

Learning objectives

- ◆ Define Chemical Genetics and Chemical Genomics
- ♦ Identify advantages of single-cell resolution when examining therapeutic response
- ◆ Describe scalable and multiplex platforms for Chemical Genomics
- ◆ Familiarize yourself with approaches for the analysis of largescale perturbation data

CHEMICAL GENETICS: LIGAND-BASED DISCOVERY OF GENE FUNCTION

Brent R. Stockwell

Chemical genetics is the study of gene-product function in a cellular or organismal context using exogenous ligands. In this approach, small molecules that bind directly to proteins are used to alter protein function, enabling a kinetic analysis of the *in vivo* consequences of these changes. Recent advances have strongly enhanced the power of exogenous ligands such that they can resemble genetic mutations in terms of their general applicability and target specificity. The growing sophistication of this approach raises the possibility of its application to any biological process.

(2000) Nature Reviews Genetics

Opinion

Chemical genomics: what will it take and who gets to play? Gavin MacBeath

Address: Center for Genomics Research, Harvard University, 16 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA. E-mail: gavin_macbeath@harvard.edu

Published: 6 June 2001

Genome Biology 2001, 2(6):comment2005.1-2005.6

The electronic version of this article is the complete one and can be found online at http://genomebiology.com/2001/2/6/comment/2005

© BioMed Central Ltd (Print ISSN 1465-6906; Online ISSN 1465-6914)

(2001) Genome Biology

THE ROLE OF THE MEDICINAL CHEMIST IN DRUG DISCOVERY — THEN AND NOW

Joseph G. Lombardino* and John A. Lowe III[‡]

Abstract | The role of the medicinal chemist in drug discovery has undergone major changes in the past 25 years, mainly because of the introduction of technologies such as combinatorial chemistry and structure-based drug design. As medicinal chemists with more than 50 years of combined experience spanning the past four decades, we discuss this changing role using examples from our own and others' experience. This historical perspective could provide insights in to how to improve the current model for drug discovery by helping the medicinal chemist regain the creative role that contributed to past successes.

(2004) Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Review article



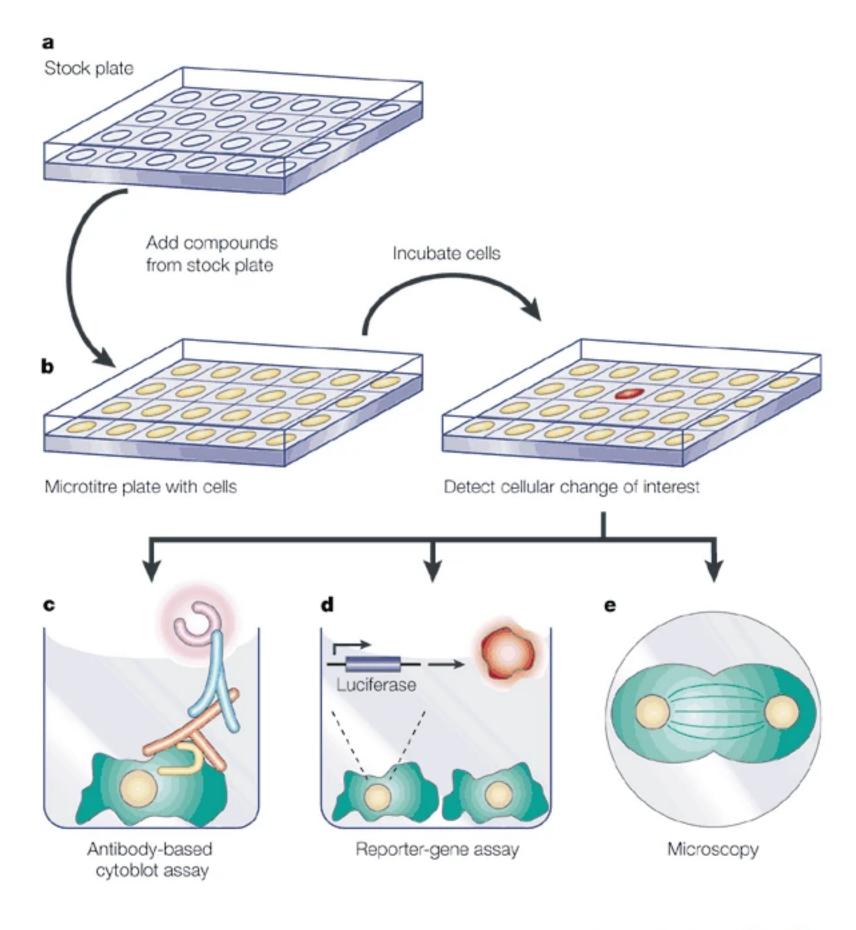
Applications of single-cell RNA sequencing in drug discovery and development

Bram Van de Sande^{1,15}, Joon Sang Lee © ^{2,15}, Euphemia Mutasa-Gottgens © ^{3,15} , Bart Naughton © ⁴, Wendi Bacon © ^{3,5}, Jonathan Manning³, Yong Wang © ⁶, Jack Pollard⁷, Melissa Mendez © ⁸, Jon Hill © ⁹, Namit Kumar © ¹⁰, Xiaohong Cao © ¹¹, Xiao Chen ¹², Mugdha Khaladkar ¹³, Ji Wen © ¹⁴, Andrew Leach © ³ & Edgardo Ferran © ³

(2023) Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

The Chemical Genetics Approach

- Approaches that use collections of small molecules or other treatment modalities to study gene product function
- Leverage large chemical or biomolecule libraries
- Function is studied in whole cells or organisms
- ◆ Coupled to a variety of readouts that allow parallelization (e.g., viability, reporter expression)
- ♠ Analogous to genetics, approaches can be divided into forward- and reverse-chemical genetics screens



Nature Reviews | Genetics

Stockwell, B. (2000) Nature Reviews Genetics

Phenotype-based vs. Target-based Screens

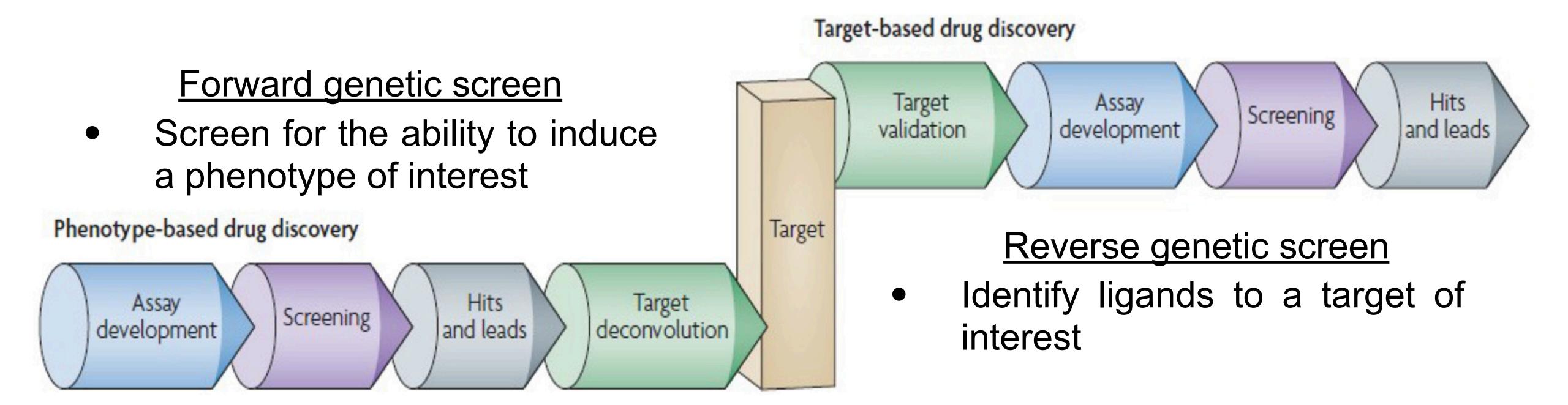
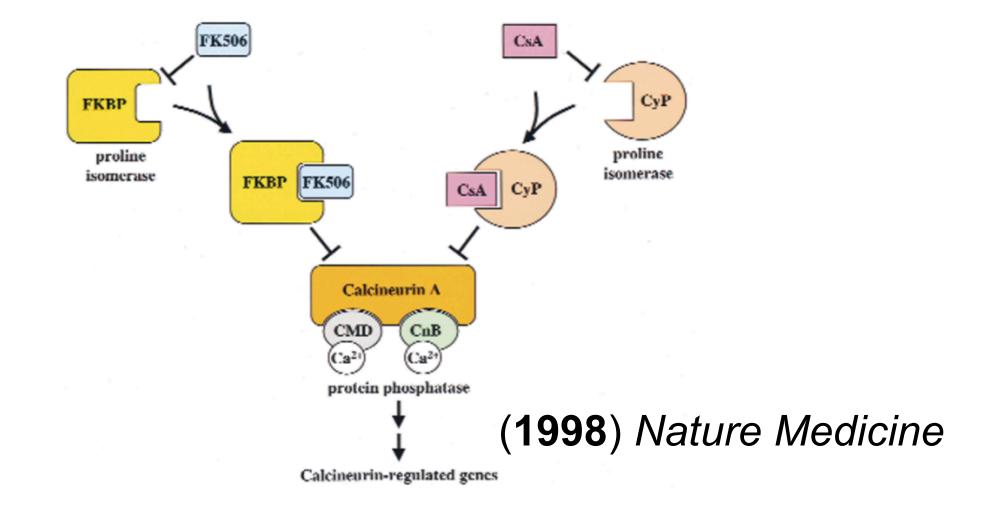


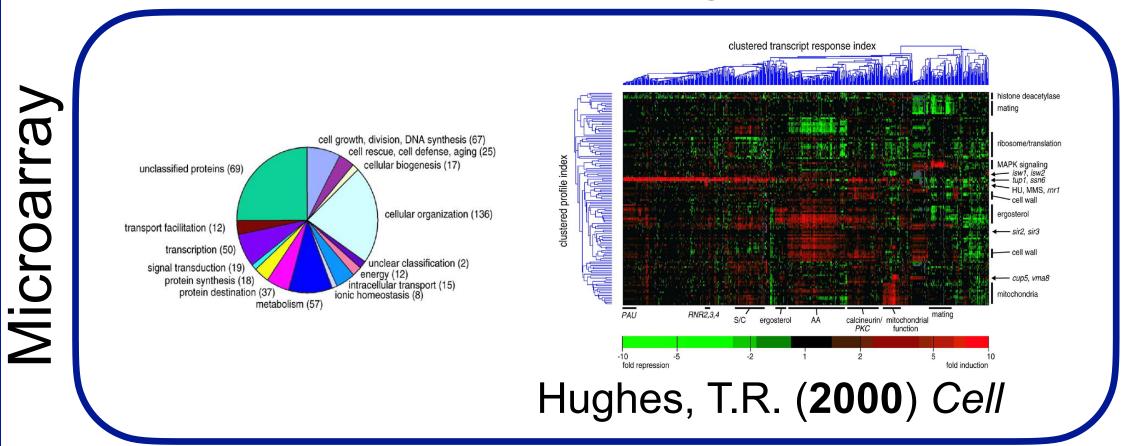
Image: Payghan, P.V. et. al. (2018) Frontiers in Physics Stockwell, B. (2000) Nature Reviews Genetics

Drug target validation and identification of secondary drug target effects using DNA microarrays

MATTHEW J. MARTON¹, JOSEPH L. DERISI², HOLLY A. BENNETT¹, VISHWANATH R. IYER², MICHAEL R. MEYER¹, CHRISTOPHER J. ROBERTS¹, ROLAND STOUGHTON¹, JULIA BURCHARD¹, DAVID SLADE¹, HONGYUE DAI¹, DOUGLAS E. BASSETT, JR¹., LELAND H. HARTWELL³, PATRICK O. BROWN² & STEPHEN H. FRIEND¹



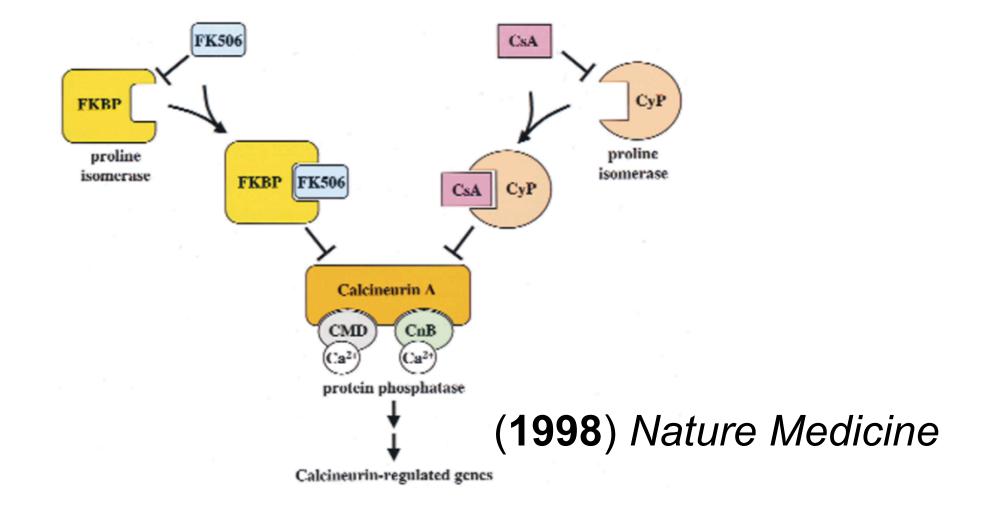
Compendium of Signatures



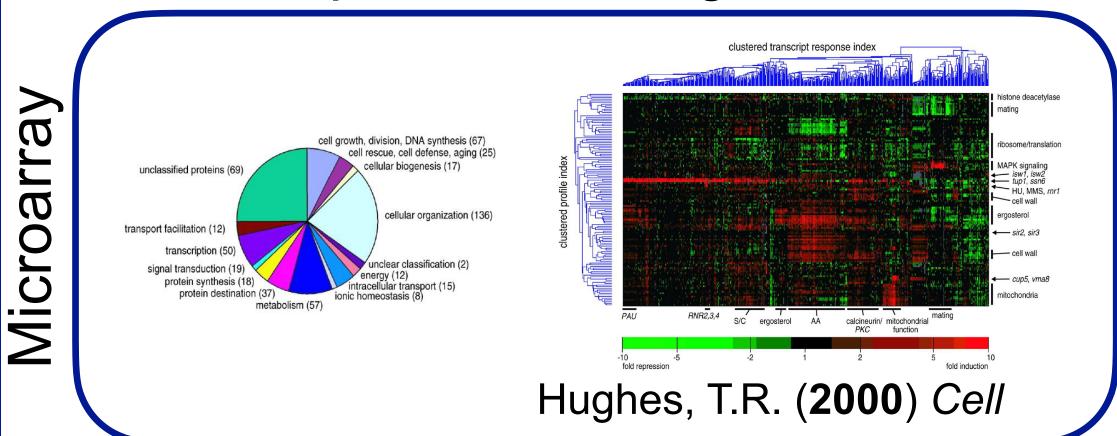
♦ Early approaches coupled perturbations to gene expression readouts using DNA microarrays

Drug target validation and identification of secondary drug target effects using DNA microarrays

MATTHEW J. MARTON¹, JOSEPH L. DERISI², HOLLY A. BENNETT¹, VISHWANATH R. IYER², MICHAEL R. MEYER¹, CHRISTOPHER J. ROBERTS¹, ROLAND STOUGHTON¹, JULIA BURCHARD¹, DAVID SLADE¹, HONGYUE DAI¹, DOUGLAS E. BASSETT, JR¹., LELAND H. HARTWELL³, PATRICK O. BROWN² & STEPHEN H. FRIEND¹

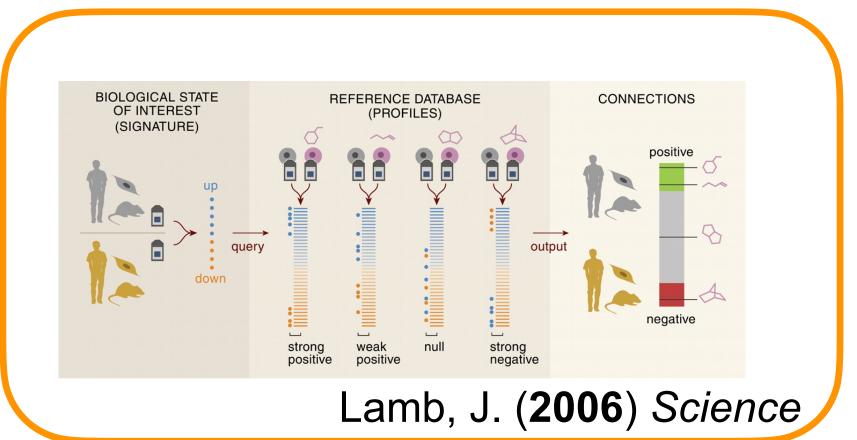


Compendium of Signatures

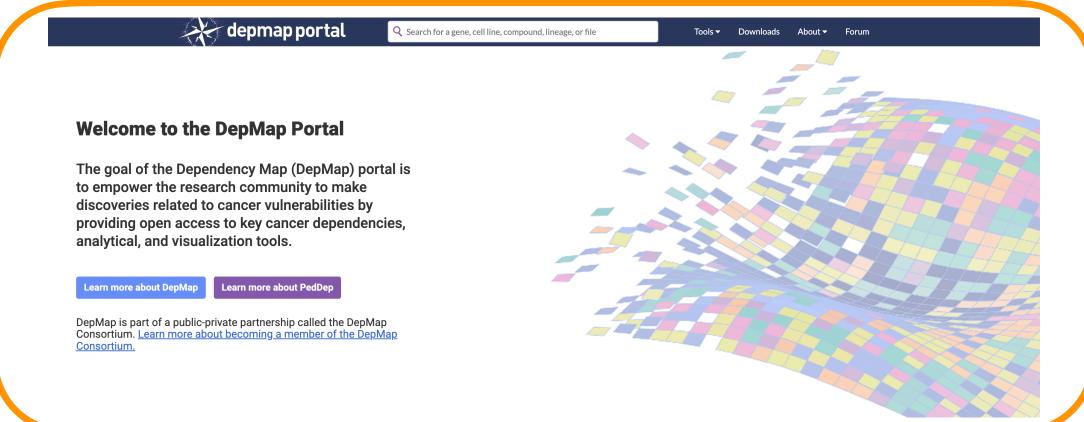


- ♦ Marton et al. established the idea of a chemical signature to classify on/off target effects of inhibition of calcineurin signaling
- Hughes et al. proposed a compendium of signatures for gene loss-of-function in yeast

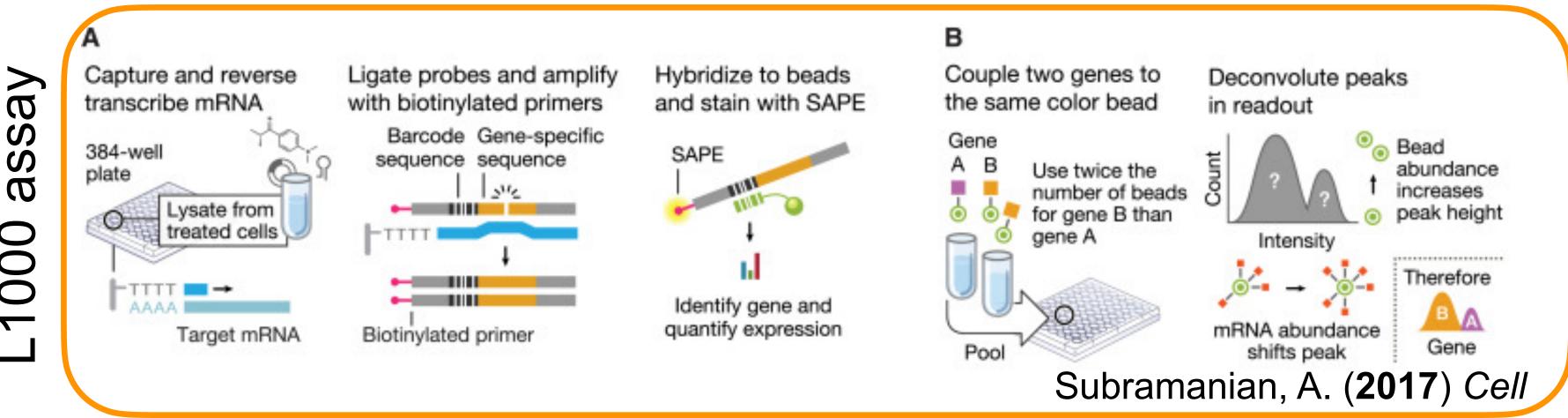
Connectivity Map



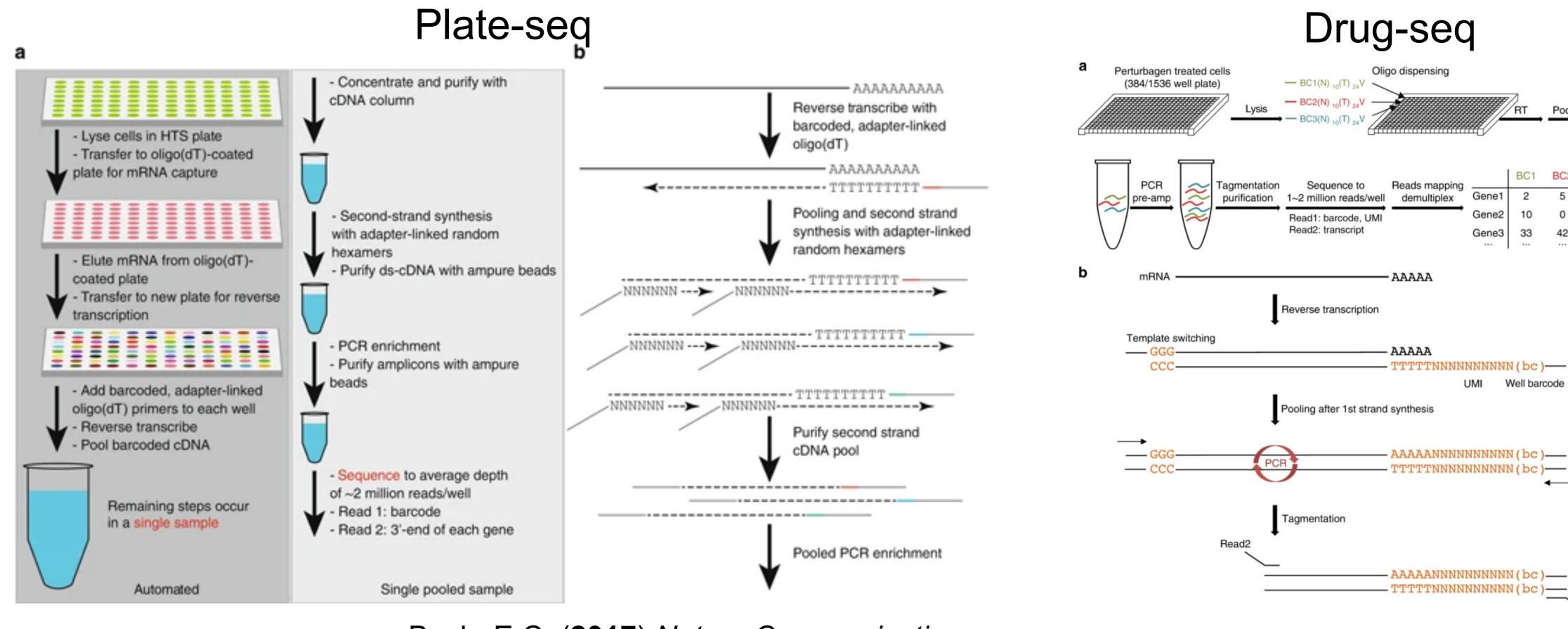
Dependency Map



Library of Integrated Network-based Cellular Signatures (LINCS)



Advances have focused on coupling chemical genetics screen to scalable molecular readouts

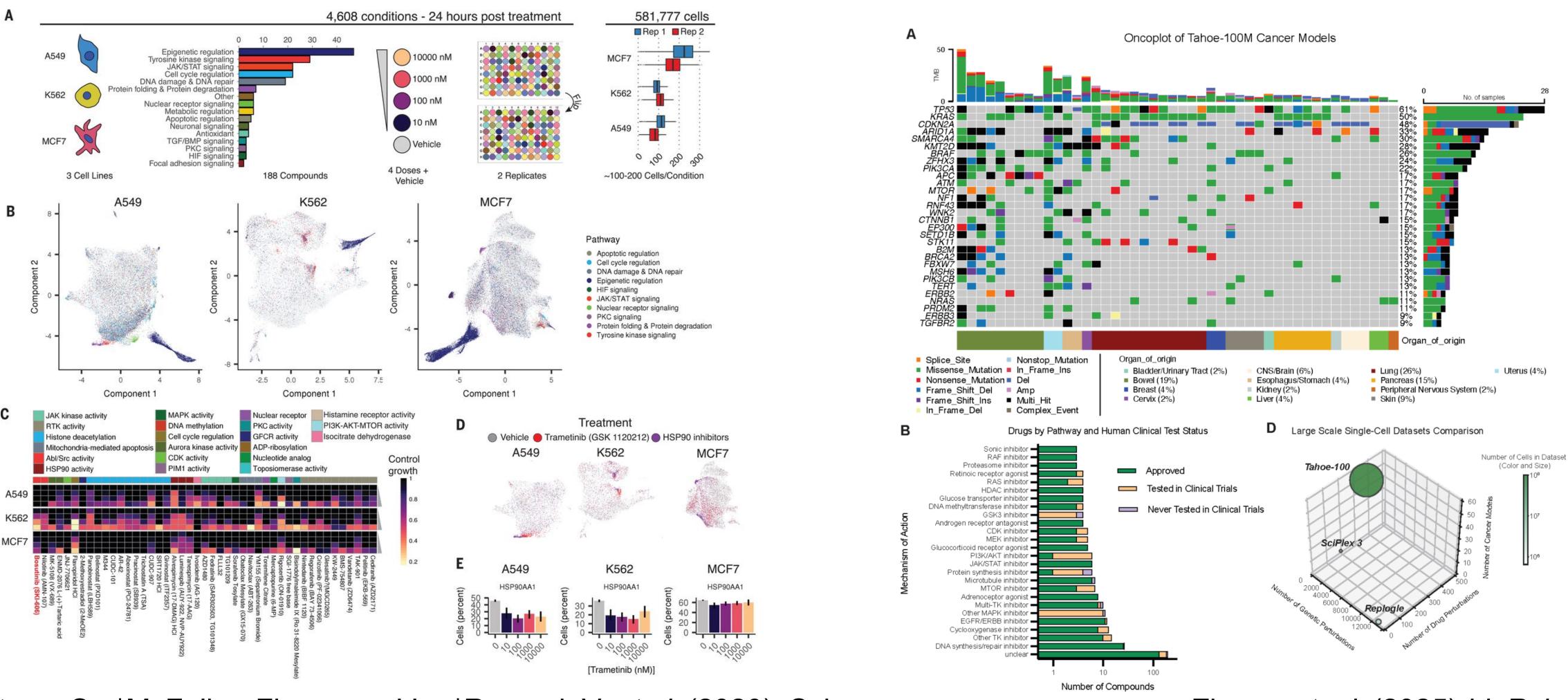


Bush, E.C. (2017) Nature Communications

Ye, C. (2018) Nature Communications



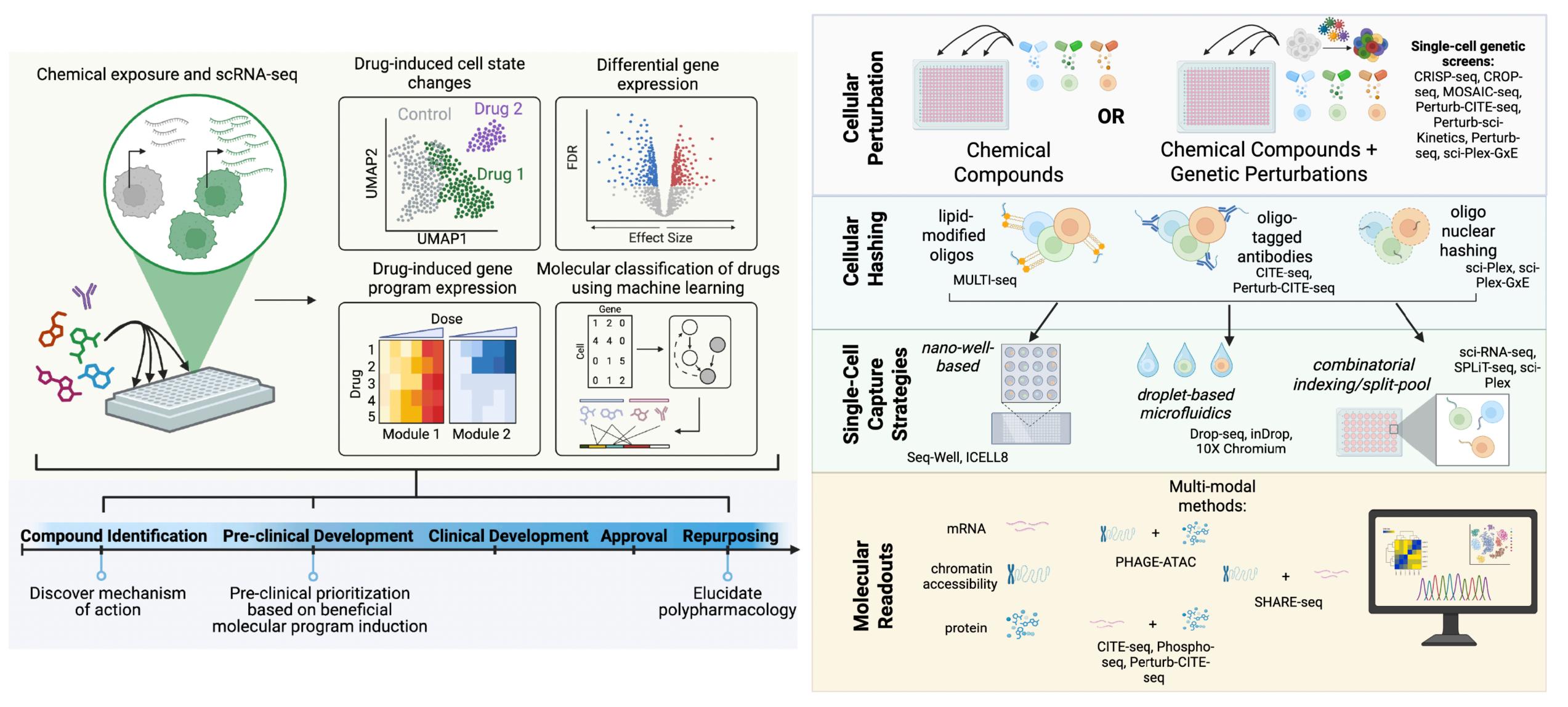
Chemical genomics at single-cell resolution



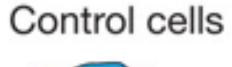
*Srivatsan, S., *McFaline-Figueroa, J.L., *Ramani, V. et al. (2020). Science.

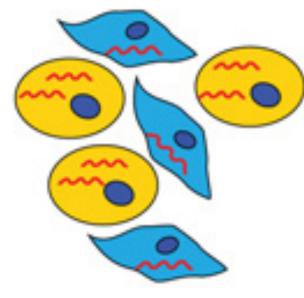
Zhang. et. al. (2025) bioRxiv

The expanding single-cell chemical genomics toolkit

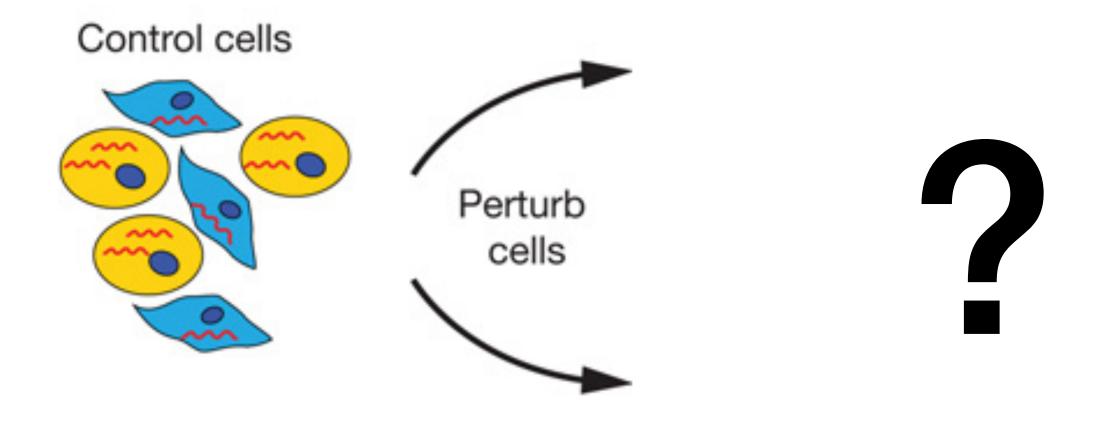


Wyatt, A. et. al. (2025) Biochemical Journal (accepted in principle)

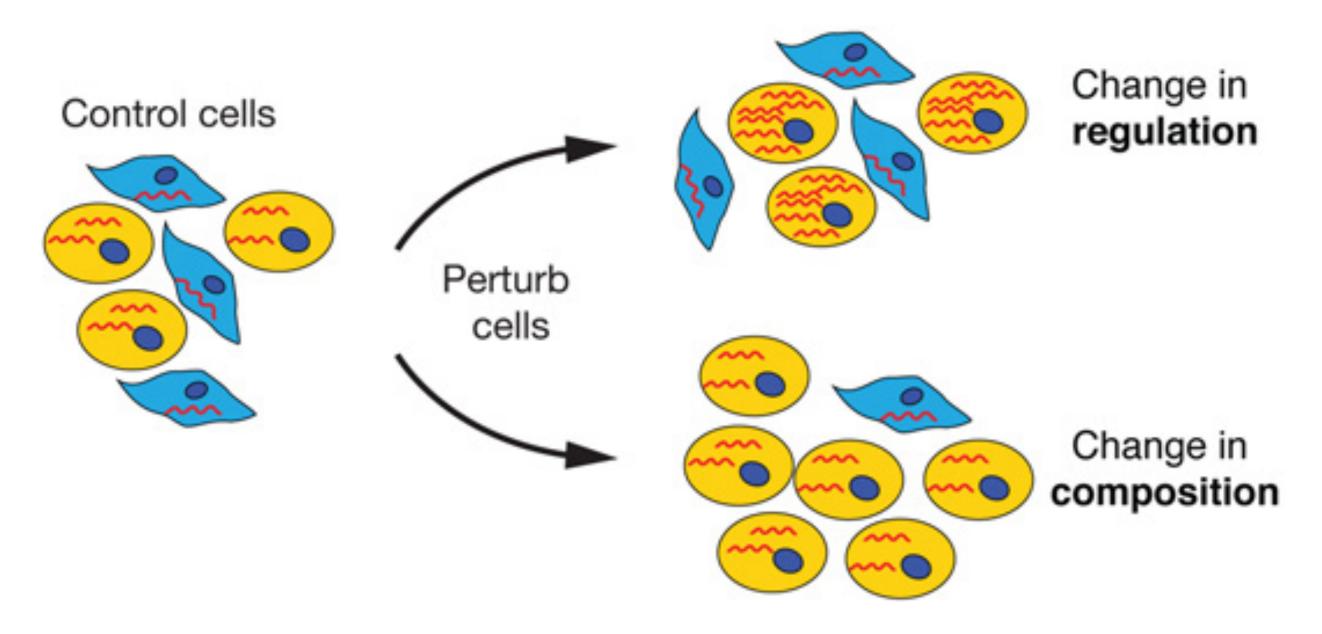




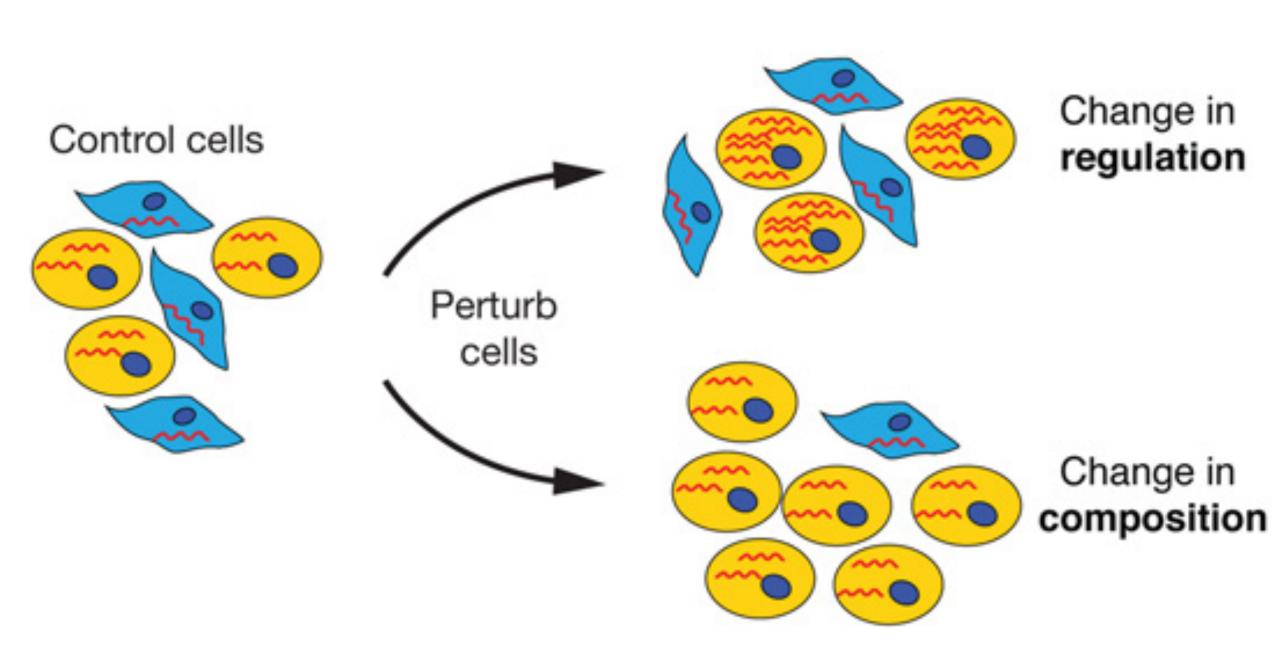
Trapnell, C. (2015), Genome Research.



Trapnell, C. (2015), Genome Research.

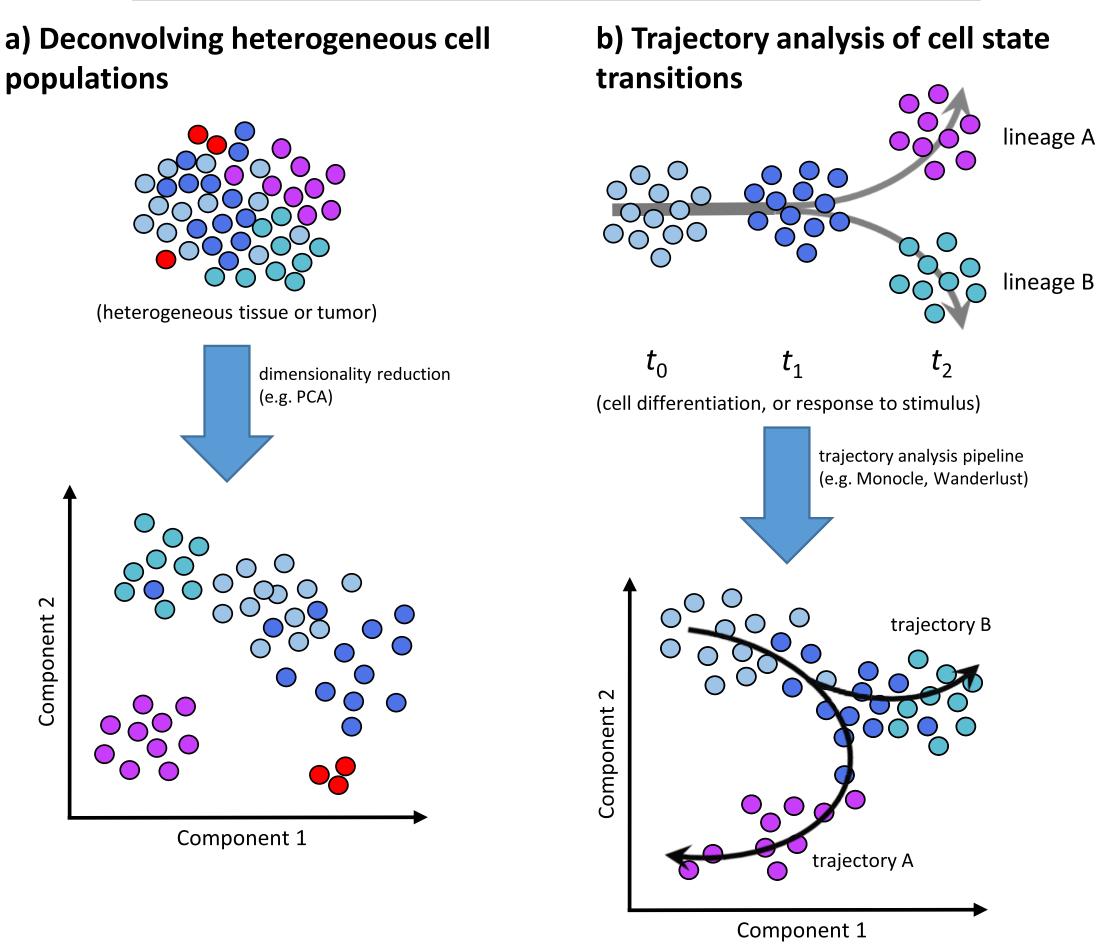


Trapnell, C. (2015), Genome Research.



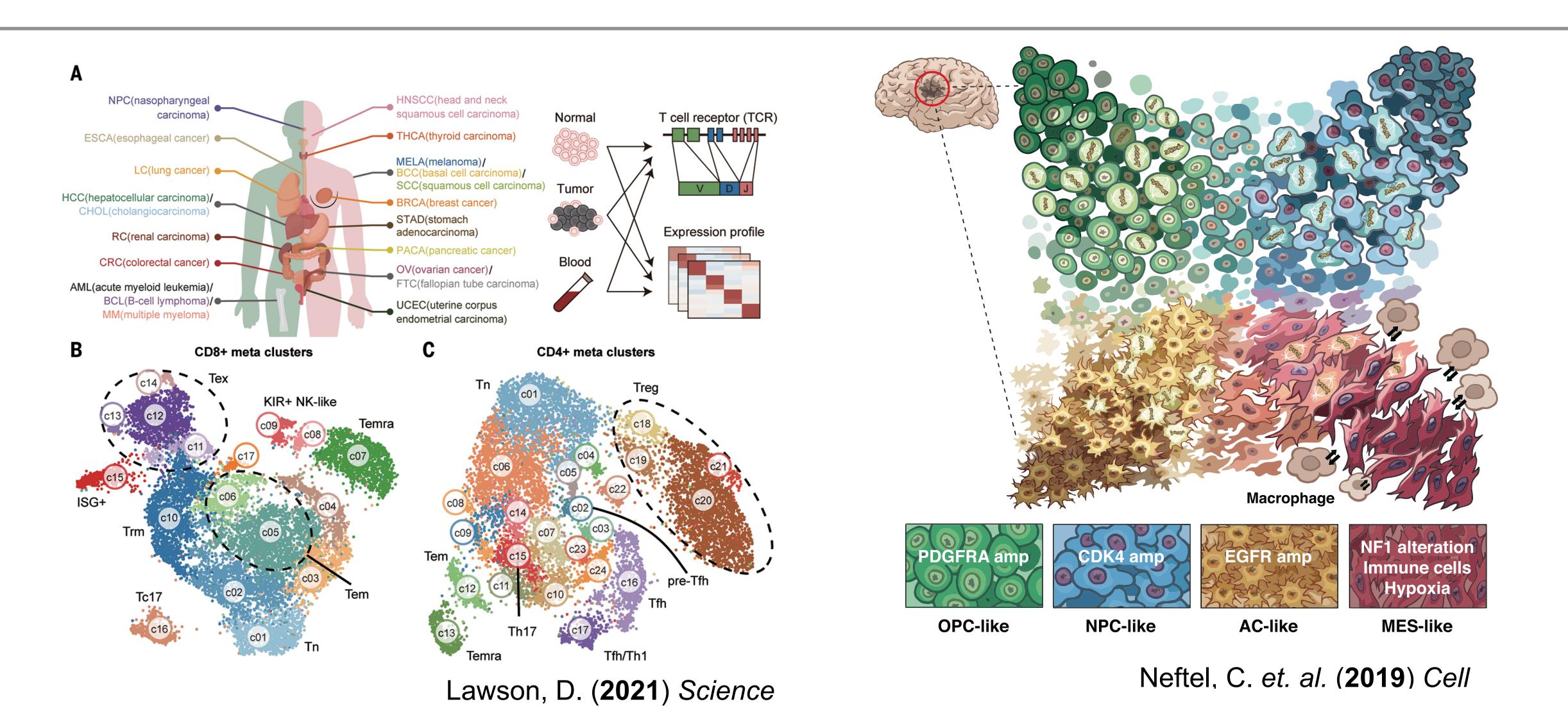
Trapnell, C. (2015), Genome Research.

Deconvolve populations



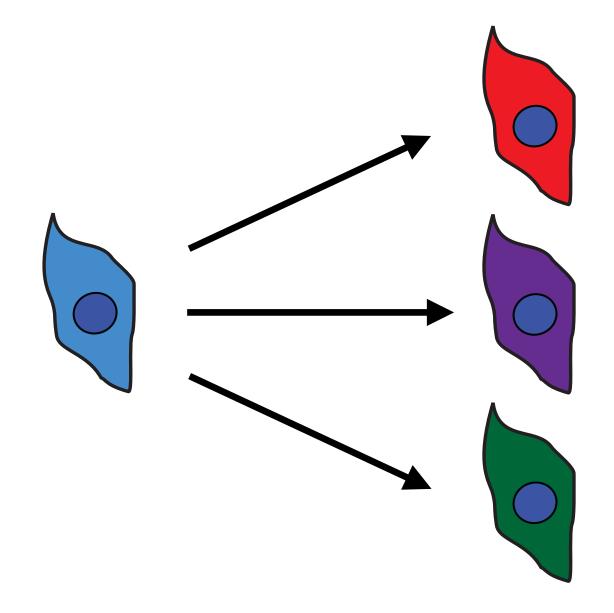
Adapted from: Liu, S., Trapnell, C. (2016) F1000 Research.

Single-cell approaches shed light on tumor heterogeneity

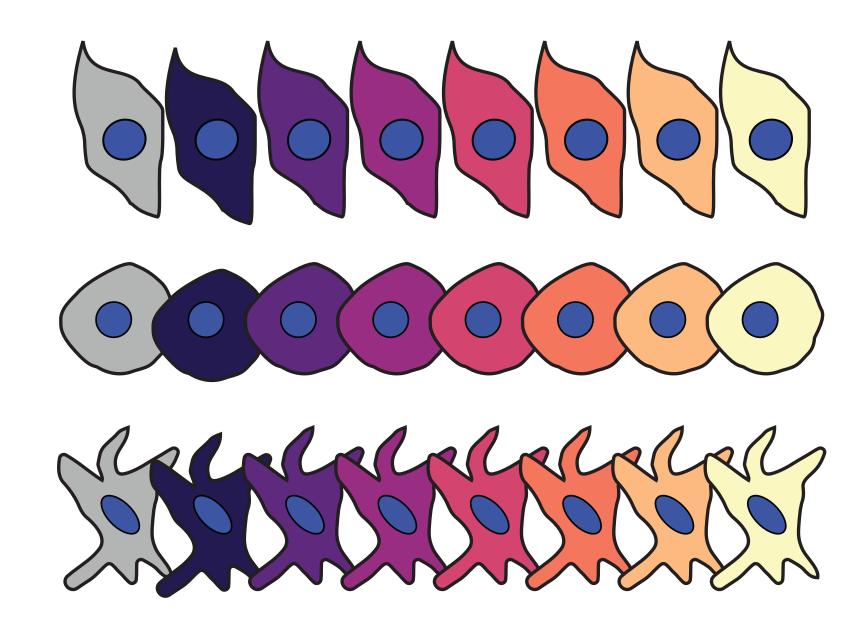


Heterogeneity in drug response

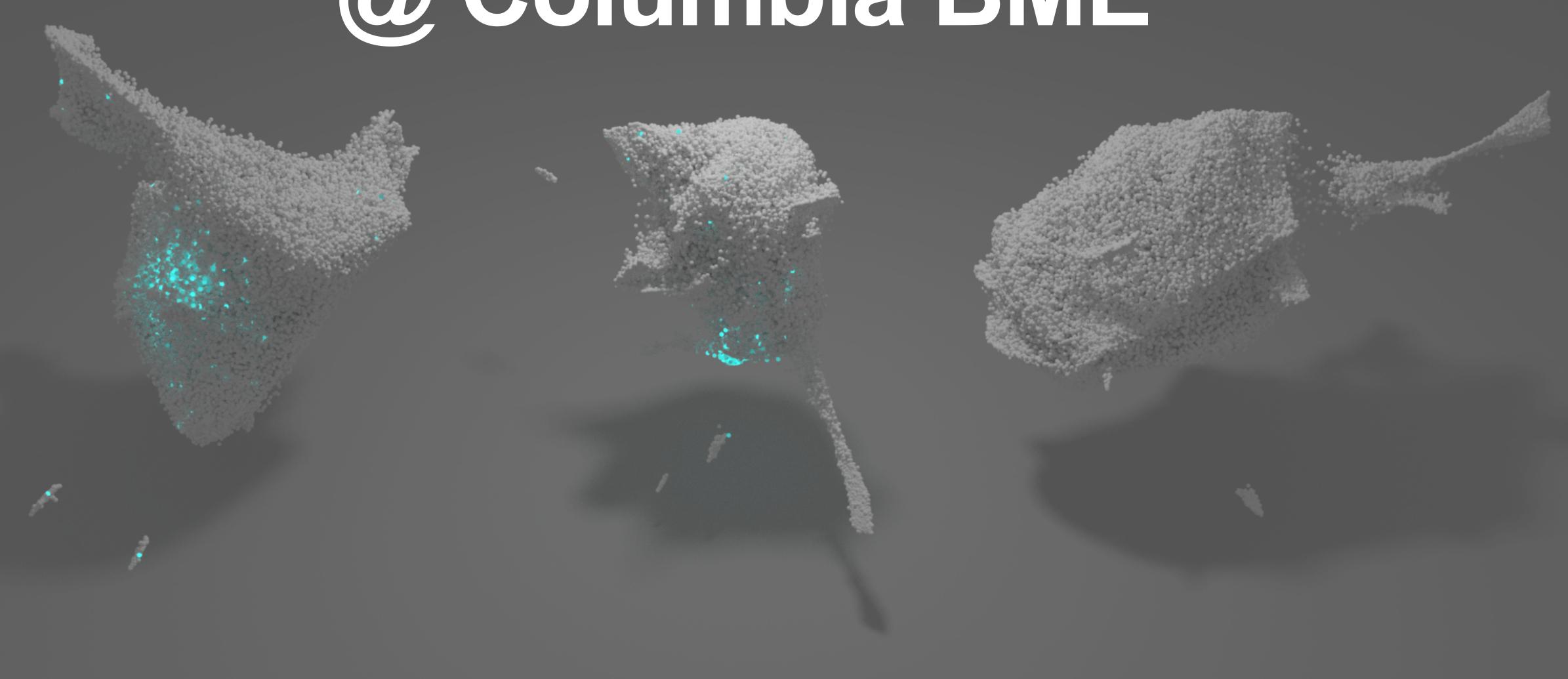
Induction of multiple cell states



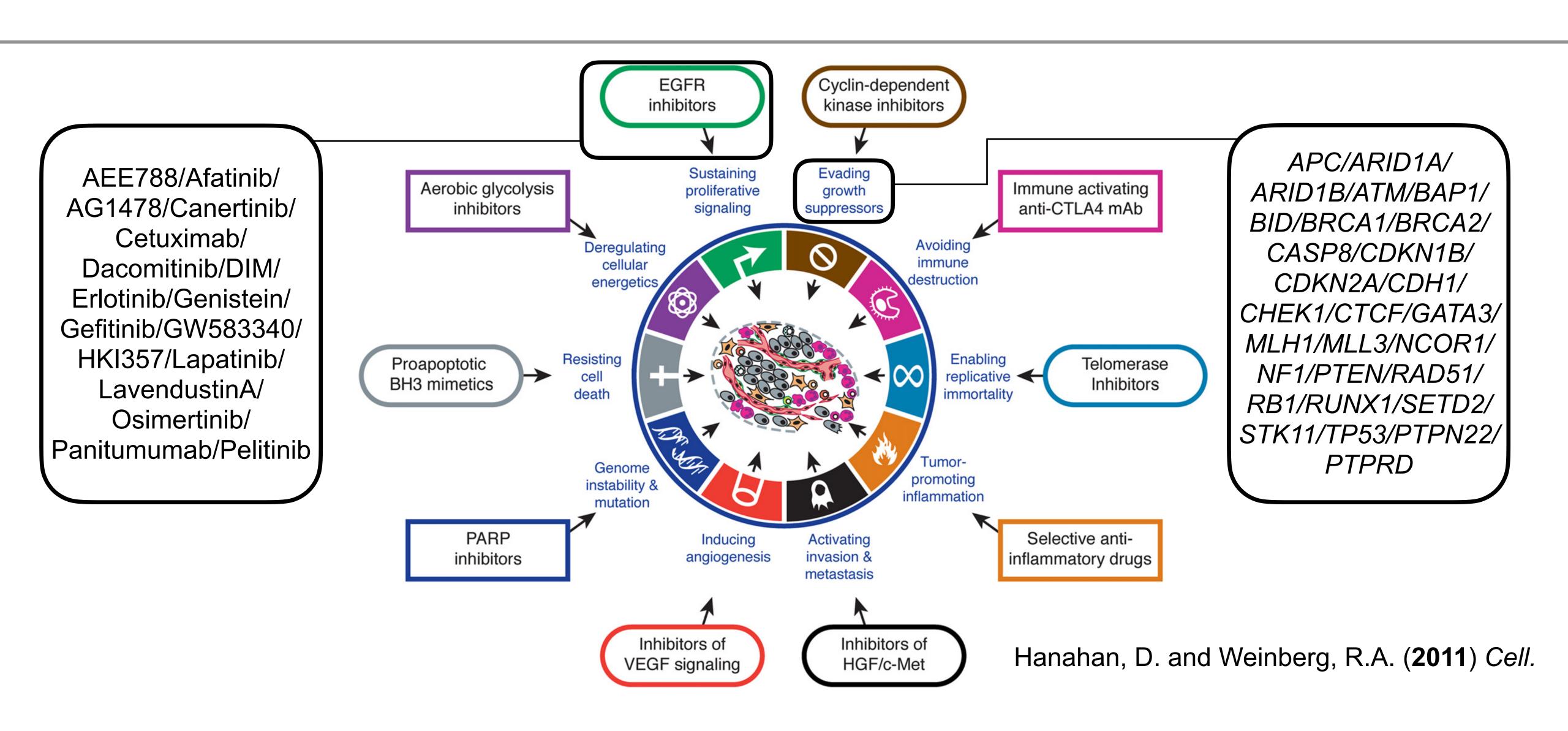
Continuum of cellular response



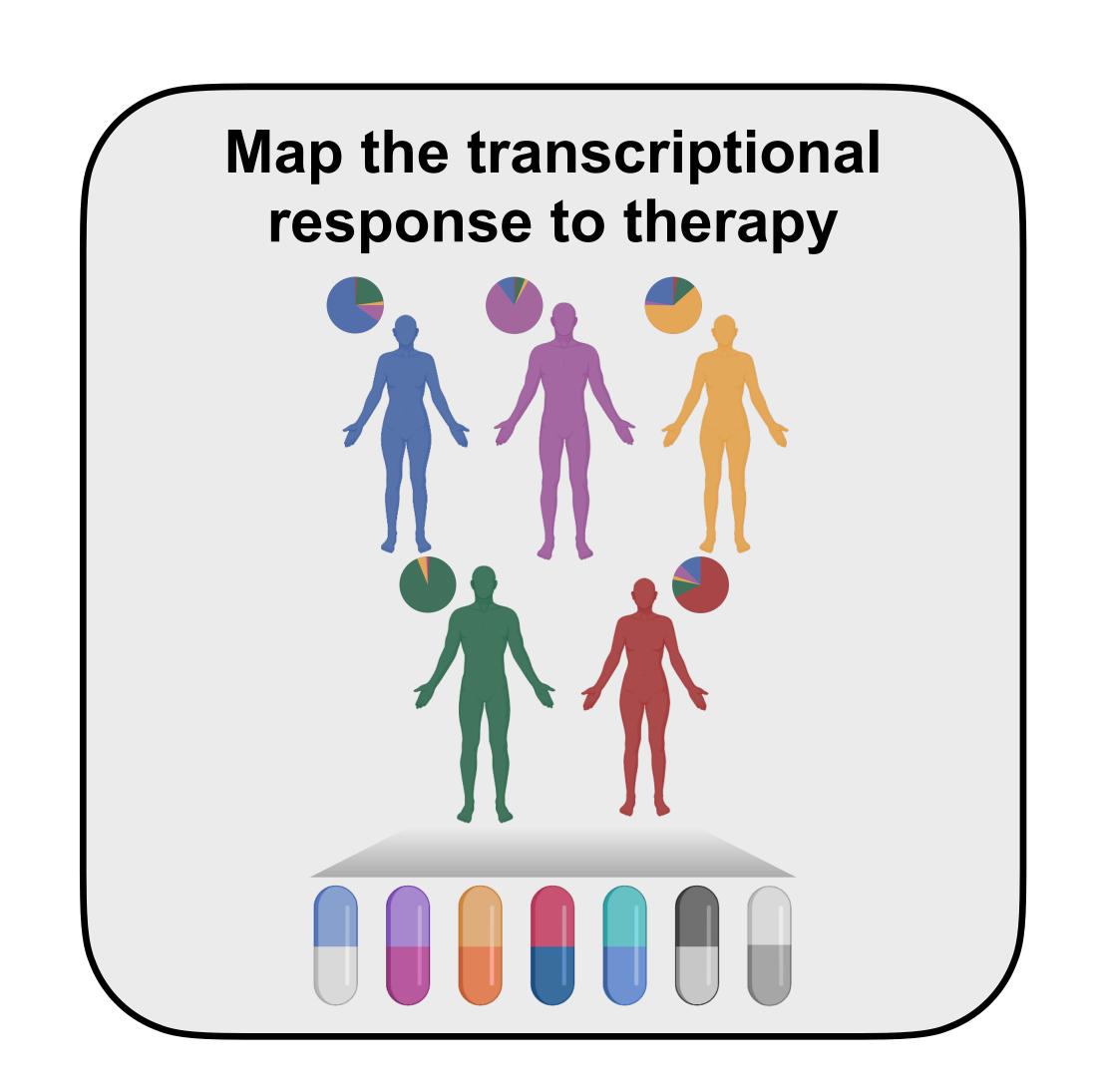
The Chemical Genomics Lab @ Columbia BME

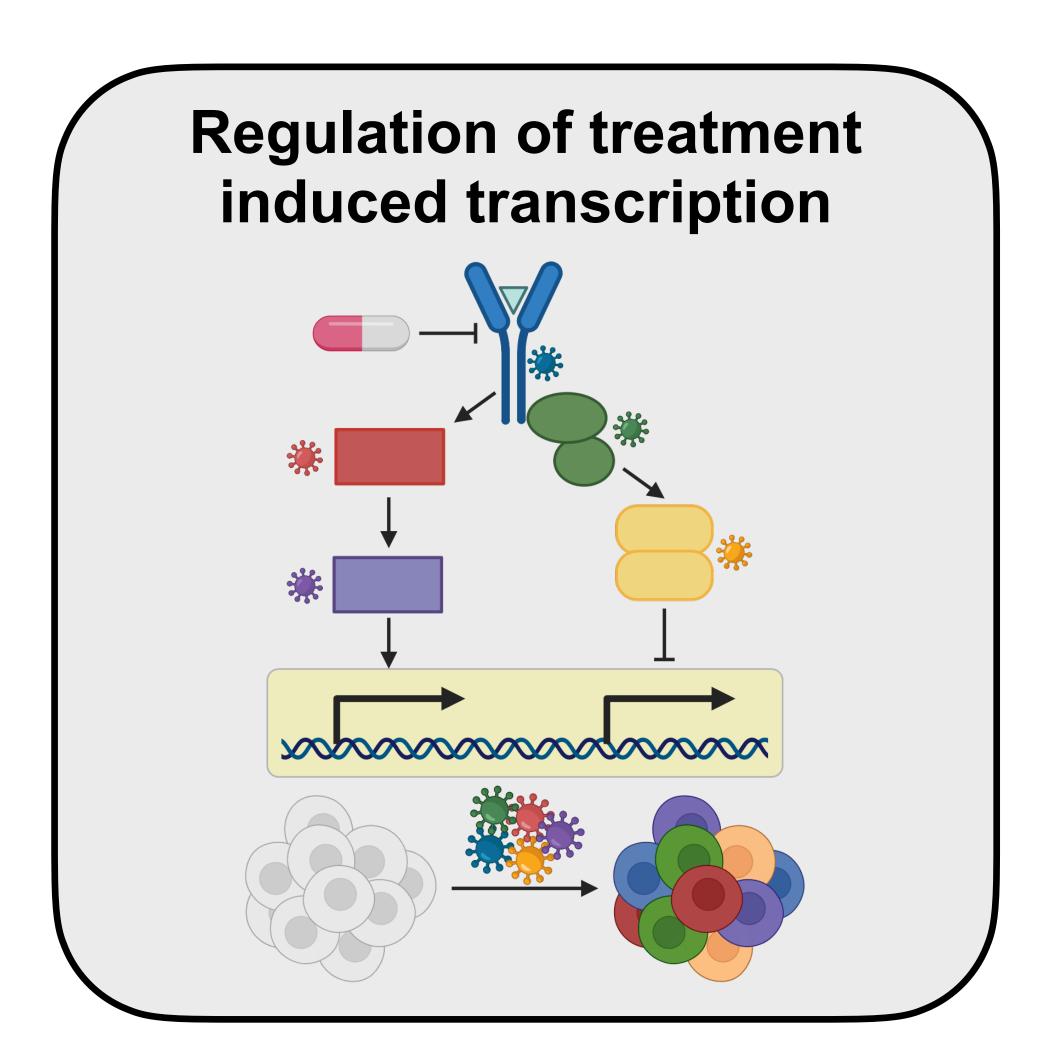


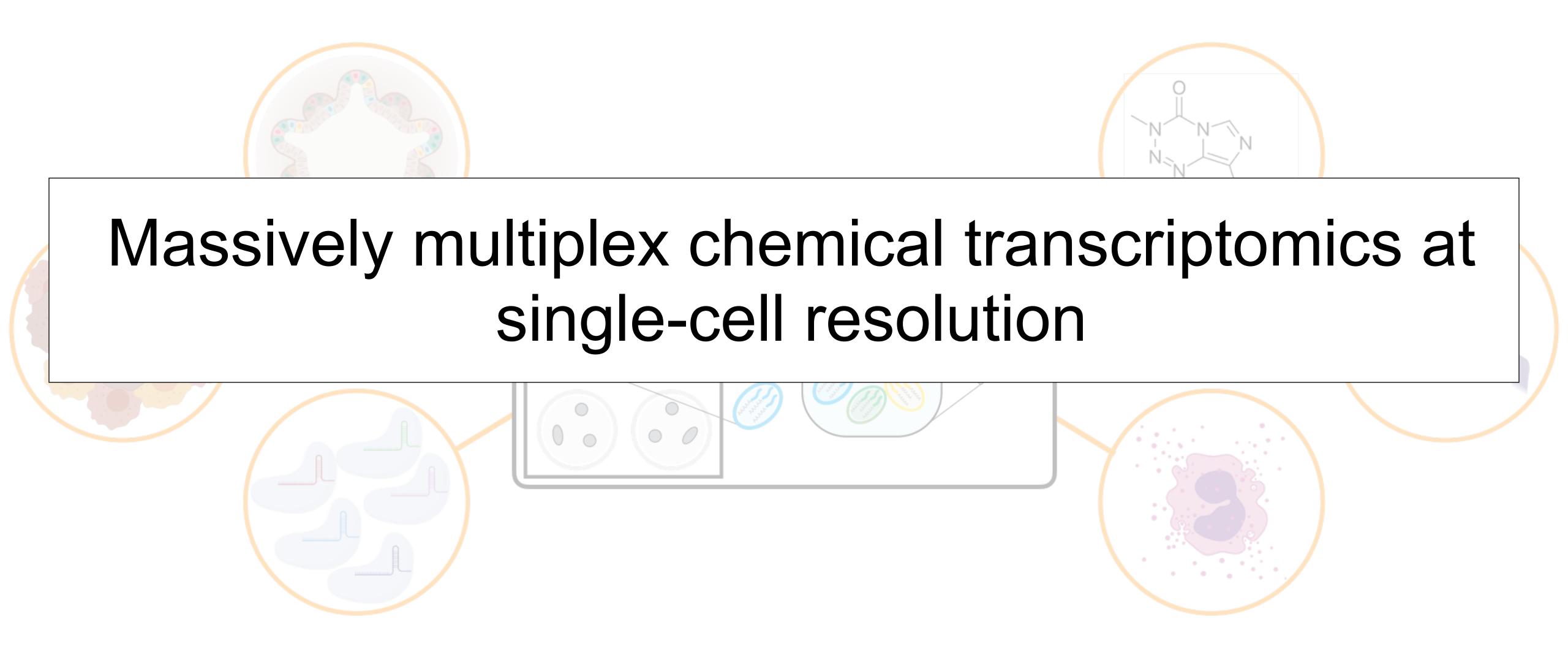
Targeting cancer associated processes



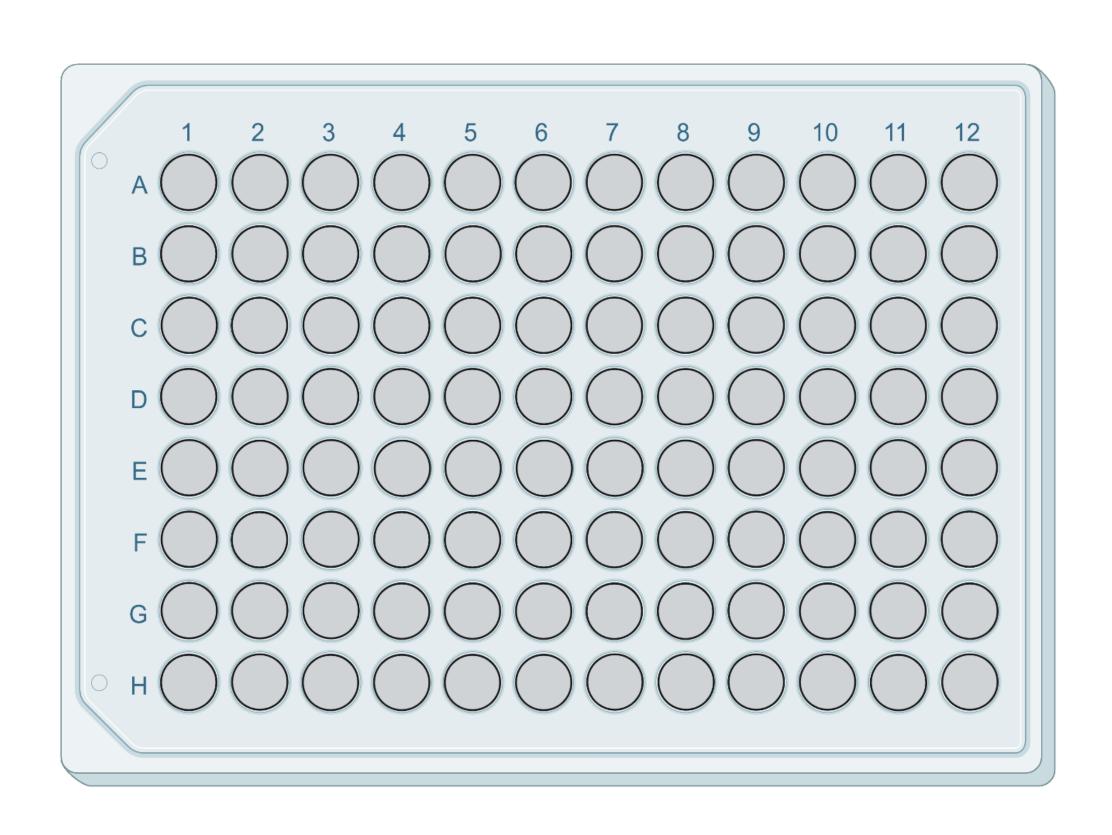
Multiplex single-cell perturbation genomics





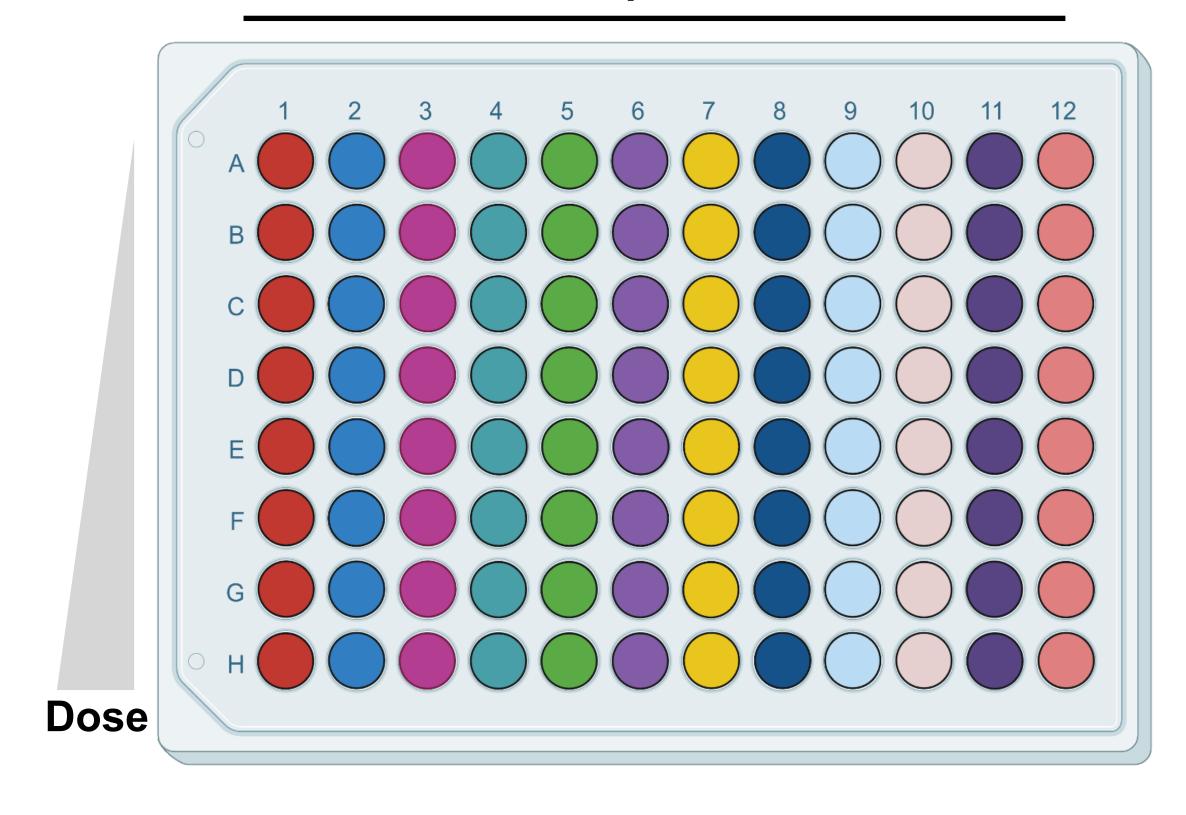


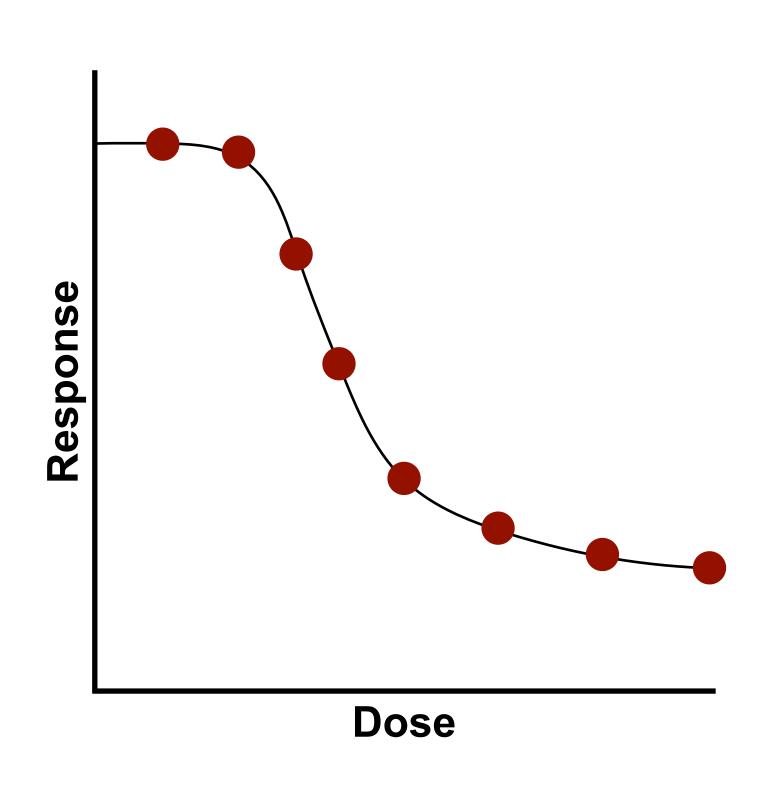
High throughput screens (HTS) allow for multiplex perturbation screens



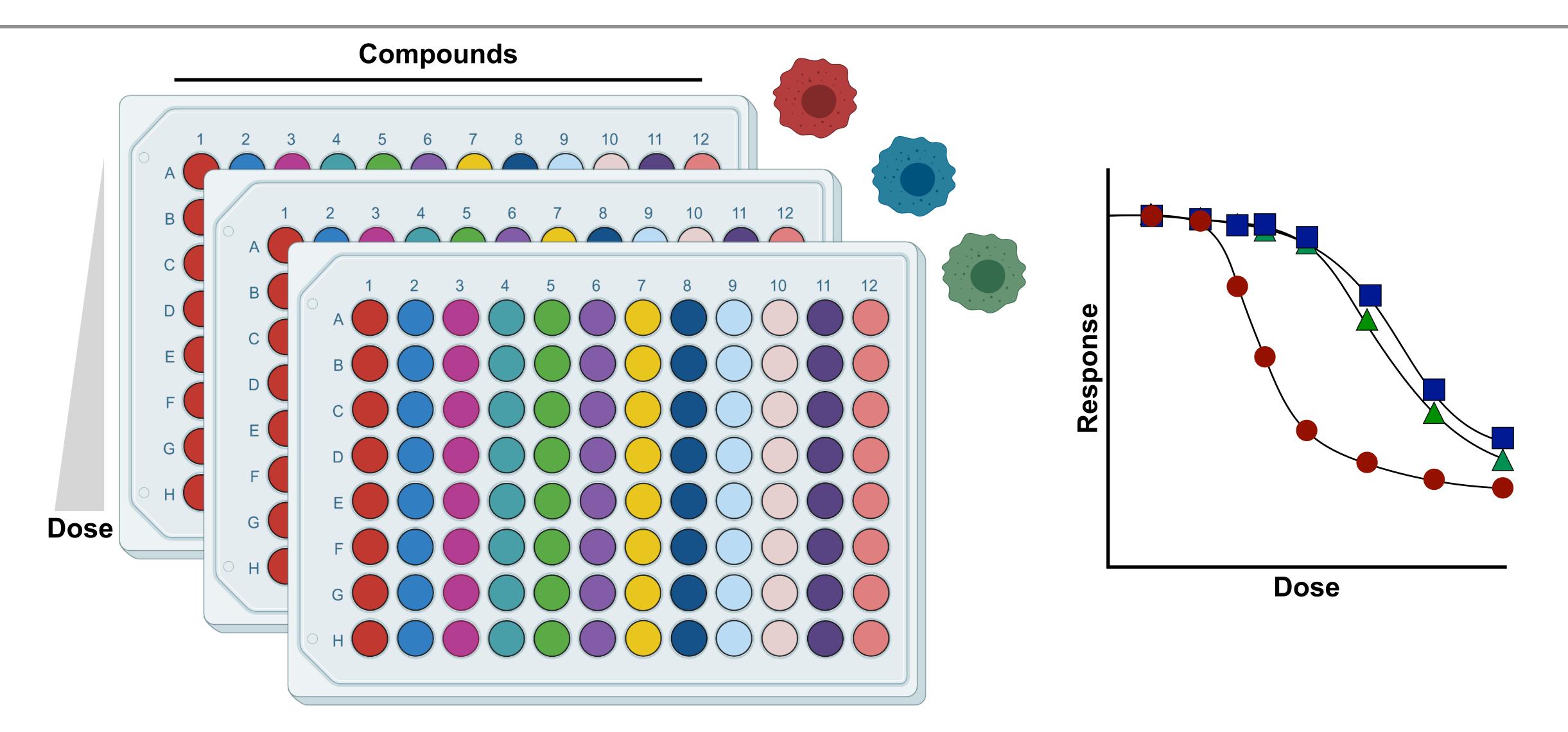
High throughput screens (HTS) allow for multiplex perturbation screens

Compounds

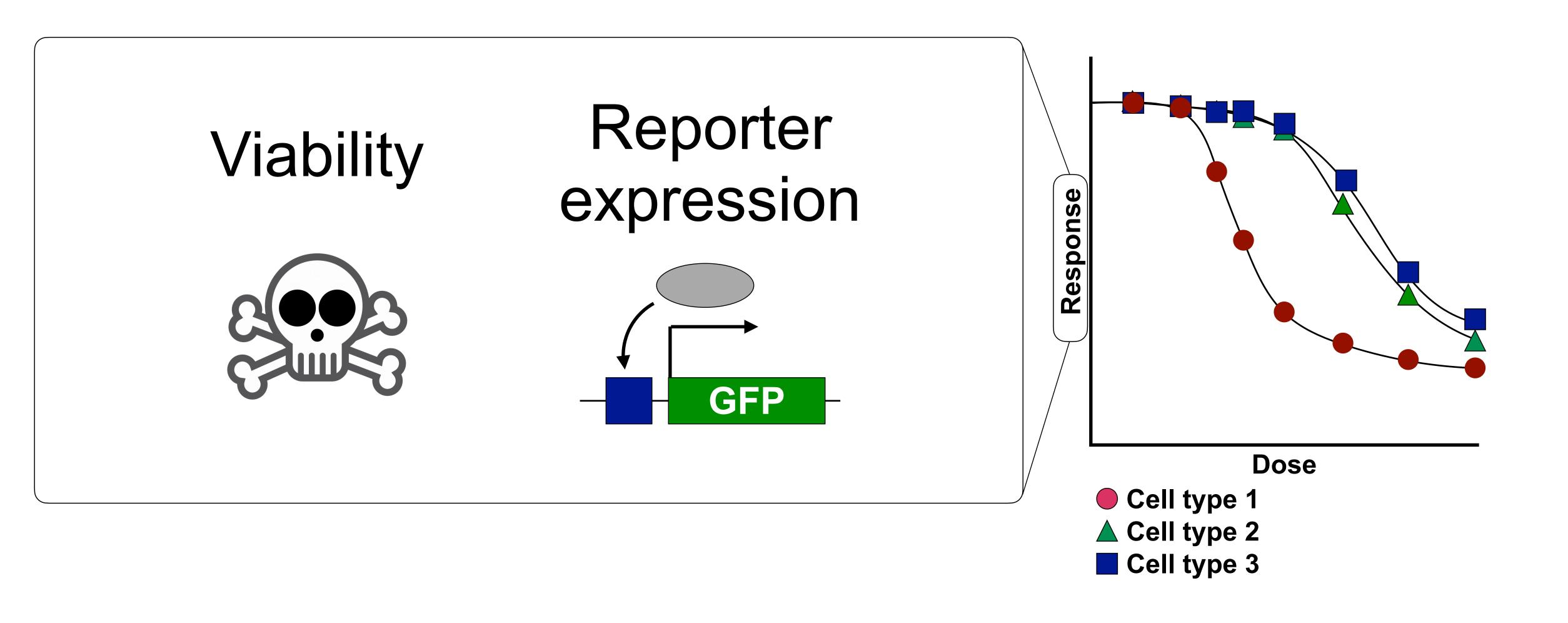




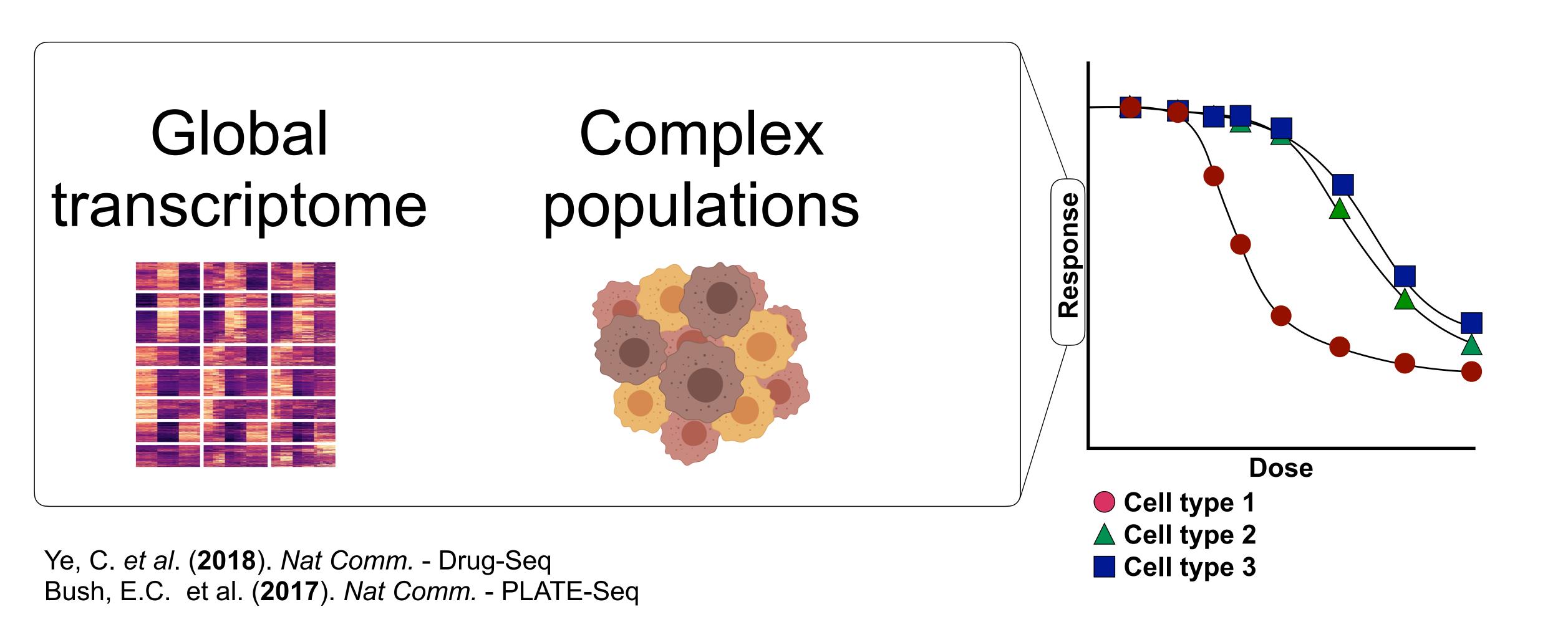
High throughput screens (HTS) allow for multiplex perturbation screens



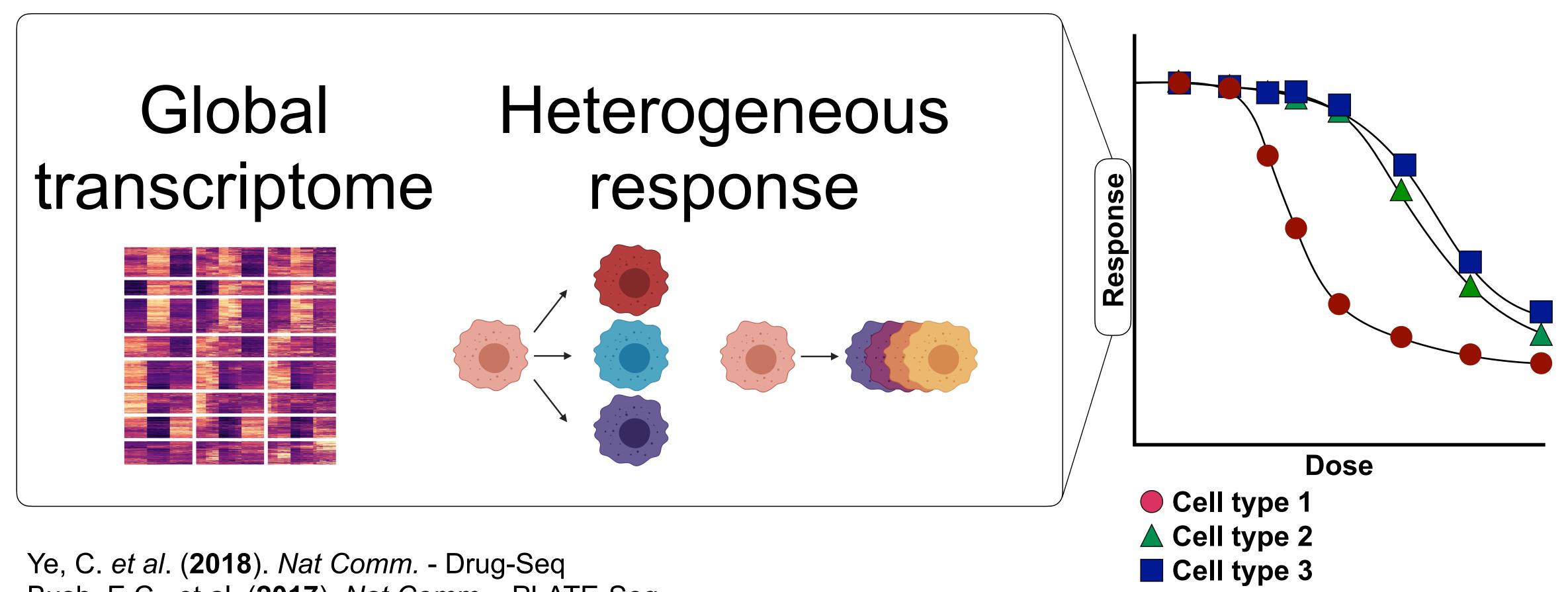
HTS is largely coupled to gross phenotypic or extremely specific molecular readouts



Transcriptomic readout of HTS screens

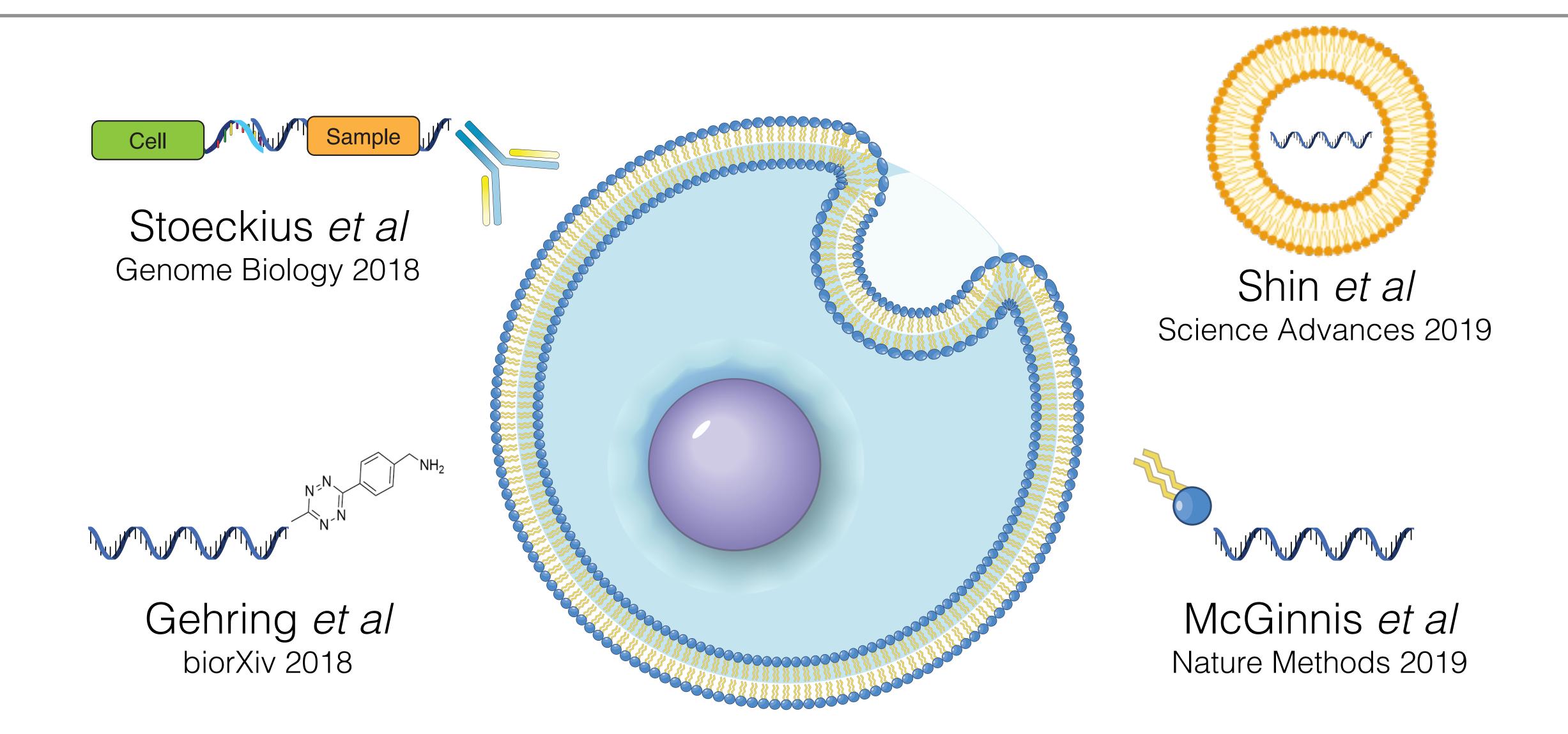


Transcriptomic readout of HTS screens

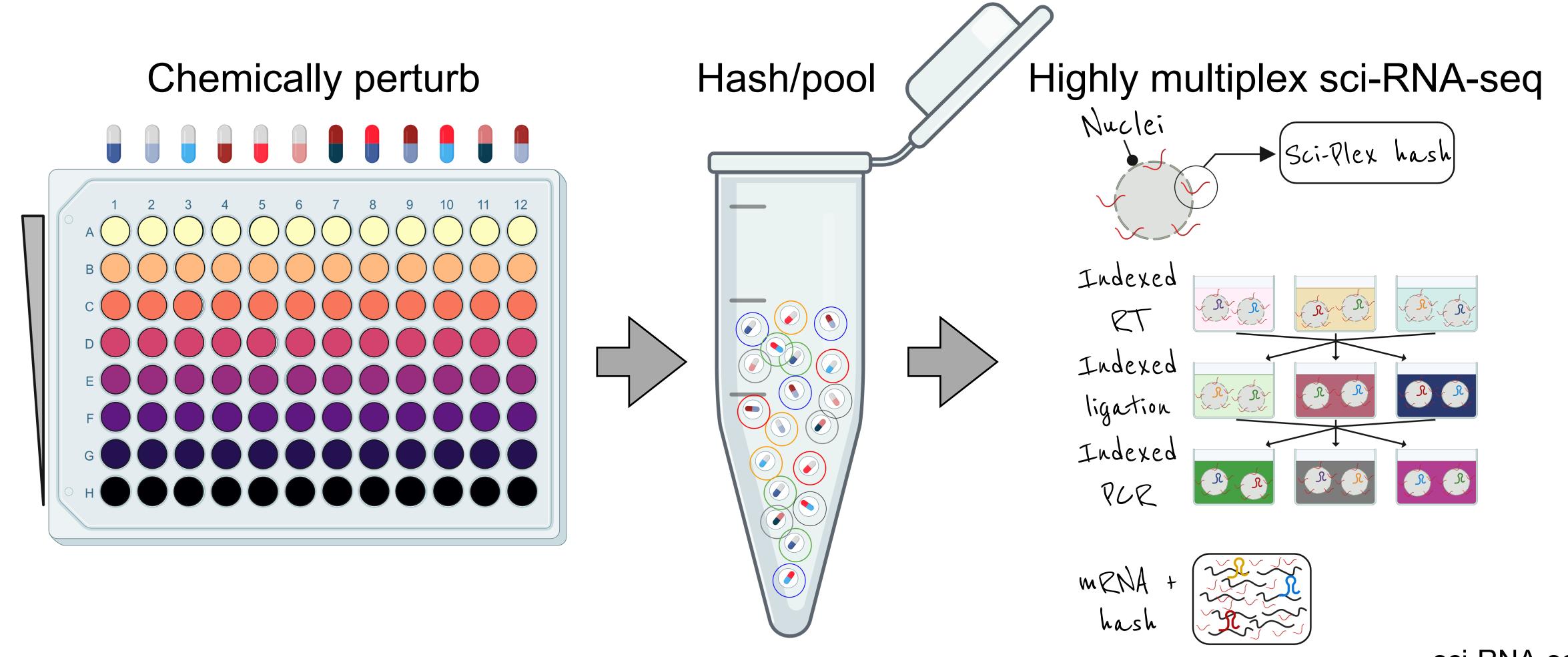


Bush, E.C. et al. (2017). Nat Comm. - PLATE-Seq

Single-cell "hashing" improves sample throughput



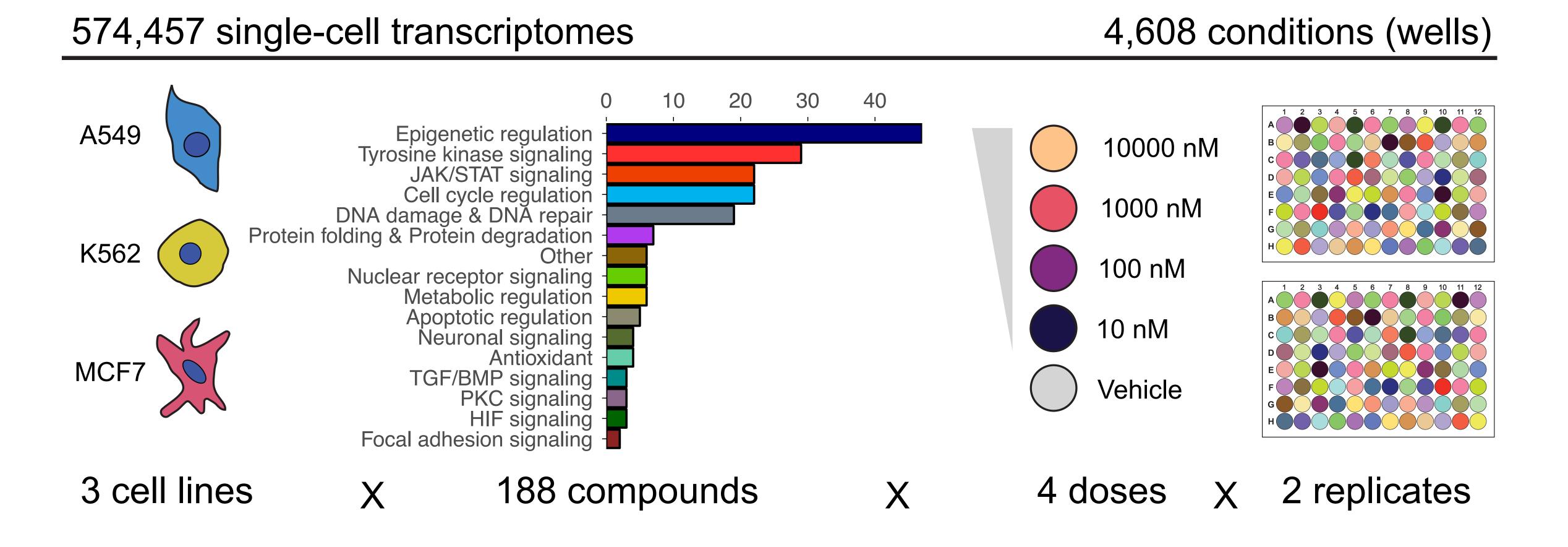
sci-Plex: Single-cell sample multiplexing



sci-RNA-seq:

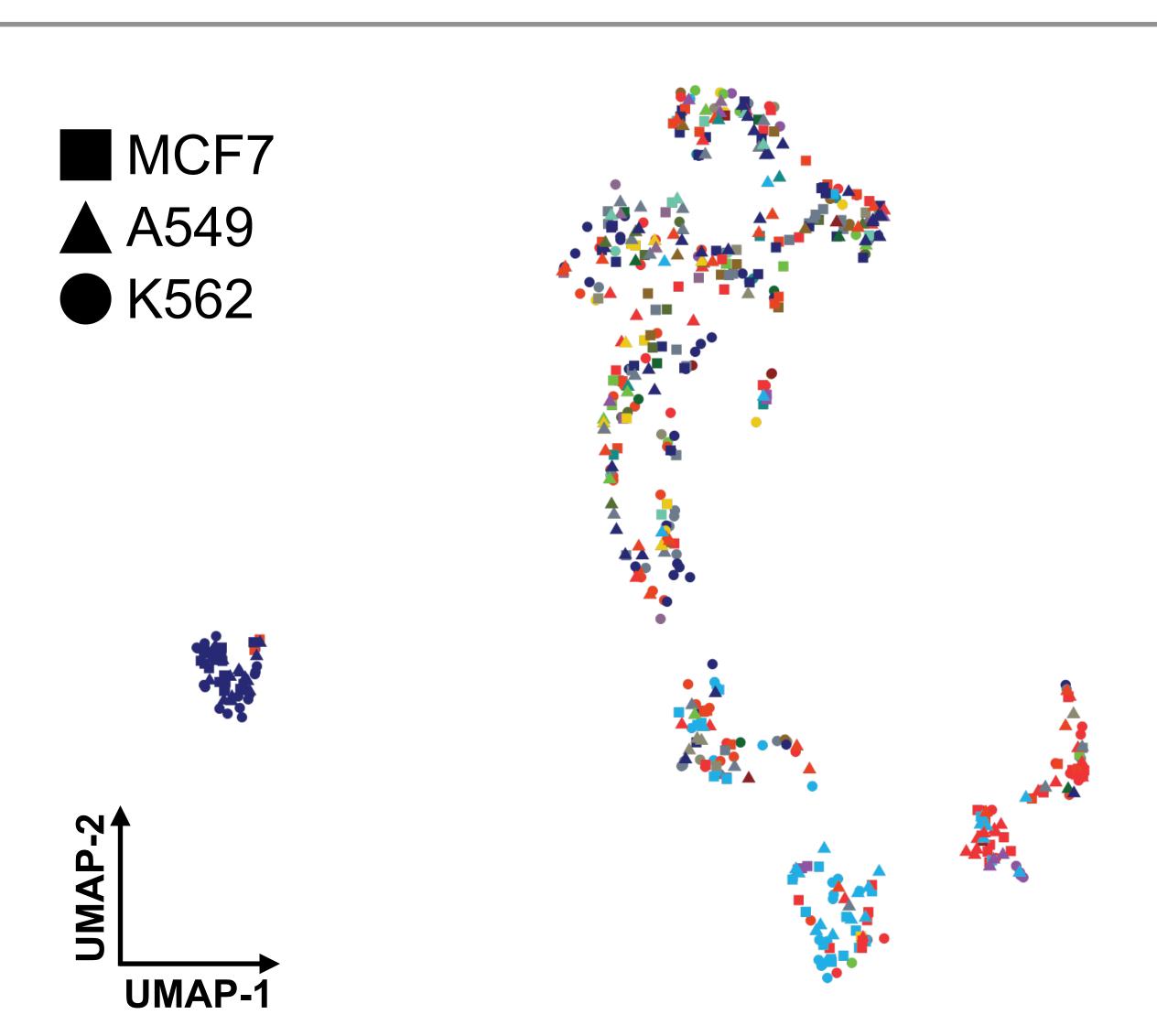
*Cao, *Spielmann, et. al. (2019), Nature.

HTS single-cell profiling of chemical perturbations



^{*}Srivatsan, S., *McFaline-Figueroa, J.L., *Ramani, V. et al. (2020). Science.

sci-Plex recovers commonalities of compounds with similar mechanisms of action

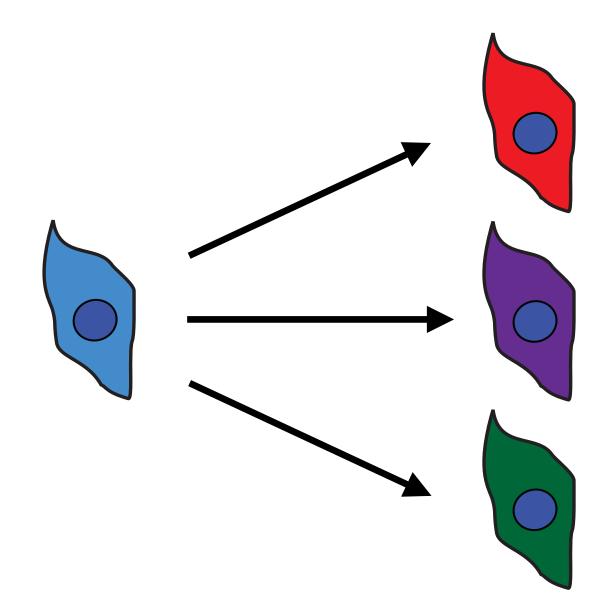


Pathway

- Antioxidant
- Apoptotic regulation
- Cell cycle regulation
- DNA damage & DNA repair
- Epigenetic regulation
- Focal adhesion signaling
- HIF signaling
- JAK/STAT signaling
- Metabolic regulation
- Neuronal signaling
- Nuclear receptor signaling
- Other
- PKC signaling
- Protein folding & Protein degradation
- TGF/BMP signaling
- Tyrosine kinase signaling
- Vehicle

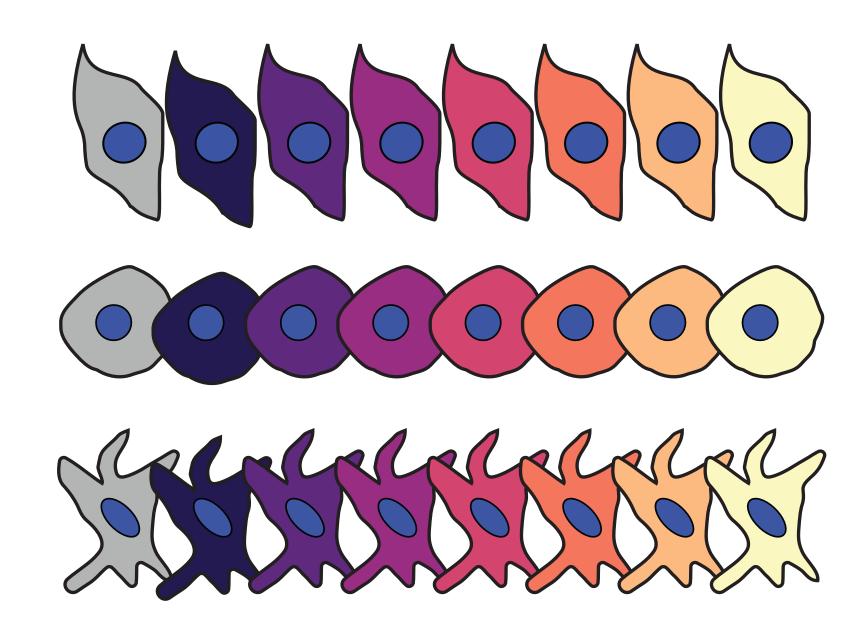
sci-Plex reveals heterogeneity in drug response

Induction of multiple cell states

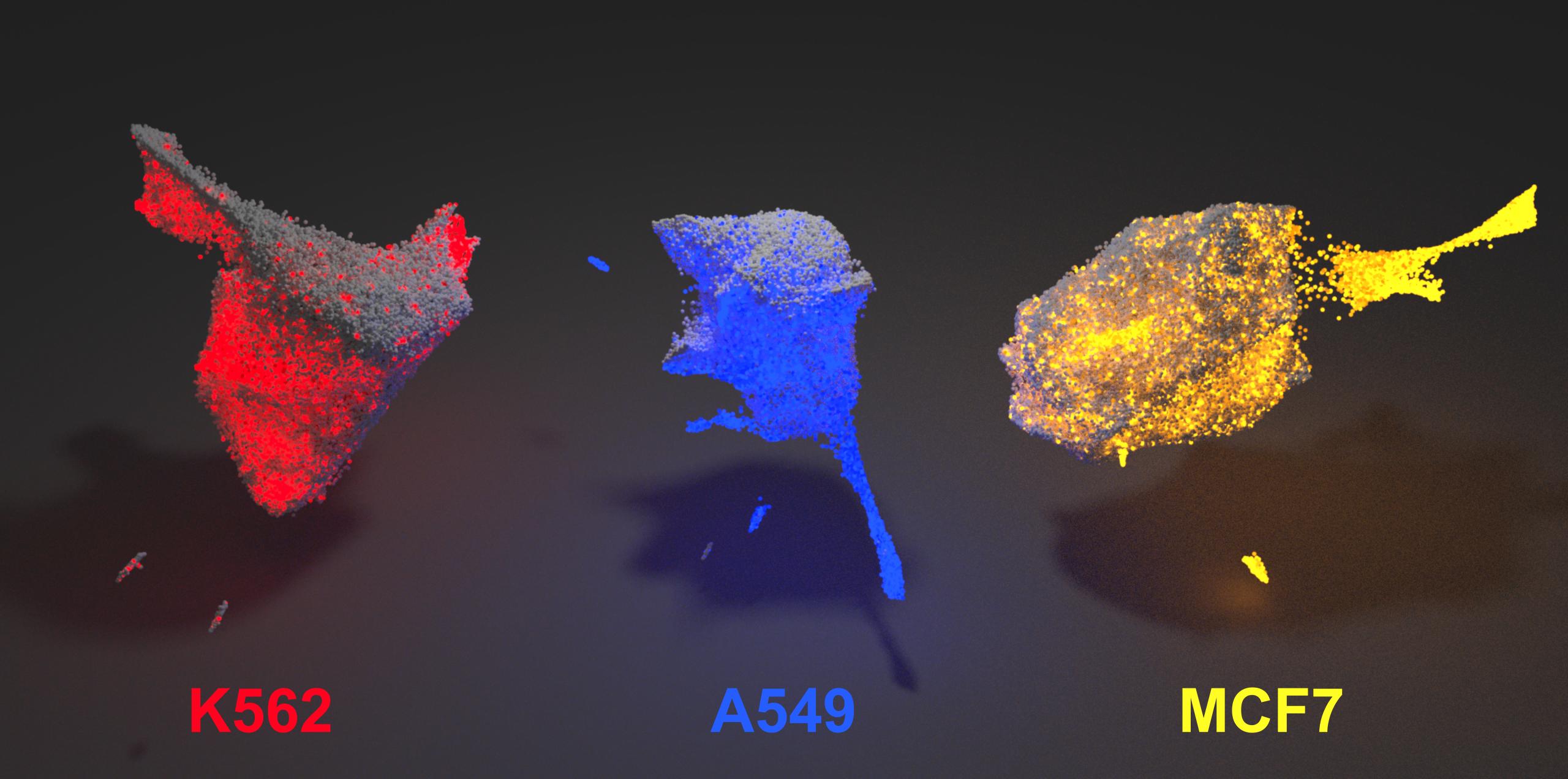


Microtubule targeting agents

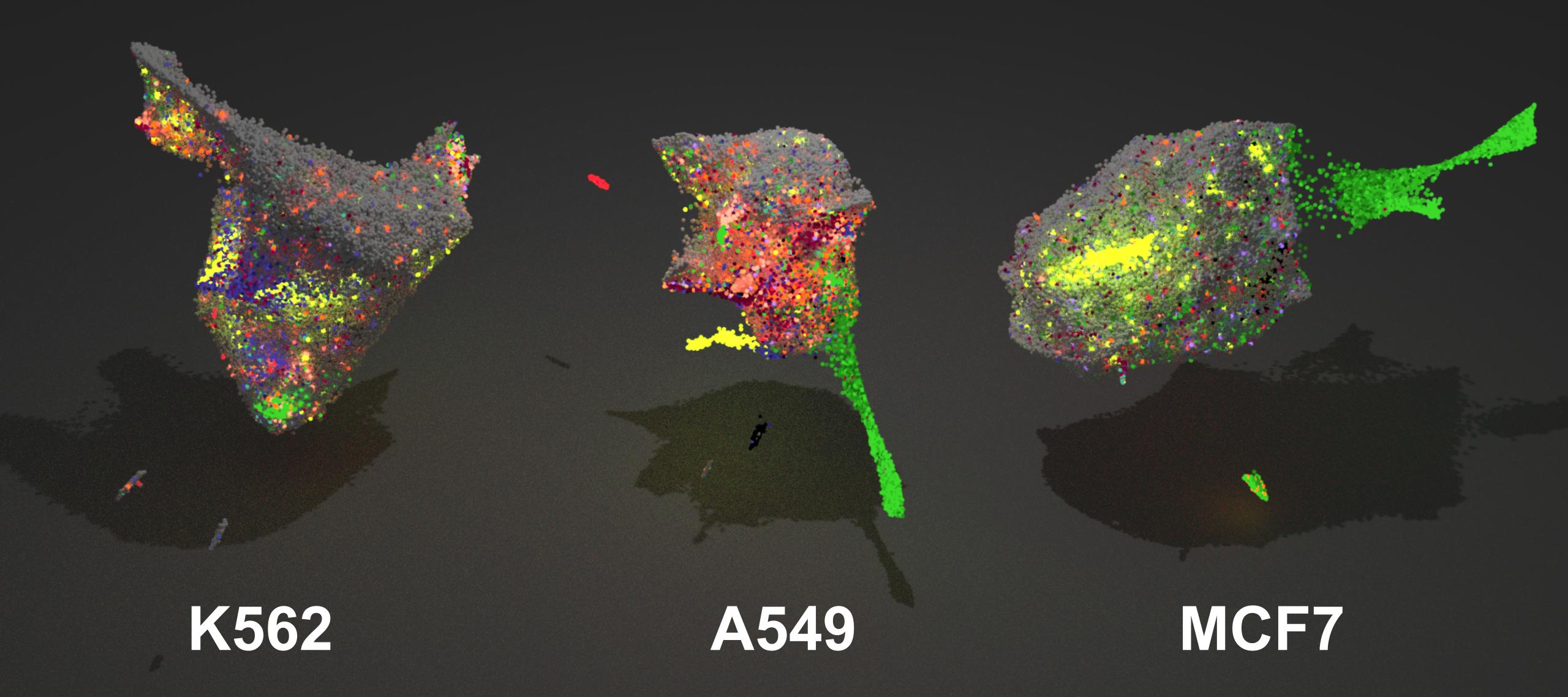
Continuum of cellular response



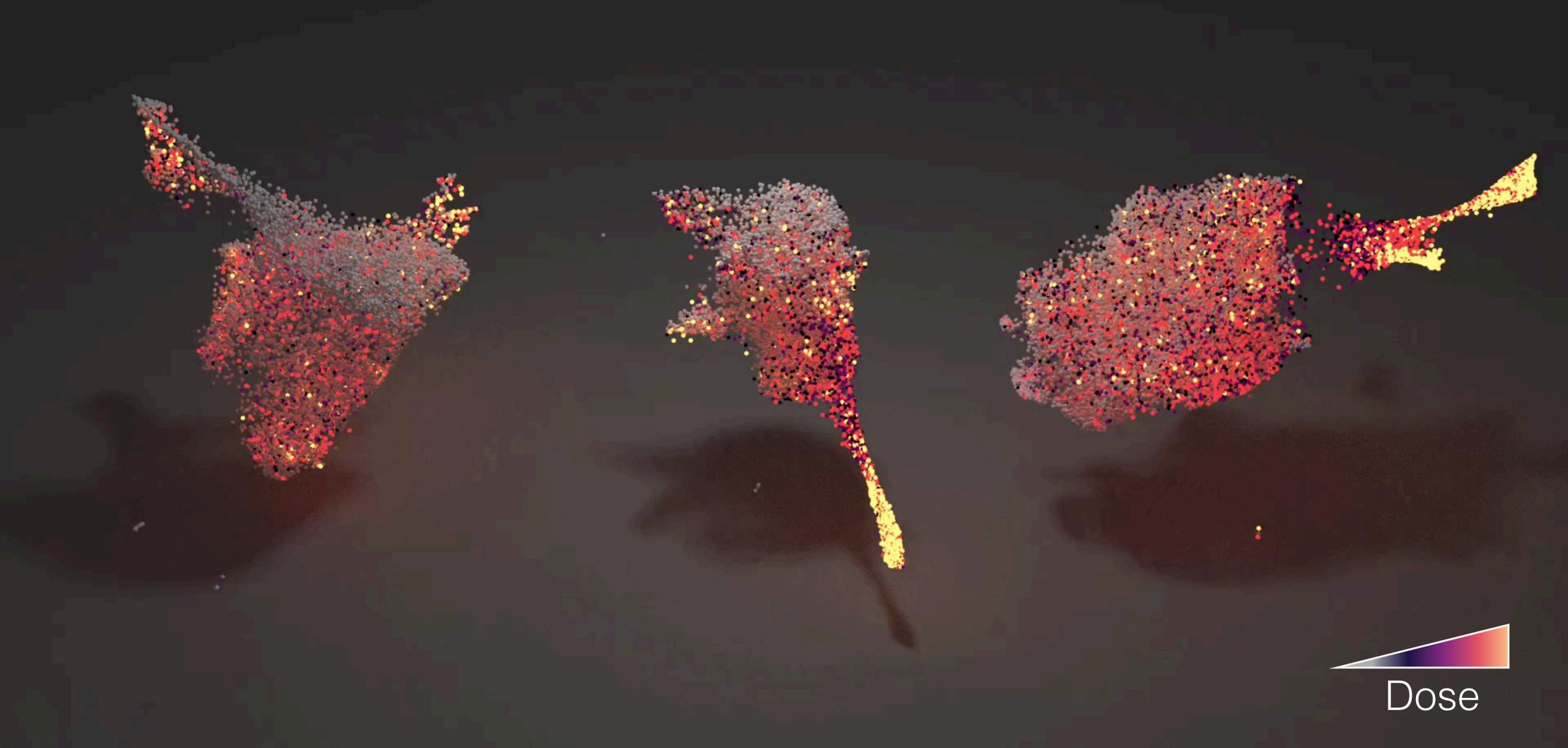
HDACi — Ac-CoA metabolism



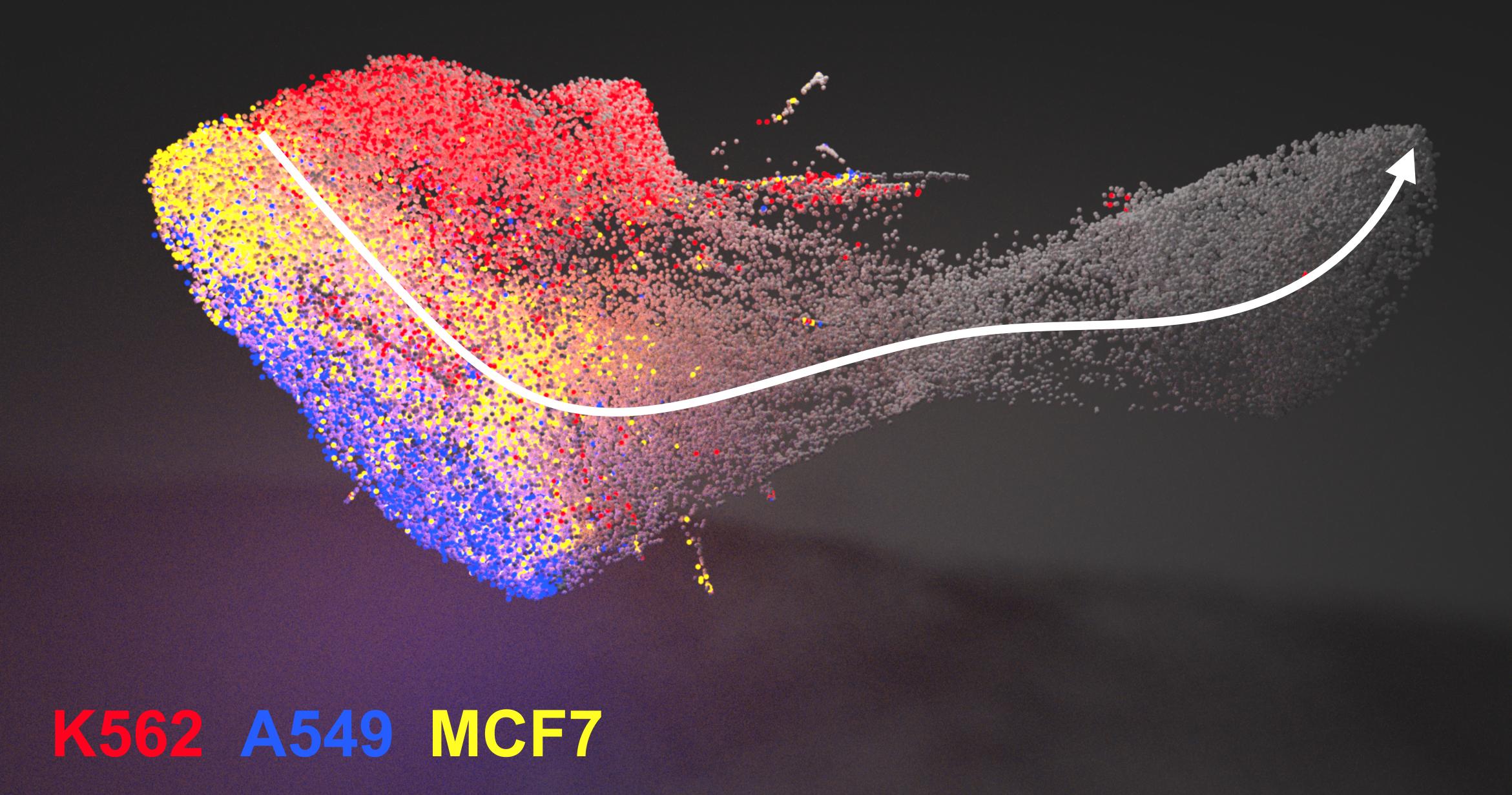
HDACi



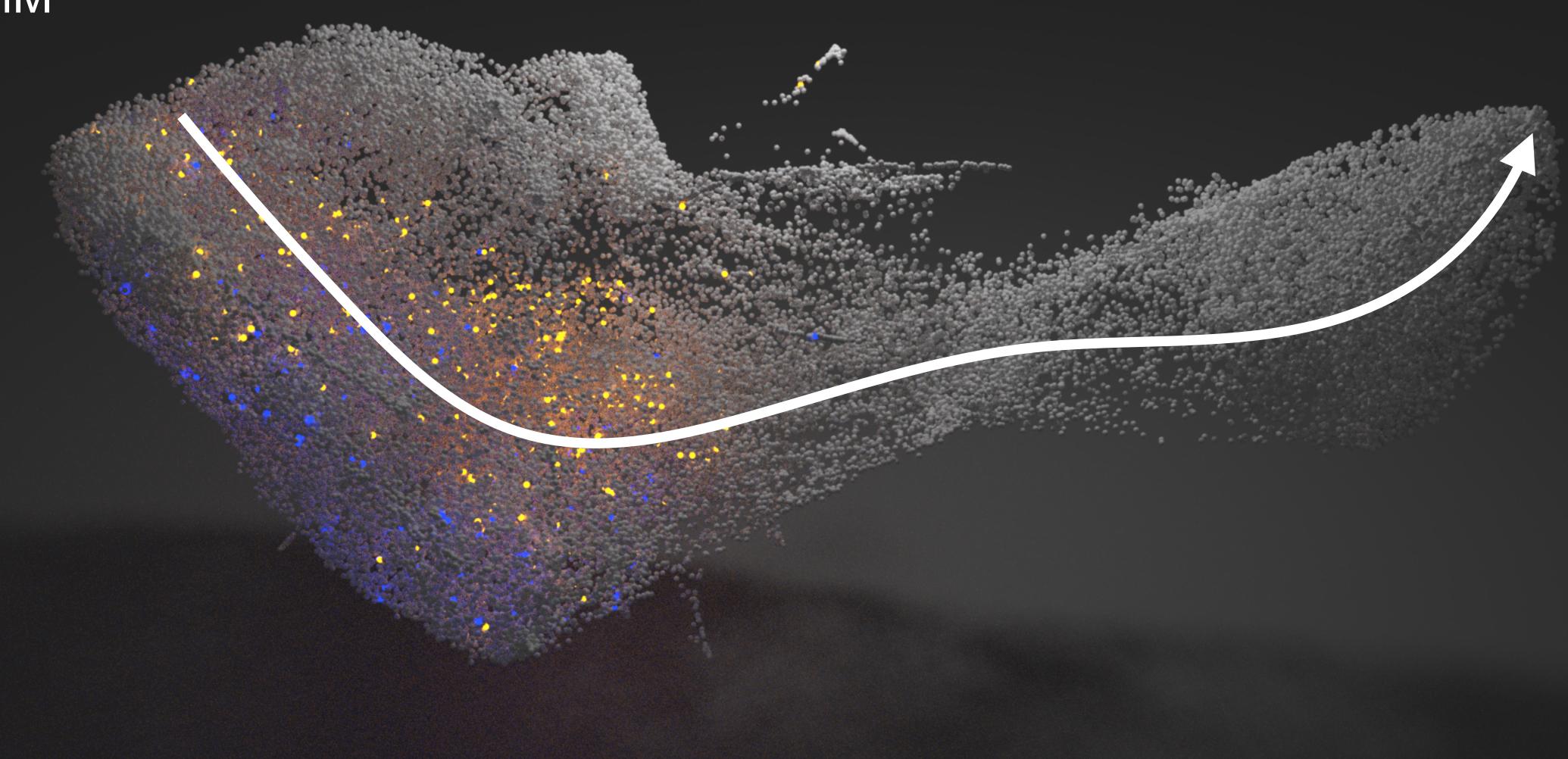
HDAC inhibitors induce a dose-dependent trajectory



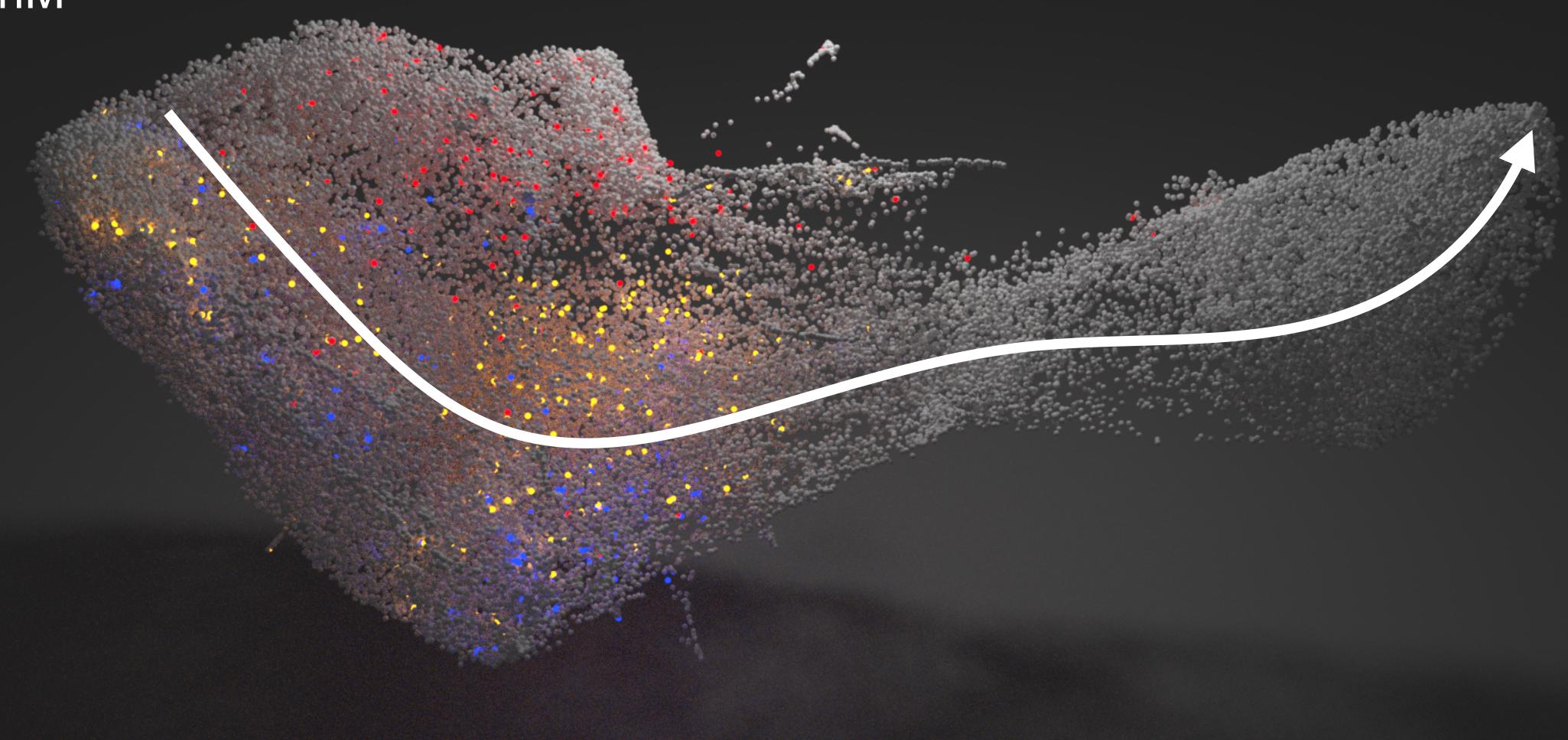
Vehicle



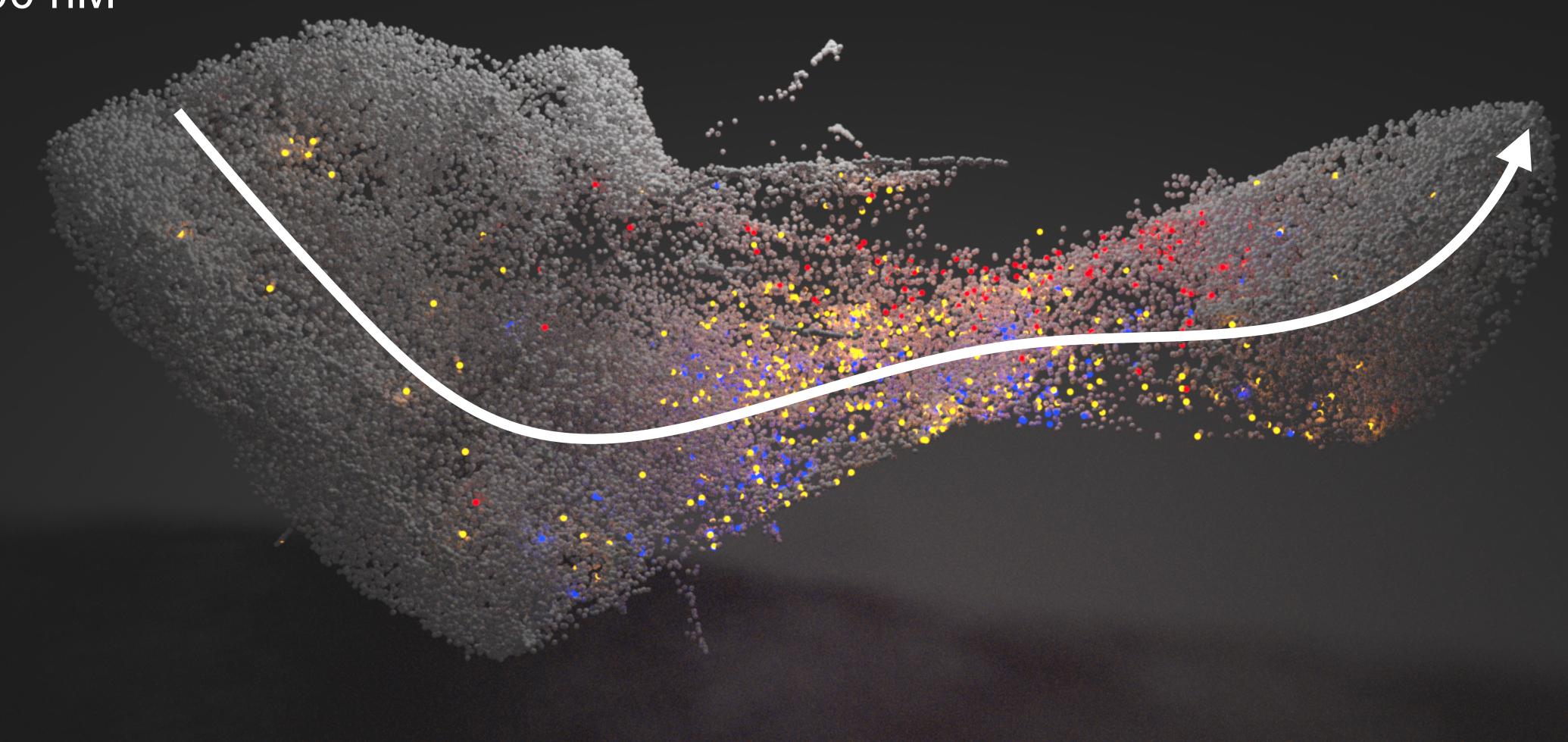
10 nM



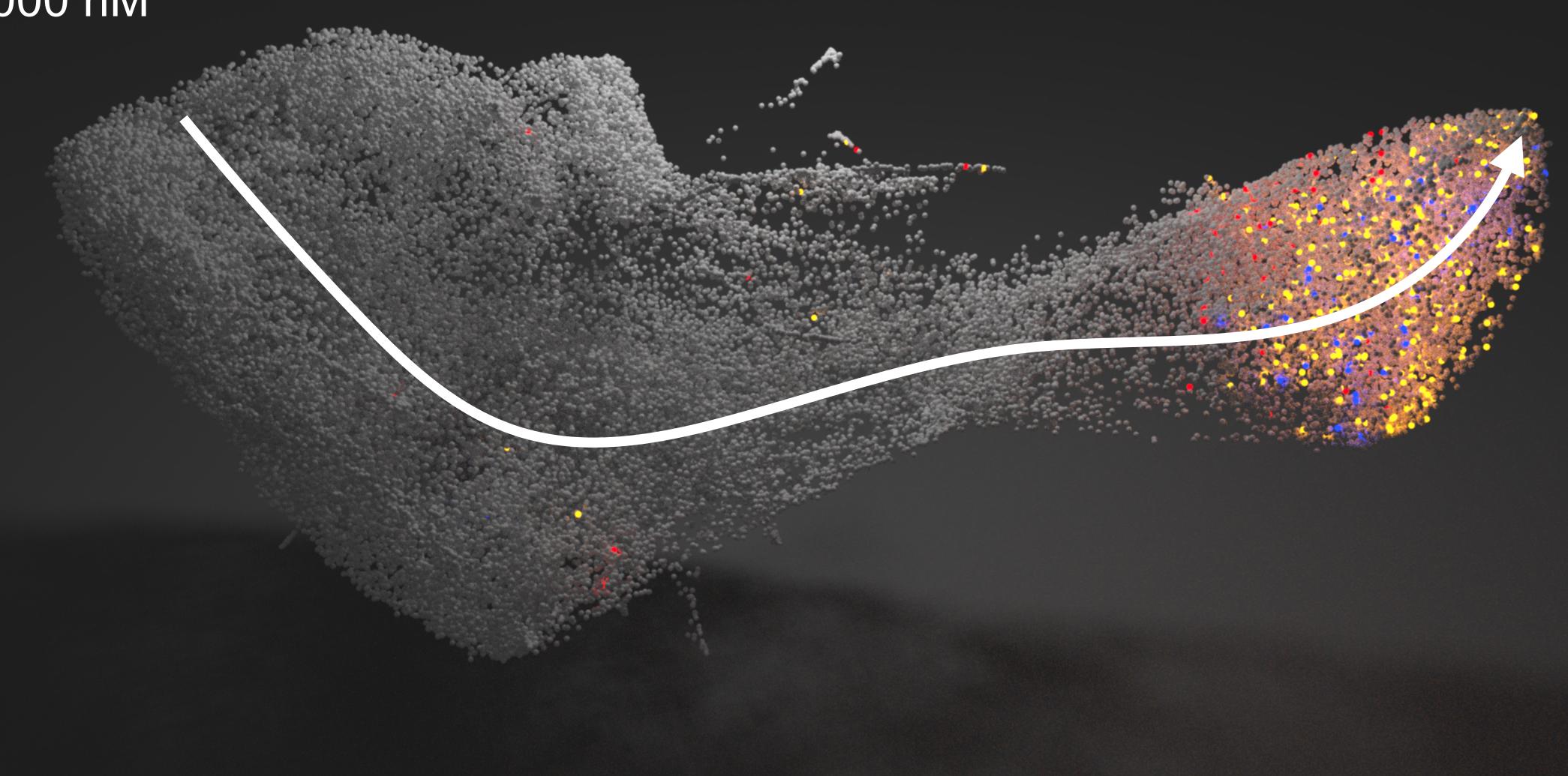
100 nM



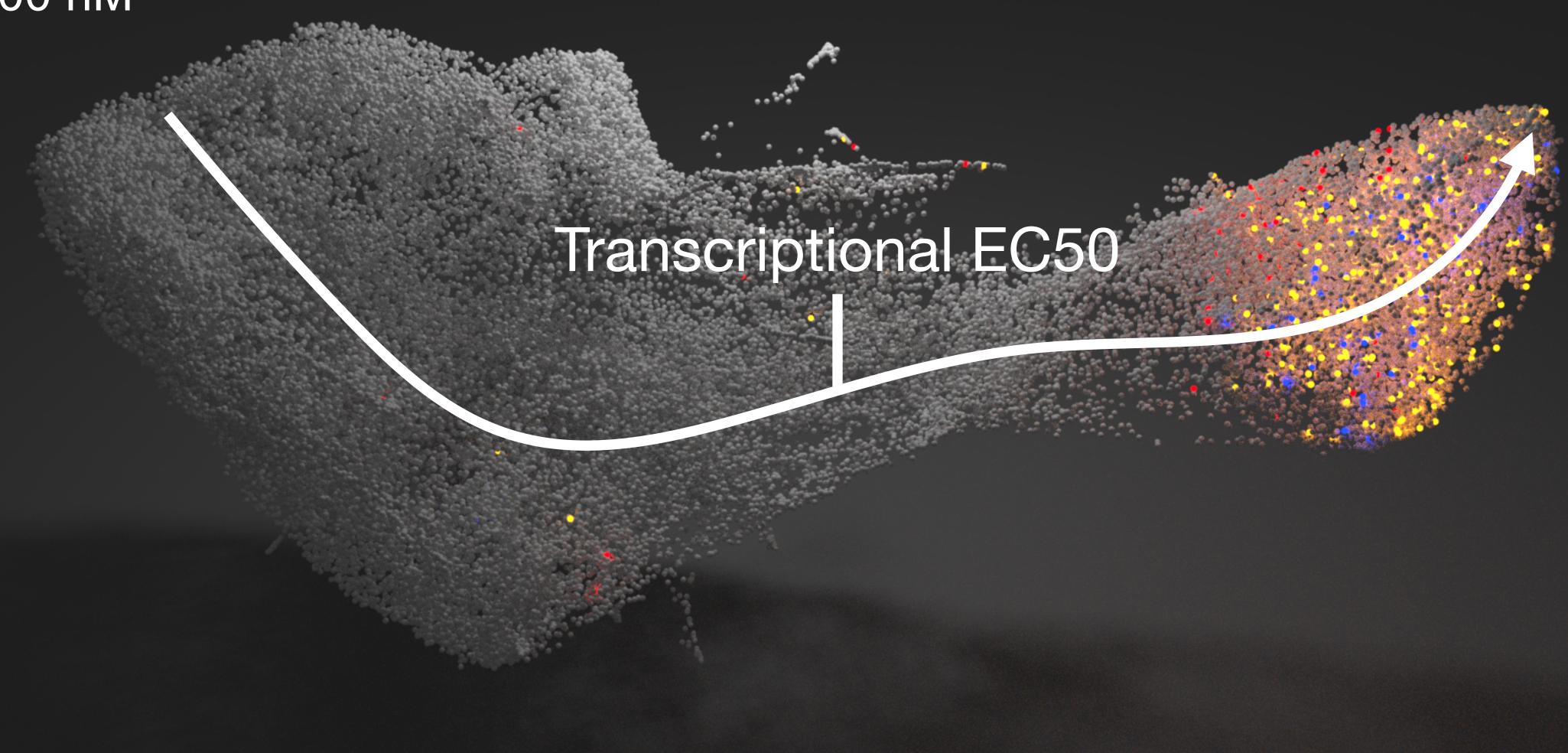
1,000 nM



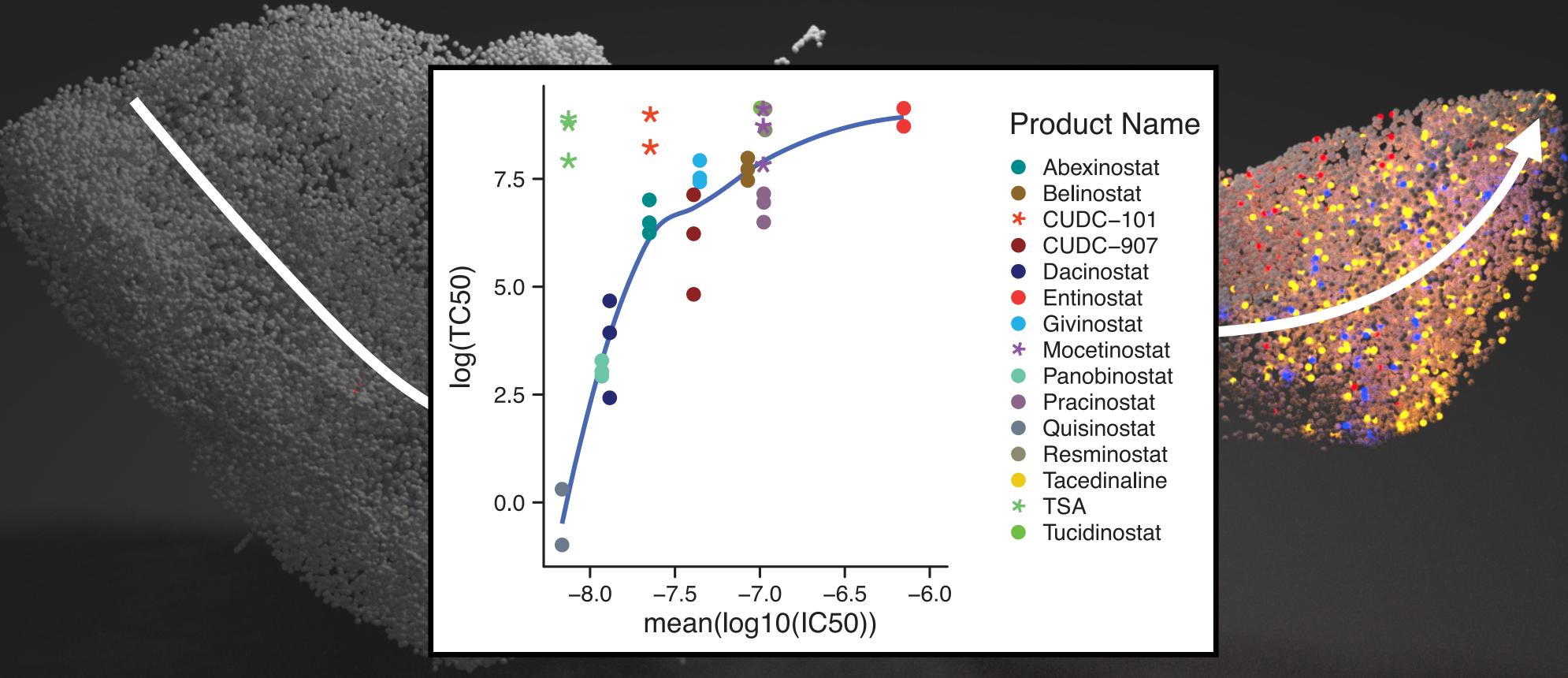
10,000 nM



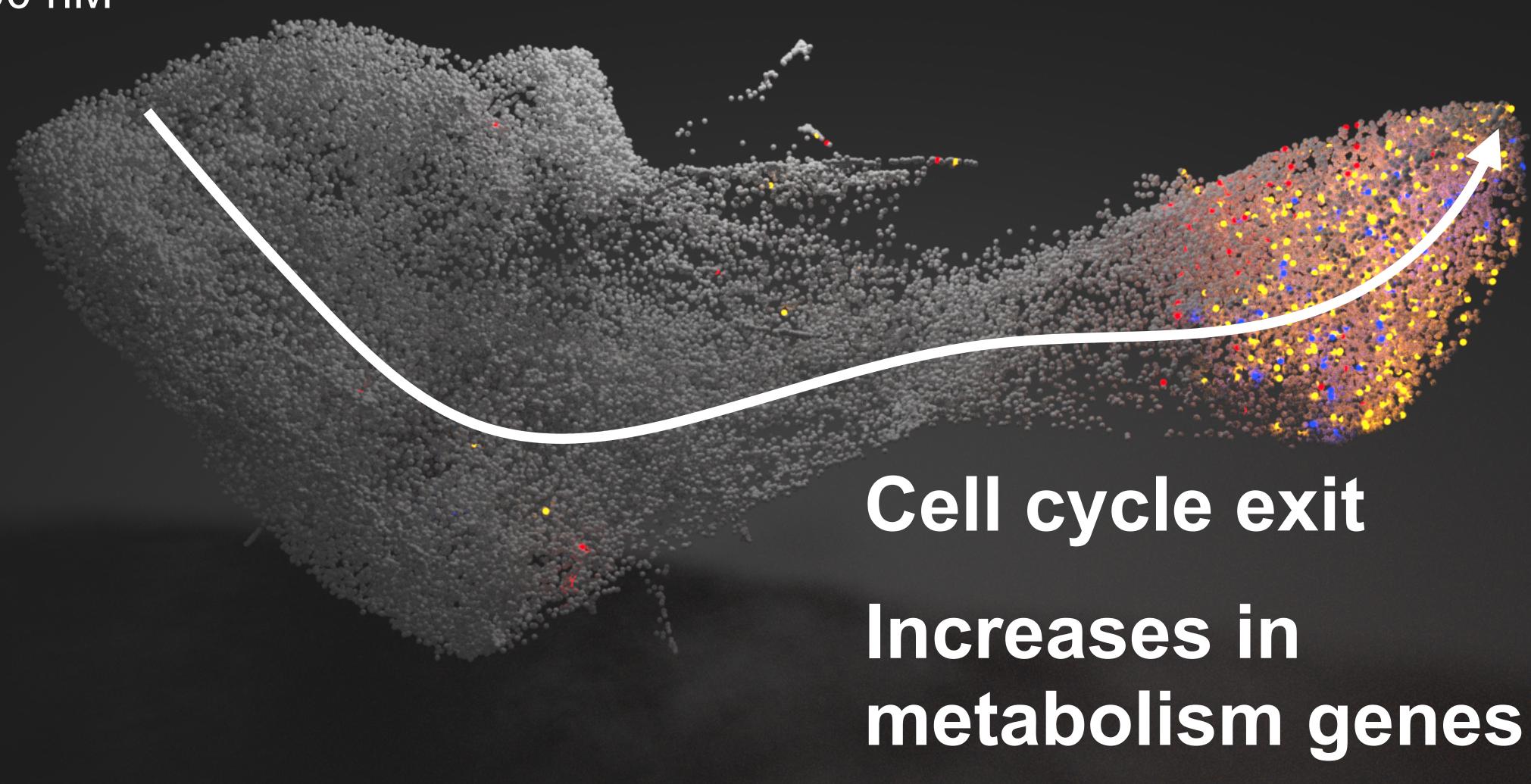
10,000 nM



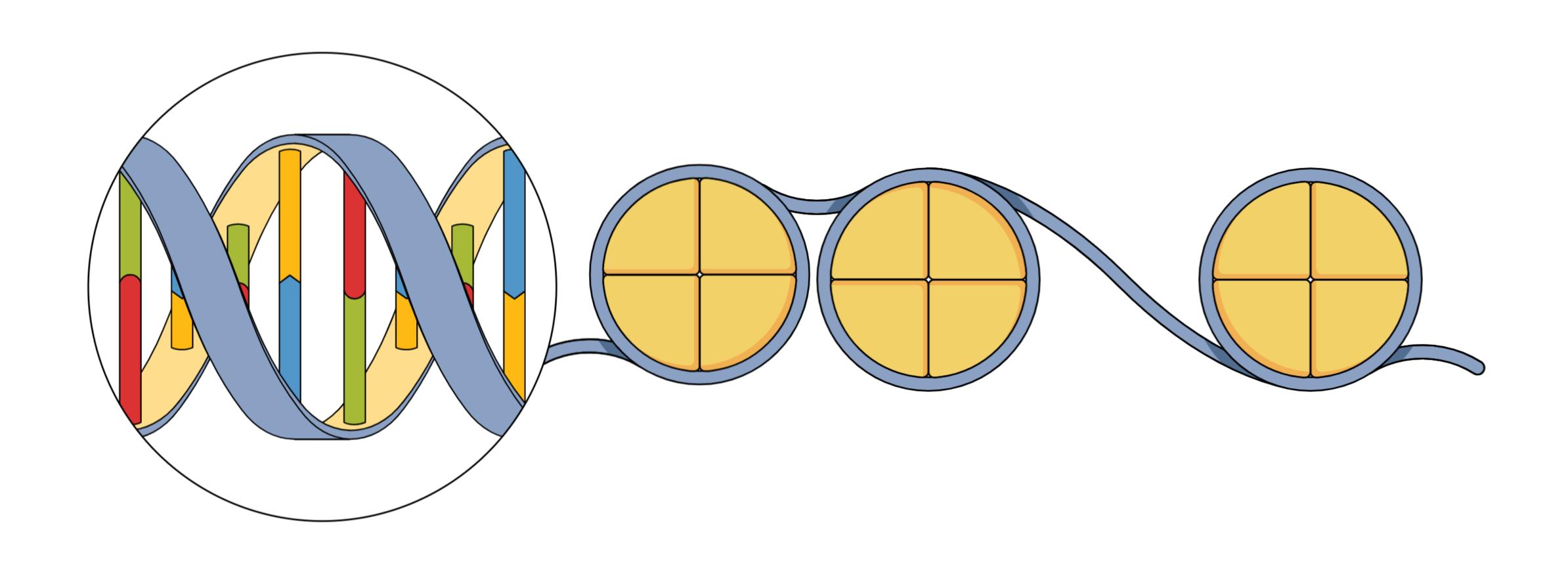
10,000 nM



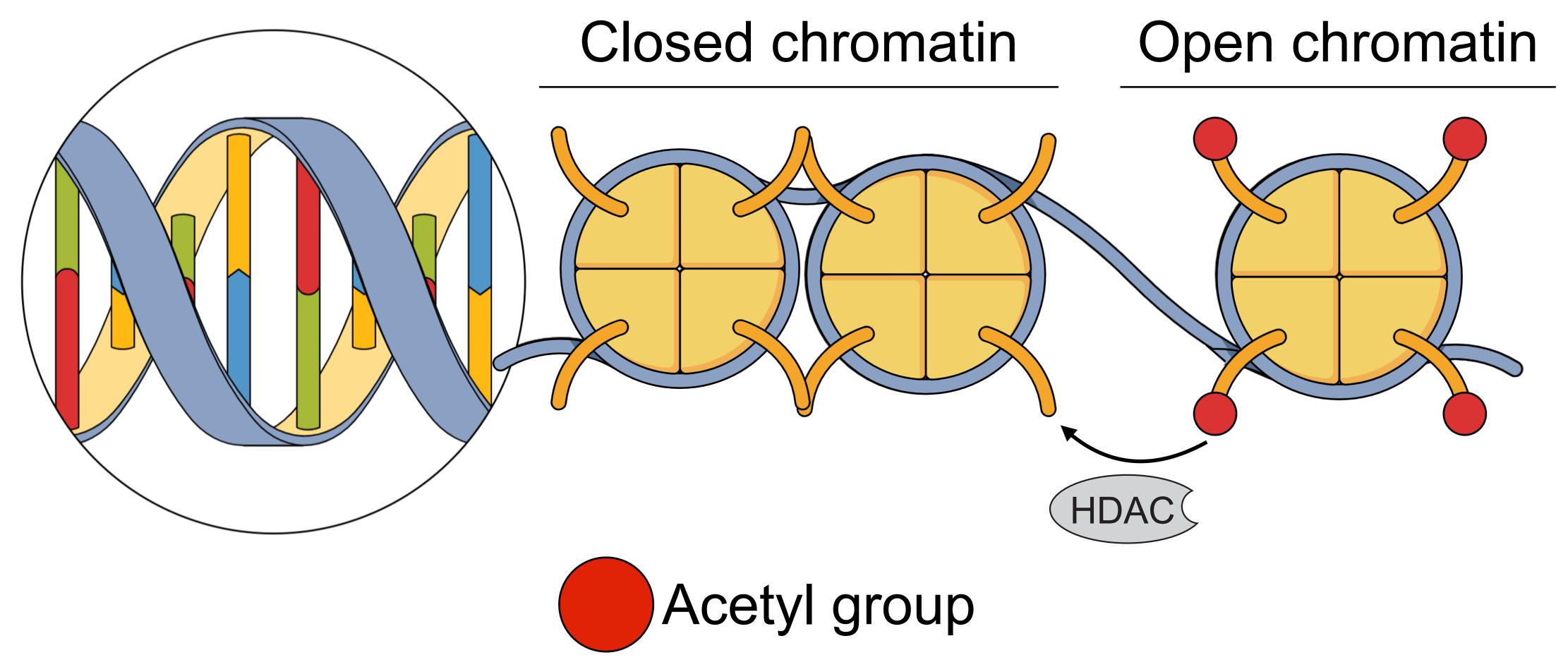
10,000 nM



Histone acetylation regulates gene expression

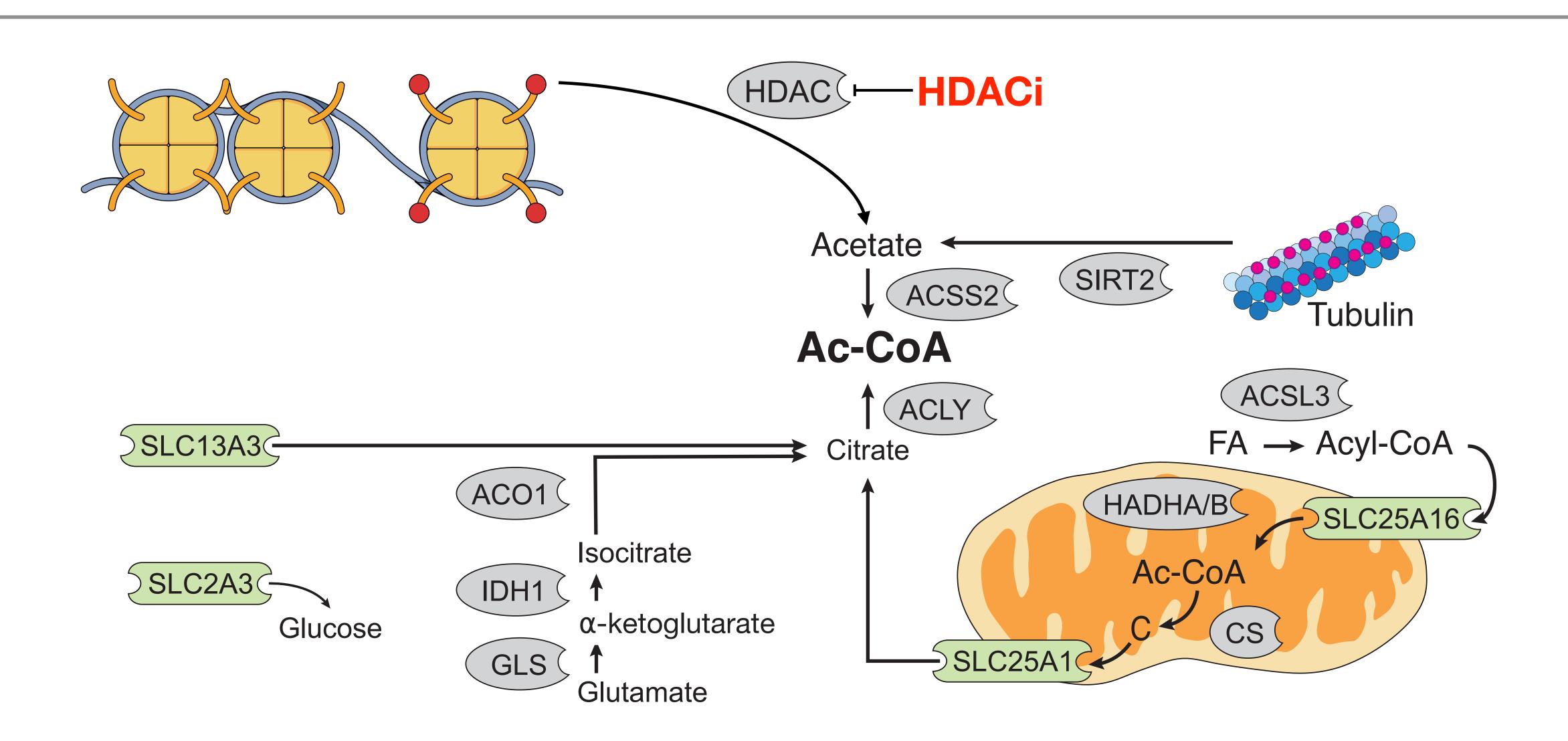


Histone acetylation regulates gene expression

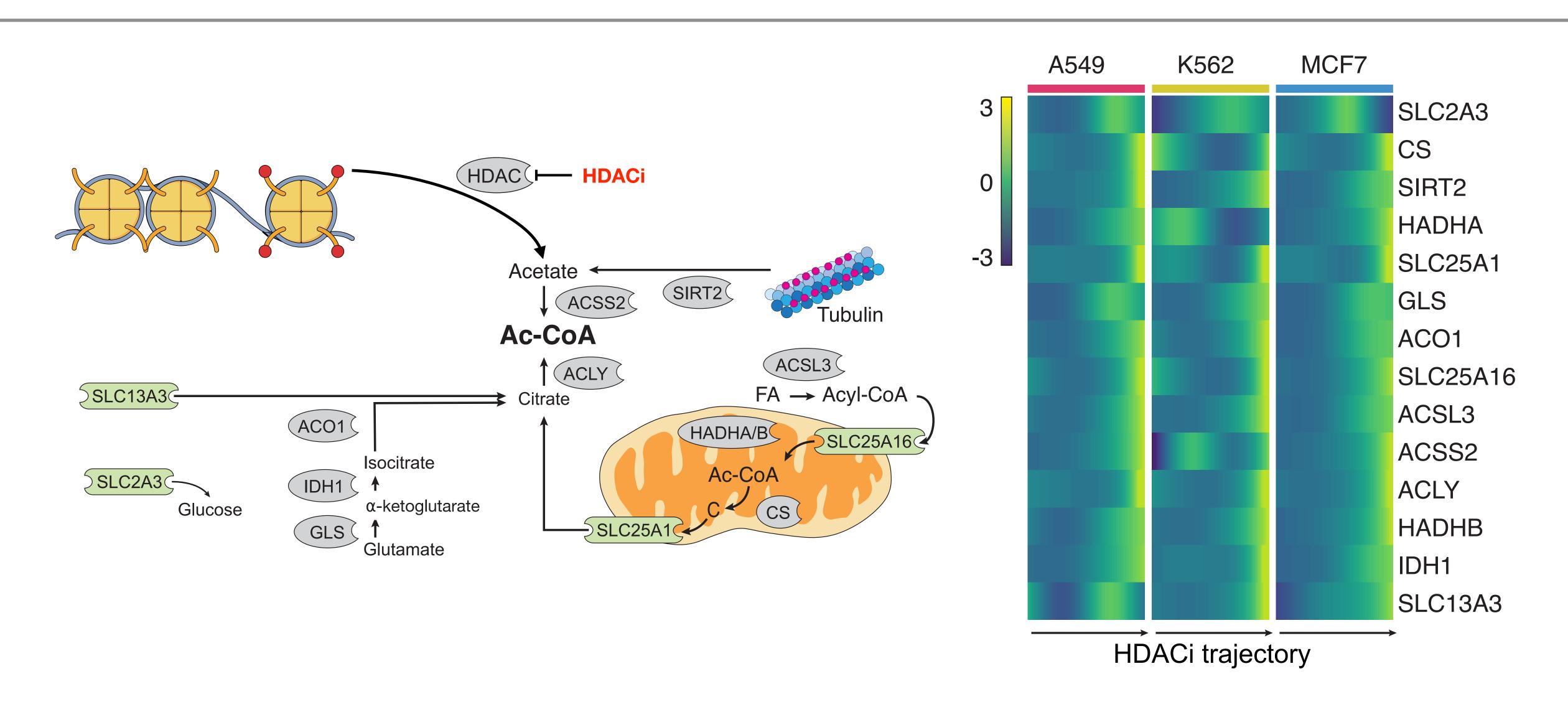


Kurdastani, S.K. (2014) Curr Opin Genet Dev.

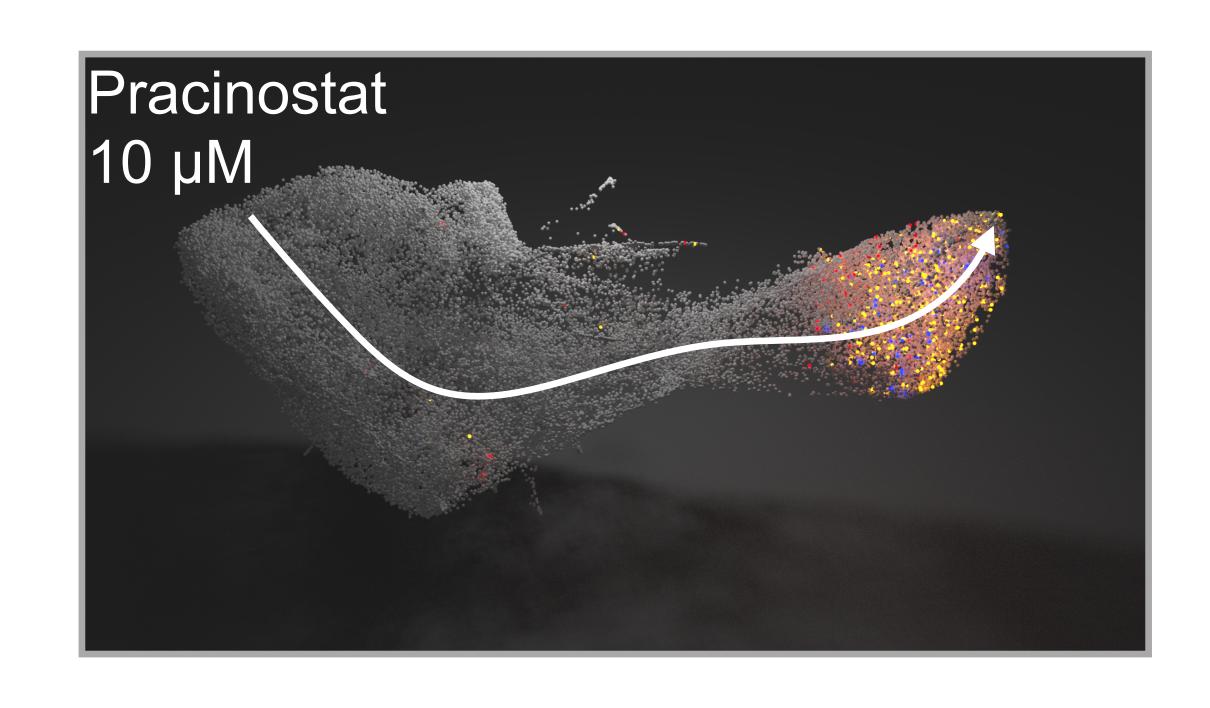
Histone are a reservoirs for cellular acetate

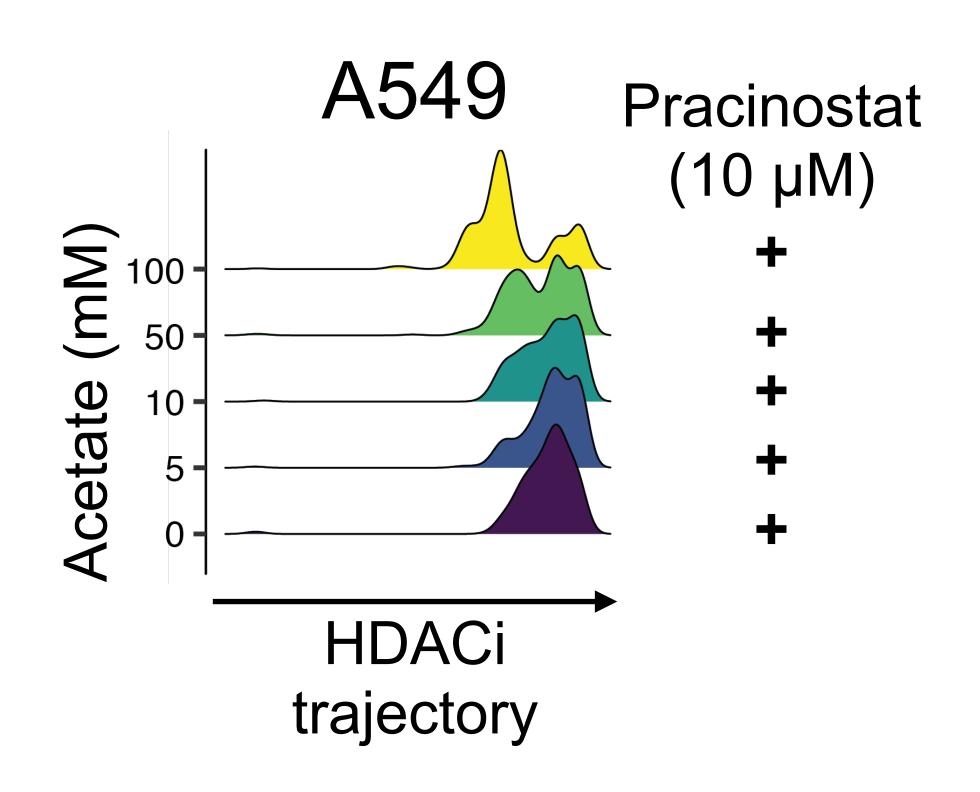


HDAC inhibition induces expression of acetate metabolism genes

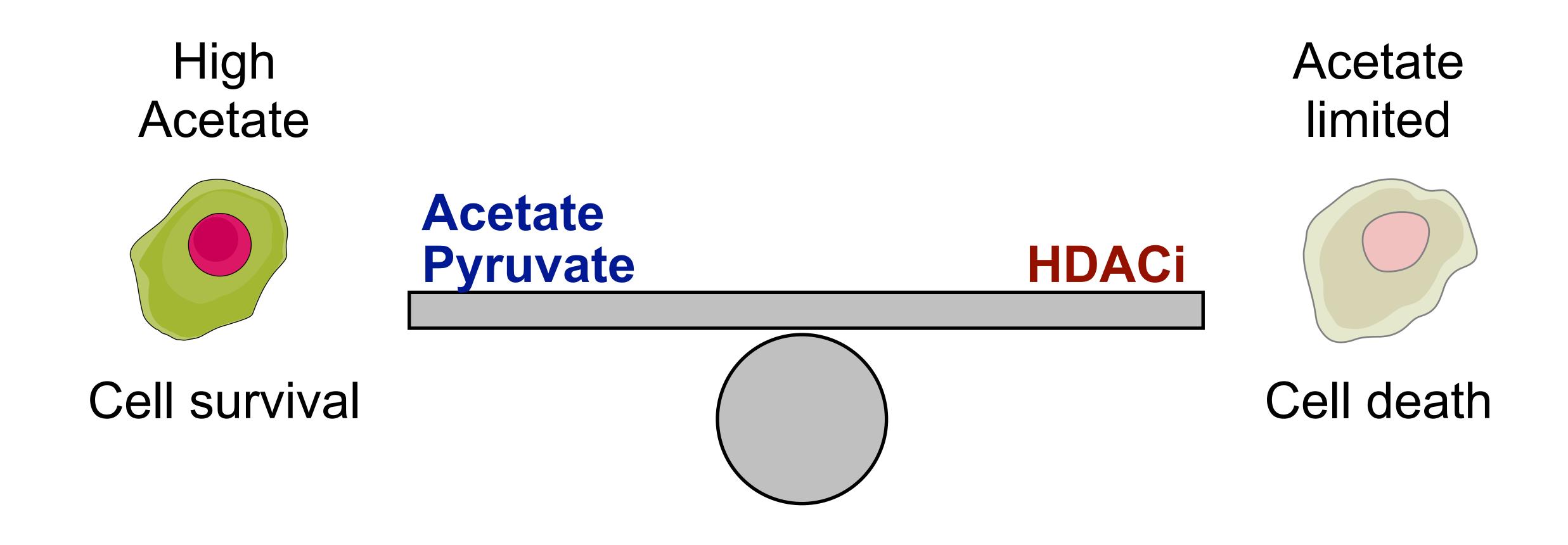


Ac-CoA precursors rescue the molecular phenotype induced by HDAC inhibition





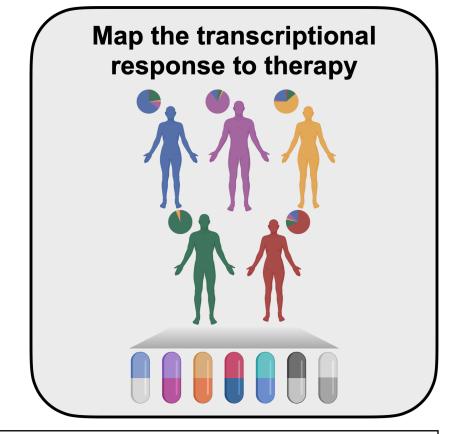
A proportion of the sensitivity to HDAC inhibition is due to acetate deprivation



Vignette 1 summary

- Developed sci-Plex, an inexpensive sample multiplexing strategy compatible with single-cell RNA-seq
- Applied sci-Plex to perform high-throughput chemical transcriptomics at single-cell resolution
- ♦ Identified heterogeneity in drug response of different cell types
- ◆ Single-cell resolution revealed heterogeneity in response to microtubule targeting compounds and HDAC inhibitors



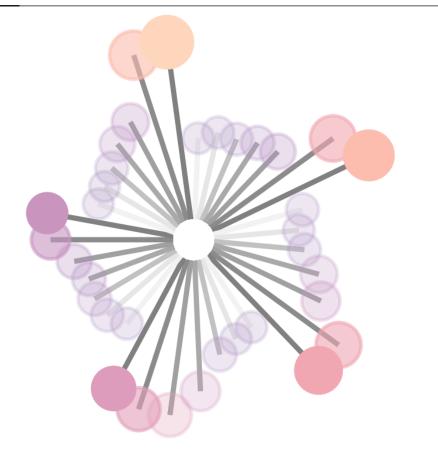


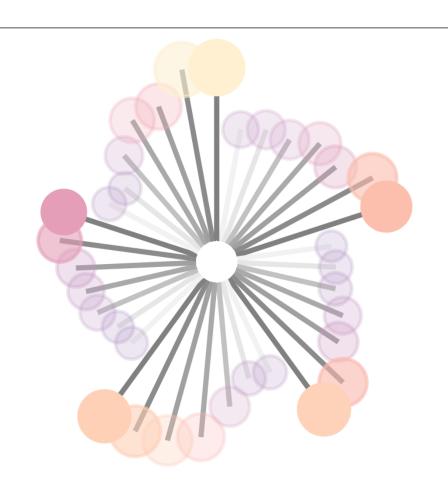
Defining the transcriptional landscape of EGFRi response in glioblastoma

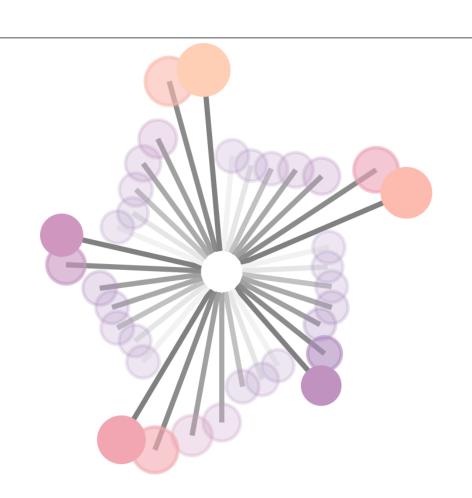
Giglio, R. et. al. (2024), bioRxiv

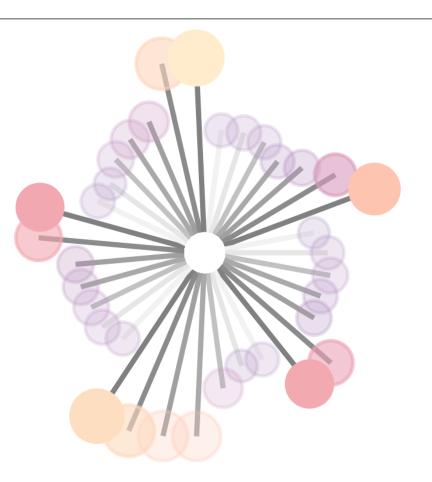




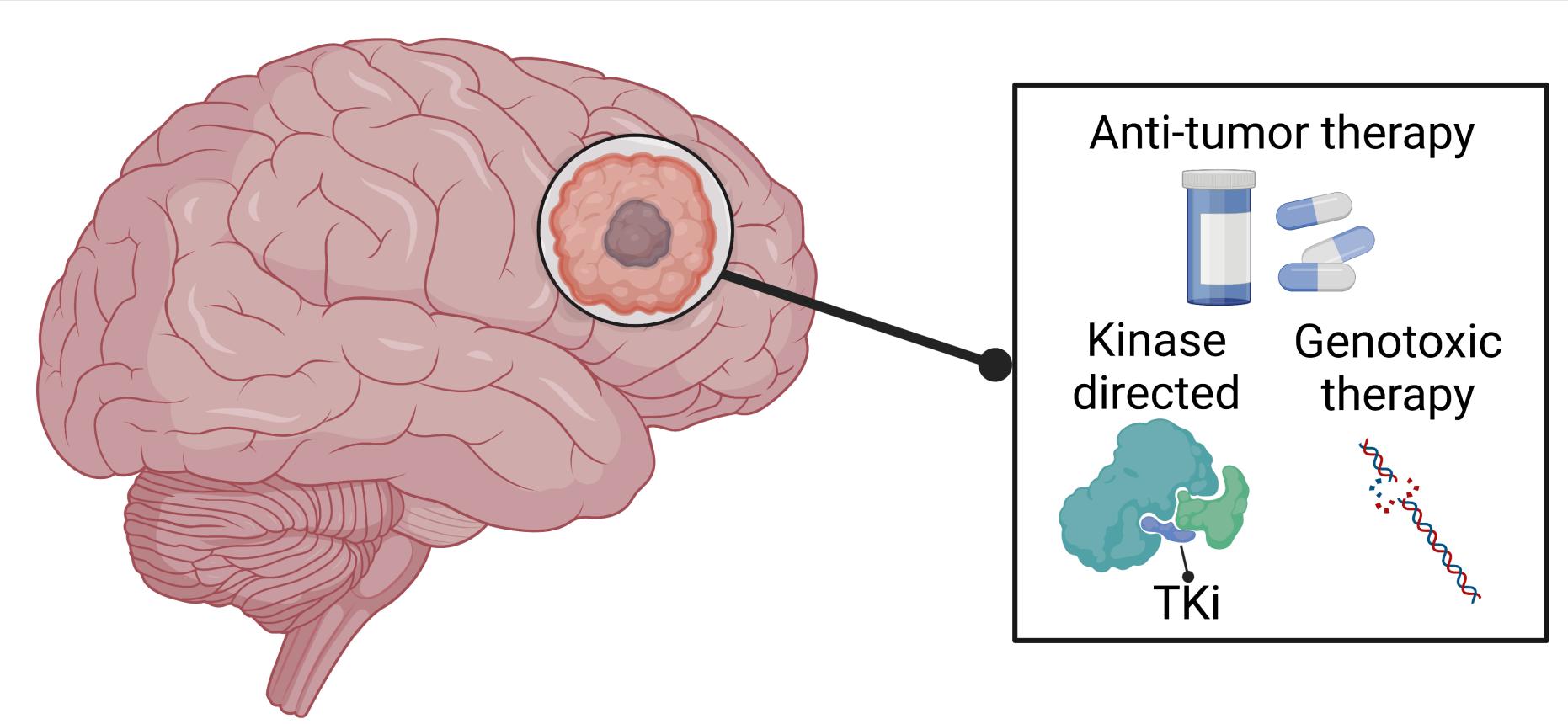








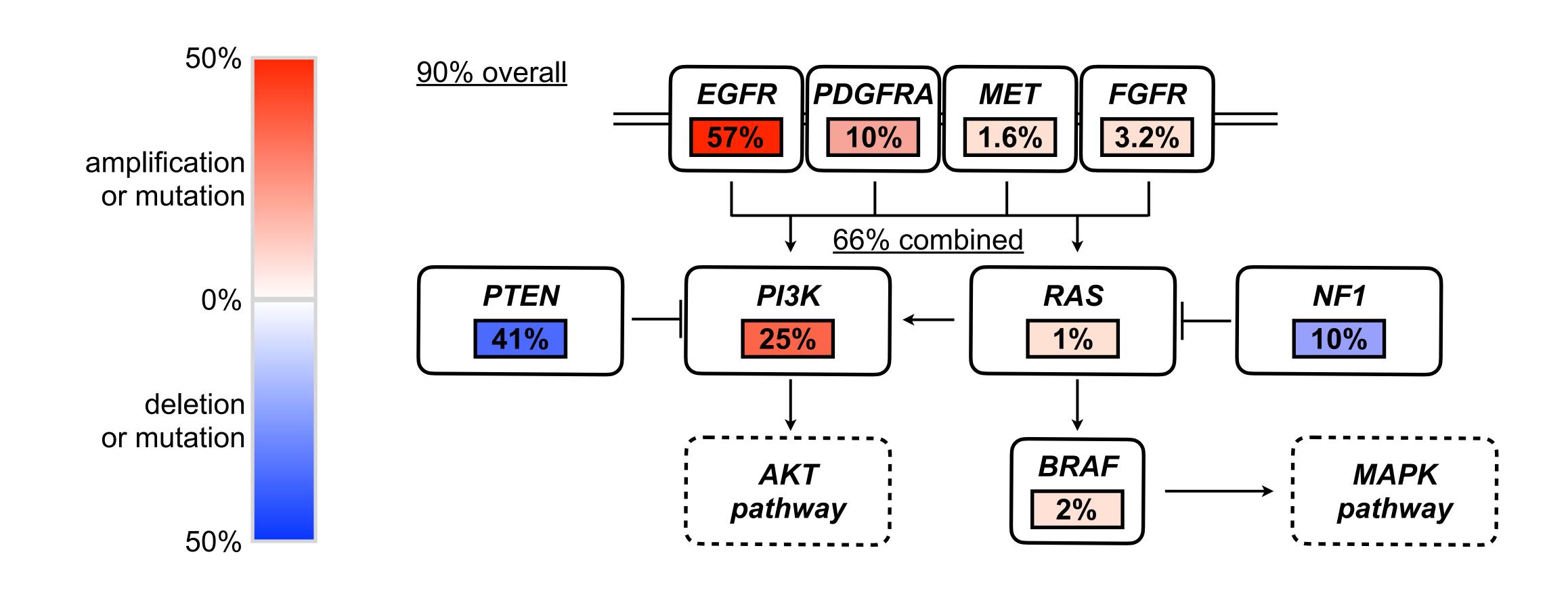
The current standard of care in GBM only marginally improves patient survival



- Most common and aggressive primary brain cancer
- ◆ Median survival of 12- 15 months

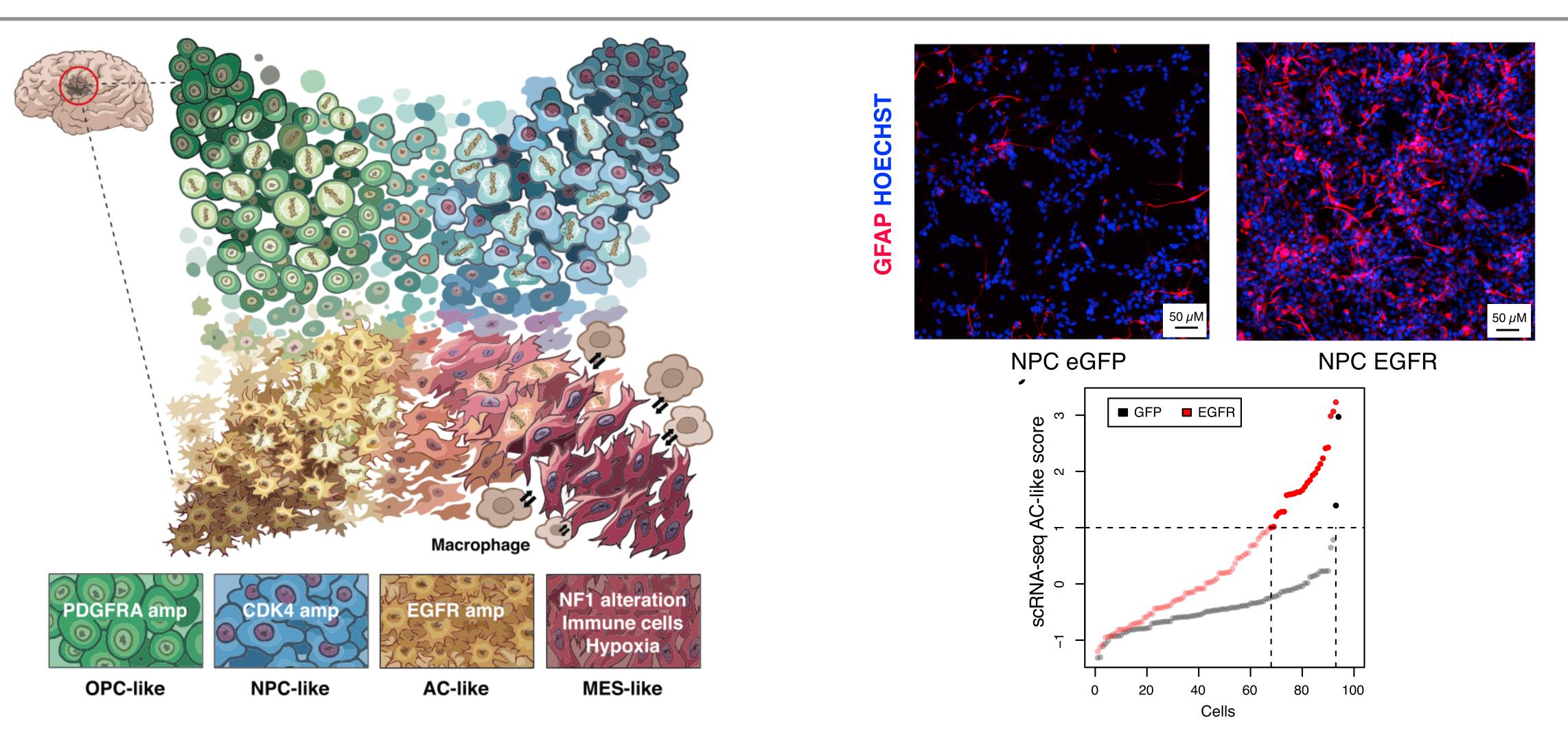
Stupp, R. et al. (2005). NEJM.

Receptor tyrosine kinases as an opportunity for the design of potent targeted therapies in glioblastoma



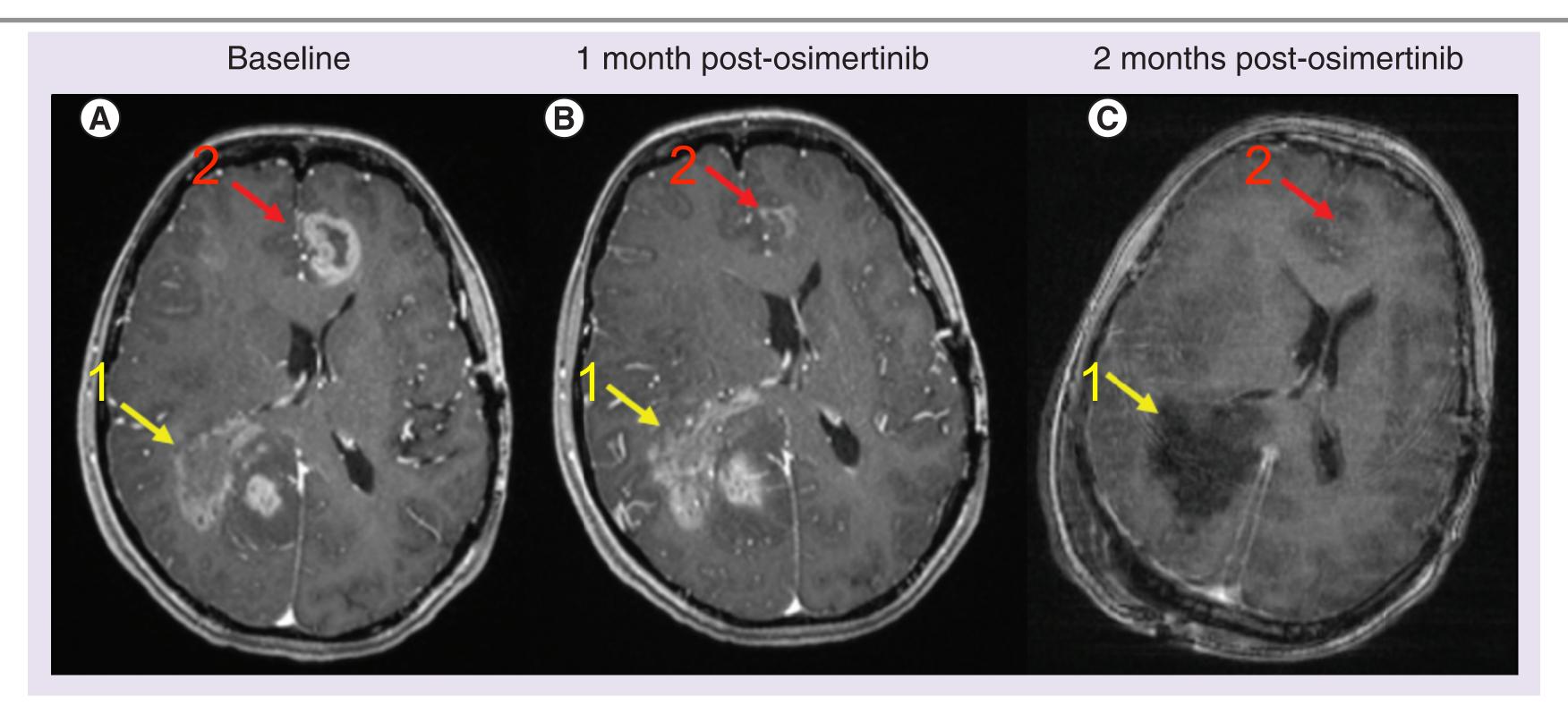
Adapted from: Brennan, C.W. et al. (2013), Cell. Cancer Genome Atlas network. (2008), Nature.

EGFR defines a molecular subtype of IDHwt GBM

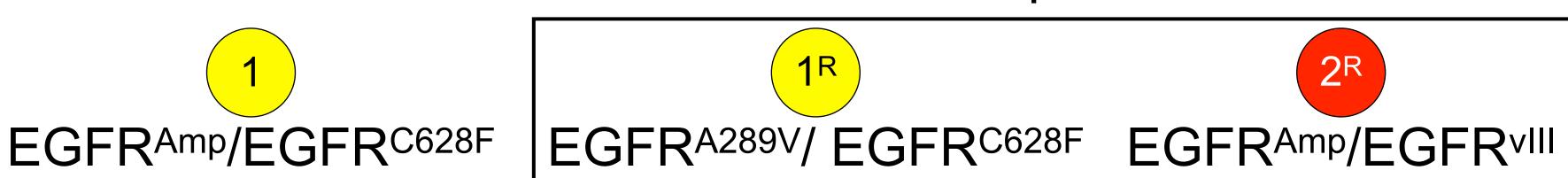


EGFR & AC-like GBM: Neftel, C. et al. (2019), Cell.

Clinical response to a brain penetrant EGFR inhibitor



EGFR status at resection per site

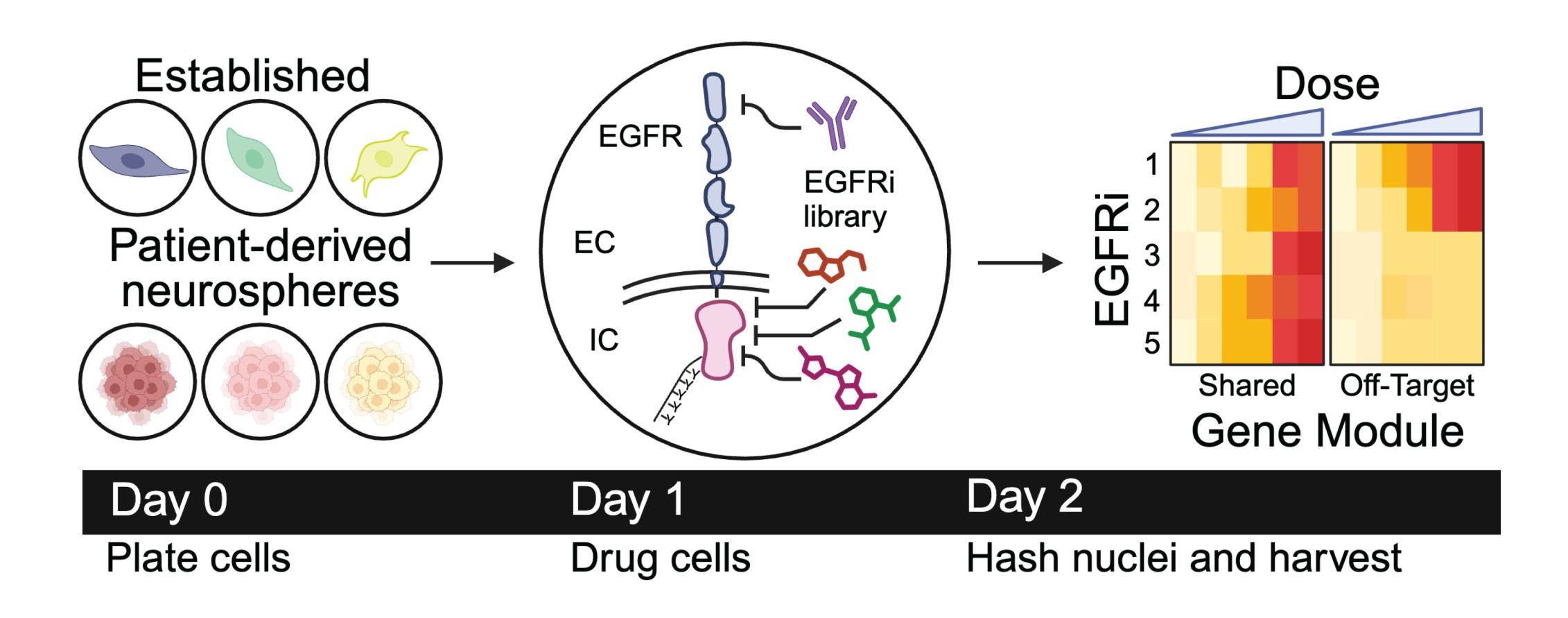


Osimertinib

salvage

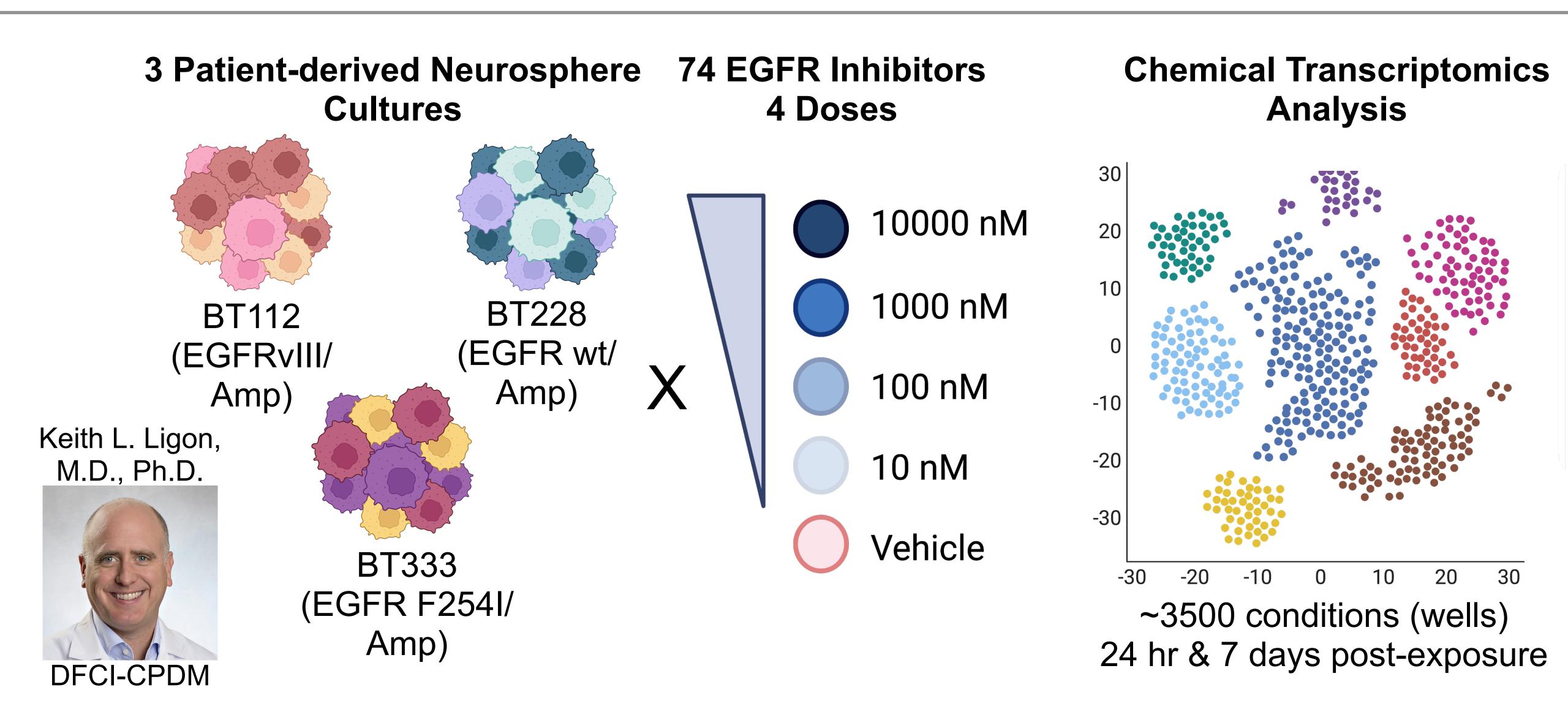
therapy

Mapping the molecular response to EGFR inhibitors

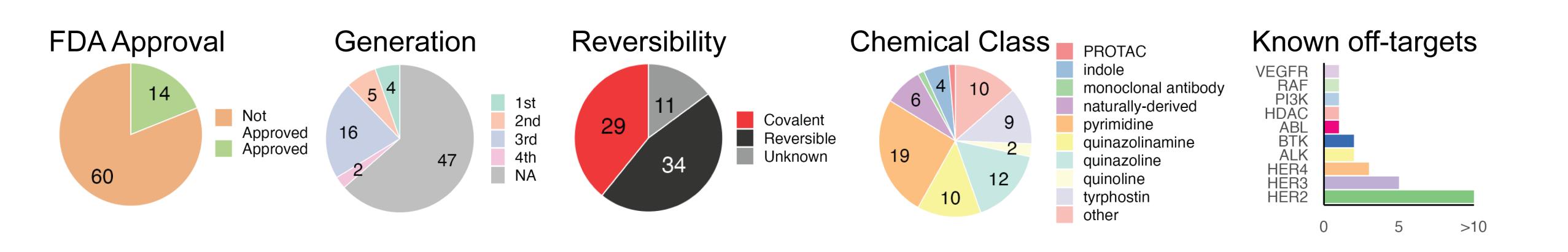


CMAP: Subramanian, A., Narayan, R., Corsello, S.M. et al. (2017) Cell.

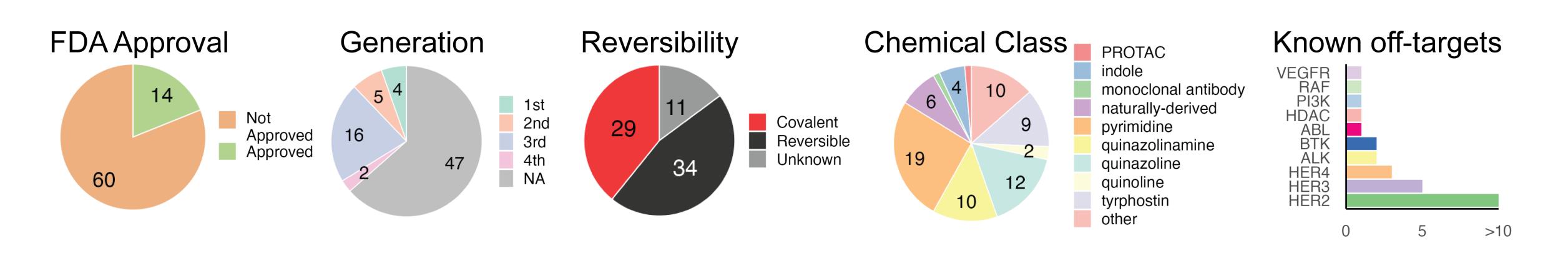
Comprehensive sci-Plex profiling of EGFR inhibitors

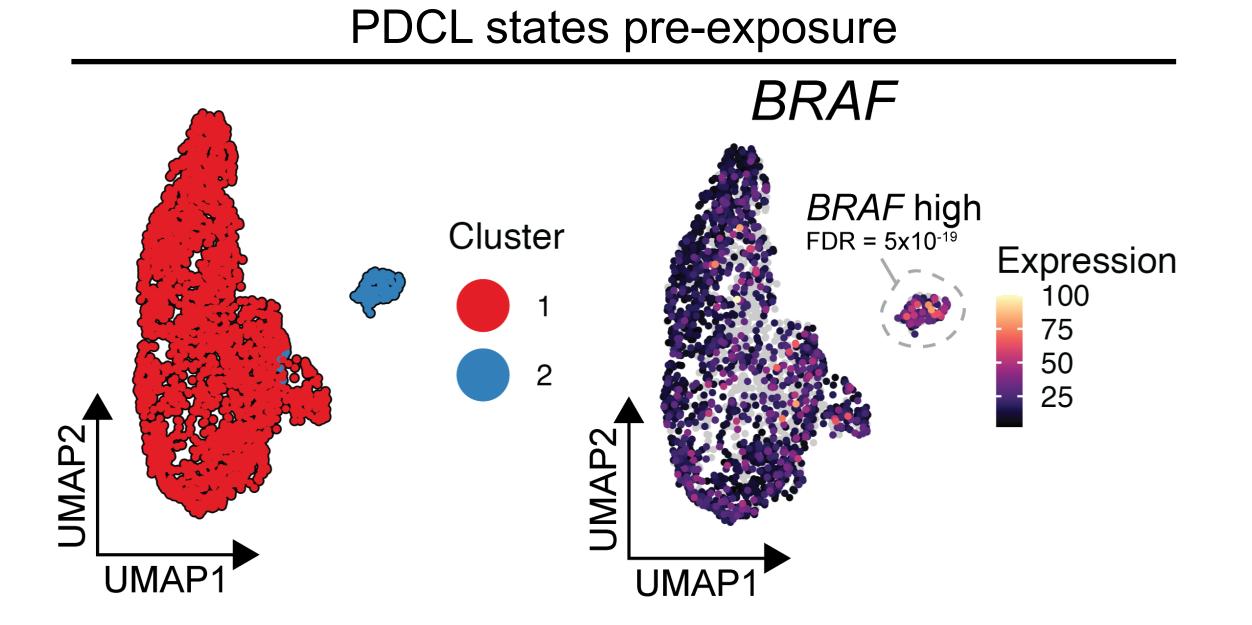


Comprehensive sci-Plex profiling of EGFR inhibitors

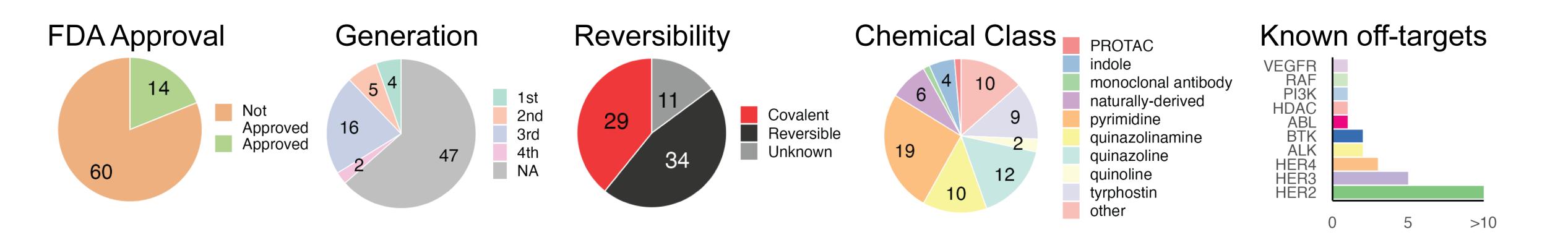


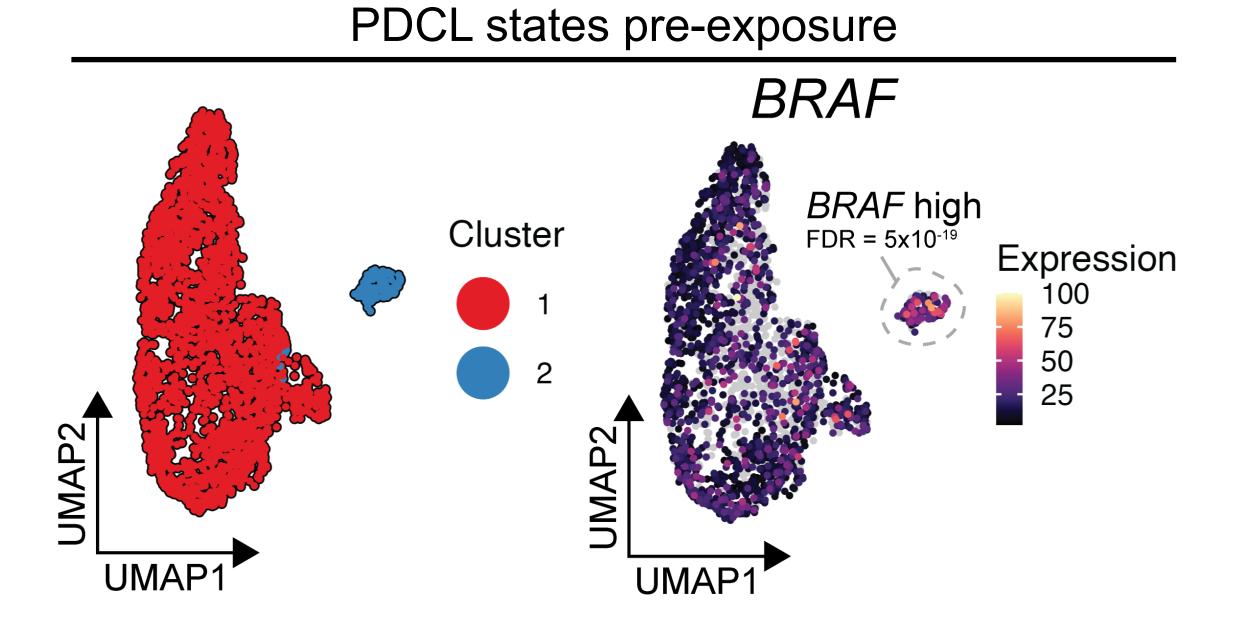
Tumor cell state heterogeneity and selection upon EGFRi

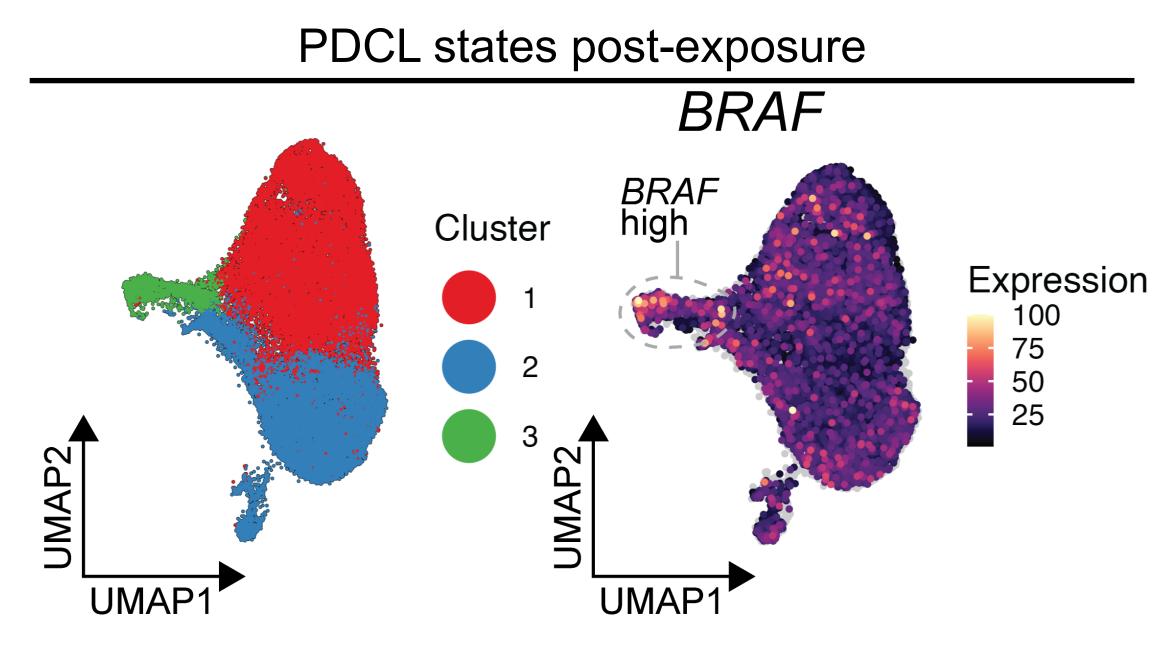




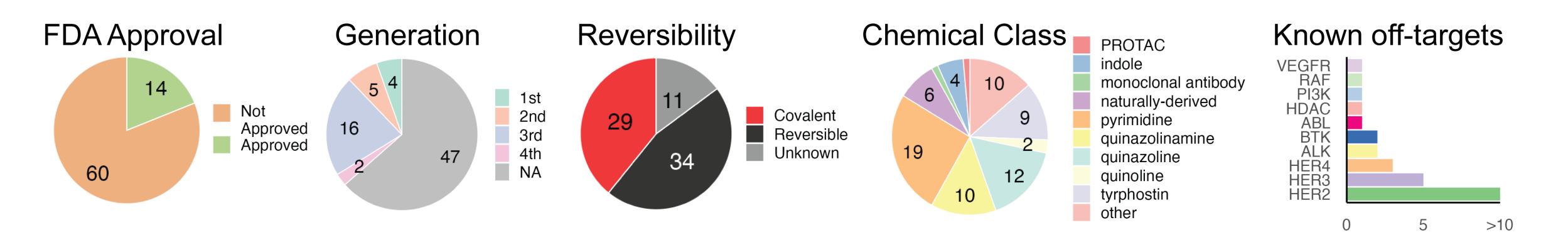
Tumor cell state heterogeneity and selection upon EGFRi



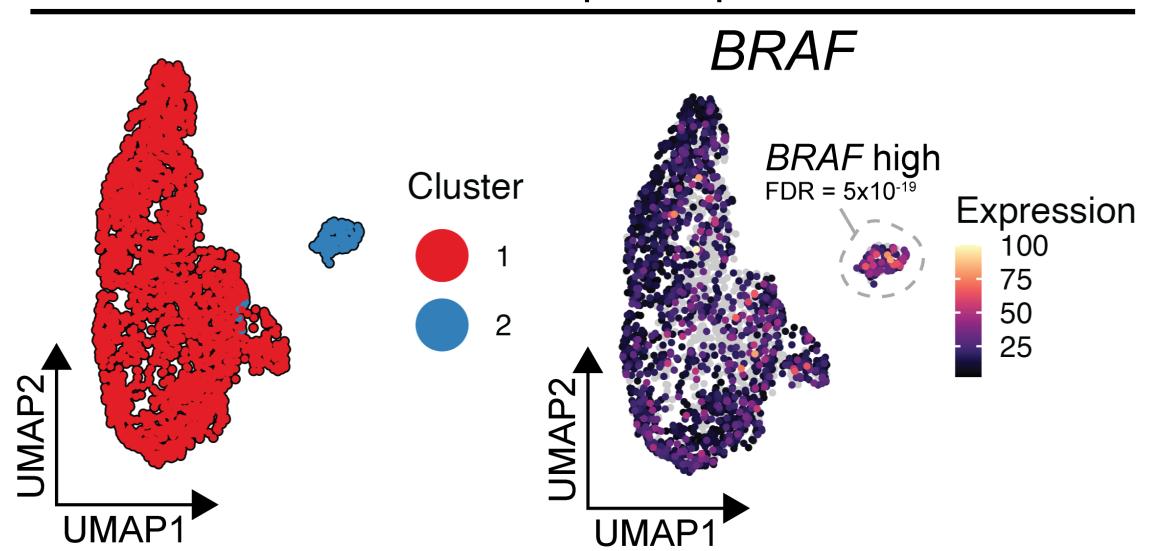




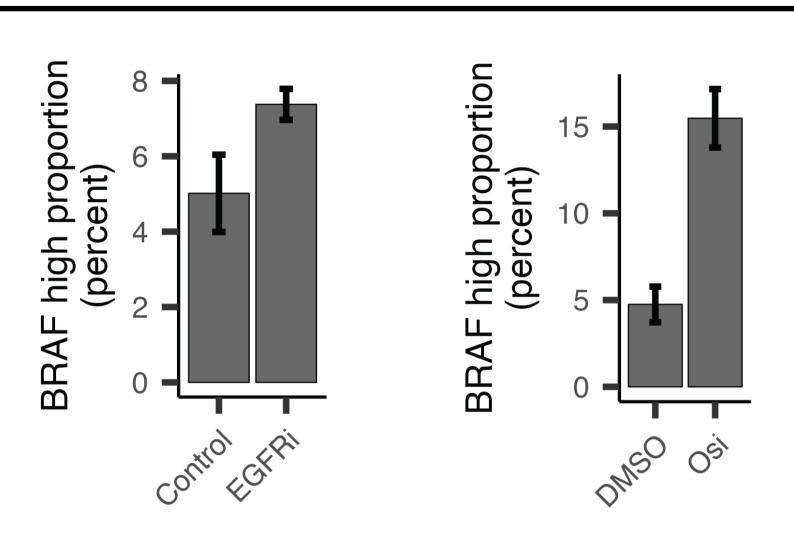
Tumor cell state heterogeneity and selection upon EGFRi



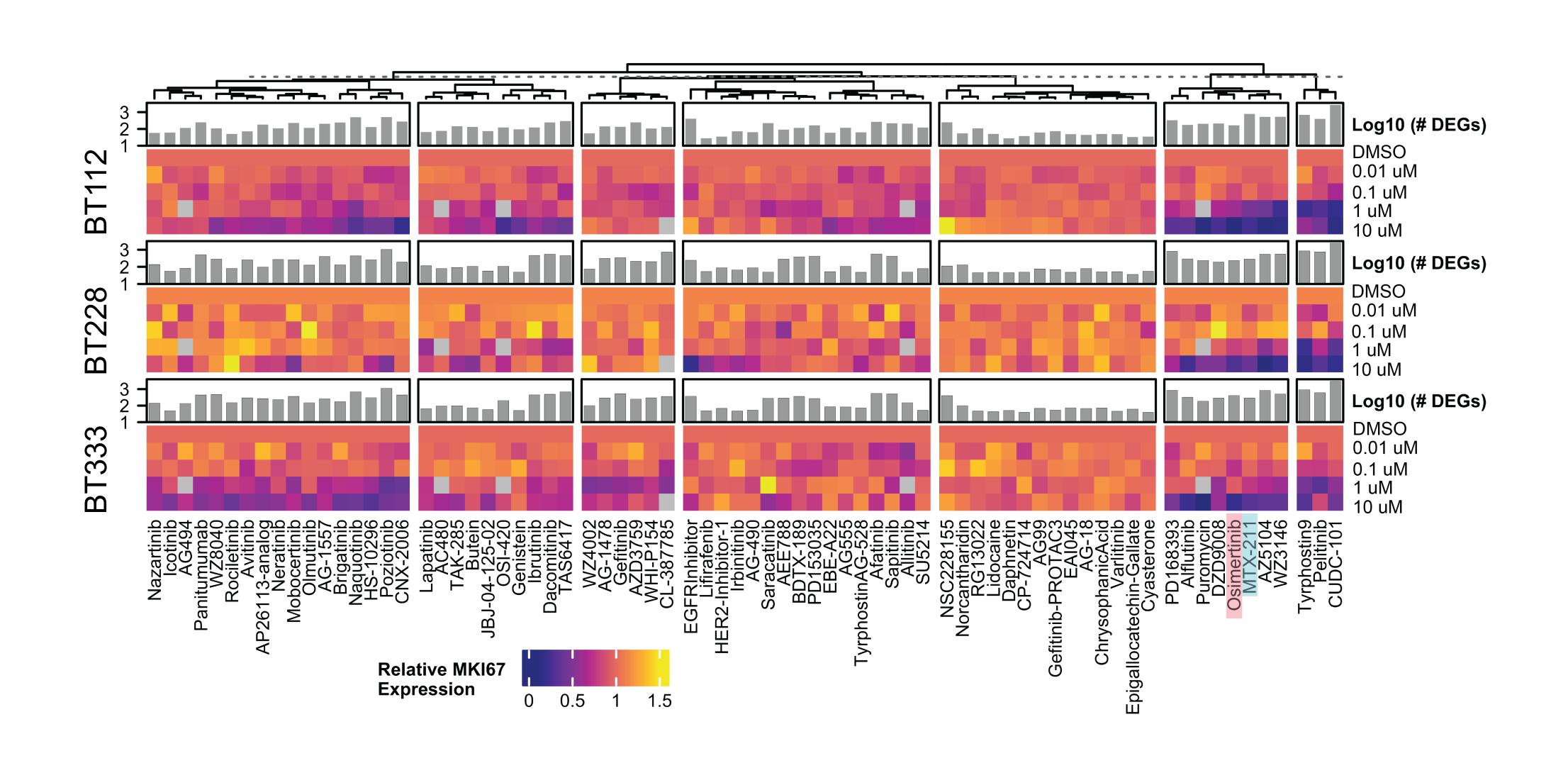
PDCL states pre-exposure



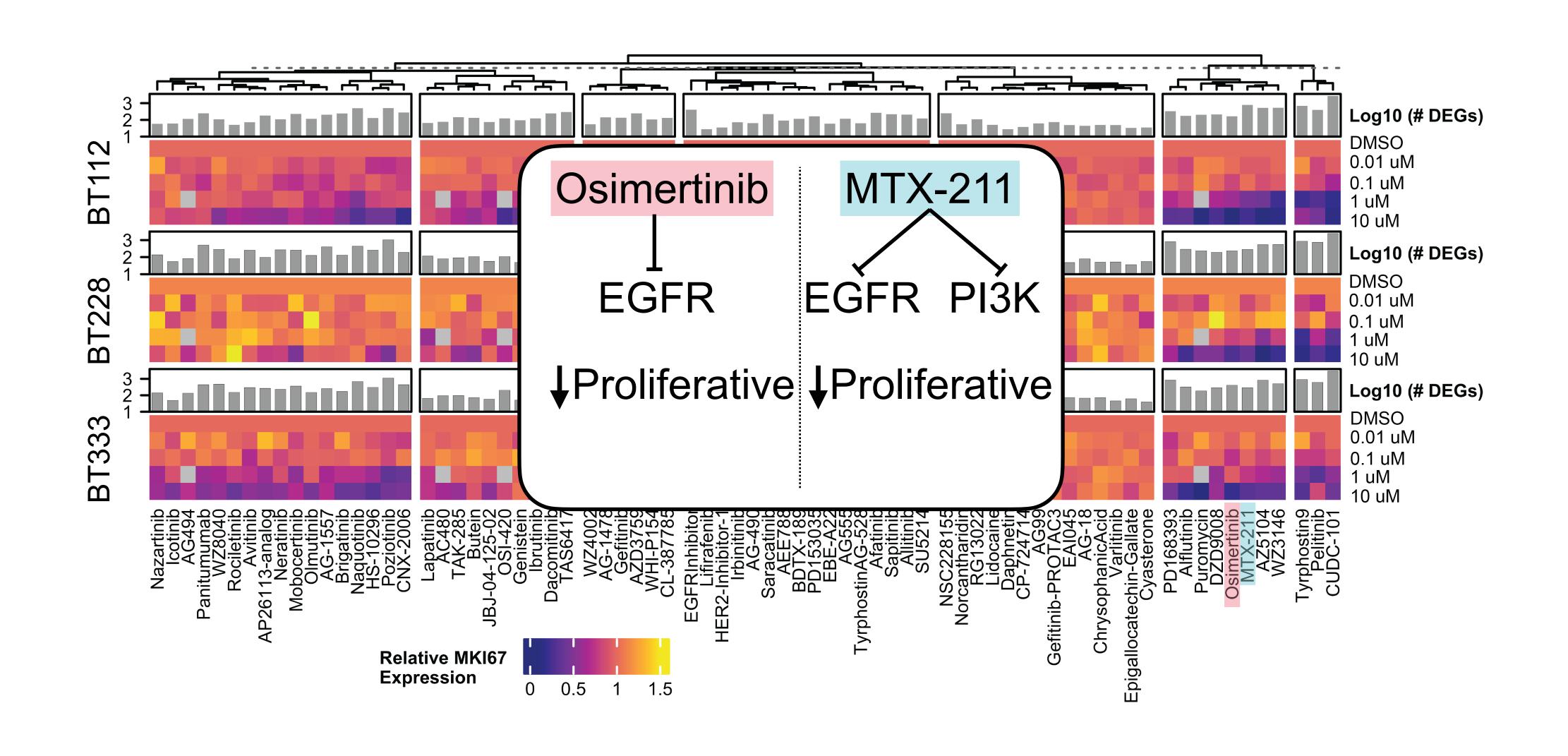
PDCL states post-exposure



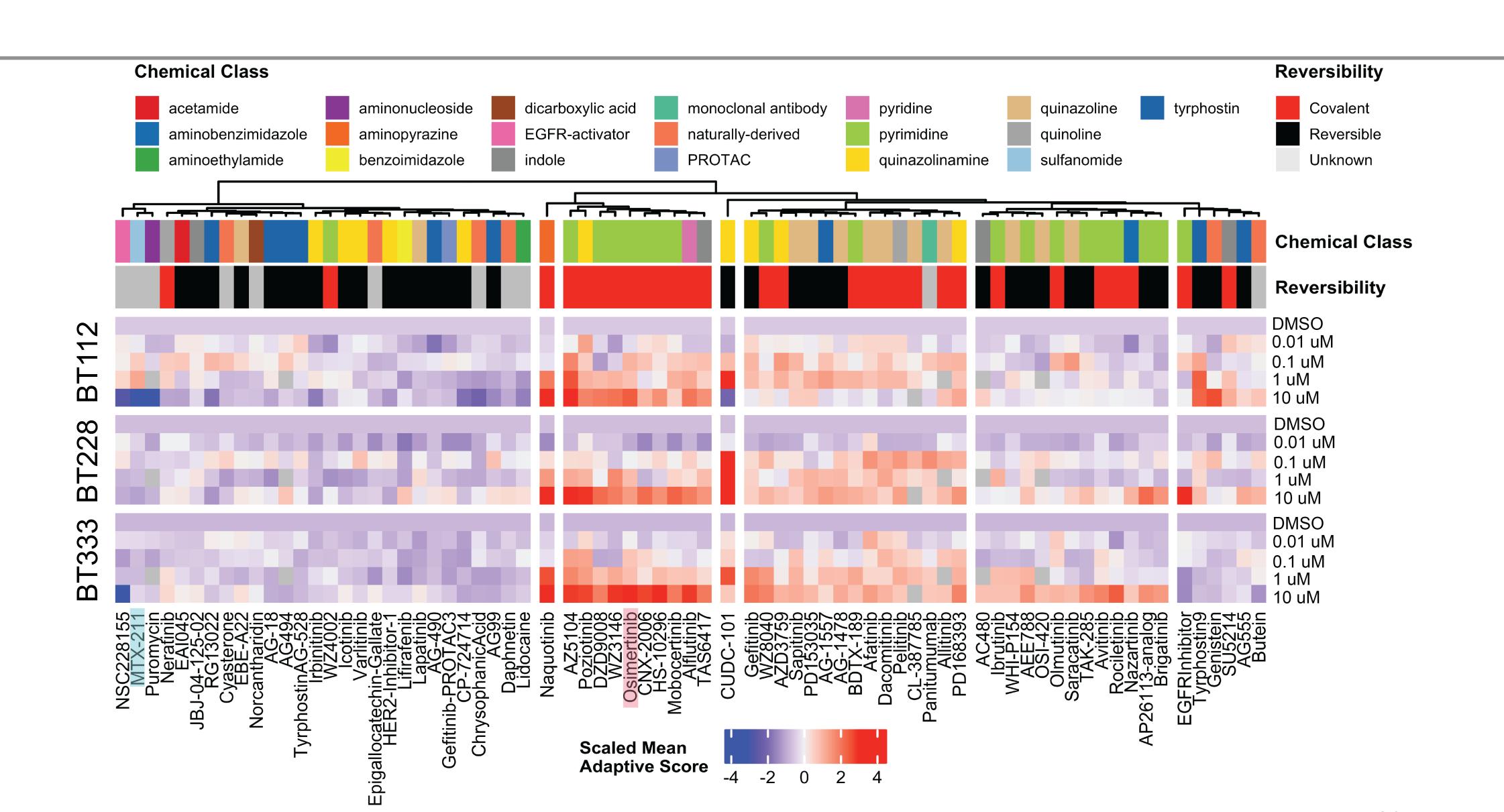
EGFRi's differentially alter proliferative gene expression



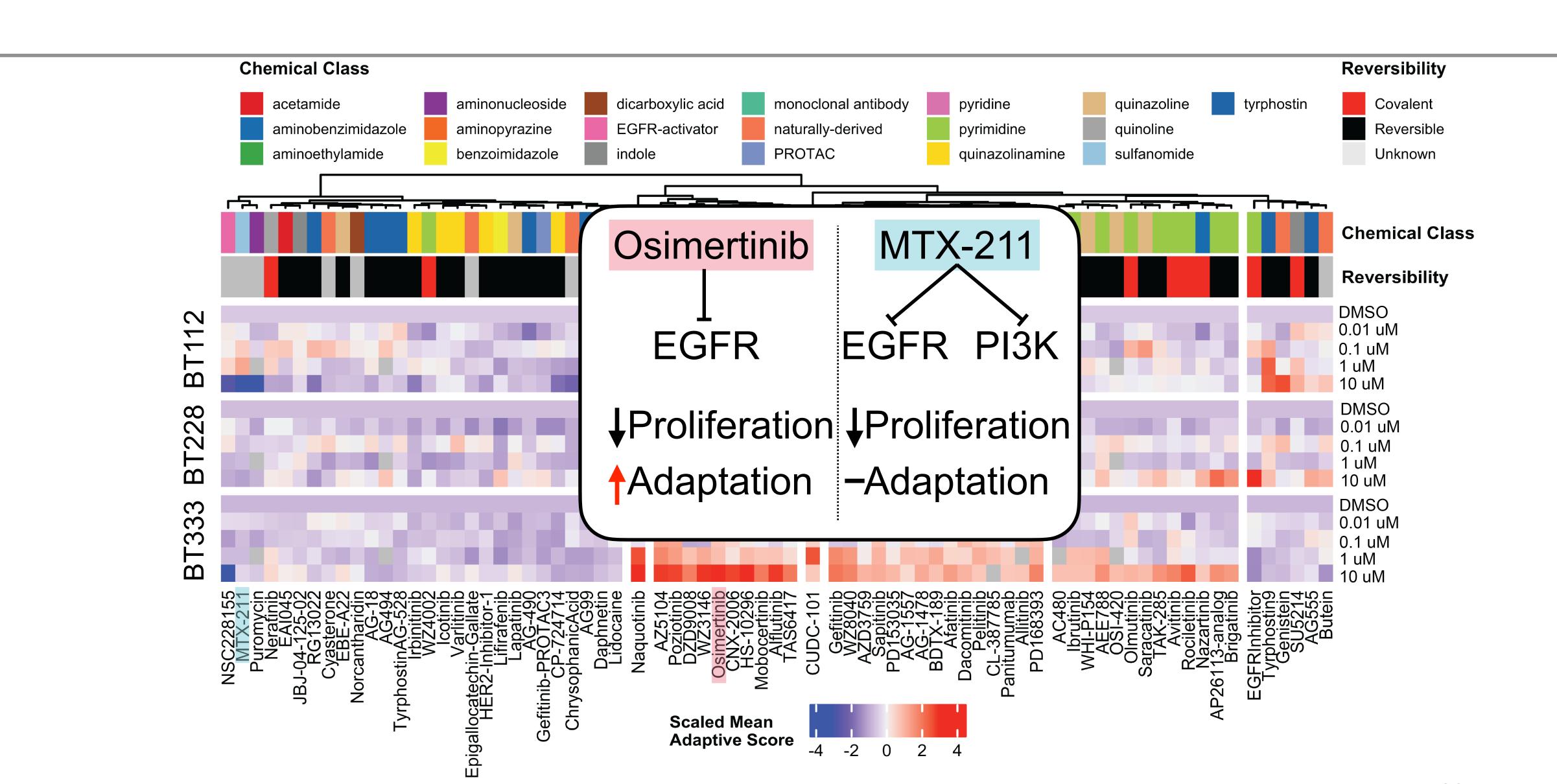
EGFRi's differentially alter proliferative gene expression



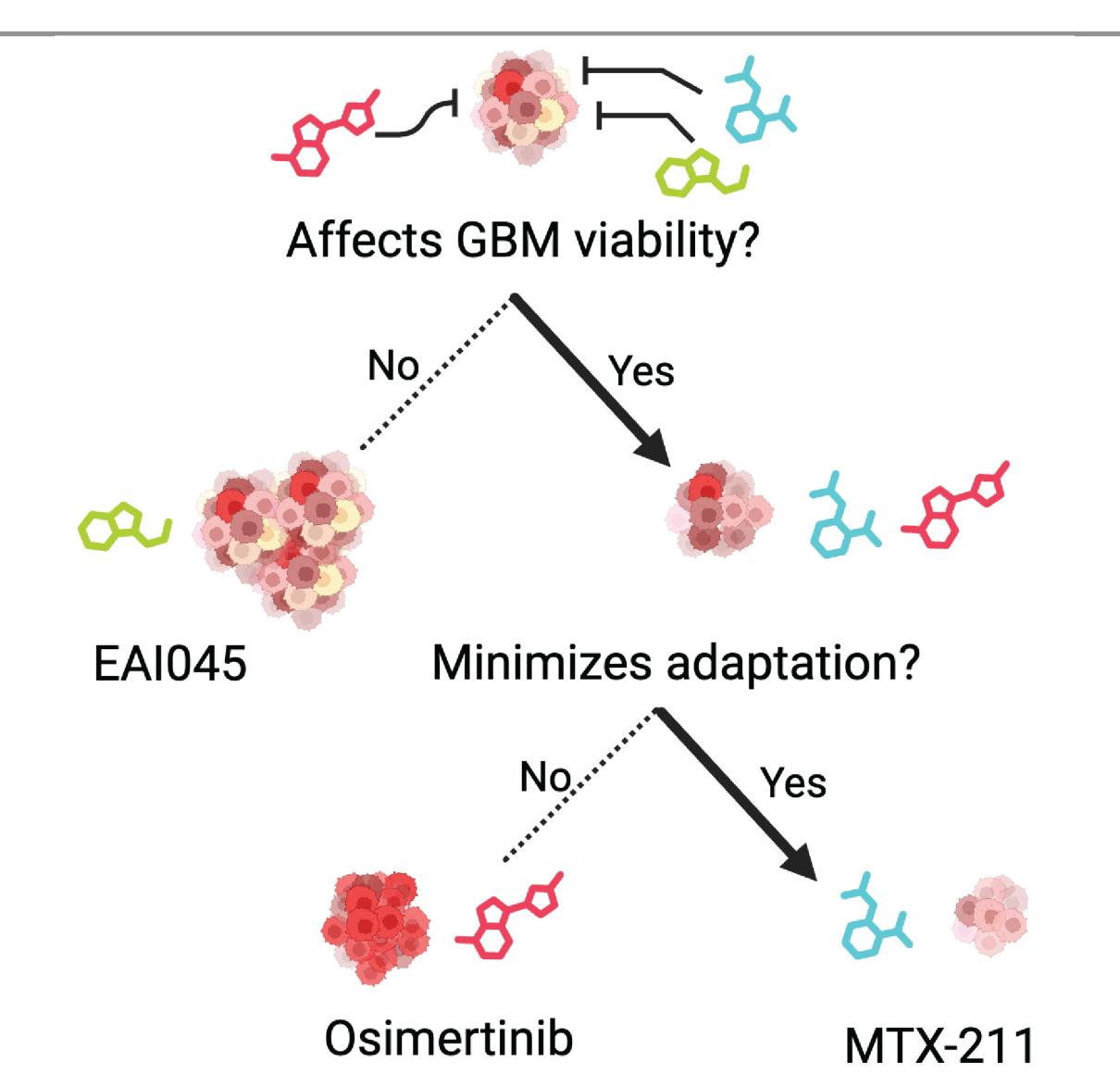
Some EGFRi's induce an adaptive resistance program



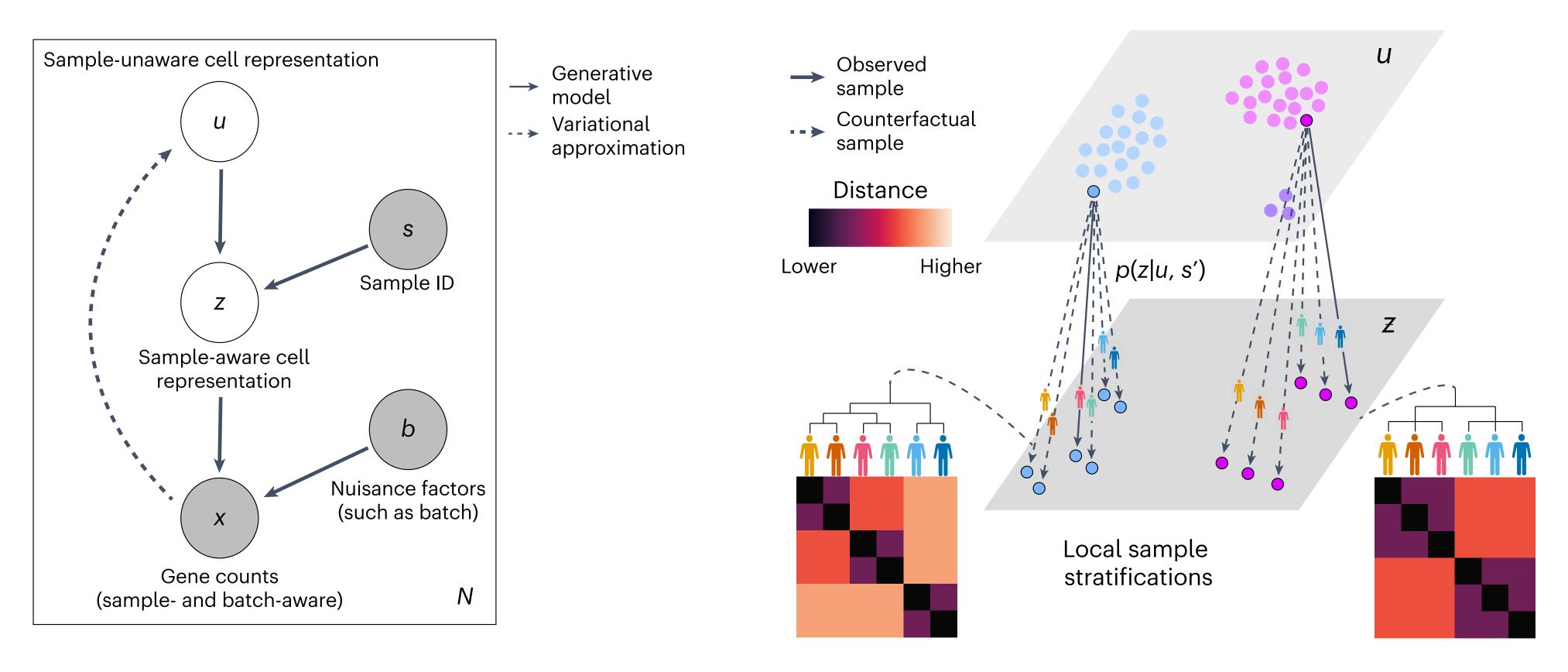
Differential activation of programs by EGFRi's



Maximizing GBM sensitivity to inhibition



Multi-resolution variational inference (MrVI)



MrVI: *Boyeau, P., *Hong, J. et al. (2025). Nature Methods.

Ross Giglio



Defining EGFRi programs with MrVI

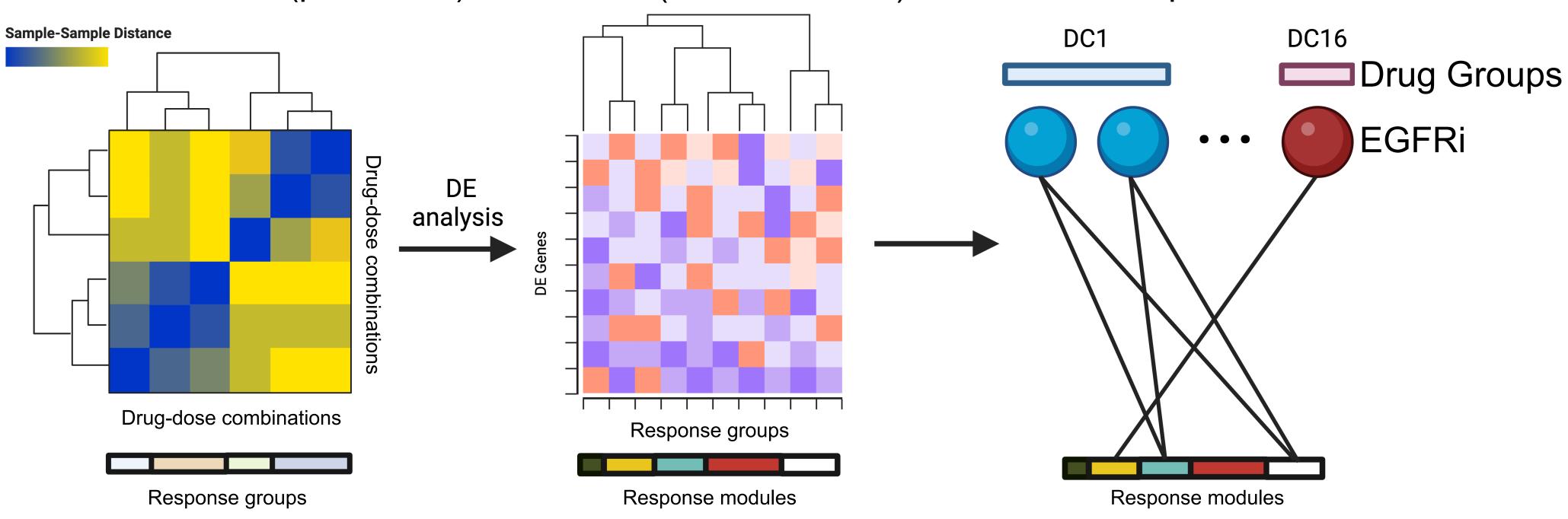


Justin Hong



Identify drug-dose combinations with similar effects (per PDCL)

Identify broader response Collapse EGFRis by their Modules (across PDCLs) induction of response modules



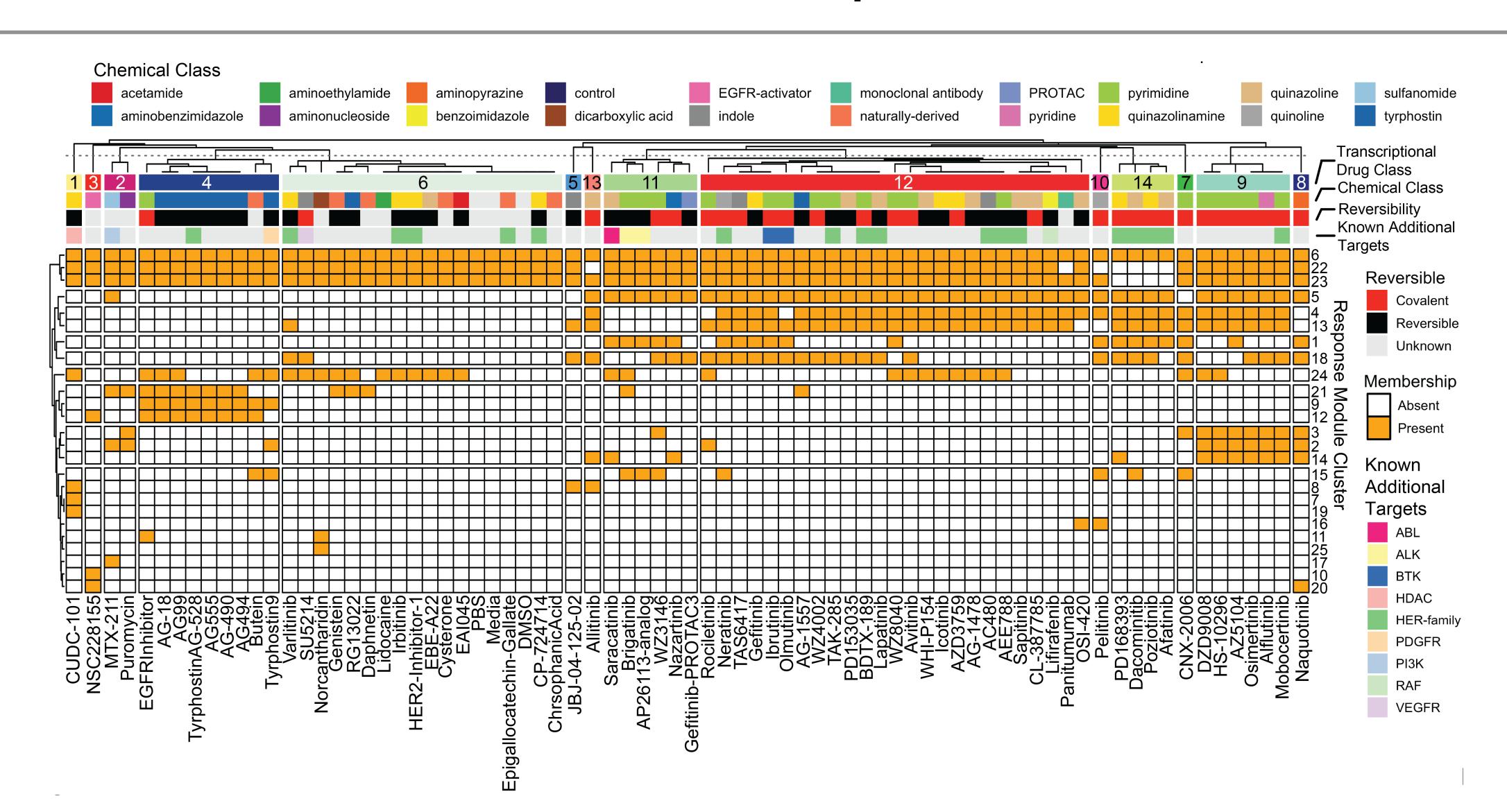
Elham Azizi, Ph.D.



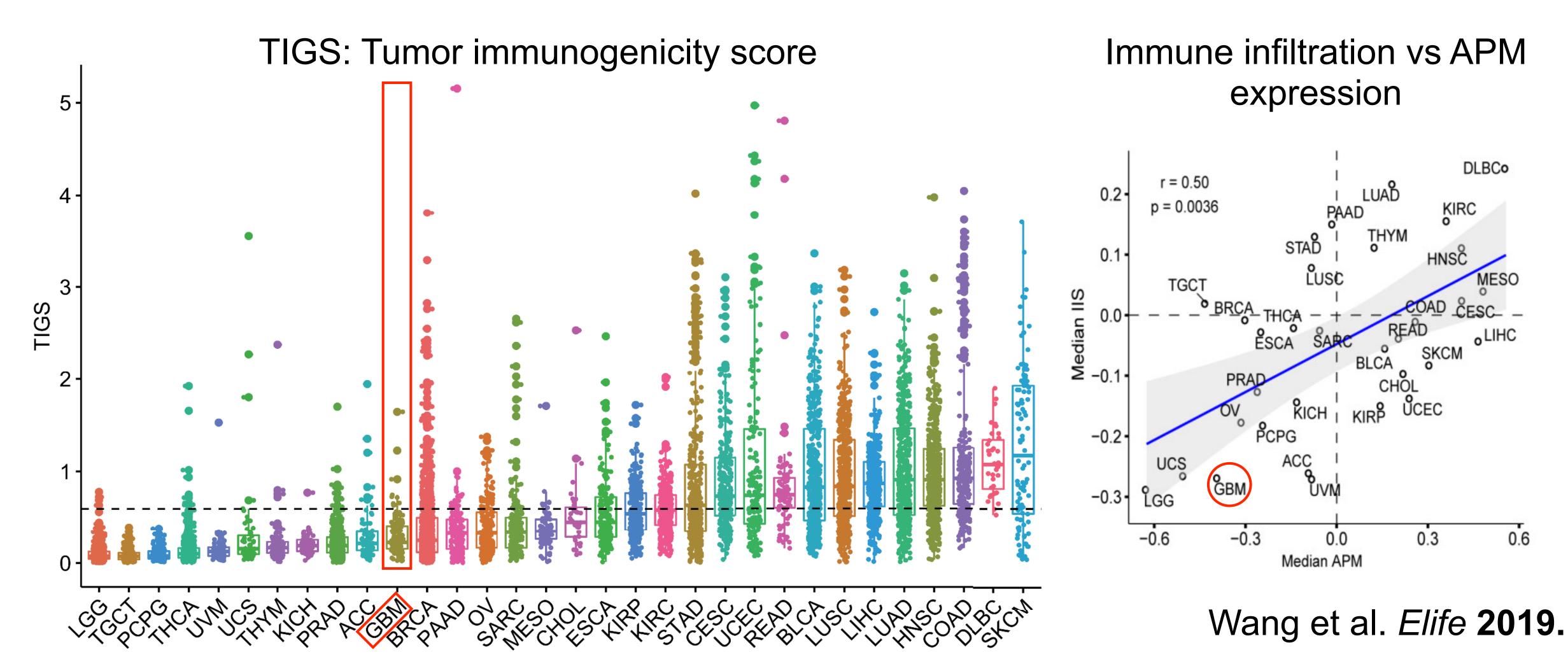
Nir Yosef, Ph.D.



Grouping EGFRi's by their ability to modulate distinct molecular responses

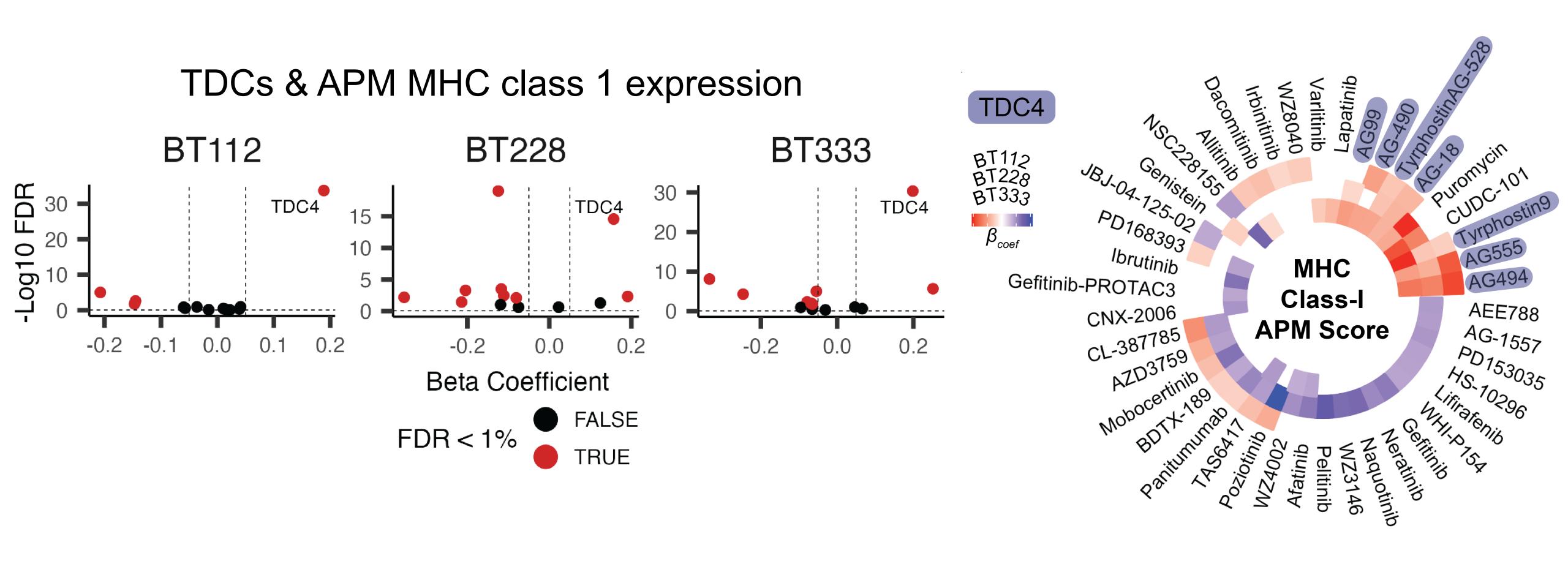


Glioblastoma tumors are immunologically "cold"

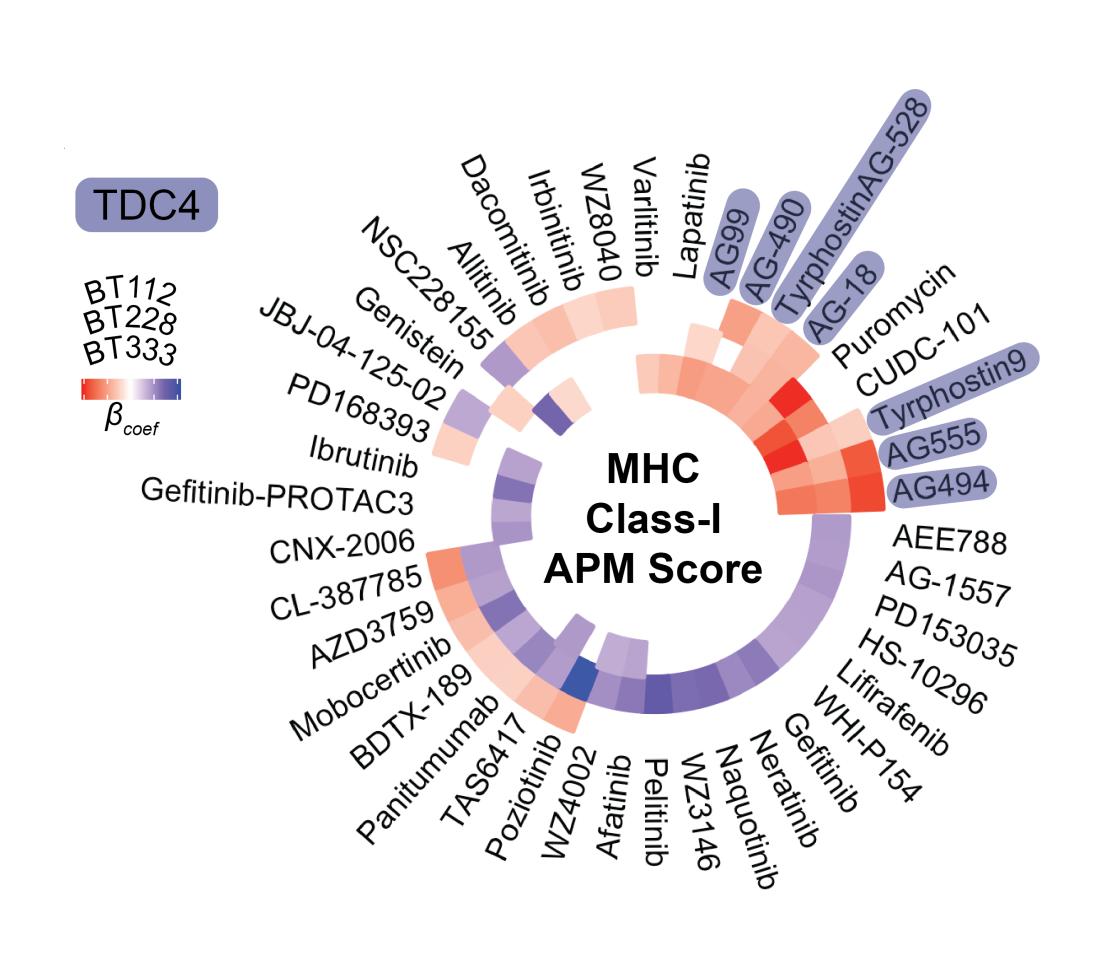


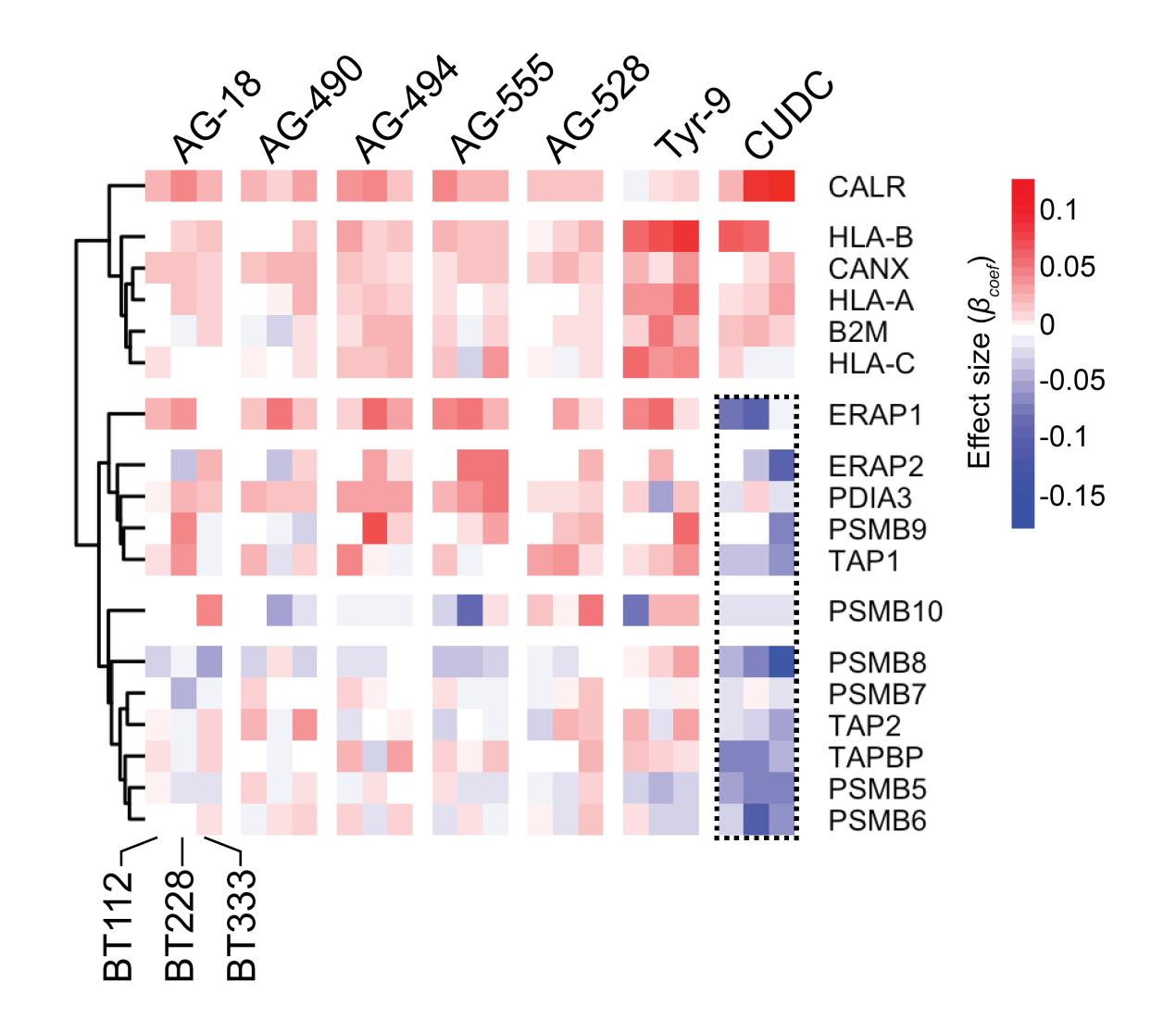
Association between RTK signaling and response to PD-1: Zhao et al. Nat Medicine 2019.

TDC4 is associated with increased APM expression

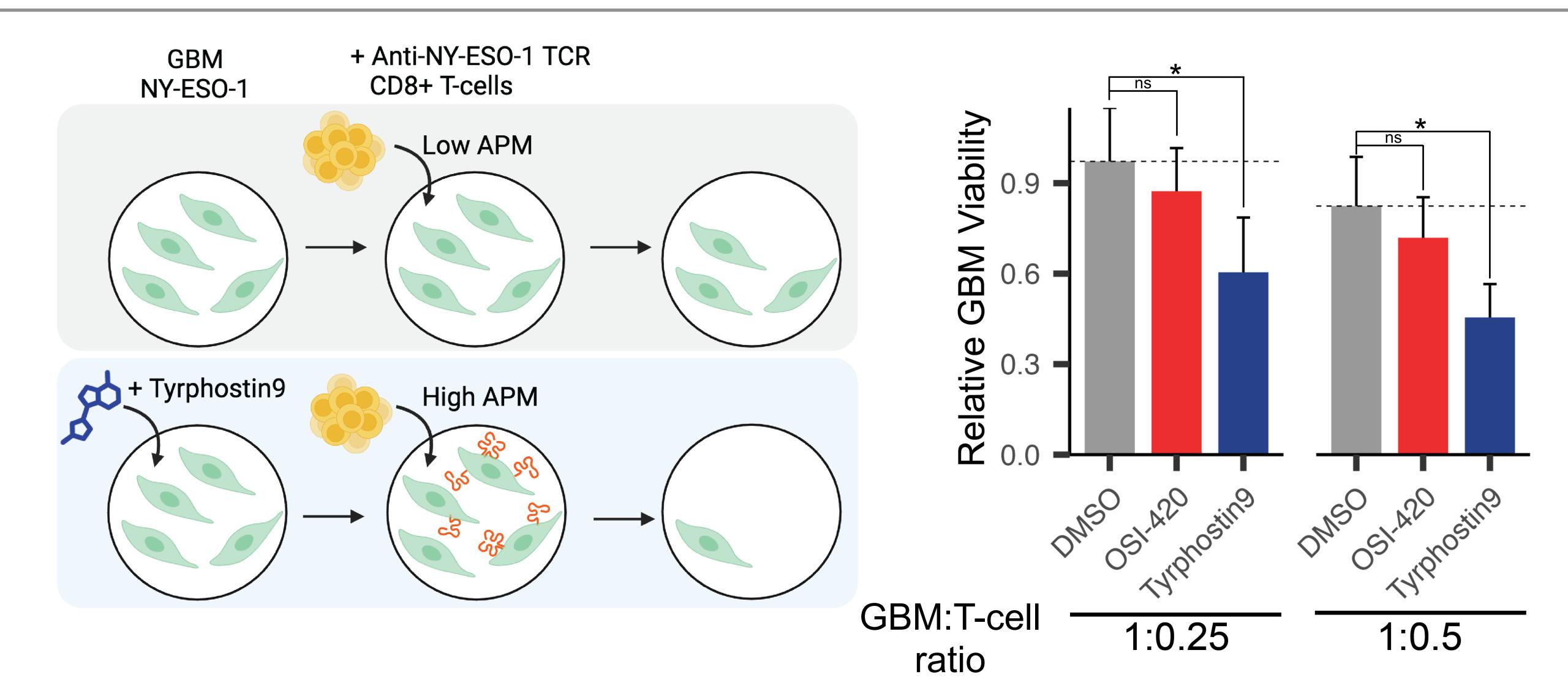


TDC4 is associated with increased APM expression





Tyrphostin-9 promotes T-cell mediated tumor cell killing

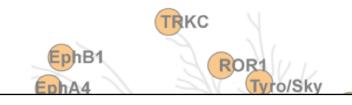


Vignette 2 summary

- ◆ Profiled EGFRi-induced transcription in patient-derived and natively-heterogenous GBM models.
- ◆ Identified heterogeneity in the induction of molecular programs upon EGFR inhibition.
- ♠ A subset of tyrphostin family EGFR inhibitors modulates the expression of APM and sensitizes GBM to T-cell mediated killing.

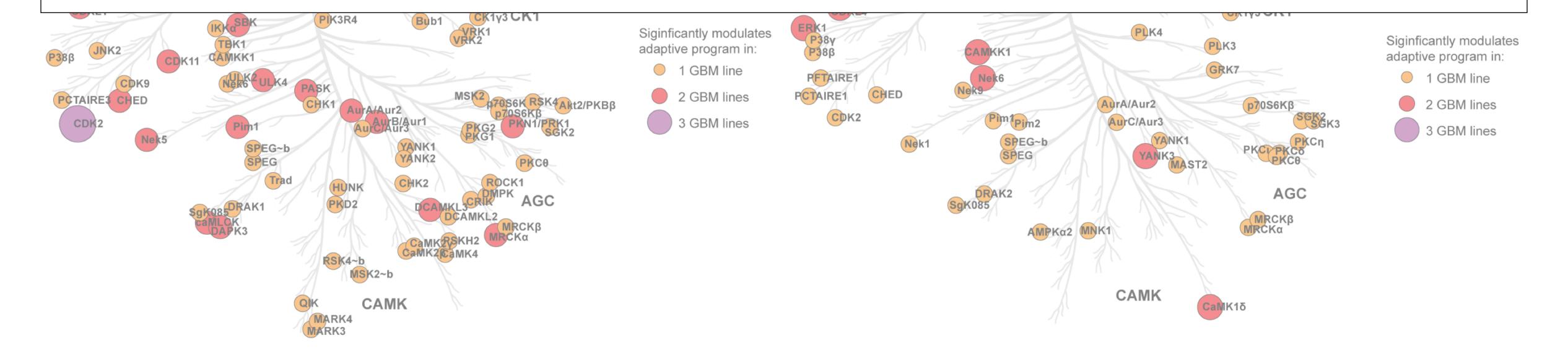




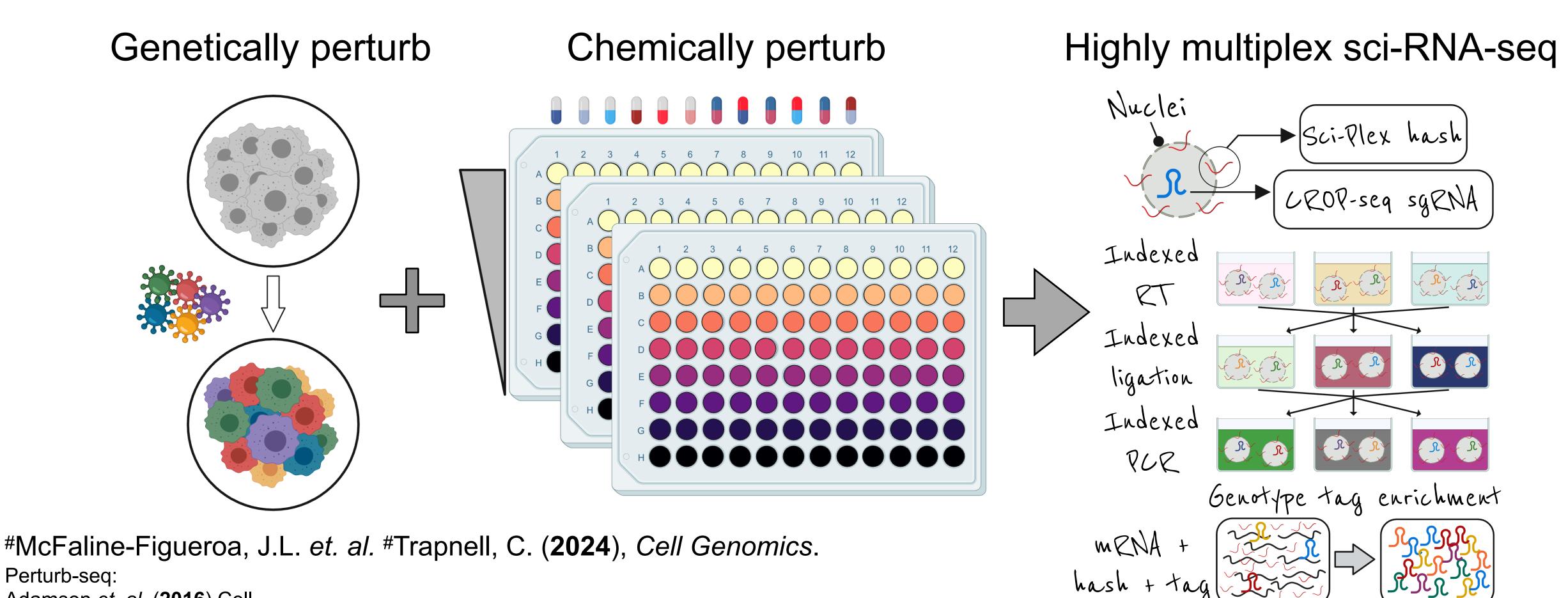


Multiplex single-cell chemical genomics reveals the kinase dependence of the response to targeted therapy

Cell Genomics 2024



sci-Plex-GxE: A workflow for combined single-cell genetic and exposure screens



Adamson *et. al.* (2016) Cell.

Dixit *et. al.* (2016) Cell.

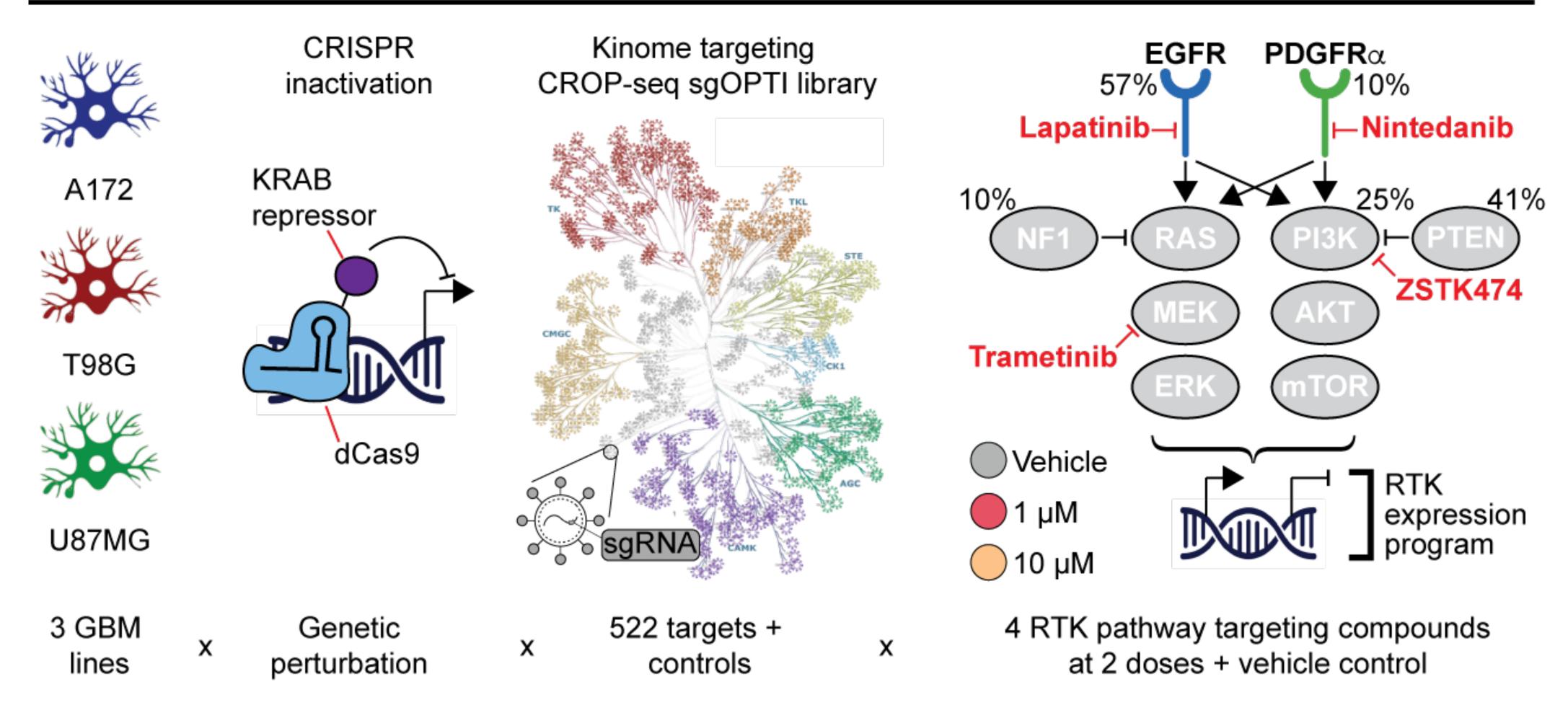
Jaitin *et. al.* (2016) Cell.

Dattlinger *et. al.* (2017) Nat. Methods.

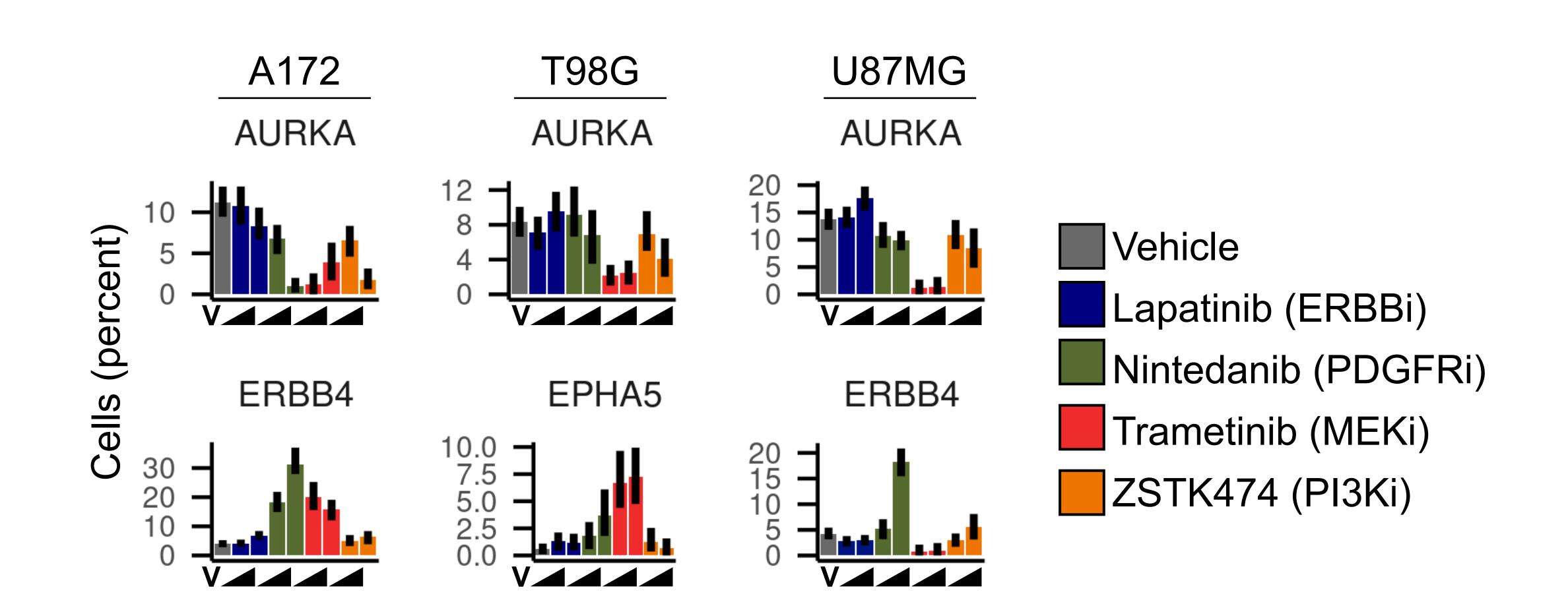
Contribution of the human protein kinome to therapy induced transcription

1,000,050 single-cell transcriptomes

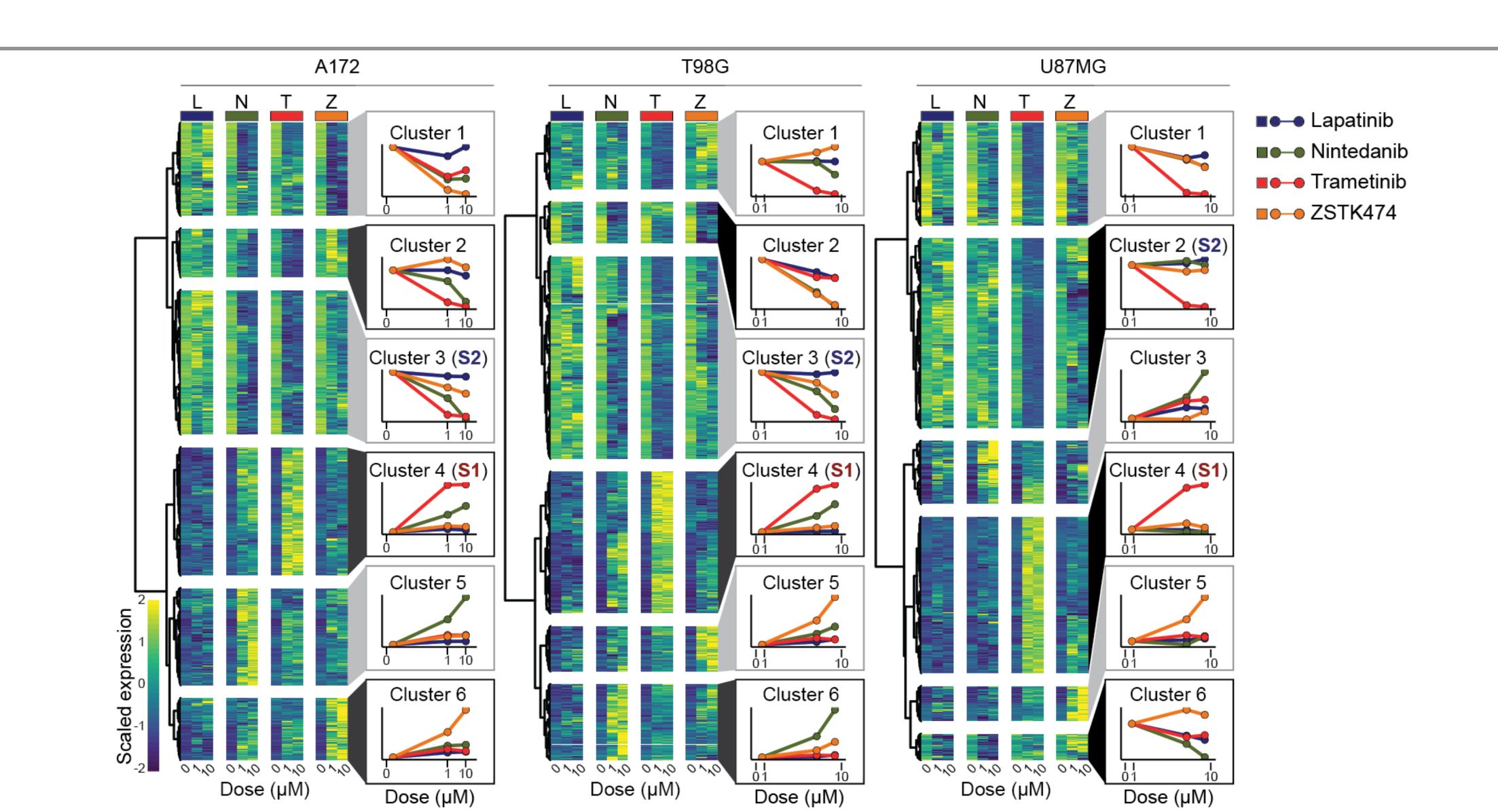
14,121 gene-chemical combinations



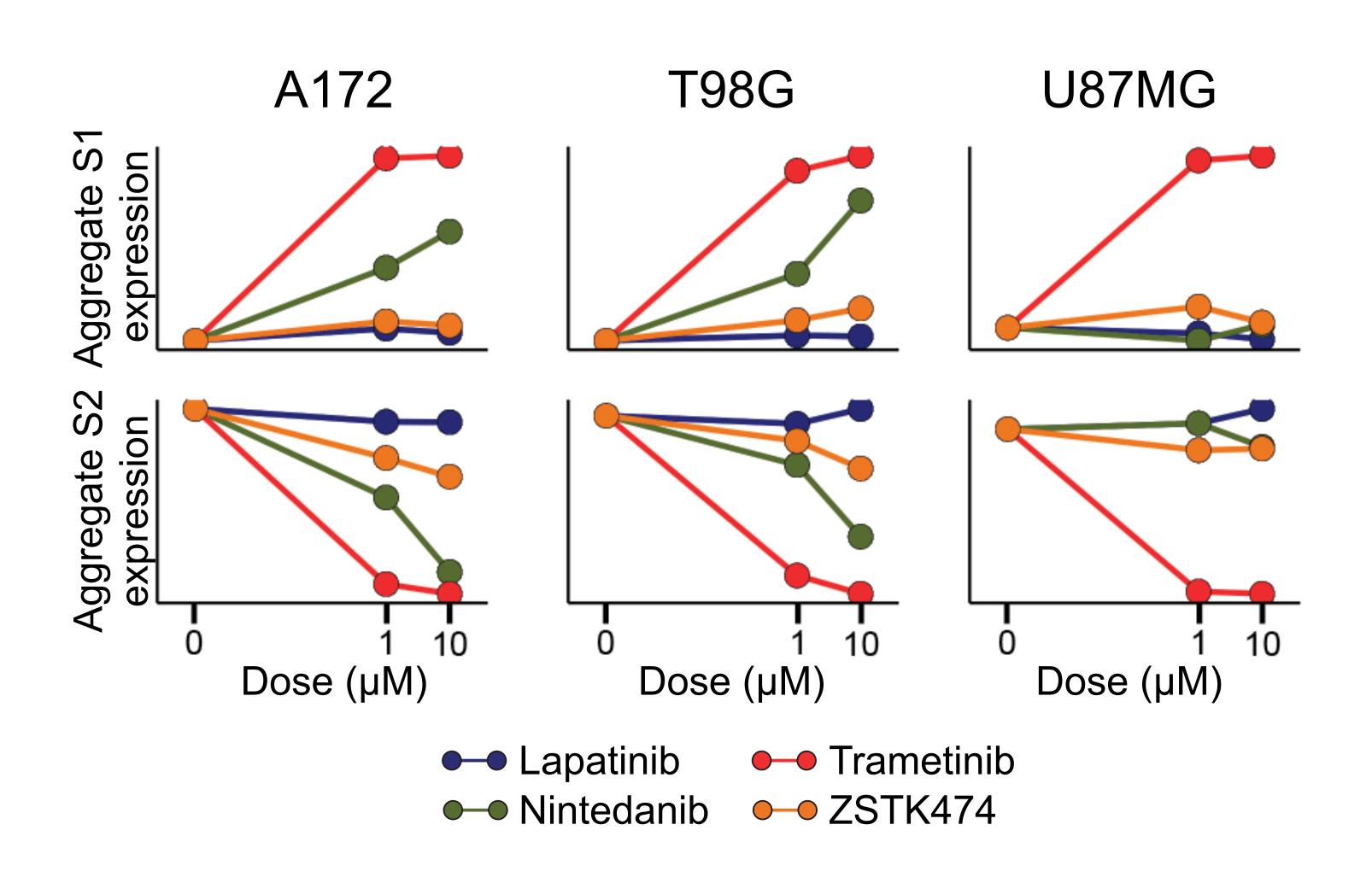
The kinome is dynamic in response to treatment



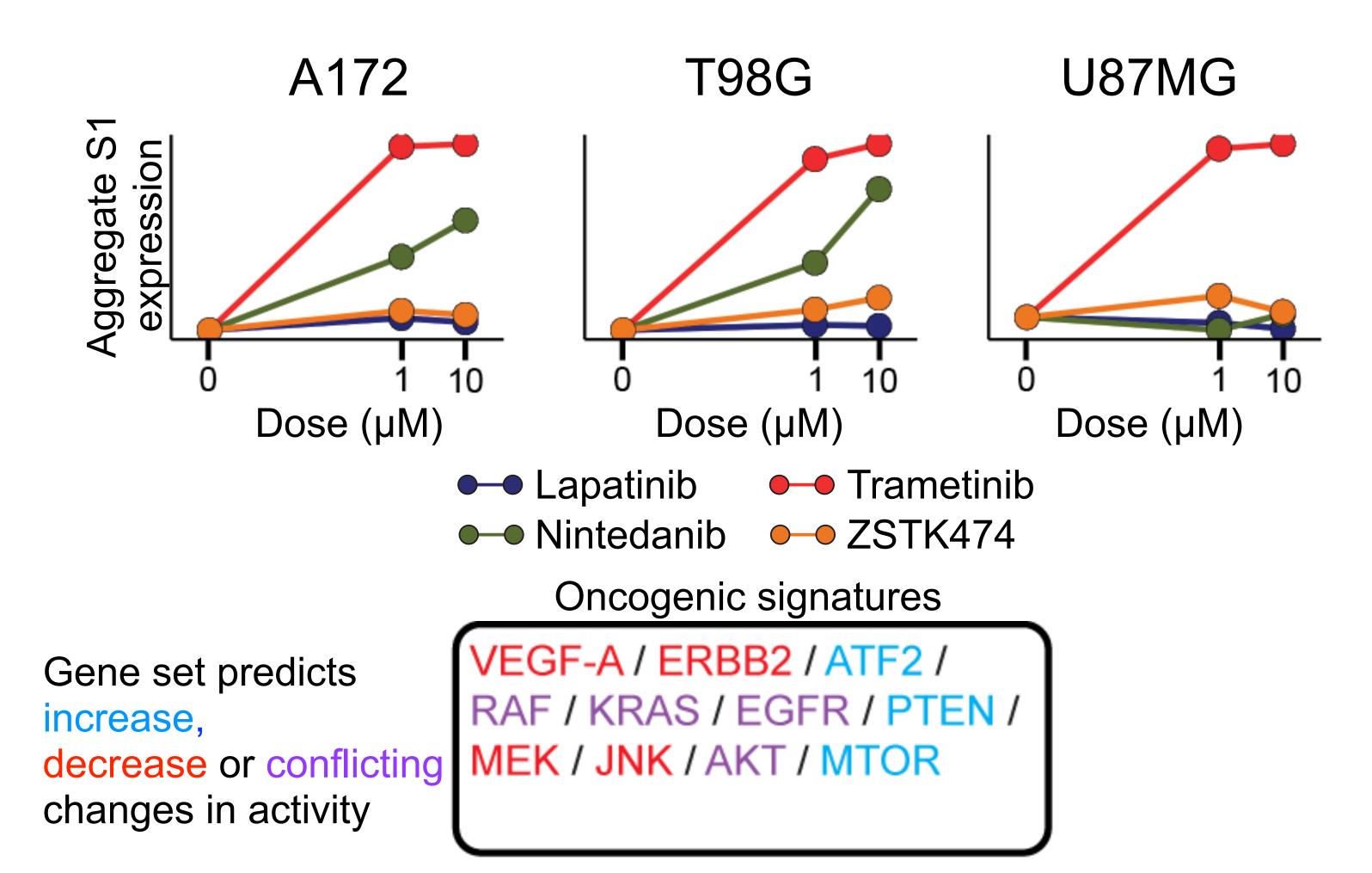
Transcriptome remodeling after kinase inhibition



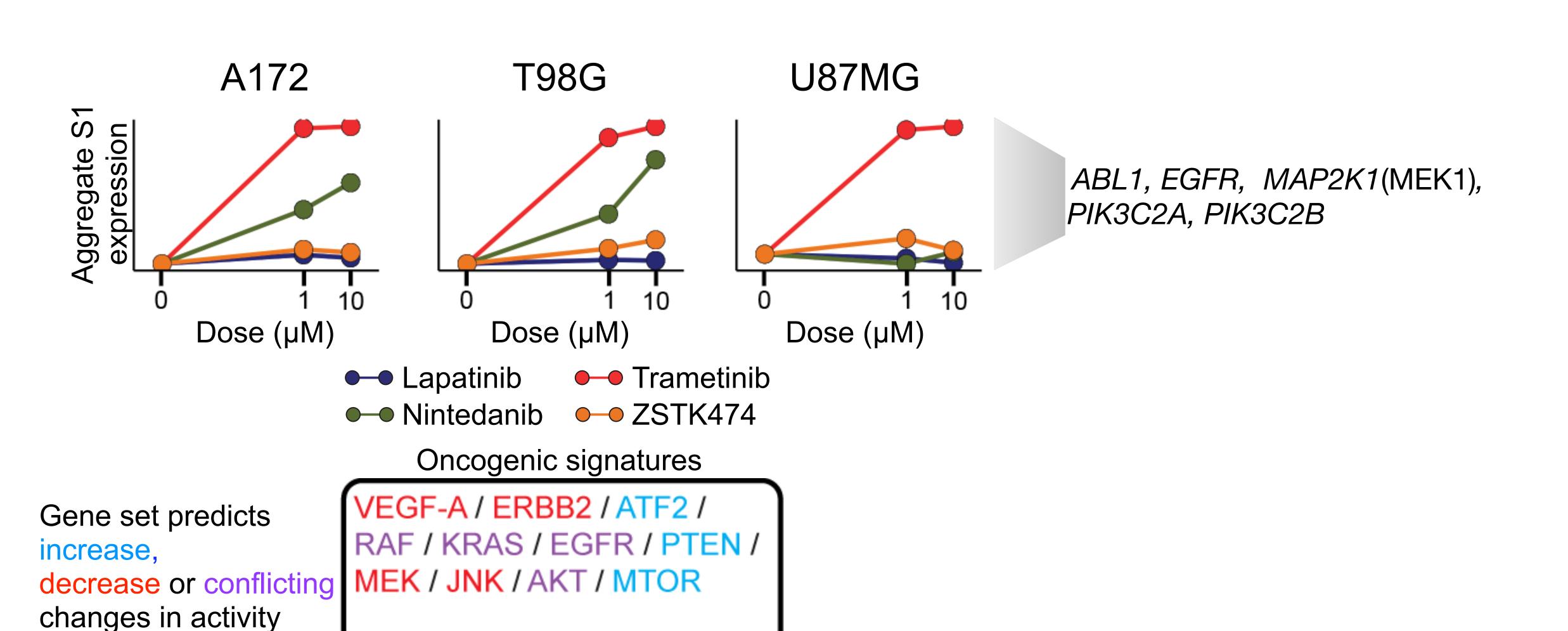
Conservation of a putative adaptive resistance program

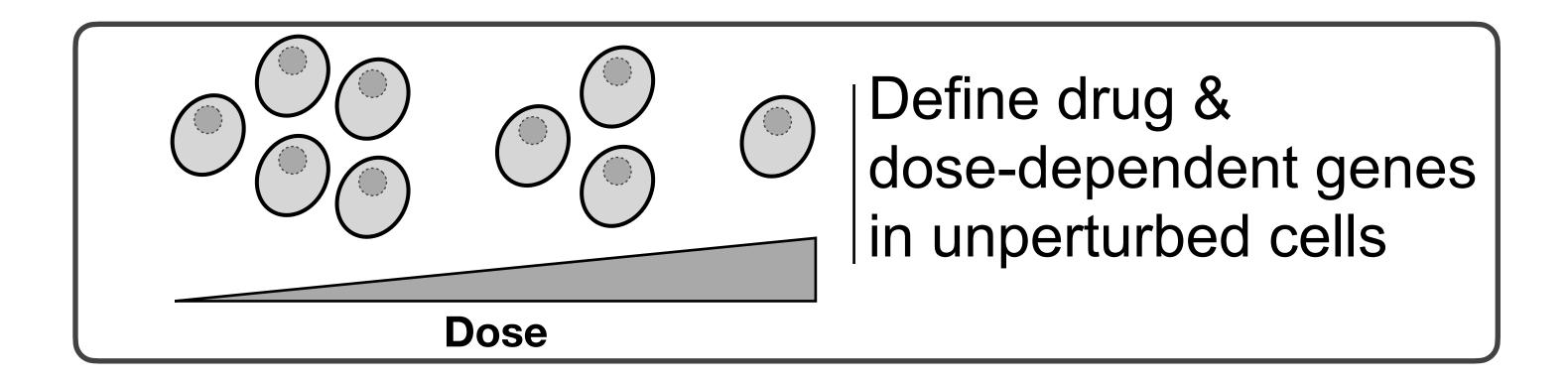


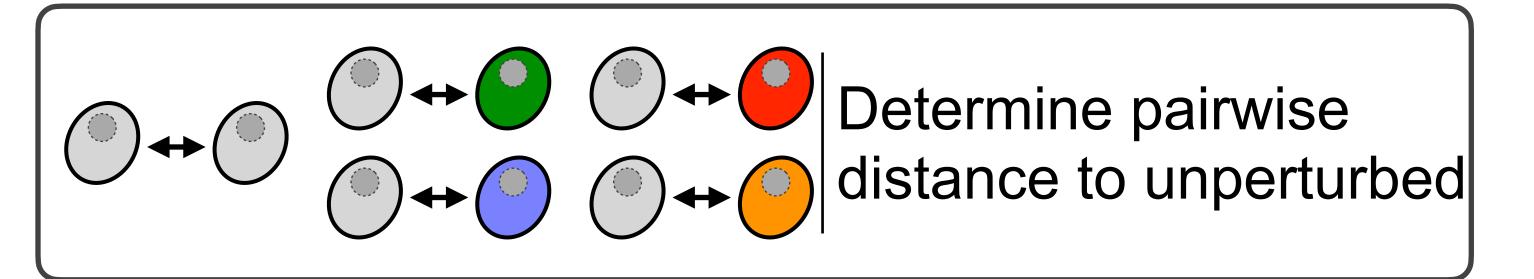
Conservation of a putative adaptive resistance program

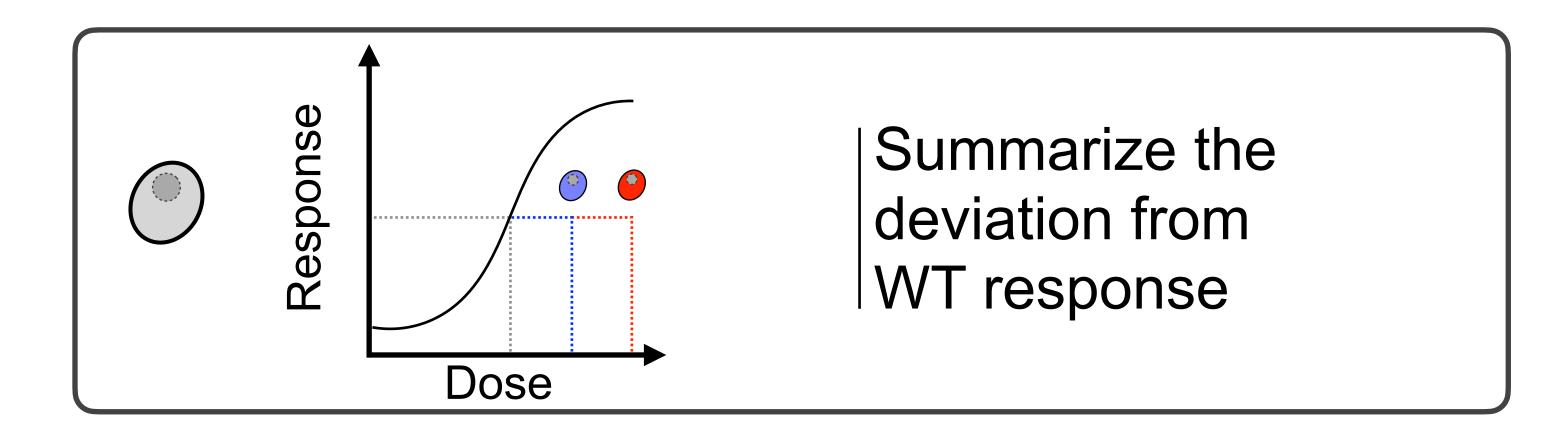


Conservation of a putative adaptive resistance program

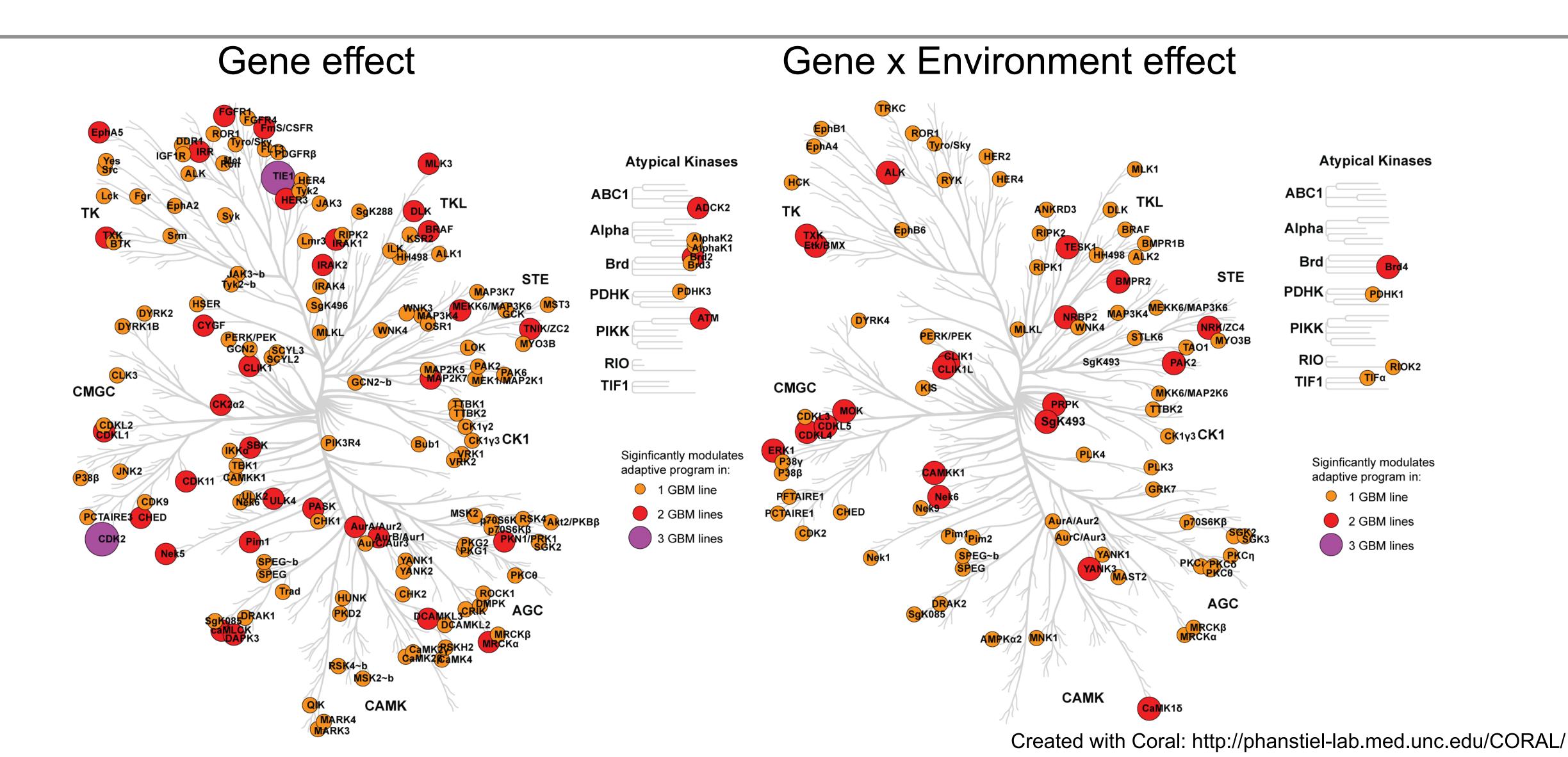




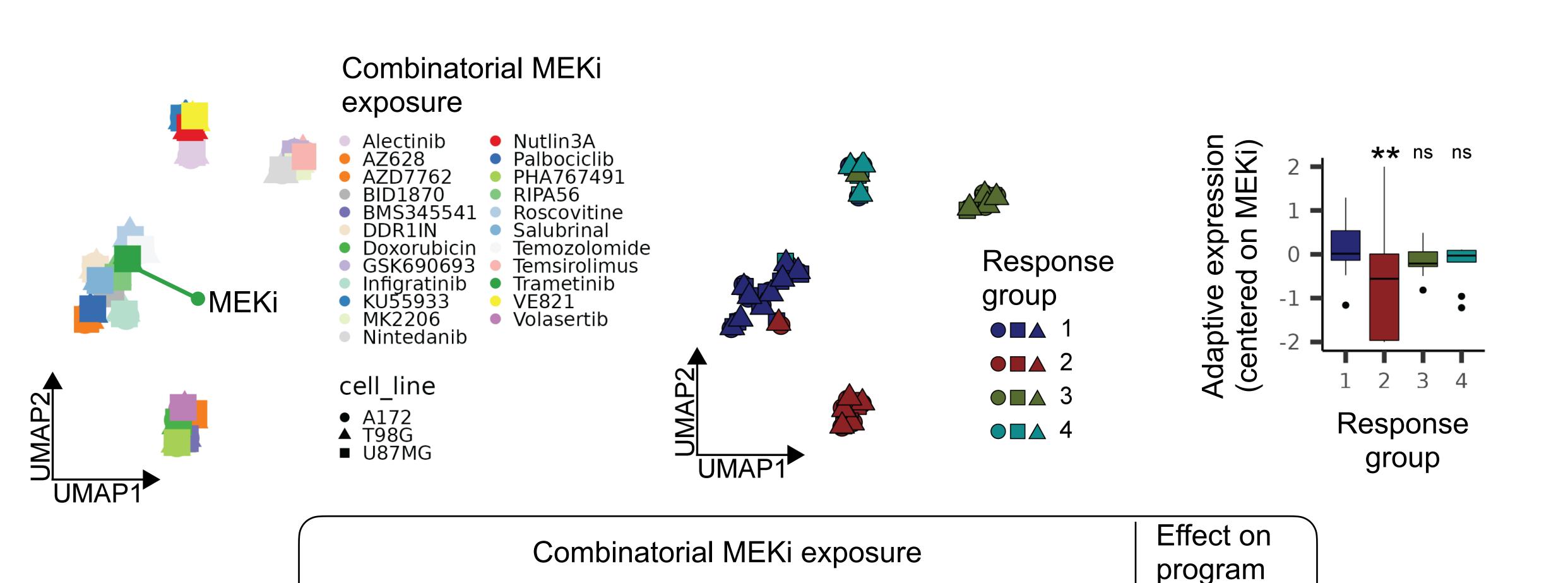




Kinase regulation of conserved drug-induced programs



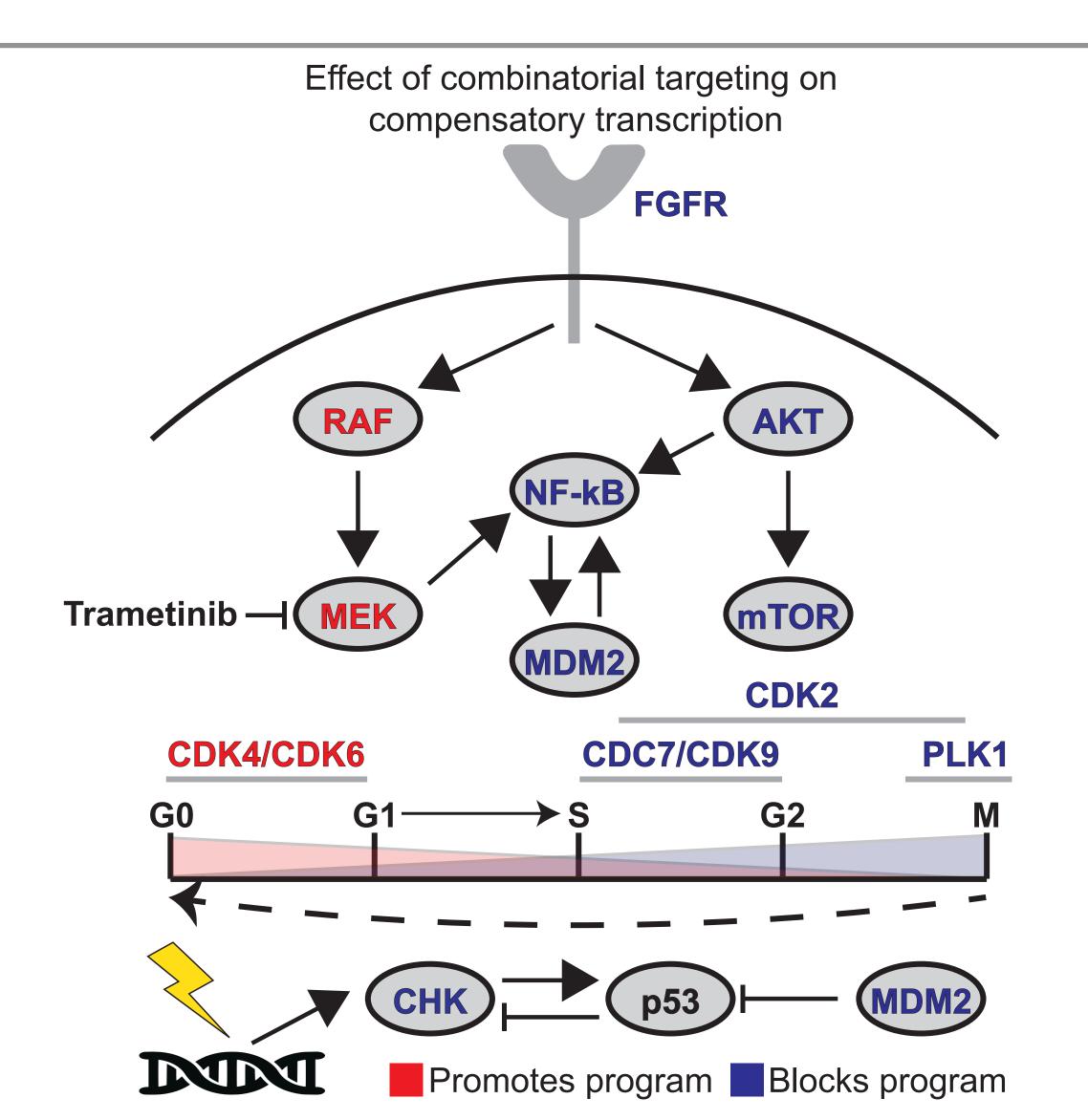
Effect of combinatorial kinase inhibition on the expression of the adaptive program



Response group 2: CHKi, NFkBi, CDC7i/CDK9i, PLKi, FGFRi

Response group 3: AKTi, MTORi, PDGFRi

Molecular regulation of putative adaptive program

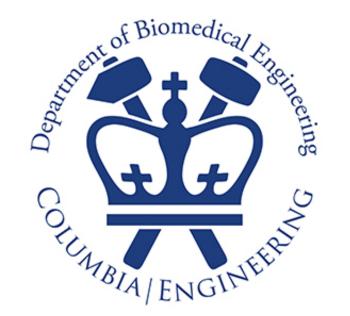


Vignette 3 summary

- ◆ Introduced sci-Plex and sci-Plex-GxE, perturbation multiplexing strategies compatible with single-cell RNA-seq
- ◆ Performed high-throughput chemical genomic screens for the regulation of drug-induced transcription
- Multiplexed methods revealed kinases involved in regulating the response to RTK inhibition
- ◆ Prioritized combinatorial treatments towards fates of interest

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Thank you!



McFaline-Figueroa lab

Lingting Shi



Vivian



Yaseen Arab



Ross Giglio



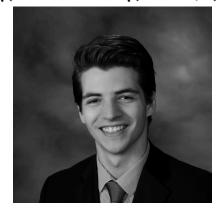
Oriana Marrone



Demyan Davidor



Kevin Hoffer-Hawlik



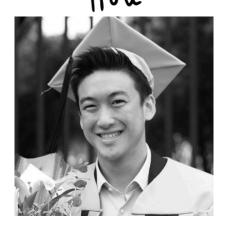
Anna Schoonen



Marina Milea



Nicholas Hou



Adeya Wyatt



Sebastian Pallais-Aks



Ioana



Mathini Vaikunthan



Columbia University

Justin Hong Elham Azizi

Tal Danino

Nicholas Arpaia

Backer Li

Stephen Tsang

Alice Huang

Mijo Simunovic

Santiago Correa

Treena Arinzeh

Neel Shah

Alberto Ciccia

Helen Lu

NYU

José R. McFaline-Figueroa

Dana Farber Lancer Center

Keith L. Ligon

uw Genome Sciences

Chelsea Lin

Devin K. Schweppe

Juan J. Vicente

Nephi Stella

EMBL Barcelona

Noah Landeli

Talya Dayton





