

Epigenomics Data Analysis Workshop 2023

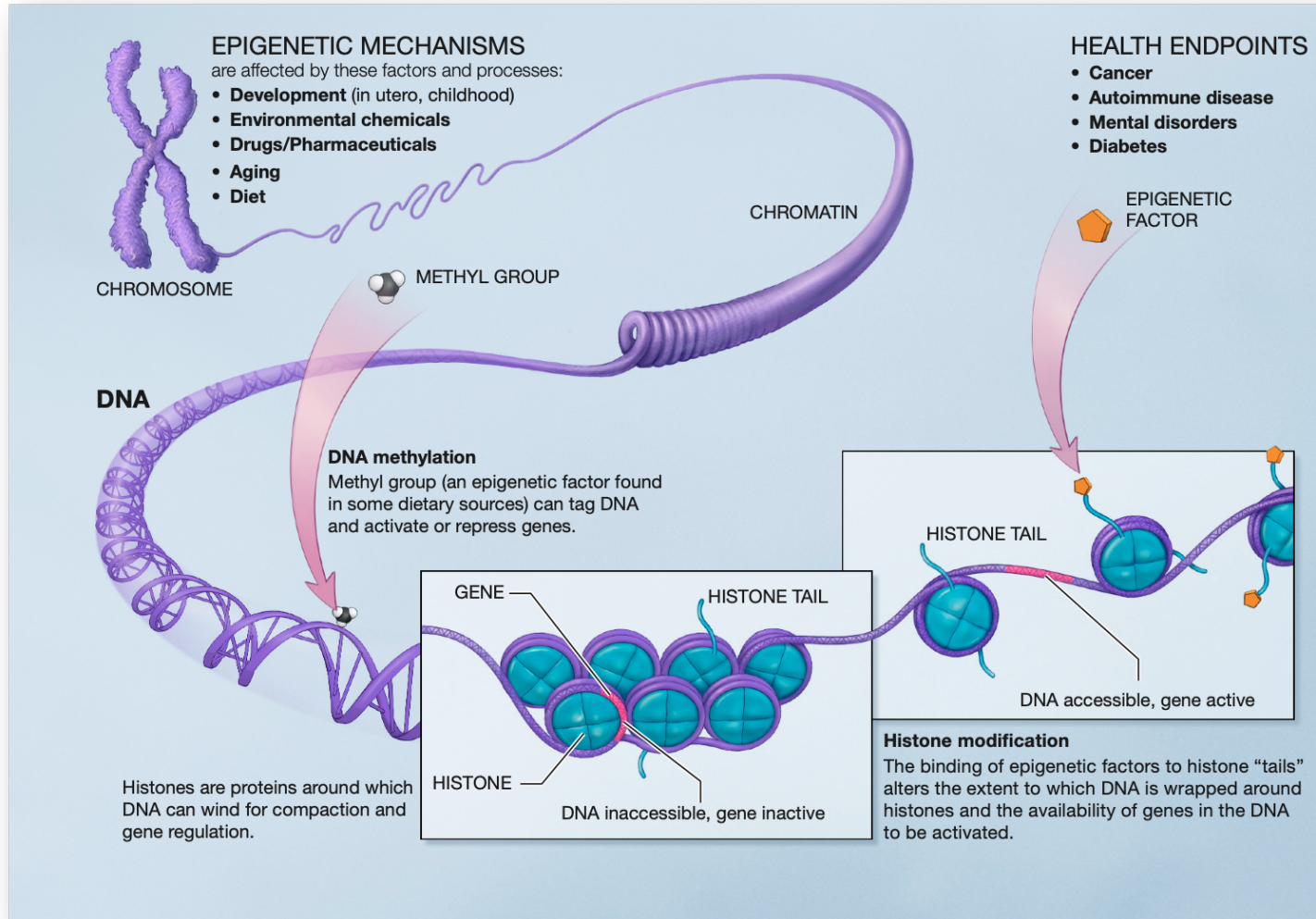
DNA Methylation

Schedule

- 09:30 - 10:15 Short introduction to DNA methylation + Overview Array exercises
- 10:15 - 10:30 UPPMAX set-up + break
- 10:30 - 12:00 Array exercises
- 10:00 - 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 - 14:00 DNA Methylation: Methods & Technologies
- 14:00 - 14:15 Break
- 14:15 - 14:30 Overview Exercises Bisulfite Sequencing
- 14:30 - 16:30 Bisulfite Sequencing Exercise
- 16:30 - 17:00 Test Yourself

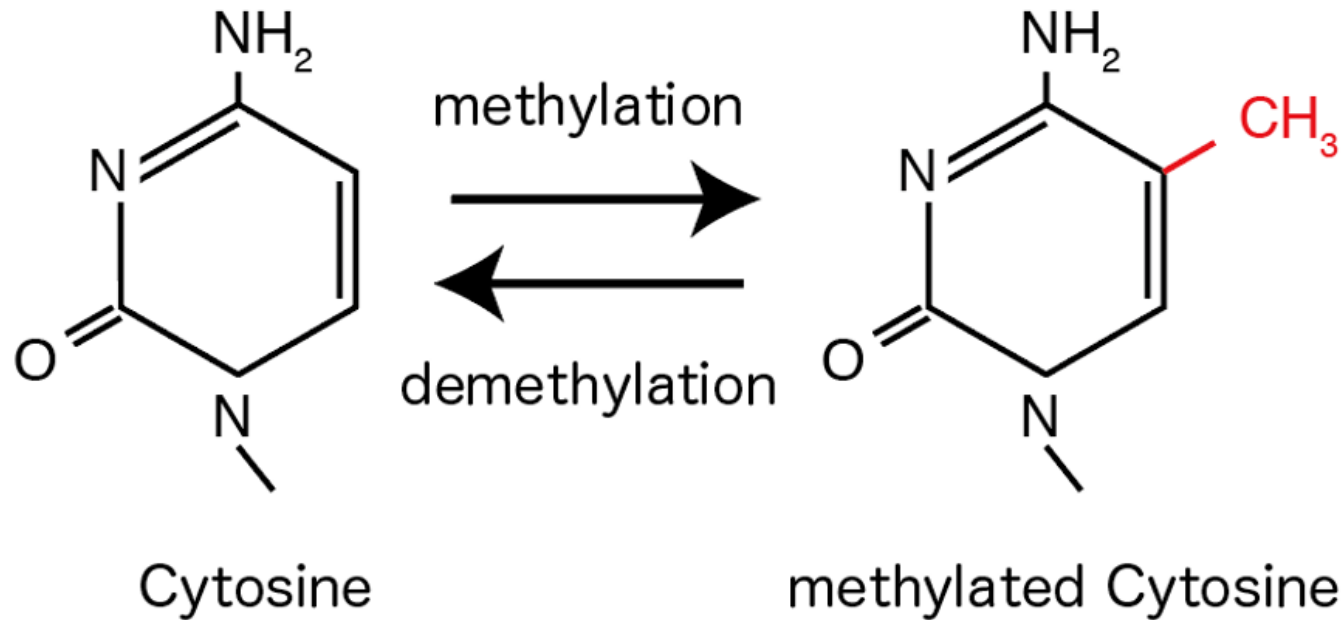
Introduction to DNA methylation

Epigenetics



source: NIH

What is DNA methylation?



What is DNA methylation?

- Mostly found at cytosines followed by guanines
 - 90% in CpG sites
 - Default state is methylated
 - Prone to mutation -> depleted

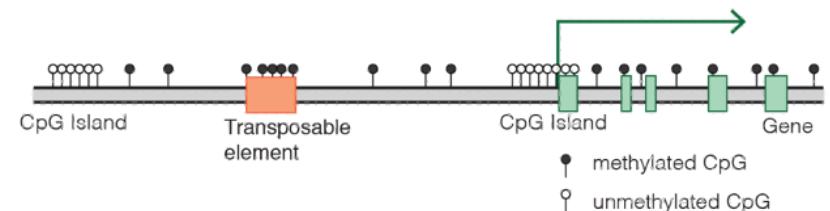


What is DNA methylation?

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 - 90% in CpG sites
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- CpG sites often occurs as clusters: CpG Islands
 - Region with high frequency of CpG
 - Often associated with promoters
 - Unmethylated if gene is expressed



Typical mammalian DNA methylation landscape

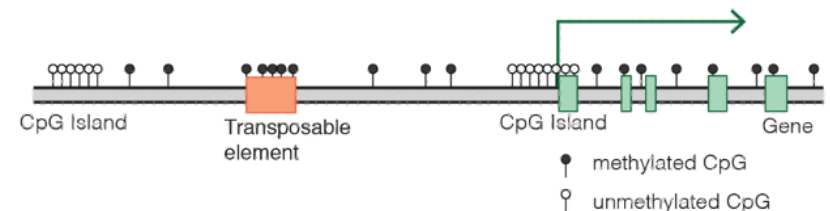


What is DNA methylation?

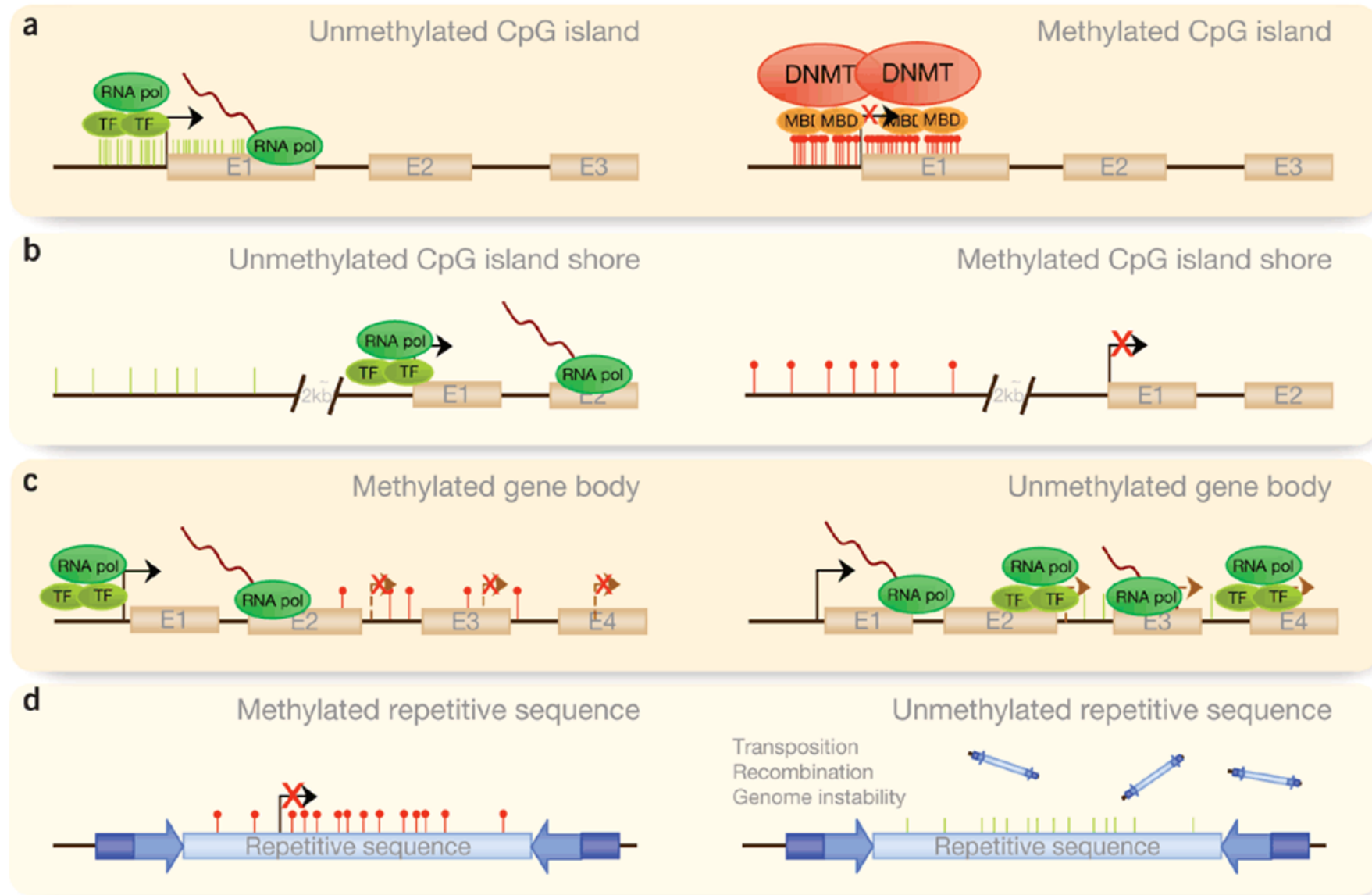
- Mostly found at cytosines followed by guanines
 - 90% in CpG sites
 - Default state is methylated
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- CpG sites often occurs as clusters: CpG Islands
 - Region with high frequency of CpG
 - Often associated with promoters
 - Unmethylated if gene is expressed
- Role in development, aging, cancer, exercise, ...



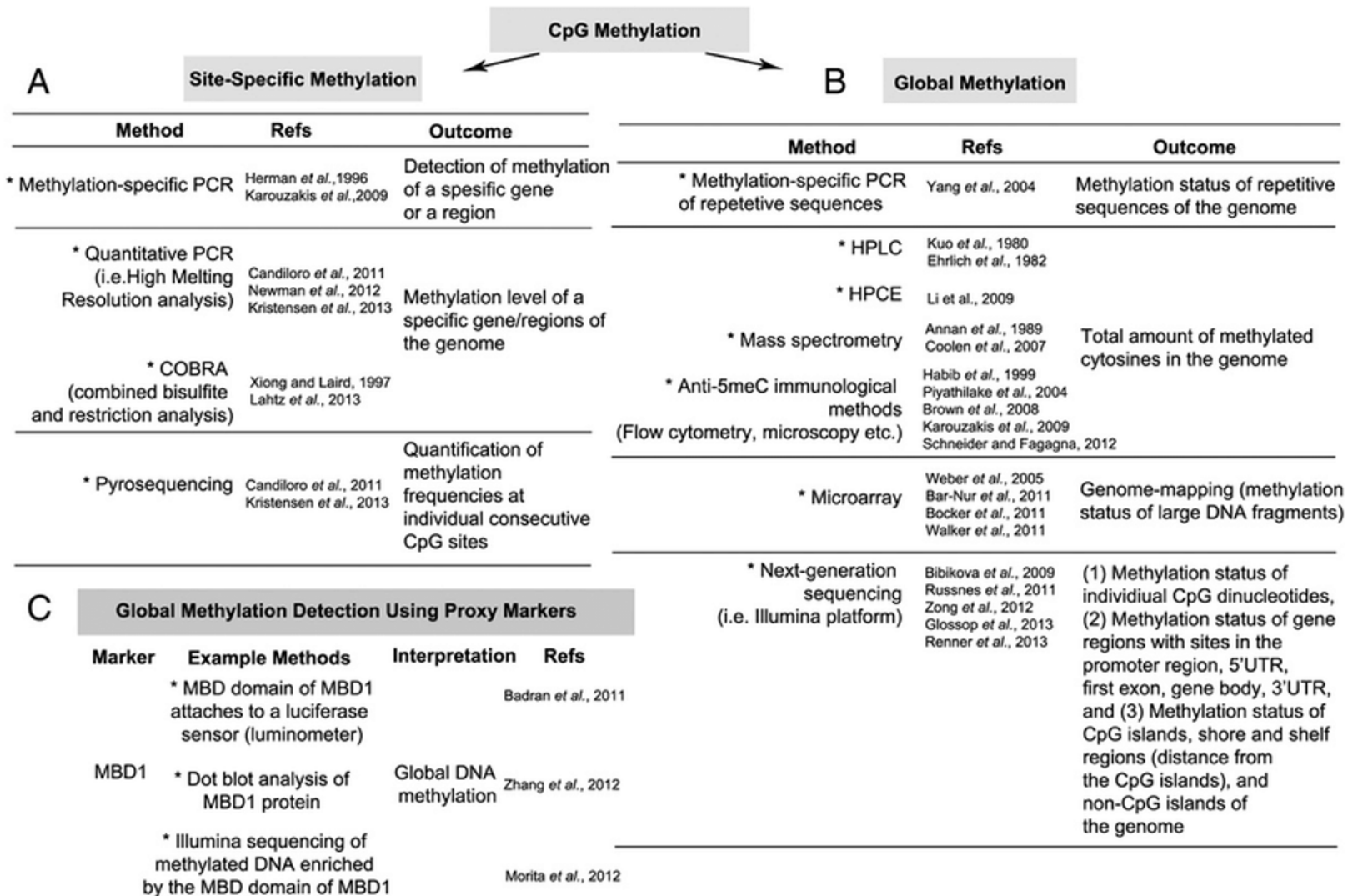
Typical mammalian DNA methylation landscape



Effects of Methylation



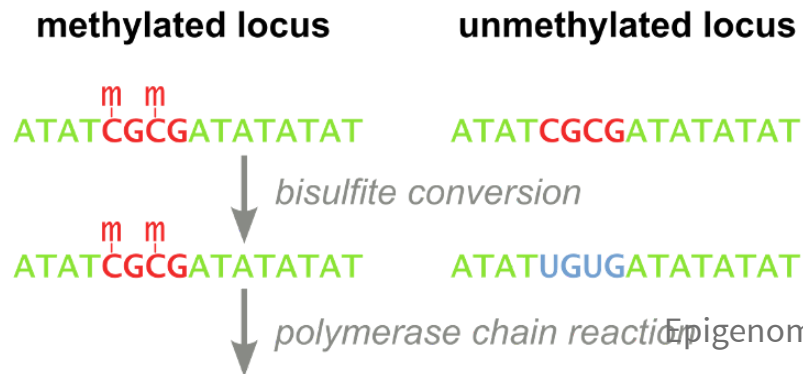
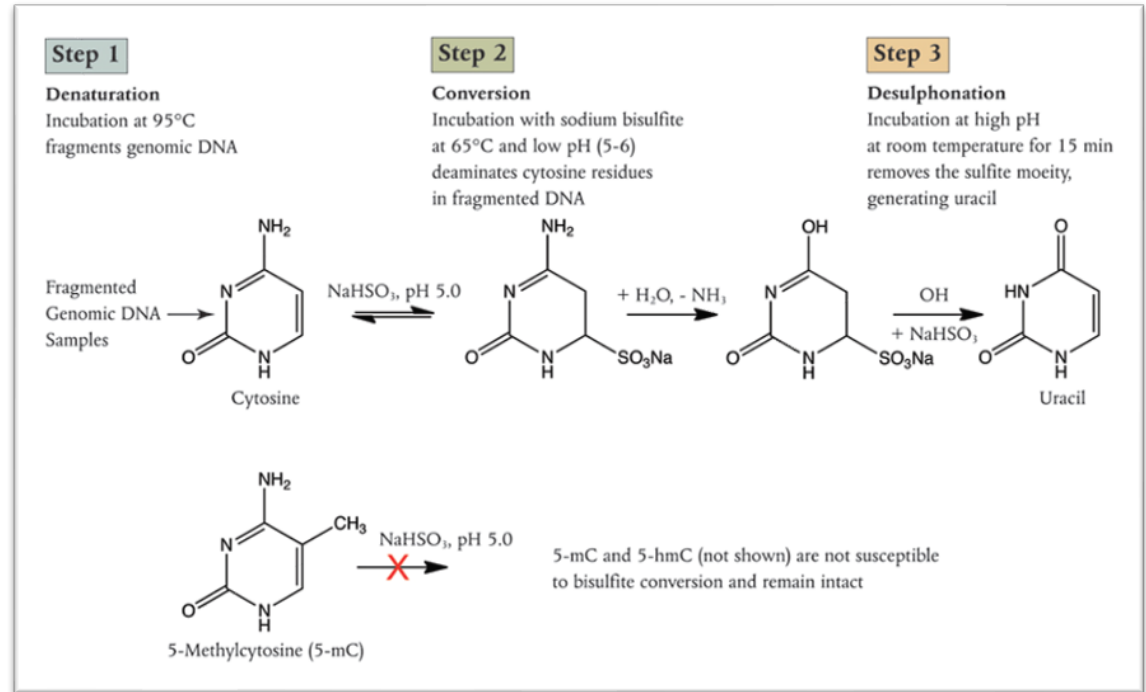
Detection of DNA methylation



Celik et al. (2014), Journal of Immunological Methods

Bisulfite Conversion

- Bisulfite conversion crucial for both arrays and sequencing
- C → U (→T)
- mC → mC (→ C)
- methylation-specific PCR, high resolution melting curve analysis, micro-array based approaches and next generation sequencing



Illumina Methylation Arrays

GoldenGate

1500 CpGs,
cancer focused

Infinium

HumanMethylation450

480K CpGs, 99% RefSeq genes

2007

2008

2011

2015

HumanMethylation450 array content.

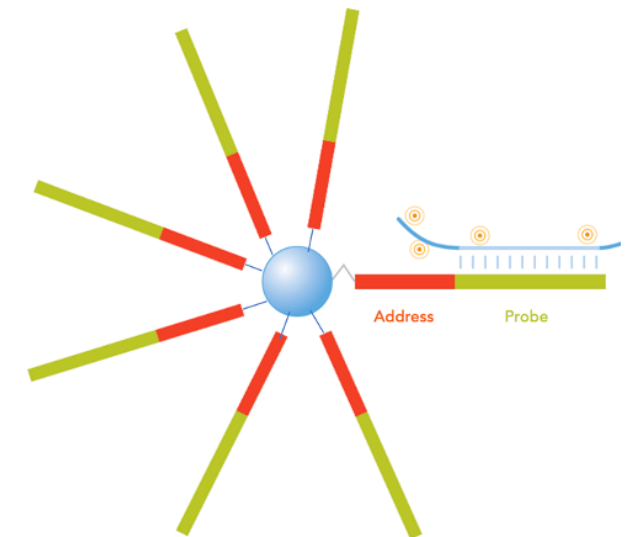
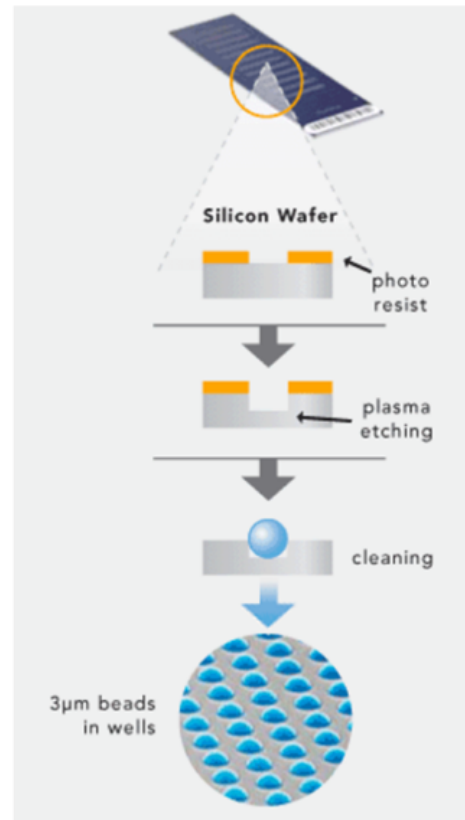
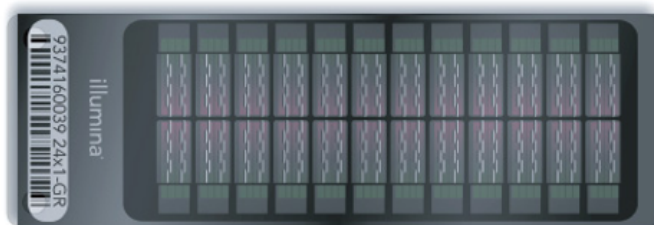
Feature type	Included on array
Total number of sites	485,577
RefSeq genes	21,231 (99%)
CpG islands	26,658 (96%)
CpG island shores (0–2 kb from CGI)	26,249 (92%)
CpG island shelves (2–4 kb from CGI)	24,018 (86%)
HMM islands ^a	62,600
FANTOM 4 promoters (High CpG content) ^a	9426
FANTOM 4 promoters (Low CpG content) ^a	2328
Differentially methylated regions (DMRs) ^a	16,232
Informatically-predicted enhancers ^a	80,538
DNase hypersensitive sites	59,916
Ensemble regulatory features ^a	47,257
Loci in MHC region	12,334
HumanMethylation27 loci	25,978
Non-CpG loci	3091

MethylationEPIC

850K CpGs, >90% 450 +
additional regulatory
regions

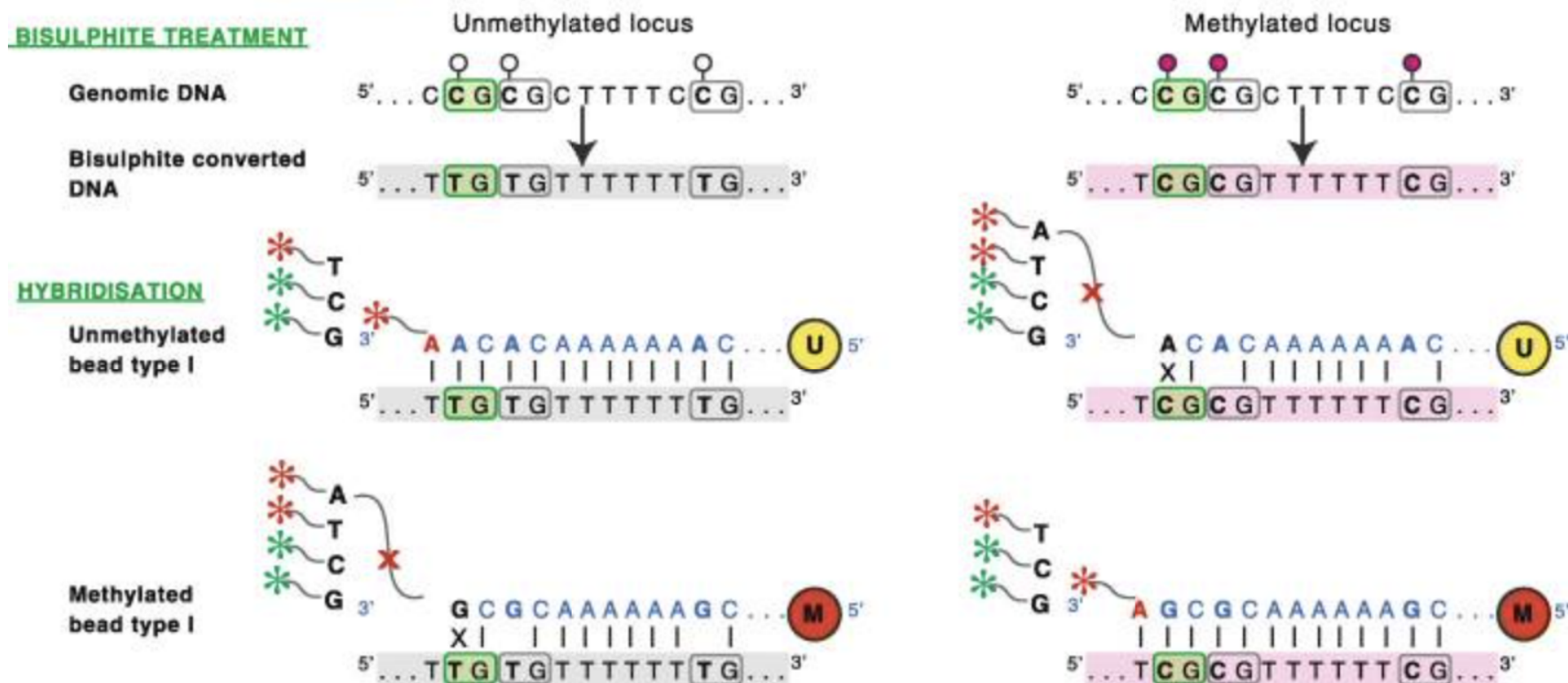
450 Array

- 50bp single stranded DNA oligos (“probes”) attached to silica beads
- 2 detection channels: red and green
- Hybrid of 2 different probe designs



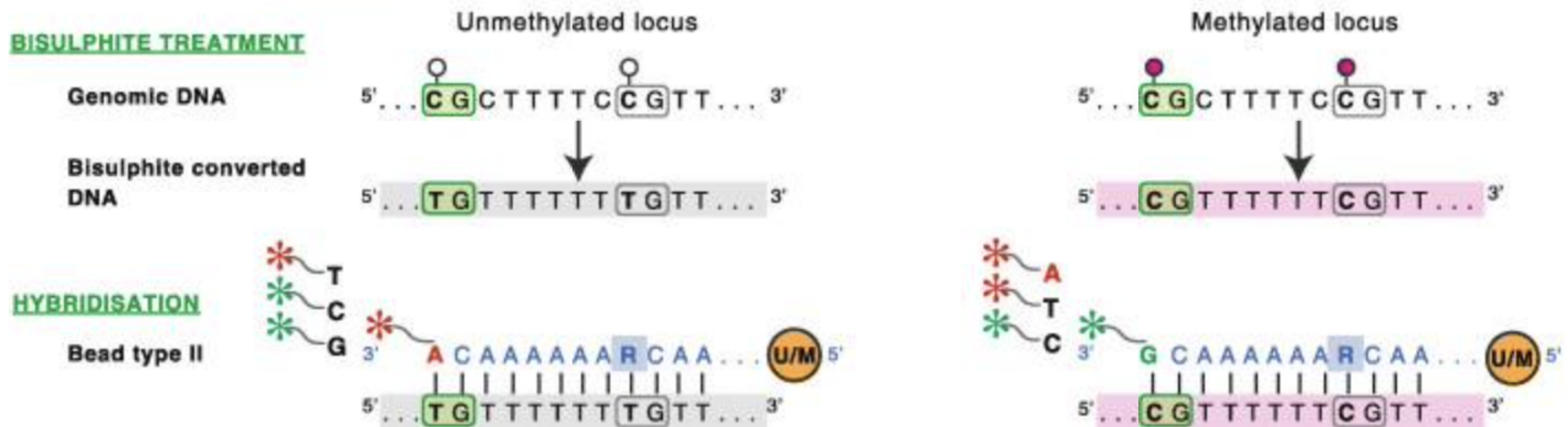
Infinium: Type I vs II design

- Type I: single color detection, two beads



Infinium: Type I vs II design

- Type II: two color detection, single bead



Infinium: Type I vs II design

Type I	Type II
Same chemistry as 27K	New from 450K on
2 beads/CpG	1 bead/CpG (fits more)
Better for CpG dense regions	better for less dense regions
More stable/reproducible	lower dynamic range

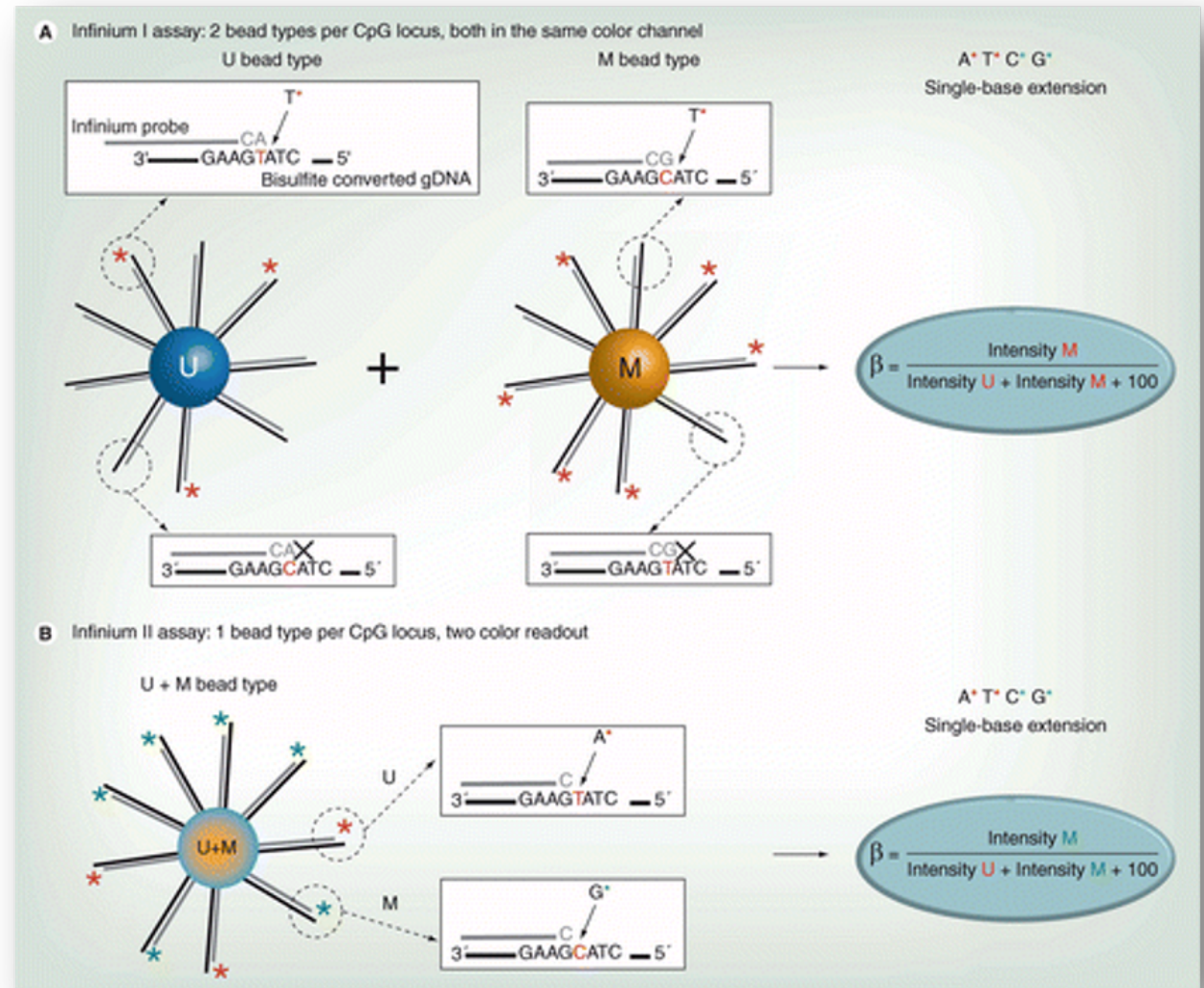
From red/green to methylation level

- Intensities are used to estimate *Beta* values; for both probe designs

$$\beta = \frac{M}{M + U + 100}$$

- *Beta* value between 0 and 1
- Easily interpretable, but related M-value has better statistical properties

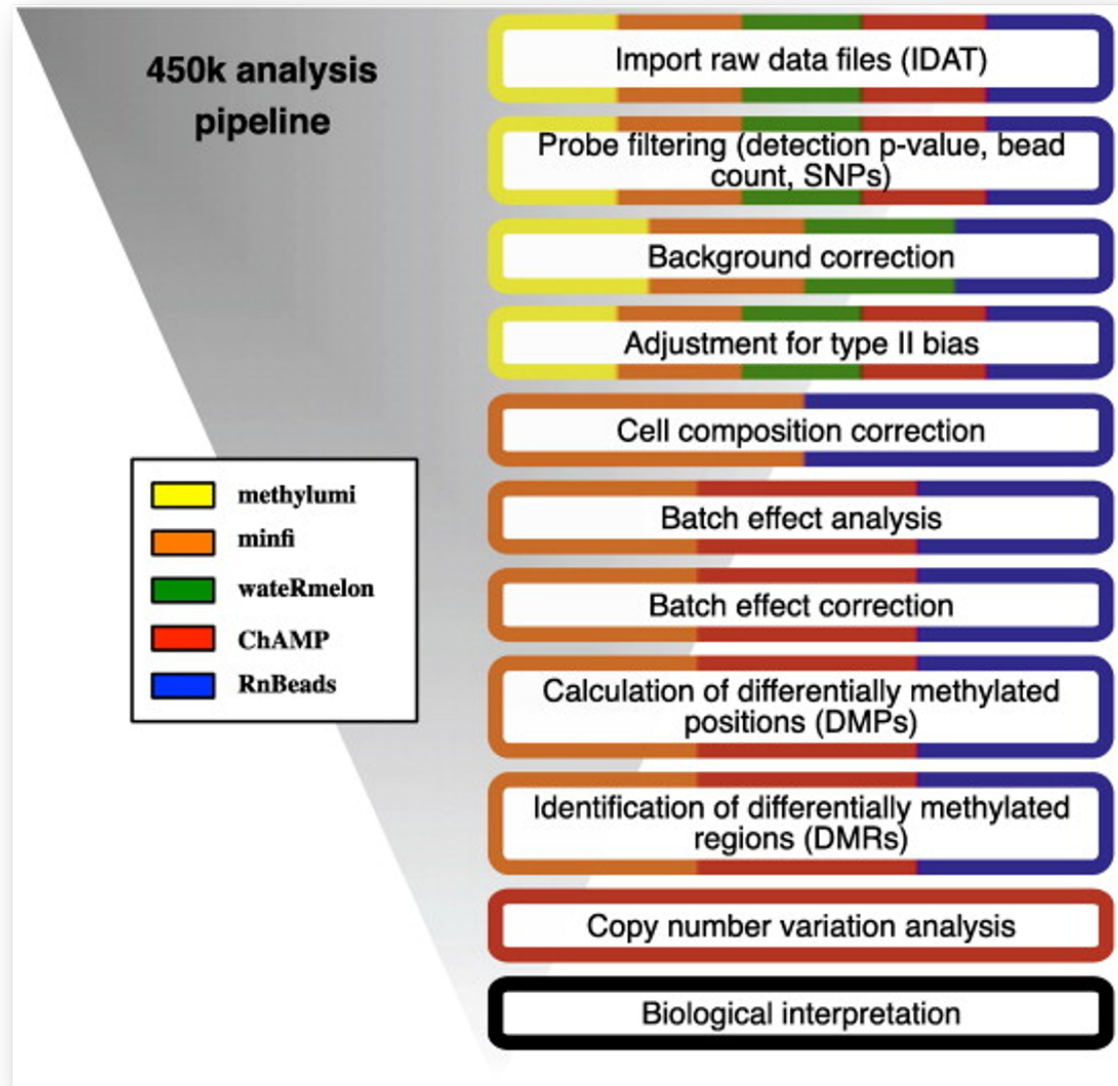
$$M\text{value} = \log_2(M/U)$$



Analysis Workflow

- Typical analysis consists of different steps...
- Many tools for analyzing Illumina arrays
- R package minfi

```
1 library(minfi)
```



Import data

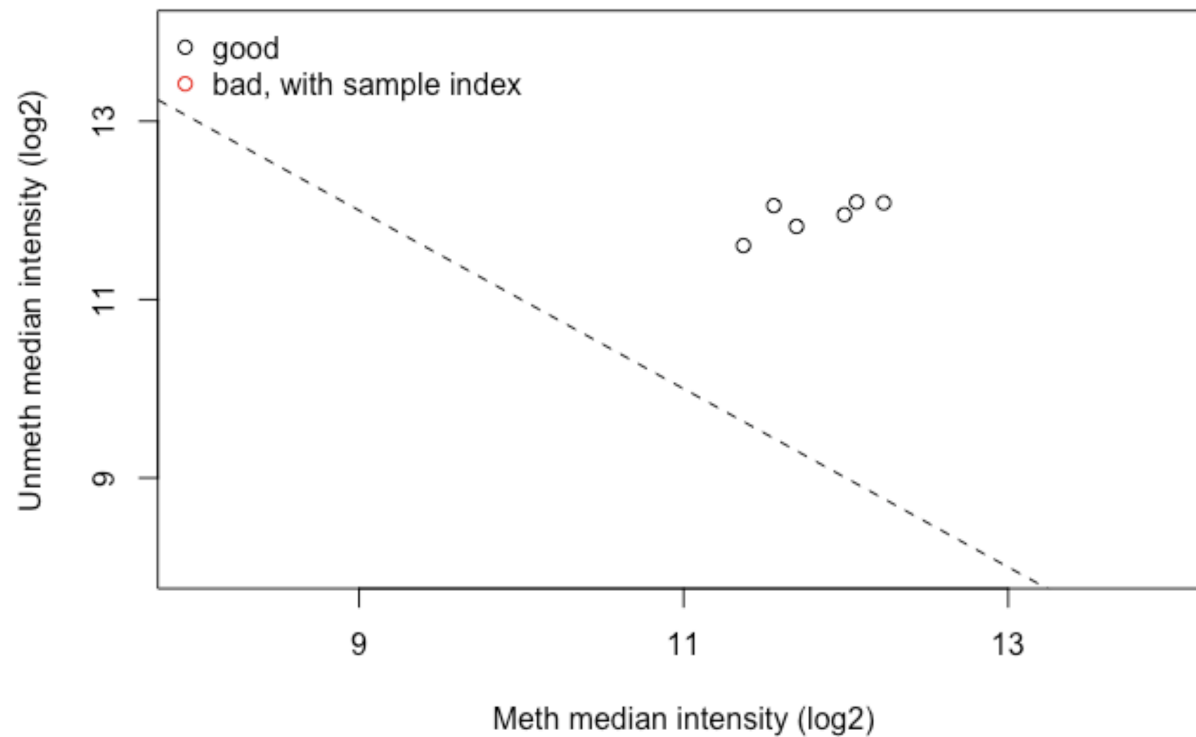
- IDAT files; slide scanner output
 - 5859594006_R01C01_Grn.idat

```
1 dataDirectory <- "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAMethylation/array_data/"
2 # read in the sample sheet for the experiment
3 targets <- read.metharray.sheet(dataDirectory, pattern="SampleSheet.csv")
4 # read in the raw data from the IDAT files
5 rgSet <- read.metharray.exp(targets=targets)
6 # Go from intensity data to methylation levels
7 MSet <- preprocessRaw(rgSet)
```

Initial Quality Control

- Plot median intensity in M vs U

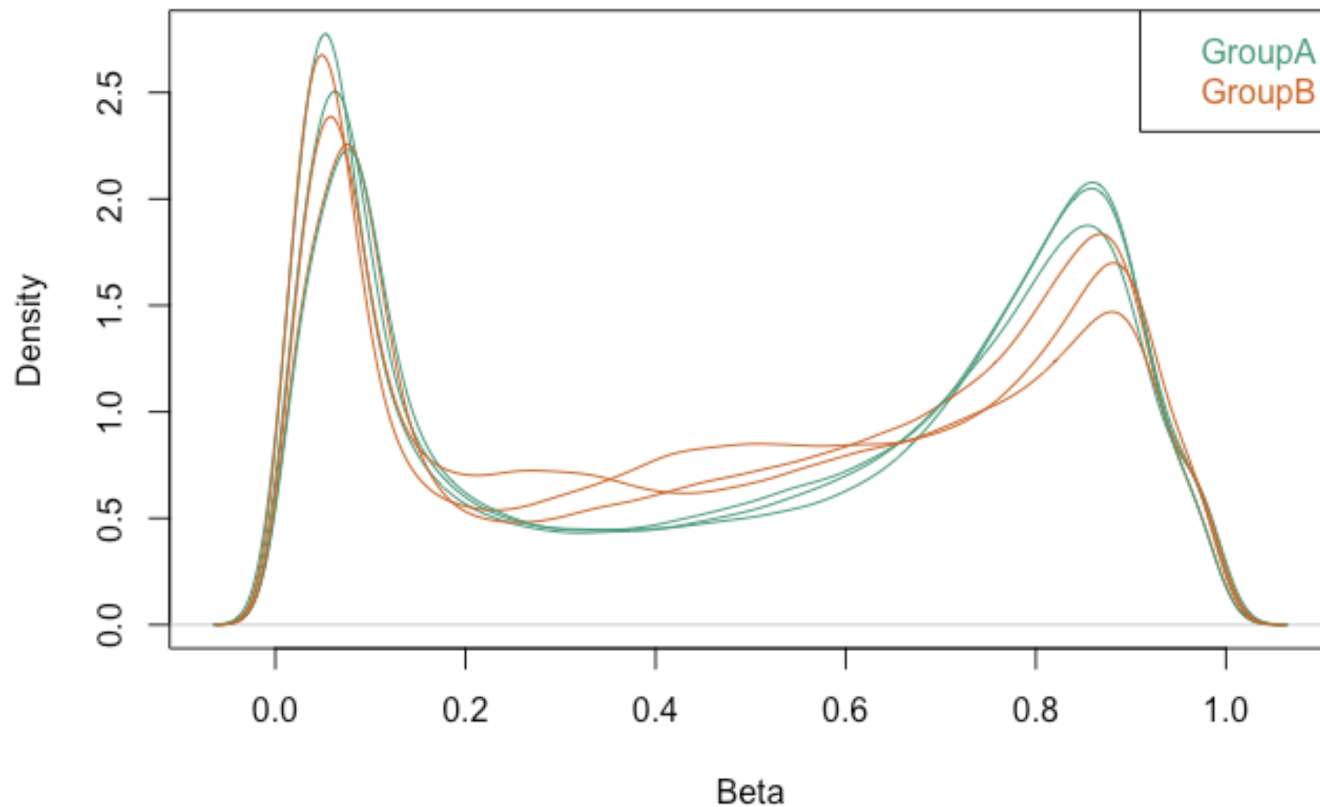
```
1 qc <- getQC(MSet)
2 plotQC(qc)
```



Initial Quality Control

- *Beta* value density distribution

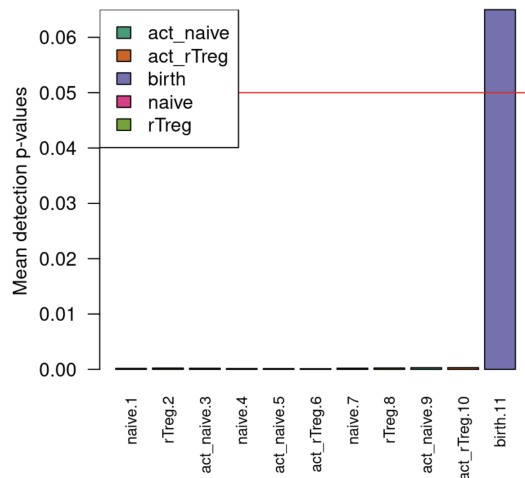
```
1 densityPlot(MSet, sampGroups = phenoData$Sample_Group)
```



Initial Quality Control

- Detection p-value: Are the intensities significantly above background?

```
1 # Calculate the detection p-values
2 detP <- detectionP(rgSet)
3 # examine mean detection p-values across all samples to identify any failed
4 barplot(colMeans(detP), las=2, cex.names=0.8, ylab="Mean detection p-values")
5 abline(h=0.05,col="red")
```

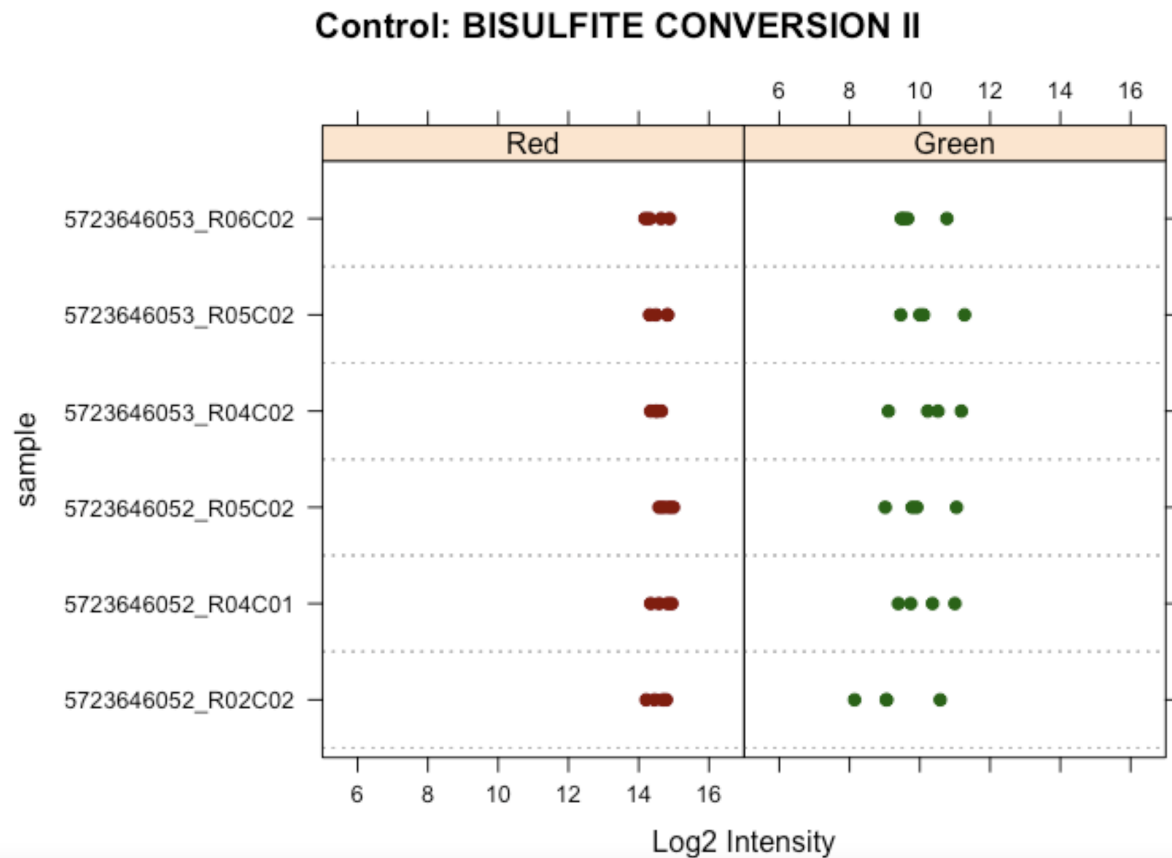


Potentially remove bad samples and/or probes.

Initial Quality Control

- Several internal control probes for different sample preparation steps (bisulfite conversion, hybridization, ...)

```
1 controlStripPlot(RGSet, controls="BISULFITE CONVERSION II")
```



- Staining control
- Bisulfite conversion
- extension controls
- specificity controls
- hybridization controls
- target removal controls
- negative controls

Description in [Illumina manual](#)

Other considerations...

- Remove X/Y Chromosome CpGs?
- Remove CpG overlapping with known SNP and/or cross reactive probes
- Check sample structure with PCA

Many of the previous plots can be looked at interactively with [shinyMethyl](#).

paper: [A comprehensive overview of Infinium HumanMethylation450 data processing.](#)

Normalization

- Within and across array normalization

A systematic study of normalization methods for Infinium 450K methylation data using whole-

genome **A systematic assessment of normalization approaches for the Infinium 450K methylation platform**

Ting Wang

Functional
array
study

Michael C Wu, Bonnie R Joubert, Pei-fen Kuan, Siri E Håberg, Wenche Nystad, Shyamal D Peddada & Stephanie J London

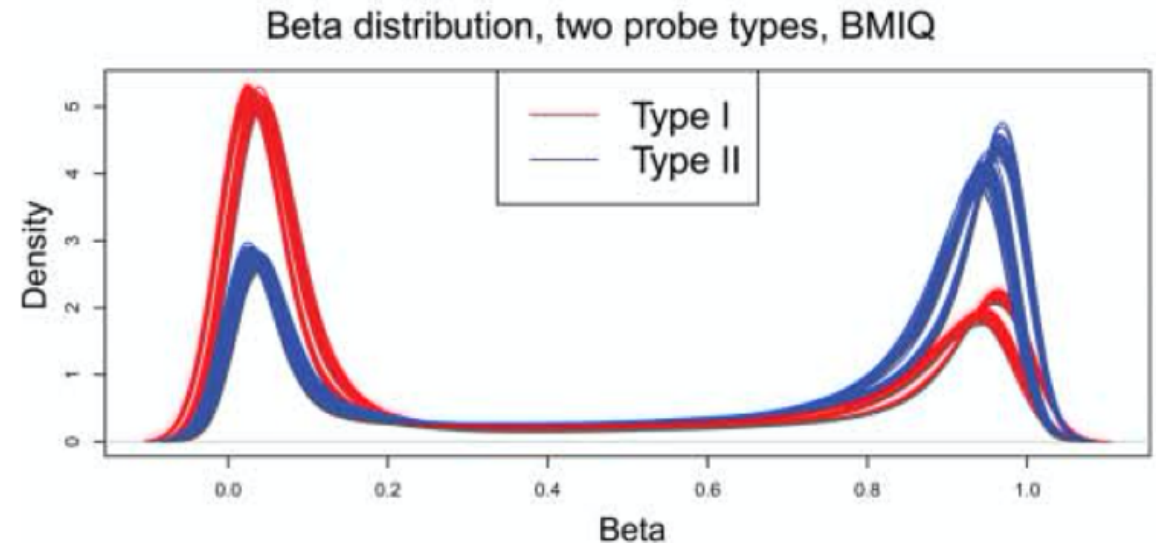
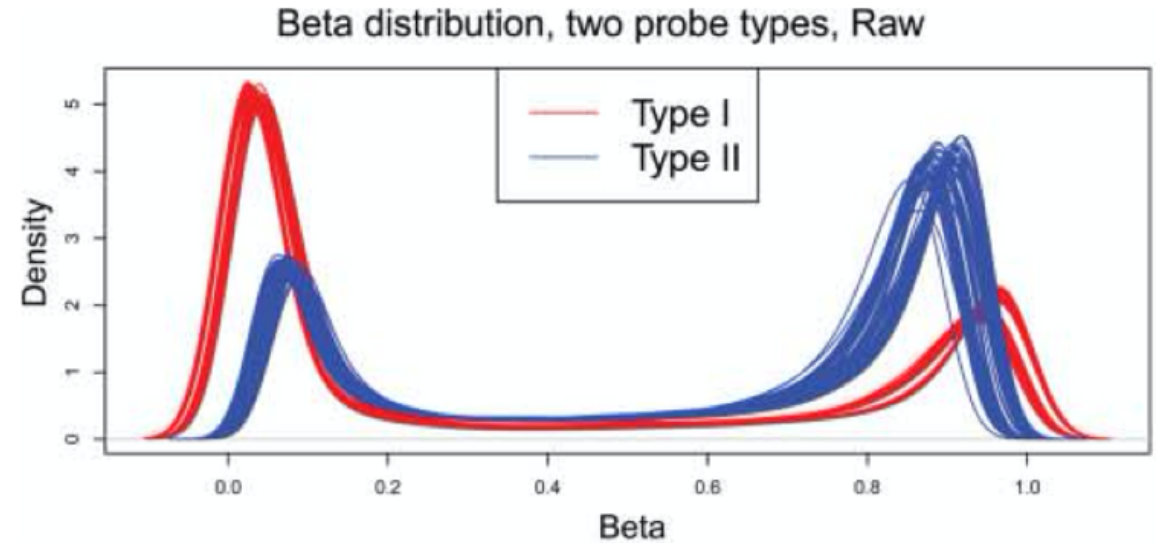
Jean-Philippe Fortin¹, Aurélie Labbe^{2,3,4}, Mathieu Lemire⁵, Brent W Zanke⁶, Thomas J Hudson^{5,7}, Elana J Fertig⁸, Celia MT Greenwood^{2,9,10} and Kasper D Hansen^{1,11*}

Normalization

- Within and across array normalization
- Within array:
 - background correction
 - dye bias adjustment
 - Type I/II bias correction
- Between array:
 - starting material
 - labeling efficiency
- [Good overview](#) + described in lab
- [An evaluation of processing methods for HumanMethylation450 BeadChip data](#)

Assess normalization case by case

- Within and across array normalization not always necessary
- Depends on biological signal

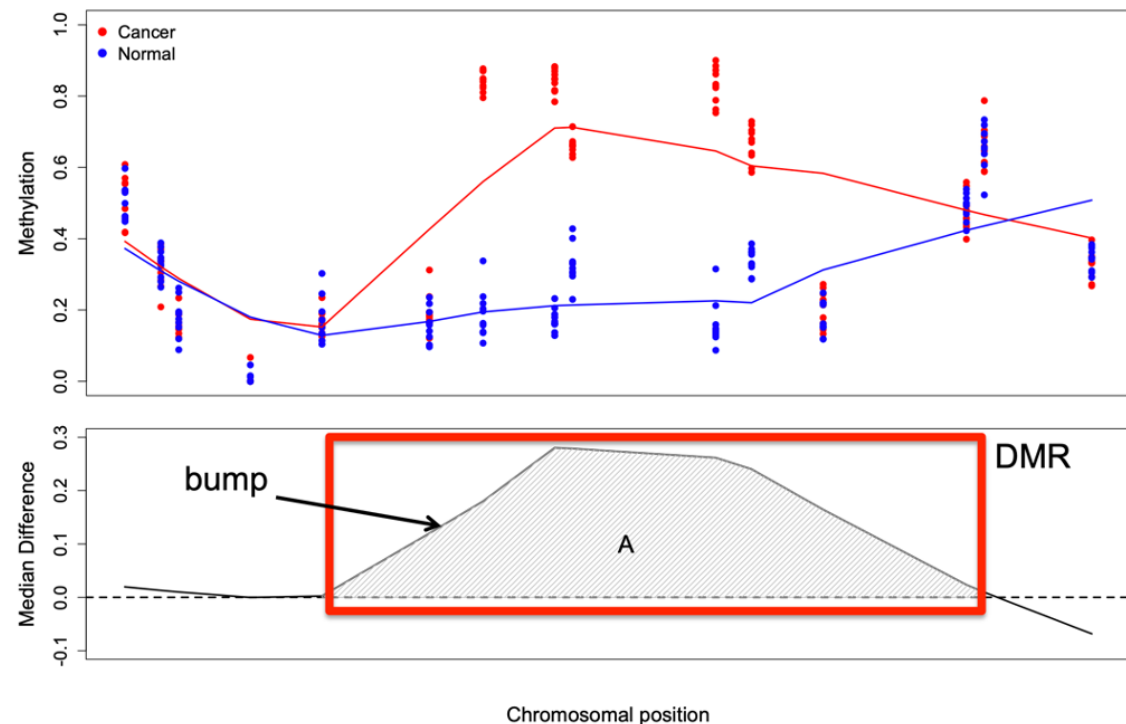


Differential Methylation

- Identification of systematic differences in methylation between groups of samples (case vs control, smokers vs non-smokers, ...)
- Usually starts on a per CpG basis
- Many ways to approach this
 - Questions being asked of data, available information on potential confounders, nature/structure of the data (repeated measures, ...)
- Some possible approaches
 - T-test and ANOVA models
 - Wilcoxon rank-sum and Kruskal Wallis test
 - Linear, logistic and Cox regression or mixed effect models
- Use M-values: $M = \log_2(M/U)$ and *Beta* minimal difference cutoff

Differential Methylation

- Single CpG often less informative than region (DMR)
- How to define region?
 - Sliding window
 - Heuristic cutoff
 - Functional units
- We will try last two in the lab



Gene Set Enrichment

- Long list of DMP or DMR.... What does it mean?
- Gene expression -> GO analysis
- Not so straightforward for methylation data!
 - CpG link to genes unclear
 - Directionality
 - Bias! Number of CpG per gene differs

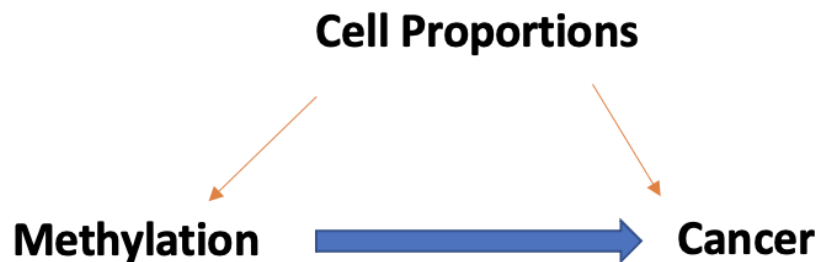
Gene-set analysis is severely biased when applied to genome-wide methylation data

Paul Geeleher^{1,2}, Lori Hartnett³, Laurance J. Egan³, Aaron Golden⁴, Raja Affendi Raja Ali³ and Cathal Seoighe^{2,*}

- [missMethyl](#), [methylGSA](#), [BioMethyl](#)

Cell Type Deconvolution

- Estimates the relative proportion of pure cell types within a sample
- Most cohort studies use data from blood samples



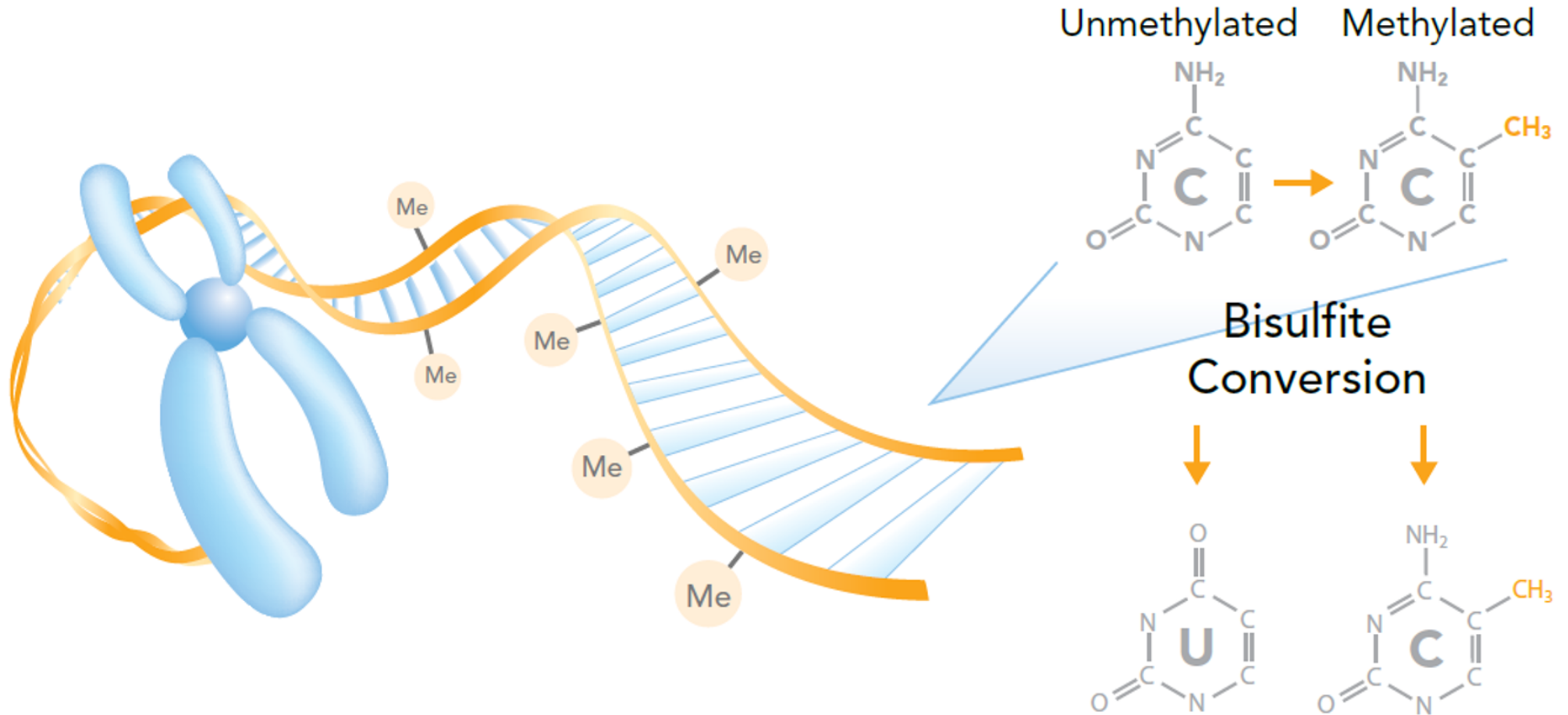
- Minfi: RGChannelSet returns relative proportions of CD4+ and CD8+ T-cells, NK cells, monocytes, granulocytes and B-cells in each sample

Datasets

- Small toy data
- IDAT files
- 10 samples: 4 different T-cell types from 3 individuals
 - Naive
 - Treg
 - act_naive
 - act_Treg
- An additional sample has been added from another study [GSE51180](#), to illustrate approaches for identifying poor quality samples.

Bisulfite Sequencing

Bisulfite Sequencing



Easy readout... in theory

CCAGT^{me}CGCTATAGC^{me}CGATATCGTA



Convert

TTAGTTGCTATAGTGCGATATTGTA

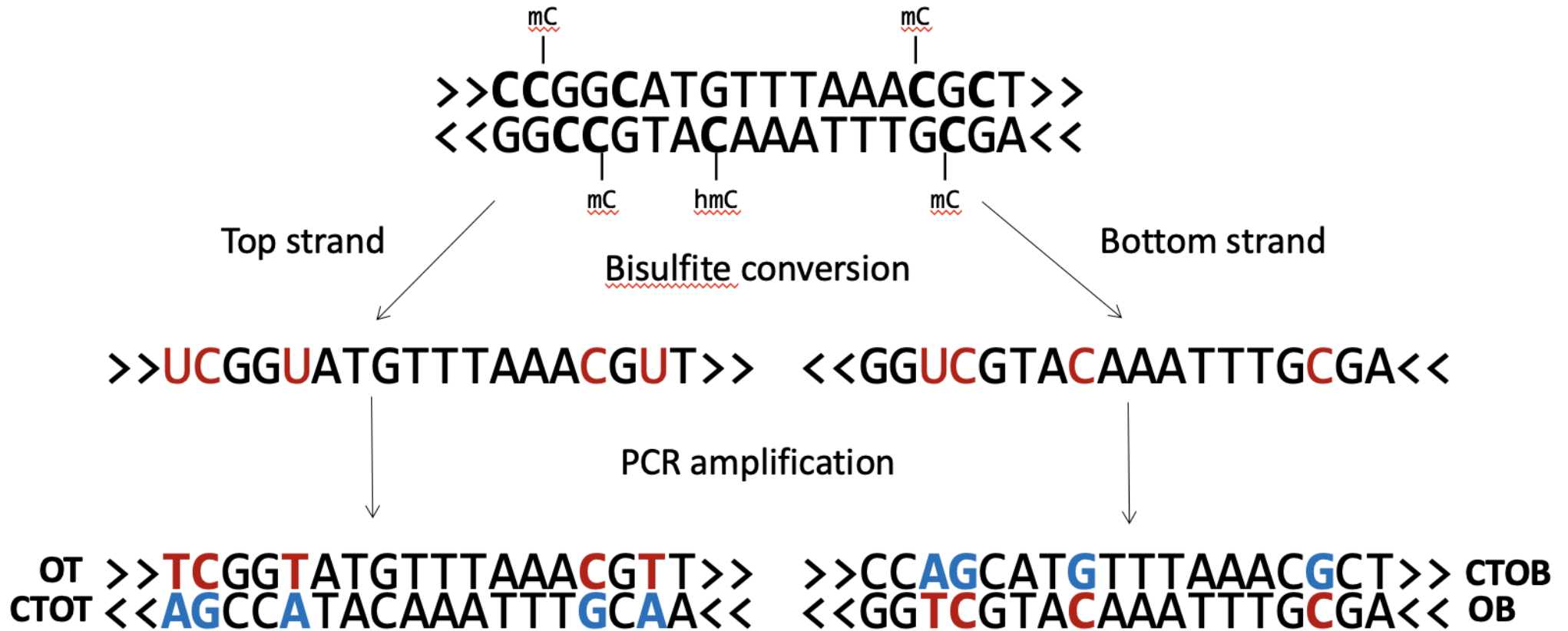


Map

TTAGTTGCTATAGTGCGATATTGTA

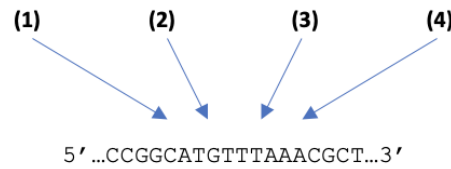
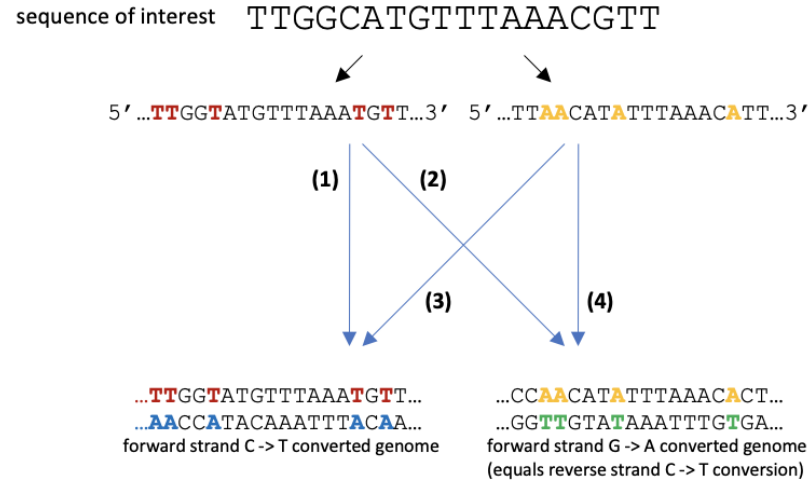
||| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
... CCAGT^{me}CGCTATAGC^{me}CGATATCGTA ...

... but not in reality



- 2 different PCR products and 4 possible different sequence strands from one genomic locus
- Each of these 4 can exist in any possible conversion state

3-letter alignment



read sequence TTGGCATGTTTAAACGTTA
genomic sequence CCGGCATGTTTAAACGCTA

methylation call xz. .H. Z. h. .

bisulfite convert read (treat sequence as both forward and reverse strand)

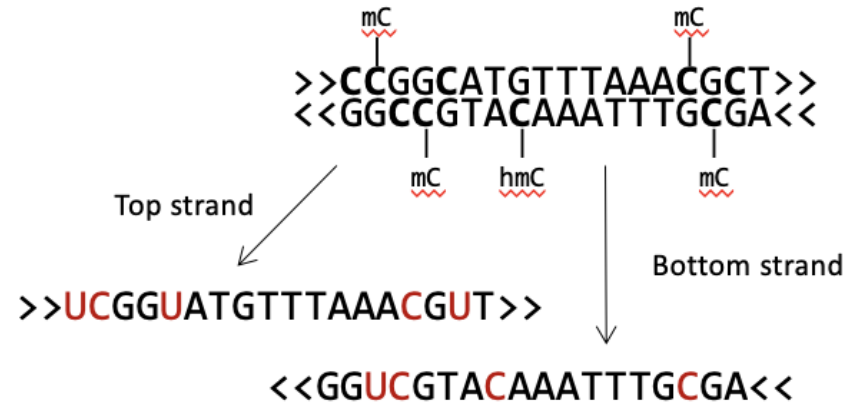
align to bisulfite converted genomes

read all 4 alignment outputs and extract the unmodified genomic sequence if the sequence could be mapped uniquely

methylation call

- h unmethylated C in CHH context
- H methylated C in CHH context
- x unmethylated C in CHG context
- X methylated C in CHG context
- z unmethylated C in CpG context
- Z methylated C in CpG context

Common library preparations



1) Directional libraries

(vast majority of kits, also EpiGnome/Truseq)

OT >>TCGGTATGTTTAAACGTT>>
 <<GGTCGTACAAATTTGCGA<< OB

2) PBAT libraries

CTOT <<AGCCATACAAATTTGCAA<<
 >>CCAGCATGTTTAAACGCT>> CTOB

3) Non-directional libraries

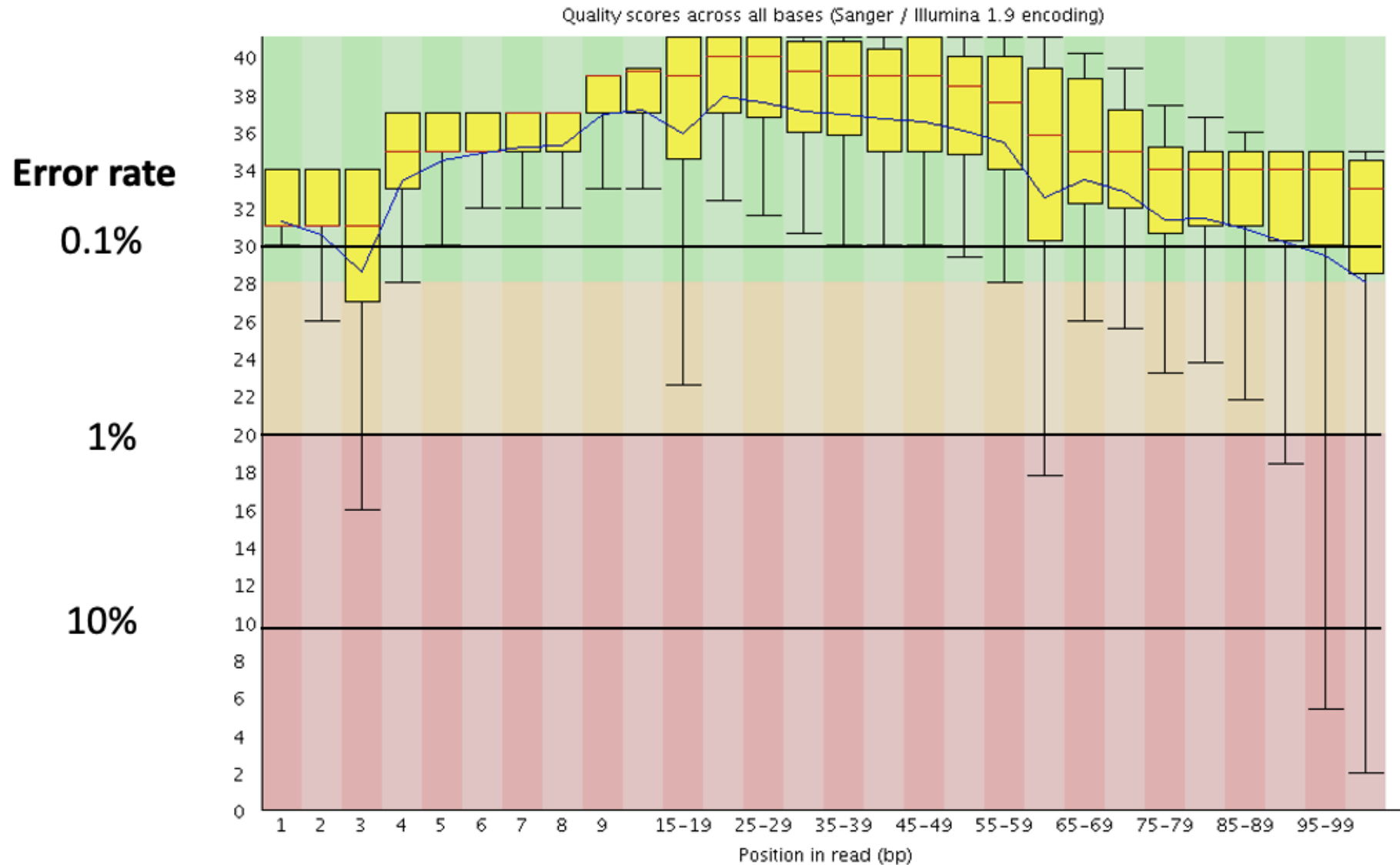
(e.g. single-cell BS-Seq, Zymo Pico Methyl-Seq)

OT >>TCGGTATGTTTAAACGTT>>
 CTOT <<AGCCATACAAATTTGCAA<<
 >>CCAGCATGTTTAAACGCT>> CTOB
 <<GGTCGTACAAATTTGCGA<< OB

Quality Control is essential

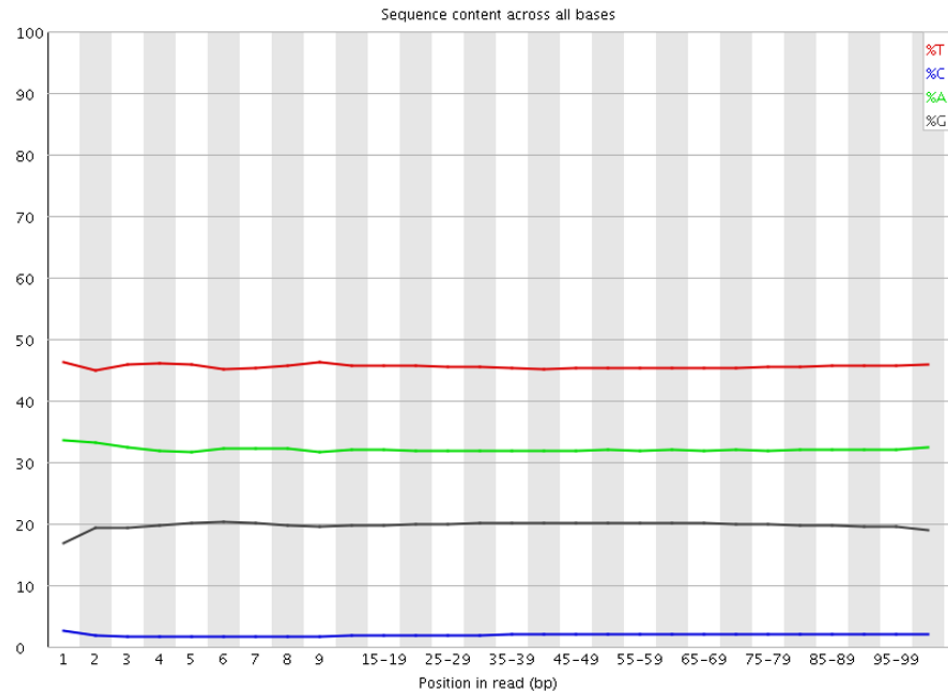
- Accurate C >T detection
- Pre-alignment
 - Base quality/composition
 - Duplication levels
 - Adapter removal

Average Base Quality

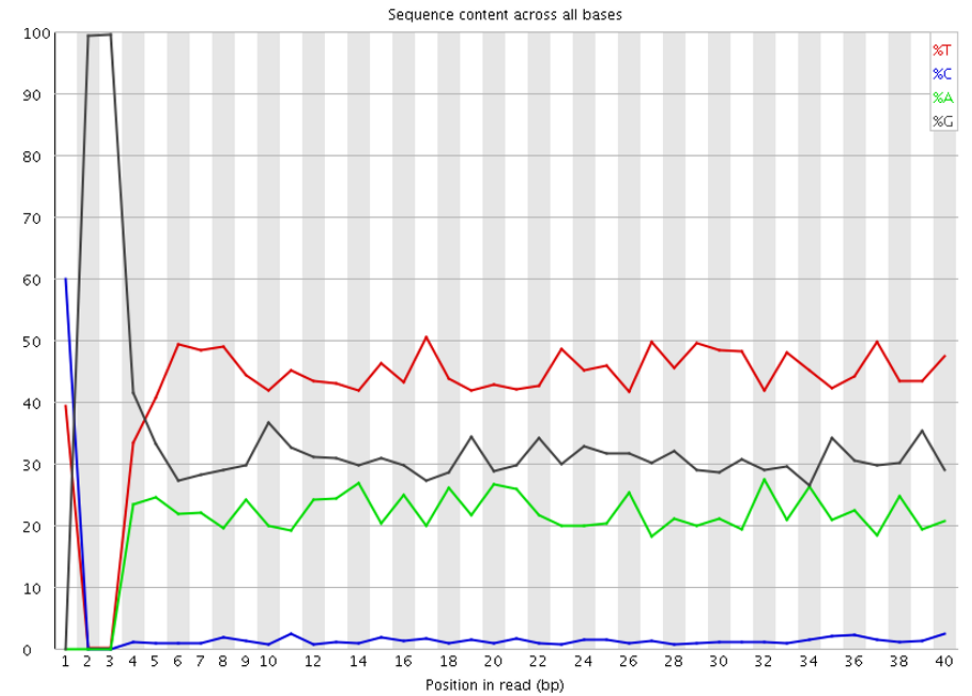


Base Composition

WGBS



RRBS

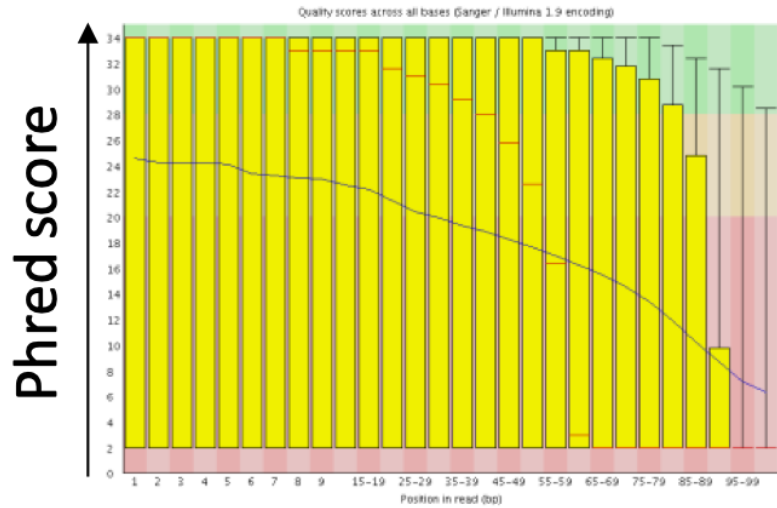


Common bisulfite sequencing QC issues

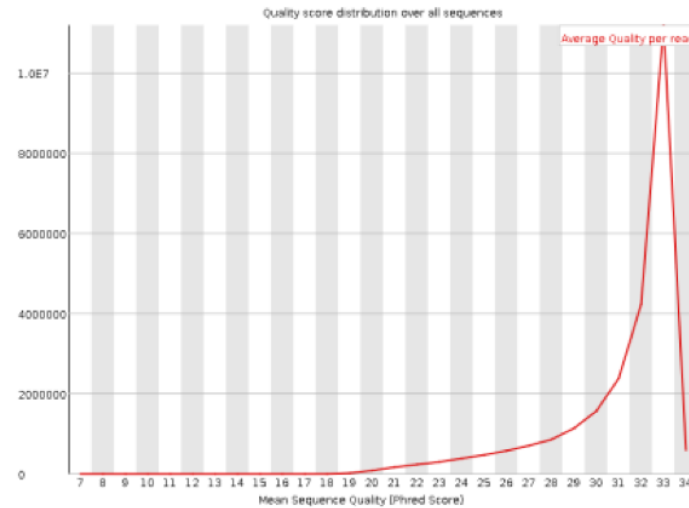
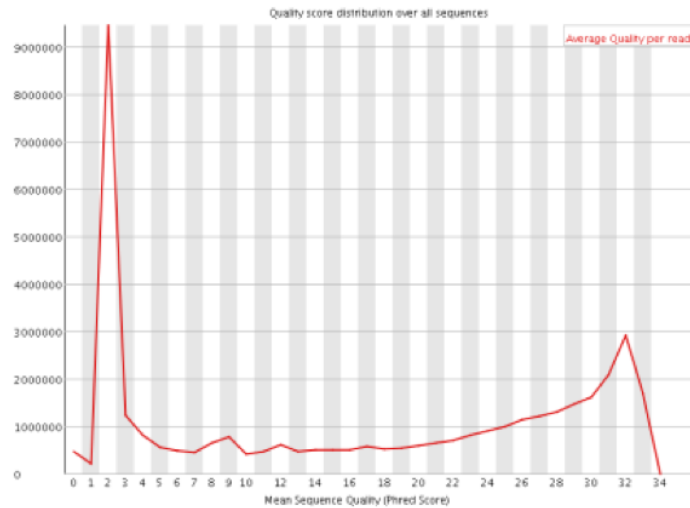
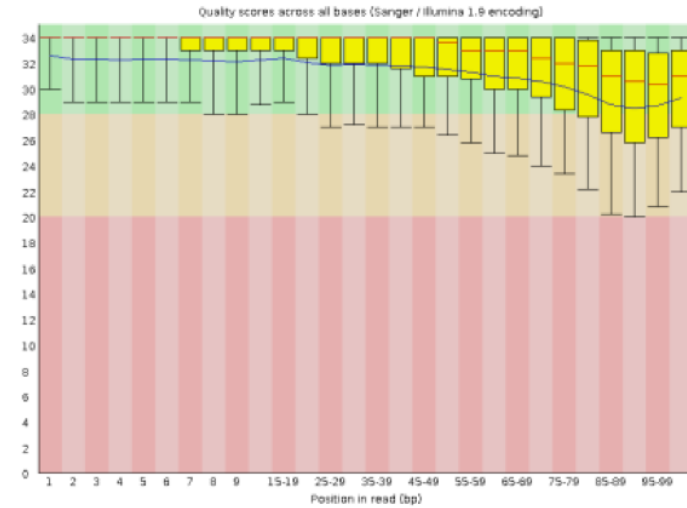
Not observed in
ChIP or RNA-Seq

Remove poor quality basecalls

before trimming



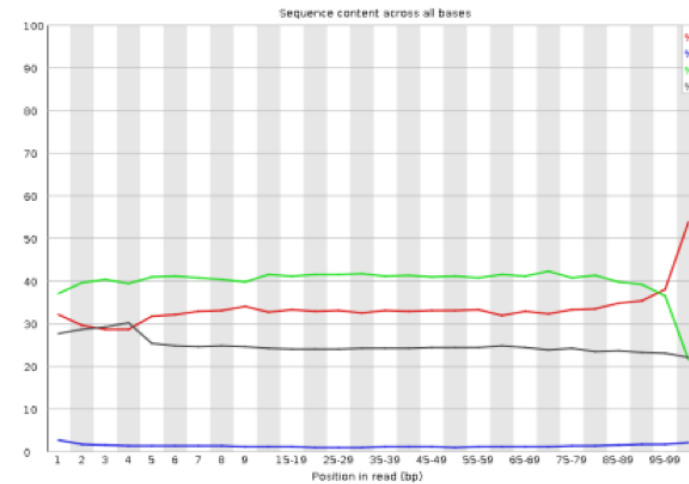
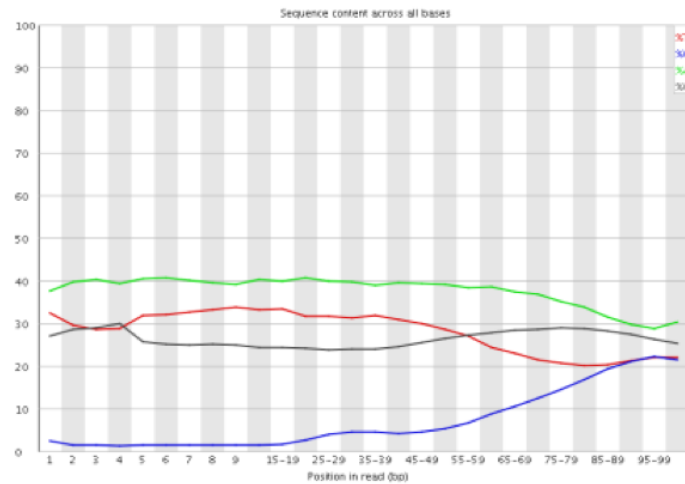
after trimming



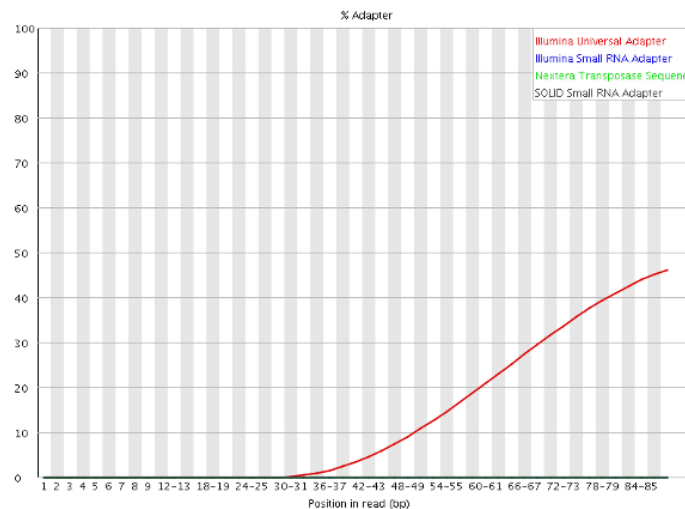
Remove adapter contamination

before trimming

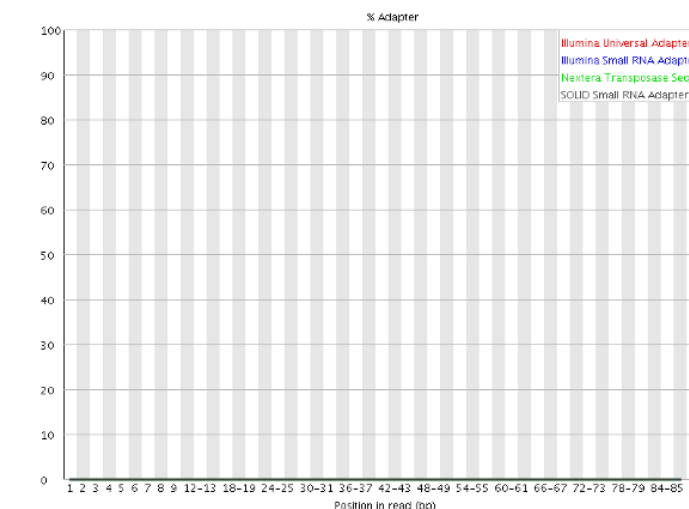
after trimming



✘ Adapter Content



✔ Adapter Content



Summary Adapter/Quality trimming

Important to trim, if not:

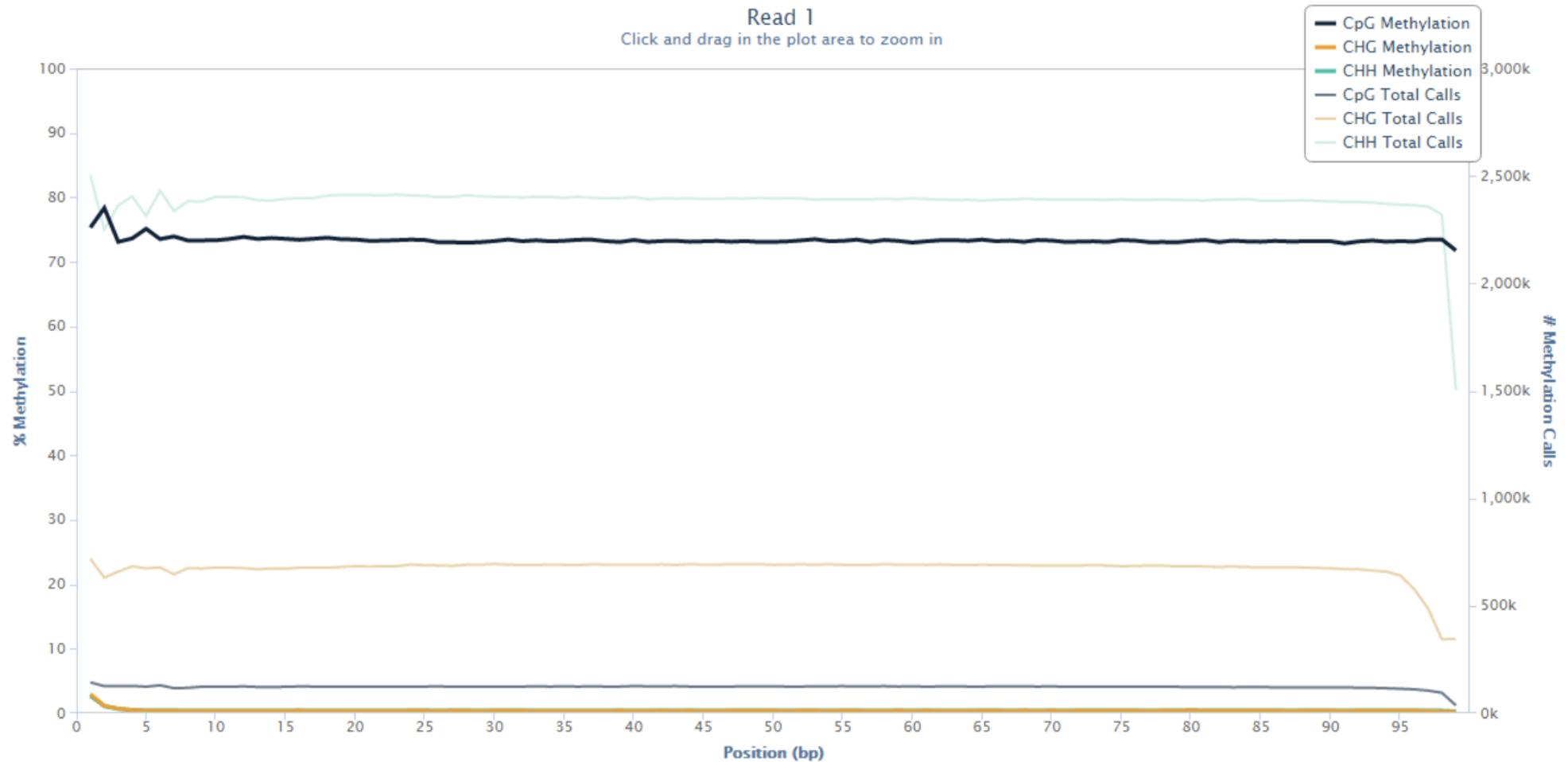
- Low mapping efficiency
- misalignments
- errors in methylation calls (adapters are methylated)
- basecall errors

Quality Control is essential

- Post-alignment
 - Incomplete conversion? non-CpG should be near 100%
 - Degradation? Check alignment rates and insert length
 - Average methylation levels
 - PCR bias? Deduplicate?

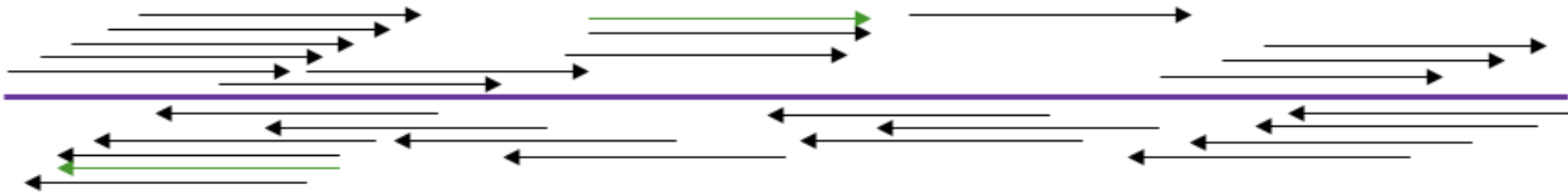
M-bias

Average methylation levels across the entire length of the read

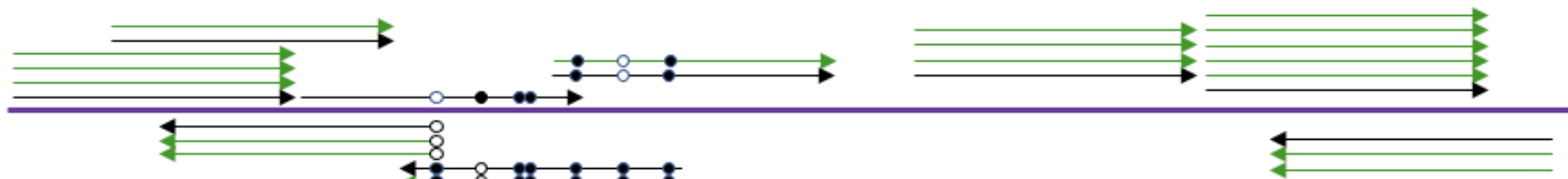


Sequence duplication

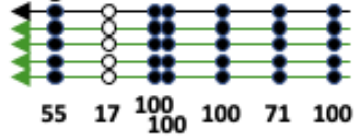
Complex/diverse library:



Duplicated library:



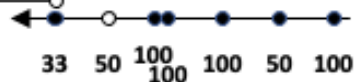
percent methylation



deduplication



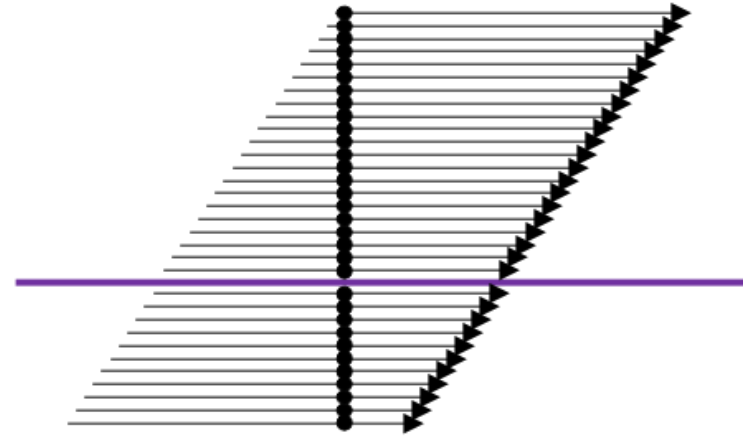
percent methylation



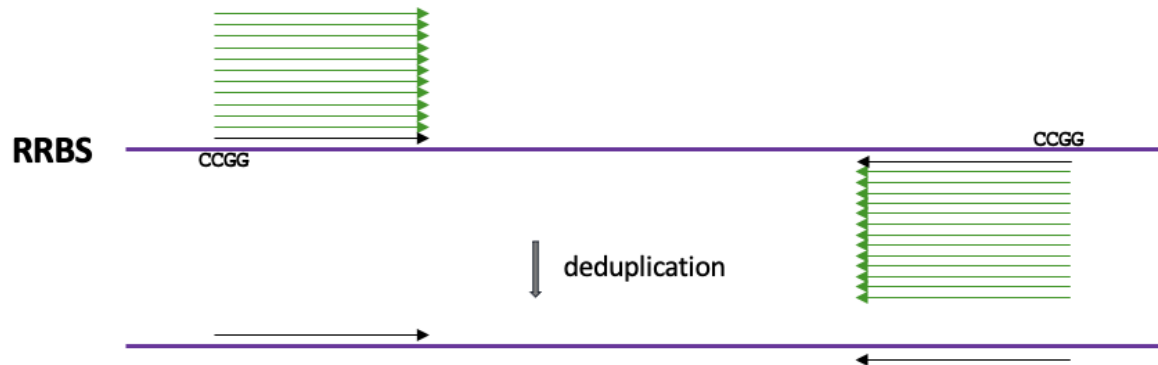
Deduplication?

Advisable for large genomes and moderate coverage

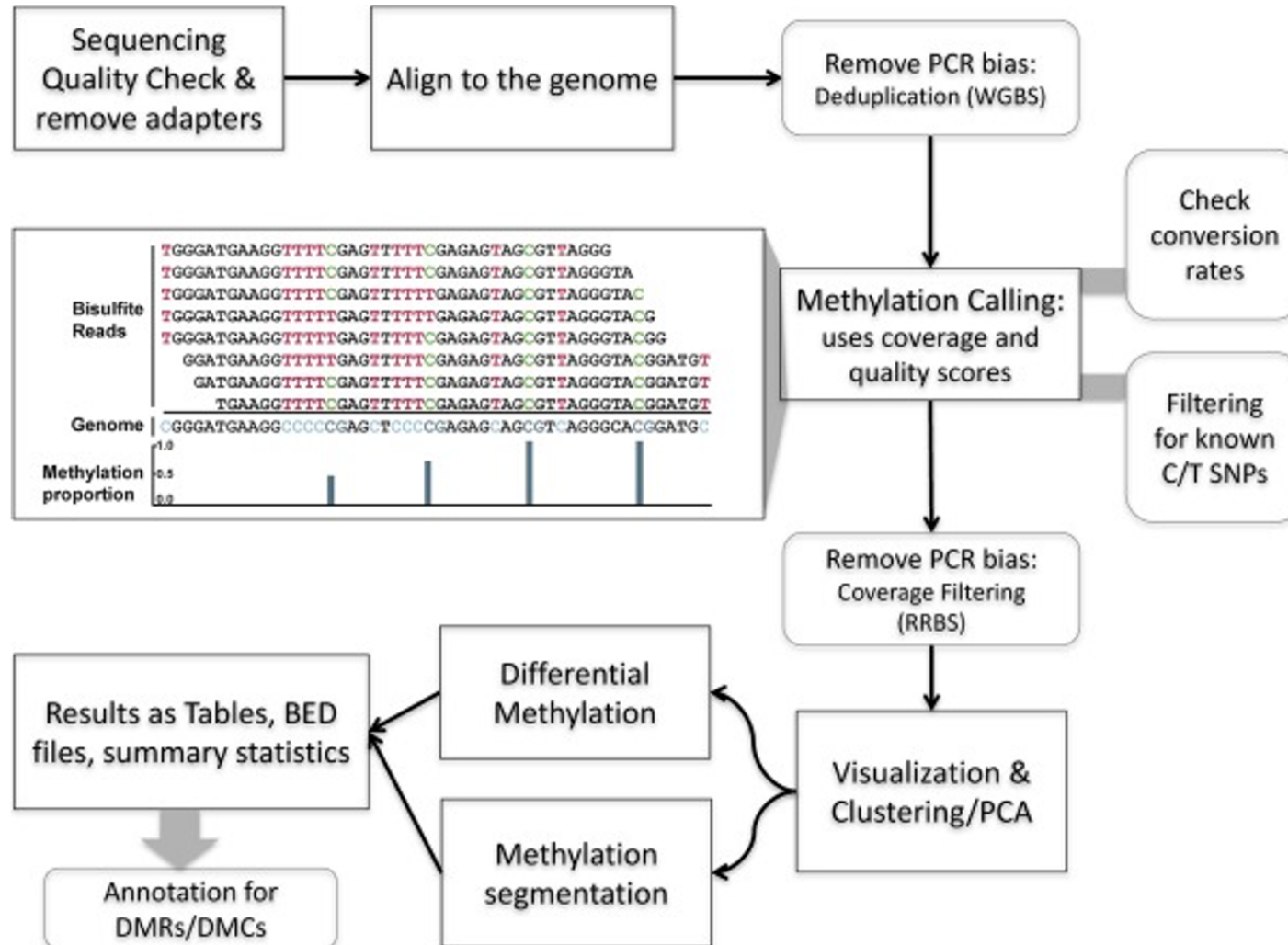
- Unlikely to sequence several genuine copies
- Should have sufficient coverage, even after dedup



NOT advisable for RRBS or other target enrichment methods - high coverage expected

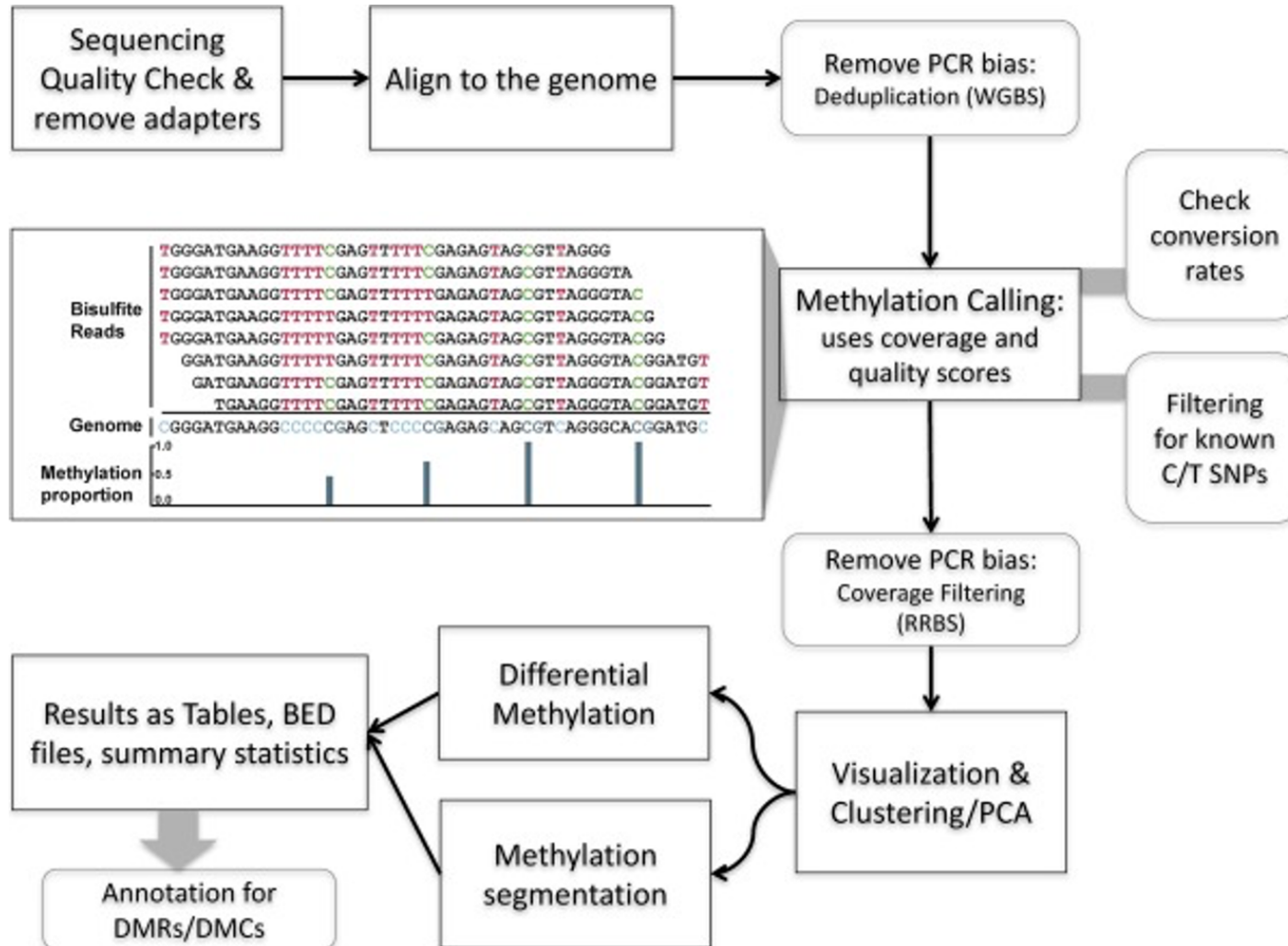


Workflow



- nf-core pipeline: methylseq (see Thursday)
- Preprocessing + QC
 - 2 aligners: Bismark or bwa/meth/MethylDackel
 - QC: qualimap, preseq and multiqc
- Output ready for downstream analysis

MethylKit: R package

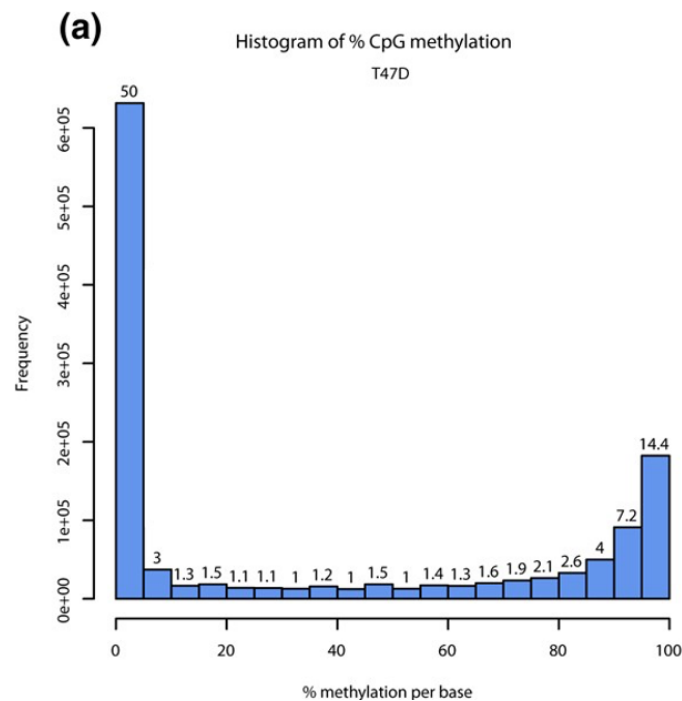


Can read Bismark coverage files as input

Descriptive statistics

Coverage file Bismark

Chr	Start	End	Methylation Prop.	# mC	# C
chr8	3052997	3052997	0.00000	0	1
chr8	3052998	3052998	53.26087	49	43
chr8	3068732	3068732	57.14286	8	6
chr8	3068733	3068733	100.00000	11	0
chr8	3089948	3089948	100.00000	5	0
chr8	3089984	3089984	100.00000	5	0

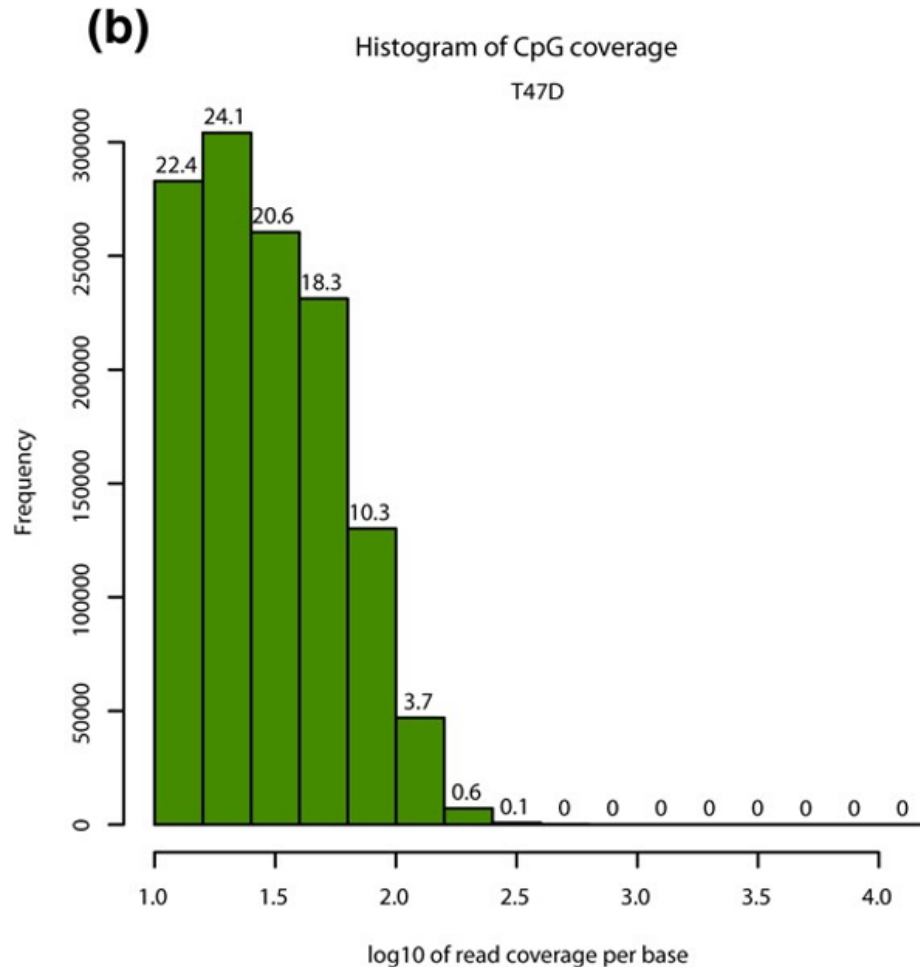


```
1 # Define the list containing the bismark coverage files.
2 file.list <- list(
3   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P6_1.bismark.cov.gz"
4   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P6_4.bismark.cov.gz"
5   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P8_3.bismark.cov.gz"
6   "/sw/courses/epigenomics/DNAmethylation/biseq_data/P8_6.bismark.cov.gz"
7
8 # read the listed files into a methylRawList object making sure the other
9 # parameters are filled in correctly.
10 myobj <- methRead(file.list,
11                   sample.id=list("Luminal_1","Luminal_2","Basal_1","Basal_2"),
12                   pipeline = "bismarkCoverage",
13                   assembly="mm10",
14                   treatment=c(1,1,0,0),
15                   mincov = 10
16                   )
17
18 # Get a histogram of the methylation percentage per sample
19 # Here for sample 1
20 getMethylationStats(myobj[[1]], plot=TRUE, both.strands=FALSE)
```

Descriptive statistics

Coverage Distribution

```
1 # Get a histogram of the read coverage per sample
2 getCoverageStats(myobj[[1]], plot=TRUE, both.strands=FALSE)
```



- Secondary peak towards the right -> PCR duplication?
- Filter cutoff?

```
1 myobj.filt <- filterByCoverage(myobj,
2                               lo.count=10,
3                               lo.perc=NULL,
4                               hi.count=NULL,
5                               hi.perc=99.9)
```

Filtering

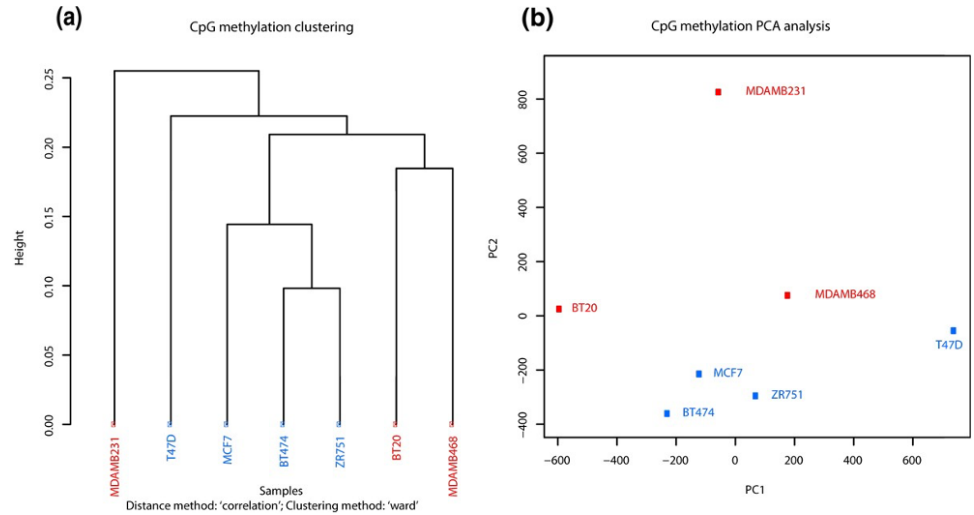
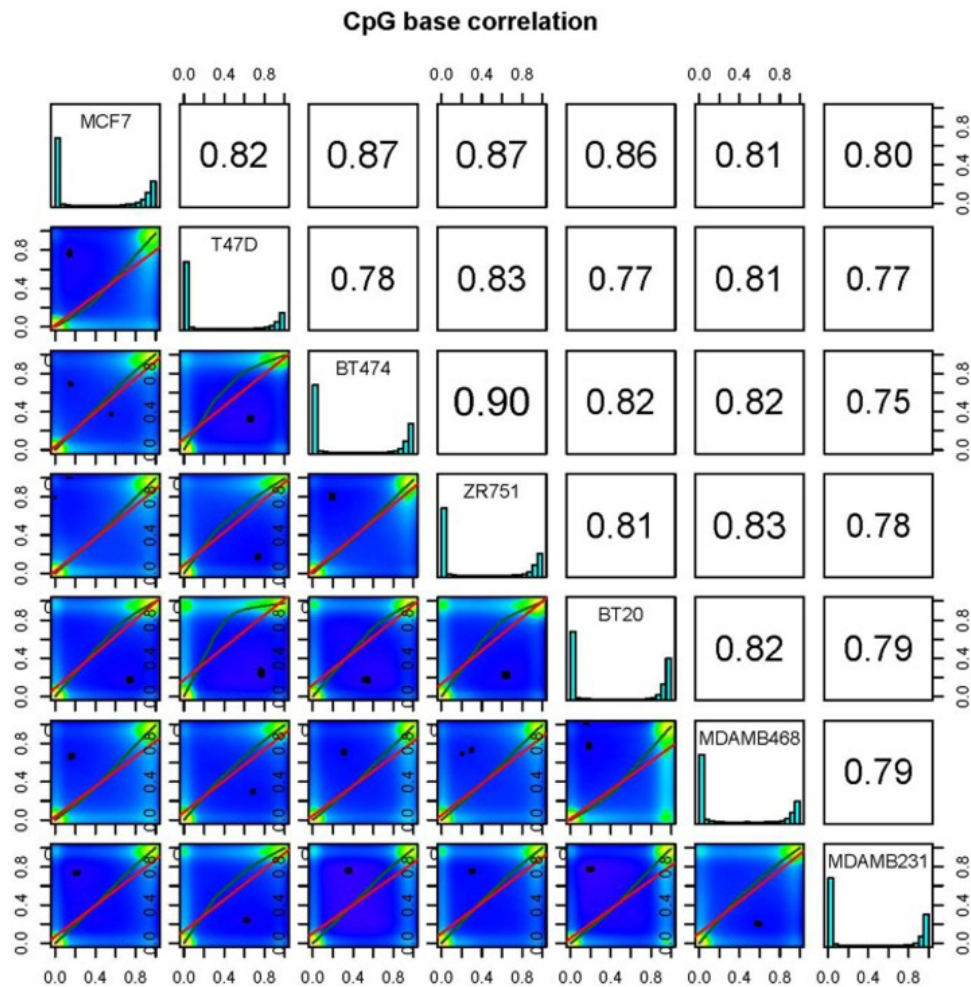
Remove CpG that have no variation

```
1 # get percent methylation matrix
2 pm=percMethylation(meth)
3
4 # calculate standard deviation of CpGs
5 sds=matrixStats::rowSds(pm)
6
7 # Visualize the distribution of the per-CpG standard deviation
8 # to determine a suitable cutoff
9 hist(sds, breaks = 100)
10
11 # keep only CpG with standard deviations larger than 2%
12 meth <- meth[sds > 2]
```

Remove SNP overlap

```
1 # give the locations of 2 example SNPs
2 mut <- GRanges(seqnames=c("chr21","chr21"),
3                 ranges=IRanges(start=c(9853296, 9853326),
4                                   end=c( 9853296,9853326)))
5
6 # select CpGs that do not overlap with mutations
7 meth <- meth[!as(meth,"GRanges") %over% mut, ]
```

Sample Structure



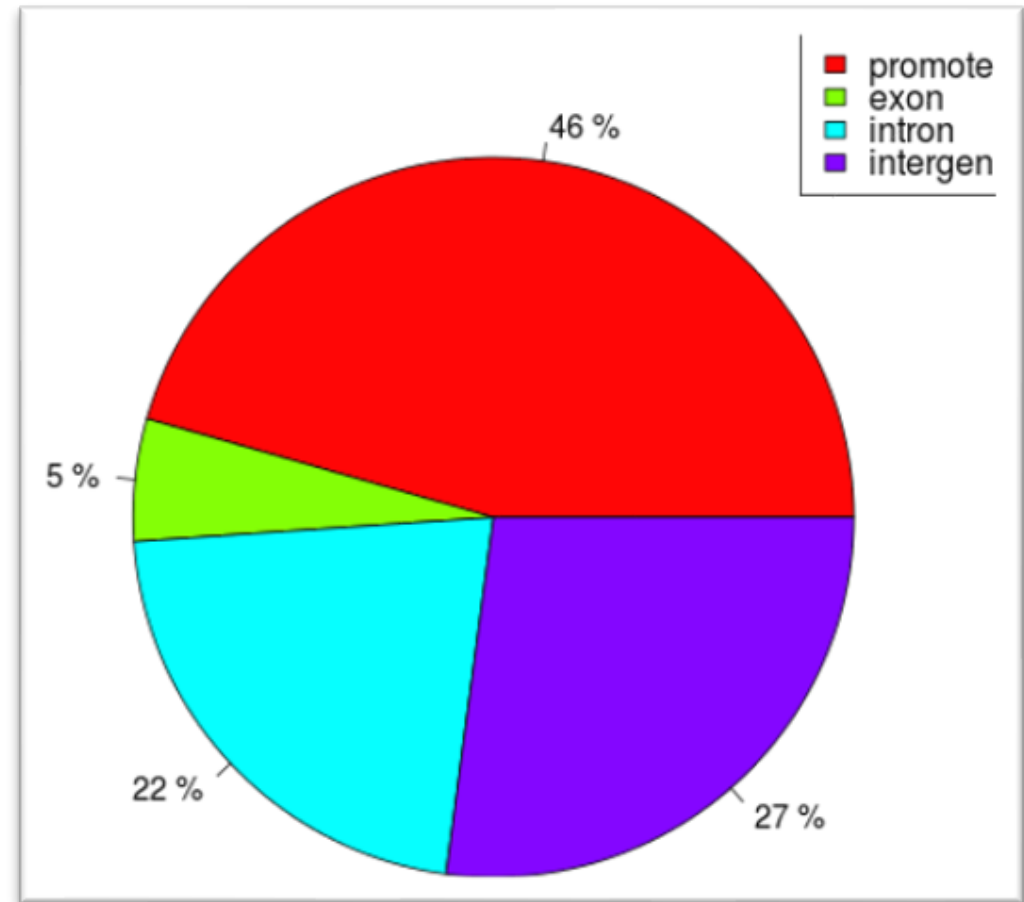
```
1 getCorrelation(meth, plot=TRUE)
2 clusterSamples(meth, dist="correlation",
3               method="ward", plot=TRUE)
4 PCASamples(meth)
```


Differential Methylation

- Many choices; often calculated by comparing proportion in methylated Cs in a test relative to control
- No replicates: Fisher's exact test
- Replicates:
 - linear regression
 - logistic regression (works with [0-1] data)
 - Beta-binomial (count data)
- Regression models can add covariates/confounders
- Aggregate in regions (see lab)

Annotate results

- How to interpret the DMR/DMPs?
- Integrate with genome annotation datasets
 - Where in relation to gene/regulatory region?
- Genomation R package: toolkit for annotation
- Lab: basic annotation transcripts and CpG islands
- Requires some knowledge of R (GenomicRanges package)



Remarks

- Normalization somewhat less important for bisulfite sequencing (Fisher's exact is sensitive to sequencing depth)
- Gene enrichments is as difficult as for arrays, not many implemented methods ([rGREAT](#), [Goseq](#))

Lab

- Small dataset of mammary gland cells in mouse
- 4 samples: 2 luminal, 2 basal
- Bismark coverage files

Chr	Start	End	Methylation Prop.	# mC	# C
chr8	3052997	3052997	0.00000	0	1
chr8	3052998	3052998	53.26087	49	43
chr8	3068732	3068732	57.14286	8	6
chr8	3068733	3068733	100.00000	11	0
chr8	3089948	3089948	100.00000	5	0
chr8	3089984	3089984	100.00000	5	0

