

September 2016

New Computational Strategies For Cancer Research

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Today's Topic

Accelerating Cancer Research

- Issues in Cancer Research
- Automating Cancer Analytics
- Use Case – TCGA Data Analysis
- Summary of Benefits
- Next Steps

Challenges Ahead

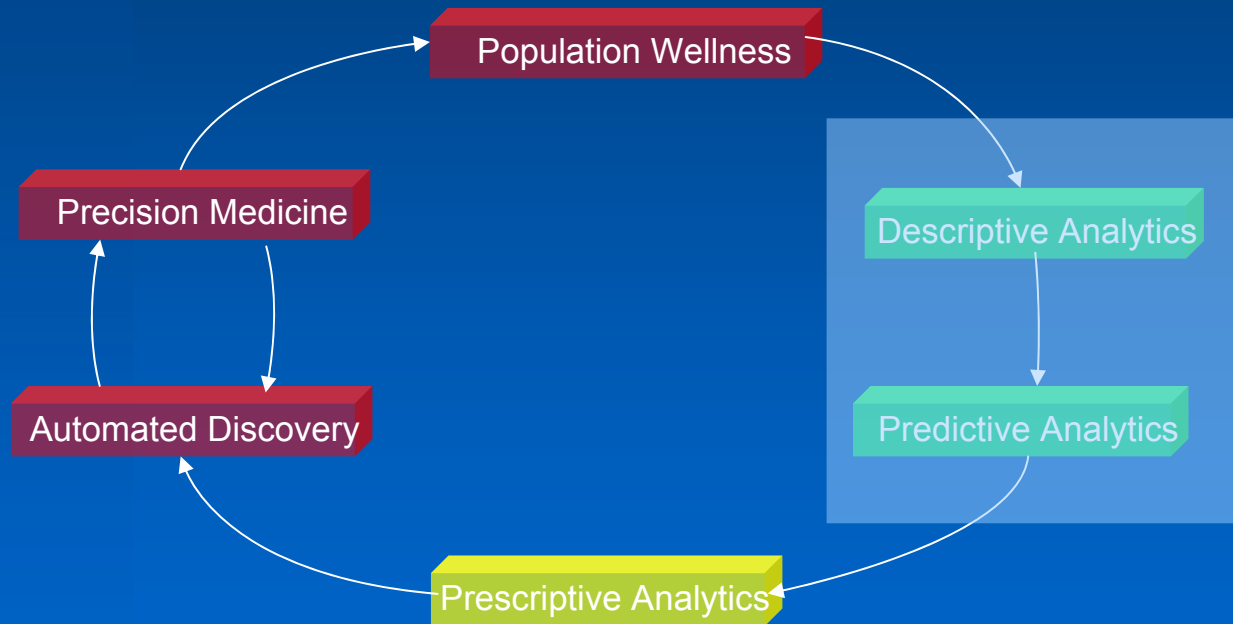
Paradigm Shift Required?

- Cancer research is complex and error prone
- Broad range of tools do exist – complex and siloed
- Data staging remains a rate-limiting factor in discovery
- Shortage of data scientists will further stress research community forward
- To maintain progress we may need a transition to prescriptive analytics



Automating Discovery

Drive Precision Medicine



Process Automation

Functionality Required

Data Staging

Feature Engineering

Feature Selection

Competitive Model Build

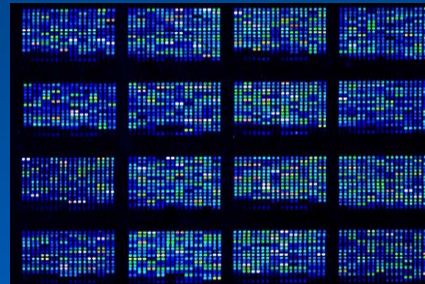
Biological Assessment



TCGA Project

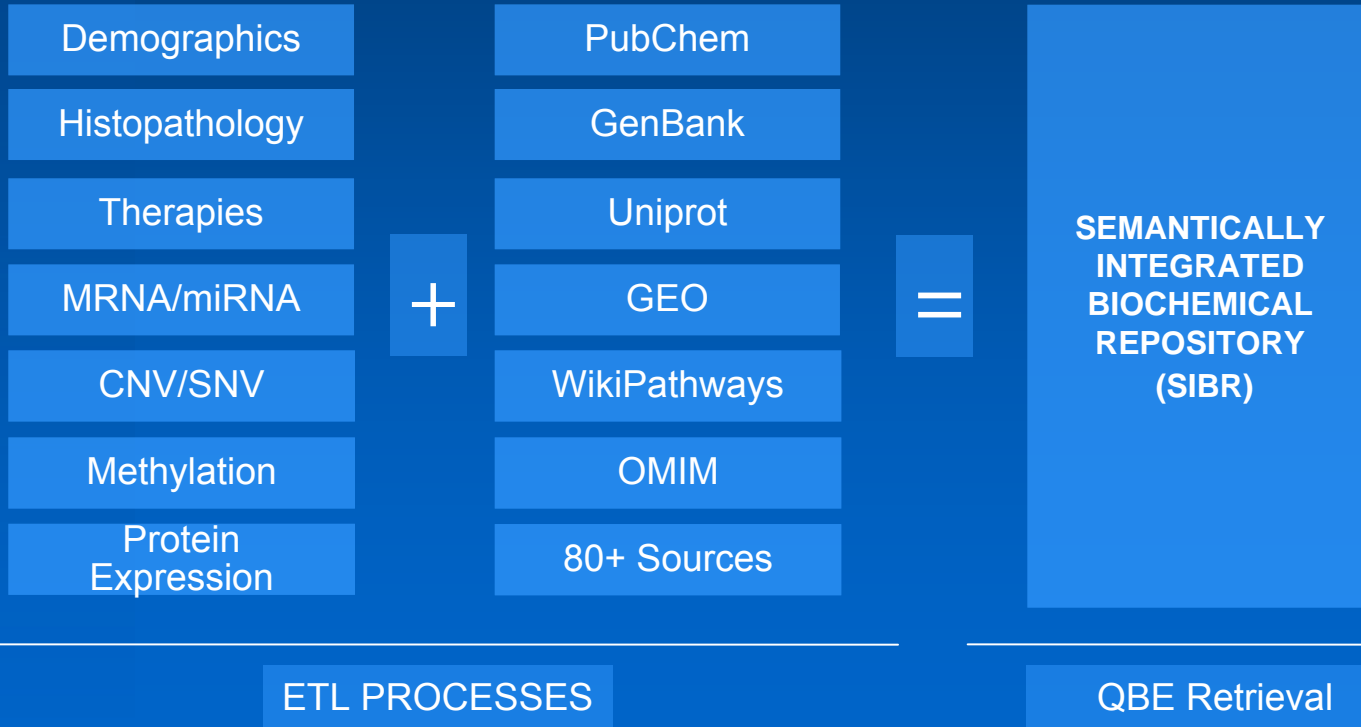
\$200M+ Taxpayer Funded

- Multiple Cancer Types
- Multiple Data Types
- Multiple Outcomes
- 30+ Papers – numerous molecular phenotypes identified
- Can automated analytics reproduce key results



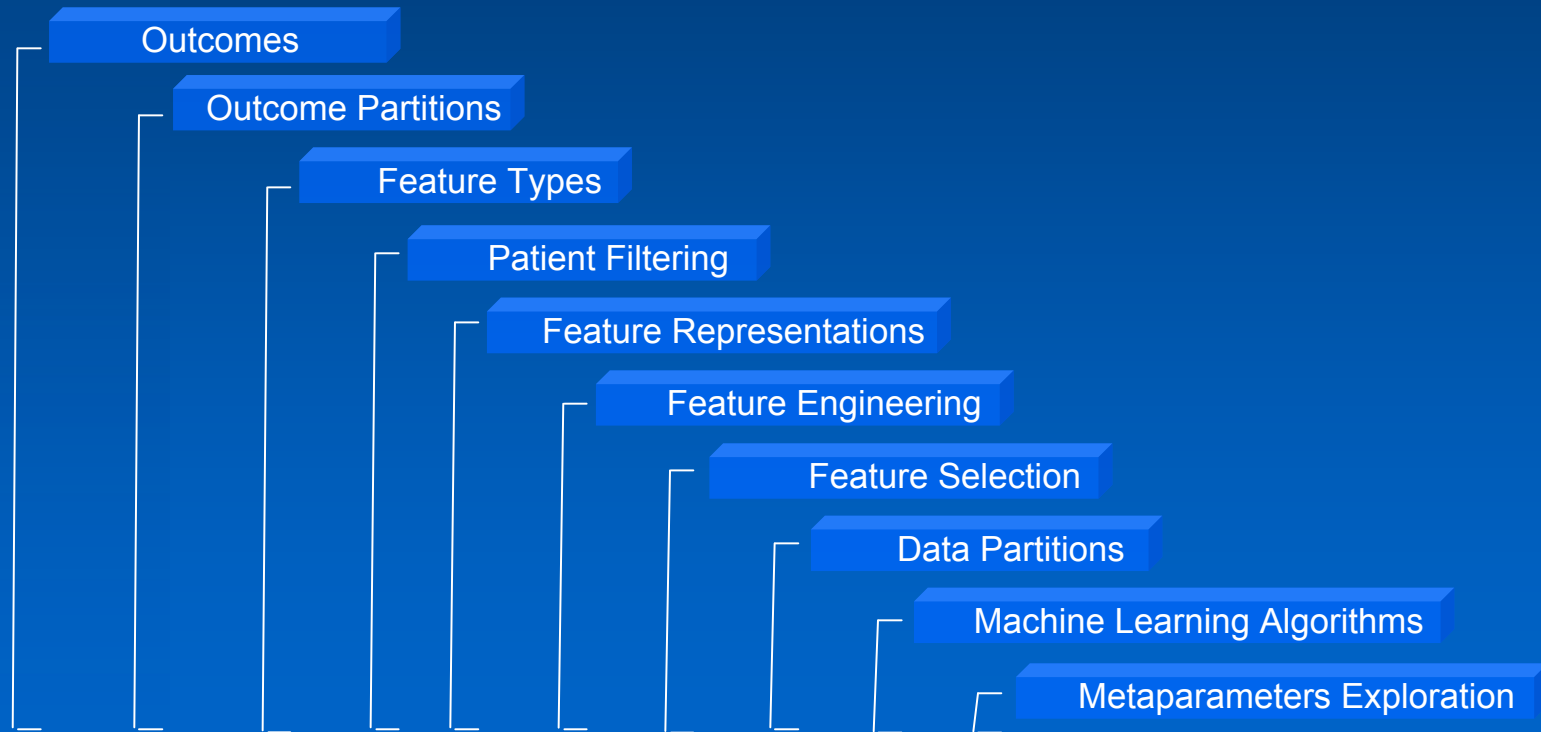
Data Staging

TCGA + Biochemical Reference Data



Model Building

Competitive Learning



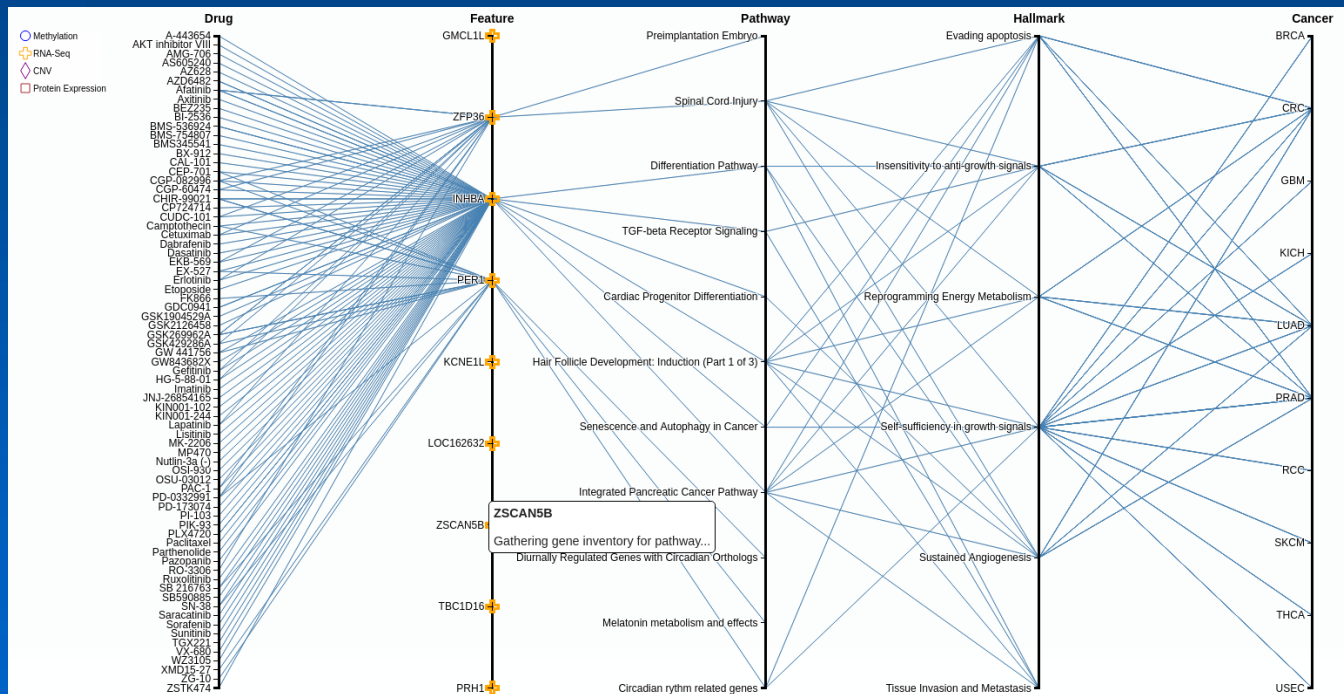
Assess The Biology

BHC + Weight-of-Evidence Approach

Strength	(effect size)
Consistency	(reproducibility)
Specificity	(no other likely explanation)
Temporality	(effect occurs after cause)
Biological Gradient	(higher exposure/greater effect)
Plausibility	(yes, however MLCK)
Coherence	(RWD and laboratory findings reinforce)
Experiment	(lean on experimental systems)
Analogy	(review similar system)

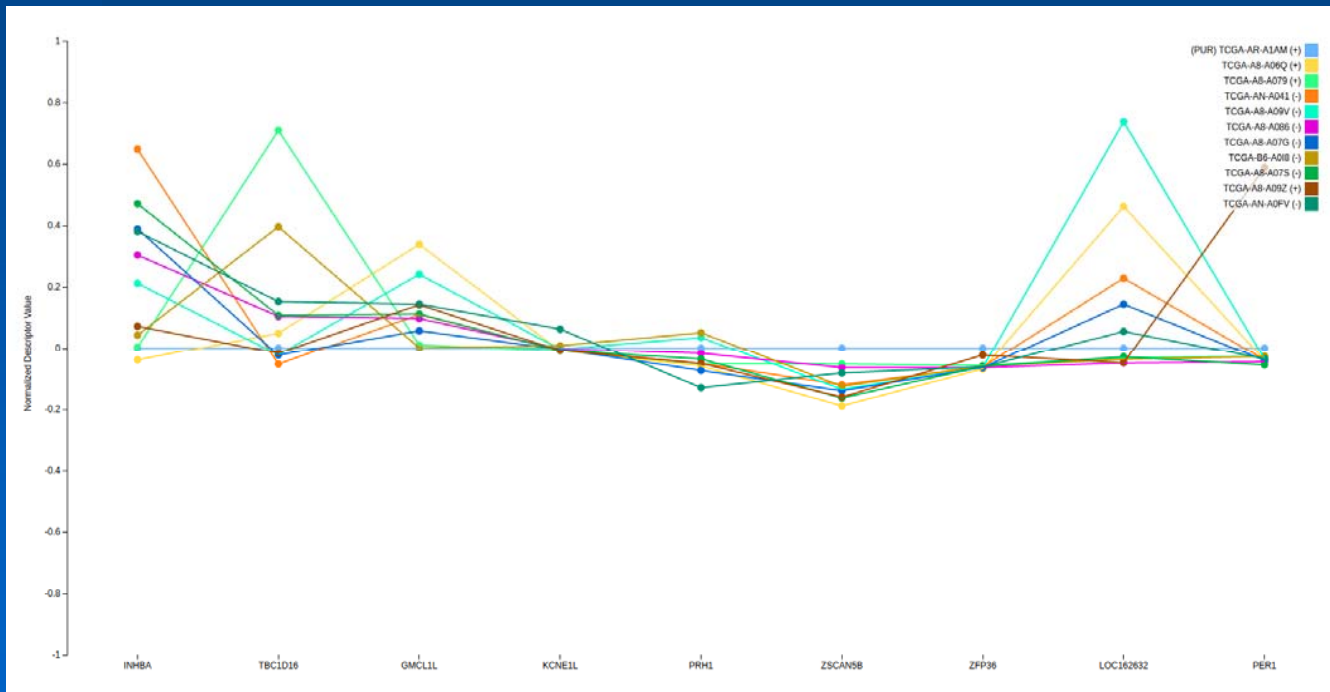
Complex Processes

Each Patient's Biology Will Tell A Story



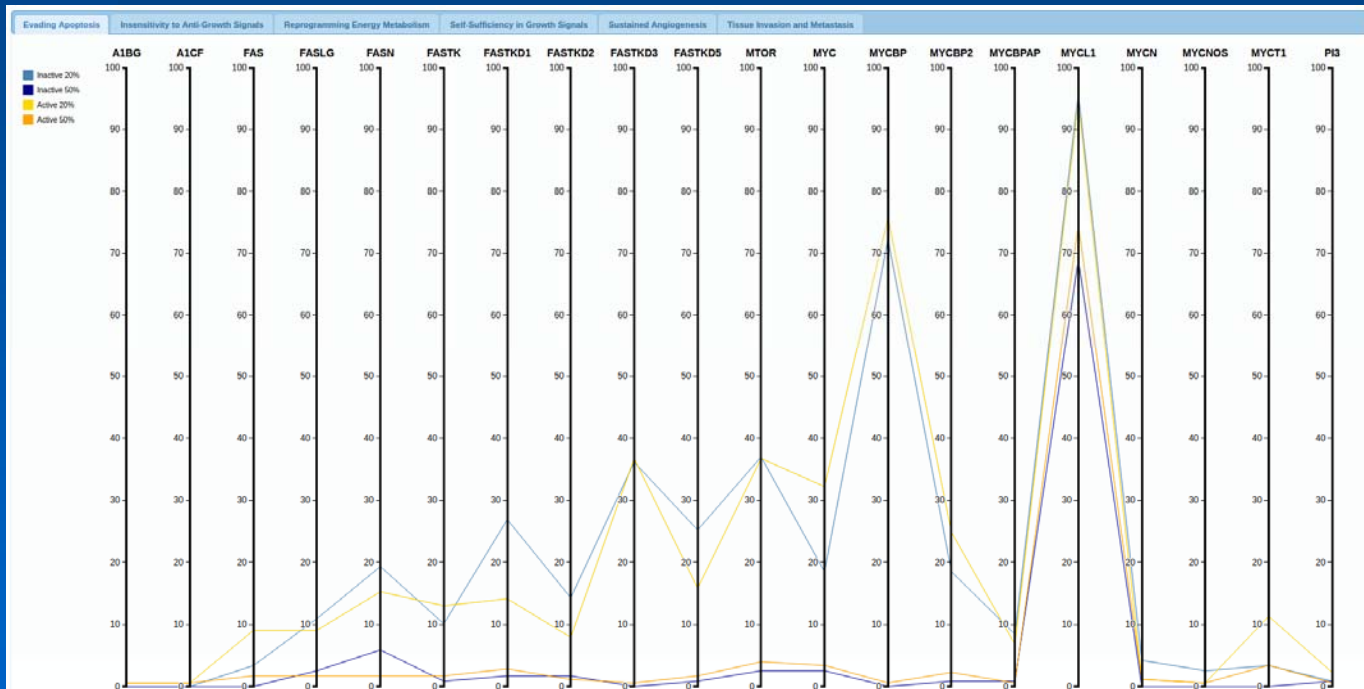
Predictive Signatures

Patients Like Me?



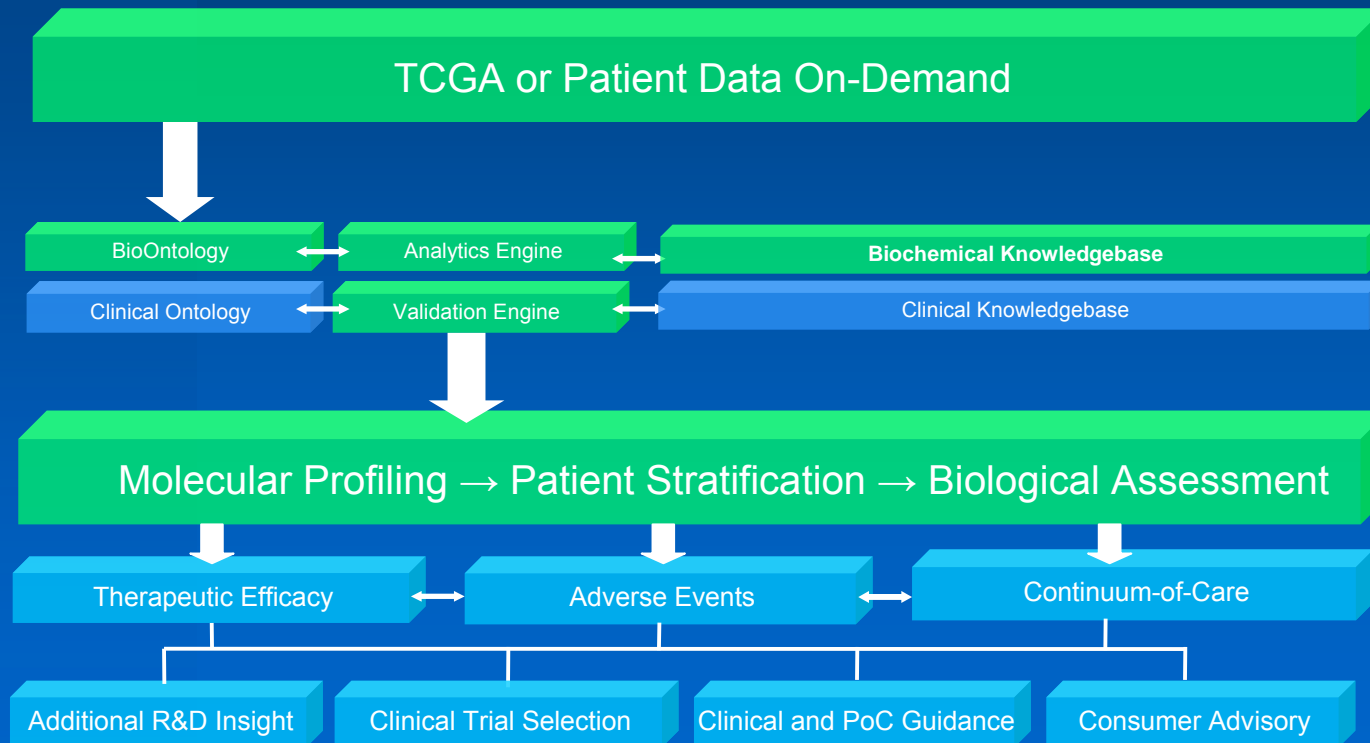
Beyond The Model

Extracting Additional Context



Cancer Analytics

Minimum System Components



2M Features Per Patient

24/7 Mining Operations

20 High Performance Servers

800 CPU Cores

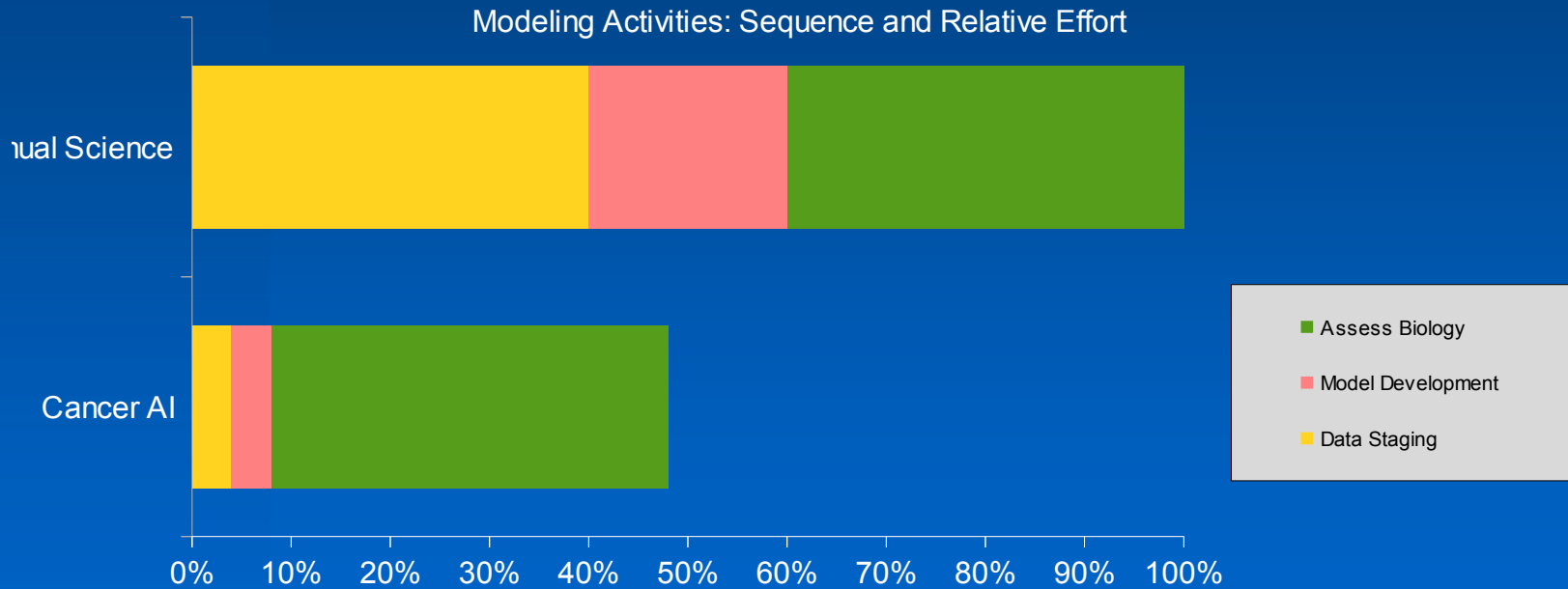
20 Tesla GPUs

100TB Data



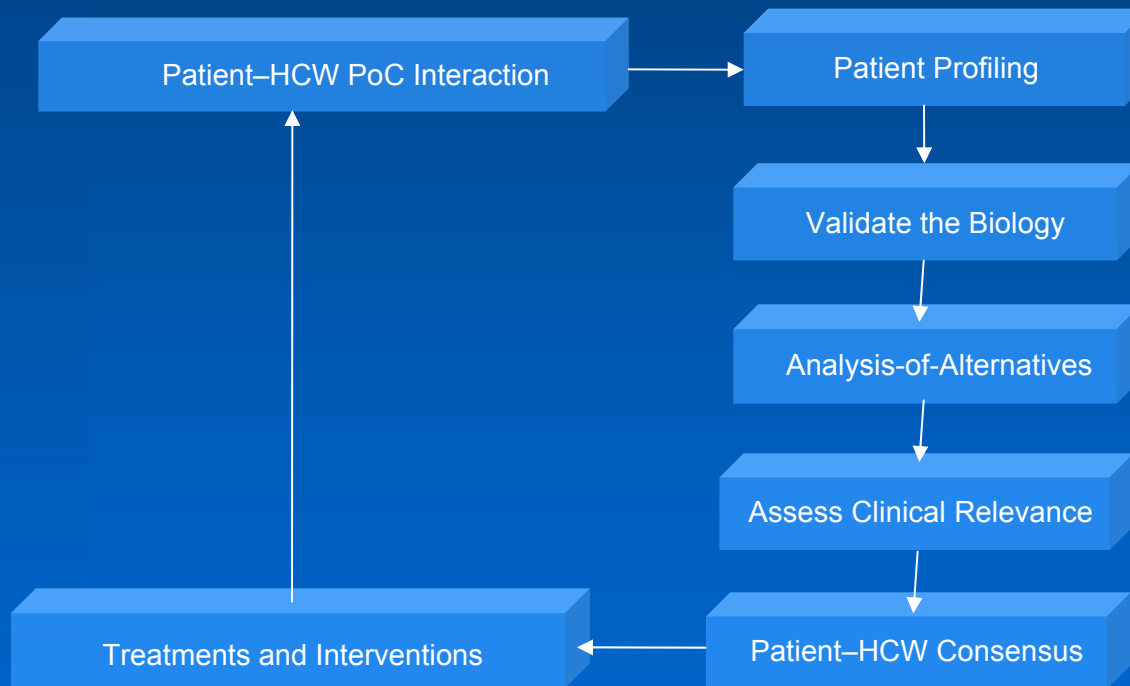
Man vs Machine

Accelerating Discovery



Next Steps

In Silico Patient



Goal State

Unifying Discovery + Care

- Reduce complexity in cancer research
- Render the concept of siloed tools and data largely obsolete
- Minimize the talent shortage problem via automated analytics
- Redefine R&D and PoC as one iterative machine based activity

Eliminate the divide between R&D and PoC and you change everything.

Contact Information

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