

# Genome-scale technologies 2/ Algorithmic and statistical aspects of DNA sequencing

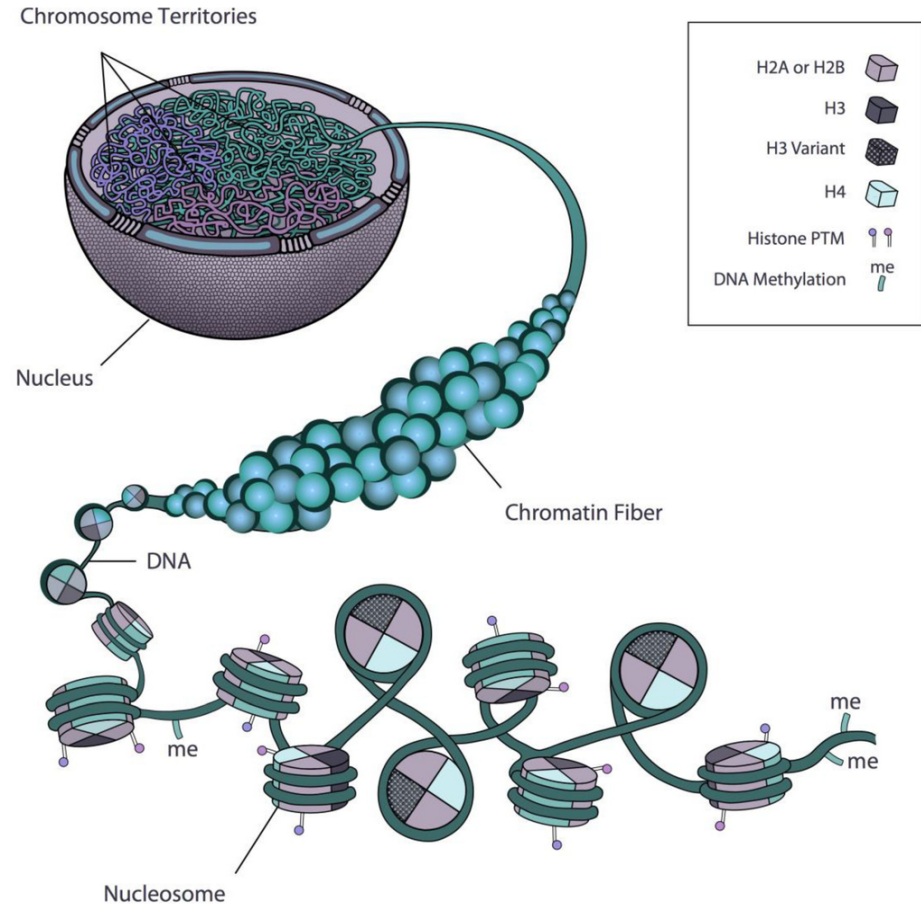
*Studying chromatin with Hi-C*

Ewa Szczurek  
University of Warsaw, MIMUW

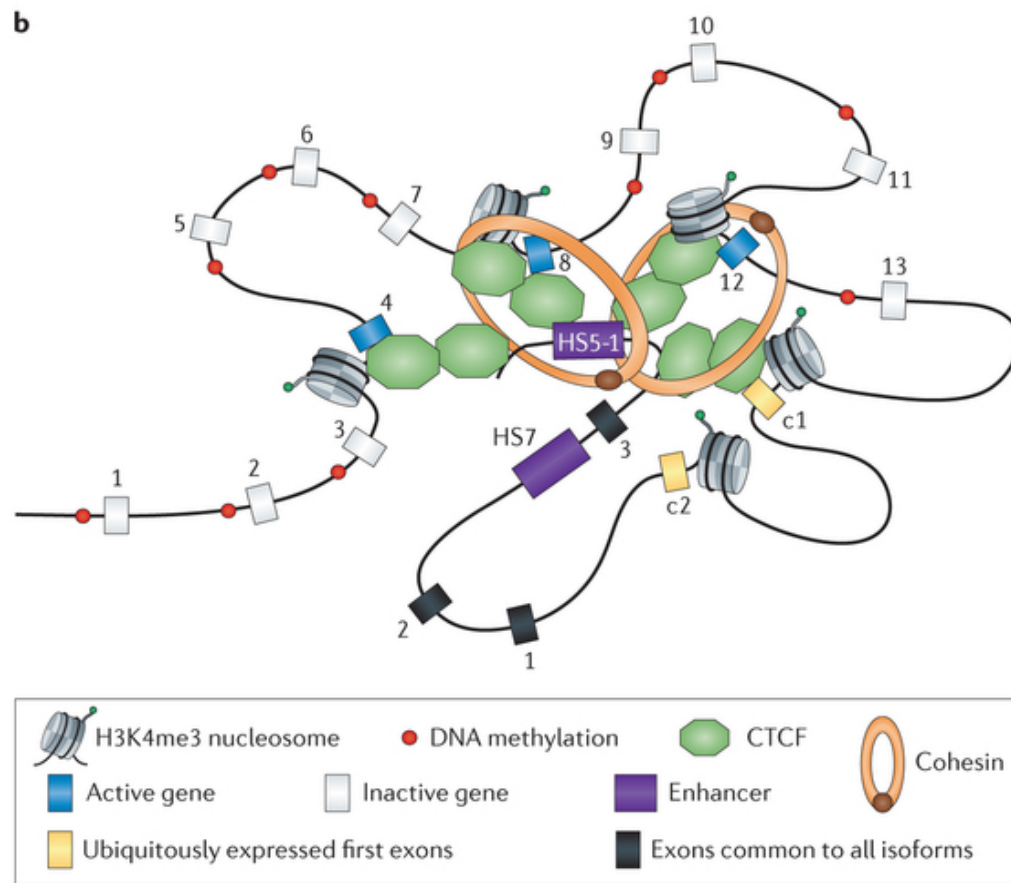
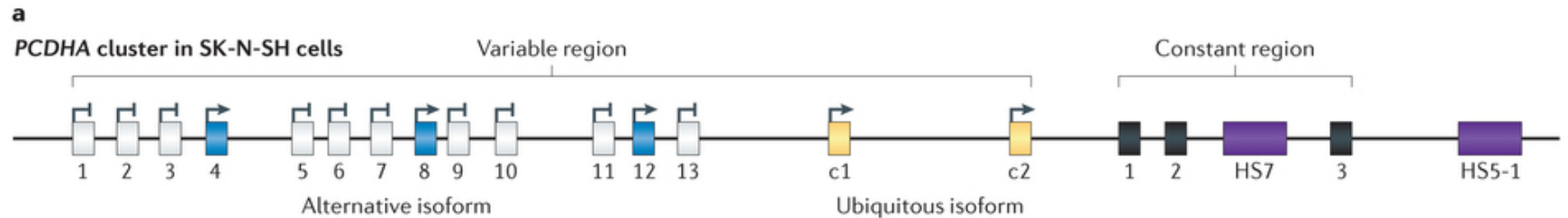
[szczurek@mimuw.edu.pl](mailto:szczurek@mimuw.edu.pl)

# Chromatin organization

- **Compression:** 2 meters DNA → 10 micrometers nucleus
- **Accessibility:** for protein machineries that regulate:
  - Replication
  - Repair
  - Recombination
  - Gene expression



# Impact on gene reg: far enhancers brought to promoters



**Promoter choice** mediated by CTCF–cohesin DNA looping between the distal enhancer and distinct promoters at the gene cluster.

**Active promoters** distinguished by H3K4me3 and depletion of DNA methylation.

# The project

- [http://students.mimuw.edu.pl/~szczurek/TSG2\\_Project/project.html](http://students.mimuw.edu.pl/~szczurek/TSG2_Project/project.html)
- Report deadline: 20.01.2016
- Presentations: 26.01.2016

# History: Chromosome Conformation Capture

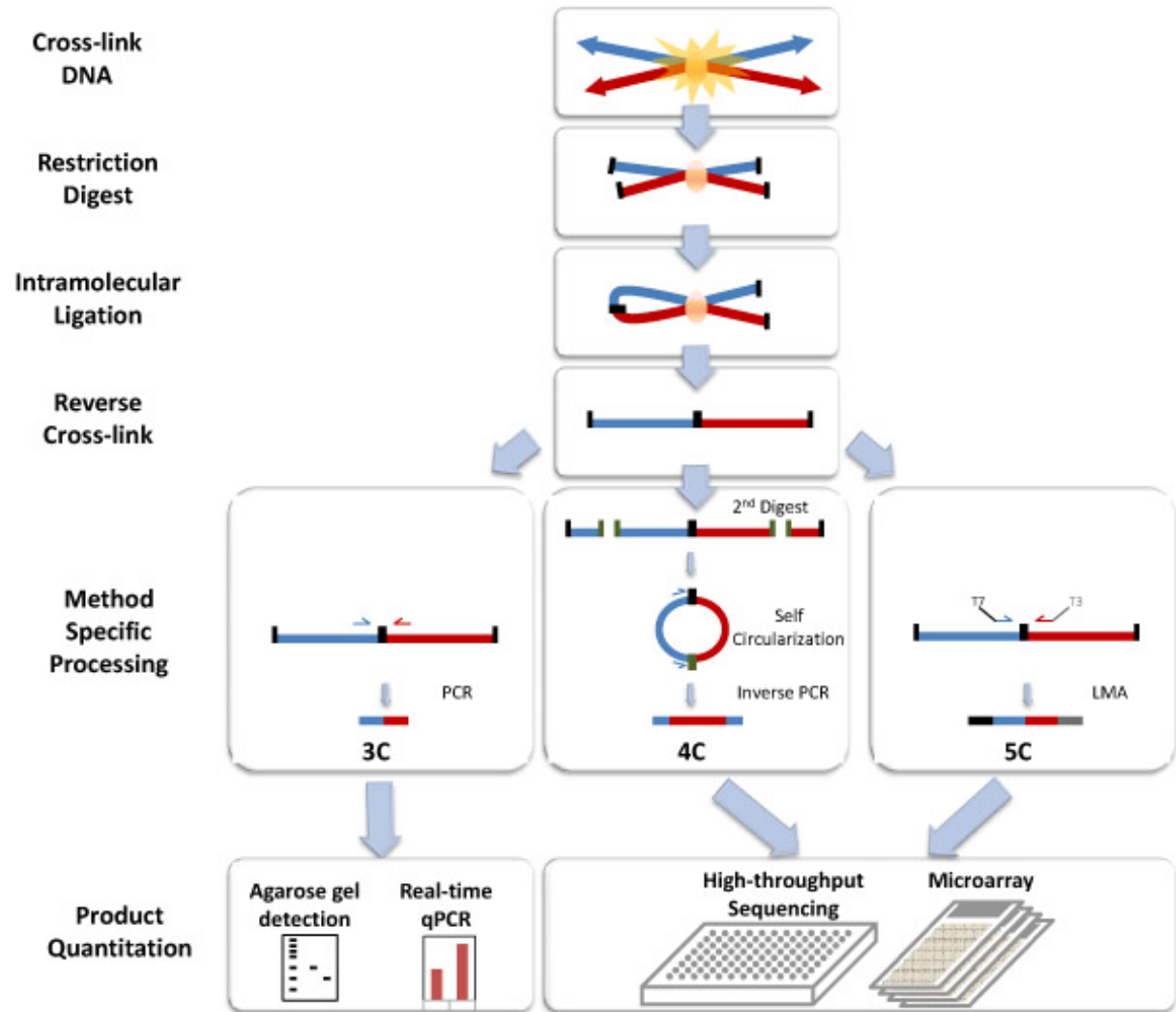
In the order of  
increasing  
throughput:

3C: Chromosome  
Conformation  
Capture

4C: Circularized 3C

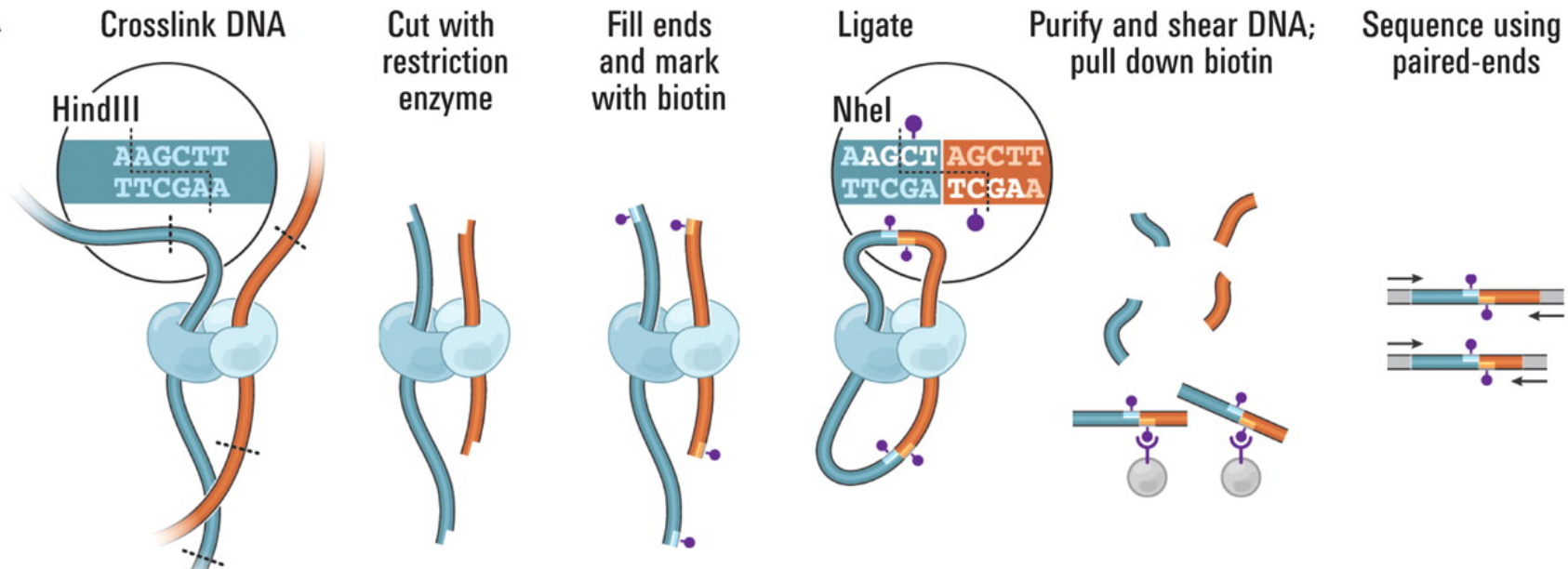
5C: Carbon Copy 3C

All require choosing a  
set of target loci and do  
not allow unbiased  
genomewide analysis.



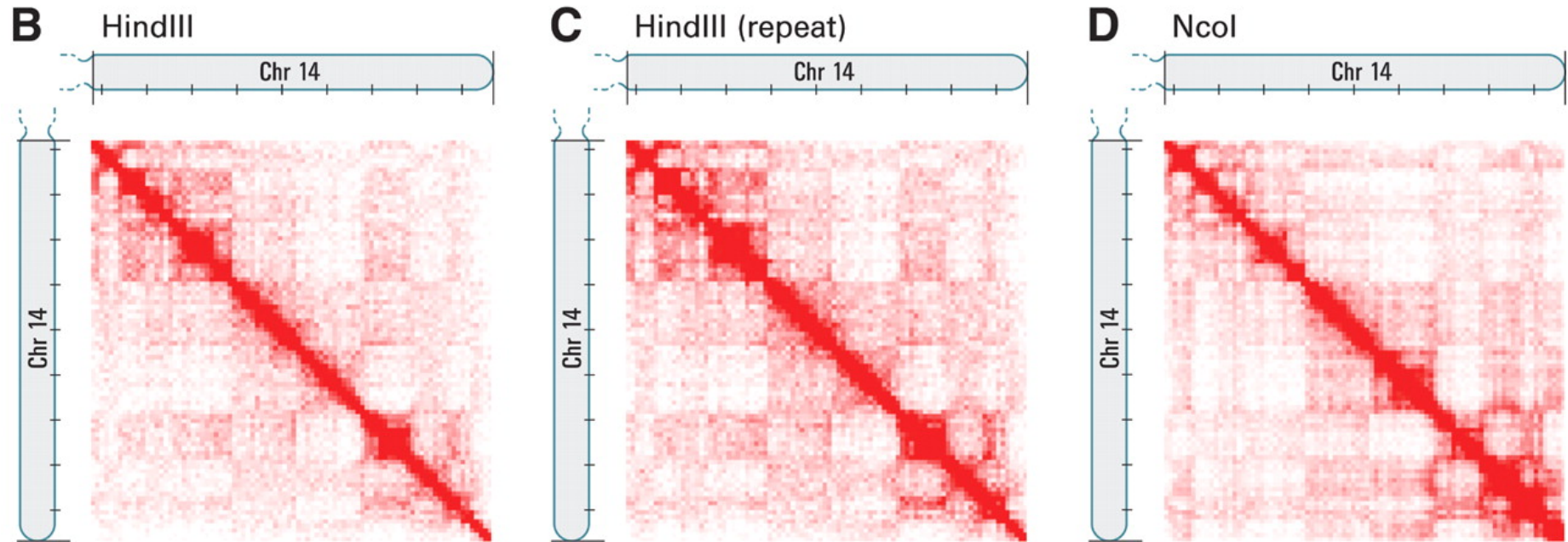
# Now: Hi-C

A



- DNA digested with a restriction enzyme that leaves a 5' overhang;
- the 5' overhang filled, including a biotinylated residue;
- the blunt-end fragments ligated (ligation of the cross-linked DNA)
- Resulting DNA sample: fragments that were originally **in close spatial proximity** in the nucleus, marked with biotin at the junction.
- Hi-C library: shearing the DNA and selecting the biotin-containing fragments with streptavidin beads.
- The library massively parallel DNA sequenced → a catalogue of interacting fragments

# Hi-C produces a genome-wide contact matrix

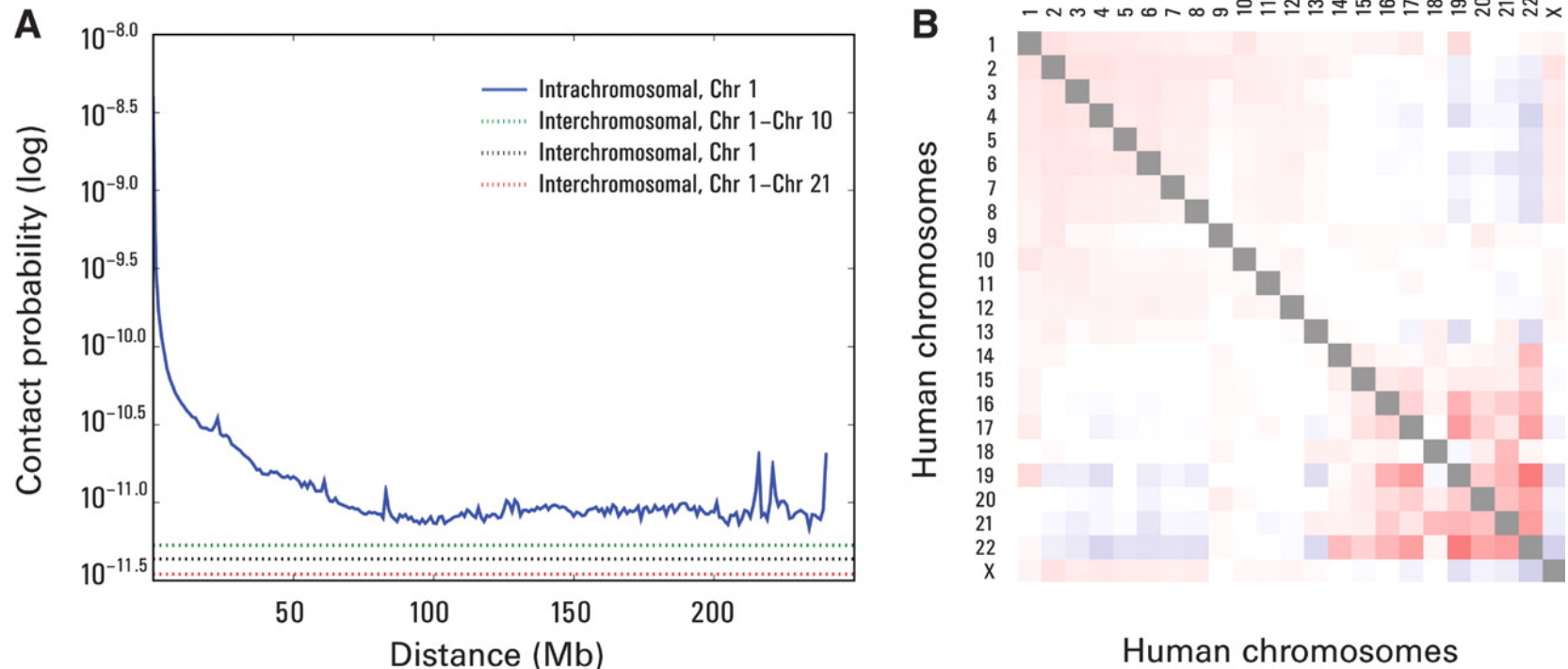


- Each pixel: all interactions between 1-Mb locuses
- Intensity: the total number of reads (0 to 50).
- Tick marks every 10 Mb.

C) a biological repeat using the same restriction enzyme  
D) a different restriction enzyme



# The presence and organization of chromosome territories



(A) Contact prob. decreases with distance.

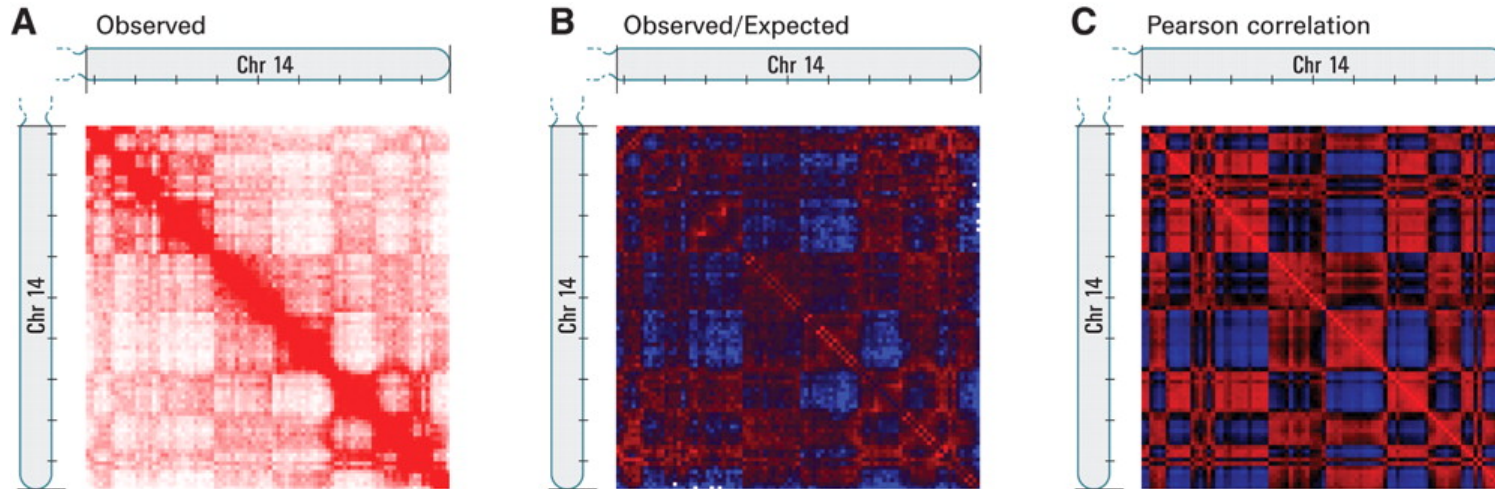
- Contacts more probable within than between chromosomes.

(B) Observed/expected number of interchromosomal contacts

- Red: enrichment, blue: depletion (range from 0.5 to 2).
- Small, gene-rich chromosomes interact more with one another, suggesting that they cluster together in the nucleus.



# Nucleus is segregated into to open & closed chromatin



(A) Substructure: intense diagonal, a constellation of large blocks

(B) Observed/expected matrix: each entry divided by the genome-wide average contact probability for loci at same genomic distance

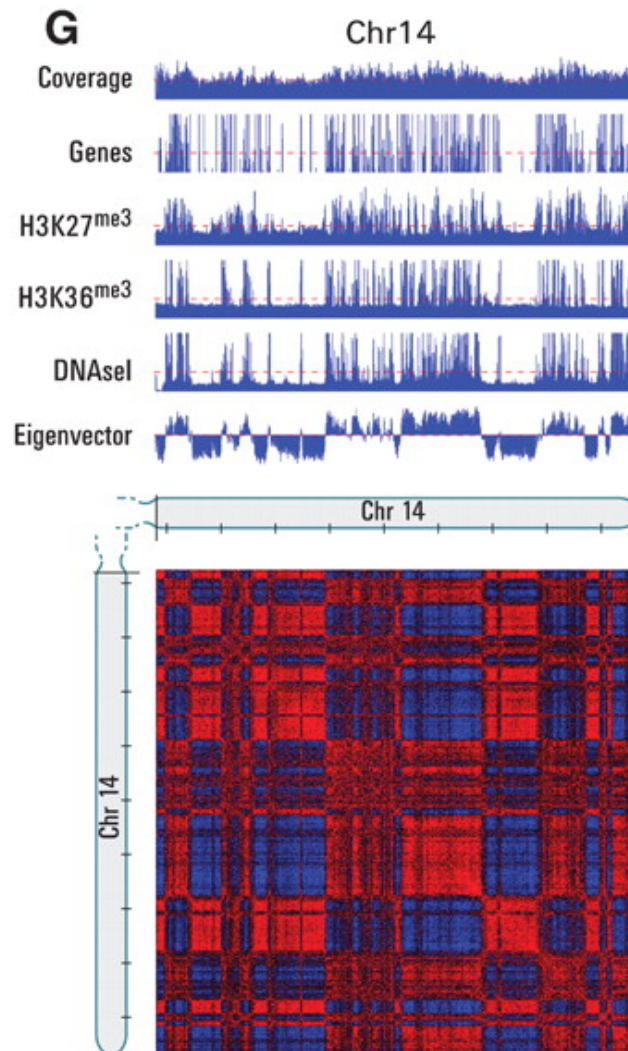
- more (red) or less (blue) interactions than would be expected, given their genomic distance (range from 0.2 to 5).

(C) Correlation matrix: entry  $ij = \text{cor}(\text{row } i, \text{column } j)$ , from -1 (blue) to +1 (red)

- The pattern indicates two compartments within the chromosome
- Contacts within each compartment enriched and contacts between depleted

# The less packed compartment correlates with active DNA

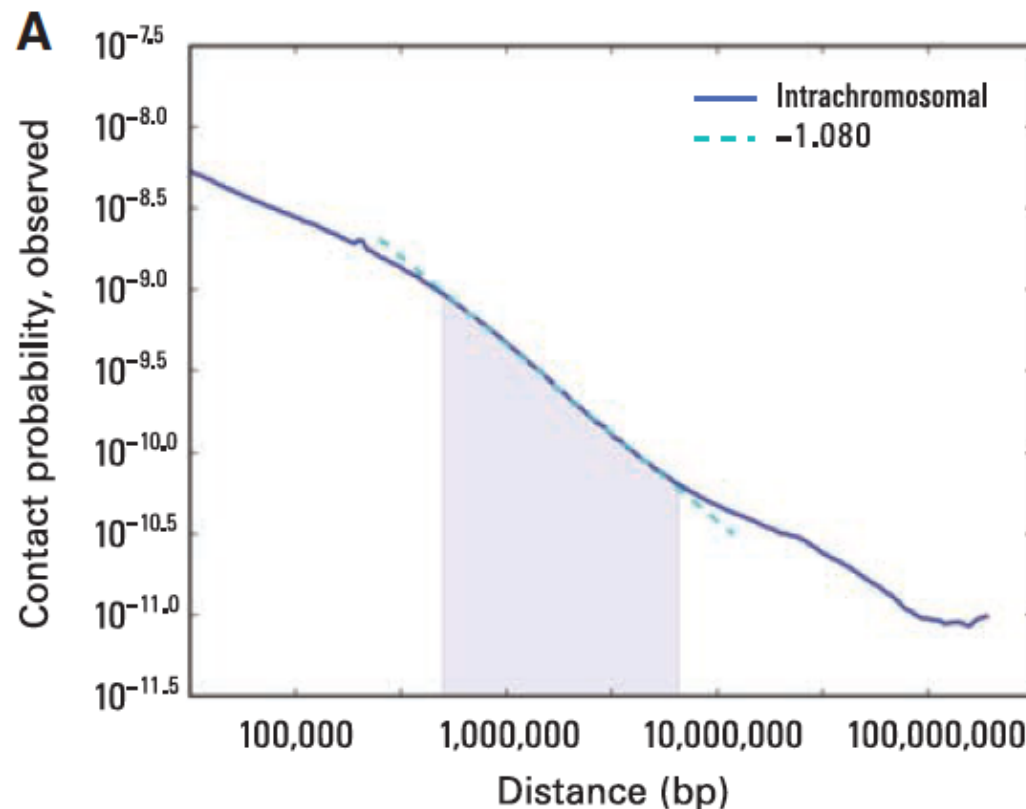
- Less packed: more contacts (red)



# Intrachromosomal contact prob $I$ as a function of distance $s$

- Power law relation:  $y = a x^k$
- Plotting power law on log – log scale gives a line:  $Y = -k X + b$ , where  $Y = \log(y)$ ,  $X = \log(x)$ ,  $b = \log(a)$

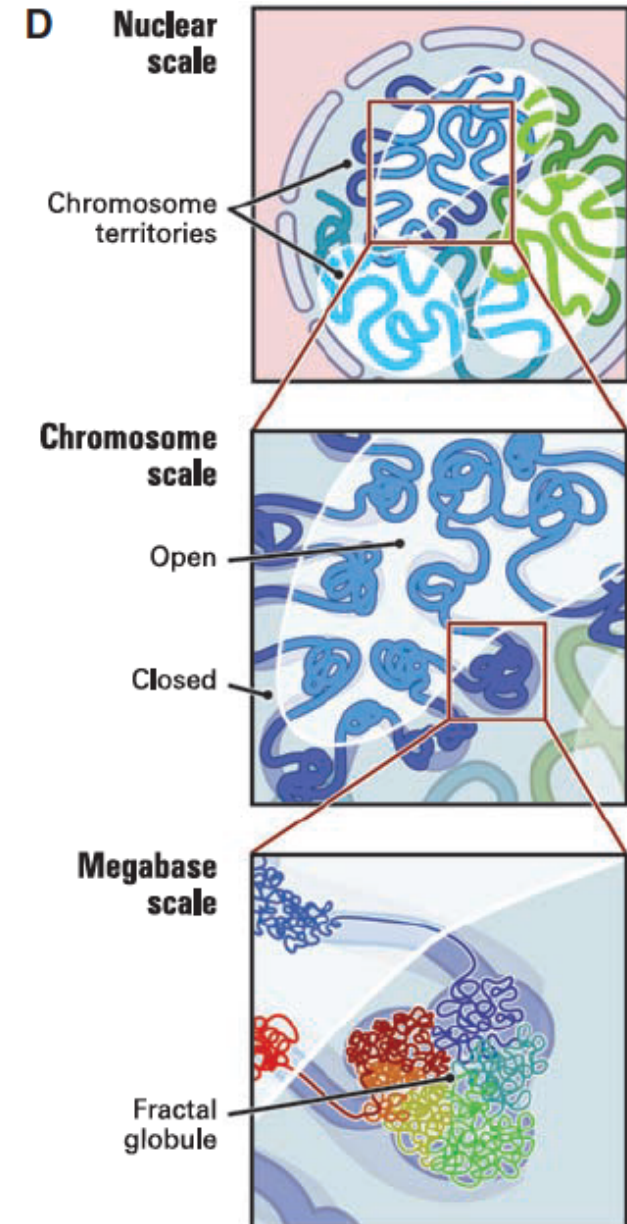
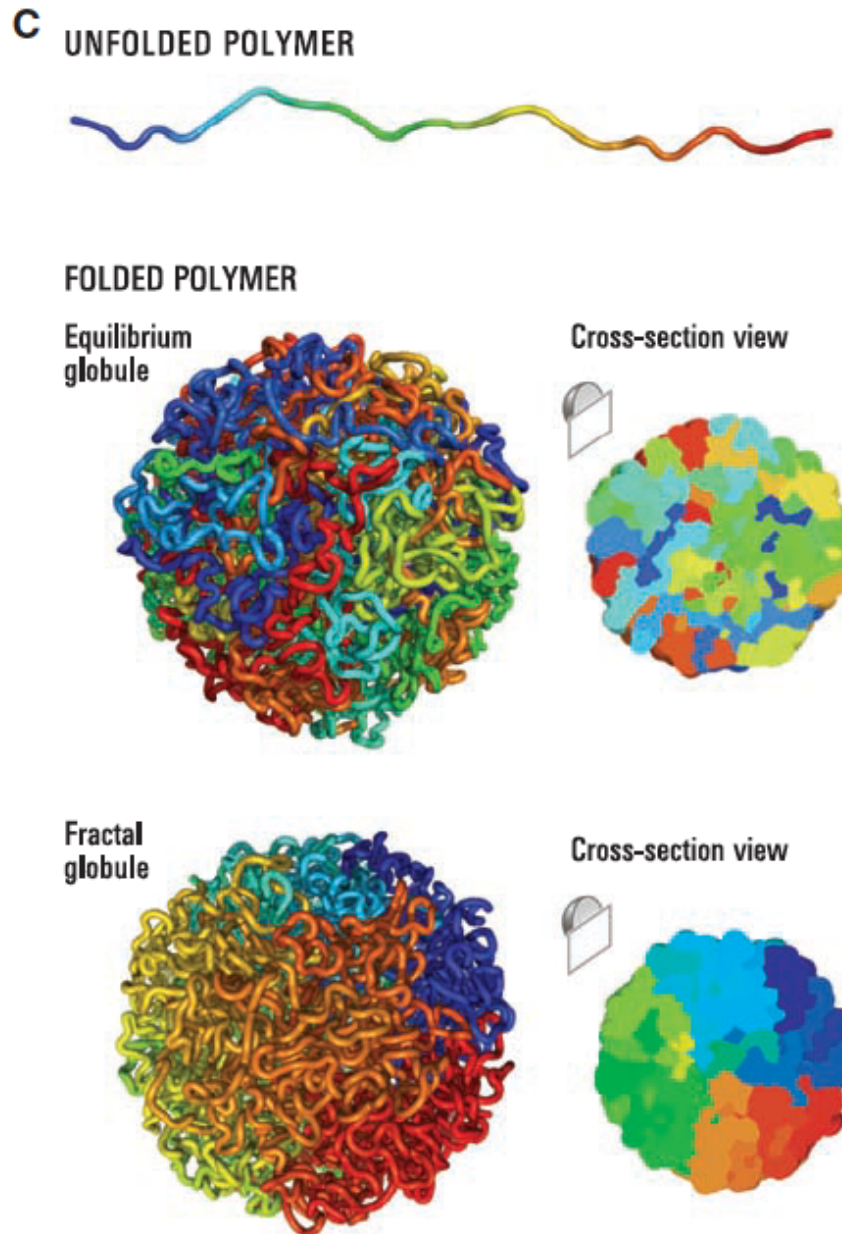
$I(s)$  plotted on log-log scale shows power law distribution with  $k = -1$ ,  
 $I(s) = s^{-1}$ , between 500 kb and 7 Mb



# Different models of chromatin organization

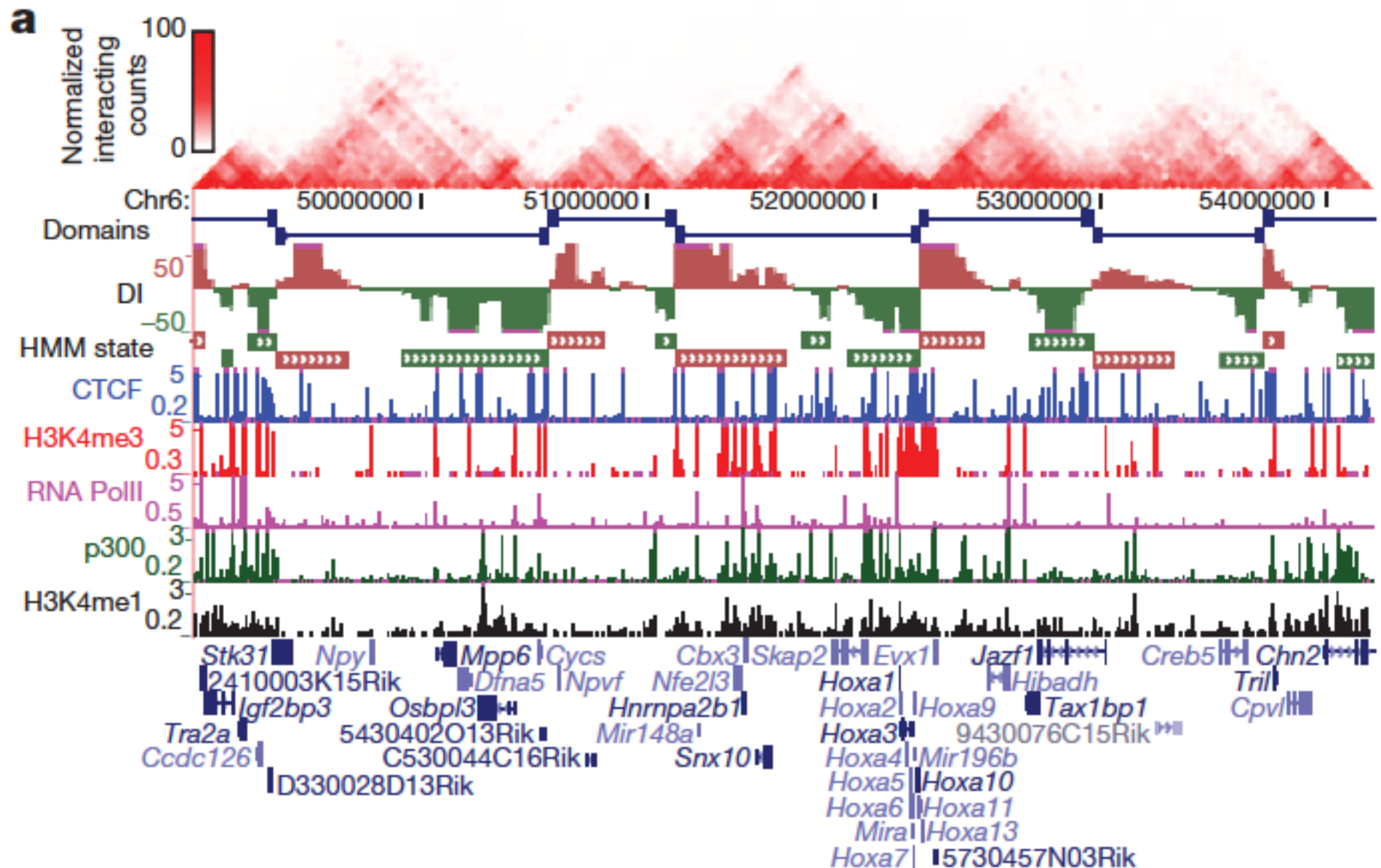
- DNA is a polymer: a large molecule composed of many repeated subunits.
- “equilibrium globule”: a compact configuration originally used to describe a polymer in a poor solvent at equilibrium. They
  - are highly knotted
  - have linear and spatial positions largely decorrelated after a few megabases
  - predict that contact probability will scale as  $s^{-3/2}$
- “fractal globule”: highly compact, globule-of- globules-of-globules that densely fills 3D space without crossing itself. They:
  - lack knots
  - facilitate unfolding and refolding, e.g, during gene activation
  - contiguous regions of the genome form spatial sectors whose size corresponds to the length of the original region
  - predict that contact probability will scale as  $s^{-1}$

# Chromatin is a fractal globule





# Topological association domains (TADs)



## Directionality index

- A : number of reads that map from a given 40kb bin to the upstream 2Mb (upstream mapping bias)
- B : no. of reads that map from the same 40kb bin to the downstream 2Mb (downstream mapping bias)
- $E = (A + B)/2$  (average of A and B)

$$DI = \left( \frac{B - A}{|B - A|} \right) \left( \frac{(A - E)^2}{E} + \frac{(B - E)^2}{E} \right)$$

- Useful to detect boundaries of TADs: more biased bins have a higher magnitude of DI.
- A HMM model to infer the “true” biases in the data



# Markov chain

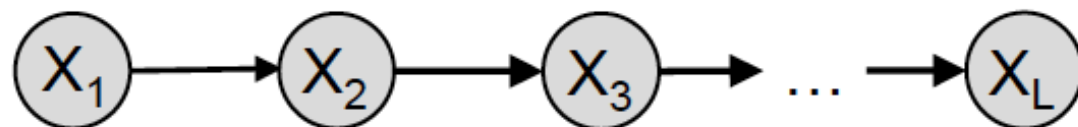
- Let  $\{X_1, \dots, X_L\}$  be discrete r. v. with common state space  $[K] = \{1, \dots, K\}$ .
- We always have the factorization

$$\begin{aligned} P(x_1, \dots, x_L) &= P(x_1, \dots, x_{L-1})P(x_L | x_{L-1}, \dots, x_1) \\ &= P(x_1, \dots, x_{L-2})P(x_{L-1} | x_{L-2}, \dots, x_1)P(x_L | x_{L-1}, \dots, x_1) \\ &\dots \\ &= P(x_1)P(x_2 | x_1)P(x_3 | x_2, x_1) \dots P(x_L | x_{L-1}, \dots, x_1) \end{aligned}$$

- $\{X_n\}$  is a Markov chain if the **Markov property** holds, i.e., if

$$P(X_n | X_{n-1}, \dots, X_1) = P(X_n | X_{n-1})$$

for all  $n = 2, \dots, L$ .



$$X_{n+1} \perp X_{n-1} | X_n$$

# Transition matrix

- A Markov chain  $\{X_n\}$  is homogeneous, if

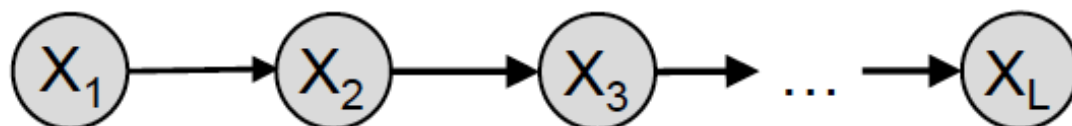
$$P(X_n | X_{n-1}) = P(X_2 | X_1) \quad \text{for all } n \geq 2$$

- A homogeneous Markov chain is determined by
  - the initial state distribution  $\Pi \in \Delta_{K-1}$  defined by

$$\Pi_k = P(X_1 = k)$$

- and the  $K \times K$  transition matrix  $T = (T_{kl})$  given by

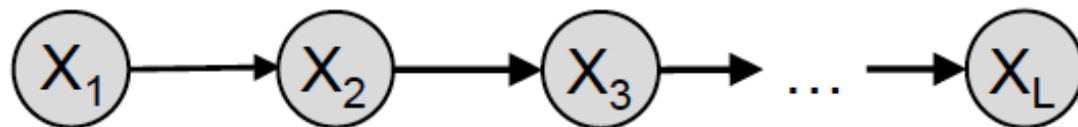
$$T_{kl} = P(X_{n+1} = l | X_n = k)$$



# Markov chain model

- The probability of an observation  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_L)$  in the Markov chain model  $MC(\Pi, T)$  is

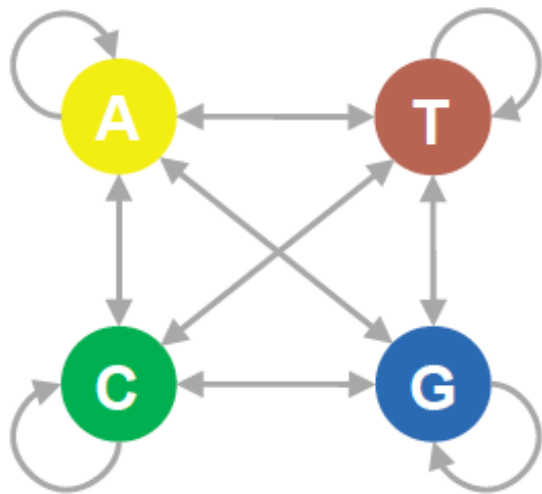
$$\begin{aligned} P(X = x) &= P(X_1 = x_1) \prod_{n=1}^{L-1} P(X_{n+1} = x_{n+1} \mid X_n = x_n) \\ &= \prod_{x_1} T_{x_n, x_{n+1}} \end{aligned}$$



# HMM for Hi C

- Hidden states: “Upstream Bias”, “Downstream Bias” or “No Bias”
- $Y = \{Y_1, \dots, Y_n\}$  : observed directionality index, modeled as mixtures of Gaussians
- $Q = \{Q_1, \dots, Q_n\}$  : the true hidden directionality biases
- $M = \{M_1, \dots, M_n\}$ : mixtures
- $P(Y_t = y_t \mid Q_t = i, M_t = m) = N(y_t; \mu_{i,m}, \Sigma_{i,m})$
- $P(M_t = m \mid Q_t = i) = C(i, m)$ ,  
where  $C$  encodes the mixture weights for each state  $i$ .
- Baum-Welch algorithm [EM] to compute maximum likelihood estimates

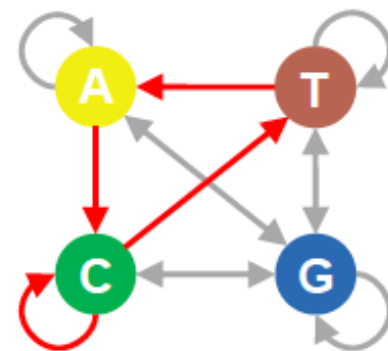
# DNA example



$$\Pi = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} A \\ C \\ G \\ T \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} A \\ C \\ G \\ T \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} .3 \\ .4 \\ .2 \\ .1 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$T = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} A & C & G & T \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} A \\ C \\ G \\ T \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} .3 & .1 & .3 & .3 \\ .4 & .1 & .1 & .4 \\ .3 & .2 & .2 & .3 \\ .3 & .2 & .1 & .4 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

- We consider DNA sequences  $x \in \{A, C, G, T\}^*$  as observations of a homogeneous Markov chain  $\{X_i\}$ .
- For example,  
 $P(\text{ACCTA}) = 0.3 \cdot 0.1 \cdot 0.1 \cdot 0.4 \cdot 0.3$



# CpG islands

- CpG islands are stretches of mammalian genomes enriched for the dinucleotide CG, typically 300 to 3,000 bases long.
- CG tends to mutate to CT, so in general  $P(CG) < P(C)P(G)$
- But in promoter regions, this effect is suppressed and hence CpG islands are more common.

# How can we find CpG islands in a genome?

...ACTTCGCGCGCCGATGCCACTGCACATGCATGCATCGCGCGCCGCGCGACAGACTTACG...

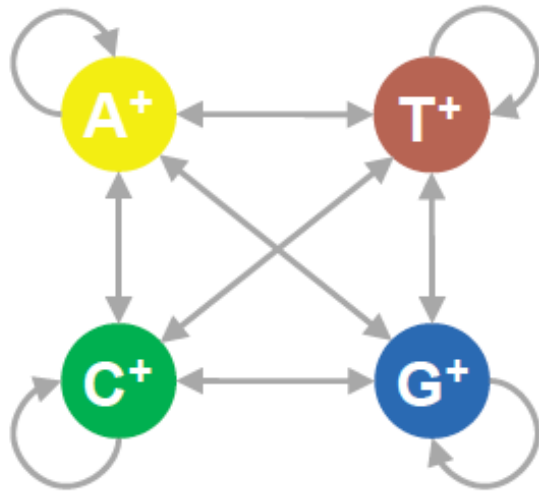


# Annotating genomic sequences

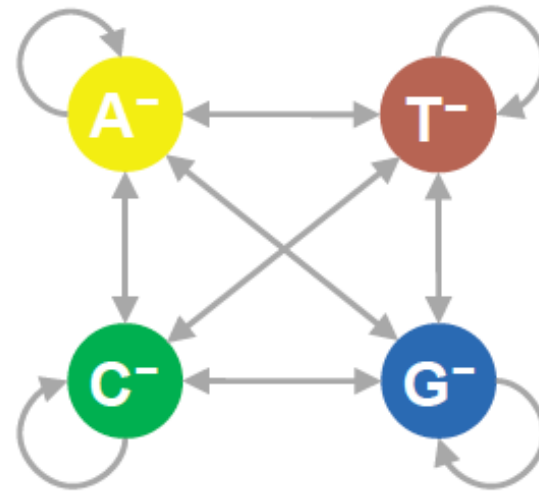
...-----+++++++-----+++++++-----...  
...ACTTCGCGCGCCGATGCCACTGCACATGCATGCATCGCGCGCCGCGCGACAGACTTACG...

# Two Markov chain models

...-----+++++-----+++++-----...  
...ACTT**CGCGCGCCG**ATGCCACTGCACATGCATGCAT**CGCGCGCCGCGCG**ACAGACTTACG...



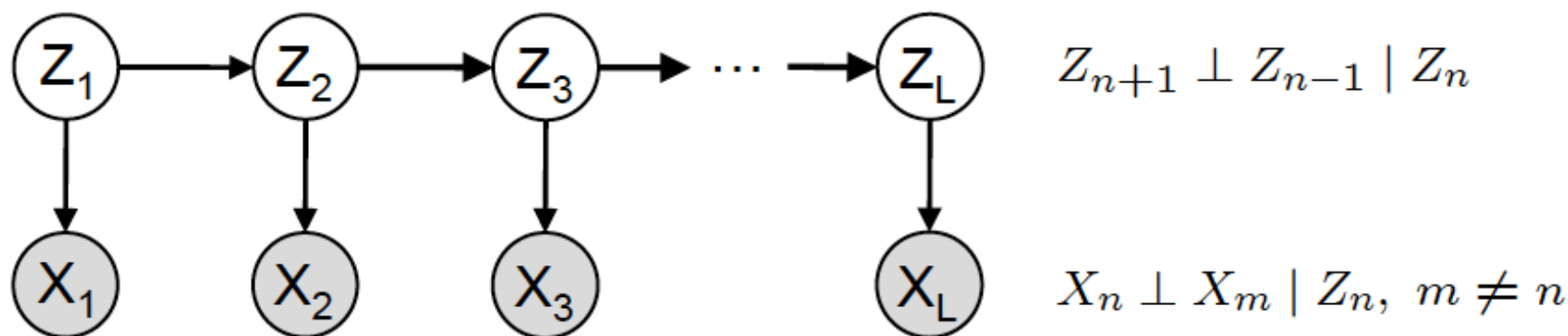
CpG island



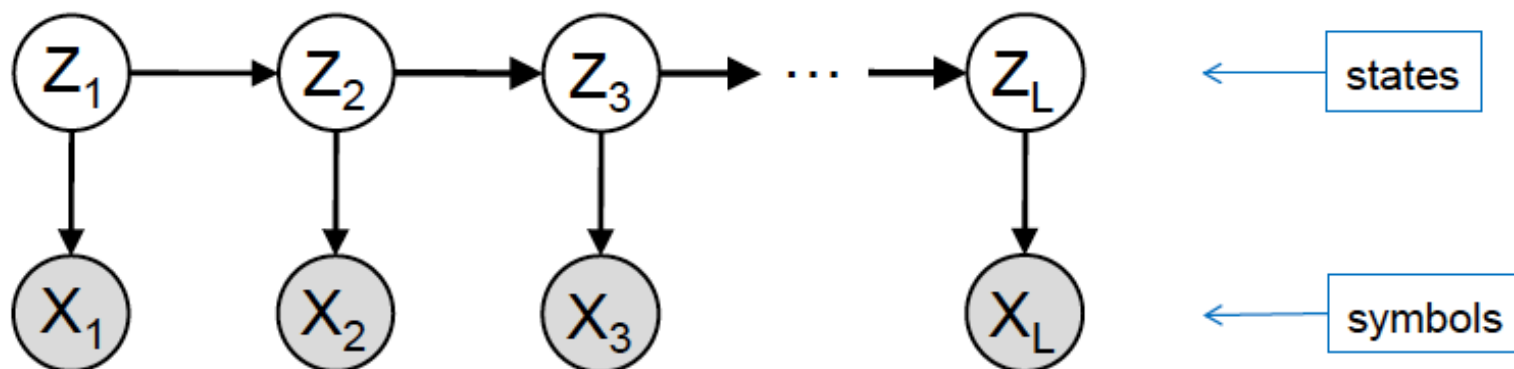
Non-CpG island

# Hidden Markov model (HMM)

- Hidden (non-observable) random variables  $\{Z_n\}$  form a homogeneous Markov chain (the annotation).
  - For example,  $Z_n$  indicates whether sequence position  $n$  belongs to a CpG island or not,  $Z_n \in \{+, -\}$ .
- Observed random variables  $X_n \in \{A, C, G, T\}$  result from hidden states emitting symbols.

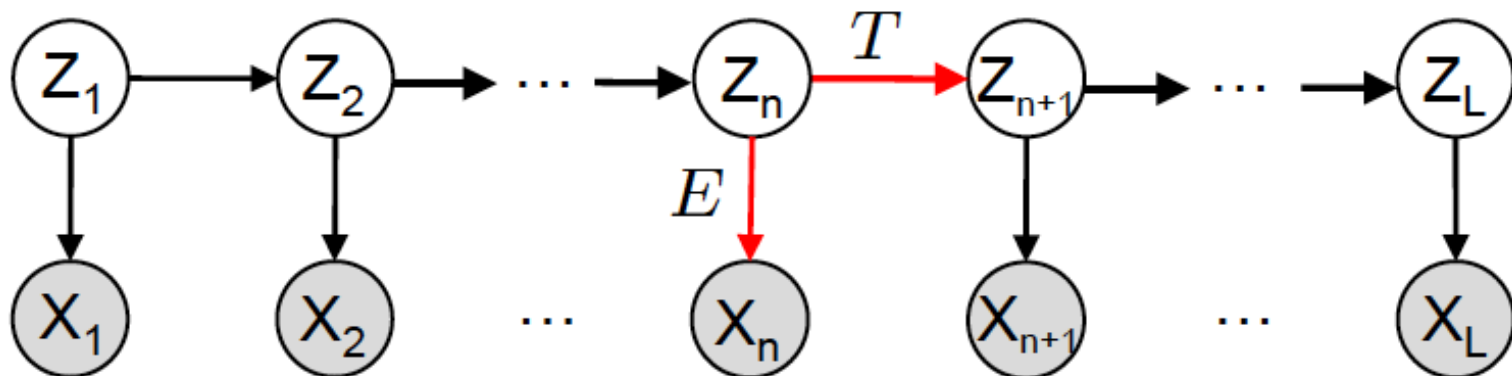


# Definitions



- Initial state probabilities:  $\Pi_k = P(Z_1 = k)$
- Transition probabilities:  $T_{kl} = P(Z_n = l \mid Z_{n-1} = k)$
- Emission probabilities:  $E_{kx} = P(X_n = x \mid Z_n = k)$

# Joint probability

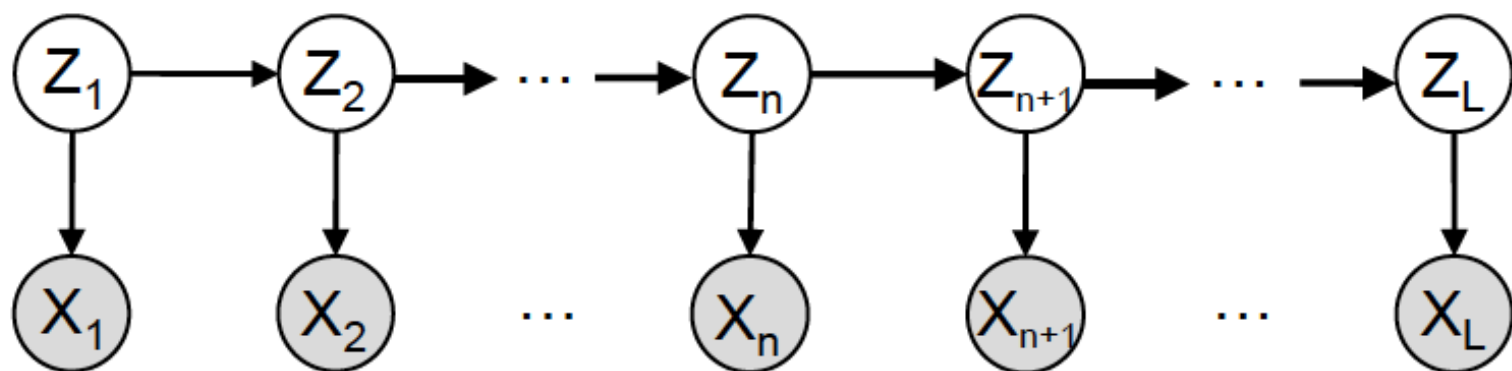


$$P(X, Z) = P(Z_1) \prod_{n=1}^L P(X_n | Z_n) P(Z_{n+1} | Z_n)$$

$$= \prod_{Z_1} \prod_{n=1}^L E_{Z_n, X_n} T_{Z_n, Z_{n+1}}$$

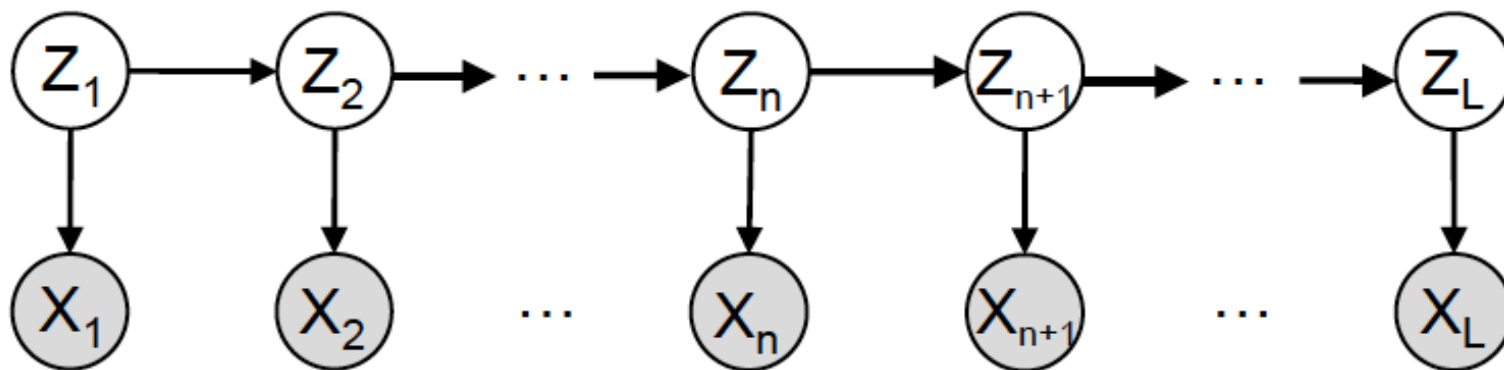
where  $P(Z_{L+1} | Z_L) = T_{Z_L, Z_{L+1}} \equiv 1$

## State path



- We observe the DNA sequence  $X$ , but we are interested in the hidden states  $Z$  of the Markov chain (the *annotation*).
- Each  $z = (z_1, \dots, z_L)$  is called a state path. There are  $K^L$  possible paths, where  $K$  is the number of (hidden) states.
- Different state path can give rise to the same sequence of observed symbols, but with different probabilities.

# Decoding



- For given parameters, the decoding problem is to find the most probable state path  $z$  for a given observation  $x$ :

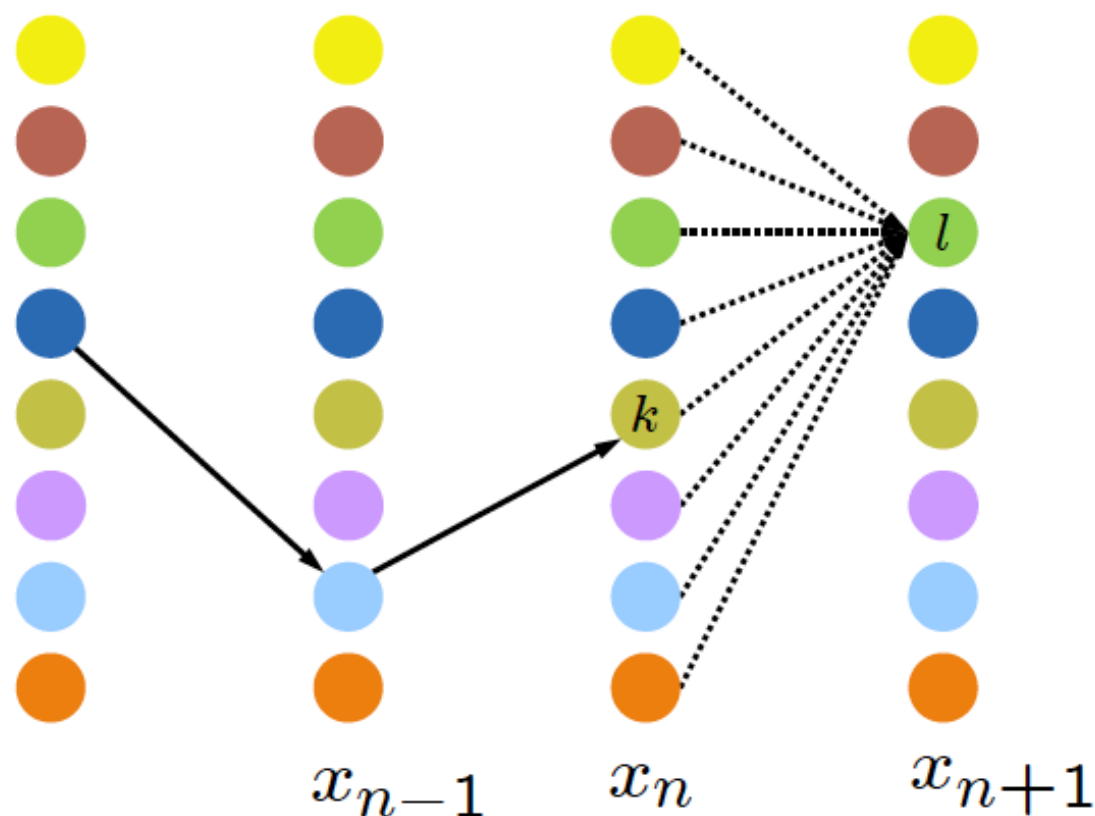
$$z^* = \underset{z}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(X = x, Z = z)$$



# Viterbi algorithm: basic idea

- Define  $v_k(n)$  as the probability of  $\mathbf{z}^*$  ending in state  $k$  with observation  $x_n$
- If  $v_k(n)$  is known for all states  $k$ , then  $v_l(n+1)$  is obtained by maximizing over all states:

$$v_l(n+1) = E_{l,x_{n+1}} \max_k v_k(n) T_{kl}$$



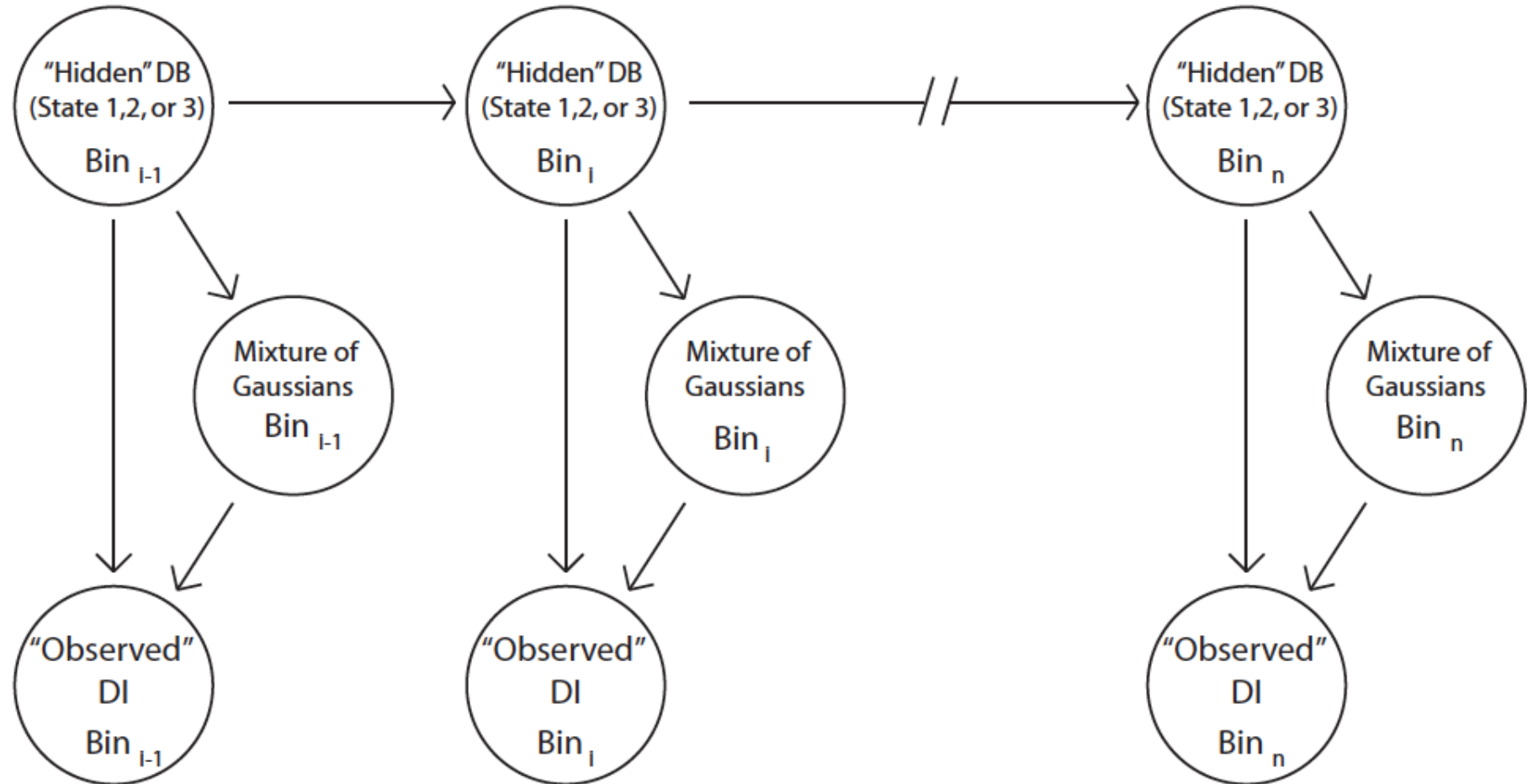
# Viterbi algorithm

- Initialization:
  - $v_0(0) = 1$
  - $v_k(0) = 0$  for all  $k > 1$
- Recursion: for  $n = 1, \dots, L$ ,
  - $v_l(n) = E_{l \times n} \max_k v_k(n-1)T_{kl}$  for all  $l = 1, \dots, K$
  - $\text{ptr}_n(l) = \text{argmax}_k v_k(n-1)T_{kl}$  for all  $l = 1, \dots, K$
- Termination (assuming an end state):
  - $P(x, z^*) = \max_k v_k(L)T_{k0}$
  - $z^*_L = \text{argmax}_k v_k(L)T_{k0}$
- Traceback: for  $n = L, \dots, 1$ ,
  - $z^*_{n-1} = \text{ptr}_n(z^*_n)$
- Dynamic programming,  $O(LK^2)$  despite  $K^L$  paths!

# Summary

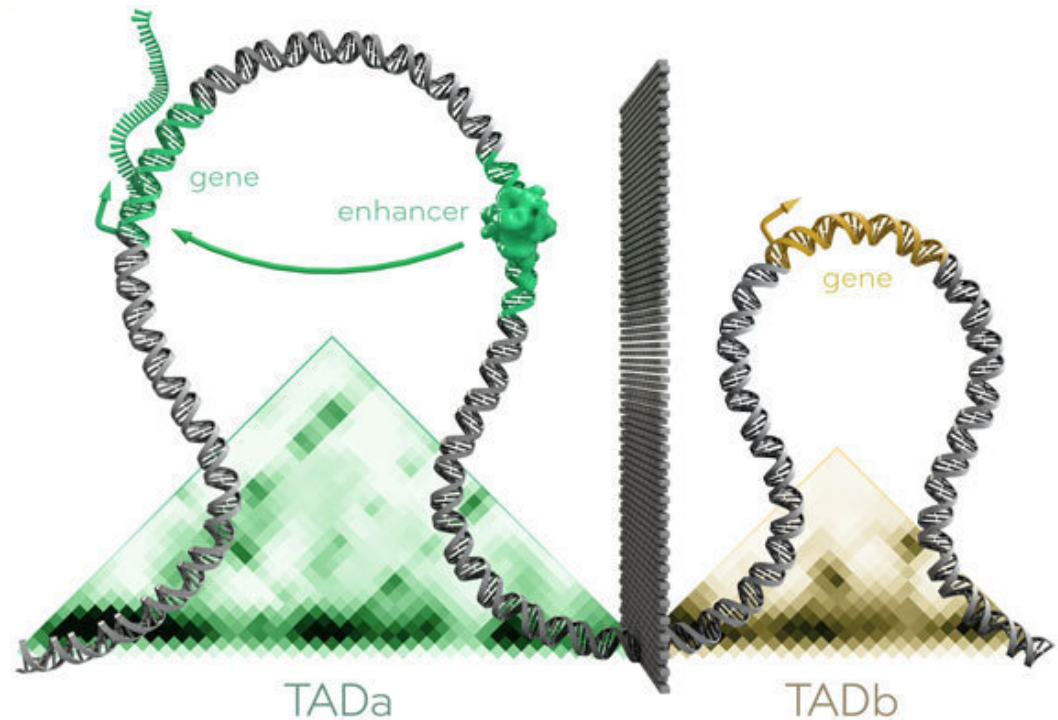
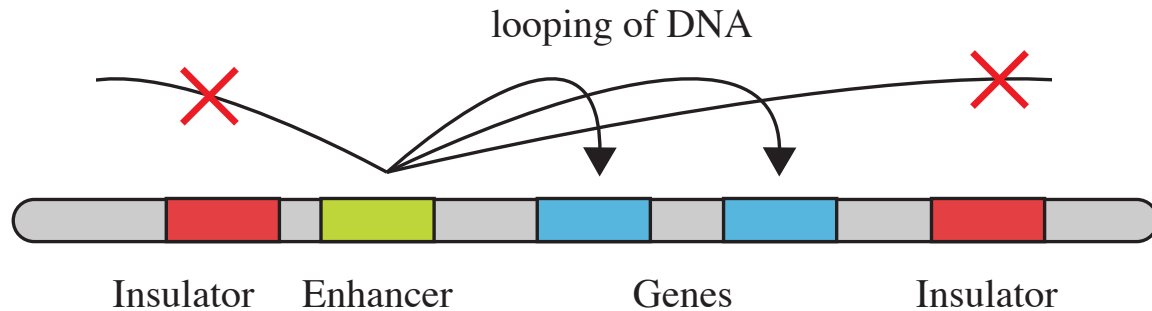
- Markov chains can model temporal or spatial (linear) dependencies.
- HMMs consist of a hidden state space with a Markov chain structure emitting observable symbols.
- HMMs are frequently used for genome annotation, for example, CpG islands, gene finding, etc.
- The Viterbi algorithm computes the most probable state path and the forward and backward algorithms the likelihood in an efficient way.
- Parameter estimation can be performed using the EM algorithm (Baum-Welch algorithm).

# HMM for Hi C



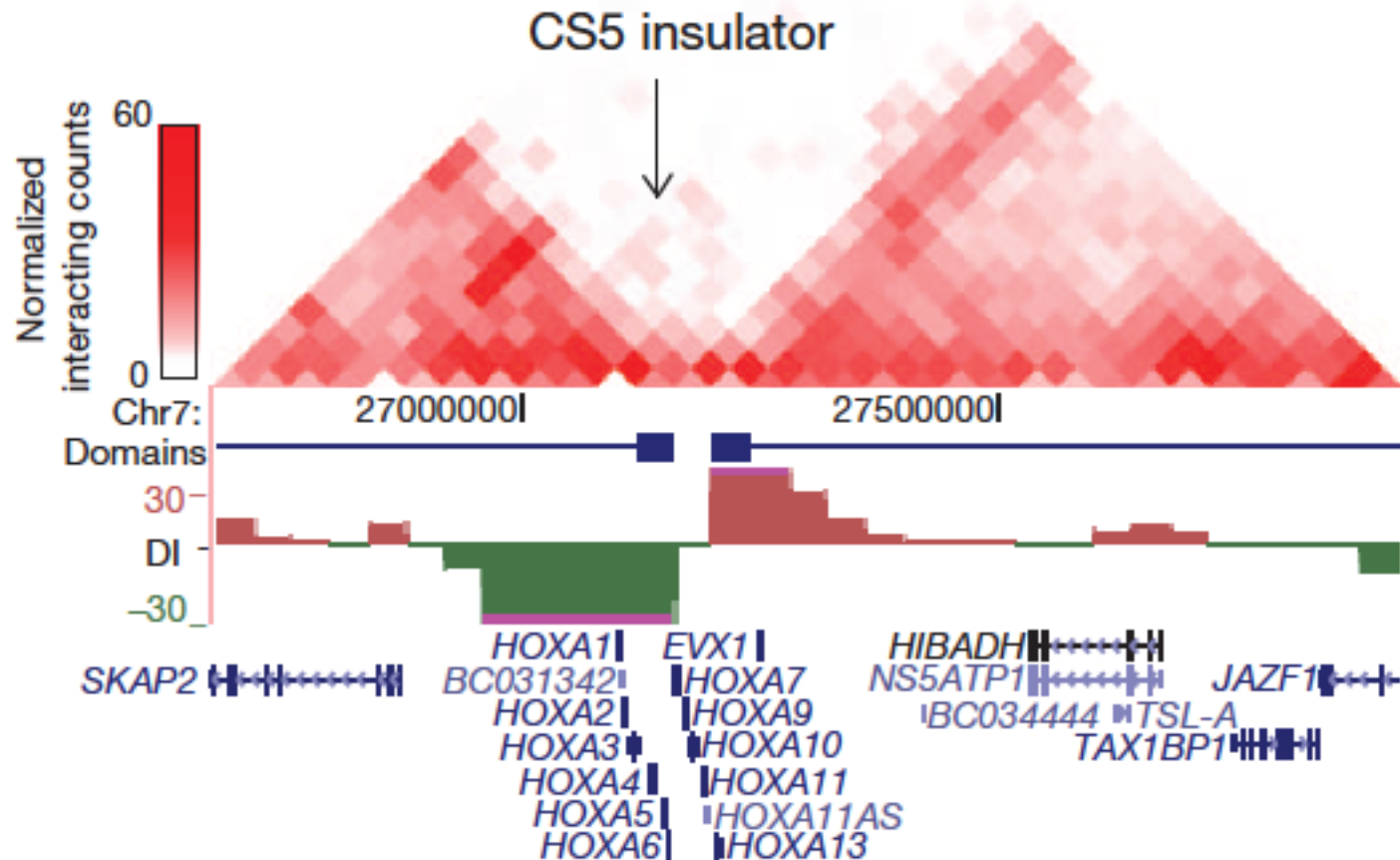
# Boundaries of TADs ~ insulator (barrier) elements

- Insulator: genetic boundary element that blocks the interaction between enhancers and promoters.



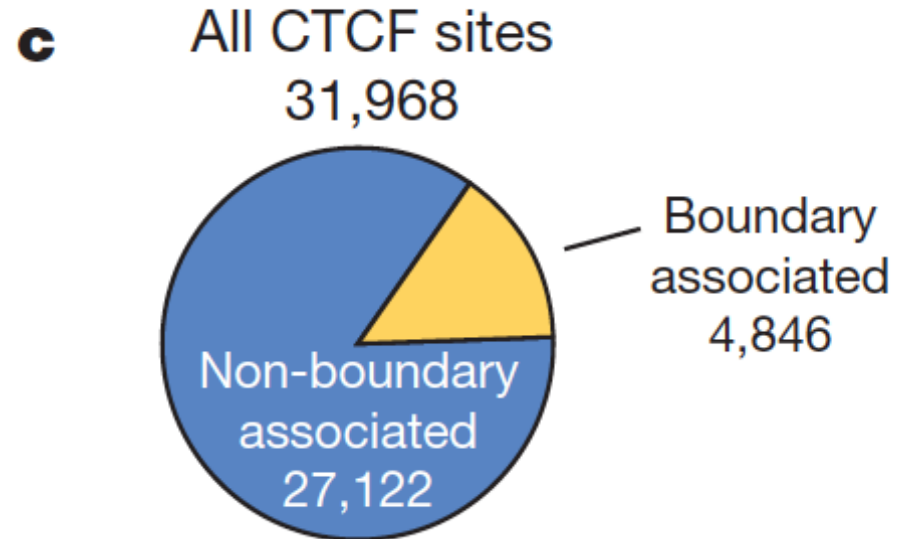
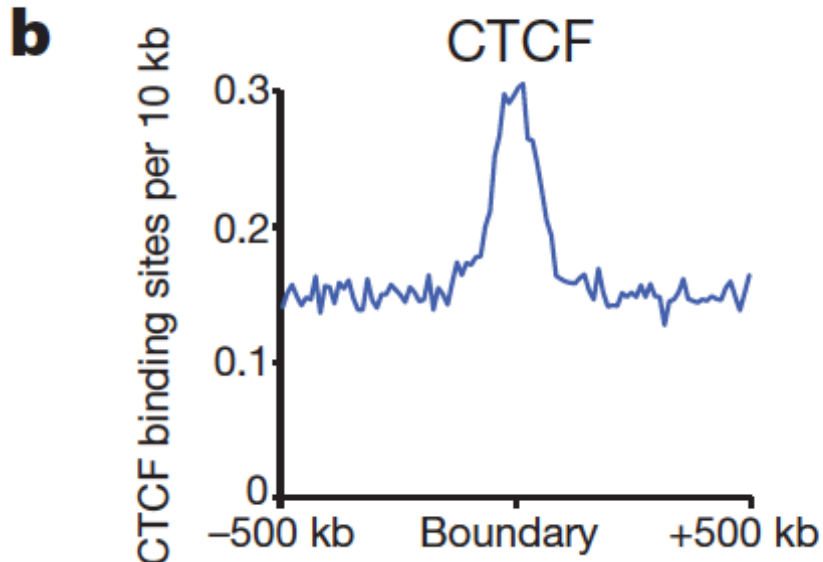
# Boundaries of TADs ~ insulator (barrier) elements

- Insulator: genetic boundary element that blocks the interaction between enhancers and promoters.
- Eg. The Hoxa locus



## Boundaries of TADs ~ insulator (barrier) elements

- Many known insulator or barrier elements bound by the zincfinger-containing protein CTCF
- Strong enrichment of CTCF at the topological boundary regions
- CTCF binds also outside of the boundary regions
- How to show enrichment?

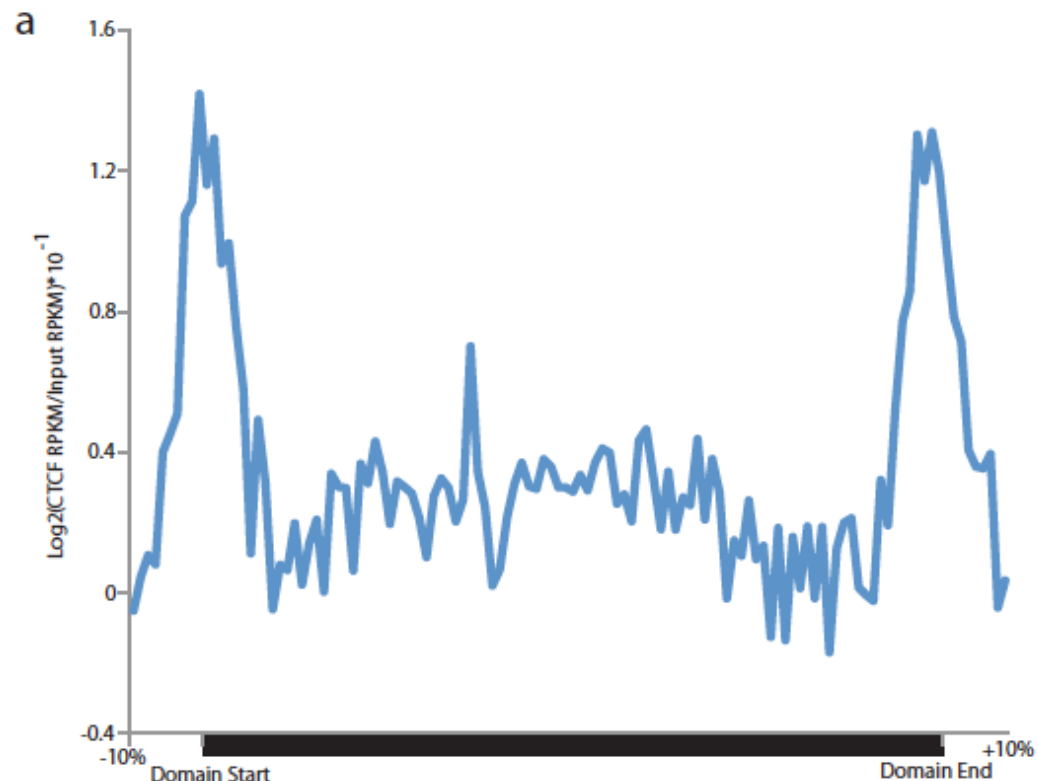




# CTCF enrichment at topological boundary regions

## Average enrichment plot of CTCF over topological domains.

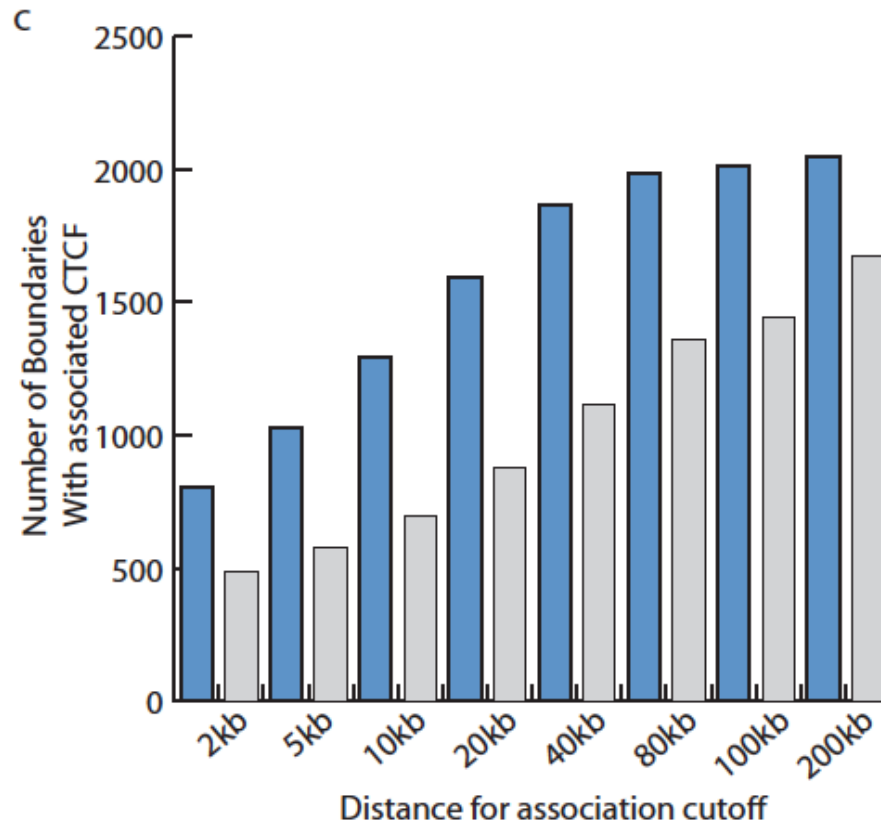
- Each TAD divided into 100 equal size bins ( $\pm 10$  bins from each end of the domain).
- $\log_2$  ratio of CTCF RPKM over Input (control) calculated for each bin, shown as an average over TADs.
- CTCF enriched on the edges.



# CTCF enrichment at topological boundary regions

**Number of boundaries with an associated CTCF site for varying window size cut offs.**

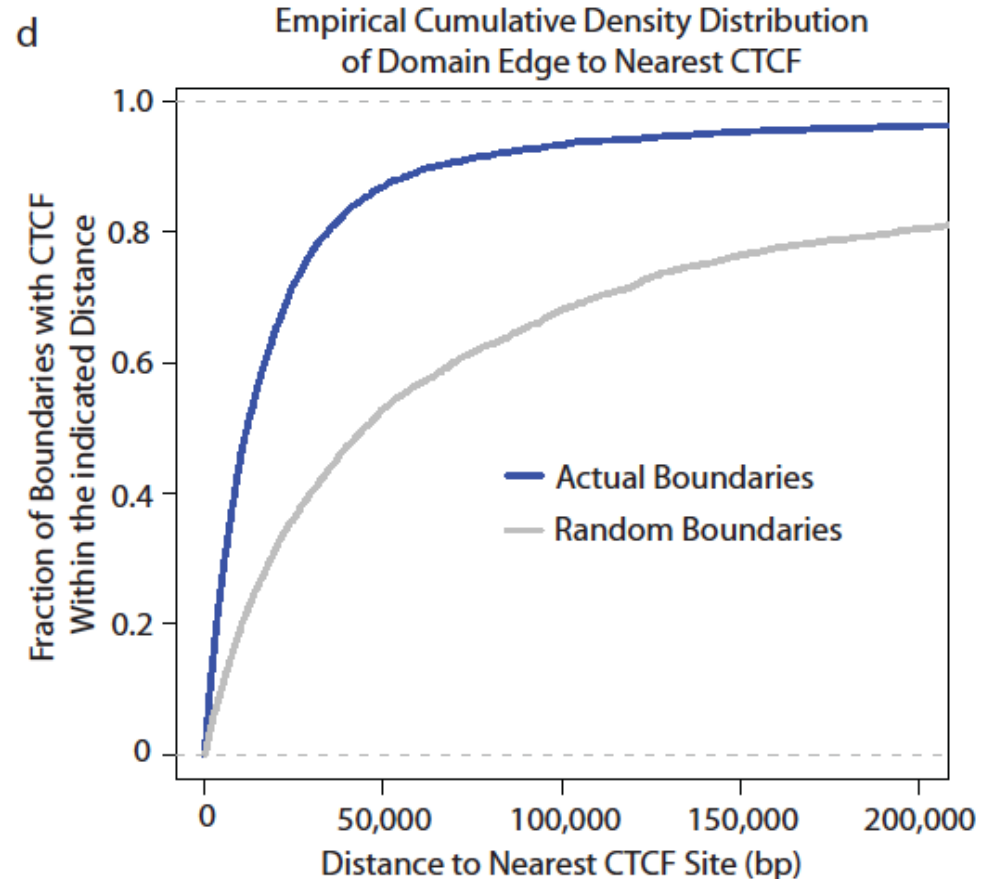
- Blue: For each distance D, the number of boundaries with a CTCF within +/- D.
- Gray: the number expected at random at the same distance cut-off.



# CTCF enrichment at topological boundary regions

**The empirical cumulative density distribution of the distance between the domain border and the nearest CTCF binding site (in bp).**

- Blue: The distance between the actual boundaries and the nearest CTCF site
- Gray: The distance to randomized boundaries



# Bibliography

- Erez Lieberman-Aiden et al. Comprehensive Mapping of Long-Range Interactions Reveals Folding Principles of the Human Genome. *Science* 9 October 2009: Vol. 326 no. 5950 pp. 289-293.
- Neph et al. *An expansive human cis-regulatory lexicon encoded in transcription factor footprints.* Nature 489:83-90, 2012
- Piper et al. *Wellington: a novel method for the accurate identification of digital genomic footprints from DNase-seq data.* Nucleic Acids Research, 2013, Vol. 41, No. 21 e201
- Boyle et al. *F-Seq: a feature density estimator for high-throughput sequence tags.* Bioinformatics Vol. 24 no. 21 2008, pages 2537–2538