

# Translational Bioinformatics: Go Deep and Go Broad

- “Working Examples in Deciphering Molecular Heterogeneity of Ovarian Cancer”

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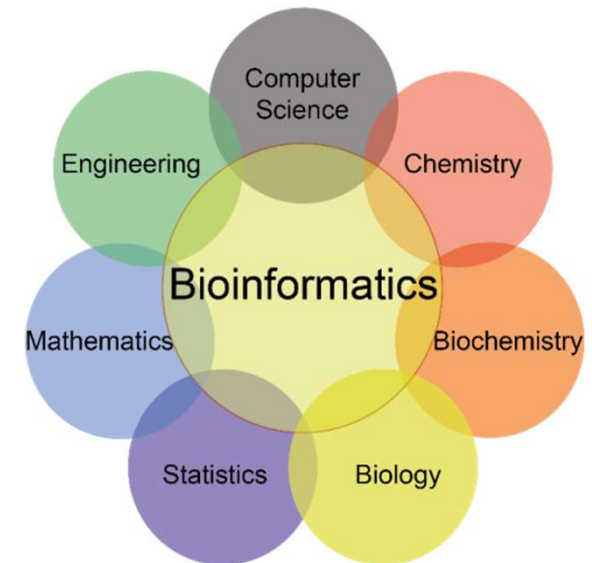
Sep. 20, 2021 - Texas A&M Institute of Data Science Seminar Series

# Bioinformatics

## 1. What's bioinformatics?

“an interdisciplinary\* field that develops methods and software tools for understanding biological data” – wiki

\*: biology, computer, informatics, machine learning



## 2. What bioinformatics do?

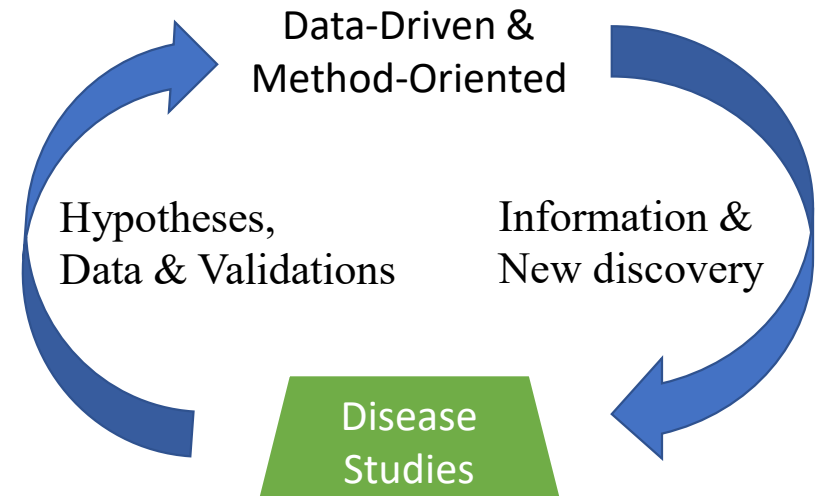
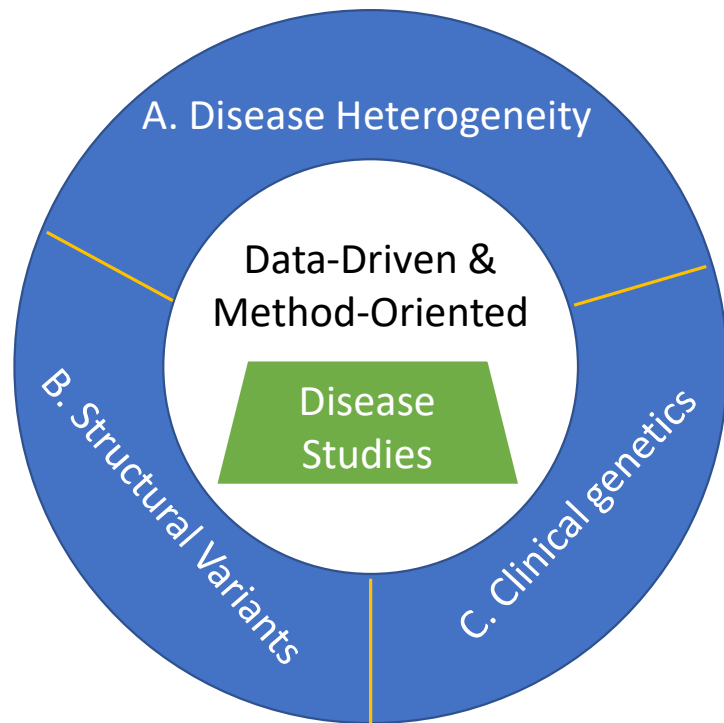
Omics\*\* data-driven ways of ...

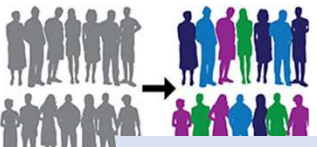
- Discovery: hypothesis formulation
- Validation: hypothesis testing
- Translation: from research discoveries to clinical applications

\*\* : genomics, transcriptomics, epigenomics, proteomics, Interactome...

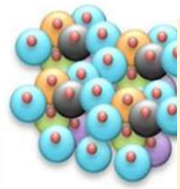
# My Research and Collaborative Interests

- I. Omics data-driven and bioinformatics methodology-oriented
- II. iterating between disease studies and method advancements



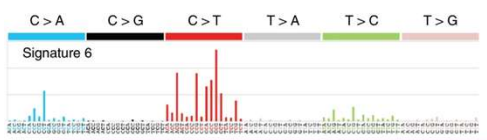
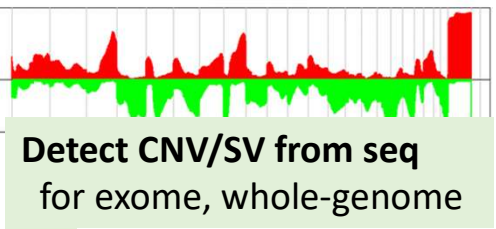
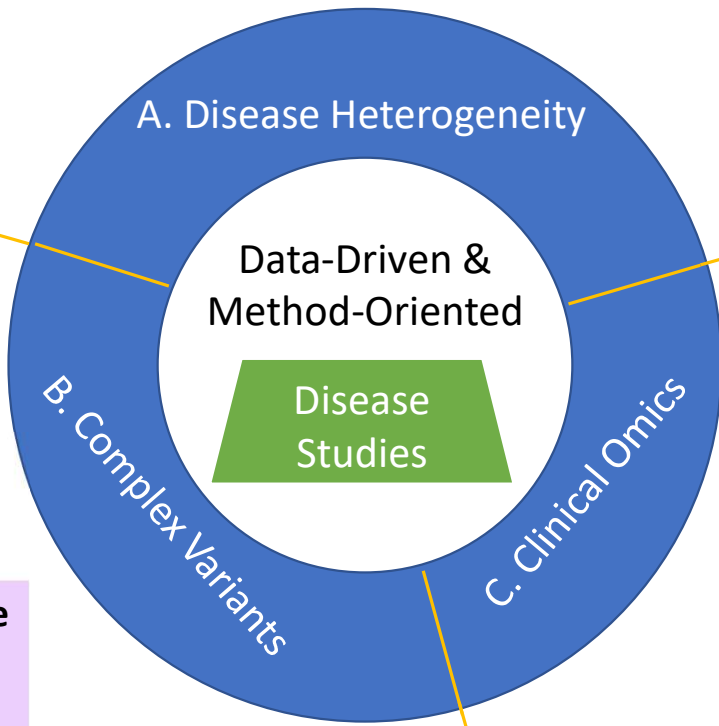
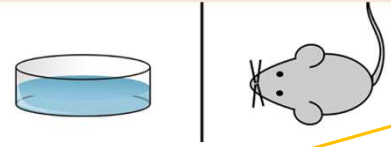


**Reveal disease subtypes**  
 unsupervised  
 semi-supervised  
 subtypes w. outcomes

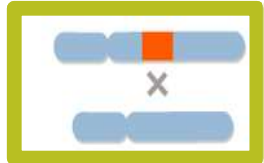


**Decipher cellular heterogeneity**  
 cellular sub-population (scRNAseq)  
 tumor-stroma interactions  
 cell-cell cross-talk

**Build links to model systems**  
 cell-line  
 organoid  
 PDX



**Characterize variant signature**  
 genome instability  
 mutational signature



**Interpret variant's consequence**  
 functional impacts  
 disease etiology

**Research -> Clinic**  
 rigorous performance evaluation  
 streamlined result interpretation



**Clinic -> Research**  
 clinical data reuse for research discovery  
 broad data integrations (EHRs, imaging)

# Today's focused topic : Disease Heterogeneity

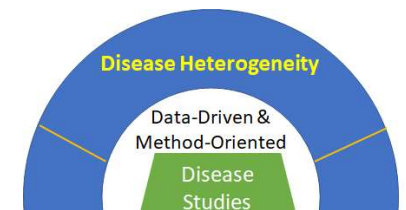
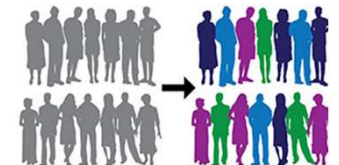
Why to study disease heterogeneity?

- **Clinical goals for disease studies**

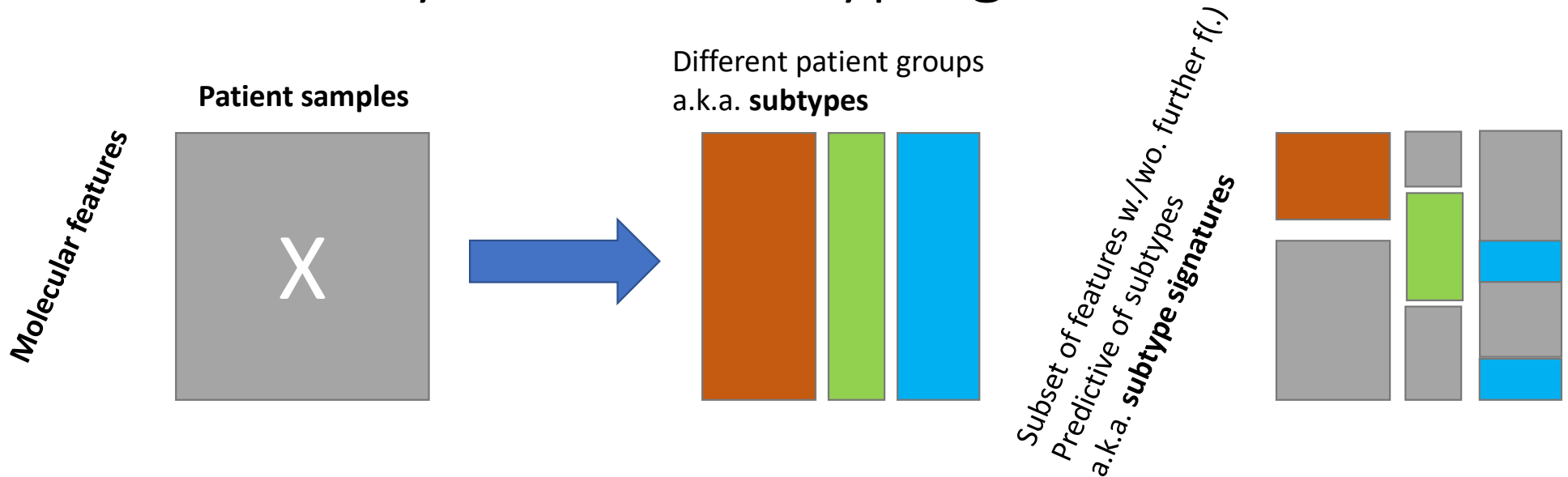
- Etiology: what caused it? How to prevent? Early detect?
- Diagnosis & Prognosis: which treatment?
- Therapeutic development: what are targetable to cure disease?

- **Bioinformatics goals for advancing omics analytics**

- DNA as blueprints: genetics & genomics heterogeneity
- mRNA & Proteins as dynamic profiles: molecular heterogeneity
- Cell -> tissue -> disease: microenvironment
- Varieties of discovery methods: subtyping



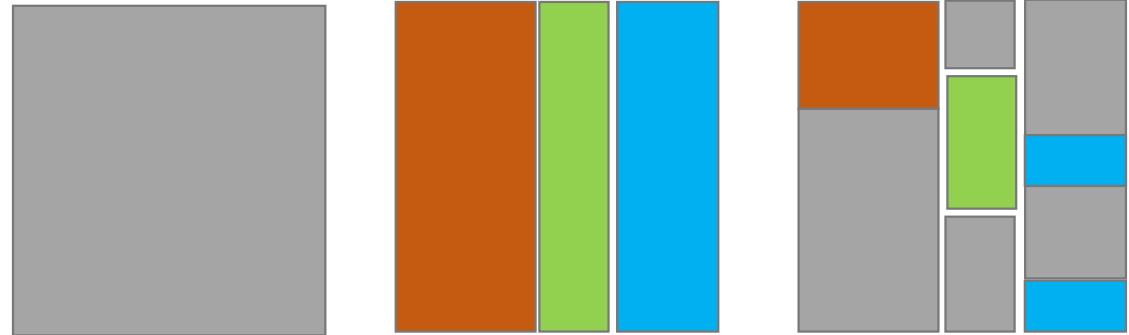
# Technically, what's subtyping



## How molecular subtyping are typically done

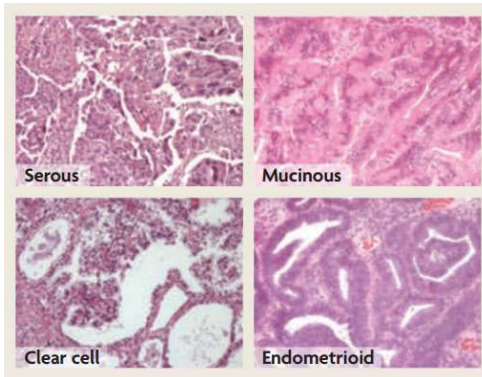
- Clustering of observed data  $X$  directly
- Decompose observed data  $X$  to latent space
  - *Matrix decomposition* : PCA, ICA, NMF x linear/kernel,  $X = WH$
  - *Probabilistic representation*: subtype membership  $\Rightarrow$  data  $X$  distribution
  - *Graph-based mining*: patient as graph-node w. different features; graph-cut, topology

# Technical considerations of subtyping

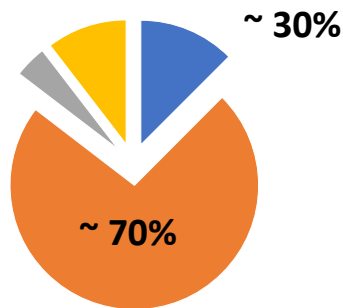
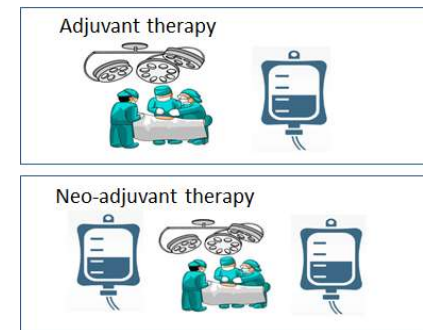
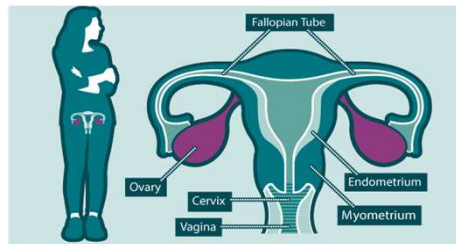


- **General Challenge:** curse of dimensionality
  - E.g. 20,000 features x 50 samples; 450,000 features x 200 samples
- Considerations for **unsupervised** solution
  - What's "overfitting" for un-supervised approach?
  - How many subtypes?
  - Are different subtypes exclusive or transitional to each other?
  - How to generalize from discovery dataset to validation dataset?
- **Semi-supervised** subtyping
  - How to utilize partially labeled data aspects (features and/or samples)?
  - How to leverage known sample-sample, feature-feature relationships?

# 1. go deep: clinical aspects of *ovarian cancer* heterogeneity

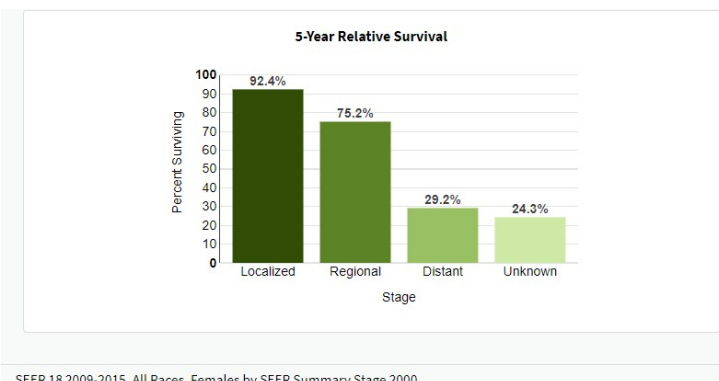


- Despite its heterogeneity, traditional treatments are relatively homogenous



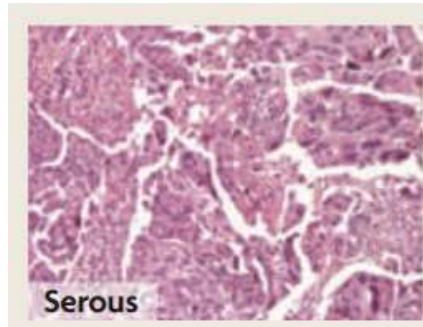
- Clear-cell
- Serous
- Mucinous
- Endometrioid

- Stage is the leading prognosis factor



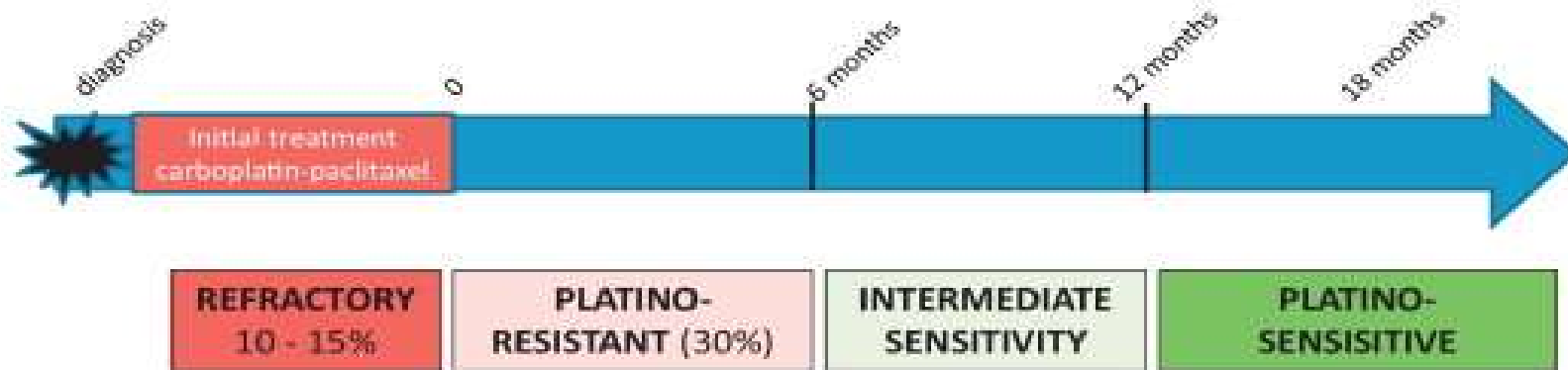


# Heterogeneity of HGSOC



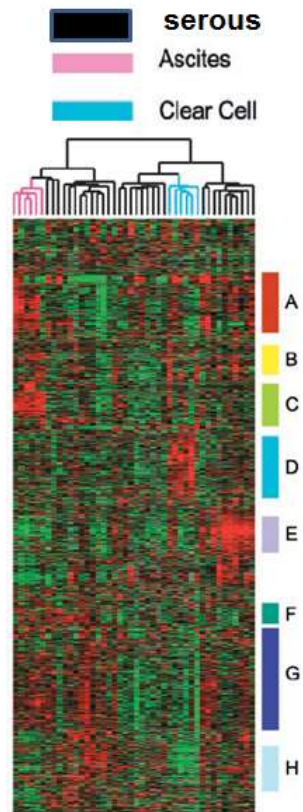
**High-grade serous ovarian cancer(HGSOC)**  
~95%, most diagnosed in advanced stage  
Median onset age: 63 years

**Low-grade serous ovarian cancer(LGSOC)**  
~5% of all serous cases,  
Median onset age: 47 years



**Diverse responses to platinum-based chemo**  
**Any clues in molecular & genomics?**

## 2. Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC



**2003:** Marci E. Schaner, "Gene Expression Patterns in Ovarian Carcinomas", Mol Biol Cell. Nov 2003  
36 tumors  
cDNA microarray

2 subtypes

N = 36

2003

## 2. Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC

**2008:** Tothill RW et al. "Novel molecular subtypes of serous and endometrioid ovarian cancer linked to clinical outcome": Clin Cancer Res 14:5198-5208, 2008

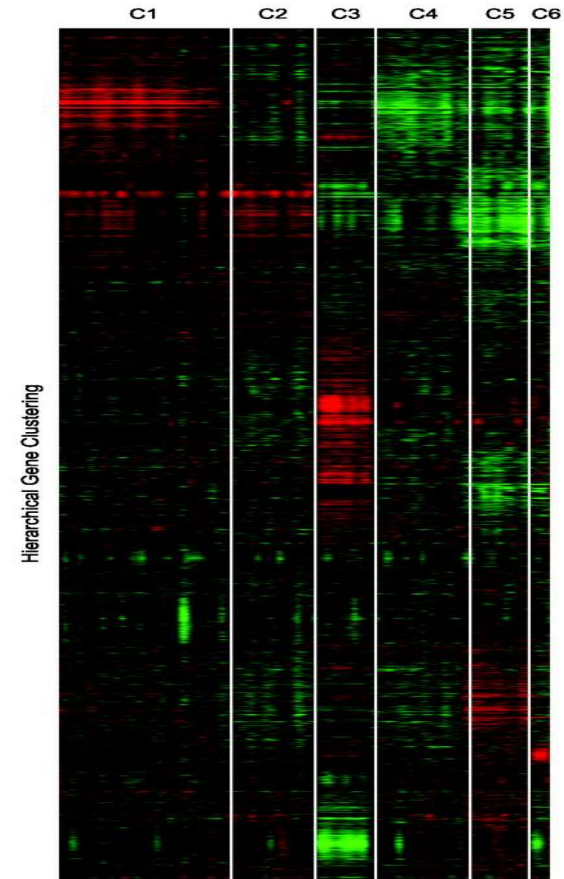
~180 serous tumors  
Affymetrix U133A

2 subtypes  
N = 36

6 subtypes  
N = 180

2003

2008

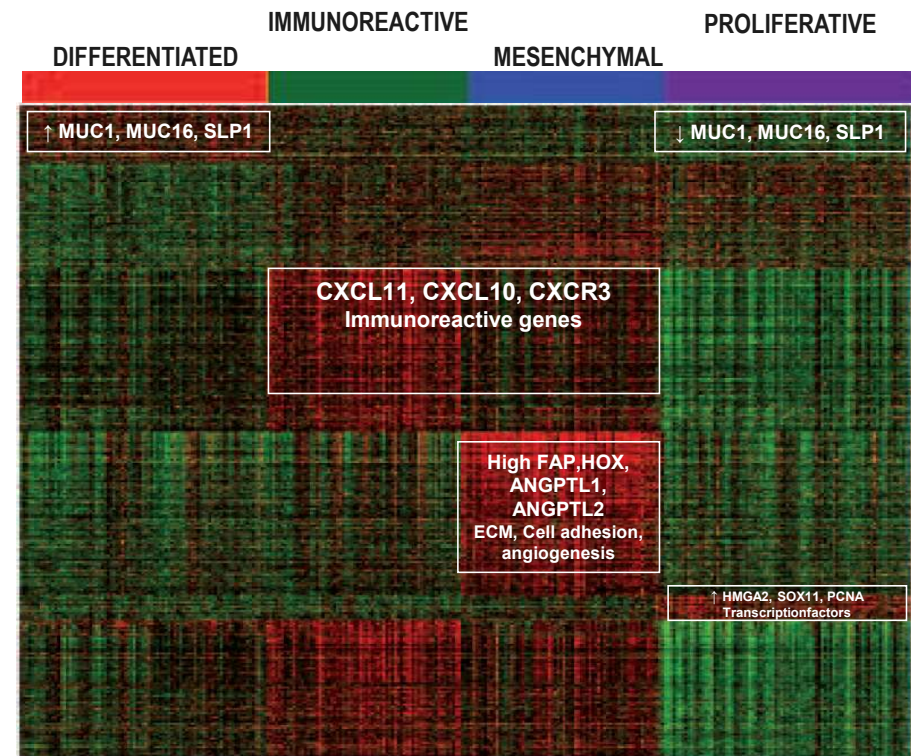
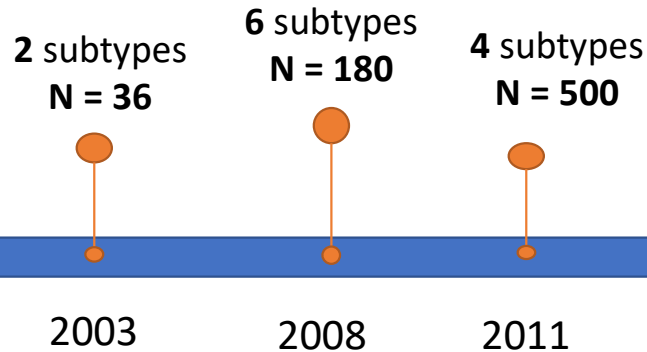


## 2. Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC

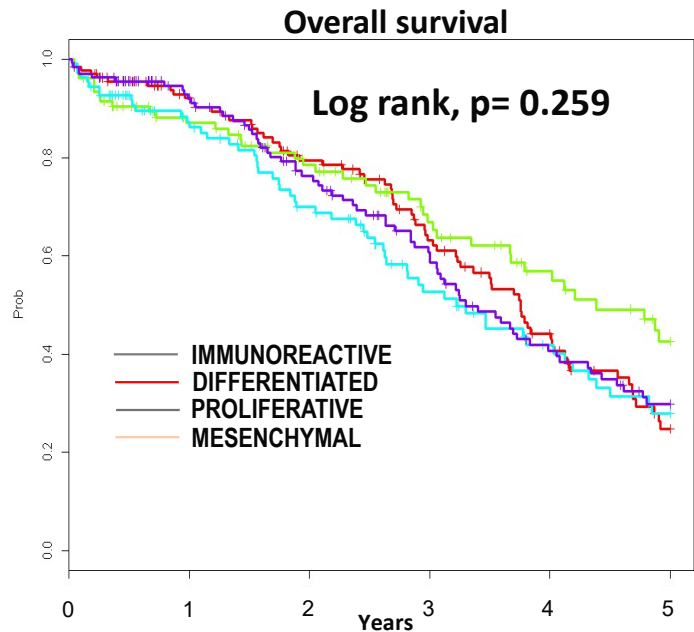
**2011:** The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network.  
 “Integrated genomic analyses of ovarian carcinoma”.  
 Nature 474:609-15, 2011

~500 serous tumors

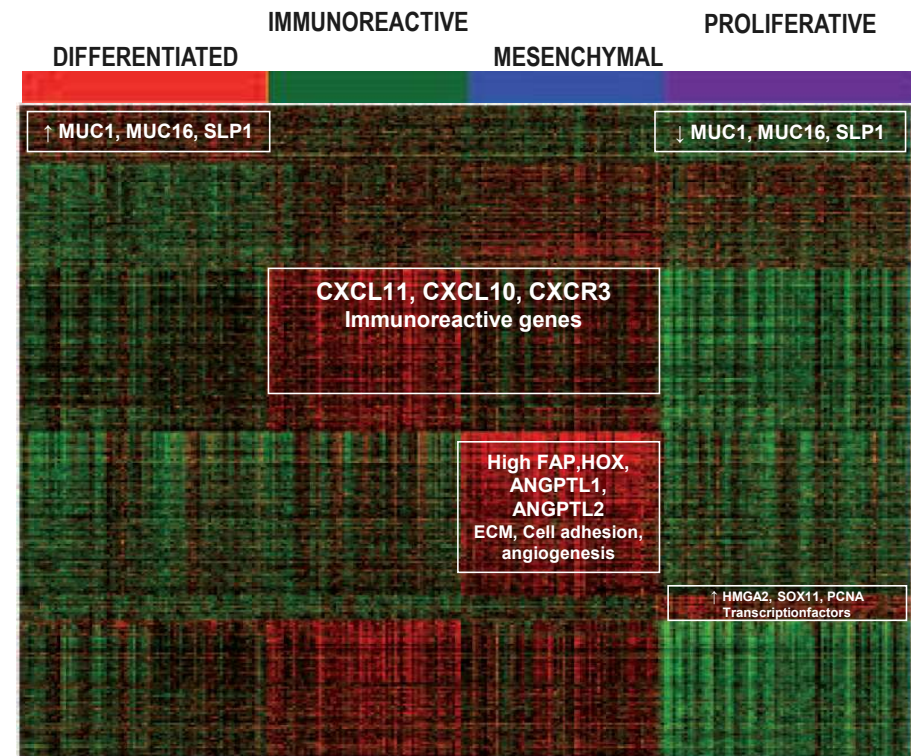
3 microarray platforms measured on all of the samples



## 2. Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC



No prognosis associations



2 subtypes  
N = 36

6 subtypes  
N = 180

4 subtypes  
N = 500

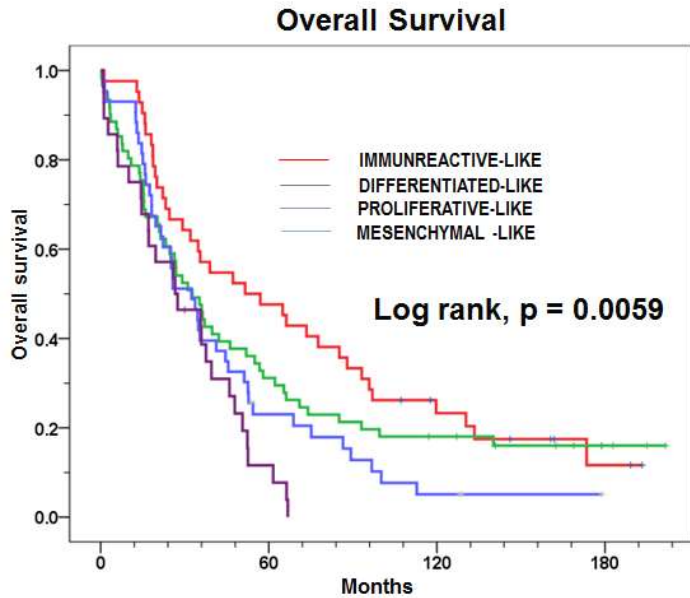
2003

2008

2011

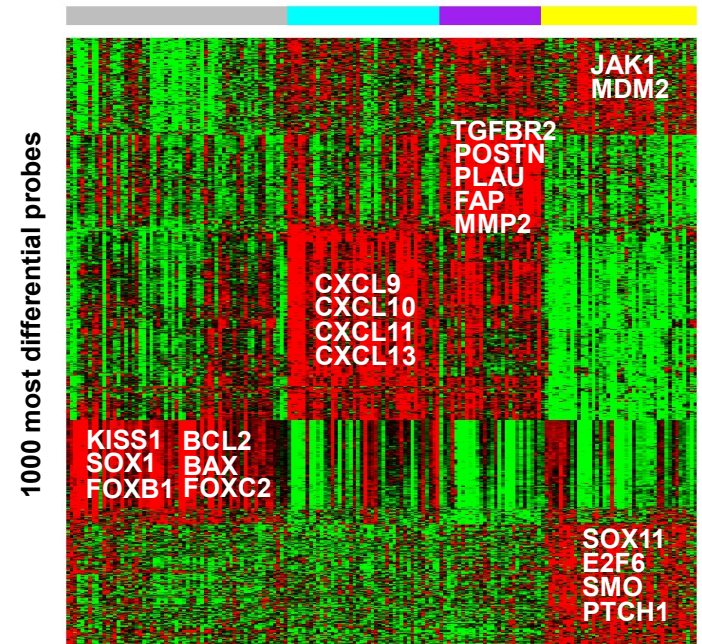
# 2. Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC

Konecny G, Wang C, Hamidi H, et al. "Prognostic and therapeutic relevance of molecular subtypes in high grade serous ovarian cancer". Journal of the National Cancer Institute, 2014.



Significant survival association in Mayo Clinic cohort

Differentiated-like    Immune-like    Mes.-like    Proliferative-like



4 subtypes  
N = 174

2 subtypes  
N = 36

6 subtypes  
N = 180

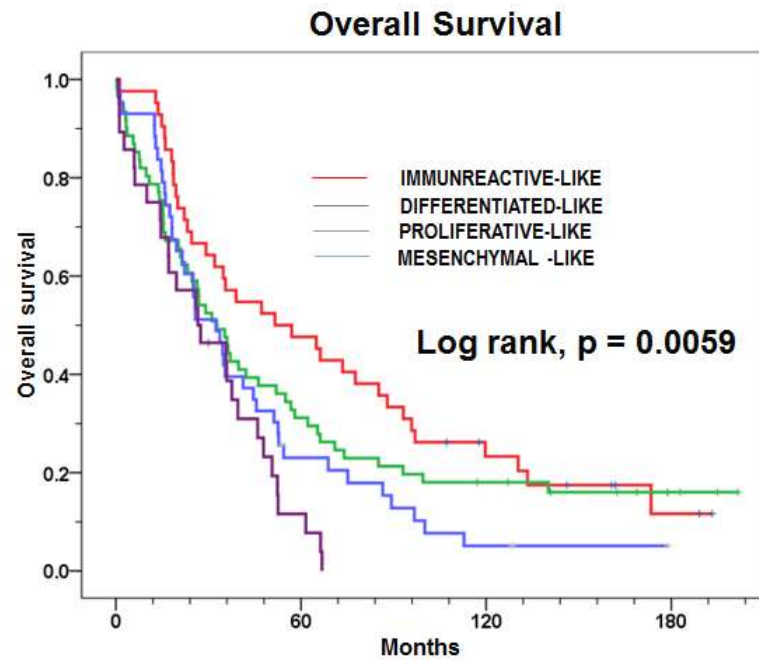
4 subtypes  
N = 500

2003

2008

2011

2014

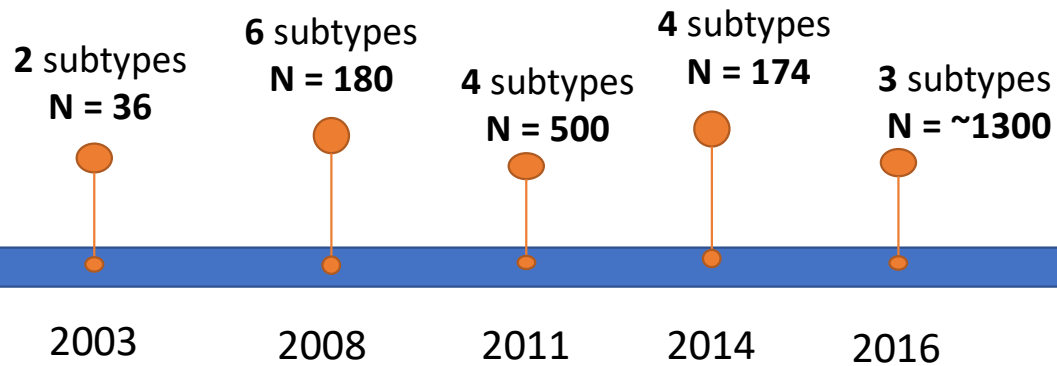
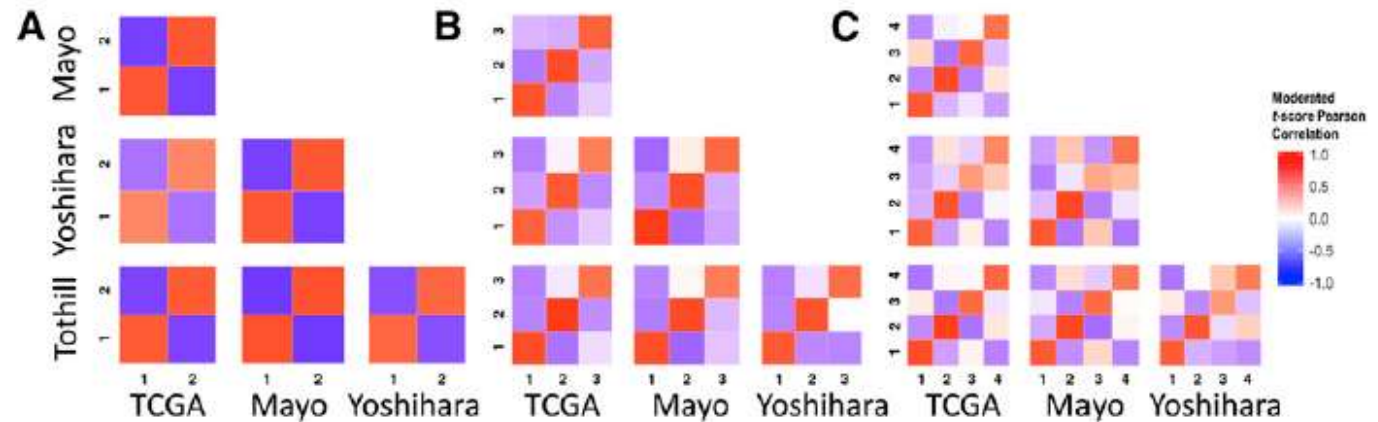


Factors	Estimate HR (95% CI)	Wald test
Age	1.02 (1.00, 1.03)	P=0.0154
Stage IV vs. II-III	1.74 (1.19, 2.54)	P=0.0045
Grade 4 vs. 2-3	1.23 (0.88, 1.71)	P=0.2217
Debulking optimal vs. others	0.42 (0.30, 0.61)	P<0.0001
Cluster C1: Immune-like	1.0 (reference)	
C2 : Diff.-like	1.25 (0.80, 1.95)	P=0.3293
C3: Prolif.-like	1.89 (1.18, 3.02)	<b>P=0.0079</b>
C4: Mes.-like	2.45 (1.43, 4.18)	<b>P=0.0011</b>

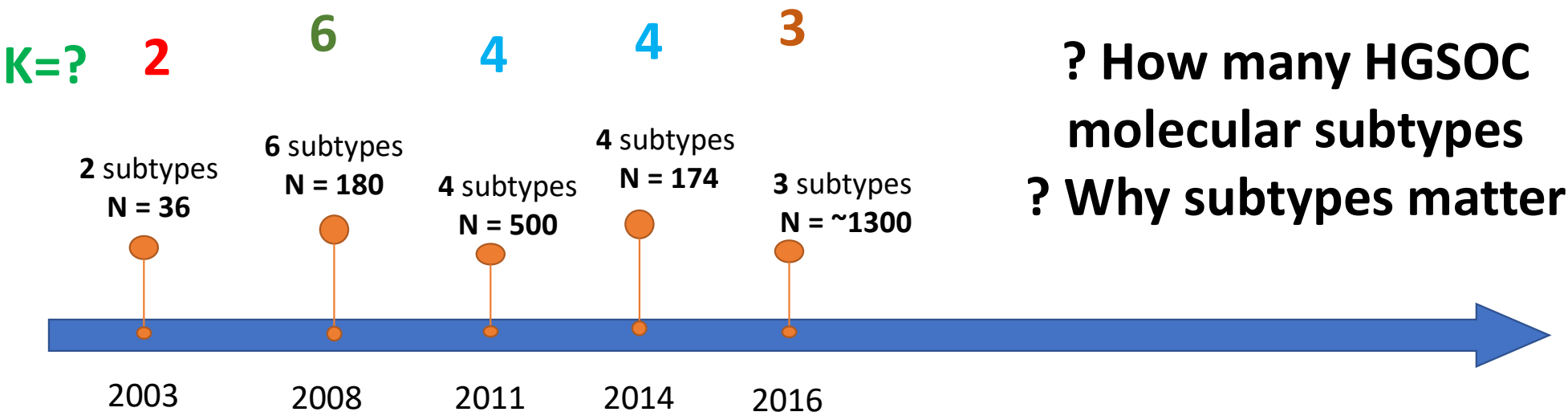
## Multivariate analysis

## 2. Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC

**2016** “Comprehensive Cross-Population Analysis of High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer Supports No More Than Three Subtypes”, G3: Genes, Genomes, Genetics



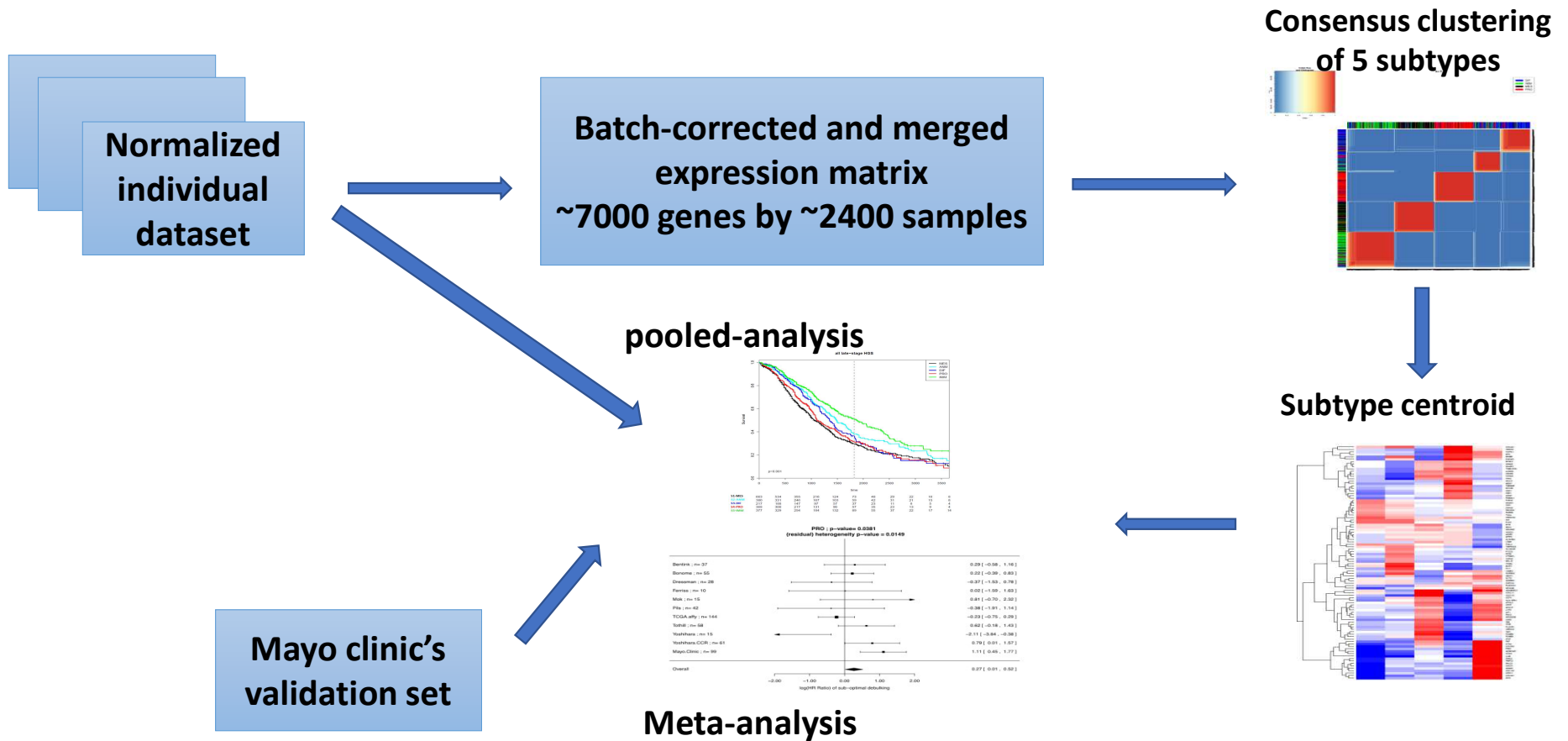




**Motivations:**

- **Can we fully utilize all the available public ovarian tumor expression samples to identify tumor subtypes?**  
(independent of individual studies and microarray platform)
- **Whether knowledge of tumor subtypes benefit ovarian cancer treatment decisions?** (e.g. adjuvant vs. neoadjuvant)

## 2. A *de-novo* subtyping study for HGSOC



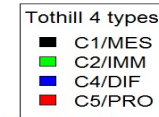
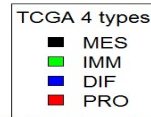
Study Name	Stage		Histology				Vital		Recurrence		Debulking	
	early	late	clearcell	endo	mucinous	ser	deceased	living	norecurrence	recurrence	optimal	suboptimal
<i>Bentink, 1</i>	1	128	0	0	0	129	73	56	0	0	98	28
<i>Bonome, 2</i>	0	185	0	0	0	185	129	56	42	153	90	95
<i>Crijns, 3</i>	0	157	0	0	0	157	113	44	0	0	0	0
<i>Denkert, 4</i>	9	71	2	6	0	68	21	59	50	26	0	0
<i>Dressman, 5</i>	1	115	0	0	0	117	67	50	0	0	63	54
<i>Ferriss, 6</i>	0	58	5	1	1	47	36	22	6	48	26	30
<i>Mateescu, 7</i>	31	76	6	8	8	79	76	31	27	80	0	0
<i>Mok, 8</i>	0	53	0	0	0	53	41	12	0	0	28	11
<i>Pils, 9</i>	9	185	0	0	0	171	57	137	70	124	137	57
<i>TCGA.affy, 10</i>	43	520	0	0	0	568	290	270	279	299	367	140
<i>Tothill, 11</i>	42	240	0	20	0	264	113	169	94	188	160	88
<i>Wu, 12</i>	42	53	8	37	13	41	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Yoshihara, 13</i>	0	110	0	0	0	110	46	64	34	76	57	53
<i>Yoshihara.CCR, 14</i>	0	260	0	0	0	260	121	139	0	0	103	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>2211</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2249</b>	<b>1183</b>	<b>1109</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>1129</b>	<b>713</b>

#### references

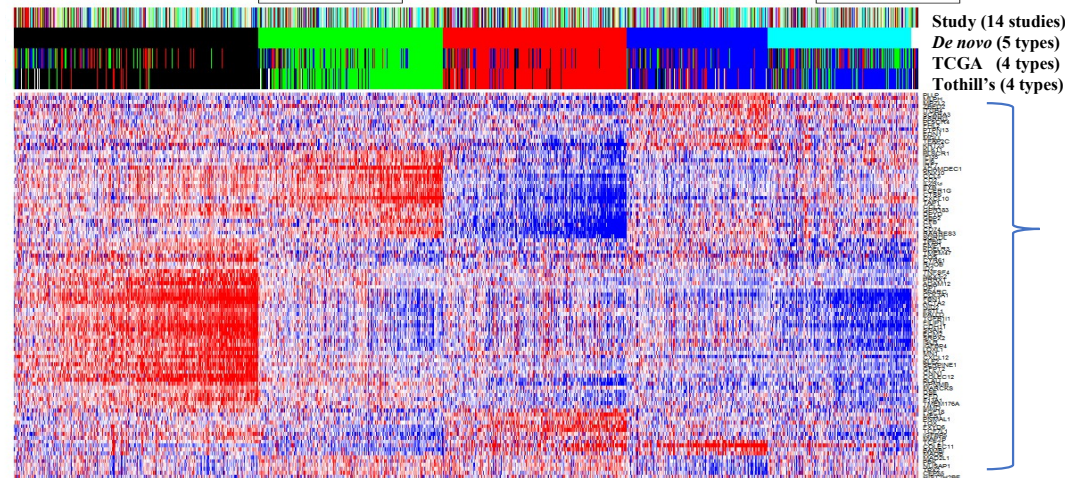
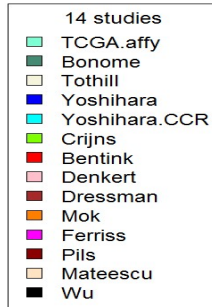
- [1] Bentink S, Haibe-Kains B, Risch T, et al. Angiogenic mRNA and microRNA gene expression signature predicts a novel subtype of serous ovarian cancer. *PLoS One* 2012;7:e30269.
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- [10] TCGA, Integrated genomic analyses of ovarian carcinoma. *Nature*, 2011. 474(7353): p. 609-15
- [11] Tothill, R.W., et al., Novel molecular subtypes of serous and endometrioid ovarian cancer linked to clinical outcome. *Clin Cancer Res*, 2008. 14(16): p. 5198-208
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- [13] Yoshihara, K., et al., Gene expression profile for predicting survival in advanced-stage serous ovarian cancer across two independent datasets. *PLoS One*, 2010. 5(3): p. e9615.
- [14] Yoshihara, K., et al., High-risk ovarian cancer based on 126-gene expression signature is uniquely characterized by downregulation of antigen presentation pathway. *Clin Cancer Res*, 2012.

## 14 HGSOc mRNA studies

## 2. *de-novo* subtyping system

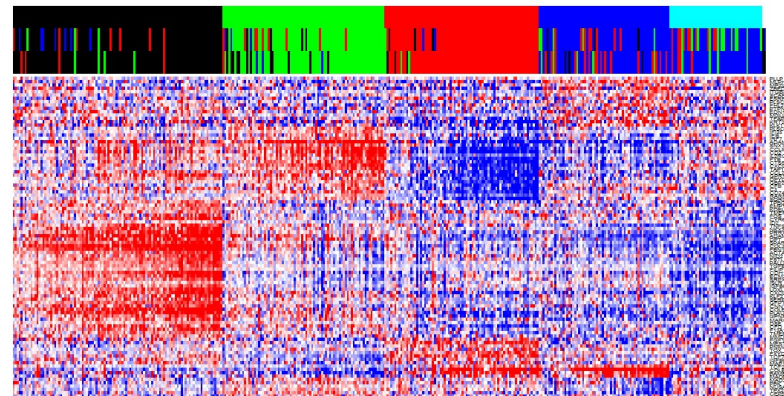


Public HGSOc set  
(n=2,103)



*De novo* (5 types)  
TCGA (4 types)  
Tothill's (4 types)

Mayo Clinic HGSOc set  
(n=381)



S1.MES: mesenchymal  
S2.IMM: immnoreactive  
S3.PRO: proliferative  
S4.DIF: differentiated  
S5.ANM: anti-mesenchymal

# Transcriptome to Proteomics

- molecular subtypes confirmed again

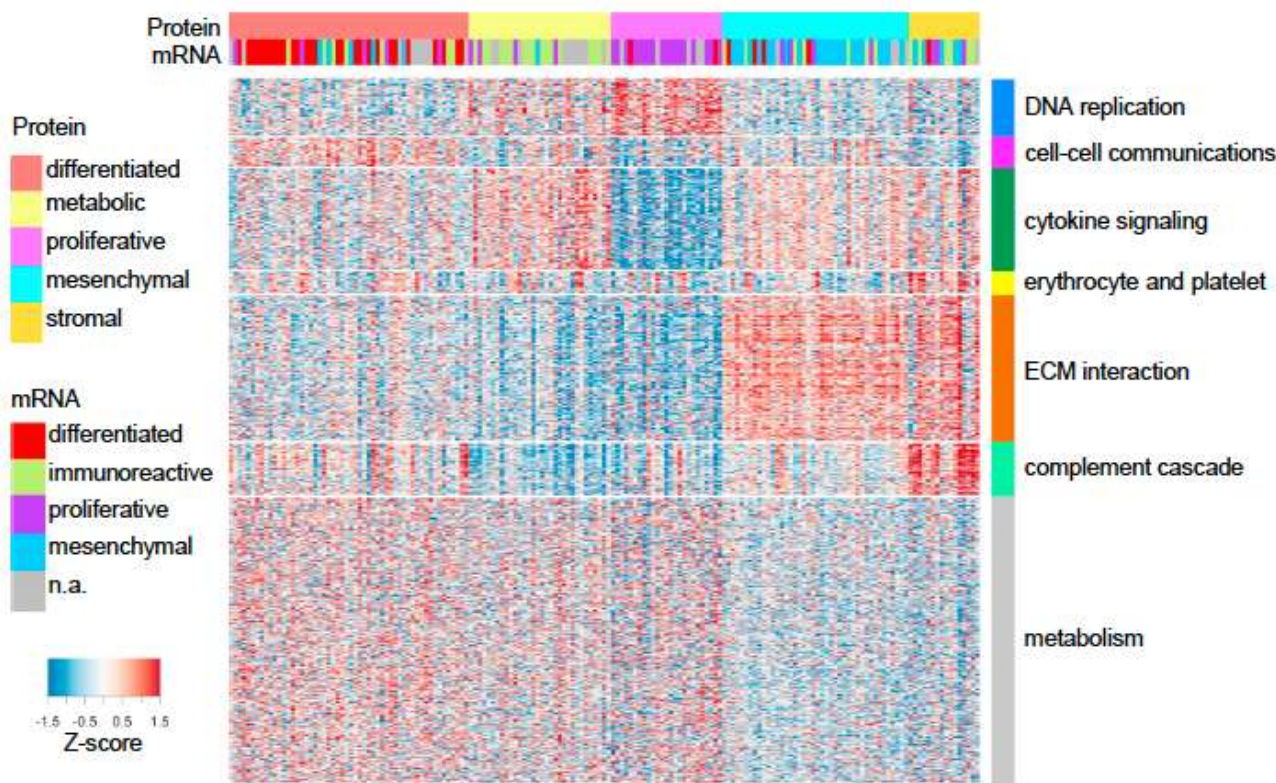
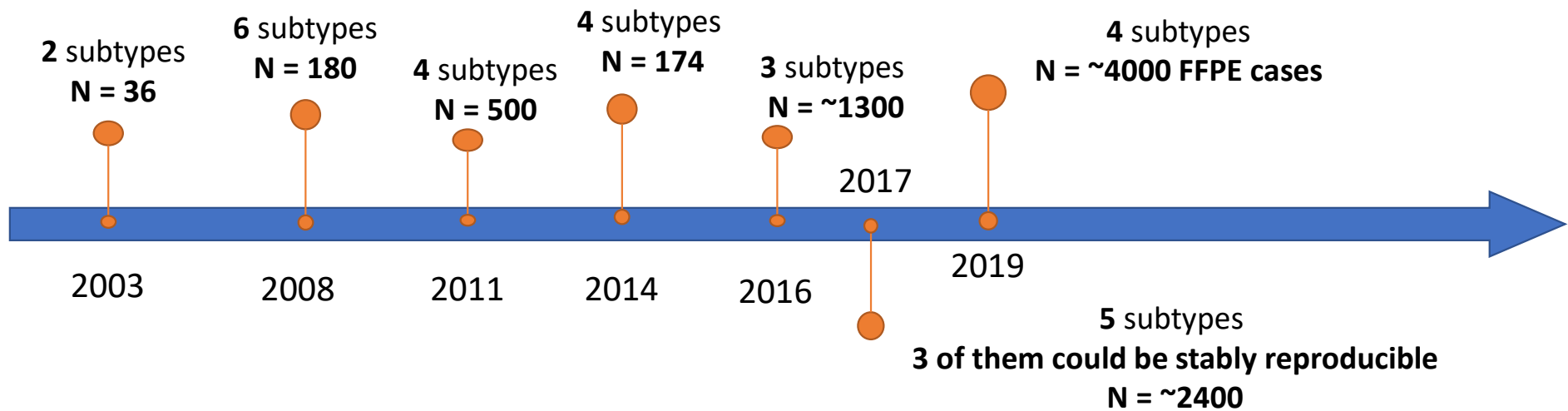


Figure 2. Proteomic Subtypes and Corresponding Driving Protein Modules

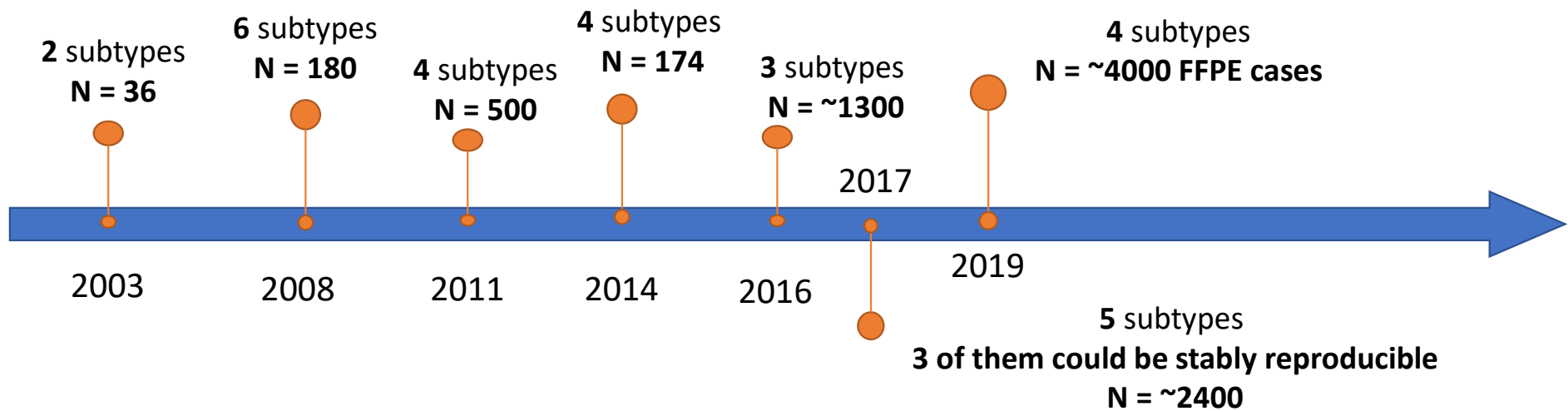
“Integrated Proteogenomic Characterization of Human High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer”, *Cell* 2016



## Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC, and why it matters?

Clinic

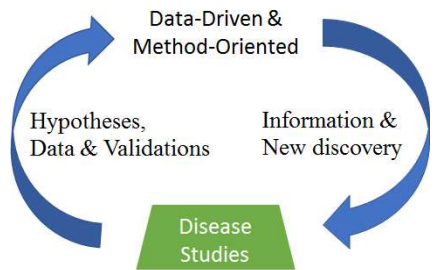
Research



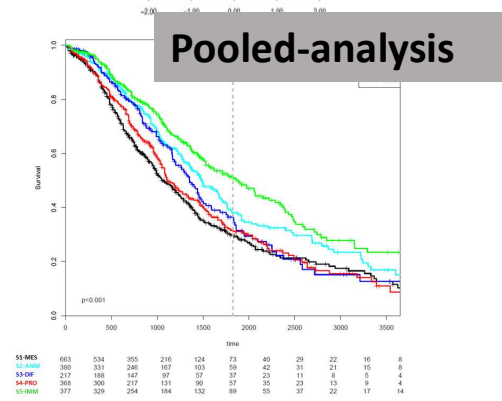
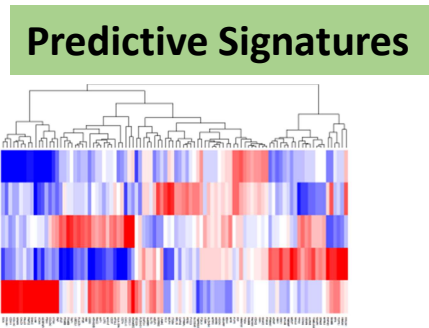
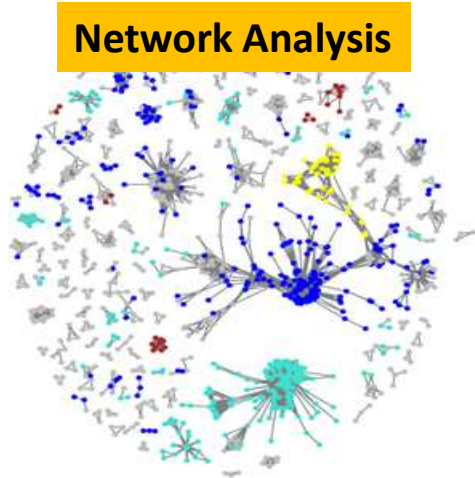
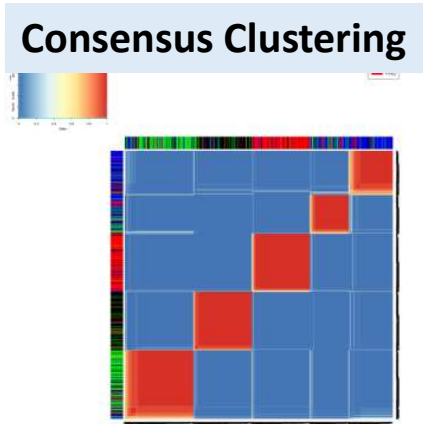
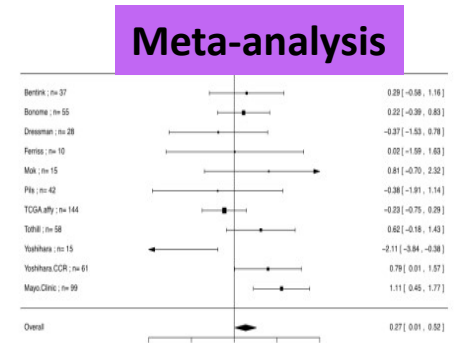
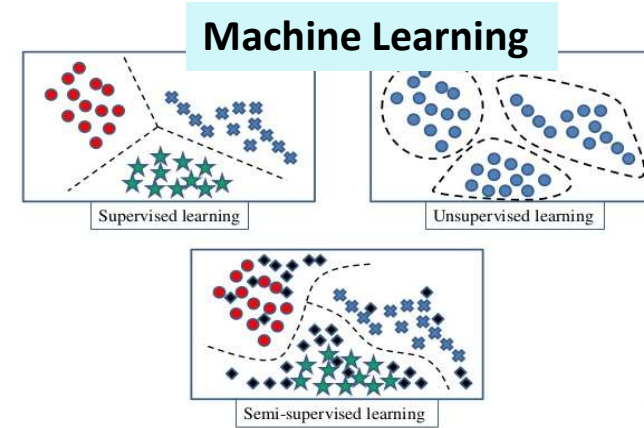
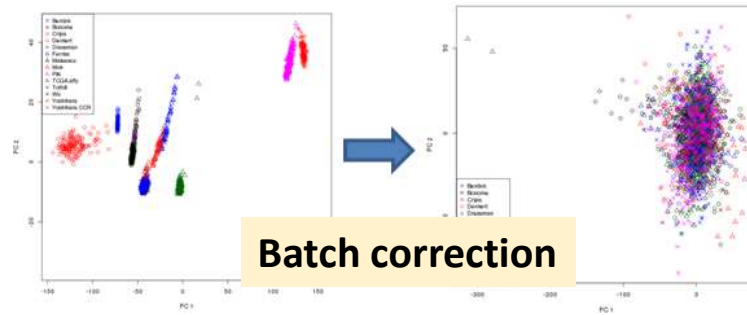
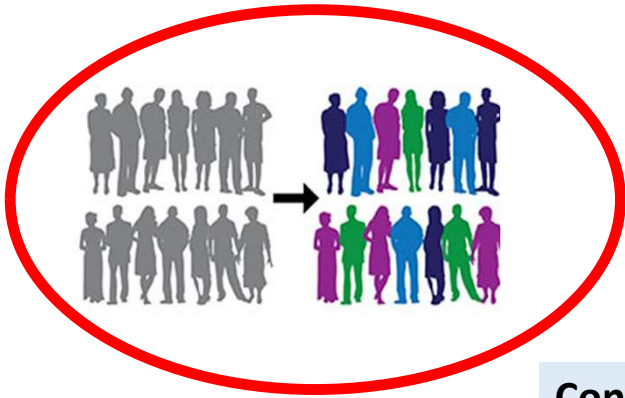
## Molecular Heterogeneity of HGSOC, and why it matters?

Clinic  $\longleftrightarrow$  Research

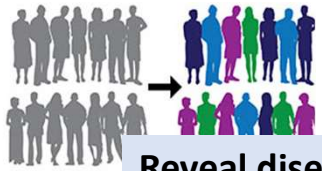
**Translational Bioinformatics  
Methodologies**



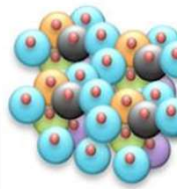
# Informatics methods behind the scenes





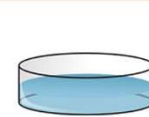


**Reveal disease subtypes**  
 unsupervised  
 semi-supervised  
 subtypes w. outcomes



**Decipher cellular heterogeneity**  
 cellular sub-population (scRNAseq)  
 tumor-stroma interactions  
 cell-cell cross-talk

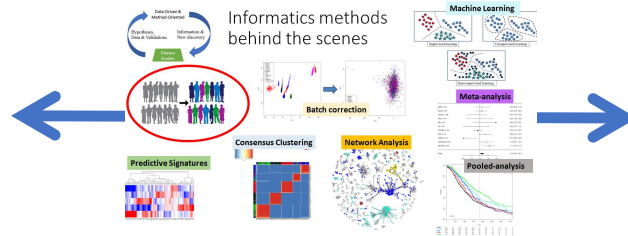
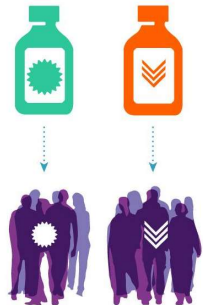
**Build links to model systems**  
 cell-line  
 organoid  
 PDX



### 3. Go Deep & Broad: bioinformatics findings -> clinical relevance



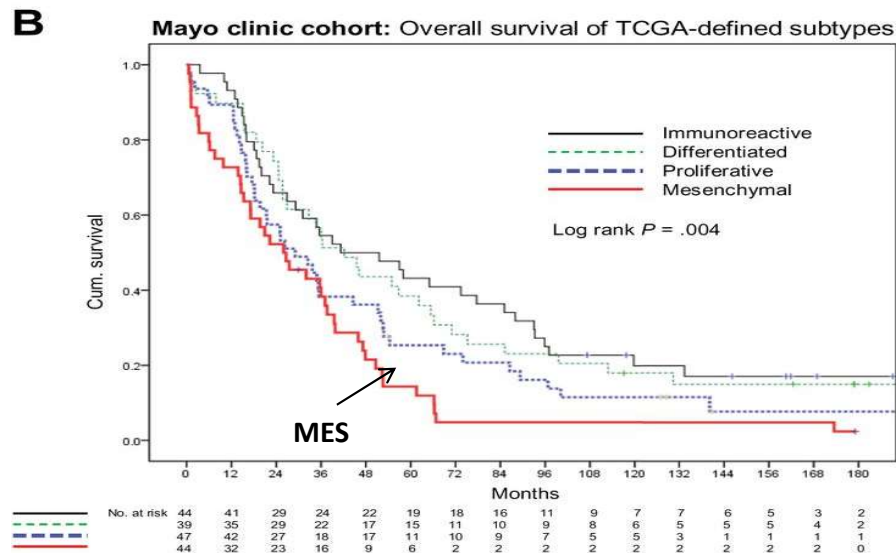
**Clinic**



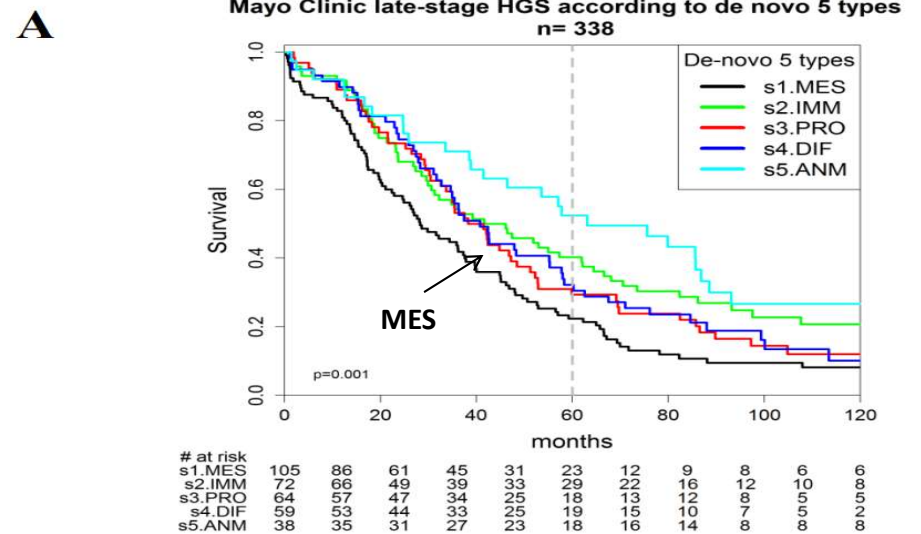
**Research**

# Survival associations of HGSOc subtypes

- Significant associations with survival



JNCI 2014, G Konecny, **C Wang**, et al.  
Mayo Clinic HGSOc, n = 174



CCR 2017, **C Wang**, SM Armasu, et al.  
Mayo Clinic HGSOc, n = 338

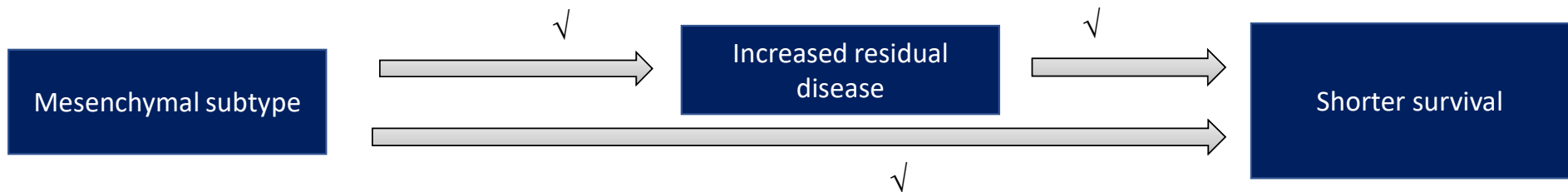
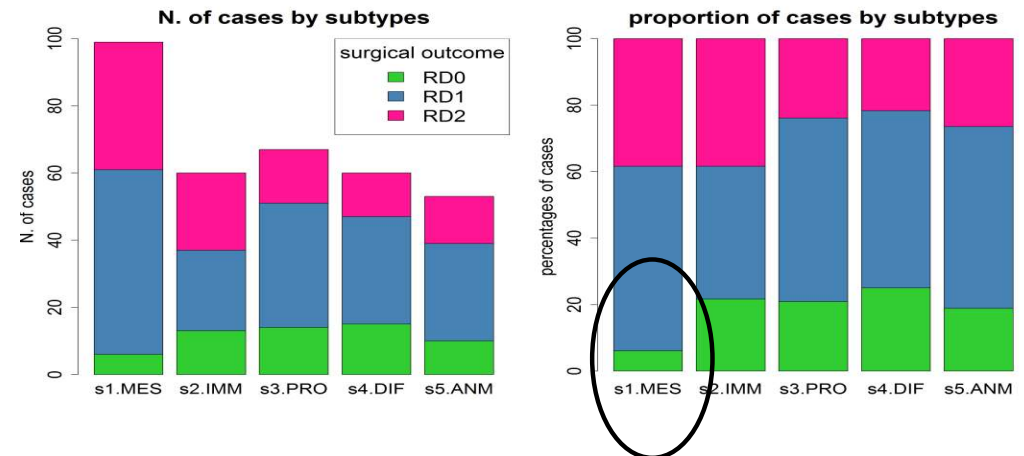
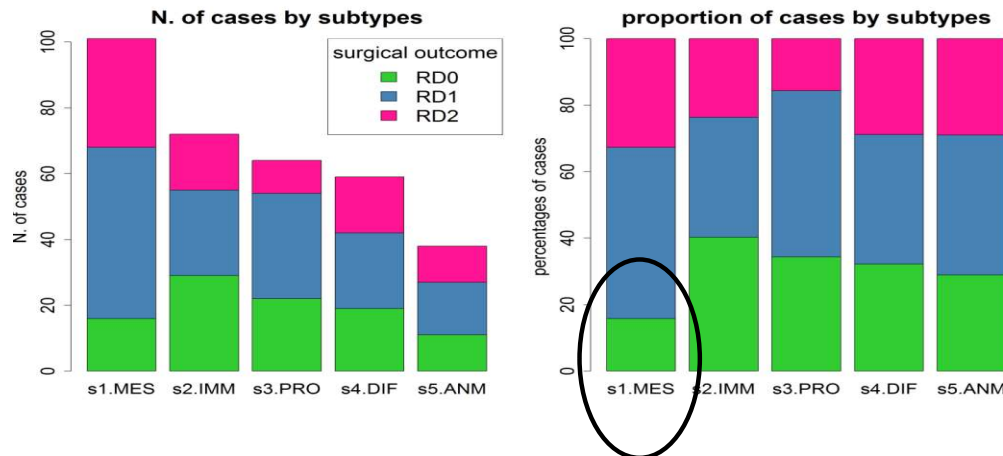
# Surgical associations of HGSOC subtypes

**s1.MES subtype RD0 rate  $\approx$  15%**  
**Other subtypes' avg RD0 rate  $\approx$  30%**

**s1.MES subtype RD0 rate  $\approx$  12%**  
**Other subtypes' avg RD0 rate  $>$  20%**

Mayo Clinic stage IIIC/IV HGSOC

TCGA stage IIIC/IV HGSOC



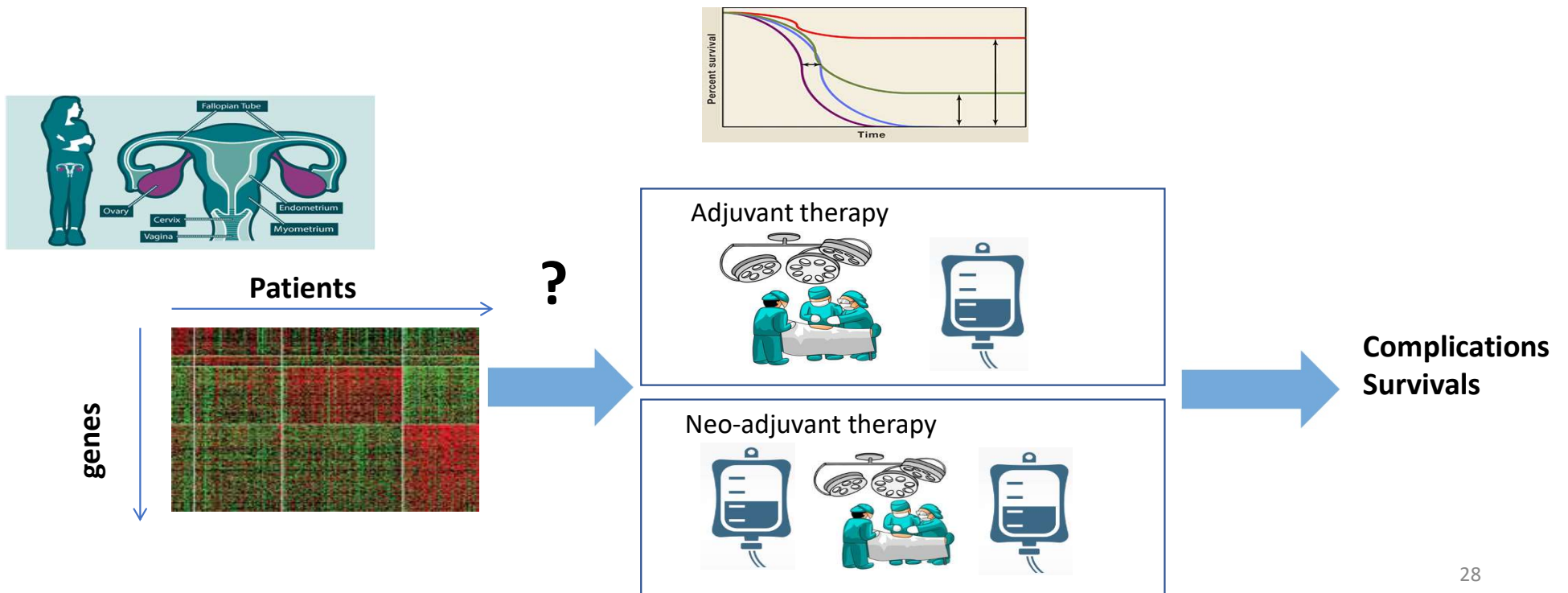
## The clinical **associations** we learnt so far (MES):

MES subtype is associated with worst survival

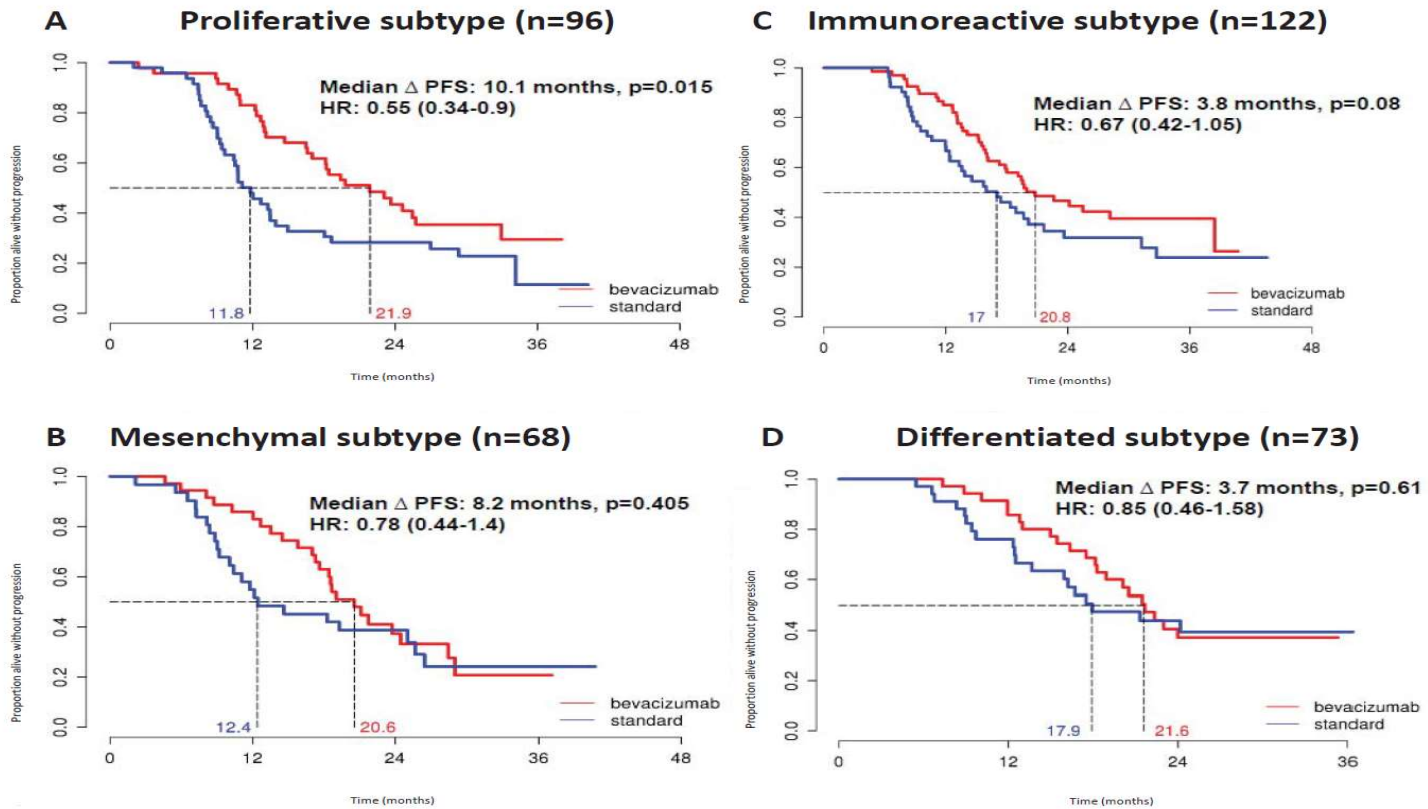
MES subtype is associated with lowest RD0%

MES subtype is associated with higher disease burden (upper abdominal or miliary diseases)

MES subtype is also associated with significantly increased grade-3/-4 complications



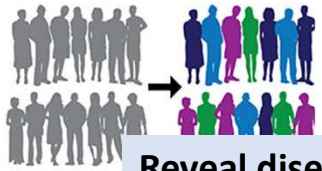
# HGSOC Molecular subtypes are also associated with PFS in a retrospective analysis of phase-III trial



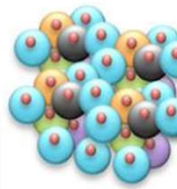
Bevacizumab may differentially improve ovarian cancer outcome in patients with proliferative and mesenchymal molecular subtypes

CCR 2017

Stefan Kommoss, Boris Winterhoff, Ann Oberg, Gottfried E. Konecny, Chen Wang, Shaun M Riska, Jian-Bing Fan, Matthew J. Maurer, Craig April, Viji Shridhar, Friedrich Kommoss, Andreas du Bois, Felix Hilpert, Sven Mahner, Klaus Baumann, Willibald Schroeder, Alexander Burges, Ulrich Canzler, Jeremy Chien, Andrew C Embleton, Mahesh Parmar, Richard Kaplan, Timothy Perren, Lynn C. Hartmann, Ellen L. Goode, Sean C. Dowdy, and Jacobus Pfisterer

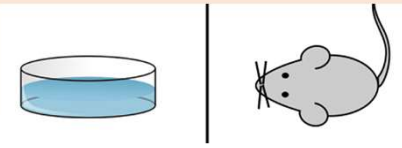


**Reveal disease subtypes**  
 unsupervised  
 semi-supervised  
 subtypes w. outcomes

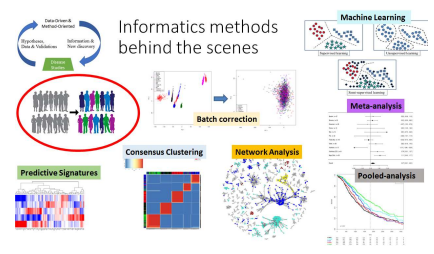


**Decipher cellular heterogeneity**  
 cellular sub-population (scRNAseq)  
 tumor-stroma interactions  
 cell-cell cross-talk

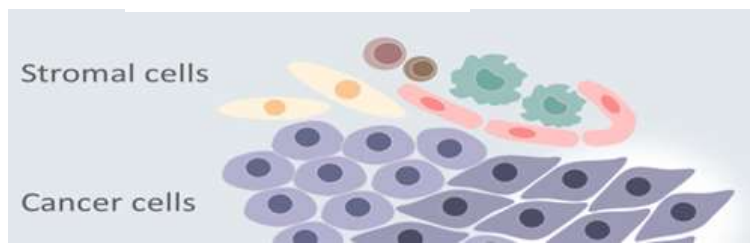
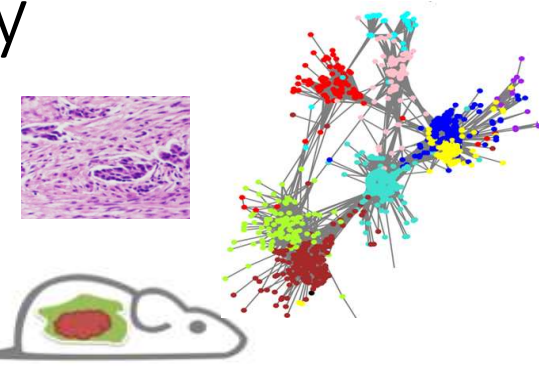
**Build links to model systems**  
 cell-line  
 organoid  
 PDX

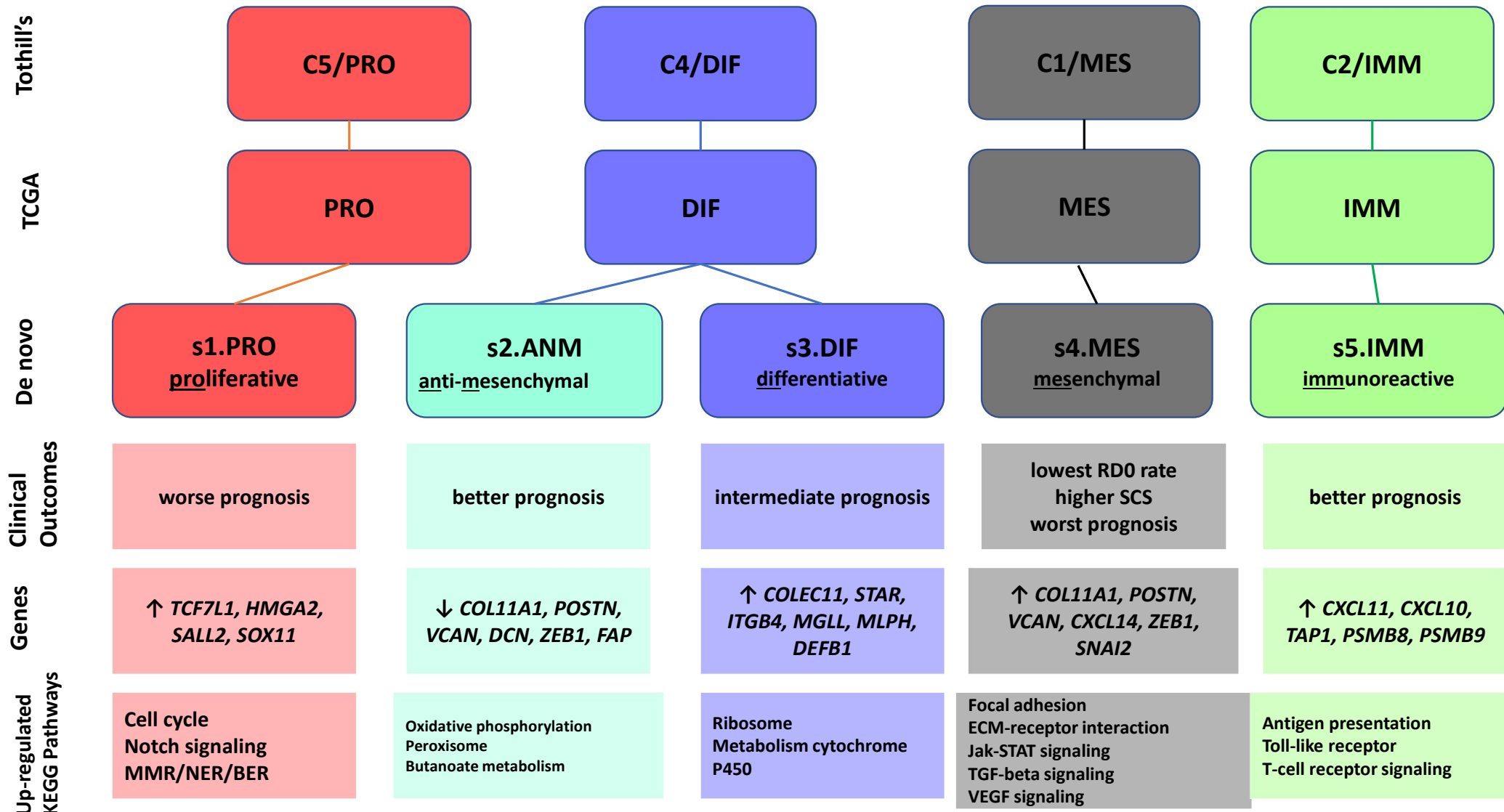


# 4. Go Deep again: tissue and microenvironment heterogeneity

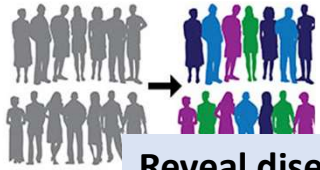


# Research

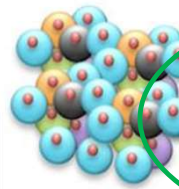




Schematic summaries of de novo subtypes w.r.t. previous subtype systems and associated changes.



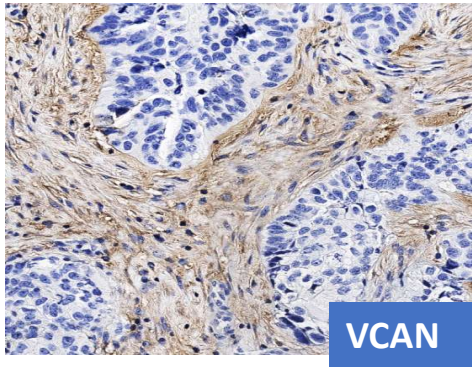
**Reveal disease subtypes**  
unsupervised  
semi-supervised  
subtypes w. outcomes



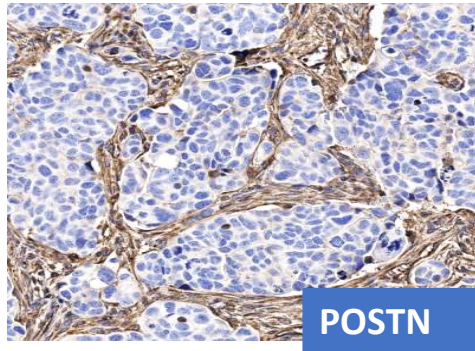
**Decipher cellular heterogeneity**  
cellular sub-population (scRNAseq)  
tumor-stroma interactions  
cell-cell cross-talk

Q Zhang, C Wang, WA Cliby  
“Cancer-associated stroma significantly  
contributes to the mesenchymal subtype  
signature of serous ovarian cancer”  
Gynecologic Oncology 2019

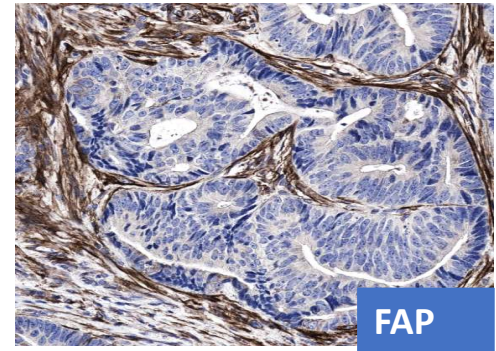
**The leading MES-subtype genes are almost exclusively expressed in stroma**



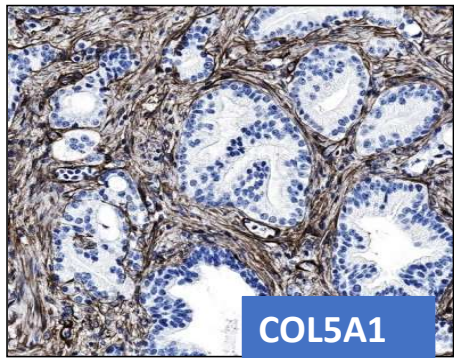
**VCAN**



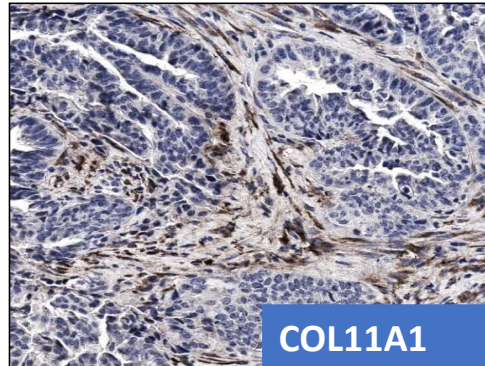
**POSTN**



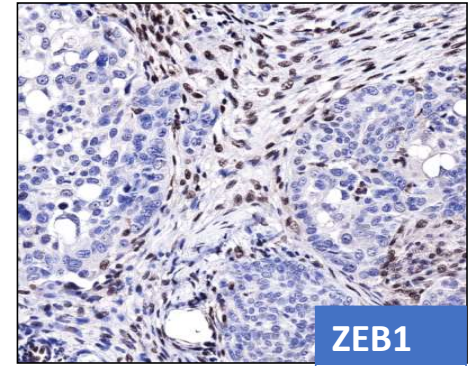
**FAP**



**COL5A1**



**COL11A1**



**ZEB1**

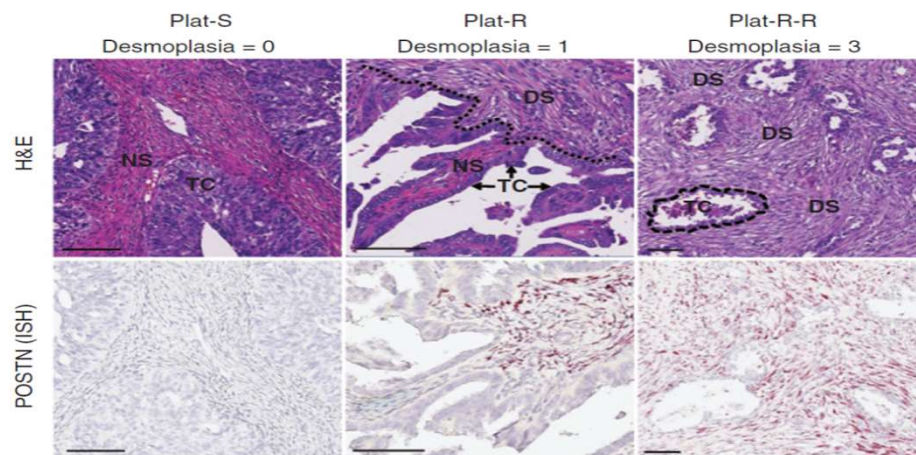
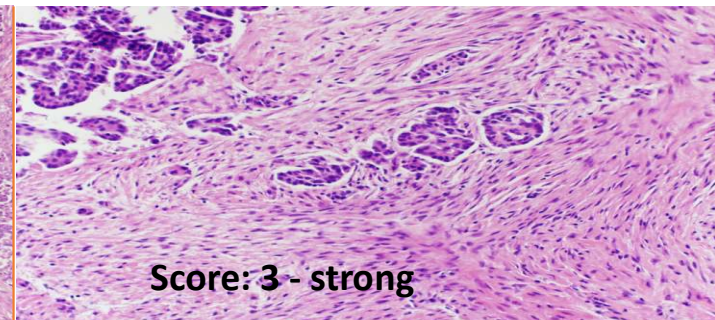
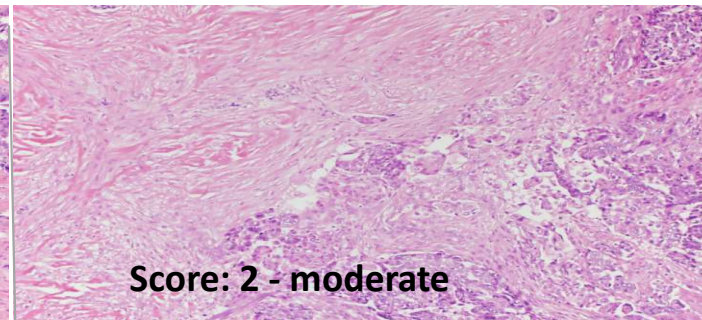
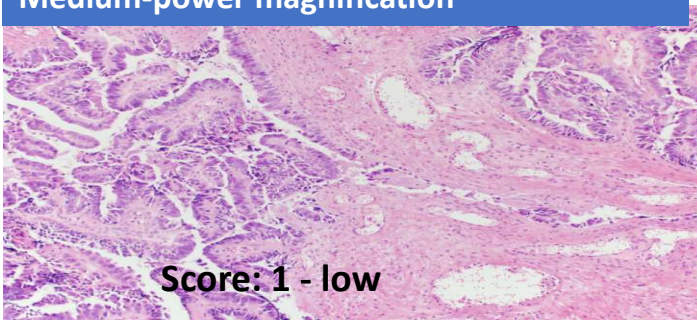


# Ongoing works for characterizing tumor-stroma interactions for mesenchymal (MES) subtype tumors

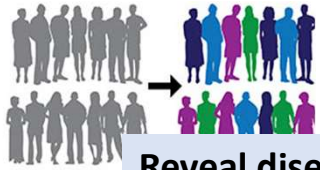
- MES subtype tumor is known of lower purity, infiltrating stroma, and desmoplasia features.

## Stromal reactions of ovarian tumors

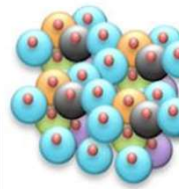
Medium-power magnification



Upregulation of Periostin and Reactive Stroma Is Associated with Primary Chemoresistance and Predicts Clinical Outcomes in Epithelial Ovarian Cancer, CCR 2015

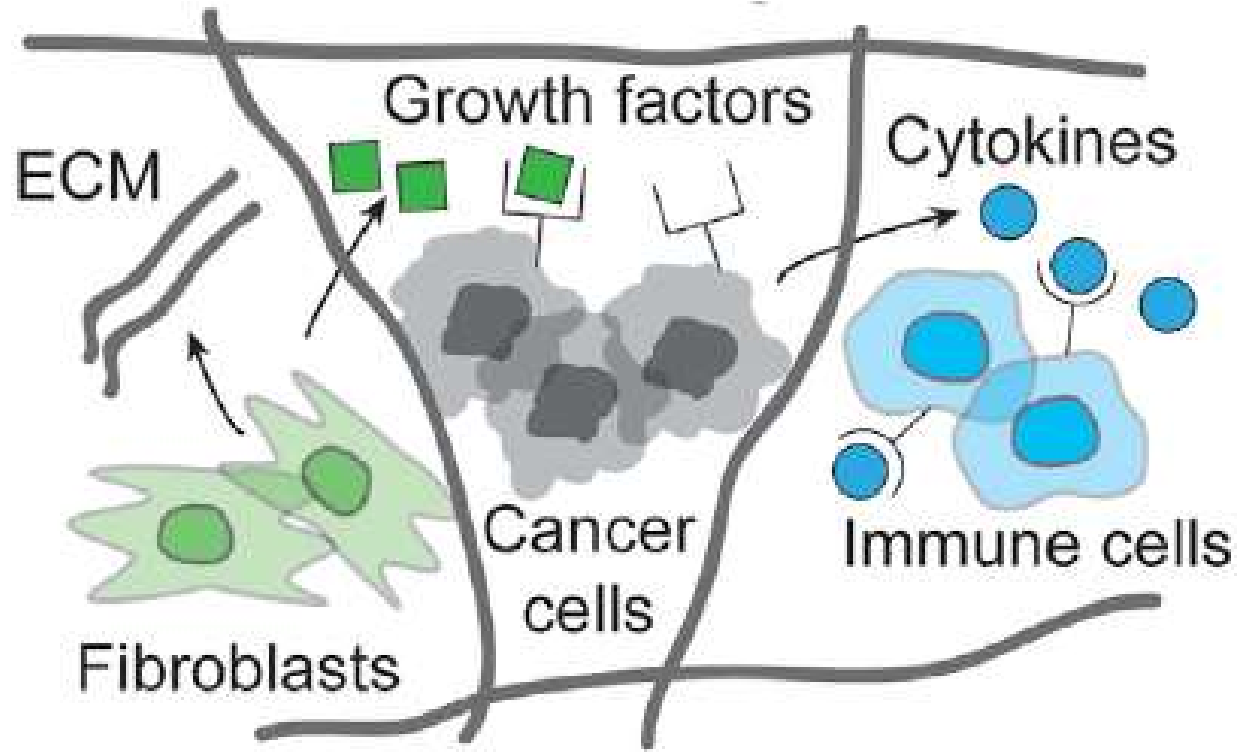
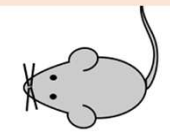


**Reveal disease subtypes**  
unsupervised  
semi-supervised  
subtypes w. outcomes



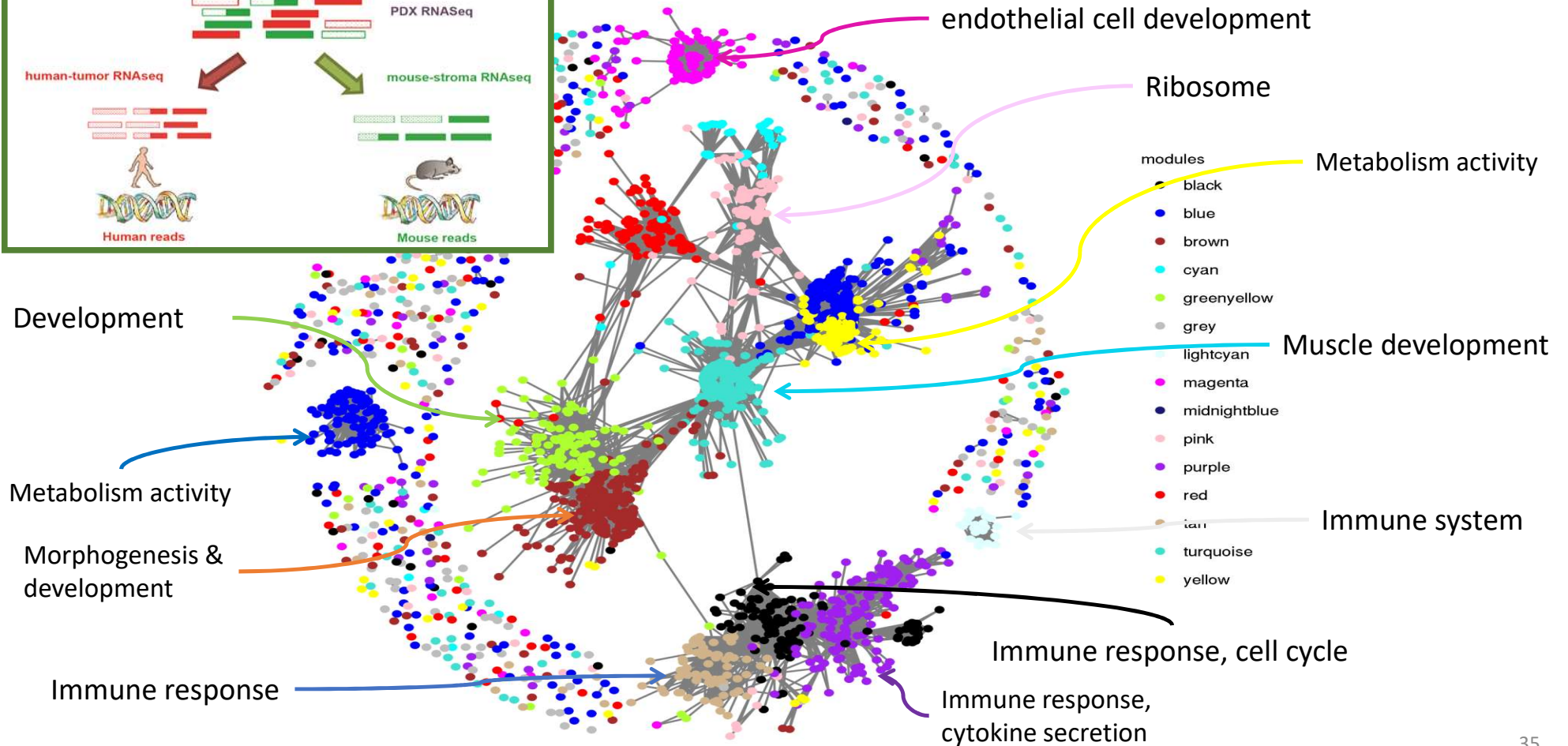
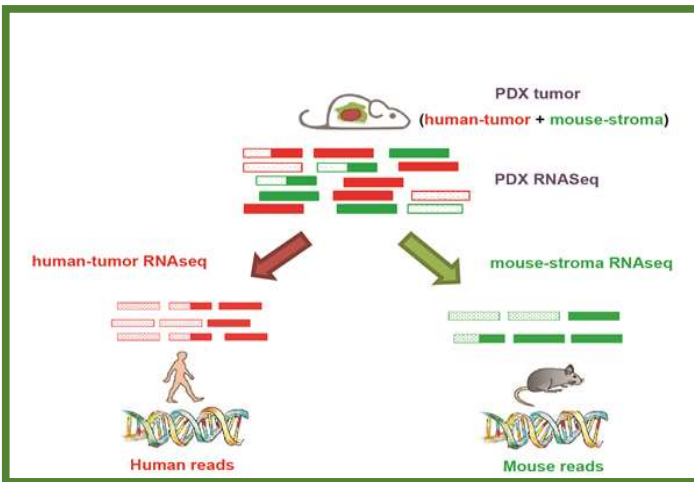
**Decipher cellular heterogeneity**  
cellular sub-population (scRNAseq)  
tumor-stroma interactions  
cell-cell cross-talk

**Build links to model systems**  
cell-line  
organoid  
PDX



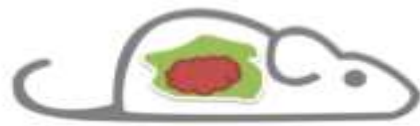
part of graphic abstract from [https://www.cell.com/cell-reports/pdf/S2211-1247\(18\)31636-X.pdf](https://www.cell.com/cell-reports/pdf/S2211-1247(18)31636-X.pdf)

# Gene co-expression networks (PDX stroma)

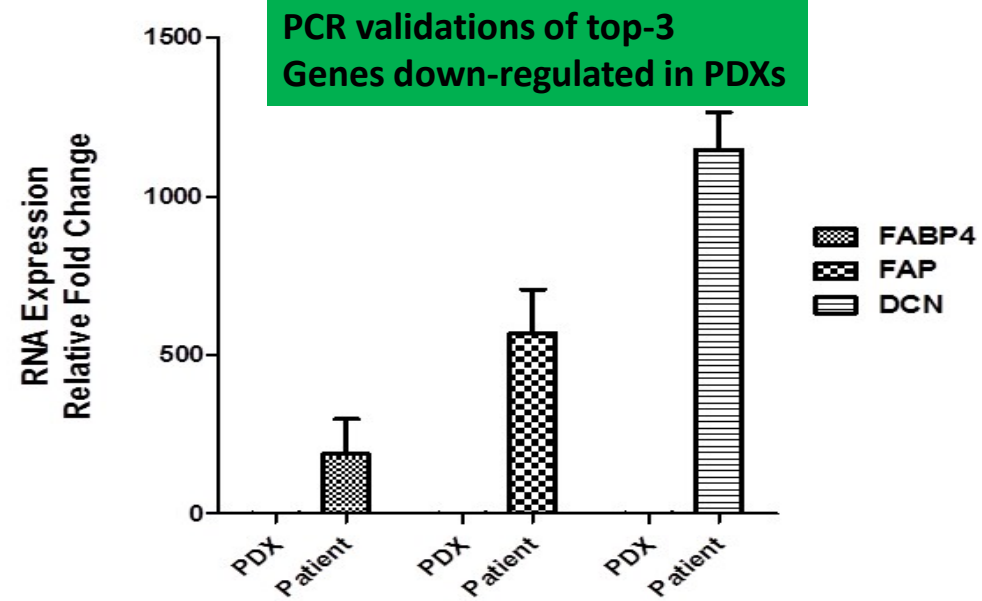
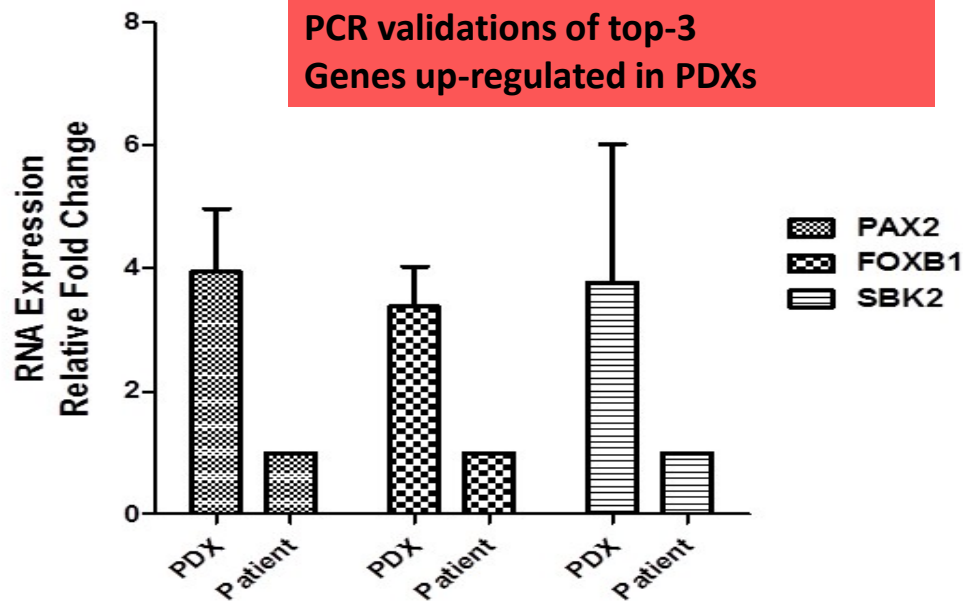


# MES-subtype genes are largely stroma-specific

~200 genes  
Up-regulated in PDX  
versus donor tumors

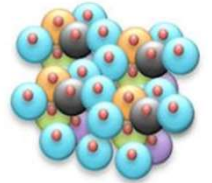


~1700 genes  
down-regulated in PDX  
versus donor tumors

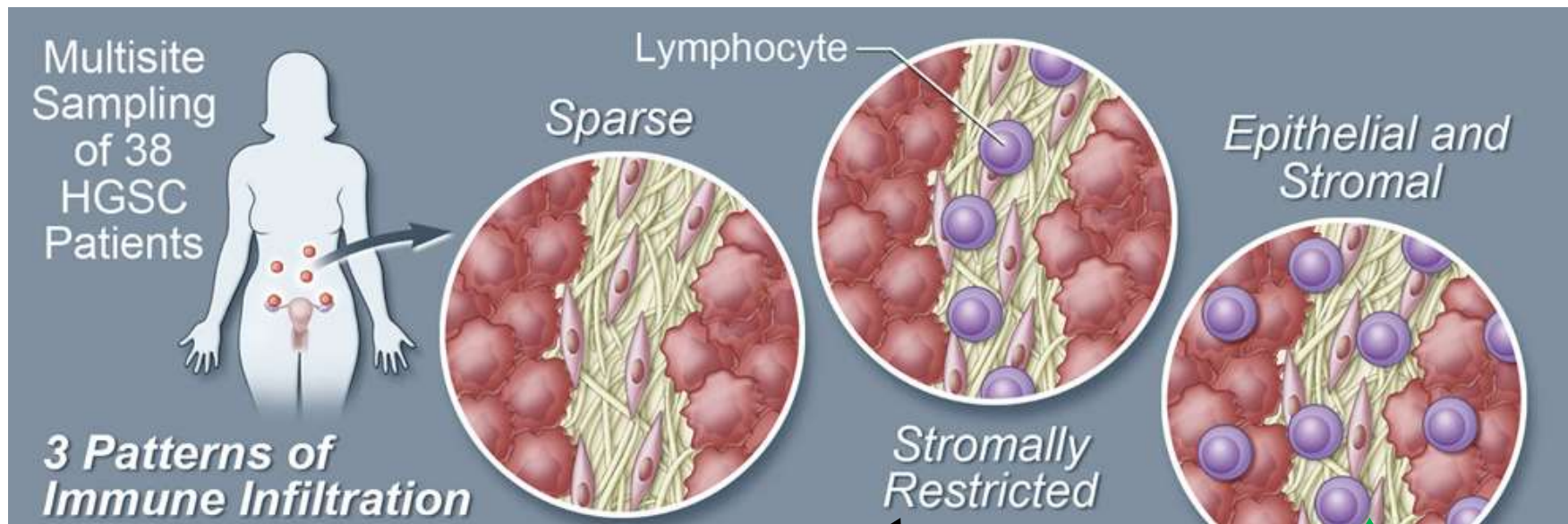


“Gene expression differences between matched pairs of ovarian cancer patient tumors and patient-derived xenografts”. Liu Y, Chanana P, Davila JI, Hou X, Zanfagnin V, McGehee CD, Goode EL, Polley EC, Haluska P, Werocha, SJ, Wang C. Sci Rep. 2019

# Microenvironment and immunology



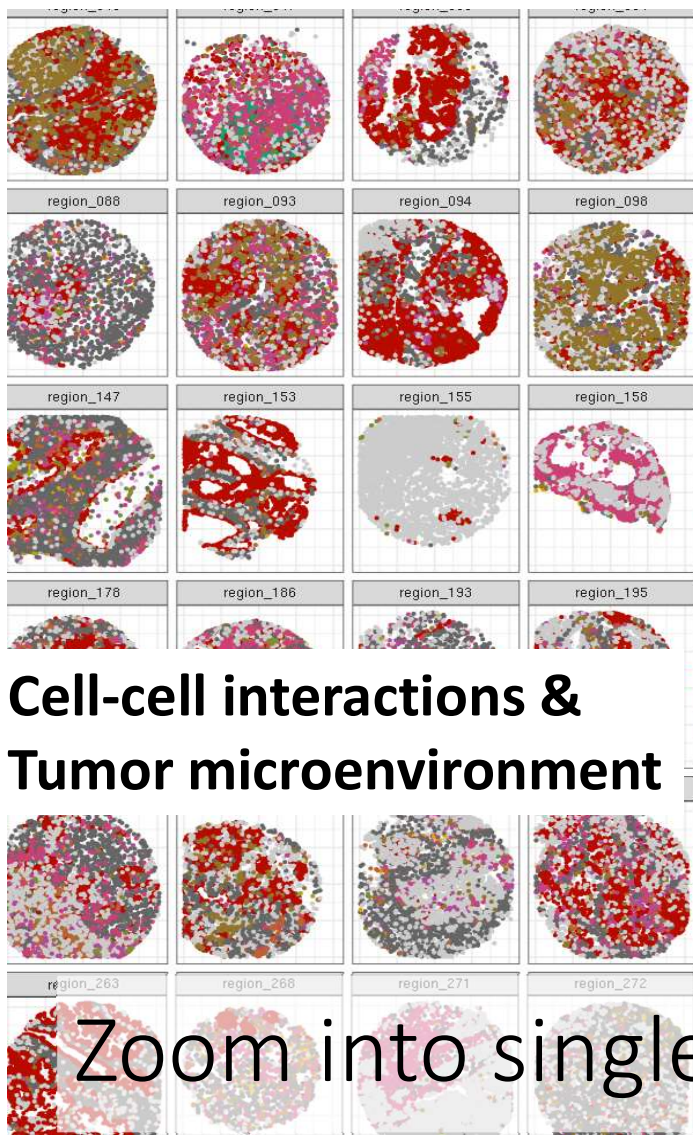
“Interfaces of Malignant and Immunologic Clonal Dynamics in Ovarian Cancer”, Cell 2018



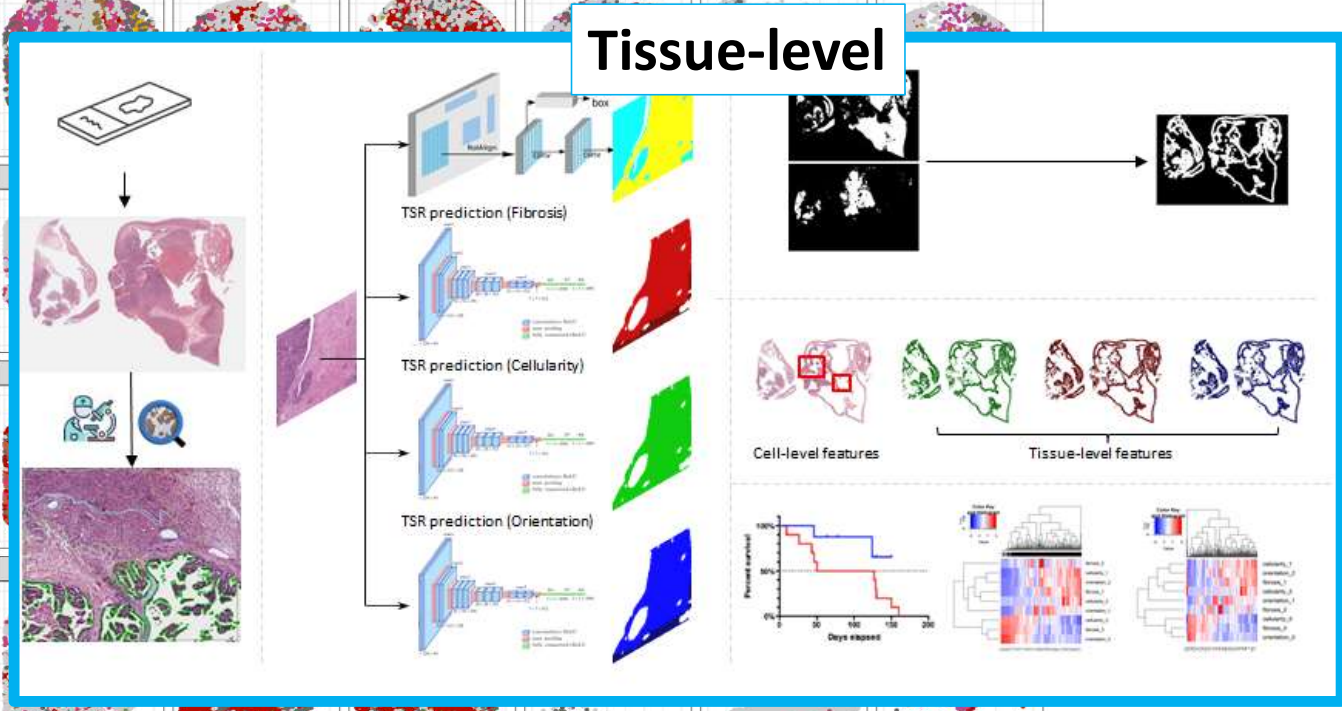
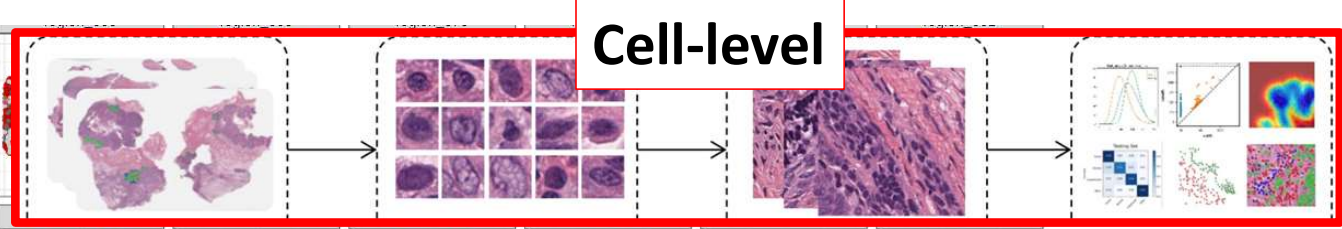
**Enriched for Proliferative-subtype**

**Enriched for Mesenchymal subtype**

**Enriched for Immunoreactive subtype**



**Cell-cell interactions & Tumor microenvironment**

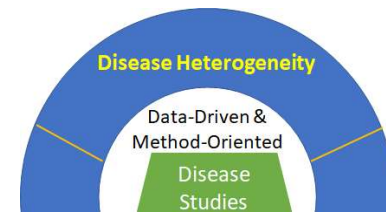
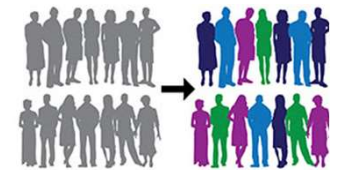


Zoom into single cells (digital pathology)

# 5. Data Sciences Reflections

through working examples for ovarian cancer

- Subtyping lead to many discoveries, and these evidences begin to converge (OC studies as working examples)
  - DNA - epigenomics - mRNA/protein - microenvironment - single-cell
- Opportunities & Challenges for Data Sciences
  - Tremendous opportunities for methodology developments
    - Heterogenous Data integration
    - Data-knowledge integration



# Data-science opportunities & challenges



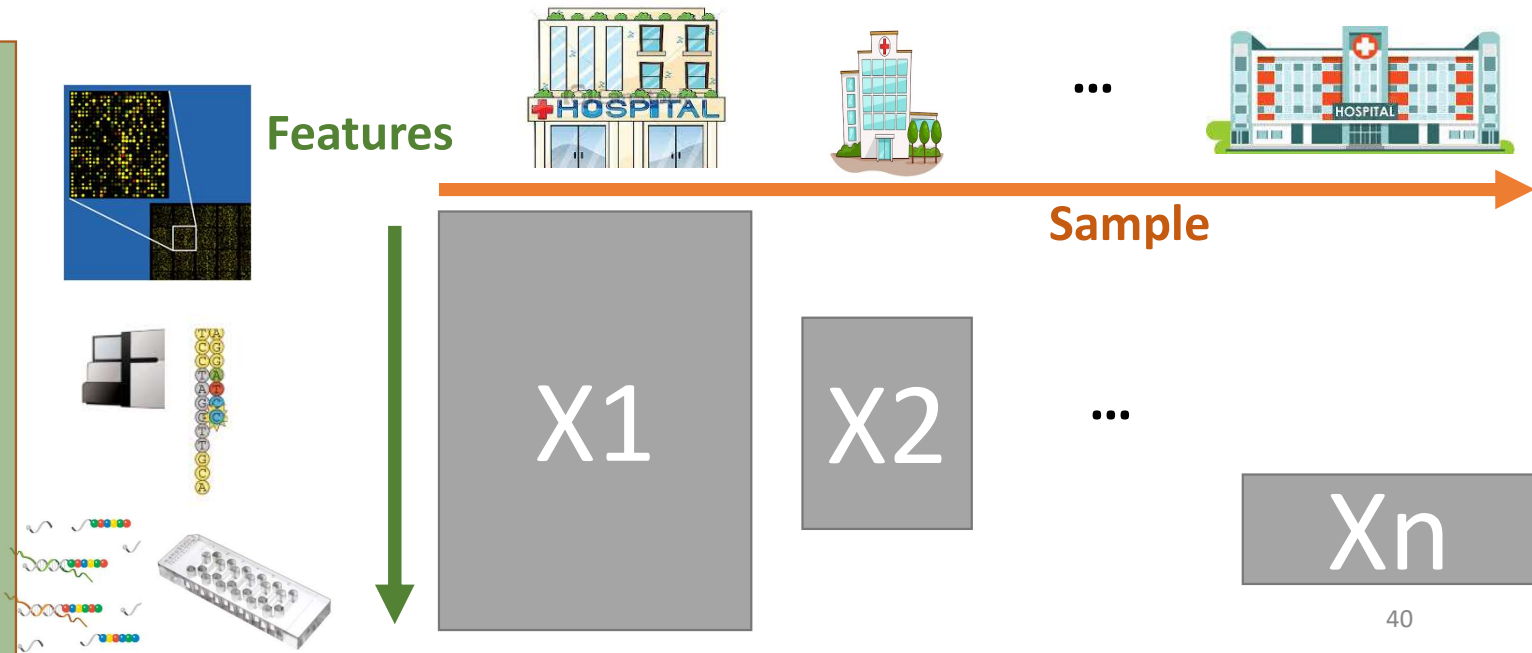
- Heterogeneity: different levels
  - **Data source & generation differences**  
Ignore or accommodate?

## Sample source heterogeneity

- Collection biases and differences
- Systematic missingness and/or bias of covariates
- Privacy concerns (not completely sharing)

## Feature heterogeneity

- Measurement Platform
  - mRNA
    - Microarray – 8K
    - RNAseq – 20K
    - Nanostring – 300
  - DNA: panel, WES, WGS
- Distribution difference
  - Microarray: Log-norm
  - RNAseq: Poisson

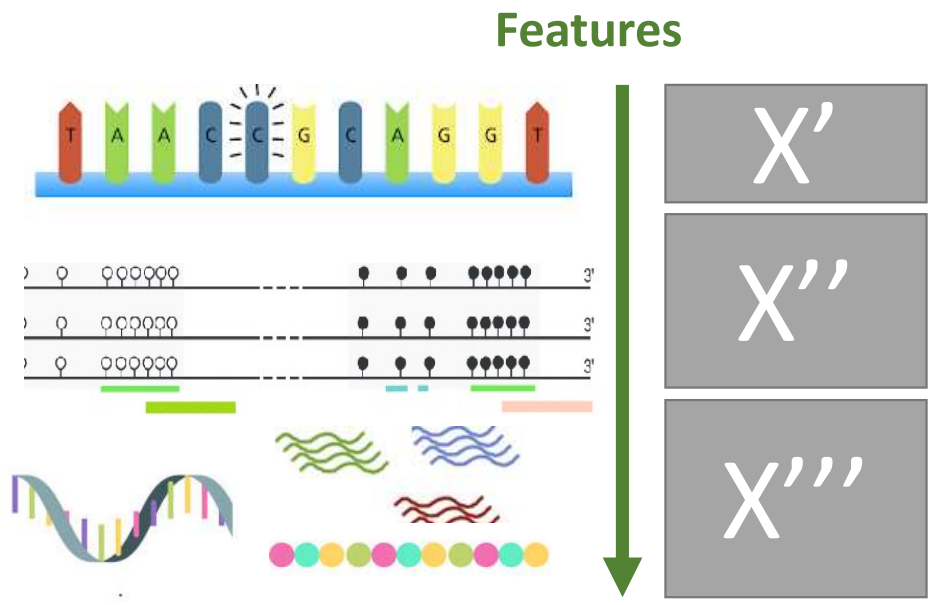




# Data-science opportunities & challenges



- Heterogeneity: different levels
  - Data source and/or site differences
  - **Data modalities and representations**  
Concatenate or integrate?

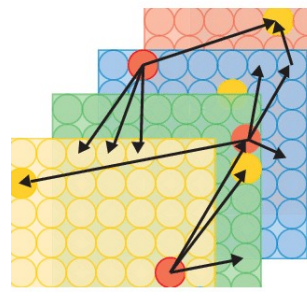


$$K = \sum w_p K^p$$

...



## Causality Inference



# Data-science opportunities & challenges



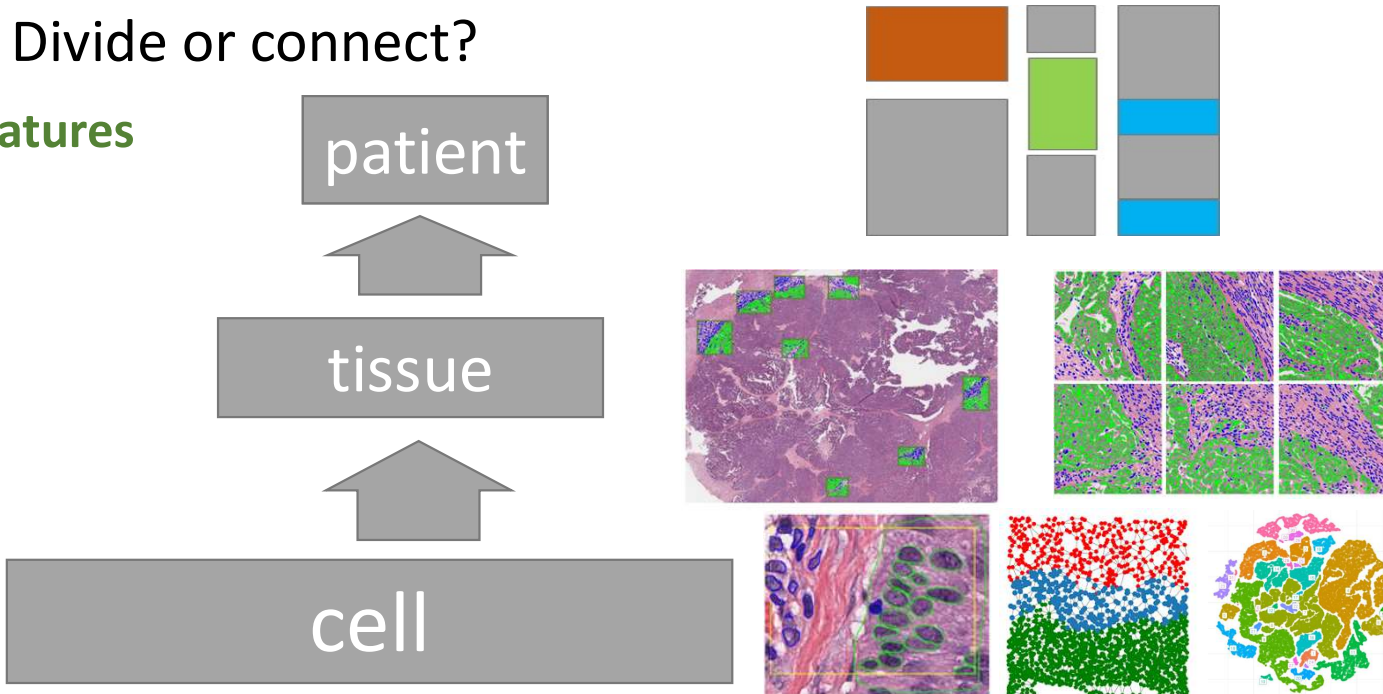
- Heterogeneity: different levels

- Data source and/or site differences
- Data modalities and representations

- **Multi-resolution data**

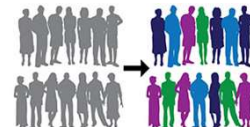
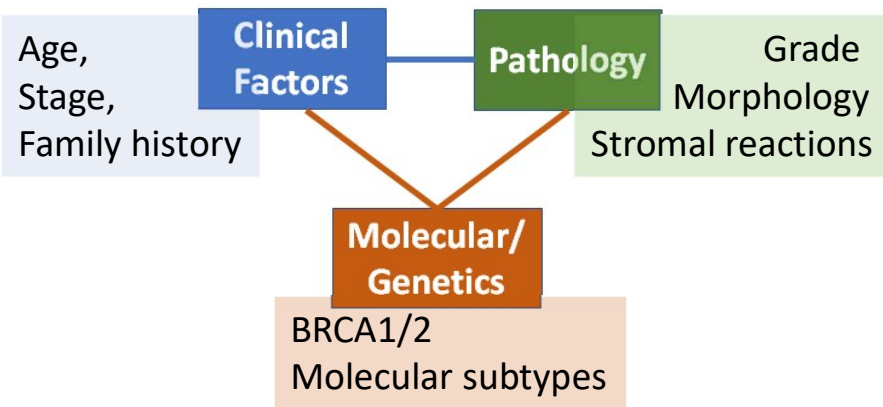
Divide or connect?

Features

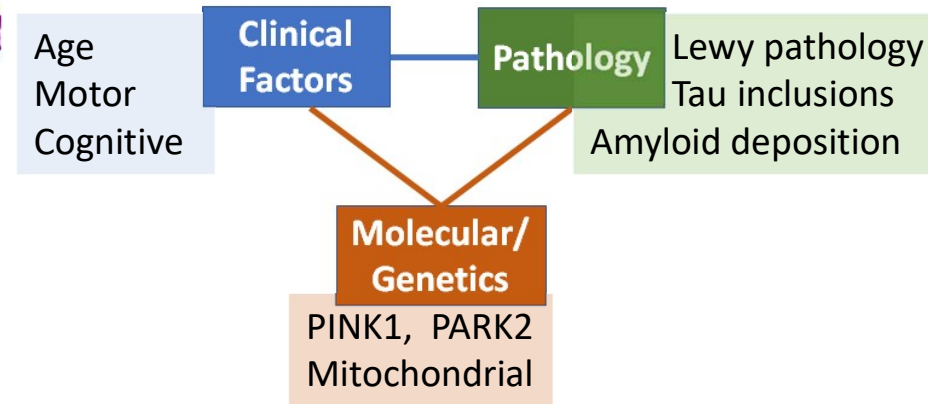


# Parallels between Cancer and Neurological Disease

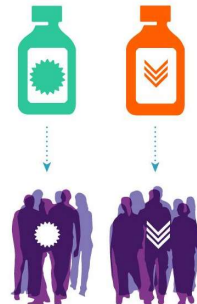
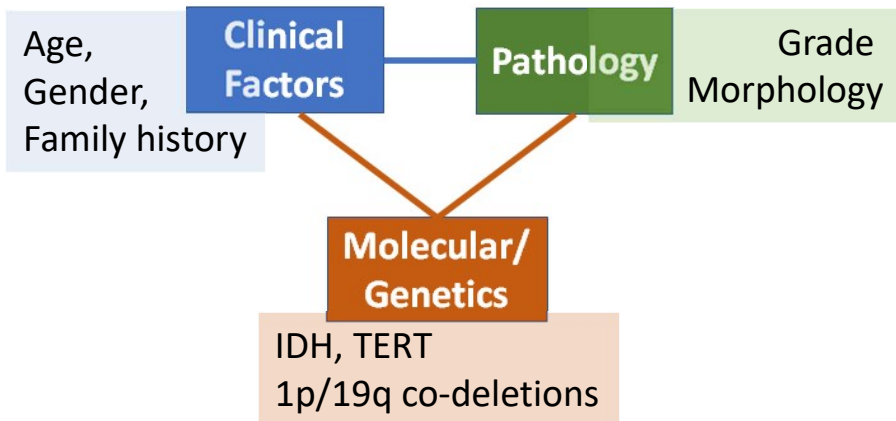
## Ovarian cancer



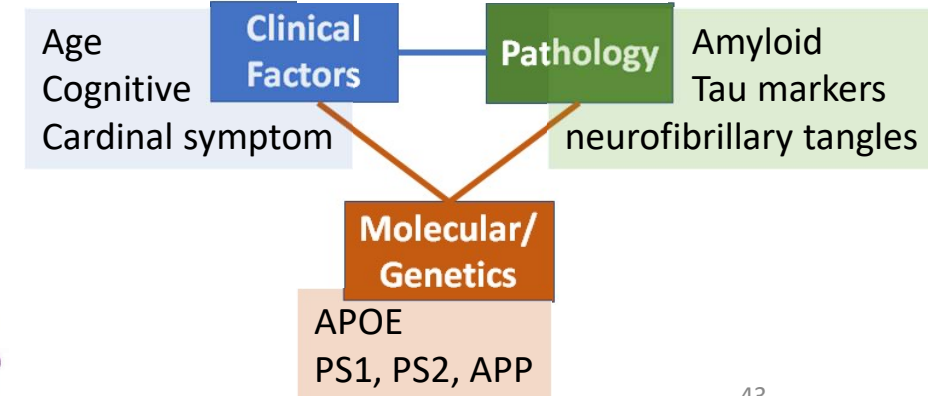
## Parkinson's Disease



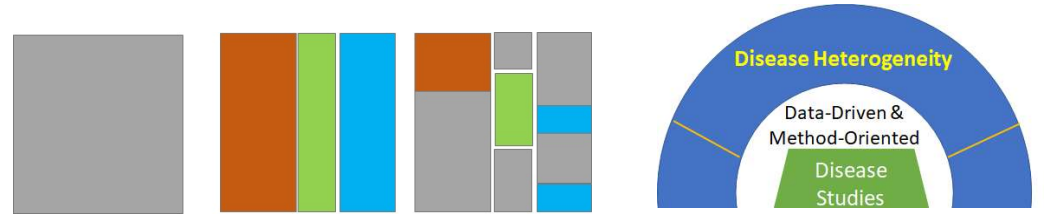
## Brain cancer



## Alzheimer Disease



# Questions?

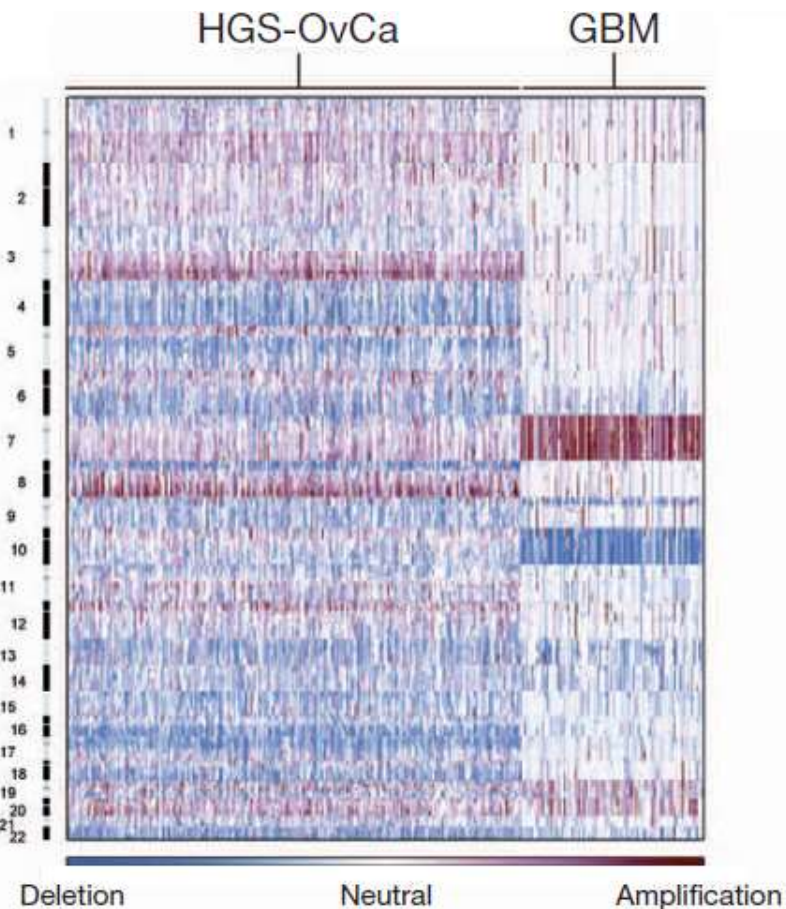




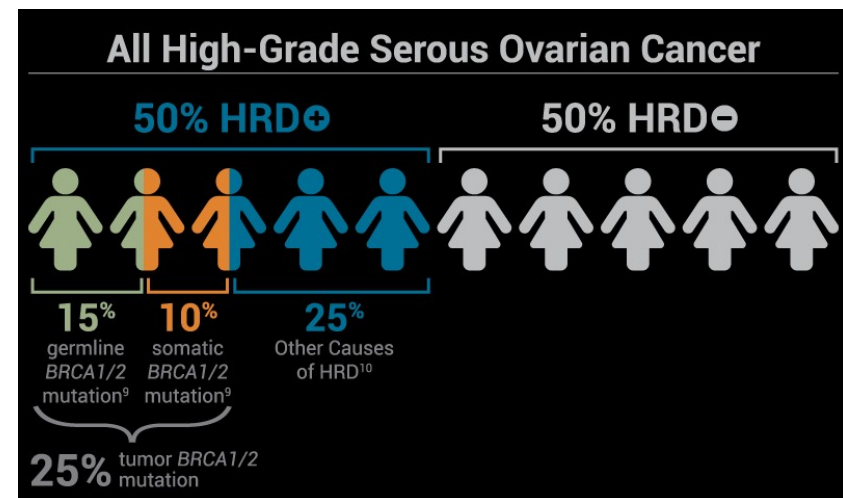
# Supplementary

- Genetics and Genomics heterogeneity of ovarian cancer – HRD in OC and pan-Cancer studies

# Genomics heterogeneity of ovarian cancer



- GBM has recurrent chr7-gain (MYC) and chr10-loss (PTEN)
- Ovarian CNV profiles are messy, yet different with DNA repair deficiency: **HRD**  
Homologue recombination deficiency

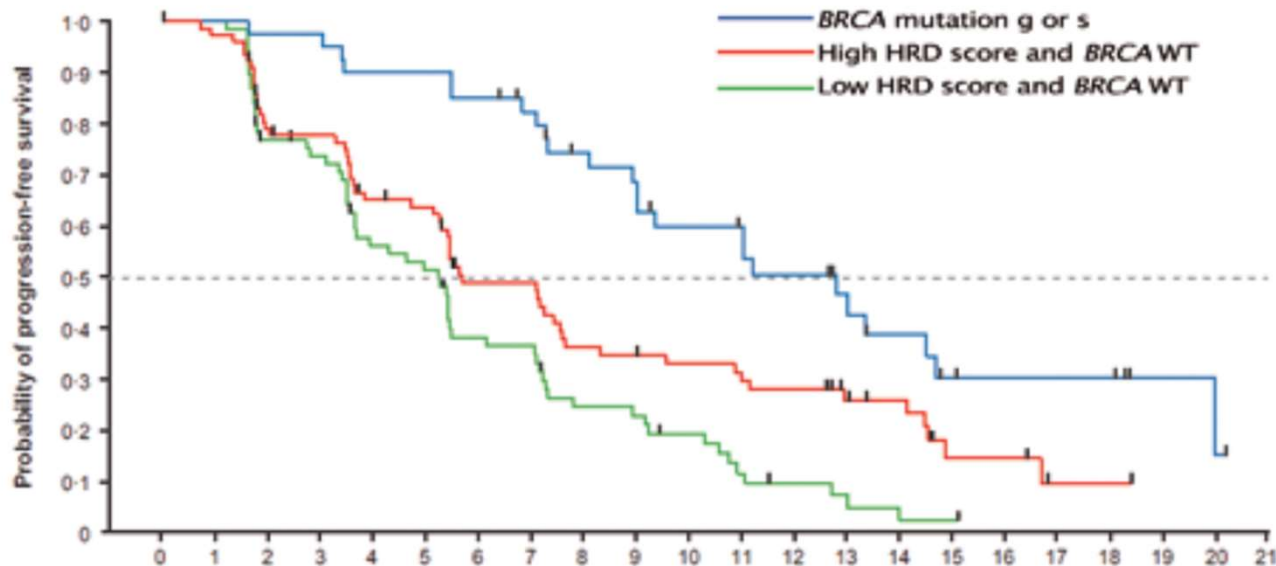


**Fig. 1a**, from TCGA-ovarian, Nature 2011

# Clinical significances of HRD score/status

*g – germline, s – somatic; HRD – homologous recombination deficiency; WT – wild type*

- PARPi



***The ARIEL 2 international, multicentre, open-label, phase II trial showed that the PARP inhibitor rucaparib extended progression-free survival in patients with relapsed, platinum-sensitive high-grade serous ovarian cancers.***

***EM Swisher et al. (2017) Lancet Oncol 18:75–87.***



## 4. Go even Broader – across all the TCGA cancers

The image shows the top portion of a CellPress article page. The header is dark blue with the CellPress logo on the left and 'Sponsored by i3 ORIGENE' on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for 'Cell-of-Origin Patterns', 'Oncogenic Processes', 'Signaling Pathways', 'Resources', and 'Events'. The main content area has a dark background with a globe graphic. Text on the page reads: 'From The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) consortium, a large-scale collaboration initiated and supported by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI). From the analysis of over 11,000 tumors from 33 of the most prevalent forms of cancer, the Pan-Cancer Atlas provides a uniquely comprehensive, in-depth, and interconnected understanding of how, where, and why tumors arise in humans. As a

I co-authored 6 of TCGA panCan papers published in 2018; and serve as last-author of DNA damage study

**Pathogenic germline variants, Cell, 2018**

**PanCan Aneuploidy, Cancer Cell 2018**

**Squamous carcinomas, Cell Reports 2018**

**Oncogenic signaling pathways, Cell, 2018**

**PanCan Gyn Cancers, Cancer Cell 2018**

**DNA damage repair, Cell Reports 2018**

# Go even Broader – across all the TCGA cancers

(researchers from 20+ U.S. institutions)

## Cell Reports

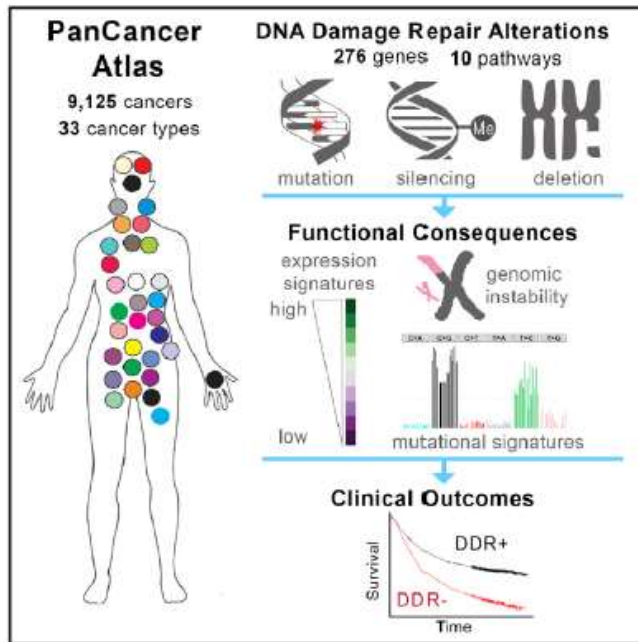
### Genomic and Molecular Landscape of DNA Damage Repair Deficiency across The Cancer Genome Atlas

Knijnenburg et al. (2018) *Cell Reports* 23:239-254

Resource



Chen Wang Yonghong Xiao Ray Monnat



Theo Knijnenburg



Nyasha Chambwe



Linghua Wang



Mike Zimmermann



Andy Cherniak

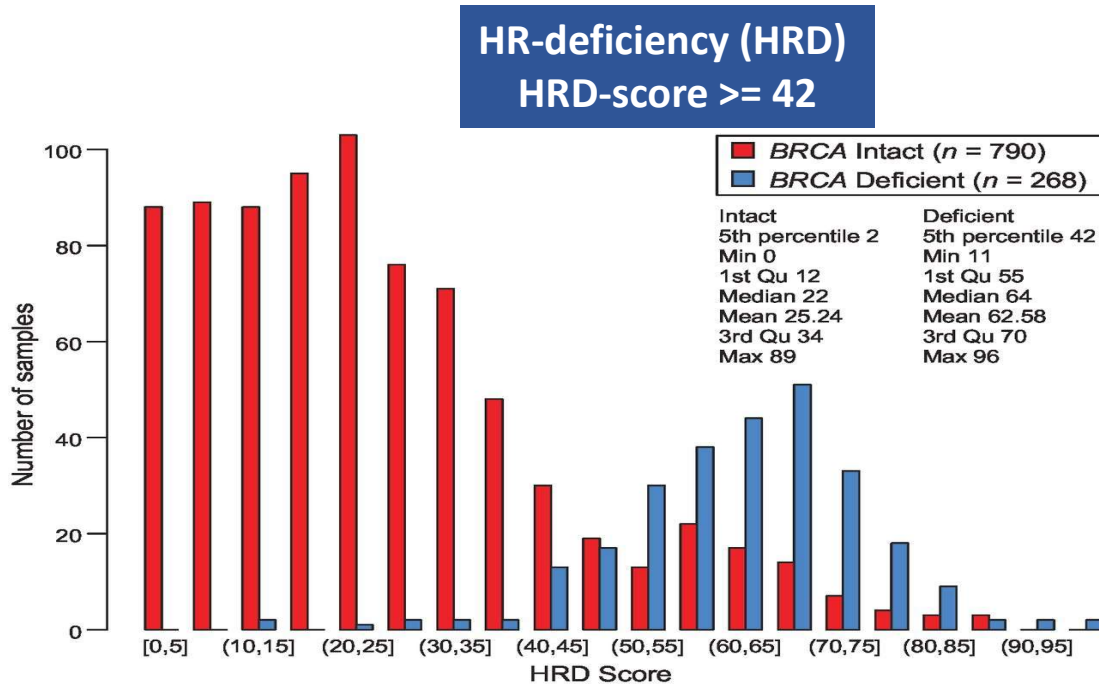


Galen Gao



Ilya Shmulevich

# CNV-burden scores defining HRD status



- Copy number profiling as footprints to infer BRCAness status
- We published HRD scores for all the TCGA samples in panCan DDR study:

**Cell Reports**

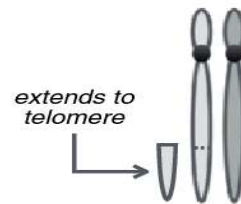
Resource

**Genomic and Molecular Landscape of DNA Damage Repair Deficiency across The Cancer Genome Atlas**

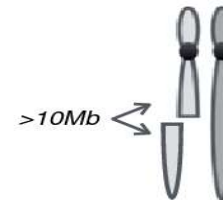
Knijnenburg et al. (2018) *Cell Reports* 23:239-254

**HR-proficiency (HRP)**  
HRD-score  $< 42$

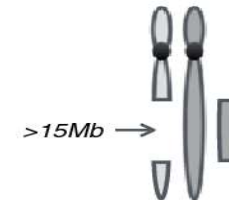
**A NtAI**



**B LST**

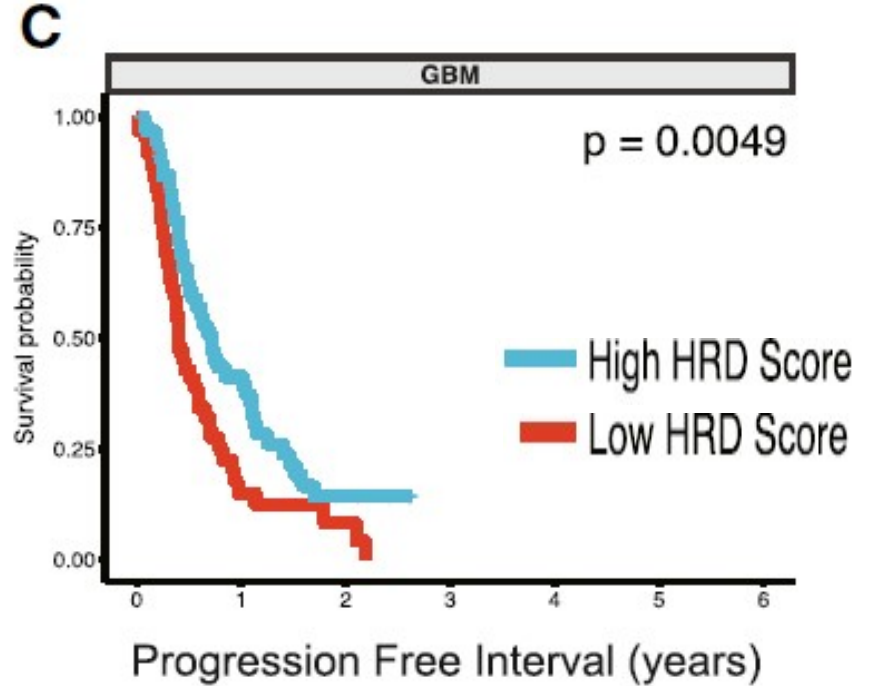
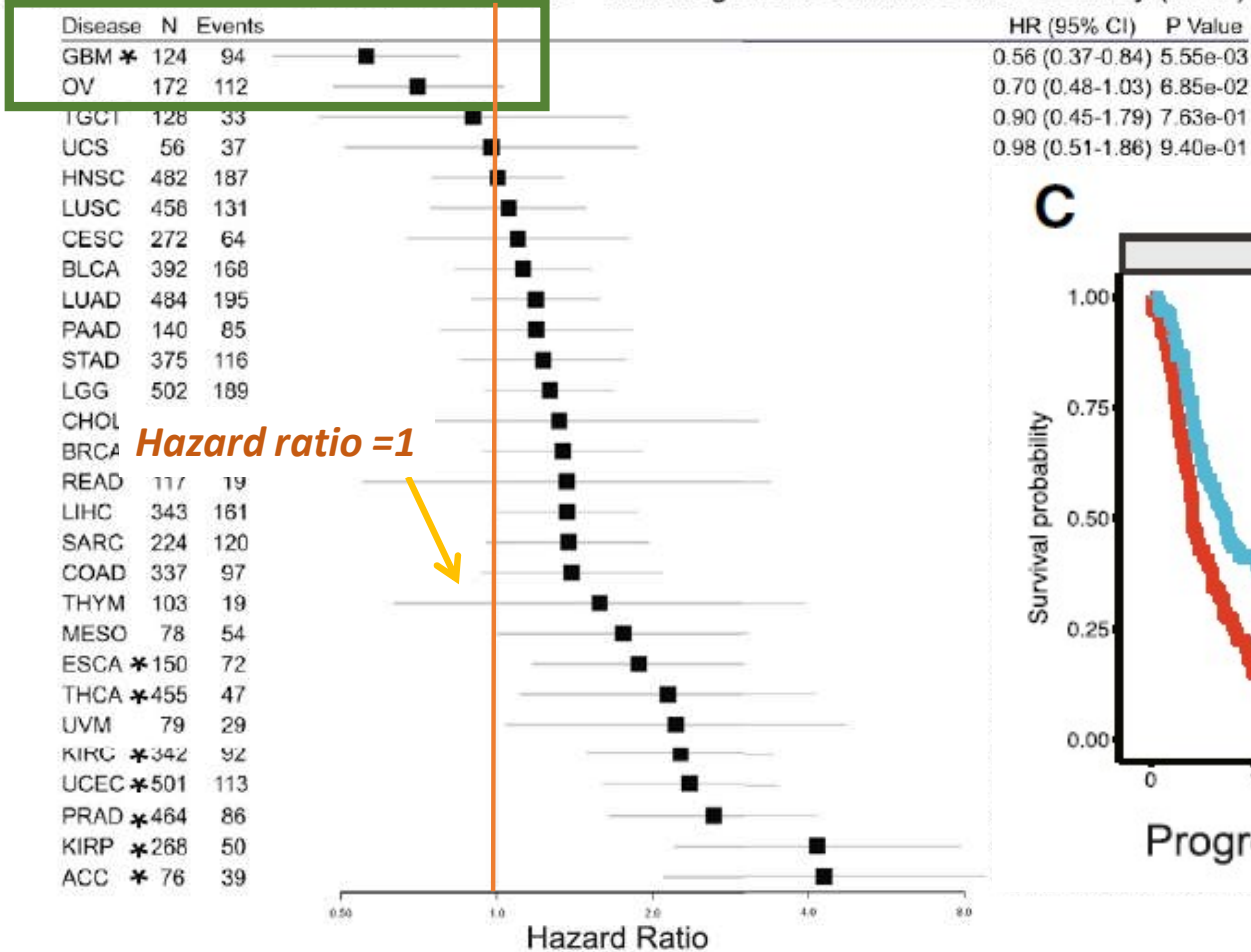


**C HRD-LOH**



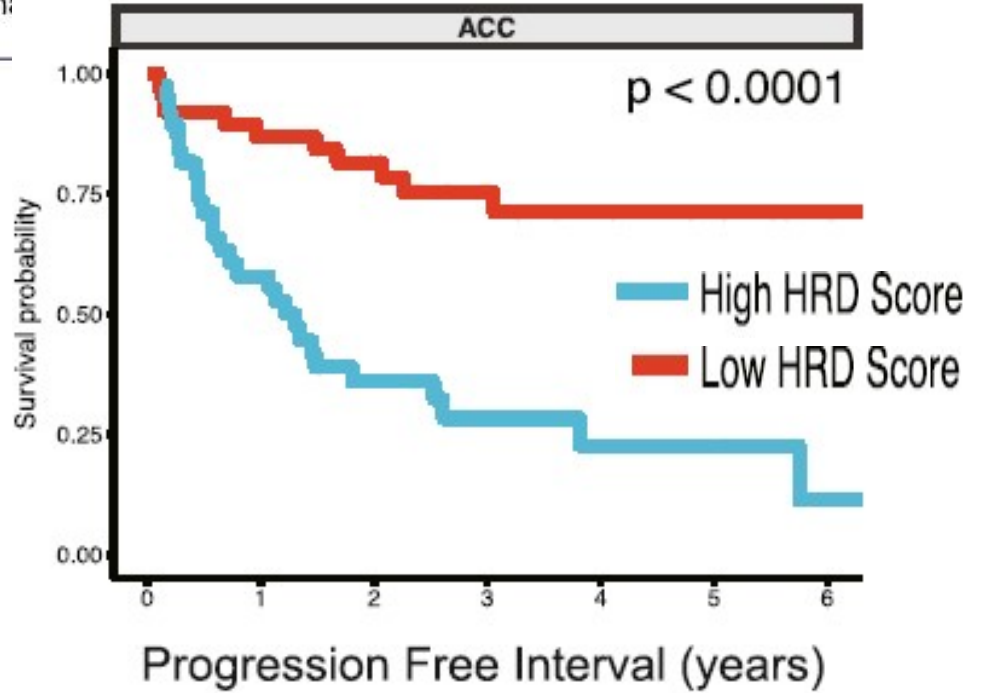
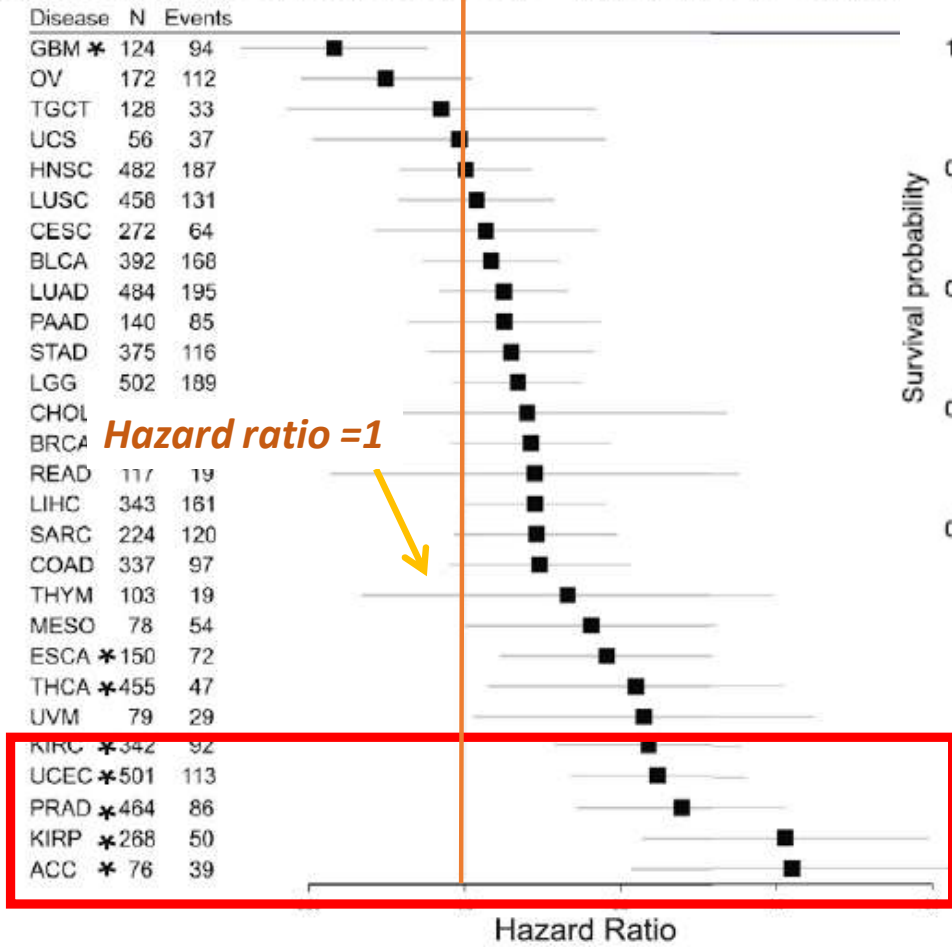
For GBM and ovarian, the higher HRD, the longer PFI

Univariate Cox Proportional Hazards Models - Homologous Recombination Deficiency (HRD) Score



# For some cancers, the higher HRD, the shorter PFI

Univariate Cox Proportional Hazards Models - Homologous Recombination



2.22 (1.04-4.72)	3.92e-02
2.26 (1.50-3.42)	1.10e-04
2.35 (1.60-3.46)	1.00e-05
2.62 (1.65-4.16)	4.00e-05
4.16 (2.21-7.85)	1.00e-05
4.28 (2.10-8.74)	7.00e-05

**ACC:** Adrenocortical carcinoma