



Swiss Institute of
Bioinformatics

Integration

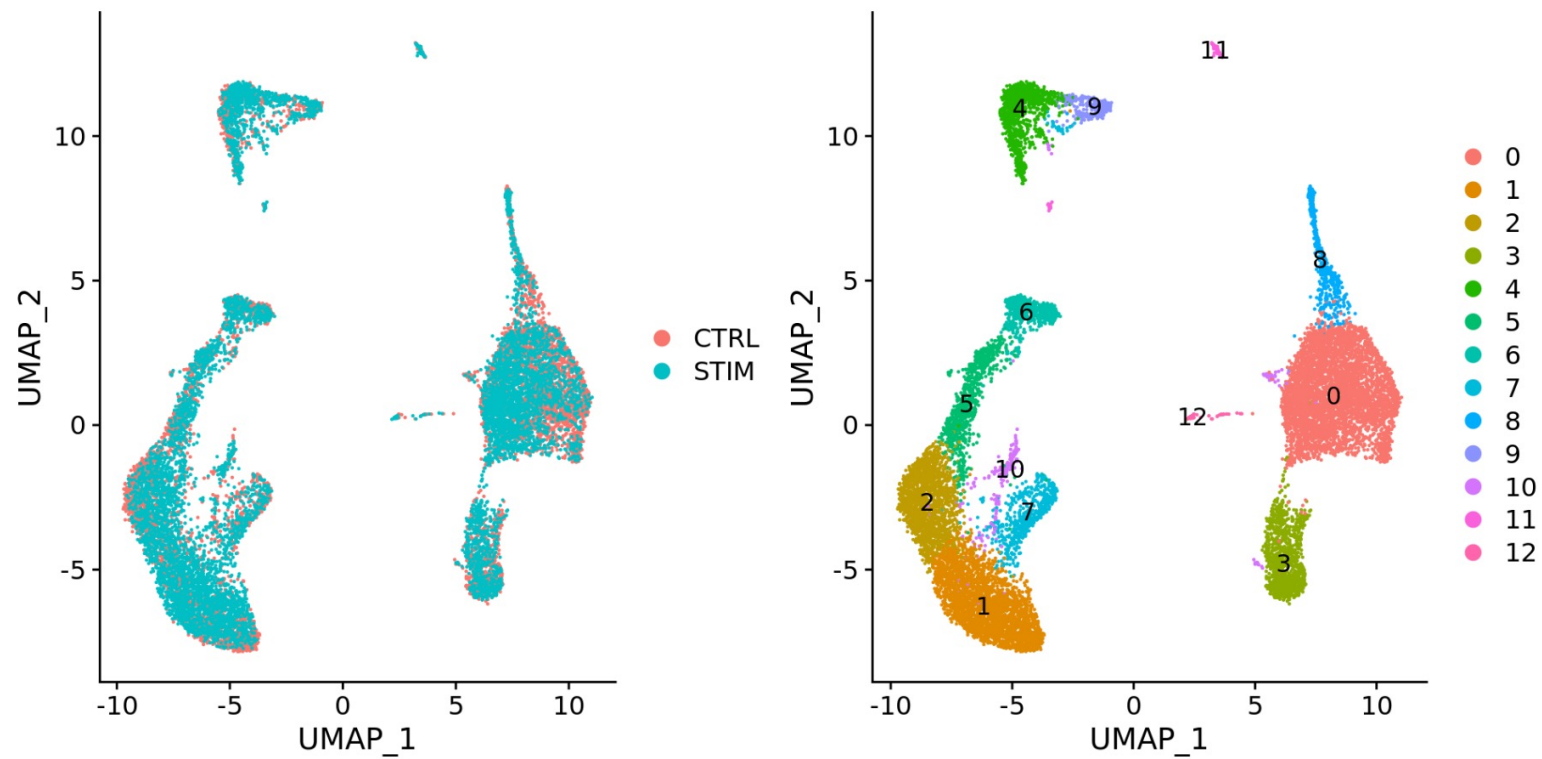
Luciano Cascione, PhD
Bioinformatics Core Unit

LUCIANO CASCIONE, PHD
BELLINZONA, OCT. 30TH 2024



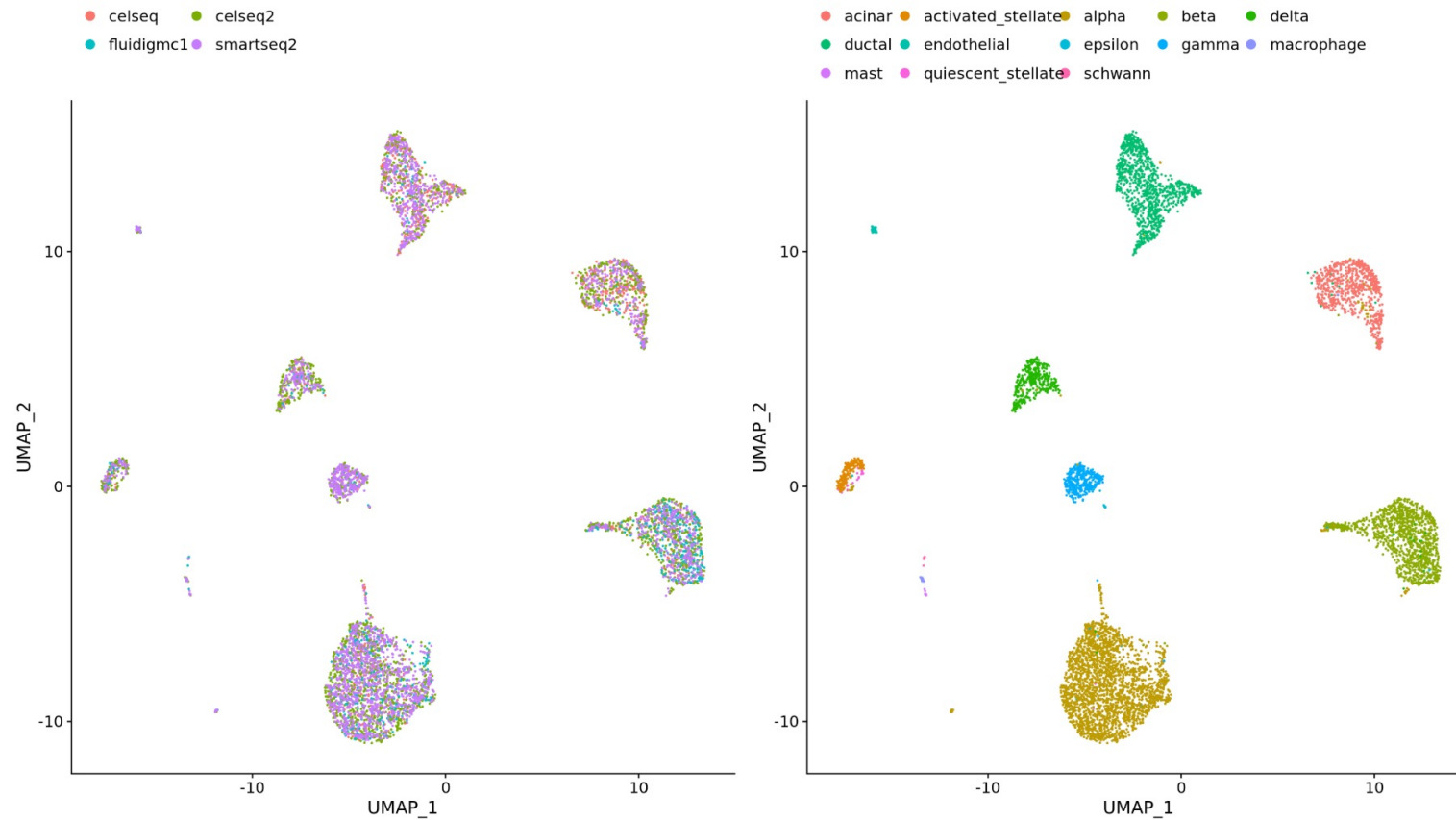
What for ?

Goal: identify shared subpopulations across conditions or datasets



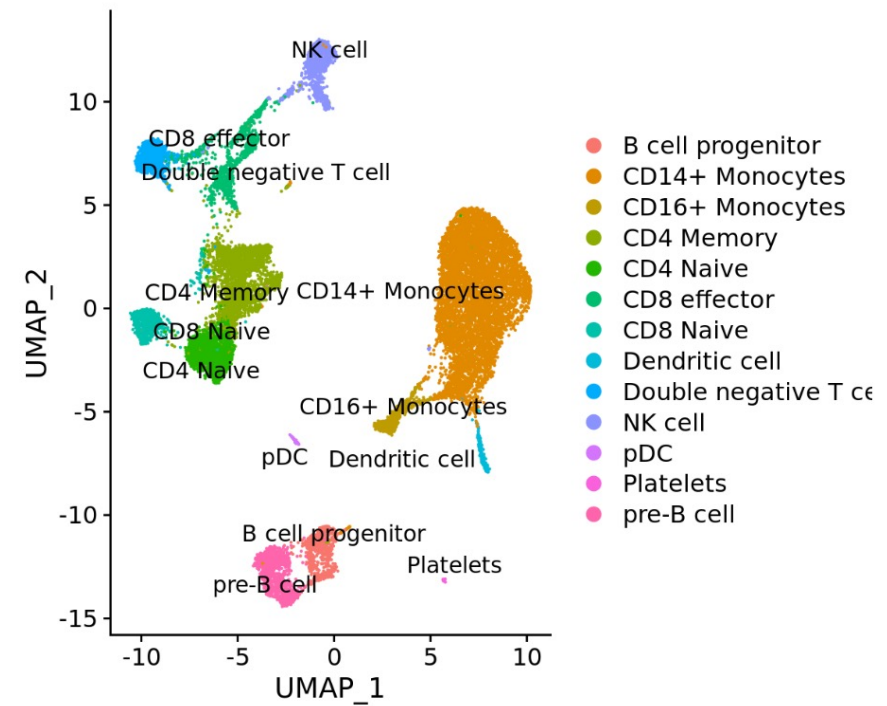
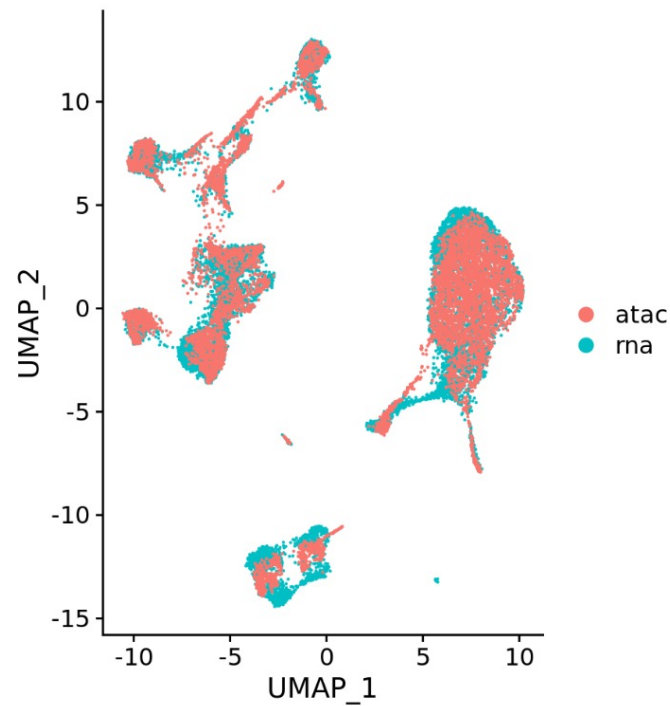
What for ?

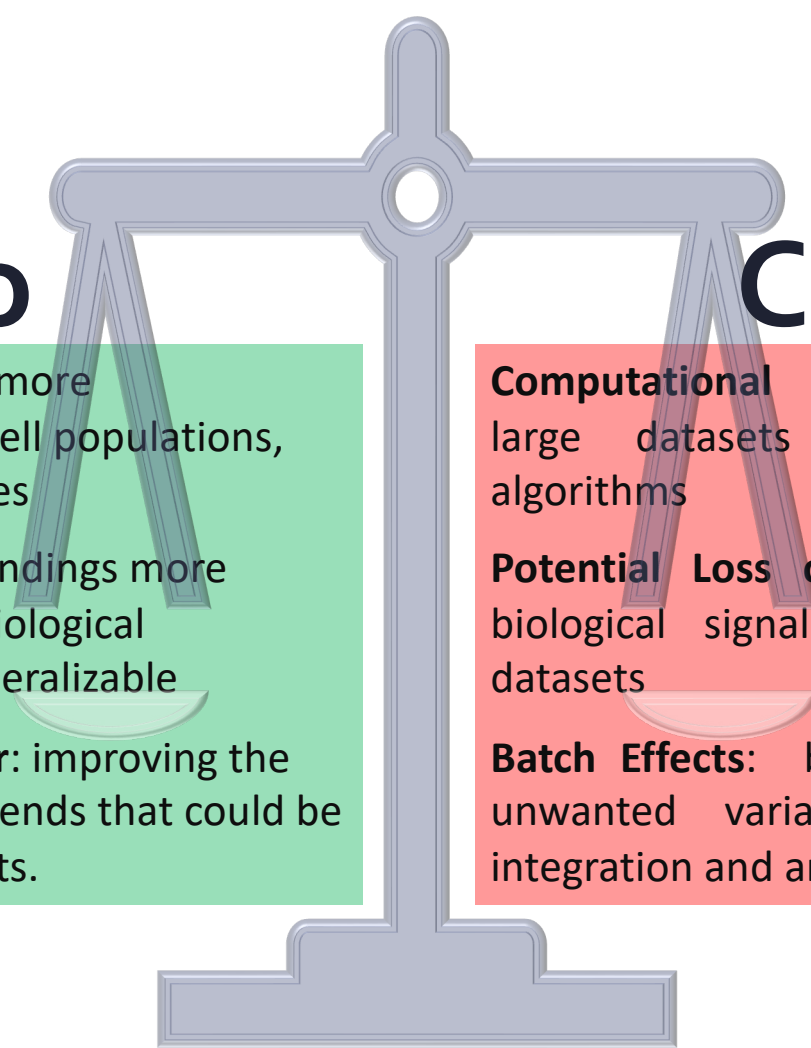
Goal: identify shared subpopulations across conditions or datasets



What for ?

Goal: identify shared subpopulations across conditions or datasets enabling comprehensive analysis





Pro

Enhanced Resolution: a more comprehensive view of cell populations, e.g. identify rare cell types

Improved Robustness: findings more robust across different biological conditions and more generalizable

Greater Statistical Power: improving the ability to detect subtle trends that could be missed in smaller datasets.

Cons

Computational Complexity: Integrating large datasets requires sophisticated algorithms

Potential Loss of Information: Masking biological signals specific to individual datasets

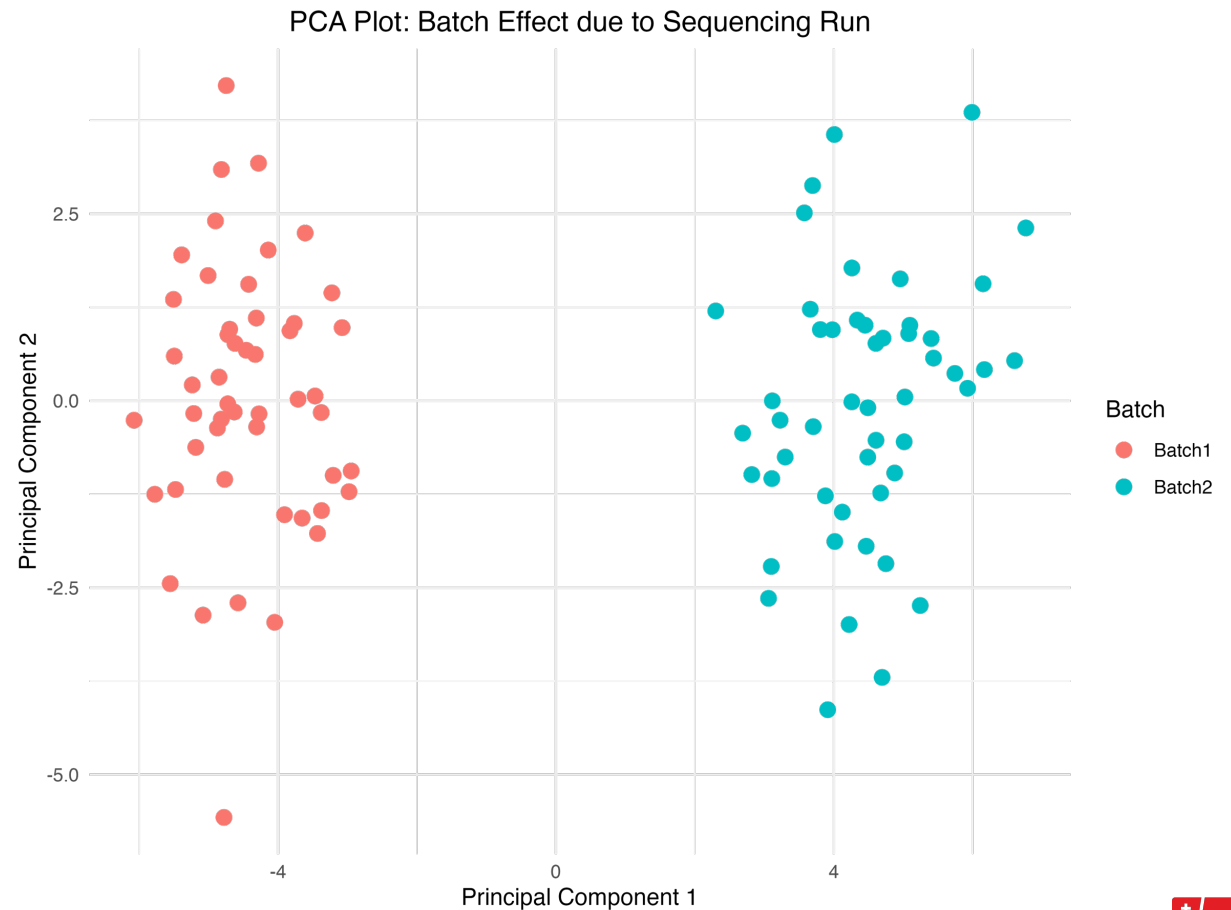
Batch Effects: batches effects introduce unwanted variability that complicates integration and analysis.

Unwanted Sources of Variation

Batch Effect is systematic technical variations due to differences in:

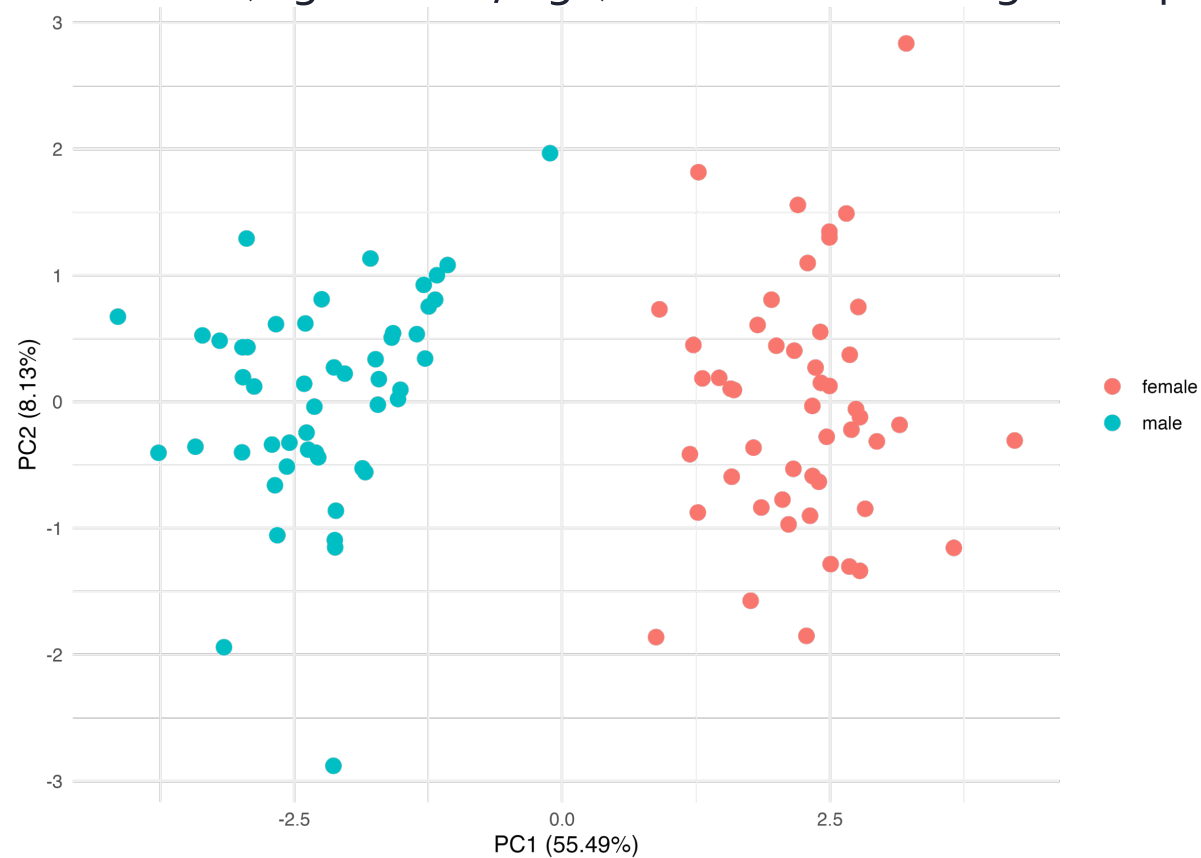
- a) cell isolation and handling protocols,
- b) library preparation technology, and sequencing platforms

Batch effects can obscure true biological signals, making it difficult to compare datasets



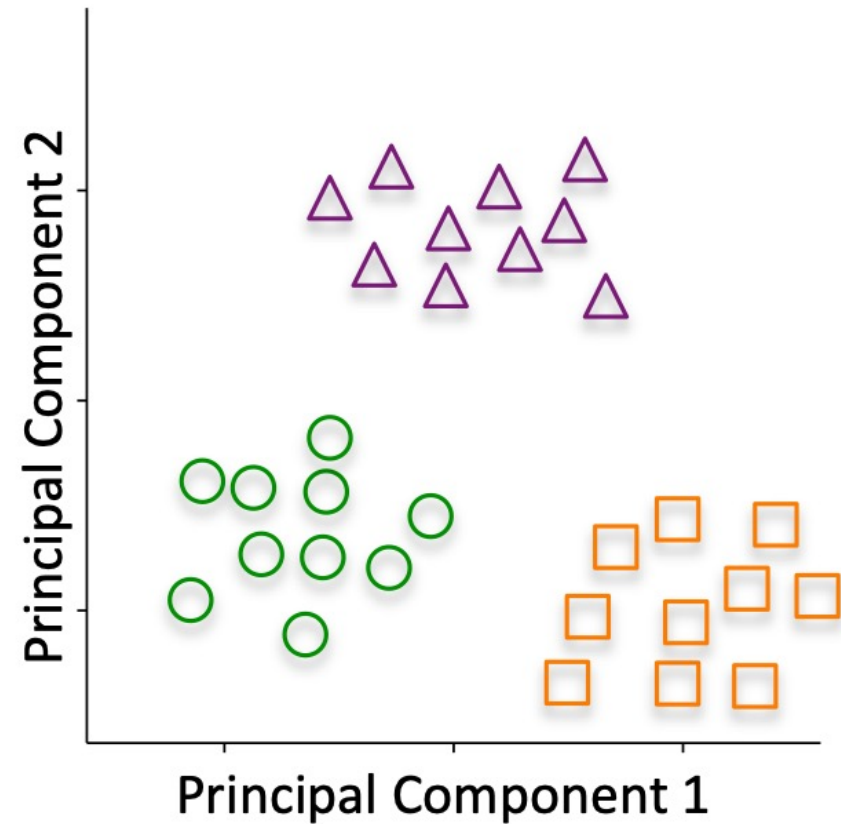
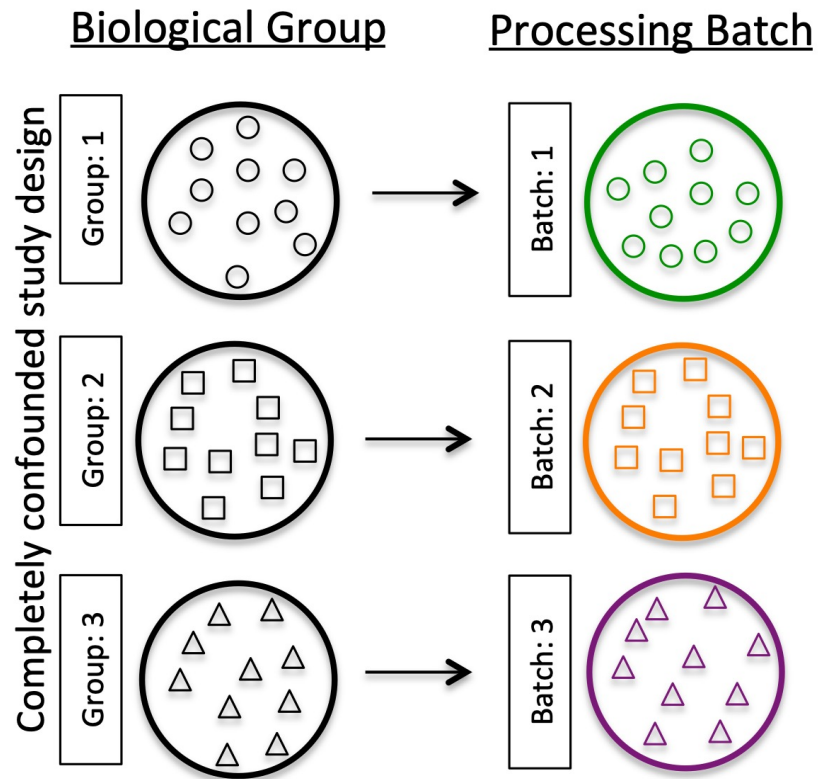
Unwanted Sources of Variation

Confounders are variables (e.g. Gender, Age) that could influence gene expression



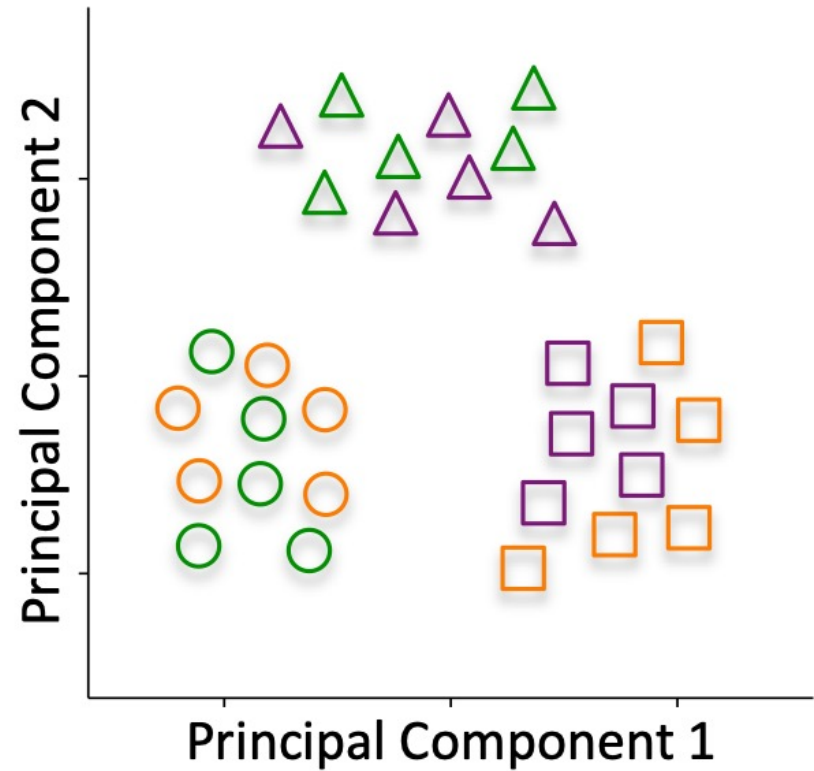
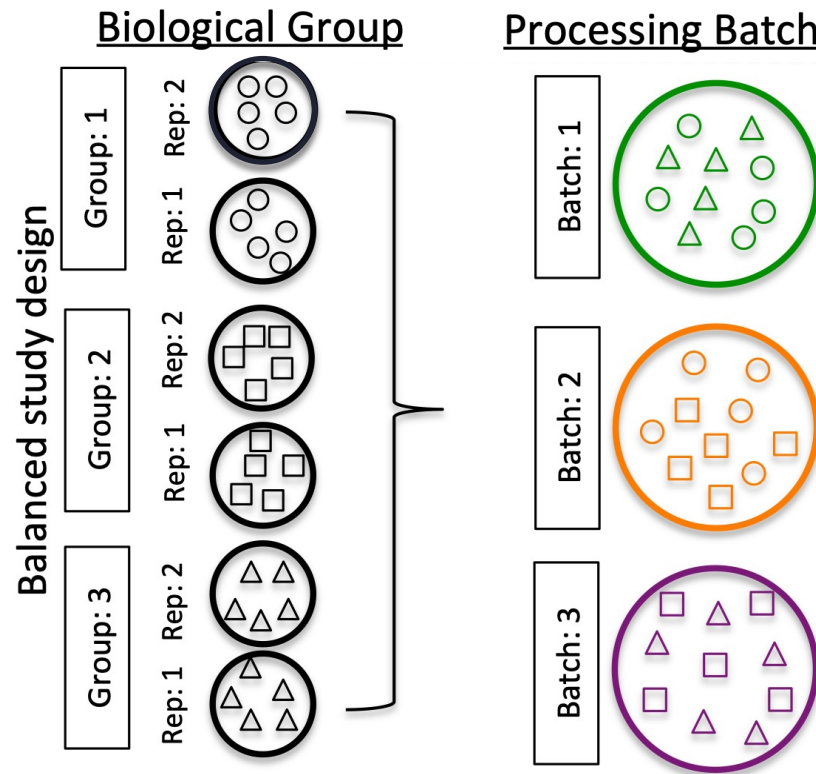
If they are not properly accounted for in the analysis they could potentially lead to misleading associations.

Experimental Design matters



Adapted from: Hicks et al.

Experimental Design matters



How to integrate

1

Find corresponding cells across datasets
(by computing a distance between cells in a certain space)

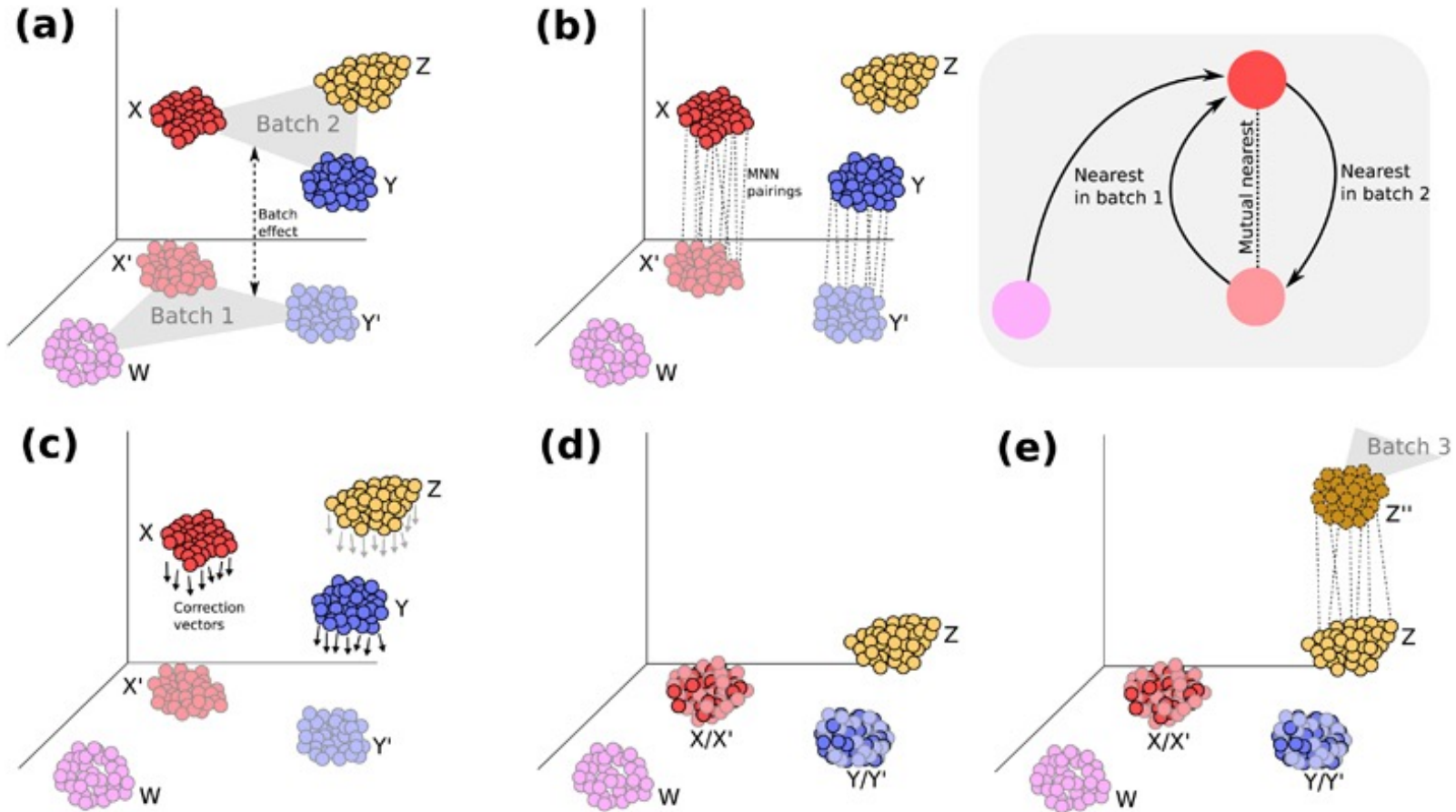
2

Compute a data adjustment based on correspondences between cells

3

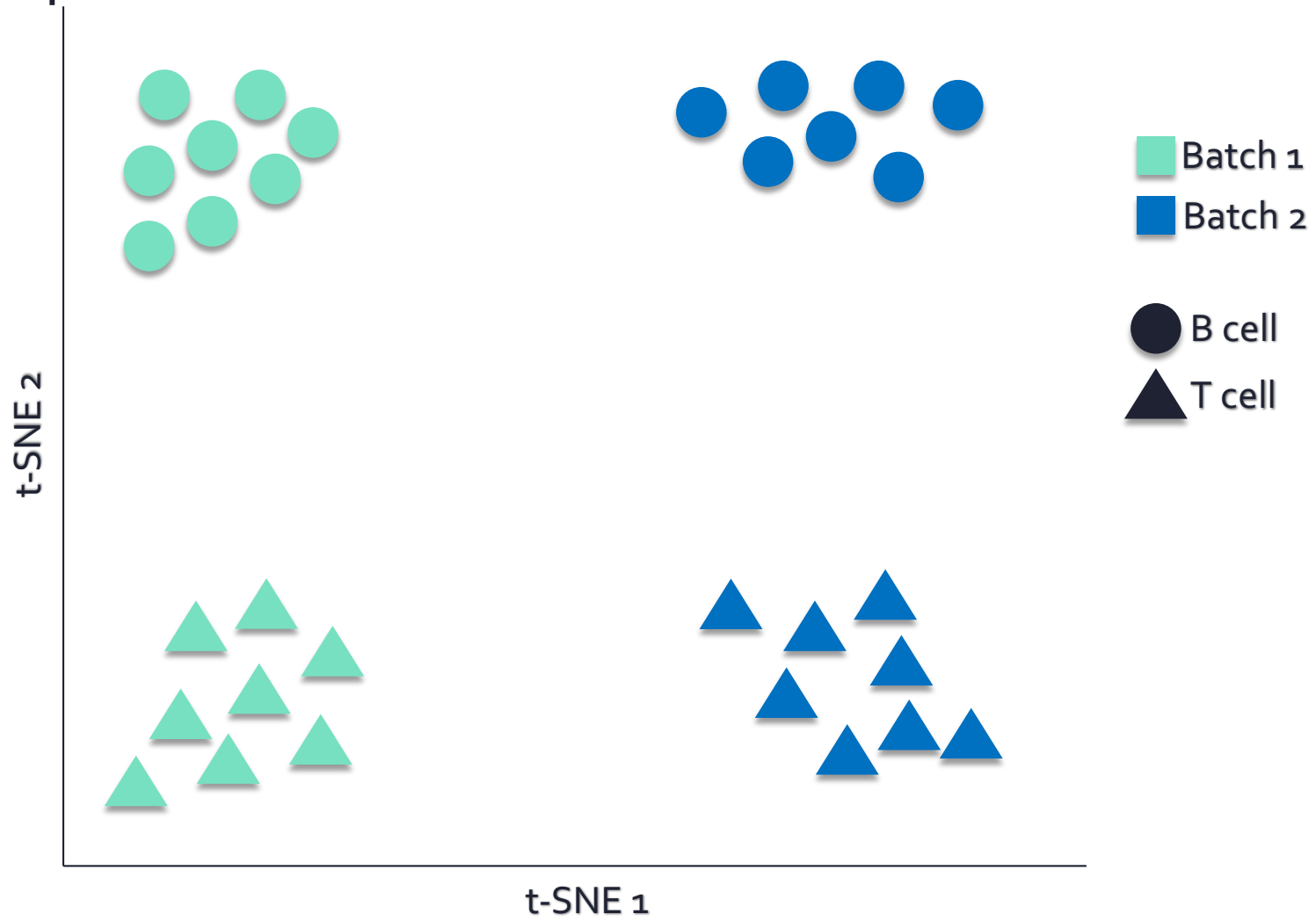
Apply the adjustment

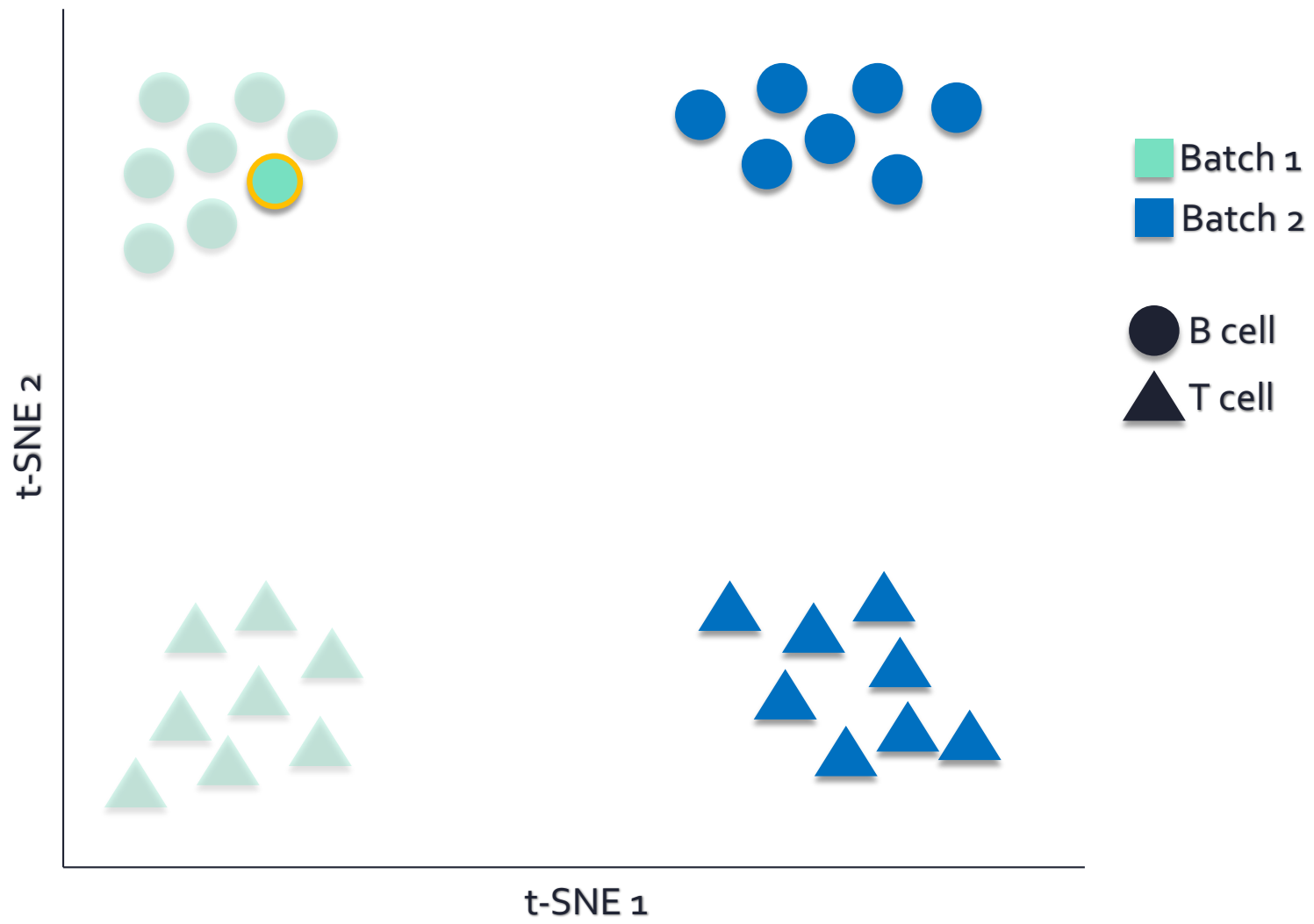
Mutual Nearest Neighbours

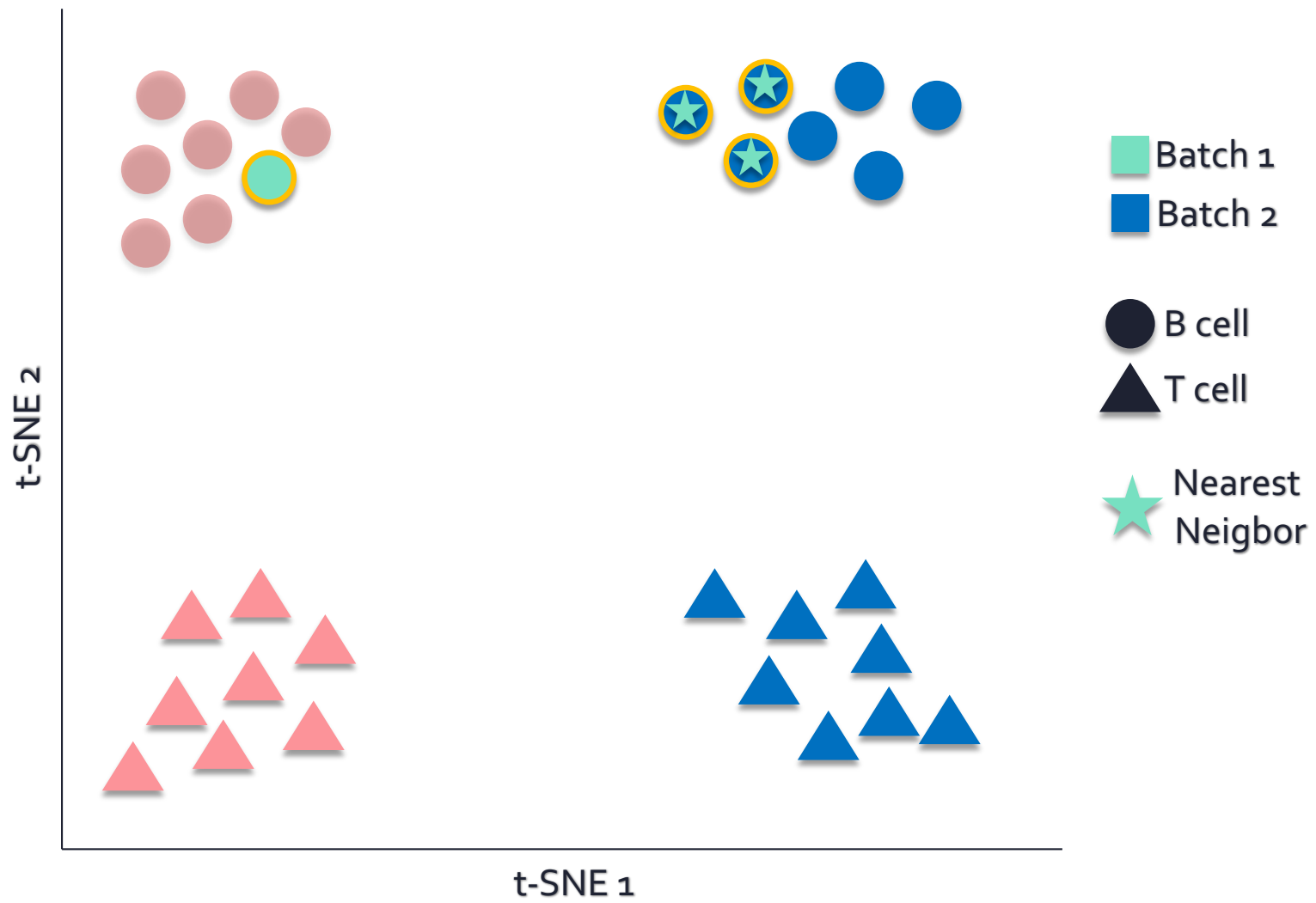


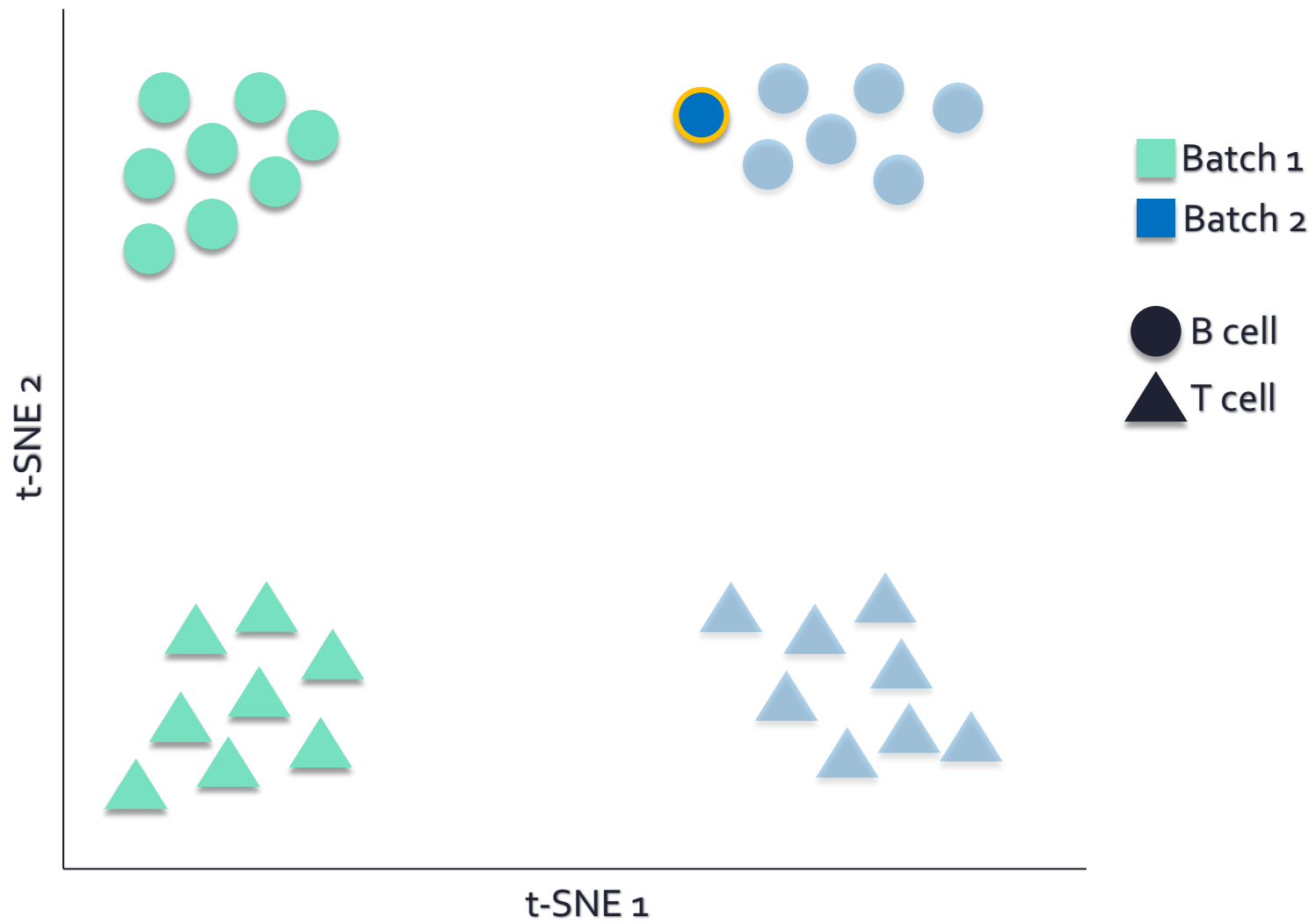
Adapted from: Haghverdi et al. Nat Biotechnol. 2018

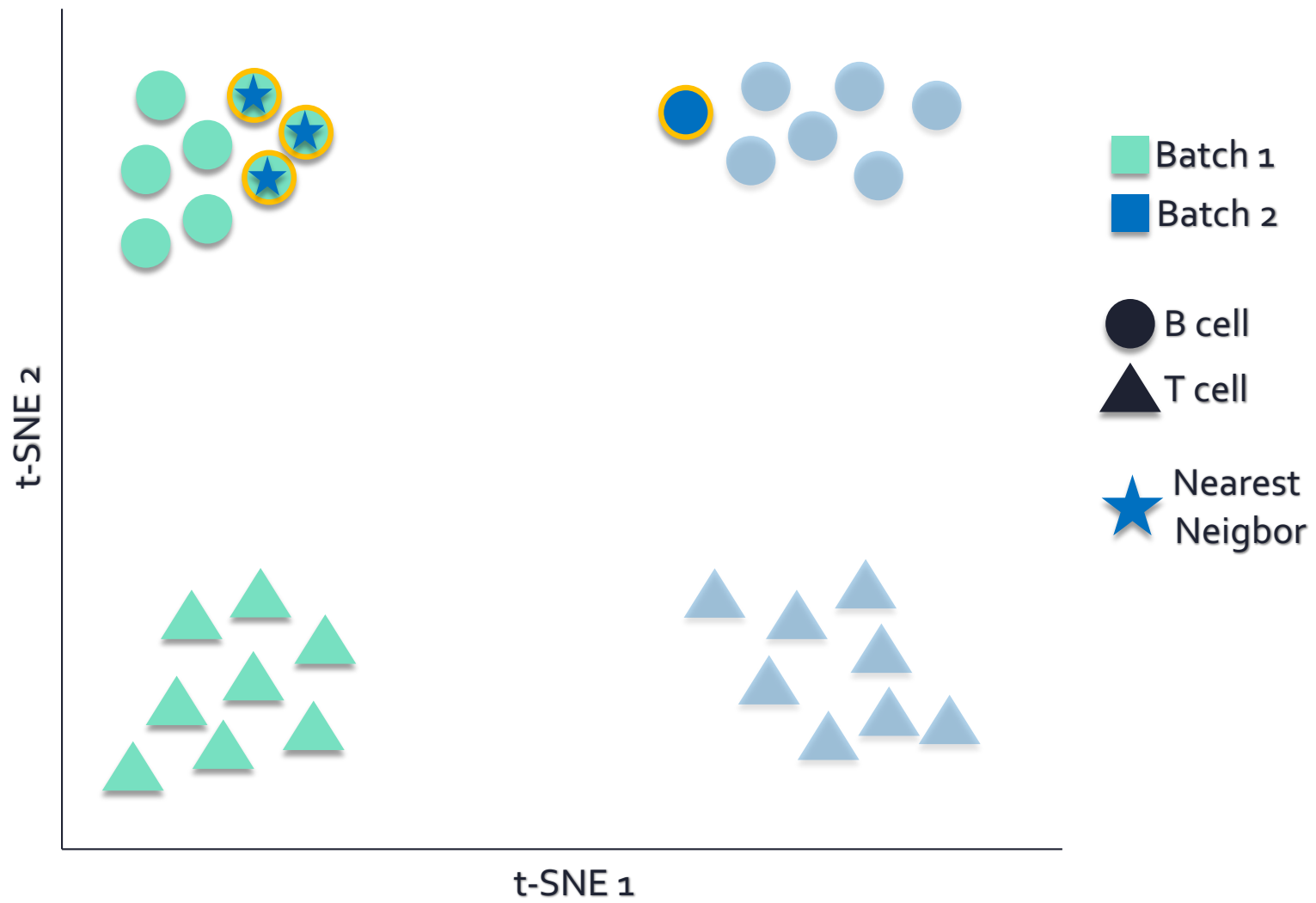
Example

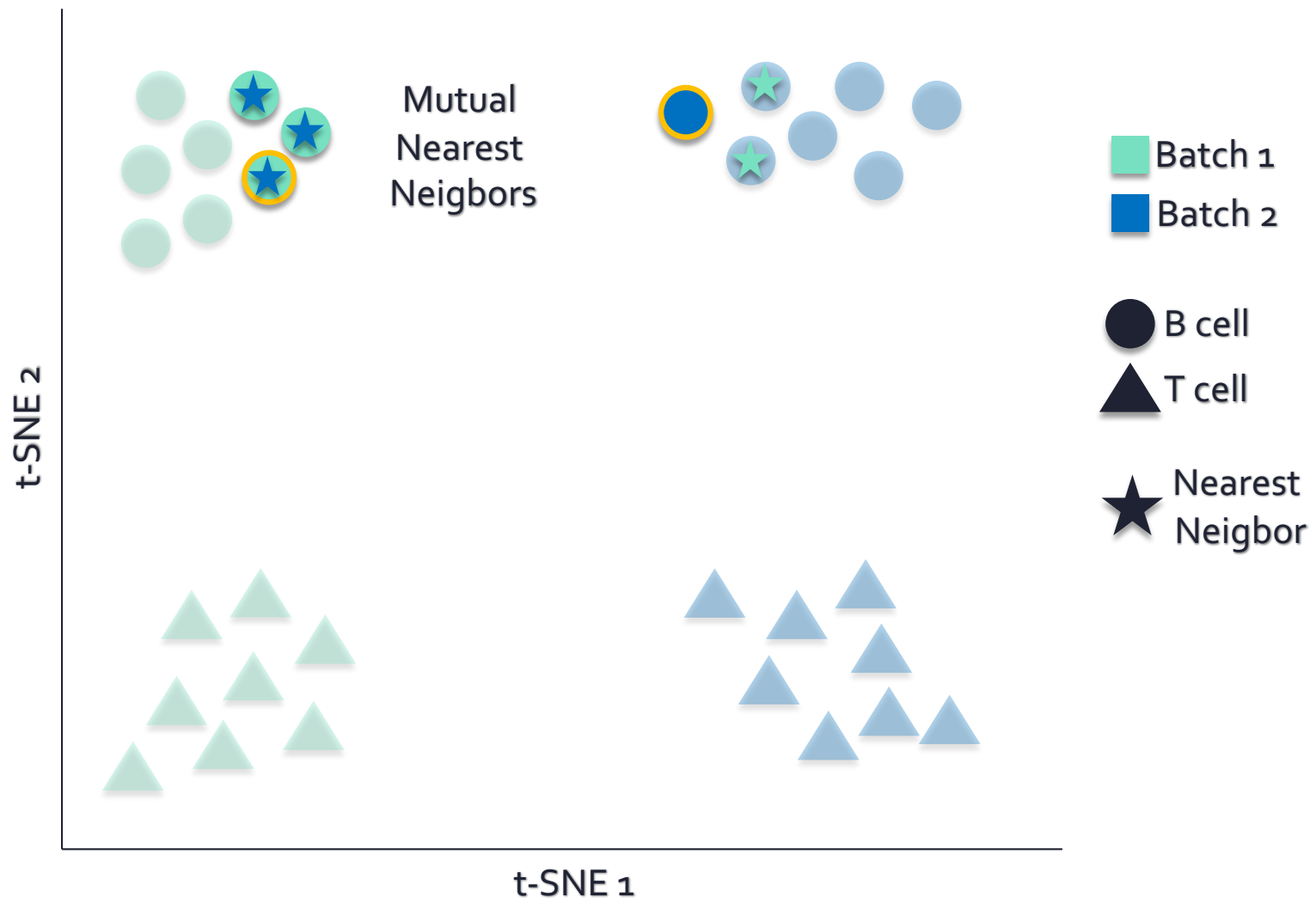




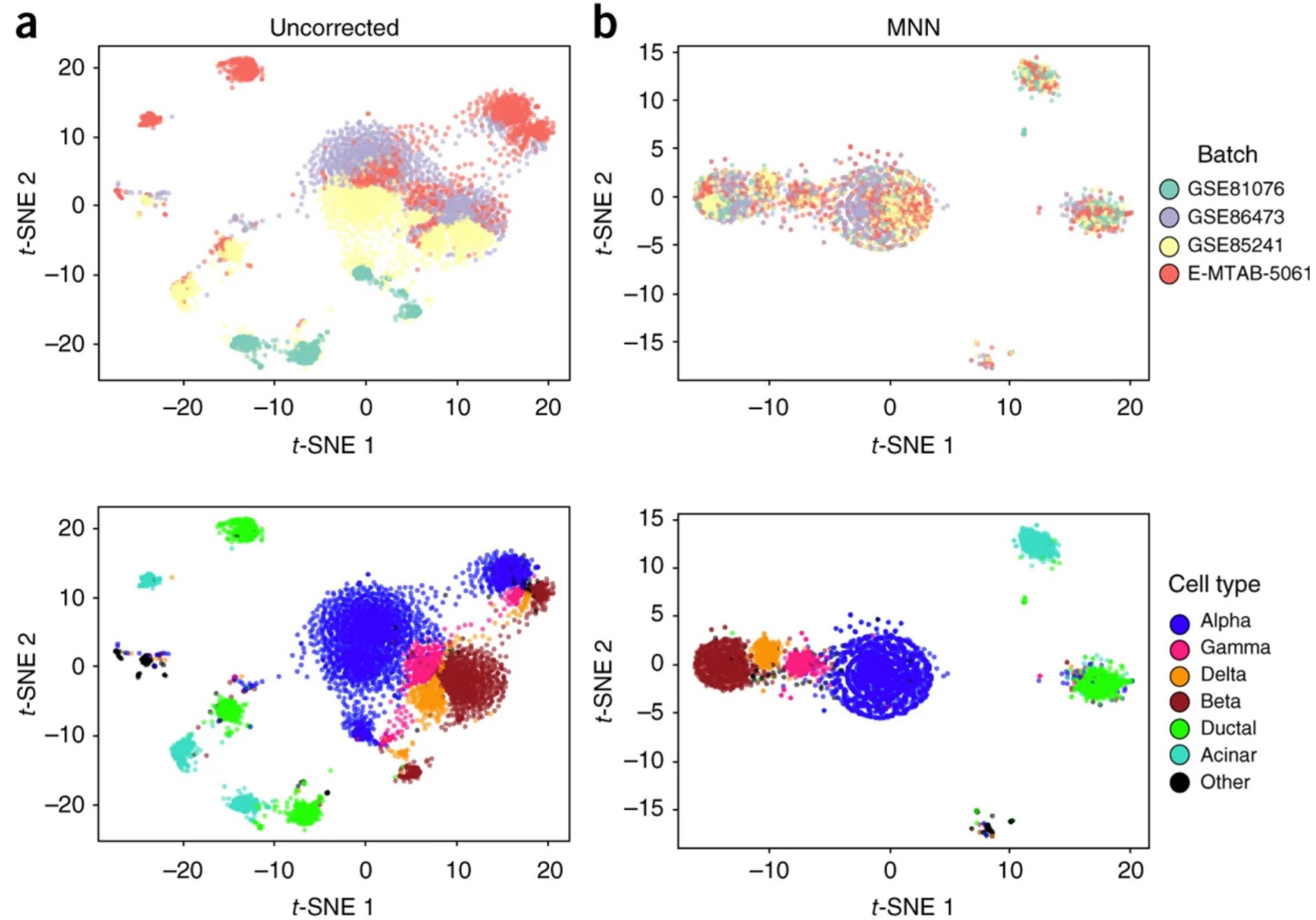








Final Integration



Canonical Correlation Analysis (CCA) + anchors

Find

Find corresponding cells across datasets (anchors) in L2-normalized CCA

Compute

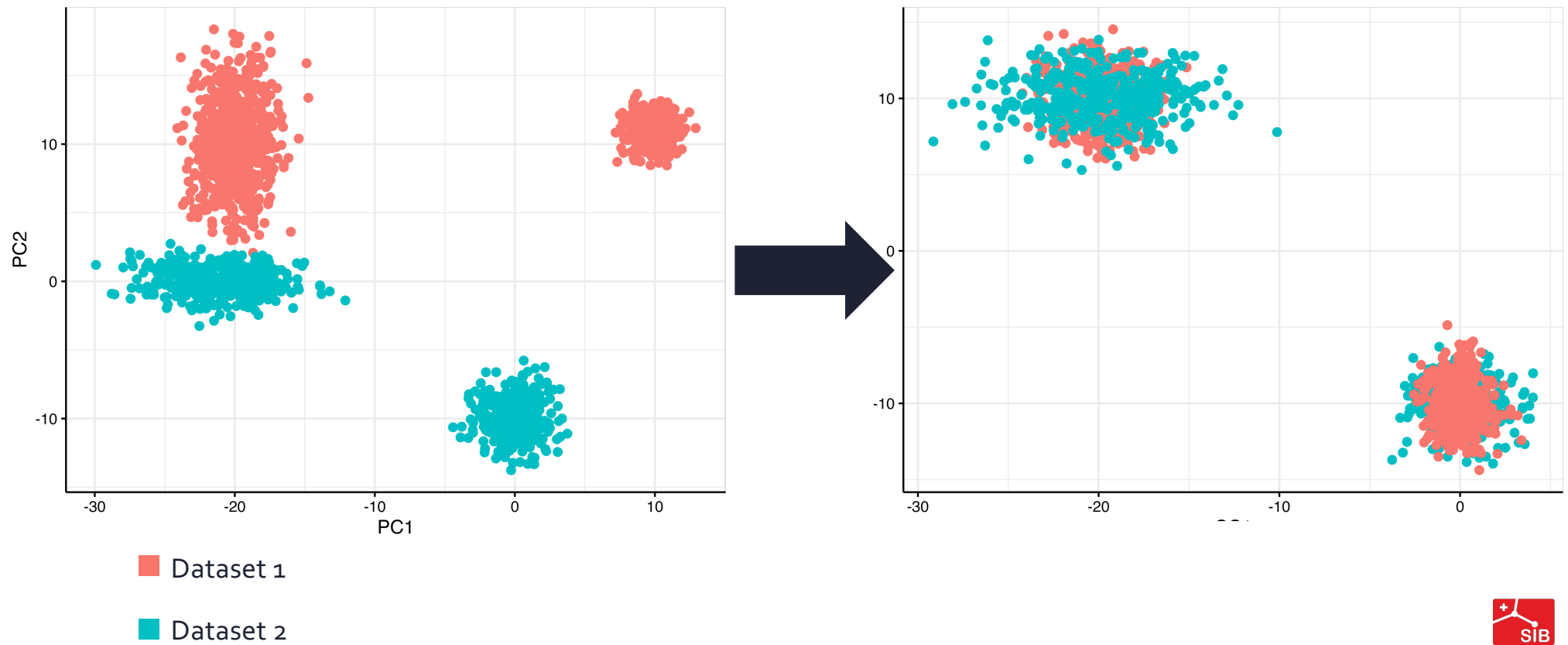
Compute a data adjustment based on correspondences between cells

Apply

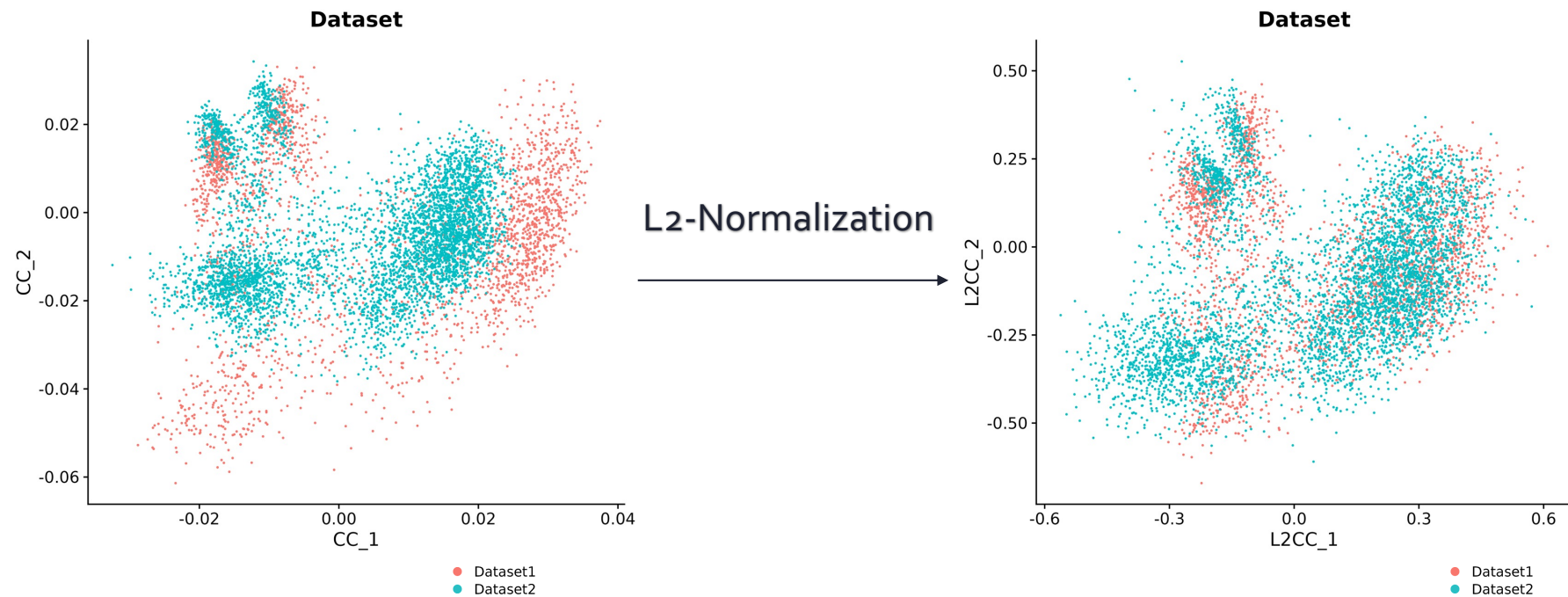
Apply the adjustment

Step1

Find corresponding cells across datasets



L2-normalization of CCs

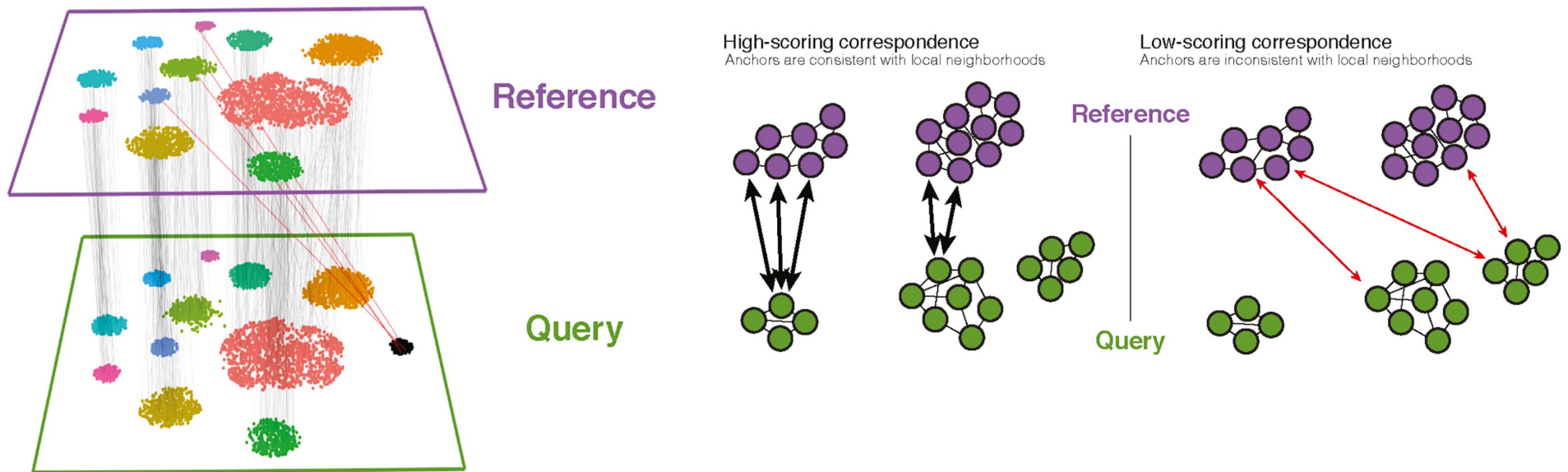


Imagine you have two datasets, A and B, each with a set of genes. CCA tries to find **linear combinations of genes** in A that correlate with corresponding combinations in B.

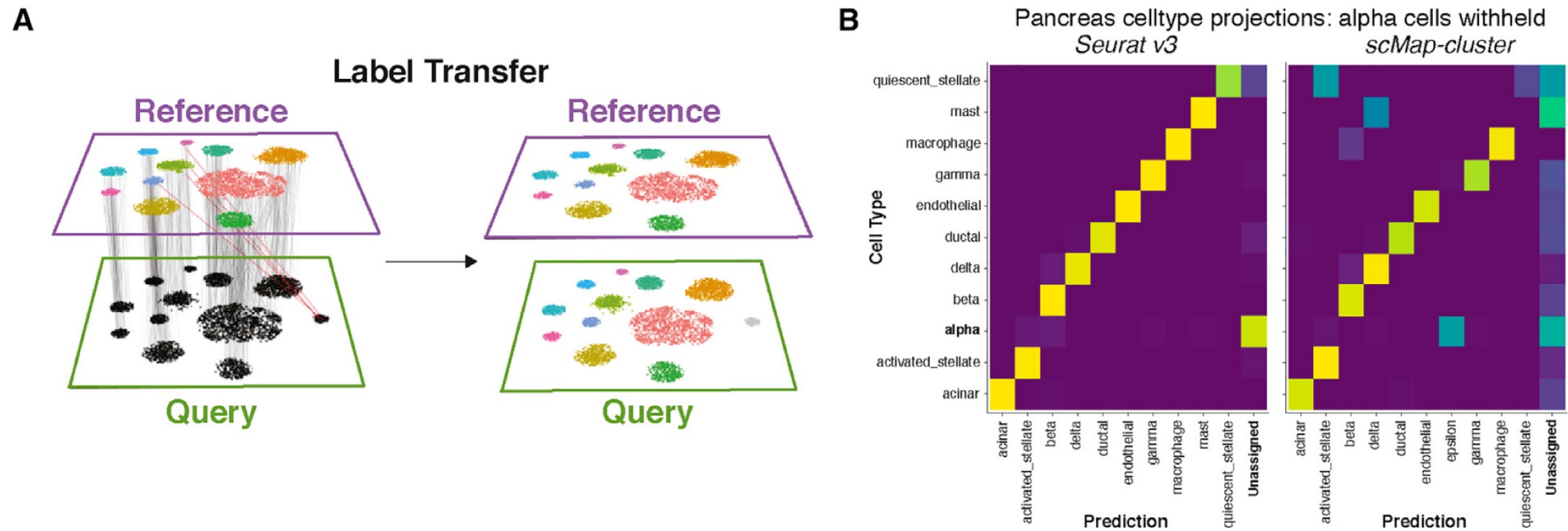
CCA looks for **pairs of “canonical” variables** (one from each dataset) that are maximally correlated with each other, capturing the shared structure

Anchors Identification

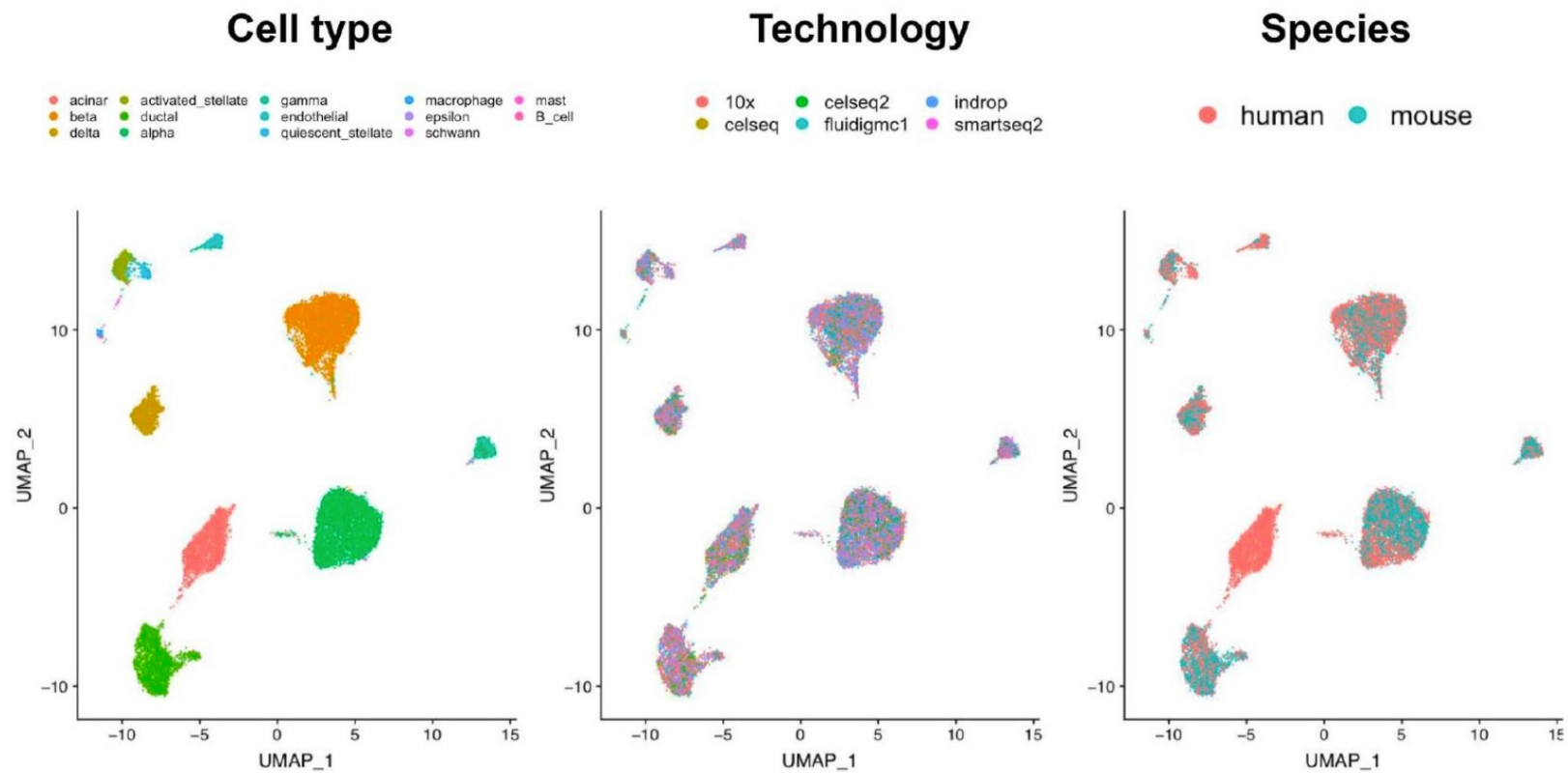
Seurat first performs **mutual nearest neighbours (MNN) matching** to identify cell pairs that are closest in gene expression space across datasets.



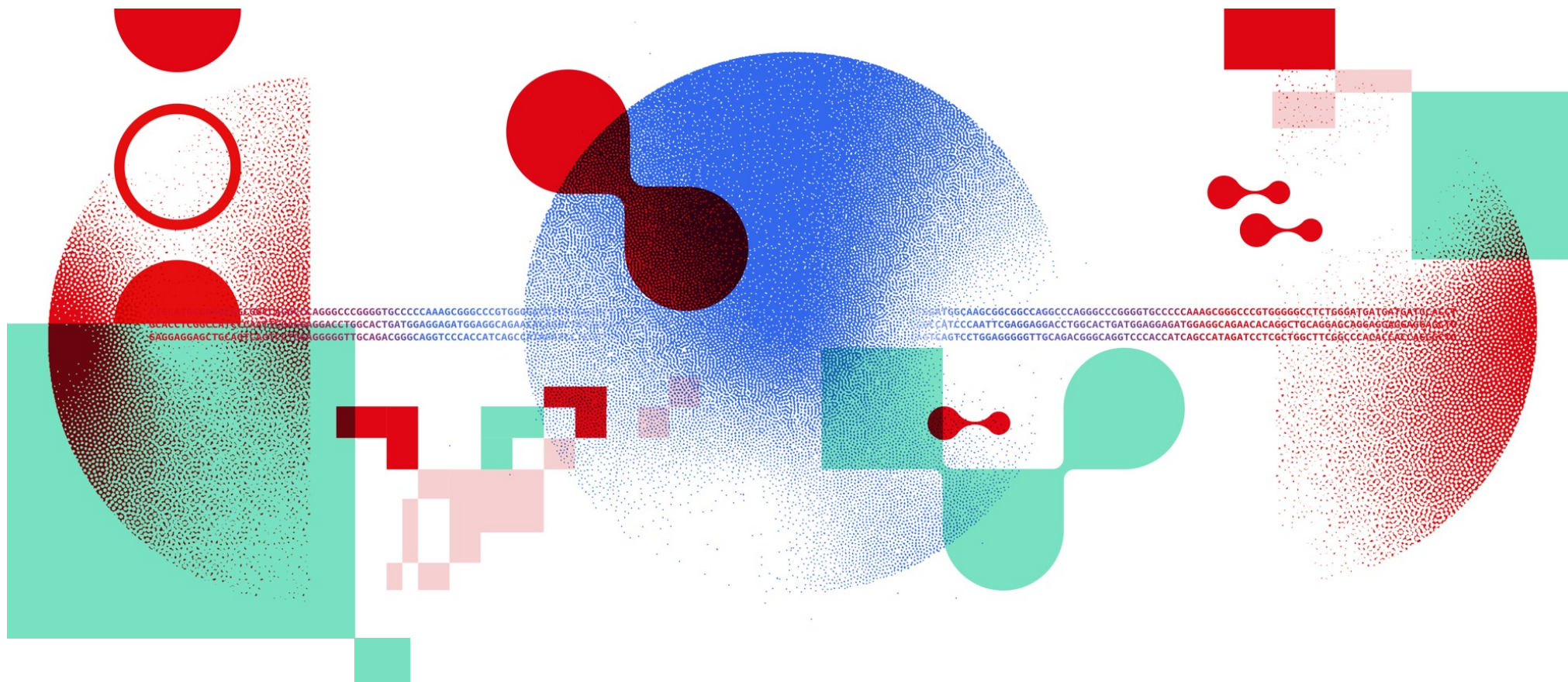
Label transfer: CCA + anchor



Good performance



Retinal bipolar datasets: 51K cells, 6 technologies, 2 Species



Thank you

DATA SCIENTISTS FOR LIFE

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