

# Current Concepts of Molecular Portraits of Human Breast Tumors

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## The portrait of a breast cancer

**Organic superconductors** Piling on the charge

**Rice farming** Diversity beats disease

**Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>** The boron record

**nature jobs**  
focus on chemistry

## Molecular portraits of human breast tumours

**Charles M. Perou<sup>\*†</sup>, Therese Sørlie<sup>‡‡</sup>, Michael B. Eisen<sup>\*</sup>, Matt van de Rijn<sup>§</sup>, Stefanie S. Jeffrey<sup>||</sup>, Christian A. Rees<sup>\*</sup>, Jonathan R. Pollack<sup>¶</sup>, Douglas T. Ross<sup>¶</sup>, Hilde Johnsen<sup>‡</sup>, Lars A. Akslen<sup>#</sup>, Øystein Fluge<sup>☆</sup>, Alexander Pergamenschikov<sup>\*</sup>, Cheryl Williams<sup>\*</sup>, Shirley X. Zhu<sup>§</sup>, Per E. Lønning<sup>\*\*</sup>, Anne-Lise Børresen-Dale<sup>‡</sup>, Patrick O. Brown<sup>††</sup> & David Botstein<sup>\*</sup>**

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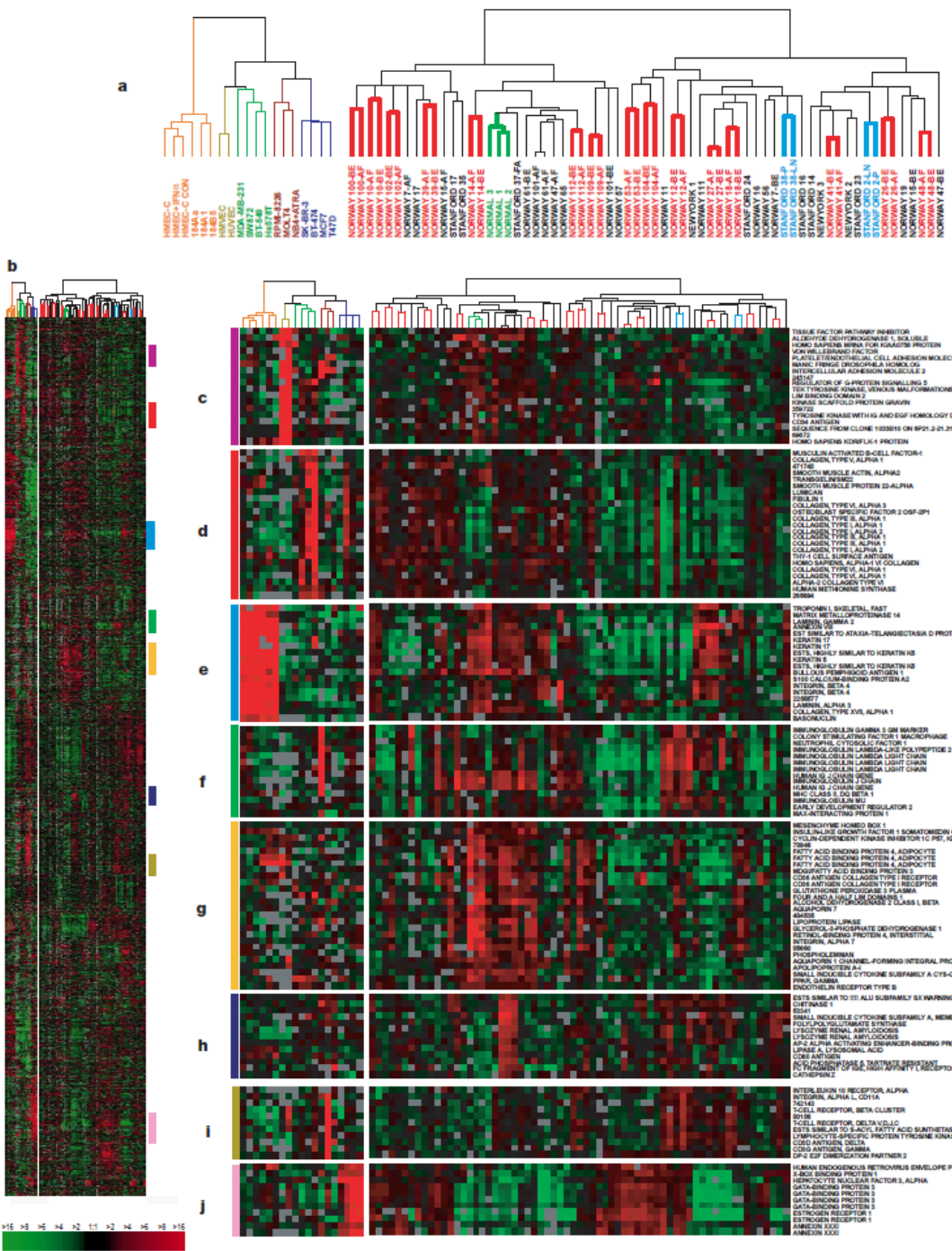
<sup>☆</sup> Department of Molecular Biology, University of Bergen, N-5020 Bergen, Norway

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<sup>†</sup> These authors contributed equally to this work





Endothelial

Stromal/fibroblasts

Breast Basal epithelial

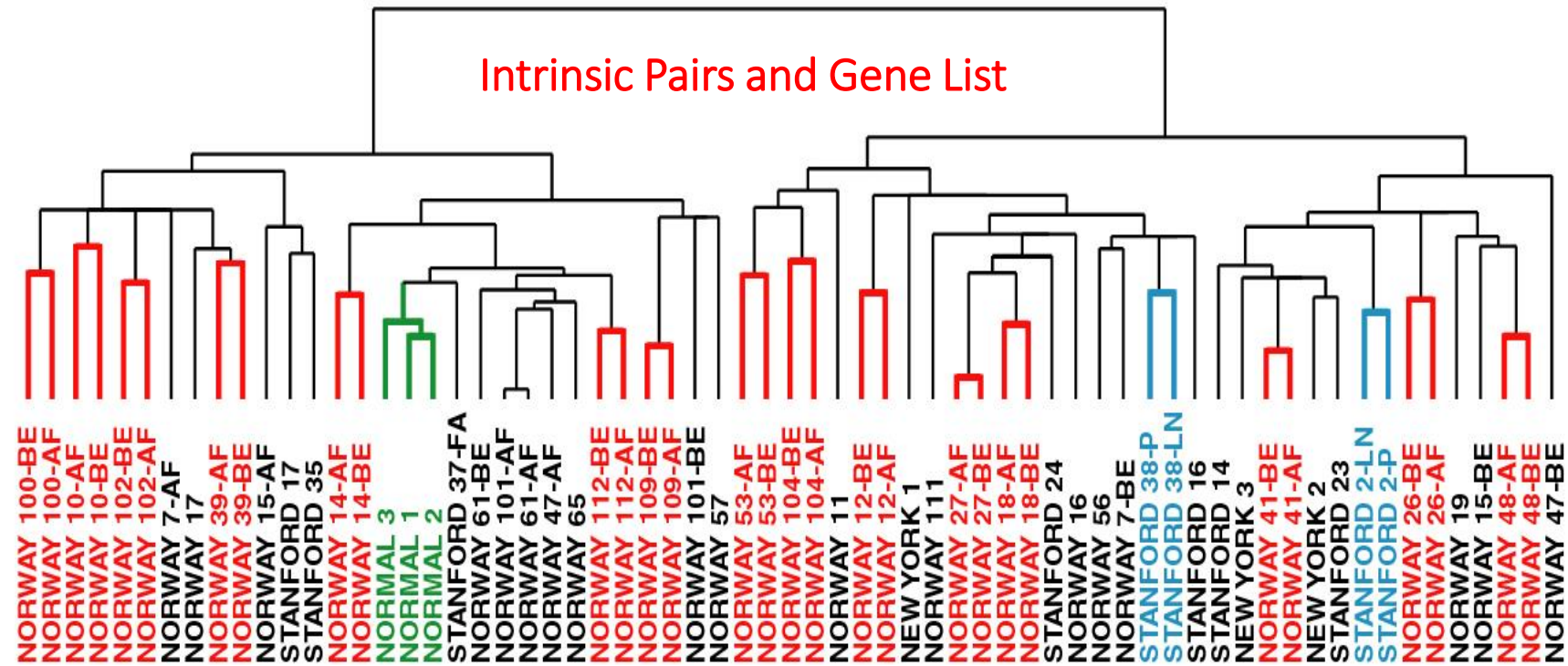
B-cell

Adipose-enriched/normal breast

macrophage

T-cell

Breast luminal epithelial



22 tumor pairs tested (20 "before and after" doxorubicin pairs)

A. 15/20 "before and after" pairs were on the same terminal dendrogram branch

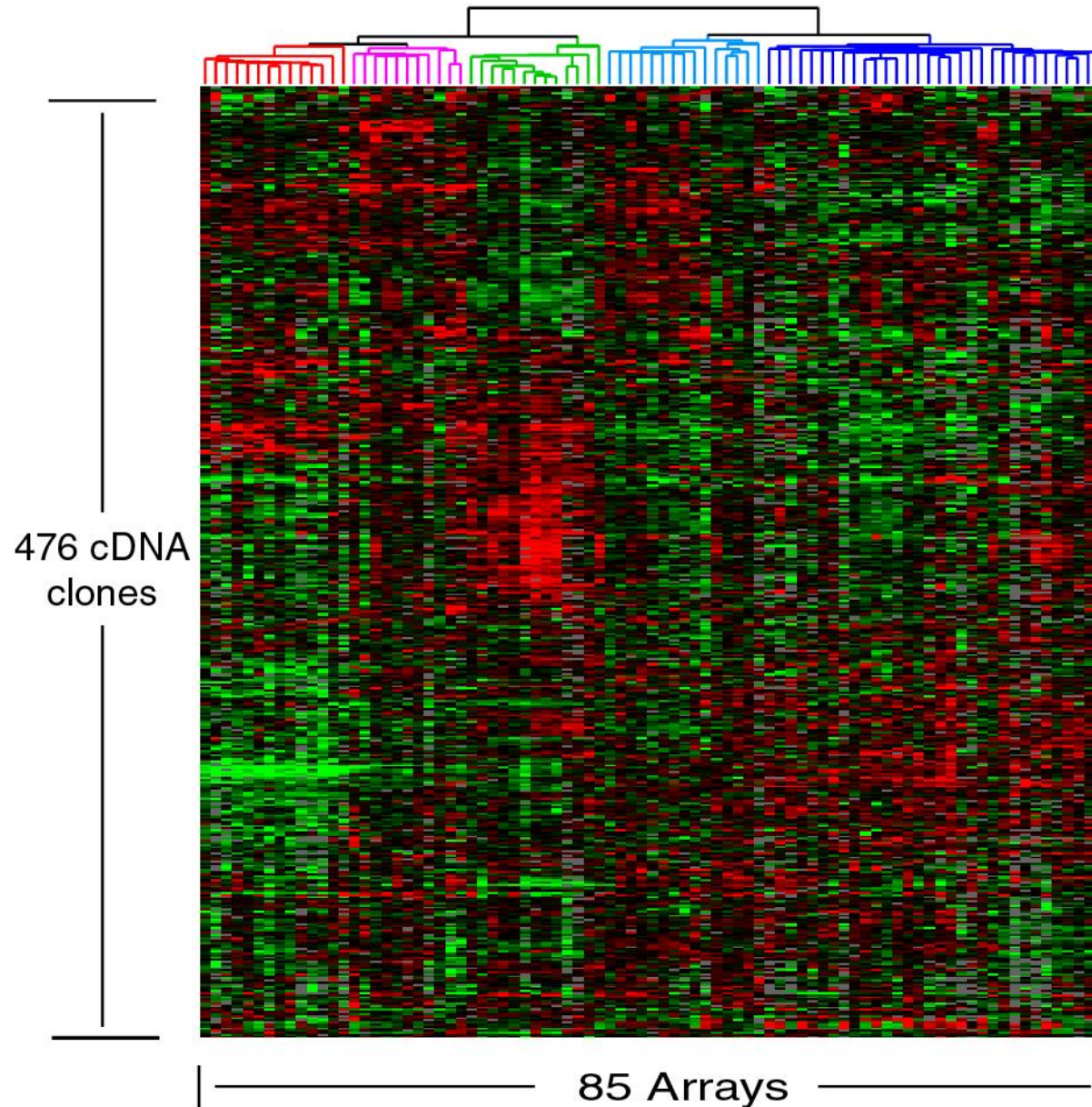
B. 2/2 tumor/lymph node metastasis pairs were on the same dendrogram branch

C. 3/20 "before and after" pairs had the "after" sample in the normal breast branch

D. 2/20 "before and after" pairs were not grouped together

E. 3/3 normal breast samples were on the same dendrogram branch

Sørli et al., PNAS 19, 10869-74 (2001)







## "Intrinsic" gene set on 78 single tumor samples

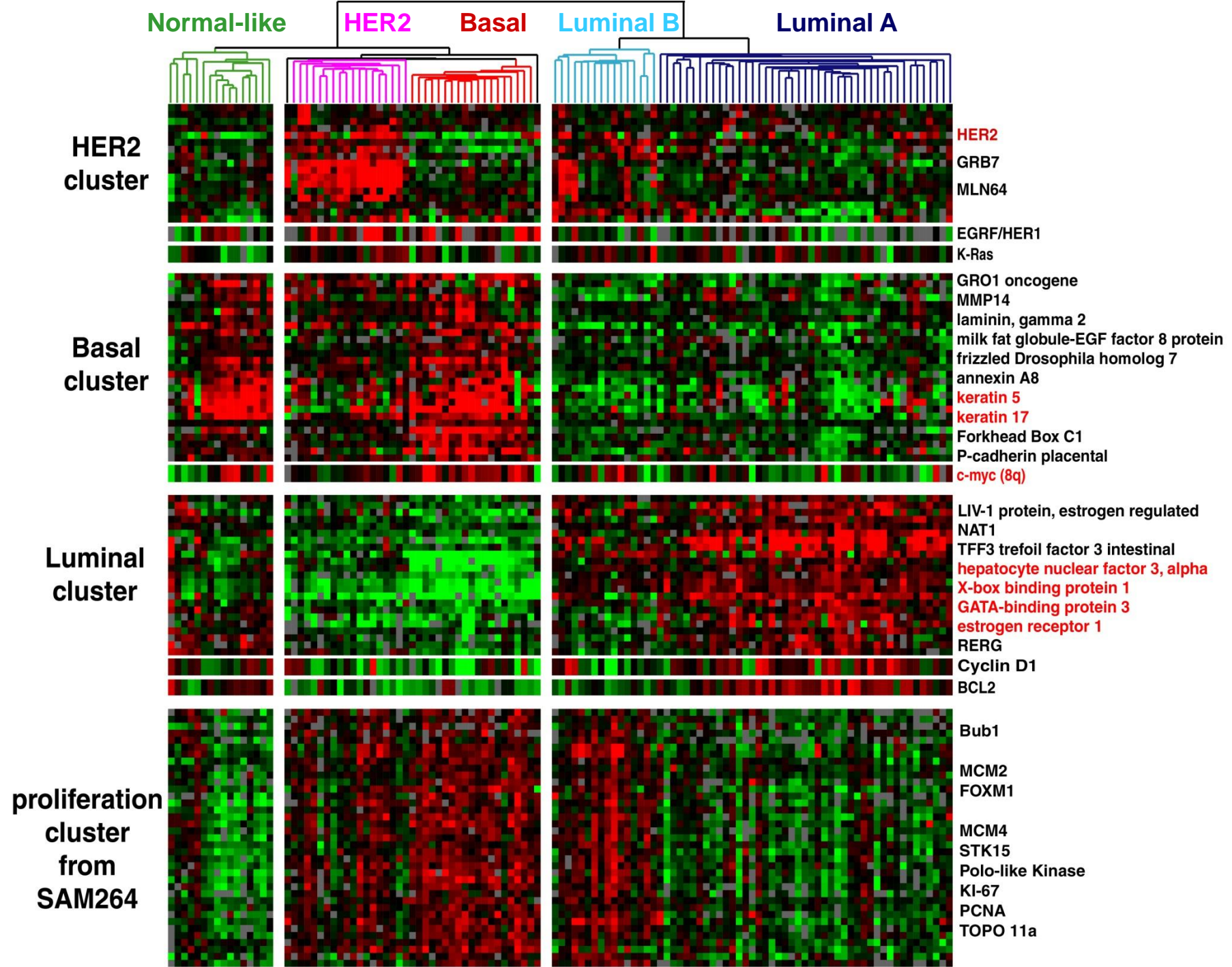
high variance across tumors  

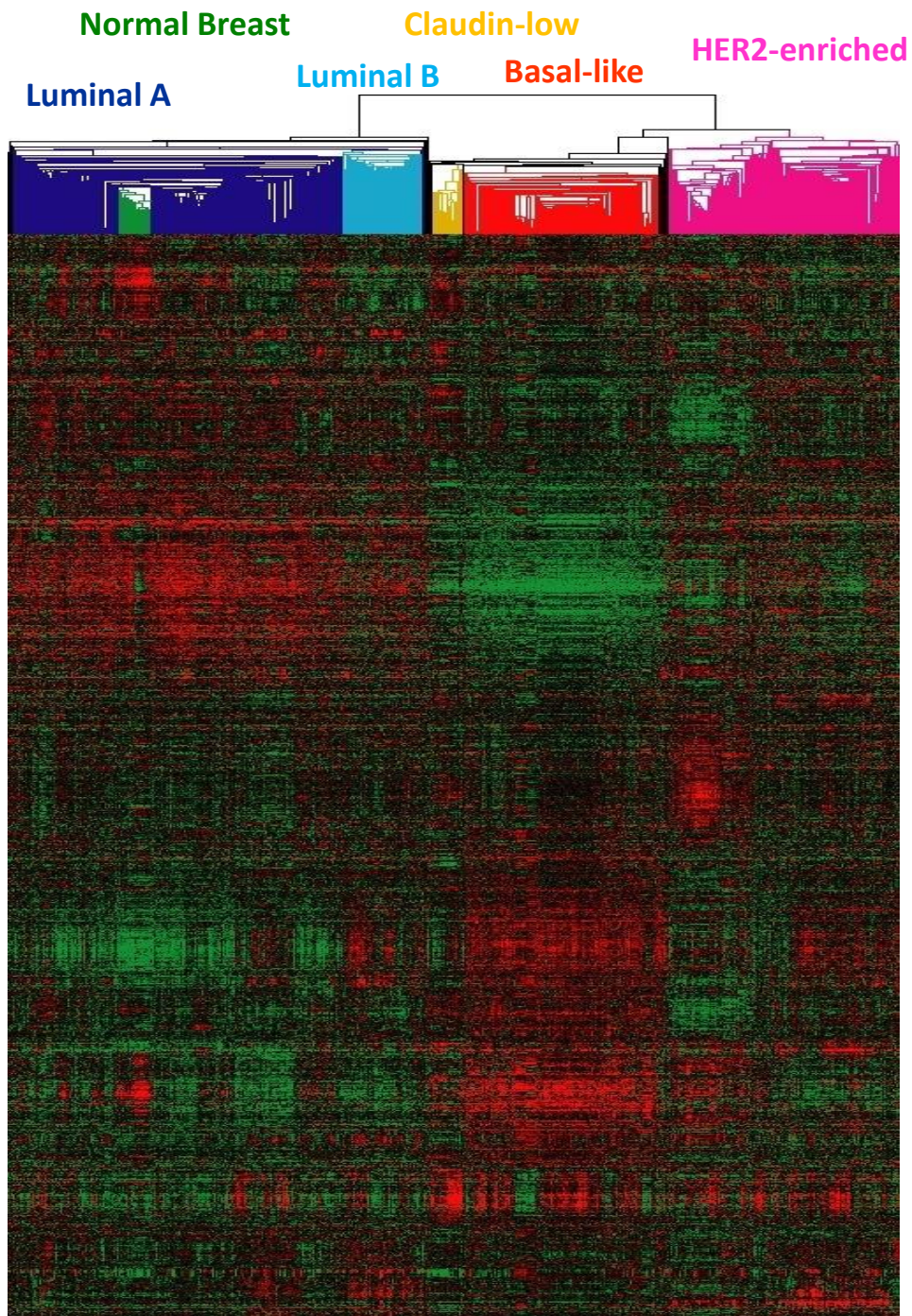
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low variance across pairs

-  = above average
-  = average
-  = below average
-  = missing or filtered data







# Intrinsic Subtypes

Perou et al., Nature, 2000

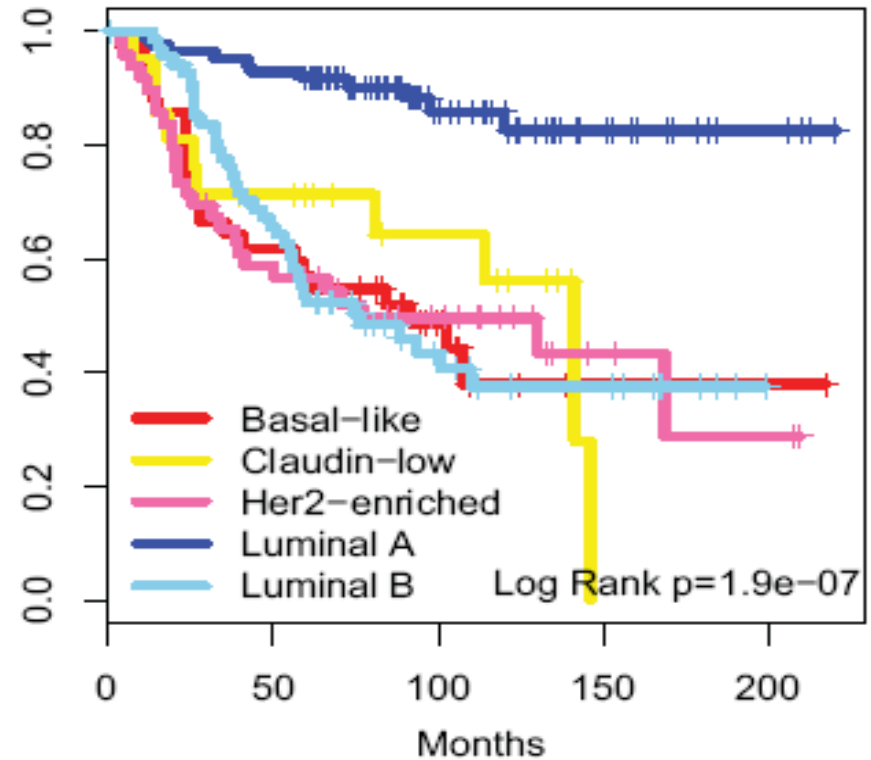
Sorlie et al., PNAS, 2001

Sorlie et al., PNAS, 2003

Hu et al., BMC Genomics, 2006

Herschkowitz et al., GB, 2007

Parker et al., JCO, 2009



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Submitted May 13, 2008; accepted November 4, 2008; published online ahead of print at [www.jco.org](http://www.jco.org) on February 9, 2009.

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## Supervised Risk Predictor of Breast Cancer Based on Intrinsic Subtypes

Joel S. Parker, Michael Mullins, Maggie C.U. Cheang, Samuel Leung, David Voduc, Tammi Vickery, Sherri Davies, Christiane Fauron, Xiaping He, Zhiyuan Hu, John F. Quackenbush, Inge J. Stijleman, Juan Palazzo, J.S. Marron, Andrew B. Nobel, Elaine Mardis, Torsten O. Nielsen, Matthew J. Ellis, Charles M. Perou, and Philip S. Bernard

### A B S T R A C T

#### Purpose

To improve on current standards for breast cancer prognosis and prediction of chemotherapy benefit by developing a risk model that incorporates the gene expression–based “intrinsic” subtypes luminal A, luminal B, HER2-enriched, and basal-like.

#### Methods

A 50-gene subtype predictor was developed using microarray and quantitative reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction data from 189 prototype samples. Test sets from 761 patients (no systemic therapy) were evaluated for prognosis, and 133 patients were evaluated for prediction of pathologic complete response (pCR) to a taxane and anthracycline regimen.

#### Results

The intrinsic subtypes as discrete entities showed prognostic significance ( $P = 2.26E-12$ ) and remained significant in multivariable analyses that incorporated standard parameters (estrogen receptor status, histologic grade, tumor size, and node status). A prognostic model for node-negative breast cancer was built using intrinsic subtype and clinical information. The C-index estimate for the combined model (subtype and tumor size) was a significant improvement on either the clinicopathologic model or subtype model alone. The intrinsic subtype model predicted neoadjuvant chemotherapy efficacy with a negative predictive value for pCR of 97%.

#### Conclusion

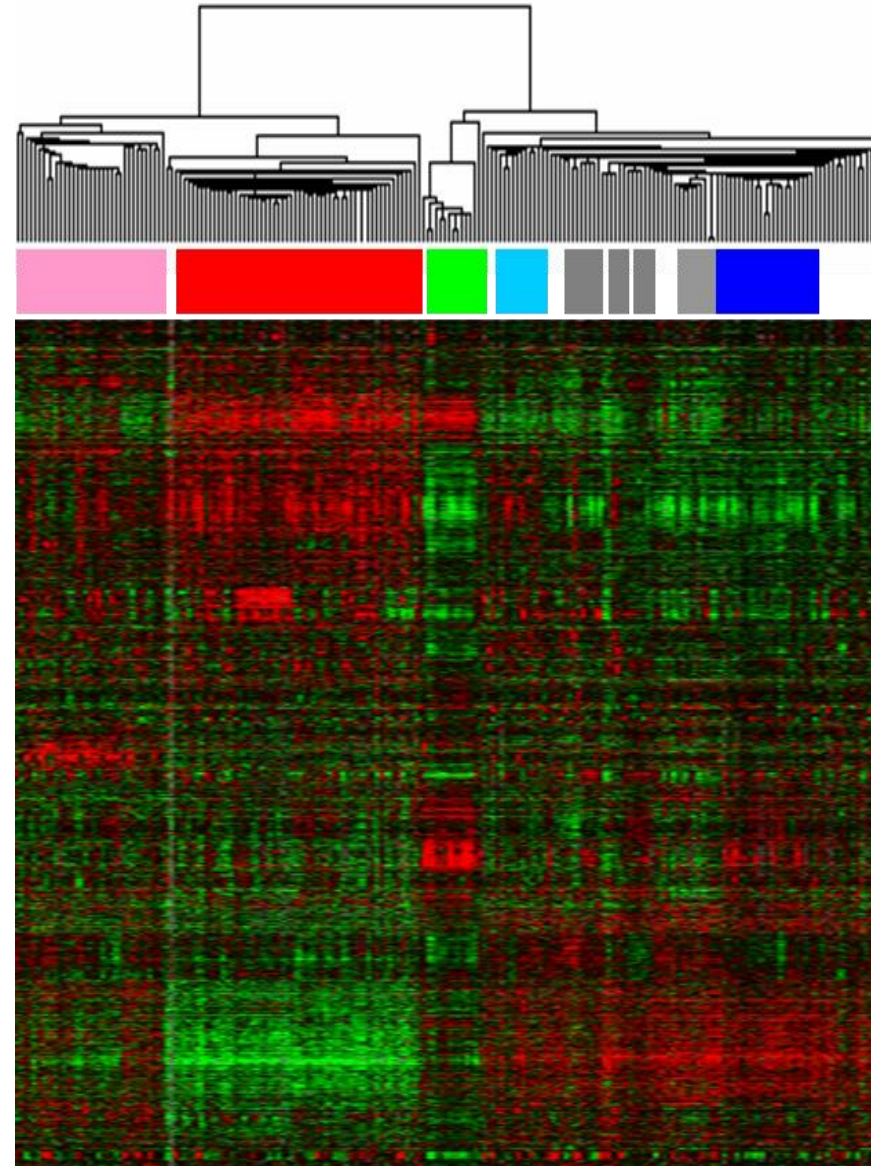
Diagnosis by intrinsic subtype adds significant prognostic and predictive information to standard parameters for patients with breast cancer. The prognostic properties of the continuous risk score will be of value for the management of node-negative breast cancers. The subtypes and risk score can also be used to assess the likelihood of efficacy from neoadjuvant chemotherapy.



# Intrinsic Subtype Clinical Assay Development

Parker et al., JCO, February 9, 2009

1. Assayed 191 patients/tumors with
  - A. full-genome microarrays using RNA from frozen tumor materials (~25,000 genes)
  - B. qRT-PCR using RNA from FFPE materials for ~160 genes
  
2. Objectively identified “prototypical” samples
  - A. Hierarchical clustering analysis using 4 intrinsic lists combined (~2000 genes) and the 191 tumors
  - B. Ran “SigClust” (Liu et al., JASA 2008) to identify statistically significant groups/subtypes of tumors, thereby assigning subtype labels and identifying prototypical samples

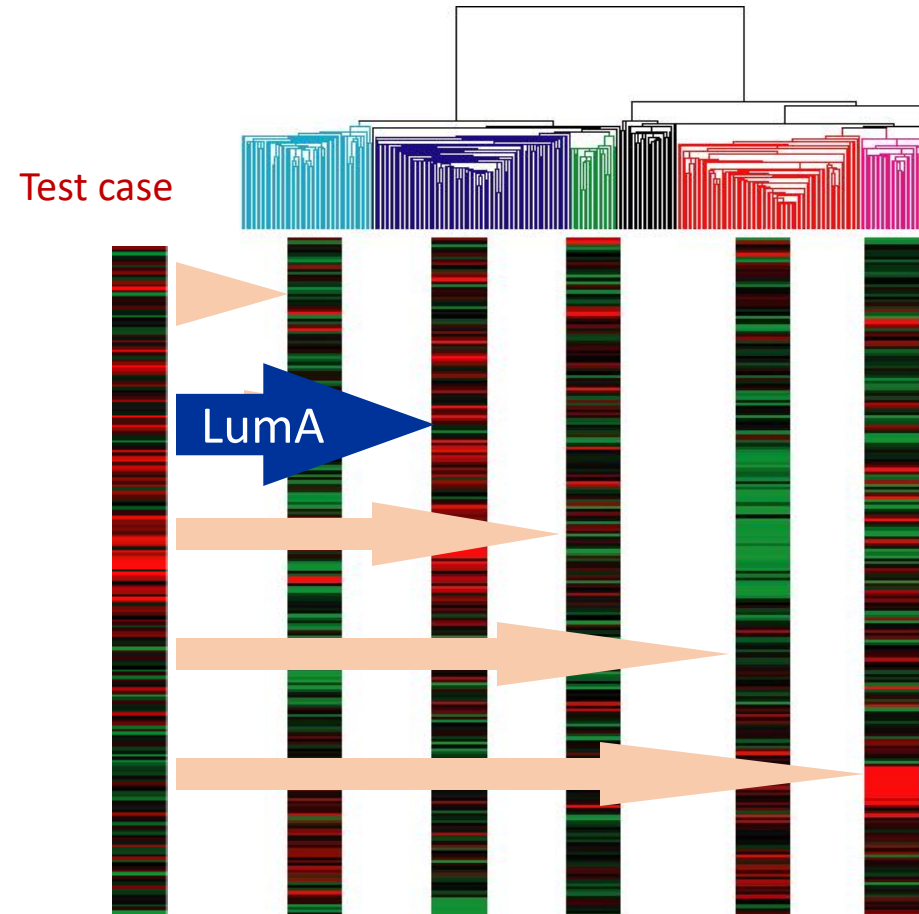


# Intrinsic Subtype Clinical Assay Development

Parker et al., JCO, February 9, 2009

## 3. Constructed classification model in qRT-PCR (FFPE) data using prototypical samples

- A. Calculate each subtype's average centroid/profile using the 161 genes measured by qRT-PCR with the subtype assignment provided by the microarray data
- B. Compare a test case to each centroid and assign a label to the test case based upon the most similar centroid
- C. Perform multiple cycles of cross-validation over ever decreasing numbers of genes to find the smallest gene list with highest concordance to the 2000 gene list microarray-based classifications



Dudoit & Fridlyand JASA 2002  
Storey et al. Bioinformatics 2006  
Tibshirani et al. PNAS 2002

# Intrinsic Subtype Clinical Assay Development

Parker et al., JCO, February 9, 2009

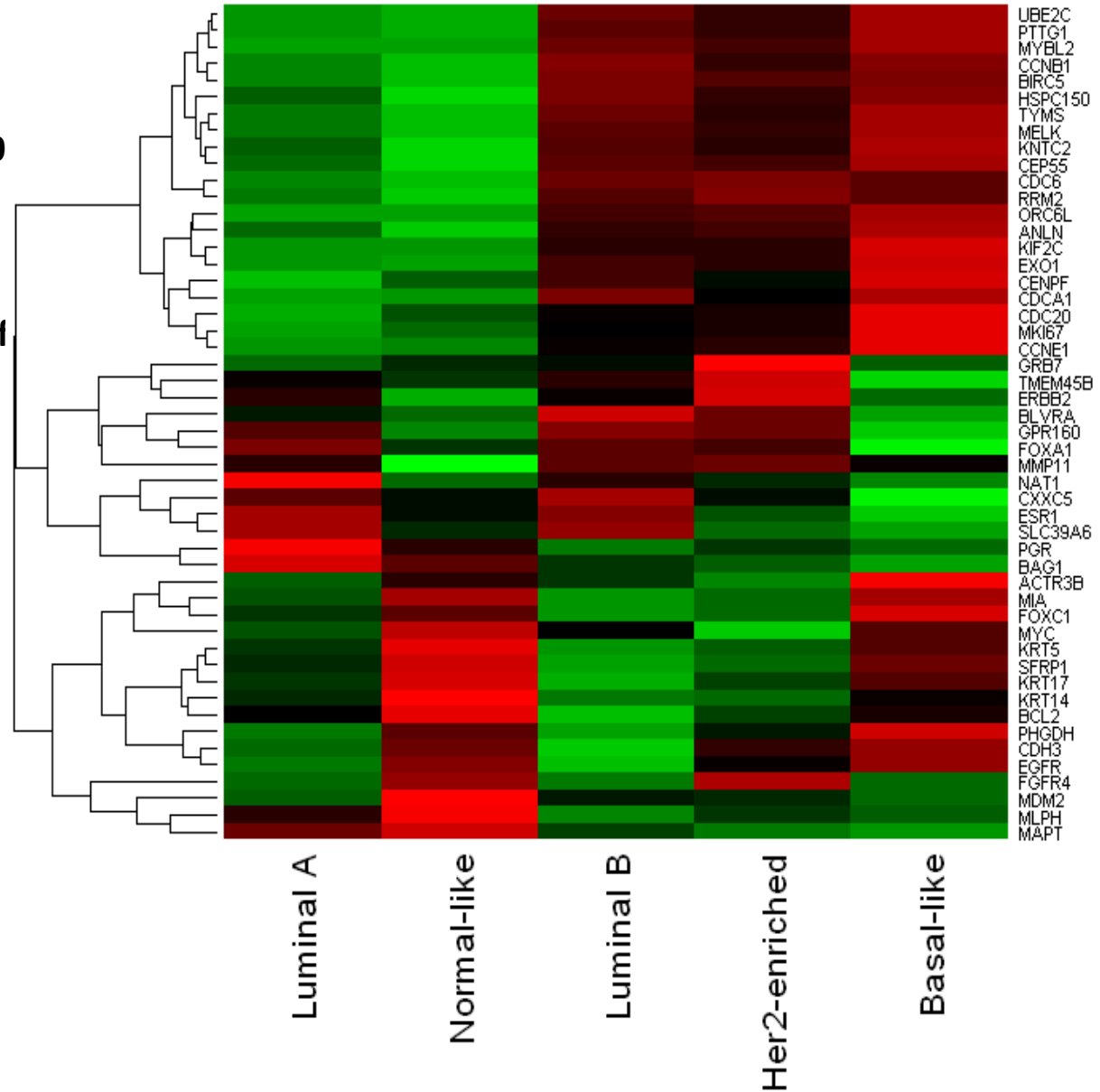
- The final classifier consists of 50 genes and 5 centroids.

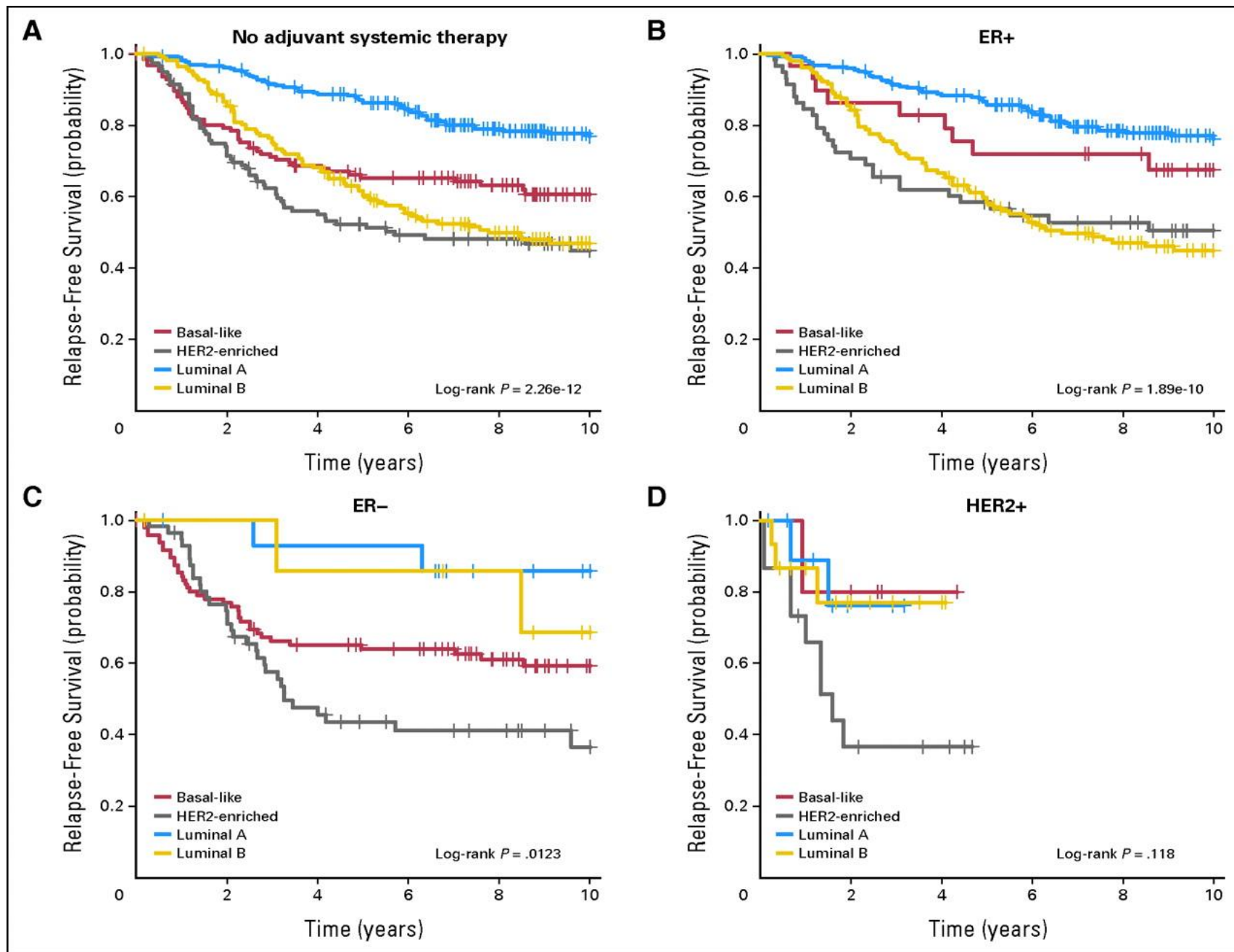
(provided at <https://genome.unc.edu/>)

- The CV classification accuracy of the 50 genes versus the 2000 genes was 93%.

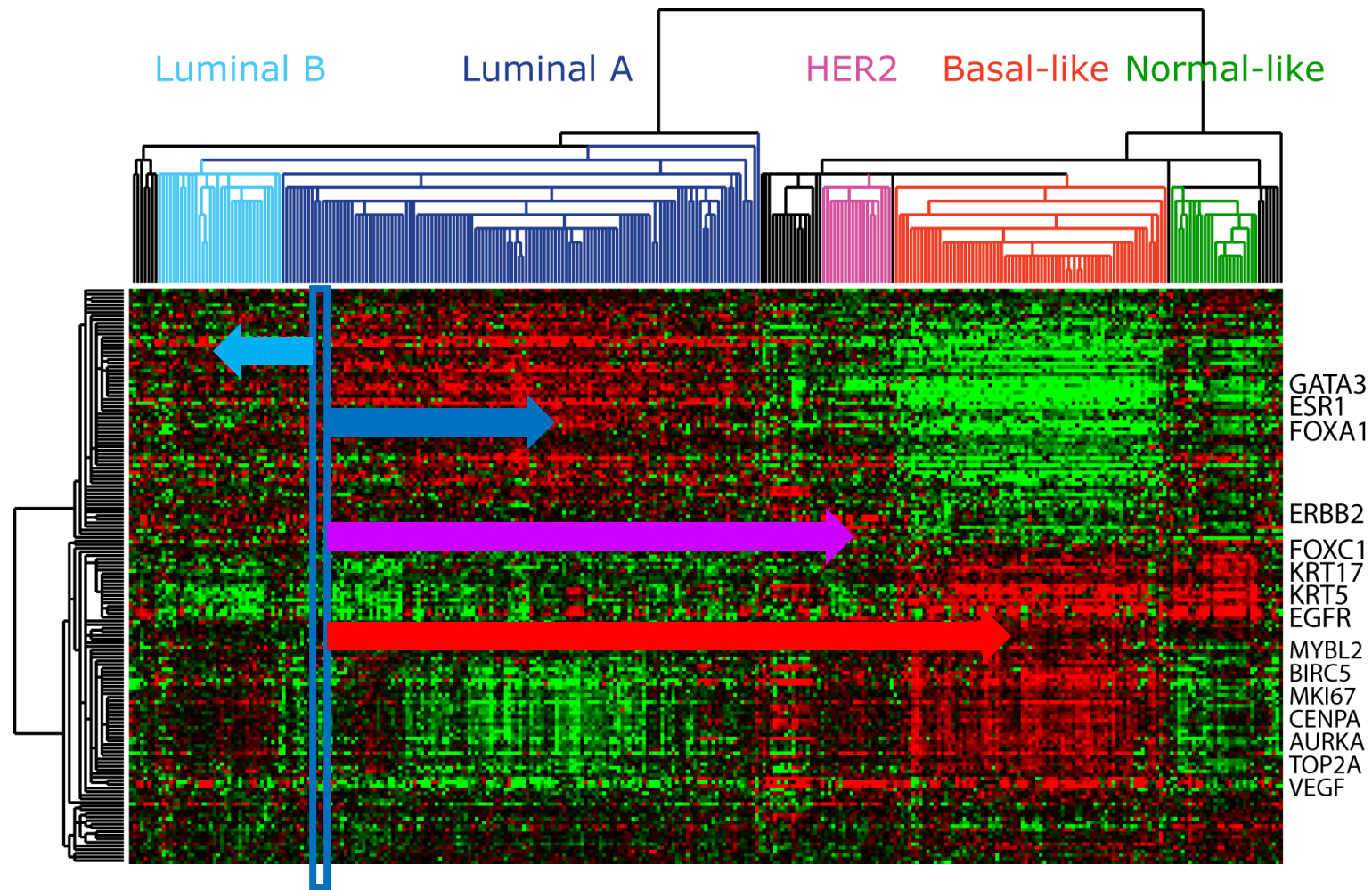
- The assay is called the

**“PAM50”**





# Diversity Within Subtypes



Distance of a tumor to each centroid/subtype as a genomic summary

# Prognostic Risk Classification Strategy (ROR)

- Similarity to the subtypes are used as variables in the prognostic model where the outcome is **Risk of Relapse (ROR)**:

$$\text{(Model 1) ROR-S} = \beta_1 \cdot \text{Basal} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{HER2} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{LumA} + \beta_4 \cdot \text{LumB}$$

$$\text{(Model 2) ROR-C} = \beta_1 \cdot \text{Basal} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{HER2} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{LumA} + \beta_4 \cdot \text{LumB} + \beta_5 \cdot \text{Tumor Size}$$

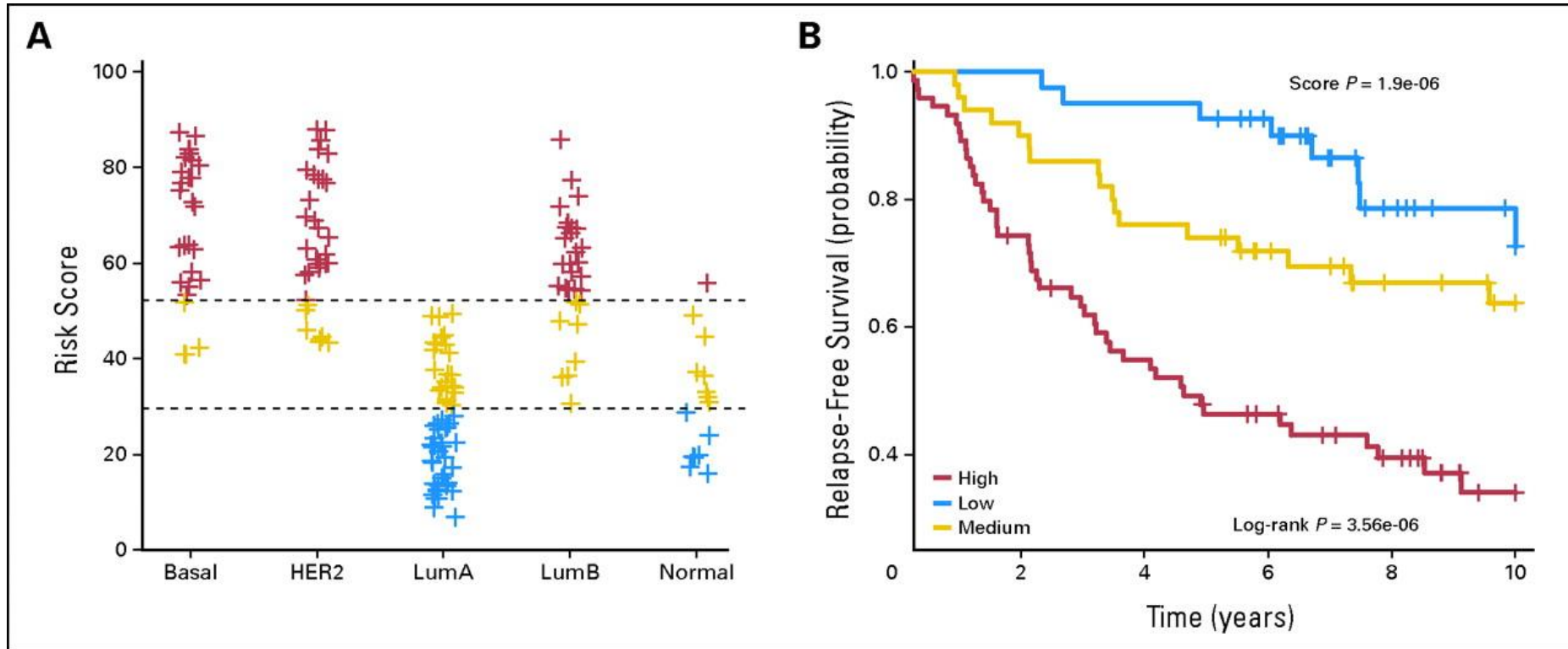
$$\text{(Model 3) ROR-X} = \beta_1 \cdot \text{Basal} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{HER2} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{LumA} + \beta_4 \cdot \text{LumB} + \beta_5 \cdot \text{Size} + \beta_6 \cdot \text{Node}$$

- Weights for each term are learned from a training data set using a Cox model with Ridge Regression
- The weighted sum is assigned as the ROR score for a test case and a threshold may be applied for class assignment

Ridge regression with Cox model: Tibshirani, Statistics in Medicine 1997

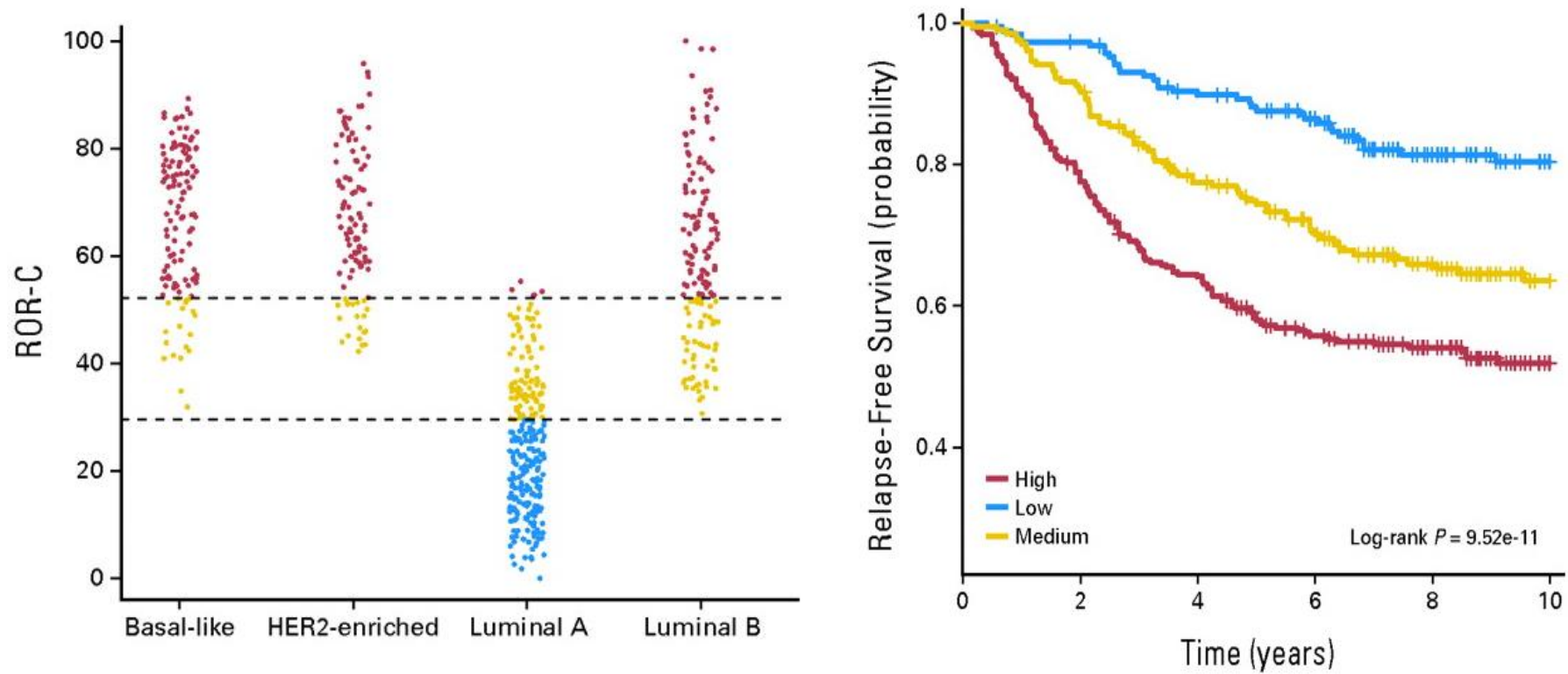
Comparative study: Bovelstad et al. Bioinformatics 2007

# Risk Classification on the Training Set



Model trained on NKI no adjuvant systemic therapy and node negative patient subset with relapse free survival as the outcome and using the ROR-C (subtype+tumor size) model

# Risk Classification on a Test set

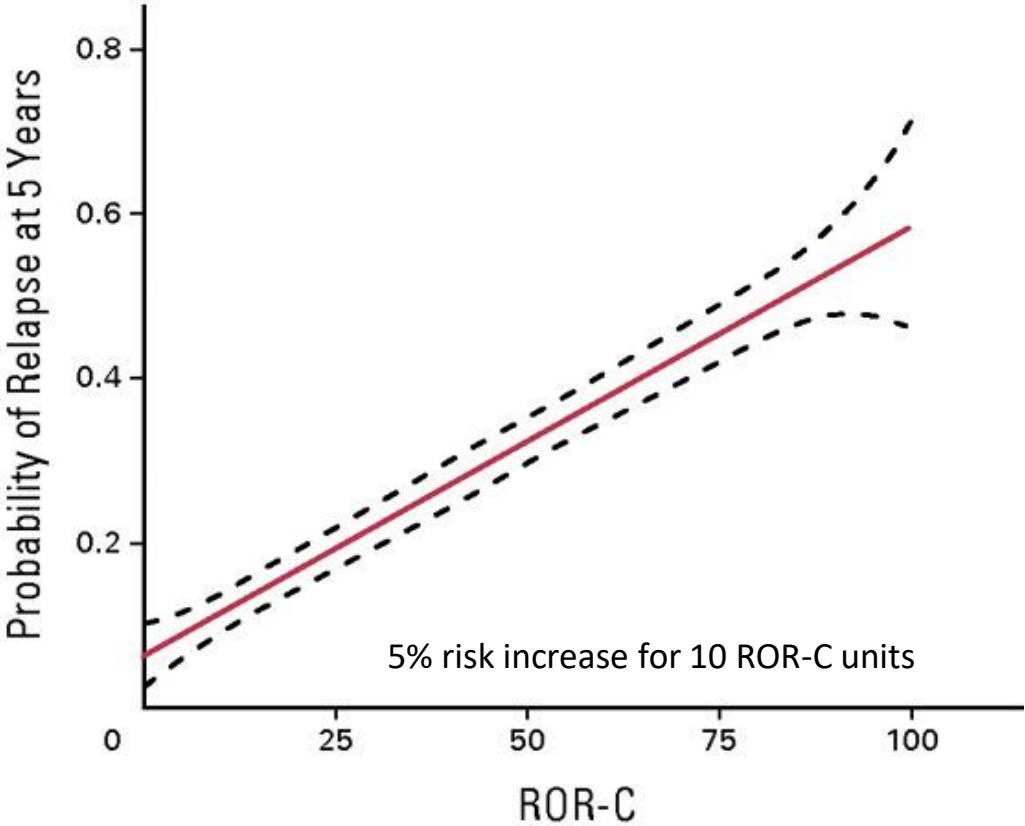


**N=558 no adjuvant systemic therapy and node negative test cases**

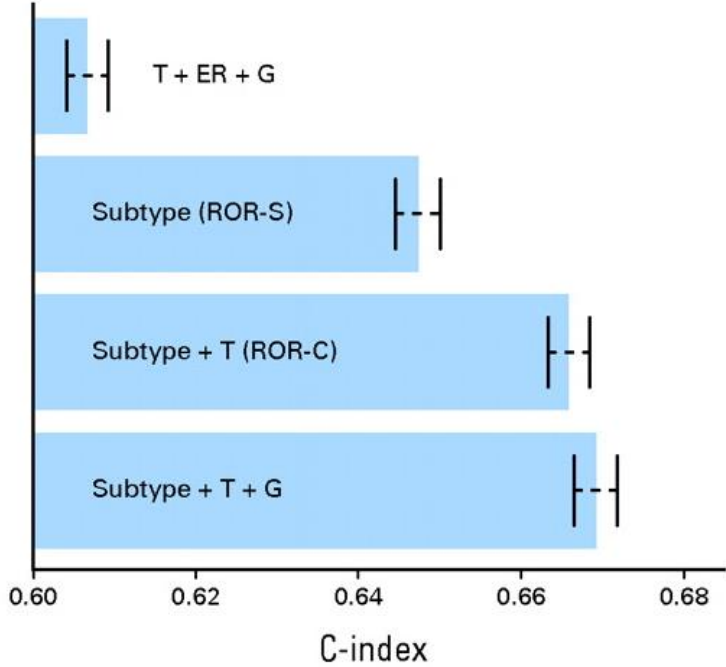
**ROR-C thresholds determined from training set**



# Risk Classification by PAM50 ROR



**N=558 no adjuvant systemic therapy  
and node negative test cases**

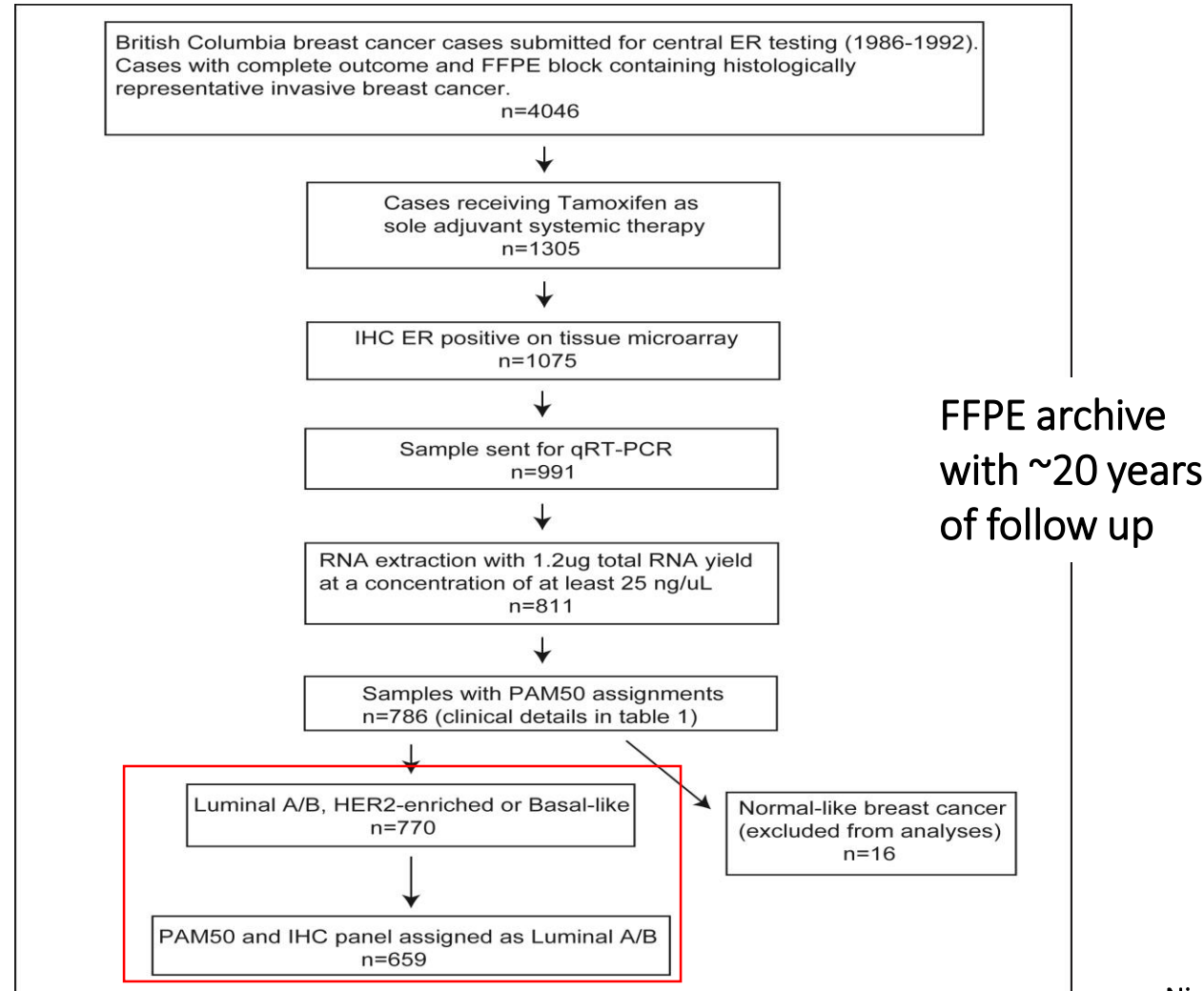


C-index: FE Harrell et al., *JAMA* 1982; 247(18).

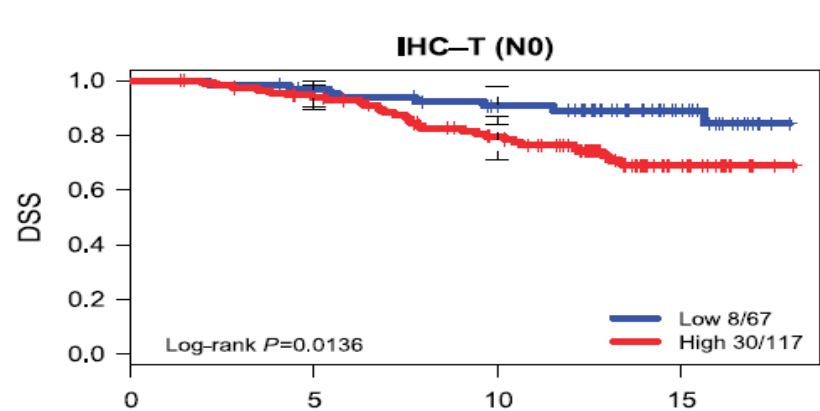
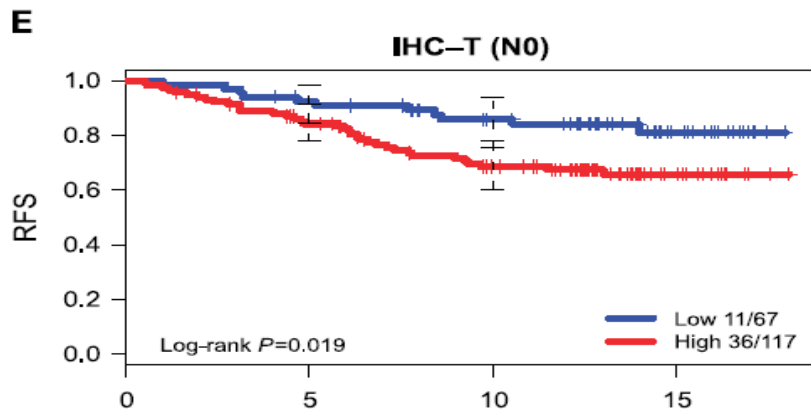
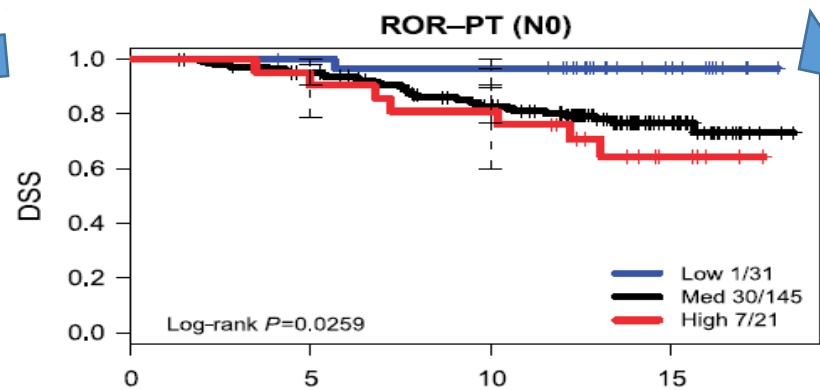
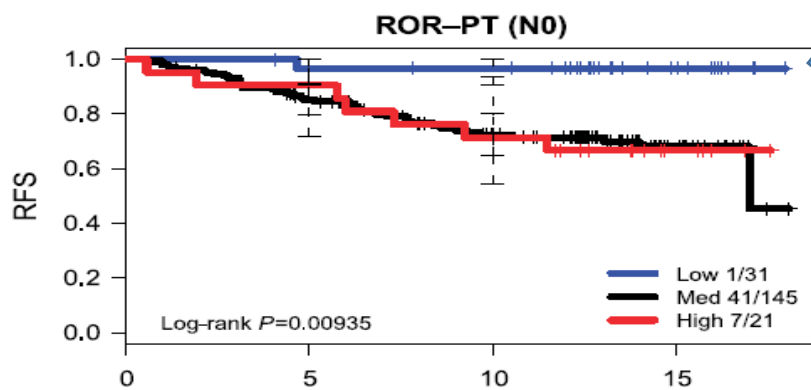
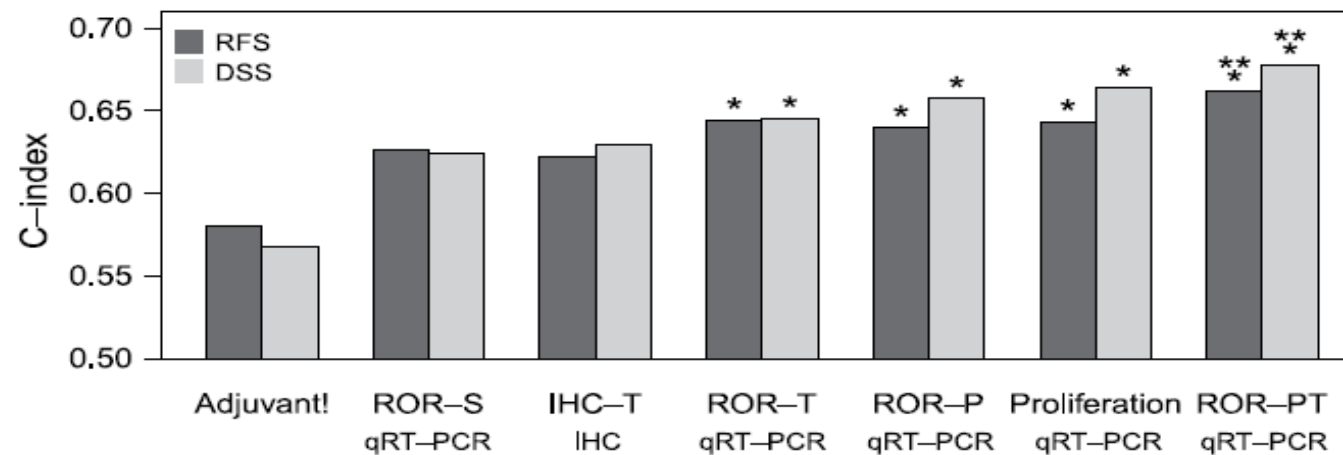
“The c-index is the proportion of all pairs of subjects whose survival time can be ordered such that the subject with the higher predicted survival is the one who survived longer” (taken from Harrell, *Regression Modeling Strategies*, Springer Series in Statistics).

# A comparison of PAM50 intrinsic subtyping with immunohistochemistry and clinical prognostic factors in tamoxifen-treated estrogen receptor positive breast cancer

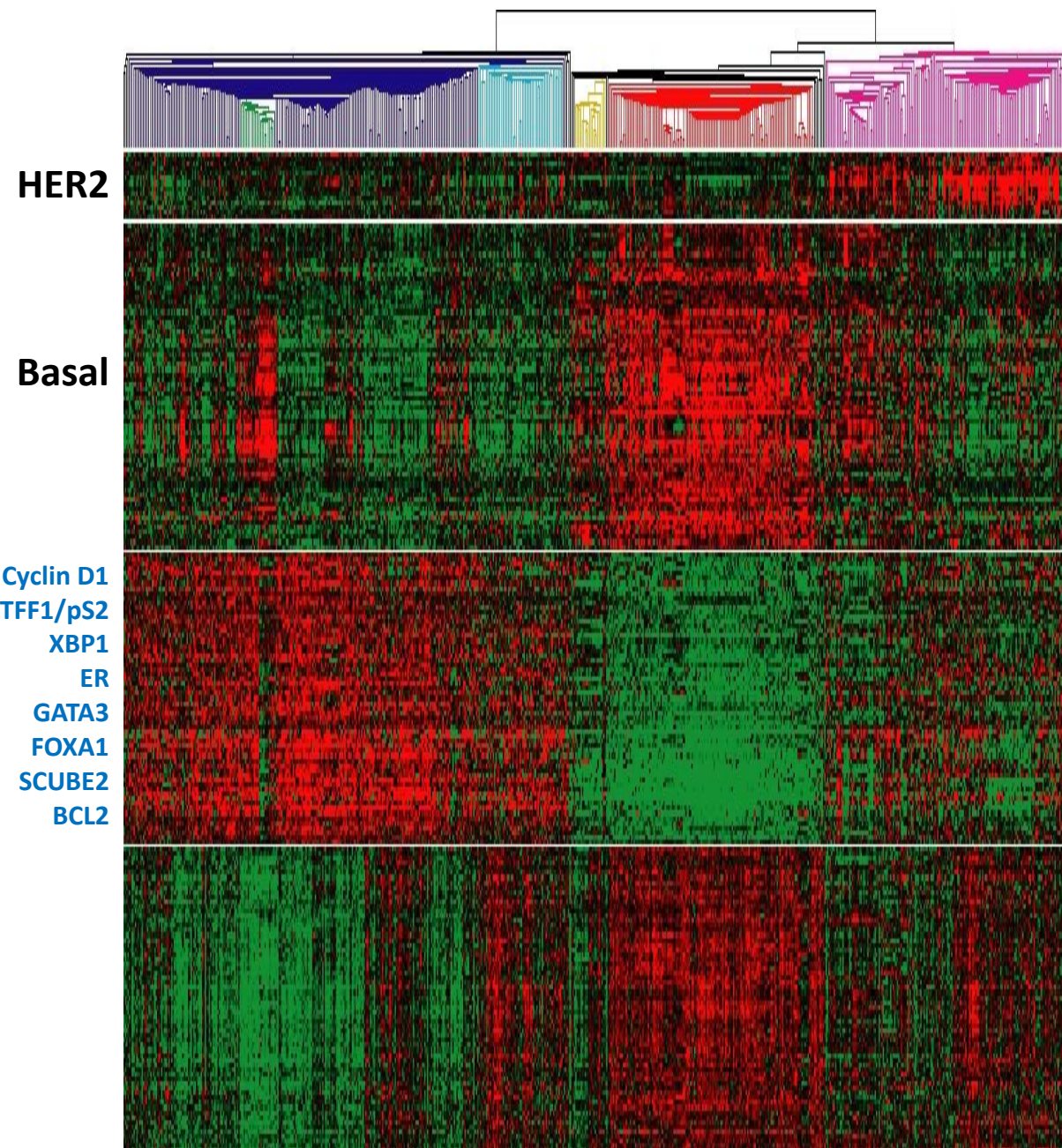
Torsten O. Nielsen, Joel S Parker, Samuel Leung, David Voduc, Mark Ebbert, Tammi Vickery, Sherri R. Davies, Jacqueline Snider, Inge J. Stijleman, Jerry Reed, Maggie C.U. Cheang, Elaine R. Mardis, Charles M. Perou, Philip S. Bernard, Matthew J. Ellis, *Clinical Cancer Research* 2010



# ER+, tamoxifen treated, node-negative patient subset



## Luminal A    Luminal B

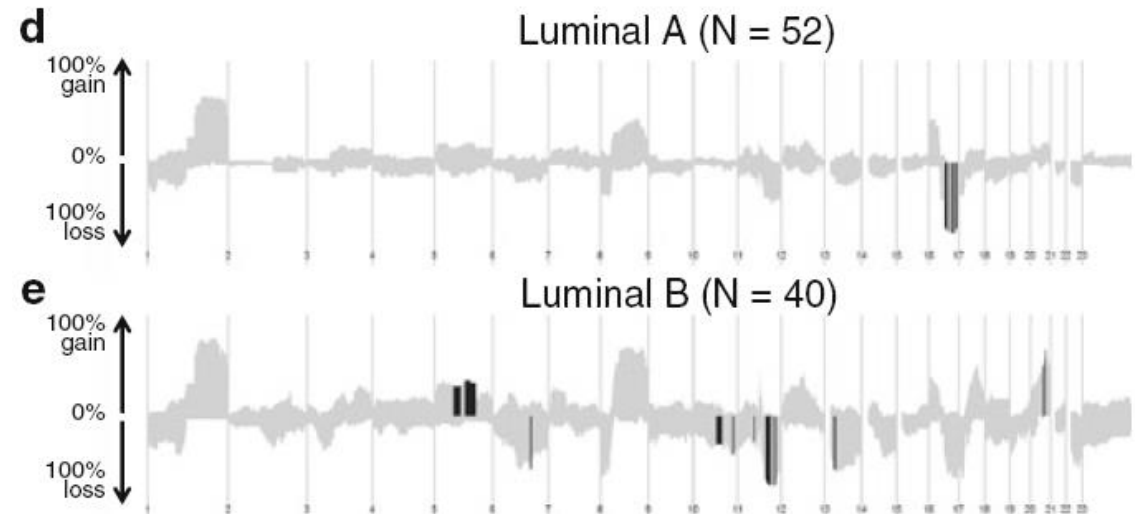
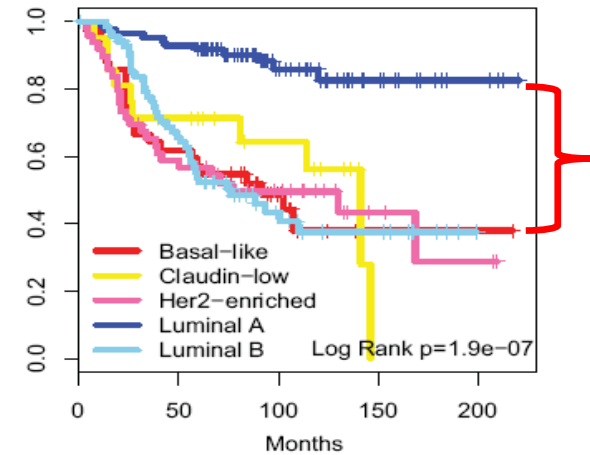


## Luminal A and B

1. ~70% of Breast Cancers
2. Most are ER+ and/or PR+
3. ER-GATA3-FOXA1-XBP1 signaling

### Differences between A and B

1. Levels of Luminal genes including ER and GATA3
2. proliferation rate
3. histological grade
4. p53 mutations
5. DNA amplifications
6. Survival Differences

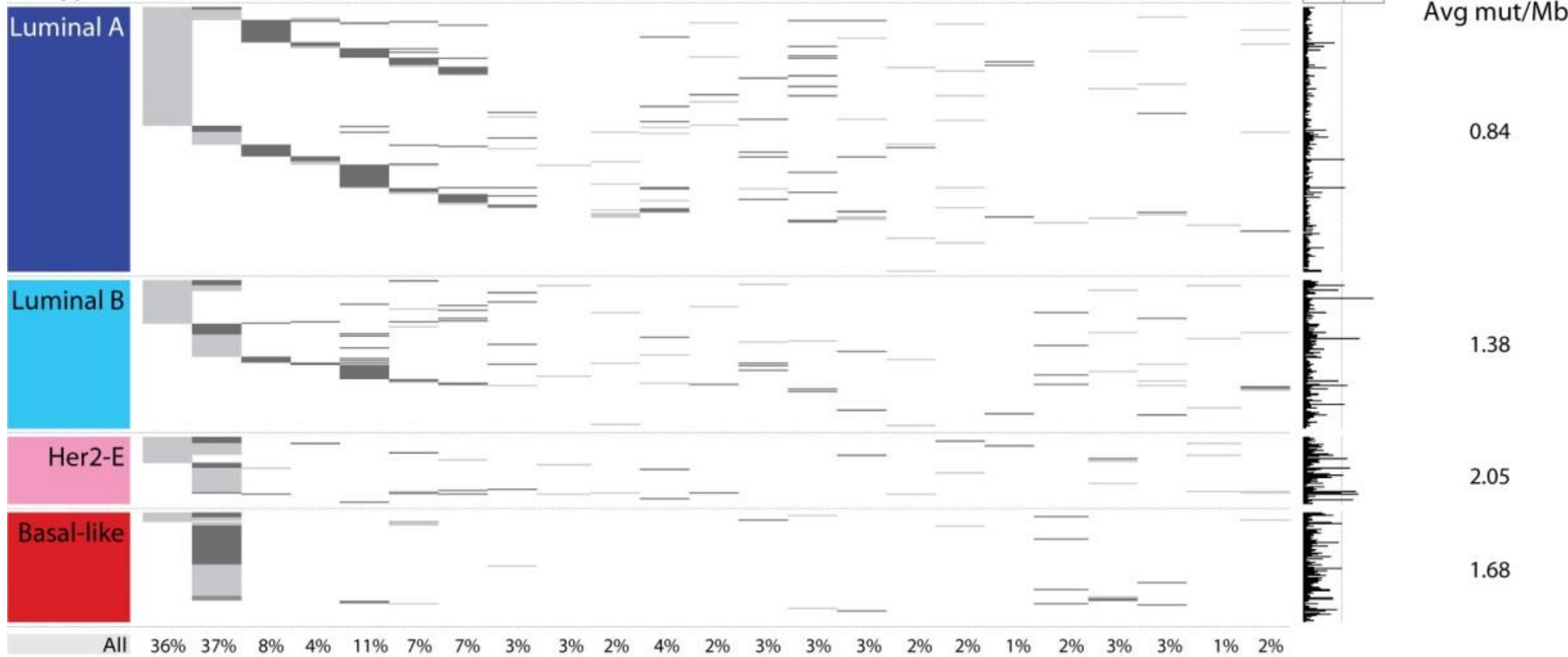


Predicted Somatic Non-silent Mutations

■ Truncation Mutation ■ Missense Mutation

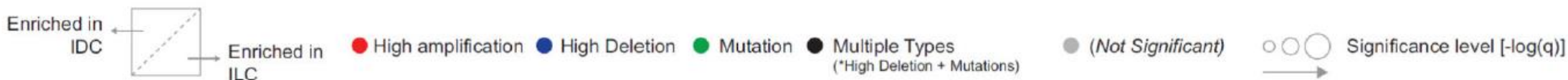
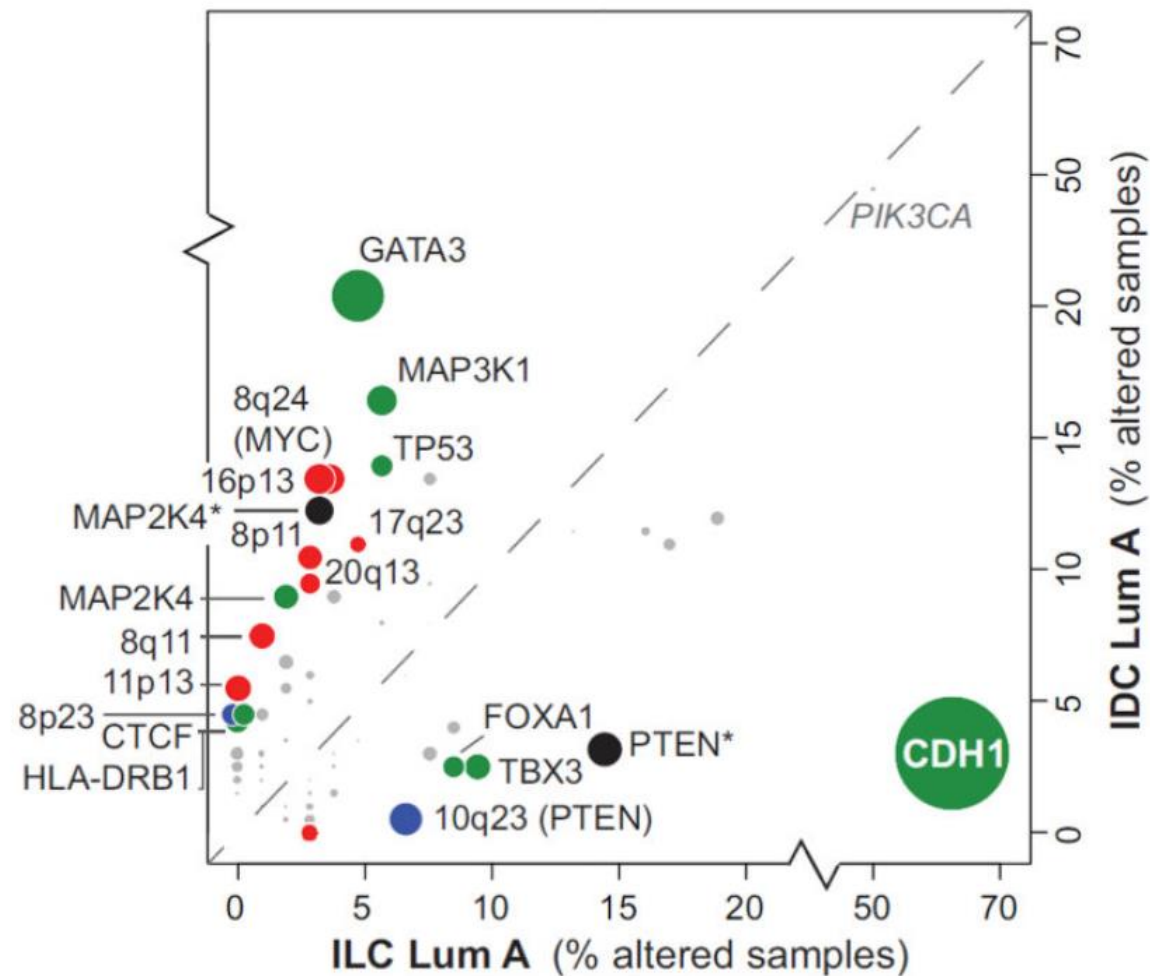
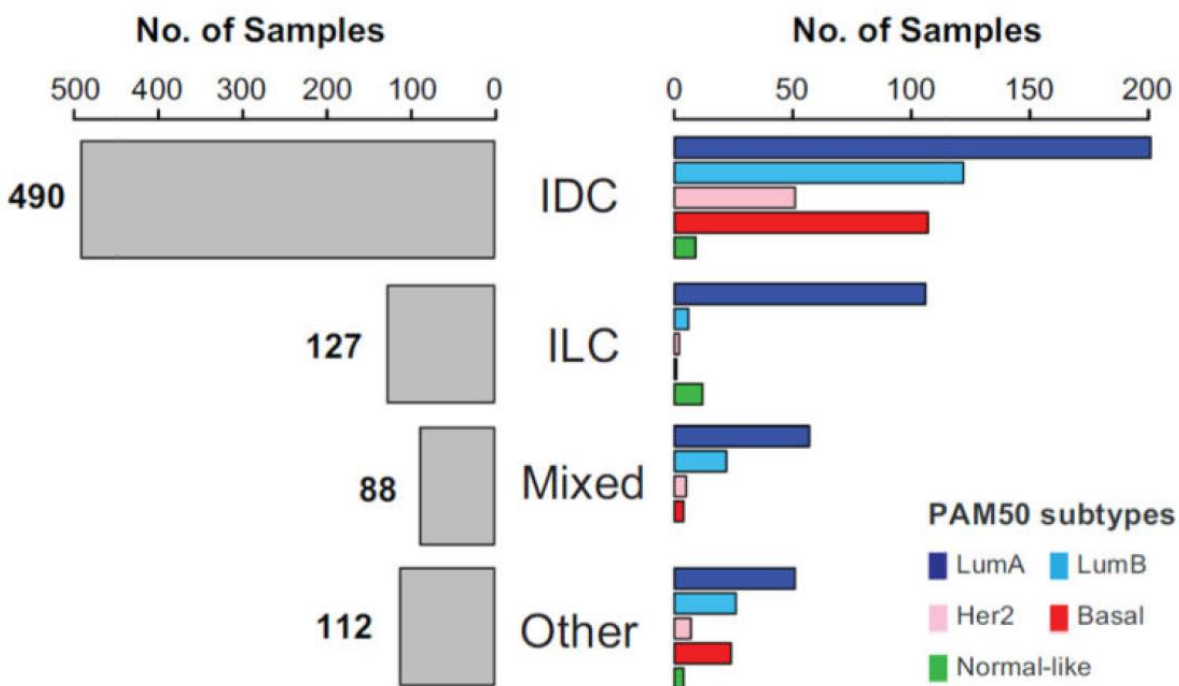
Mutations per Mb

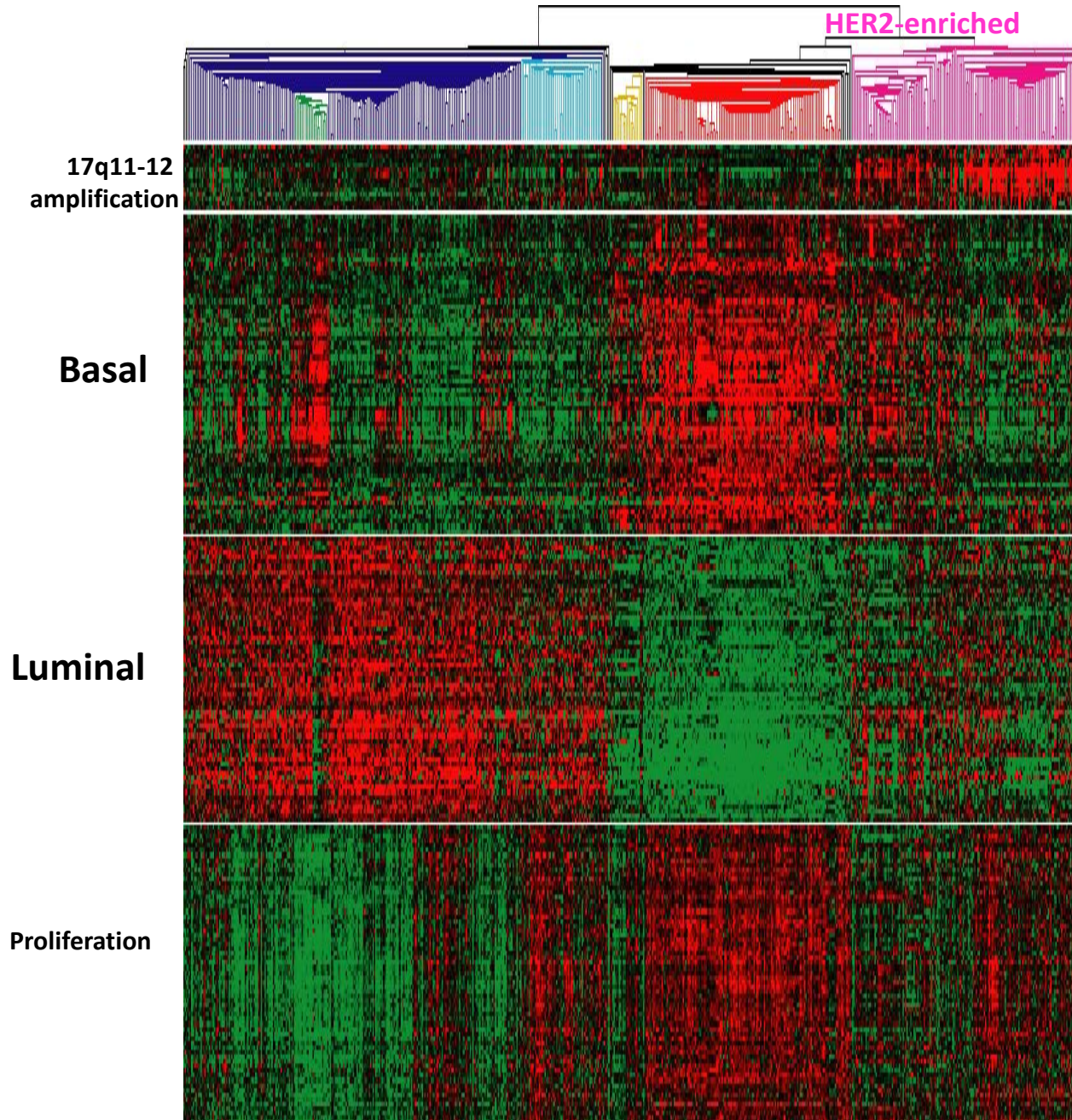
Subtype



# Comprehensive Molecular Portraits of Invasive Lobular Breast Cancer.

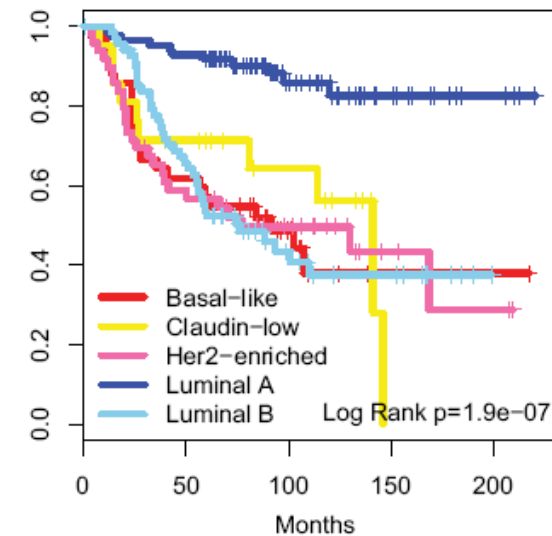
Ciriello et al. TCGA Cell 2015 (PMID: 26451490)



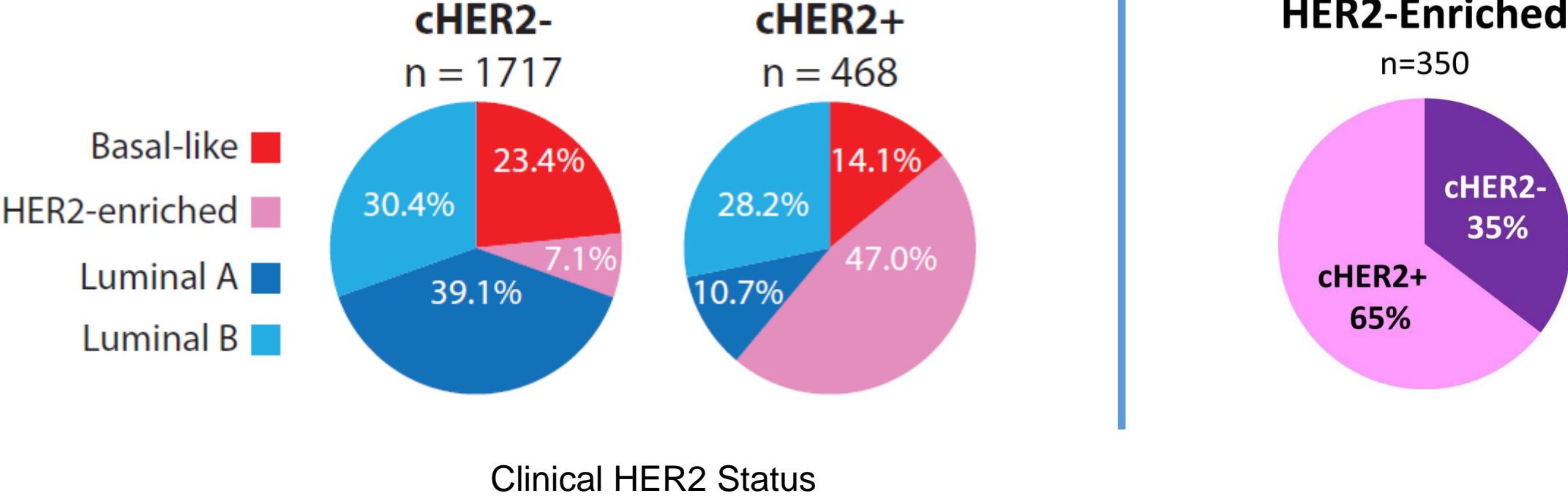


## HER2-enriched subtype

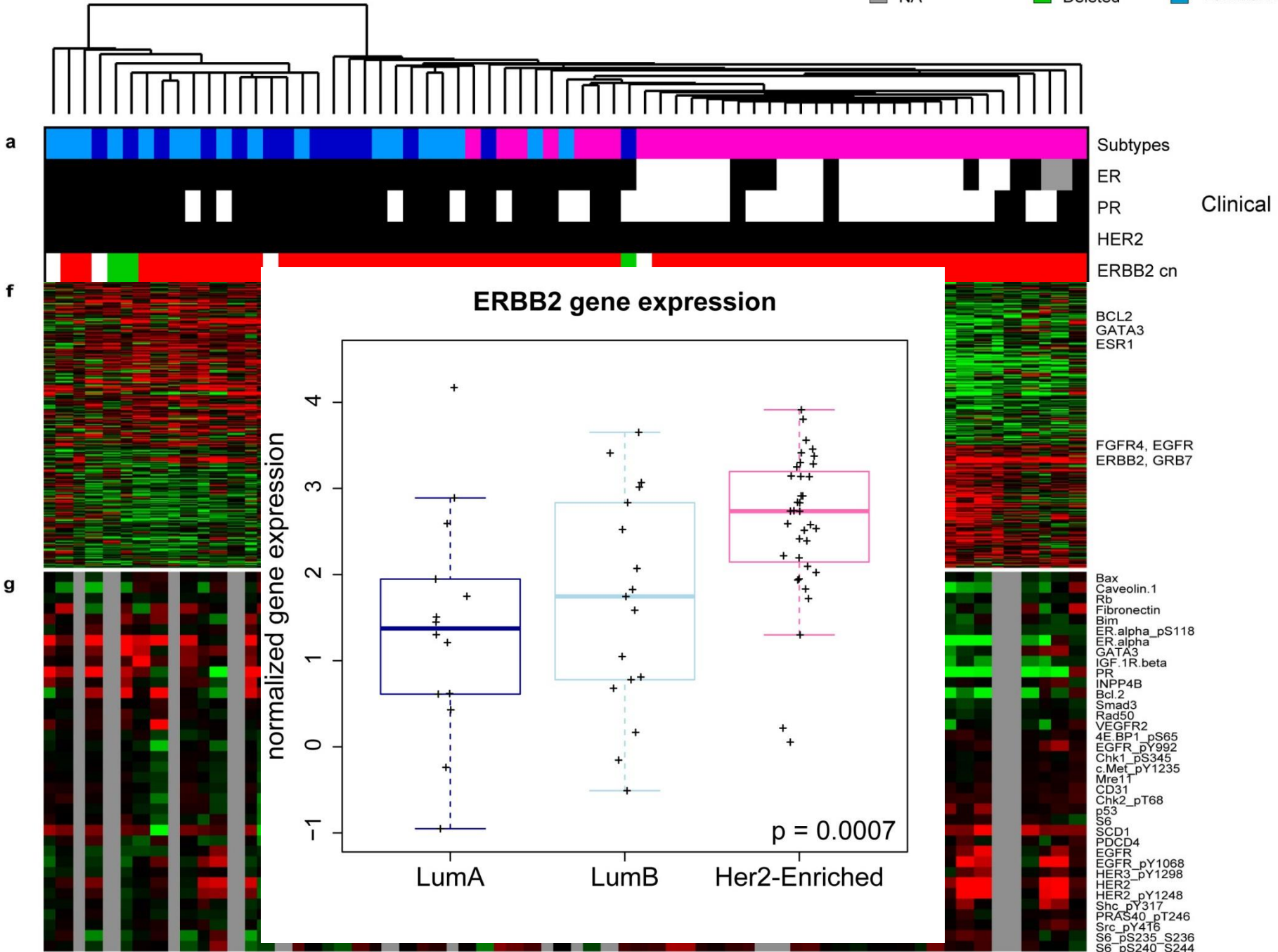
1. 10-15% of tumors
2. at least 2 types of clinically defined HER2+ tumors that are the HER2-enriched and some Luminal B
3. Within HER2-enriched, not all are clinically HER2+



# HER2-positive Breast Cancer

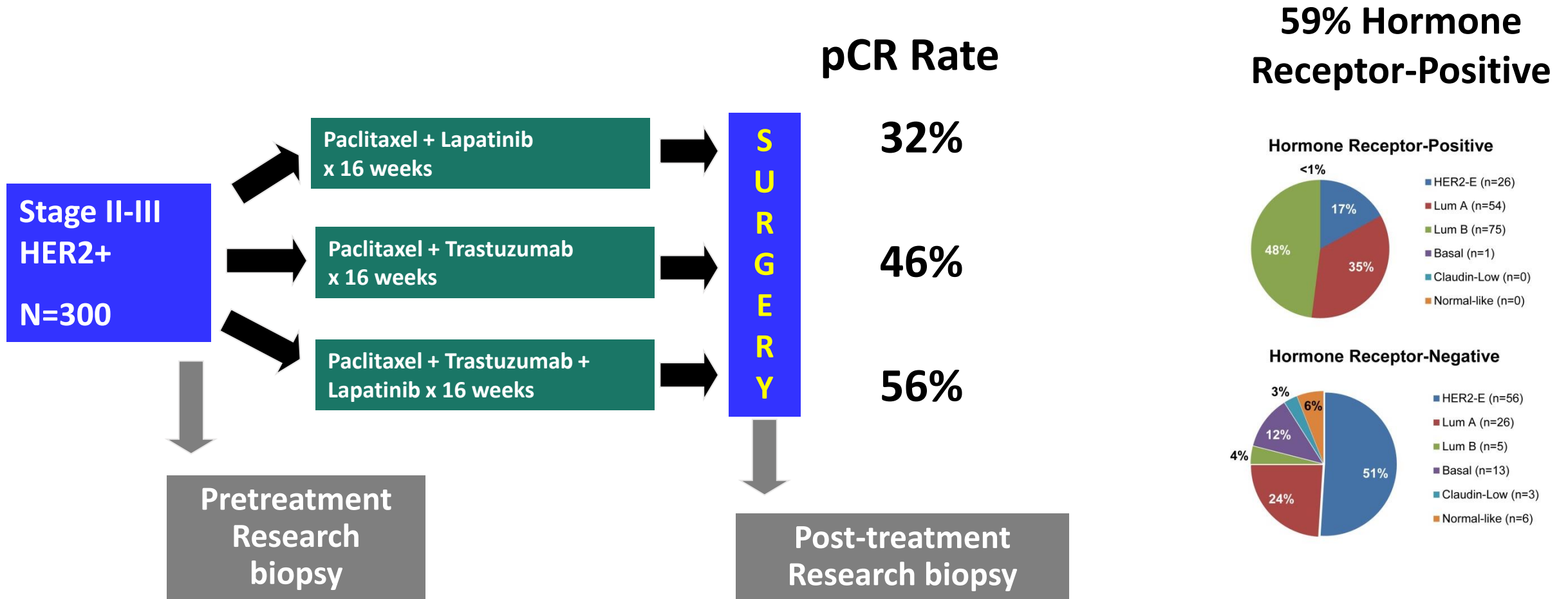




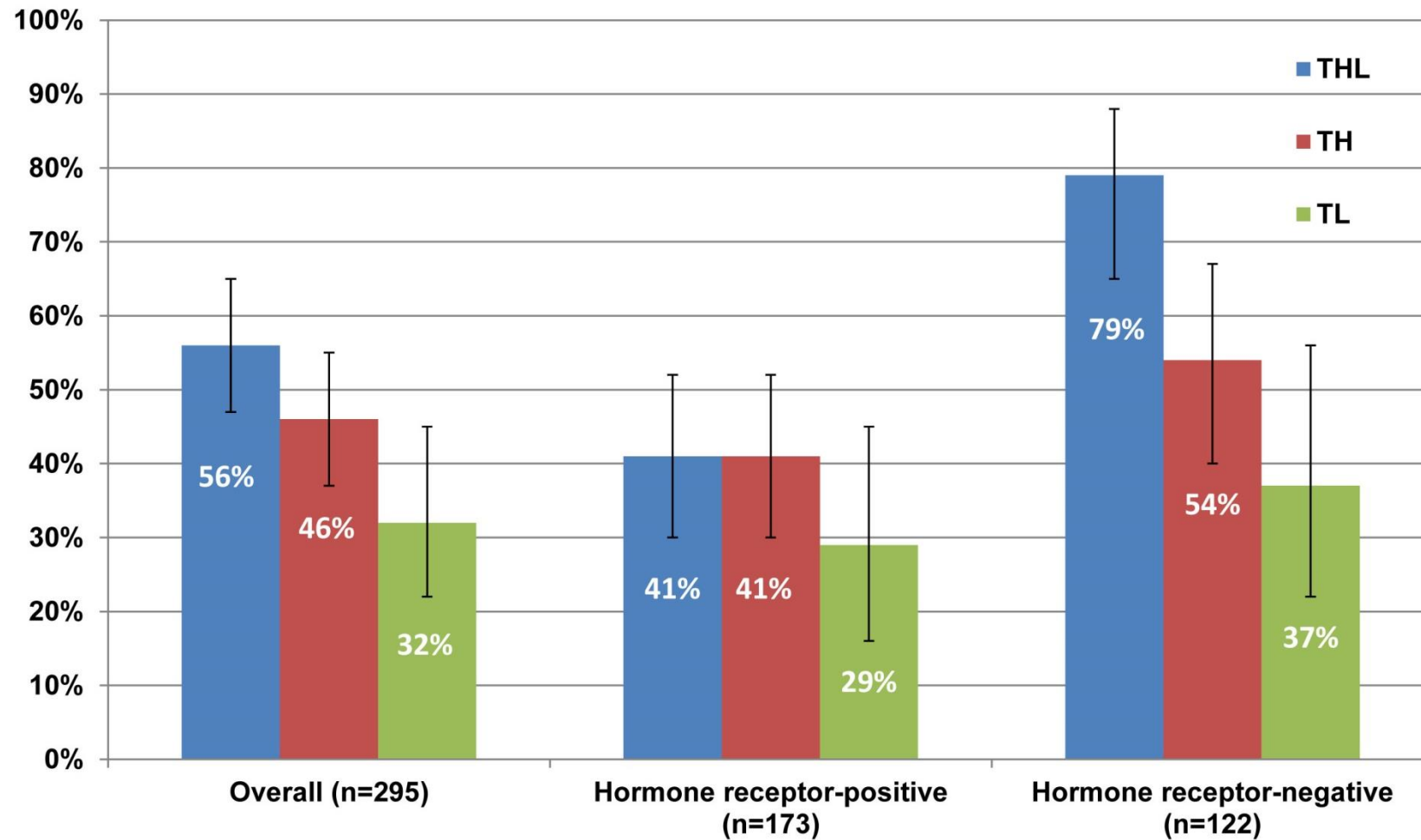


**Comprehensive  
Molecular  
Portraits of  
Human Breast  
Tumors.  
TCGA Network et  
al., Nature, 2012.  
(PMID:2300089)**

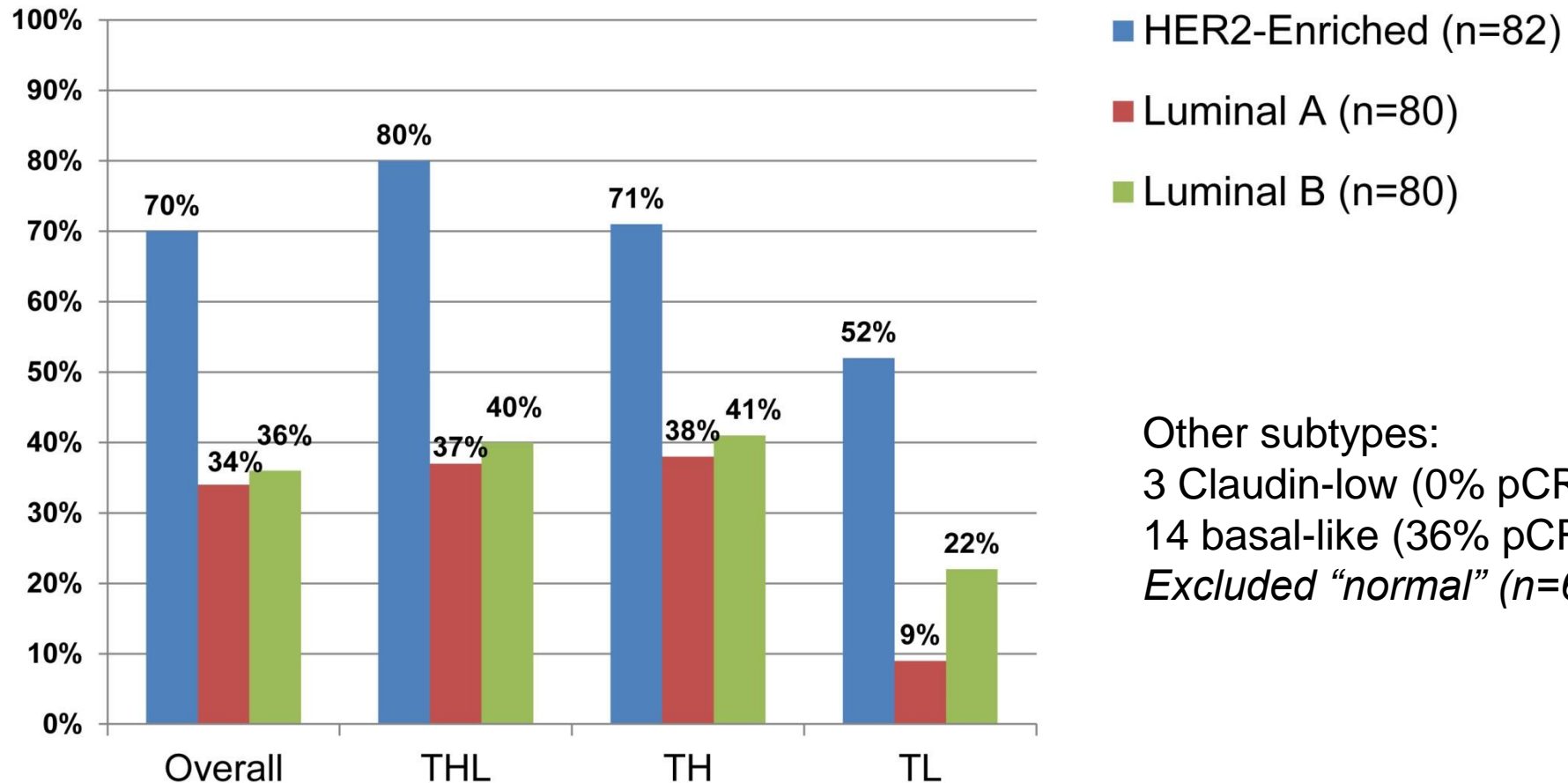
Molecular Heterogeneity and Response to Neoadjuvant HER2 Targeting in CALGB 40601, a Randomized Phase III Trial of Paclitaxel Plus Trastuzumab With or Without Lapatinib.  
 Carey et al., JCO 2015 (PMID:26527775)



# pCR Rate in CALGB by Clinical Classification

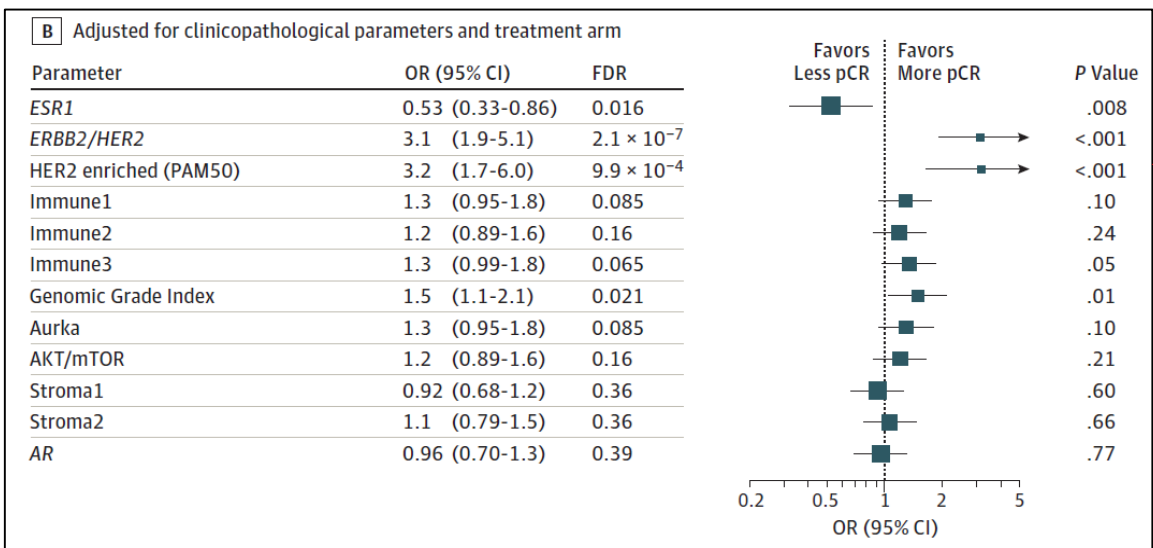


# pCR Rate in CALGB by Subtype



# NeoALTTO

Paclitaxel + (Lapatinib, trastuzumab, or Lapatinib/Trastuzumab)



Fumagalli et al., JAMA Oncology 2017 (PMID:27684533)

# PAMELA

Lapatinib + Trastuzumab, No Chemo

	n (%)	Univariate analysis		Multivariate analysis	
		OR (95% CI)	p value	OR (95% CI)	p value
Age (continuous variable)	NA	1 (0.97-1.02)	0.86	..	..
Tumour size (continuous variable)	NA	1 (0.96-1.01)	0.24	..	..
<b>Tumour size</b>					
T1	60 (35%)	1	..	..	..
T2	79 (33%)	1.19 (0.58-2.46)	0.63	..	..
T3	12 (17%)	0.48 (0.10-2.40)	0.37	..	..
<b>Menopausal status</b>					
Premenopausal	61 (33%)	1	..	..	..
Postmenopausal	90 (29%)	0.80 (0.40-1.62)	0.53	..	..
<b>Nodal status</b>					
0	98 (35%)	1	..	..	..
1-2	53 (23%)	0.55 (0.26-1.19)	0.13	..	..
<b>Histological grade</b>					
1	23 (74%)	1	..	1	..
2	27 (33%)	0.18 (0.05-0.60)	0.0056	0.24 (0.06-0.94)	0.041
3	101 (20%)	0.09 (0.03-0.25)	<0.0001	0.10 (0.03-0.32)	<0.0001
<b>Histological type</b>					
Others	21 (10%)	1	..	1	..
Ductal	130 (34%)	4.86 (1.08-21.82)	0.039	3.54 (0.66-18.86)	0.14
<b>Hormone receptor status</b>					
Positive	77 (18%)	1	..	1	..
Negative	74 (43%)	3.42 (1.64-7.2)	0.0011	2.27 (0.93-5.55)	0.26
<b>Intrinsic molecular subtype</b>					
Non-HER2-enriched	50 (10%)	1	..	1	..
HER2-enriched	101 (41%)	6.15 (2.25-16.81)	0.0004	4.04 (1.30-12.50)	0.016

OR=odds ratio. NA=not applicable.

**Table 3:** Logistic regression analyses of pathological complete response

Llombart-Cussac et al., Lancet Oncology, 2017 (PMID: 28238593)

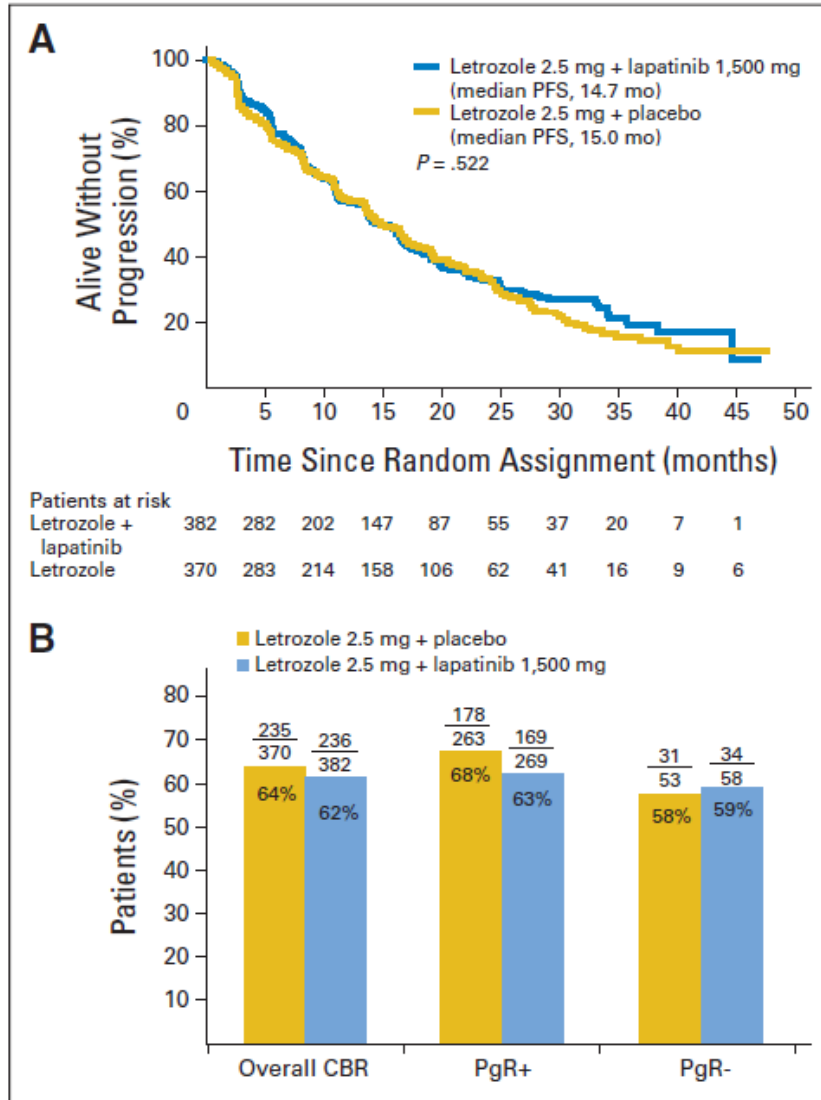
## Lapatinib Combined With Letrozole Versus Letrozole and Placebo As First-Line Therapy for Postmenopausal Hormone Receptor–Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer

*Stephen Johnston, John Pippin Jr, Xavier Pivot, Mikhail Lichinitser, Saeed Sadeghi, Veronique Dieras, Henry Leonidas Gomez, Gilles Romieu, Alexey Manikhas, M. John Kennedy, Michael F. Press, Julie Maltzman, Allison Florance, Lisa O'Rourke, Cristina Oliva, Steven Stein, and Mark Pegram*



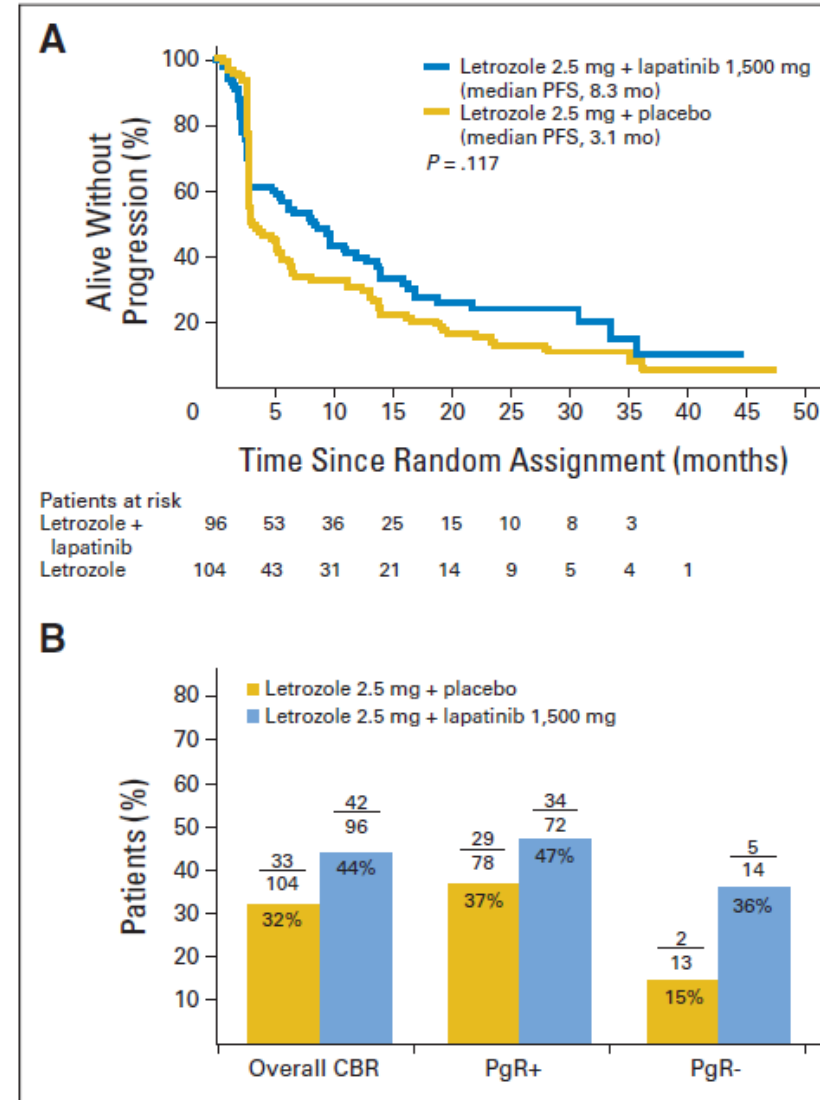
Phase III clinical trial  
1,286 patients with HR+ metastatic disease

# HR+/HER2-negative



No benefit of lapatinib

# HR+/HER2-positive

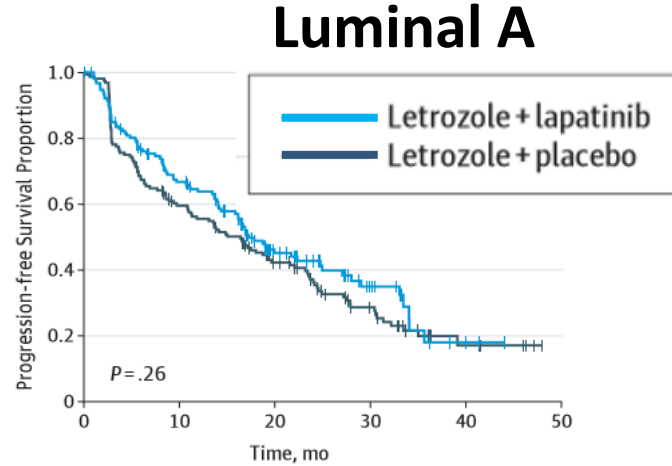


Survival benefit of lapatinib

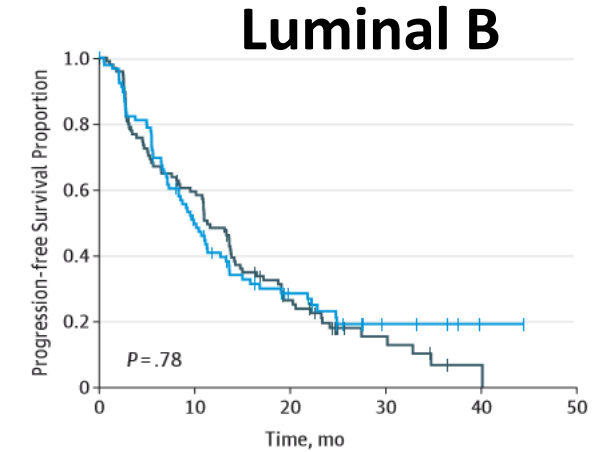
# Prognostic Value of Intrinsic Subtypes in Hormone Receptor–Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer Treated With Letrozole With or Without Lapatinib

Prat et al., JAMA Oncology 2016 (PMID:27281556)

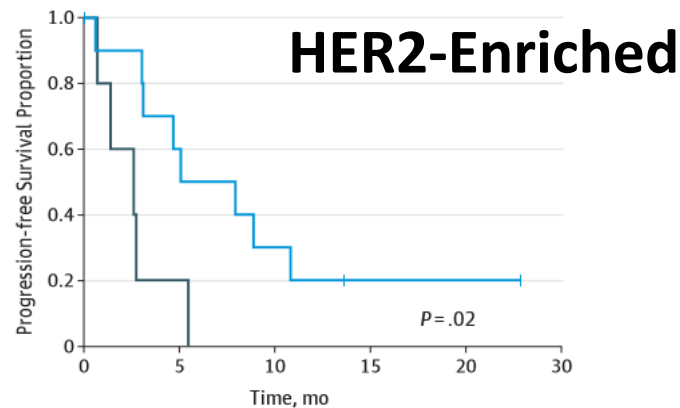
**HR+/ HER2-negative**



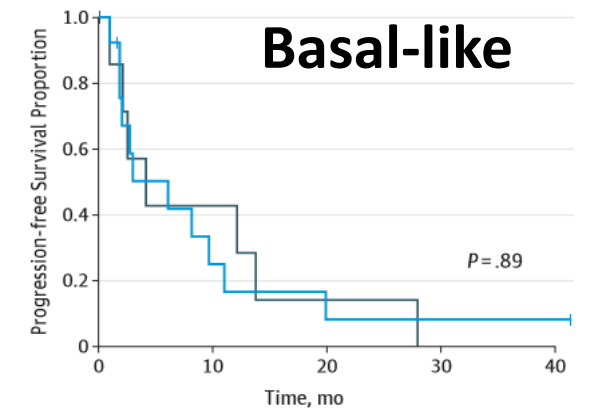
No. at risk	0	10	20	30	40	50
Letrozole + lapatinib	166	93	44	17	2	
Letrozole + placebo	169	89	54	26	6	



No. at risk	0	10	20	30	40	50
Letrozole + lapatinib	97	41	17	5	1	
Letrozole + placebo	99	54	21	6	1	



No. at risk	0	5	10	15	20	30
Letrozole + lapatinib	11	6	3	1	1	
Letrozole + placebo	5	1				



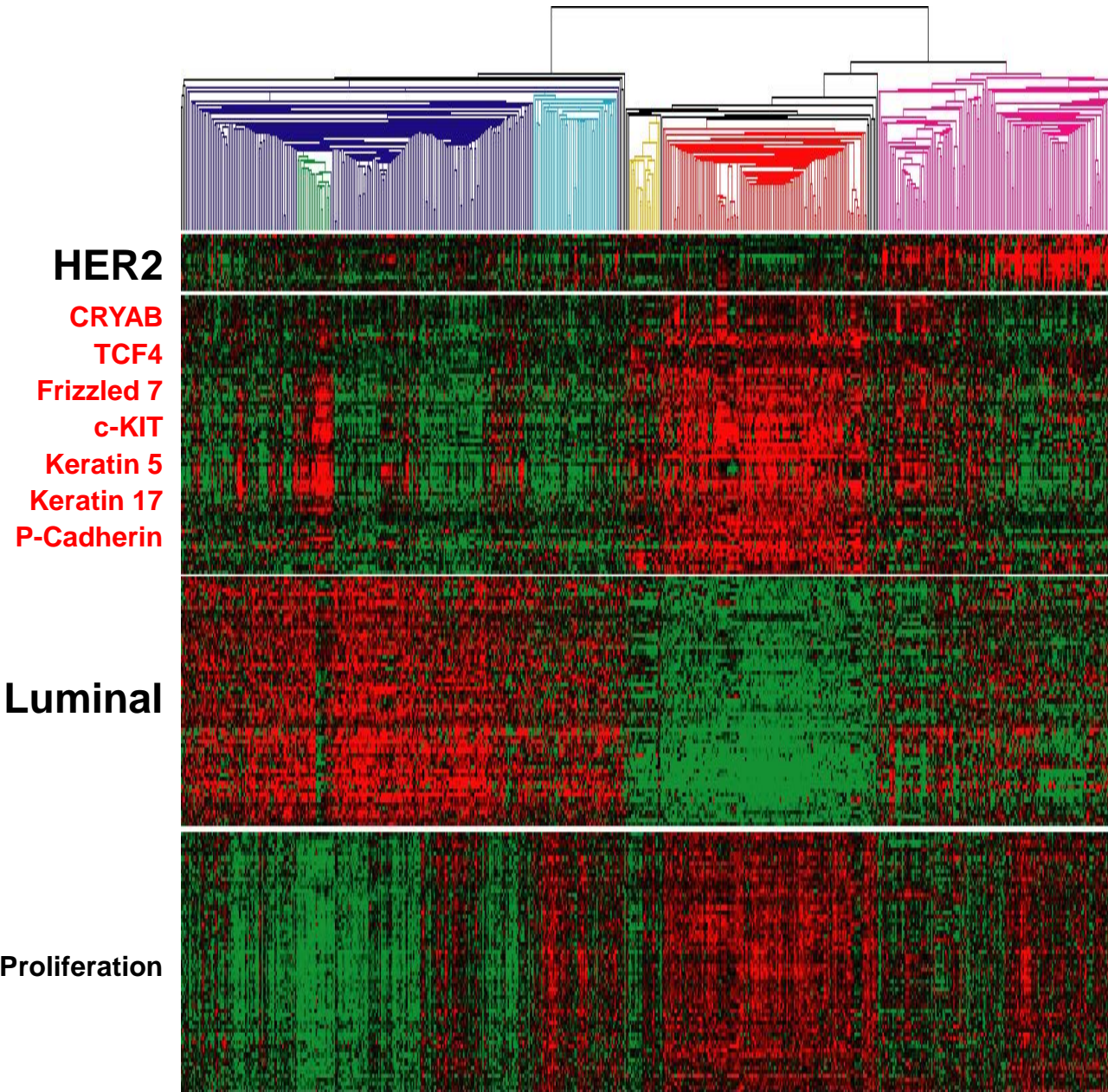
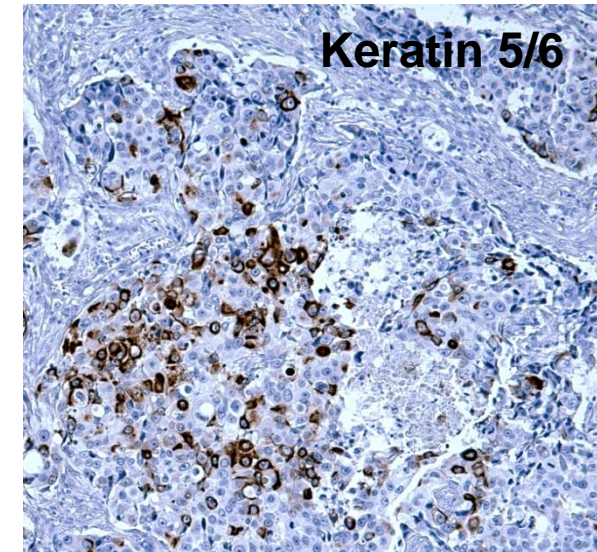
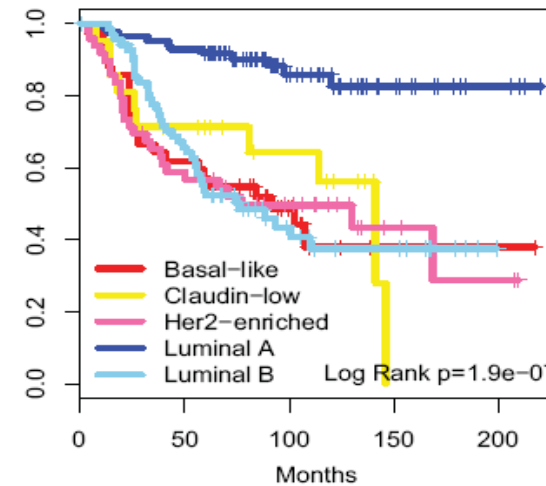
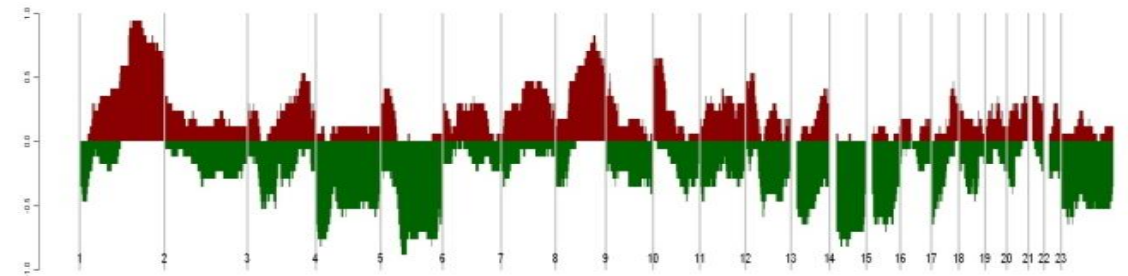
No. at risk	0	10	20	30	40
Letrozole + lapatinib	13	3	1	1	
Letrozole + placebo	8	3	1		

**Clinically HER2-negative, HER2-Enriched subtype benefit from lapatinib**

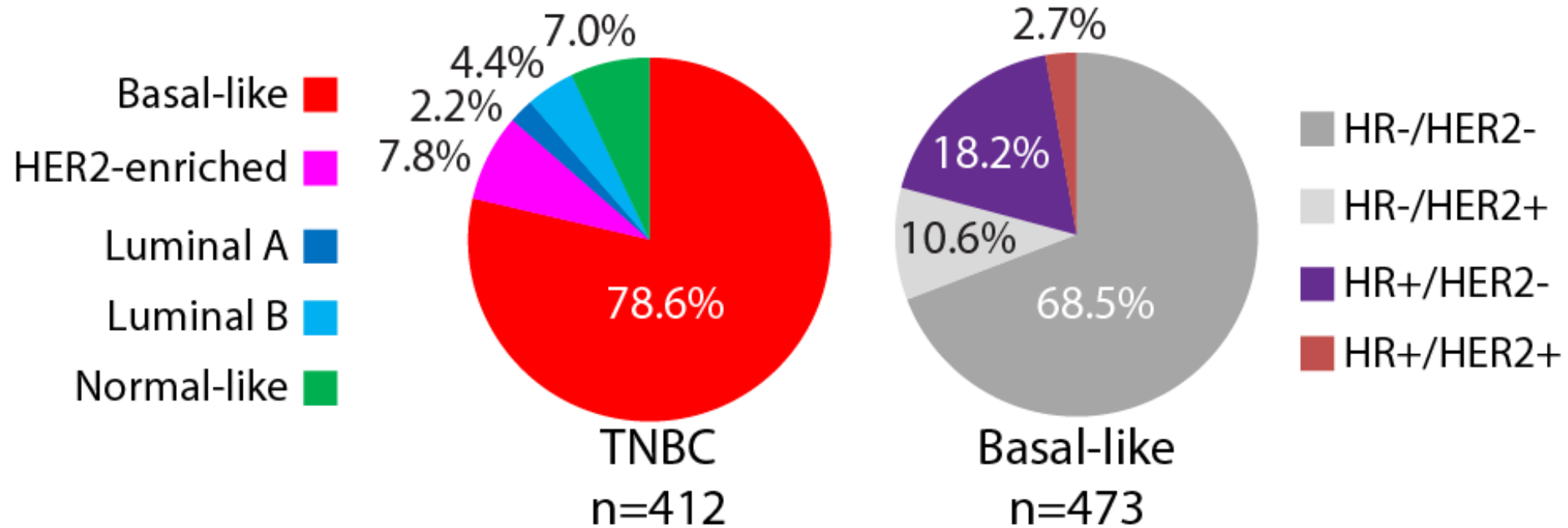


# Basal-like subtype

1. 10-25% of tumors
2. distinct cell type of origin
3. >80% TP53 mutant
4. BRCA1 associated
5. highly proliferative (RB null)
6. Typically ER-, PR-, and HER2-not amplified (Triple-negative), so treatment options are limited - mostly chemotherapy only

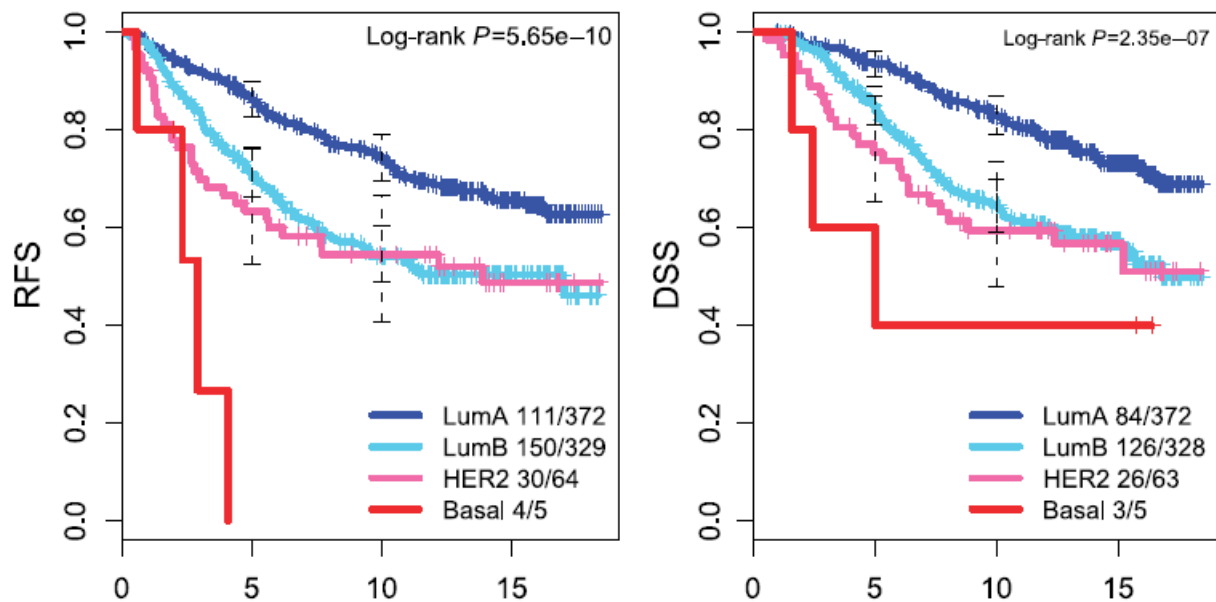


# Basal-like and Triple Negative Classifications



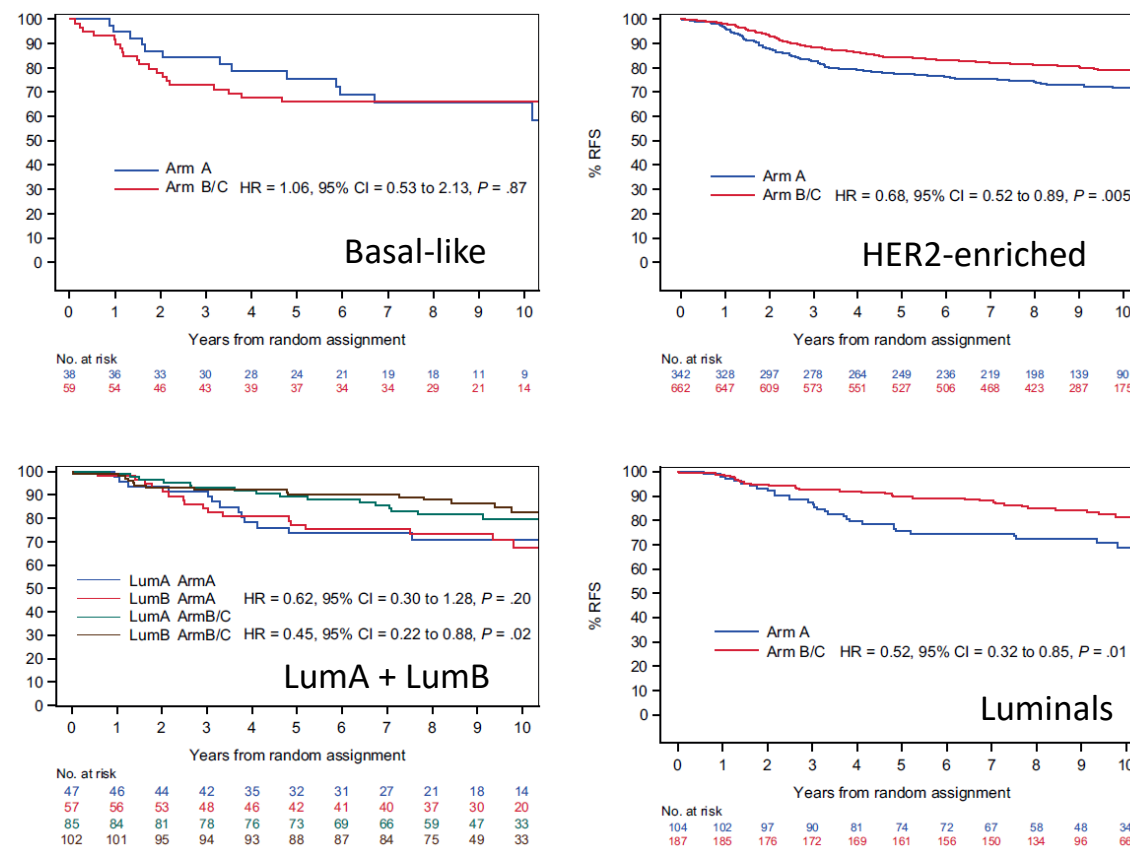
# Potential Clinical Utility of Knowing a Tumor is Basal-like Subtype

ER+ patients receiving endocrine therapy only



A comparison of PAM50 intrinsic subtyping with immunohistochemistry and clinical prognostic factors in tamoxifen-treated estrogen receptor positive breast cancer  
Nielsen et al., *Clinical Cancer Research*, 2010 (PMID:20837693)

HER2+ patients receiving adjuvant ACT (Arm A) or ACT + trastuzumab (Arms B/C)



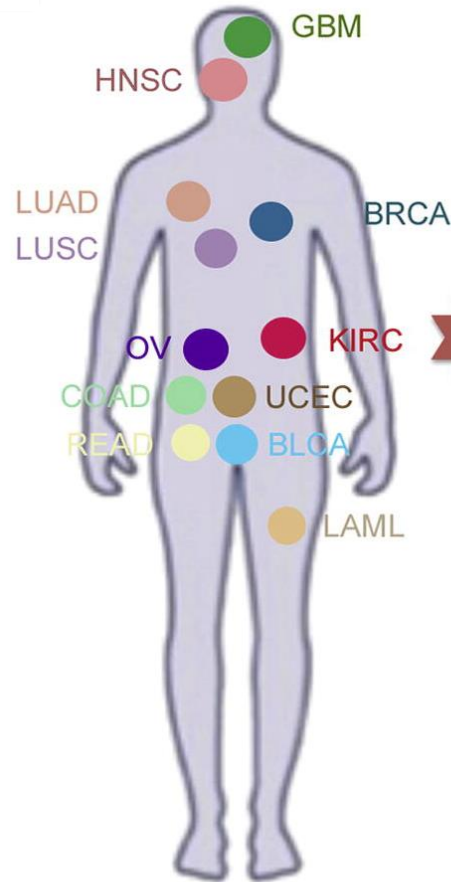
Intrinsic Subtype and Therapeutic Response Among HER2-Positive Breast Tumors from the NCCTG (Alliance) N9831 Trial, Perez et al., *JNCI*, 2016 (PMID:27794124)

# Multiplatform Analysis of 12 Cancer Types Reveals Molecular Classification within and across Tissues of Origin

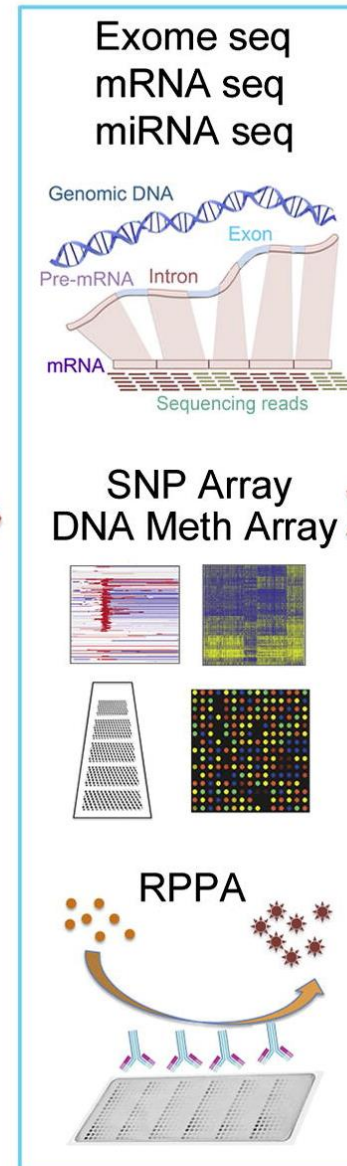
Katherine A. Hoadley,<sup>1,20</sup> Christina Yau,<sup>2,20</sup> Denise M. Wolf,<sup>3,20</sup> Andrew D. Cherniack,<sup>4,20</sup> David Tamborero,<sup>5</sup> Sam Ng,<sup>6</sup> Max D.M. Leiserson,<sup>7</sup> Beifang Niu,<sup>8</sup> Michael D. McLellan,<sup>8</sup> Vladislav Uzunangelov,<sup>5</sup> Jiashan Zhang,<sup>9</sup> Cyriac Kandoth,<sup>8</sup> Rehan Akbani,<sup>10</sup> Hui Shen,<sup>11,22</sup> Larsson Omberg,<sup>12</sup> Andy Chu,<sup>13</sup> Adam A. Margolin,<sup>12,21</sup> Laura J. van't Veer,<sup>3</sup> Nuria Lopez-Bigas,<sup>5,14</sup> Peter W. Laird,<sup>11,22</sup> Benjamin J. Raphael,<sup>7</sup> Li Ding,<sup>8</sup> A. Gordon Robertson,<sup>13</sup> Lauren A. Byers,<sup>10</sup> Gordon B. Mills,<sup>10</sup> John N. Weinstein,<sup>10</sup> Carter Van Waes,<sup>18</sup> Zhong Chen,<sup>19</sup> Eric A. Collisson,<sup>15</sup> The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network, Christopher C. Benz,<sup>2,\*</sup> Charles M. Perou,<sup>1,16,17,\*</sup> and Joshua M. Stuart<sup>6,\*</sup>

Cell 158, 929–944, August 14, 2014 ©2014 Elsevier Inc.

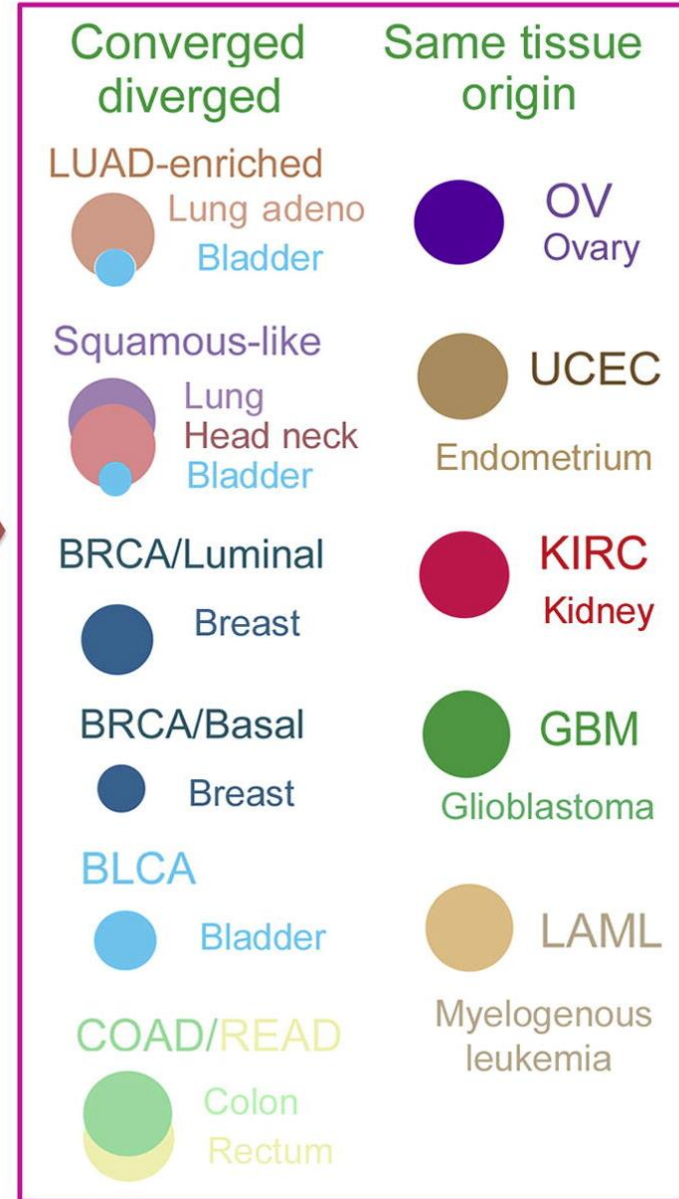
## Pan-TCGA

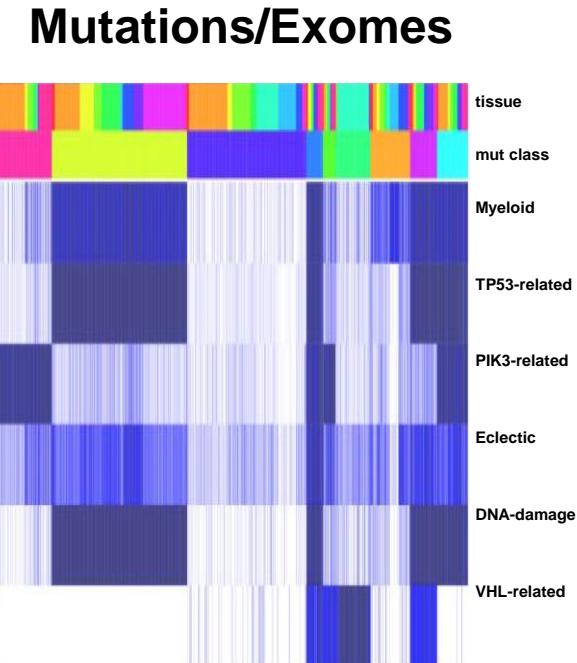
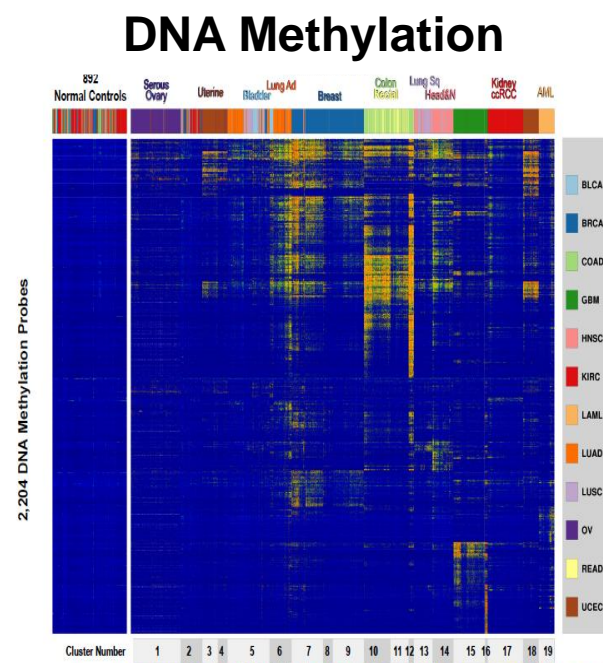
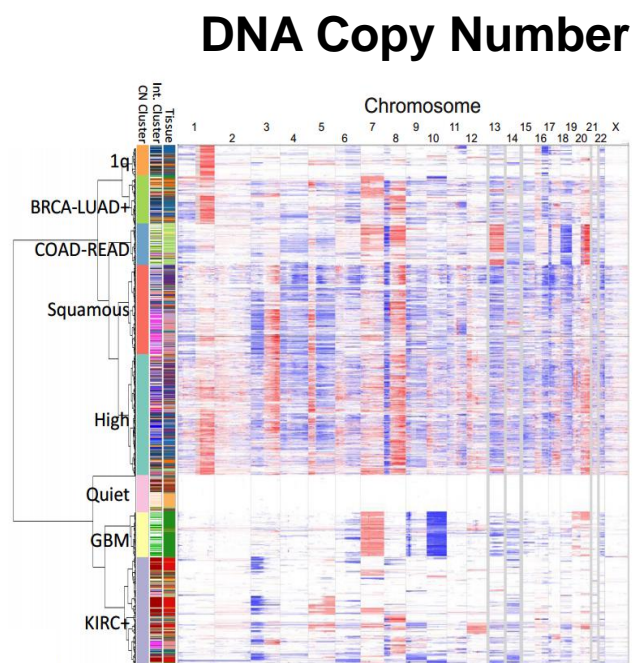
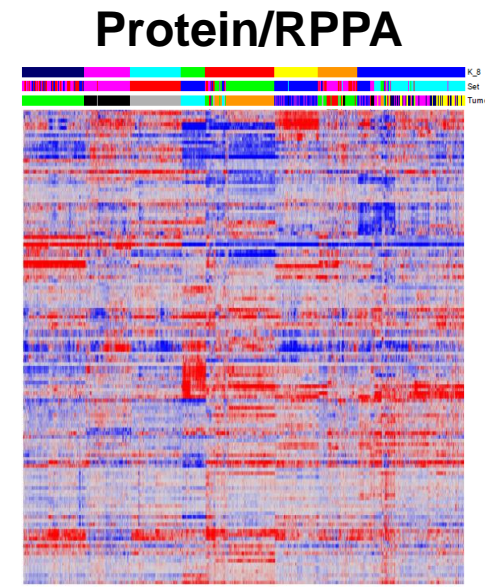
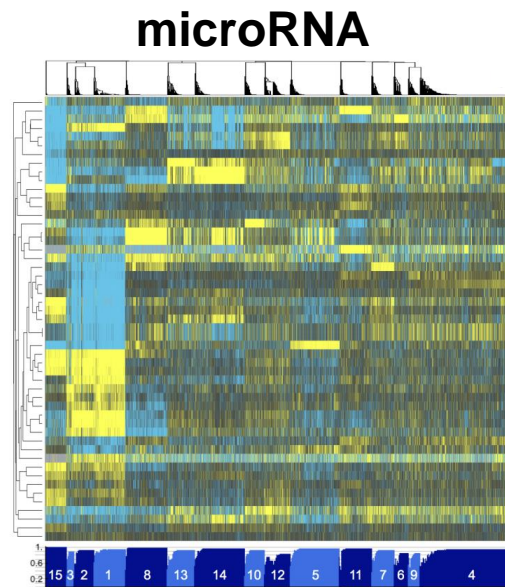
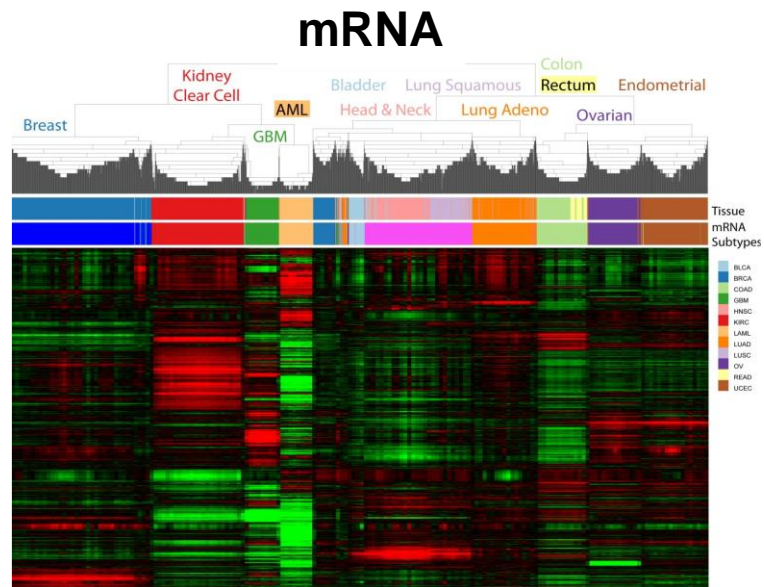


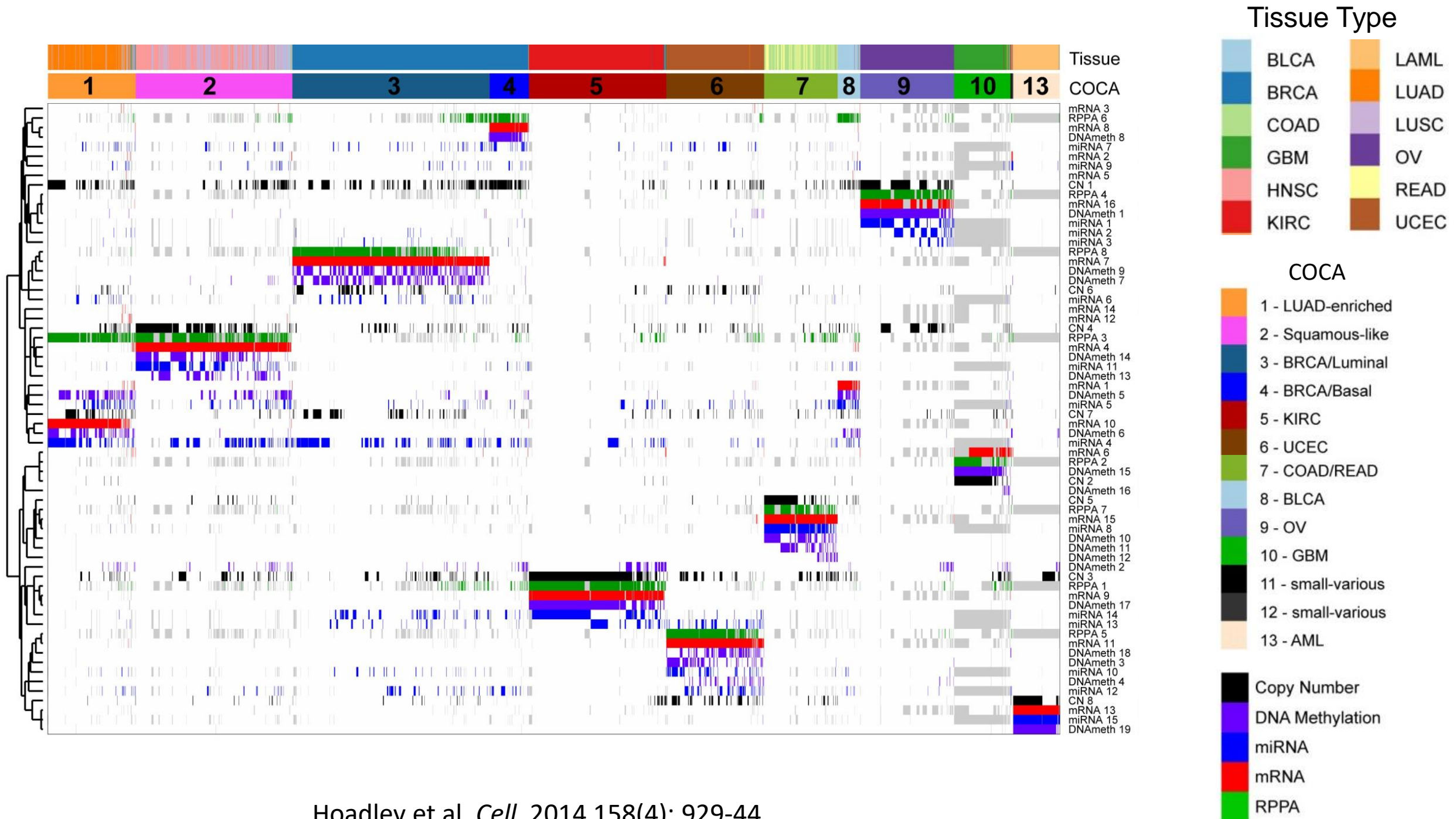
## Platforms



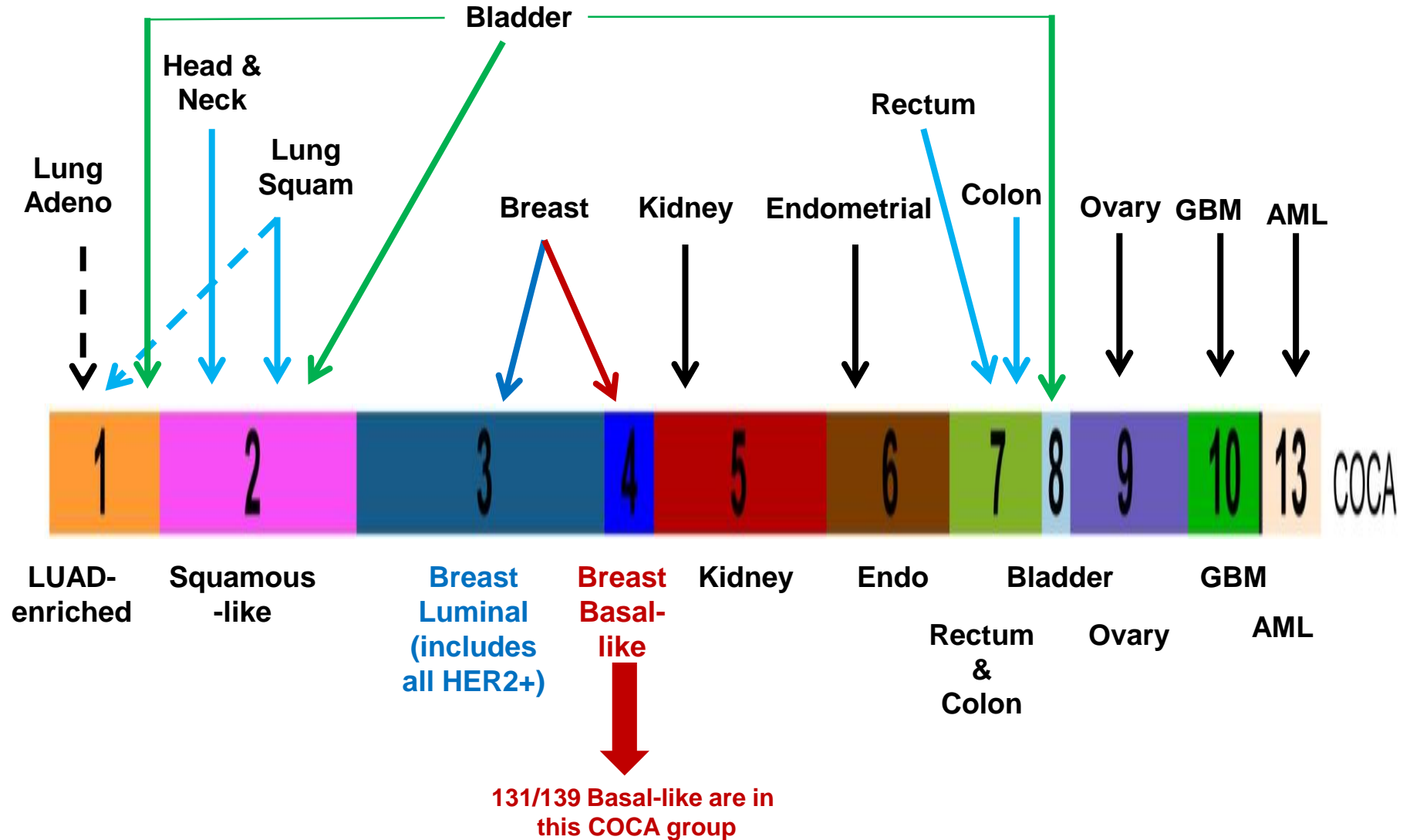
## Reclassification of cancer types







# 12 Tissue of Origin Sites Translate into 11 COCA Subtypes



# TCGA Cluster Analysis of 10,000 tumors x 5000 genes

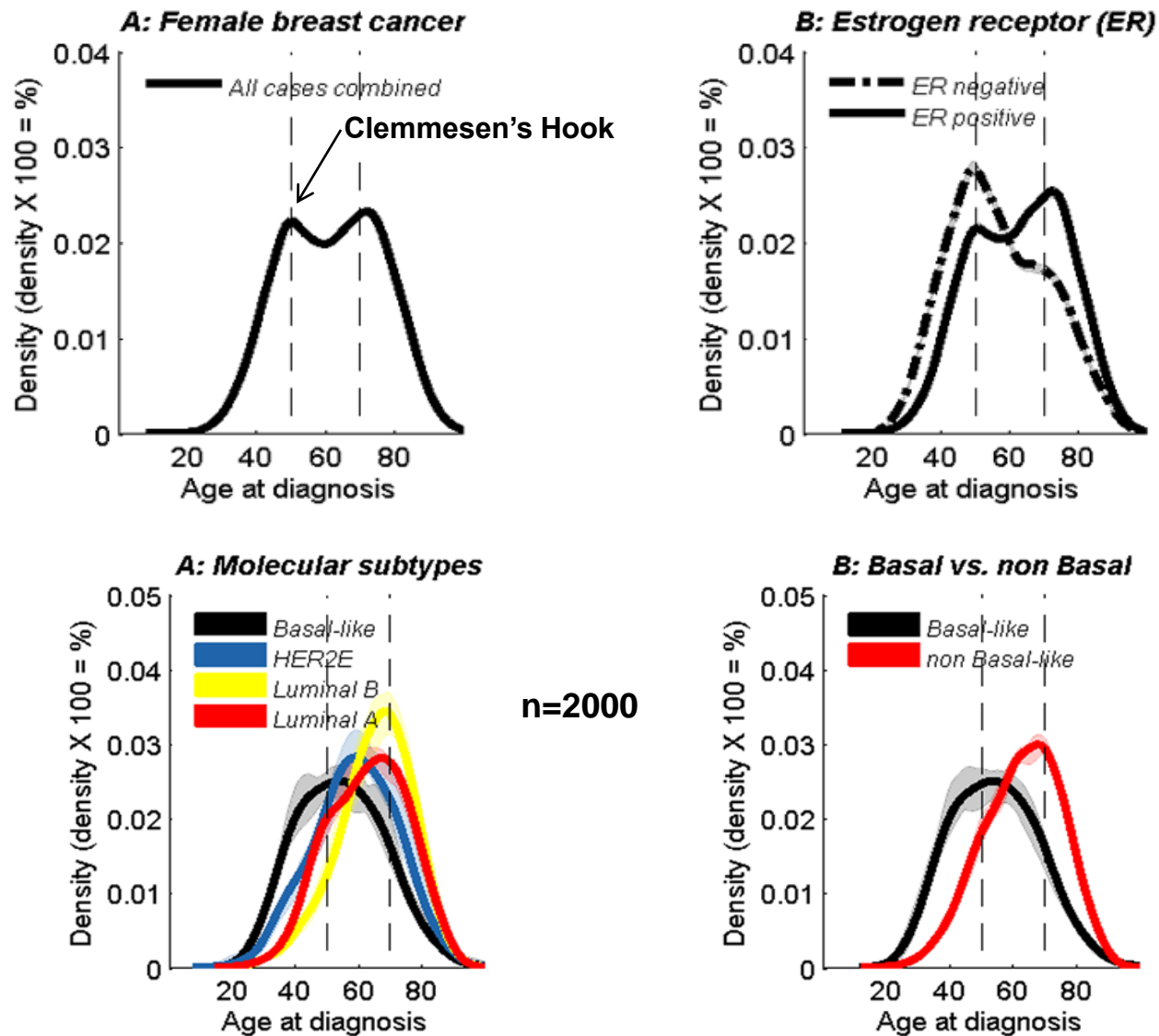
33 tumor types studied including breast (n=1100), bladder, colon, rectum, head & neck, gastric, lung squamous & adenocarcinoma, melanoma, renal clear cell & chromophobe, ovarian, glioblastoma, prostate, endometrial, thyroid, pancreas, testicular and others



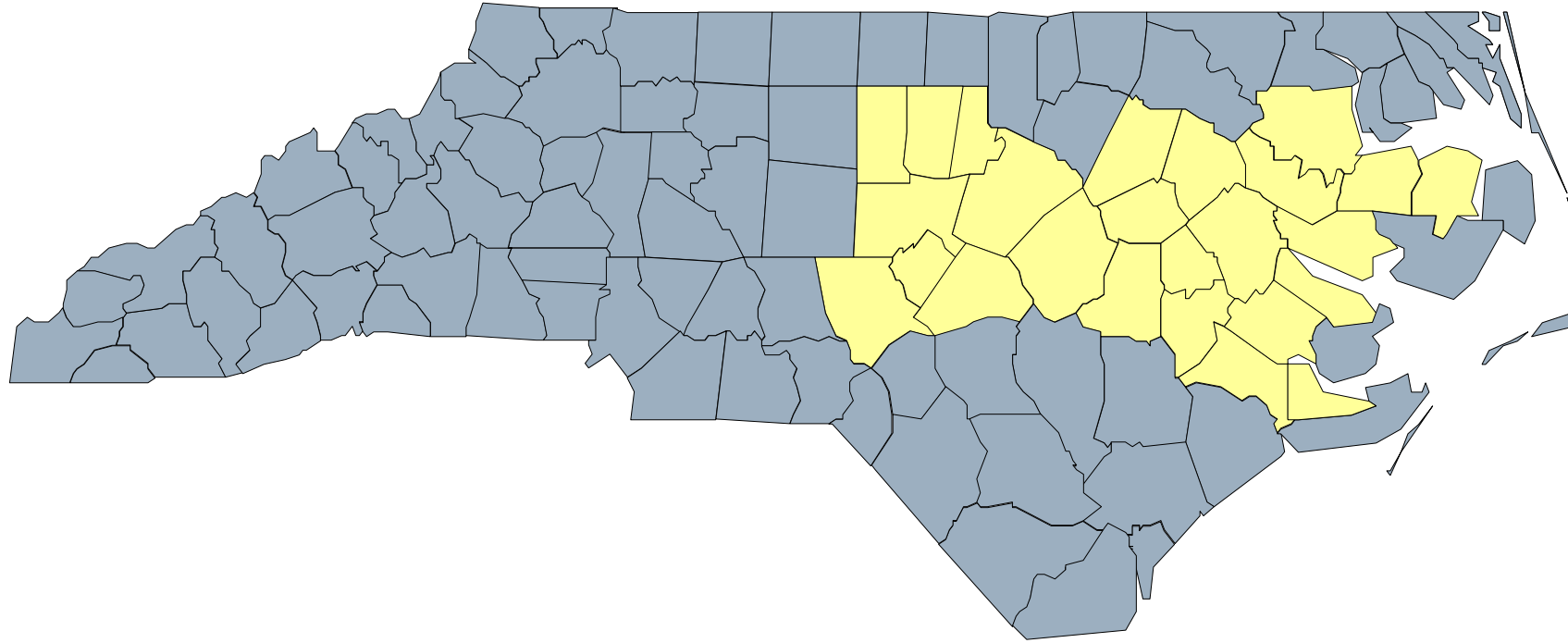


# HOW MANY ETIOLOGICAL SUBTYPES OF BREAST CANCER: TWO, THREE, OR MORE?

William F. Anderson, Philip S. Rosenberg, Aleix Prat, Charles M. Perou, and Mark E. Sherman. JNCI, (2014). PMID:25118203



# Carolina Breast Cancer Study (CBCS) Population-based case-control study



40% African-American / 60% Caucasian

50% under the age of 50 at diagnosis

1424 cases with FFPE materials/tumors

# Epidemiology of basal-like breast cancer

Millikan et al., Breast Cancer Research and Treatment, 2008  
(PMID:17578664)

	Luminal A N=796	Basal-like N=225
Menarche < 13	1.1 (0.9-1.3)	1.4 (1.1-1.9)
≥ 3 children	0.7 (0.5-0.9)	1.9 (1.1-3.3)
First birth < 26	0.7 (0.5-0.9)	1.9 (1.2-3.2)
Breastfeeding ≥ 4m	0.9 (0.7-1.1)	0.7 (0.4-0.9)
Parity ≥ 3 and No breastfeeding	0.7 (0.4-0.9)	1.9 (1.1-3.3)
Waist:Hip ≥ 0.84	1.5 (1.1-1.9)	2.3 (1.4-3.6)

Adjusted ORs (95% CI)  
N = 1424 cases and 2022 controls

# Epidemiology of basal-like breast cancer

Millikan et al., Breast Cancer Research and Treatment, 2008  
(PMID:17578664)

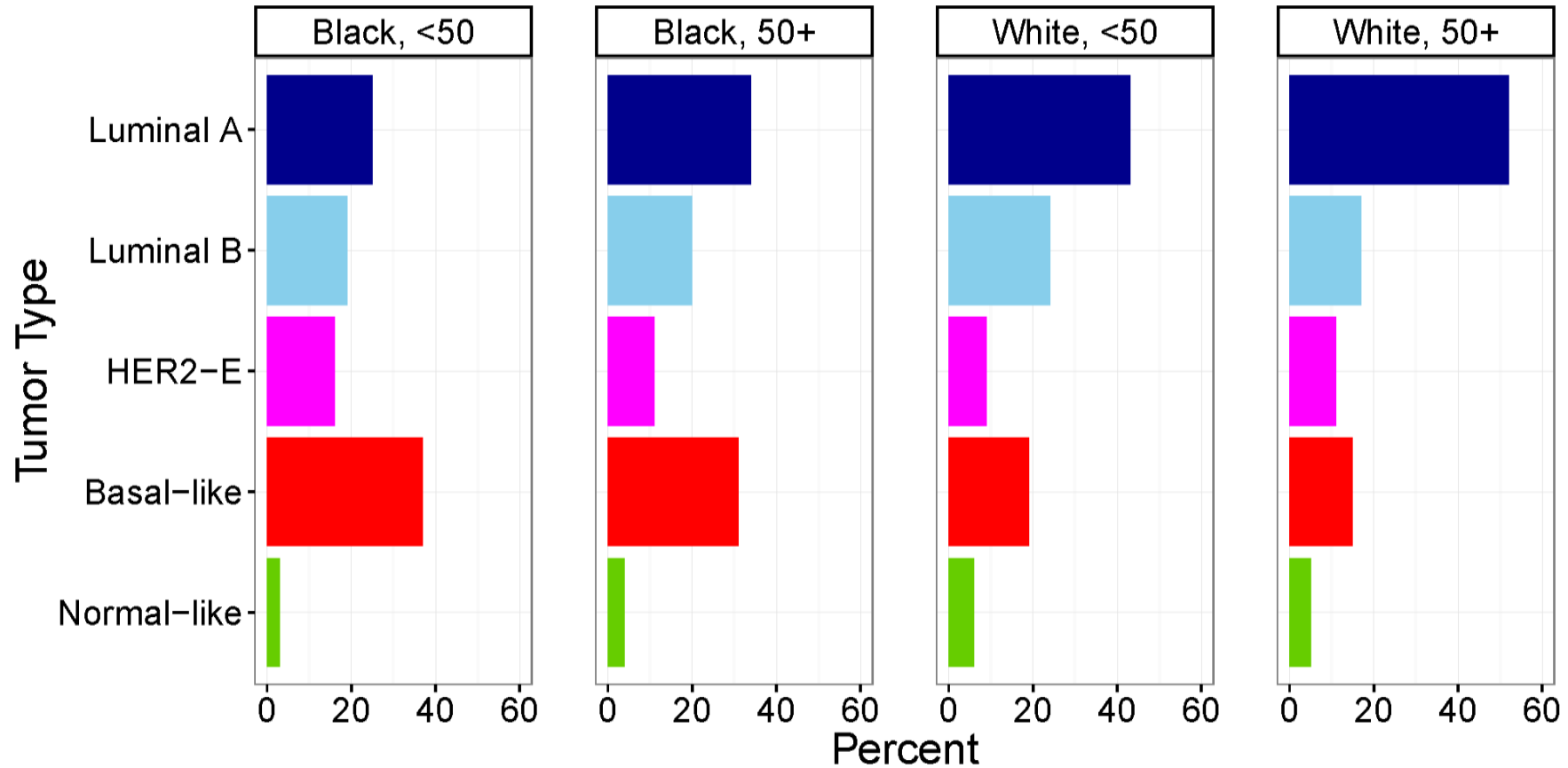
Distribution of breast cancer subtypes according to race and menopausal status using 1424 cases: invasive (1000) and *in-situ* (424) breast cancers

Breast cancer subtype	African-American Premenopausal N (%)	African-American Postmenopausal N (%)	Caucasian Premenopausal N (%)	Caucasian Postmenopausal N (%)
Luminal A N = 796	108 (41.4%)	179 (56.3%)	216 (57.4%)	293 (66.5%)
Basal-like N = 225	70 (27.2%)	52 (16.0%)	54 (14.5%)	49 (9.3%)
HER2+/ER- N = 116	22 (8.4%)	26 (7.7%)	24 (5.6%)	44 (6.0%)
Luminal B N = 137	19 (7.3%)	26 (8.7%)	46 (12.4%)	46 (10.7%)
Unclassified N = 150	41 (15.7%)	38 (11.3%)	38 (10.1%)	33 (7.5%)
Total: 1424 P < 0.0001	260 (100%)	321 (100%)	378 (100%)	465 (100%)

## Race and Age Differences in PAM50 Biomarker status in the Carolina Breast Cancer Study (PD8-01), SABCS 2016



Melissa Troester,  
University of  
North Carolina,

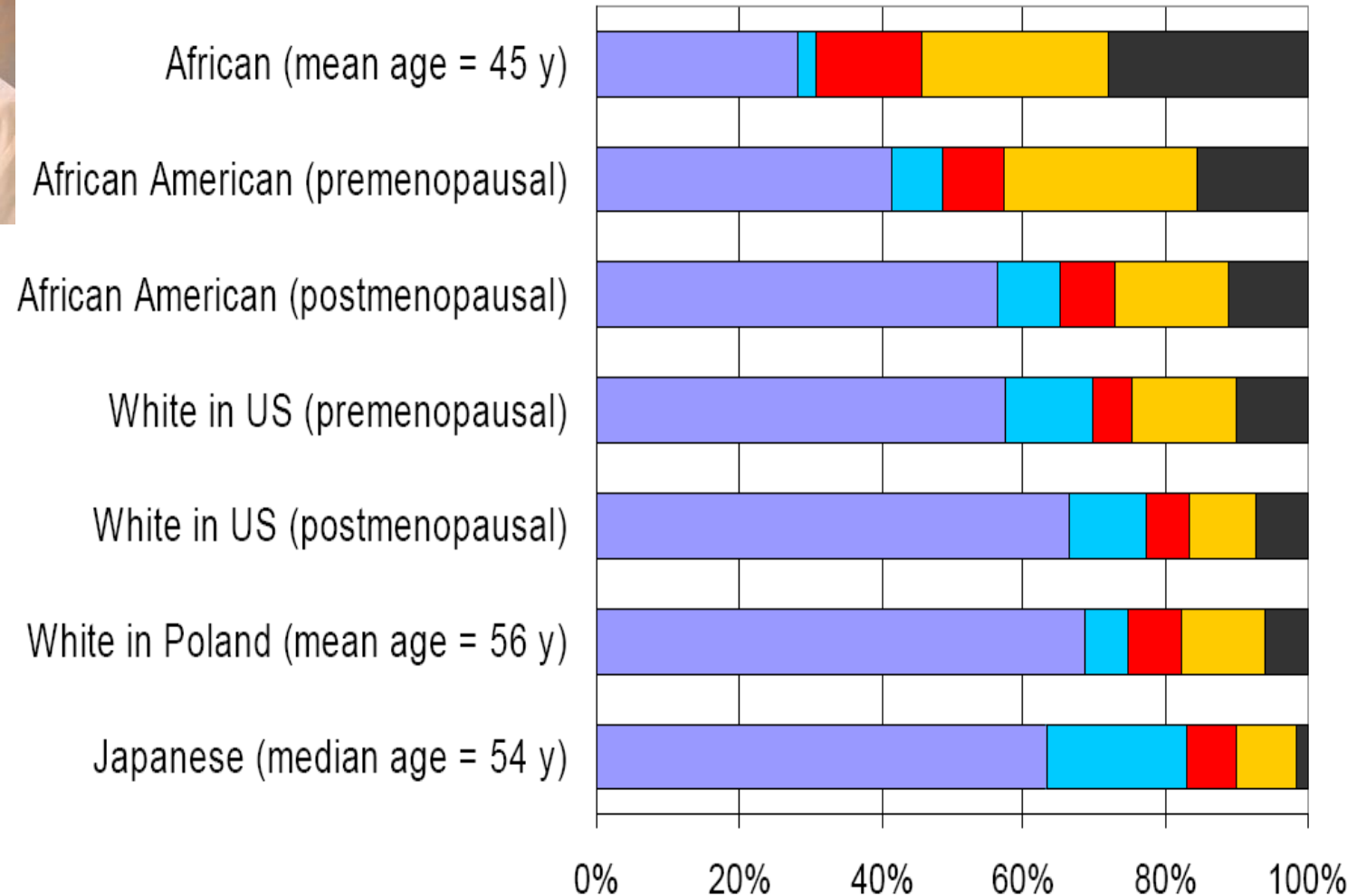
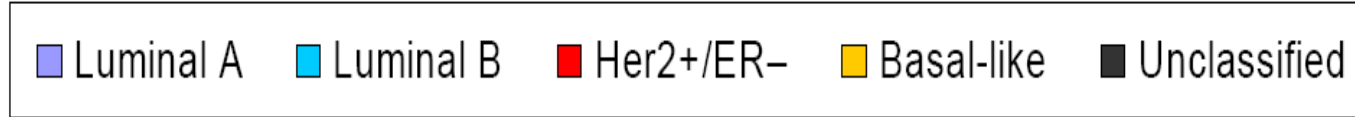


# Population Differences in Breast Cancer: Survey in Indigenous African Women Reveal Overrepresentation of Triple Negative Breast Cancer.

Huo et al., JCO 2009 (PMID:19704069)

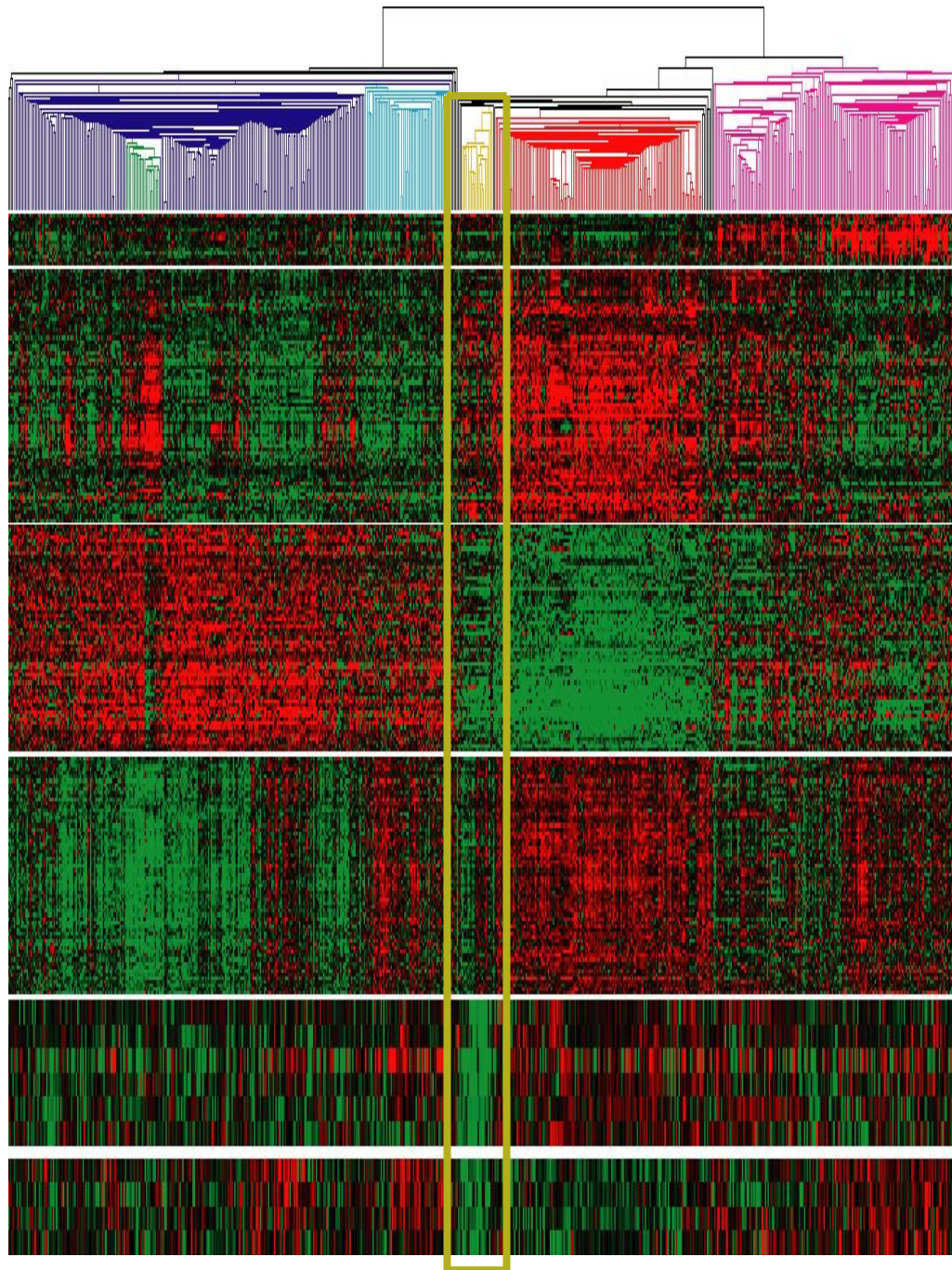
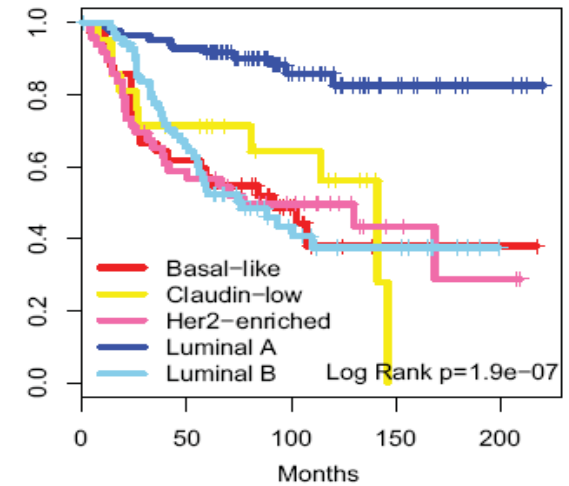
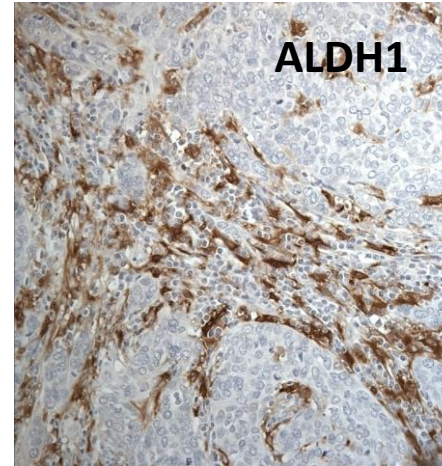


**Funmi Olopade**



# Claudin-low Subtype

1. ~5% of tumors
2. typically Triple Negative
3. low expression of cell-cell junction proteins
4. lymphocyte infiltrates
5. stem cell + EMT features



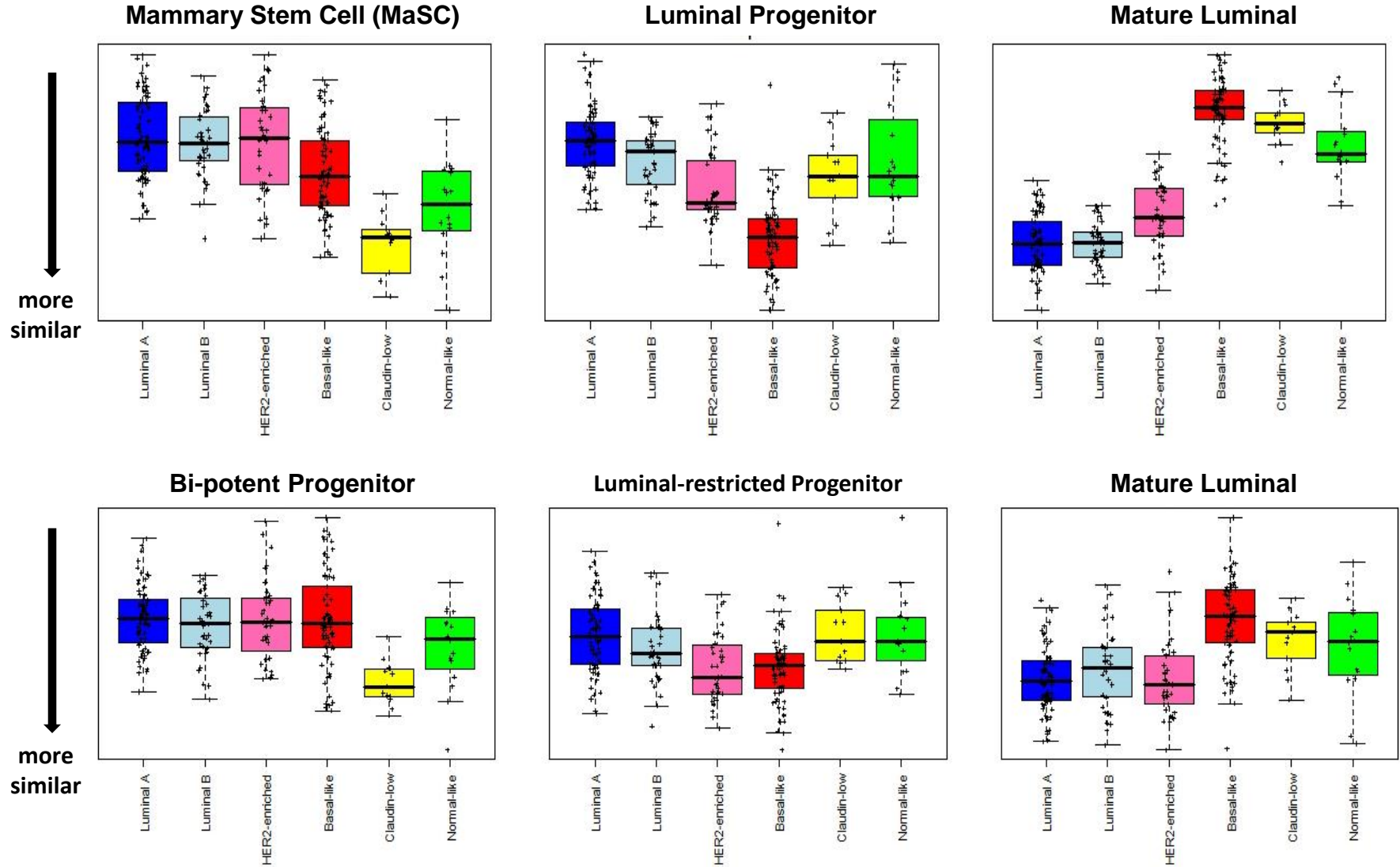
Claudin 3  
Claudin 4  
Claudin 7

E-Cadherin

HER2  
Basal  
Luminal  
Proliferation

# 232 Human Breast Tumors analyzed for FAC sorted epithelial cell signatures

centroid predictor with smaller Euclidian distances indicating the greatest enrichment



Lim et al. Nat Med 2009

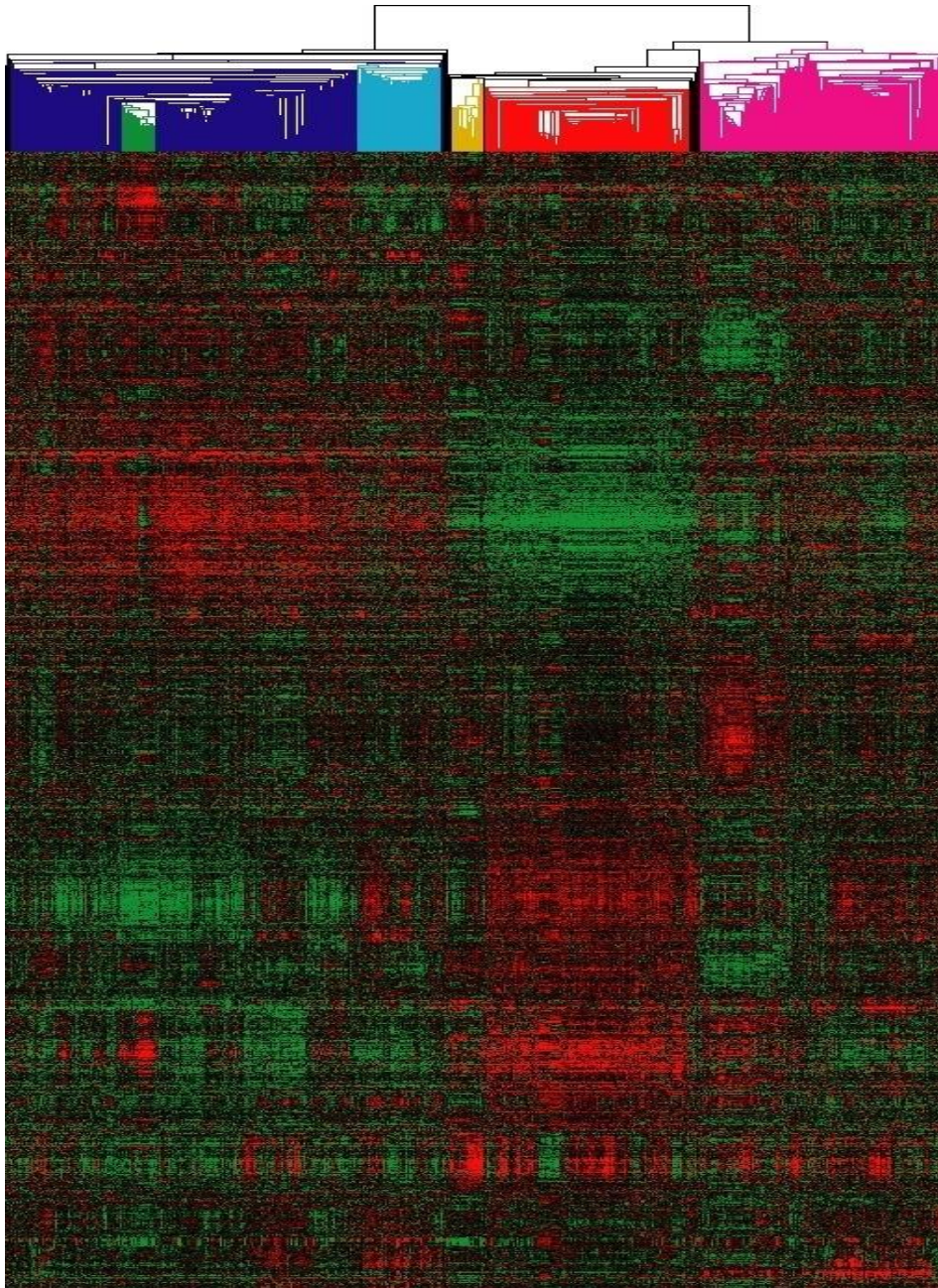
Raouf et al. Cell Stem Cell 2008



Normal Breast  
Luminal A

Claudin-low  
Luminal B

HER2-enriched  
Basal-like



## Intrinsic Subtype Conclusions

1. Intrinsic subtyping has identified 5-6 robust subtypes with distinct patterns of gene expression and genomic alterations.
2. The ROR Score can be used to guide therapy decisions
3. The HER2-Enriched subtype is a biomarker for trastuzumab + chemotherapy sensitivity, and possibly for dual HER2-targeting
4. The Basal-like subtype may arise from a separate cell type in the breast with a distinct set of genomic features, risk features, and epidemiology.

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Charles Perou and laboratory

Melissa Troester

Joel Parker and Lineberger Bioinformatics Group

Lisa Carey

Carey Anders

Corbin Jones and the High Throughput Sequencing Facility

Aleix Prat, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, Universitat de Barcelona

Maggie C. U. Cheang, Institute of Cancer Research, London

The Cancer Genome Atlas Network

Alliance Clinical Trials Network

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NCI

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