

Let $\lambda = np = E(x)$, so $p = \frac{\lambda}{n}$

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1)\dots(n-x+1)}{x!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^x \left(1 - \frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^{n-x} \sim \frac{n^x}{x!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{n}\right)^x = \frac{\lambda^x}{x!};$$

$$\sum_x \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} = e^\lambda.$$

Normalization requires $\sum_x P(X = x) = 1$.

$$\text{Thus } P(X = x) = \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} e^{-\lambda}$$

Poisson Mean & Variance

If X is a Poisson random variable, then:

- Mean: $\mu = E(X) = \lambda = n \cdot p$

- Variance: $\sigma^2 = V(X) = \lambda = n \cdot p$

- Standard deviation: $\sigma = \lambda^{1/2}$

(it was
 $np(1-p)$
for
binomial)

Note: Variance = Mean

Note: Standard deviation/Mean = $\lambda^{-1/2}$
decreases with λ

Credit: XKCD
comics

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WHY IS GPS FREE

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Poisson Distribution in Genome Assembly

Poisson Example: Genome Assembly

- **Goal:** DNA sequence **of the entire genome** of an organism
- **Problem:** Sequencers generate **short reads** of random portions of a genome
- **Solution:** **assemble genome** from short reads using computers
- **Whole Genome Shotgun Assembly** pioneered by Craig Venter in 1990s
- The human genome was jointly announced in 2001 by the Human Genome Project (public) and Celera Genomics (Craig Venter's company)

Short Reads assemble into Contigs

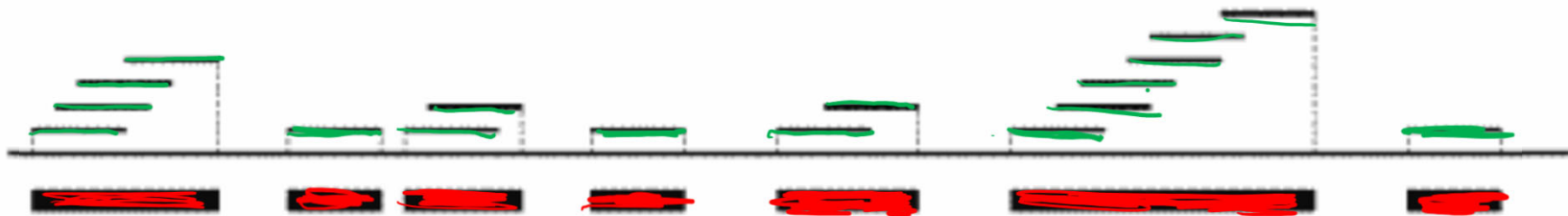
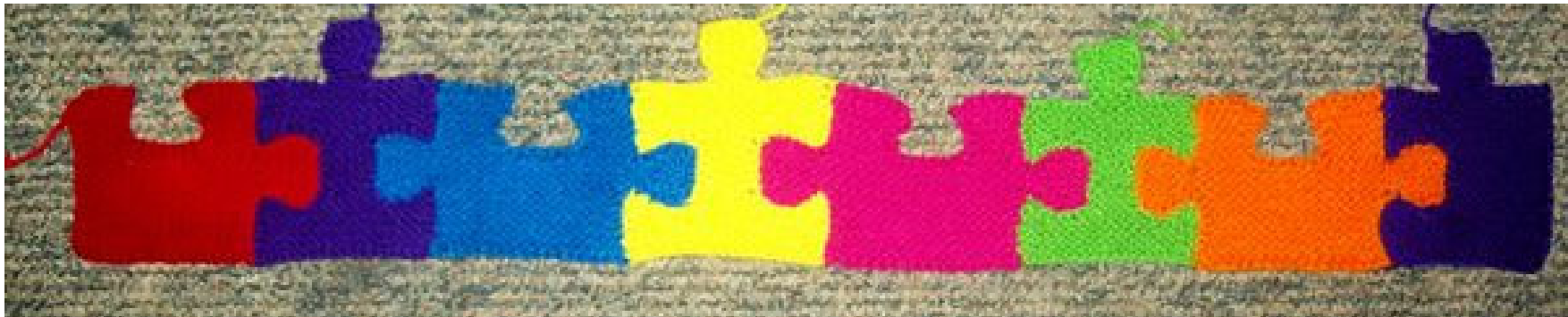


Figure 5.1.



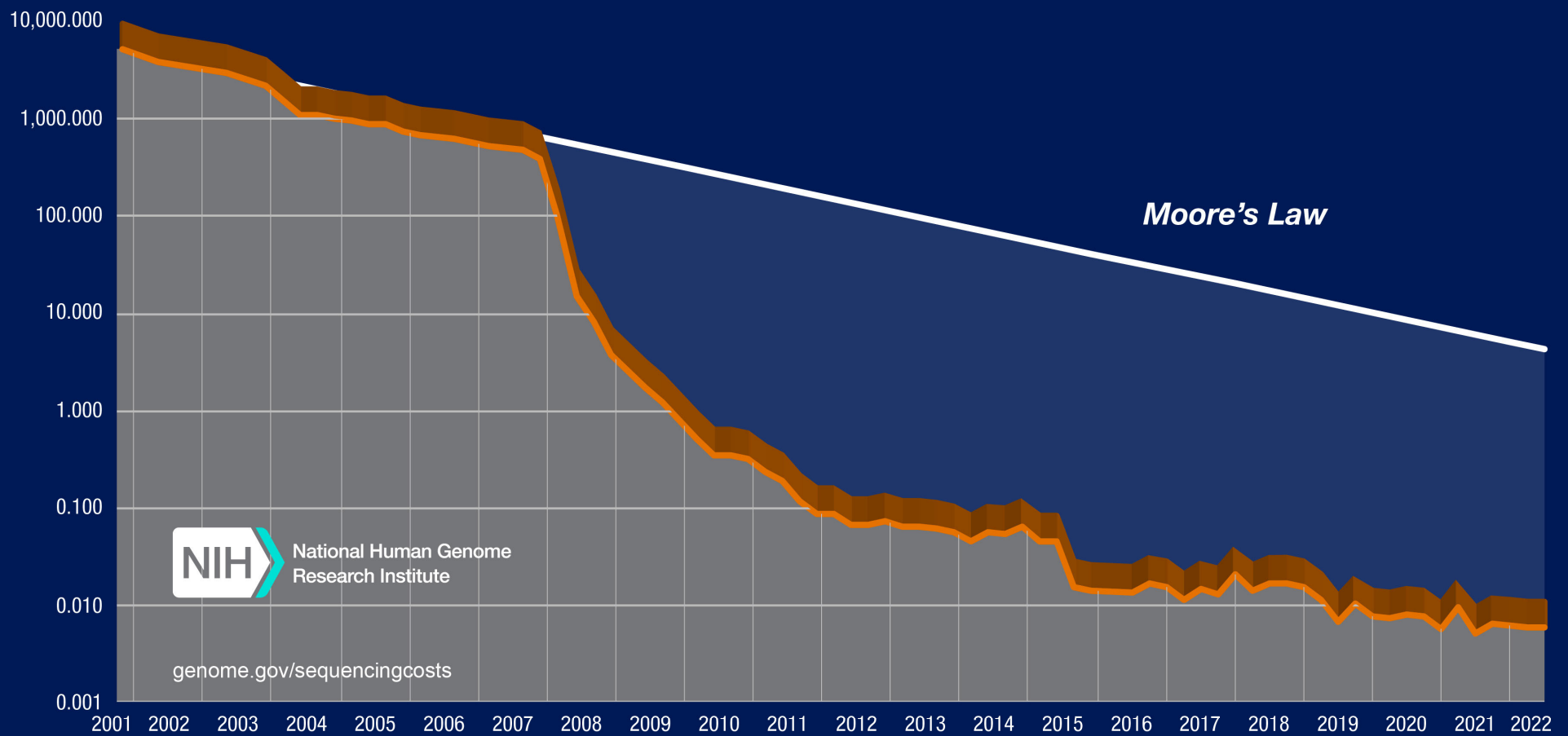
Promise of Genomics



Drew Sheneman, New Jersey -- The Newark Star Ledger, [E-mail Drew](#).

I think I found the corner piece!

Cost per Raw Megabase of DNA Sequence



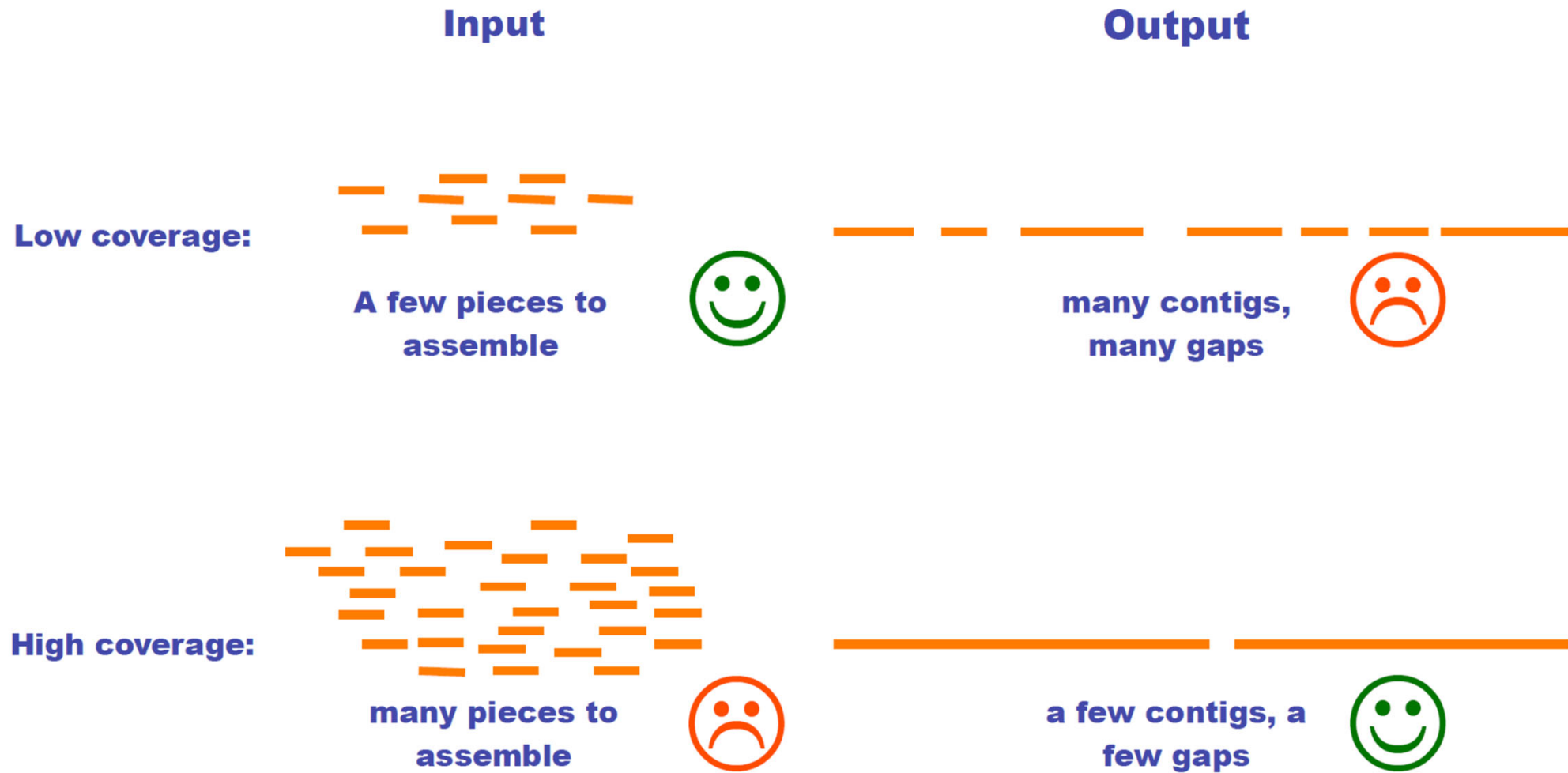
Current sequencing technologies

Technology	Read Length	Error Rate	Cost per Gbase
Illumina NovaSeq	75-500 bp	~0.1%	\$5-\$150
BGI DNBSEQ	35-300 bp	~0.1%	\$5-\$120
Ion Torrent	200-600 bp	~0.5%	\$70-\$1000
PacBio	10,000-25,000 bp	13%	\$7-\$40
Oxford Nanopore	10,000-100,000+ bp	3-10%	\$30-\$60



MinION, a palm-sized gene sequencer made by UK-based Oxford Nanopore Technologies

How many short reads do we need?



Genome Assembly

Whole-genome “shotgun” sequencing starts by copying and fragmenting the DNA

(“Shotgun” refers to the random fragmentation of the whole genome; like it was fired from a shotgun)

Input: GGCGTCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTTTT
35bp

Copy GGCGTCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTTTT
by GGCGTCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTTTT
PCR: GGCGTCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTTTT
GGCGTCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTTTT

Fragment: GGCGTCTA TATCTCGG CTCTAGGCCCTC ATTTTTT
GGC GTCTATAT CTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCA TTTTTT
GGCGTC TATATCT CGGCTCTAGGCCCT CATTTTTT
GGCGTCTAT ATCTCGGCTCTAG GCCCTCA TTTTTT

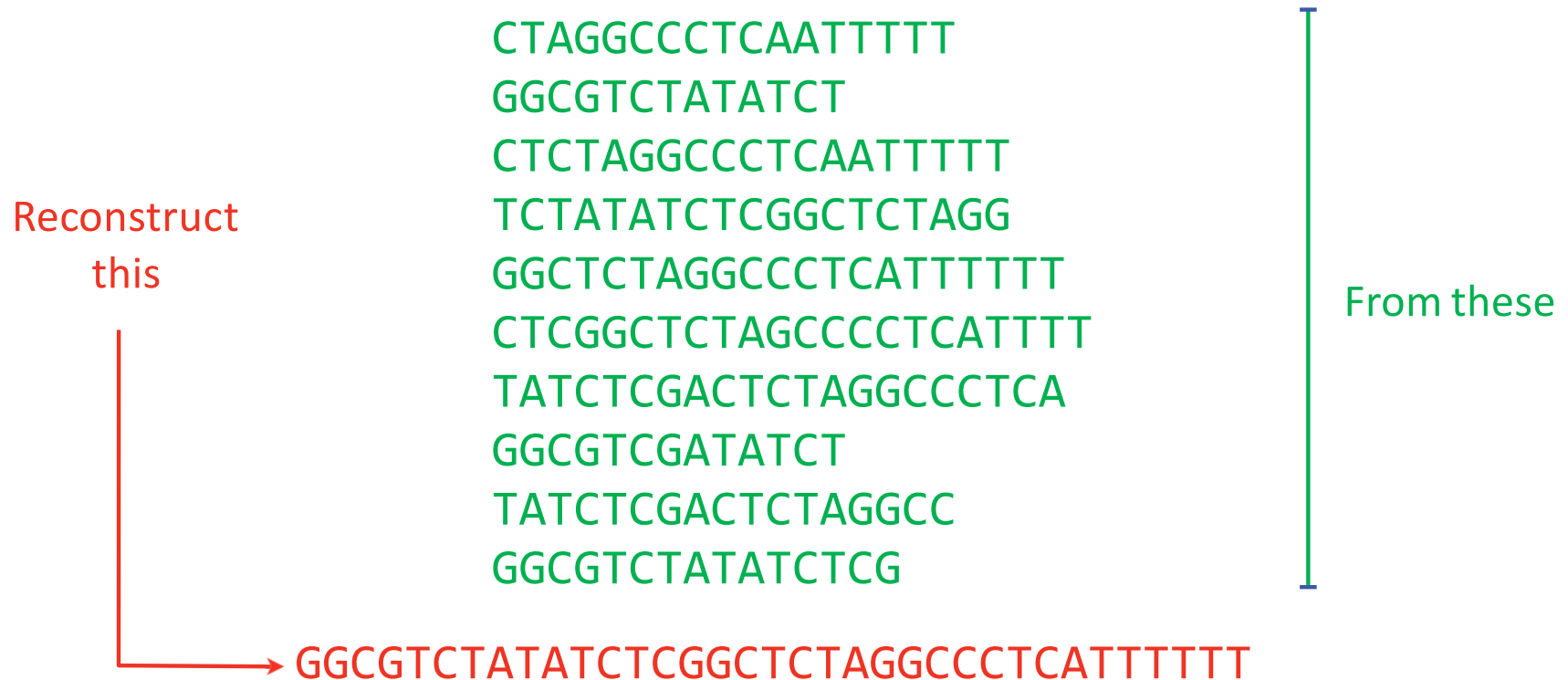
Courtesy of [Ben Langmead](http://www.langmead-lab.org/teaching-materials/). Used with permission.

<http://www.langmead-lab.org/teaching-materials/>

Assembly

Assume sequencing produces such a large # fragments that almost all genome positions are *covered* by many fragments...

...but we don't know what came from where



Courtesy of [Ben Langmead](http://www.langmead-lab.org/teaching-materials/). Used with permission.

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Assembly

Overlaps between short reads help to put them together

```
          CTAGGCCCTCAATTTT
        CTCTAGGCCCTCAATTTT
      GGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTT
    CTCGGCTCTAGCCCCTCATTT
  TATCTCGACTCTAGGCCCTCA
TATCTCGACTCTAGGCC
TCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGG
GGCGTCTATATCTCG
GGCGTCGATATCT
GGCGTCTATATCT
GGCGTCTATATCTCGGCTCTAGGCCCTCATTTT
```

177 nucleotides

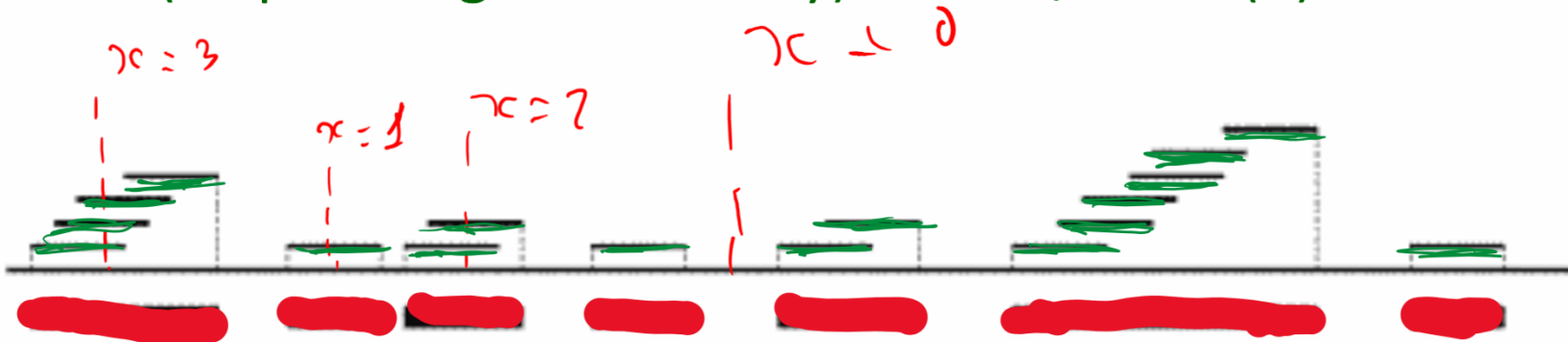
35 nucleotides

Where is the Poisson?

- G - genome length (in bp)
- L - short read average length
- N - number of short read sequenced
- λ - sequencing coverage redundancy = LN/G
- x - number of short reads covering a given site on the genome

$$P(x) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!}$$

Poisson as a limit of Binomial: For a given site on the genome for each short read Prob(site covered): $p=L/G$ is very small. Number of attempts (short reads): N is very large. Their product (sequencing redundancy): $\lambda = NL/G$ is $O(1)$.



What fraction of the genome is missing?

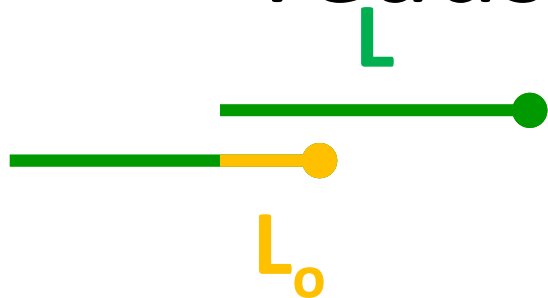
What fraction of genome is covered?

- Coverage: $\lambda = NL/G$,
X – random variable equal to the number of times a given site is covered by short reads.
Poisson: $P(X=x) = \lambda^x \exp(-\lambda) / x!$
 $P(X=0) = \exp(-\lambda)$, $P(X>0) = 1 - \exp(-\lambda)$
- *Total length covered: $G * [1 - \exp(-\lambda)]$*

λ	2	4	6	8	10	12
Mean proportion of genome covered	.864665	.981684	.997521	.999665	.999955	.999994

Table 5.1. The mean proportion of the genome covered for different values of λ

How long should be the length L_{ov} of the overlap to connect two short reads into a contig?



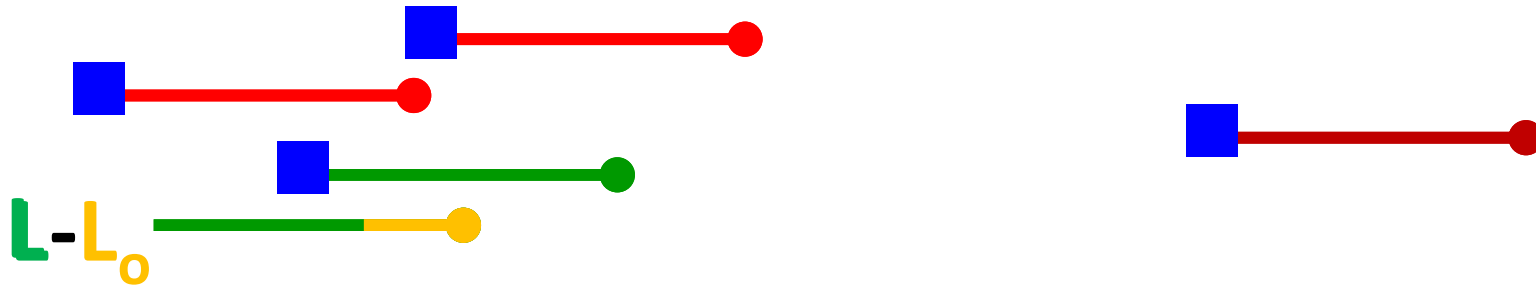
If DNA was a random chain with $p_A = p_C = p_G = p_T = 1/4$

$L_{ov} \sim 16-20$ would be enough

$$2 \cdot G \cdot 4^{-L_{ov}} = 2 \cdot 3 \times 10^9 \cdot 4^{-16} = 1.4$$

$$2 \cdot 3 \times 10^9 \cdot 4^{-20} = 0.0055 \ll 1$$

How many contigs?



G

$$P(\text{short read can be extended by another short read}) = \frac{L - L_o}{G} = p$$

$$P(\text{short read cannot be extended by any short reads}) = e^{-pN} \approx Ne^{-\lambda}$$

$$\text{number of contigs} = Ne^{-pN} \approx Ne^{-\lambda}$$



How many contigs?

- A given short read is the right end of a contig if and only if no left ends of other short reads fall within it.
- The left end of another short read has the probability $p=(L-1)/G$ to fall within a given read. There are $N-1$ other reads. Hence the expected number of left ends inside a given shot read is $p \cdot (N-1)=(N-1) \cdot (L-1)/G \approx \lambda$
- If significant overlap required to merge two short reads is L_{ov} , modified λ is given by $(N-1) \cdot (L - L_{ov})/G$
- Probability that no left ends fall inside a short read is $\exp(-\lambda)$. Thus the Number of contigs is $N_{contigs}=Ne^{-\lambda}$:

λ	0.5	0.75	1	1.5	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mean number of contigs	60.7	70.8	73.6	66.9	54.1	29.9	14.7	6.7	3.0	1.3

Table 5.2. The mean number of contigs for different levels of coverage, with $G = 100,000$ and $L = 500$.

Average length of a contig?

- Length of a genome covered:

$$G_{covered} = G \cdot P(X > 0) = G \cdot (1 - \exp(-\lambda))$$

- Number of contigs $N_{contigs} = N \cdot e^{-\lambda}$

- Average length of a contig =

$$\langle L \rangle = \sum_i L_i / N_{contigs} = G_{covered} / N_{contigs} =$$

$$G \cdot (1 - \exp(-\lambda)) / N \cdot e^{-\lambda} = L \cdot (1 - \exp(-\lambda)) / \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda}$$

λ	2	4	6	8	10
Mean contig size	1,600	6,700	33,500	186,000	1,100,000

Table 5.3. The mean contig size for different values of a for the case $L = 500$.

Credit: XKCD
comics

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Matlab exercise: Poisson distribution

- Generate a **sample of size 100,000** for Poisson-distributed random variable X with $\lambda = 2, 6, 20$
- Plot the approximation to the **Probability Mass Functions** based on these samples. Combine them in the same figure.
- Calculate the mean and variance of this sample and compare it to **theoretical calculations**:
 $E[X] = \lambda$ and $V[X] = \lambda$

Matlab exercise: Poisson distribution

- **Stats=100000; lambda=2;**
- **r2=random('Poisson',lambda,Stats,1);**
- **mu_p=sum(r2)./Stats;**
- **disp(mu_p);**
- **var_p=sum((r2-mu_p).^2)./Stats;**
- **disp(var_p);**
- **std_p=sqrt(var_p)**
- **[a,b]=hist(r2, 0:max(r2));**
- **p_p=a./sum(a);**
- **figure; stem(b,p_p);**
- **figure; semilogy(b,p_p,'ko-');**

Estimate

- Human genome is 3×10^9 bp long
- Chromosome 1 is about $G = 0.25 \times 10^9$ bp
- Illumina generates short reads $L = 100$ bp long
- What number of reads N are needed to completely assemble the 1st chromosome?
- The formula to use is: $1 = N_{contigs} = N e^{-\lambda} = N e^{-NL/G}$
- Answer: $N = 4.4 \times 10^7$ short (100bp) reads
Test: $4.4e7 * \exp(-4.4e7 * 100 / 0.25e9) = 0.99997$
- What coverage redundancy λ will it be?
Answer: $\lambda = NL/G = 17.6$ coverage redundancy

How much would it cost to assemble human genome now?

- Human Genome Project: **\$2.7 billion** in 1991 dollars.
- Now a **de novo full assembly** of the whole human genome would now cost $3 \times 10^9 \times 17.6 / 10^9 \times 10\$/\text{GBase} = \$ 530$
- **2nd genome** (and after) would be **even cheaper** as we would already have a **reference genome to** which we can **map short reads**. (Puzzle: picture on the box)
- But this is a **naïve estimate**. In reality, there are complications. See the next slides:

What spoils these estimates?

```
>gi|224514922|ref|NT_024477.14| Homo sapiens chromosome 12 genomic  
contig, GRCh37.p13 Primary Assembly (displaying 3' end)  
CGGGAAATCAAAAGCCCCCTCTGAATCCTGCGCACCGAGATTCTCCCCAGCCAAGGTGAGGCGGCAGCAGT  
GGGAGATCCACACCGTAGCATTGGAACACAAATGCAGCATTACAAATGCAGACATGACACCGAAAATATA  
ACACACCCCATTTGCTCATGTAACAAGCACCTGTAATGCTAATGCACTGCCTCAAAACAAAATATTAATAT  
AAGATCGGCAATCCGCACACTGCCGTGCAGTGCTAAGACAGCAATGAAAATAGTCAACATAATAACCCTA  
ATAGTGTTAGGGTTAGGGTCAGGGTCCCGGTCCGGGTCCGGGTCCGGGTCCGGGTCCGGGTCCGGGTCCGGGT  
GGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGT  
TAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGG  
GTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTA  
GGGTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGT  
TAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGG  
GTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAG
```

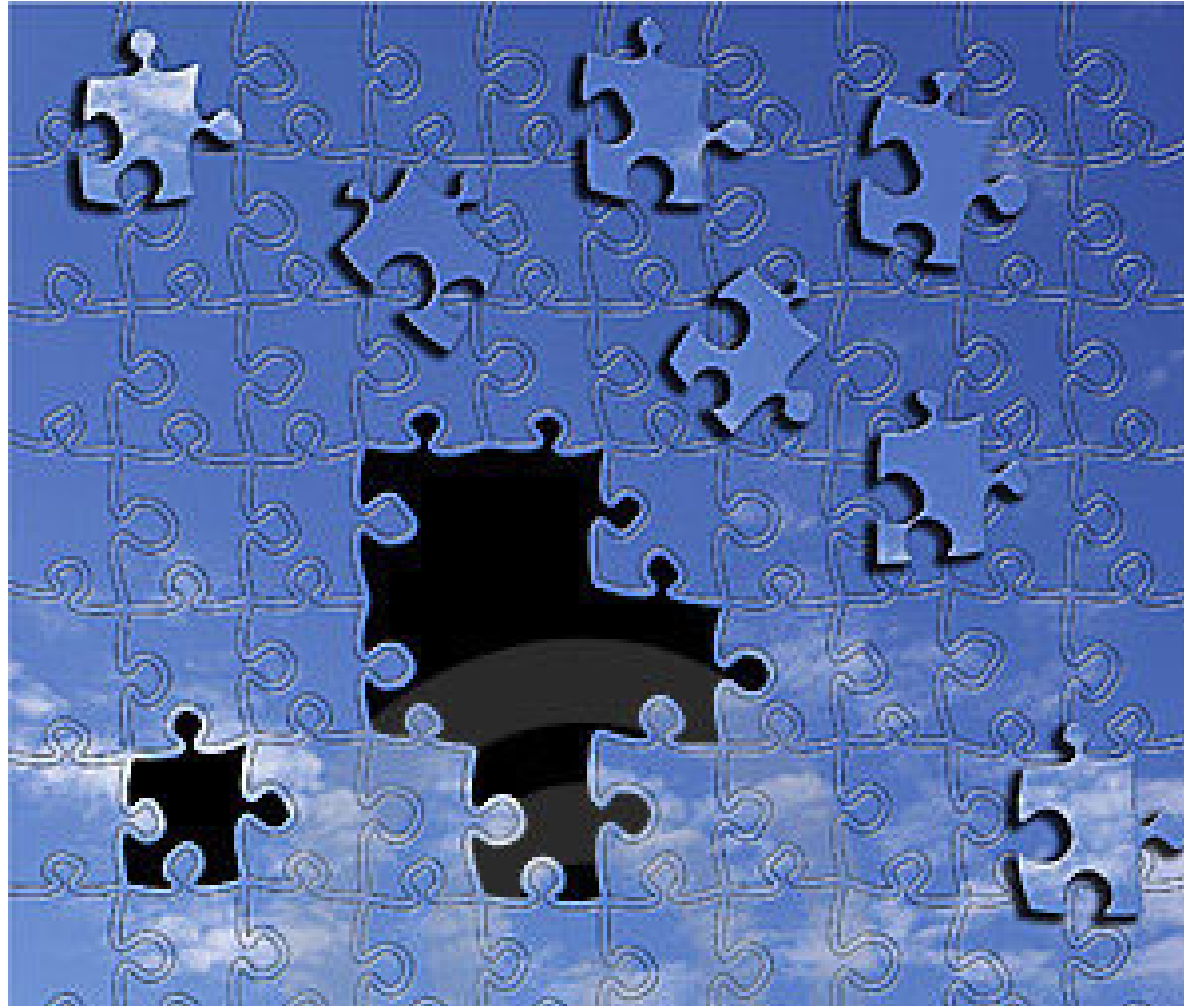
FIGURE 8.11 A BLASTN search of the human genome (all assemblies) database was performed at the NCBI website using **TTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGG** as query (i.e., three TTAGGG repeats). There were matches to hundreds of genomic scaffolds. This figure shows an example (NT_024477.14) assigned to the **telomere of chromosome 12q having many dozens of TTAGGG repeats.** These occurred at the 3' end of the genomic contig sequence.

There were **100s of matches** while **one expects << 1 match**:

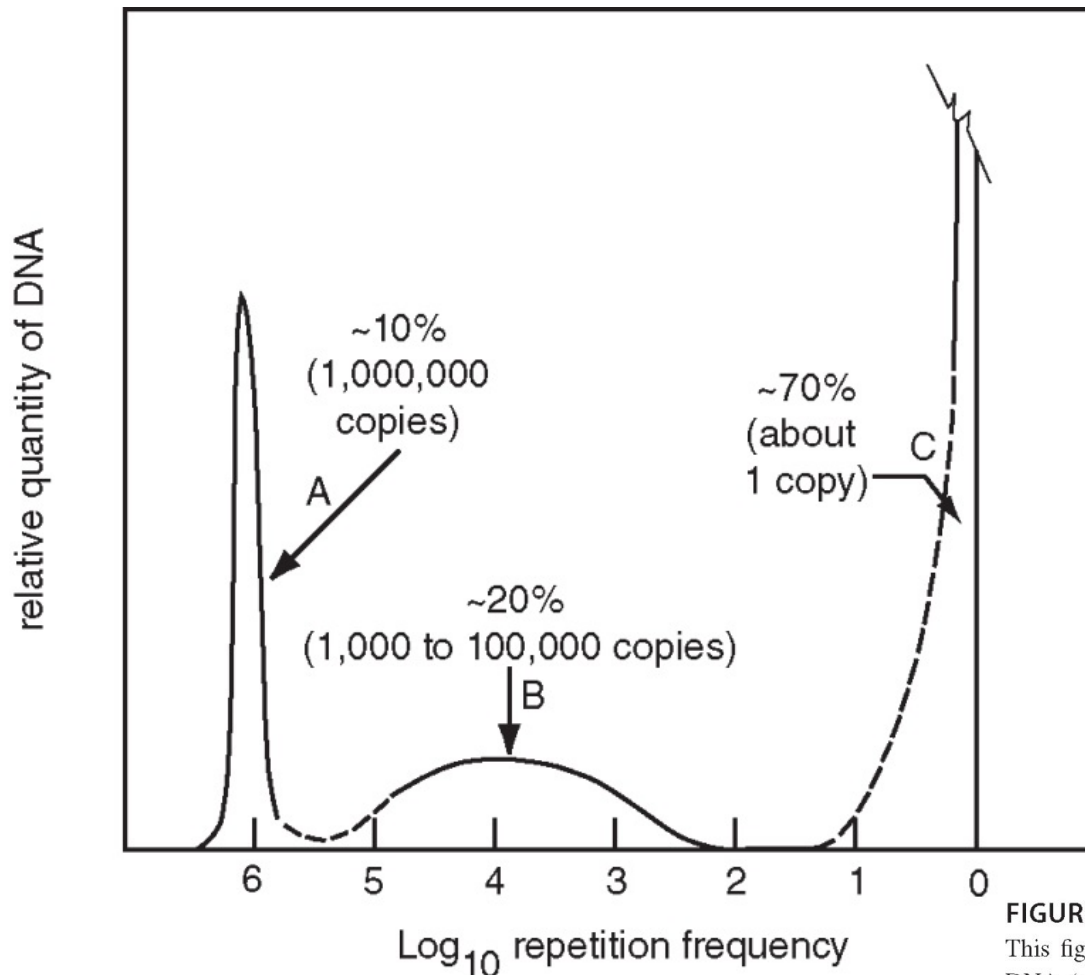
$$2 \cdot 3 \times 10^9 \cdot 4^{-18} = 0.08 \ll 1$$

DNA repeats make assembly difficult

Repeats are like sky puzzle pieces



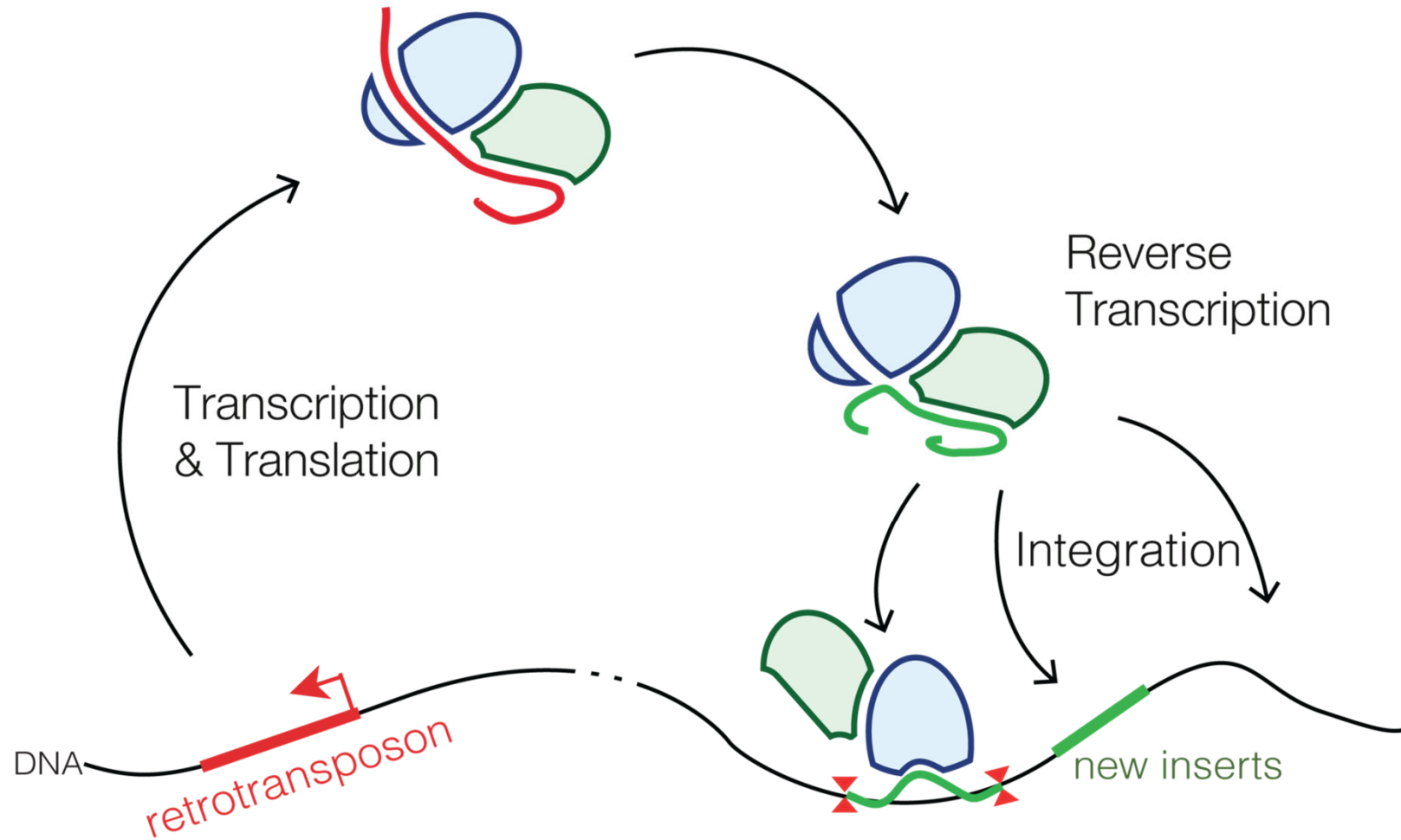
How many repeats are in eukaryotic genomes?



Data for **mouse genome** obtained in 1961 (sic!) using DNA denaturation and renaturation curves


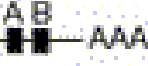




FIGURE 8.6 The complexity of genomic DNA can be estimated by denaturing then renaturing DNA. This figure (redrawn from Britten and Kohne, 1968) depicts the relative quantity of mouse genomic DNA (y axis) versus the logarithm of the frequency with which the DNA is repeated. The data are derived from a $C_0 t_{1/2}$ curve, which describes the percent of genomic DNA that reassociates at particular times and DNA concentrations. A large $C_0 t_{1/2}$ value implies a slower reassociation reaction. Three classes are apparent. The fast component accounts for 10% of mouse genomic DNA (arrow A), and represents highly repetitive satellite DNA. An intermediate component accounts for about 20% of mouse genomic DNA and contains repeats having from 1000 to 100,000 copies. The slowly reassociating component, comprising 70% of the mouse genome, corresponds to unique, single-copy DNA. Britten and Kohne (1968) obtained similar profiles from other eukaryotes, although distinct differences were evident between species. Used with permission.

Formation of
Ribonucleoprotein complexes



Almost all transposable elements in mammals fall into one of four classes

Classes of interspersed repeat in the human genome

			Length	Copy number	Fraction of genome
LINEs	Autonomous		6–8 kb	850,000	21%
SINEs	Non-autonomous		100–300 bp	1,500,000	13%
Retrovirus-like elements	Autonomous		6–11 kb	450,000	8%
	Non-autonomous		1.5–3 kb		
DNA transposon fossils	Autonomous		2–3 kb	300,000	3%
	Non-autonomous		80–3,000 bp		

Slide by Ross Hardison, Penn State U.