



ISPRO

Istituto per lo studio, la prevenzione
e la rete oncologica



mutations: from evolution to cancer

Silvo Conticello

Core Research
Laboratory



**“nothing in biology makes sense
except in the light of evolution”**

Theodosius Dobzhansky (1976)



- **1859** Charles Darwin
natural selection

- **1866** Gregor Mendel
inheritance

- **1902** Theodor Boveri



The tumour problem is a
cell problem...

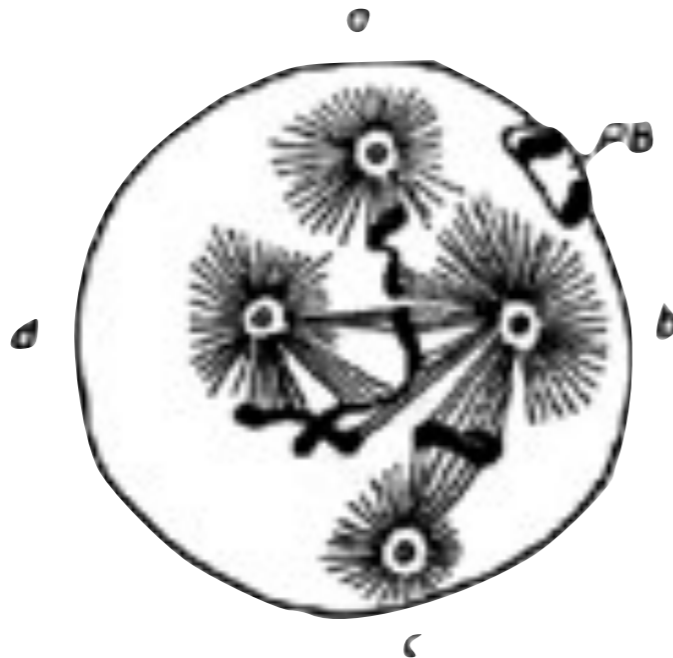
Tumours might be the consequence of a certain
abnormal chromosome constitution...

Inhibitory mechanisms that have to be eradicated before unrestrained multiplication can take place... A tumour cell that proliferated without restraint would be generated if these '**inhibitory chromosomes**' were eliminated...

Concerning the Origin of Malignant Tumours (1914)



- **1859** Charles Darwin
natural selection
- **1866** Gregor Mendel
inheritance
- **1902** Theodor Boveri



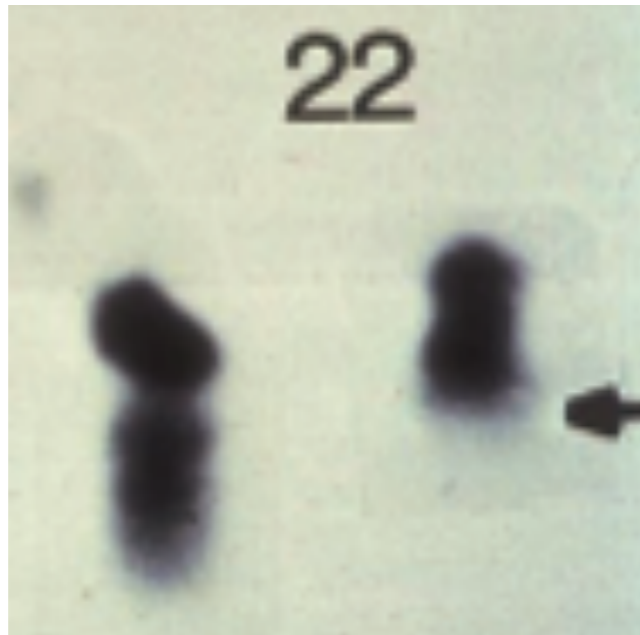
Concerning the Origin of Malignant Tumours (1914)



- **1859** Charles Darwin
natural selection
- **1866** Gregor Mendel
laws of inheritance
- **1902** Theodor Boveri
the chromosomes
- **1943** Luria & Delbruck
is selection random?
- **1944** Oswald Avery
the information is in DNA
- **1953** Watson & Crick
the structure of DNA provides the basis for inheritance
- **1956** Hin Tjio & Levan
the number of human chromosomes
- **1960** Peter Nowell & David Hungerford
the first genetic alteration in cancer



Chronic Myeloid Leukemia is defined by genetic alterations cancer is a clonal disease



Philadelphia Chromosome

- **1960** Peter Nowell & David Hungerford
the first genetic alteration in cancer





The clonal evolution of tumor cell populations

- cancer derives from a progression of mutations
- cancer evolution is a darwinian process
- “each patient's cancer may require individual specific therapy”
- “even this may be thwarted by emergence of a genetically variant subline resistant to the treatment”

- 1976 Peter Nowell





evolution does not have a purpose

the only evolutionary success is passing your genes

bacteria

~3.5 billion years

humans



evolution does not have a purpose

the only evolutionary success is passing your genes

bacteria → 30 min / generation

unicellular,
asexual reproduction

humans → 20 years / generation

multicellular,
highly complex,
sexual reproduction



evolution does not have a purpose

the only evolutionary success is passing your genes

cancer → hours / generation

unicellular,
asexual reproduction

humans → 20 years / generation

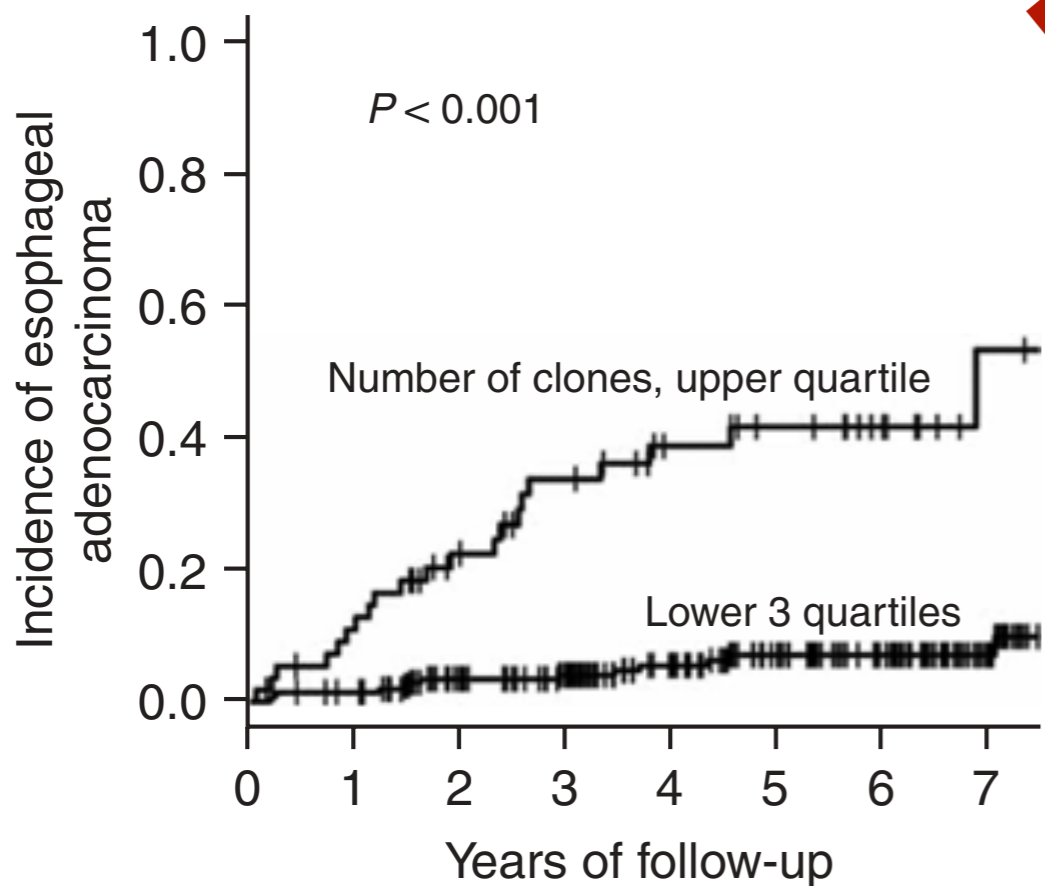
multicellular,
highly complex,
sexual reproduction



evolution does not have a purpose

the only evolutionary success is passing your genes

Barrett's Oesophagus (*displasia*)



1.4-folds risk increase
per every genetically
different clone

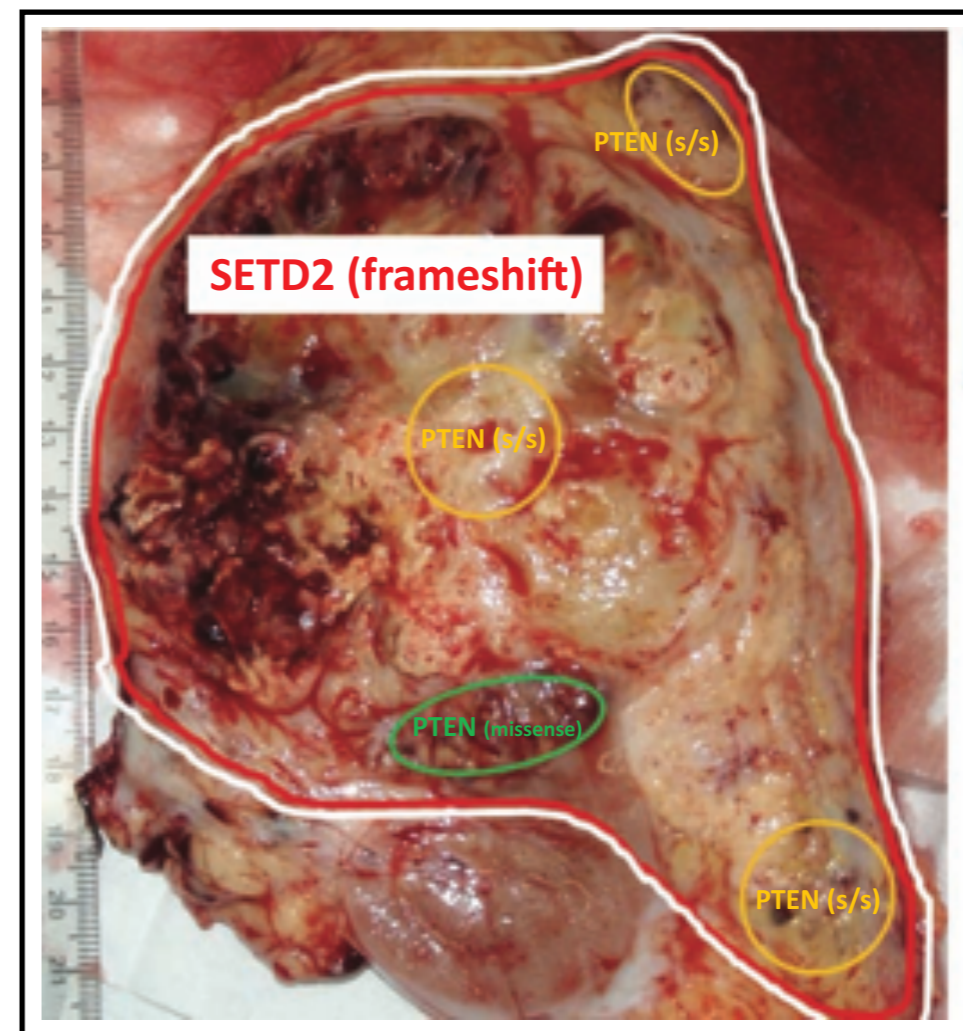
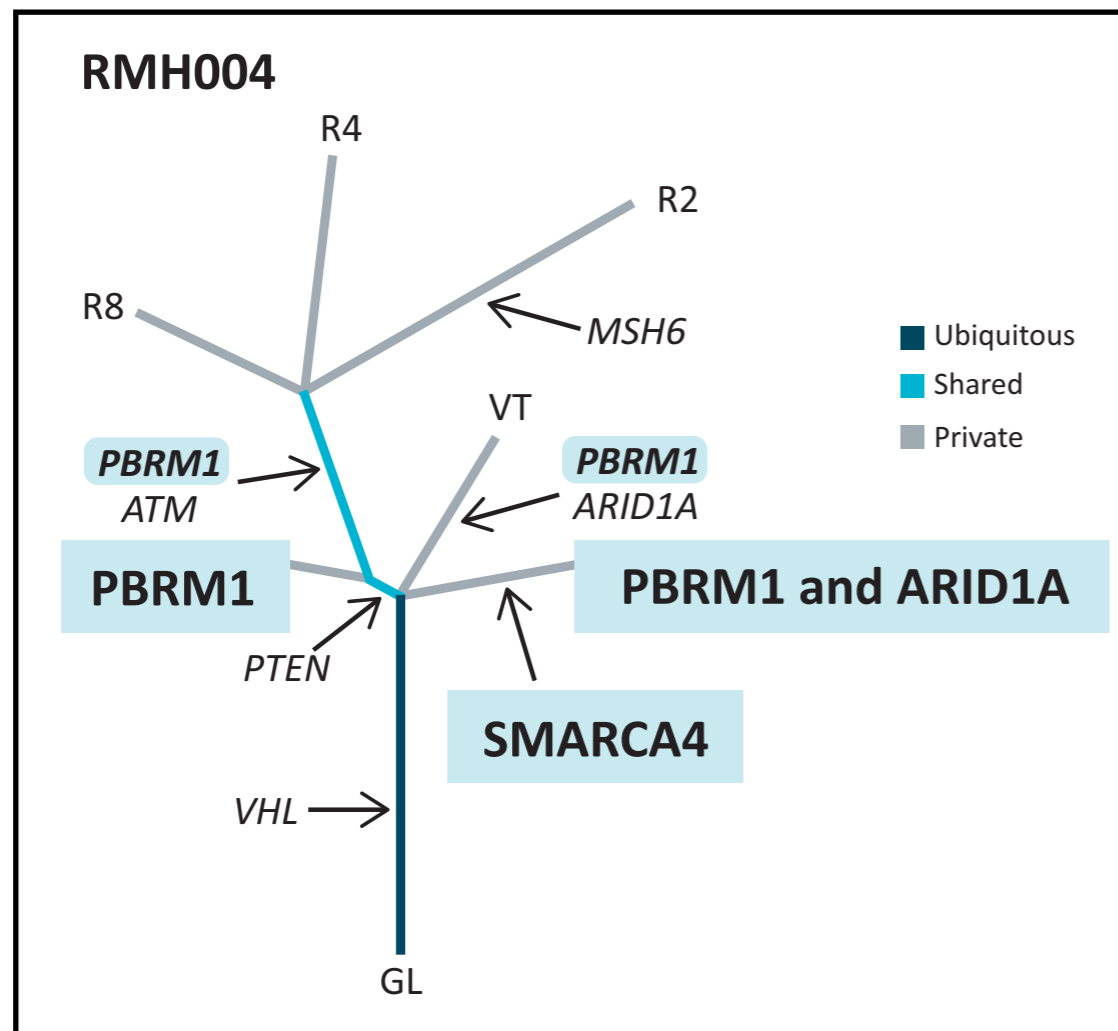
Oesophageal
Adenocarcinoma



evolution does not have a purpose

the only evolutionary success is passing your genes

renal cell carcinoma



Hiley & Swanton, 2014

evolution has eyes only for today



Survival of the fittest

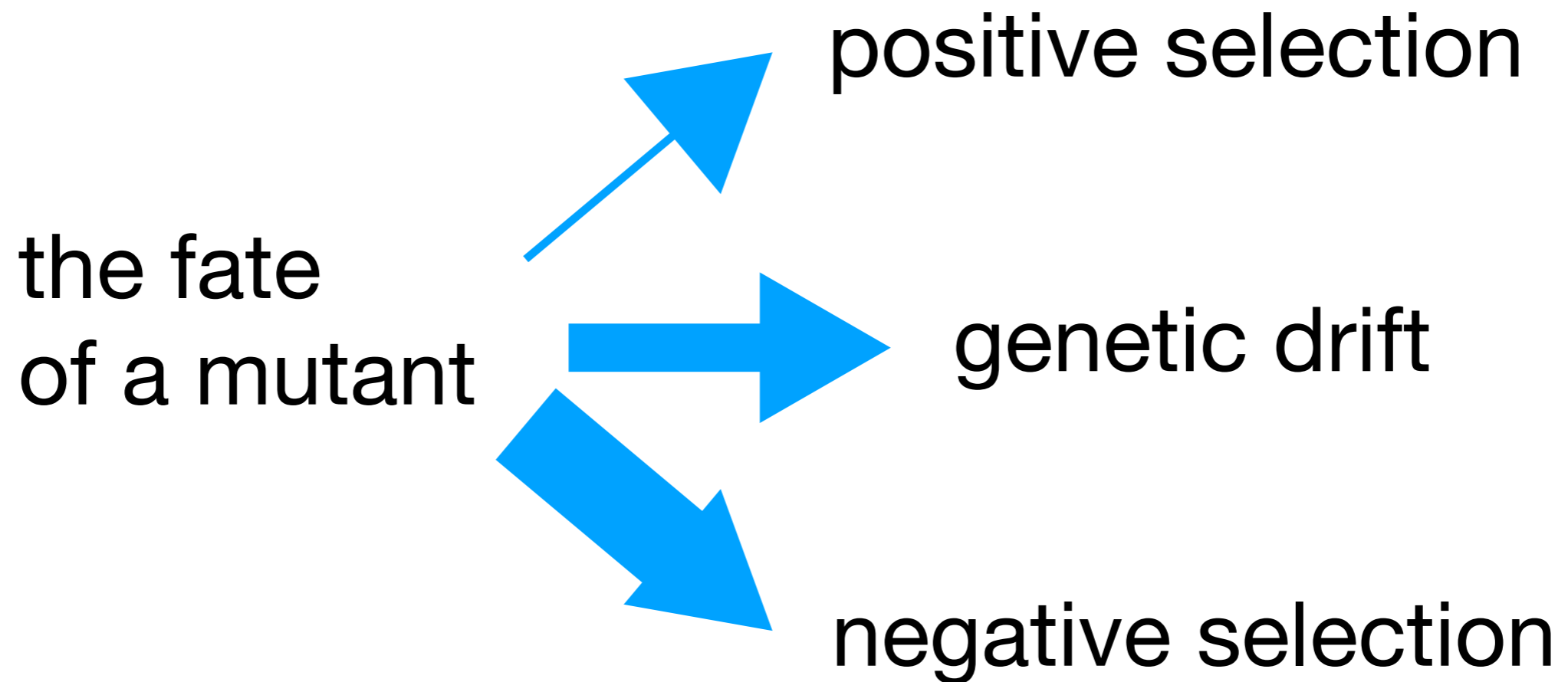
among what is available...

- appendicitis
- menstrual cycle
- allergies
- pale skin
 - > skin cancer
- hormones
 - > breast cancer
 - > prostate cancer
- BRCA1 in Ashkenazi Jews
 - > breast cancer
- (*delayed infections in the 1st year*
 - > *childhood leukemia*)



Survival of the fittest

among what is available...



selective advantage: 0.004

Bozic et al, 2010

Oncogenes

Src

Ras

Myc

Wnt

BCL-2

BCR-ABL1

Tumor Suppressor genes

RB1

TP53

APC

MLH1, MSH2, MSH6

BRCA1, BRC2

WT

NF1, NF2

Oncogenes

Src

Ras

Myc

Wnt

BCL-2

BCR-ABL1

DOMINANT

Tumor Suppressor genes

RB1

TP53

APC

MLH1, MSH2, MSH6

BRCA1, PRC2

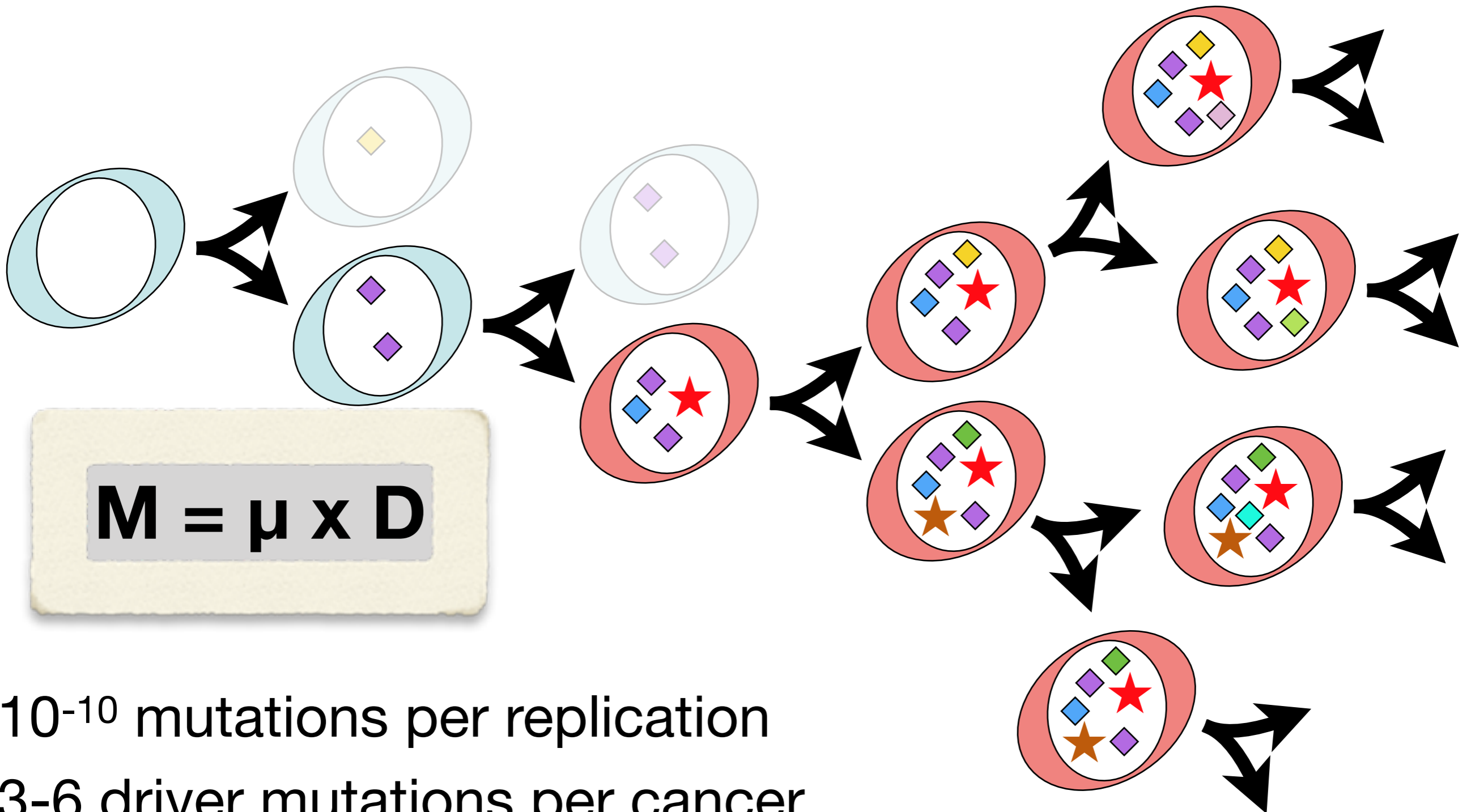
WT

NF1, NF2

RECESSIVE



Drivers & Passengers



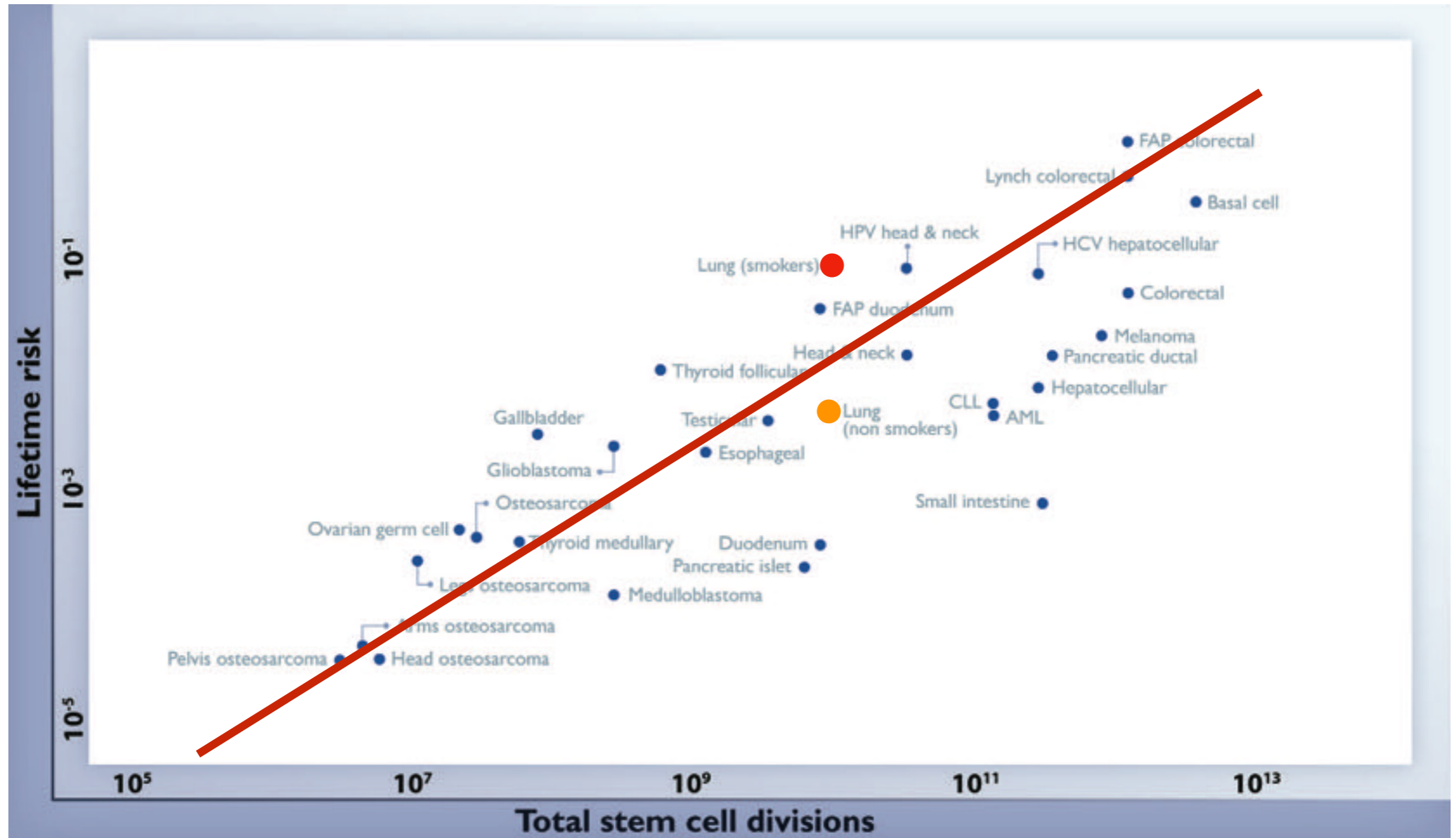
10^{-10} mutations per replication

3-6 driver mutations per cancer

100-100,000 passenger mutations per cancer



Risk vs Stem Cell Divisions



The Consensus Coding Sequences of Human Breast and Colorectal Cancers

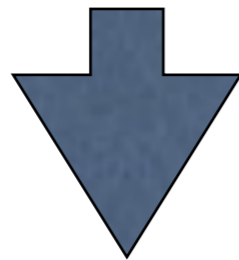
Tobias Sjöblom,^{1*} Siân Jones,^{1*} Laura D. Wood,^{1*} D. Williams Parsons,^{1*} Jimmy Lin,¹ Thomas D. Barber,^{1†} Diana Mandelker,¹ Rebecca J. Leary,¹ Janine Ptak,¹ Natalie Silliman,¹ Steve Szabo,¹ Phillip Buckhaults,² Christopher Farrell,² Paul Meeh,² Sanford D. Markowitz,³ Joseph Willis,⁴ Dawn Dawson,⁴ James K. V. Willson,⁵ Adi F. Gazdar,⁶ James Hartigan,⁷ Leo Wu,⁸ Changsheng Liu,⁸ Giovanni Parmigiani,⁹ Ben Ho Park,¹⁰ Kurtis E. Bachman,¹¹ Nickolas Papadopoulos,¹ Bert Vogelstein,^{1‡} Kenneth W. Kinzler,^{1‡} Victor E. Velculescu^{1‡}

13 OCTOBER 2006 VOL 314 SCIENCE

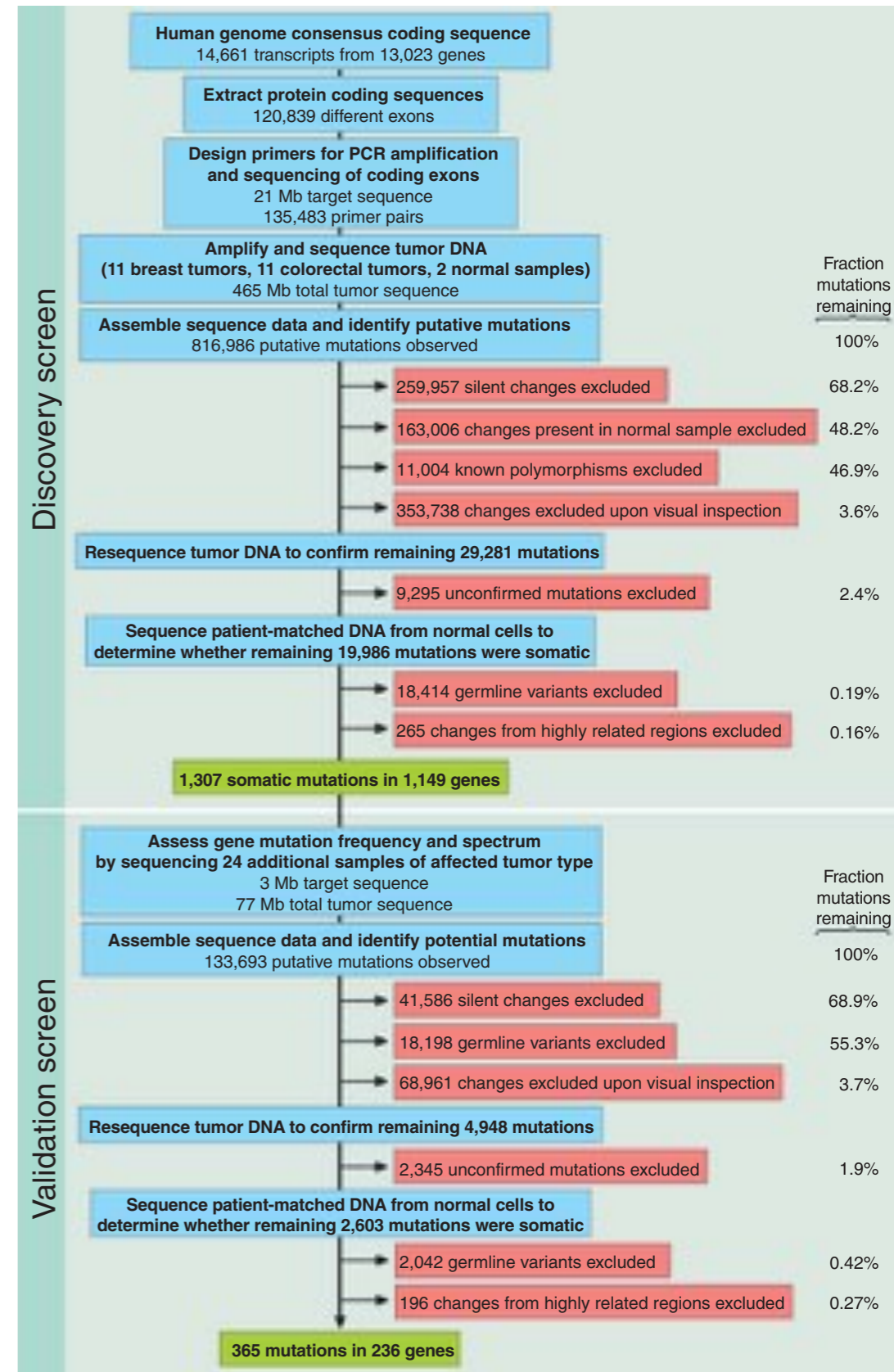
11 Breast cancers

13 Colorectal Carcinomas

Targeted Sequencing



365 Mutations in 236 genes



DNA sequencing of a cytogenetically normal acute myeloid leukaemia genome

Timothy J. Ley^{1,2,3,4*}, Elaine R. Mardis^{2,3*}, Li Ding^{2,3}, Bob Fulton³, Michael D. McLellan³, Ken Chen³, David Dooling³, Brian H. Dunford-Shore³, Sean McGrath³, Matthew Hickenbotham³, Lisa Cook³, Rachel Abbott³, David E. Larson³, Dan C. Koboldt³, Craig Pohl³, Scott Smith³, Amy Hawkins³, Scott Abbott³, Devin Locke³, LaDeana W. Hillier^{3,8}, Tracie Miner³, Lucinda Fulton³, Vincent Magrini^{2,3}, Todd Wylie³, Jarret Glasscock³, Joshua Conyers³, Nathan Sander³, Xiaoqi Shi³, John R. Osborne³, Patrick Minx³, David Gordon⁸, Asif Chinwalla³, Yu Zhao¹, Rhonda E. Ries¹, Jacqueline E. Payton⁵, Peter Westervelt^{1,4}, Michael H. Tomasson^{1,4}, Mark Watson^{3,4,5}, Jack Baty⁶, Jennifer Ivanovich^{4,7}, Sharon Heath^{1,4}, William D. Shannon^{1,4}, Rakesh Nagarajan^{4,5}, Matthew J. Walter^{1,4}, Daniel C. Link^{1,4}, Timothy A. Graubert^{1,4}, John F. DiPersio^{1,4} & Richard K. Wilson^{2,3,4}

NATURE | Vol 461 | 8 October 2009

Mutational evolution in a lobular breast tumour profiled at single nucleotide resolution

Sohrab P. Shah^{1,2*}, Ryan D. Morin^{3*}, Jaswinder Khattra¹, Leah Prentice¹, Trevor Pugh³, Angela Burleigh¹, Allen Delaney³, Karen Gelmon⁴, Ryan Guliany¹, Janine Senz², Christian Steidl^{2,5}, Robert A. Holt³, Steven Jones³, Mark Sun¹, Gillian Leung¹, Richard Moore³, Tesa Severson³, Greg A. Taylor³, Andrew E. Teschendorff⁶, Kane Tse¹, Gulisa Turashvili¹, Richard Varhol³, René L. Warren³, Peter Watson⁷, Yongjun Zhao³, Carlos Caldas⁶, David Huntsman^{2,5}, Martin Hirst³, Marco A. Marra³ & Samuel Aparicio^{1,2,5}

NATURE | Vol 463 | 14 January 2010

A small-cell lung cancer genome with complex signatures of tobacco exposure

Erin D. Pleasance¹, Philip J. Stephens¹, Sarah O'Meara^{1,2}, David J. McBride¹, Alison Meynert³, David Jones¹, Meng-Lay Lin¹, David Beare¹, King Wai Lau¹, Chris Greenman¹, Ignacio Varela¹, Serena Nik-Zainal¹, Helen R. Davies¹, Gonzalo R. Ordoñez¹, Laura J. Mudie¹, Calli Latimer¹, Sarah Edkins¹, Lucy Stebbings¹, Lina Chen¹, Mingming Jia¹, Catherine Leroy¹, John Marshall¹, Andrew Menzies¹, Adam Butler¹, Jon W. Teague¹, Jonathon Mangion², Yongming A. Sun⁴, Stephen F. McLaughlin⁵, Heather E. Peckham⁵, Eric F. Tsung⁵, Gina L. Costa⁵, Clarence C. Lee⁵, John D. Minna⁶, Adi Gazdar⁶, Ewan Birney³, Michael D. Rhodes⁴, Kevin J. McKernan⁵, Michael R. Stratton^{1,7}, P. Andrew Futreal¹ & Peter J. Campbell^{1,8}

A comprehensive catalogue of somatic mutations from a human cancer genome

Erin D. Pleasance^{1*}, R. Keira Cheetham^{2*}, Philip J. Stephens¹, David J. McBride¹, Sean J. Humphray², Chris D. Greenman¹, Ignacio Varela¹, Meng-Lay Lin¹, Gonzalo R. Ordoñez¹, Graham R. Bignell¹, Kai Ye³, Julie Alipaz⁴, Markus J. Bauer², David Beare¹, Adam Butler¹, Richard J. Carter², Lina Chen¹, Anthony J. Cox², Sarah Edkins¹, Paula I. Kokko-Gonzales², Niall A. Gormley², Russell J. Grocock², Christian D. Haudenschild⁵, Matthew M. Hims², Terena James², Mingming Jia¹, Zoya Kingsbury², Catherine Leroy¹, John Marshall¹, Andrew Menzies¹, Laura J. Mudie¹, Zemin Ning¹, Tom Royce⁴, Ole B. Schulz-Trieglaff², Anastassia Spiridou², Lucy A. Stebbings¹, Lukasz Szajkowski², Jon Teague¹, David Williamson⁵, Lynda Chin⁶, Mark T. Ross², Peter J. Campbell¹, David R. Bentley², P. Andrew Futreal¹ & Michael R. Stratton^{1,7}

The genomic complexity of primary human prostate cancer

Michael F. Berger^{1†*}, Michael S. Lawrence^{1*}, Francesca Demichelis^{2,3*}, Yotam Drier^{4*}, Kristian Cibulskis¹, Andrey Y. Sivachenko¹, Andrea Sboner^{5,6}, Raquel Esgueva², Dorothee Pflueger², Carrie Sougnez¹, Robert Onofrio¹, Scott L. Carter¹, Kyung Park², Lukas Habegger⁶, Lauren Ambrogio¹, Timothy Fennell¹, Melissa Parkin¹, Gordon Saksena¹, Douglas Voet¹, Alex H. Ramos^{1,7}, Trevor J. Pugh^{1,7,8}, Jane Wilkinson¹, Sheila Fisher¹, Wendy Winckler¹, Scott Mahan¹, Kristin Ardlie¹, Jennifer Baldwin¹, Jonathan W. Simons⁹, Naoki Kitabayashi², Theresa Y. MacDonald², Philip W. Kantoff^{7,8}, Lynda Chin^{1,7,8,10}, Stacey B. Gabriel¹, Mark B. Gerstein^{5,6,11}, Todd R. Golub^{1,12,13,14}, Matthew Meyerson^{1,7,8,14}, Ashutosh Tewari¹⁵, Eric S. Lander^{1,7,16}, Gad Getz¹, Mark A. Rubin² & Levi A. Garraway^{1,7,8,14}



The Cancer Genome Project



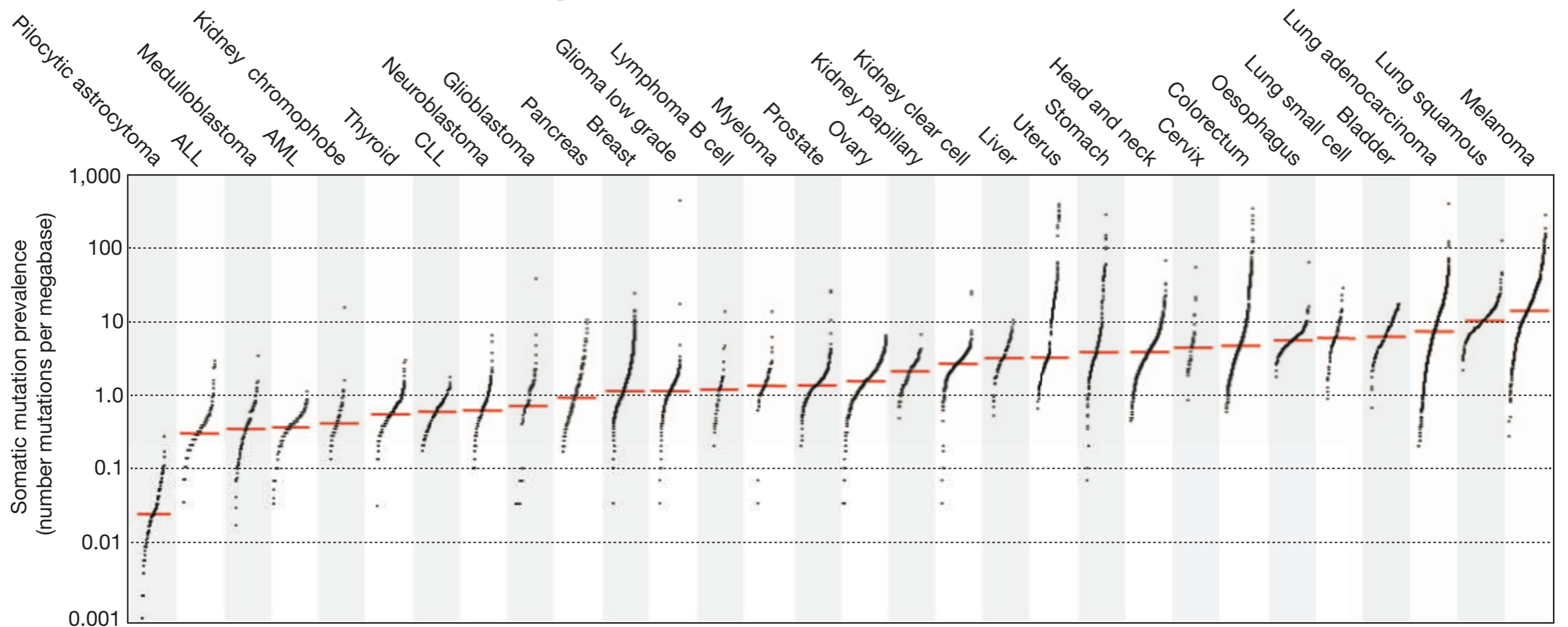
The Cancer Genome Atlas



International
Cancer Genome
Consortium

90 projects

A pile of genetic alterations



Which genes drive the cancer?

Driver & Passenger Mutations

Which processes drive the onset of mutations?



Drivers & Passengers

Which genes drive the cancer?

- frequency
 - alterations in p53: 5%-50% in most tumors
- effects of the mutation
 - inactivation of Protein Kinases
- timing of the mutations
 - ovarian cancer
- network analysis
 - medulloblastoma classification
- improbability/conservation of the mutation
 - ras-related genes



How probable are driver mutations?

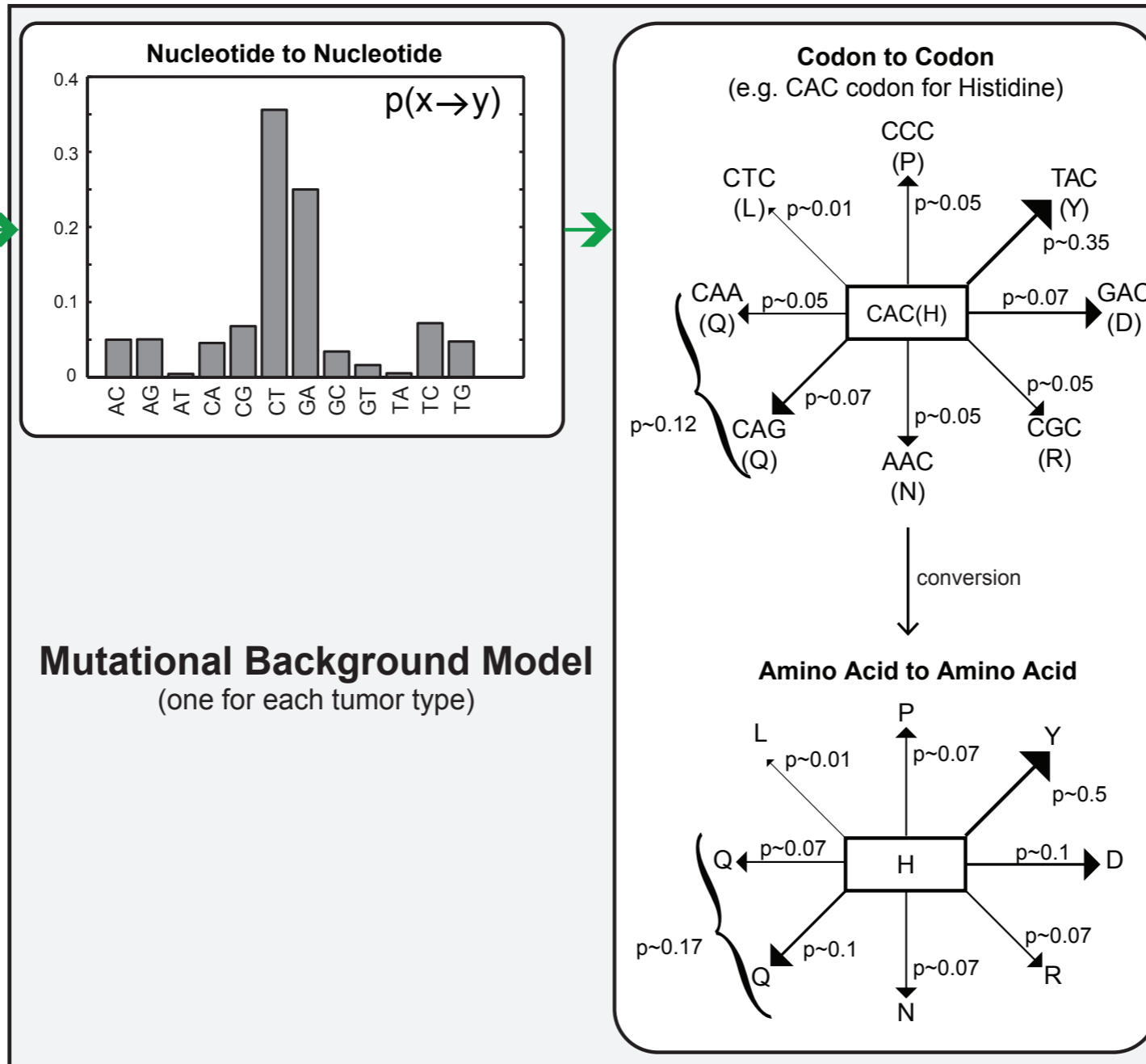
SYNONYMOUS Mutations

11000 pazienti

Cancer SNVs (DATASET)

2x10⁶ mutazioni

NON-SYNONYMOUS Mutations



Mutational Divergence

$$S_{mut} = \sum_{i=1}^n \log_{10} p_i^{bkg}$$

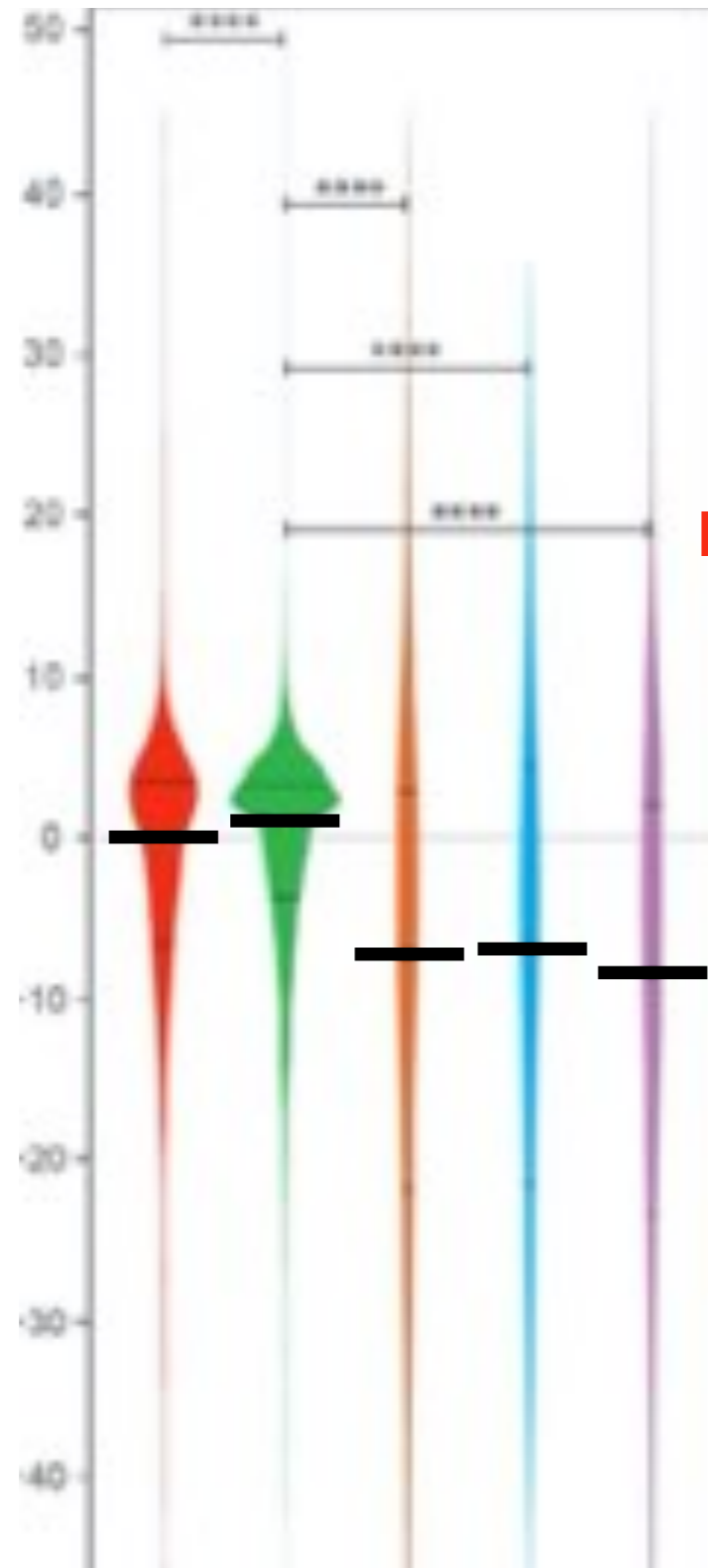
Mutational Entropy

$$H = - \sum_{i=x,y,z..} f_i \log_2 f_i$$

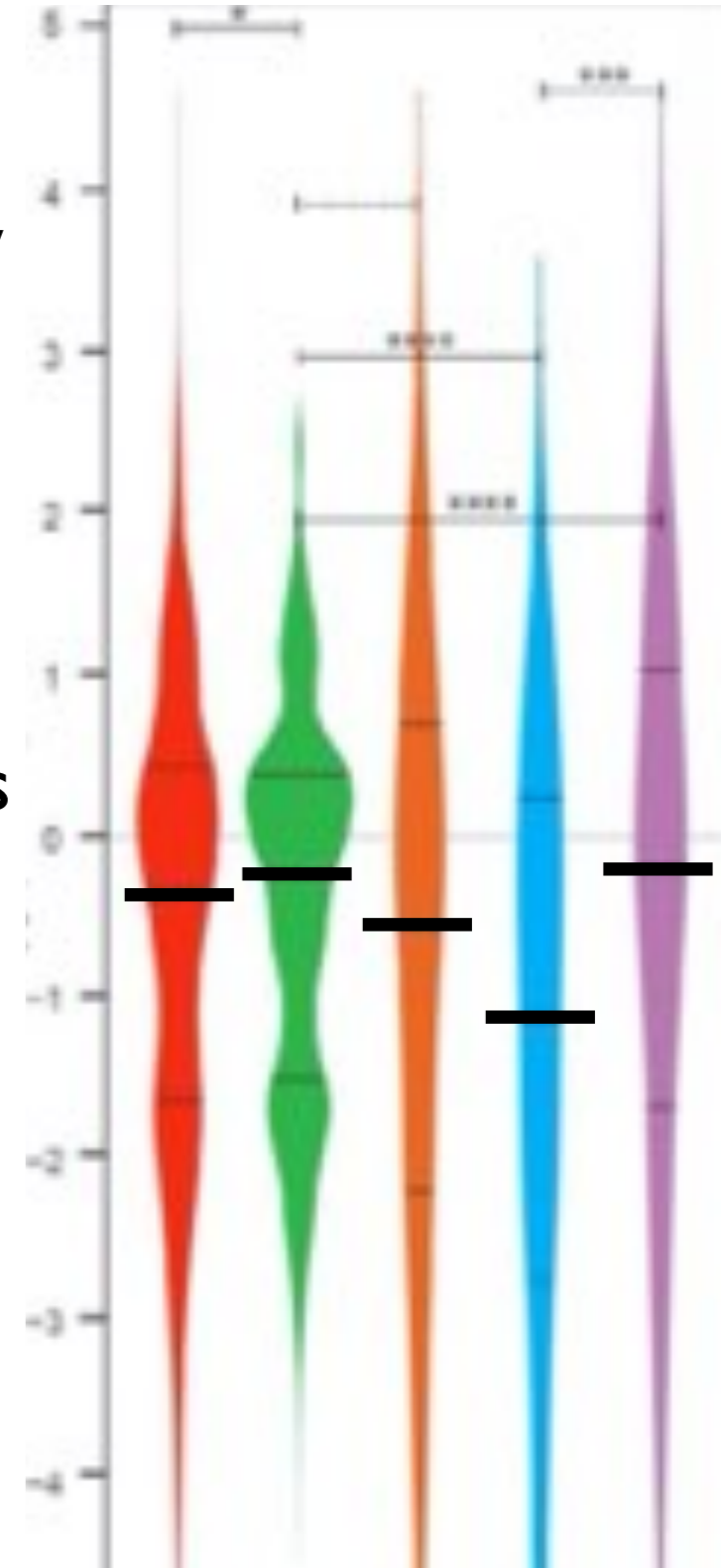


How probable are driver mutations?

Mutational Likelihood



Mutational Entropy



Cancer Drivers

Non-Cancer Drivers

Validated Drivers

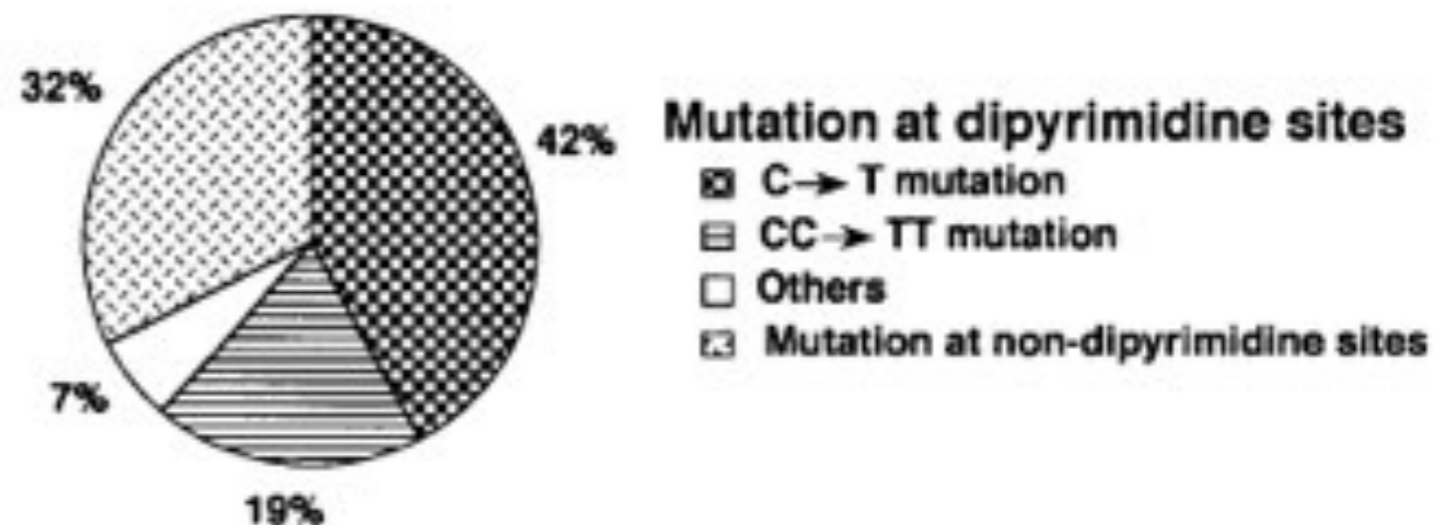
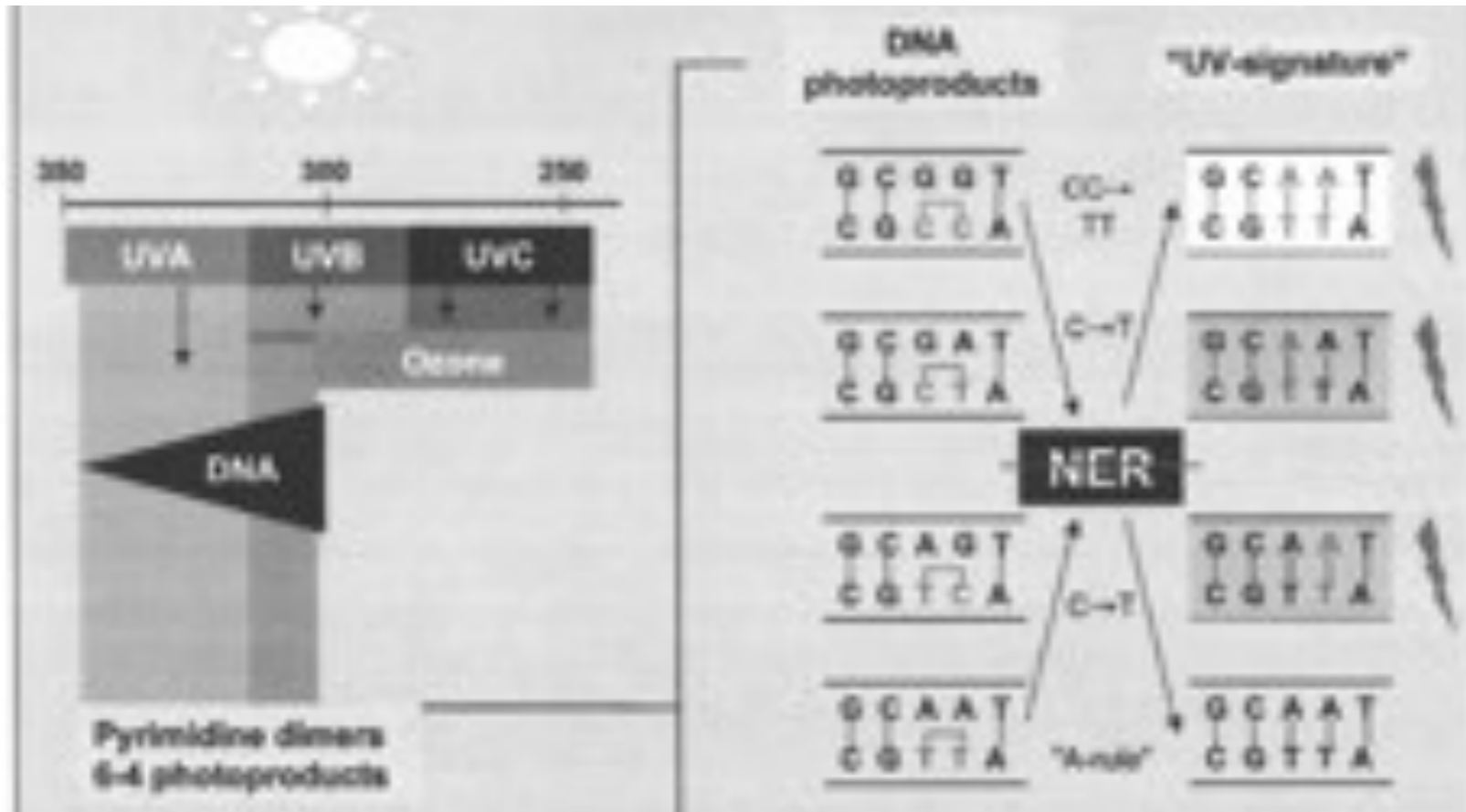
Gain of Function

Loss of Function



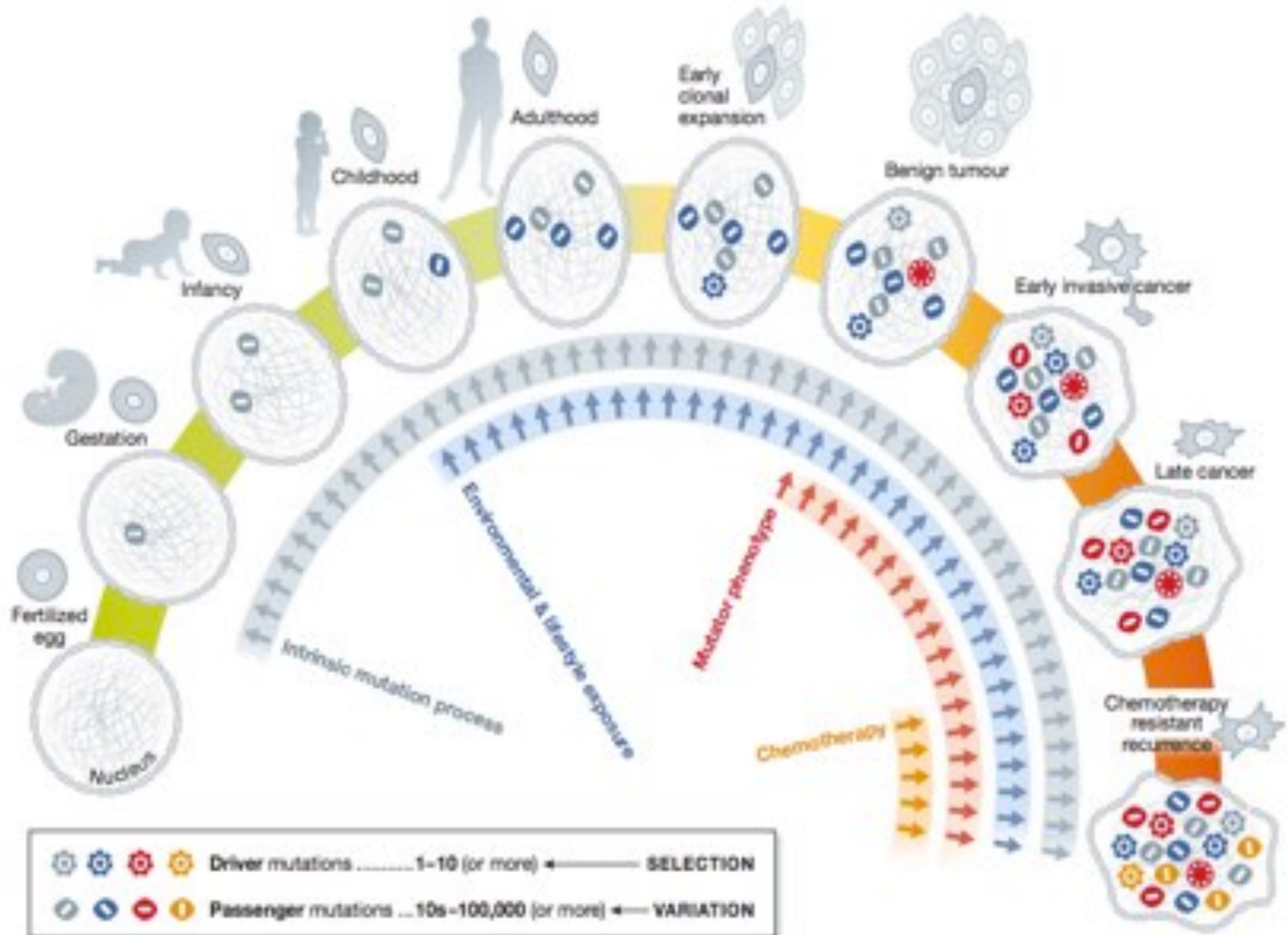
Mutational Signatures

Which processes drive the onset of mutations?





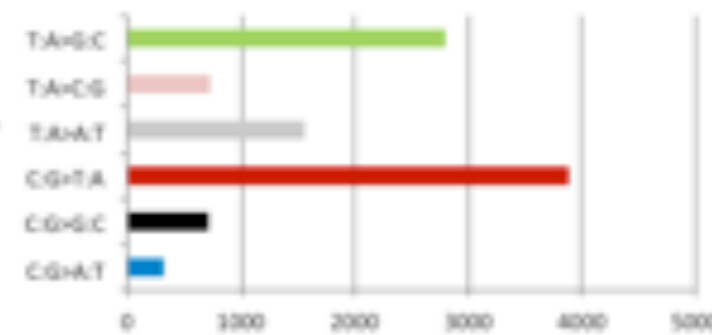
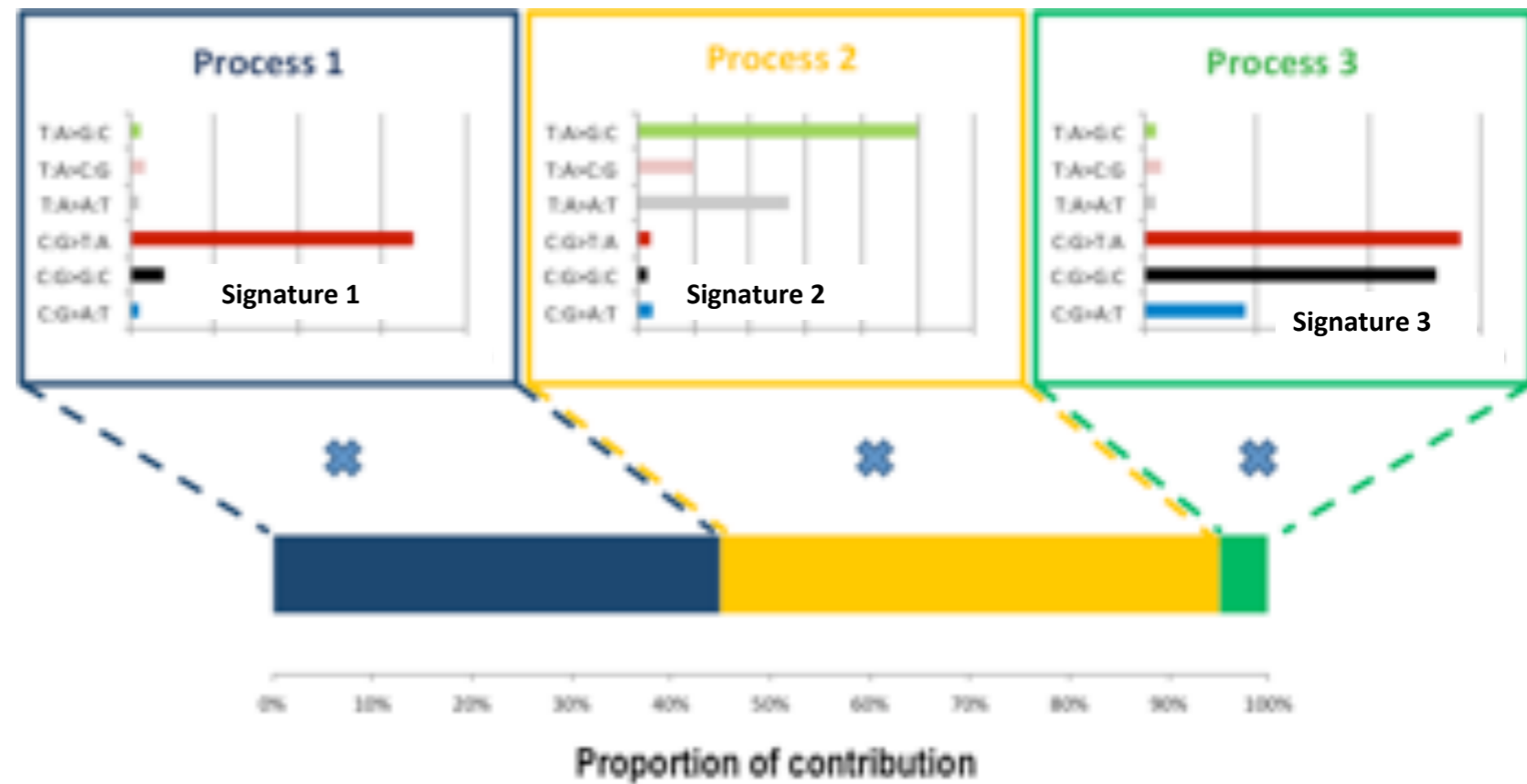
Mutational Signatures





Mutational Signatures

Non-negative Matrix Factorization



Ludmil Alexandrov



Mutational Signatures

C>T

C>A

C>G

T>A

T>C

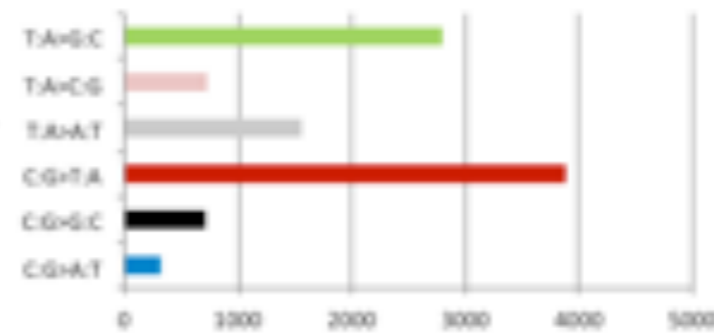
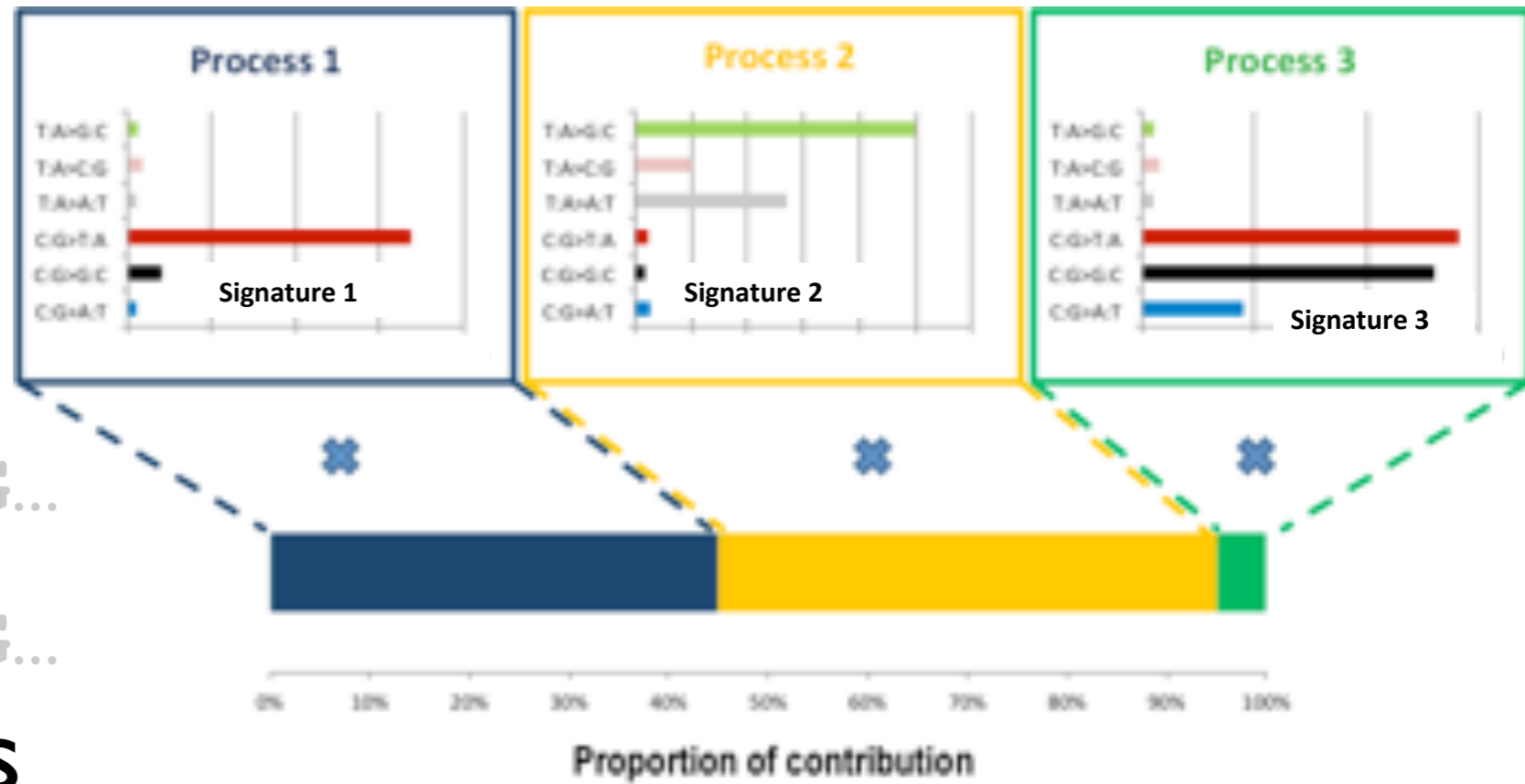
T>G

...AAATCGCTG...

...AAATTGCTG...

6 classes 16 contexts

96 bins



Ludmil Alexandrov



Mutational Signatures

C>T

C>A

C>G

T>A

T>C

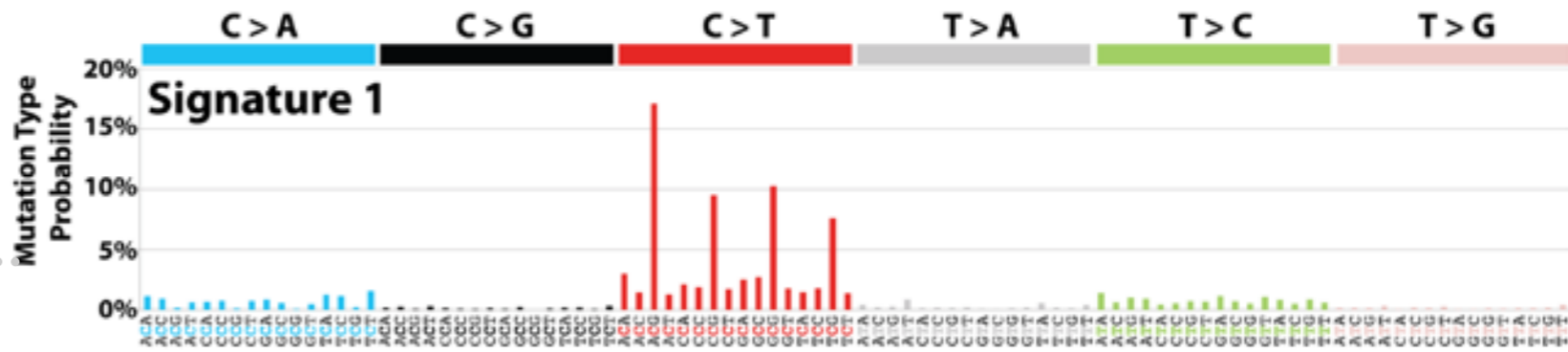
T>G

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6 classes 16 contexts

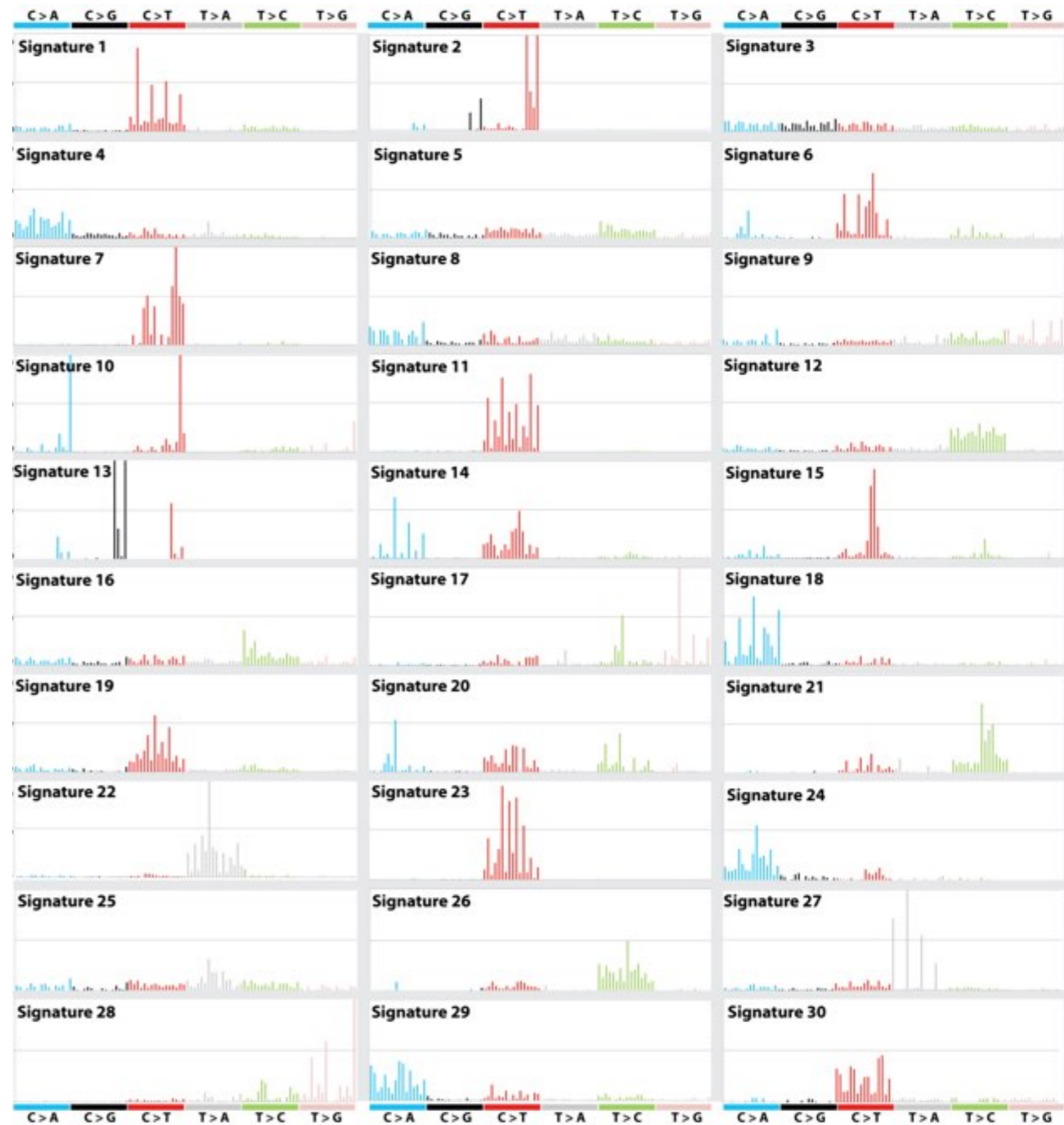
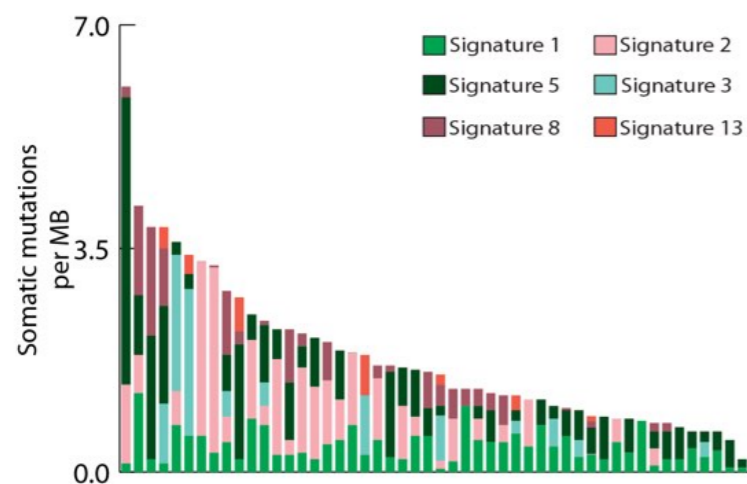
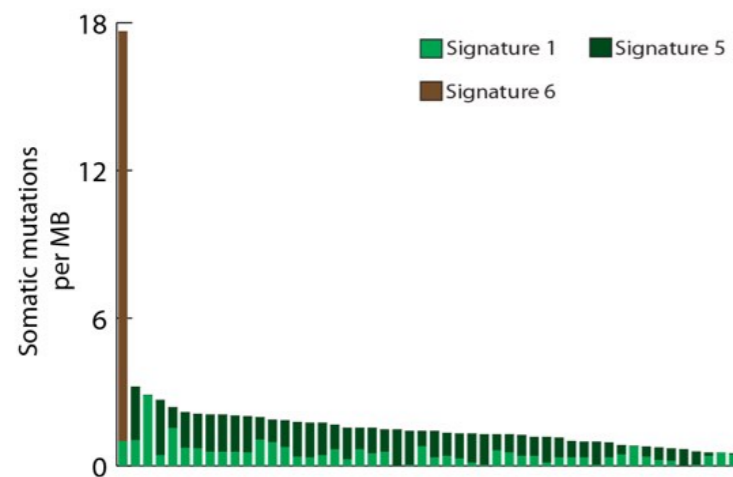
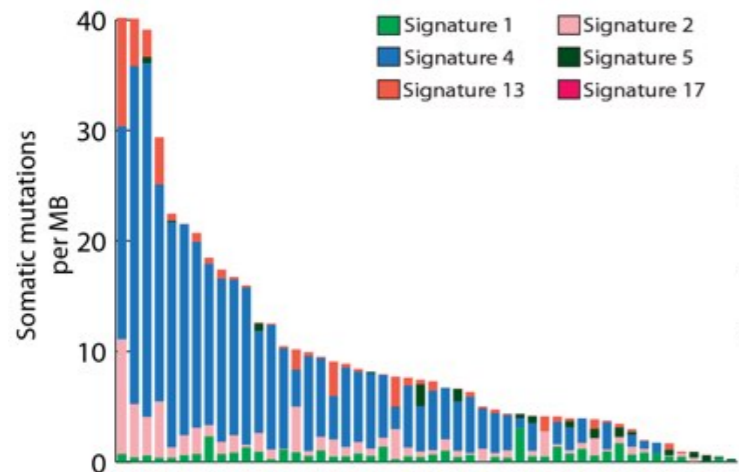
96 bins



Ludmil Alexandrov



Mutational Signatures





Mutational Signatures

Deamination
of 5-Methyl Cytosine

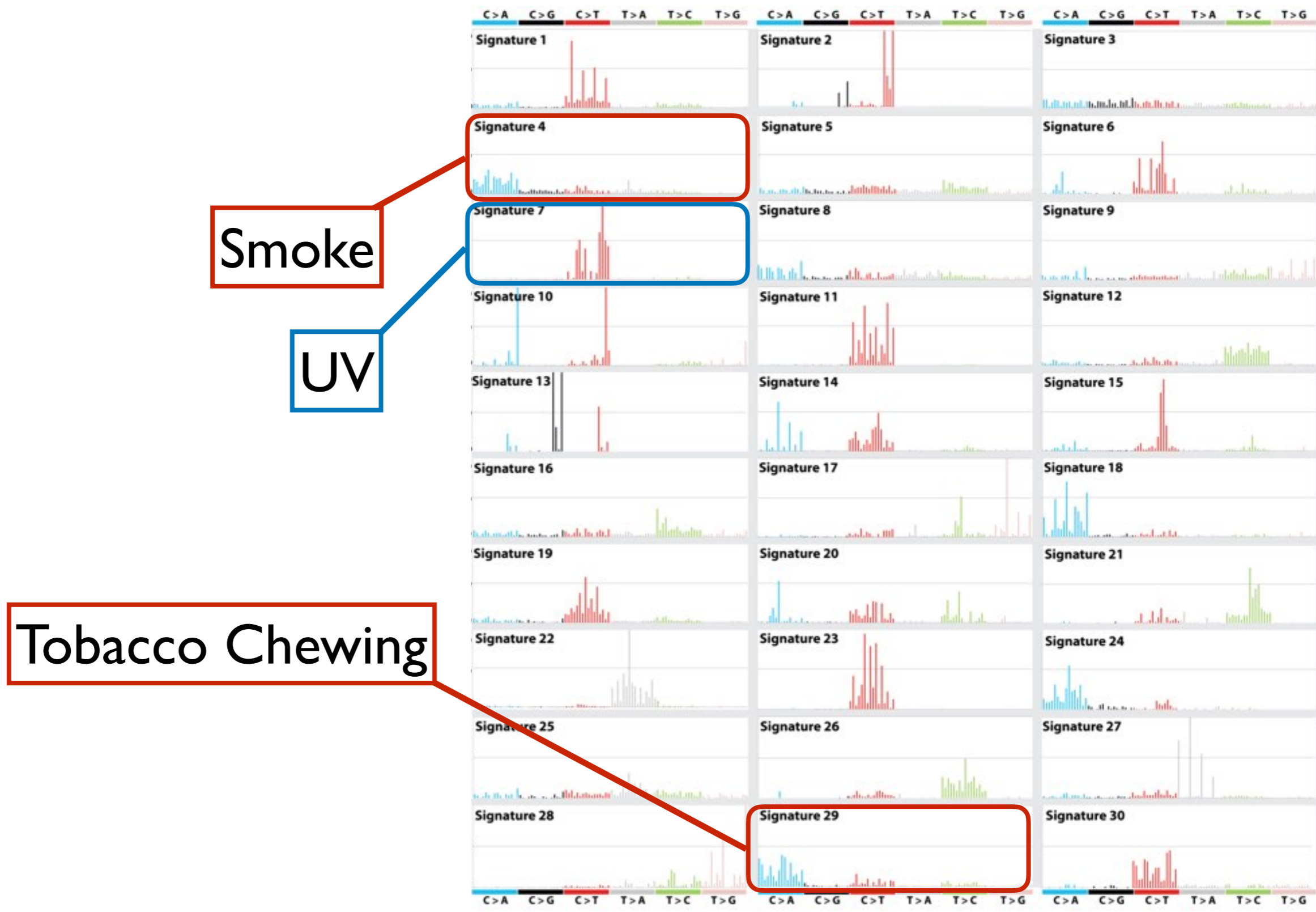
BRCA

DNA repair





Mutational Signatures





Mutational Signatures

Temozolomide

Aflatoxin

Aristolochic Acid

Psoralen





Mutational Signatures

Unknown





Mutational Signatures

APOBEC
Mutational Signature





the (cancer) evolutionary process

* during replication

* environmental damage

Radiations

Chemicals

Spontaneous Breakdown

* DNA repair

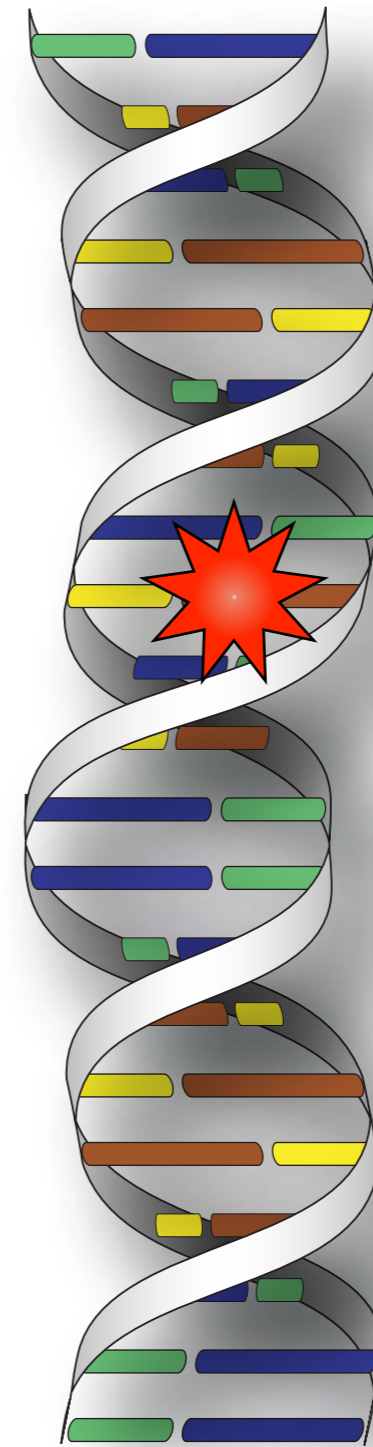
Mismatch Repair

Excision Repair

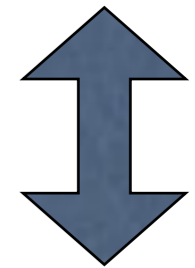
End-Joining

Recombinational Repair

* AID/APOBECs



Stability



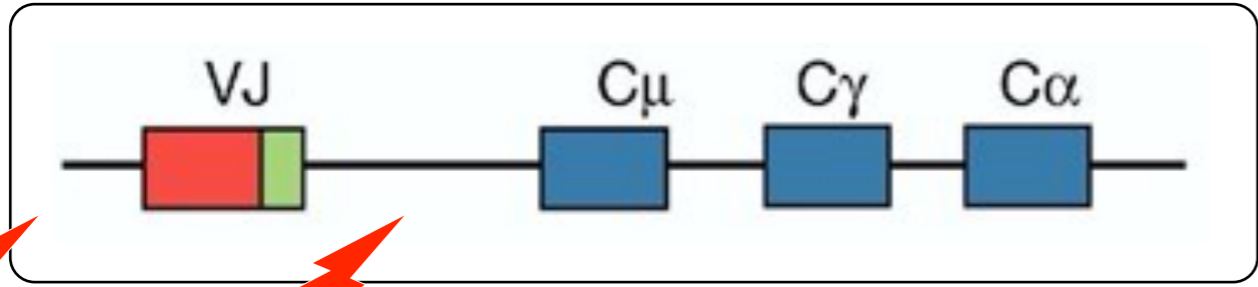
Evolution

**More
Evolution**

EVOLUTION - LIVE!

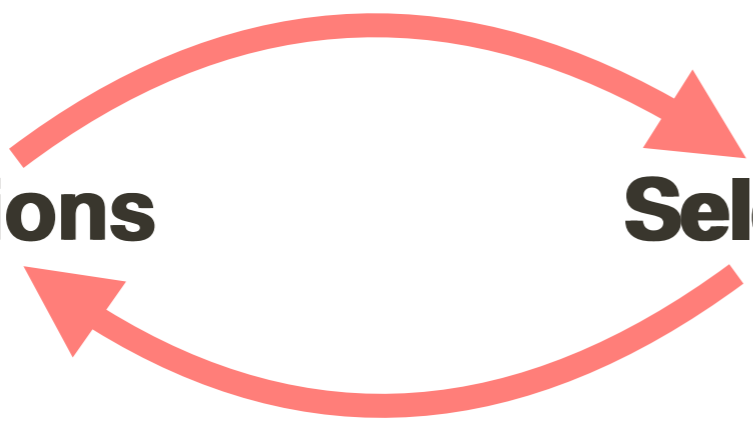
ANTIBODY DIVERSIFICATION

IMMUNOGLOBULIN GENE

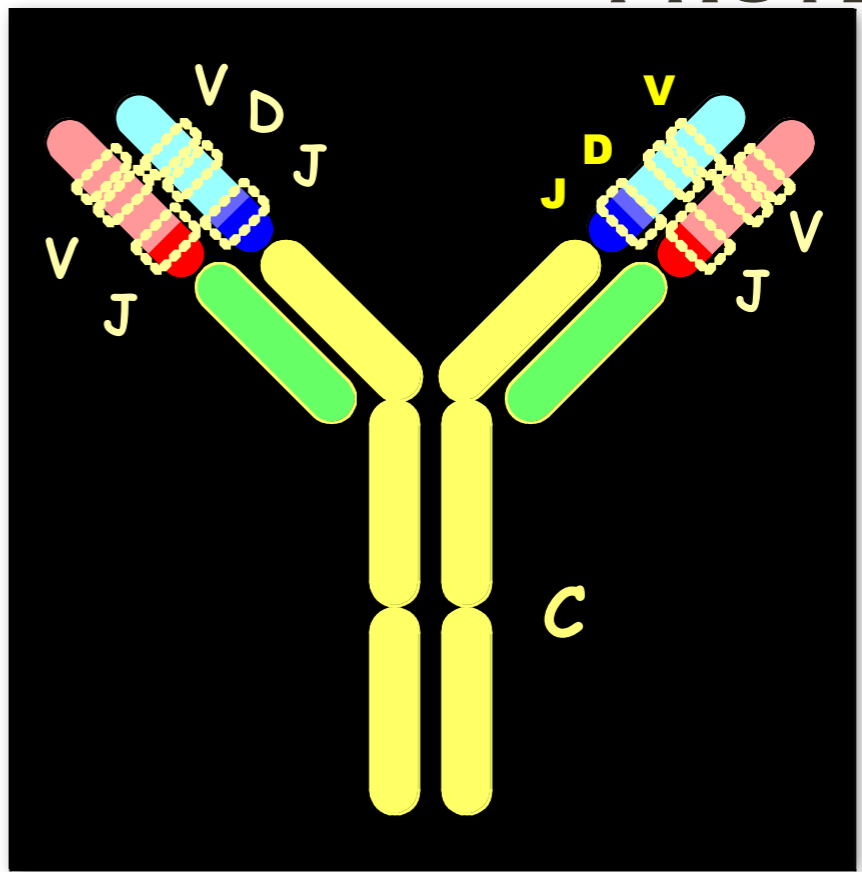


Mutations

Selection

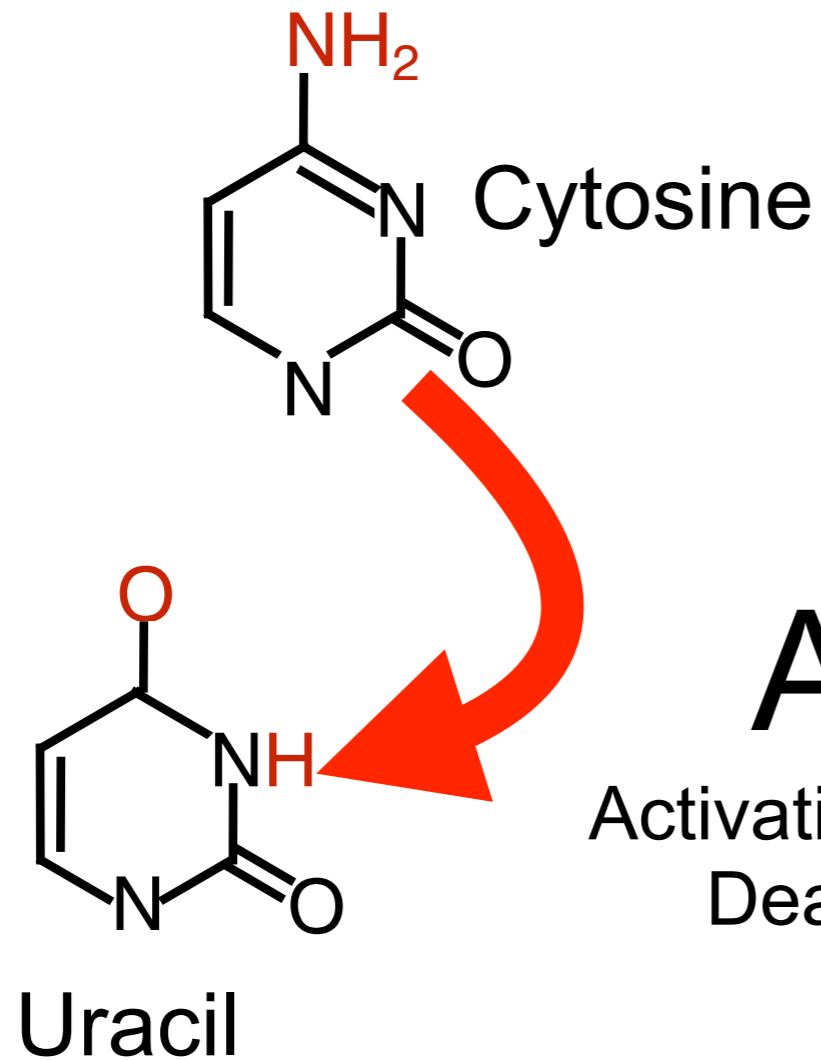


PROTEINS

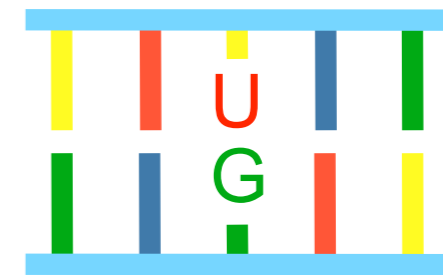
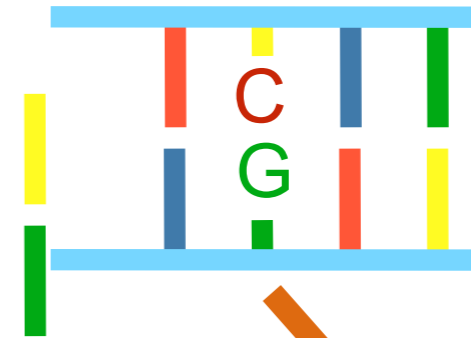




Diversification by Deamination



Ig locus



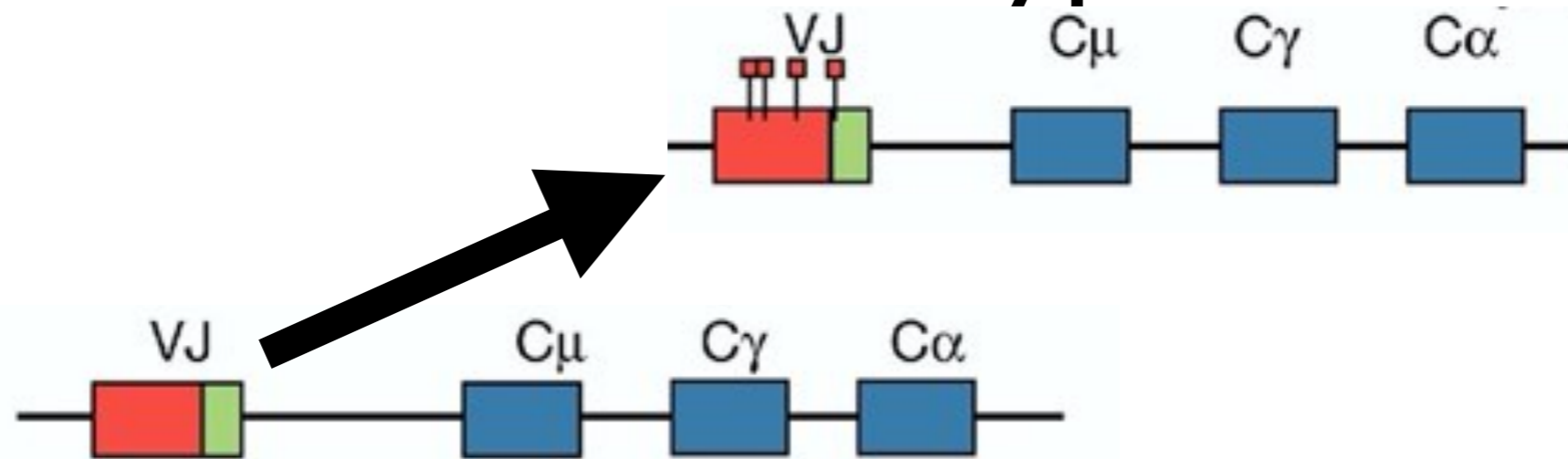
Error-Prone
DNA Repair

**Antigen-dependent
Antibody Diversification**

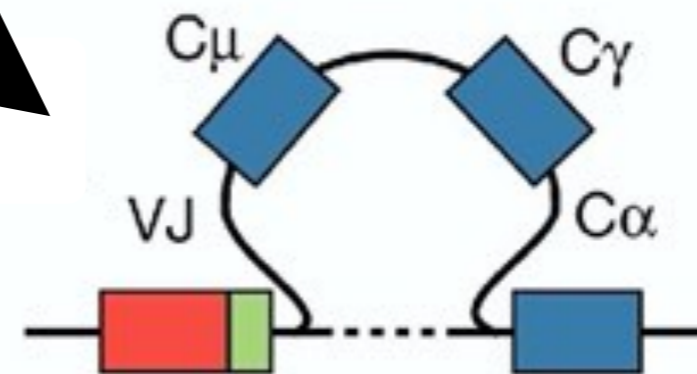


Diversification by Deamination

Somatic Hypermutation



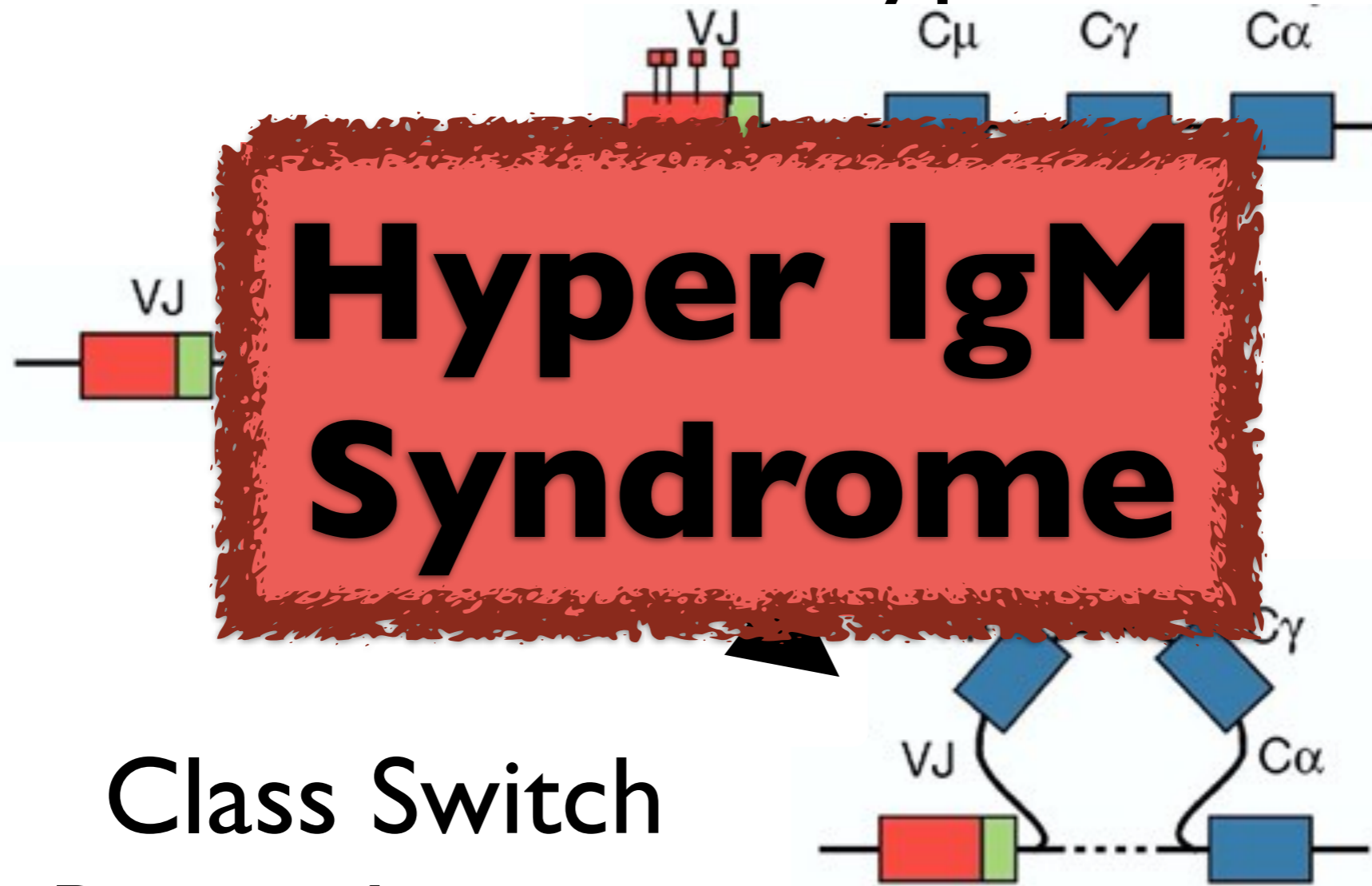
Class Switch Recombination





Diversification by Deamination

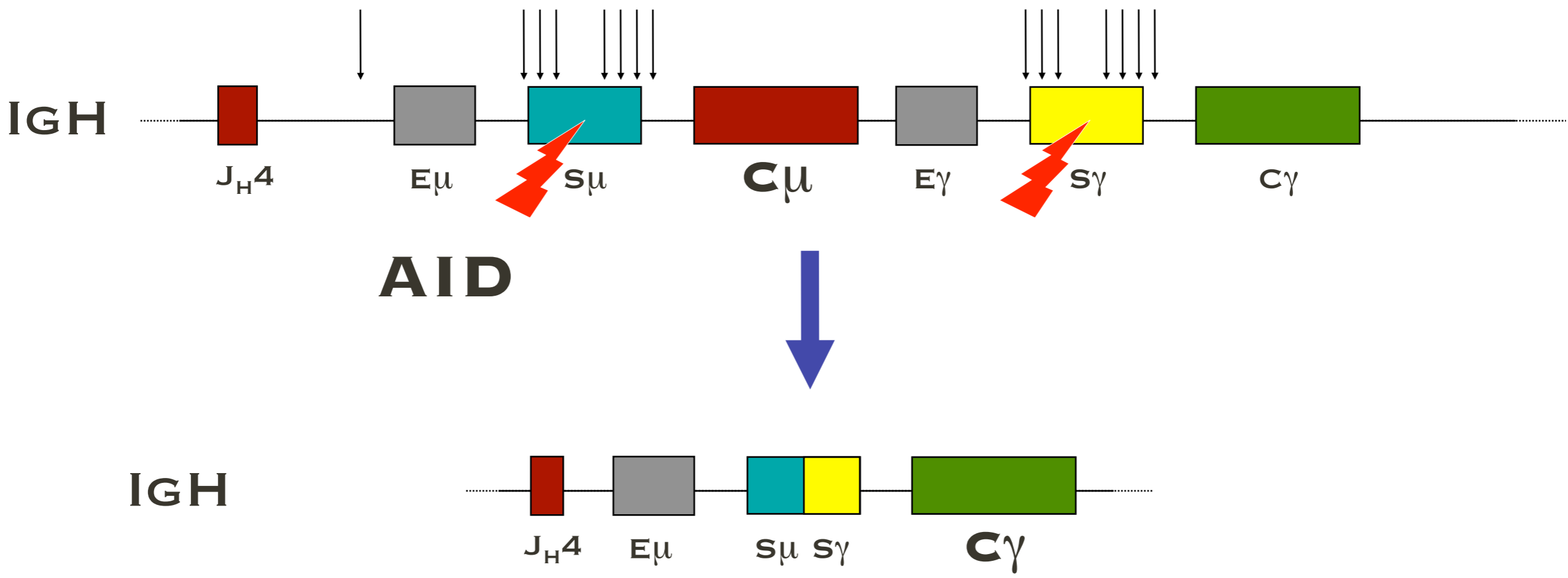
Somatic Hypermutation



Class Switch
Recombination

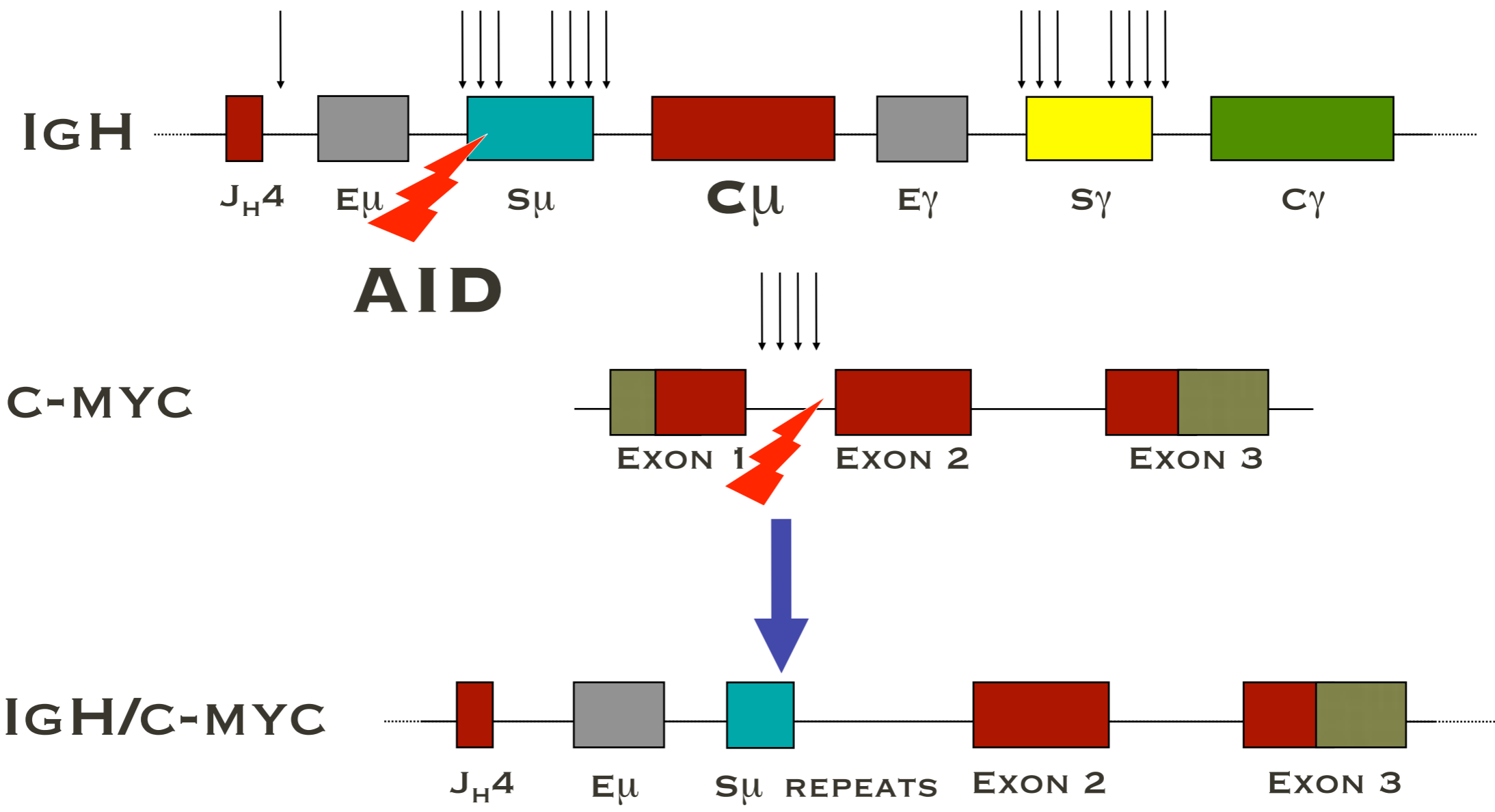
PHYSIOLOGY:

CLASS SWITCH RECOMBINATION



PATHOLOGY:

CHROMOSOMAL TRANSLOCATIONS

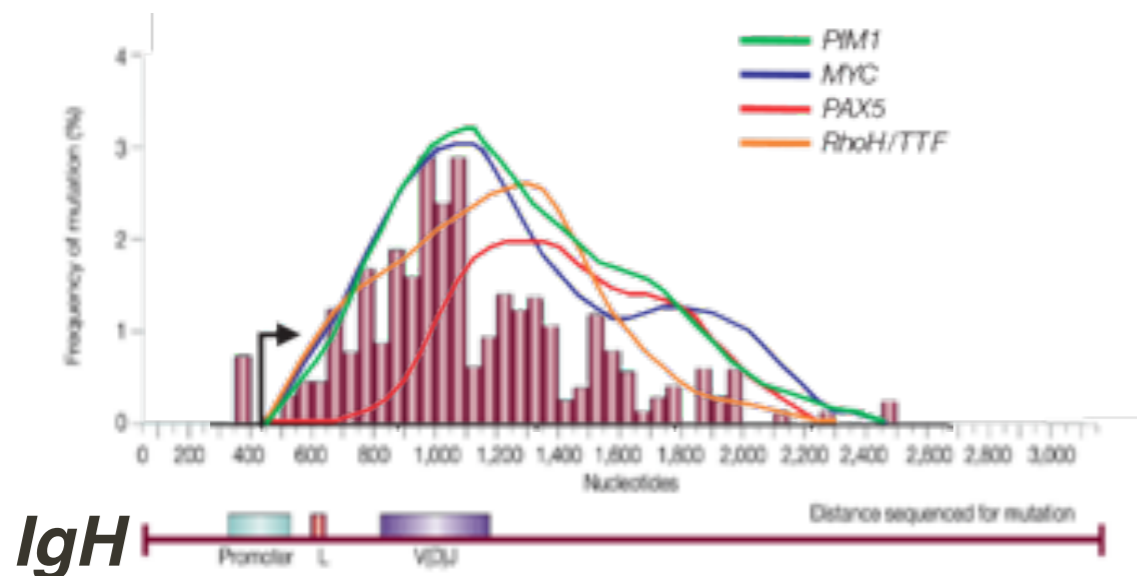


AID & LYMPHOMAS: CHROMOSOMAL TRANSLOCATIONS

sporadic Burkitt's Lymphoma	<i>c-myc</i> , t(8;14)
Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma	<i>bcl-6</i> , t(3;14)
B-Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia	<i>bcl-3</i> , t(14;19)
Lymphoplasmacytoid Lymphoma	<i>Pax-5</i> , t(9;14)
Diffuse Large Cell Lymphoma	<i>lyt-10</i> , t(10;14)
Extranodal Lymphoma	<i>MUC-1</i> , t(1;14)

Chromosomal
breakpoints
at the Switch
Regions

MUTATIONS



Pim1

	G	A	T	C
G				
A				
T	1	1		
C	4	4	45	

Pax5

	G	A	T	C
G				
A	2			
T	1	2		
C	12	5	26	

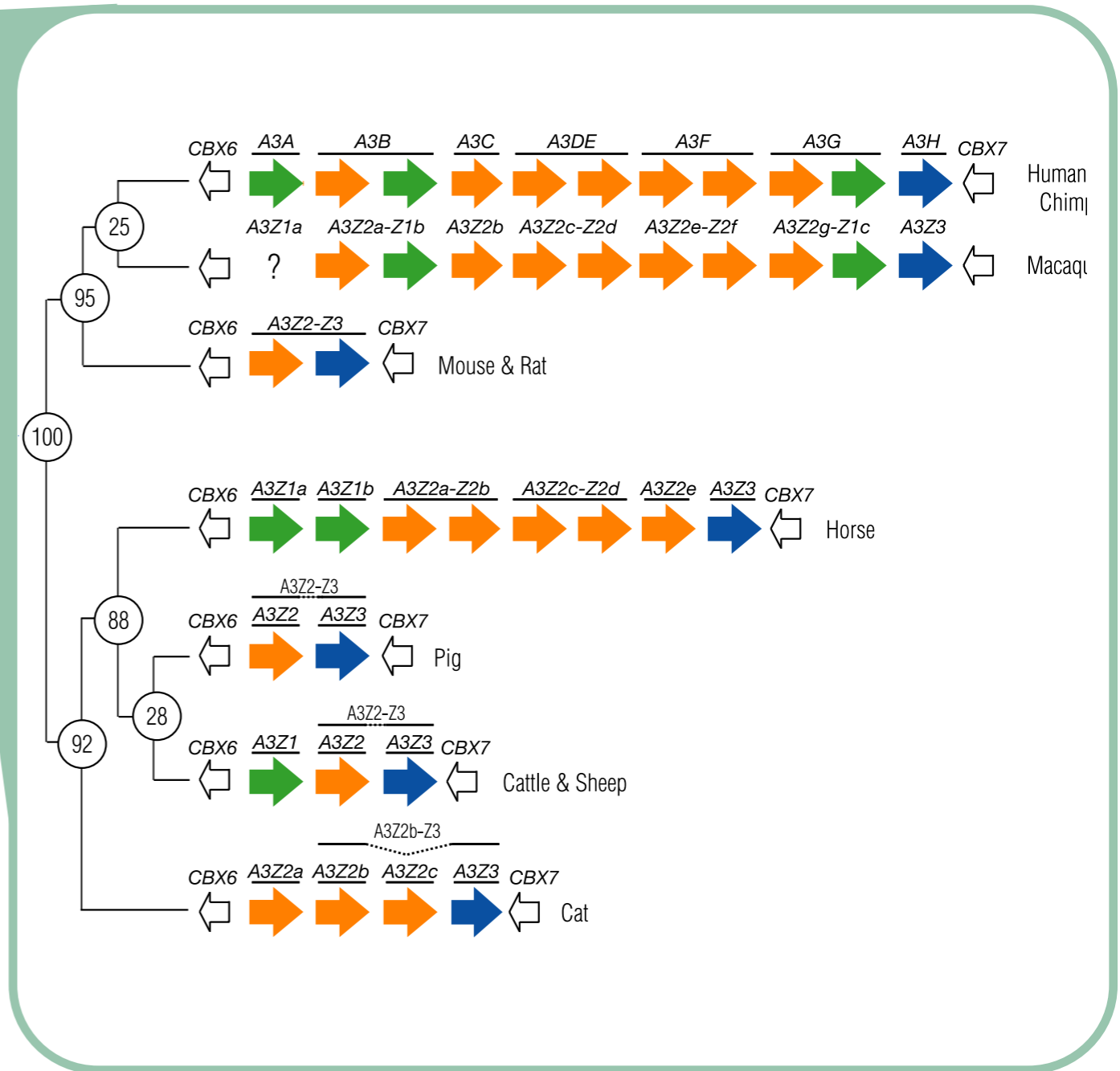
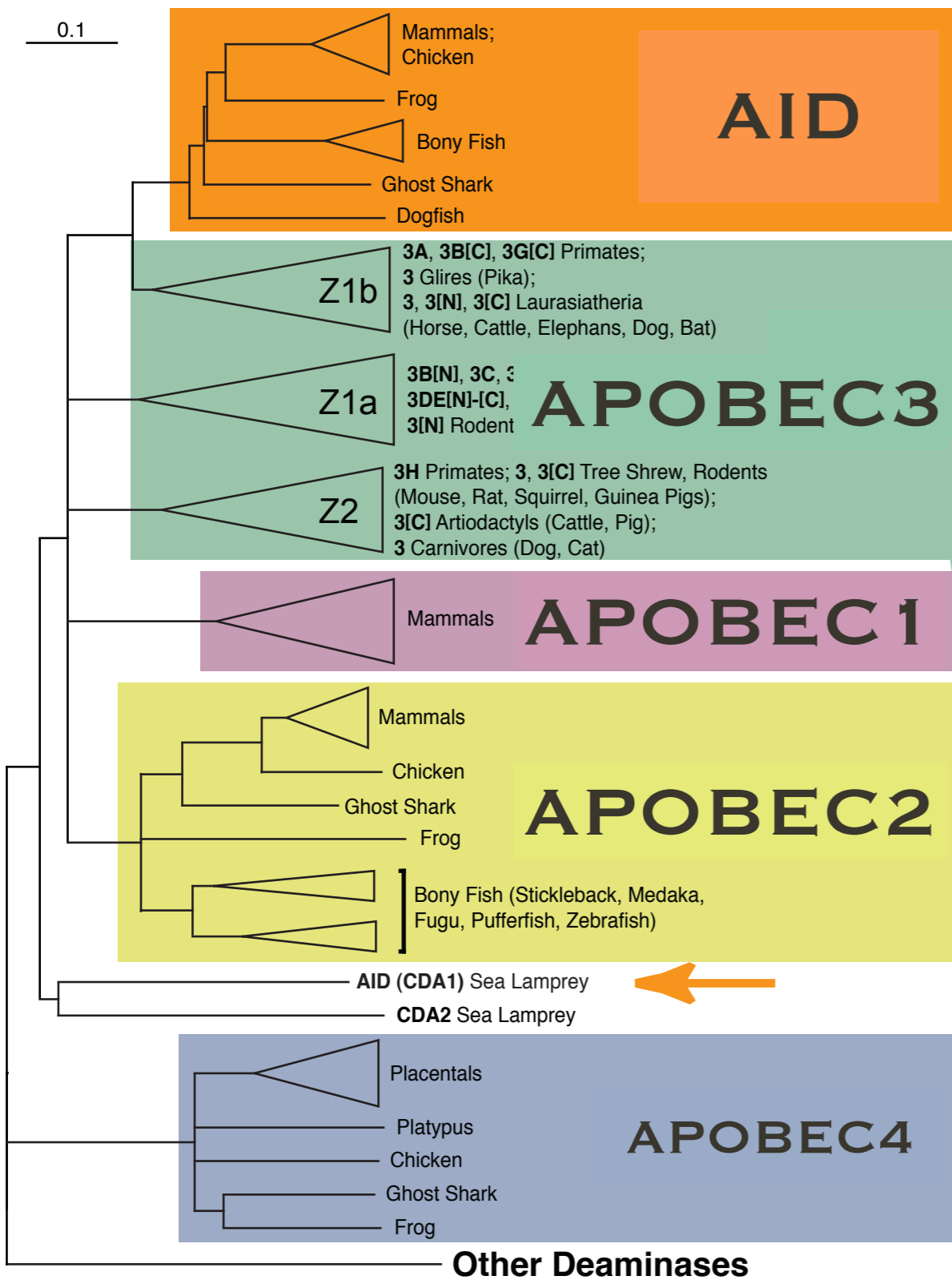
c-Myc

	G	A	T	C
G				
A	4			
T	5	3		
C	16	3	22	

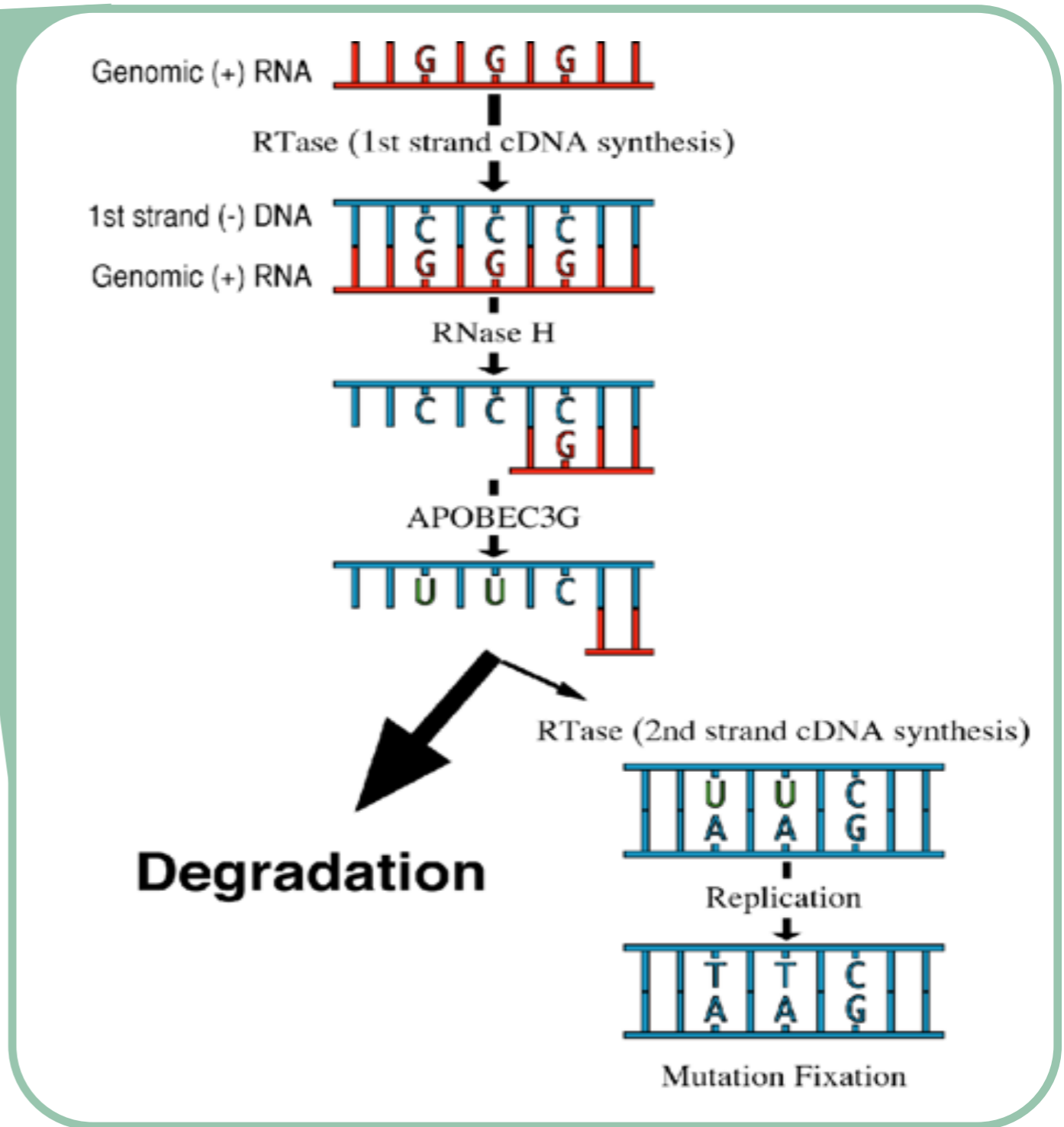
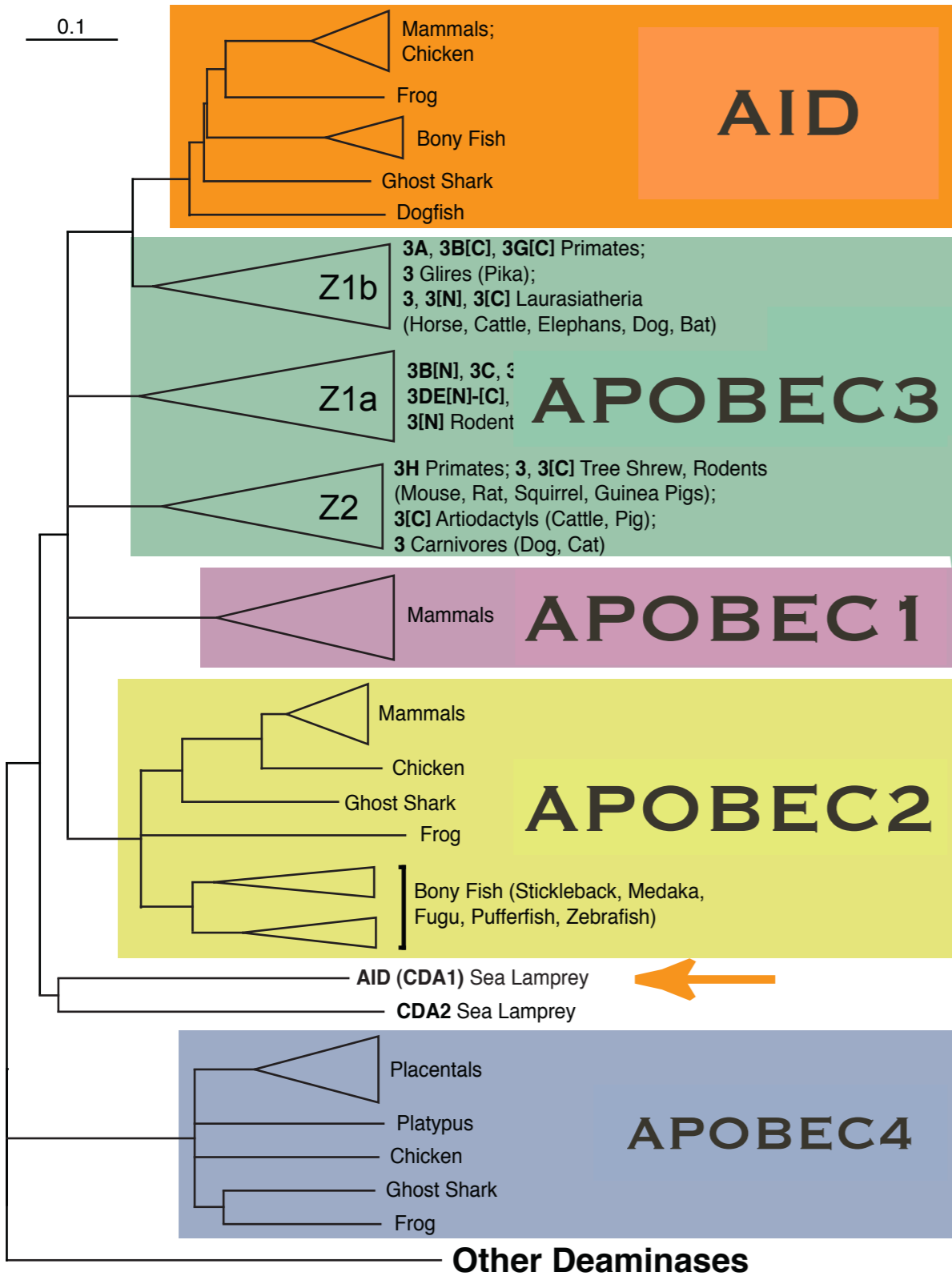
Bcl-6

	G	A	T	C
G				
A	14			
T	8	4		
C	12	3	19	

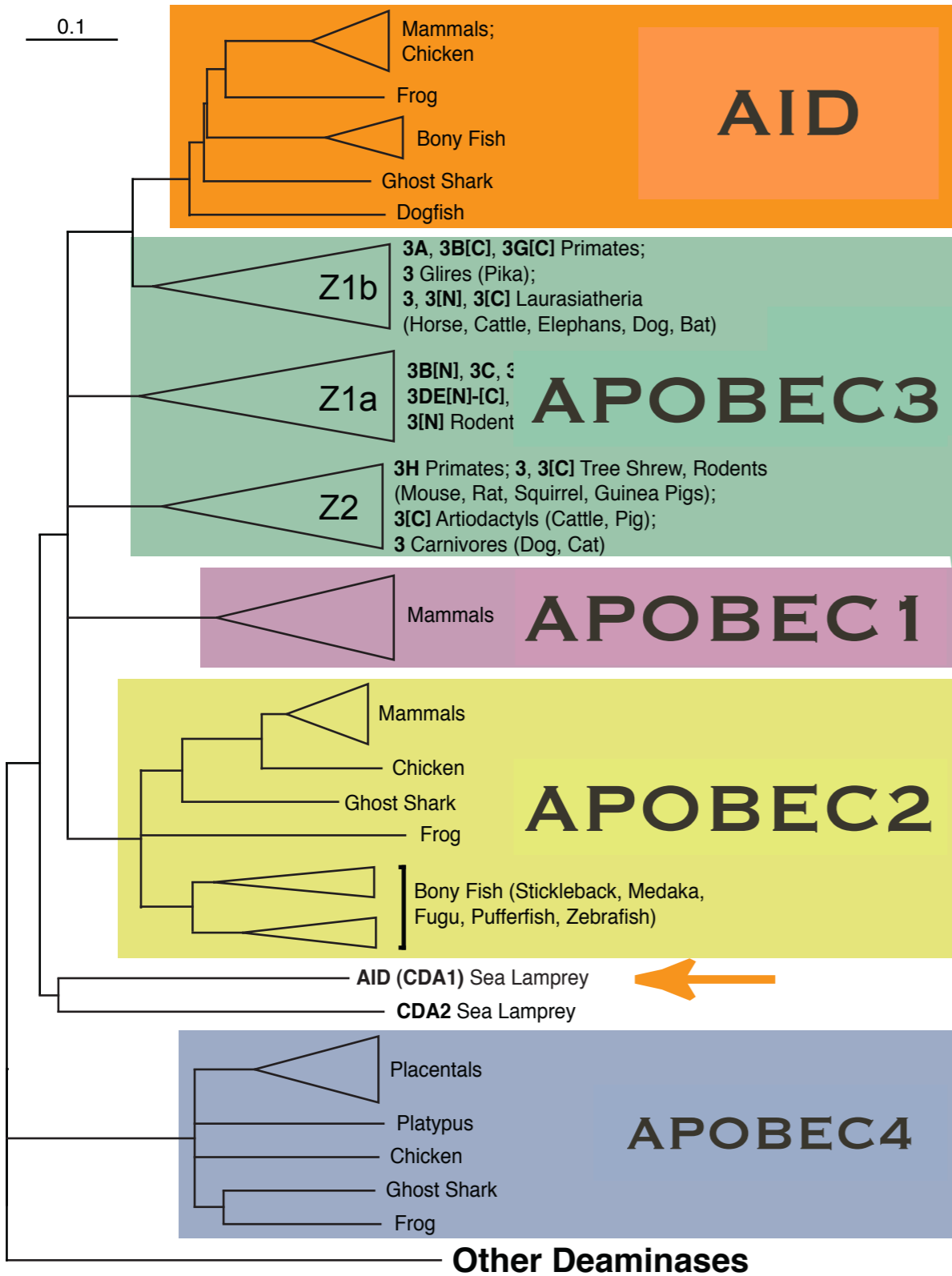
THE AID/APOBECs



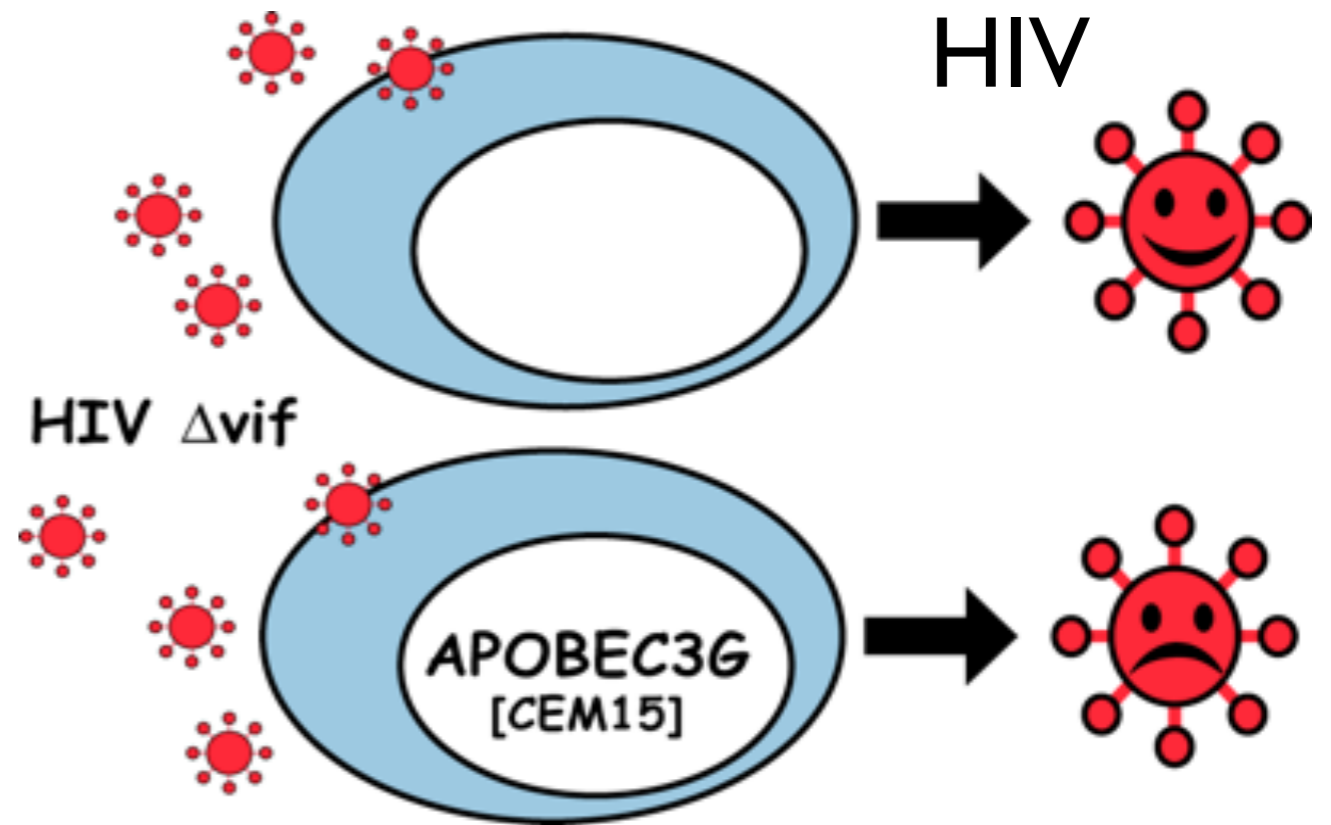
THE AID/APOBECs



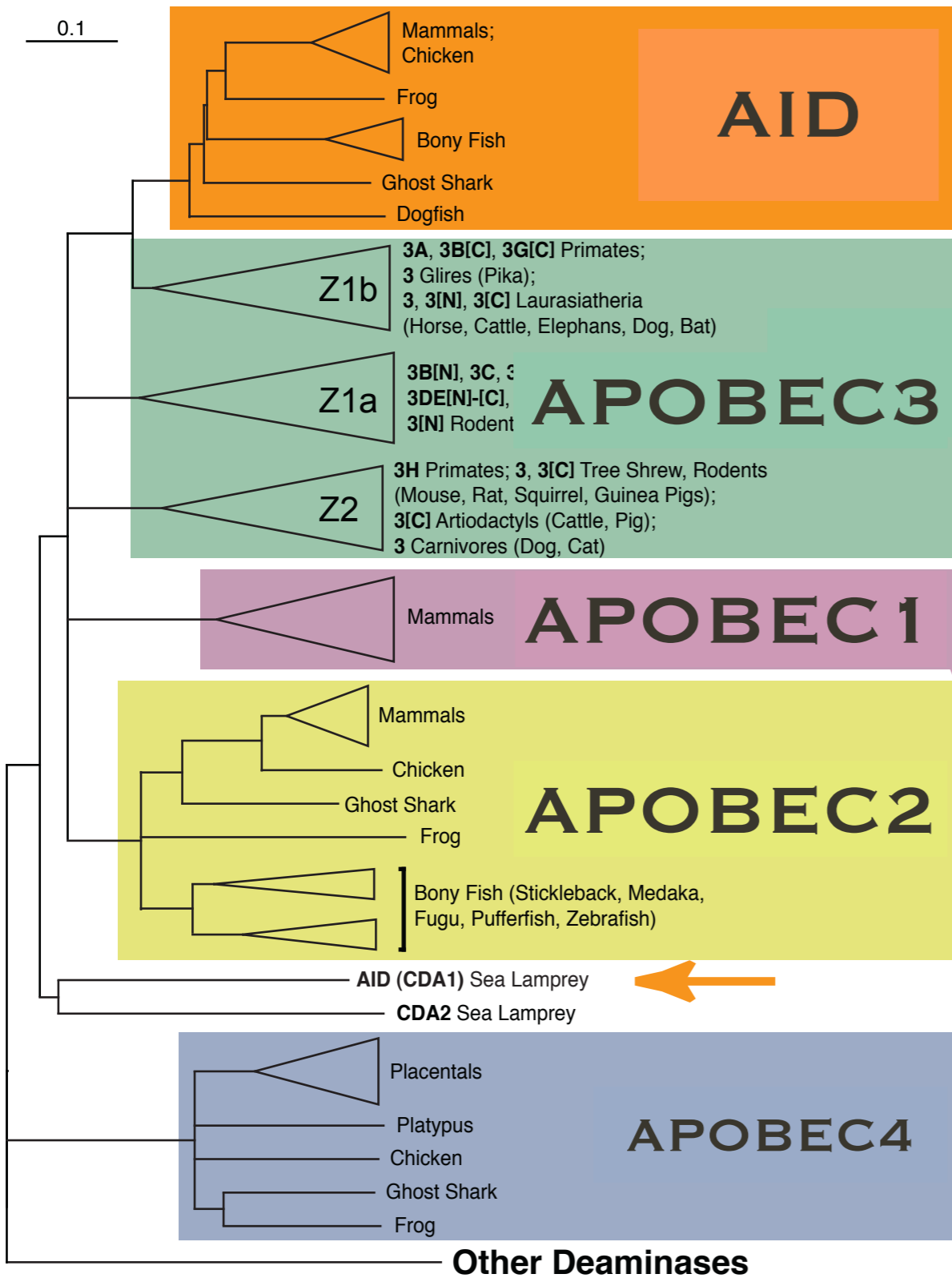
THE AID/APOBECs



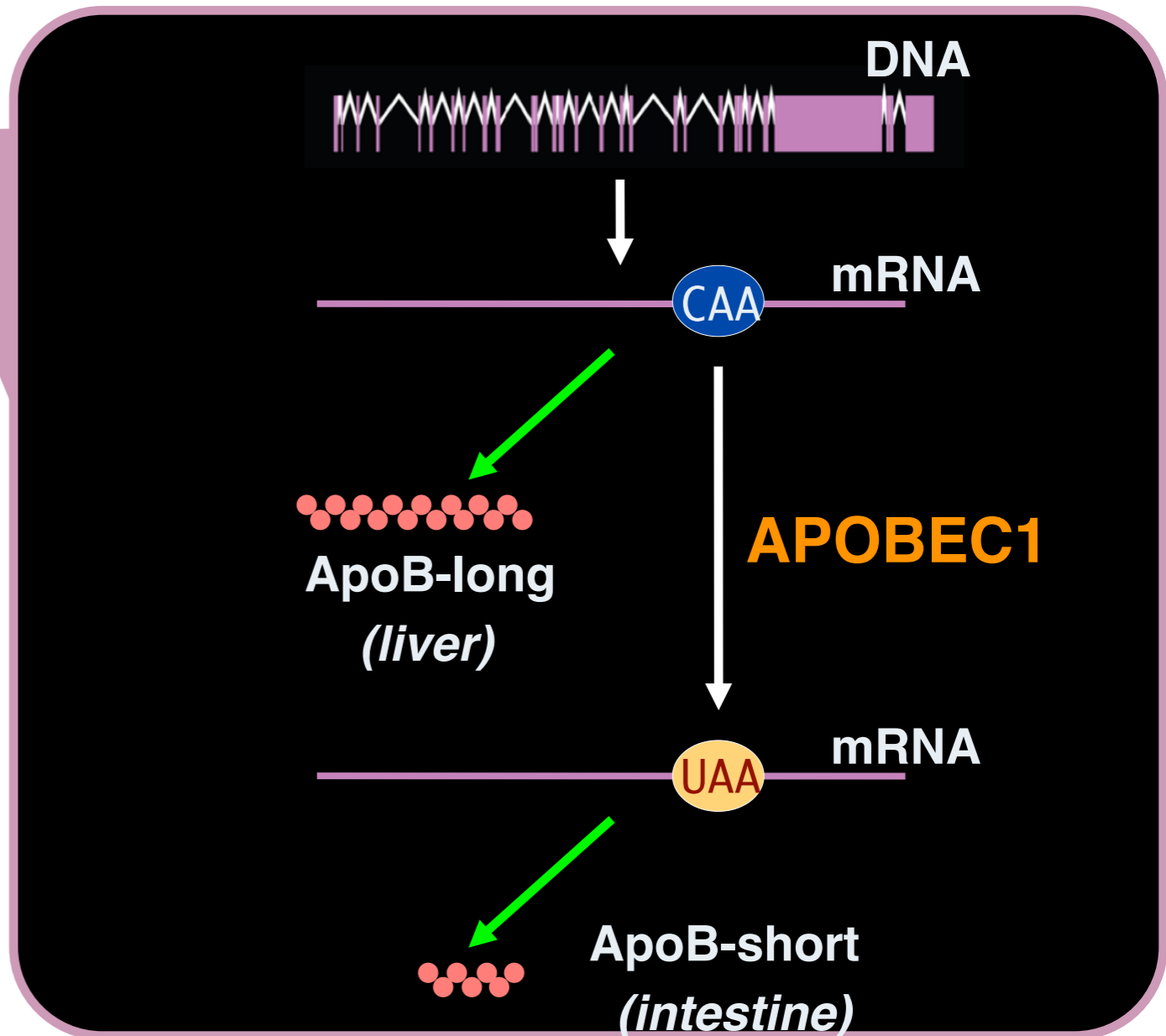
Innate Viral/Mobile Elements Restriction Pathway

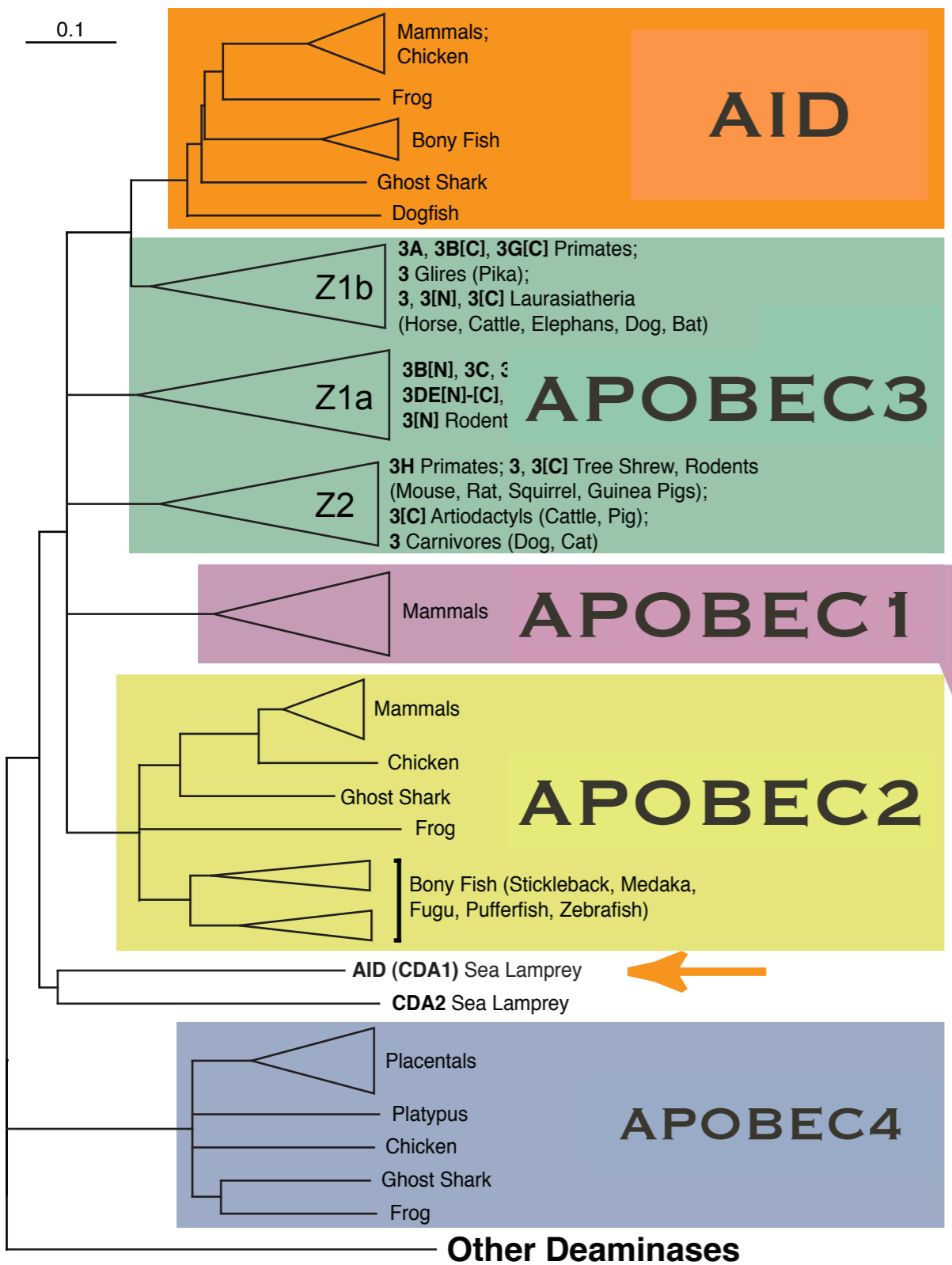


THE AID/APOBECs

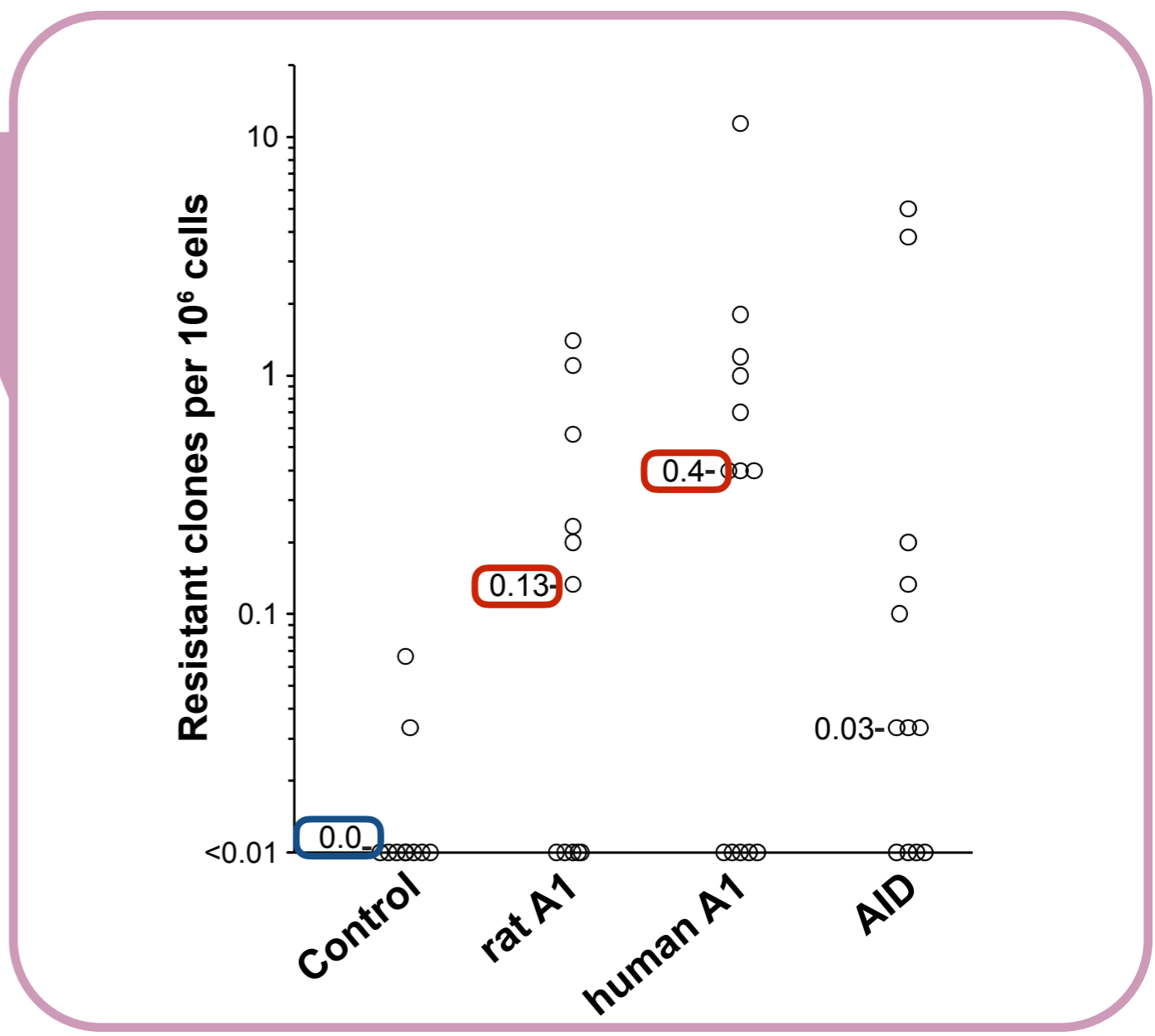


THE ODD ONE...





THE ODD ONE...



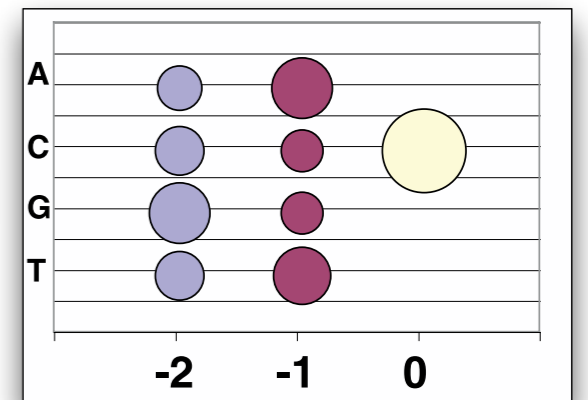
APOBECs & CANCER



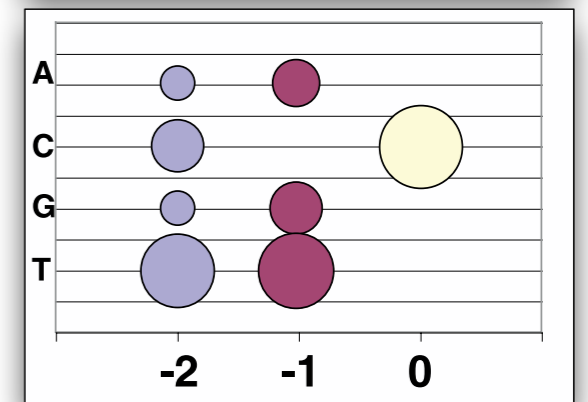
► Mutational Signature in mutated p53 and APC genes

Beale, 2004

Germline



Tumour



APC

APOBECs & CANCER

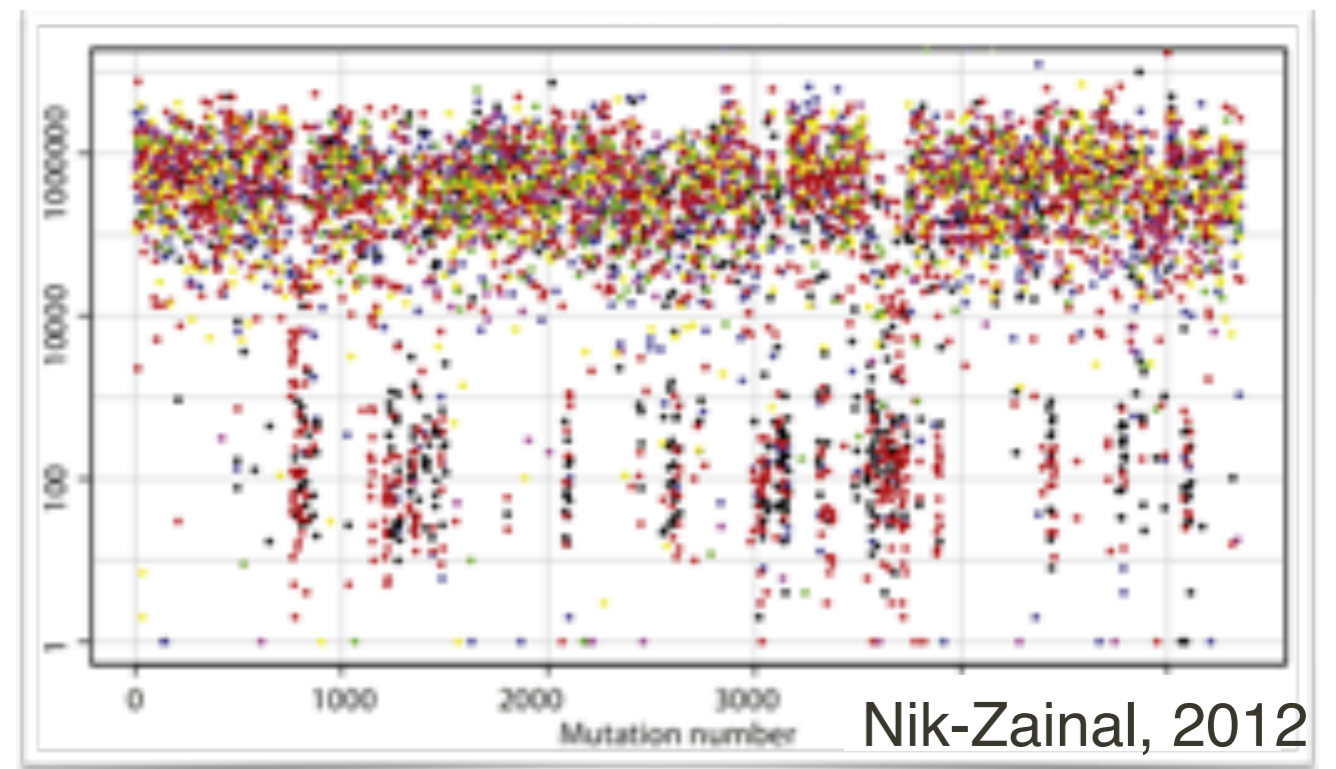


- ▶ **Mutational Signature in mutated p53 and APC genes**

Beale, 2004

- ▶ **Kataegis: Mutational Showers in Cancer Genomes**

Nik-Zainal, 2012; Roberts 2012; Taylor, 2013; ...



APOBECs & CANCER



- ▶ **Mutational Signature in mutated p53 and APC genes**

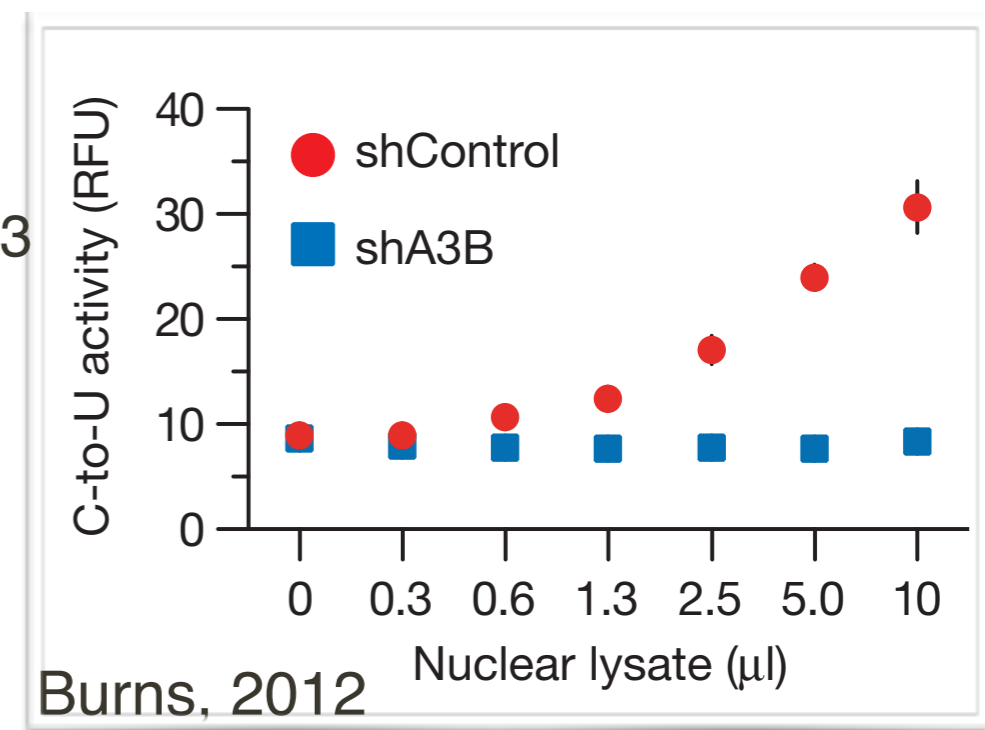
Beale, 2004

- ▶ **Kataegis: Mutational Showers in Cancer Genomes**

Nik-Zainal, 2012; Roberts 2012; Taylor, 2013; ...

- ▶ **APOBEC3B targets genomic DNA (Breast Cancer)**

Shinohara, 2012; Burns, 2013



APOBECs & CANCER



- ▶ **Mutational Signature in mutated p53 and APC genes**

Beale, 2004

- ▶ **Kataegis: Mutational Showers in Cancer Genomes**

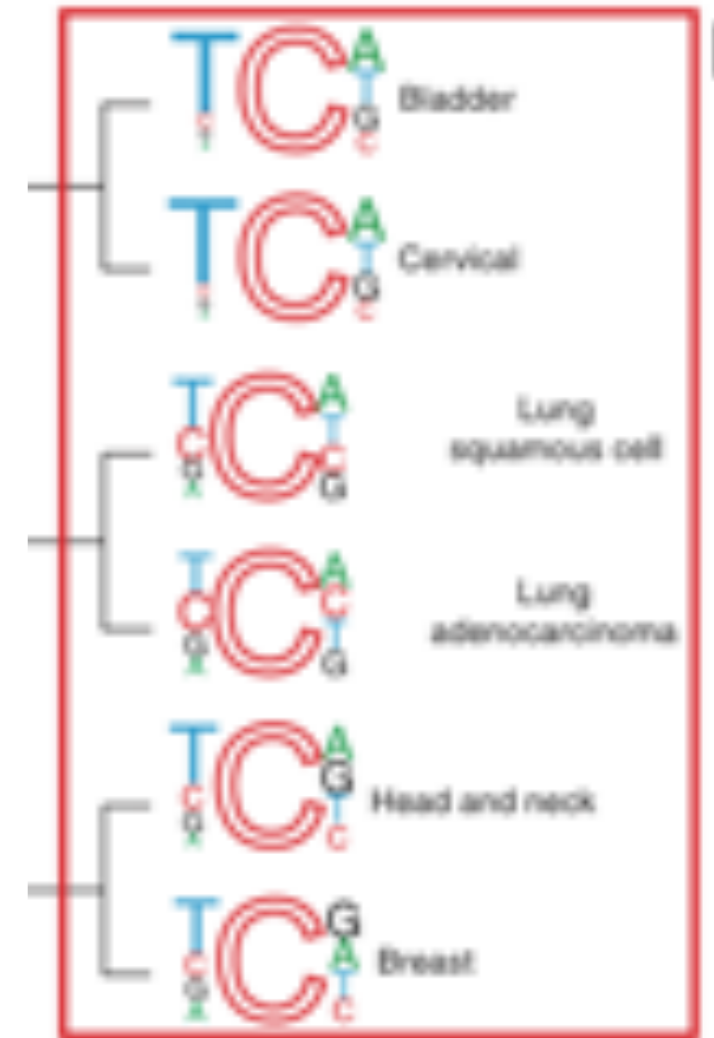
Nik-Zainal, 2012; Roberts 2012; Taylor, 2013; ...

- ▶ **APOBEC3B targets genomic DNA (Breast Cancer)**

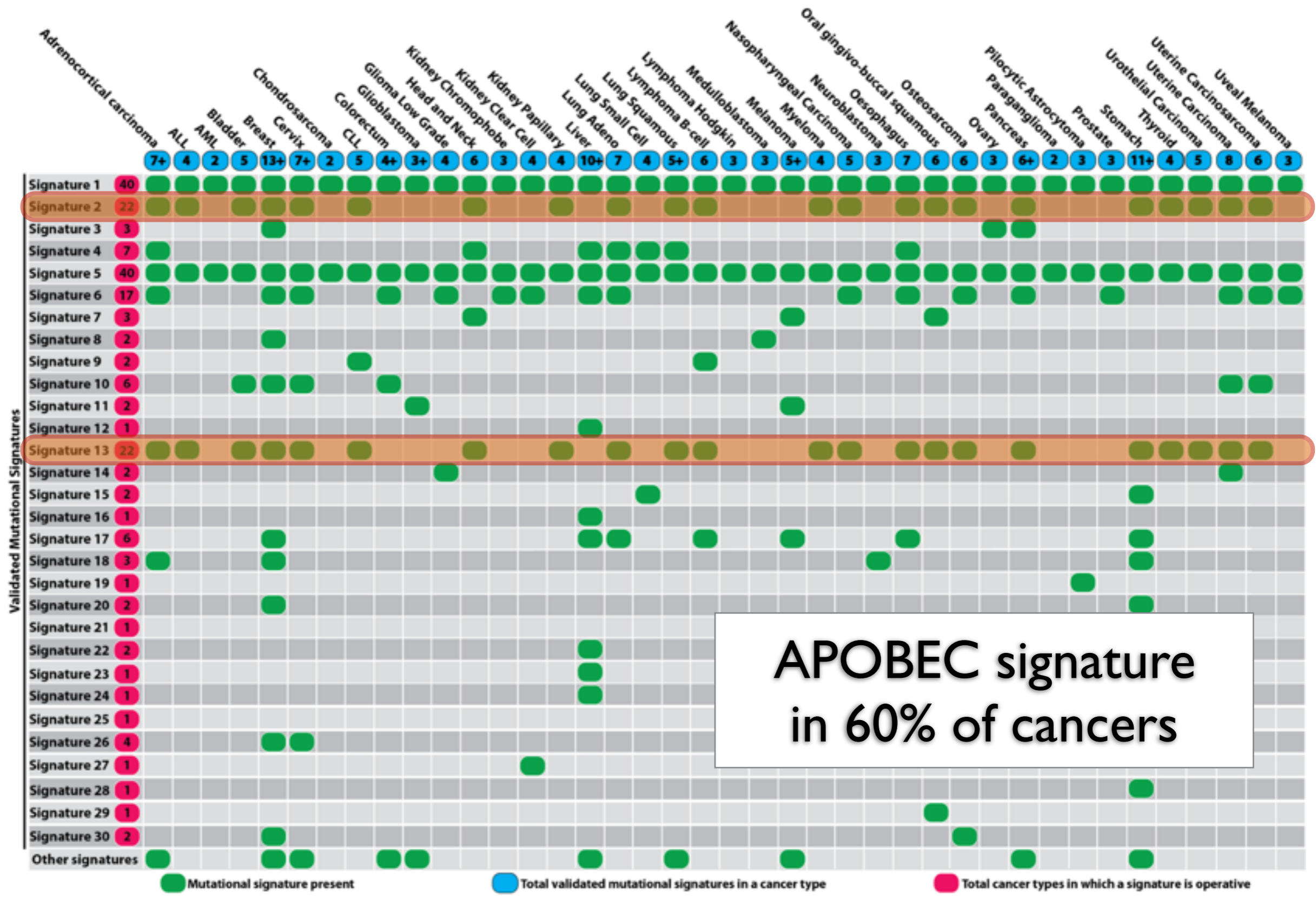
Shinohara, 2012; Burns, 2013

- ▶ **APOBEC Mutational Signature in Cancer Genomes**

Burns, 2013; Roberts 2013; Alexandrov, 2013; Saraconi 2014...

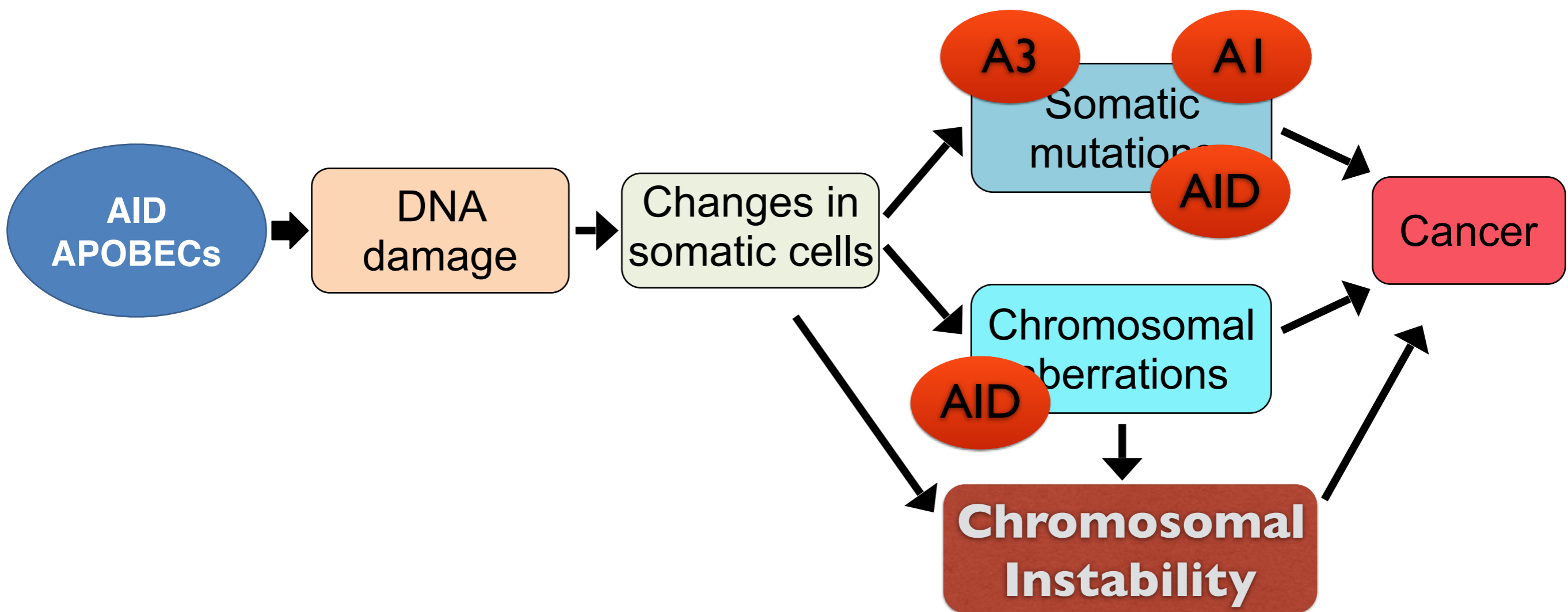


Burns, 2013



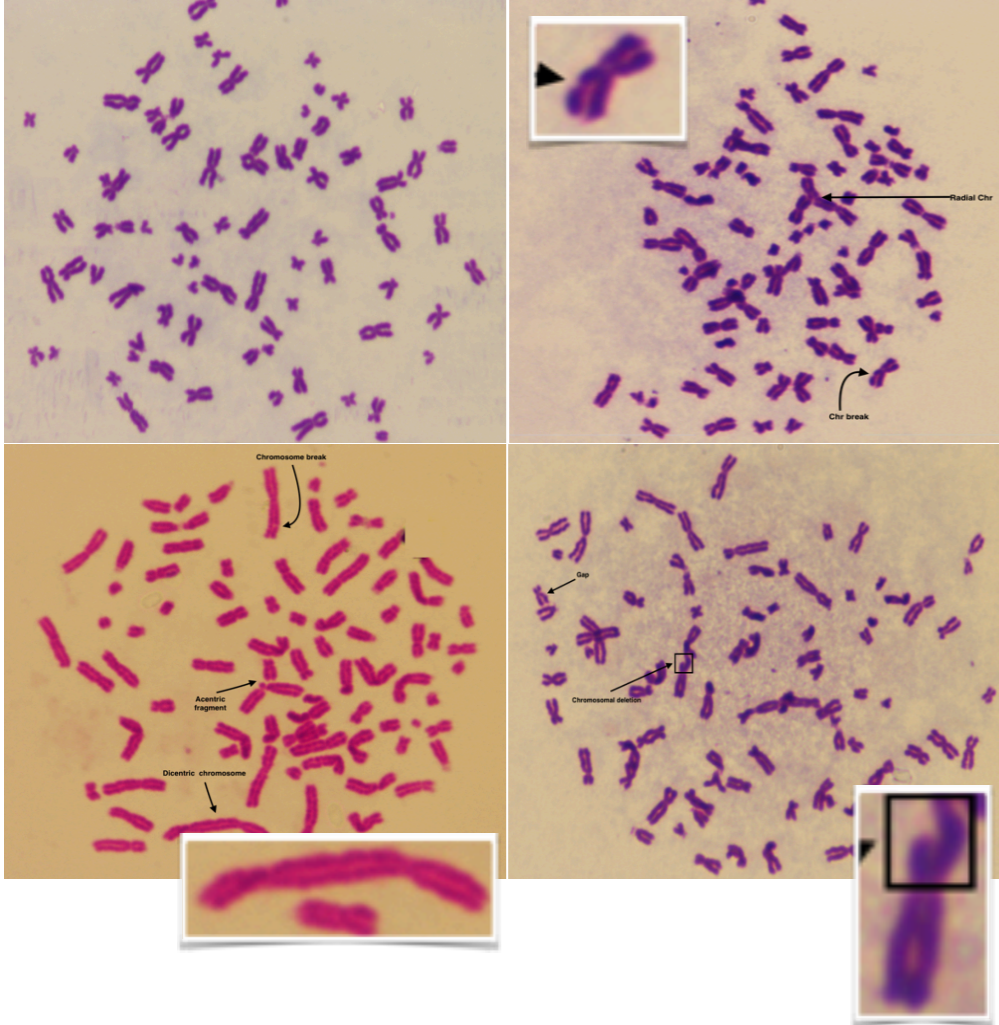
APOBEC signature
in 60% of cancers

● Mutational signature present
 ● Total validated mutational signatures in a cancer type
 ● Total cancer types in which a signature is operative

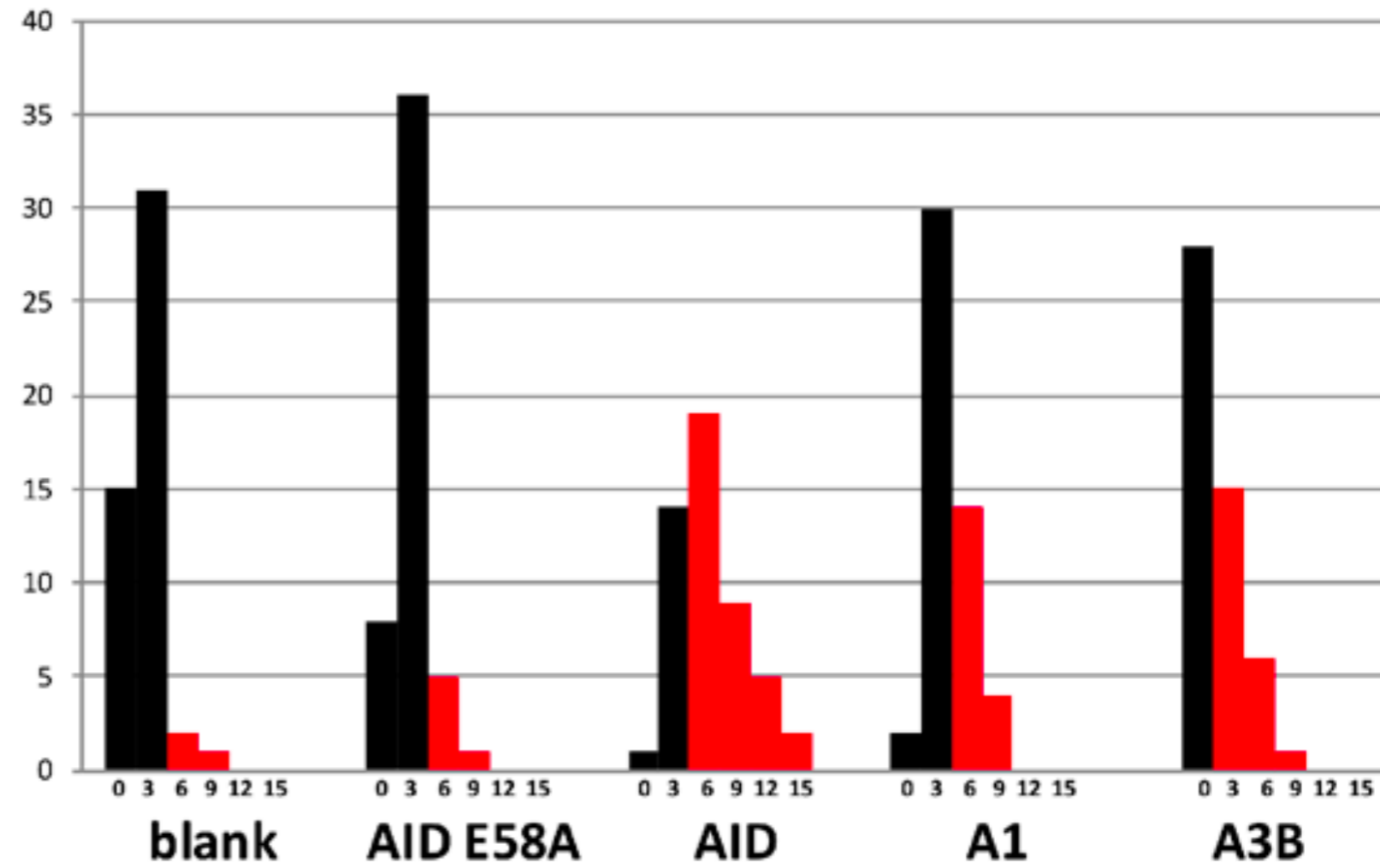




CHROMOSOMAL ABERRATIONS

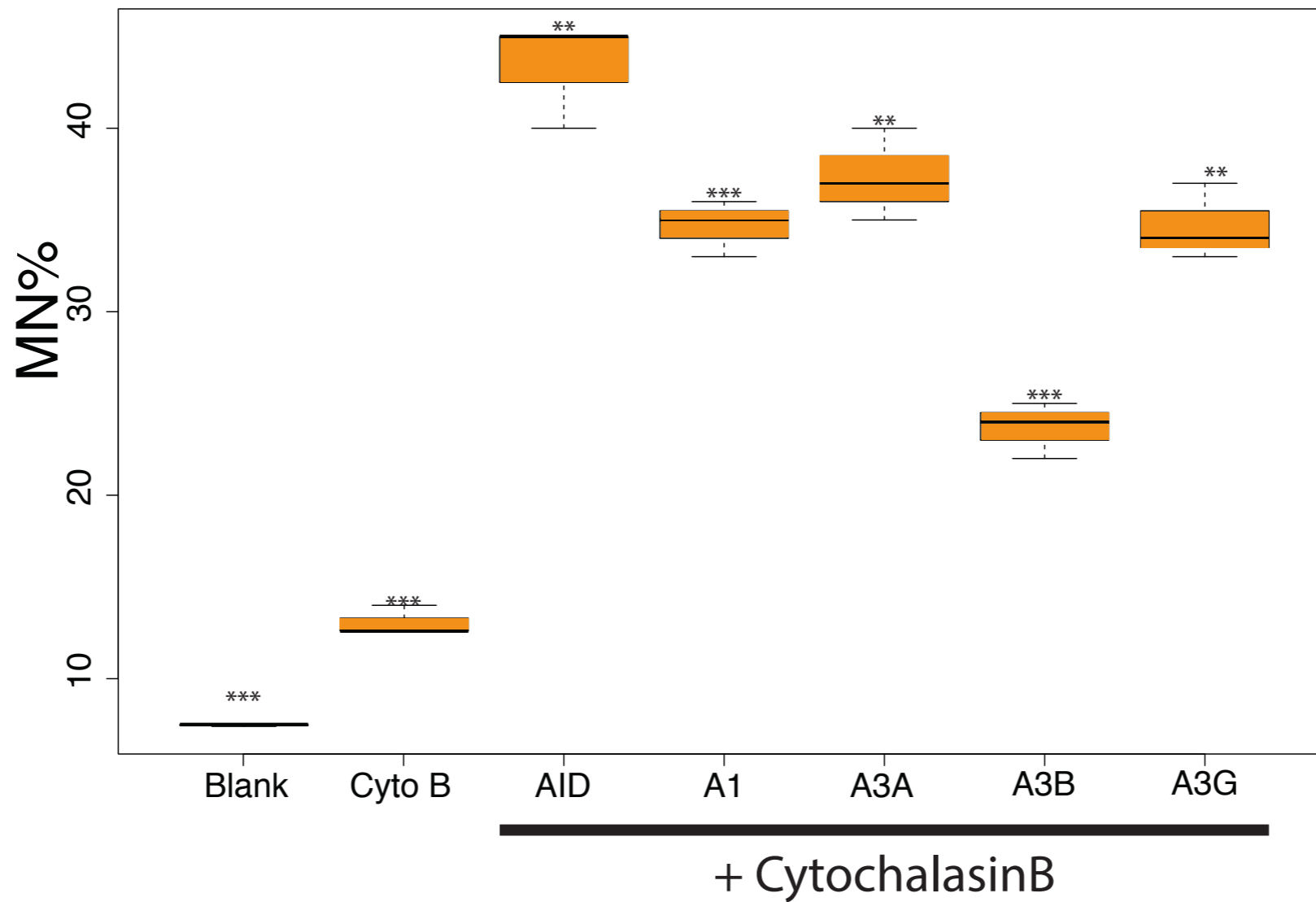
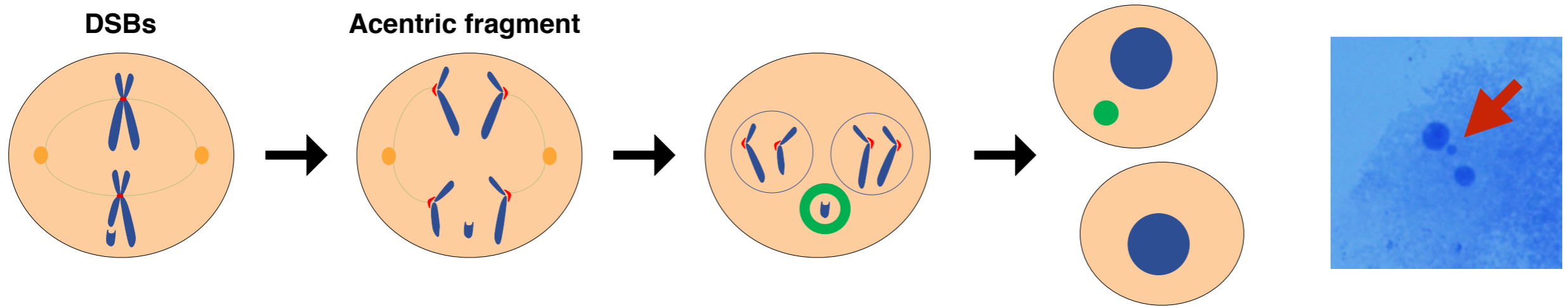


Chromosomal Aberrations/Metaphase



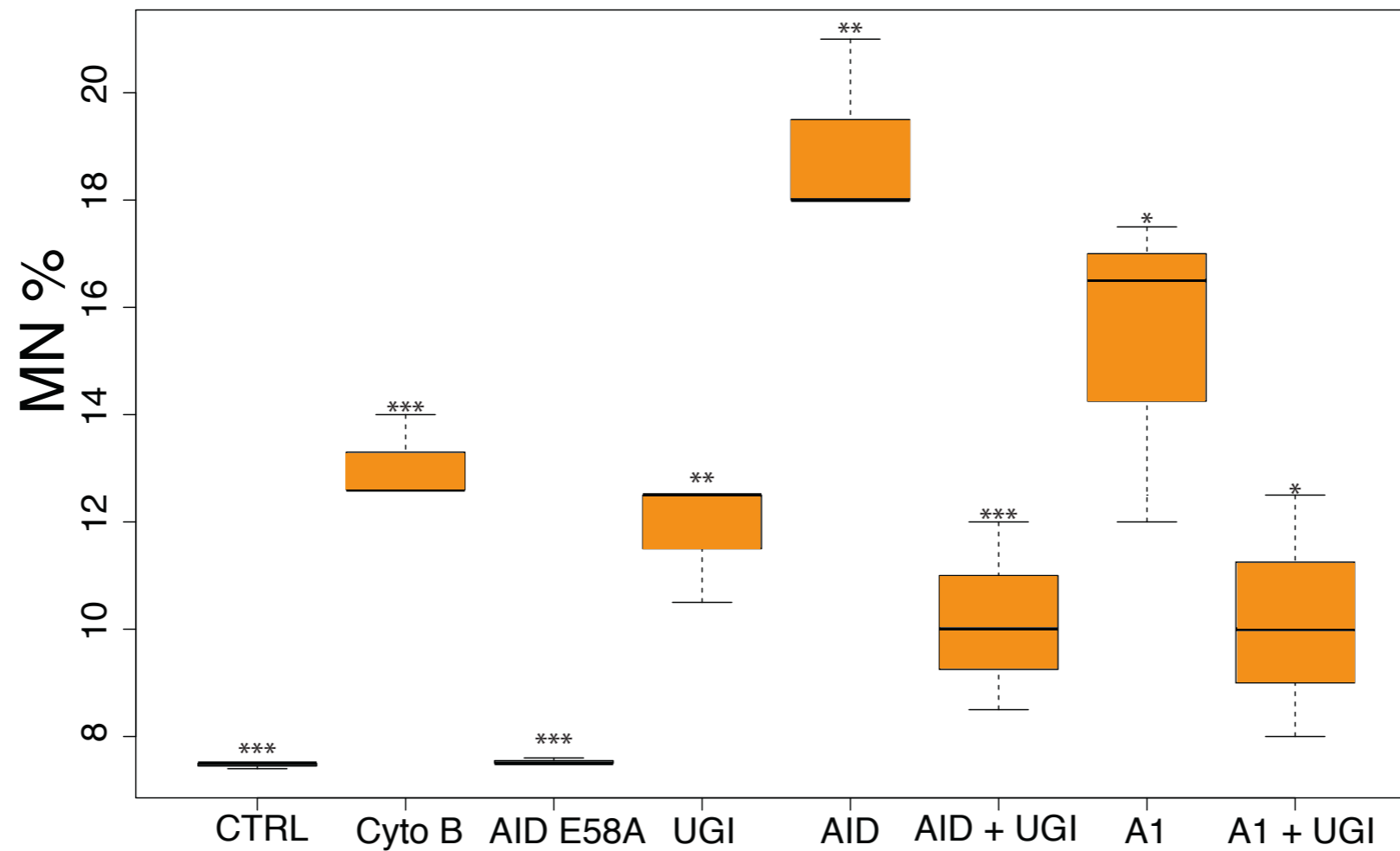
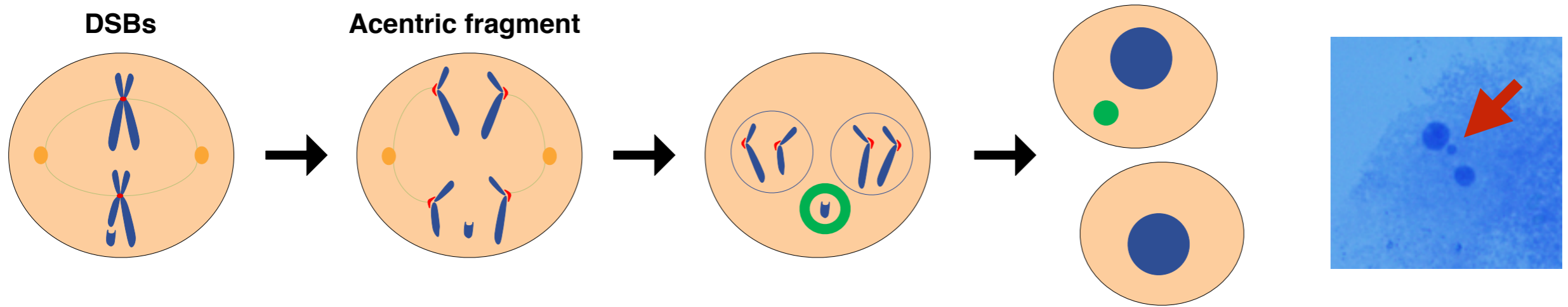


MICRONUCLEI FORMATION





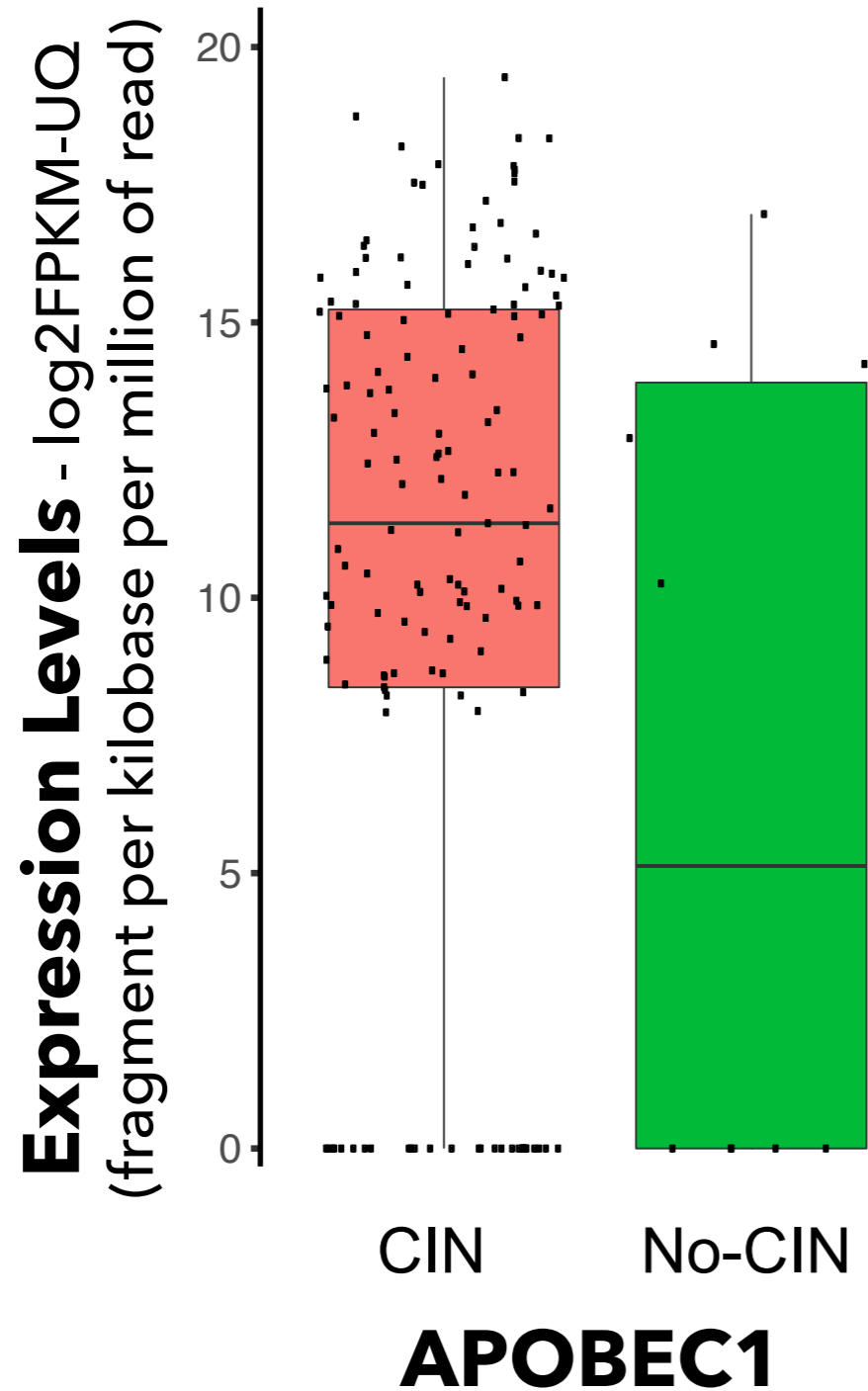
MICRONUCLEI FORMATION



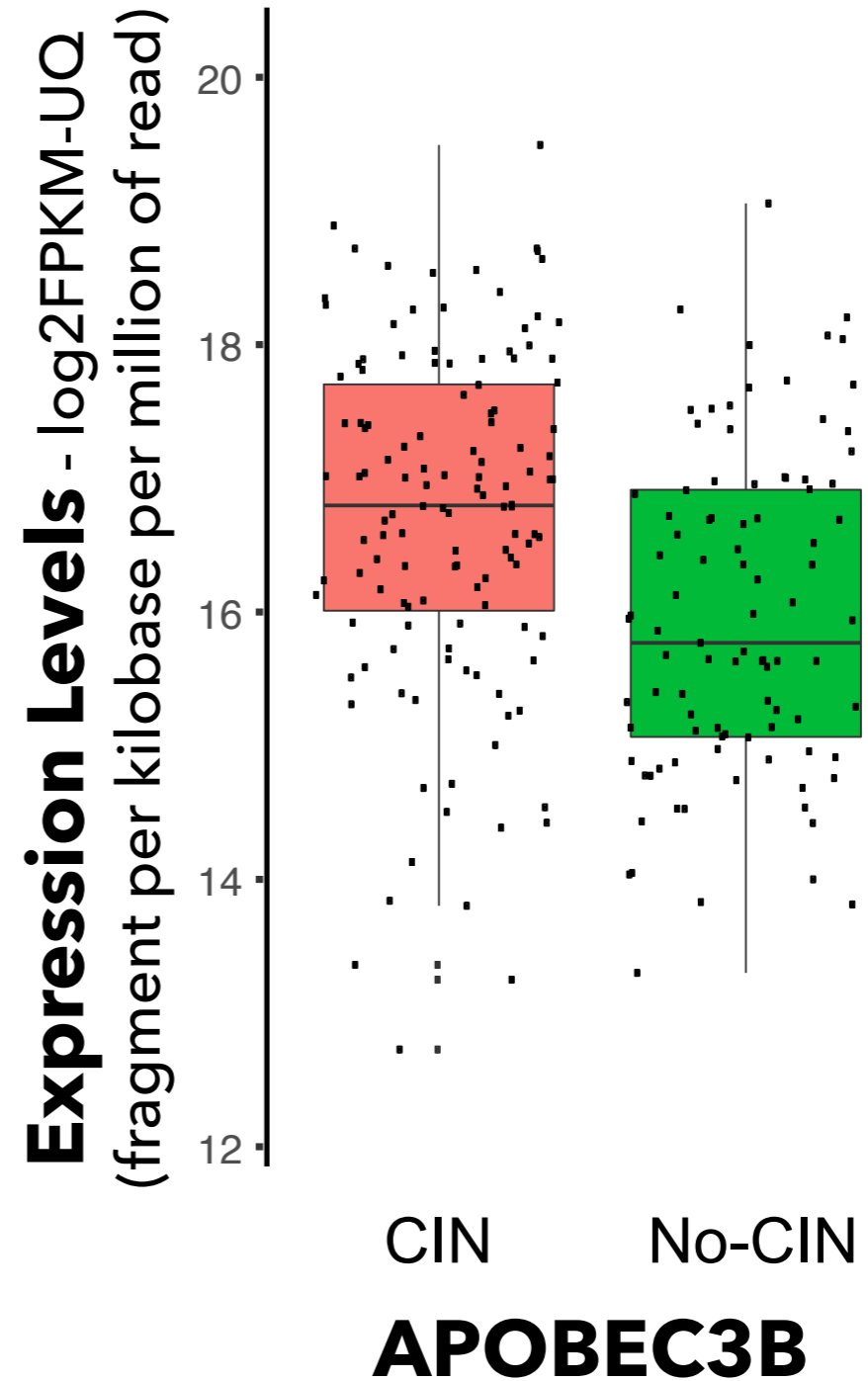


CORRELATION BETWEEN CIN AND APOBEC EXPRESSION

Esophageal Adenocarcinoma



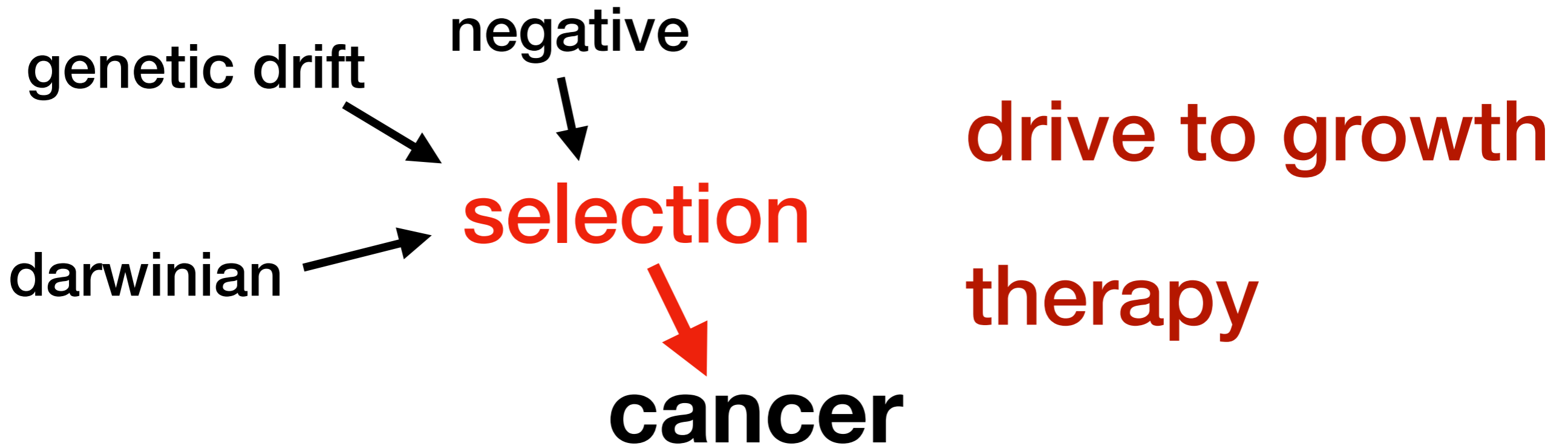
Stomach Cancer





M = μ x D

inheritance
chance
environment



“nothing in ~~biology~~ makes sense
except in the light of evolution”