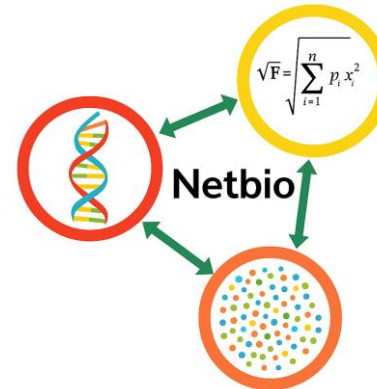


➤ Exploration de la valeur interprétative des modèles multi-omiques pour la prédiction phénotypique chez le peuplier noir

Alexandre DUPLAN

NETBIO

Orléans 2025



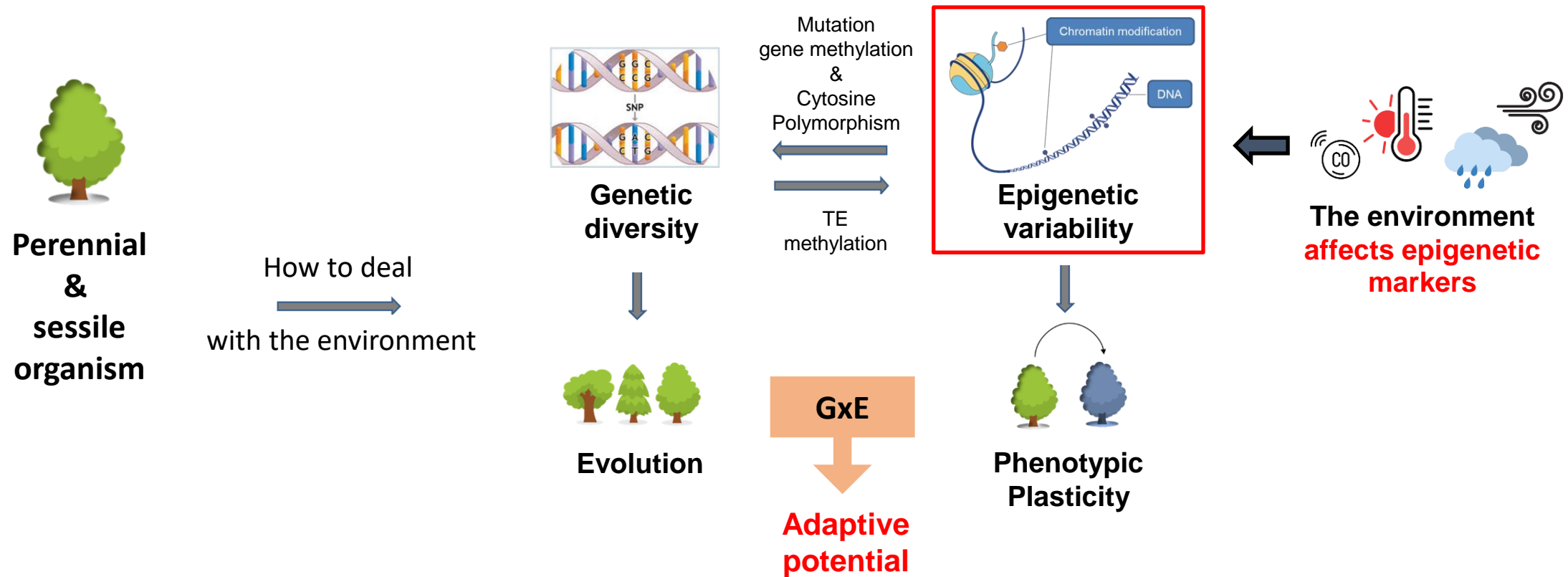
Pr. Stéphane MAURY (P2E)

Dr. Leopoldo SANCHEZ (BioForA)

Dr. Harold DURUFLÉ (BioForA)



➤ Mechanism of adaptation to the environment for a fixed organism



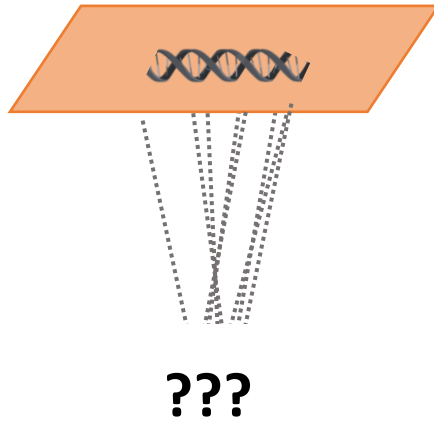
Understanding **how epigenetic variability** plays a role in **ecological memory** and **local adaptation**

→ Integration of multi-omics data to investigate biological processes involved in this mechanisms

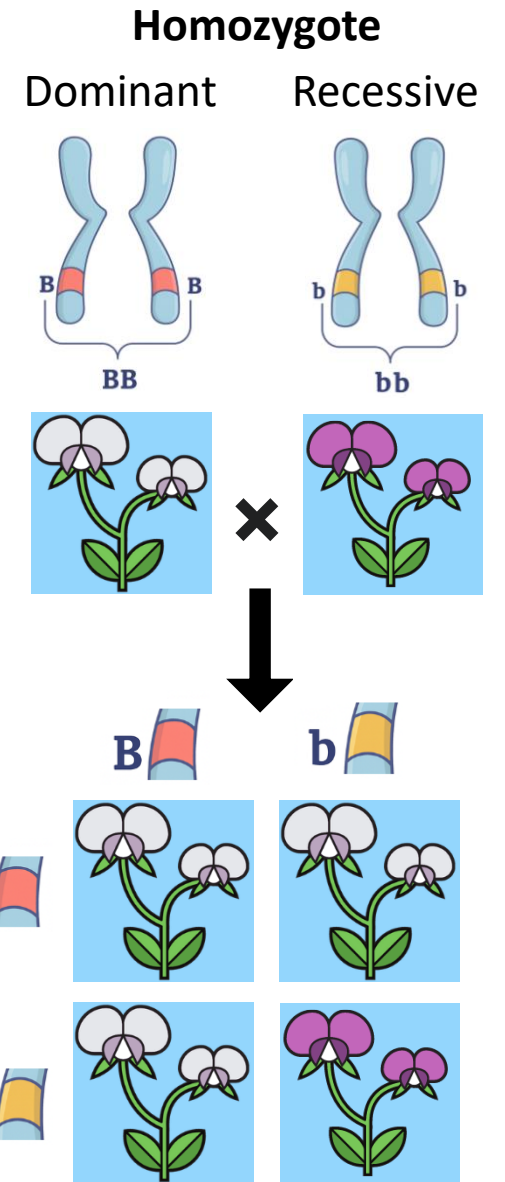
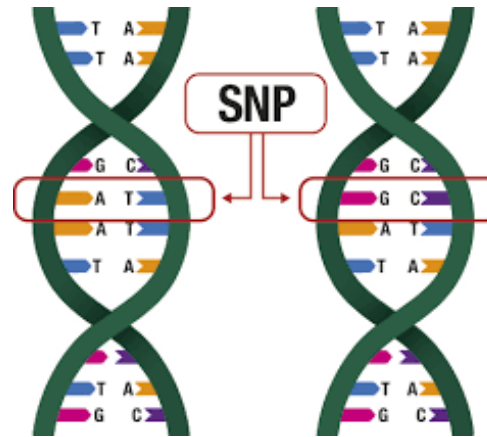
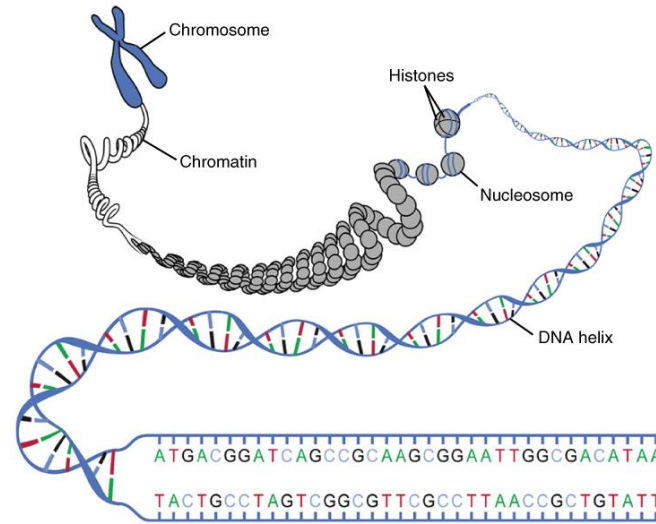
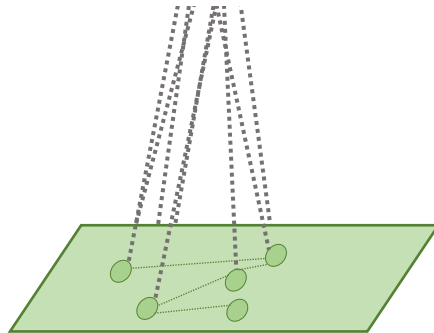
→ What is multi-omics?

➤ The molecular carrier of biological information: the genome

Genomic

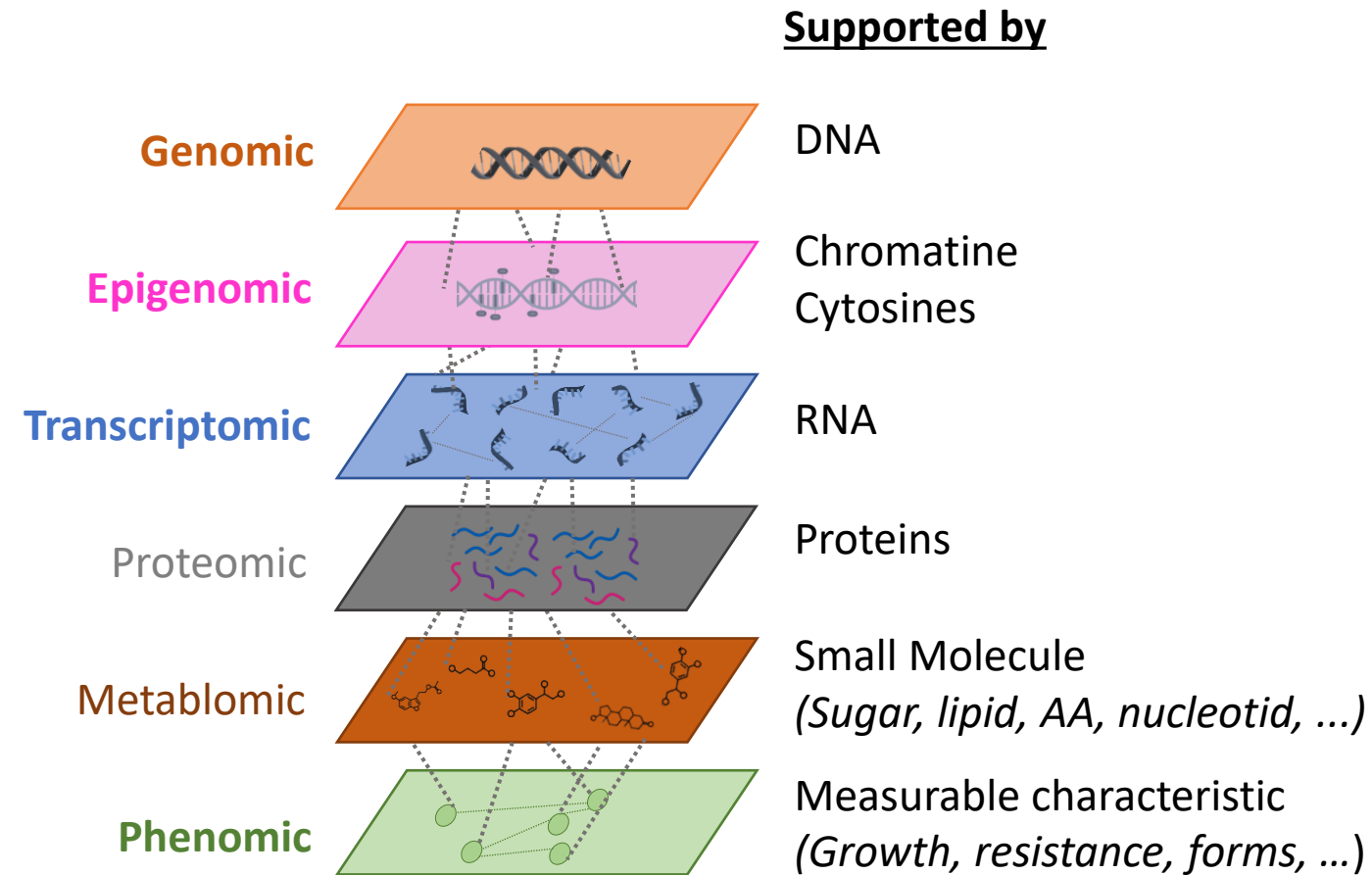


Phenomic



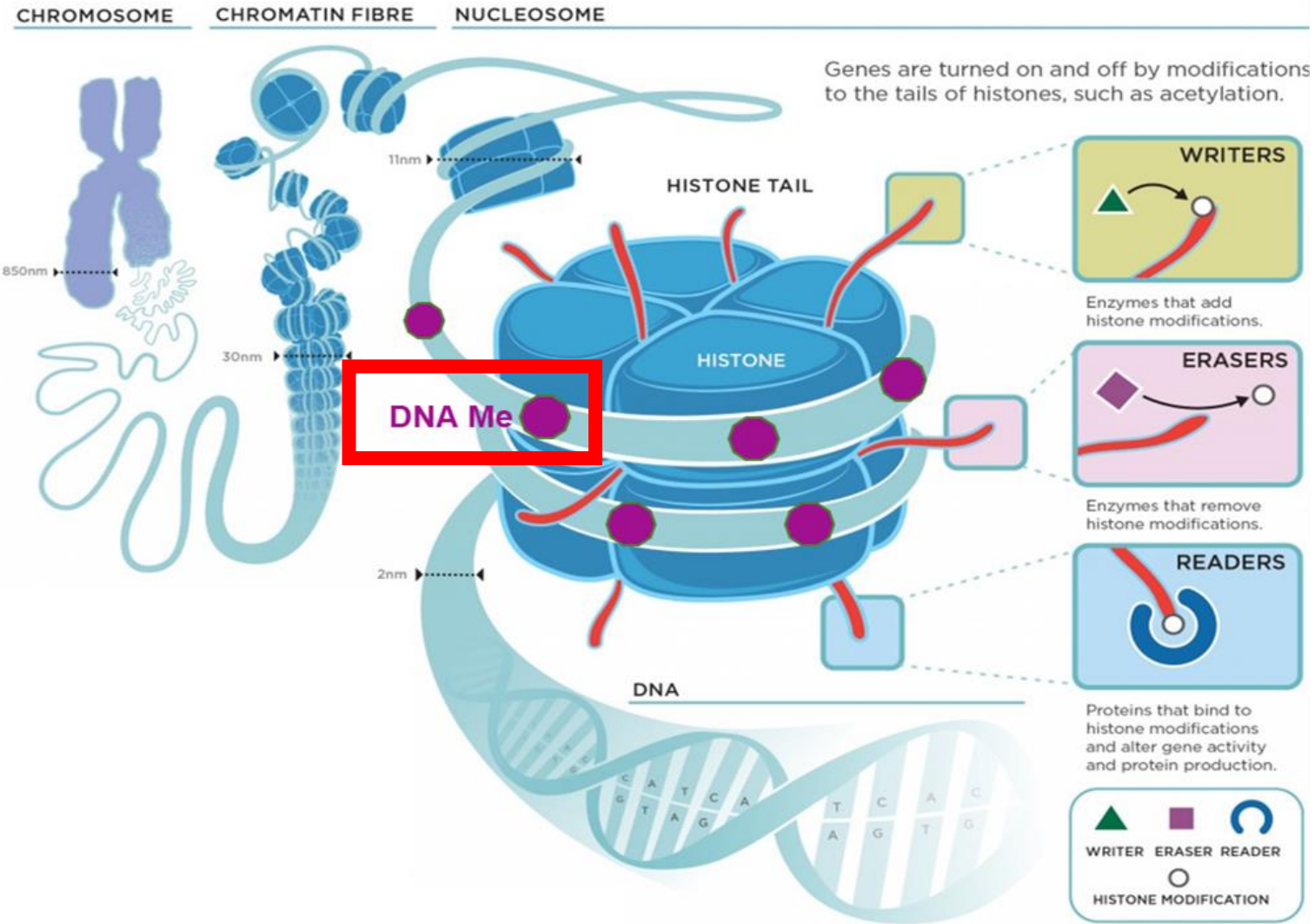
→ Genetic **diversity** can affect phenotypic trait
→ But what happens to **complex phenotypic traits** ?

➤ What is an omics data?



→ Each omics layer **can interact with** another omics layer

➤ What is the epigenetics?



Genomic

Epigenomic

Transcriptomic

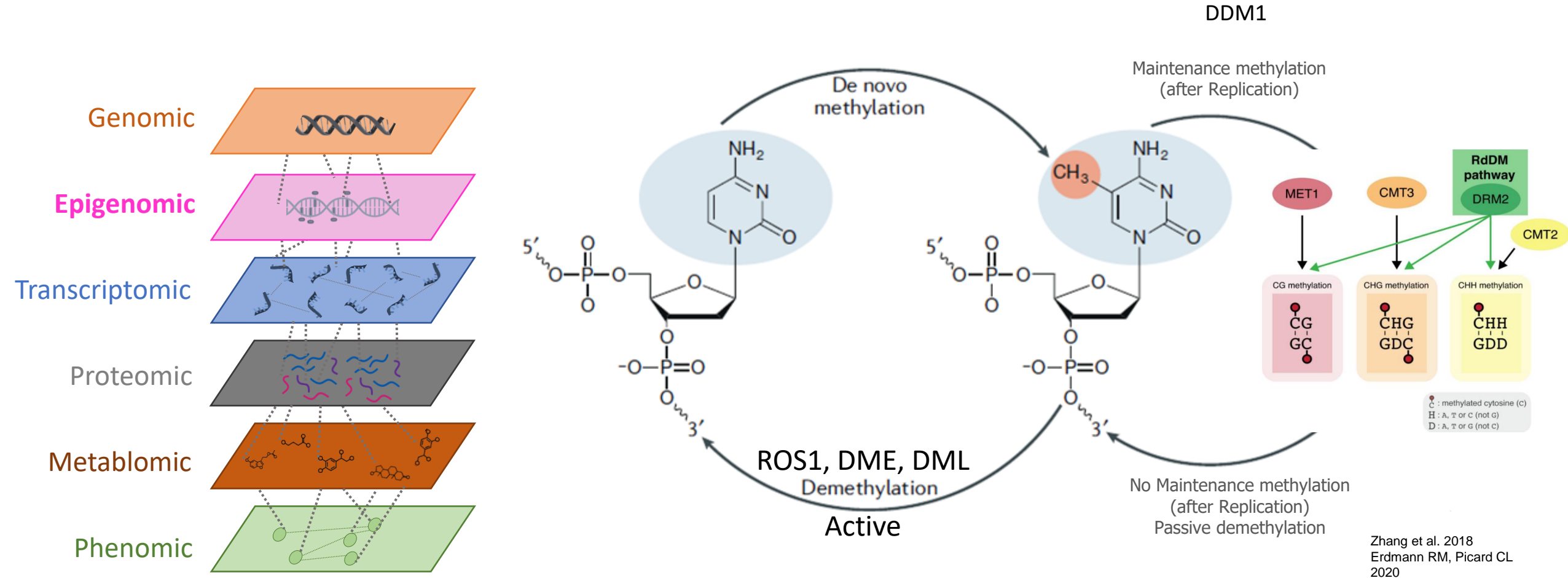
Proteomic

Metablomic

Phenomic

→ Study of chromatin-level processes affecting **gene expression** and/or the activity of **transposable elements (TEs)** **without altering the DNA sequence** and **heritable**
→ Affected by the **environment**

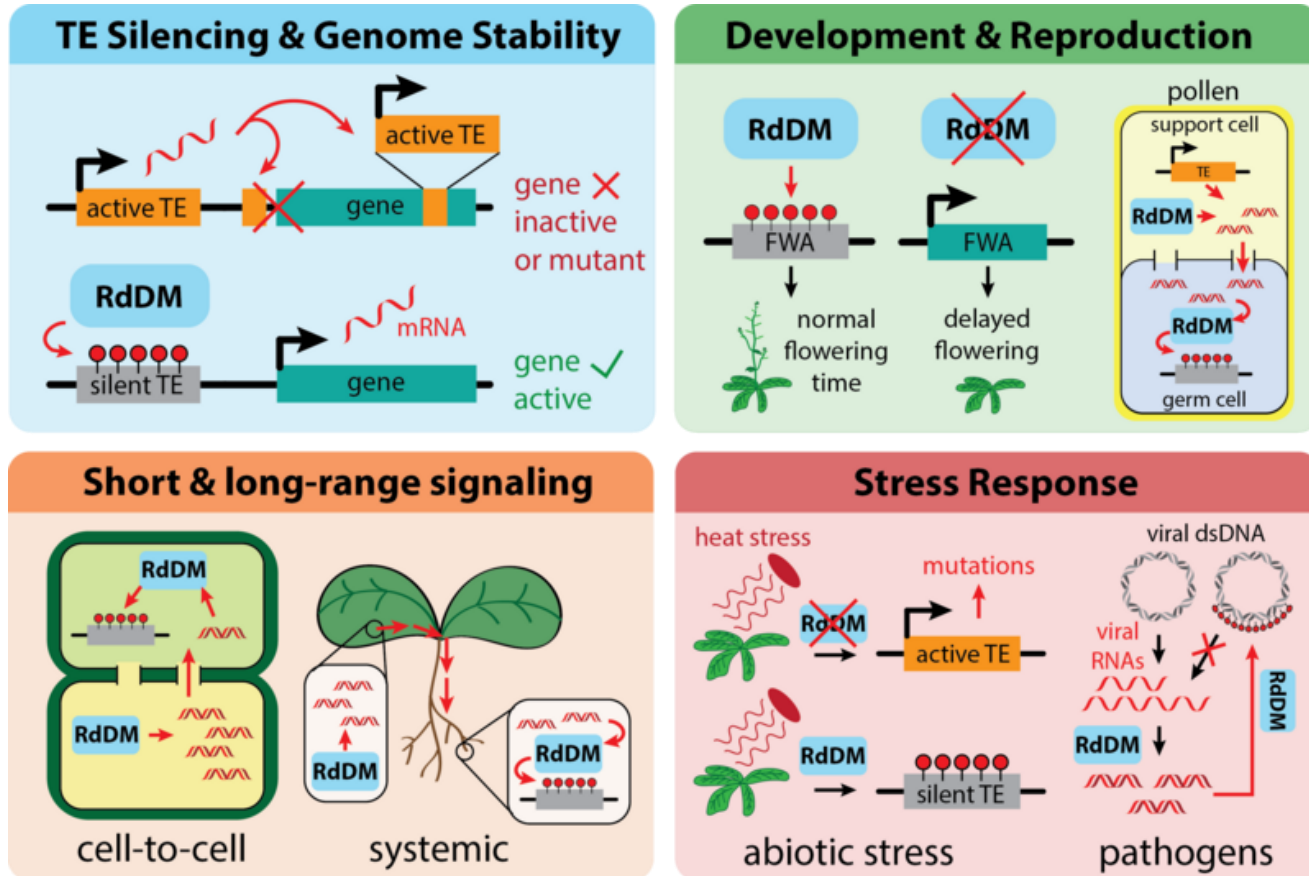
➤ What is the epigenetics?



Zhang et al. 2018
Erdmann RM, Picard CL
2020

- *de novo* and maintenance DNA methylation
- **Methylation** and **demethylation**
- **3 methylation contexts:** CpG, CHG & CHH (H=A, T or C)

➤ DNA methylation and Plant Biology



• DNA methylation RdDM sRNA

Erdmann RM, Picard CL (2020) RNAdirected DNA Methylation. PLoS Genet 16(10): e1009034. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1009034>

The power of epigenetics



Same **genome**
Different **epigenome**

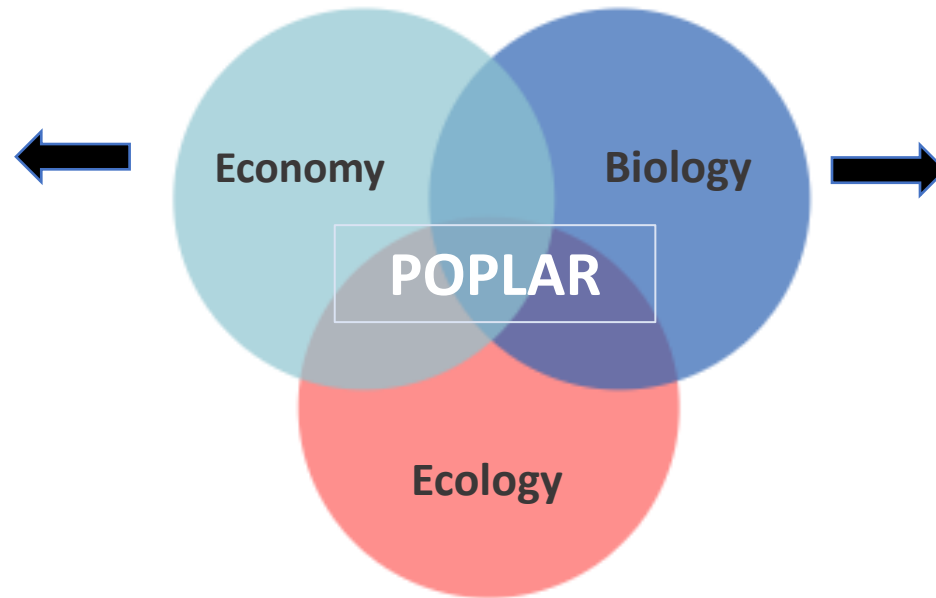


→ Epigenetic (DNA methylation) play many roles in plants
→ **Which trees to study this mechanism**

➤ The model tree: the poplar



- **Cultivated interspecific hybrids**
(*P. nigra* (♂) X *P. deltoides* (♀))
- 9.6 million ha worldwide
- **Timber production**



- **Rapid growth**
- **Clonal propagation**
- Dioecious (controlled crosses)
- High levels of **genetic diversity**
- Transformation capacity (**transgenic**)
- **First tree genome sequenced** (2006)
- **Small diploid genome** (485 ± 10 Mb)

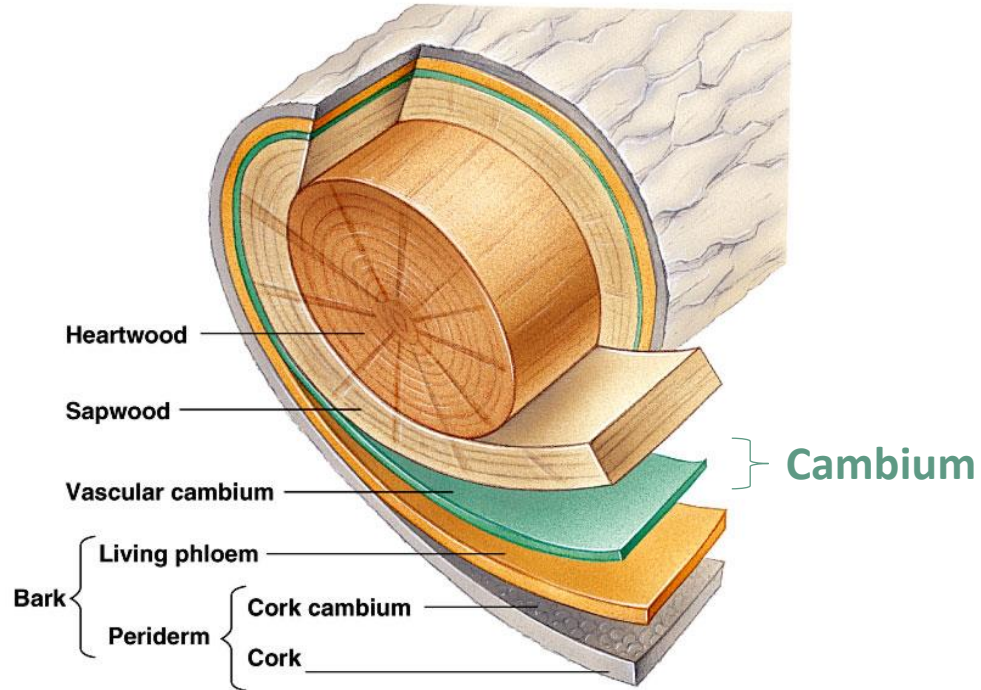


EUFORGEN, *Populus nigra*

- **Large distribution area**
- **Riparian species**
- **Indicator of biodiversity dynamics**

→ **Poplar is the tree model**
→ **But which tissues : leaf, root, trunk?**

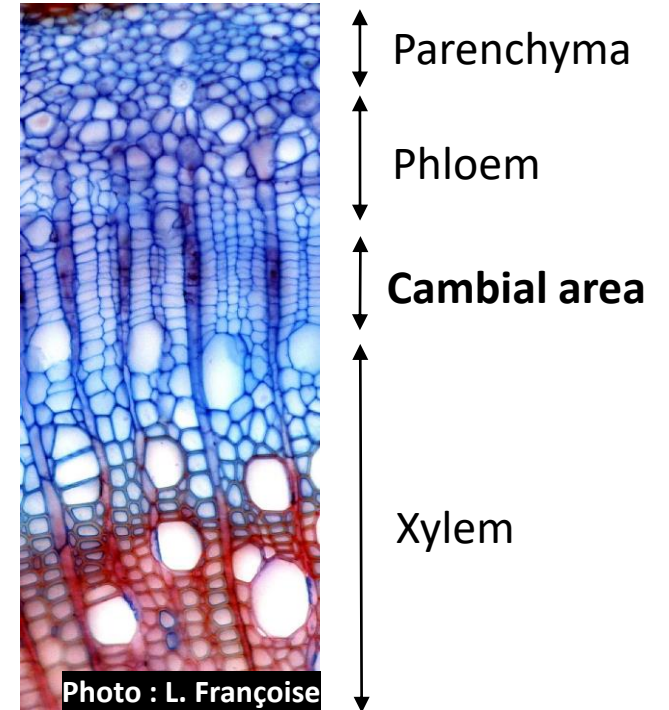
➤ A meristematic tissue: the Cambium



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Meristem

Cell division (epigenetic transmission)
Cell differentiation
Histogenesis
→ Epigenetic rearrangement



Cambium

- Wood production (radial growth)
- Sensitive to environmental variation
- Numerous regulatory factors
 - Hormones (development and stress response)
 - Genes, transcription factors (Kim et al., 2019)
 - Epigenetics (Maury et al., 2019)

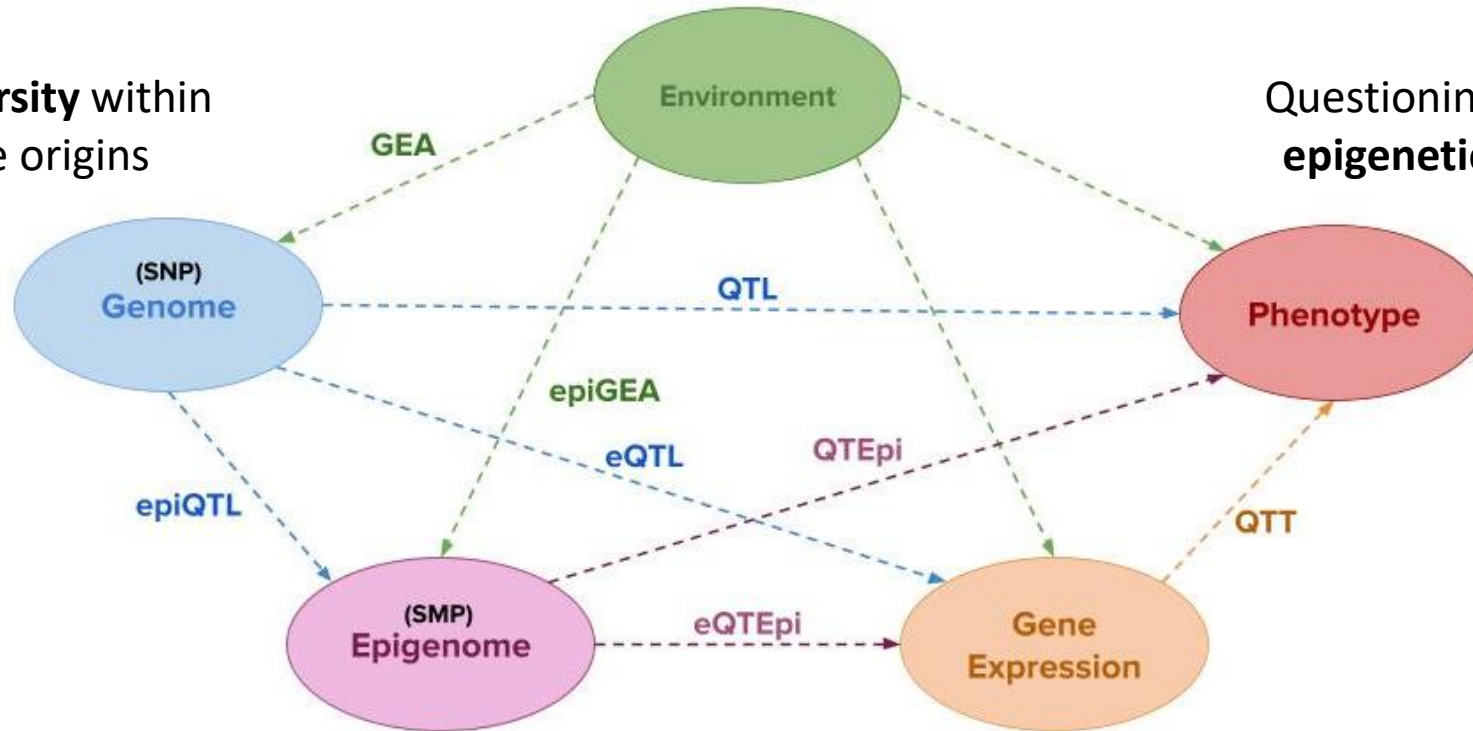
→ A **model tissue** to better **understand** the role of **epigenetics** in trees

➤ Strategy and objective

Search for **epigenetic signatures** and assess their **impact** on the **phenotype**

Studying **epigenetic diversity** within populations of diverse origins

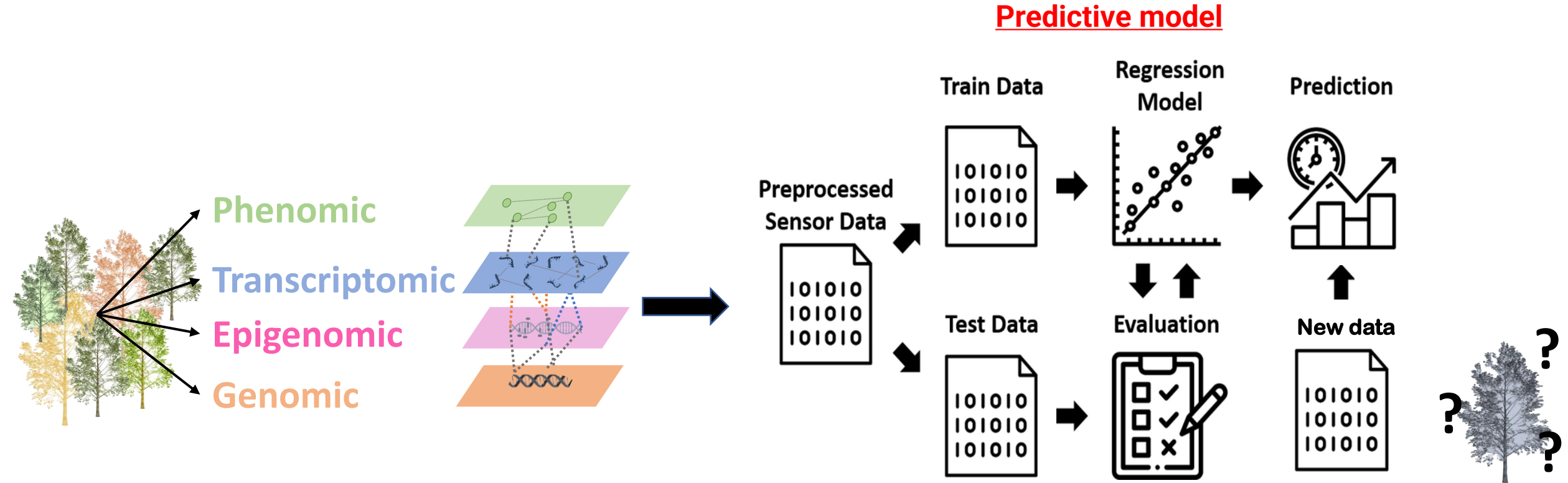
Questioning the potential **role of epigenetics** in **local adaptation**



Evaluate the impact of **epigenetic data** on **phenotypic prediction**

➔ **Multi-omics associations of various loci**

➤ Multi-omics and predictive model



Wunderlich *et al.*, 2023 (foods)

- ➔ A multi-omics approach (including **epigenetics**) could improve prediction accuracy
- ➔ Variable selection using a predictive model could enhance our understanding of biological processes in local adaptation

➤ Experimental setup

>200 genotypes of black poplar (*P. nigra*)

8 Biogeographical Origin

- Neth_Kuh
- Rhin
- Dranse
- Loire_Allier
- Ramieres
- Adour
- Ticino
- Pag_basen

20 Phenotypic traits

Orléans () Savigliano ()

Hauteur, Tolérance à la rouille, angle des branche, composition du bois..

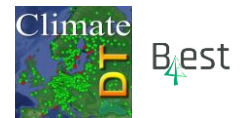
~25k Transcript

Mapping RNAseq V4.1
(Odile ROGIER)

~217K SNPs

37 Climatic variable x 2 scenario

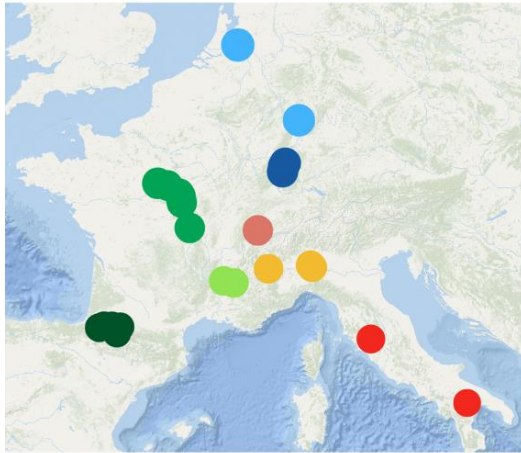
CG : 313K
CHG : 201K
CHH : 360 K



Common garden

➔ Study of the multi-omics data variability

➤ Observable variability in the multi-omics data of our individuals

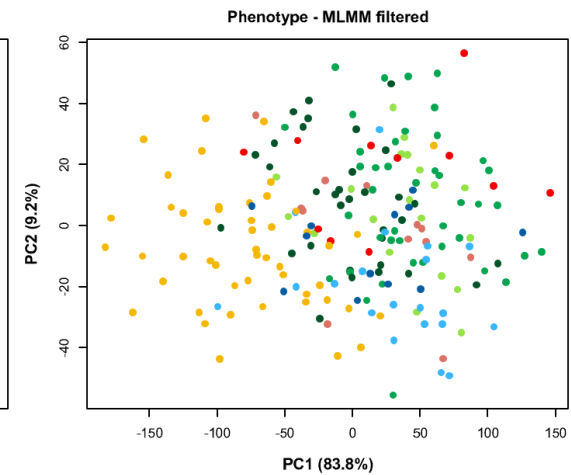
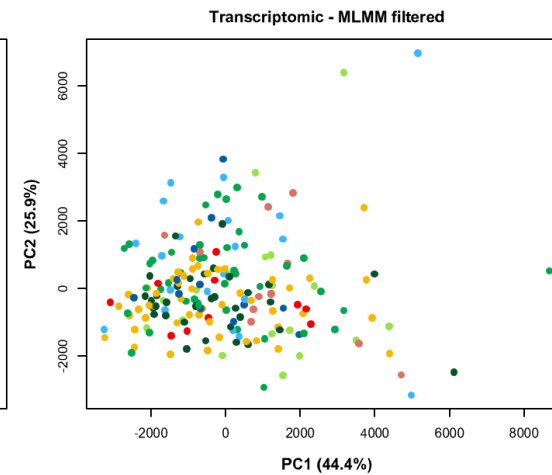
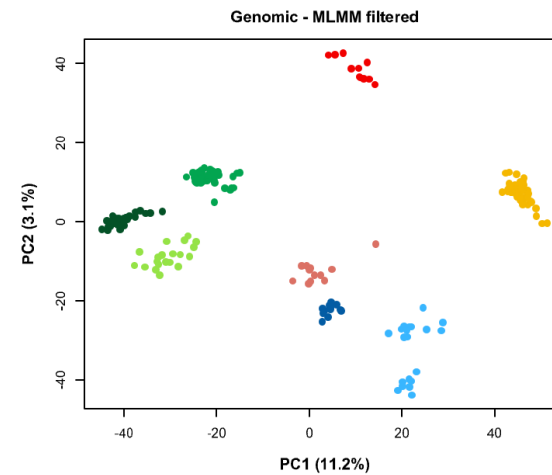
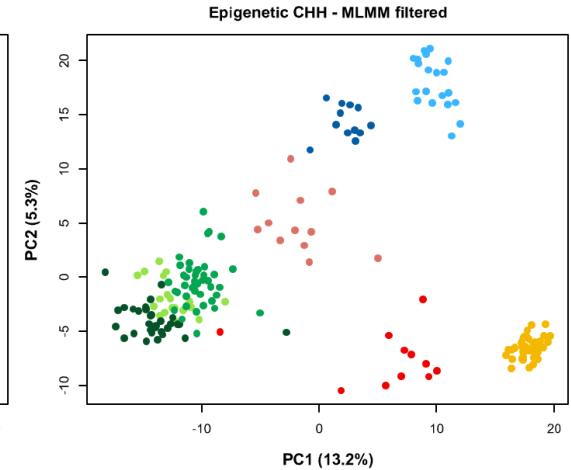
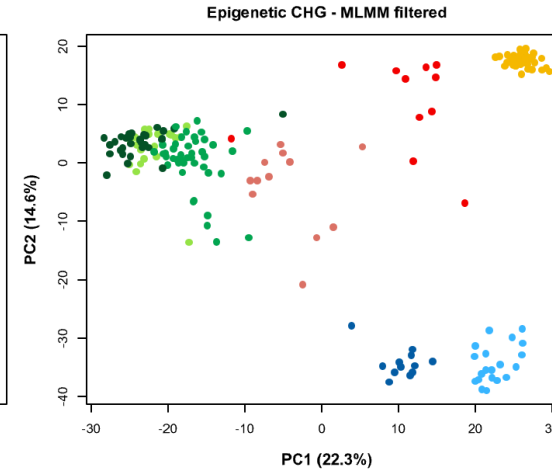
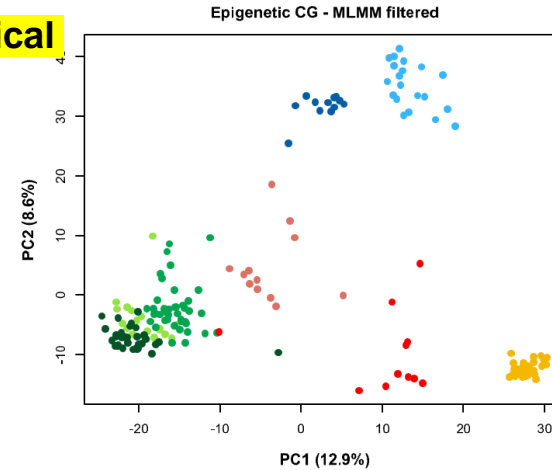


8 Biogeographical Origin

- Neth_Kuh
- Rhin
- Dranse
- Loire_Allier
- Ramieres
- Adour
- Ticino
- Pag_basen

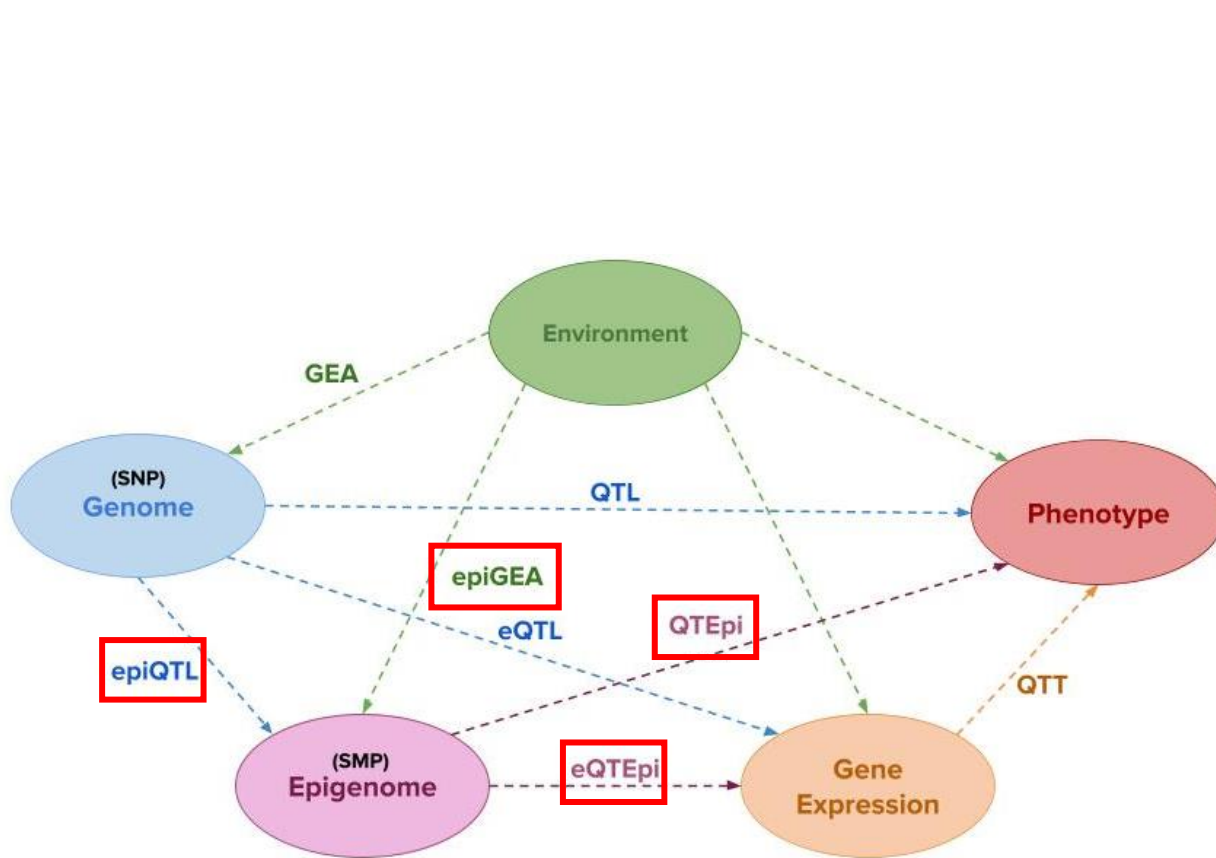


Common garden

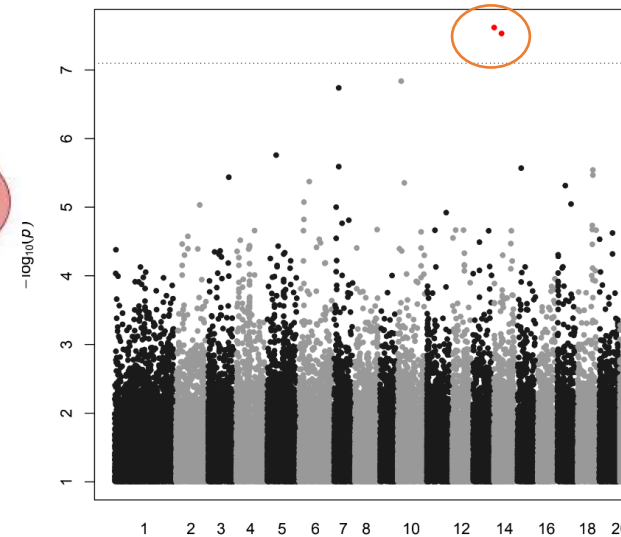


➔ Inter- and intra-population genetic and epigenetic variability
➔ Climate gradient?

➤ Locus correlation at various omics levels



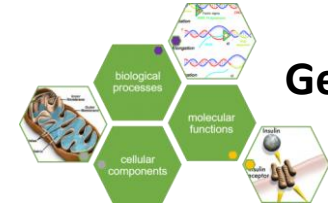
~140K SMPs associated to other omics



Correction
Bonferroni



Features



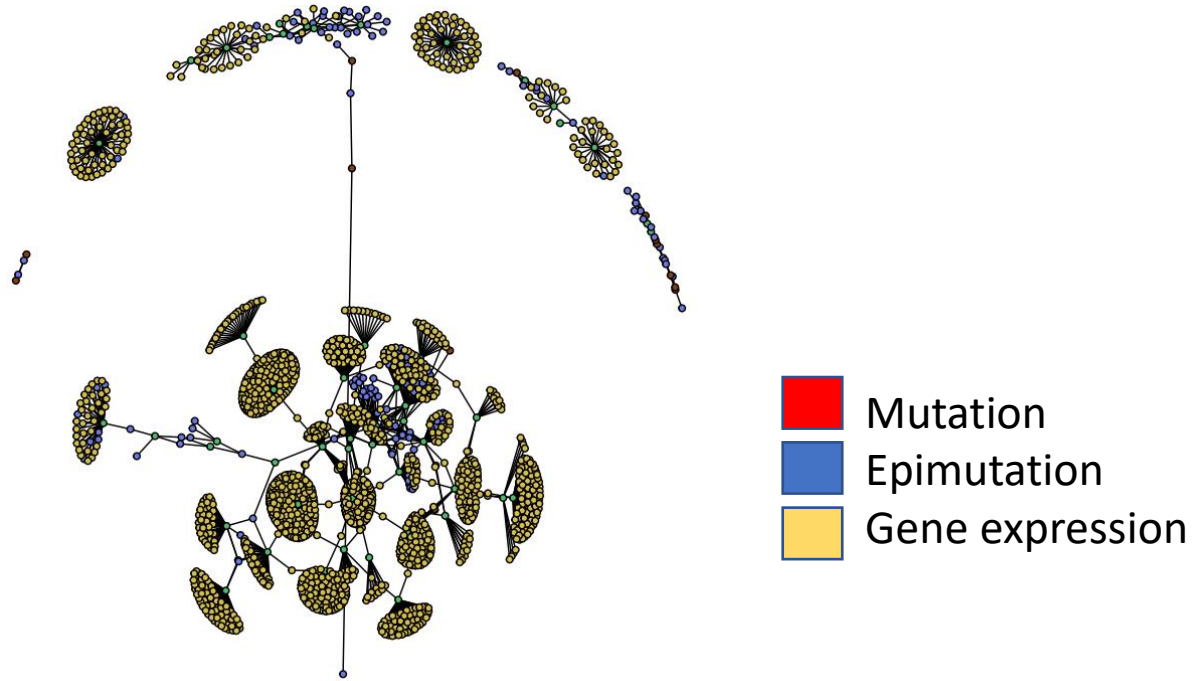
Gene ontology



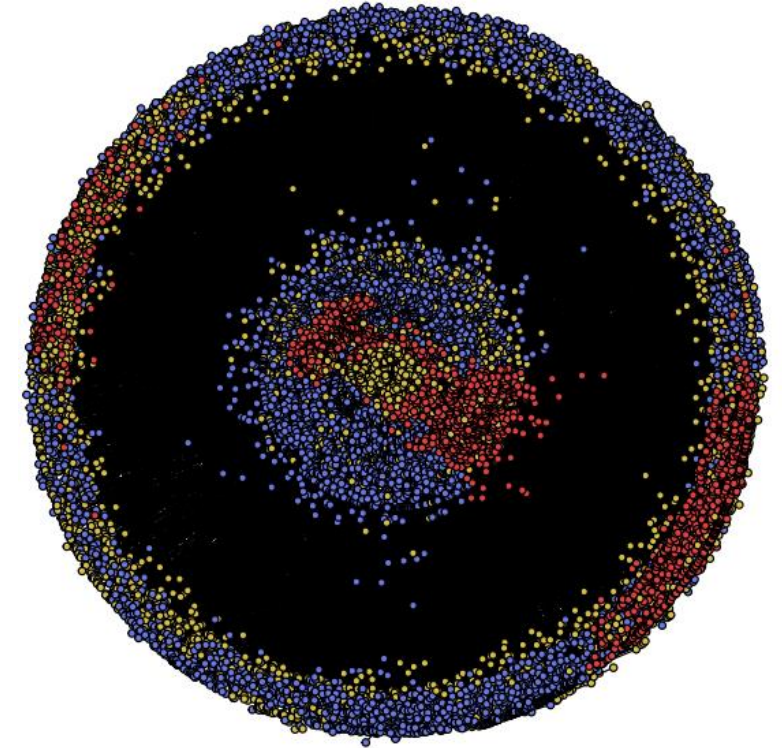
Biblio

➔ What reveal this multiple associations test

➤ Visualisation of omics associations



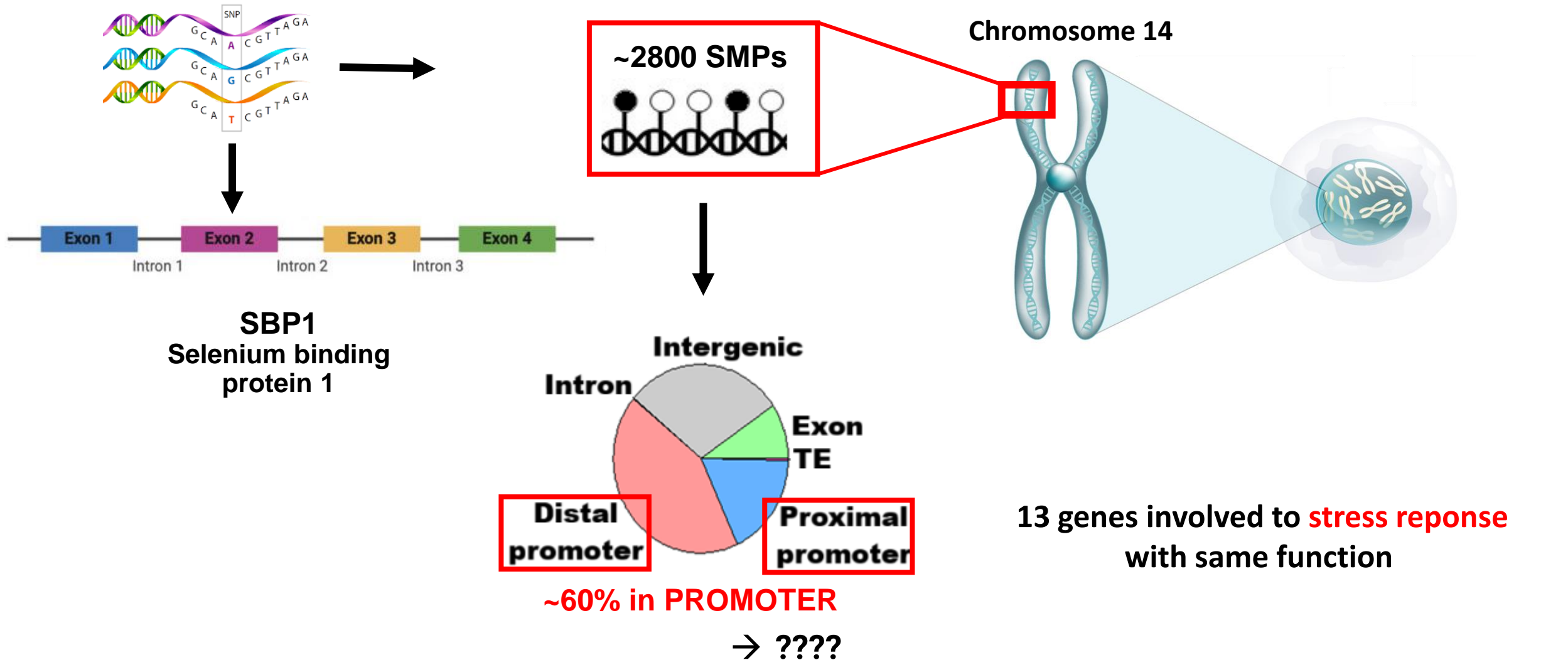
Highlighting certain pathways



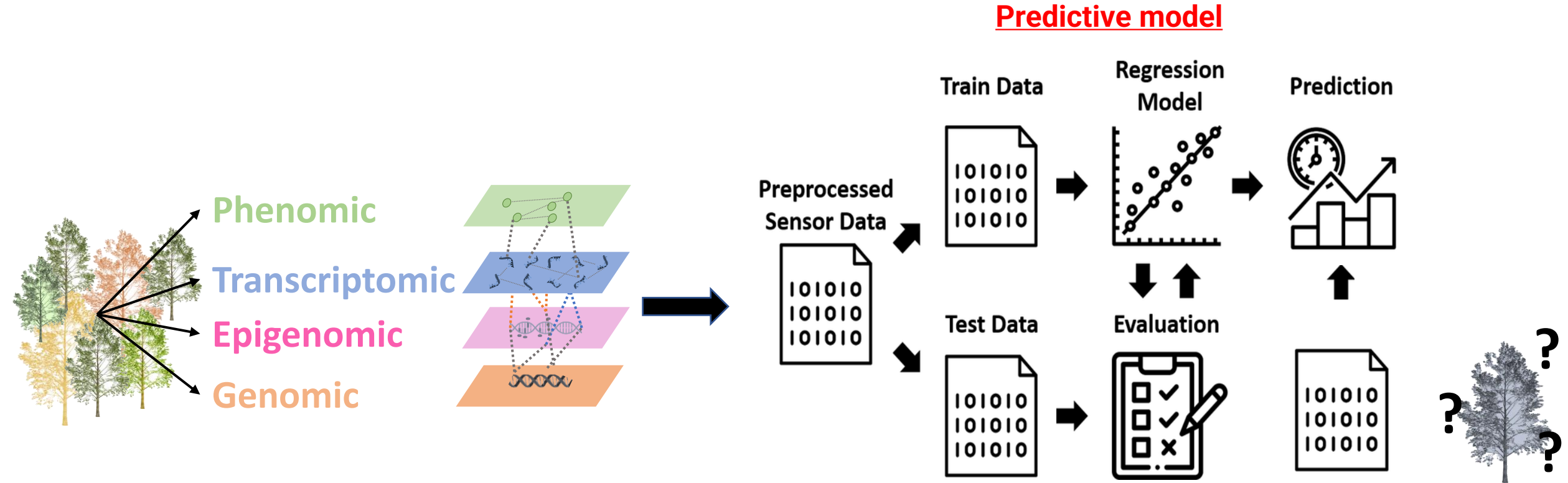
All the relationships highlighted by the associations

➔ **Visualization issues** with so many associations
➔ **Best candidate** analysis

➤ Best candidates found in association



➤ Multi-omics and predictive model



Wunderlich *et al.*, 2023 (foods)

→ **Epigenetics** could improve accuracy of predictive models

→ Predictive model using **multi-omics** data could reveal biological pathways related to phenotype

➤ Phenotypic prediction model using our data

Research article | [Open access](#) | Published: 28 June 2022

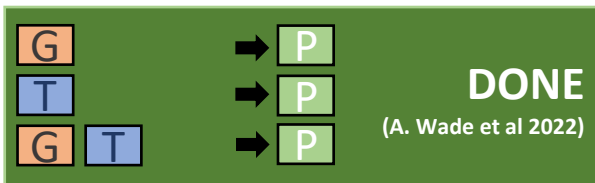
eQTLs are key players in the integration of genomic and transcriptomic data for phenotype prediction

[Abdou Rahmane Wade](#), [Harold Duruflé](#), [Leopoldo Sanchez](#) & [Vincent Segura](#) 

BMC Genomics **23**, Article number: 476 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

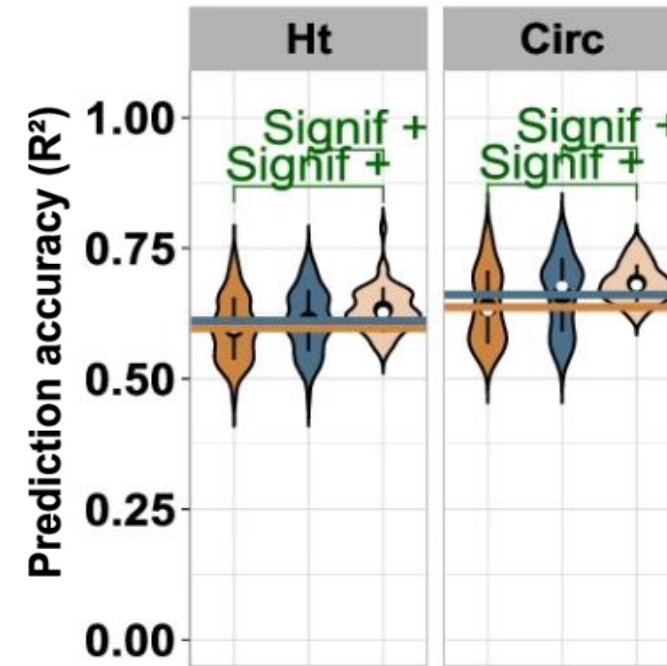
2108 Accesses | 4 Citations | 3 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Ridge Regression



Reveal a set of eQTLs of interest

— Signif – — Signif + — G — T — G+T



Wade et al., 2022

➔ Using **multiple layers** of omics data **can improve accuracy**

➤ Strategy applied to multi-omics prediction

Research article | [Open access](#) | Published: 28 June 2022

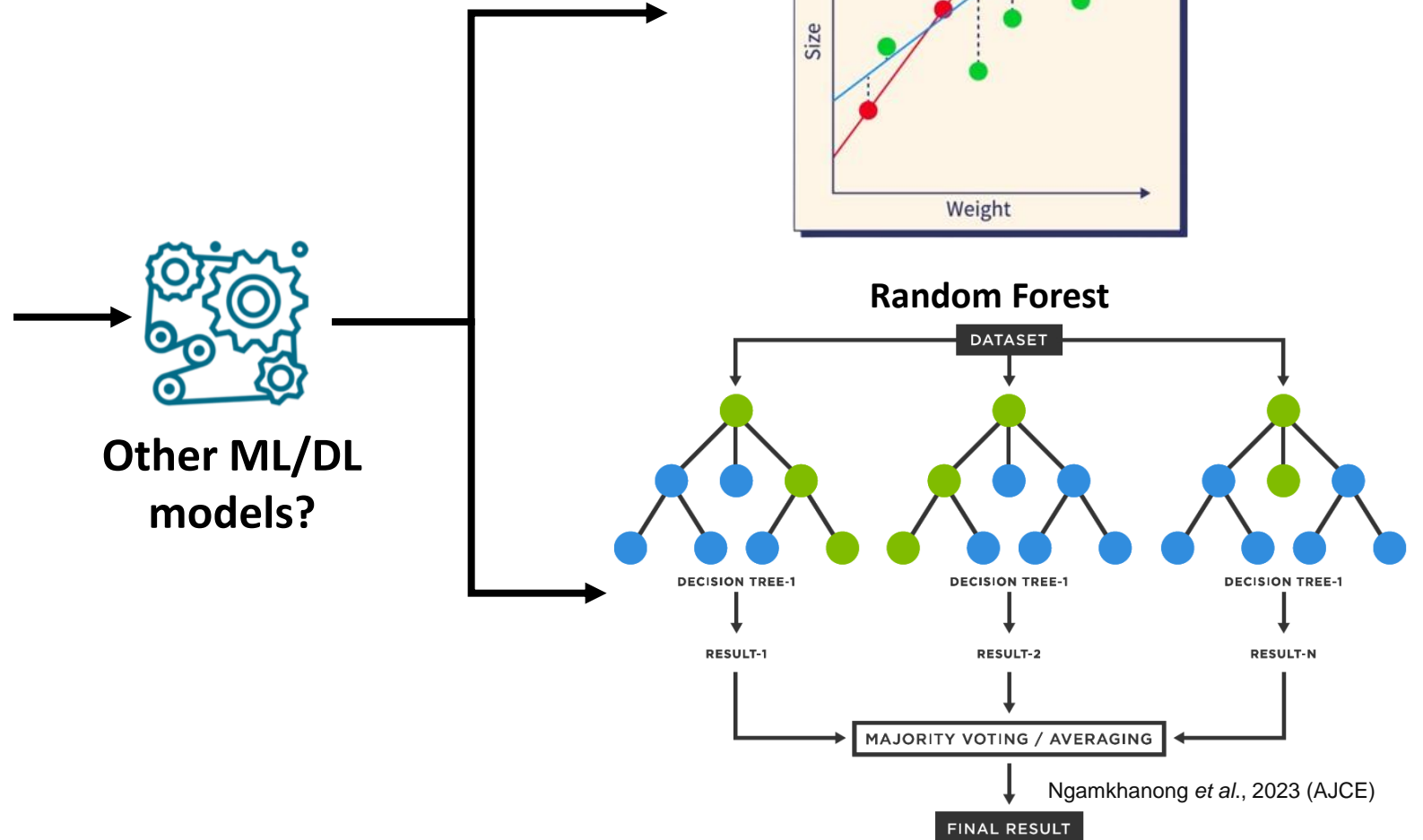
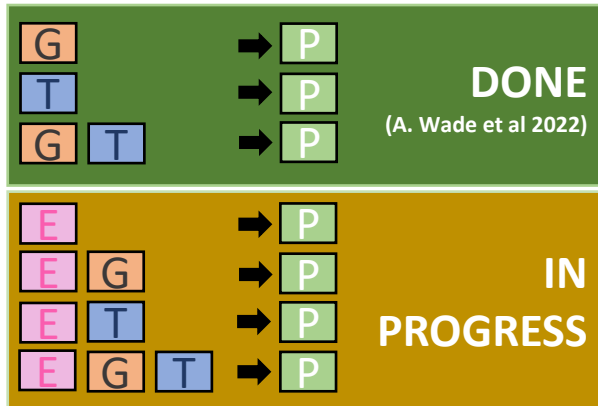
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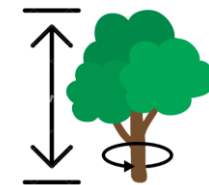
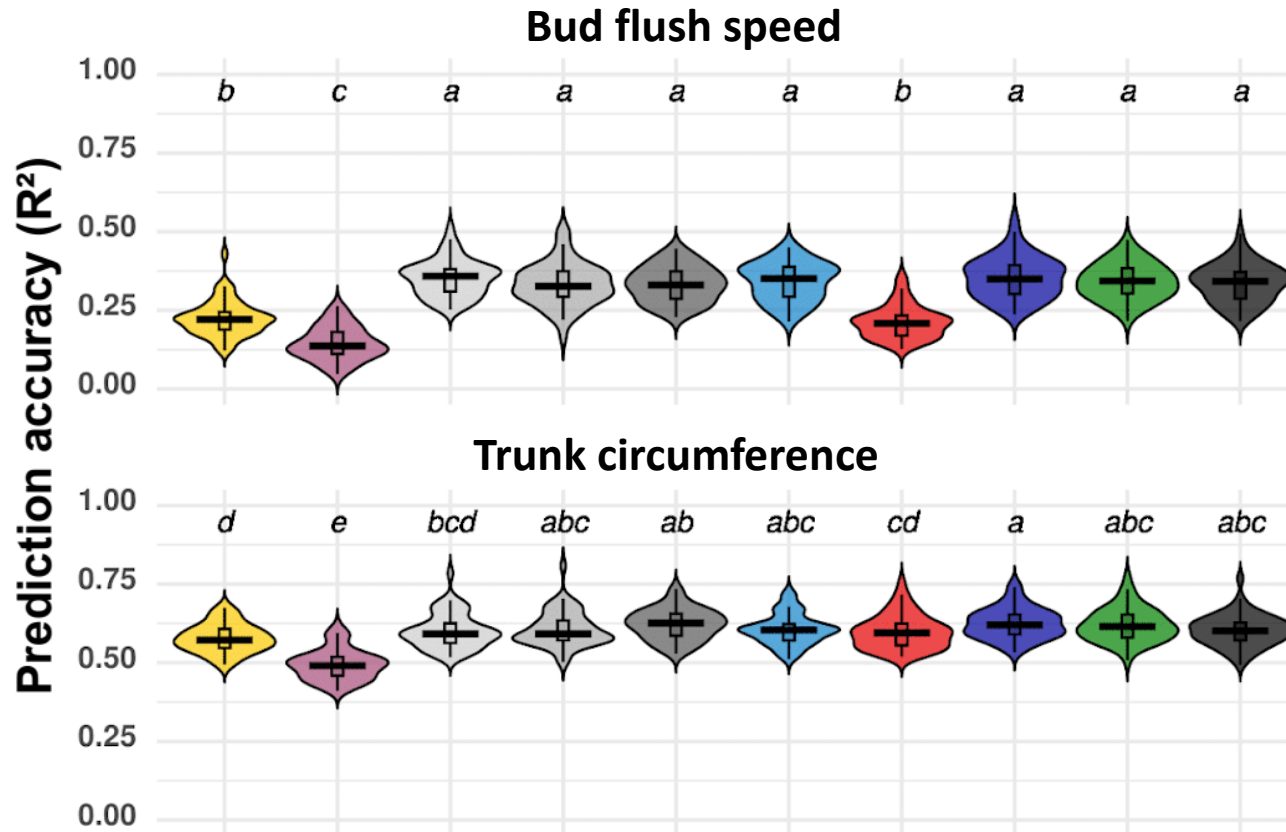
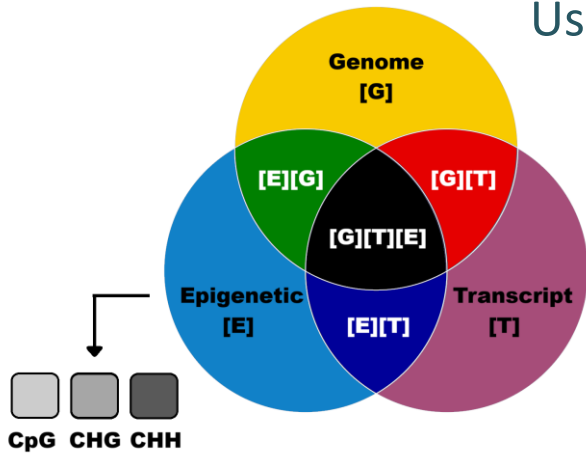
Applying **epigenetic** data to the
Ridge Regression model



➔ **Evaluate the predictive capacity of epigenetic data**

➤ Prediction accuracies of methylation data

Using the concatenation method and ridge regression model

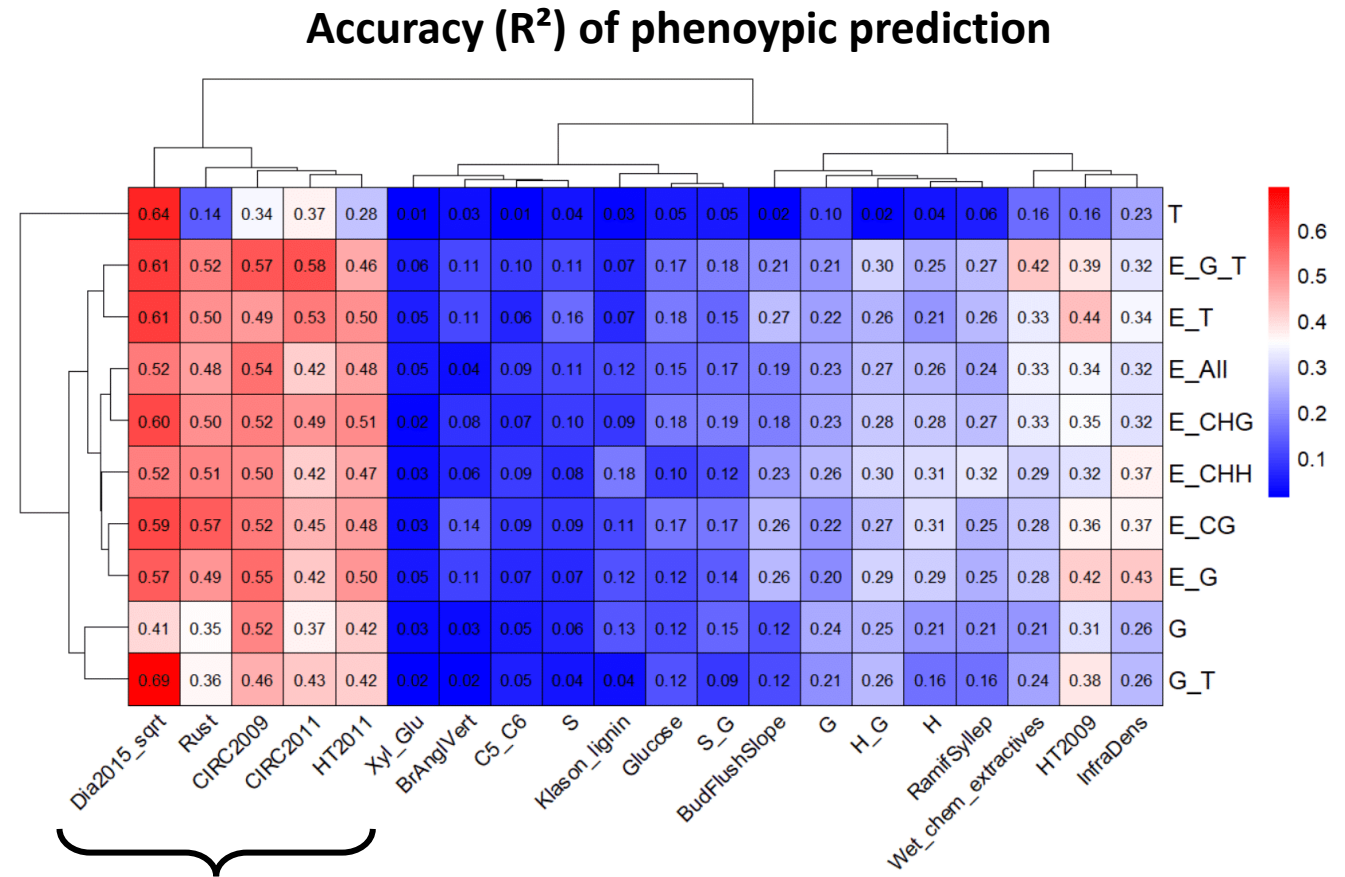


Duplan et al. In prep

➔ DNA methylation as a **new** potential source of **predictors**

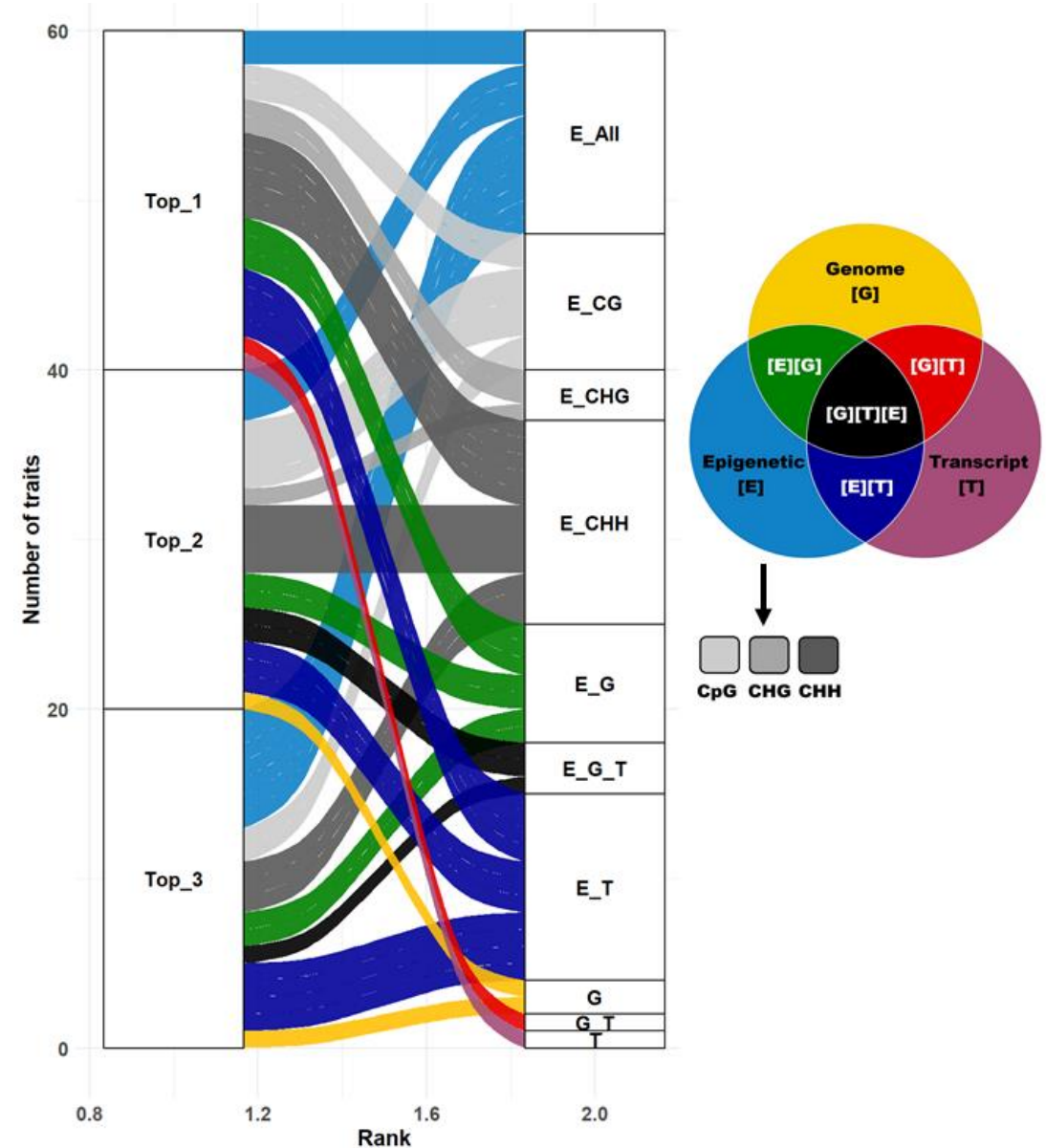
➤ Prediction accuracies are phenotypic- and dataset-dependent

- Accuracy with R^2 between **0,01** and **0,69**
- The combination of all omics don't increase the accuracy



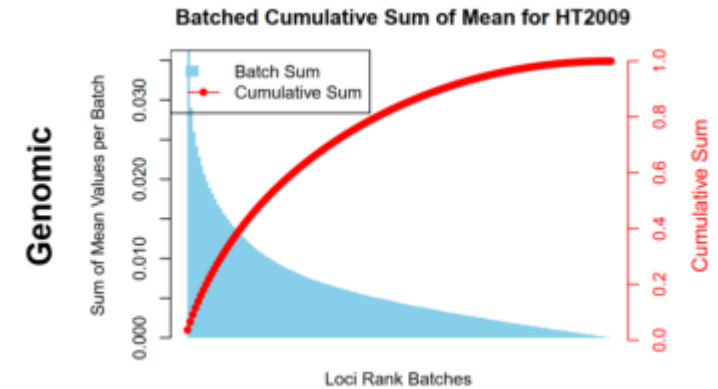
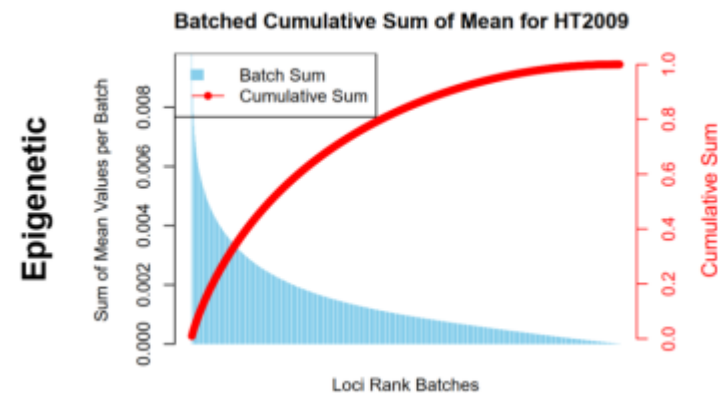
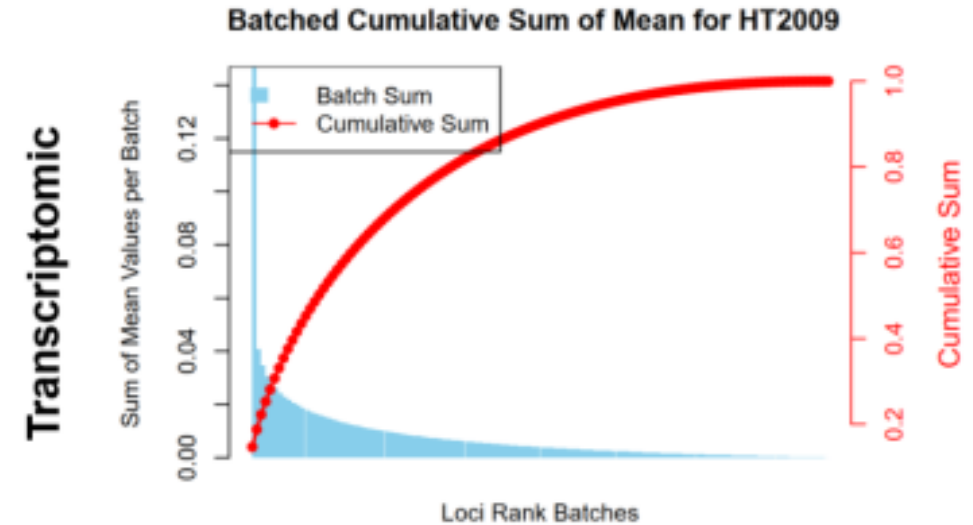
➤ Prediction accuracies are phenotypic- and dataset-dependent

- Accuracy with R^2 between **0,01** and **0,69**
- The combination of all omics don't increase the accuracy
- **Epigenetic** is the **best dataset predictor**



➤ Prediction accuracies are phenotypic- and dataset-dependent

- Accuracy with R^2 between **0,01** and **0,69**
- The combination of all omics don't increase the accuracy
- **Epigenetic** is the **best dataset predictor**
- A batch of 200 transcriptions seems to be much more productive than the rest
- Top 20 explicative variable show a recurrent transcript related to the same function as omics associations
- Kernel polynomial and problem of interpretability



➤ Take home message

Epigenetic is an interesting predictor
dataset for phenotypic trait and contributes
to the understanding of biological
processes.

Research on new methods for integrating omics data
and relationships discovered by omics associations

Articles in progress

- 1 - Brandt & Duplan et al. in prep
- 2 - Duplan et al. in prep



Jérôme Salse
Mamadou Dia Sow



Ludovic Duvaux
Shannon Brandt

Research will continue with a phd student



Thomas Wacquet
(PhD 2025-2028)



Thanks to the Thesis supervisors



Stéphane
Maury



Leopoldo
Sanchez-Rodriguez



Harold
Duruflé

➔ **Thesis defense on December 18, 2025**

Thank's for your attention

