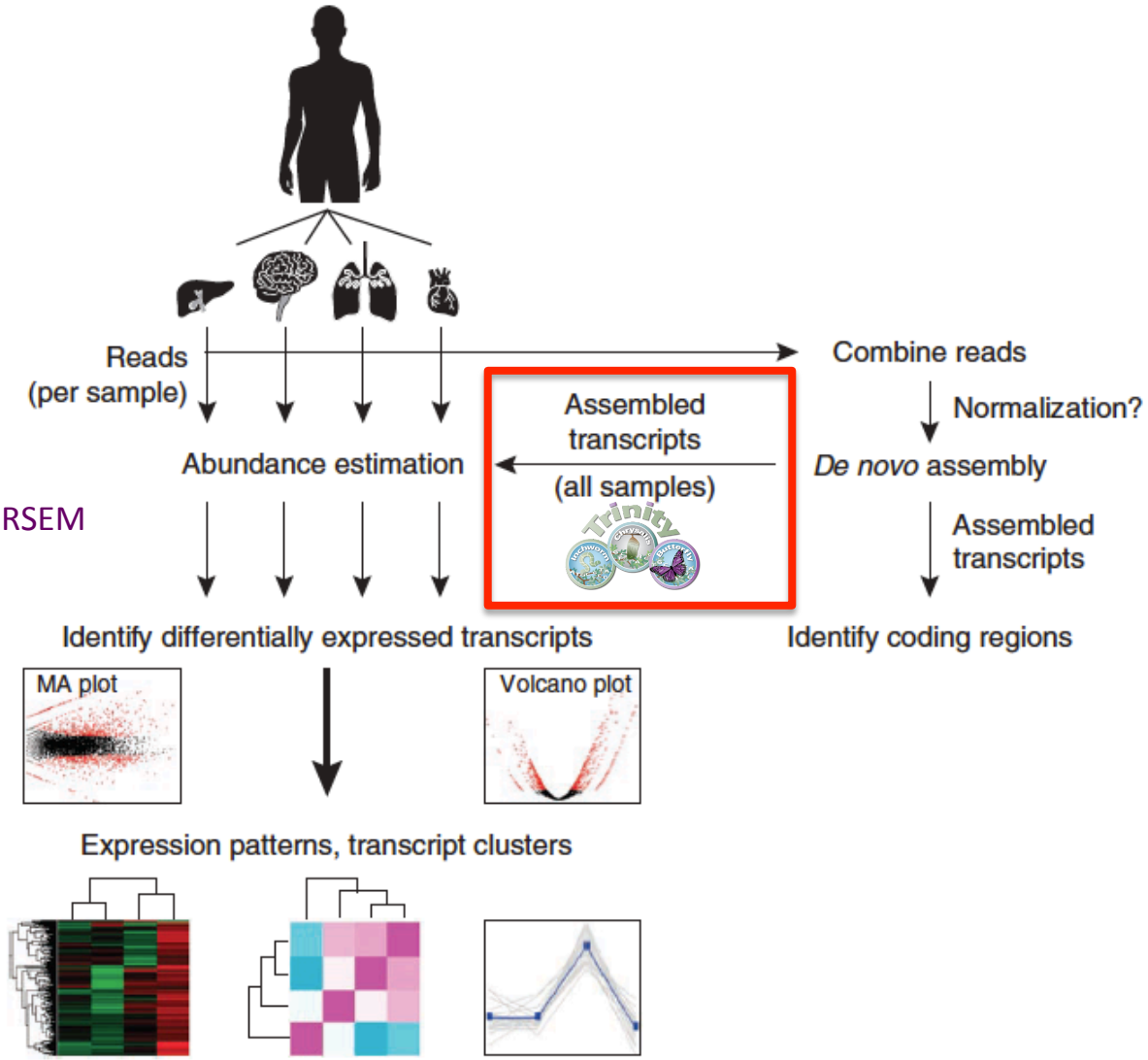
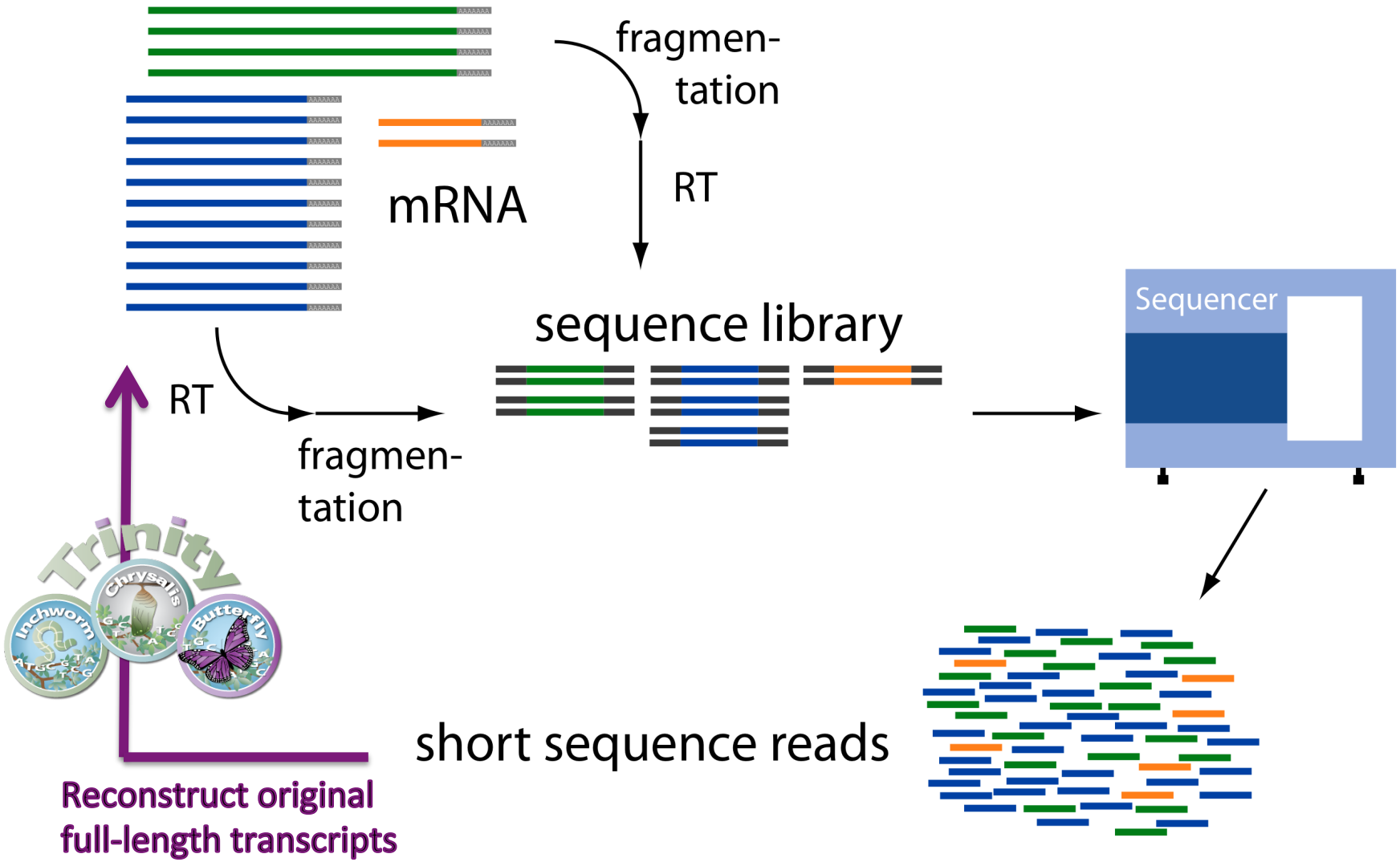
Trinity Framework for De novo Transcriptome Assembly and Analysis



Bowtie & RSEM

Bioconductor,
& Trinity

Assembly Required



From: http://www2.fml.tuebingen.mpg.de/raetsch/members/research/transcriptomics.html

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

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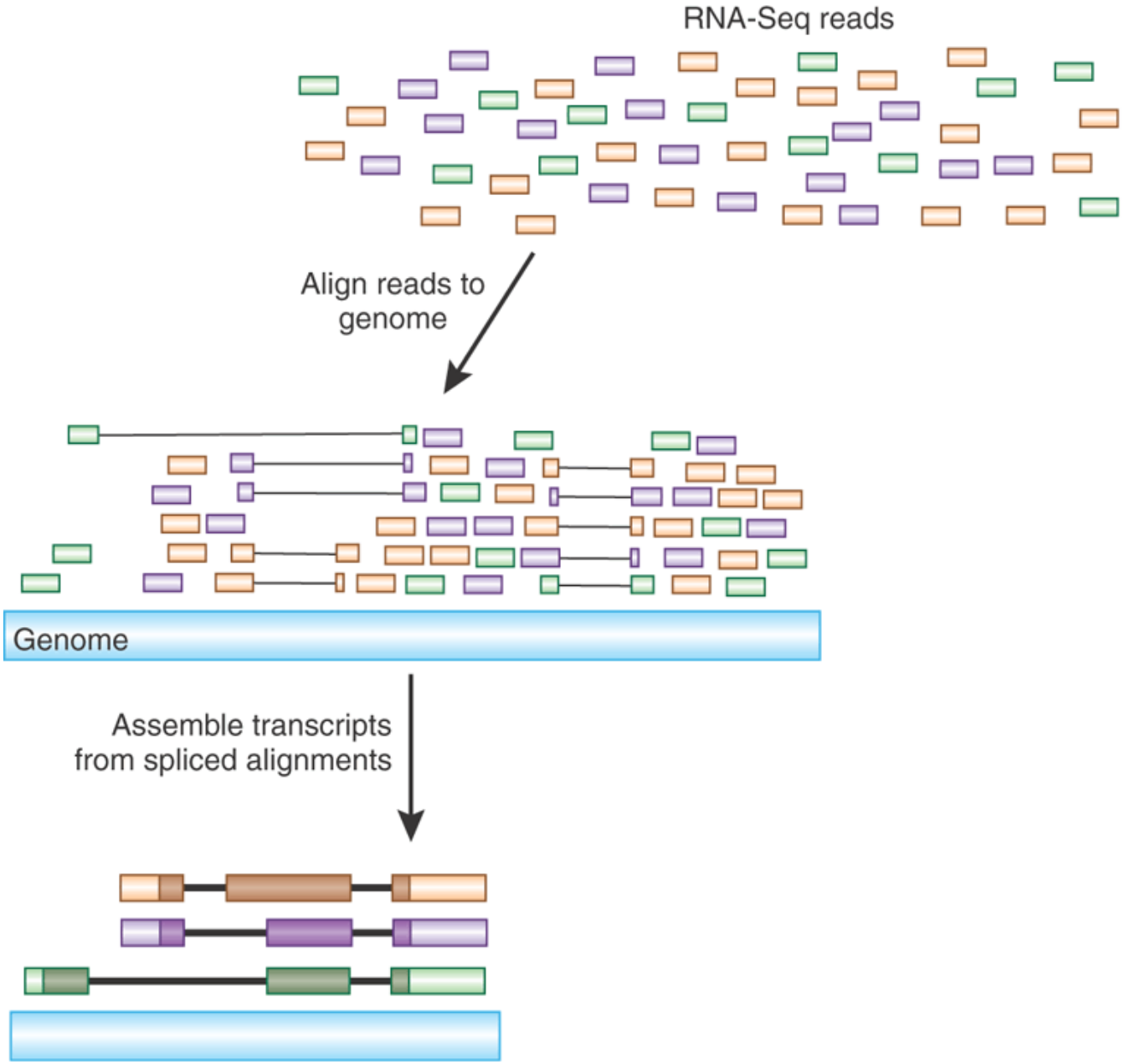
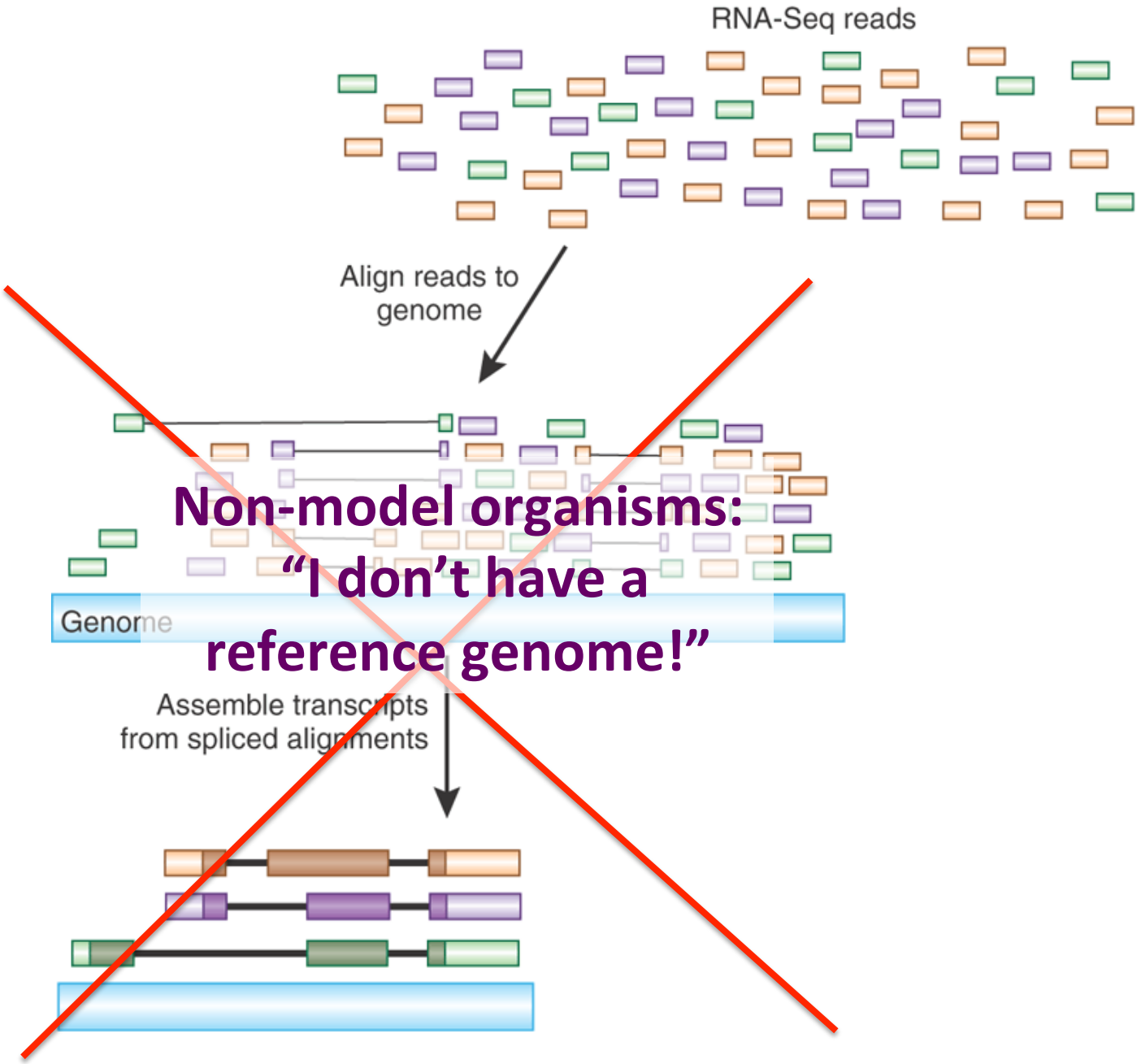
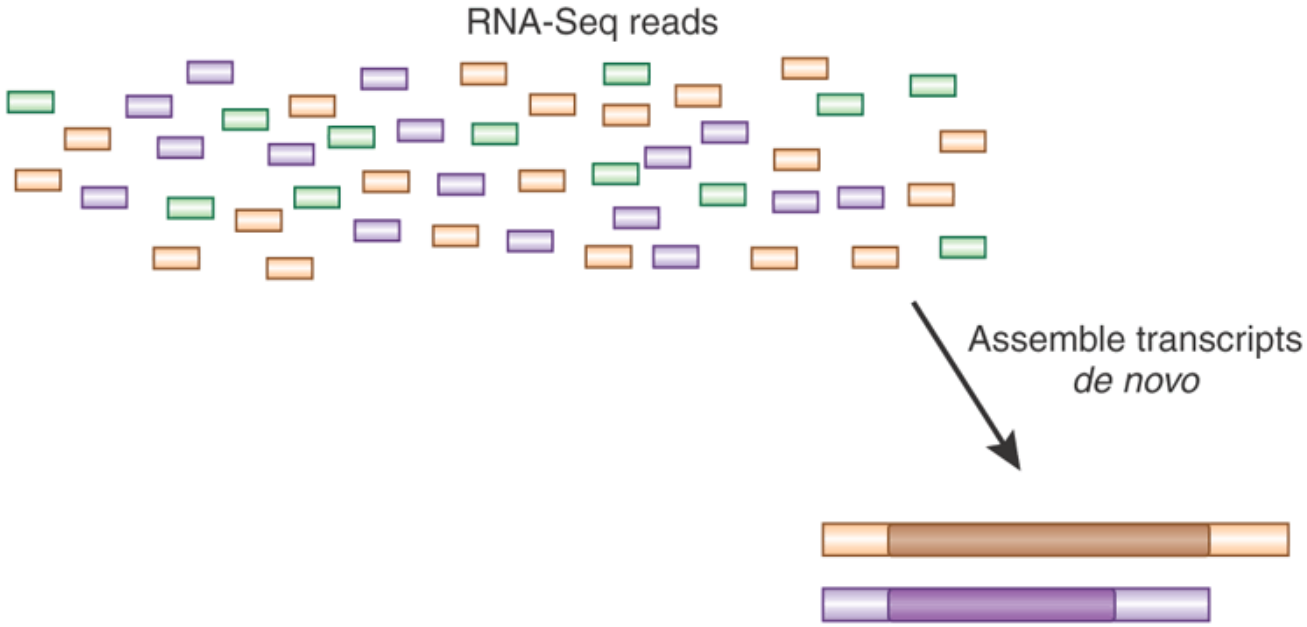


Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



Non-model organisms: "I don't have a reference genome!"

Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



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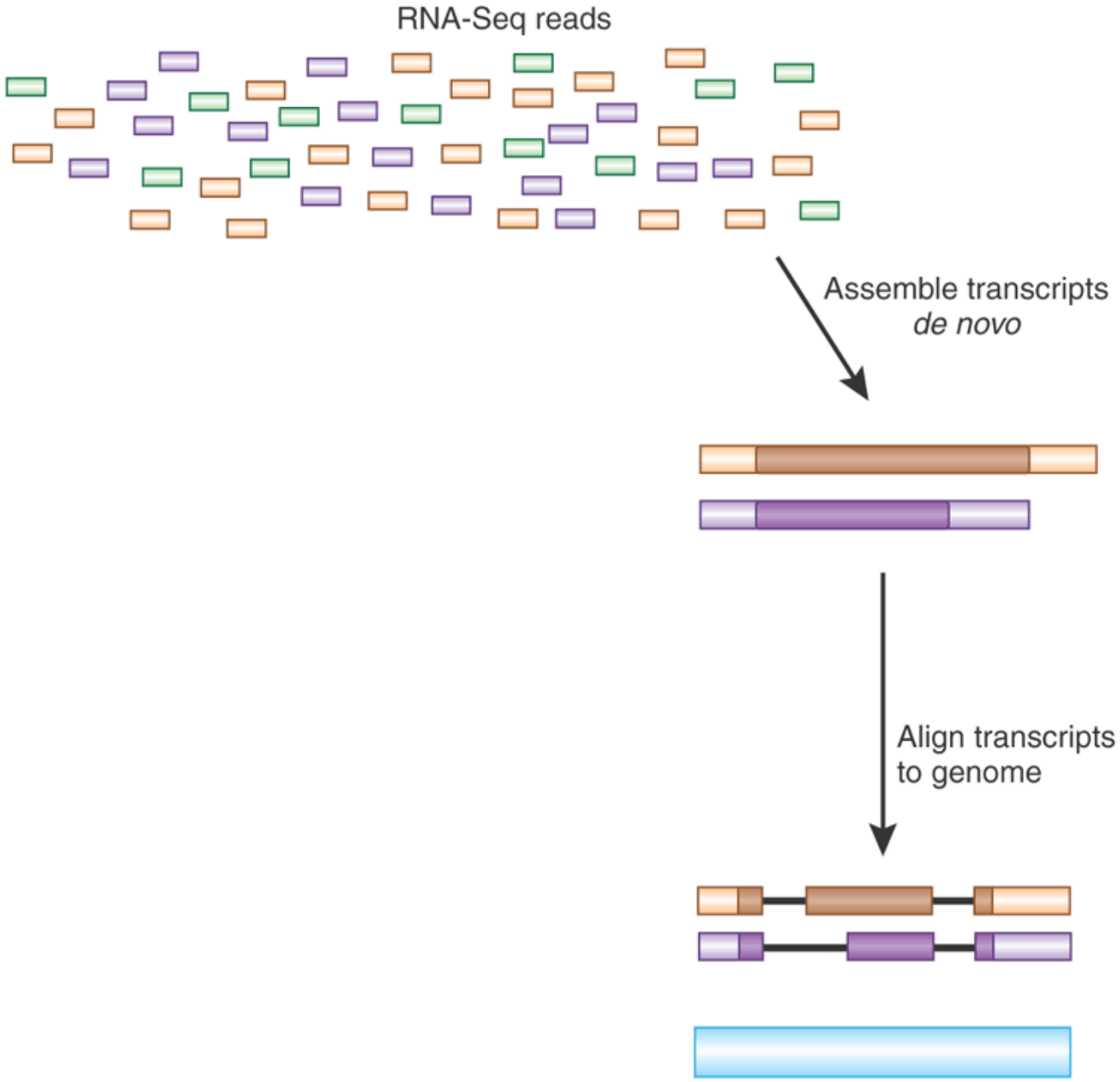
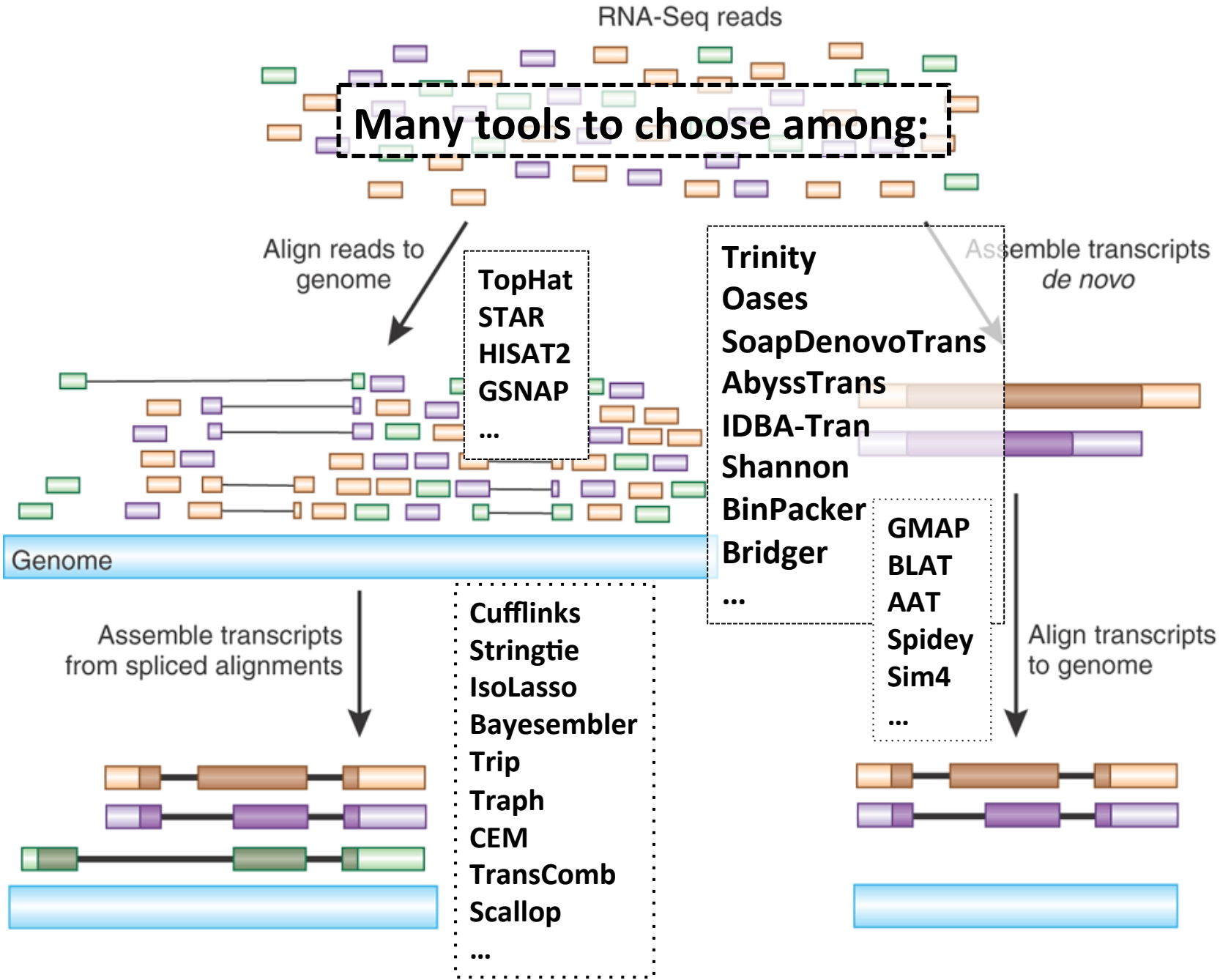
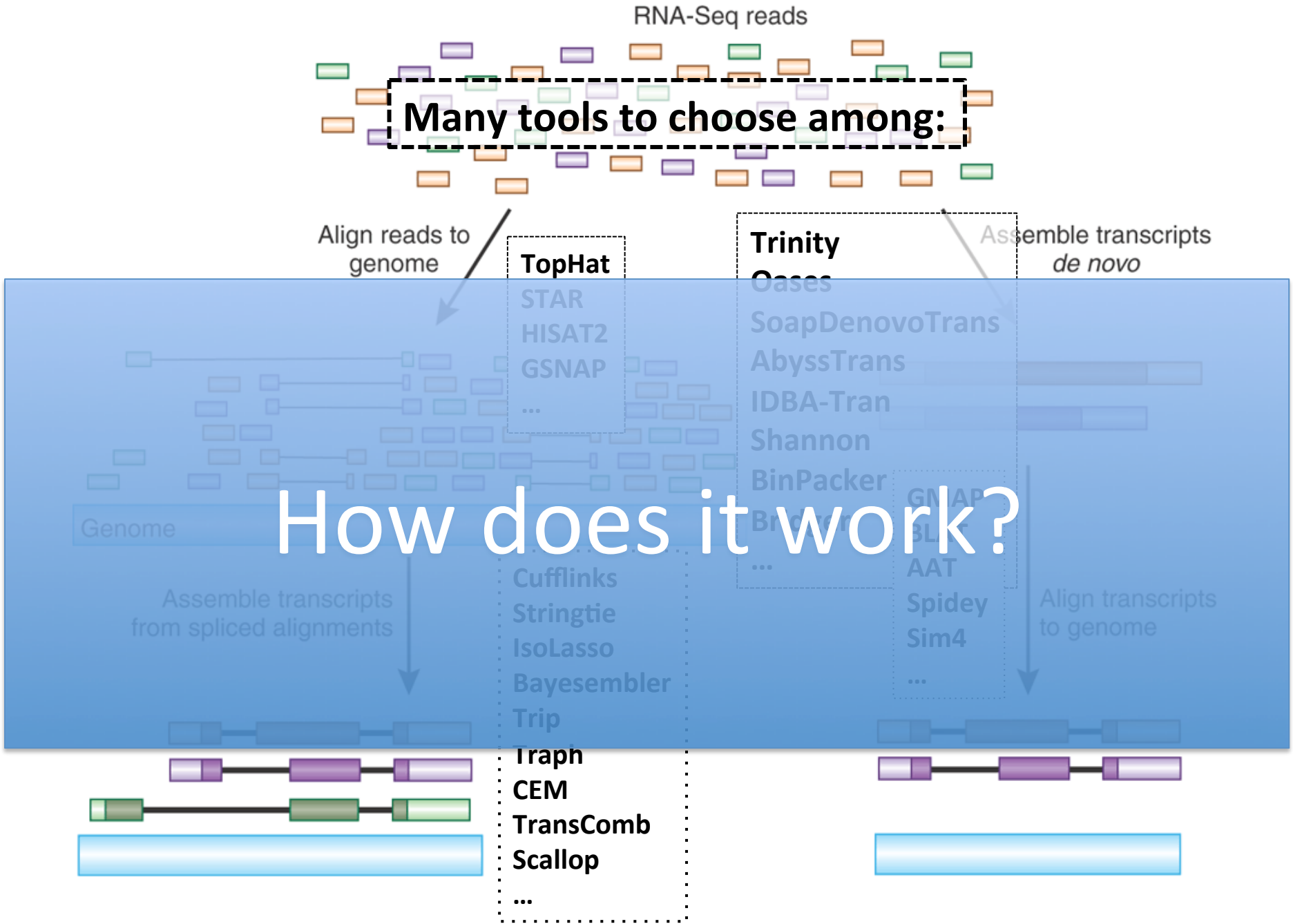


Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



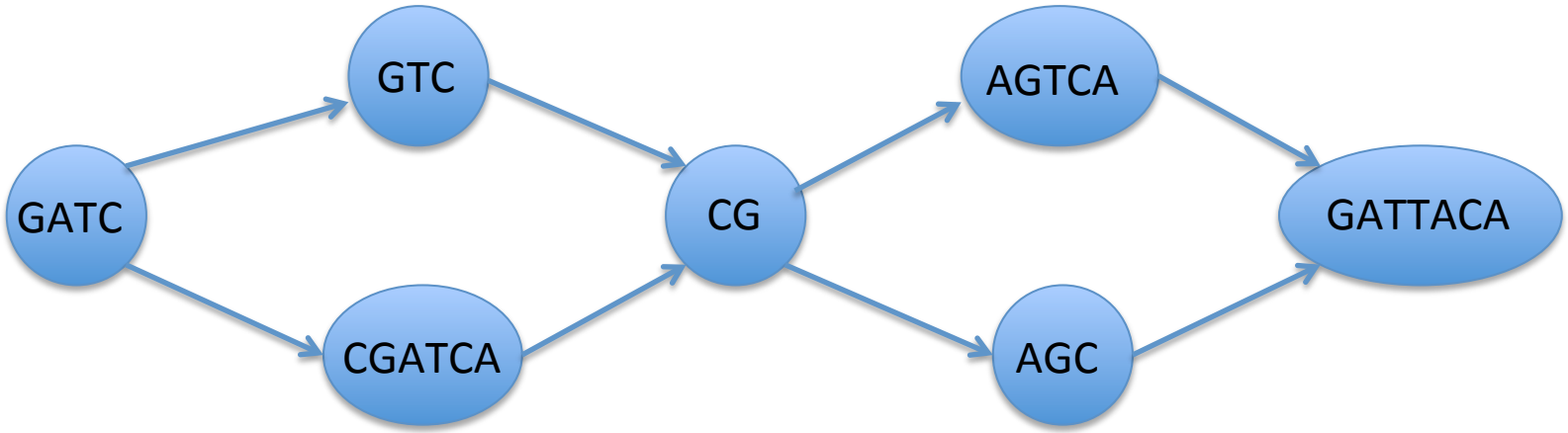
Transcript Reconstruction from RNA-Seq Reads



Graph Data Structures Commonly Used For Assembly

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

Reads to Graph



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

Graph Data Structures Commonly Used For Assembly

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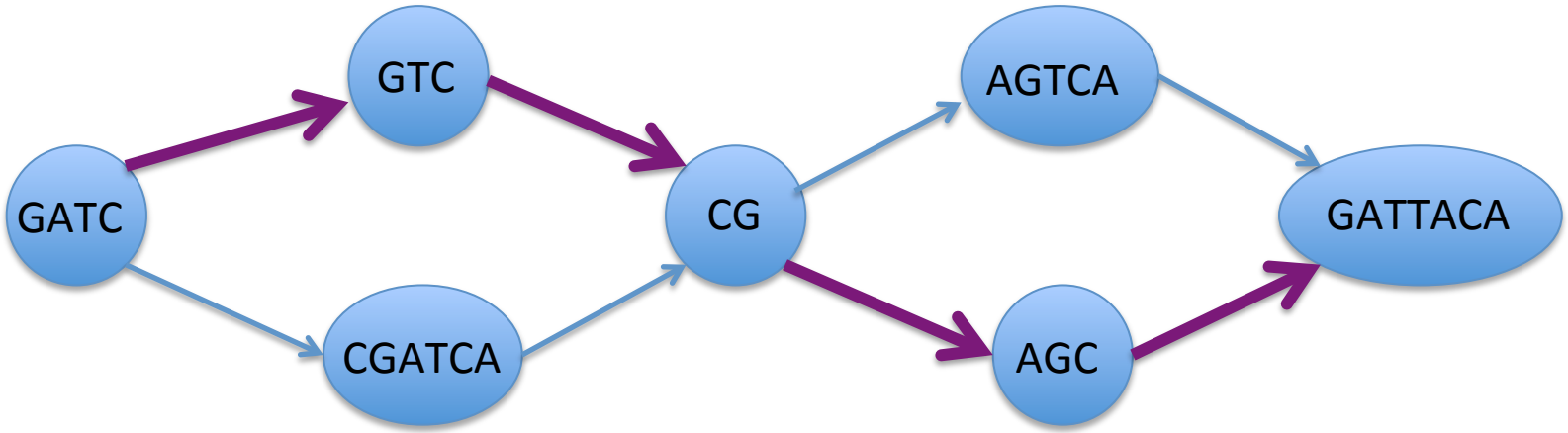
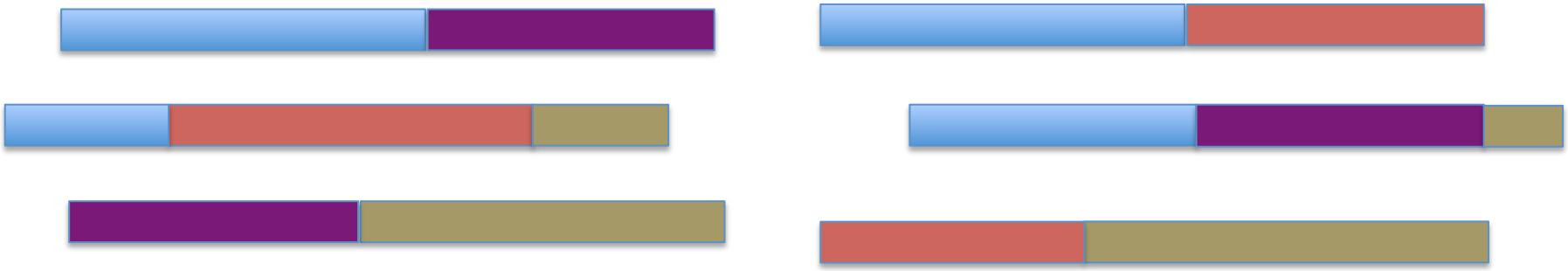


GATCGTCCGAGCGATTACA

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

Read Overlap Graph: Reads as nodes, overlaps as edges



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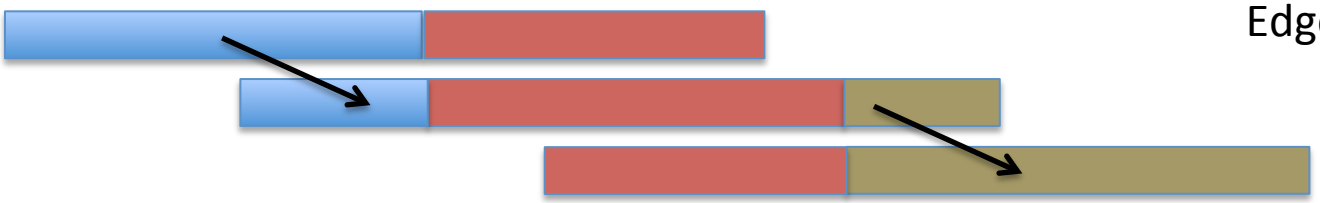
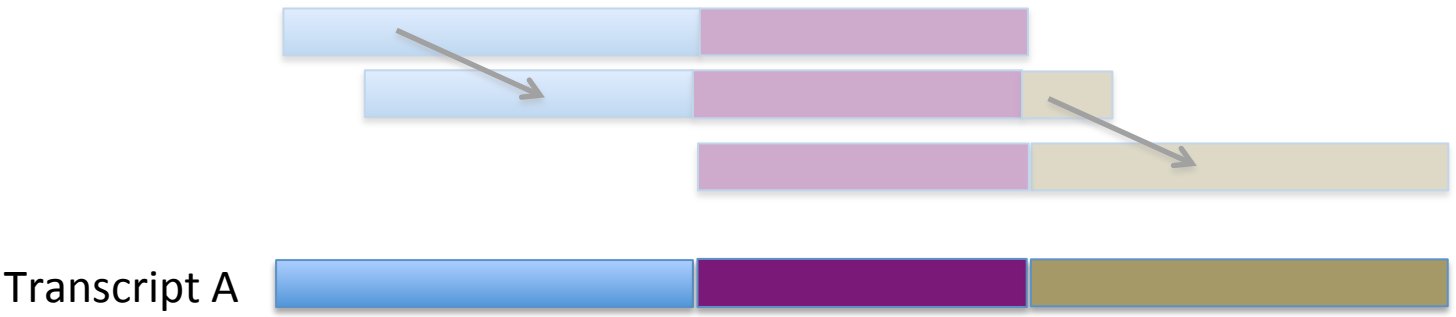


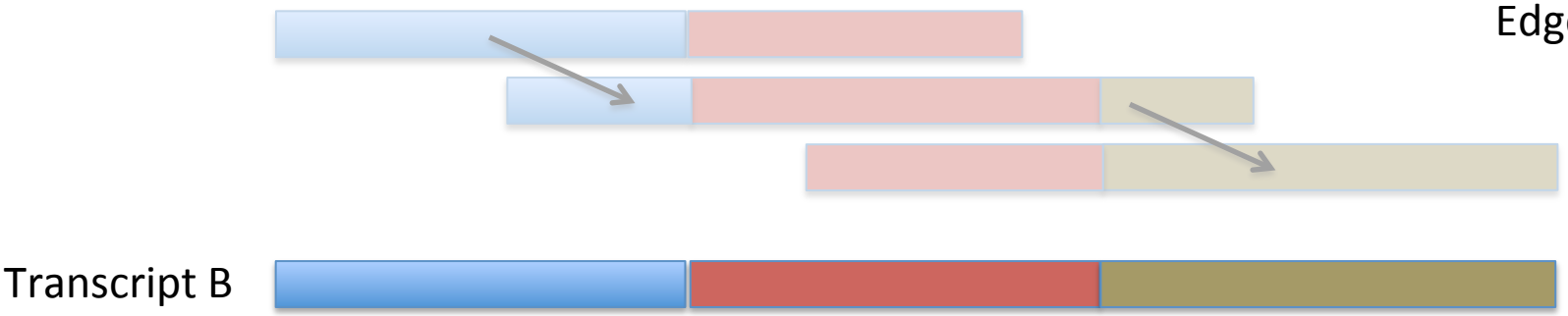
Node = read
Edge = overlap

Read Overlap Graph: Reads as nodes, overlaps as edges

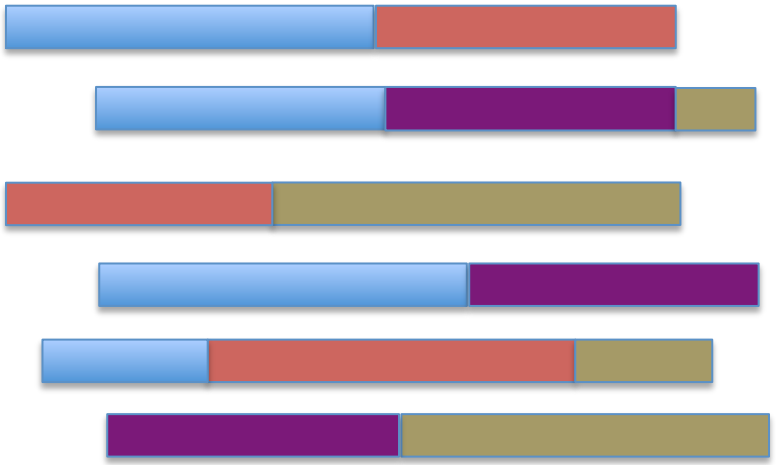


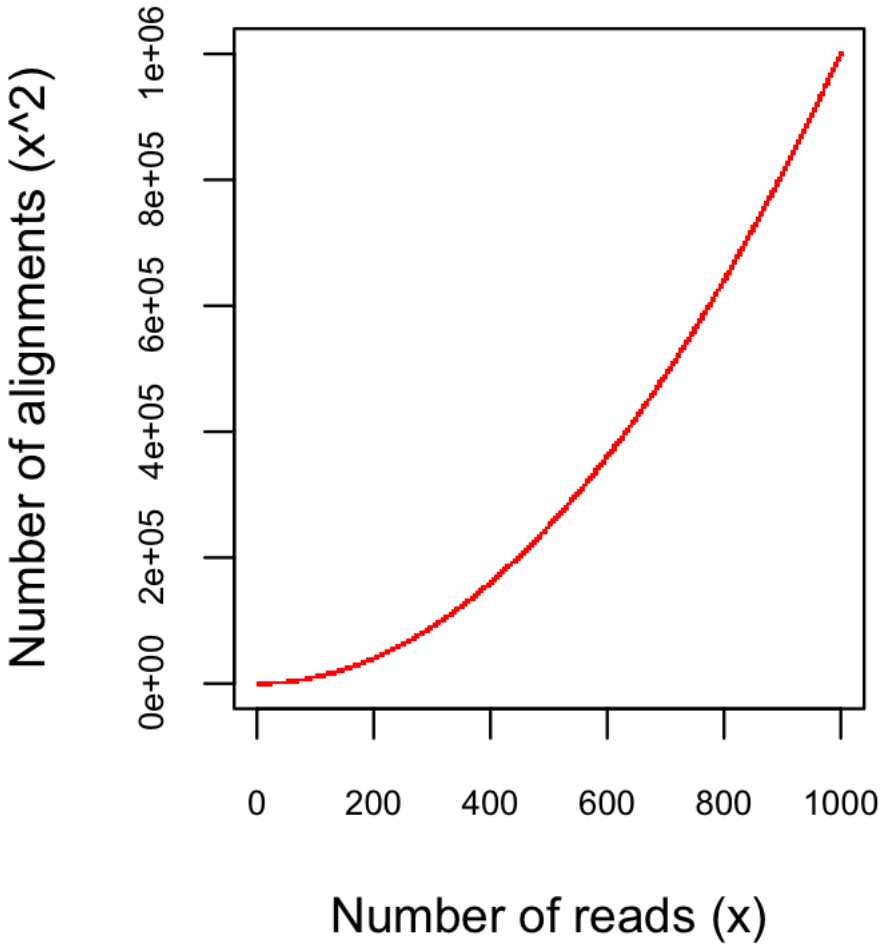
Generate consensus sequence where reads overlap

Node = read
Edge = overlap



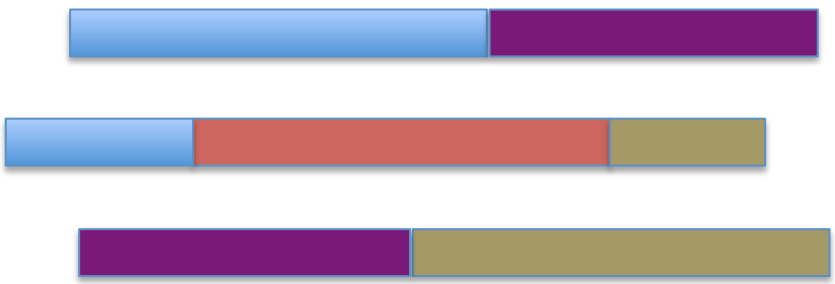
Finding pairwise overlaps between *n* reads involves ~ n^2 comparisons.



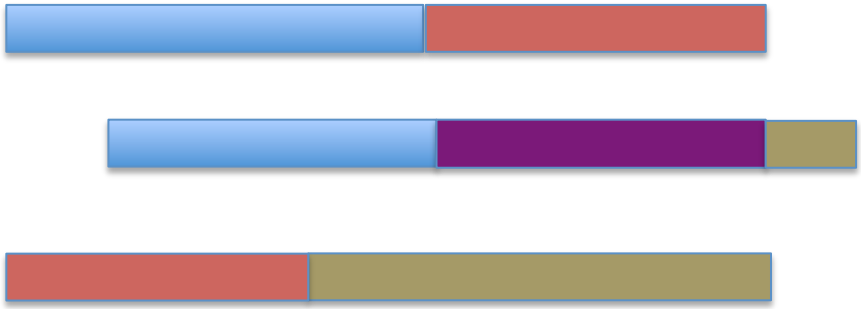


Impractical for typical RNA-Seq data (50M reads)

No genome to align to…



De novo assembly required

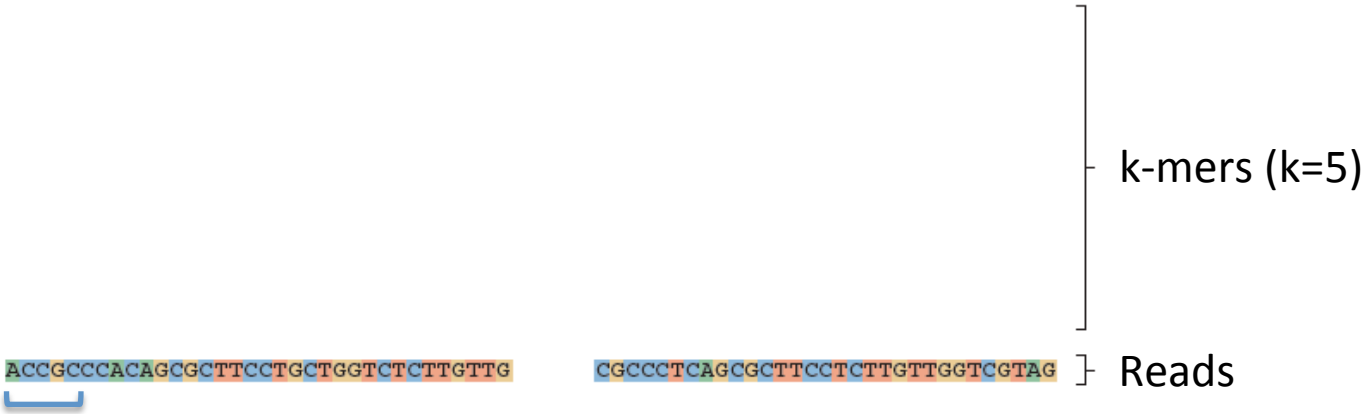


Want to avoid n^2 read alignments to define overlaps

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

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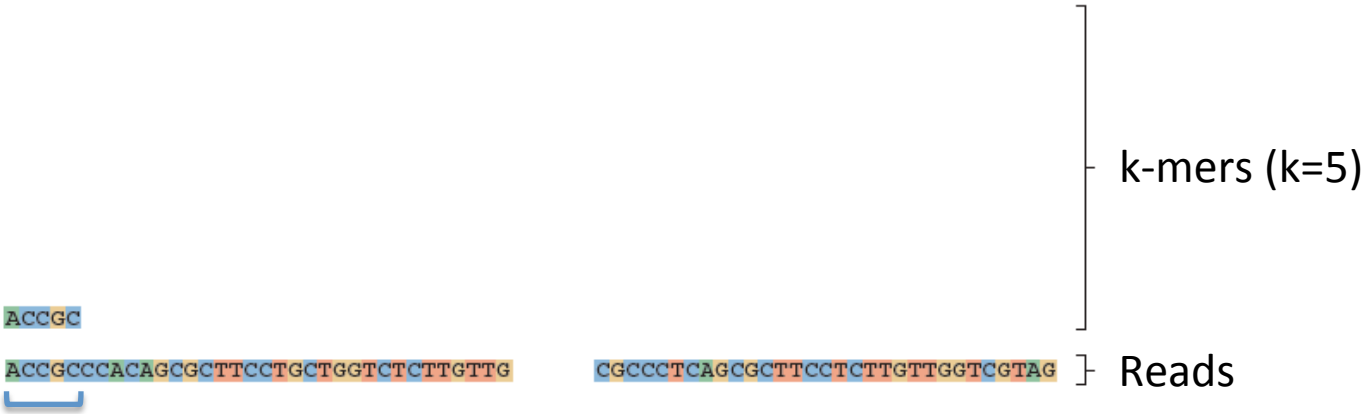

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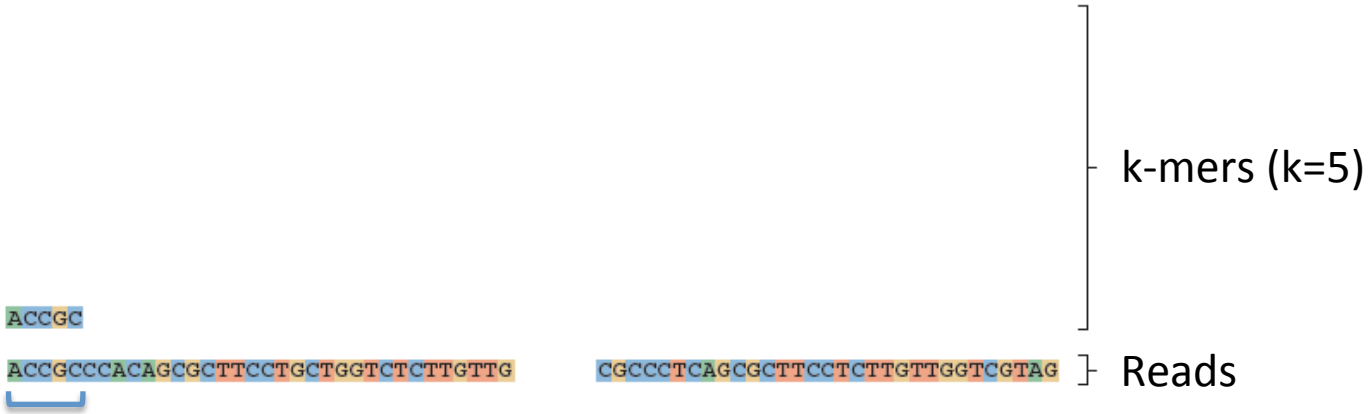

Construct the de Bruijn graph

Nodes = unique k-mers

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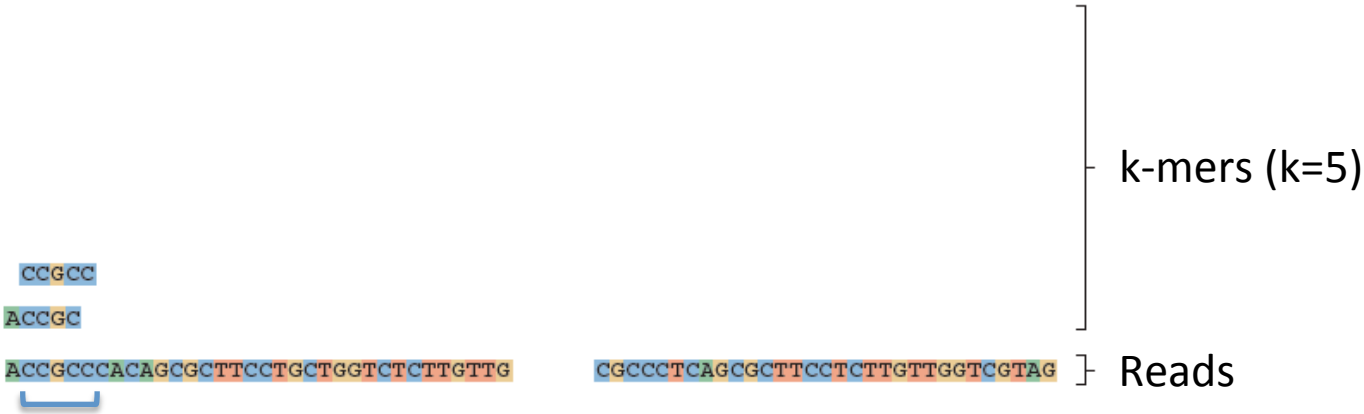

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Edges = overlap by (k-1)

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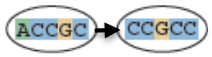

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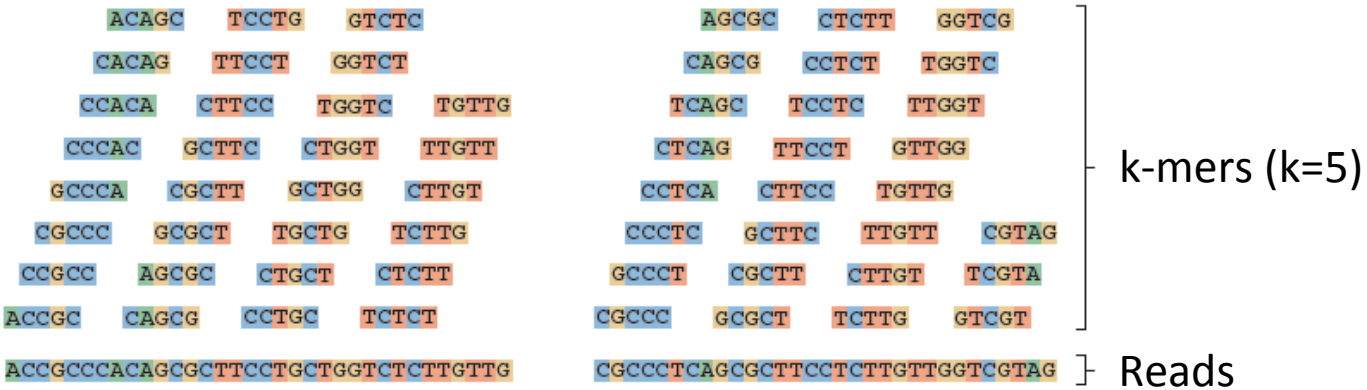

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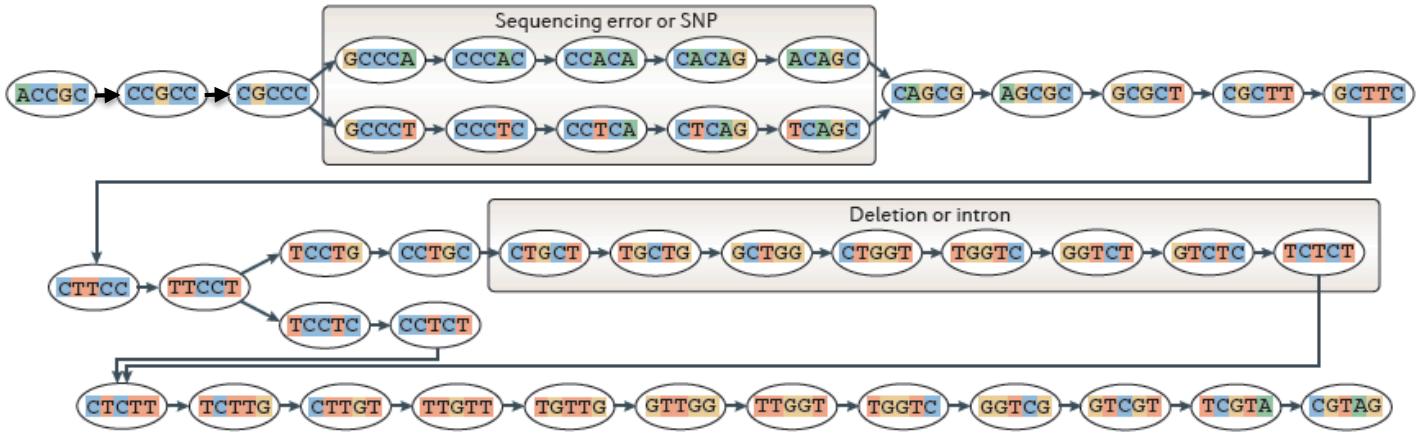

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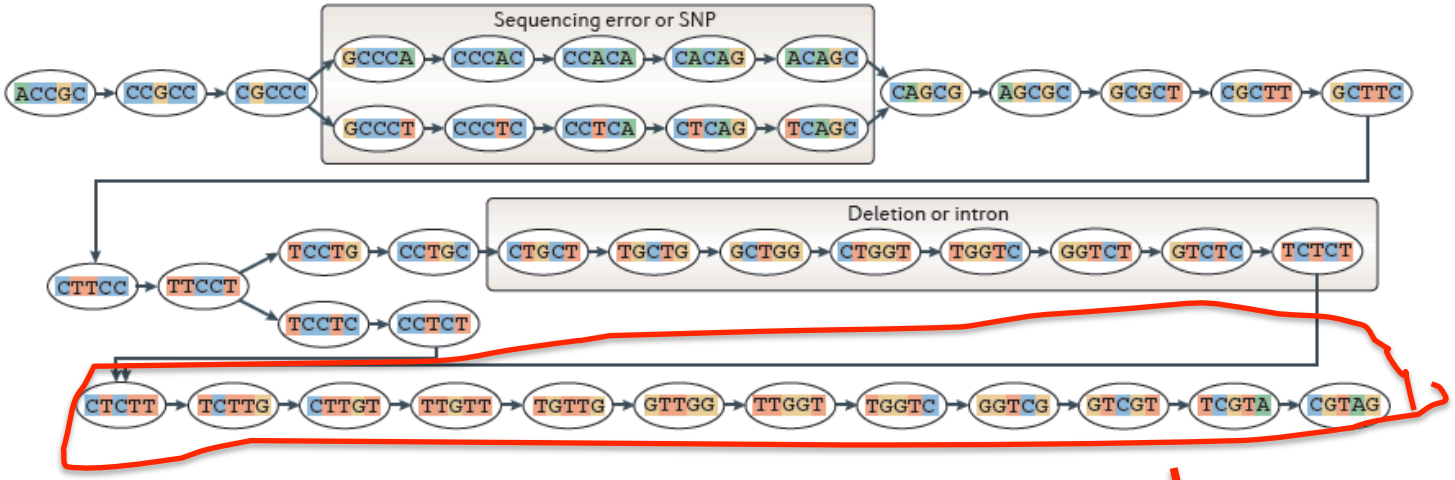
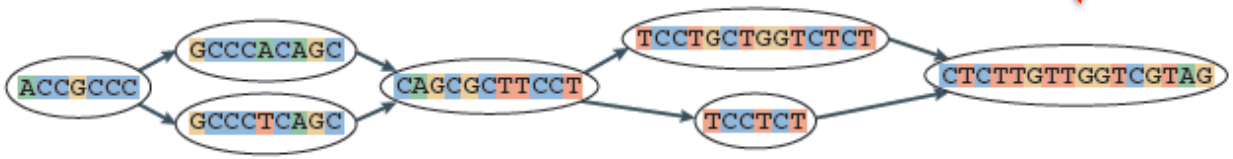


Collapse the de Bruijn graph



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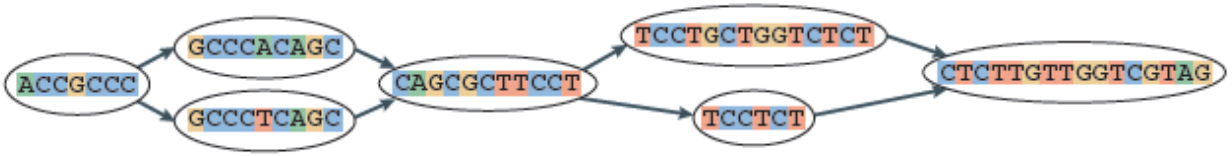
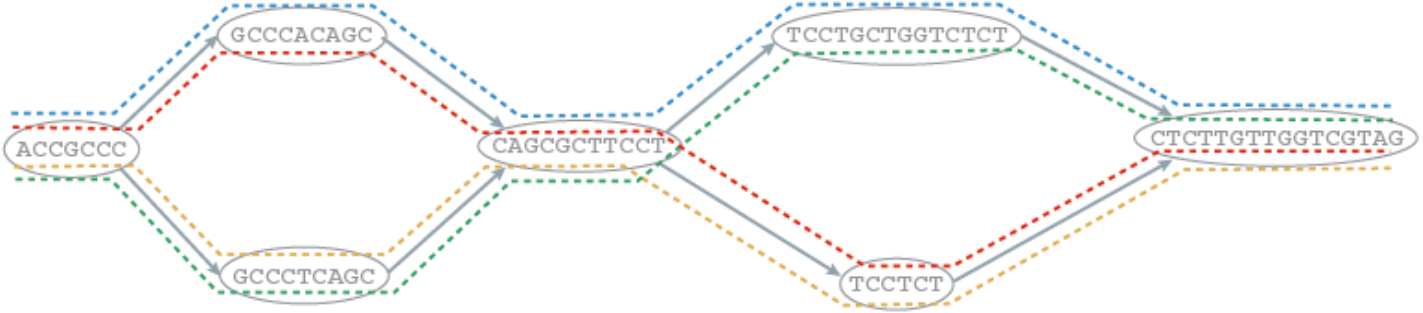
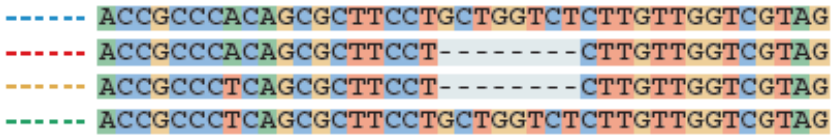


Traverse the graph



Assemble Transcript Isoforms



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

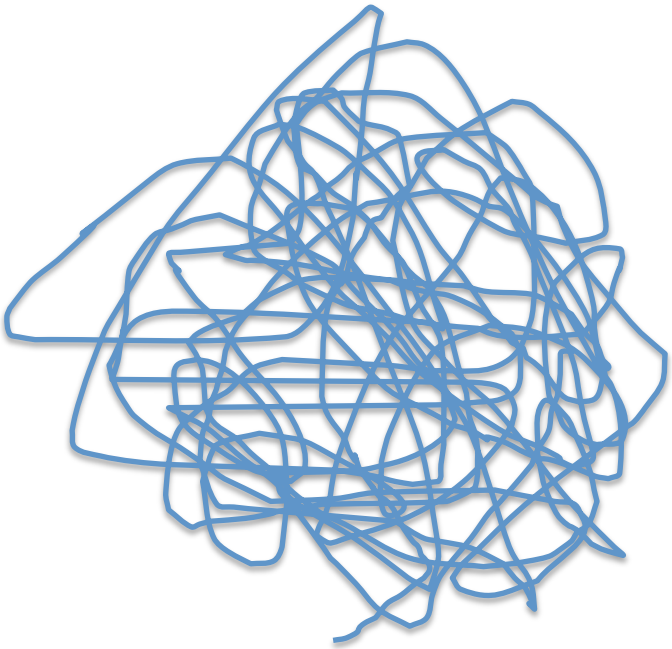
Transcriptome Assembly

- 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

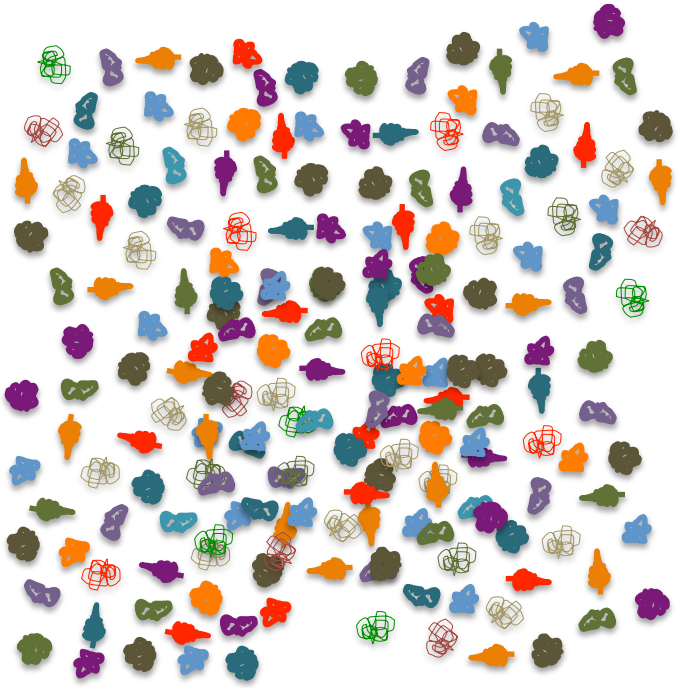
Single Massive Graph



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: **AATGTGAAAACTGGATTACATGCTGGTATGTC**…

AATGTGA

ATGTGAA

TGTGAAA

…

Overlapping kmers of length (k)

Kmer Catalog (hashtable)

Kmer	Count among all reads
AATGTGA	4
ATGTGAA	2
TGTGAAA	1
GATTACA	9

Inchworm Algorithm

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

GATTACA
9

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Inchworm Algorithm

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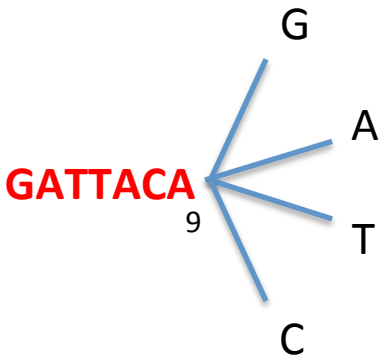
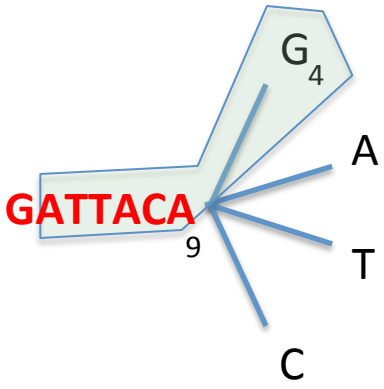
- Identify seed kmer as most abundant Kmer, ignoring low-complexity kmers.
- Extend kmer at 3' end, guided by coverage.



Inchworm Algorithm



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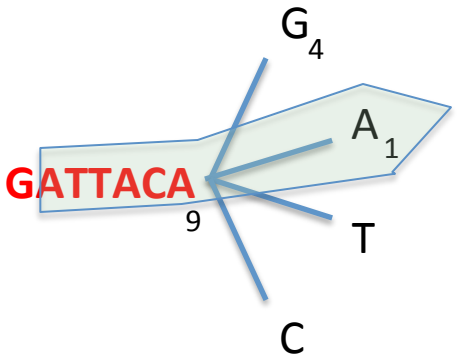

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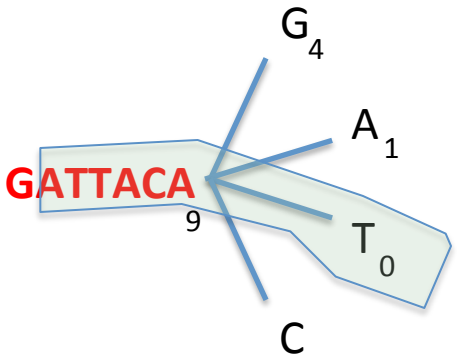

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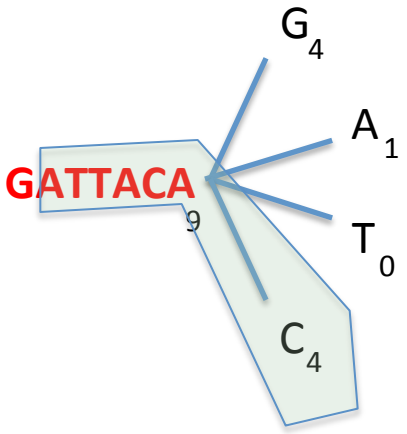

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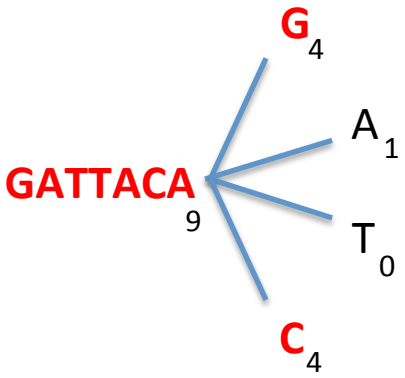

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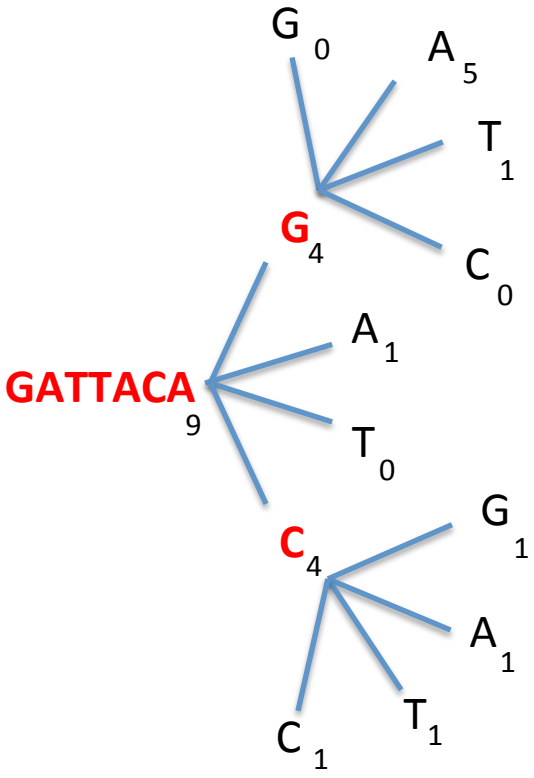
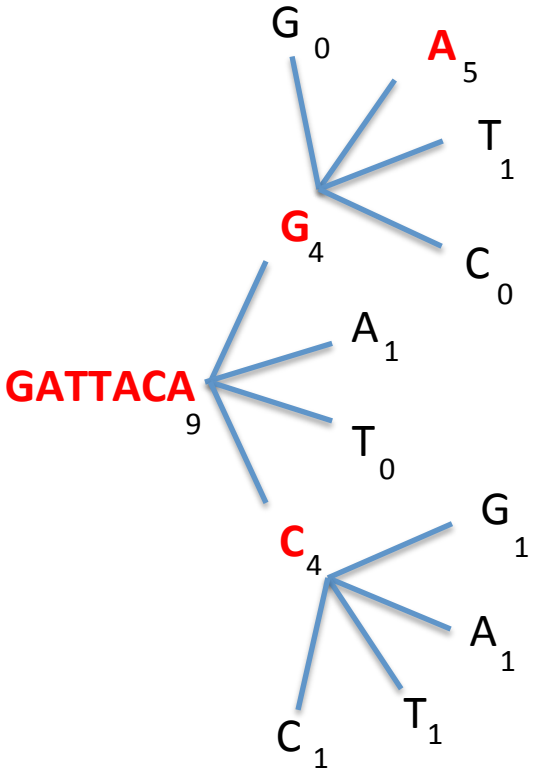


Inchworm Algorithm



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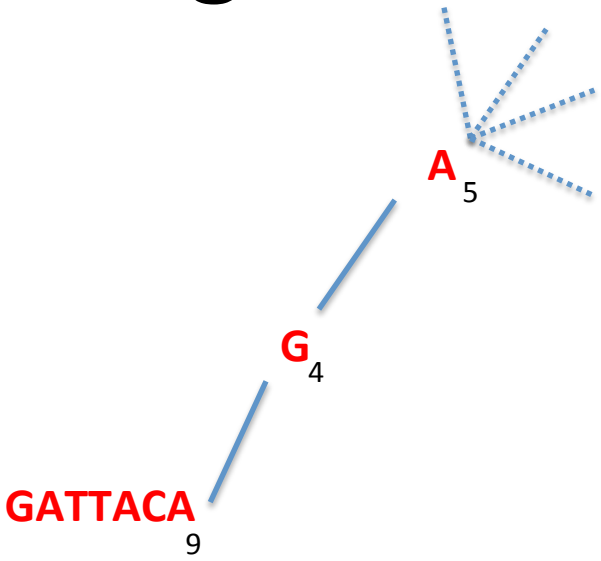

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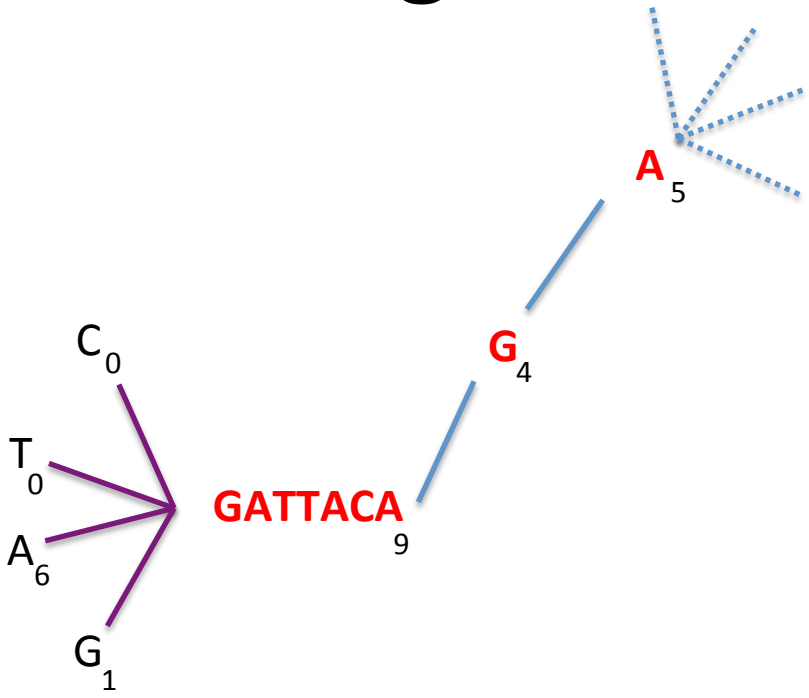

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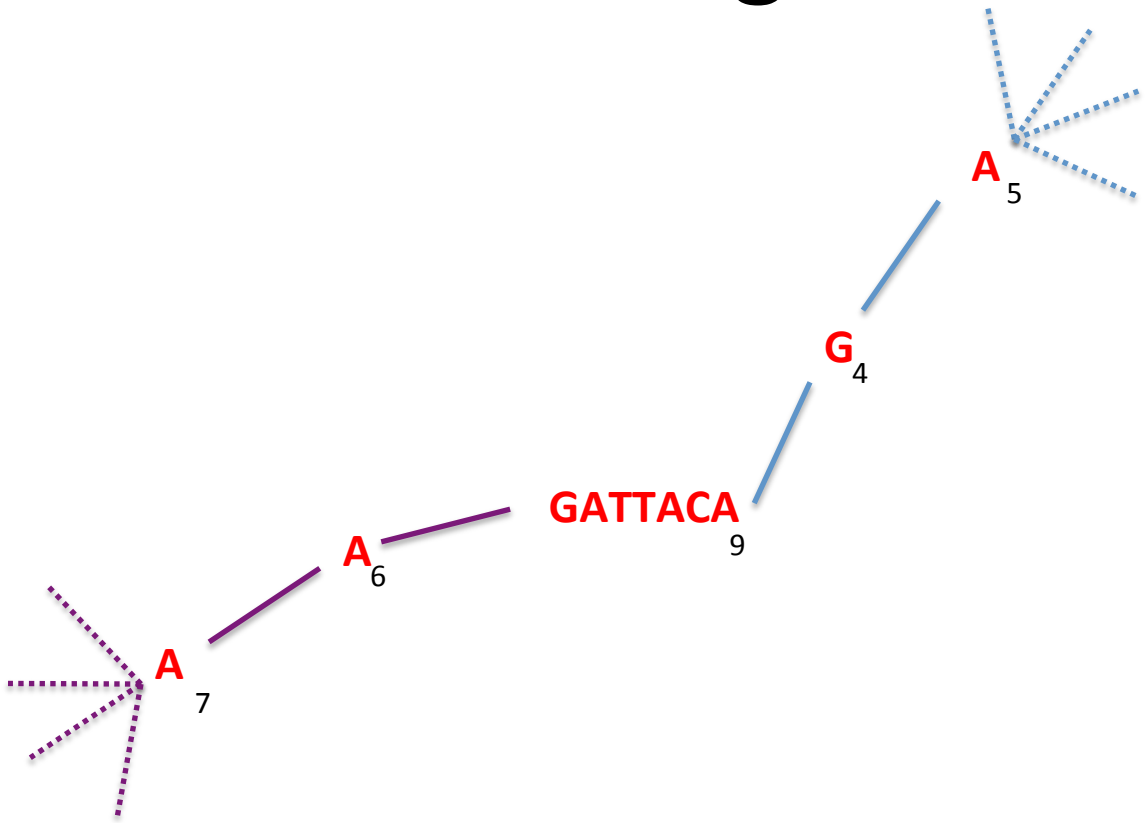


Report contig: ….AAGATTACAGA….

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

Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts

Expressed isoforms

Isoform A

Isoform B

Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts

Expressed isoforms

Isoform A

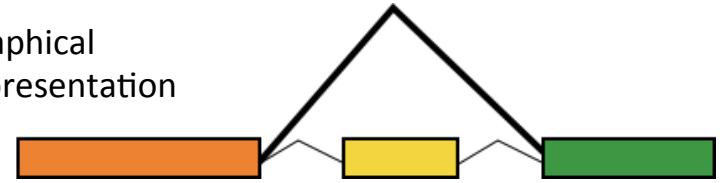
Isoform B

Expression

(low)

(high)

Graphical representation



Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts

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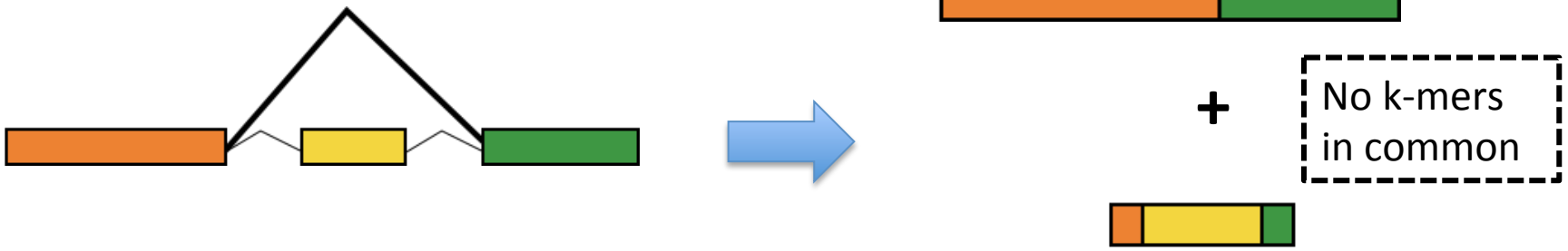
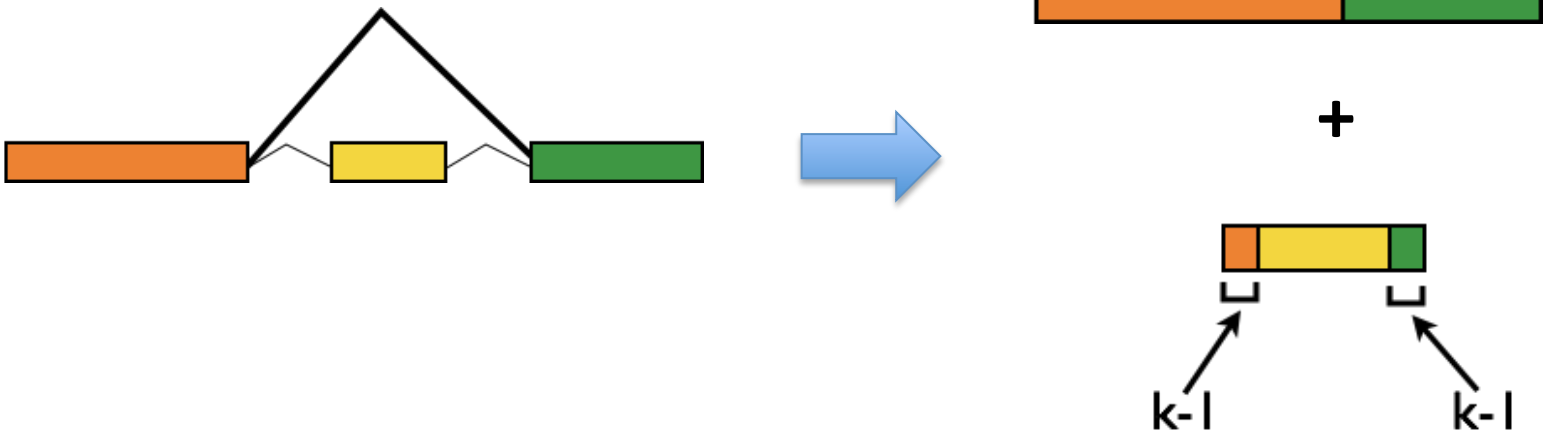
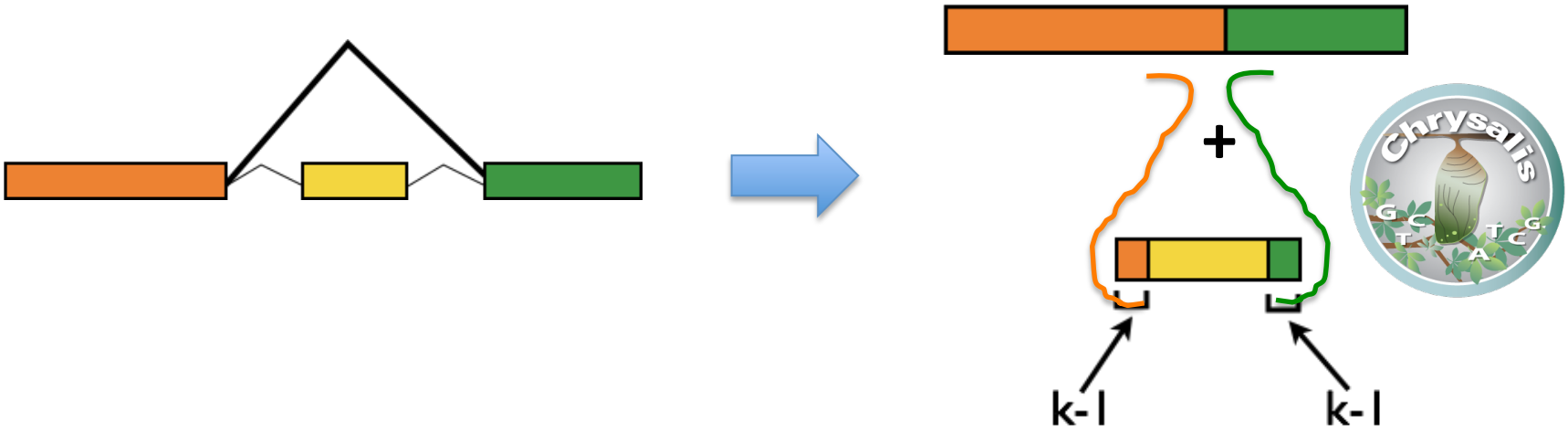


Inchworm Contigs from Alt-Spliced Transcripts



Chrysalis Re-groups Related Inchworm Contigs



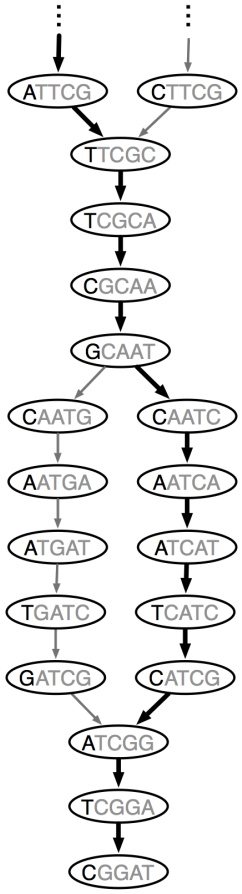
Chrysalis uses (k-1) overlaps and read support to link related Inchworm contigs

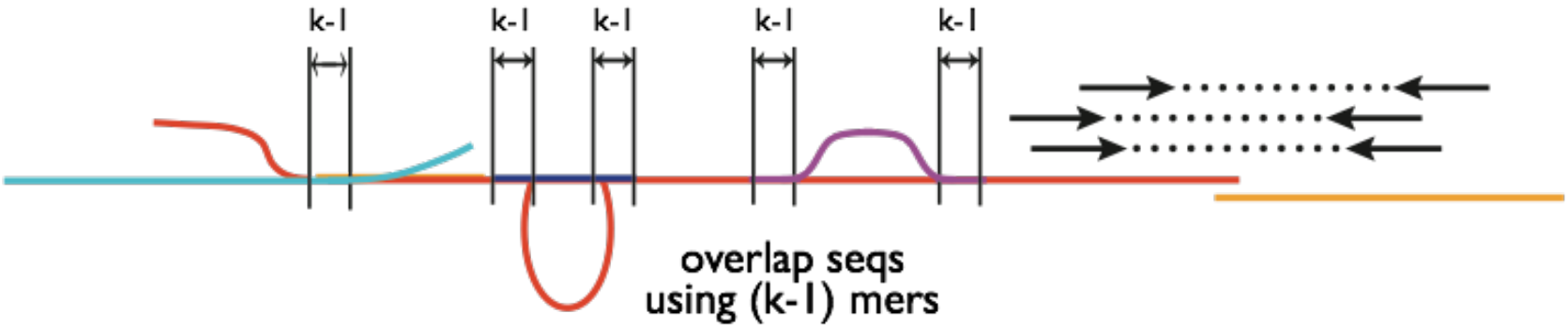
Chrysalis

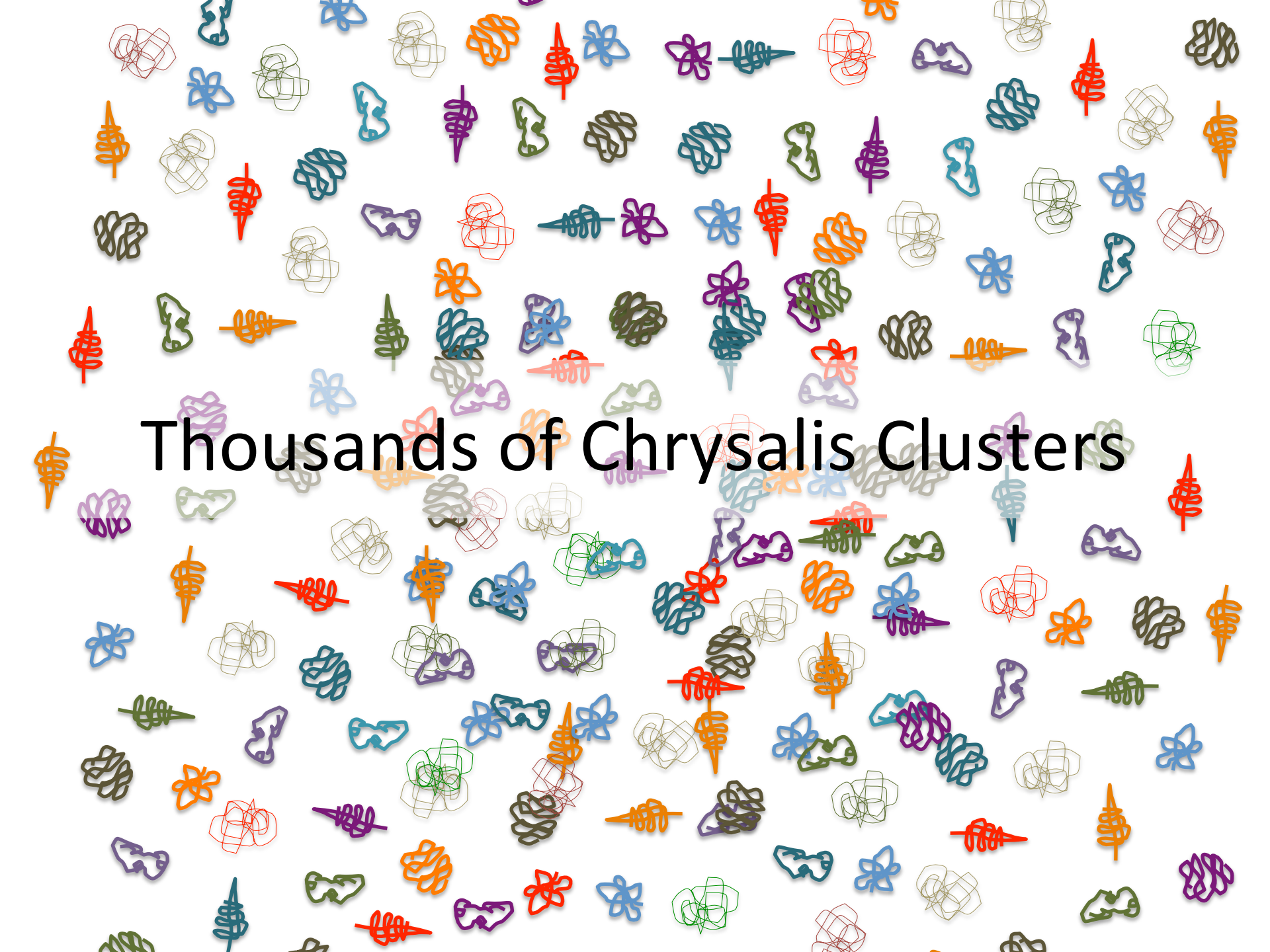
>a121:len=5845
>a122:len=2560
>a123:len=4443
>a124:len=48
>a125:len=8876
>a126:len=66

Integrate isoforms
via k-1 overlaps

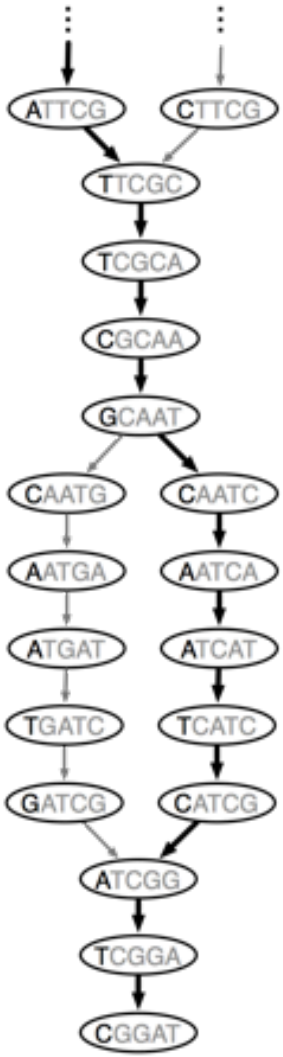
Build de Bruijn Graphs
(ideally, one per gene)





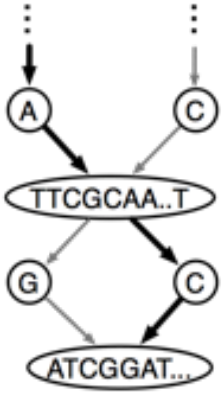

Thousands of Chrysalis Clusters

Butterfly



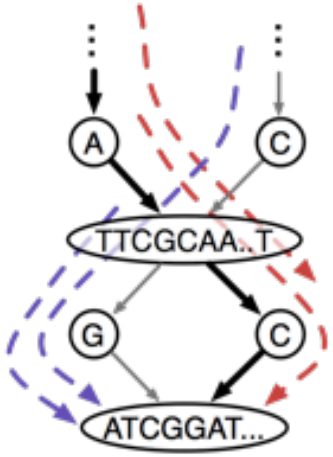
de Bruijn graph

compacting



compact graph

finding paths



compact graph with reads

extracting sequences

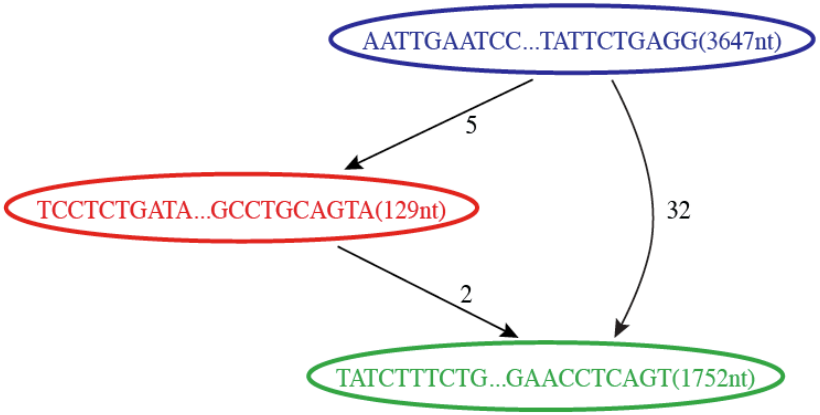
..CTTCGCAA..TGATCGGAT...

..ATTCGCAA..TCATCGGAT...

sequences (isoforms and paralogs)

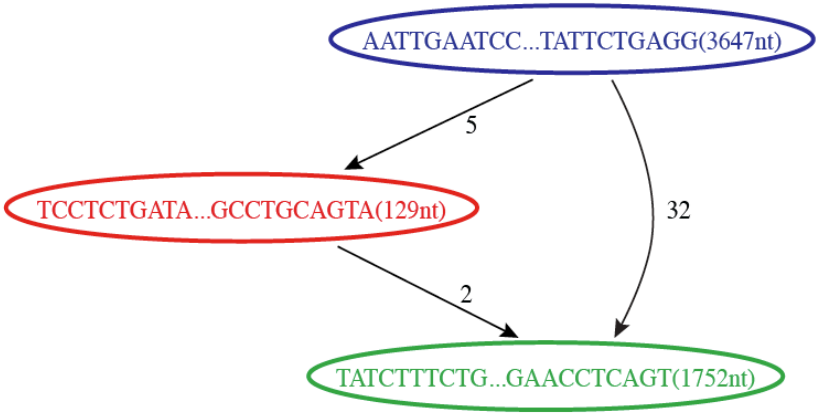
Butterfly Example 1:
Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

Butterfly's Compacted Sequence Graph



Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

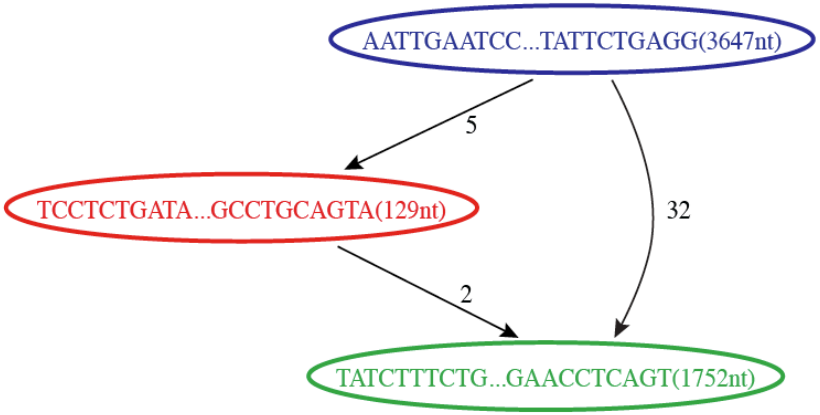
Butterfly's Compacted Sequence Graph



Reconstructed Transcripts

Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

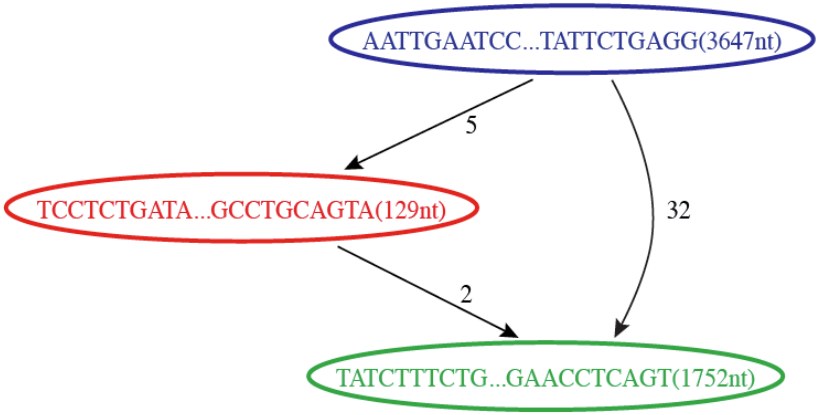
Butterfly's Compacted Sequence Graph



Reconstructed Transcripts

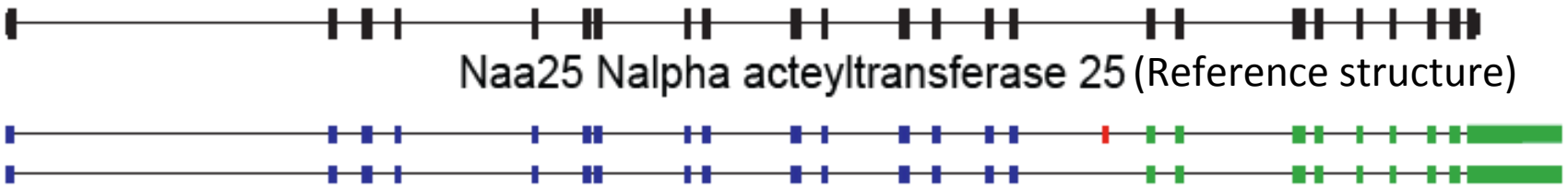
Reconstruction of Alternatively Spliced Transcripts

Butterfly's Compacted Sequence Graph



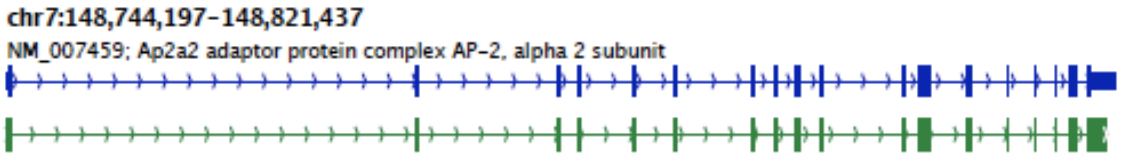
Reconstructed Transcripts

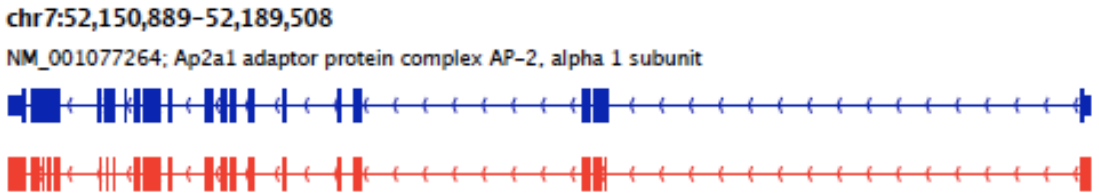
Aligned to Mouse Genome



Butterfly Example 2:
Teasing Apart Transcripts of Paralogous Genes

Teasing Apart Transcripts of Paralogous Genes





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 |

BROAD INSTITUTE

Comprehensive comparative analysis of strand-specific RNA sequencing methods

Joshua Z Levin[1,6], Moran Yassour[1–3,6], Xian Adiconis[1], Chad Nusbaum[1], Dawn Anne Thompson[1], Nir Friedman[3,4], Andreas Gnirke[1] & Aviv Regev[1,2,5]

Strand-specific, massively parallel cDNA sequencing (RNA-seq) is a powerful tool for transcript discovery, genome annotation

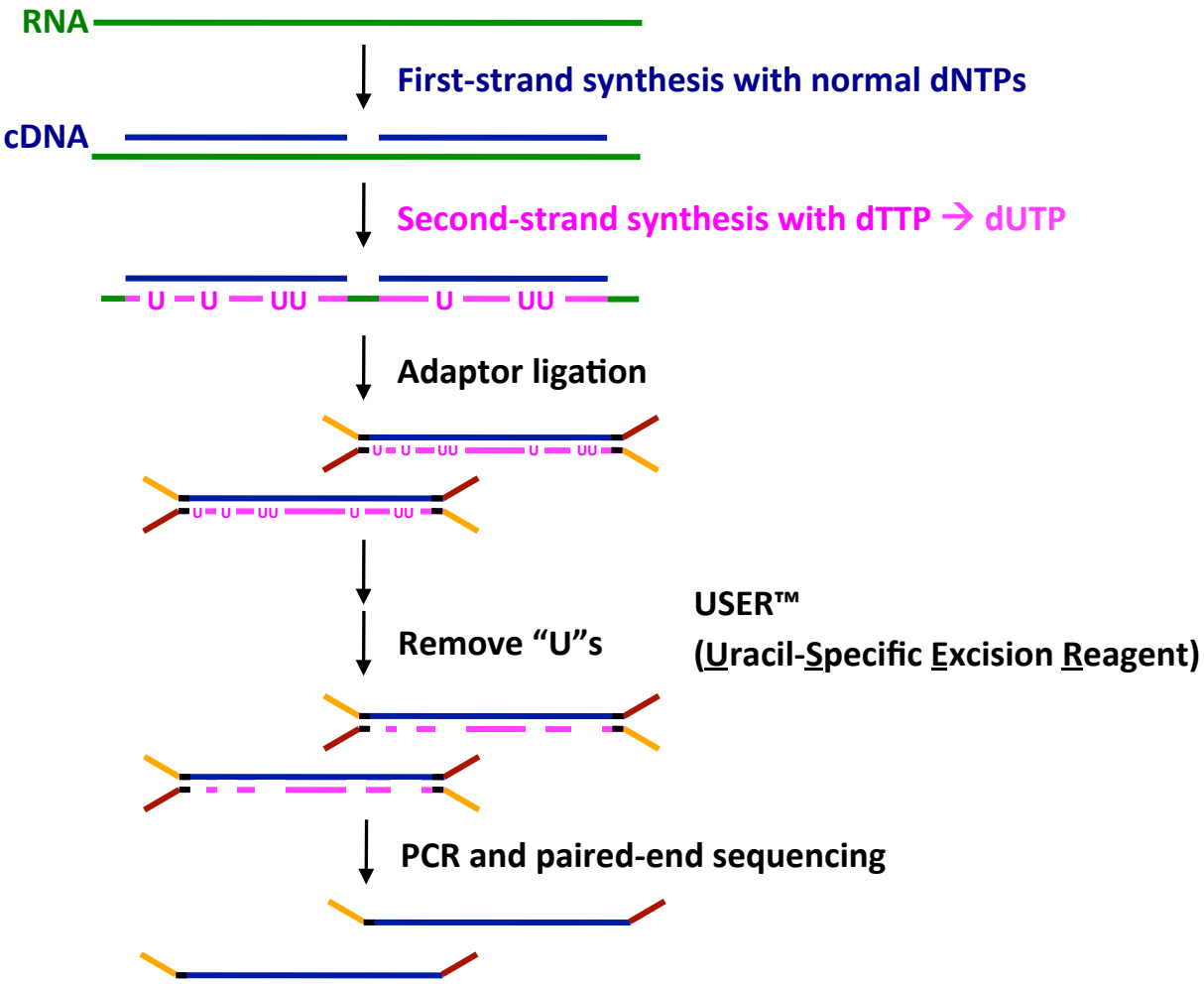
'dUTP second strand marking' identified as the leading protocol

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

Nevertheless, direct information on the originating strand can substantially enhance the value of an RNA-seq experiment. For

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

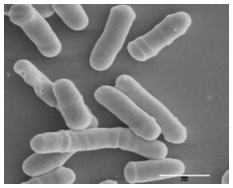
dUTP 2nd Strand Method: Our Favorite



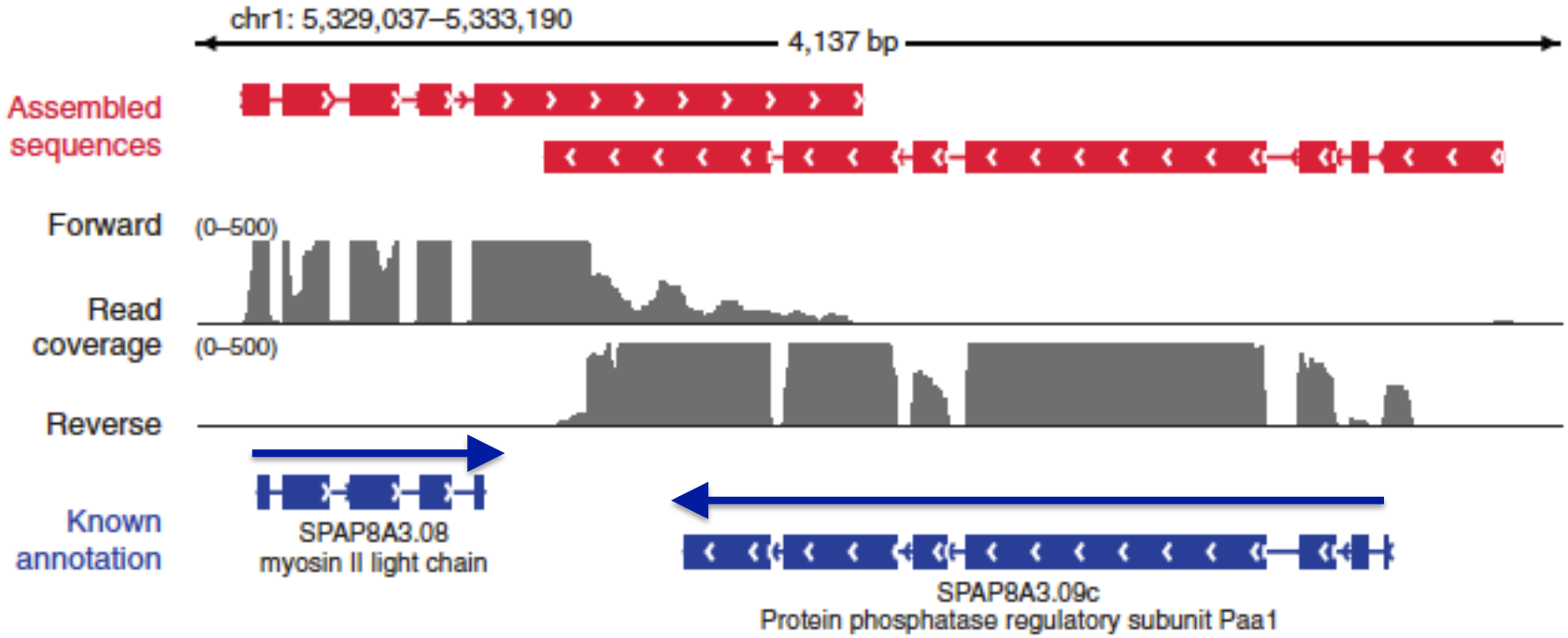
Modified from Parkhomchuk *et al.* (2009) *Nucleic Acids Res.* 37:e123

Slide courtesy of Joshua Levin, Broad Institute.

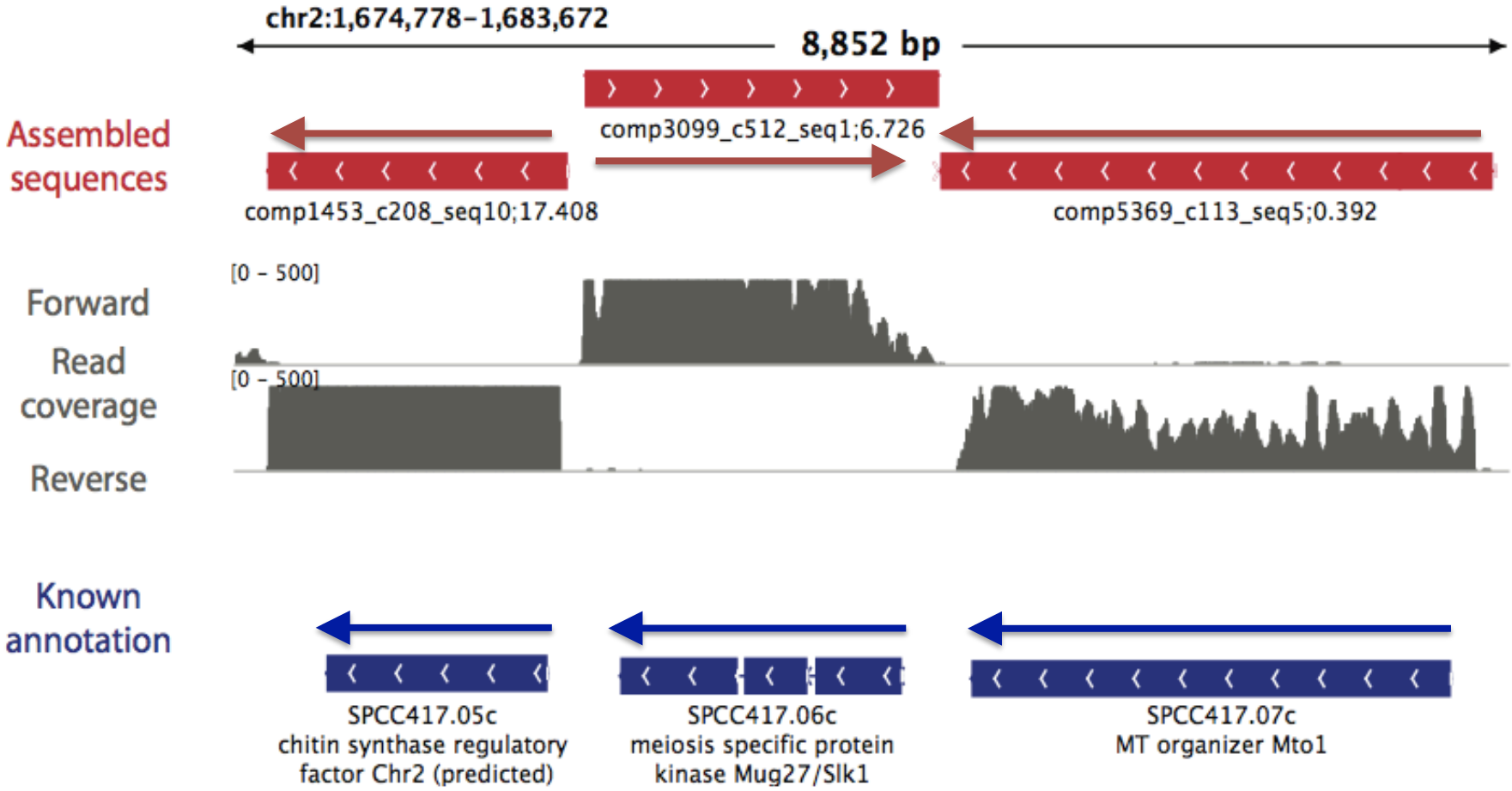
Overlapping UTRs from Opposite Strands

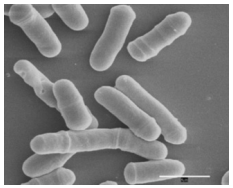


Schizosacharomyces pombe
(fission yeast)



Antisense-dominated Transcription





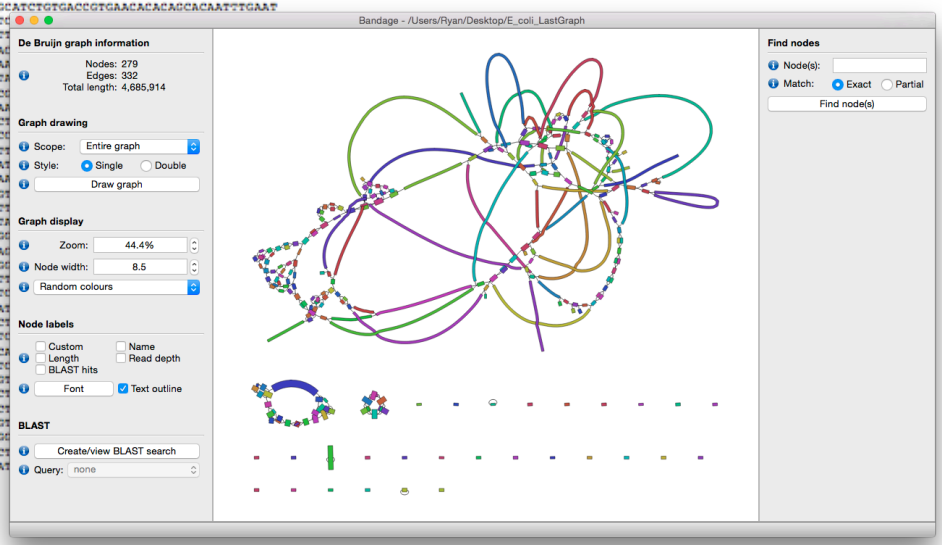
Trinity output: A multi-fasta file

>comp0_c0_seq1 len=5528 path=[1:0-3646 10775:3647-3775 3648:3776-5527]

>comp0_c0_seq2 len=5399 path=[1:0-3646 3648:3647-5398]

Can visualize using Bandage

https://rrwick.github.io/Bandage/



- Trinity assembly practical