

# Variant Calling

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CHRIS FIELDS

MAYO-ILLINOIS COMPUTATIONAL GENOMICS WORKSHOP,  
JUNE 8, 2022

# Overview

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**Variant calling and use cases**

**Errors vs. actual variants**

**Experimental design (GATK focus)**

**Small variant (SNV/Small Indel) analysis**

- GATK Pipeline
- Formats encountered within

**Structural Variation Analysis (SV)**

**Association analysis (briefly)**

# Variant Calling

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As the name implies, we're looking for differences (variations)

- **Reference** – reference genome (hg38, GRCh38)
- **Sample(s)** – one or more comparative samples

Start with raw sequence data

End with a human (or other organism) 'diff' file, recording the variants

Additional information added downstream:

- Filters (quality of the calls)
- Functional annotation

# Variations

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Difference between 2 individuals : 1 every 1000 bp

- ~ 2.7 million differences

Small (<50 bp)

- SNV – single nucleotide (**SNPs**)
- Small insertions or deletions (**Indels**)

Large (structural variations)

- Indels > 50 bp
- Copy Number Variations
- Inversions
- Translocations
- Chromosomal fusions

# Variations

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Mainly focus on diploid organisms

- Human:
  - 22 pairs of autosomal chromosomes
    - One from mother, one from father
  - 2 sex chromosomes (female XX, male XY)
    - One from mother, one from father (where does Y come from for male offspring)
  - Mitochondrial genome (generally maternally inherited)
    - 100-10,000 copies per cell

Variation can be in

- One chromosome (heterozygous, or 'het')
- Both chromosomes (homozygous, or 'hom')

# Use cases

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## Medicine

- Hereditary or genetic diseases, genetic predisposition to disease
- Normal vs. tumor analyses
- Heteroplasmy

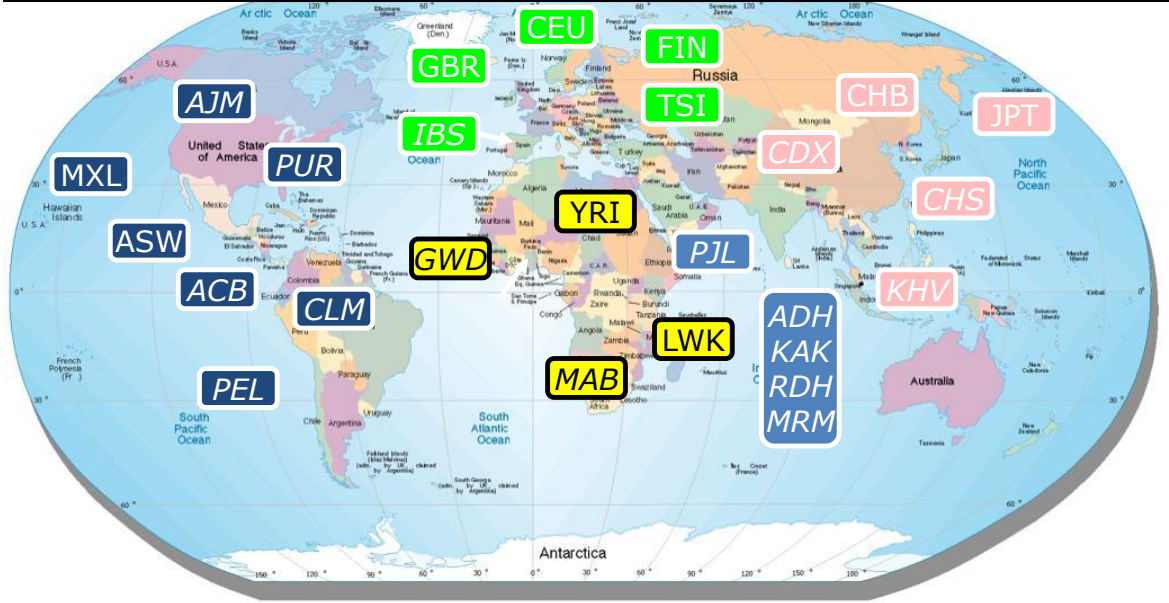
## Population genetics

- GWAS

# Population genetics

# The 1000 Genomes Project

The full 1000 Genomes Project data  
 1,100 samples early 2011; 2,500 samples 2011/12



A Deep Catalog of Human Genetic Variation

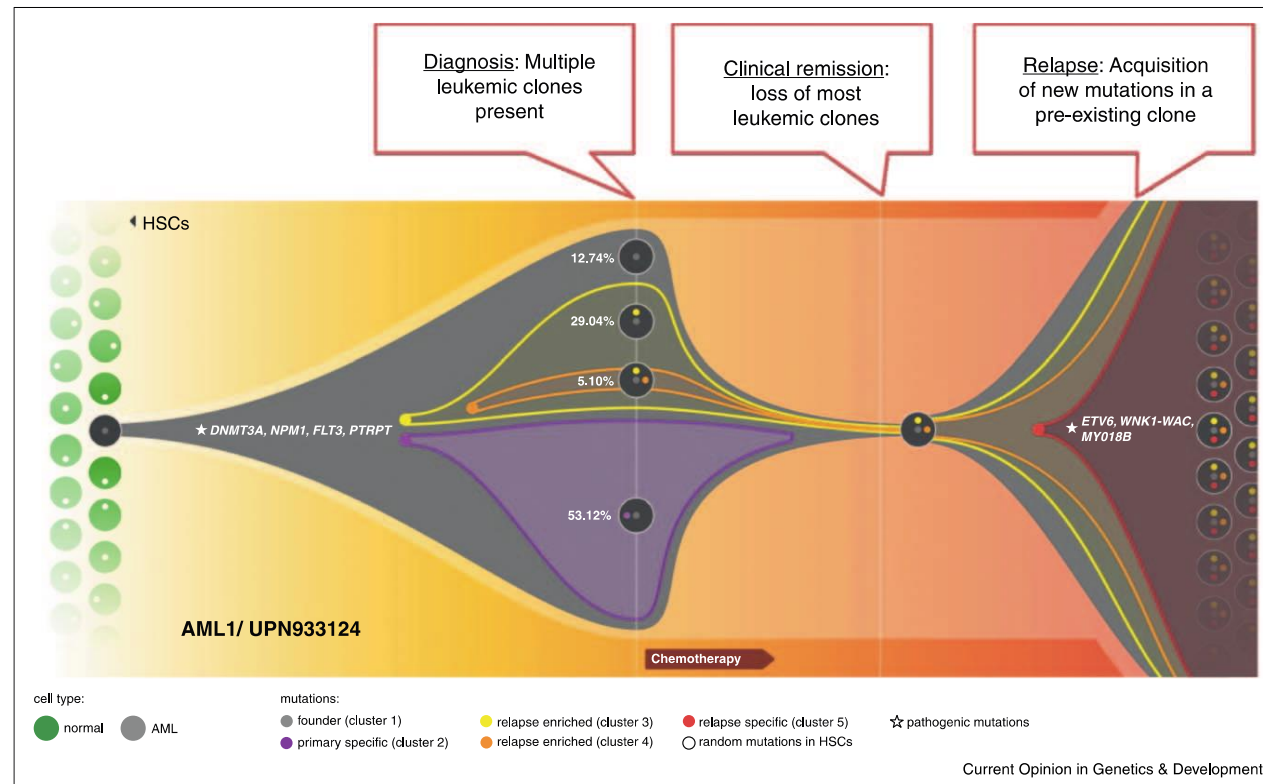
## [IGSR: The International Genome Sample Resource](#)

### Data collections

	Samples	Populations	Publications	Website
1000 Genomes 30x on GRCh38	3202	26	<a href="#">Byrsk-Bishop et al., 2021</a>	
Human Genome Structural Variation Consortium, Phase 2	44	26	<a href="#">Ebert et al., 2021</a> <a href="#">Mark J P Chaisson et al., 2019</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>
1000 Genomes on GRCh38	2709	26	<a href="#">Zheng-Bradley et al., 2017</a> <a href="#">Lowy-Gallego et al., 2019</a>	
1000 Genomes phase 3 release	3115	26	<a href="#">The 1000 Genomes Project Consortium, 2015</a> <a href="#">Sudmant et al., 2015</a>	
1000 Genomes phase 1 release	1182	14	<a href="#">The 1000 Genomes Project Consortium, 2012</a>	
The Human Genome Structural Variation Consortium	9	3	<a href="#">Chaisson et al., 2019</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>
Human Genome Diversity Project	828	54	<a href="#">Bergström et al., 2020</a>	
Simons Genome Diversity Project	276	129	<a href="#">Mallick et al., 2016</a>	<a href="#">🔗</a>

# Cancer

Figure 2



Model of the clonal progression process that occurs between the initial (*de novo*) and relapse presentation in AML patients. At diagnosis, this patient has an oligoclonal disease characterized by four different subclones, each present at a specific proportion in the tumor cell population and with a specific mutational profile. Chemotherapy used to induce the patient into remission decreases clonal heterogeneity but a single subclone persists, acquires new mutations, and again proliferates in the bone marrow as a relapse-specific subclone.



# Variants vs. Errors

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Must distinguish between actual **variation** (real change) and **errors** (artifacts) introduced into the analysis

Errors can creep in on various levels:

- **PCR artifacts** (amplification of errors)
- **Sequencing** (errors in base calling)
- **Alignment** (misalignment, mis-gapped alignments)
- **Variant calling** (low depth of coverage, few samples)
- **Genotyping** (poor annotation)

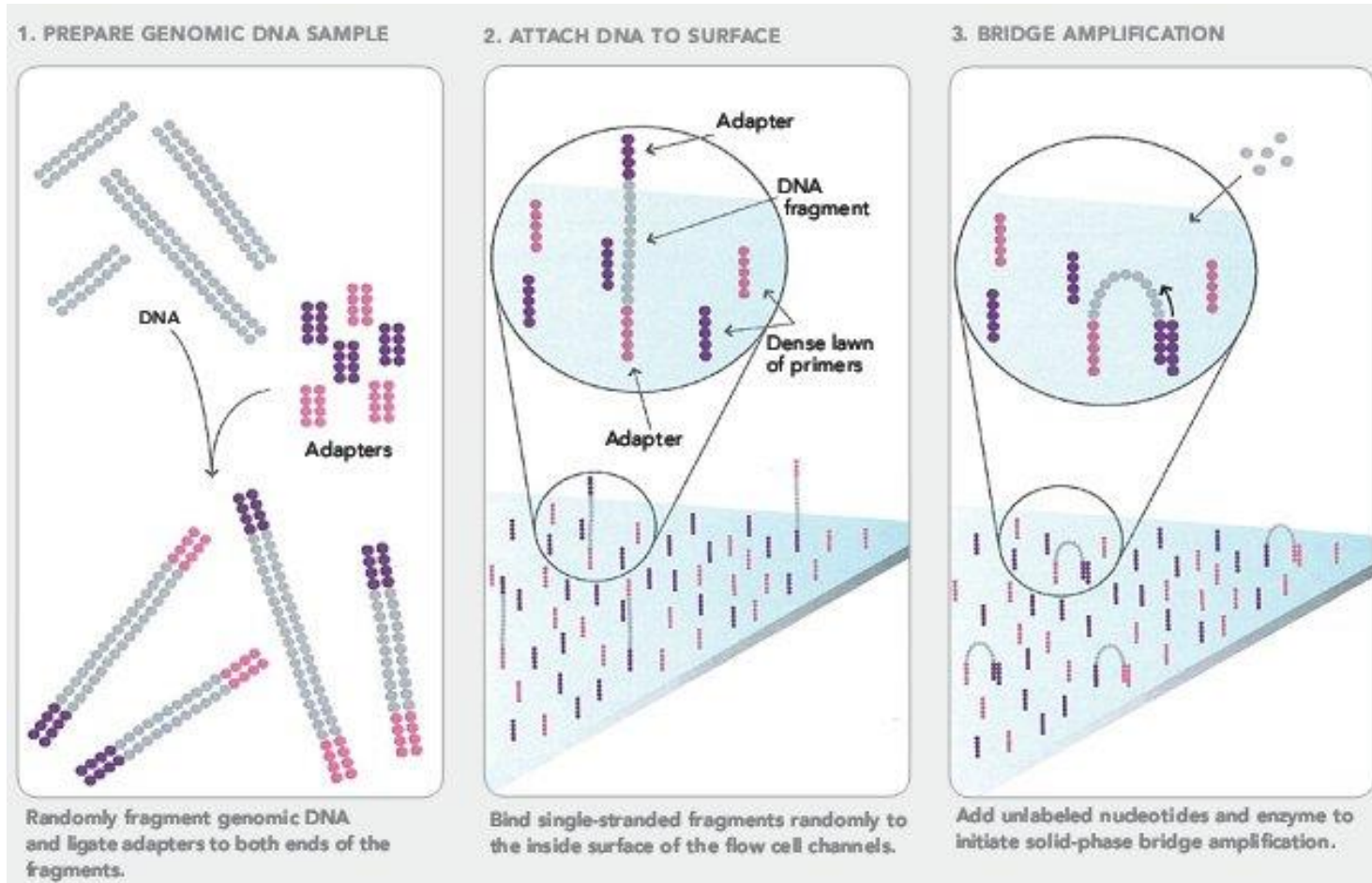
Try to control for these when possible to **reduce false positives** w/o incurring (worse) false negatives

# How do sequencing errors occur?

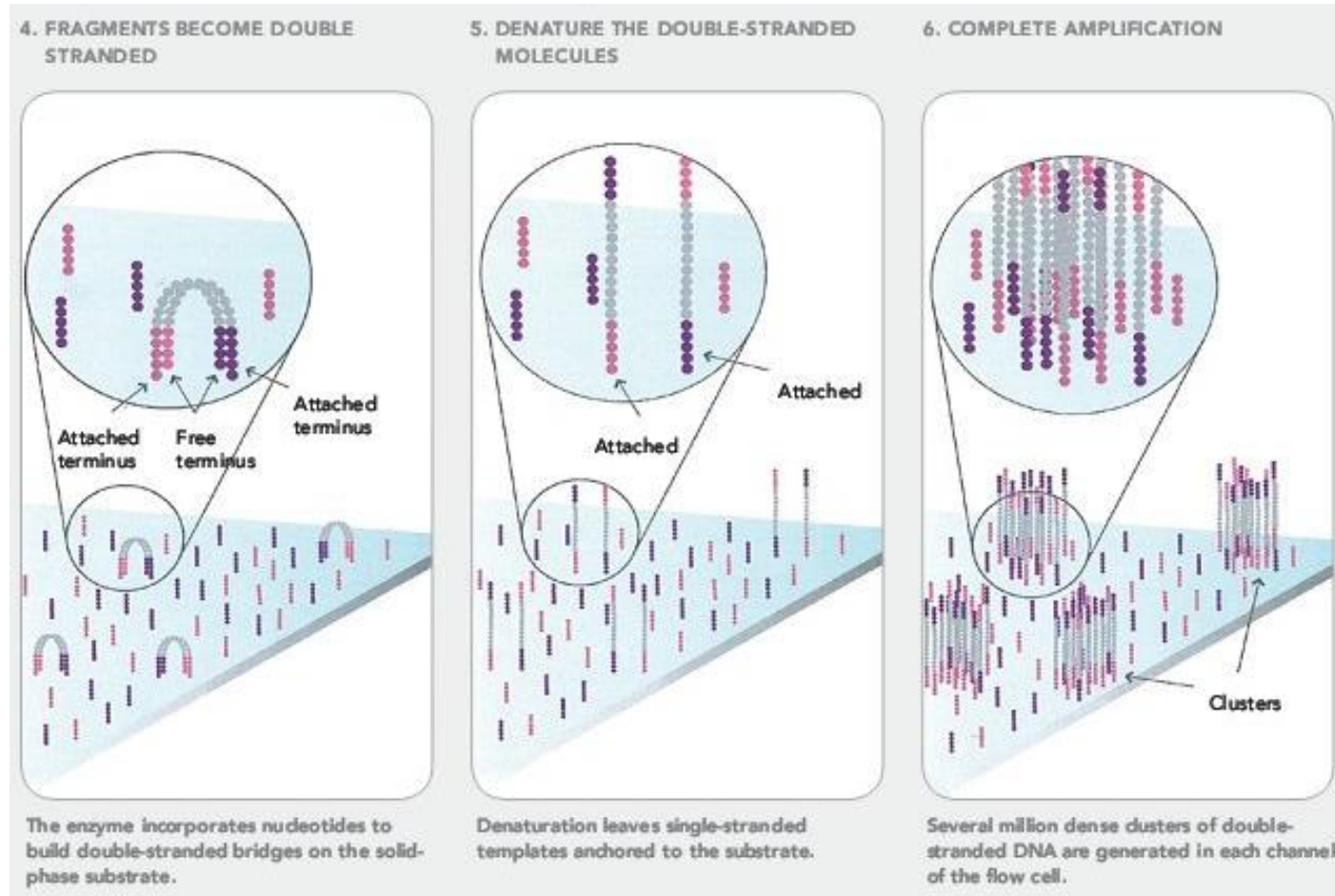
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# Illumina Sequencing

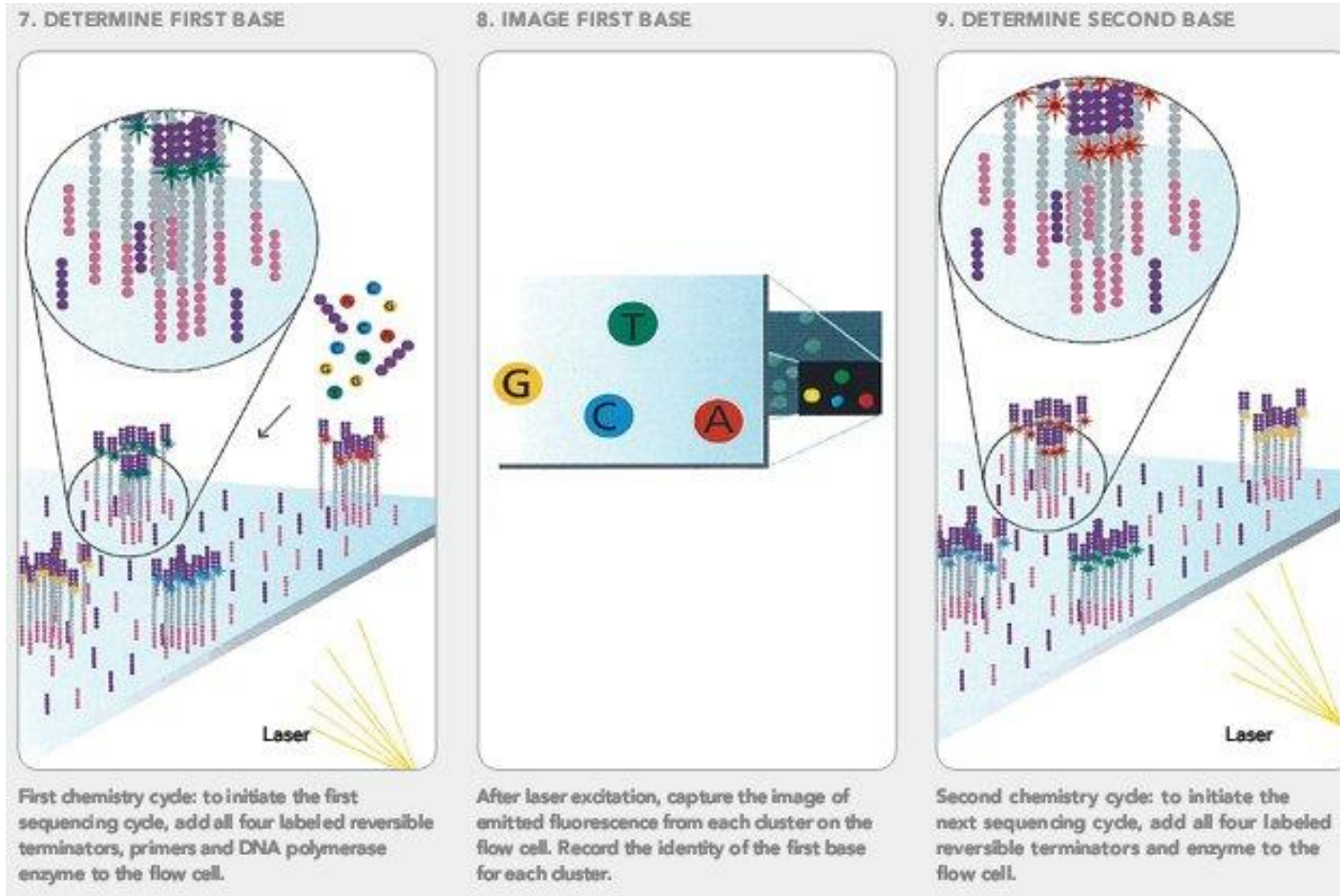
[Video!](#)



# Illumina Sequencing

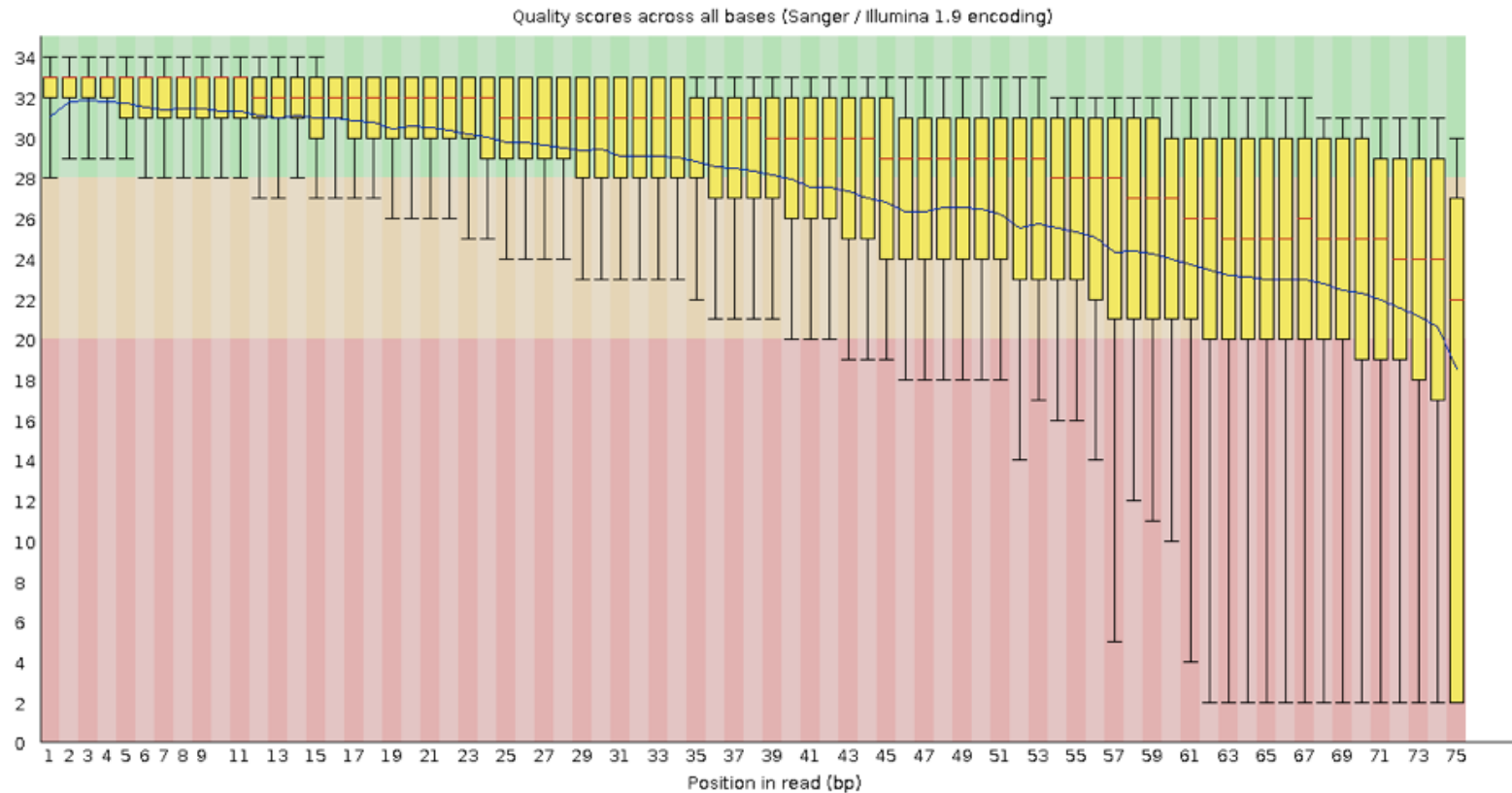


# Illumina Sequencing



# Check sequence data!

## ✖ Per base sequence quality



# Sequence quality

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Different technologies have different errors, error rates

- **Illumina** – substitution errors (0.1%)
- **PacBio and Oxford Nanopore** – (10-15%) Indels, primarily around homopolymer track errors

Represented as a quality score (Phred)

- $Q = -10\log_{10}(e)$

Phred Quality Score	Probability of incorrect base call	Base call accuracy
<b>10</b>	1 in 10	90%
<b>20</b>	1 in 100	99%
<b>30</b>	1 in 1000	99.90%
<b>40</b>	1 in 10000	99.99%
<b>50</b>	1 in 100000	~100.00%

## Formats: FASTQ – ‘sequence with quality’

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```
@HWI-ST1155:109:D0L23ACXX:5:1101:2247:1985 1:N:0:GCCAAT
NTTCCTTTGACAAATATTTAAATTAAGAATCAAATATGGTAGTGTATGCCAAGACCTAGTCTGAGTCAGTAGGAT
+
#1=DDFFFHJHHJJJJJJIJJJIJJIIJJJJJJJIJI?FHFHEIJEIIEGFFHGHIGHIJEIFGIJHGDIII
```

Three ‘variants’ – Sanger, Illumina, Solexa (Sanger is most common)

May be ‘raw’ data (straight from seq pipeline) or processed (trimmed for various reasons)

Can hold 100’s of millions of records **per sample**

**Files can be very large (100’s of GB) apiece**









# Basic Experimental Design

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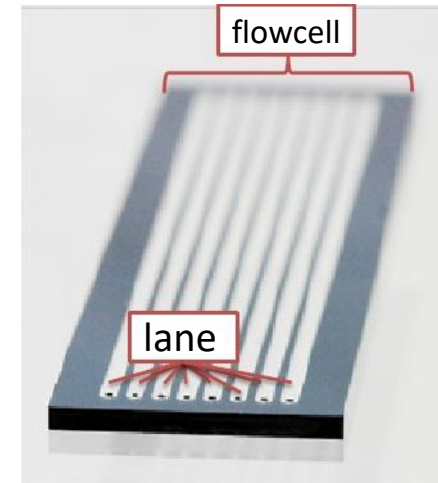
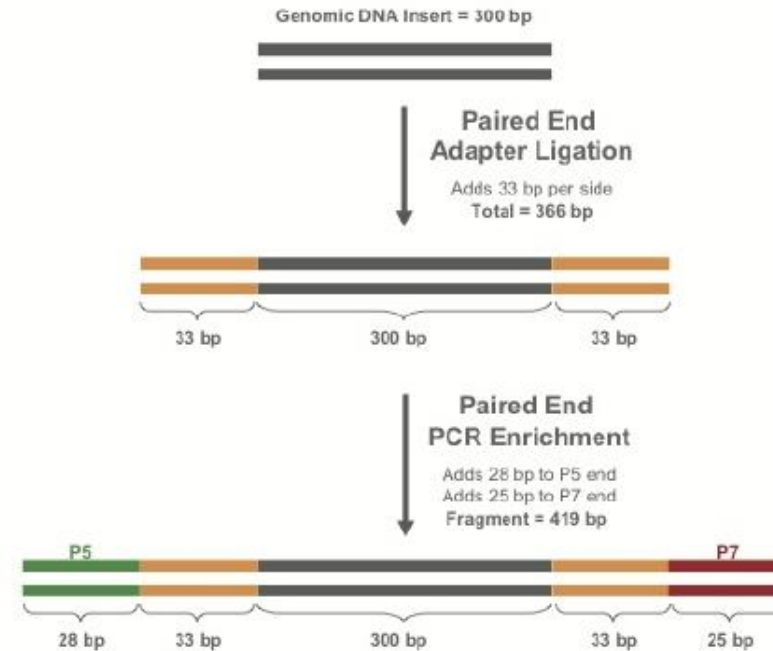
# Terminology

**Lane** – Physical sequencing lane

**Library** – Unit of DNA prep pooled together

**Sample** – Single individual

**Cohort** – Collection of samples analyzed together



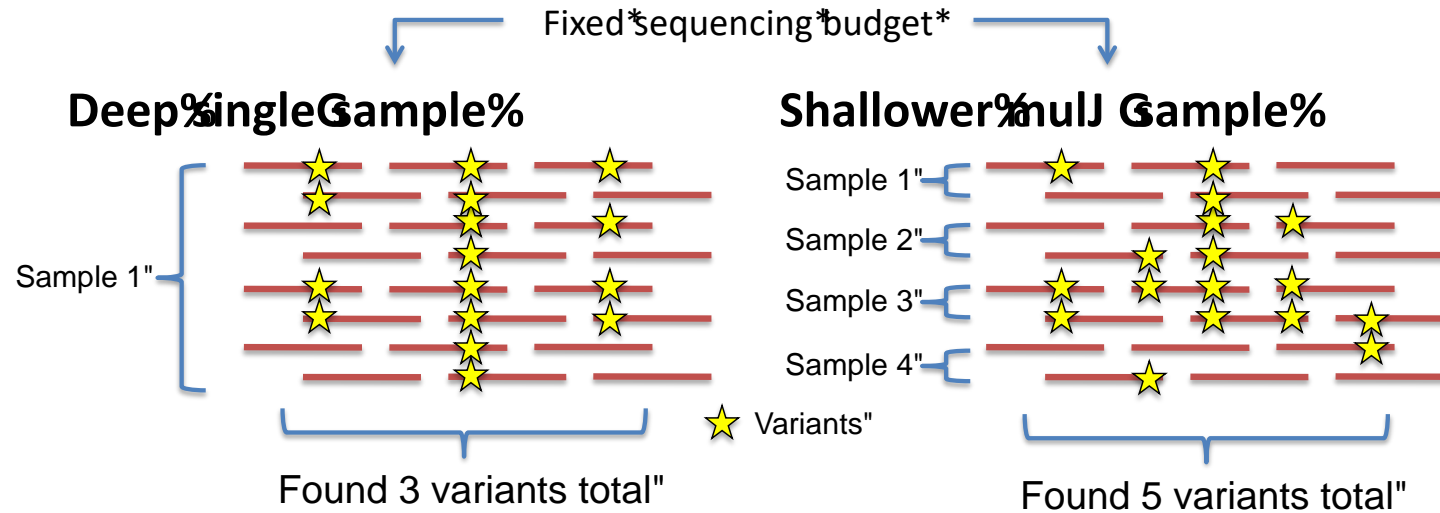
# Terminology

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## WGS vs Exome Capture

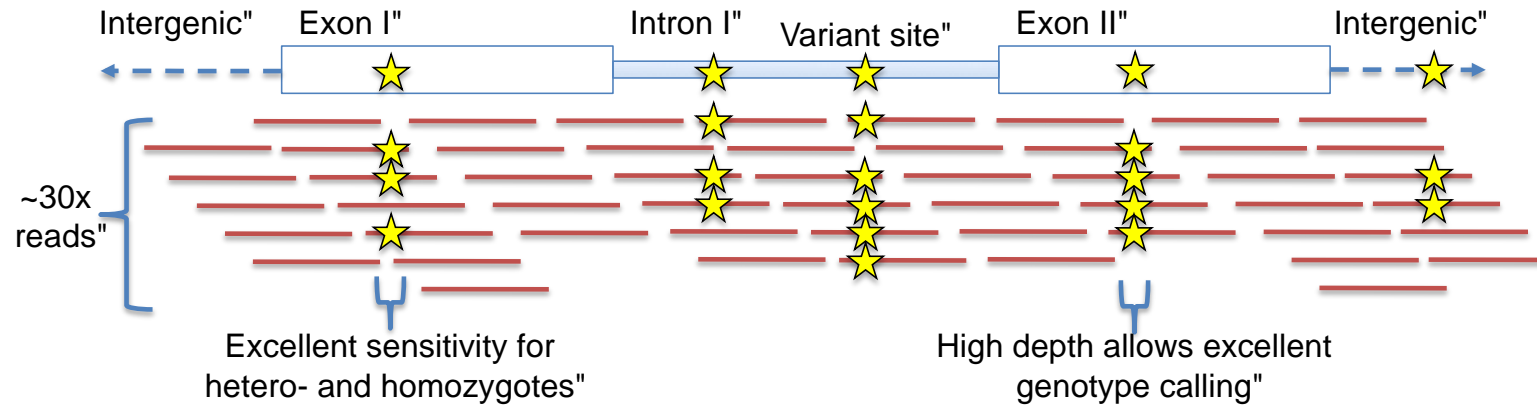
- **Whole genome sequencing** – everything
  - High cost if per sample is deep sequence (>25-30x)
  - Can run multisample low coverage samples
- **Exome capture** – targeted sequencing (1-5% of genome)
  - Deeper coverage of transcribed regions
  - Miss other important non-coding regions (promoters, introns, enhancers, small RNA, etc)

# Single vs. multi-sample analysis



- Higher sensitivity for variants in the sample
- More accurate genotyping per sample
- Cost: no information about other samples
- Sensitivity dependent on frequency of variation
- Worse genotyping
- More total variants discovered

# Highpass\*sequencing\*design\*



## Data requirements per sample

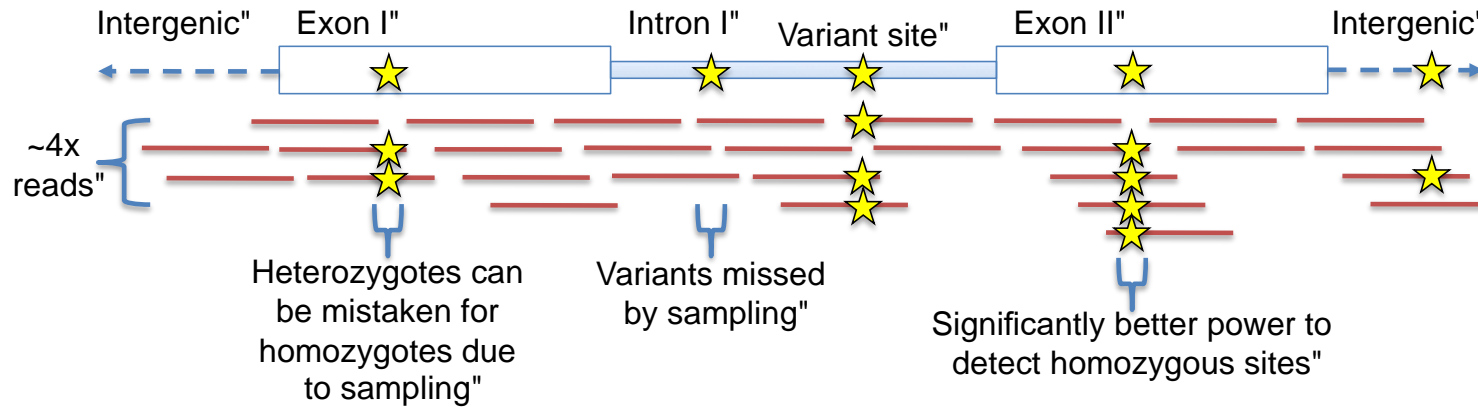
Target bases	3 Gb
Coverage	Avg. 30x
# sequenced bases	100 Gb
# per lane (HiSeq 4000)	~1
# per lane (NovaSeq, S4)	~8-9

## Variant detection among multiple samples

Variants found per sample	~3-5M
Percent of variation in genome	>99%
Pr{singleton discovery}	>99%
Pr{common allele discovery}	>99%



# Lowpass sequencing design\*



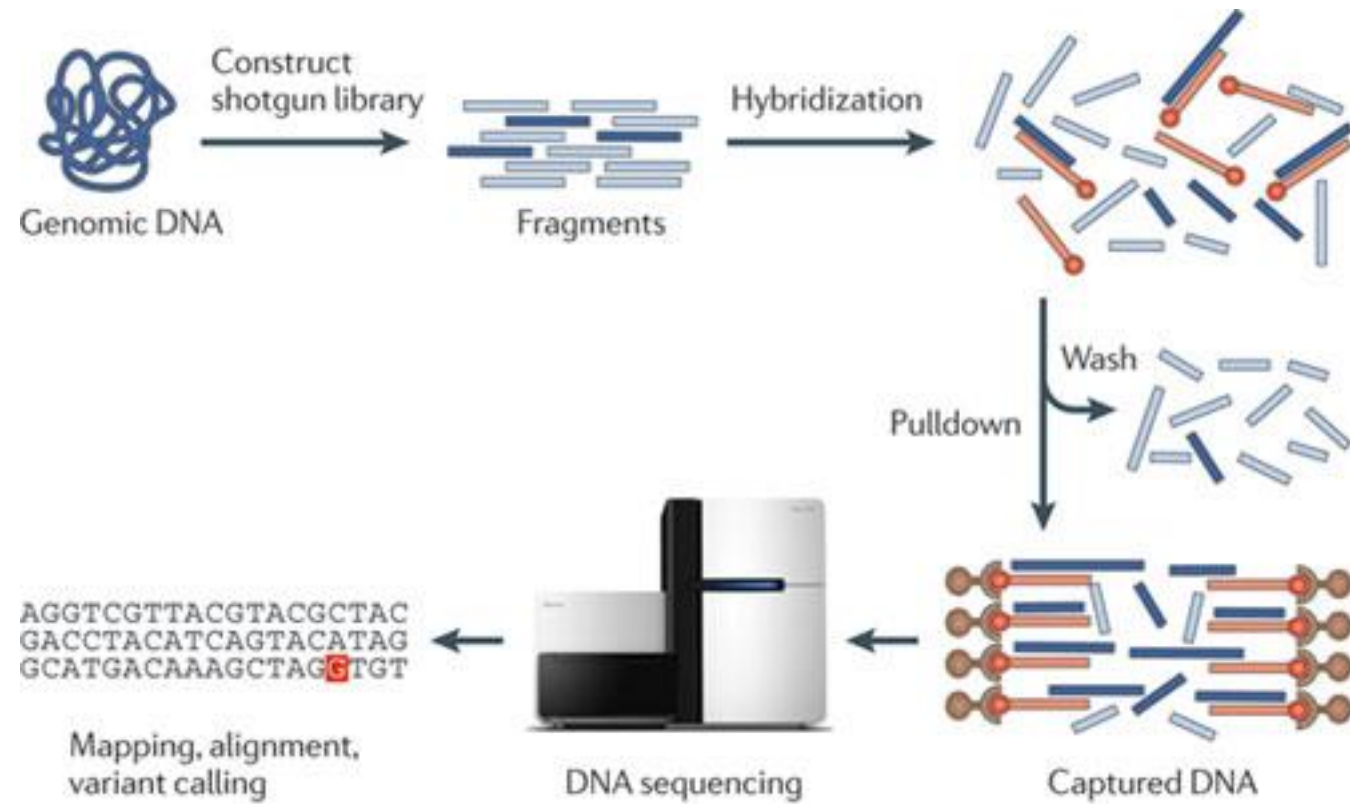
## Data requirements per sample

Target bases	3 Gb
Coverage	Avg. 5x
# sequenced bases	15 Gb
# per lane (HiSeq 4000)	~6
# per lane (NovaSeq, S4)	~50

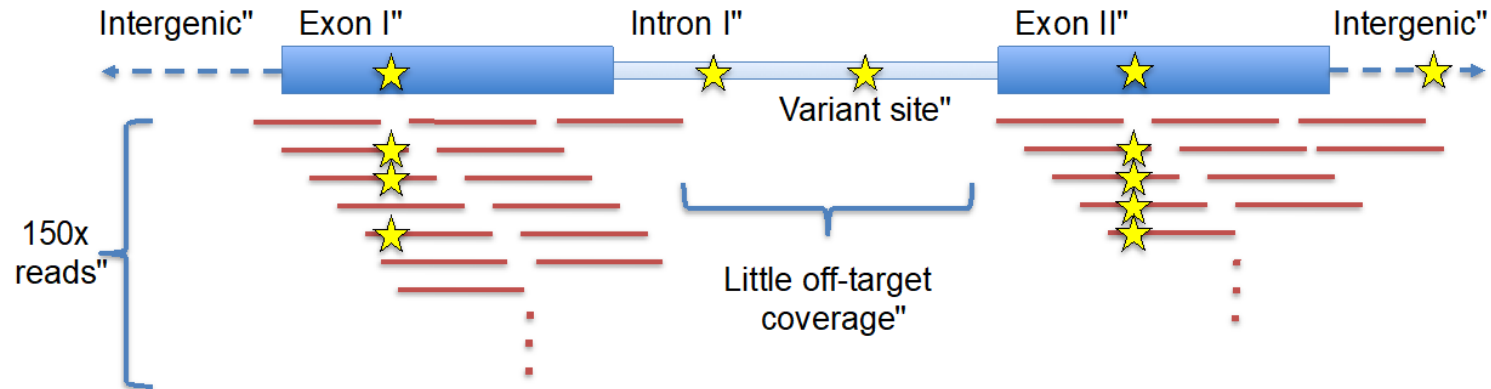
## Variant detection among multiple samples

Variants found per sample	~3M
Percent of variation in genome	~90%
Pr{singleton discovery}	< 50%
Pr{common allele discovery}	~99%

# Exome Capture



# Exome\*capture\*sequencing\*design\*



[Based on Illumina 'DNA Prep with Enrichment' panel](#)

## Data requirements per sample

Target bases	45-60 Mb
Coverage	>90% 20x*
# sequenced bases	4 Gb
# per lane (HiSeq 4000)	20
# per lane (NovaSeq, S4)	~384*

## Variant detection among multiple samples

Variants found per sample	~25-45k
Percent of variation in genome	0.005
Pr{singleton discovery}	~95%
Pr{common allele discovery}	~95%

NovaSeq 6000 = 750-850 Gb/lane (2x150nt, S4 lane)

# General variant calling pipelines

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## Common pattern:

- Align reads
- Optimize alignment
- Call variants
- Filter called variants
- Annotate

# Tool/Workflow examples

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Examples (standard variant calling)

- ***Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK)***
- samtools mpileup
- VarScan2
- freeBayes
- Commercial
  - Illumina DRAGEN – GATK using FPGA
  - Sentieon – accelerated CPU
  - Parabricks – GPU-based

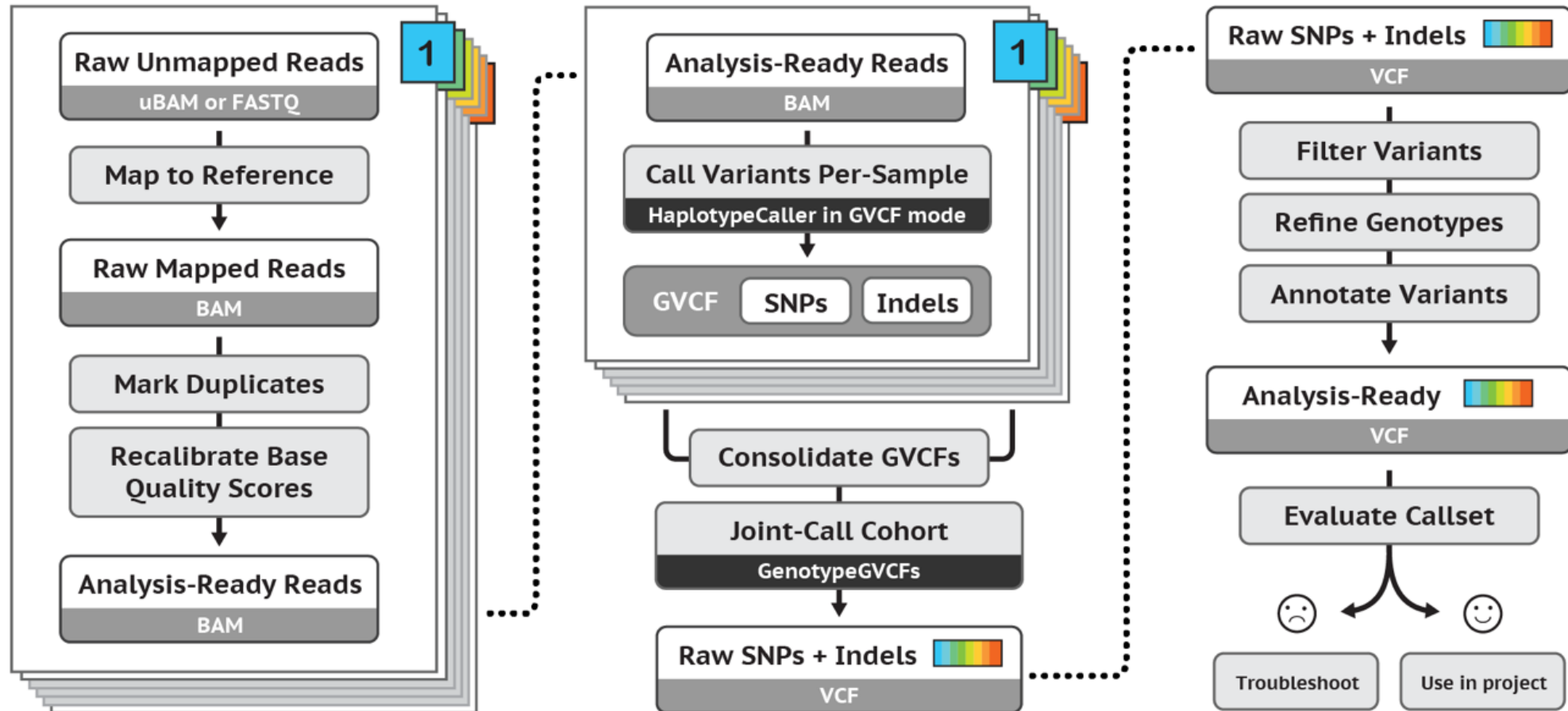
# Tool/Workflow examples

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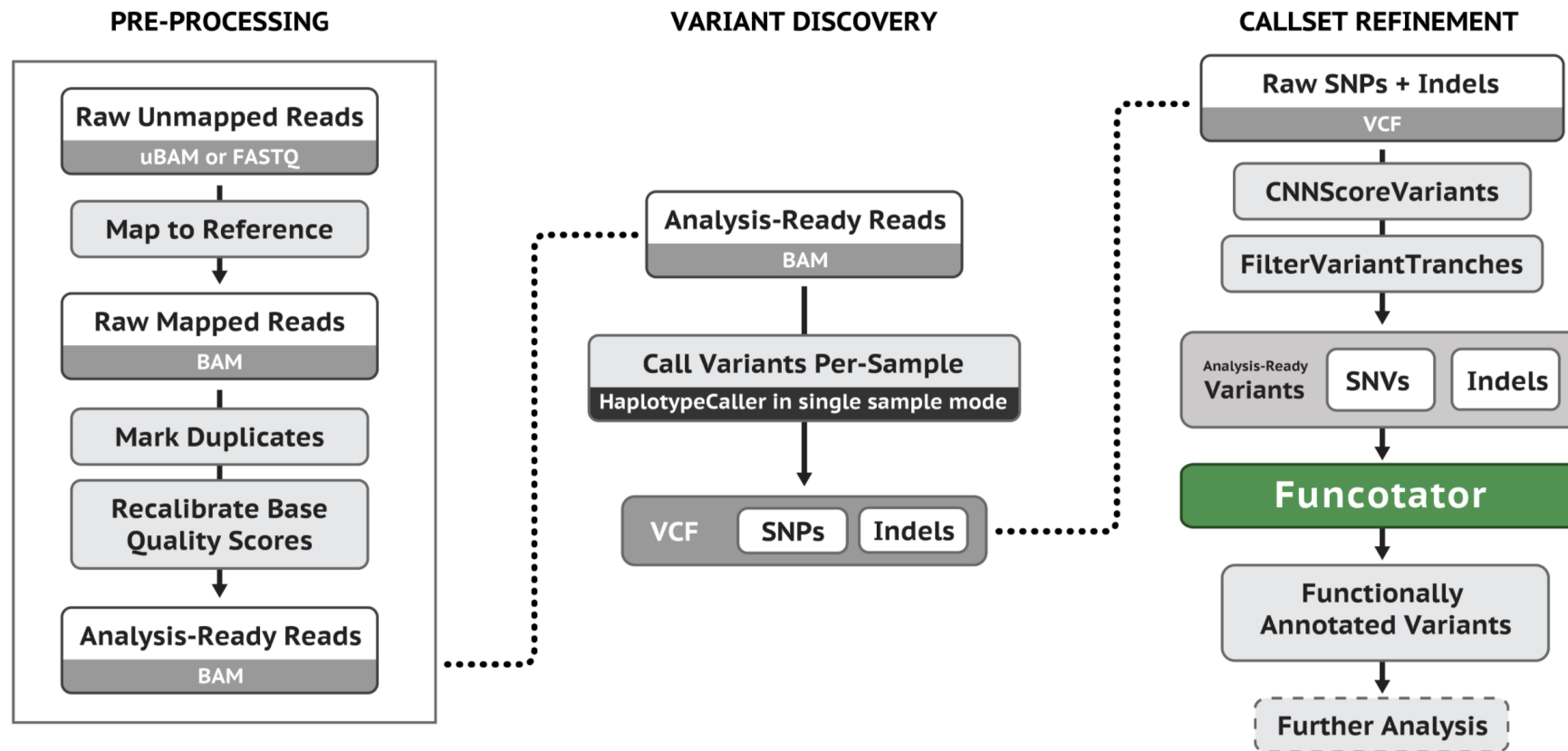
## Specialized purposes

- Copy number variation and structural variation
- Cancer (tumor sample analyses)
- RNA-Seq

# GATK – Multi-sample Germline Calls

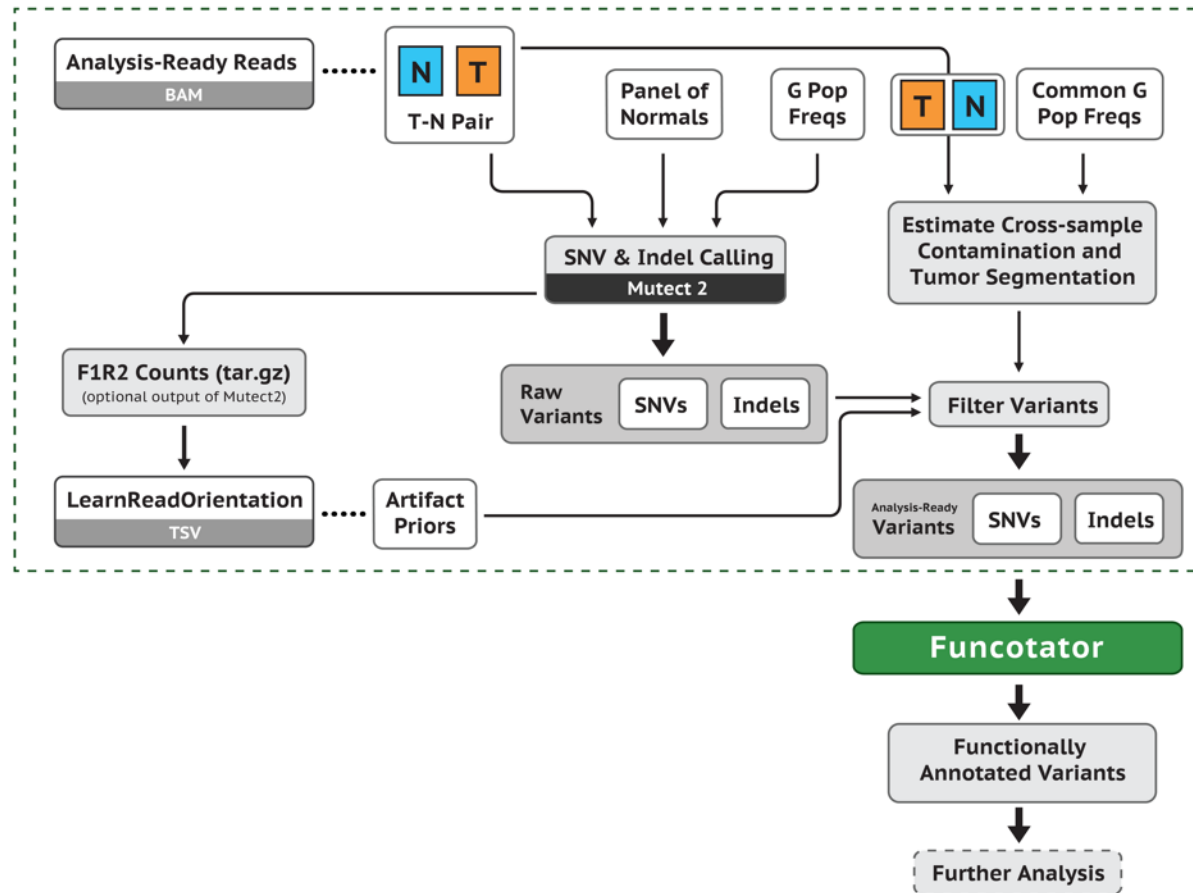


# GATK – Single Sample Germline Calls

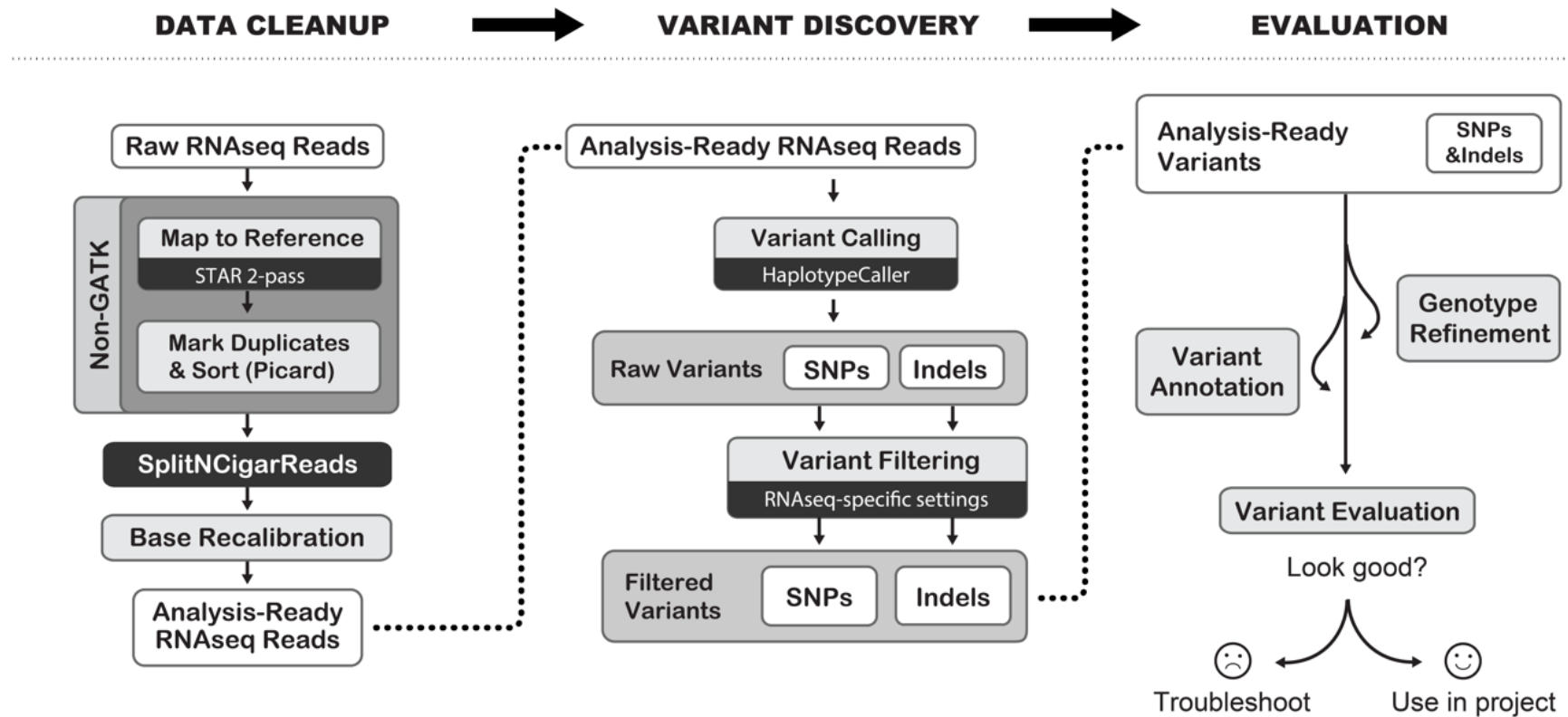




# GATK – Somatic Calls (Tumor)



# GATK – RNA-Seq

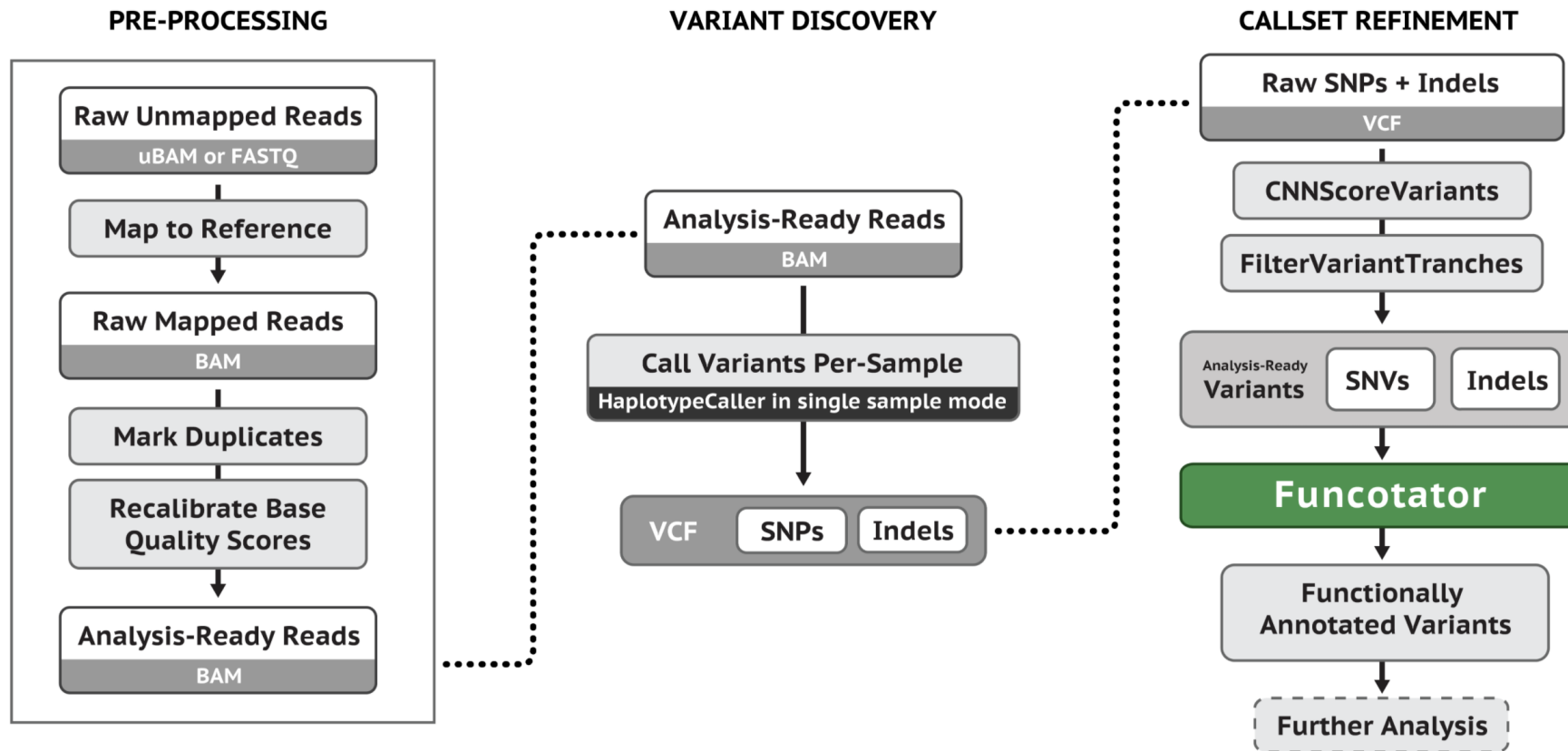


# Standard GATK Pipeline

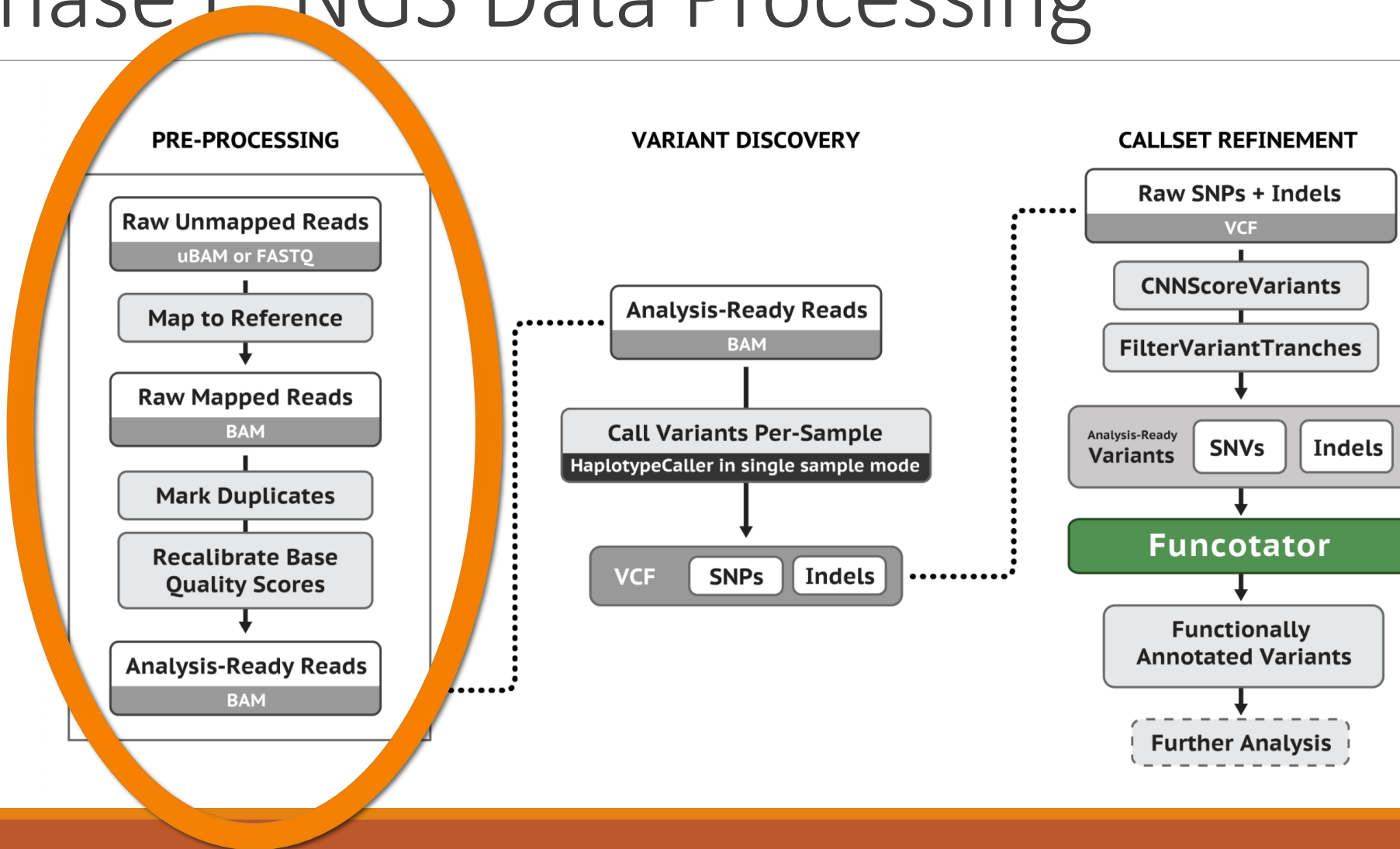
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*aka 'Best Practices'*

# GATK Pipeline – Germline Calls



# Phase I · NGS Data Processing



# Phase I

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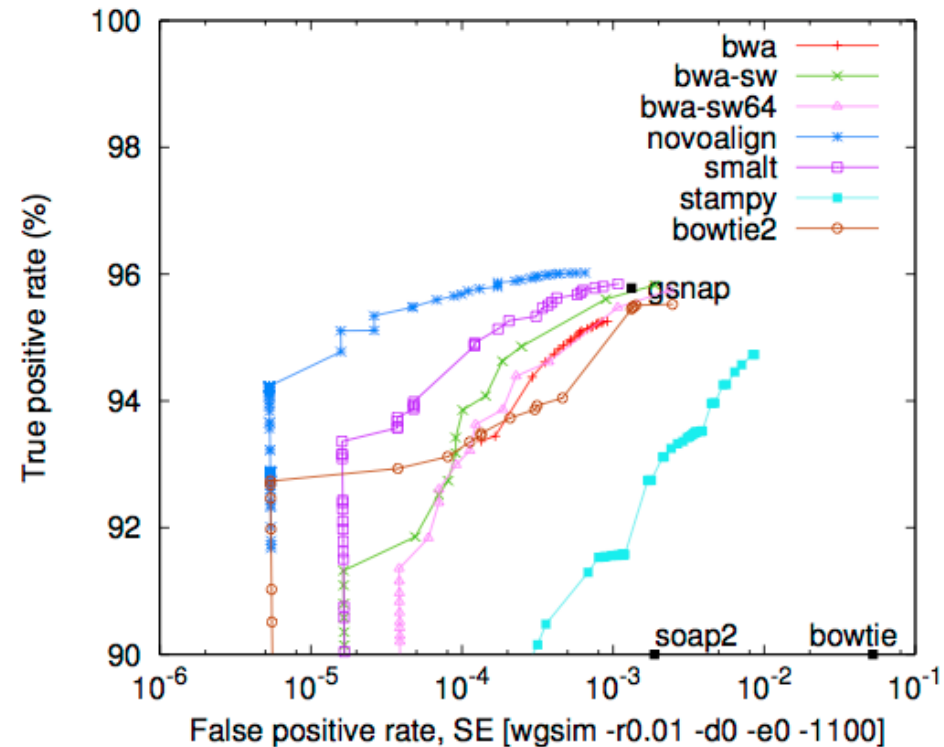
## NGS Data Processing

- Alignment of raw reads
- Duplicate marking
- Base quality recalibration
- ***Local realignment no longer required***

# Phase I : Alignment of raw reads

## Accuracy

- **Sensitivity** – maps reads accurately allowing for errors or variation
- **Specificity** – maps to the correct region



Heng Li's aligner assessment

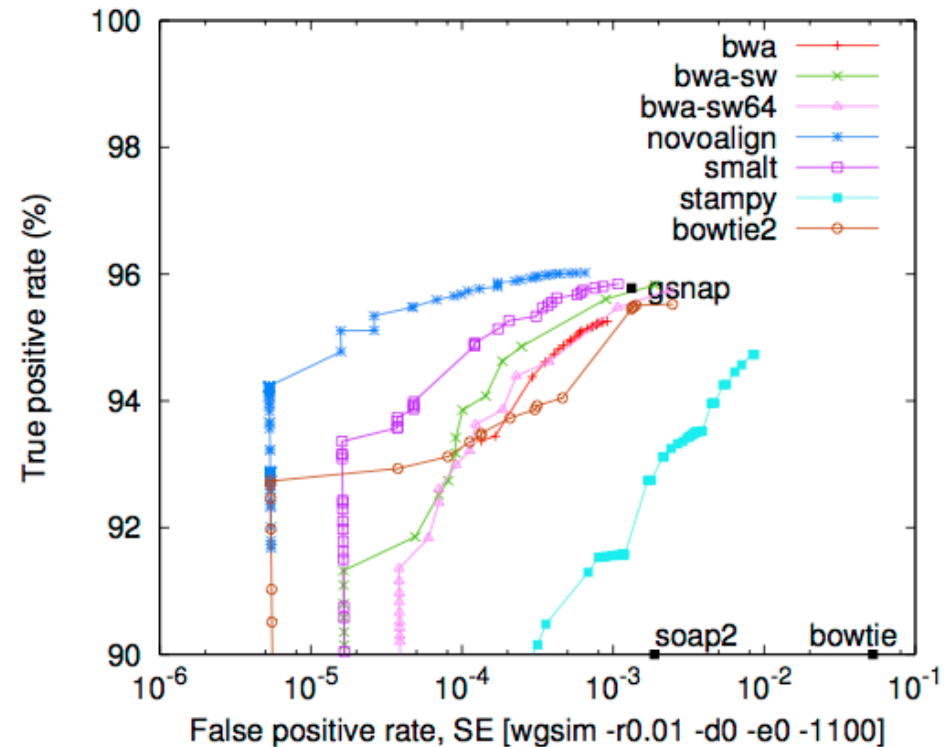
# Phase I : Alignment of raw reads

Accuracy assessed using simulated data

**BWA MEM** is currently recommended

## Unique vs. multi-mapped reads

- Should we retain reads mapping to repetitive regions?
- May depend on the application

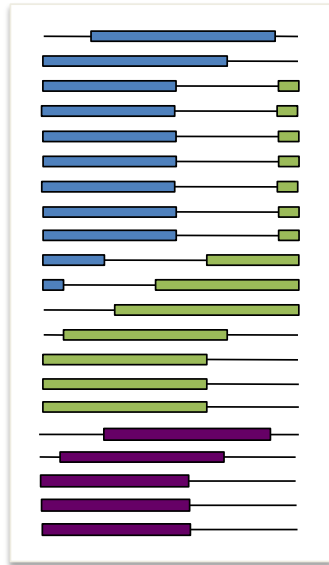


Heng Li's aligner assessment



# Mapping short reads to a reference is simple in principle

Enormous pile of short reads from NGS

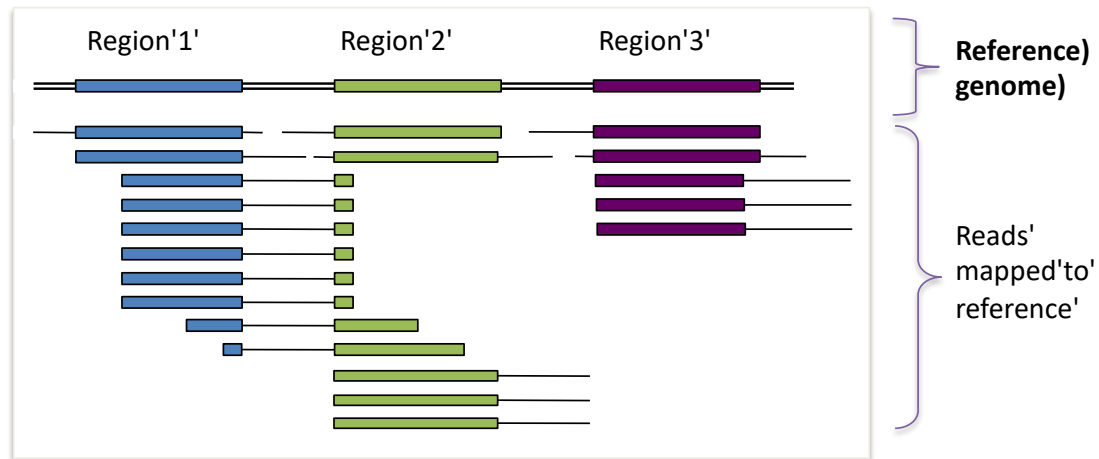


Mapping and alignment algorithms

Identify where the read matches the reference sequence and record match details as CIGAR string

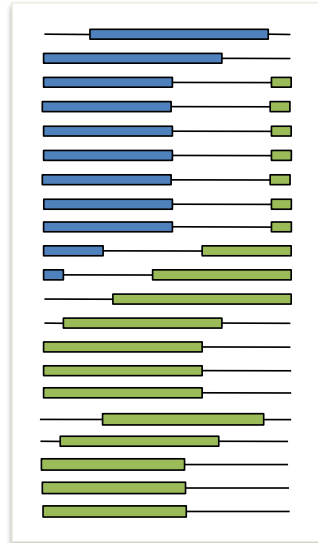
RefPos:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Reference:	C	C	A	T	A	C	T	-	G	A
Read:	C	A	T	-	C	T	A	G		

POS: 2  
CIGAR: 3M1D2M1I1M



But mapping is actually very hard because of mismatches (true mutations or sequencing errors), duplicated regions etc.!

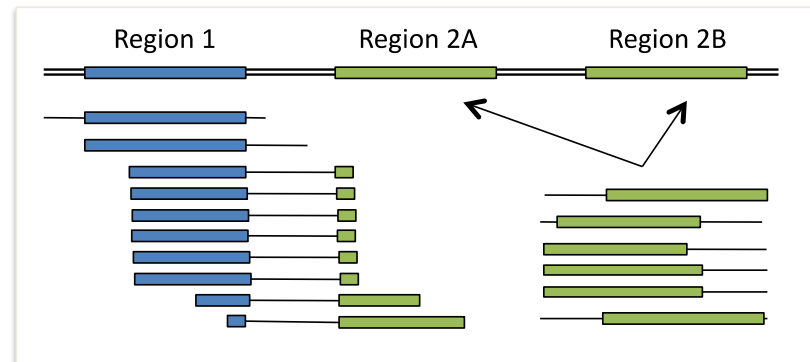
Enormous pile of short reads from NGS



Mapping and alignment algorithms

Mapping algorithms account for this by choosing the most likely placement

→ mapping quality (MQ)



High MQ

Low MQ

For more information see:

Li and Homer (2010). A survey of sequence alignment algorithms for next-generation sequencing. *Briefings in Bioinformatics*.

# Alignment output : SAM/BAM

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## **SAM – Sequence Alignment/Map format**

- SAM file format stores alignment information
- Normally converted into BAM (text format is mostly useless for analysis)

**Specification:** <http://samtools.sourceforge.net/SAM1.pdf>

Contains FASTQ reads, quality information, meta data, alignment information, etc.

**Files are typically very large:** Many 100's of GB or more

# Alignment output : SAM/BAM

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## **BAM – BGZF compressed SAM format**

- May be unsorted, or sorted by sequence name or genome coordinates
- May be accompanied by an index file (.bai) (only if coord-sorted)
- Makes the alignment information easily accessible to downstream applications (large genome file not necessary)
- Relatively simple format makes it easy to extract specific features, e.g. genomic locations
- BAM is the compressed/binary version of SAM and is not human readable. Uses a specialized compression algorithm optimized for indexing and record retrieval (bgzip)

**Files are typically very large: 1/5 of SAM, but still very large**

# Alignment output : SAM/BAM

## Alignment

```
Coord      12345678901234  5678901234567890123456789012345
ref        AGCATGTTAGATAA**GATAGCTGTGCTAGTAGGCAGTCAGCGCCAT

+r001/1      TTAGATAAAGGATA*CTG
+r002        aaaAGATAA*GGATA
+r003        gcctaAGCTAA
+r004                ATAGCT.....TCAGC
-r003                ttagctTAGGC
-r001/2                CAGCGCCAT
```

## SAM format

```
@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5H6M * 0 0 AGCTAA * NM:i:1
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 16 ref 29 30 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * NM:i:0
r001 83 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGCCAT *
```

# Alignment output : SAM/BAM

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## 1.3 The header section

Each header line begins with character '@' followed by a two-letter record type code. In the header, each line is TAB-delimited and except the @CO lines, each data field follows a format 'TAG:VALUE' where TAG is a two-letter string that defines the content and the format of VALUE. Each header line should match: /~@[A-Za-z][A-Za-z](\t[A-Za-z][A-Za-z0-9]:[-~]+)+\$/ or /~@CO\t.\*/. Tags containing lowercase letters are reserved for end users.

SAM format

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r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
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```

## 1.4 The alignment section: mandatory fields

Col	Field	Brief description
→ 1	QNAME	Query template NAME
2	FLAG	bitwise FLAG
3	RNAME	Reference sequence NAME
4	POS	1-based leftmost mapping POSition
5	MAPQ	MAPping Quality
6	CIGAR	CIGAR string
7	RNEXT	Ref. name of the mate/next fragment
8	PNEXT	Position of the mate/next fragment
9	TLEN	observed Template LENgth
10	SEQ	fragment SEQUENCE
11	QUAL	ASCII of Phred-scaled base QUALity+33

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# Bit Flags

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@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
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```

Hex	0x80	0x40	0x20	0x10	0x8	0x4	0x2	0x1	
Bit	128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1	
r001	1		1				1	1	= 163

Bit	Description
0x1	template having multiple fragments in sequencing
0x2	each fragment properly aligned according to the aligner
0x4	fragment unmapped
0x8	next fragment in the template unmapped
0x10	SEQ being reverse complemented
0x20	SEQ of the next fragment in the template being reversed
0x40	the first fragment in the template
0x80	the last fragment in the template
0x100	secondary alignment
0x200	not passing quality controls
0x400	PCR or optical duplicate

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r001 83 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGCCAT *
```

# CIGAR

```
@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5H6M * 0 0 AGCTAA * NM:i:1
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 16 ref 29 30 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * NM:i:0
r001 83 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGCCAT *
```

Op	BAM	Description
M	0	alignment match (can be a sequence match or mismatch)
I	1	insertion to the reference
D	2	deletion from the reference
N	3	skipped region from the reference
S	4	soft clipping (clipped sequences present in SEQ)
H	5	hard clipping (clipped sequences NOT present in SEQ)
P	6	padding (silent deletion from padded reference)
=	7	sequence match
X	8	sequence mismatch

## 1.4 The alignment section: mandatory fields

Col	Field	Brief description
1	QNAME	Query template NAME
2	FLAG	bitwise FLAG
3	RNAME	Reference sequence NAME
4	POS	1-based leftmost mapping POSition
5	MAPQ	MAPping Quality
6	CIGAR	CIGAR string
7	RNEXT	Ref. name of the mate/next fragment
8	PNEXT	Position of the mate/next fragment
9	TLEN	observed Template LENgth
10	SEQ	fragment SEQUENCE
11	QUAL	ASCII of Phred-scaled base QUALity+33



SAM format

```
@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5H6M * 0 0 AGCTAA * NM:i:1
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 16 ref 29 30 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * NM:i:0
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10	SEQ	fragment SEQUENCE
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SAM format

```
@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5H6M * 0 0 AGCTAA * NM:i:1
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 16 ref 29 30 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * NM:i:0
r001 83 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGCCAT *
```

## 1.4 The alignment section: mandatory fields

Col	Field	Brief description
1	QNAME	Query template NAME
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3	RNAME	Reference sequence NAME
4	POS	1-based leftmost mapping POSition
5	MAPQ	MAPping Quality
6	CIGAR	CIGAR string
7	RNEXT	Ref. name of the mate/next fragment
8	PNEXT	Position of the mate/next fragment
9	TLEN	observed Template LENgth
10	SEQ	fragment SEQuence
11	QUAL	ASCII of Phred-scaled base QUALity+33

SAM format

```
@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5H6M * 0 0 AGCTAA * NM:i:1
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 16 ref 29 30 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * NM:i:0
r001 83 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGCCAT *
```



## 1.5 The alignment section: optional fields

NM	i	Edit distance to the reference, including ambiguous bases but excluding clipping
----	---	--

**SAM format**

```
@HD VN:1.3 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 163 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5H6M * 0 0 AGCTAA * NM:i:1
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 16 ref 29 30 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * NM:i:0
r001 83 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGCCAT *
```

# Alignment output : SAM/BAM

## 1.5 The alignment section: optional fields

Tag <sup>1</sup>	Type	Description
X?	?	Reserved fields for end users (together with Y? and Z?)
AM	i	The smallest template-independent mapping quality of segments in the read
AS	i	Alignment score generated by aligner
BC	Z	Barcode sequence
BQ	Z	Offset to base alignment quality (BAQ), of the same length as the read sequence. At the $i$ -th read base, $BAQ_i = Q_i - (BQ_i - 64)$ where $Q_i$ is the $i$ -th base quality.
CC	Z	Reference name of the next hit; "=" for the same chromosome
CM	i	Edit distance between the color sequence and the color reference (see also NM)
CP	i	Leftmost coordinate of the next hit
CQ	Z	Color read quality on the original strand of the read. Same encoding as QUAL; same length as CS.
CS	Z	Color read sequence on the original strand of the read. The primer base must be included.
E2	Z	The 2nd most likely base calls. Same encoding and same length as QUAL.
FI	i	The index of segment in the template.
FS	Z	Segment suffix.
FZ	B,S	Flow signal intensities on the original strand of the read, stored as (uint16_t) round(value * 100.0).
LB	Z	Library. Value to be consistent with the header RG-LB tag if @RG is present.
H0	i	Number of perfect hits
H1	i	Number of 1-difference hits (see also NM)
H2	i	Number of 2-difference hits
HI	i	Query hit index, indicating the alignment record is the $i$ -th one stored in SAM
IH	i	Number of stored alignments in SAM that contains the query in the current record
MD	Z	String for mismatching positions. <i>Regex</i> : $[0-9]+((([A-Z] \^-[A-Z]+)[0-9]+)^)*^2$
MQ	i	Mapping quality of the mate/next segment
NH	i	Number of reported alignments that contains the query in the current record
NM	i	Edit distance to the reference, including ambiguous bases but excluding clipping
OQ	Z	Original base quality (usually before recalibration). Same encoding as QUAL.
OP	i	Original mapping position (usually before realignment)
OC	Z	Original CIGAR (usually before realignment)
PG	Z	Program. Value matches the header PG-ID tag if @PG is present.
PQ	i	Phred likelihood of the template, conditional on both the mapping being correct
PU	Z	Platform unit. Value to be consistent with the header RG-PU tag if @RG is present.
Q2	Z	Phred quality of the mate/next segment. Same encoding as QUAL.
R2	Z	Sequence of the mate/next segment in the template.
RG	Z	Read group. Value matches the header RG-ID tag if @RG is present in the header.
SM	i	Template-independent mapping quality
TC	i	The number of segments in the template.
U2	Z	Phred probability of the 2nd call being wrong conditional on the best being wrong. The same encoding as QUAL.
UQ	i	Phred likelihood of the segment, conditional on the mapping being correct

Too many to go over!!!

# Alignment output : SAM/BAM

---

## Tools

- **samtools**
- **Picard**

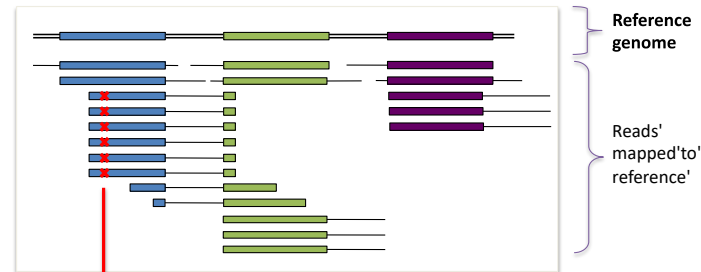
## Mining information from a properly formatted BAM file:

- Reads in a region (good for RNA-Seq, CHIP-Seq)
- Quality of alignments
- Coverage
- ...and of course, differences (variants)

# Phase I : Duplicate Marking

The 'reason' why 'duplicates' are 'bad'

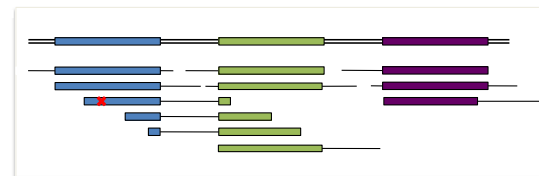
✘ = 'sequencing' error 'propagated' in 'duplicates'



FP variant call  
(bad)



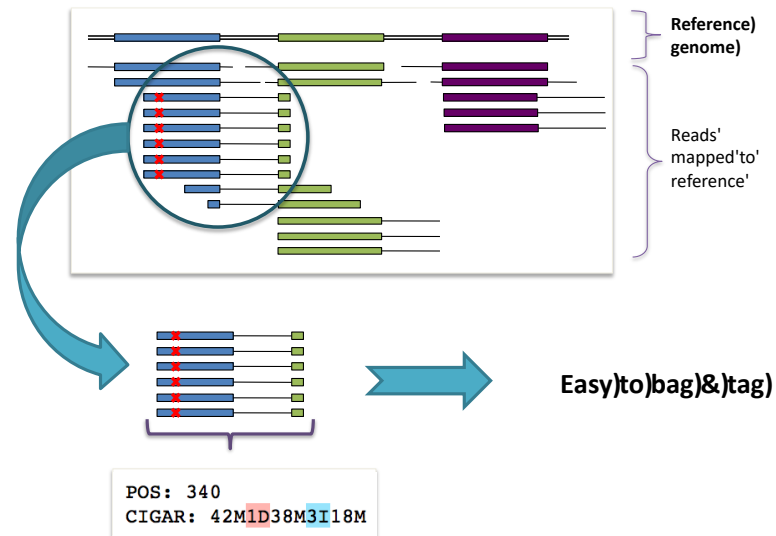
After marking duplicates, the GATK will only see :



... and thus be more likely to make the right call

# Phase I : Duplicate Marking

Duplicates have the same start; end; orientation and the same CIGAR string

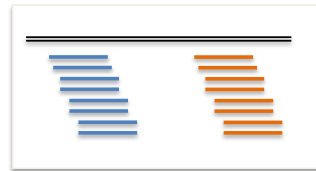


# Phase I : Sorting, Read Groups

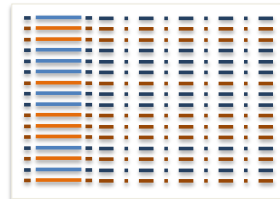
---

A 'quick' diversion about sorting and read groups

The information for this:

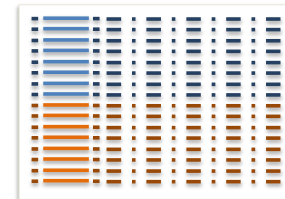


... is actually stored as a text file with one line per read which from far away looks like this:



The reads are in no particular order...

... but the GATK wants reads to be sorted by starting position like this:



So we need to explicitly sort the SAM file...

And while we're at it, let's add **read group** information; if it isn't already there, so **the GATK will know what read belongs to what sample** (that's kind of important).

# Terminology

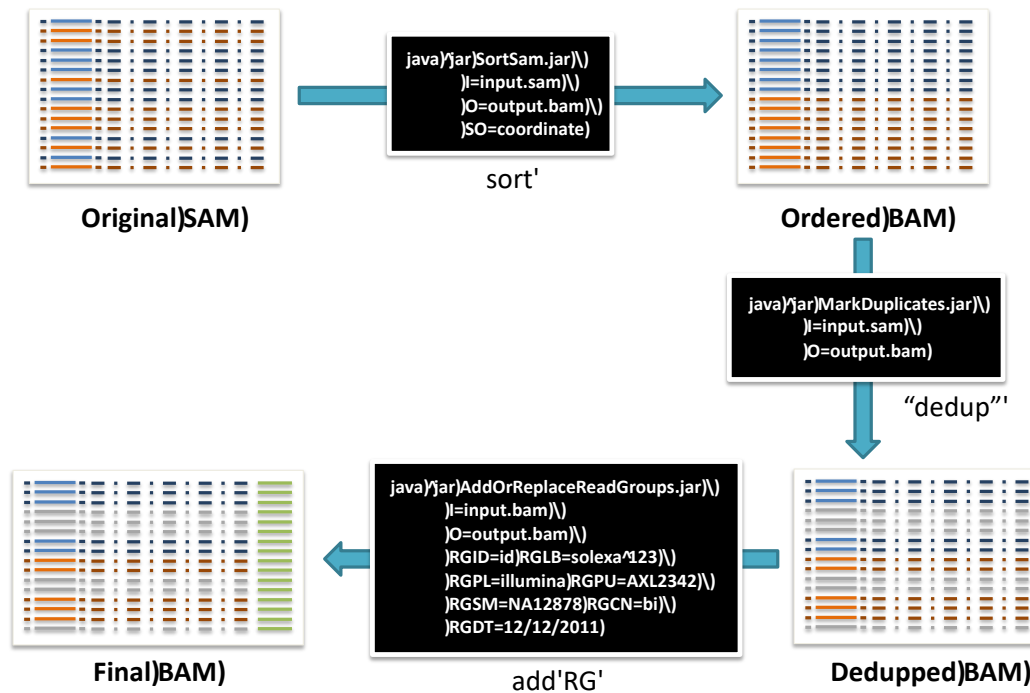
---

**Read groups** – information about the samples and how they were run

- ID – Simple unique identifier
- Library
- Sample name
- Platform – sequencing platform
- Platform unit – barcode or identifier
- Sequencing center (optional)
- Description (optional)
- Run date (optional)

# Phase I : Sorting, Read Groups

Typical workflow using Picard tools to mark duplicates *et/ol.*)





# Phase I : Base Quality Score Recalibration

---

Quality scores from sequencers are biased and somewhat inaccurate

Quality scores are critical for all downstream analysis

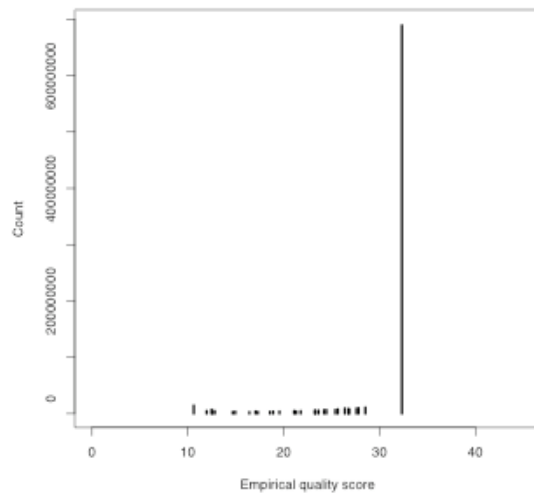
Biases are a major contributor to bad variant calls

## **Caveat:**

- In practice, requires having a known set of variants (dbSNP)

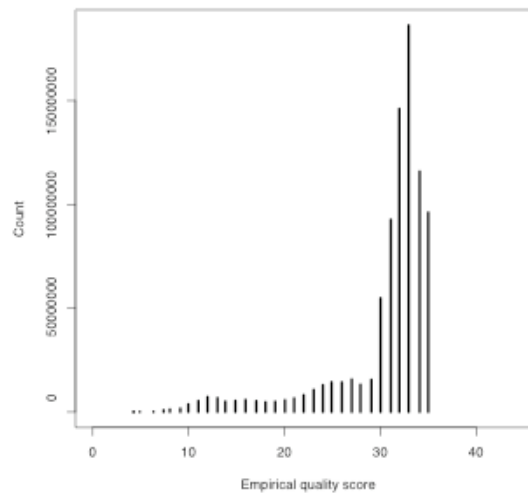
## Original

Reported quality score histogram



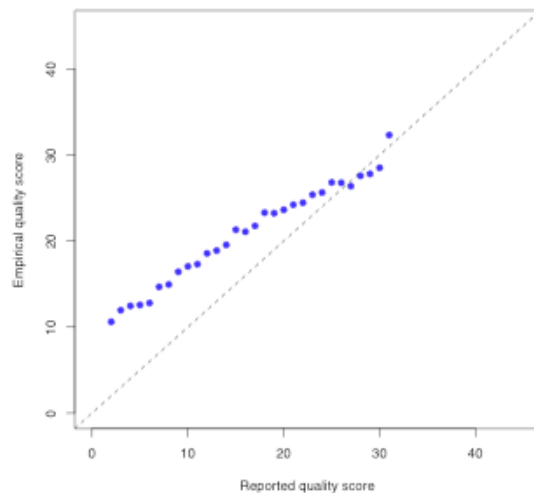
## Recalibrated

Reported quality score histogram



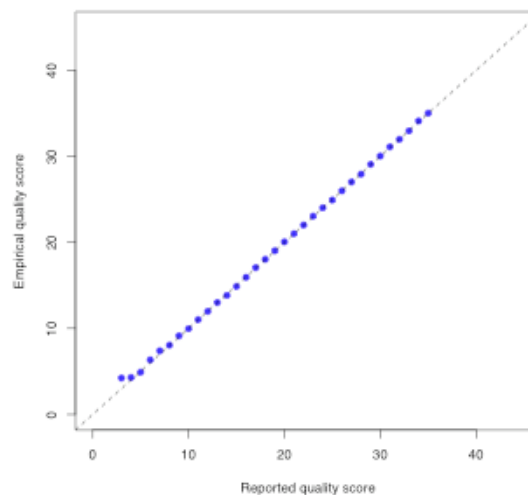
## Original

Reported vs. empirical quality scores



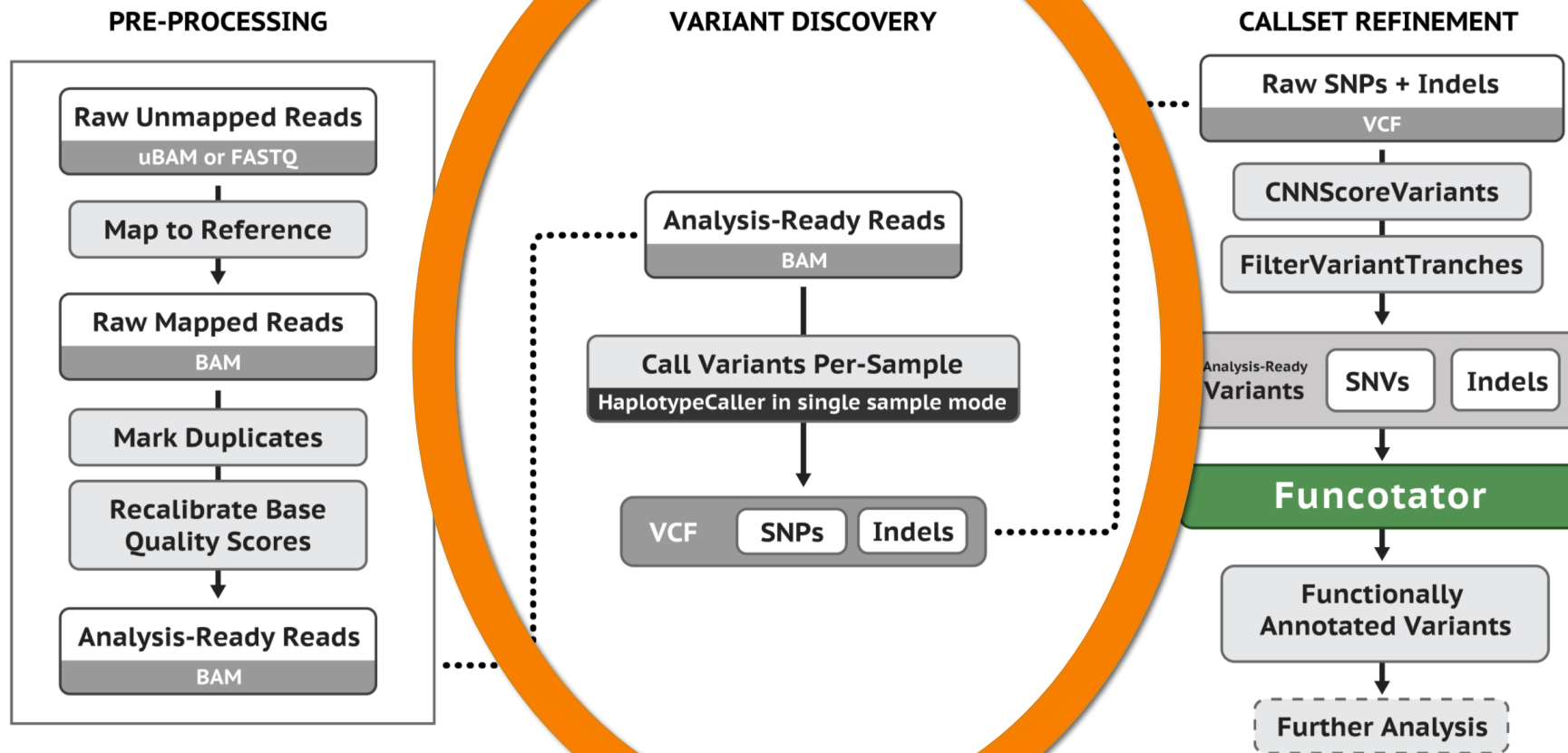
## Recalibrated

Reported vs. empirical quality scores



[Also works for binned quality scores \(NovaSeq\)](#)

# Phase II : Variant Discovery/Genotyping



# Phase II : Variant Calling

---

This is where we actually call the variants

Prior steps leading up to this help remove potential causes of variant calling errors

I'll be covering their current recommended caller, the **HaplotypeCaller**, and a little on the use of the legacy **UnifiedGenotyper** (not included in GATK v4)

# Phase II : Variant Calling

## *HaplotypeCaller*

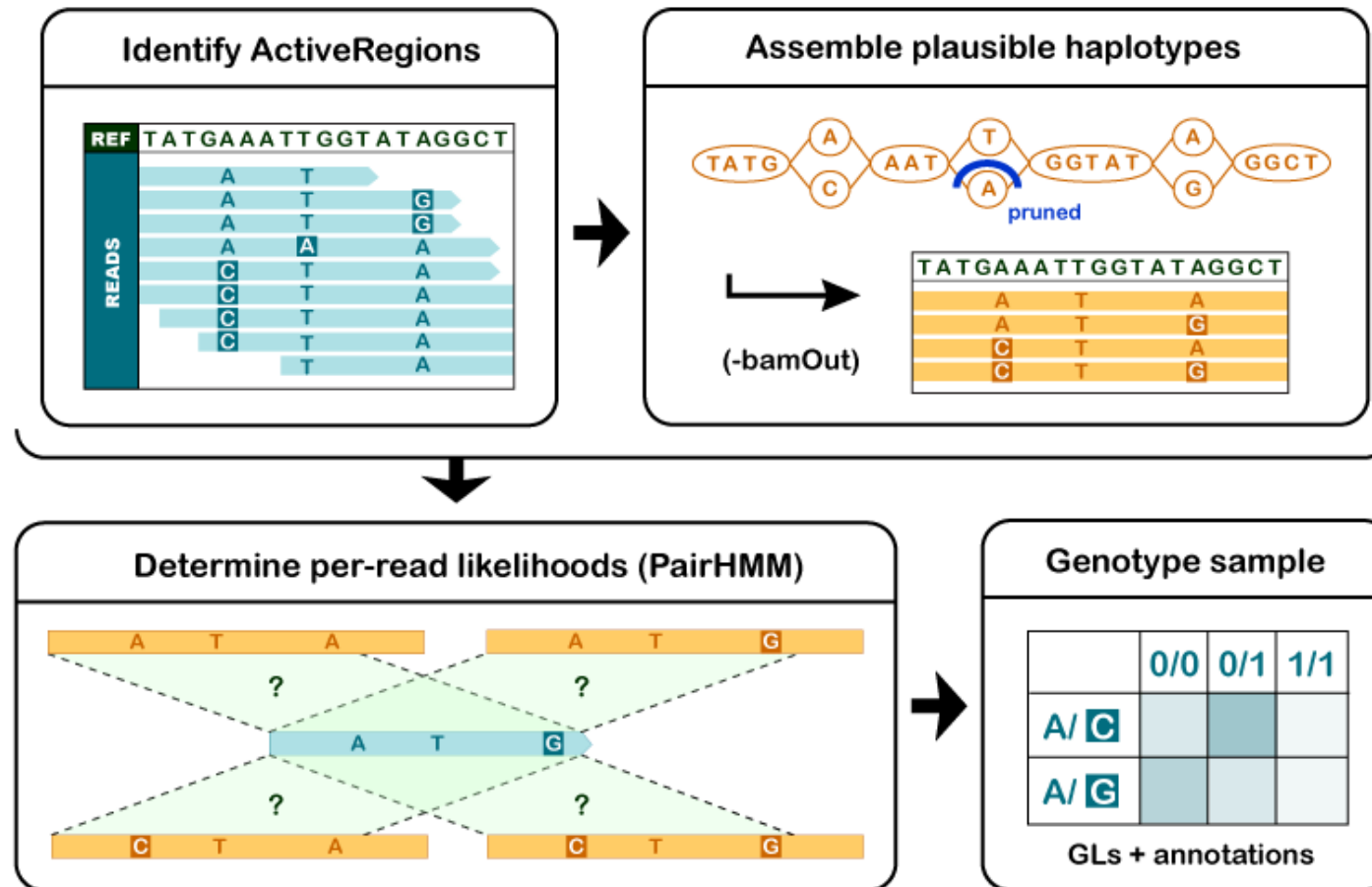
---

### Assembly-based approach

- Define active regions (evidence for variation)
- Re-assemble active region, align against reference
  - Get a list of *possible* haplotypes
  - No need for local realignment
- Determine likelihoods based on reads compared to haplotypes
- Find most likely genotype at each site, emit as a call

# Phase II : Variant Calling

## *HaplotypeCaller*



# Phase II : Variant Calling

## *UnifiedGenotyper*

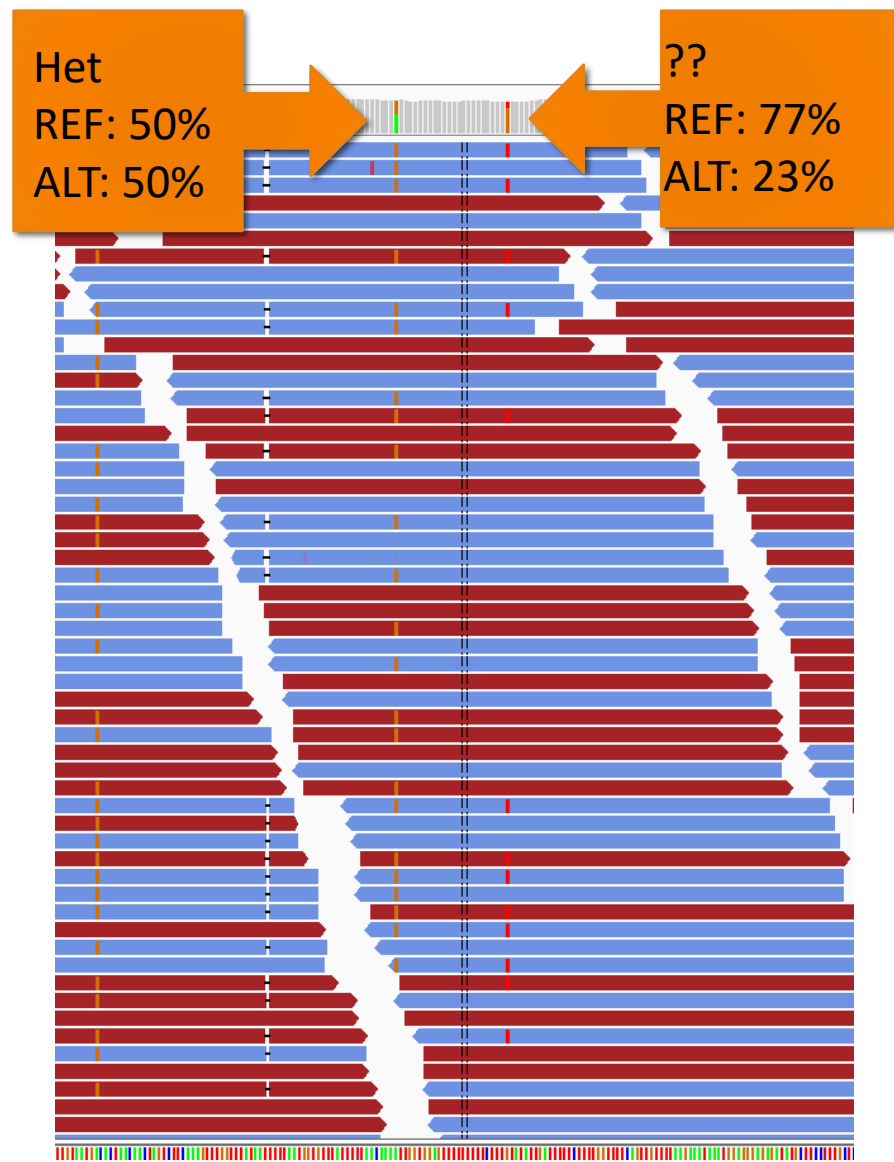
---

In general, uses a probabilistic method, e.g. Bayesian model

- Determine the possible SNP and indel alleles
- Only “good bases” are included:
  - Those satisfying minimum base quality, mapping read quality, pair mapping quality, etc.
- Compute, for each sample, for each genotype, likelihoods of data given genotypes
- Compute the allele frequency distribution to determine most likely allele count; emit a variant call if determined
- If we are going to emit a variant, assign a genotype to each sample

Note this assumes alignment is correct, **so should perform local realignment**

*No longer recommended nor supported (not in GATK v4!)*





# Side note: DeepVariant

'Deep learning' based variant calling tool

**NOT PART OF GATK**

Considered more accurate than HC


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Published: 24 September 2018

### **A universal SNP and small-indel variant caller using deep neural networks**

[Ryan Poplin](#), [Pi-Chuan Chang](#), [David Alexander](#), [Scott Schwartz](#), [Thomas Colthurst](#), [Alexander Ku](#), [Dan Newburger](#), [Jojo Dijamco](#), [Nam Nguyen](#), [Pegah T Afshar](#), [Sam S Gross](#), [Lizzie Dorfman](#), [Cory Y McLean](#) & [Mark A DePristo](#) 

*Nature Biotechnology* **36**, 983–987 (2018) | [Cite this article](#)

**23k** Accesses | **144** Citations | **320** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

<https://github.com/google/deepvariant>

# Output?

---

# Variant calling output: VCF

VCF (Variant Call Format)

Like SAM/BAM, also has a versioned specification

- From the 1000 Genomes Project
- <http://www.1000genomes.org/wiki/Analysis/Variant%20Call%20Format/vcf-variant-call-format-version-41>

Structure (2 parts):

- Header (metadata)
- Variant calls (one or more samples)

Variant calls have multiple fields (right)

COL	FIELD	DESCRIPTION
1	CHROM	Chromosome name
2	POS	1-based position. For an indel, this is the position preceding the indel.
3	ID	Variant identifier. Usually the dbSNP rsID.
4	REF	Reference sequence at POS involved in the variant. For a SNP, it is a single base.
5	ALT	Comma delimited list of alternative sequence(s).
6	QUAL	Phred-scaled probability of all samples being homozygous reference.
7	FILTER	Semicolon delimited list of filters that the variant fails to pass.
8	INFO	Semicolon delimited list of variant information.
9	FORMAT	Colon delimited list of the format of individual genotypes in the following fields.
10+	Sample(s)	Individual genotype information defined by FORMAT.

# Formats: VCF

---

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:.,.
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF - Header

---

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:.,.
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF – Variant calls

---

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:.,.
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF – Chromosome and position

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054217 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:.,.
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040155 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF - ID

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:..,
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microat1 GTC G,GCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```



# Formats: VCF – Reference and alternate alleles

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:..,
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 PASS NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF – Variant quality

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5 DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:..
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF – Filter

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1/1:43:5:..
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017→ GT:GQ DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:18,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF – Variant information (across samples)

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51 1|0:48:8:51,51 1|1:43:5:..
20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50 0|1:3:5:65,3 0/0:41:3
20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27 2|1:2:0:8,2 2/2:35:4
20 1230237 . T . 47 PASS NS=3;DP=13;AA=T GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:54:7:56,60 0|0:48:4:51,51 0/0:61:2
20 1234567 microsat1 GTC G,GTCT 50 PASS NS=3;DP=9;AA=G GT:GQ:DP 0/1:35:4 0/2:17:2 1/1:40:3
```

# Formats: VCF - Per-sample format information

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
```

```
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
```

#CHROM	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO	FORMAT	NA00001	NA00002	NA00003
20	14370	rs6054257	G	A	29	PASS	NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:48:1:51,51	1 0:48:8:51,51	/1:43:5:.,.
20	17330	.	T	A	3	q10	NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:49:3:58,50	0 1:3:5:65,3	0/0:41:3
20	1110696	rs6040355	A	G,T	67	PASS	NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	1 2:21:6:23,27	2 1:2:0	18,2 2/2:35:4
20	1230237	.	T	.	47	PASS	NS=3;DP=13;AA=T	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:54:7:56,60	0 0:48:4:51,51	0/0:61:2
20	1234567	microsat1	GTC	G,GTCT	50	PASS	NS=3;DP=9;AA=G	GT:GQ:DP	0/1:35:4	0/2:17:2	1/1:40:3

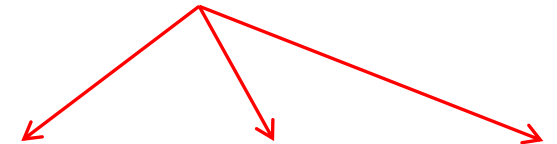
# Formats: VCF – Formats - Variant per-sample information

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
```

```
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
```

#CHROM	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO	FORMAT	NA00001	NA00002	NA00003
20	14370	rs6054257	G	A	29	PASS	NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:48:1:51,51	1 0:48:8:51,51	1 1:43:5:..
20	17330	.	T	A	3	q10	NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:49:3:58,50	0 1:3:5:65,3	0/0:41:3
20	1110696	rs6040355	A	G,T	67	PASS	NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	1 2:21:6:23,27	2 1:2:0	18,2 2/2:35:4
20	1230237	.	T	.	47	PASS	NS=3;DP=13;AA=T	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:54:7:56,60	0 0:48:4:51,51	0/0:61:2
20	1234567	microsat1	GTC	G,GTCT	50	PASS	NS=3;DP=9;AA=G	GT:GQ:DP	0/1:35:4	0/2:17:2	1/1:40:3

Samples



--	--	--	--

# Annotations

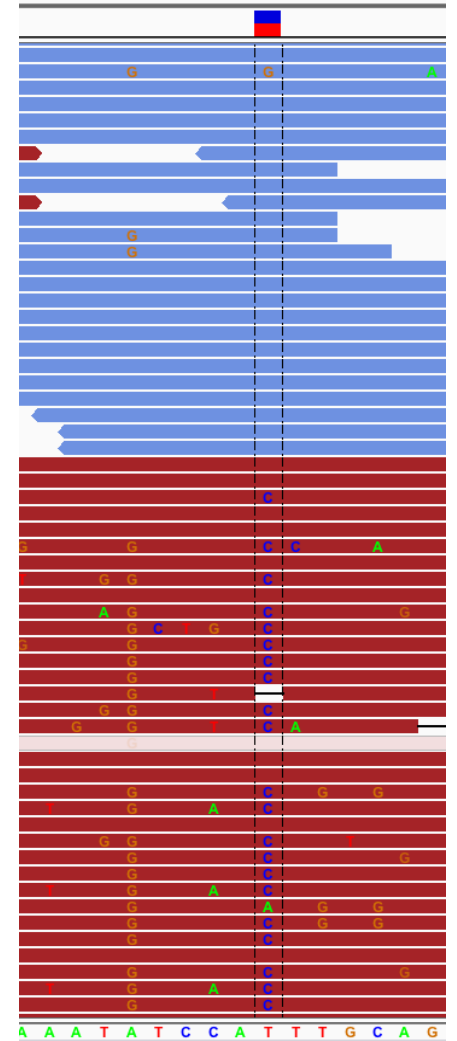
Additional data included for variants that help assess quality of the call

Complete list [link](#) (GATK)

Can include measures/scores for:

- Quality of variant call (QD)
- Total or allele-specific read depth
- Read base quality metrics
- Strand bias (FS) – at right
- Base quality (QD)
- Consanguinity (InbreedingCoefficient)
- Tumor/normal somatic calling information (TLOD, NLOD)

Strand Bias

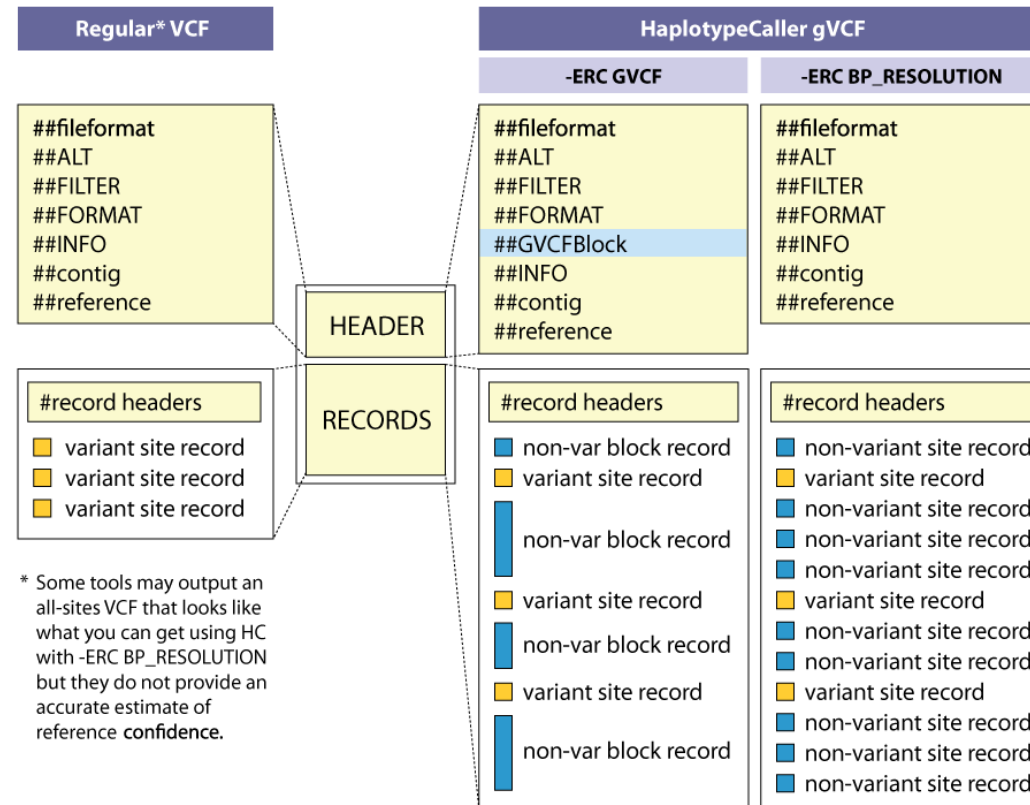


# GVCF

## Genomic VCF

A VCF file that contains a record for every site (regardless if there is a variant or not)

*Highly recommended for multi-sample calling*





# Phase II : Filtering

---

Two basic methods:

- Hard filtering
- Variant quality score recalibration (VQSR)

# Phase II : Hard Filtering

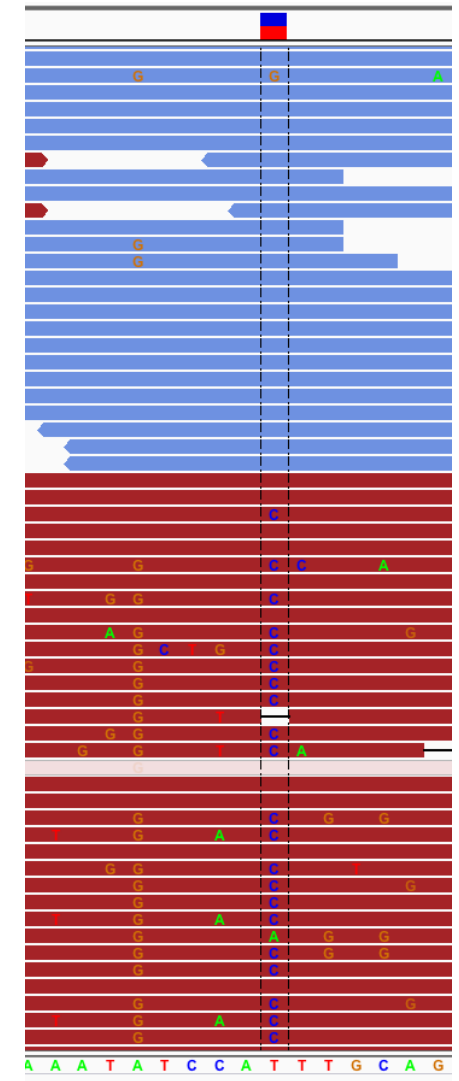
Reducing false positives by e.g. requiring

- Sufficient Depth
- Variant to be in >30% reads
- High quality
- **Strand balance**
- Etc etc etc

Very high dimensional search space

- ... so, very subjective!

Strand Bias



# Phase II : Hard Filtering

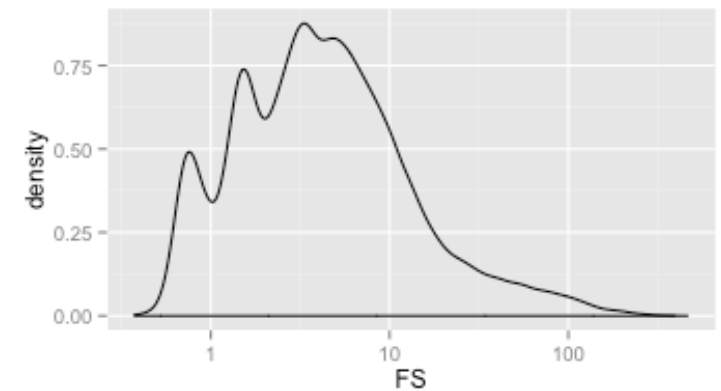
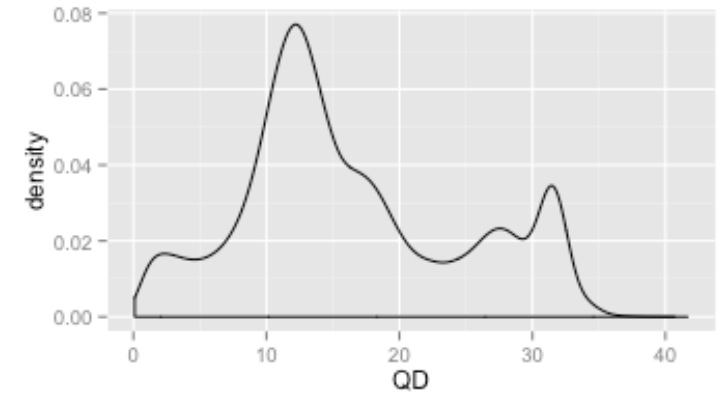
Great overview [here](#)

Some starting points [here](#)

Visualize distribution of annotation value, pick cutoff

## Most informative annotations:

- QD – normalized quality
- FS – strand bias
- SOR - strand bias
- MQ – mapping qual of reads
- MQRankSum - mapping qual of reads
- ReadPosRankSum - position of alleles in read



# Phase II : Variant Quality Score Recalibration (VQSR)

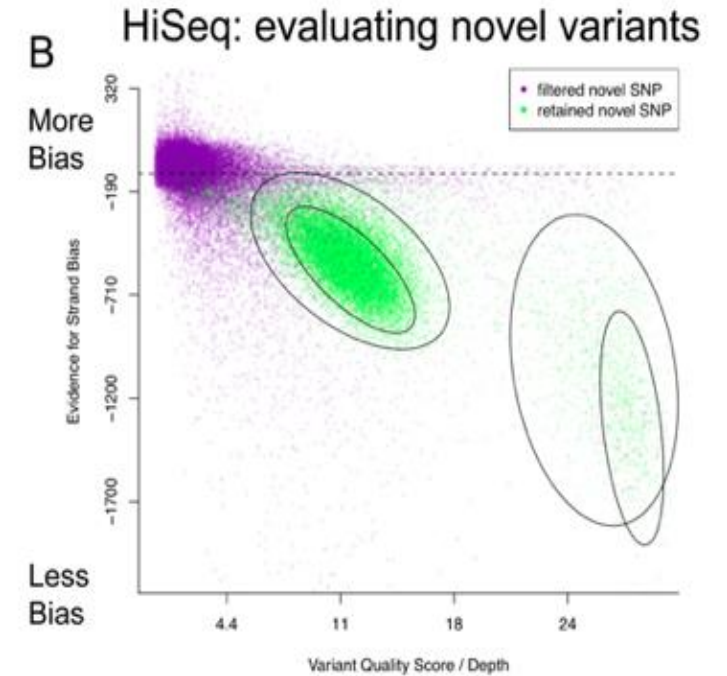
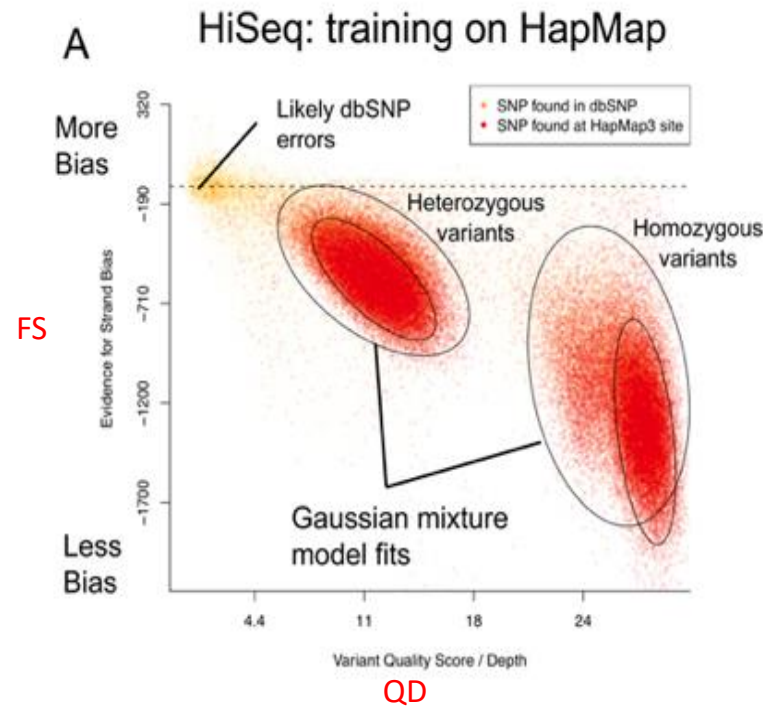
Considered GATK 'best practice'

Train on trusted variants (e.g. HapMap)

Require the new variants to live in the same hyperspace

## Potential problems:

- Over-fitting
- Biasing to features of known SNPs



# Phase II : Variant Quality Score Recalibration (VQSR)

Considered GATK 'best practice'

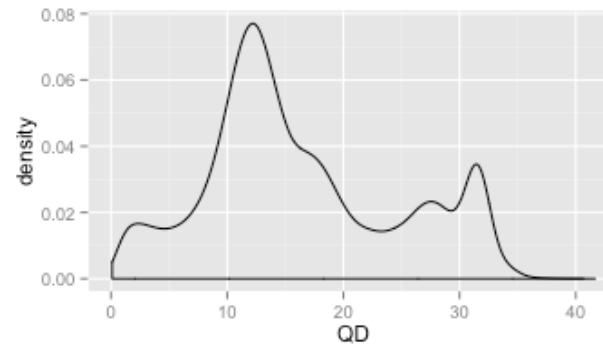
Train on trusted variants (e.g. HapMap)

Require the new variants to live in the same hyperspace

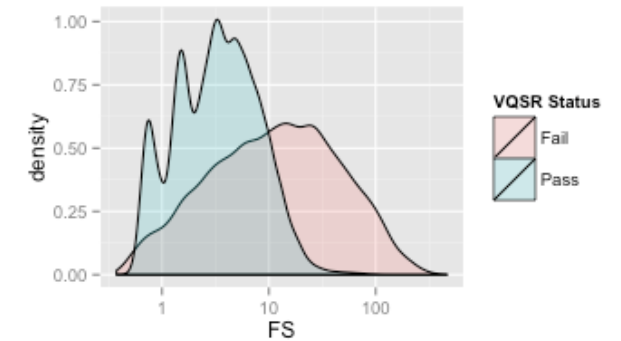
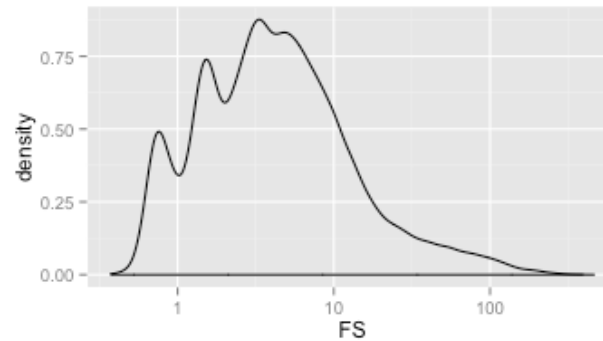
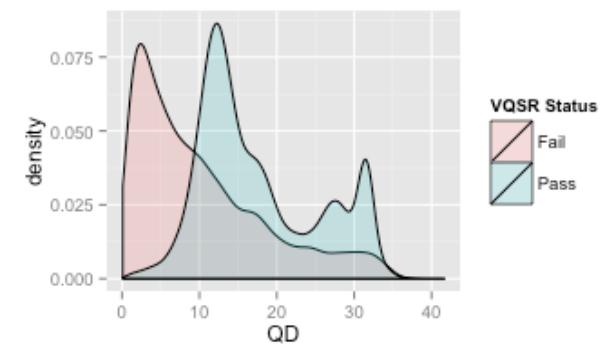
## Potential problems:

- Over-fitting
- Biasing to features of known SNPs

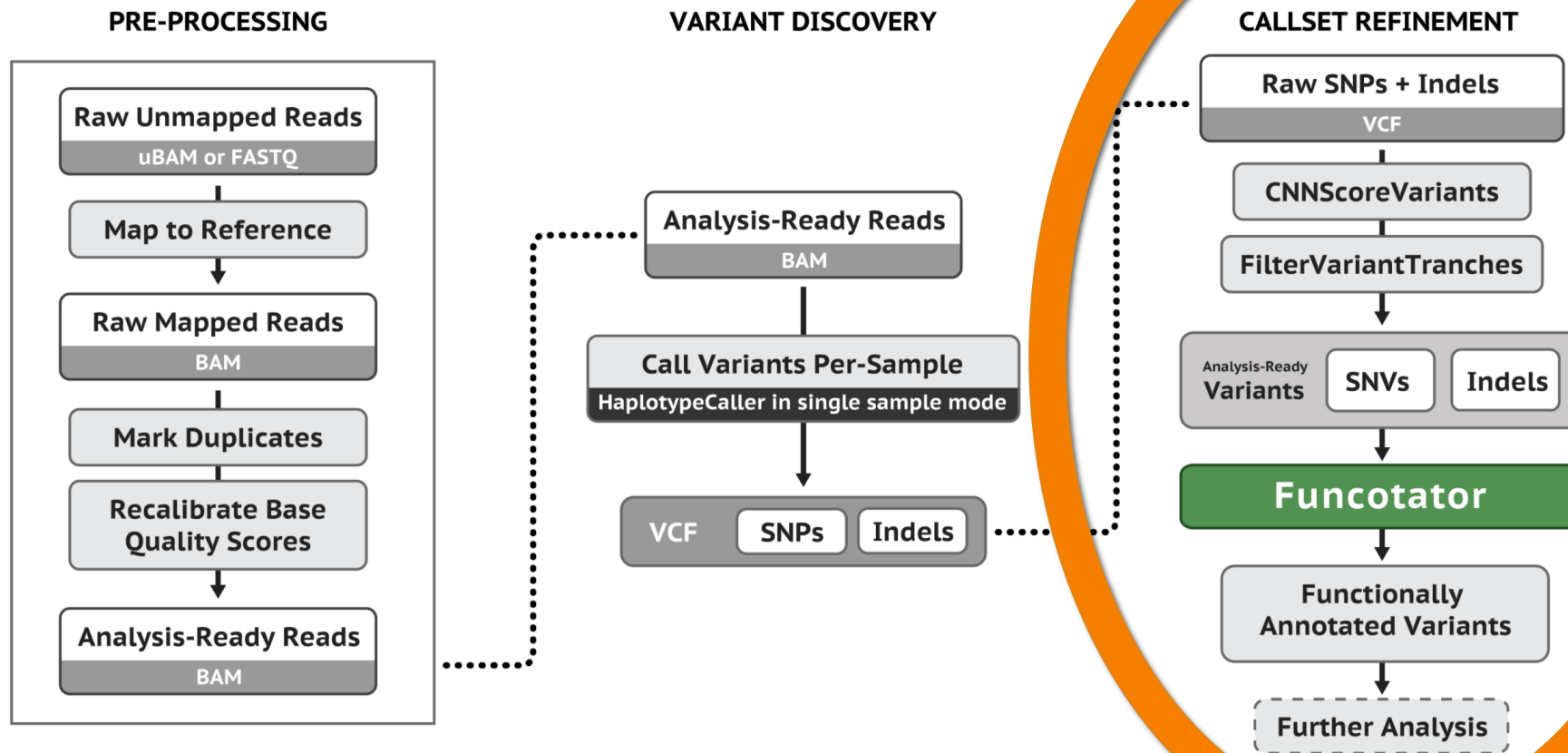
Hard Filtering



VQSR



# Phase III : Integrative Analysis



# Phase III : Functional Annotation

Are these mutations in important regions?

- Genes? UTR?
- Are they changing the coding sequence?

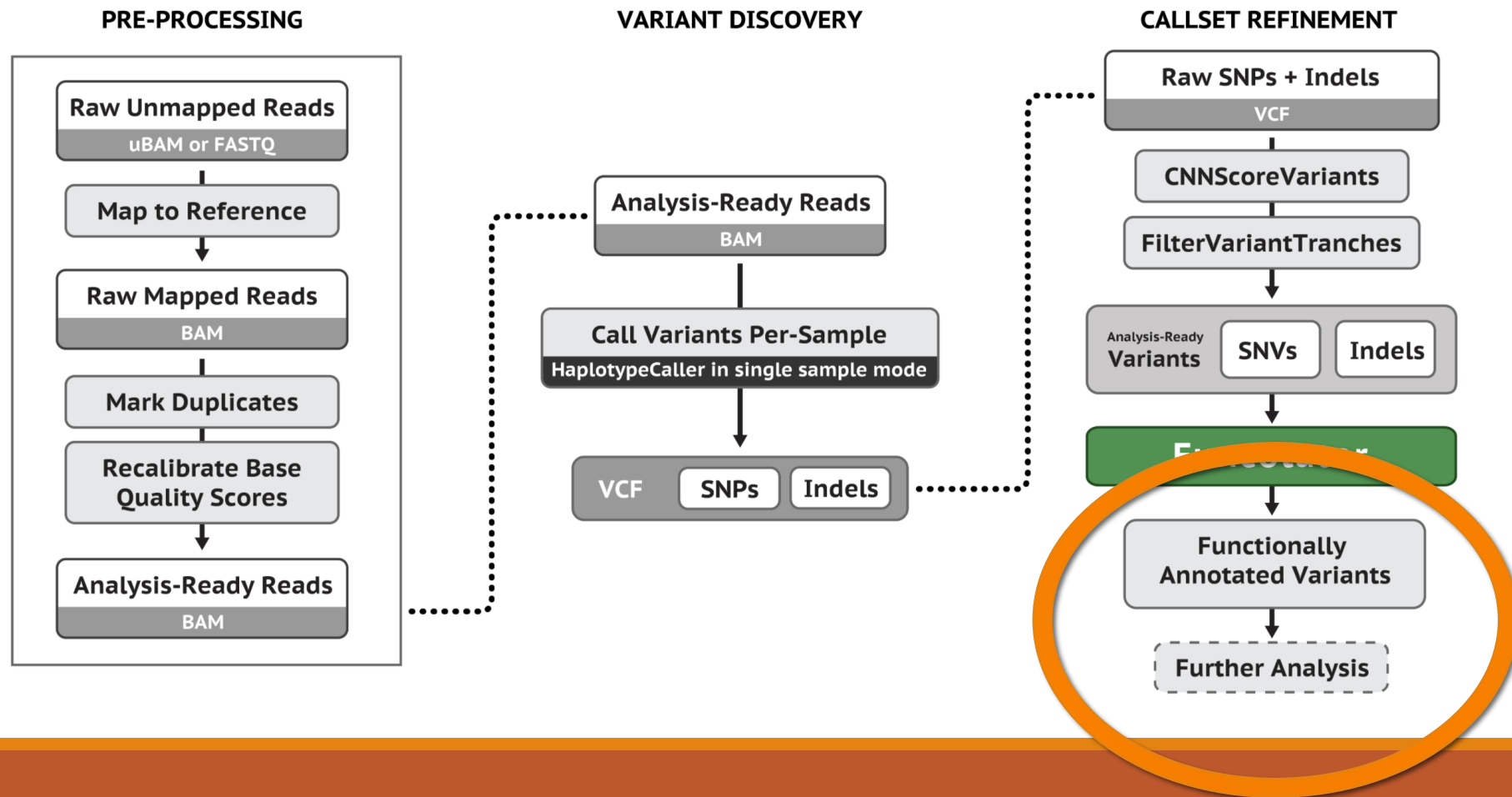
Would these changes have an affect?

Tools:

- SnpEff/SnpSift
- Annovar



# The end of the (pipe)line





# Follow-up Quality Control

Transition/Transversion ratio ( $T_i/T_v$ )

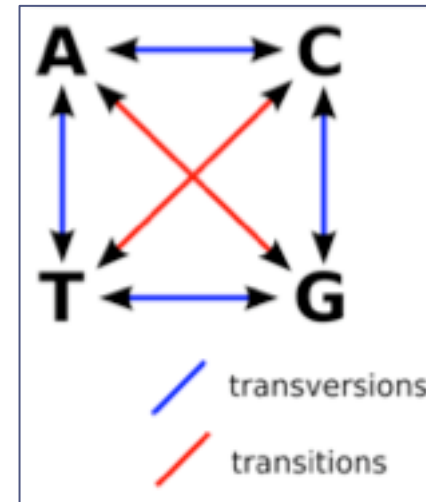
Condition	Expected $T_i/T_v$
random	0.5
whole genome	2.1
exome	3.0-3.3

- *bcftools* can help here

Concordance with known variants: dbSNP, HapMap, 1000genomes

Lower than expected – possibly includes more false positives

Higher than expected – indicates potential bias



# Calling variants on cohorts of samples

When running HaplotypeCaller, can use a specific output type called **GVCF (Genotype VCF)**

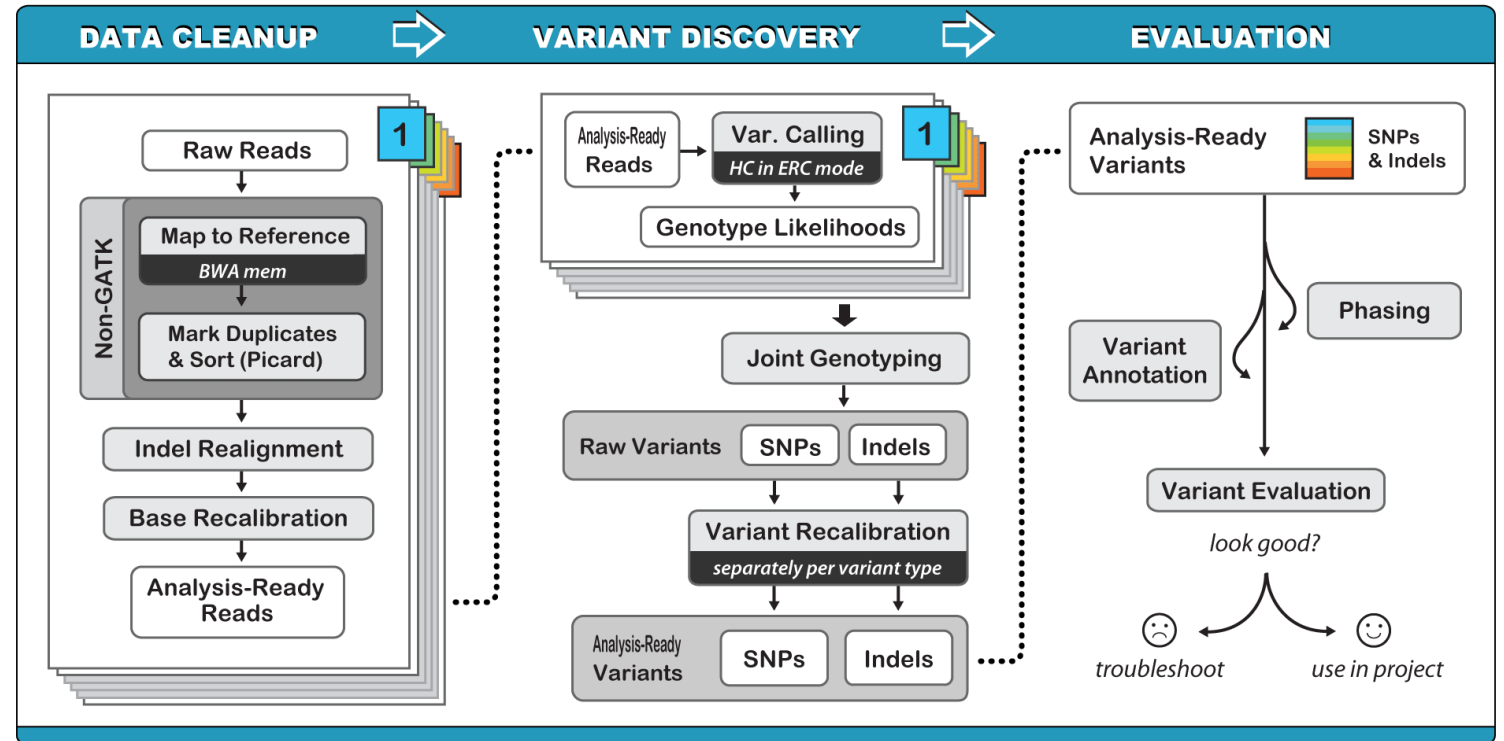
- Contains genotype likelihood and annotation for each site in genome

Perform joint genotyping calls on cohort

Can rerun as needed if more samples added to cohort

Used for ExAC cohort (92K exomes)

[Link!](#)



# Bonus materials

---

Structural variants

# Acknowledgments

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Many figures/slides come from:

- GATK Workshop slides: <http://www.broadinstitute.org/gatk/guide/events?id=2038>
- IGV Workshop slides: <http://lanyrd.com/2013/vizbi/scdttf/>
- Denis Bauer (CSIRO): <http://www.allpower.de/>
- Many varied publications