

# High Throughput Transcriptomics (HTTr) Concentration-Response Screening in MCF7 Cells

*Joshua A. Harrill, Ph.D.*



# Conflict of Interest Statement

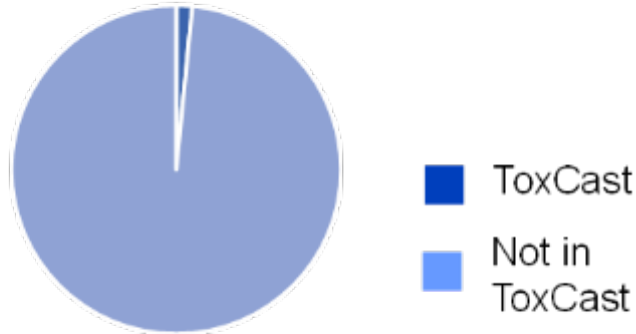
- No conflict of interest declared.
- Disclaimers:
  - The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the USEPA.
  - This presentation does not necessarily reflect USEPA policy. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation for use by USEPA.

# Outline

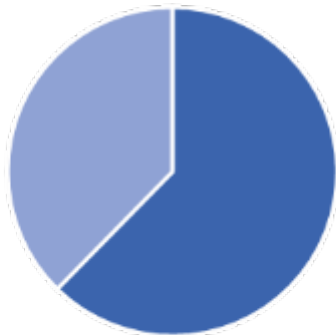
- Background & Objectives
- HTTr Pilot Experiment
  - Optimization Steps
  - Attenuation
  - Experimental Layout
- Results
  - Assay Performance Metrics
  - Concentration-Response Modeling
- Current Activities & Future Directions

# Background

## Gene Coverage



## Pathway Coverage\*



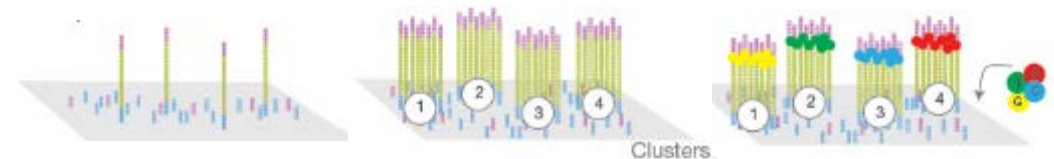
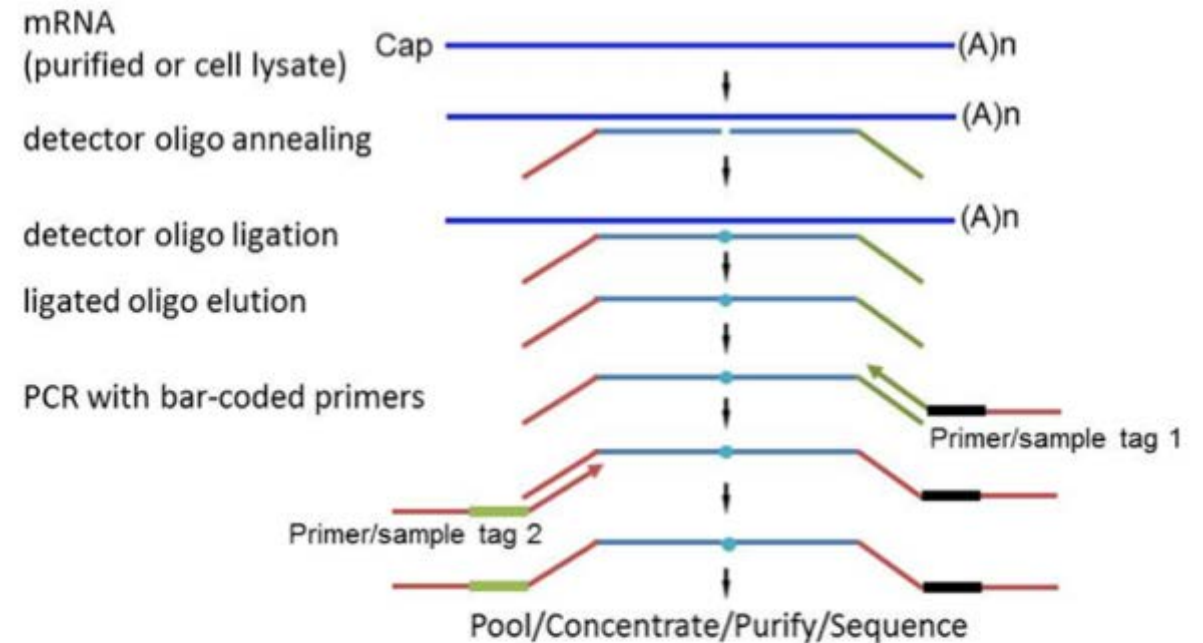
\*At least one gene from pathway represented

- ToxCast assays cover about 320 genes.
- Pathway coverage is higher but still leaves large gaps
- Recent technological advances in transcriptomics are very promising for rapid and cost-effective whole transcriptome screening.
- Increase biological coverage by using high throughput transcriptomics (HTTr) as broad-based Tier 0 bioactivity screen.

# BioSpyder TempO-Seq

- Targeted RNA-Seq technology
- Whole transcriptome assay provides output on > 20,000 transcripts.
- Requires very low input (< 10 pg total RNA).
- Performed on “standard” PCR and Next Gen Sequencers.
- Compatible with purified RNA or cell lysates.

TempO||Seq™



# Objectives

- Optimize culture and assay conditions for HTTr screening in MCF7 cells using the TempO-Seq human whole transcriptome assay.
- Perform a pilot experiment with a limited number of chemicals (n=44) in order to:
  - 1) Evaluate TempO-Seq assay performance.
  - 2) Determine the ability of the TempO-Seq assay to detect known biological signatures following chemical perturbations
  - 3) Guide experimental design of larger screening studies.

# HTTr Pilot: Experimental Design

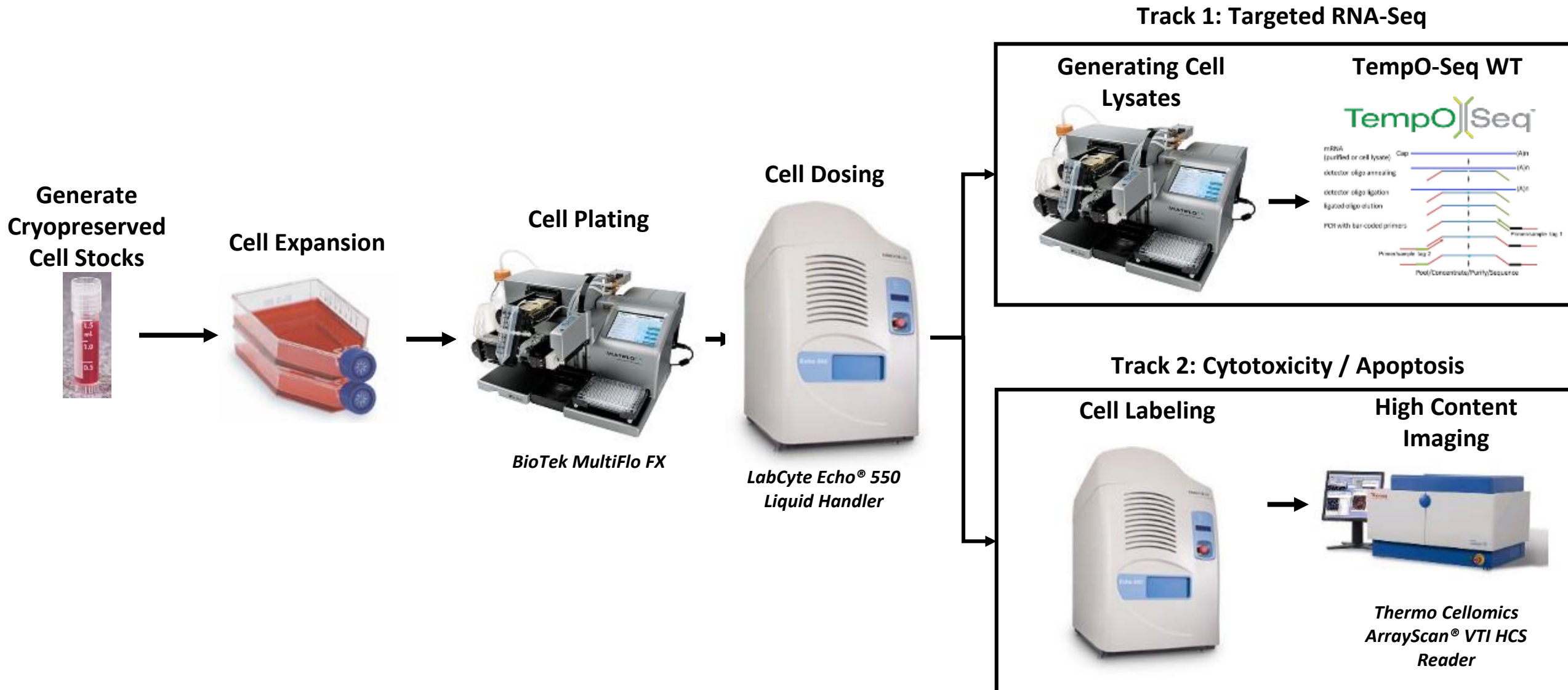
Parameter	Multiplier	Notes
Cell Type(s)	1	MCF7
Culture Condition	2	DMEM + 10% HI-FBS PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS
Chemicals	44	see subsequent slides
Time Points:	3	6, 12, 24 hours
Assay Formats:	3	TempO-Seq HCl-Apoptosis HCl-Cytotoxicity
Concentrations:	8	$3.5 \log_{10}$ units; $\frac{1}{2} \log_{10}$ spacing
Biological Replicates:	4	3 TempO-Seq; 1 Reserve

<sup>a</sup> MCF7 cells cultured in DMEM + 10% HI-FBS was selected as the test system to facilitate comparability to the Broad Institute Connectivity Map (CMAP) database (<http://portals.broadinstitute.org/cmap/>).

<sup>a</sup> Dulbeco's Modified Eagle's Media (MediaTech 10-013) + Heat-Inactivated FBS (Sigma-Aldrich F4135)

<sup>b</sup> Phenol Red Free Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Media (MediaTech 17-205) + Charcoal-Stripped Heat-Inactivated FBS (Sigma-Aldrich 6765)

# HTTr Pilot: Workflow





# Assay Optimization

- **MCF7 Cell Culture**

- Authentication
- Expansion Protocol
- Media Formulation
- Seeding Density

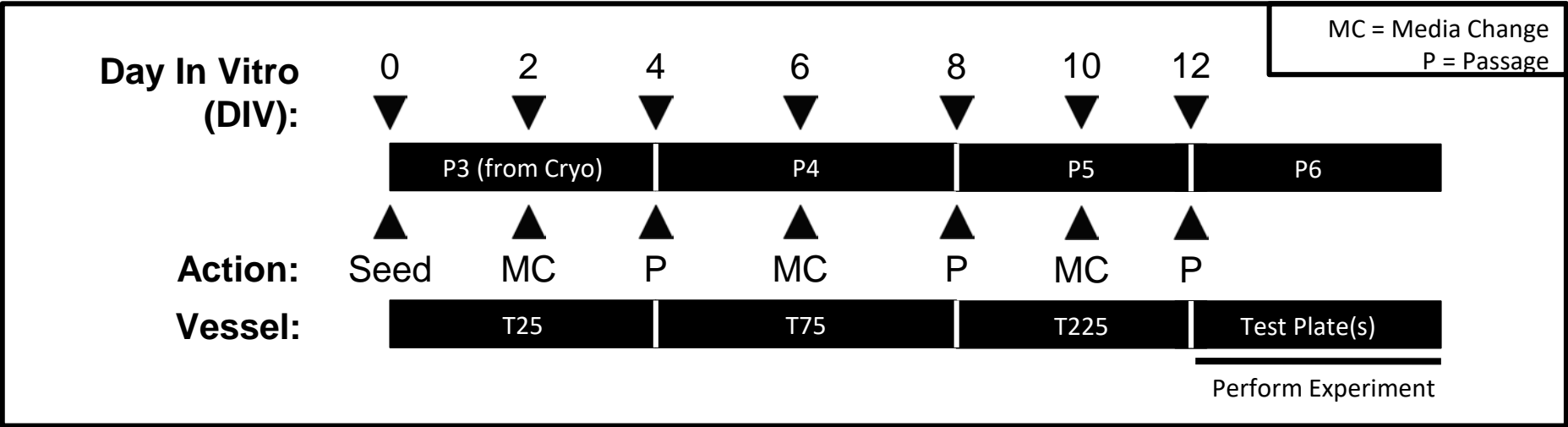
- **TempO-Seq Assay**

- Lysis Conditions
- Attenuation of Highly Expressed Genes

- **Chemical Treatments**

- Concentration Range
- Plate Map Design
- Exposure Duration

# MCF7 Expansion Protocol



- MCF7 Cells authenticated by STR Profiling and karyotyping prior to use in screening studies.

# Media Effects on MCF7 Growth

- DMEM + 10% HI-FBS contains phenol red and an unknown complement of serum factors which may stimulate ER activation.
- Phenol red-free media with charcoal-stripped FBS reduces endogenous estrogen receptor activation.

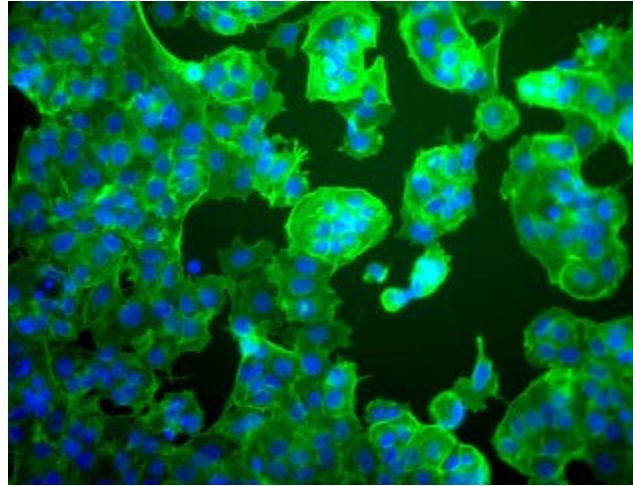
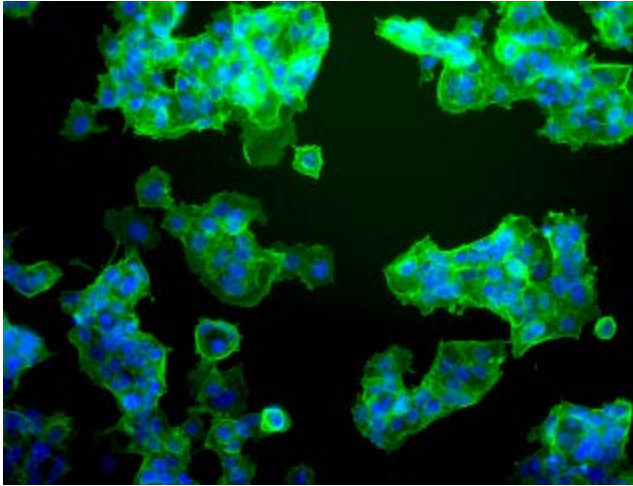
**DMEM + 10% HI-FBS**

**PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS**

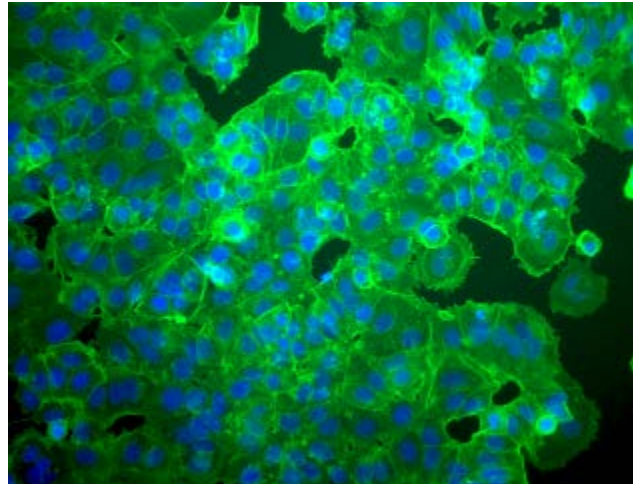
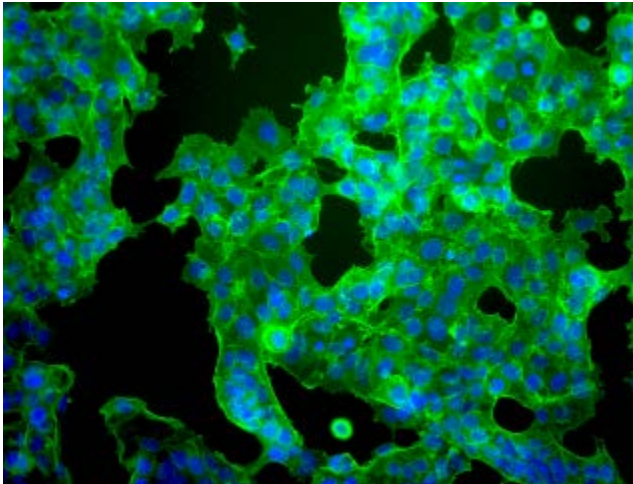
## Qualitative Observations

- More cell attachment and cell spreading with PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS.
- Greater increase in cell confluency over time in PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS.
- More proliferation over time in DMEM + 10% HI-FBS.

**24 HR**

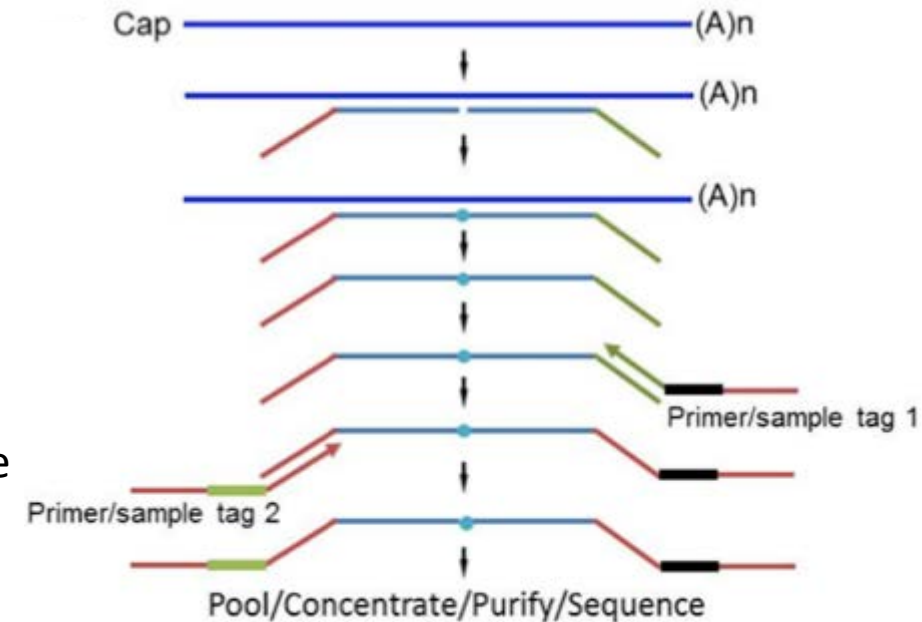


**48 HR**



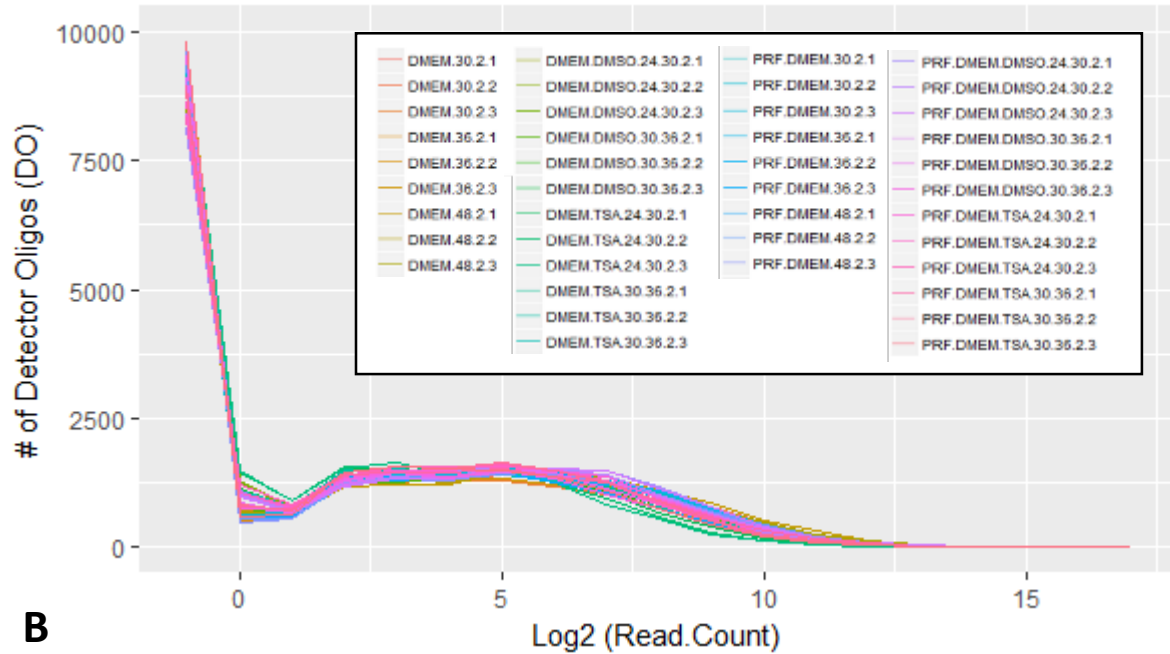
# Attenuation

- A method used with BioSpyder TempO-Seq assay to prevent highly expressed genes from occupying a disproportionate amount of available read space and increase the ability to quantify low abundance transcripts.
- Attenuation is accomplished by adding “cold probes” which do not have the PCR amplification tags at the 5′ and 3′ ends of the ligated detector oligos.
- The attenuation probe will bind to the same site as the detector oligos, thus decreasing the amount of the target RNA species available for PCR amplification.
- A “standard” attenuation for ribosomal RNAs is applied to TempO-Seq whole transcriptome assays.
- For additional attenuation, the end user must define:
  - The set of genes to be attenuated, and...
  - What degree of attenuation is appropriate
- **Question(s):**
  - Is additional attenuation needed in the MCF7 cell model?
  - If so, how is the attenuation set defined?



# Distribution of Read Counts

A



B

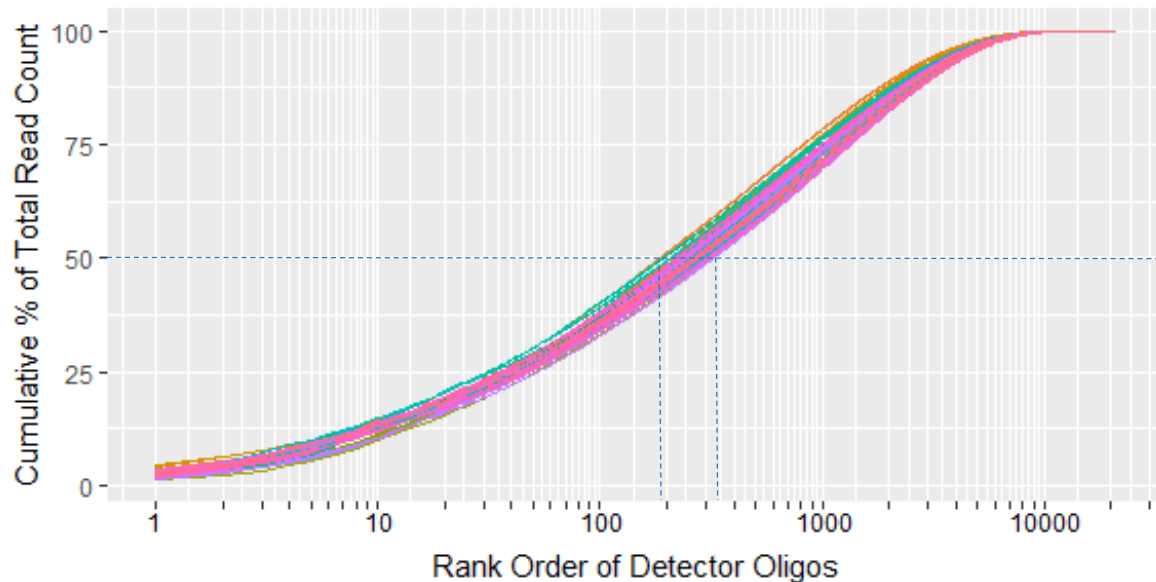


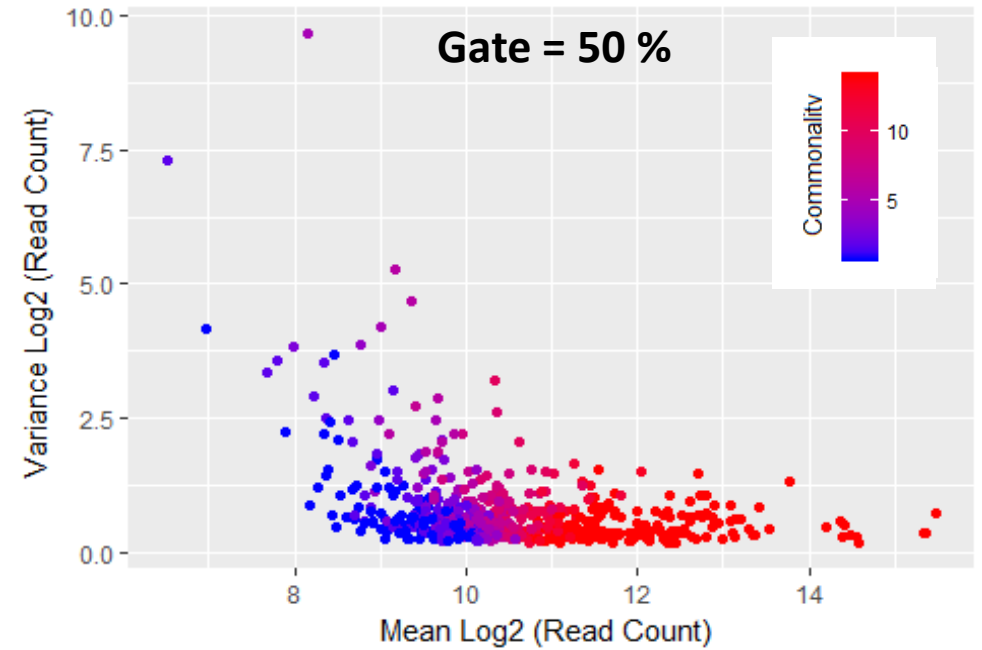
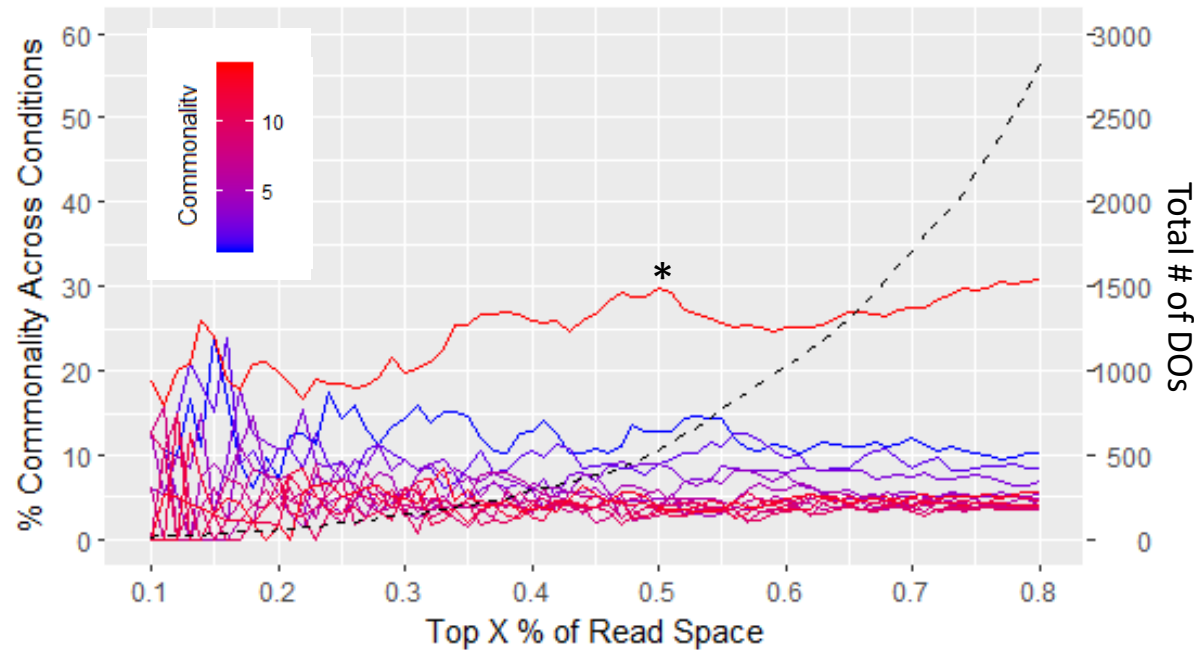
Table 1. Number of DOs Accounting for 50% of Total Read Space, Per Sample Basis

Media Type	Treatment Type	Treatment Time, h	Sample Time, h	Replicate Number		
				1	2	3
DMEM	--	--	30	242	246	186
DMEM	--	--	36	273	220	208
DMEM	--	--	48	238	249	239
PRF.DMEM	--	--	30	276	288	289
PRF.DMEM	--	--	36	268	248	244
PRF.DMEM	--	--	48	240	240	262
DMEM	DMSO	24	30	308	259	269
DMEM	TSA, 1 $\mu$ M	24	30	231	248	253
PRF.DMEM	DMSO	24	30	307	303	322
PRF.DMEM	TSA, 1 $\mu$ M	24	30	273	278	303
DMEM	DMSO	30	36	242	233	249
DMEM	TSA, 1 $\mu$ M	30	36	192	222	208
PRF.DMEM	DMSO	30	36	245	242	232
PRF.DMEM	TSA, 1 $\mu$ M	30	36	220	273	263
Range of DO Counts:				186 - 322		

## Results

- Read count distributions similar across samples.
- Broad range of read counts within each sample (0 - ~32K).
- Within each sample, ~50-60% of DOs with non-zero read counts.
- Between 186 - 322 DOs account for 50% of the available read space (varies with sample).

# Evaluating Commonality of Highly Expressed Genes Across Test Conditions



Using a Gate of 50 % of the total read space (\*):

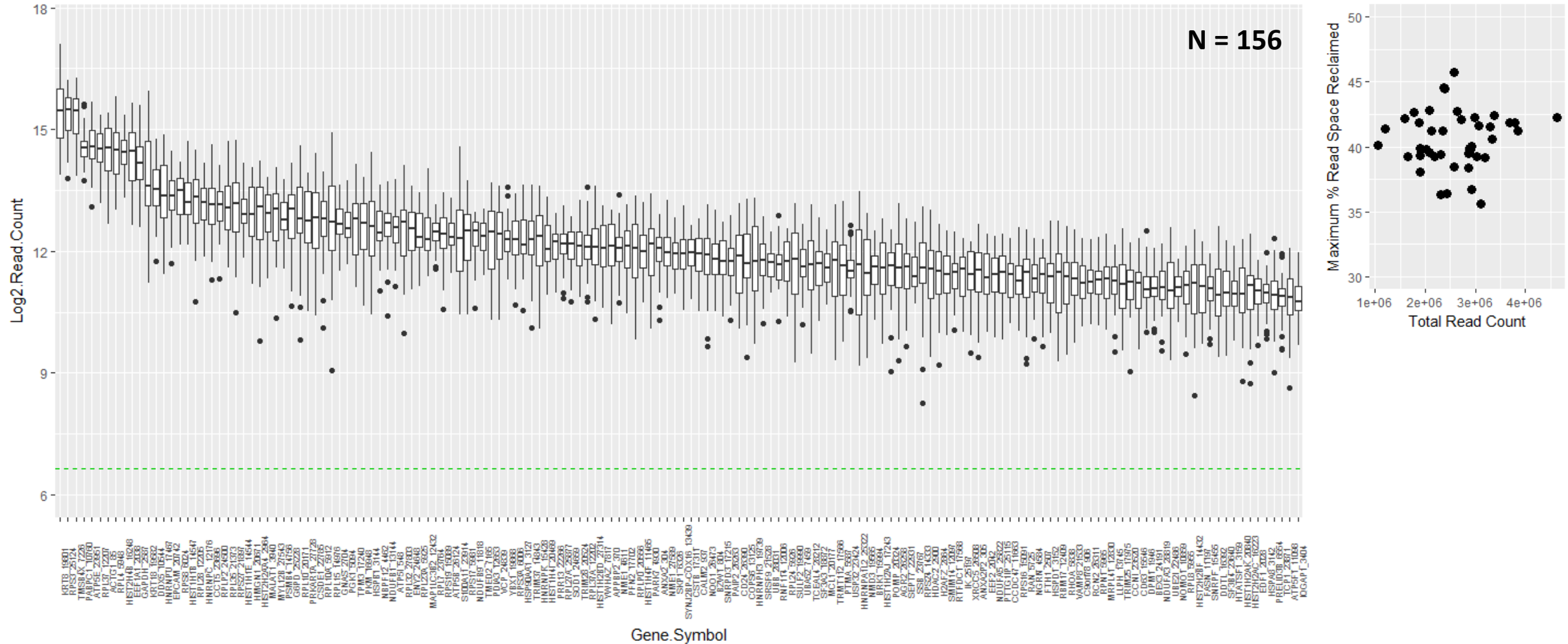
- **Commonality Score = 14:** ~ 30% of the DOs are identified as “highly-expressed” in all 14 test conditions (red).
- **Commonality Score = 1:** ~12.5% are identified as “highly-expressed” in only 1 test condition (blue).
- **Commonality Score = 2 – 13:** Varying number of DOs (< 10%) identified as “highly-expressed” in 2 to 13 test conditions.
- **Variance:** Tended to increase in DOs with lower commonality scores.

Conclusions:

- At Gate = 50 %, DOs with Commonality Scores of 14 are consistently identified as “highly-expressed” across all test conditions and have relatively lower variance and higher read counts across all test conditions.
- **N = 156** DOs identified as candidates for attenuation.



# Candidate “Highly Expressed Genes” for Attenuation



- Rank ordered on x-axis by average read count across all test conditions.
- Green line → Raw read count = 100.
- The most highly expressed genes in the attenuation set are “housekeeping” genes.

# HTTr Pilot: Chemical Test Set

Chemical Name	MIE Family	Chemical Name	MIE Family
Flutamide	ANTIANDROGEN	Rotenone	MITOCHONDRIA (COMPLEX I)
Nilutamide		Fenpyroximate (Z,E)	MITOCHONDRIA (COMPLEX II)
Cyproterone acetate		Trifloxystrobin	
Vinclozolin		Pyraclostrobin	
4-Hydroxytamoxifen	ANTIESTROGEN	PFOS	PPAR
Clomiphene citrate (1:1)		PFOA	
Fulvestrant		Troglitazone	
Atrazine	cAMP INDUCERS / PDE INHIBITORS	Farglitazar	
Cyanazine		Lactofen	PPO INHIBITOR / PPAR
Cladribine	CYTOTOXICANTS	Fomesafen	PPO INHIBITOR
Cycloheximide		Butafenacil	
Bisphenol A	ESTROGENS	Maneb	SH REACTIVE
4-Nonylphenol, branched		Thiram	
Bisphenol B		Ziram	
4-Cumylphenol		Imazalil	STEROIDOGENESIS
Clofibrate	FIBRATES	Prochloraz	
Fenofibrate		Cyproconazole	
Lovastatin	HMGCR	Propiconazole	
Simvastatin		Tetrac	THR
Bifenthrin	NA+ CHANNEL	3,5,3'-Triiodothyronine	
Cypermethrin		Reserpine	VMAT
Simazine	PHOTOSYSTEM II INHIBITOR	Amiodarone hydrochloride	

- Chemical set covers broad range of mechanistic diversity with redundancy within mechanistic class.

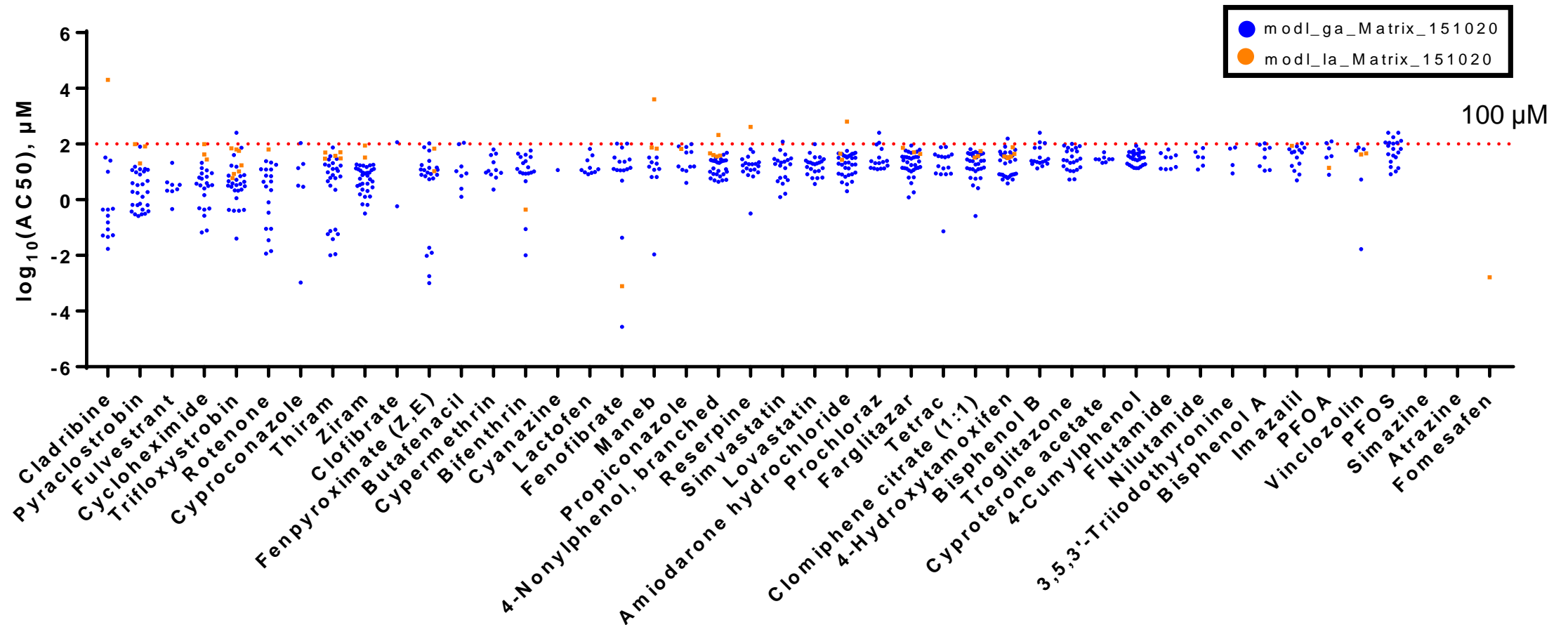


# Dose Range Selection

## Cytotoxicity-Related Assays

Judson et al. (2016)

\*\*Data from INVITRODB\_V2\_SUMMARY\*\*









- Upper bound in testing range set at 100 μM based on upper limit of cytotoxicity range for most chemicals.
- **Final dose range:** 0.03, 0.1, 0.3, 1, 3, 10, 30, 100 μM

# Dosing Plate Layout

DOSING PLATE MAP																									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	A	Ionomycin (30 μM)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	non-treated
2	B	Ionomycin (30 μM)	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	non-treated
3	C	Ionomycin (30 μM)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	non-treated
4	D	Staurosporine (1 μM)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	DMSO
5	E	Staurosporine (1 μM)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	DMSO
6	F	Staurosporine (1 μM)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	DMSO
7	G	Saccharin (100 μM)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	DMSO [No Label]
8	H	Saccharin (100 μM)	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	Trichostatin (1 μM)
9	I	Saccharin (100 μM)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	Trichostatin (1 μM)
10	J	Sorbitol (100 μM)	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	Trichostatin (1 μM)
11	K	Sorbitol (100 μM)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	Genistein (10 μM)
12	L	Sorbitol (100 μM)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	Genistein (10 μM)
13	M	Ionomycin (30 μM) [No Label]	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Genistein (10 μM)
14	N	Staurosporine (1 μM) [No Label]	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	Sirolimus (0.1 μM)
15	O	Saccharin (100 μM) [No Label]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Sirolimus (0.1 μM)
16	P	Sorbitol (100 μM) [No Label]	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	Sirolimus (0.1 μM)

- 44 chemicals in 8-point concentration-response → all on one plate
- Non-treated (n=3) and DMSO (n=3) control wells.
- Three “CMAP” Reference Compounds, single point, in triplicate
- First column reserved for addition of RNA QC samples by NCCT (pre-shipment) and BioSpyder (post-shipment).

	Test Chemicals
	Untreated
	DMSO (vehicle control)
	CMAP Reference
	HCI No Label Controls
	HCI Pos. & Neg. Controls

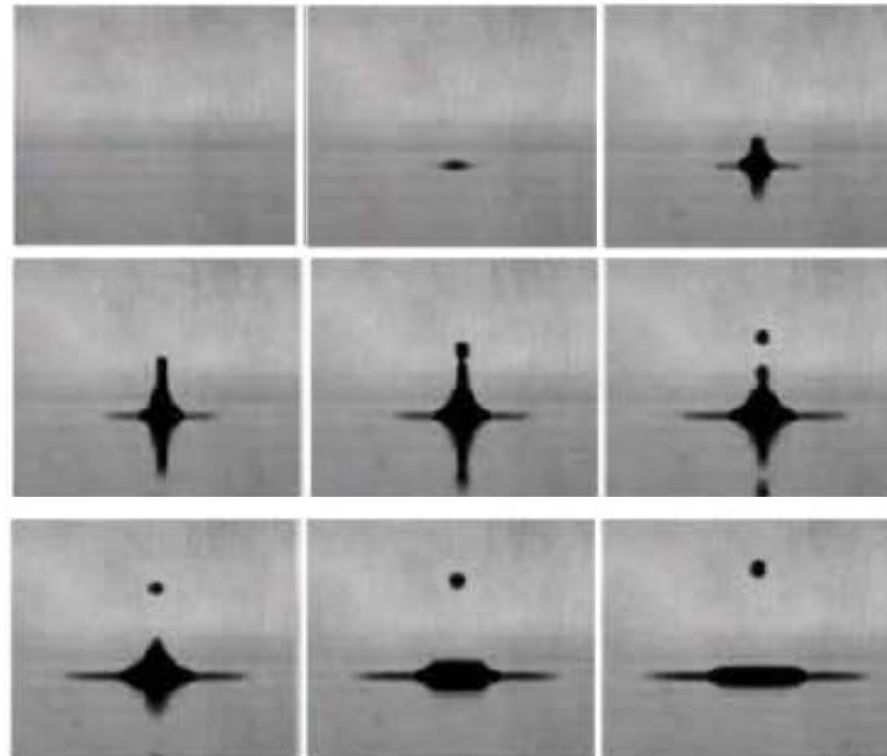
# Dose Randomization using Echo 550

## Acoustic dispensing technology:

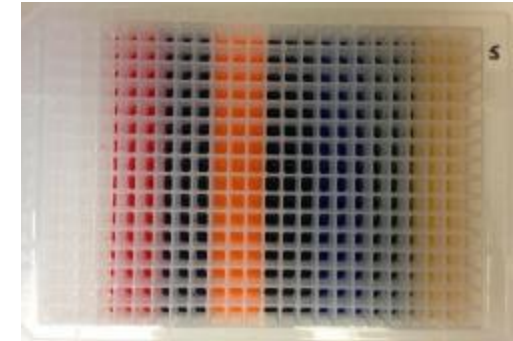
- Uses soundwaves to precisely transfer small quantities of liquid (nL) from source plate to test plate.
- Allows for randomization of test wells → mitigate potential edge effects without “losing real estate.”



**LabCyte Echo® 550**  
**Liquid Handler**



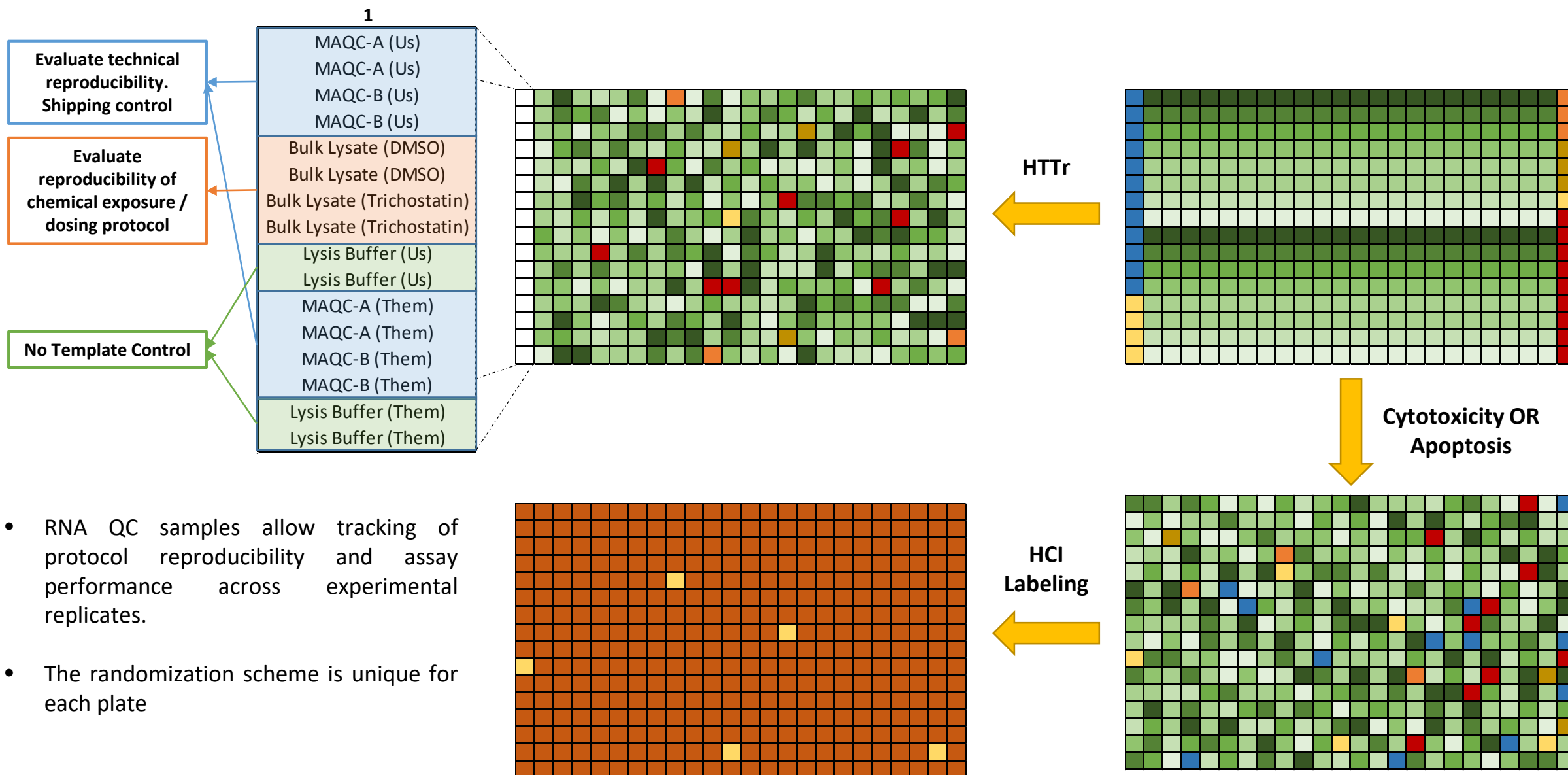
**Source Plate**



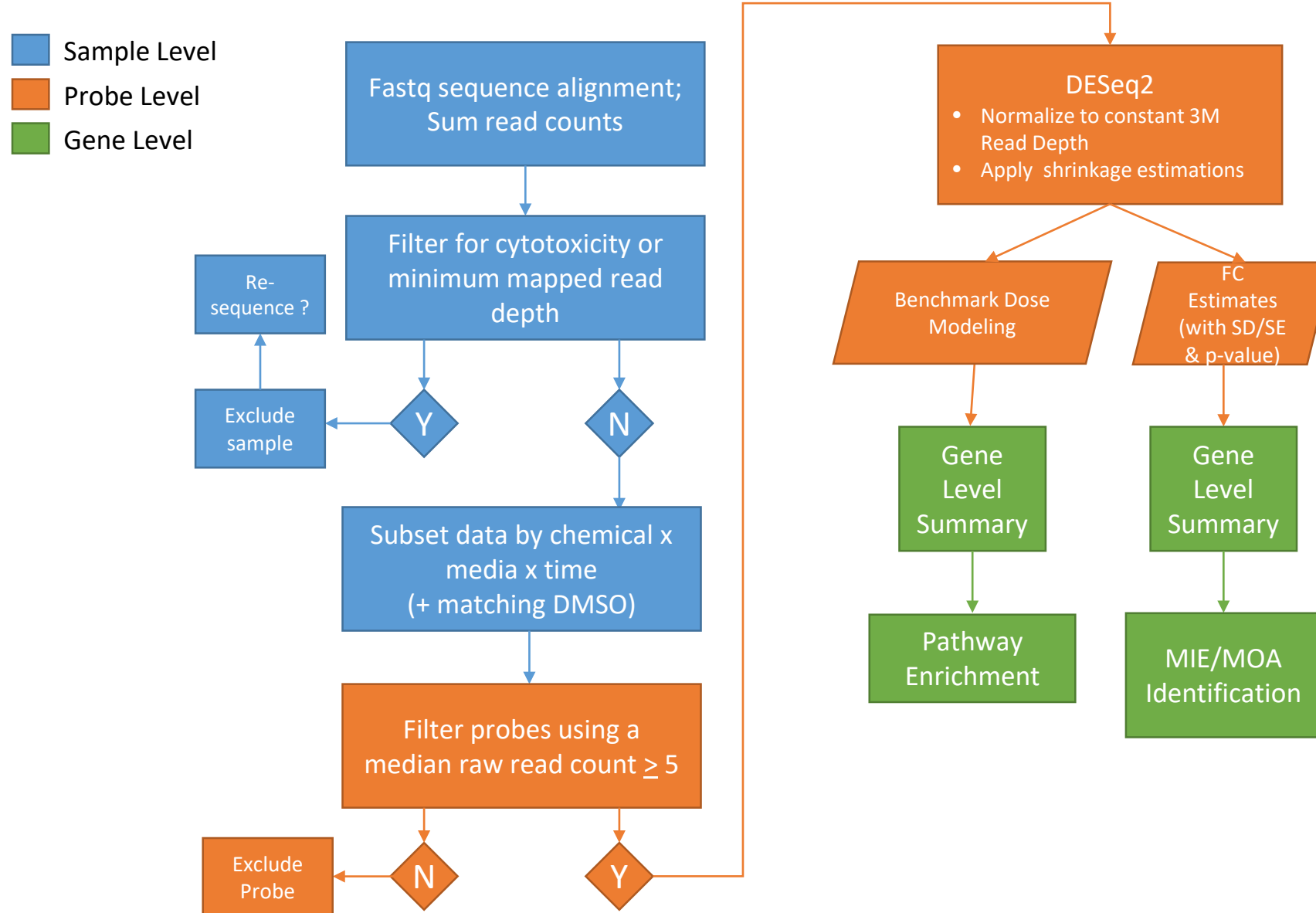
**Test Plate**



# Echo Dispensing



# Data Analysis Pipeline

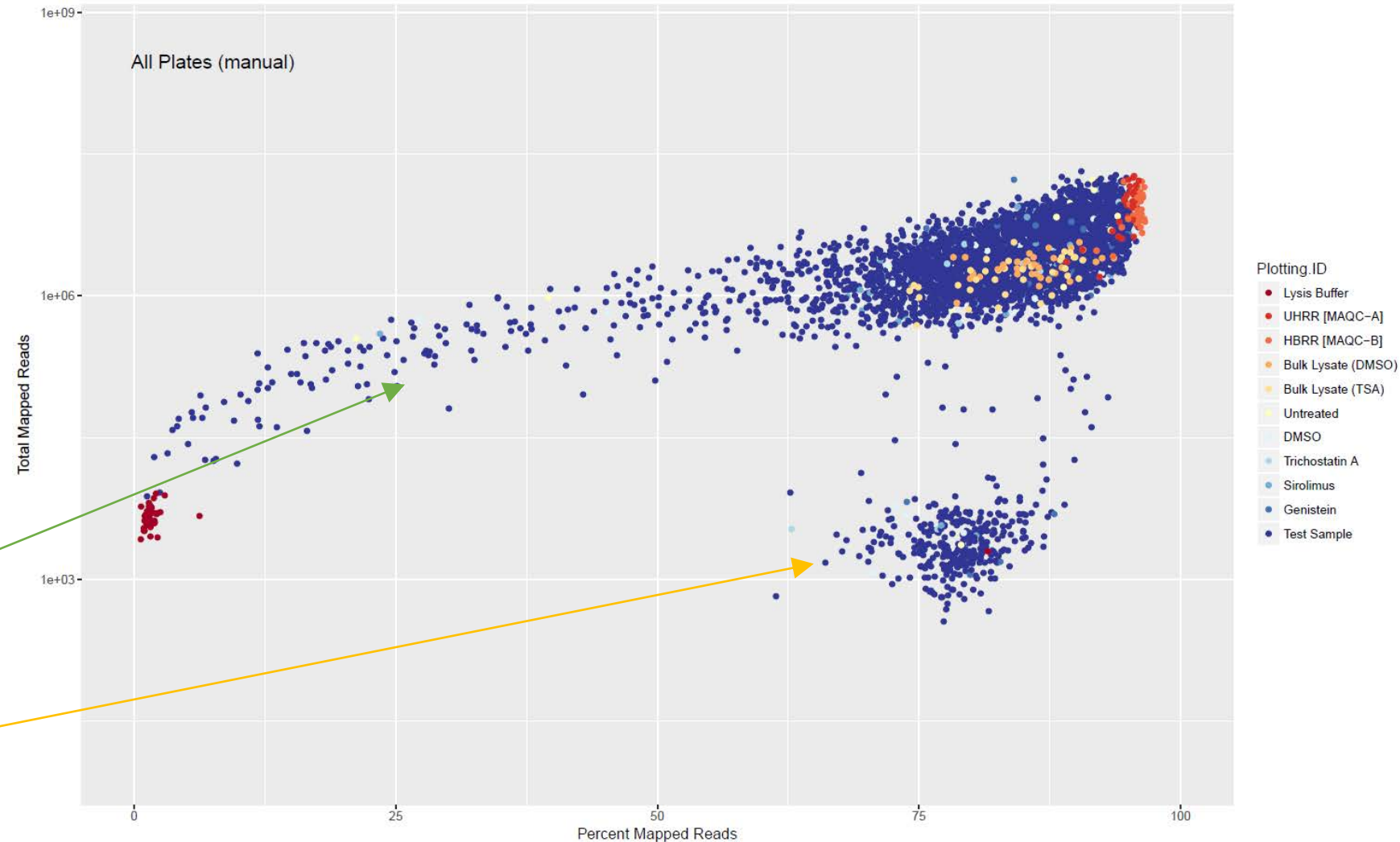


## Assay Performance Metrics

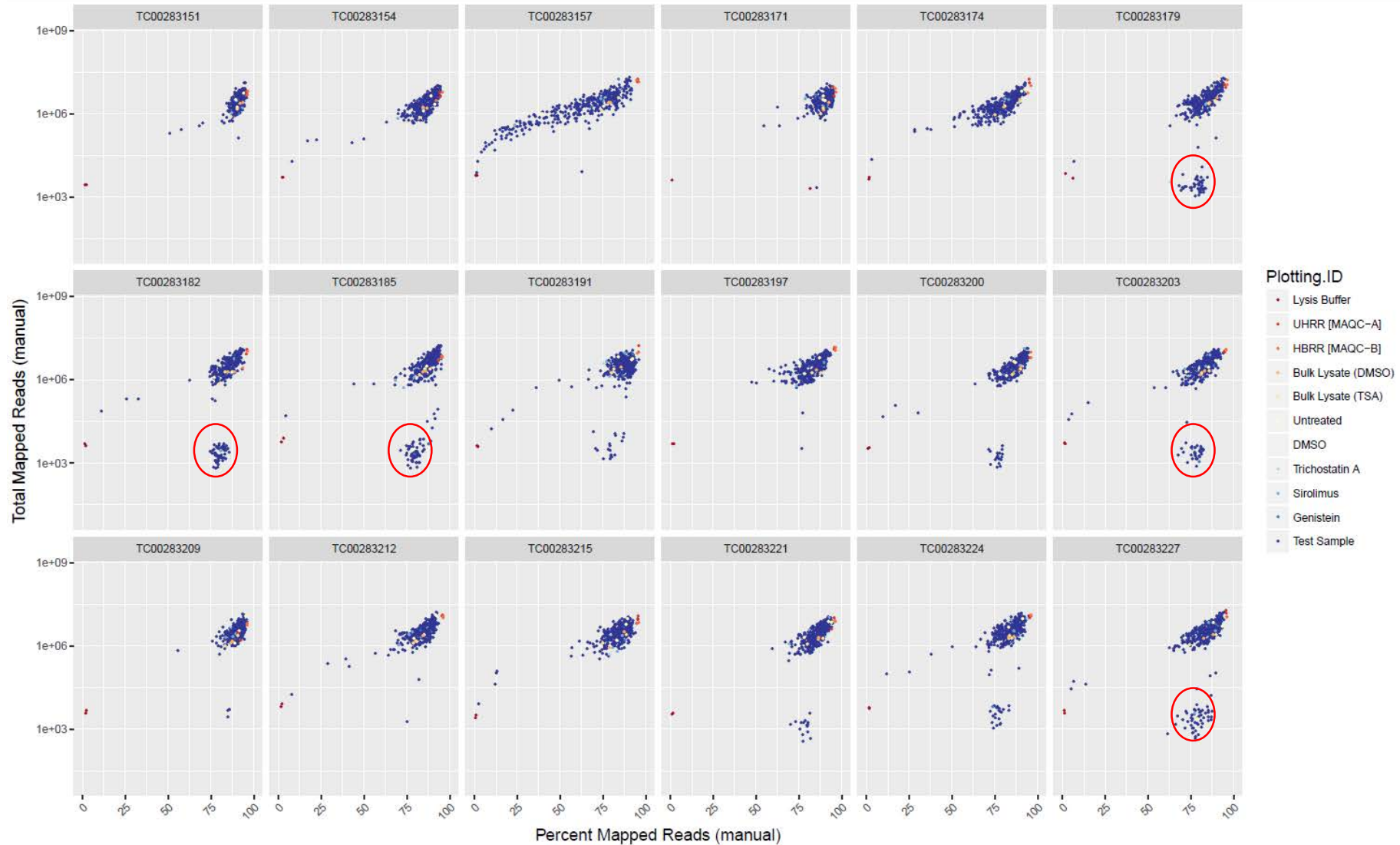
- **Total Mapped Reads vs. Percent Mapped Reads**
- **Correlation and Variation in Technical Replicates [within plate]**
- **Correlation and Variation in Biological Replicates [across plates]**
- **Detection of Biological Signal**
  - Transcriptional Biomarkers
  - Connectivity Mapping

# Total Mapped Reads vs. Percent Mapped Reads [All Plates]

- Average total mapped reads of test samples  $\sim 3.0 \times 10^6$
- Average mapped read count per gene  $\sim 150$
- Percent mapped reads  $> 75\%$
- Lysis Buffer blanks have low total reads, but not zero.
- Purified RNAs clustered at upper left.
- Comet tail ?
- Off-set cluster ?



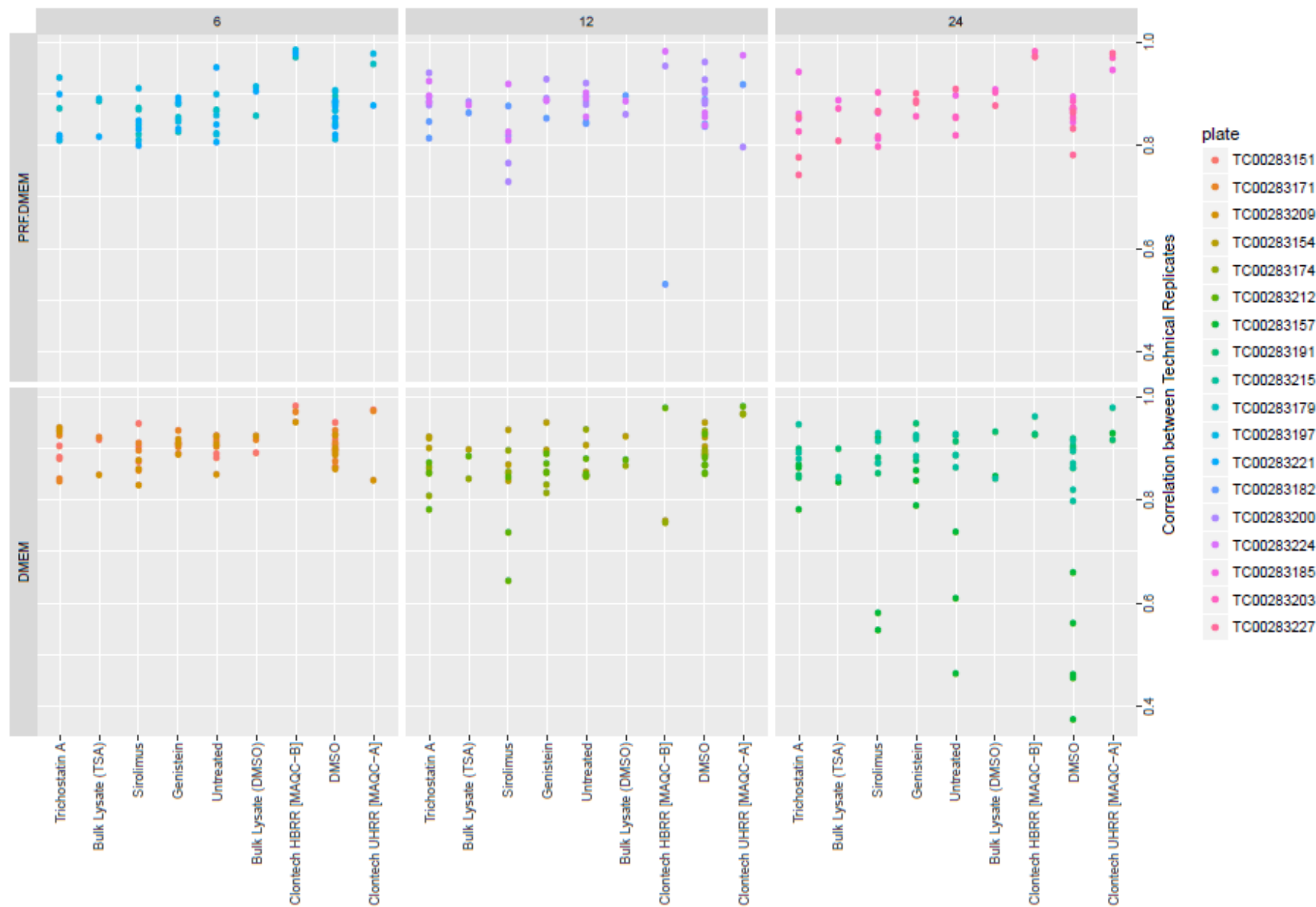
# Total Mapped Reads vs. Percent Mapped Reads [By Plates]



- Comet tail → Due to one “poor performing” plate
- Offset cluster → Low read count samples across many plates (red circles) → Candidates for resequencing.

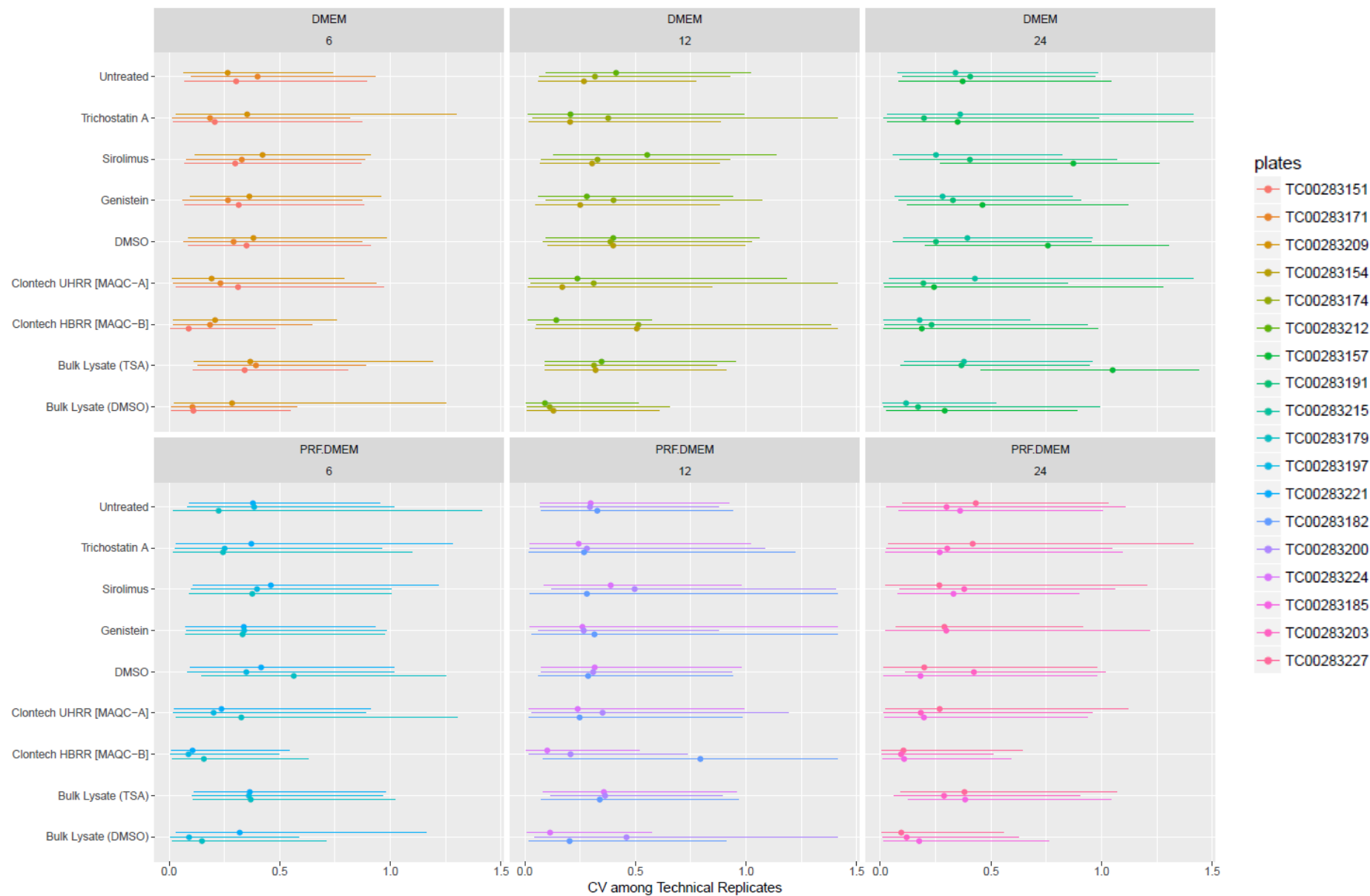


# Correlation Among Technical Replicates



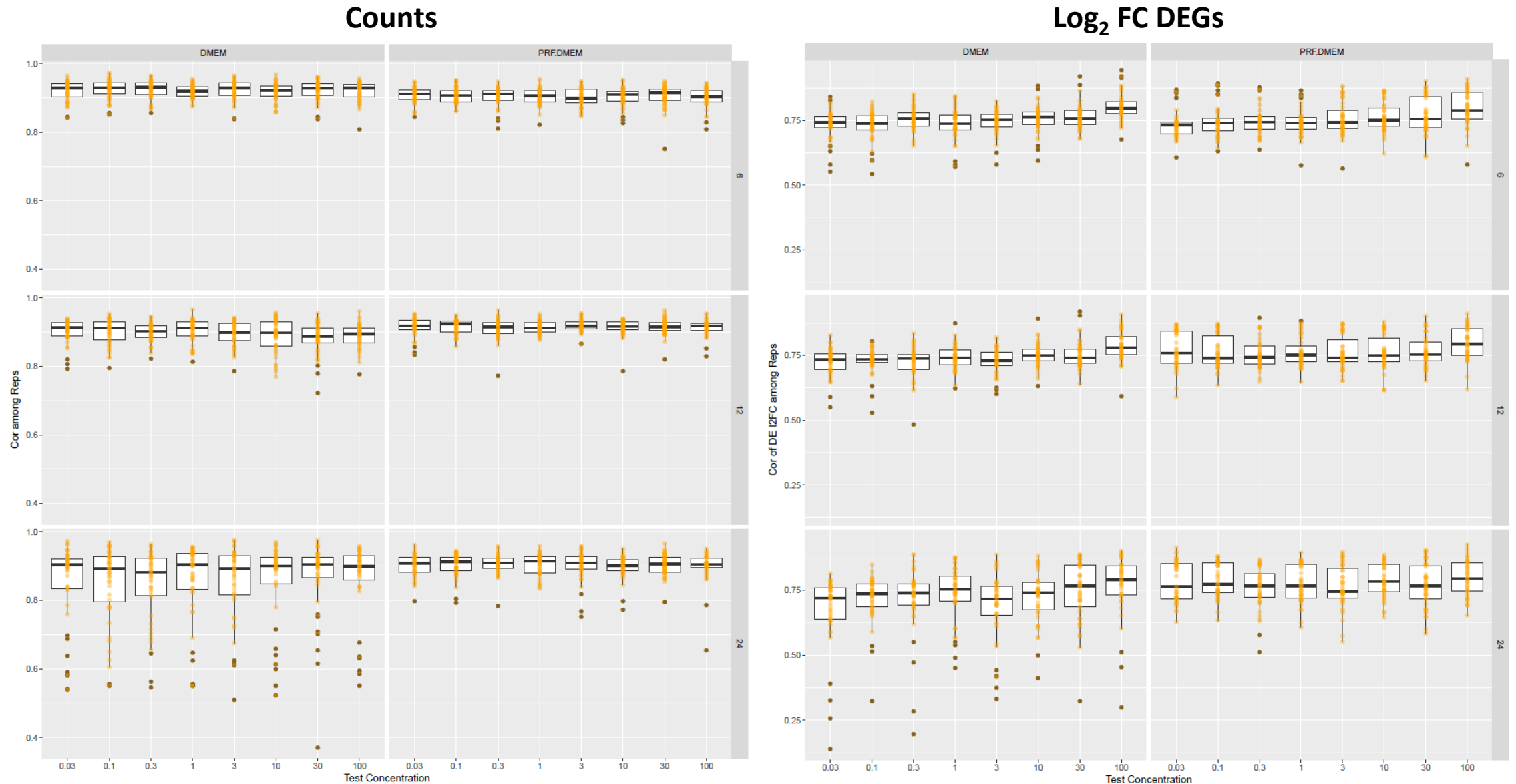
- Correlation among technical replicates is high ( $> 0.85$  %).

# Coefficient of Variation (CV) Among Technical Replicates



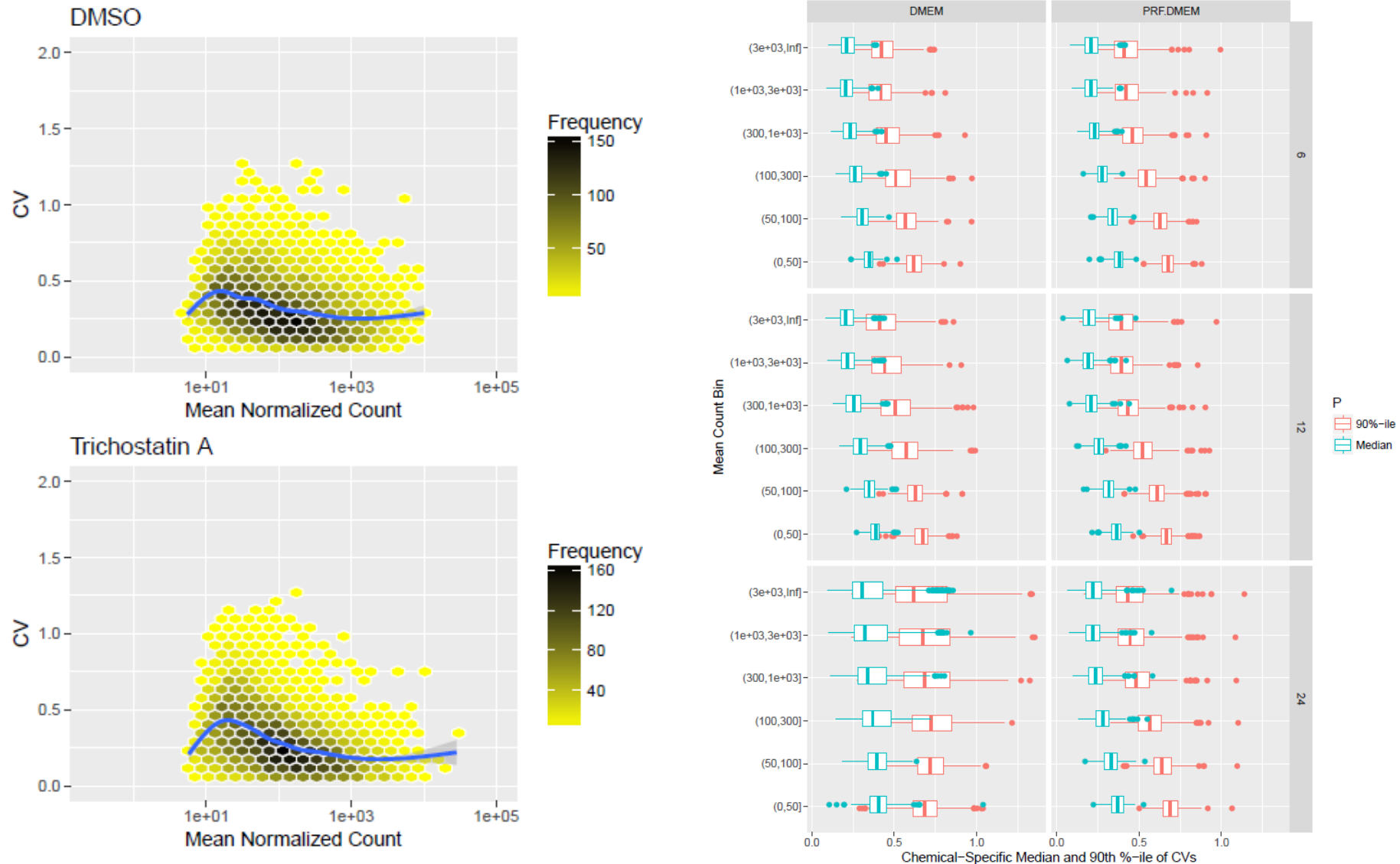
- Coefficient of variation in gene expression values is low (median ~30 %).

# Correlations in Biological Replicates, Stratified by Expression Level



- Correlations of raw counts and log<sub>2</sub> FC of DEGs is high ( $\geq 0.85$ ) for most conditions.

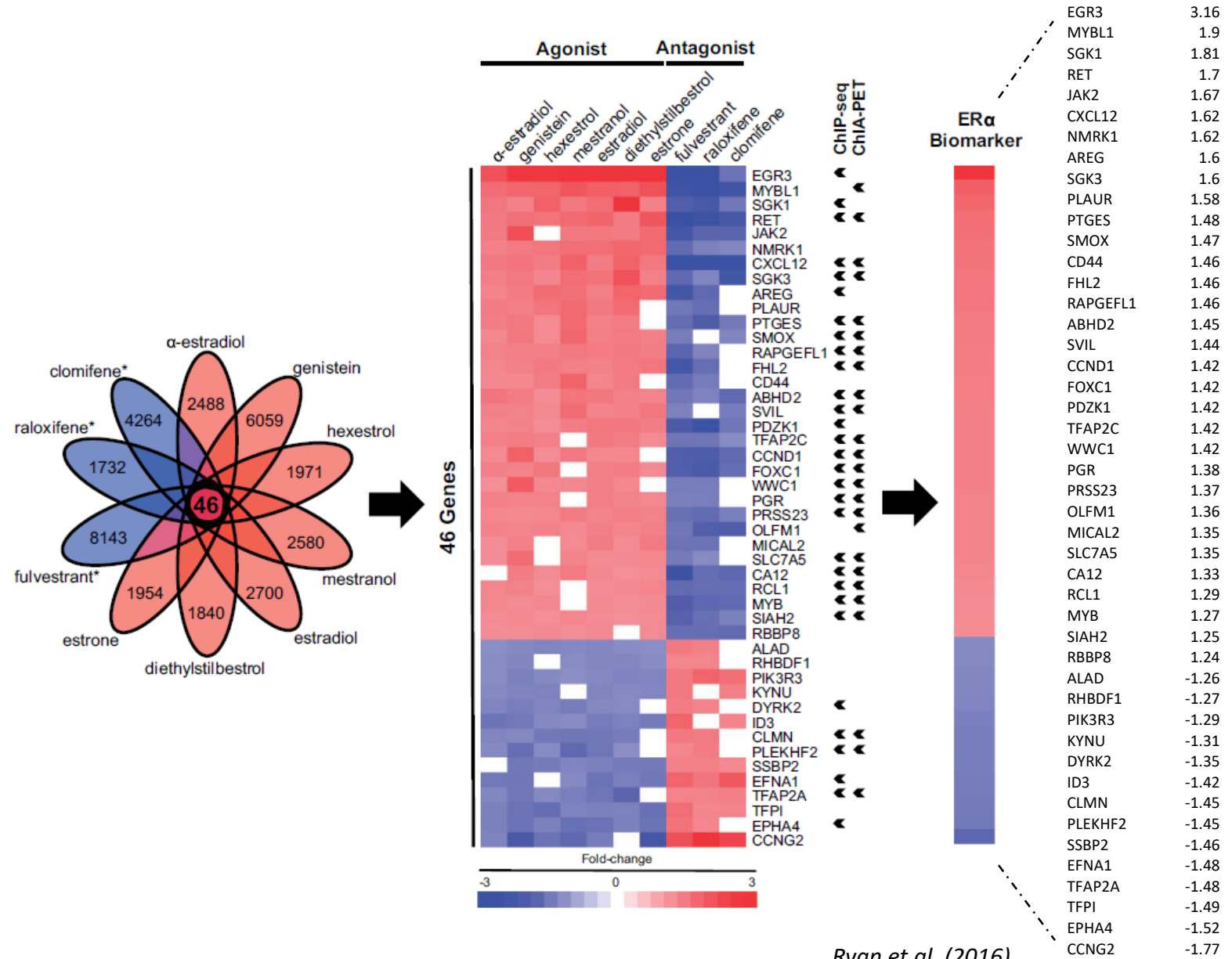
# Coefficient of Variation (CV) Stratified by Expression Level



- CVs decrease as a function of mean expression level.

# ER $\alpha$ Biomarker Signature

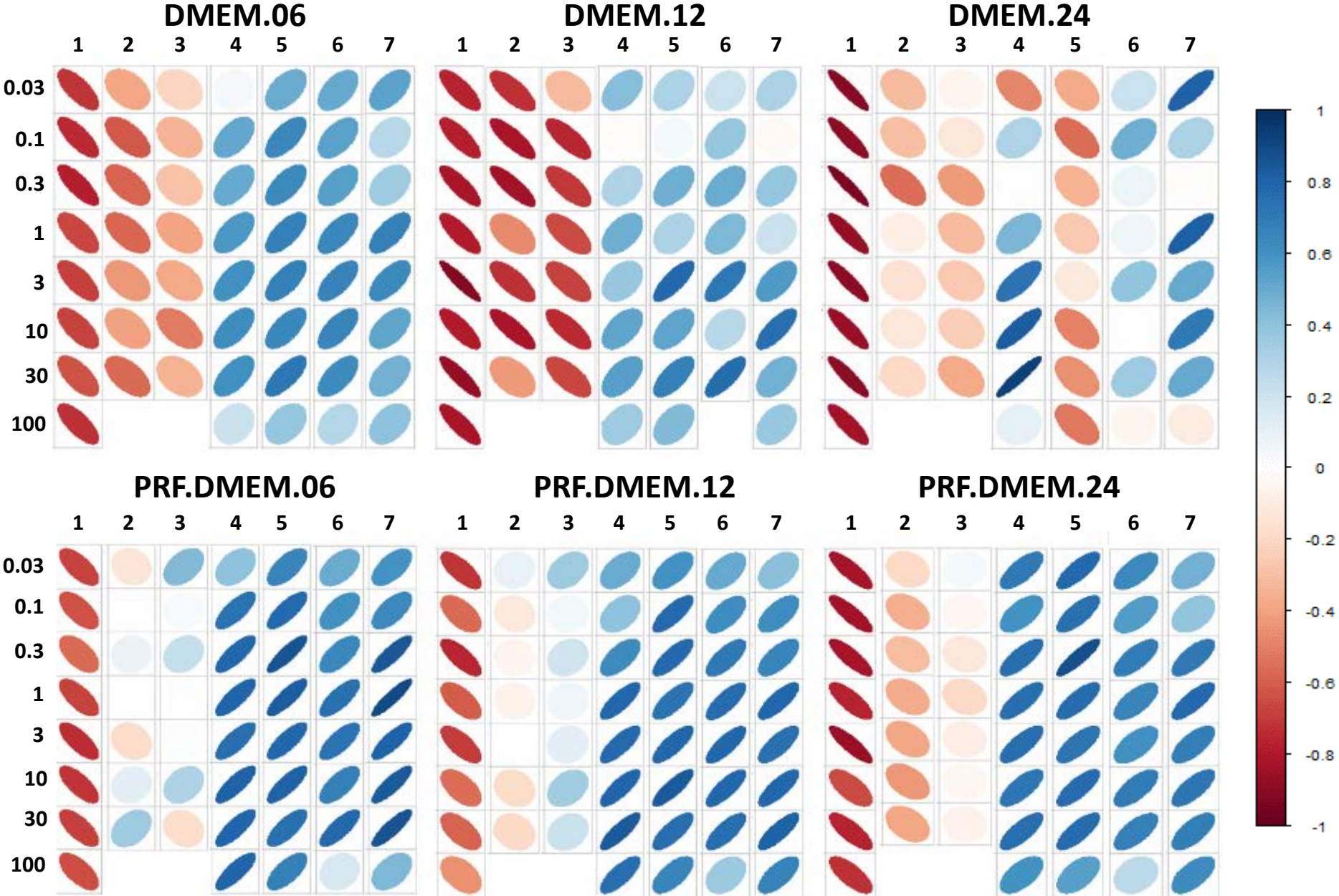
- Biomarker signature determined by treating MCF7 cells with various ER $\alpha$  agonists and antagonists.
- Can we use this to detect biologically meaningful signal in the BioSpyder data?





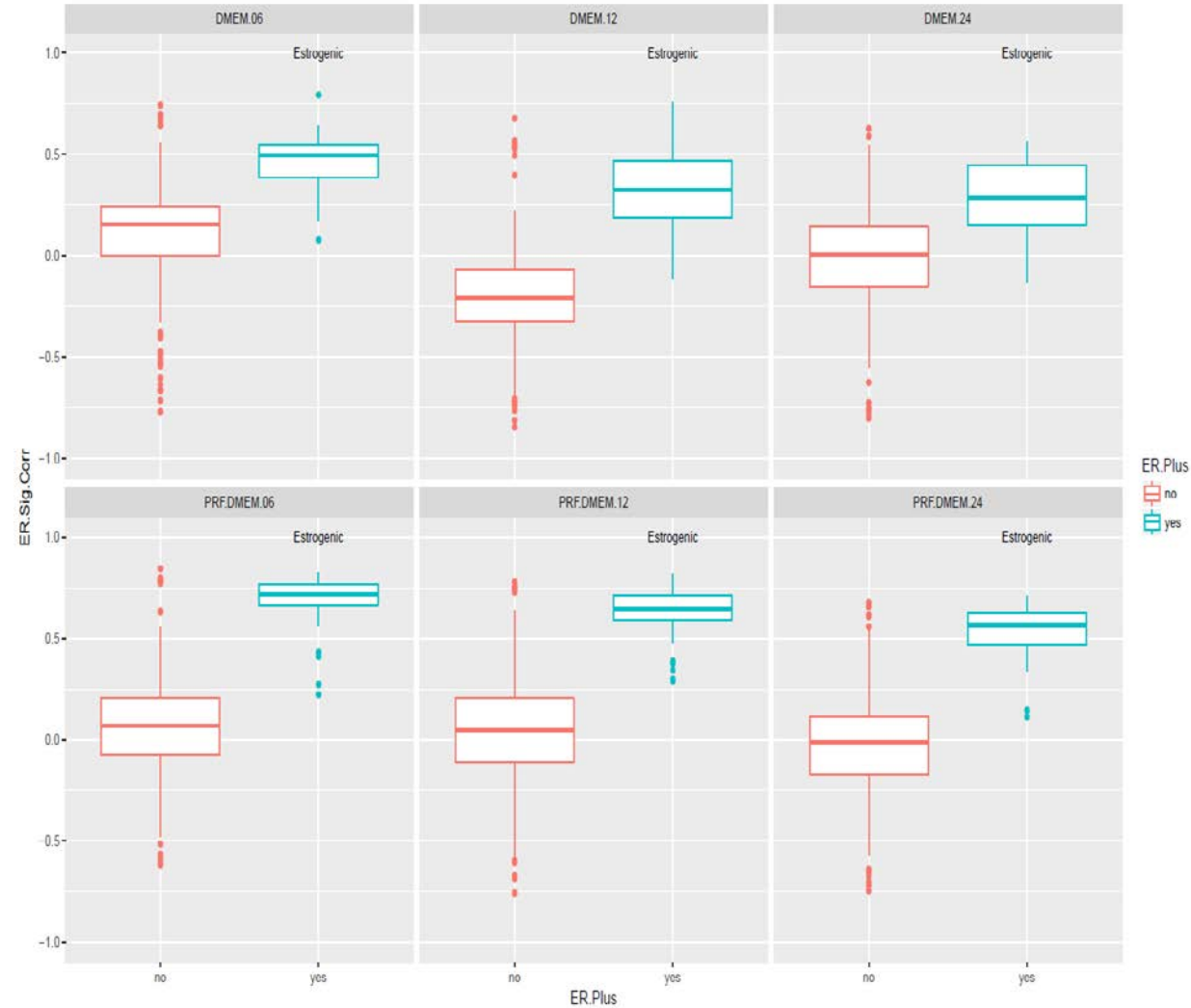
# Correlation with ERα Transcriptional Biomarker

	Chemical	MOA
1	Fulvestrant	Antiestrogen (SERD)
2	4-Hydroxytamoxifen	Antiestrogen (SERM)
3	Clomiphene Citrate	
4	Bisphenol A	Estrogenic
5	Bisphenol B	
6	4-Nonylphenol, branched	
7	4-Cumylphenol	

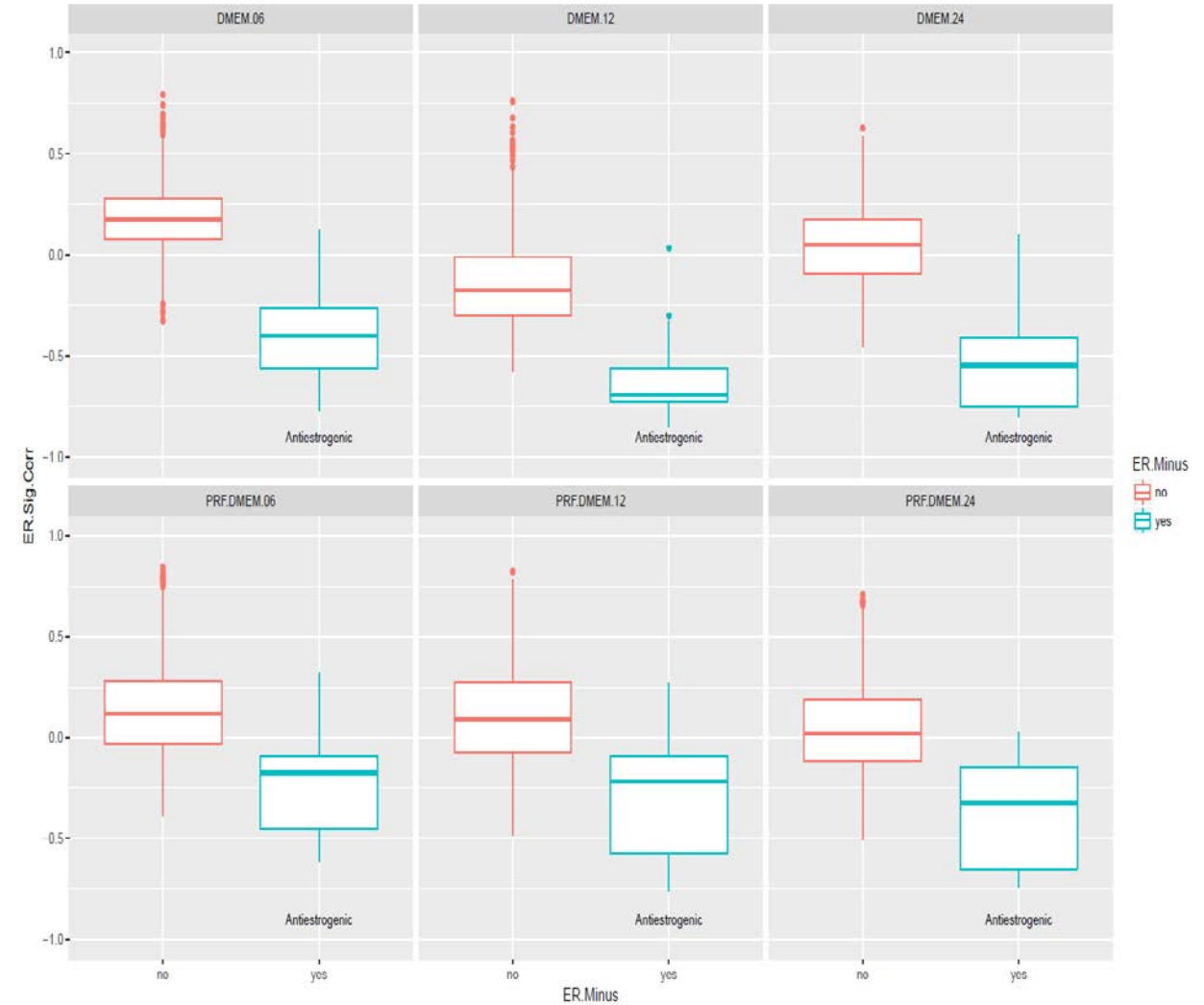


# Correlation with ER $\alpha$ Transcriptional Biomarker - Antagonists

## Agonists

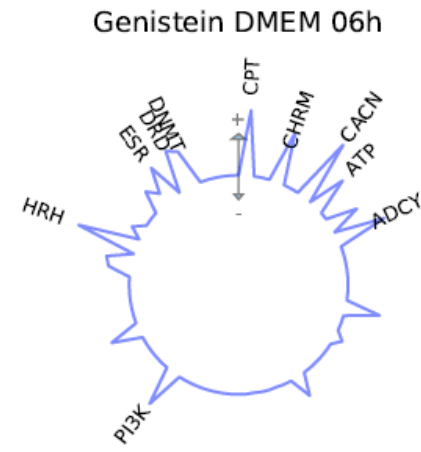
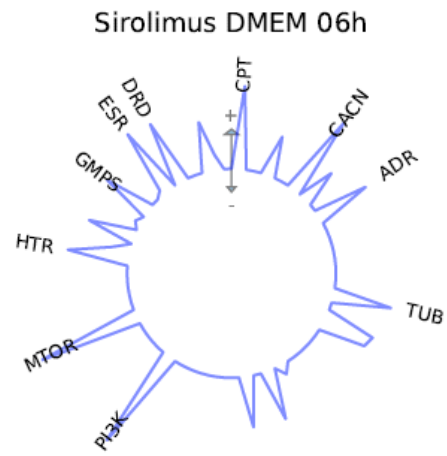
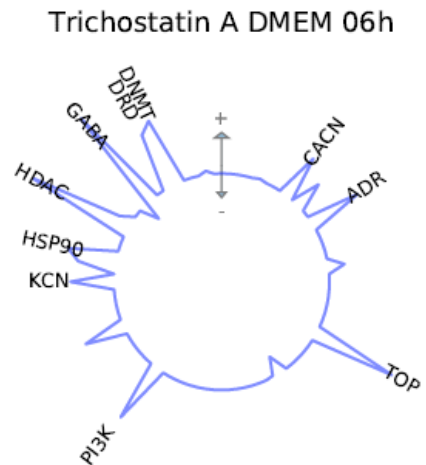
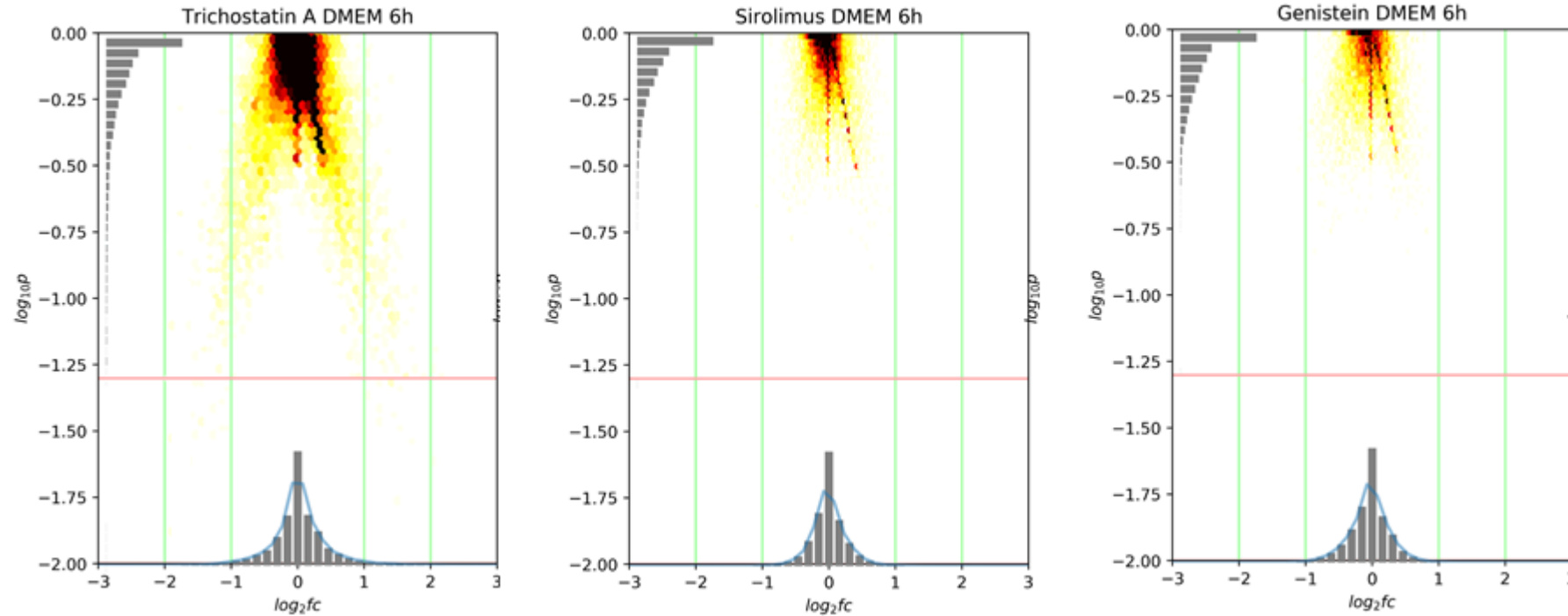


## Antagonists



- The ability to detect ER $\alpha$  antagonists (particularly SERMs) was decreased by use of charcoal stripped serum.

# Connectivity Mapping



- Differential gene expression observed with reference chemicals.
- Putative targets identified using Connectivity Mapping
- Large degree of promiscuity of predicted targets observed.
- Currently evaluating additional methods for MIE prediction



# Benchmark Dose Modeling



Parameter	Criteria <sup>a</sup>
Pre-filter:	ANOVA ( $p_{\text{raw}} < 0.05$ & $ FC  \geq 2$ )
Models	Hill, Exponential 2, <i>poly2</i> , <i>power</i> , <i>linear</i>
BMR Factor:	1.349 (10 %)
Best Model Selection:	Lowest AIC
Hill Model Flagging <sup>b</sup> :	'k' < 1/3 Lowest Positive Dose Retain Flagged Models
Pathway Analysis:	Genes with BMD $\leq$ Highest Dose $\geq 3$ $\geq 5\%$ Gene Set Coverage Fisher's Exact Two Tailed $\leq 0.05$
Gene Set Collections <sup>c</sup> :	MSigDB_C2 MSigDB_H Reactome

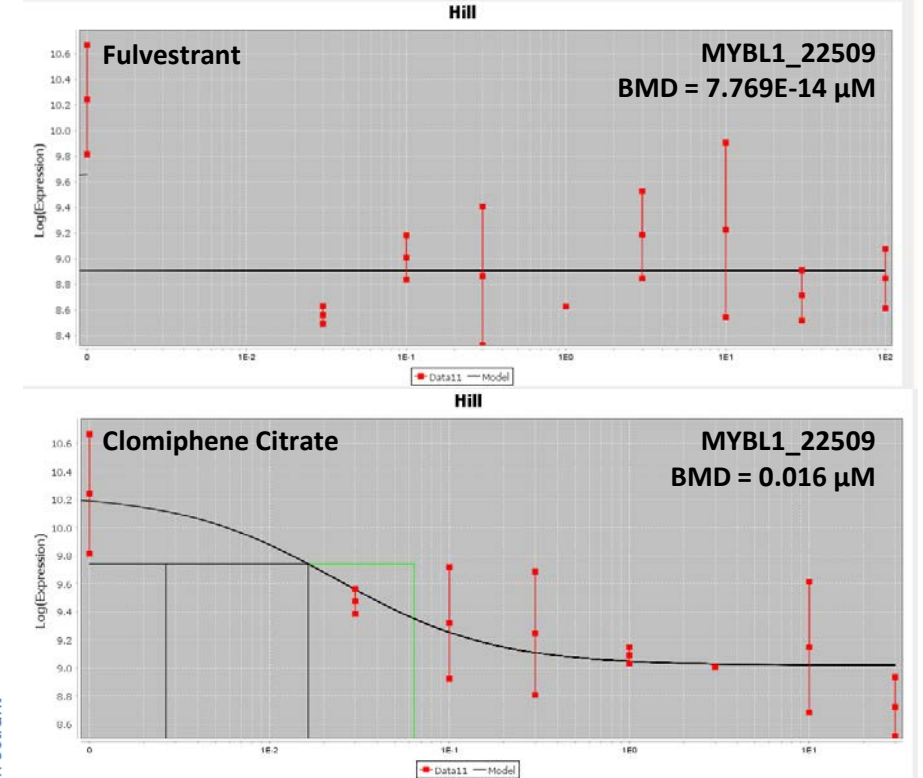
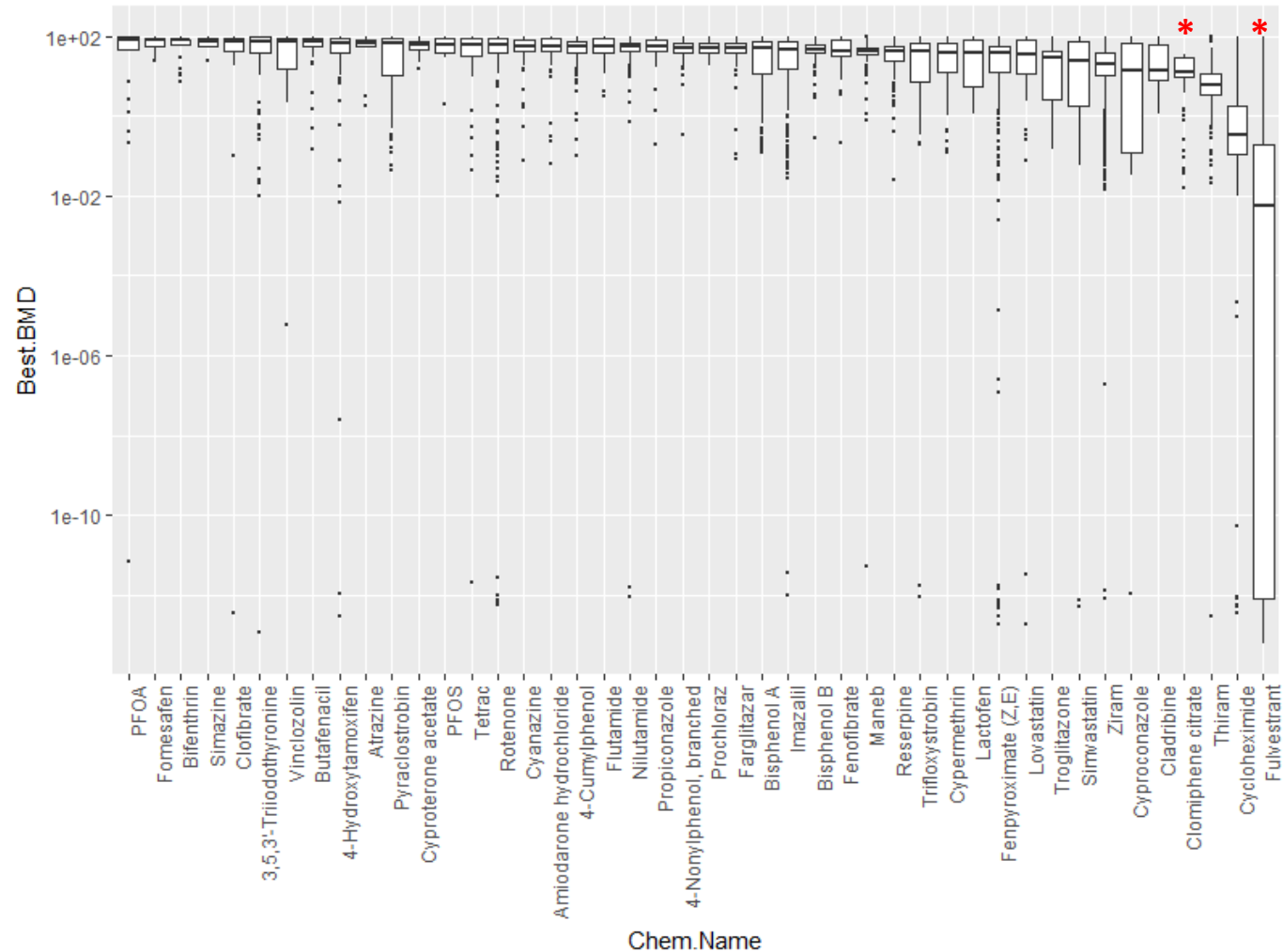
<sup>a</sup> Exploratory analysis – modeling criteria not finalized

<sup>b</sup> Flagged Hill Models were retained to illustrate a specific point regarding concentration range selection

<sup>c</sup> Gene Set Collections:

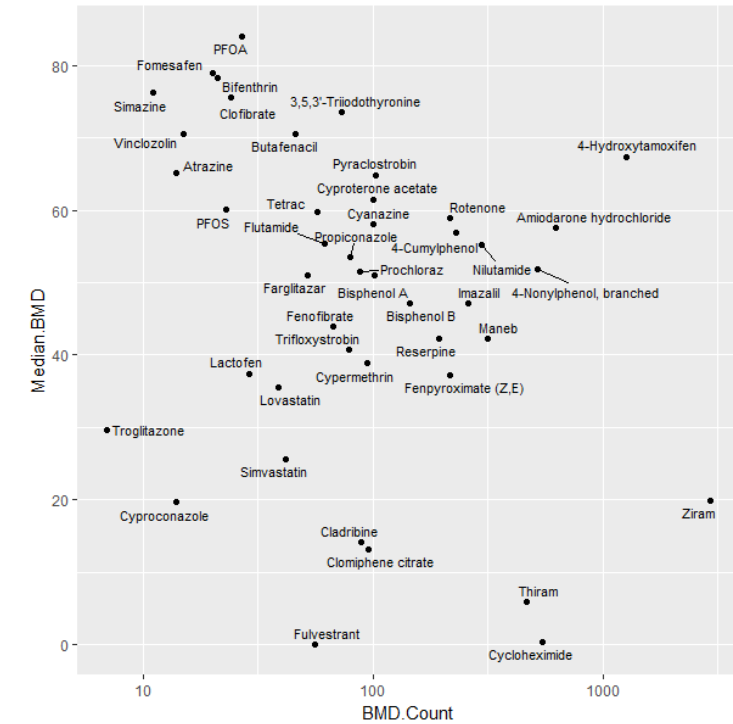
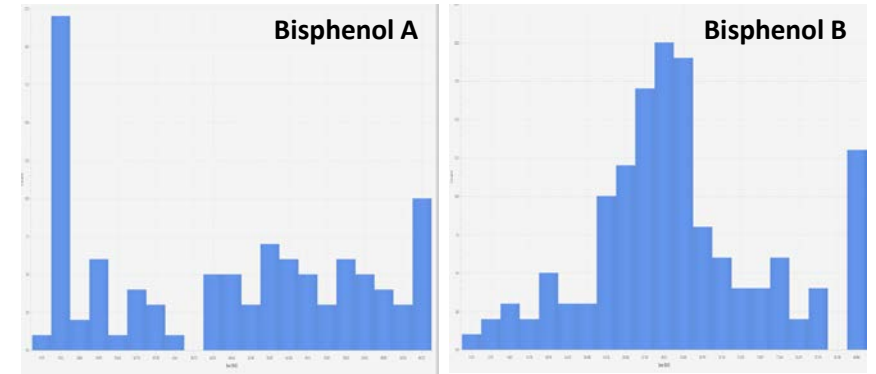
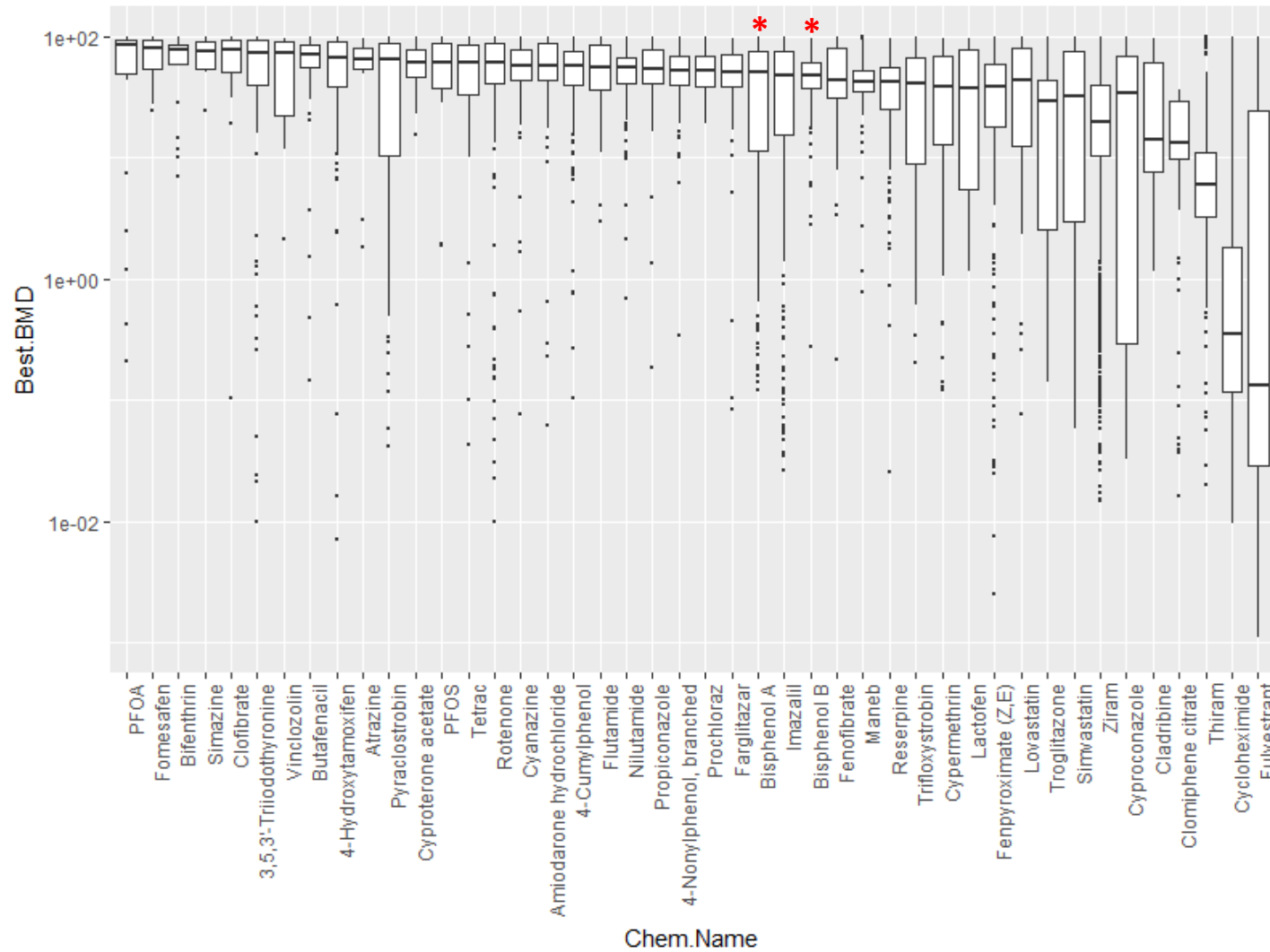
- **MSigDB\_C2:** Curated gene sets from online pathway databases, publications and knowledge of domain experts (n = 4738).
- **MSigDB\_H:** Coherently expressed signatures derived by aggregating many MSigDB gene sets to represent well-defined biological states or processes (n = 50).
- **Reactome:** Open-source, curated and peer reviewed pathway database with hierarchical pathway relationships in specific domains of biology. (n = 1764). Some pathways included in MSigDB\_C2.

# Benchmark Dose Modeling Results



- A high occurrence of flagged Hill fits with unreasonably low BMDs may indicate the concentration range was not low enough.
- Flagged BMDs were observed with low frequency in this dataset.
- The identify of genes with flagged hill models was inconsistent across chemicals. Not driven by DMSO controls.

# Benchmark Dose Modeling Results



- Wide range of chemical potencies at the probe level.
- The distribution of probe level BMDs vary from chemical to chemical.
- No apparent relationship between potency and number of probes affected (?).

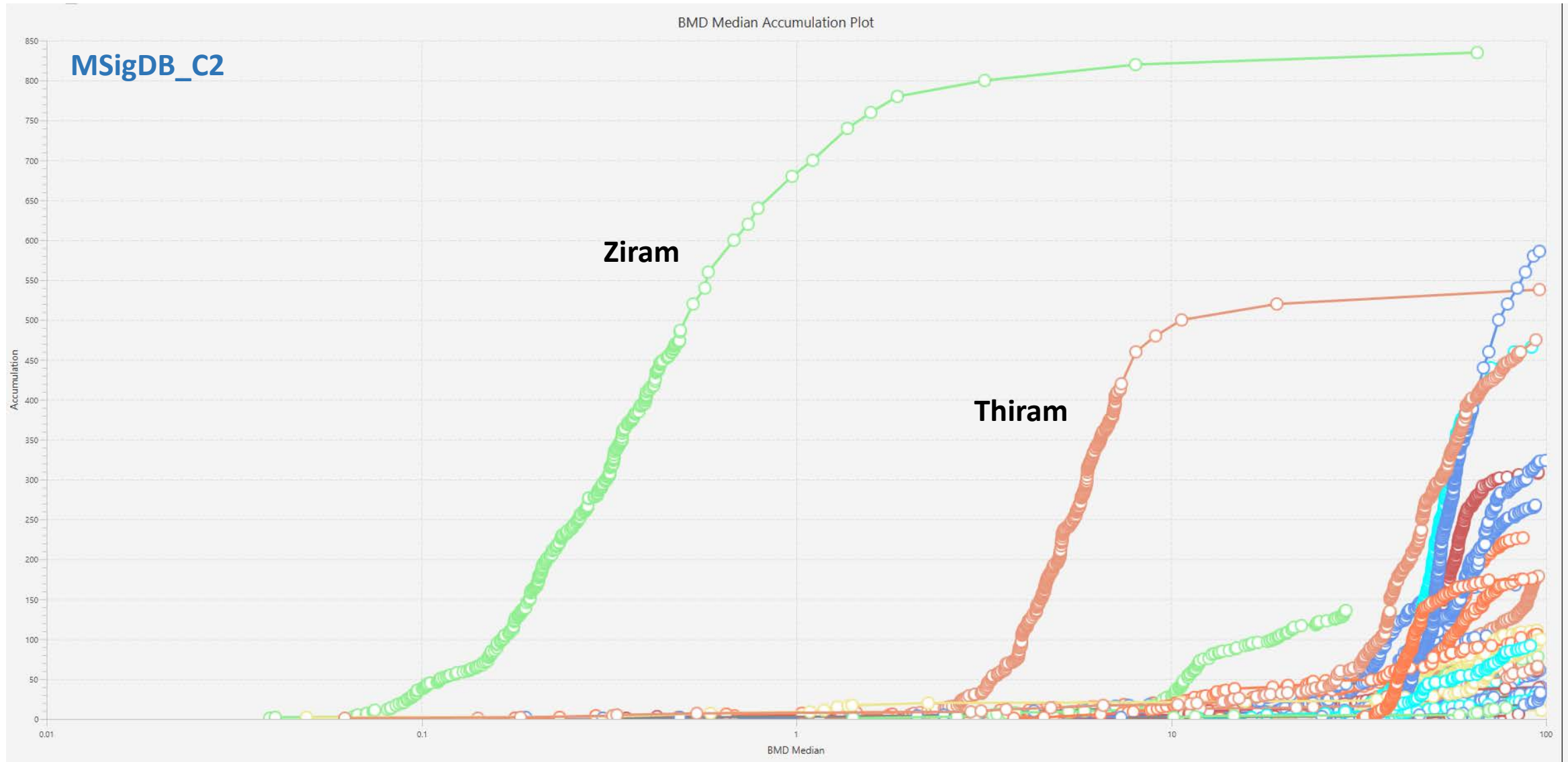
# Pathway Enrichment

## Numbers of Pathways Enriched

Chemical Name	MSigDB_C2	MSigDB_H	Reactome	Chemical Name	MSigDB_C2	MSigDB_H	Reactome
Ziram	1834	44	366	Bisphenol A	5	0	0
4-Hydroxytamoxifen	739	28	148	Flutamide	5	0	0
Cycloheximide	252	6	80	Lovastatin	4	0	0
Amiodarone hydrochloride	228	21	16	Pyraclostrobin	4	0	1
Reserpine	131	1	6	Imazalil	4	0	1
4-Nonylphenol, branched	83	6	9	Propiconazole	3	0	0
Fenpyroximate (Z,E)	63	0	1	Tetrac	2	0	1
Clomiphene Citrate	50	2	0	3,5,3'-Triiodothyronine	2	0	0
Prochloraz	37	0	0	Simvastatin	1	0	0
Cyproterone acetate	33	1	0	Cyproconazole	0	0	0
Cladribine	33	0	70	Cypermethrin	0	0	1
Rotenone	24	0	2	Clofibrate	0	0	0
4-Cumylphenol	18	0	0	PFOS	0	0	0
Bisphenol B	14	0	1	Simazine	0	0	0
Thiram	13	4	4	Vinclozolin	0	0	0
Maneb	13	0	4	Fomesafen	0	0	0
Farglitazar	11	1	0	Lactofen	0	0	0
Fenofibrate	8	0	0	Troglitazone	0	0	0
Fulvestrant	8	1	0	PFOA	0	0	0
Nilutamide	7	0	2	Atrazine	0	0	0
Cyanazine	6	0	0	Bifenthrin	0	0	0
Trifloxystrobin	5	0	0	Butafenacil	0	0	0

- Heterogeneity in the amount and type of pathways enriched.
- Changing filtering stringency and BMD modeling strategy affects these results.

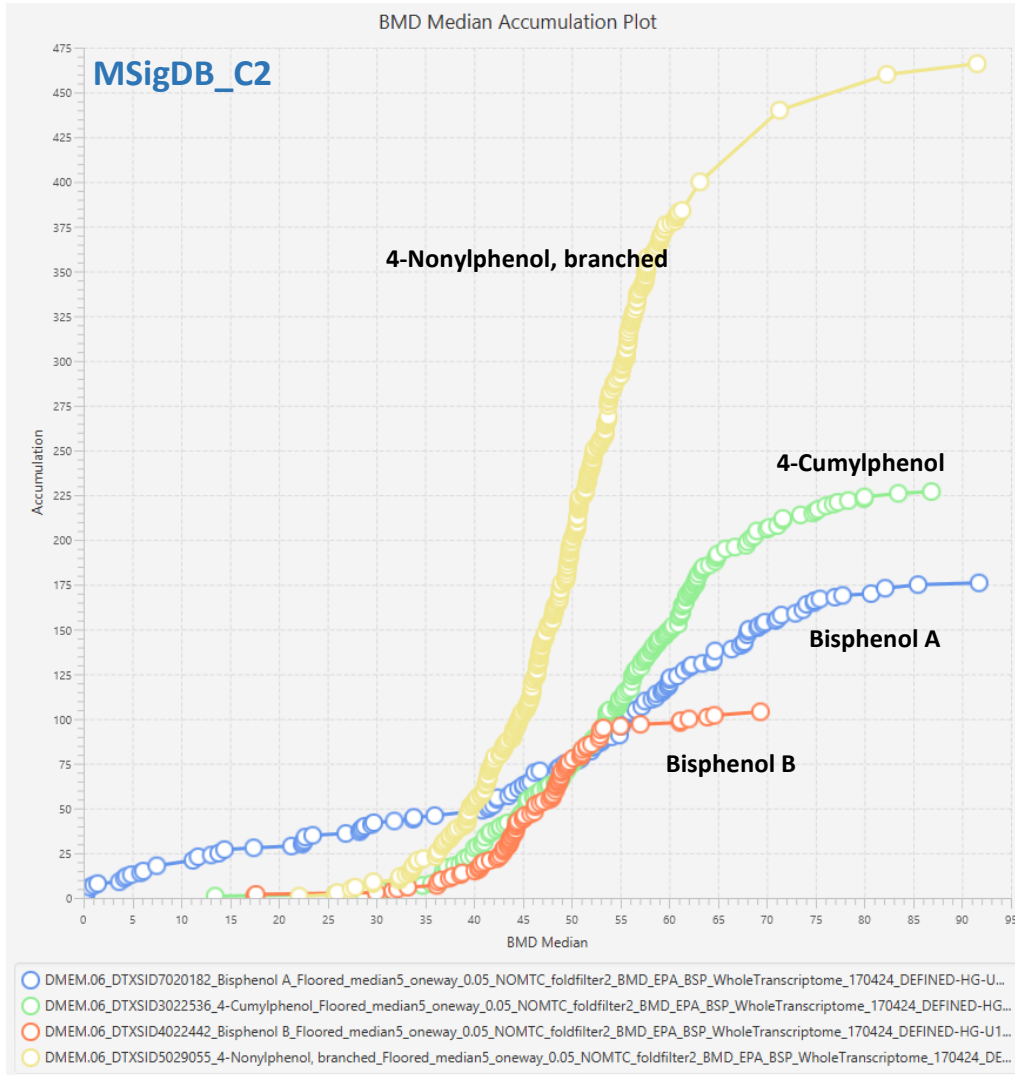
# Pathway Potencies



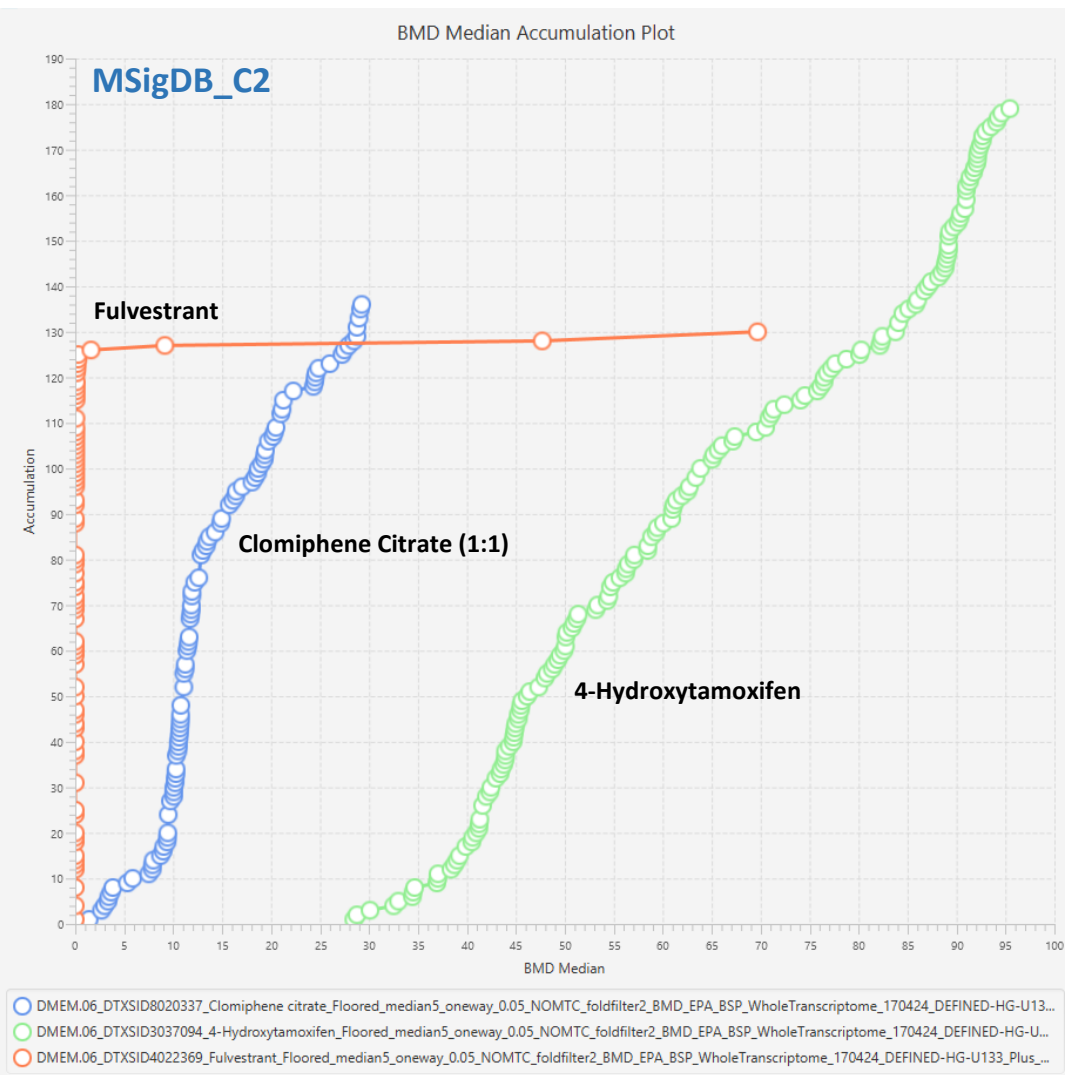
- Broad range of pathway level potency estimates and number of pathways affected across chemicals.

# Pathway Potencies

## ER Agonist



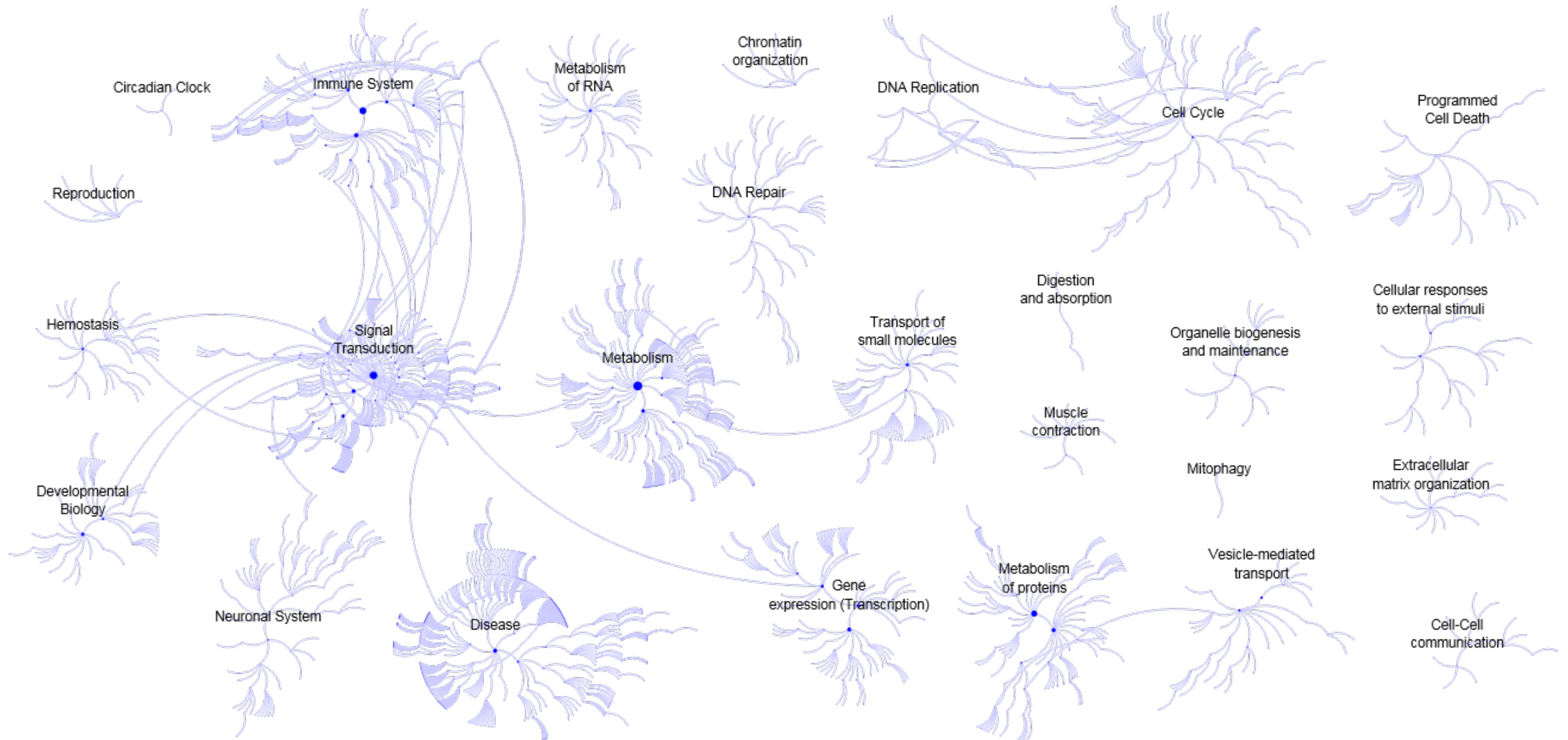
## ER Antagonist



- Heterogeneity in pathway levels potency estimates and number of pathways affected within chemical class.

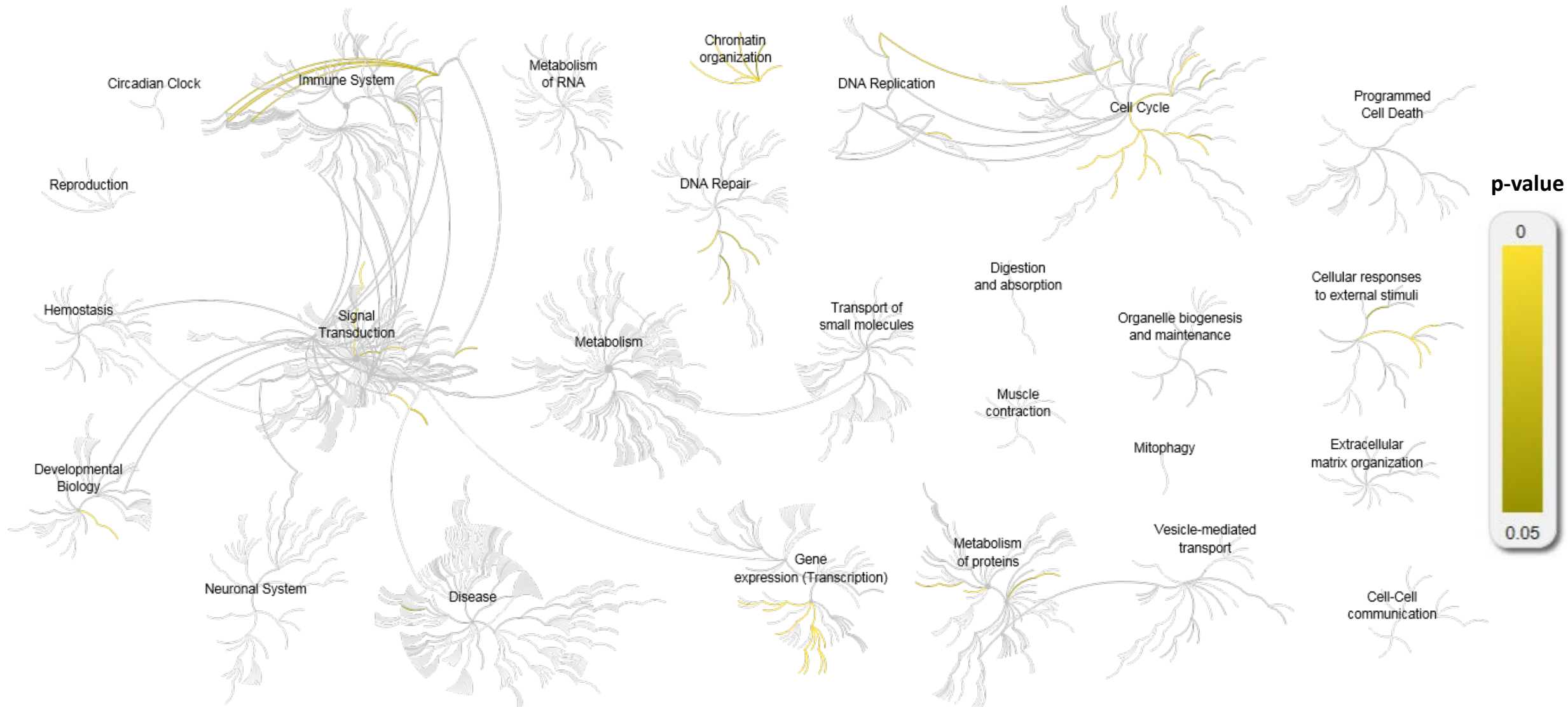


# Network Mapping



- Reactome (v60) Pathway Hierarchy

# Network Mapping [Clomiphene Citrate]

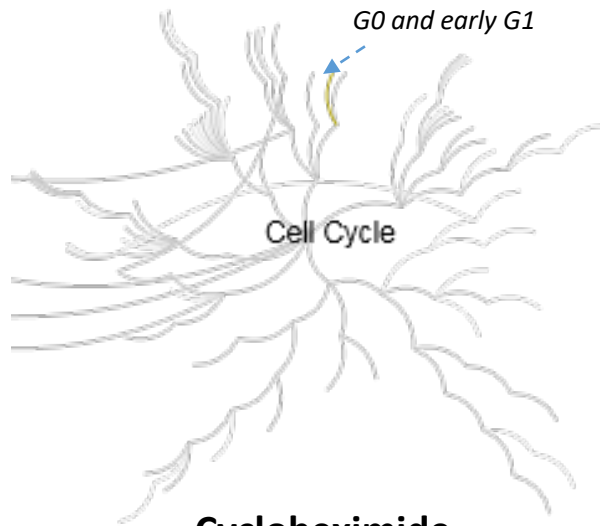


- Reactome (v60) Pathway Hierarchy → Overlaid with enrichment scores based on probes with acceptable BMD model fit
- Highlights different areas of biology affected by a chemical

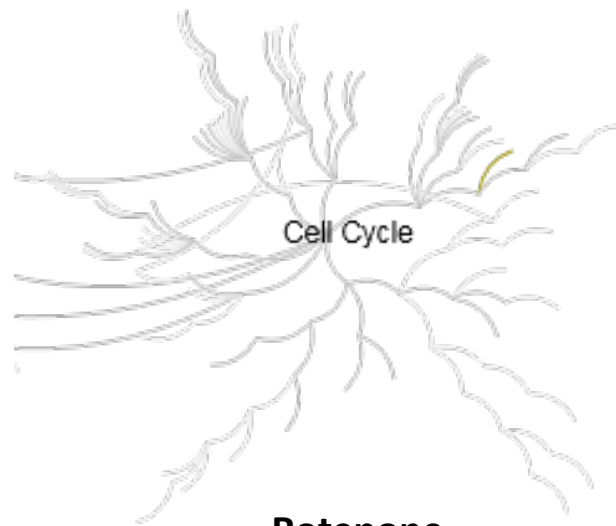


# Diversity in Response of Cell Cycle Networks

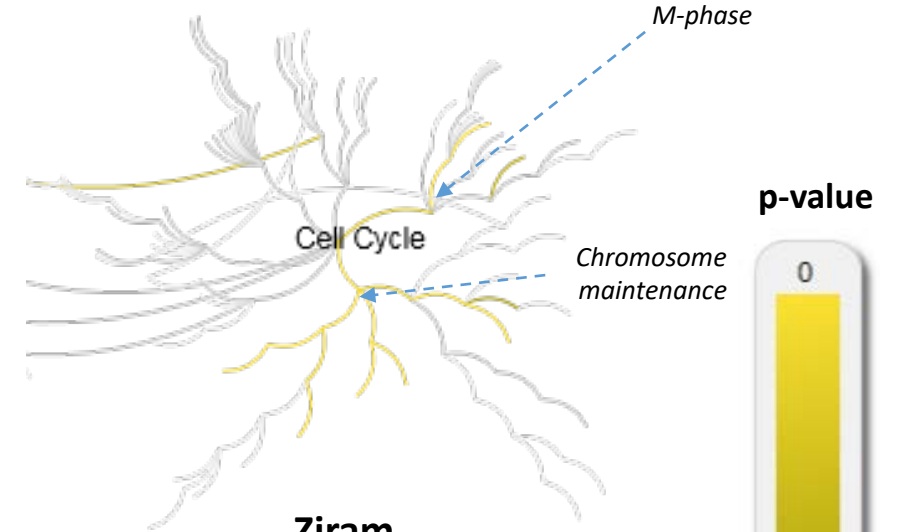
**4-Nonylphenol**



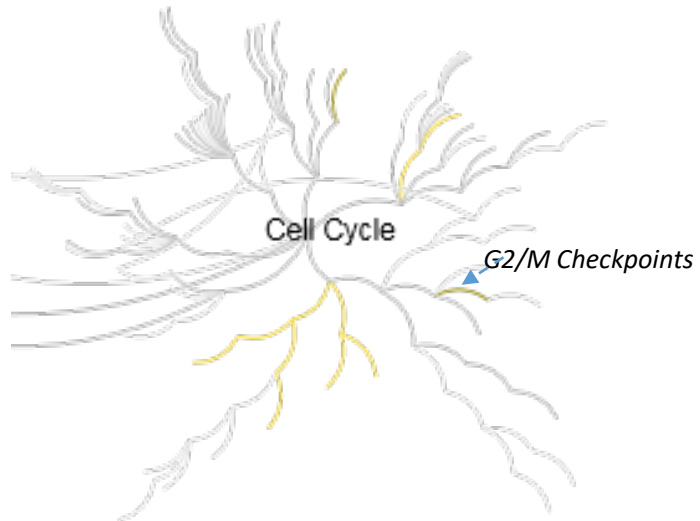
**Amiodarine Hydrochloride**



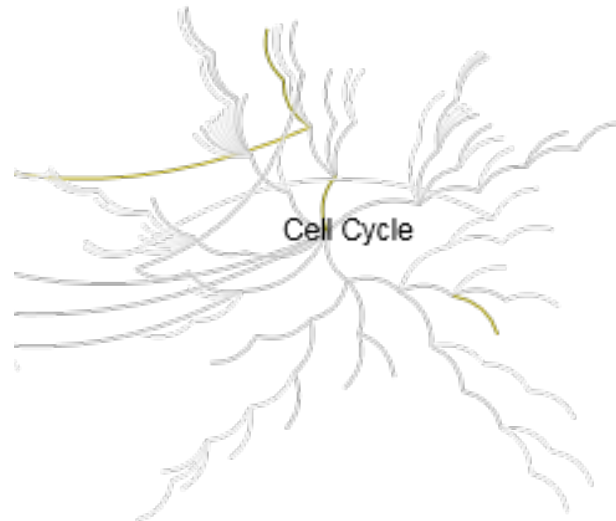
**Clomiphene Citrate**



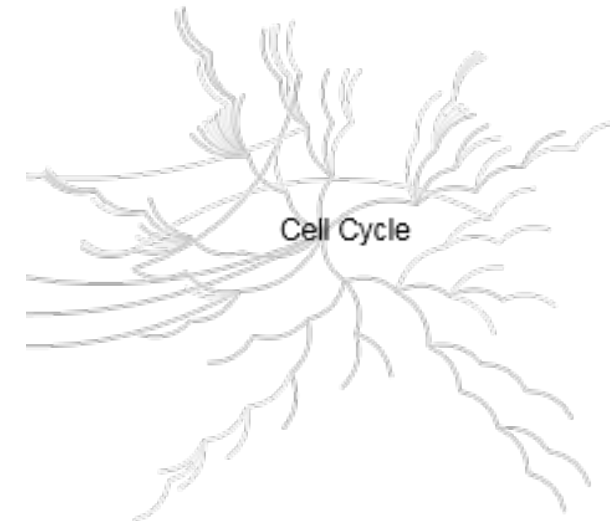
**Cycloheximide**



**Rotenone**



**Ziram**

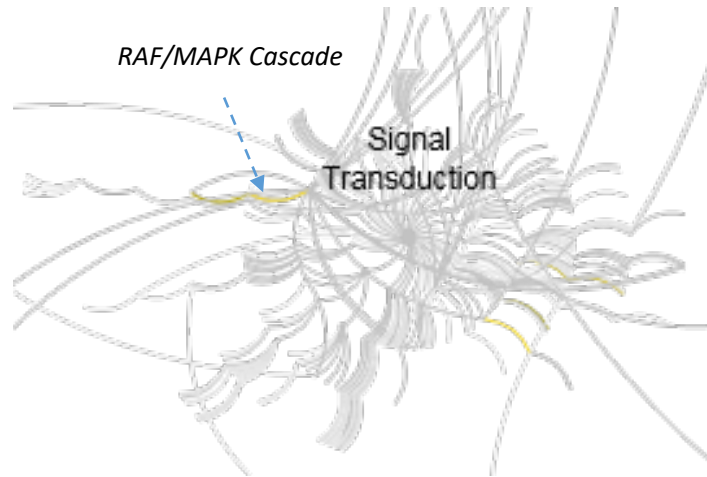


**p-value**

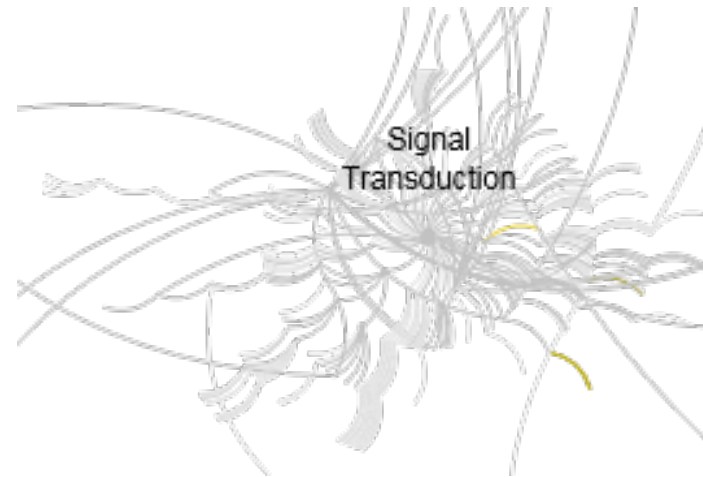


# Diversity in Response of Signal Transduction Networks

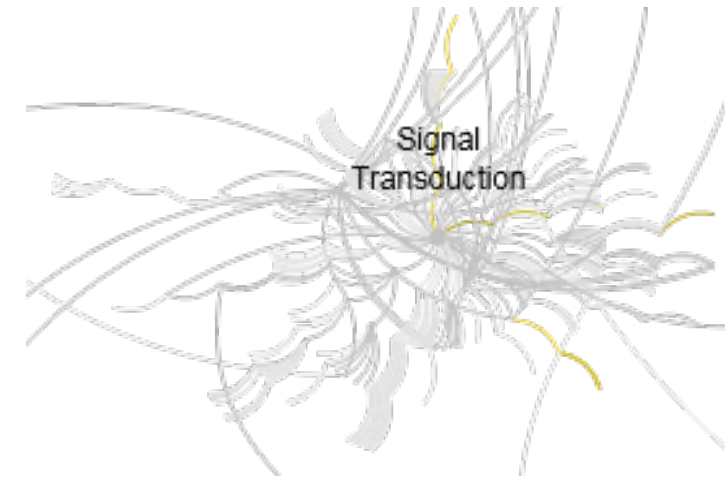
**4-Nonylphenol**



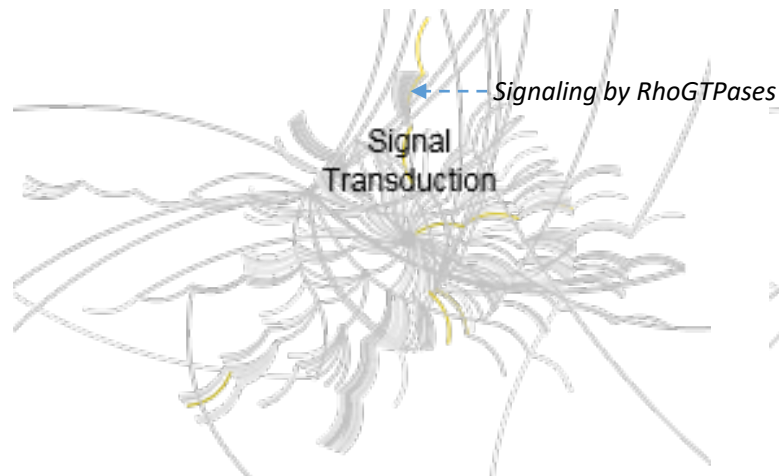
**Amiodarine Hydrochloride**



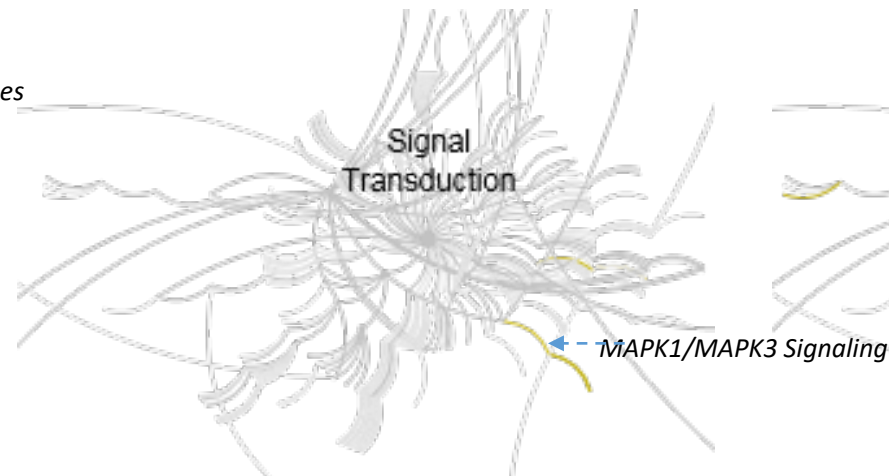
**Clomiphene Citrate**



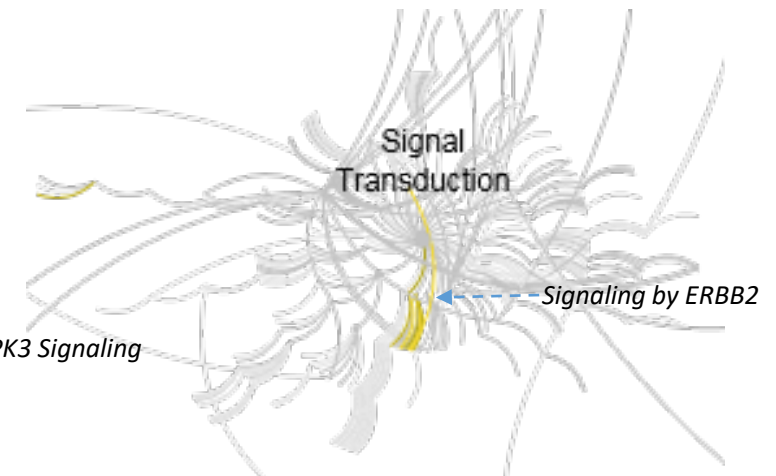
**Cycloheximide**



**Rotenone**



**Ziram**



p-value



# Current Activities & Future Directions

- **Fall 2017:**
  - Refining data analysis pipeline and BMD modeling approach.
  - Exploring methods for MIE prediction & characterization of biological responses.
  - Prepping initial publication.
  - Conducting concentration-response screening of 2,200 chemicals in MCF7 cell model (8 conc., 6 HR exposure).
- **Beyond 2017:**
  - Tox21 reference chemical partner project
  - Screening in additional cell lines.
  - Coupling with image-based phenotypic screening assay.

# Acknowledgements

- **NCCT**

- Clinton Willis
- Danielle Suarez
- Chad Deisenroth
  
- Imran Shah
- Woody Setzer
- Derek Haggard
- Matt Martin
- Richard Judson
- Rusty Thomas

- **BioSpyder**

- Joel McComb
- Jo Yeakley
- Jason Downing
- Milos Babic
- Kyle LeBlanc
- Harper Van Steenhouse

**Questions ?**

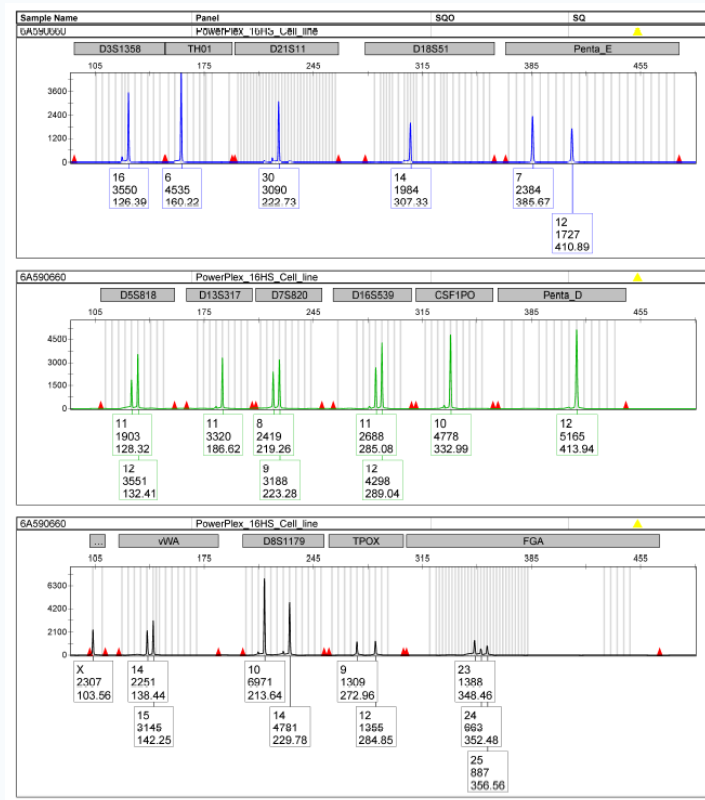
## Bonus Slides

# MCF7 Cell Line Cryopreserved Stocks & Authentication

**Cell Sourcing:**  
**Cryo Stock Expansion Strategy:**

ATCC® HTB-22™  
Procured 5 vials of cells  
Expanded in parallel to internal Passage 3.  
Pooled cells prior to cryopreservation (~120 vials @ 2x10<sup>6</sup> cells / vial)

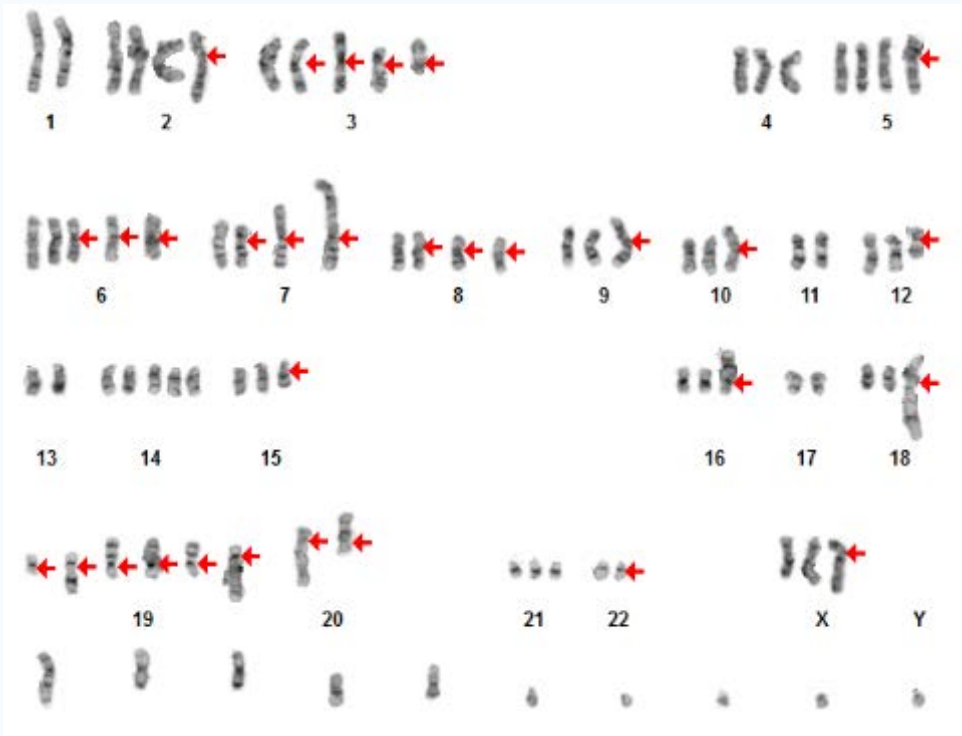
## Authentication 1: STR Profiling



Loci	MCF7 Ref.	MCF7 NCCT
D5S818	11,12	11,12
D13S317	11	11
D7S820	8.9	8,9
D16S539	11,12	11,12
vWA	14,15	14,15
TH01	6	6
AMEL	X	X
TPOX	9.12	9,12
CSF1PO	10	10

**100% Concordance with Reference Profile**

## Authentication 2: Karyotyping



**NCCT MCF7 Karyotype similar (but not identical) to reference profile.**



# Quantification of Growth in NCCT MCF7 Cells & Selection of Seeding Densities

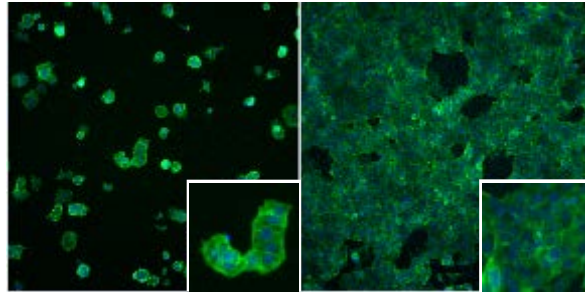


24 HR

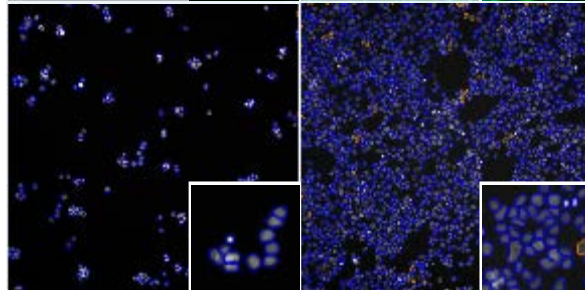
2,600 cells / well

10,000 cells / well

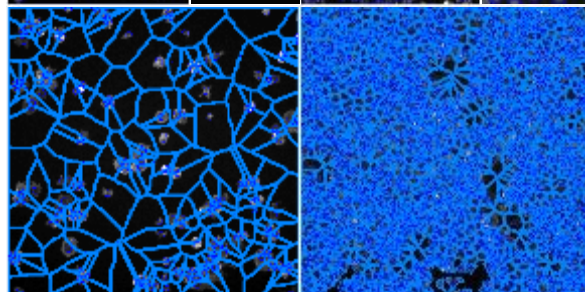
Composite



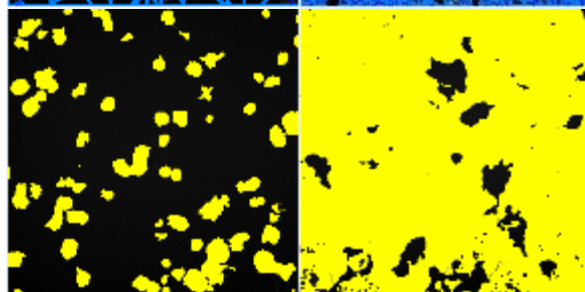
Nucleus Trace



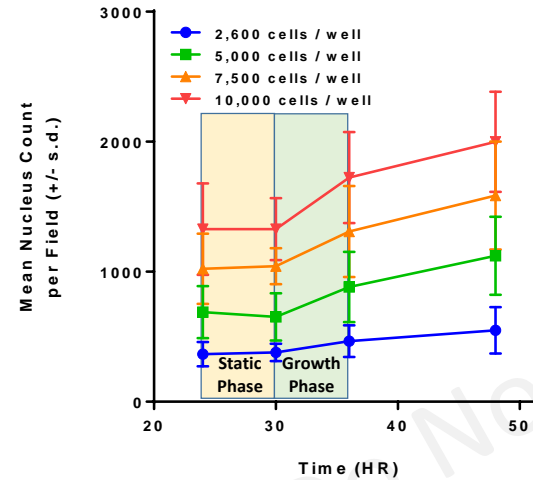
ZOI Masking



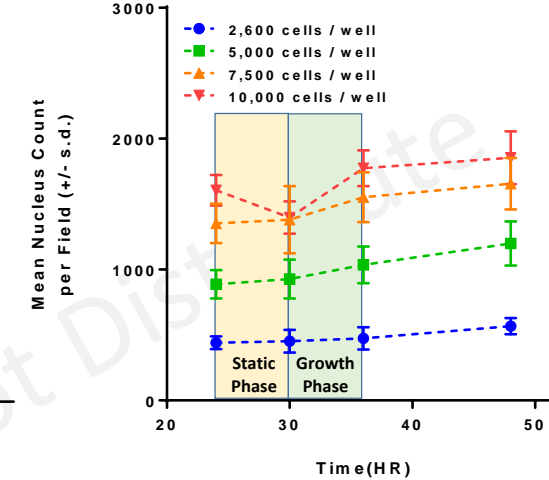
Pixel Detection



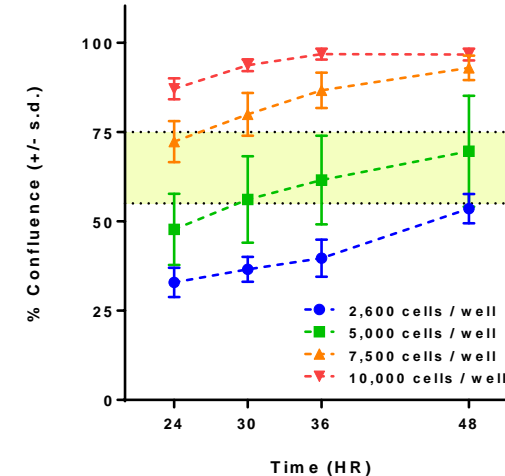
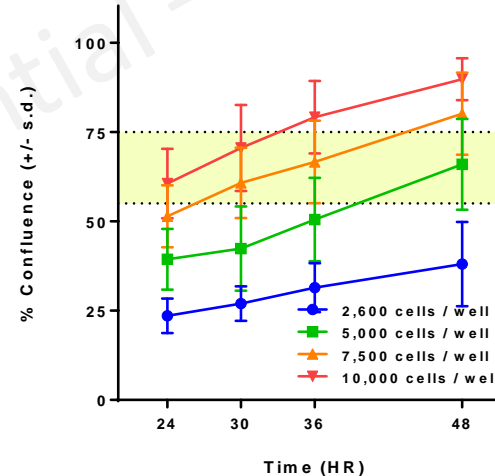
DMEM + 10% HI-FBS <sup>a,c</sup>



PRF-DMEM + 10%  
CS-HI-FBS <sup>b,c</sup>



- Increases in cell proliferation do not begin until 30 hours post-plating.
- Proliferation is greater in DMEM+10% HI-FBS versus PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS



- Cells seeded at concentrations yielding 55-75% confluence at time of sampling.
- DMEM + 10% HI-FBS:**
  - 30 HR → 10,000 cells
  - 36 HR → 7,500 cells
  - 48 HR → 5,000 cells
- PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS:**
  - All Times → 5,000 cells.

<sup>a</sup> Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Media (MediaTech 10-013) + Heat-Inactivated FBS (Sigma-Aldrich F4135)

<sup>b</sup> Phenol Red Free Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Media (MediaTech 17-205) + Charcoal-Stripped Heat-Inactivated FBS (Sigma-Aldrich 6765)

<sup>c</sup> n = 72 replicate wells across two independent cultures.

# Study Design: TempO-Seq Attenuation in MCF7 Cells

## Study Component 1:

6 HR Exposure, Static Phase

**Cell Type:** MCF7  
**Media Type:** DMEM + 10% HI-FBS  
PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS  
**Treatments:** DMSO (0.5%)  
Trichostatin A (1  $\mu$ M)  
**Replicates:** 3  
**Dose Time:** 24 hr post-plating  
**Sample Time:** 30 hr post-plating  
**Total # of Samples:** 12

*Media Type, Exposure Window*

## Study Component 2:

6 HR Exposure, Growth Phase

**Cell Type:** MCF7  
**Media Type:** DMEM + 10% HI-FBS  
PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS  
**Treatments:** DMSO (0.5%)  
Trichostatin A (1  $\mu$ M)  
**Replicates:** 3  
**Dose Time:** 30 hr post-plating  
**Sample Time:** 36 hr post-plating  
**Total # of Samples:** 12

*Media Type, Exposure Window*

## Study Component 3:

Time Course, Untreated Cells

**Cell Type:** MCF7  
**Media Type:** DMEM + 10% HI-FBS  
PRF-DMEM + 10% CS-HI-FBS  
**Treatments:** None  
**Replicates:** 3  
**Dose Time:** n/a  
**Sample Time:** 30, 36, 48 hr post-plating  
**Total # of Samples:** 18

*Media Type, Time Course of Cell Growth*

## Lysis Option 1:

40  $\mu$ L Media: 40  $\mu$ L 2X Lysis Buffer

## Lysis Option 2:

Drain to 10  $\mu$ L Media: 10  $\mu$ L 2X Lysis Buffer

## Lysis Option 3:

Complete Drain  $\rightarrow$  10  $\mu$ L 1X Lysis Buffer

- Each study component was performed using each lysis option.
- Samples from **Lysis Option 2** (n = 42) were used for identification of candidate Detector Oligos (DOs) for attenuation.

## Results

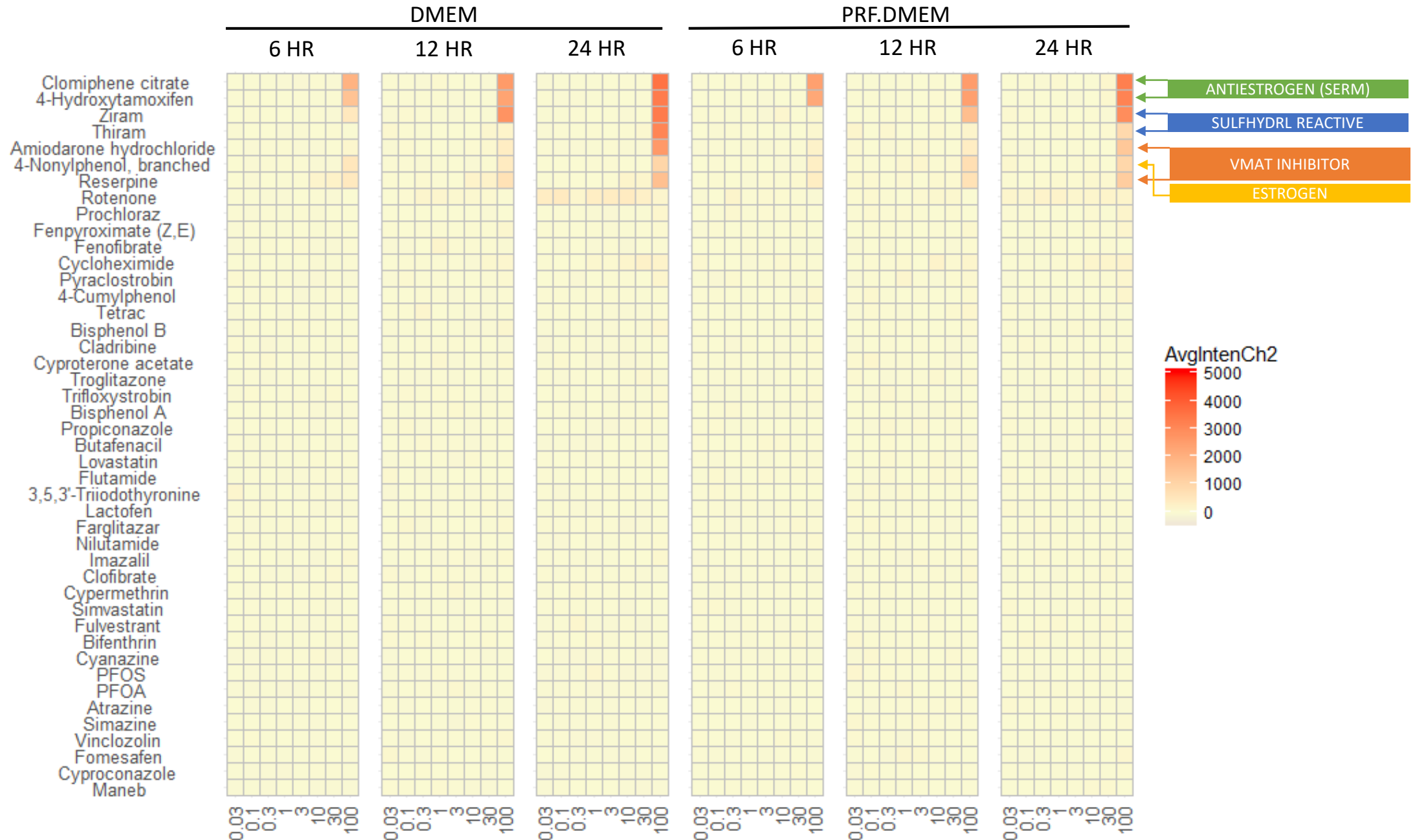
- **Apoptosis & Cytotoxicity Assays**
- **Transcriptomics Data Analysis Pipeline**
- **HTTr Assay Performance Metrics**
- **Concentration Response Modeling**

# Top 12 Candidates for Attenuation

Gene Symbol	Official.Full.Name	Category	Description
TMSB4X	thymosin beta 4, X-linked	Cytoskeleton	This gene encodes an actin sequestering protein which plays a role in regulation of actin polymerization.
KRT8	keratin 8	Cytoskeleton	This gene is a member of the type II keratin family clustered on the long arm of chromosome 12. Type I and type II keratins heteropolymerize to form intermediate-sized filaments in the cytoplasm of epithelial cells.
ACTG1	actin gamma 1	Cytoskeleton	Actin, gamma 1, encoded by this gene, is a cytoplasmic actin found in non-muscle cells.
KRT18	keratin 18	Cytoskeleton	KRT18 encodes the type I intermediate filament chain keratin 18. Keratin 18, together with its filament partner keratin 8, are perhaps the most commonly found members of the intermediate filament gene family.
GAPDH	glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase	Energy Metabolism	This gene encodes a member of the glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase protein family. The product of this gene catalyzes an important energy-yielding step in carbohydrate metabolism
HIST2H4B	histone cluster 2 H4 family member b	Histone	This gene is intronless and encodes a replication-dependent histone that is a member of the histone H4 family
ATP5E	ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F1 complex, epsilon subunit	Mitochondrial	This gene encodes a subunit of mitochondrial ATP synthase.
RPS3	ribosomal protein S3	Ribosomal	This gene encodes a ribosomal protein that is a component of the 40S subunit, where it forms part of the domain where translation is initiated.
RPL37	ribosomal protein L37	Ribosomal	This gene encodes a ribosomal protein that is a component of the 60S subunit.
RPL4	ribosomal protein L4	Ribosomal	This gene encodes a ribosomal protein that is a component of the 60S subunit.
PABPC1	poly(A) binding protein cytoplasmic 1	Ribosomal Transport	This gene encodes a poly(A) binding protein. The protein shuttles between the nucleus and cytoplasm and binds to the 3' poly(A) tail of eukaryotic messenger RNAs via RNA-recognition motifs.
EEF1A1	eukaryotic translation elongation factor 1 alpha 1	Ribosomal Transport	This gene encodes an isoform of the alpha subunit of the elongation factor-1 complex, which is responsible for the enzymatic delivery of aminoacyl tRNAs to the ribosome.

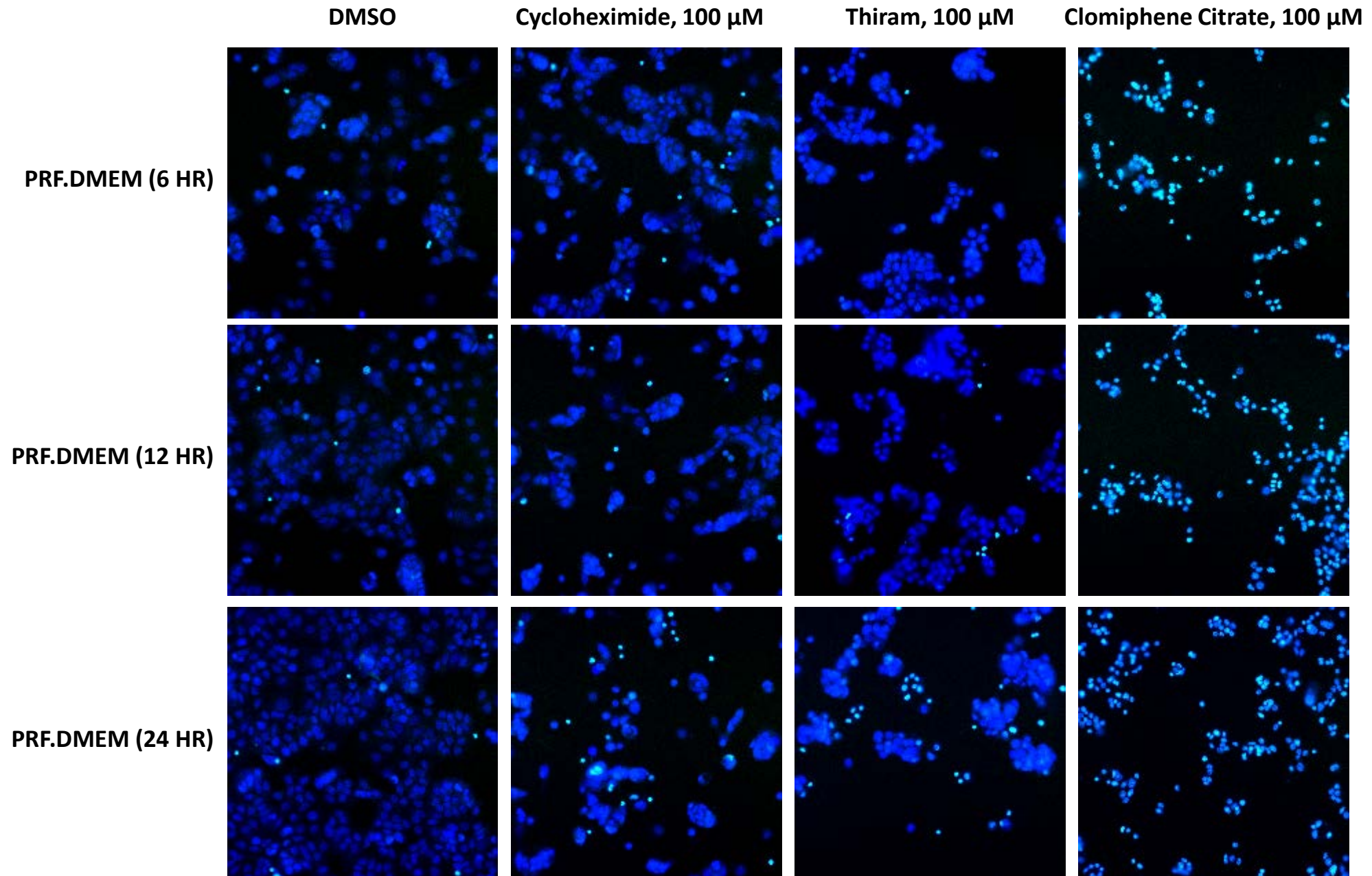
- The most highly expressed genes in the attenuation set are “housekeeping” genes.

# Apoptosis Assay Results

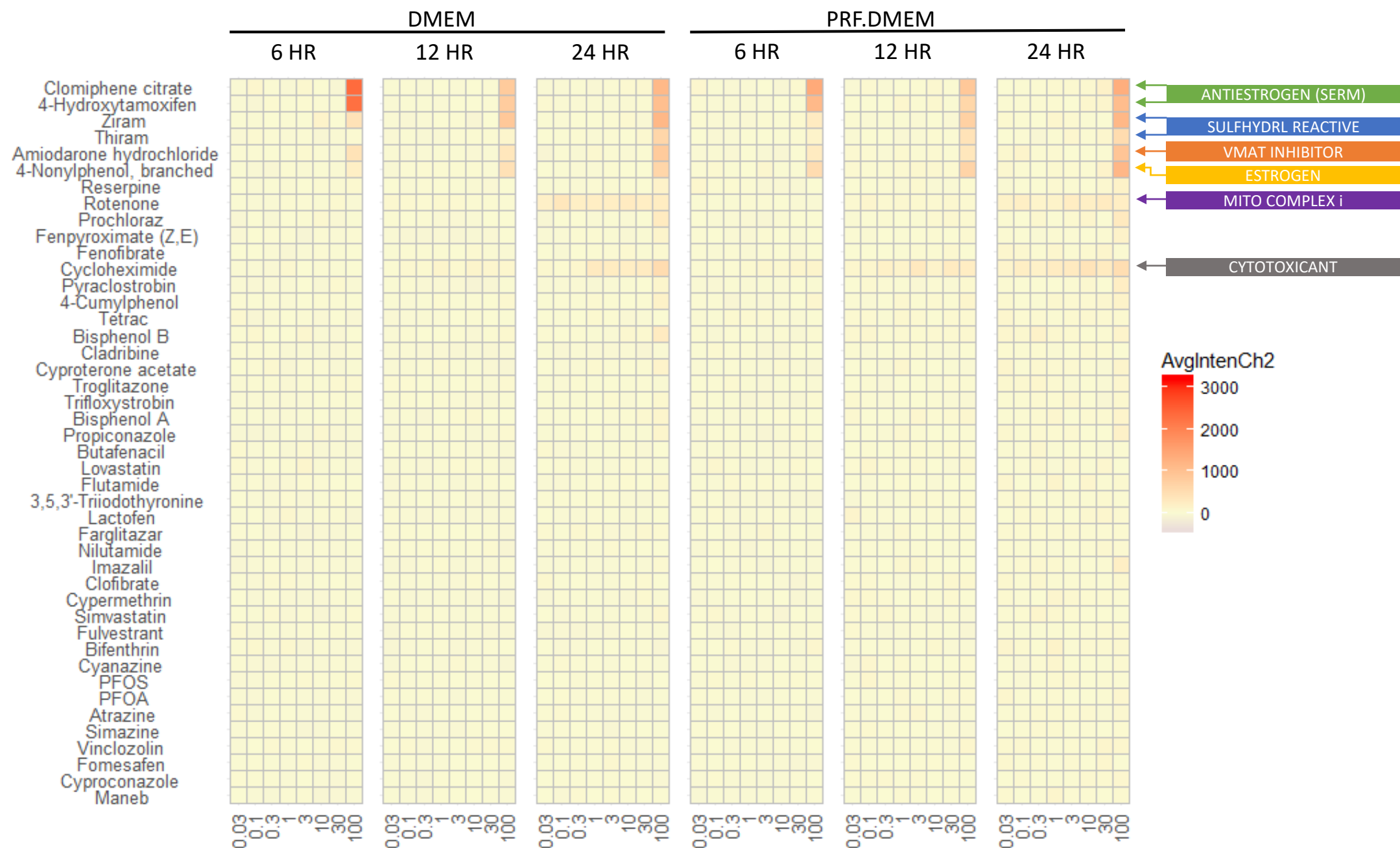




# Apoptosis Assay, Ground Truth

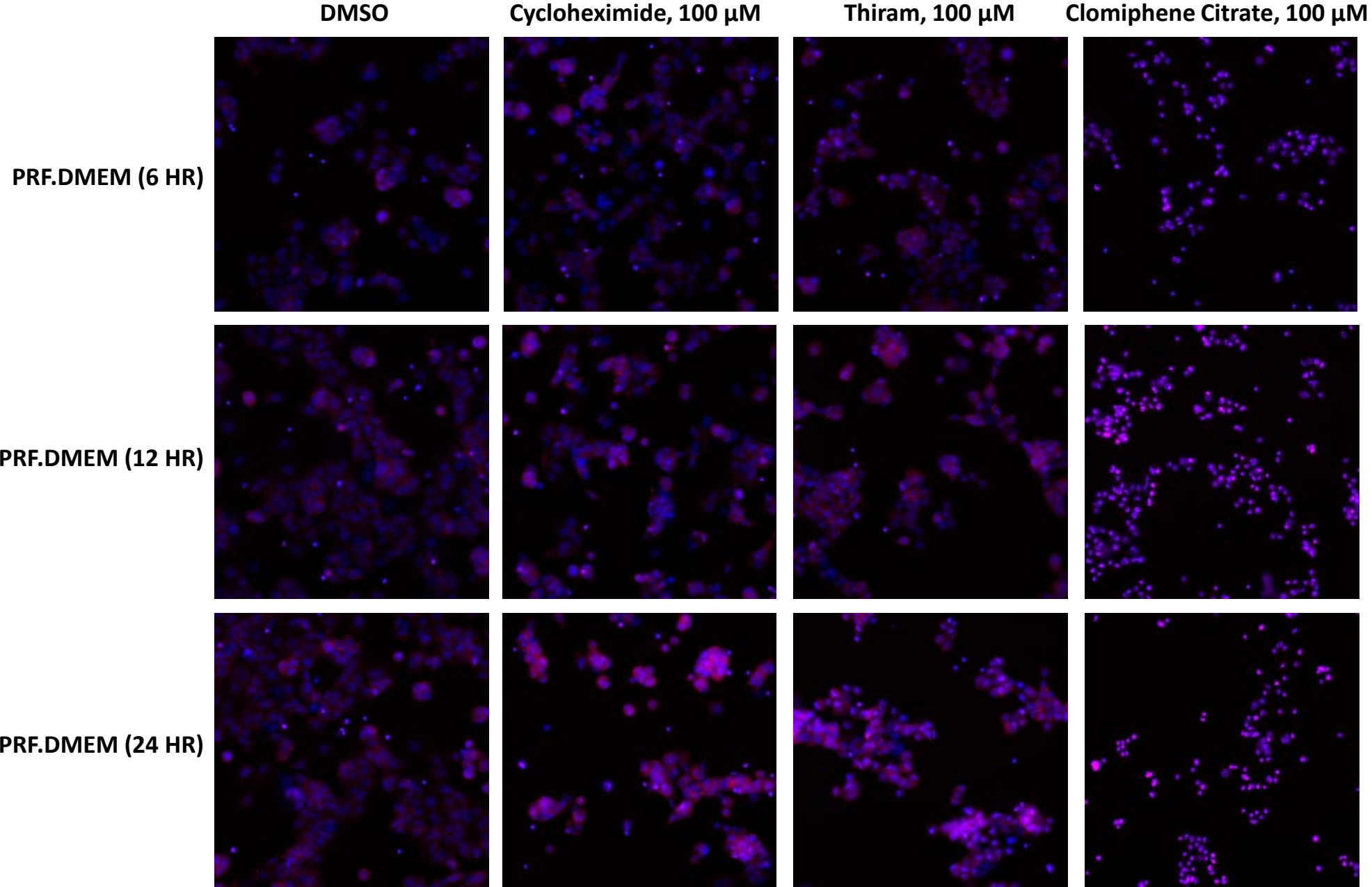


# Cell Viability Assay Results

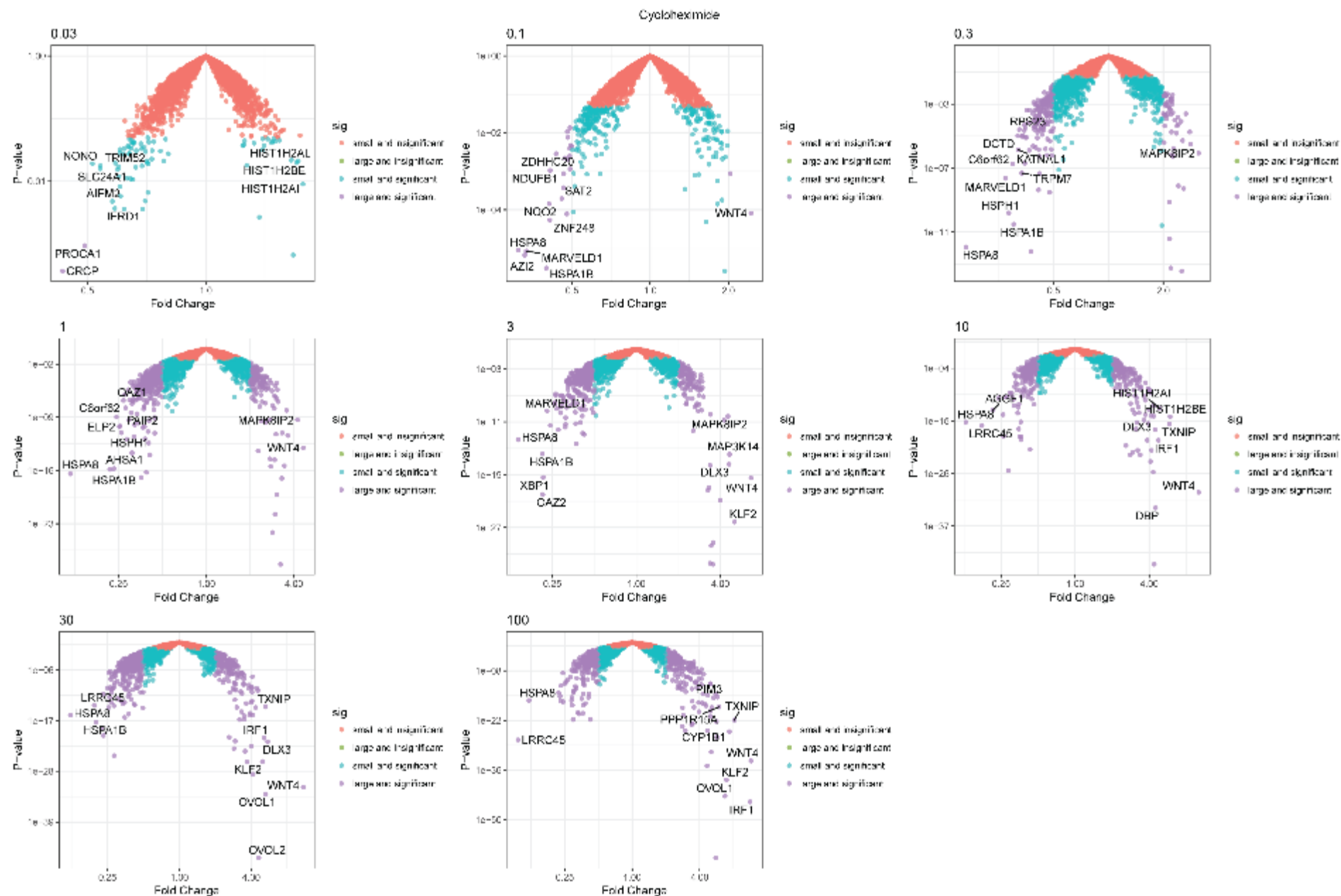




# Cell Viability Assay, Ground Truth



# Concentration Dependent Increases in Transcriptional Response

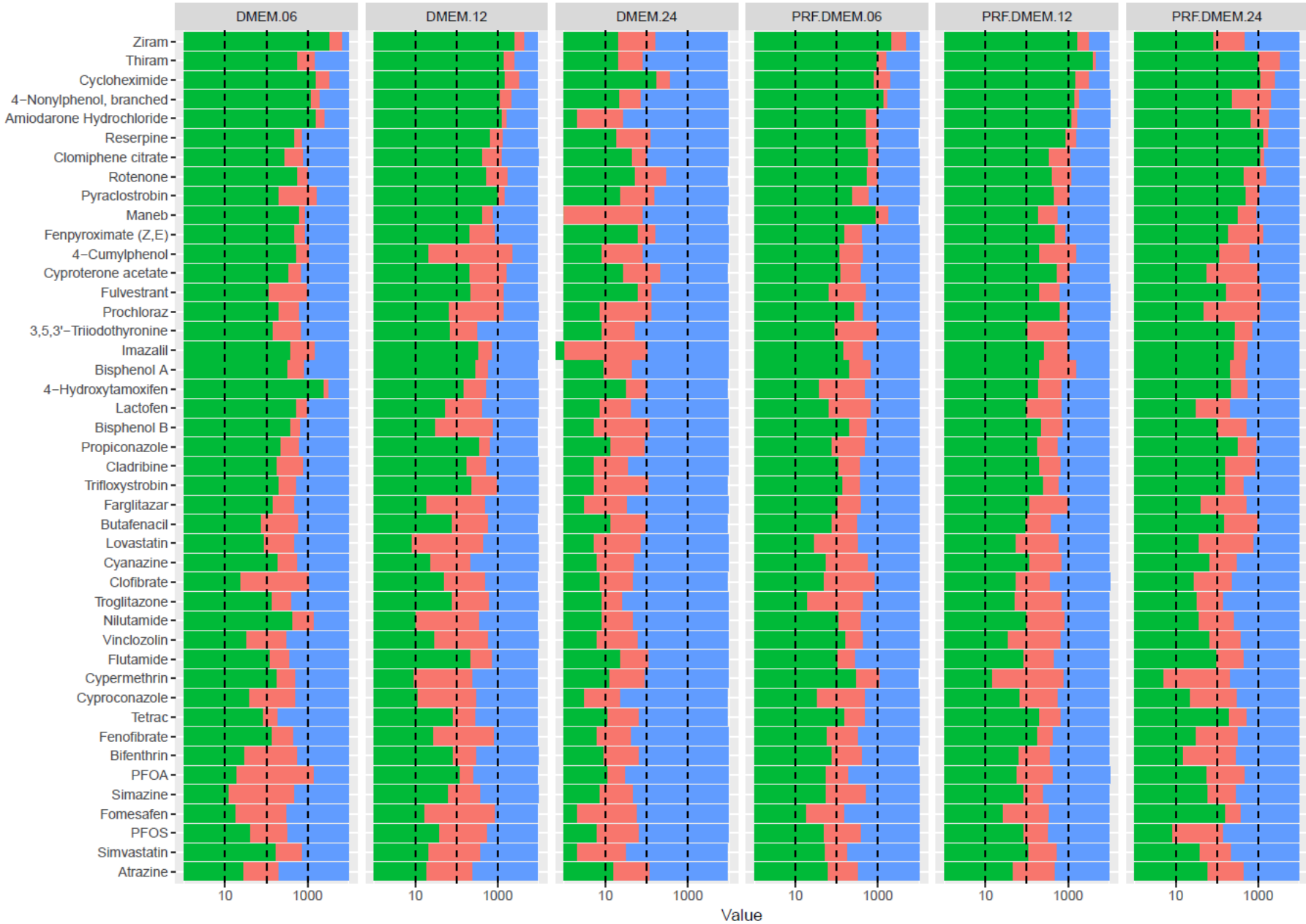


# Benchmark Dose Modeling

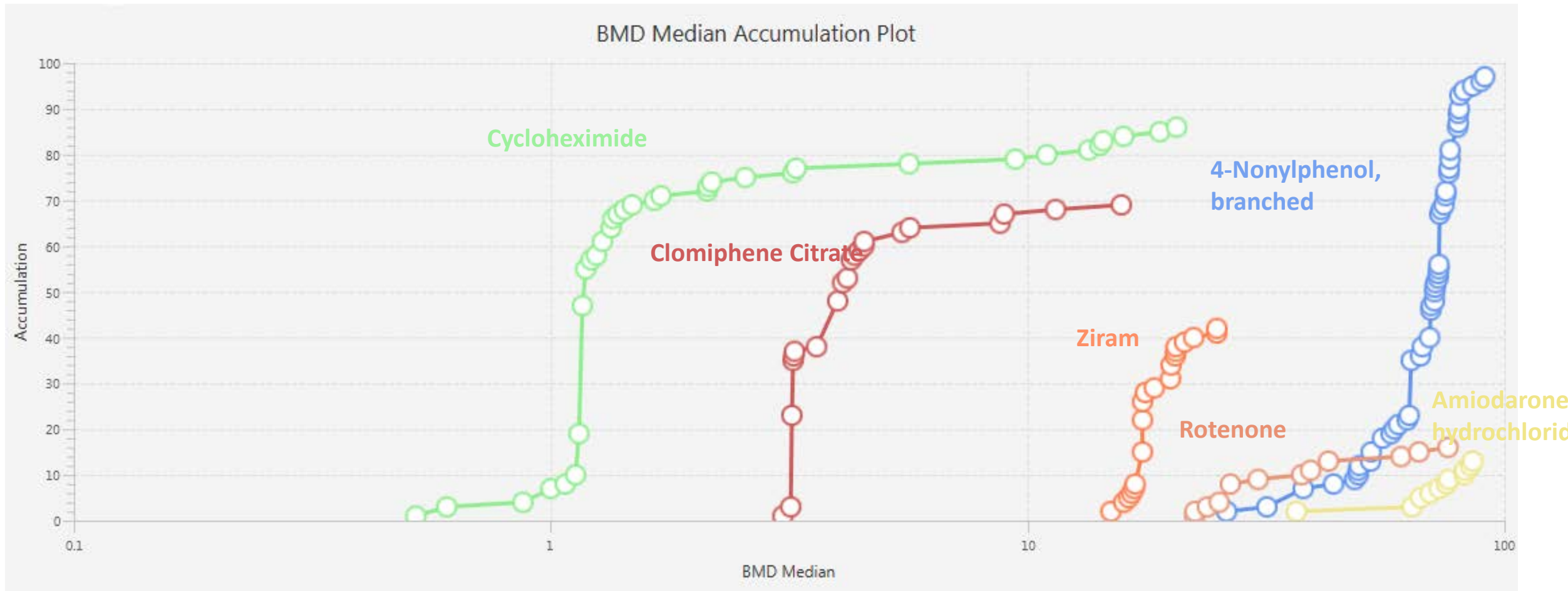


Parameter	Criteria
Pre-filter	ANOVA ( $p_{\text{raw}} < 0.05$ & $ FC  \geq 1.25$ )
Models	Hill, power, linear, poly 2, exponential 2
BMR Factor:	1.349 (10 %)
Best Model Selection:	Lowest AIC
Hill Model Flagging:	'k' < 1/3 Lowest Positive Dose Select next best model with $p > 0.05$

Chem.Name



# Benchmark Dose Modeling



- Enrichment using Reactome Pathway Database
- Observed broad range of thresholds for chemical bioactivity.