

# Canadian Bioinformatics Workshops

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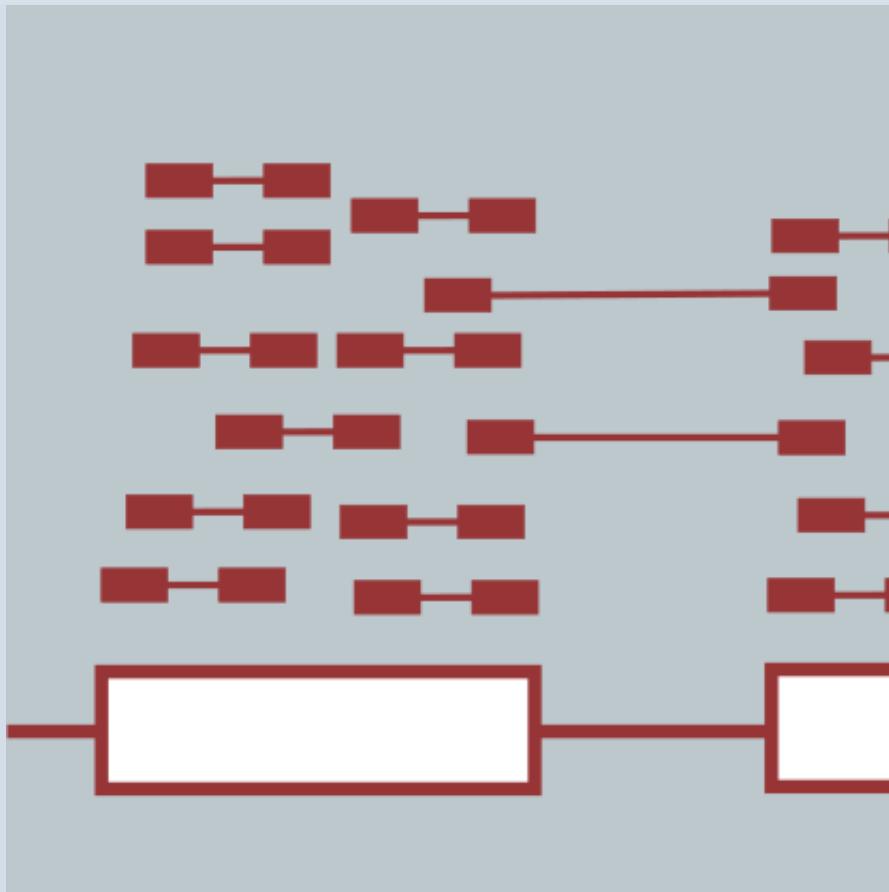
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# Genome-Free De novo Transcriptome Assembly

Brian Haas

Informatics for RNA-Seq Analysis

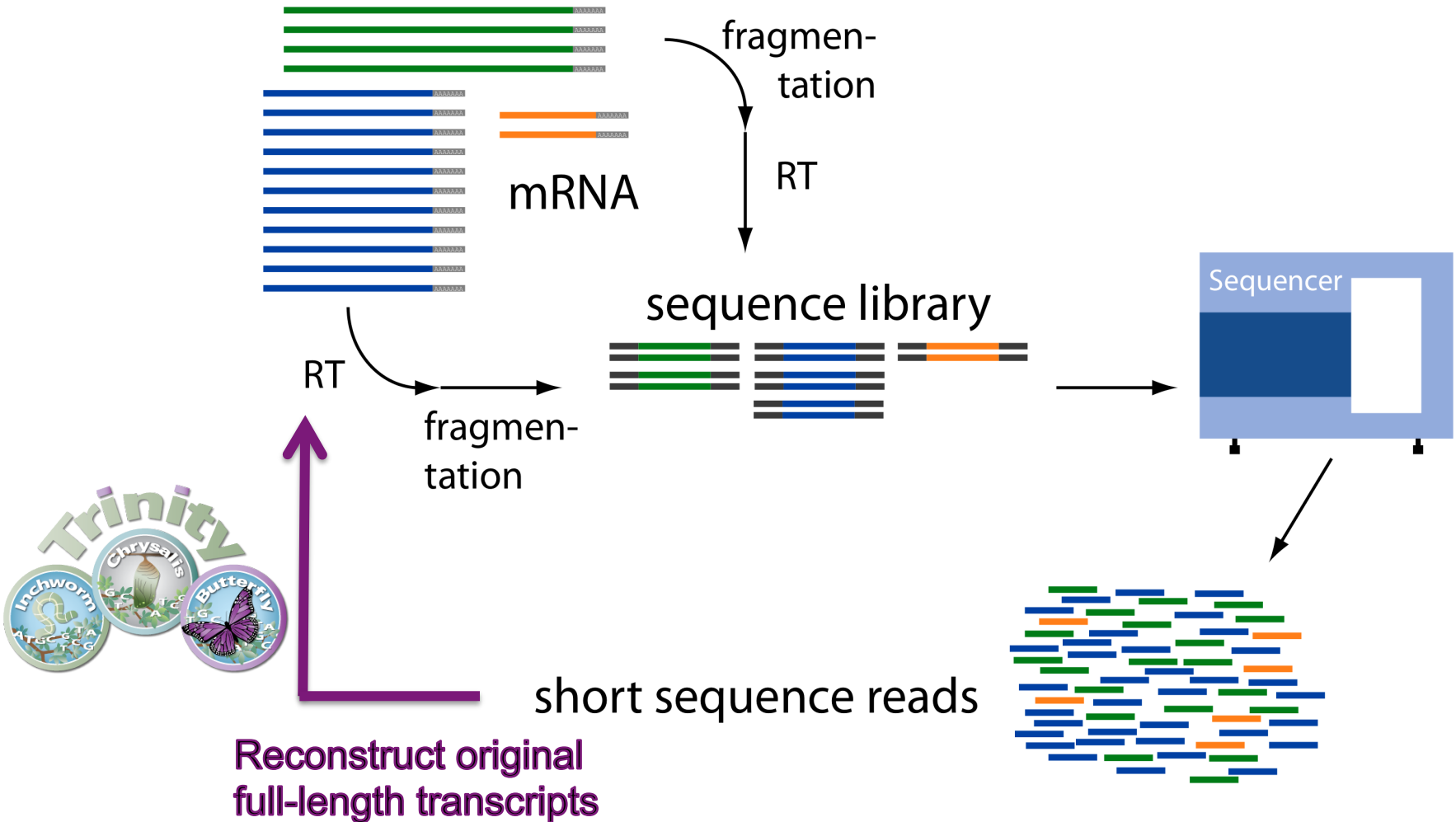
July 10-12, 2017



# Learning Objectives of Module

- Understand the challenges involved in reconstructing transcripts from RNA-Seq data
- Become familiar with computational algorithms and data structures leveraged for transcript assembly
- Appreciate the importance of strand-specific RNA-Seq data.
- Learn various ways to assess the quality of an assembled transcriptome.

# Assembly Required



Adapted from G. Raetsch

# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



## Advancing RNA-Seq analysis

Brian J Haas & Michael C Zody

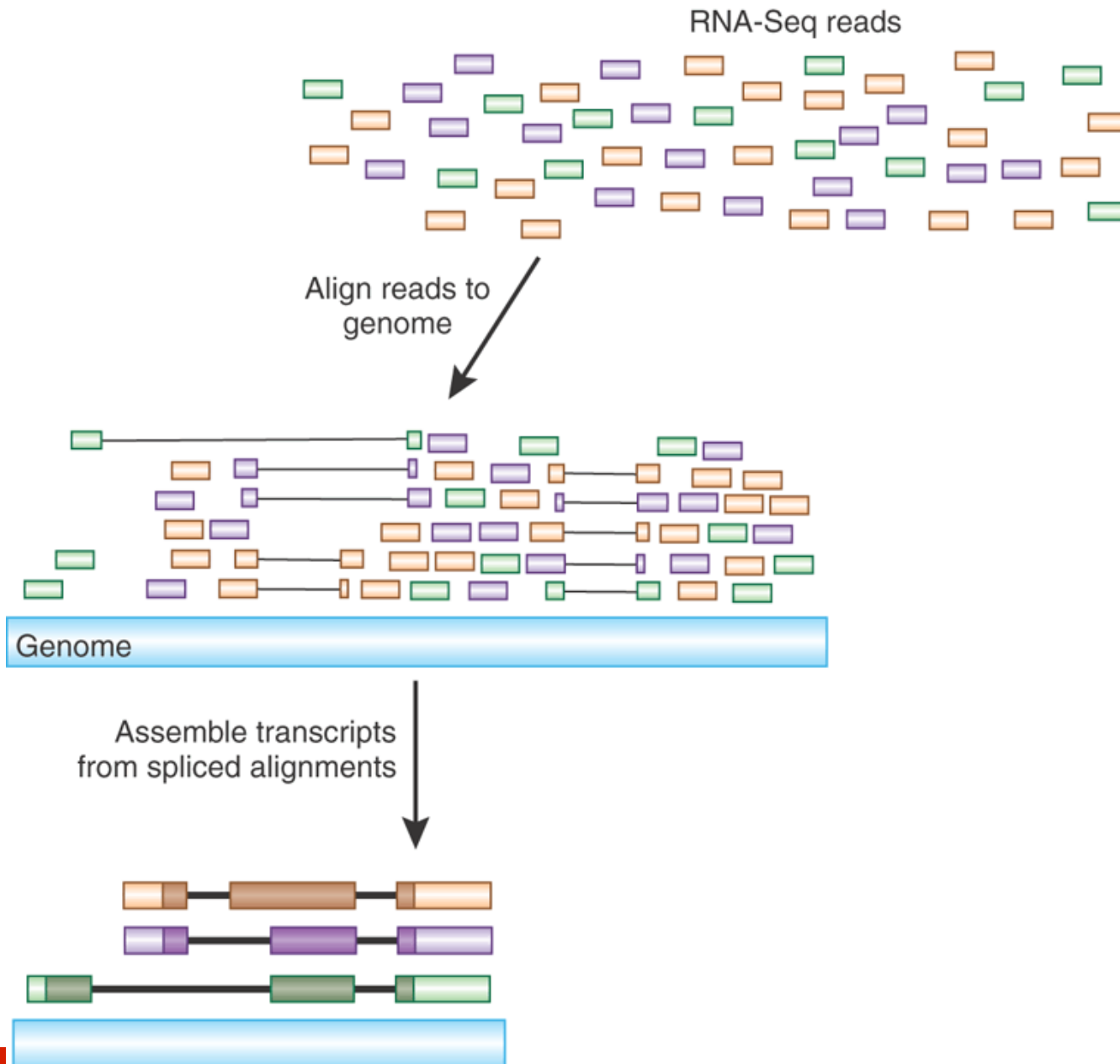
Nature Biotech, 2010

New methods for analyzing RNA-Seq data enable *de novo* reconstruction of the transcriptome.

# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads

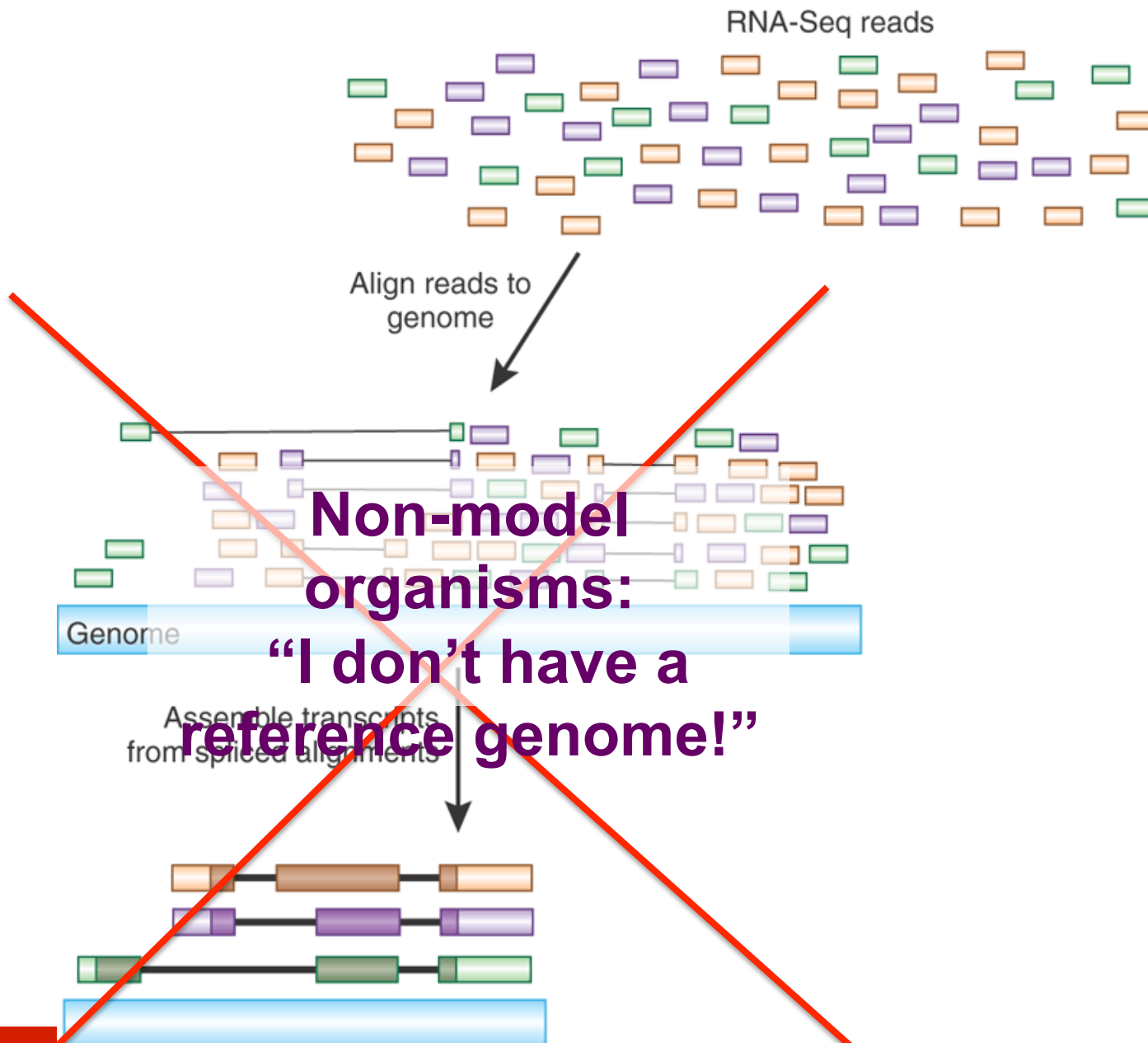


# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads





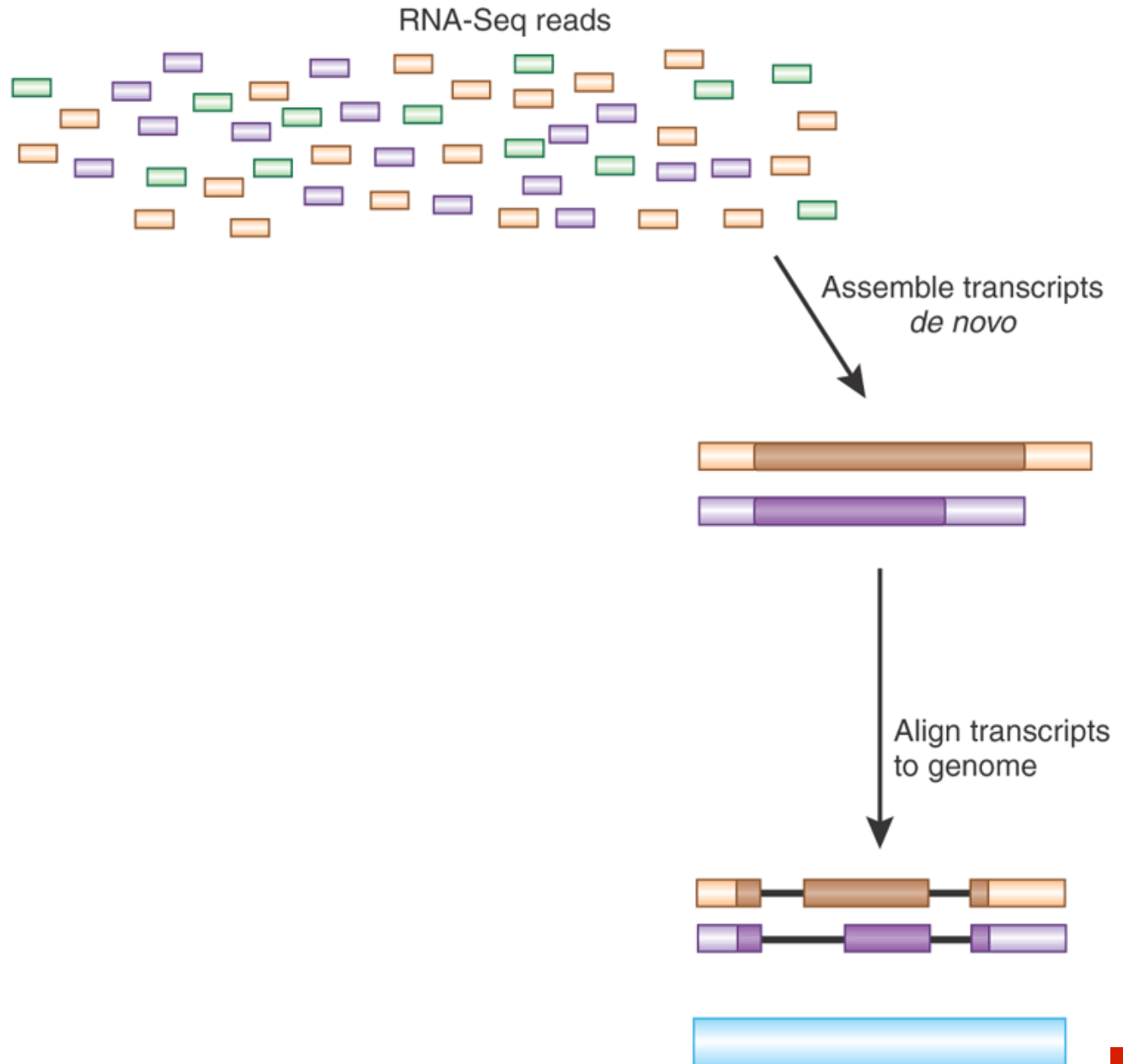
# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



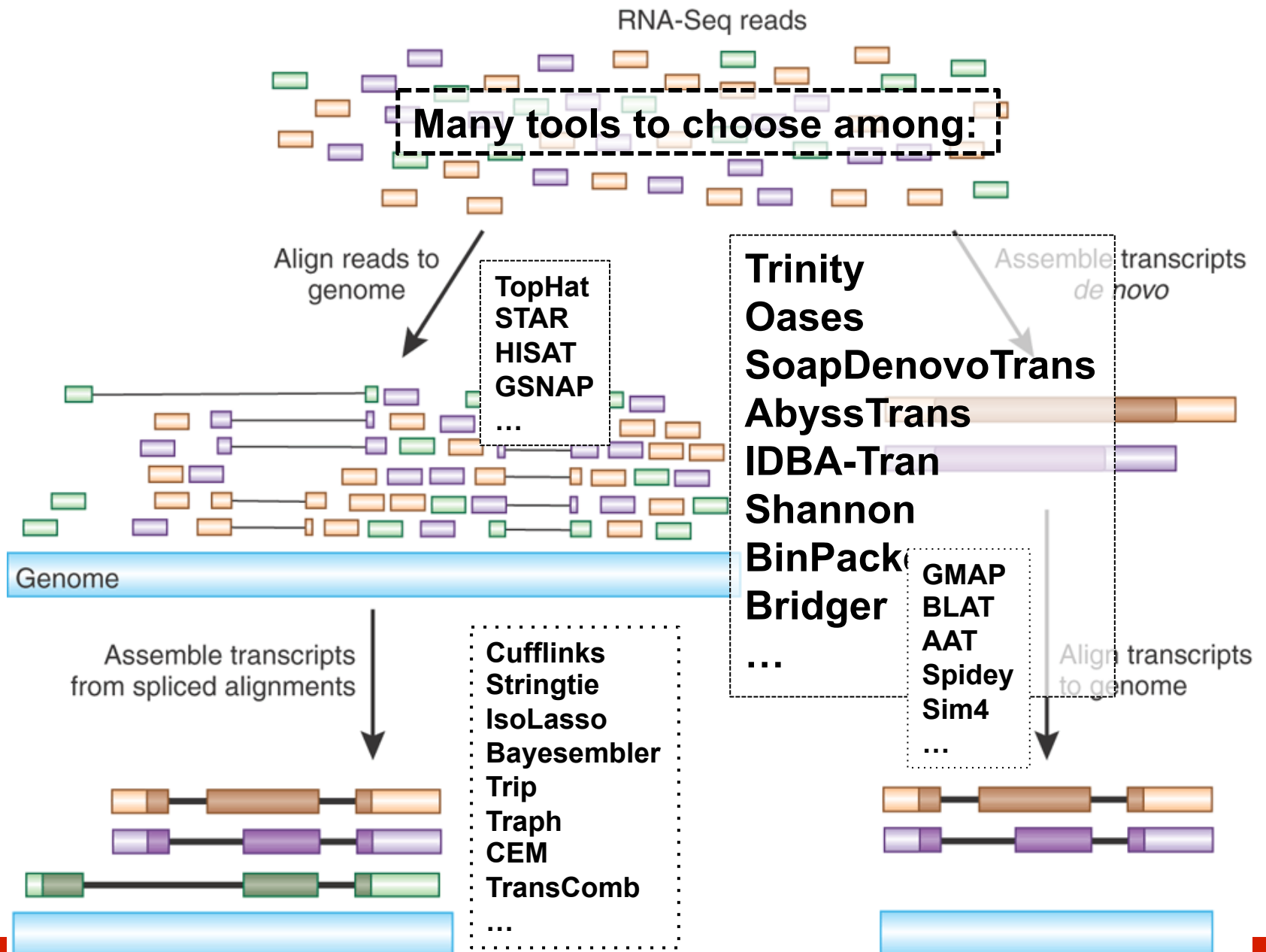
# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



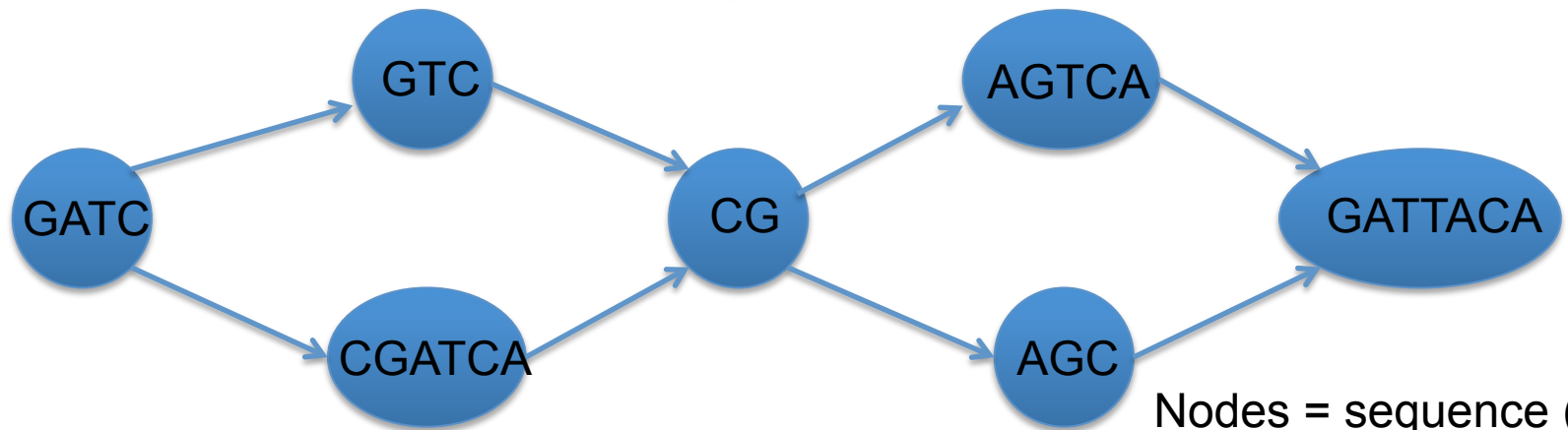
# Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



# Graph Data Structures Commonly Used For Assembly

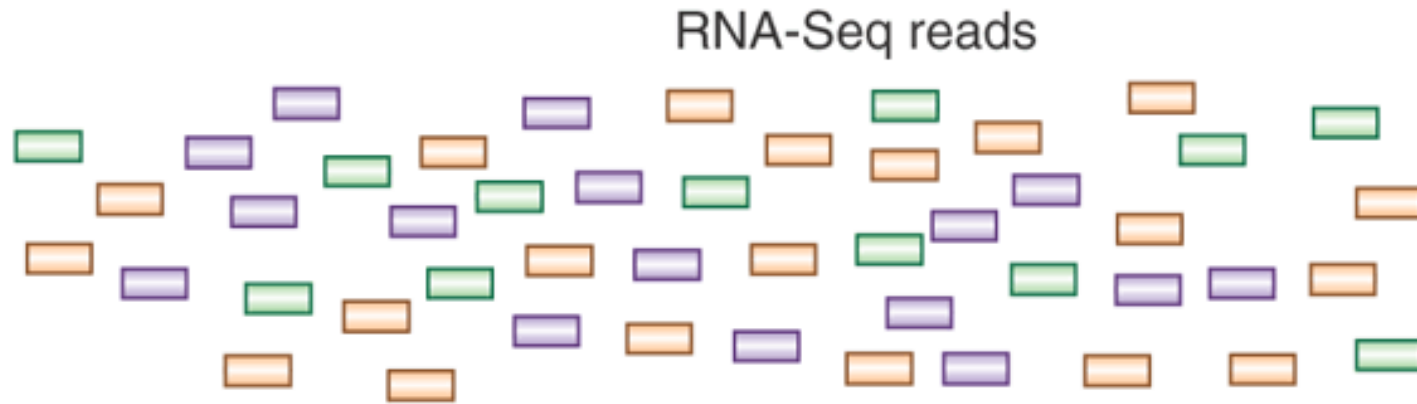


- Sequence
- Order
- Orientation (+, -)
- Overlap

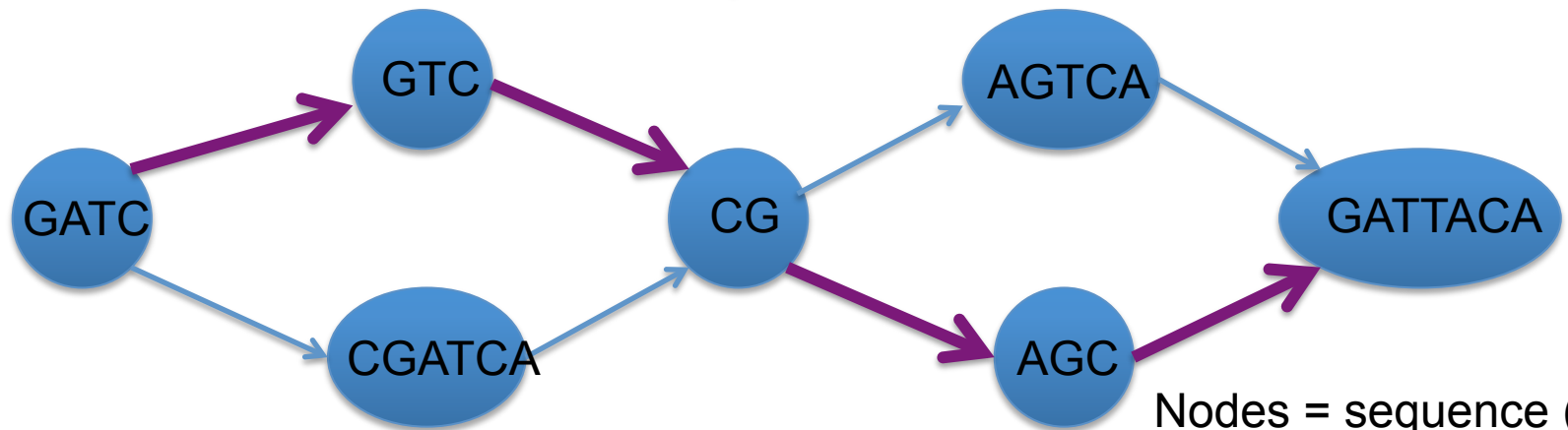
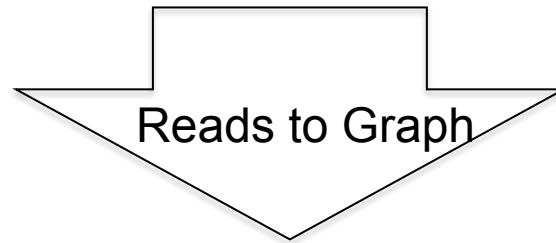


Nodes = sequence (+/-)  
Edges = order, overlap

# Graph Data Structures Commonly Used For Assembly



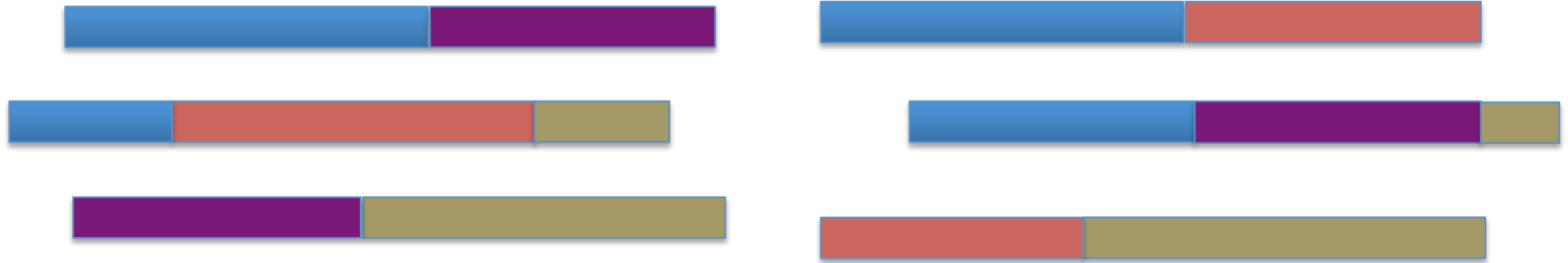
- Sequence
- Order
- Orientation (+, -)
- Overlap



Nodes = sequence (+/-)  
Edges = order, overlap

**GATCGTCCGAGCGATTACA**

# Read Overlap Graph: Reads as nodes, overlaps as edges



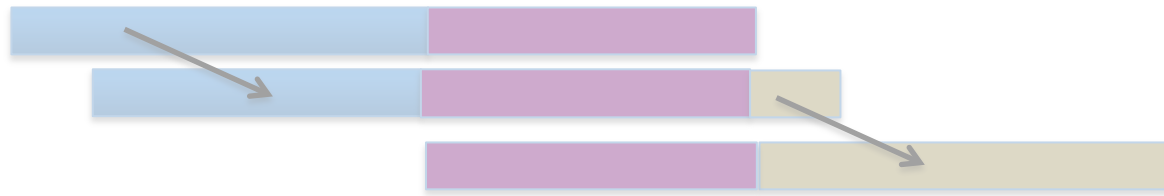
# Read Overlap Graph: Reads as nodes, overlaps as edges



Node = read  
Edge = overlap



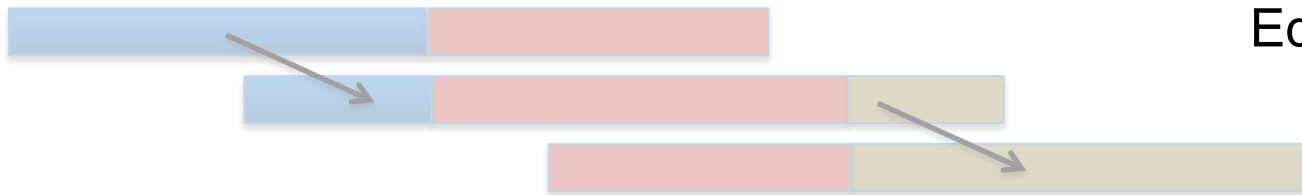
# Read Overlap Graph: Reads as nodes, overlaps as edges



Transcript A



Generate consensus sequence where reads overlap

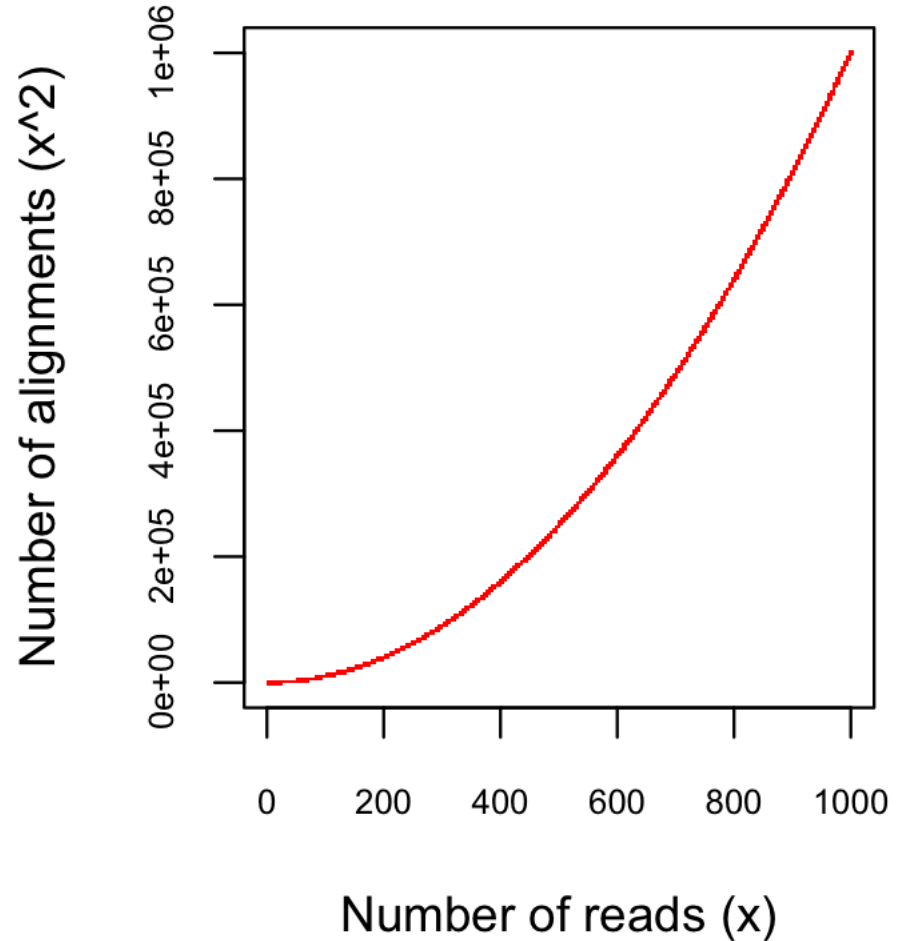
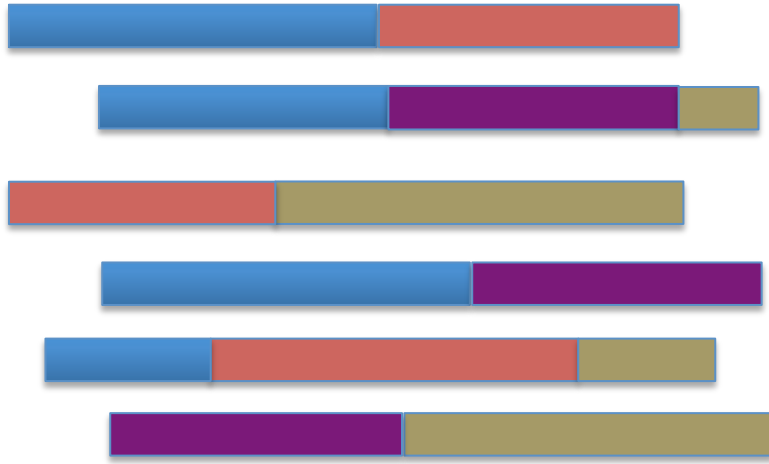


Node = read  
Edge = overlap

Transcript B

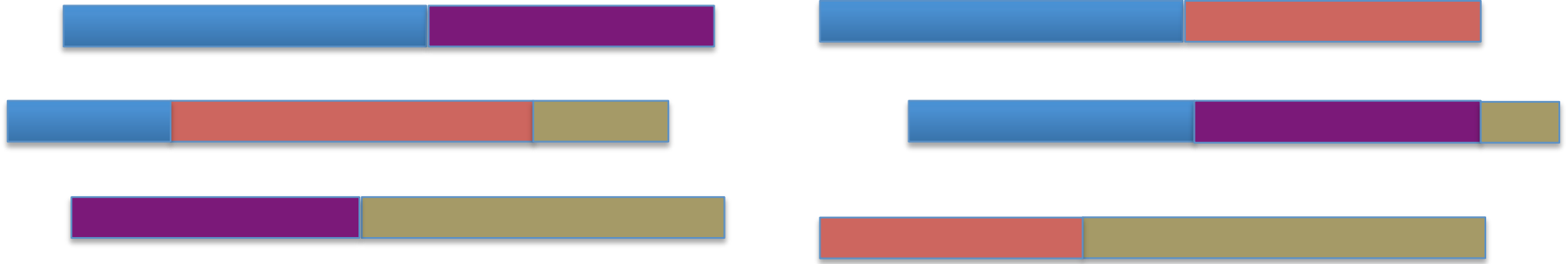


Finding pairwise overlaps between  $n$  reads involves  $\sim n^2$  comparisons.



*Impractical for typical RNA-Seq data (50M reads)*

# No genome to align to... De novo assembly required

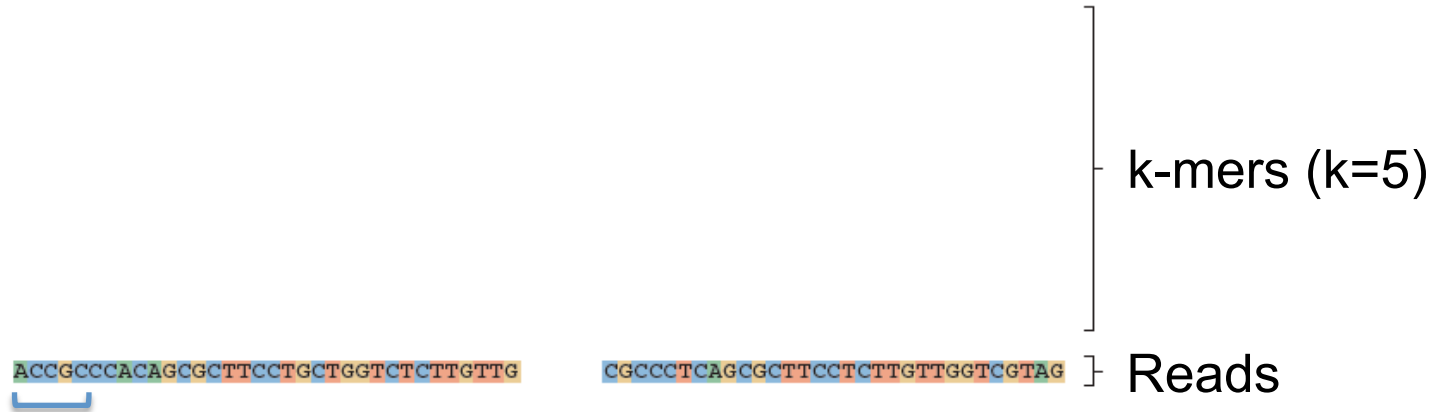


Want to avoid  $n^2$  read alignments to define overlaps

**Use a de Bruijn graph**

# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

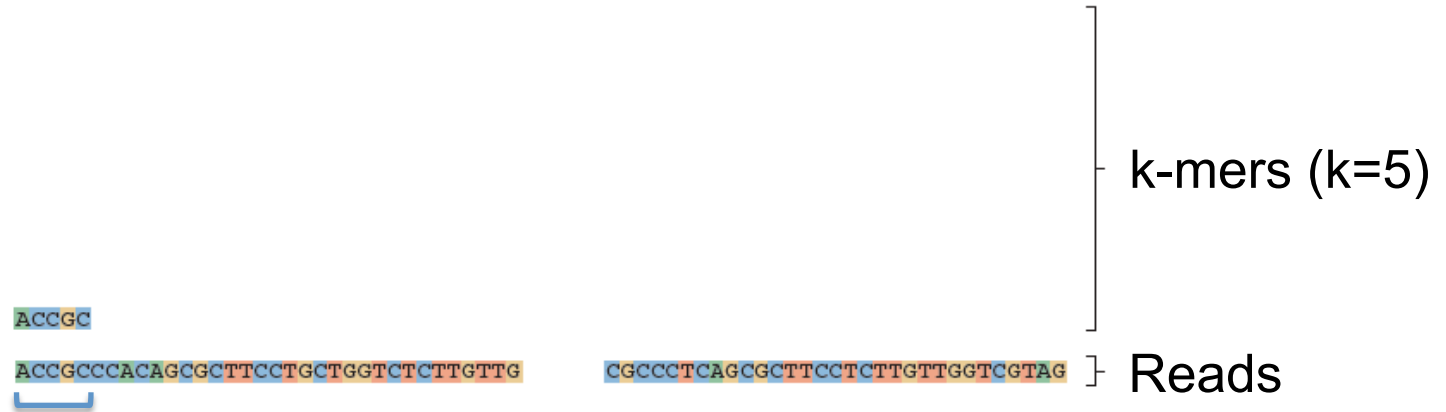
Generate all substrings of length  $k$  from the reads



From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

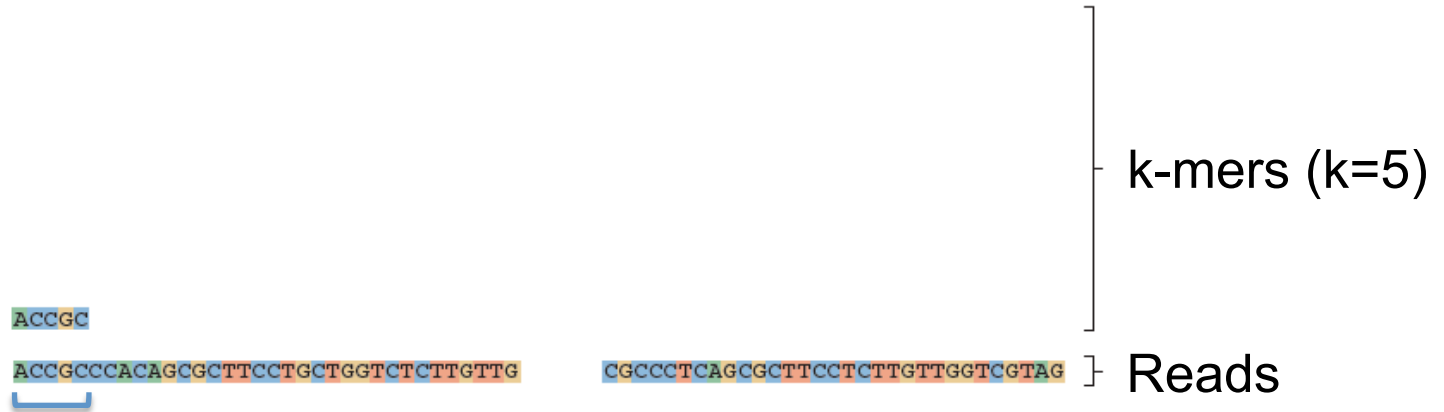
Generate all substrings of length  $k$  from the reads



From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

Generate all substrings of length  $k$  from the reads

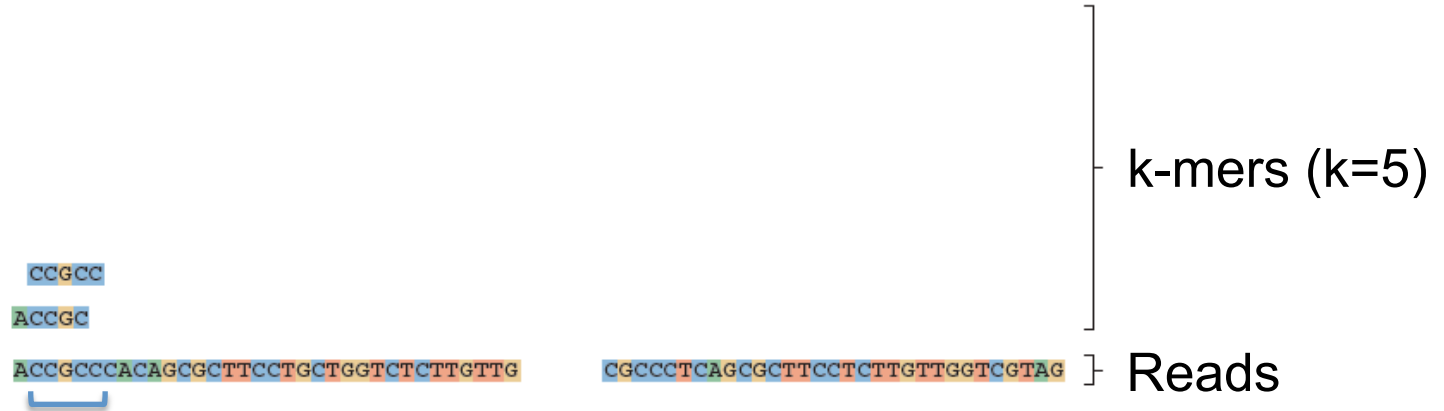


Construct the de Bruijn graph



# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

Generate all substrings of length  $k$  from the reads



Construct the de Bruijn graph



From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

Nodes = unique k-mers, Edges = overlap by  $(k-1)$

# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

Generate all substrings of length  $k$  from the reads



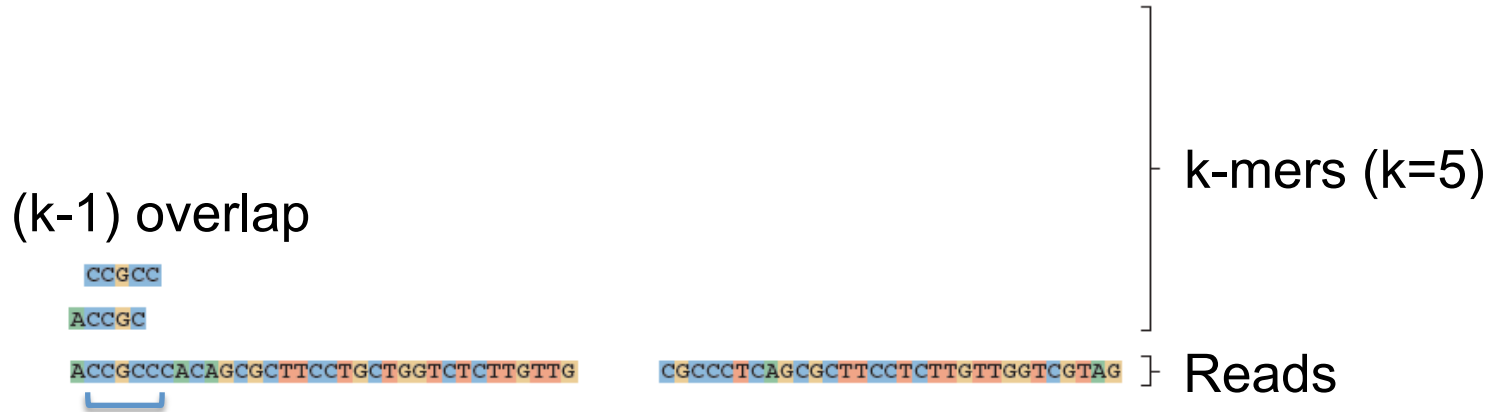
Construct the de Bruijn graph





# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

Generate all substrings of length  $k$  from the reads



Construct the de Bruijn graph

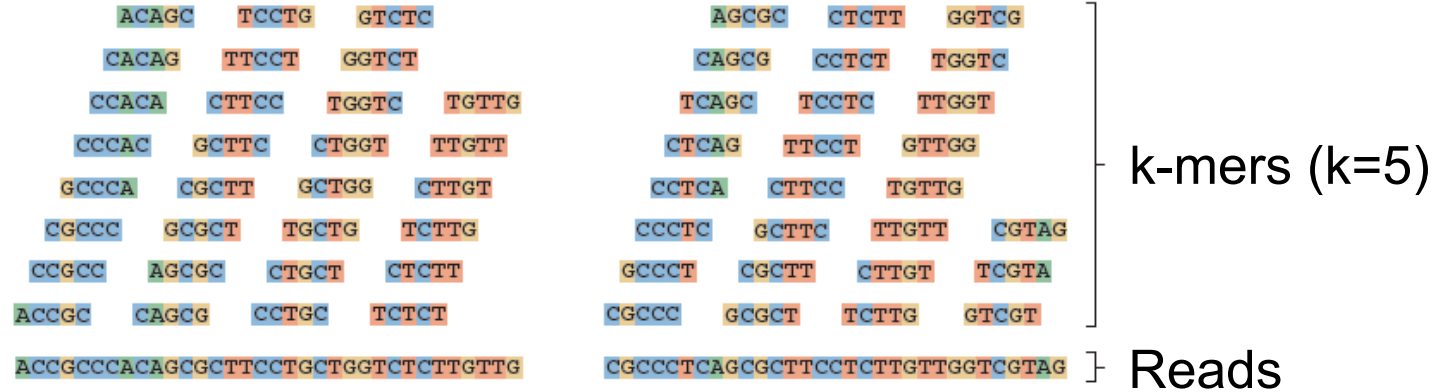


From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

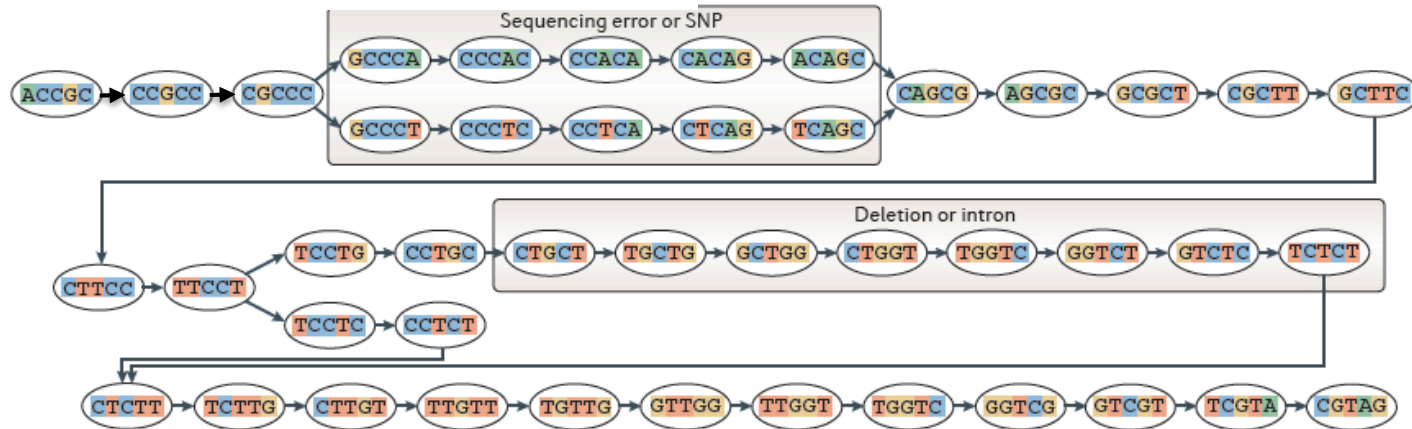
Nodes = unique k-mers, Edges = overlap by ( $k-1$ )

# Sequence Assembly via De Bruijn Graphs

Generate all substrings of length k from the reads



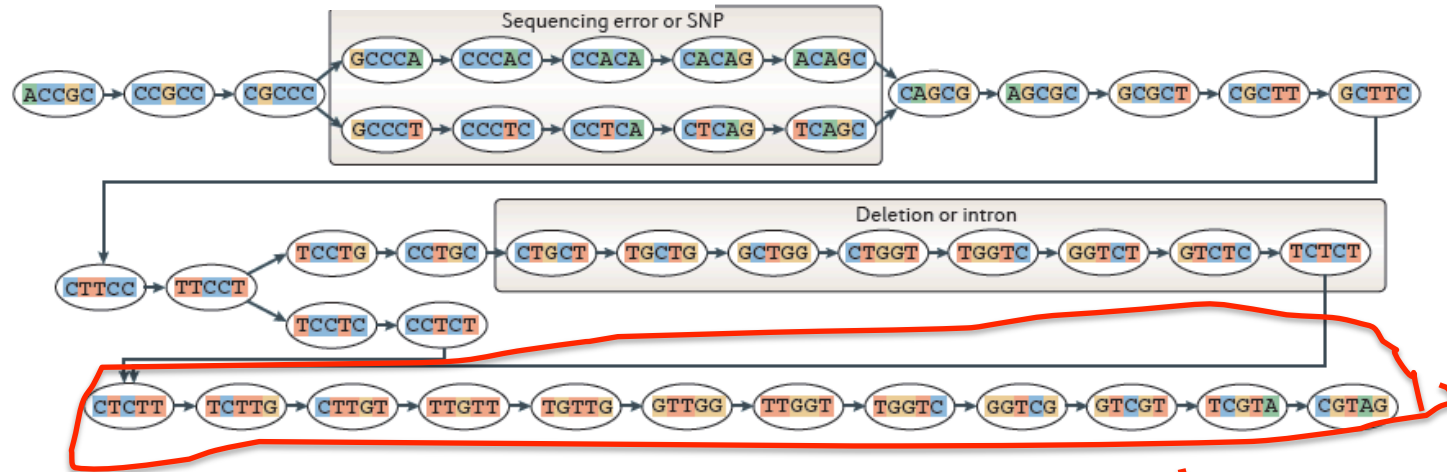
Construct the de Bruijn graph



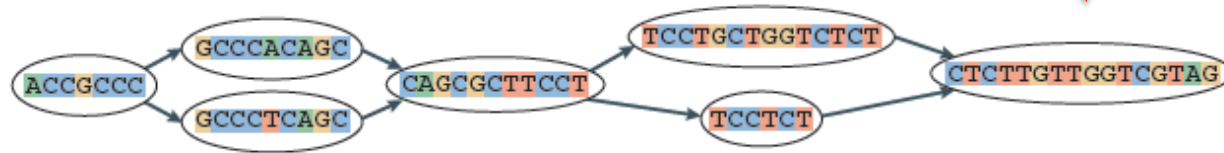
From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

Nodes = unique k-mers, Edges = overlap by (k-1)

# Construct the de Bruijn graph

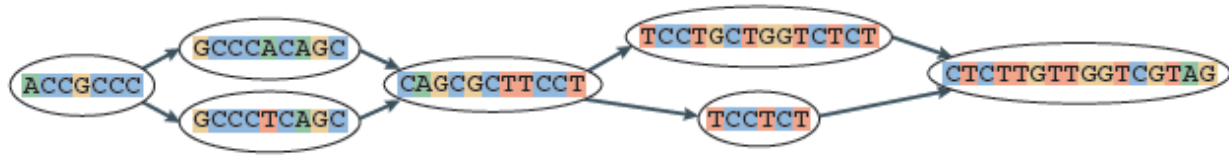


# Collapse the de Bruijn graph



From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

## Collapse the de Bruijn graph



## Traverse the graph



## Assemble Transcript Isoforms

- - - - - ACCGCCACAGCGCTTCCTGCTGGTCTCTTGTTGGTCGTAG  
 - - - - - ACCGCCACAGCGCTTCCT - - - - - CTGTTGGTCGTAG  
 - - - - - ACCGCCCTCAGCGCTTCCT - - - - - CTGTTGGTCGTAG  
 - - - - - ACCGCCCTCAGCGCTTCCTGCTGGTCTCTTGTTGGTCGTAG

From Martin & Wang, Nat. Rev. Genet. 2011

# Contrasting Genome and Transcriptome *De novo* Assembly

## Genome Assembly

- Uniform coverage
- Single contig per locus
- Assemble small numbers of large Mb-length chromosomes
- Double-stranded data

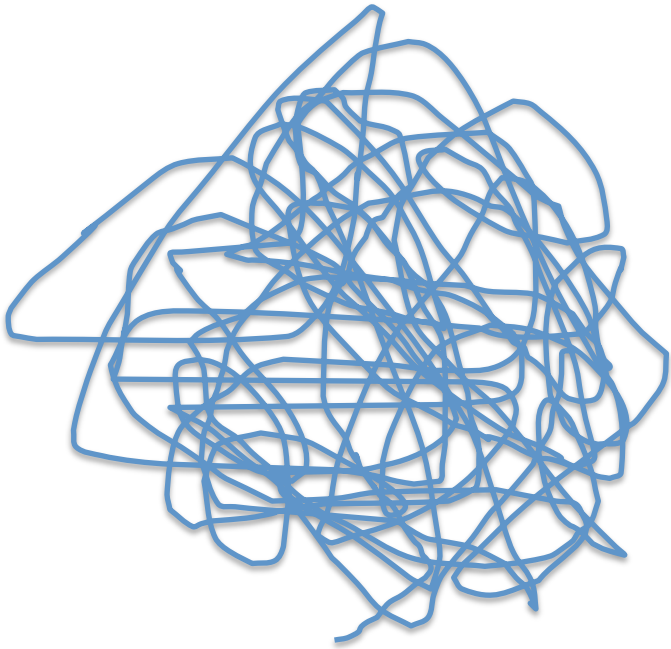
## Transcriptome Assembly

- Exponentially distributed coverage levels
- Multiple contigs per locus (alt splicing)
- Assemble many thousands of Kb-length transcripts
- Strand-specific data available



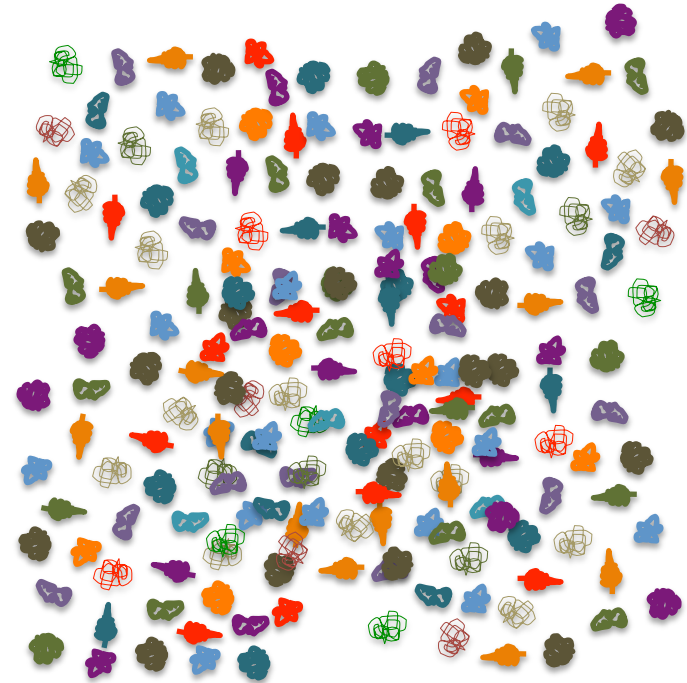
# Trinity Aggregates Isolated Transcript Graphs

**Genome Assembly**  
Single Massive Graph



Entire chromosomes represented.

**Trinity Transcriptome Assembly**  
Many Thousands of Small Graphs



Ideally, one graph per expressed gene.

# Trinity – How it works:



RNA-Seq  
reads



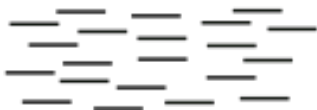
Linear  
contigs



de-Bruijn  
graphs



Transcripts  
+  
Isoforms



```
>a121:len=5845  
>a122:len=2560  
>a123:len=4443  
>a124:len=48  
>a125:len=8876  
>a126:len=66
```



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

Thousands of disjoint graphs



# Inchworm Algorithm

- Decompose all reads into overlapping Kmers => hashtable(kmer, count)

Read: **AATGTGAAA**ACTGGATTACATGCTGGTATGTC...

**AATGTGA**

**ATGTGAA**

**TGTGAAA**

...

Overlapping kmers of length (k)

## Kmer Catalog (hashtable)

Kmer	Count among all reads
<b>AATGTGA</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ATGTGAA</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>TGTGAAA</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>GATTACA</b>	<b>9</b>





# Inchworm Algorithm

- Decompose all reads into overlapping Kmers => hashtable(kmer, count)
- Identify seed kmer as most abundant Kmer, ignoring low-complexity kmers.

**GATTACA**  
9

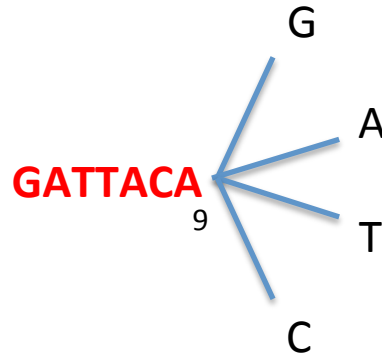
**Kmer Catalog (hashtable)**

Kmer	Count among all reads
AATGTGA	4
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GATTACA	9



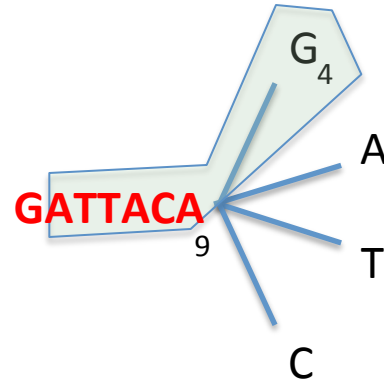
# Inchworm Algorithm

- Decompose all reads into overlapping Kmers => hashtable(kmer, count)
- Identify seed kmer as most abundant Kmer, ignoring low-complexity kmers.
- Extend kmer at 3' end, guided by coverage.



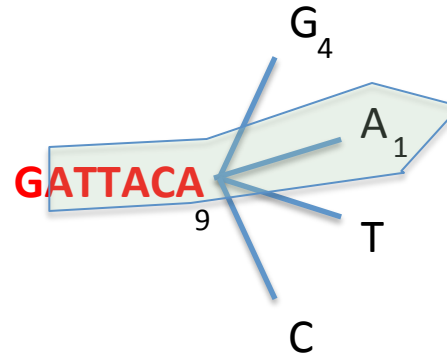


# Inchworm Algorithm



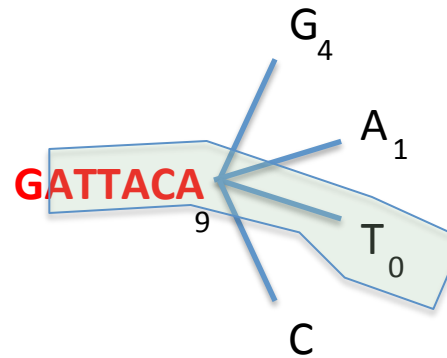


# Inchworm Algorithm



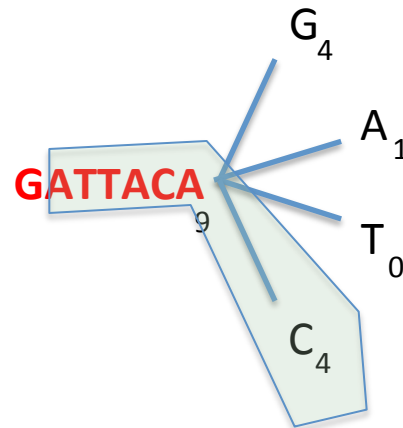


# Inchworm Algorithm



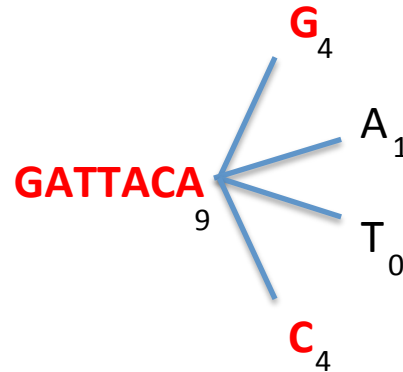


# Inchworm Algorithm



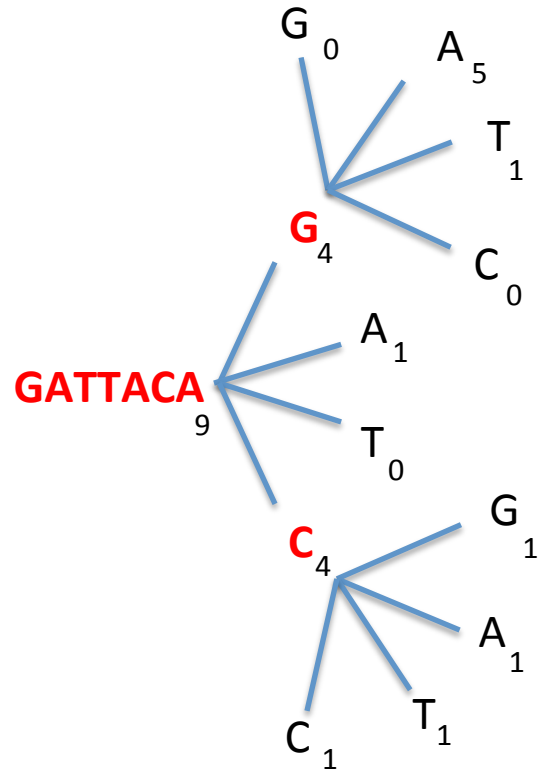


# Inchworm Algorithm





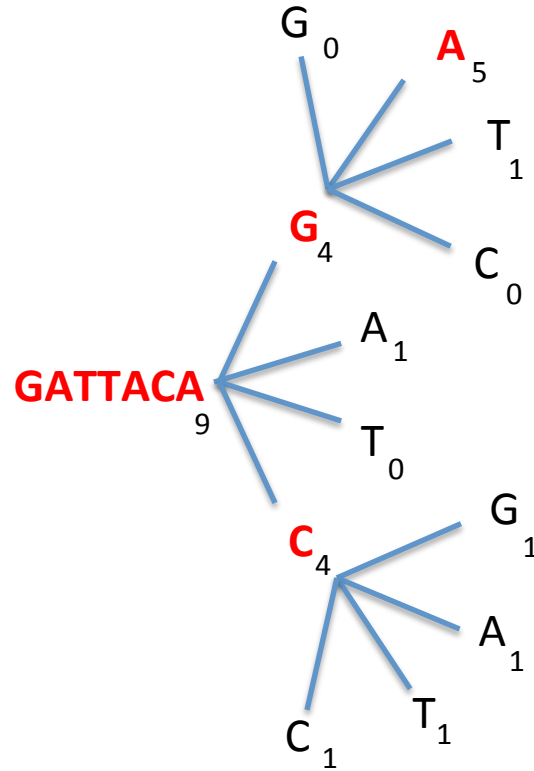
# Inchworm Algorithm





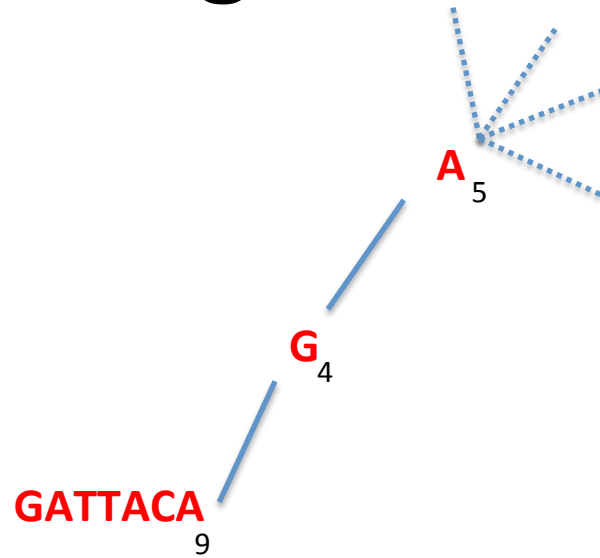


# Inchworm Algorithm



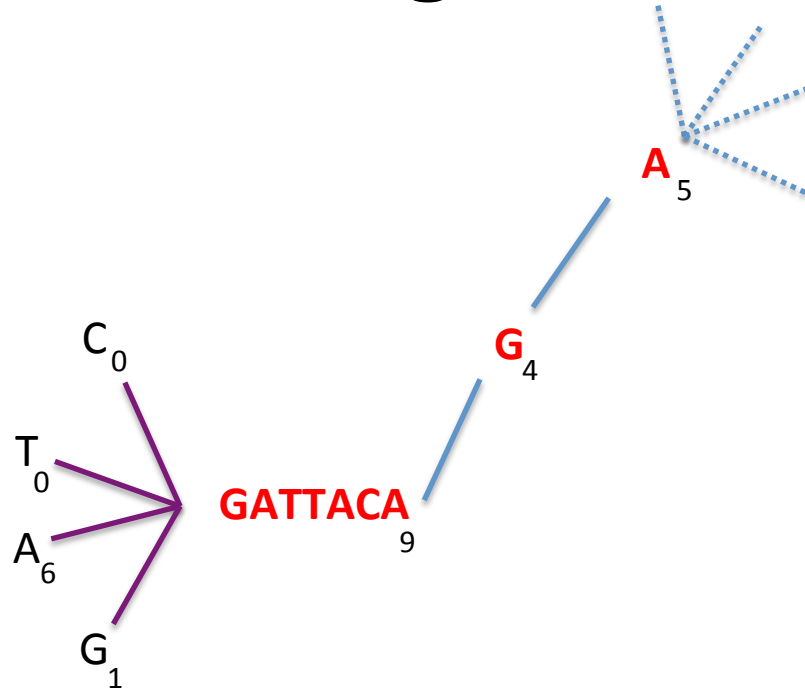


# Inchworm Algorithm



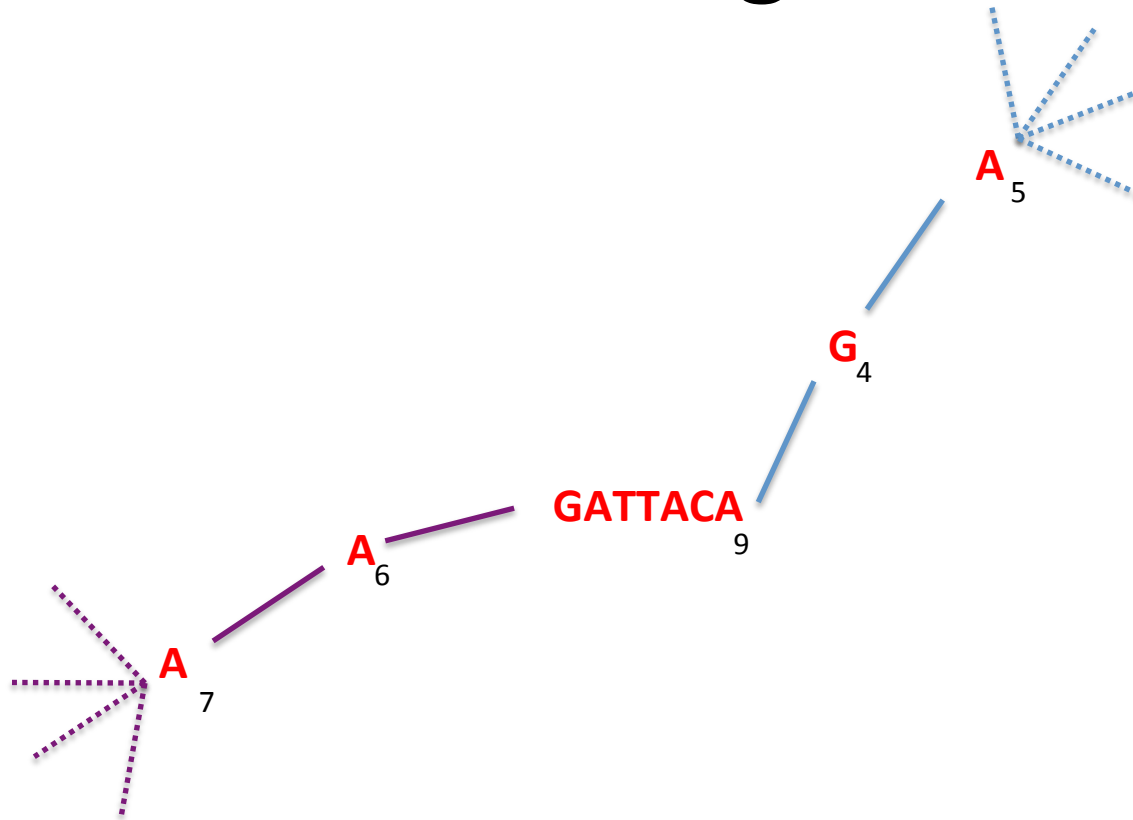


# Inchworm Algorithm





# Inchworm Algorithm



Report contig: **....AAGATTACAGA....**

Remove assembled kmers from catalog, then repeat the entire process.



# Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts

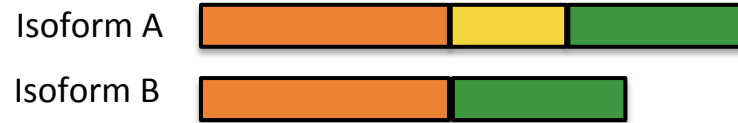
Expressed isoforms





# Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts

Expressed isoforms

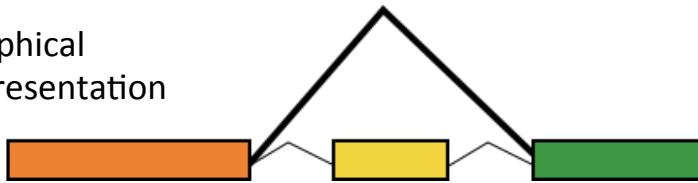


Expression

(low)

(high)

Graphical representation



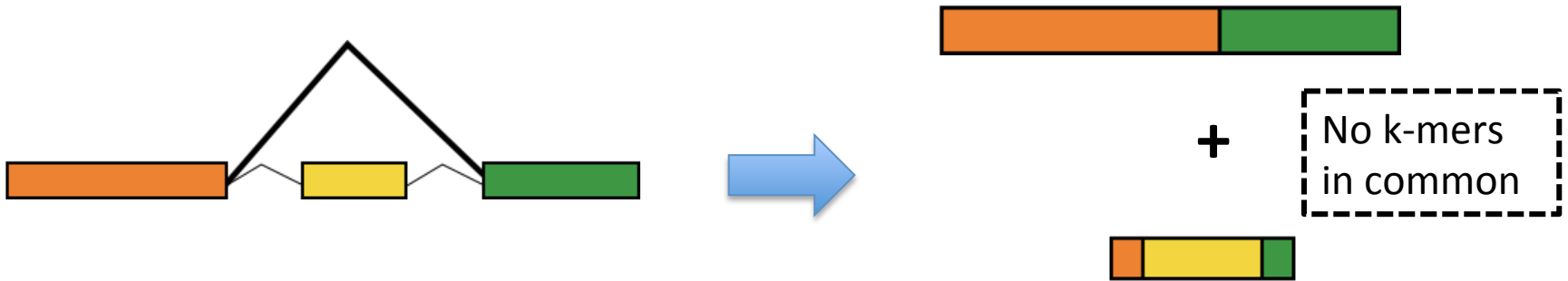


# Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts





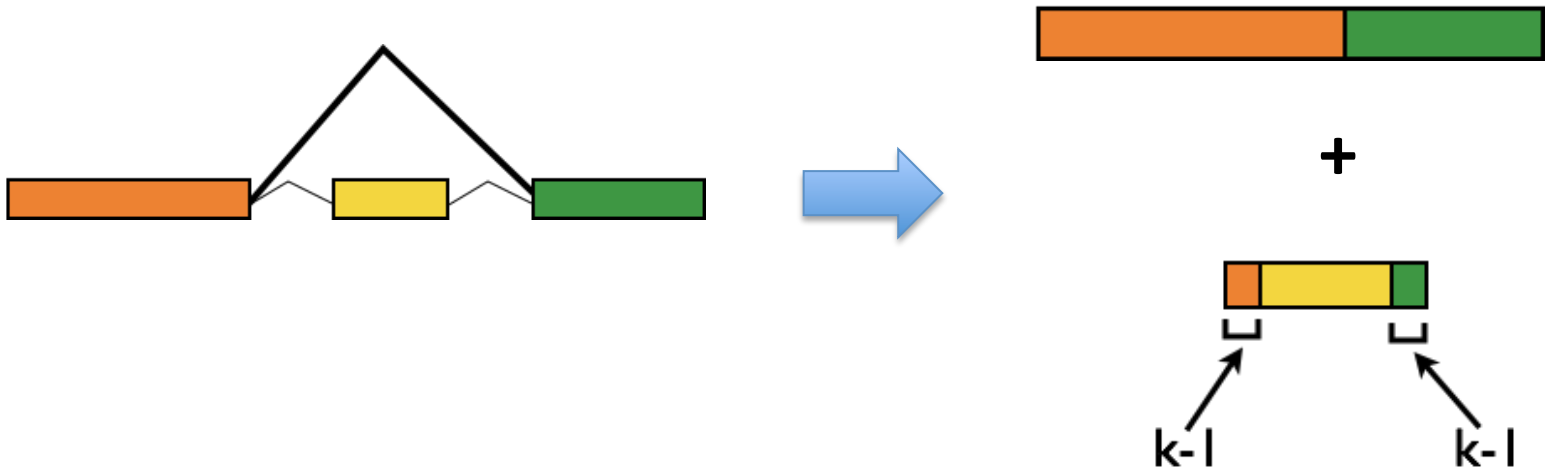
# Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts



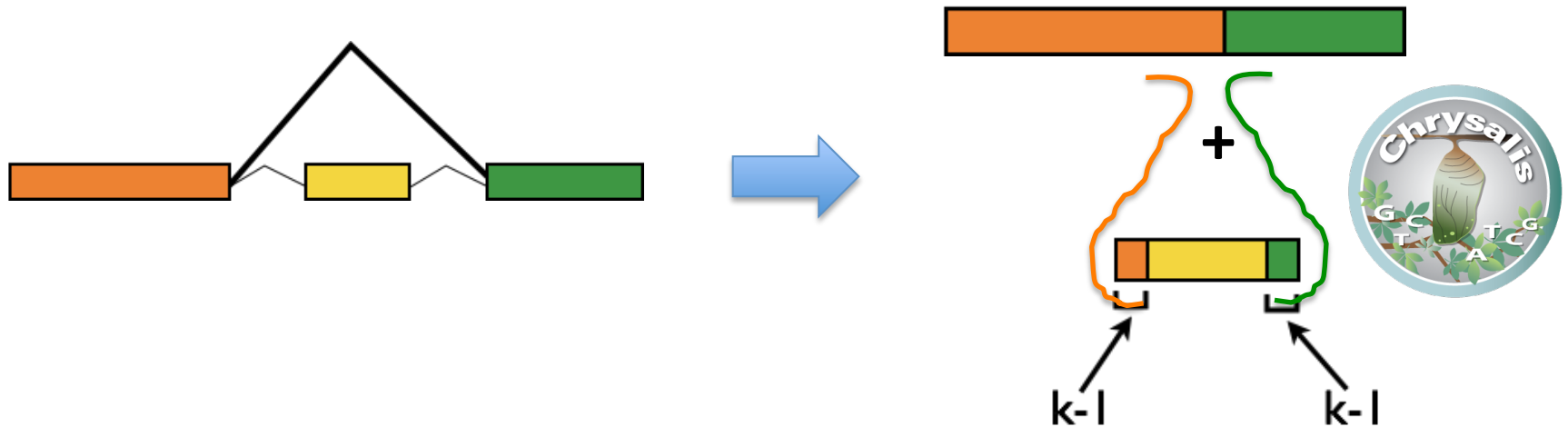




# Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts



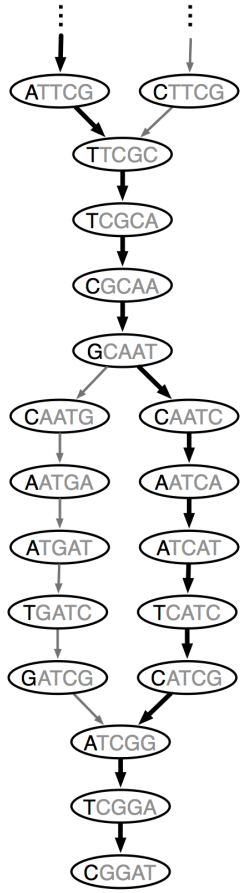
# Chrysalis Re-groups Related Inchworm Contigs



Chrysalis uses  $(k-1)$  overlaps and read support to link related Inchworm contigs

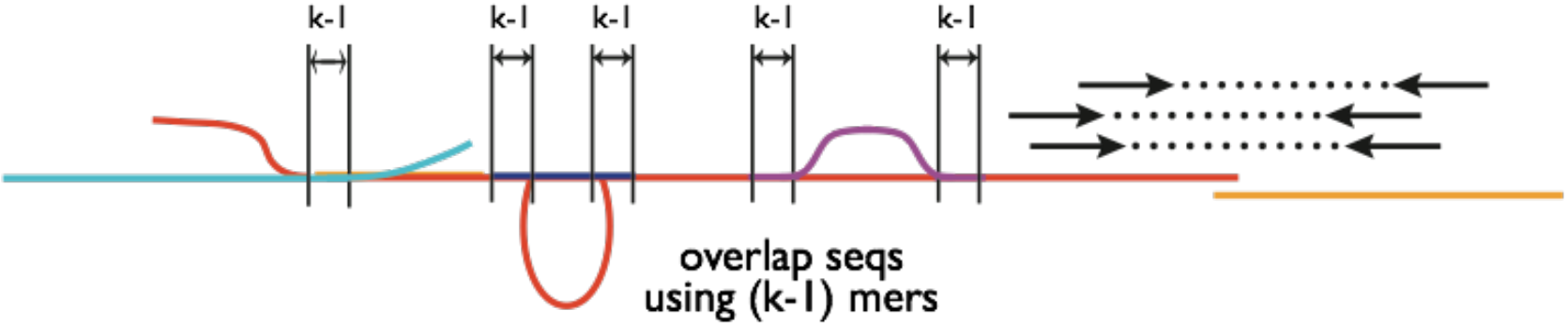
# Chrysalis

```
>a121:len=5845  
_____  
>a122:len=2560  
_____  
>a123:len=4443  
_____  
>a124:len=48  
_____  
>a125:len=8876  
_____  
>a126:len=68  
_____
```



Integrate isoforms  
via  $k-1$  overlaps

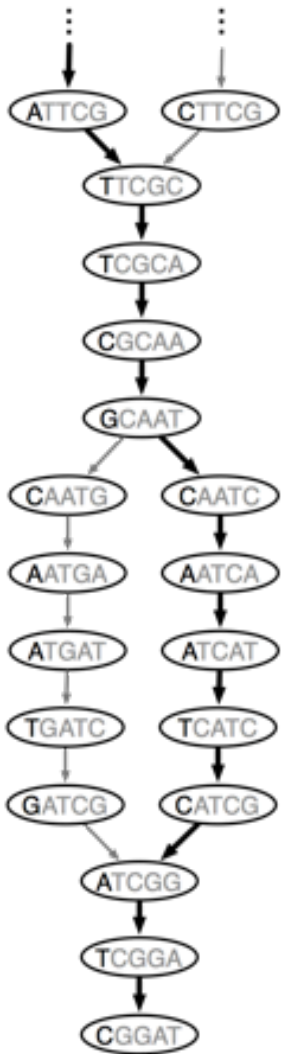
Build de Bruijn Graphs  
(ideally, one per gene)



The background of the image is filled with a dense, random distribution of small, hand-drawn, abstract shapes. These shapes are rendered in various colors including red, blue, green, purple, orange, and black. Many of the shapes resemble stylized, multi-lobed forms or clusters of lines, consistent with the 'chrysalis clusters' mentioned in the text. The lines are thin and appear to be drawn with a marker or fine pen. The overall effect is a vibrant, textured field of these small, colorful elements.

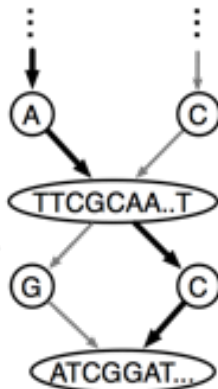
# Thousands of Chrysalis Clusters

# Butterfly



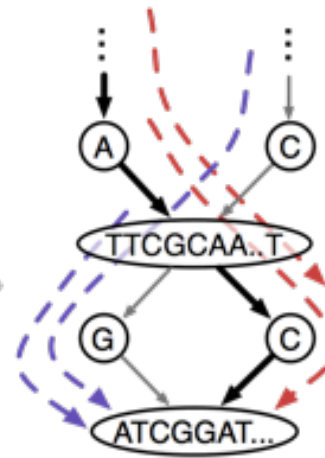
de Bruijn graph

compacting



compact graph

finding paths



compact graph with reads

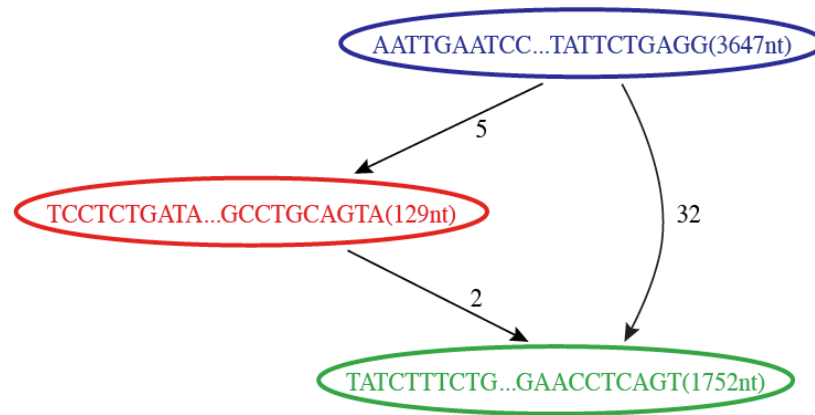
extracting sequences

..CTTCGCAA..TGATCGGAT..  
..ATTGCAA..TCATCGGAT..

sequences  
(isoforms and paralogs)

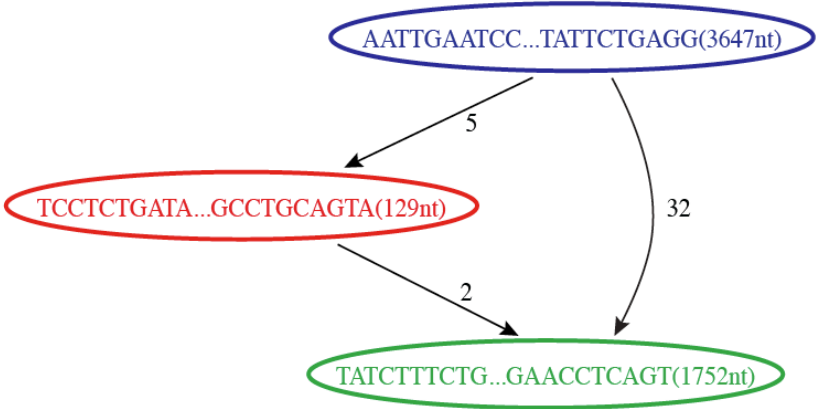
# Butterfly Example 1: Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

Butterfly's Compacted  
Sequence Graph



# Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

Butterfly's Compacted  
Sequence Graph

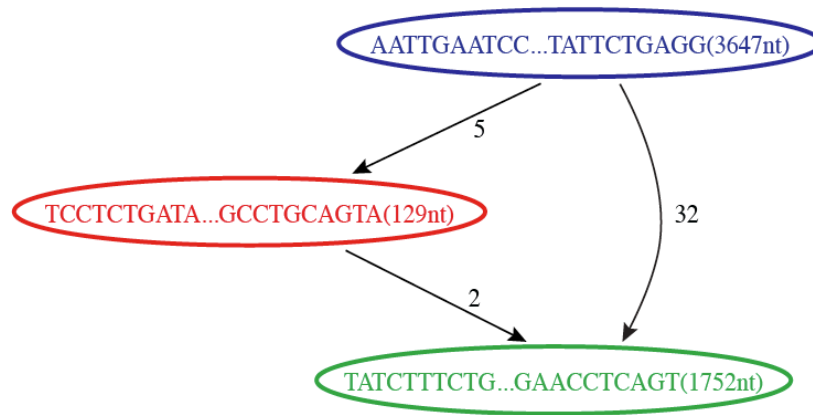


Reconstructed Transcripts



# Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

Butterfly's Compacted  
Sequence Graph



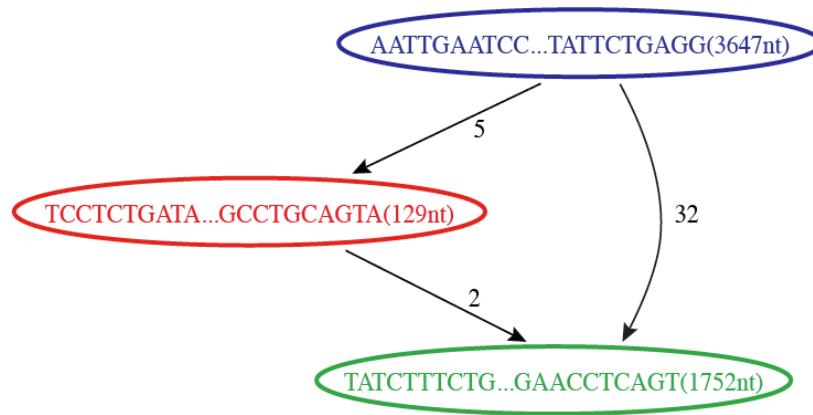
Reconstructed Transcripts





# Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

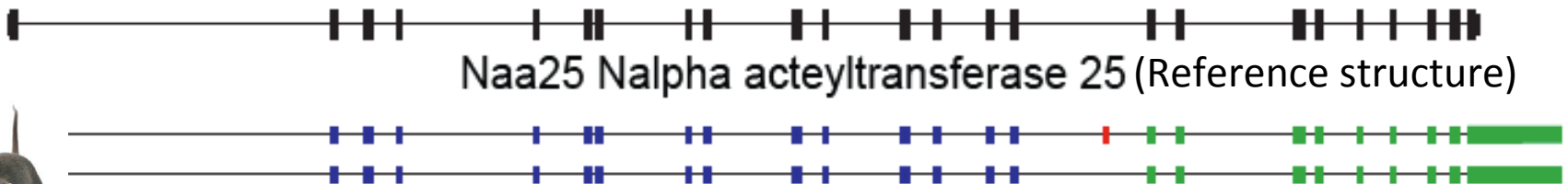
Butterfly's Compacted Sequence Graph



Reconstructed Transcripts



Aligned to Mouse Genome



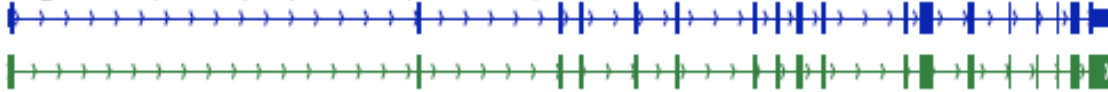
# Butterfly Example 2: Teasing Apart Transcripts of Paralogous Genes



# Butterfly Example 2: Teasing Apart Transcripts of Paralogous Genes

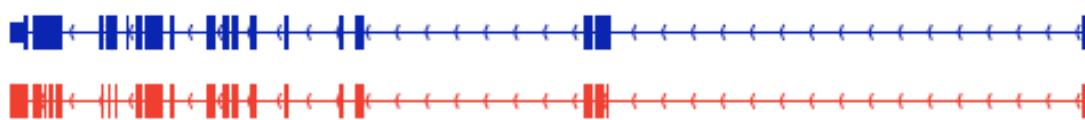
chr7:148,744,197-148,821,437

NM\_007459; Ap2a2 adaptor protein complex AP-2, alpha 2 subunit



chr7:52,150,889-52,189,508

NM\_001077264; Ap2a1 adaptor protein complex AP-2, alpha 1 subunit



# Strand-specific RNA-Seq is Preferred

Computationally: fewer confounding graph structures in de novo assembly:

ex. Forward != reverse complement

(GGAA != TTCC)

Biologically: separate sense vs. antisense transcription

NATURE METHODS | VOL.7 NO.9 | SEPTEMBER 2010 |



## Comprehensive comparative analysis of strand-specific RNA sequencing methods

Joshua Z Levin<sup>1,6</sup>, Moran Yassour<sup>1-3,6</sup>, Xian Adiconis<sup>1</sup>, Chad Nusbaum<sup>1</sup>, Dawn Anne Thompson<sup>1</sup>, Nir Friedman<sup>3,4</sup>, Andreas Gnirke<sup>1</sup> & Aviv Regev<sup>1,2,5</sup>

Strand-specific, massively parallel cDNA sequencing (RNA-seq) is a powerful tool for transcript discovery, genome annotation and expression profiling. There are multiple published methods

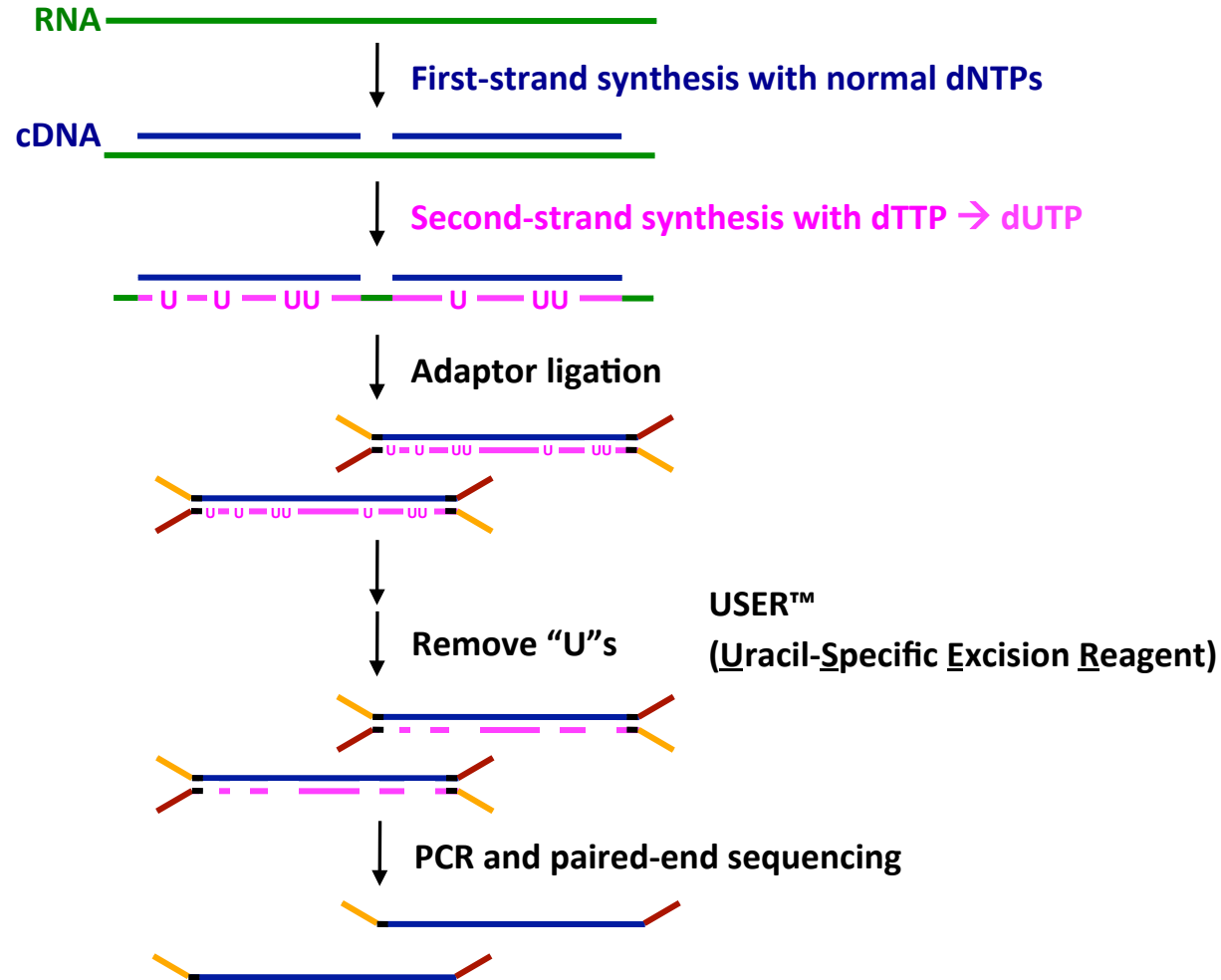
Nevertheless, direct information on the originating strand can substantially enhance the value of an RNA-seq experiment. For example, such information would help to accurately identify anti-

**'dUTP second strand marking' identified as the leading protocol**

computational pipeline to compare library quality metrics from any RNA-seq method. Using the well-annotated *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* transcriptome as a benchmark, we compared seven library-construction protocols, including both published and

boundaries of adjacent genes transcribed on opposite strands and resolve the correct expression levels of coding or noncoding overlapping transcripts. These tasks are particularly challenging in small microbial genomes, prokaryotic and eukaryotic, in which

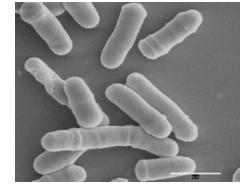
# dUTP 2<sup>nd</sup> Strand Method: Our Favorite



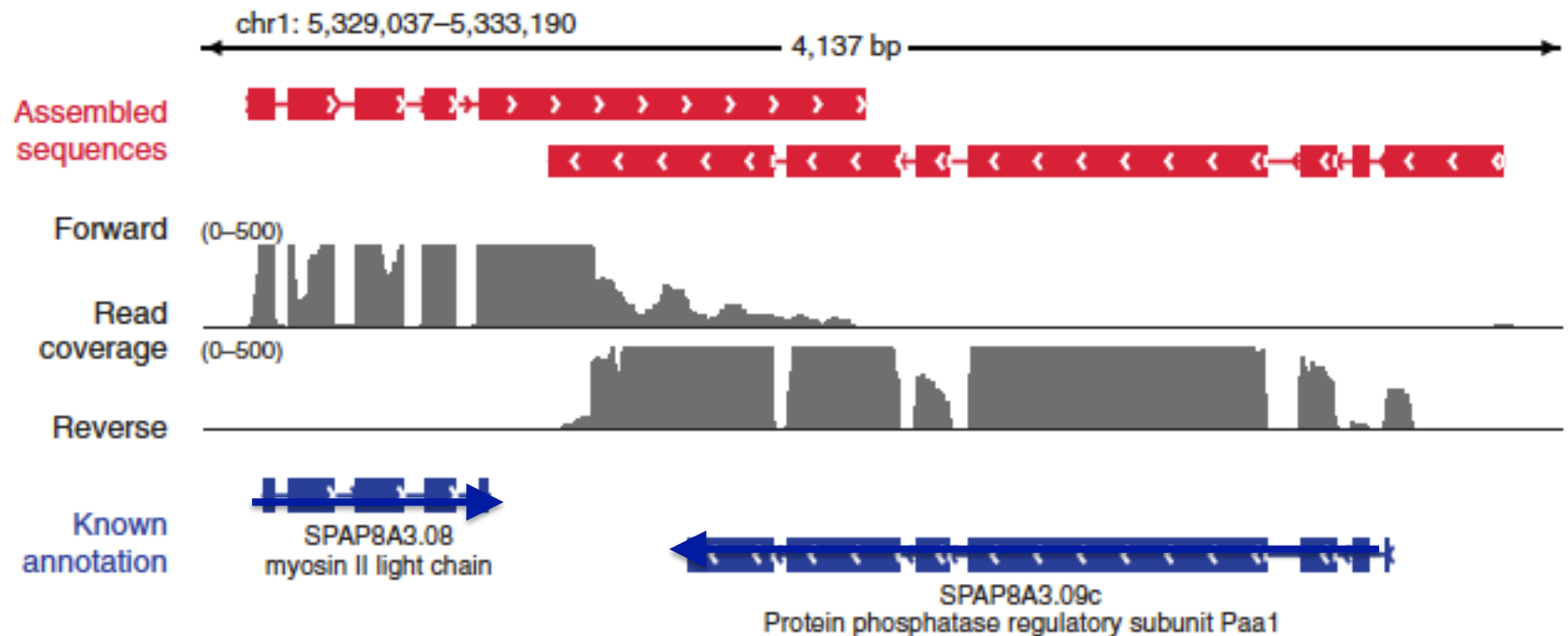
Modified from Parkhomchuk *et al.* (2009) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 37:e123

Slide from J. Levin

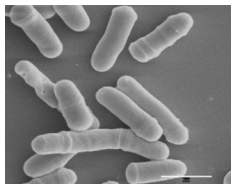
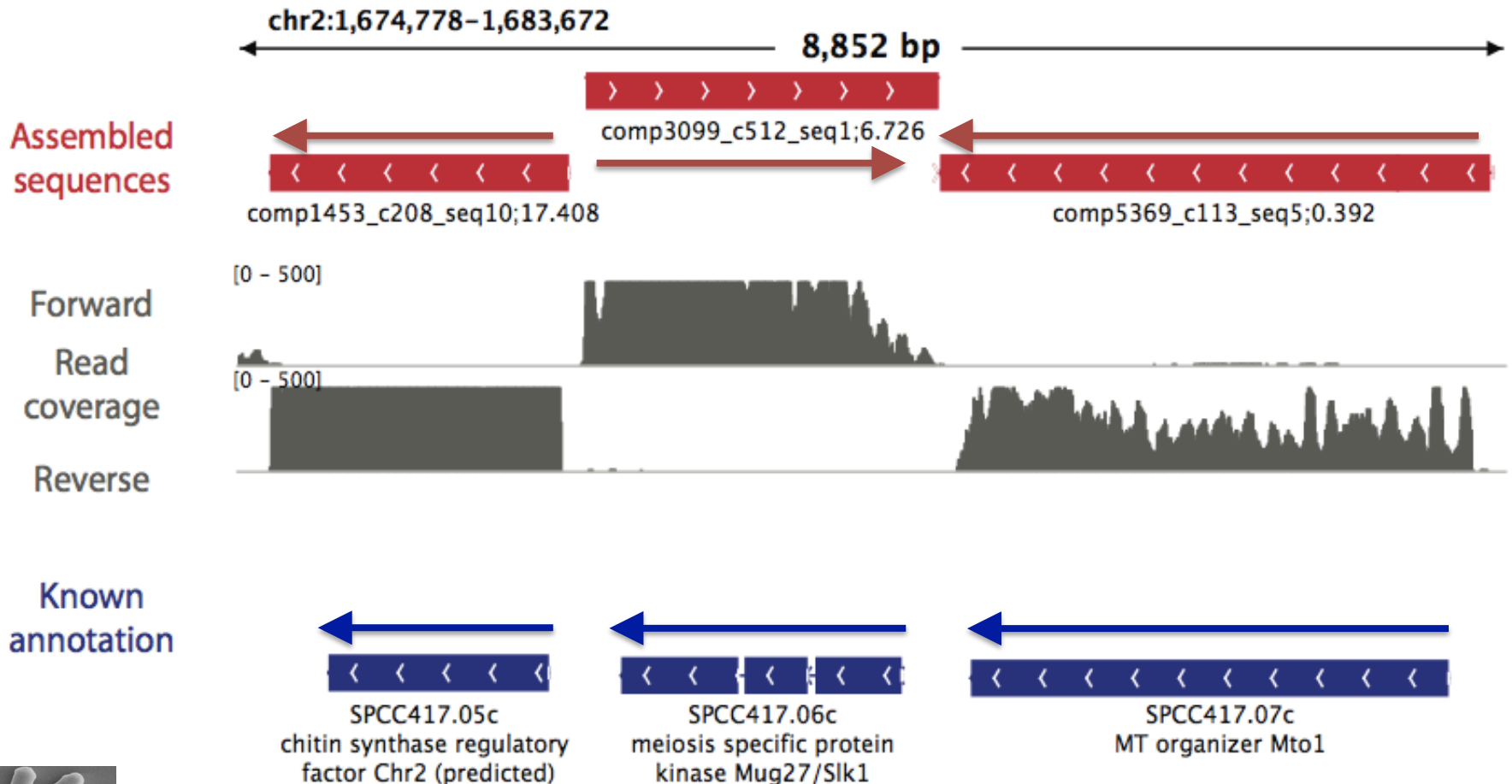
# Overlapping UTRs from Opposite Strands



*Schizosacharomyces pombe*  
(fission yeast)



# Antisense-dominated Transcription









We are on a Coffee Break &  
Networking Session