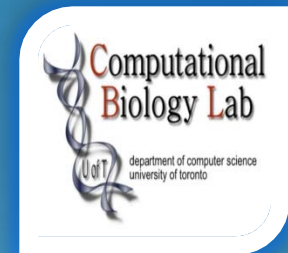


# VARiD: Variation Detection in Color-Space and Letter-Space



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# Motivation

we have different **Color-space** and **Letter-space** platforms  
need (Motivation) (both)

Motivation

Methods

Results

Advantages



## Sequencing Platforms

- letter-space  
Sanger, 454, Illumina, etc

```
> NC_005109.2 | BRCA1 SX3  
TCAGCATCGGCATCGACTGCACAGG
```

- color-space  
AB SOLiD  
not as many software tools out there

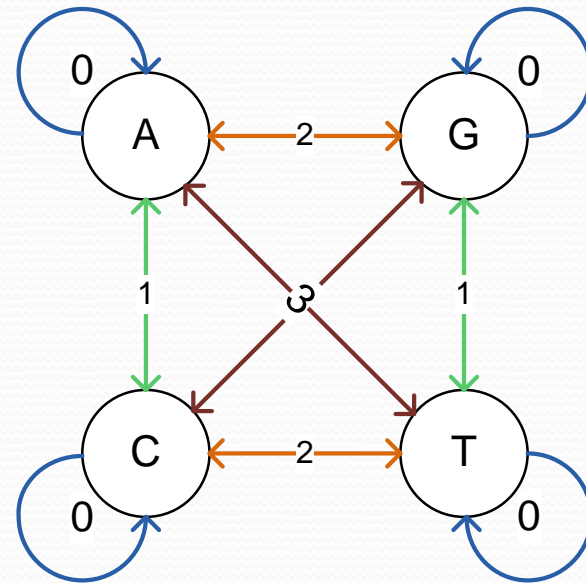


```
> NC_005109.2 | BRCA1 AF3  
T212313230313232121311120
```

- different sequencing biases, different inherent errors and different advantages
  - useful to combine this information

## Color Space

	A	C	G	T
A	0	1	2	3
C	1	0	3	2
G	2	3	0	1
T	3	2	1	0



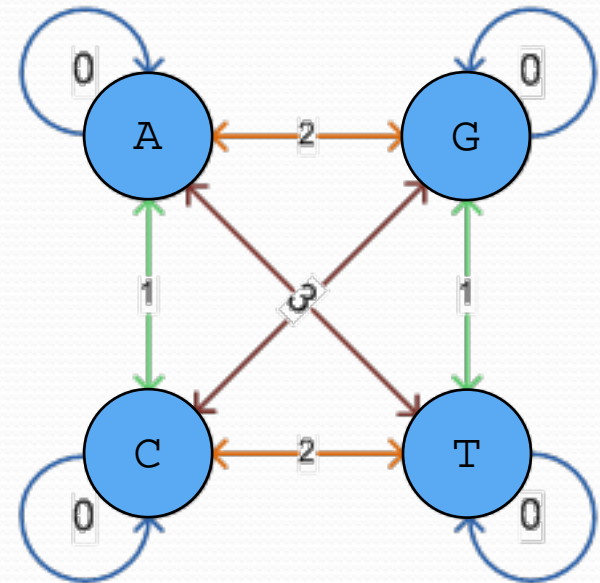
## Color Space

### Translating

```
T212313230313232121311120  
TCAGCATCGGCATCGACTGCACAGG
```

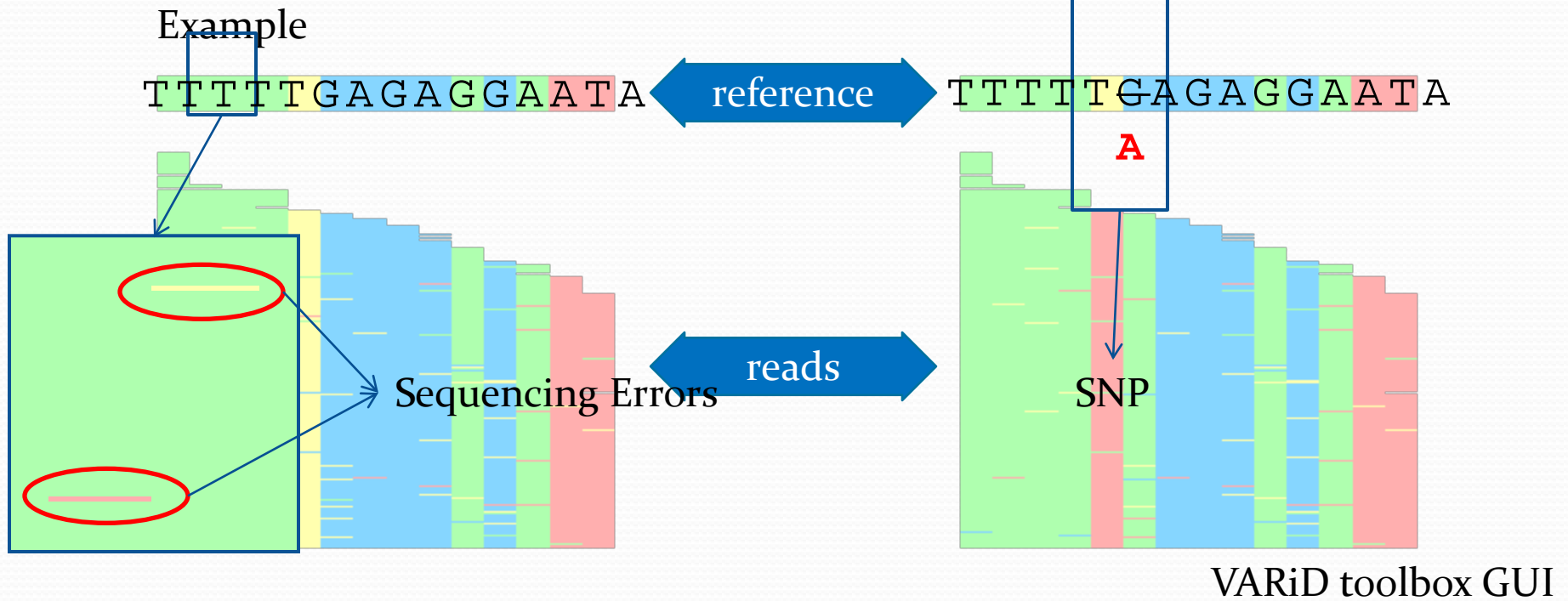
### Sequencing Error vs SNP

```
> T212313230313232121311120  
> T212313230310232121311120  
  
> TCAGCATCGGCAGCGACTGCACAGG  
> T212313230312332121311120  
  
> T212313230310232121311120  
> TCAGCATCGGCAAGCTGACGTGTCC
```



Notes:

- clear distinction between a sequencing error and a SNP
- can this help us in SNP detection? sounds like it!  
single color change → error,  
2 colors changed → (likely) SNP.

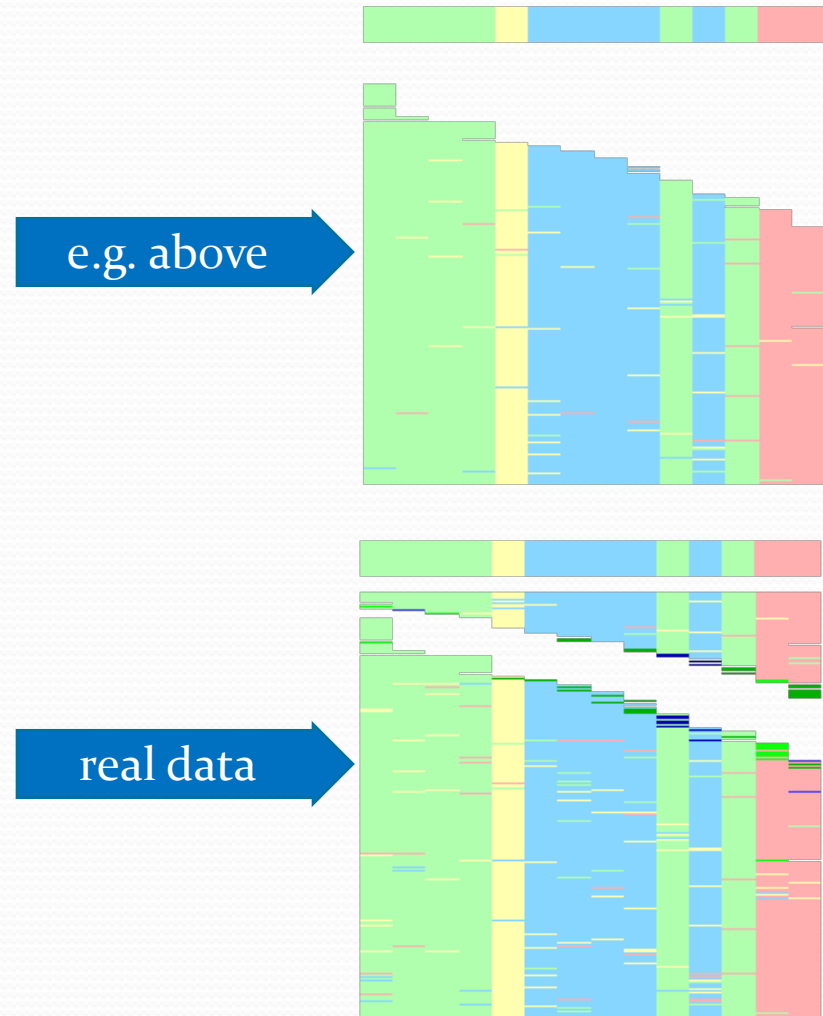


→ combining the different Color-space and Letter-space platforms

Examples (more realistically)



heterozygous SNPs



a lot more errors



## Motivation

- we want a SNP caller to handle both traditional letter-space as well as color-space reads

Realistically, situation is tougher.

- Heterozygous SNPs
- Homologous SNPs
- Tri-allelic SNPs
- small indels
- alot more error than in original previous example
- misalignment (by chance)
- misalignment (consistently)



Motivation

## Methods

Model the system with an **HMM**  
**Expand** the HMM and apply **Heuristics**

Results

Advantages

Quick breath.

## Hidden Markov Model

**Statistical** model for a system (so we have states)

Assume that system is a Markov process with state unobserved.

Markov Process: future state depends only on current state

We can observe the state's emission (output)

each state has a probability distribution over outputs

apply: we don't know the state (**donor?**),  
but we can observe some output  
determined by the state (**reads?**)

## Our Hidden Markov Model

(for colors)

At every **pair** of consecutive positions:

- don't know the **donor** nucleotides,
- have some color-space and/or letter-space reads

The donor could be:

• letters: AA color 0

• letters: AC color 1

:

• letters: TT color 0

16 combinations

	A	C	G	T
A	0	1	2	3
C	1	0	3	2
G	2	3	0	1
T	3	2	1	0

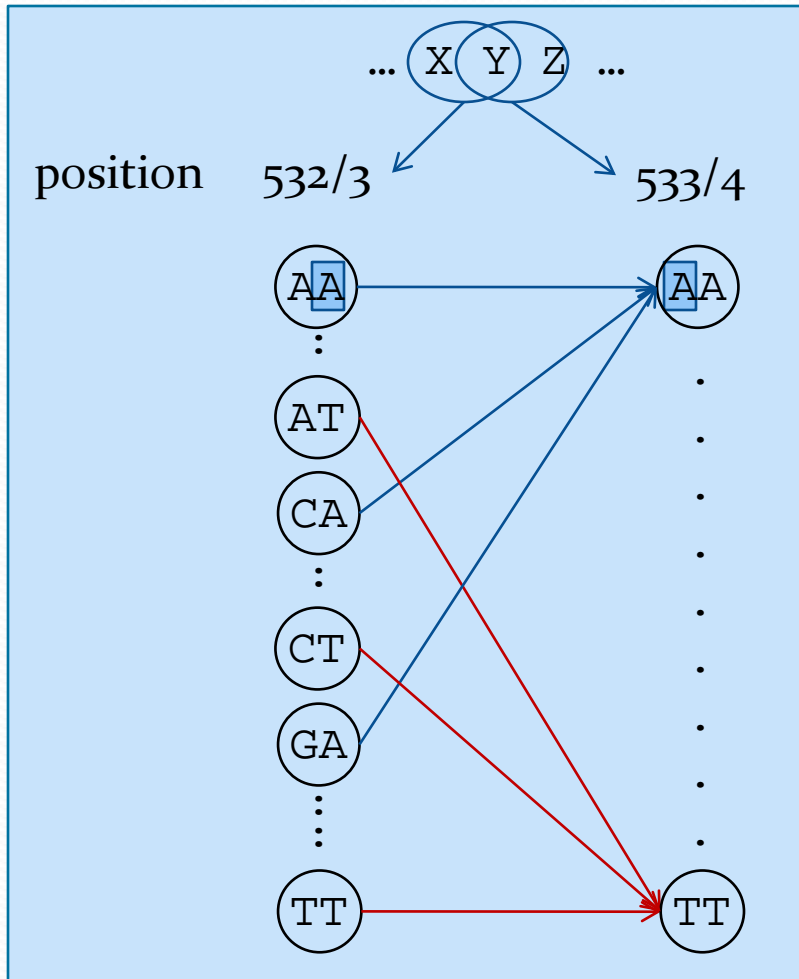
Note: AA and TT give the same colors! So we have **redundancy**.

## Colors and Letters



- can't just call colors, since they can represent one of several translations
- to properly call SNPs, we need to **model underlying letters**.

## States of the Model



Consider donor at positions 532, 533 and 534.

At each pair we have **one** color, **two** letters

**16 states**

only certain **transitions allowed**

each state depends on the previous states, but not further (**Markov Process**)

## Emissions

Unknown genome

...NNNNNNNN(NNN)NNNN...

Color reads

T0102010**0**311223  
T103010**1**311223  
T2010**0**311223

→ color emissions

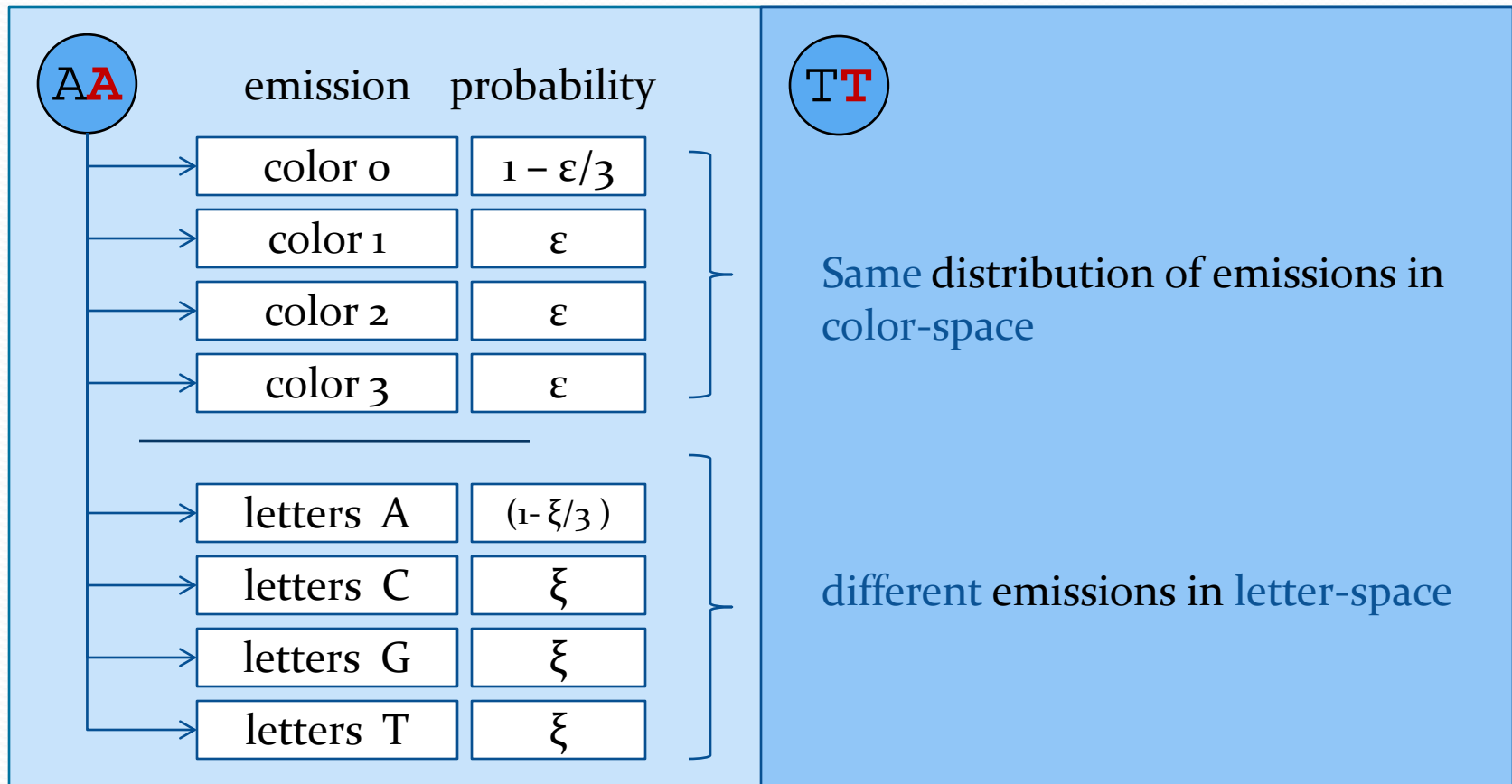
Letter reads

ATTGCGCA**A**TGCG  
TTGGGCA**A**FGCGA  
GCGCA**C**TGCGAC

→ letter emissions

## Our Hidden Markov Model

### Emissions



## Emissions Probability

...NNNNNNNN(NNN)NNNN...

T01020100311223  
 T1030101311223  
 T20100311223

How do we use emissions?

Assign an **Emission Probability** to each state:

**What is the probability that this state emitted these reads.**

E.g. For state CC:

ATTGCGCAATGCG  
 TTGGGCAATGCGA  
 GCGCACTGCGAC

$$p_E = \left[ \left(1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}\right)^2 \times \varepsilon^1 \right] \times \left[ \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{4}\right)^1 \times \xi^2 \right]$$



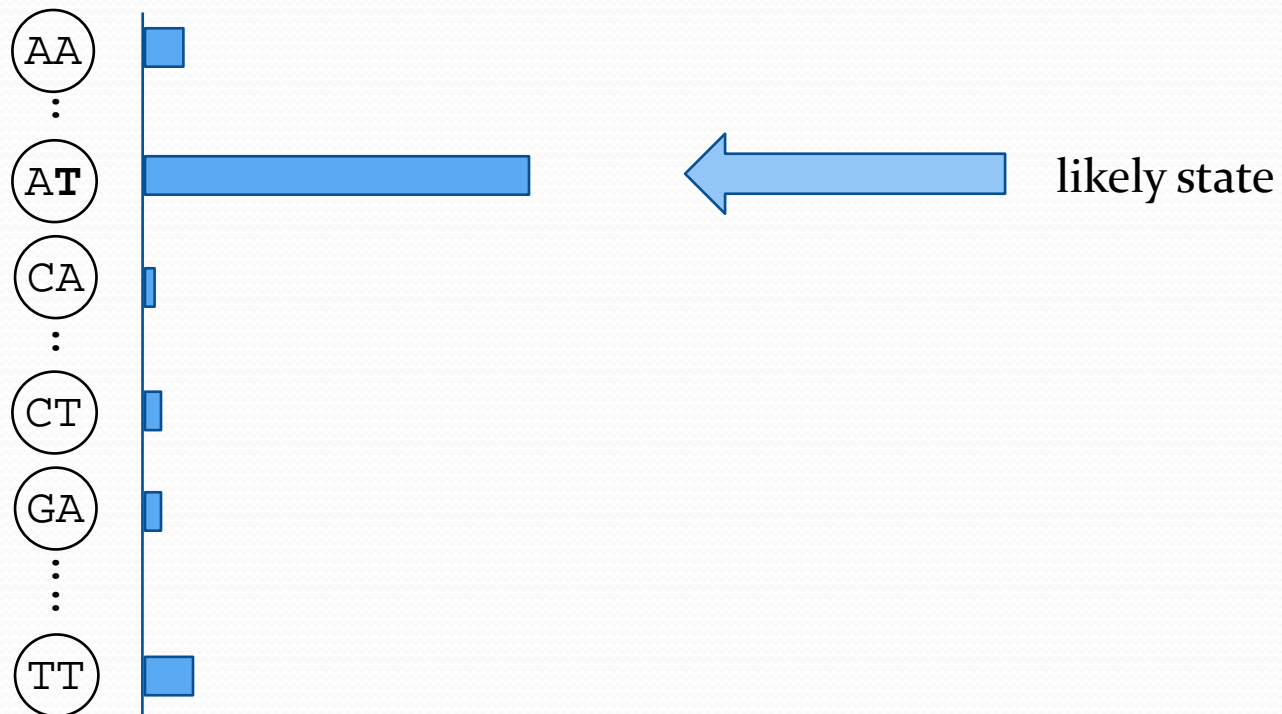
## Our Hidden Markov Model

So we have

- the **unknown** (donor pair at some location),
- the **emissions** (output – the read colors at some location), and
- the dependency on the **previous state**.

## Our Hidden Markov Model

- Have set-up a form of an HMM
- run Forward-Backward algorithm
- get **probability distribution** over states





Current form of HMM only detects homozygous SNPs

We include :

- short indels

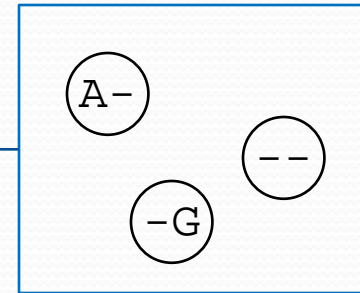
- **heterozygous** SNPs

Expansion and Heuristics

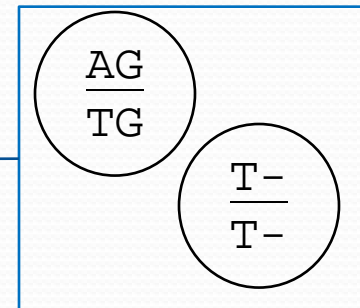
## Expansion: Gaps and heterozygous SNPs

Expand states

- Have states that include **gaps**
  - emit: gap or color



- Have larger states, for **diploids**
  - emit: colors



Same algorithm, but in all we have **1600 states**

## Expansion: Gaps and heterozygous SNPs

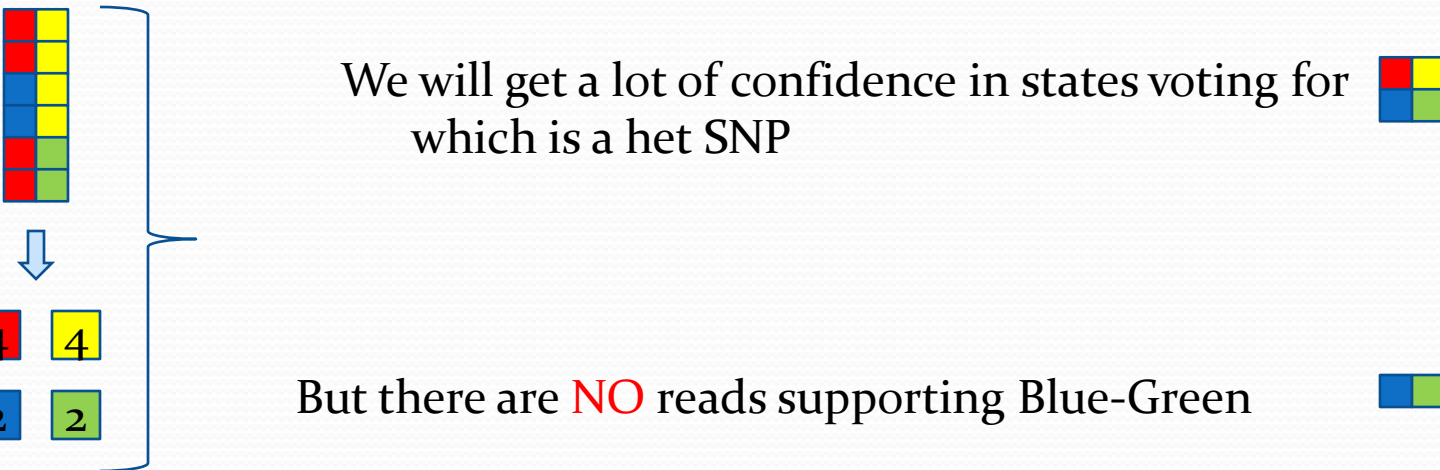
- Use variable error rates for emissions
  - can support quality values (alter the emission probabilities)
- Translate through the first letter
  - gives guidance in letter-space
  - know the error rate (= error rate at first color)
    - note: not ok to translate the whole read due to effects of color-space error, but one letter is safe.
    - handle like a normal letter-space emission

```
>T212313230312332121311120  
>>C12313230312332121311120
```

## Post Processing: Uncorrelated Errors

HMM doesn't know which read each emission came from.

Example



We will get a lot of confidence in states voting for which is a het SNP

But there are **NO** reads supporting Blue-Green

**Post Processing:** For each proposed variant, check that there actually is enough reads supporting this variant. Several other cases are handled with a similar check.

Motivation

Methods

Results

Advantages

Quicker breath.



## Working Results

### Simulations

#### Color-space dataset

- Source: JCVI. Validated with Sanger. Mappings are done with SHRiMP
- 8 datasets all with similar performance:
  - 83-87% True Positives (real SNPs called)
  - few False Positives (non-var called as SNPS) --- 10-15% of calls, 0.02% of nucleotides
  - results very similar to Corona;

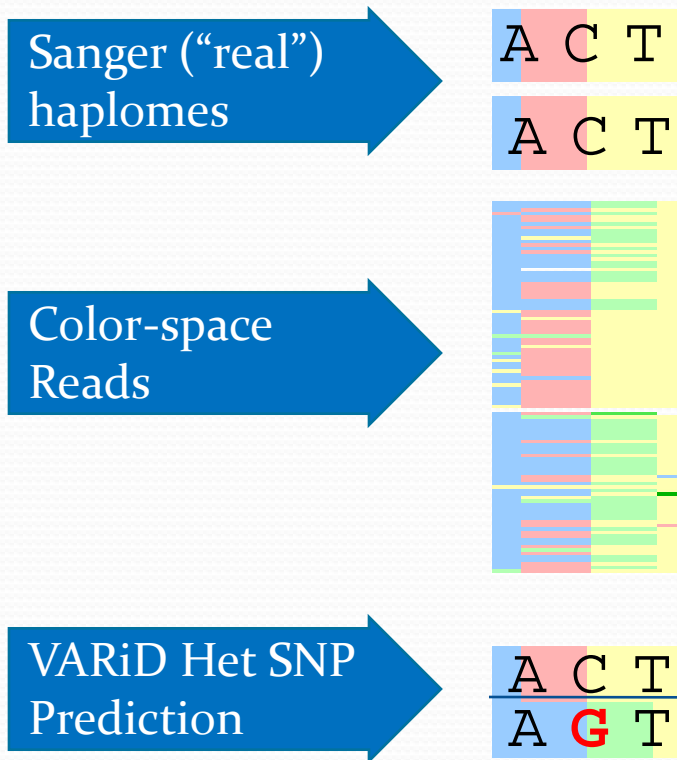
#### Examples (~25000 bp)

	NA19137		NA18504	
	TP	FP	TP	FP
VARiD	38 / 44	10	54 / 65	7
Corona	39 / 44	10	55 / 65	10

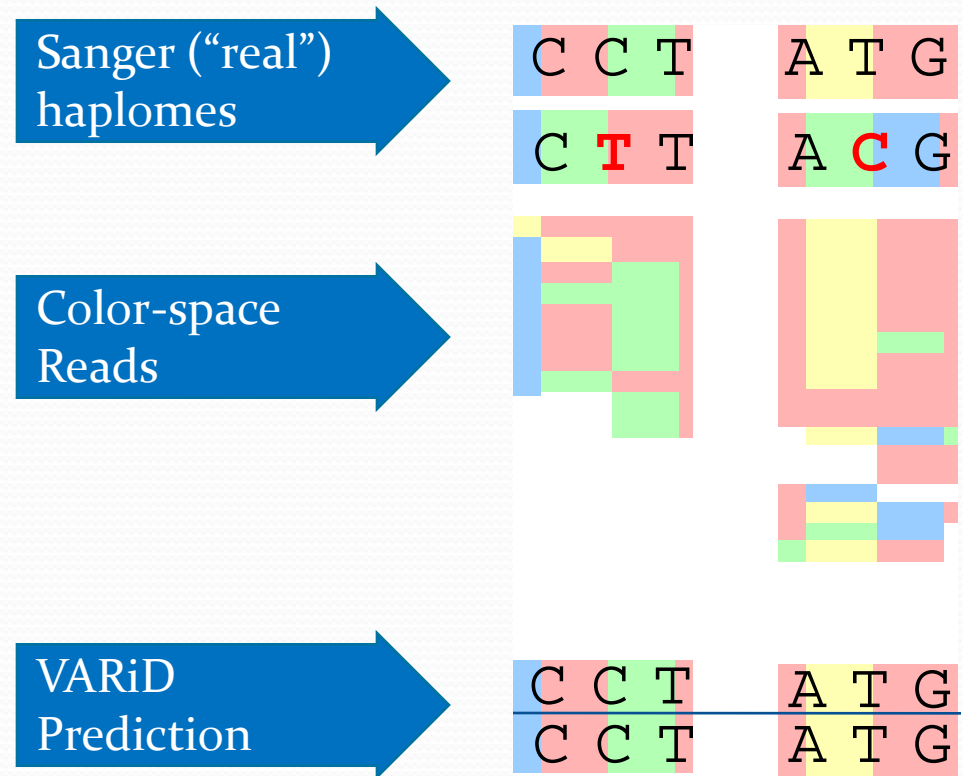




Example of False Positive



Example of False Negative (missed call)



Motivation

Methods

Results

## Advantages

take advantage of both Color-space and Letter-space reads

**Adjacent SNPs, short indels**

Quicker breath.



## Summary of VARiD

- Treats color-space and letter-space together in the same framework
  - no translation – take advantage of each technology’s properties
  - fully probabilistic
- Handles adjacent SNPs

### Example

reference CAAG translates to C102

donor CTTG translates to C201

Looks like 2 sequencing errors.  
VARiD can detect the 2 SNPs

# VARiD

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**Find us @ the poster session: U61.**  
Monday (June 29) evening

**VARiD website**  
<http://compbio.cs.utoronto.ca/varid>

**Thank you:**  
Sam Levy at JCVI  
NSERC

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# VARiD

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