

# Gene expression & transcriptomics: Adaptive environmental variation

Joanna Kelley  
ConGen2015  
4 Sept 2015



WASHINGTON STATE  
 UNIVERSITY  
*World Class. Face to Face.*



How do organisms diverge and adapt to the wide-range of environments they encounter?



# OMICS! approaches

**Genome**



Transcription



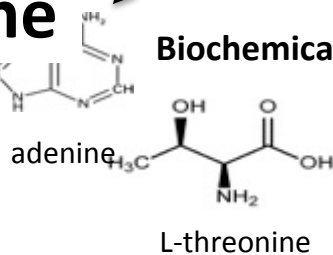
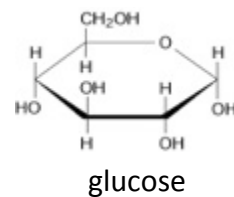
RNA transcript: serves directly as mRNA in prokaryotes; processed to become mRNA in eukaryotes

Translation



Polypeptide

**Metabolome**



Biochemicals

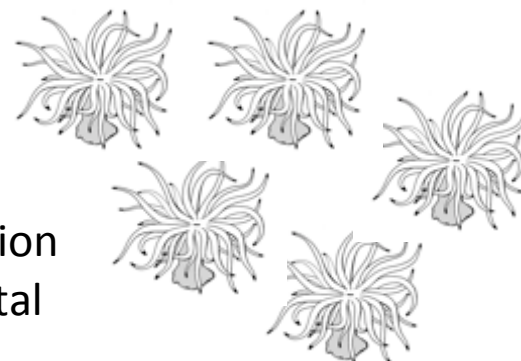


**Phenome**



# Why study gene expression differences among individuals and populations?

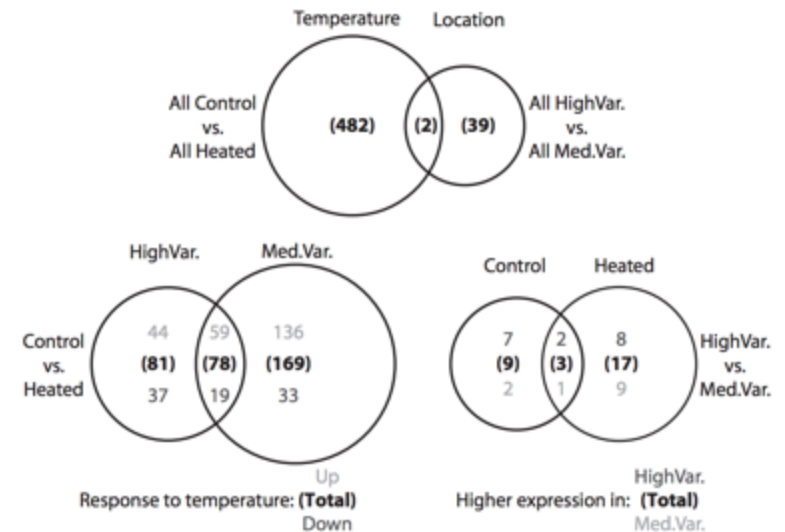
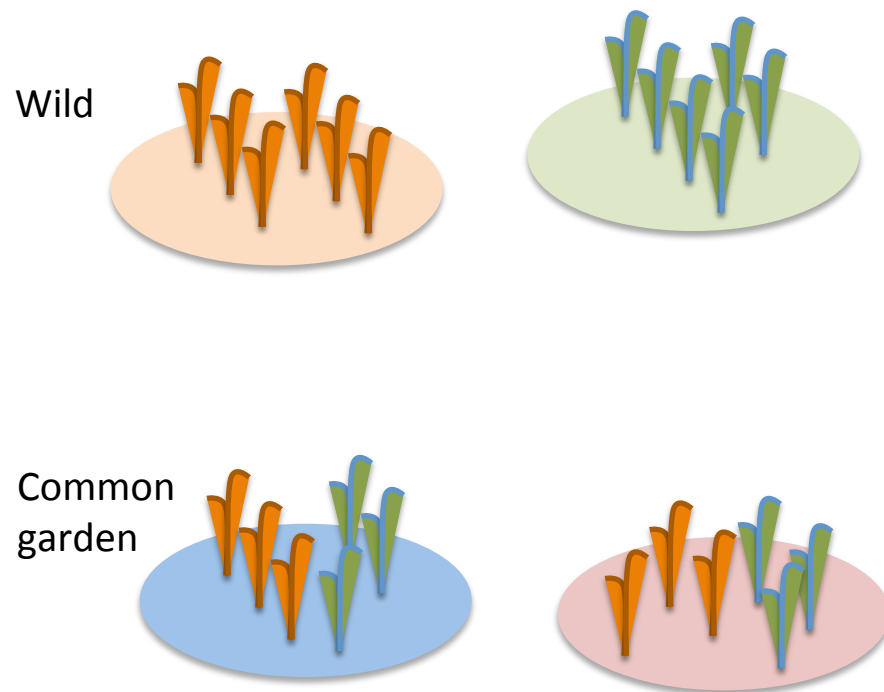
- Insights into the molecular basis of phenotypic diversity
- Interpretation of patterns of expression variation in response to environmental conditions, disease, etc.
- Possible management decisions on how and where to manage or transplant populations



# RNAseq to learn about climate change

## Genomic basis for coral resilience to climate change

Daniel J. Barshis<sup>1,2</sup>, Jason T. Ladner, Thomas A. Oliver, François O. Seneca, Nikki Traylor-Knowles, and Stephen R. Palumbi



**Fig. 2.** Venn diagram showing the number of differentially expressed genes detected during analysis based on temperature, location, within-location temperature response, and within-treatment location differences. Bold numbers in parentheses represent totals and respective shades of gray denote up- vs. down-regulated or higher in HV vs. MV, respectively.



# RNAseq for management decisions

Research article

Open Access

## Transcriptomic response to heat stress among ecologically divergent populations of redband trout

Shawn R Narum\* and Nathan R Campbell

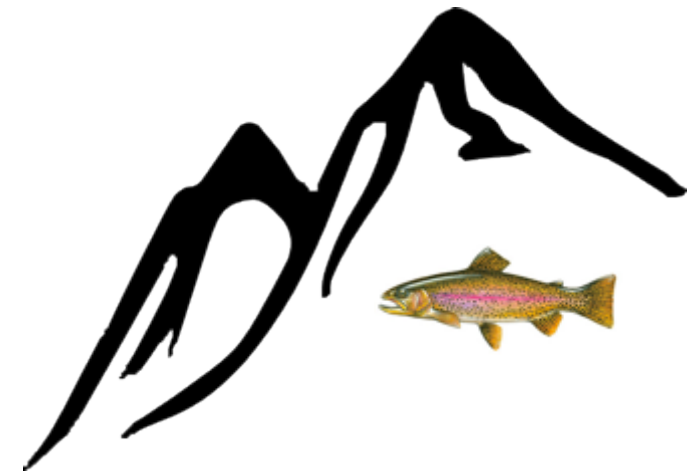
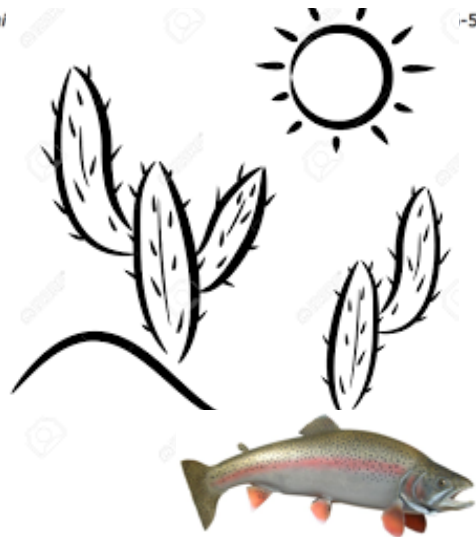
\* Corresponding author: Shawn R Narum [nars@critfc.org](mailto:nars@critfc.org)

▼ Author Affiliations

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, 3059-F National Fish Hatchery Road, Hagerman 83332, ID, USA

For all author emails, please [log on](#).

BMC Genomi



and F1s



# RNAseq for management decisions

Research article

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## Transcriptomic response to heat stress among ecologically divergent populations of redband trout

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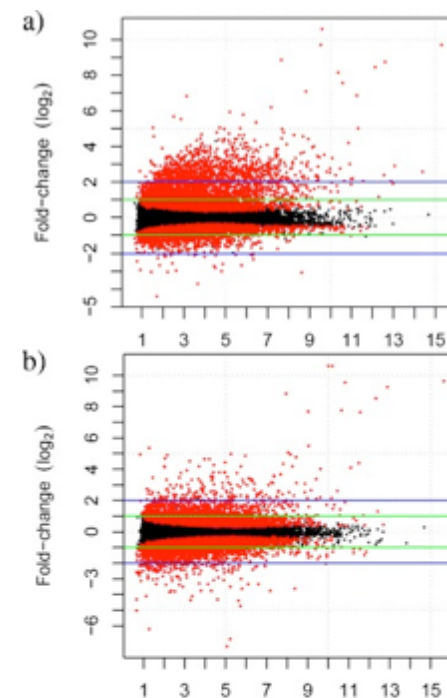
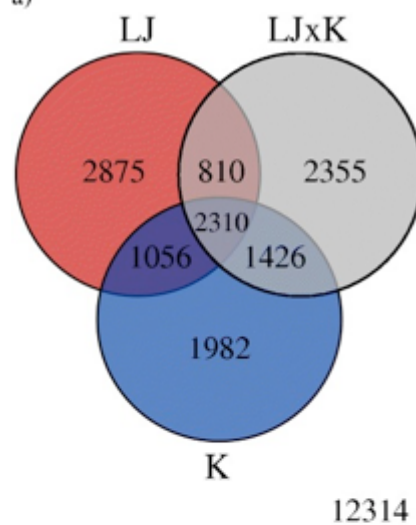
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, 3059-F National Fish Hatchery Road, Hagerman 83332, ID, USA

For all author emails, please [log on](#).

BMC Genomics 2015, 16:103

doi:10.1186/s12864-015-1246-5

a)

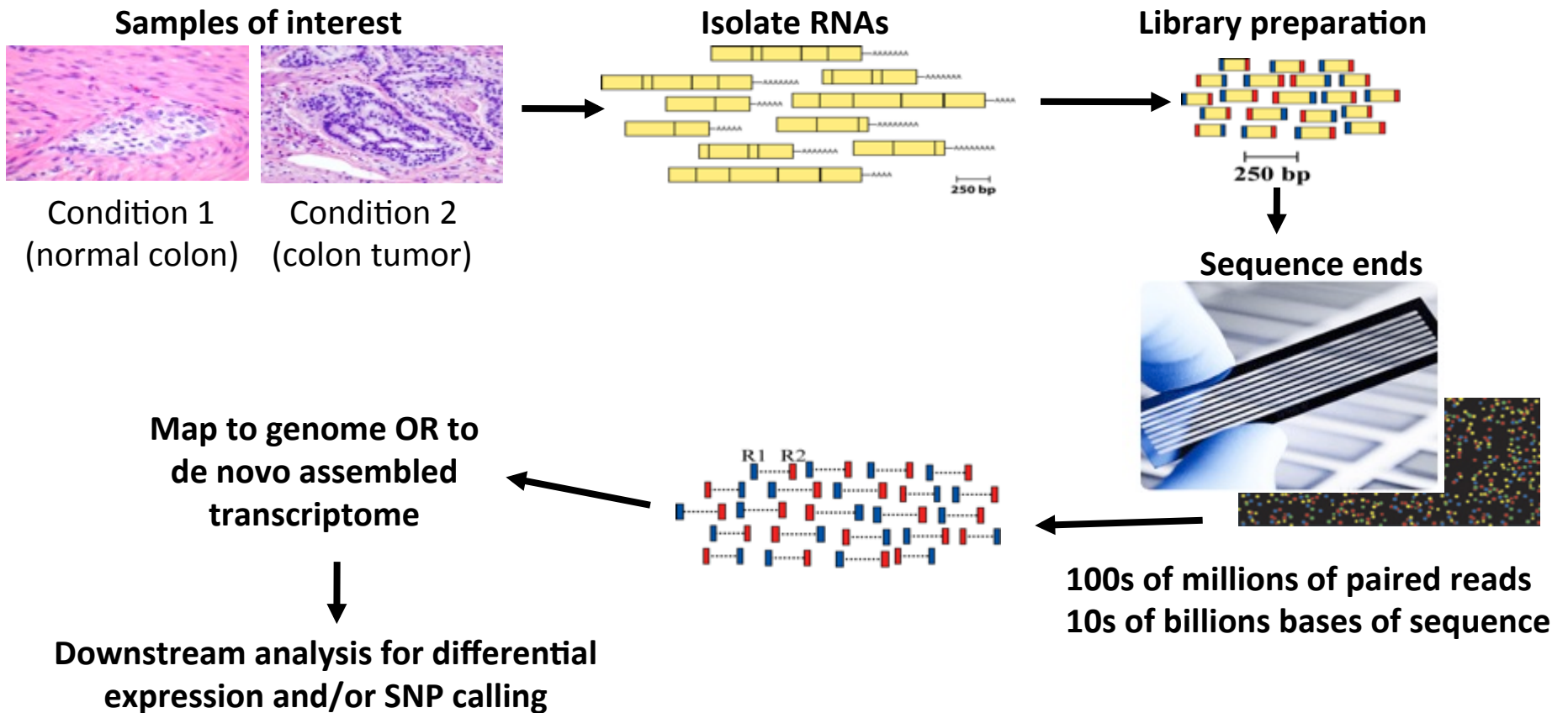


# Approaches to measuring gene expression

- Single/few gene studies
  - Northern blots
  - qPCR
- Transcriptome (everything that is transcribed at a single time point in a specific tissue/cell)
  - Microarrays
  - RNA-sequencing (RNA-seq)
    - poly-A+
    - Ribo-minus



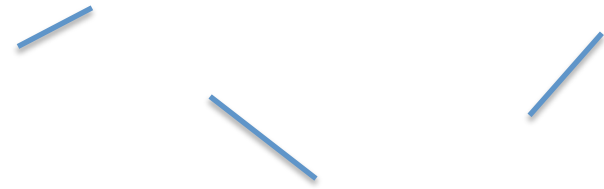
# RNA sequencing experiment



Gene 1 - High expression

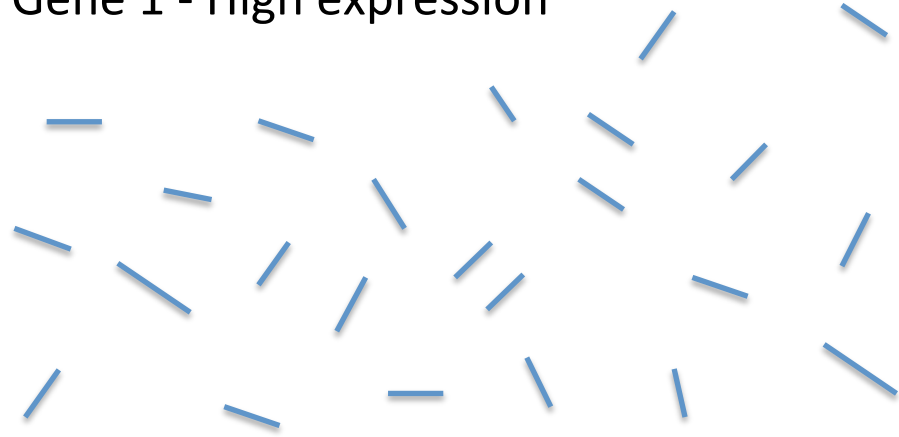


Gene 2 - Low expression

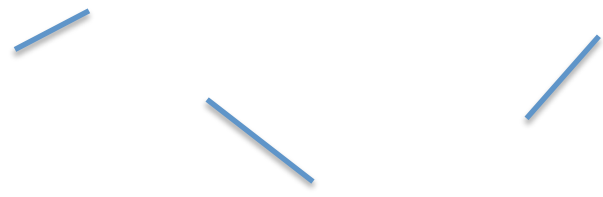


**Individual 1**

Gene 1 - High expression

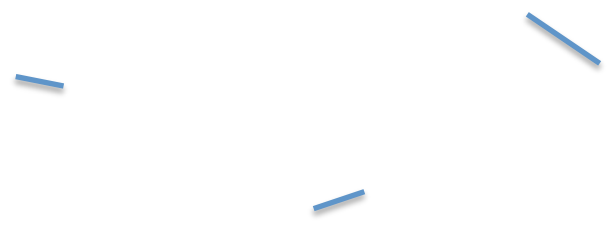


Gene 2 - Low expression

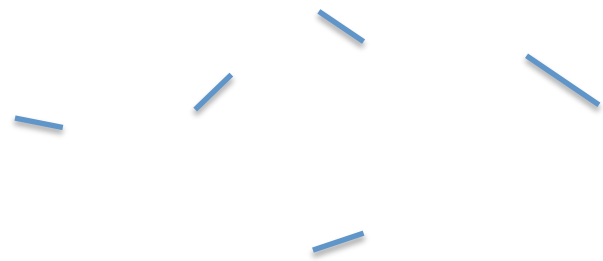


**Individual 1**

Gene 1 - Low expression

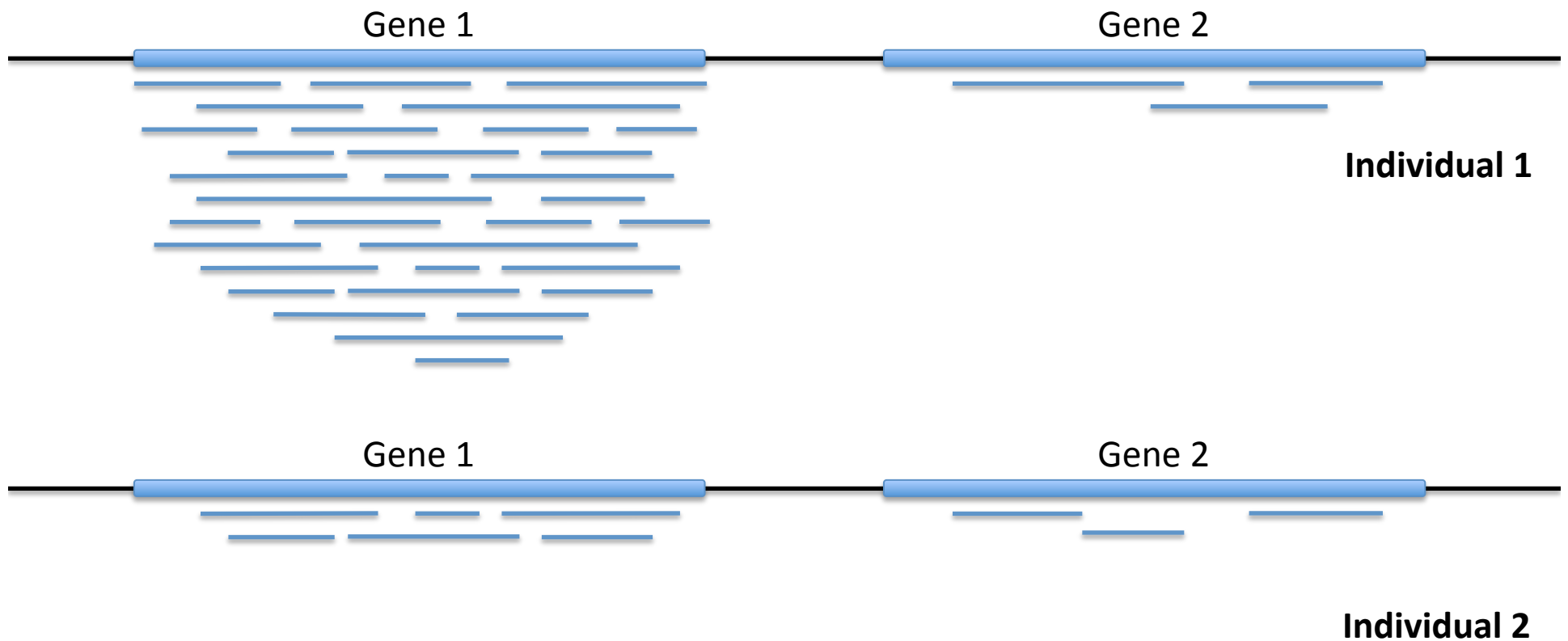


Gene 2 - Low expression

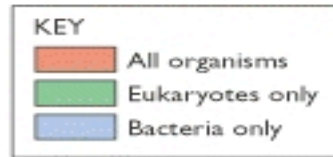
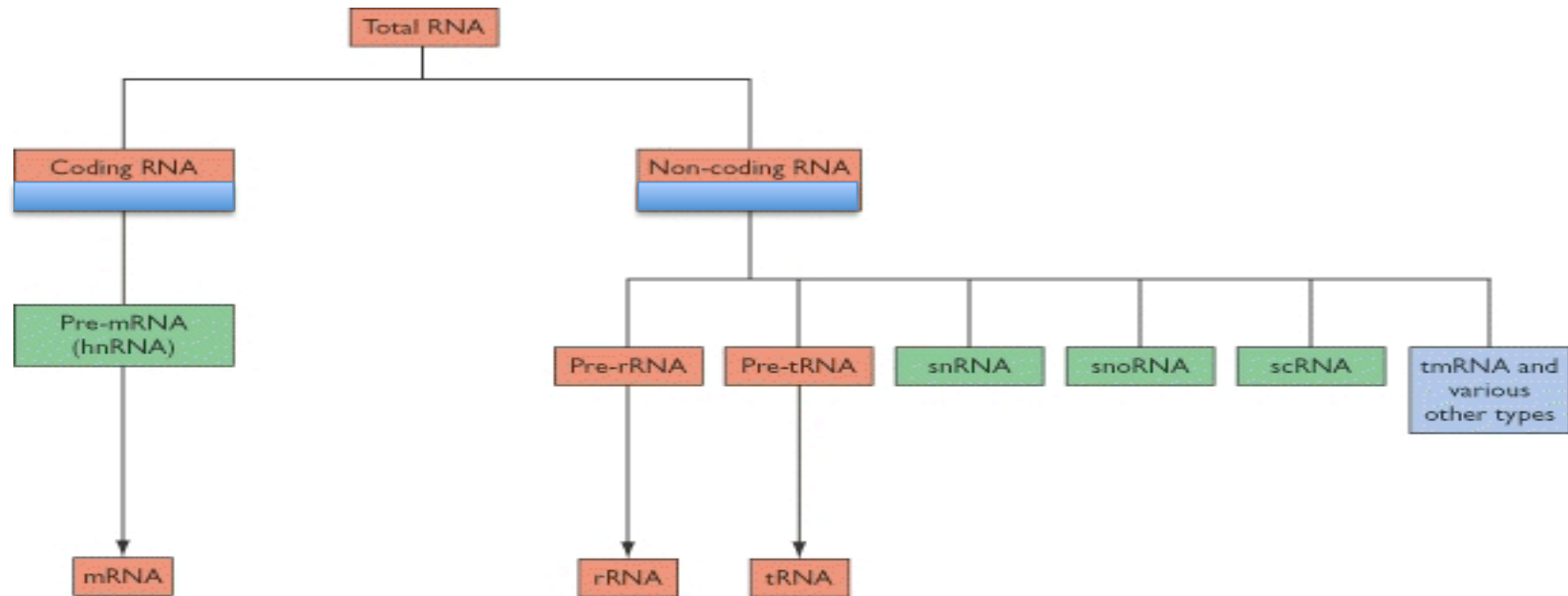


**Individual 2**

# RNA-Seq reads pile up higher on genes that are highly expressed



# Components of total RNA



# Extracting total RNA

What would total RNA look like if we ran it on a gel?

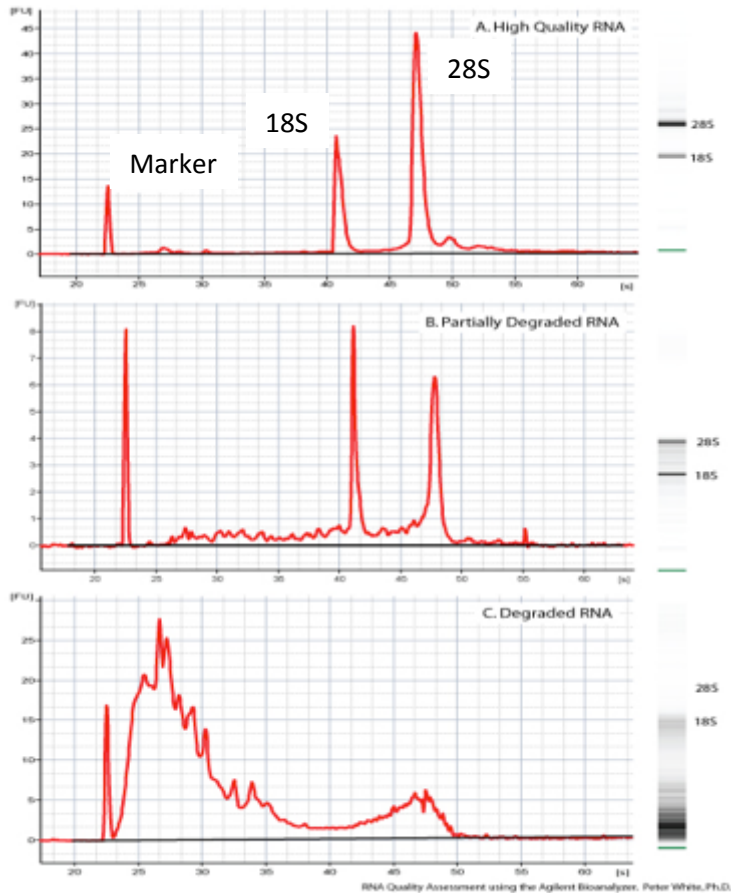
High quality RNA?

Slightly degraded RNA?

Degraded RNA?



# Degraded total RNA?

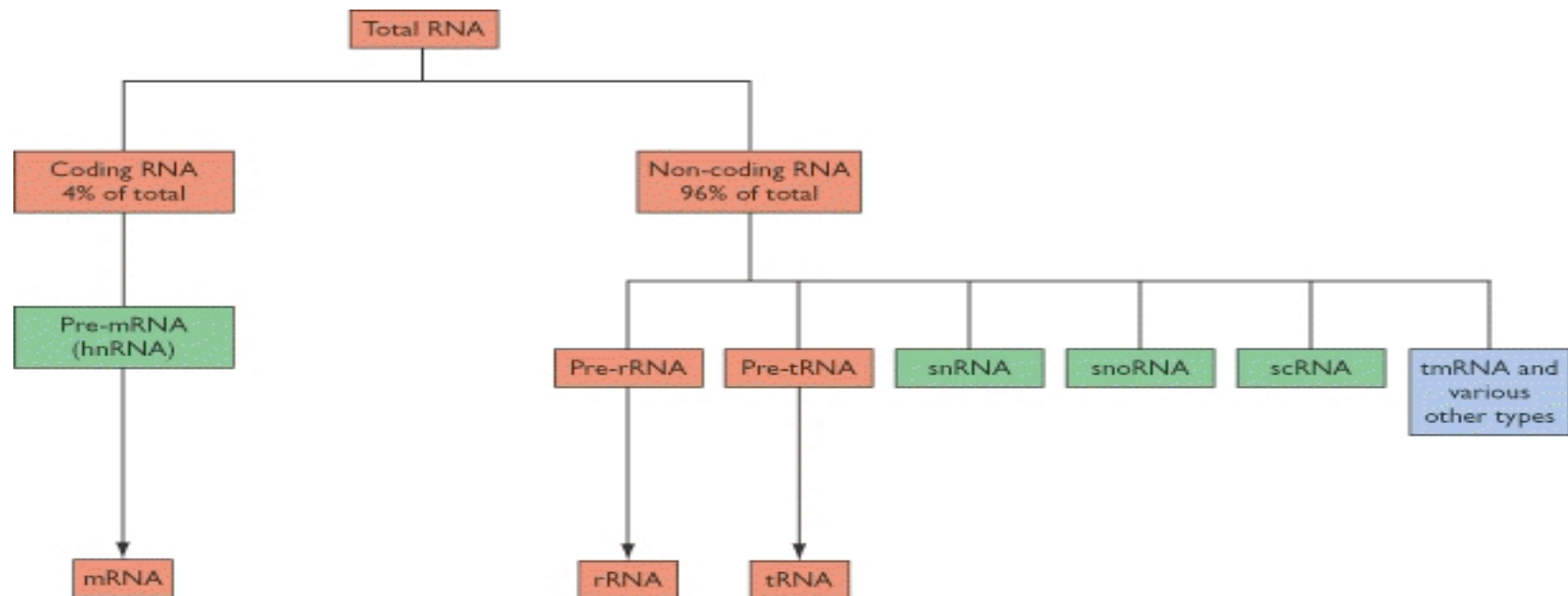


High quality RNA

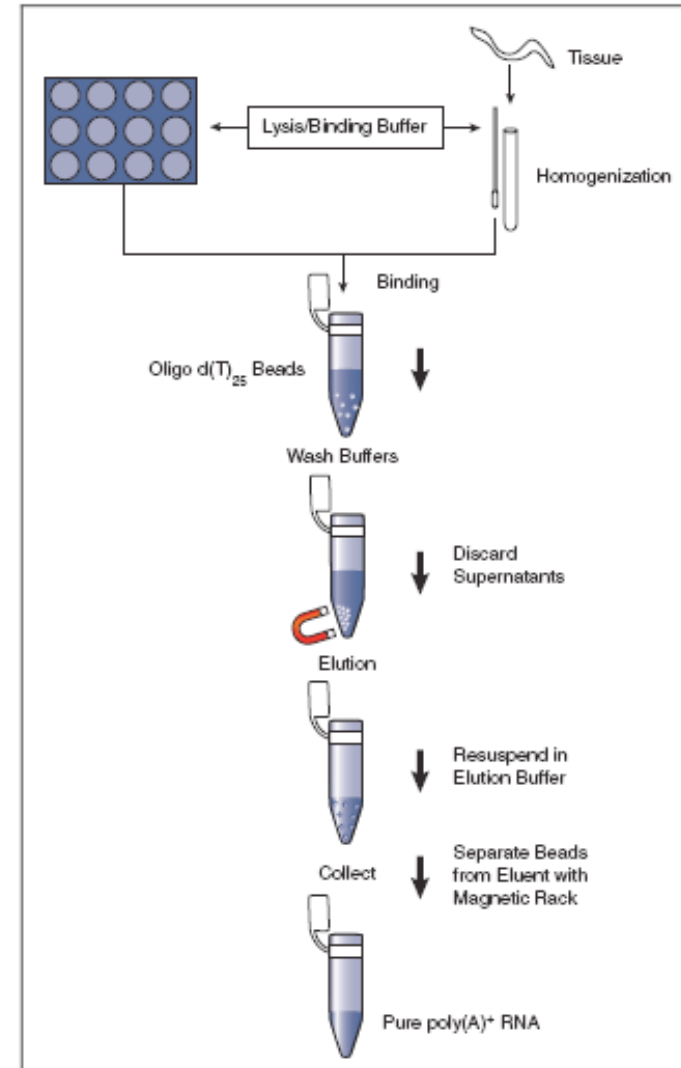
Slightly degraded RNA

Degraded RNA

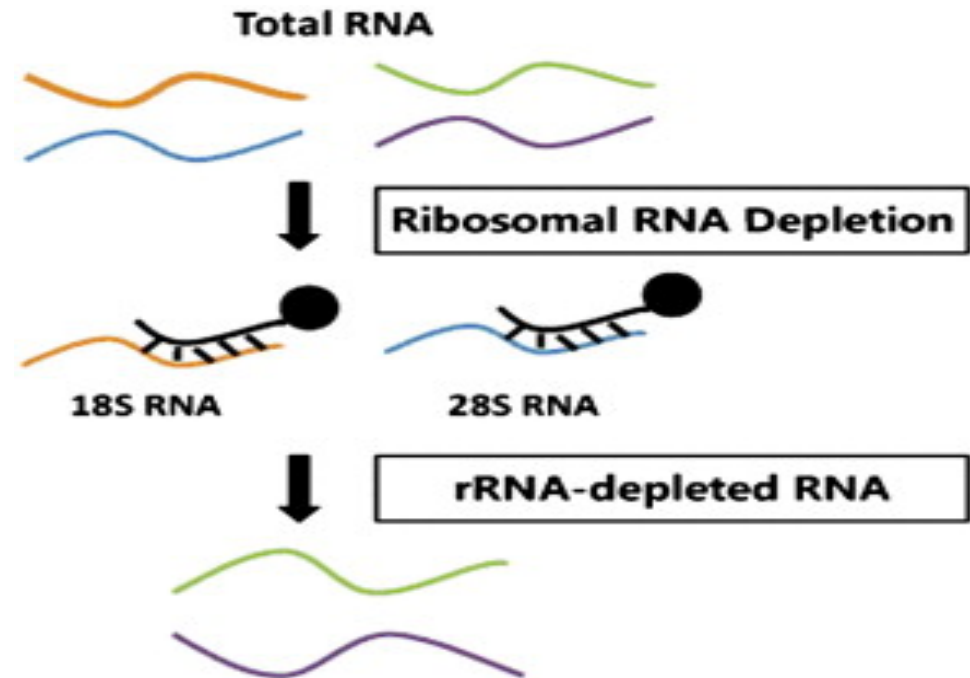
# How to enrich for the RNA that we are interested in?



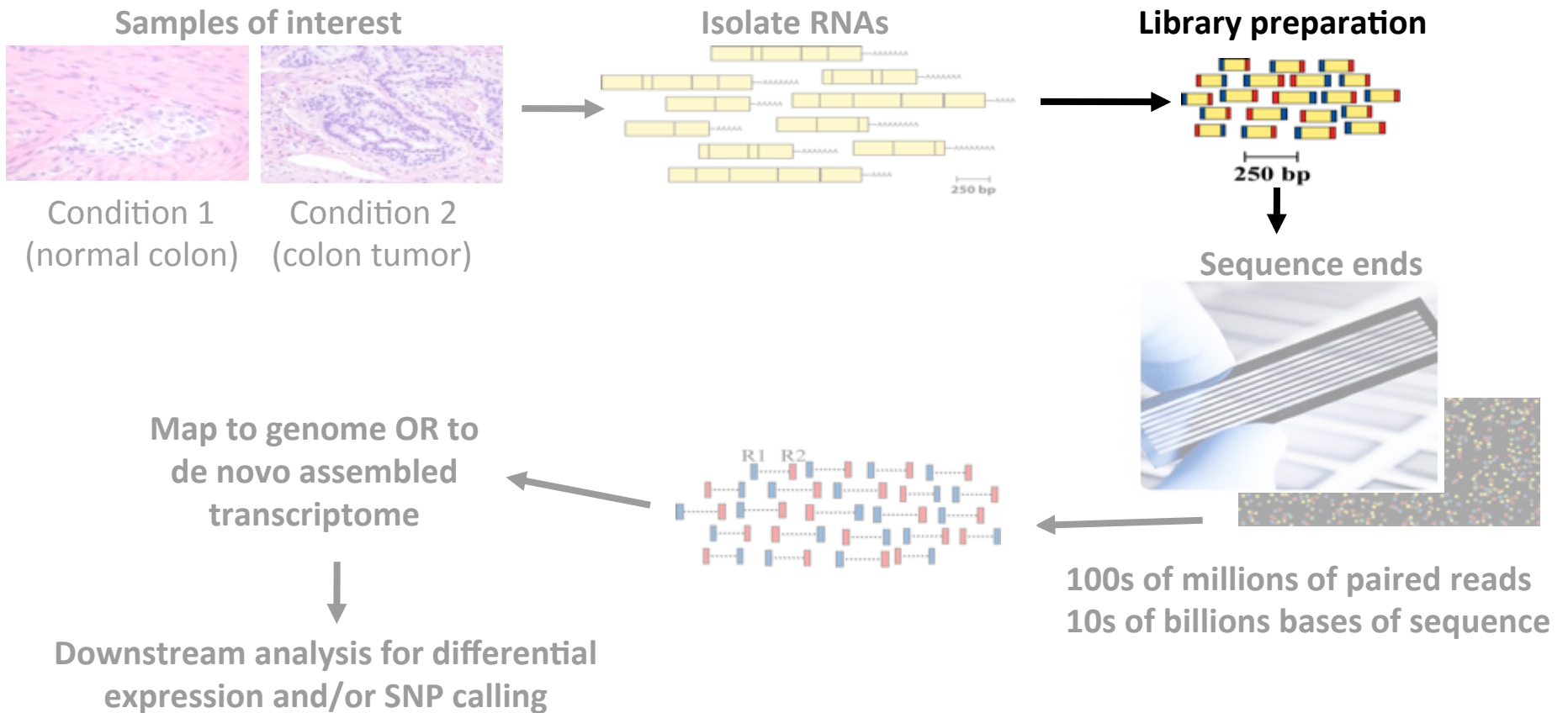
# Poly-A<sup>+</sup> selection



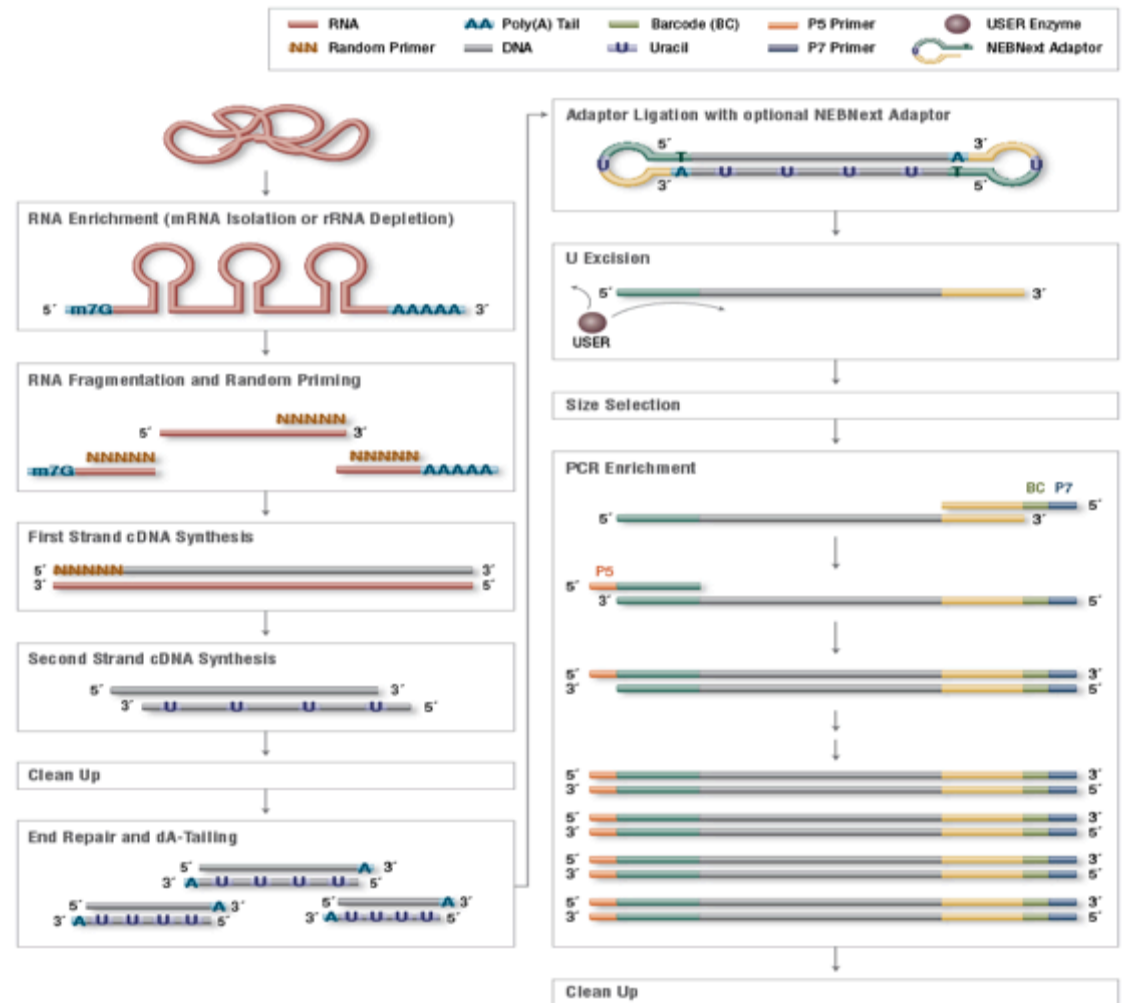
# Ribo-minus



# RNA sequencing experiment

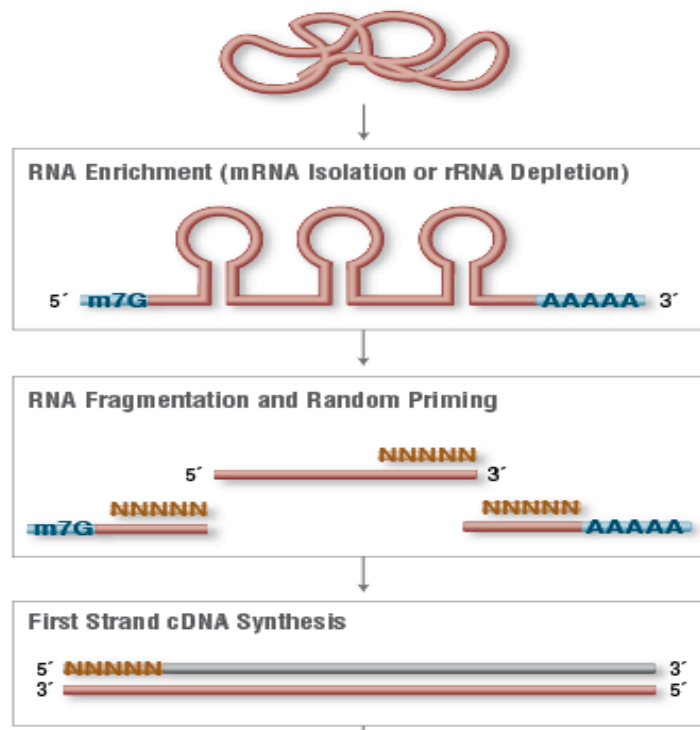
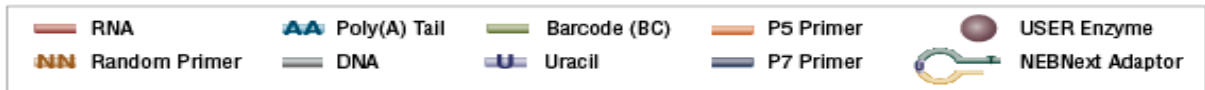


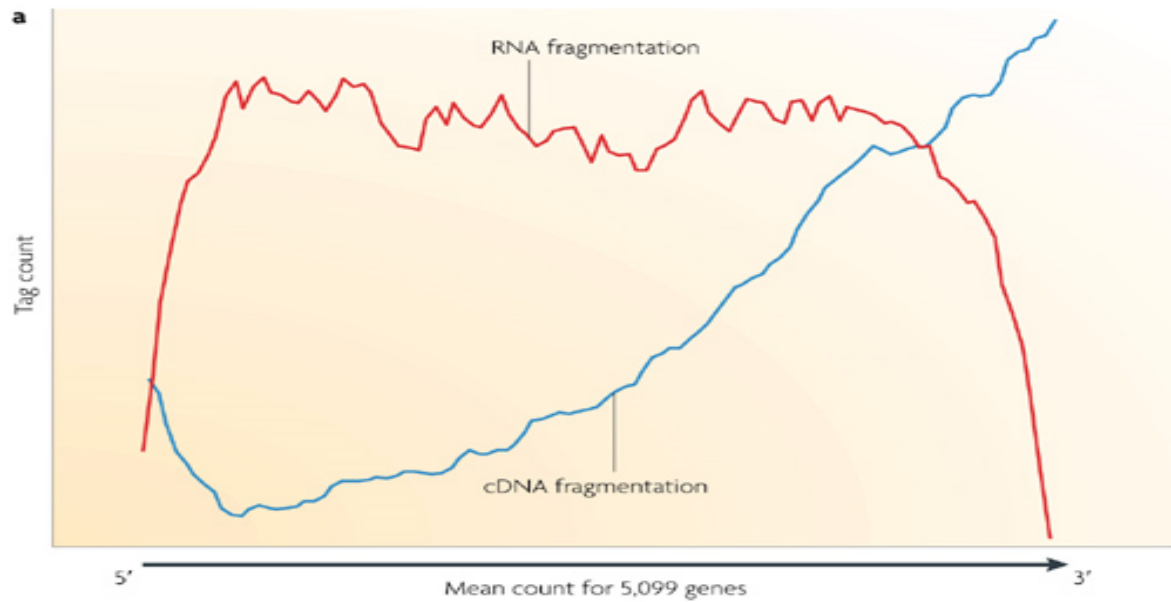
# RNA-seq Library preparation process





# Steps in the library prep process





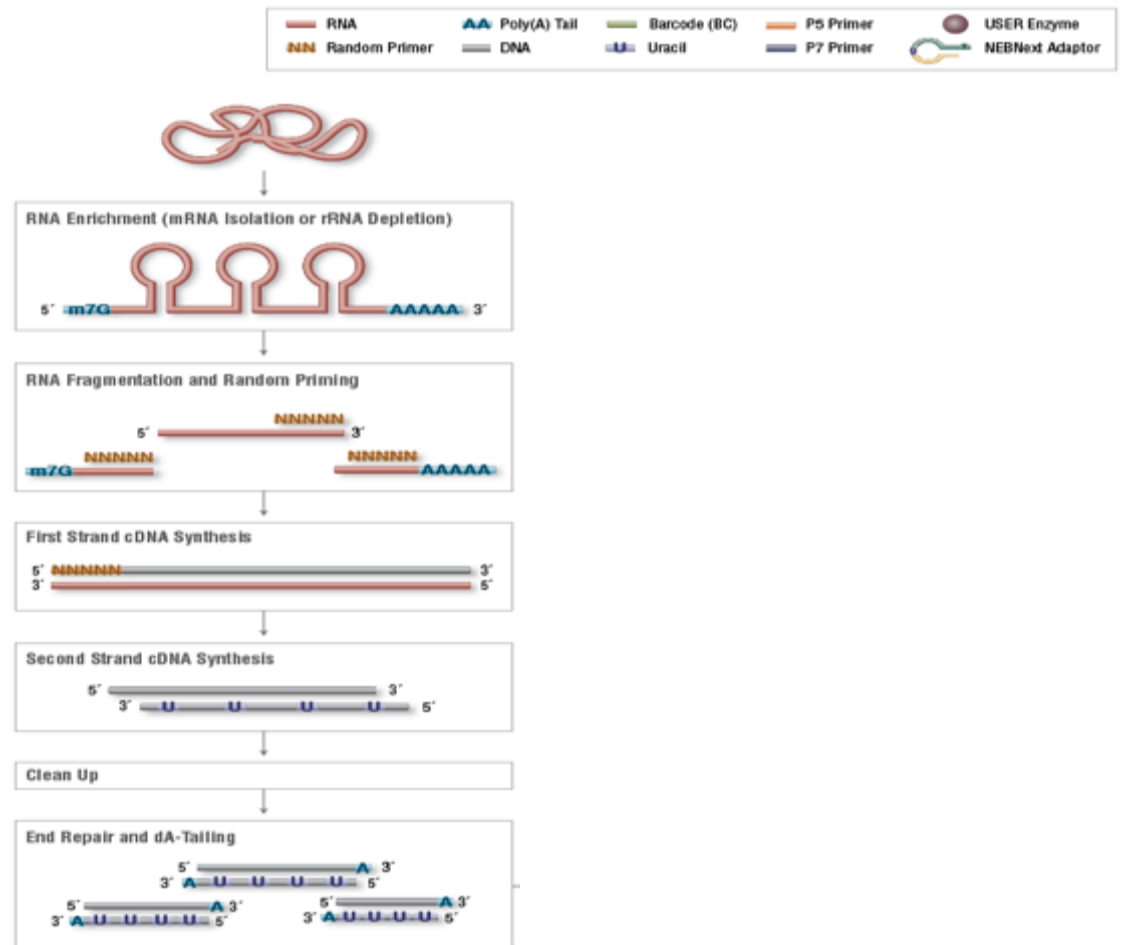
**Fragmentation** of oligo-dT primed cDNA (blue line) is more biased towards the 3' end of the transcript. RNA fragmentation (red line) provides more even coverage along the gene body, but is relatively depleted for both the 5' and 3' ends.

Gene

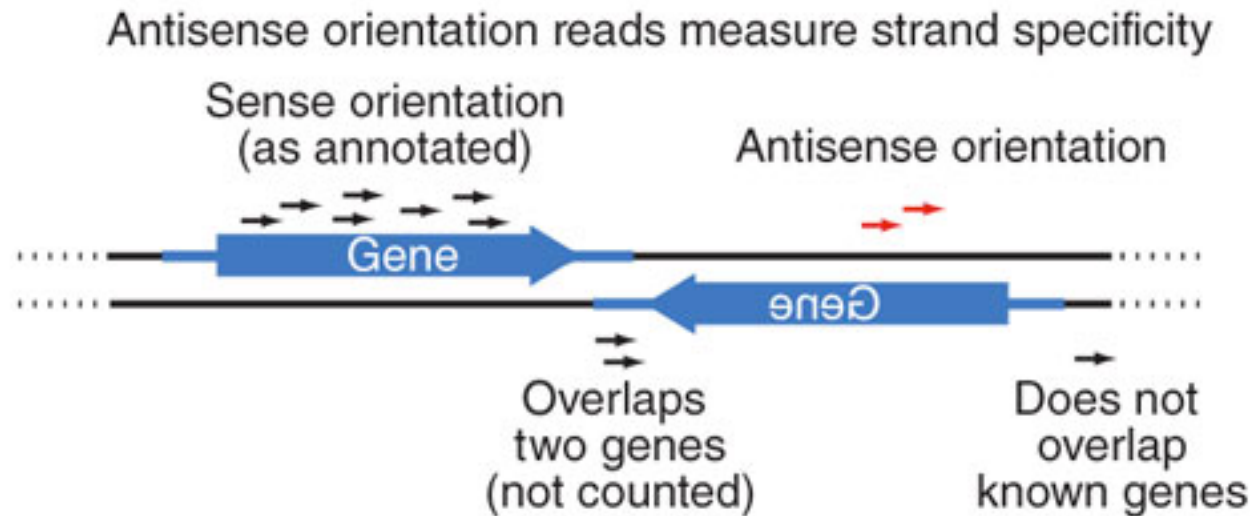


# RNA-seq Library preparation process

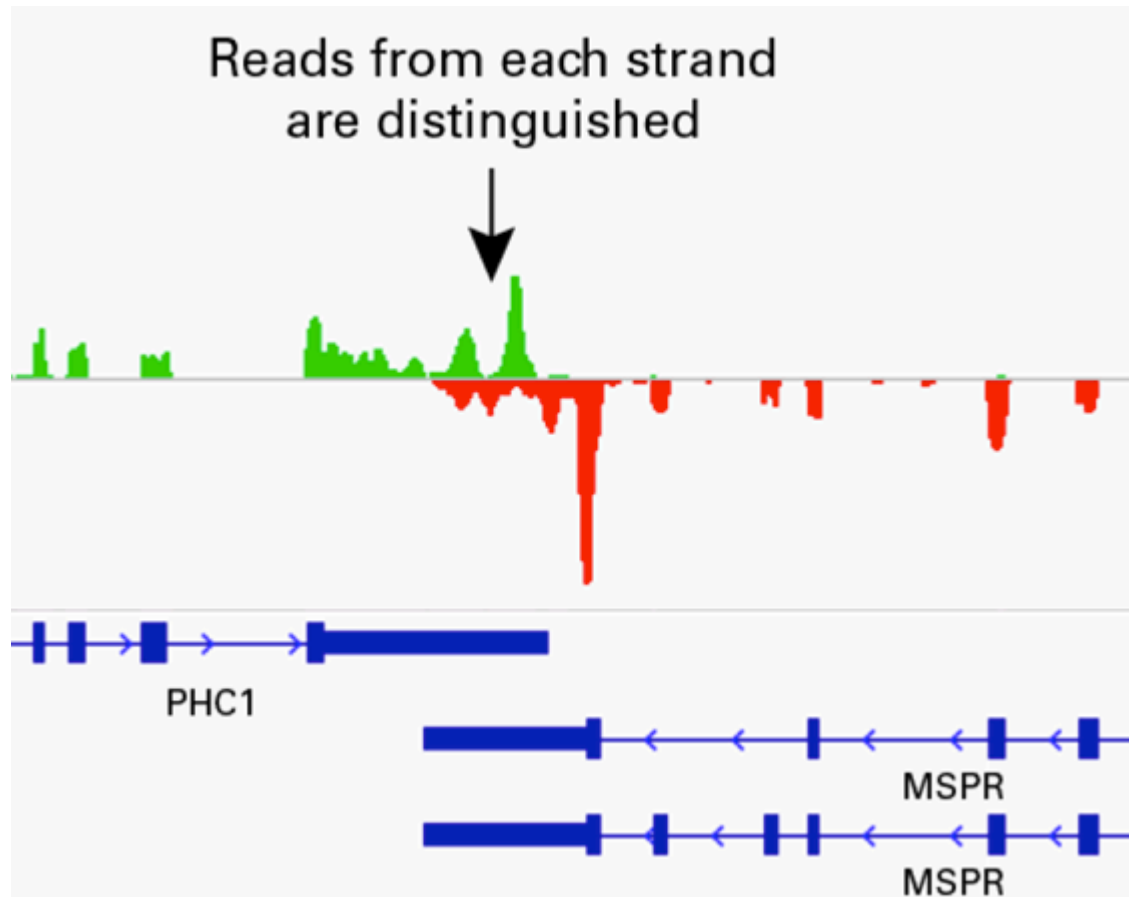
Directional  
(Stranded) vs  
non-directional



# Possible insights from a directional RNAseq experiment

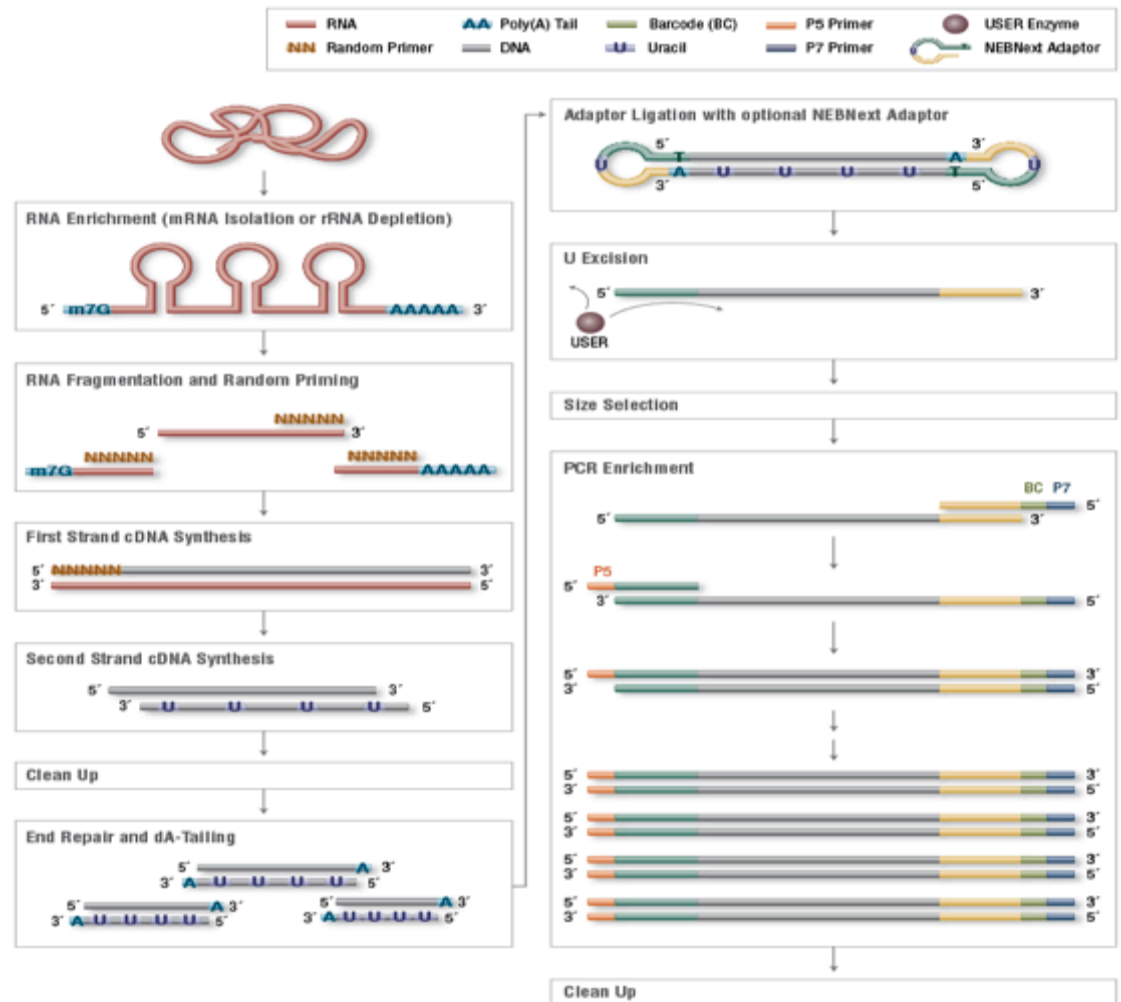


# Possible insights from a directional RNAseq experiment



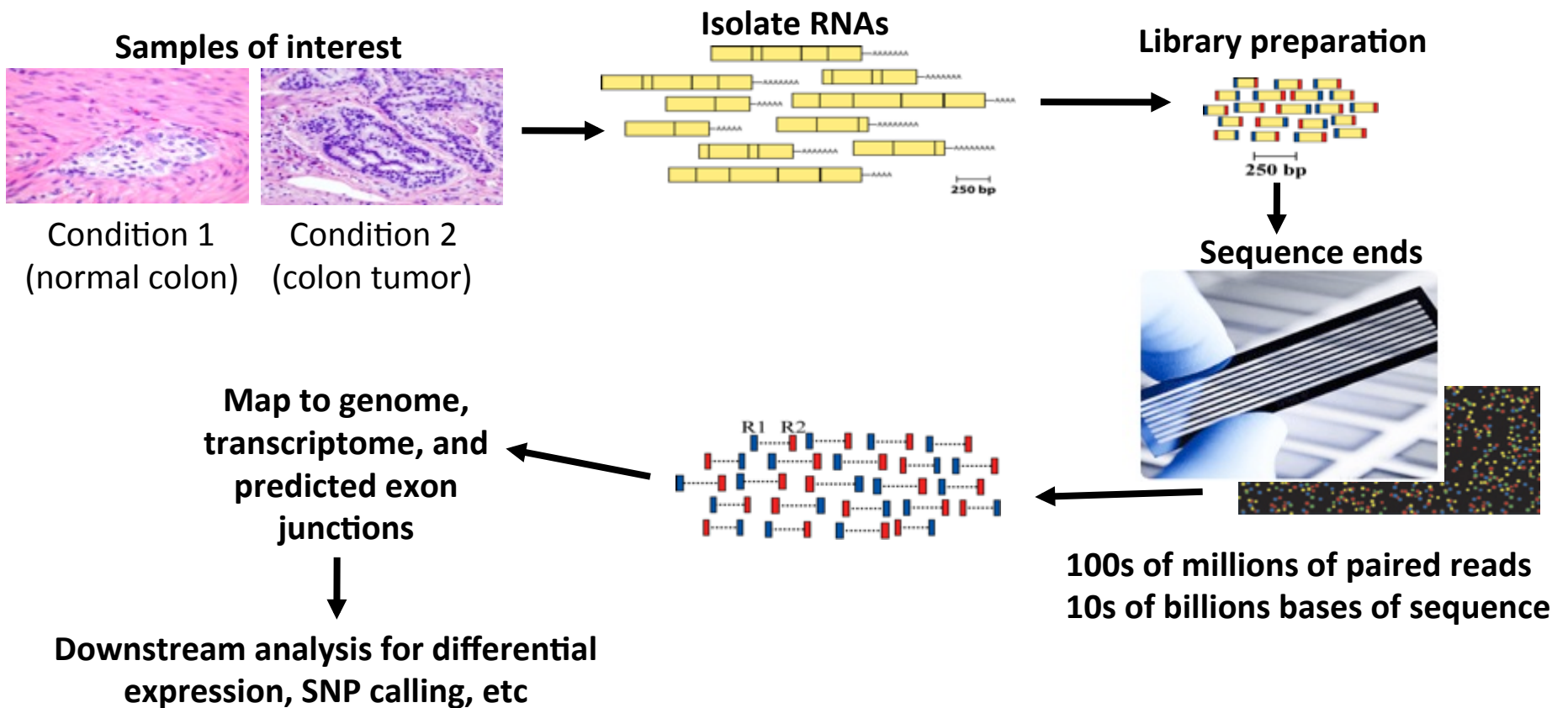
# RNA-seq Library preparation process

- Adapter ligation
- Barcoding
- Amplification





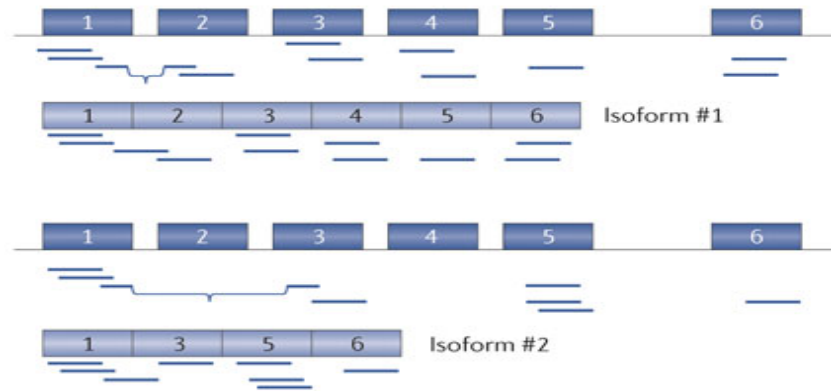
# RNA sequencing experiment



# Reference genome



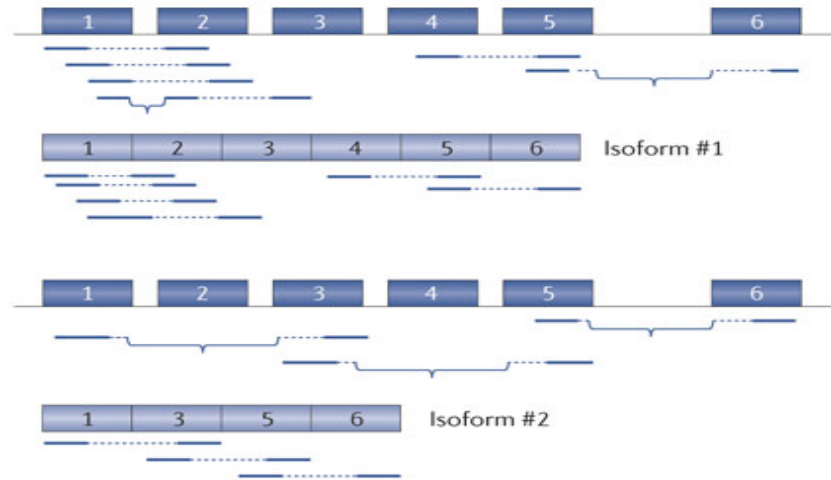
**a Single reads**



Mapping reads to genomic DNA

Mapping reads to transcriptome

**b Paired-end reads**



Mapping reads to genomic DNA

Mapping reads to transcriptome

# The closest genome? Is it close “enough”?

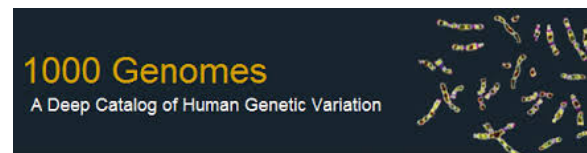


<http://arthropodgenomes.org/wiki/i5K>

All depends on your question:

Could be close enough – but might lose important information

Advantages – annotations already done



<http://www.1000genomes.org/>



<http://genome10k.soe.ucsc.edu/>

# No reference? No problem!

- De novo reference transcriptome assembly!
- Trinity de novo
- Other programs

# Divergent selection by a natural toxicant

Fish living in streams with high levels of hydrogen sulfide ( $H_2S$ )



**$H_2S$  creates physiologically explicit environmental gradients:**

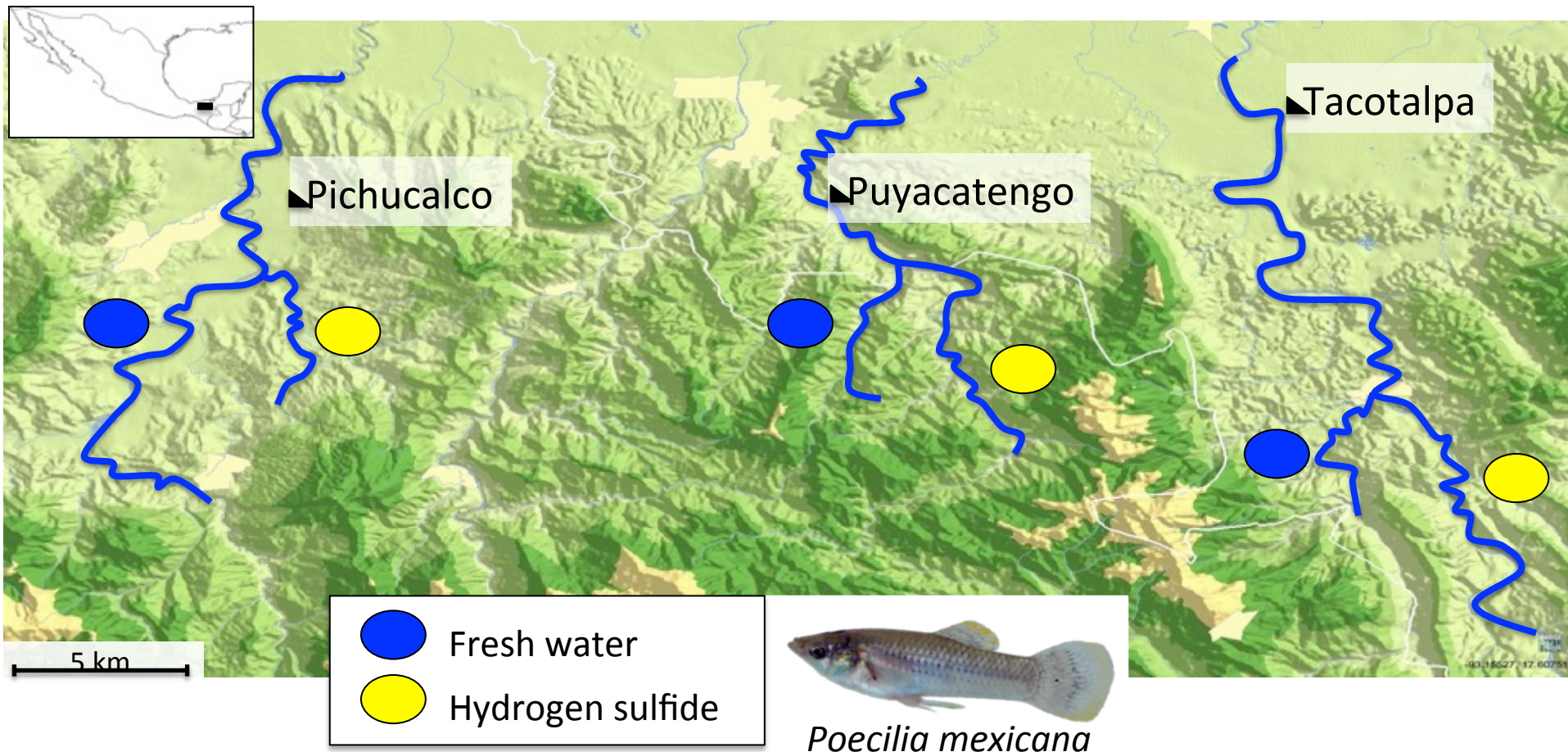
- Naturally occurring in volcanic regions
- Inhibition of oxygen transport and cellular respiration
- Acute toxicity in micromolar concentrations
- Concentrations up to 1100  $\mu M$  present (~19 ppm)
- Causes and aggravates hypoxia



Tobler et al. 2006, *Extremophiles*



# Three distinct sulfidic watersheds

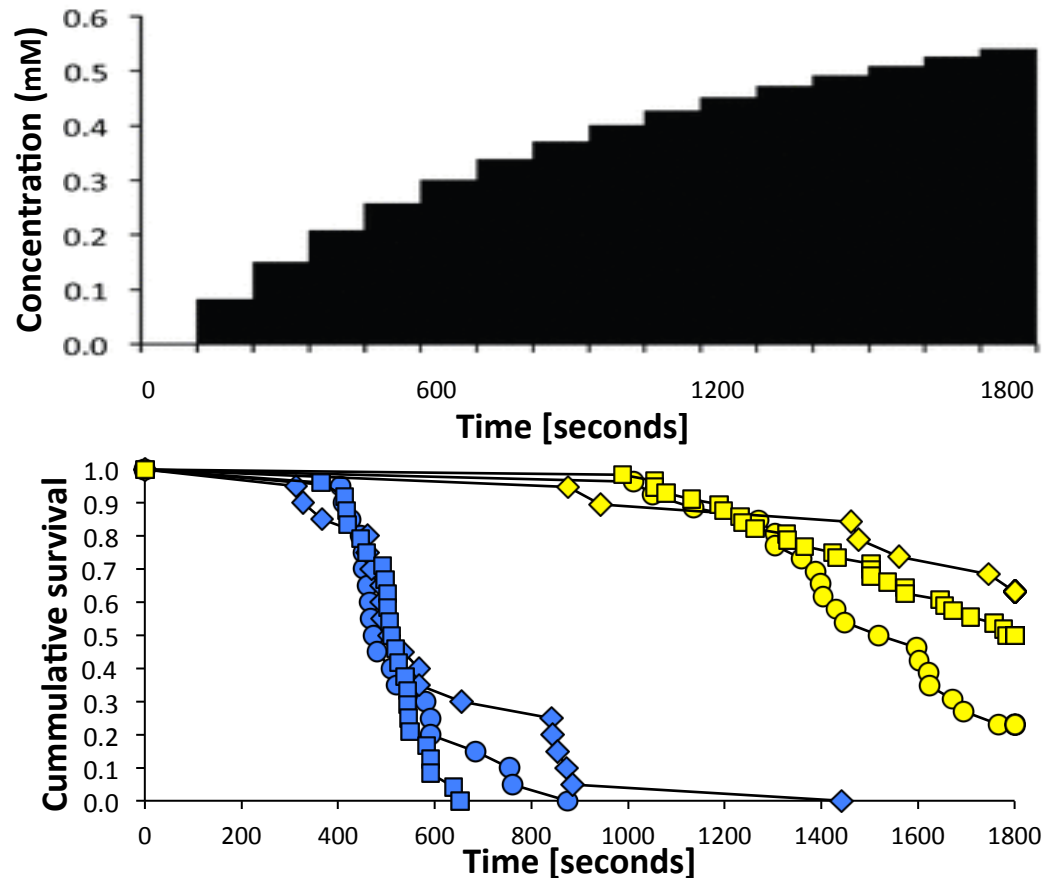








# Physiological sulfide tolerance



- Tacotalpa, non-sulfidic
- Tacotalpa, sulfidic
- ◆— Puyacatengo, non-sulfidic
- ◆— Puyacatengo, sulfidic
- Pichucalco, non-sulfidic

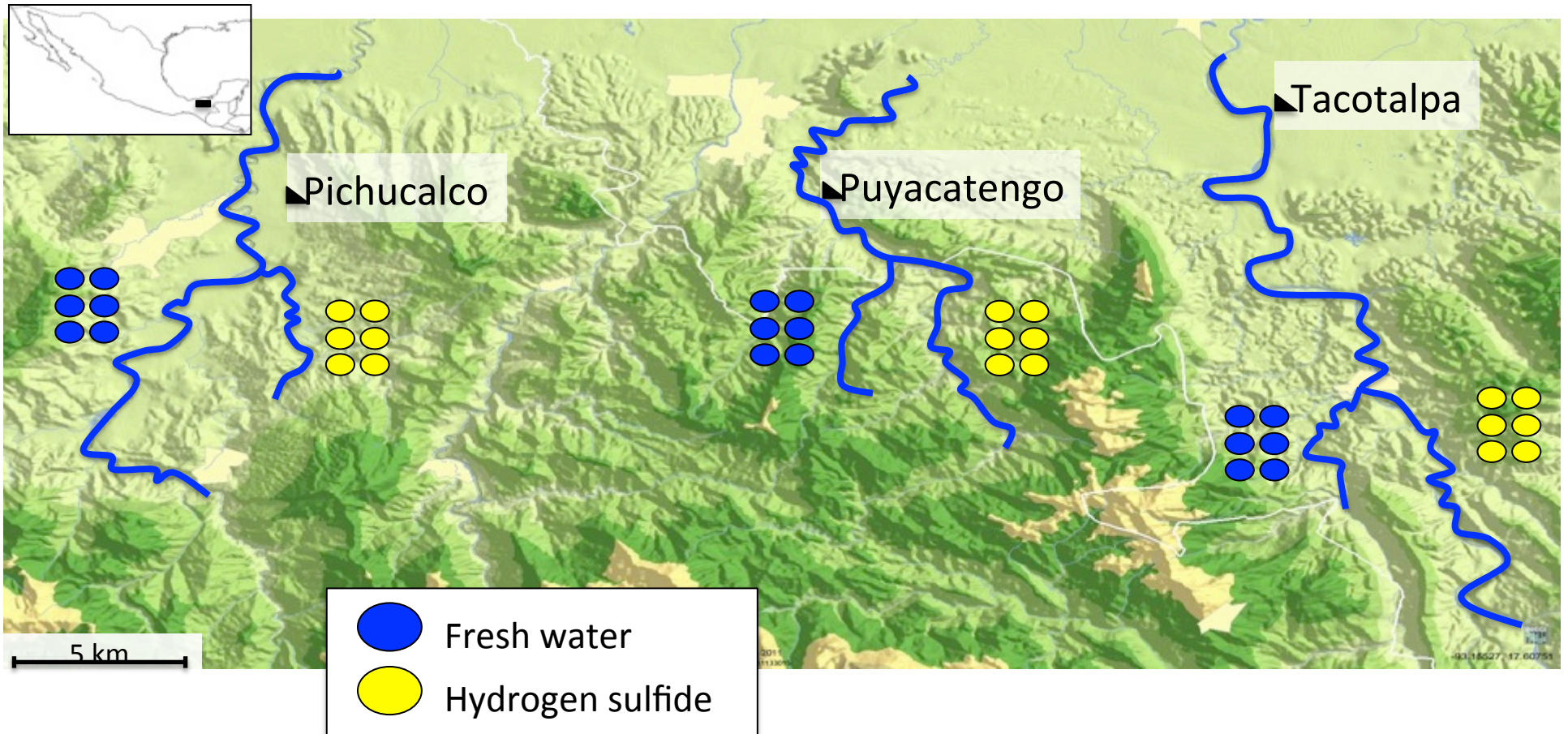
Tobler et al. 2011, *Evolution*

# Importance of respiratory adaptations



- $H_2S$  leads to and aggravates hypoxia
- Oxygen is needed for sulfide detoxification
- Aquatic surface respiration (ASR)

# Sampling individuals from parallel environments



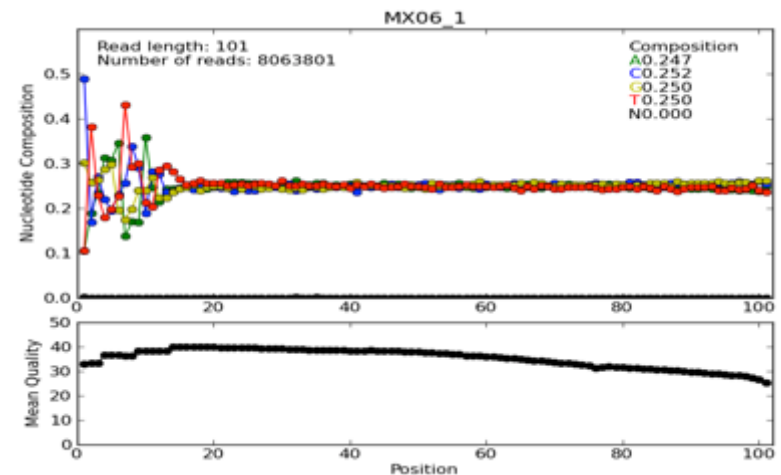
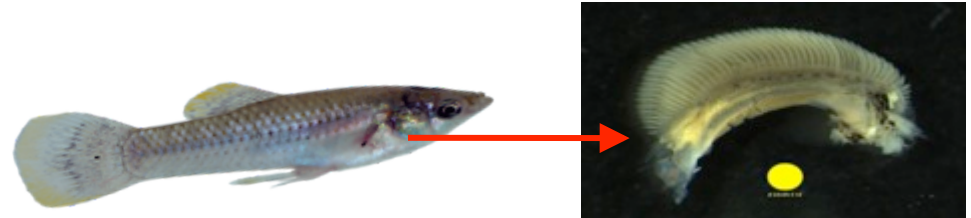




# Transcriptome analyses

## RNAsequencing approach:

- RNA extraction (polyA+)
- cDNA library construction
- Individual barcoding
- Paired-end cDNA sequencing on Illu
- Process reads
  - Sequencing adaptor (~0.02% of reads)
  - Composition skew and low quality
  - Poly A/Ts

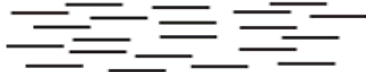


# Transcriptome analyses

## De novo transcript assembly:

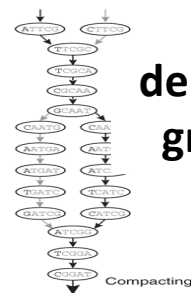
- Use Trinity (Grabherr et al. 2011, *Nat Biotechnology*)
- Combine data from 36 individuals
- Normalize the data *in silico*: include up to 20x of a given kmer

### Normalized RNA-seq reads



### Linear contigs

>a121:len = 5,845  
—————  
>a122:len = 2,560  
—————  
>a123:len = 4,443  
—————  
>a124:len = 48  
—————  
>a126:len = 66  
—————



### de Bruijn graphs

### Transcripts and isoforms

...CTTCGCAA...TGATCGGAT...  
...ATTCGCAA...TGATCGGAT...

- Validate 6 of the predicted transcripts using RT-PCR and sequencing

# Poecilia mexicana transcriptome

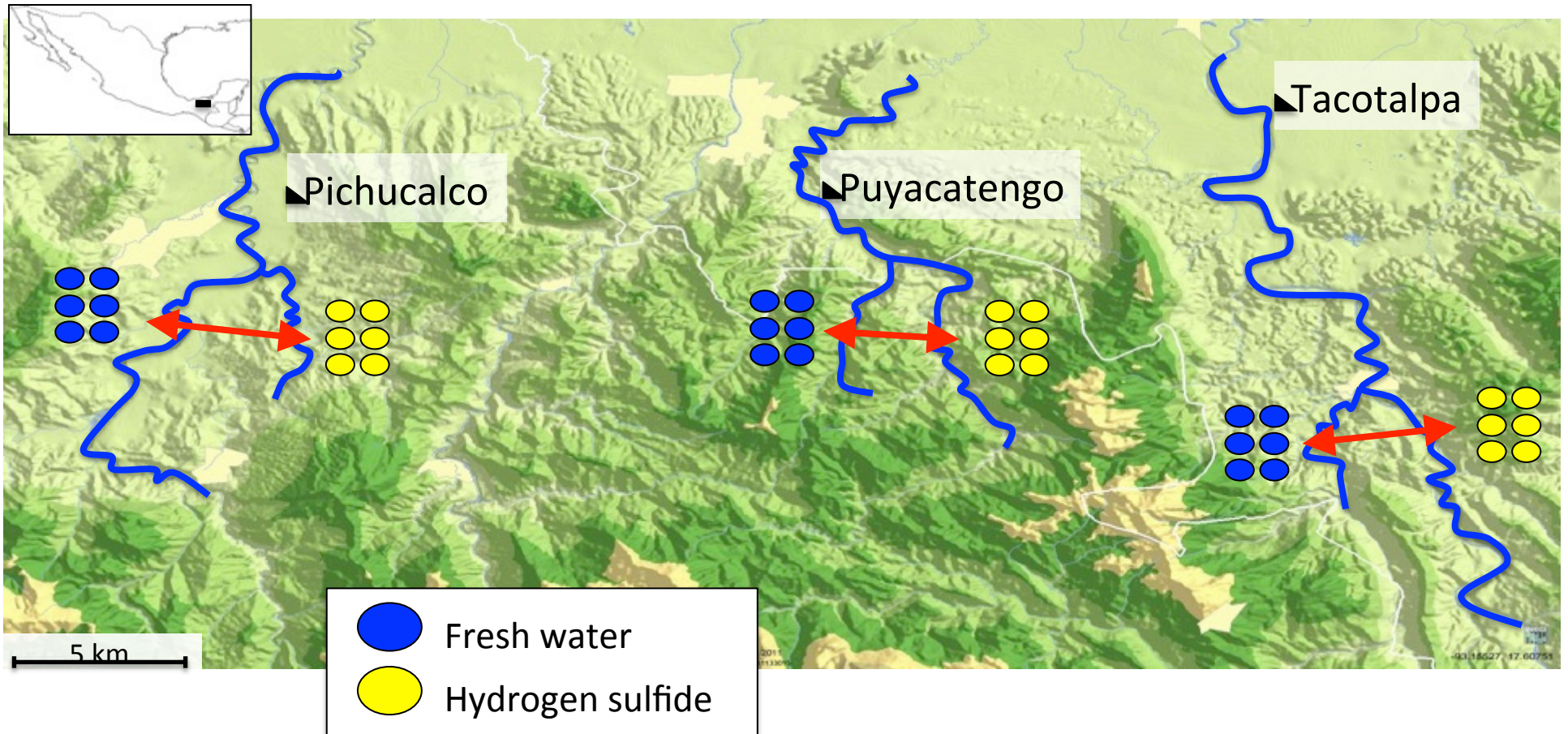
	Sample	# reads	# base pairs
Pichucalco	MX05	4,986,074	1,007,186,948
	MX06	8,063,801	1,628,887,802
	MX07	5,220,840	1,054,609,680
Tacotalpa	MX61	6,618,861	1,337,009,922
	MX62	6,150,007	1,242,301,414
	MX63	4,916,184	993,069,168
	<b>Average</b>	<b>5,992,628</b>	<b>1,210,510,822</b>

## Assembly statistics:

- Mean transcript length: 808 bp
- Median transcript length: 429 bp
- Maximum transcript length: 15,812 bp
- 78,193 transcripts (including different isoforms)
  - 63,004 unique predicted loci (includes isoforms with >97% sequence identity)
  - 62,558 loci with predicted open reading frames

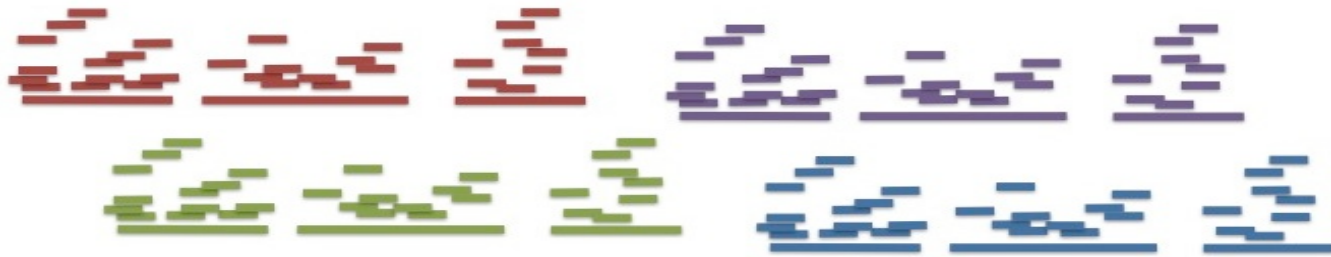


# Identifying patterns of differential gene expression



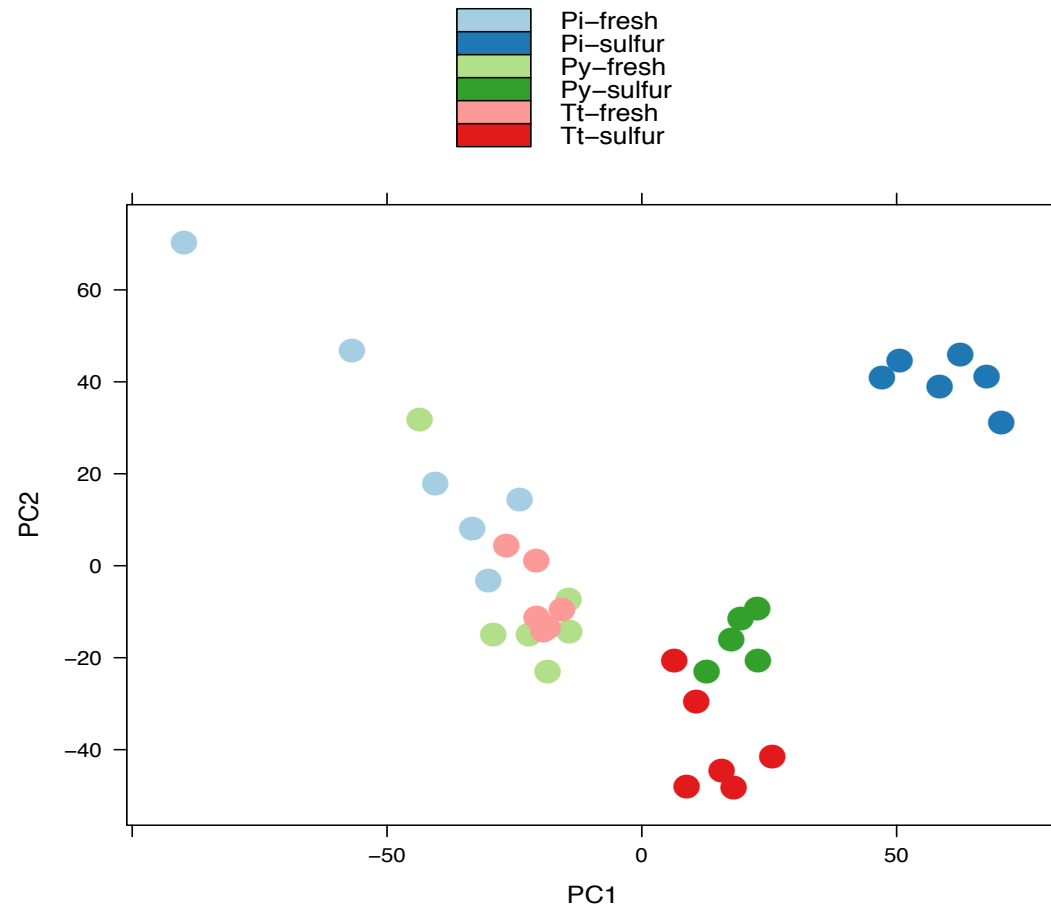


# Identifying patterns of differential gene expression

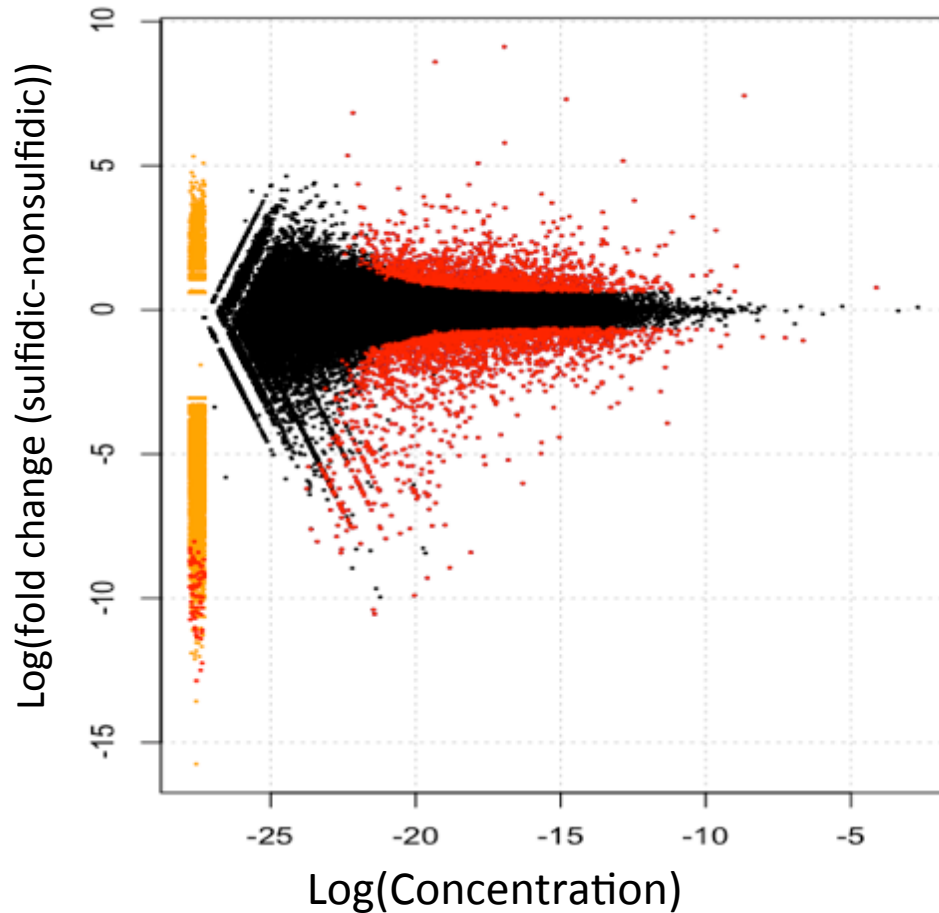


- Map reads to reference transcriptome to estimate expression levels for each individual
- Test for differential expression using an exact test (or GLM) on normalized expression levels

# PCA of top variable genes separates sulfur from non-sulfur ecotypes

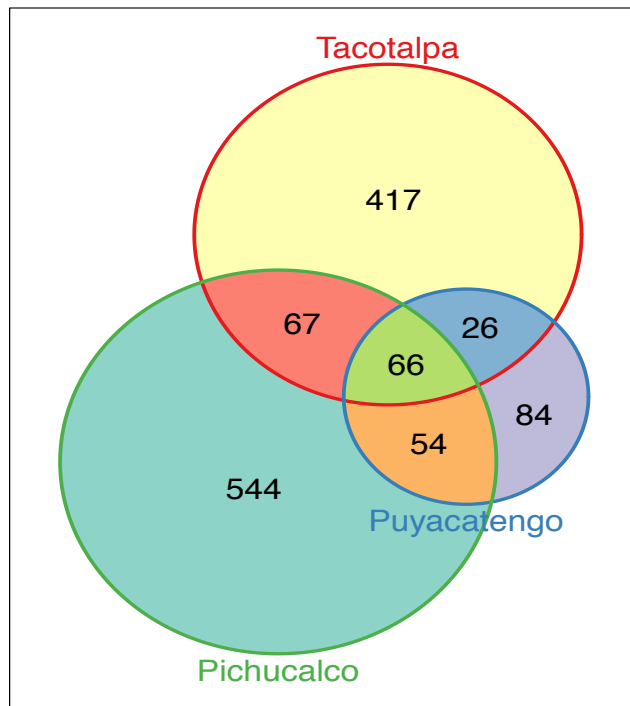


# Identifying patterns of differential gene expression

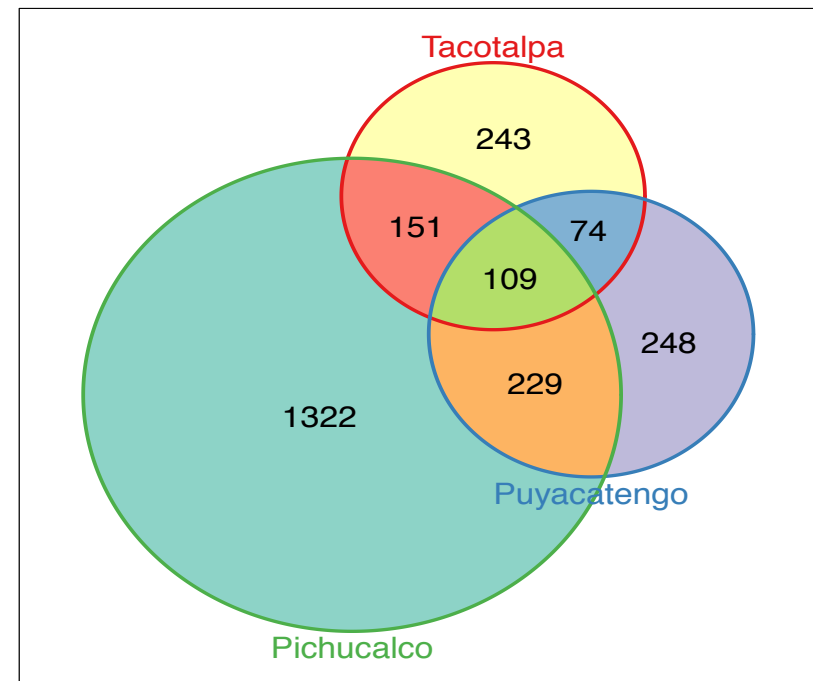


- ~2000 differentially expressed genes between sulfidic and non-sulfidic ecotypes
- ~10% of differentially expressed genes are shared among sulfidic and non-sulfidic ecotypes from different drainages

# Extent of differential expression is consistent with inferred population divergences



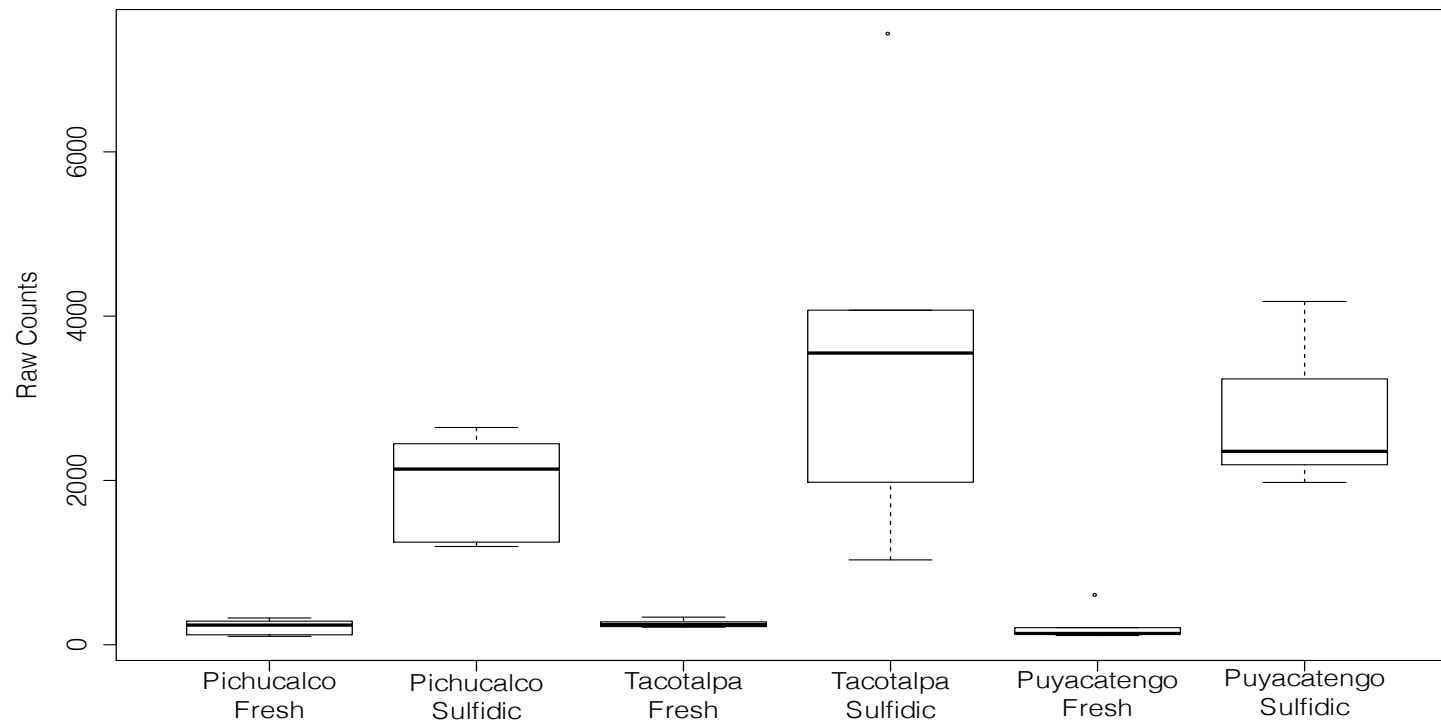
**Genes that are up-regulated  
in sulfidic environment(s)**



**Genes that are down-regulated  
in sulfidic environment(s)**

# Highly expressed in sulfidic environments

**Sulfur dioxygenase differential expression**



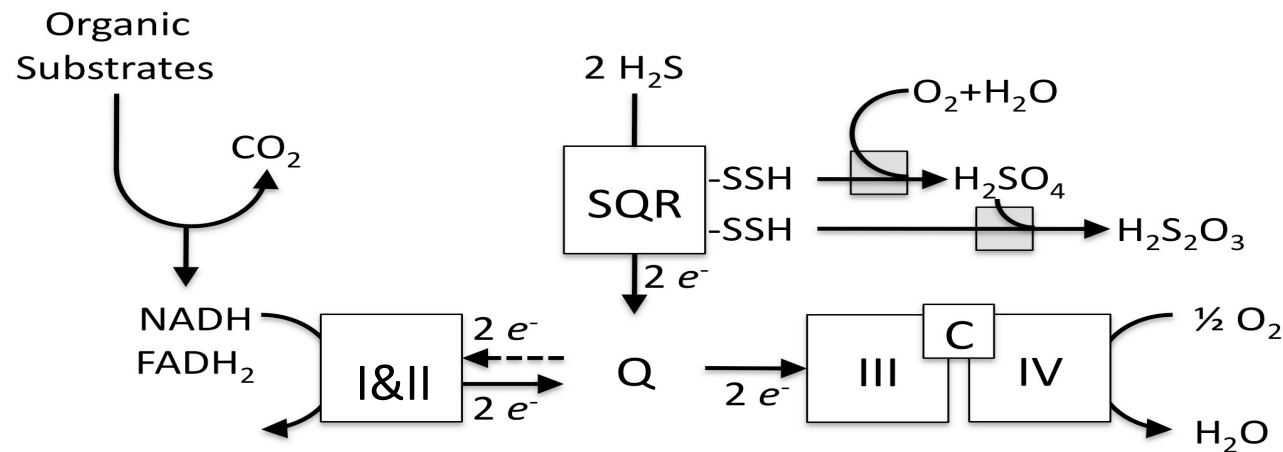
# Highly expressed in sulfidic environments

## Annotation using BLAST (or BLAST2GO or Trinotate)

Contig Name	Annotation similarity	Annotation
comp10393_c0_seq1	78%	NADH dehydrogenase 1 alpha subcomplex subunit 4-like 2
comp11093_c0_seq1	87%	Mitochondrial uncoupling protein 2
comp11162_c0_seq1	64%	Ferric-chelate reductase 1
comp13810_c0_seq1	70%	Retinol dehydrogenase 2
comp14313_c0_seq1	54%	Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator 1-beta
comp14320_c0_seq1	87%	Phosphoenolpyruvate cytosolic
comp14332_c0_seq1	71%	Nocturnin
comp22827_c0_seq1	91%	Cytochrome c
comp390_c1_seq1	91%	Myoglobin
comp1681_c0_seq1	78%	Sulfur dioxygenase
...	...	...

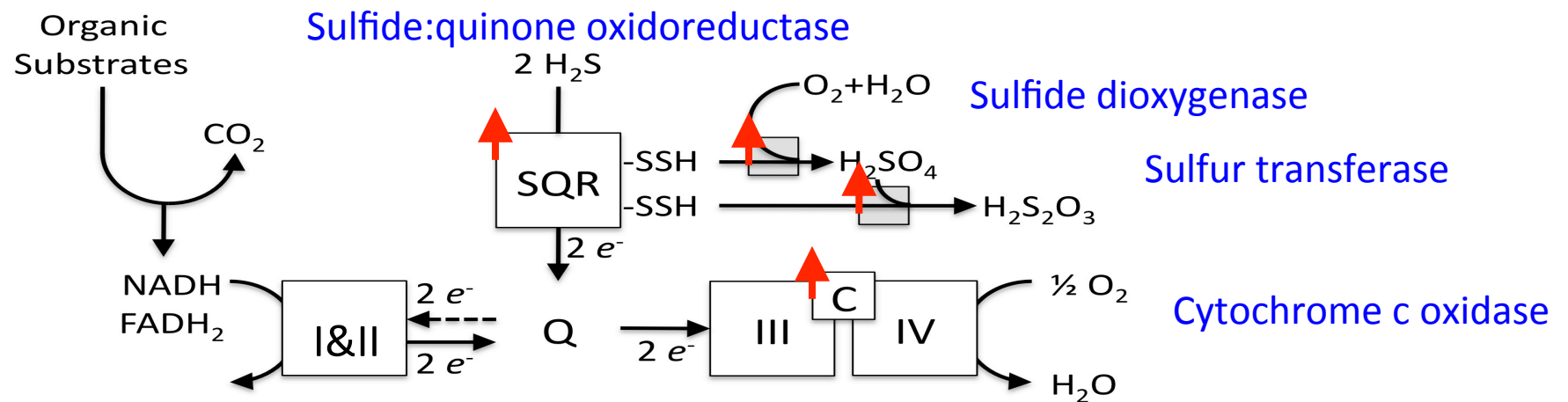
# Underlying physiology and genes: Sulfide toxicity and detoxification

## Sulfide toxicity and detoxification in mitochondria



# Sulfide toxicity and detoxification

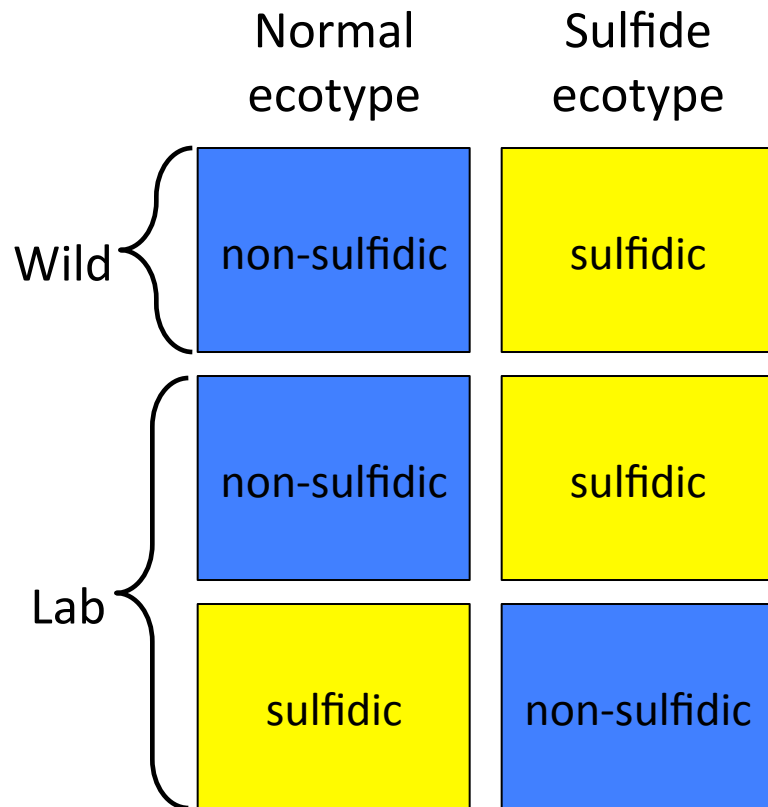
## Sulfide toxicity and detoxification in mitochondria



↑ Differentially expressed genes



# Heritability of gene expression



- Common garden rearing experiment
- Exposure experiment of lab-raised fish to sulfidic and non-sulfidic conditions
- What differences in gene expression between ecotypes are fixed/facultative?
- Are there fixed differences in coding sequences between ecotypes?

# SNPs from RNAseq data

## MOLECULAR ECOLOGY

Molecular Ecology (2015) 24, 2310–2323

doi: 10.1111/mec.13165

INVITED REVIEWS AND SYNTHESSES

### SNP genotyping and population genomics from expressed sequences – current advances and future possibilities

PIERRE DE WIT,\* MELISSA H. PESPENI† and STEPHEN R. PALUMBI‡

Am J Hum Genet. 2013 Oct 3; 93(4): 641–651.

PMCID: PMC3791257





doi: [10.1016/j.ajhg.2013.08.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajhg.2013.08.008)

### Reliable Identification of Genomic Variants from RNA-Seq Data

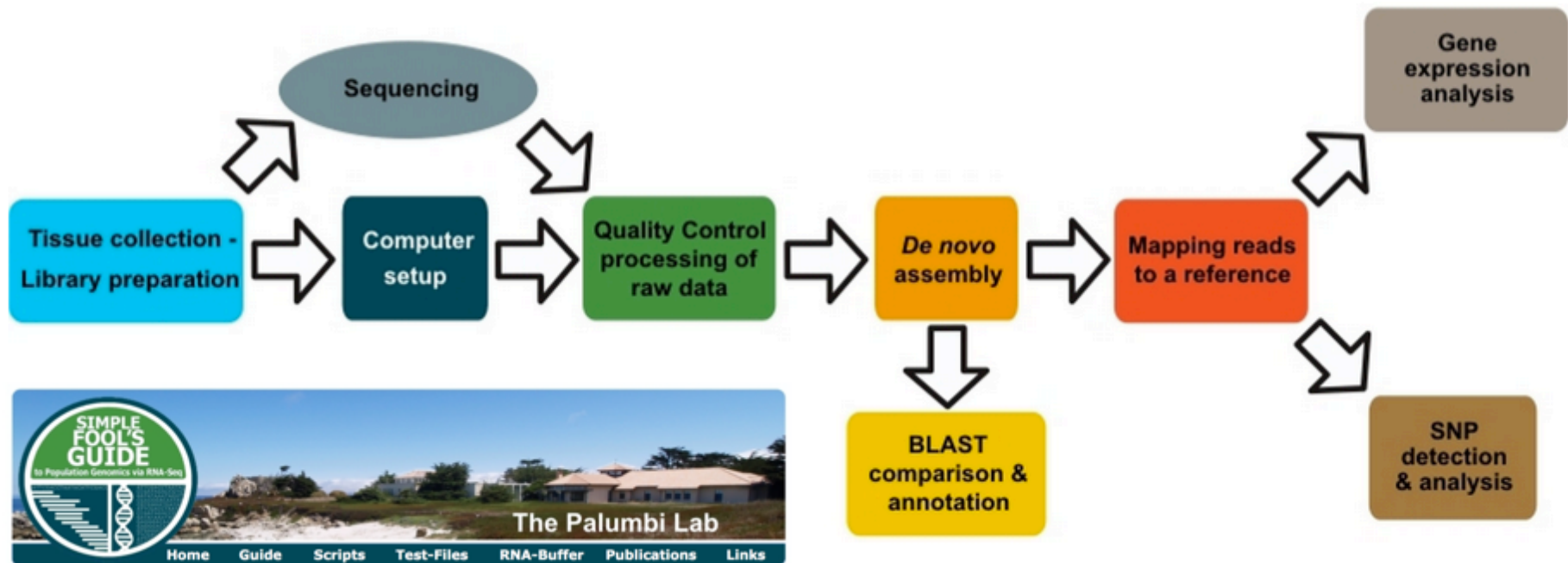
[Robert Piskol](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Gokul Ramaswami](#)<sup>1</sup> and [Jin Billy Li](#)<sup>1,\*</sup>

RESEARCH ARTICLE

### Development of Strategies for SNP Detection in RNA-Seq Data: Application to Lymphoblastoid Cell Lines and Evaluation Using 1000 Genomes Data

Emma M. Quinn , Paul Cormican , Elaine M. Kenny , Matthew Hill, Richard Anney, Michael Gill, Aiden P. Corvin, Derek W. Morris 

Published: March 26, 2013 • DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0058815



### The Simple Fool's Guide to Population Genomics via RNA-Seq: An Introduction to High-Throughput Sequencing Data Analysis

This website and accompanying documents are intended as a tool to help researchers dealing with non-model organisms acquire and process transcriptomic high-throughput sequencing data without having to learn extensive bioinformatics skills. It covers all steps from tissue collection, sample preparation and computer setup, through addressing biological questions with gene expression and SNP data.



You may cite this work as follows:

De Wit P, Pespeni MH, Ladner JT, Barshis DJ, Seneca F, Jaris H, Overgaard Therkildsen N, Morikawa M and Palumbi SR (2012) The simple fool's guide to population genomics via RNA-Seq: an introduction to high-throughput sequencing data analysis. *Molecular Ecology Resources* **12**, 1058-1067.

# Data analysis (and there are no pipelines)

- Demultiplex
- Look at the data (for example, fastQC)
- Trim adapters
- Trim low quality reads and/or bases
- Continue with **worksheet!**

# Thanks!

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<https://kelleylab.wordpress.com/>

