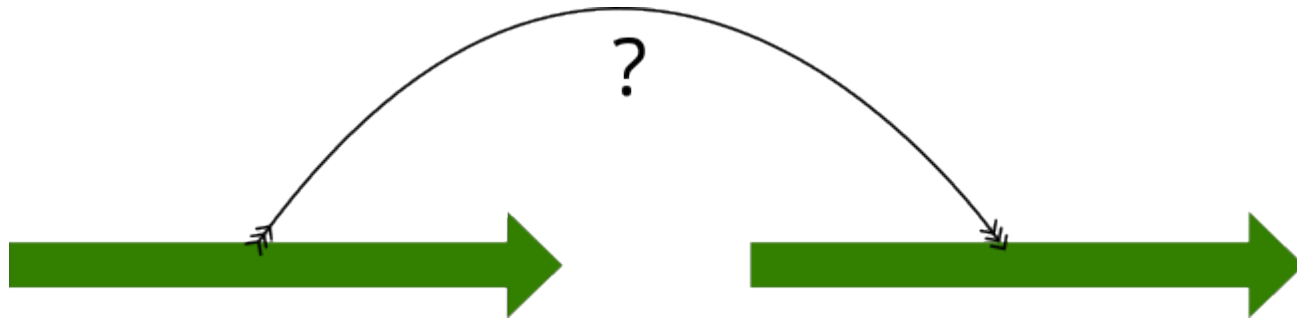


How to build a scaffold

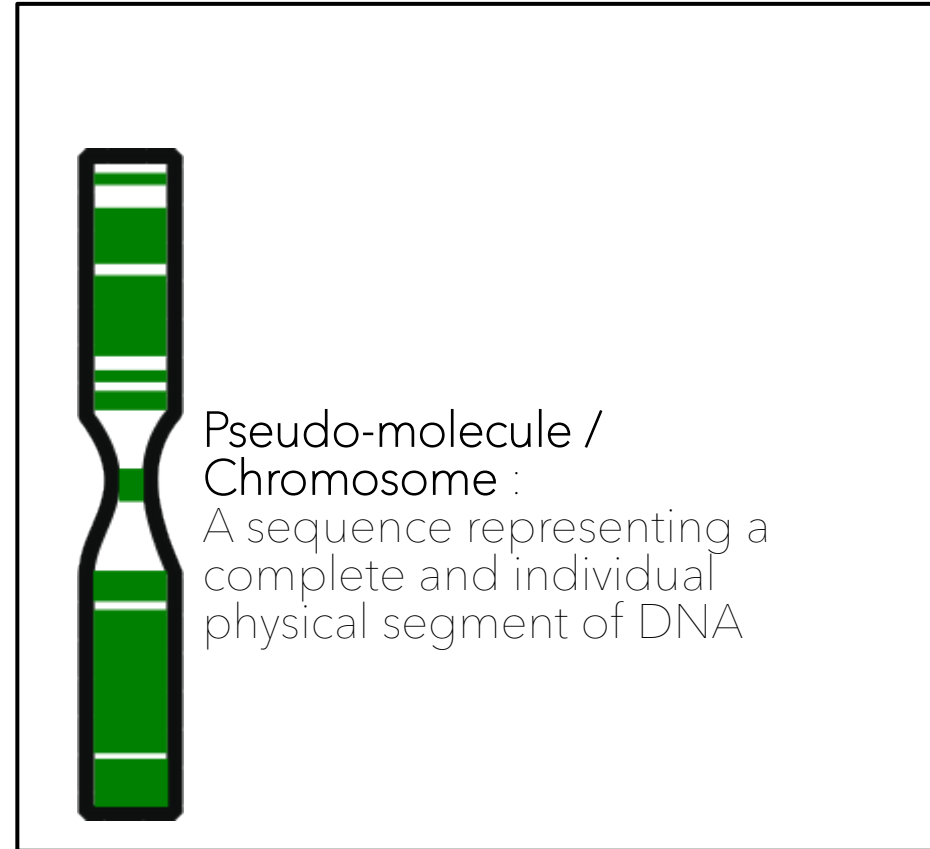


J.Kreplak, A. Cormier, C. Klopp

What are you going to learn ?

- *What a scaffold is*
- *What scaffolding is*
- *How you can scaffold contigs using optical map or Hi-C*
- *How to scaffold with an optical map*
- *How to scaffold with Hi-C*

What would we like our assembly to look like ?



How do we link two contigs and for what ?

With a sequence that span between my contigs :



With Specific data linking two markers :



Scaffolds



Pseudo-molecule /
Chromosome :

A sequence representing a
complete and individual
physical segment of DNA

Technic overview

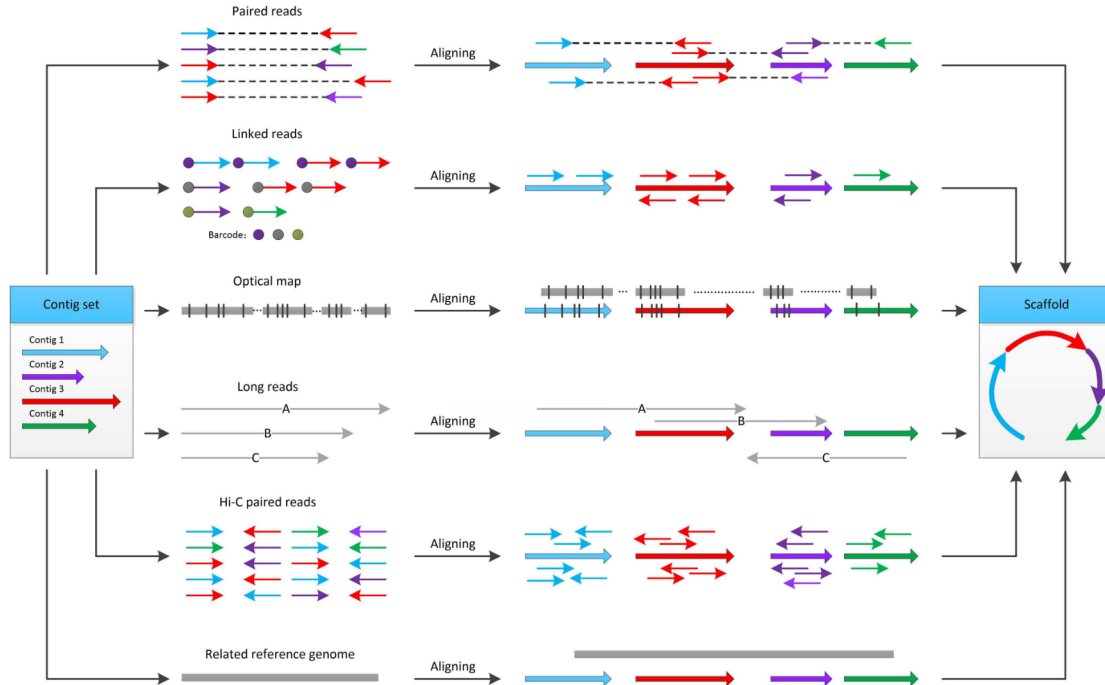


Figure 1. Processes of six scaffolding method types. First, these reads are aligned against the contigs, or these contigs are aligned against optical maps or the reference genomes. Second, based on the alignment information, the order and orientation among contigs are deduced. Finally, scaffolds are output by these methods.

(Luo et al. 2021)

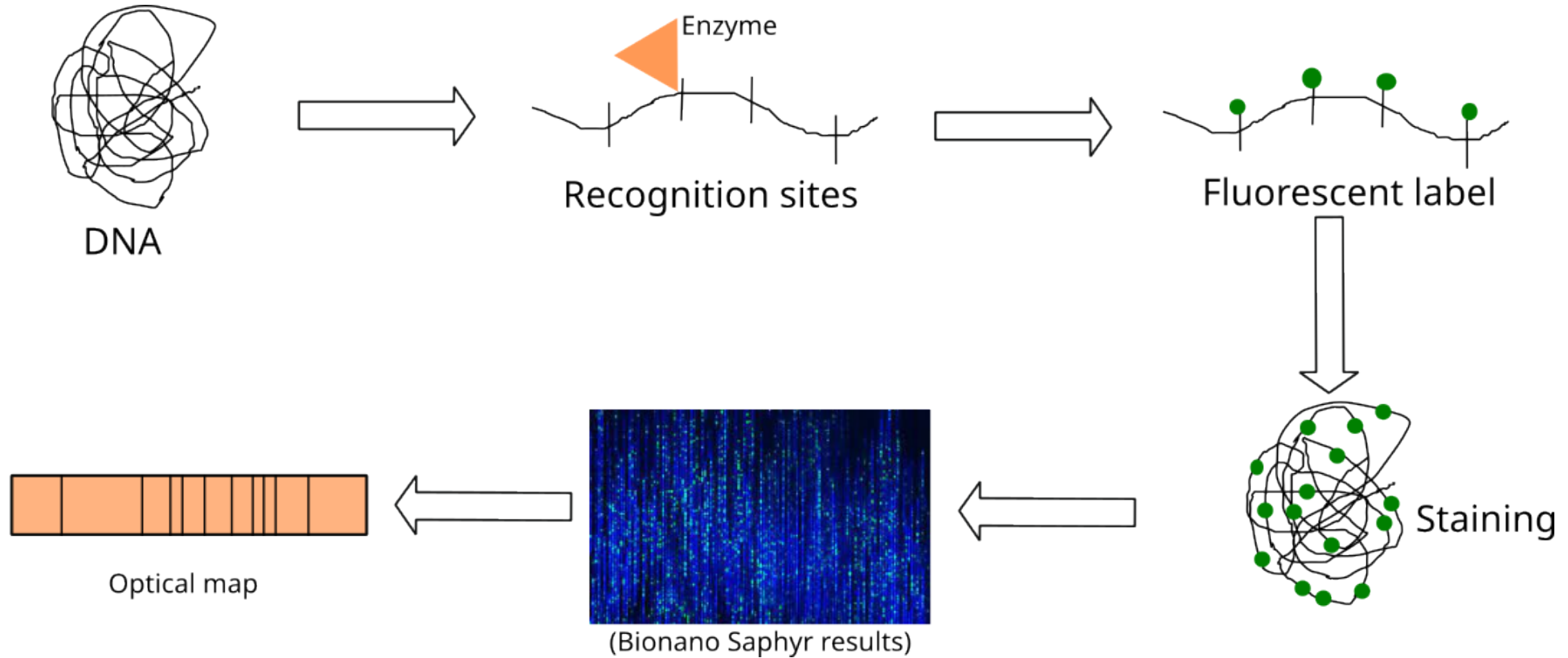
Choice criteria

- **Range :**
Can you connect contigs separated by 10k, 100k, 1Mb... ?
- **Density/Coverage :**
Do you cover all you contigs ? With an appropriate number of reads/markers ?
- **Accuracy:**
Can you estimate properly the distance between two contigs ?
- **Initial quality of the assembly :**
Is your contigs size long enough ? Do you have chimeric/low quality contigs ?

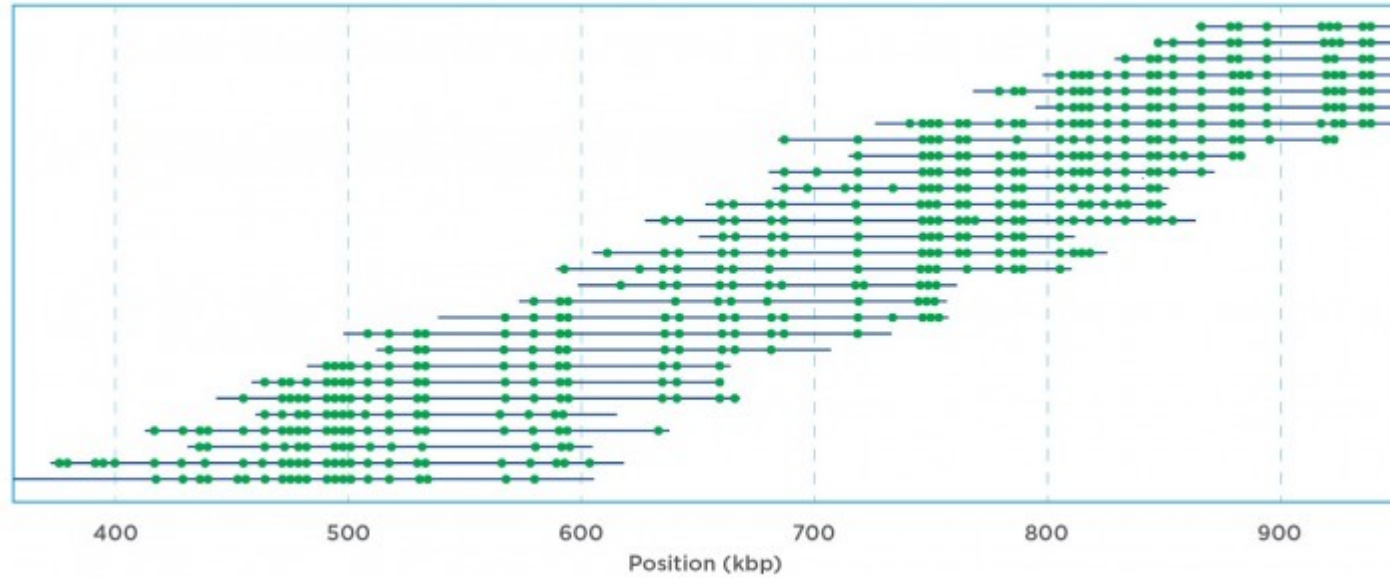
A change of paradigm

- Long-reads assemblies have high-continuity and large-sized contigs which reduce the utility of short range methods like mated-pairs
- Focus is now on long-range scaffolding with accurate estimation of the distance to go directly from contigs to pseudomolecules:
 - Optical map (Bionano Saphyr)
 - Hi-C

Optical mapping (1)

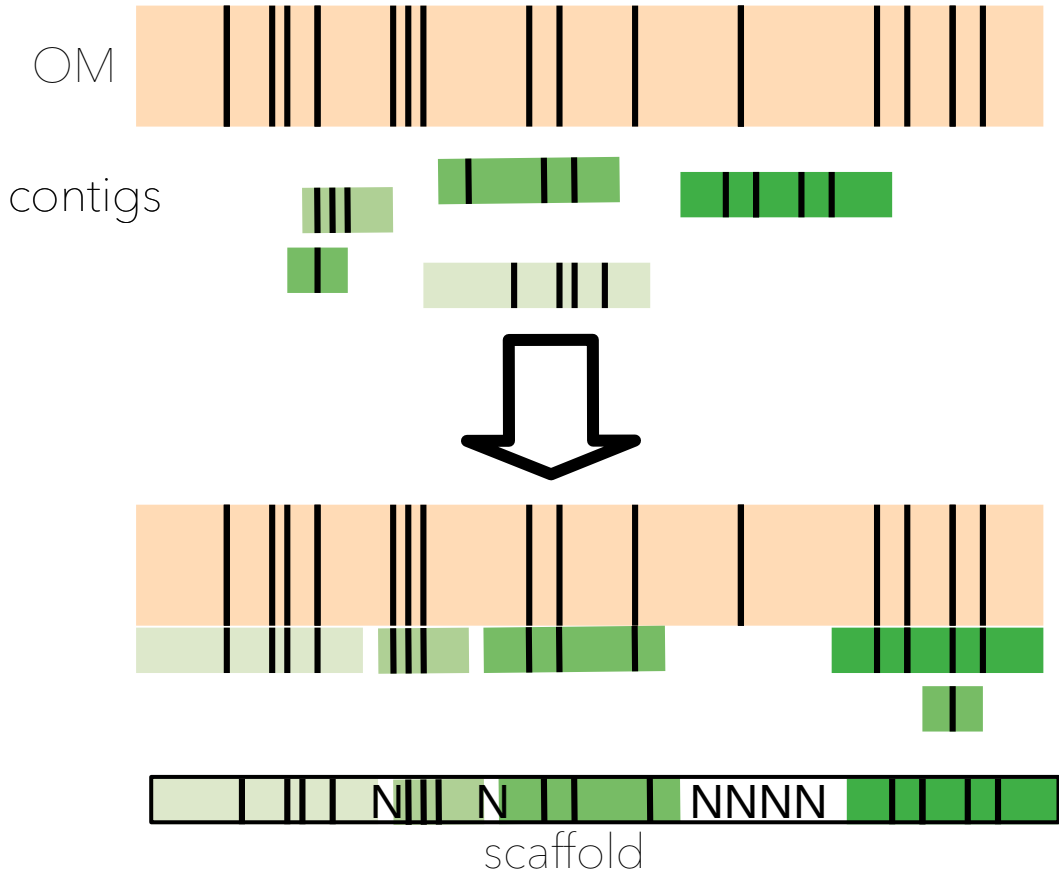


Optical mapping (2)



<https://www.france-genomique.org/technological-expertises/whole-genome/optical-mapping/?lang=en>

Optical mapping (3)

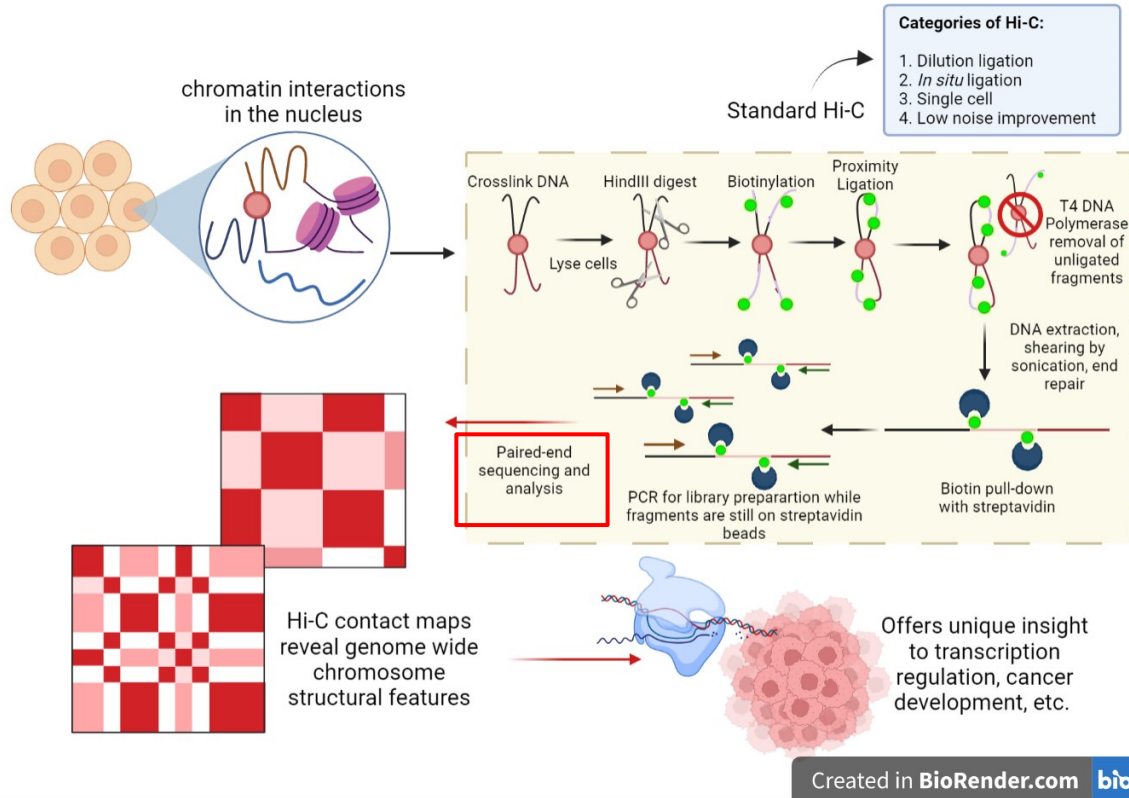


- There is no sequencing involved in optical maps
- To process it we will do an in silico digestion of the contigs with the same restriction enzyme
- compare recognition sites (labels) on our contigs to those on our map
- If you have the same frequencies/distance between them it's a match !
- Size of optical maps and density of label are really important

Bionano Saphyr

- Last generation of optical maps
- Bioinformatics steps often done by the provider
- Only a few available tools :
 - **Bionano** Solve to scaffold
 - **BiSCot** to improve assembly
- For large genome won't be able to assemble properly centromeres and do pseudo-molecules
- Cheaper than Hi-C
- No sequencing

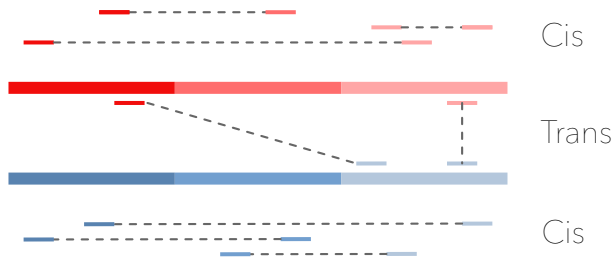
Hi-C



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hi-C_\(genomic_analysis_technique\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hi-C_(genomic_analysis_technique))

- A method to capture chromatin conformation by sequencing
- First used for long-range interactions (Lieberman-Aiden et al. 2009)
- Hypothesis that those interactions could be used to scaffold sequences into pseudo-molecules (Burton et al. 2013)
- Protocols with different or multiple enzymes were developed to boost the quality of scaffolding

How to obtain a contact map?



Mapping

Mapper need to be tuned for variable insert size.

- `bwa mem -5 -SP`
- `minimap2`



Filtering

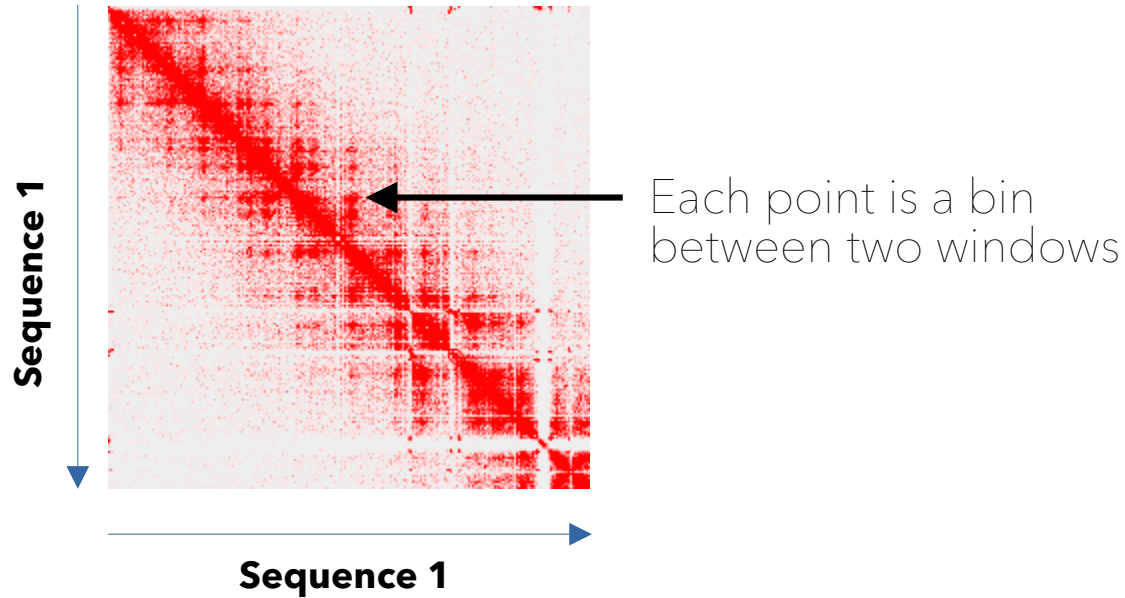
Remove multi-mapping,
low-quality mapping,
Invalids pair,
Singletons,
Invalid ligation products



Binning

Choose windows of different size
(5kb - 25 kb - 100 kb -
500 kb - 2,5 Mb) to
regroup information

How to read a contact map for scaffolding ?



Think really big heatmap / dotplot

- For scaffolding, you need to use the contact map to find spatially near contigs
- You need to use the signal to order contigs correctly
- Can that be done by a computer ?
- Maximizing diagonal signal

Bioinformatics will help you !

2013

Chromosome-scale scaffolding of *de novo* genome assemblies based on chromatin interactions

[Joshua N. Burton](#)¹, [Andrew Adey](#)¹, [Rupali P. Patwardhan](#)¹, [Ruolan Qiu](#)¹, [Jacob O. Kitzman](#)¹ and [Jay Shendure](#)¹

Chromosome-scale shotgun assembly using an in vitro method for long-range linkage

Nicholas H. Putnam^{1,6}, Brendan L. O'Connell^{1,2,6}, Jonathan C. Stites¹, Brandon J. Rice¹, Marco Blanchette¹, Robert Calef¹, Christopher J. Troll¹, Andrew Fields¹, Paul D. Hartley¹, Charles W. Sugnet¹, David Haussler^{2,3}, Daniel S. Rokhsar^{4,5} and Richard E. Green^{1,2}

Integrating Hi-C links with assembly graphs for chromosome-scale assembly

Jay Ghurye, Arang Rhie, Brian P. Walenz, Anthony Schmitt, Siddharth Selvaraj, Mihai Pop, Adam M. Phillippy 
Sergey Koren 

Efficient iterative Hi-C scaffold based on N-best neighbors

[Dengfeng Guan](#), [Shane A. McCarthy](#), [Zemin Ning](#), [Guohua Wang](#) , [Yadong Wang](#)  & [Richard Durbin](#) 

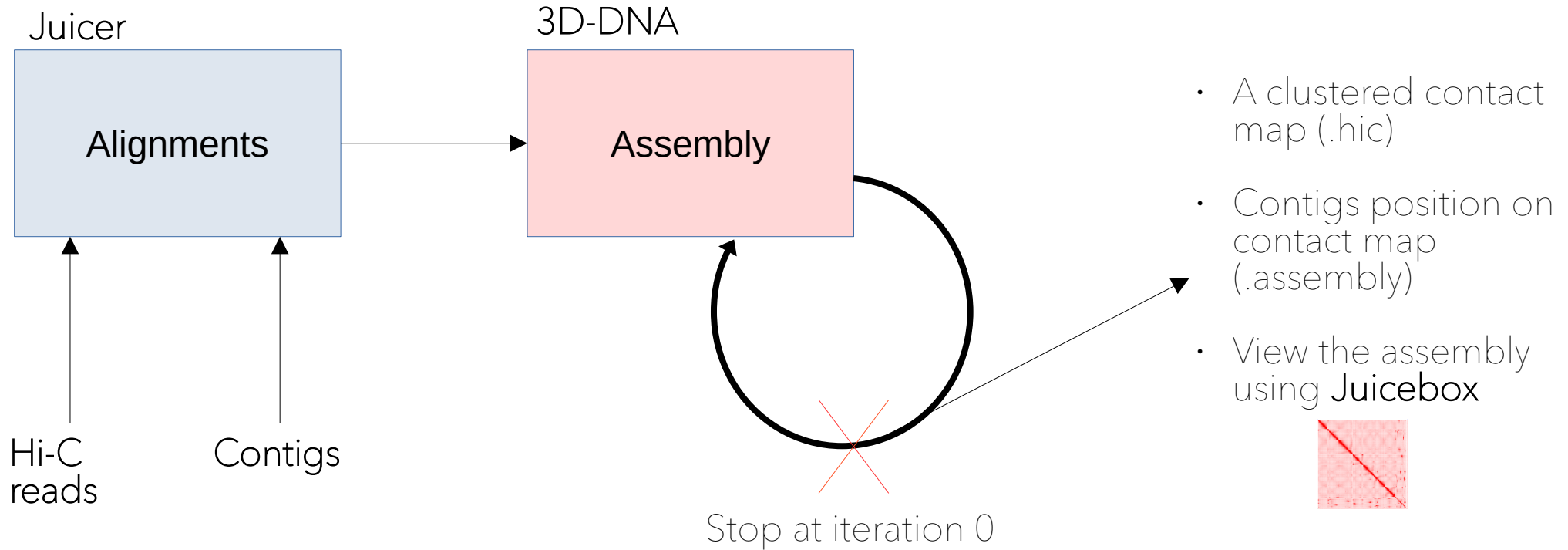
YaHS: yet another Hi-C scaffolding tool

 Chenxi Zhou,  Shane A. McCarthy,  Richard Durbin

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.06.09.495093>

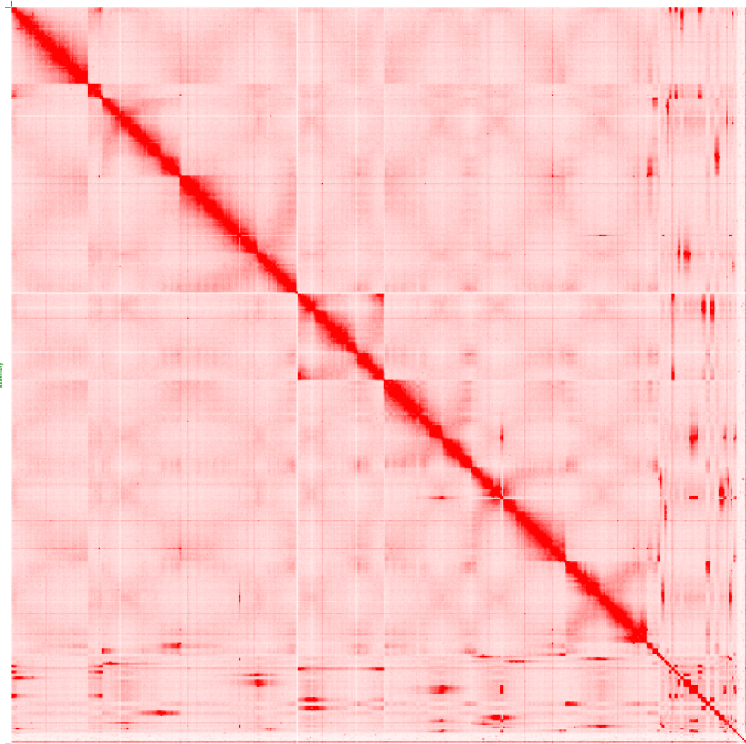
- Hi-C methods are still developed by the community
- The goal is to be able to cluster properly a contact map to obtain correct pseudomolecules for every genomes
- Some providers (Dovetail, Phase...) have also their own pipelines ...

A pipeline for Hi-C analysis

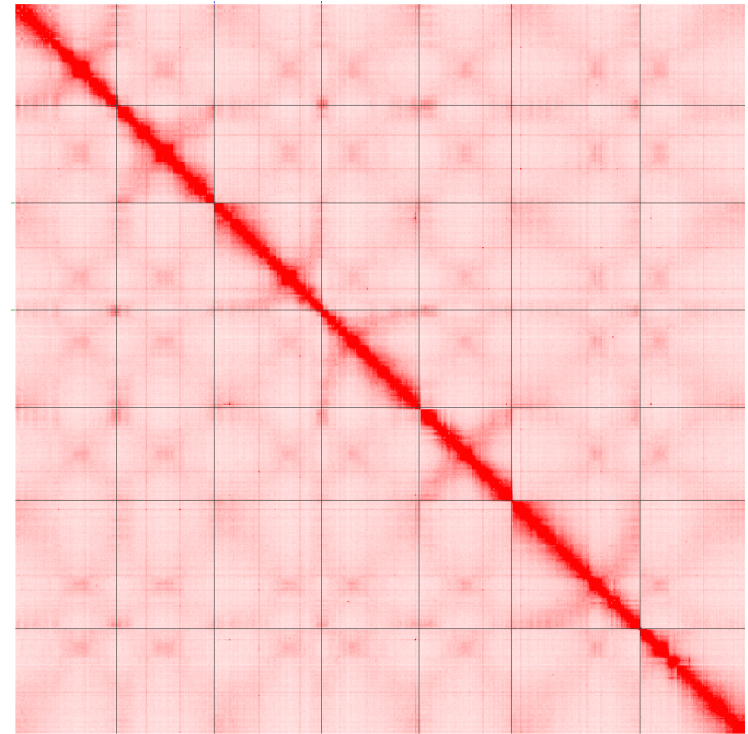




Last step !



3D-DNA results



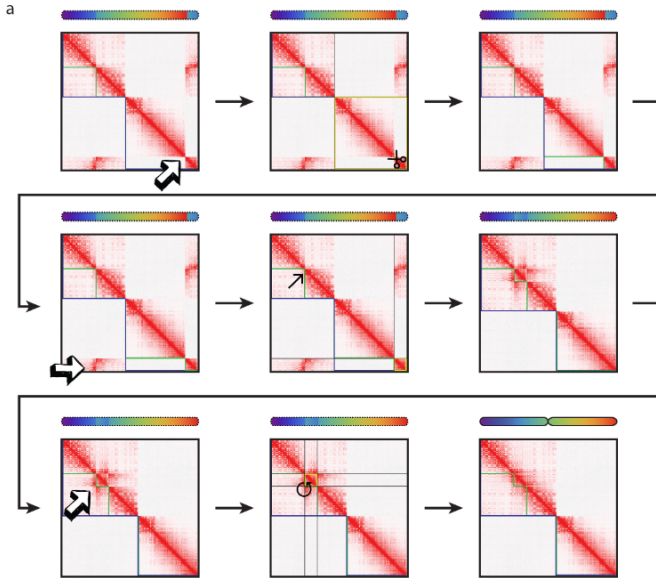
After manual curation

Visualisation using JuiceBox
(mystery plant with 7 chromosomes)

A method to rule them all ?

- Hi-C is the only technique able to scaffold directly a long-reads contigs assembly into **linear chromosome** without any other data.
- For now, you can't stop after the automated assembly
- You'll need to check the **contact map** and **correct it**
- Expensive, you need to sequence with a coverage of 30-40x
- Other data like genetic map can help to detect or correct difficult zone to assemble
- Hi-C could be also used to distinguish between different organisms in a metagenomic experiment

JuiceBox TP



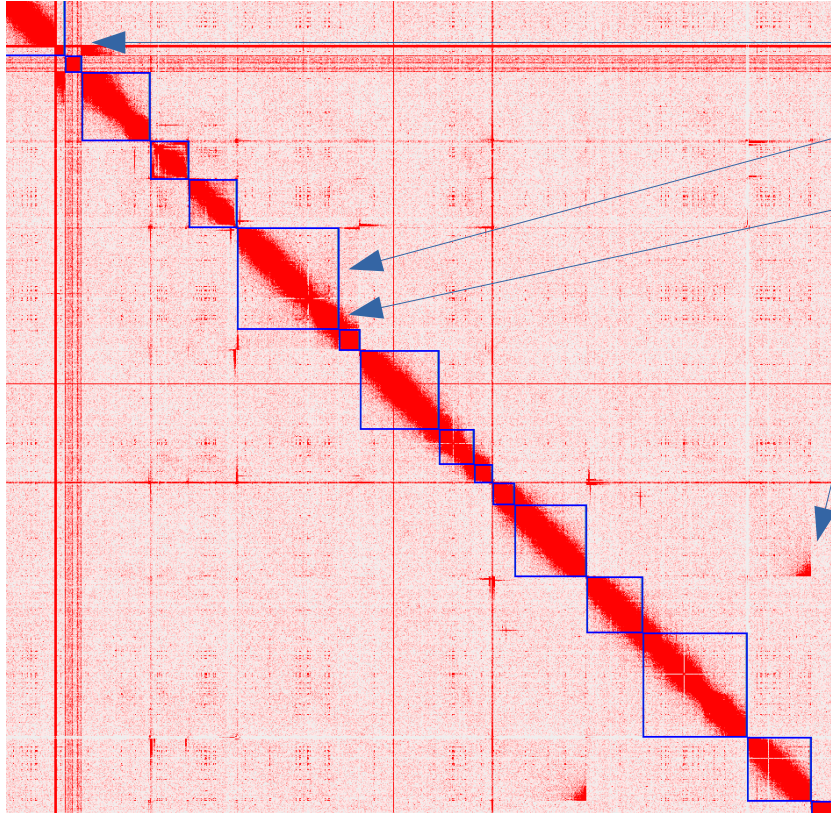
Shift + left click = selection of the element
Shift + left click + move = selection of several elements

Pointing arrow + left click = move element at this position

Cissors + left click = split contig at this position

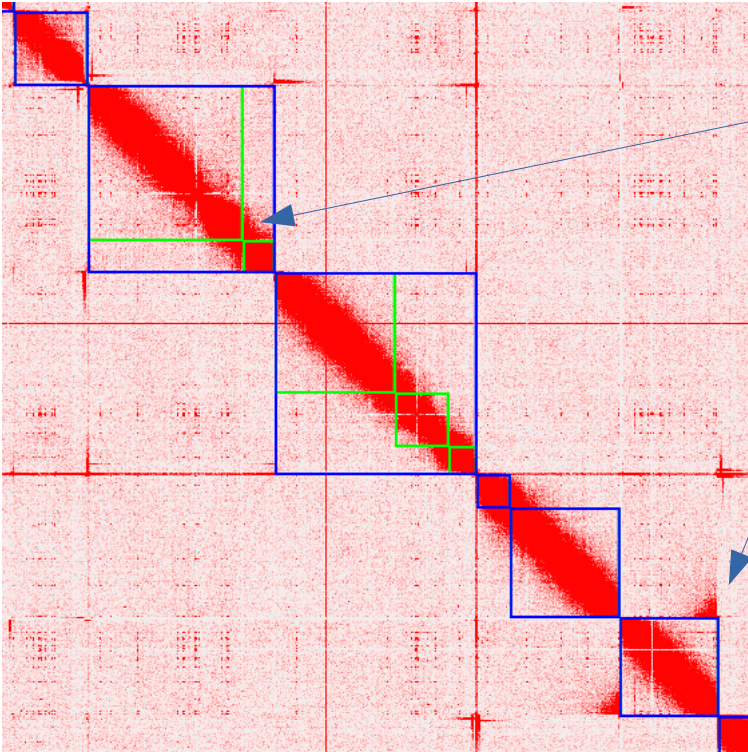
Angle bloc + left click = add or remove chromosome boundaries

To be done



- Split contigs
- Add chromosomes boundaries
- Group contigs in chromosomes
- Move contig to build a chromosome

To be done (2)



Add chromosomes boundaries

Rotate contig

Ideal world of scaffolding ?

