

# **Statistical Analysis of RNA-Seq Data**

**Minghui Wang, Qi Sun**

**Bioinformatics Facility  
Cornell University**

# Gene count table

Genes	Condition A	Condition B
Gene A	10	30
Gene B	30	90
Gene C	5	15
Gene D	1	3
Gene N	80	240
	126	378

Genes	Condition A	Condition B
Gene A	10	5
Gene B	30	60
Gene C	5	1
Gene D	1	1
Gene N	80	59
	126	126

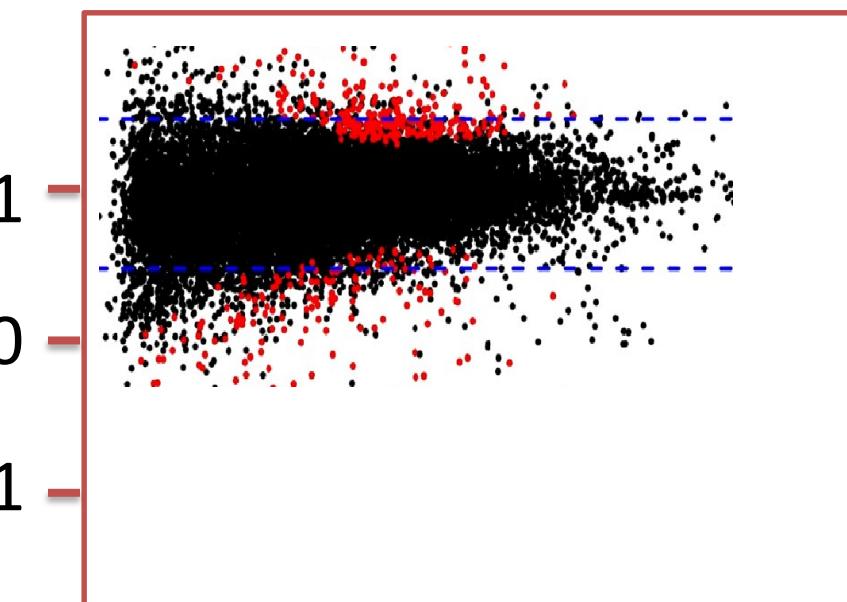
- Library size
- RNA composition bias

# Normalization

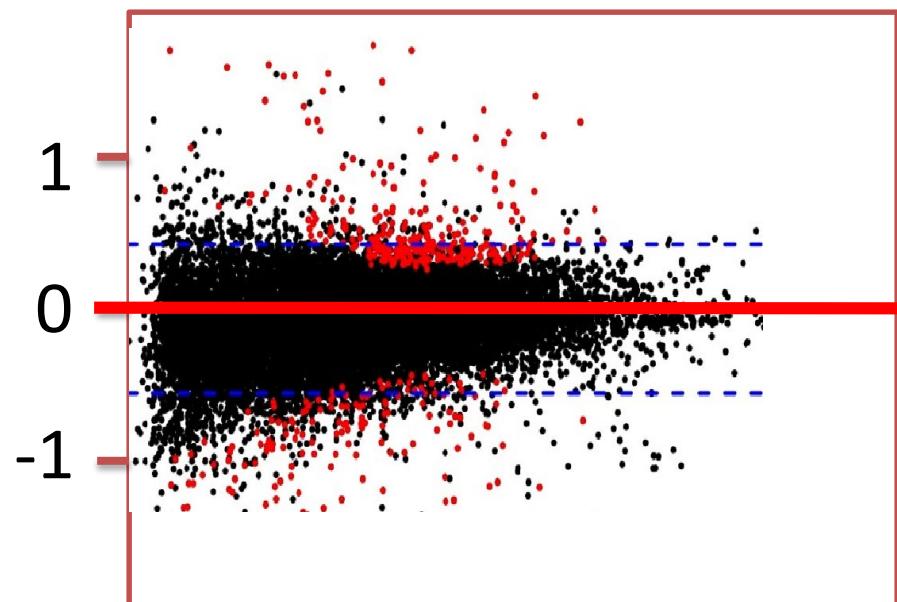
Is necessary in RNAseq as total read counts are different in different samples

## MA Plots

Before normalization



After normalization



- Y axis: log ratio of expression level between two conditions;
- With the assumption that most genes are expressed equally, the log ratio should mostly be close to 0

# Normalization methods

- ❖ **Total-count normalization**

- By total mapped reads

- ❖ **Upper-quantile normalization**

- By read count of the gene at upper-quantile

- ❖ **Normalization by housekeeping genes**

- ❖ **Trimmed mean (TMM) normalization**

# Normalization methods

## ❖ Total-count normalization (FPKM, RPKM)

- By total mapped reads (in transcripts)

Default

cuffdiff

## ❖ Upper-quartile normalization

- By read count of the gene at upper-quartile

## ❖ Normalization by housekeeping genes

## ❖ Trimmed mean (TMM) normalization

EdgeR

# A simple normalization

## FPKM (CUFFLINKS)

**Fragments Per Kilobase Of Exon Per Million Fragments**

Normalization factor:

Default: total reads from genes defined in GFF

-total-hits-norm: all aligned reads

## CPM (EdgeR)

**Count Per Million Reads**

Normalization factor:

- total reads from genes defined in GFF
- Correction with TMM

Reads that are not mapped to gene region (e.g. rRNA, pseudo-genes would not affect normalization)

# TMM normalization step

Gene	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4
GENE A	10	10	10	30
GENE B	30	20	10	80
GENE C	20	30	20	20
GENE D	50	30	40	30
GENE E	30	20	30	10

140                  110                  110                  170

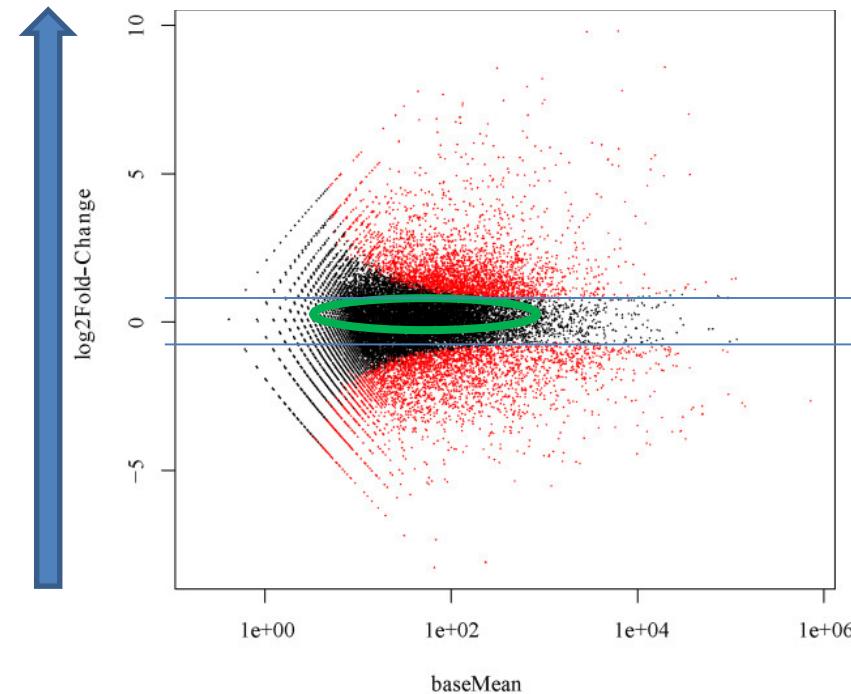
Gene	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4
GENE A	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.18
GENE B	0.21	0.18	0.09	0.47
GENE C	0.14	0.27	0.18	0.12
GENE D	0.36	0.27	0.36	0.18
GENE E	0.21	0.18	0.27	0.06

Q (75%)                  **0.21**                  0.27                  0.27                  0.18

Mean                   0.23

# TMM normalization step

Gene	Ref	Test	M	A
GENE 1	10	20	...	...
GENE 2	20	30	...	...
GENE 3	50	20	...	...
GENE 4	30	20	...	...
GENE 5	30	30	...	...
GENE 6	10	50	...	...



$$M = \log_2(\text{Test}/\text{Test\_total}) - \log_2(\text{Ref}/\text{Ref\_total})$$

$$A = 0.5 * \log_2(\text{Test}/\text{Test\_total} * \text{Ref}/\text{Ref\_total})$$

Effective library size



# DESeq2 normalization

A

Gene	A	B	C
Gene 1	0	1	20
Gene 2	2	3	5
Gene 3	4	10	100

B

Gene	A	B	C
Gene 1	inf	0	3
Gene 2	0.69	1.1	1.6
Gene 3	1.38	2.3	4.6

inf  
1.13  
2.76

C

Gene	A	B	C
Gene 1	inf	0	3
Gene 2	-0.44	-0.03	0.47
Gene 3	-1.38	-0.46	1.84

D

Gene	A	B	C
Gene 1	inf	0	3
Gene 2	-0.44	-0.03	0.47
Gene 3	-1.38	-0.46	1.84

E

**-0.91      -0.245      1.16**

F

**0.40      0.78      3.19**

### 3. Differentially expressed genes

Given a gene:

Read counts in control samples:

*Repeat 1* **24**

*Repeat 2* **25**

*Repeat 3* **27**

Read counts in treated samples:

*Repeat 1* **23**

*Repeat 2* **47**

*Repeat 3* **29**

Different statistics model might give you different P or Q values.

**Table 2****Comparison of methods.**

Evaluation	Cuffdiff	DESeq	edgeR	limmaVoom	PoissonSeq	baySeq
Normalization and clustering	All methods performed equally well					
DE detection accuracy measured by AUC at increasing qRT-PCR cutoff	Decreasing	Consistent	Consistent	Decreasing	Increases up to log expression change $\leq 2.0$	Consistent
Null model type I error	High number of FPs	Low number of FPs	Low number of FPs	Low Number of FPs	Low number of FPs	Low number of FPs
Signal-to-noise vs P value correlation for genes detected in one condition	Poor	Poor	Poor	Good	Moderate	Good
Support for multi-factored experiments	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Support DE detection without replicated samples	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Detection of differential isoforms	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Runtime for experiments with three to five replicates on a 12 dual-core 3.33 GHz, 100 G RAM server	Hours	Minutes	Minutes	Minutes	Seconds	Hours

AUC, area under curve; DE, differential expression; FP, false positive.

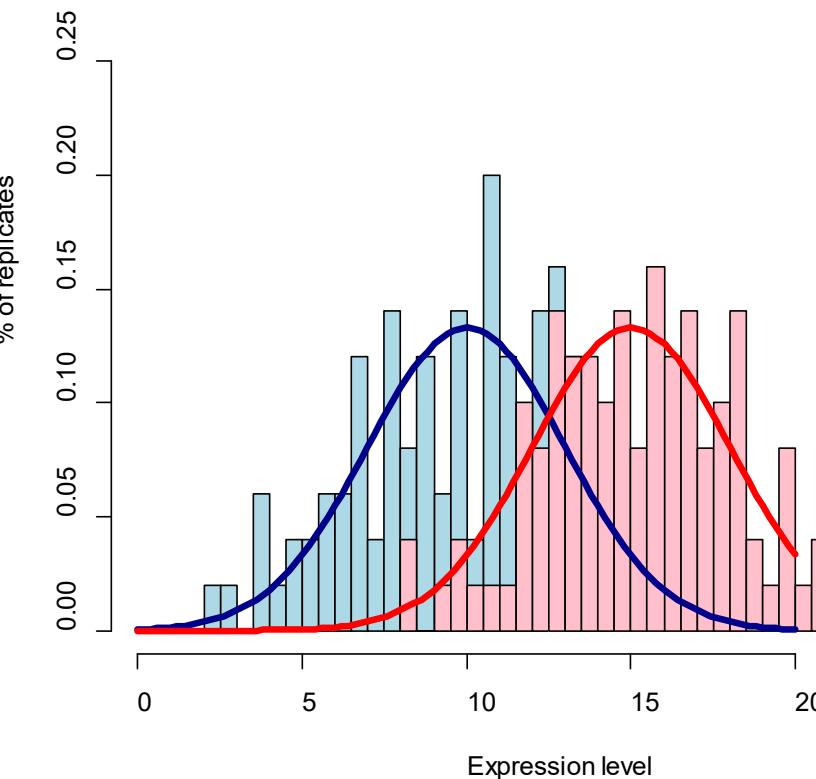
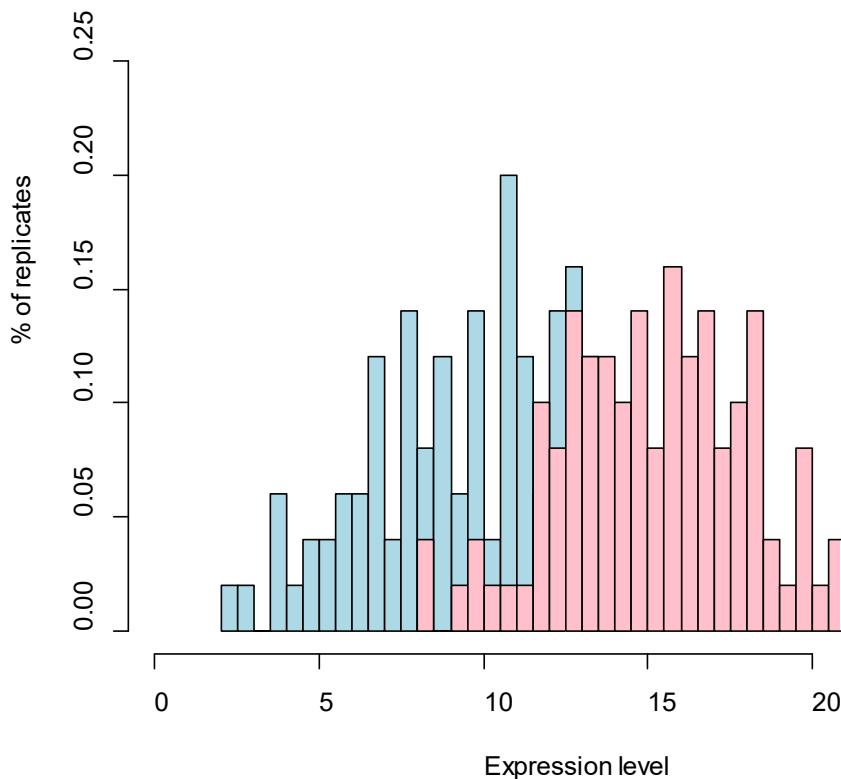
**Comparison of Methods**

Can I trust P-value?  
 Can I trust Adjusted P-value?

Rapaport F et al.  
*Genome Biology*,  
 2013 14:R95

### 3. Differentially expressed genes

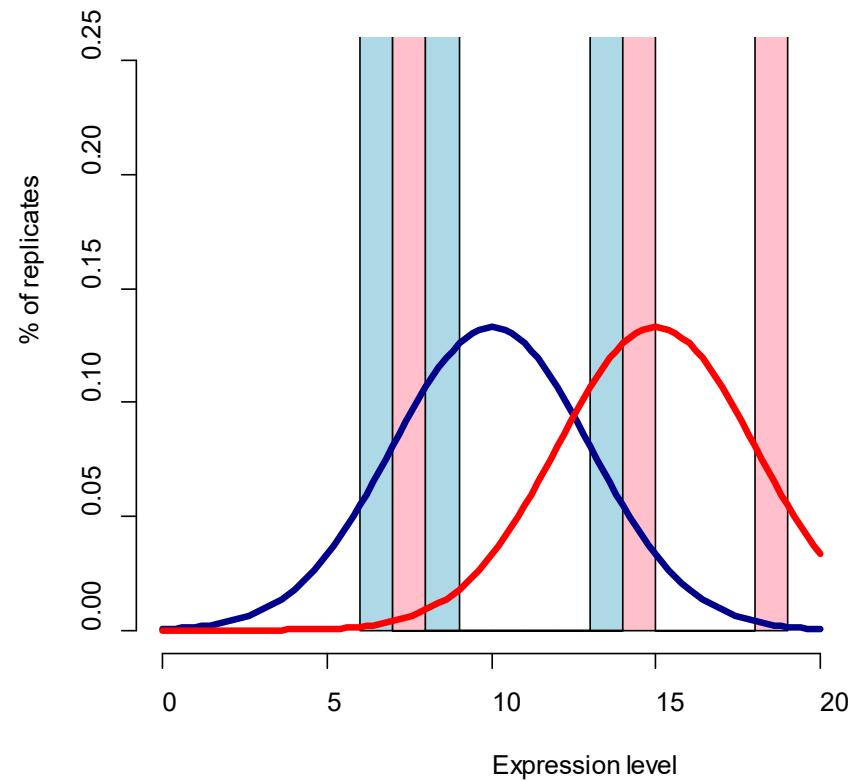
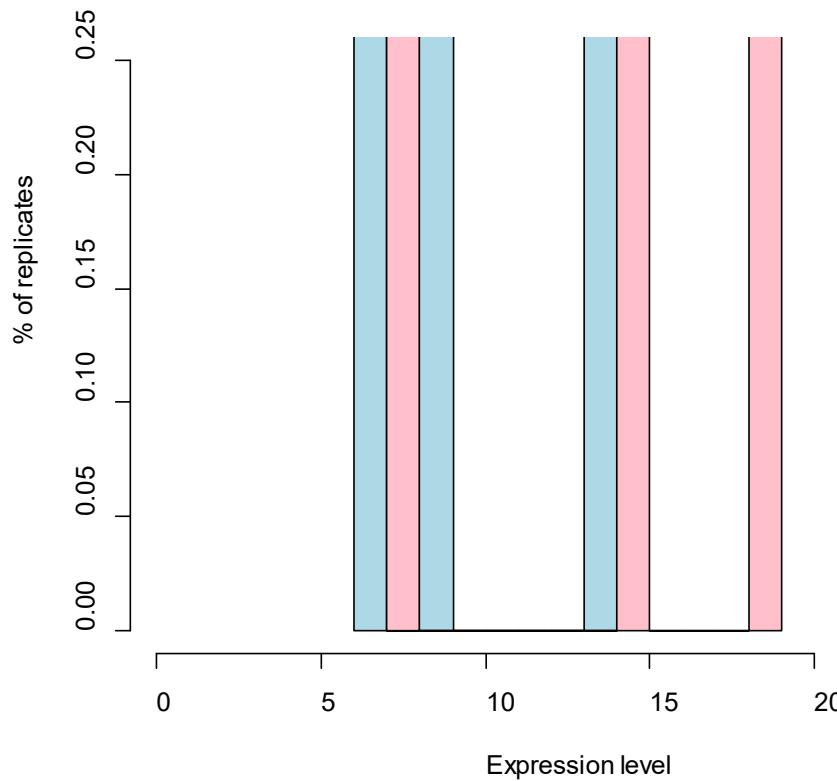
If we could do 100 biological replicates,



**Distribution of Expression Level of A Gene**



**The reality is, we could only do 3 replicates,**

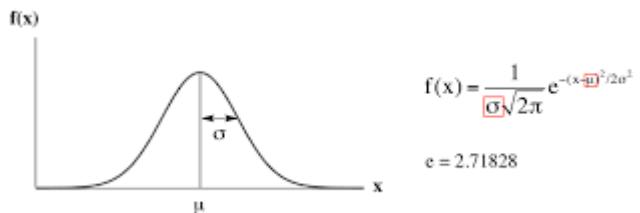


## Distribution of Expression Level of A Gene

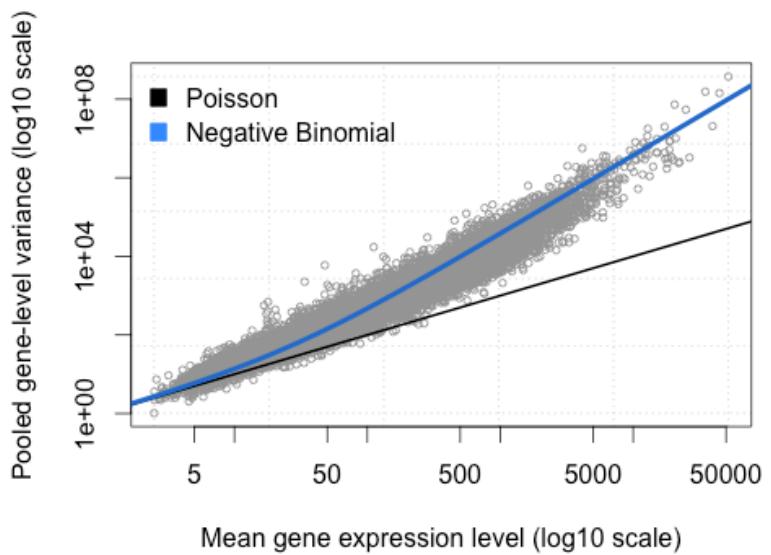
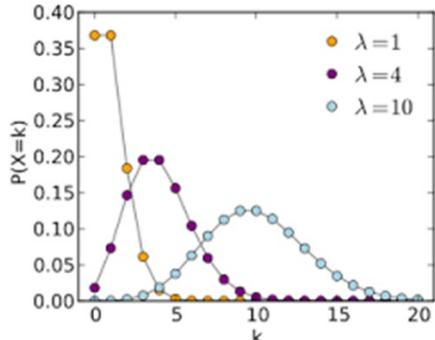


# Statistical models

- Gaussian distribution



- Poisson distribution



- Negative binomial distribution

# Statistical modeling of gene expression and test for differentially expressed genes

## 1. Estimate of variance.

Eg. EdgeR uses a combination of

- 1) a common dispersion effect from all genes;
- 2) a gene-specific dispersion effect.

## 2. Model the expression level with negative binomial distribution.

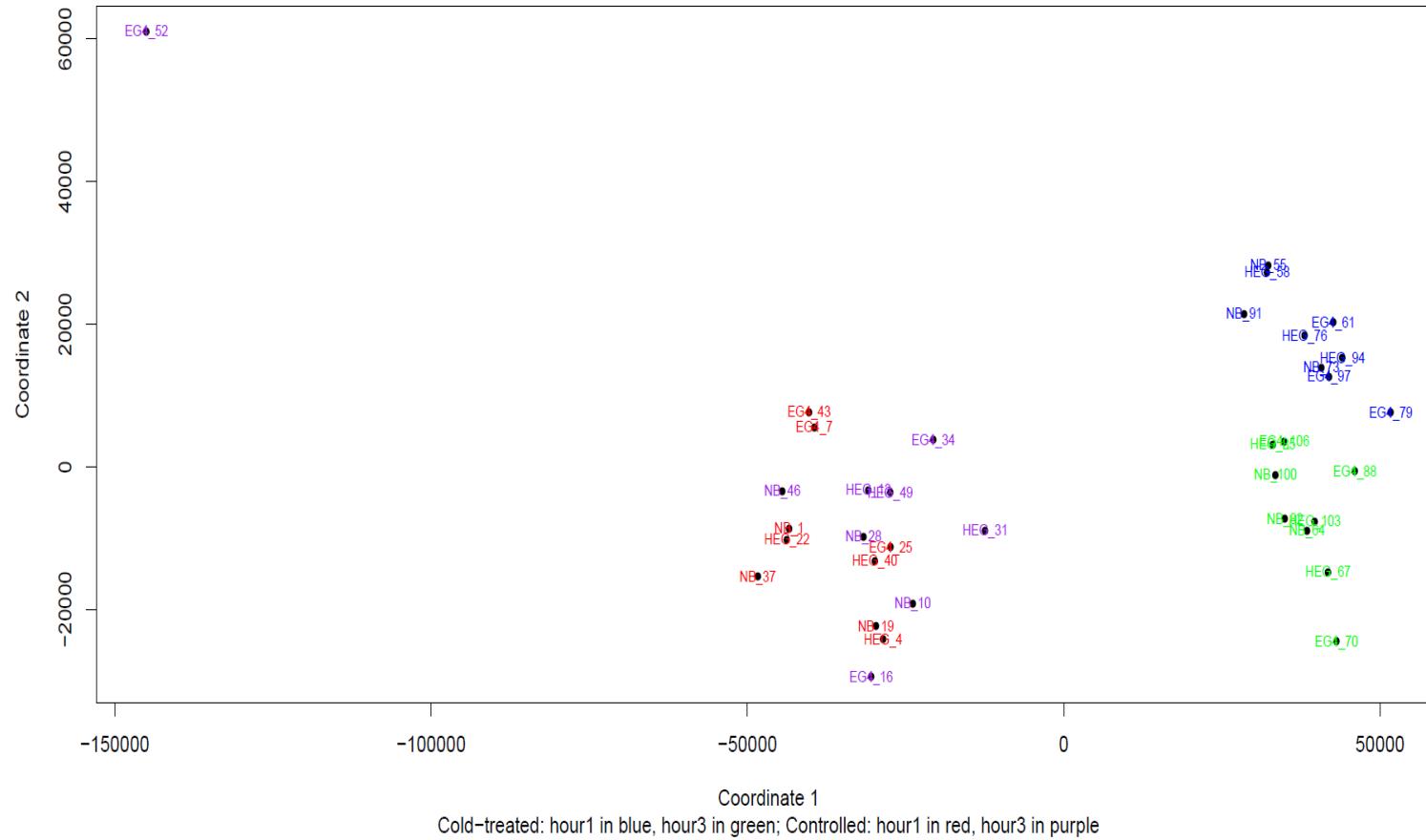
DESeq and EdgeR

## 3. Multiple test correction

Default in EdgeR: Benjamini-Hochberg

# Using EdgeR to make MDS plot of the samples

Metric MDS for Cold-treated vs Controlled Rice Samples



- Check reproducibility from replicates, remove outliers
- Check batch effects;

# Output table from RNA-seq pipeline

Values for each gene:

- Read count (raw & normalized)
- Fold change (Log2 fold) between the two conditions
- P-value
- Q(FDR) value after multiple test.

Filter by:

- a. fold change;
- b. FDR value to filter;
- c. Expression level.  
E.g. Log2(fold) >1 or <-1  
FDR < 0.05

# Design Vs Contrast matrix

data	Value
Sample 1	10
Sample 2	15
Sample 3	11
Sample 4	23
Sample 5	11

Treatment



$$Y = B1$$

$$+ B2$$

Control



$$+ e$$

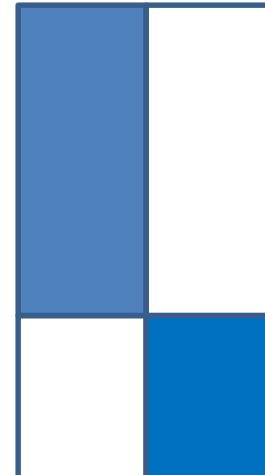
Error



$$Y = B1*X1 + B2*X2 + e$$

data	Value
Sample 1	10
Sample 2	15
Sample 3	11
Sample 4	23
Sample 5	11

$$Y =$$



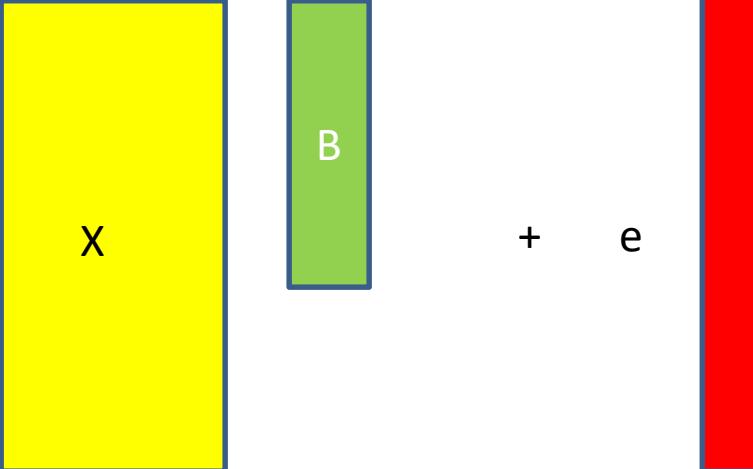
$$\begin{bmatrix} B1 \\ B2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ e$$

$$Y = XB + e$$

# Design Vs Contrast matrix

data	Value
Sample 1	10
Sample 2	15
Sample 3	11
Sample 4	23
Sample 5	11

$$Y = X \beta + e$$


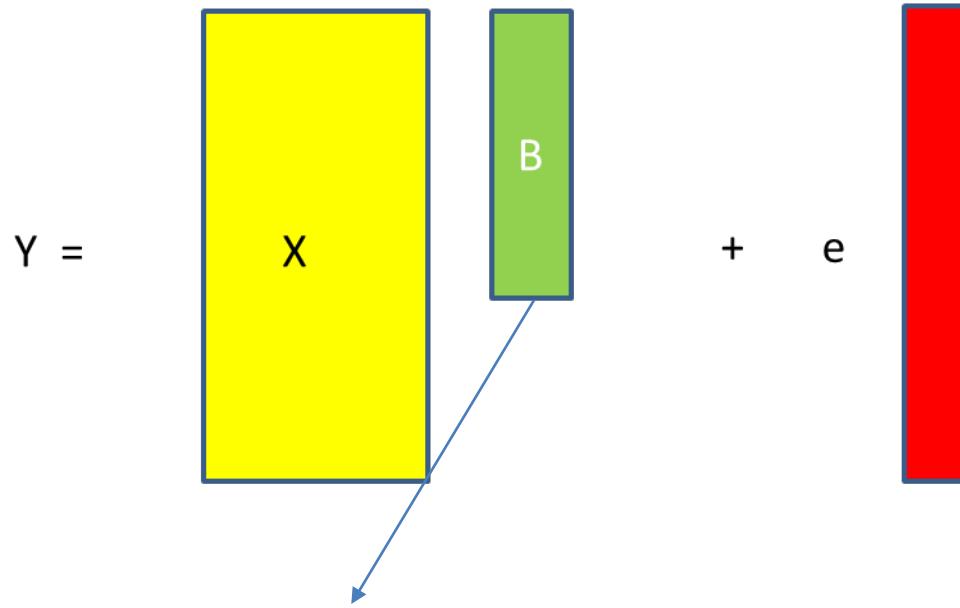
**Design matrix** All available factors related to performed experiments and potential confounds

```
group <- c("T", "T", "T", "C", "C")
design<-model.matrix(~0+group)
design
groupC groupT
  0      1
  0      1
  0      1
  1      0
  1      0
```

```
group <- c("T", "T", "T", "C", "C", "D", "D", "H", "H", "H")
design<-model.matrix(~0+group)
design
  groupC groupD groupH groupT
    0      0      0      1
    0      0      0      1
    1      0      0      0
    1      0      0      0
    0      1      0      0
    0      1      0      0
    0      0      1      0
    0      0      1      0
    0      0      1      0
    1      0      0      0
```

# Design Vs Contrast matrix

data	Value
Sample 1	10
Sample 2	15
Sample 3	11
Sample 4	23
Sample 5	11



**Contrast matrix** Comparing effects of interest and perform statistical evaluation of hypotheses.

$C' B$  where  $C' = [1, -1]$

$$C'B = [1, -1] [B_1, B_2]' = 1*B_1 + (-1)*B_2 \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

**Attention** The Contrast matrix is depend on the design of experiment

# Connection between software

## Reading file into R

AT1G01010	57	49	36	40
AT1G01020	172	148	197	187
AT1G03987	0	0	0	0
AT1G01030	88	77	74	101
AT1G01040	594	669	504	633
AT1G03993	2	1	0	0
...	...	...	...	...

```
x <- read.delim("gene_count.txt", header=F, row.names=1)

colnames(x)<-c("WTa","WTb","MUa","MUb")
```

# Use EdgeR to identify DE genes

	Treat	Time
Sample 1-3	Drug	0 hr
Sample 4-6	Drug	1 hr
Sample 7-9	Drug	2 hr

**Normalization and Remove genes that are not expressed**

```
library("edgeR")
group <- factor(c(1,1,2,2))
y <- DGEList(counts=x,group=group)
y <- calcNormFactors(y)
keep <- rowSums(cpm(y)>=1) >=2    # remove un-expressed genes
y<-y[keep, ]
```

# Use EdgeR to identify DE genes

	Treat	Time
Sample 1-3	Drug	0 hr
Sample 4-6	Drug	1 hr
Sample 7-9	Drug	2 hr

Fit the model:

```
group <- factor(c(1,1,1,2,2,2,3,3,3))
design <- model.matrix(~0+group)
fit <- glmFit(myData, design)

lrt12 <- glmLRT(fit, contrast=c(1,-1,0))      #compare 0 vs 1h
lrt13 <- glmLRT(fit, contrast=c(1,0,-1))      #compare 0 vs 2h
lrt23 <- glmLRT(fit, contrast=c(0,1,-1))      #compare 1 vs 2h
```

# Multiple-factor Analysis in EdgeR

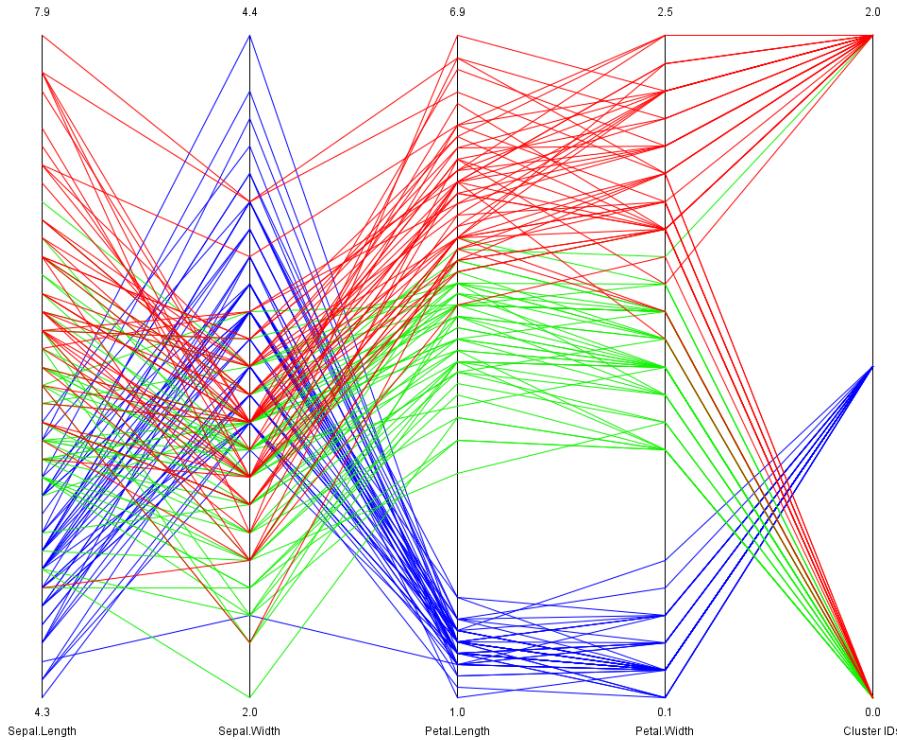
	Treat	Time
Sample 1-3	Placebo	0 hr
Sample 4-6	Placebo	1 hr
Sample 7-9	Placebo	2 hr
Sample 10-12	Drug	0 hr
Sample 13-15	Drug	1 hr
Sample 16-18	Drug	2 hr

```
group <- factor(c(1,1,1,2,2,2,3,3,3,4,4,4,5,5,5,6,6,6))
design <- model.matrix(~0+group)
fit <- glmFit(mydata, design)

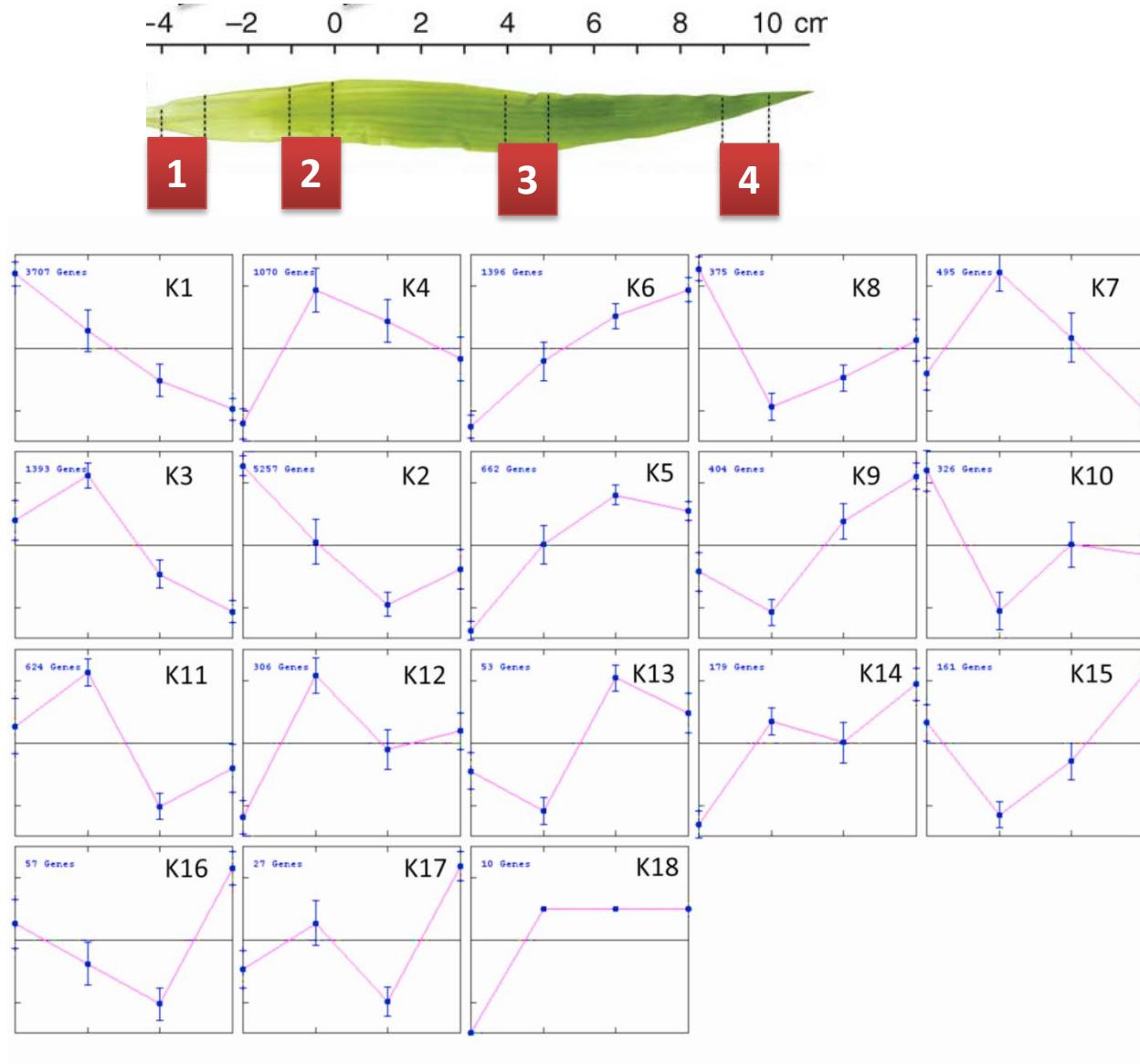
lrt <- glmLRT(fit, contrast=c(-1,0,1,1,0,-1))
### equivalent to (Placebo.2hr - Placebo.0hr) - (Drug.2hr-
Drug.1hr)
```

# Clustering analysis

- 1.Hierarchical
- 2.K-means
- 3.Co-expression network

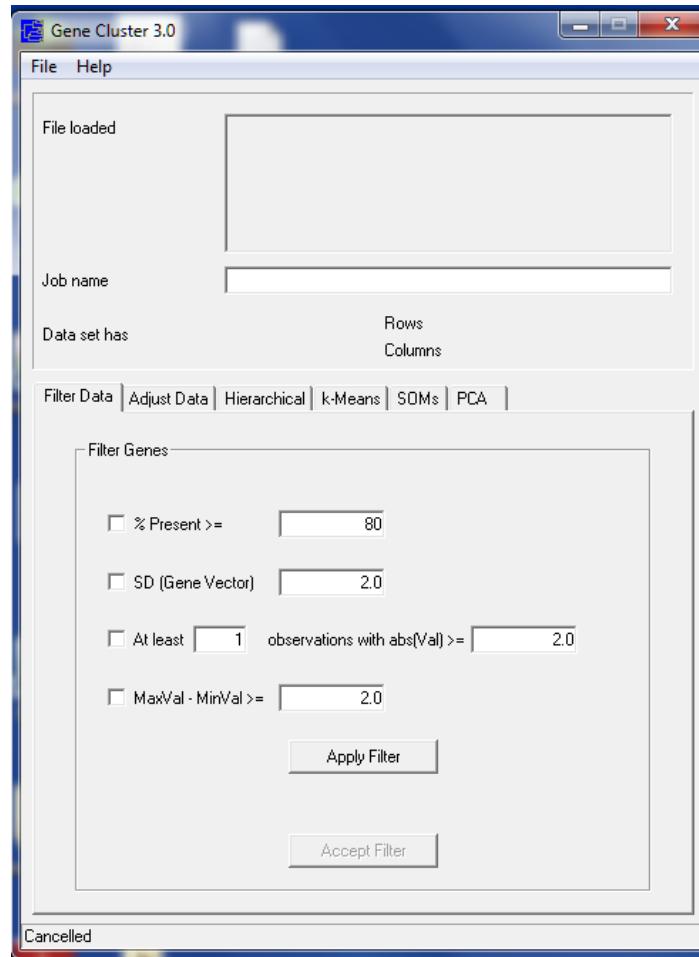


# Clustering analysis on multiple conditions of RNA-seq data



# Using free software Cluster 3.0 for hierarchical and k-means clustering

<http://bonsai.hgc.jp/~mdehoon/software/cluster/software.htm>

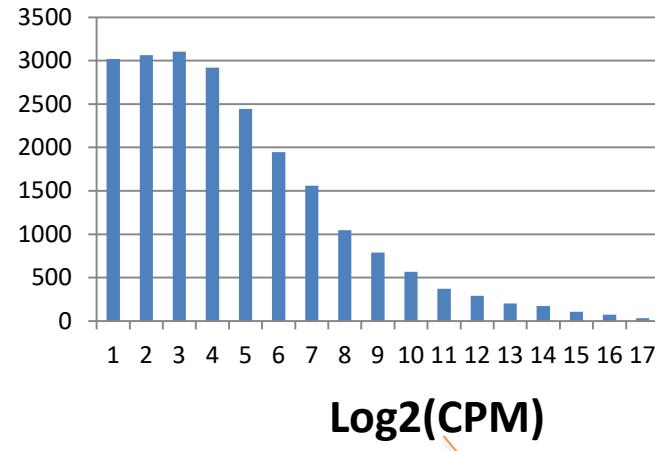
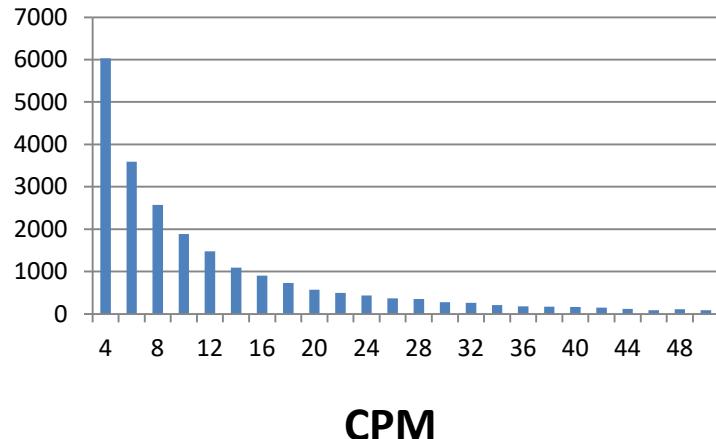


tracking_id	s1_FPKM	s2_FPKM	s3_FPKM	s4_FPKM
• AC14815 2.3_FG00 1	• 1	• 1	• 1.085823	• 1.237447
• AC14815 2.3_FG00 2	• 1	• 1	• 1	• 1
• AC14815 2.3_FG00 5	• 1.054317	• 6.65432	• 1.089866	• 1
• AC14815 2.3_FG00 6	• 1.044314	• 1.223353	• 1	• 1
• AC14815 2.3_FG00 7	• 1	• 1	• 1	• 1
• AC14815 2.3_FG00 8	• 3.13339	• 20.1778	• 68.1838	• 88.5417
• AC14816 7.6_FG00 1	• 17.603	• 43.4081	• 54.7869	• 37.5133
• AC14947 5.2_FG00 2	• 149.468	• 10.75707	• 14.3301	• 11.8052
• AC14947 5.2_FG00 3	• 101.308	• 34.2556	• 30.6524	• 20.2889
• AC14947 5.2_FG00 4	• 1.053882	• 1	• 1	• 1

\* Add 1 to each FPKM value before loading into Cluster

# Prepare data for clustering

**Step 1. LOG transformation of CPM value to improve the distribution**



To Avoid log(0), using Excel to add 1 to all FPKM values before loading to Cluster.

# **Prepare data for clustering**

## **Step 2. Filter data**

Remove

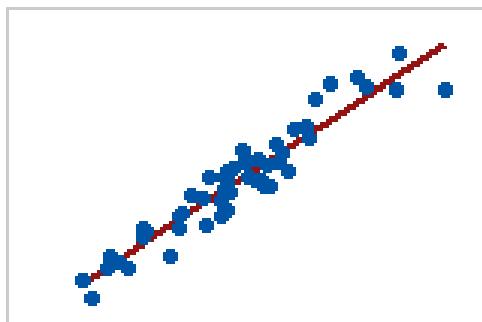
- Low expressed genes;**
- Invariant genes.**

# Pairwise distance matrix of all genes

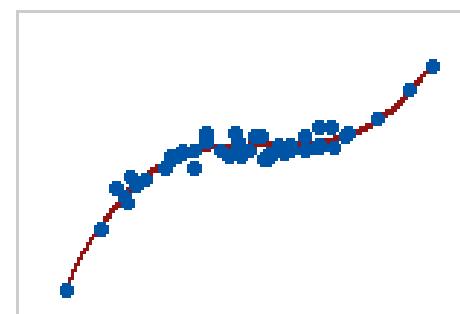
Pearson : Linear correlation (Default)

vs

Spearman: Ranked correlation



Use Pearson



Use Spearman

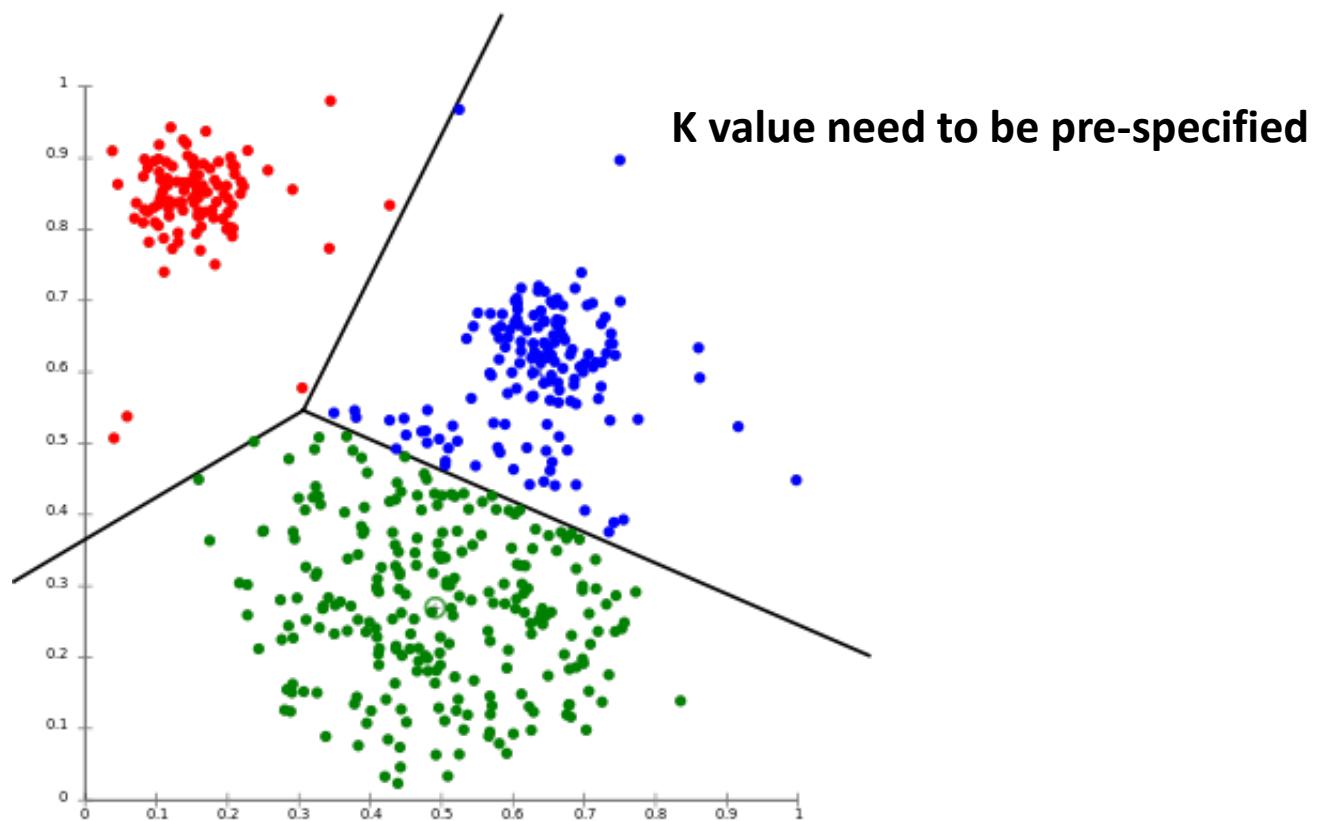
# Hierarchical clustering

# Visualize the clustering results with Treeview



The software has functions to select nodes and export genes in selected node.

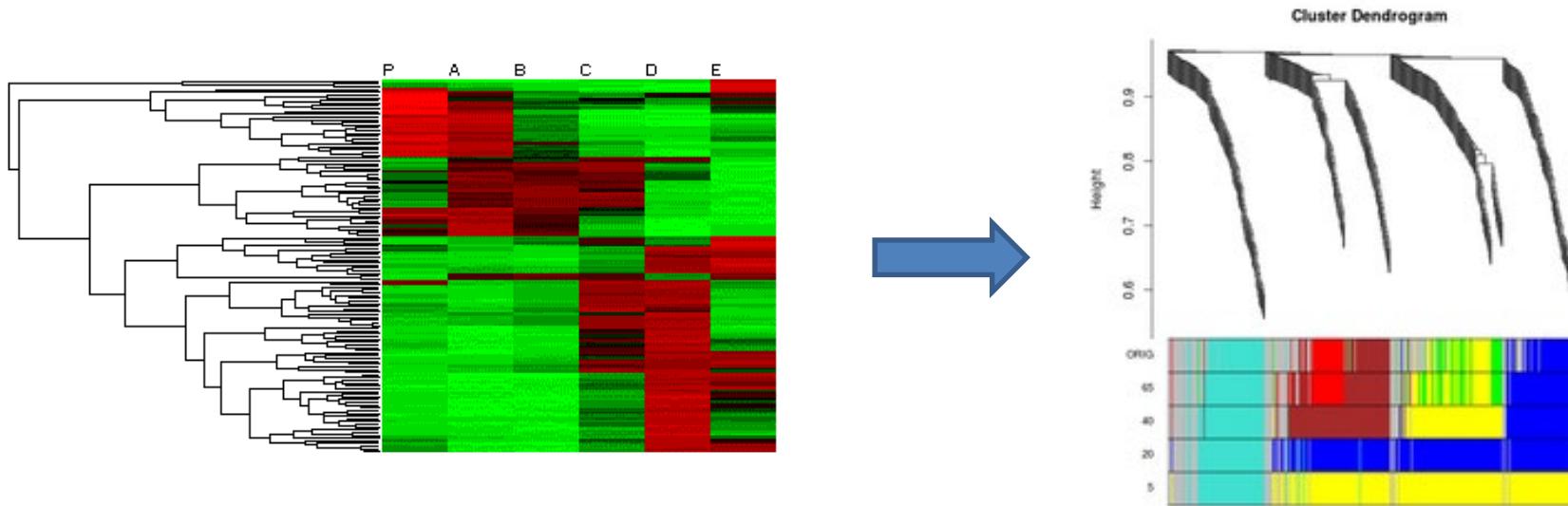
# K-means clustering



# Co-expression network modules

## WGCNA (weighted correlation network analysis)

- transform the initial distance matrix into  
Topological Overlap Matrix



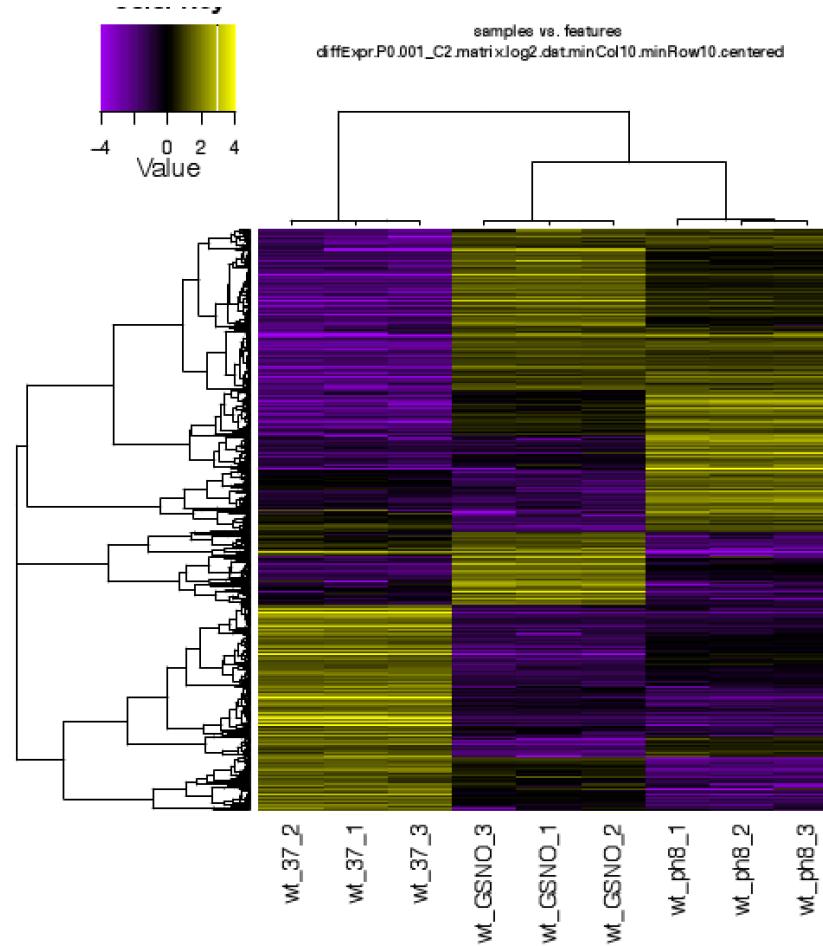
[http://rgm3.lab.nig.ac.jp/RGM/R\\_image\\_list?package=WGCNA&init=true](http://rgm3.lab.nig.ac.jp/RGM/R_image_list?package=WGCNA&init=true)

# Alternative software

- Bioconductor:
  - hclust
  - kmeans

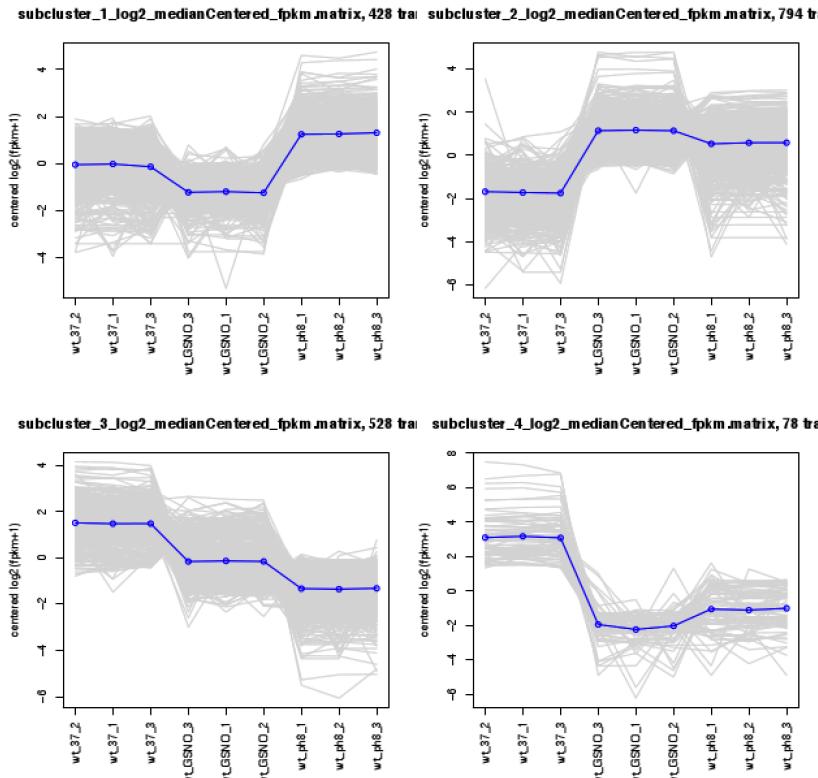
# Using scripts in Trinity Package

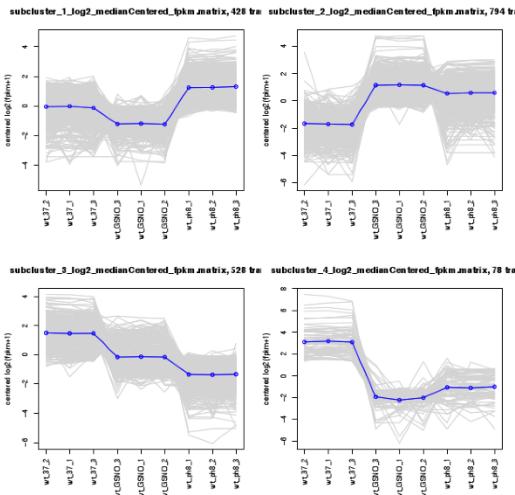
```
$TRINITY_HOME/Analysis/DifferentialExpression/analyze_d  
iff_expr.pl --matrix ./EXPR.matrix -P 1e-3 -C 2
```



# K-means clustering

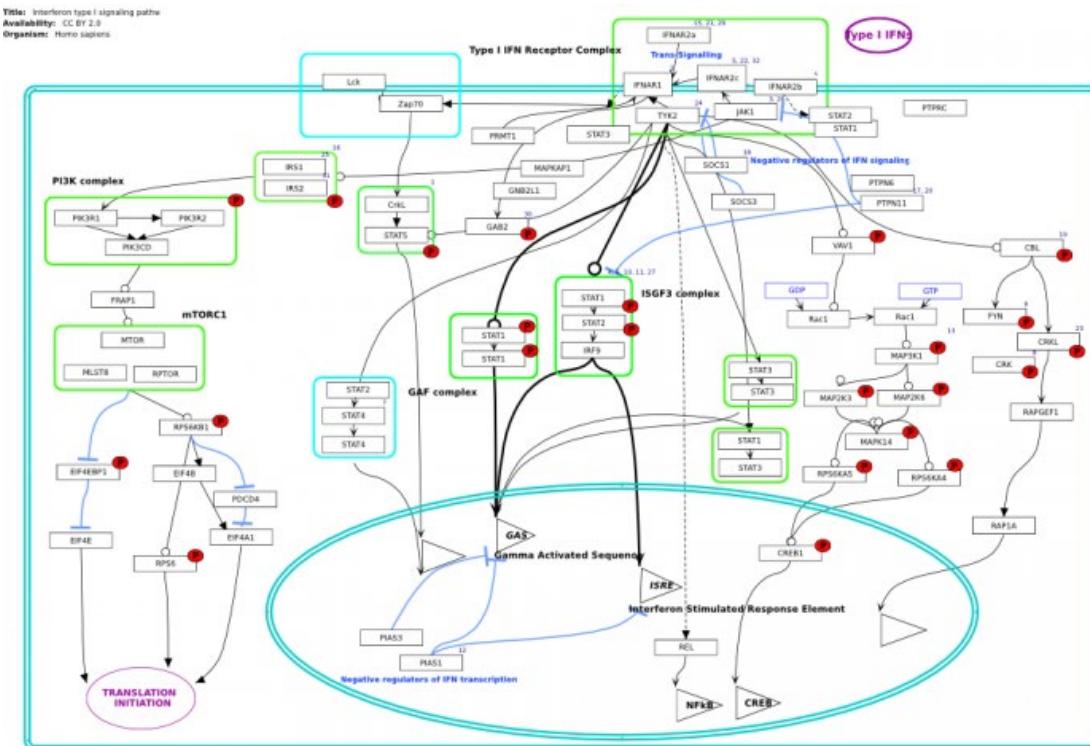
```
$TRINITY_HOME/Analysis/DifferentialExpression/  
define_clusters_by_cutting_tree.pl -R  
diffExpr.P0.001_C2.matrix.RData -K 18
```





# Gene Set Enrichment Analysis

Will be covered in this workshop:  
**Genome Annotation And Sequence Based Gene Function Prediction (December 12 and 19 2018)**



<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/training/online/course/functional-genomics-ii-common-technologies-and-data-analysis-methods/gene-set-enrichment>