

Optimized Experimental and Analytical Tools for Reproducible Drug-Response Studies

Caitlin Mills & Kartik Subramanian

Department of Systems Biology
& Laboratory of Systems Pharmacology

Harvard Medical School

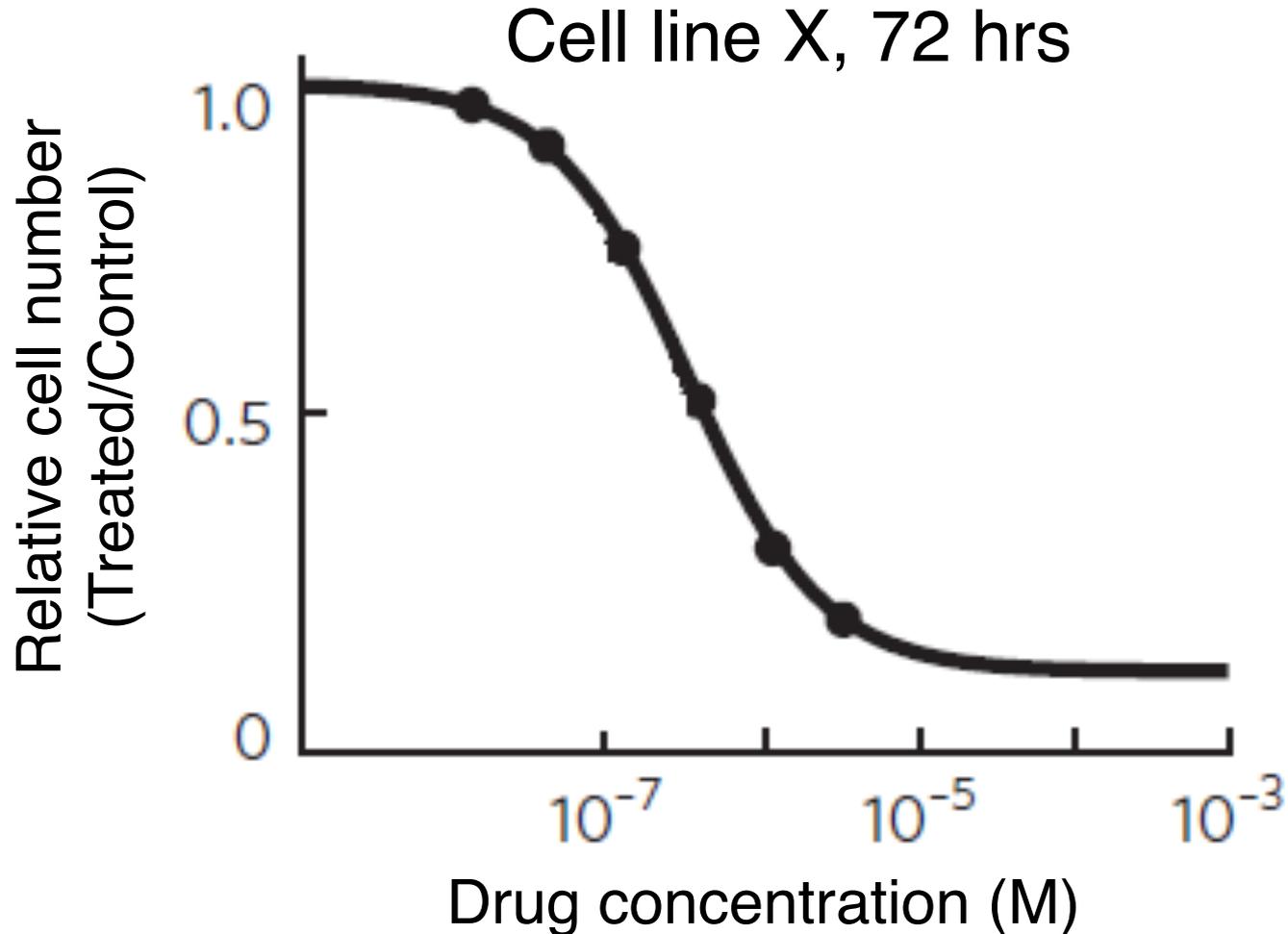
Optimized **Experimental** and **Analytical Tools** **3** **4**
Reproducible Drug-Response Studies **2** **1**

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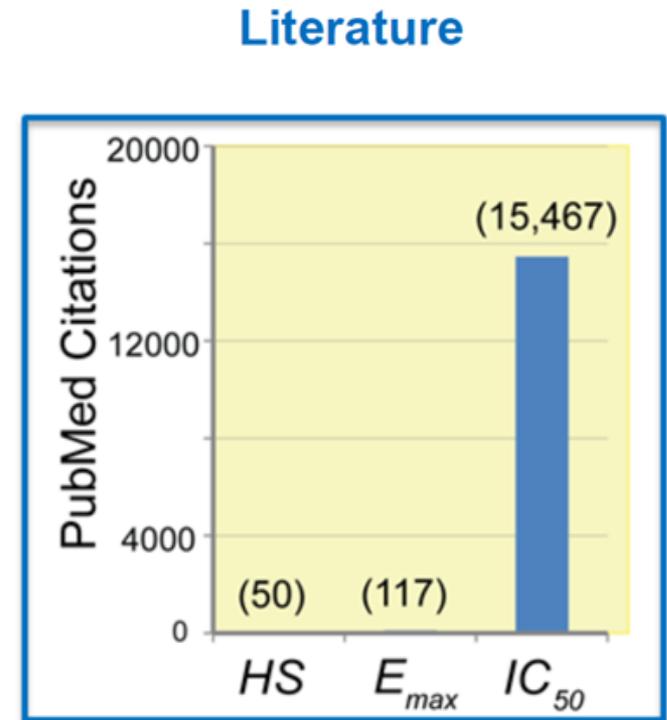
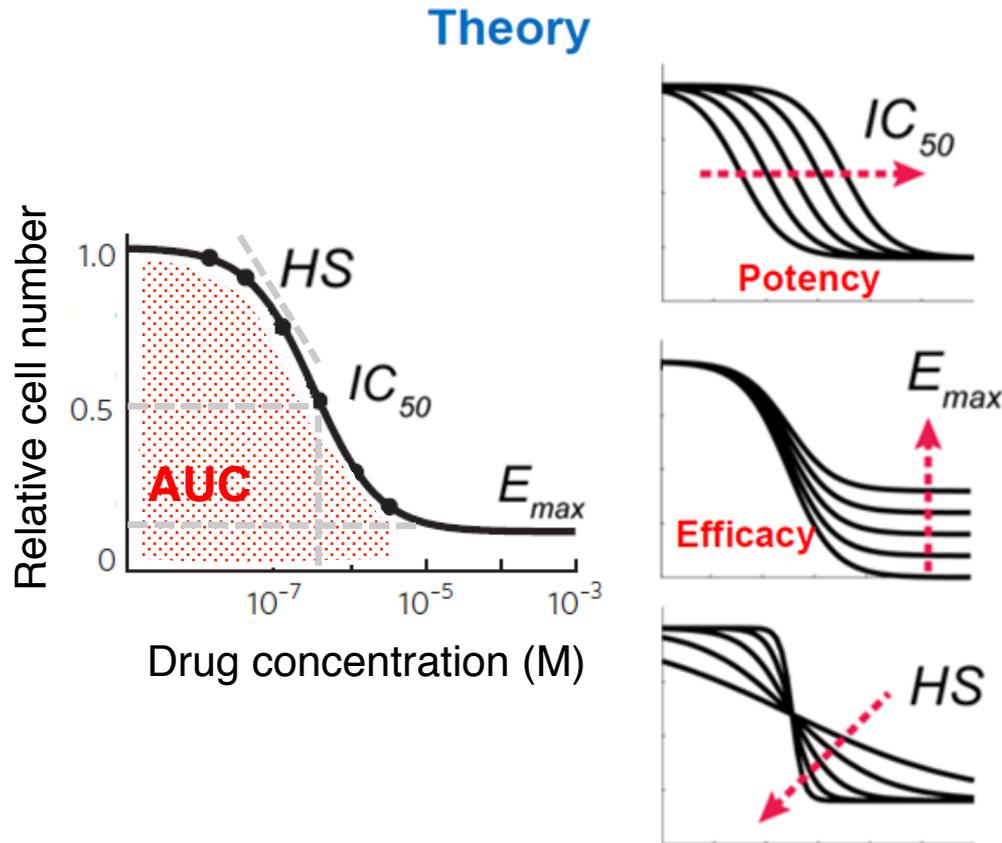
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In-vitro drug-response studies in cancer are often based on relative cell number quantifications



Drug-response in cancer research and conventional metrics based on relative cell number



Irreproducible pharmacogenomics and other drug-dose response based studies

Inconsistency in large pharmacogenomic studies

Benjamin Haibe-Kains, Nehme El-Hachem, Nicolai Juul Birkbak, Andrew C. Jin, Andrew H. Beck, Hugo J. W. L. Aerts & John Quackenbush

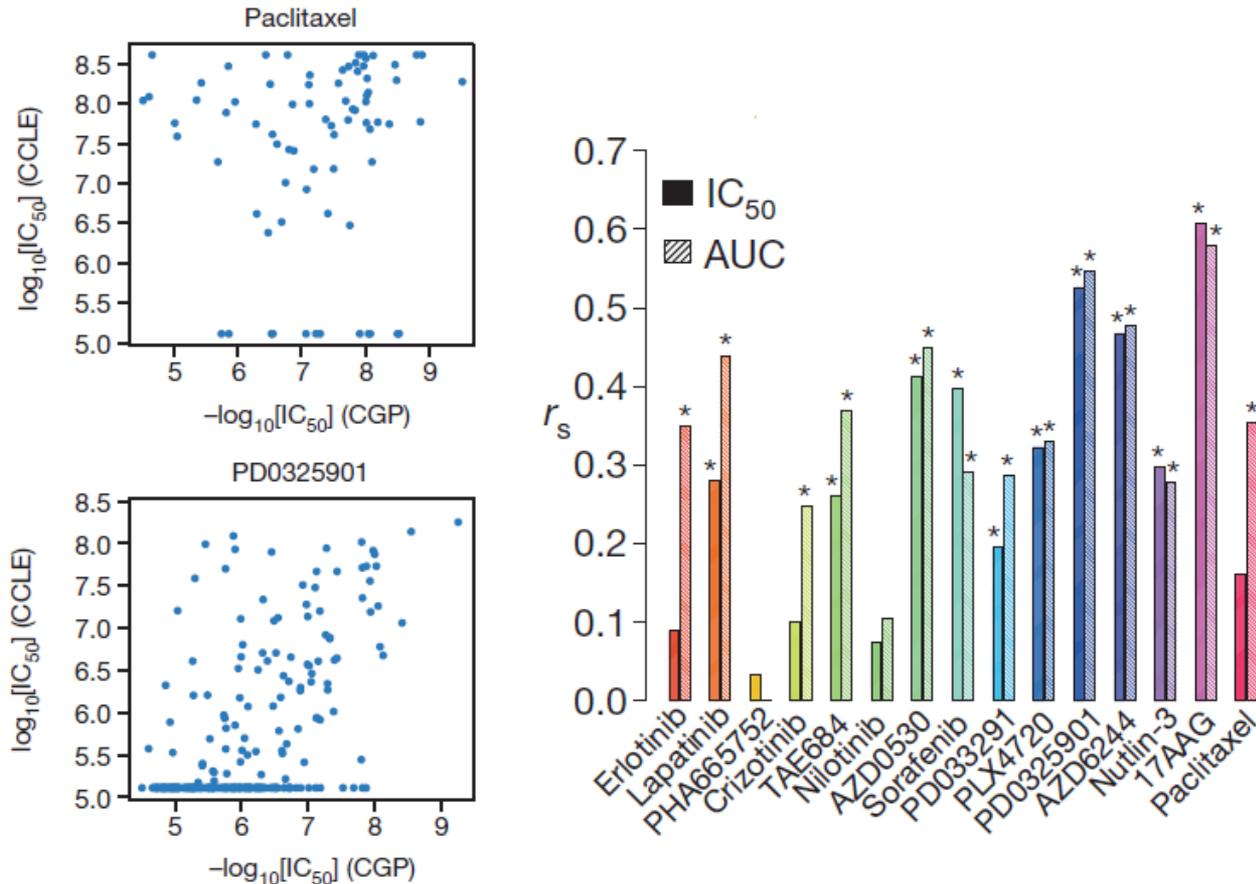
Affiliations | Contributions | Corresponding author

Nature **504**, 389–393 (19 December 2013) | doi:10.1038/nature12831

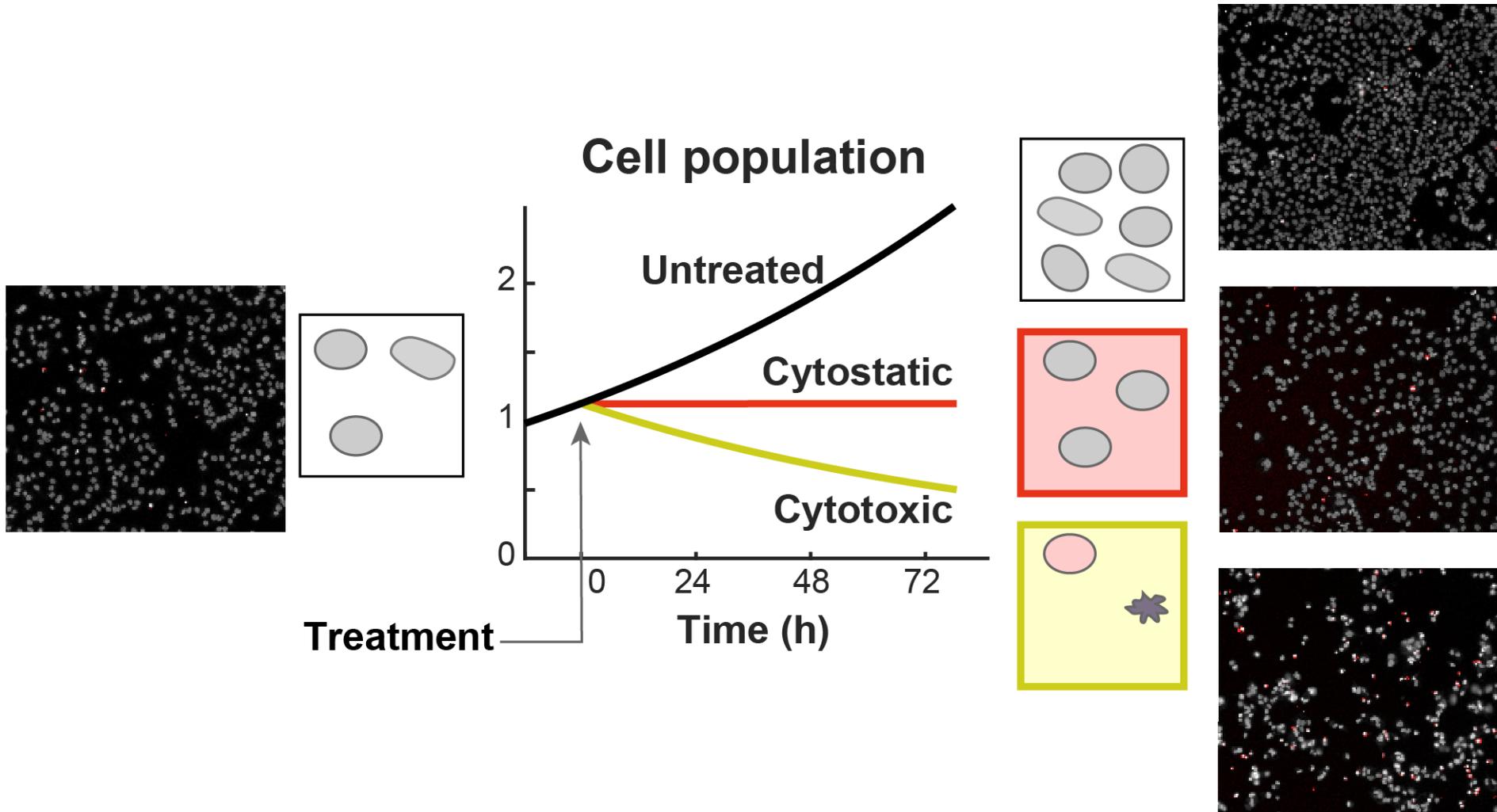
1. CCLE & GDC, *Nature*, Dec 2015
2. Haverty et al., *Nature*, May 2016
3. Bouhaddou et al. *Nature*, Dec 2016
4. Mpindi et al., *Nature*, Dec 2016
5. Safikhani et al., *Nature*, Dec 2016
6. Geeleher et al., *Nature*, Dec 2016

Irreproducible pharmacogenomics due to irreproducible IC50 and other metrics

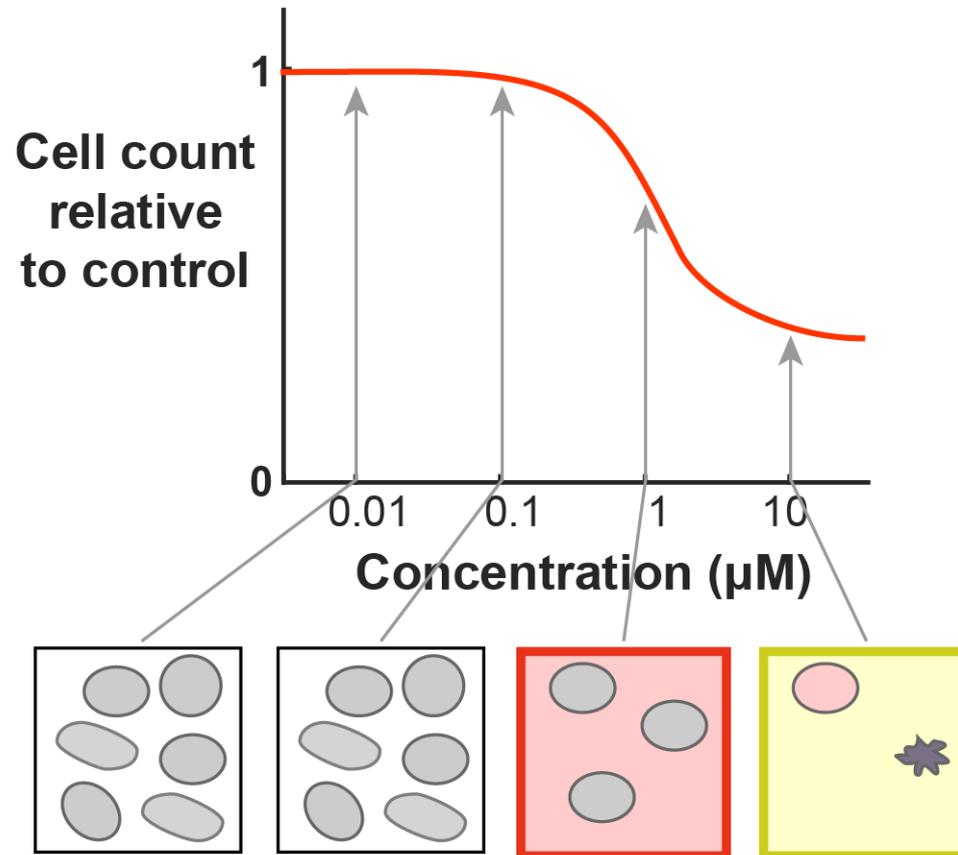
Drug-dose response correlation between Cancer Genome Project(CGP) and Cancer Cell Line Encyclopedia(CCLE):



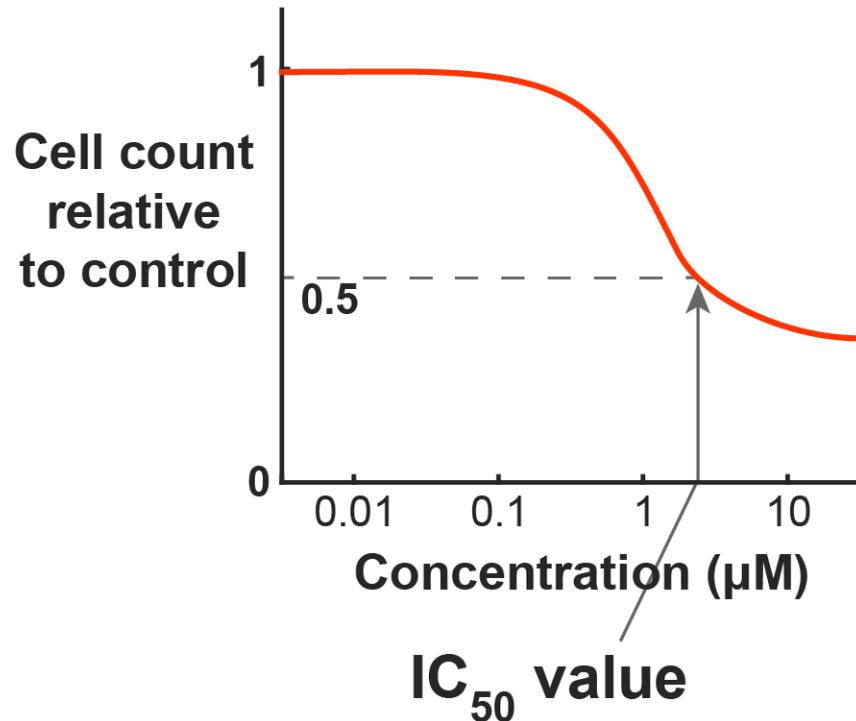
Measuring drug response is essential in pharmacology



Drug response is assayed at multiple doses

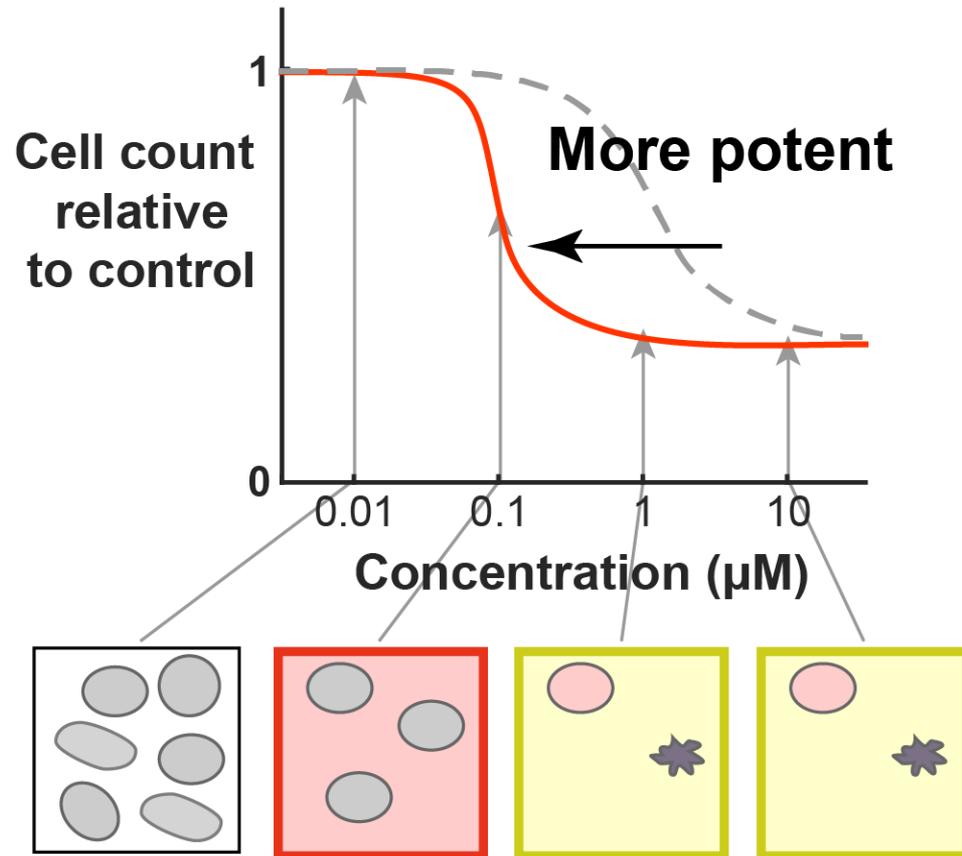


Drug response is assayed at multiple doses

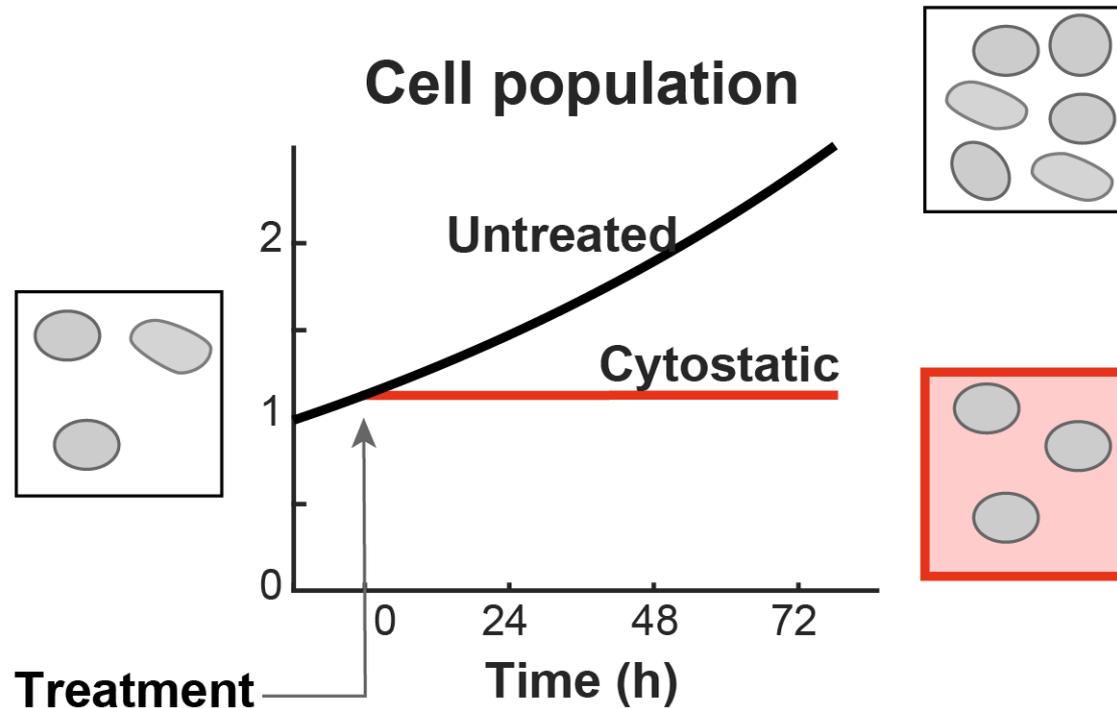


IC_{50} value is the concentration at which the relative cell count is 0.5.

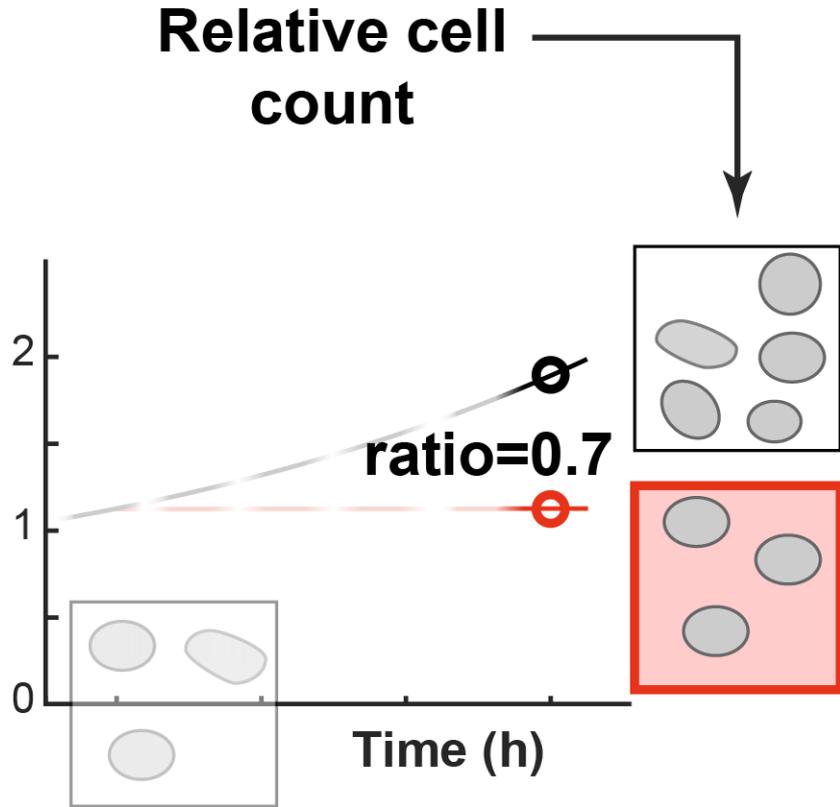
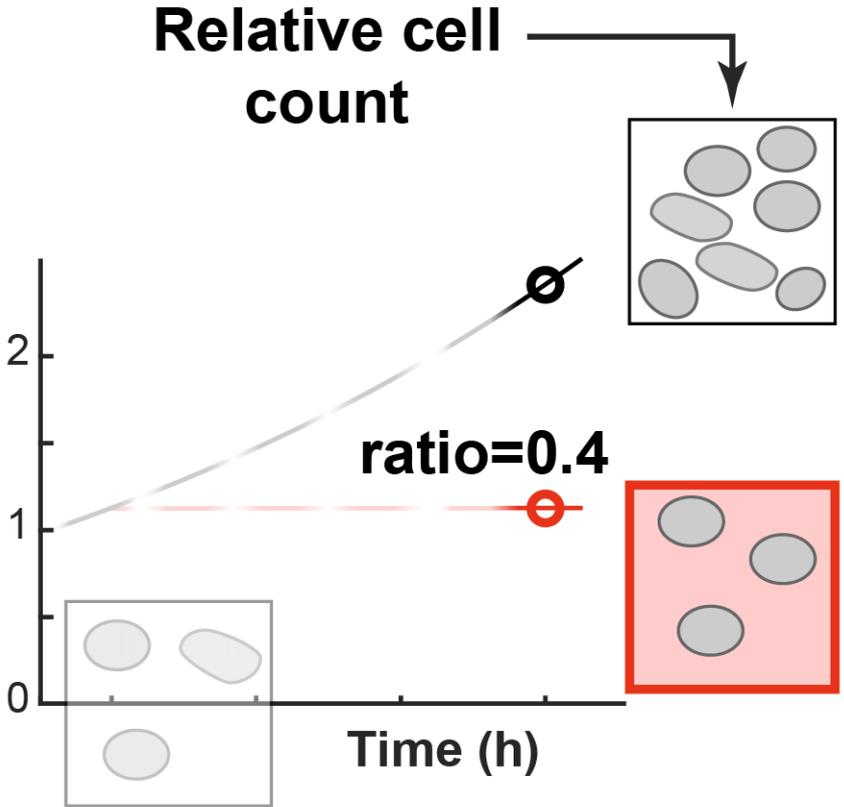
Dose response curves vary across cell lines



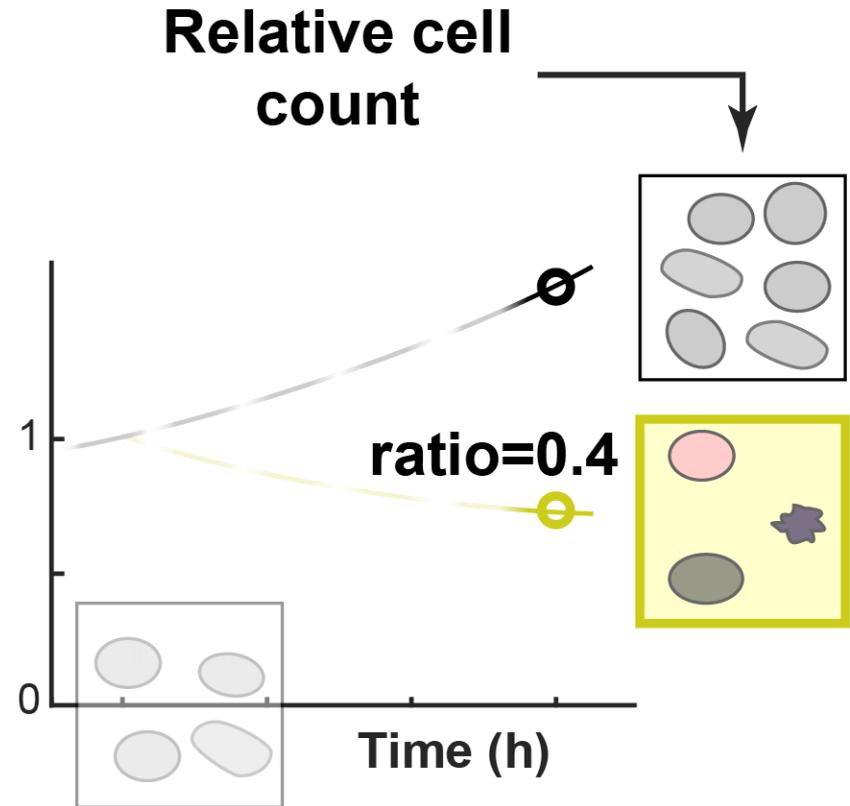
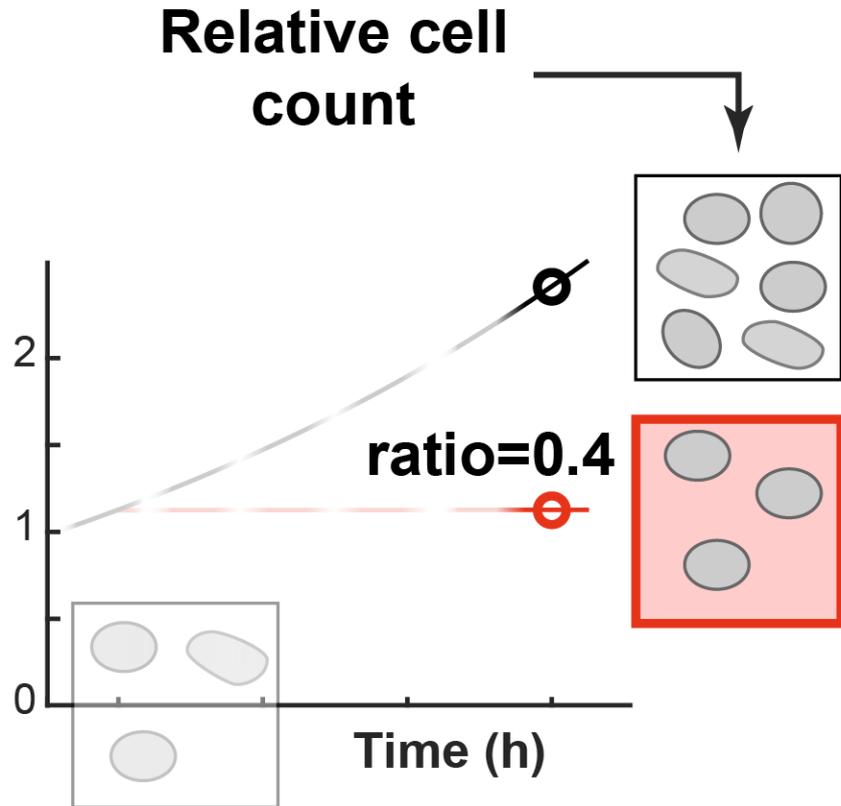
Assays that have a growing population



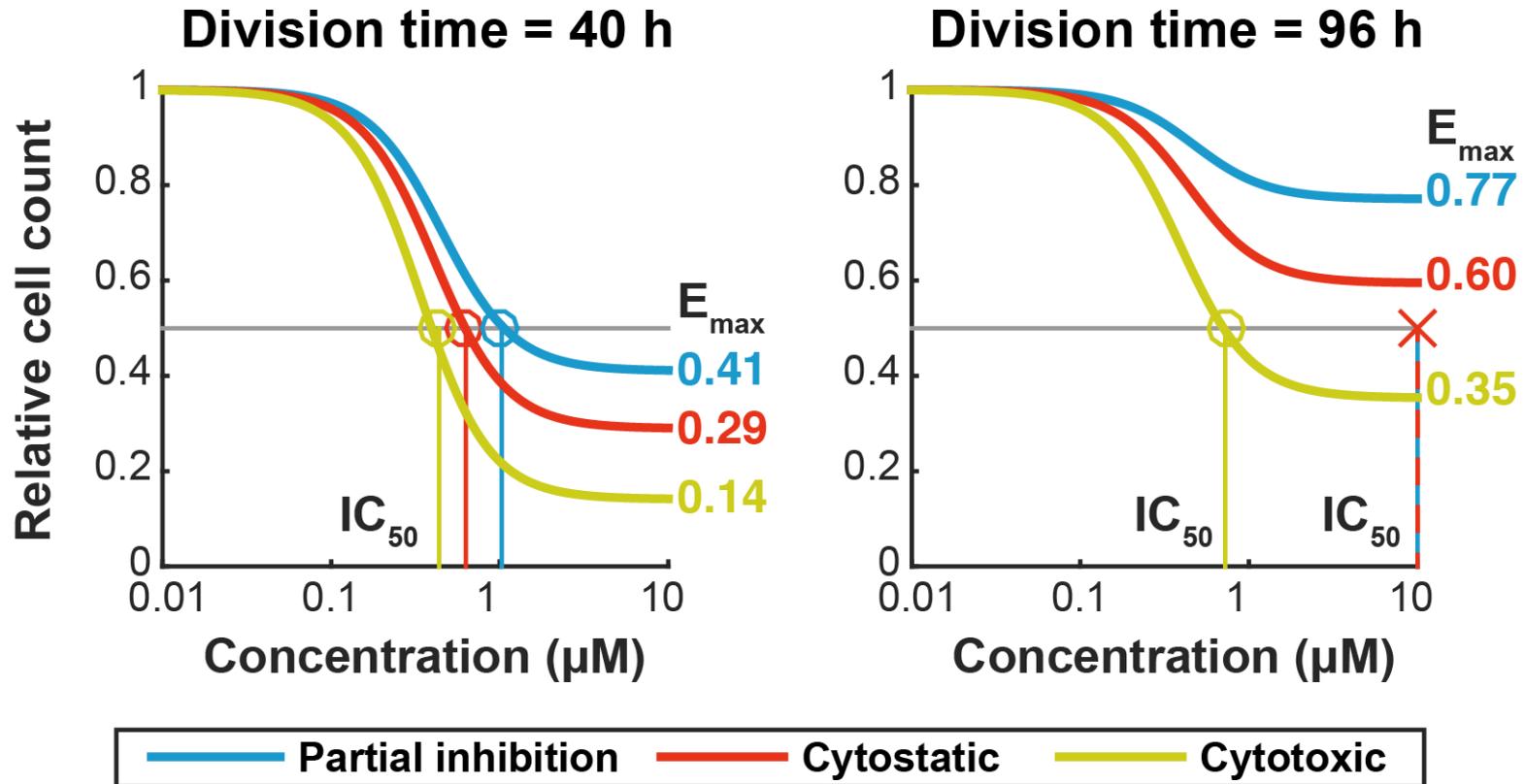
Relative cell count is biased by division rate



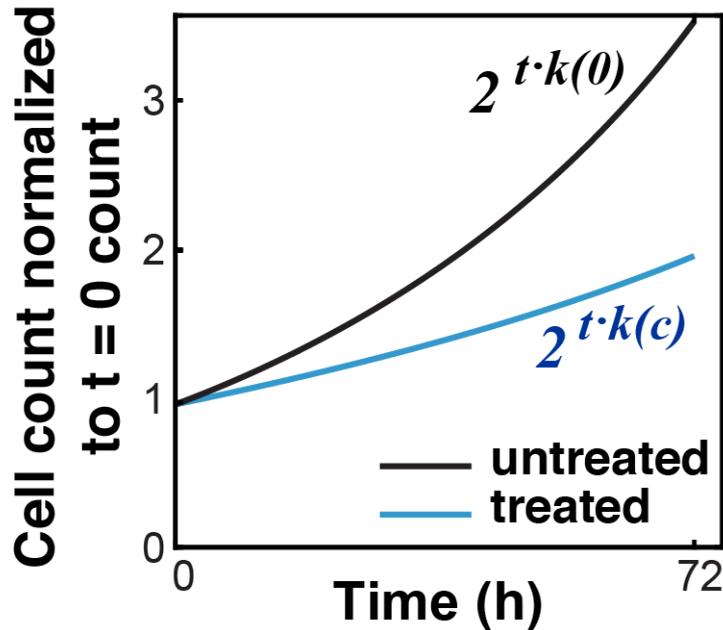
Relative cell count does not distinguish underlying phenotypes



Slow growing cell lines look systematically more resistant when using relative cell count



Normalized growth rate inhibition (GR) value



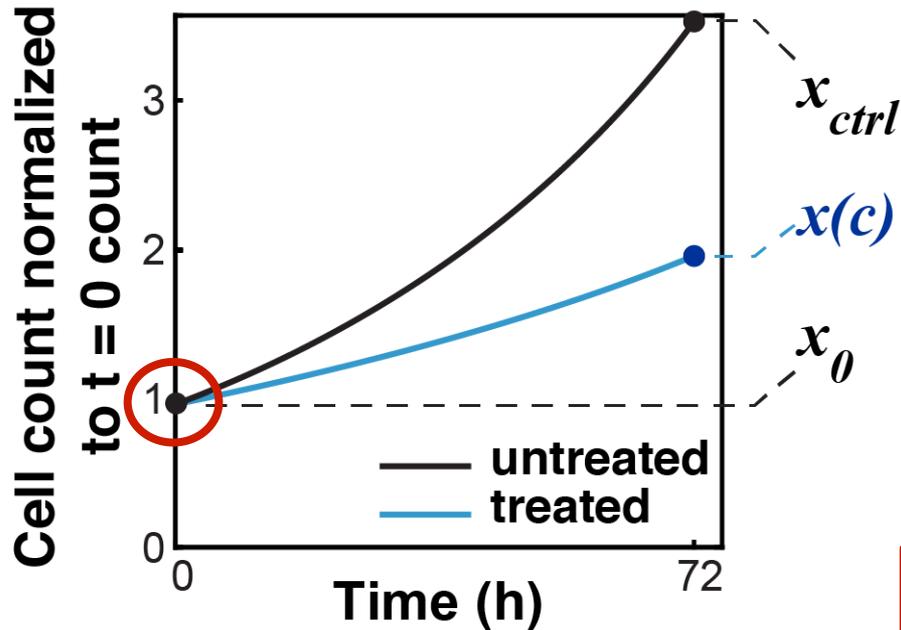
$$GR(c) = 2^{k(c)/k(0)} - 1$$

$k(c)$ is the treated growth rate
 $k(0)$ is the control growth rate



Marc Hafner

GR values rely on three measures of cell count



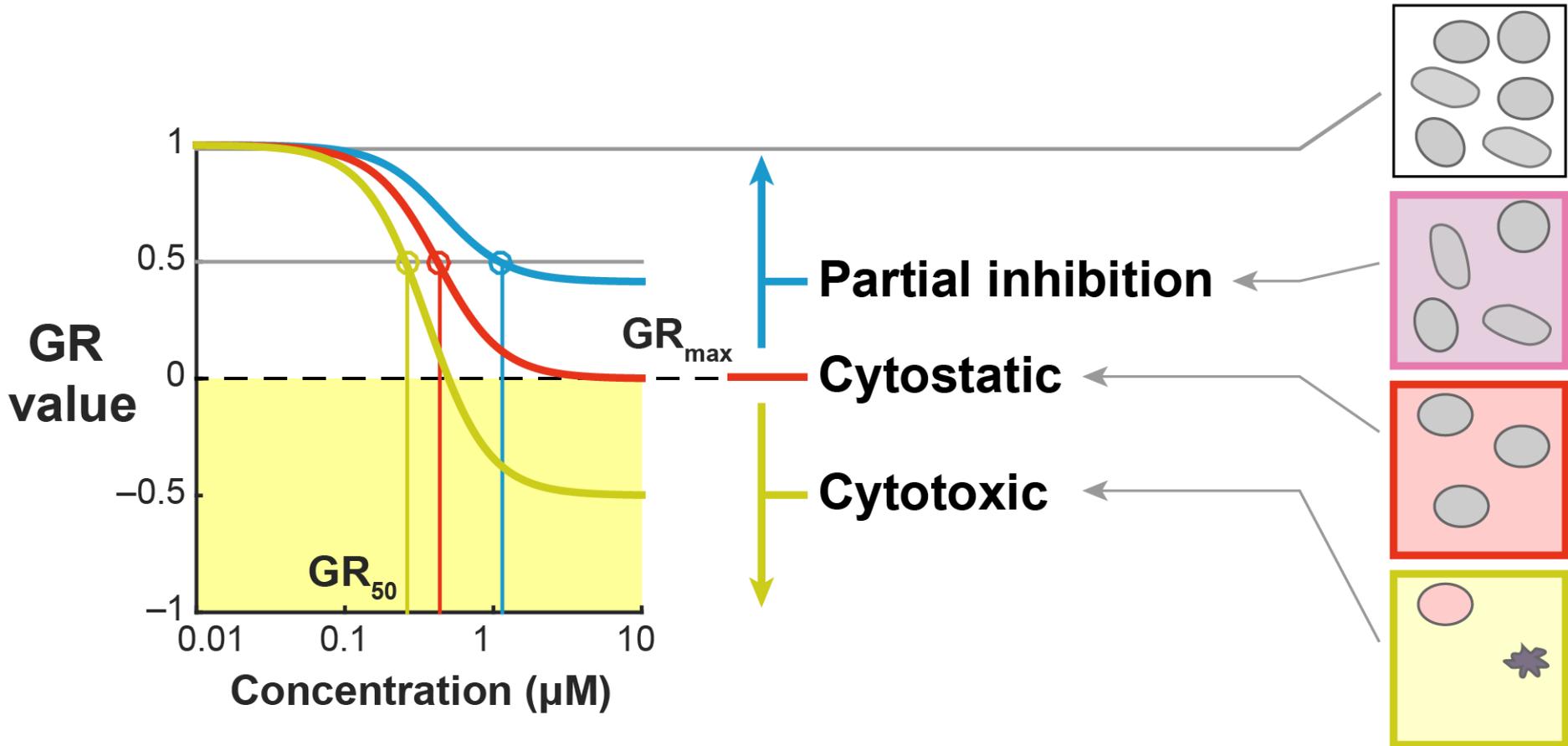
$$GR(c) = 2^{\frac{\log_2(x(c)/x_0)}{\log_2(x_{ctrl}/x_0)}} - 1$$

$x(c)$ is the treated cell count

x_{ctrl} is the control cell count

x_0 is the cell count at the time of treatment

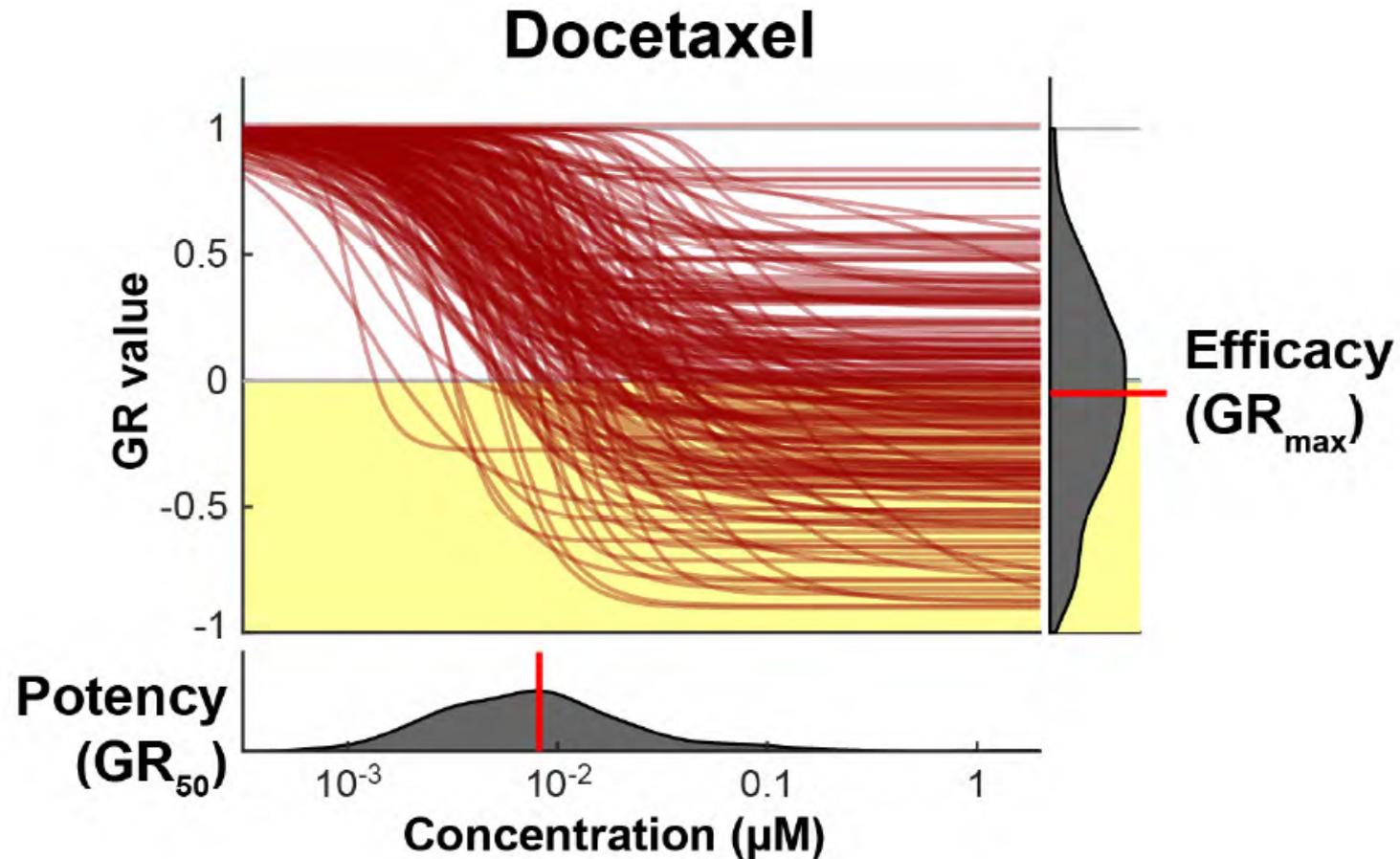
GR values are independent of the division rate and directly relate to the phenotype



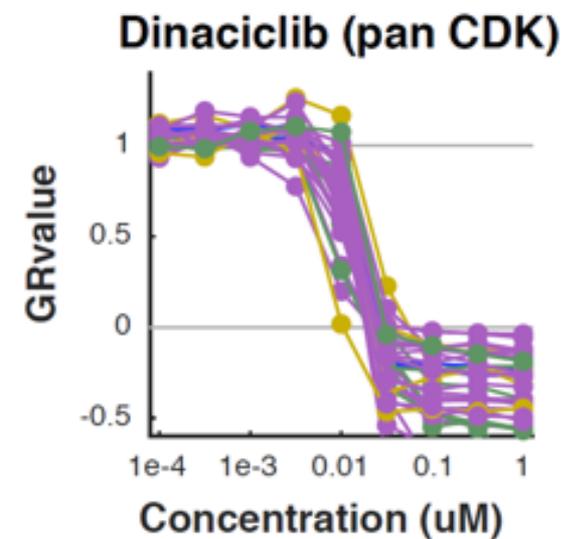
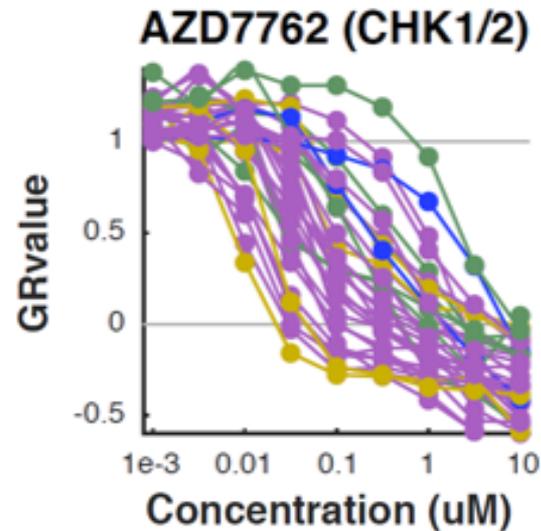
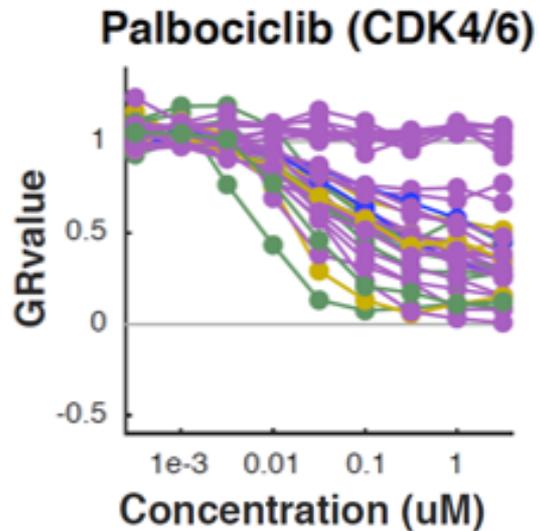
GR metrics:

GR_{50} , GR_{max} and GR_{AOC} substitute for IC_{50} , E_{max} and AUC

GR metric allows for an intuitive assessment of phenotypic effects across cell lines and drugs



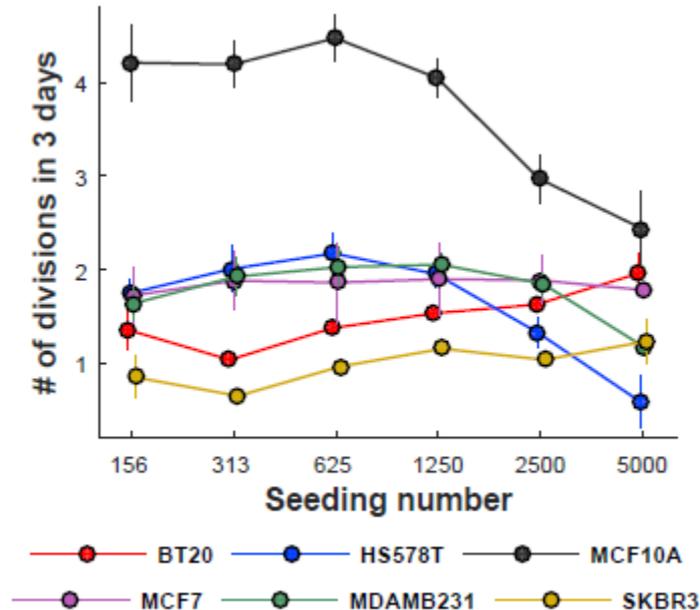
GR metric allows for an intuitive assessment of phenotypic effects across cell lines and drugs



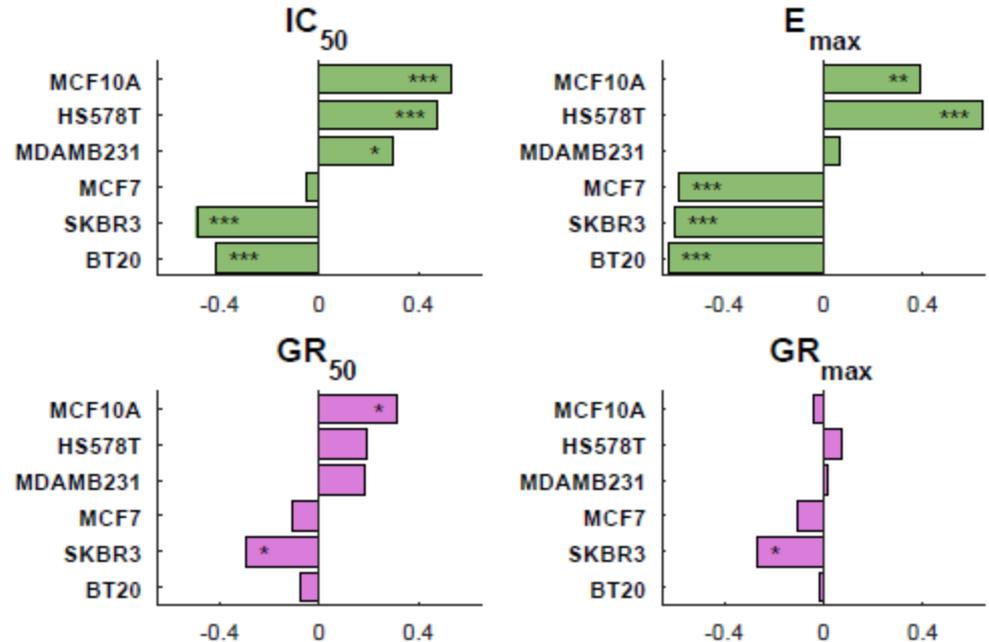
Cell seeding affects division time which biases traditional sensitivity metrics

Seeding density affects the number of divisions.

→ IC_{50} and E_{max} are correlated with density.

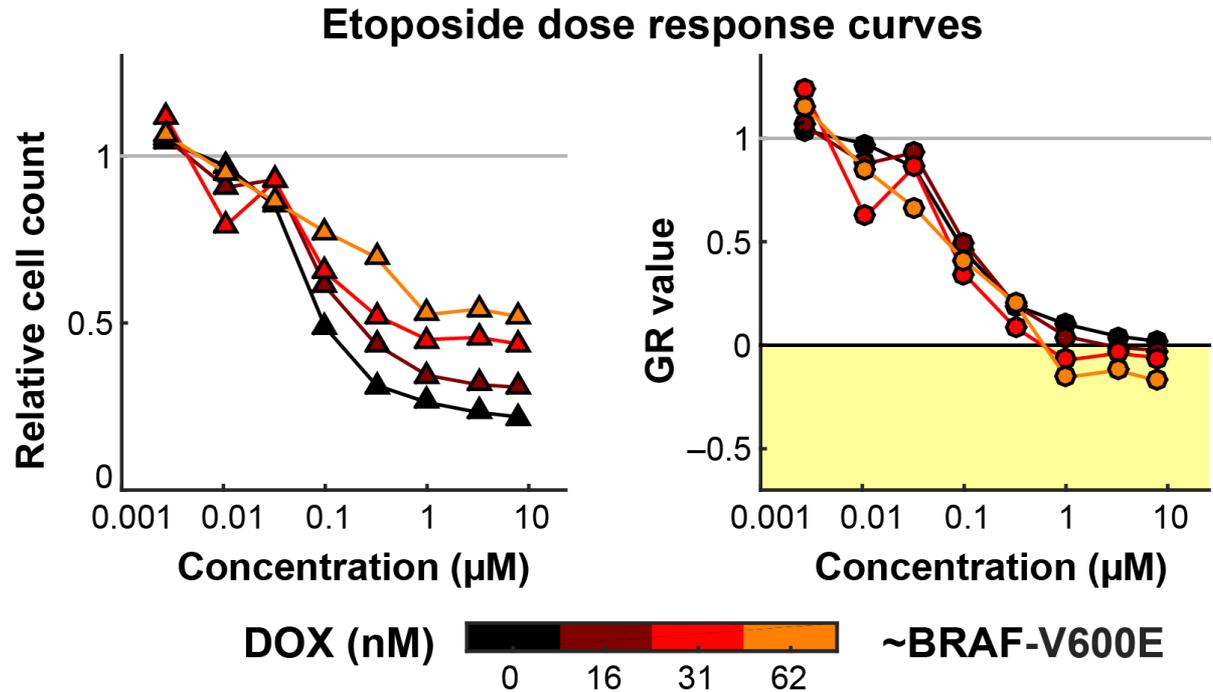
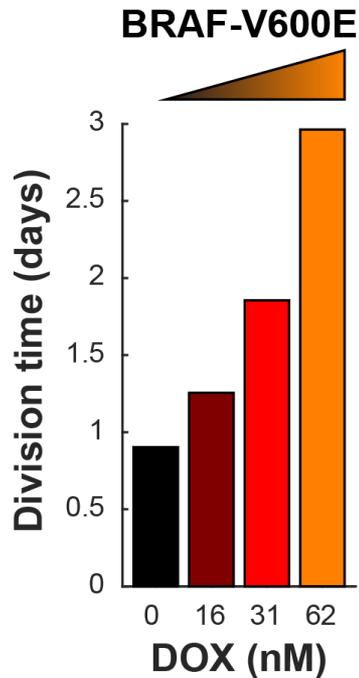


Spearman's correlation with seeding number (11 drugs)



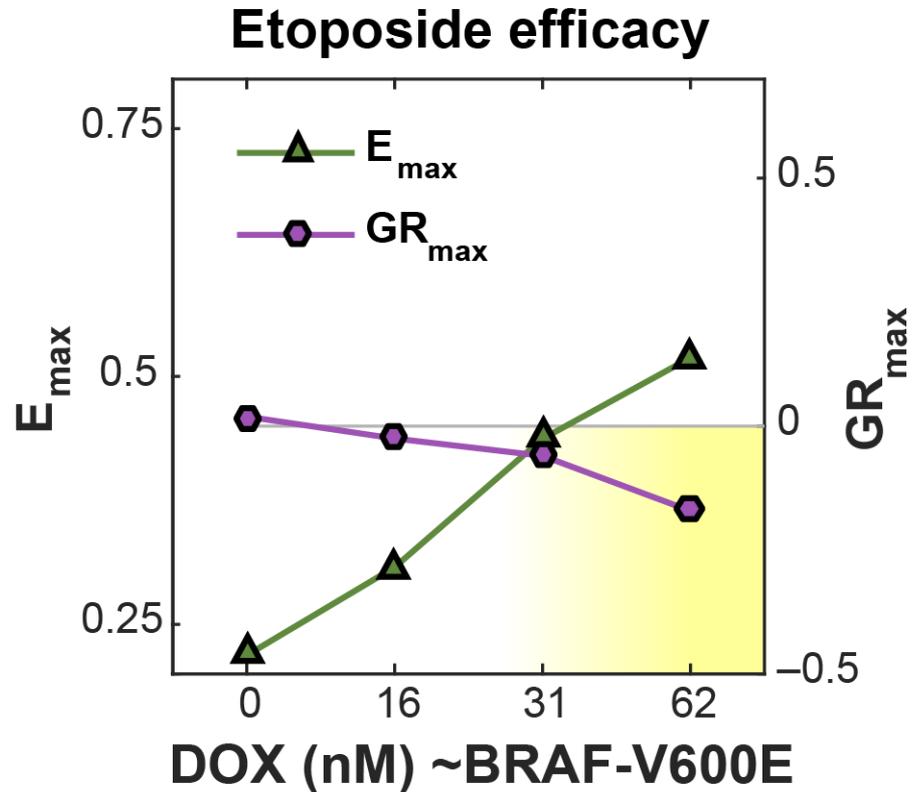
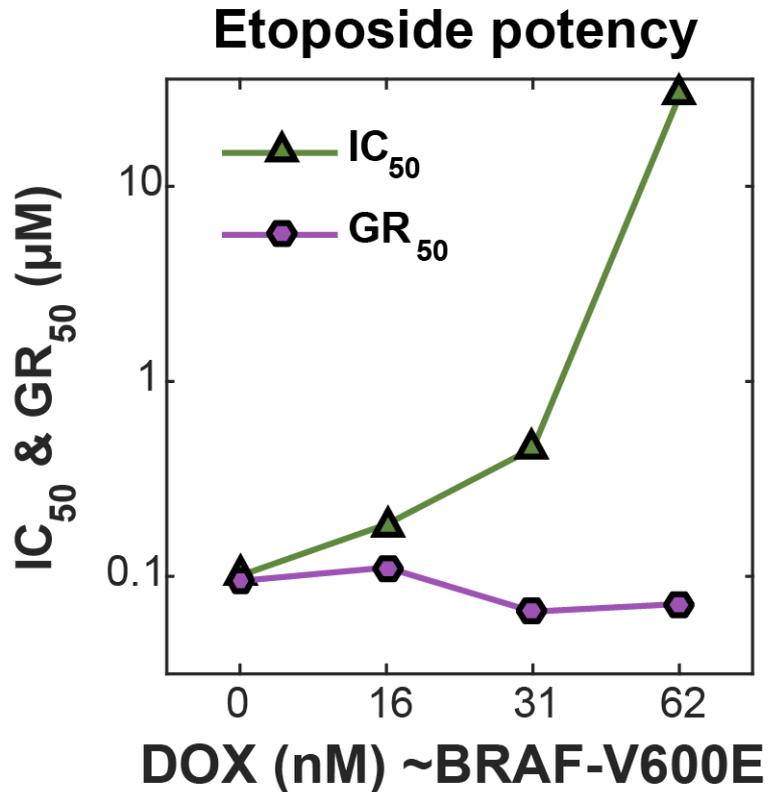
Genetic alterations affect division time which biases traditional sensitivity metrics

Etoposide sensitivity in HME RPE-1 cells with inducible BRAF^{V600E} expression.



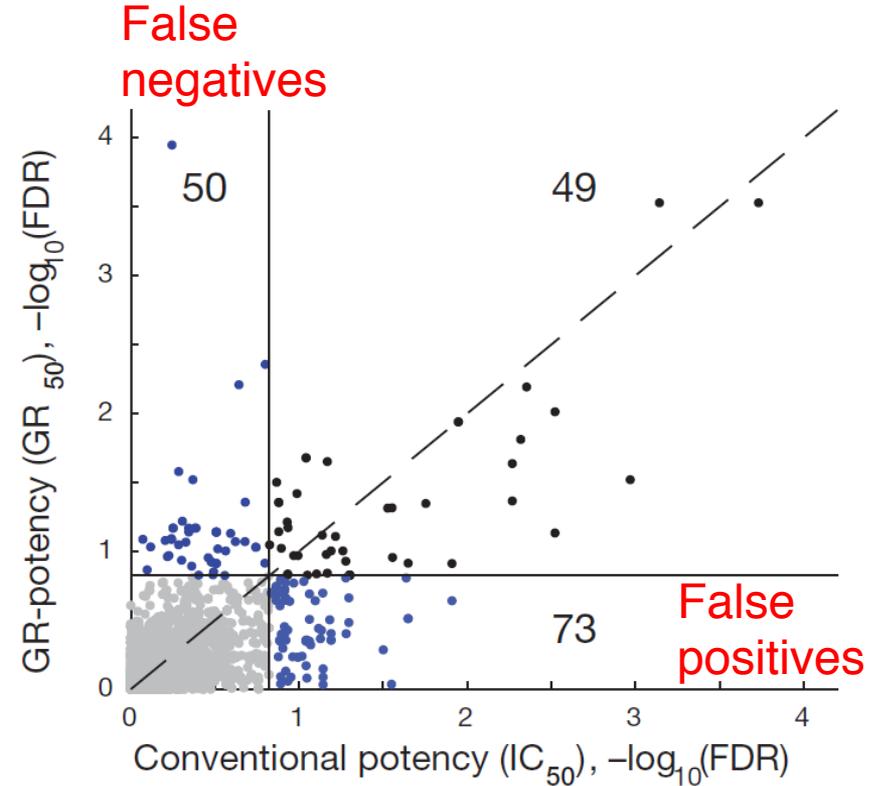
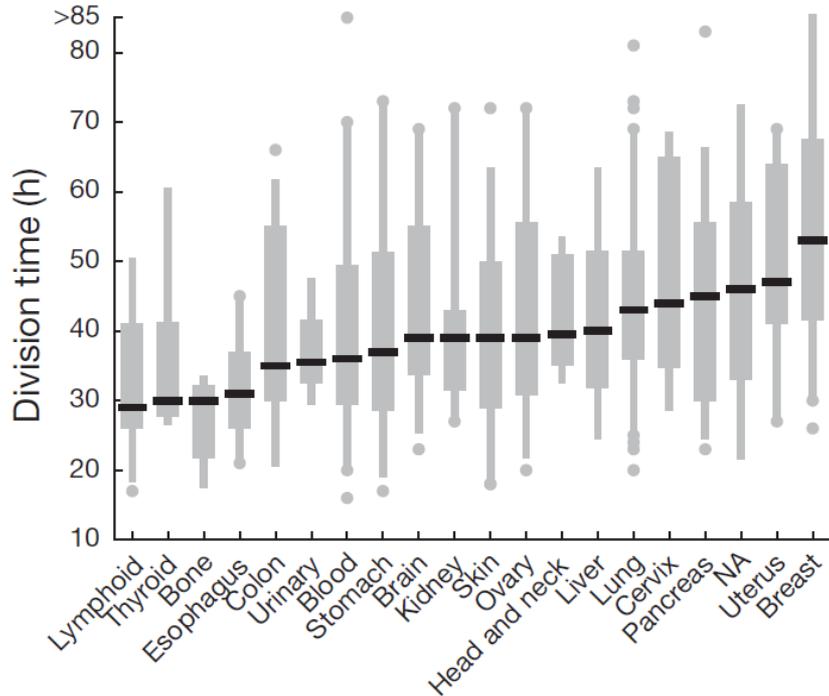
Thanks to Jia-Yun Chen
for the cell line

Genetic alterations affect division time which biases traditional sensitivity metrics



GR metrics correct growth rate confounders in pharmacogenomics and reveal true associations

Re-Analysis using GR metric of Genentech Cell Line Screening Initiative
(409 cell lines and 16 drugs):



VOLUME 35 NUMBER 6 JUNE 2017 NATURE BIOTECHNOLOGY

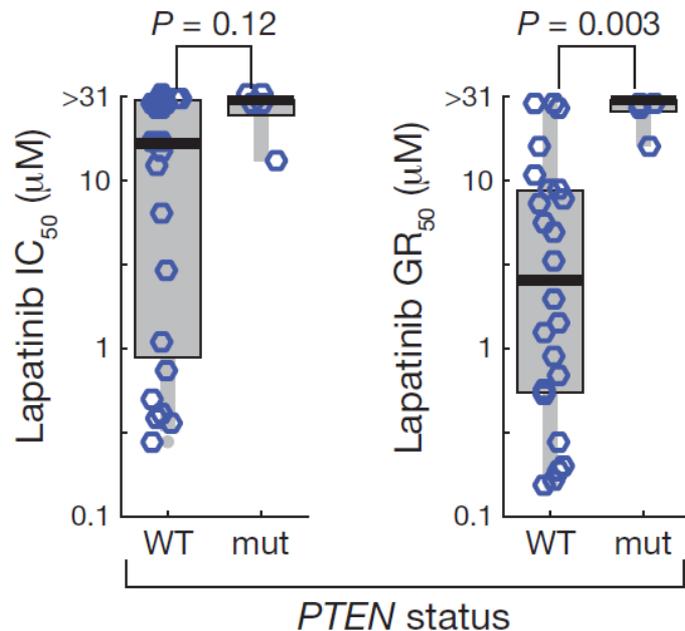
Alternative drug sensitivity metrics improve preclinical cancer pharmacogenomics

Marc Hafner, Mario Niepel & Peter K Sorger

GR metrics correct growth rate confounders in pharmacogenomics and reveal true associations

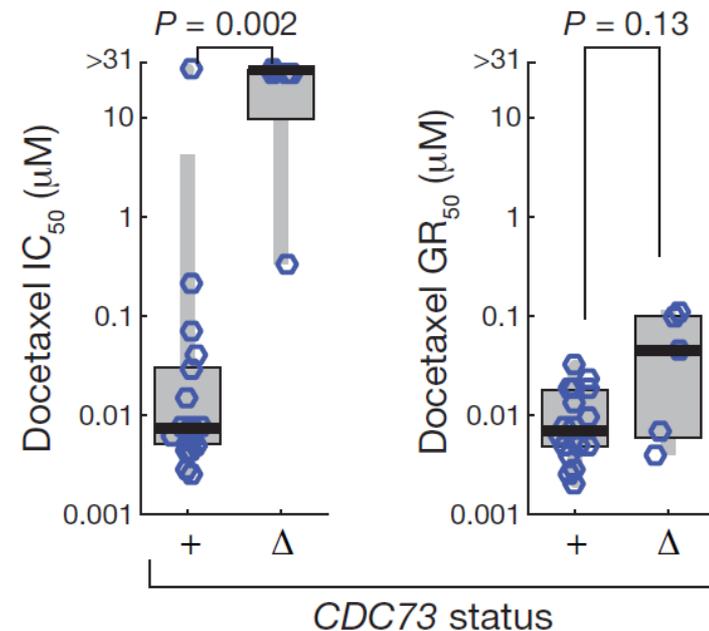
False negative example:

PTEN mutants ARE insensitive to Lapatinib



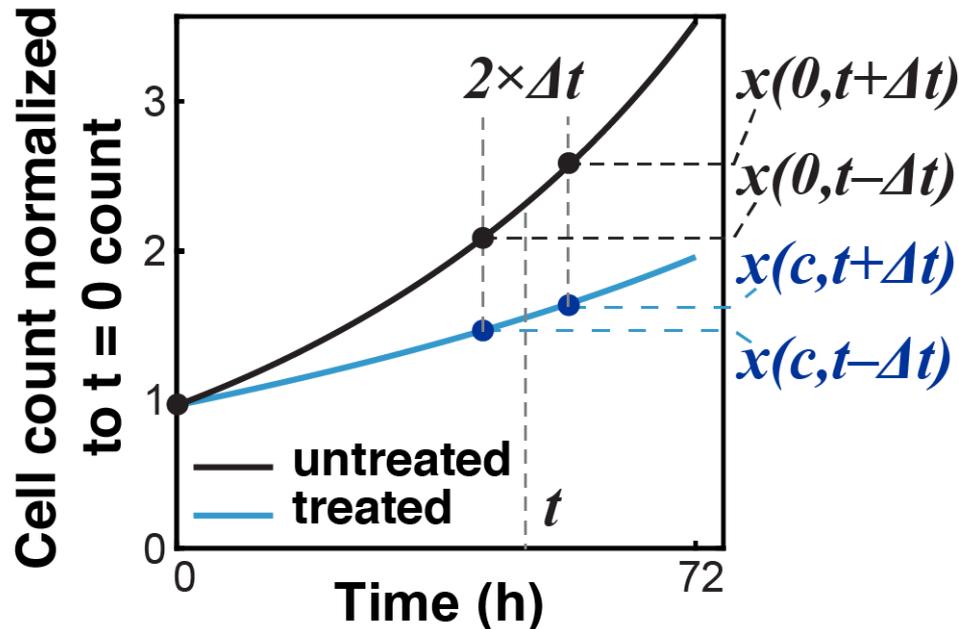
False positive example:

ΔCDC73 are NOT sensitive Docetaxel



Time-dependent GR metrics

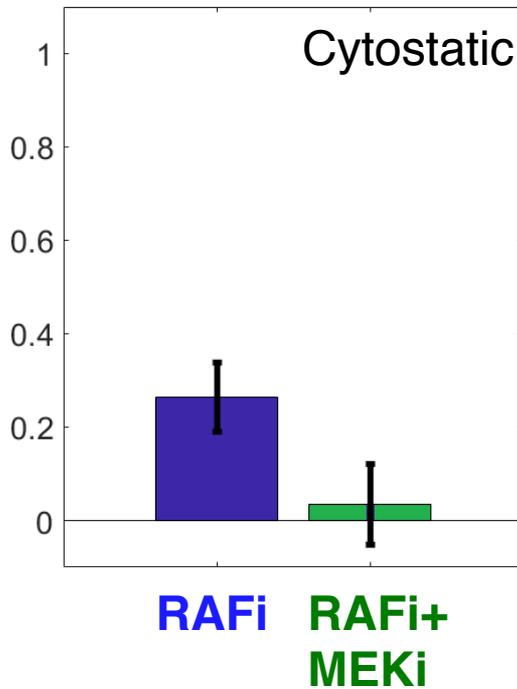
$$GR(c, t) = 2^{\frac{\log_2(x(c, t+\Delta t/2)/x(c, t-\Delta t/2))}{\log_2(x(0, t+\Delta t/2)/x(0, t-\Delta t/2))}} - 1$$



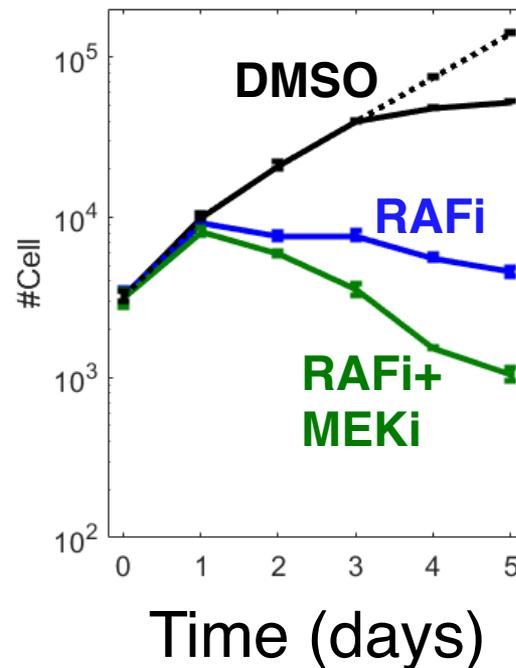
For evaluating $GR_{50}(t)$ and $GR_{max}(t)$ and quantifying adaptive response or late drug action.

Time-dependent GR can reveals dynamic changes in drug-response effects

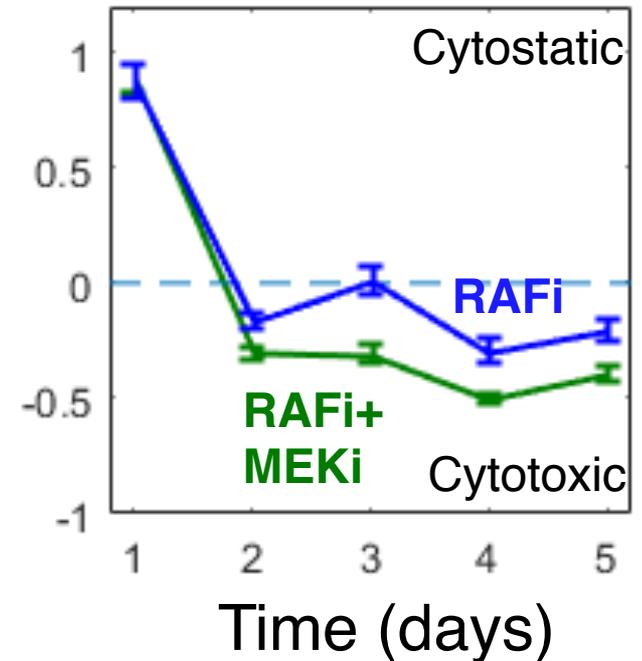
GR (72 hrs)



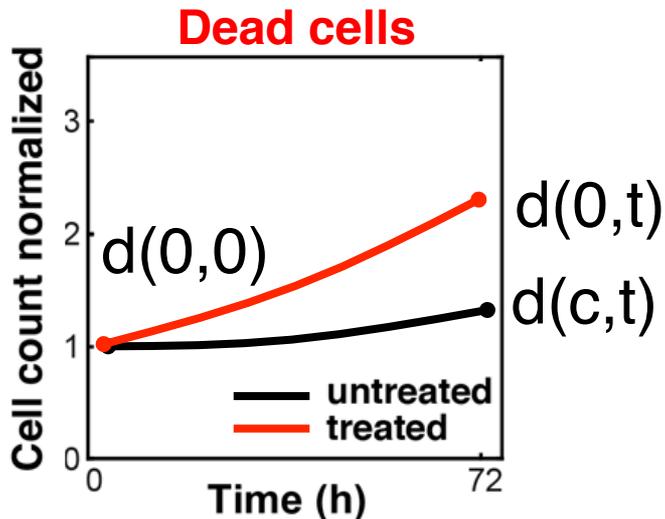
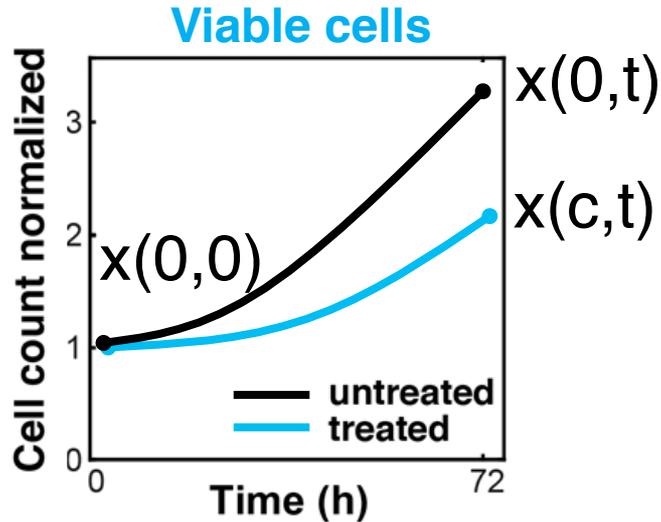
Cell number



Time-dependent GR



Decoupling cytostatic and cytotoxic drug-responses by GR metrics



Normalized **growth** rate:

$$\frac{k_S(c)}{k_S(0)} = \left(1 + \frac{d(c,t) - d_0}{x(c,t) - x_0}\right) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{x(c,t)}{x(0,0)}\right) / \ln\left(\frac{x(0,t)}{x(0,0)}\right)$$

Normalized **death** rate:

$$\frac{k_T(c)}{k_S(0)} = -\left(\frac{d(c,t) - d_0}{x(c,t) - x_0}\right) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{x(c,t)}{x(0,0)}\right) / \ln\left(\frac{x(0,t)}{x(0,0)}\right)$$

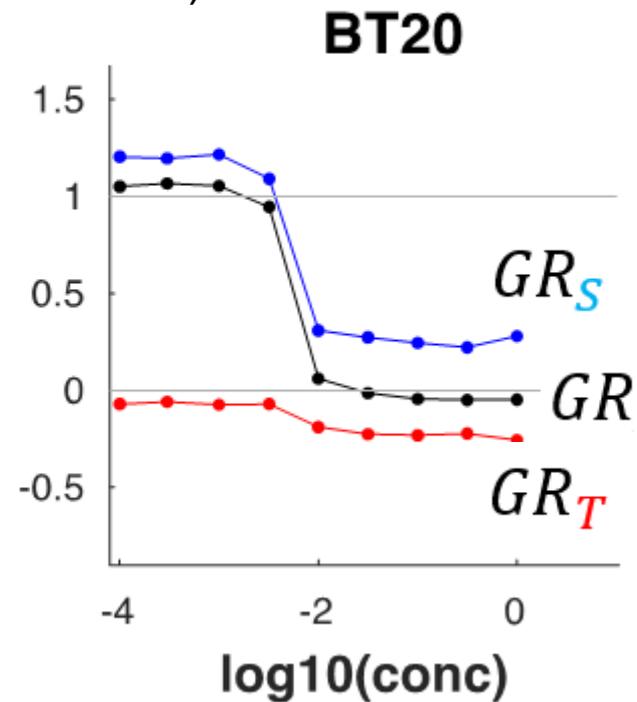
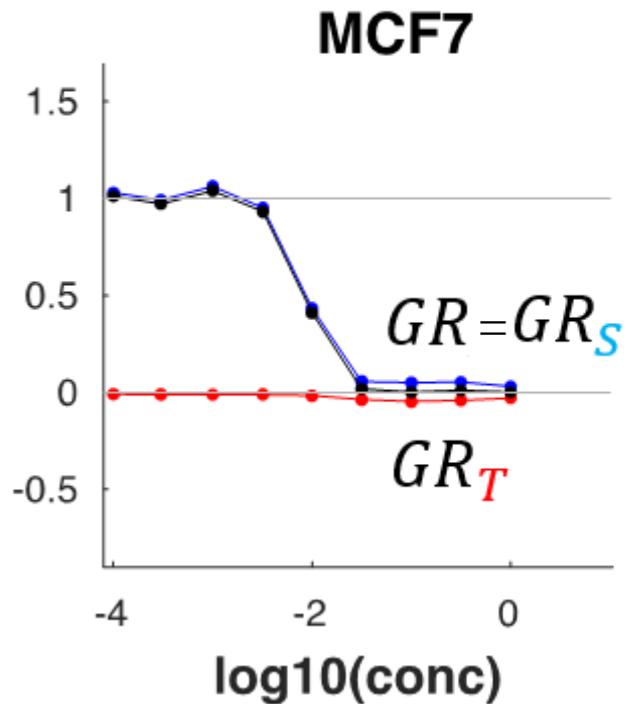
Decoupled GR metric:

$$GR_S = 2^{\frac{k_S(c)}{k_S(0)}} - 1 \quad GR_T = 2^{\frac{k_T(c)}{k_S(0)}} - 1$$

$$GR = GR_S + GR_T + GR_S \cdot GR_T$$

Similar drug responses can be due to different combinations of cell growth and death

Luminespib/NVP-AUY922 (Hsp90 inhibitor)



Conclusions on GR metrics as analytical tools for reproducible drug-dose responses

GR metrics...

- ... eliminate confounders that act by cell division bias (cell seeding, genetic background, etc...)
- ... can be extended to quantify time-dependent drug-response and to decouple cytostatic and cytotoxic effects
- .. improve reproducibility in studies that rely on measuring growth inhibition, such as in pharmacogenomics

Optimized **Experimental** and
Analytical Tools **3**

Reproducible **Drug-Response Studies**

4

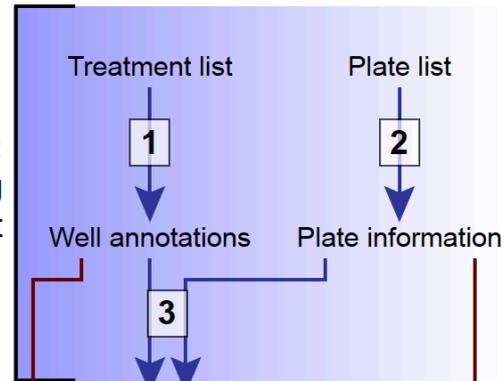
2

1

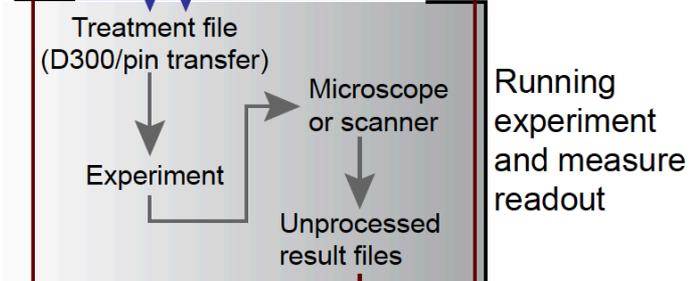
Experimental pipeline

1. Designing experiment
2. Running experiment
3. Processing data files
4. Evaluating sensitivity metrics

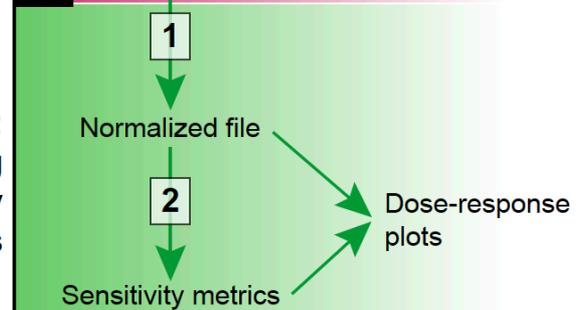
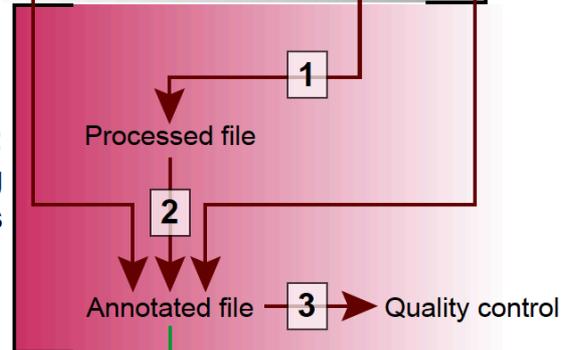
Protocol 1:
Designing
experiment



Protocol 2:
Processing
data files

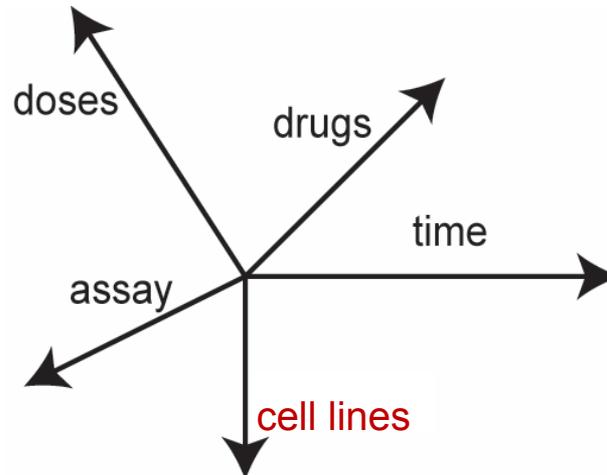


Protocol 3:
Evaluating
sensitivity
metrics



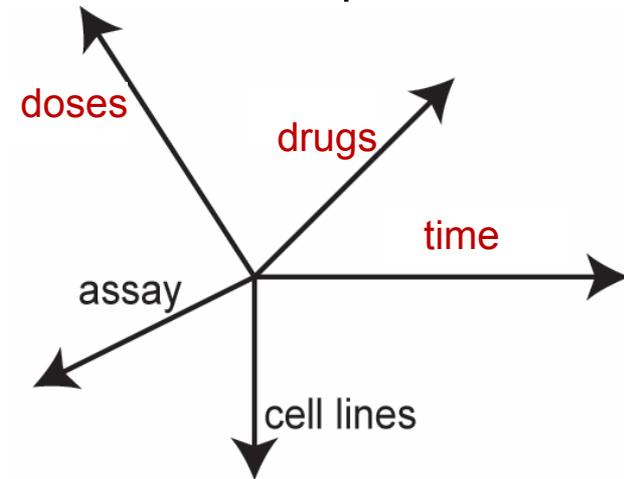
To consider *before* you start: cell lines

- How many cell lines do I want to test?
- Are they amenable to imaging?
- Are they adherent?
- Do they grow in a monolayer?
- How densely should they be seeded?

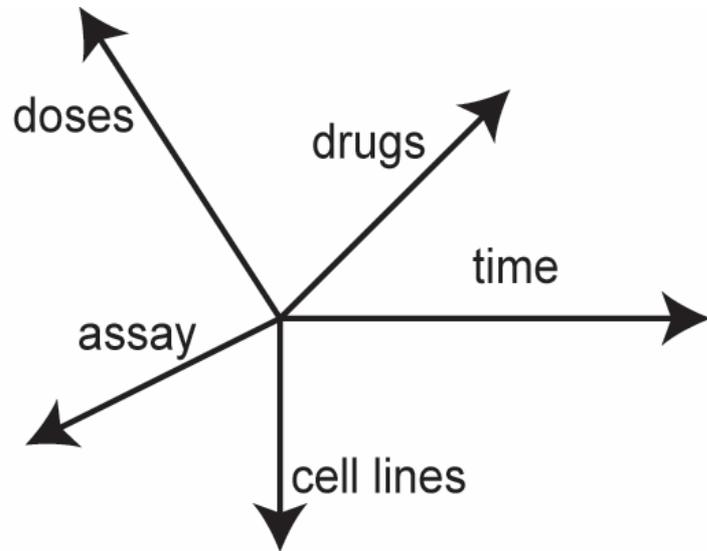


To consider *before* you start: drugs

- How many drugs do I want to collect dose response data for?
- Are they DMSO soluble?
- How many dose points do I need?
- What's an appropriate dose range?
- How many time points do I want to test?
- How long should the assay run?
- What are the expected effects of drug treatment?



To consider *before* you start



96 or 384 well plates



Do I need to use the GR approach?

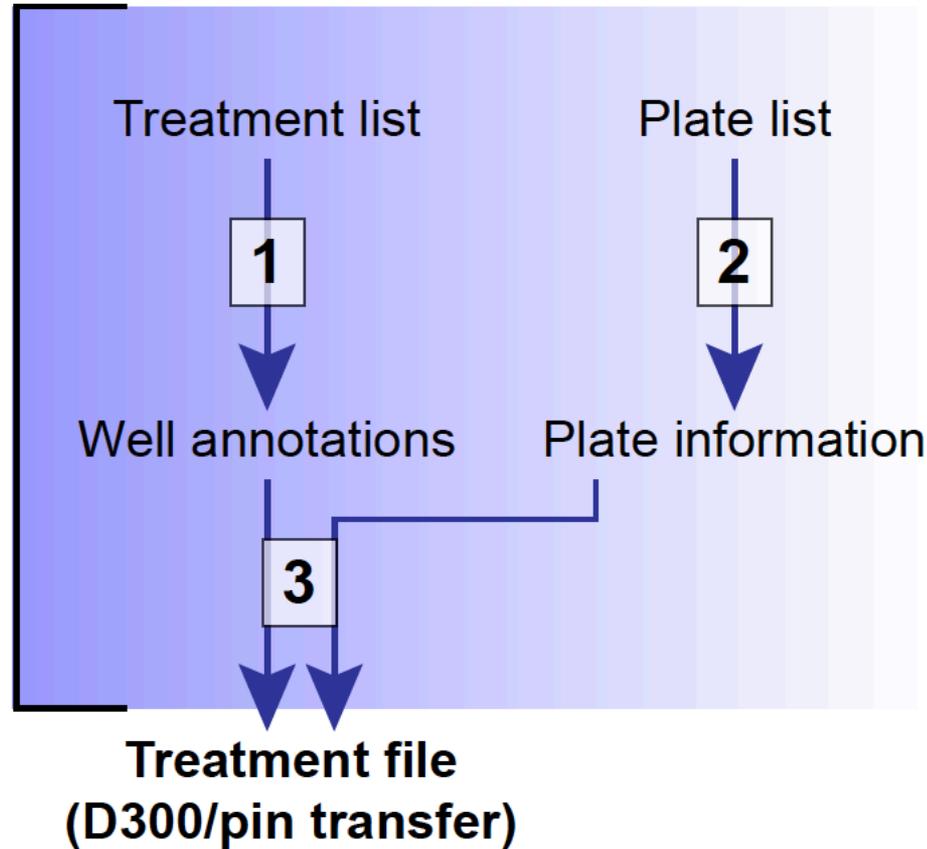
It depends on how you answered the previous questions.

Relative cell counts are valid when the untreated controls do not change:

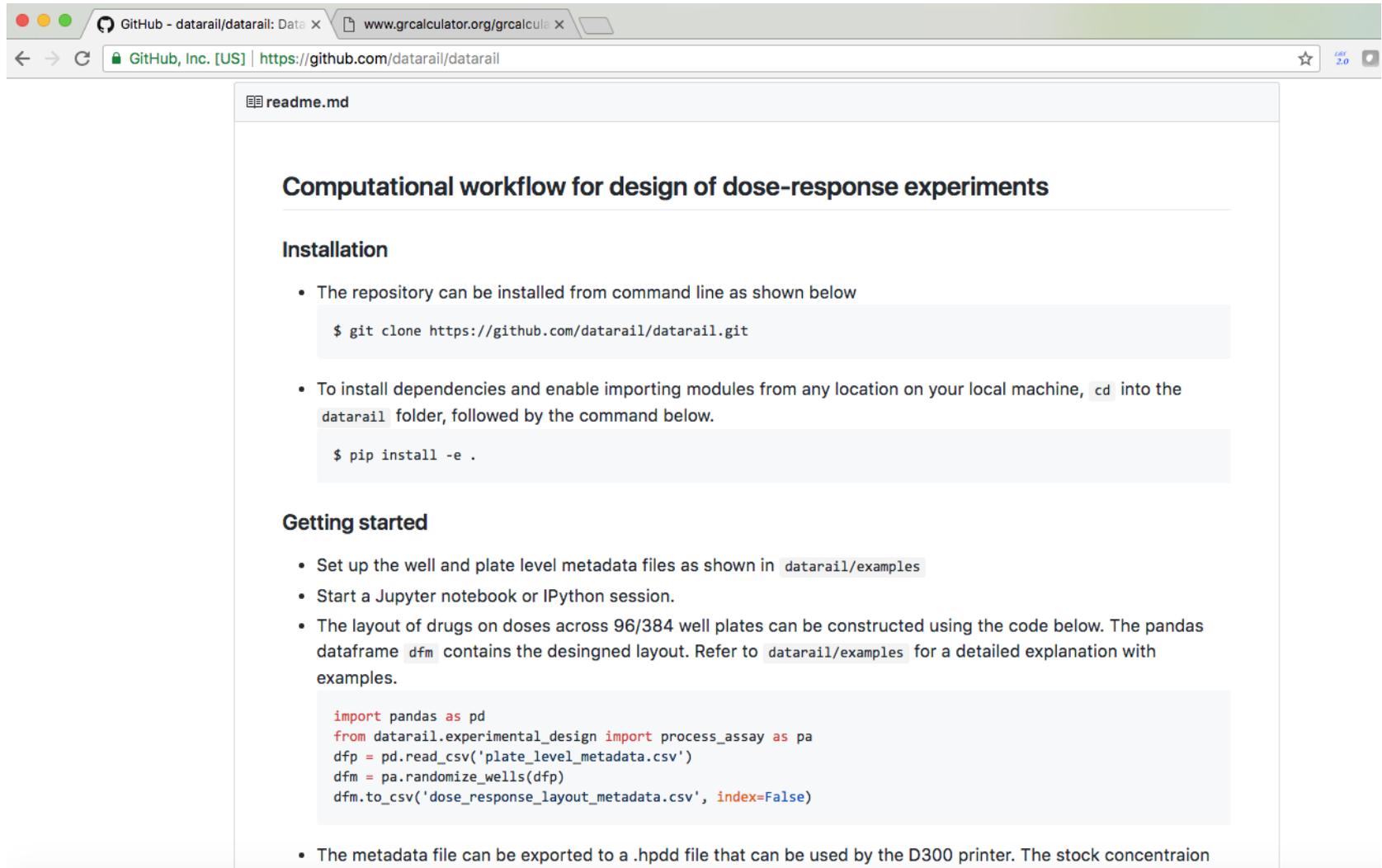
- Phenotype is not related to cell growth
- Untreated cells do not grow
- Short assays during which growth is negligible

Experimental design

Protocol 1:
Designing
experiment



Design scripts available at github.com/datarail/datarail



readme.md

Computational workflow for design of dose-response experiments

Installation

- The repository can be installed from command line as shown below

```
$ git clone https://github.com/datarail/datarail.git
```

- To install dependencies and enable importing modules from any location on your local machine, `cd` into the `datarail` folder, followed by the command below.

```
$ pip install -e .
```

Getting started

- Set up the well and plate level metadata files as shown in `datarail/examples`
- Start a Jupyter notebook or IPython session.
- The layout of drugs on doses across 96/384 well plates can be constructed using the code below. The pandas dataframe `dfm` contains the designed layout. Refer to `datarail/examples` for a detailed explanation with examples.

```
import pandas as pd
from datarail.experimental_design import process_assay as pa
dfp = pd.read_csv('plate_level_metadata.csv')
dfm = pa.randomize_wells(dfp)
dfm.to_csv('dose_response_layout_metadata.csv', index=False)
```

- The metadata file can be exported to a `.hppd` file that can be used by the D300 printer. The stock concentraion

 smkartik included relevant lines of code and documentation to export design to...

d928a53 4 days ago

1 contributor

145 lines (144 sloc) | 4.53 KB



Raw

Blame

History



The example script below demonstrates how a randomized plate layout can be generated from an initial description (see `input_file.csv`) of the experiment

```
In [ ]: import pandas as pd
from datarail.experimental_design import process_assay as pa
from datarail.experimental_design import plot_plate_layout as ppl
from datarail.experimental_design import hpdd_utils as hu
%matplotlib tk
```

The input file (see `input_file.csv`) should be broad description of the drugs and their concentrations and should contain the following columns

agent : lists the names of drugs. Combinations are to specified as comma separated strings. For example - 'agent1, agent2'

max_dose_um : lists the highest dose for each agent.

num_doses : lists the number of doses for each agent.

role : lists the intended role for each agent 'treatment', or 'positive_control'

num_replicates : lists number of times the dosing schme of a drug (or a combination) is replicated on the same plate.

equivalent : 0 if the combination should comprise of the full cartesian product. 1 if only equivalent doses make up the combination

The plate level file (see `plate_id.csv`) should provide a description of plate level metadata. It should contain the following columns

barcode: list of barcodes (plate identifiers)

cell_line: name of cell lines in each plate (comma separated names)

timepoint: time point corresponding to each plate. Set to `time0 ctrl` for plate that should be used as

 smkartik included relevant lines of code and documentation to export design to...

d928a53 4 days ago

1 contributor

145 lines (144 sloc) 4.53 KB



Raw

Blame

History



```
In [ ]: ## Read in the plate level metadata file  
dfp = pd.read_csv('plate_id.csv')
```

```
In [ ]: # Construct and design file  
dfr = pa.randomize_wells(dfp, exclude_outer=2)  Metadata table  
dfr.to_csv('single_agent_design_layout.csv', index=False)
```

```
In [ ]: ## Plot and visualize layout of plates  
ppl.plot_summary(dfr, 'single_agent_design_layout.pdf')  Treatment layout
```

```
In [ ]: # Load file containing information on stock concentration for each agent  
# Note that column names for the file should be 'name' and 'stock_concentration'.  
# Stock concentration should be provided in micromolar.  
dfs = pd.read_csv('stock_concentration.csv')
```

```
In [ ]: # Export design specs to hpdd format  
hu.export_hpdd(dfr, dfs, 'single_agent_design_layout.hpdd')  Treatment file
```

equivalent : 0 if the combination should comprise of the full cartesian product. 1 if only equivalent doses make up the combination

The plate level file (see `plate_id.csv`) should provide a description of plate level metadata. It should contain the following columns

barcode: list of barcodes (plate identifiers)

cell_line: name of cell lines in each plate (comma separated names)

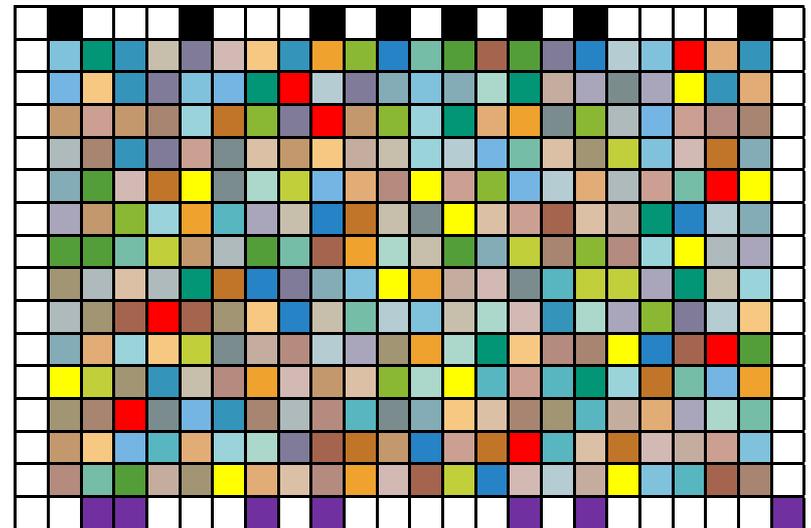
timepoint: time point corresponding to each plate. Set to `time0 ctrl1` for plate that should be used as

Set up library plates for pin transfer for large scale experiments

Manual layout of drugs on source plates



Randomized Library Plates



Use controls to 'barcode' library plates.

Use other automation for pilot, follow-up and smaller experiments

The screenshot displays a laboratory automation software interface. The top toolbar includes various functions such as Run, Undo, Cut Wells, Copy Wells, Paste, Paste Special, Copy All Wells, Clipboard, Set Value, Titration, Targeted Titration, Synergy, Quick Plate, Enzyme Profile, PCR, Normalize, Randomize, One Plate, and All Plates View. Below the toolbar, there are sections for Fluids and Plates, each with a plus sign. The Fluids list includes:

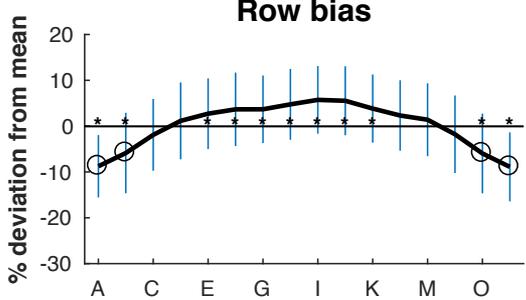
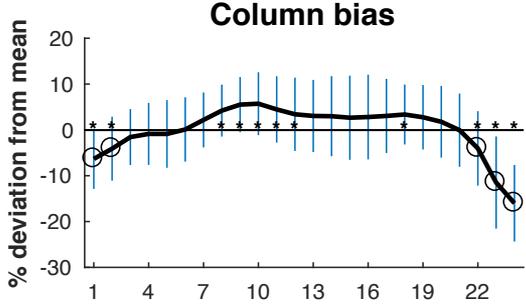
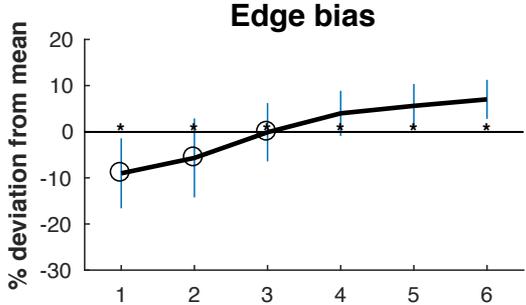
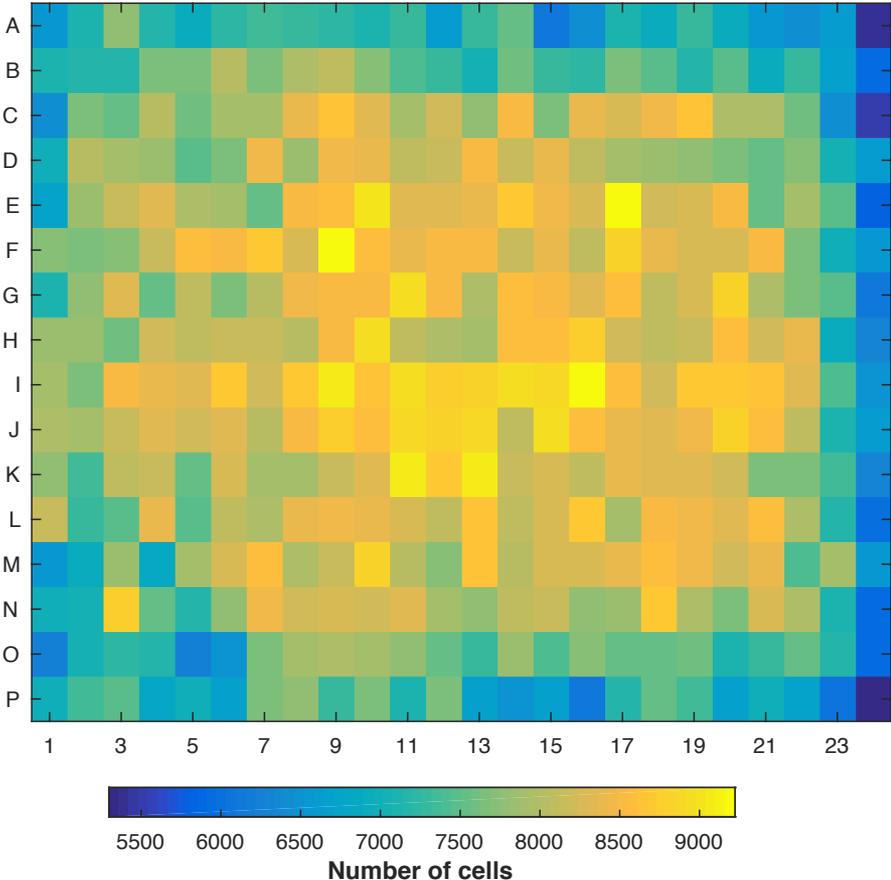
- AURKAi 0.16 μL
- CDK1/2 III 0.50 μL
- Dinaciclib 0.50 μL
- Etoposide 15.8 μL
- Nocodazole 0.16 μL
- Ribociclib 18.7 μL

The Normalization section is also visible. The main area shows a plate layout for Plate 1 - 171108_DDD_69, with an additional volume of 60 μL and a DMSO limit of 2%. The plate is a 24x16 grid with columns numbered 1-24 and rows lettered A-P. The wells are colored according to the fluid list, showing a complex experimental design.

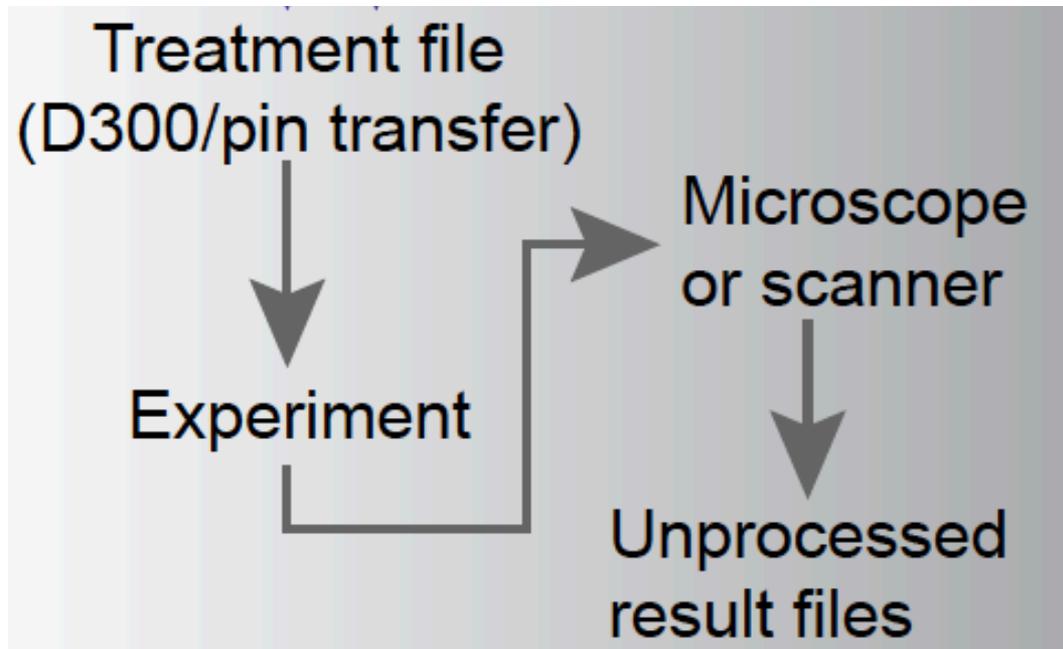
Design steps to improve reproducibility

- Randomization of the treatments across multiple technical replicates
- Standardize nomenclature, barcode plates
- Control for plate bias (across day 0 plate; positive & negative controls across treatment plates)
- Robotic treatments with the D300 or pin transfer
- Exclude edge wells whenever possible

Randomization can mitigate edge effects



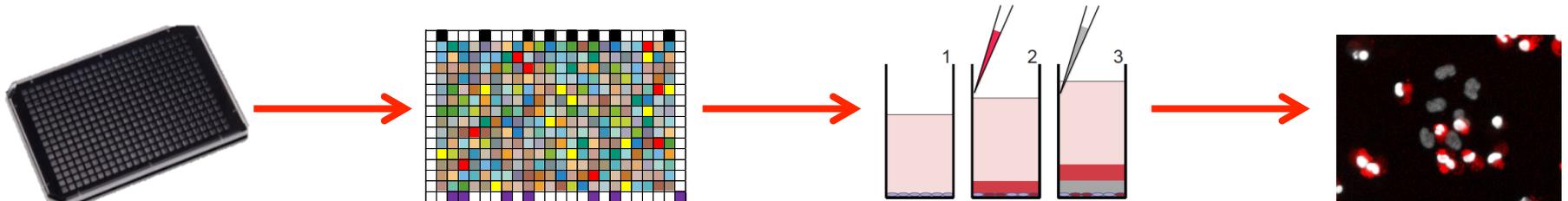
Running the experiment



Running
experiment
and measure
readout

Experimental design is complete. Now what?

- Grow (happy) cells
- Seed cells at appropriate densities in multi-well plates
- Deliver drugs to multi-well plates
- Stain and fix cells
- Image cells
- Extract quantitative data from images

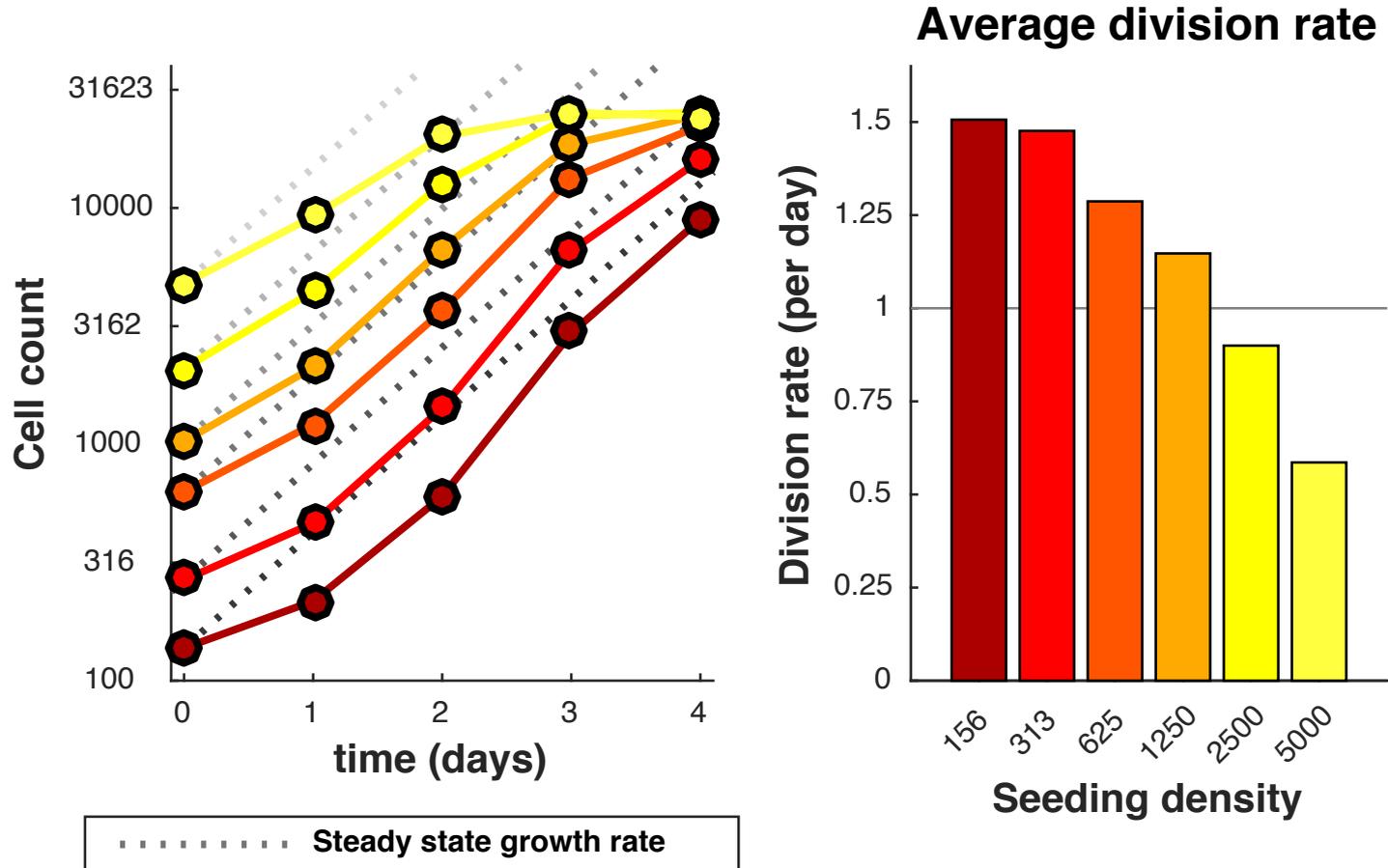


Cell seeding

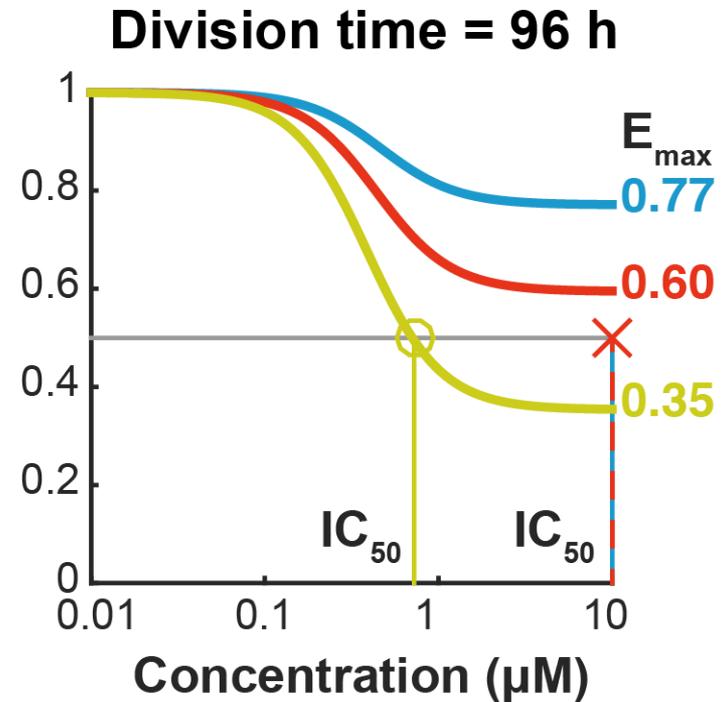
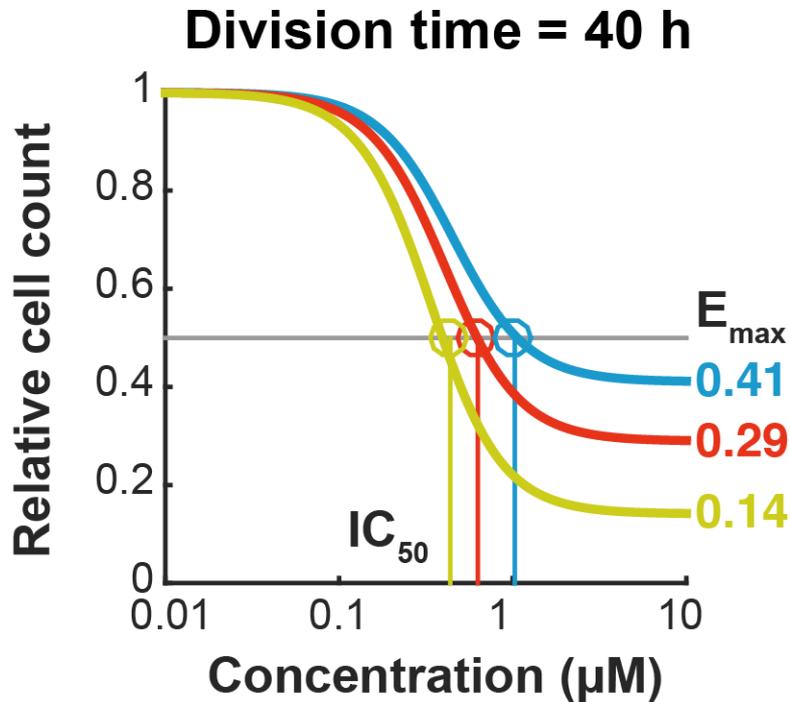
- Seed plates at an appropriate density from parent plates in log-phase growth
- Use automation if possible
- Barcode plates to keep track of them



Cell seeding density influences growth rate...

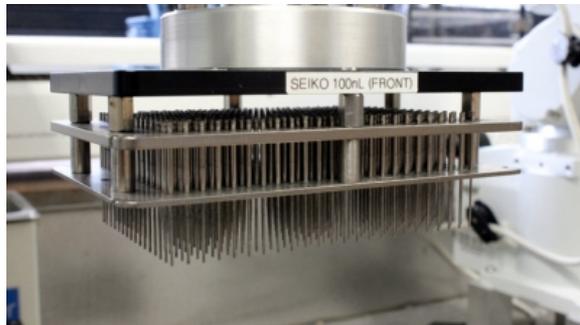


...which influences the dose response



Drug delivery via pin transfer

- For simultaneous delivery of many drugs
- For large scale experiments (many cell lines, conditions)
- Facilitates reproducibility

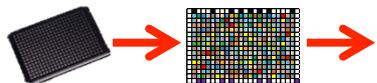
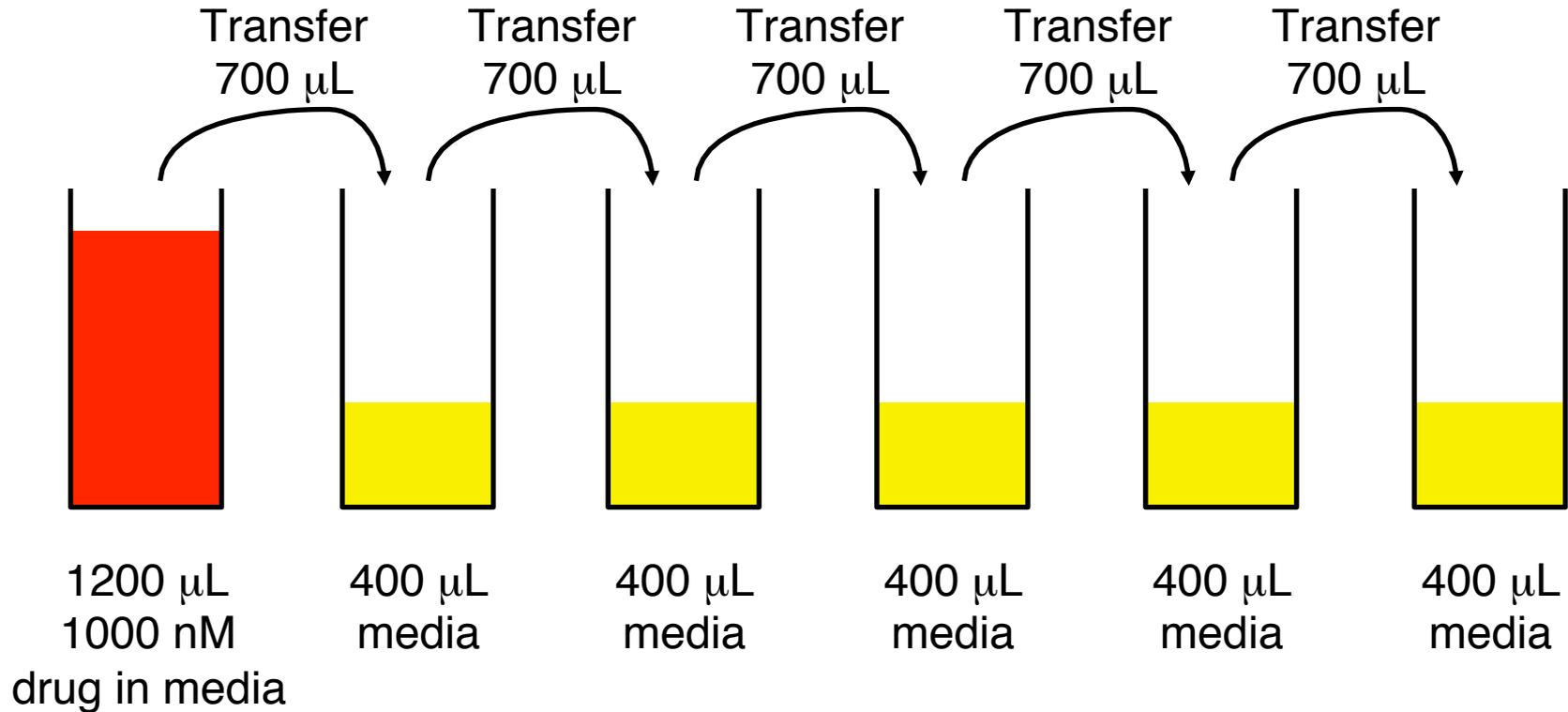


Drug delivery via digital drug dispenser

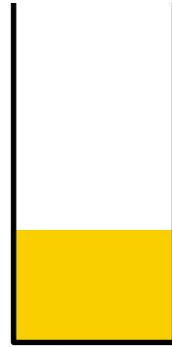
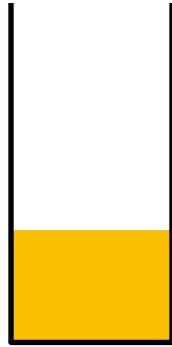
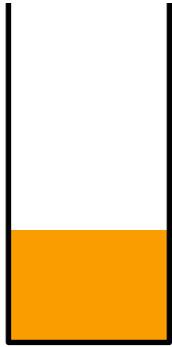
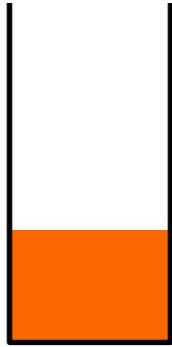
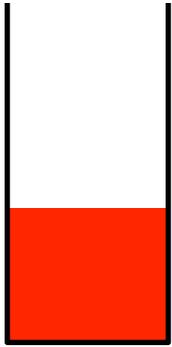
- For accurate delivery of a few drugs
- Pilot experiments- to identify appropriate doses
- Follow-up experiments, 'hit' validation
- Drugs that cannot be prepared in DMSO



No automation? Use serial dilutions



and multichannel pipettes



1000 nM
drug in media

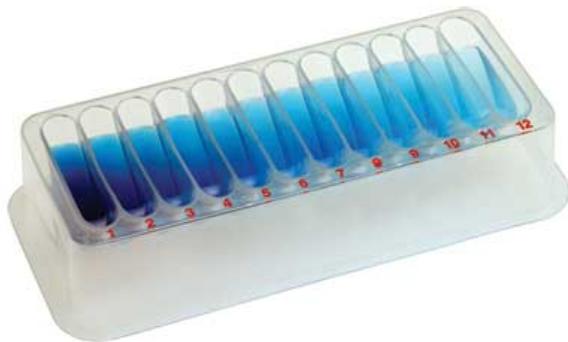
636 nM
drug

405 nM
drug

258 nM
drug

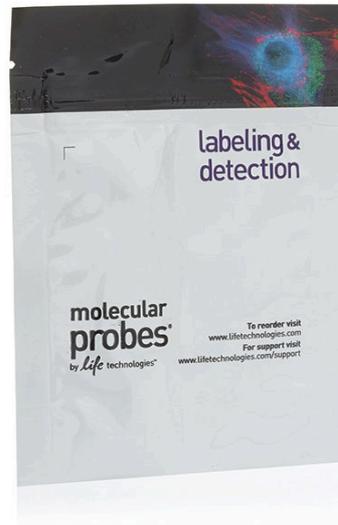
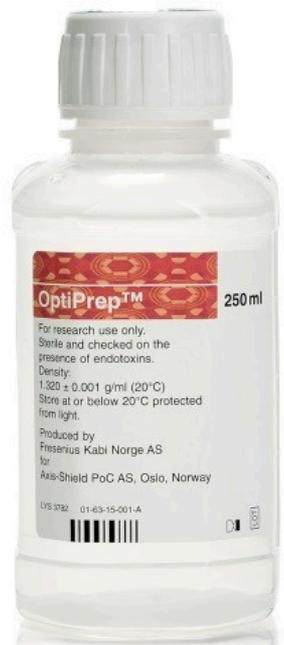
164 nM
drug

104 nM
drug



Dye-drop assay reagents

- Minimally-disruptive, reagent-sparing cell staining and fixation protocol



Dye-drop assay protocol

- Stain: Hoechst + LDR in 10% optiprep in PBS
- Fix: 4% formaldehyde in 20% optiprep in PBS

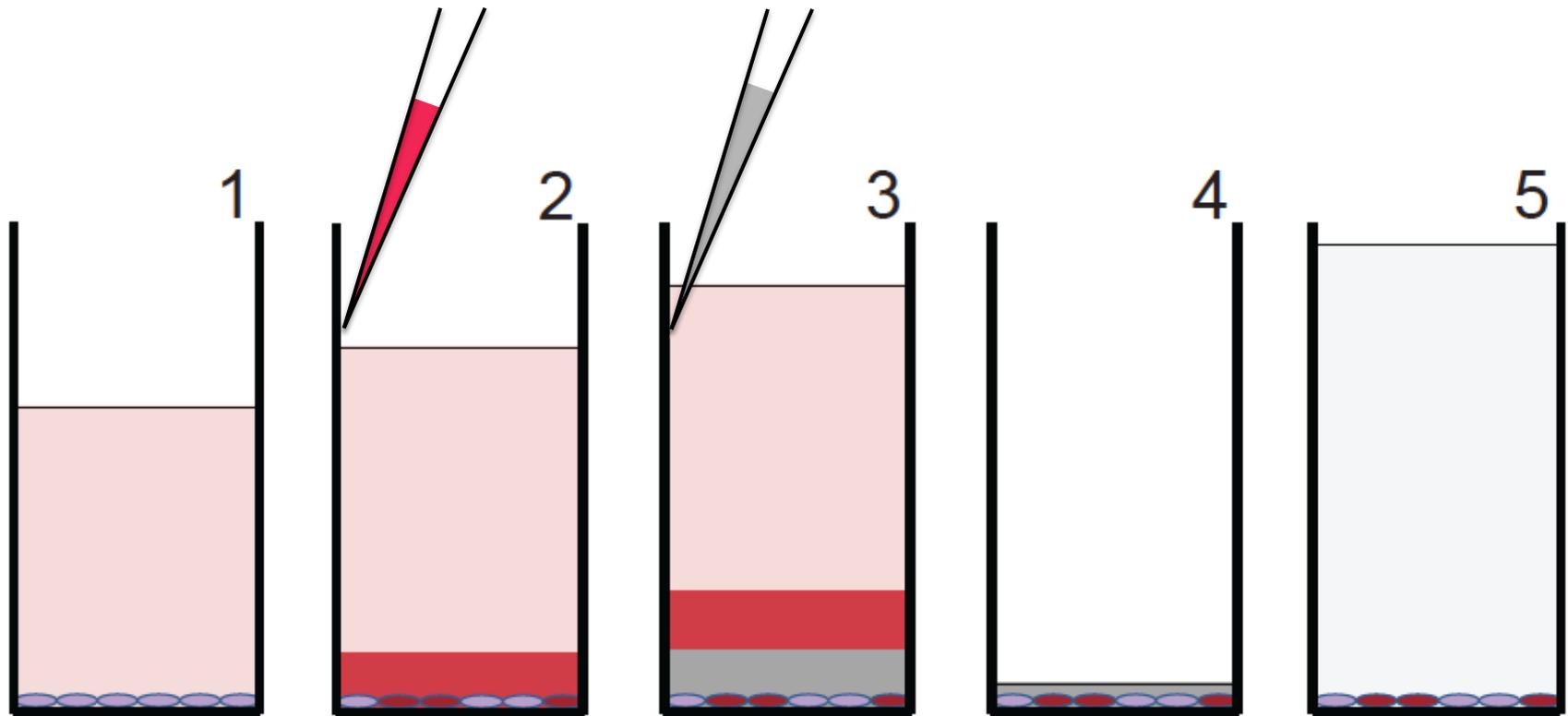


Plate washer

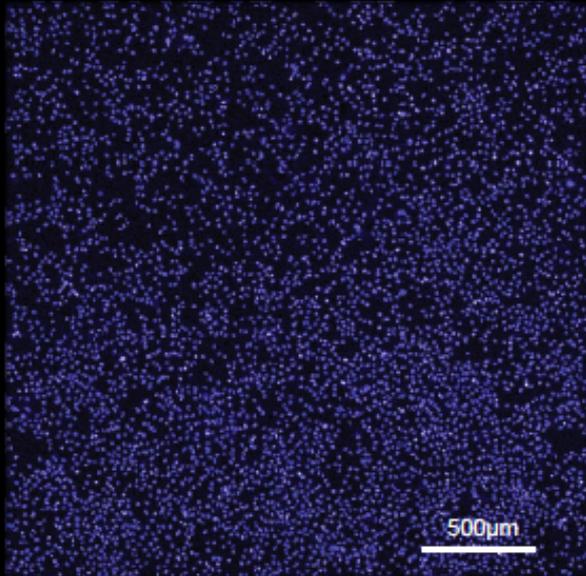
- Uniform and controlled aspiration and liquid dispensing



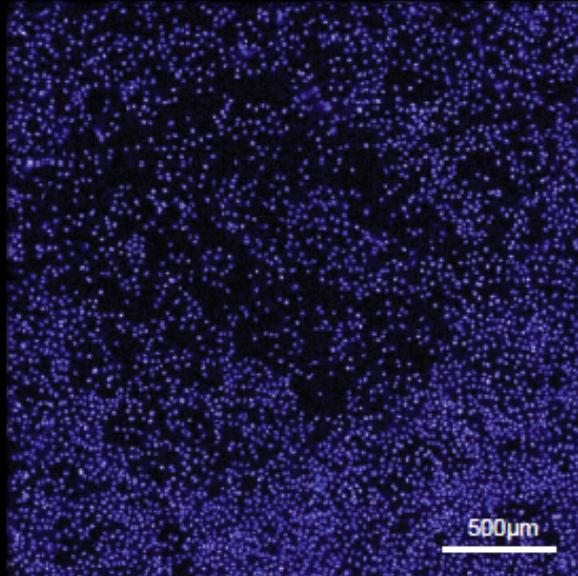
- Is repeat washing really that bad?

Repeat washing can result in cell loss...

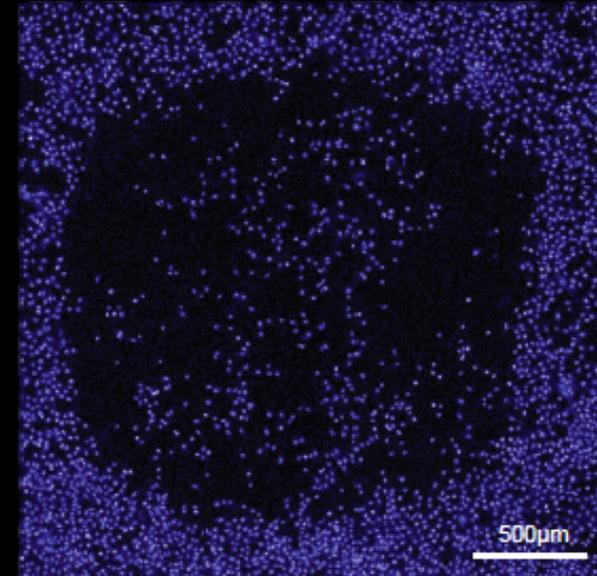
No wash



PBS wash x 1



PBS wash x 2



...that can bias your results

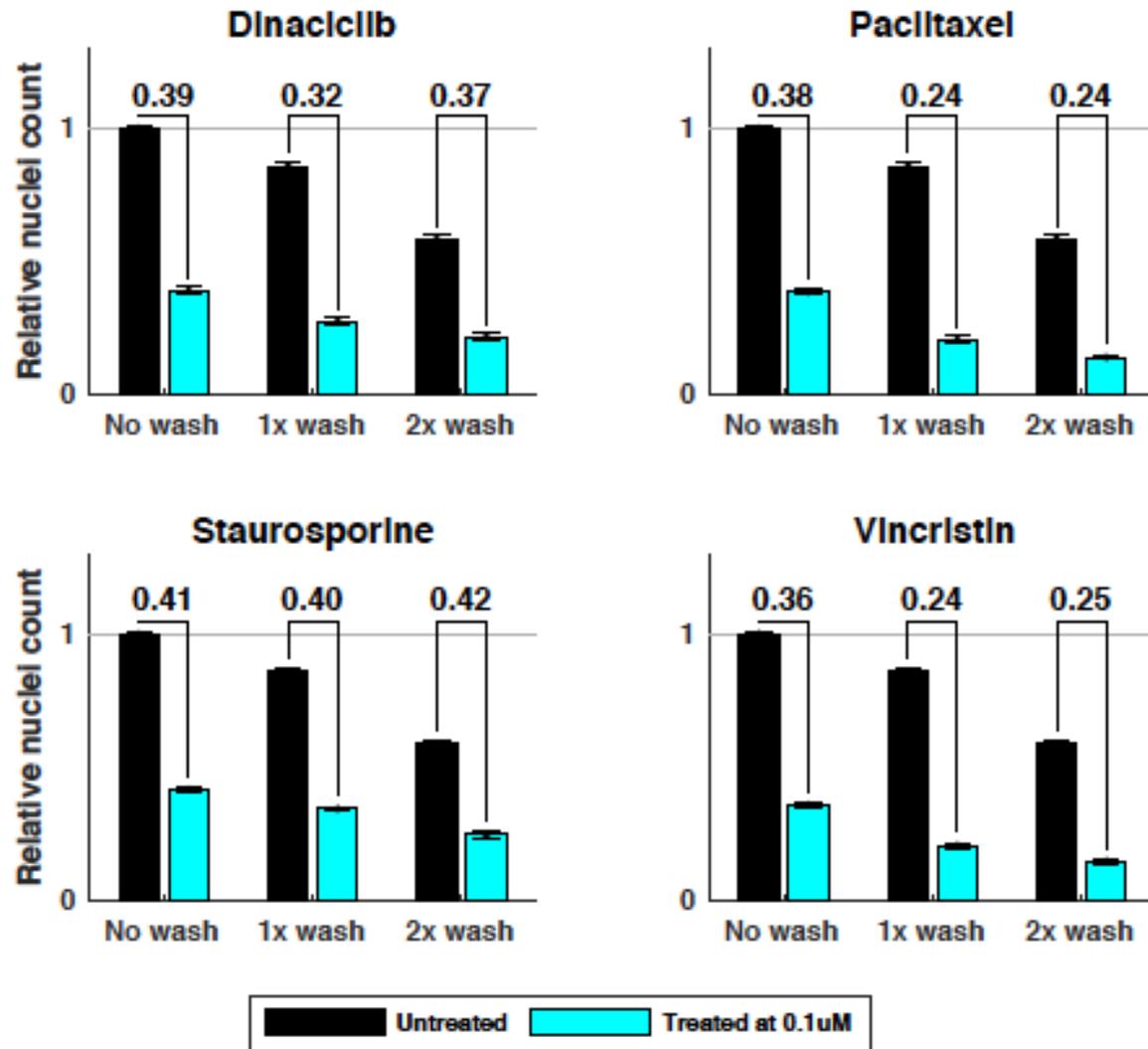


Image acquisition

- Operetta microscope with plate hotel, barcode reader & robot or similar
 - Automated data collection for 40+ plates

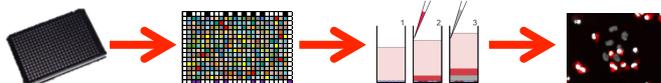
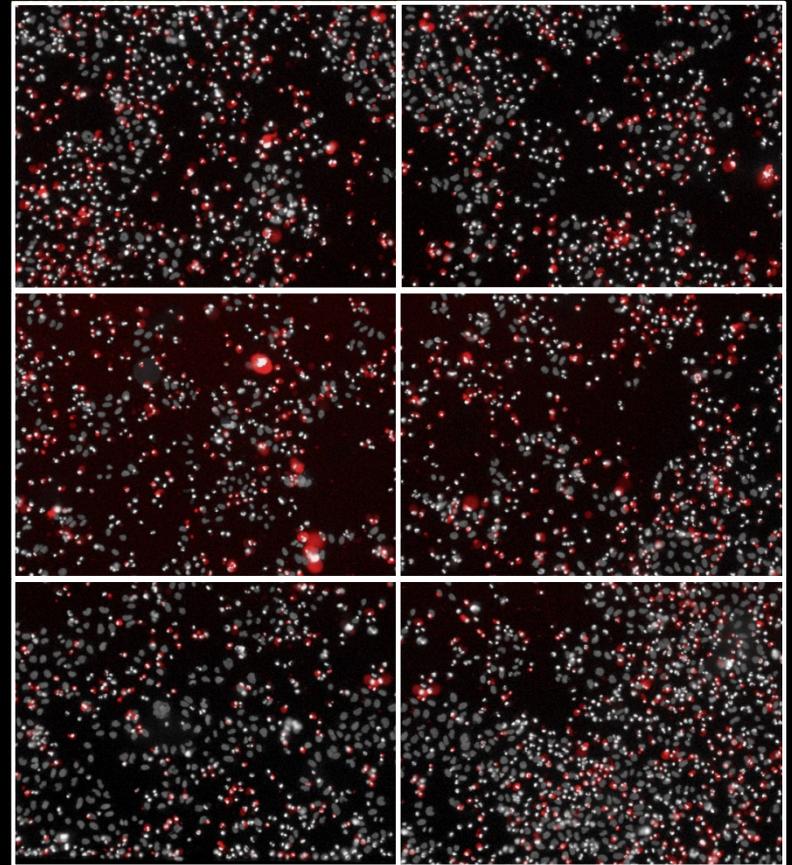
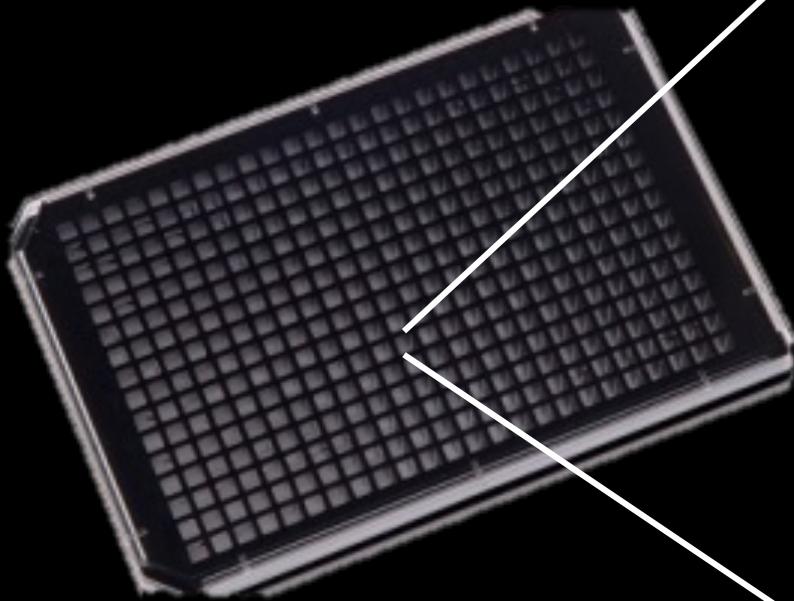


Image acquisition



Imaging 6 fields of view @ 10x captures *almost* the entire well

Image acquisition

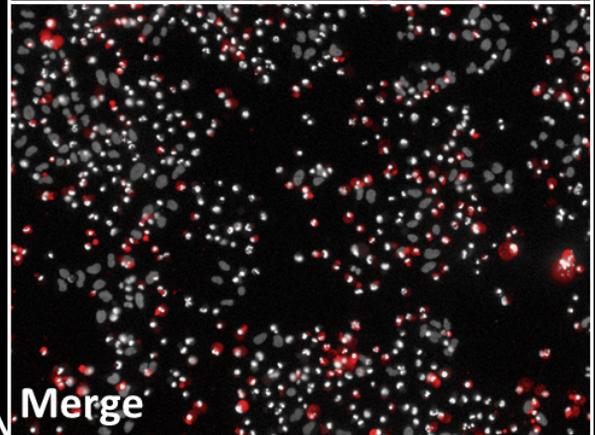
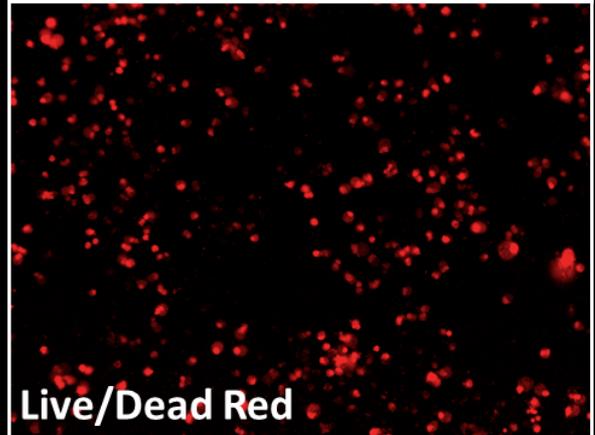
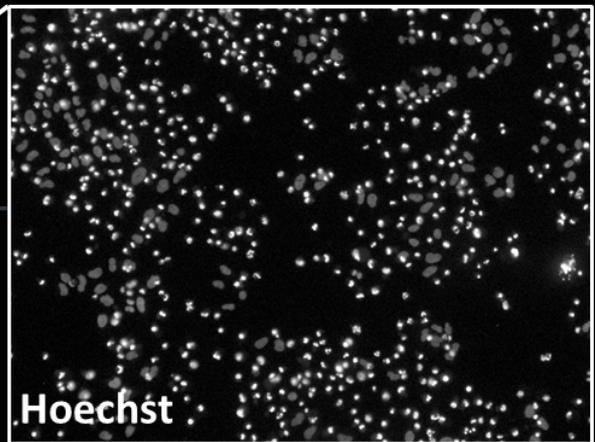
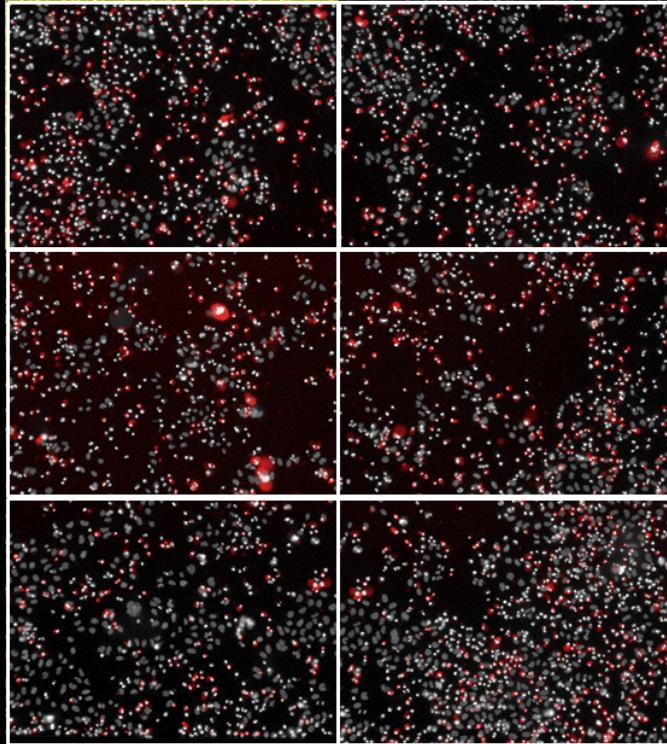
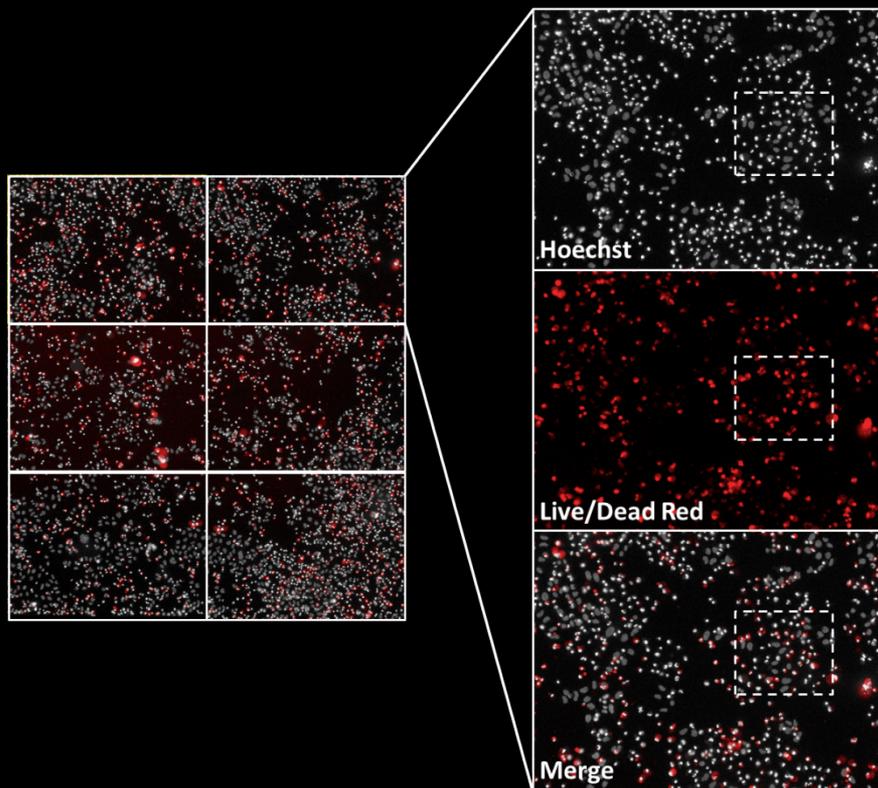
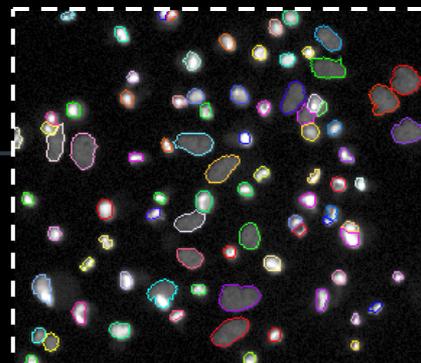


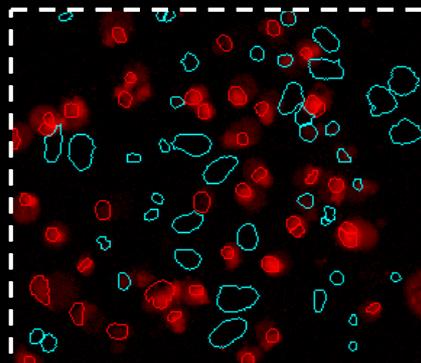
Image analysis



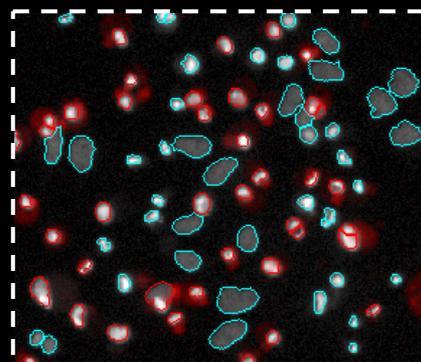
1. Segment nuclei



2. Measure LDR signal

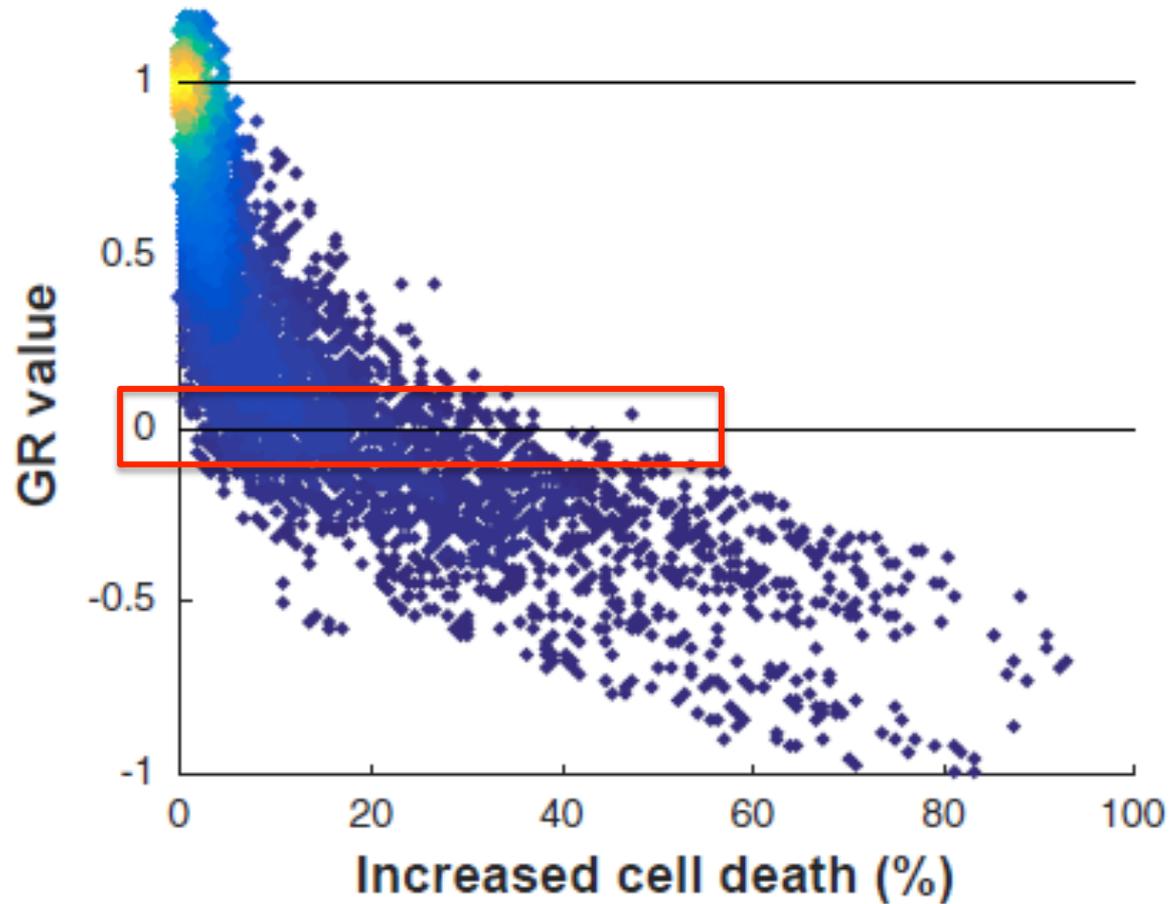


3. Classify live/dead cells



line	Row	Column	Cell Line	Time point	Treatment	Dose (µM)	Cell count	Dead cell count	Cell count / D
C2	3	3	2MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5091	1833	1954
C3	3	3	8MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5929	2137	1954
C4	3	3	4MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5663	2023	1954
C5	3	3	5MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8000	297	1954
C6	3	3	6MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6613	1142	1954
C7	3	3	7MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	7732	329	1954
C8	3	3	8MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5463	2473	1954
C9	3	3	2MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8746	88	1954
D3	4	4	3MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6168	1496	1954
D4	4	4	4MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.1	7941	636	1954
D5	4	4	5MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8529	360	1954
D6	4	4	6MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6994	1157	1954
D7	4	4	7MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8872	160	1954
D8	4	4	8MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	9166	73	1954
C2	3	3	2MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5091	1833	1954
C3	3	3	8MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5929	2137	1954
C4	3	3	4MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5663	2023	1954
C5	3	3	5MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8000	297	1954
C6	3	3	6MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6613	1142	1954
C7	3	3	7MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	7732	329	1954
C8	3	3	8MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5463	2473	1954
D2	4	4	2MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8746	88	1954
D3	4	4	3MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6168	1496	1954
D4	4	4	4MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.1	7941	636	1954
D5	4	4	5MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8529	360	1954
D6	4	4	6MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6994	1157	1954
D7	4	4	7MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8872	160	1954
D8	4	4	8MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	9166	73	1954
C2	3	3	2MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5091	1833	1954
C3	3	3	8MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5929	2137	1954
C4	3	3	4MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5663	2023	1954
C5	3	3	5MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8000	297	1954
C6	3	3	6MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6613	1142	1954
C7	3	3	7MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	7732	329	1954
C8	3	3	8MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	1	5463	2473	1954
D2	4	4	2MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8746	88	1954
D3	4	4	3MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6168	1496	1954
D4	4	4	4MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.1	7941	636	1954
D5	4	4	5MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8529	360	1954
D6	4	4	6MCF10A	72	Staurussponine	0.316	6994	1157	1954
D7	4	4	7MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	8872	160	1954
D8	4	4	8MCF10A	72	DMSO	0	9166	73	1954

Can I just count live cells?



Strengths and limitations of the dye-drop assay

- Imaging based
 - Best suited for adherent cells that grow in monolayer culture
- Image analysis can be time consuming
- Can go back and visually inspect imaging data
- Potential for multiplexing, immunofluorescence
- Reagent sparing
- Distinction between cytotoxic and cytostatic effects
- Fate of live cells unknown

Can we learn more about the live cells?

Deep dye-drop protocol

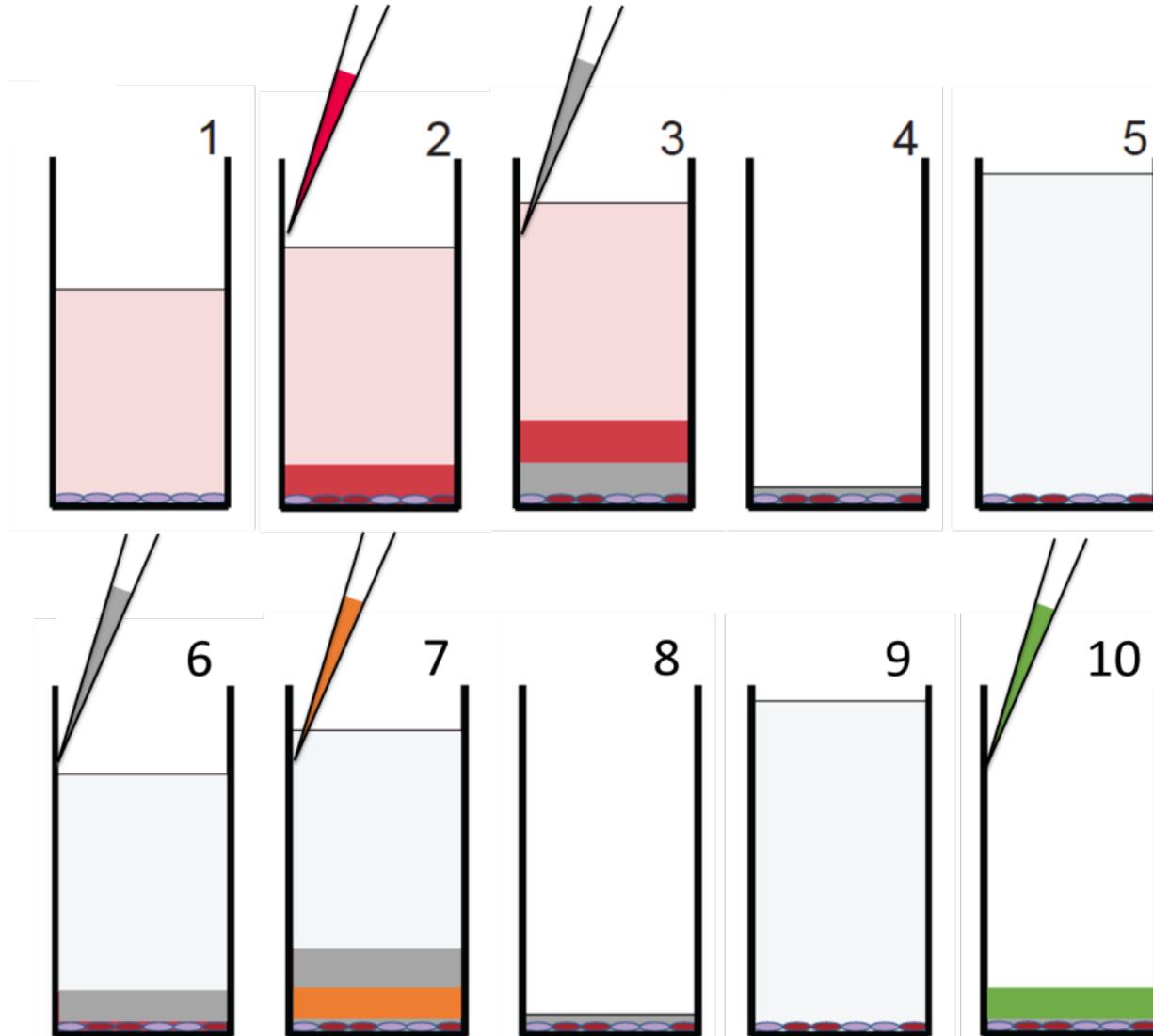


Image acquisition is more time consuming

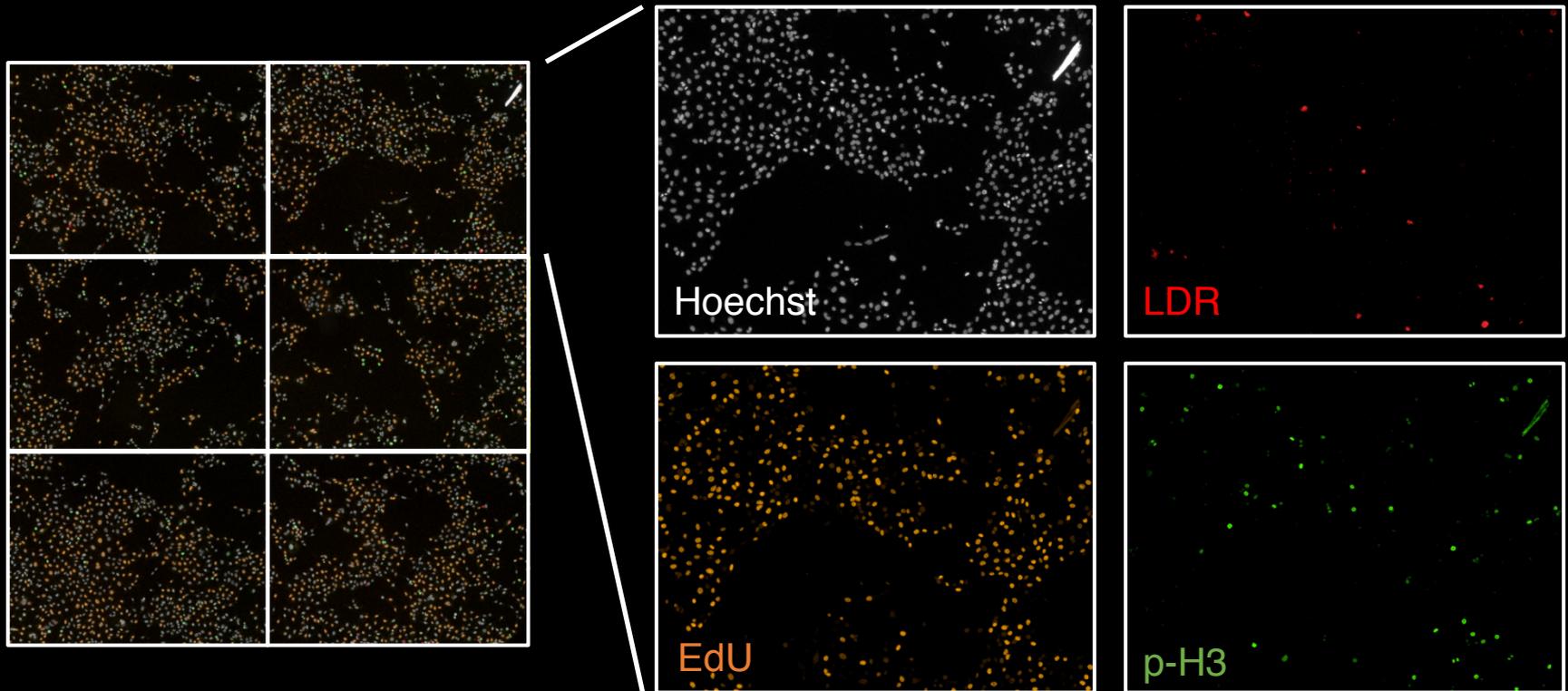
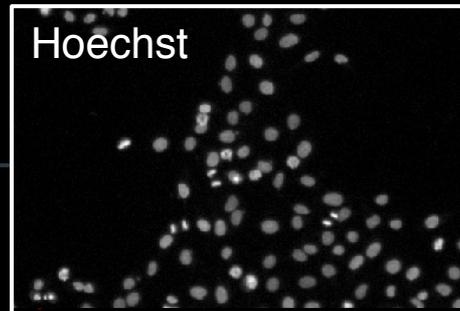
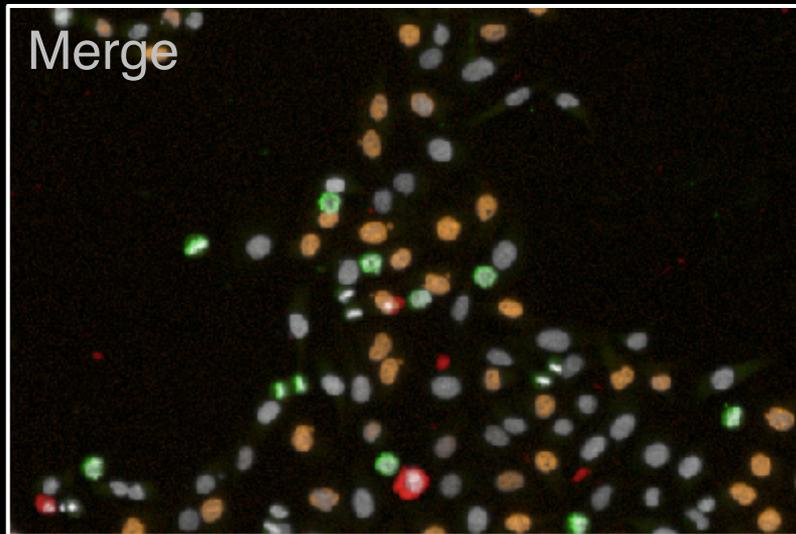
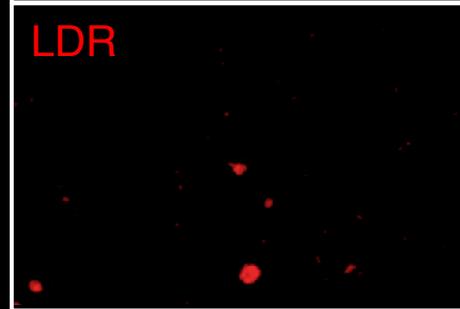


Image acquisition



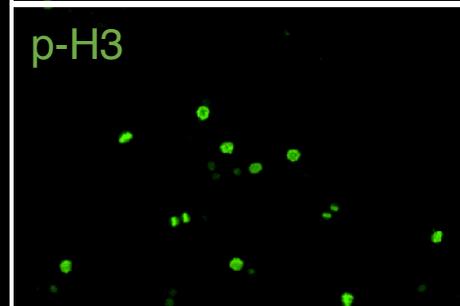
→ Segmentation
Cell count
DNA content



→ Dead cells

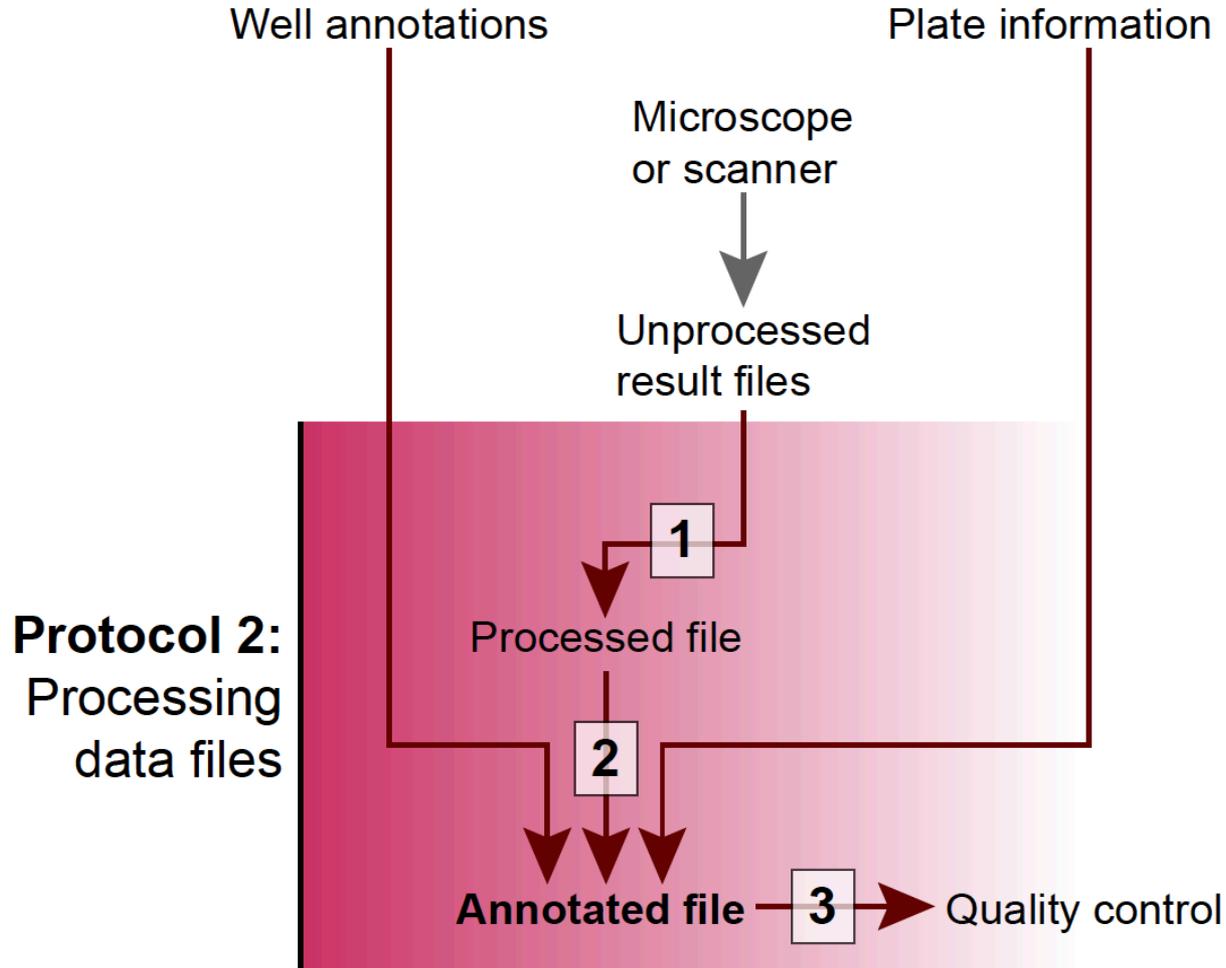


→ S phase cells

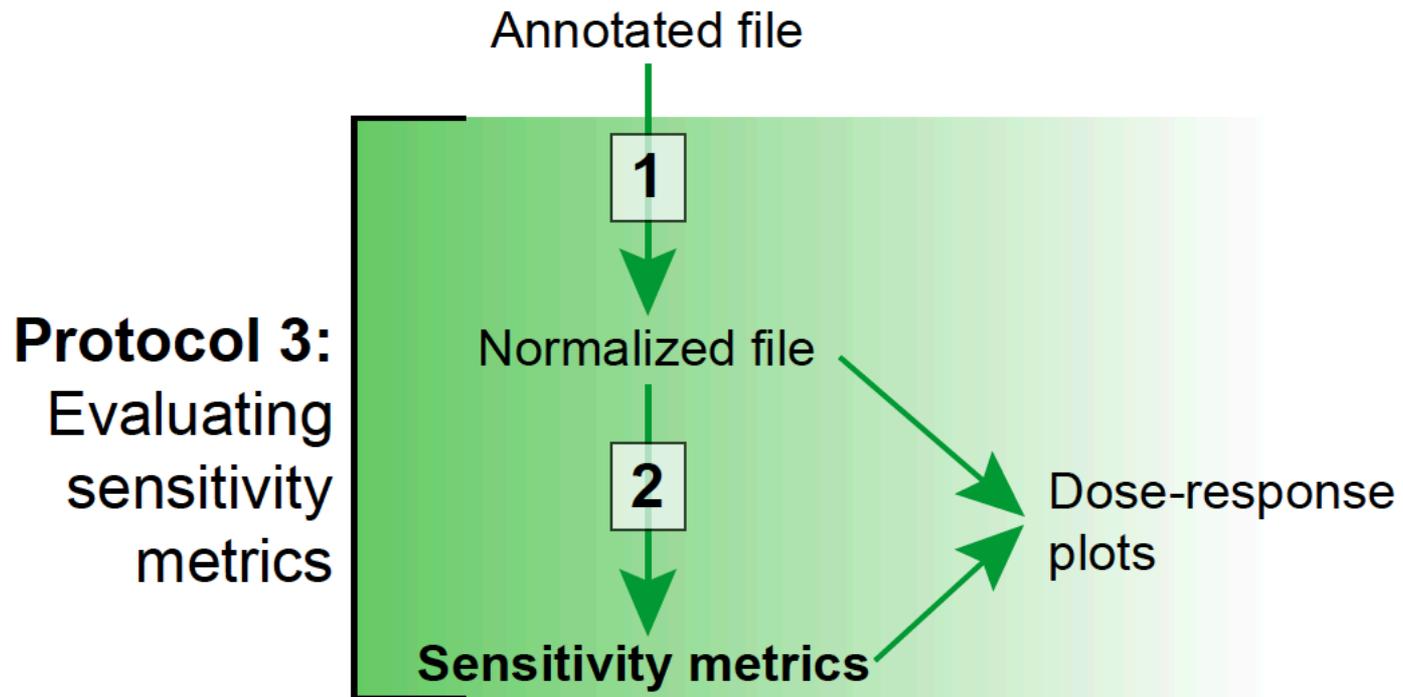


→ M phase cells

Data processing



Data analysis



 smkartik updated merging data and plotting gr metrics script.

abf1bc8 4 days ago

1 contributor

577 lines (576 sloc) | 16.5 KB

↔
📄
Raw
Blame
History
🖥
✎
🗑

```
In [1]: from datarail.experimental_design import merge_data_metadata as mdm
import pandas as pd
import gr50
```

Load columbus output, metadata and plate info files. Ensure that column heading are as shown in the below example input files

```
In [2]: dfo = pd.read_table('columbus_output.tsv')
dfo.head()
```

← Raw quantified image data

Out[2]:

	barcode	date	Row	Column	well	cell_count_total	corpse_count	cell_count_dead	cell_count
0	MH1_01	2016-06-06 12:34:56	3	3	C03	511.0	32.0	12.0	499.0
1	MH1_01	2016-06-06 12:34:56	3	4	C04	511.0	30.0	12.0	499.0
2	MH1_01	2016-06-06 12:34:56	3	5	C05	526.0	32.0	12.0	514.0
3	MH1_01	2016-06-06 12:34:56	3	6	C06	494.0	38.0	15.0	479.0
4	MH1_01	2016-06-06 12:34:56	3	7	C07	507.0	29.0	13.0	494.0

```
In [3]: dfm = pd.read_csv('example_metadata.csv')
dfm.head()
```

← Metadata from design

Out[3]:

	agent	concentration	role	well	randomization_scheme	timepoint	barcode	cell_line
0	NaN	NaN	NaN	C03	0	time0_ctrl	MH1_01	CL_1
1	NaN	NaN	NaN	C04	0	time0_ctrl	MH1_01	CL_1
2	NaN	NaN	NaN	C05	0	time0_ctrl	MH1_01	CL_1

smkartik updated merging data and plotting gr metrics script.

abf1bc8 4 days ago

1 contributor

Generate counts file in the format required by the GR calculator → Normalized count table

```
In [7]: df_counts = mdm.generate_GRinput(dfcw)
```

Compute GRvalue → GR values

```
In [8]: df_grv = gr50.compute_gr(df_counts)
```

Compute summary GR metrics → Summary GR metrics

```
In [9]: df_grmetrics = gr50.gr_metrics(df_grv)
```

```
In [10]: from datarail.experimental_design import plot_gr_dose_response as plot
```

```
In [11]: plot.plot_dose_response(df_grv, df_grmetrics) → Summary plots
```

```
In [ ]:
```

```
In [3]: dfm = pd.read_csv('example_metadata.csv')
dfm.head()
```

Out[3]:

	agent	concentration	role	well	randomization_scheme	timepoint	barcode	cell_line
0	NaN	NaN	NaN	C03	0	time0_ctrl	MH1_01	CL_1
1	NaN	NaN	NaN	C04	0	time0_ctrl	MH1_01	CL_1
2	NaN	NaN	NaN	C05	0	time0_ctrl	MH1_01	CL_1

Analysis output files (Dye Drop)

cell_line	treatment	concentration	cell_count	cell_count_ctrl	cell_count_time0	time	cell_line	treatment	concentration	GRvalue
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	3161	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	0.87627773
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	3398	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	0.71315548
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	3493	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	0.54911891
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2768	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	0.36042471
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	0.28988683
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.31622777	0.15239405
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	1	0.06211543
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	5	0.01136504
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	10	-0.2126464
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	2108	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.001	0.73724513
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	2268	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.00316228	0.72666777
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1595	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.01	0.66564344
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.03162278	0.55891961
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1727	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.1	0.49154648
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	1527	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.31622777	0.33929164
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	1339	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	1	0.32070364
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	1339	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	3.16227766	0.2845481
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	1339	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	10	0.2845481
cell_line	treatment	GR50	GRmax	GR_AOC	GEC50	GRinf	h_GR	r2_GR	pval_GR	
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01893073	-0.2126464	0.69121549	0.04681442	-0.2378845	0.42983997	0.97294605	3.26E-06	
Hs578T	AZD2014	0.06225072	0.27113099	0.51356141	0.020339	0.16159799	0.34897477	0.97356694	3.00E-06	
Hs578T	AZD5363	4.66264451	0.34057138	0.00000000	0.00000000	-1	0.25043016	0.91027375	0.00021638	
Hs578T	AZD6738	5.70071745	0.15862042	0.00000000	0.00000000	-0.3241112	1.87755981	0.983338	5.97E-07	
Hs578T	BMS-265246	0.03694372	0.06418563	0.59001375	5.81104037	-0.8002119	0.18893869	0.98567468	3.52E-07	
Hs578T	BVD523	1.70247689	0.27840528	0.29313938	5.64209574	-0.257788	0.3470251	0.96605461	7.21E-06	
Hs578T	CFI-400945	0.00326927	0.13959787	0.71503751	0.00284445	0.1912934	3.46427746	0.97596165	2.15E-06	
Hs578T	Flavopiridol	0.15093505	-0.1758999	0.24300872	0.19656651	-0.2662708	1.61622383	0.99714964	1.24E-09	
Hs578T	GSK2334470	16.8060155	0.53065211	0.17491698	744.800682	-1	0.28976583	0.9734299	3.06E-06	
Hs578T	LEE011/Ribo	3.98380188	0.39670684	0.33089144	1000	-0.7108281	0.16006672	0.92942059	9.34E-05	

Analysis output files (Deep Dye Drop)

cell_line	treatment	concentration	cell_count	cell_count_ctrl	cell_count_time0	time	cell_line	treatment	concentration	GRvalue
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	3161	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	0.87627773
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	3398	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	0.71315548
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	3493	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	0.54911891
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2768	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	0.36042471
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.00316228	2742	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	0.28988683
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	2108	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	0.31622776	0.15239405
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	2268	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	1	0.06211543
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1595	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	3.16227766	0.01136504
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1595	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD1775	10	-0.2126464
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1595	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.001	0.73724513
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1595	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.00316228	0.72666777
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.03162278	1595	3837.666667	875.2694805	72	Hs578T	AZD2014	0.01	0.66564344
treatment	GR50	GRmax	GR_AOC	GEC50	GRinf	h_GR	r2_GR	pval_GR		
AZD1775	0.01893073	-0.2126464	0.69121549	0.04681442	-0.2378845	0.42983997	0.97294605	3.26E-06	0.03162278	0.55891961
AZD2014	0.06225072	0.27113099	0.51356141	0.020339	0.16159799	0.34897477	0.97356694	3.00E-06	0.1	0.49154648
AZD5363	4.66264451	0.34057138	0.258236		-1	0.25043016	0.91027375	0.00021638	0.31622777	0.33929164
AZD6738	5.70071745	0.15862042	0.060244		3241112	1.87755981	0.983338	5.97E-07	1	0.32070364
BMS-265246	0.03694372	0.06418563	0.59001375	5.81104037	-0.8002119	0.18893869	0.98567468	3.52E-07	3.16227766	0.2845481
BVD523	1.70247689	0.27840528	0.29313938	5.64209574	-0.257788	0.3470251	0.96605461	7.21E-06	10	0.27113099
CFI-400945	0.00326927	0.13959787	0.71503751	0.00284445	0.1912934	3.46427746	0.97596165	2.15E-06	0.001	0.91594716
Flavopiridol	0.15093505	-0.1758999	0.24200873	0.18656651	0.2662708	1.61622893	0.99714064	1.34E-06	0.00316228	0.92218033
GSK2334470	16.8060155	0.53065211	0.31200873	0.18656651	0.2662708	1.61622893	0.99714064	1.34E-06	0.01	0.80929989
LEE011/Ribo	3.98380188	0.39670684	0.31200873	0.18656651	0.2662708	1.61622893	0.99714064	1.34E-06		
cell_line	agent	concentration	G1	S	G2	M	S_dropout	subG1		
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.001	0.529885	0.167032	0.105082	0.018915	0.048951	0.082977		
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.003162278	0.432832	0.213221	0.112379	0.03742	0.052383	0.115278		
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.01	0.371868	0.244846	0.127247	0.060692	0.028412	0.15265		
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.031622777	0.271965	0.361385	0.106999	0.078917	0.02496	0.132671		
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.1	0.284876	0.23569	0.052383	0.03742	0.052383	0.115278		
Hs578T	AZD1775	0.316227766	0.23569	0.23569	0.052383	0.03742	0.052383	0.115278		
Hs578T	AZD1775	1	0.23887	0.368224	0.056187	0.180239	0.053833	0.076745		
Hs578T	AZD1775	3.16227766	0.355012	0.153131	0.065907	0.201169	0.078298	0.120687		
Hs578T	AZD2014	0.001	0.303839	0.008885	0.117044	0.335917	0.088932	0.127568		
Hs578T	AZD2014	0.001	0.547617	0.160385	0.117951	0.018336	0.032511	0.099066		

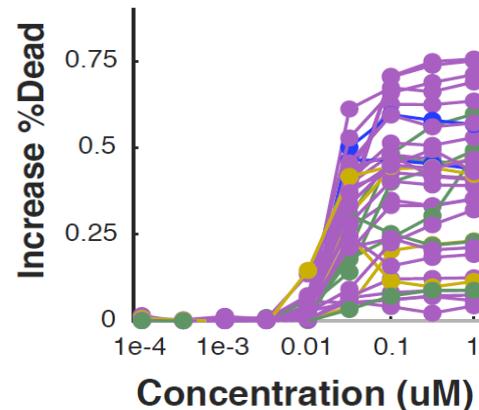
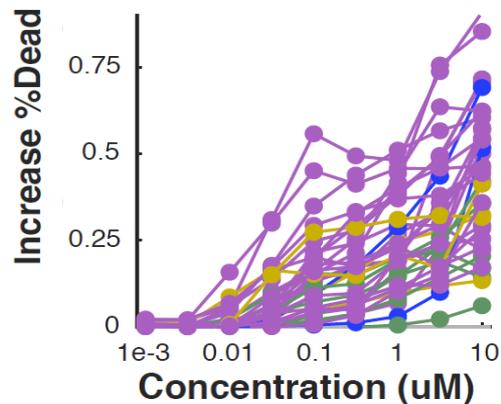
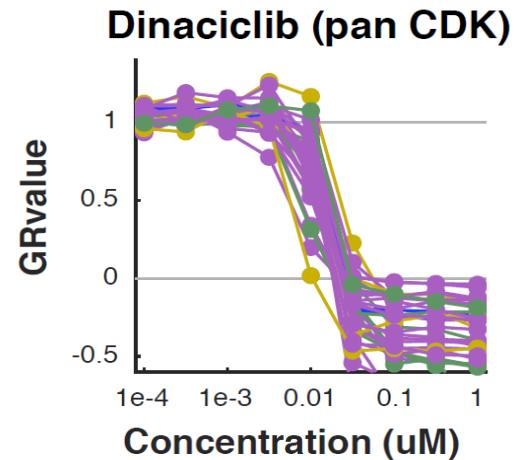
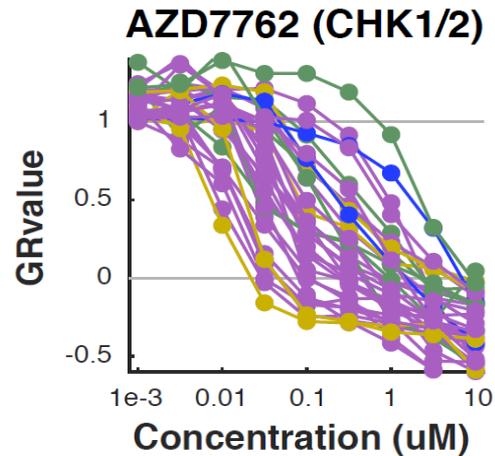
Normalized count table

GR values

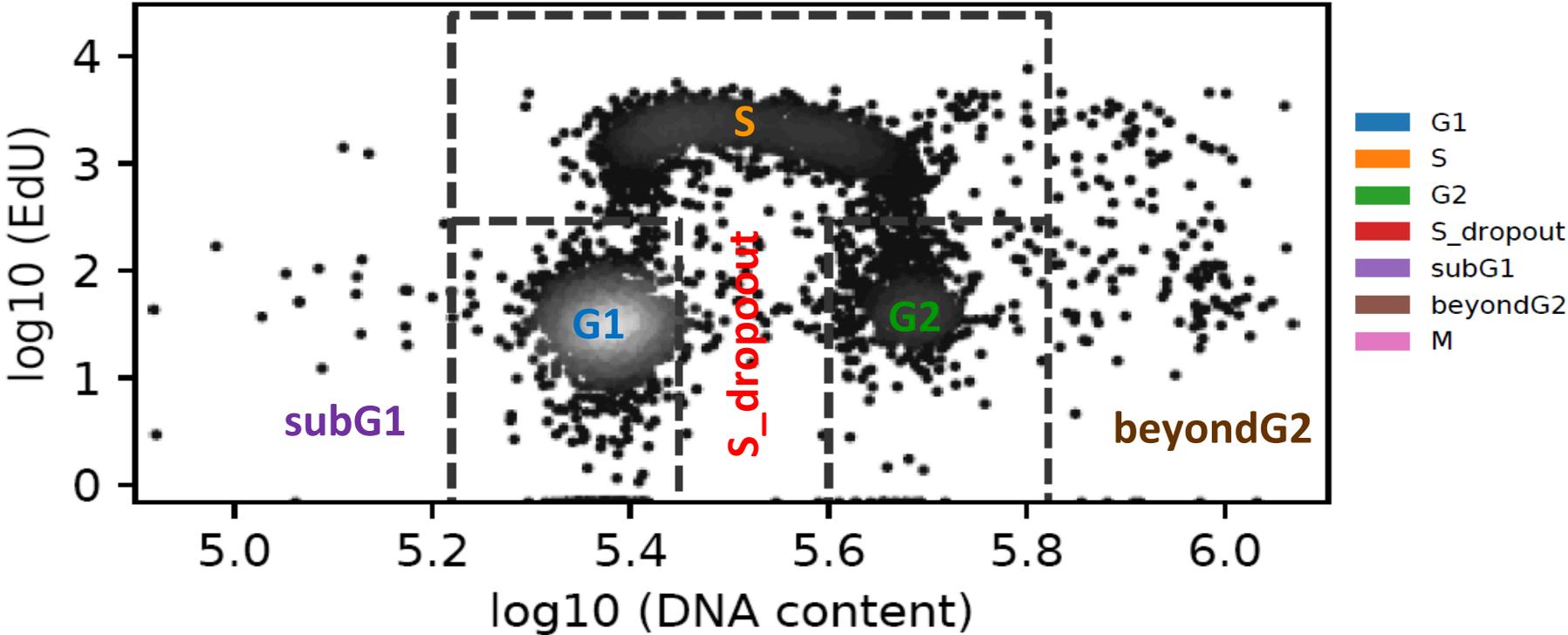
GR metrics

Cell cycle fractions

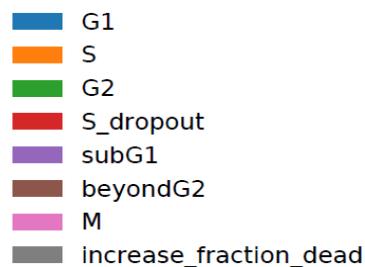
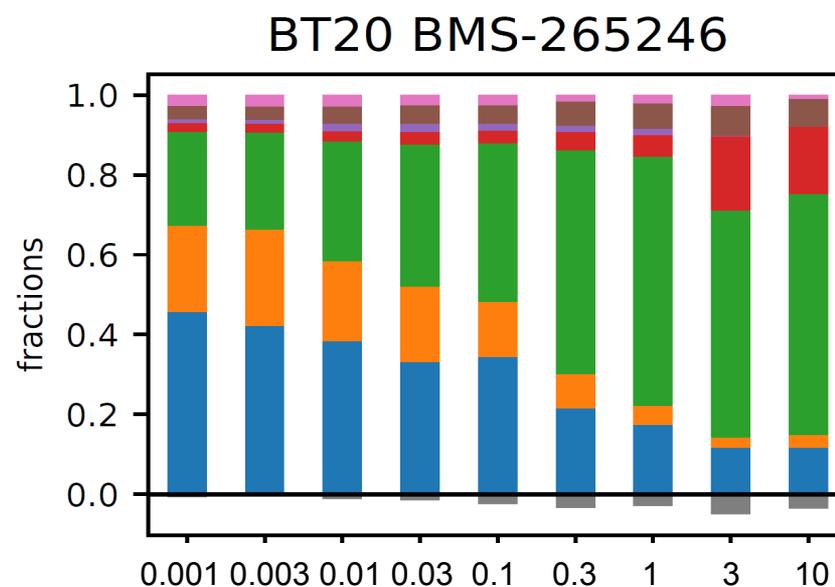
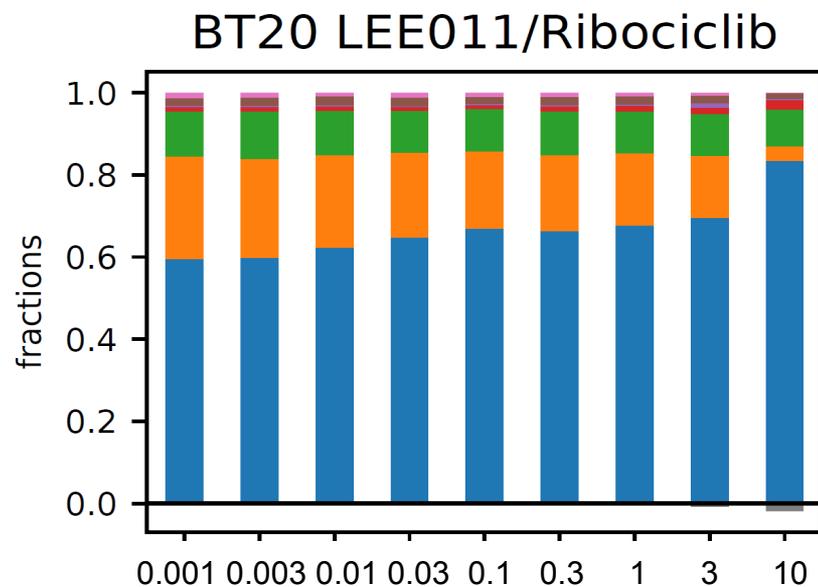
Results output: GR and cell death



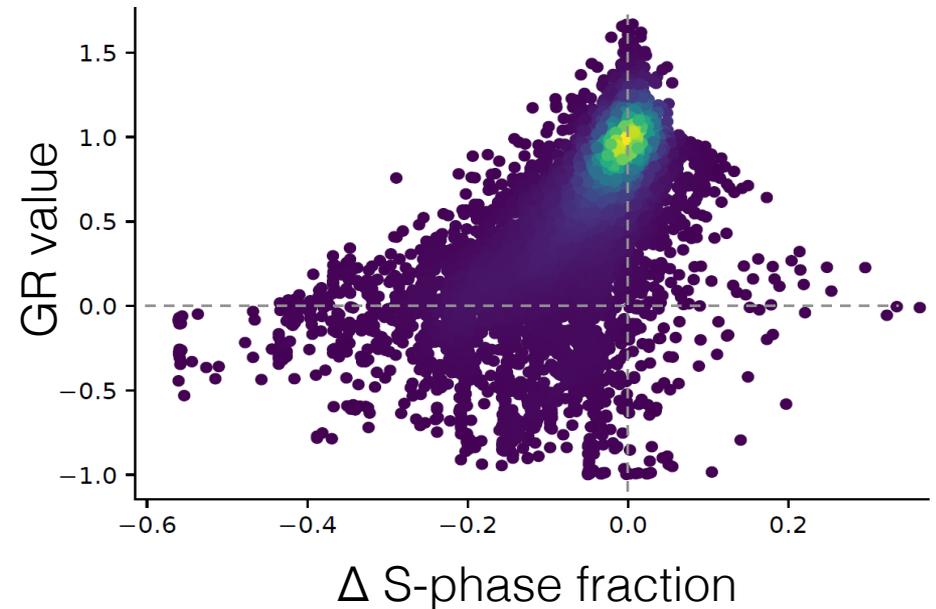
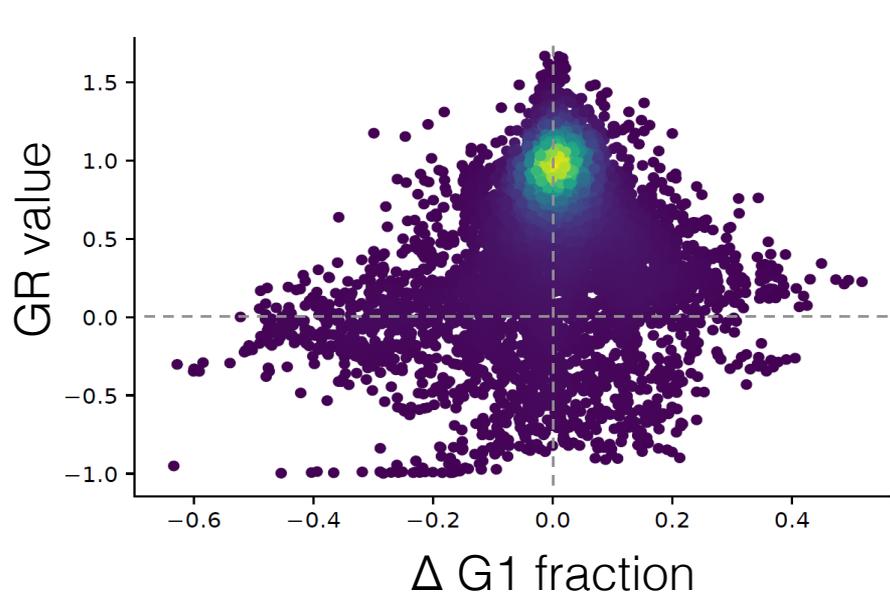
Results output: Cell cycle distribution



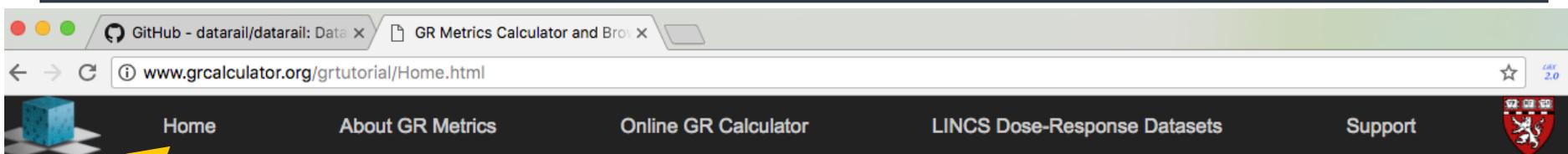
Results output: cell cycle summary



Variable effects on cell cycle distribution result in the same GR value



Online GR tool: www.grcalculator.org



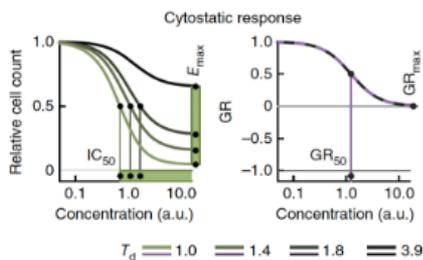
Introduction

Drug-response studies play an important role in both preclinical and clinical research, but such studies are complicated by differences in cell growth rates across samples and conditions. To improve the value and reliability of such studies, new metrics for parameterizing drug response were developed and [published in Nature Methods](#) by Marc Hafner, Mario Niepel, and Peter Sorger of the Harvard Medical School (HMS) LINCS Center. These new metrics, such as GR50 and GRmax, are derived from normalized growth rate inhibition (GR) values which are based on the ratio of growth rates in the presence and absence of perturbation. Largely independent of cell division rate and assay duration, GR metrics are more robust than IC50 and Emax for assessing cellular response to drugs, RNAi, and other perturbations in which control cells divide over the course of the assay.

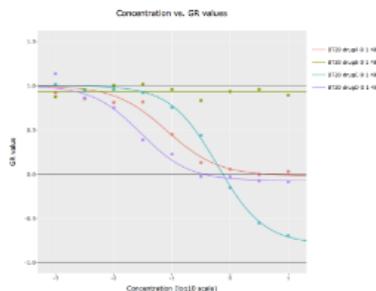
Future Updates and Improvements

We plan to continue adding features and improvements to the [GRbrowser](#), [GRcalculator](#), and the [GRmetrics R package](#) in the coming months. We welcome comments and suggestions at gr.calculator@gmail.com. You can find a preliminary outline of our plans [here](#). We will be adding a more detailed roadmap of additions/improvements in the near future.

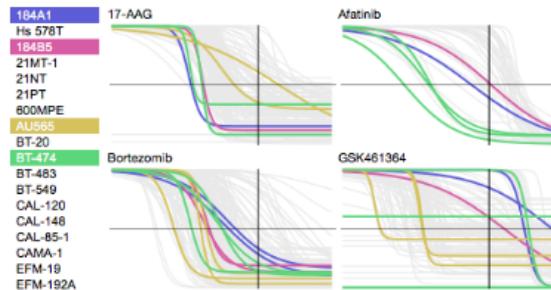
Learn More about GR metrics



Upload and analyze your own data



Browse datasets analyzed using GR metrics



For offline computation, analysis, and visualization, see the Bioconductor R package [GRmetrics](#).



Import data file

Load Example

Getting Started

Update:

GR values may be calculated using cell division times (and assay duration) in place of initial cell counts. (Click "Import data file" and select "Cell division times" and a case to see more information.)

Recent Changes:

1. Input file must contain columns named "cell_line" and "treatment".
 2. "Case C" input format renamed to "Case B".
- Report any bugs/questions/feature requests to GR.calculator@gmail.com

For offline computation, analysis, and visualization, see the Bioconductor R package [GRmetrics](#).
For a step-by-step example of using the GRcalculator, see [here](#).

Formatting input files

Input files may be either comma- or tab-separated text files (.csv or .tsv). For more information about the input format, click "Import data file" and make a selection. For an example input file, click "Load Example" and then "Download Data File" after the file has been loaded.

Instructions

To calculate normalized growth rate inhibition (GR) values and corresponding GR metrics: GR_{50} , GEC_{50} , GR_{max} , GR_{inf} , GR_{AOC} , and h_{GR} based on cell counts in dose-response experiments using this online tool, users must provide a data file in which each row represents a separate treatment condition and the columns are the keys (variables) that define the treatment condition (e.g. cell line, drug or other perturbation, perturbation concentration, treatment time, replicate) and the readout (cell counts (or surrogate such as CellTiter-Glo® or other readout)). Analogous traditional metrics: IC_{50} , EC_{50} , E_{max} , E_{inf} , AUC , and h are also computed. Interaction analysis and visualization tools are provided. Detailed instructions can be found below.

Step 1: Load the data file containing cell counts for treated and control cells.



Getting Started Data Tables

Input Data GR Values Fitted Parameters

Download Data File

Show 10 entries

Search:

cell_line	treatment	concentration	timepoint	cell_count	cell_count_ctrl	cell_count_time0	plate
HCC38	AZD6738	1	72	2031.00000000008	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	Rucaparib	0.0316227766017	72	2318.00000000007	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	CFI-400945	0.001	72	2593.00000000004	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	SHP099	1	72	2115.00000000003	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	THZ-P1-2	3.16227766017	72	2447.00000000005	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	AZD5363	0.00316227766017	72	2560.00000000003	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	GSK2334470	0.316227766017	72	2154.00000000001	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	BSJ-03-124	0.0316227766017	72	1493	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	E17	0.001	72	2765.99999999988	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A
HCC38	BSJ-03-124	0.00316227766017	72	1748.99999999993	2629.08333333337	750.714285714287	BCA2_A

Showing 21 to 30 of 5,292 entries

Previous 1 2 3 4 5 ... 530 Next

Import data file
Load Example

Advanced options

Select grouping variables

cell_line treatment
timepoint plate

Analyze





Getting Started Data Tables Dose-Response by Condition **Dose-Response Grid** GR Metric Comparison

Curve type

- GR
- Relative cell count

Choose selector variable

cell_line

Choose grid variables

treatment

cell_line	
HCC1143	HCC1500
HCC1395	HCC1937
HCC1419	HCC38

reset

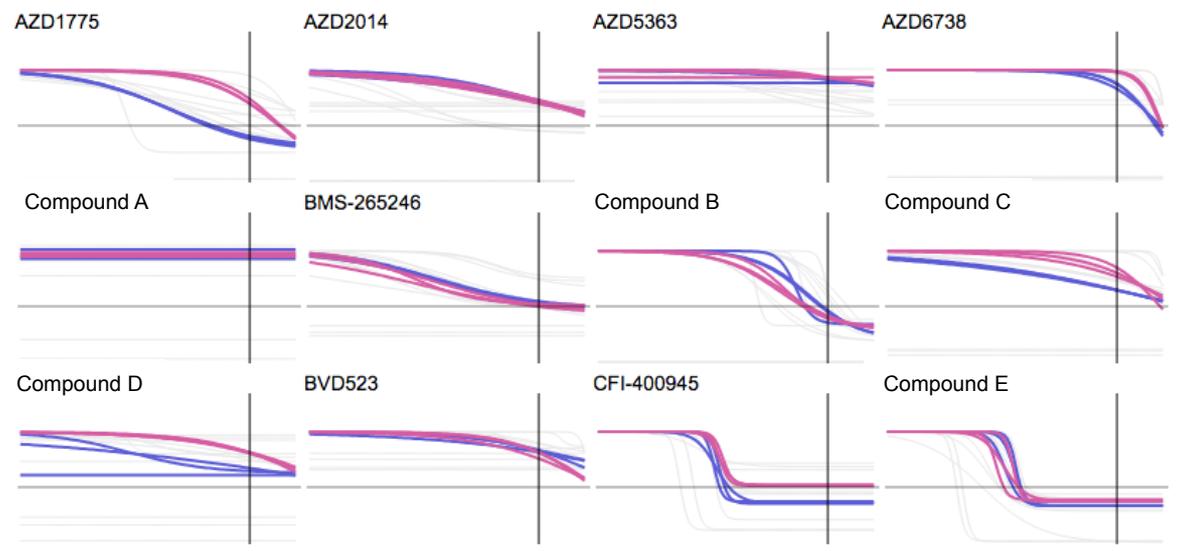
Import data file

Load Example

Advanced options

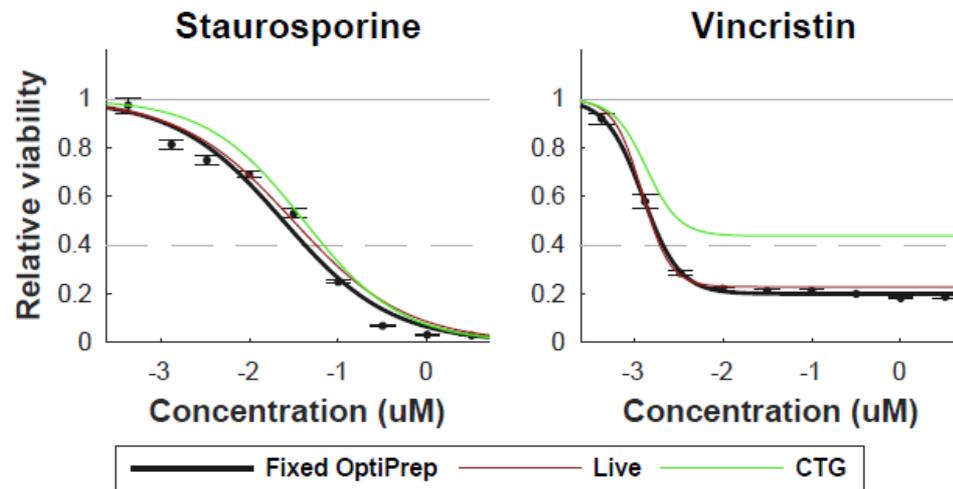
Select grouping variables

- cell_line treatment
- timepoint plate



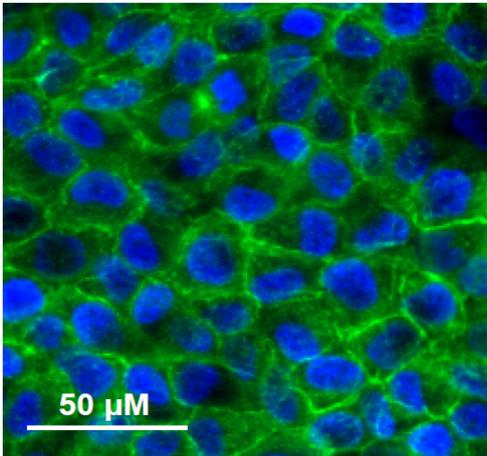
Other common dose response assays

- CellTiter-Glo etc.
 - Simple, no wash protocol
 - Luminescence read-out, simple analysis, rapid results
 - Treatment-induced changes in metabolic activity of cells can skew results
- Measurement of confluency
 - Inaccurate
 - Treatment-induced changes in morphology can skew results

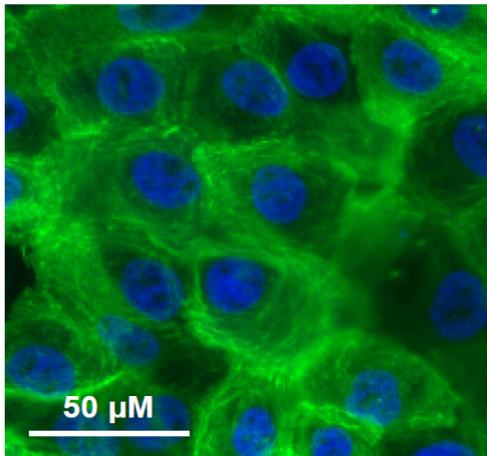


Example of artefact with a CDK4/6 inhibitor

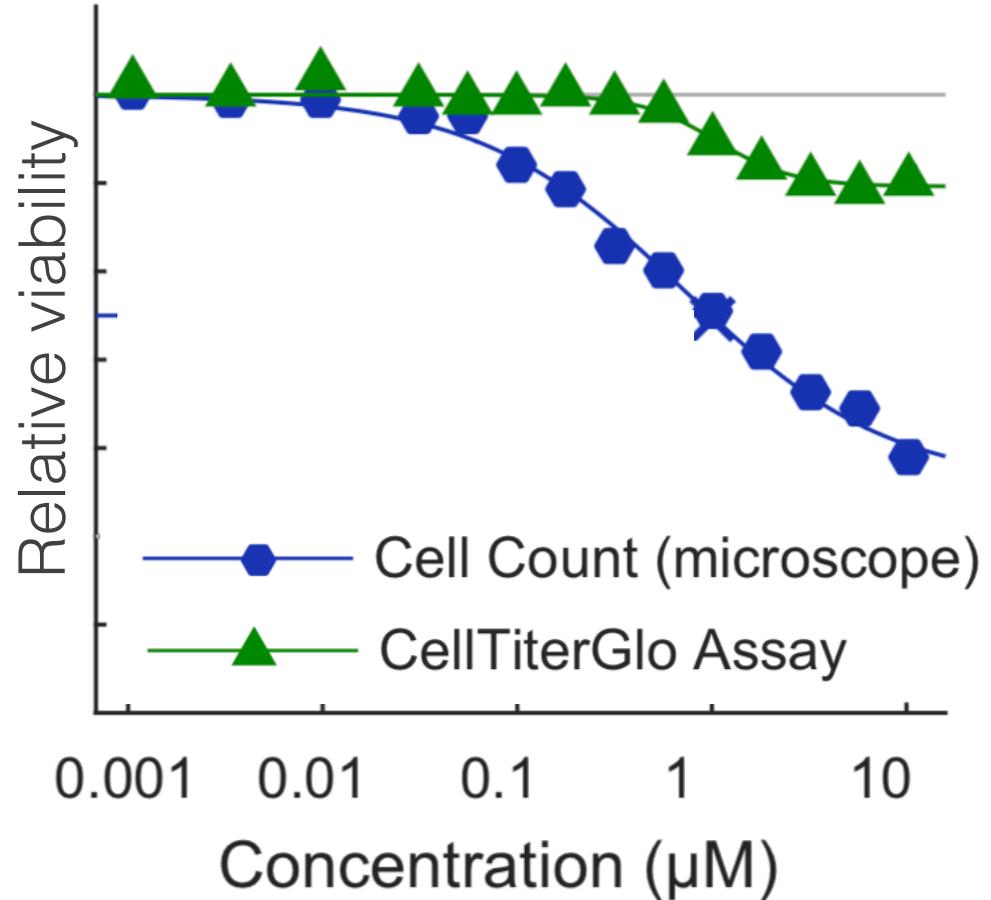
DMSO control



1 μM Palbociclib

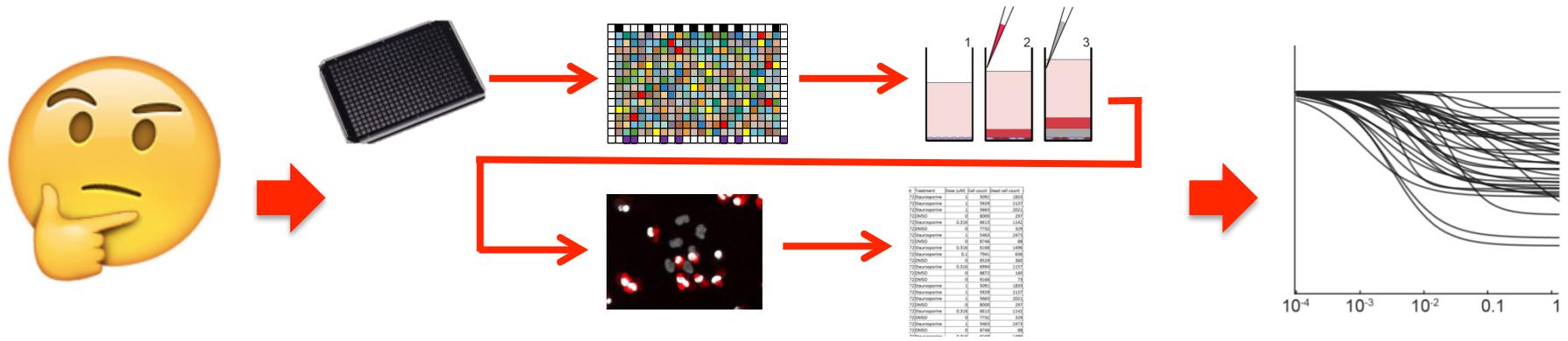


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Conclusions

- Planning, and optimization promote reproducibility
- Automate as much as possible, know how it works
- Script the experimental design and analysis
- Use appropriate metrics for your experiment



Acknowledgements



HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL



Laboratory of
Systems Pharmacology

Sorger Lab/LSP:

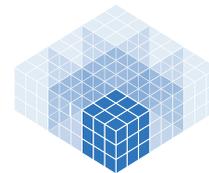
- Marc Hafner
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NIH LINCS
PROGRAM

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- kartik_subramanian@hms.harvard.edu

- grcalculator.org
- github.com/datarail/datarail

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- Niepel*, Hafner* et al., Curr Protoc Chem Biol, 2018, 9(2):55-74