Figure 1. Flow diagram presenting the analysis steps:

- **Replicate experiments**
  - Segmentation
  - Removal of empty spots
  - Estimation of gene expression levels
  - LOWESS normalization
  - Correlation
  - Mean absolute error

- **Good quality simulated images**
  - Segmentation
  - Evaluation of binary segmentation based on the ground-truth information
    - Probability of error
    - Discrepancy distance

- **Low quality simulated images**
  - Segmentation