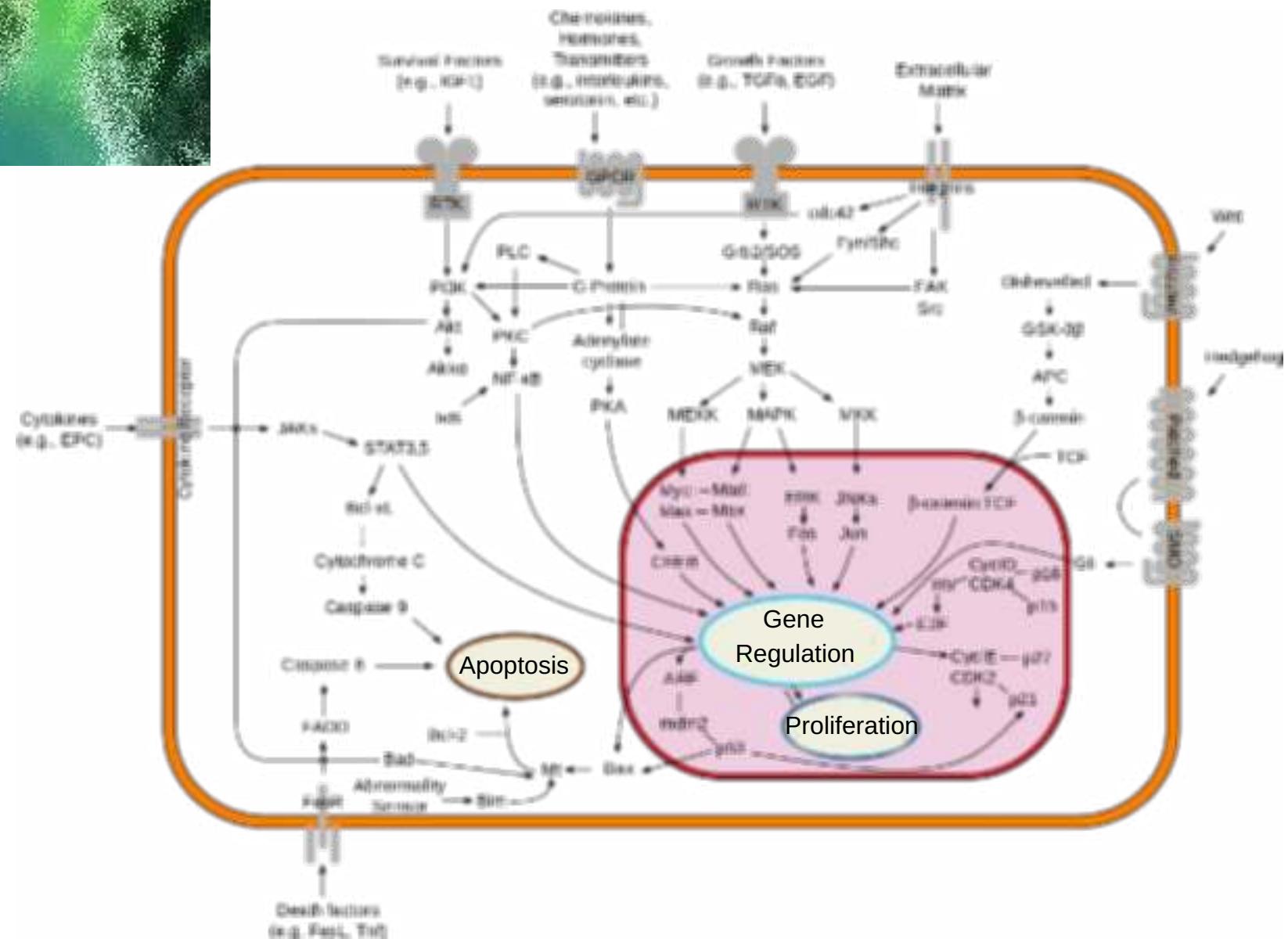


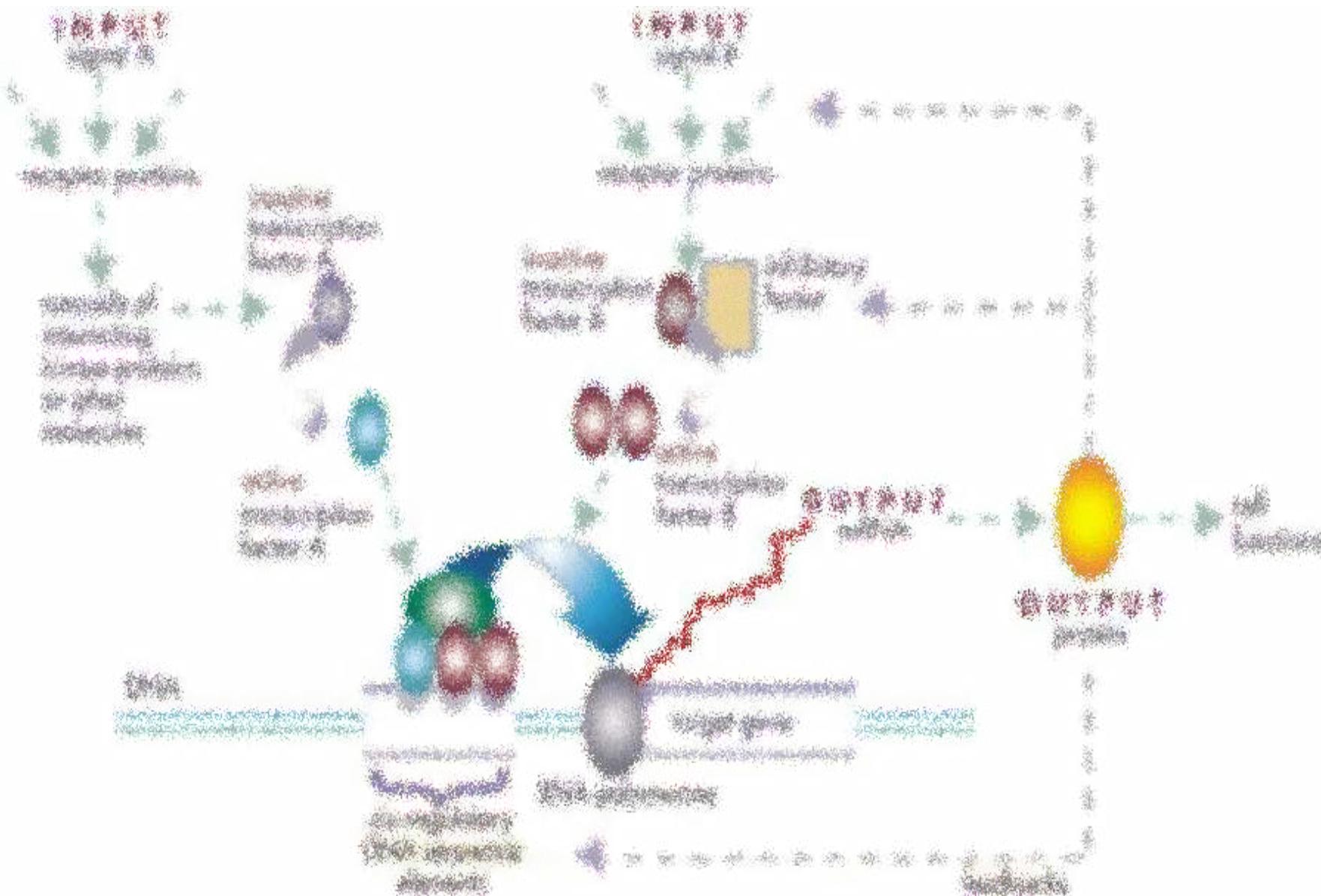
# **Methods to analyze transcriptome data in view of gene regulation and signaling pathways**

**Prof. Dr. Tim Beißbarth  
Institute of Medical Statistics  
Statistical Bioinformatics Group**

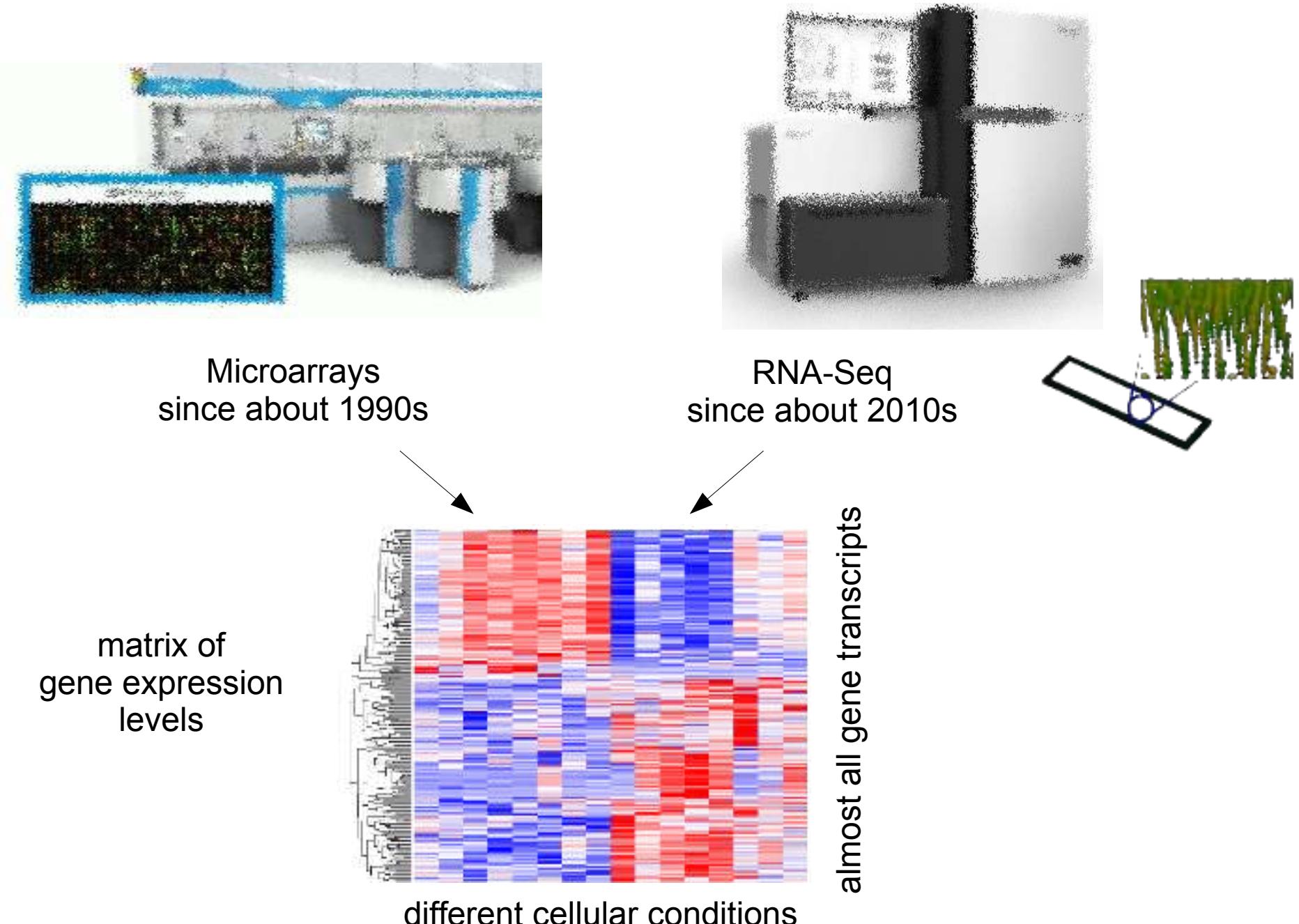
# We want to understand the molecular workings of a living cell



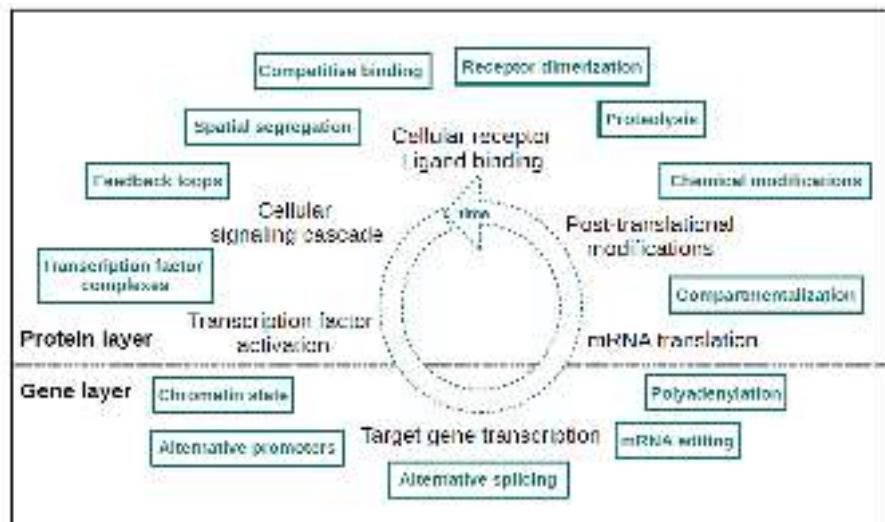
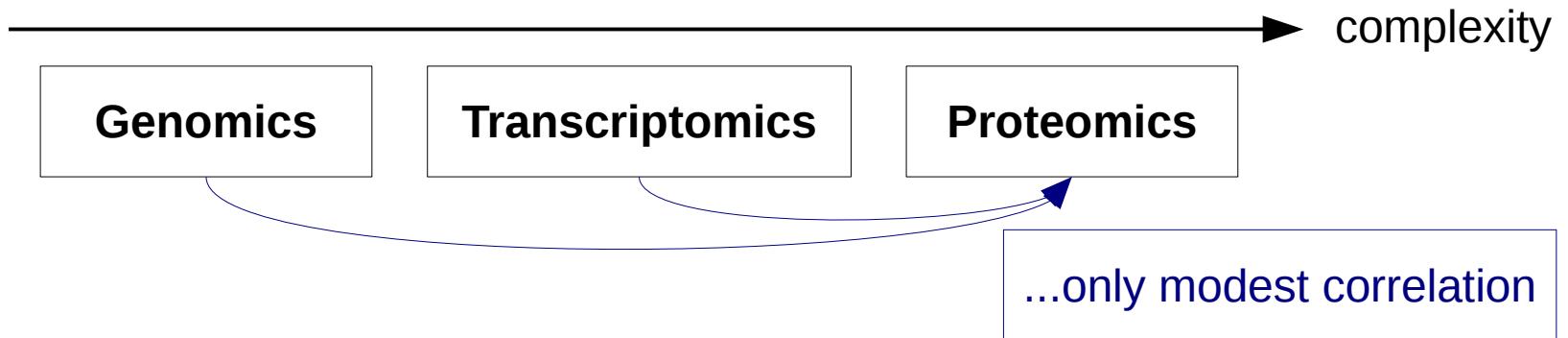
We want to understand the molecular workings of a living cell



# Most of the time we measure only transcriptome levels



# Can we learn about the workings of a cell based on transcriptomics data?

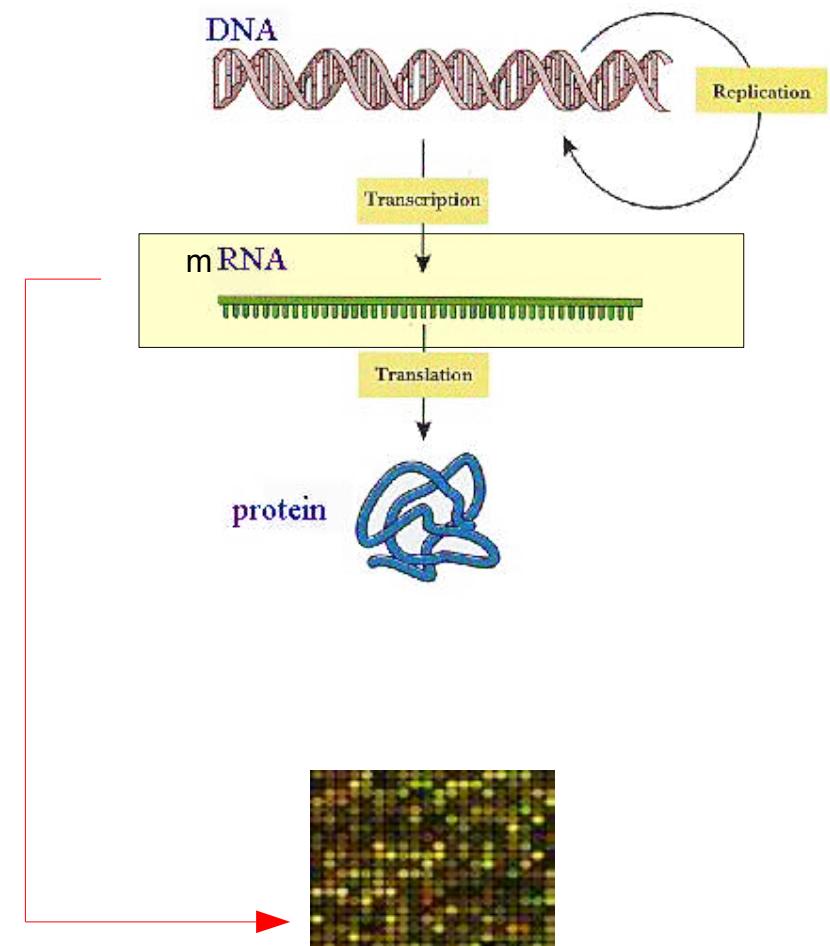
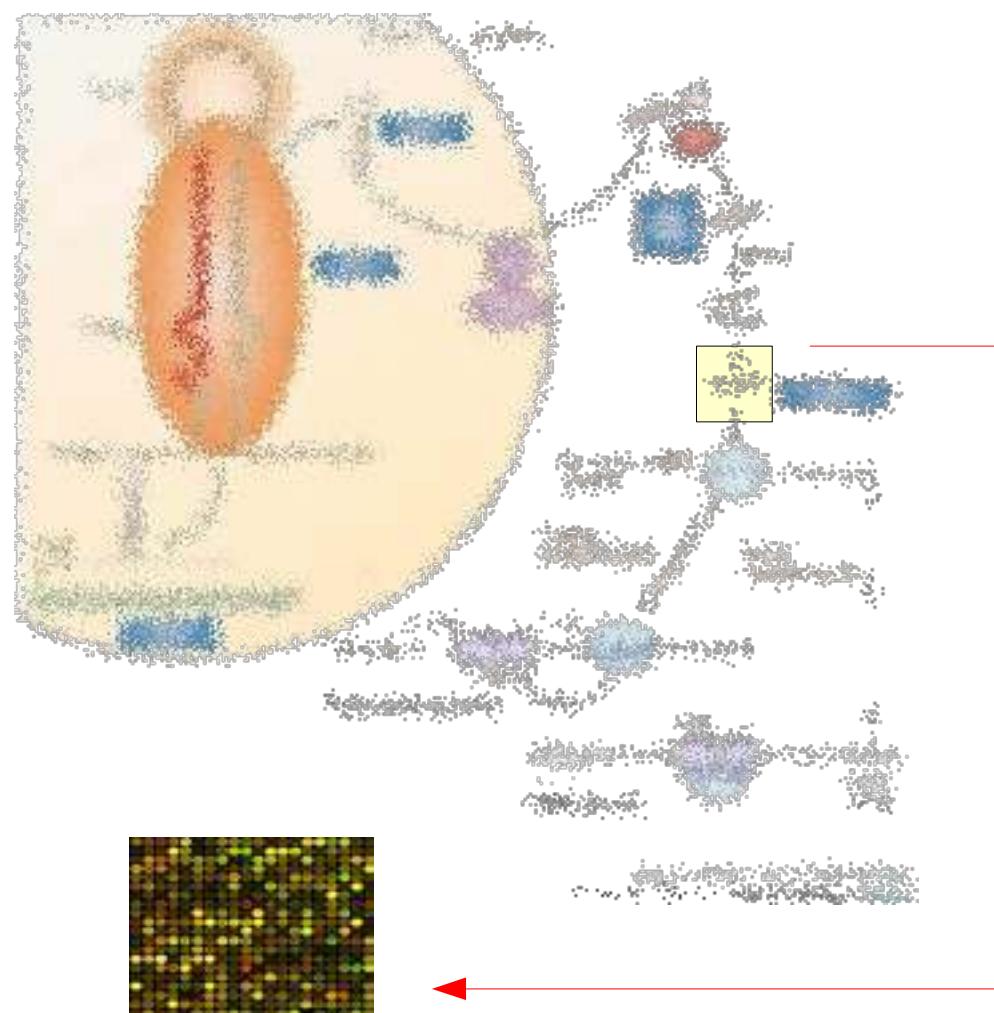


regulatory control on different cellular layer:

- protein layer
- protein activation layer
- transcription factor layer
- miRNA layer
- transcript/mRNA layer
- gene layer
- ...

# Can we estimate miRNA activity from gene expression data?

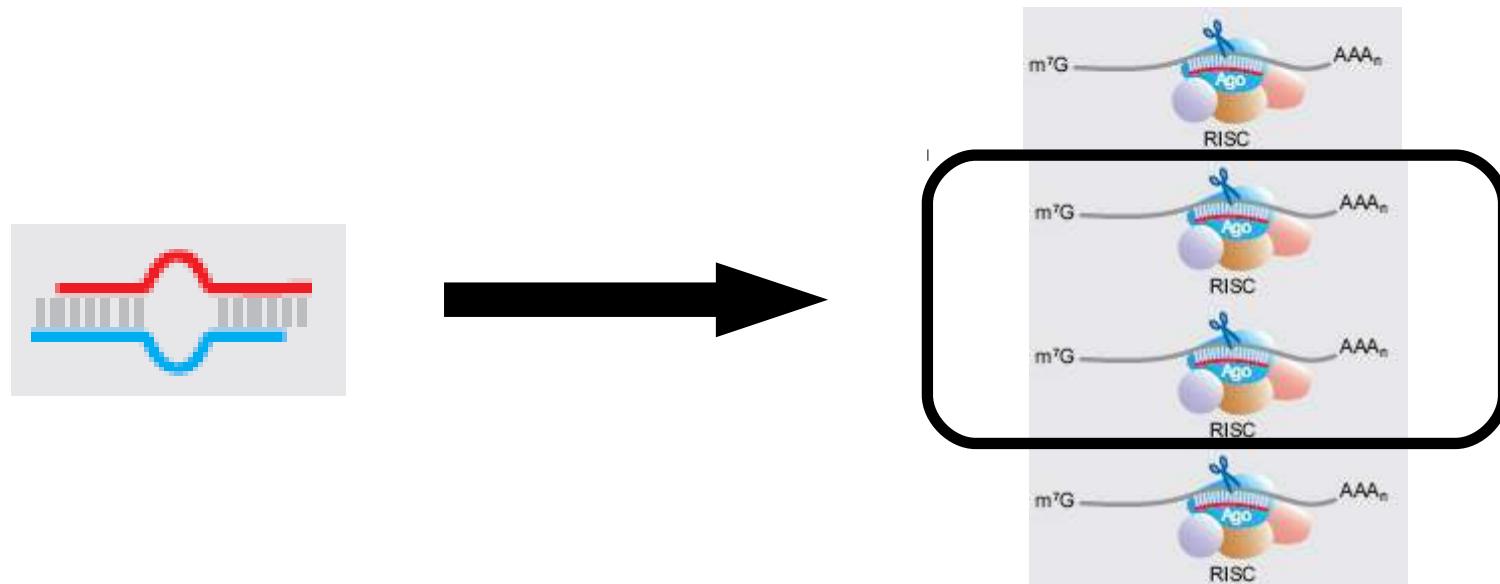
- miRNAs are important regulators of gene expression
- often Gene Expression Microarrays and miRNA-Microarrays are performed in parallel
- miRNA Expression
- Gene Expression



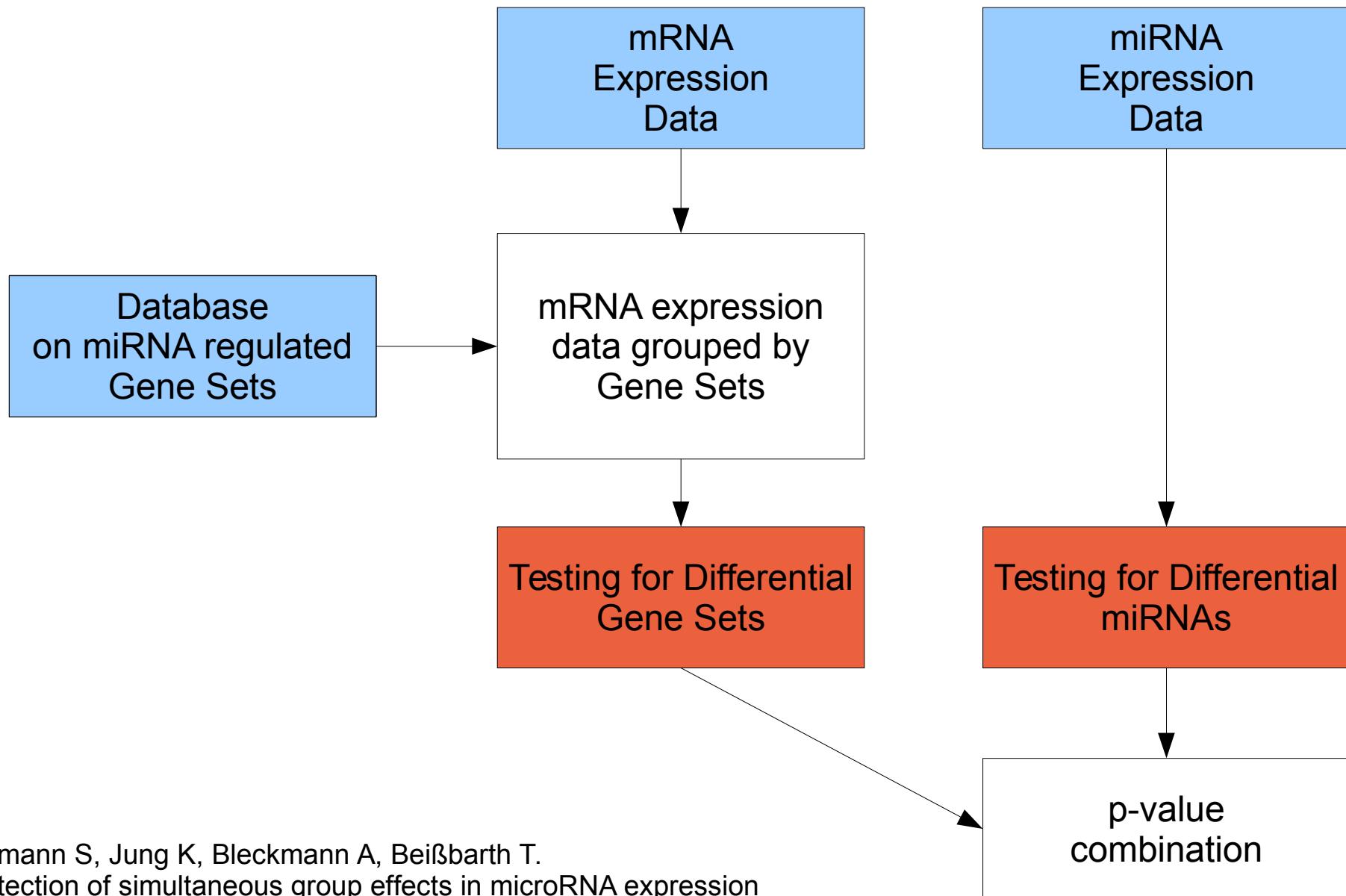
## Different sources of information

- Expression of miRNAs
- Expression of mRNAs
- Target Prediction: which miRNA influences which mRNA?

e.g. MicroCosm (Griffiths-Jones et al, Nucleic Acids Res, 2008)



# Combination of Test Results in order to find differential miRNAs

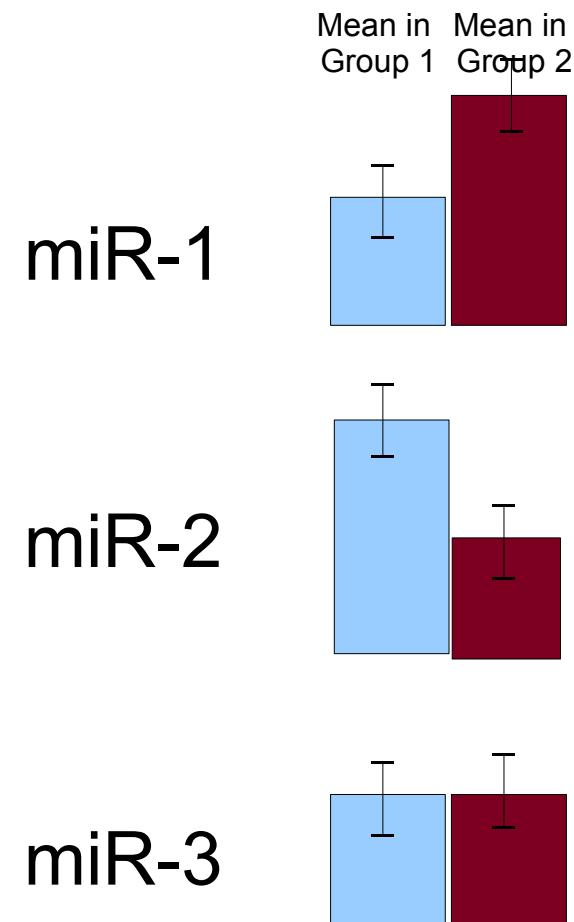


Artmann S, Jung K, Bleckmann A, Beißbarth T.  
Detection of simultaneous group effects in microRNA expression  
and related target gene sets.  
PLoS One. 2012;7(6):e38365.

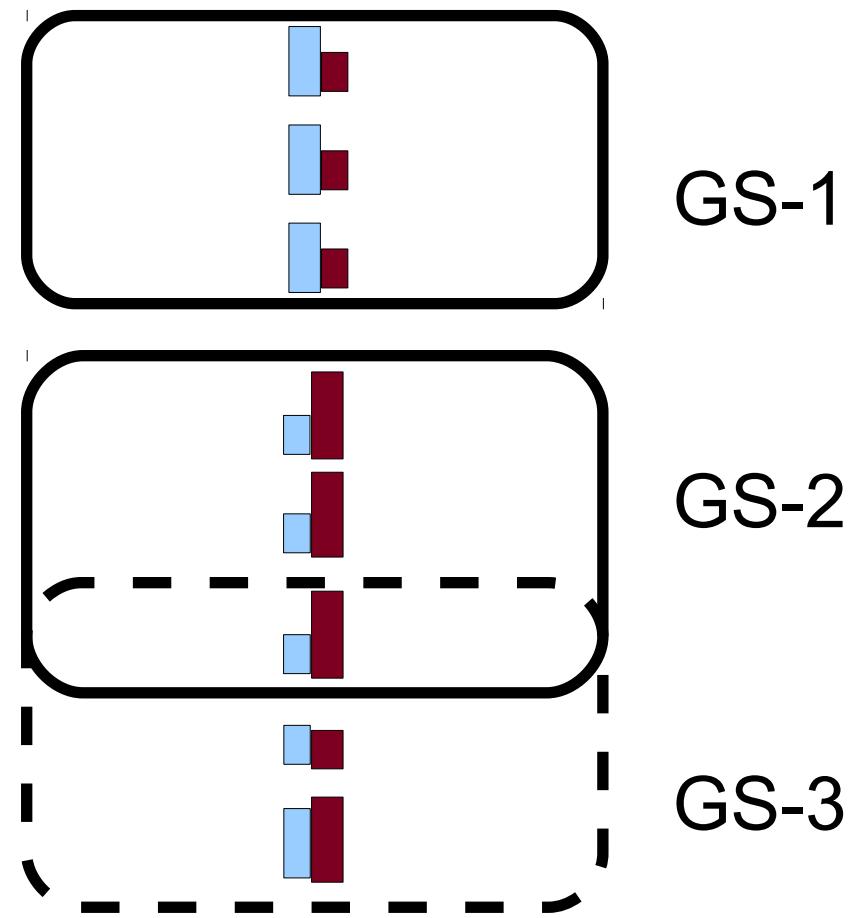
R – Package: *mirTest*

## Use Gene-Set Enrichment Tests

### miRNA Expression



### mRNA Expression



**LIMMA**  
(Smyth et al. 2004)

**Gene Set Enrichment /  
Globaltest**

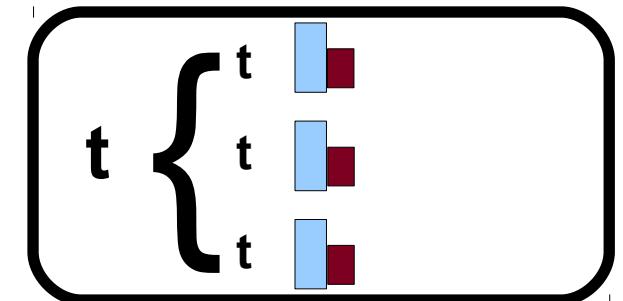
# Global vs. Enrichment tests

- Enrichment Tests

competitive Null-Hypothesis

(e.g. Fisher Test, Wilcoxon,  
Kolm.-Smirnov Test)

## mRNA Expression

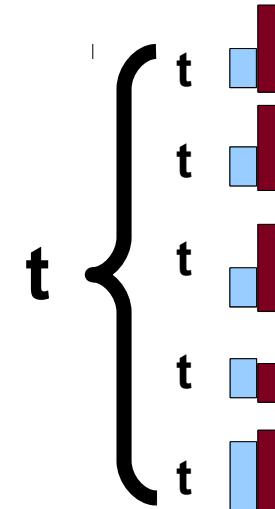


Gene Set

- Globaltests

self contained  
Null-Hypothesis

(e.g. GlobalTest, GlobalAncova,  
RepeatedHighDim)



test statistics t

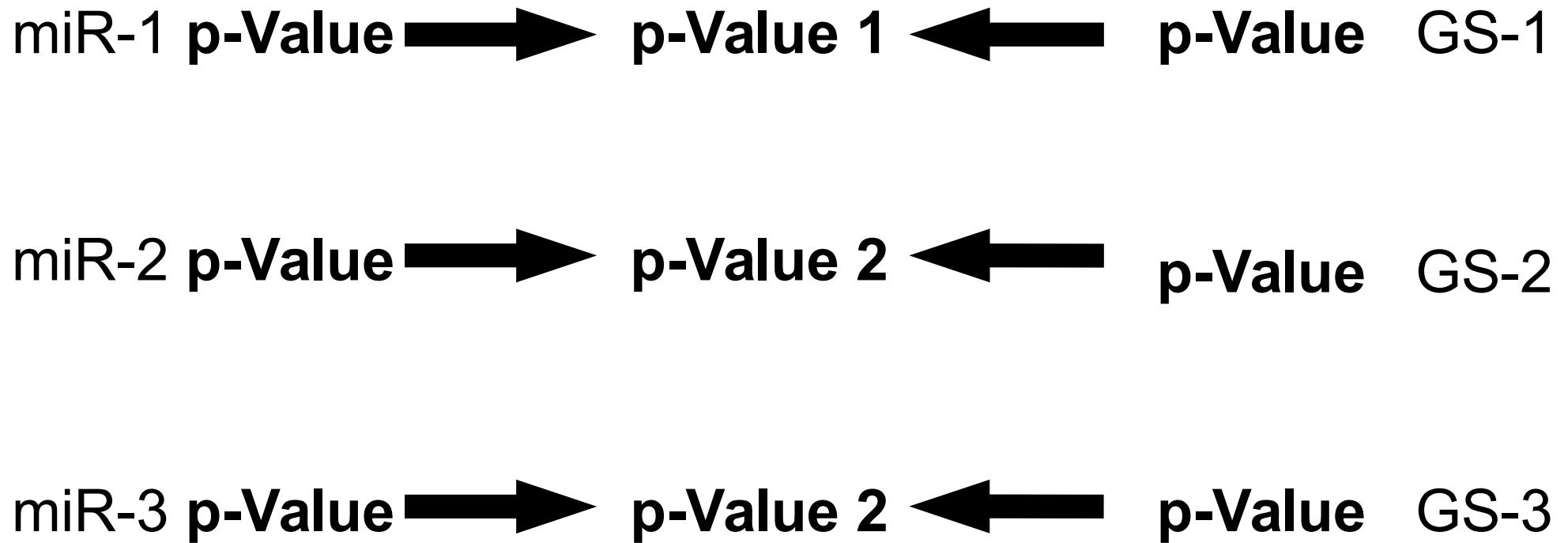
Beissbarth T, Speed TP.

GOstat: find statistically overrepresented Gene Ontologies within a group of genes.  
Bioinformatics. 2004 Jun 12;20(9):1464-5.

Jung K, Becker B, Brunner E, Beissbarth T.

Comparison of global tests for functional gene sets in two-group designs and selection of potentially effect-causing genes.  
Bioinformatics. 2011 May 15;27(10):1377-83.

## Combination of P-values using a meta-analytic approach

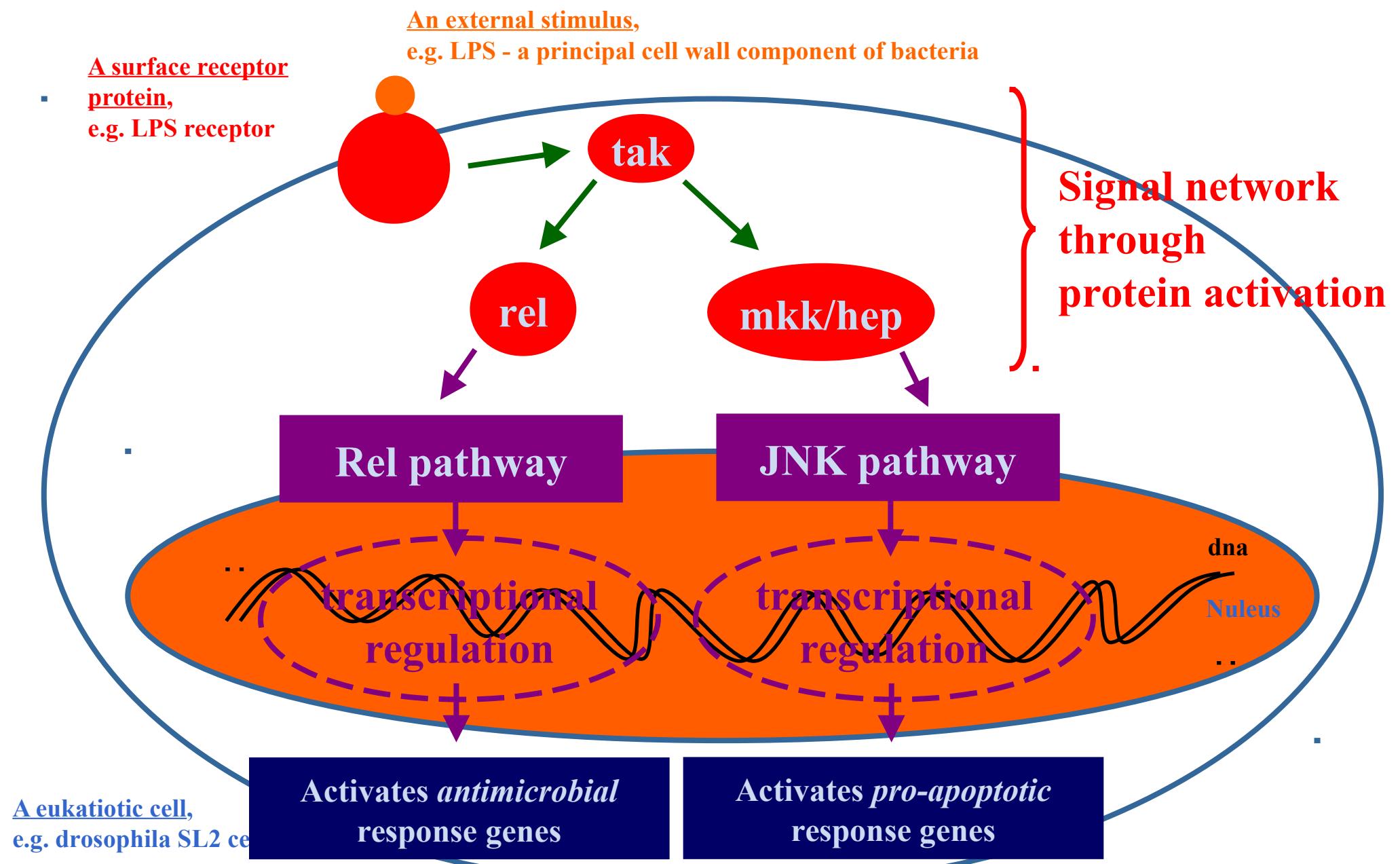


P-value combinations with method of Fisher or Stouffer.

## Results of simulation

Test	FDR	Power
<b>Globaltests</b>		
<i>Globaltest</i>	$\geq 0.05$	Limma < GST < Combi.
<i>GlobalAncova</i>	$\geq 0.05$	Limma < GST < Combi.
<i>RepeatedHighDim</i>	$>> 0.05$	Limma < GST < Combi.
<b>Enrichment Tests</b>		
<i>Kolm. Smirnov</i>	$\pm 0.05$	Limma < GST < Combi.
<i>Wilcoxon</i>	$\pm 0.05$	Limma < GST < Combi.
<i>Fisher</i>	$<< 0.05$	Limma < GST < Combi.
<b>Rotation Tests</b>		
<i>ROAST</i>	$\pm 0.05$	Limma < Combi. < GST
<i>Romer</i>	$\pm 0.05$	Limma < Combi. < GST

# Can we learn signaling pathways based on transcriptome data?



Boutros 2002

# Experimental data

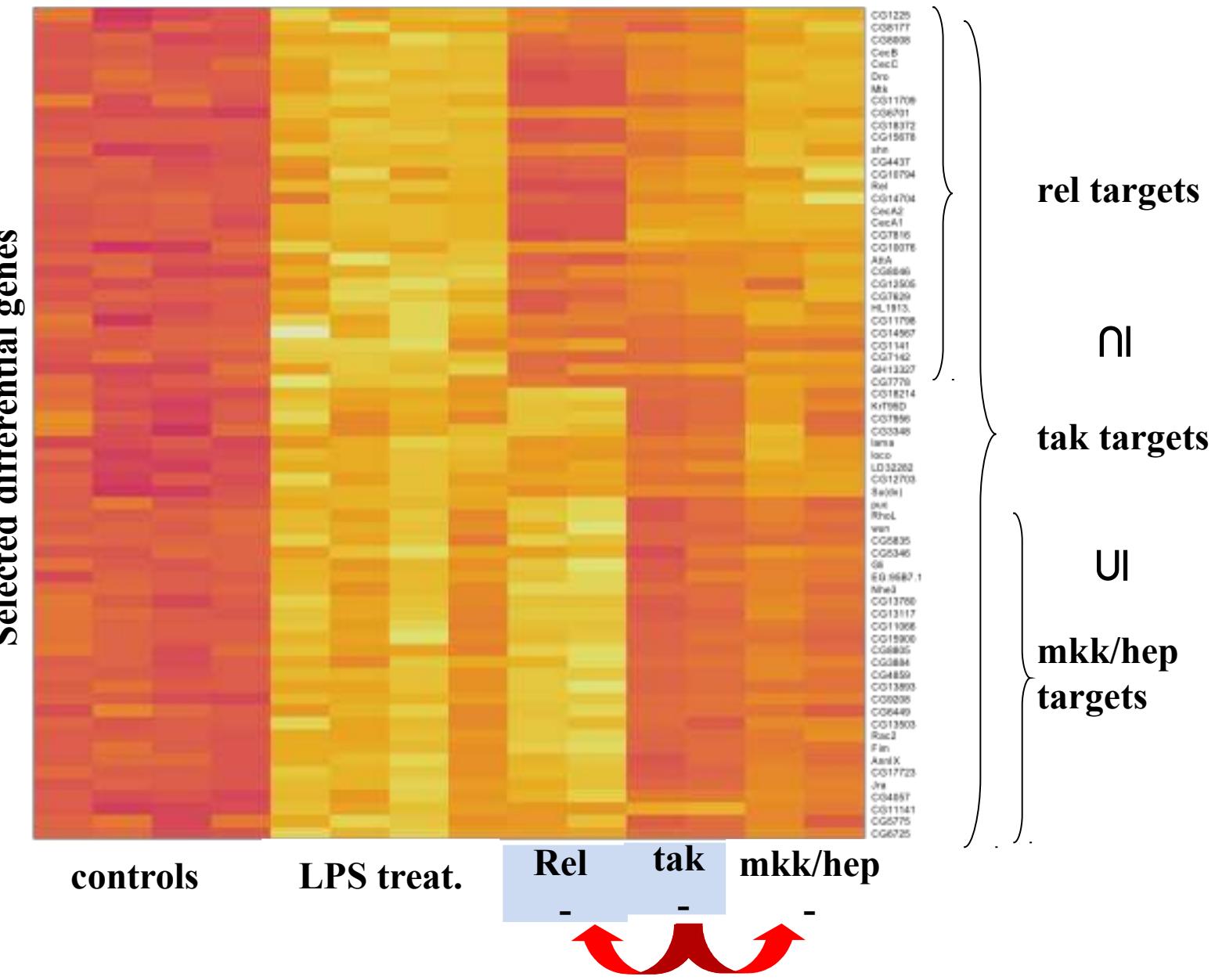
## Microarray

measurements are used to measure gene expression of response genes.

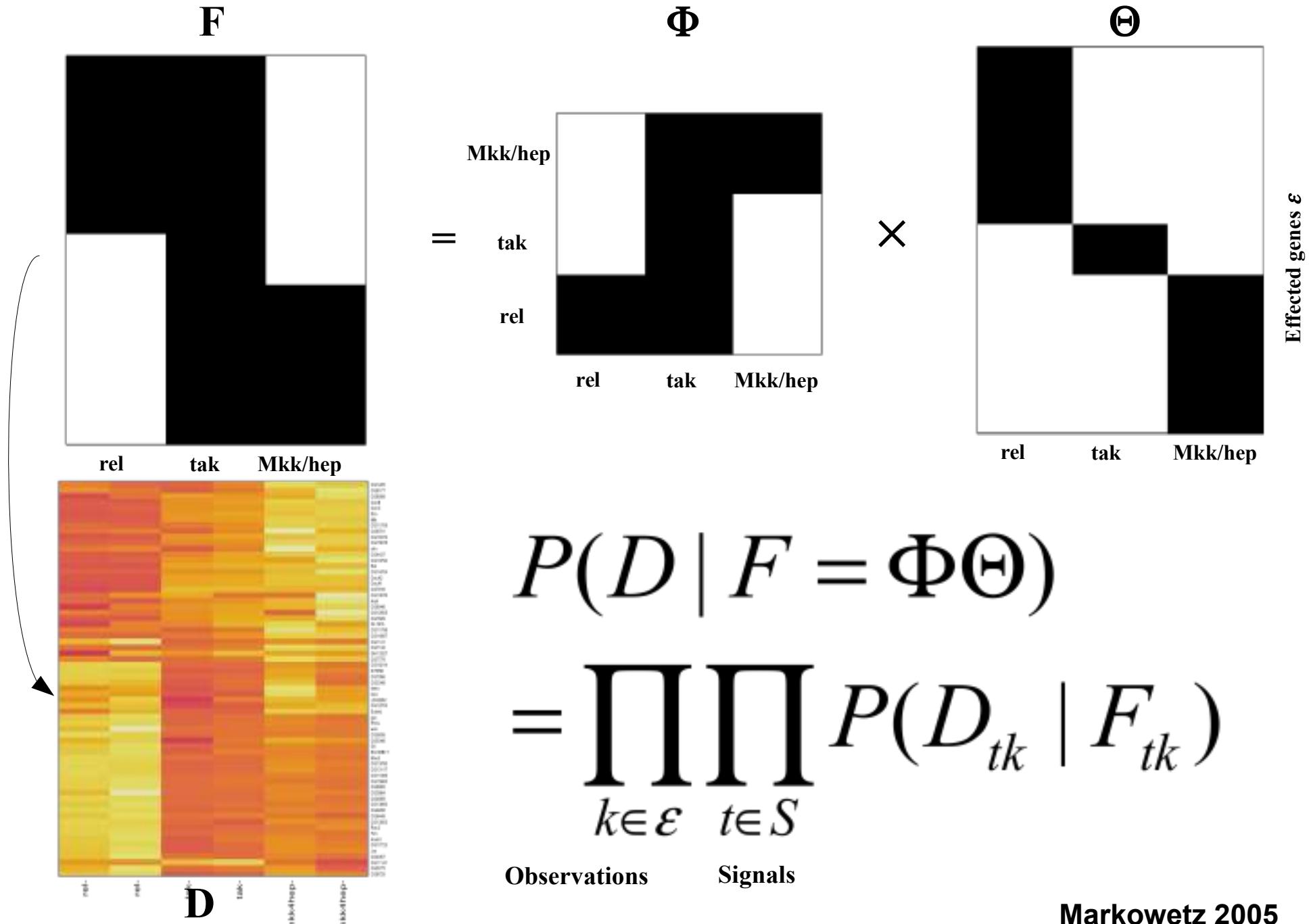
Genes are selectively silenced using siRNA.

Data of intervention effects can be used to reconstruct signal network.

## Microarray experiments

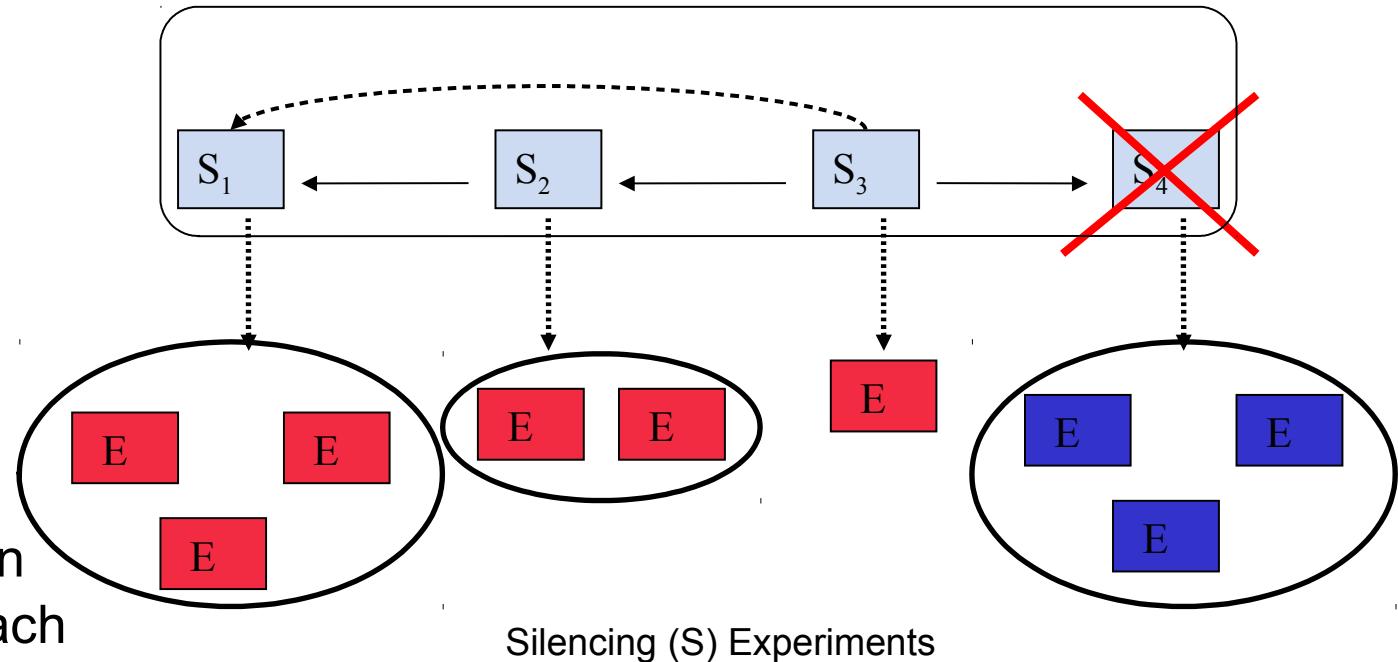


# What is a Nested Effects Model



# Idea of Nested Effects Models

- Distinguish between:
    - S-genes  
(silenced genes)
    - E-genes  
(effected genes)
  - Perform gene expression study (microarray) for knock-down experiments
  - Network reconstruction based on the effects observed at E-genes when specific S-genes are knocked down

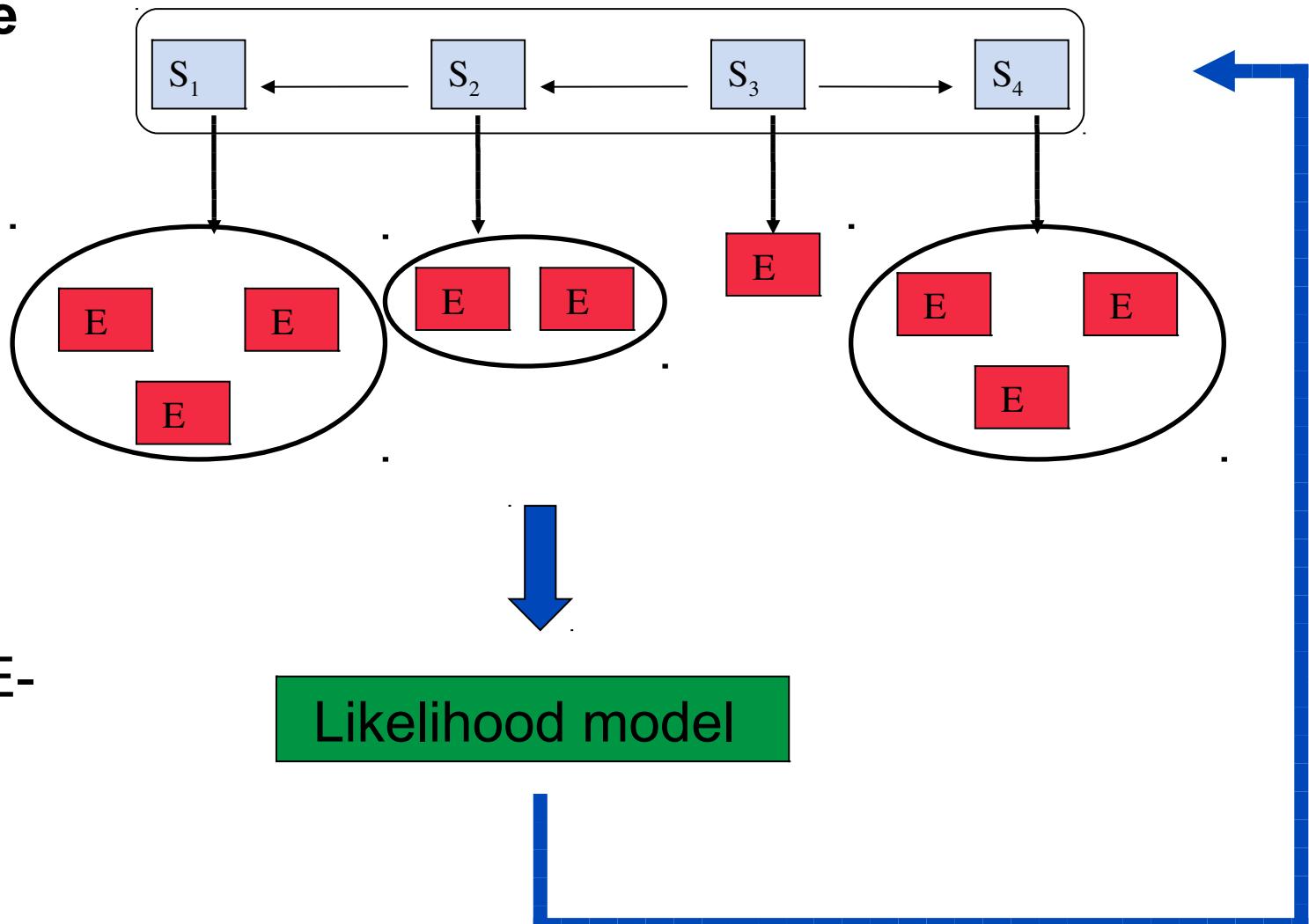


A heatmap illustrating gene expression levels across four samples (S1, S2, S3, S4) and eight distinct groups of genes. The vertical axis on the left is labeled "Affected (E) Genes". The horizontal axis at the top is labeled with sample identifiers: S1, S2, S3, and S4. The heatmap uses a color gradient where white represents low expression and dark blue represents high expression. In S1, the first two genes are highly expressed (dark blue). In S2, genes 1 through 4 are highly expressed. In S3, genes 2 through 7 are highly expressed. In S4, genes 7 and 8 are highly expressed.

	S1	S2	S3	S4
Gene 1	High	Low	Low	Low
Gene 2	High	Low	Low	Low
Gene 3	Low	High	Low	Low
Gene 4	Low	High	Low	Low
Gene 5	Low	Low	High	Low
Gene 6	Low	Low	High	Low
Gene 7	Low	Low	High	High
Gene 8	Low	Low	Low	High

# Statistical Network inference

Choose candidate  
network  
topology of  
silenced genes .  
(S-genes)



Calculate score  
using Bayesian  
statistics  
(average over E-  
gene positions)

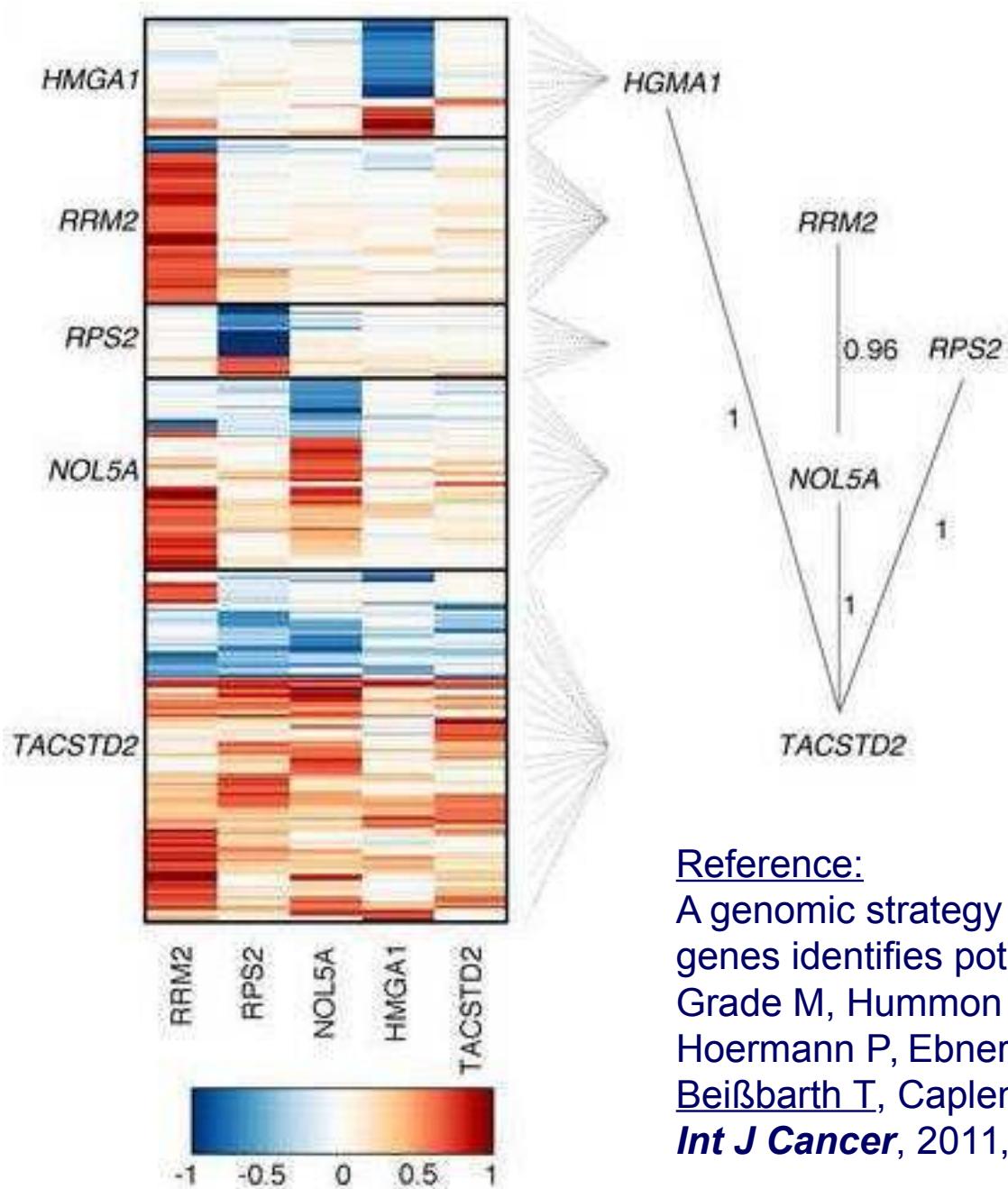
Propose different  
topology

Review/Method comparison:

Fröhlich H, Tresch A, Beißbarth T. *Biometrical Journal*. 51(2):304-321.

R – Package: *nem*

## Example from Colorectal Cancer data-set



Knock-down of 5 genes in colorectal (SW480).  
2 siRNAs per gene \*  
3 microarray replicates \*  
2 control-siRNAs

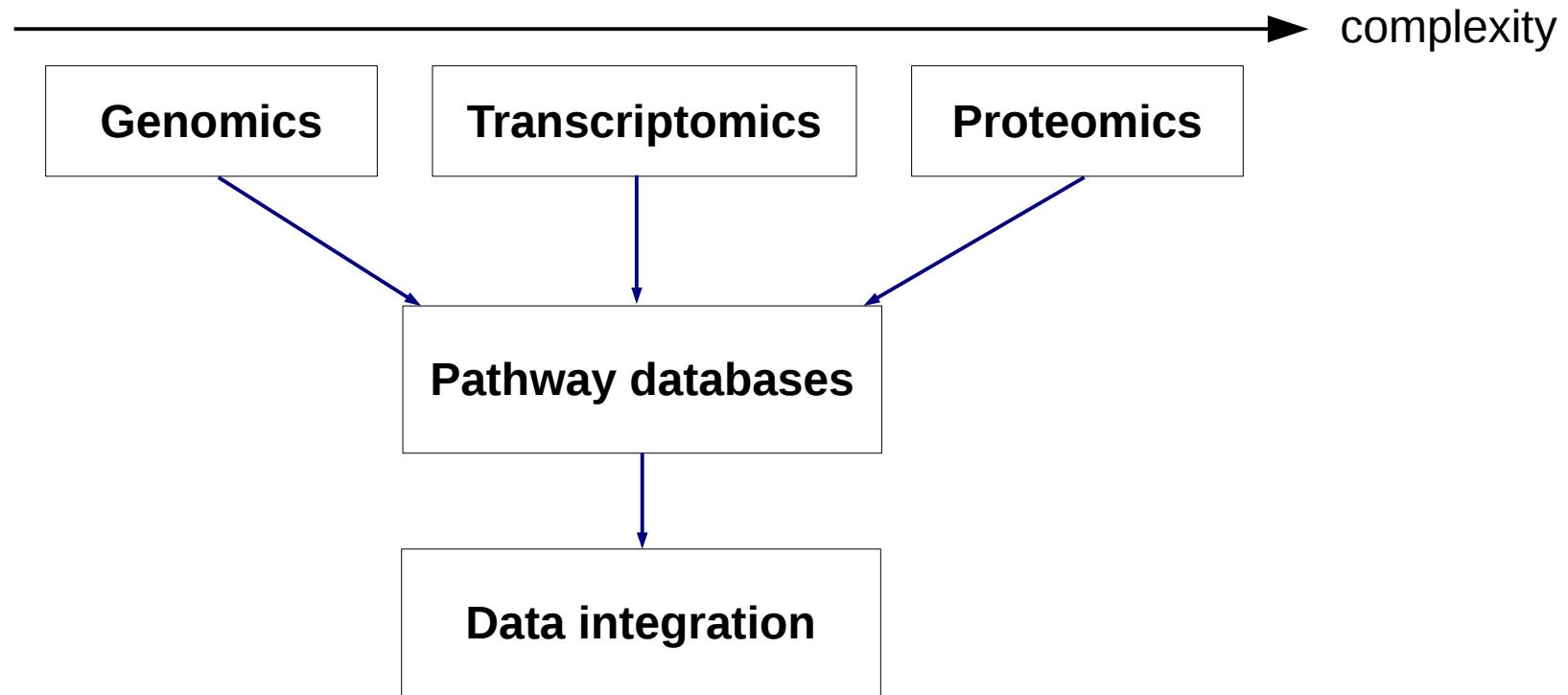
### Reference:

A genomic strategy for the functional validation of colorectal cancer genes identifies potential therapeutic targets.

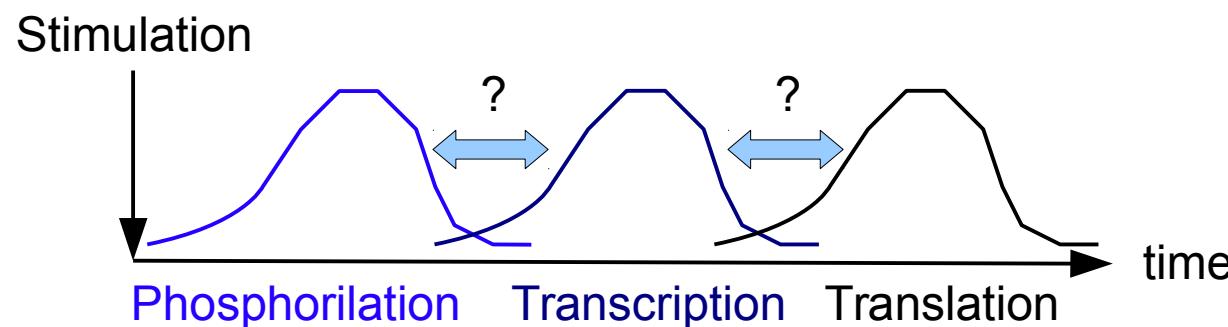
Grade M, Hummon AB, Camps J, Emons G, Spitzner M, Gaedcke J, Hoermann P, Ebner R, Becker H, Difilippantonio MJ, Ghadimi BM, Beißbarth T, Caplen NJ, Ried T.

*Int J Cancer*, 2011, 128(5):1069-79.

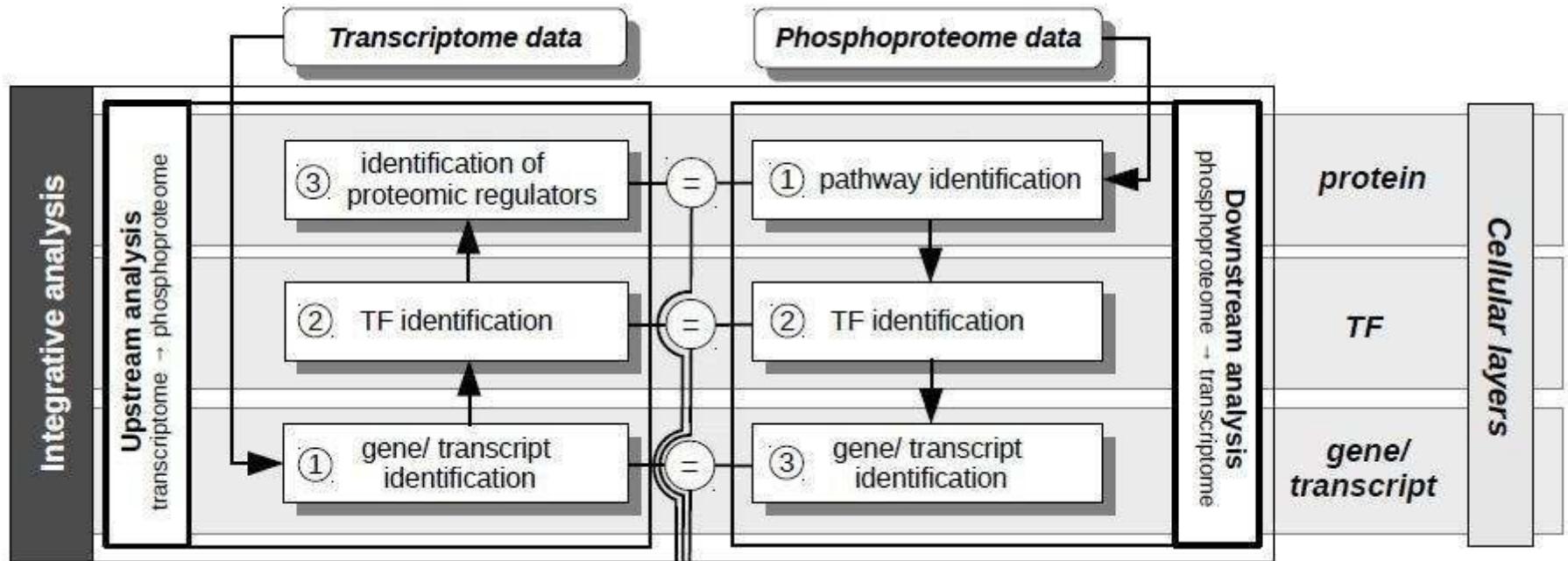
# Pathway-based integration using prior pathway knowledge



- Dissolve regulation complexity
- Compare data from different platforms in a layer-specific way



# Knowledge based integrative data analysis approach

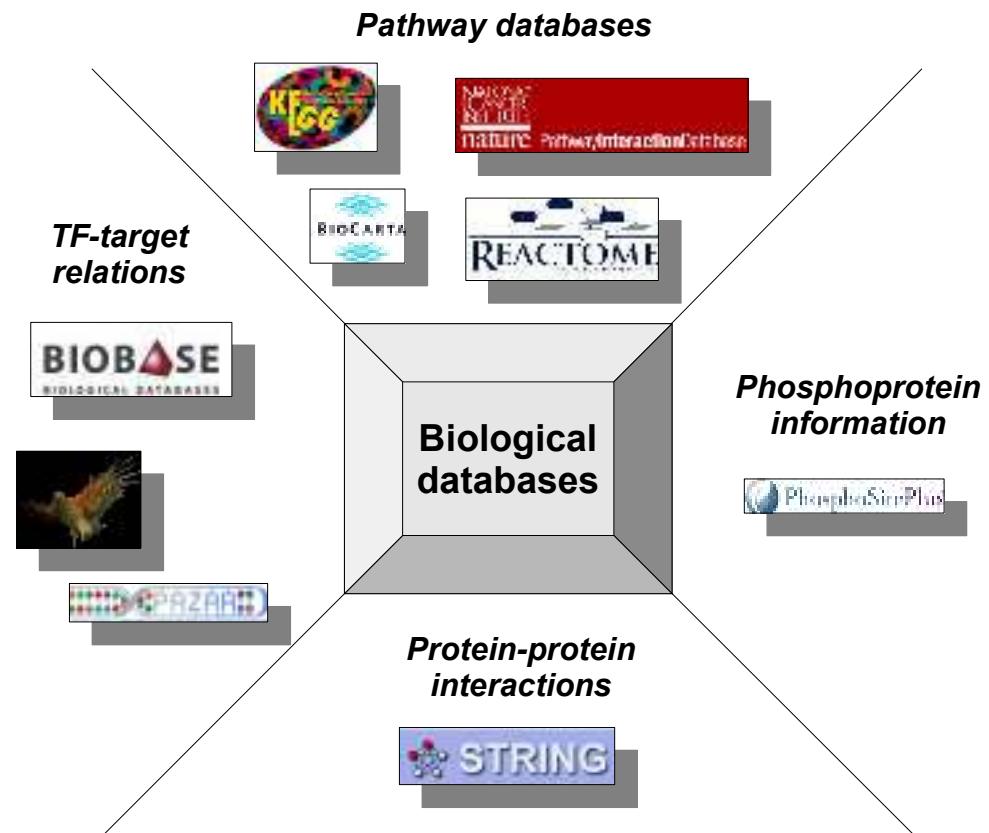


Simplifying assumption:  
protein phosphorylation corresponds to downstream pathway activation

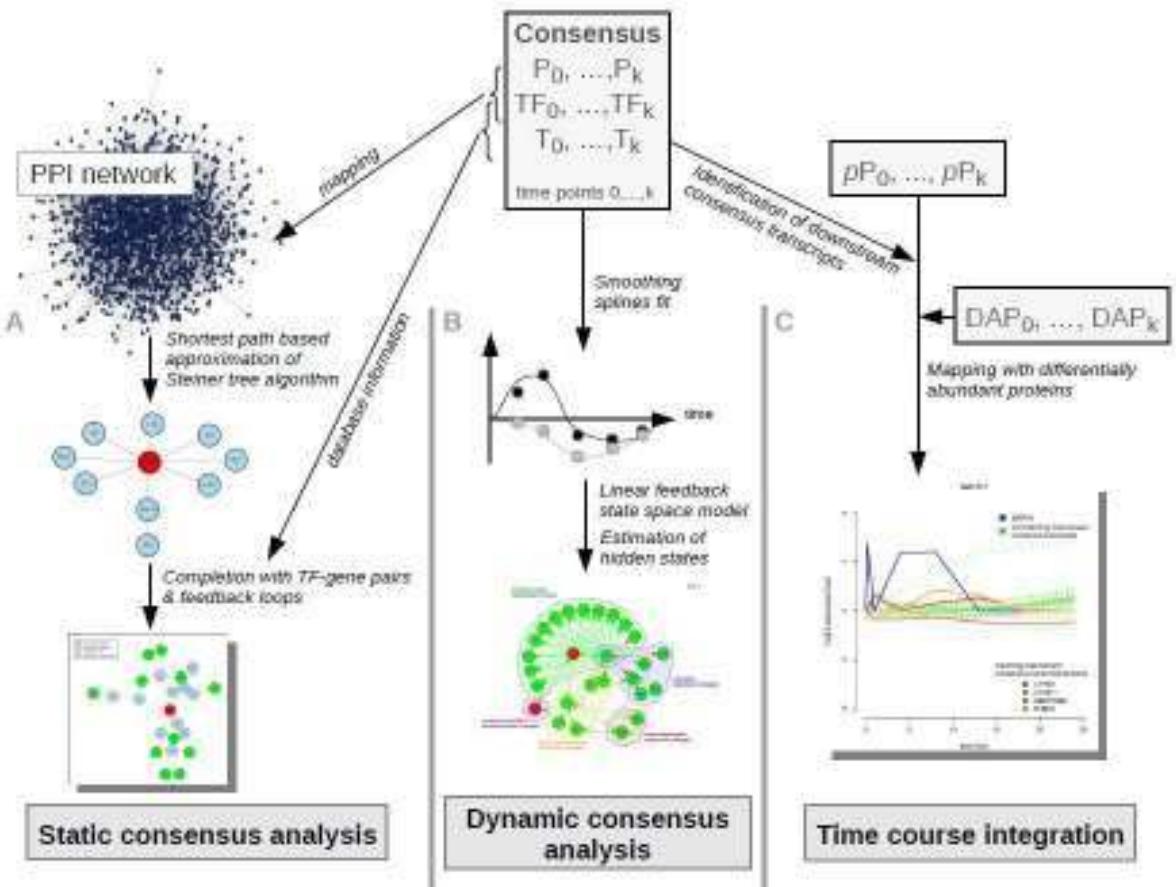
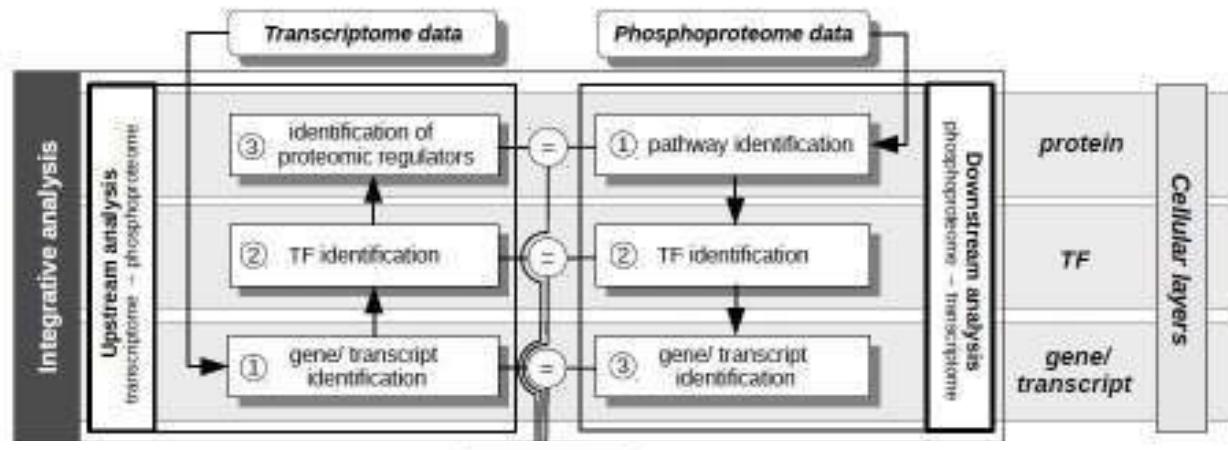
# Knowledge based integrative data analysis approach

Based on public databases:

- pathway databases: KEGG, Reactome, PID, Biocarta
- TF-target databases: ChEA, Pazar, user-specified (e.g. Transfak)
- PPI-database: STRING



# Knowledge based integrative data analysis approach

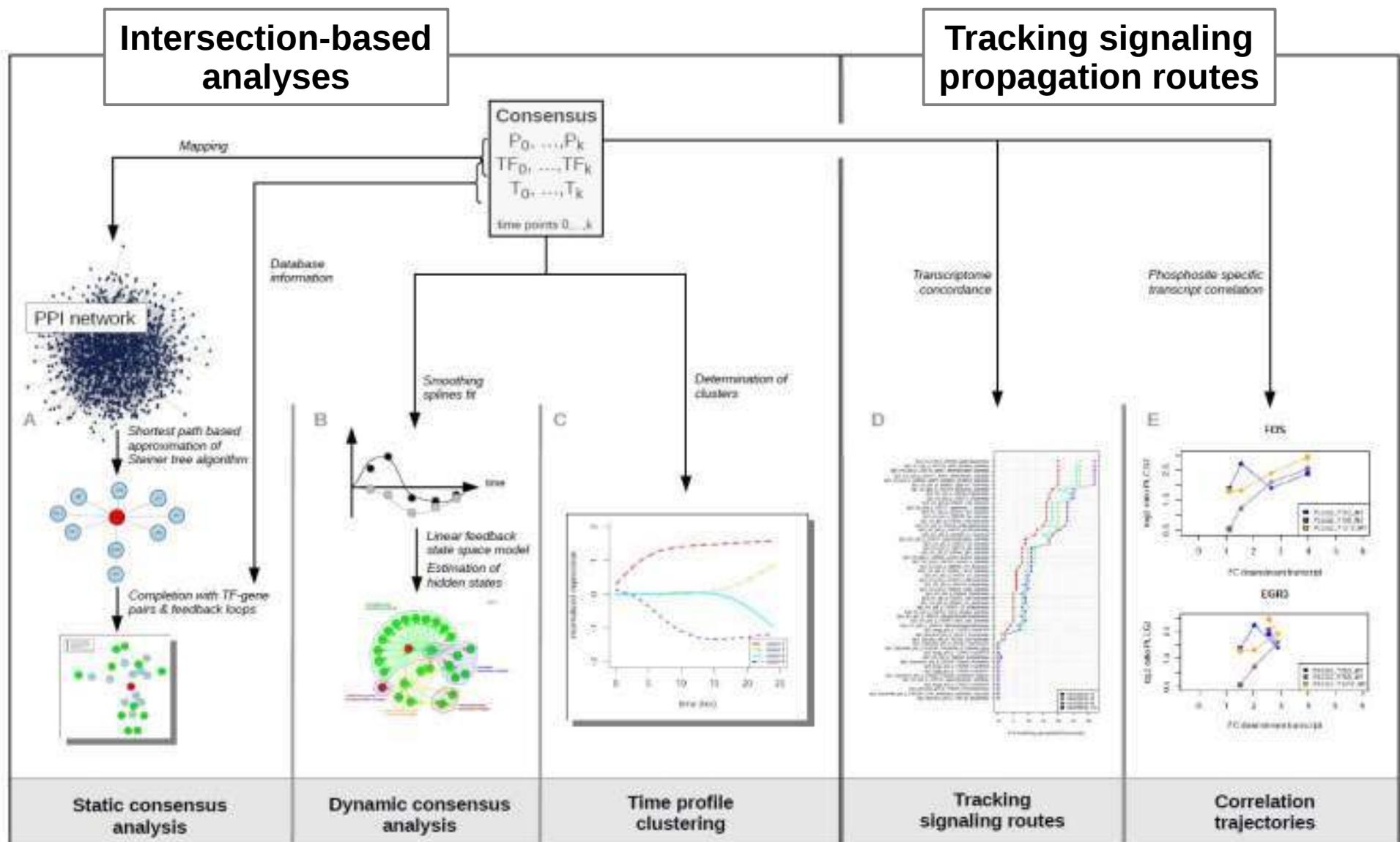


R package 'pwOmics'

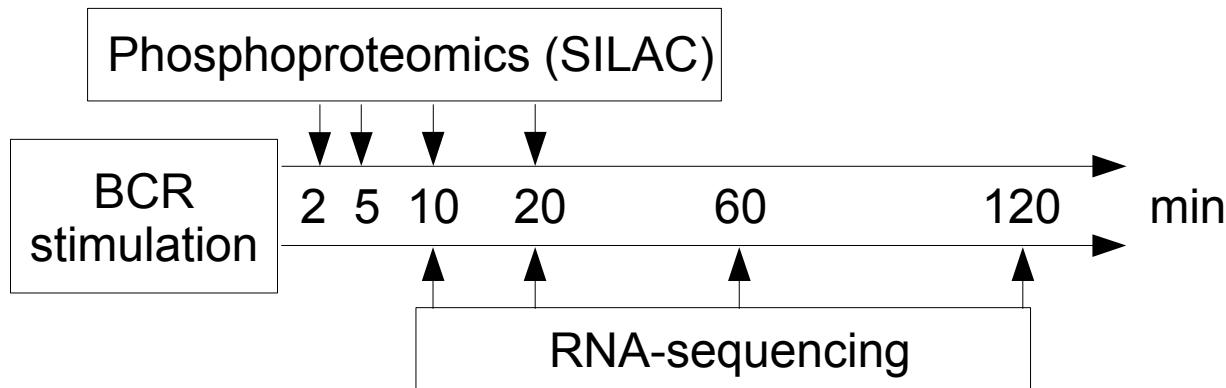


Wachter A, Beissbarth T, Bioinformatics (2015)  
Wachter A, Beissbarth T, Front. Genet. (2015)

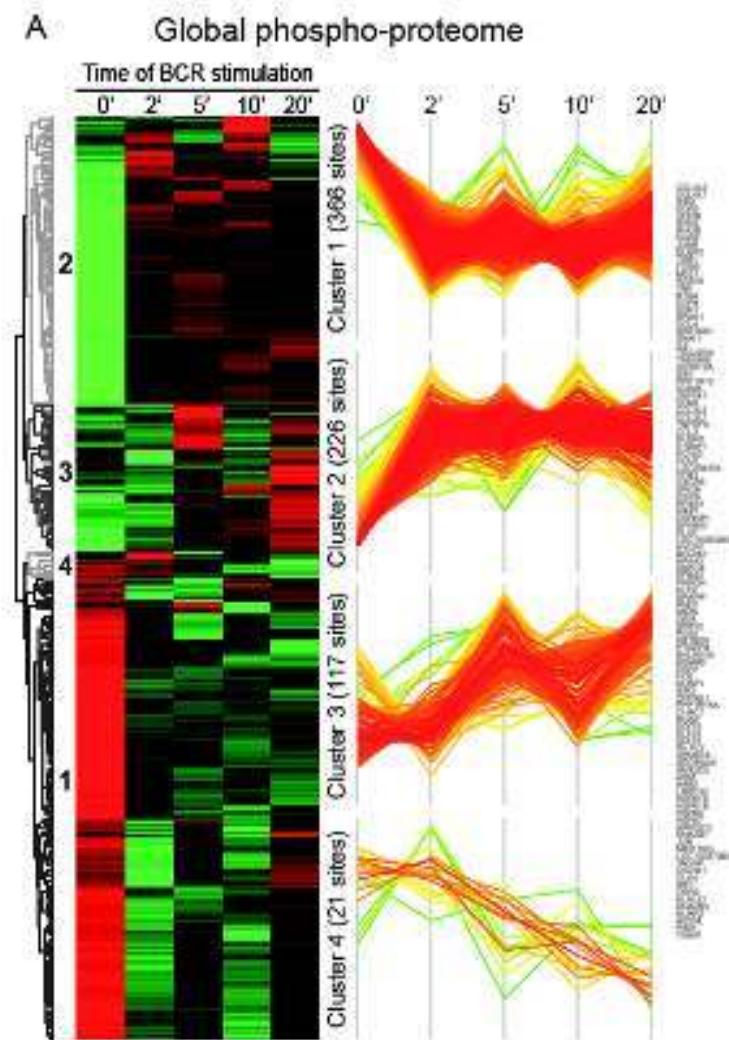
# Integrative analysis



# Characterization of BCR signaling in Burkitt lymphoma

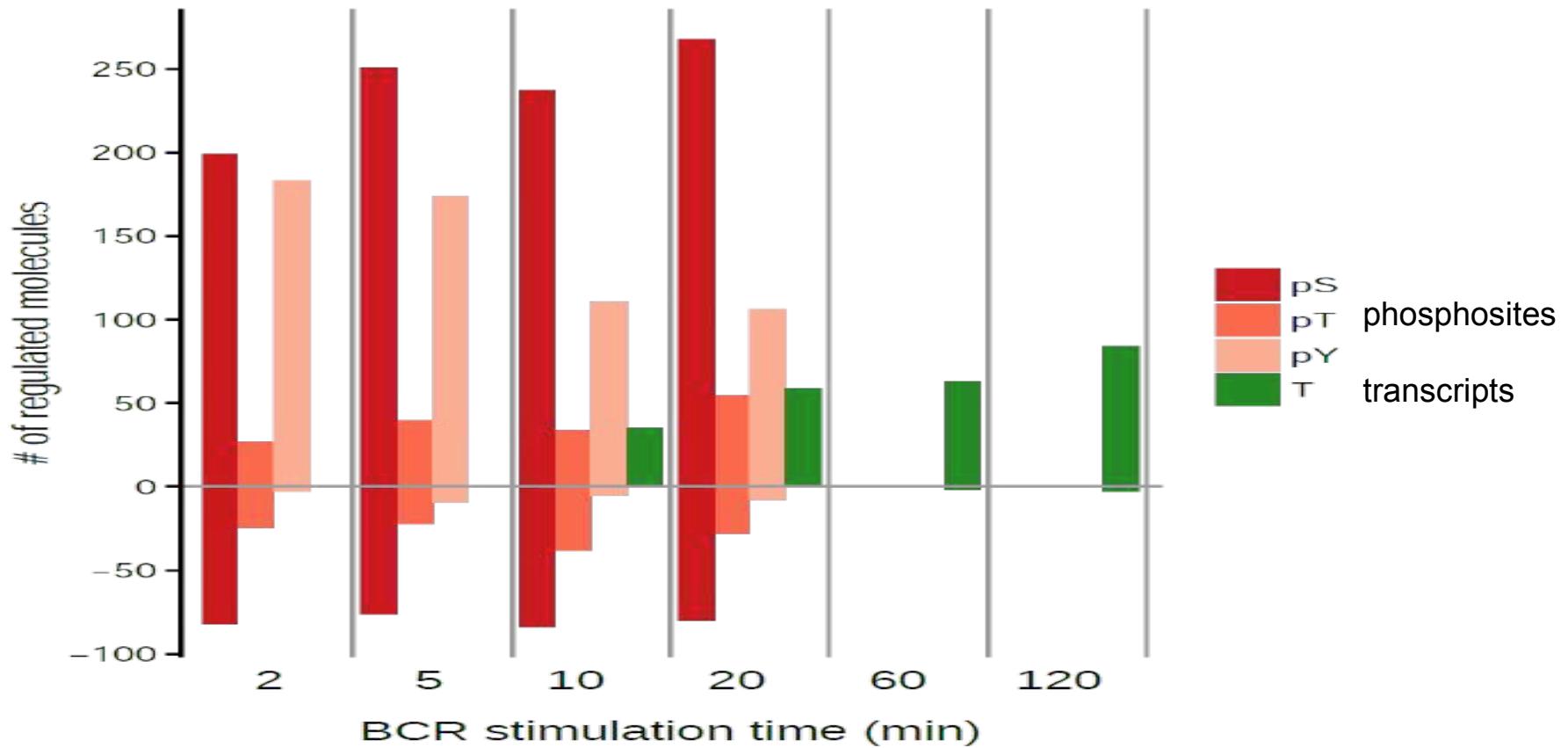
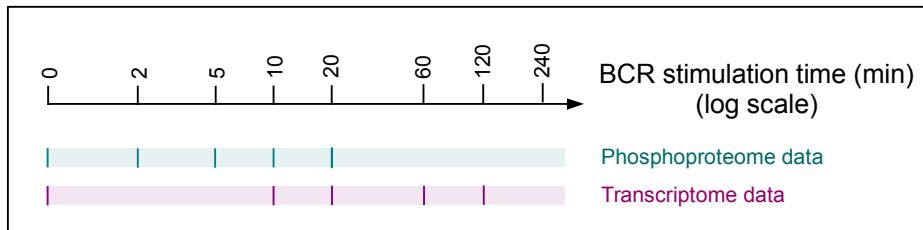


- Human cell line DG75
- Identification of BCR induced processes & druggable signaling pathways
  - Identification of BCR downstream effectors:
    - 12 % transcriptional,
    - 10 % cytoskeleton regulators
    - 9 % kinases



(Collaboration with Thomas Oellerich, Henning Urlaub)

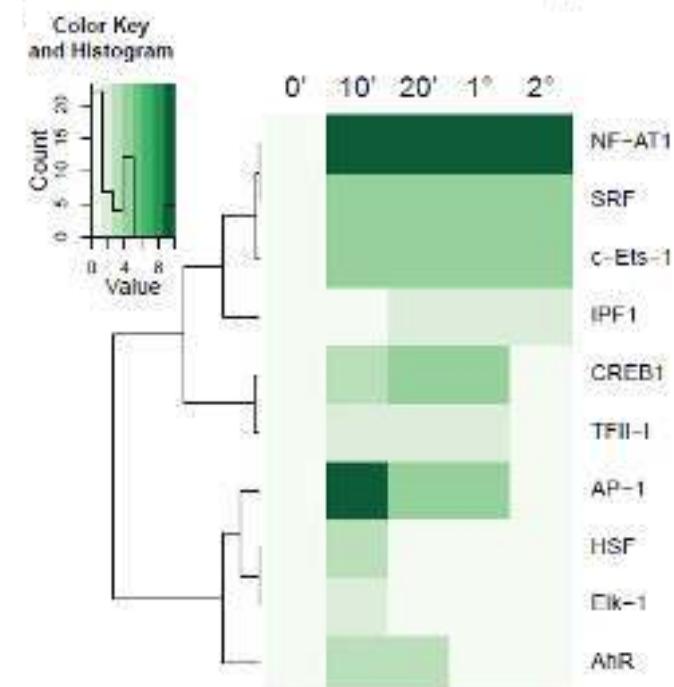
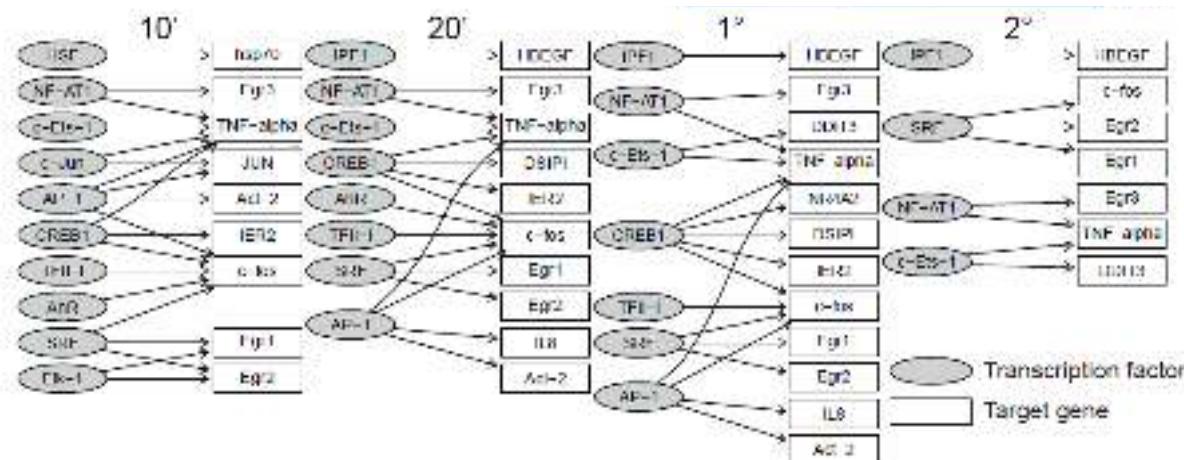
# BCR stimulation of DG75 Burkitt's lymphoma cells time course data



Number of significantly regulated sites/transcripts at corresponding BCR stimulation durations. Bars above zero-level indicate upregulation numbers, bars below zero-level downregulation numbers.

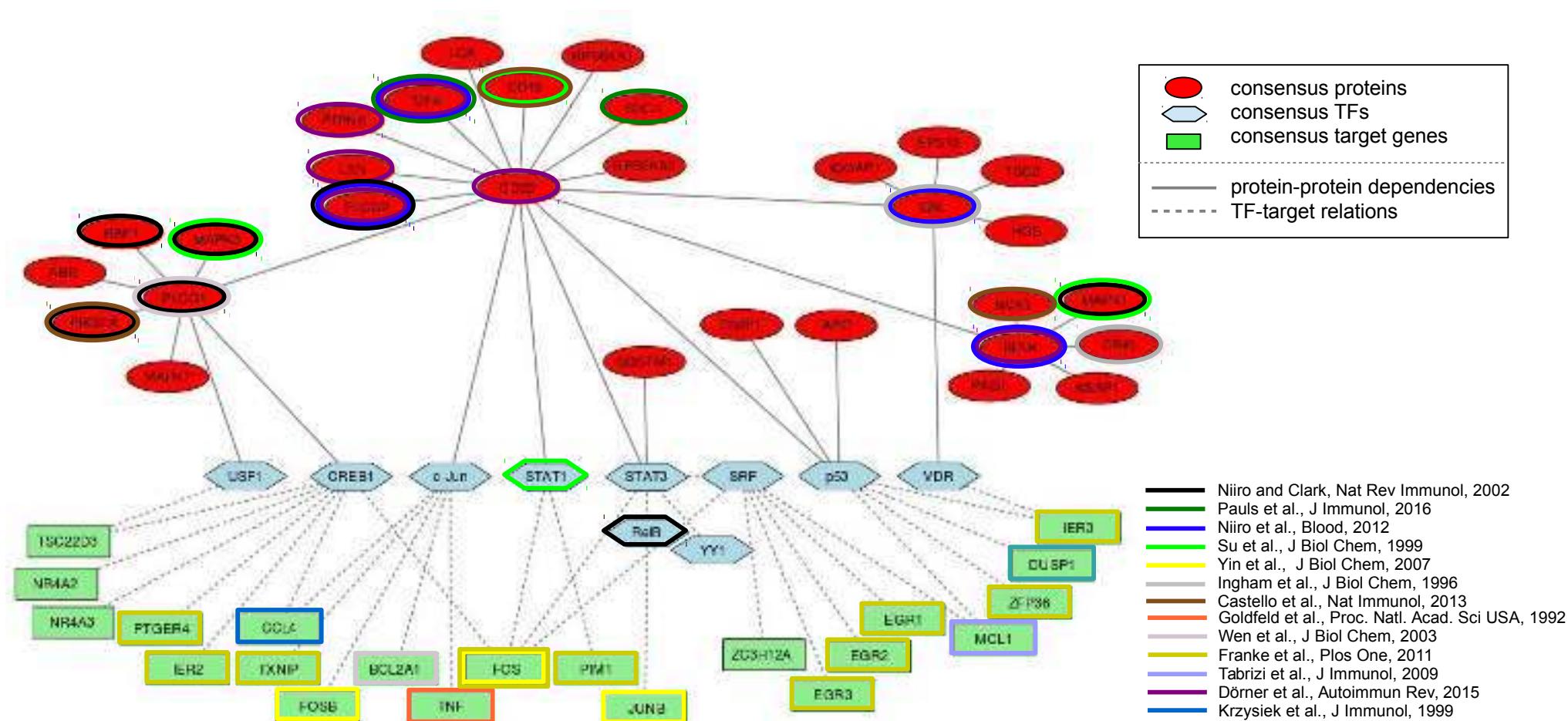
## Consensus TF→target gene relations at each time point

- Influence of phosphorylation processes on transcriptome dynamics:



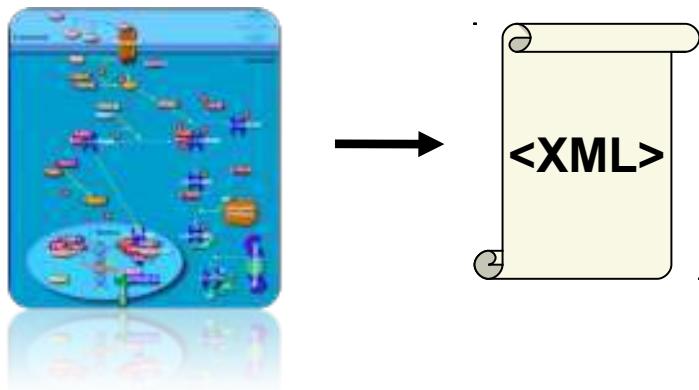
# Static consensus graph

→ pooling 2, 5, 10 min phosphoproteome time points & 60, 120 min transcriptome time points



→ High concordance with literature  
→ So far mostly level-specific or axis-specific investigation

# Encoding Pathway Knowledge



Computationally encoding Pathways has several advantages:

- Separate data and visualization
- Ease Knowledge-Exchange
- Store and curate large amounts of data

## BioPAX Ontology:

Pathway = <Interactions>\*

Interaction =  
<Entity> activates/inhibits <Conversion>

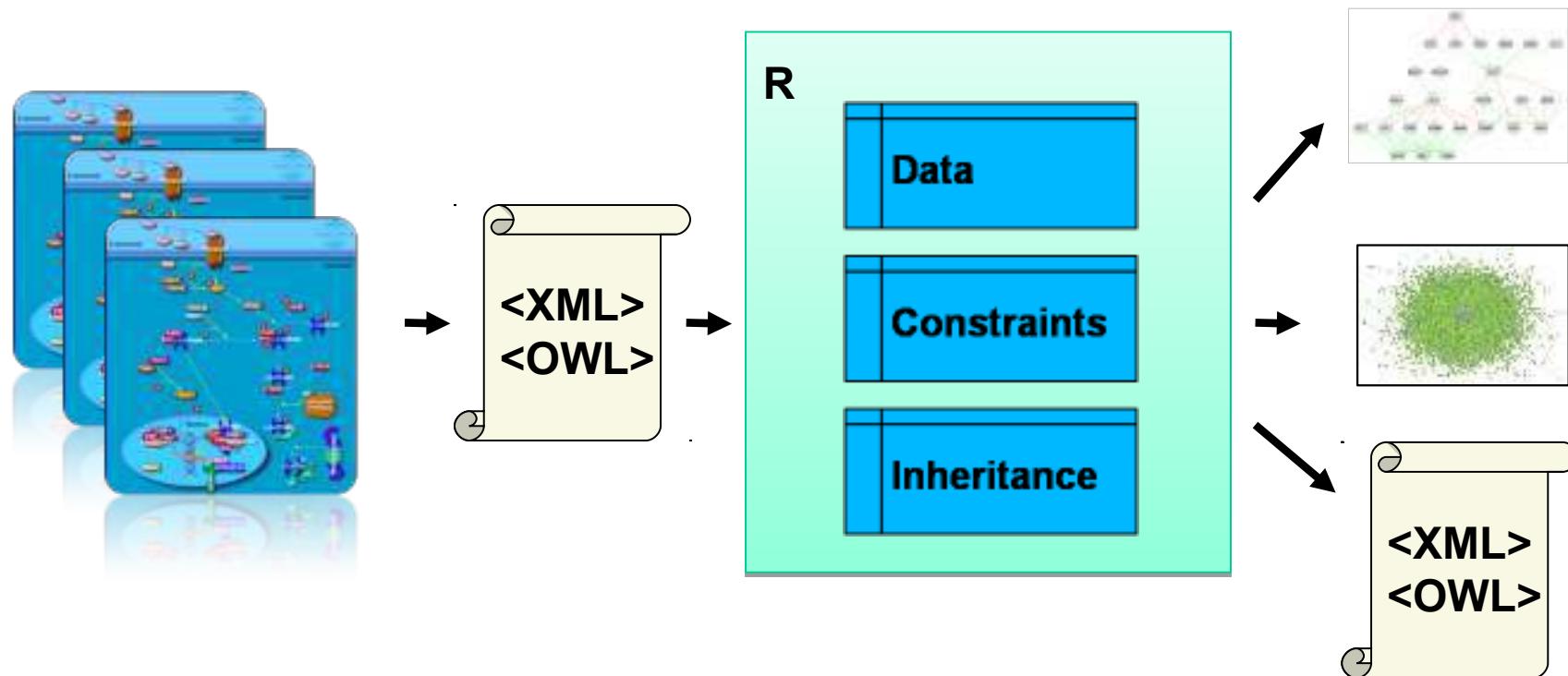
Conversions = <Entity>\* → <Entity>\*

Main Pathway Encoding-standards:

- Ontologies  
BioPAX / SBML
- Graph Representations  
KGML / GPML / SBGN

# rBiopaxParser

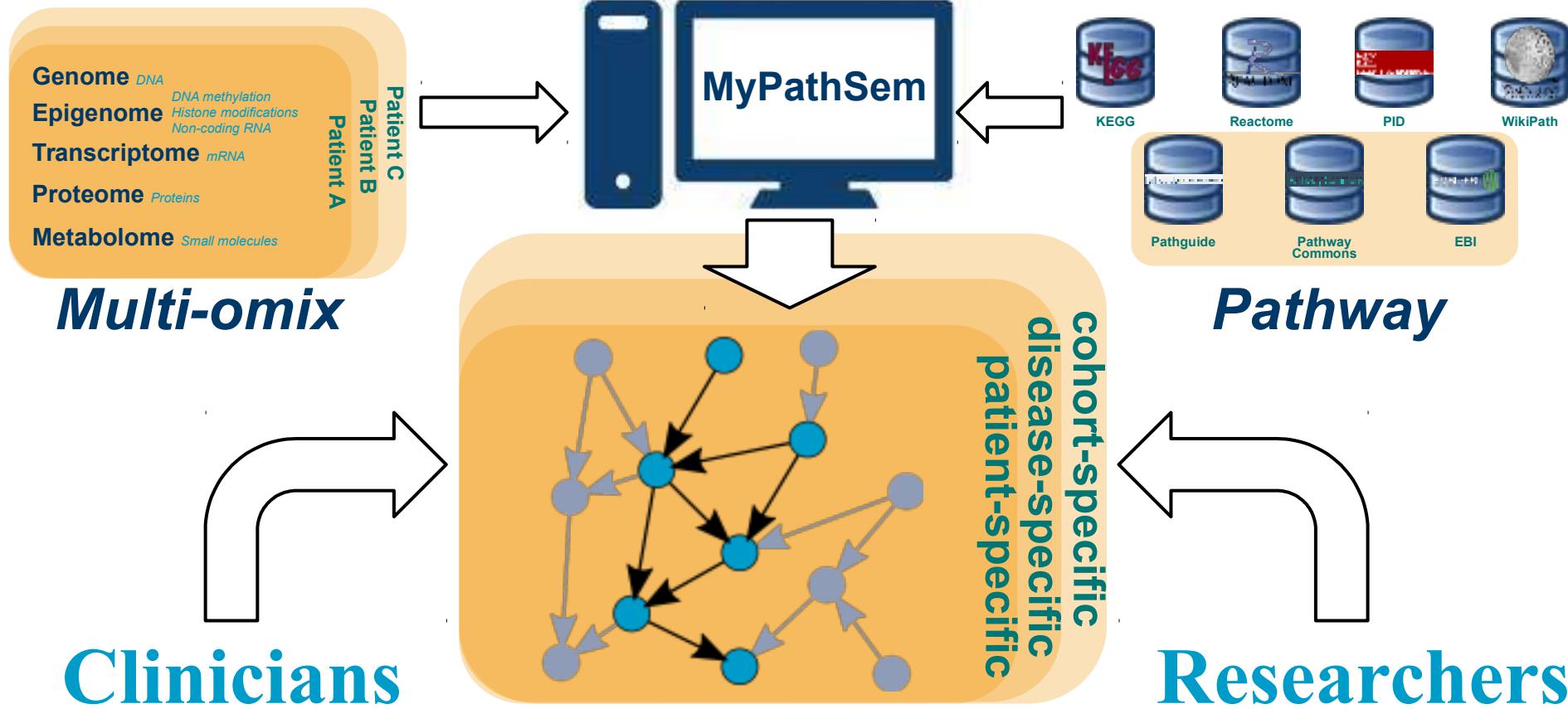
open-source software package for R:  
parses BioPAX-encoded pathway databases  
internally keeps original data structure  
offers programmatic modification & merging  
delivers PWs as graphs, matrices, BioPAX



## rBiopaxParser on Bioconductor

Kramer F, Bayerlová M, Klemm F, Bleckmann A, Beissbarth T.  
rBiopaxParser--an R package to parse, modify and visualize BioPAX data.  
Bioinformatics. 2013 Feb 15;29(4):520-2.

# MyPathSem: Generating individualised pathways



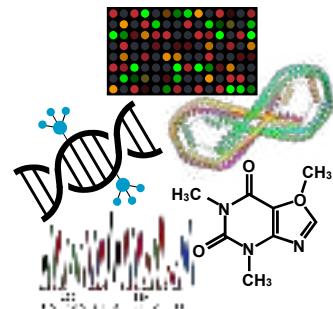
Consortium leader: Tim Beißbath

Partners: UMG (F Kramer, U Sax, E Wingender, A Bleckmann, J Gaedcke), GeneXplain (A Kel)

# MyPathSem - Daten Integrations Infrastruktur

## Integration Platform

### Omics Data



### Pathway knowledge



### Ontology Mapping Service

NCI Thesaurus

OBA Service

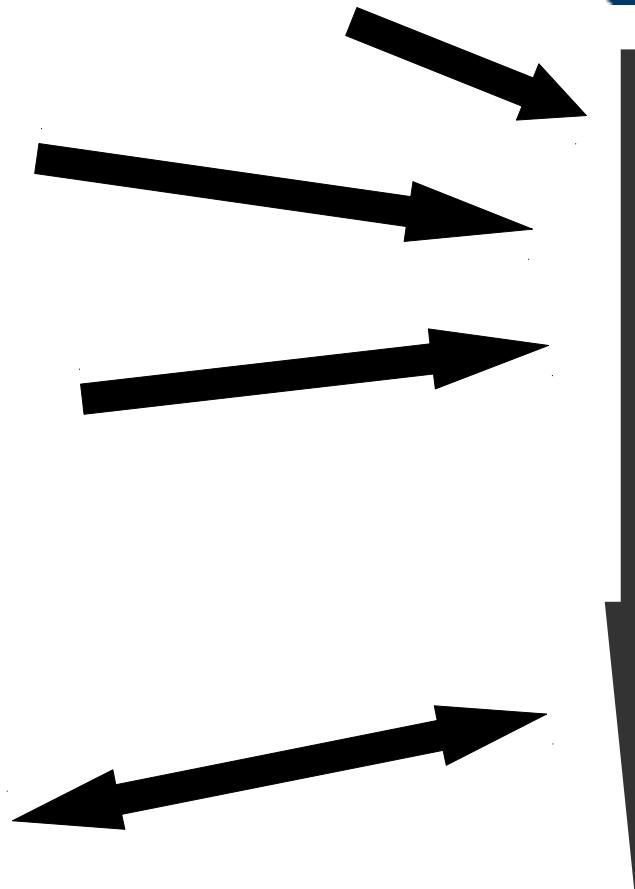
MeSH - ICD

### clinical Data



Angular.js CerebralWeb rApache

Docker container



# Acknowledgements

## Statistical Bioinformatics Group, UMG

Dr. Andreas Leha

Dr. Frank Kramer

Dr. Manuel Nietert

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Maren Sitte

Florian Auer

Zaynab Hammoud

Hryhorii Chereda

Felix Reinhardt



## Gonsortium Projects

MetastaSys

HER2LOW

MMML-Demonstrators

MyPathSem