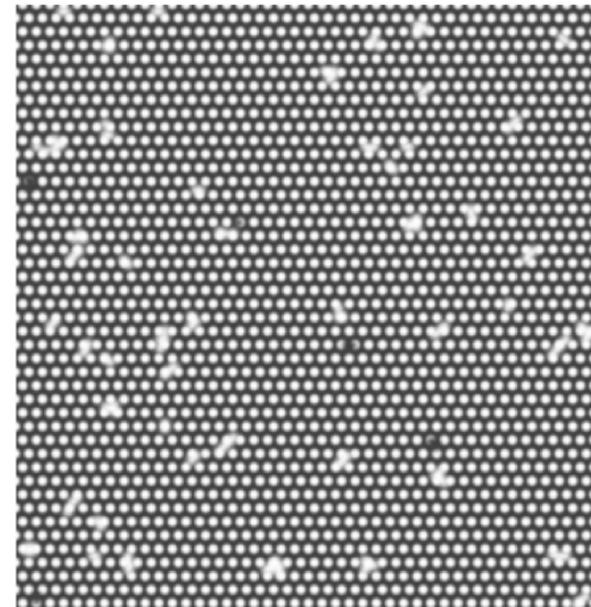




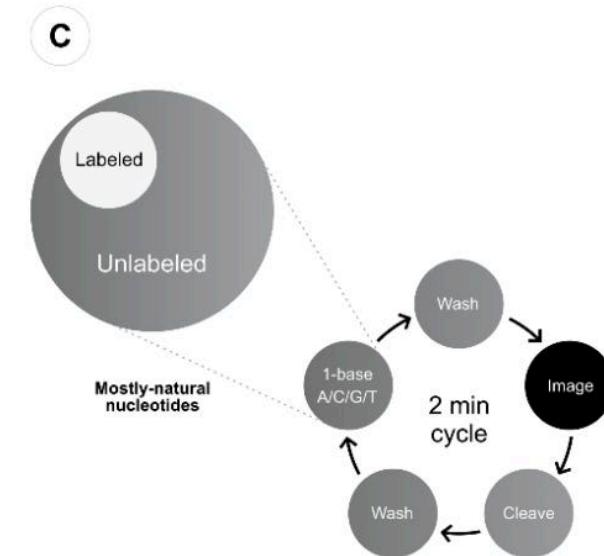
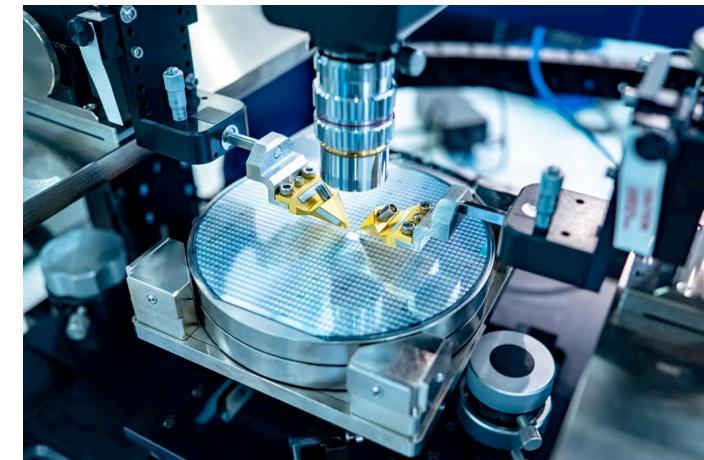
# Ultima technology

No more flow cells, chips and SMRT cells - introduced wafers

Library: emulsion PCR, similar to ION technology

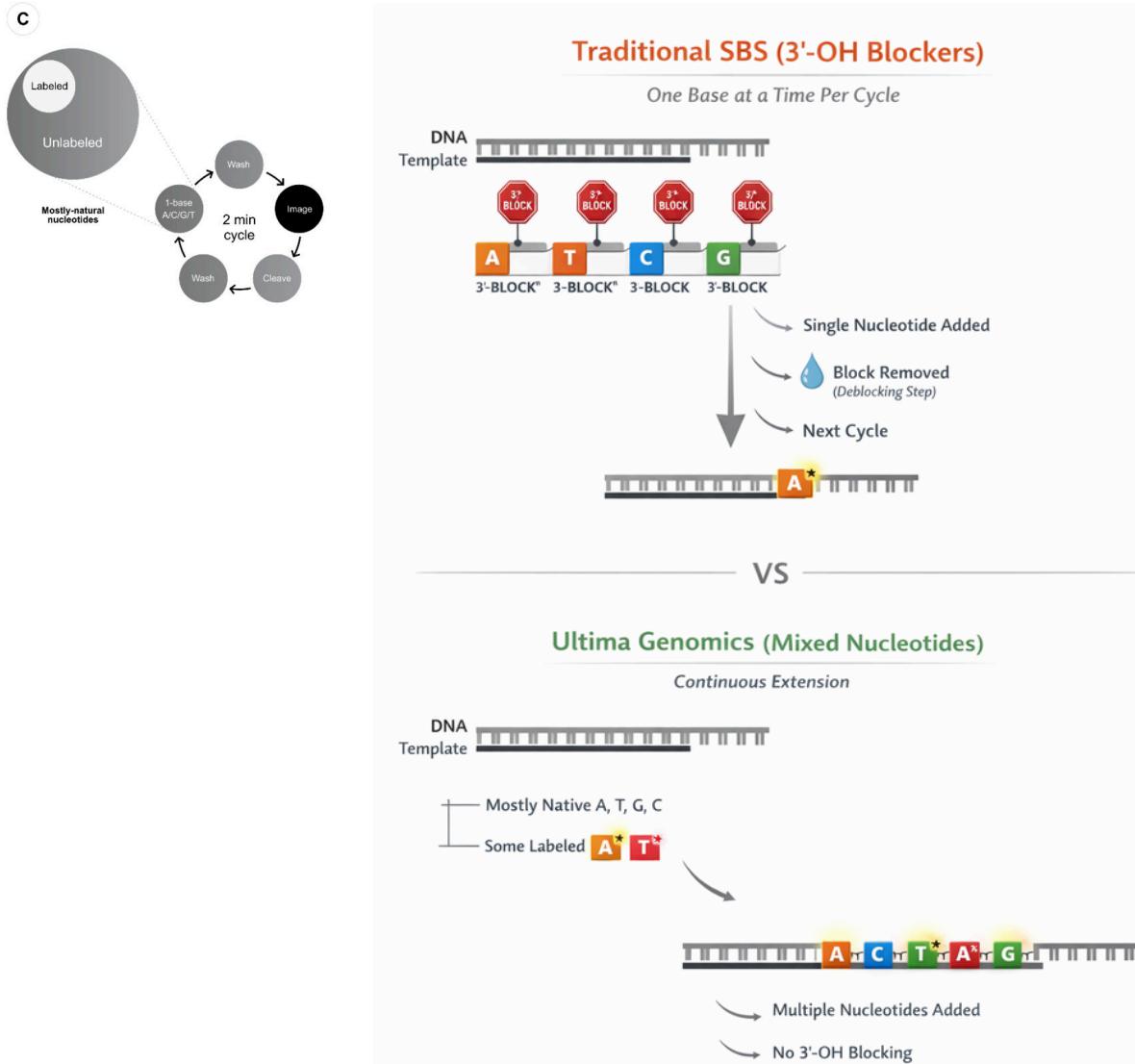


CD-manufacturing precision





# Ultima technology



Continuous extension: **higher speed and throughput** (avoiding repetitive chemical de-blocking steps).

Mix of fluorescent and native dNTPs: **signal events are rare**

**Pro:** High speed - no need to resolve every single base individually.

**Con:** weaker fluorescent signal

**Hence - machine learning for base calling**



MGI



SBS

Instrument	Run time	Max output	Max reads/run	Max read length, bp
DNBSEQ-T7	5.5 - 24 hrs	7 Tb	23 bln	PE 150
DNBSEQ-G400	13-109 hrs	1.4 Tb	3.6 bln	PE 300
DNBSEQ-G99	11 hrs	0.24 Tb	0.2 mln	PE 150
DNBSEQG-50	9-40 hrs	150 Gb	500 mln	PE 150
DNBSEQ-T1+	24 hrs	1.5 Tb	12 bln	PE 150

**Technology highlight:** DNA nanoballs (RCA)

**Used for:** high-throughput projects

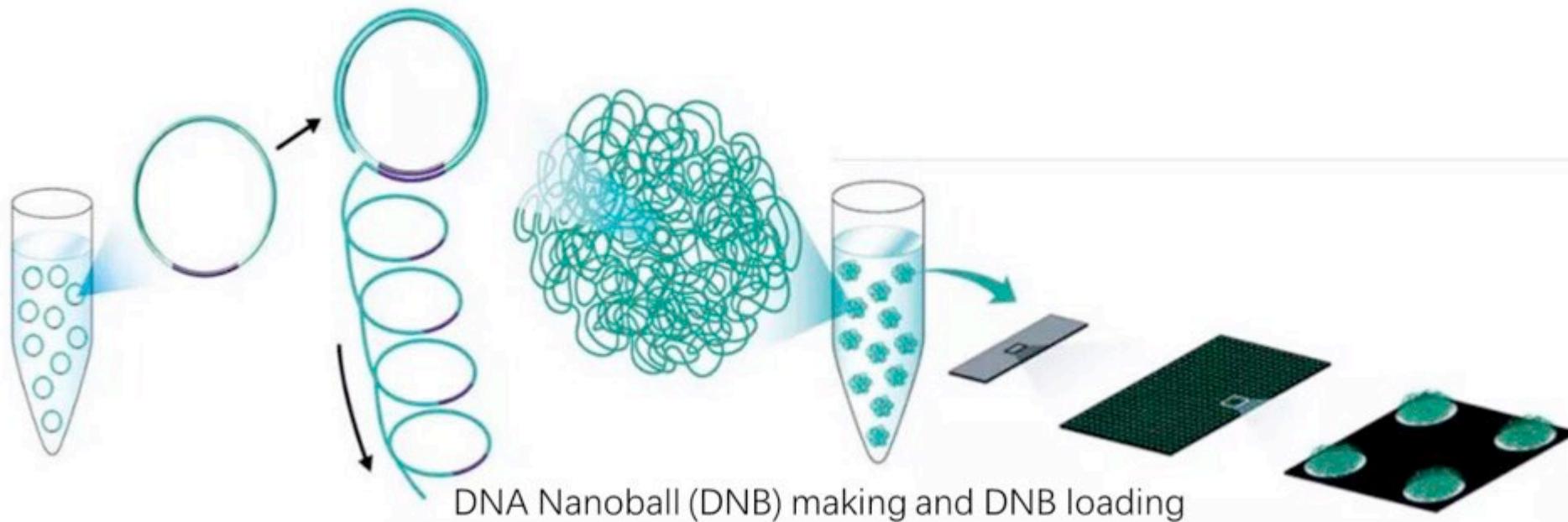
**Strength:** high accuracy and throughput, coupled with automatization

**Weakness:** labour-intensive, GC bias, software limitations





# MGI: DNA nanoball (DNB) technology



**Crucial step:** library circularization,  
followed by rolling-circle amplification.

Result: *negatively charged* nanoballs.

**Physical** confinement to patterned nanoarrays  
(nanowell of 200-300 nm):

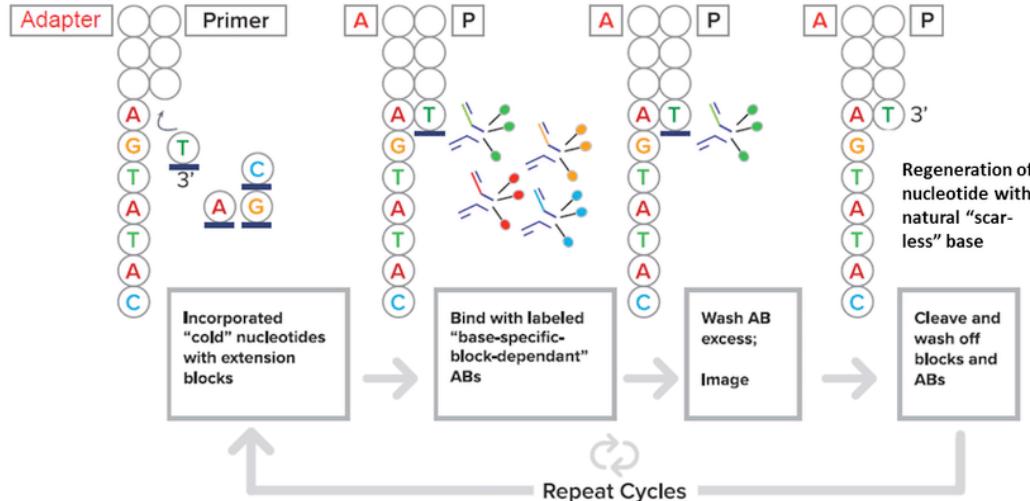
- No competition for primers
- No runaway amplification
- No bias towards shorter fragments



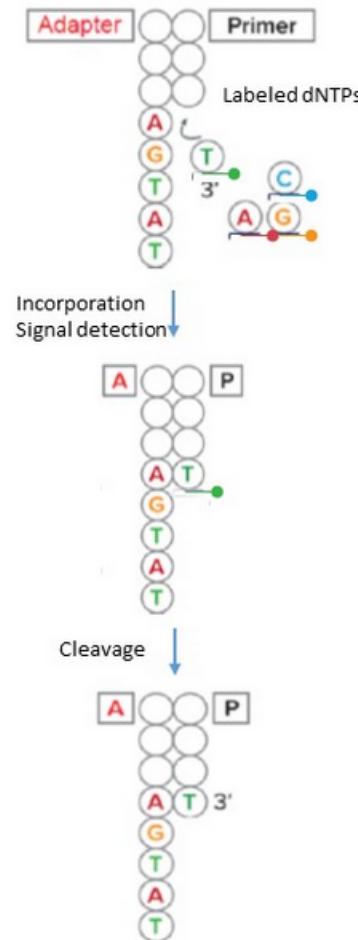
# MGI chemistry: cPAS

## Combinatorial Probe-Anchor Synthesis

Cool



Hot



Feature	Cool Mode	Hot Mode
Temperature	Lower	Higher
Cycle time	Longer	Shorter
Accuracy	Higher	Slightly lower
Throughput/day	Lower	Higher
Typical applications	WGS, clinical	RNA-seq, large cohorts
Error profile	Lower substitution rate	Slightly higher substitution rate



# Element Biosciences

SBB



Element  
Biosciences

Instrument	Run time /cell	Output /cell	Max reads /cell	Max read length, bp*
AVITI™	24-60 hrs	300 Gb	1 bln	PE 300
AVITI24™	24-60 hrs	450 Gb	1.5 bln	PE 300
AVITI LT™	17-51 hrs	150 Gb	500 mln	PE 300

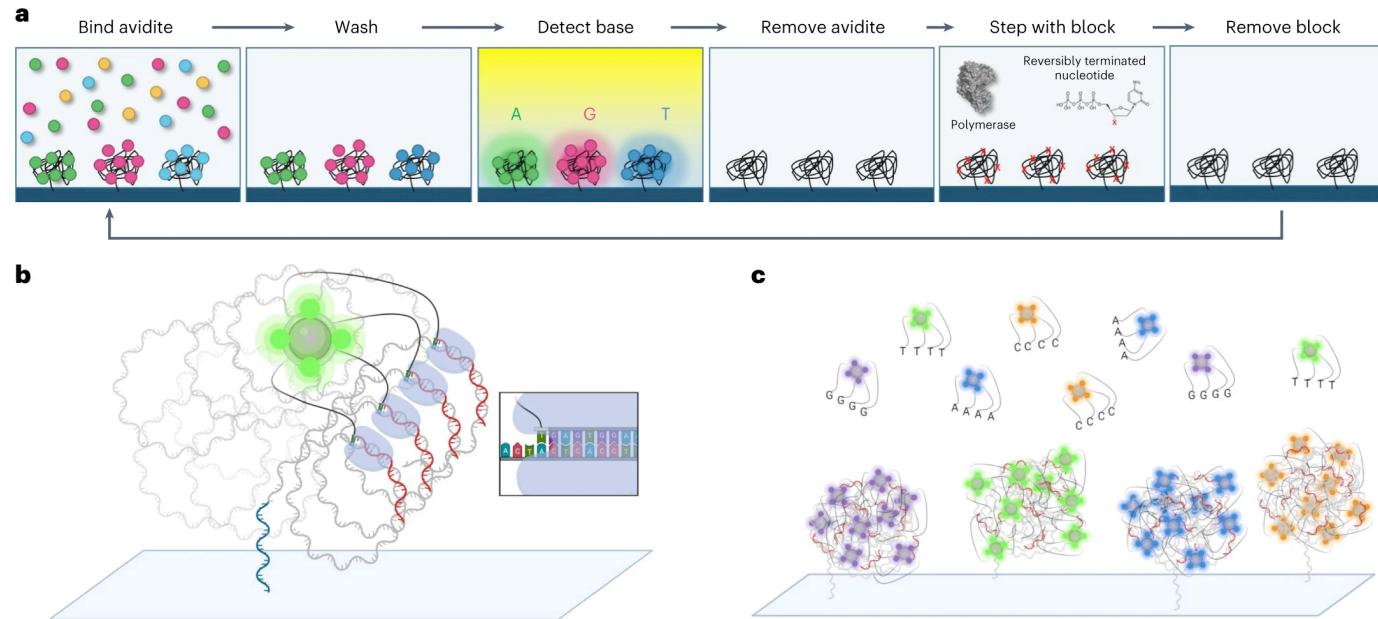
**Technology highlight:** DNA colonies (polonies), multiomics  
**Used for:** everything + single cell multiomics

**Strength:** low cost, few artifacts, multi-omics on the same sample,  
Illumina-library compatible

**Weakness:** throughput limitations, GC homopolymers



# Avidities and polonies



Library is Illumina-compatible (P5 & P7 adaptors)

Similar to Illumina: amplification on a slide

Similar to MGI: **RCA**

Patterned flow cell

Decoupled incorporation and detection = low error rates

**Polony** = polymerase colony  
**Avidite** = *multivalent* labelled probe,  
recognizes the incorporated nucleotide in  
a polony.  
Reusable, reversible, strong signal.

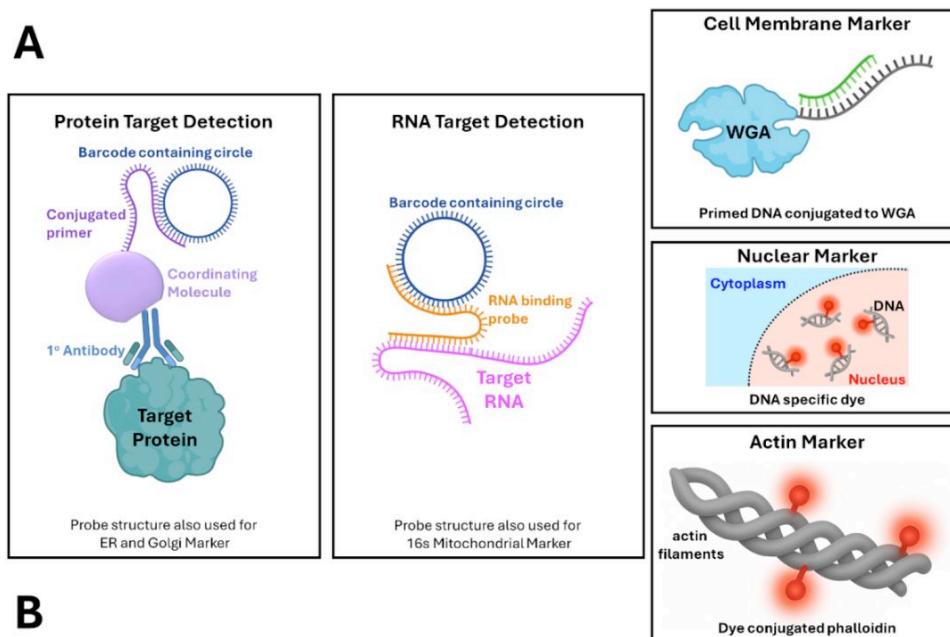


Think of Velcro

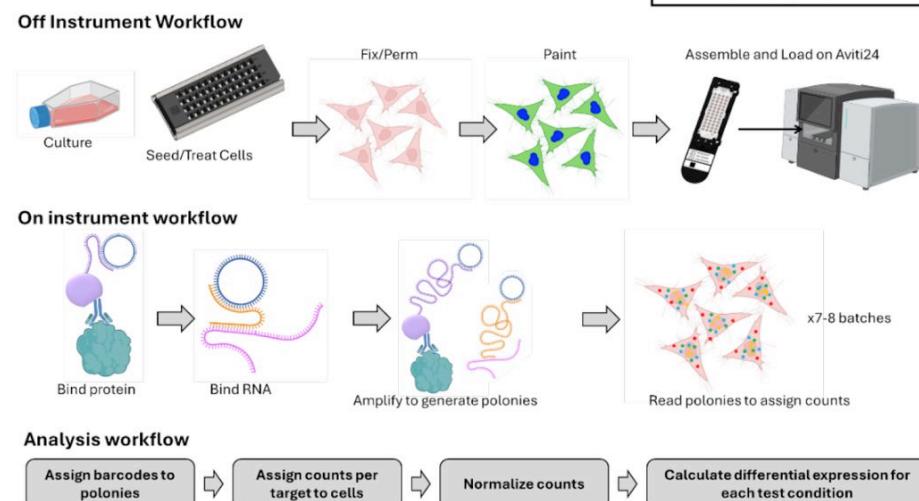


# Multiomics on AVITI

**A**



**B**



## Teton™ CytoProfiling

- Simultaneous detection of RNA, proteins and morphology in cells - *in situ* profiling approach
- Provides spatial information

Cells fixed on a slide > target probes hybridized > polonies formed > avidities added > signal detected.

**RNASeq:** ~350 transcripts with seq-specific probes  
Spatial & single cell differential expression

**Protein profiling:** ~50 markers in the same cell

Cell morphology is scanned



PACBIO®



Instrument	Run time /cell	Output /cell	Max reads /cell	Max read length, bp*
Sequel II	12-30 hr	30*	4 M*	20 k, circular consensus HiFi
Revio	12-30 hr	100-120 Gb*	7 M*	20 k, circular consensus HiFi
Onso	48 hr	150 Gb	800-1000 M	PE 150

\* What company tells you (achievable mainly on fresh human samples)

**Technology highlight Revio:** Single Molecule Real Time (SMRT) sequencing

**Used for, Revio:** everything where long reads are needed

**Technology highlight Onso:** SBB

**Used for, Onso:** “needle in the stack” applications

**Strength:** very high quality of reads

**Weakness, Revio:** sensitivity to DNA quality, GA bias

**Weakness, Onso:** higher cost, low throughput, new technology



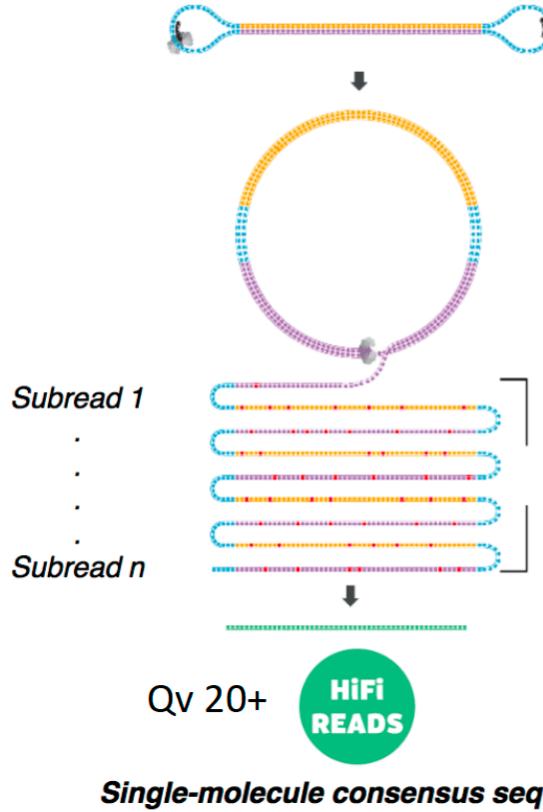
# PacBio HiFi: SMRT - technology



## TWO MODES OF SMRT SEQUENCING

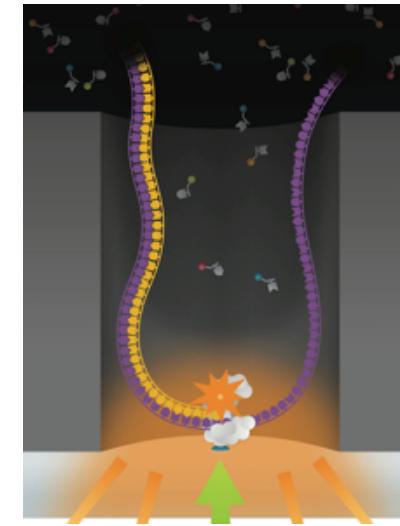
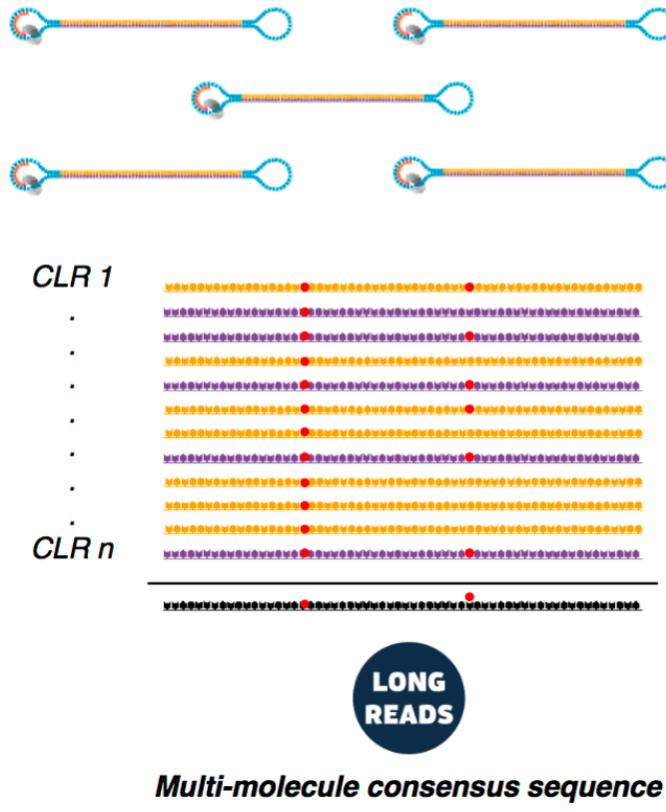
### Circular Consensus Sequencing (CCS) Mode

Inserts 10-20 kb



### Continuous Long Read (CLR) Sequencing Mode

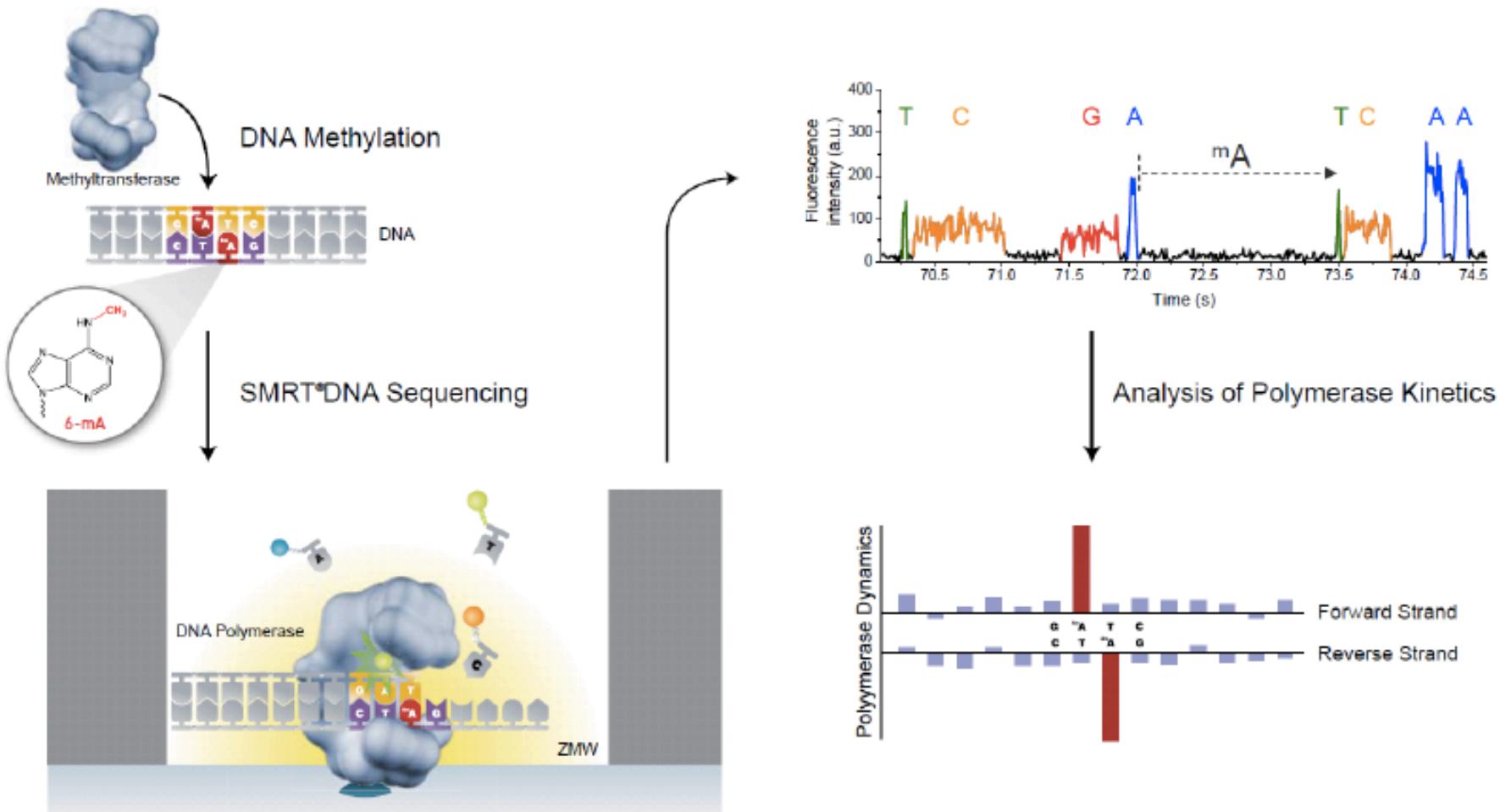
Inserts >25 kb, up to 175 kb



HiFi Q-score up to 50+



# Base Modification: Discover the Epigenome



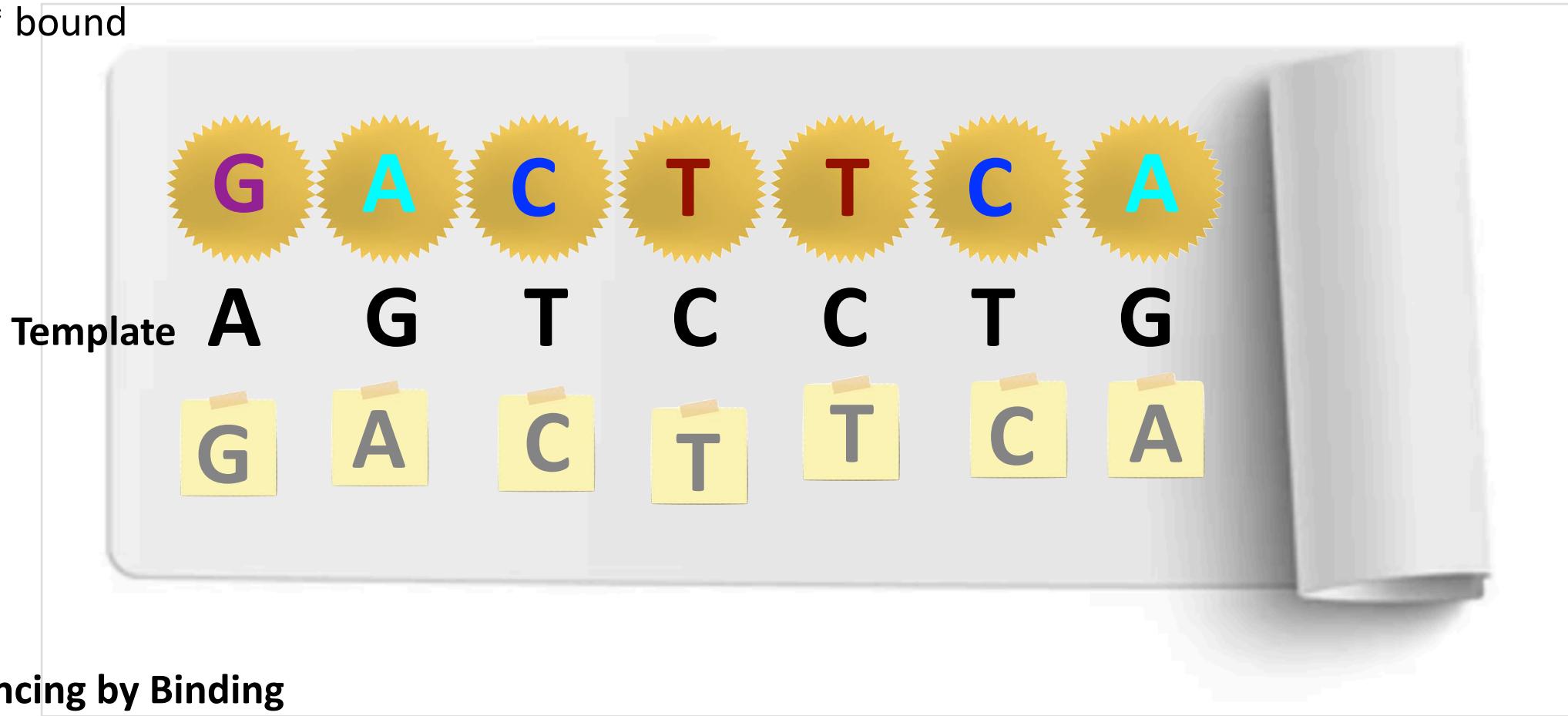
Detect base modifications using the kinetics of the polymerization reaction during normal sequencing



# PacBio Onso: SBB reminded

## Sequencing by Synthesis

dNTP\* bound



## Sequencing by Binding

dNTP\* presented, then native nucleotide is bound



# Comparison Illumina vs Onso

Onso utilizes a proprietary cluster generation technology, non-patterned flow cell

Feature	Sequencing by Synthesis (Illumina)	Sequencing by Binding (Onso)
Detection	Fluorescent labeled nucleotides	Transient binding probes
Incorporation	Modified nucleotides	Native nucleotides
Accuracy	High (Q30–Q40)	Ultra-high (Q40+)
Error type	Phasing errors common	Very low phasing issues
Read type	Short reads	Short but ultra-accurate



Instrument	Run time / FC	Output / FC	Nr of pores	Max read length
Flongle	16 hrs	1 Gb	126	1 Mb
MinION	24 hrs	2-15 Gb	512	1 Mb
GridION	24 hrs	2-15 Gb	512	1 Mb
PromethION	72 hrs	10 – 150 Gb	3 000	2 Mb

**Technology highlight:** nanopores, no fluorescence, ultra-long reads, native RNA  
**Used for:** reference genomes, SV detection

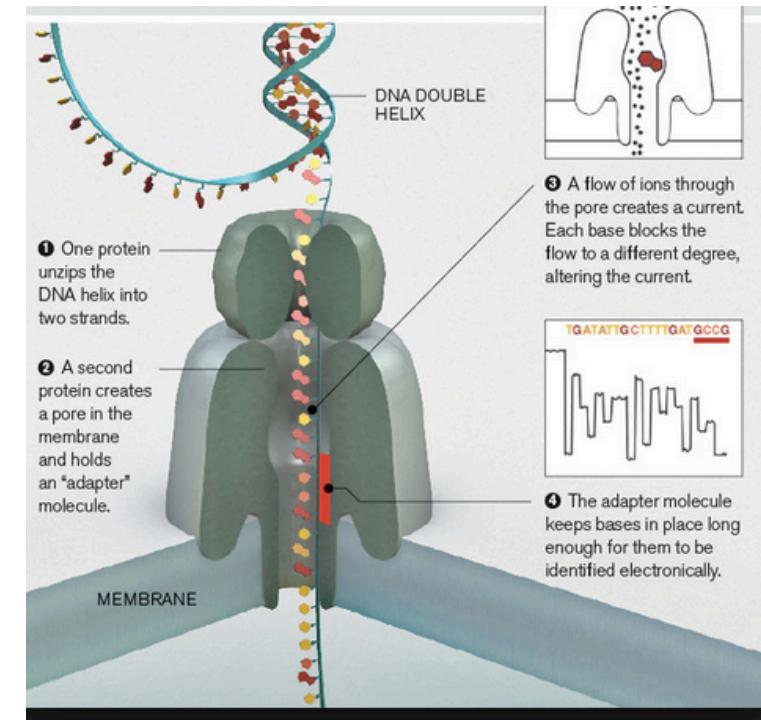
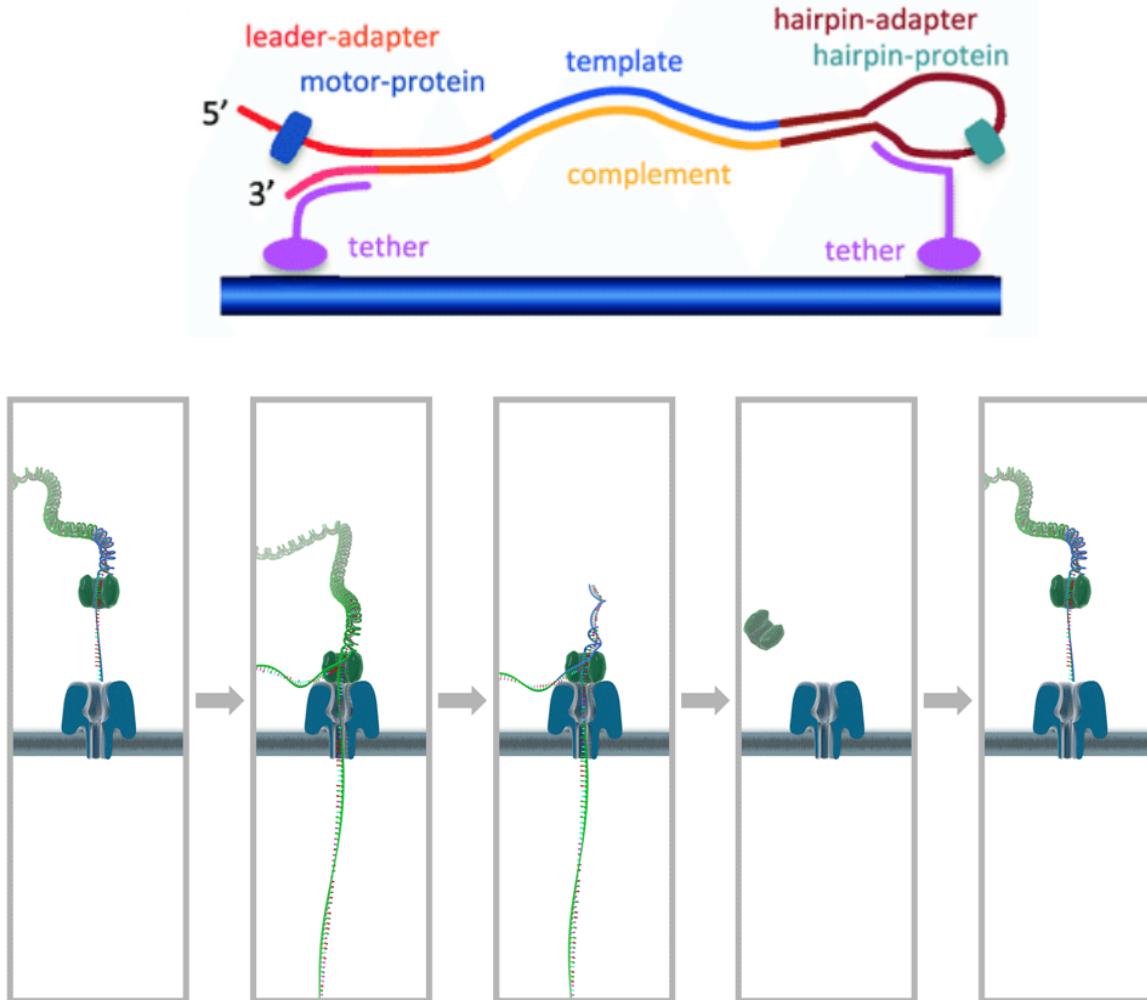
**Strength:** size and portability

**Weakness:** sample-sensitive, software limitations, lower Q-score than PacBio





# ONT: DNA + Motor + Pore



Q-score 20-30



# Main advantages of ONT: SPEED and PORTABILITY

## Rapid Confirmation of the Zaire Ebola Virus in the Outbreak of the Equateur Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Implications for Public Health Interventions

Placide Mbala-Kingebeni, Christian-Julian Villabona-Arenas, Nicole Vidal, Jacques Likofata, Justus Nsio-Mbeta, Sheila Makiala-Mandanda, Daniel Mukadi, Patrick Mukadi, Charles Kumakamba, Bathe Djokolo ... Show more

Clinical Infectious Diseases, Volume 68, Issue 2, 15 January 2019, Pages 330–333, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciy527>

Published: 29 June 2018 Article history ▾

ORIGINAL ARTICLE BRIEF REPORT

## A Novel Coronavirus from Patients with Pneumonia in China, 2019

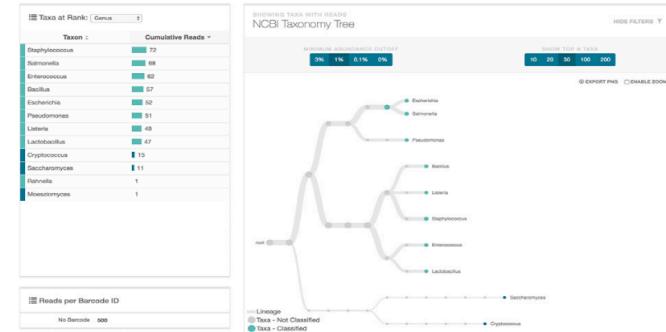
Na Zhu, Ph.D., Dingyu Zhang, M.D., Wenling Wang, Ph.D., Xinwang Li, M.D., Bo Yang, M.S., Jingdong Song, Ph.D., Xiang Zhao, Ph.D., Baoping Huang, Ph.D., Weifeng Shi, Ph.D., Roujian Lu, M.D., Peihua Niu, Ph.D., Faxian Zhan, Ph.D., et al., for the China Novel Coronavirus Investigating and Research Team

RESEARCH ARTICLE |  Full Access

## Semi-quantitative characterisation of mixed pollen samples using MinION sequencing and Reverse Metagenomics (RevMet)

Ned Peel, Lynn V. Dicks, Matthew D. Clark, Darren Heavens, Lawrence Percival-Alwyn, Chris Cooper, Richard G. Davies, Richard M. Leggett, Douglas W. Yu 

First published: 15 July 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13265>

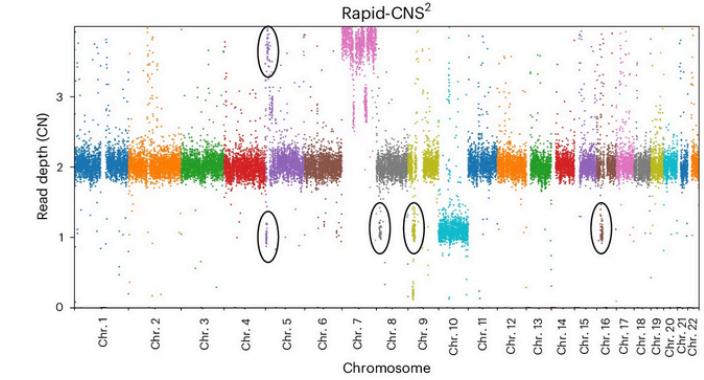


Article |  Open access | Published: 11 October 2023

## Ultra-fast deep-learned CNS tumour classification during surgery

C. Vermeulen, M. Pages-Gallego, L. Kester, M. E. G. Kranendonk, P. Wesseling, N. Verburg, P. de Witt Hamer, E. J. Kooi, L. Dankmeijer, J. van der Lugt, K. van Baarsen, E. W. Hoving, B. B. J. Tops  & J. de Ridder 

Nature 622, 842–849 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)





# Roche

Sequencing by expansion



Instrument	Run time /cell	Output /cell	Max reads /cell	Max read length, bp*
AXELIOS	500 mln bp/sec	5 bln/hour	75-90 bln	SE 1 kb

**Technology highlight:** novel sequencing by expansion, uses nanopores  
**Used for:** massive sample size, high sensitivity, poor quality samples

**Strength:** highest speed on the market, very high accuracy  
**Weakness:** high running costs, labor-intensive, software limitations





# Sequencing by expansion (SBX)



**Xpandomer** - synthetic molecule 50x longer than the template

Standard NGS library construction

**SBX encoding**: from template to Xpandomers - proprietary expandable nucleotides (X-NTPs)

Single molecule detection by CMOS sensor array (Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor)

X-A, X-G, X-C, X-T carry a **reporter code** - later will produce a high-signal readout

**Translocation control elements** - movement through a nanopore

**Enhancer** - robust synthesis

**Acid-cleavable bonds** - allow polymer expansion after synthesis

Enzyme: XP synthase + help from polymerase enhancers (PEMs)



No amplification



# Xpandomers, CMOS and nanopores

Xpandomers make the electronic signal easy to read

CMOS detect Xpandomer units, not bases

Each Xpandomer = large, base-specific reporter structure

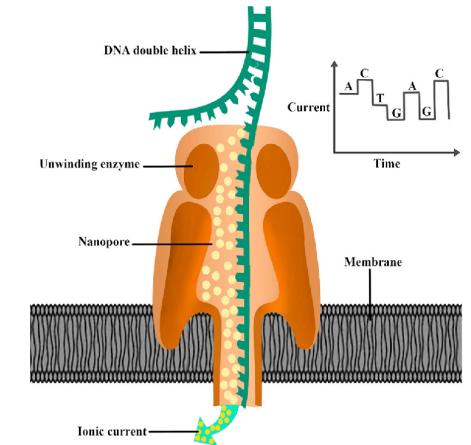
X-A, X-G, X-C and X-T have unique engineered electrical signatures

1 Xpandomer passes the pore at a time (unlike constant stream in ONT)

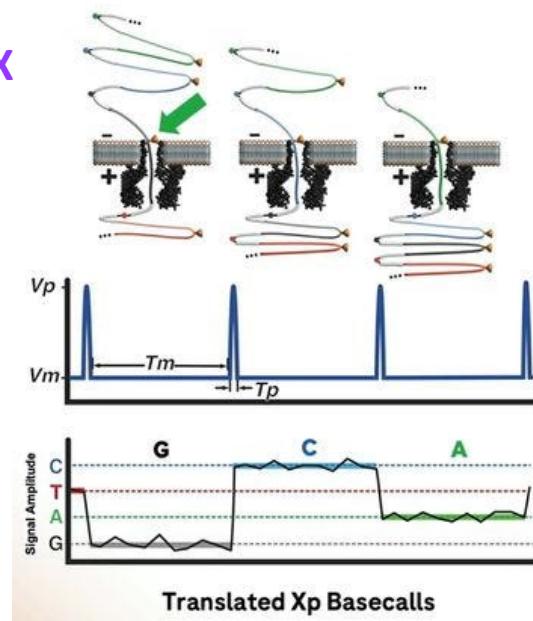
Signal is strong, base-specific and time-separated

**Homopolymers:** each Xpandomer is read separately, but long stretches is always an issue

ONT



SBX



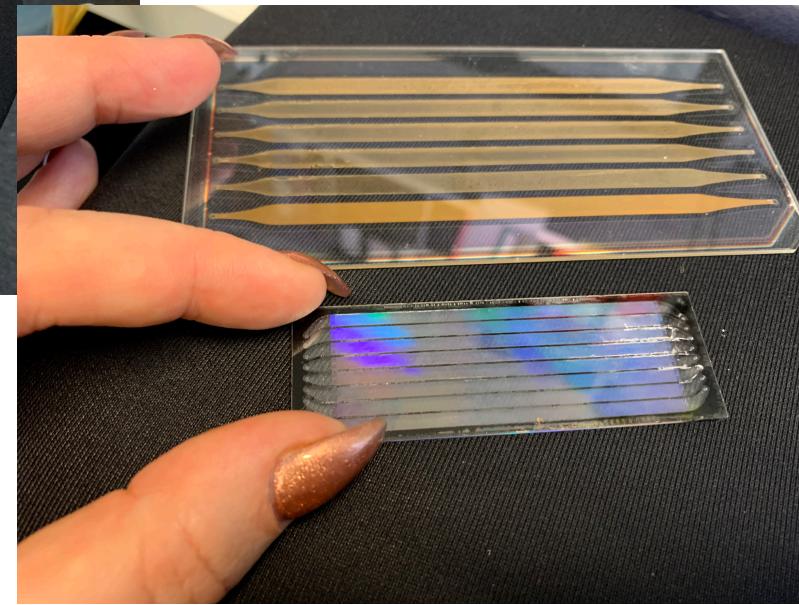


# Let's compare all the short reads

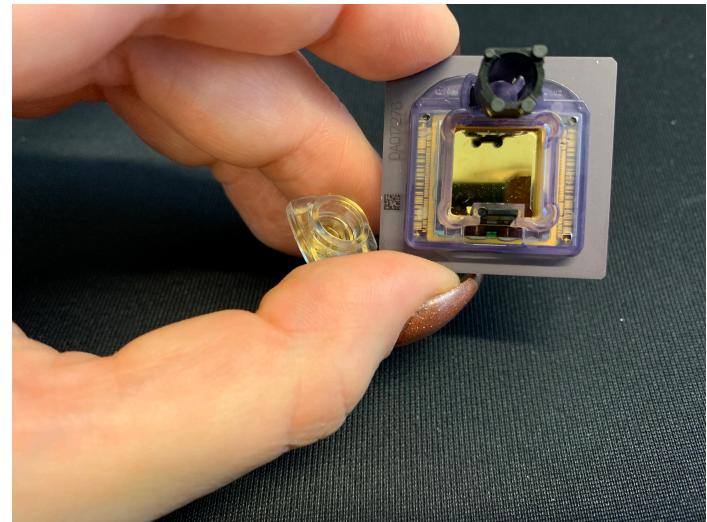
Platform	Sequencing type	Library / amplification	Signal detection	Main advantage	Main disadvantage	Error profile	Q score	Best uses
Illumina	SBS, optical	Bridge PCR	Fluorescence	Accurate, common	Old?	Substitutions	Q30-40	WGS, RNA
Ultima	SBS, flow-based	Emulsion PCR	Fluorescence	Throughput, cost	Homopolymers, repeats	Substitutions, homopolymers	Q30-35	High-throughput
Element	SBB with avidities	RCA polonies	Fluorescence	High accuracy	Small ecosystem	Low substitutions	Q40+	Variant calling
MGI	SBS with DNB	RCA nanoballs	Fluorescence	High accuracy	Complex, loading issues	Low substitutions	Q30-35	High-throughput
ION	Semiconductor pH	Emulsion PCR	pH change	Fast, simple Inbuilt analysis	Homopolymers, single-end	Indels in homopolymers	Q30	Gene panels
Roche	SBE	Xpandomers	Electronic	Ultra-fast	Higher cost/base, new tech	New tech	Q40+	Fast, rare variant detection
PacBio ONSO	SBB	?	Fluorescence	High accuracy, superb in homopolymers	Higher cost/base, lower output	?	Q40-50+	Rare variant detection



# How it looked yesterday



# How it looks now: technology progress



- Sequencing technologies
- Informatics
- Biotech & medical applications
- Ecosystem science
- Reference genome sequencing

# NGS Technologies and Applications



## NGS technologies

### Short read NGS



### Long-read NGS



Whole genome re-sequencing  
RNA-seq  
Targeted re-seq  
Panels  
Amplicons up to 600 bp

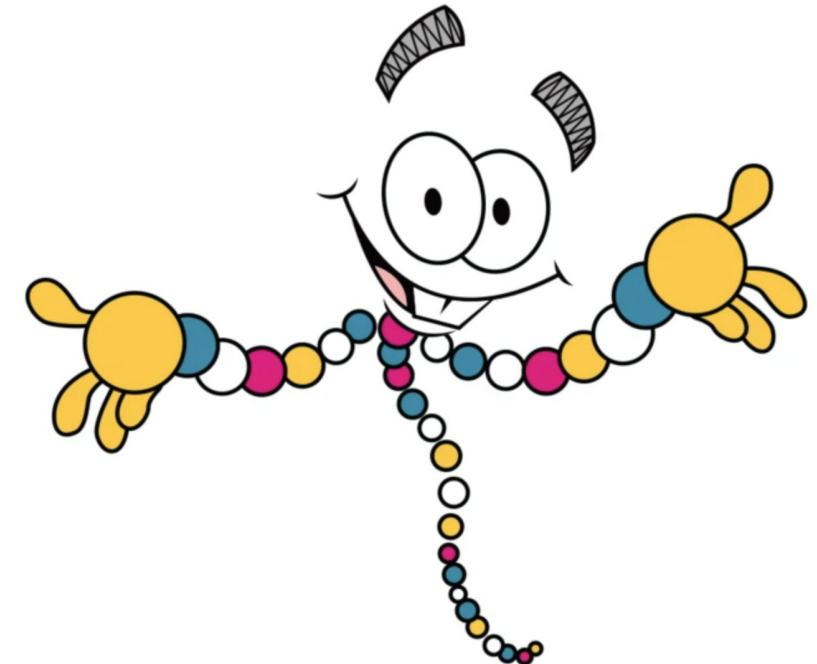
*De novo* genome sequencing  
Whole-transcript sequencing  
Structural variant resolving  
Targeted re-seq  
Amplicons up to 13 kb

## Research and development



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Thank you!



Swedish  
Research  
Council



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET



SciLifeLab

