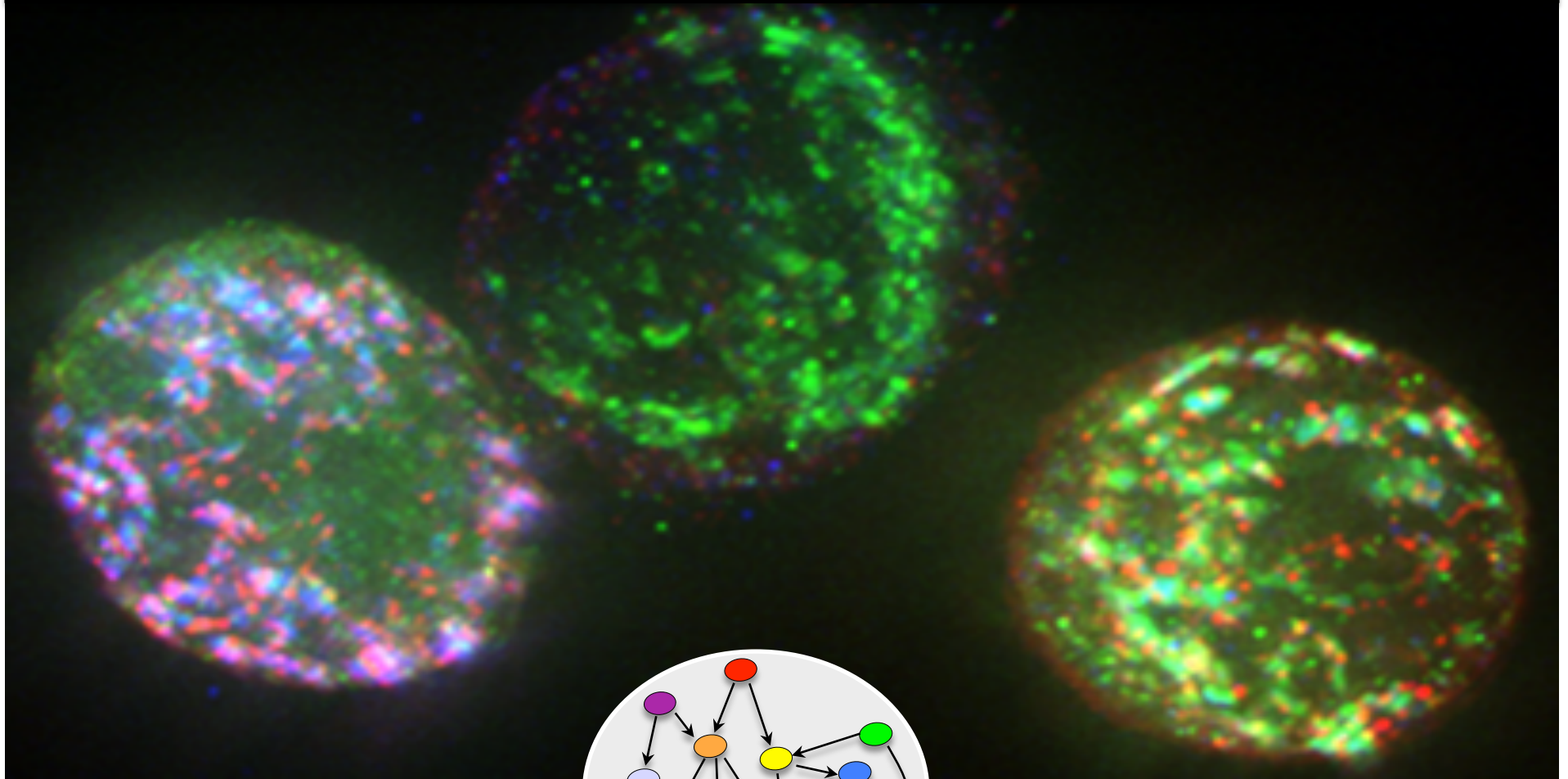
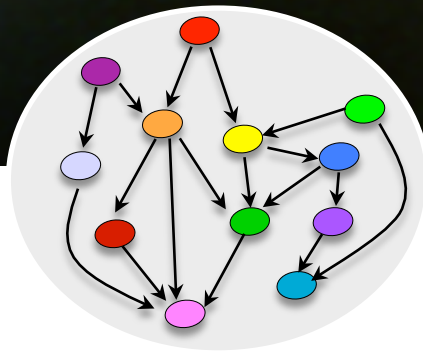


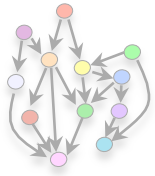
# Causal learning of biomolecular networks



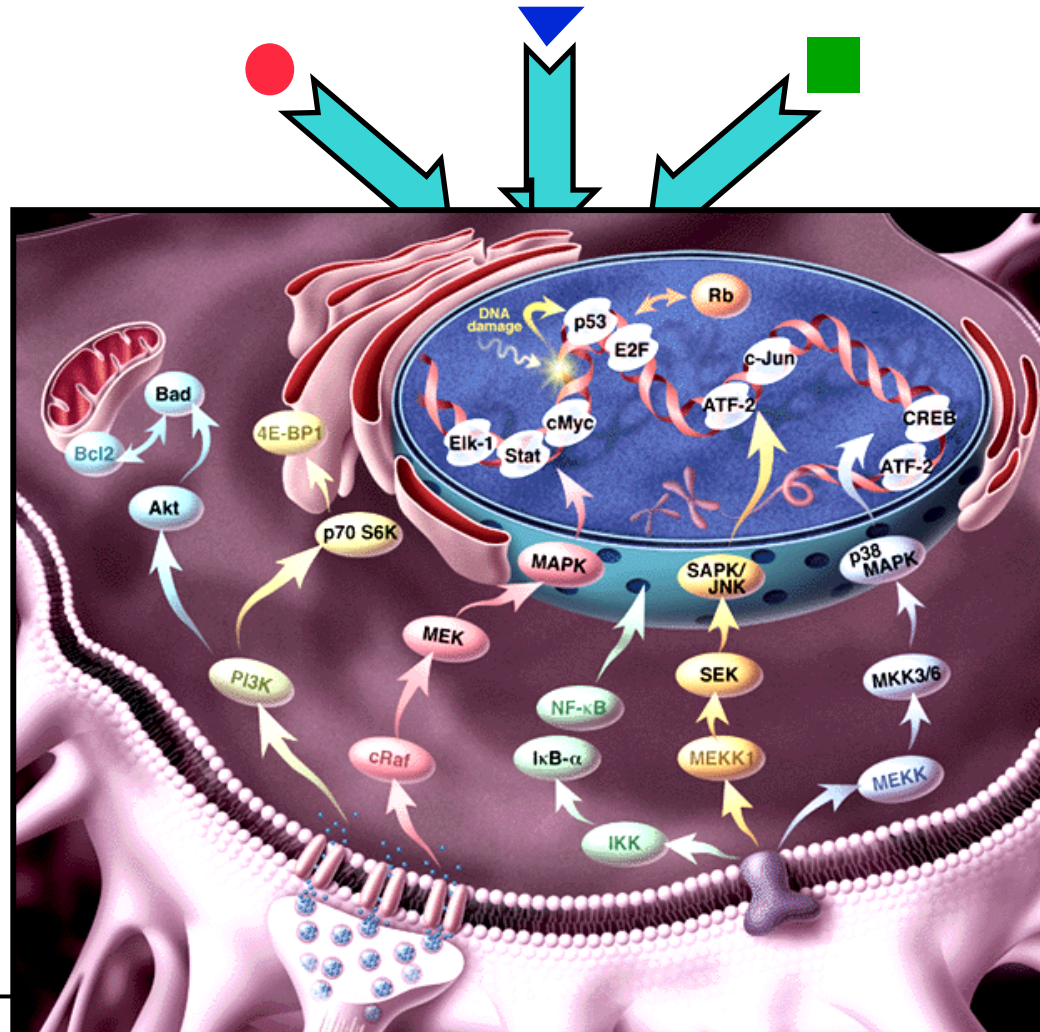
Karen Sachs



Stanford University



# Cells respond to their environment



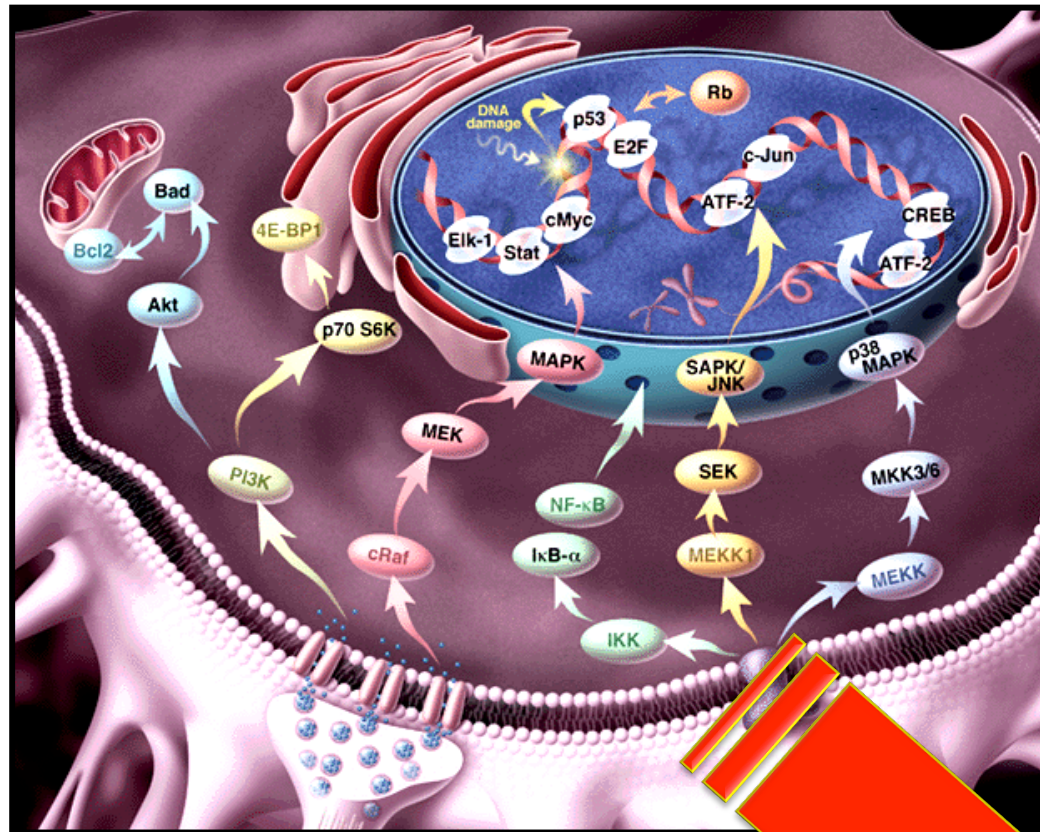
Secrete cytokines

Cell death

Proliferation

Inside each cell is a molecular network

..which breaks down in disease states

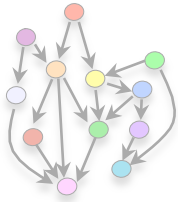


Secrete signals

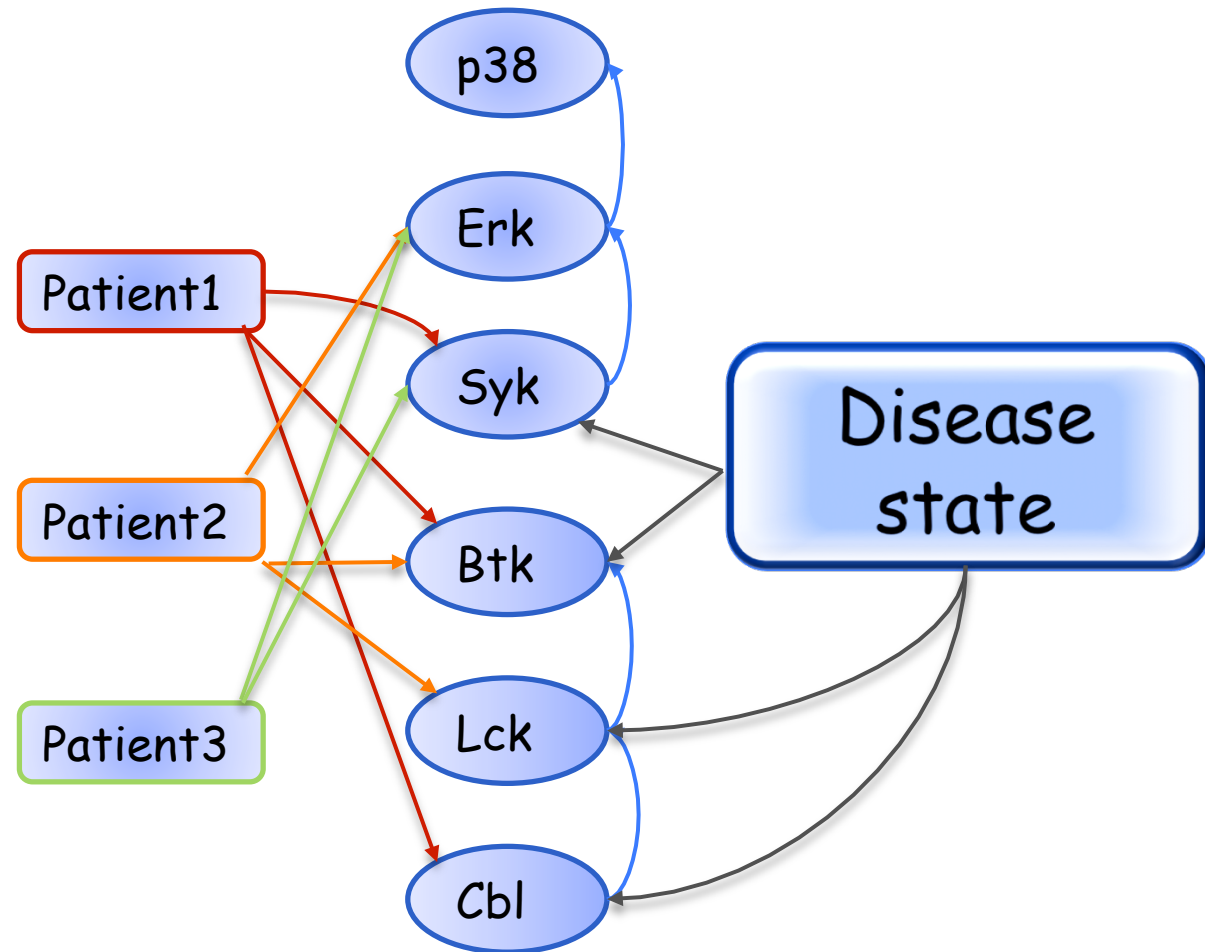
Cell death

Proliferation



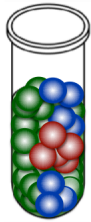


Motive: Characterize normal, disease, drug..





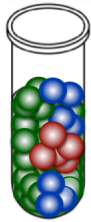
# Causal learning in signaling



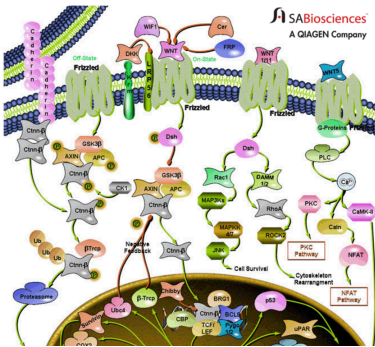
Where does data come from?

- Technology

# Causal learning in signaling



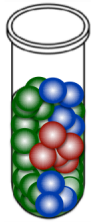
Where does data come from?



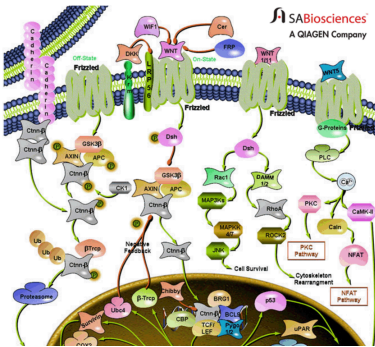
What causal connections appear?

- What happens?
- What can we see?

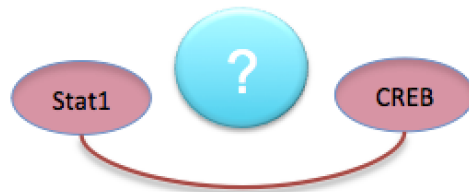
# Causal learning in signaling



Where does data come from?



What causal connections appear?

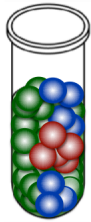


What is needed for causal learning?

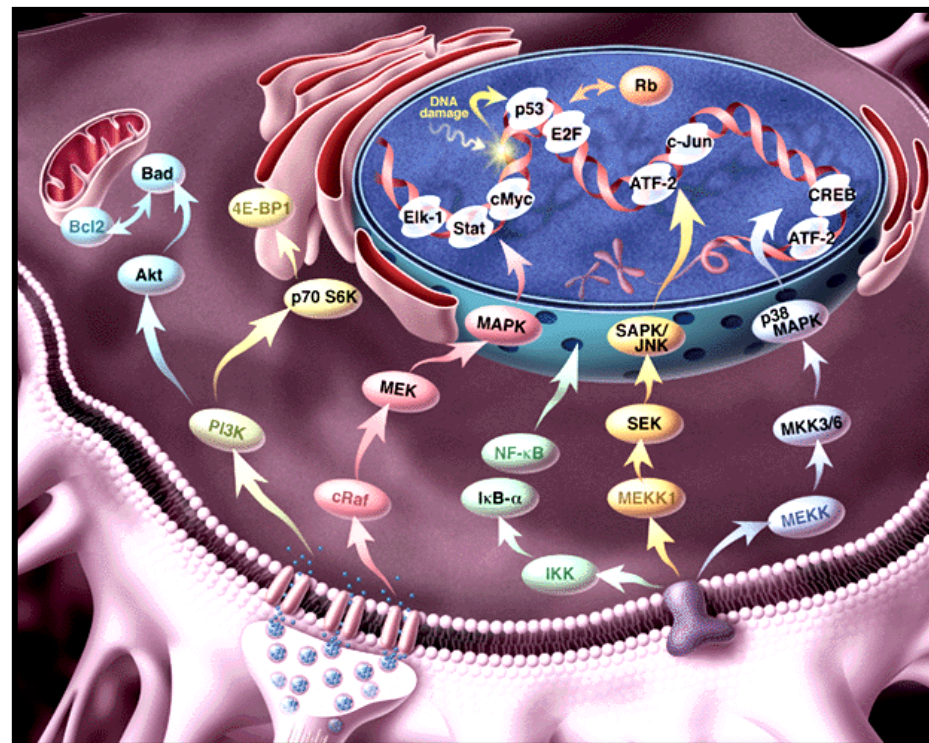
- Outstanding challenges



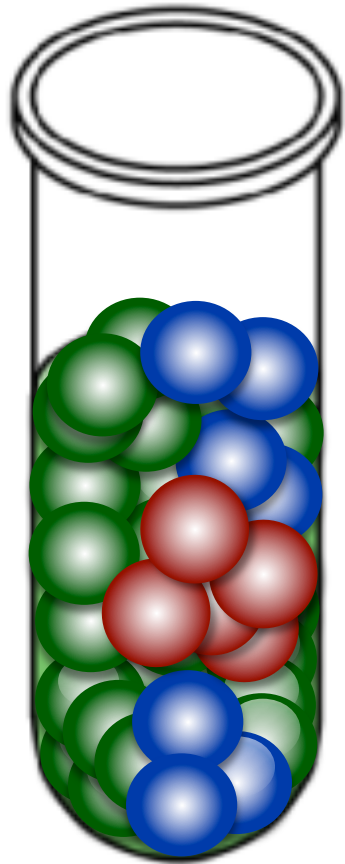
# Causal learning in signaling



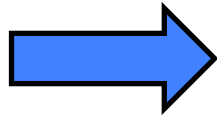
## 1. Where does data come from?



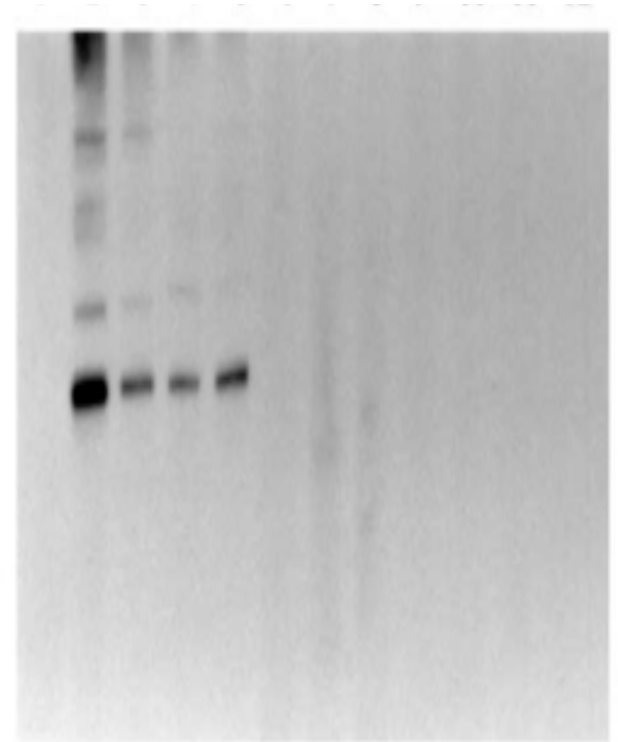
# Samples are blended routinely



Tumor sample



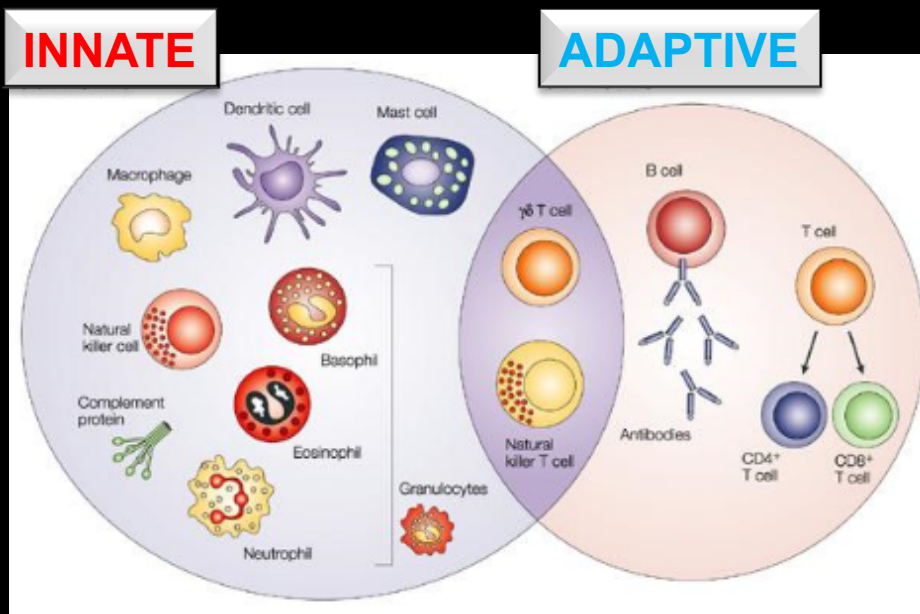
Lab Blender!



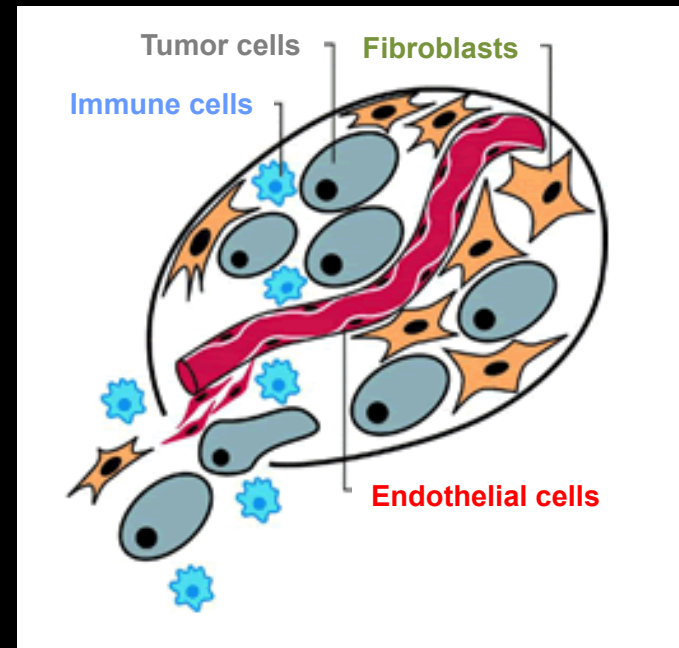
Biological  
measurements

# Why single cell? (Biology perspective)

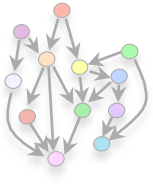
Innate and adaptive branches of the Immune **system** communicate with each other to mount an effective immune response



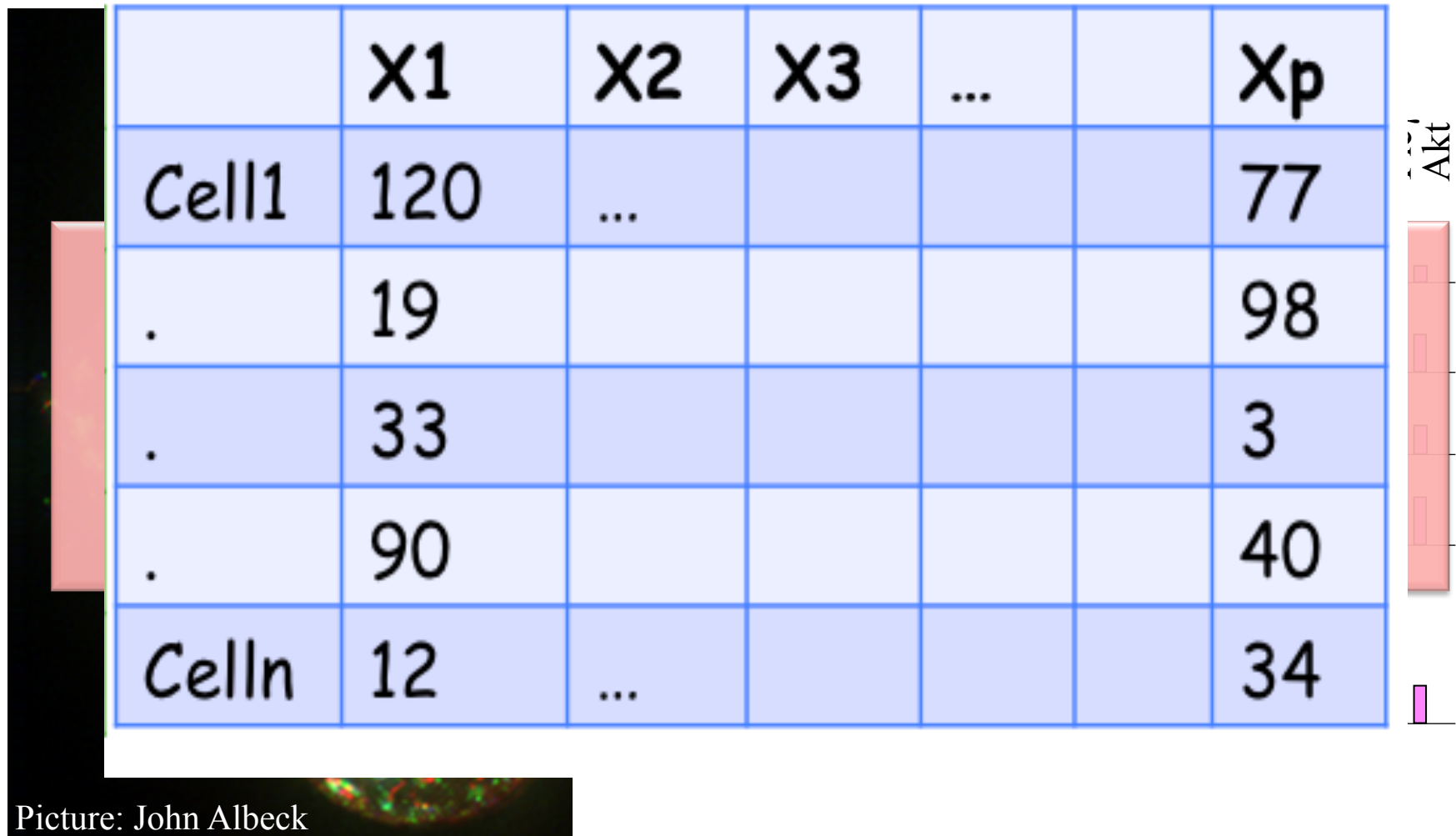
Cancer is a complex **system** with defined interdependent compartments



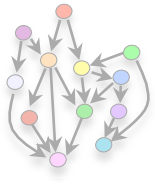




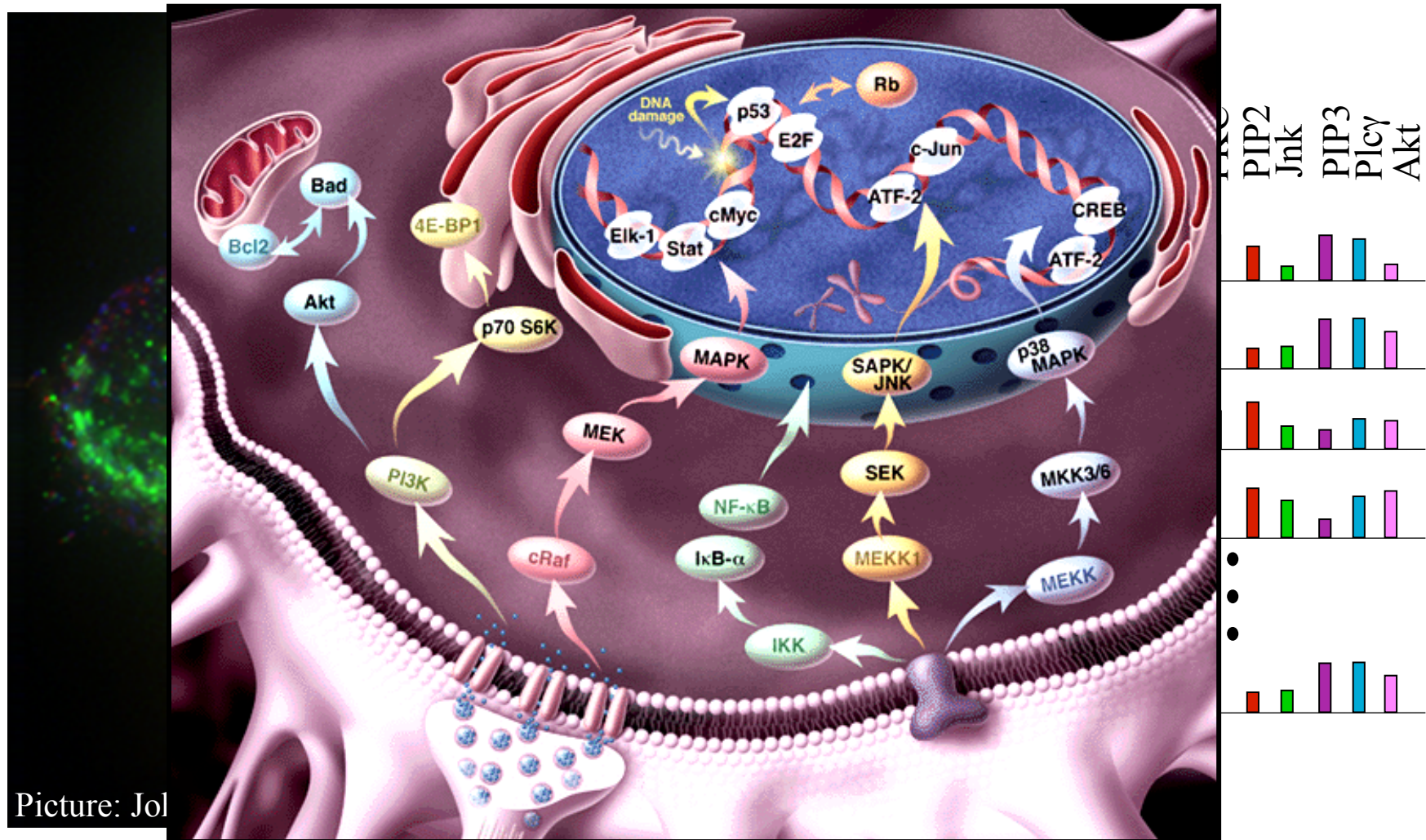
## Why single cell? (Stats perspective)



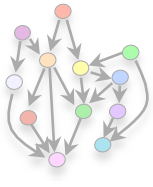
High throughput data



# From Phospho-molecular profiling to Signaling pathways

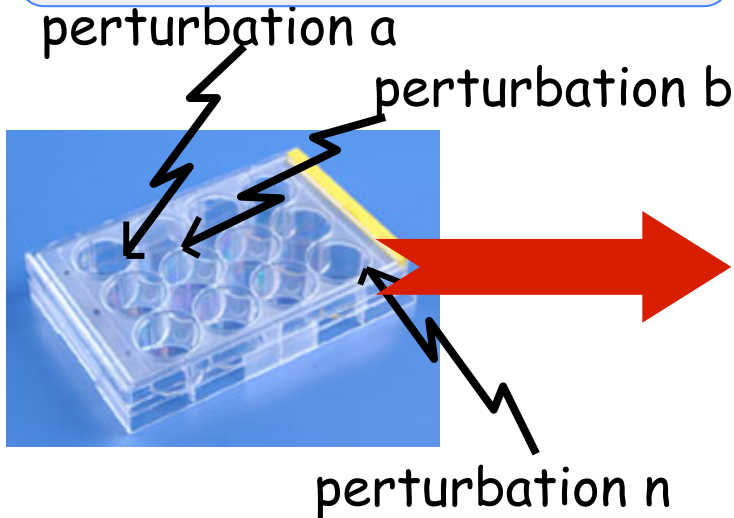


Signaling pathways data

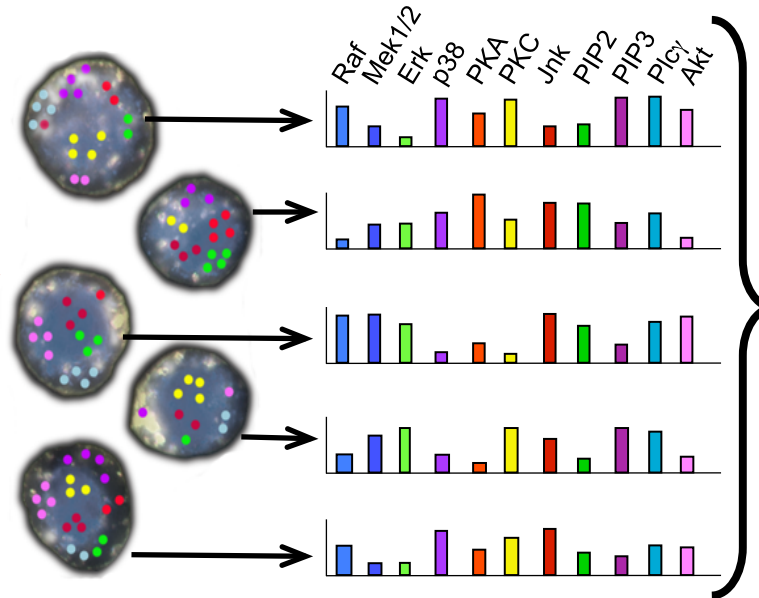


# T-Lymphocyte Data

Conditions (multi-well format)



11 Color Flow Cytometry



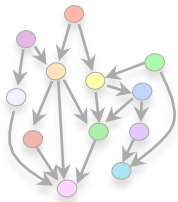
Datasets of cells

- condition 'a'
- condition 'b'
- condition... 'n'

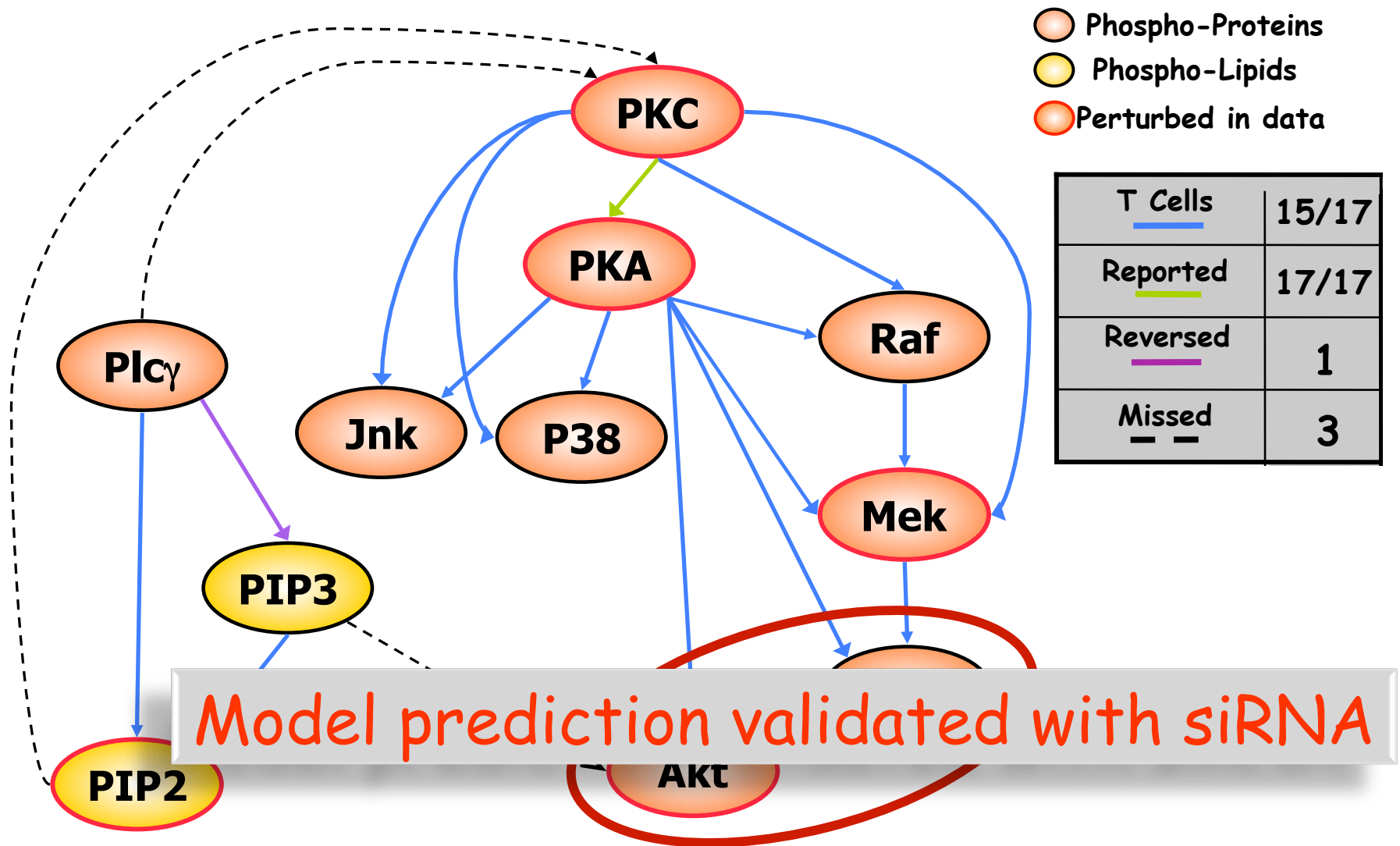
- Primary human T-Cells
- 9 conditions
  - (6 Specific interventions)

- 9 phosphoproteins, 2 phospholipids
- 600 cells per condition
  - 5400 data-points

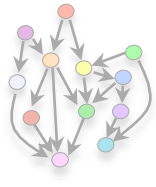




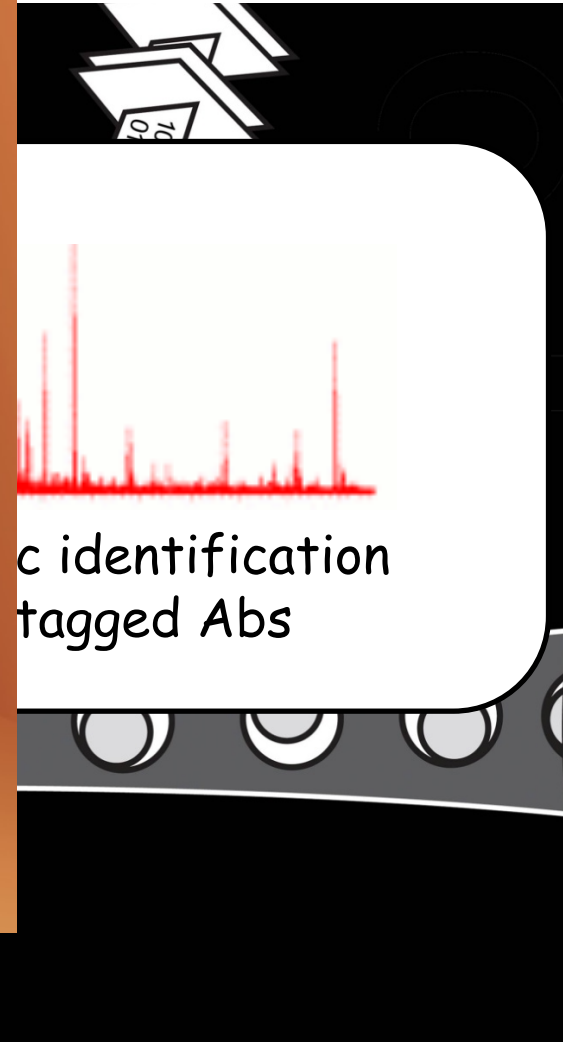
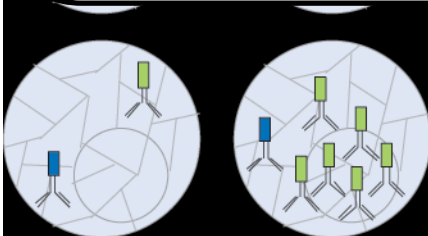
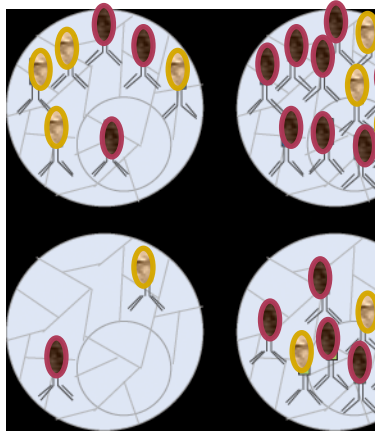
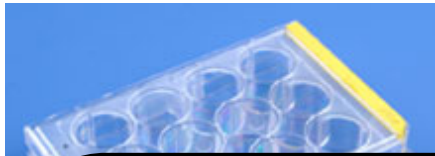
# Accurate Network Inference



[Sachs *et al*, *Science* 2005]



# Flow Cytometry: *Single Cell Analysis*

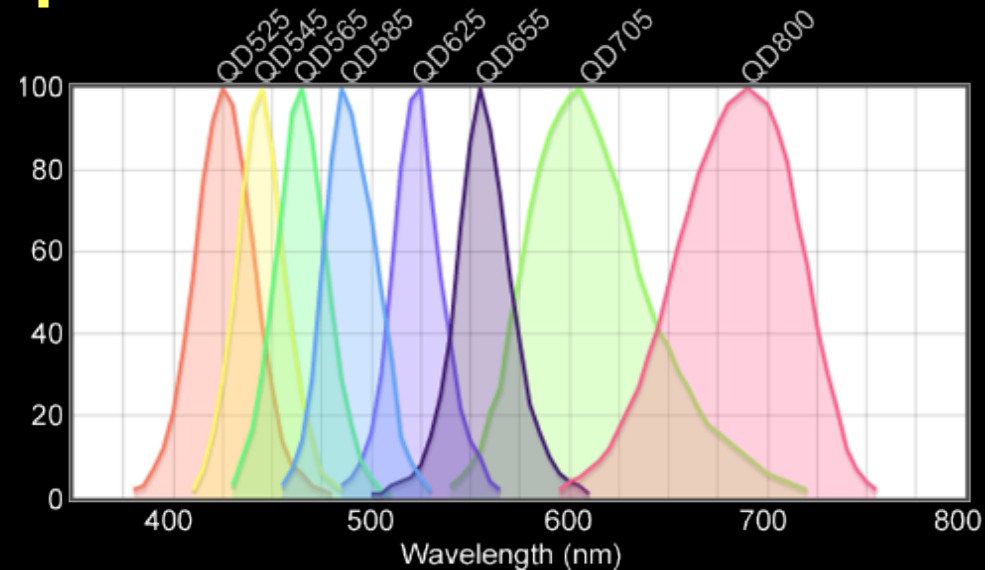


Bendal et al, Science 2011

# The Fluorescence Spectrum is Crowded

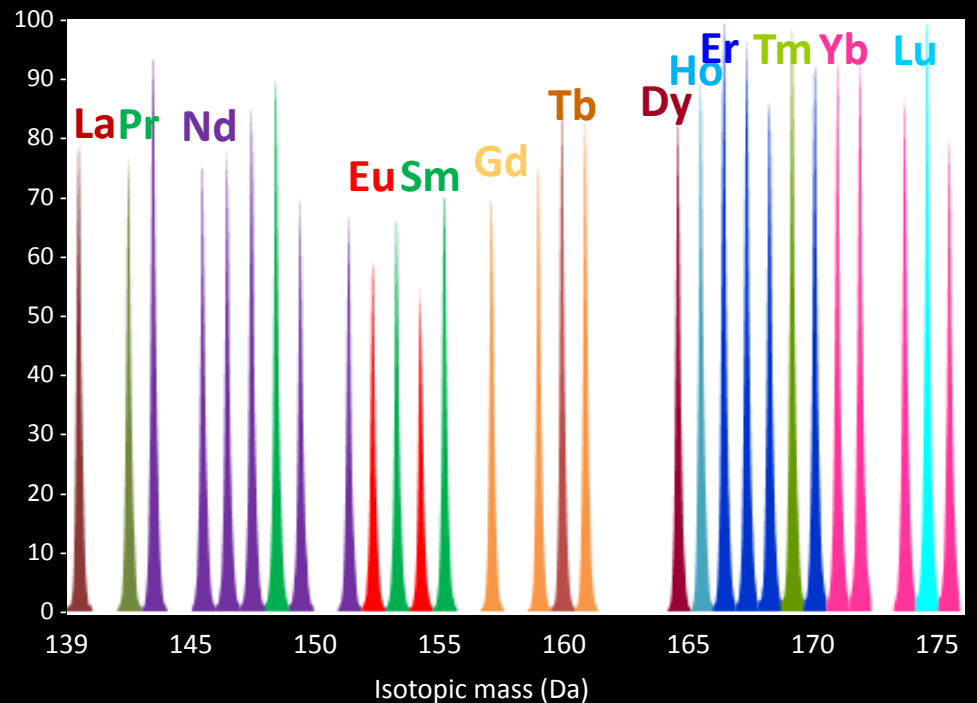
## Fluorescent cytometry

- 6-8 parameters is “routine”
- 17 parameters has been reported
- Autofluorescence
- High background



## Mass cytometry

- 100 discrete mass channels
- 38 parameters easily (58 soon)
- No compensation required
- Zero background





# Antibody labels: isotopes of elements

1A 1		2A 2
1 <b>H</b> Hydrogen 1.00794		
3 <b>Li</b> Lithium 6.941	4 <b>Be</b> Beryllium 9.01218	

63 **Eu**

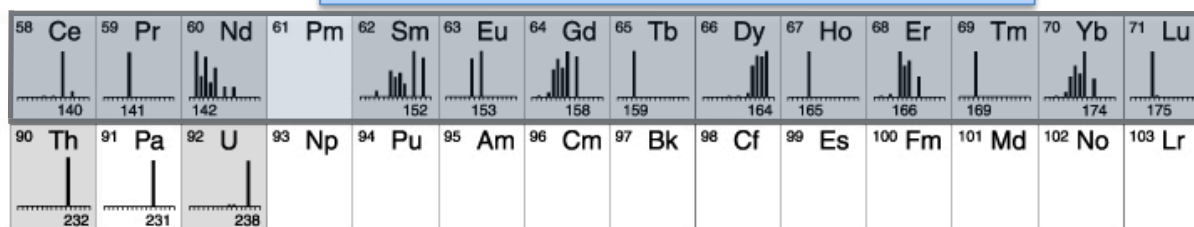
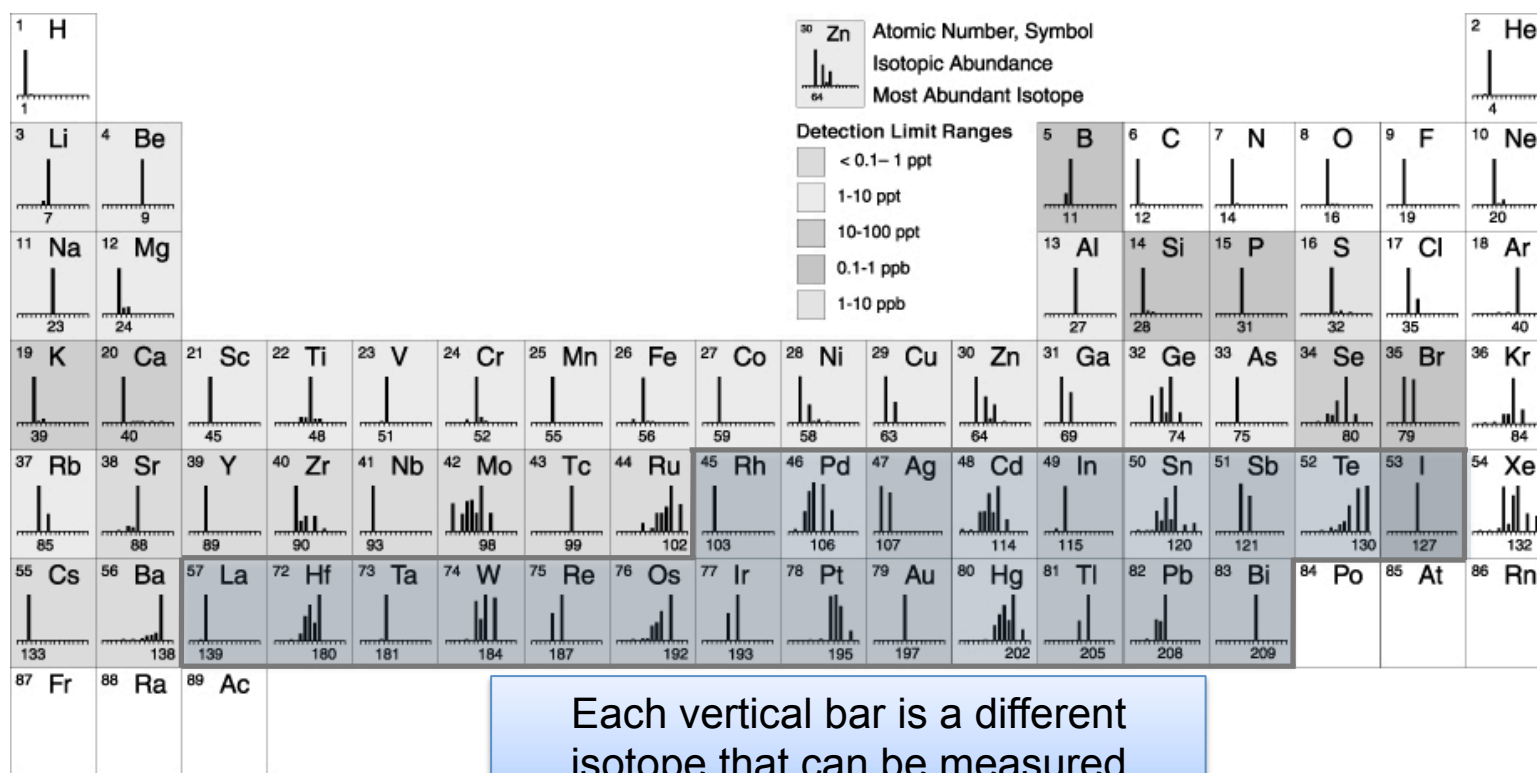
Still dim limited!  
Currently working on this  
problem (talk offline)

Fr Francium (223)	Ra Radium 226.0254	Ac Actinium 227.0278	Rf Rutherfordium (261)	Db Dubnium (262)	Sg Seaborgium (263)	Bh Bohrium (264)	Hs Hassium (265)	Mt Meitnerium (266)	[269]	[272]	[277]
-------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------	------------------------	---------------------------	-------	-------	-------

*Lanthanide Series	58 <b>Ce</b> Cerium 140.115	59 <b>Pr</b> Praseodymium 140.9077	60 <b>Nd</b> Neodymium 144.24	61 <b>Pm</b> Promethium [145]	62 <b>Sm</b> Samarium 150.36	63 <b>Eu</b> Europium 151.965	64 <b>Gd</b> Gadolinium 157.25	65 <b>Tb</b> Terbium 158.9254	66 <b>Dy</b> Dysprosium 162.50	67 <b>Ho</b> Holmium 164.9303	68 <b>Er</b> Erbium 167.26	69 <b>Tm</b> Thulium 168.9342	70 <b>Yb</b> Ytterbium 173.04	71 <b>Lu</b> Lutetium 174.967
† Actinide Series	90 <b>Th</b> Thorium 232.0381	91 <b>Pa</b> Protactinium 231.0359	92 <b>U</b> Uranium 238.0289	93 <b>Np</b> Neptunium 237.048	94 <b>Pu</b> Plutonium 244	95 <b>Am</b> Americium 243	96 <b>Cm</b> Curium 247	97 <b>Bk</b> Berkelium 247	98 <b>Cf</b> Californium 251	99 <b>Es</b> Einsteinium 252	100 <b>Fm</b> Fermium 257	101 <b>Md</b> Mendelevium 258	102 <b>No</b> Nobelium 259	103 <b>Lr</b> Lawrencium 260

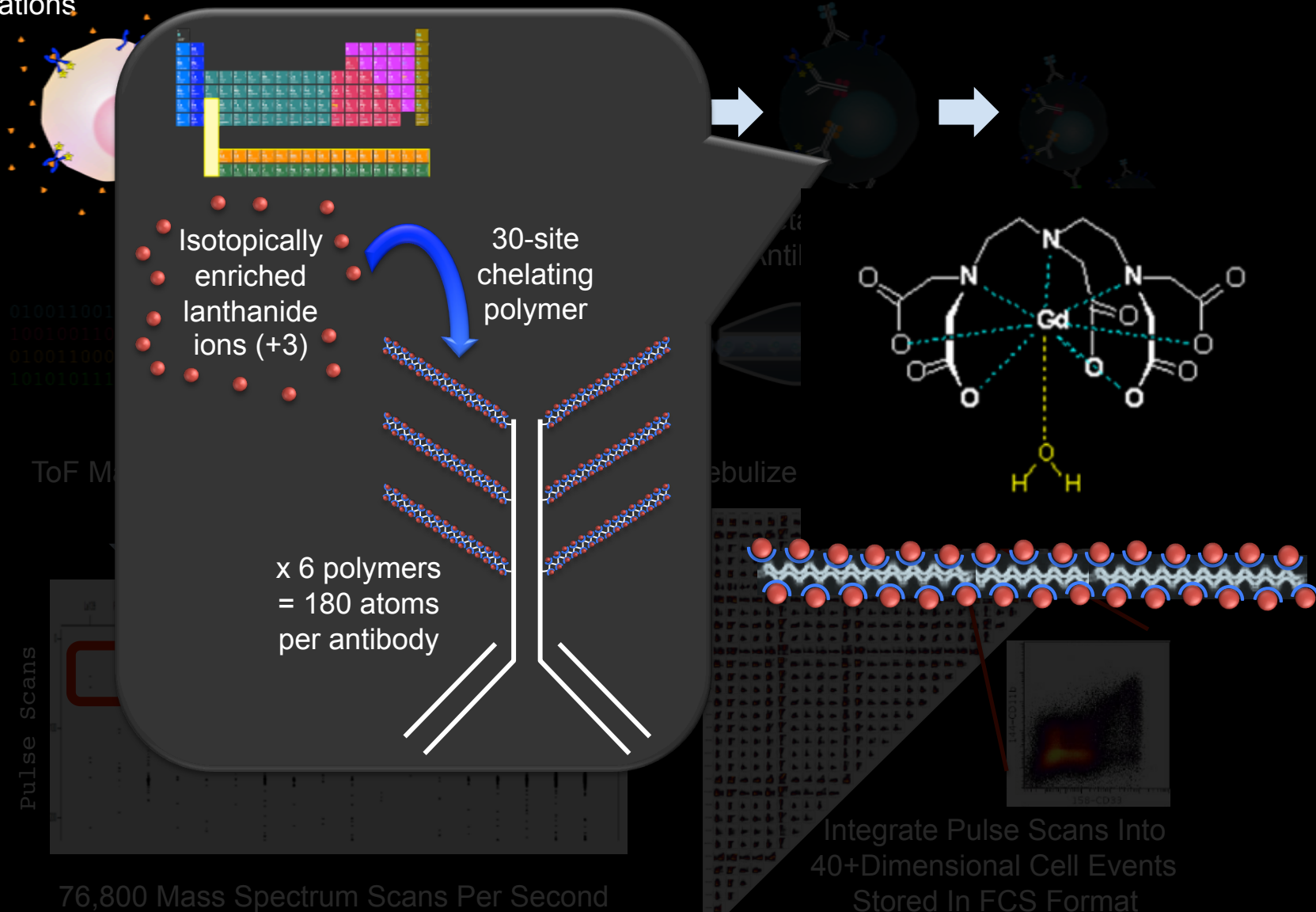
is actually a  
50/50 mix of  
 $^{151}\text{Eu}$  and  $^{153}\text{Eu}$

# How Do You Get 100 Channels From 35 Elements?

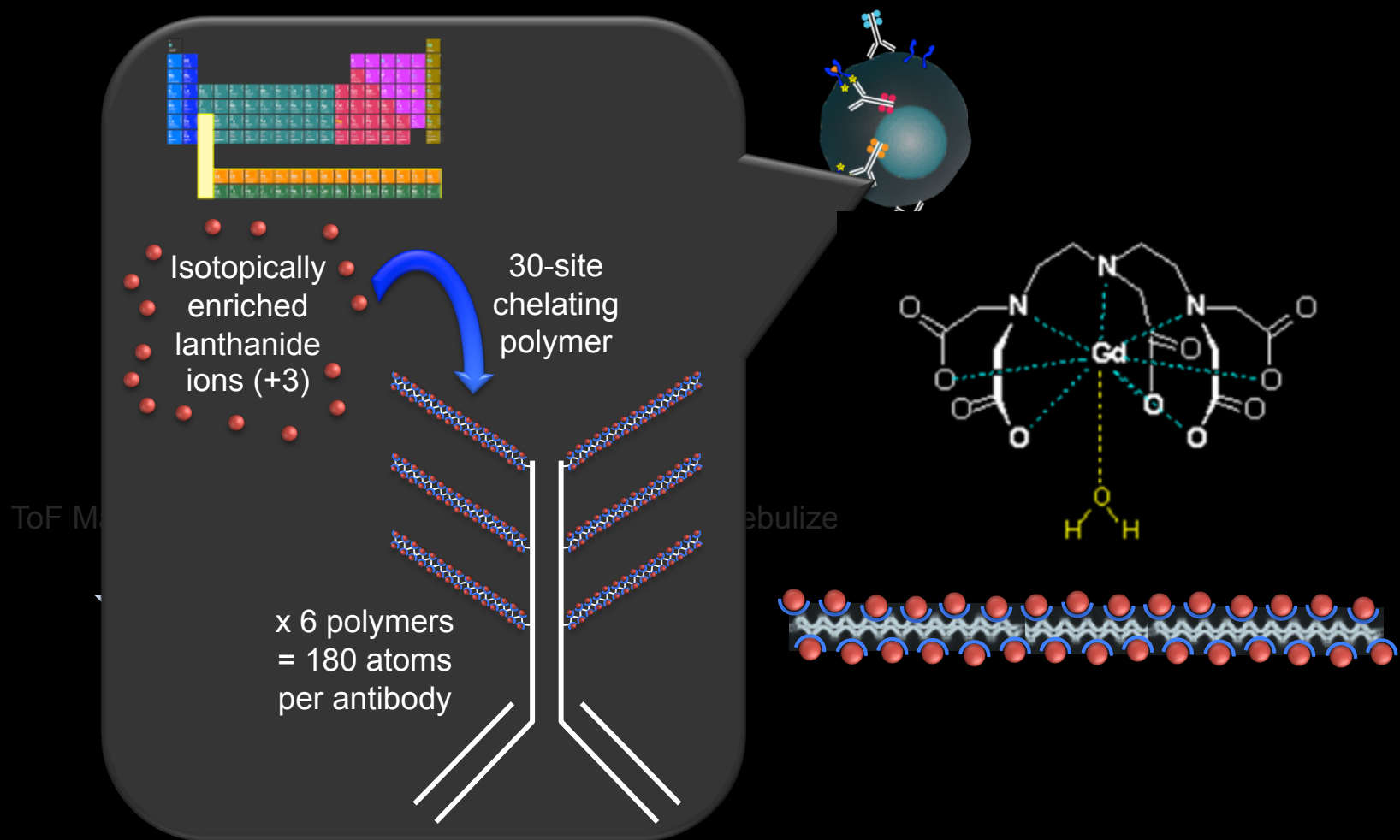


# 45-dimensional Single Cell Mass Cytometry

Perturbations

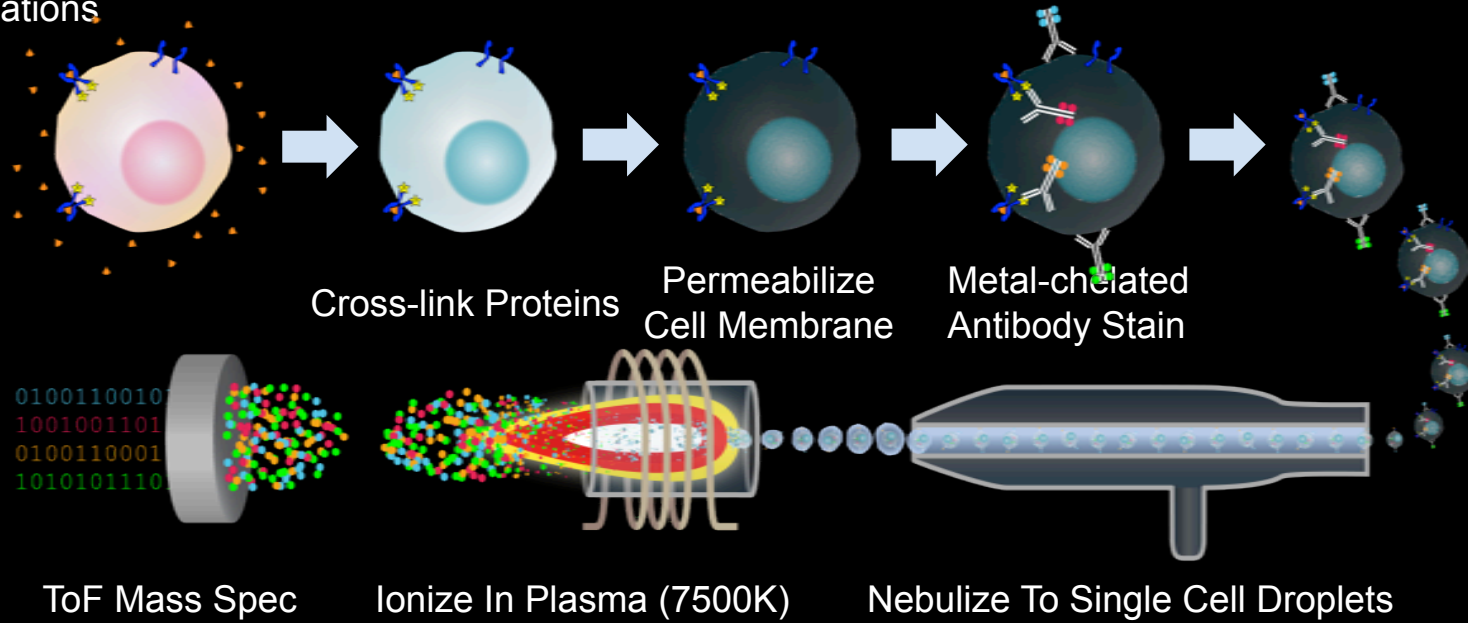


# Tags



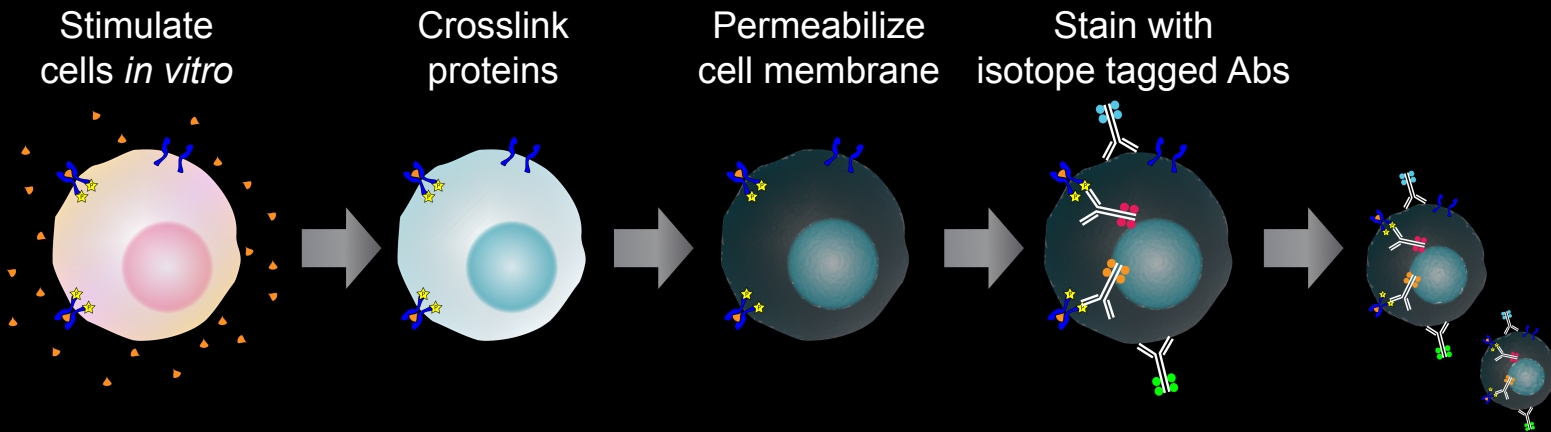
# Workflow

Perturbations

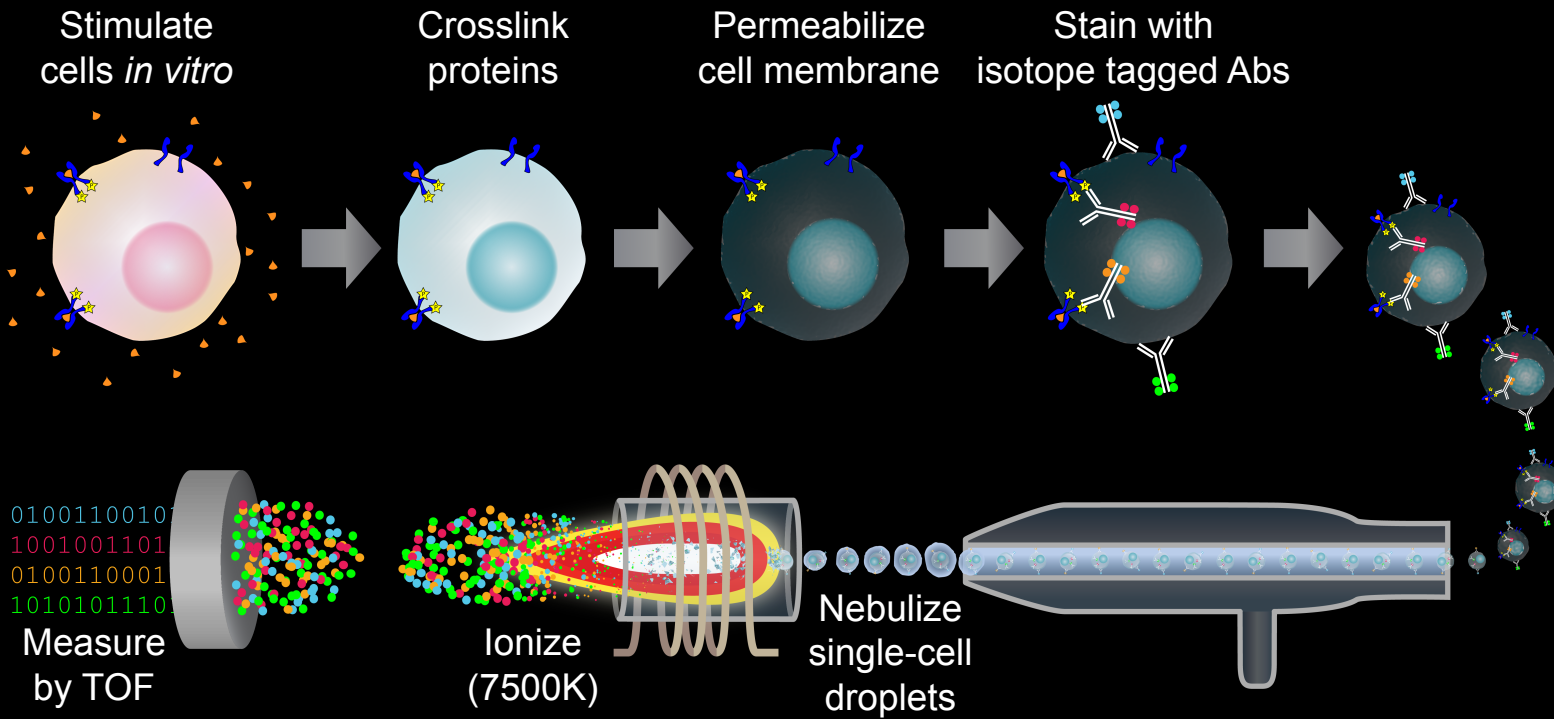




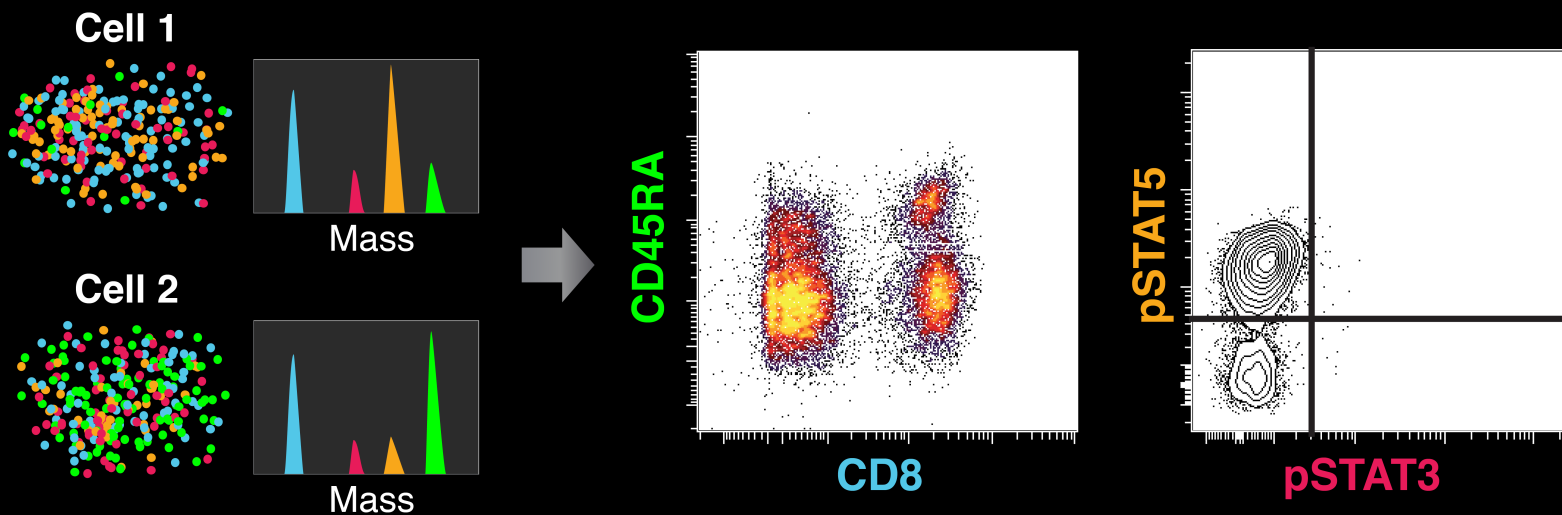
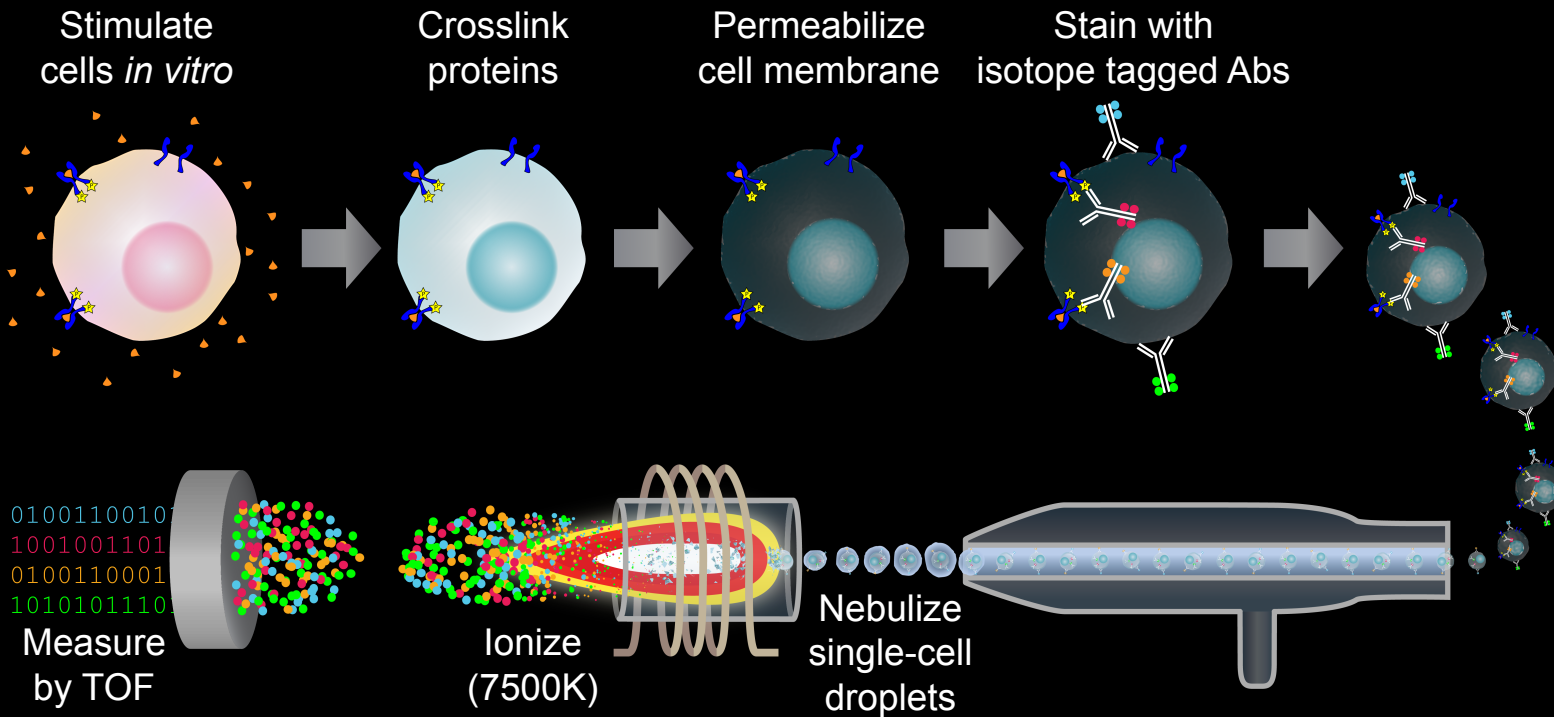
# Workflow: Measuring signaling by mass cytometry



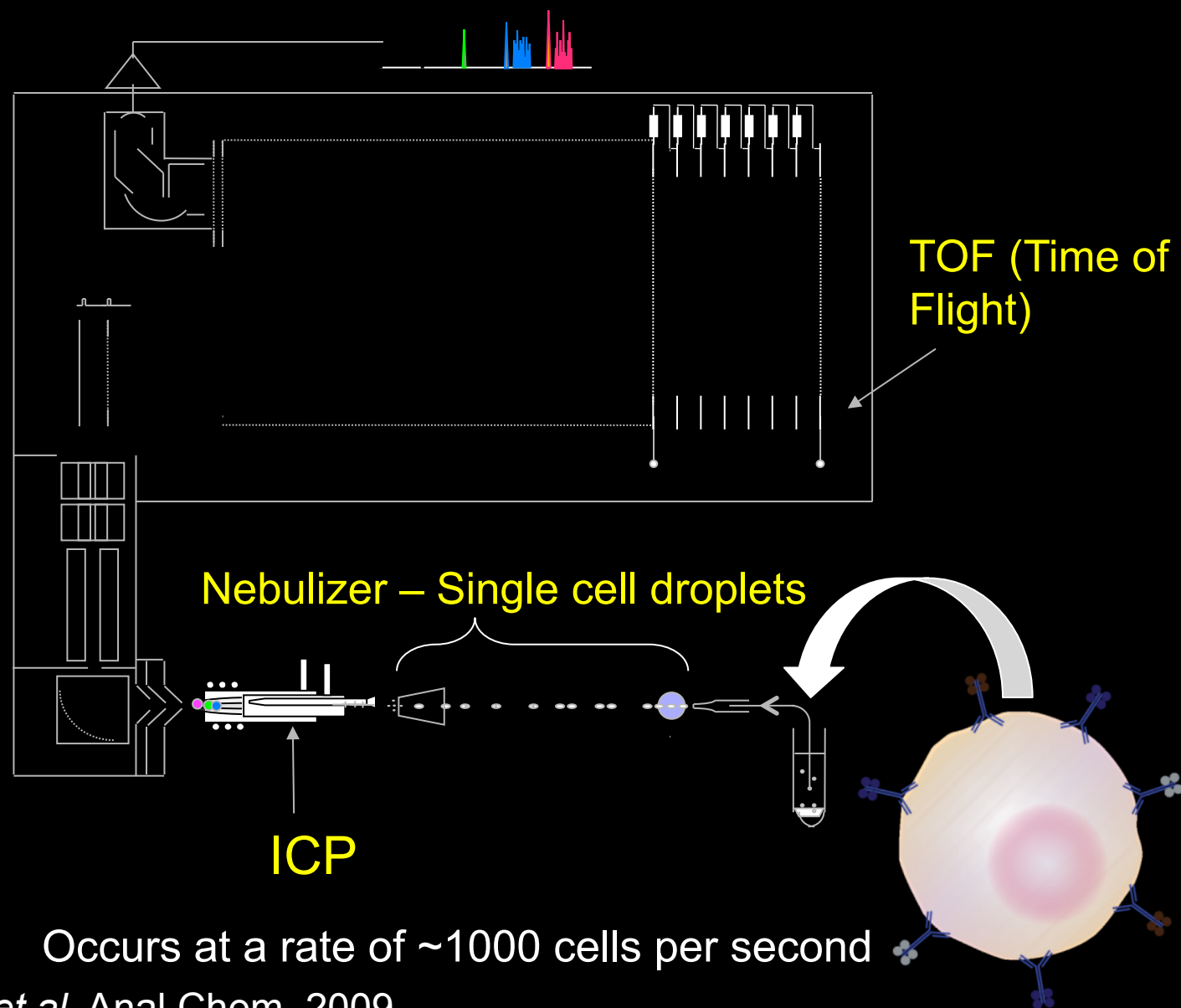
# Workflow: Measuring signaling by mass cytometry



# Workflow: Measuring signaling by mass cytometry



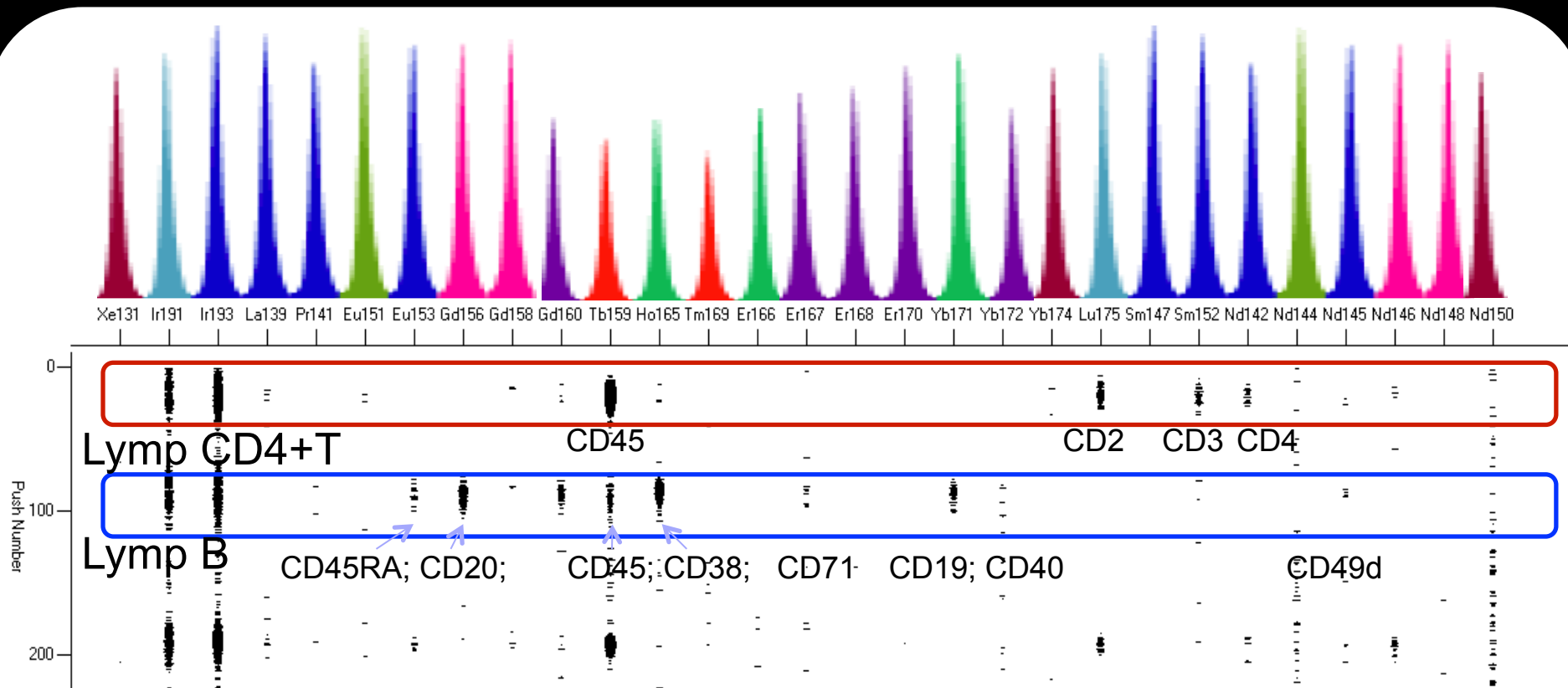
# CyTOF: A prototype schematic



Bandura D, *et al.* Anal Chem. 2009

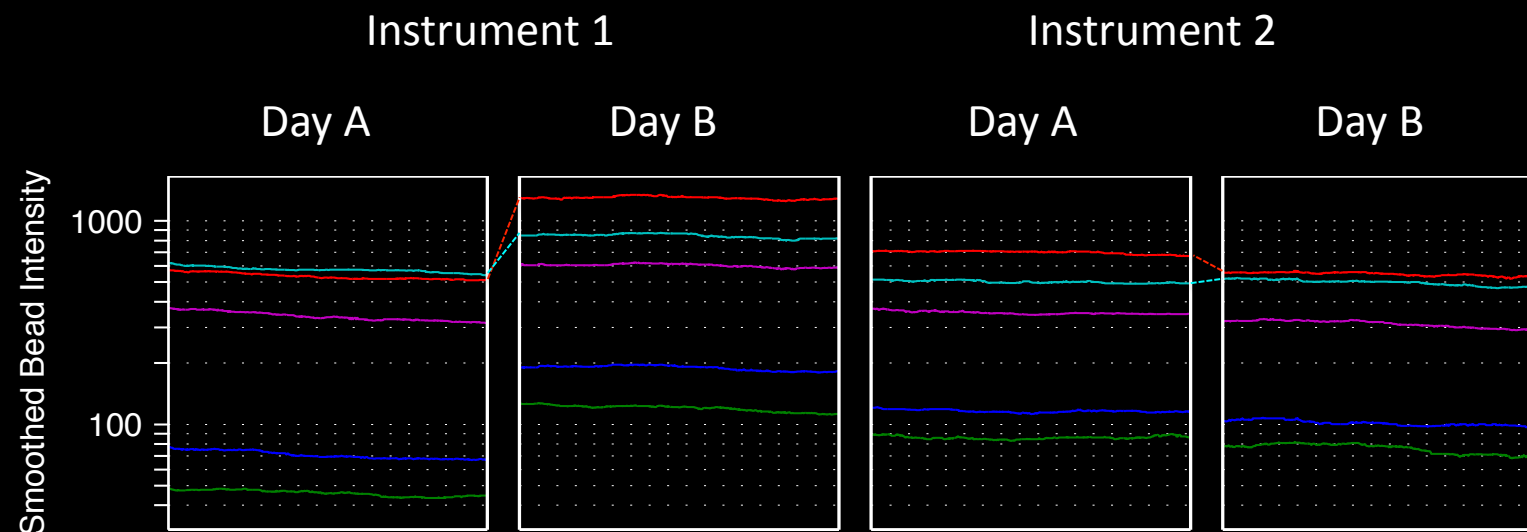
Fresh PBMC stained with 27 markers (mix I):

CD2	<sup>175</sup> Lu	CD13	<sup>166</sup> Er	CD36	<sup>150</sup> Nd	CD56	<sup>176</sup> Yb
CD3	<sup>152</sup> Sm	CD15	<sup>170</sup> Er	CD38	<sup>165</sup> Ho	CD64	<sup>148</sup> Nd
CD4	<sup>142</sup> Nd	CD19	<sup>171</sup> Yb	CD40	<sup>172</sup> Yb	CD71	<sup>167</sup> Er
CD7	<sup>139</sup> La	CD20	<sup>156</sup> Gd	CD44	<sup>151</sup> Eu	CD90	<sup>174</sup> Yb
CD8	<sup>146</sup> Nd	CD31	<sup>144</sup> Nd	CD45	<sup>159</sup> Tb	CD117	<sup>147</sup> Sm
CD10	<sup>168</sup> Er	CD33	<sup>141</sup> Pr	CD45RA	<sup>153</sup> Eu	HLA-DR	<sup>160</sup> Gd
CD11b	<sup>158</sup> Gd	CD34	<sup>169</sup> Tm	CD49d	<sup>145</sup> Nd		

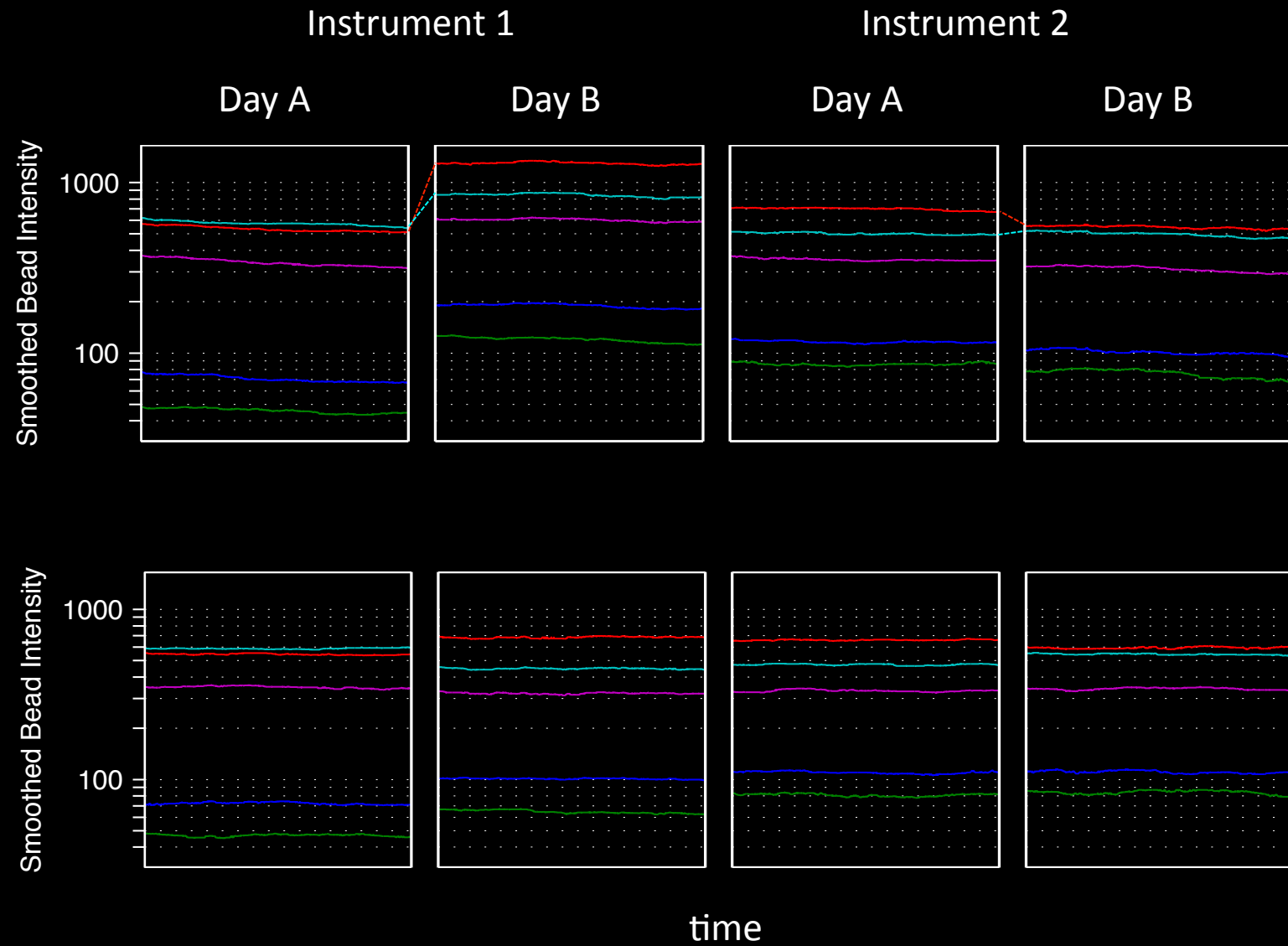




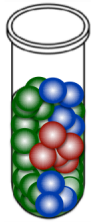
# Variation Across Calibrations and Instruments



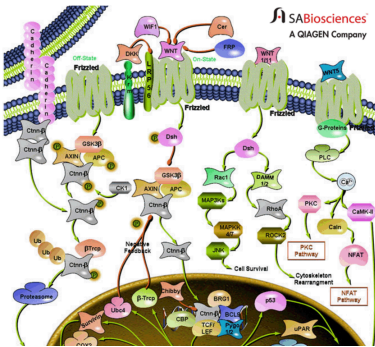
# Bead normalization tames variation



# Causal learning in signaling



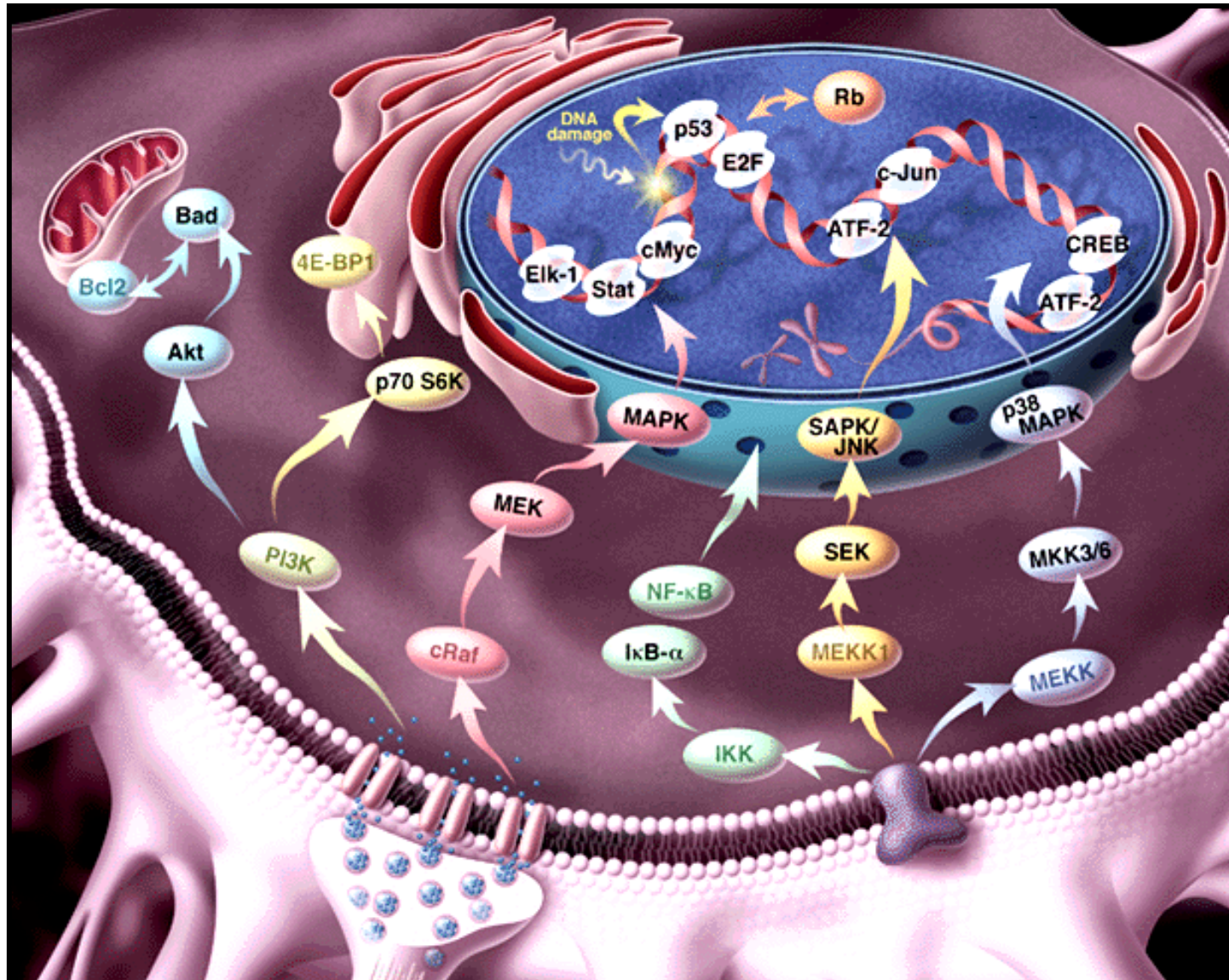
1. Where does data come from?



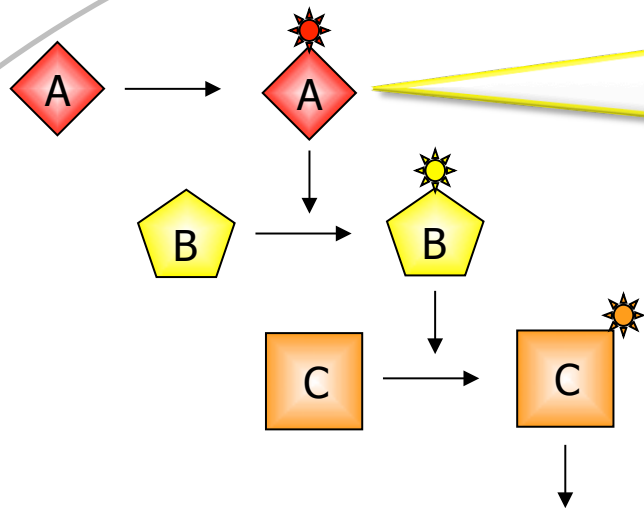
2. What causal connections appear?

- What happens?
- What can we see?

# Signaling 101



# Signaling 101: Measure activated species

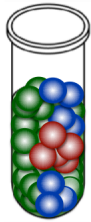


We  
measure  
these!

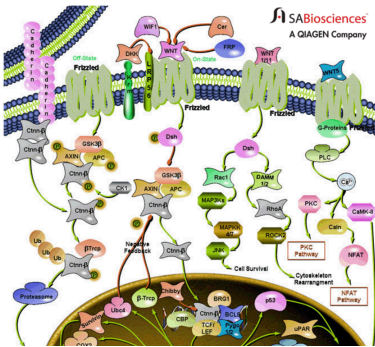
Cell response



# Causal learning in signaling

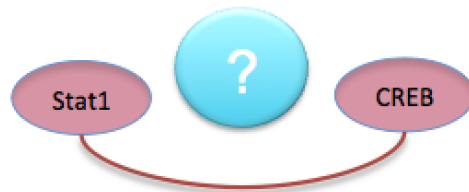


Where does data come from?

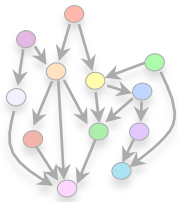


What causal connections appear?

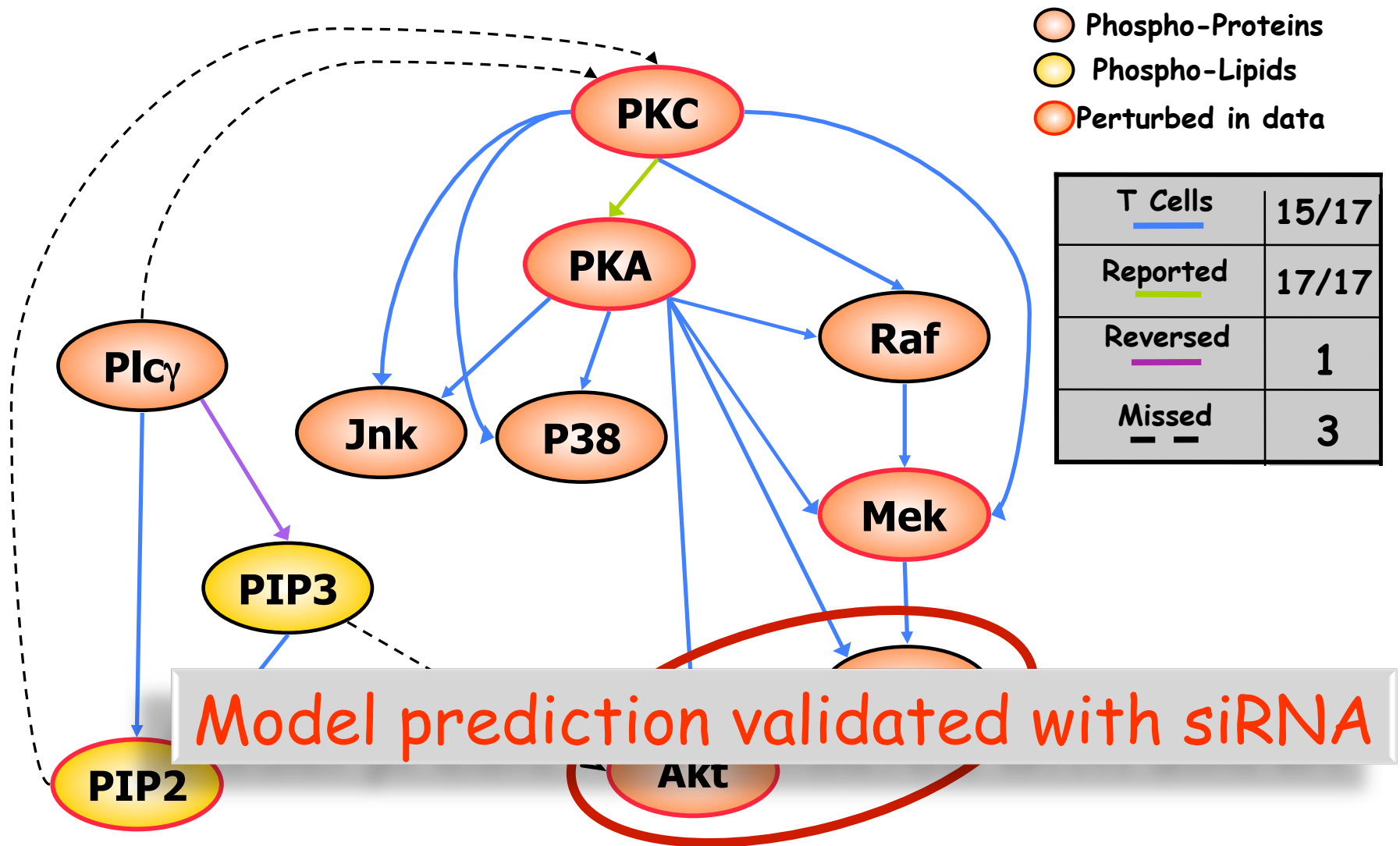
What is needed for causal learning?



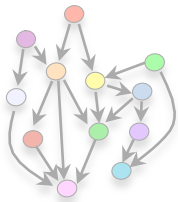
- Outstanding challenges



# Accurate Network Inference

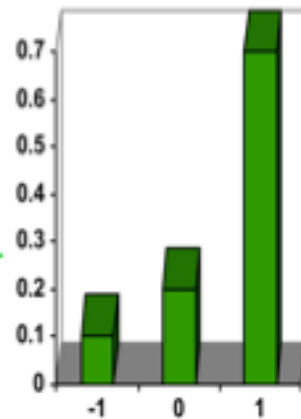
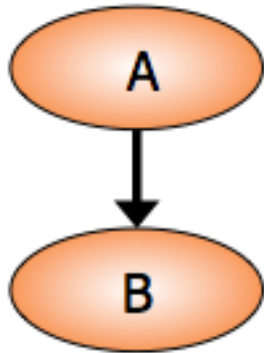


[Sachs *et al*, *Science* 2005]



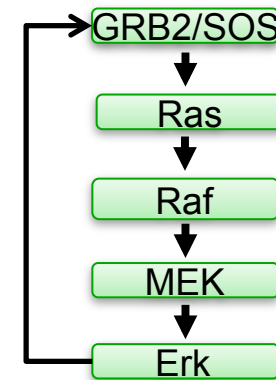
# Wait! What about..

- CPDs?

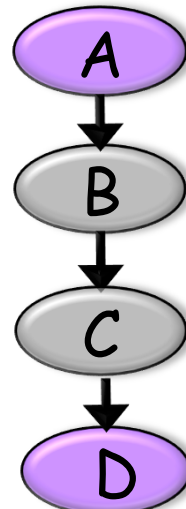
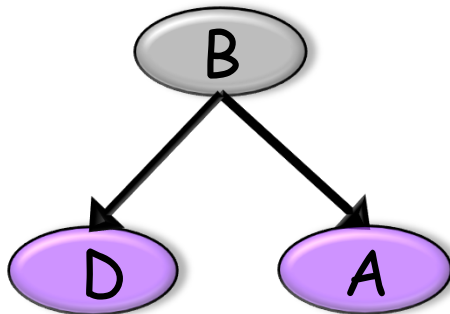


- Cycles?

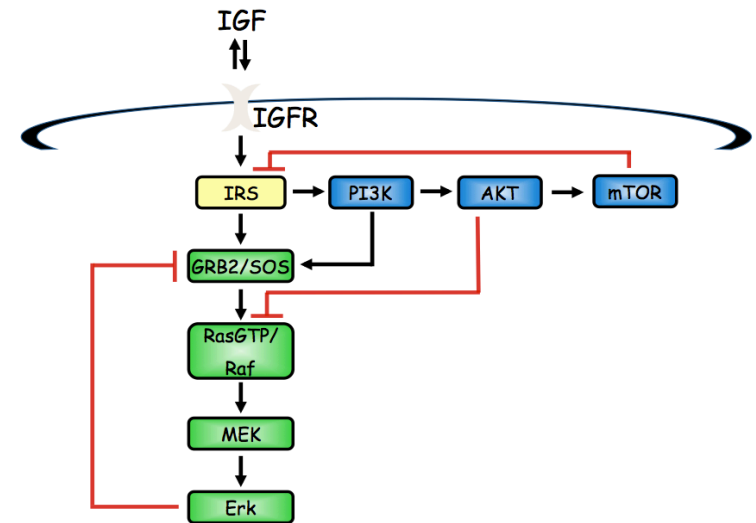
Sachs and  
Itani,  
IEEE 2008,  
PSB 2009,  
JMLR Proc  
2008



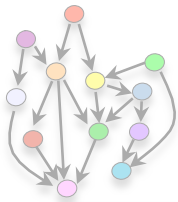
- Hidden variables?



- Dynamics?

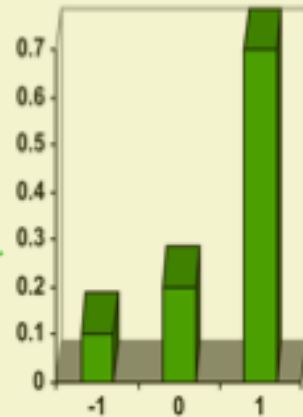
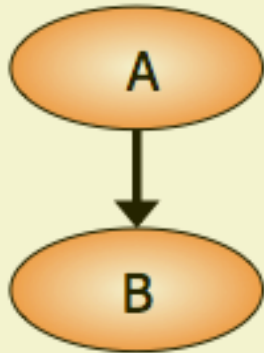


Sachs, Interface Focus 2013



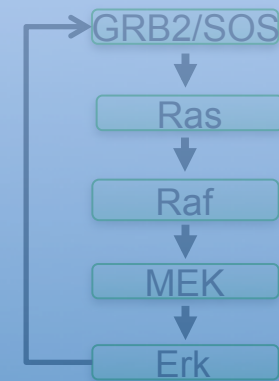
# Remaining challenges

- CPDs?

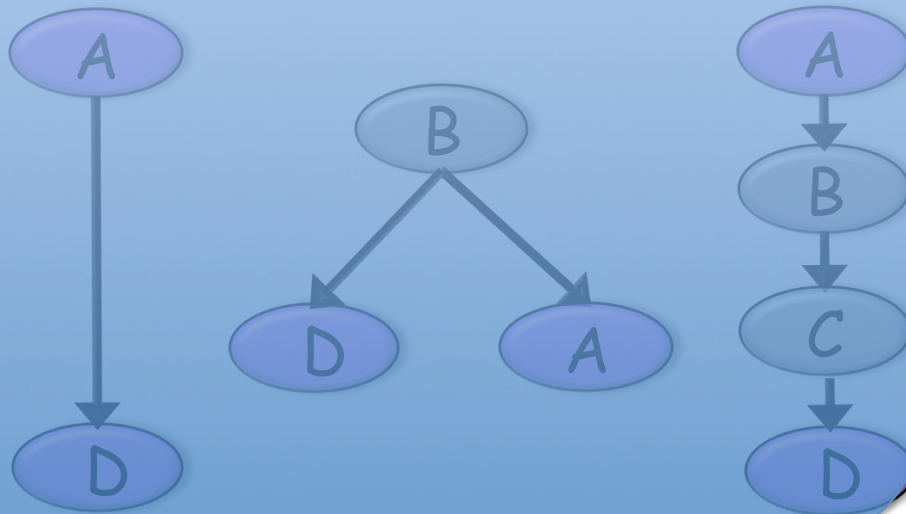


- Cycles?

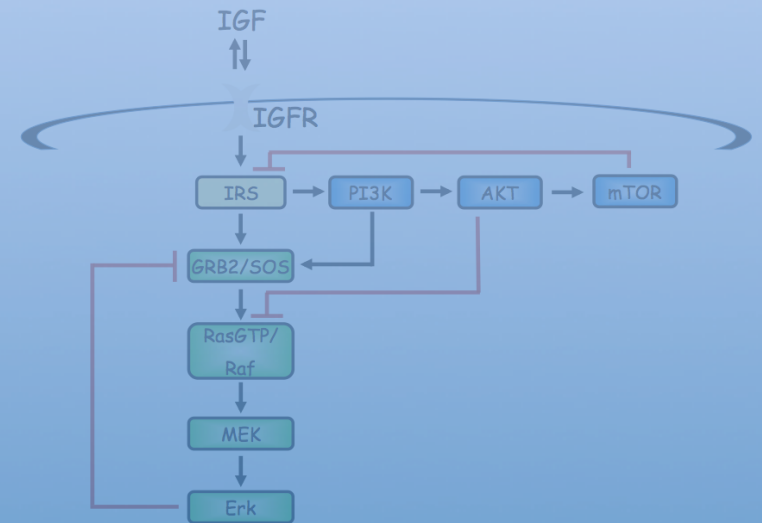
Sachs and Itani,  
IEEE 2008,  
PSB 2009,  
JMLR Proc  
2008



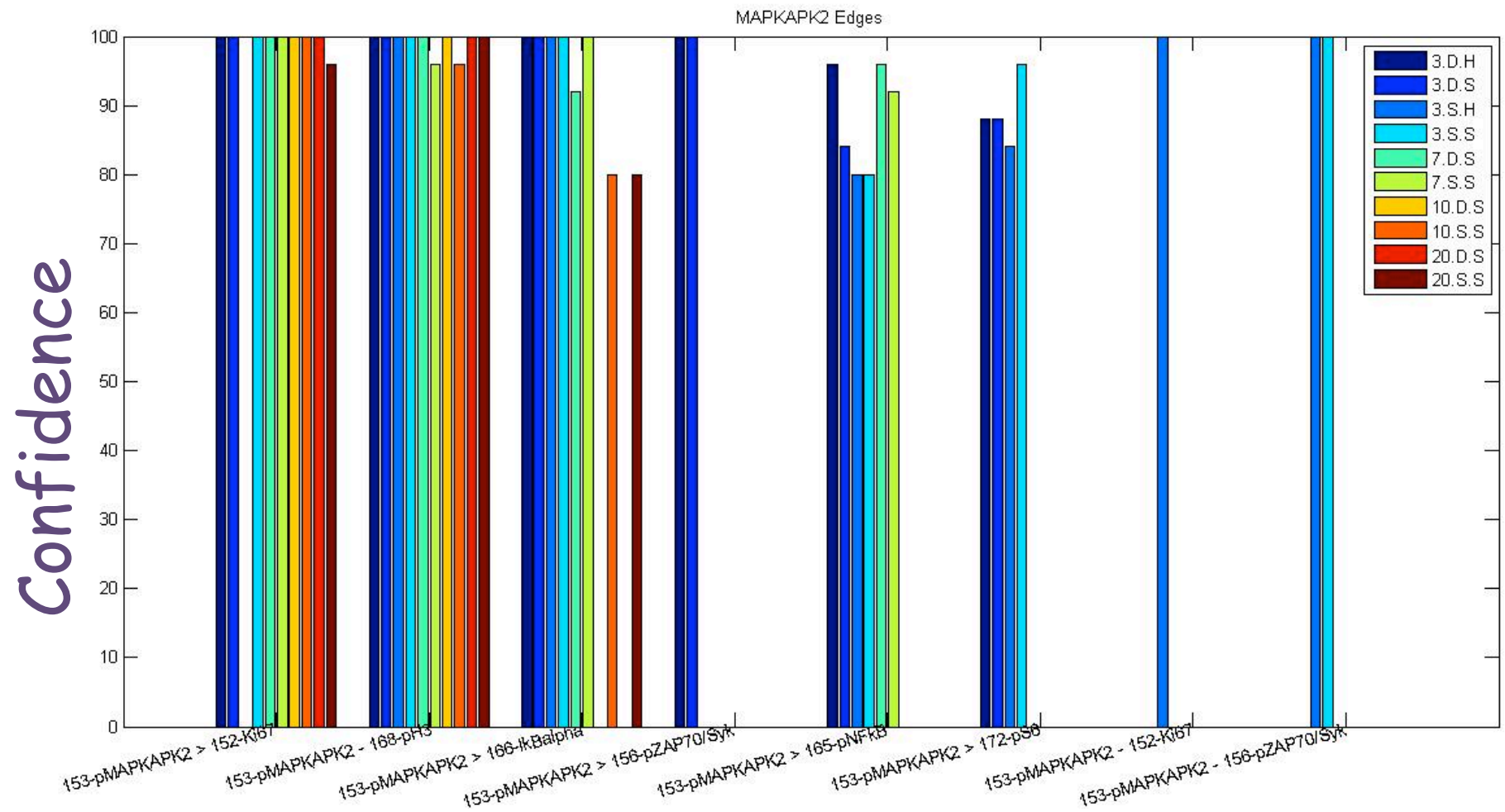
- Hidden variables?



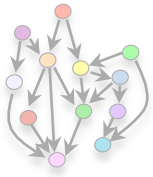
- Dynamics?



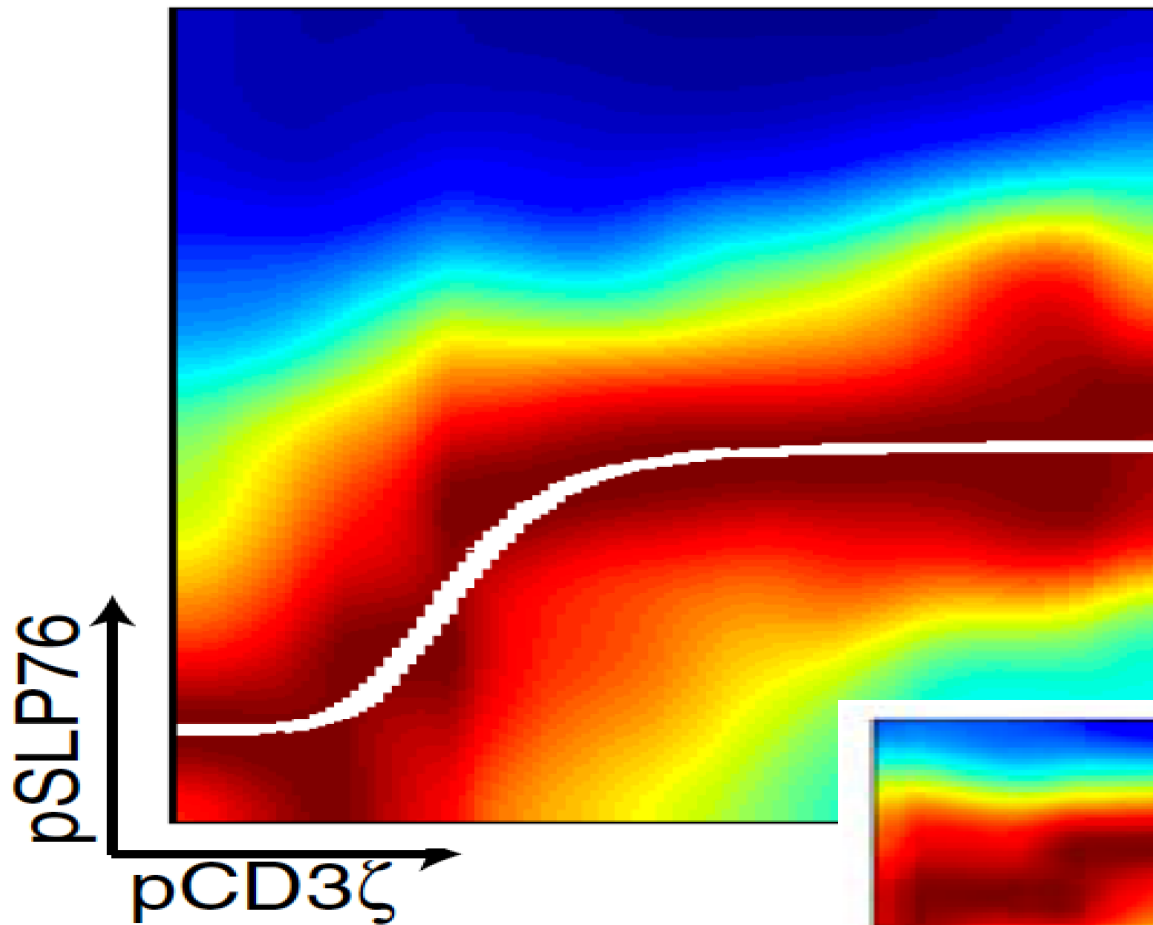
Sachs, Interface Focus 2013



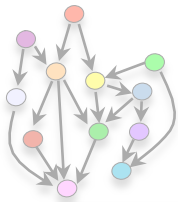




# CPDs need expressive power

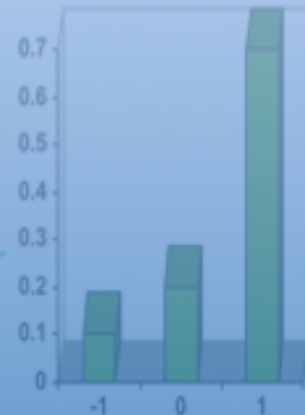
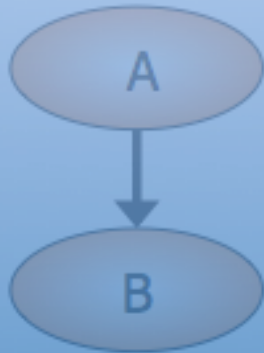


- Multinomial?
  - Linear?
  - Other?
- GP (J. Mooij)



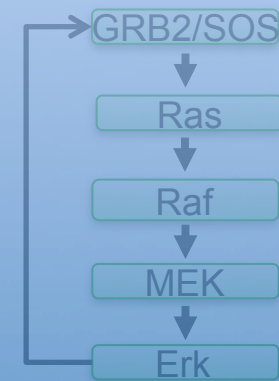
# Remaining challenges

- CPDs?



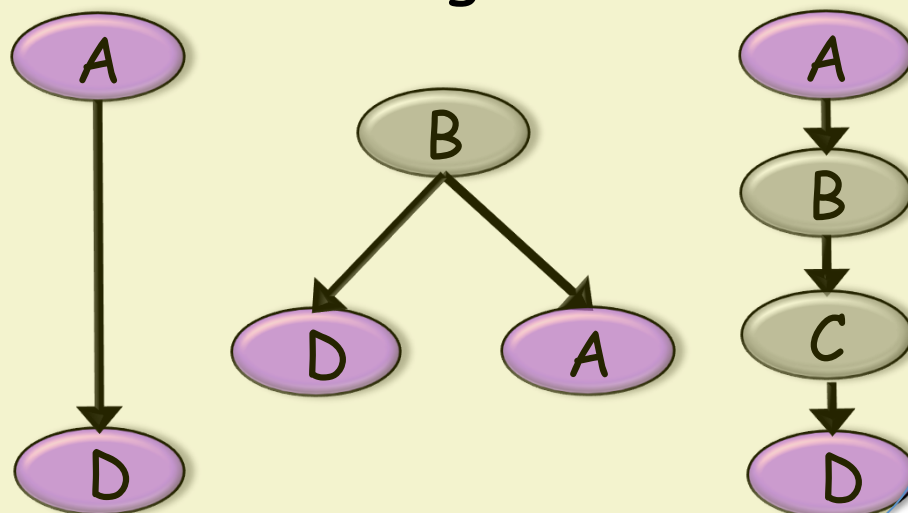
- Cycles?

Sachs and Itani,  
IEEE 2008,  
PSB 2009,  
JMLR Proc  
2008

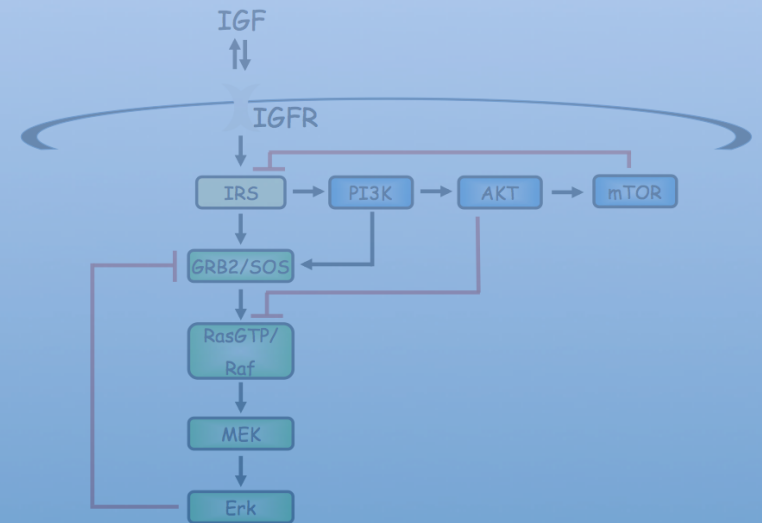


- Hidden variables?

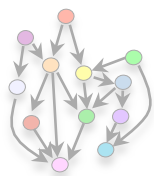
Data integration



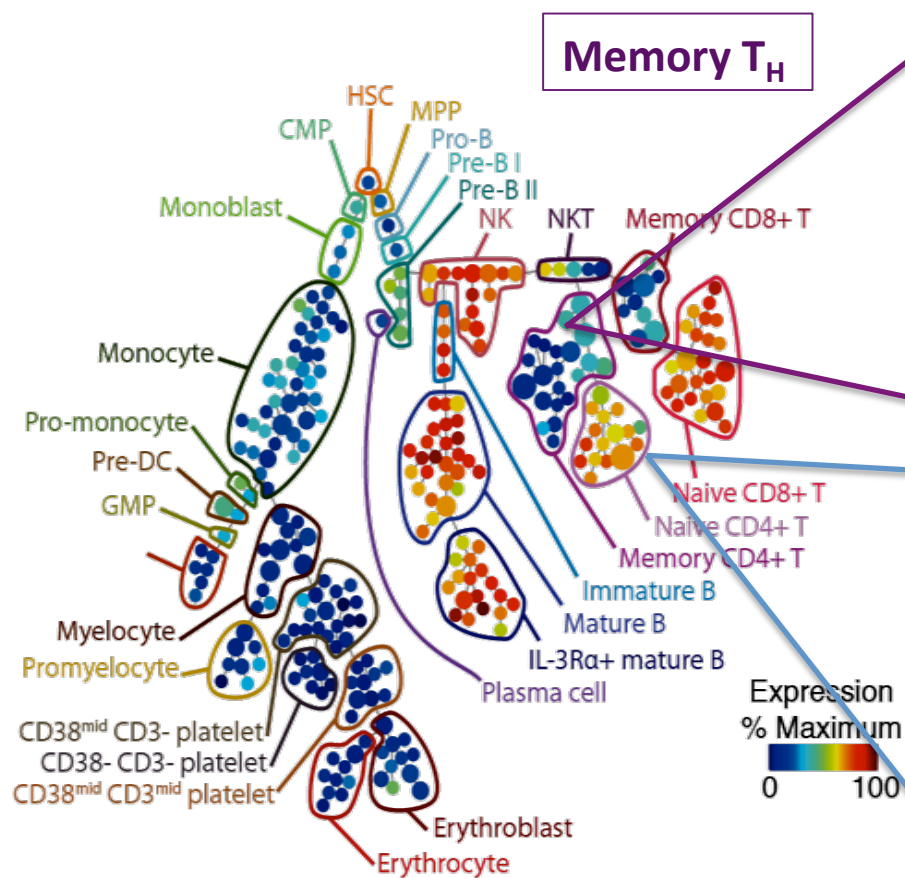
- Dynamics?



Sachs, Interface Focus 2013

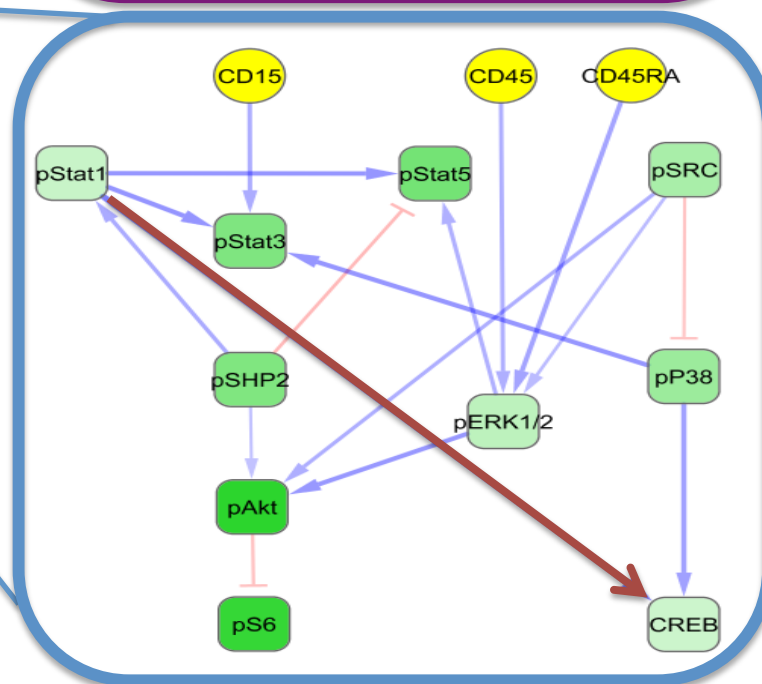
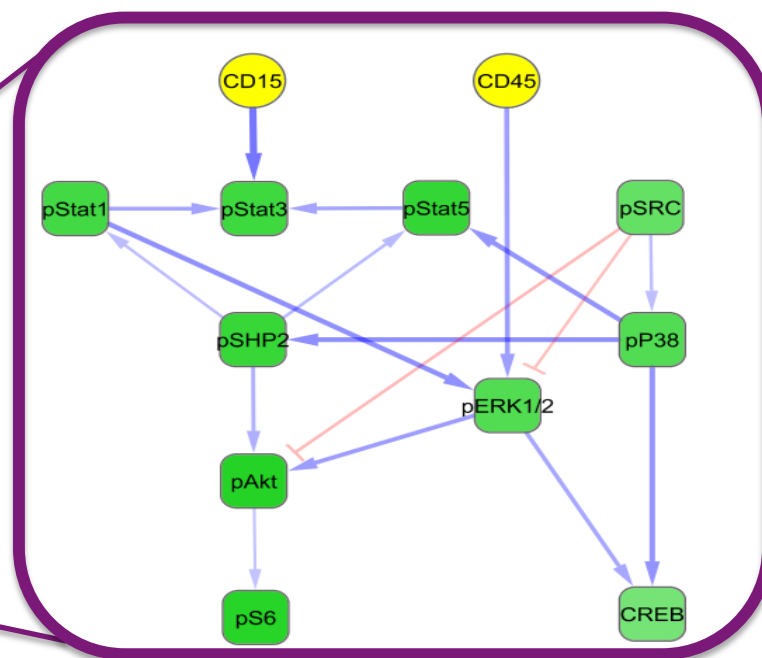


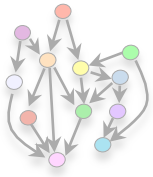
# Comparative signaling



Memory T<sub>H</sub>

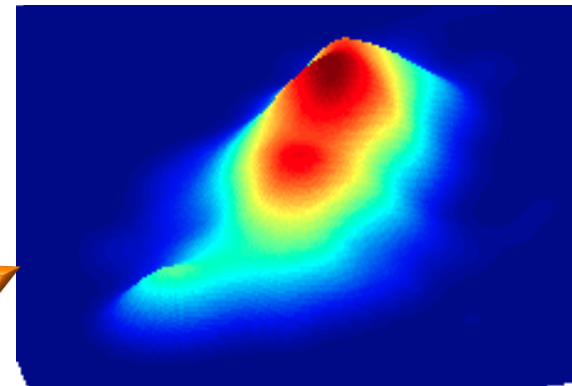
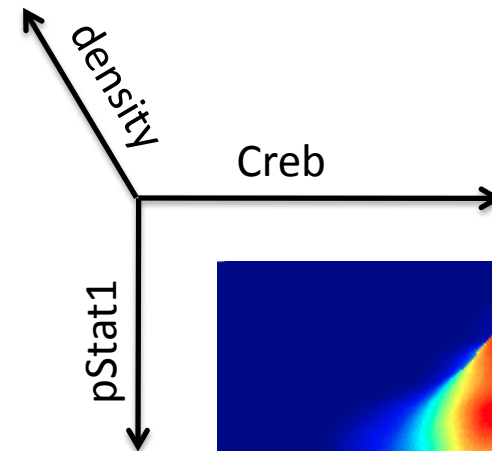
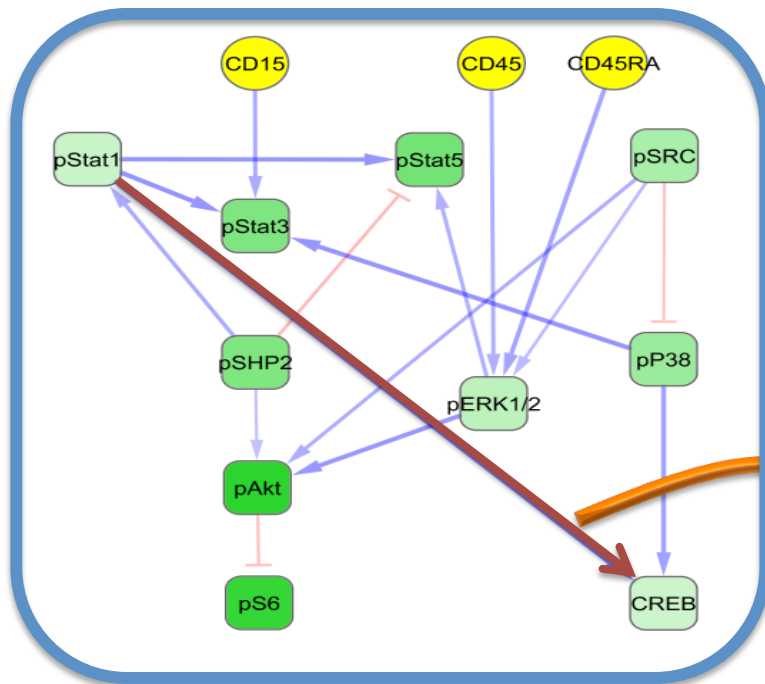
Naive T<sub>H</sub>

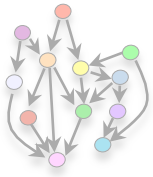




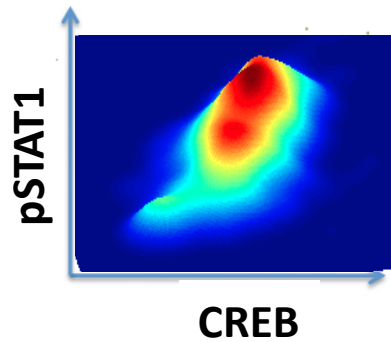
Elucidated edge is supported in the data

Naive T<sub>H</sub>

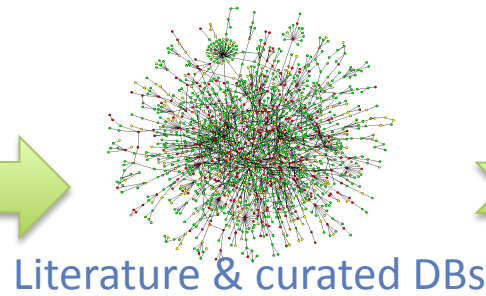




# Workflow for adding hidden variables



Statistical inference



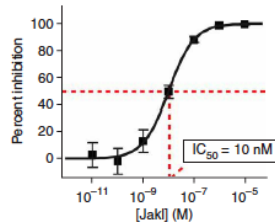
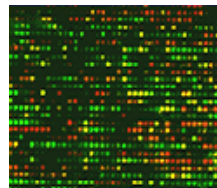
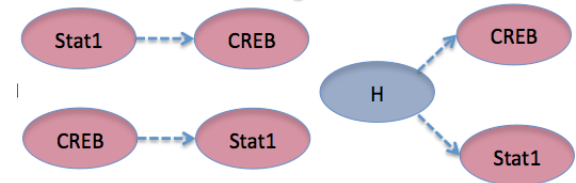
**Scansite**

*In silico* predictions

Extract potential underlying molecular paths

```
IGF1R(3480)(3480) -PHOS(Y1229)
(NETWORKIN)-> MUC1() -+PHOS(SNR)
(SRI)-> IKBA(4792) , IGF1R(3480)(3480) -
PHOS(Y719/Y934)(NETWORKIN)->
KIT(3815) -
+BINDING(KEGG_MAMMALIAN)->
STAT5A(6776)
IGF1R(3480)(3480) -PHOS(Y1229)
(NETWORKIN)-> MUC1() -+PHOS(SNR)
(SRI)-> IKBA(4792) , IGF1R(3480)(3480) -
PHOS(Y1008)(NETWORKIN)-> JAK2(3717)
-+YPHOS(SRI)-> STAT5A(6776)
CDK1()() -PHOS(S1227)(NETWORKIN)->
MUC1() -+PHOS(SNR)(SRI)-> IKBA(4792) ,
CDK1()() -#VALUE!
PHOS(SIGNED_KINOME)-> ABL1(25) -+
```

Putative *directed paths* and *common ancestors*



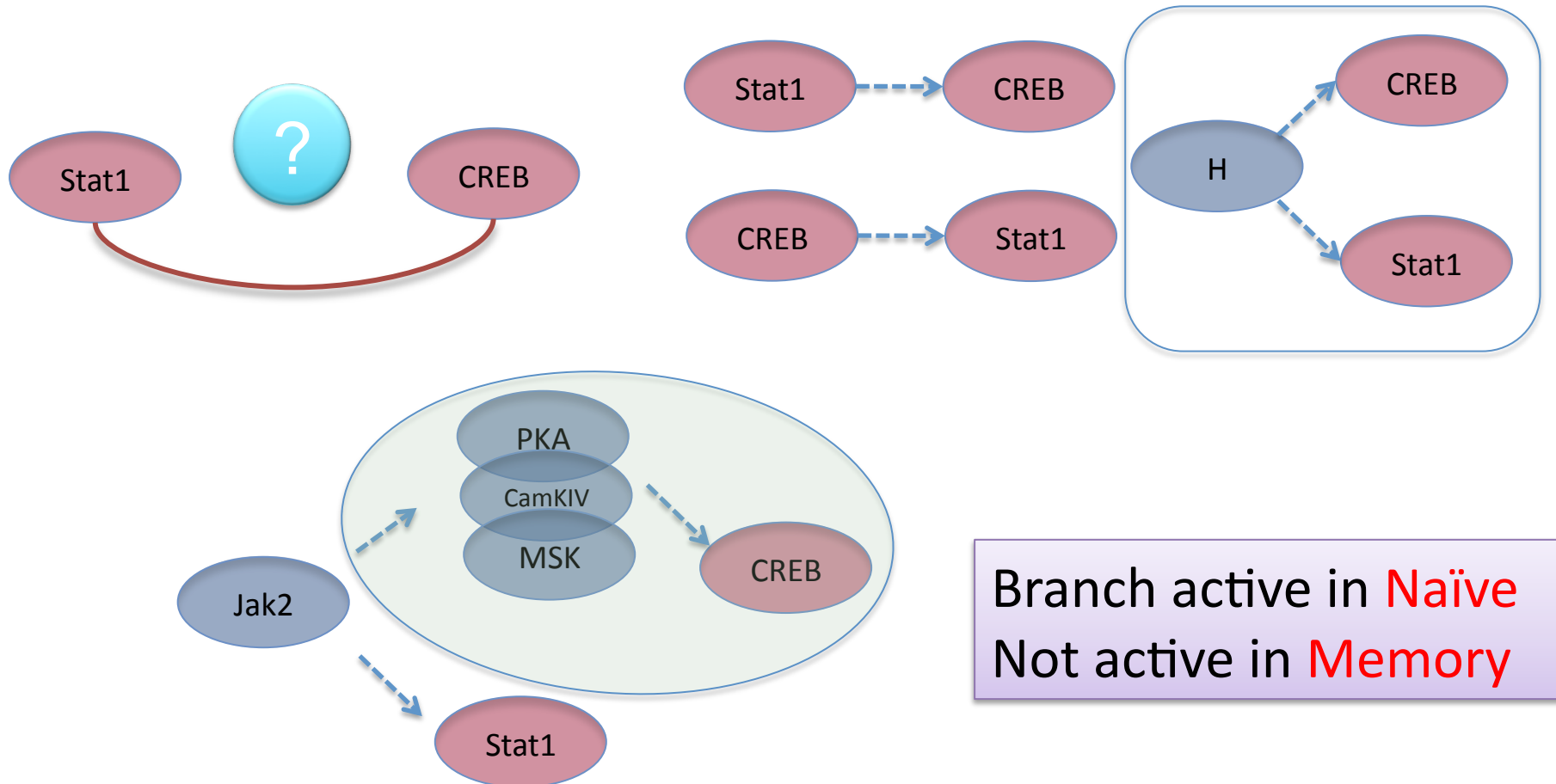
Rank and select most probable path(s)

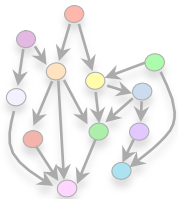
- ✗ A → B → C
- ✗ A → D → F → C
- ✓ A ← G → C





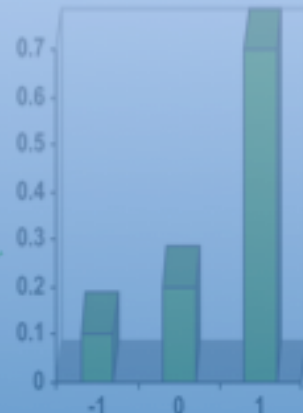
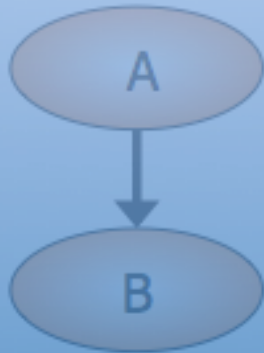
# Uncovering underlying path





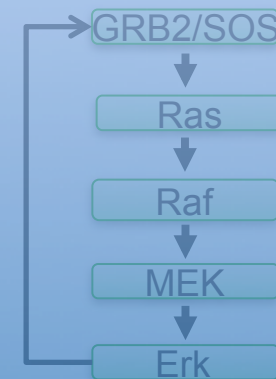
# Remaining challenges

## • CPDs?



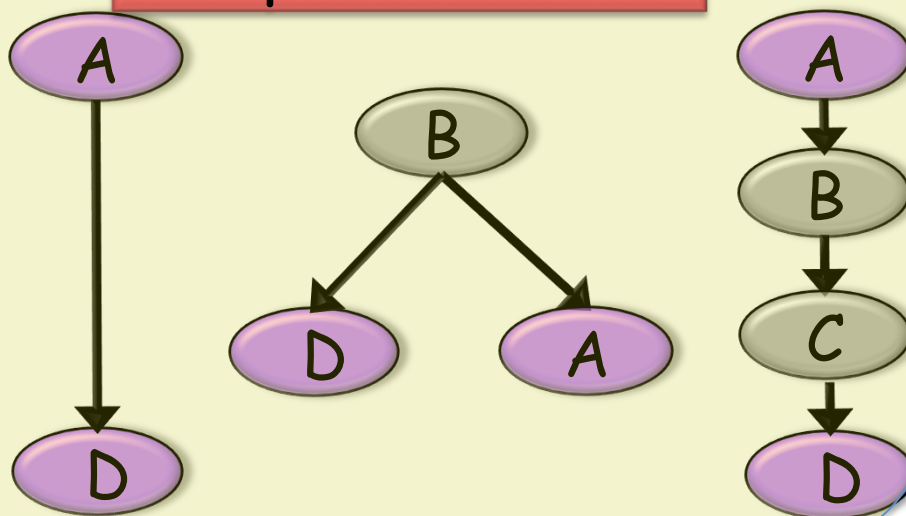
## • Cycles?

Sachs and  
Itani,  
IEEE 2008,  
PSB 2009,  
JMLR Proc  
2008

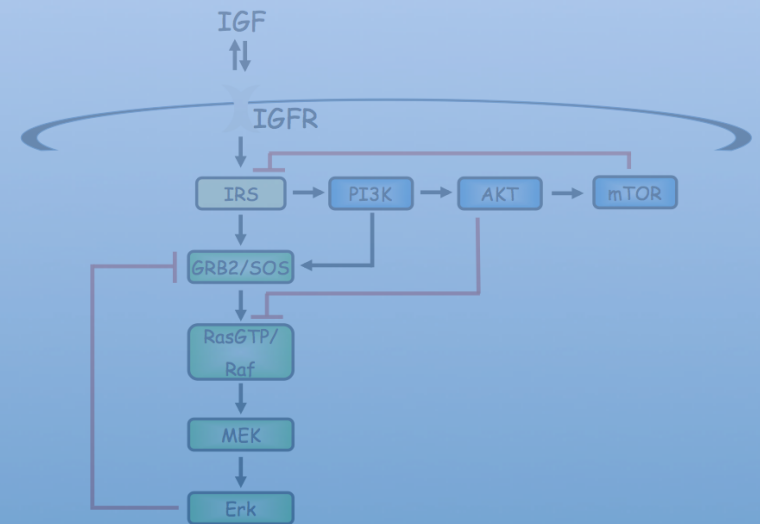


## • Hidden variables?

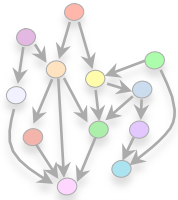
Special case



## • Dynamics?

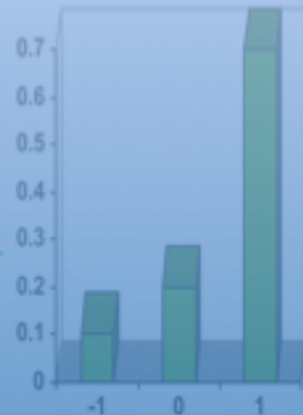
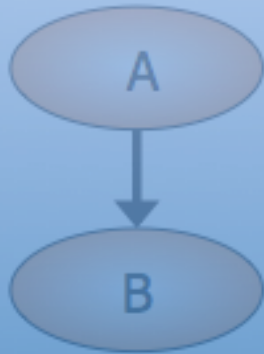


Sachs, Interface Focus 2013



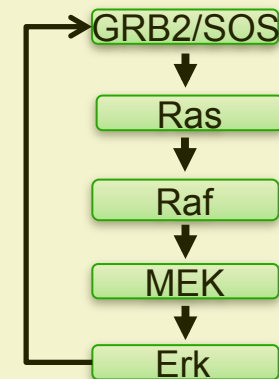
# Remaining challenges

- CPDs?



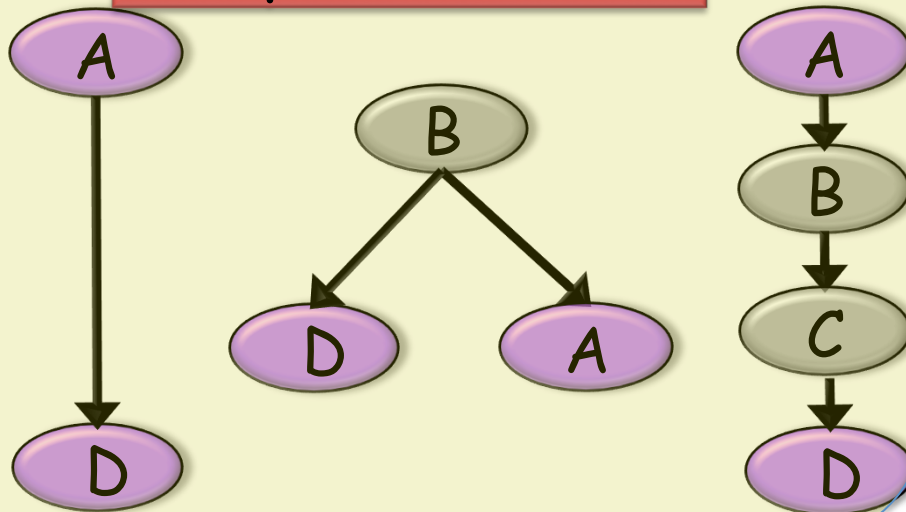
- Cycles?

Sachs and Itani,  
IEEE 2008,  
PSB 2009,  
JMLR Proc  
2008

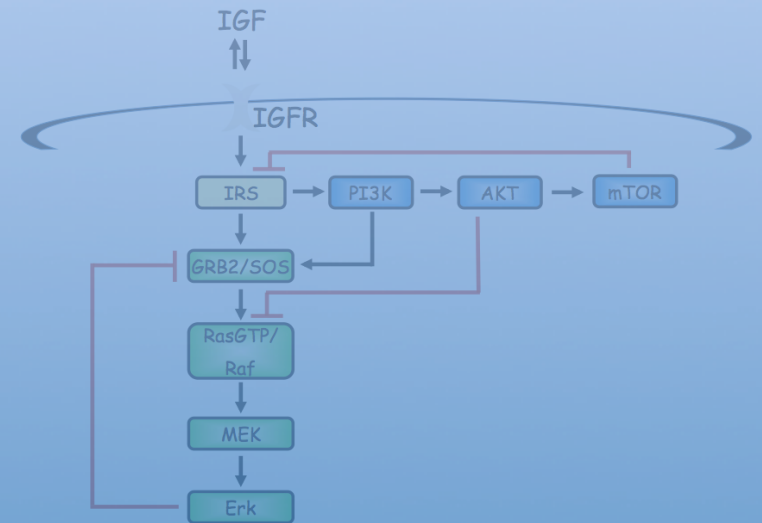


- Hidden variables?

Special case

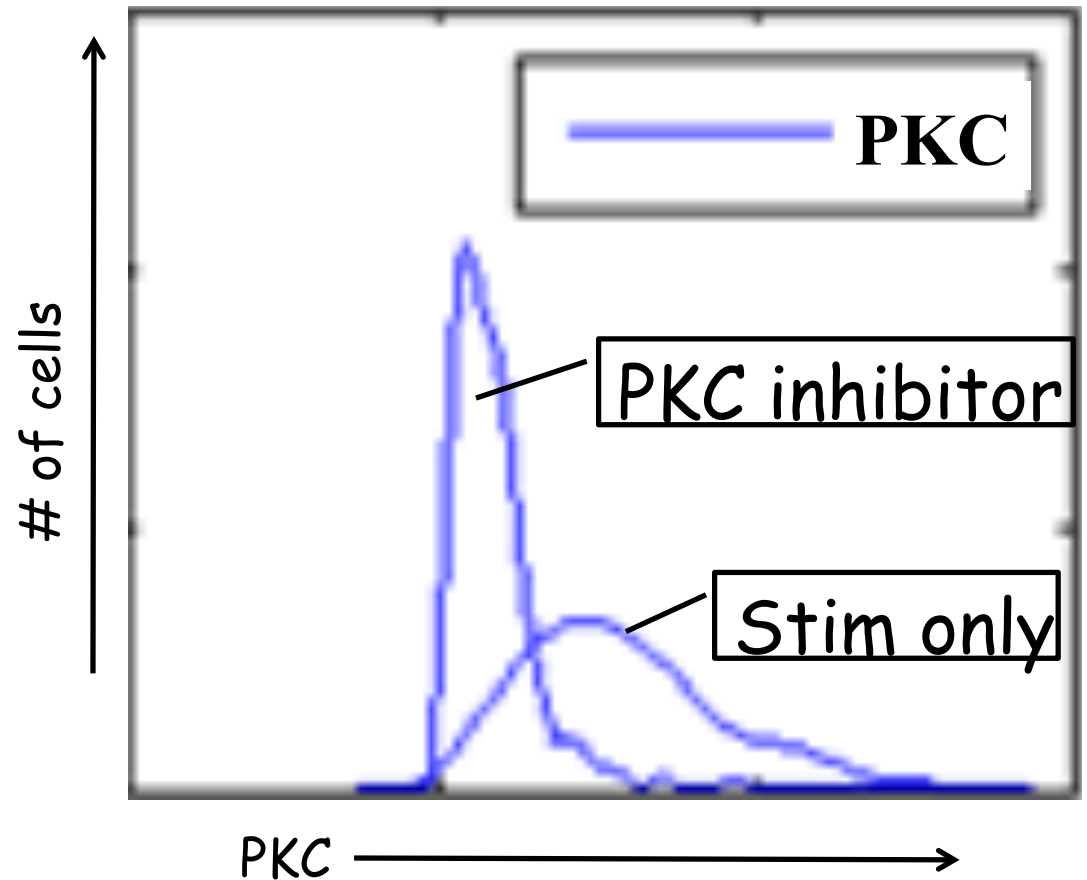
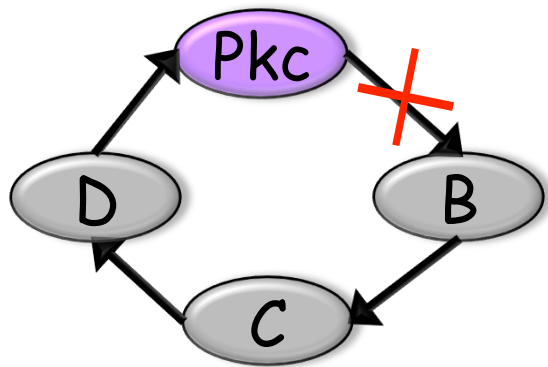


- Dynamics?

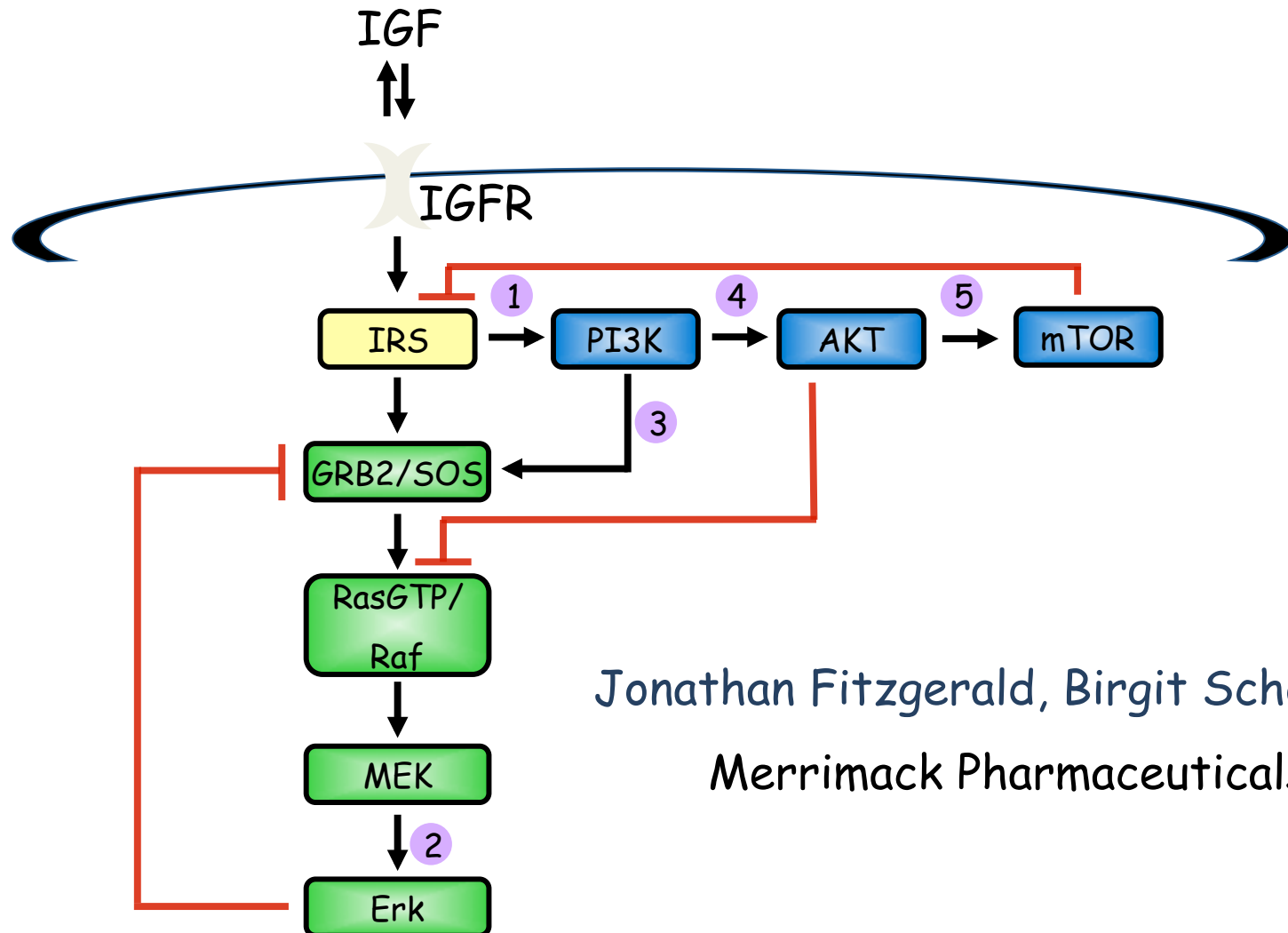


Sachs, Interface Focus 2013

# Cyclic structure learning



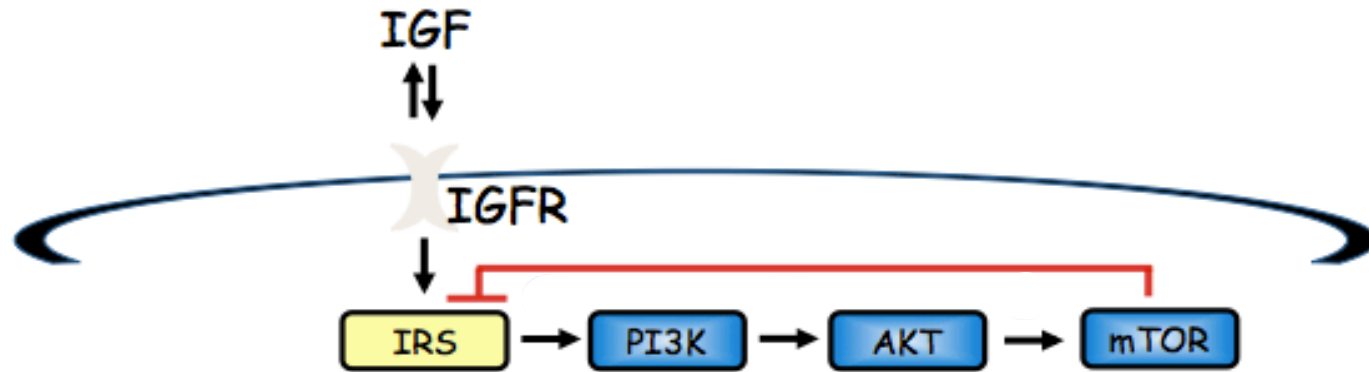
# ODE model for realistic synthetic data



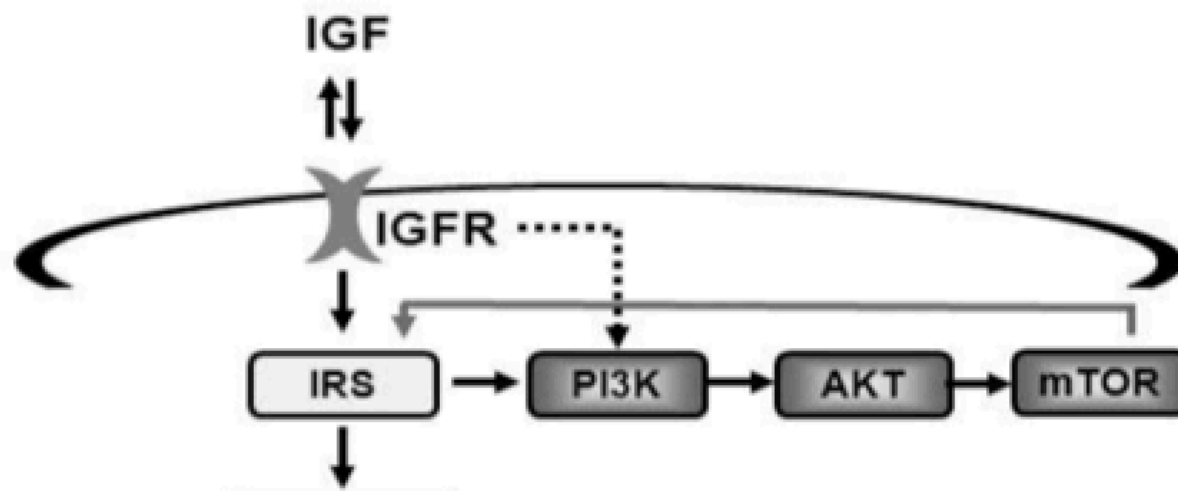
Jonathan Fitzgerald, Birgit Schoeberl  
Merrimack Pharmaceuticals



# Extra edge?

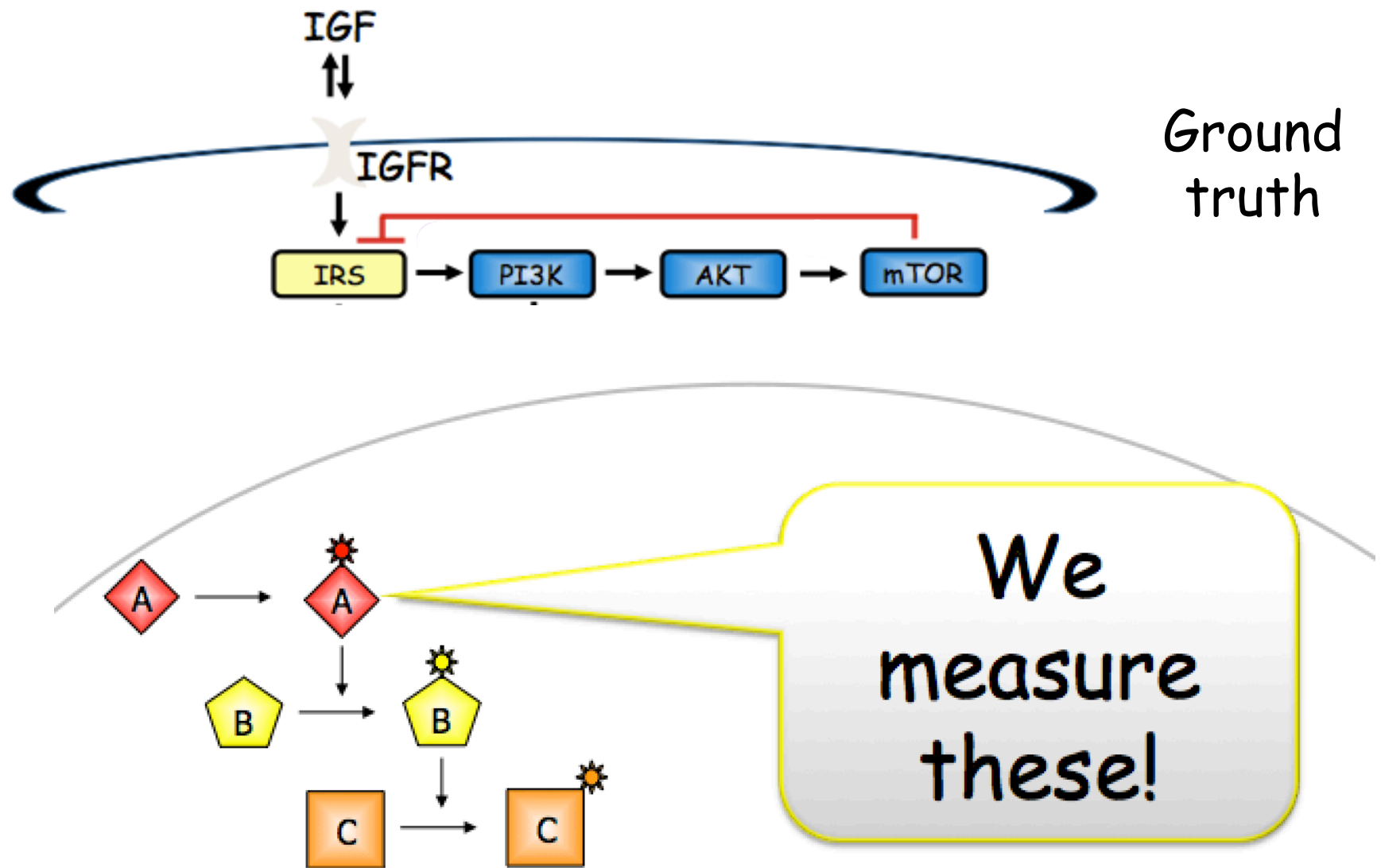


Ground  
truth

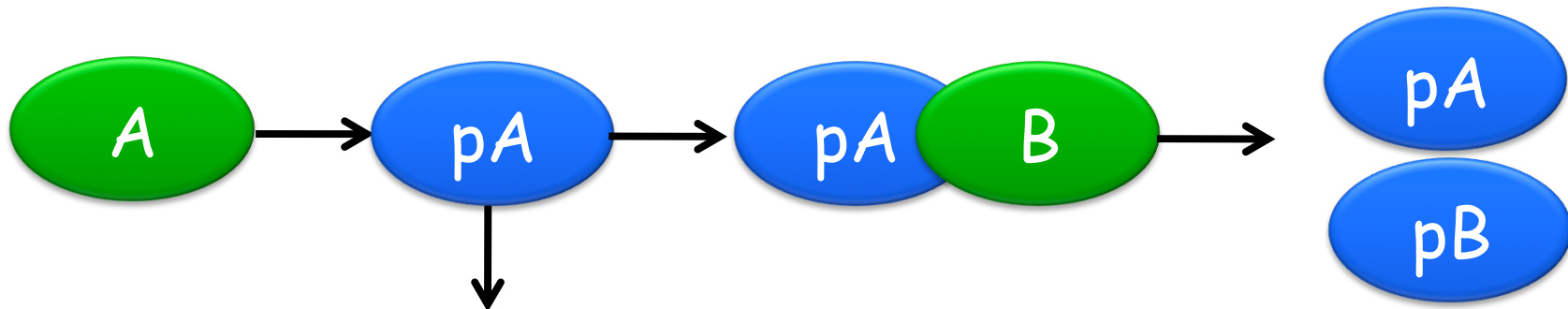


Model  
results

# Zoom in on signaling

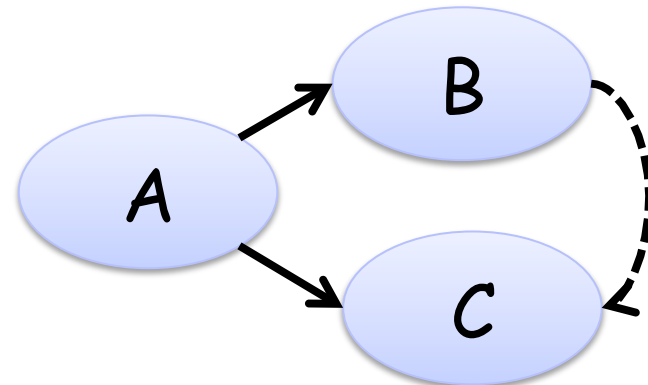


# Zoom in on signaling

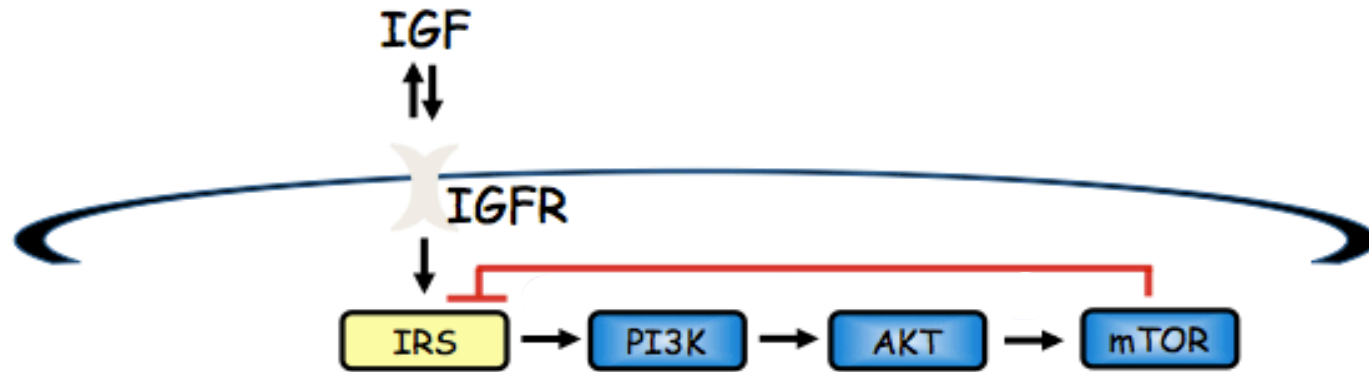


Note: Not revealed  
by activity  
inhibition!

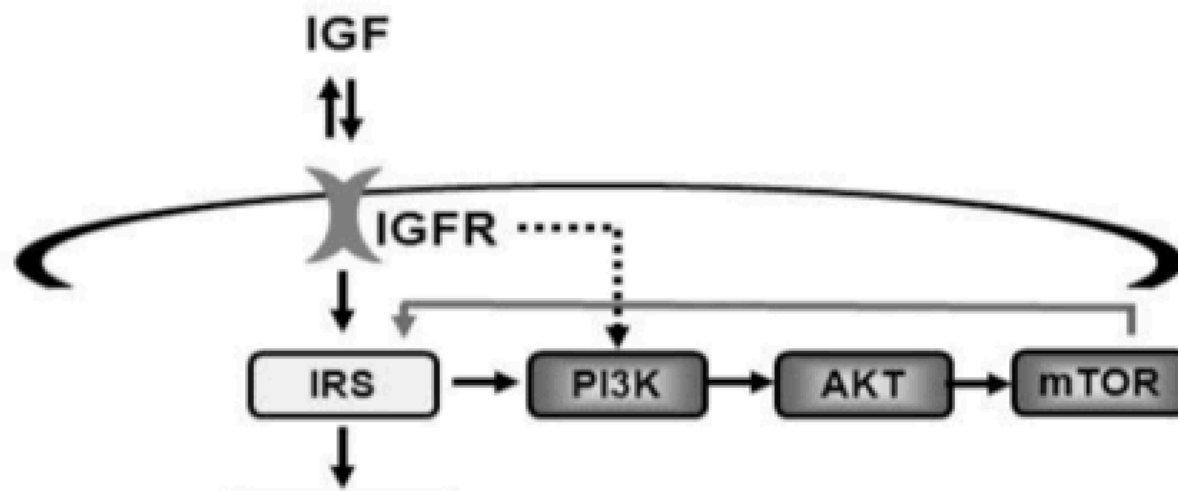
What happens when  
[A] is limiting?



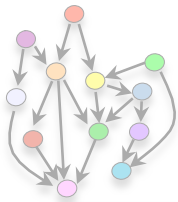
# Extra edge: causal via competition



Ground  
truth

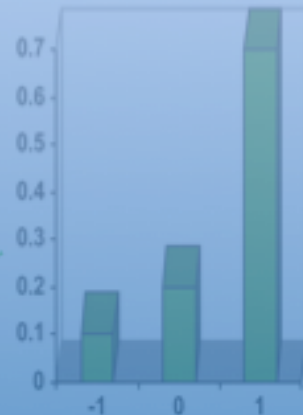
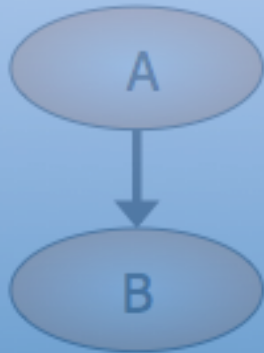


Model  
results



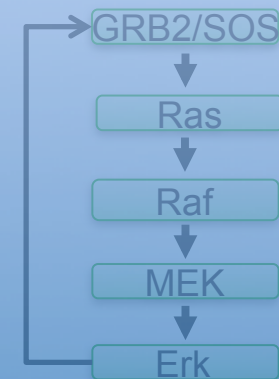
# Remaining challenges

## • CPDs?

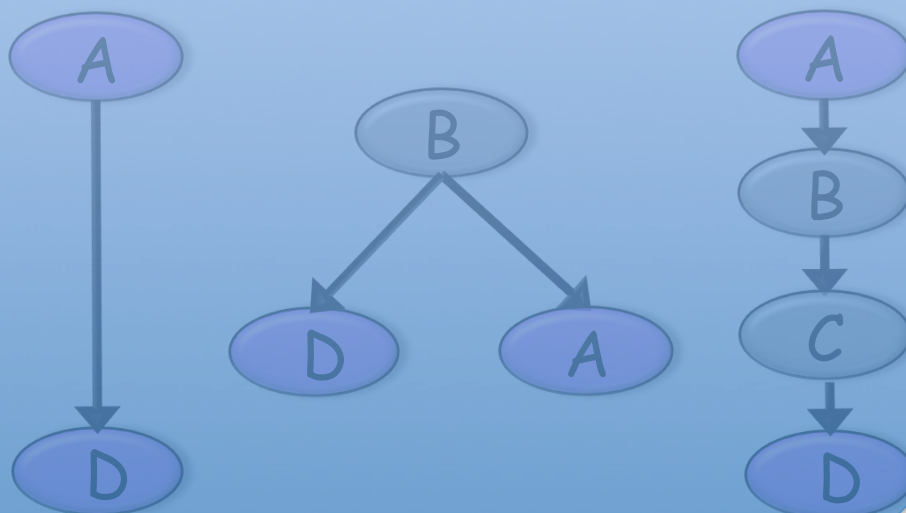


## • Cycles?

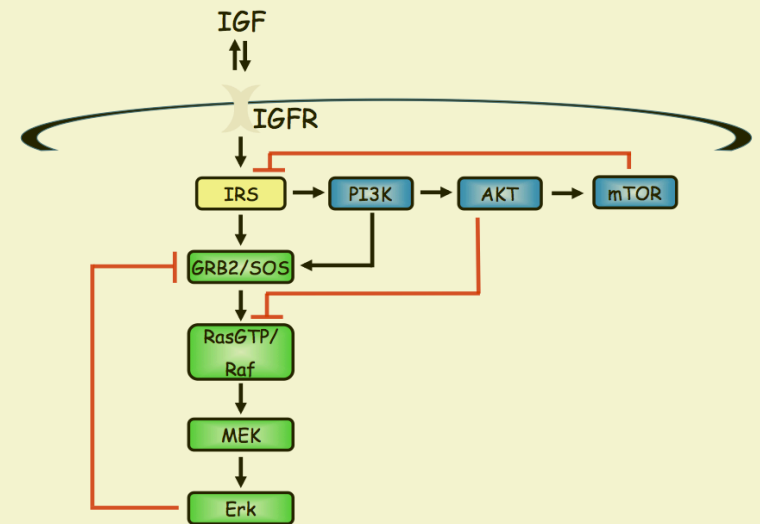
Sachs and  
Itani,  
IEEE 2008,  
PSB 2009,  
JMLR Proc  
2008



## • Hidden variables?

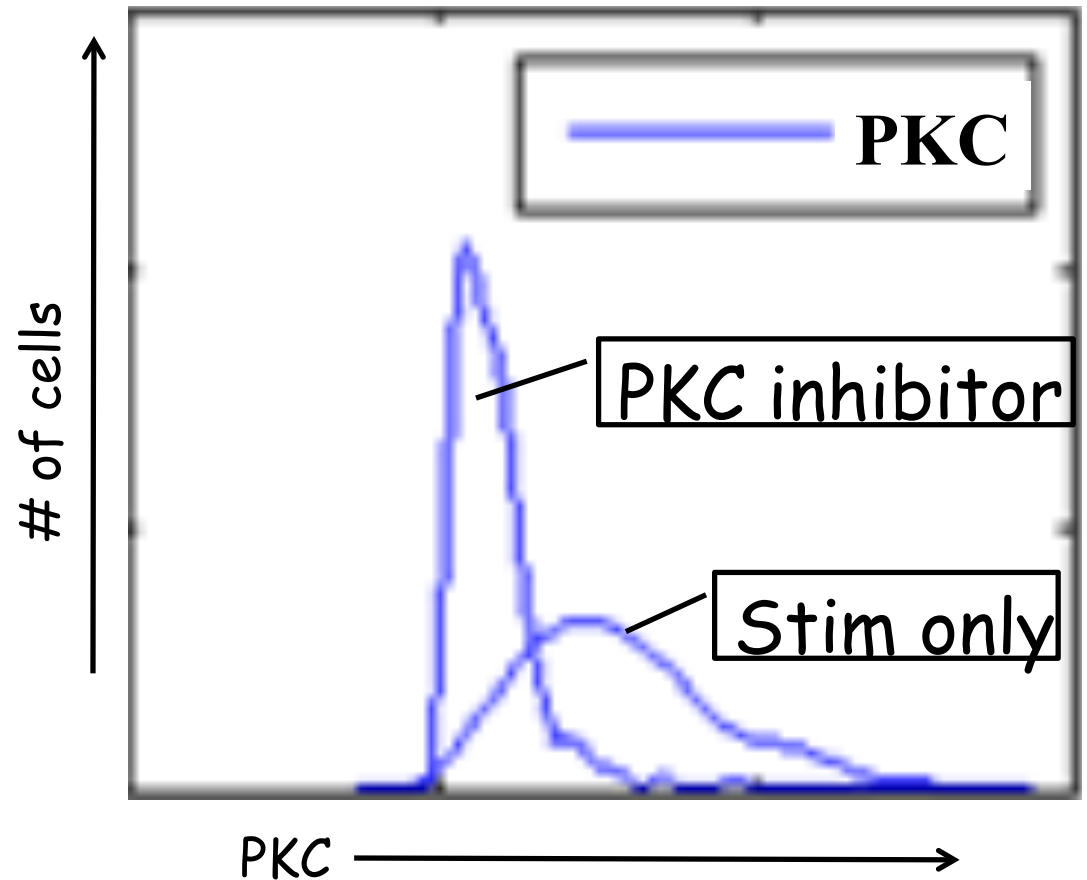
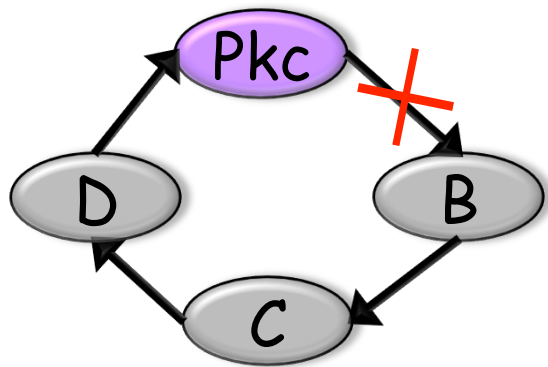


## • Dynamics?



Sachs, Interface Focus 2013

# Cyclic structure learning



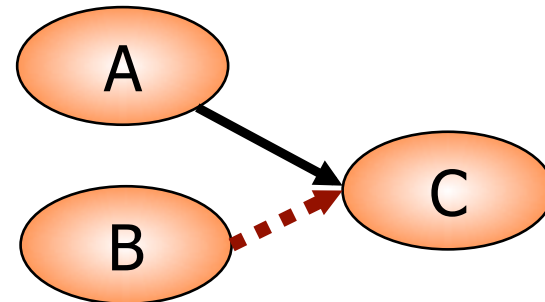
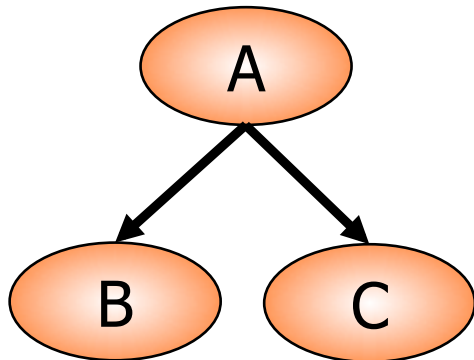


# Dynamics can confound causality: Example

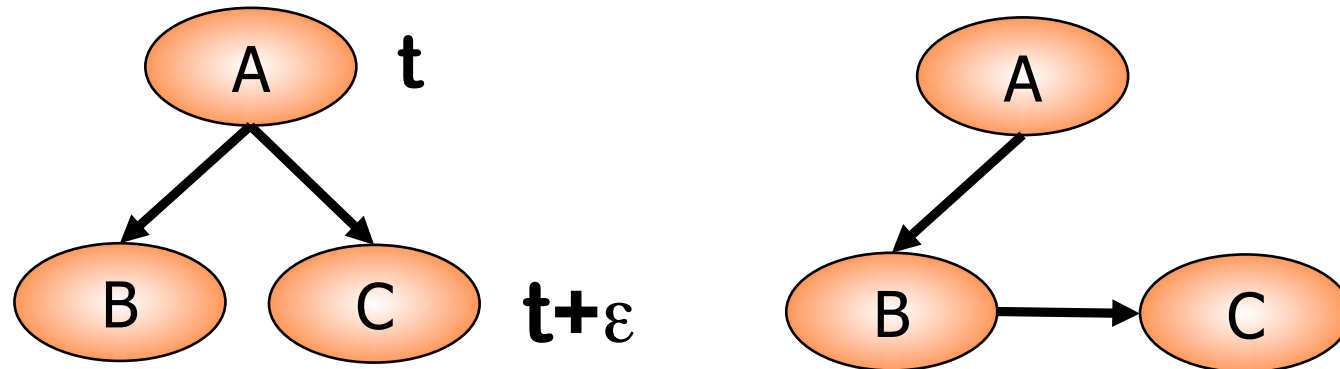
$A(t)$  randomly reset to 0 or 1

$$B = A(t-1),$$

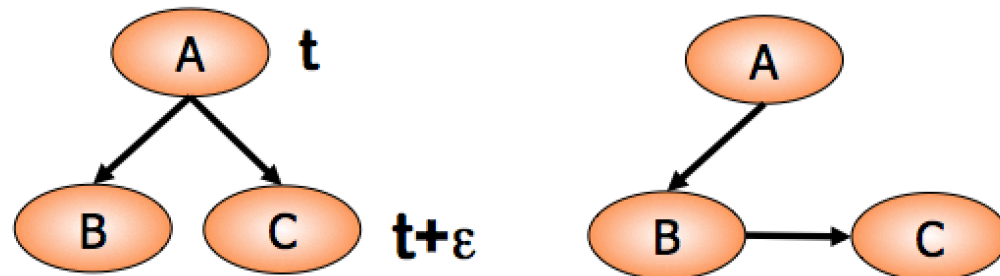
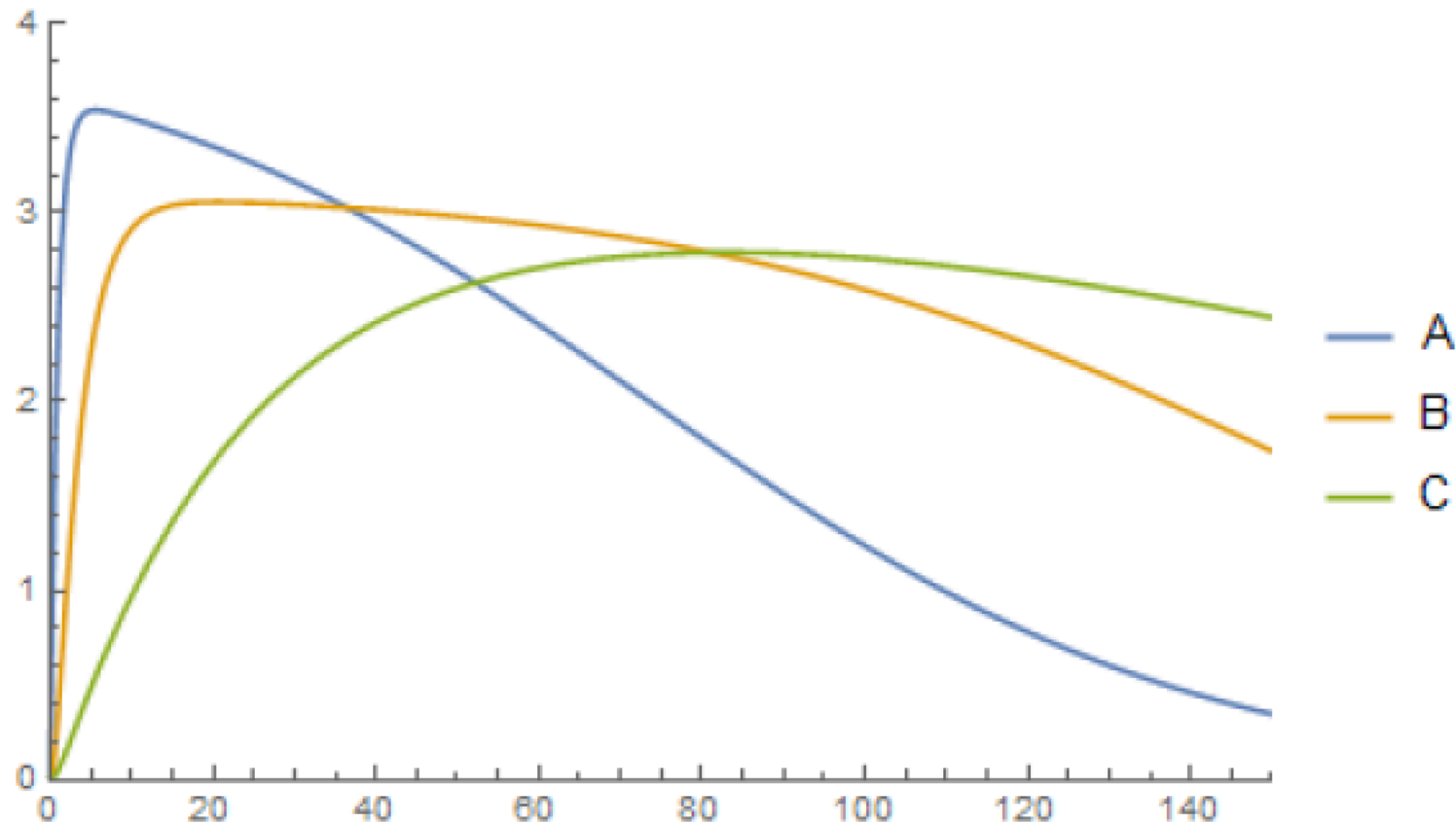
$$C(t) = A(t) \vee A(t-1)$$

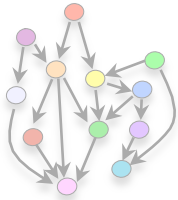


# Bio Example

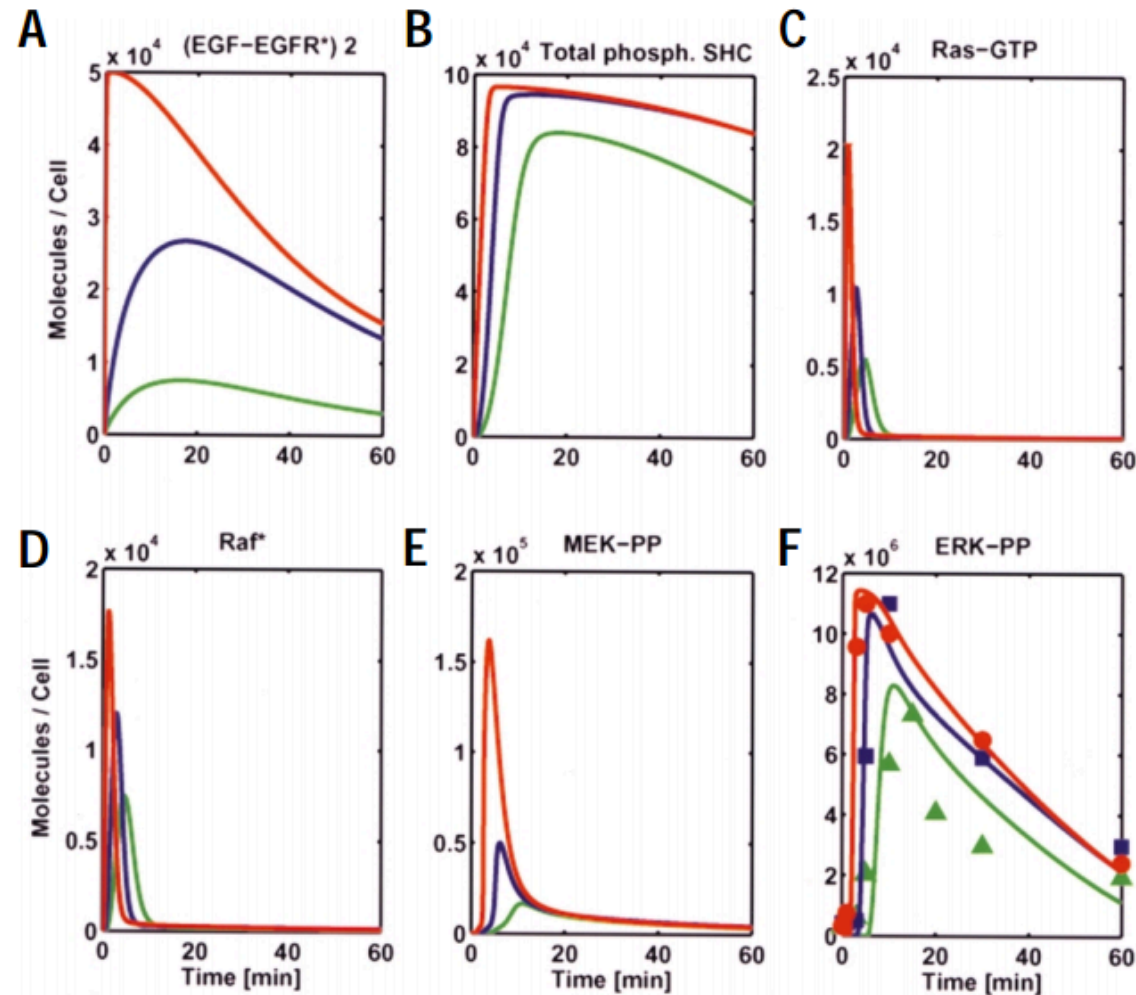


## Bio Example: C depends on the *history* of A



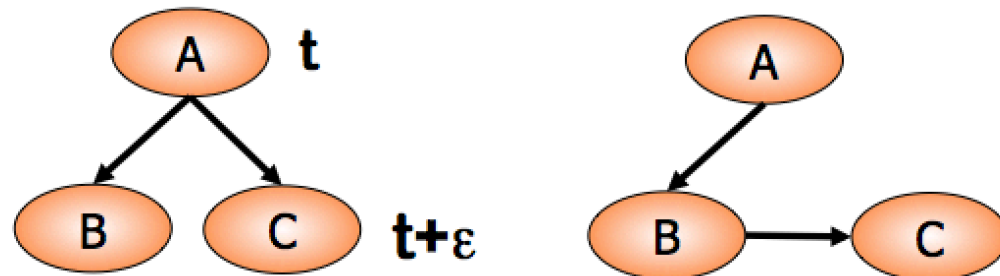
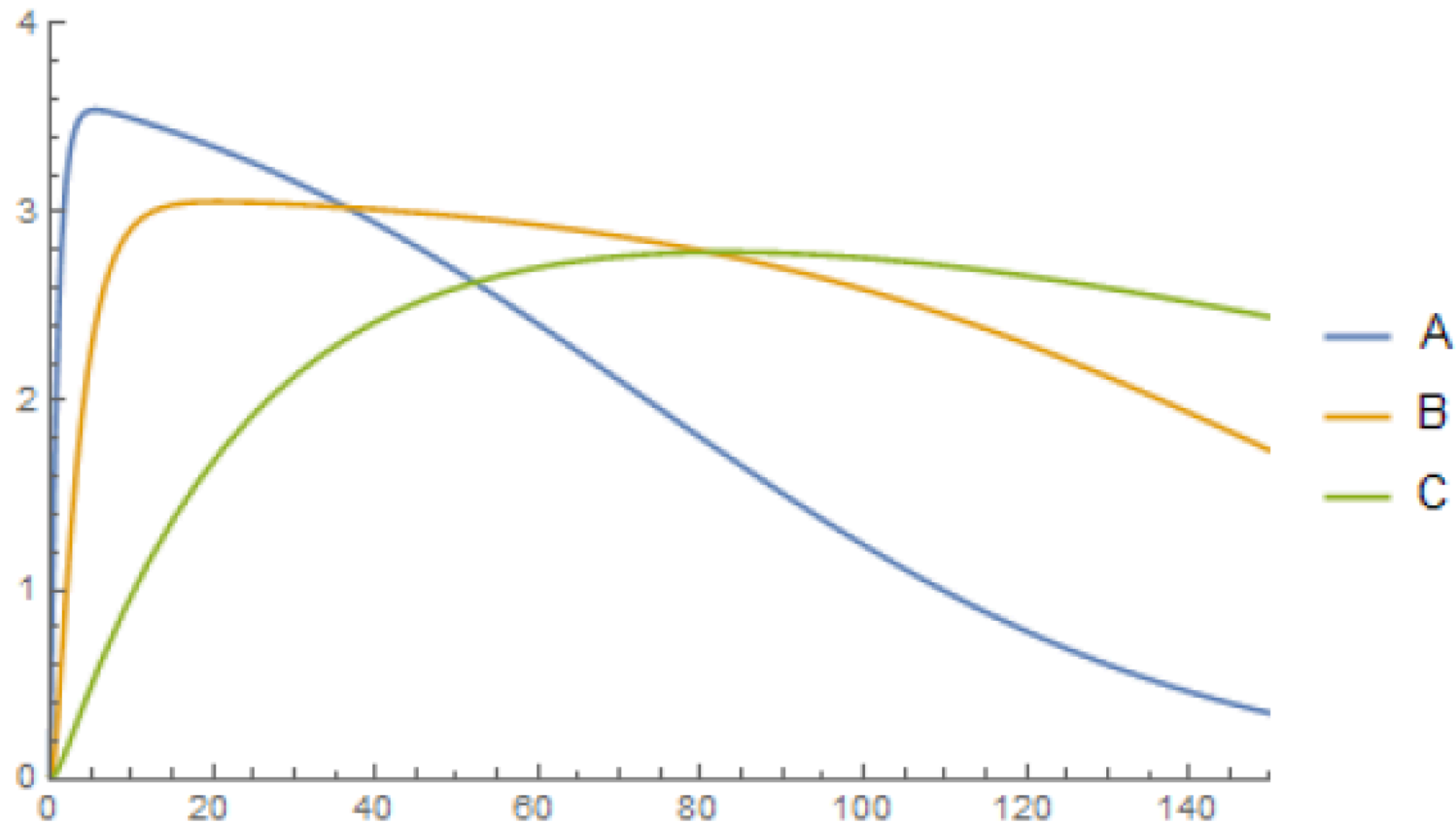


We are generally not in SS

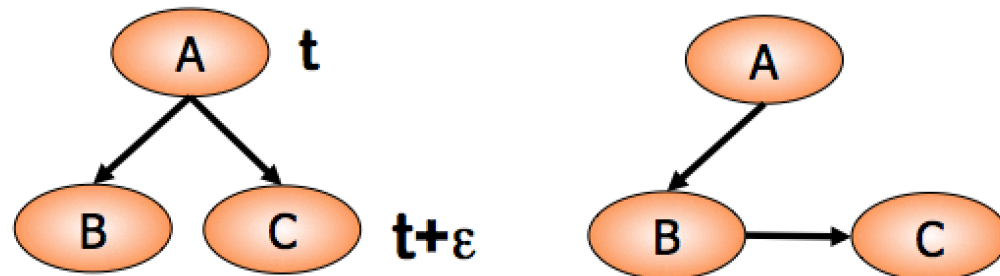
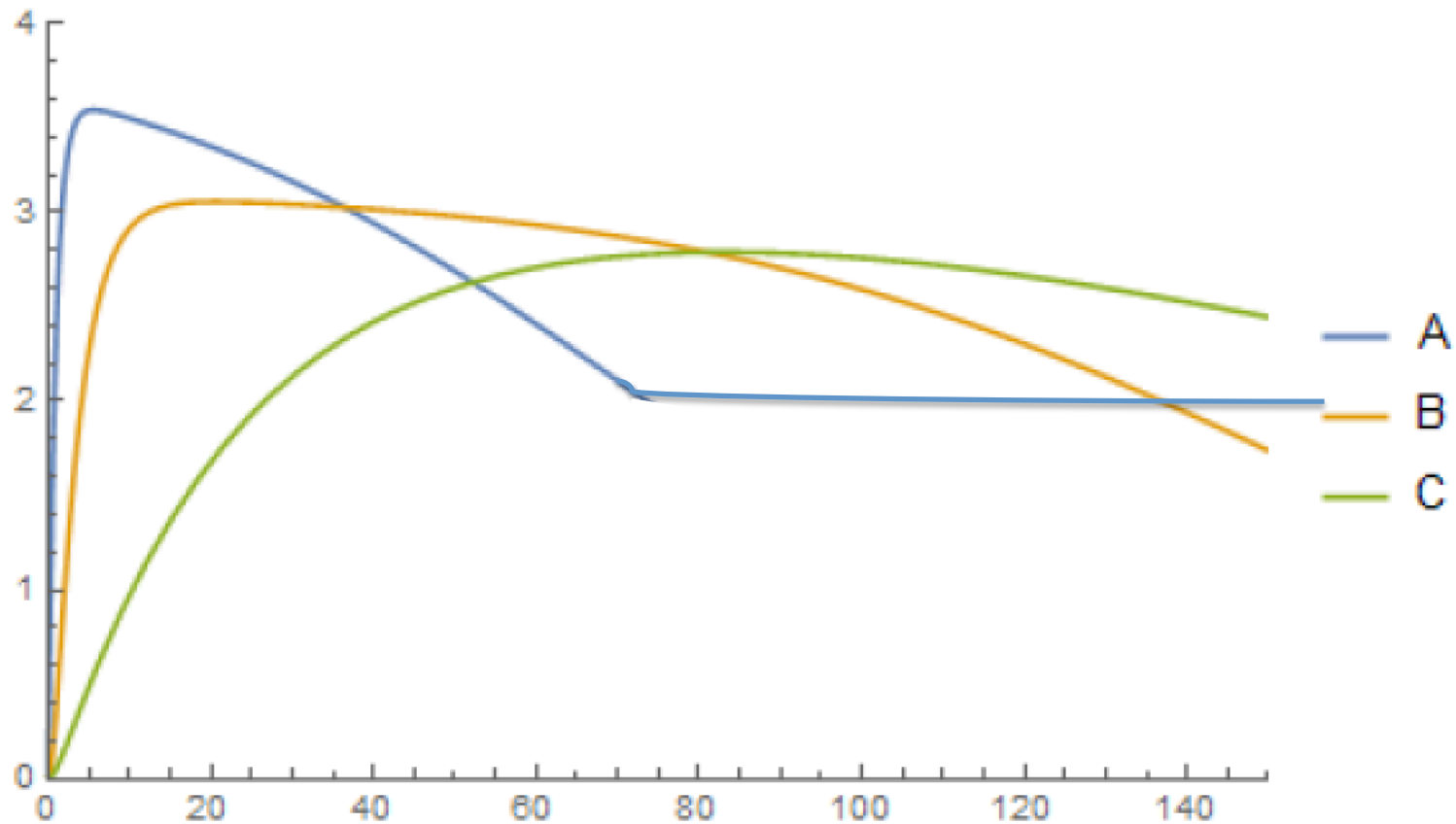


Schoeberl et al 2002

Avoid dependence on A's history? (How?)



Hold A constant!

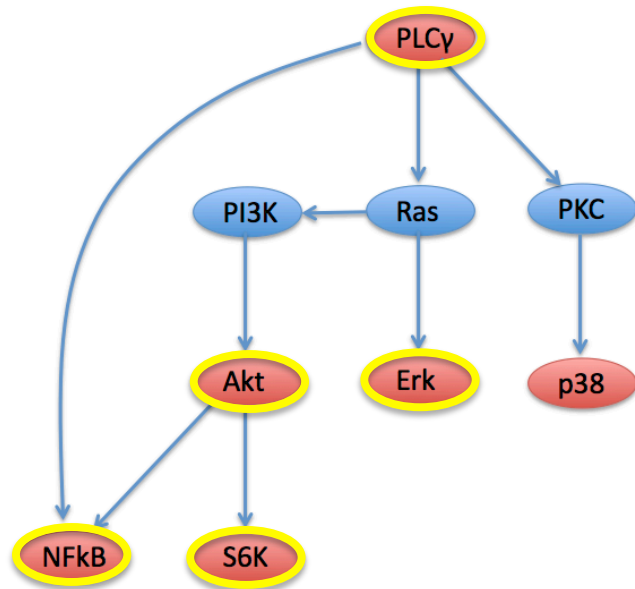




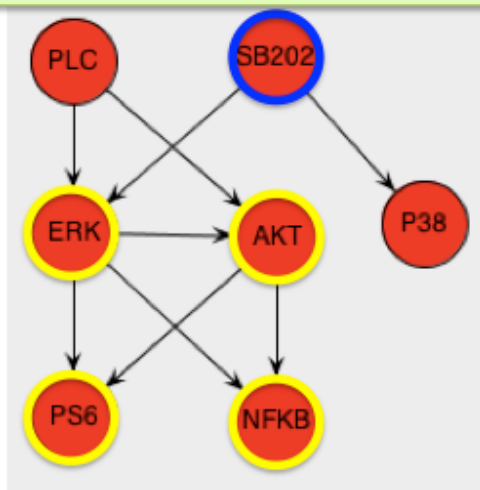
## Algorithm for reducing noncausal edges

- Avoid dependence on history by learning from multi-inhibited conditions
- Some formalized results (see past talk)
- Continuing work based on feedback (work in progress)

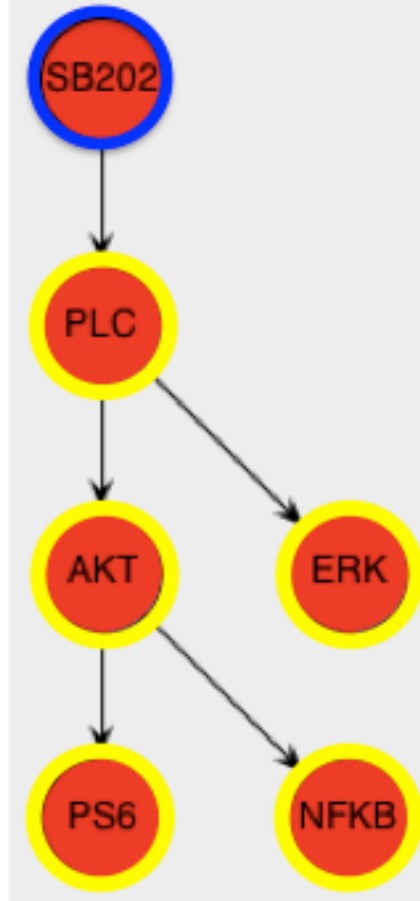
# Reconstruction in T Cells



## Standard BN

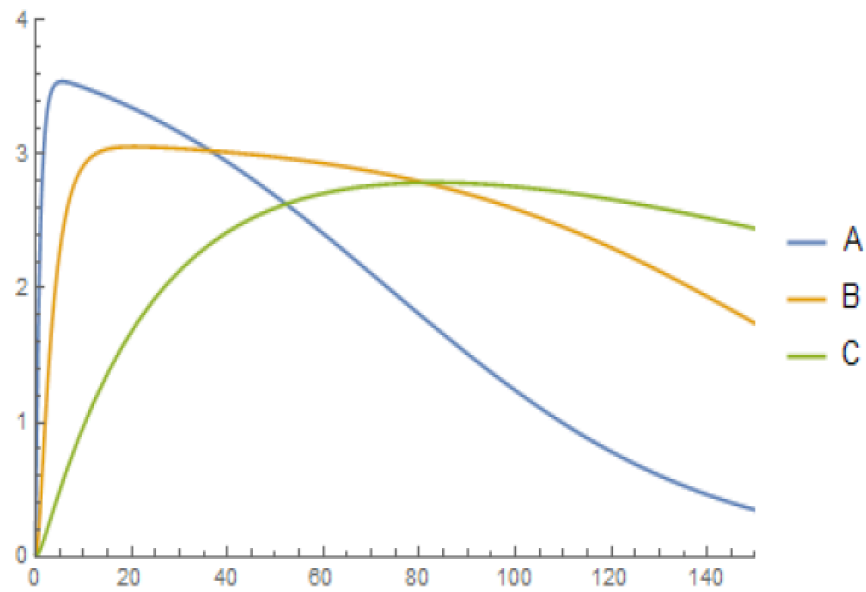


## Combined inhibitions



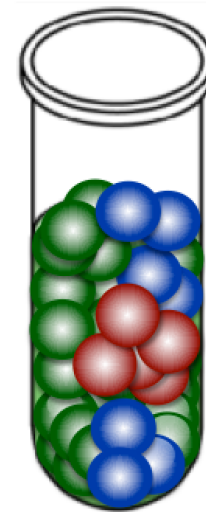
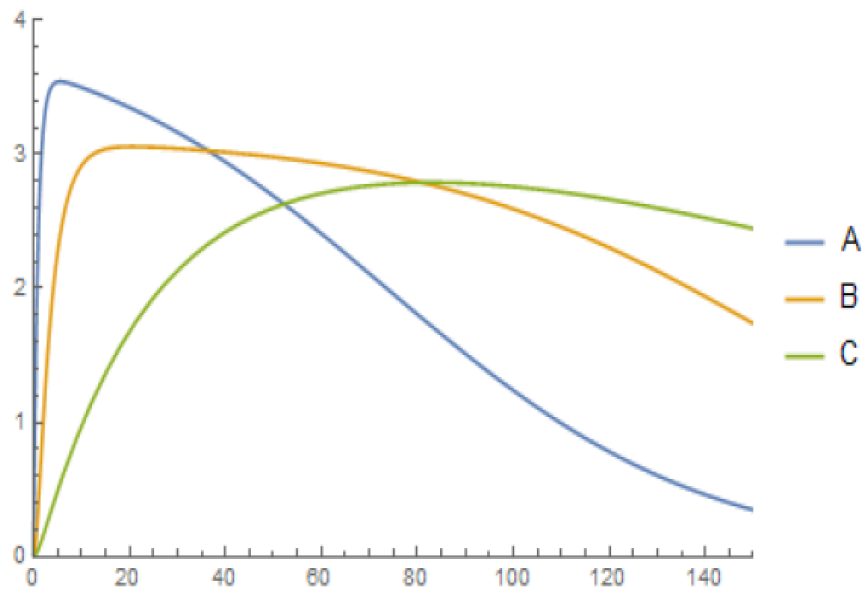
Other approaches?

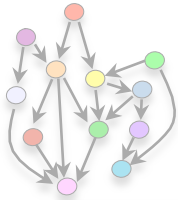
## Other approaches?



## Other approaches?

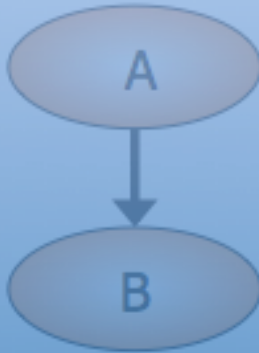
How much  
fits into  
one  
snapshot?



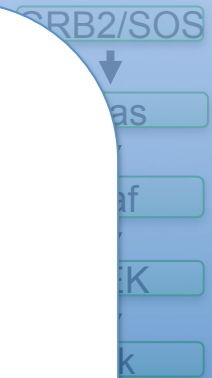


# Bonus challenge

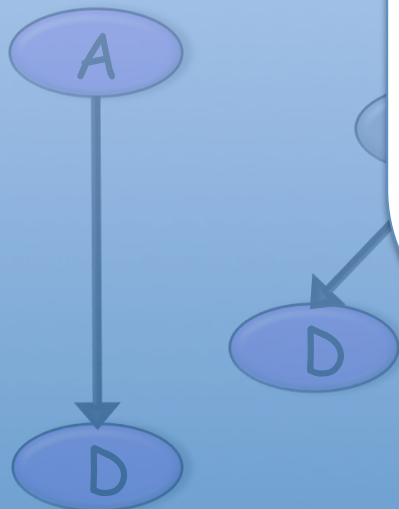
- CPDs?



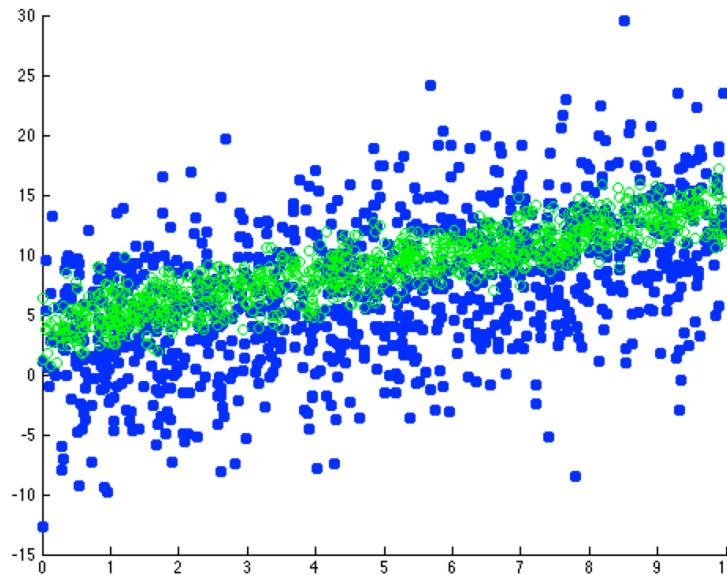
- Cycles?

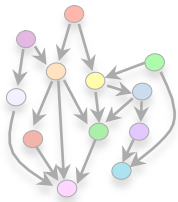


- Hidden variables



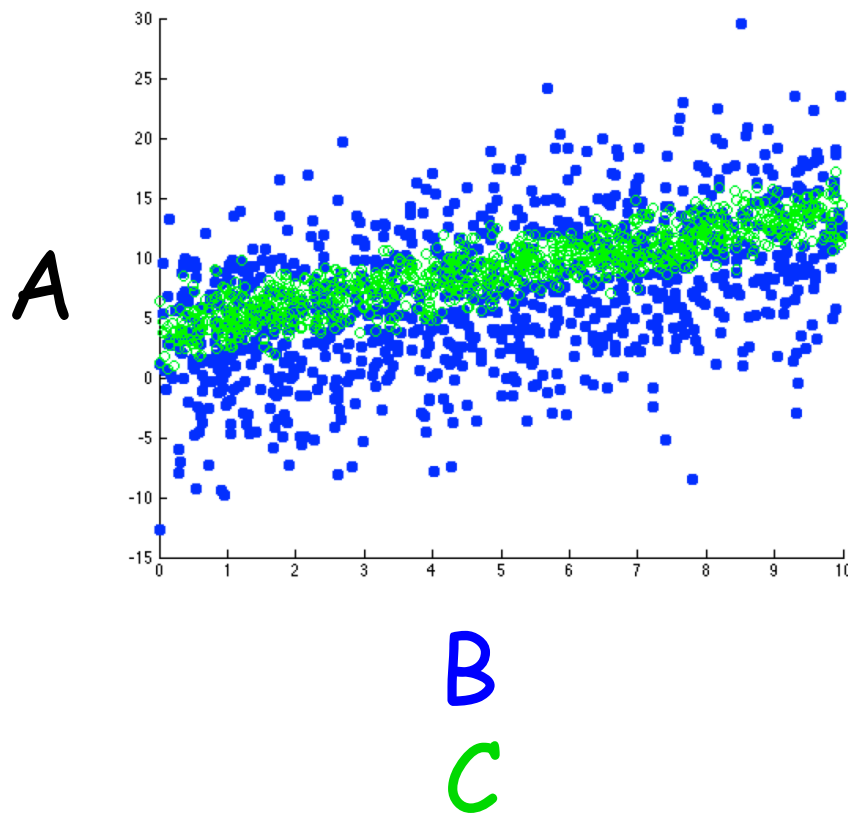
Variable noise





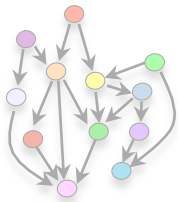
# Bonus challenge: Variable noise

B has higher measurement noise



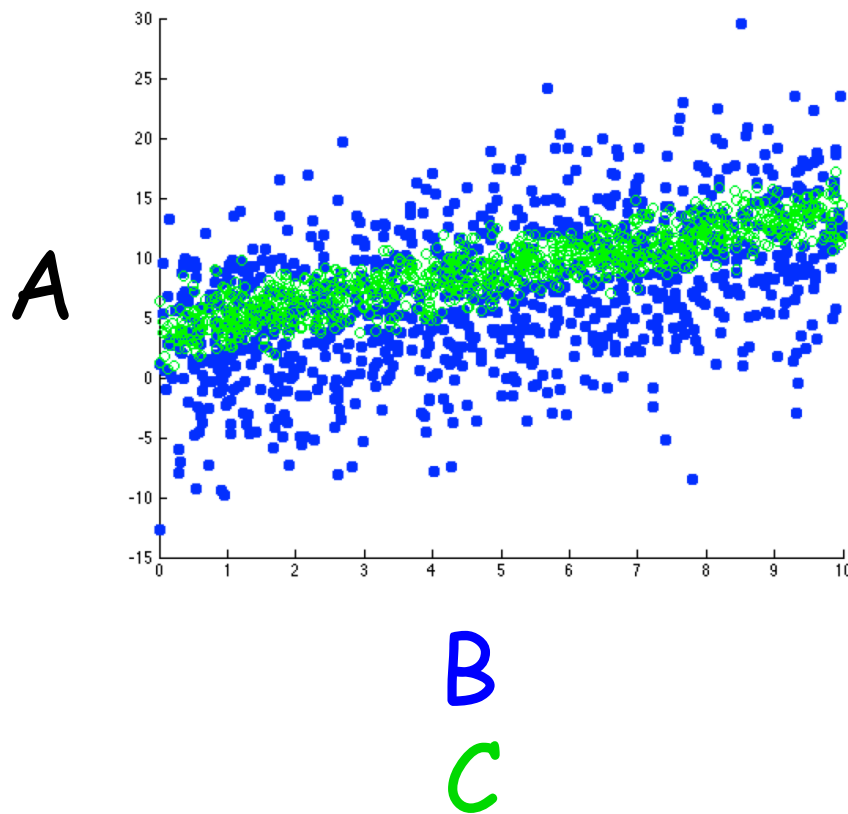
$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$   
Ground truth



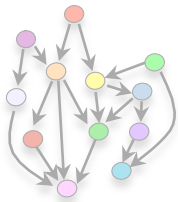


## Bonus challenge: Variable noise

B has higher measurement noise

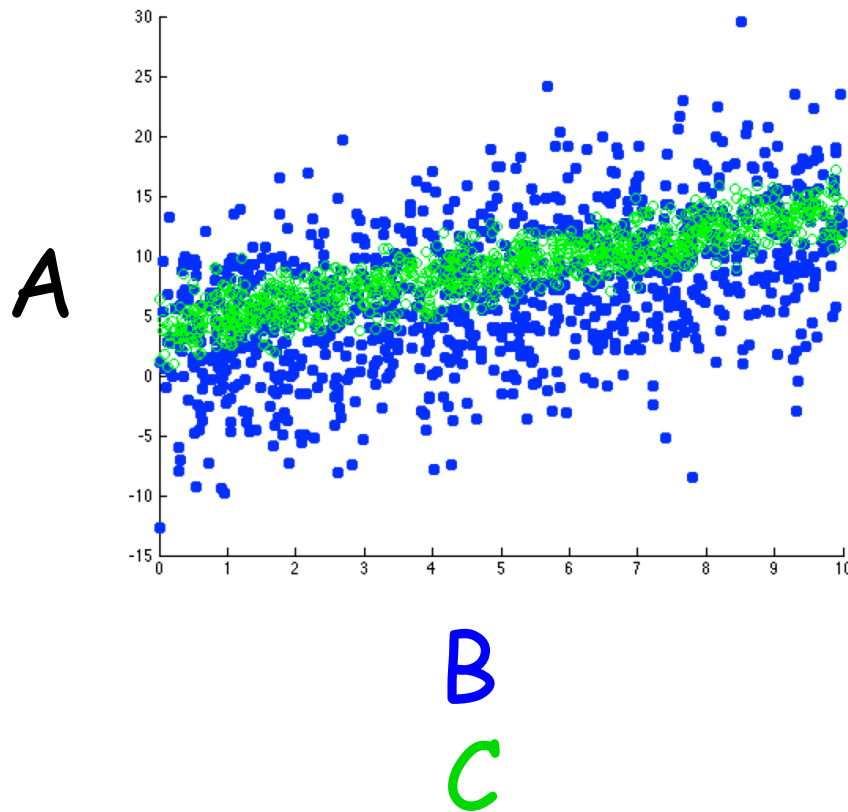


$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$   
Ground truth



# Bonus challenge: Variable noise

B has higher measurement noise



$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$

Ground  
truth

$A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B$

Learned  
model

# Acknowledgements

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Mingyu Chung

Mohammed AlQuraishi

Birgit Schoeberl

Jonathan Fitzgerald

Solomon Itani

Claire Tomlin

Zohar Sachs

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doctoral  
fellowship**



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