



Challenges in precision medicine: From sequencing to big data processing

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CARL R. WOESE INSTITUTE FOR GENOMIC BIOLOGY
Where Science Meets Society

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*“Tonight I’m launching a new
Precision Medicine Initiative
to bring us closer to curing
diseases like cancer and
diabetes”*

President Obama, 2015



Precision Medicine

- This growing field will revolutionize how we treat disease, taking into account the individual's unique genetic makeup, environment, and lifestyle.
- Hospitals around the world are working hard to embrace the personalized medicine paradigm.

Precision Medicine: Technology-enabled medicine

Today

Disease
Progression



EXAMINE, DIAGNOSE, TREAT

Future

Health & Wellness,
Disease Etiology



**SYSTEMS OR
PRECISION
MEDICINE**

The Human System – A Grand Challenge

How does the
system work

How to model
the system

How to improve
the system

Medical Imaging
Advanced Microscopy

Sensing &
Imaging

Personalized Diagnostics
Bionanotechnology

Computational Medicine
Data Integration

Computational
Modeling

Systems Biology
Omic Networks

Regenerative Medicine
Therapeutic Delivery

Cell and
Molecular
Reengineering

Synthetic Bioengineering
Drug Discovery

The Mayo-Illinois Alliance



**Top-Ranked Medical Center,
World Renowned Tradition in
Quality Health Care Delivery**



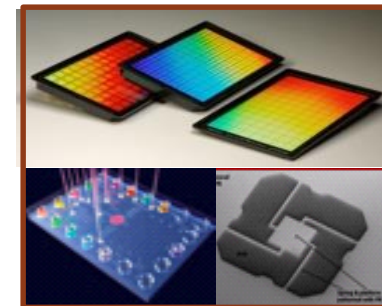
**Top-Ranked Programs in Engineering,
Computation, Bioinformatics,
Genomics and Nanotechnology**



**INFORMATION-BASED
MEDICINE**



GENOMICS



**POINT-OF-CARE
DIAGNOSTICS**

The Mayo-Illinois Alliance

- The goal is to advance clinical and translational research and to harness the power of **big data** to transform precision medicine for the 21st century.
- The Alliance's interests extend to numerous areas, including:
 - High-performance computing
 - Machine learning
 - Signal processing
 - Nanotechnology

The Mayo Grand Challenge:

The 10,000 Genome Project

- The aim is to develop a pipeline capable of sequencing, analyzing, visualizing, and interpreting genomes of at least 10,000 patients per year, each within 48 hours.
- Some challenges:
 - Data Volume: ~1PB a year
 - Data Processing: GWAS analysis in less than 48 h (per patient)

Problems towards personalized medicine

- **Data size:**
 - New sequencing machines can generate 1 TB of data per day.
 - Institutions are shipping HDs through FedEx instead of transmitting data through the internet!
- **Data analysis:**
 - Interoperability across computational biology methods is not fully guaranteed, causing huge headaches to researchers and data scientists from hospitals and institutions.

Evolution of Genome Sequencing

	2009	2017
Cost/Genome	\$100K	\$1K
Coverage	30x	> 200x
Number of reads	1 Billion	> 6 Billion
Size of raw sequencing files	0.25 TB	> 1.5 TB

Evolution of Genome Sequencing

	2009	2017
Cost/TB	\$100/TB	\$50/TB
Download Speed	10Mbps	100Mbps
Cost/Genome	\$100K	\$1K

No technology is keeping with the pace of genome sequencing!

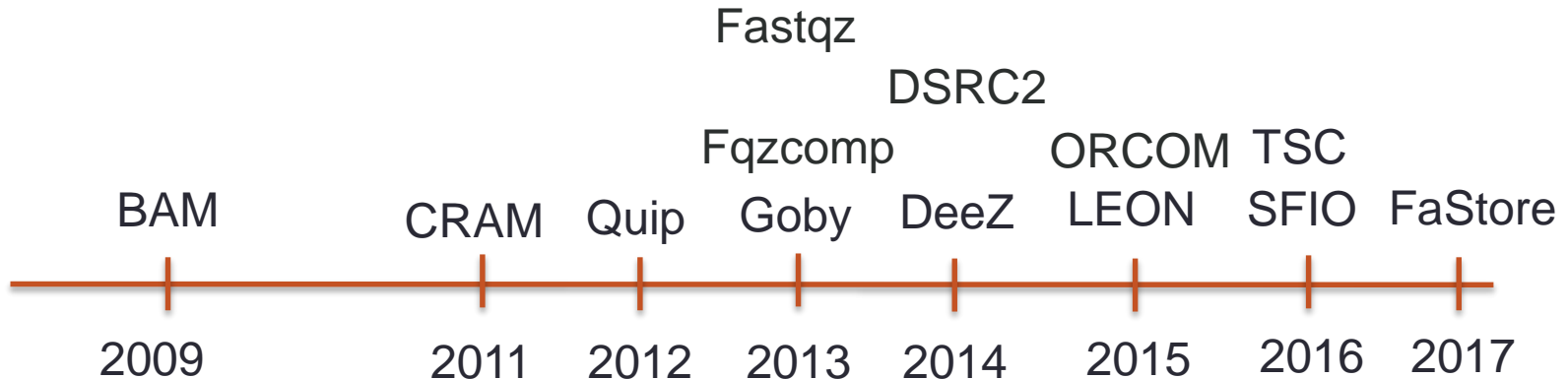


MSRP ⓘ

~~\$2,100,000~~

\$2,500

Some proposed solutions



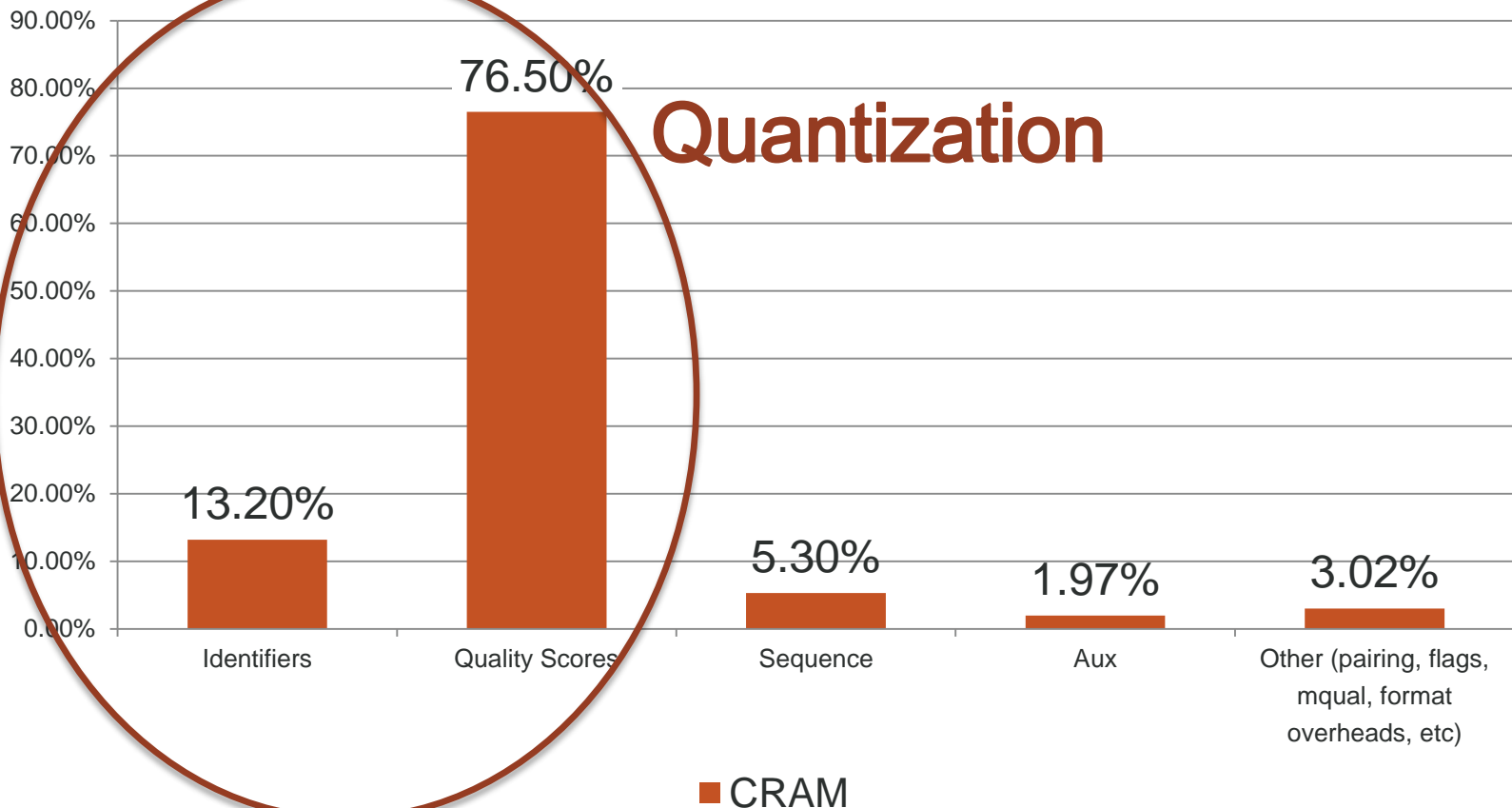
Contributors:

Stanford University, University of Washington, Carnegie Mellon, Simon Fraser University, Cornell University, University of Hannover, European Bioinformatics Institute, Silesian University of Technology, University of Illinois, ...

Weight of the lossless compressed data

CRAM

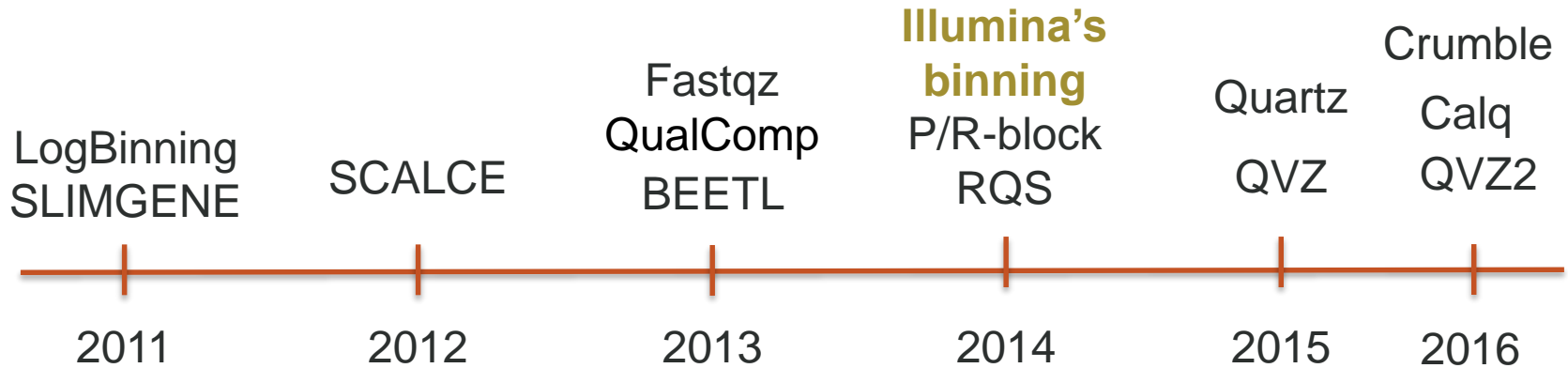
Quantization



Quantization



Quantization of quality scores



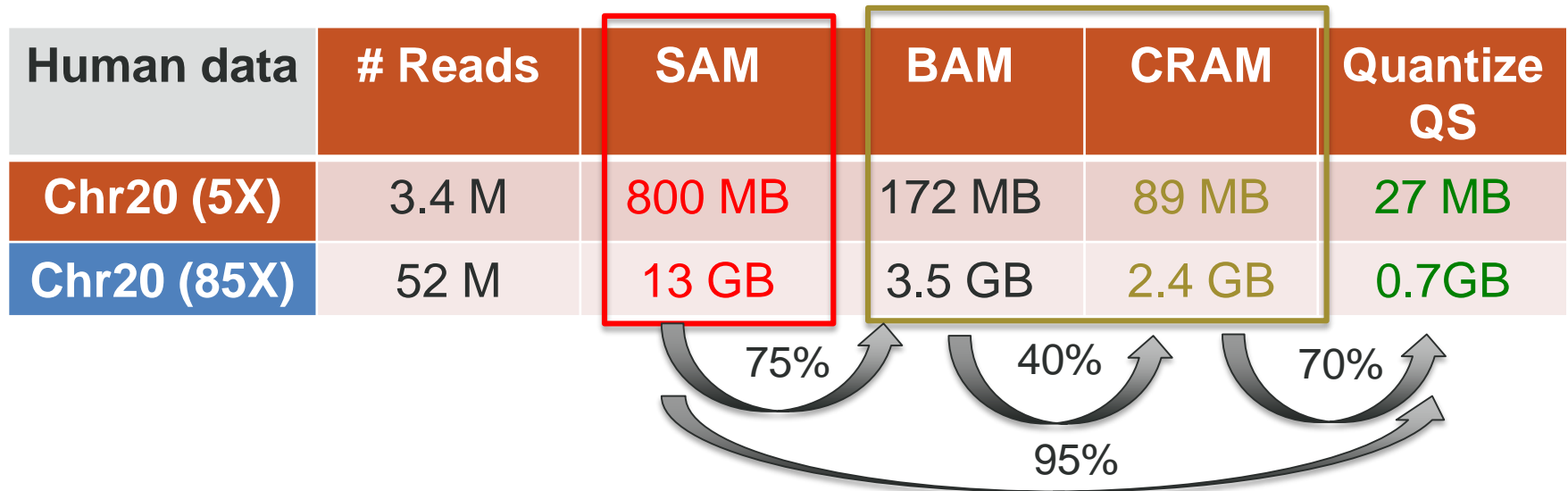
Contributors:

Stanford University, MIT, Simon Fraser University, University of Hannover, EBI, University of Illinois, Illumina Inc., University of Melbourne, ...

Quantization of quality scores

- Order of magnitude improvements in compression.
- Several extensive analyses of its effect on variant calling and RNA-Seq gene expression:
 - Only negligible variation of results
 - Consistent improvements in variant calling also shown!

Benefits of Quantization



Current *de facto* solutions

- Raw data: GZIP format
 - GZIP is a generic file compressor
- Aligned data: BAM format
 - BAM is a binarized and GZIP-ed raw aligned data

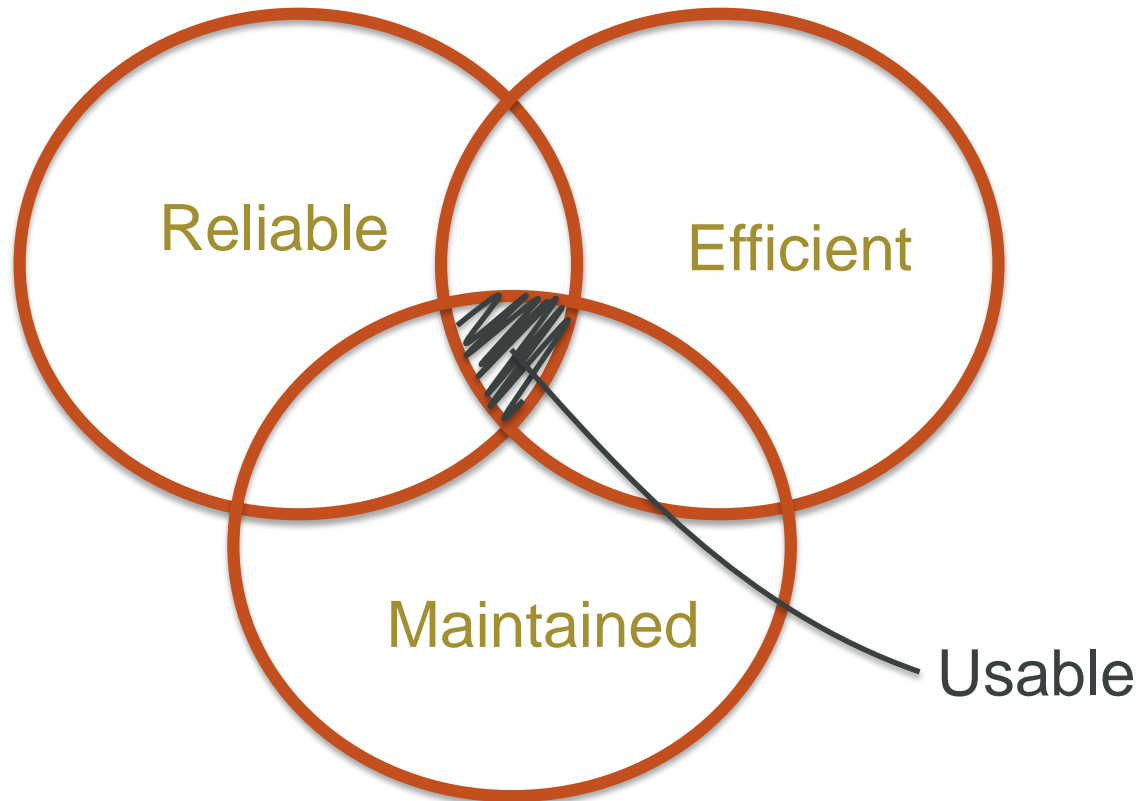
All the solutions use off-the-self general compressors!

Why are not adopted?

- Most solutions implemented by “students”
- Usually not long-term maintained
- Buggy

There is a need for a well maintained standard format!

Requirements for a good genomic data format



Requirements for a good genomic data format

- It is not only about compression:
 - Random Access over the compressed domain
 - Indexing capabilities
 - Interoperability among systems

Solutions needed by Hospitals and Institutions

- Mayo Clinic's personalized medicine initiative is expected to generate ~ 1 PB of data per year.
- These data needs to be **store**, **transmitted** and **analyzed**:
 - Extremely cumbersome with current *de facto* formats !
- A well maintained data standard format is urgently needed to fully enable the personalized medicine paradigm.



Thanks!

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