# LARGE SCALE ANALYSIS OF GENE EXPRESSION

**Evolution and Revolution** 



Current Topics in Genome Analysis 2012

Paul Meltzer

No Relevant Financial Relationships with Commercial Interests

## AFTER THE SEQUENCE: WHOLE GENOME APPROACHES TO BIOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

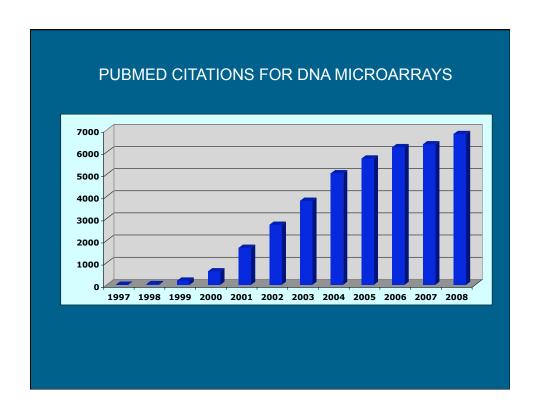
GENE EXPRESSION
GENE VARIATION
GENE FUNCTION

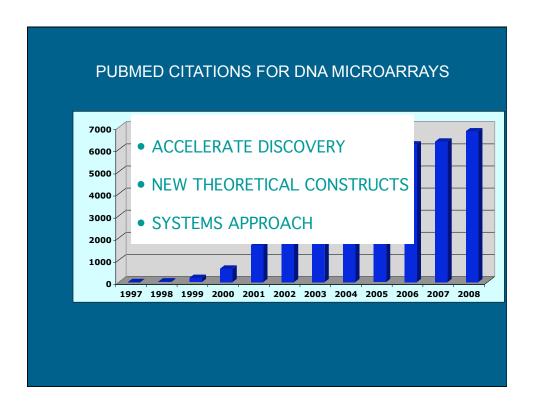
## MICROARRAYS PROVIDE A TOOL FOR WHOLE GENOME ANALYSIS

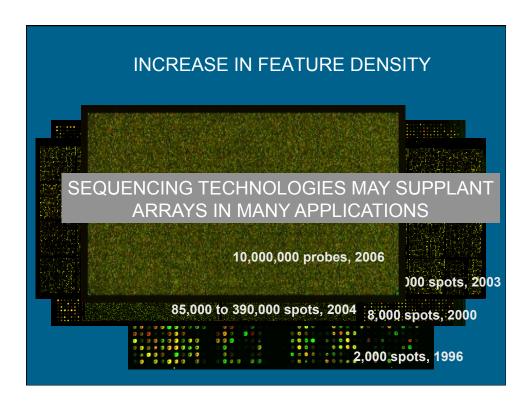
PRIMARY IMPACT:

ACCELERATED DISCOVERY AND

HYPOTHESIS GENERATION







#### **MICROARRAY TERMINOLOGY**

- Feature--an array element
- Probe--a feature corresponding to a defined sequence
- Target--a pool of nucleic acids of unknown sequence

#### **POSSIBLE ARRAY FEATURES**

- Synthetic Oligonucleotides
- PCR products from Cloned DNAs
   Genomic DNA
  - Cloned DNA

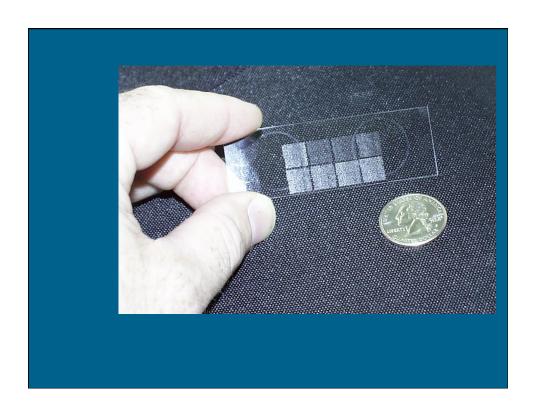
#### **OLIGONUCLEOTIDE ARRAY DESIGN**

- Extremely flexible
  - · 3' bias
  - · full length
  - exon specific
  - candidate transcripts
  - miRNAs
- · Very high density possible
- Requires sequence data

#### **Microarray Manufacture**

Printing



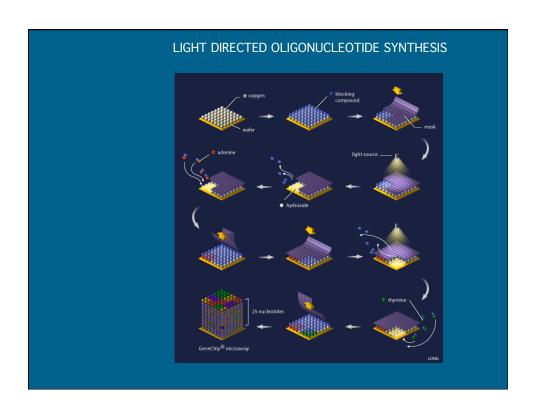


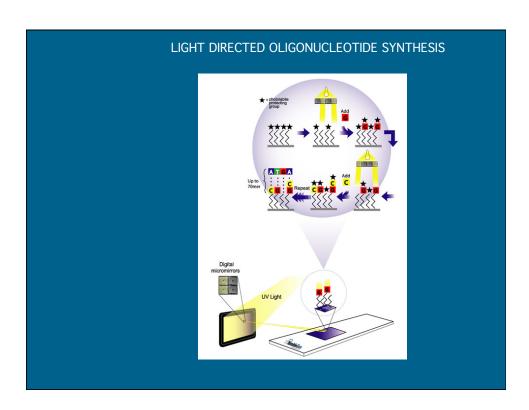
#### **Microarray Manufacture**

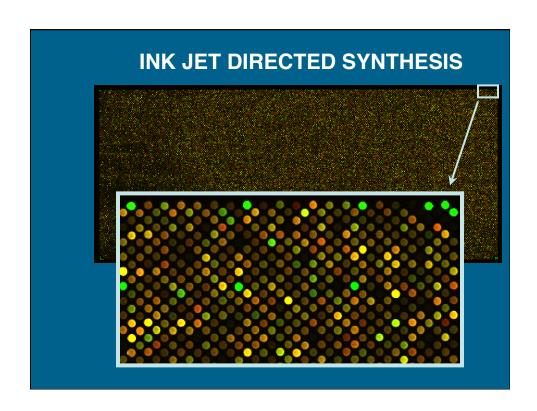
- Printing
- Synthesis in situ

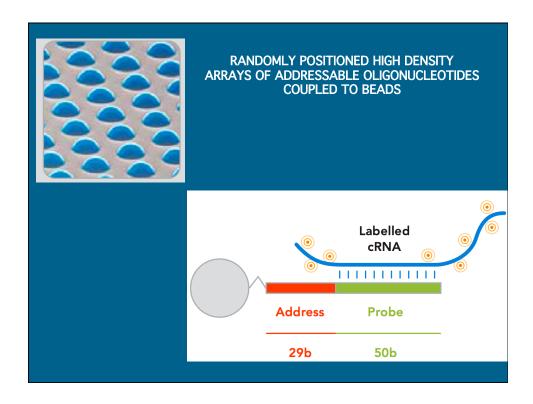
  light directed

  mechanically directed









#### **MICROARRAY READOUT**

- Determine quantity of target bound to each probe in a complex hybridization
- Must have high sensitivity, low background
- ·High spatial resolution essential
- Dual channel capability useful
- •Fluorescent tags meet these demands

#### **Building Microarrays**

- Methods are applicable to any organism
- Sequenced organisms: oligonucleotides
- Unsequenced organisms: cloned DNAs

#### **Building Microarrays**

- Density depends on specific technology
- Pin printing based methods limited to 40-50K
  - In situ synthesis/bead arrays: millions
    - Array design is linked to purpose.

#### **Laboratory Essentials**

- Arrays
- Hybridization and Wash Equipment
  - Scanner
- Software for processing array image
- Software for data analysis and display
  - Bioinformatics collaborator

#### **DNA Microarray Applications**

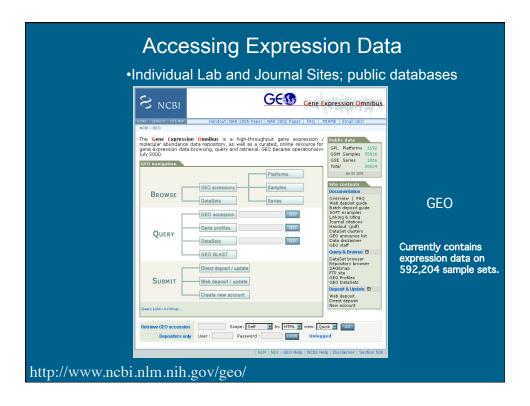
- Gene Expression
- Comparative Genomic Hybridization
- Resequencing (SNPs)
- Transcription factor localization
- Chromatin/DNA modification

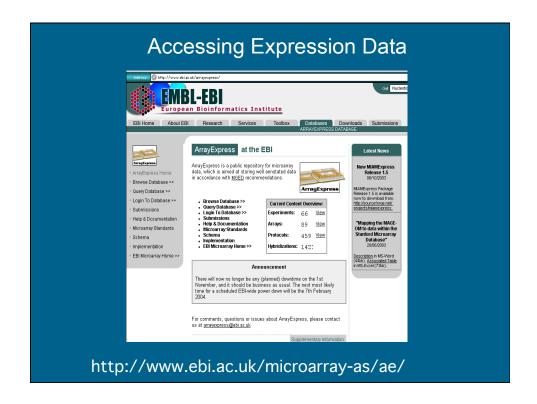


Reports on Microarray Data Quality

Nature Biotechnology

September 2006





#### **Publishing Expression Data**

•MIAME standard

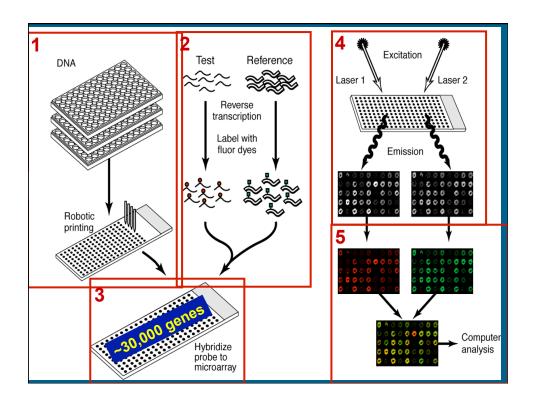
Minimum Information about a Microarray Experiment

- Format required by many journals
- Essential for database submissions

http://www.mged.org/Workgroups/MIAME/miame.html

## STRATEGIES FOR SIGNAL GENERATION FROM mRNA

- Fluorochrome conjugated cDNA
- Ligand substituted nucleotides with secondary detection (e.g. biotin-streptavidin)
- Radioactivity
- RNA amplification





#### **Output of Microarray Analysis:**

expression ratio (2 color hybridization)

or

relative expression level (1 color hybridization)

Both types of data can be analyzed with essentially the same tools.

## APPLICATIONS OF EXPRESSION ARRAYS

Expression profiling

Power arises from increasing sample number

Direct comparisons (Induction)

**Biological system critical** 

Genome Annotation

#### A RECURRING PROBLEM **Disease Genes Transcription** factors **Downstream** Genes Hormones/growth factors Direct targets **Drugs** Indirect targets **Toxins** Infectious agents **Physical agents** siRNA's

#### **EXPRESSION DATA ANALYSIS**

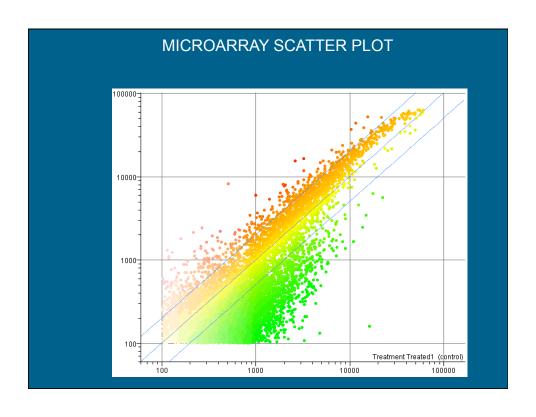
·Large amount of data

Examples: 200 samples x 25000 probes= 5,000,000 data points

Requires analysis and visualization tools

Overview of microarray bioinformatics: Simon R, Curr Opin Biotechnol. 2008 Feb;19(1):26-9.

# • Check quality of individual experiments • Preprocessing Normalization Remove genes which are not accurately measured Remove genes which are similarly expressed in all samples • Unsupervised Clustering • Supervised Clustering



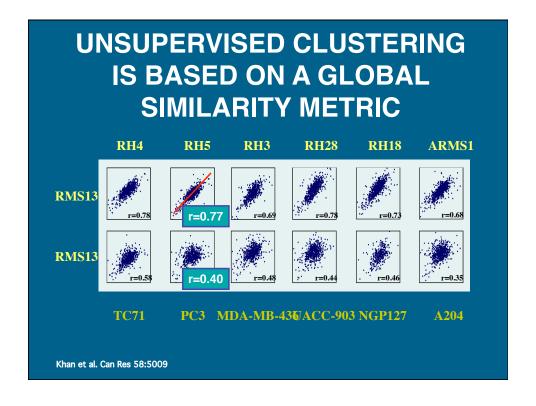
#### **Unsupervised Clustering**

How do genes and samples organize into groups?

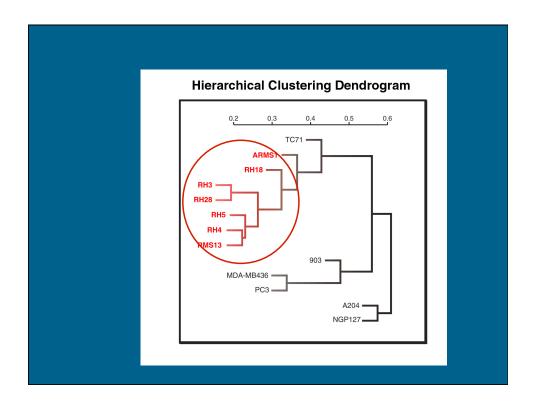
Powerful method of data display.

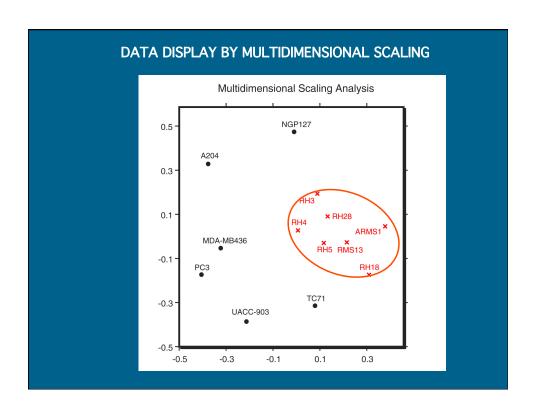
Does <u>not</u> prove the validity of groups.

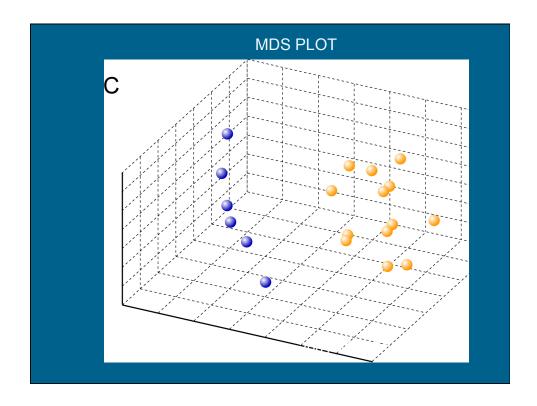
- Clustered Samples Are Biologically Similar
  - Clusters of Co-expressed genes
    - May be functionally related
    - May be enriched for pathways

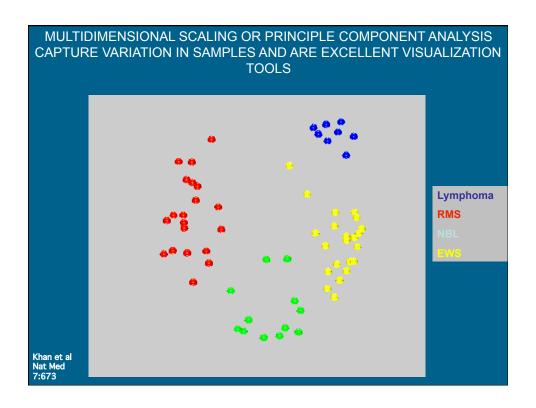


		Dis	sta	nc	e Ma	ap			
	H4   RH5   RMS13				1 1			MDA-MB-436	!
	506 0.726 0.683				0.39	0.498	0.426	0.417	0.314
		0.606		0.444	_	0.566	0.391	0.452	0.403
R	H4 0.771; 0.778;			0.441	0.486	0.558	0.488	0.555	0.476
	RH5 0.769			0.37	0.486	0.607	0.43	0.532	0.447
	RMS13			0.35	0.463	0.582	0.446	0.475	0.404
		RH18			0.281	0.549	0.389	0.405	0.36
			RH28	0.417		0.644	0.479	0.478	0.42
				A204	0.426	0.361	0.398	0.368	0.377
					NGP127	0.352 TC71	0.241	0.371	0.368
						10/1	UACC-903	0.456	0.472
							UACC-903		
								MDA-MB-436	0.662



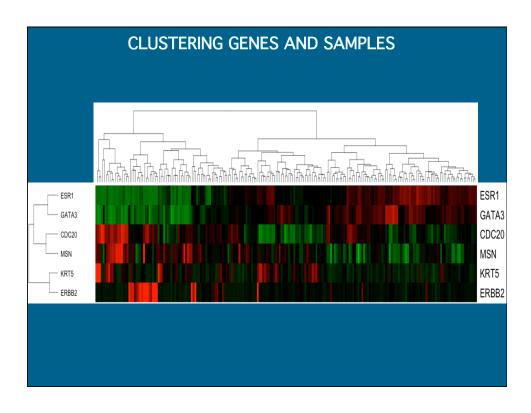


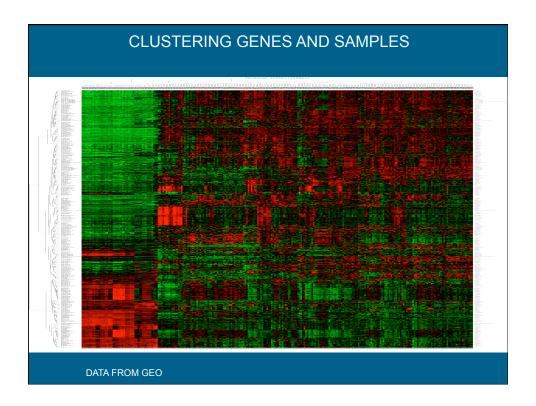








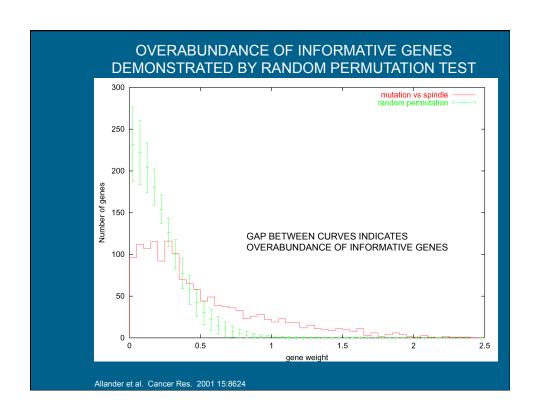




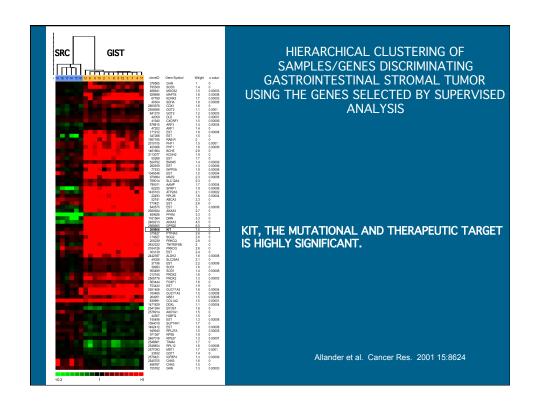
#### **Supervised Clustering**

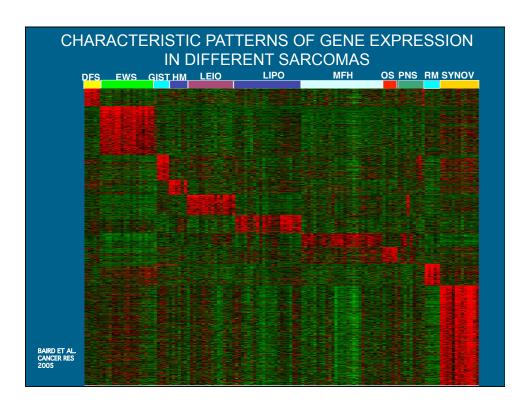
What genes distinguish samples in selected groups from each other?

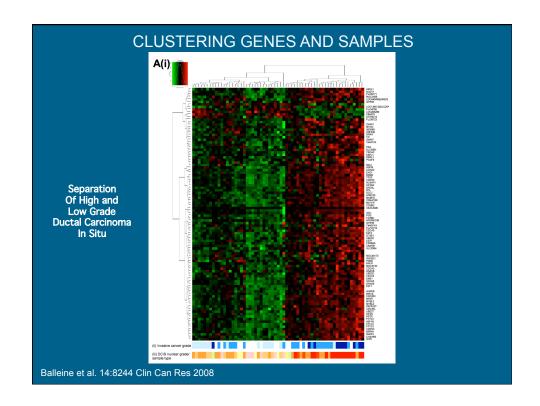
- Choice of groups can be based on any known property of the samples.
  - Many possible underlying methods: t-test or F-statistic frequently used.
    - Output includes ranked gene list.
- Leads to the development of classifiers which can be applied to unknown samples.
- Must address the problem of false discovery due to multiple comparisons and discrepancy between sample/gene numbers.

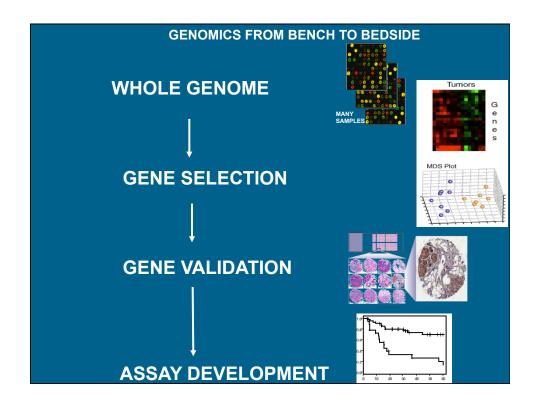


SUPI	ERVISED METH	IODS GENERATE RANKED GENE LISTS						
	TOP DISCRIMINATORS FOR GIST							
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	4.60057 4.51681 3.33057 3.31734 2.95095	Gene Description v-kit sarcoma oncogene G coupled receptor 20 G coupled receptor 20 annexin A3 KIAA0353 protein phosphofructokinase DKFZP434N161 n protein kinase C, theta butyrylcholinesterase annexin A3						



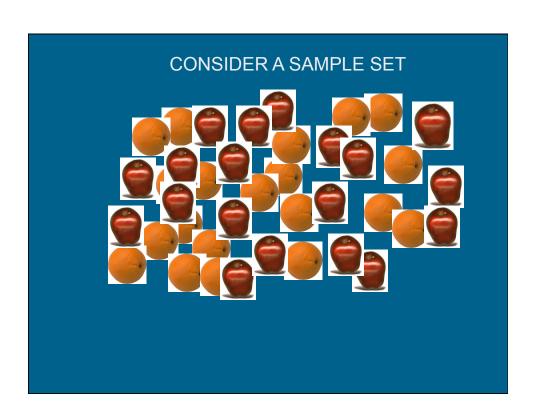


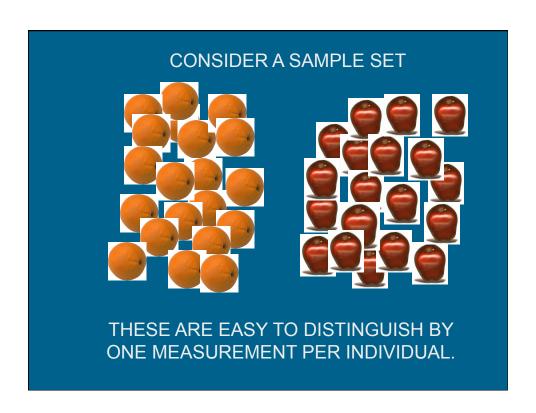


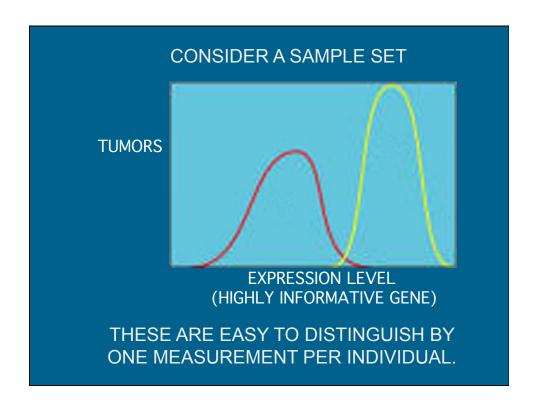


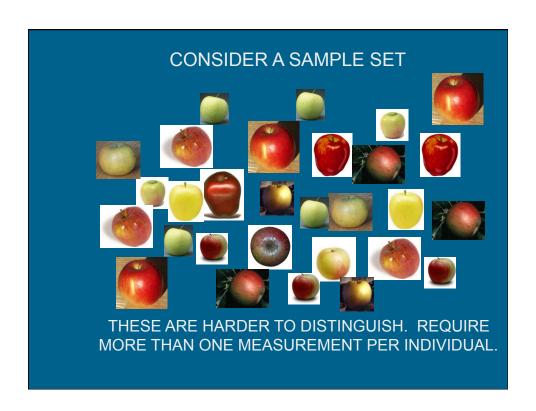
## SIGNAL STRENGTH VARIES IN TISSUE PROFILING EXPERIMENTS

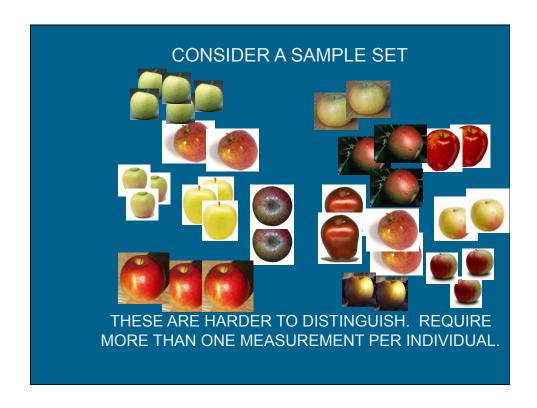
THE MOST INTERESTING QUESTIONS TEND TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH WEAKER SIGNAL.

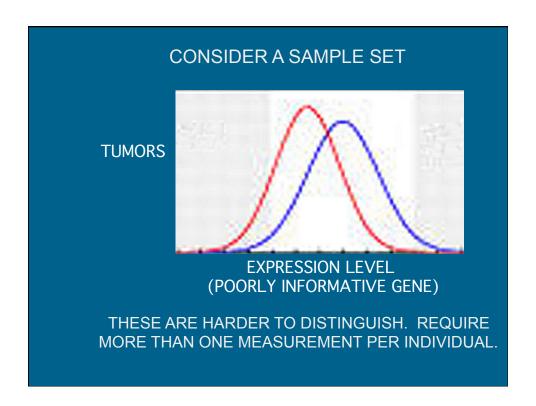












## WE CAN TELL APPLES FROM ORANGES.

CAN WE DISTINGUISH DIFFERENT KINDS OF APPLES?

#### A CONTINUUM OF POSSIBLE OUTCOMES FROM MICROARRAY RESEARCH

- SOME FEATURES WILL SEPARATE TUMORS EASILY INTO CLASSES, AND MIGHT BE REDUCED TO SINGLE GENE TESTS, IMPLEMENTED IN A CONVENTIONAL FASHION.
- OTHERS WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT, AND REQUIRE MULTIPLE GENE MEASUREMENTS.
- MANY CLINICALLY RELEVANT FEATURES APPEAR TO FALL WITHIN THIS DIFFICULT GROUP.

### A CONTINUUM OF POSSIBLE OUTCOMES FROM MICROARRAY RESEARCH

- SOME GENES WILL SHOW DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GROUPS OF SAMPLES BY CHANCE ALONE.
- THERE MAY BE NO ONE GENE WHICH SEPARATES GROUPS RELIABLY.
- FIND THE MOST INFORMATIVE GENES AND USE THEM IN COMBINATION .

## RISK OF OVERFITTING IN CLINICAL STUDIES WITH SMALL SAMPLE SETS

NEED INDEPENDENT VALIDATION SETS.

J Natl Cancer Inst. 2007 Jan 17;99(2):147-57. Critical review of published microarray studies for cancer outcome and guidelines on statistical analysis and reporting. Dupuy A, Simon RM.

BACKGROUND: Both the validity and the reproducibility of microarray-based clinical research have been challenged. There is a need for critical review of the statistical analysis and reporting in published microarray studies that focus on cancer-related clinical outcomes. METHODS: Studies published through 2004 in which microarray-based gene expression profiles were analyzed for their relation to a clinical cancer outcome were identified through a Medline search followed by hand screening of abstracts and full text articles. Studies that were eligible for our analysis addressed one or more outcomes that were either an event occurring during follow-up, such as death or relapse, or a therapeutic response. We recorded descriptive characteristics for all the selected studies. A critical review of outcome-related statistical analyses was undertaken for the articles published in 2004. RESULTS: Ninety studies were identified, and their descriptive characteristics are presented. Sixty-eight (76%) were published in journals of impact factor greater than 6. A detailed account of the 42 studies (47%) published in 2004 is reported. Twenty-one (50%) of them contained at least one of the following three basic flaws: 1) in outcome-related gene finding, an unstated, unclear, or inadequate control for multiple testing; 2) in class discovery, a spurious claim of correlation between clusters and clinical outcome, made after clustering samples using a selection of outcome-related differentially expressed genes; or 3) in supervised prediction, a biased estimation of the prediction accuracy through an incorrect cross-validation procedure. CONCLUSIONS: The most common and serious mistakes and misunderstandings recorded in published studies are described and illustrated. Based on this analysis, a proposal of guidelines for statistical analysis and reporting for clinical microarray studies, presented as a checklist of "Do's and Don'ts," is provided.

## MICROARRAY STUDIES GENERATE ORGANIZED LIST OF GENES

- Often cryptic and hard to interpret.
- Hypothesis generating, but this is often rather subjective.
- Seldom provide strong evidence for a specific mechanism.
- Expression data is intrinsically limited.

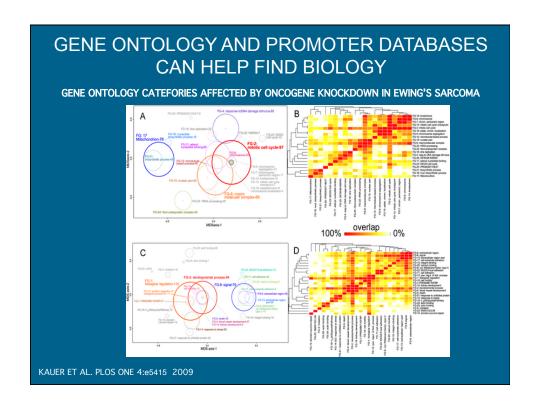
#### **GETTING BEYOND GENE LISTS**

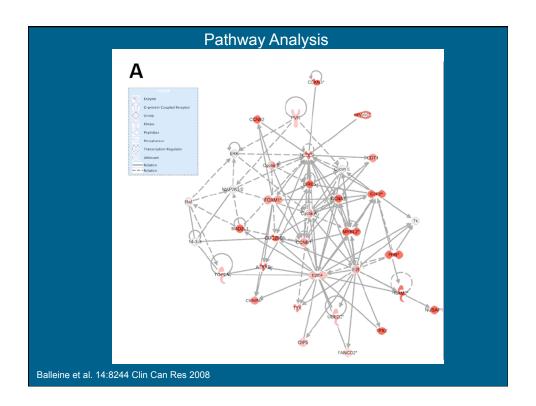
- Optimal use of gene annotations.
  - Gene Ontology

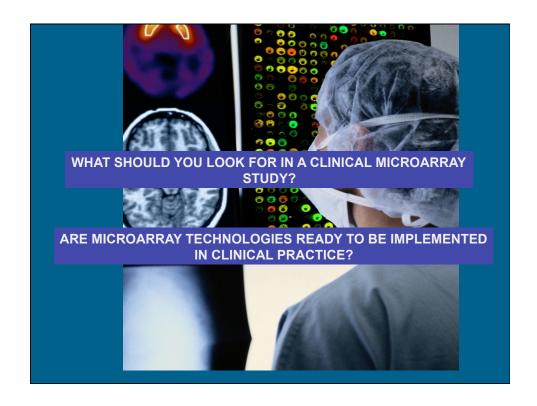
(http://david.abcc.ncifcrf.gov/)

- Optimizing use of public data.
  - · GEO, ARRAY EXPRESS, ACADEMIC DATA
  - GENE SIGNATURE BASED METHODS (Gene Set Enrichment Analysis).









# WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN CLINICAL CORRELATIVE STUDIES USING MICROARRAYS

- WELL DEFINED QUESTION AND PATIENT SAMPLE.
- HIGH QUALITY ARRAY MEASUREMENTS (HARD TO ASSESS WITHOUT REFERENCE TO PRIMARY DATA---SHOULD BE MADE PUBLIC).
- APPROPRIATE AND RIGOROUS STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF ARRAY DATA.
- FORMAL CLASSIFIER THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO NEW SAMPLES.
- VALIDATION SAMPLE SET.

# WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN CLINICAL CORRELATIVE STUDIES USING MICROARRAYS

• GOAL SHOULD BE TO SEEK AND VALIDATE CLINICALLY RELEVANT SIGNATURES WITHIN DEFINED PATIENT GROUPS FOR WHICH NO CURRENT FEATURES ADEQUATELY ANSWER THE CLINICAL QUESTION POSED.

#### **EXPRESSION PROFILING IN THE CLINIC?**

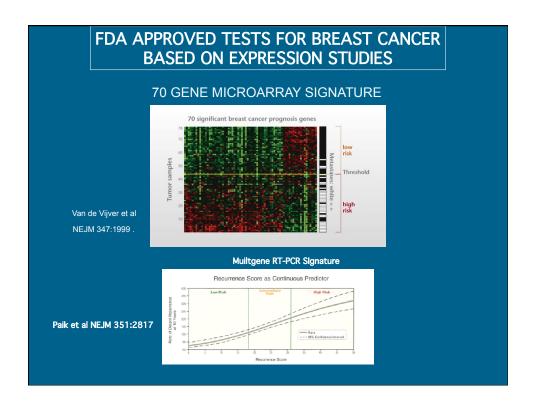
### **PROBLEMS:**

- SPECIALIZED TECHNOLOGY
- RNA IS UNSTABLE
- FROZEN TISSUE NOT PART OF USUAL OR SAMPLE FLOW

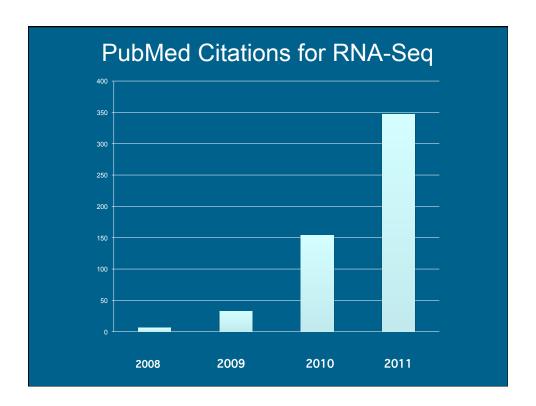
#### **EXPRESSION PROFILING IN THE CLINIC?**

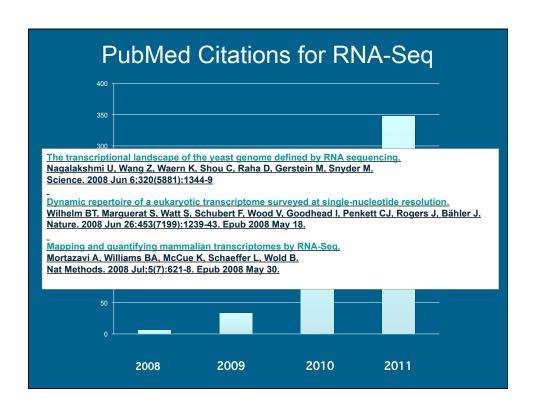
## **OPTIONS:**

- REFERENCE LABORATORIES
- RNA PRESERVATIVES
- USE OF PARAFFIN EMBEDDED MATERIALS.
- •USE ARRAYS FOR DISCOVERY TO EXTRACT SIGNATURES WHICH CAN BE ASSAYED WITH ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.









### ARRAYS VS. NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING

 ARRAY TECHNOLOGIES MEASURE THE RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF NUCLEIC ACIDS OF DEFINED SEQUENCE IN A COMPLEX MIXTURE.

SEQUENCING CAN ACCOMPLISH THE SAME THING.

# ARRAYS VS. NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING

#### **MICROARRAYS**

- READILY AVAILABLE MATURE **TECHNOLOGY**
- RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE
- EFFECTIVE WITH VERY COMPLEX **SAMPLES**
- HUNDREDS OF SAMPLES PRACTICAL
- CAN TARGET SUBSET OF GENOME

# **PROS**

#### CONS

- REQUIRE PLATFORM AND APPLICATION SPECIFIC DATA PROCESSING
- PRONE TO PLATFORM SPECIFIC ARTIFACTS
- MANY SOURCES OF NOISE
- WHOLE GENOME STUDIES GENERALLY REQUIRE MANY ARRAYS, INCREASING SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLICATING ANALYSIS

#### IMMATURE TECHNOLOGY

• TECHNOLOGY SPECIFIC ARTIFACTS

• POSSIBILITY OF ONE PLATFORM

• RESOURCE INTENSIVE

**SEQUENCING** 

**ARTIFACTS** 

WHOLE GENOME DATA

**ANALYTICAL PIPELINE** 

• FREE OF HYBRIDIZATION

FOR ALL APPLICATIONS

• RELATIVELY UNIFORM

- COMPUTATIONALLY INTENSIVENO STANDARD ANALYSIS YET
- LOWER SAMPLE THROUGHPUT

#### **MICROARRAYS**

#### **SEQUENCING**

#### 41

# MEASURING GENE EXPRESSION BY RNA SEQUENCING

#### <u>ADVANTAGES</u>

- RNA SEQUENCE VARIATIONS DETECTED AT SINGLE NUCLEOTIDE RESOLUTION
  - -ALLELE SPECIFIC EXPRESSION
  - -MUTATIONS
  - -RNA EDITING
- RNA STRUCTURE: SPLICING, START SITES, TERMINATION SITES; REARRANGEMENTS
- DETECTED SIGNALS ARE RELATIVELY UNAMBIGUOUS;
   POTENTIAL TO OUTPERFORM MICROARRAY
- DE NOVO ASSEMBLY IS POSSIBLE

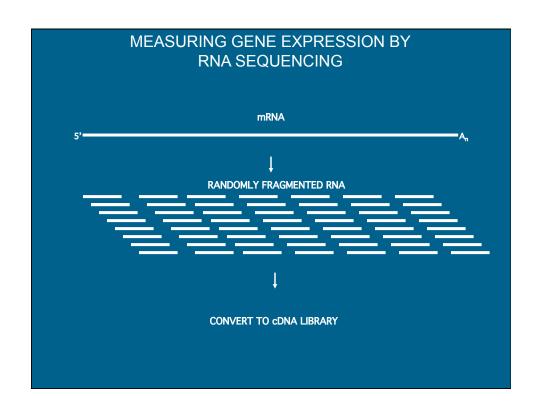
# MEASURING GENE EXPRESSION BY RNA SEQUENCING

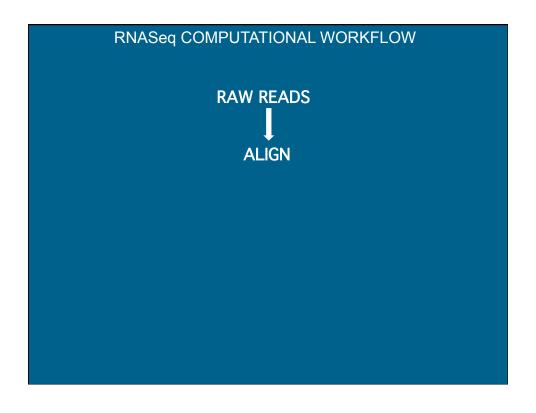
- FULL LENGTH mRNA----RNA-Seq
- TAG SEQUENCING (SAGE-LIKE)
- PolyA vs. Total (ribosomal depleted)
- Strand specific vs. non-strand specific
- miRNA sequencing
- lincRNA sequencing

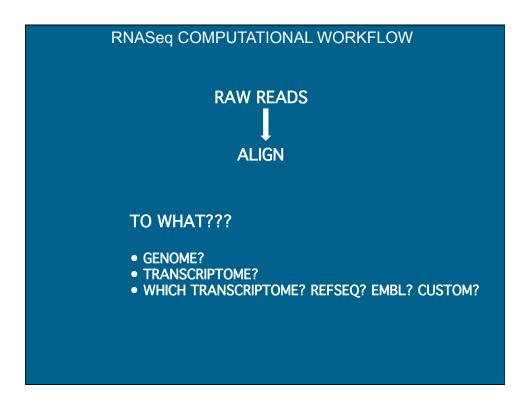
# MEASURING GENE EXPRESSION BY RNA SEQUENCING: PROS AND CONS

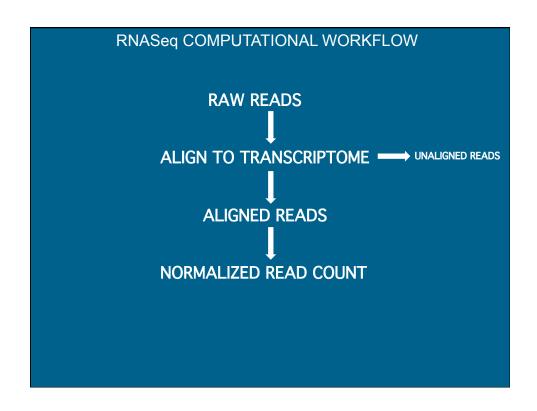
#### **LIMITATIONS**

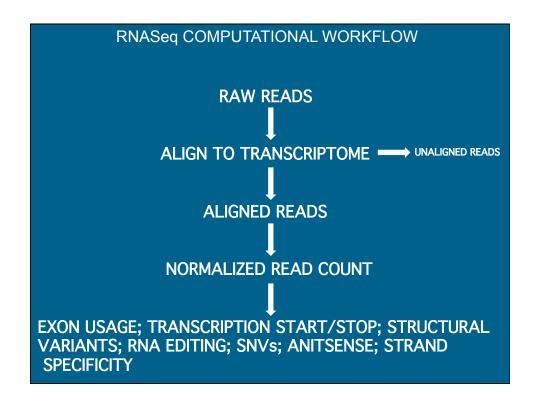
- LOWER LIMIT OF DETECTION IS CONSTRAINED BY THE mRNA ABUNDANCE DISTRIBUTION AND THE NUMBER OF ALIGNED READS PER SAMPLE.
- LARGE SAMPLE NUMBERS DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE, EXCEPT IN TAG MODE.
- SOFTWARE IS STILL DEVELOPMENTAL: REQUIRES SOPHISTICATED BIOINFORMATICS COLLABORATION. [For review see Pepke et al. Nat Methods 6:S22 (2009)]
- COMPUTATIONAL HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS ARE SUBSTANTIAL
- LIBRARY PREP METHODS EVOLVING
- DATA MAY NOT MERGE WELL IF NOT GENERATED WITH THE SAME METHOD

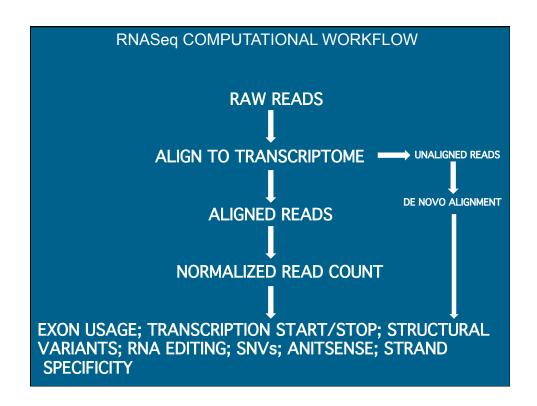


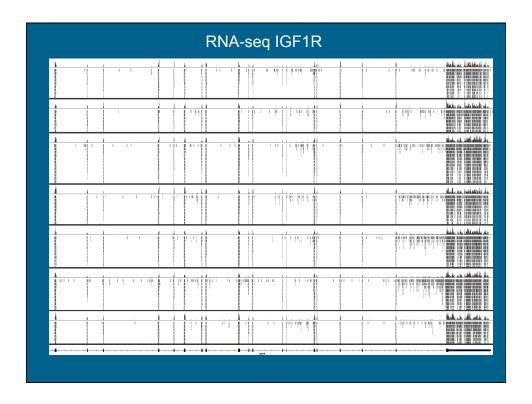


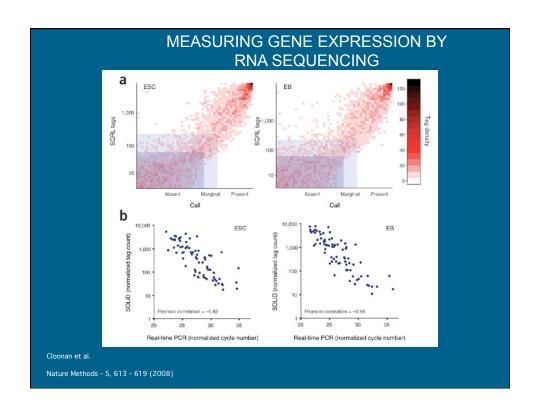


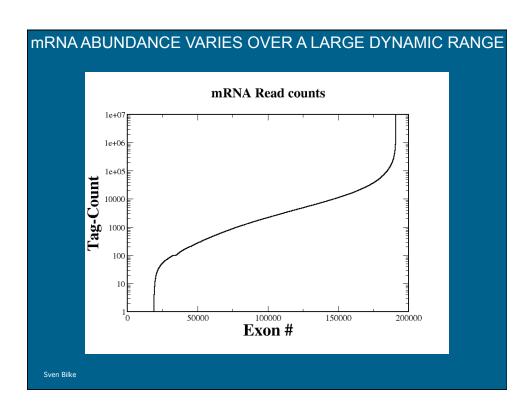


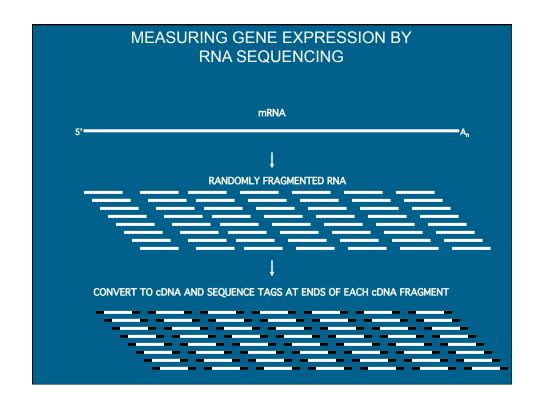


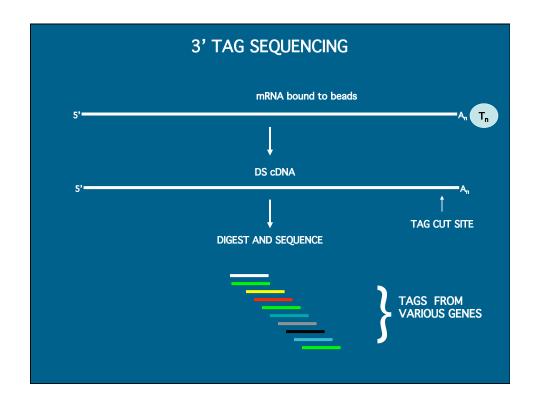












### 3' TAG SEQUENCING

- SEQUENCES ALIGNED AND COUNTED
- LIBRARIES OF TAGS FROM MANY SAMPLES CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY ADDING A "BARCODE" AND POOLED BEFORE SEQUENCING
- POTENTIAL TO ANALYZE LARGE NUMBERS OF SAMPLES IN PARALLEL

# THE FUTURE?

AS SEQUENCE THROUGHPUT INCREASES AND COSTS PER READ DECLINE, SEQUENCING IS LIKELY TO BECOME AN ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO MICROARRAYS IN MORE AND MORE APPLICATIONS.

# **USEFUL WEB SITES** MGEGD The Microarray Gene Expression Data Society: http://www.mged.org/ NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus: http://ncbi.nih.gov/geo/ NCBI Sequence Read Archive (SRA): http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra EBI Microarray informatics: http://www.ebi.ac.uk/microarray/index.html Stanford Microarray Database: http://smd.stanford.edu/ UCSF DeRisi lab: http://derisilab.ucsf.edu/data/microarray/index.html Broad Institute: Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) Connectivity Map: http://www.broadinstitute.org/cmap/