

# DRAGEN™ v4.4 – Introducing our most advanced and comprehensive secondary analysis



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# Agenda

This webinar will cover:

01 Overview of DRAGEN Secondary Analysis

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02 DRAGEN Germline

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03 DRAGEN Oncology

04 DRAGEN Multiomics

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05 DRAGEN Availability on AWS F2

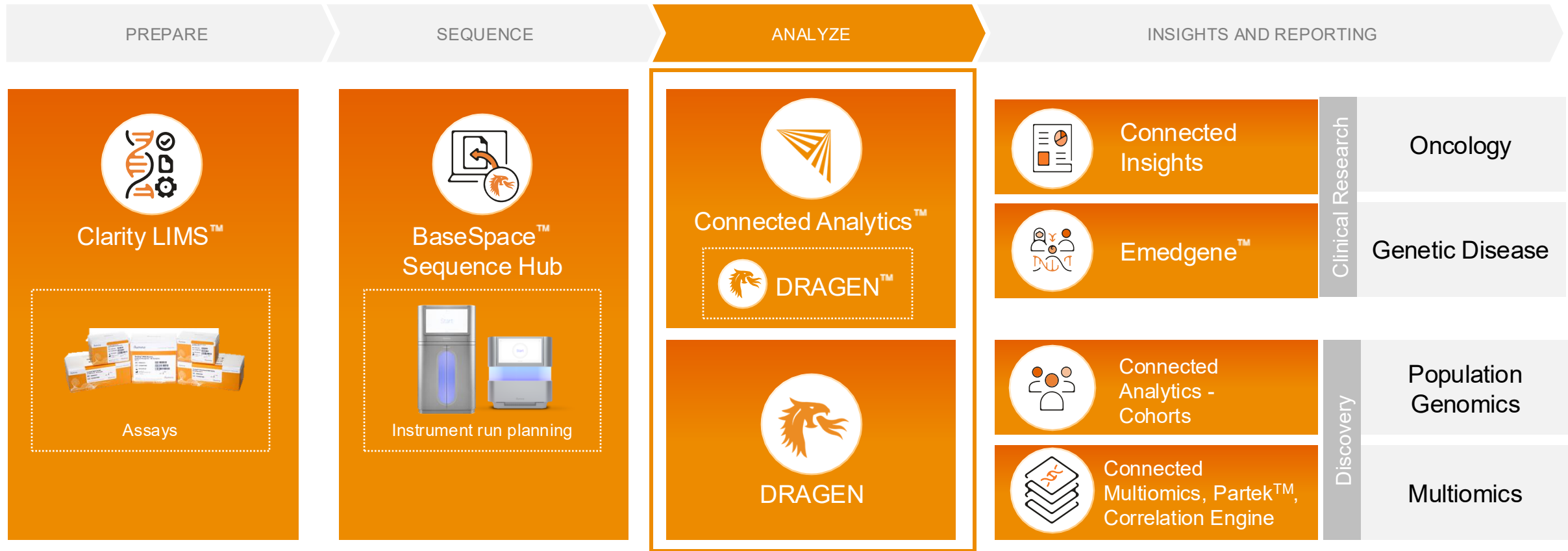
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06 Significant Toolkit and Platform Updates

# Overview of DRAGEN Secondary Analysis



# A powerful bioinformatics software suite connecting your entire genomics workflow



## DRAGEN (Dynamic Read Analysis for GENomics)

ACCURATE, COMPREHENSIVE, EFFICIENT SECONDARY ANALYSIS

# DRAGEN secondary analysis

Accurate, comprehensive, efficient NGS secondary analysis



## Accurate

- Winner of 4 Precision FDA challenges<sup>1</sup> for germline and somatic pipelines
- Highly accurate germline variant calling 99.90%<sup>2</sup> F1 score with DRAGEN v4.4



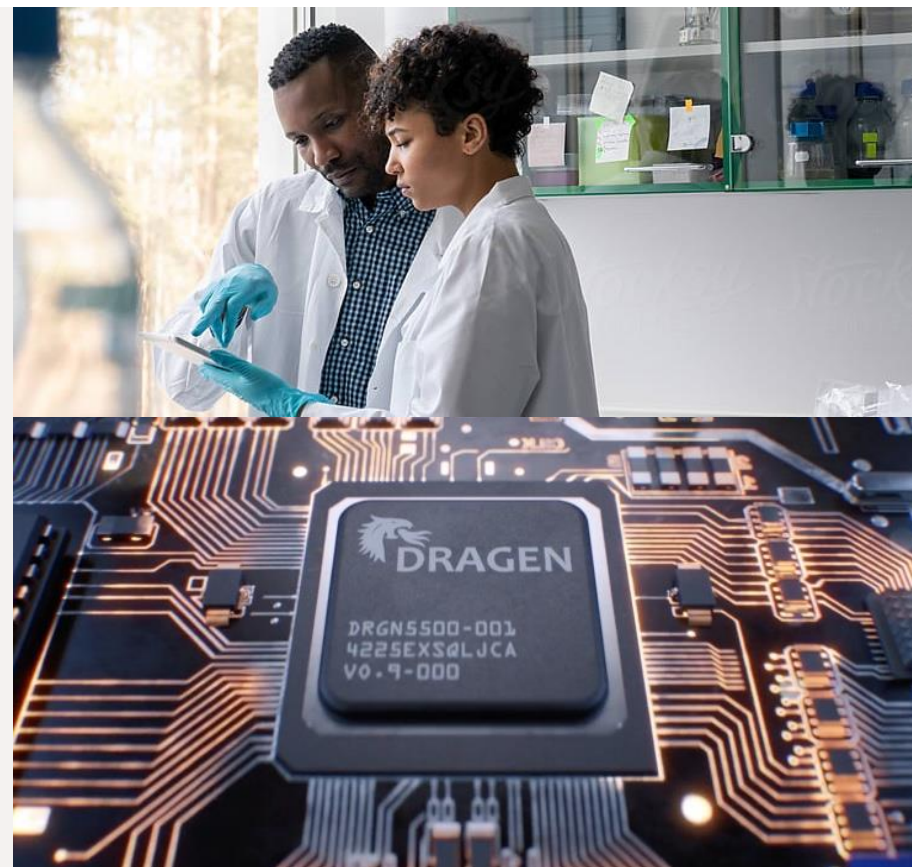
## Comprehensive

- Tools for genomic, epigenomic, transcriptomic and proteomic analysis
- Mapping, UMI QC, Variant calling SNV, SV, CNV, STR, fusion, biomarkers, counting, differential expression, contamination detection and more



## Efficient

- Process a 30X WGS ~ 30mins, with all supported callers<sup>2</sup>
- Reduce FASTQ.GZ file sizes up to 5× with DRAGEN ORA Compression



<sup>1</sup> [PrecisionFDA NCTR Indel Calling from Oncopanel Sequencing Data](#)

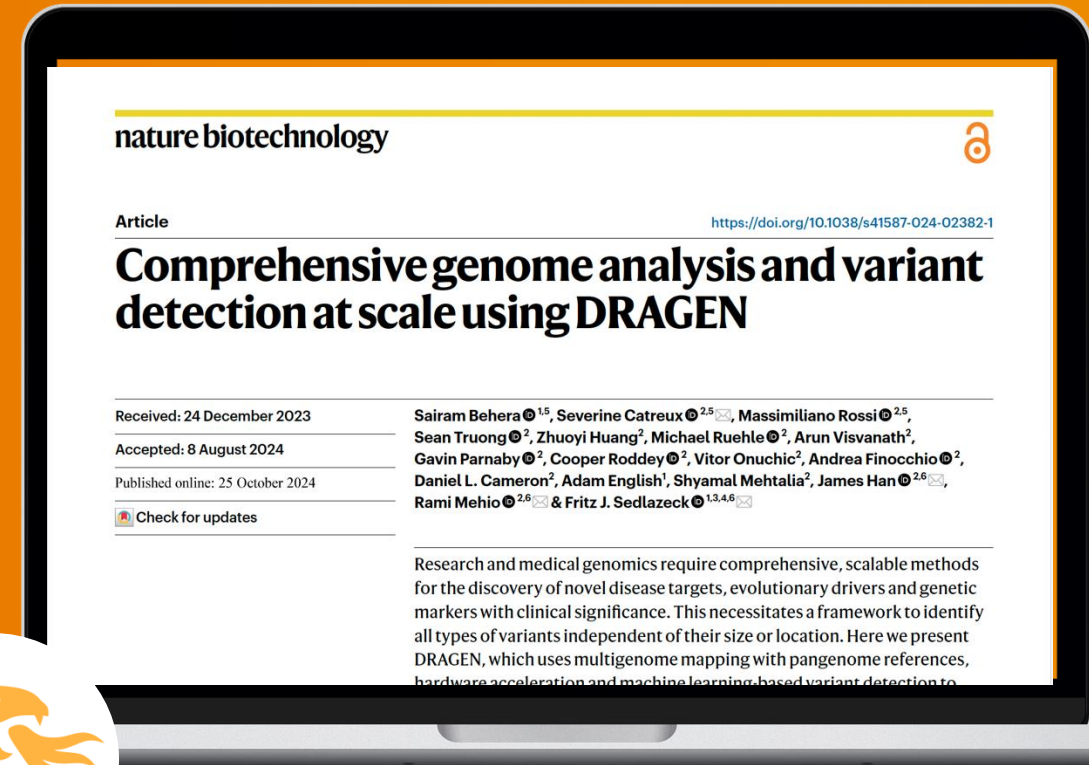
<sup>2</sup> Illumina internal data on file, 2025

# DRAGEN methods make it a comprehensive analysis choice

- ✓ Pangenome Reference
- ✓ Machine Learning
- ✓ Targeted Callers
- ✓ Mosaic calling



[Read article](#)



# DRAGEN is available\* on different platforms – giving you the flexibility you need

## On premises server



Fast, secure, local analysis in a fraction of time compared to a traditional CPU-based system.

## Illumina cloud



Flexible, secure, scalable managed cloud analysis with Illumina Connected Analytics and BaseSpace Sequence Hub

## Public cloud



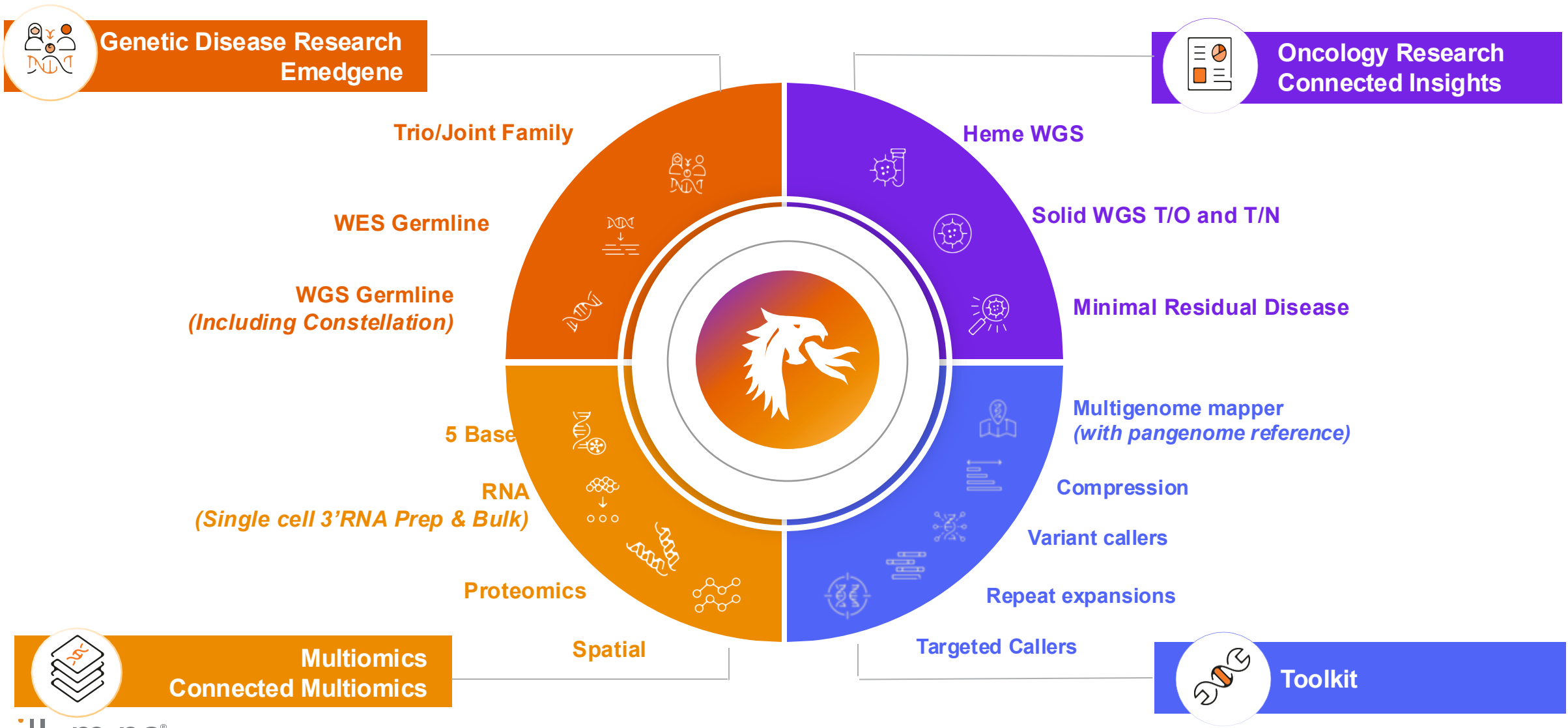
Secure cloud analysis with bring your own license to install on AWS, Azure, GCP

## Onboard sequencers



NovaSeq X Series, NextSeq 1000/2000, MiSeq i100

# DRAGEN – Genetic Disease, Oncology, Multiomics, Toolkit





# The most comprehensive secondary analysis solution<sup>1</sup>

General Tools	Genetic Disease	Oncology	Multomics
Graph Capable Mapping	Single Nucleotide Variant	Single Nucleotide Variant	Bulk RNA <sup>2</sup>
Adapter Trimming	Indel	Structural Variant	Single-cell RNA
Poly G Trimming	Structural Variant	Copy Number Variant	Single-cell ATAC
FastQC Metrics	Copy Number Variant	Tumor Only	NanoString GeoMx
BCL Conversion	Regions of Homozygosity	Tumor/Normal	Protein Quantification
ORA Compression	Repeat Expansion	Tumor Mutational Burden	Spatial Transcriptomics
UMI Collapsing	Targeted Callers	Microsatellite Instability	Infectious Disease
	Star Allele Caller	MRD for WGS	COVID Lineage
	Spinal Muscular Atrophy	Liquid Biopsy	Metagenomics
	Trio Calling	Gene Fusion Detection	RPIP / UPIP Pipelines
	Joint Calling	Methylation	PopGen
	Imputation	Heme WGS	gVCF Caller
	Specialized callers (MRJD)		Joint Calling

- Analyze whole genomes, exomes, panels, transcriptomes, and methylomes in a single platform.
- Call single-nucleotide variants (SNVs), structural variants (SV), copy number variants (CNVs), repeat expansions, targeted callers, and biomarkers.
- Oncology – Supports tumor only and tumor/normal workflows with and without UMIs

Table shows applications available with DRAGEN on-premises server. Cloud and Onboard availability vary. Details [here](#)



<sup>1</sup> – When compared against leading secondary analysis players who have submitted to [PrecisionFDA v2 Truth Challenge Benchmark Data](#).

<sup>2</sup> – DRAGEN RNA pipeline performs RNA quantification, fusion gene calling, and RNA variant calling.

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# DRAGEN v4.4 with easy-to-use oncology apps, enhanced multiomics, AWS F2 support, and more



## Genetic Diseases

**30% boost to SV calling accuracy** with multigenome mapper with pangenome reference

**Personalized pangenome** with significant accuracy gains and improved run time to WGS germline analysis

**WGS Cytogenetics** - DEL/DUPs | AOH | mosaic CNV | Autosomal and sex chr aneuploidy | Allele specific copy number

**Targeted Callers Updates** - Streamlined WGS Analysis, SMN1, HBA1/2 supported on ILMN exome v2.5 + spike-in probes kit



## Oncology

**Easy-to-use oncology apps** with push-button analysis for Heme WGS and Solid WGS tumor-normal

**Enhanced RNA fusion Calling** with improved accuracy, breakpoint resolution for in/out-of-frame determination, and more

**Somatic CNV enhancements** with improved purity/ploidy estimation and model detection in low-quality or challenging tumor samples, WGS PON support and more



## Multiomics & more

**Support for new multiomic assays** – Single Cell 3'RNA Prep, Proteomics, 5-Base (Methylation)

**AWS F2 Instances** - DRAGEN v4.4 will support AWS F2 instances

**30% speed up in FASTQ to ORA** compression.

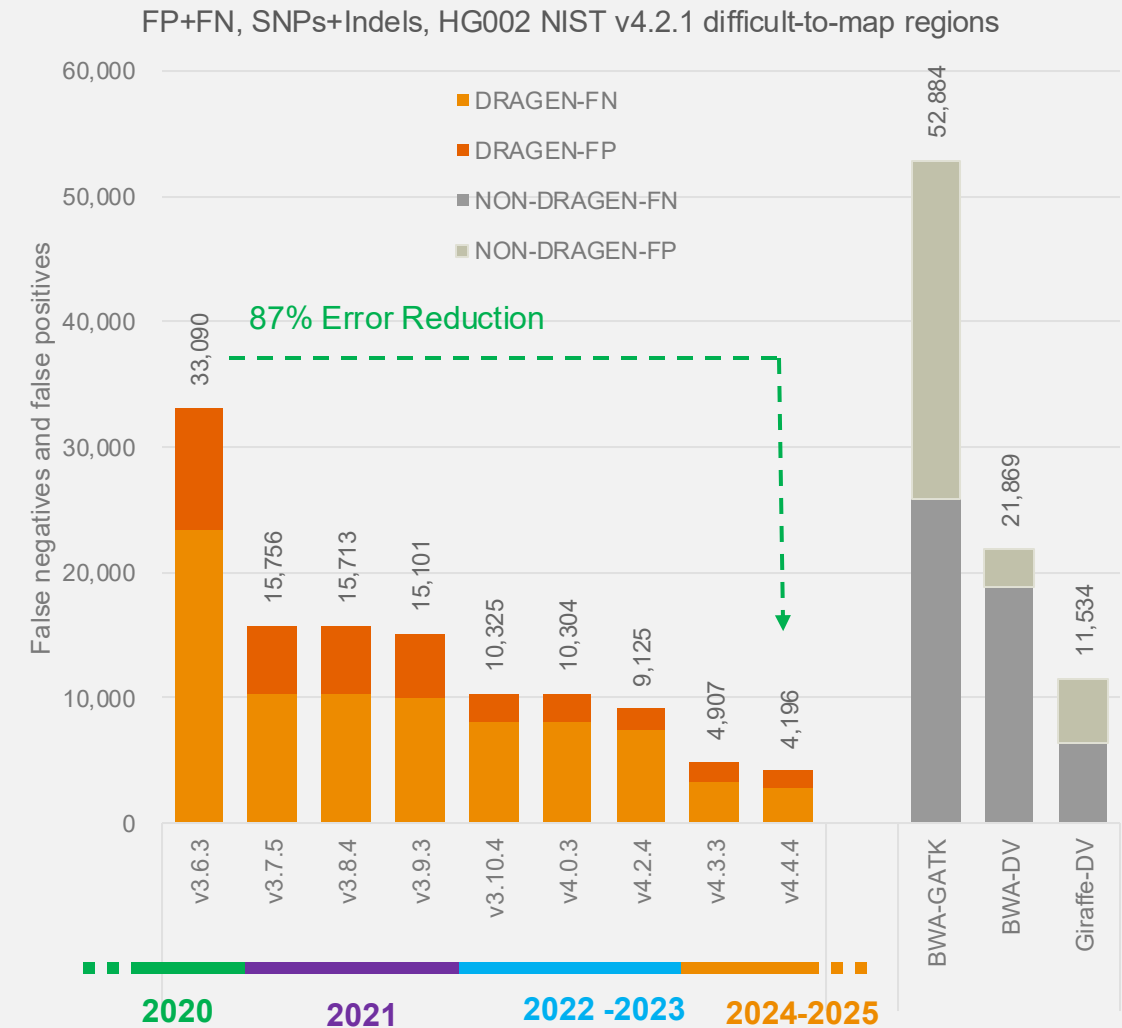
# DRAGEN – A legacy of continuous innovation and improving accuracy in each version

DRAGEN v4.4 continue accuracy advancements, reducing the overall germline variant errors

- ✓ **Superior SNPs and INDELs accuracy** in all confident regions and **dark regions of the genome**
- ✓ **Biggest leap in SV accuracy**
- ✓ Personalization for a bigger gain in SNPs and INDELs accuracy



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DRAGEN

Open Source

DRAGEN – default settings, no personalization activated

BWA-DV – linear reference approach BWA-0.7.17 (r1188) DV-1.0

Giraffe-DV – pangenome and personalization approach- vg\_v1.62.0 DV v1.8.0


# DRAGEN Germline Pipeline

2

# DRAGEN multigenome mapper resolves difficult-to-map regions and increases number of variants discovered

Available since DRAGEN v3.7.5, updated in v4.4.4 with 128 Global pangenome reference\* and increased SV support

## Multigenome Mapping with Population Haplotypes

	v3.4 - v3.6	v3.7 – v3.8	v3.9	v3.10	v4.0	v4.2	v4.3	v4.4
Native alt-contigs handling	alt-aware		alt-masked	alt-masked-v2		alt-masked-v3	alt-masked-v4	alt-masked-v5
Multigenome mapper	First-generation						Second-generation	
Pangenome reference*	16 European ancestry samples		16 European ancestry samples + MHC		32 Global ancestry samples		128 Global ancestry samples	128 Global ancestry samples + SVs
Machine learning			v2	v3.1	v4	v7	v12	v15

Historically referred to as “multigenome (graph) reference”

Allows to map accurately in difficult to map regions of the genome, at no run time cost

Increases the number variants discovered in a genome

Fully compatible with existing hg38 reference and existing BAM/VCF format

Enables SNV/SV/CNV Variant Calling in difficult-to-map regions

1 [The quest for accuracy gains in the dark regions of the genomes, Aug. 2024](#)

# Major **leap** in structural variant calling accuracy and improvements in personalized pangenome accuracy

## Redefining SV calling accuracy

- ✓ DRAGEN 4.4 improves on F-score by more than **30%\***
- ✓ Structural variant population haplotypes incorporated in DRAGEN's pangenome reference increase accuracy
- ✓ Updates in read alignment, breakpoint detection, population-guided assembly, and genotyping models enhance the accuracy of SV calls.

\*On HG002 with both NIST T2TQ100<sup>1</sup> and CMRG<sup>2</sup> benchmarks



## Personalized pangenome accuracy

- ✓ Personalized **pangenome references now generally available (GA)**
- ✓ Innovative downstream variant calling adjustments minimize errors
- ✓ Proven mapping and variant calling capabilities, unique against competition.

# DRAGEN SV with pangenome reference

## SV Accuracy

- DRAGEN 4.4 improves on F-score by more than **30%** on HG002 with both NIST T2TQ100<sup>1</sup> and CMRG<sup>2</sup> benchmarks.
- Significant recall gains in SV insertion detection including MEIs<sup>3</sup>.

Truth Set	Method	Recall	Precision	Fscore
NIST T2TQ100 HG002	DRAGEN 4.4	0.807	0.963	<b>0.878</b>
	DRAGEN 4.3	0.511	0.953	0.665
CMRG HG002	DRAGEN 4.4	0.775	0.941	<b>0.850</b>
	DRAGEN 4.3	0.463	0.964	0.625

## SV Pangenome Reference

- Structural variant population haplotypes incorporated into DRAGEN's pangenome reference, which includes 128 samples across 26 ancestries.
- Updates in read alignment, breakpoint detection, population-guided assembly, and genotyping models enhance the accuracy of SV calls.

Method	Type	Recall
DRAGEN 4.4	Mobile Element Insertions	<b>0.906</b>
DRAGEN 4.3	Mobile Element Insertions	0.885
Mobstr 0.2.4.1	Mobile Element Insertions	0.756

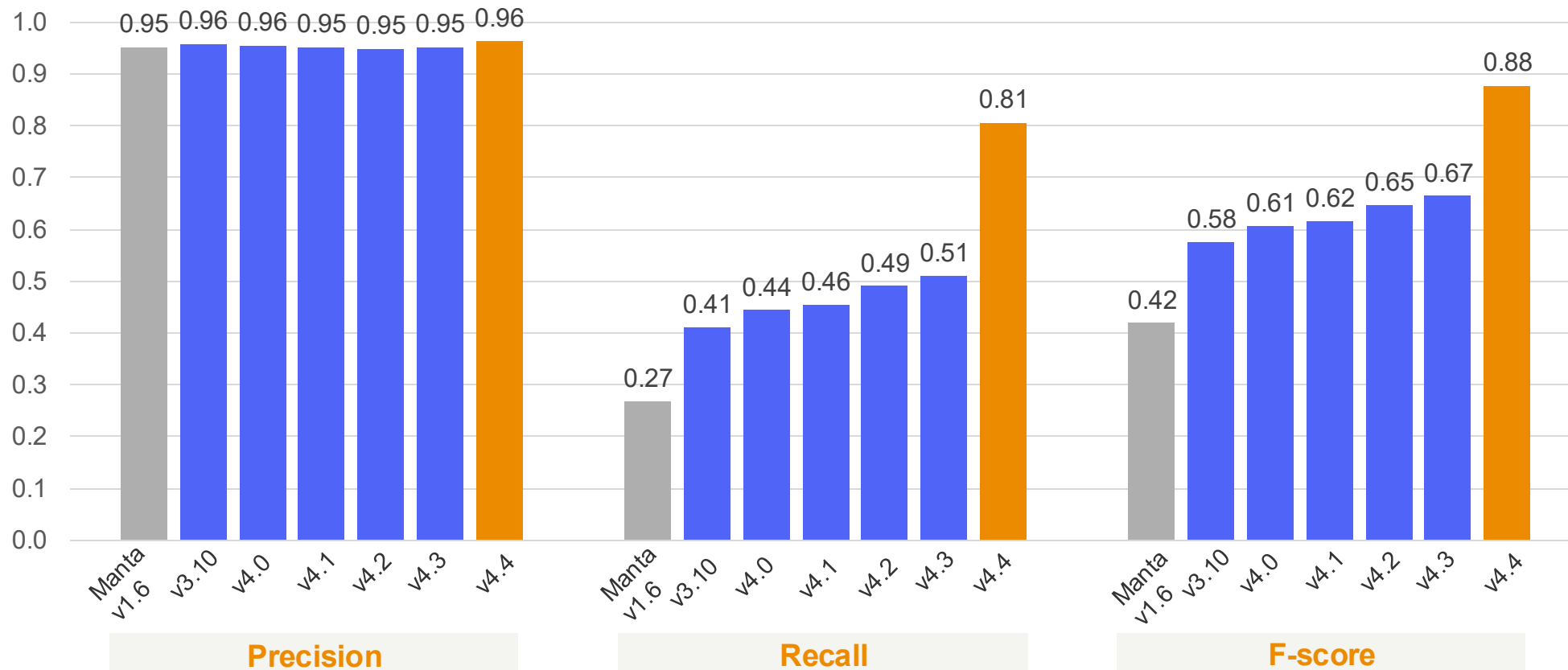
*1 – Compared against HG002 NIST T2T Q100 v1.1\_v0.019 (hg38) with Truvari v.4.2.2*

*2 – Compared against HG002 CMRG v1.0 (hg38) with Truvari v.4.2.2*

*3 – Insertions stratified by annotation from Delage et al on NIST v0.6 (GRCh37)*

# Accuracy improvements of DRAGEN SV calling

HG002 NIST v1.01<sup>1</sup> - DRAGEN SV Accuracy



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# Personalized germline small variant caller **Official release**

Leverages 128-sample pangenome reference and multigenome-mapper output to compute **personalized 2-haplotypes reference**

- ✓ Use the **2-hap personalized reference** to impute variants, used as priors in the Variant Caller, create new personalized ML model
- ✓ Easy to use end-to-end workflow with single flag
- ✓ ~ 25% SNPs FP+FN reduction and ~ 9 % Indels FP+FN reduction in 4.2.1 high confidence regions, compared to germline small variant caller
- ✓ Adds less than 4 minutes to default small variant calling runs on a DRAGEN P4 server

Activated with  
`--enable-personalization=true`

Run time on 35x WGS approx. 22 minutes for alignment and small variant caller on a Phase4 server

Requires a pangenome “v5” hash table

Available only for germline small variant caller

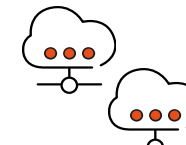
**Availability**



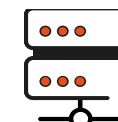
BSSH



ICA



Multi-Cloud

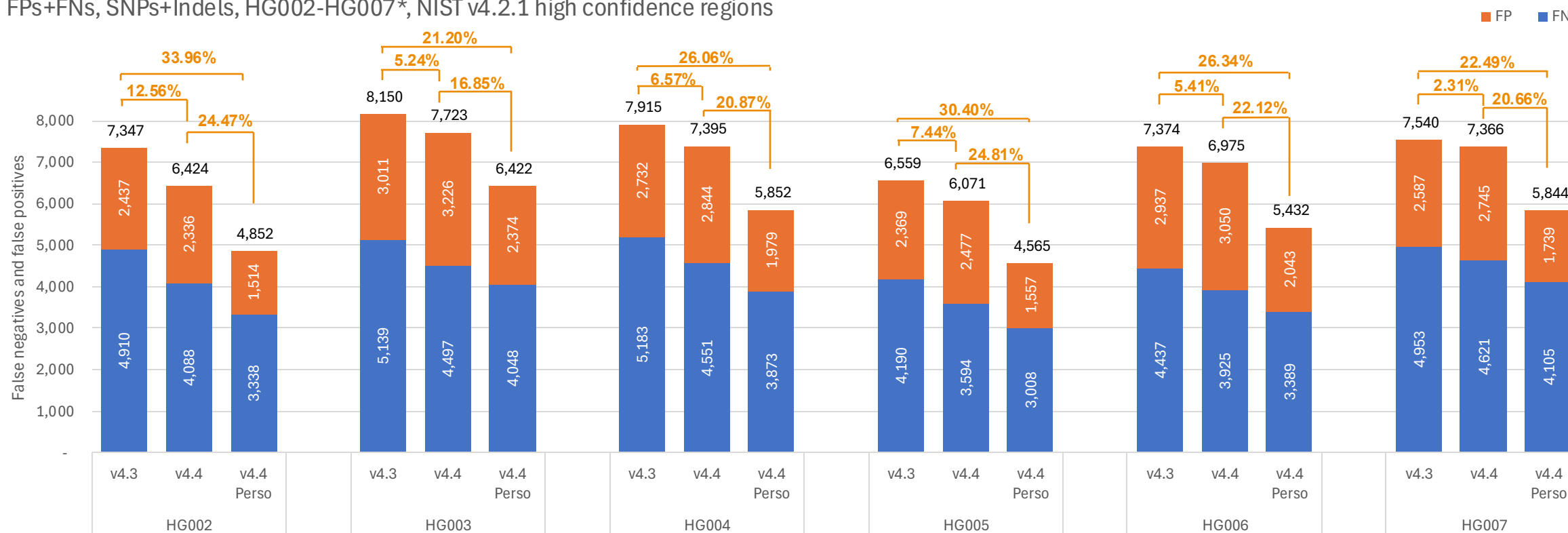


On-premises server

# Personalized germline small variant caller – accuracy

DRAGEN v4.4 adds further small VC gain (5.35% in SNP, 10.30% in Indel).  
Personalization adds a further gain of 21.63% for very little added run time (3 minutes and 40 seconds).

FPs+FNs, SNPs+Indels, HG002-HG007\*, NIST v4.2.1 high confidence regions



\*Samples NSX 10B v1.1 35x median autosomal coverage, HG001 removed from analysis since included in the DRAGEN Pangenome Reference

# Personalized small variant caller improvement in the dark regions of the genome

Personalization adds a further gain of 24.18% for SNPs and INDELS on the dark regions of the genome



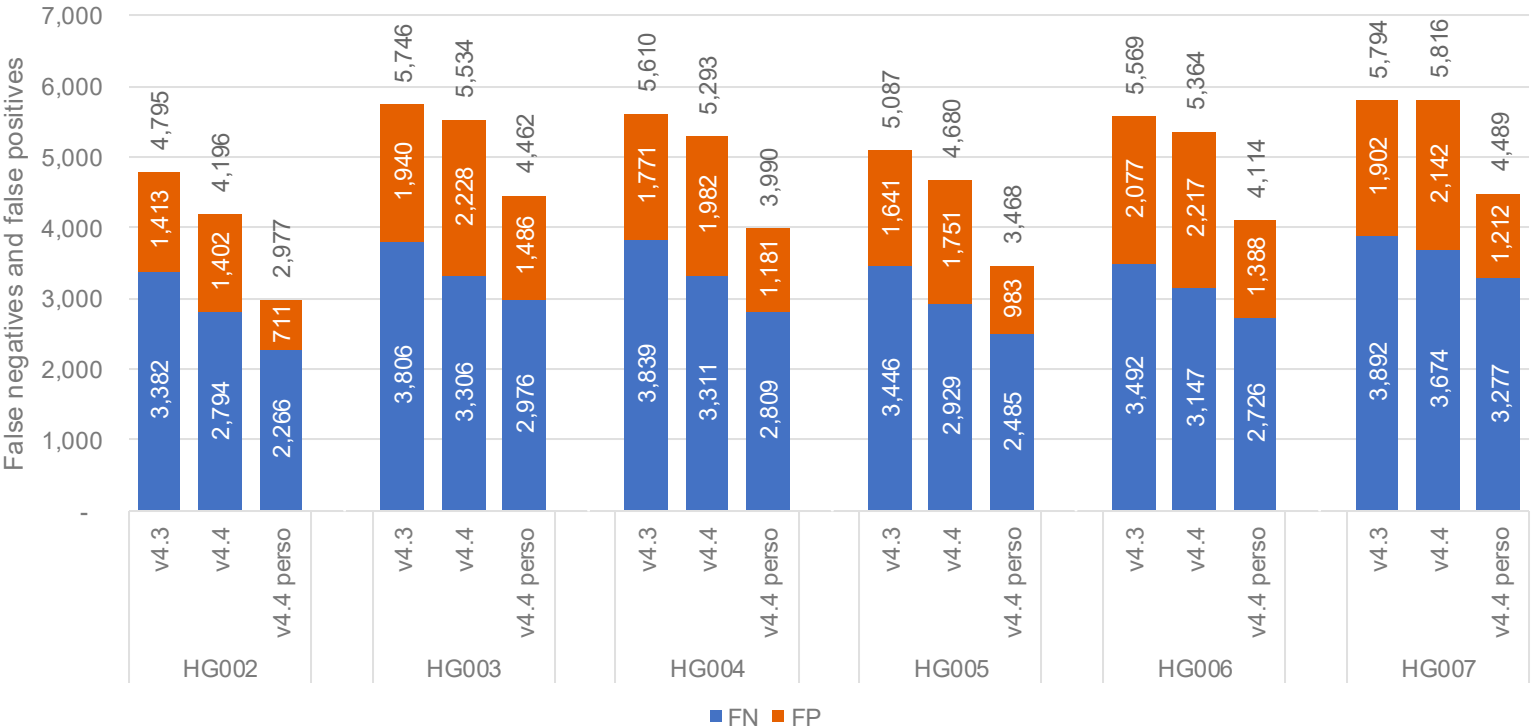
## Difficult-to-map regions<sup>1</sup>

regions that have other **homologous regions** in the reference genome for the given read length, number of mismatches, and number of indels.

## Segmental duplications

1. Difficult-to-Map Regions BED file. [ftp://trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ReferenceSamples/giab/release/genome-stratifications/v3.3/GRCh38@all/Union/GRCh38\\_allowmapandsegdupregions.bed.gz](ftp://trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ReferenceSamples/giab/release/genome-stratifications/v3.3/GRCh38@all/Union/GRCh38_allowmapandsegdupregions.bed.gz).

FPs+FNs, SNPs and INDELS, HG002-HG007\*, NIST v4.2.1 difficult-to-map regions



\*Samples NSX 10B v1.1 35x median autosomal coverage, HG001 removed from analysis since included in the DRAGEN Pangenome Reference

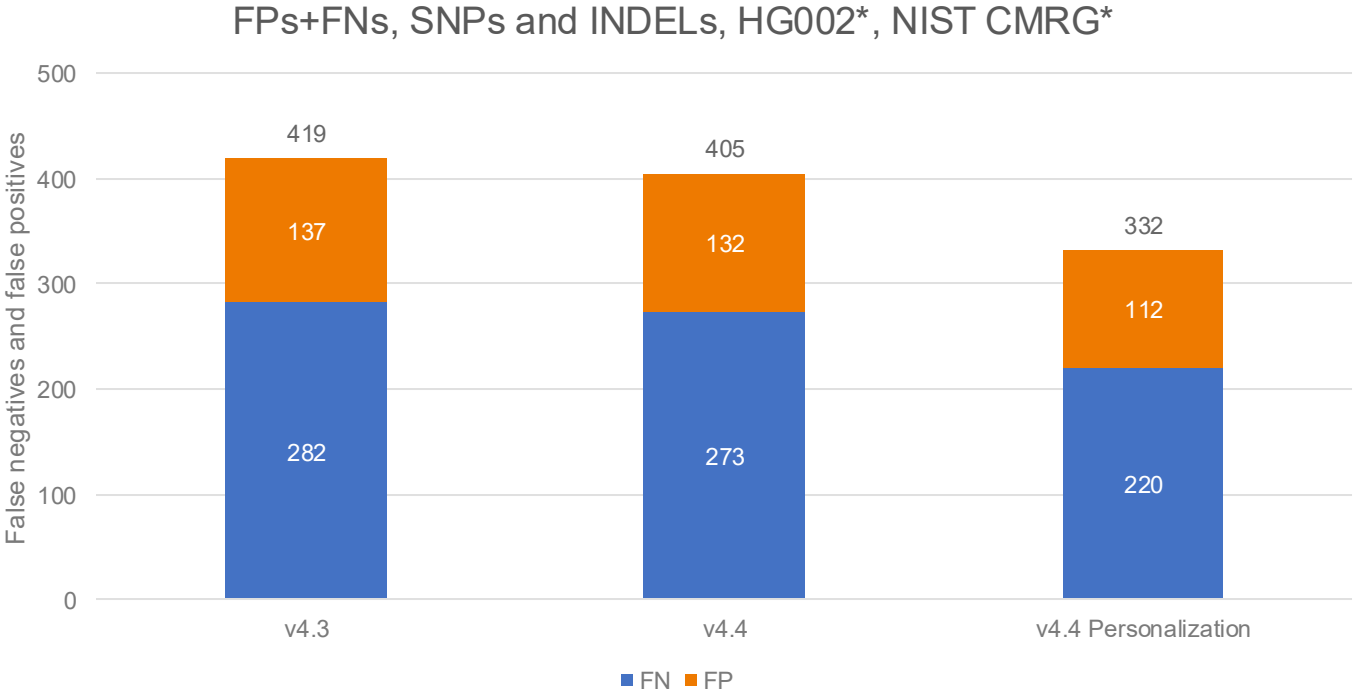
# Personalized small variant caller for CMRG

Personalization reduces by 18% FPs+FNs in Challenging Medically Relevant Genes (CMRG)



## CMRG<sup>1</sup>

Curated benchmark of 273 genes with repetitiveness and polymorphic complexity



\*Sample NS2K P4 XLEAP-advanced recipe 35x Raw coverage

# In-run construction of CNV panel-of-normals for germline enrichment

DRAGEN v4.4 provides workflow-level support for automatically constructing a PoN from a batch of samples.

- Ensures robustness to batch-level effects
- Reduces putative false positives by as much as 65% compared to WGS CNV while maintaining recall
- Eliminates need to maintain and update a pre-built PoN
- End-to-end solution configurable from BSSH run-planning or from existing fastqs/bams/crams on BSSH or ICA

Available via single-click GUI element, or CLI

Enable CNV Calling ? ☒ Yes ☐ No

CNV Baseline Source\* ? ☒ In-Run ☐ Pre-existing

GC Bias Correction ? ☐

Availability



# Germline WGS cytogenetics

## B-allele frequency support for Germline CNV

Support for **WGS-based cytogenetics** analysis

- Enables the detection of **AOH/LOH** regions across the genome
- Increases calling **robustness** by considering both **read coverage** and **minor allele frequency**
- Capable of reporting **mosaic** CNVs

## Concordance with legacy technologies

Processed **98 samples** with 146 CNVs ranging from 40kbp to whole-chromosome aneuploidies

- **> 97% agreement** with results from karyotyping and chromosomal microarray

## Cytogenetics modality reports multiple views of the same sample

- Fine resolution views for shorter alterations ( $\geq 25\text{kb}$ )
- Coarse resolution views for larger alterations ( $\geq \text{Mb}$ )

### Example Command Line:

```
dragen \  
-r <HASHTABLE> \  
--output-directory <OUTPUT> \  
--output-file-prefix <SAMPLE> \  
--ref-dir <HASHTABLE> \  
--bam-input <BAM> \  
--enable-map-align true \  
--enable-cnv true \  
--cnv-enable-self-normalization true \  
--cnv-population-b-allele-vcf <SNP_POP_VCF>
```

Availability



BSSH



ICA



Multi-Cloud



On-premises  
Server

# WGS concordance with Cytogenetics

## Supported events

DUPs  $\geq 50\text{kb}$ , including whole-chromosome

DELs  $\geq 25\text{kb}$ , including whole-chromosome

AOH  $\geq 500\text{kb}$ , including whole-chromosome

Mosaicism  $\geq 20\%$

**Coverage:** 30-60x

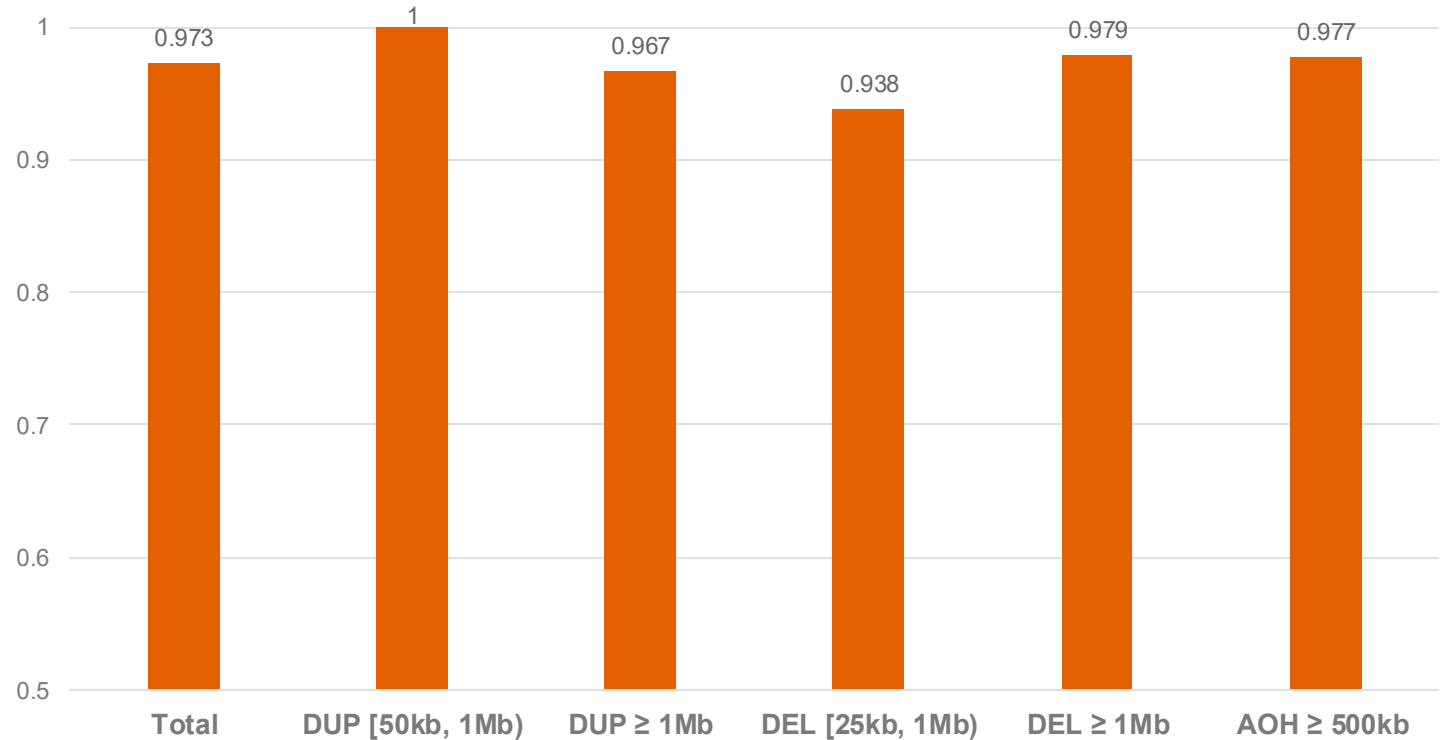
**Read length:** 2x151bp

**Insert size:** 340-530bp

**N samples:** 98

**Total events:** 146

> 97% Concordance against karyotyping and CMA



Processed 98 samples with 146 CNVs ranging from 40kbp to whole-chromosome aneuploidies

# New WES Targeted Calling

- Support for HBA and SMN
- Requires Illumina Custom Enrichment Panel v2 specifically designed for DRAGEN Targeted Calling
- Normalization using automatic copy-neutral sample identification from a multiplexed WES run
- Systematic noise correction based on a panel of 576 samples (available for hg19, hs37d5 and hg38)
- 100% benchmark concordance for HBA\*
- 99.8% benchmark concordance for SMN\*

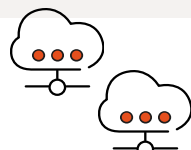
## Availability



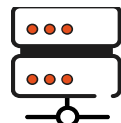
BSSH



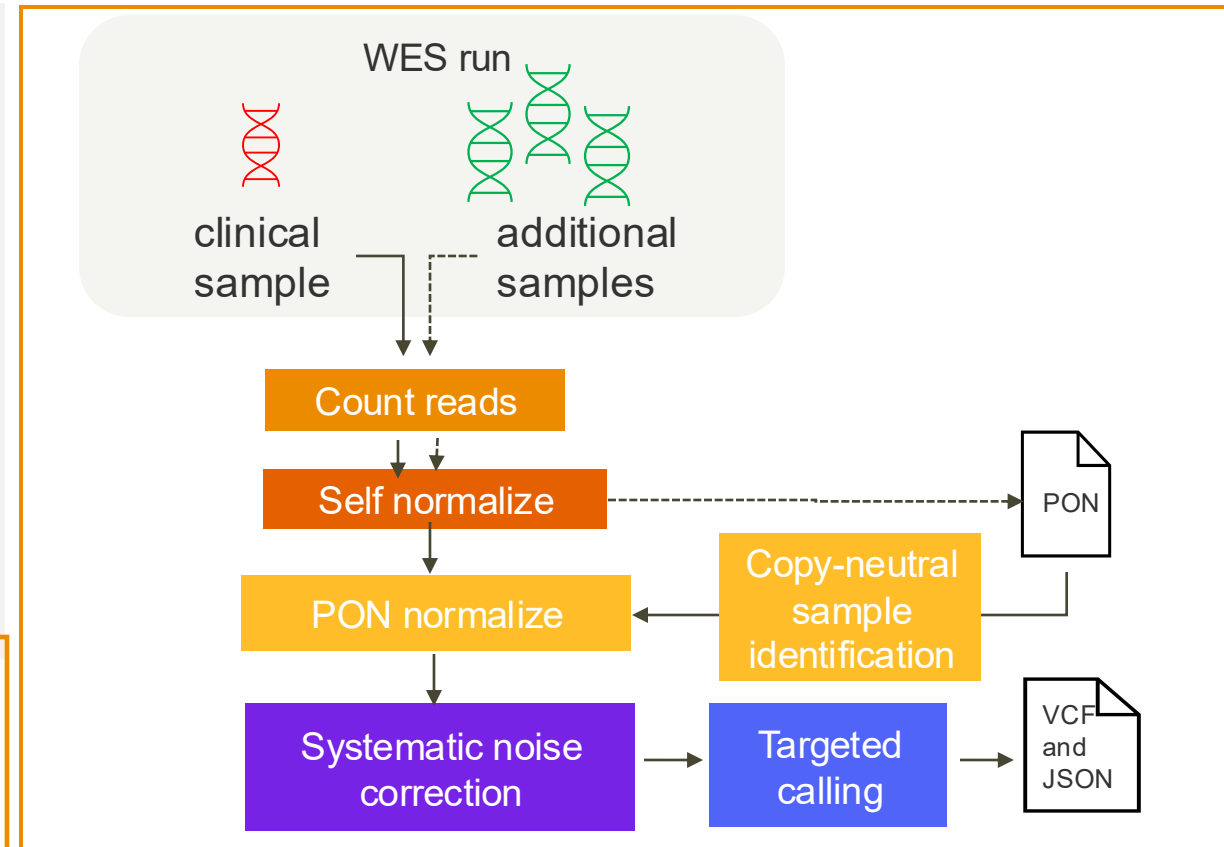
ICA



Multi-Cloud



On-premises server



\* evaluated against calls derived from (MLPA or qPCR) in a partially blinded and partially consecutive cohort of clinical samples



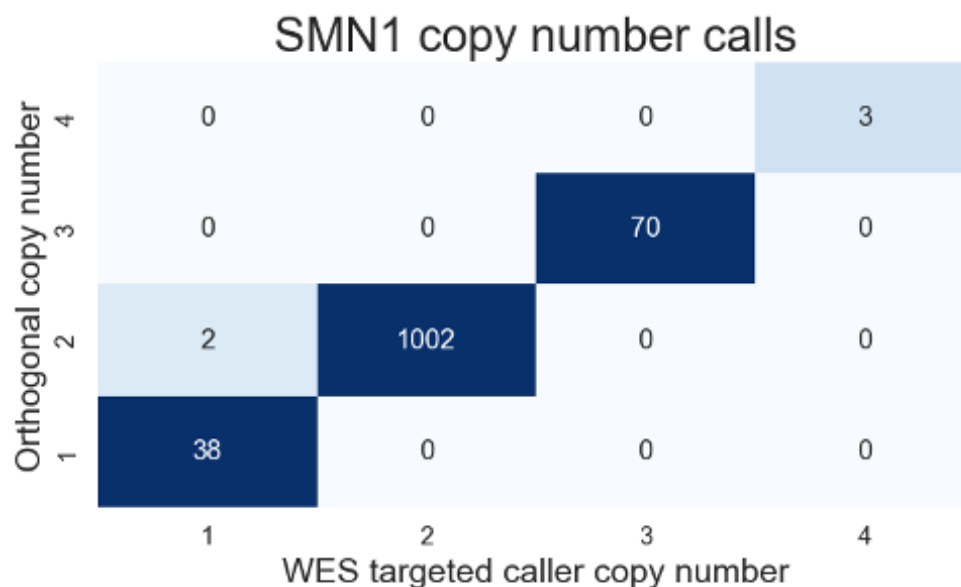
# DRAGEN SMN and HBA targeted callers coming to Exome 2.5 Enrichment in v4.4

## DRAGEN WES Targeted Caller Key Features

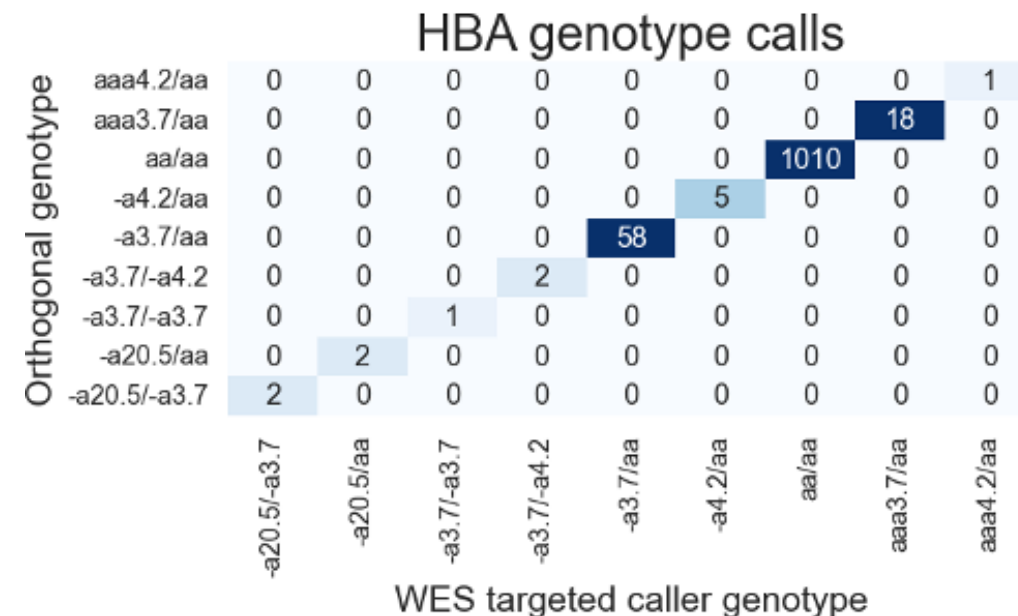
- **Spike-in probes:** Additional probes (~359 kbp) to cover current and prospective targeted caller regions.
- **Panel of Normal (PoN):** Specialized Exome 2.5 + spike-in PoN approaches to normalize for system level biases.

✓ 99.8% SMN concordance

✓ 100% HBA concordance



Concordance=99.8% % No Call=0.3%











Concordance=100.0% % No Call=0.0%

# DRAGEN Oncology




# WGS/WES provide the most comprehensive analysis among all molecular technologies

when powered by accurate and scalable informatics

GENETIC ALTERATIONS IN TUMOR DNA/RNA					BIOMARKERS			
CURRENT STANDARD OF CARE								
	SNVs & Indels	Copy Number Variants	Structural Variants	Loss of Heterozygosity	Fusions & Rearrangements	Tumor Mutational Burden	Microsatellite Instability	HRD*
	Sanger	CMA	FISH	SNP Arrays	FISH	Targeted NGS	PCR	BRCA mutation test
	Targeted NGS	FISH	Karyotype	PCR	Karyotype		IHC	
	Panels	PCR	Targeted NGS	FISH	Targeted NGS		MLPA	
	Exome	MLPA	Panels		RT-PCR			
	PCR	Exome (limited)	Optical Mapping		IHC			
	Optical Mapping						HRD*: Homologous Recombination Deficiency	
WGS/WES + DRAGEN Oncology								


HRD\*: Homologous Recombination Deficiency

# Simplifying oncology biomarker detection with pre-configured pipelines on premises

 DRAGEN TOOLKIT (key features)

Map/ Align	QC
SNV	CNV
SV	RNA
TMB	MSI
HRD	HLA
MRD detection	Sample matching

Modular. Experienced bioinformaticians can configure the commands

 STREAMLINED PIPELINES (EARLY ACCESS)

Tumor/ Normal WGS	Heme WGS
cfDNA WGS*	MRD WGS*
Solid Tumor Panel*	Methylation WGS*
Solid Tumor RNA Panel*	Solid Tumor/ Normal Panel*
Heme Panel*	MRD Panel*
cfDNA Panel*	cfDNA Methylation Panel*
Solid Tumor WTS*	

Easy-to-use, application-specific oncology pipelines

Coming Soon

\* Planned for future releases

# Illumina products provide all components for Heme WGS



## Library Prep

Highly open platform compatible library prep kits from Illumina™  
[Illumina DNA PCR-Free Prep](#)  
[Illumina DNA Prep](#)



## Sequencing

Powerful, high throughput sequencing with  
[NovaSeq™ 6000](#) or  
[NovaSeq™ X/X+](#)



## Secondary Analysis

Accurate, comprehensive and ultra-efficient, easy to use and pre-packaged application for secondary analysis with DRAGEN™ for malignancies like AML, MDS etc.  
[DRAGEN Somatic WGS Heme pipeline](#)



## Connected Insights\*

## Insights

Enables streamlined variant interpretation and research reporting from integrated knowledge bases and automation  
[Illumina Connected Insights™](#)

<sup>1</sup> See full lists of compatible 3<sup>rd</sup> party automation on [illumina.com](https://www.illumina.com)



# DRAGEN Heme WGS Analysis

## SNPs & INDELs

Best in class variant calling detection for SNPs and INDELs in genes such as NPM1.

## Structural Variants

Large structural variants including recurrent gene fusions such as PLM::RARA and BCR::ABL1.

## DUX4 Rearrangements

Detection of rearrangements such as DUX4::IGH in difficult to map regions.

## Internal Tandem Duplications

Increased sensitivity for ITDs within genes such as FLT3, KMT2A.

## Copy Number Variants

CNVs including arm level, whole chromosome, and sub-clonal events.

## Purity/Ploidy Aware

Tumor purity estimation enables accurate calling of chromosomal ploidy states.

## Loss of Heterozygosity

Allele specific copy number and LOH calling.

## Fast Streamlined Analysis

Single execution to analyze all variant types reducing total analysis time.

## Simplified Interpretation

Single assay and analysis prevents conflicting results.

1

**Replacement for conventional methods**

2

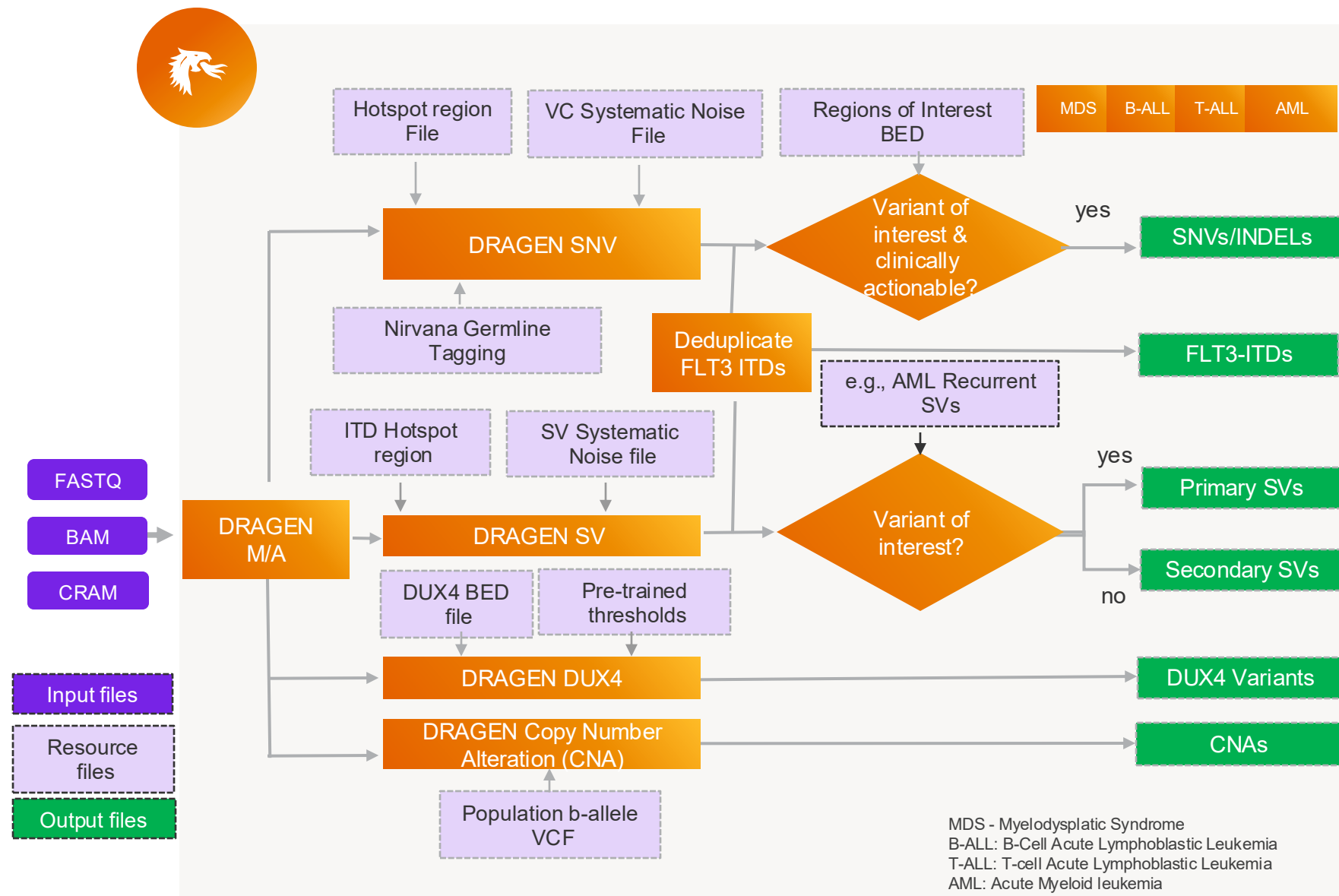
**Accurate Variant Detection**

3

**Enhanced efficiency & accessibility**

# Out of the box Heme WGS application (early access)

- ✓ **First and only commercially available<sup>1</sup>** Heme WGS application
- ✓ WGS provides a **comprehensive genomic characterization for hematologic malignancies**, well beyond what cytogenetics applications can achieve<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ An **easy-to-use prepackaged** application on the **DRAGEN server** abstracts the complexities of setting up own pipeline, integrated with **Connected Insights** for **streamlined workflow**





# DRAGEN WGS Tumor-Normal Analysis

## SNPs & INDELS

Including the ability to call phased complex/variants.

## HLA

Four-digit Human Leukocyte Antigen genotyping.

## HRD

## CNA

CNV and CNAs, as well as arm level & whole chromosome.  
Optional PON for improved calling on FFPE samples.

## Biomarkers

Biomarkers including TMB and MSI.

## Simplified Interpretation

Single assay and analysis prevents conflicting results.



## Structural Variants

Large structural variants including recurrent gene fusions such as PLM::RARA and BCR::ABL1.

## Somatic and Germline results

Germline results based on the matched normal.

## QC

Optional coverage QC over multiple regions.

## Germline

Targeted callers e.g. CYP\*  
StarAllele (PGx)  
Variable Number Tandem Repeat

## DUX4

Structural rearrangements between DUX4 and other genes (including IGH)

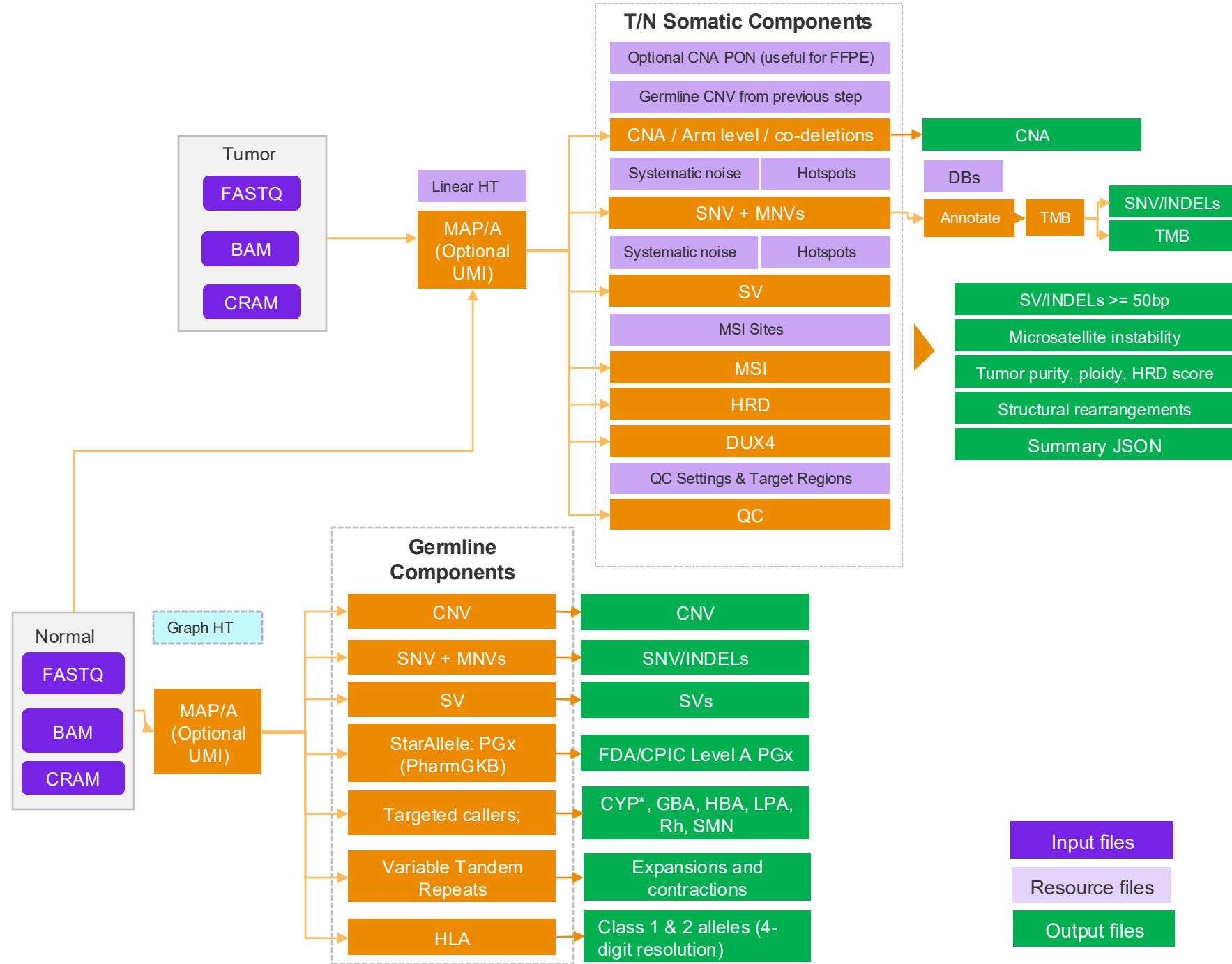
- 1 Replacement for conventional methods
- 2 Accurate Variant Detection
- 3 Enhanced efficiency & accessibility



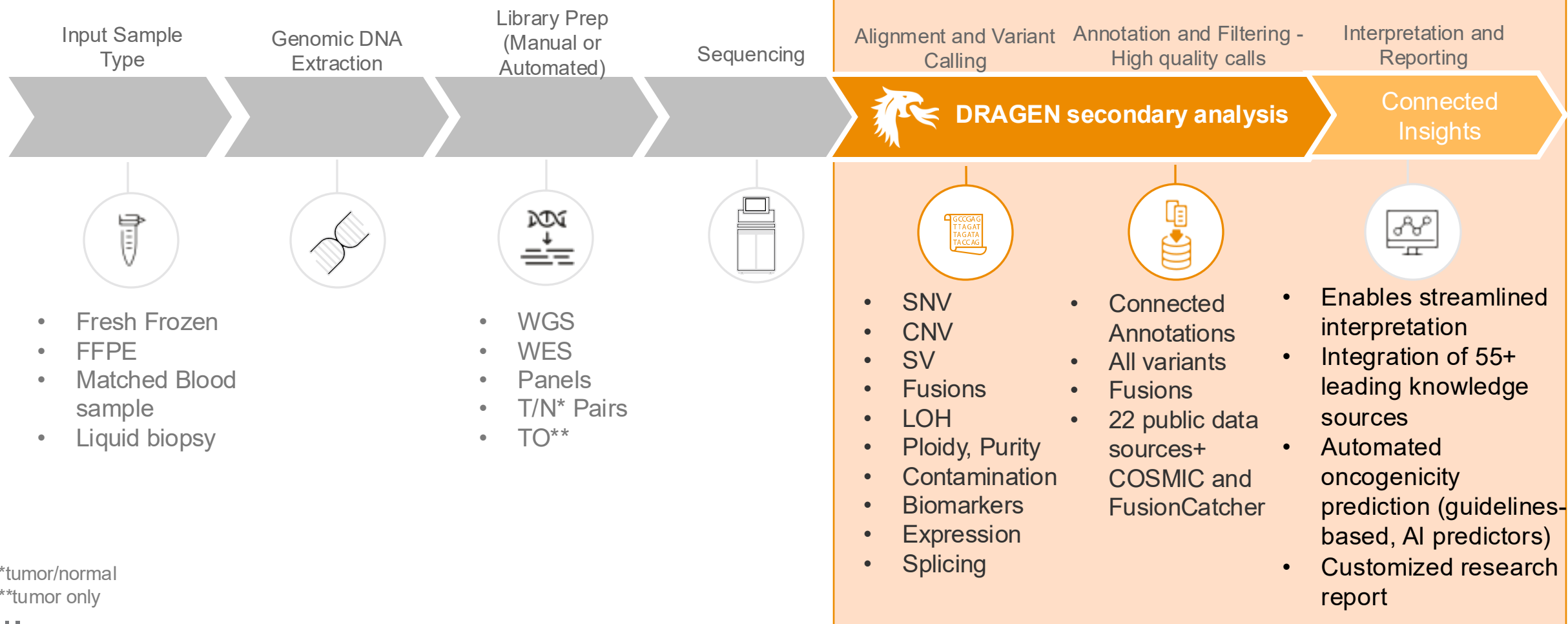
# Out of the box WGS DNA Tumor-Normal Application (early access)

- ✓ Simplifies WGS tumor-normal workflow
- ✓ **Prepackaged application on DRAGEN server** that abstracts with recommended settings and resource files for WGS solid samples, with both somatic and germline results in a single workflow
- ✓ Support for various files types – FastQ, BAM, CRAM
- ✓ Integration with Illumina Connected Insights, streamlines samples to insights workflow

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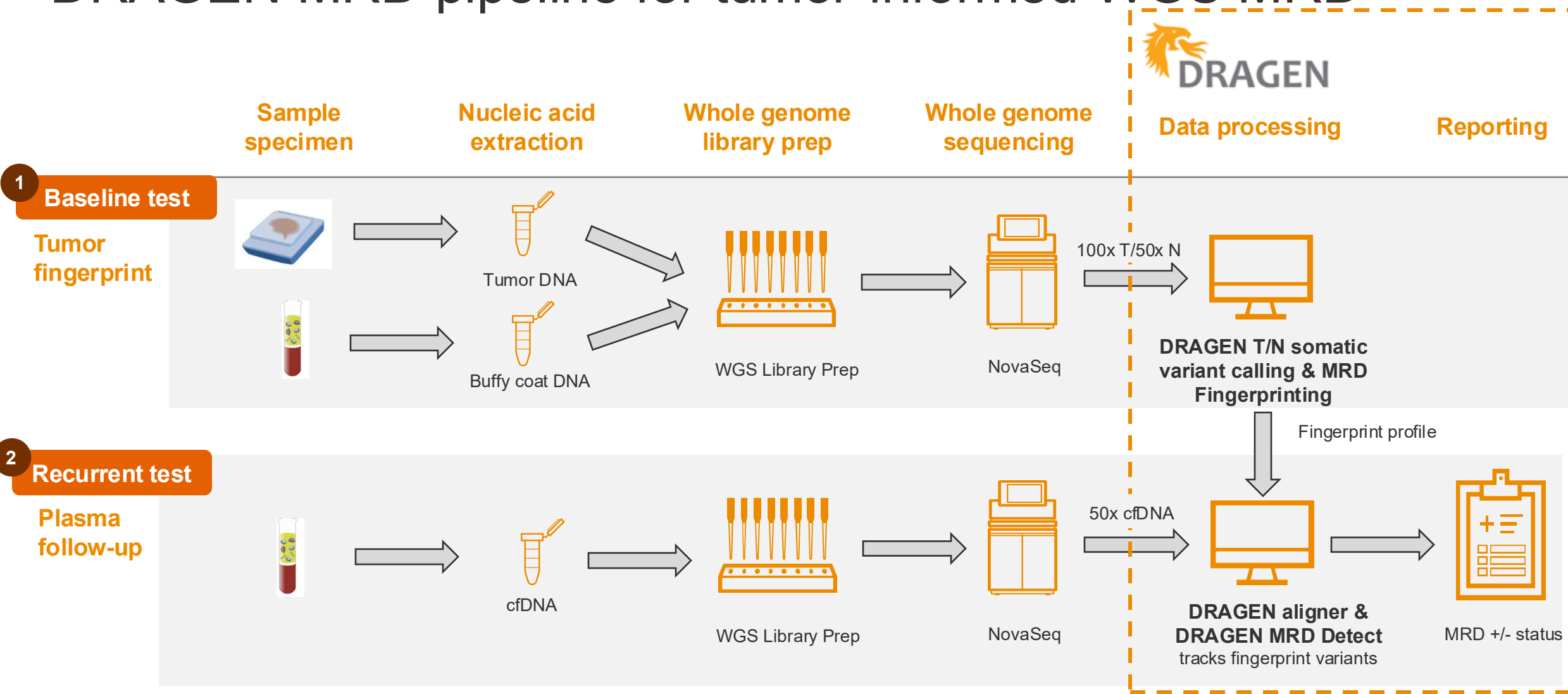


# DRAGEN with Connected Insights enables streamlined analysis & interpretation for oncology



\*tumor/normal  
\*\*tumor only

# DRAGEN MRD pipeline for tumor-informed WGS MRD



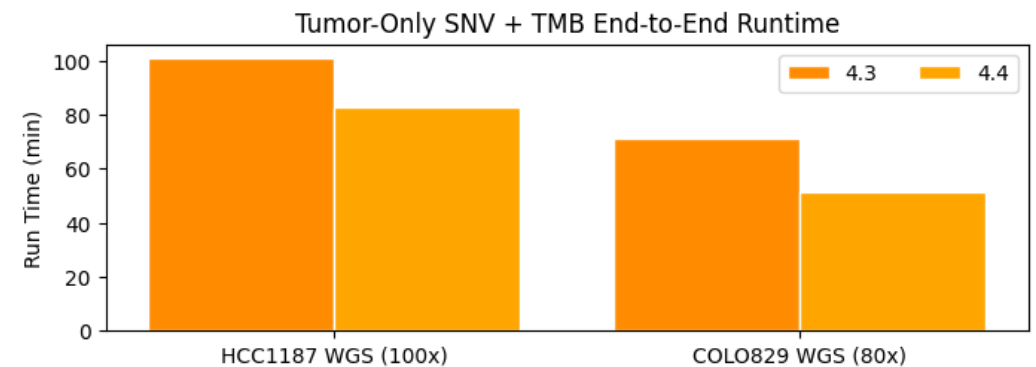
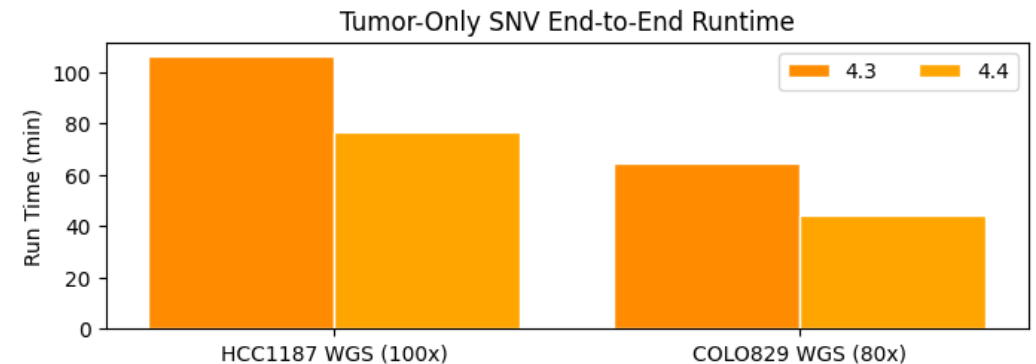
# Faster tumor-only SNV and TMB run time by ~25%

## Significant speed up in VC Germline Tagging and TMB

- No longer required to run full variant annotation
- Tumor-only run time improvements up to 25%

## User Interface changes

- Pass “--enable-variant-annotation true” and it will do full annotation on all DRAGEN (G)VCF outputs
- Omit “--enable-variant-annotation” and it will automatically only annotate the VCF file with reduced set of annotations needed for TMB/tagging

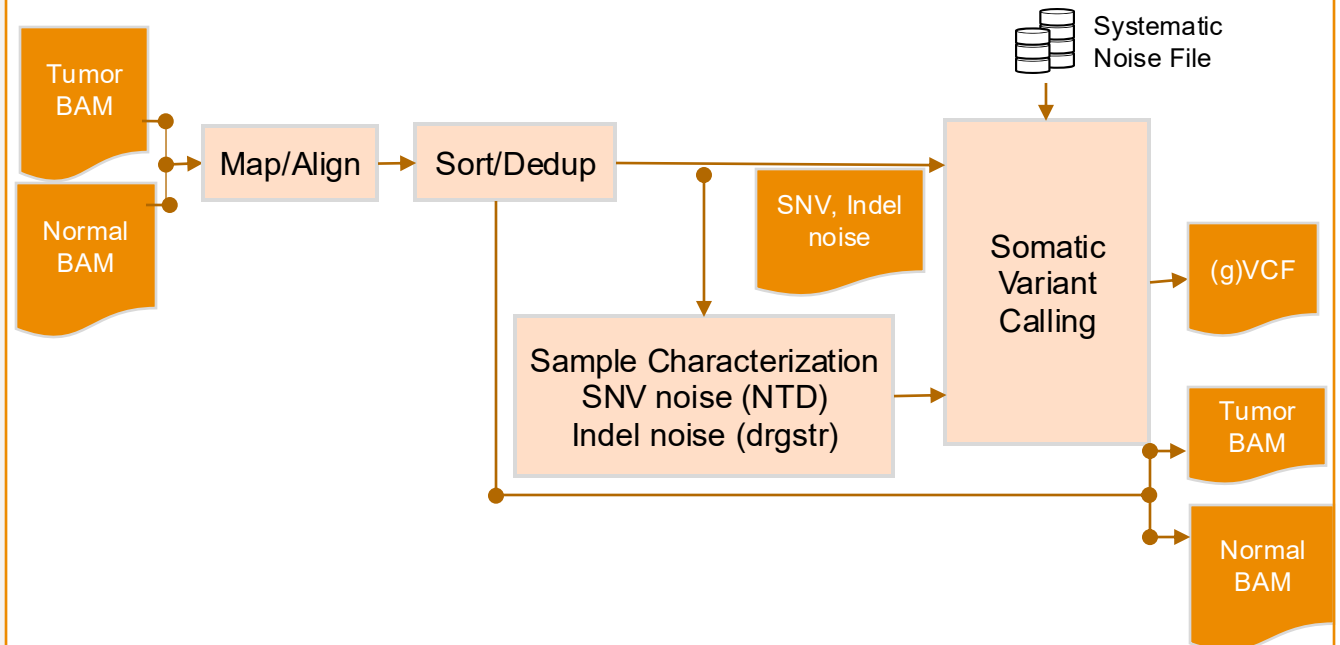


# Support for Tumor + Normal BAM/CRAM input to mapper

## Enables tumor/normal end-to-end analyses from BAM/CRAM input

- End-to-end analysis for tumor/normal is now supported for all input types
- No longer need to remap tumor and normal BAMs/CRAMs separately before VC
- Cuts what used to be a 3-execution workflow down to a single DRAGEN run
- Greater flexibility for users to design their preferred workflows

### Tumor/Normal end-to-end Workflow

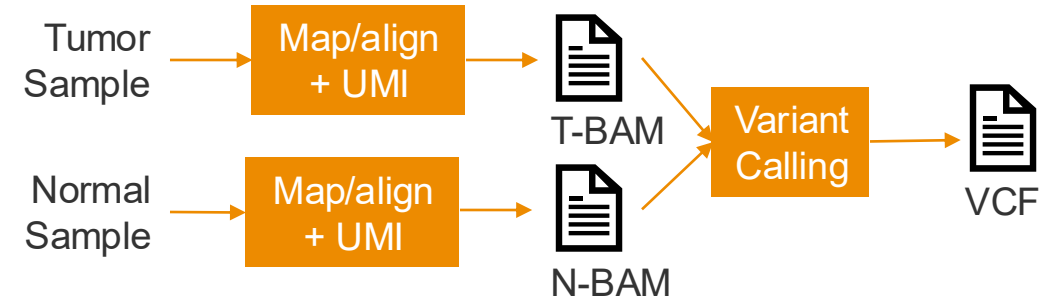


# Support for Tumor/Normal workflow with UMI

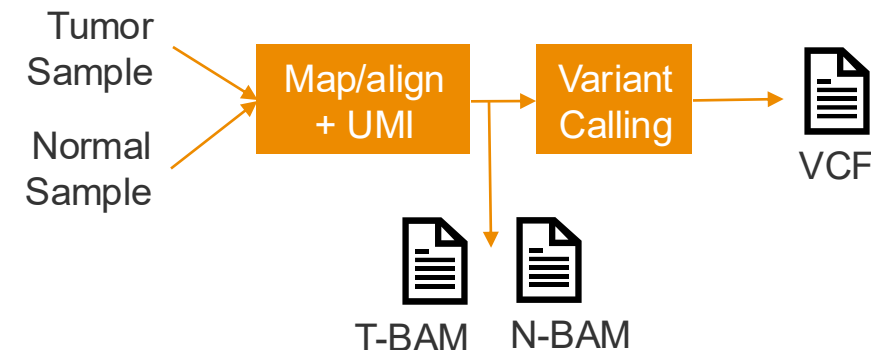
## DRAGEN now supports Tumor/Normal input with UMI in a single run

- > Somatic workflow in Tumor/Normal mode may now include UMI collapsing for Tumor, or for both Tumor and Normal samples.
- > Eliminates the need for 3 separate runs to do alignment + UMI collapsing per sample, and Variant Calling from the BAMs
- > Feature enabled via  
`--tumor-normal-has-umi={both, tumor}`
- > Supported for
  - WGS, Exome or Panel samples types
  - All UMI types

### v4.3 and earlier, 3 runs



### v4.4, 1 run



# DRAGEN Multiomics

4

# Eliminating limitations in single-cell analysis

## Current Industry Constraints



Expensive instrumentation and consumables



Limited scale



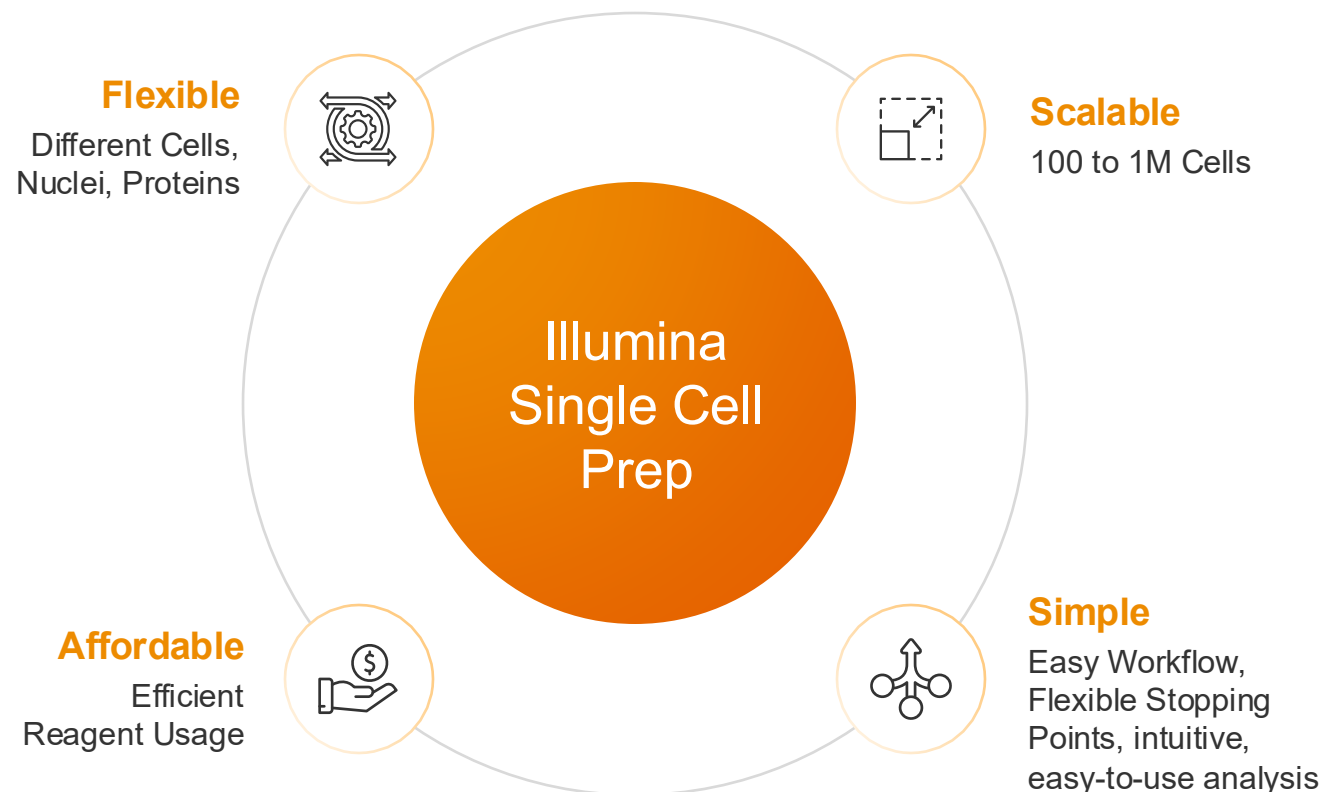
Rigid workflows



Significant expertise required



Analysis requires bioinformatics capabilities



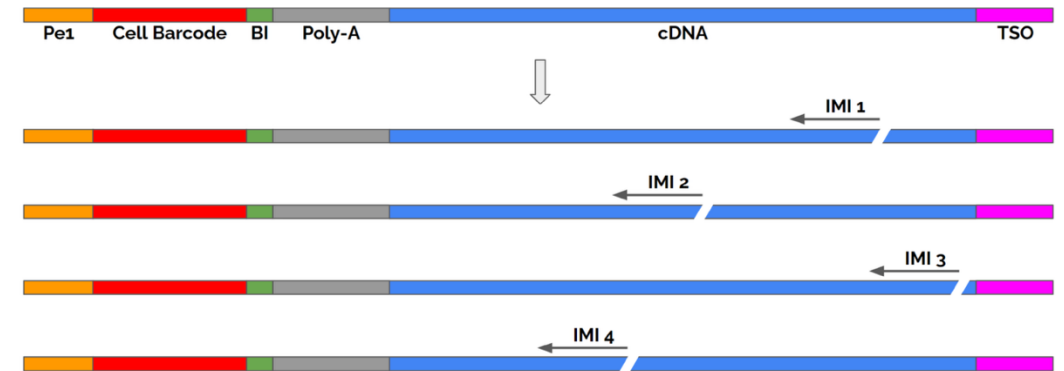


# Illumina Single Cell 3' RNA Analysis available on DRAGEN

## DRAGEN now supports scRNA analysis from Illumina Single Cell Prep

- > Output: Raw matrix, filtered matrix of cells, and full set of metrics output for each sample
- > New molecular counting strategy utilizing binning indexes (Bis) and intrinsic molecular identifiers (IMIs)
- > Clustering and UMAP now supported by DRAGEN reports
- > Barcode and feature counting and correction with new IMIs-per-molecule (IPM) algorithm automatically corrects IMI counts

## Structure of Illumina Prep FASTQ files



Availability



BSSH



ICA



Multi-Cloud



On-premises server

# Analyze multiple scRNA preps simultaneously with state-of-the-art methods and visualizations



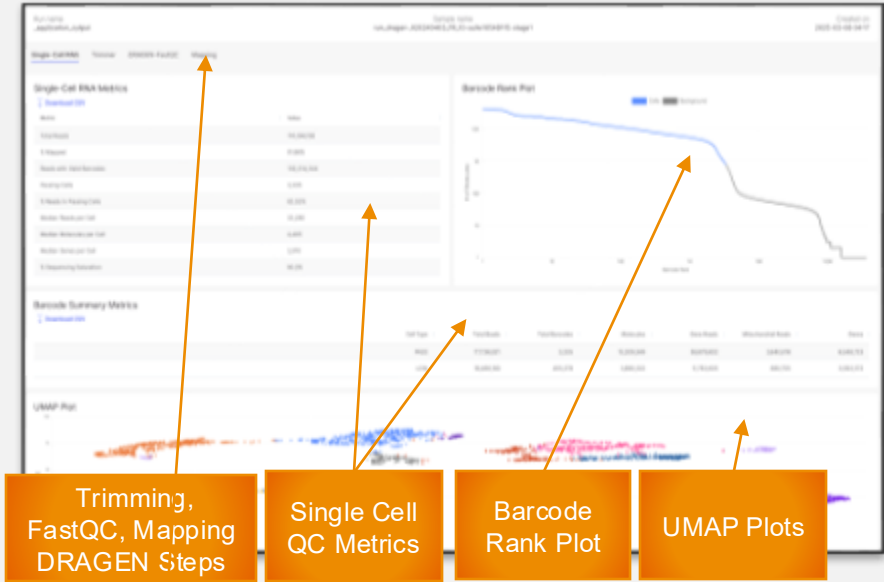
## DRAGEN Single-Cell RNA Pipeline

Hardware acceleration provides efficient secondary analysis of large kits

Kit	# Cells	Run Time*	
		Open-Source	DRAGEN
T2	2k	30m	6m
T20	20k	2.5h	0.5h
T100	125k	28h	2.5h

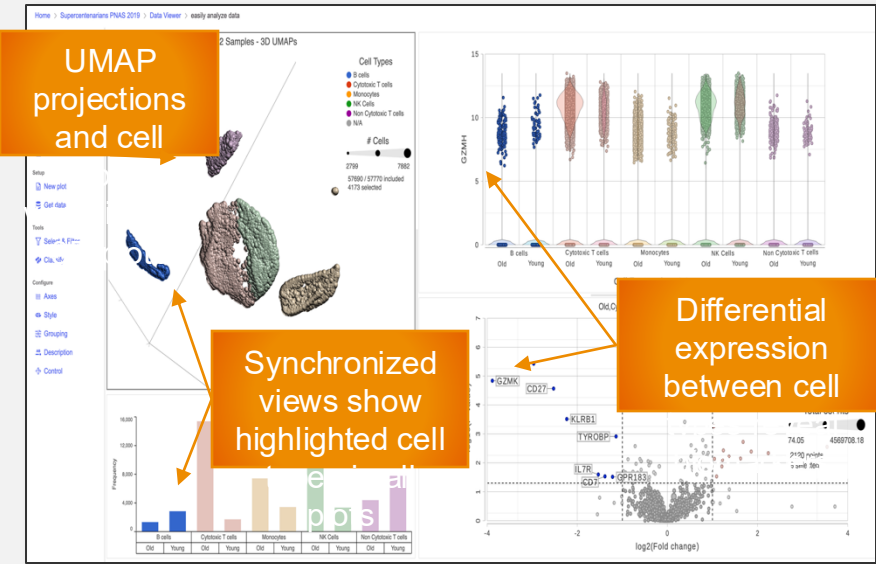
\*Illumina internal data on file, 2025, DRAGEN, open-source data from Pipeseeker

DRAGEN reports highly accurate and visual reports for secondary analysis QC



## Connected Multiomics / Partek Flow

DRAGEN outputs are available in Connected Multiomics to explore the data further



DRAGEN scRNA license is included with the purchase of the Illumina Single Cell 3'RNA assay and will be available for free to use on the server with DRAGEN v4.4

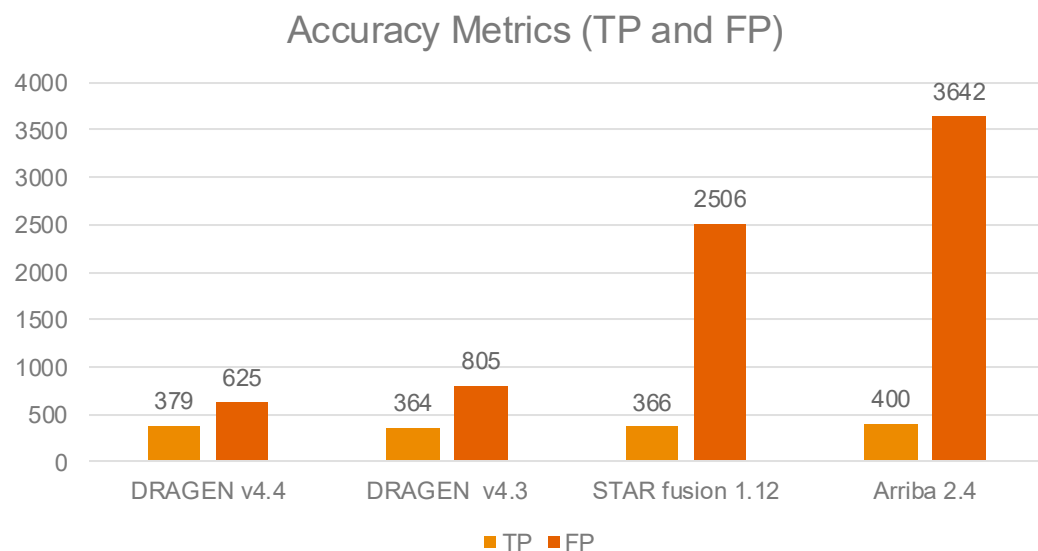


# DRAGEN Bulk RNA

---

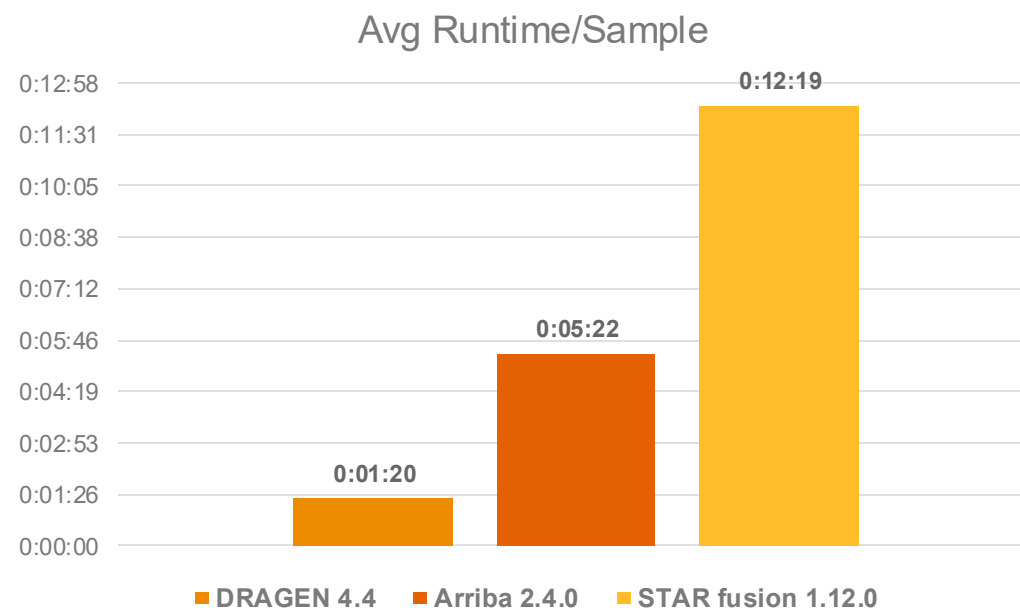
# Improved accuracy of RNA gene fusion detection

## Improvement across versions and vs 3<sup>rd</sup> Parties



- ✓ Total of 179 samples with known validated & “expected” fusions from five different sources
- ✓ 400 of the 531 “expected” fusions are detectable across all callers.

## With ultra-rapid analysis time



# Assembled fusion sequences and precise breakpoints for in-frame/out-of-frame determination

## Gene fusion sequence is assembled and aligned to determine precise breakpoints

- > Fusion sequence assembly is enabled using “**--rna-gf-output-fusion-sequence**” (set to **true** by default)
- > De novo assembly is performed on all evidential split reads to produce fusion sequence
- > Assembled sequence are aligned against left and right breakpoint reference sequences to determine more precise breakpoints
- > Fusion candidates VCF and \*.final files automatically report more precise breakpoints based on alignments of assembled sequences

## Output of <prefix>.fusion\_candidates.final

... LeftBreakpoint	RightBreakpoint	... FusionSequence	BreakpointLeeway	...
... chr2:134120290:+	chr22:22922721:+	... GCGACCTCGCG...	-1 +2	...
... chr22:23290413:+	chr9:130854064:+	... GGGTTTCTGAAT...	-0 +0	...
... chr20:50795173:+	chr17:61368327:+	... GGCGCAACCAC...	-1 +2	...

Corrected

New Fields

- “LeftBreakpoint” and “RightBreakpoint” updated to more precise values based on alignment of assembled sequence
- Full fusion sequence reported under “FusionSequence”
- “BreakpointLeeway” indicates allowable leeway for top alignment. For example, -1|+2 can be shifted to the left by 1 or to the right by 2 bp but maintain maximal alignment score

Availability



BSSH



ICA



Multi-Cloud



On-premises server

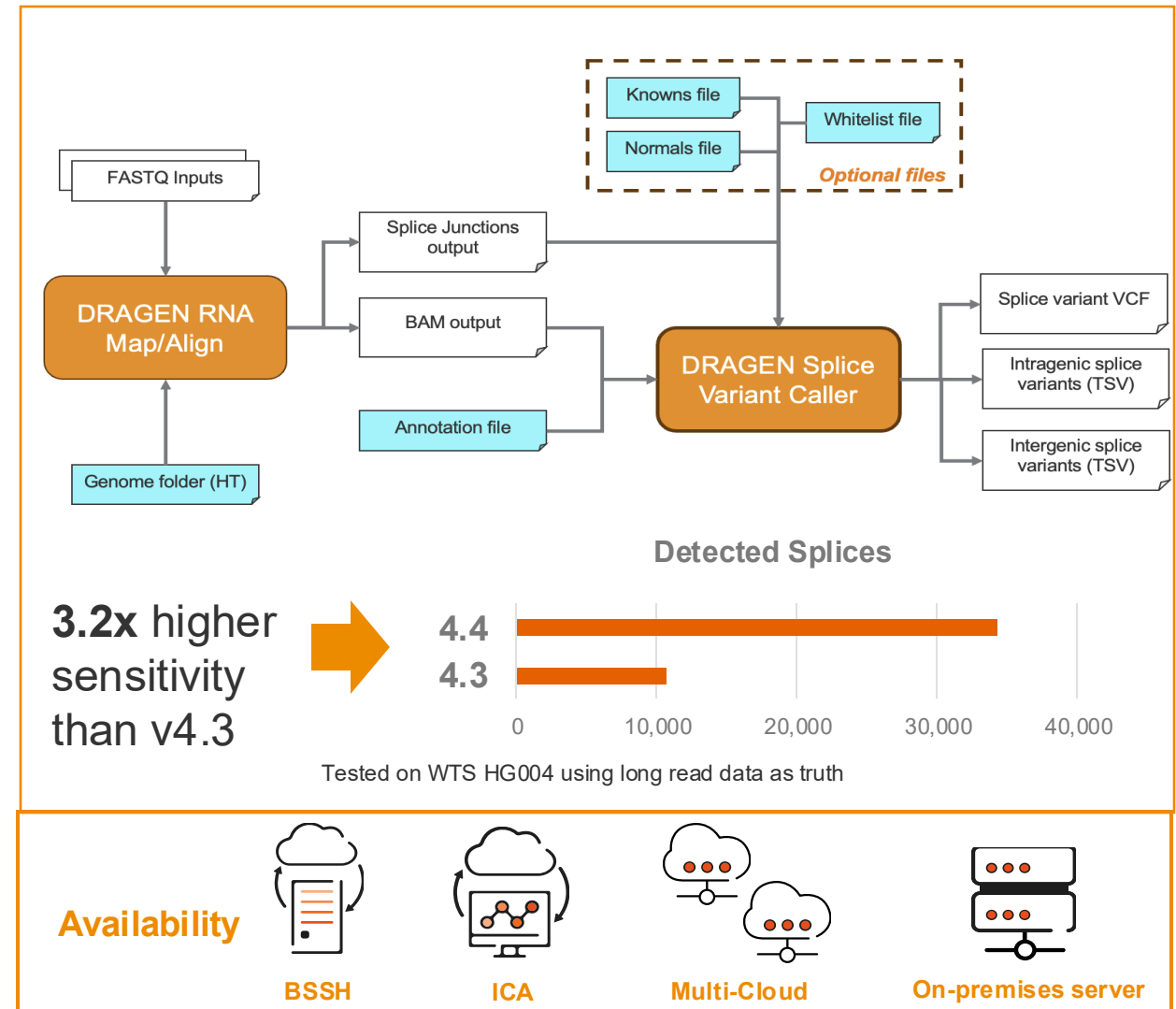
# RNA splice variant caller – increased sensitivity with new ML model and mapper updates

## Enhanced RNA splice variant caller

- ✓ Updated mapper tuned for better splice sensitivity
- ✓ New ML model with scoring and filters
- ✓ Trained on WTS NIST HG005 with long read data
- ✓ **Outputs:**
  - Intragenic splice variants: *splice\_variants.tsv*
  - Intergenic splice variants: *splice\_variant\_fusions.tsv*

## New features

- Uniquely mapping read counts
- Unique and multi mapping read counts
- PCR-duplicated read counts
- Maximum and average mapQ
- Overhang as a ratio of the read length
- Confidence score (0 to 1) and filter (PASS/FAIL)



# DRAGEN on AWS F2



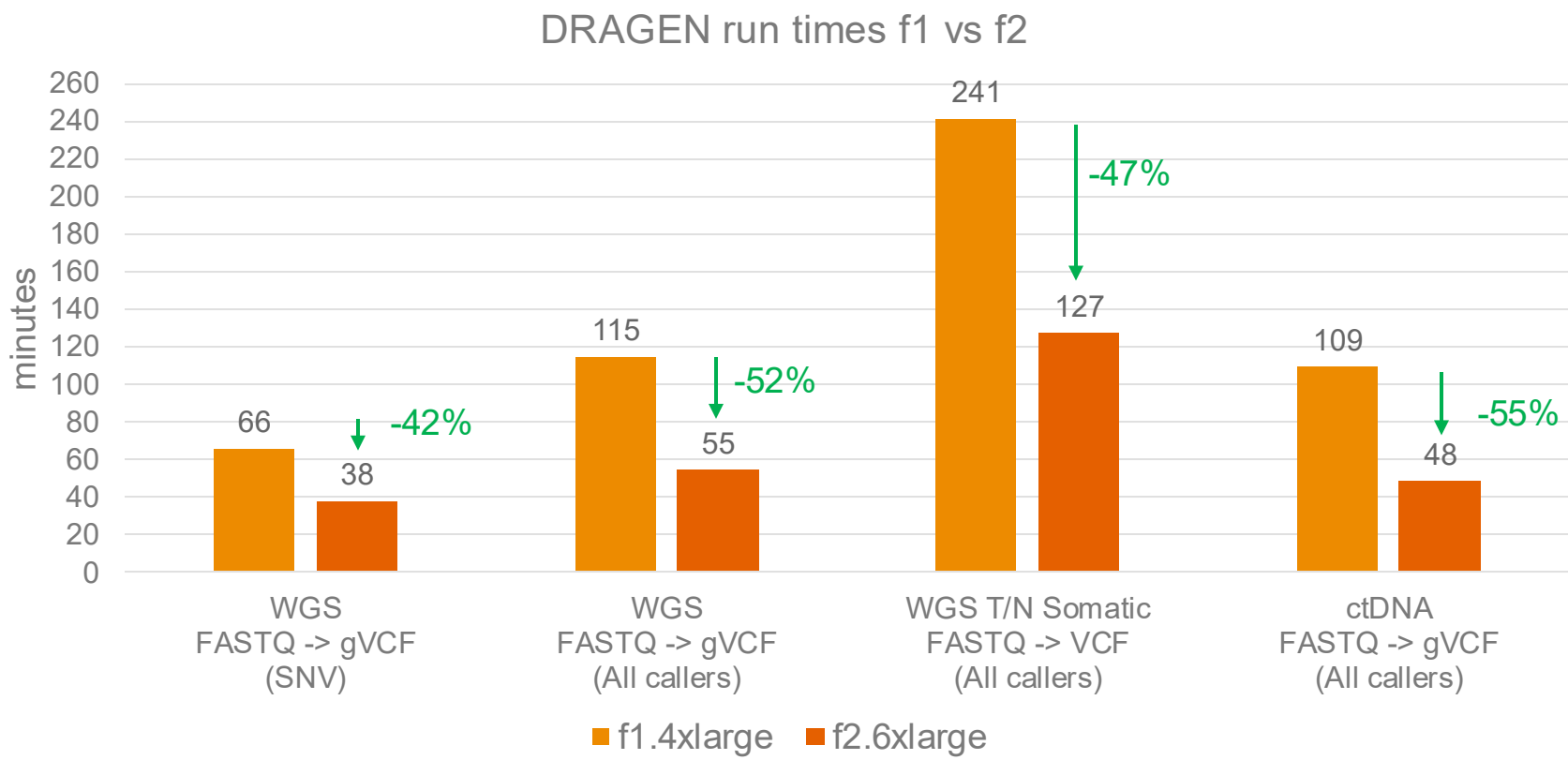
# New AWS EC2 F2 FPGA instance types deliver faster TAT and improved scalability





# DRAGEN on AWS EC2 F2 performance

Significant reduction in turn-around time across all workflow types



Reference	hg38 alt-masked graph
WGS	HG002 Novaseq PCR free 35x
	SNV: FQ > MA, SNV VC, Targeted > BAM, gVCF out
	All Callers: FQ > MA, SNV VC, CNV, SV, Repeats, Targeted > BAM, gVCF out
WGS T/N Somatic	HCC1187 T/N 110x/40x
	All callers: T/N FQ > MA, SNV VC, CNV, SV, HLA, MSI, TMB, HRD > BAM, VCF out
ctDNA	961M reads
	All callers: Tumor FQ > MA, UMI collapse, CNV, SV, MSI, HLA, TMB, QC, Nirvana Annotation -> BAM,VCF

# Toolkit and platform updates



# BCL Convert updates for greater flexibility and efficiency

## Gain flexibility with new sample sheet settings

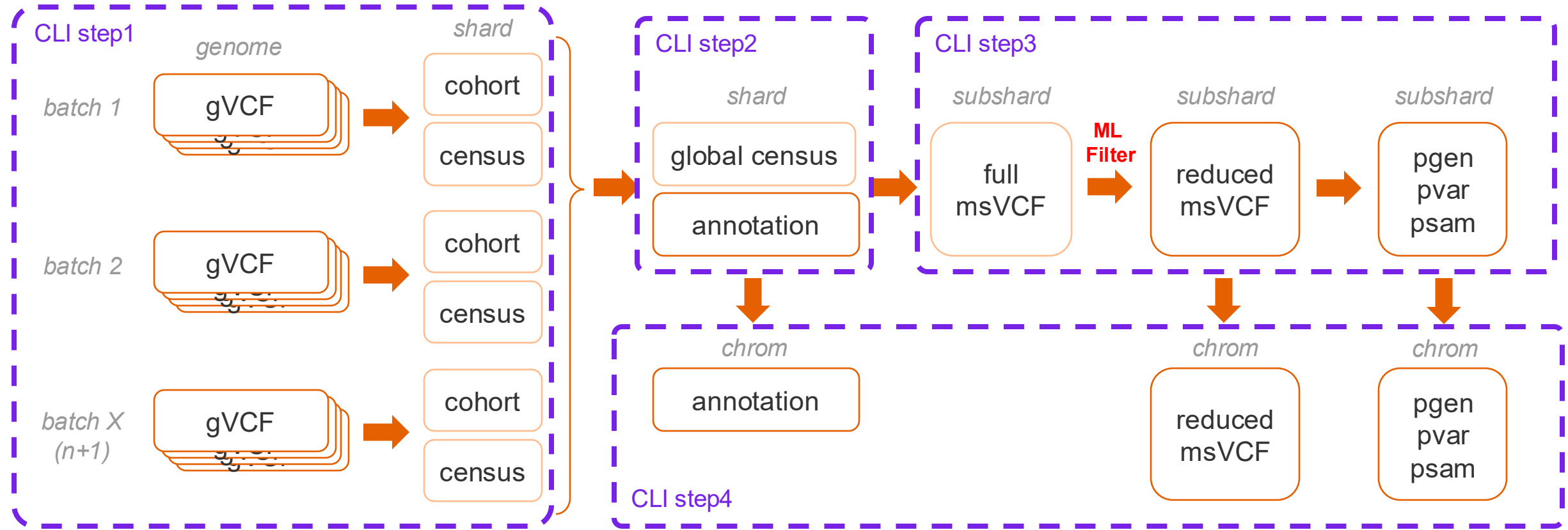
- **OverrideReads:** Redefine read structure by overriding RunInfo (read cycle boundaries, genomic/index status)
- **Index Orientation:** Specify index2 orientation as forward or reverse
- **Custom columns support:**
  - Use `custom_*` fields for per-readgroup customer data
  - v2 sample sheets ignore these fields without error – helpful for **sample management**

## Optimize memory with updated outputs

- **Memory optimization:** New settings reduce memory usage for large sample batches
- **New** `Demultiplex_Detailed_Stats.csv` file provides cycle & transition error details for mismatch tolerant demultiplexing
- **Extended columns to per-tile** `Demultiplex_Tile_Metrics.csv` file, to include derived stats identical to those in the aggregate `Demultiplex_Stats.csv` file

# gVCF Genotyper in ICA: aggregating variants at scale

From gVCF to msVCF, variant annotation and pgen output using the PopGen CLI



# DRAGEN ORA compression - BCL to FASTQ.ORA up to 30% faster

- Convert BCL into ORA skipping intermediate FASTQ.GZ files, and decreasing the runtime up to 30%
- When using compression during BCL convert, simply add the command `--bcl-ora-direct true`.
- Not set as default. Limited to a max number of samples per lane of 40

Note: this option cannot be used if output requested is interleaved FASTQ.ORA files

## Example DRAGEN CMD line

```
dragen
--bcl-compression-only-true
--bcl-input-directory <DIR>
--sample-sheet <DIR>
--fastq-compression dragen #cannot be used with
'dragen-interleaved'
--ora-reference <./oradata/path to reference files>
--bcl-ora-direct true
--output-directory <DIR>
```

## Availability

(Not available on instrument)



On-premises server

# Operating System support

## Out with the old, in with the new

- CentOS 7 support is deprecated  
On-premise builds, AWS AMIs and Azure VMs for el7 still exist for v4.4 but no longer distributed.  
Customers in need may ask for the el7 builds.  
Guidance that v4.5 will not have the ability to generate el7 anymore.
- Oracle8, el8 now fully supported on-prem, AWS AMI and Azure VMs  
Azure VMs now based on el8  
AWS Marketplace AMI is now el8
- Oracle 9, el9 now officially supported since v4.4  
Guidance that Illumina DRAGEN server OS image for Oracle 9 to be released in 2025

### Terminology

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) is an enterprise Linux operating system developed for the business market.
- el7, el8, el9 are abbreviations for Enterprise Linux major version 7,8,9 respectively
- CentOS and Oracle are two of many open-source distributions of Linux centered around the RHEL source.



# DRAGEN unified JSON metrics

Unified JSON output facilitates use of metrics of interest in downstream analysis

## Unified JSON Metrics

- DRAGEN 4.4 generates a unified JSON metrics file <output\_prefix>.metrics.json for every run
- Unified JSON metrics for 4.4 can contain the following modules (if enabled):
  - DRAGEN metadata
  - Mapping/Aligning metrics
  - QC Region coverage metrics
  - Variant Caller metrics
  - FASTQC metrics

## Format

- Nested dictionaries by module and by grouping (global metrics vs. per read group metrics, wgs vs. per region)
- Metadata contains version, licensing, run information, etc.
- Metric data matches data in the corresponding CSV files
- Can be easily parsed with standard JSON parsing libraries

## Sample output JSON output:

```
"metadata": {
  "dragenVersion": "4.4.123",
  "licenseInfo": [ ... ],
  "runInfo": { ... },
},
"modules": {
  "coverageSummary": {
    "wgs": { ... },
    "qc-coverage-region-1": { ... },
    ...
  },
  "mapAlign": {
    "globalMetrics": { ... },
    "perReadGroupMetrics": { ... }
  },
  "variantCaller": {
    "postFilter": { ... },
    "prefilter": { ... },
  }
}
```

# BYOL Cloud – Now you can view your licenses

- Can retrieve license information utilizing the packaged `dragen_lic` tool for BYOL Cloud credentials.
- Provide the `dragen_lic` tool the credentials using the same DRAGEN commands, `--lic-server` or `--lic-credentials`.
- Can export to a JSON format using the `-j` option as usual.

```
$ dragen_lic --lic-credentials my_credentials.cfg
User: <username>
DRAGEN Version: <DRAGEN version>
Time: <time>

DRAGEN Core:
  Status: Active
  Used: 68.0 Gbases since 2023-Dec-05
  Quota: 100250 Gbases
  Expiry: 2024-Feb-13
  Includes; Genome, JointGenotype, CNV, Somatic, Transcriptome License(s)

Compression:
  Status: Active - !!! EXPIRING IN LESS THAN 30 DAYS !!!
  Used: 0 Gbases since 2024-Jan-12
  Quota: Unlimited
  Expiry: 2024-Feb-13
```



# New DRAGEN v4.4 BSSH Apps & ICAv2 Pipelines

## BSSH Apps (ICAv2 backend)

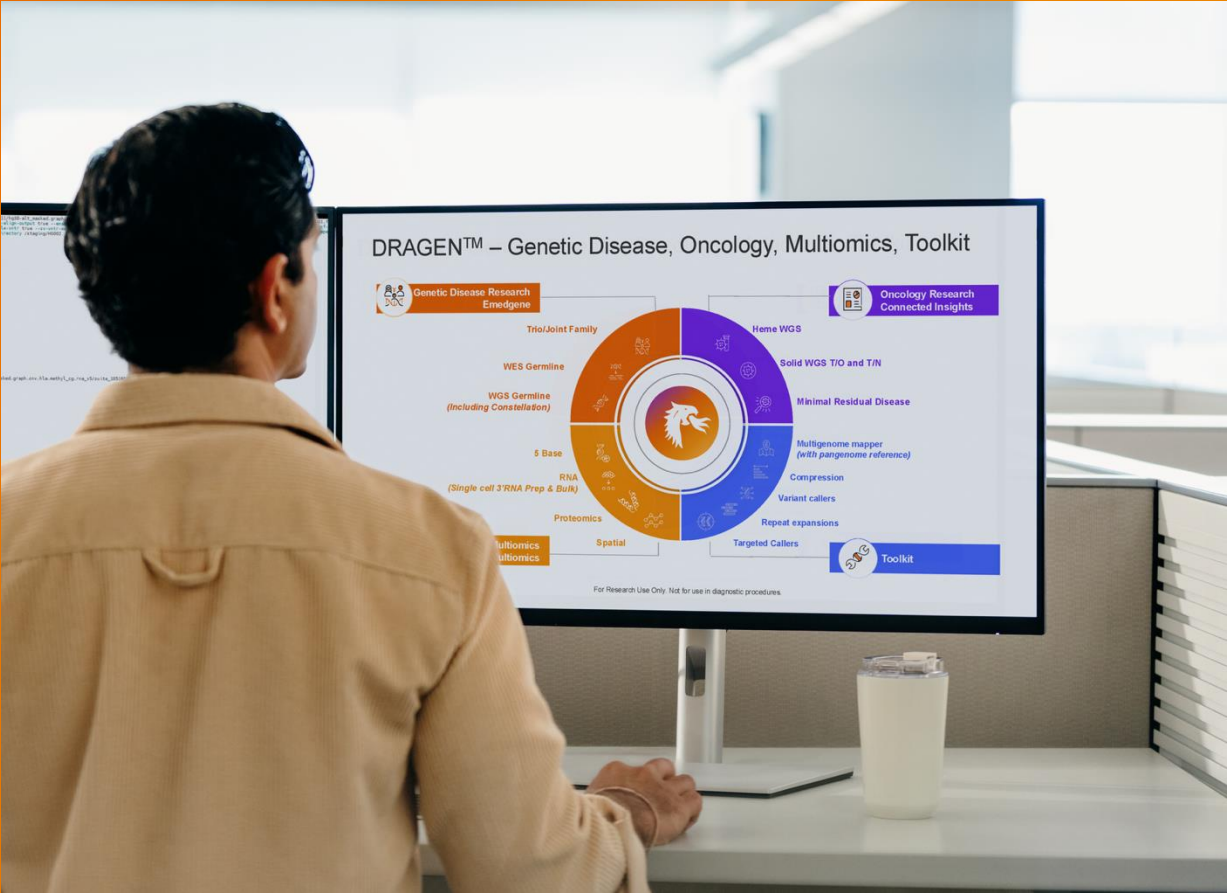
- BCL Convert
- Germline
- Somatic
- Enrichment
- Germline Enrichment from BCLs
- DRAGEN Microbial Amplicon
- Reference Builder (labs)
- Baseline Builder (labs)
- Amplicon (labs)
- RNA (labs)
- Methylation (labs)

## ICAv2 Pipelines (w/ F2 support)

- BCL Convert
- Germline (WGS & Enrichment)
- Somatic (WGS & Enrichment)
- Reference Builder
- Baseline Builder
- Amplicon
- RNA
- Population Haplotyping
- Imputation Reference Panel Builder
- Pedigree (Joint & E2E)
- Methylation
- Illumina Connected Annotations v3.25.1

# Request a DRAGEN free trial

Accurate, comprehensive, efficient secondary analysis



# Thank you!

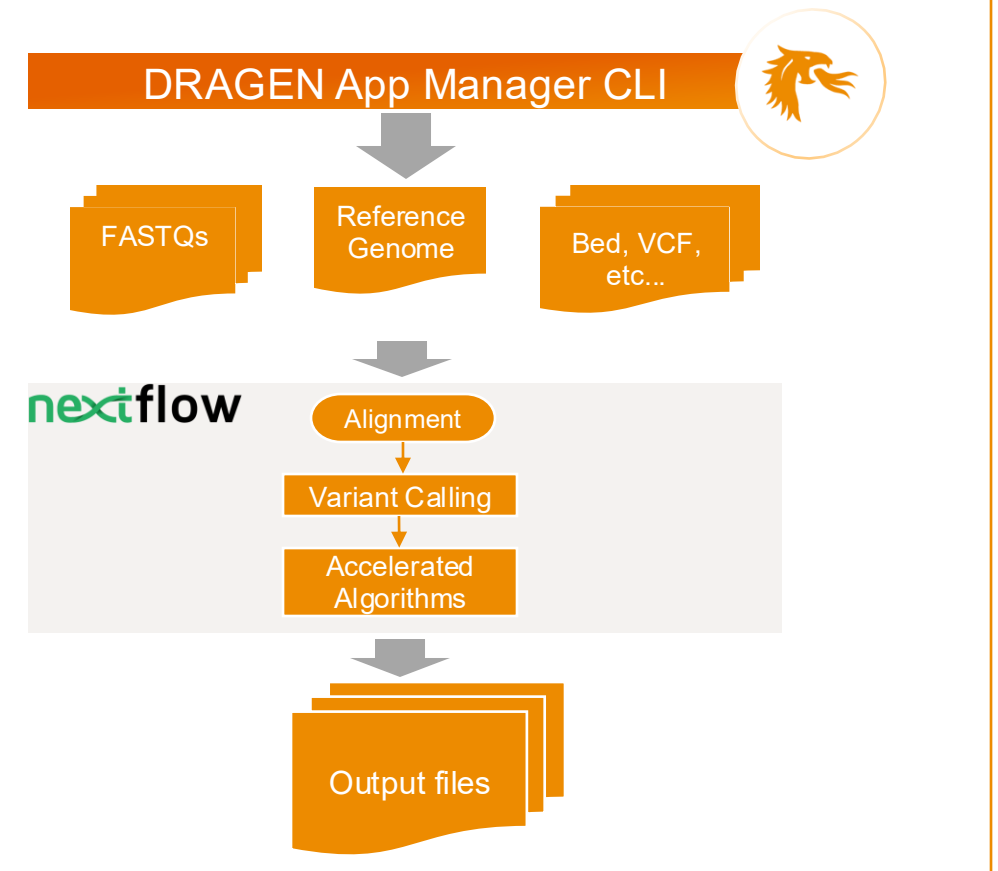
# Appendix

# New DRAGEN app manager CLI

Streamlined DRAGEN interface to install, manage and execute comprehensive DRAGEN apps

## Flexible deployment options with standalone app packages

- Easily install Nextflow DRAGEN workflows as single app packages
- Simple command line interface (CLI) to install and manage DRAGEN workflow resources such as genomes, bed files, etc..
- Single command to execute apps and monitor job status
- Supports current features in DRAGEN v4.4



# DRAGEN CNV updates

## Somatic CNV Model Improvements

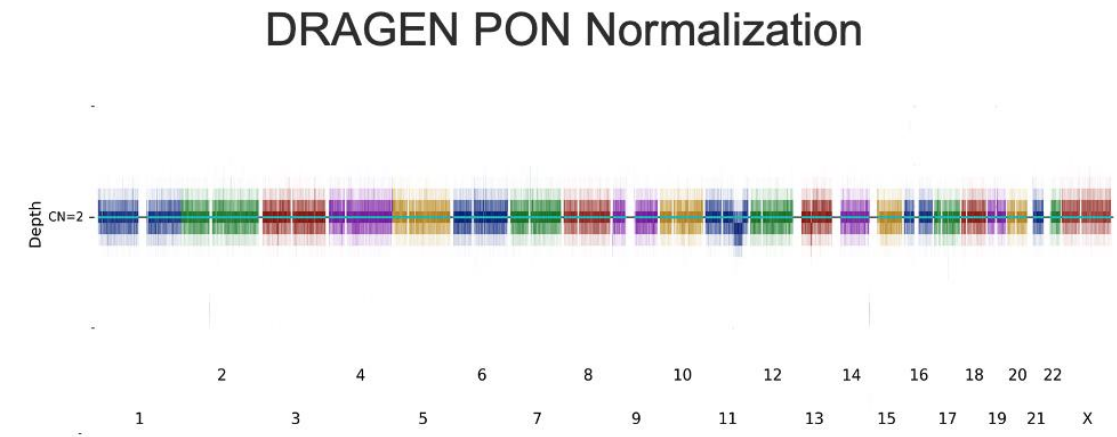
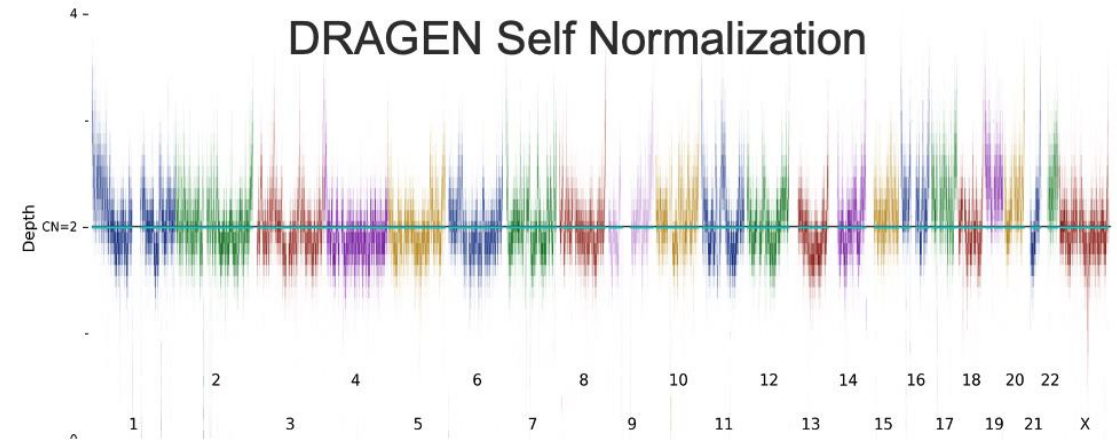
- Updates to purity/ploidy estimation allowing for higher success rate of model detection on challenging tumors.
- Improved detection for samples with low coverage, very few CNVs, noisy BAF profiles, FFPE, or extreme GC bias.

## WGS Panel of Normals Support

- WGS samples with noisy depth profiles can now be normalized with panel of normals to remove systematic biases introduced from cell line replication timing, DNA degradation, or library prep issues.

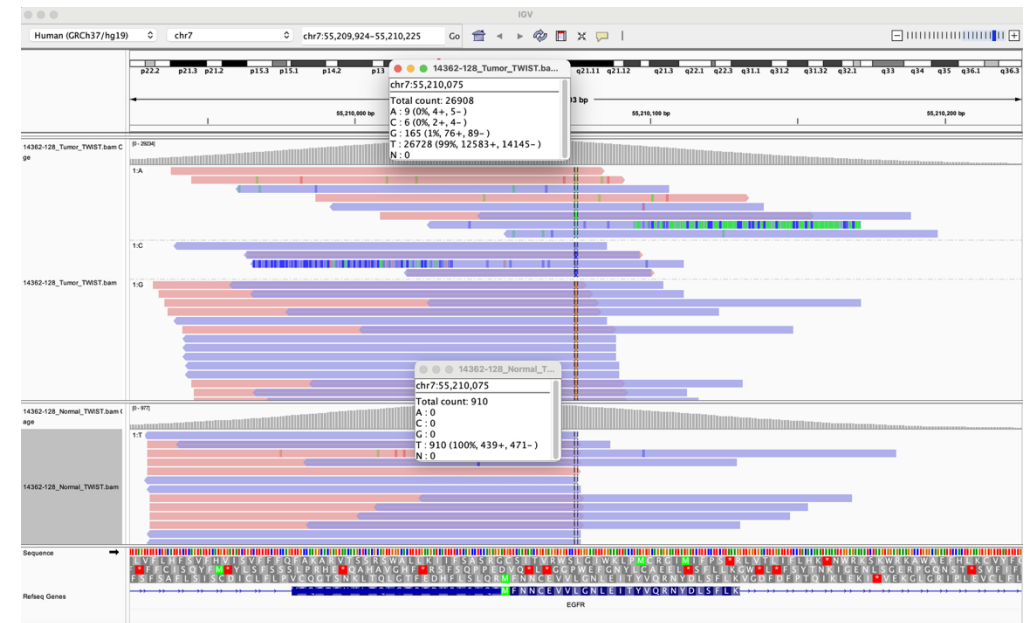
## WGS Targeted Segmentation BED

- Forced segmentation of CNV detection allows arm-level and whole chromosome detection, replacing the need for targeted panel tests to detect events such as 1p/19q co-deletions.



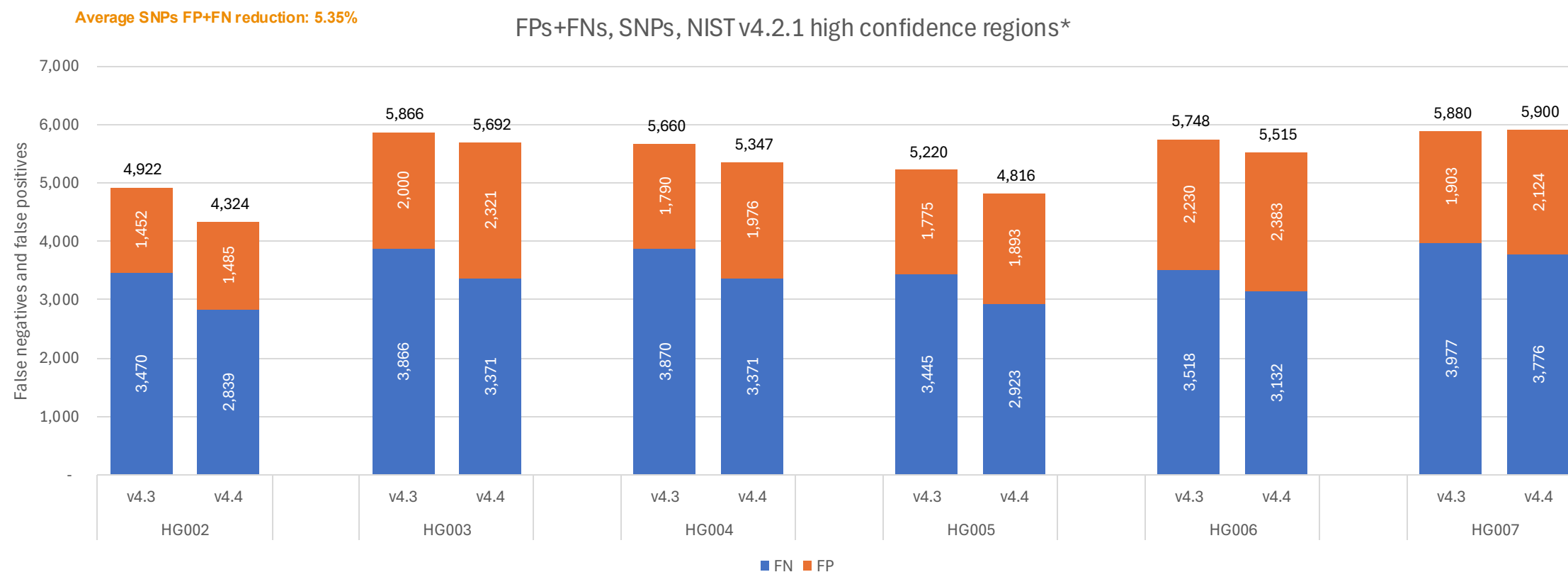
# Improved sensitivity for low-VAF variants in amplified regions with sample type auto - detection

- Column-wise detection update to identify candidate variant events in high-coverage regions
- Improved identification of very low VAF events in copy number amplifications
- With new auto sample type detection, high-coverage support mode enabled automatically for WES/panel samples.
- Systematic noise method for WGS (max) or WES/panel (mean) is applied automatically; no need to set vc-systematic-noise method via the command line



# Germline small variant caller – Accuracy v4.2.1 SNPs

DRAGEN 4.4 variant caller improvements result in 5.35% reduction in SNPs FP+FN



\*Samples NSX 10B v1.1 35x median autosomal coverage, HG001 removed from analysis since included in the DRAGEN Pangenome Reference



# Germline small variant caller in the dark regions of the genome

5.58% reduction in SNPs FP+FN in difficult-to-map regions



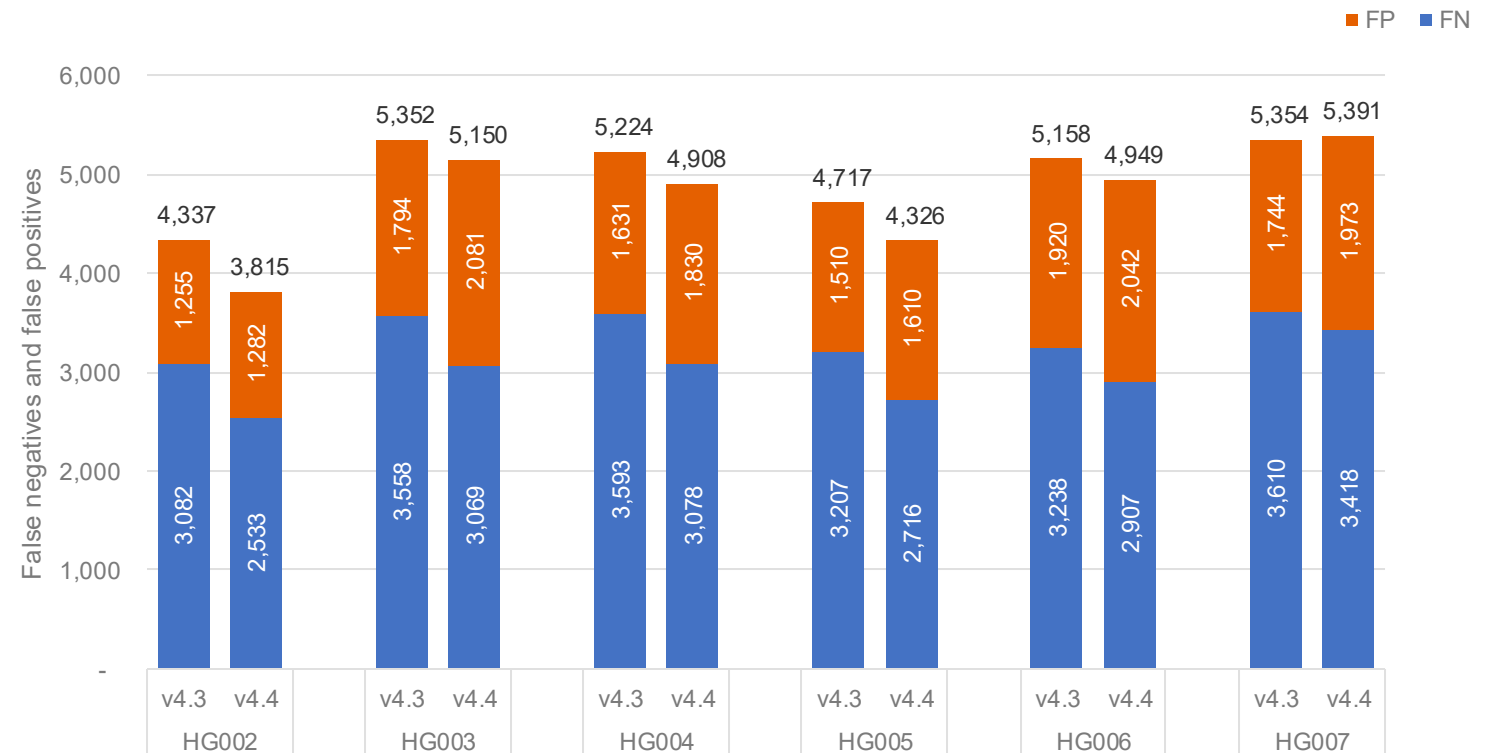
## Difficult-to-map regions<sup>1</sup>

- ✓ regions that have other **homologous regions** in the reference genome for the given read length, number of mismatches, and number of indels.

- ✓ **Segmental duplications**

1. Difficult-to-Map Regions BED file. [ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ReferenceSamples/giab/release/genome-stratifications/v3.3/GRCh38@all/Union/GRCh38\\_all/lowmapandsegdupregions.bed.gz](ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ReferenceSamples/giab/release/genome-stratifications/v3.3/GRCh38@all/Union/GRCh38_all/lowmapandsegdupregions.bed.gz).

FPS+FNs, SNPs, HG002-HG007\*, NIST v4.2.1 difficult-to-map regions



\*Samples NSX 10B v1.1 35x median autosomal coverage, HG001 removed from analysis since included in the DRAGEN Pangenome Reference

# Germline small variant caller in the dark regions of the genome

4.39% reduction in INDELs FP+FN in difficult-to-map regions



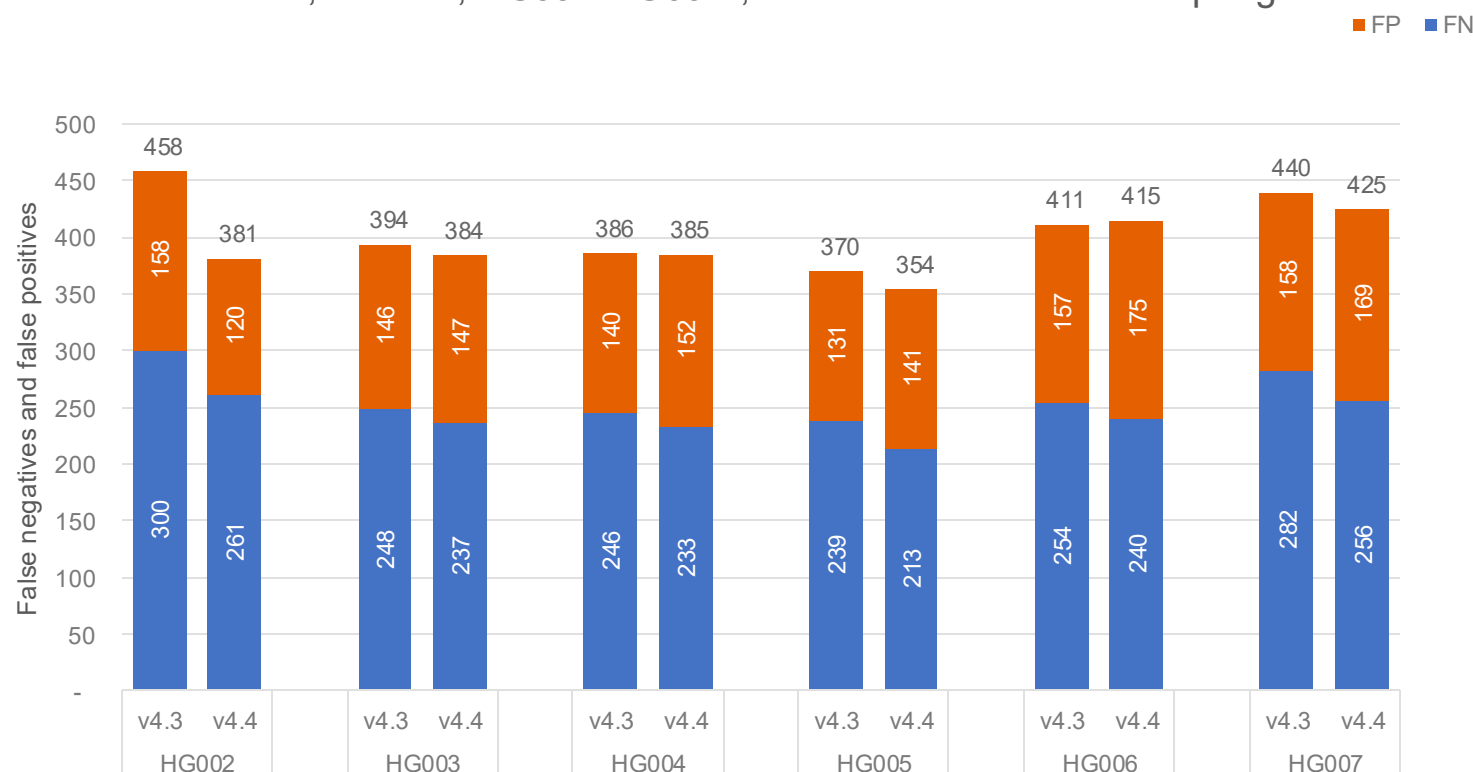
## Difficult-to-map regions<sup>1</sup>

- ✓ regions that have other **homologous regions** in the reference genome for the given read length, number of mismatches, and number of indels.

- ✓ **Segmental duplications**

1. Difficult-to-Map Regions BED file. [ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ReferenceSamples/giab/release/genome-stratifications/v3.3/GRCh38@all/Union/GRCh38\\_allowmapandsegdupregions.bed.gz](ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ReferenceSamples/giab/release/genome-stratifications/v3.3/GRCh38@all/Union/GRCh38_allowmapandsegdupregions.bed.gz).

FPs+FNs, INDELs, HG002-HG007\*, NIST v4.2.1 difficult-to-map regions



\*Samples NSX 10B v1.1 35x median autosomal coverage, HG001 removed from analysis since included in the DRAGEN Pangenome Reference

# New cytogenetics output reduces large call fragmentation

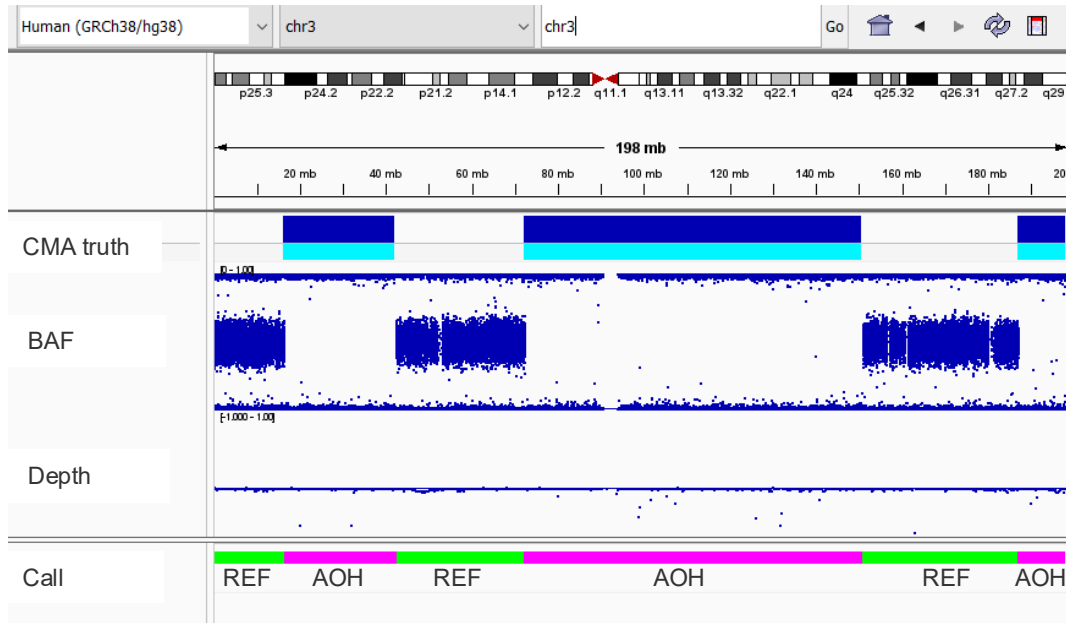
DUP / DEL / AOH	CNV+SV VCF (*cnv_sv.vcf.gz)	CYTO VCF (*cyto.vcf.gz)
[1kb, 25kb)	Supported	N/A
[25kb, 500kb)	Supported	Recommended (RES=25k)
[500kb, 1Mb)	Supported	Recommended (RES=500k)
≥ 1Mb	Supported	Recommended (RES=1M)
Mosaic Alterations ≥ 100kb	Supported	Supported

Typical use case:

- Short alterations: CNV+SV VCF recommended for alterations ≥ 1kb
- 25kb to whole-chromosome alterations: CYTO VCF reduces call fragmentation for larger alterations

# Germline CNV can now detect AOH events

> 97% concordance with CMA results on internal AOH validation set (N=34 samples)

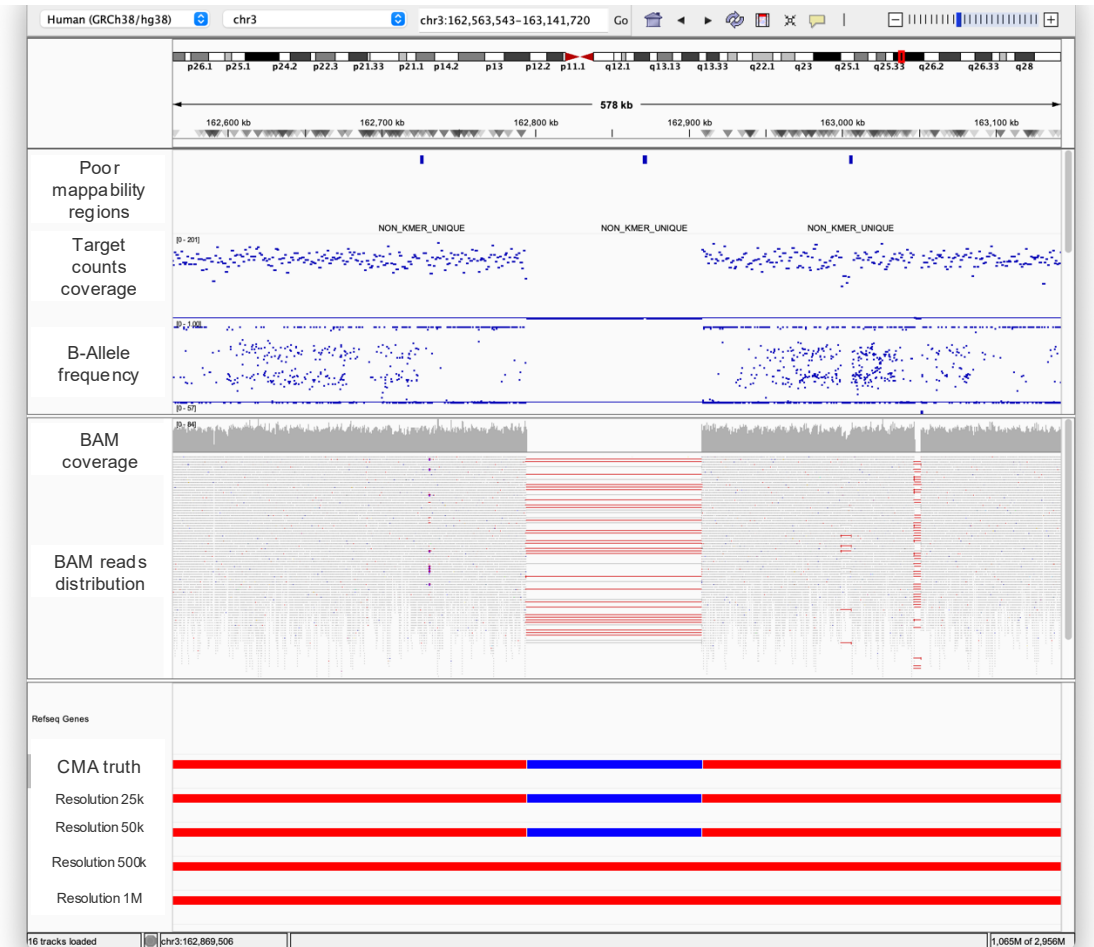


Degree of autosomal homozygosity reported by DRAGEN used as Consanguinity estimate

Sample	Metric	Expected	Estimated
HG01970	Autosomal AOH % (hg38)	12.2	11
NA19679	Autosomal AOH % (hg38)	5.7	5
NA20585	Autosomal AOH % (hg38)	4.2	4
NA19648	Autosomal AOH % (hg38)	3.3	3
HG01348	Autosomal AOH % (hg38)	3.3	3

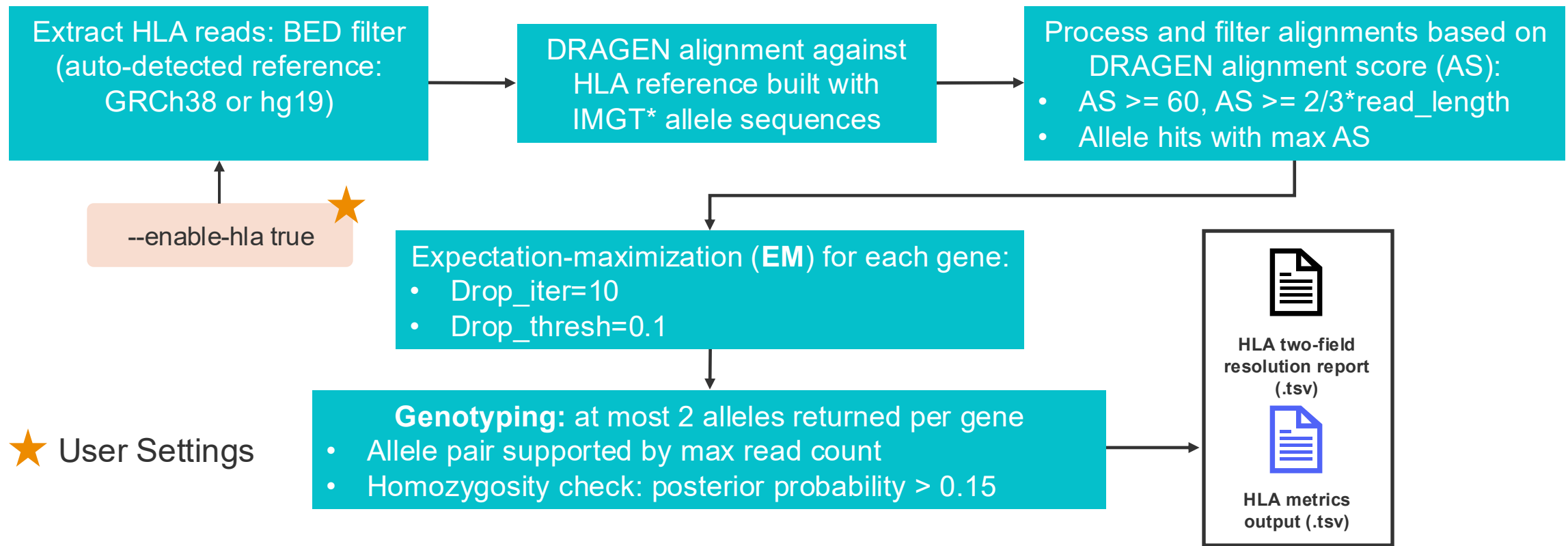
Tested on 5 samples from 1000G with published consanguinity percentage (Dong et al., 2021)

# Cytogenetics modality provides support for multi-resolution views



# DRAGEN v4.4 supports genotyping 41 HLA and HLA-related genes

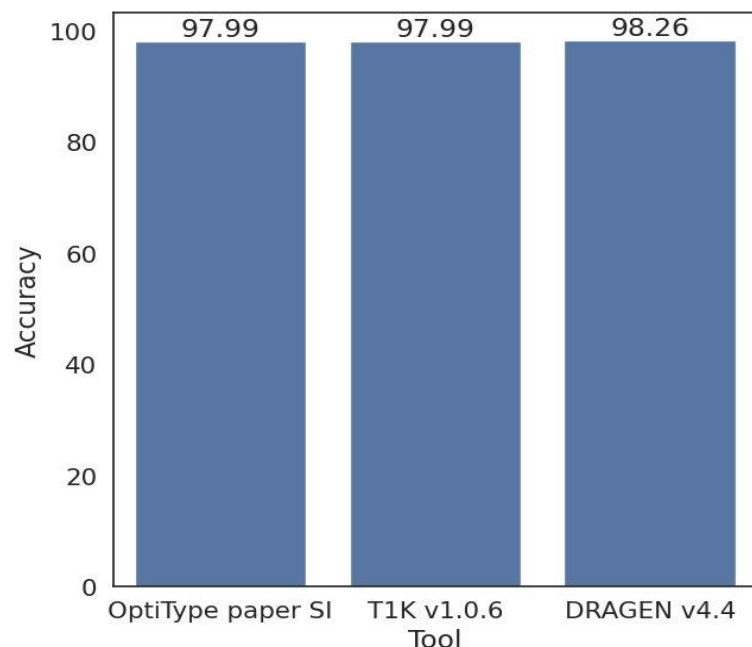
Nucleotide-based alignments using DRAGEN map-align and expectation-maximization for HLA genotyping



\*The ImMunoGeneTics project (IMGT) hosts the IPD-IMGT/HLA database, a comprehensive repository for sequences of the human major histocompatibility complex (MHC) and includes the official sequences named by the WHO Nomenclature Committee For Factors of the HLA System

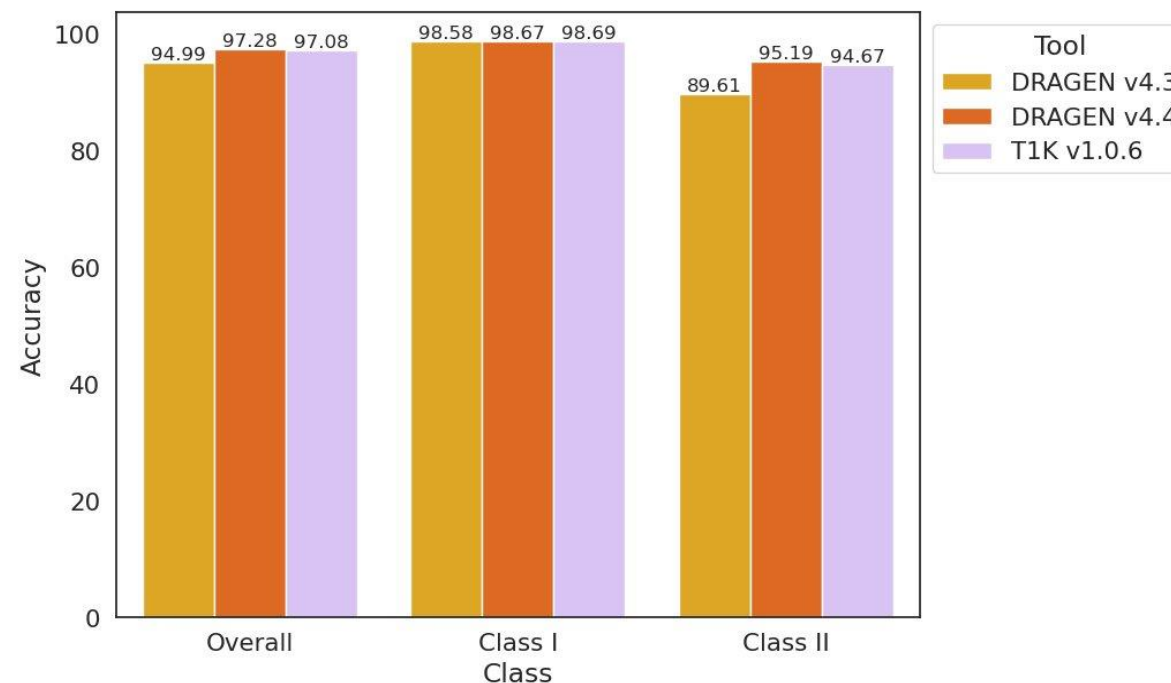
# HLA genotyping accuracy

Class I genes (A, B, and C), Optitype truth set



DRAGEN v4.4 HLA caller shows highest accuracy for Class I genes (A, B, and C) compared to OptiType (published data\*) and T1K v1.0.6 over 182 1KG samples using Optitype truth set

Class I genes (A, B, and C), Class II (DQB1, DRB1) 1KG truth set



DRAGEN v4.4 HLA caller shows higher accuracy overall and higher accuracy for Class II genes (DQB1 and DRB1) compared to T1K v1.0.6 over 1,103 diverse 1KG samples using truth set derived from Sanger sequencing

## HLA caller updates in v4.4

- Extended gene list to all 41 MHC genes: 37 HLA genes and 4 HLA related genes
- Class II accuracy (esp. DRB1) improved by over 10% compared to DRAGEN v4.3
- Support for genotyping HLA starting from Tumor-Normal BAMs (requires map-align)

# DRAGEN v4.4 HLA supported genes and concordance against T1K

DRAGEN concordance against T1k over 3,202 diverse WGS samples from 1KGP

gene	gene type	matches	N	%Concordance
A	Class I	6373	6404	99.52
B	Class I	6384	6404	99.69
C	Class I	6382	6404	99.66
DMA	Class II	6362	6404	99.34
DMB	Class II	6042	6404	94.35
DOA	Class II	6309	6404	98.52
DOB	Class II	6194	6404	96.72
DPA1	Class II	6117	6404	95.52
DPA2	Class II	6019	6404	93.99
DPB1	Class II	6162	6404	96.22
DPB2	Class II	5942	6404	92.79
DQA1	Class II	6328	6404	98.81
DQA2	Class II	5958	6404	93.04
DQB1	Class II	6201	6404	96.83
DQB2	Class II	6230	6404	97.28
DRA	Class II	6403	6404	99.98
DRB1	Class II	6141	6404	95.89
DRB3	Class II	5541	6404	86.52
DRB4	Class II	3315	6404	51.76
DRB5	Class II	5089	6404	79.47
E	Class I minor	6294	6404	98.28

Genes supported in DRAGEN v4.3

gene	gene type	matches	N	%Concordance
F	Class I minor	6368	6404	99.44
G	Class I minor	6242	6404	97.47
H	Class I pseudogene	6379	6404	99.61
HFE	Class I like - haemochromatosis	6314	6404	98.59
J	Class I pseudogene	6404	6404	100
K	Class I pseudogene	5967	6404	93.18
L	Class I pseudogene	6262	6404	97.78
MICA	HLA class I related	6175	6404	96.42
MICB	HLA class I related	6215	6404	97.05
N	Class I pseudogene	6404	6404	100
P	Class I pseudogene	6246	6404	97.53
R	Class I pseudogene	6404	6404	100
S	Class I pseudogene	6322	6404	98.72
T	Class I pseudogene	6346	6404	99.09
TAP1	HLA related - Antigen processing	6093	6404	95.14
TAP2	HLA related - Antigen processing	4202	6404	65.62
U	Class I pseudogene	5652	6404	88.26
V	Class I pseudogene	6404	6404	100
W	Class I pseudogene	5960	6404	93.07
Y	Class I pseudogene	4447	6404	69.44
Overall	ALL	246592	262564	93.92



# WES targeted calling from command line

- Three steps for targeted calling from a WES run
- Available as a single workflow via ICA/BSSH app
- For correct normalization, each WES run must be processed as a batch and include samples from a single library prep.
  - **Counts generation:** For each sample in a WES run, uses read input to generate a counts file that includes read depth across regions of interest. Other components like CNV target counts generation may be enabled at the same time.  
Output file: `<output-file-prefix>.targeted.exome.counts.json.gz`
  - **PON generation:** A PON file is generated by aggregating the counts files from all samples in the WES run. This is a standalone run of DRAGEN that cannot be combined with other components.  
Output file: `<output-file-prefix>.targeted.pon.json.gz`
  - **Case sample analysis:** Targeted calling is performed from read input along with the PON file and an Illumina-provided systematic noise file\*. Can run with other DRAGEN germline enrichment components.  
Output files: `<output-file-prefix>.targeted.json`  
`<output-file-prefix>.targeted.vcf.gz`

## Exome counts generation from prealigned BAM Input Example

```
dragen \  
-r /staging/human/reference/hg38_alt_aware/DRAGEN/${HASH_TABLE_VERSION} \  
--bam-input /staging/test/data/NA12878.bam \  
--output-directory /staging/test/output \  
--output-file-prefix NA12878_dragen \  
--enable-map-align=false \  
--targeted-generate-exome-counts=true
```

## Exome PON generation from exome counts files from a single batch

```
dragen \  
--output-directory /staging/test/output \  
--output-file-prefix run1 \  
--targeted-pon-counts-list run1_exome_counts_list.txt
```

## Exome case sample analysis from prealigned BAM Input Example

```
dragen \  
-r /staging/human/reference/hg38_alt_aware/DRAGEN/${HASH_TABLE_VERSION} \  
--bam-input /staging/test/data/NA12878.bam \  
--output-directory /staging/test/output \  
--output-file-prefix NA12878_dragen \  
--targeted-pon run1.targeted.pon.json.gz \  
--targeted-systematic-noise dragen4.4.targeted.systematic_noise.json.gz \
```

\*A reference-specific systematic noise file can be downloaded from the [DRAGEN Software Support Site page](#).

# STR motif composition for C1 calling (and beyond ...)

- Pathogenicity of STR loci like *RFC1* is highly dependent on the motif composition
- DRAGEN 4.4 introduces STR motif composition:
  - **De novo (kmer counting)**
  - **Predefined motif set (HMM decomposition)**
- Motif composition can be enabled on a per locus basis by modifying the STR catalog

## Catalog specification example (HMM decomposition)

```
{  
  "LocusId": "RFC1",  
  "LocusStructure": "(AARRG)*",  
  "ReferenceRegion": "4:39348424-39348479",  
  "VariantType": "Repeat",  
  
  "MotifAnalysis": [  
    "AAAAG", "AAAGG",  
    "AAGGG", "AAGAG",  
    "AACGG", "ACGGG",  
    "ACAGG", "AAAGGG"] # for HMM  
}
```

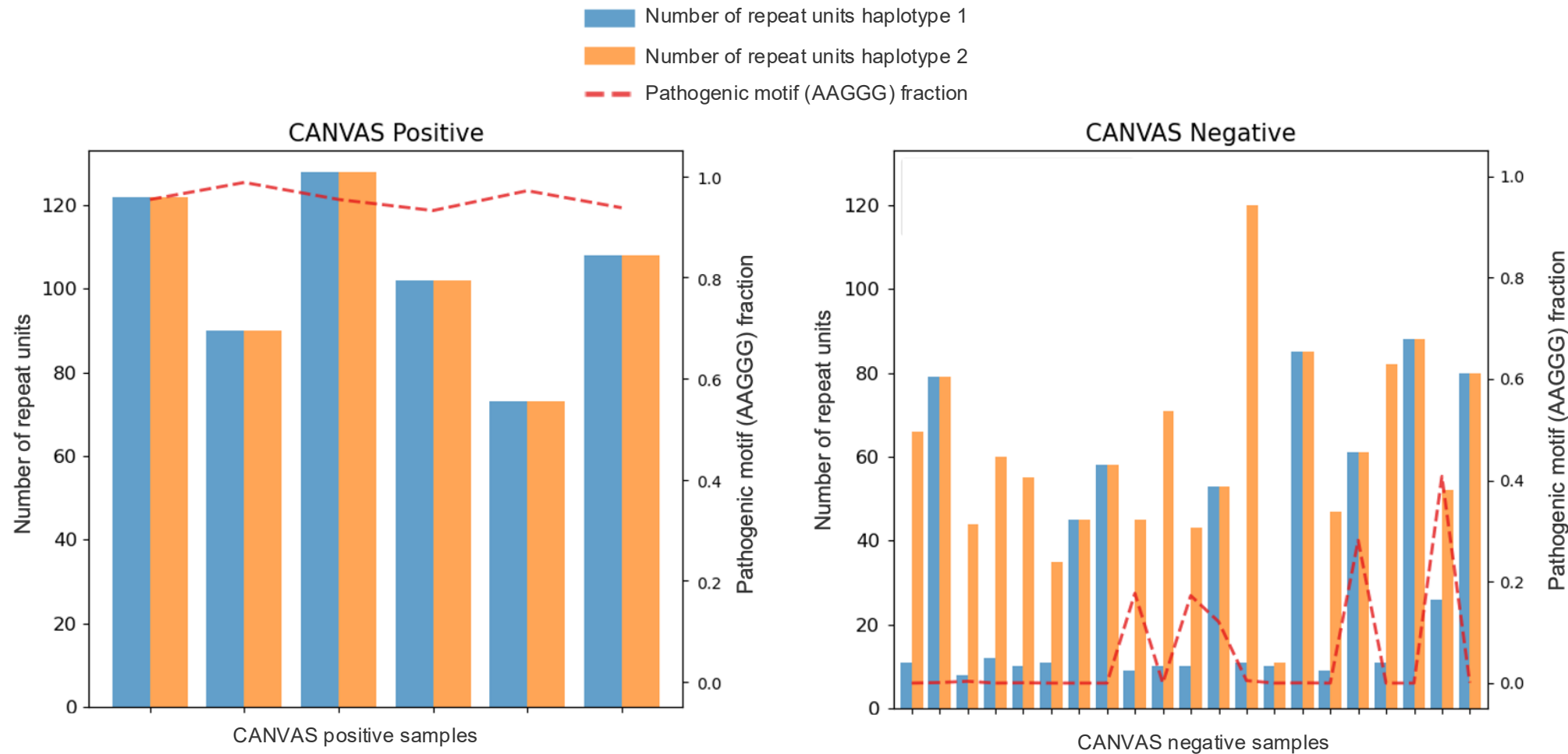
**Enabled by default  
for *RFC1*!**

New **FORMAT** fields **MOTIFS**, **MF** (motif fractions) and **AMF** (motif fractions per allele):

**MOTIFS:MF:AMF** AAAAG,...,AAAGG:0.15,...,0.75:0.454/0.189,...,1.000/0.000

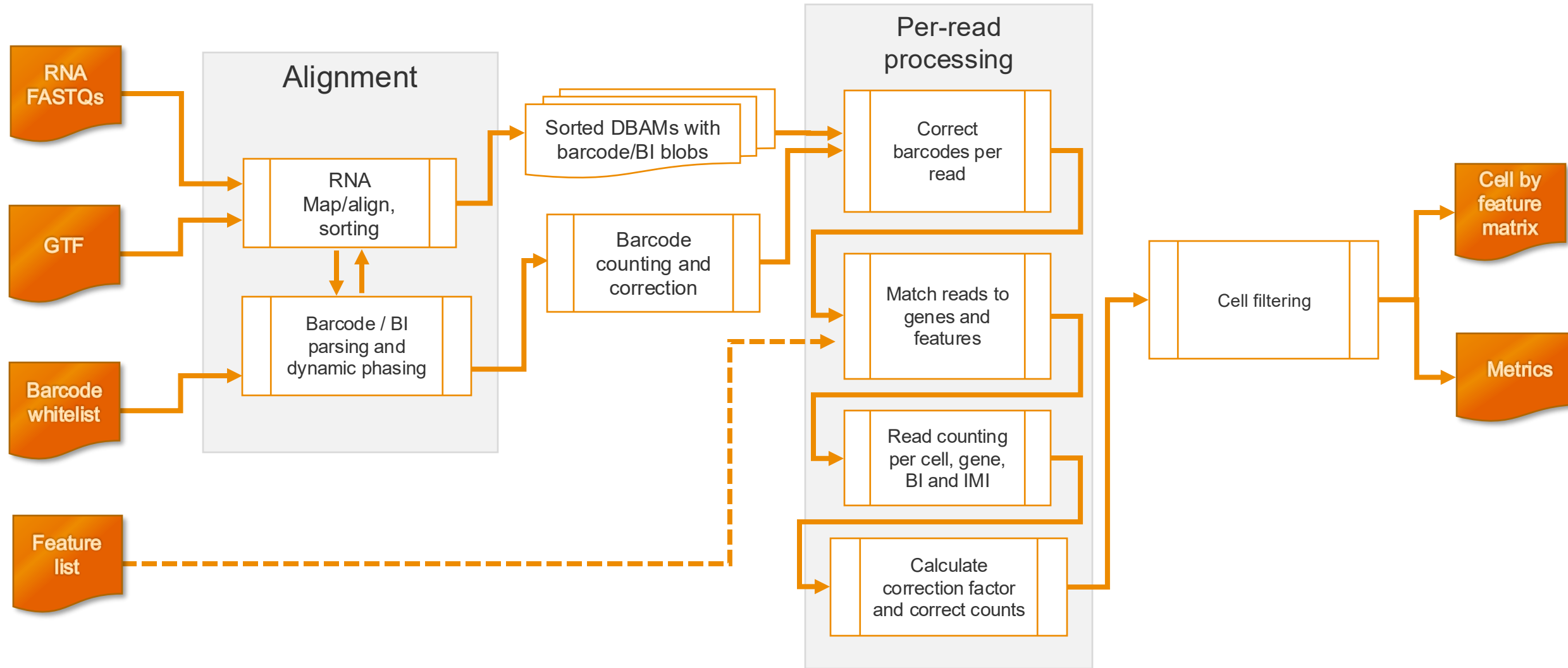
# STR motif composition estimation helps identify pathogenic motif in RFC1 locus in individuals affected by CANVAS

STR sizes and pathogenic motif fractions estimated by DRAGEN STR v4.4



\* CANVAS (Cerebellar Ataxia, Neuropathy, and Vestibular Areflexia Syndrome)  
\*\* Evaluation performed on a cohort of clinical samples with orthogonally confirmed CANVAS status

# DRAGEN Single-Cell RNA workflow



# DRAGEN v4.4 - streamlined multi-region joint detection (MRJD) for de novo germline small variant calling in paralogous regions

**MRJD and DRAGEN Small Variant Caller can now be enabled in the same DRAGEN run**  
**Covers six clinically relevant genes - *NEB*, *TTN*, *SMN1/2*, *PMS2*, *STRC*, and *IKBKG***

- New tags in the VCF INFO column to differentiate different types of variant calls
  - Uniquely placed variants
  - Region-ambiguous variants
  - Potential variants under gene conversion event
  - Alternative locations for uniquely placed variants
- Enabled with `--enable-mrjd=true` option

# DRAGEN MRD: Demonstrated competitive analytical performance

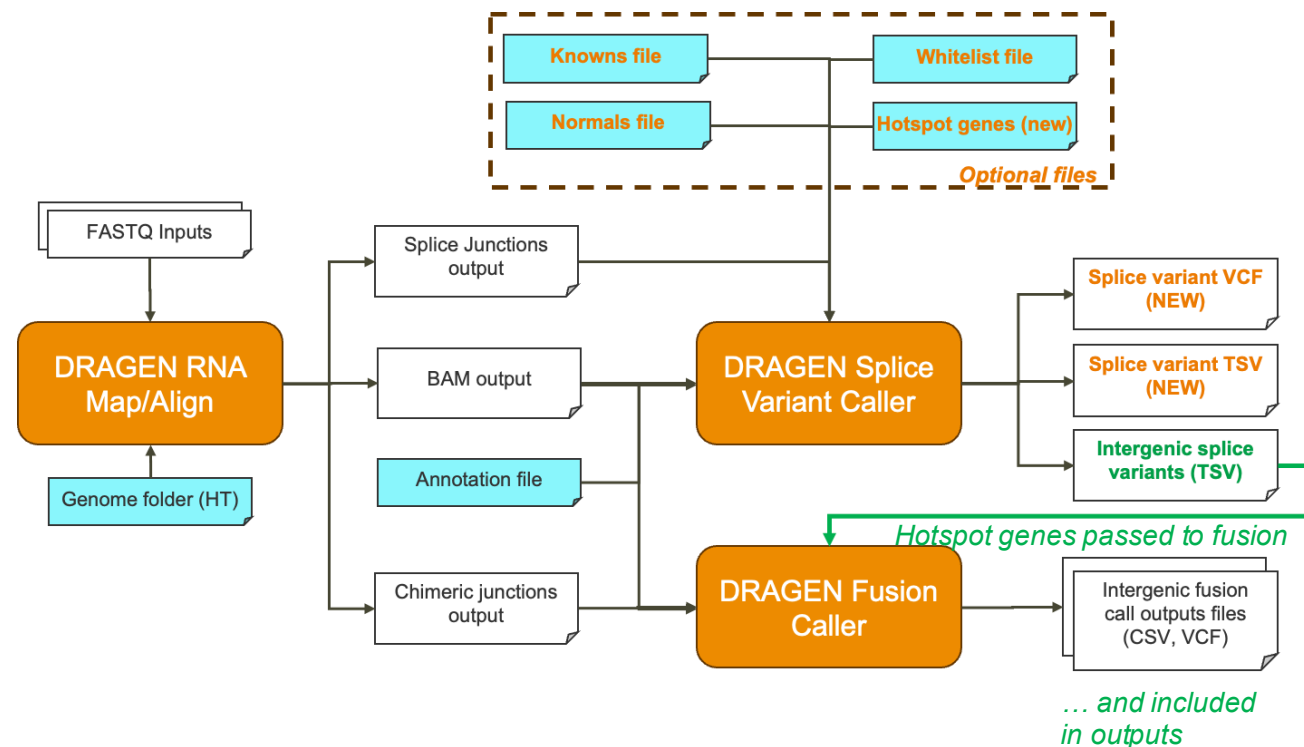
Cancer Type		Novaseq 6000	Novaseq X
LoD95	NSCLC	0.003%	0.003%
	CRC	0.005%	0.003%
	Bladder	0.005%	0.005%
	Melanoma	0.006%	0.006%
	Breast	0.006%	0.006%
Analytical Specificity		100% [95% CI: 99.1%-100%]	100% [95% CI: 99.1%-100%]

- Analytical sensitivity and specificity are comparable between NovaSeq 6000 and NovaSeq X
- Data generated using Illumina's R&D library prep kit compatible with both FFPE tissue (50-100ng), normal (buffy coat, 50ng), and cfDNA from plasma (2-5ng) samples

# Updated gene fusion + splice variant caller interfaces

- Normally only passing intergenic splice variants are passed to the fusion caller to be scored by the fusion ML model (skips filtered or readthrough genes)
- Option added to specify a list of hotspot genes that may contain spliced fusions: `--rna-splice-variant-fusion-genes=<file>`
- These genes will always be passed to the fusion caller if found (regardless of pass/fail)

- **Read-through fusions** are fusions of adjacent genes on the same strand (normally filtered out)
- New option added to allow fusion calling on readthrough splice variant calls by setting: `rna-splice-variant-enable-readthrough=true`



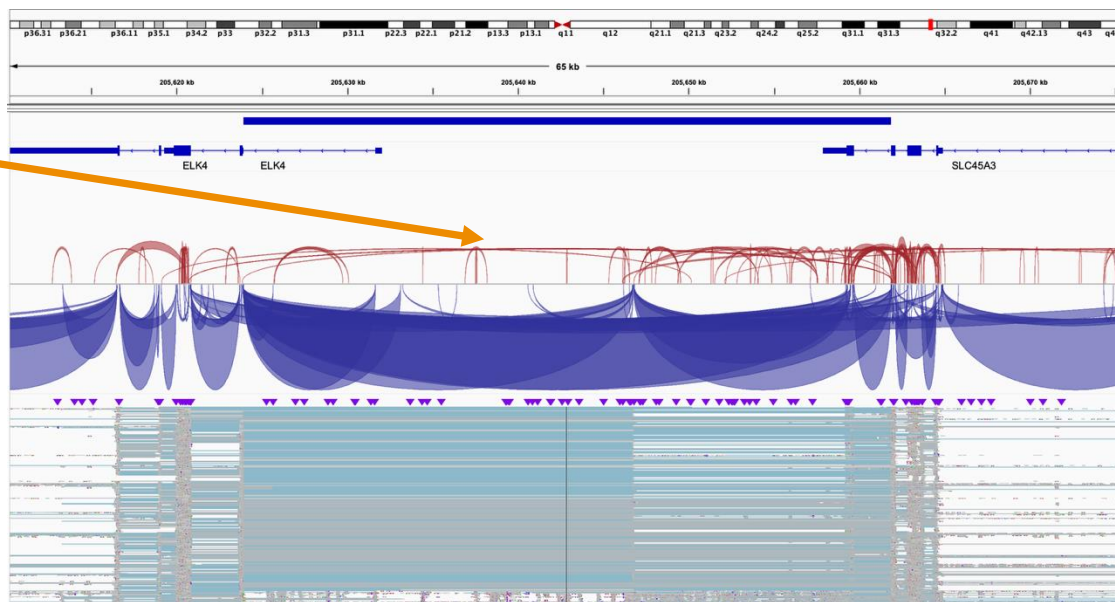
# Example of read-through fusion calling (**SLC45A3-ELK4**)

- **SLC45A3-ELK4** RNA read-through fusion (cis splicing of neighboring genes) is an onco-marker for prostate cancer(+)
  - Called (PASS) in **v4.4** with **--rna-splice-variant-enable-readthrough=true** and **--rna-splice-variant-fusion-genes=<user input file>** containing **SLC45A3,ELK4** genes
- + <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28716526/>

Entry in intergenic splice variants.csv in **v4.4**

gene_start	ELK4
gene_end	SLC45A3
chromosome	chr1
start	205623892
end	205661860
filter	<b>PASS</b>
strand	-
motif	2
annotated	FALSE
unique_dedup_ref_reads	2845
unique_total_ref_reads	4390
multi_dedup_ref_reads	0
multi_total_ref_reads	0
unique_dedup_alt_reads	94
unique_total_alt_reads	111
multi_dedup_alt_reads	0
multi_total_alt_reads	0
high_qual_unique_dedup_alt_reads	90
max_mapQ_ref	250
max_mapQ_alt	250
avg_mapQ_ref	242.65
avg_mapQ_alt	235.77
max_spliced_alignment_overhang	75
normalized_overhang	0.50
score	<b>0.94</b>
read_through	<b>1</b>

Readthrough fusion  
(cis splice)



For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.



# MNV calling enabled by default in somatic small VC

- By default, phased variants within 2bp of one another will be merged and reported as an MNV/delins
  - Follows HGVS guidelines for variant reporting and enables better downstream annotation of variant consequence
  - 'vc-combine-phased-variants-distance' option (default=2) can be set to custom merging distance threshold [0, 15]. A value of 0 disables merging calls into MNVs.
- Newly introduced 'mnv\_component' filter flag is applied to SNVs and INDELs merged into MNV/delins
  - Avoids double representation of variants that only have read support for existence in MNV
  - '--vc-combine-phased-variants-distance-max-vaf-delta' option (default=0.1) controls filtering of component calls based on difference between component call and MNV VAF
- INFO:MNVTAG field links component calls to MNVs

## Sample MNV record and component call records filtered as mnv\_component:

```
chr1 61987 . A G . mnv_component DP=45;MQ=46.10;FractionInformativeR
eads=1.000;SoftClipRatio=0.02;STR;RU=A;RPA=2;MNVTAG=chr1:61987_AAG-
>GAC GT:SQ:AD:AF:F1R2:F2R1:DP:SB:MB:PS 0/1:61.74:0,41:1.0000:0,21:0,20:41:0,0,12,29
:0,0,24,17:61987
chr1 61987 . AAG GAC . PASS DP=45;MQ=46.10;FractionInformativeReads=1.0
00;SoftClipRatio=0.02;STR;RU=A;RPA=2;MNVTAG=chr1:61987_AAG-
>GAC;GermlineStatus=Germline_DB GT:SQ:AD:AF:F1R2:F2R1:DP:SB:MB:PS 0/1:61.74:0,41:1
.0000:0,21:0,20:41:0,0,12,29:0,0,24,17:61987
chr1 61989 . G C . mnv_component DP=48;MQ=47.02;FractionInformativeR
eads=1.000;SoftClipRatio=0.02;MNVTAG=chr1:61987_AAG-
>GAC GT:SQ:AD:AF:F1R2:F2R1:DP:SB:MB:PS 0/1:61.85:0,43:1.0000:0,23:0,20:43:0,0,14,29
:0,0,26,17:61987
```

<sup>1</sup>Wang, Q., Pierce-Hoffman, E., Cummings, B.B. *et al.* Landscape of multi-nucleotide variants in 125,748 human exomes and 15,708 genomes. *Nat Commun* **11**, 2539 (2020).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-12438-5>

# Illumina Connected Annotations - Data Manager

- New utility to give the customer complete control over annotation data.
- Available functionalities:
  - View available versions.
  - Create data configuration template.
  - Download data.
  - Validate data versions.

```
-----
DataManager                                     (c) 2024 Illumina, Inc.
                                              3.25.1-0-g68d01f47
-----

Illumina Connected Annotation data manager

USAGE: dotnet DataManager.dll <command> [options]

COMMAND: list           display all data available for Illumina Connected Annotations
          make-config    create a config file sample for downloader populated with the latest version
          download       download file from the cloud
          version-validate validate downloaded data version with the provided config
```

<https://illumina.github.io/IlluminaConnectedAnnotationsDocumentation/utilities/data-manager>

# Illumina Connected Annotations - ISCN like nomenclature

- Provides ISCN-like simple nomenclature to describe karyotype of the input in sample's and variant's level in both VCF and JSON outputs.

Chromosome	Start Position	End Position	Variant Type	ISCN Notation
8	19200001	135400001	deletion	del(8)(p21.3q24.23)
8	19200001	135400001	duplication	dup(8)(p21.3q24.23)
8	127300001	131500000	copy number gain	dup(8)(q24.21q24.22)
8	135400001	138900001	copy number loss	del(8)(q24.23q24.3)

Sample level notation from Ploidy VCF: "48,XY,-10,-10,-11,+12,+13,+13,+X,+Y"

<https://illumina.github.io/IlluminaConnectedAnnotationsDocumentation/core-functionality/simple-nomenclature-notation>

# Flexible gVCF metric import for iGG

## Pick the metrics you need from the input gVCFs

- ➔ Allows import of metrics beyond the default set (which is unchanged). Almost all gVCF metrics are supported.
- ➔ Unwanted metrics can be omitted, saving on intermediate storage space.
- ➔ Output customization options, introduced in v4.3, extended to enable output of any imported metric.

## To set the fields to be ingested:

--gg-format-to-import=...

--gg-info-to-import=...

## INFO fields available for import:

MQ, MQRankSum, ReadPosRankSum,  
FractionInformativeReads, LOD, R2\_5P\_bias, MOSAIC

## FORMAT fields available for import:

GT, AD, GQ, PL, AF, DP, F1R2, F2R1, GP, MB, PRI, SB, SQ  
(N.B. GT is unconditionally imported)

## Availability



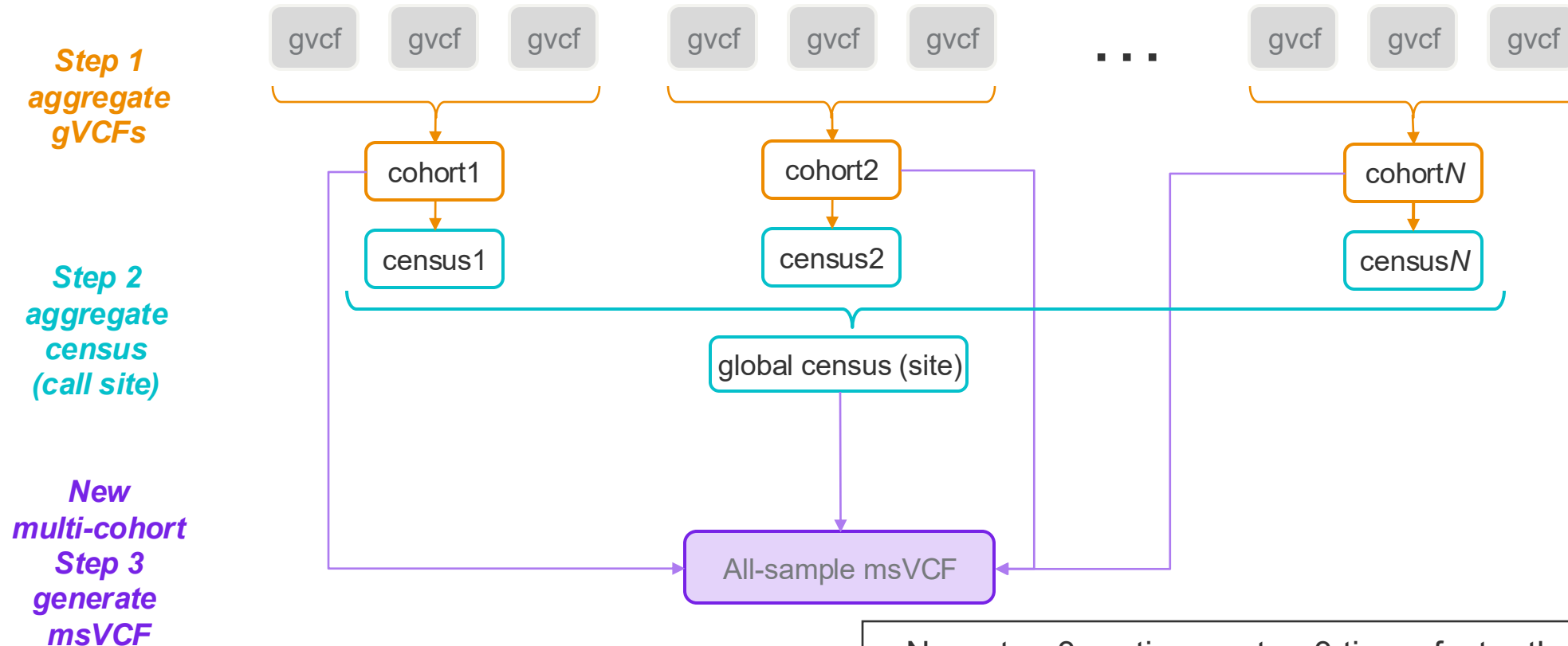
ICA



On-premises server

# Streamlined workflow for multi-batch msVCF file output

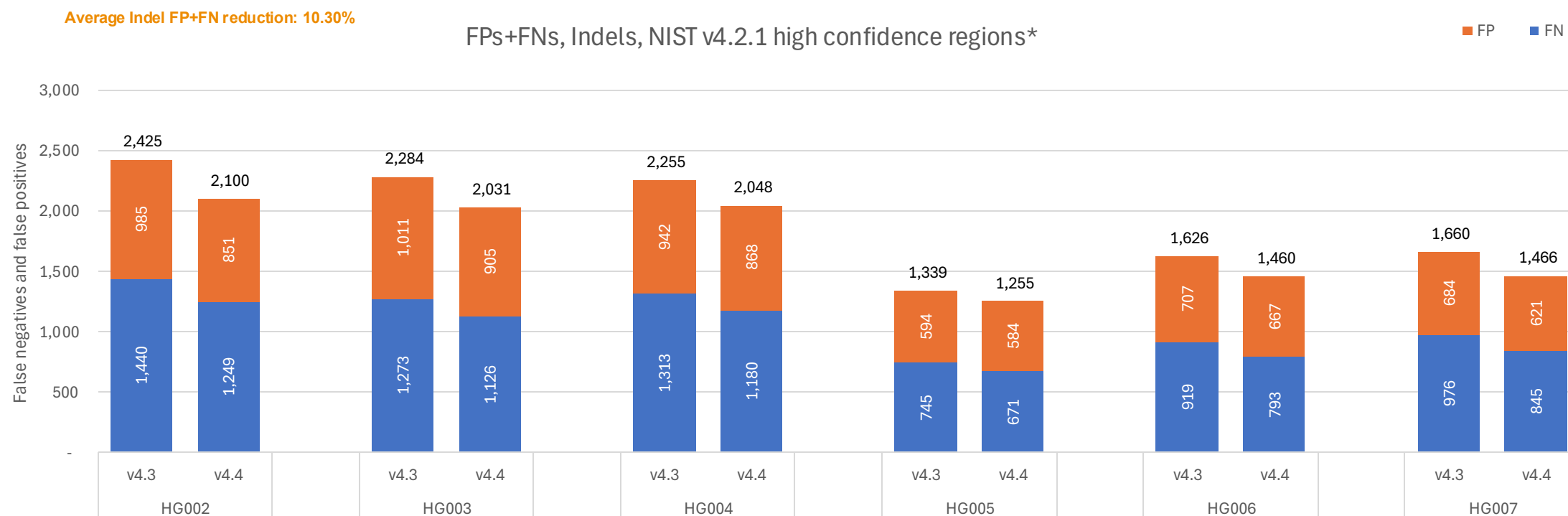
Go directly from cohort files to all-sample msVCF



New step 3 runtime up to ~3 times faster than previous steps 3 + 4, with fewer jobs required.

# Germline small variant caller – Accuracy v4.2.1 indels

DRAGEN 4.4 variant caller improvements results in 10.30% reduction in Indels FP+FN



\*Samples NSX 10B v1.1 35x median autosomal coverage, HG001 removed from analysis since included in the DRAGEN Pangenome Reference

# DRAGEN ORA compression

Store and easily retrieve information about your sample

- From BCLconvert to FASTQ.ORA, additional metadata are automatically stored to FASTQ.ORA files
- The command `--ora-get-metadata true`, generates a Json file with all metadata listed
- List of additional metadata:
  - Sequencing platform and flowcell name
  - Run ID
  - Flowcell ID
  - Instrument ID
  - Sample ID
  - First read name
  - index 1
  - index 2

**Example DRAGEN CMD line to generate the metadata json file**

```
dragen  
  --enable-map-align false  
  --ora-input <fastq.ora>  
  --enable-ora=true  
  --ora-get-metadata true
```

## Availability

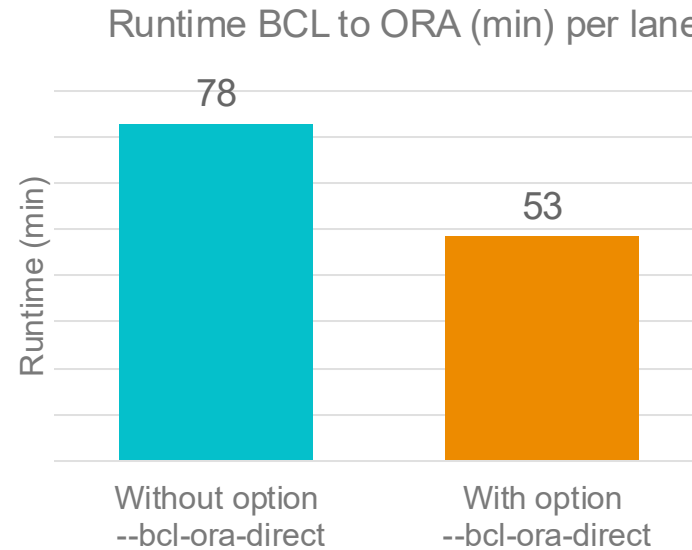
(Not available on instrument)



# DRAGEN ORA compression - BCL to FASTQ.ORA up to 30% faster

## Runtime BCLconvert to FASTQ.ORA with DRAGEN 4.4

dataset: 25B flowcell data



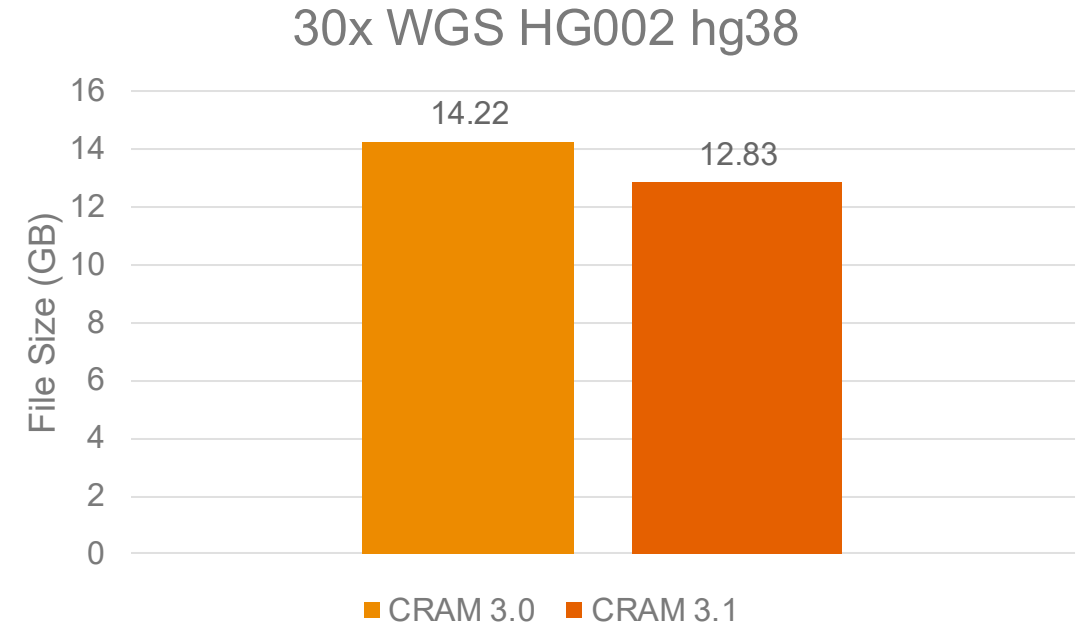
Test conducted on DRAGEN server v4 with all other settings being default and identical across the two benchmarks



# CRAM 3.1 support

## DRAGEN now supports CRAM 3.1

- Input or generate CRAM files with format 3.1
- CRAM 3.1 files are 7-15% smaller than CRAM 3.0
- No impact on run time
- New option `--cram-version=3.1` (default is 3.0)



Availability



BSSH



ICA



Multi-Cloud



On-premises server

# New license server domain – license.dragen.illumina.com

## On-premises servers

- HTTP @ lus.edicogenome.com is being replaced with HTTPS @ license.dragen.illumina.com
- Only DRAGEN 4.4+ supports the new domain, previous versions of DRAGEN will need to continue to use HTTP @ lus.edicogenome.com.

## BYOL Cloud

- HTTPS @ license.edicogenome.com will be replaced with HTTPS @ license.dragen.illumina.com
- All versions of DRAGEN support the new domain, but the default domain will differ.
  - 4.4 and above: license.dragen.illumina.com
  - 4.3 and earlier: license.edicogenome.com
  - You can explicitly define the domain to use with the “credentials-3” configuration option as specified in the user guide.

# Fractional downsampler feature for RNA Pipelines

Simulates different amount of sequencing for high coverage samples

- Fractional downsampling can be utilized with RNA pipelines
- Subsampling based on user-defined percentage of reads
- Applied to raw reads with no modification (no trimming, no filtering, pre-dedupped)
- Reduce runtime and cost of analysis using high-depth samples
- Any input supported by DRAGEN can be used

To enable the fractional downsampler:

```
--enable-fractional-down-sampler=true
```

To set percentages of number of reads to keep:

```
--down-sampler-normal-subsample=<float>
```

```
--down-sampler-tumor-subsample=<float>
```

\* *<float>* is the approximate percentage of reads to keep (e.g. 0.05 = 5%)

Availability



BSSH



ICA



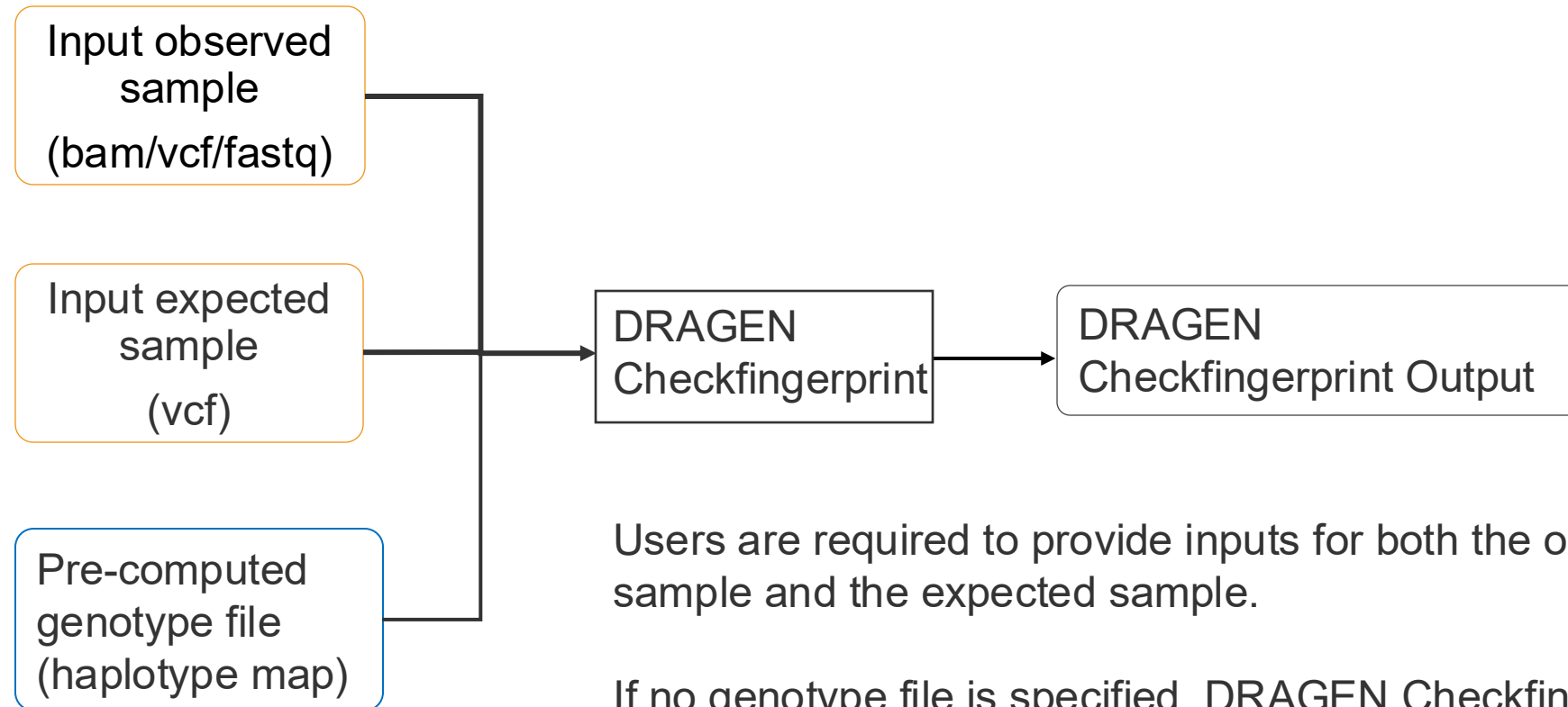
Multi-Cloud



On-Premise Server

# DRAGEN Checkfingerprint

Determine if the input sequencing data originates from the same sample



Users are required to provide inputs for both the observed sample and the expected sample.

If no genotype file is specified, DRAGEN Checkfingerprint will automatically utilize the default genotype file.

# DRAGEN Checkfingerprint

- Checkfingerprint compute identity between input samples against a set of pre-computed genotypes.
- The primary output is LOD score, which indicates the relative likelihood that sequencing data originates from the same or different sample.
- A positive LOD value indicates the data originates from the same individual, while a negative values suggests otherwise.
- Checkfingerprint has two mode: read mode and vcf mode
- Vcf mode is recommended for general use case. Read mode is significantly slower.

To enable the Checkfingerprint:

```
--enable-checkfingerprint true  
--checkfingerprint-expected-vcf  
[path_to_expected_sample_vcf]
```

To enable VCF comparison mode using FASTQ or BAM input, include the additional parameters:

```
--checkfingerprint-enable-vcf-  
comparison true  
--enable-variant-caller true
```

To enable VCF comparison mode using vcf input:

```
--enable-checkfingerprint true --  
checkfingerprint-expected-vcf  
[input_expected_vcf] --checkfingerprint-  
observed-vcf [input_observed_vcf]
```

# DRAGEN reports

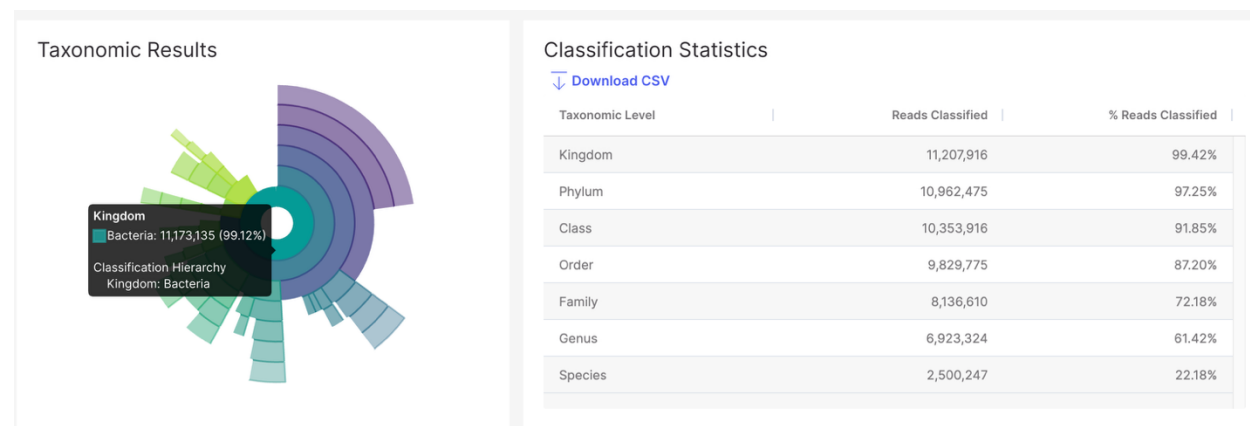
## Key benefit of updates

### 16S Report

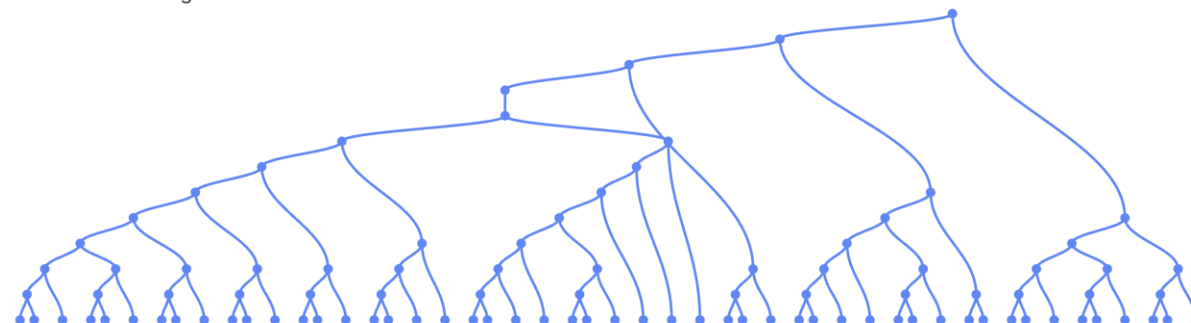
- Replacement for one of the oldest and most widely used legacy BaseSpace apps
- Added multi-column reports for more complicated designs and smaller plots and tables
- Adds support for multiple new plot types, such as Sunburst plots and Dendrograms

### Addition Features

- Added a PIPSeq / Single-Cell RNA Report
- Added support for FASTA file downloads
- Added UI testing system to ensure good customer experience with the reports
- New faster CI/CD system for faster updates



Taxonomic Dendrogram



# DRAGEN BSSH and ICA Apps Updates

---

# BCL Convert



## Key benefit of updates

### Non-DRAGEN features or bug fixes

- Allow dots and space characters in RunName and ProjectName (consistent with Run Planning)



# DRAGEN Germline



## Key benefit of updates

### New DRAGEN features

- Updated to DRAGEN 4.4.4
- Added support for BAIs and CRAIs
- Support v11 reference hash tables (4.4 feature)
- Added additional hs37d5 reference with chr prefix
- Added support for CRAM v3.0 and CRAM v3.1 input
- Cleaned up underutilized inputs
- Removed MRJD as a separate caller
- Removed support for hybrid mode

### Non-DRAGEN features

- Updated ICAv2 backend to use directly mounted input files instead of URLs

### User interface changes

The screenshot displays the DRAGEN Germline user interface with several configuration panels:

- Variant Association:** Includes checkboxes for 'Enable variant annotation' and 'Enable Optional Metrics'. It also has a 'Combine Phased Variants' section with a 'Combine Distance' dropdown.
- QC Detect Contamination:** Includes a checkbox for 'Enable QC Detect Contamination' and a 'Downsample Method' dropdown.
- CRAM Decompression Reference:** Includes a 'CRAM Decompression Reference' dropdown and a 'CRAM Custom Reference' section.
- ICAv2 Storage Size:** Includes a 'ICAv2 Storage Size' dropdown and a 'ICAv2 Storage Size Per Node' dropdown.
- CNV:** Includes a 'CNV' section with a 'Enable CNV' checkbox and a 'Normalization Mode' dropdown. It also has a 'CNV Combined Counts File' section and a 'Reference Calls' section.
- Structural Variants:** Includes a 'SV' section with a 'Enable SV calling' checkbox and a 'SV BED File' section.
- Map/Align:** Includes a 'Map/Align Output' dropdown and a 'Duplicate Marking' section with a 'Enable Duplicate Marking' checkbox.
- Small Variant Caller:** Includes a 'Small Variant Caller Output' section with a 'VCF and GVCF' radio button and a 'ForceGT VCF' section.

At the bottom, there is a table for selecting biosamples:

Select Biosamples	FASTQ	BAM	BAI	CRAM	CRAI	SEX
# 1	Input FASTQs <sup>?</sup> <a href="#">Select Biosample(s):</a>	Input BAMs <sup>?</sup> <a href="#">Select Dataset File(s)</a>	Input BAIs <sup>?</sup> <a href="#">Select Dataset File(s)</a>	Input CRAMs <sup>?</sup> <a href="#">Select Dataset File(s)</a>	Input CRAIs <sup>?</sup> <a href="#">Select Dataset File(s)</a>	Sample Sex <sup>?</sup> <sup>x</sup> <a href="#">Auto-Detect</a>

[Add a New Row](#)

# DRAGEN Enrichment



## Key benefit of updates

### New features

- Upgraded to DRAGEN 4.4.4
- Support v11 reference hash tables (4.4 feature)
- Added additional hs37d5 reference with chr prefix
- Removed under-utilized options
- Added support for CRAM v3.0 and CRAM v3.1 output
- Added support for in-run PON file generation.
- Added support for targeted-caller and building targeted caller baselines files.
- **ICAv2 backend** for the BaseSpace app
- Support setting ICA storage size and scratch size per node

### User interface changes

The screenshot displays the DRAGEN user interface with several configuration panels:

- Reference**: A dropdown menu showing various reference genomes, with "Homo sapiens [NCBI] hs37d5 with chr prefix v5" selected.
- Map/Align Output**: A dropdown menu showing output formats, with "BAM" selected.
- Targeted Calling**: A checkbox labeled "Enable Targeted Calling" which is currently unchecked.
- In-Run Panel of Normals**: A checkbox labeled "Enable In-Run Panel of Normals" which is currently unchecked, and a text input field for "In-Run Panel of Normals Excluded Samples".
- ICA Storage Size**: A dropdown menu showing "Auto" as the selected option.
- ICA Scratch Size Per Node**: A text input field showing "2TiB".
- Samples Per Node**: A text input field showing "1".

# DRAGEN Somatic



## Key benefit of updates

### New features

- Upgraded to DRAGEN 4.4.4
- Support v11 reference hash tables (4.4 feature)
- Added additional hs37d5 reference with chr prefix
- Added support for CRAM v3.0 and CRAM v3.1 output
- Enabled UMI support for Tumor-Normal analysis
- Added support for BAM/CRAM input in T/N mode
- Added support for HLA calling in T/N mode from BAM input with realignment
- **ICAv2 backend** for the BaseSpace app
- Support setting ICA storage size and scratch size per node

### User interface changes

The screenshot displays the DRAGEN Somatic CNV Calling interface. It includes a 'Somatic CNV Calling' section with radio buttons for 'None', 'Tumor-Normal' (selected), and 'Tumor-only'. Below this are input fields for 'TUMOR FASTQ', 'NORMAL FASTQ', and 'CNV CALLING'. A 'Map/Align Output' dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'BAM' (selected), 'BAM', 'CRAM v3.0', 'CRAM v3.1', and 'None'. A 'Reference' dropdown menu is also open, showing a list of human genomes, with 'Homo sapiens [NCBI] hs37d5 with chr prefix v5 Pangenome' selected. On the right, the 'UMI Settings' panel is visible, containing options for 'Enable UMI', 'UMI Library Type' (set to 'Nonrandom-duplex'), 'UMI-Aware Variant Calling' (set to 'None'), 'UMI Min Supporting Reads' (set to '2'), 'UMI Error Correction Table', and 'UMI Nonrandom Whitelist'. Below this, the 'HLA Typing' panel shows the 'Enable HLA calling' checkbox.

# DRAGEN RNA



## Key benefit of updates

### New DRAGEN features

- Upgraded to 4.4.4
- Support splice variant calling
- Support fractional downsampler
- Support v11 reference hash tables (4.4 feature)
- Support built-in mm39 and hg38-mm39 references
- Set annotation genome automatically
- Added support for CRAM v3.0 and CRAM v3.1 input

### Non-DRAGEN features

- **ICAv2 backend** for the BaseSpace app
- Support additional files
- Support setting ICA storage size and scratch size per node

### User interface changes

The screenshot displays the DRAGEN RNA user interface with several configuration panels:

- RNA Splice Variant Calling:** Includes a checkbox for "Enable RNA Splice Variant Calling", fields for "Known RNA Splice Variant File" and "Normal RNA Splice Variant File" (both with "Select Dataset File(s)" links), and a field for "Variant Fusion Genes File" (with "Select Dataset File(s)" link).
- Downsampling:** Features a "Method" dropdown menu with options: "None" (selected), "Downsample by a Specific Fraction", and "Downsample to specific number of fragments". It also has an "Additional Resource File" field with a "Select Dataset File(s)" link.
- Map/Align Output:** A dropdown menu with options: "BAM" (selected), "CRAMv3.0", "CRAMv3.1", and "None".
- ICA Scratch Size Per Node:** A text input field containing "2TiB".
- ICA Storage Size:** A dropdown menu set to "Auto".
- Reference Selection:** A list of reference genomes with "Homo sapiens [1000 Genomes] - Mus musculus [GENCODE] hg38-mm39 v5" selected.

# DRAGEN Amplicon



## Key benefit of updates

### New DRAGEN features

- CheckFingerprint always run in VCF comparison mode.
- Support v11 reference hash tables (4.4 feature).
- Support CRAM v3.1.

### Non-DRAGEN features

- **ICAv2 backend** for the BaseSpace app
- Auto-detect annotation genome.
- Support Systematic Noise Filter for somatic VC.
- Support RNA Fusion Targets.
- Support for additional resource files.
- Support batching.
- Support overriding scratch size for DRAGEN.

### User interface changes

#### Systematic Noise Filter <sup>i</sup>

☐ Enable Systematic Noise Filter

Baseline Systematic Noise BED <sup>i</sup>

[Select Dataset File\(s\)](#)

CheckFingerprint Expected Samples <sup>i</sup>

[Select Dataset File\(s\)](#)

Additional Resource Files for DNA samples <sup>i</sup>

[Select Dataset File\(s\)](#)

Additional DRAGEN Command-line Arguments for DNA <sup>i</sup>

RNA Fusion Targets <sup>i</sup>

[Select Dataset File\(s\)](#)

#### Advanced Settings

Samples Per Node <sup>i</sup>

5

ICA Scratch Size Per Node <sup>i</sup>

2TiB



# DRAGEN Microbial Amplicon (DMA)

Generates consensus sequences from Illumina Microbial Amplicon Prep (iMAP), COVIDSeq, or other amplicon-based libraries from microbial samples

## Key benefit of updates

### v1.1.0 release notes

- Updated DRAGEN to 4.4
- Updated DRAGEN Map/Align and Variant Calling steps to improve concordance with DRAGEN COVID Lineage
- Expanded Influenza reference database to include more sequences and subtypes and improved reference selection logic
  - Added 48 rare A subtypes (e.g. H7N9) in addition to H1N1, H3N2, H5N1
- Enabled downloading analysis-wide consensus sequence FASTA from the report
- Reduced run time
- Minor bug fixes in Pangolin, input config, and report

### DMA replaces BSSH apps near end of life

- DRAGEN Targeted Microbial: May 31, 2025
- DRAGEN COVID Lineage: Dec 1, 2025

Updated user guide at [help.idm.illumina.com](https://help.idm.illumina.com)

# DRAGEN joint pedigree and E2E joint pedigree

## Key benefit of updates

### Overview

- 2 apps, one starting from GVCFs and another starting from FASTQs
- Processes one family (pedigree) at a time

### Features

- Update to DRAGEN 4.4.4
- Add REViewer—a viewer for repeat expansions

# DRAGEN Reference Builder



## Key benefit of updates

### New DRAGEN features

- Generate references in the v11 hash table format



# DRAGEN Population Haplotyping



## Key benefit of updates

### New features

- Upgraded to DRAGEN 4.4.4
- Added PassOnly filter option during phase common step

### Non-DRAGEN features or bug fixes

- Supports contig-specific joint-VCF input
- Reduced input requirements (no reference FASTA, no credentials file)
- Removed redundant normalization
- Output file basename control
- Intermediate file output control
- Properly names sub-contig output files (eg. chrX\_par1)

### User interface changes

#### Input files

msVCF File \*

No file selected

input msVCF



msVCF Index File \*

No file selected

input msVCF index



map bundle \*

No file selected

tarball bundle of genetic map files including the genetic map config file



sample type \*

No file selected

sample type config file describing input sample ID gender mapping



Pass Variants Only

☒ true ☐ false

Whether or not to filter for phased variants with VCF Filter value PASS. Default is "true".

Output Filename Prefix

The prefix of the reference panel output files. Required.

Output Intermediate Files

☒ true ☐ false \*

The prefix of the reference panel output files. Required. Default is "true".

Availability



ICA

# DRAGEN Imputation Reference Panel Builder



## Key benefit of updates

### New DRAGEN features

- Packs the per-contig output from the DRAGEN Population Haplotyping pipeline into a **custom imputation reference panel** TAR.GZ that can be used with DRAGEN Imputation pipeline or download.
- Supports packing for WGS, or selected contigs.
- Per-contig msBCF file are included in the TAR.GZ.
- Optionally create a snps/all site vcf file if the per-contig snp/all-variant site vcf files are provided.
- A config JSON file can be supplied to describe ploidy.

Availability



ICA

### User interface

#### Input files

##### Population Haplotyping Contig BCFs \*

No files selected

The set of BCFs each containing a single contig of joint genotyped and phased population variants. Required.



##### Population Haplotyping Contig Indexes

No files selected

The optional set of index files corresponding to the BCFs selected. Providing the index files will save runtime.



##### Population Haplotyping SNP Sites VCFs

No files selected

Optionally concatenate the per-contig snp sites VCF files corresponding to selected population haplotyped contig BCFs. These are the "\*\*forcegt.sites.snps.vcf.gz" files output by the population haplotyping pipeline.



##### Population Haplotyping All Sites VCFs

No files selected

Optionally concatenate the per-contig all sites VCF files corresponding to selected population haplotyped contig BCFs. These are the "\*\*forcegt.sites.vcf.gz" files output by the population haplotyping pipeline.



##### Reference Panel Configuration File

No file selected

A JSON file that defines the non-diploid or sex-specific regions of the genome. Required.



# DRAGEN Baseline Builder



## Key benefit of updates

### New DRAGEN features

- Upgrade to 4.4.4
- Support v11 reference hash tables (4.4 feature)
- Split support for CNV WGS and CNV Enrichment
- Always creates combined counts file in CNV modes


### Non-DRAGEN features

- Support setting ICA storage size

### User interface changes

#### Baseline Mode

- ☒ CNV Enrichment
- ☐ CNV WGS
- ☐ Systematic Noise
- ☐ MSI

Generate Combined Counts File for CNV 

✓ GC corrected  
non-GC corrected