

# CMSC423: Bioinformatic Algorithms, Databases and Tools

What you missed

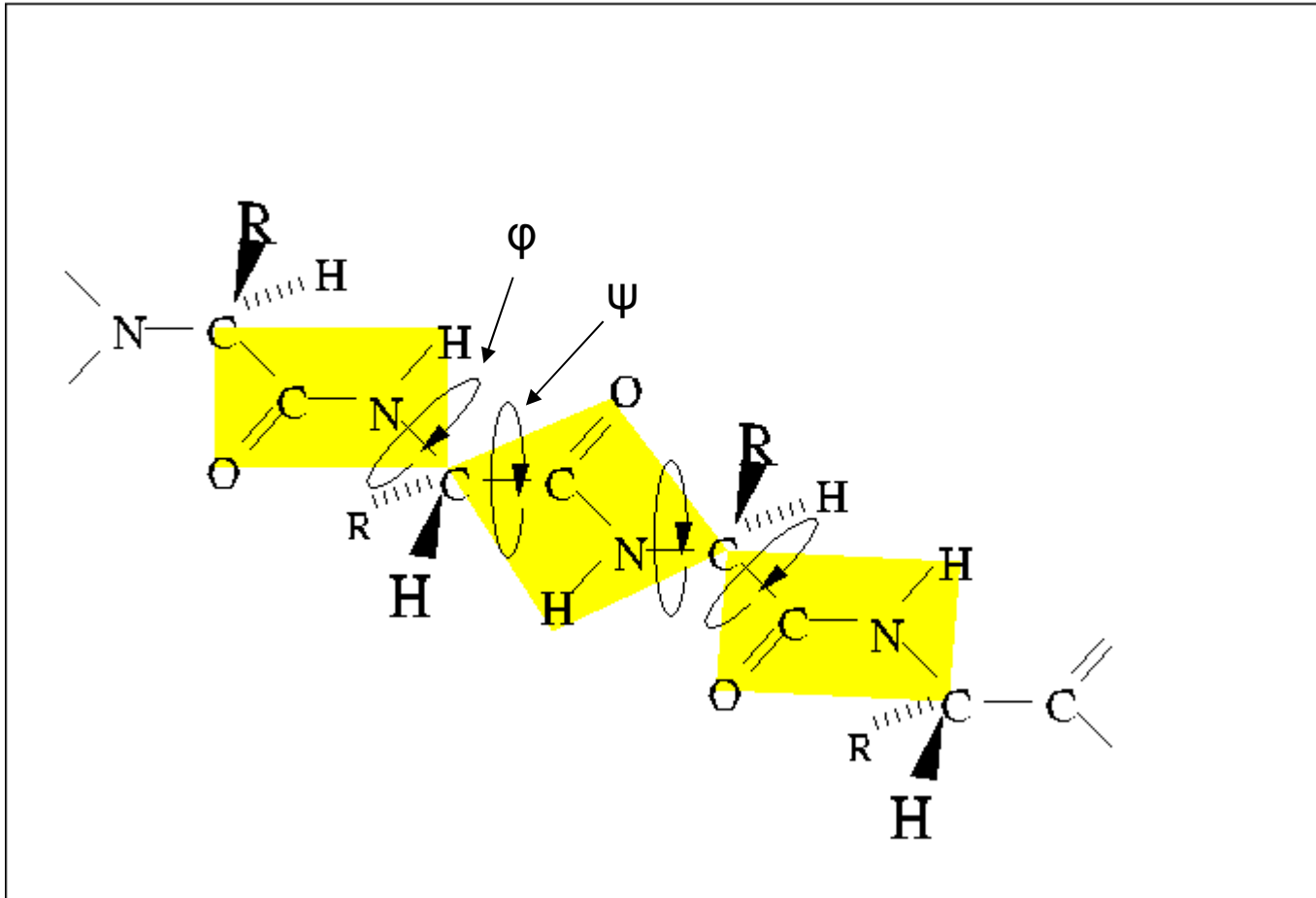
# Protein folding

# Protein folding

- Note: mis-folded proteins may cause disease (e.g. Creutzfeld-Jakob a.k.a. mad cow)
- Drugs (e.g. antibiotics) often inhibit protein function – knowing structure can help design drugs
- Folding@home – lend your computer's unused cycles to help fold proteins (like SETI@home) (do you believe in evolution or aliens ?)

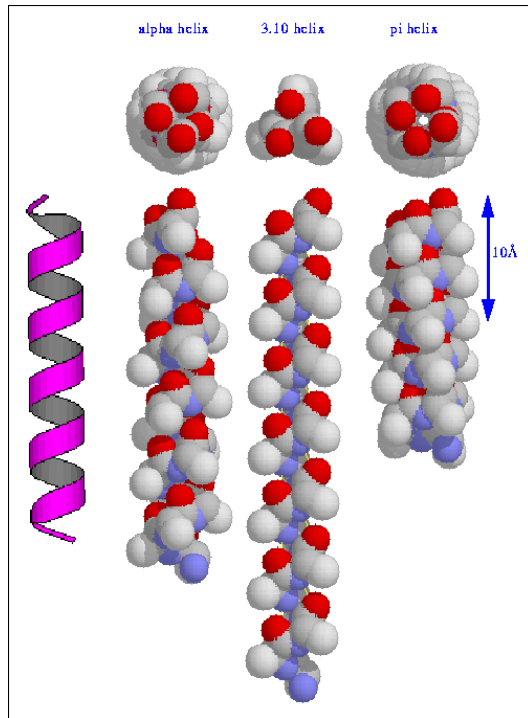
# Protein structure

(primary structure = sequence)

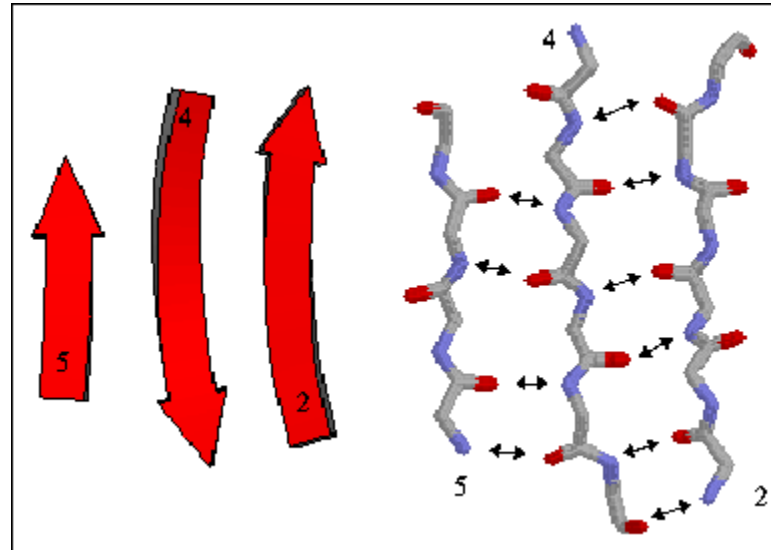


# Secondary structure (motifs)

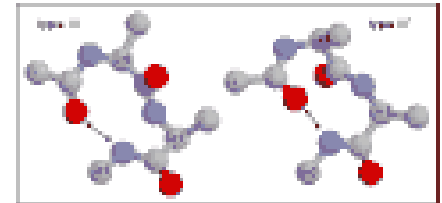
helix



sheet

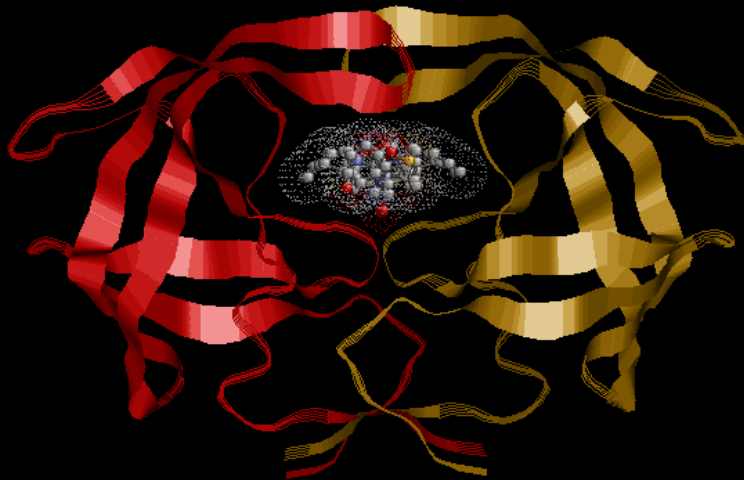
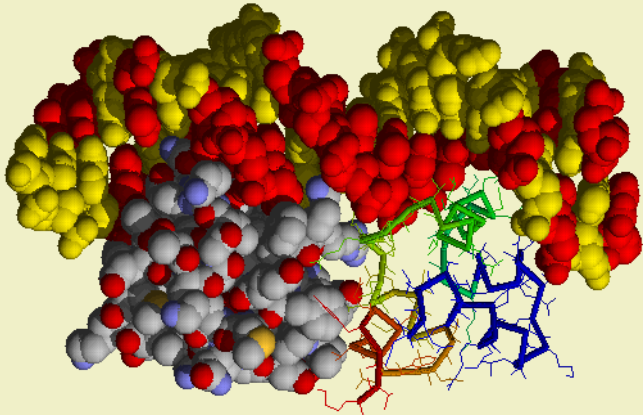


turn

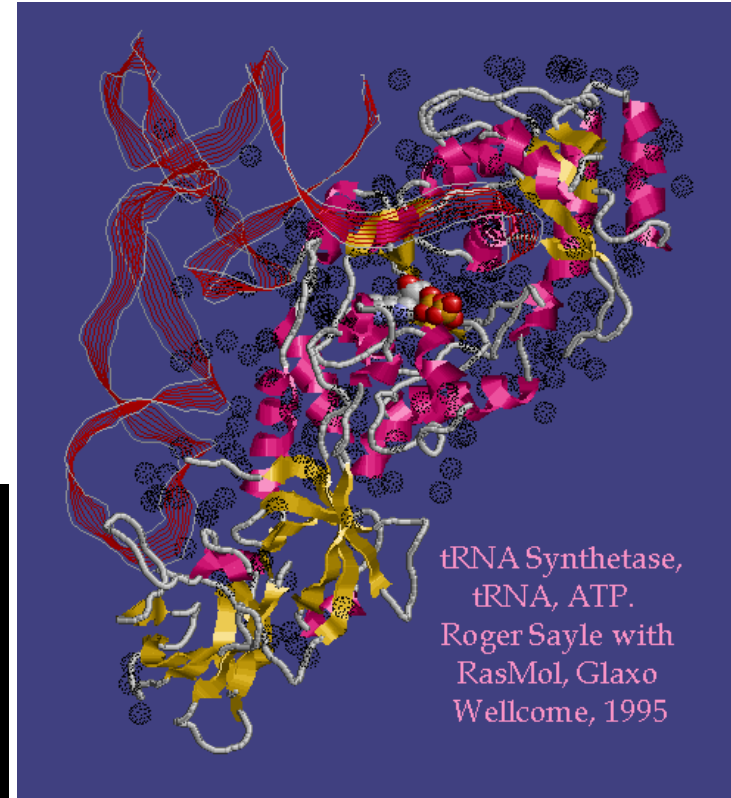


# Tertiary structure (3D shape)

Phage CRO Repressor on DNA. Andrew Coulson & Roger Sayle with RasMol, University of Edinburgh, 1993



HIV Protease + Glaxo Wellcome Inhibitor  
Roger Sayle with RasMol, 1995



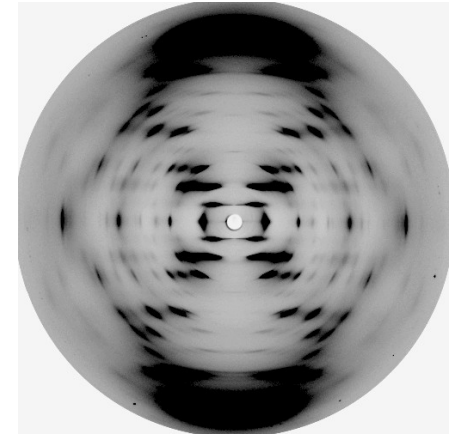
tRNA Synthetase,  
tRNA, ATP.  
Roger Sayle with  
RasMol, Glaxo  
Wellcome, 1995

# Folded shape: lowest free energy

- Energy components
  - electrostatic ( $\sim 1/D^2$ ) ( $n^2$  terms)
  - van der Waals ( $n^2$  terms)
  - hydrogen bonding ( $n$  terms)
  - “bending” ( $n$  terms)
  - solvent (water/salt) (?? terms)
  - exclusion principle (no two atoms share same volume)
- Energy minimization
  - small perturbations & computation: hill climbing, simulated annealing, etc.
- Molecular dynamics

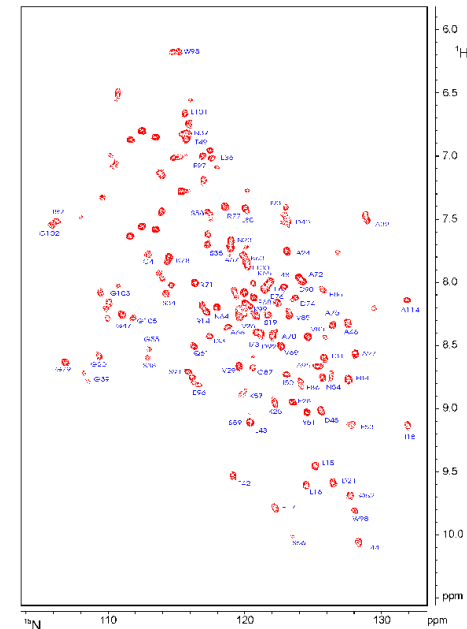
# How do we know the truth?

- X-ray crystallography
  - crystallize protein
  - shine X-rays
  - examine diffraction patterns



[http://www.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/BBS/whatis/cryst\\_an.html](http://www.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/BBS/whatis/cryst_an.html)

- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)
  - no crystallization necessary
  - magnetic field “vibrates” hydrogen atoms
  - Nobel prize: Kurt Wuethrich



<http://www.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/PPS2/projects/schirra/html/2dnmr.htm>



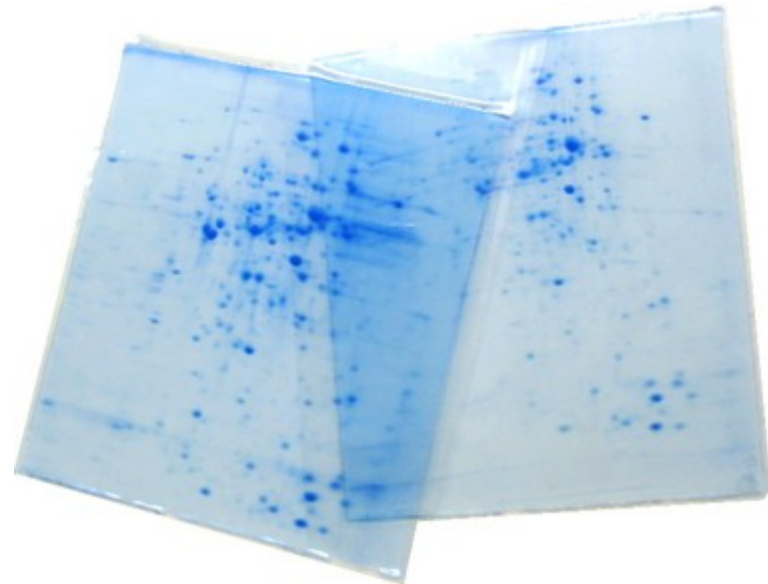
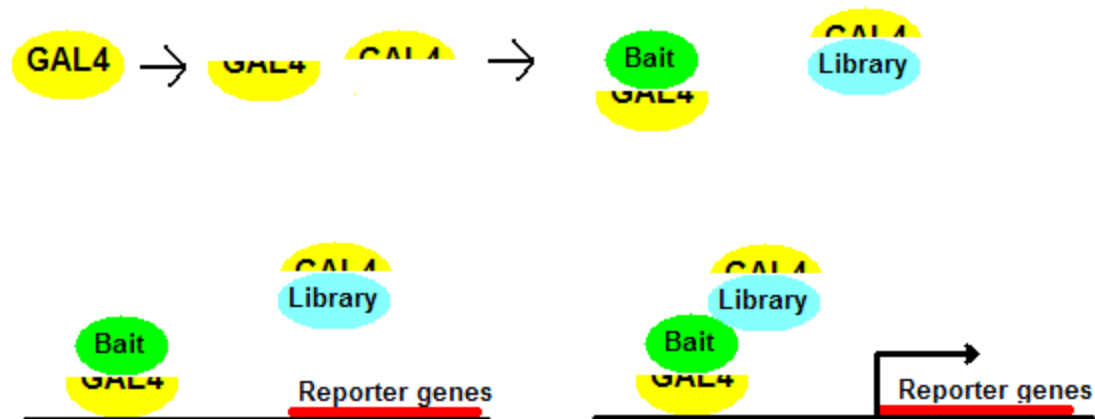
# Simpler problems

- Secondary structure prediction
- Side-chain conformation (assuming fixed backbone)
- Protein docking (how do proteins interact)
- Database searches (protein threading)
  
- Simpler energy functions
- Folding on a lattice (theoretical approximation)
  
- Critical Assessment of Fully Automated Structure Prediction – competition on proteins with unpublished 3D structure

# Proteomics

# Proteomics

- Large-scale analysis of proteins
  - protein-protein interactions (e.g. yeast 2-hybrid)
  - 2D gels (mass vs. isoelectric point)
  - Mass-spectrometry
  - Protein microarrays
  - etc.



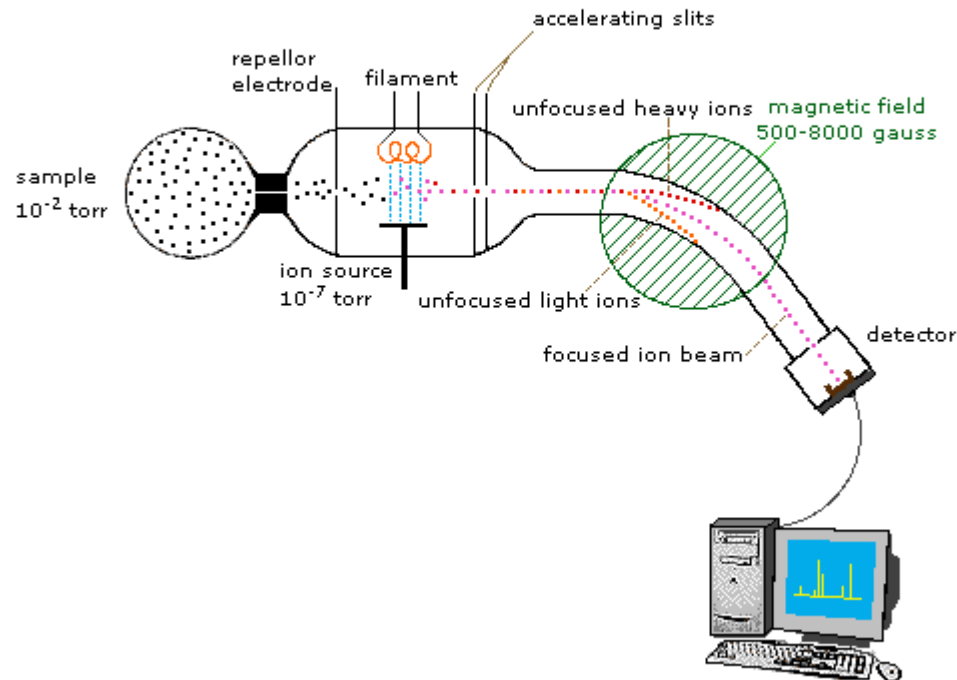
# Proteomics

- Why proteomics? Are DNA/RNA microarrays not sufficient?
- RNA abundance is not necessarily related to protein abundance
- Many proteins are modified post-translation
  - addition of additional molecules (phosphate, sugars, etc.)
  - creation of complexes (hemoglobin is actually 4 molecules)

# Mass spectrometry

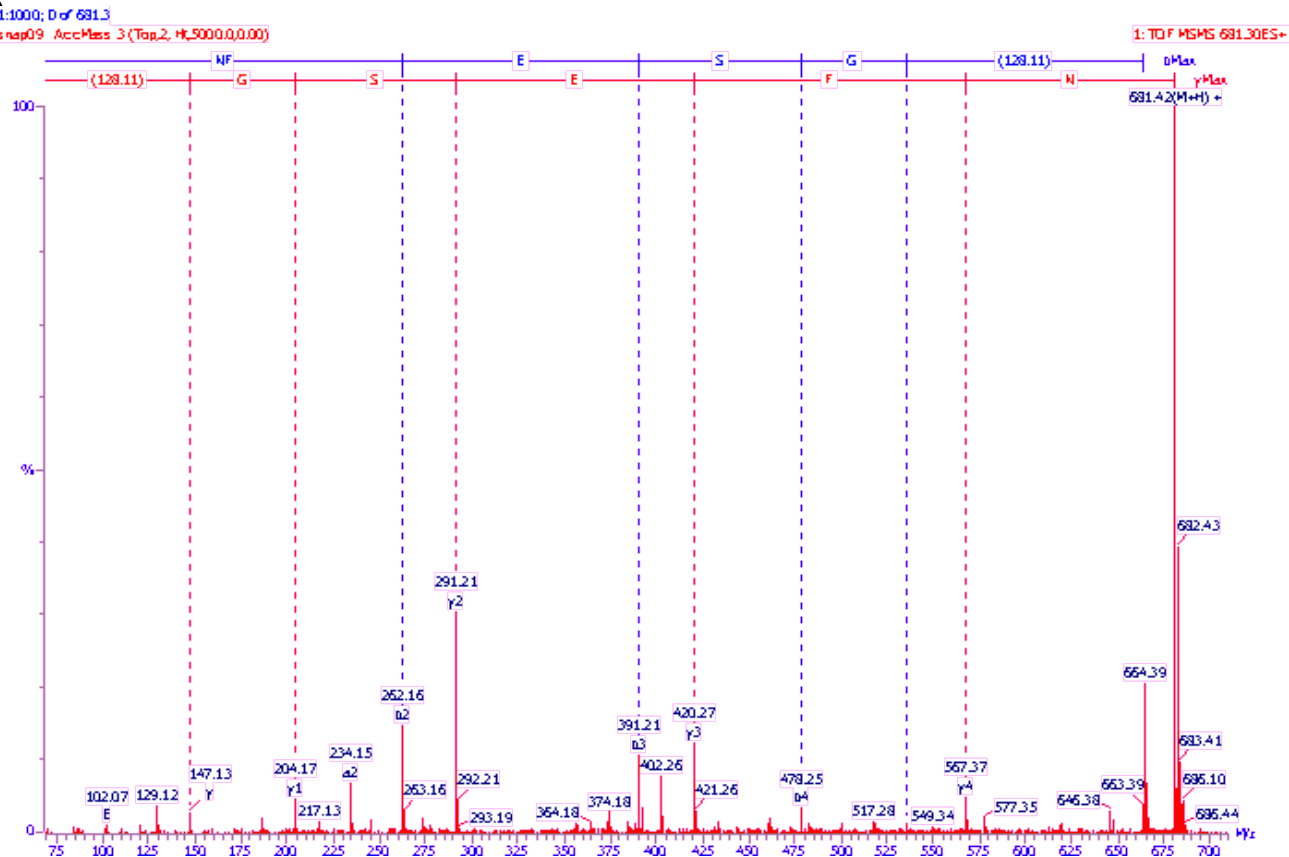
- Technique for measuring the mass-to-charge ratio of ions
- Basic idea
  - shoot ions into a magnetic field
  - deflection depends on mass
- Output of a mass-spectrometer
  - ions “sorted” by mass
  - for each mass bucket - number of ions with that specific mass

# Mass-spectrometry



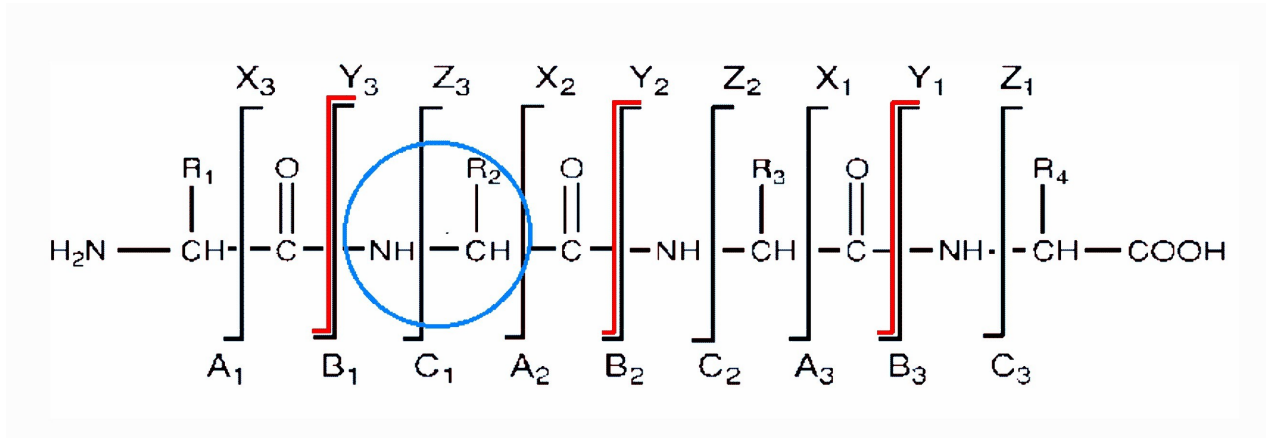
# Tandem Mass Spectrometry

- First mass-spectrometer “focuses” on a specific protein
- Second mass-spectrometer breaks the protein into smaller chunks
- Problem: given the chunks, what was the original protein?



# Peptide sequencing

- Peptide - a chunk of a protein, usually obtained by enzymatic cleavage of the protein (using trypsin)



- Problem: Given an MS spectrum (weights of fragments), what was the sequence of the peptide?
- Or: find the peptide (of mass  $m$ ) that best matches the experimental data



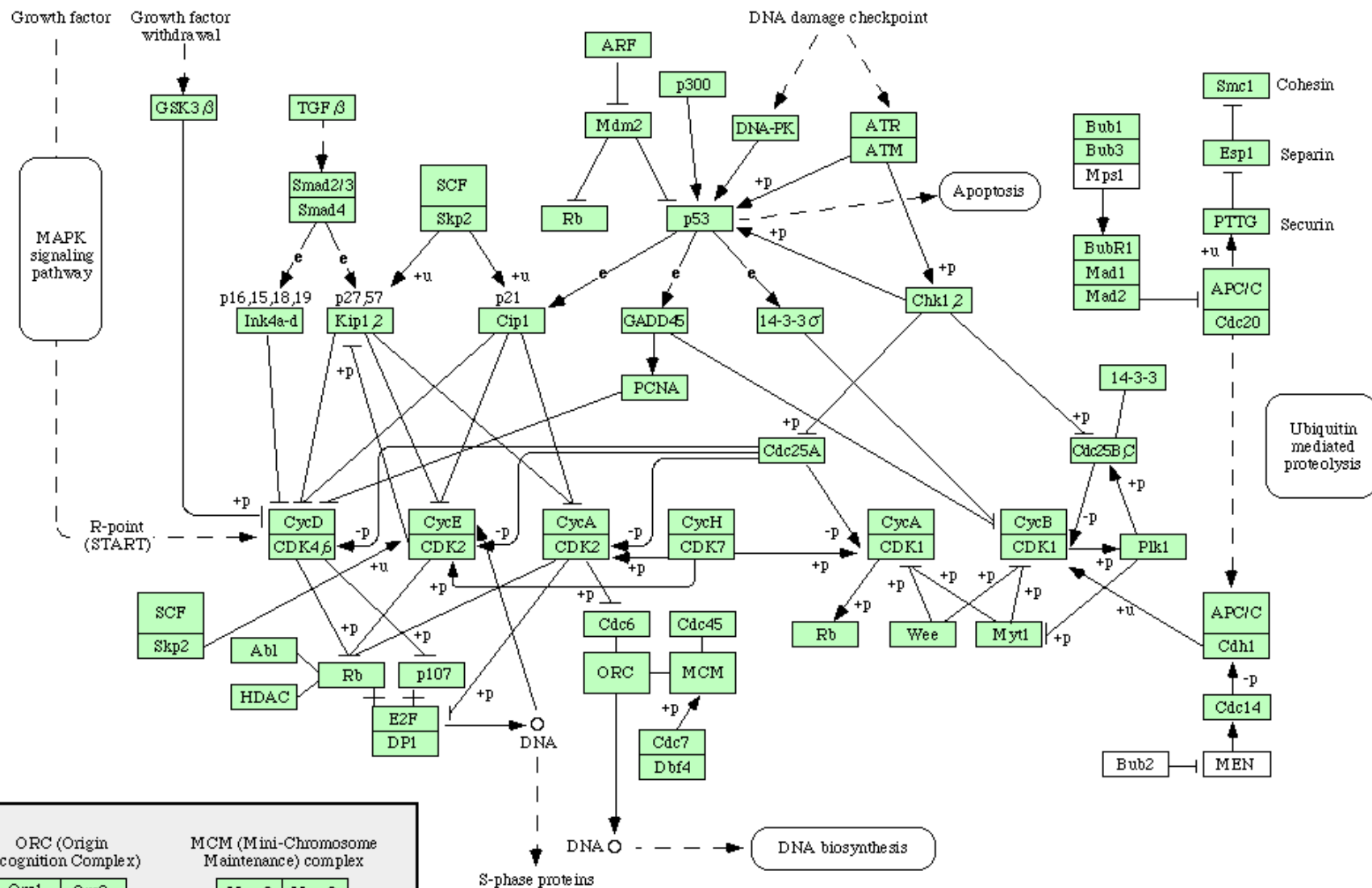
# Biological networks

# Biological networks

- Genes/proteins do not exist in isolation
- Interactions between genes or proteins can be represented as graphs
- Examples:
  - metabolic pathways
  - regulatory networks
  - protein-protein interactions (e.g. yeast 2-hybrid)
  - genetic interactions (synthetic lethality)



# CELL CYCLE

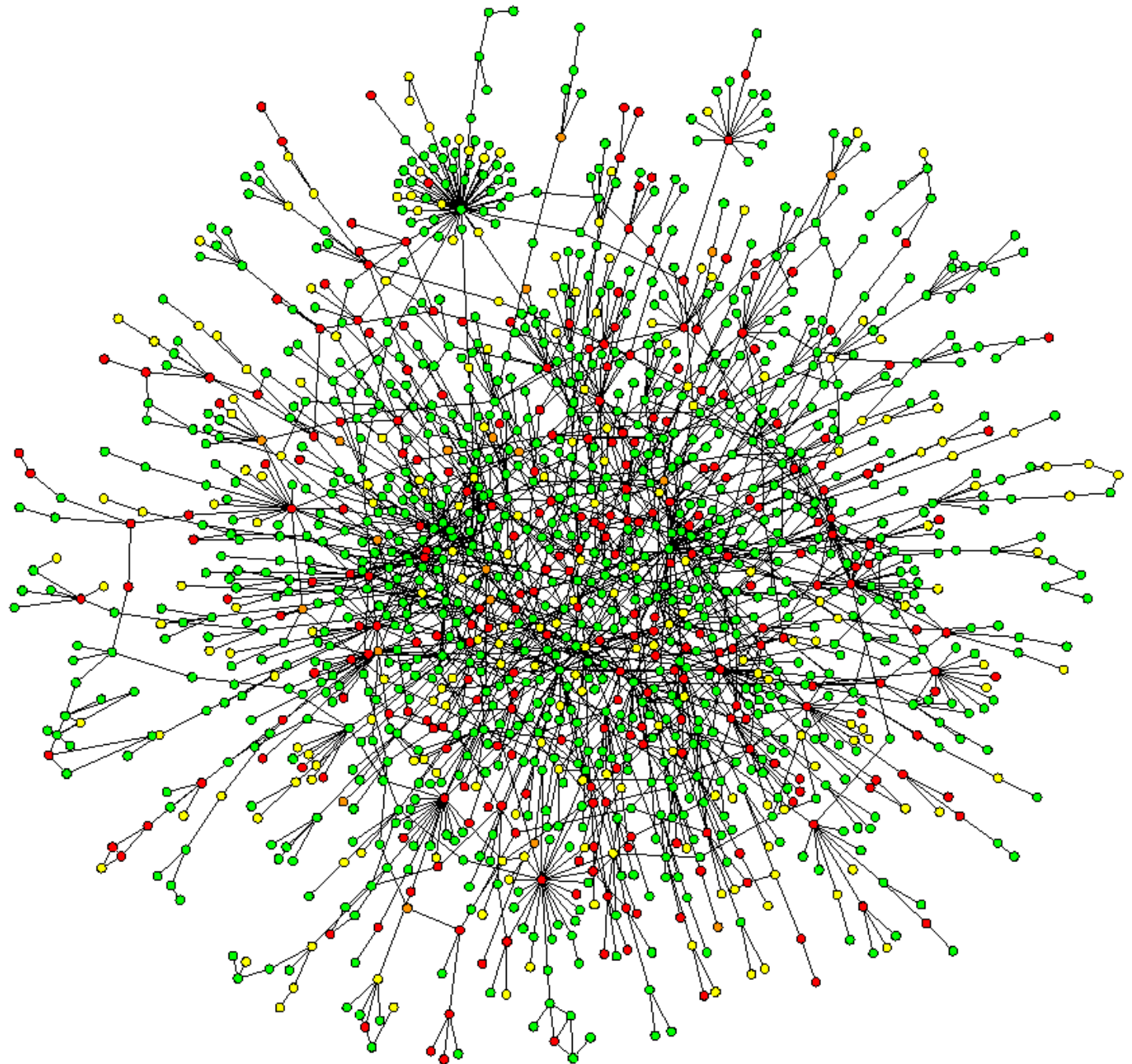


ORC (Origin Recognition Complex)

Orc1	Orc2
Orc3	Orc4
Orc5	Orc6

MCM (Mini-Chromosome Maintenance) complex

Mcm2	Mcm3
Mcm4	Mcm5
Mcm6	Mcm7



# Metagenomics

# Why do we care?

- Bacteria are everywhere in the environment
- They are not all evil
- Bacteria can be quite useful



Bio-energy



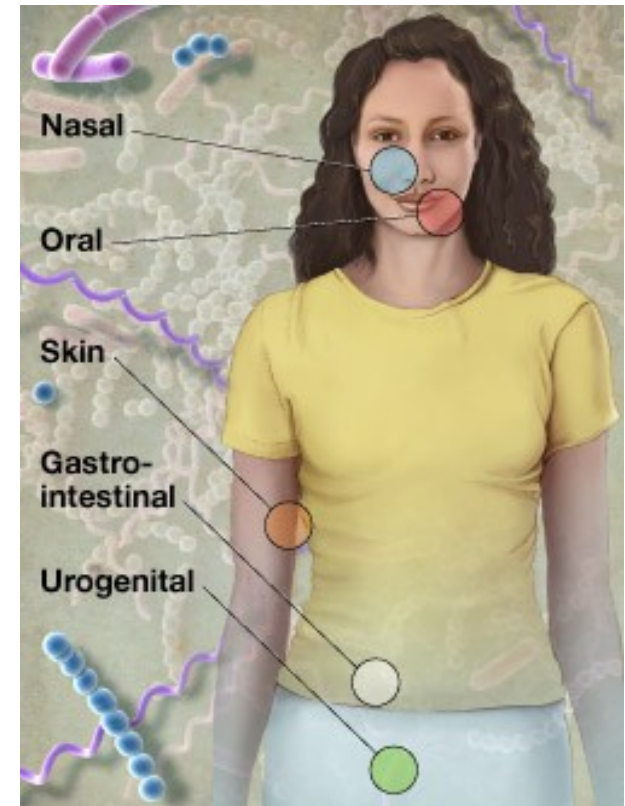
Bio-remediation



Drug development  
antibiotics  
anti-cancer

# Human microbiome

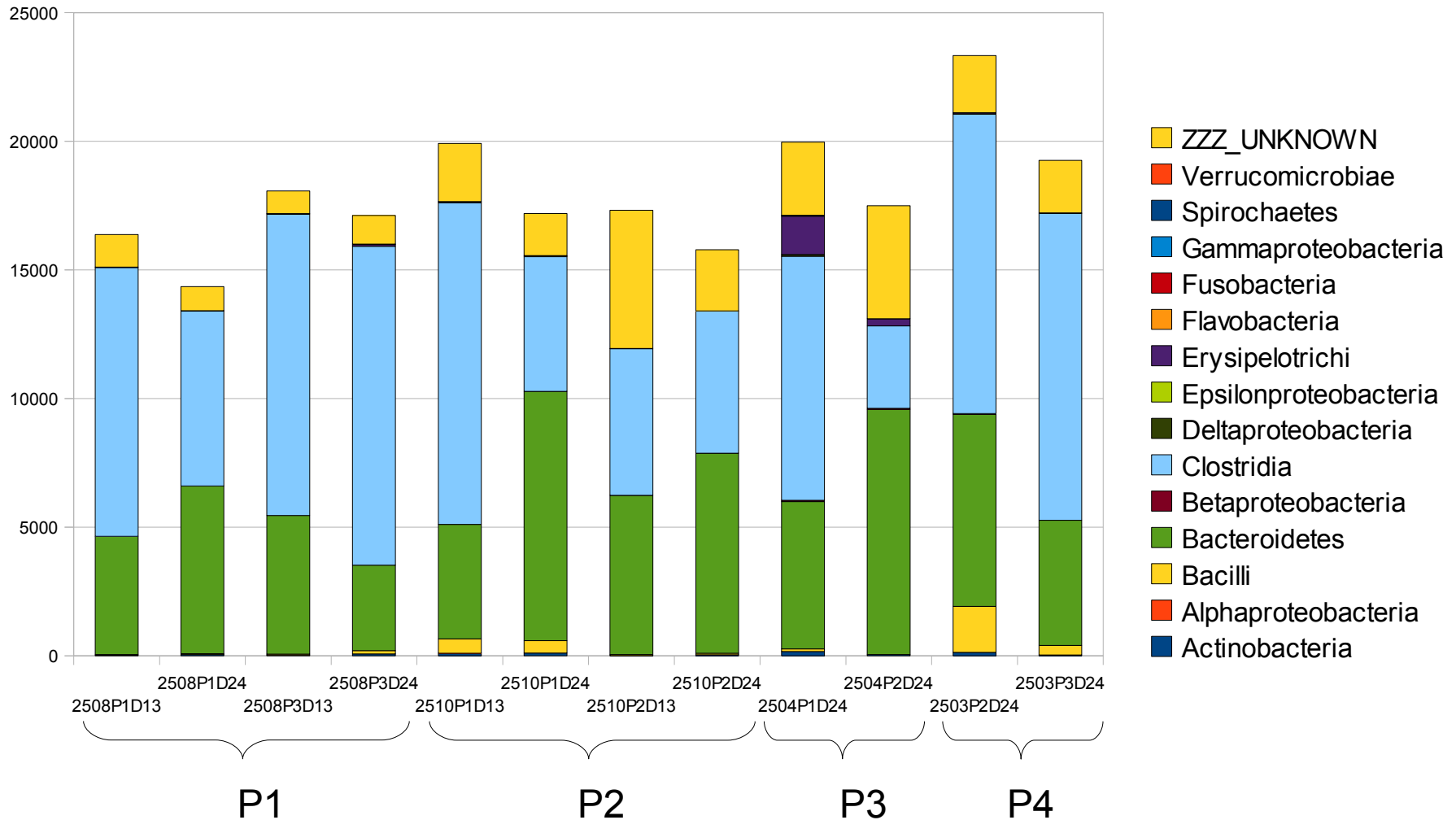
- Human = 1 order of magnitude more bacterial cells than human cells
  - critical to infant development (immune system, GI-tract)
  - provide essential nutrients (vitamin K, B12, essential amino-acids,....)
  - help digest complex molecules
    - starches, plant material
  - imbalances in normal bacterial populations correlate with disease (IBD, colon cancer, ...)



Human microbiome project  
[nihroadmap.nih.gov/hmp/](http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/hmp/)



# Some challenges on real data

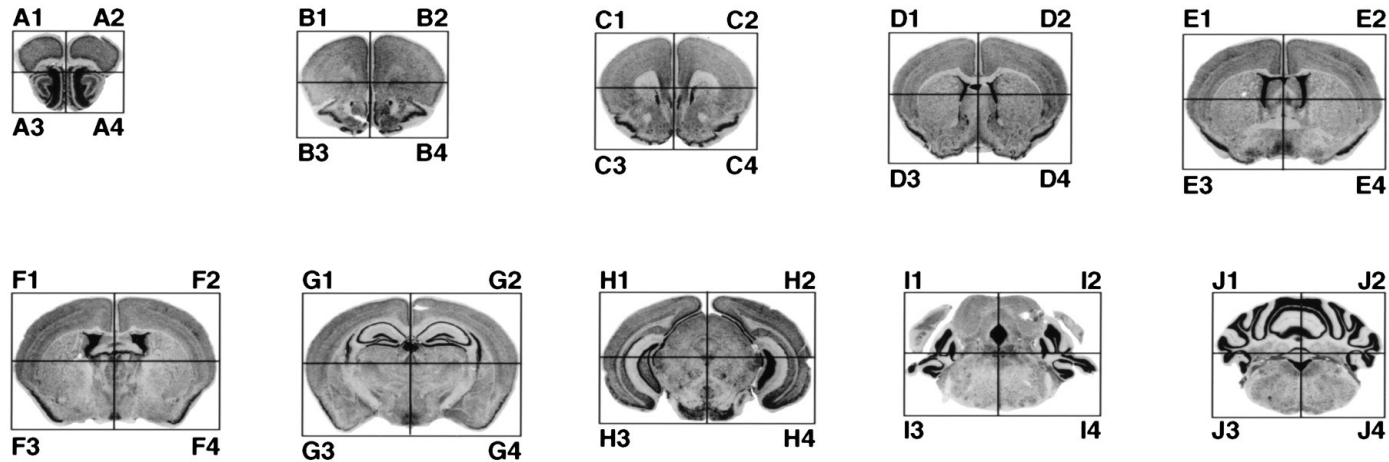


# Spatial genomics

# Voxelation

- Brown, V.M., et al., *High-throughput imaging of brain gene expression*. Genome Res, 2002. **12**(2): p. 244-54.
- <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&dopt=Citation>
- Brown, V.M., et al., *Multiplex three-dimensional brain gene expression mapping in a mouse model of Parkinson's disease*. Genome Res, 2002. **12**(6): p. 868-84.
- <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&dopt=Citation>
- Gene expression information in a spatial context
- Combines microarray analysis with computer graphics

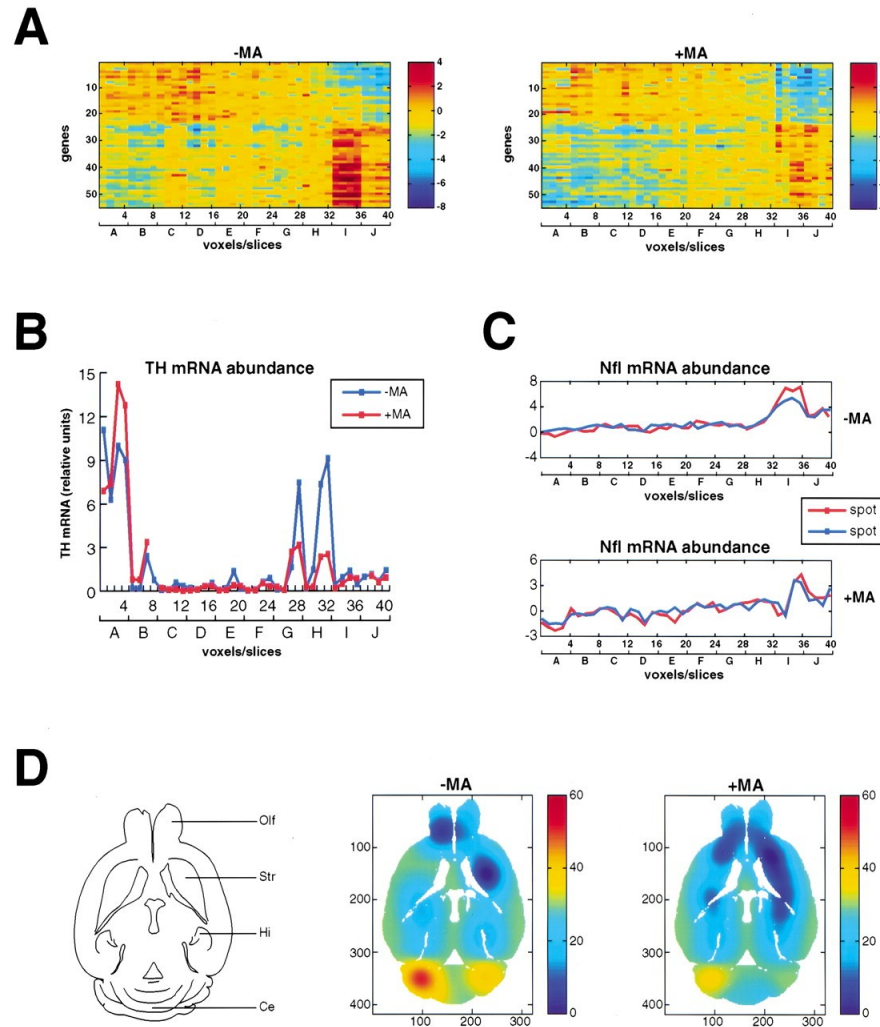
## Figure 2 Voxelation scheme



Vanessa M. Brown et al. *Genome Res.* 2002; 12: 868-884

- Mouse brain cut up into voxels
- Run a separate microarray experiment on each voxel

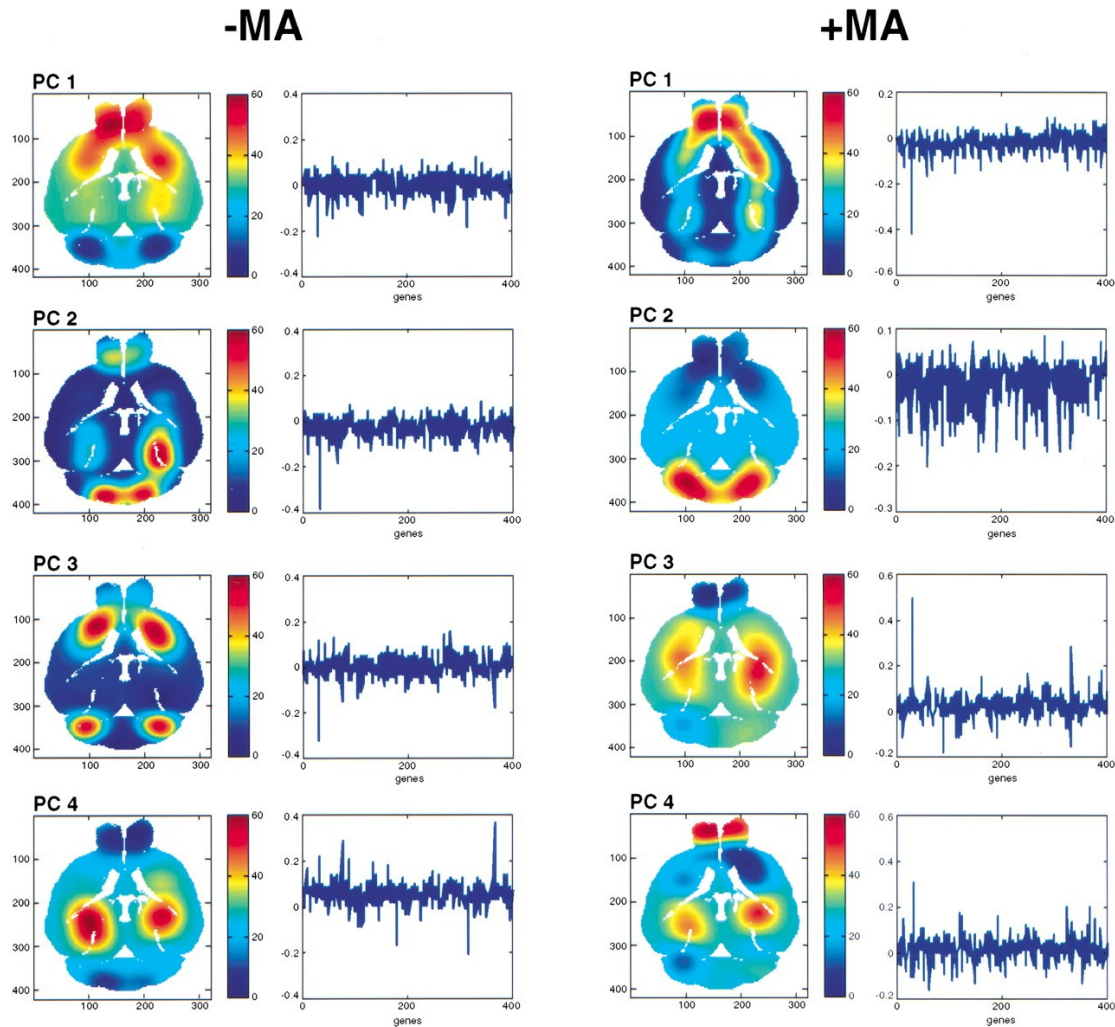
## Figure 4 Spatial gene expression patterns for the subset of correlated genes



Vanessa M. Brown et al. *Genome Res.* 2002; 12: 868-884

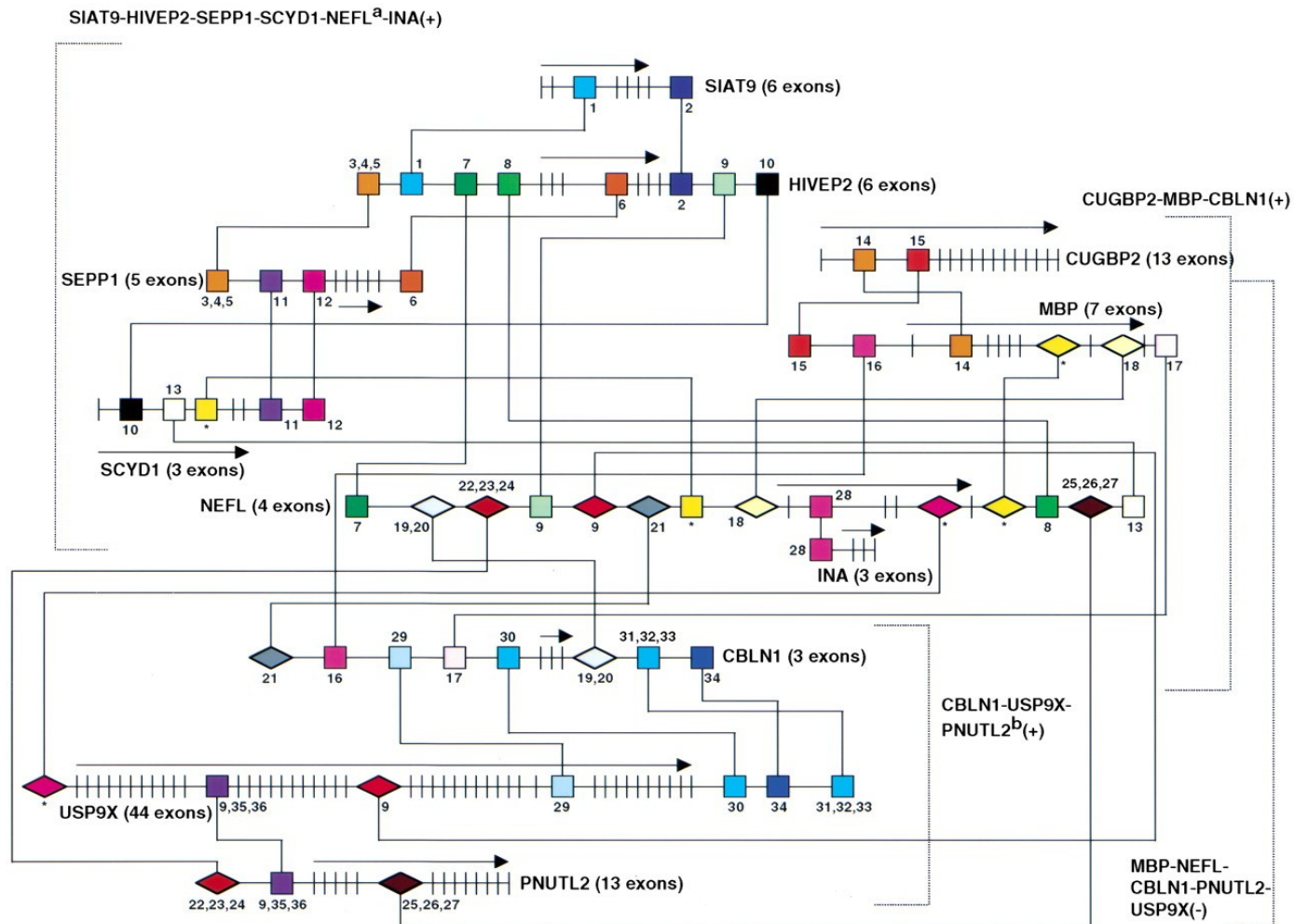


**Figure 7 SVD delineates anatomical regions of the brain**



**Vanessa M. Brown et al. Genome Res. 2002; 12: 868-884**

**Figure 5 Putative regulatory elements shared between groups of correlated and anticorrelated genes**



Vanessa M. Brown et al. *Genome Res.* 2002; 12: 868-884

