

*Υπολογίζοντας την λειτουργία  
μη κωδικών γονιδίων.*

**Artemis G. Hatzigeorgiou**

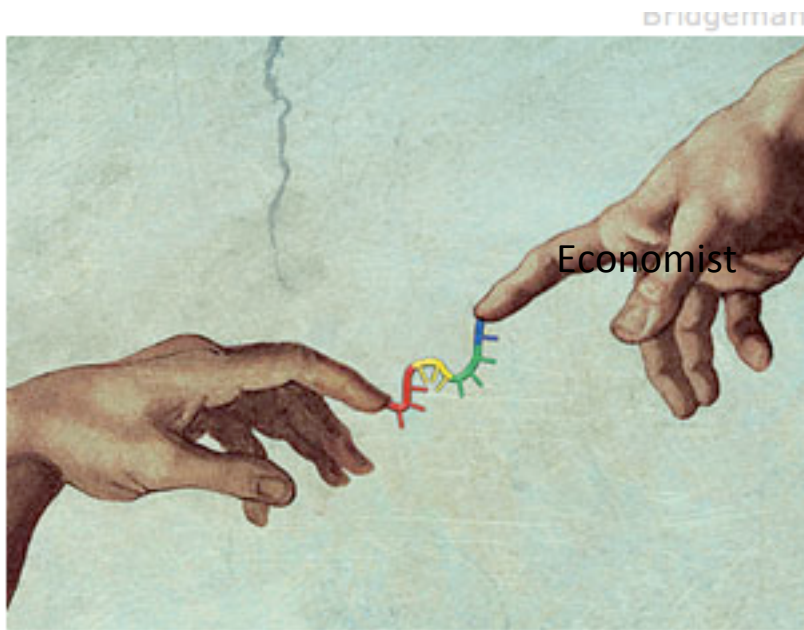
*Professor of Bioinformatics*

*Department of Electrical and  
Computer Engineering  
University of Thessaly*

*Hellenic Institute Pasteur*

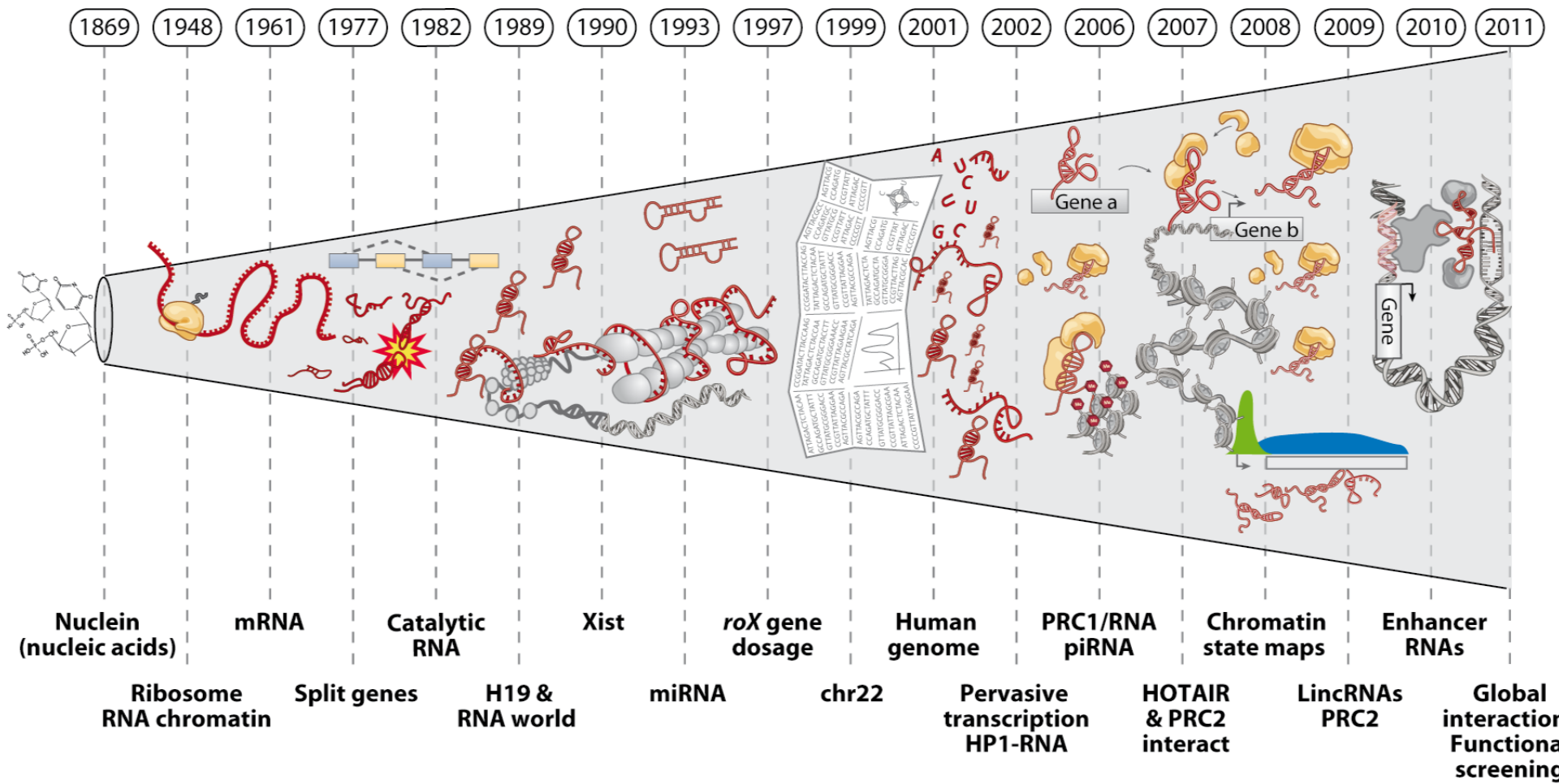


# The RNA revolution: Biology's Big Bang



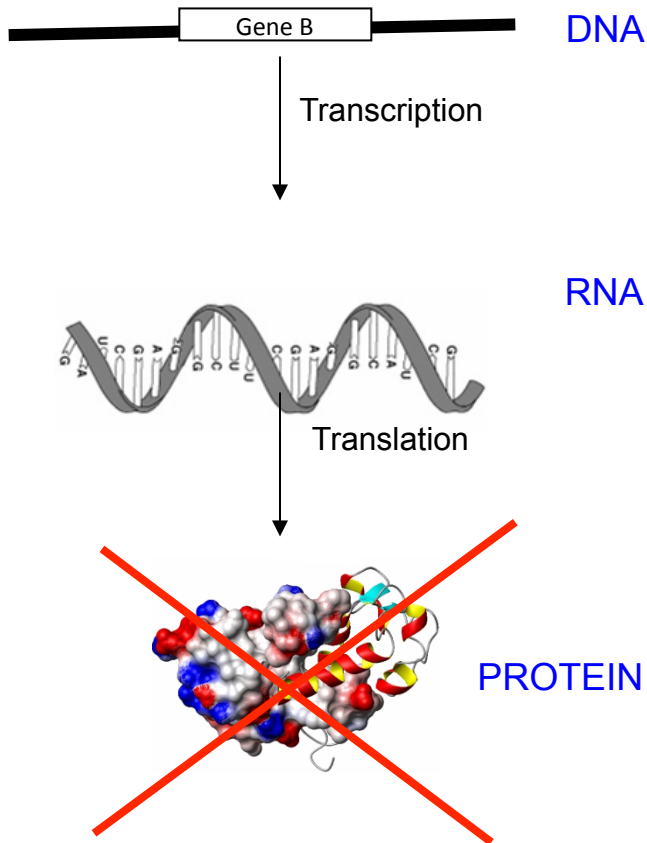
Jun 14th 2007 From The Economist :

What physics was to the 20th century, biology will be to the 21st  
—and RNA will be a vital part of it



Rinn JL, Chang HY. 2012.  
Annu. Rev. Biochem. 81:145–66

# What are microRNAs (miRNAs)?



miRNAs are about 22 nt long RNAs.

They post-transcriptionally regulate *protein coding* gene expression

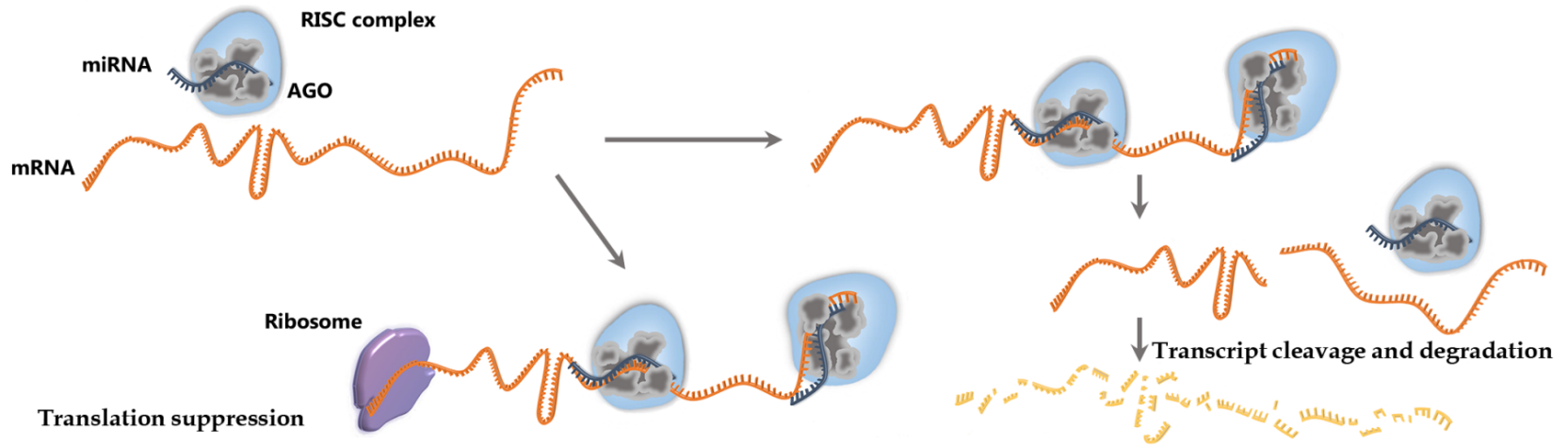
# *MicroRNAs are involved in ...*

**Development** stem cell proliferation  
Division Differentiation  
regulation of innate & adaptive immunity  
apoptosis cell signaling metabolism

**human pathologies**

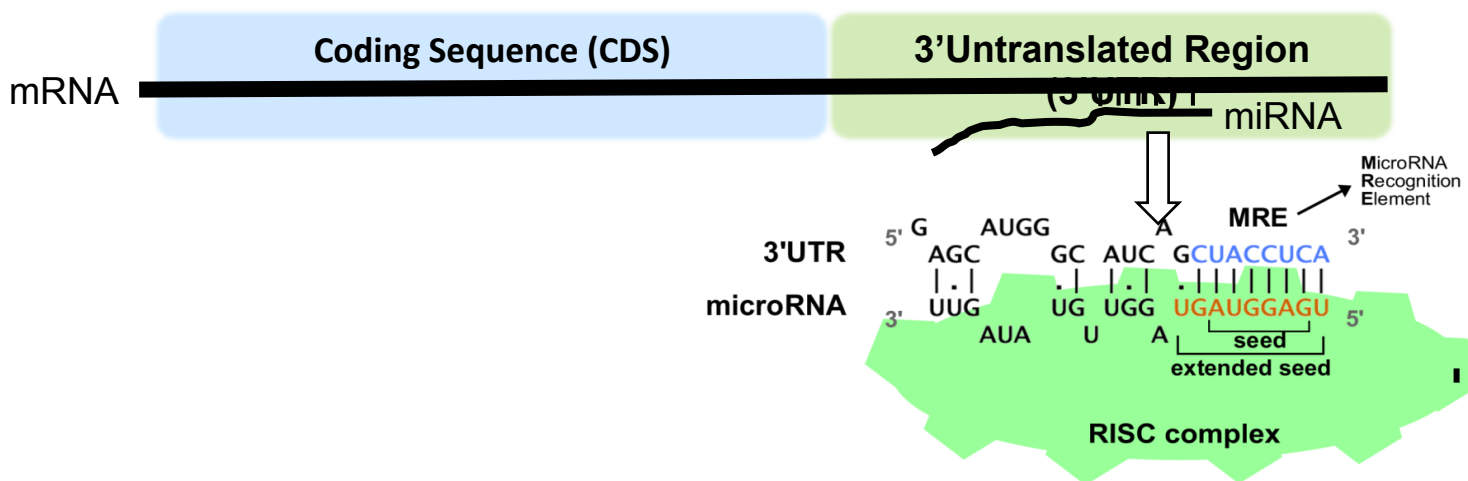
**Cancer** viral infections cardiovascular diseases  
metabolic disorders neurological pathologies  
psychiatric disorders renal disease hepatological conditions  
autoimmune diseases gastroenterological conditions  
obesity reproductive disorders  
musculoskeletal disorders periodontal  
pathologies

# microRNAs



- loaded into Agronaute (AGO) to induce target cleavage, degradation and translational suppression
- Identification of miRNA targets
  - Computational methods
  - Experimental methods - Essential to identify genuine miRNA:targets

## First DIANA microT algorithm



Identifying a microRNA-recognition element by comparing the degree of complementarity of a microRNA nucleotide sequence to an mRNA sequence

Print E-mail Add to Marked List Save to [EndNote® Web](#) Save to [EndNote®](#), [RefMan](#), [ProCite](#) more options

Patent Number(s): WO2005017111-A2; US2007026403-A1

Inventor(s): [HATZIGEORGIOU A G](#), [MOURELATOS Z](#)

Patent Assignee(s) and Codes(s): UNIV PENNSYLVANIA(UPEN-C)

HATZIGEORGIOU A G(HATZ-Individual)

MOURELATOS Z(MOUR-Individual)

Derwent Primary Accession Number: 2005-182352 [65]

Citing Patents: 2

Articles Cited by Examiner: 8

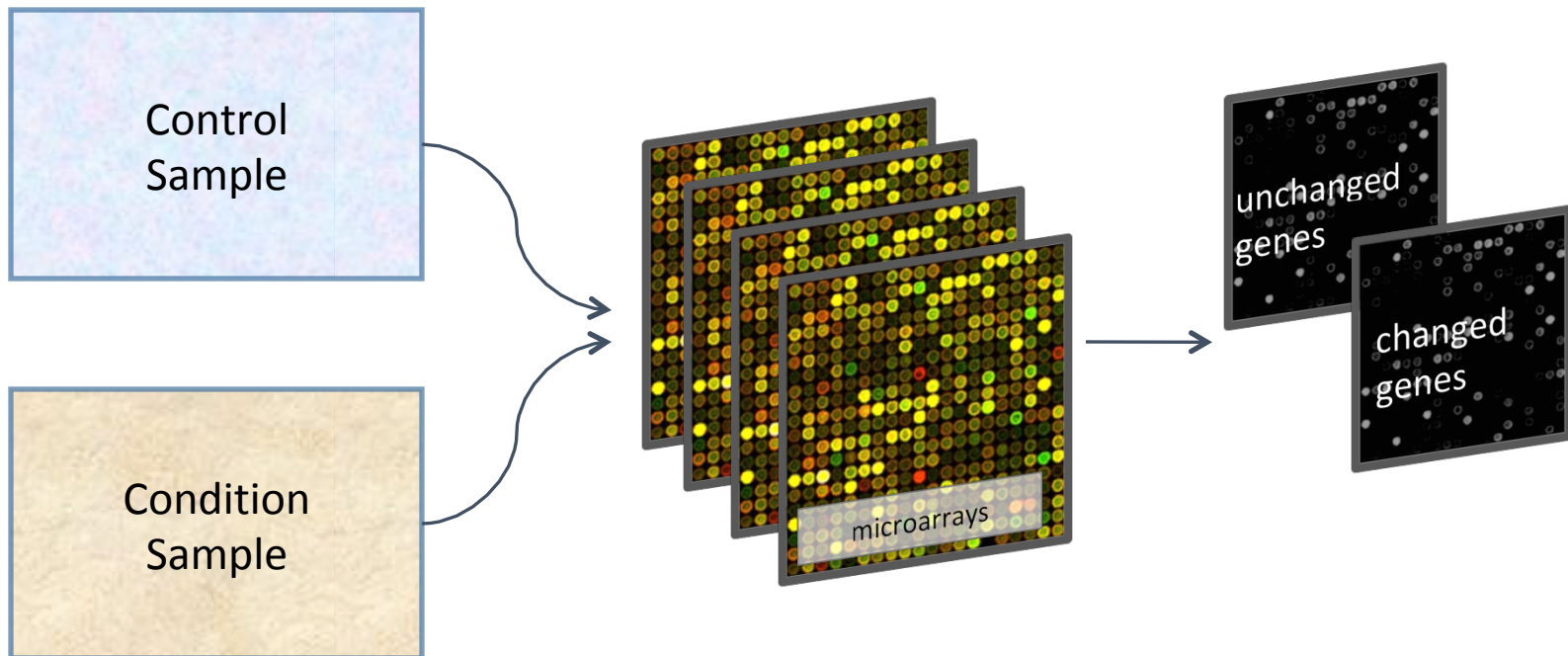
*Kiriakidou et al.,  
Gen. & Dev., 2004*

# ***Identifying biomarkers***



# High-throughput Expression Data

What can we learn about miRNA function only from gene expression?



# microRNAs and Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

Identify cause / markers for ovarian cancer progression and malignancy

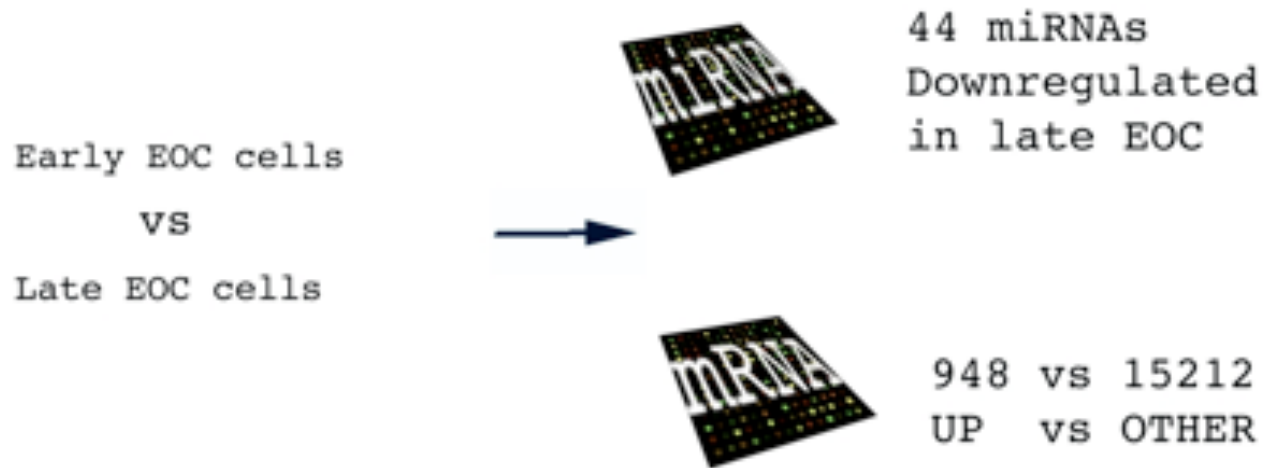
mRNA expression by microarray

microRNA expression by microarray

## Genomic and epigenetic alterations deregulate microRNA expression in human epithelial ovarian cancer

Lin Zhang<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Stefano Volinia<sup>d</sup>, Tomas Bonome<sup>e</sup>, George Adrian Calin<sup>d</sup>, Joel Greshock<sup>f,g</sup>, Nuo Yang<sup>a</sup>, Chang-Gong Liu<sup>d</sup>, Antonis Giannakakis<sup>a,h</sup>, Pangiotis Alexiou<sup>i</sup>, Kosei Hasegawa<sup>a</sup>, Cameron N. Johnstone<sup>i</sup>, Molly S. Megraw<sup>k</sup>, Sarah Adams<sup>a,b</sup>, Heini Lassus<sup>l</sup>, Jia Huang<sup>f</sup>, Sippy Kaur<sup>l</sup>, Shun Liang<sup>a</sup>, Praveen Sethupathy<sup>k</sup>, Arto Leminen<sup>l</sup>, Victor A. Simossis<sup>l</sup>, Raphael Sandaltzopoulos<sup>h</sup>, Yoshio Naomoto<sup>m</sup>, Dionyssios Katsaros<sup>a</sup>, Phyllis A. Gimotty<sup>o</sup>, Angela DeMichele<sup>j</sup>, Qihong Huang<sup>p</sup>, Ralf Bützow<sup>l</sup>, Anil K. Rustgi<sup>i</sup>, Barbara L. Weber<sup>f,g</sup>, Michael J. Birrer<sup>e</sup>, Artemis G. Hatzigeorgiou<sup>c,f,i,k</sup>, Carlo M. Croce<sup>c,d</sup>, and George Coukos<sup>a,b,c,f</sup>

Numerous miRNAs and protein coding genes are downregulated in late stage ovarian cancer.



*MiRNA downregulation affects mRNA transcripts?*

*(miRNA = DOWN & targets = UP)*

# Calculating the hexamer distribution in the UTR's of genes that gain expression(UP) and genes that do not change(OTHER)

AAAAAA : 0,0,1,5,2,0,1 ...  
 AAAAAT : 1,1,3,0,0,1,2 ...

...

CCCCCG : 1,3,2,0,0,0,2 ...  
 CCCCCC : 1,0,0,0,1,0,2 ...



AAAAAA : 0.02343,0,0,0,0.00021,0,0.007462 ...  
 AAAAAT : 0,0.0001207,0.00072,0.1,0,0 ...

...

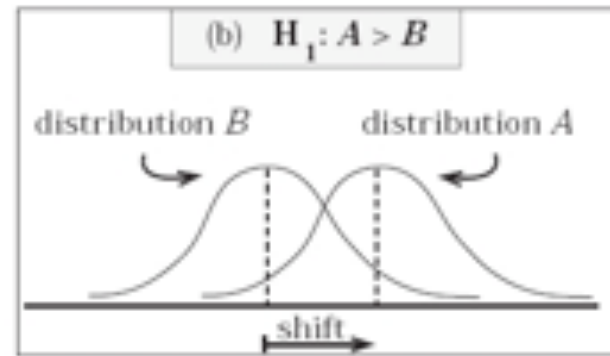
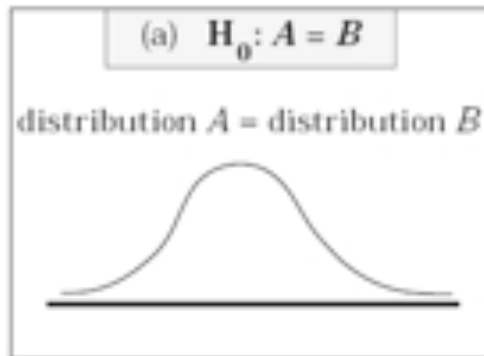
CCCCCG : 0.004,0.0667,0,0.1,0,0.0004 ...  
 CCCCCC : 0.12,0,0,0.00031,0.21109,0.005301 ...

UP values	OTHER values
0.02401	0.34251
0.00054	0.00543
0.00022	0.00432
0.00322	0.00935
0.71533	0.00043
0.00640	0.04540
0.06422	0.07462
0.00001	0.00432
0.00242	0.00245
0.00535	0.05540
	0.60432
	0.04355
	0.05343
	0.04320
	0.01162
	0.00112
	0.02450
	0.01333

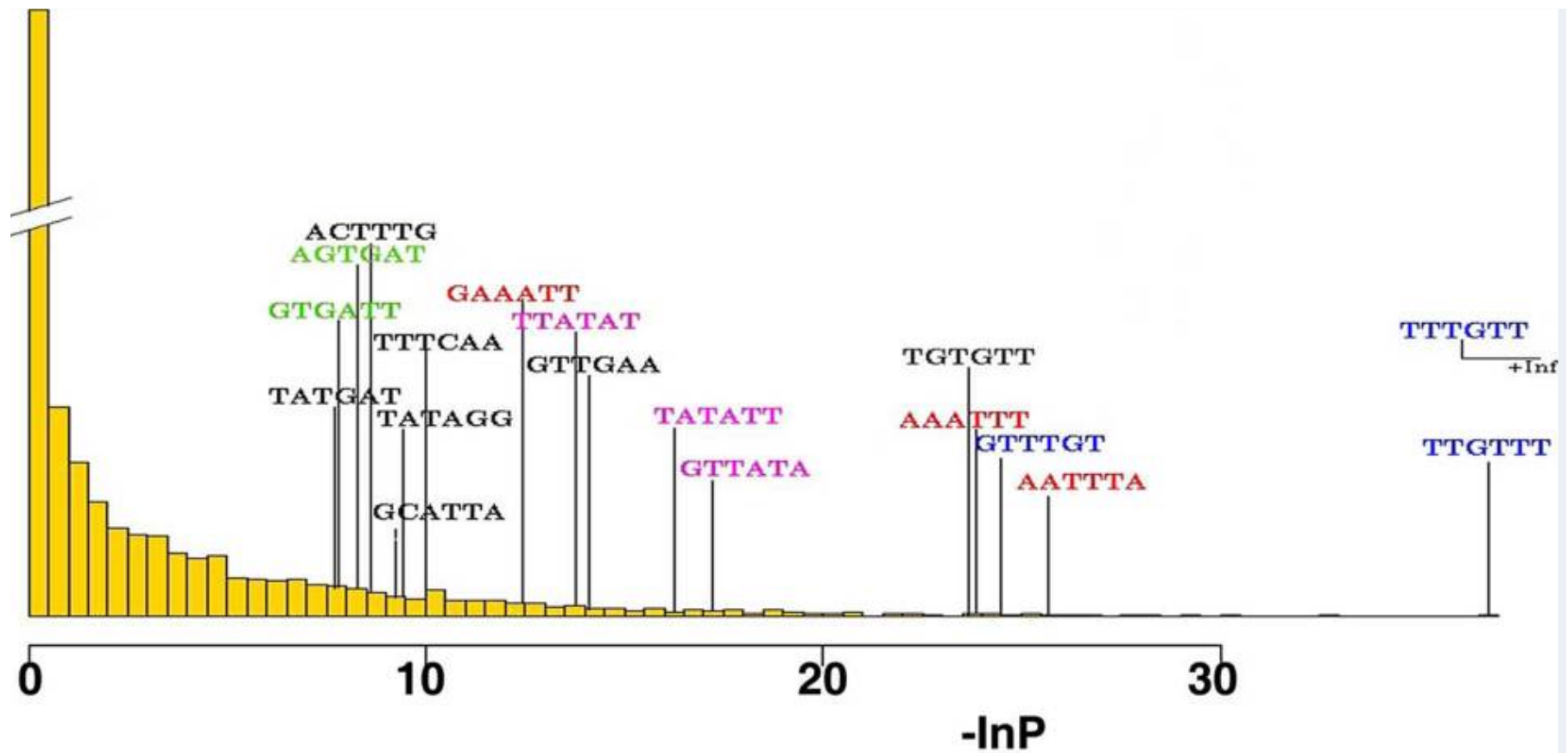
Rank 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

p - value

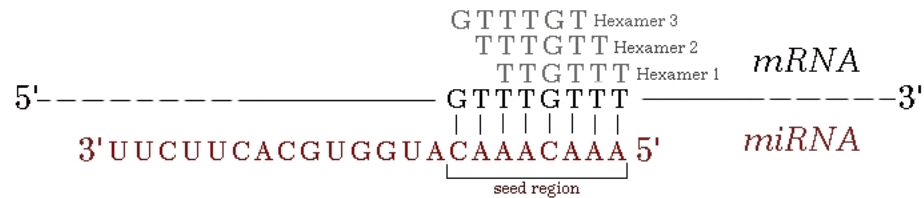
Calculating P-Values of hexamer distribution in two groups of genes (UP vs OTHER) through Wilcoxon Rank Sum test.



# microRNA και Επιθηλιακός Καρκίνος των Ωοθηκών



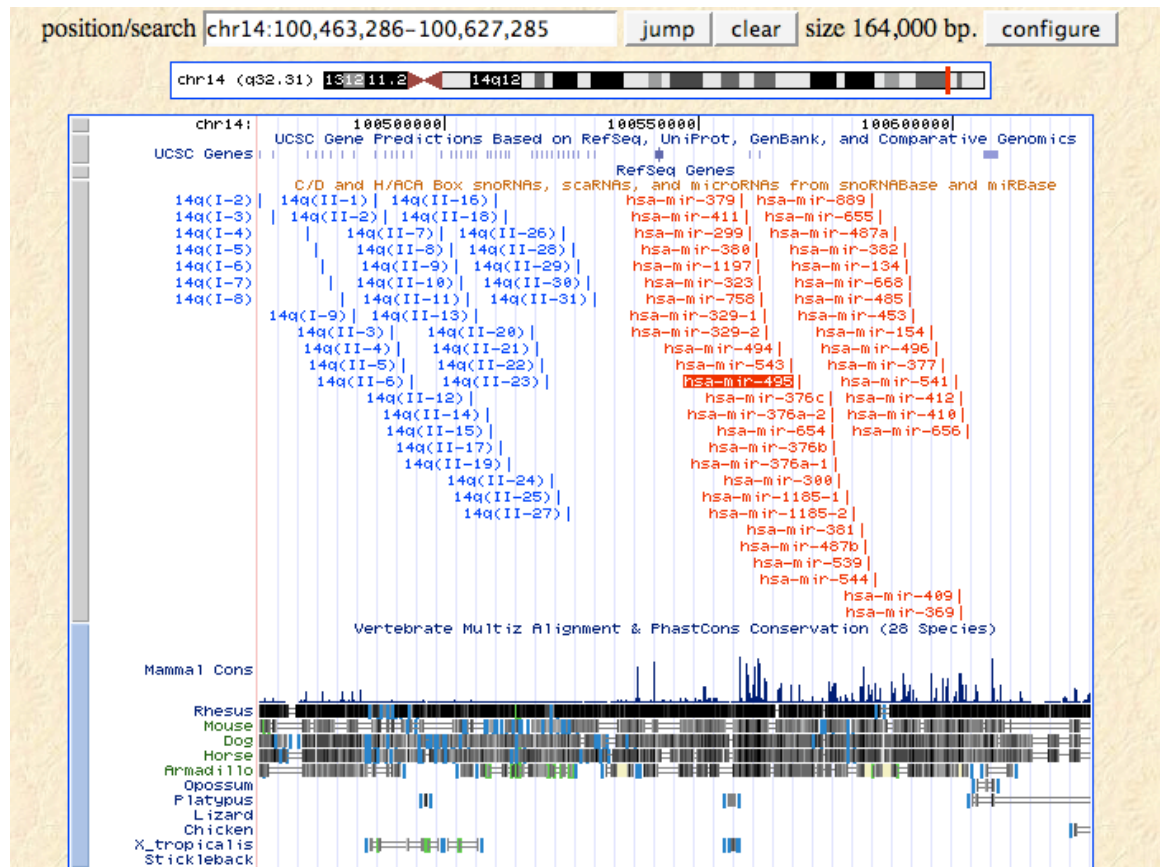
## Linking hexamers to downregulated miRNAs.



Sheet1

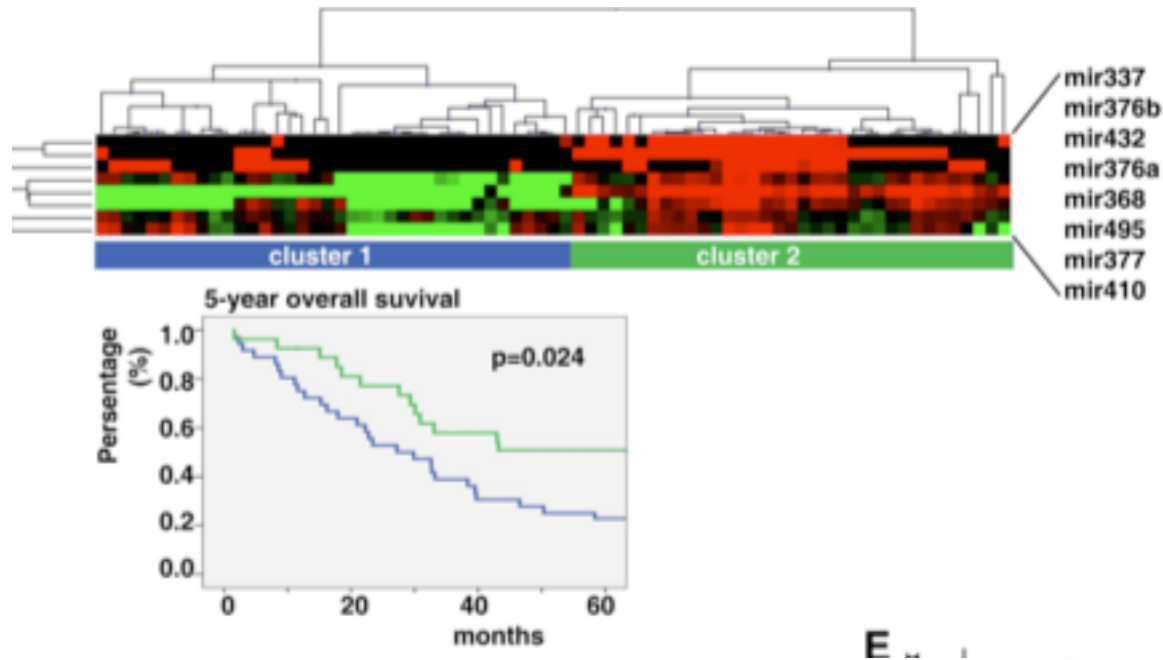
hexamer	-lnP	number of UTRs (UP)	hsa-miR	start position
TTTGTT	Inf	566	hsa-miR-495	2
TTGTTT	36.74	556	hsa-miR-495	1
AATTTA	26.66	432	hsa-miR-513-3p	1
GTTTGT	24.31	400	hsa-miR-495	3
AAATTT	23.86	500	hsa-miR-513-3p	2
TGTGTT	23.79	475	hsa-miR-362-3p	1
GTTATA	17.11	235	hsa-miR-410	3
TATATT	16.15	431	hsa-miR-410	1
GTTGAA	14.06	294	hsa-miR-95	1
TTATAT	13.94	395	hsa-miR-410	2
GAAATT	12.67	383	hsa-miR-513-3p	3
TTTCAA	9.72	417	hsa-miR-488	1
TATAGG	8.78	179	hsa-miR-337-3p	3
GCATTA	8.51	215	hsa-miR-365	1
ACTTTG	8.15	400	hsa-miR-519d	1
AGTGAT	7.89	291	hsa-miR-34b	3
GTGATT	7.53	298	hsa-miR-34b	2
TATGAT	7.52	248	hsa-miR-376b	1
TATGAT	7.52	248	hsa-miR-376a	1

The majority of the downregulated miRNAs are located at a big miRNA cluster (< 36) at the Dlk1-Gtl2 domain of chr. 14.



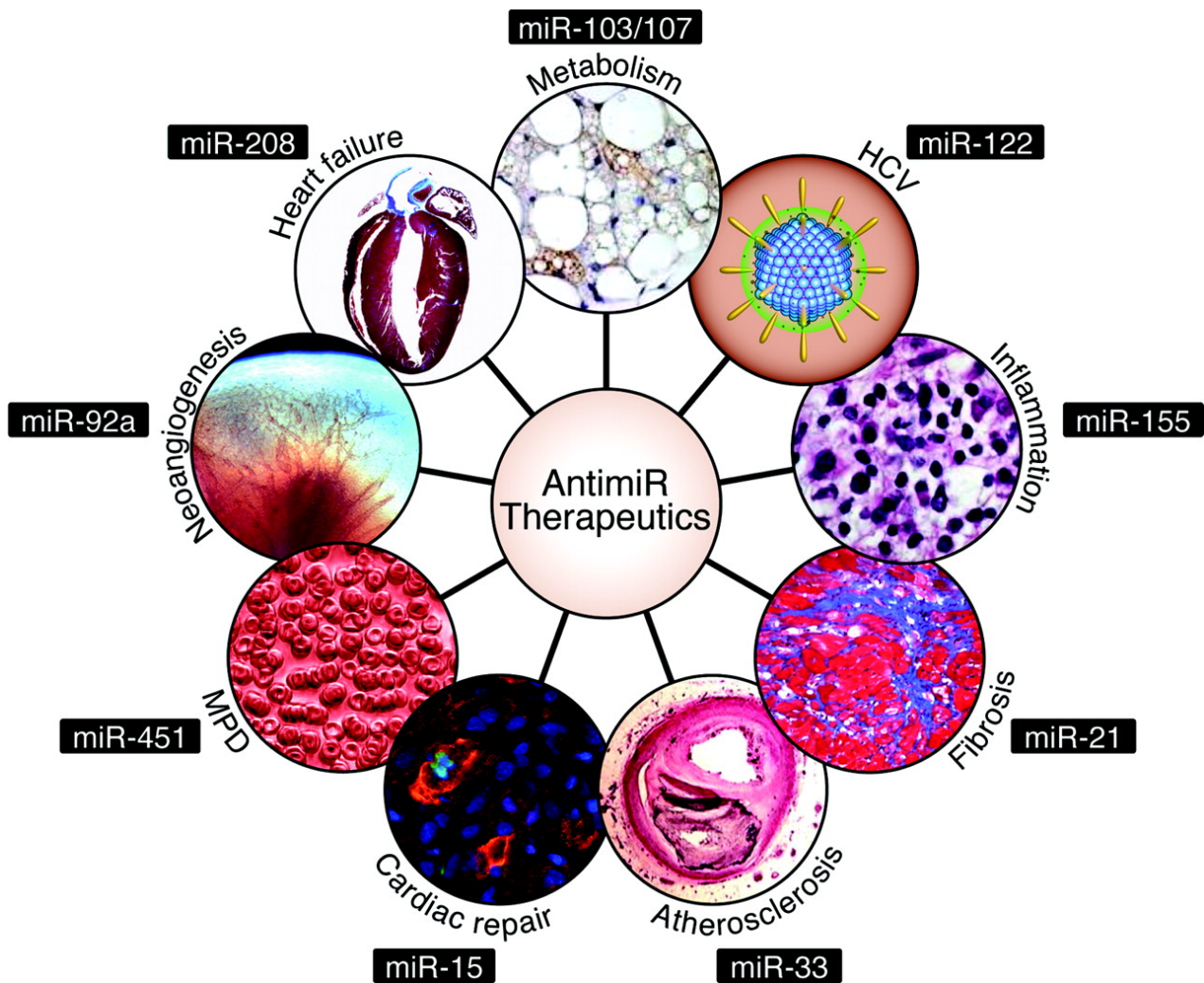


Downregulation of miRNA cluster at *DLK1-GTL2* domain is associated with poor survival.



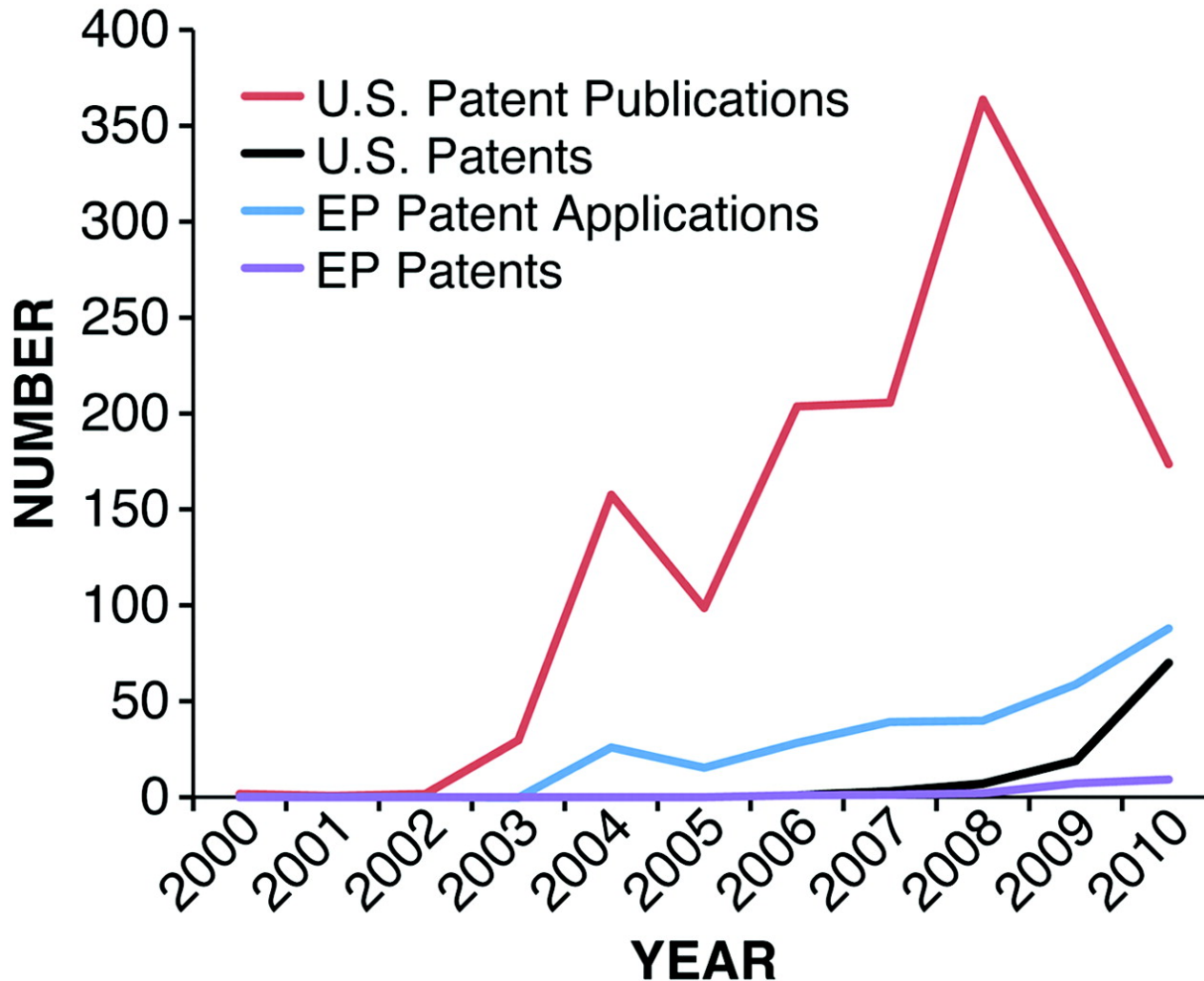
L. Zhang, S. Volinia, T. Bonome, G.A. Calin, J. Greshock, N. Yang, C. Liu, A. Giannakakis, P. Alexiou, K. Hasegawa, C. N. Johnstone, M. S. Megraw, S. Adams, H. Lassus, J. Huang, S. Kaur, S. Liang, P. Sethupathy, A. Leminen, V.A. Simossis, R. Sandaltzopoulos, Y. Naomoto, D. Katsaros, P.A. Gimotty, A. DeMichele, Q. Huang, R. Bützow, A.K. Rustgi, B.L. Weber, M.J. Birrer, A.G. Hatzigeorgiou, C.M. Croce and G. Coukos (2008) Genomic and Epigenetic Alterations Deregulate microRNA Expression in Human Epithelial Ovarian Cancer, *PNAS* May 13;105(19):7004-9.

# Specific miRNAs that are currently being pursued as clinical candidates.

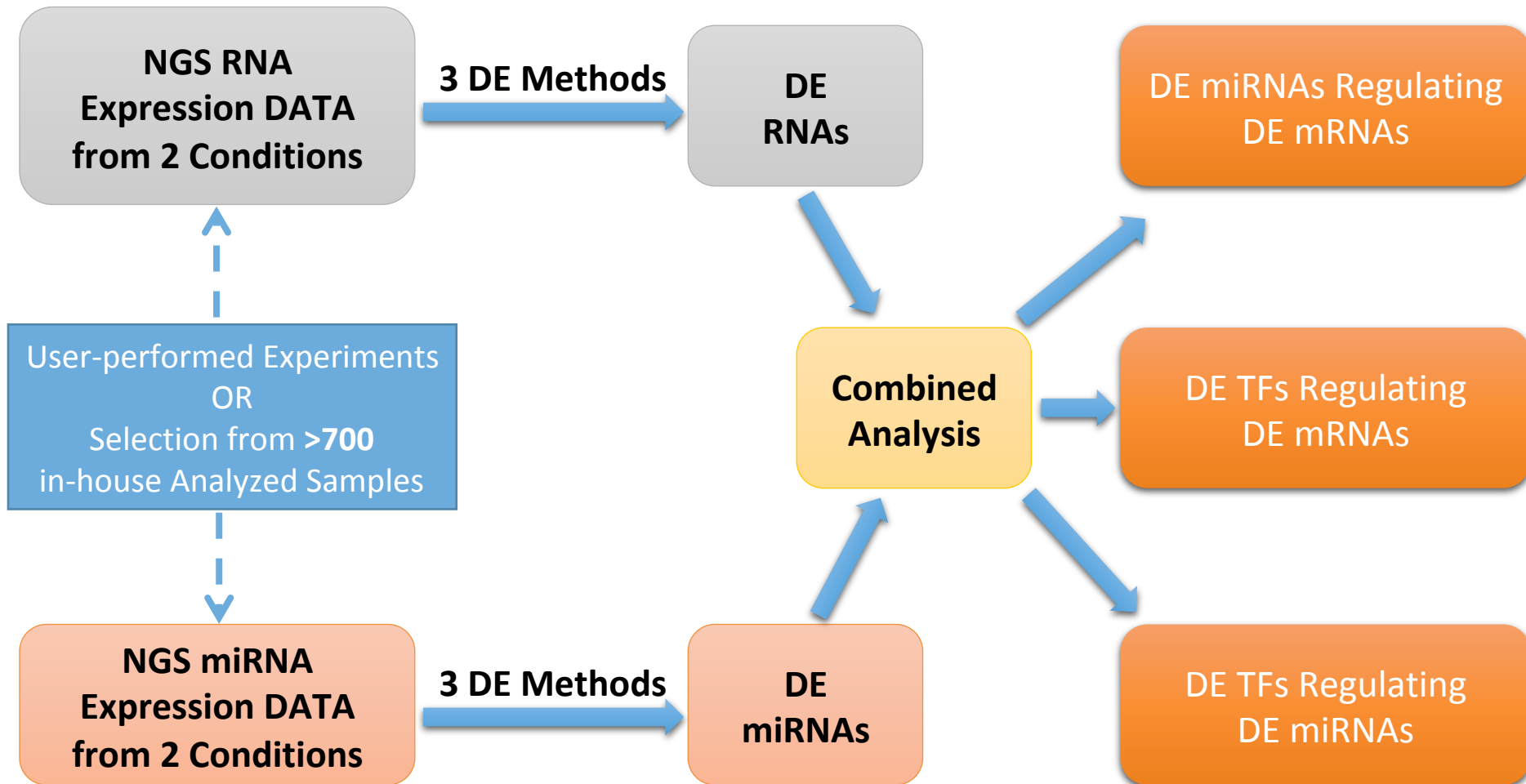


Eva van Rooij et al. *Circ Res.* 2012;110:496-507

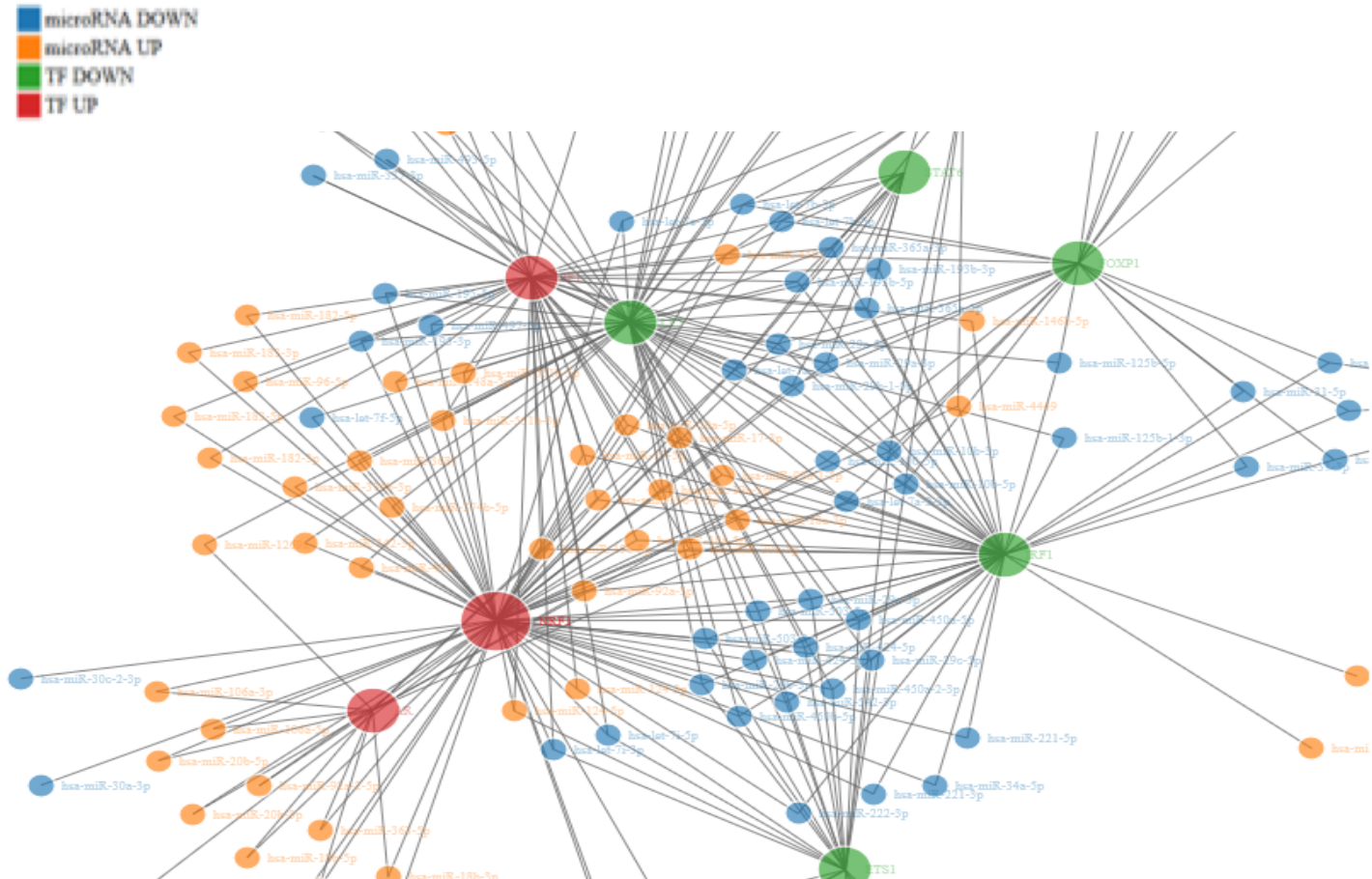
*Annual number of US and European patents related to miRNAs and their applications.*



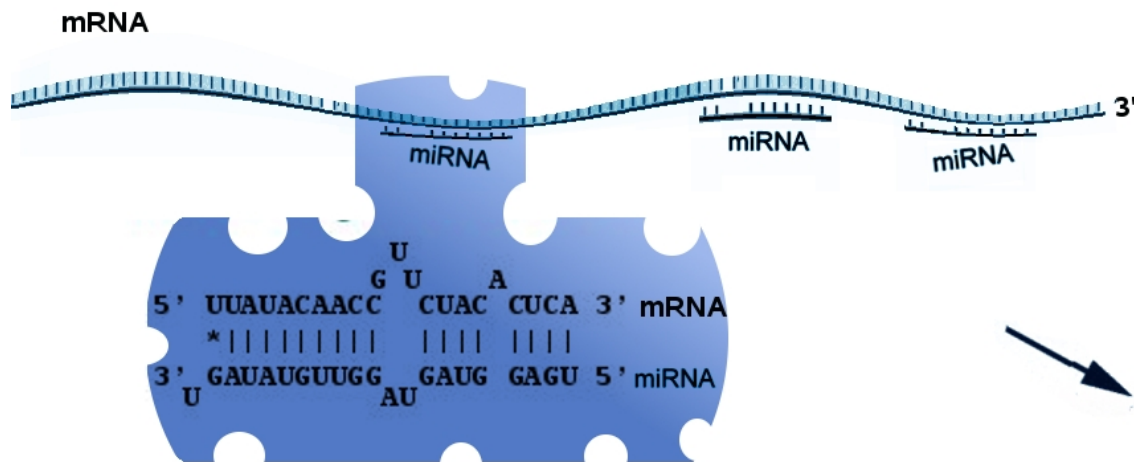
*miRNA - biomarkers:  
combined analysis of mRNA and miRNA with miRExtra V2.0*



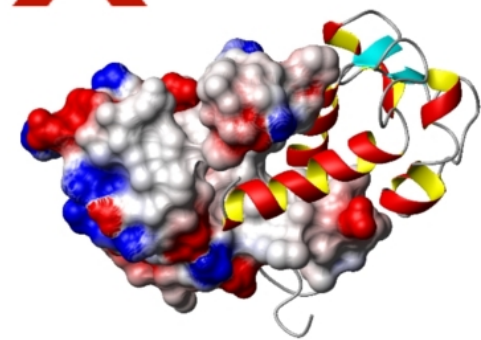
# *miRNA - biomarkers: combined analysis of mRNA and miRNA with miRExtra V2.0*



***Computational identification of  
microRNA targets .***



**X** *translation*



microRNAs bind the 3'UTR of mRNAs and repress translation

# miRNA/ Target interaction sites (*C.elegans*)

```

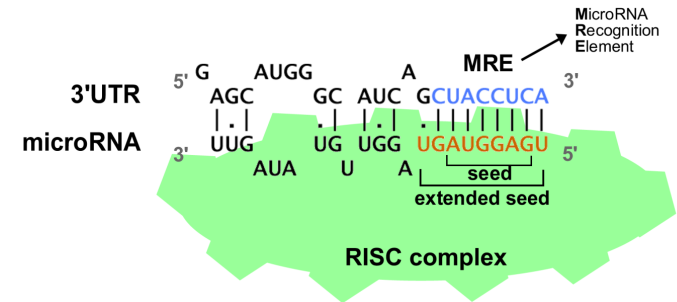
      U
      G U   A
5' UUAUACAACC CUAC CUCA 3' lin-41
   *| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
3' GAUAUGUUGG GAUG GAGU 5' let-7
   U           AU
  
```

mRNA target

miRNA

```

      U
      A U
5' UUAUACAACC CUGCCUC 3' lin-41
   *| | | | | | | | | | | *| | | |
3' GAUAUGUUGG GAUGGAG 5' let-7
   U           AU
  
```



Reinhart BJ et al. Nature v.403,2000,901-906

```

5' UUGCAC          UCUCAGGA 3' lin-28
   |**| | | | | | | | | |
3' AGUGUG          AGAGUCCU 5' lin-4
   A           C
   A           C
   C U
  
```

Moss EG et al. Cell v.88,1997,637-646



.....ATGCCGATCCGGATGCATGCAGCTACCGCTAAGCGAATCGAACCG.....

1

35

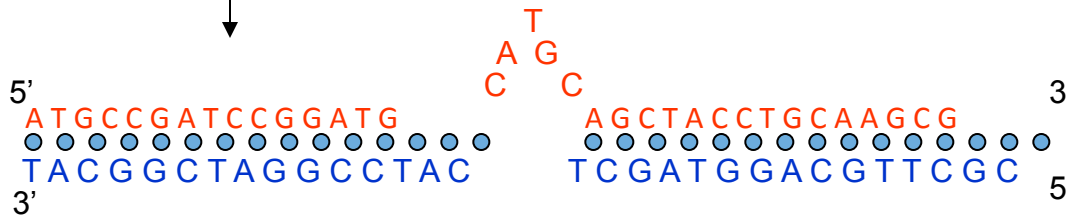
ATGCCGATCCGGATGCATGCAGCTACCTGCAAGCG

Minimum free energy alignment with a miRNA sequence

Dynamic programming using free energies of dinucleotide pairs as scoring matrix.

Canonical base pairing and G-U wobbles are allowed.

Loops and bulges have extra penalty.



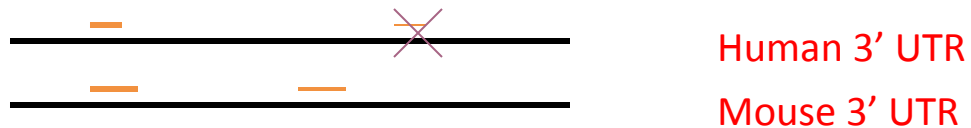
mRNA  
microRNA

Minimum binding free energy score for this mRNA window

## *Adding conservation*

For each miRNA:

- Sort all targets based on the minimum free energy binding score
- Keep targets conserved in human / mouse orthologs.

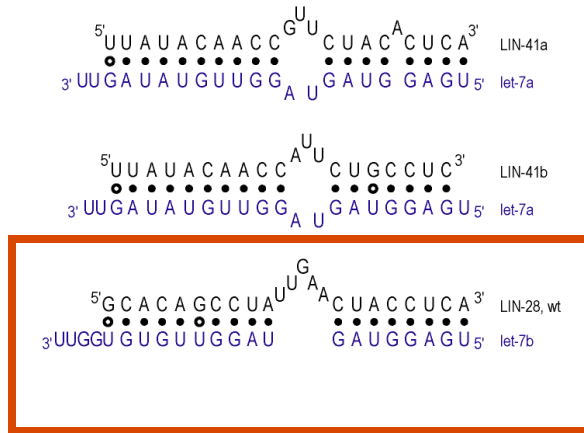


- - > Top 13 targets selected for experiments.

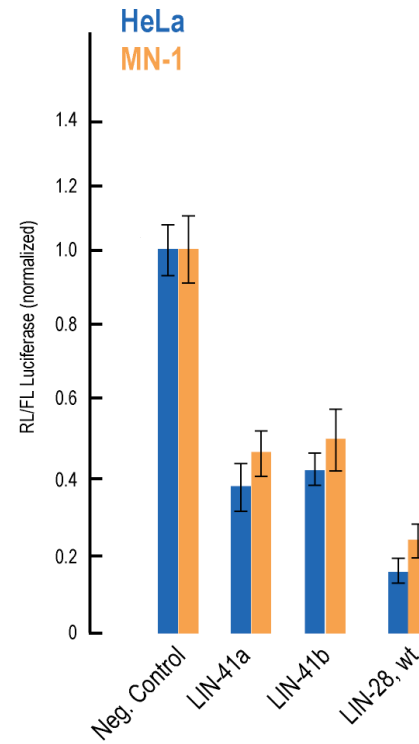
# the wet experiment

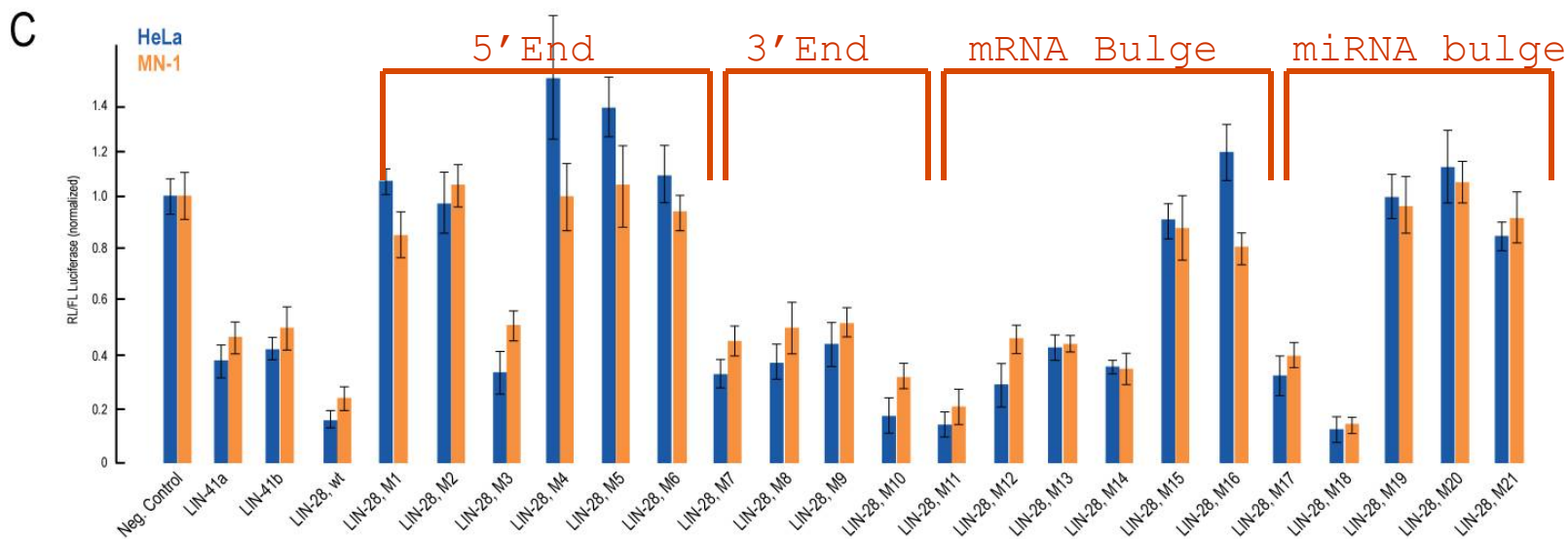
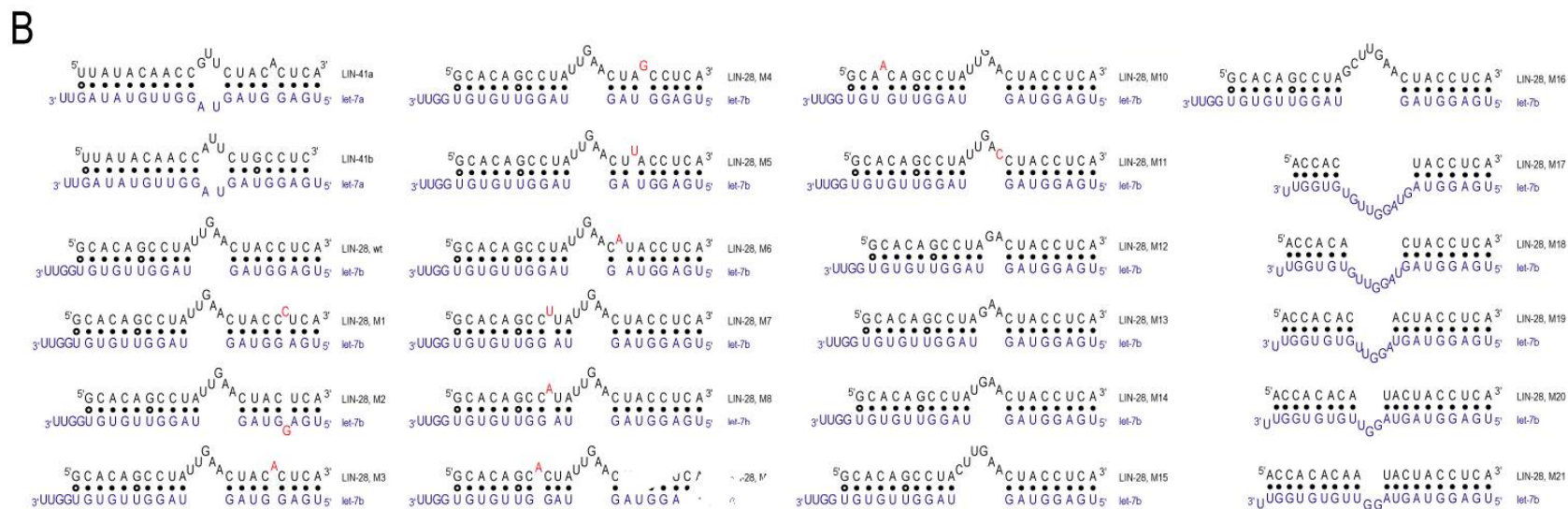


**B**



**C**





## *Computational evaluation*

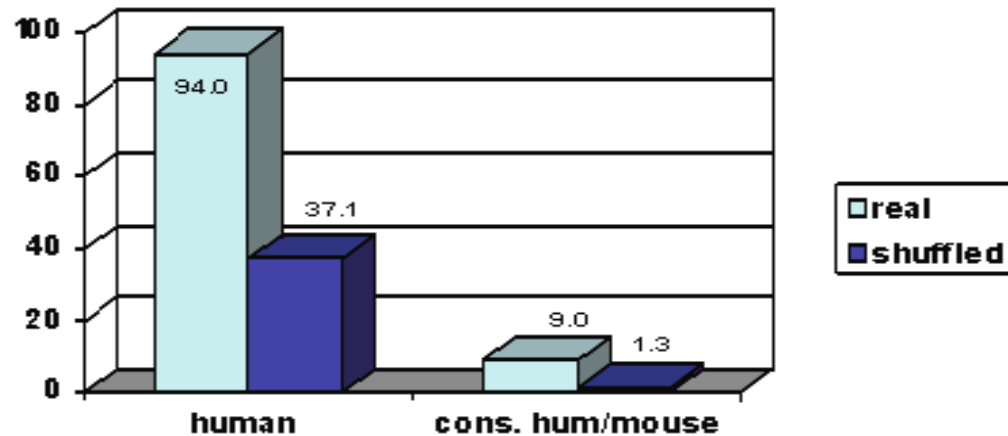
using random sequences (shuffled/artificial miRNA's)  
and conservation through human & mouse.

### Signal : noise ratio

1. X = # total target site predictions for a set of real miRNAs
2. Y = # total target site predictions for a set of randomized miRNAs
3. X:Y is the signal:noise ratio which provides a measure of specificity

### Example

1. X = 2000
2. Y = 1000
3. Signal:noise ratio is 2:1. For every 2 predicted targets, 1 is likely to be false (50% FPR).



Only energy	real	5,094	shuffled	4,974
Energy & conserv.	real	168	shuffled	158

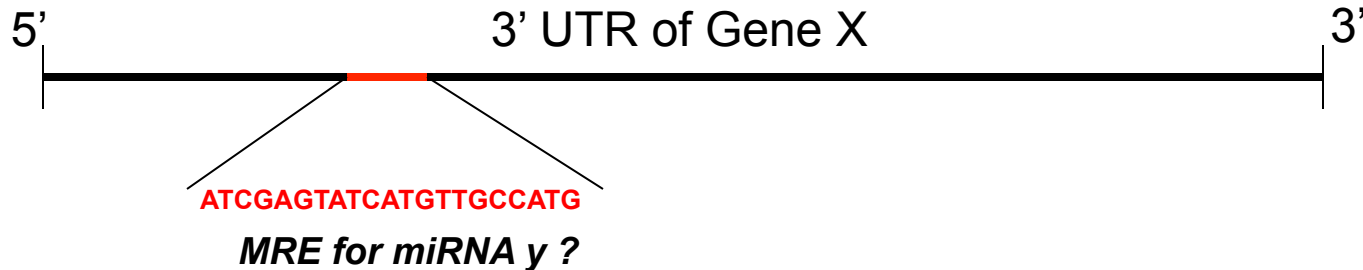
## A combined computational-experimental approach predicts human microRNA targets

Marianthi Kiriakidou,<sup>1,2</sup> Peter T. Nelson,<sup>1</sup> Andrei Kouranov,<sup>3</sup> Petko Fitziev,<sup>3,6</sup> Costas Bouyioukos,<sup>3</sup> Zissimos Mourelatos,<sup>1,7</sup> and Artemis Hatzigeorgiou<sup>3,4,5,8</sup>

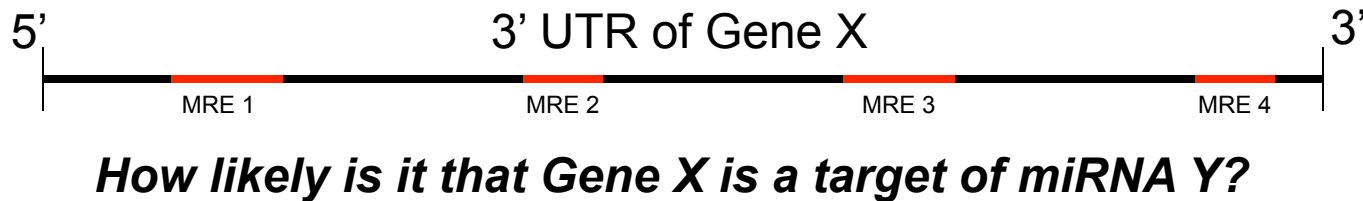
Departments of <sup>1</sup>Pathology, <sup>2</sup>Medicine, and <sup>3</sup>Genetics, School of Medicine, <sup>4</sup>Center for Bioinformatics, and <sup>5</sup>Computer and Information Science, School of Engineering, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA

*Computational miRNA targets:  
MiRNA Recognition Elements (MRE) and miRNA:gene interactions*

- Predicting Individual binding sites or MREs

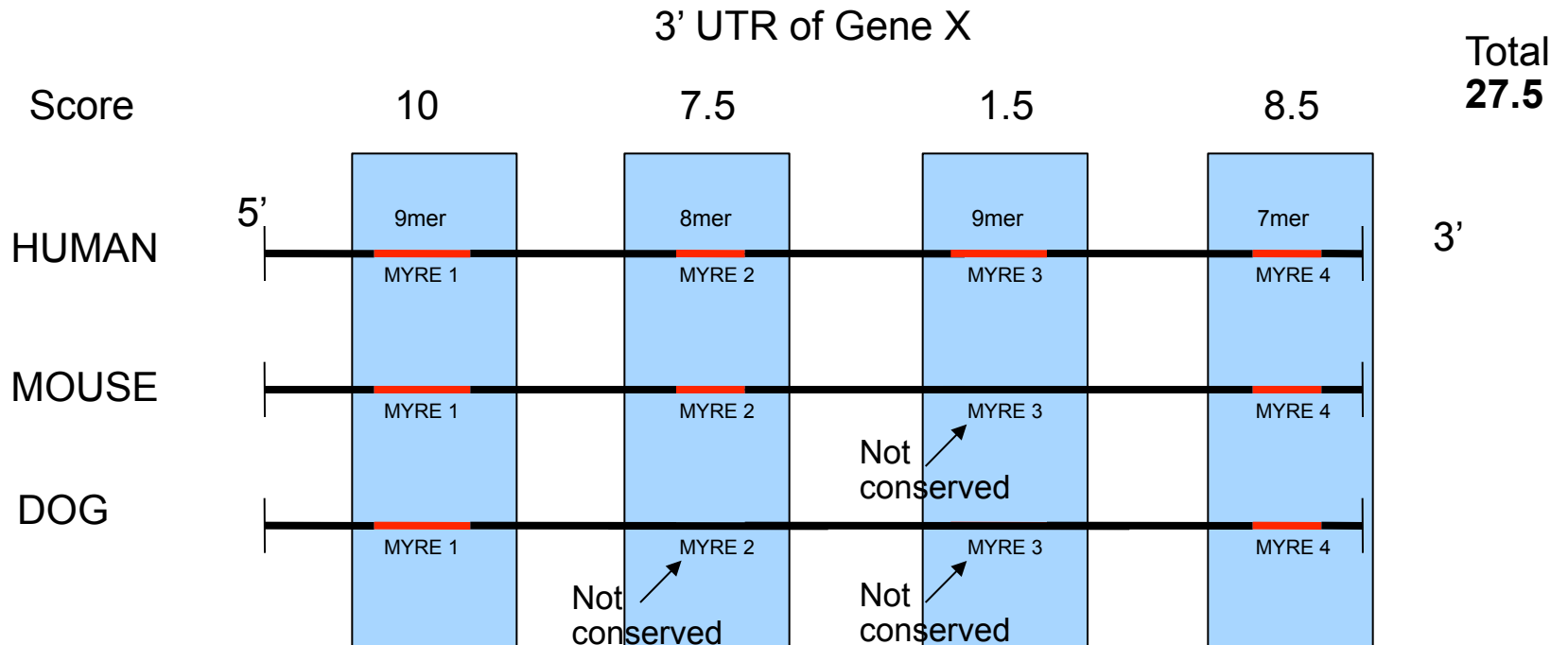


- Predicting miRNA:gene interactions



## 3'UTR score

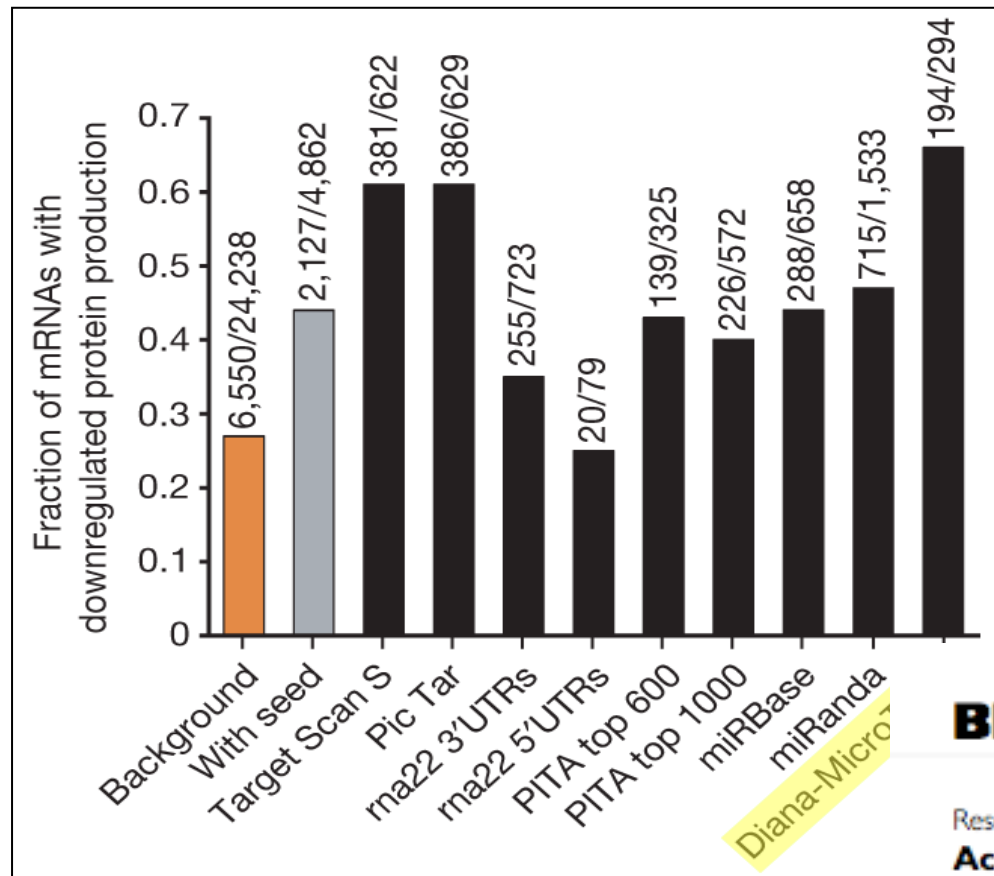
Weighted sum over of all putative target scores per 3'UTR.





# Widespread changes in protein synthesis induced by microRNAs

Matthias Selbach<sup>1</sup>, Björn Schwanhäusser<sup>1\*</sup>, Nadine Thierfelder<sup>1\*</sup>, Zhuo Fang<sup>1</sup>, Raya Khanin<sup>2</sup> & Nikolaus Rajewsky<sup>1</sup>



## BMC Bioinformatics

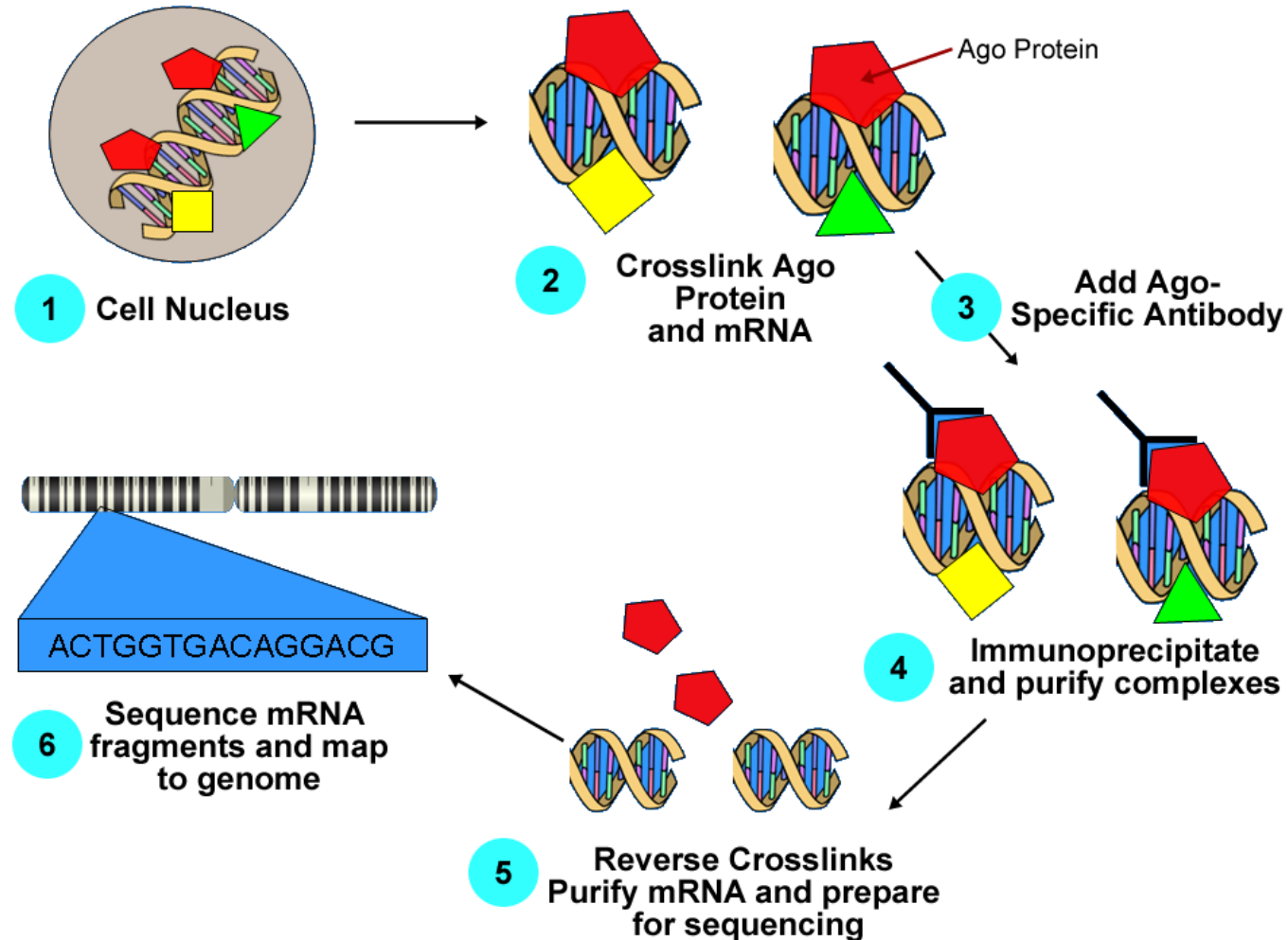
Research article

### Accurate microRNA target prediction correlates with protein repression levels

Manolis Maragkakis<sup>\*1,2</sup>, Panagiotis Alexiou<sup>1,3</sup>, Giorgio L Papadopoulos<sup>4</sup>, Martin Reczko<sup>1,4</sup>, Theodore Dalamagas<sup>5</sup>, George Giannopoulos<sup>5,6</sup>, George Goumas<sup>7</sup>, Evangelos Koukis<sup>7</sup>, Kornilios Kourtis<sup>7</sup>, Victor A S Paveen Sethupathy<sup>8</sup>, Thanasis Vergoulis<sup>5,6</sup>, Nectarios Koziris<sup>7</sup>, Timos Sellis<sup>5,6</sup>, Panagiotis Tsanakas<sup>7</sup> and Artemis G Hatzigeorgiou<sup>1</sup>

NATURE, 2008

# CLIP data (Chi *et al.* 2009, Hafner *et al.* 2010)



## Note

PAR-CLIP (Hafner *et al.* 2010) , HITS-CLIP (Chi *et al.* 2009).

T->C mutation on the tags specifies binding sites within a region of 5 nts.

## *Computational miRNA targets: The second (next) generation*

2002-2006

Limited number of experimentally identified MRE's.

2006-2008

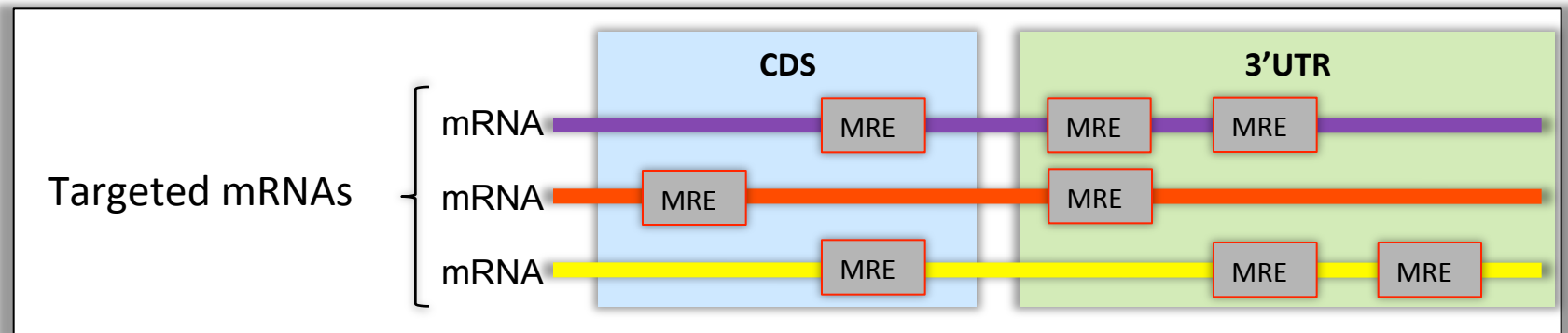
Microarrays (mRNA level) or proteomics (protein level) of miRNA knock down or over expression

*Target genes are characterized but MRE's are unknown*

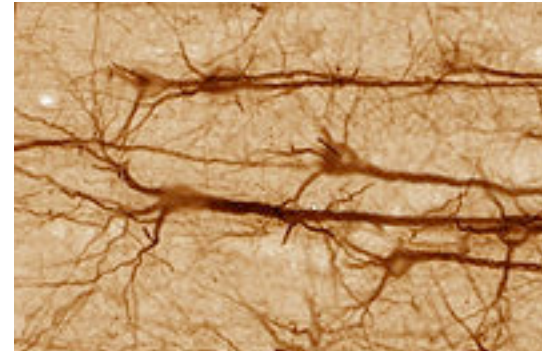
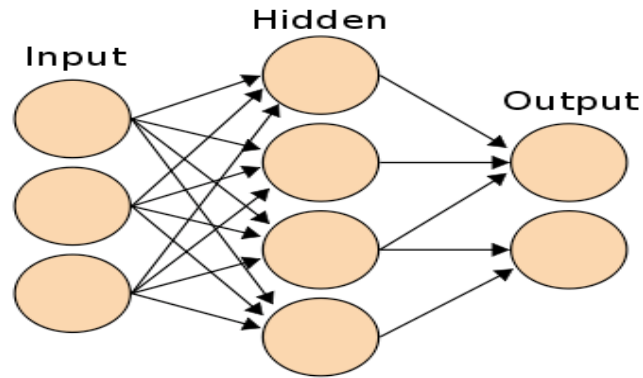
2009/2010

Sequencing data of AGO protein (PAR-CLIP, HITS-CLIP)

*Identification of thousands of MRE's*



Artificial neural networks are computational models based on biological neural networks.



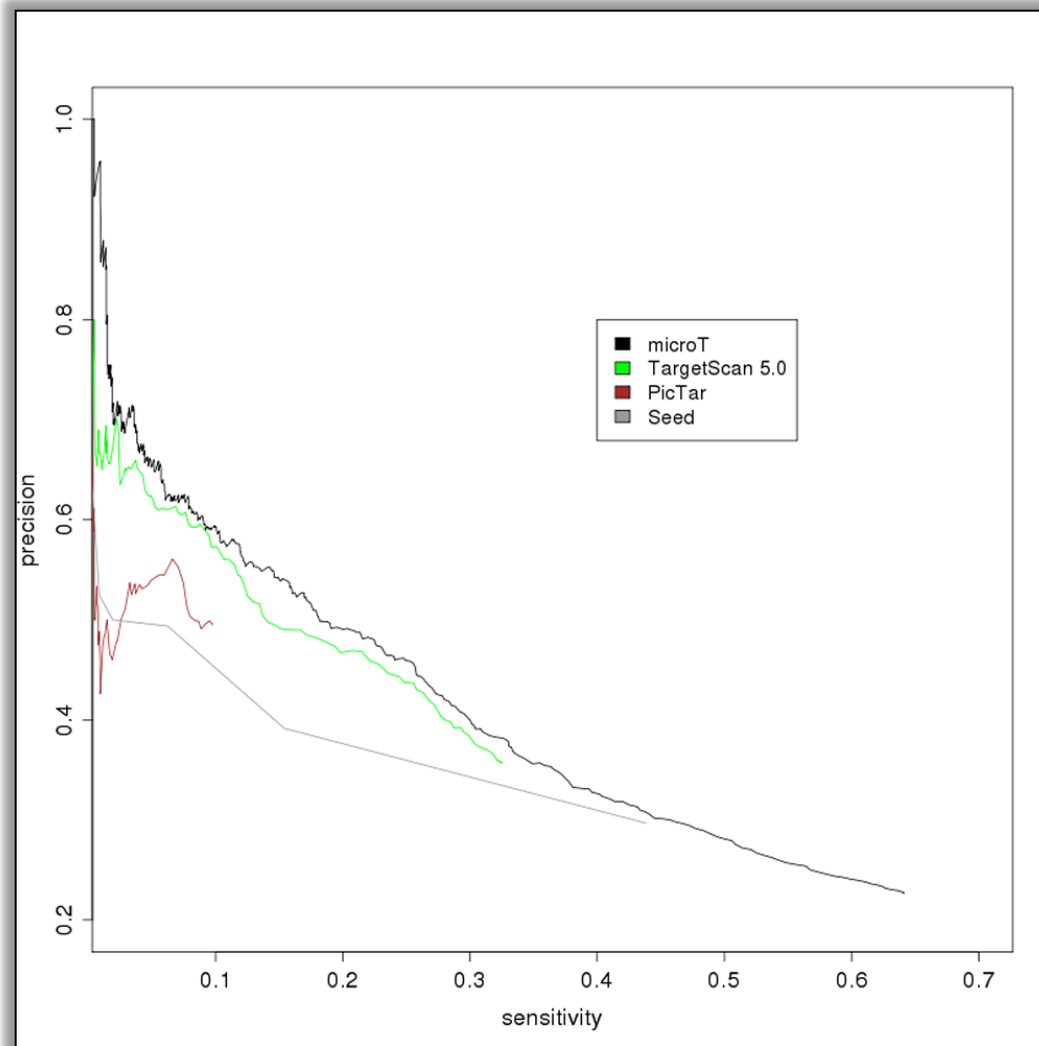
Mostly an adaptive system that changes its structure based on the information that flows through the network during the training.

Learning procedure:

Positive and negative data are represented to the ANN.

In iterative - small - steps the weights are adjusted in order to minimize the “error” in the separation of the two groups of data.

# Computational miRNA targets: Performance comparison.



Compared to other widely used programs microT-CDS reaches:  
higher precision & higher sensitivity

# Computational miRNA targets: DIANA-microT interface

**microT v.4** | logged in as **guest**

Threshold: 0.3

Results: 228 targets for miRNAs mmu-miR-455-star. Threshold is set to 0.3.

Ensembl Gene Id	miRNA name	miTG score	SNR	Precision	Also Predicted
1 ENSMUSG00000017412	mmu-miR-455-star	0.787	0.9	0.1	
2 ENSMUSG00000020863	mmu-miR-455-star	0.756	0.9	0.1	
3 ENSMUSG00000022897	mmu-miR-455-star	0.745	0.9	0.0	
4 ENSMUSG00000017291	mmu-miR-455-star	0.720	0.9	0.0	

**Gene details** ✓

**Ensembl Gene ID:** ENSMUSG00000017412  
**Gene Name:** Cacnb4  
**Refseq IDs:** NM\_001037099, NM\_146123  
**Description:** Voltage-dependent L-type calcium channel subunit beta-4 (CAB4)(Calcium channel voltage-dependent subunit beta 4) [Source:UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot;Acc:Q8R0S4]  
**External links:** UniProt  
**Kegg pathways:** MAPK signaling pathway, Cardiac muscle contraction, Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, Arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia, Dilated cardiomyopathy

**Chromosome:** 2

**miRNA details** ✓

**Name:** mmu-miR-455-star  
**Alternative description:** MIMAT003485  
**Related names:** mmu-miR-455, mmu-miR-455-5p  
**miRNA sequence:** UAUGUGCCUUUGGACUACAUCG  
**External links:** miRBase  
**Related diseases:** Cystadenocarcinoma, Serous Endometrial Neoplasms Glioblastoma Mesothelioma

**pubMed links:** miRNA | gene | both

**UCSC graphic**

Binding Type	3' UTR position	Score	Conservation
9mer	286-314	0.469198	8
7mer	1951-1979	0.274157	8

**Position on chromosome:** 2:52289694-52289722  
**Conserved species:** rm4,oryCun1,hg18,panTro2,bosTau3,dasNov1,loxAfr1,monDom4  
**Binding area:** (3' UTR) 5' GUAUUUAGG CUA 3' (miRNA) 3' A CA U 5'

**Binding site information:**

```

GUA UC AAGCACAUA
||| . ||| |||||
CAU GG UUCGUGUAU
A CA U
  
```

**Information about verification experiments and predictions of other programs**

**Published papers associated with disease MeSH terms and miRNAs**

**Published paper:** Changes in microRNA expression levels correlate with clinicopathological features and prognoses in endometrial serous adenocarcinomas. Hiroki E, Akahira J, Suzuki F, Nagase S, Ito K, Suzuki T, Sasano H, Yaegashi N. Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan. e-hiroki@mail.tains.hokuo.ac.jp

**User personal area statistics, bookmarks, history**

**miRNA history**

**Bibliography search**

**View targets in UCSC browser**

*Experimental supported microRNA  
targets.*

# DIANA-TarBase

- A reference database devoted to the indexing of experimentally supported miRNA-targets
- More than a decade of continuous support in the non-coding RNA field
- The largest and oldest repository with thousands of high-quality experimentally supported miRNA-gene interactions
- Last update DIANA-TarBase v8 [www.microrna.gr/tarbase](http://www.microrna.gr/tarbase)

*Dimitra Karagkouni, Maria D. Paraskevopoulou, Serafeim Chatzopoulos, Ioannis S. Vlachos, Spyros Tastsoglou, Ilias Kanellos, Dimitris Papadimitriou, Ioannis Kavakiotis, Sofia Maniou, Giorgos Skoufos, Thanasis Vergoulis, Theodore Dalamagas, Artemis G. Hatzigeorgiou; DIANA-TarBase v8: a decade-long collection of experimentally supported miRNA-gene interactions, Nucleic Acids Research, 2017*



# Experimental Determination of miRNA - Gene Interactions

## ✓ Gene Specific Techniques **direct**

- Reporter genes
- Northern blotting
- qPCR
- Western blotting
- ELISA
- Immunohistochemistry



**indirect**



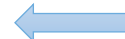
## ✓ High Throughput Techniques

- CLIP-Seq (HITS-CLIP, PAR-CLIP, iCLIP)
- CLASH/CLEAR-CLIP
- Microarrays
- RNA-Seq
- Proteomics (such as pSILAC)
- PARE-Seq
- Degradome-Seq
- Biotin tagged miRNA

**direct**



**indirect**



Specific techniques:

- Reveal individual miRNA : mRNA interactions
- Complex networks of miRNA regulation can be missed

High-Throughput techniques:

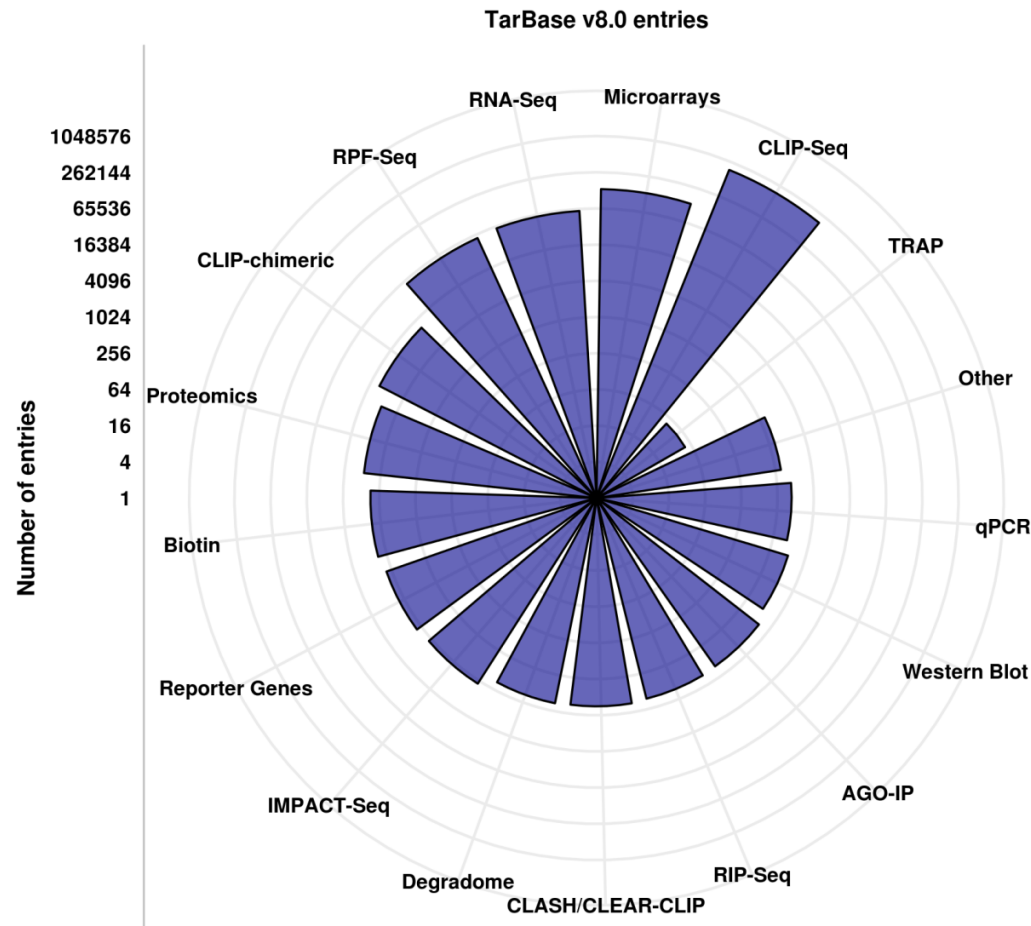
- Characterize numerous miRNA targets
- Necessitate extra computational steps

# DIANA-TarBase

- TarBase v8.0 indexes **more than a million entries**
- This collection has been derived from experiments employing more than **33 distinct methods**, on **592 tissues/cell types** and **~430 experimental conditions** from **18 species**

## TarBase hosts

- **> 10,000** interactions from specific techniques (**~5,000 Reporter gene entries**)
- **> 14,000** direct miRNA-mRNA chimeric fragments
- **> 230,000 entries** from miRNA perturbation experiments
- more than **700,000 entries** from **>150 CLIP-Seq** datasets



# TarBase v8 interface

**Search Fields - Query mode** TarBase v.8

miRNAs: hsa-miR-1-3p, hsa-miR-221-3p, Clear all

Genes: ZEB2, SELE, TKT, Clear all

**miRPath interconnection** Previous version, Help, Related Pathways

**Database statistics** Statistics

**Filters - Browsing mode**

Filters: Species (x Homo Sapiens), Method Type, Method (x Chimeric fragments, x Luciferase Reporter Assay, x RPF-Seq), Regulation type, Validation type, Validated as, Cell Type, Tissue, Source (x TarBase 8.0), Publication Year, Prediction score

**Result statistics** Interactions: 3, Experiments: 7 (low: 2, high: 5) Cell lines: 5, Tissues: 5, Publications: 4

**Interactive result sorting**

Gene name	miRNA name	Experiments throughput	Publications	Cell lines	Tissues	Pred. Score
TKT	hsa-miR-1-3p	low: 1 high: 4	2	3	3	-

**Low-throughput experiments (1 positive, 0 negative)**

Publication	Methods	Tissue	Cell line	Tested cell line	Exp. condition
Anju Singh et al. 2013	RP	Lung	A549	A549	N/A

**Binding site details**

Location	Method	Result	Regulation	Validation Type	Source
chr3:53225711-53225739	Luciferase Reporter Assay	POSITIVE	↓	DIRECT	TarBase 8.0

**Experiment details**

**High-throughput experiments (4 positive, 0 negative)**

Publication	Methods	Tissue	Cell line	Tested cell line	Exp. condition
Eichhorn S et al. 2014	RPF	Bone	U2OS	N/A	24hrs post-transfection, poly(A)-selected total RNA, Overexpression
Eichhorn S et al. 2014	RPF	Bone	U2OS	N/A	24hrs post-transfection, tRNA and rRNA depleted, Overexpression
Eichhorn S et al. 2014	RPF	Bone	U2OS	N/A	24hrs post-transfection, poly(A)-selected cytoplasmic RNA, Overexpression
Eichhorn S et al. 2014	RPF	Cervix	HELA	N/A	24hrs post-transfection, Overexpression

**Gene/miRNA details**

SELE	hsa-miR-221-3p	low: 1 high: 0	1	1	1	-
ZEB2	hsa-miR-221-3p	low: 0 high: 1	1	1	1	-

*miRNA targeting LncRNA*

## *Long non coding RNA (lncRNA)*

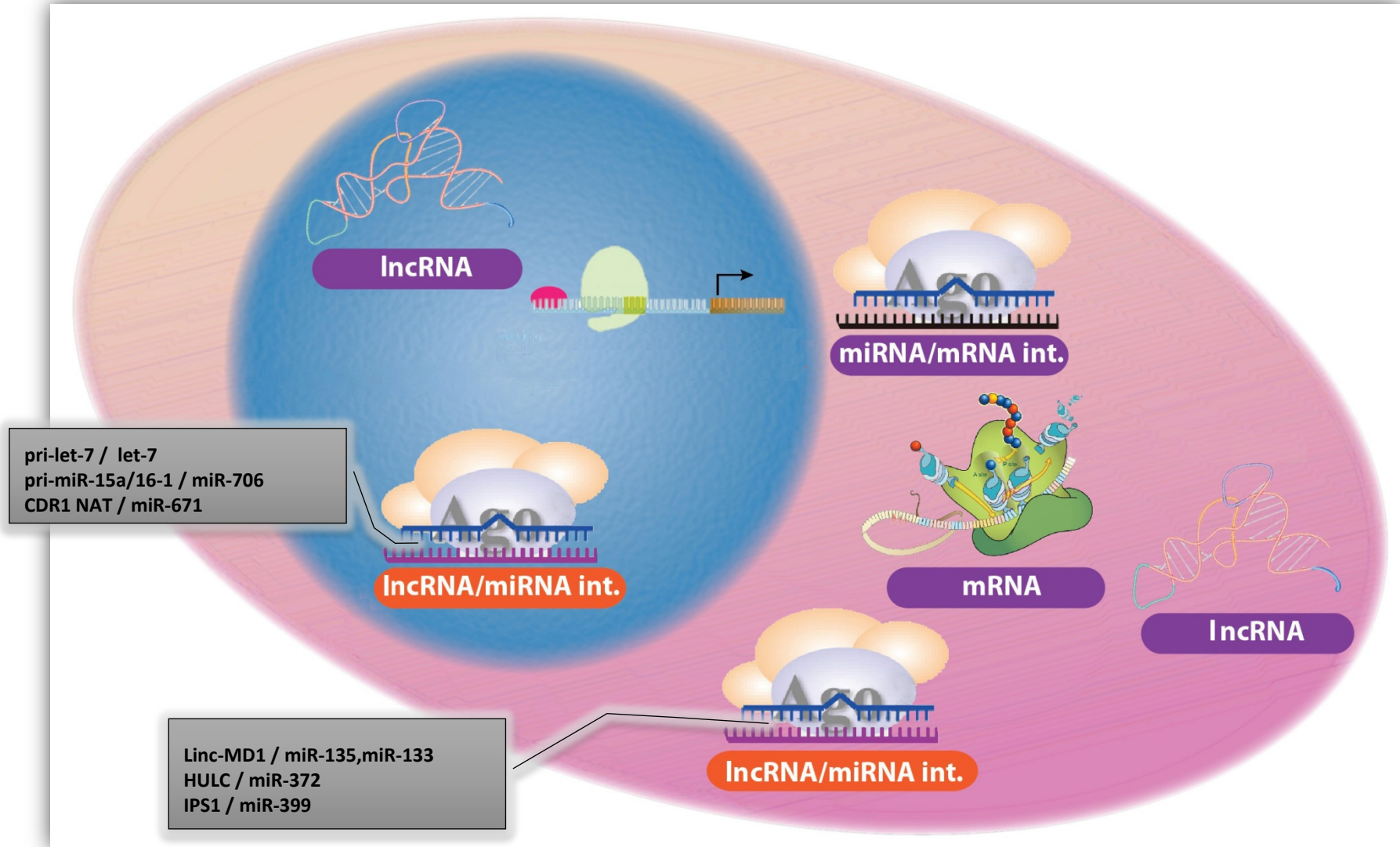
- >200 nts, no clearly defined ORF
- splicing, polyA // non-polyA
- Variable conservation
- Usually low expression
- highly specific disease, tissue, developmental stage expression
- categorized according to their loci of origin

## *ncRNA Regulation level*

**“competing endogenous RNA” (ceRNA)**  
activity in the transcriptome level.

mRNAs, pseudogenes, ncRNAs  
communicate through a ceRNA language,  
forming a **large-scale regulatory network**

# miRNA:ncRNA regulation



*Salmena L et al. Cell. 2011 Aug 5;146(3)*  
*Marcella Cesana et al. Cell. 2011 October 14; 147(2)*  
*Zisoulis DG et al. Nature. 2012 Jun 28;486(7404)*

# Long Non Coding RNAs

**LncBase** is the largest available repository of miRNA LNC RNA interactions

- The **Experimental Module** contains more than 5,000 interactions between 2,958 lncRNAs and 120 miRNAs.
- The **Prediction Module** contains detailed information between 56,097 lncRNAs and 3,078 miRNAs.

Integration into **RNAcentral** ( EBI )

	Gene Id	miRNA name	miTG score	Experimentally Verified
1	hsaLOC110002405 (n340658)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.999	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	hsaLOC11000739 (n340656)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.997	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	hsaLOC410010725 (XLOC004195)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.996	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	hsaLOC110002476 (n342890)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.996	<input type="checkbox"/>

Gene details ⓘ  
miRNA details ⓘ  
PubMed links: [miRNA](#) | [gene](#) | [both](#)  
UCSC graphic ⓘ

Binding Type	Transcript position	Score	Conservation																												
7mer	3764-3792	0.00868528186563613	4																												
<b>Position on chromosome:</b> 12:22842684-22842712																															
<b>Conserved species:</b> panTro2,rheMac2,bosTau4,dasNov2 (Transcript)5'UUUACUUGCU																															
<b>Binding area:</b>																															
<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>GUGGU</td> <td>UGUG</td> <td>GU</td> <td>GUGCUGCU</td> <td>3'</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>. . . .</td> <td>   . .</td> <td>. </td> <td>     </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>UAUCG</td> <td>ACAU</td> <td></td> <td>UACGACGA</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>(miRNA)</td> <td>3'</td> <td>G</td> <td>GG</td> <td>GU</td> <td></td> <td>5'</td> </tr> </table>						GUGGU	UGUG	GU	GUGCUGCU	3'			. . . .	. .	.					UAUCG	ACAU		UACGACGA		(miRNA)	3'	G	GG	GU		5'
		GUGGU	UGUG	GU	GUGCUGCU	3'																									
		. . . .	. .	.																											
		UAUCG	ACAU		UACGACGA																										
(miRNA)	3'	G	GG	GU		5'																									
9mer	4151-4179	0.0913826564422291	6																												
<b>Position on chromosome:</b> 12:22843071-22843099																															
<b>Conserved species:</b> panTro2,rheMac2,canFam2,dasNov2,loxAfr3,echTel1 (Transcript)5'AAUGUGAAC																															
<b>Binding area:</b>																															
<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>CAUAGU</td> <td></td> <td>GUAUAAUGCUGCU</td> <td></td> <td>3'</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>   . .</td> <td>   . .</td> <td>   . .</td> <td>     </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>GUAUCG</td> <td></td> <td>CAUGUUACGACGA</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>(miRNA)</td> <td>3'</td> <td>A</td> <td>GGA</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5'</td> </tr> </table>						CAUAGU		GUAUAAUGCUGCU		3'			. .	. .	. .					GUAUCG		CAUGUUACGACGA			(miRNA)	3'	A	GGA			5'
		CAUAGU		GUAUAAUGCUGCU		3'																									
		. .	. .	. .																											
		GUAUCG		CAUGUUACGACGA																											
(miRNA)	3'	A	GGA			5'																									

5	hsaLOC410010584 (XLOC013305)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.995	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	(CTA-204B4.6)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.991	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	hsaLOC410004968 (RP11-753N8.1.1)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.990	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	(RP11-849H4.4)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.989	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	hsaLOC110001926 (n335525)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.988	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	hsaLOC110004356 (n385239)	hsa-miR-103a-3p	0.988	<input type="checkbox"/>



organism, expert database, gene, ncRNA type, accession




Examples: RNA, Homo sapiens, miRBase, HOTAIR, Escherichia\*

v1.0 Expert databases ▾ API ▾ Sequence search


Downloads Help Contact

RNAcentral is a new resource that provides unified access to the ncRNA sequence data supplied by the Expert Databases. [Learn more](#)


 **ENA** provides a comprehensive record of the world's nucleotide sequencing information.

**6,989,739** sequences ([example](#))

[Explore ENA entries](#)

 **Rfam** is a database containing information about ncRNA families

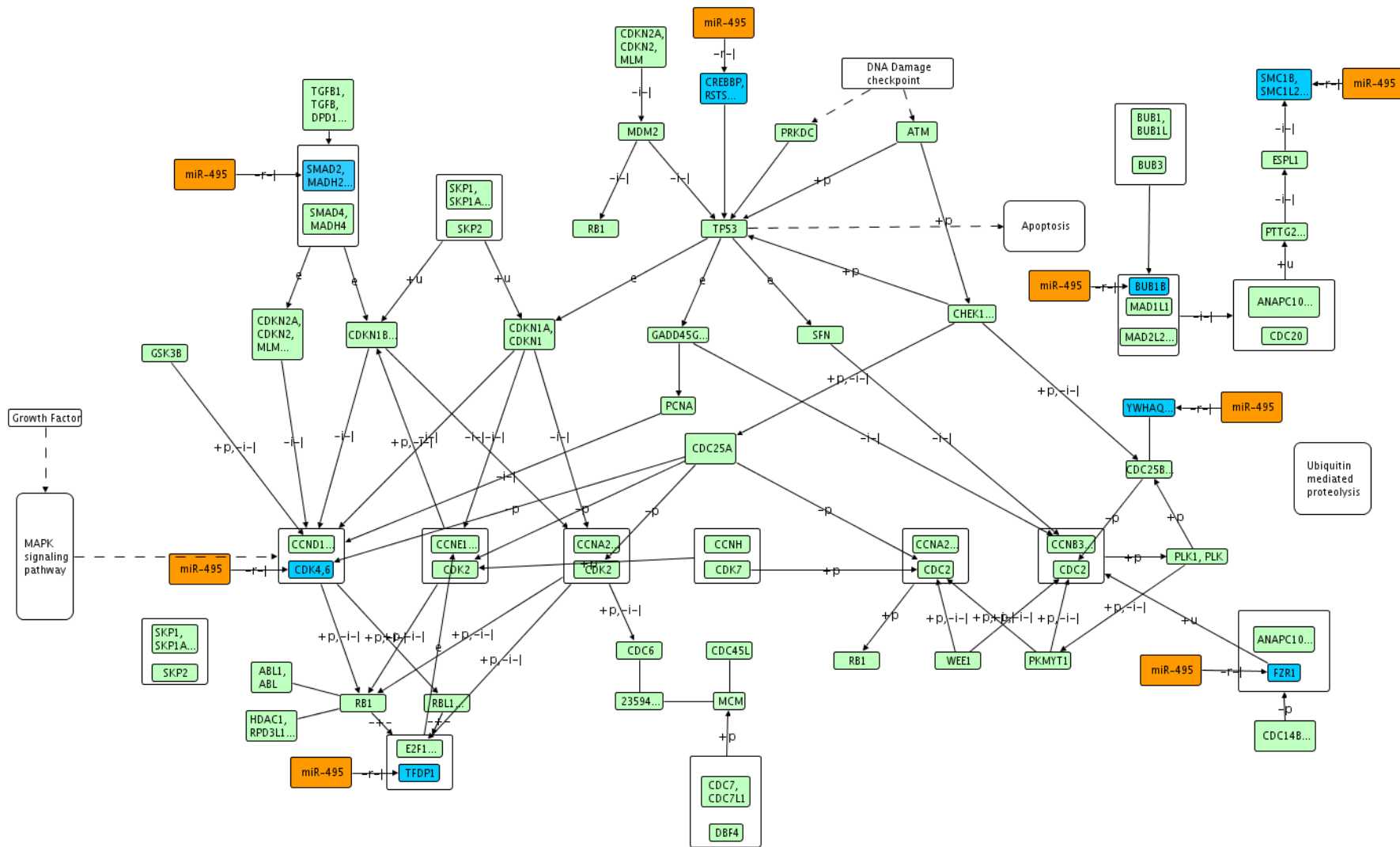
## ★ RNAcentral Expert Databases

Currently the RNAcentral Consortium is formed by **32** Expert Databases, **10** of which have already been integrated into RNAcentral (marked with a  below). If you run an ncRNA database and would like to join RNAcentral, please [contact us](#).

# ***Connecting microRNAs to pathways***

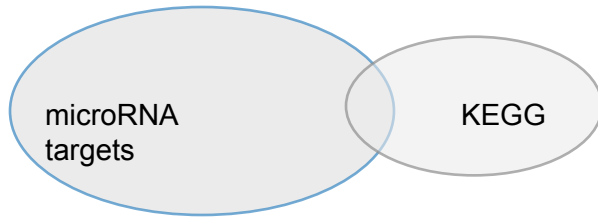
# KEGG cell cycle pathways with miRNA targets of miR-495

TITLE:Cell cycle



# DIANA miRPath

## Integrating human and mouse microRNAs in pathways



Small overlap – Not significant



Large overlap – Significant

Input List Name	Number of Genes	Number of Genes in Pathways
Union	1250	306
let-7c_microT_4	723	166
miR-100_microT_4	35	11
miR-1_microT_4	562	147
Intersection	N/A	N/A

DOWNLOAD RESULTS

KEGG Pathway	Pathway ID	# of Genes (Union)	-ln(p-value) (let-7c_microT_4) (Union)	# of Genes (let-7c_microT_4)	-ln(p-value) (let-7c_microT_4)	# of Genes (miR-100_microT_4)	-ln(p-value) (miR-100_microT_4)	# of Genes (miR-1_microT_4)	-ln(p-value) (miR-1_microT_4)	# of Genes (Intersection)	-ln(p-value) (Intersection)
Adherens junction	hsa04520	19	19.24	6	2.06	1	0.71	13	21.79	0	-
Glioma	hsa05214	14	10.23	7	4.28	2	6.62	8	7.62	0	-
Type II diabetes mellitus	hsa04930	10	9.38	6	6.32	1	1.47	3	1	0	-
mTOR signaling pathway	hsa04150	11	8.83	5	2.78	1	1.2	7	8.48	0	-
Colorectal cancer	hsa05210	16	8.63	7	2.32	3	13.19	8	4.6	0	-
MAPK signaling pathway	hsa04010	34	8.61	22	8.89	2	1.23	13	1.59	0	-
Bladder cancer	hsa05219	10	8.27	6	5.63	1	1.36	5	4.19	0	-
Focal adhesion	hsa04510	27	7.59	16	5.71	1	0.01	16	7.54	0	-
Wnt signaling pathway	hsa04310	22	7.44	9	1.34	3	7.48	13	7.01	0	-
Prostate cancer	hsa05215	15	6.53	7	2.13	2	4.68	9	6.05	0	-
Melanoma	hsa05218	13	6.48	8	5.04	1	0.71	7	4.29	0	-
Calcium signaling pathway	hsa04020	23	6.34	15	6.56	2	2.28	7	0.24	0	-
Huntington's disease	hsa05040	7	5.88	2	0.24	0	-	5	7.27	0	-
Chronic myeloid leukemia	hsa05220	13	5.75	8	4.54	0	-	7	3.86	0	-
Pancreatic cancer	hsa05212	12	4.87	7	3.29	0	-	6	2.62	0	-
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	hsa05030	5	4.75	4	6.3	1	3	1	0.21	0	-
p53 signaling pathway	hsa04115	11	4.32	9	7.75	0	-	6	3.04	0	-

Pathway Viewer -- Pathway 'Non-small cell lung cancer' (hsa05223)

Notations

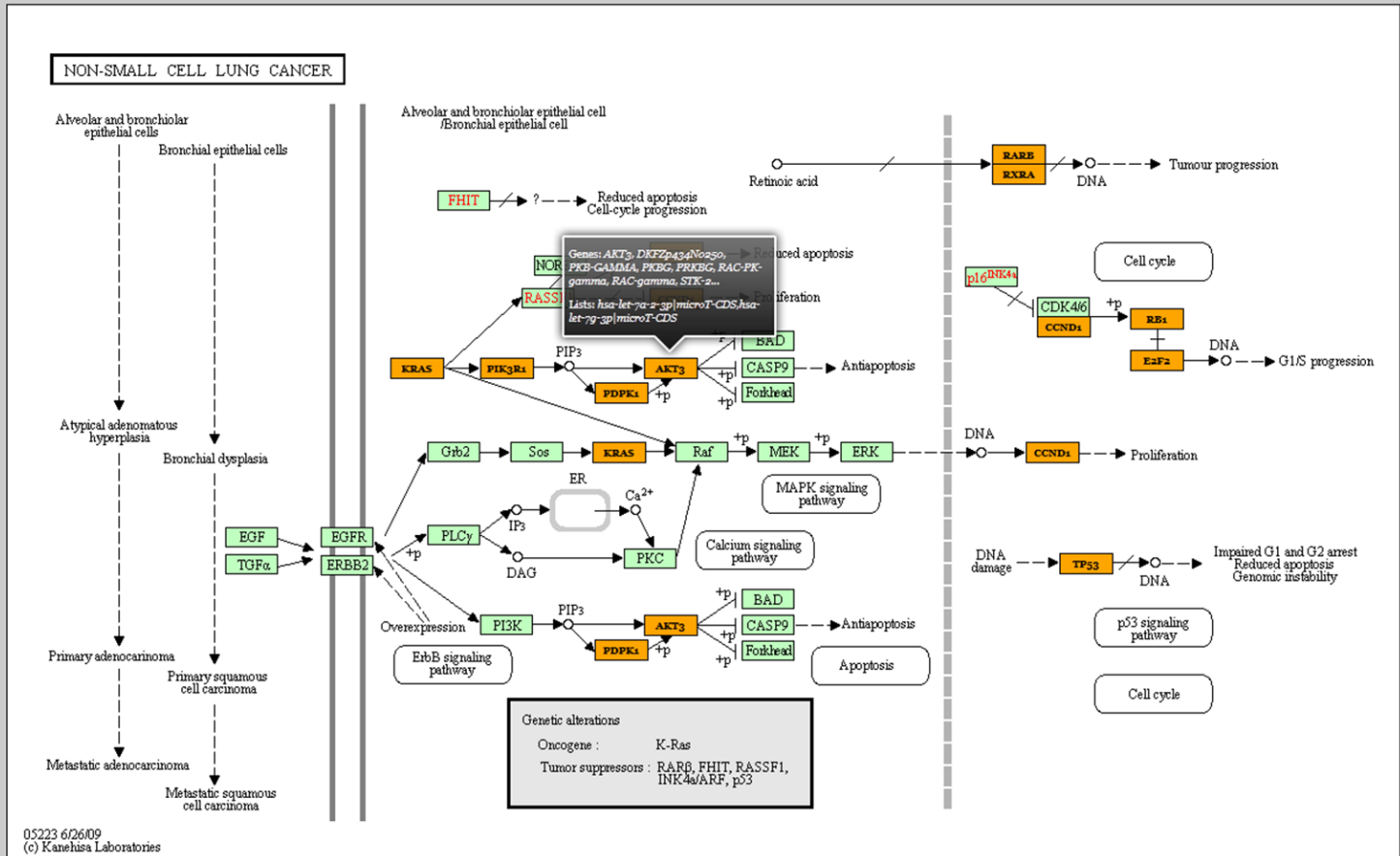
- : gene contained in 1 list
- : gene contained in > 1 lists
- : highlighted gene

Show/ hide genes

- E2F2 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- NRAS (Homo sapiens) Disable
- STK4 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- RARB (Homo sapiens) Disable
- KRAS (Homo sapiens) Disable
- TP53 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- CCND1 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- PIK3R1 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- RB1 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- AKT3 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- PDPK1 (Homo sapiens) Disable
- RXRA (Homo sapiens) Disable
- [Disable all](#)

Highlight genes

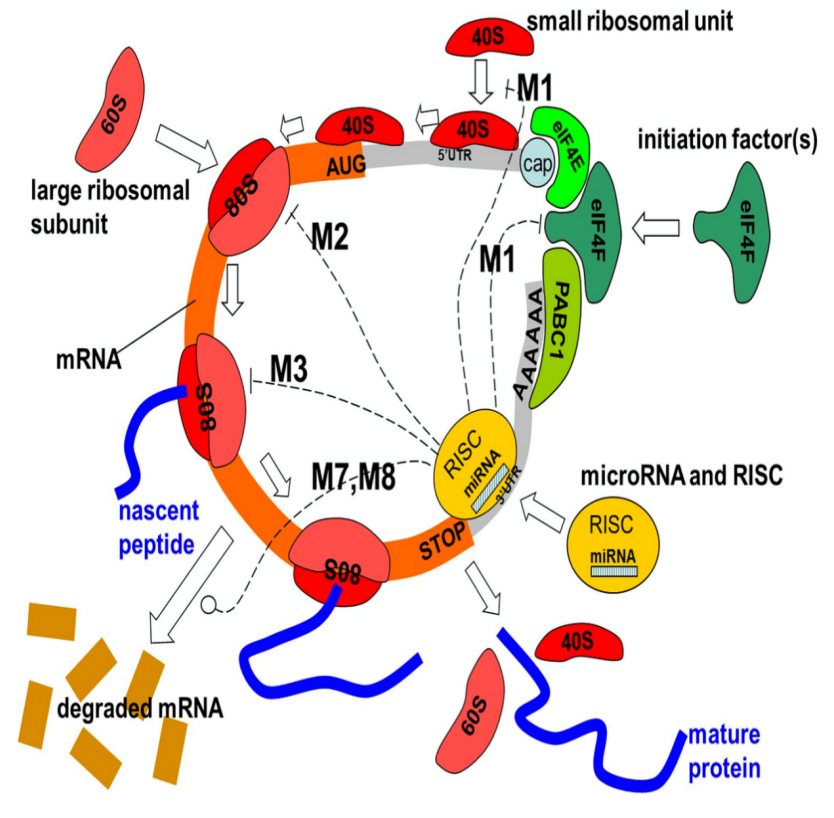
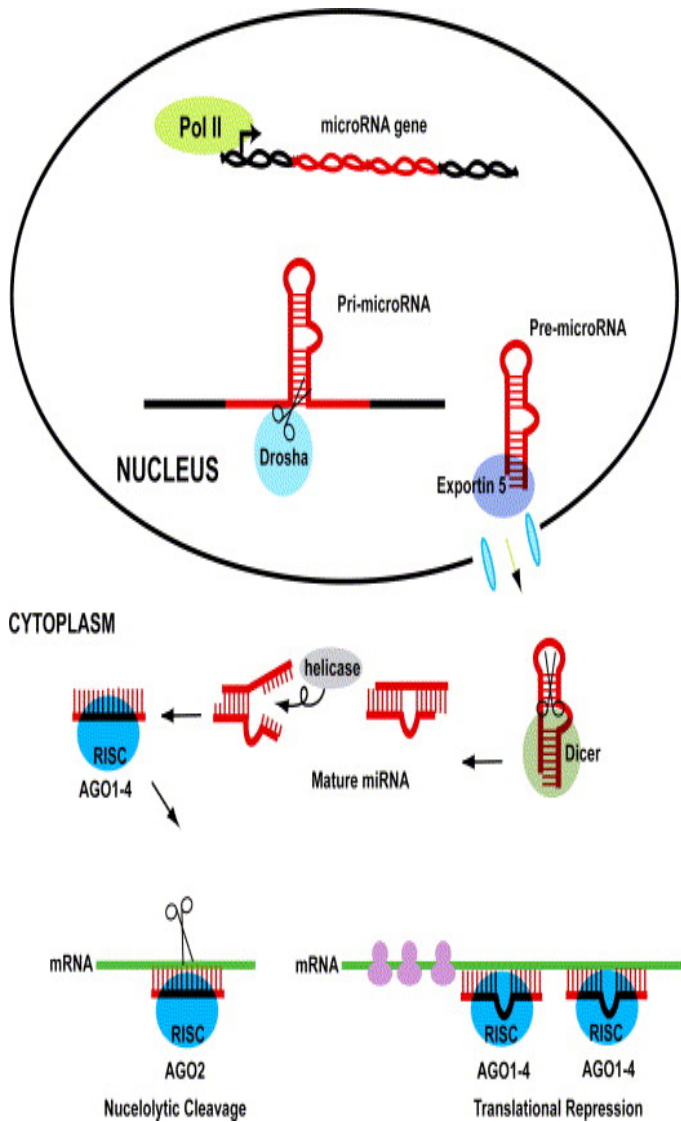
- E2F2 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- NRAS (Homo sapiens) Enable
- STK4 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- RARB (Homo sapiens) Enable
- KRAS (Homo sapiens) Enable
- TP53 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- CCND1 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- PIK3R1 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- RB1 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- AKT3 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- PDPK1 (Homo sapiens) Enable
- RXRA (Homo sapiens) Enable
- [Enable all](#)



Vlachos IS, Zagganas K, Paraskevopoulou MD, Georgakilas G, Karagkouni D, Vergoulis T, Dalamagas T, Hatzigeorgiou AG. DIANA-miRPath v3.0: deciphering microRNA function with experimental support. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 2015 Jul 1;43(W1):W460-6.

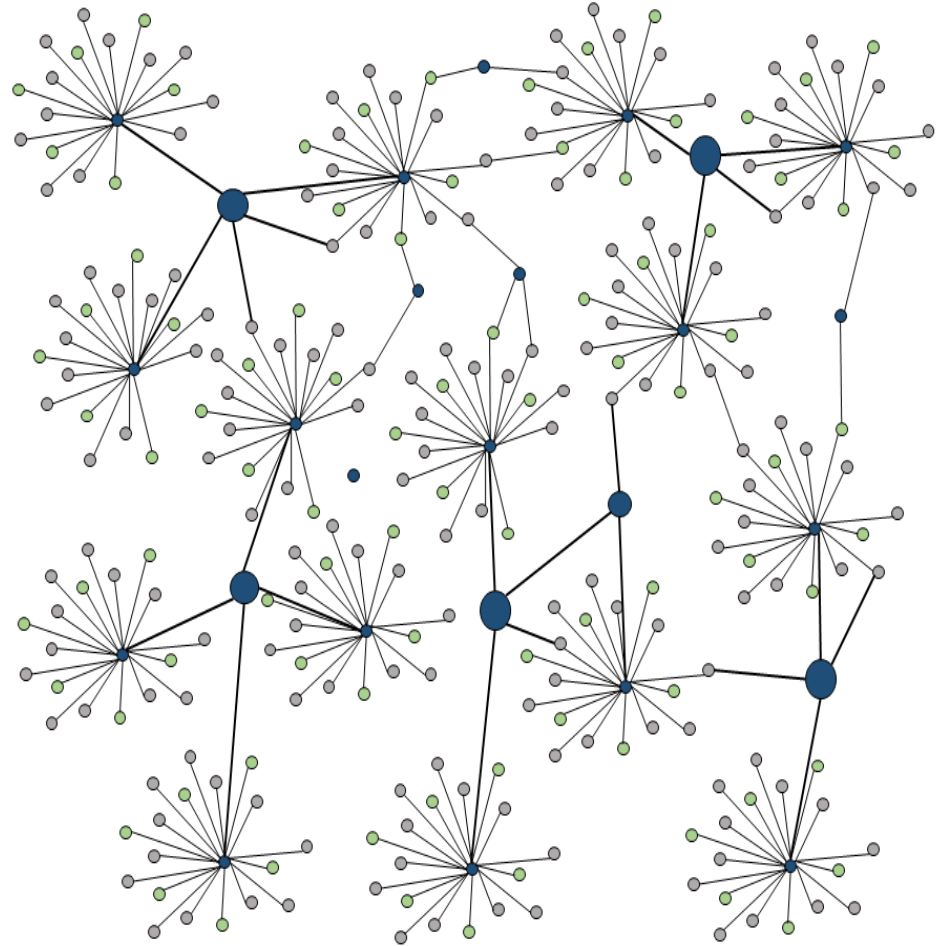
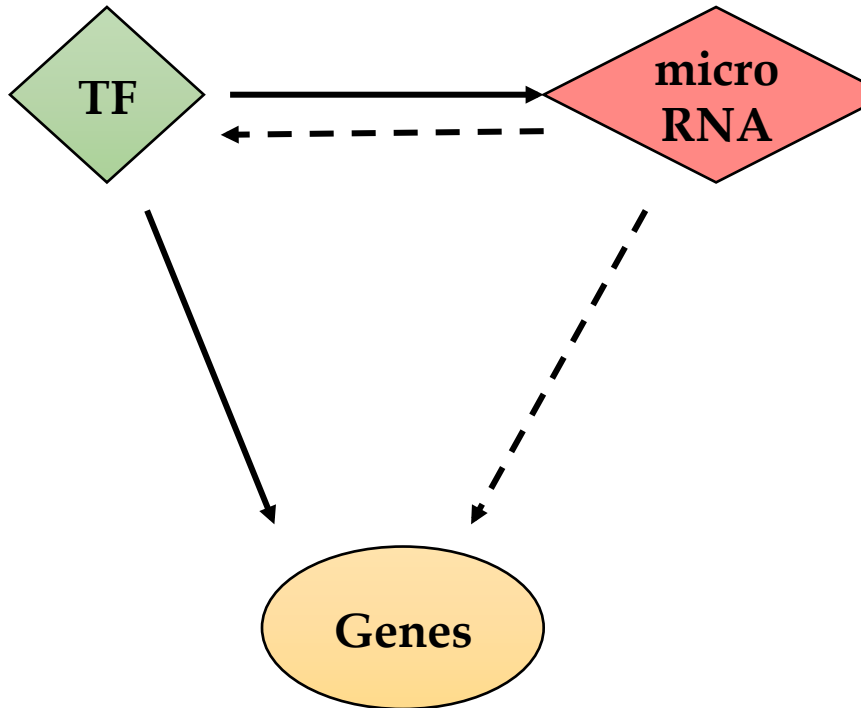
***REGULATION***

# microRNA Biogenesis & Function



# Refining Gene Regulatory Networks

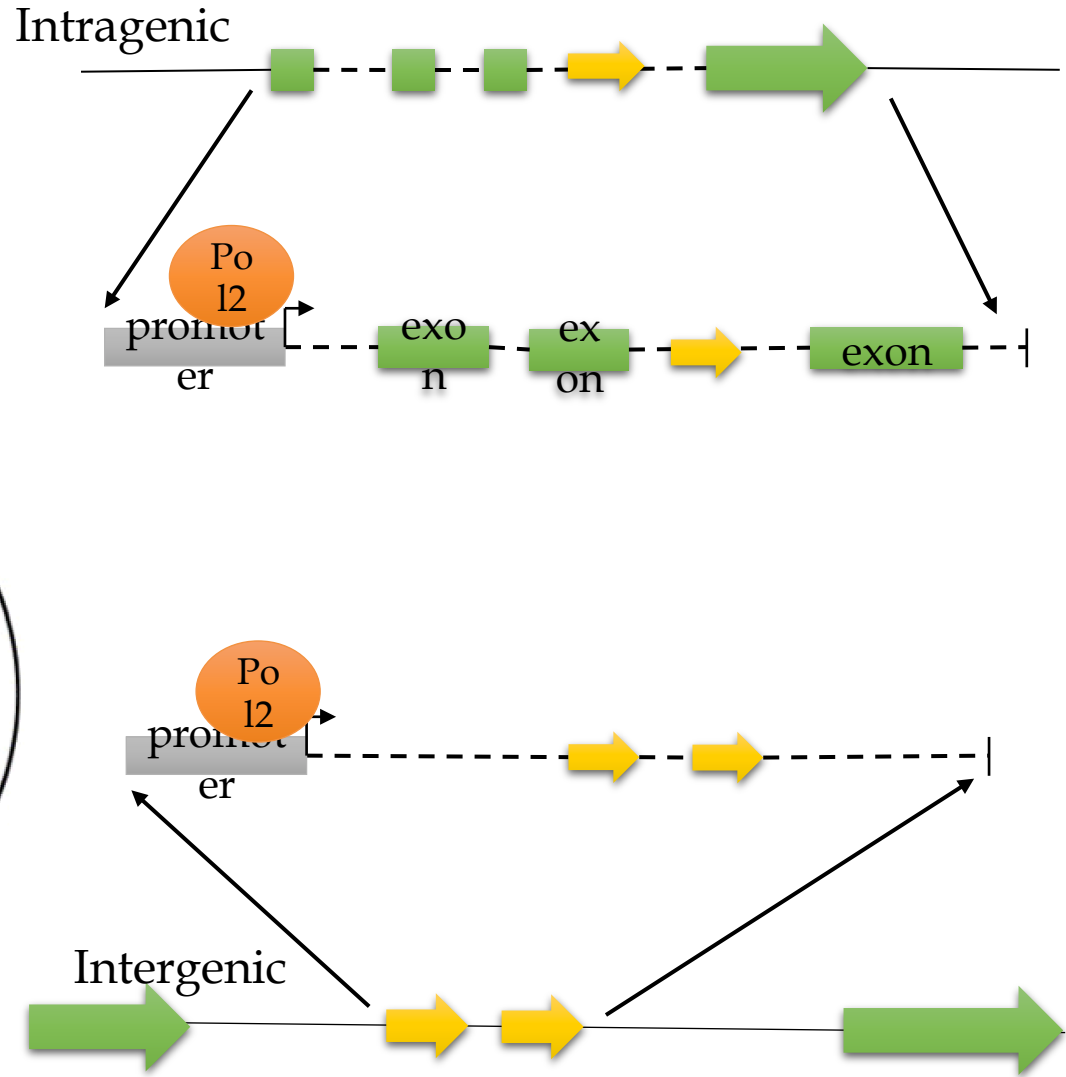
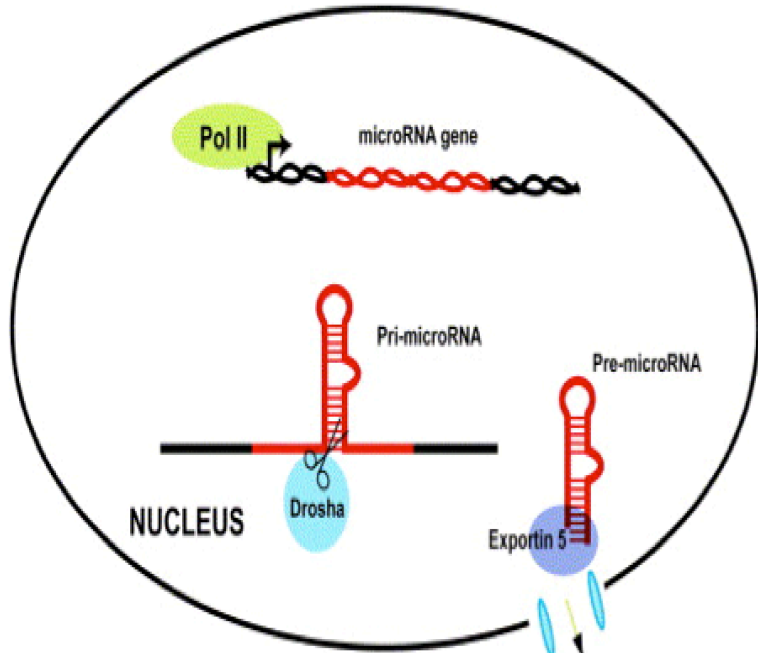
## Evolution of Gene Regulatory Networks



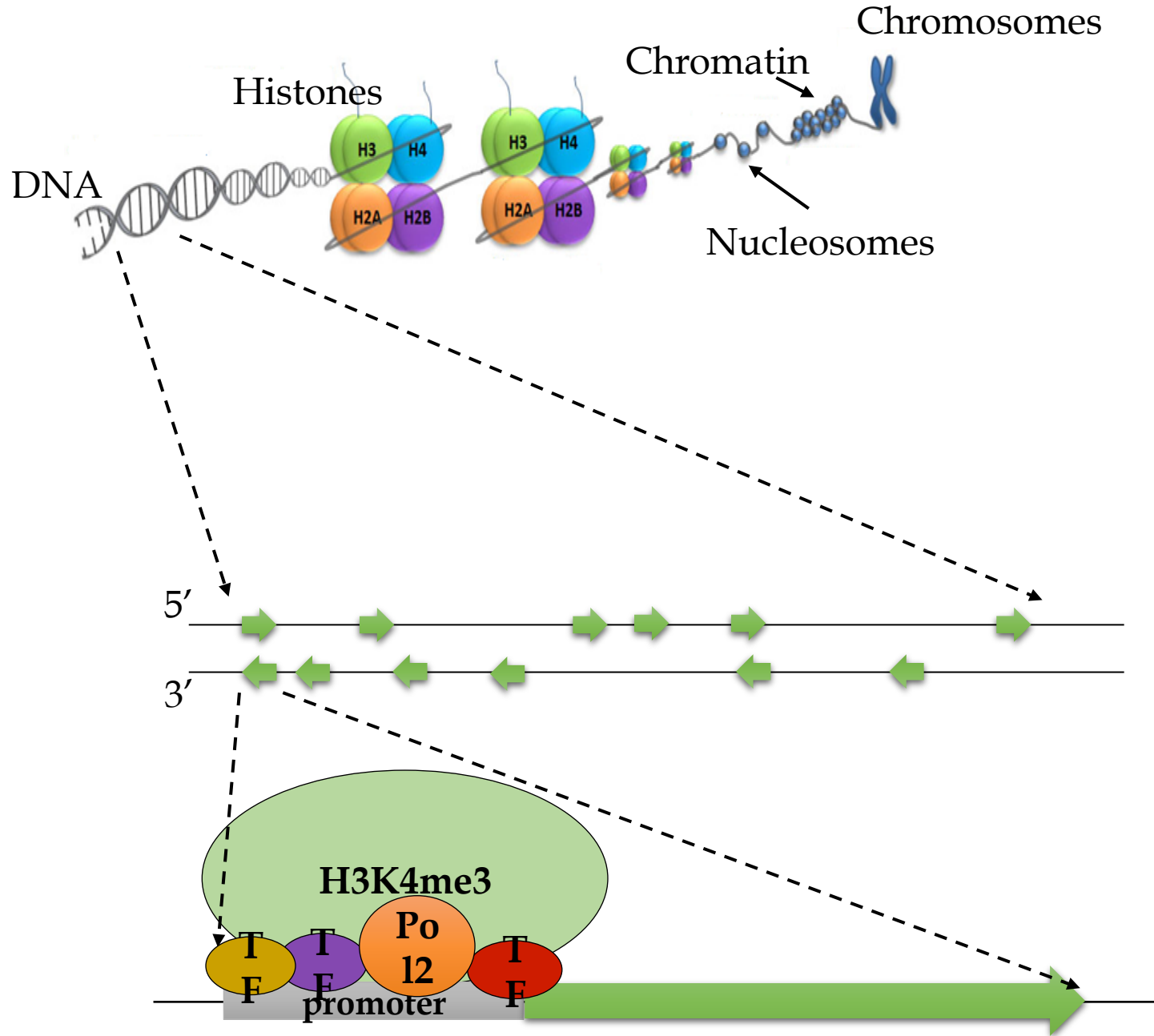


# miRNA classification

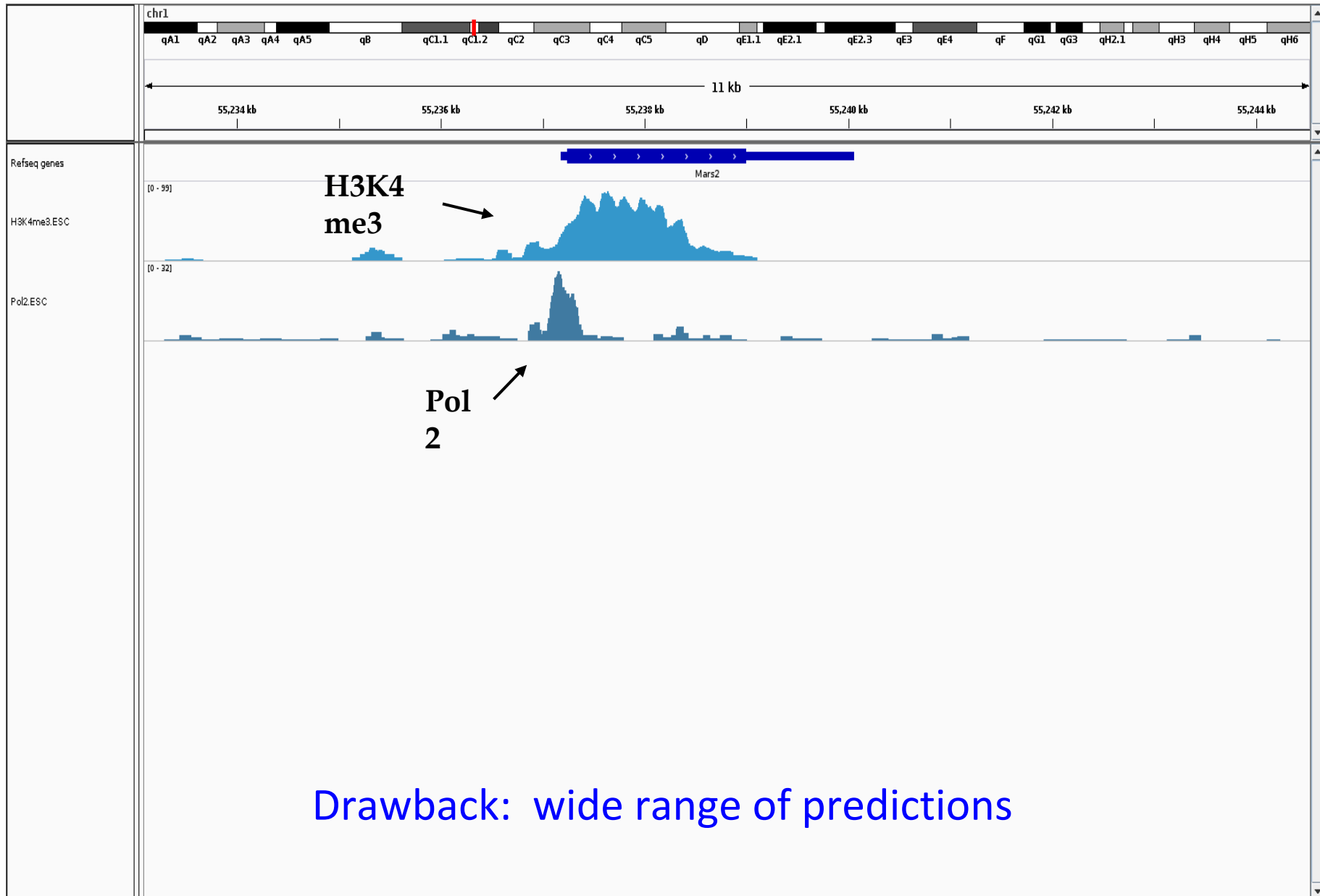
- Coding
- miRNA



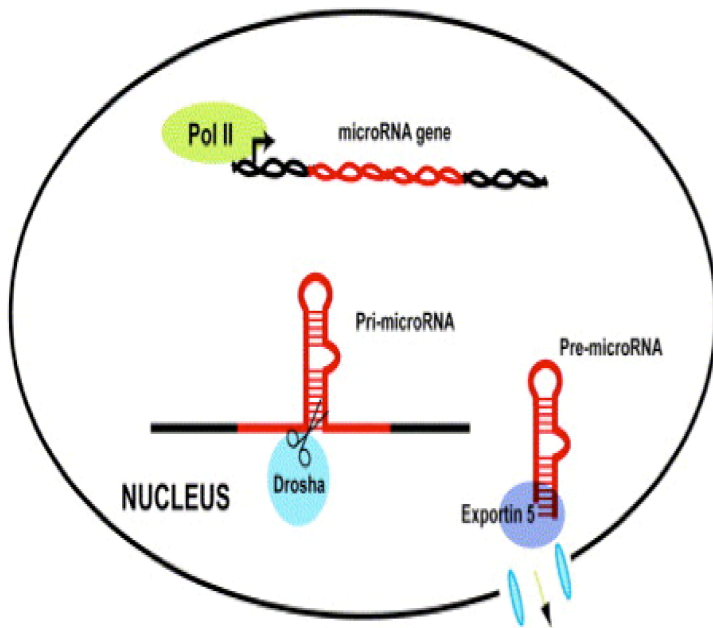
# Chromatin structure and transcription



# ChIP Sequencing Visualization



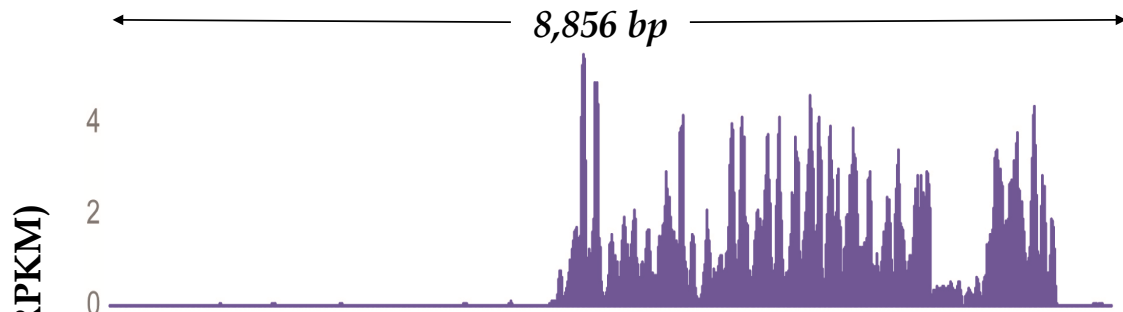
# How do we validate a miRNA TSS prediction ?



*Drosha* null/conditional-null (*Drosha*<sup>LacZ/e4COIN</sup>) mouse model that has been generated using the conditional by inversion (COIN) methodology from Aris Economides @ REGENERON Pharmaceuticals

# Comparison other RNA-Seq experiments

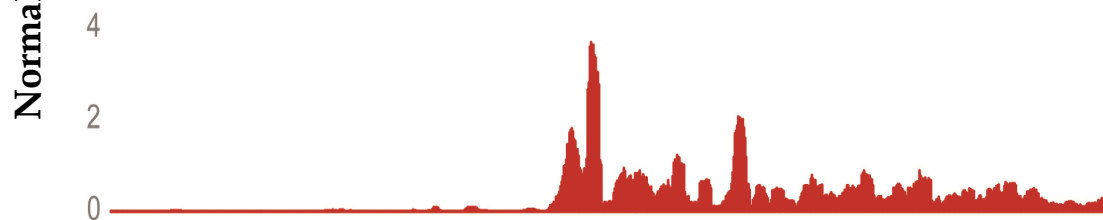
RNA-seq coverage over the Mir17hg lncRNA locus



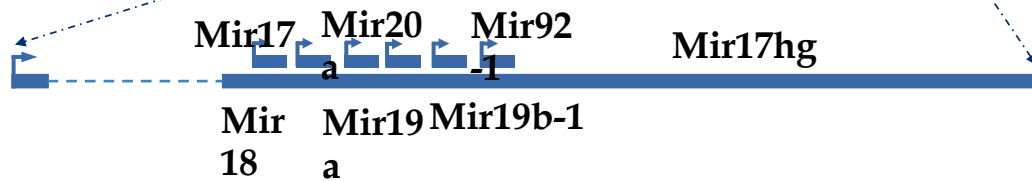
Drosha -/- mESCs with **27M** reads



Drosha +/+ mESCs with **19M** reads



GSM973235 WT mESCs **180M** reads



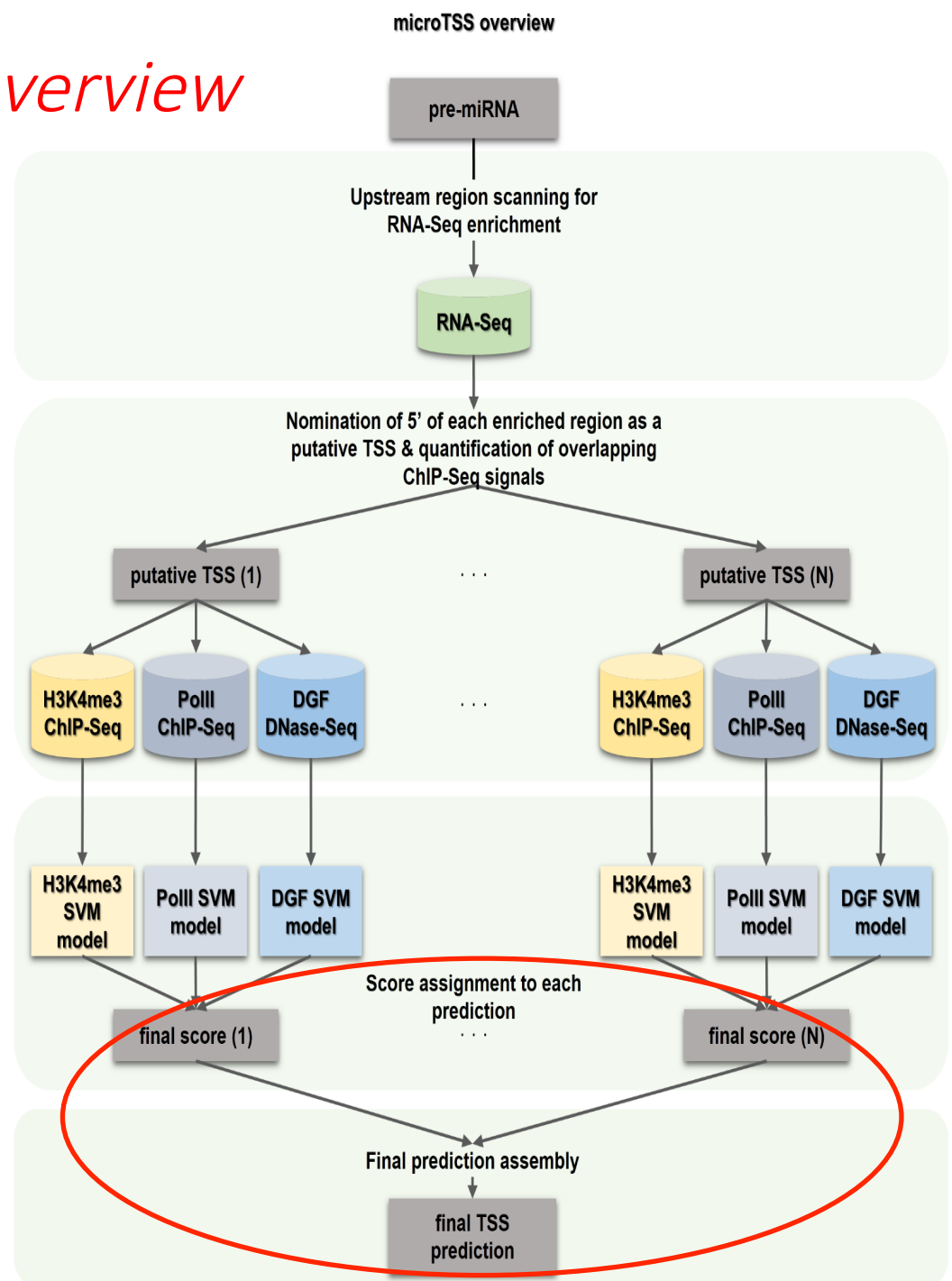
**RNA-seq read depth is essential!**

# Algorithm overview

First step

Second step

Final step



# Comparison with existing methods

Performance on test set:

47 miRNA TSS derived from Drosha depleted mice.

Predictions < 1,000 bp  
from the validated TSS are  
considered True

Precision =  $TP / (TP+FP)$

Sensitivity =  
Correct Predictions / Total  
Correct

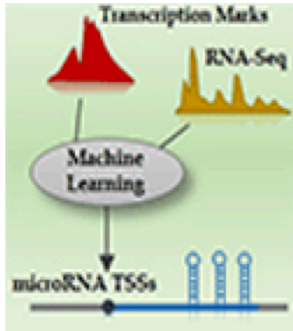
Algorithms Precision and Sensitivity at 1kbp distance threshold from validated TSSs in mESC		
	mESCs (N=47)	
	Sensitivity	Precision
Marson et al	54% (20/37)	64.5% (20/31)
PROMiRNA	78.7% (37/47)	25.4% (95/373)
S-Peaker	76.5% (36/47)	18.8% (77/409)
<b>microTSS</b>	<b>93.6% (44/47)</b>	<b>100% (44/44)</b>

10 December 2014

ARTICLE

# microTSS: accurate microRNA transcription start site identification reveals a significant number of divergent pri-miRNAs

Georgios Georgakilas, Ioannis S. Vlachos, Maria D. Paraskevopoulou, Peter Yang, Yuhong Zhang, Aris N. Economides, Artemis G. Hatzigeorgiou



nature  
COMMUNICATIONS


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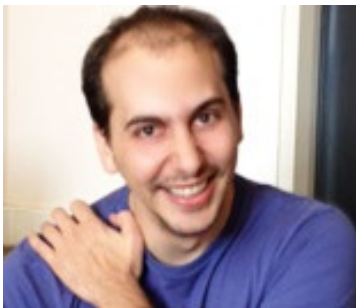
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# DIANA-miRGen v3.0

miRGen v.3

miRNA: mmu-let-7a-1 ✕

Transcription factor: [ ]

Filters

Tissues & cell lines: All

Upstream: 2500

Downstream: 1500

miRNA name	TSS Coordinates	Tissue & cell line	External Links
mmu-let-7a-1	chr13:48545813-48545814 [-]	Heart (Mus musculus)	mT TB InE InP mP

MirBase ID: MI0000556

TSS cluster: mmu-let-7a-1, mmu-let-7d, mmu-let-7f-1 [ mT TB InE InP mP ]

Cluster diseases: [ ]

UCSC link: [ ]

Tissue / cell line comments: Adult 8 weeks

TF name	Num of binding sites
HLTF	1

Motif logo (click to enlarge)

Expression in Heart (TPM): 7.75

Ensembl Gene IDs: ENSMUSG00000002428

#	Distance	Coordinates
1	-318	chr13:48545495-48545504 [-]

Footprint name: Heart-Footprint-16687

Binding site start relative to footprint: 29

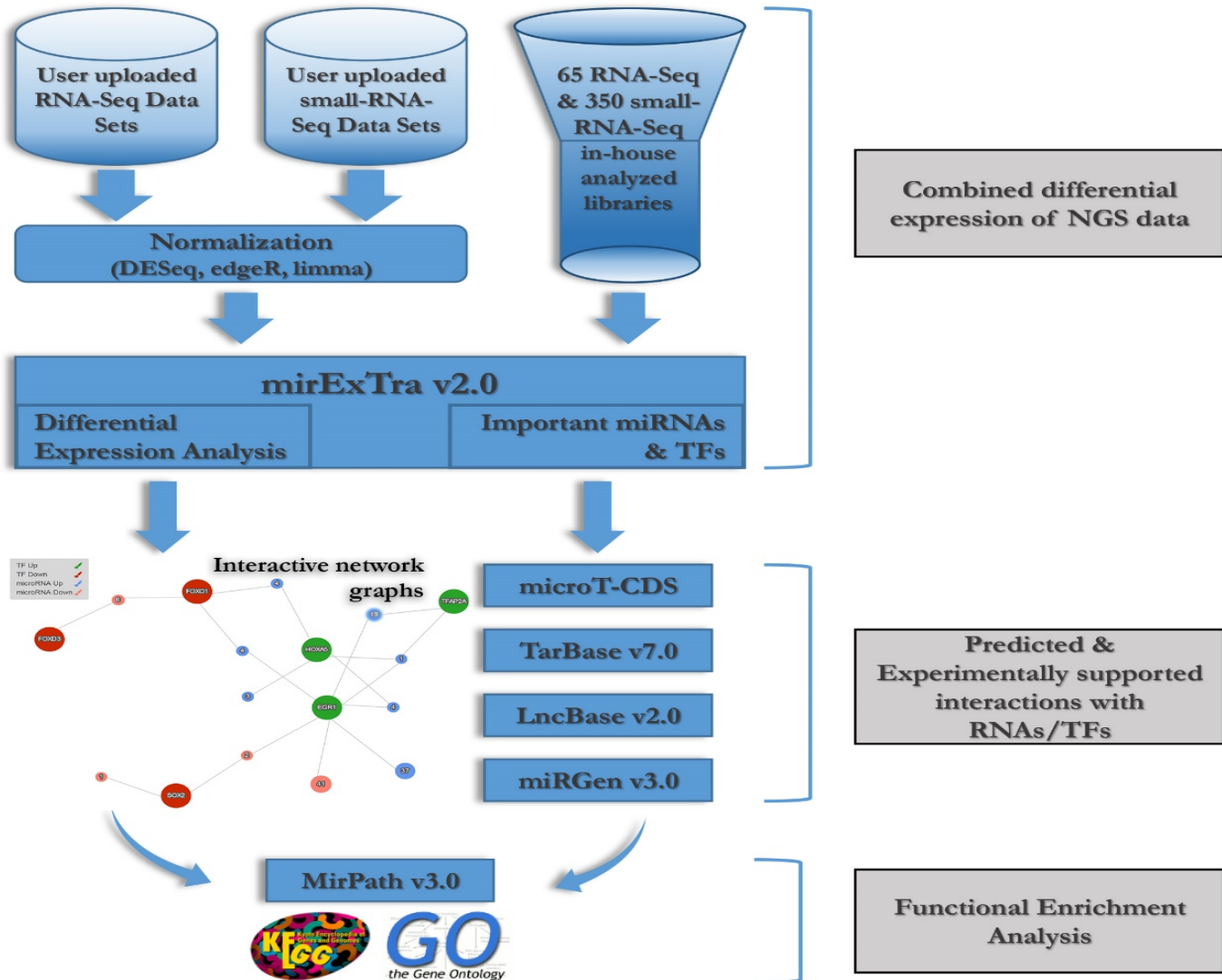
Binding site end relative to footprint: 38

ELK1	1
------	---

[www.microrna.gr/miRGenv3](http://www.microrna.gr/miRGenv3)

Georgakilas, G et al. DIANA-miRGen v3.0: accurate characterization of microRNA promoters and their regulators. *Nucleic Acid Research*, 2015.

*miRNA - biomarkers:  
combined analysis of mRNA and miRNA with miRExtra V2.0*



# ***SNPs & miRNAs***

## Polymorphic disease associations and microRNAs.

- SNPs that occur in functional miRNA target sites could affect miRNA binding
- Map all annotated SNPs from dbSNP onto all experimentally supported target sites from TarBase
- 2 of the 5 SNPs occur in a region that disrupts the 5'-dominant binding
- 1 of these 2 SNPs is genotyped according to **ALFRED** (ALlele FREquency Database)
- Does this SNP impair miR-155 binding and silencing of *AGTR1*?

```

5' UUCACUACCAAAUGAGCCUUAG 3'      Human AGTR1
..|  |  || |||||..
3' GGGGAUAGUGCUAAUCCGUAUU 5'      Hsa-miR-155
..|  |  || |||..
5' UUCACUACCAAAUGAGCCUUAG 3'      Polymorphic Human AGTR1

```

```

5' GCAGUUUGAAAUUCUGAAUUGCAAAGUACUGA 3'      Human EZH2
|||||  || |||||
3' AGUCA-----UAGUGUCAUGACAU 5'      Hsa-miR-101
|||||  || |||||
5' GCAGUUUGAAAUUCUGAAUUGCAAAGUACUGA 3'      Polymorphic Human EZH2

```

```

5' CCG-CAAGAAAGUGAATCTCACTACUACCUA 3'      Human HOXA7
|||. ||| .||| |||||
3' GGGUUGUUG---UACUU-----UGAUGGAU 5'      Hsa-miR-196
| |. ||| .||| |||||
5' CCG-CAAGAAAGUGAATCTCACTACUACCUA 3'      Polymorphic Human HOXA7

```

```

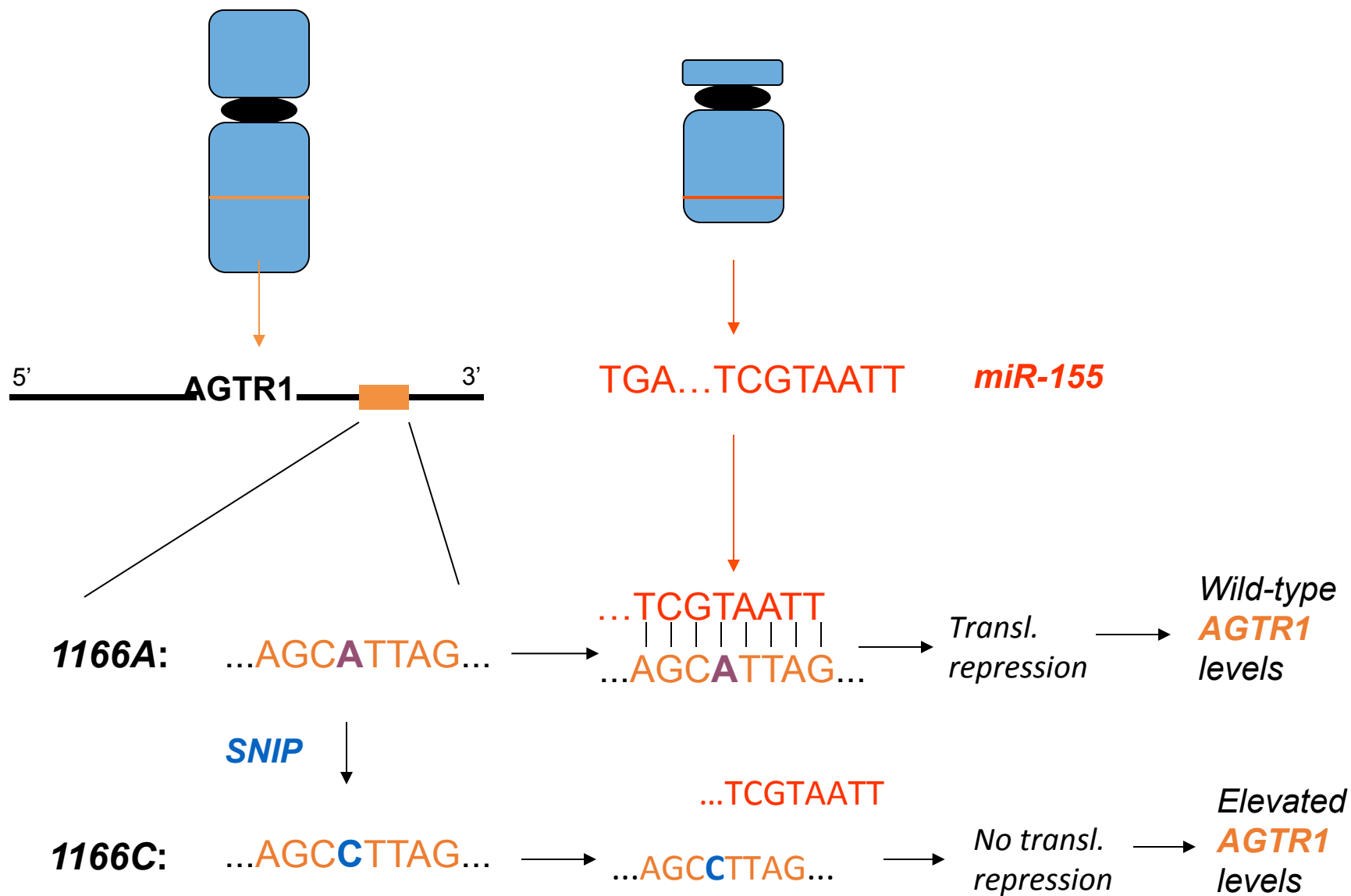
5' UGCCC---CUGGAAAACUAAAAGAGCCUUGCAUGUACUUGAA 3'      Human SMAD1
||||  ||||  |||||
3' UCGGAUAGGACCU-----AAUGAACUU 5'      Hsa-miR-26
|||  ||||  |||||
5' UGCCC---CUGGAAAACUAAAAGAGCCUUGCAUGUACUUGAA 3'      Polymorphic Human SMAD1

```

```

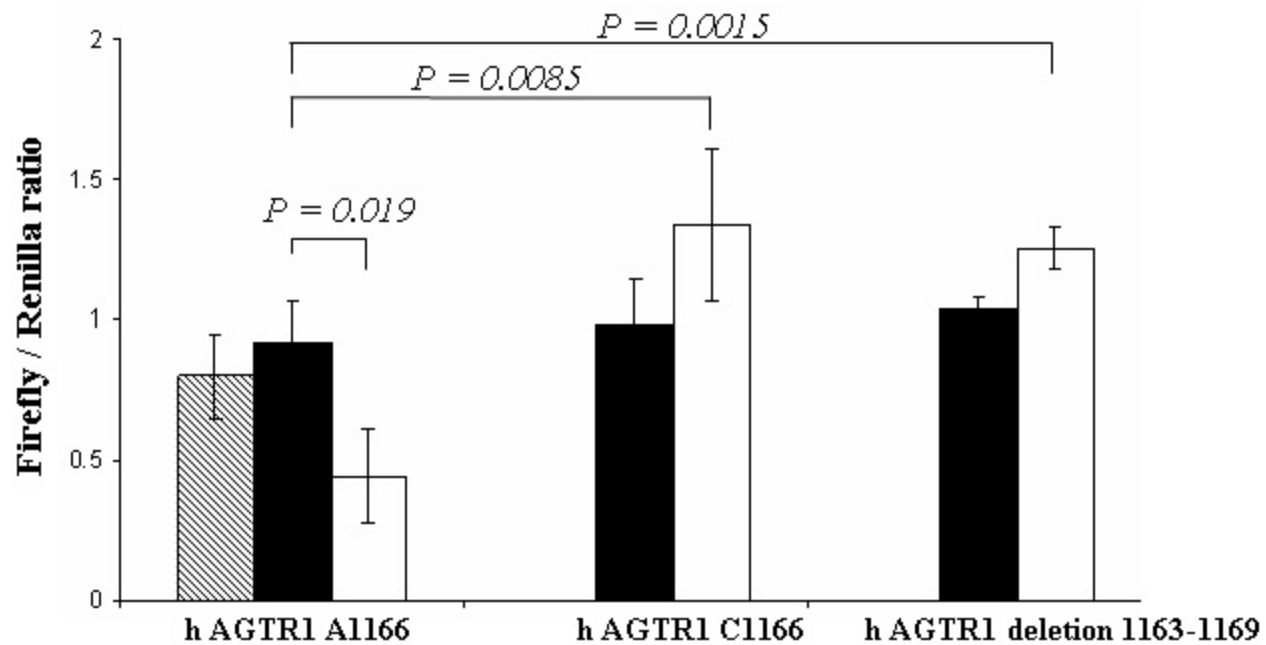
5' CGGCCGCCUGCGGCACUGCCU 3'      Human DLL1
|..||. ||. |.|||||
3' UGUUGGUCGAUUCUGUGACGGU 5'      Hsa-miR-34
...||. ||. |.|||||
5' CGGCCGCCUGCGGCACUGCCU 3'      Polymorphic Human DLL1

```

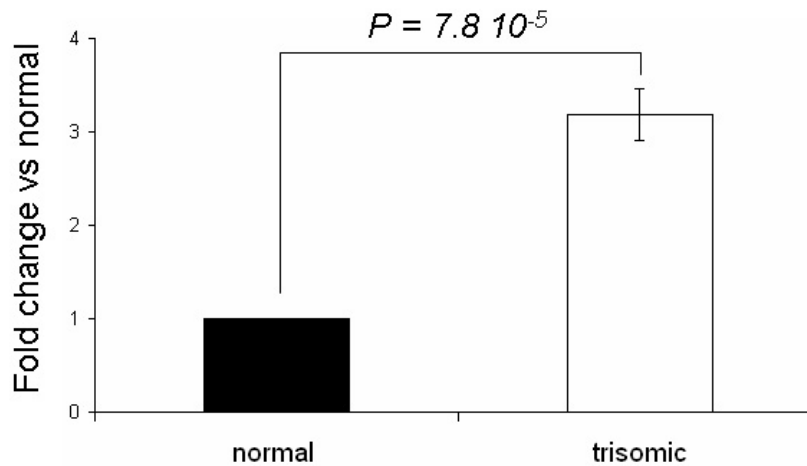


## Experimental validation in vitro.

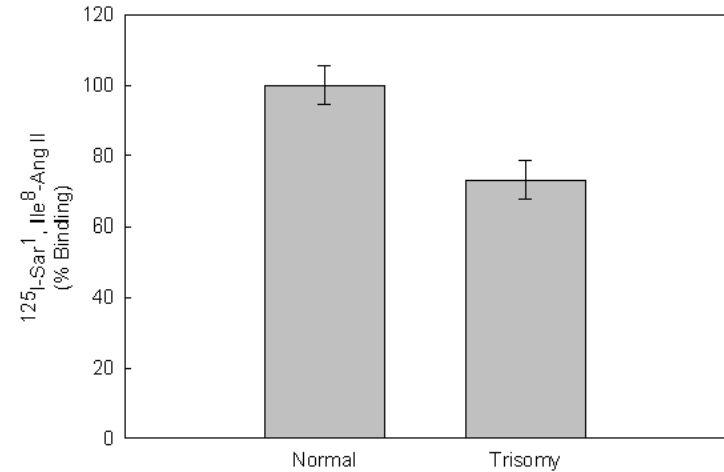
- In vitro luciferase assay to test the prediction



Fibroblast cells from monozygotic twins discordant for trisomy 21.  
In vivo evidence of mir-155 and ATGR1.



qRT-PCR for mature miR-155 expression



Whole cell AGTR1 binding assays

Sethupathy, P., Borel, C., Gagnebin, M., Grant, G.R, Deutsch S, Eltion TS, Hatzigeorgiou\*, A.G, and Antonarakis, S.E. (2006) Human microRNA-155 on chromosome 21 differentially interacts with its polymorphic target in the AGTR1 3' untranslated region: a mechanism for functional single-nucleotide polymorphisms related to phenotypes. *Am J Hum Genet.* 2007 Aug;81(2):405-13.

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- **DIANA TarBase**

Dimitra Karagkouni, Maria D. Paraskevopoulou, Serafeim Chatzopoulos, Ioannis S. Vlachos, Spyros Tastsoglou, *et al.* **DIANA-TarBase v8: a decade-long collection of experimentally supported miRNA-gene interactions**, *Nucleic Acids Research*, 2017

- **DIANA LncBase**

Maria D. Paraskevopoulou, Ioannis S. Vlachos, Dimitra Karagkouni *et al* "**DIANA-LncBase v2: indexing microRNA targets on non-coding transcripts**" *Nucleic Acids Research*, 2016

- **DIANA microCLIP**

M.D. Paraskevopoulou\*, D. Karagkouni\*, I.S. Vlachos, S. Tastsoglou & A.G. Hatzigeorgiou, **microCLIP: Super learning uncovers functional transcriptome-wide miRNA interactions**, *Nat Commun* , September 2018

- **DIANA – microTSS**

Georgakilas G., Vlachos I.S., Paraskevopoulou M.D., Yang P., Zhang Y., Economides A.N., Hatzigeorgiou A.G. **microTSS: accurate microRNA transcription start site identification reveals a significant number of divergent pri-miRNAs**. *Nat. Commun.* 2014

- **DIANA-miRGen v3**

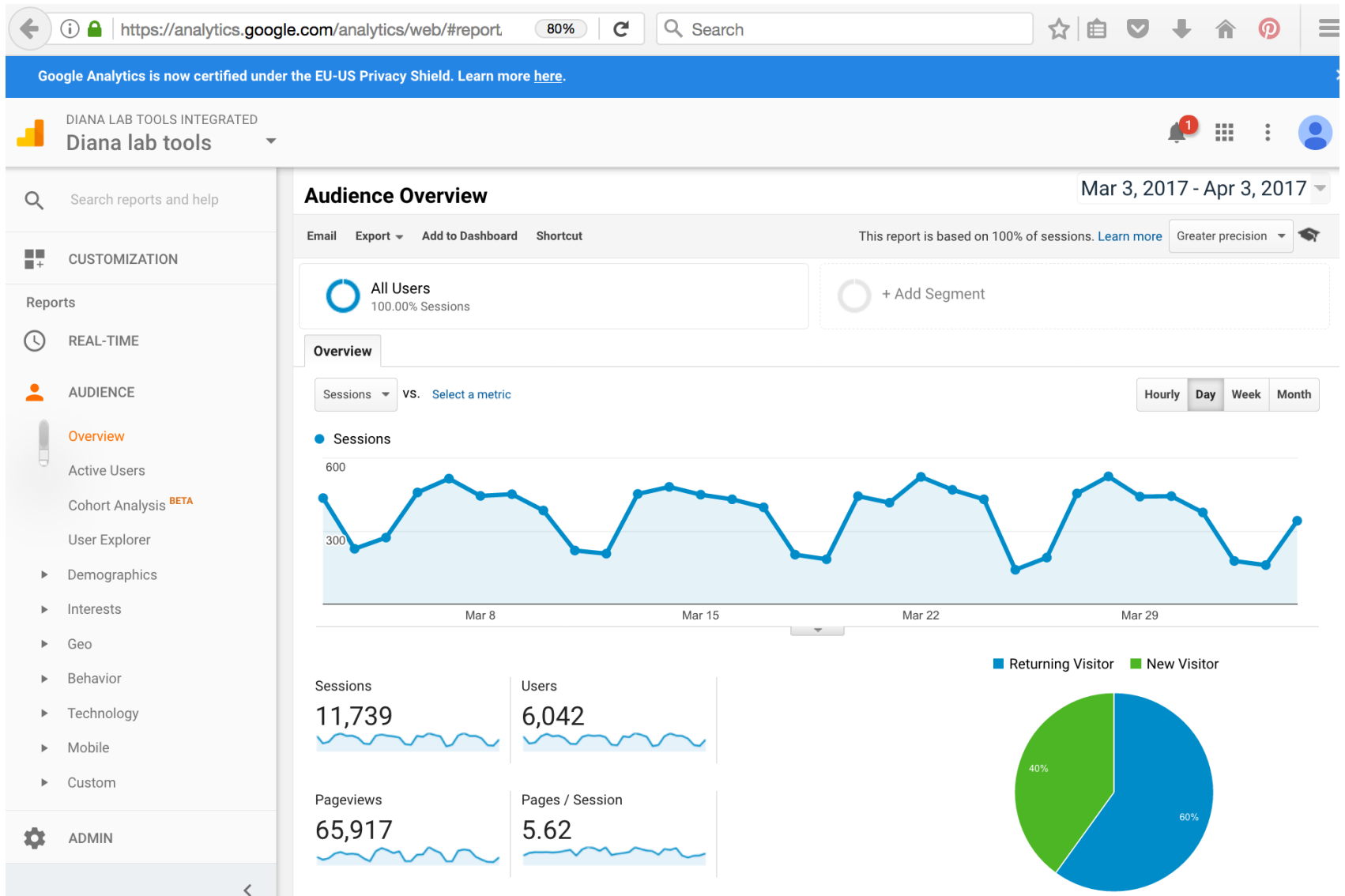
Georgios Georgakilas, Ioannis S. Vlachos, Konstantinos Zaggnas *et al.* **DIANA-miRGen v3.0: accurate characterization of microRNA promoters and their regulators** *Nucl. Acids Res.* 2016

### **DIANA-miRPath v3**

Vlachos, Ioannis S., Konstantinos Zaggnas, Maria D. Paraskevopoulou *et al.* **DIANA-miRPath v3. 0: deciphering microRNA function with experimental support**. *Nucleic Acids Res*, 2015



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- Vlachos, I.S., et al. *DIANA miRPath v.2.0: Investigating the combinatorial effect of microRNAs in pathways*. **Nucleic Acids Res. Highly Cited Paper**

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- Paraskevopoulou, M.D., et al., *DIANA-LncBase: Experimentally verified and computationally predicted microRNA targets on long non-coding RNAs*. **Nucleic Acids Res. Highly Cited Paper**
- Paraskevopoulou, M.D., et al. *DIANA-microT web server v5.0: service integration into miRNA functional analysis workflows*. **Nucleic Acids Res. Highly Cited Paper**

2014

- Georgakilas G, et al. *microTSS: accurate microRNA transcription start site identification reveals a significant number of divergent pri-miRNAs*. **Nature Commun.**

2015

- Vlachos IS, et al.. *DIANA-miRPath v3.0: deciphering microRNA function with experimental support*. **Nucleic Acids Res. Highly Cited Paper**
- Vlachos IS, et al. *DIANA-TarBase v7.0: indexing more than half a million experimentally supported miRNA:mRNA interactions*. **Nucleic Acids Res. Highly Cited Paper**

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- Georgakilas G, et al. *miRGen v3.0: accurate characterization of microRNA promoters and their regulators*. **NAR.**
- Paraskevopoulou, MD, et al., *DIANA-LncBase v2: Indexing microRNA targets on non-coding transcripts*. **NAR.**
- Vlachos IS, et al., *DIANA-mirExTra v2.0: Uncovering microRNAs and transcription factors with crucial roles in NGS expression data*. **NAR.**

## Lab members

- Karagkouni Dimitra
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- Spyros Tastsoglou
- Nikos Perdikopanis
- Skoufos Giorgos
- Dimitris Zisis
- Thanos Alexou
- Antonis Kousounadis
- Marios Miliotis
- Filippos Kardaras
- Eliza Zacharopoulou

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- Maria D Paraksevopoulou
- George Georgakilas
- Maragakakis Manolis
- Alexiou Panagiotis

We acknowledge support of this work by the project “ELIXIR-GR The Greek infrastructure for management and analysis of Data in Bionsciences .” (MIS 5002780) which is implemented under the Action Reinforcement of the Research and Innovation Infrastructure”, funded by the Operational Programme "Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation" (NSRF 2014-2020) and co-financed by Greece and the European Union (European Regional Development Fund).

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