

The Cancer Genome Atlas: A Decade of Discovery

Carolyn M. Hutter, Ph.D.
Acting Division Director
Division of Genome Sciences, NHGRI

***National Advisory Council on
Human Genome Research***
September 11, 2017

The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)



Mission:

A comprehensive and coordinated effort to accelerate the understanding of the molecular basis of cancer through the application of genome analysis technologies, including large-scale genome sequencing



TCGA data describes

 **33**
DIFFERENT
TUMOR TYPES

...including

10
RARE
CANCERS

...based on paired tumor and normal tissue sets collected from

 **11,000**
PATIENTS

...using

7 DIFFERENT
DATA TYPES



A Decade of Discovery



National Cancer Institute
and

2006: Pilot Phase of TCGA

“The Complexity of Cancer Requires a Comprehensive Atlas of Genomic Alterations to Derive Medical Solutions”

*NCI/NHGRI Workshop
July, 2005*

washington, DC

1

A Decade of Discovery



Cost per Genome

\$100M

2006: Pilot Phase of TCGA

“The Complexity of Cancer Requires a Comprehensive Atlas of Genomic Alterations to Derive Medical Solutions”

*NCI/NHGRI Workshop
July, 2005*

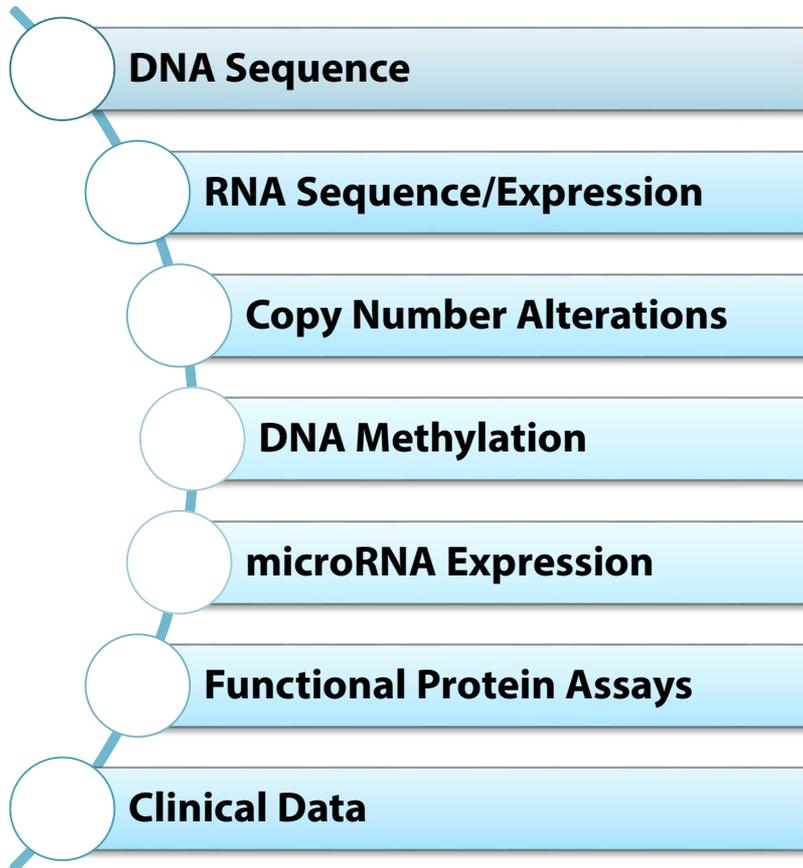
tion

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

TCGA Data Size and Scope



Data Types:

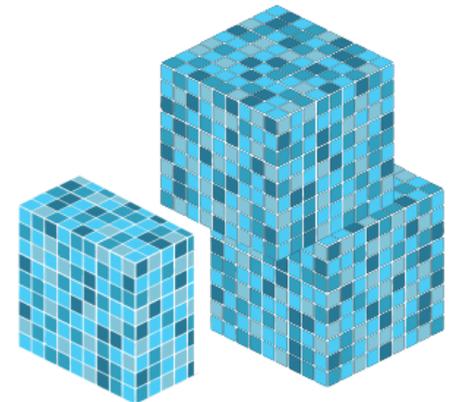


TCGA produced over

2.5

PETABYTES

of data



TCGA Data as a Community Resource



A key goal of TCGA is to have the data made publicly and broadly available to the research community while protecting patient privacy

**2,775 Approved Data Access Requests
for TCGA Data in 2007-2017**



TCGA Data Portal Overview

The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) Data Portal provides a platform for researchers to search, download, and analyze data sets generated by TCGA. It contains clinical information, genomic characterization data, and high level sequence analysis of the tumor genomes.

before 2012

The screenshot shows the NCI Genomic Data Commons website. The header includes the NIH logo, 'NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE Genomic Data Commons', and navigation links for 'CCG Web Site', 'Contact Us', 'Launch Data Portal', and 'GDC API'. A search bar is present. The main content area features a navigation menu with 'About the GDC', 'About the Data', 'Analyze Data', 'Access Data', 'Submit Data', 'For Developers', 'Support', and 'News'. The primary heading is 'The Next Generation Cancer Knowledge Network'. Below this, there is a section for 'Case Distribution by Disease Type' with a colorful sunburst chart. To the right, there are sections for 'Analyze Data' and 'Access Data', each with a brief description and a 'More about' link. The 'Analyze Data' section mentions 'DAVE Tools' and the 'Access Data' section mentions the 'GDC Data Portal' and 'GDC Data Transfer Tool'.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE GENOMIC DATA COMMONS



2016 - forward

TCGA Data as a Community Resource



NCI Genomics @NCIgenomics · 3h
Study imputes 138 drug responses for 10K #TCGA samples, associates responses with genetic variants bit.ly/2vRKIMd

Ernesto del Aguila | NCI/NIH

NCI Genomics @NCIgenomics · 20h
Study with #TCGA data confirms molecularly distinct subtypes and suggests new drivers of esophageal #cancer bit.ly/2eKS865

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network (2017) [Nature](https://doi.org/10.1038/ng.395) [http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/ng.395](https://doi.org/10.1038/ng.395)

- ESCC**
 - CCND1 amplification
 - TP63/SOX2 amplification
 - KDM6A deletion
- CIN**
 - ERBB2 amplification
 - VEGFA amplification
 - TP53 mutation
- EBV**
 - EBV-CIMP
 - PIK3CA mutation
 - PD-L1/2 overexpression
- MSI**
 - Hypermutation
 - Gastric-CIMP
 - MLH1 silencing
- GS**
 - Diffuse histology
 - CDH1, RNF43 mutations
 - CLDN18-ARHGAP fusions

NCI Genomics @NCIgenomics · Sep 6
Study @CellReports examines alternative splicing across 11 #TCGA #cancers as potential drivers of #cancer bit.ly/2eU84s

Climent-González et al. (2017) *Cell Rep.* [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2017.08.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2017.08.014)

NCI Genomics @NCIgenomics · Jul 29
Study draws parallels between #TCGA #BladderCancer and tuberous sclerosis complex disorder bit.ly/2uQPfH0

NCI Genomics @NCIgenomics · Sep 7
Study examines heterozygosity of BRCA1 & BRCA2 loss of function in #TCGA data as predictor of response to therapy go.nature.com/2gCmd5A

Marwell et al. (2017) *Sci. Commun.* [http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-07414-4](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-07414-4)

NCI Genomics @NCIgenomics · Aug 12
500 metastatic #cancer genomes shows mesenchymal & proliferative subtypes, more mutation burden than #TCGA primaries go.nature.com/2wffTAG

Network Analysis: Tumor Specific Projects



32 Working Groups Defined by Tumor Type

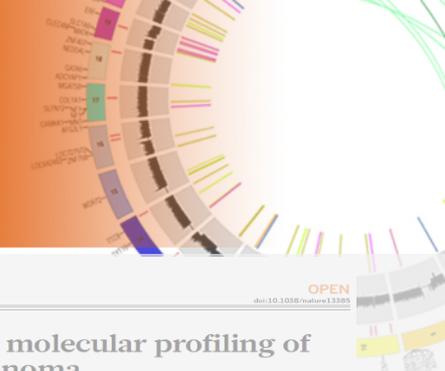


- DNA Sequence
- RNA Sequence/Expression
- Copy Number Alterations
- DNA Methylation
- microRNA Expression
- Functional Protein Assays
- Clinical Data



**Comprehensive
Characterization
of the Cancer
Genomes**

TCGA Comprehensive "Marker Papers"



ARTICLES

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Comprehensive genomic characterization defines human glioblastoma genes and core pathways

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Comprehensive genomic characterization defines human glioblastoma genes and core pathways

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

OPEN

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Comprehensive molecular profiling of pancreatic adenocarcinoma

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Integrated genomic analyses of ovarian carcinoma

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

28 published

ARTICLE

OPEN

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Comprehensive genomic characterization of papillary thyroid carcinoma

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Comprehensive molecular characterization of human colon and rectal cancer

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

JUNE 25, 2015

Comprehensive molecular characterization of pancreatic adenocarcinoma

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

doi:10.1038/nature11404

Comprehensive molecular portraits of human breast tumours

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

Cell

doi:10.1016/j.cell.2015.05.041

Comprehensive genomic characterization of adult de novo acute myeloid leukemia

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

Resource

Cell

The Molecular Taxonomy of Primary Prostate Cancer

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

OPEN

doi:10.1038/nature12113

Integrated genomic characterization of endometrial carcinoma

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

MAY 30, 2015

VOL. 368

NO. 22

Genomic and Epigenomic Landscapes of Adult De Novo Acute Myeloid Leukemia

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

ARTICLE

OPEN

doi:10.1038/nature12222

Comprehensive molecular characterization of clear cell renal cell carcinoma

The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network*

Key Results and Findings from TCGA



MOLECULAR BASIS OF CANCER

Improved our understanding of the genomic underpinnings of cancer

For example, a TCGA study found the basal-like subtype of breast cancer to be similar to the serous subtype of ovarian cancer on a molecular level, suggesting that despite arising from different tissues in the body, these subtypes may share a common path of development and respond to similar therapeutic strategies.



TUMOR SUBTYPES

Revolutionized how cancer is classified

TCGA revolutionized how cancer is classified by identifying tumor subtypes with distinct sets of genomic alterations.*



THERAPEUTIC TARGETS

Identified genomic characteristics of tumors that can be targeted with currently available therapies or used to help with drug development

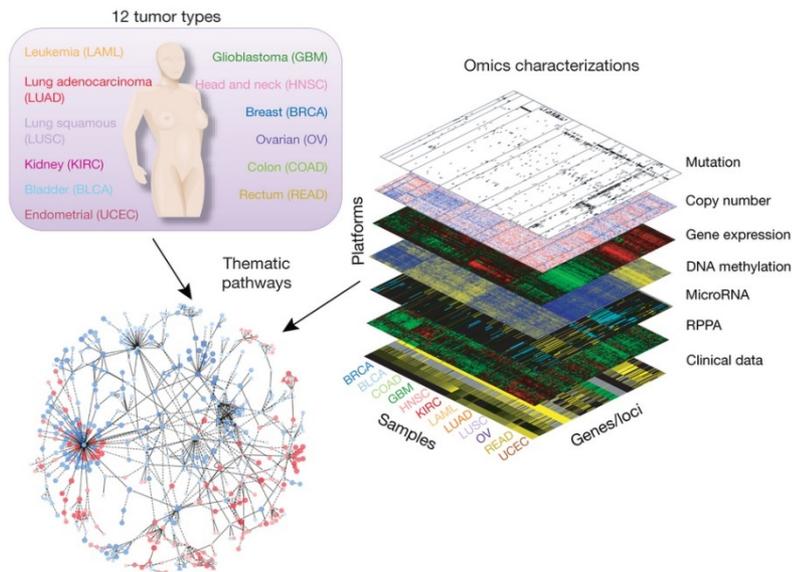
TCGA's identification of targetable genomic alterations in lung squamous cell carcinoma led to NCI's Lung-MAP Trial, which will treat patients based on the specific genomic changes in their tumor.

Network Analysis: Cross-Cancer Projects



PanCan-12

Published Fall 2013



PanCanAtlas

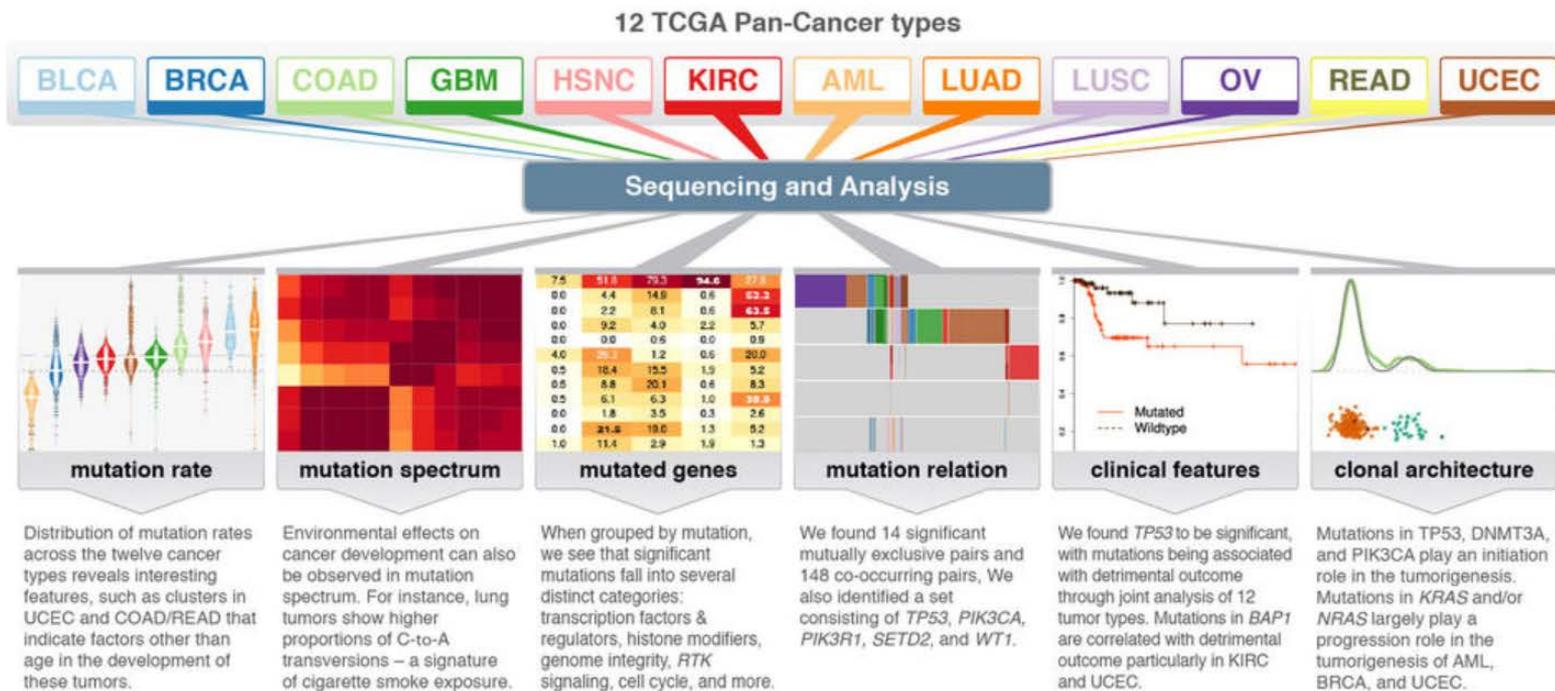
In progress

- TCGA Capstone
- Full data analysis
- Standards for data quality and reproducibility
 - Batch correction
 - Re-analysis
- Innovative “big data” distributed computing

Pancancer Findings



Genomic analysis of multiple cancer types (aka “Pan-Cancer analysis) highlight commonalities and differences among various types and subtypes.



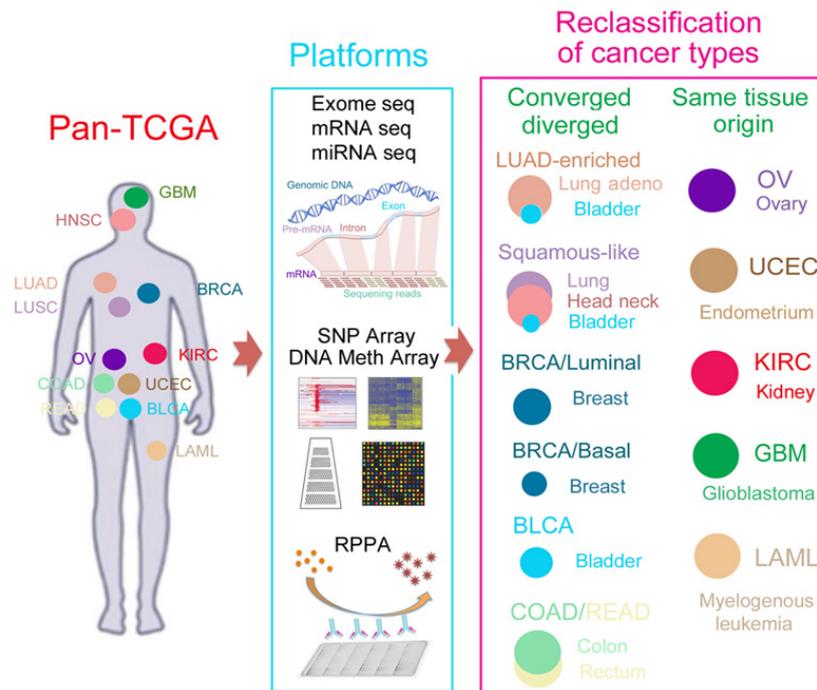
Systematic analysis of the TCGA Pan-Cancer mutation dataset identifies SMGs, cancer-related cellular processes, and genes associated with clinical features and tumour progression.

Pancancer Findings



Genomic analysis of multiple cancer types (aka “Pan-Cancer analysis”) highlight commonalities and differences among various types and subtypes.

Integrative analysis across cancer types identifies subgroups that are correlated, but not identical to, tissue-of-origin classifications of cancer.

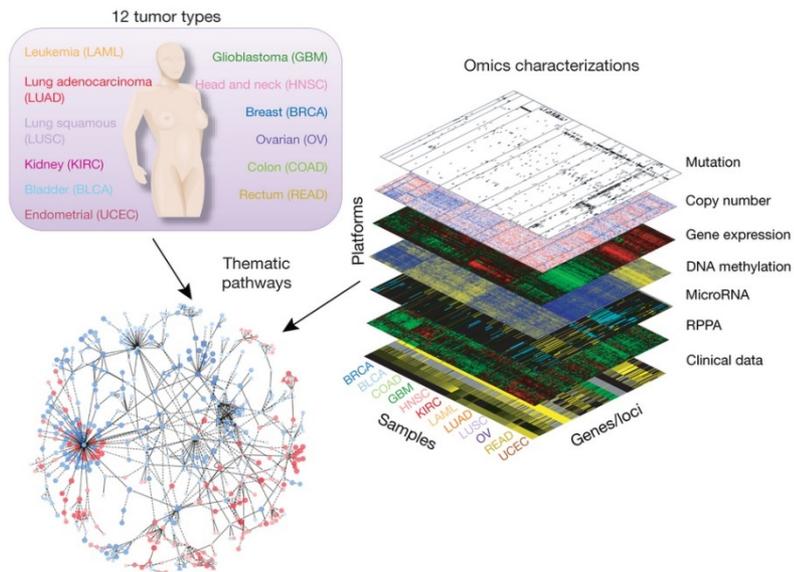


Pancancer: Large-scale genomics meets large-scale, reproducible analysis



PanCan-12

Published Fall 2013



PanCanAtlas

In progress

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TCGA MC3: Foundation for PanCanAtlas



TCGA MC3 Project

10K TCGA Exomes



GATK
Preprocessing



Coherent BAM collection



Consistent Mutation Calling
across all TCGA exomes



Filtering and Annotations

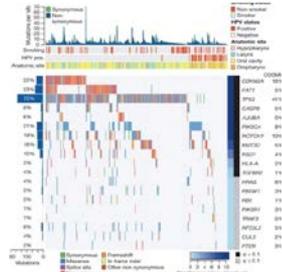


Final MAF

Goals

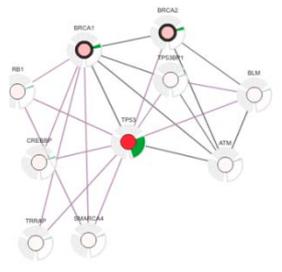
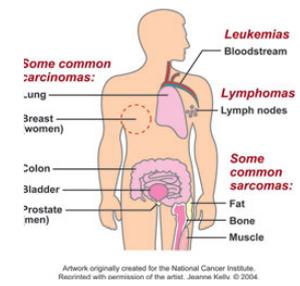
- Produce uniform mutation calls across all TCGA exome data
- 500 terabytes BAM exomes
- Multiple variant calling tools and QC filters
- Reproducible tools and workflows
- Modern computing paradigm
 - Docker Containers
 - CWL/WDL workflows
 - Leverage clouds and clusters
 - Global Alliance (GA4GH) Standards

PanCanAtlas Themes



Oncogenic Processes

Cell-of-origin



Pathways

<https://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/ccg/blog/2017/tcga-pancan-atlas>

PanCancer Analysis of Whole Genomes

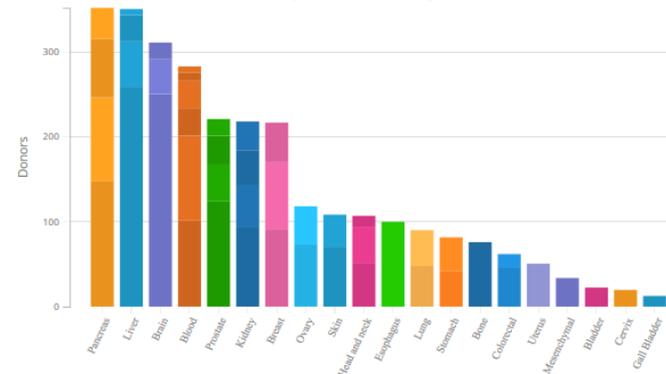
PCAWG - PANCANCER ANALYSIS OF WHOLE GENOMES

The PanCancer Analysis of Whole Genomes (PCAWG) study is an international collaboration to identify common patterns of mutation in more than 2,800 cancer whole genomes from the International Cancer Genome Consortium. Building upon previous work which examined cancer coding regions (Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network. The Cancer Genome Atlas Pan-Cancer analysis project, [Nat. Genet. 2013 45:1113](#)), this project is exploring the nature and consequences of somatic and germline variations in both coding and non-coding regions, with specific emphasis on cis-regulatory sites, non-coding RNAs, and large-scale structural alterations.

In order to facilitate the comparison among diverse tumor types, all tumor and matched normal genomes have been subjected to a uniform set of alignment and variant calling algorithms, and must pass a rigorous set of quality control tests. The research activities are coordinated by a series of working groups comprising more than 700 scientists and covering the following themes:

1. Novel somatic mutation calling methods
2. Analysis of mutations in regulatory regions
3. Integration of the transcriptome and genome
4. Integration of the epigenome and genome
5. Consequences of somatic mutations on pathway and network activity
6. Patterns of structural variations, signatures, genomic correlations, retrotransposons and mobile elements
7. Mutation signatures and processes
8. Germline cancer genome
9. Inferring driver mutations and identifying cancer genes and pathways
10. Translating cancer genomes to the clinic
11. Evolution and heterogeneity
12. Portals, visualization and software infrastructure
13. Molecular subtypes and classification
14. Analysis of mutations in non-coding RNA
15. Mitochondrial
16. Pathogens

Donor Distribution by Primary Site
48 projects and 20 primary sites



2,834 Donors **70,389 Files** **801.65 TB**

Data Type	# Donors	# Files	Format	Size
SGV	2,834	8,865	VCF	539.37 GB
StGV	2,834	5,908	VCF	7.58 GB
Aligned Reads	2,834	8,721	BAM	800.90 TB
Simple Somatic Mutations	2,834	26,241	VCF	198.09 GB
Copy Number Somatic Mutations	2,834	5,911	VCF	138.14 MB
Structural Somatic Mutations	2,834	14,743	VCF	1.70 GB

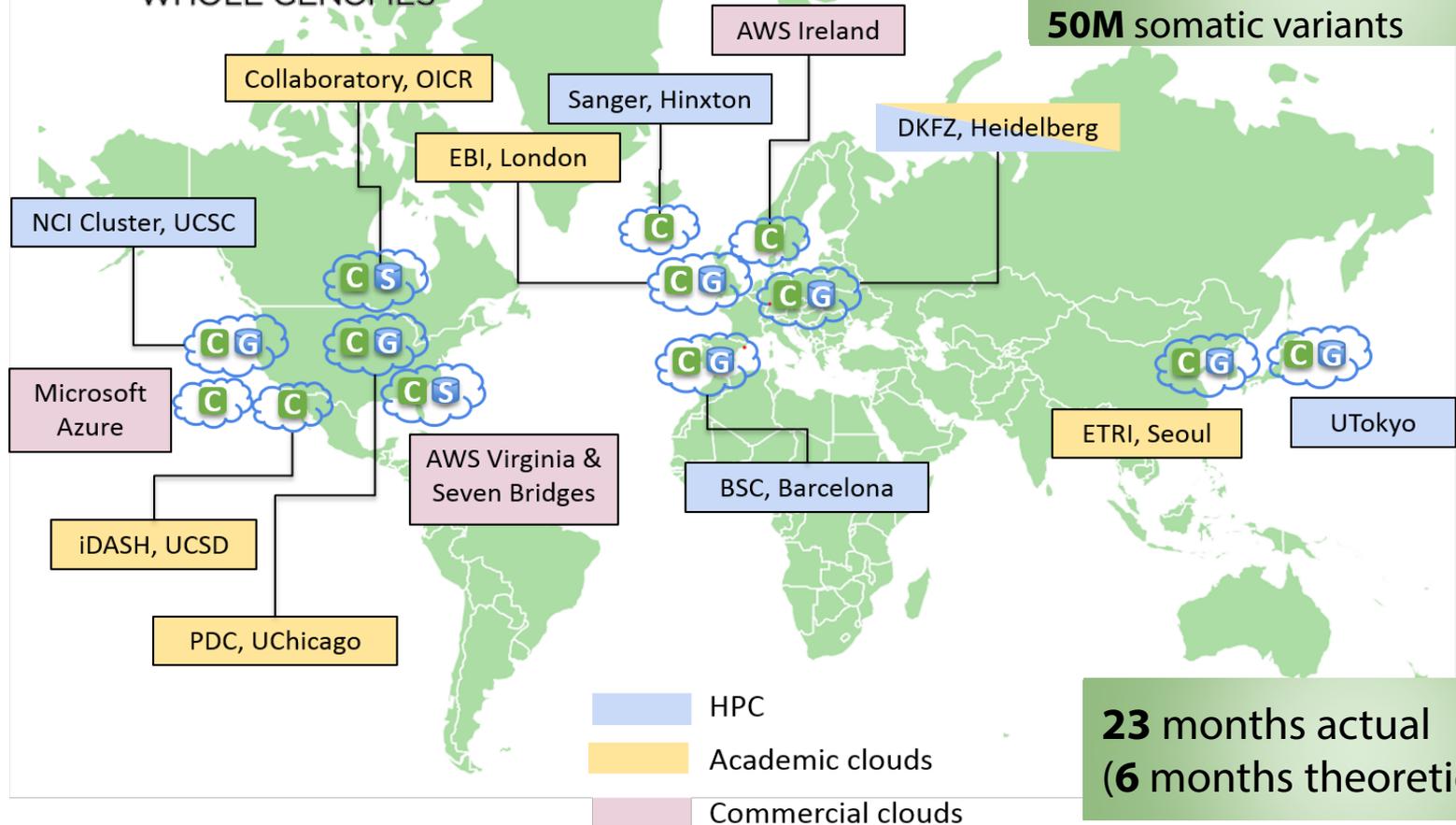
Available data as of Jul 26, 2017

Use of distributed computing with large-scale genomics data



PCAWWG
PanCancer Analysis
OF WHOLE GENOMES

ICGC Project
2583 WGS donors
50M somatic variants



23 months actual
(6 months theoretical)

Compute centers (C), GNOS repositories (G), and S3-compatible data storage (S)

Impact of TCGA



- Comprehensive Data Resource
- Forward-looking Data Sharing
- Transformational Scientific Advances
- Innovative Pipelines and Approaches

Save the Date

Cell Symposia: The TCGA Legacy



The TCGA Legacy: Multi-Omic Studies in Cancer

27-29 September, 2018

Washington, DC



June 15, 2018
Abstract Submission

August 10, 2018
Early Registration

Acknowledgements

Current TCGA Project Team

NHGRI

Heidi Sofia

Melpi Kasapi

NCI

Jean-Claude Zenklusen

Samantha Caesar-Johnson

John Demchok

Ina Felau

Martin Ferguson

Roy Tarnuzzer

Zhining Wang

Liming Yang

TCGA DAC

Vivian Ota Wang

Jeff Kim

Past TCGA Project Team Members

TCGA Research Participants

TCGA Network

