# Applications for Virtual Microscopy in the quantitative analysis of the immunological tumor microenvironment

Niels Halama









# Part I "How many birds are in the forest and where are they?"

Immune Cells in Colorectal Cancer



#### **Previous Studies**

Intraepithelial CD8<sup>+</sup> T-cell-count becomes a prognostic factor after a longer follow-up period in human colorectal carcinoma: possible association with suppression of micrometastasis

T Chiba<sup>1,2</sup>, H Ohtani<sup>\*,2,3</sup>, T Mizoi<sup>4</sup>, Y Naito<sup>2</sup>, E Sato<sup>2</sup>, H Nagura<sup>2</sup>, A Ohuchi<sup>5</sup>, K Ohuchi<sup>6</sup>, K Shiiba<sup>4</sup>, Y Kurokawa<sup>1</sup> and S Satomi<sup>1</sup>

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British Journal of Cancer (2004) 91. 1711 – 1717

#### Prognostic Role of CD8+ Tumor-Infiltrating Lymphocytes in Stage III Colorectal Cancer With and Without Microsatellite Instability

FRIEDRICH PRALL, MD, THOMAS DÜHRKOP, VOLKER WEIRICH, MD, CHRISTIANE OSTWALD, PhD, PETER LENZ, MD, HORST NIZZE, MD, AND MALTE BARTEN, MD

HUMAN PATHOLOGY Volume 35, No. 7 (July 2004)



# Type, Density, and Location of Immune Cells Within Human Colorectal Tumors Predict Clinical Outcome

Jérôme Galon, 1\*† Anne Costes, 1 Fatima Sanchez-Cabo, 2 Amos Kirilovsky, 1 Bernhard Mlecnik, 2 Christine Lagorce-Pagès, 3 Marie Tosolini, 1 Matthieu Camus, 1 Anne Berger, 4 Philippe Wind, 4 Franck Zinzindohoué, 5 Patrick Bruneval, 6 Paul-Henri Cugnenc, 5 Zlatko Trajanoski, 2 Wolf-Herman Fridman, 1,7 Franck Pagès 1,7 †

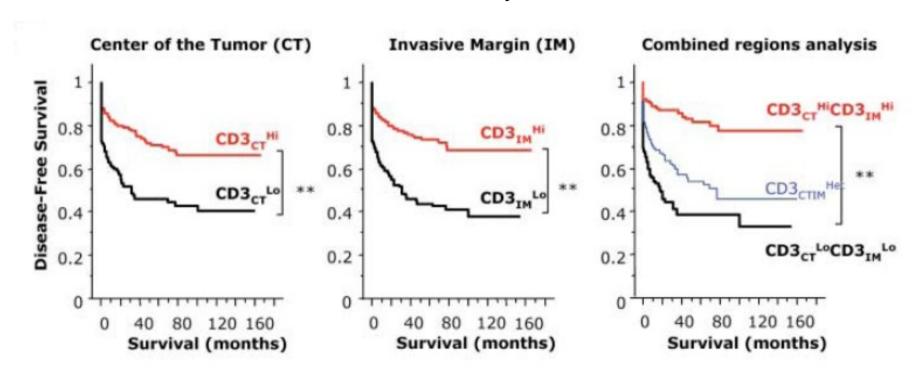
The role of the adaptive immune response in controlling the growth and recurrence of human tumors has been controversial. We characterized the tumor-infiltrating immune cells in large cohorts of human colorectal cancers by gene expression profiling and in situ immunohistochemical staining. Collectively, the immunological data (the type, density, and location of immune cells within the tumor samples) were found to be a better predictor of patient survival than the histopathological methods currently used to stage colorectal cancer. The results were validated in two additional patient populations. These data support the hypothesis that the adaptive immune response influences the behavior of human tumors. In situ analysis of tumor-infiltrating immune cells may therefore be a valuable prognostic tool in the treatment of colorectal cancer and possibly other malignancies.

Science 2006



#### **Immunohistochemistry**

IHC: CD3, CD8, Granzyme B and CD45RO



Galon et al. in Science 2006



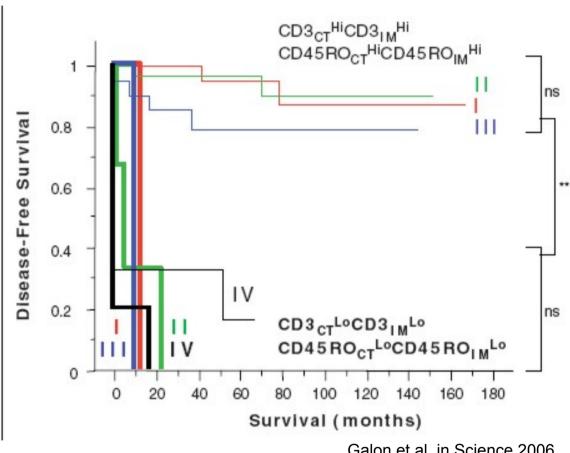
#### Clinical Impact of Immune Infiltration

**UICC-TNM** stadium as reference

> CD3<sub>CT</sub>CD3<sub>IM</sub> evaluation

> > plus

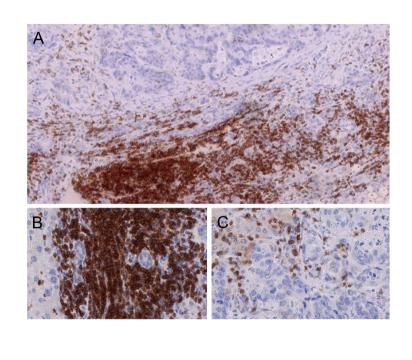
CD45RO<sub>CT</sub>CD45RO<sub>IM</sub> evaluation



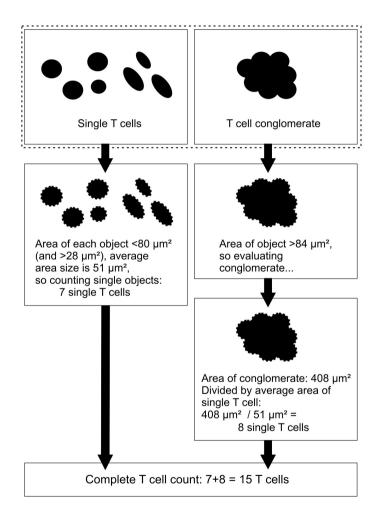
Galon et al. in Science 2006



### Quantification of Immune Cells (I)



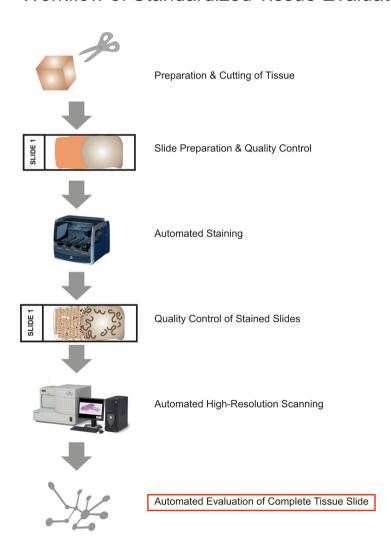






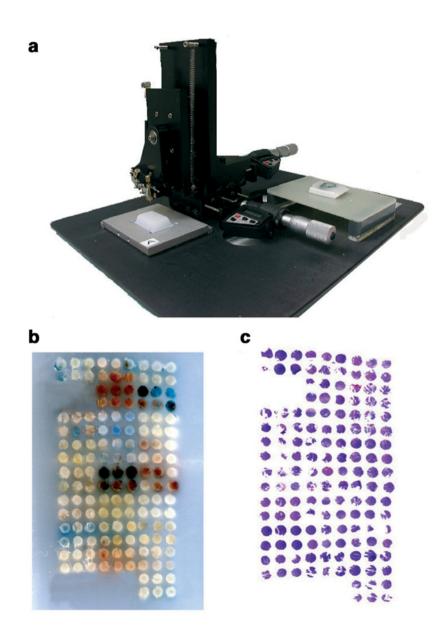
#### Quantification of Immune Cells (II)

#### Workflow of Standardized Tissue Evaluation





## Tissue Microarray (TMA) Technology





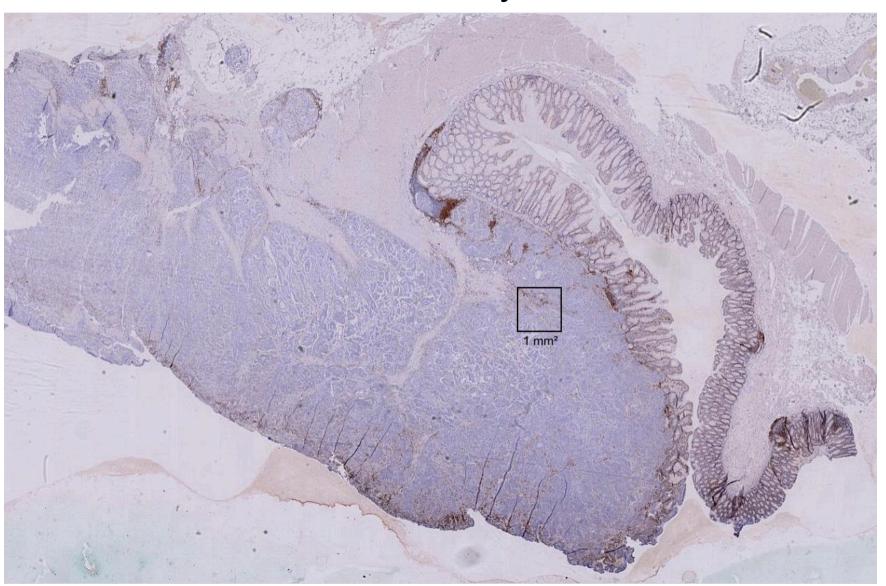
#### Tissue Microarray on large sample numbers



CD3



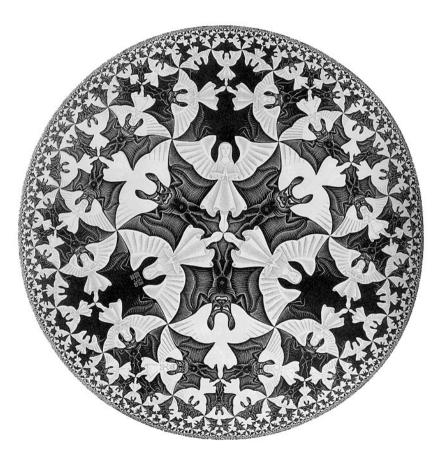
# Tissue Microarray Platform





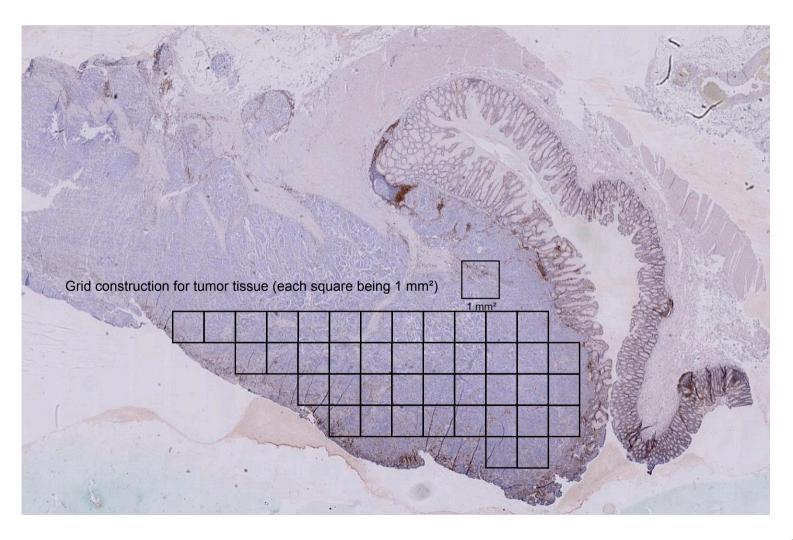
## Selecting a representative region...?





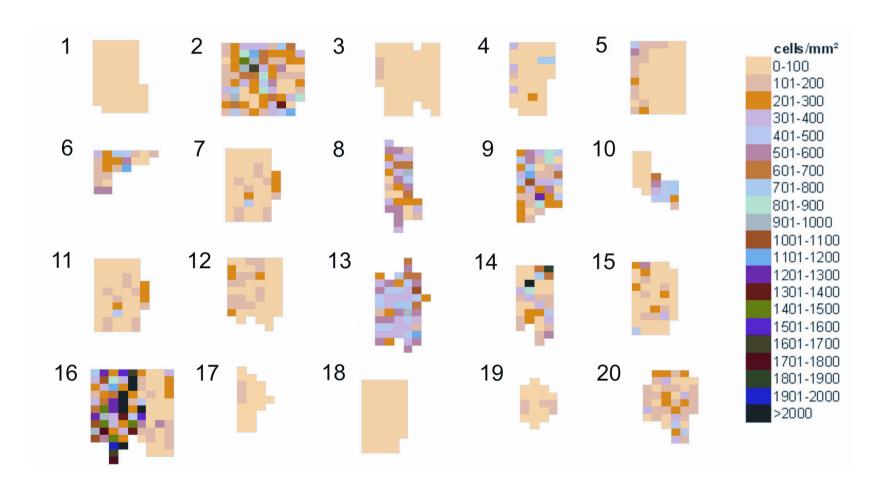


# Immunological Tumor Maps





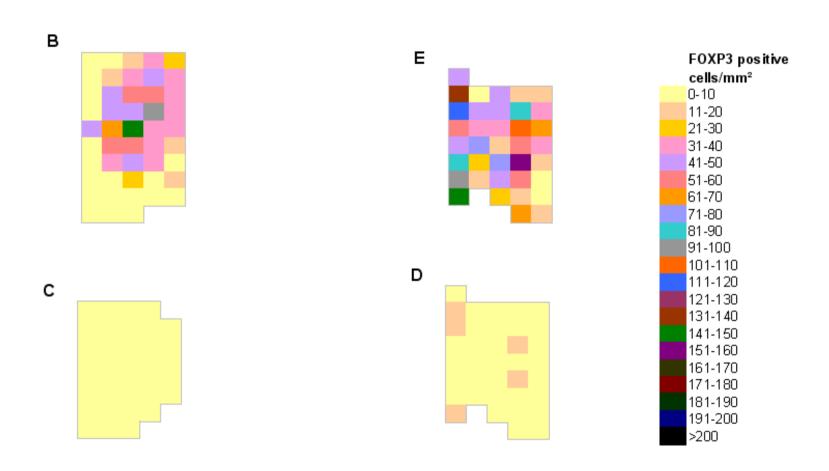
#### Immunological tumor maps: Colorectal Cancer



CD3+ T Cell densities, primary CRC, no MSI



#### Immunological tumor maps: Breast Cancer



FOXP3+ Treg Cell densities, primary BrCa, all subtypes (ER+,PR+, HER2/neu+, etc.)



#### Where is the Tissue Microarray...?

#### Journal of Pathology

J Pathol 2006; 208: 607-614

Published online 24 January 2006 in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com). DOI: 10.1002/path.1934

#### **Original Paper**

#### A new approach to the validation of tissue microarrays

L Goethals, <sup>1</sup>\* C Perneel, <sup>2</sup> A Debucquoy, <sup>1</sup> H De Schutter, <sup>1</sup> D Borghys, <sup>2</sup> N Ectors, <sup>3</sup> K Geboes, <sup>3</sup> WH McBride <sup>4</sup> and KM Haustermans <sup>1</sup>

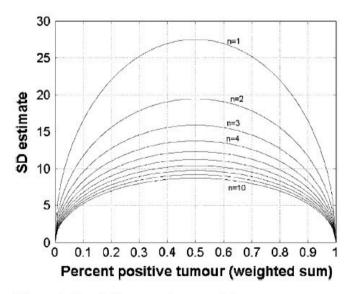


Figure 5. Standard error in function of the mean percentage positivity for a number of punches varying between 1 and 10

The fitted

model for the number of cores varying between 1 and 10 is represented in Figure 5. All curves are defined by the same function with constant value 55 ( $\sigma = 55 \sqrt{\{[\text{mean } (1 - \text{mean})]/n\}\}}$ ; this constant is derived from the data represented in Table 2). Each curve represents a different number of hypothetical core biopsies that has been taken. So, when the number of core biopsies is high, the SD decreases. From this graph (as from Table 2) it is possible to conclude that the maximal spread (highest SD) is seen around 50% positivity and this decreases for values closer to 0% and 100%. The theoretical variation coefficient for the worst-case situation (50% positivity) with only one punch is 55%, decreasing to 17% using ten punches. Based on the law of diminishing returns, at some point increasing the number of cores will reduce the variability by such a small amount that the cost of the additional core is not worthwhile. Based on these

the additional core is not worthwhile. Based on these results, we advise taking four or five punches where possible, keeping in mind that even with this number the SD remains substantial.



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Tissue Microarrays are efficient...

...when the investigated object has a homogeneous distribution.

...when large sample numbers are available to make general investigations.

Virtual Microscopy on Whole Slide Images is efficient...

..when distributions or patterns in tissues have to be investigated.

...when individual analyses have to be performed ("individualized medicine").

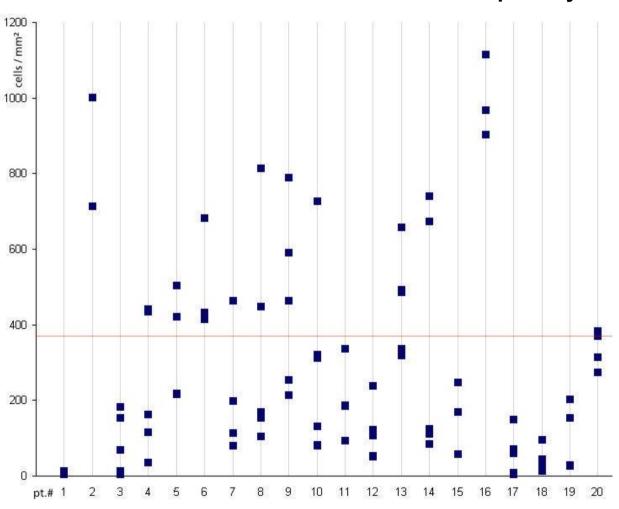






#### What about the individual patient?

#### Distribution of immune cells within the tumor: primary CRC

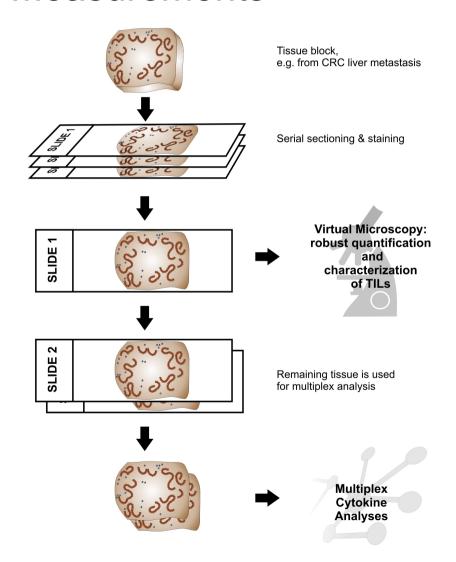




# Part II "What else is there in the forest?"



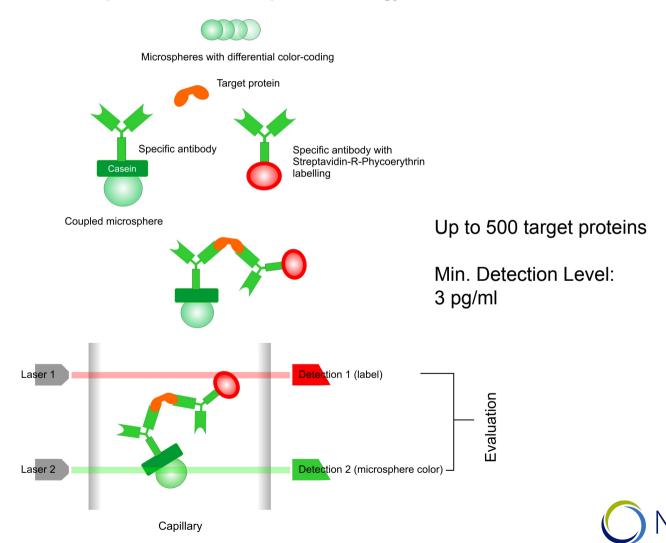
# Combining Virtual Microscopy with Multiplex Bead Protein Measurements

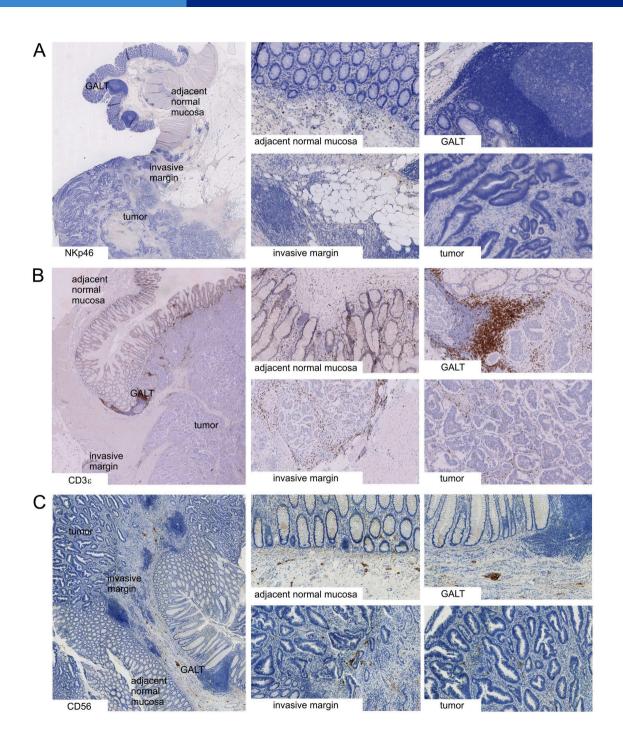




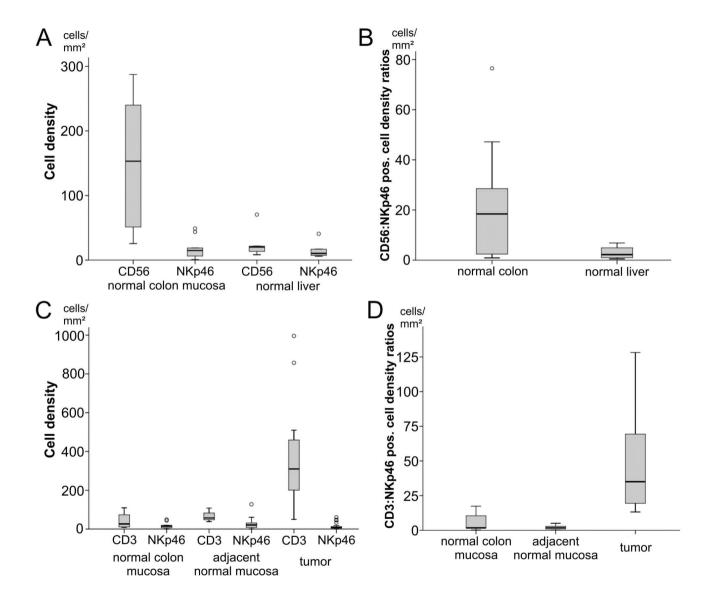
#### Multiplex Bead Based Analyses

#### **Principle of Luminex Multiplex Technology**

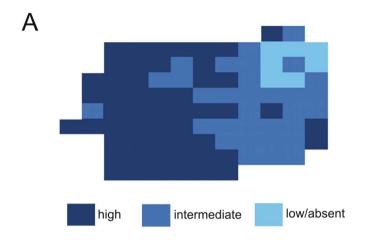


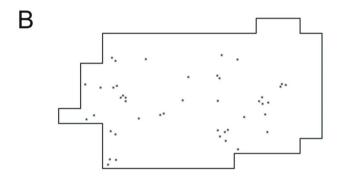


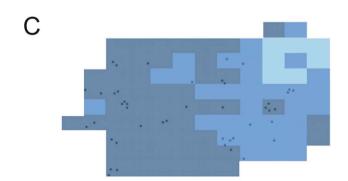




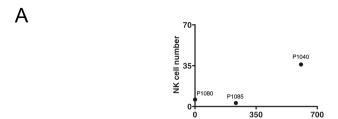


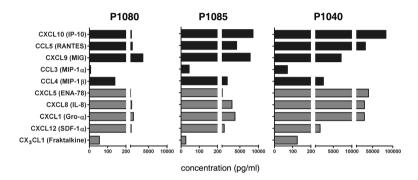




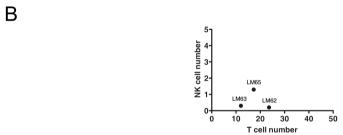


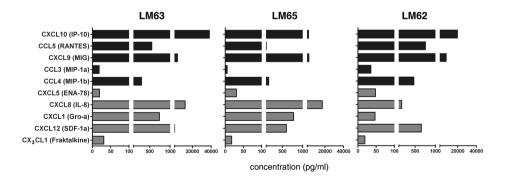






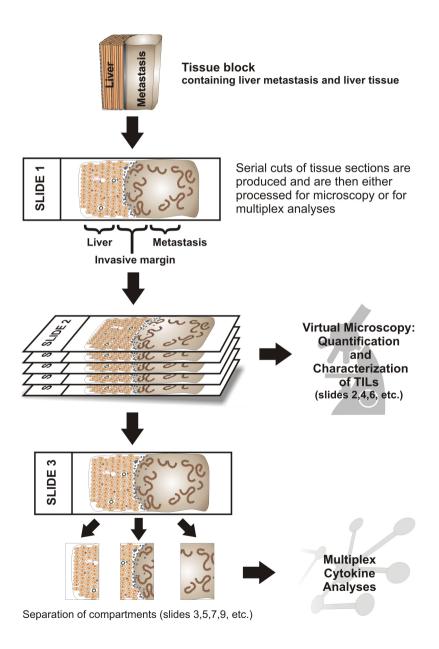
T cell number







### Differential Profiling & Cell Densities









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