# Algorithms for Tumor Phylogenetics

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## Tumorigenesis: (i) Cell Mutation

**Clonal Theory of Cancer** [Nowell, 1976]

> Mutation Founder tumor cell

## Tumorigenesis: (i) Cell Mutation, (ii) Cell Division

**Clonal Theory of Cancer** [Nowell, 1976]



### Tumorigenesis: (i) Cell Division, (ii) Mutation & (iii) Migration



#### Research: Algorithms for Reconstructing Cancer Evolution



Precise mathematical models are needed to describe the evolutionary process in cancer

## **Bigger Picture**

'Nothing in biology cancer makes sense except in the light of evolution.'

- Large-scale comparative tumor phylogenetics to identify common patterns of tumor evolution: Landscape of tumor phylogenies.
- Algorithms and translatable model systems to uncover spatiotemporal dynamics of tumorigenesis.
- Novel algorithms to study the interplay of intra-tumor heterogeneity, the microbiome and the immune environment.
- We should be treating tumor clones rather than individual mutations.