

Celltype prediction

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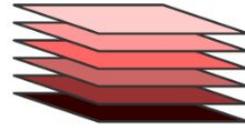
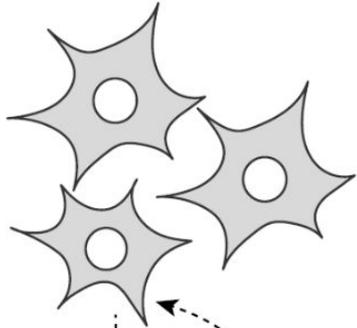
Leiden University Medical Center / TU Delft

Outline

- Introduction
- Normalization
- Removal of confounders
- Gene set selection

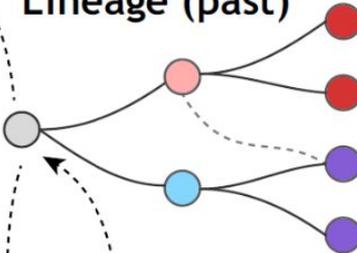
Cell identity

Phenotype and function (present)



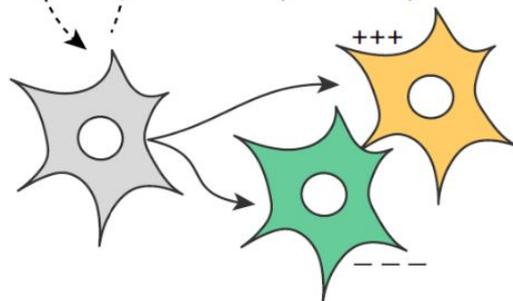
Morphology
Location
Neighbors
Transcriptome
Proteome
Function

Lineage (past)



Building a
cellular
taxonomy from
developmental
origins

State (future)



Distinguishing
between cell
type and
cell state

(Morris, *Development* 2019)

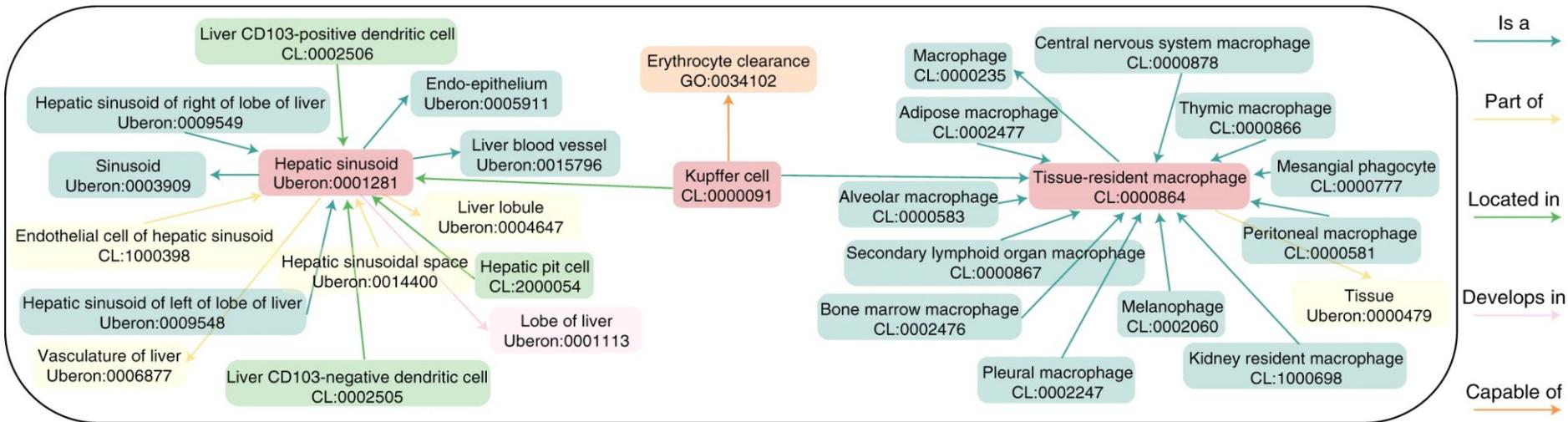
Why do we want to classify celltypes?

- In a novel tissue - what celltypes are there?
- Compare same celltype across conditions.
- Compare abundance of celltypes across conditions.
- Infer communication between celltypes
-

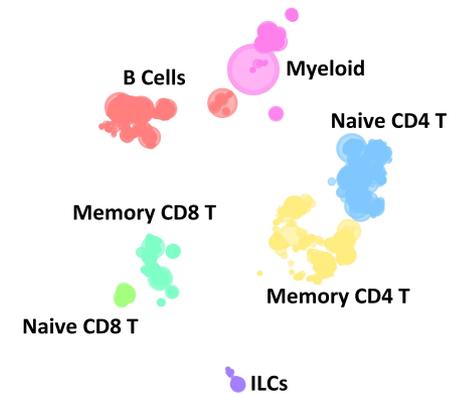
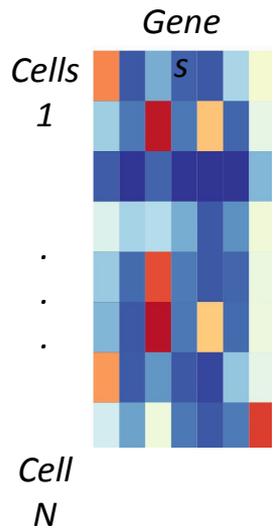
Celltype ontologies

We need a standardized way of classifying celltypes.
Mainly driven by cell atlas projects.

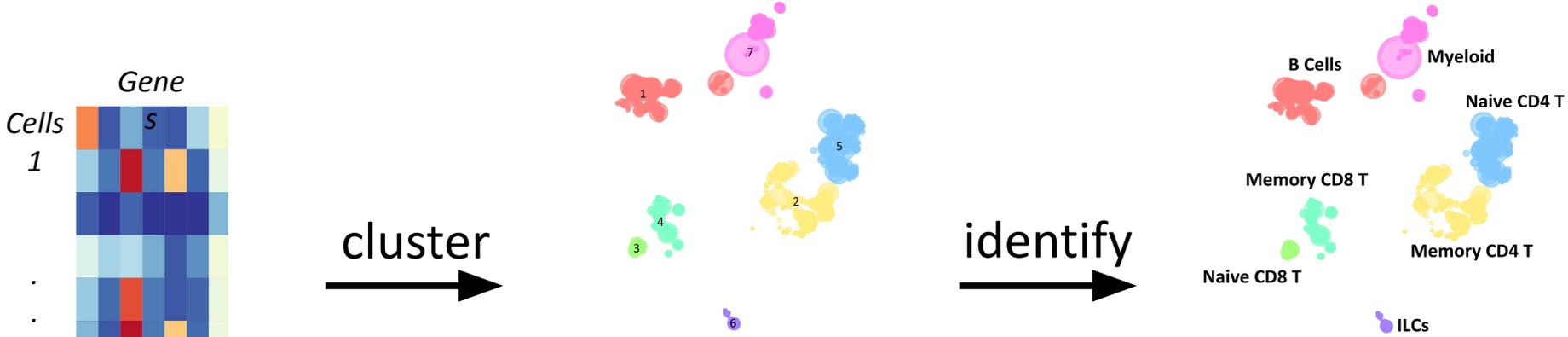
Including HuBMAP, Human Cell Atlas (HCA), cellxgene, Single Cell Expression Atlas, BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network (BICCN), ArrayExpress, The Cell Image Library, ENCODE, and FANTOM5,



How can we identify cell populations?

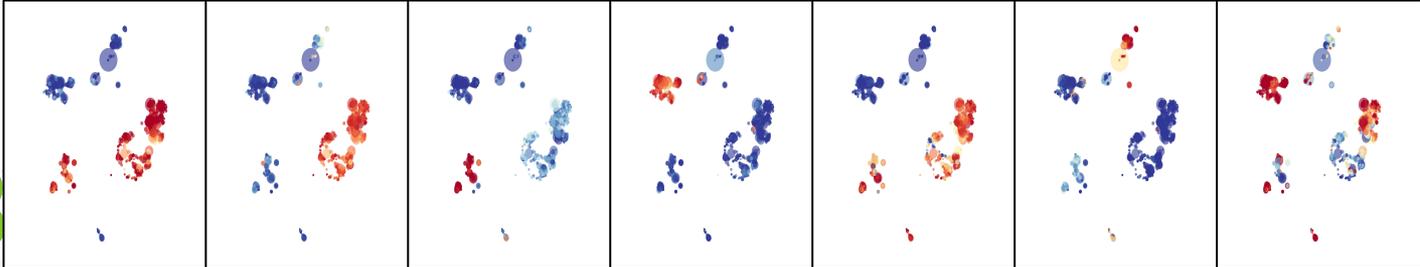


How can we identify cell populations?



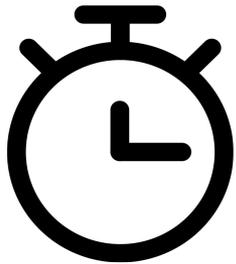
marker genes

CD3 CD4 CD8a CD19 CD7 CD11c CD45RA

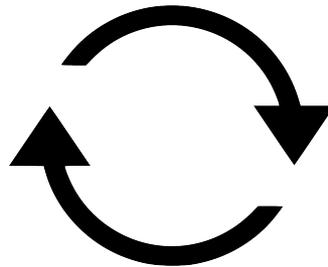


Unsupervised celltype identification is problematic

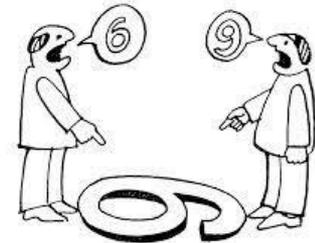
**Time
consuming**



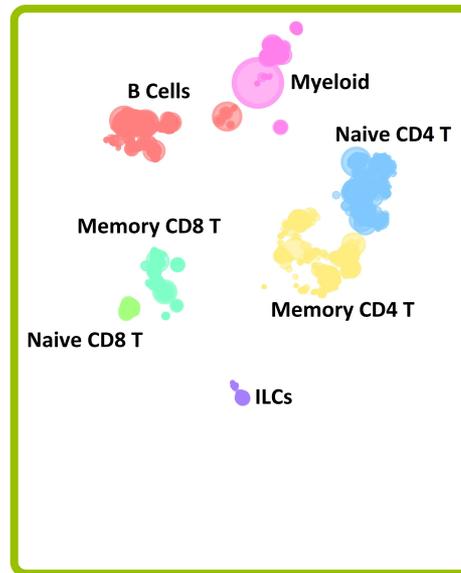
**Not
reproducible**



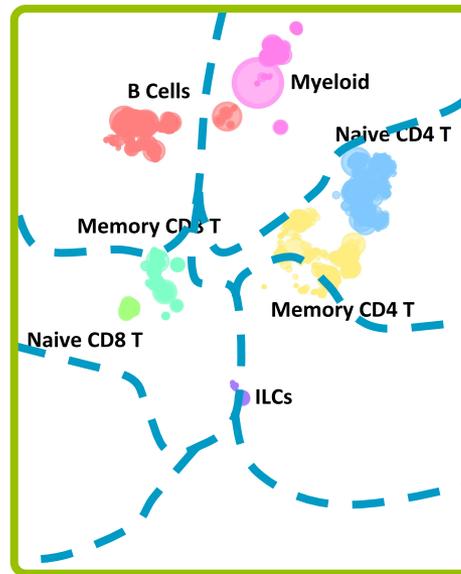
Subjective



Can we automatically identify cell populations?



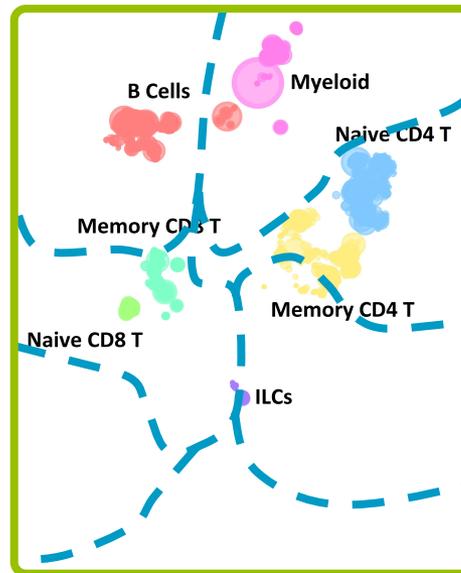
Can we automatically identify cell populations?



Can we automatically identify cell populations?

Clustering

- **Unsupervised** learning
- Discovering structure/relations
- Clusters are defined by a decision boundary

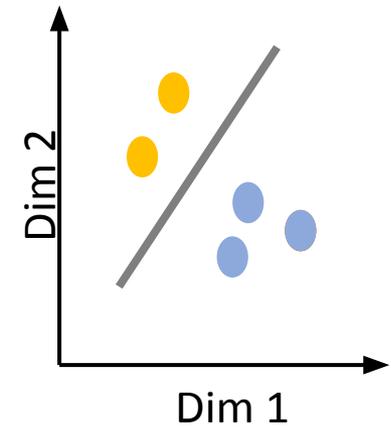


Classification

- **Supervised** learning
- Prior information available about different groups
- Classifiers find descriptions of decision boundaries

Classification

	Features (genes)												Labels (cell types)		
Cell 1															T cell
Cell 2															T cell
															B cell
Cell <i>N</i>															B cell
Unknown Cell															T cell



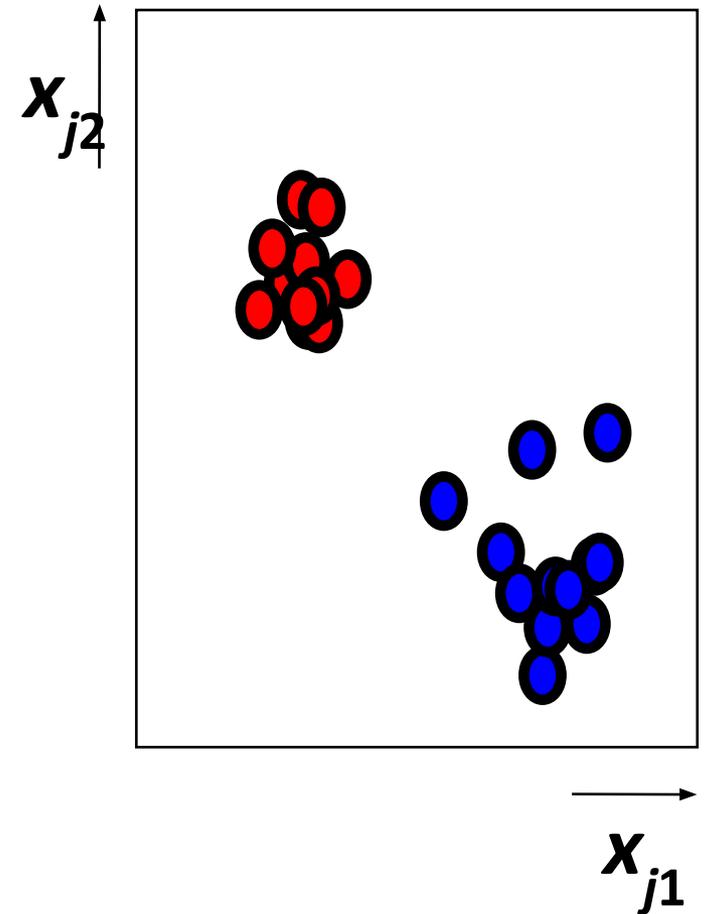
Classifier training

- Dataset: for j^{th} cell:
 - gene expressions \mathbf{x}_j
 - class label: $y_j \in \{1=T, -1=B\}$

- Classifier: $\hat{y}_j = W(x_j)$

- Errors: $E = \text{sum}(E_j) \quad E_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \hat{y}_j \neq y_j \\ 0 & \text{if } \hat{y}_j = y_j \end{cases}$

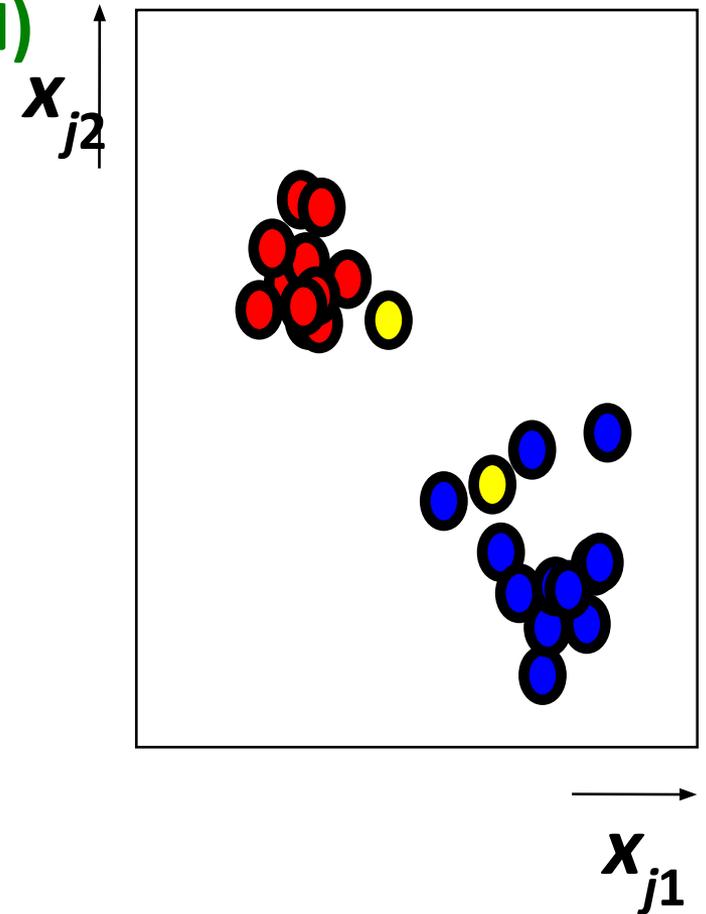
- Place decision boundary (i.e. change W) s.t. E is minimal



Instance Based Learning (Lazy Classification)

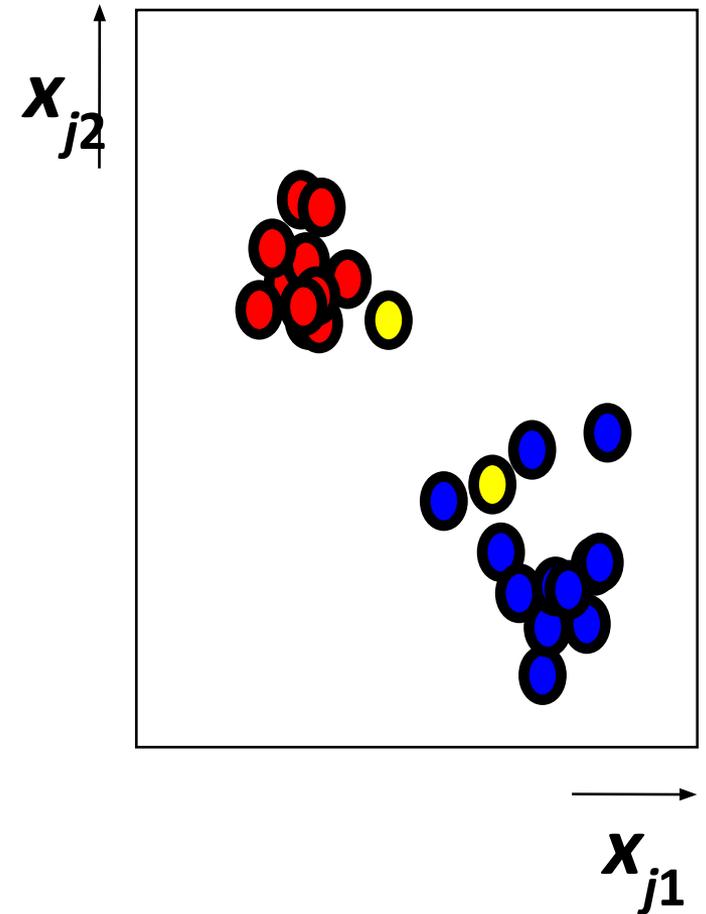
- **Example: Nearest neighbor (k-NN)**

- Keep the whole training dataset
- A query example (vector) comes
- Find closest example(s)
- Predict
- *No actual training*



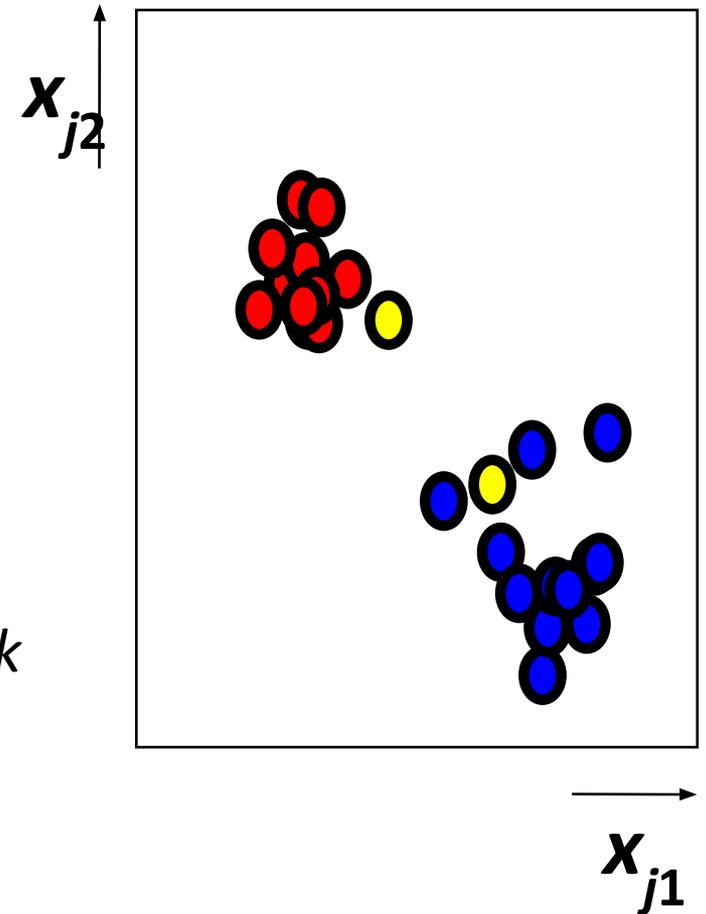
Nearest Neighbor (k-NN)

- To make Nearest Neighbor work we need 4 things:
 - 1) Distance metric:
 - 2) How many neighbors to look at?
 - 3) Weighting function (optional)
 - 4) How to fit with the local points?



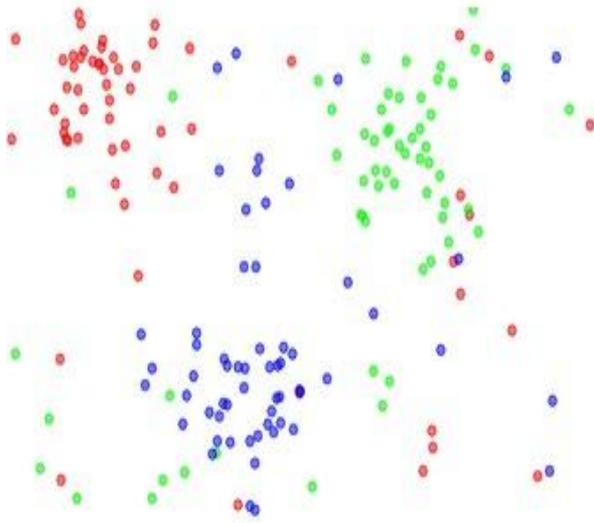
Nearest Neighbor (k-NN)

- Distance metric:
 - Euclidean
- How many neighbors to look at?
 - k
- Weighting function (optional):
 - Unused
- How to fit with the local points?
 - Predict the average output among k nearest neighbors

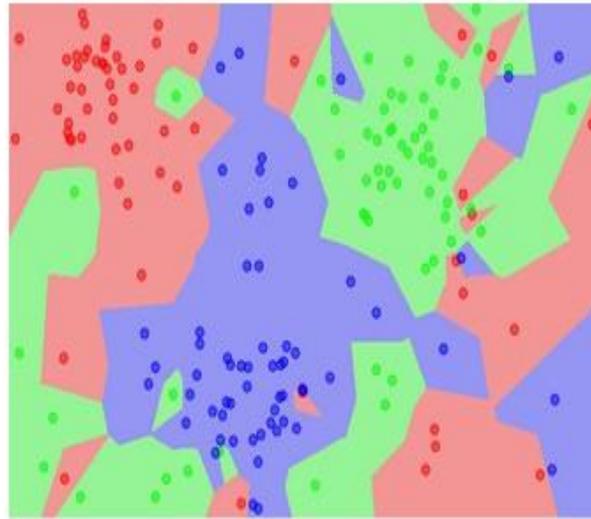


Effect of k

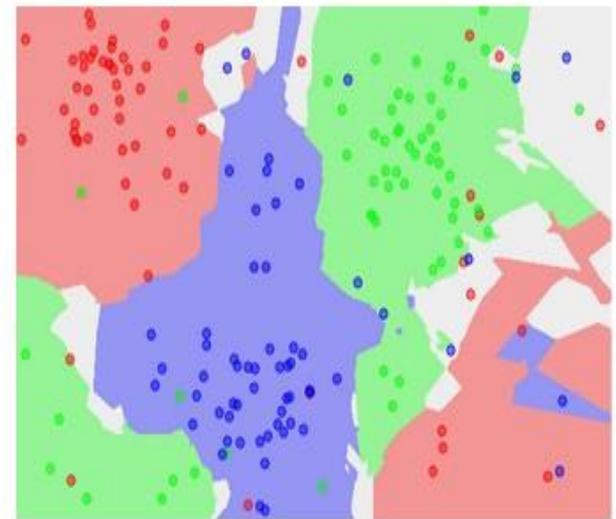
the data



NN classifier



5-NN classifier



Weighted Nearest Neighbor (kernel regression)

- Distance metric:

- Euclidean

- How many neighbors to look at?

- All of them!

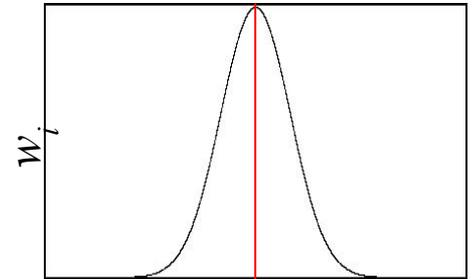
- Weighting function:

$$w_i = \exp\left(-\frac{d(x_i, q)^2}{K_w}\right)$$

- Nearby points to a query q are weighted more strongly. K_w : kernel width

- How to fit with the local points?

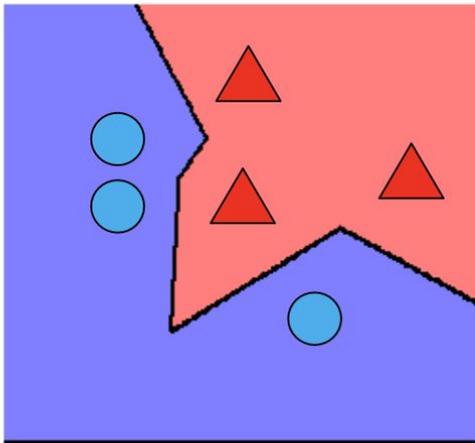
- Predict the weighted average $\frac{\sum_i w_i y_i}{\sum_i w_i}$



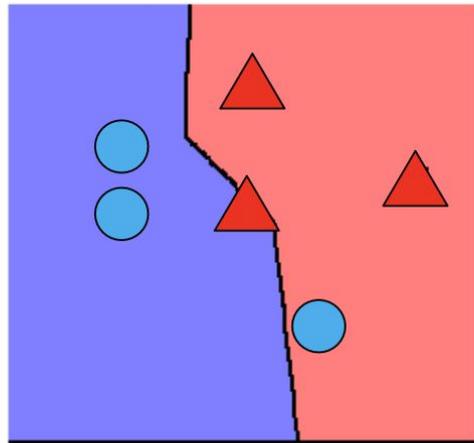
$$d(x_i, q) = 0$$

Comparison: K=1, K=2, kernel

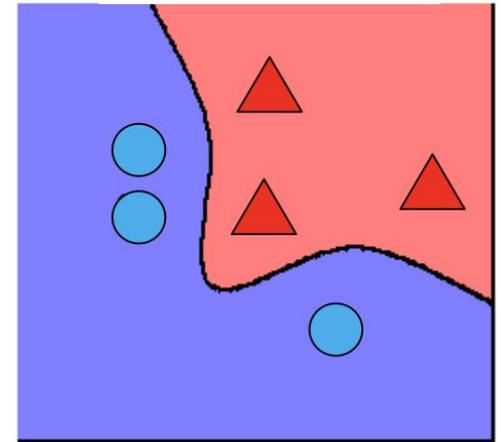
K=1



K=2



kernel



Seurat data transfer

```
pancreas.anchors <- FindTransferAnchors(reference = pancreas.ref, query = pancreas.query, dims = 1:30,
  reference.reduction = "pca")
predictions <- TransferData(anchorset = pancreas.anchors, refdata = pancreas.ref$celltype, dims = 1:30)
pancreas.query <- AddMetaData(pancreas.query, metadata = predictions)
```

```
TransferData(
  anchorset,
  refdata,
  reference = NULL,
  query = NULL,
  query.assay = NULL,
  weight.reduction = "pcaproject",
  l2.norm = FALSE,
  dims = NULL,
  k.weight = 50,
  sd.weight = 1,
  eps = 0,
  n.trees = 50,
  verbose = TRUE,
  slot = "data",
  prediction.assay = FALSE,
  only.weights = FALSE,
  store.weights = TRUE
```

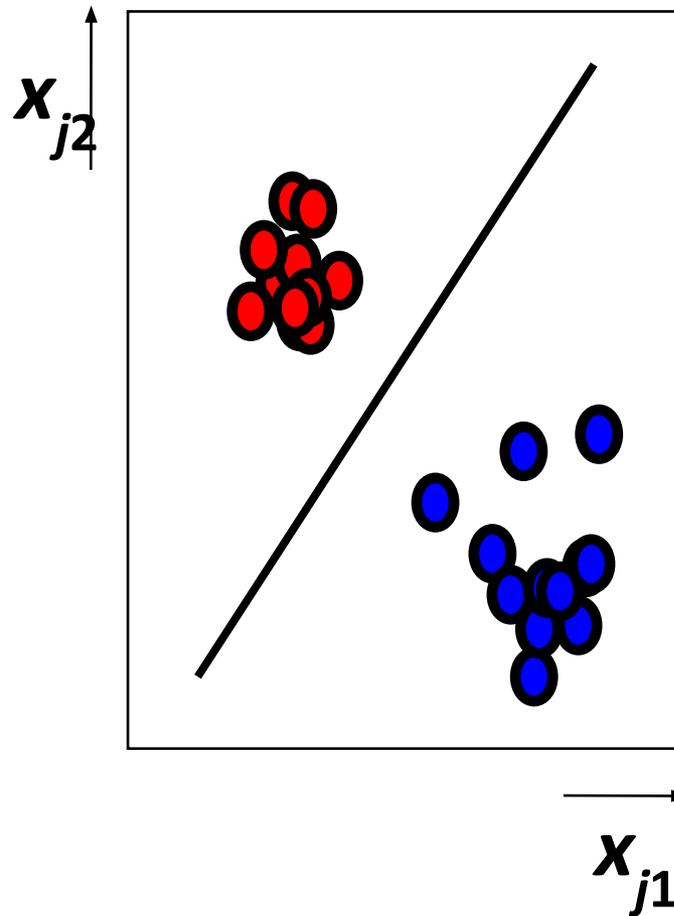
Scanpy data transfer

scanpy.tl.ingest

```
scanpy.tl.ingest(adata, adata_ref, *, obs=None, embedding_method=  
('umap', 'pca'), labeling_method='knn', neighbors_key=None,  
inplace=True, **kwargs)
```

[\[source\]](#)

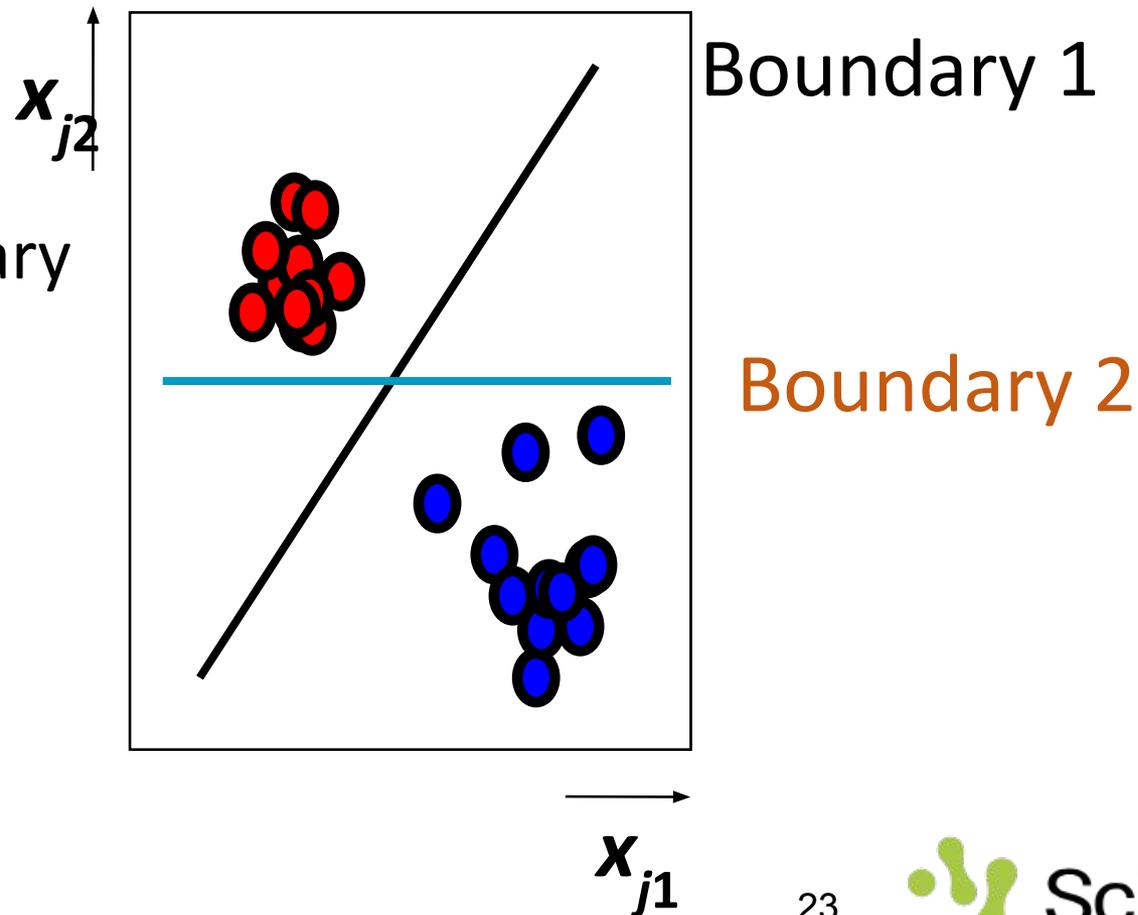
Support Vector Machine (SVM)



Decision
Boundary

Support Vector Machine (SVM)

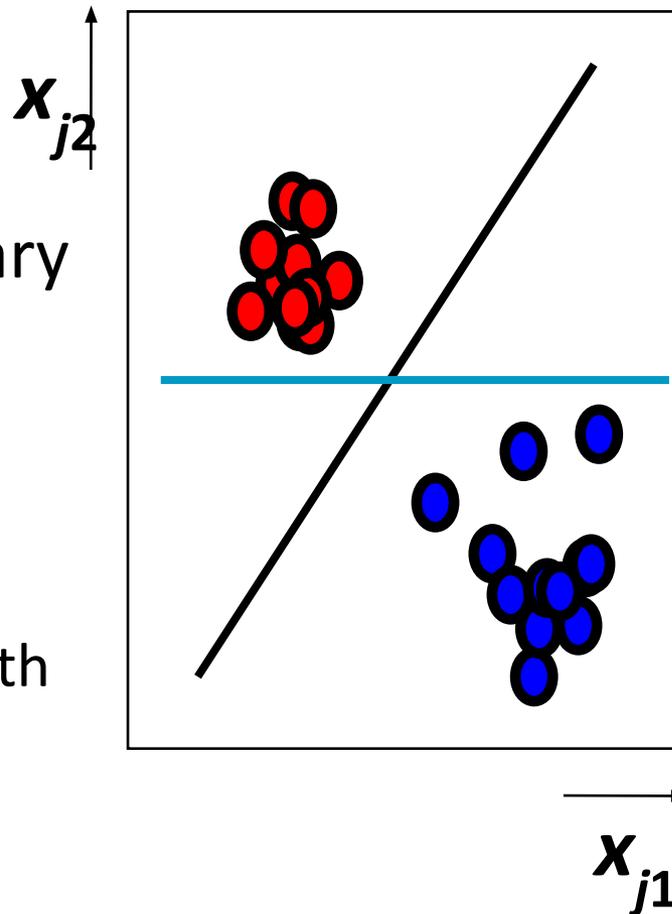
Which boundary is better?



Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Which boundary is better?

The one that maximizes the margins from both labels.



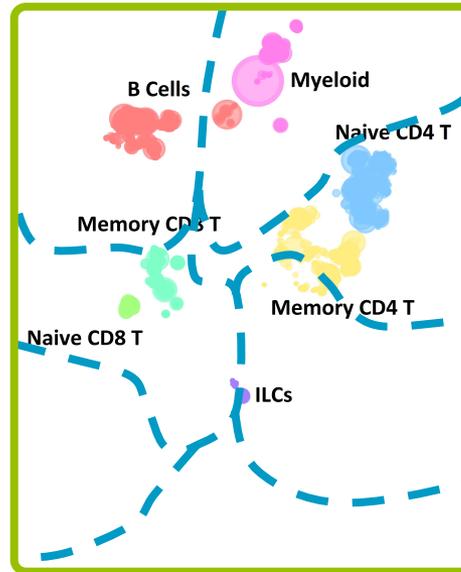
Boundary 1 ✓

Boundary 2

Can we automatically identify cell populations?

*Training
data*

Annotated
Cells
(e.g. atlas)



Can we automatically identify cell populations?

Training data

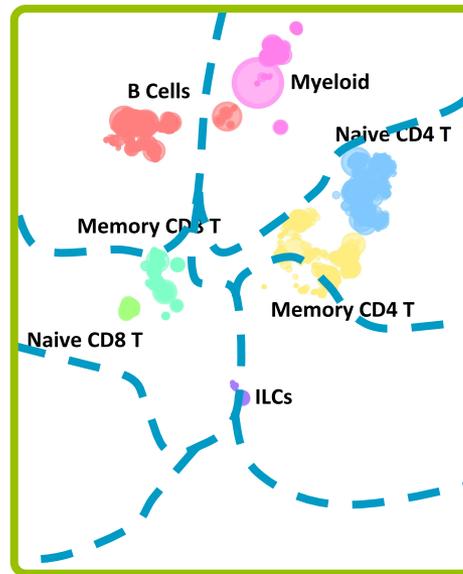
Annotated Cells
(e.g. atlas)



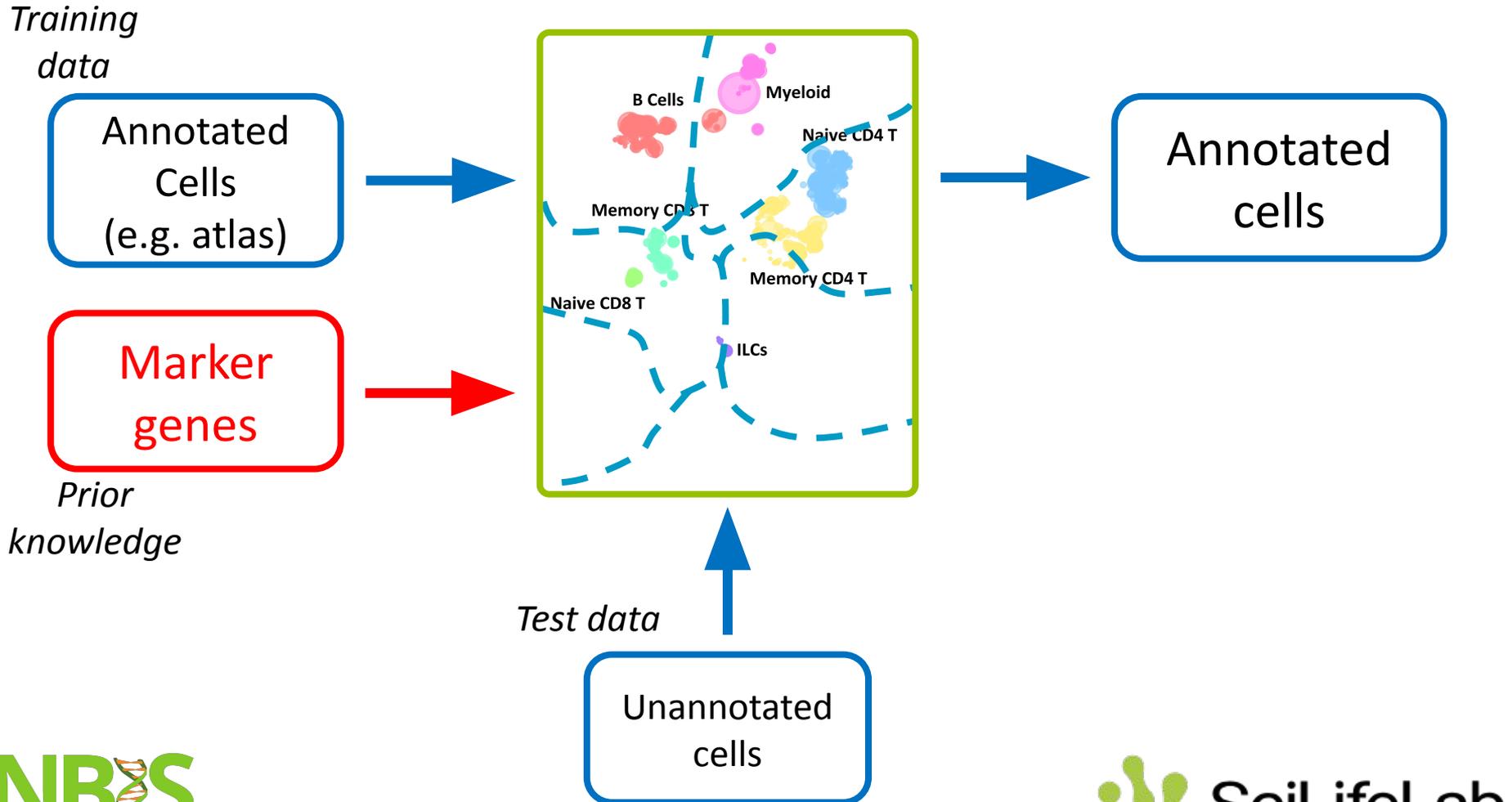
Marker genes



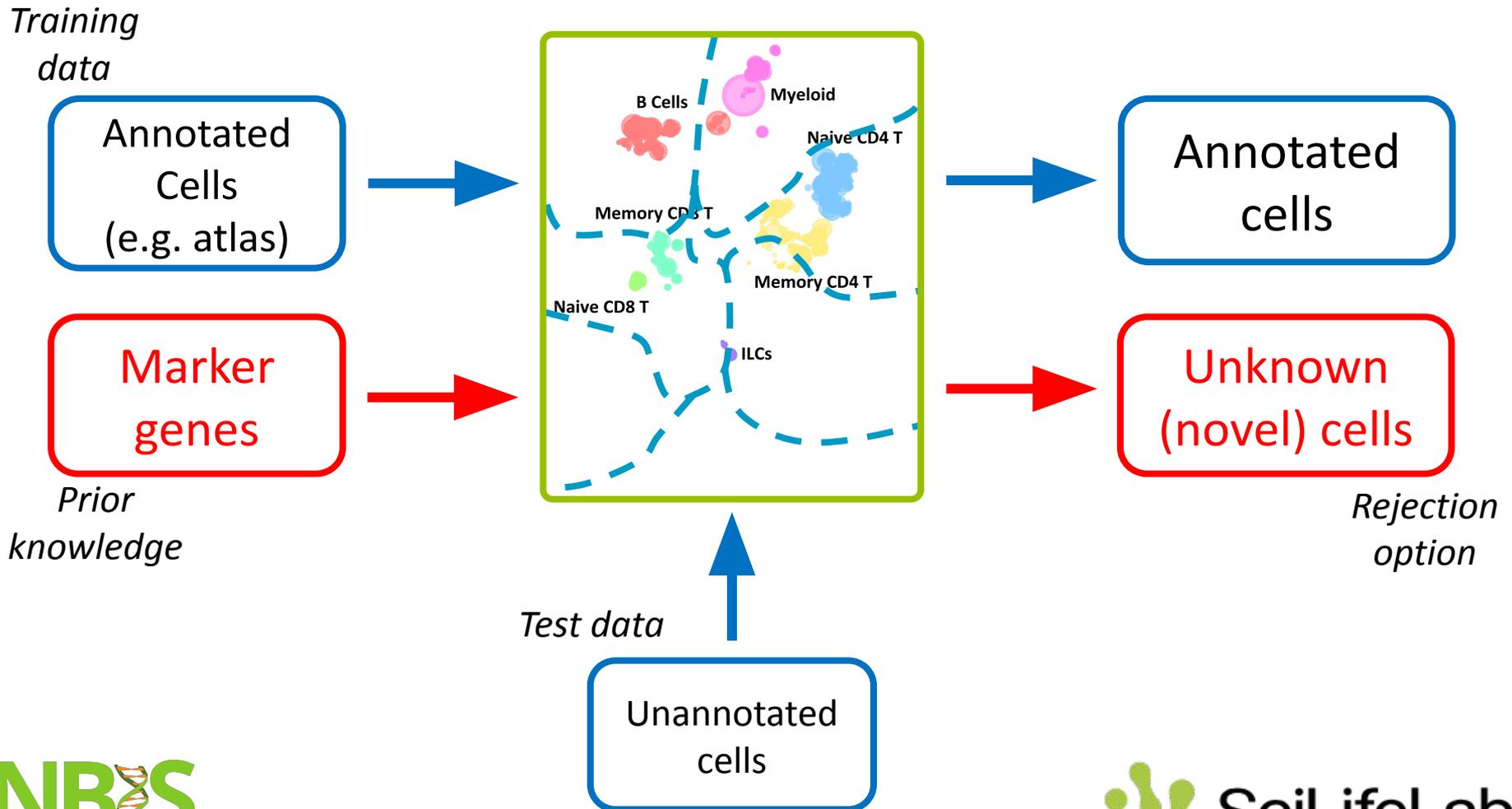
Prior knowledge



Can we automatically identify cell populations?



Can we automatically identify cell populations?



Benchmark paper 2019

Research | [Open access](#) | [Published: 09 September 2019](#)

A comparison of automatic cell identification methods for single-cell RNA sequencing data

[Tamim Abdelaal](#), [Lieke Michielsen](#), [Davy Cats](#), [Dylan Hoogduin](#), [Hailiang Mei](#), [Marcel J. T. Reinders](#) & [Ahmed Mahfouz](#) 

[Genome Biology](#) **20**, Article number: 194 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)

60k Accesses | **277** Citations | **76** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

16 existing classifiers (April 2019)

CaSTLe
scPred
LAMBDA
scmap_{cluster}
Moana
SingleCell
Net
CHETAH
SingleR
scmap_{cell}
Garnett
SCINA
DigitalCellSorter
Cell-Blast
scID
scVI
ACTINN

SVM

scPred
Moana

RF

CaSTLe
LAmbDA
SingleCell
Net

NMC

scmap_{cluster}

Correlation

CHETAH
SingleR

Others

Garnett
SCINA
DigitalCellSorter
Cell-Blast

kNN

scmap_{cell}

LDA

scID

**Neural
networks**

scVI
ACTINN

16 existing + 6 off-the-shelf classifiers

SVM

scPred
Moana
SVM
SVM
rejection

kNN

scmap_{cell}
kNN

Correlation

CHETAH
SingleR

LDA

scID
LDA

RF

CaSTLe
LAmbDA
SingleCell
RF
Net

Neural networks

scVI
ACTINN

NMC

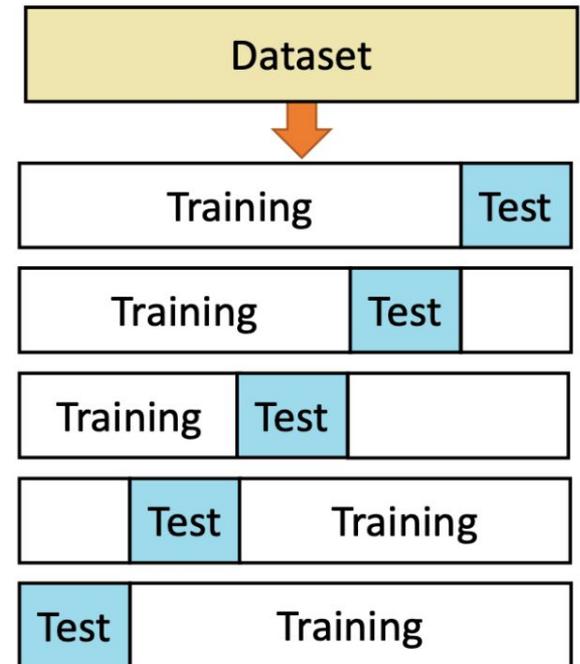
scmap_{cluster}
NMC

Others

Garnett
SCINA
DigitalCellSorter
Cell-Blast

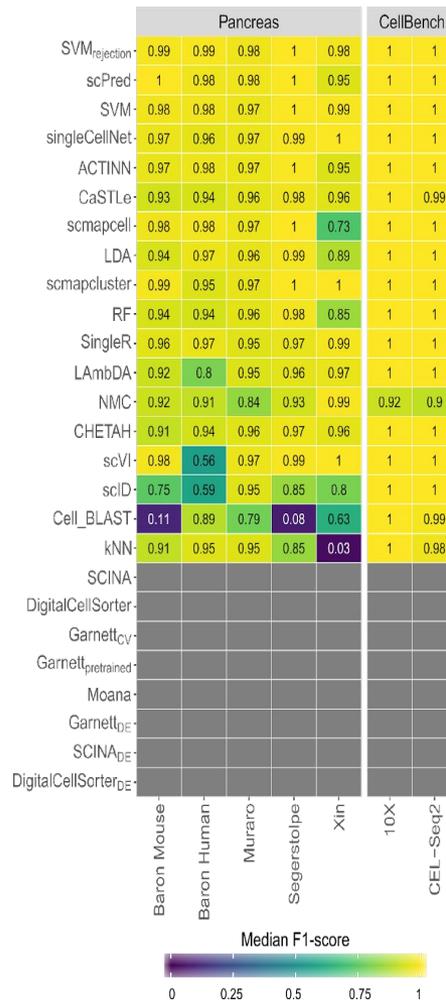
Experiment 1: intra-dataset evaluation

- Stratified 5-fold cross validation
- Performance evaluation
 - Median F1-score: $F1 = 2 \frac{\textit{precision} \cdot \textit{recall}}{\textit{precision} + \textit{recall}}$
 - % unlabelled cells

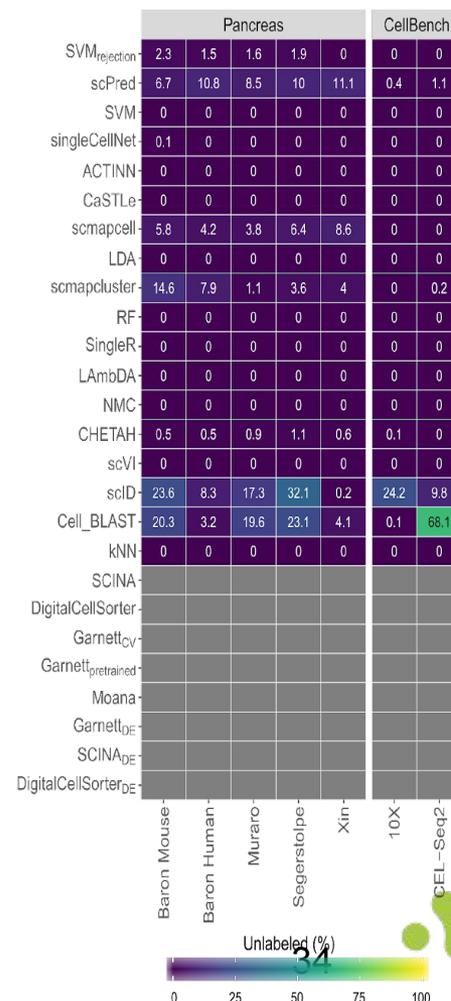


Most classifiers work well

Median F1-score

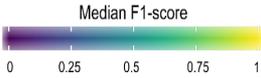
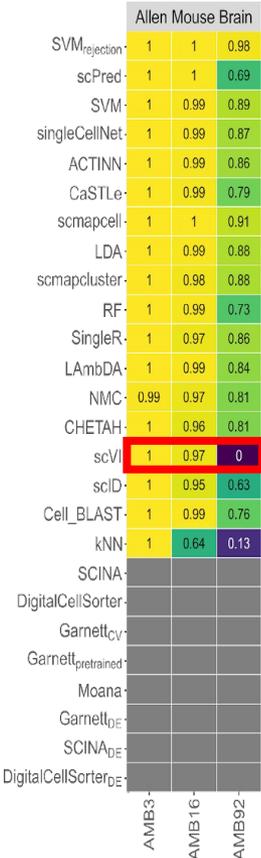


% Unlabeled

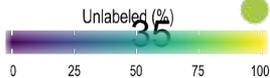
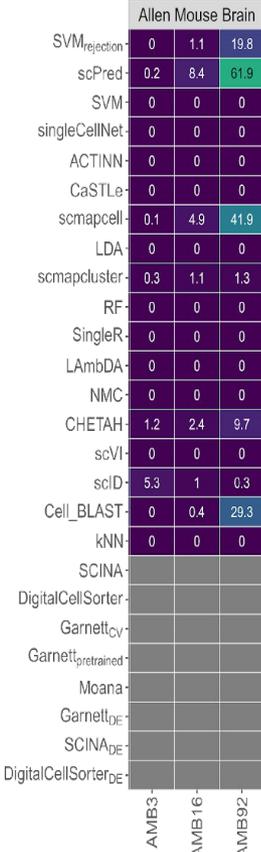


Performance drops with deeper annotation

Median F1-score

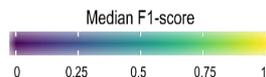
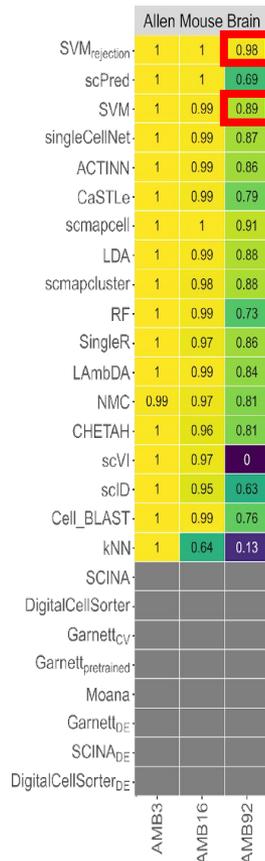


% Unlabeled

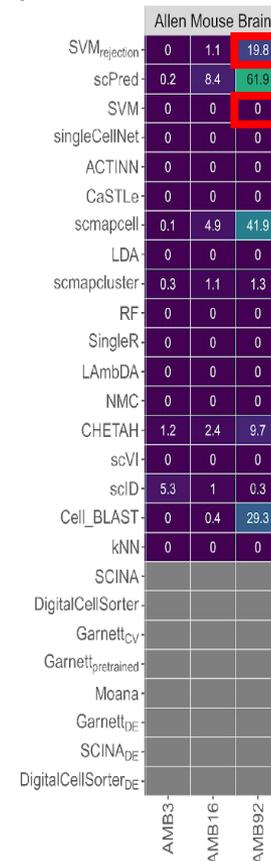


Trade-off between high performance and rejecting cells

Median F1-score

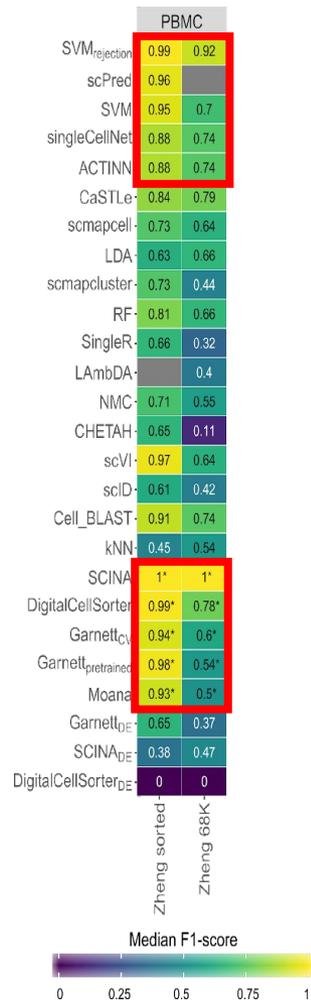


% Unlabeled

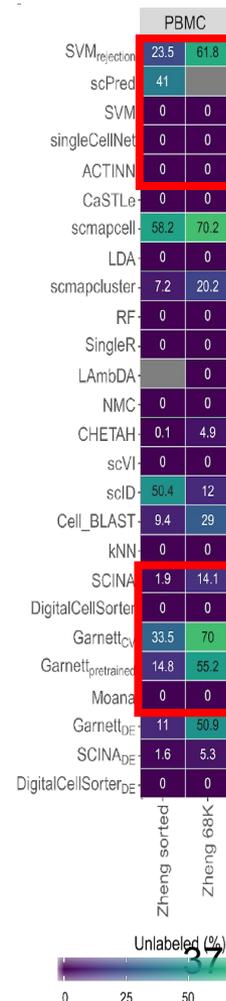


Prior knowledge is not always beneficial

Median F1-score



% Unlabeled



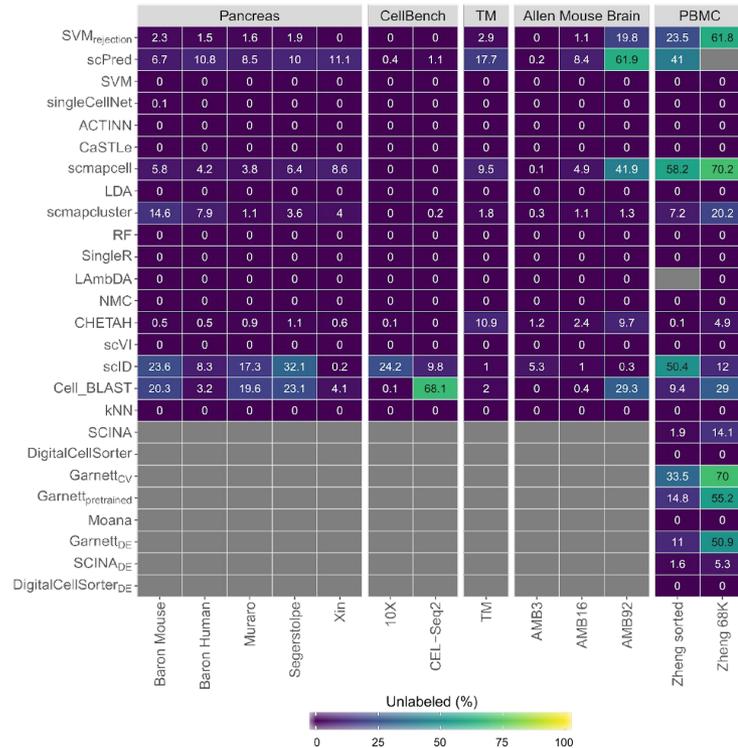
**Lower
number
of
classes!**

Off-the-shelf SVM outperforms dedicated single cell classifiers

Median F1-score

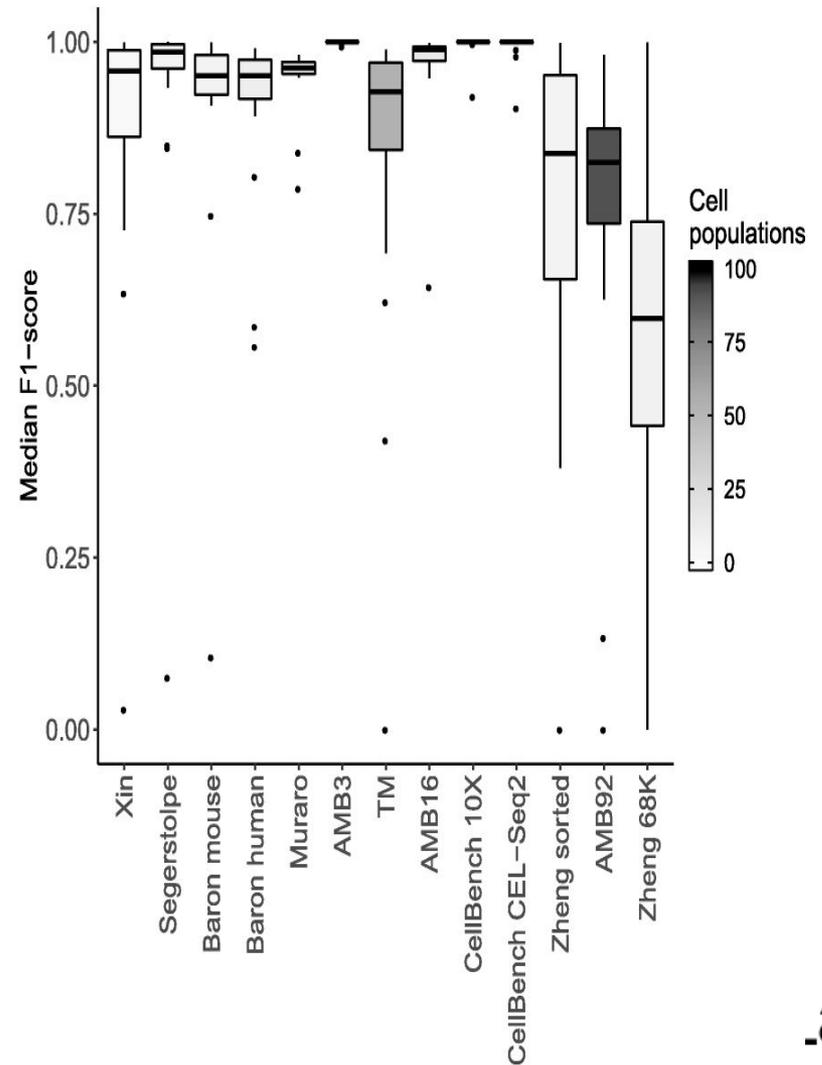
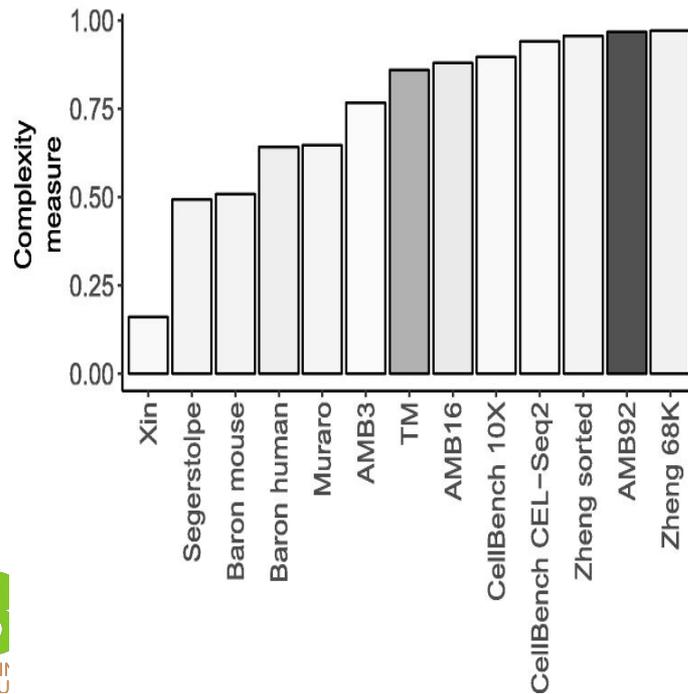


% Unlabeled



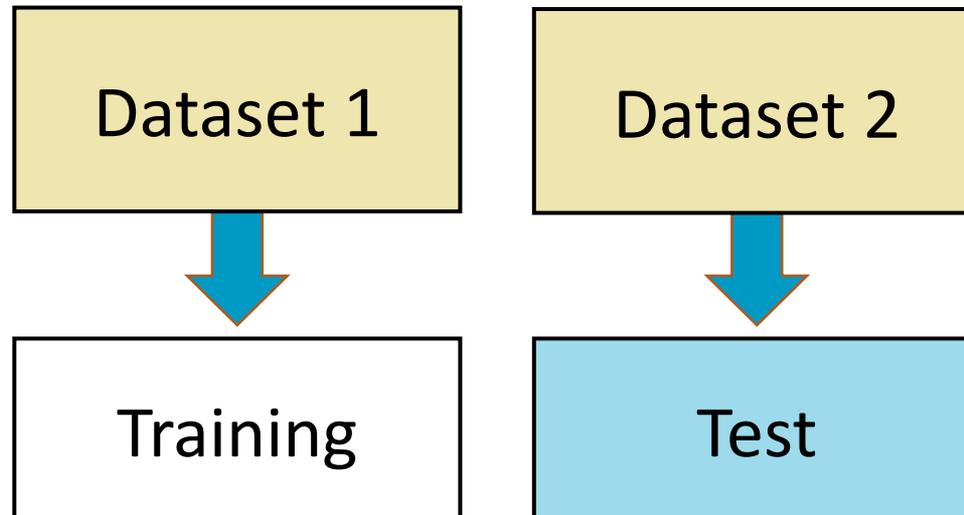
Performance depends on dataset complexity

$$\text{Complexity} = \text{mean} \left(\max_{i,j} \text{corr} \left(\text{avg}_{C_i}, \text{avg}_{C_j} \right) \right)$$

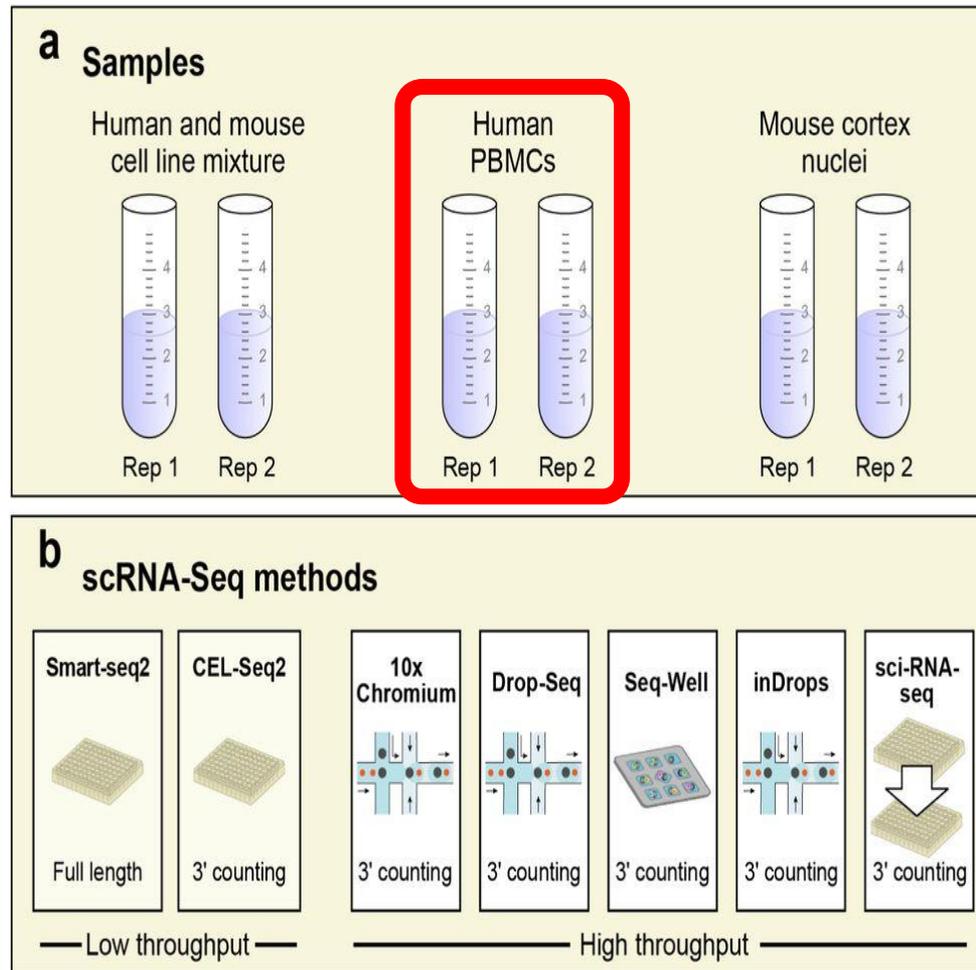


Experiment 2: inter-dataset evaluation

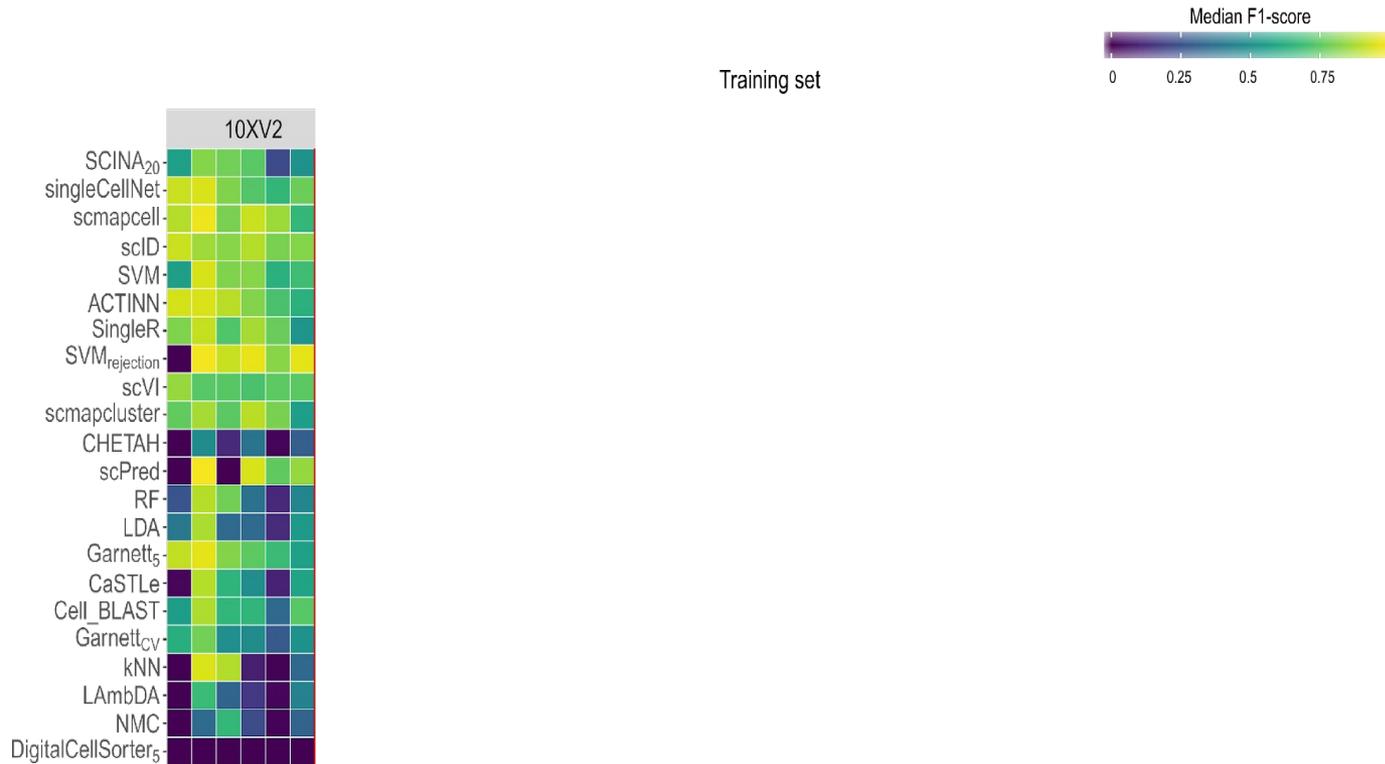
- Train on one dataset, evaluate on another
- More realistic scenario
- More challenging, data is not aligned



Experiment 2: inter-dataset evaluation



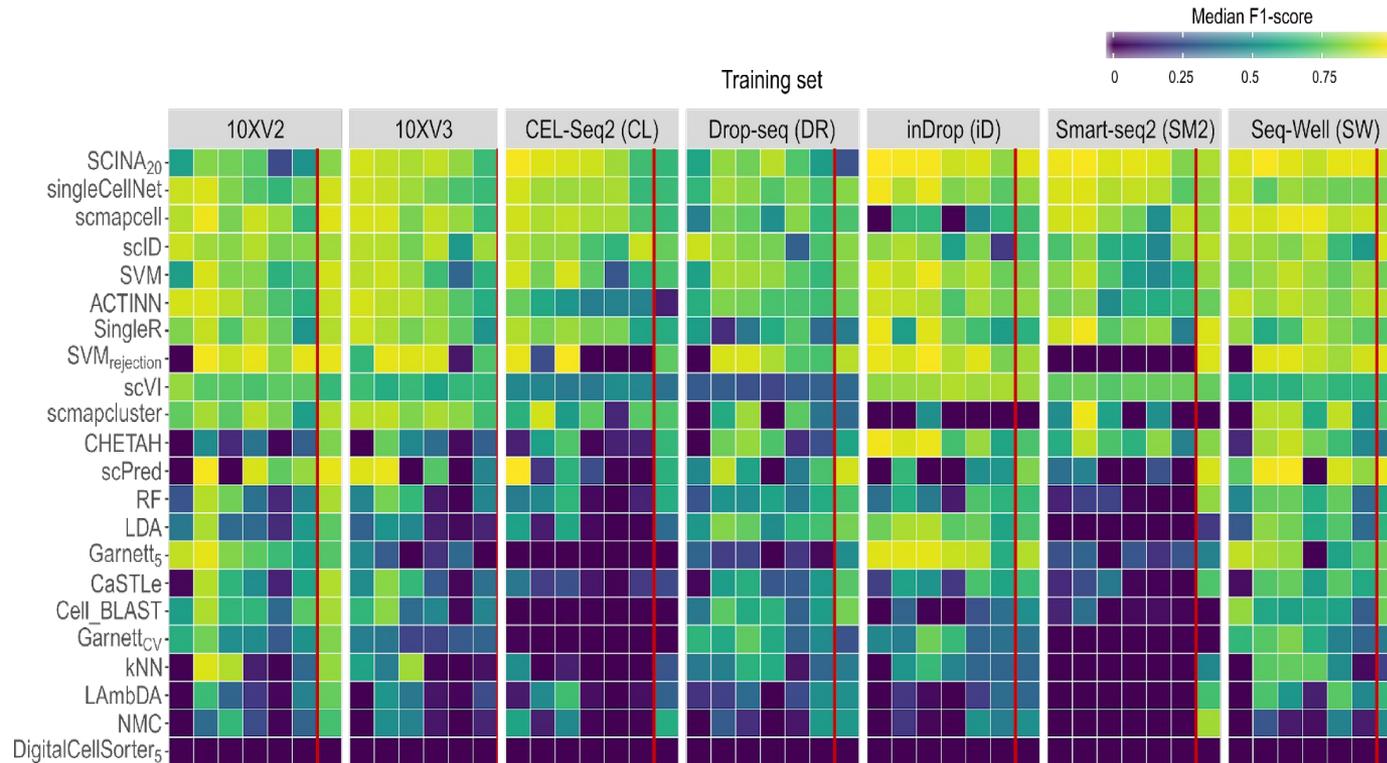
Prediction across protocols



Prediction across protocols



Prediction across protocols



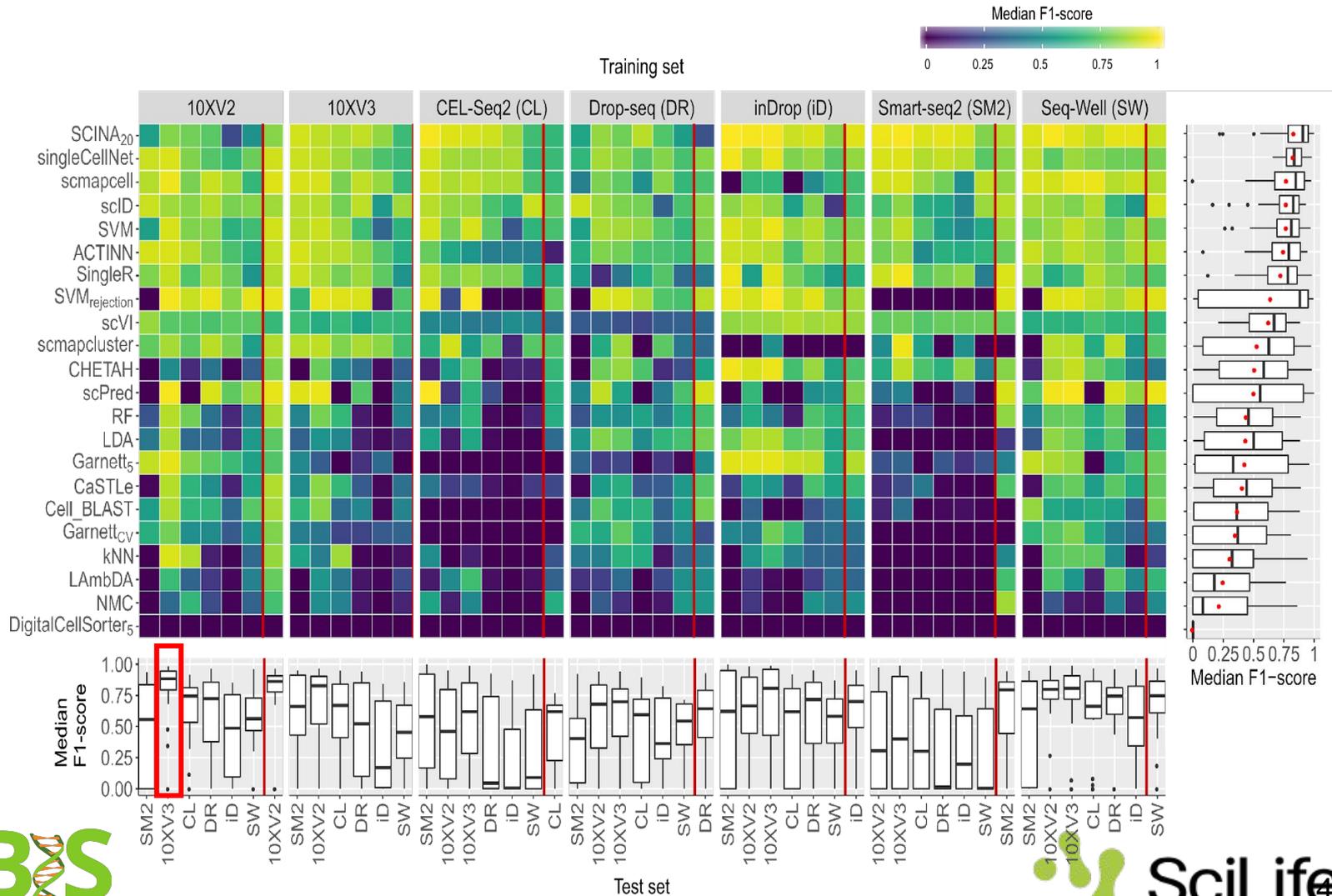
Prediction across protocols



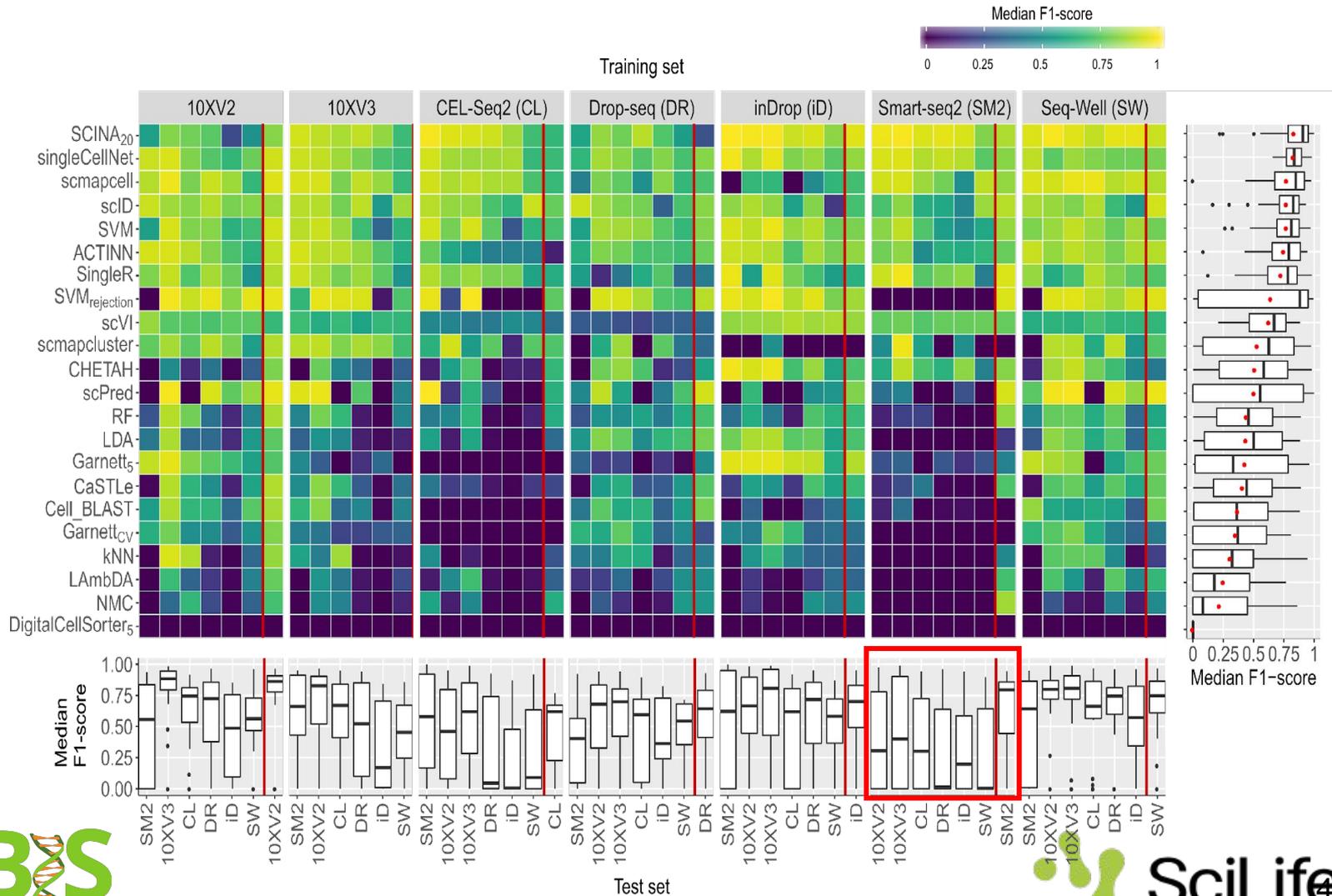
Prediction across protocols



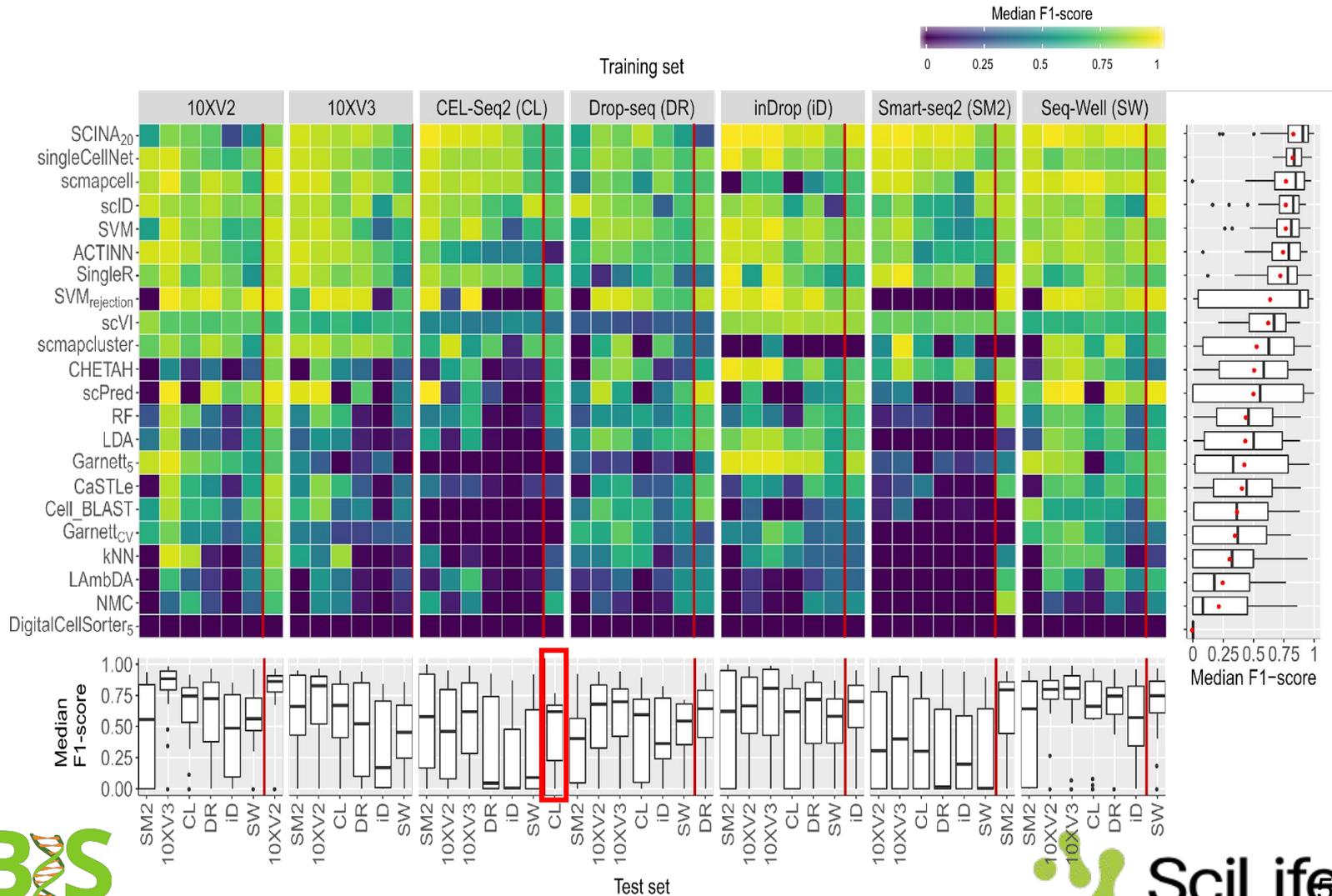
Prediction across protocols



Prediction across protocols



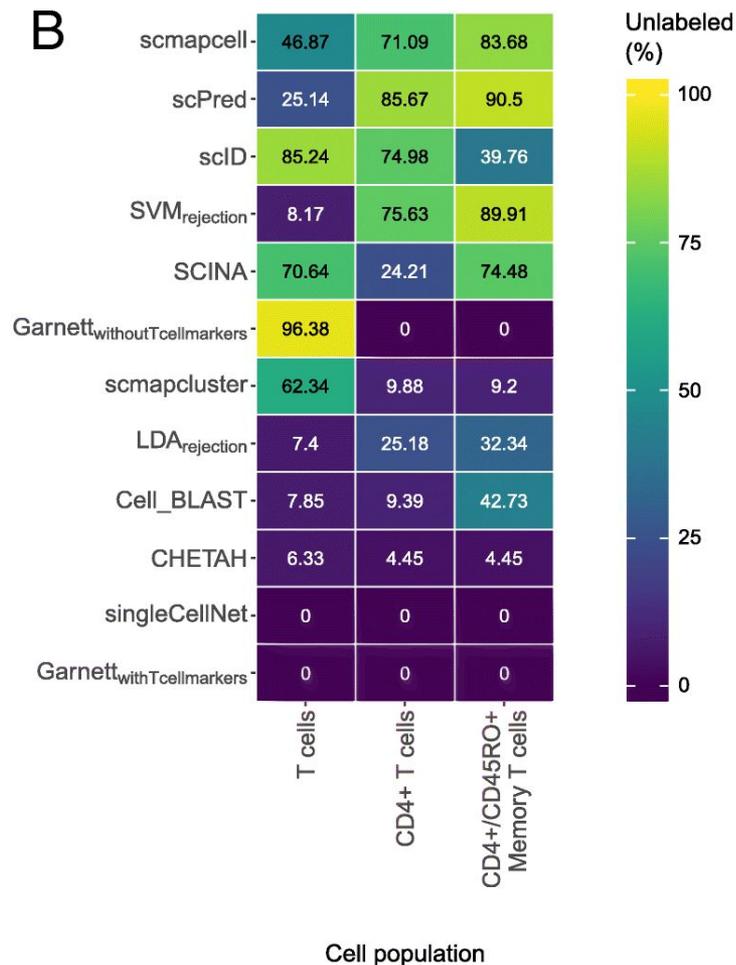
Prediction across protocols



Experiment 3: rejection evaluation

A

	Human		Mouse	
scmapcluster	99	100	100	100
scPred	98.4	92.6	99.9	100
SVM _{rejection}	99.9	98.5	100	26.2
scmapcell	92.4	95.9	100	18.8
LDA _{rejection}	98.7	9.6	5.7	100
scID	65.6	72.6	41.6	18.4
Cell_BLAST	95.3	24.4	8.6	44.7
CHETAH	0.2	42.3	98.8	0.2
singleCellNet	0.3	46.8	27.5	2
Garnett _{CV}	100	0		
SCINA	71.5			
Garnett _{pretrained}	40.3			
DigitalCellSorter	0			
	Zheng 68K – Baron Human	Baron Human – Zheng 68K	AMB16 – Baron Mouse	Baron Mouse – AMB16
	Training set – Test set			



Performance Summary

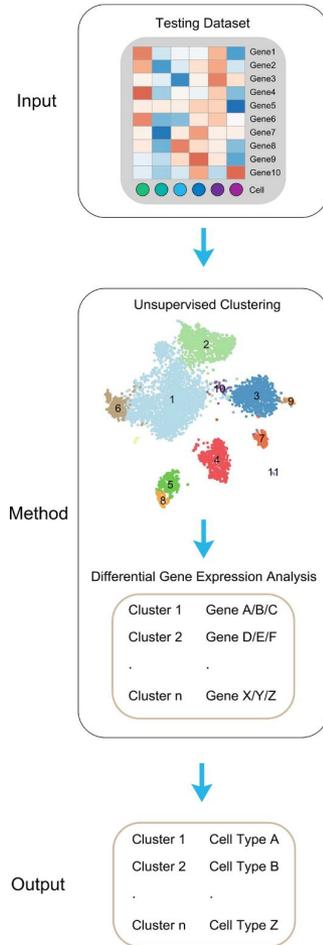


Conclusions so far

- Simple, off-the-shelf classifiers outperform dedicated single cell methods (see also Köhler et al. bioRxiv 2019)
- Prior-knowledge does not improve performance (highly dependent on selected markers)
- Rejection is difficult
- SnakeMake pipeline:
https://github.com/tabdelaal/scRNAseq_Benchmark/

Benchmark paper 2021

A Traditional Methods



B Automatic Methods

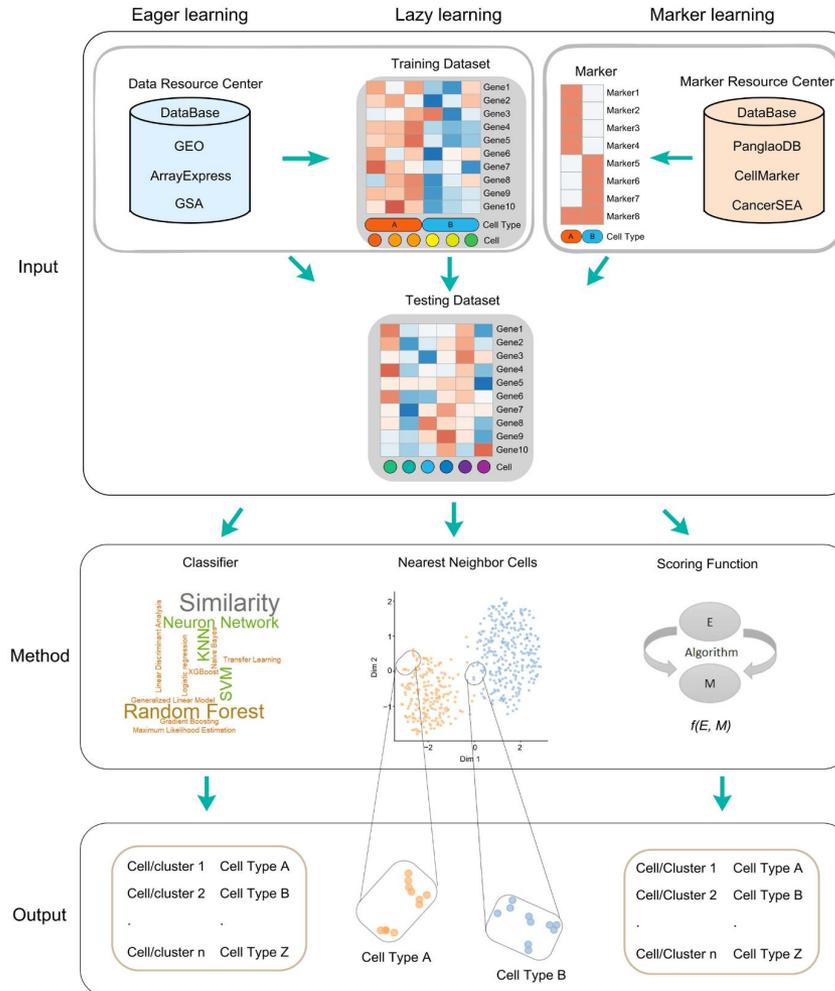
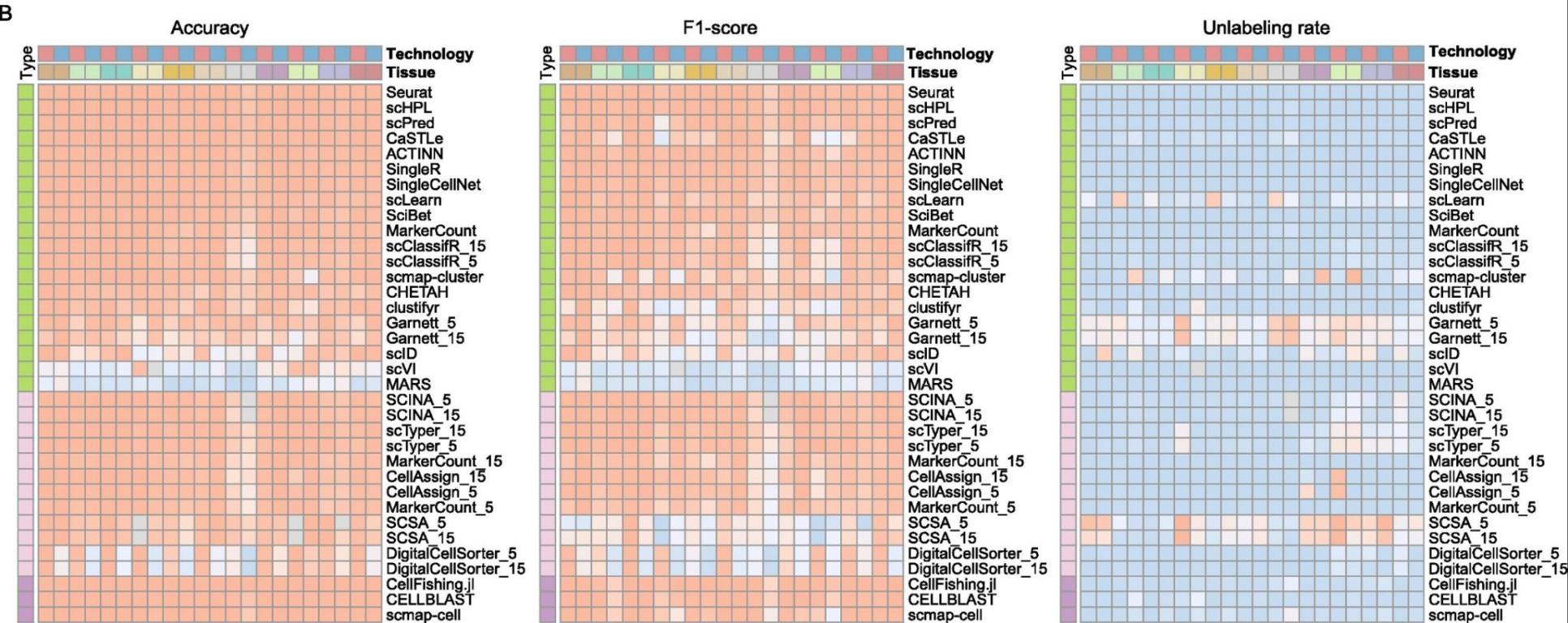


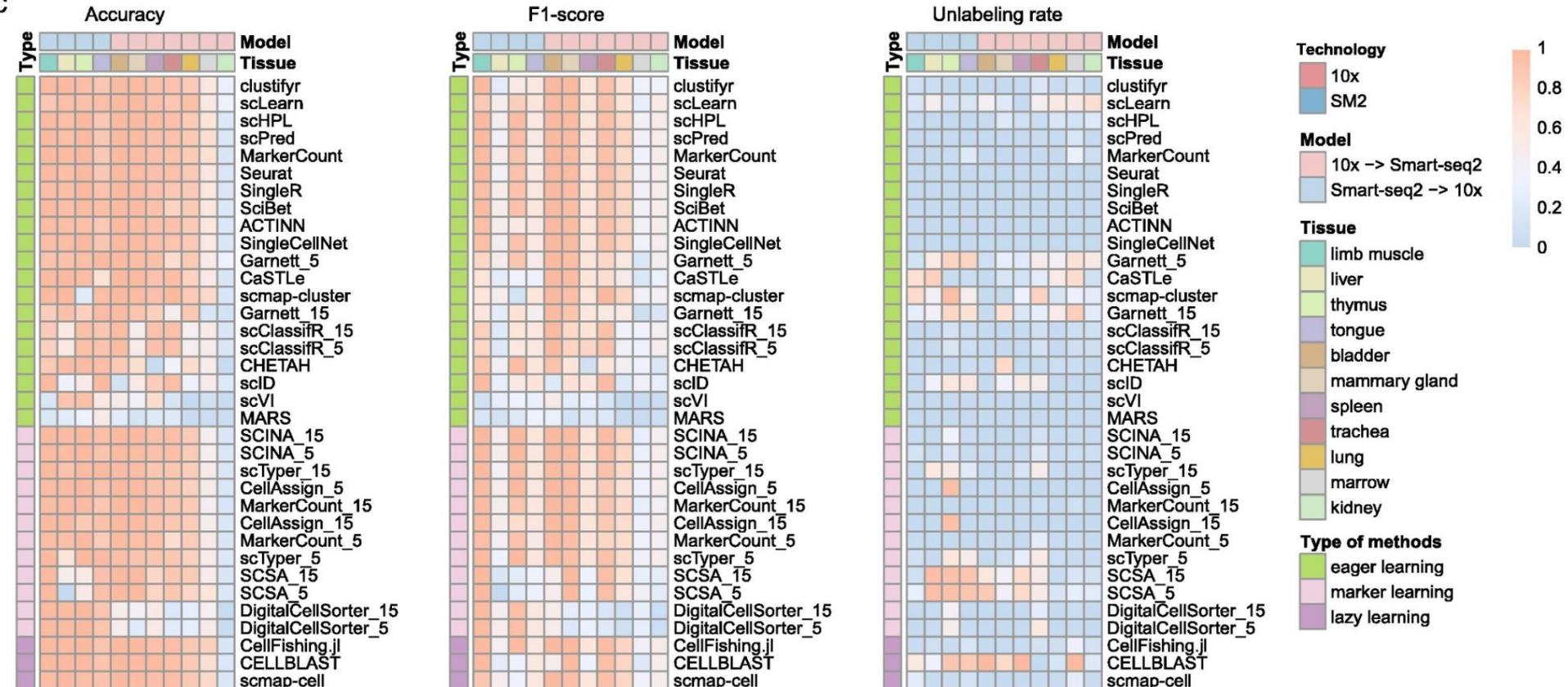
Table with all the methods

<https://www.csbj.org/action/showFullTableHTML?isHtml=true&tableId=t0005&pii=S2001-0370%2821%2900449-9>

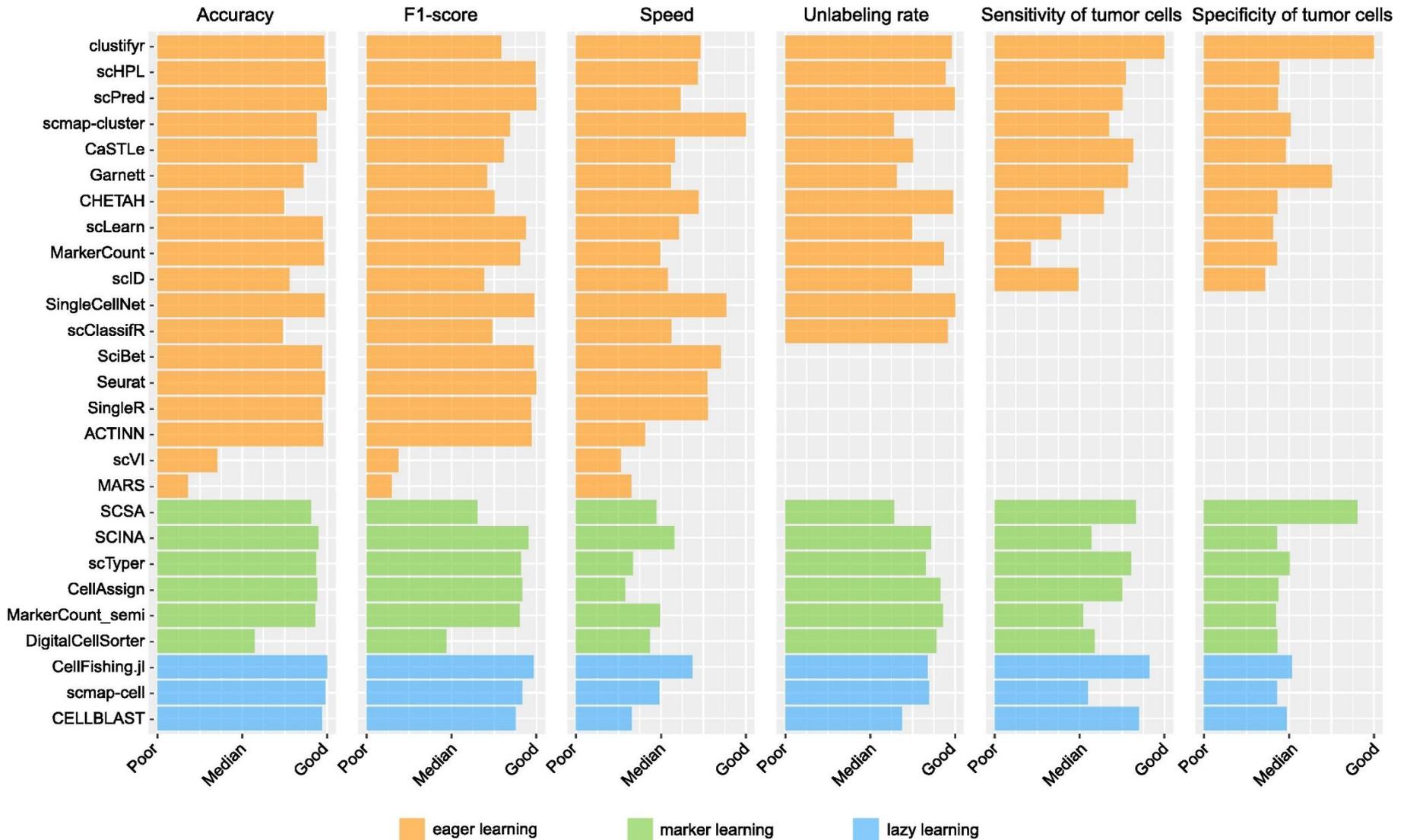
Within dataset training/testing with cross-validation



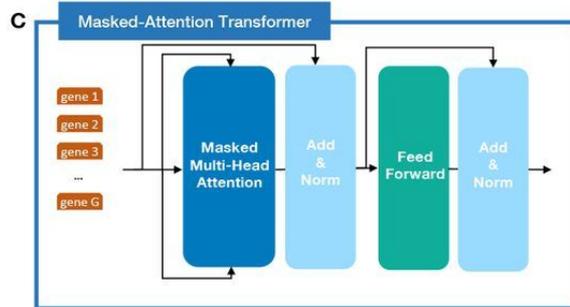
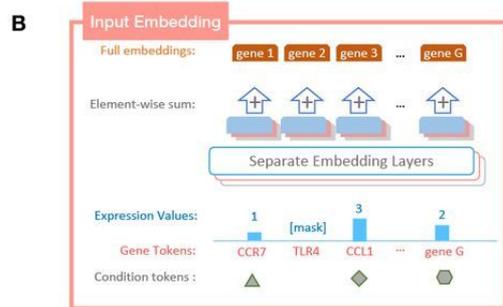
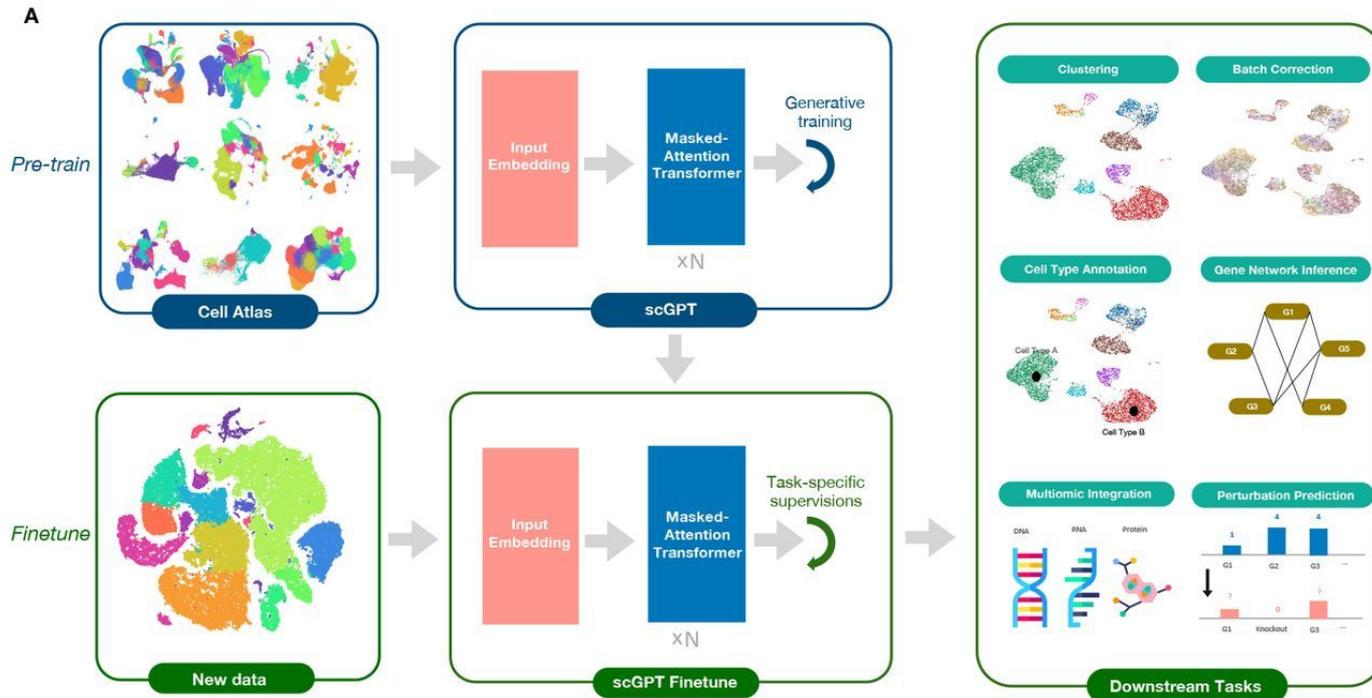
Across technologies



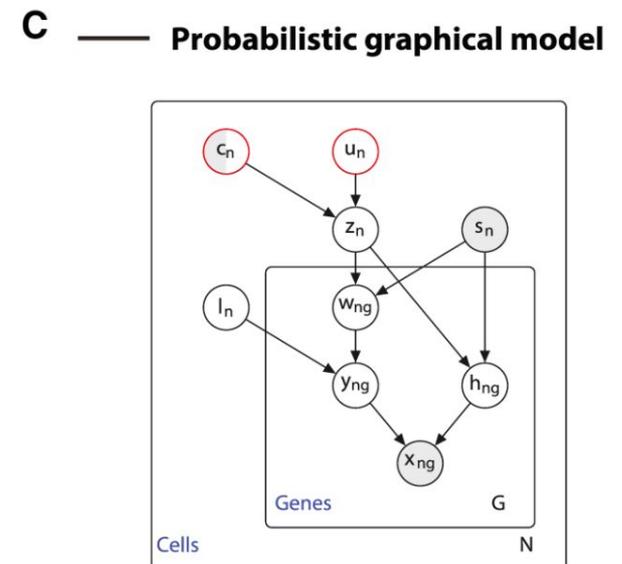
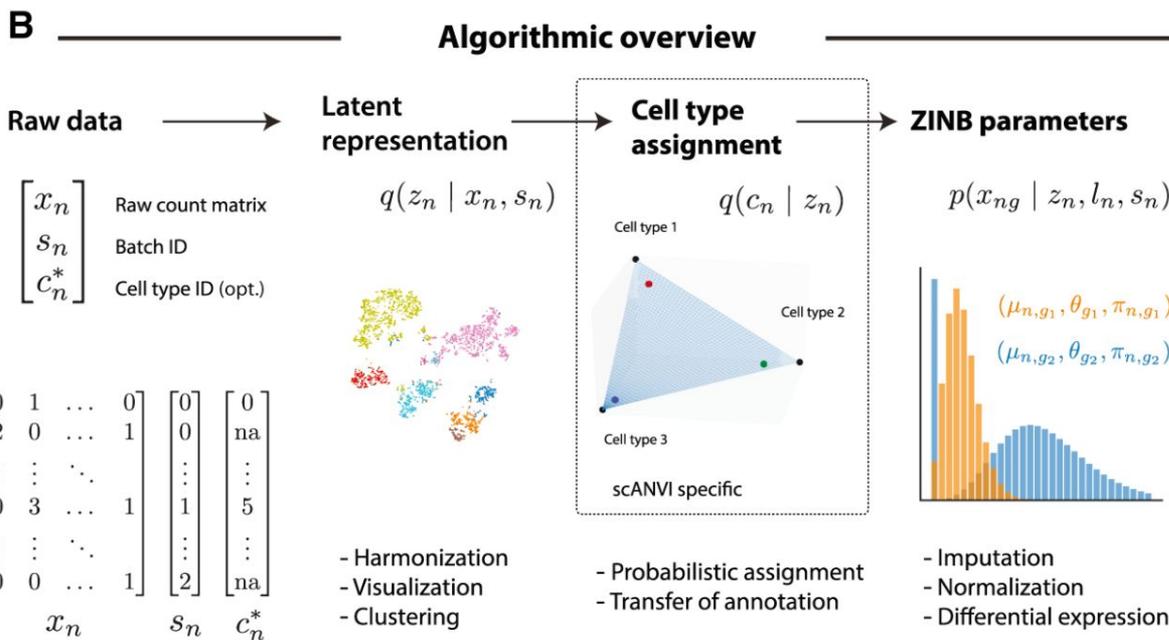
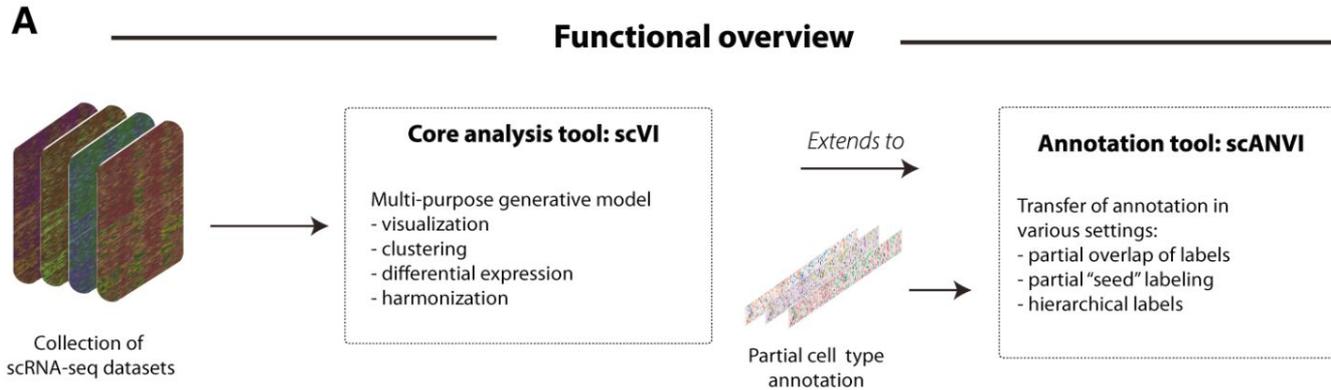
Summary



Generative learning is the next big thing? scGPT



Generative learning is the next big thing? scANVI



Some useful resources

- Azimuth - Seurat label transfer to reference sets
 - <https://azimuth.hubmapconsortium.org/>
 - online or R package
- DISCO - CellMapper to several tissues
 - <https://www.immunesinglecell.org/>
- Celltypist - Regularised linear models with Stochastic Gradient Descent
 - <https://www.celltypist.org/>
 - online or python package

Summary

- Cell identification is moving from unsupervised (clustering/visualization) to supervised (classification) learning
- Check what reference you are using!
 - The more similar reference is to your data - the better the prediction.
 - Same technology matters
 - Do you trust their celltype annotations?
- Atlases do not contain all tissues/celltype and especially not all disease states of cells.
- Also look at DGE and known markers and check that predictions makes sense