

A grayscale, high-magnification photograph of a microchip, showing a dense grid of circuitry and various components. The image is tilted slightly to the right.

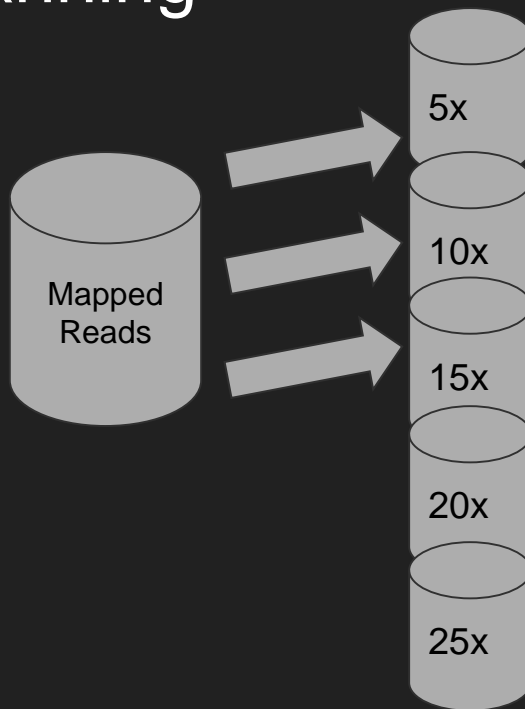
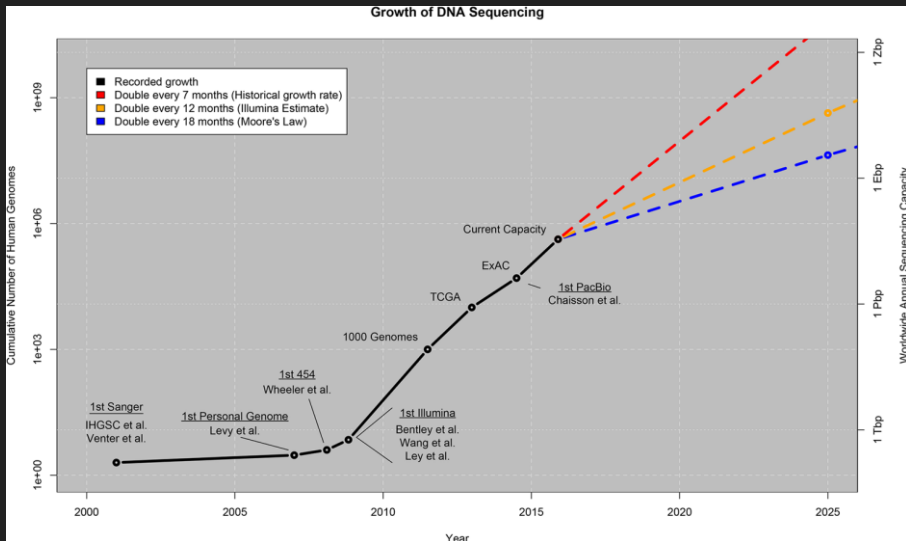
I'm a Big Metal Fan:

Big Data at the Lowest Level

Joseph Guhlin

More Data Requires More Planning

Subsampling for ML



Big Data: Astronomical or Genomical?
Stephens et al, 2015

Most Problems are Smaller Problems

Mapping Reads

- QC
- Trim
- Align
- Process

Also applies to “smaller” problems!

- Extract every 1000bp of Sequence
- Split at 3 or more contiguous N's
- Append Sequence Identifier



Ways of Doing This

Workflow Managers → Snakemake, Nextflow

Simple Methods → Multiple Threads

Programming Paradigms → Map/Reduce



Scatter/Gather

1Mb Genomes vs 10Gb Genomes

Algorithms/software often written for the dataset you **have**

Throwing Hardware at the problem **mostly** works

Think about scaling to larger genomes, deeper reads

Common Mistakes:

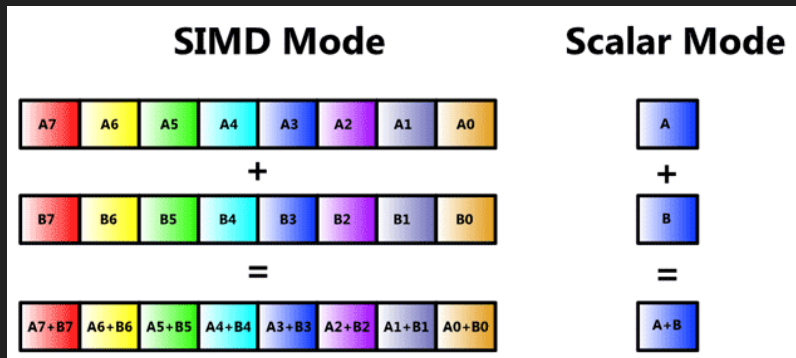
- Loading all data into memory (memory map the file → easiest solution)

- Nothing in parallel

- Waiting on one function to complete before starting the next step

Getting Fancy

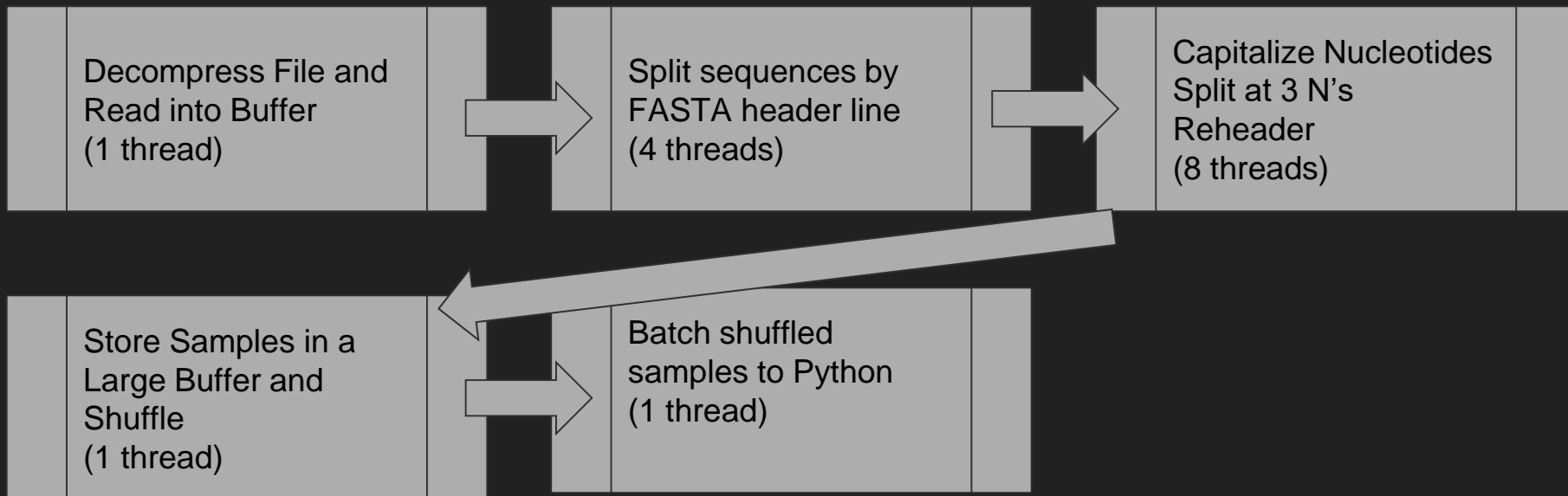
- Python / R
 - Language Interop
 - Develop intensive tasks in other languages
- Processor Intrinsics
 - SIMD - Single Instruction Multiple Data
 - Only certain types of data fit!



Rust → Python

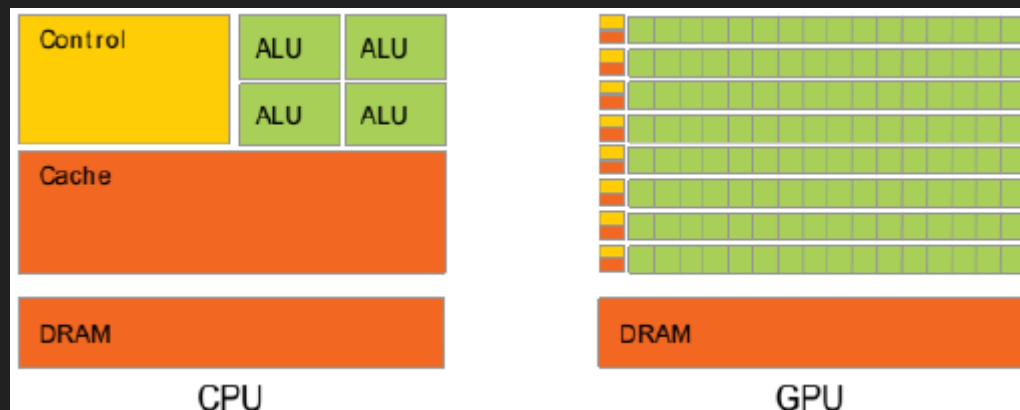
Rust is a Systems Language → Can write Python Modules

Multiple-hours in Python to Minutes using Rust (but still working in Python)



GPUs

- SIMD on Steroids
- Many more mathematical processes simultaneously
- Limited for Genomics → But if you can represent your problem in mathematical terms...



You Can Too!



- Python
 - NUMBA → Vectorizes, SIMD, compiles Python code
 - CUDA → Steeper learning curve, GPU
 - MxNET Gluon -> Linear Algebra on CPU or GPU
- R
 - BLAS/LAPACK
 - Microsoft R Open → SIMD, Multithreading
 - Bonus: Reproducibility with checkpointed CRAN

Summary

- Subsets of Problems
 - Break problems down into small solvable units
- Data as a Pipe
 - Push forward, never backwards
 - Copy/Clone data to be solved
- How can I scale this up?
 - Memory limited or CPU limited?
 - Bacteria now → 10Gb genome tomorrow?