

GeneSpot

A portal for interactive gene-centric
exploration of The Cancer Genome Atlas

Brady Bernard & Hector Rovira

Shmulevich and Zhang TCGA GDAC

Motivation

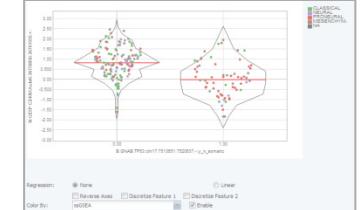
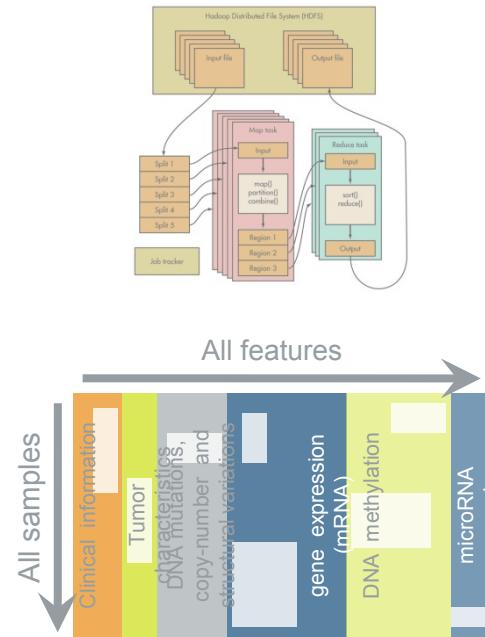
- For a given gene, for any TCGA tumor type:
 - What is the mutation profile?
 - Are there significant copy number aberrations?
 - What are the data-derived statistical associations?
 - What would a plot of Gene A and Gene B look like?

Motivation

- For a given gene, for any TCGA tumor type:
 - What is the mutation profile?
 - Are there significant copy number aberrations?
 - What are the data-derived statistical associations?
 - What would a plot of Gene A and Gene B look like?
- Such gene-centric questions are not trivial in practice
 - Data repositories are largely organized in a sample-centric or tumor-centric manner

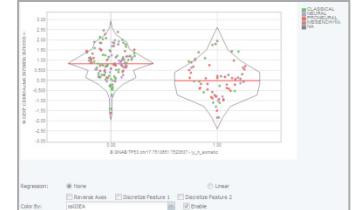
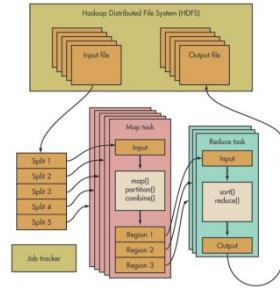
Typical Workflow

- Download all data
 - TCGA Data Portal or Broad Firehose
- Parse and process data
 - e.g., parse MAGE-TAB SDRF to determine Level_3 file mappings, relate features with genomic coordinates to genes
- Merge all data and extract features associated with gene(s) of interest
 - e.g., retain all TP53 associated columns
- Analyze and create figures
 - R, Excel



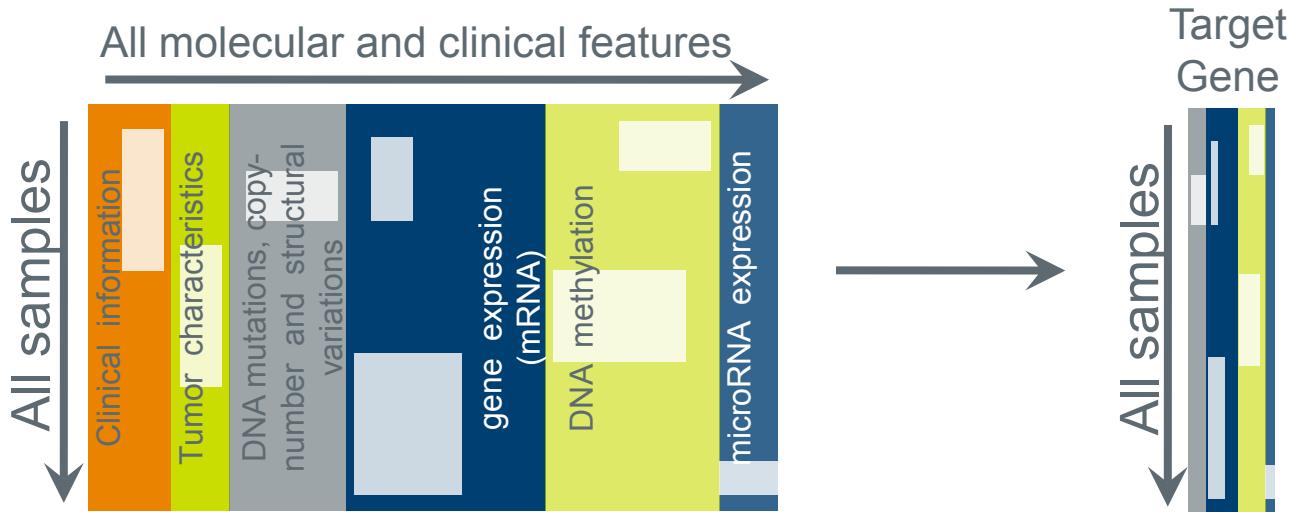
Typical Workflow

- Download all data
 - TCGA Data Portal or Broad Firehose
- Parse and process data
 - e.g., parse MAGE-TAB SDRF to determine Level_3 file mappings, relate features with genomic coordinates to genes
- Merge all data and extract features associated with gene(s) of interest
 - e.g., retain all TP53 associated columns
- Analyze and create figures
 - R, Excel



Challenges

- Data required for gene-centric analysis
 - ~ 500k data points per biological sample
 - ~ 10k samples across all tumor types
 - ~ 5 billion data points
 - ~ 200 Gb data
- Significant time, resources, and expertise required
- Only thousands of data points needed for gene-centric analysis

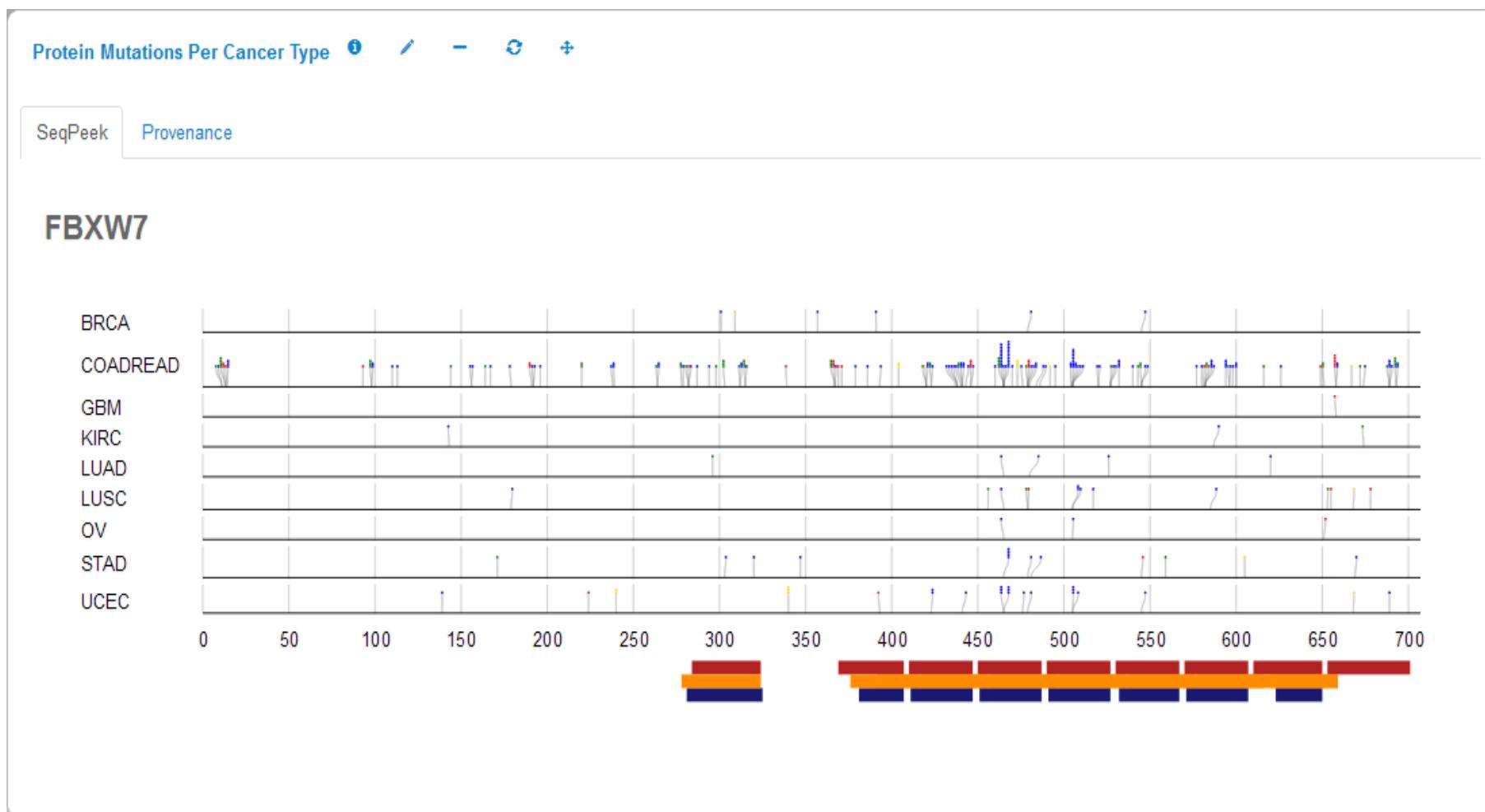


GeneSpot Approach

- Interactive Web Portal
 - Gene or gene sets are specified and explored
 - No need to download data or install software
- Controllable Canvas
 - Numerous gene-centric views available
 - Views can be moved, expanded, minimized, removed from the canvas
- Sessions
 - The state of the exploration can be saved and shared, enabling collaboration and retrieval of several gene-centric views
- Direct Data Access
 - Data table downloads allow direct gene-centric access to mirrored data repositories

Example Views

FBXW7 Mutations



Example Views

FBXW7 Mutations



Example Views

Significant copy number aberrations

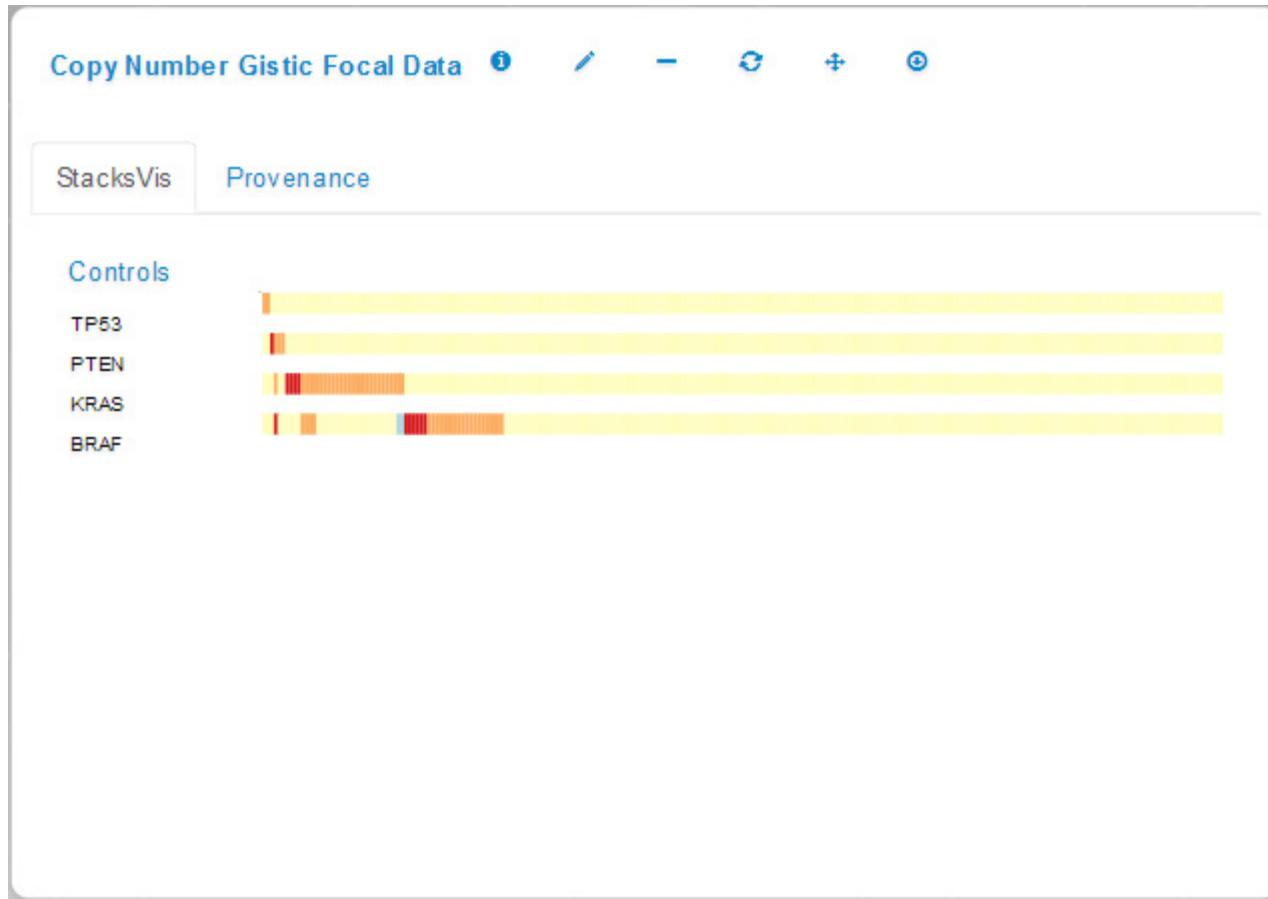
Copy Number Gistic Significance

Q-Values Provenance

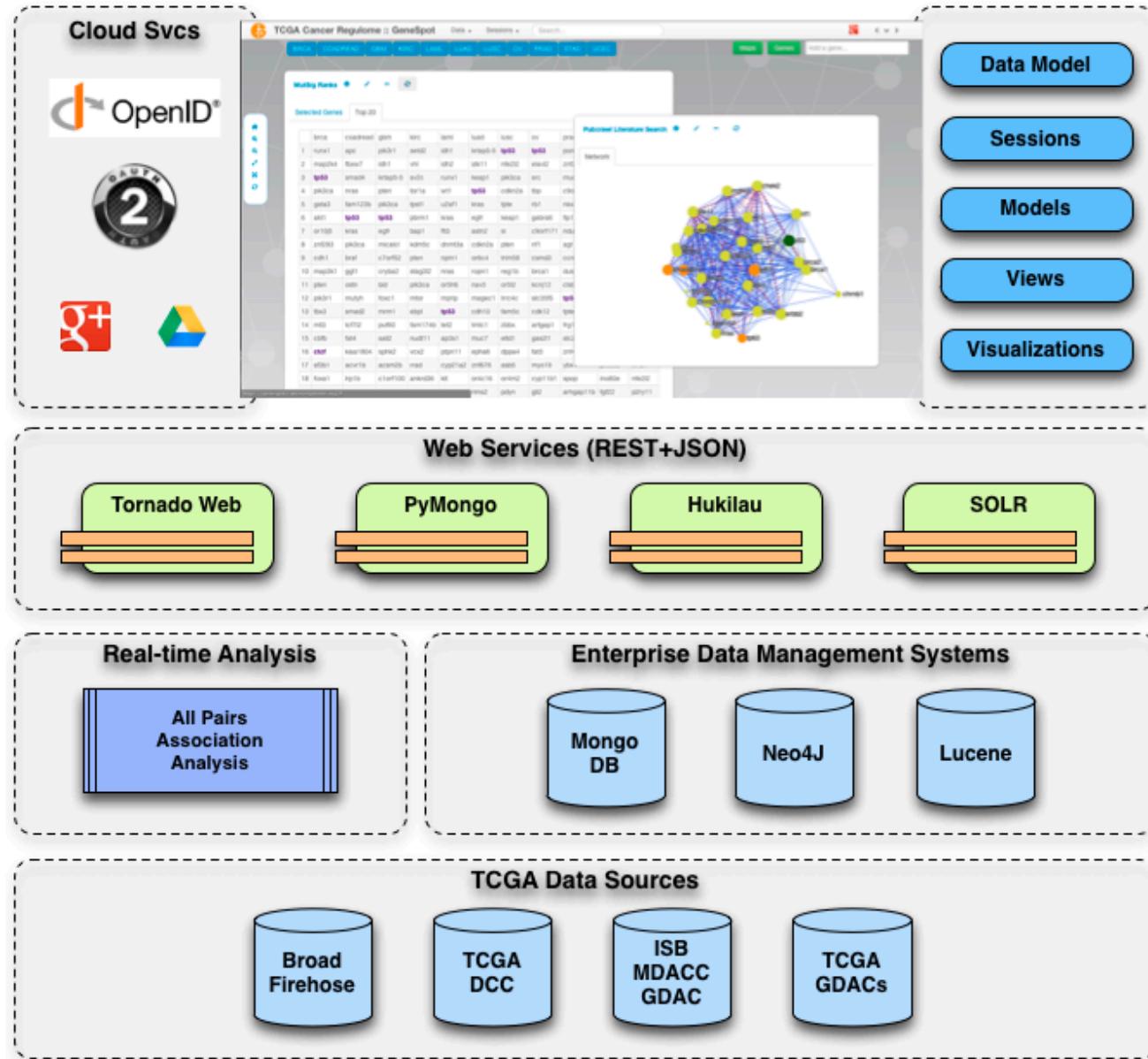
cancer	q_value	gene	type
luad	4.0686e-7	kras	amp
ov	1.96e-11	kras	amp
stad	2.2011e-8	kras	amp
ucec	0.073078	kras	amp
gbm	6.5477e-8	tp53	del
luad	0.022022	tp53	del
prad	0.000011315	tp53	del

Example Views

Focal copy Number



Software Architecture



Future Directions & Integration

- Additional views
 - Integration with other analyses and views developed by TCGA community
- Role of target gene(s) in context of pathways
- Further integration with Google cloud services
- Provide deep links to share URLs

