

Schatzlab Research Projects

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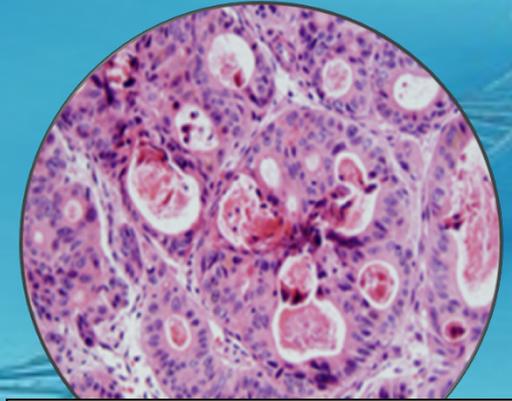
Research Topics in Biology, WSBS



Schatz Lab Overview



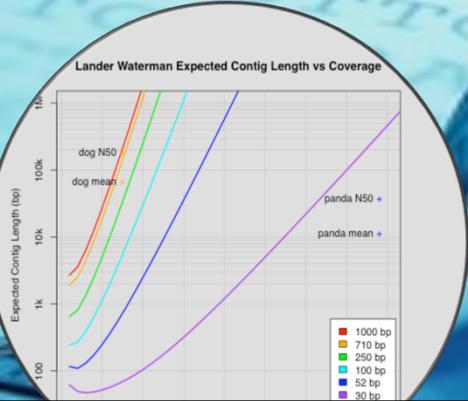
Computation



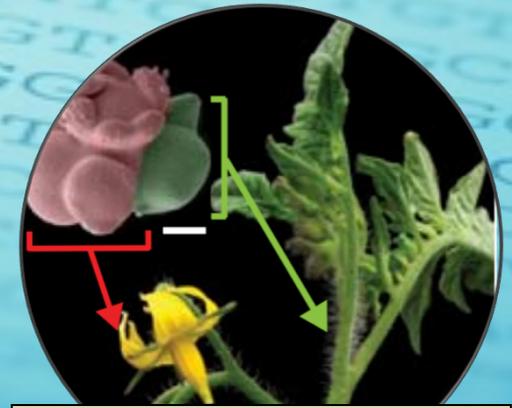
Human Genetics



Sequencing



Modeling



Plant Genomics

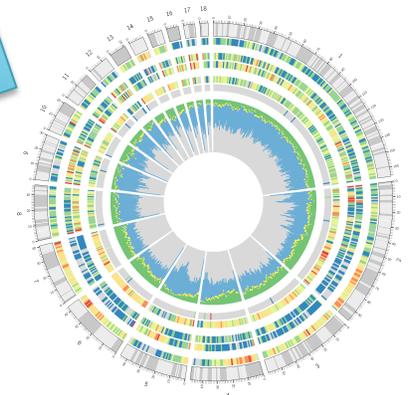
Milestones in Molecular Biology

There is tremendous interest to sequence:

- What is your genome sequence?
- How does your genome compare to my genome?
- Where are the genes and how active are they?
- How does gene activity change during development?
- How does splicing change during development?
- How does methylation change during development?
- How does chromatin change during development?
- How does is your genome folded in the cell?
- Where do proteins bind and regulate genes?
- What virus and microbes are living inside you?
- How has the disease mutated your genome?
- What drugs should we give you?
- ...



What is your genome?



Genome of the long-living sacred lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera* Gaertn.)

Ming, R et al. (2013) *Genome Biology* 14:R41

Shredded Book Reconstruction

- Dickens accidentally shreds the first printing of A Tale of Two Cities
 - Text printed on 5 long spools

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|------|------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|------------------|
| It was | the | best | of | times, | it | was | the | worst | of | times, | it | was | the | age | of | wisdom, | it | was | the | age | of | foolishness, ... | |
| It was | the | best | of | times, | it | was | the | worst | of | times, | it | was | the | age | of | wisdom, | it | was | the | age | of | foolishness, ... | |
| It was | the | best | of | times, | it | was | the | worst | of | times, | it | was | the | age | of | wisdom, | it | was | the | age | of | foolishness, ... | |
| It was | the | best | of | times, | it | was | the | worst | of | times, | it | was | the | age | of | wisdom, | it | was | the | age | of | foolishness, ... | |
| It | was | the | best | of | times, | it | was | the | worst | of | times, | it | was | the | age | of | wisdom, | it | was | the | age | of | foolishness, ... |

- How can he reconstruct the text?
 - 5 copies x 138,656 words / 5 words per fragment = 138k fragments
 - The short fragments from every copy are mixed together
 - Some fragments are identical

Greedy Reconstruction

It was the best of
age of wisdom, it was
best of times, it was
it was the age of
it was the age of
it was the worst of
of times, it was the
of times, it was the
of wisdom, it was the
the age of wisdom, it
the best of times, it
the worst of times, it
times, it was the age
times, it was the worst
was the age of wisdom,
was the age of foolishness,
was the best of times,
was the worst of times,
wisdom, it was the age
worst of times, it was

It was the best of
was the best of times,
the best of times, it
best of times, it was
of times, it was the
of times, it was the
times, it was the worst
times, it was the age

The repeated sequence make the correct reconstruction ambiguous

- It was the best of times, it was the [worst/age]

Model sequence reconstruction as a graph problem.

de Bruijn Graph Construction

- $D_k = (V, E)$
 - $V =$ All length- k subfragments ($k < l$)
 - $E =$ Directed edges between consecutive subfragments
 - Nodes overlap by $k-1$ words

Original Fragment

It was the best of

Directed Edge

It was the best → was the best of

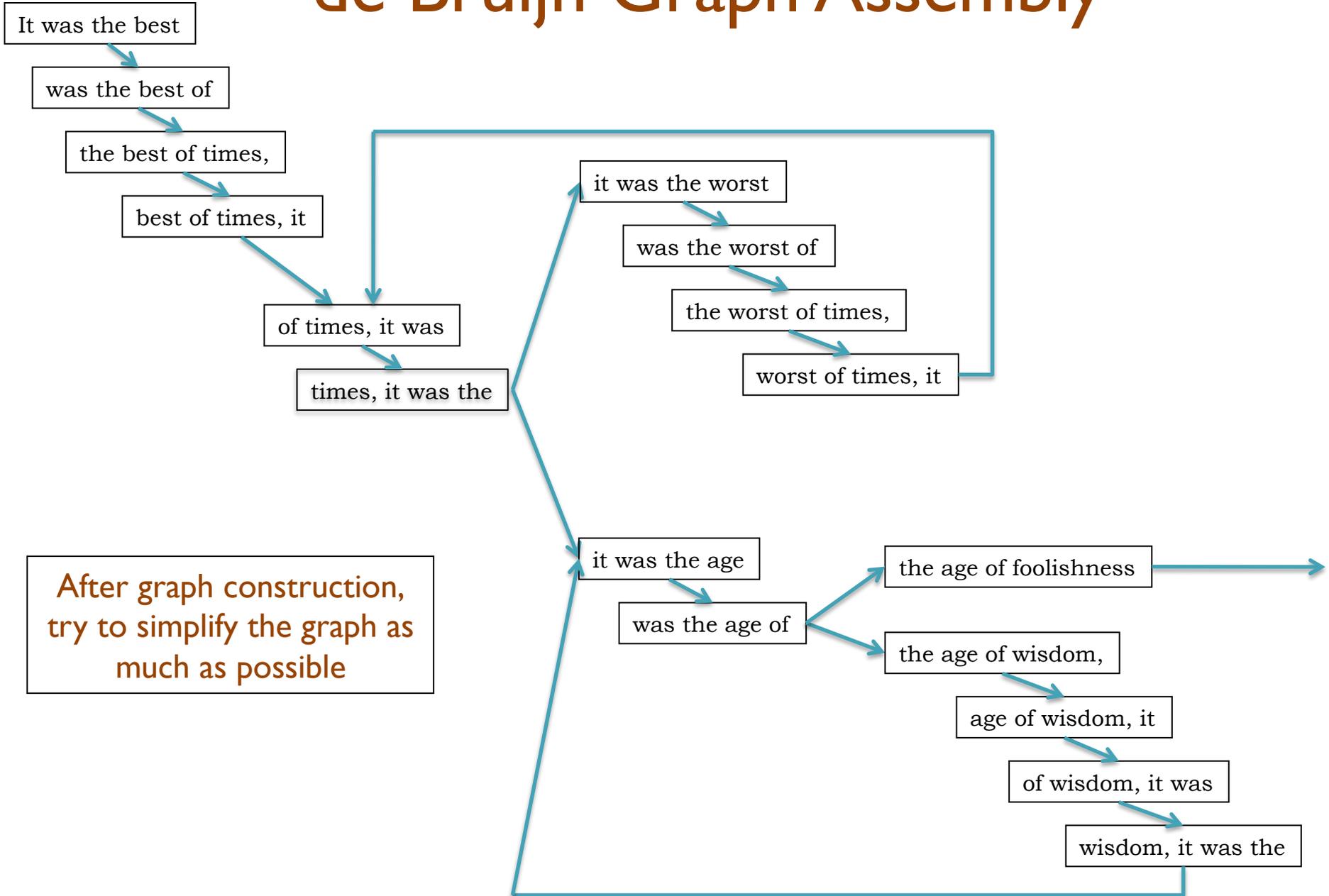
- Locally constructed graph reveals the global sequence structure
 - Overlaps between sequences implicitly computed

de Bruijn, 1946

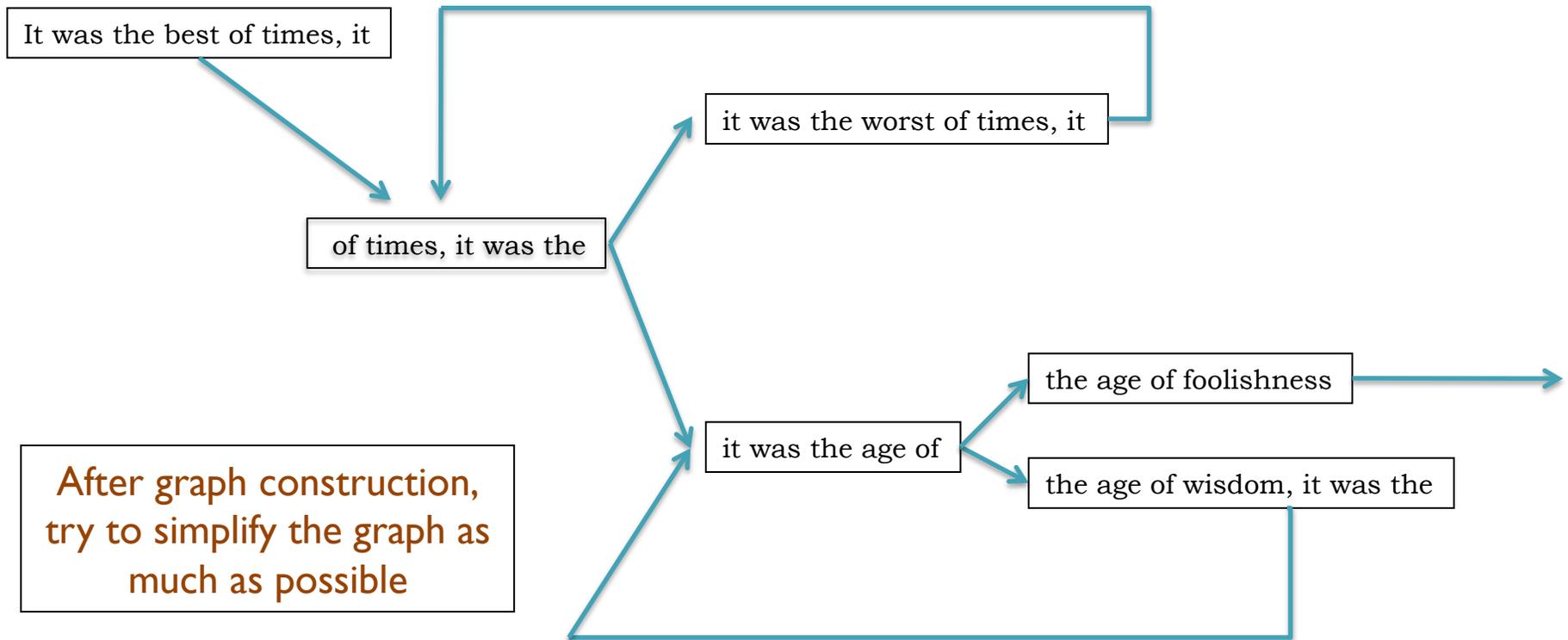
Idury and Waterman, 1995

Pevzner, Tang, Waterman, 2001

de Bruijn Graph Assembly

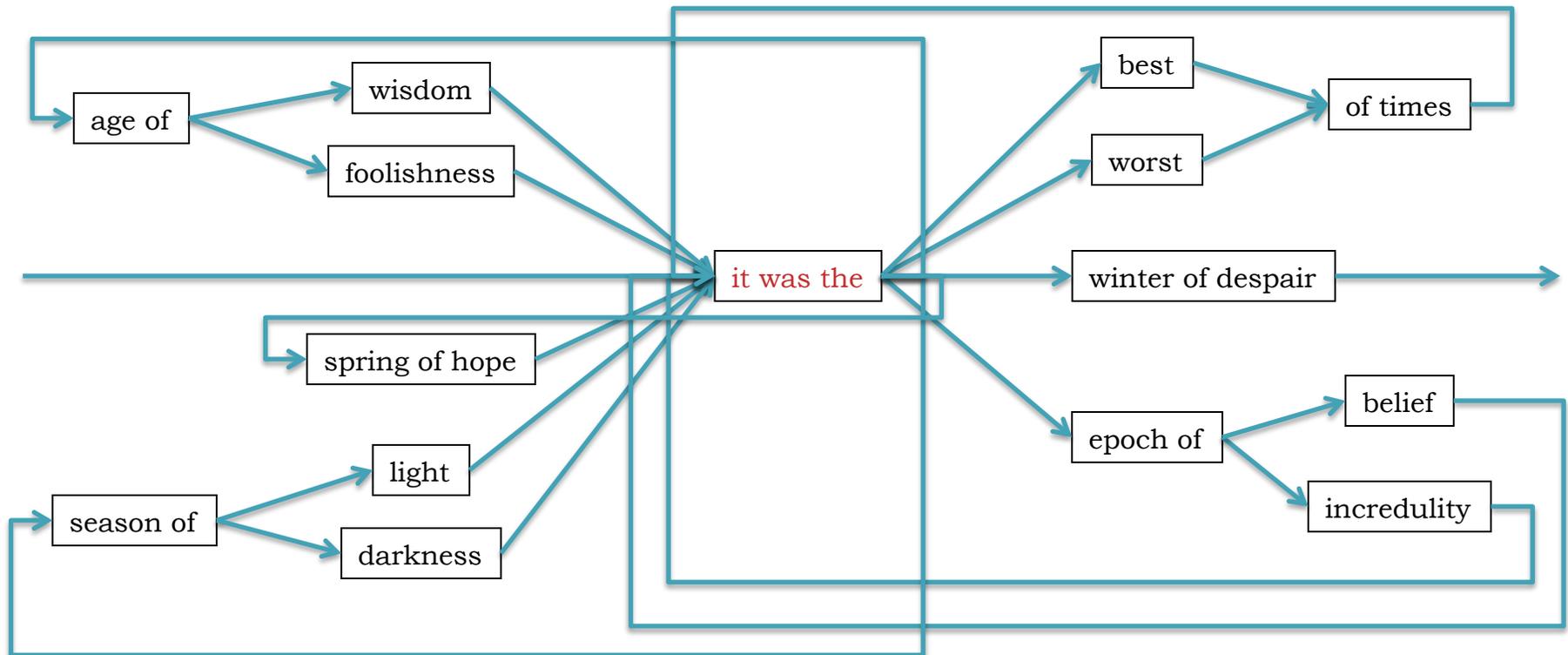


de Bruijn Graph Assembly



The full tale

... it was the best of times it was the worst of times ...
... it was the age of wisdom it was the age of foolishness ...
... it was the epoch of belief it was the epoch of incredulity ...
... it was the season of light it was the season of darkness ...
... it was the spring of hope it was the winter of despair ...



N50 size

Def: 50% of the genome is in contigs as large as the N50 value

Example: 1 Mbp genome



N50 size = 30 kbp

$(300k + 100k + 45k + 45k + 30k = 520k \geq 500kbp)$

Note:

N50 values are only meaningful to compare when base genome size is the same in all cases

Research Dimensions

1. *New Biotechnology*

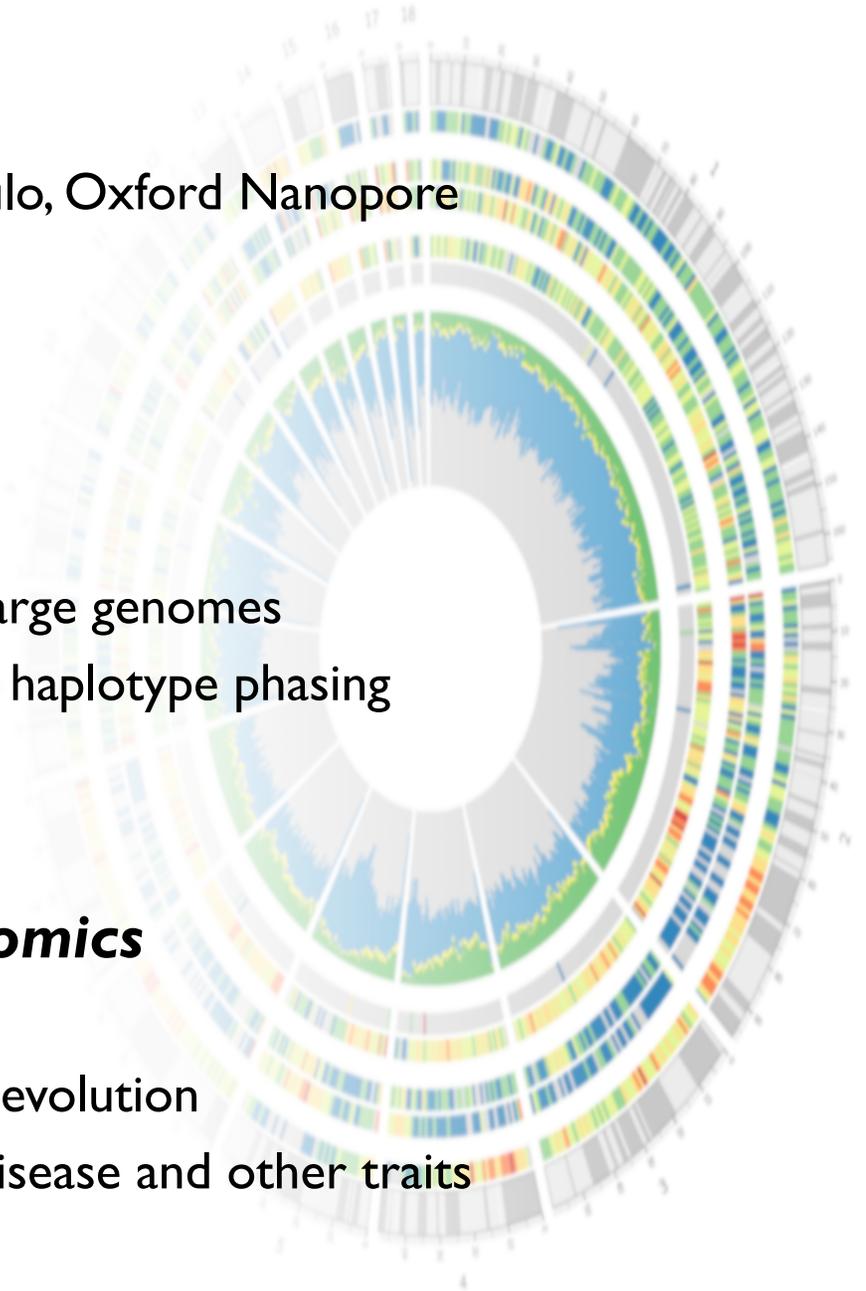
- Sequencing: Pacific Biosciences, Moleculo, Oxford Nanopore
- Mapping: BioNanoGenomics, OpGen
- Faster/Cheaper/Better assemblies

2. *Algorithmics*

- Algorithms for assembling extremely large genomes
- Improved error correction, scaffolding, haplotype phasing
- Analyzing populations of genomes

3. *Annotation & Comparative Genomics*

- Identifying functional elements
- Cross species comparisons, models of evolution
- Identifying mutations responsible for disease and other traits



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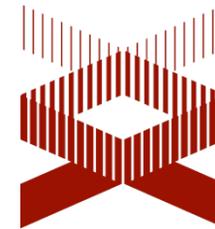
CSHL

Hannon Lab
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Ware Lab
Wigler Lab

IT Department

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National Human
Genome Research
Institute



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



Thank You!

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