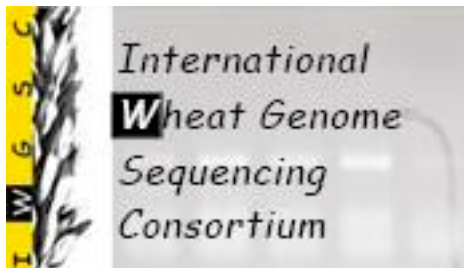


# Excerpts from a Seminar at Bayer CropScience February 2015

**Kellye Eversole**

IWGSC Executive Director

Seminar  
Ghent, Belgium  
12 February 2015



Bayer CropScience

# Update on the International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium (IWGSC): Strategies and Resources

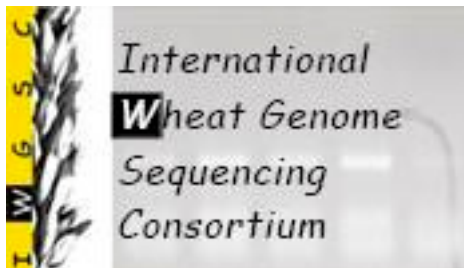
**Kellye Eversole**

IWGSC Executive Director

Seminar

Ghent, Belgium

12 February 2015



Bayer CropScience

# IWGSC

*international wheat genome sequencing consortium*

# 10



2005 - 2015



2005



2 sponsors  
3 institutes

5 members  
3 countries



# The IWGSC, Inc.

22 sponsors

1,481 members and data users

More than 270 institutes

64 countries



# 2015

## Board of Directors

Role: Overall strategy and organization

4 Permanent Directors: Appels, Eversole, Feuillet, & Keller

5-10 Non-Permanent Directors (including at least 1 Outside Director)

## Leadership Team

Role: Daily management

Members: Appels, Eversole, Feuillet, Keller, & Rogers

## Coordinating Committee

Role: Scientific strategy

Members: Sponsors & Leaders of IWGSC Projects & Initiatives

## Members

Role: Participation & Input

Members: Open to Anyone



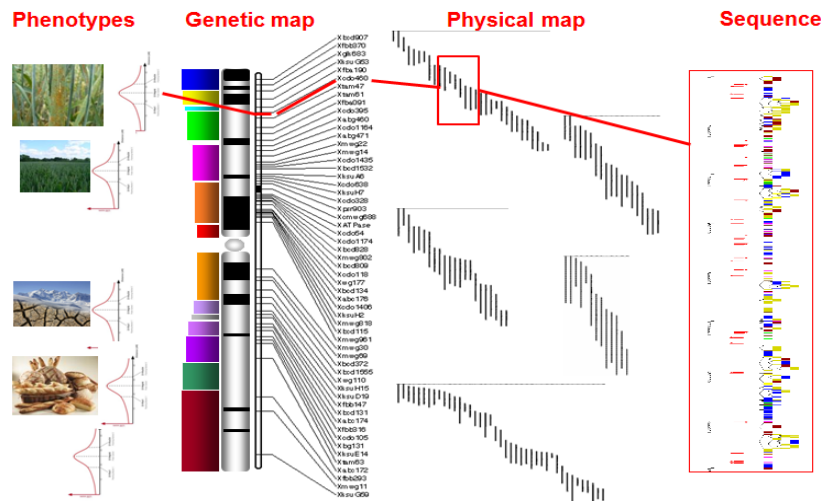
# Vision

## Goal

- Lay a foundation to accelerate wheat improvement
- Increase profitability throughout the industry

## Vision

- High quality annotated genome sequence, comparable to rice genome sequence
- Physical map-based, integrated and ordered sequence

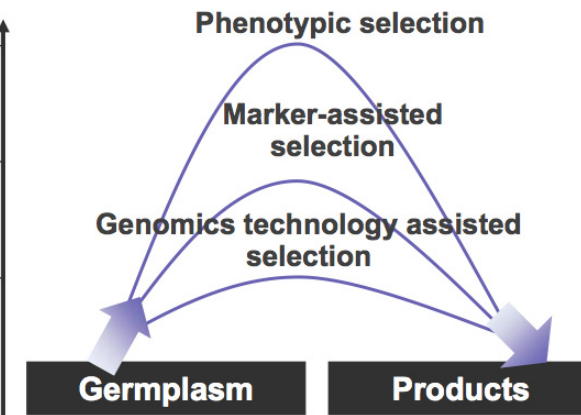


Years

9

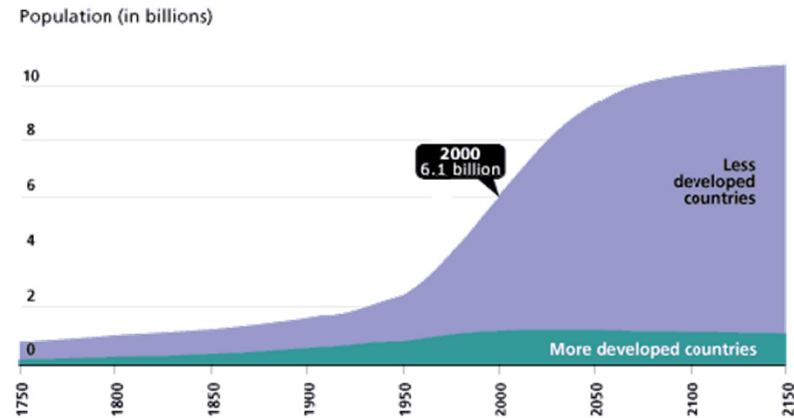
6

3

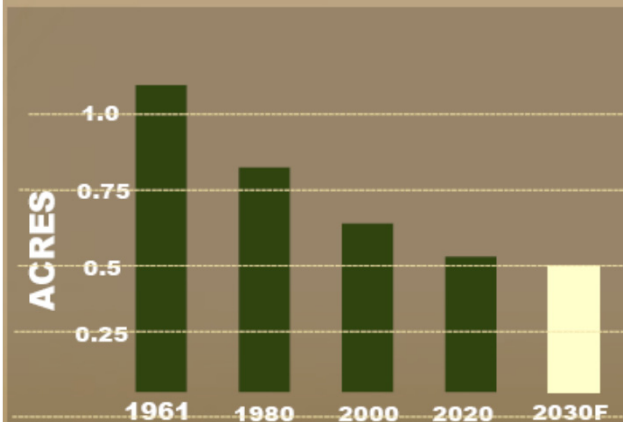


# Challenges for the world's food crops

**Sustainably provide sufficient quantity of high quality food**



Arable Land per Capita Losing Ground to World Population Growth and Economic Development



ARABLE LAND PER CAPITA WORLDWIDE

- **Decreasing annual yield growths and agricultural productivity**
- **More frequent periods of extreme weather patterns**
- **A general increase in global temperatures**

# Crop improvement is complex



## ➤ Yield potential and yield stability

- ✓ Photosynthesis efficiency
- ✓ Harvest Index
- ✓ Reduced inputs (fertilizers, pesticides..)



## ➤ Adaptation to climate change

- ✓ Avoidance
- ✓ Tolerance (Drought, heat, cold..)
- ✓ Post stress recovery...



## ➤ Durable resistance to biotic stress

- ✓ Usual suspects (virus, fungi)
- ✓ New pests and diseases
- ✓ Invasive species



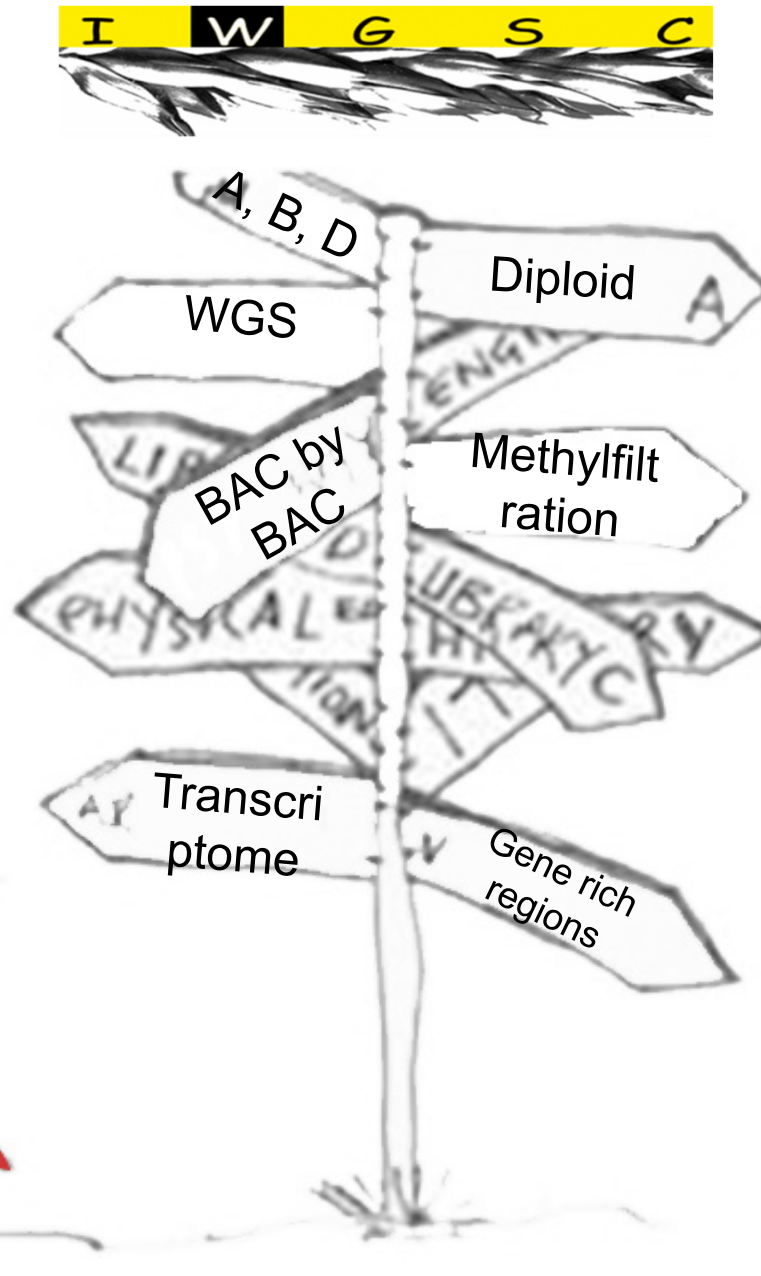
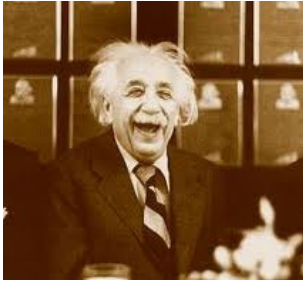
## ➤ Quality of grain and co-products

- ✓ Grain protein content
- ✓ Starch, straw
- ✓ Food safety - Allergenicity-mycotoxin contamination....





# How to produce a useful sequence?



# Key Considerations

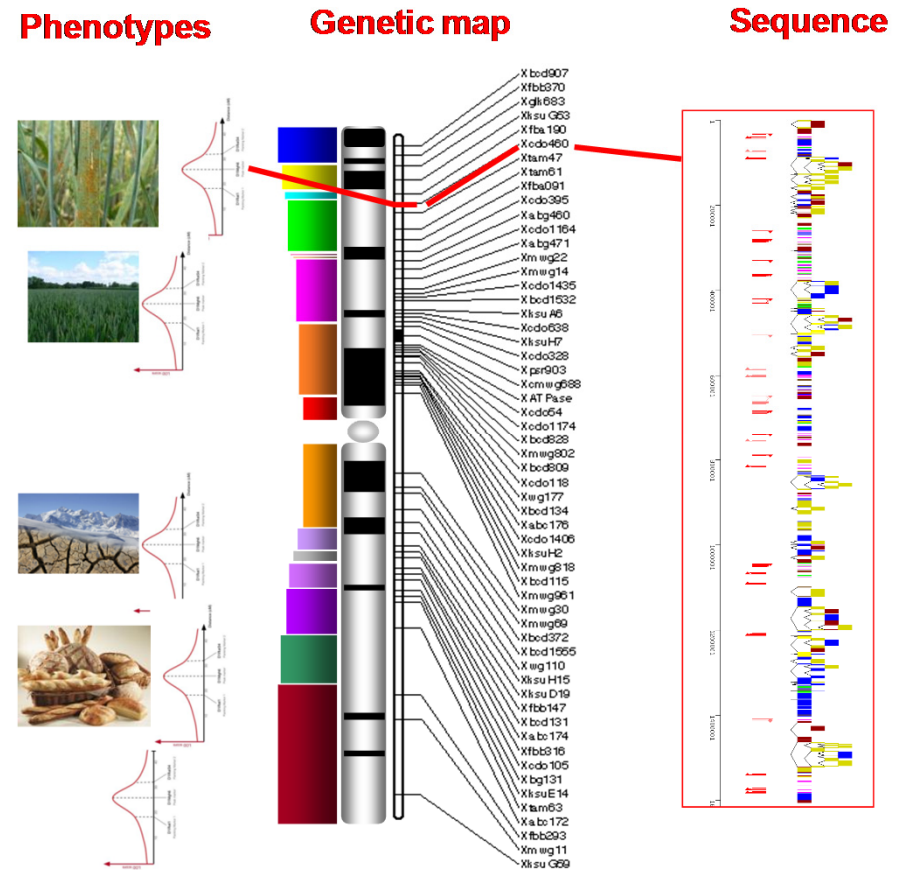
- A genome sequence is only a tool
- What kind of sequence?
- For whom and for what purposes?
  - Comparative genomics
  - Markers
  - Gene cloning
  - Development of new varieties
  - Long-term breeding pipelines
- Goal - Optimize the cost/quality ratio to deliver a useful tool

# How to produce a useful sequence?

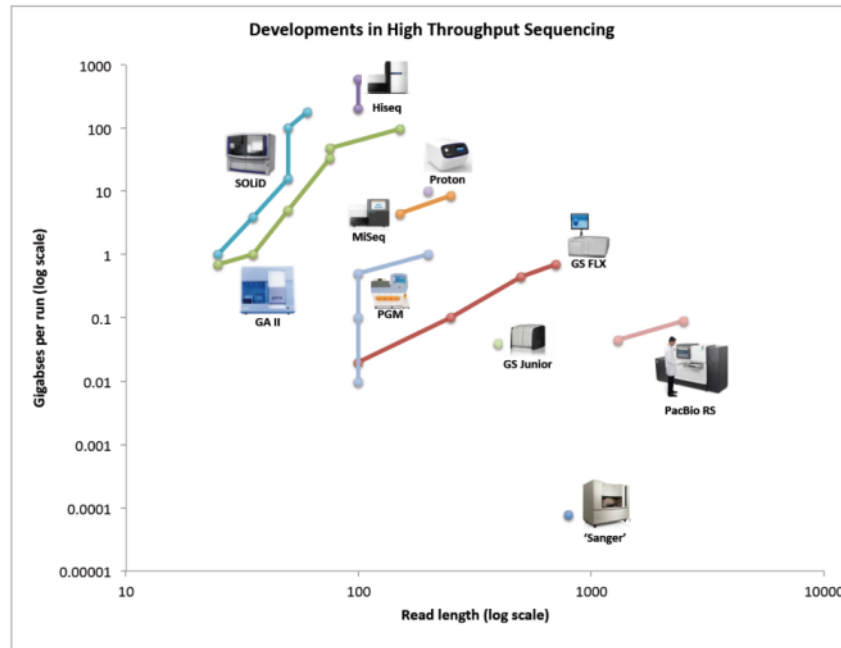
1-Sequence what grows in the fields! -> bread wheat



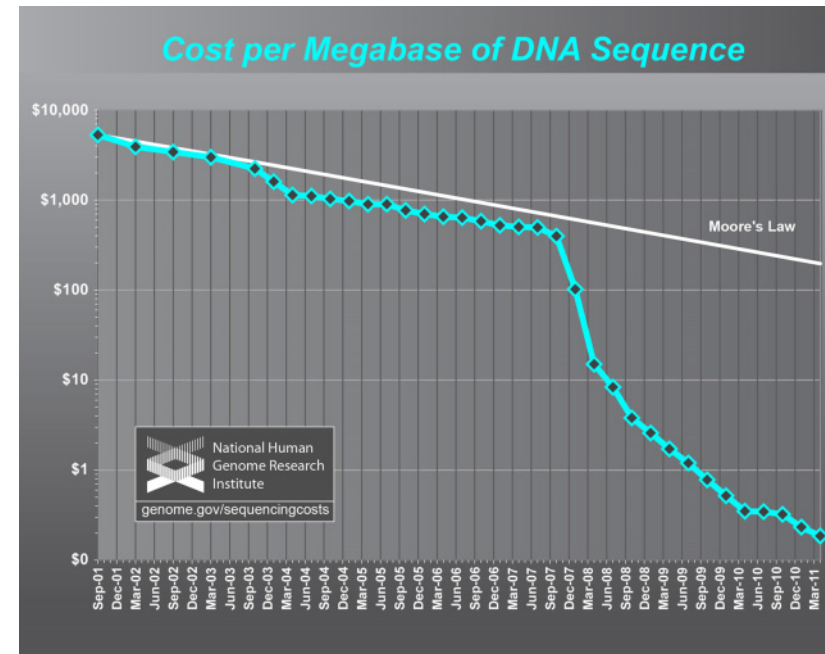
2- A sequence linked to the genetic maps and phenotypes



# Faster and cheaper methods to tackle the wheat genome



<http://flxlexblog.wordpress.com/2012/12/03/developments-in-next-generation-sequencing-a-visualisation/>



Wetterstrand KA. DNA Sequencing Costs: Data from the NHGRI  
[www.genome.gov/sequencingcosts](http://www.genome.gov/sequencingcosts).

# Which Way for Wheat...

We offer three kinds of service:

**GOOD - CHEAP - FAST**

You can pick any two

**GOOD** service **CHEAP** won't be **FAST**

**GOOD** service **FAST** won't be **CHEAP**

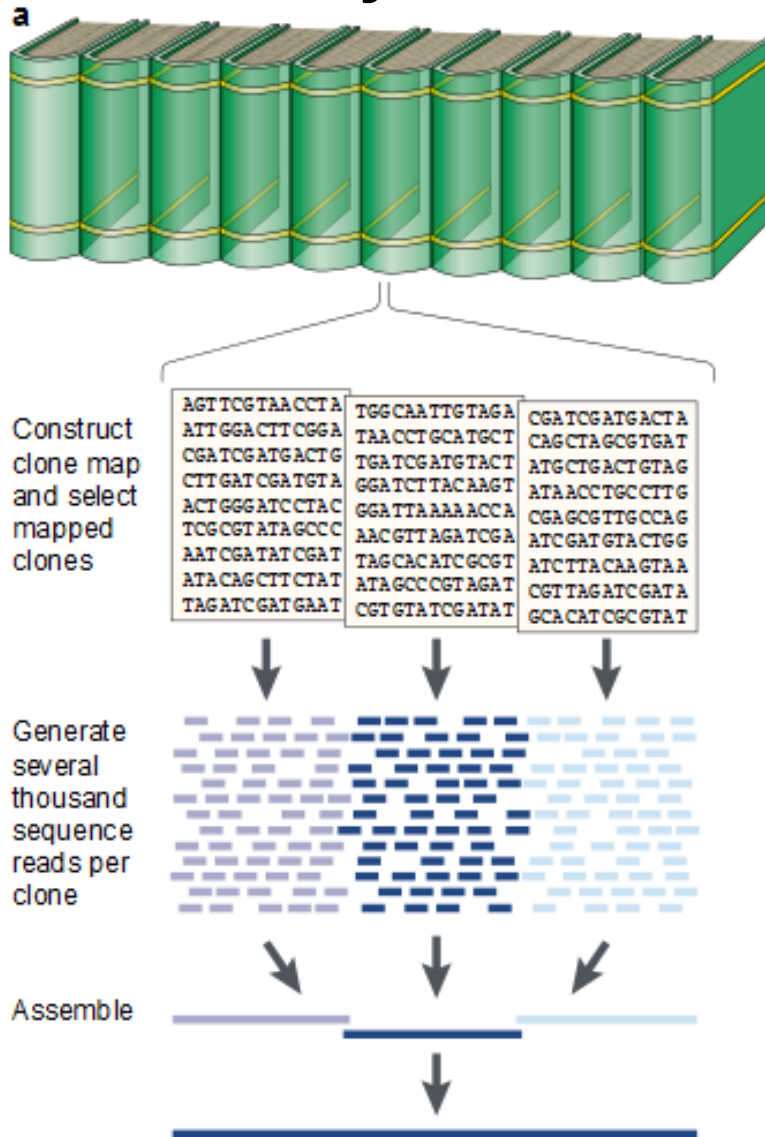
**FAST** service **CHEAP** won't be **GOOD**

LINDA SIGNS

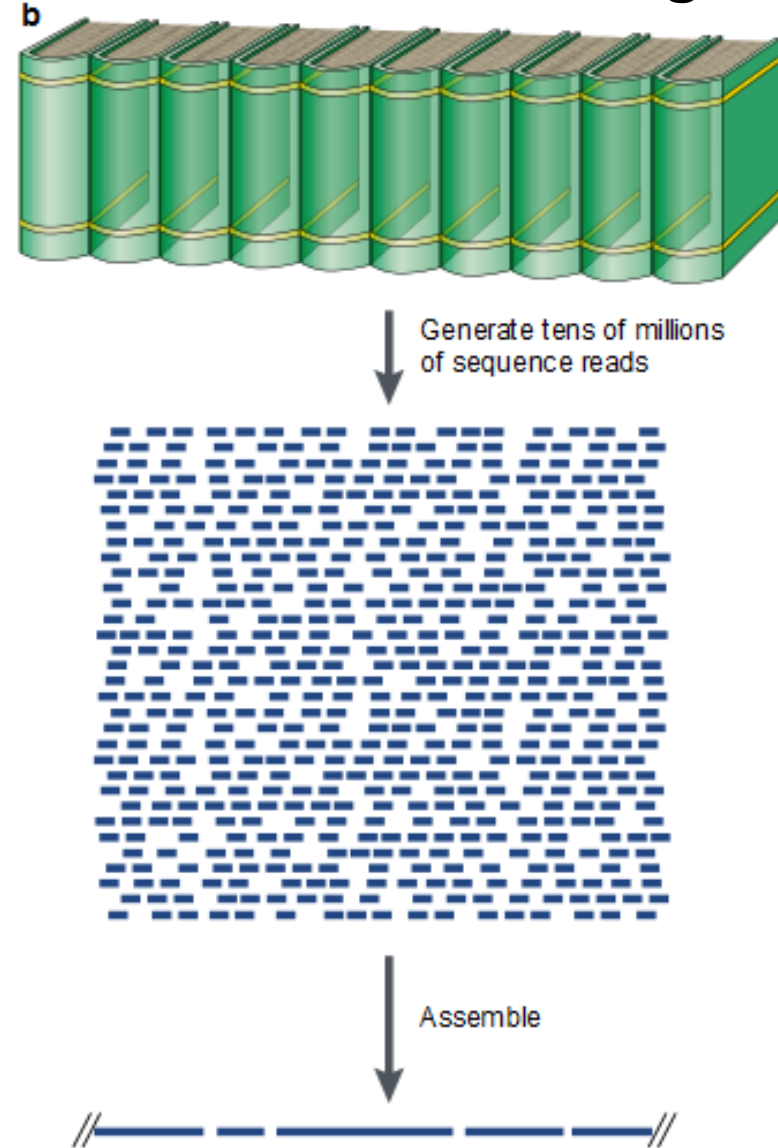


# Two possible approaches

## BAC by BAC

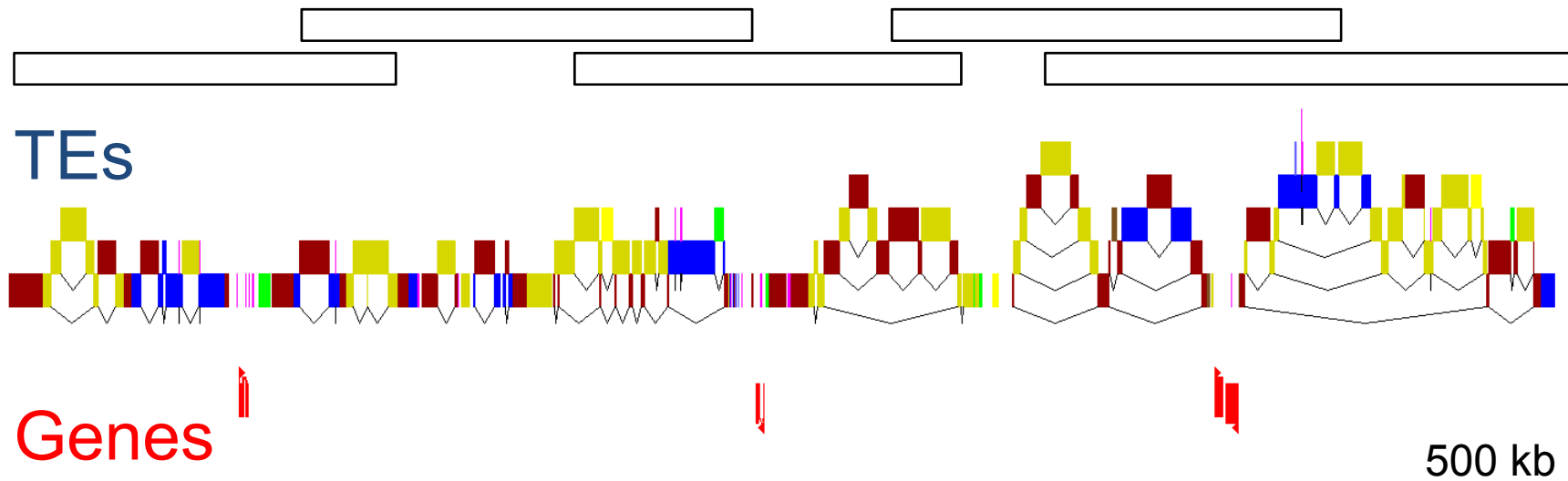


## Whole Genome Shotgun

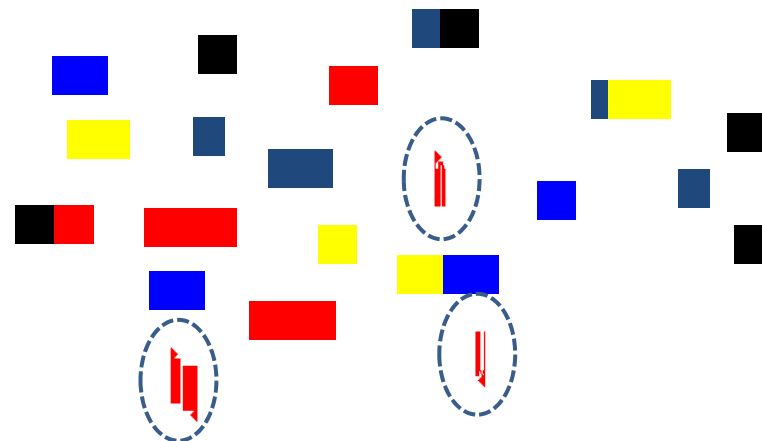


# BAC by BAC vs WGS

## BAC by BAC (physical map) ✓



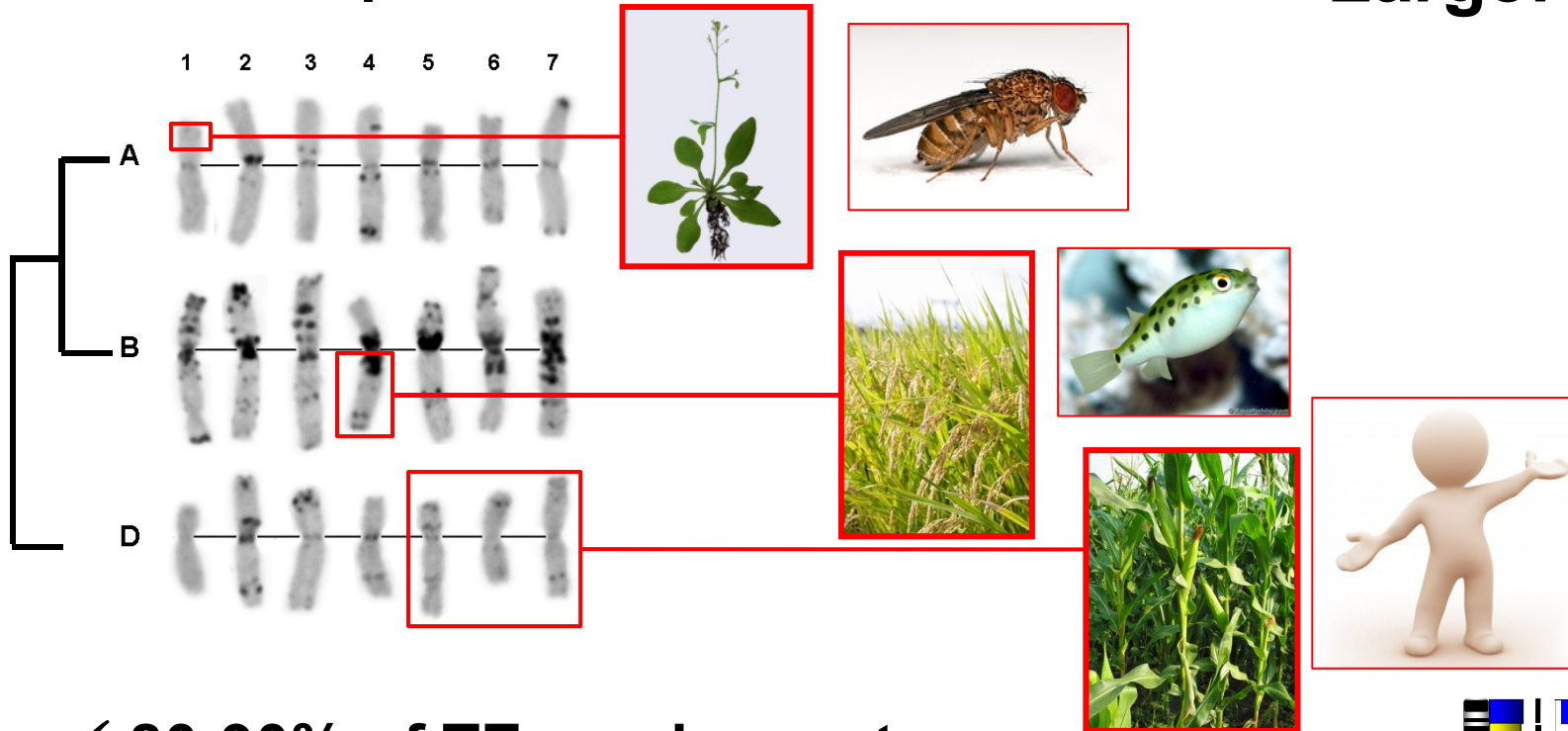
## Whole genome shotgun



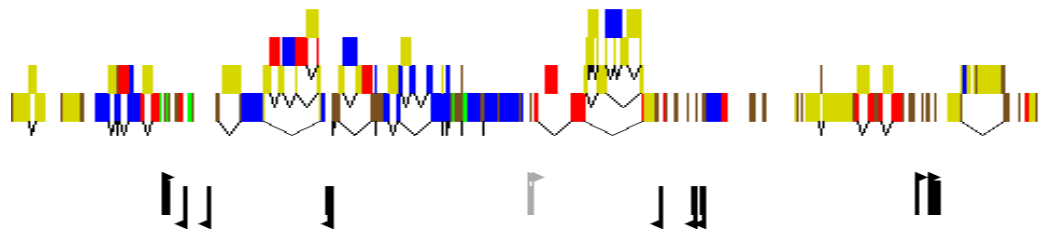
# The bread wheat genome is.....a challenge

✓ Allohexaploid

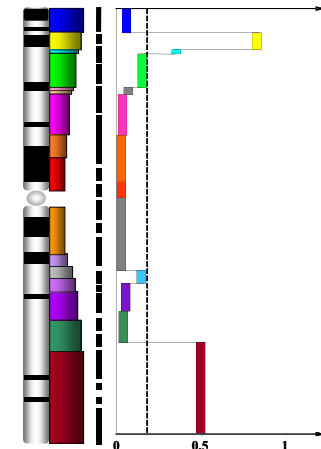
✓ Large: 17 Gb



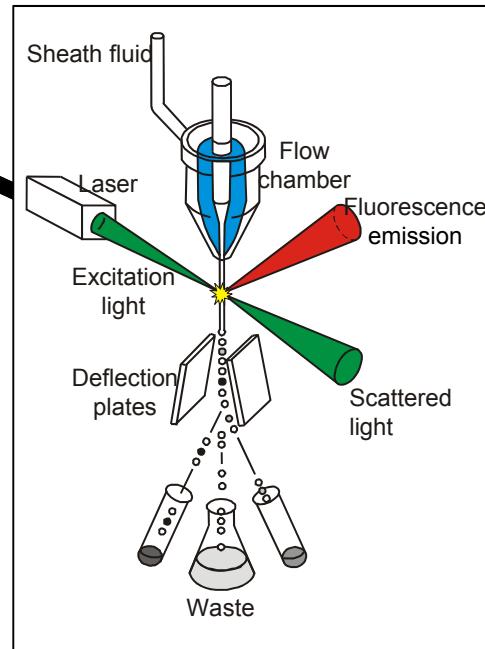
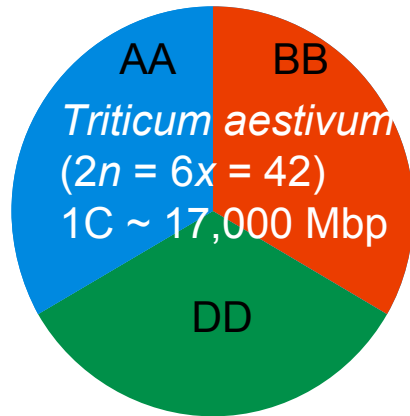
✓ 80-90% of TEs and repeats



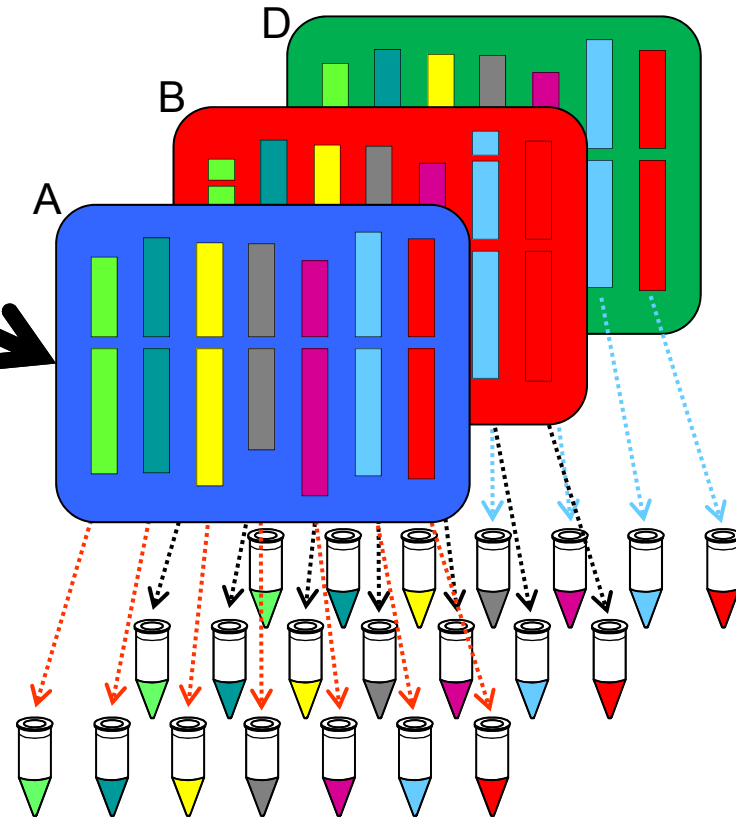
✓ > 50% of non recombinogenic regions



# Managing the 17 Gb, Hexaploid Genome



## Dissection of the genome into single chromosomes (arms)



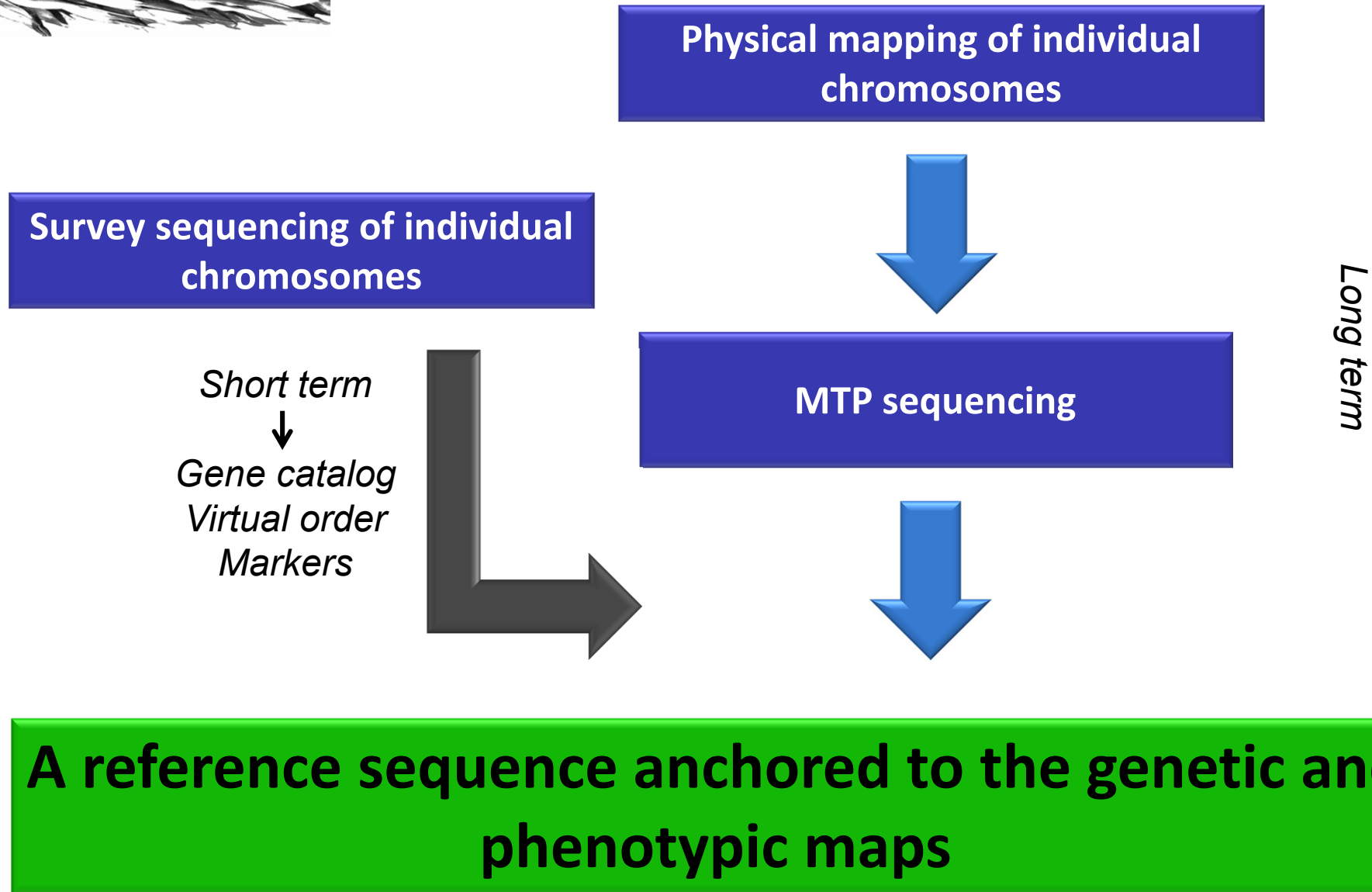
Doležel et al., *Chromosome Res.* 15: 51, 2007

- Chromosomes: 605 - 995 Mbp  
(3.6 – 5.9% of the genome)
- Chromosome arms: 225 - 585 Mbp  
(1.3 – 3.4% of the genome)

## Chromosome genomics

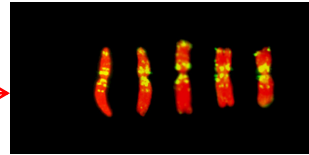
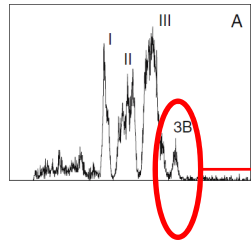
- Chromosome specific BAC libraries and sequencing

# Roadmap to the Wheat Genome Sequence





# IWGSC Strategy for a Reference Wheat Genome Sequence



1. BAC library construction

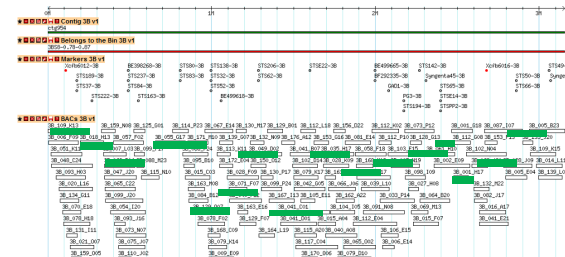


2. BAC fingerprinting (HICF/WGP)



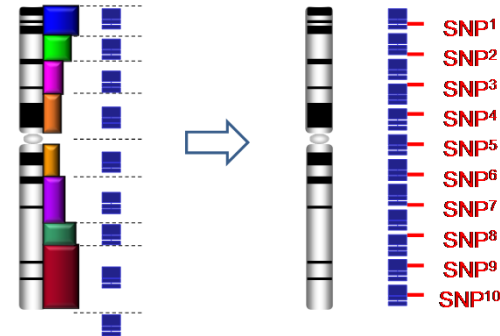
```
GAATTTGGTCAAGAATAAGGACAAAGAA  
GAATTCCTCTGTGCGCCGTTTA  
GAATTCATGCTCCAGCCAATCATCAAAA  
GAATTCACCAATAATAATATCACTAAGC  
GAATTCATCAGTATGGAGTTTCTCATGC  
GAATTCAGCTTGAGTATCTATAGTGCA  
GAATTCATATGTAGAATTATAGGATGCG  
GAATTCACCGAAGGGGTTCCGGGTGTTTC  
GAATTCGGGAACGCTCCGGAGACCAACA  
GAATTCGGAATCACTTGATGATGAATCA  
GAATTCGGAGTCTCTCCGAGCGCAA  
GAATTCACGAAATAGTTATGAATAAGAG  
GAATTCGGGGTAAAGATGGAATCTACAC  
GAATTCGTCAACGACACTATCATCGGAA  
GAATTCCTGATCACTGAGTCCGACGGT  
GAATTCGTGAGGCTCCGCTCTAGAT
```

3. Contig assembly by FPC/LTC



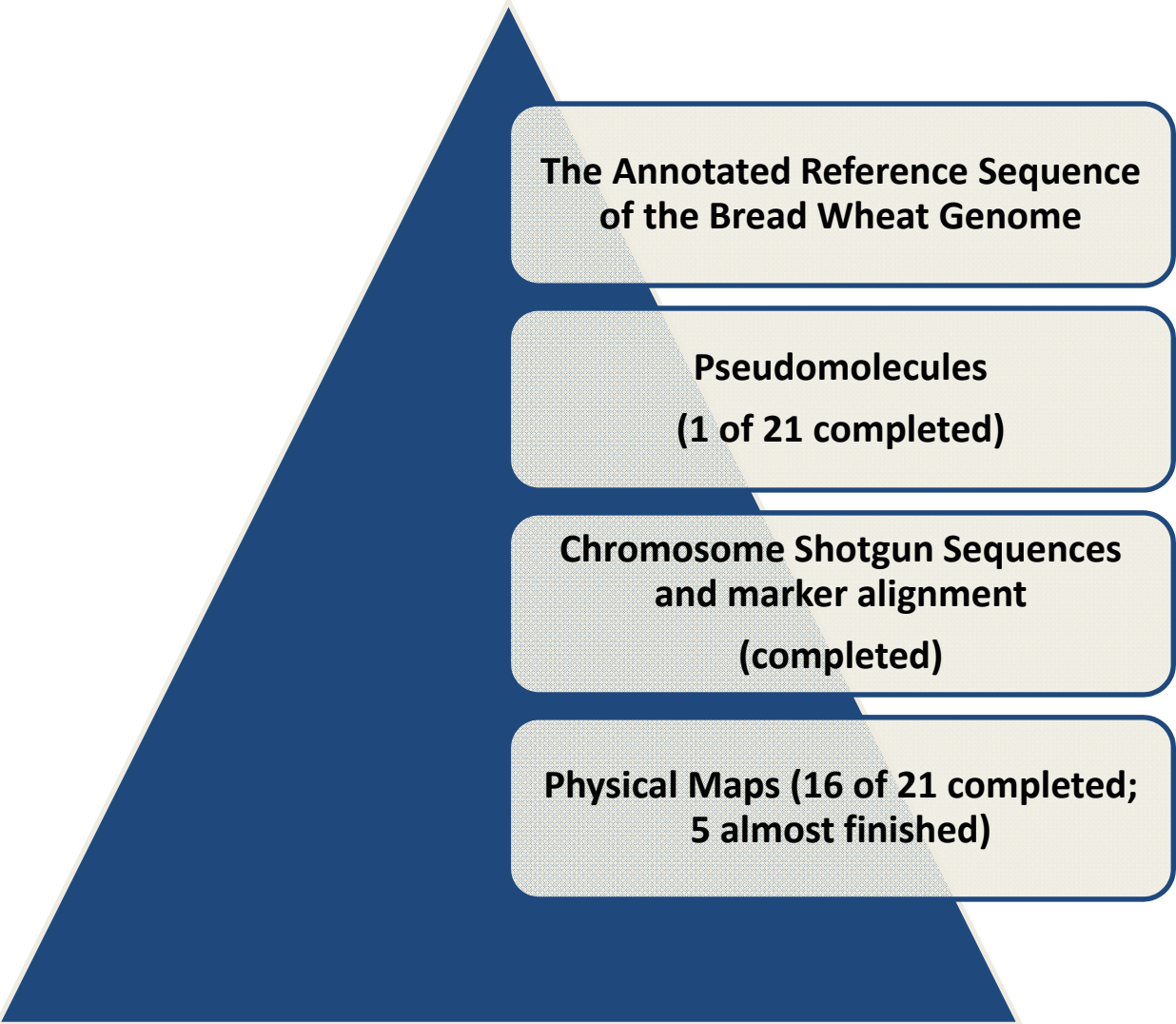
4. MTP sequencing / Scaffold assembly

5. Pseudomolecule construction  
(meiotic/LD/RH mapping)



6. Automated and curated annotation

# IWGSC Projects



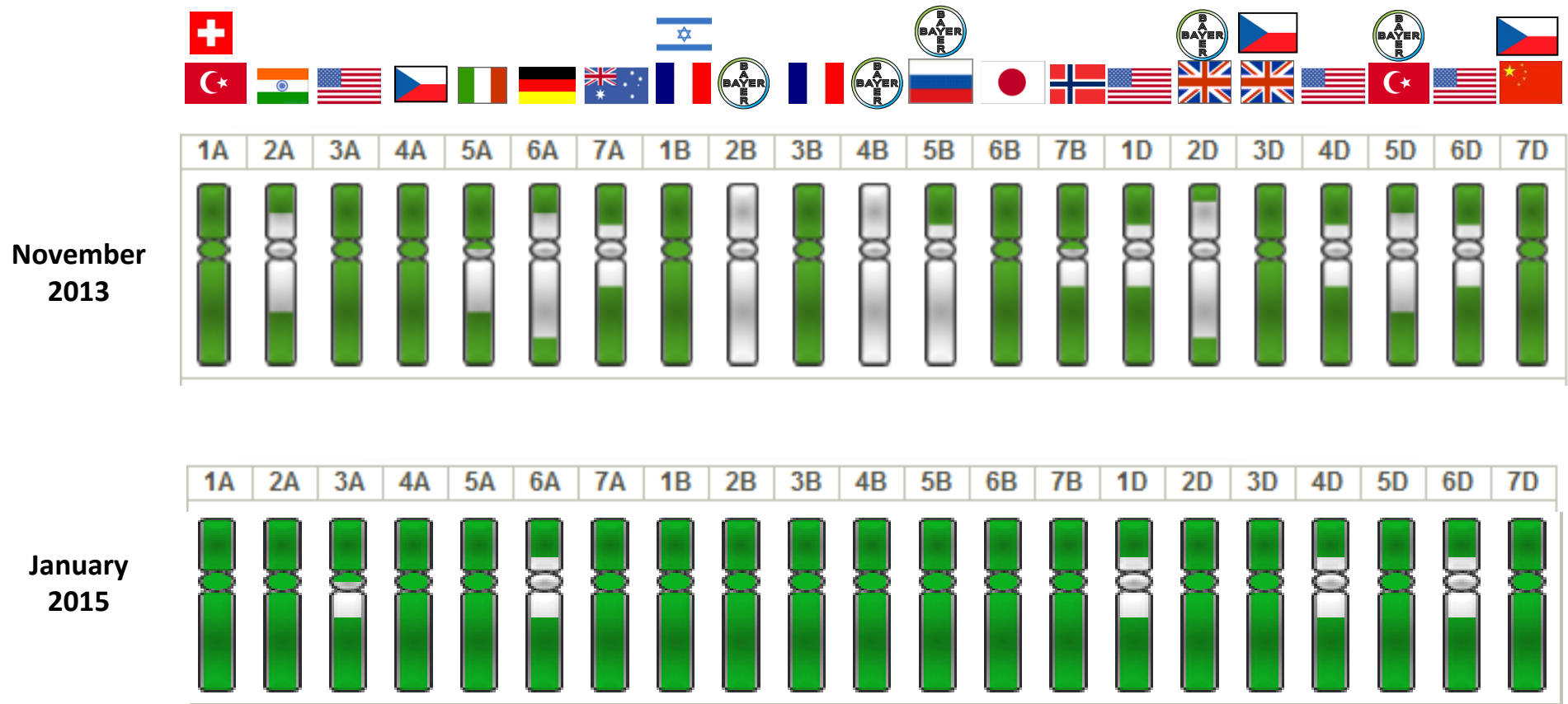
**The Annotated Reference Sequence  
of the Bread Wheat Genome**

**Pseudomolecules  
(1 of 21 completed)**

**Chromosome Shotgun Sequences  
and marker alignment  
(completed)**

**Physical Maps (16 of 21 completed;  
5 almost finished)**

# Wheat Chromosome Physical Maps



Physical maps (of varying quality) have been constructed for all chromosomes.  
5 maps are being improved.

Status reports from IWGSC website

# IWGSC Chromosome Shotgun Sequencing Initiative



**TGAC**  
The Genome Analysis Centre™

 Institute of Experimental Botany of the AS CR, v. v. i.

 **INRA**

**HelmholtzZentrum münchen**  
German Research Center for Environmental Health

 **biogemma**

 **Graminor**

Amplified DNA- sorted individual chromosomes

~50X  
Illumina  
sequence

Chromosome arm sequence assemblies

Gene modeling, virtual ordering (GZ), annotation, functional, structural analyses

Composition and Evolution of the 21 Bread Wheat Chromosomes

A, S, D, & AB genomes (7)

>30X  
Illumina  
sequence

Read/assembly alignment to chromosome arms

**WGRC**  
Wheat Genetic & Genomic Resources Center



Agence Nationale de la Recherche  
**ANR**

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

USDA **NIFA**  
United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Australian Government  
Australian Research Council



**BBSRC**  
bioscience for the future

 **The Research Council of Norway**

Department of Biotechnology  
Ministry of Science & Technology,  
Government of India

**NIAS**  
National Institute of Agricultural Sciences

Together we are  
**KANSAS WHEAT**

The elusive dream of  
regenerating the heart p. 252

Summer selections for your  
reading pleasure p. 258

Mesoscale eddies help drive  
ocean circulation p. 322

# Science

\$50  
28 JULY 2024  
sciencemag.org

AAAS

## *Slicing the wheat genome*

Sequencing illuminates bread wheat evolution  
and breeding potential p. 285



# IWGSC Chromosome Survey Sequence Data

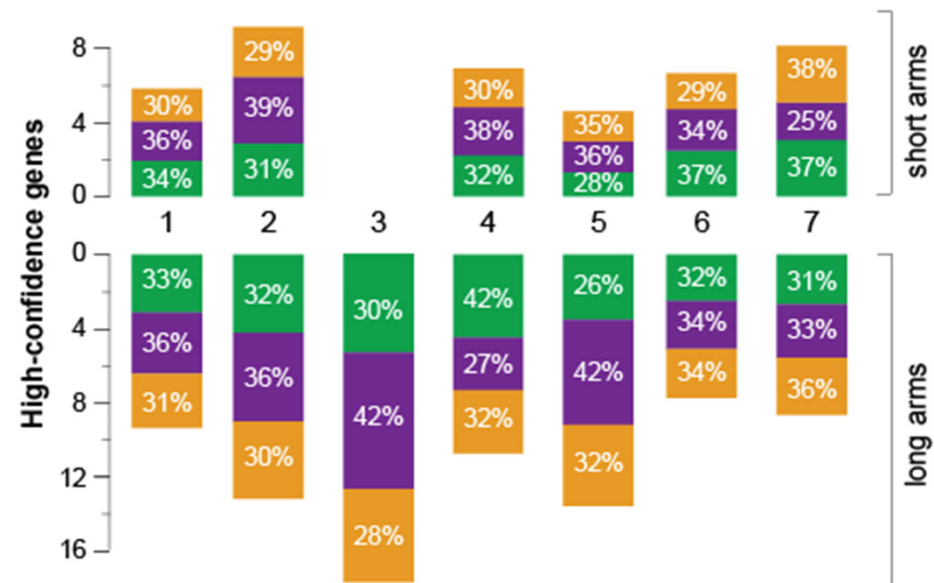
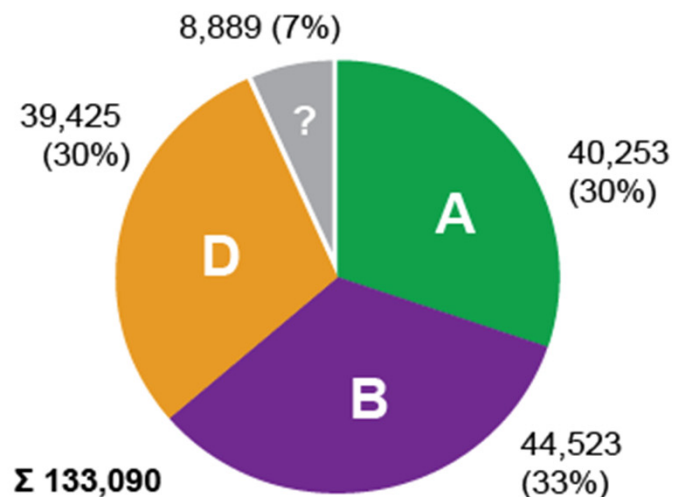
- Sequence assemblies for 40 chromosome arms + chromosome 3B

- ❖ Total length **10.2 Gb**

- ❖ **128Mb (1DS) – 639Mb (3B)** assembled sequence per chromosome

- ❖ N50 contig length after repeat masking = **6.1kb** (1.7kb-8.9kb)

- Annotation (RNASeq, FLcDNA, grass genomes): **124,201** allocated to chromosomes

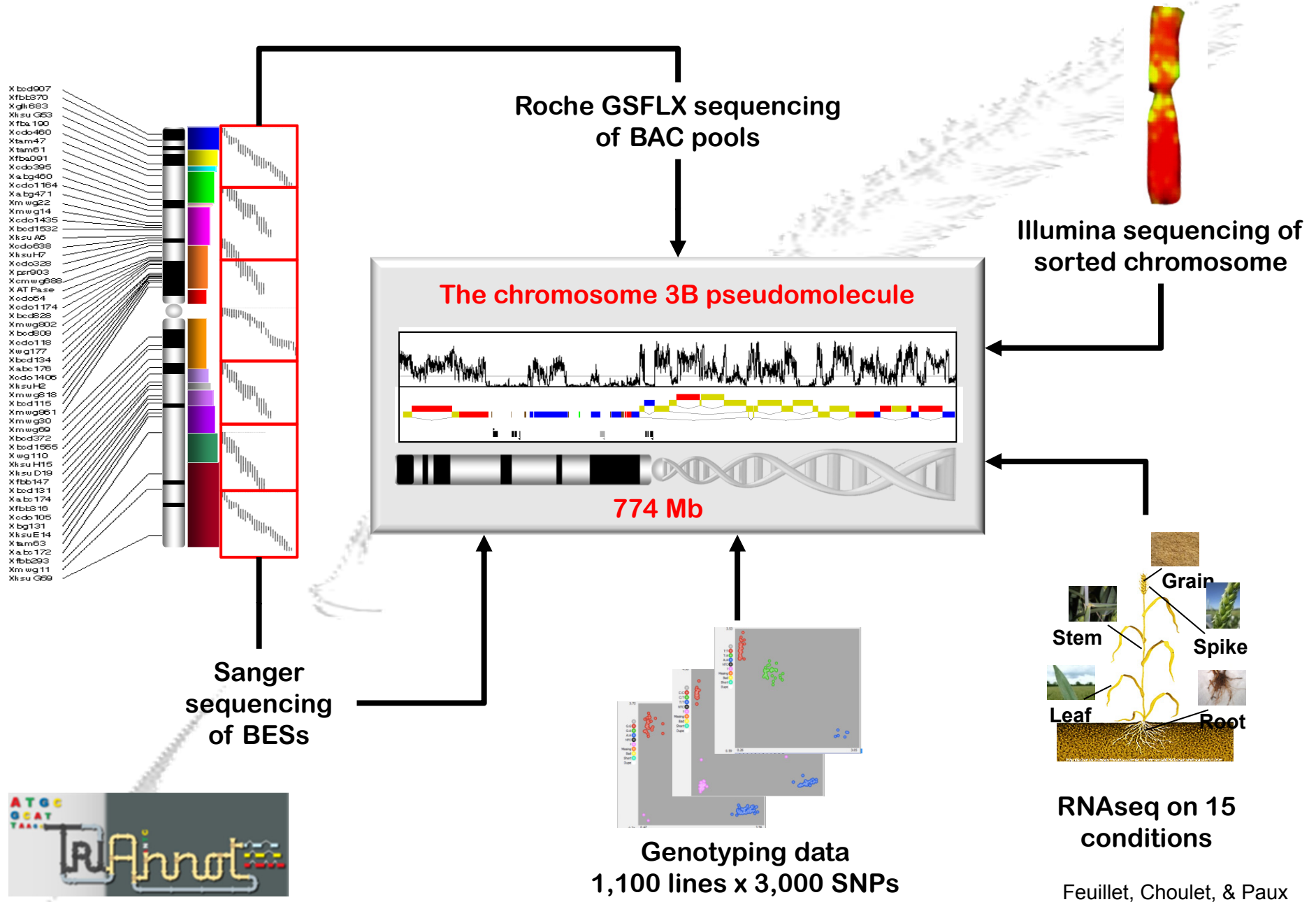


# IWGSC Chromosome Survey Sequencing - Summary

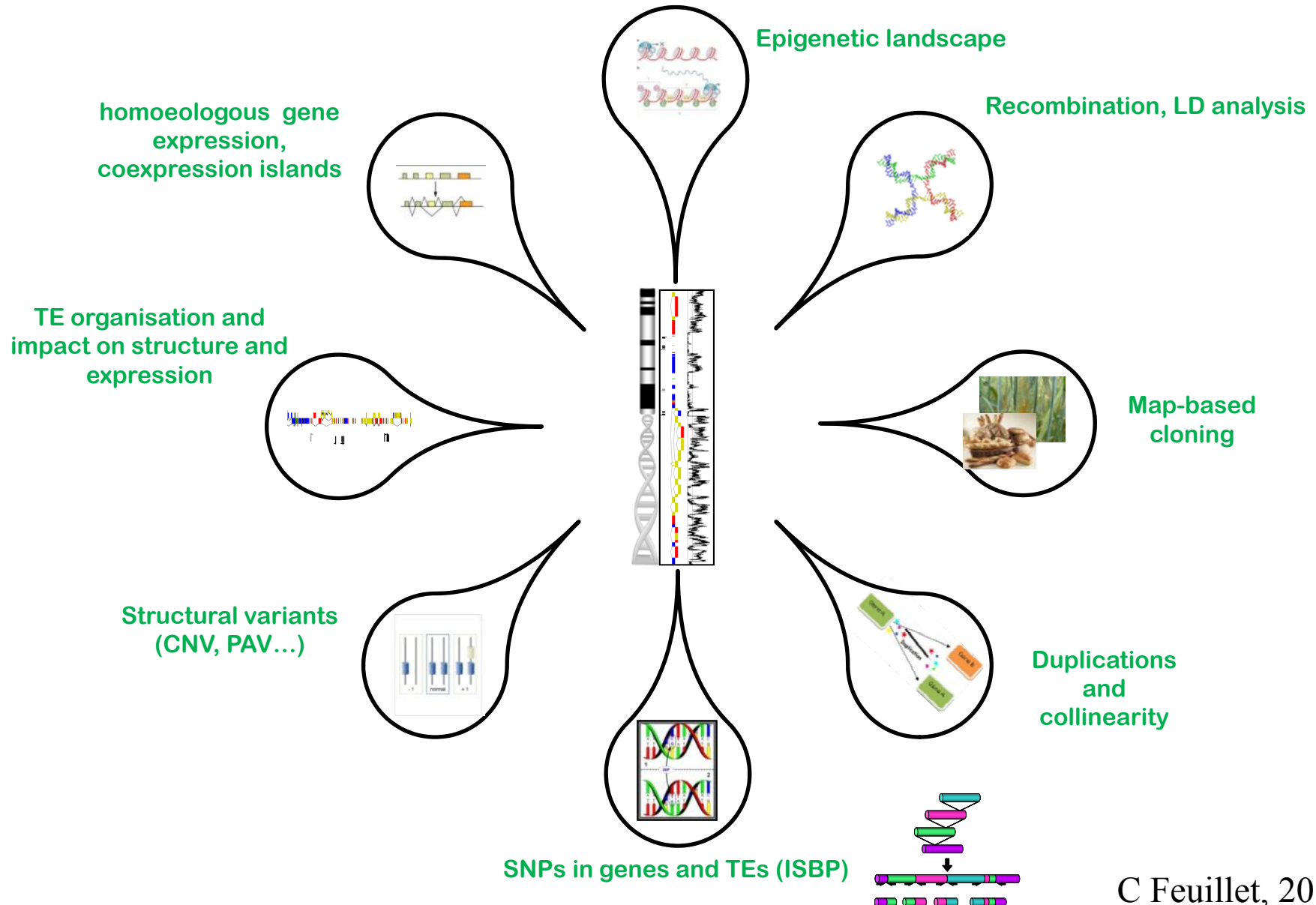
- Almost full wheat gene complement identified and allocated to chromosome arms
- On average, 53% of genes virtually ordered along chromosomes
- High level of inter- and intrachromosomal duplication
- Over 3.5 M markers mapped to contigs (1.3M wheat markers + 2.3M SNPs) - SSR, EST, DArT, SNP (90k) markers...
- 13.2 million SNPs from POPSeq aligned to contigs



# Sequencing the hexaploid wheat chromosome 3B



# The 3B reference sequence: an enabling tool to discover, understand, and apply



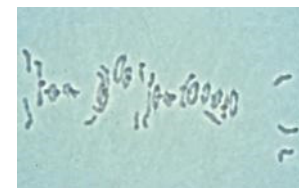
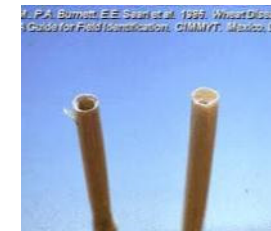
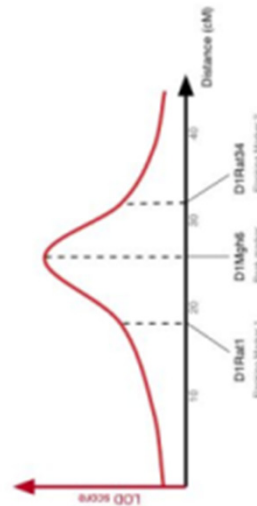
# 3B Reference is facilitating map-based cloning

40 genes and QTL mapped on 3B

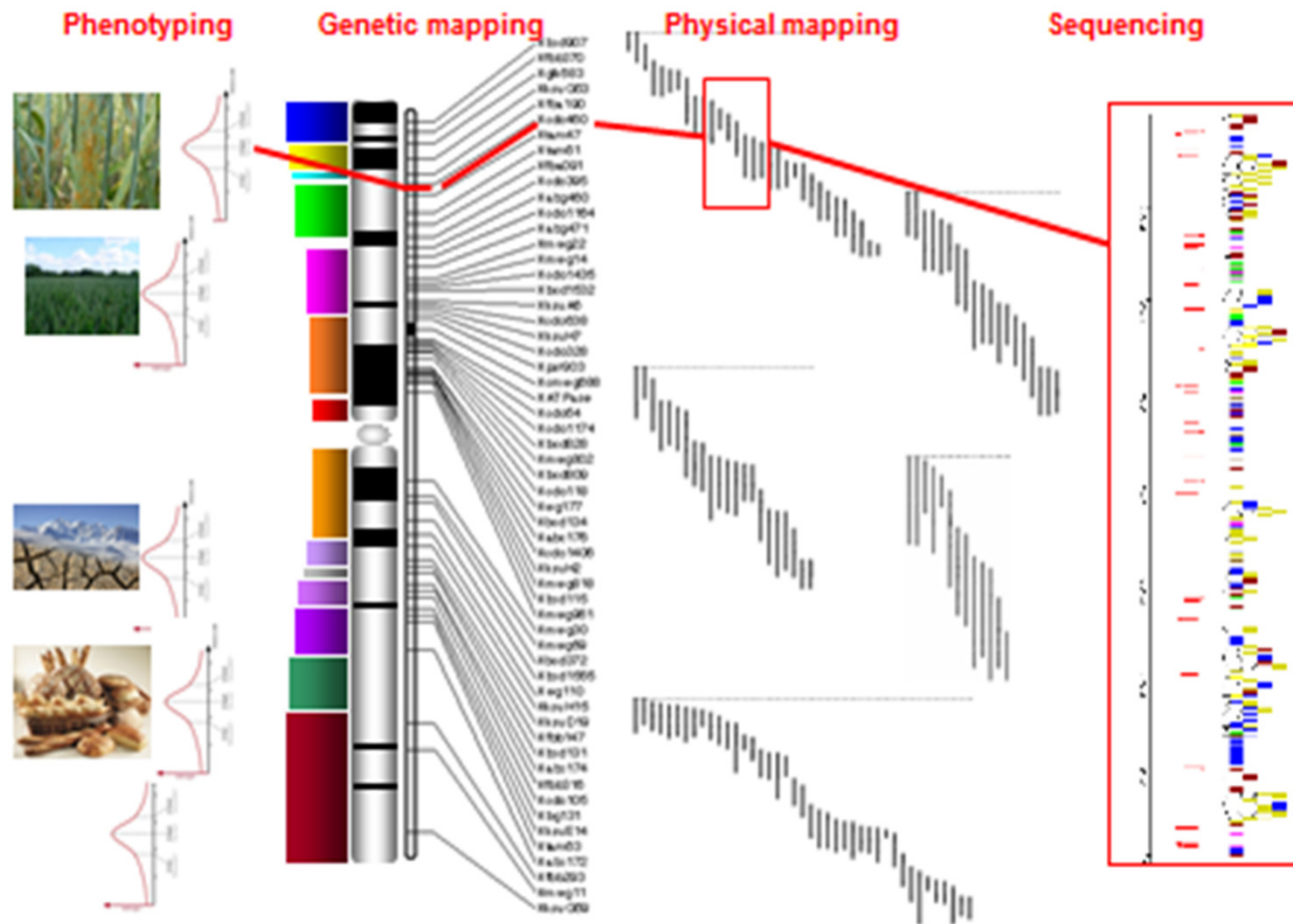
→4722 markers on 3B consensus map, 3102 in 964 SC (679 Mb =82 % of the sequence)

→13 map-based cloning projects

- Disease resistance genes (Sr, Lr, Yr, Stb...)
- Solid stem (saw fly)
- Yield
- Drought tolerance
- Boron transporter
- Flowering time
- NUE
- Chromosome pairing...



# A useful genome sequence: Wheat 3B



- Unlimited markers
- Efficient gene cloning
- Pre-breeding
- Precision breeding
- Shortens time to market
- Improves seed value capture



# IWGSC Resources

- All resources accessible at URGI, Versailles

<http://wheat-urgi.versailles.inra.fr/Seq-Repository/>

- IWGSC CSS Raw sequence reads in the SRA
- IWGSC CSS assemblies available at URGI and EBI
- IWGSC CSS assemblies & gene models integrated into EnsemblPlants

[http://plants.ensembl.org/Triticum\\_aestivum](http://plants.ensembl.org/Triticum_aestivum)



# Perspectives on Sequencing Wheat ....

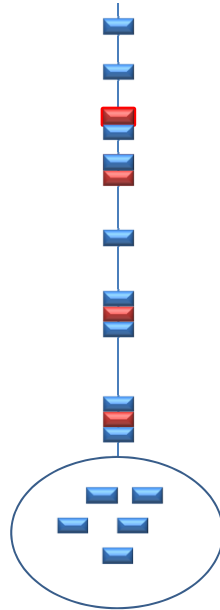
- 1994 to 1998:
  - It will cost \$1billion to sequence maize
  - Arabidopsis can answer all questions, much more cheaply (Only \$110 million to sequence)
  - We only need ESTs for economically important crops
  - If you have full length cDNAs, you will have everything you want
- 2001 to 2003:
  - Okay, so Arabidopsis is not a cereal, rice is the answer
  - Since it is not possible, we will focus money on coming up with a new solution
  - \$500 million later... Eureka! We can focus on sequencing only the genes
- 2003 to 2008:
  - \$30 million for sequencing maize
- Today ...
  - Breeders and biologists alike agree having the genes are not enough
  - But, it's too late, you have your sequence
- 1994 to 2004:
  - Wheat ESTs and a physical map of the D-genome progenitor is all you need
- 2004 to 2008:
  - It is not possible to sequence wheat & not possible to sort chromosomes
  - It will cost \$1billion to sequence wheat
  - We only need ESTs, a handful of cDNAs, and the D-genome sequence
- 2008 to 2010
  - Okay, so you can do chromosome based physical maps.... But
  - Brachypodium sequence is the answer!
  - Whole genome based on other crops is only way to go, but we need to keep spending money on in-silico approaches to figure out how to do a whole genome approach
- 2010 to today
  - You only need the genes
  - We can sequence the progenitors because we know all of them
  - 5X shotgun is good enough
  - Survey sequence is enough



# Moving Towards the IWGSC Target



## Whole Chromosome Shotgun



CS chromosome  
survey sequences  
(2014)

Max 53% using synteny and genetic mapping (GZ): « virtual order »

## Chromosome MTP



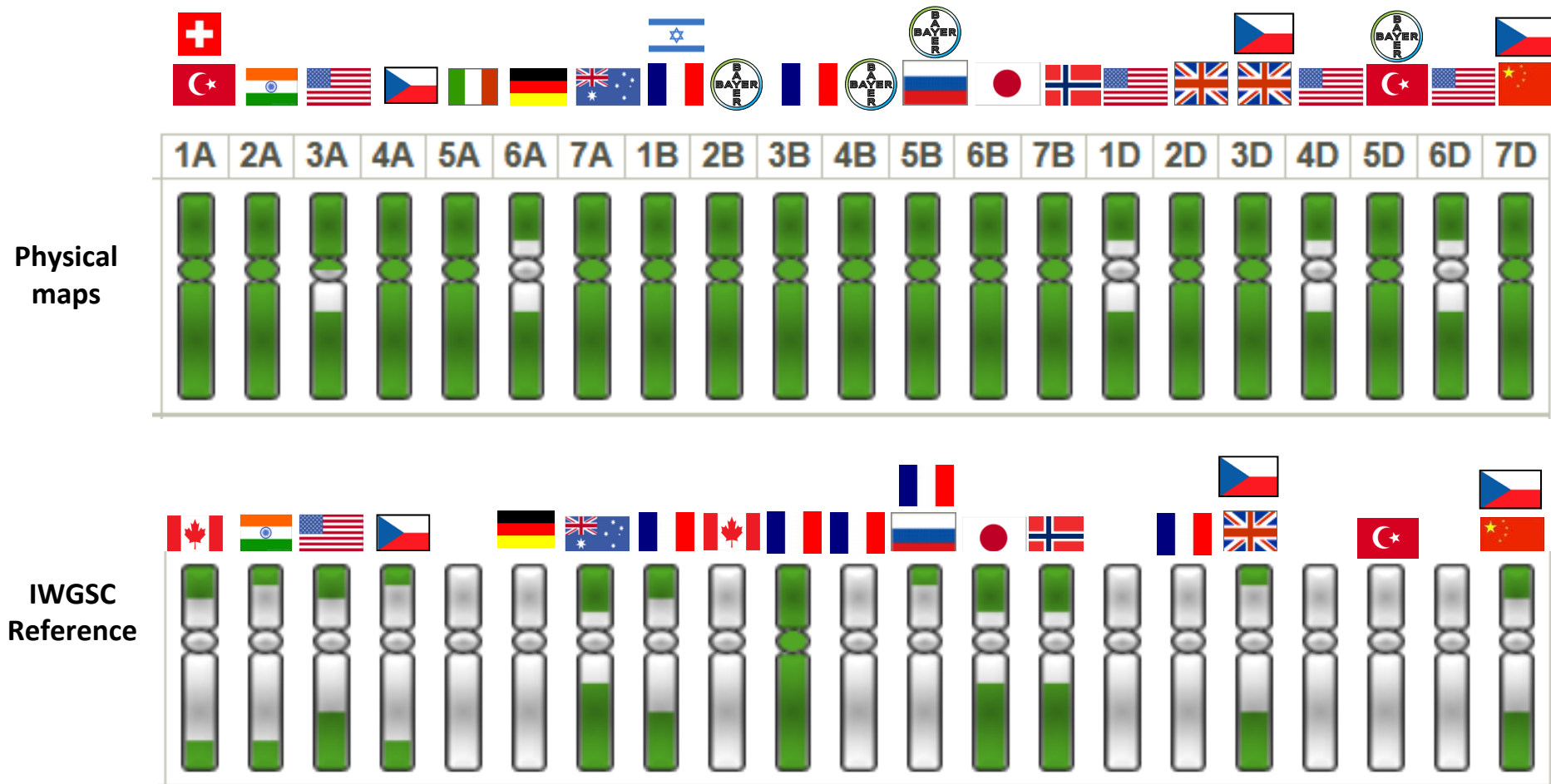
CS 3BSEQ  
(2014)

94% real order

completeness of information

Gold  
standard

# Progress towards completion of Bread Wheat Projects



# Our Sponsors



Bayer CropScience



Dow AgroSciences



The miracles of science™



GRDC

Grains Research & Development Corporation

Your GRDC working with you



HEARTLAND PLANT INNOVATIONS



MONSANTO



I W G S C



# Acknowledgements

- IWGSC Leadership Team:
  - Rudi Appels, Murdoch University
  - Kellye Eversole, IWGSC
  - Catherine Feuillet, (INRA)-Bayer CropScience
  - Beat Keller, University of Zurich
  - Jane Rogers, IWGSC
- 63 members of the Coordinating Committee
- Physical mapping and sequencing project leaders in 19 countries, their team members, and collaborators





For More Information:  
[www.wheatgenome.org](http://www.wheatgenome.org)

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Jane Rogers, Deputy Exec. Director  
([janerogersh@gmail.com](mailto:janerogersh@gmail.com))

