

# Metagenomics data analytics

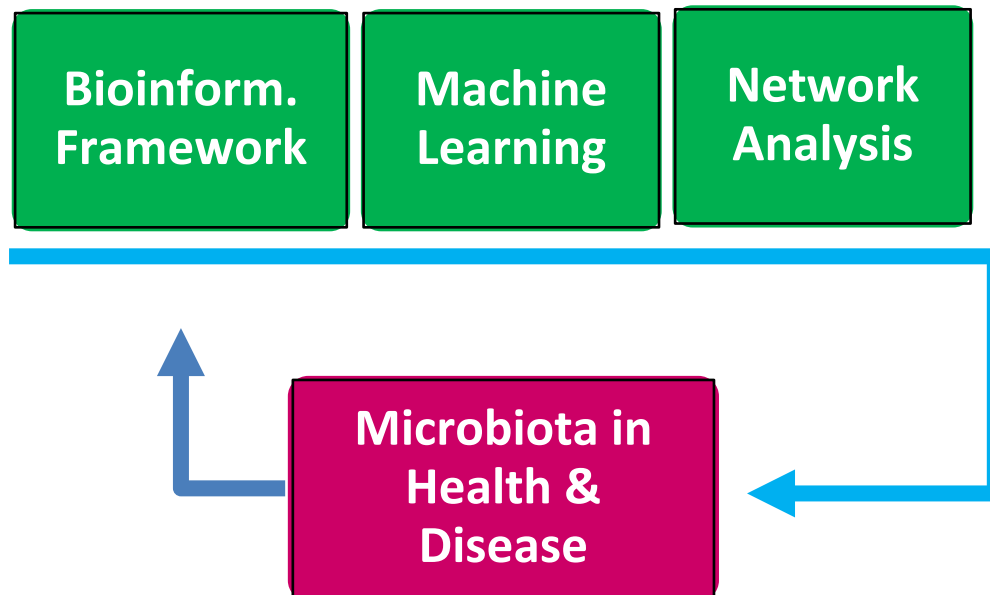
Cesare Furlanello

with A. Zandonà, M. Chierici, G. Jurman

**MAESTRA SUMMER SCHOOL  
MINING BIG AND COMPLEX DATA**

05 Sept 2016 - Ohrid, Macedonia





# Main concepts



## Microbiota

Microorganisms ecosystems  
inhabiting a particular  
environment

## Microbiome

The community composition,  
biomolecular repertoire and  
ecology of microorganisms  
inhabiting particular environments

(collective genes of the microbiota)

## Metagenomics

The application of high-throughput DNA  
sequencing to profile the genomic composition  
of a microbial community

- Taxonomic biomarkers
- Functional biomarkers

## Metabolomics

Study of end products of the metabolism of  
the host and its microbiota

## Metaproteomics

enabling identification of biomarkers

## Metabonomics

comparison with unidentified compounds

## Exposomics

cumulative exposures to molecules from the  
environment

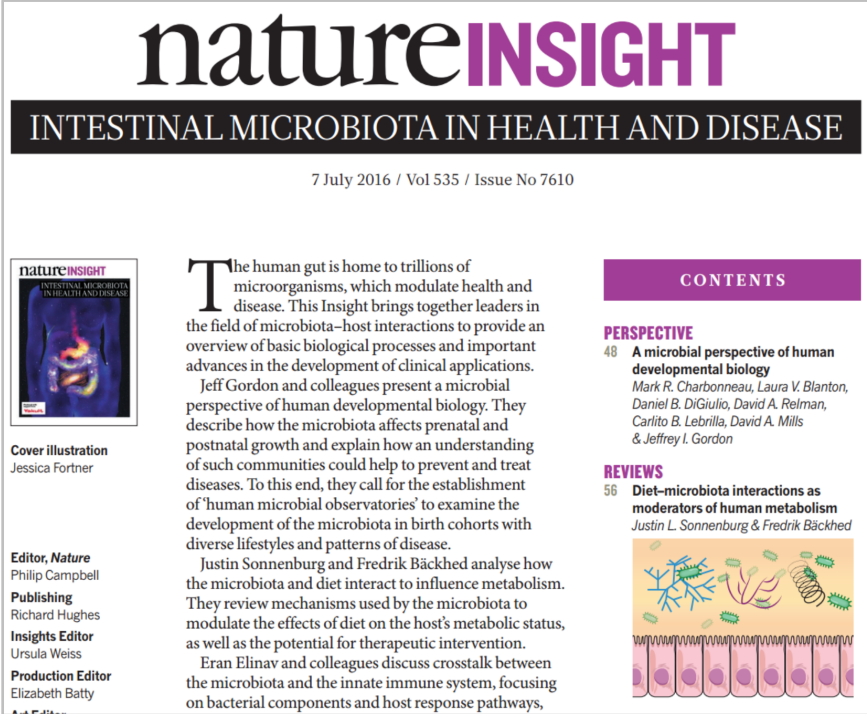
# Microbiome impacts on human health

**The microbiota affects prenatal and postnatal growth:**  
Understanding the community structuring could help to prevent and treat disease

**Microbiota and diet interact to influence metabolism**  
Effects of diet on host metabolic status is modulated  
→ potential for therapeutic interventions

**Interaction with pathogenic bacteria**  
Pathogenic species drive their expansion by exploiting microbiota derived nutrients and triggering inflammation

**Specific microbes determine aspects of adaptive immunity**  
Induction of immune tolerance and conditions (allergy and intestinal inflammation ... cancer)



**nature**INSIGHT

INTESTINAL MICROBIOTA IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

7 July 2016 / Vol 535 / Issue No 7610

**COVER ILLUSTRATION**  
Jessica Fortner

**Editor, Nature**  
Philip Campbell

**Publishing**  
Richard Hughes

**Insights Editor**  
Ursula Weiss

**Production Editor**  
Elizabeth Batty

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48 **A microbial perspective of human developmental biology**  
Mark R. Charbonneau, Laura V. Blanton, Daniel B. DiGiulio, David A. Relman, Carlito B. Lebrilla, David A. Mills & Jeffrey I. Gordon

**REVIEWS**  
56 **Diet-microbiota interactions as moderators of human metabolism**  
Justin L. Sonnenburg & Fredrik Bäckhed

The human gut is home to trillions of microorganisms, which modulate health and disease. This Insight brings together leaders in the field of microbiota-host interactions to provide an overview of basic biological processes and important advances in the development of clinical applications. Jeff Gordon and colleagues present a microbial perspective of human developmental biology. They describe how the microbiota affects prenatal and postnatal growth and explain how an understanding of such communities could help to prevent and treat diseases. To this end, they call for the establishment of 'human microbial observatories' to examine the development of the microbiota in birth cohorts with diverse lifestyles and patterns of disease.

Justin Sonnenburg and Fredrik Bäckhed analyse how the microbiota and diet interact to influence metabolism. They review mechanisms used by the microbiota to modulate the effects of diet on the host's metabolic status, as well as the potential for therapeutic intervention.

Eran Elinav and colleagues discuss crosstalk between the microbiota and the innate immune system, focusing on bacterial components and host response pathways,

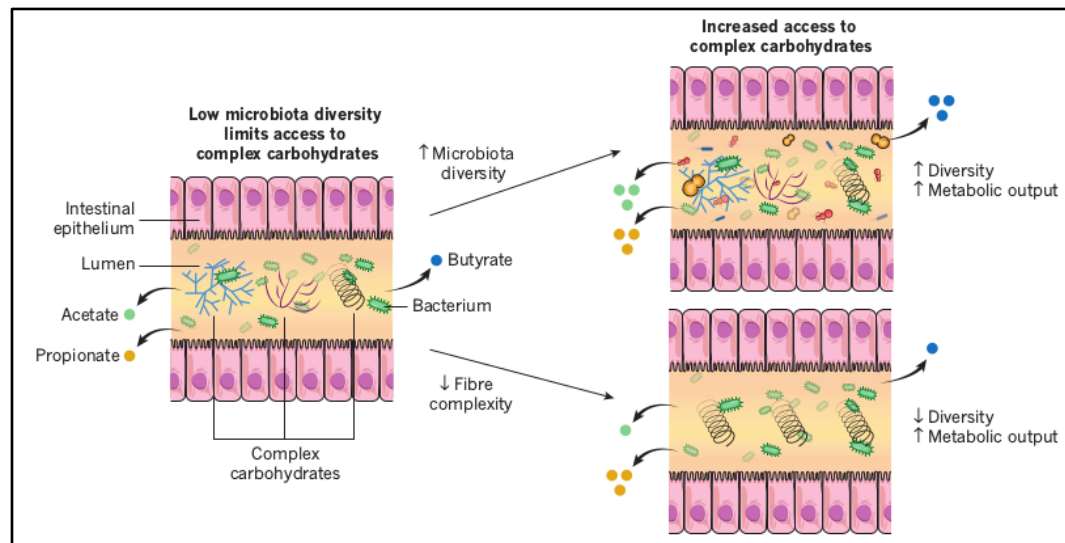
**Crosstalk between the microbiota and the innate immune system**  
Bacterial components and host response pathways can be mutual beneficial, but diseases arise when interaction is disturbed

**Microbiome-wide association studies**  
DNA Seq, Metabolomics, Computation  
Promise of microbiome-based precision diagnostics and therapies

# Diet as modulator of gut microbiota

- Microbiota of the human gut responds rapidly to large changes in diet (composition and function of the microbiota shifts over 1–2 days after change in diet)
- Long-term dietary habits are a dominant force in determining the composition of an individual's gut microbiota
- Change in diet can have a highly variable effect on different people owing to the individualized nature of their gut microbiota

[Sonnenburg et al, *Nature*, 2016]

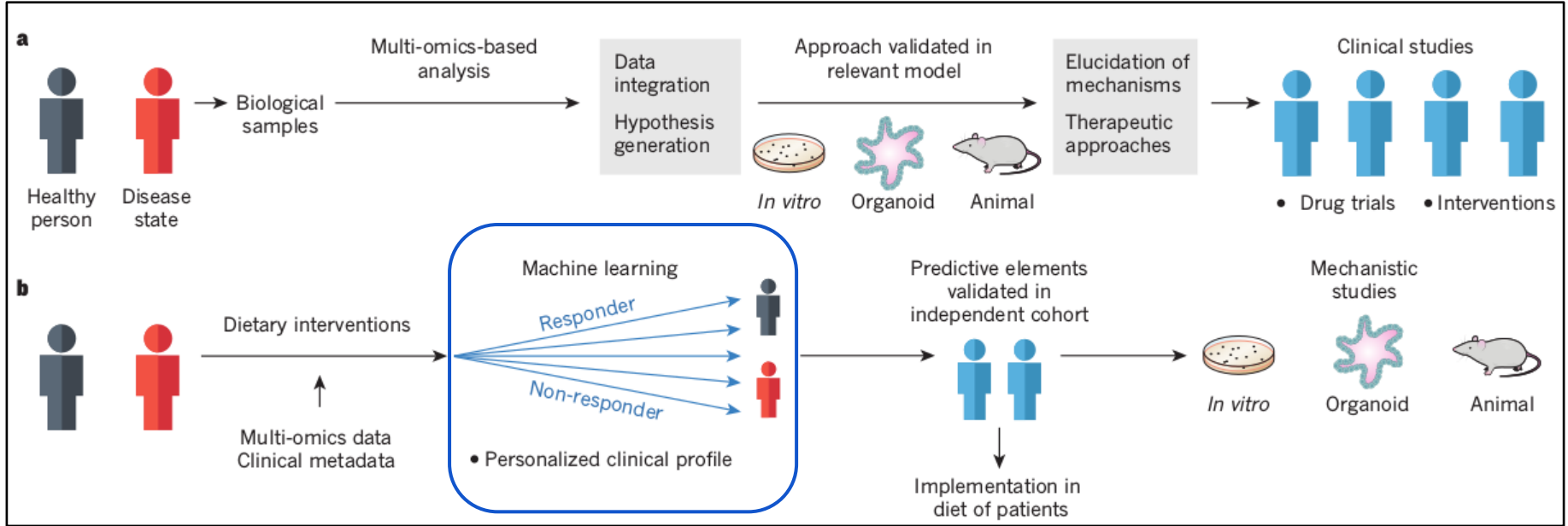


Interactions between the diet and the gut microbiota dictate the production of short-chain fatty acids

Dietary fibre is a source of complex carbohydrates, which are required for the production of **short-chain fatty acids** (i.e.: acetate, butyrate and propionate): anti-inflammatory responses, signalling to the host

Fermentation of fibre in the colon has been shown to **decrease pH levels**, which can help to **increase the diversity of the gut microbiota** or results in the reinforcement by certain taxa of a pH that favours their own growth

# ML and diet-based therapeutics



Strategies for modulating the gut microbiota to improve human health

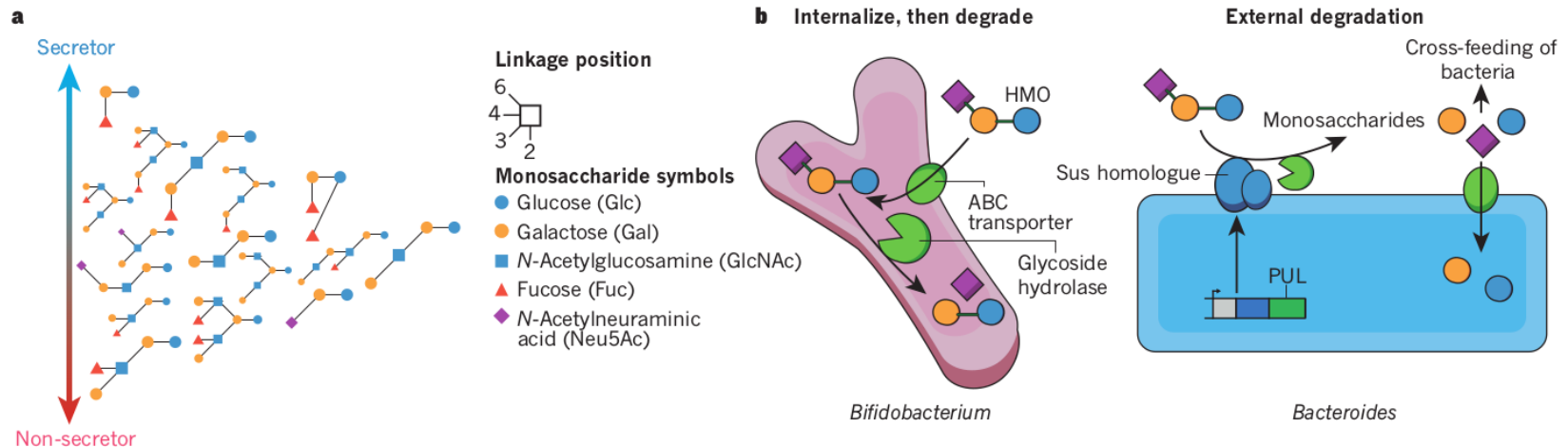
[Sonnenburg et al, *Nature*, 2016]

**Machine learning** can be used to identify aspects of the clinical profile of individuals (including data on the microbiota) that help to predict the response of others to dietary interventions

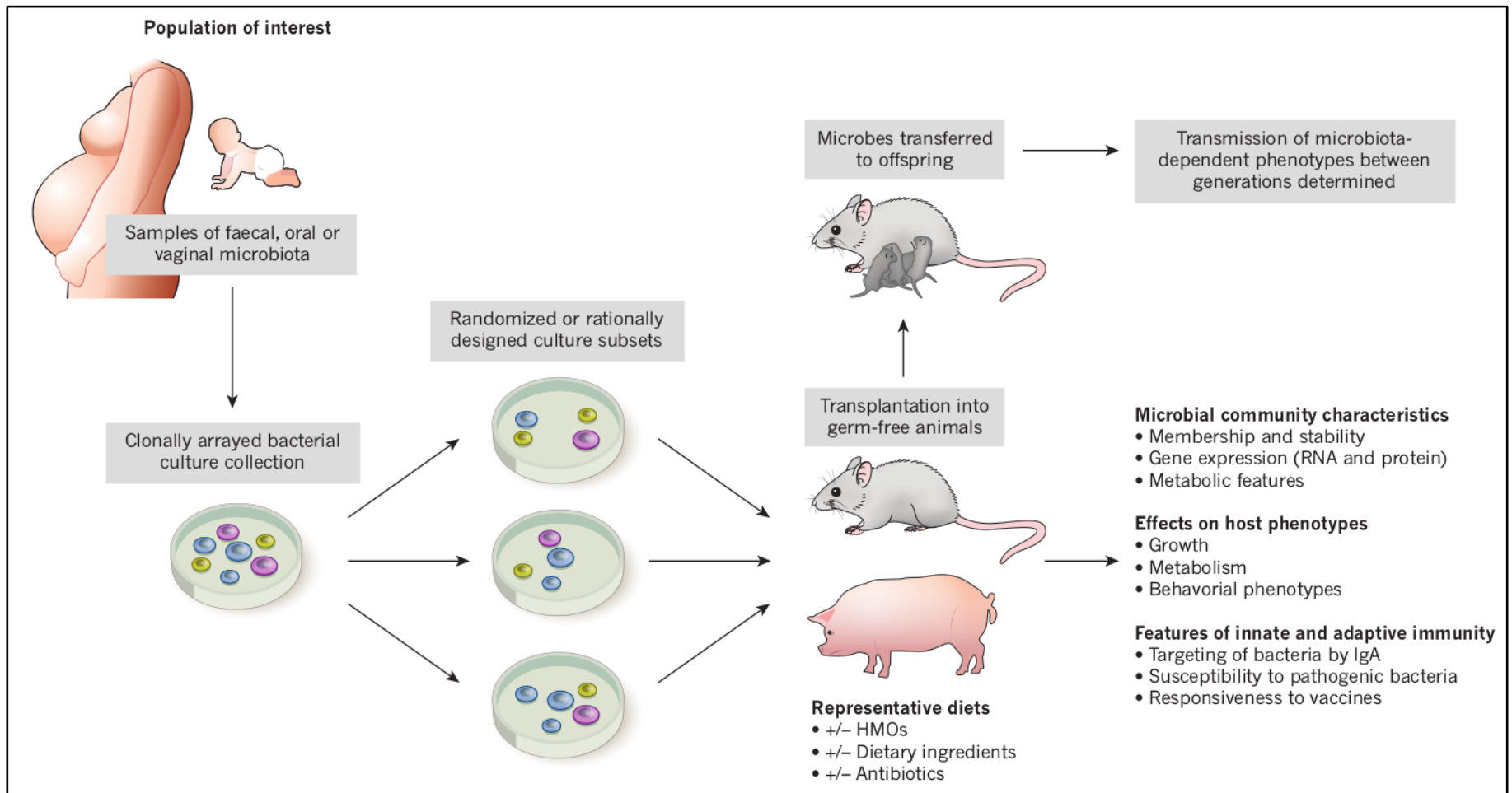
Such predictive elements can also be used to guide mechanistic studies in experimental models.

# Maternal-fetal microbial landscape

- Vaginal microbiota composition is more stable during pregnancy than at other times during adulthood (*Lactobacillus*-dominated community)
- The initial microbiota of nursing infants is an assemblage of microbes derived from mother's faecal, vaginal and skin microbiota
- Microbes that are transferred to offspring before or during delivery might reflect environmental exposures of the mother during pregnancy (for example, diet)
- Within weeks, development of a **milk-oriented microbiota** occurs: microbiota dominated by *Bifidobacterium* species whose primary end fermentation products important sources of energy for colonocytes. Can also result in 'cross-feeding' of **secondary consumers**, including potentially pathogenic bacteria in the infant gut.
- Variations in the transfer of microbes from mothers to infants might affect early postnatal development of the child's microbiota, immune system and metabolic processes.



# Discovery pipeline for developing microbiome characterization



[Charbonneau et al, *Nature*, 2016]

Test for effects of different community configurations on host biology

Recipient animals are fed diets representative of those consumed by their microbiota donors, or diets designed to test hypotheses about the role of various components, including HMOs, on microbiota-mediated functions

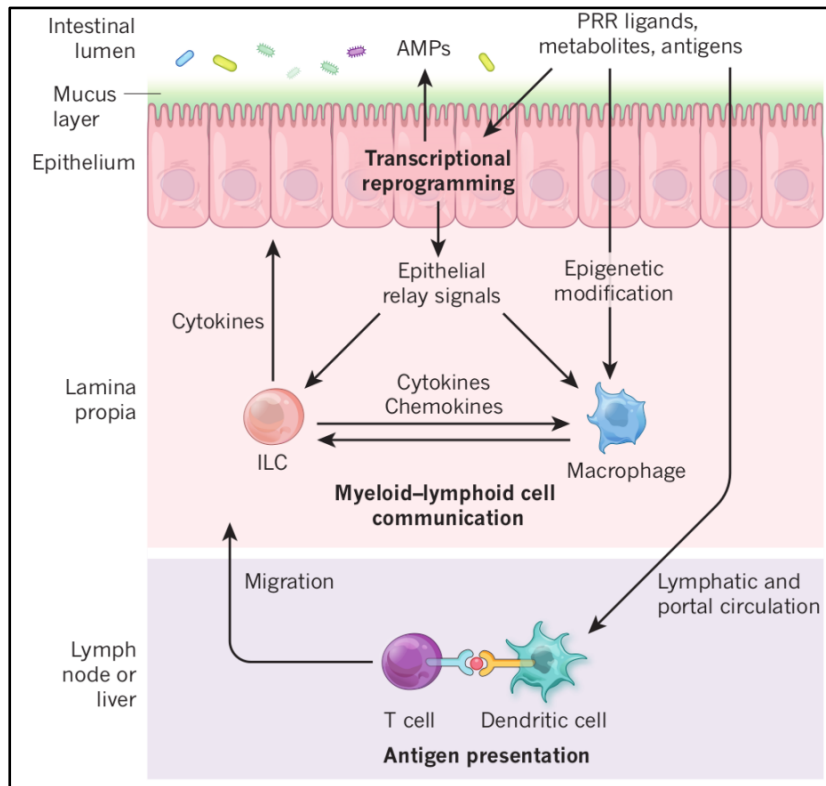


# Gut microbiota and inflammation

**Dysbiosis (imbalance in the microbiota)** is characterized by

- a reduced diversity of microbes
- a reduced abundance of obligate anaerobic bacteria
- an expansion of facultative anaerobic bacteria in the phylum *Proteobacteria*, mostly members of the family *Enterobacteriaceae*

**Intestinal inflammation** in people is associated with **Dysbiosis**



[Thaiss et al, *Nature*, 2016]

## Drivers of changes in the nutritional environment

1. The availability of nutrients in the large intestine is altered during inflammation through changes in the composition of mucous carbohydrates.
2. generation of reactive oxygen species and reactive nitrogen species during inflammation.

## Feedback loops between the host and the microbiome

Feedback loops that extend to the underlying lamina propria involve communication between epithelial, myeloid and lymphoid cells using cytokines and chemokines

# Microbiome in malnourished children



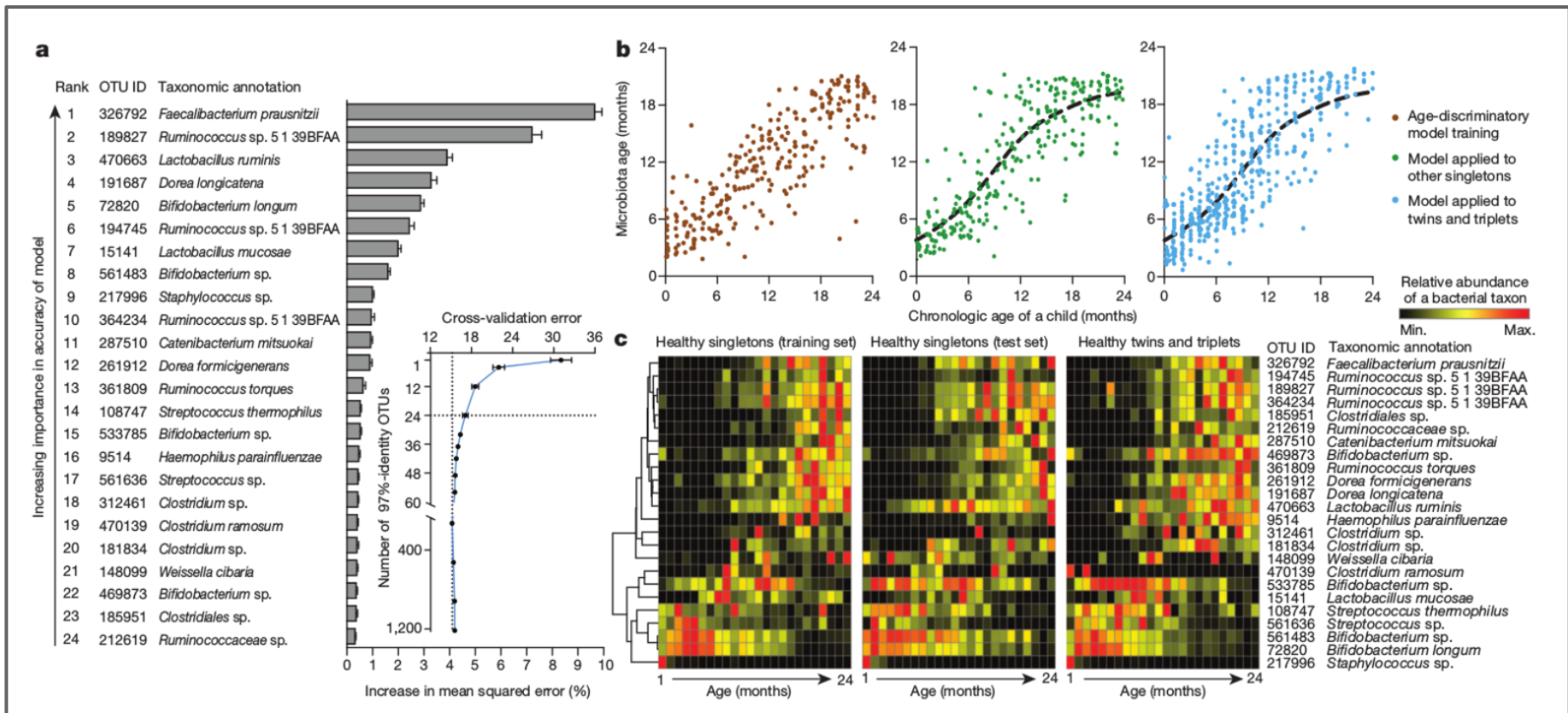
## LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature13421

### **Persistent gut microbiota immaturity in malnourished Bangladeshi children**

Sathish Subramanian<sup>1</sup>, Sayeeda Huq<sup>2</sup>, Tanya Yatsunenkov<sup>1</sup>, Rashidul Haque<sup>2</sup>, Mustafa Mahfuz<sup>2</sup>, Mohammed A. Alam<sup>2</sup>, Amber Benezra<sup>1,3</sup>, Joseph DeStefano<sup>1</sup>, Martin F. Meier<sup>1</sup>, Brian D. Muegge<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Barratt<sup>1</sup>, Laura G. VanArendonk<sup>1</sup>, Qunyuan Zhang<sup>4</sup>, Michael A. Province<sup>4</sup>, William A. Petri Jr<sup>5</sup>, Tahmeed Ahmed<sup>2</sup> & Jeffrey I. Gordon<sup>1</sup>

# Microbiome in malnourished children



Subramanian et al, *Nature*, 2014

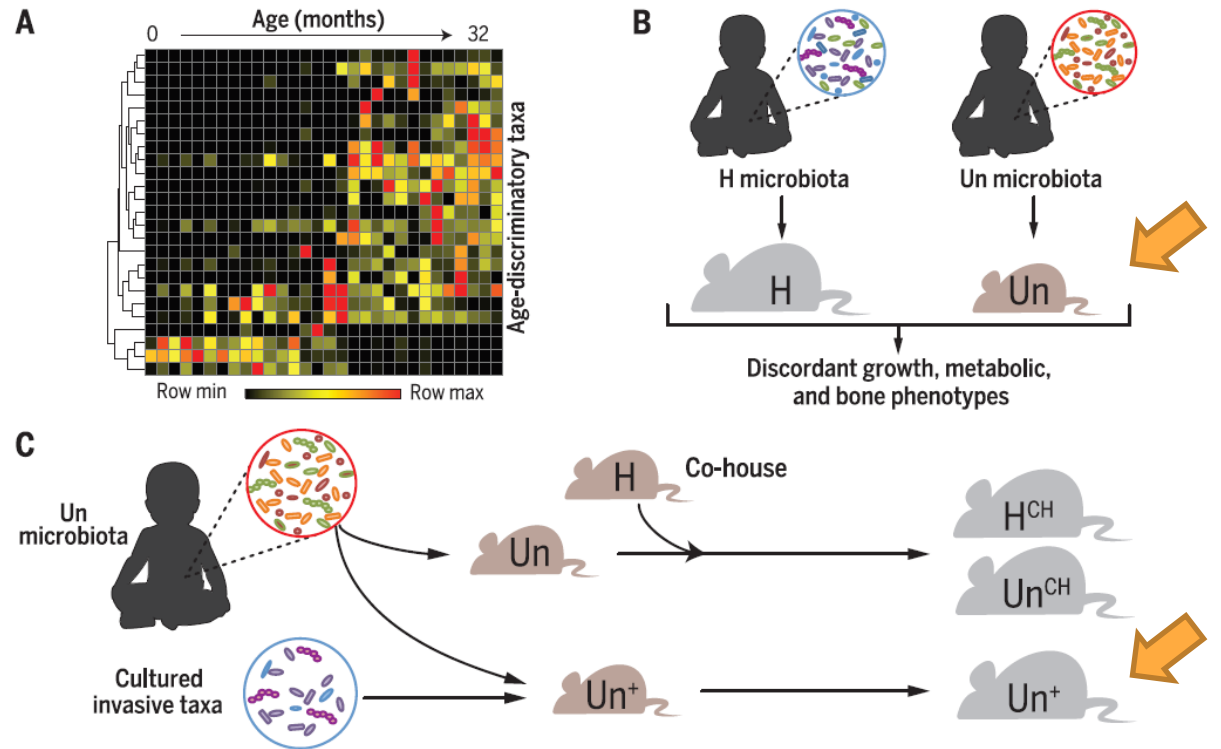
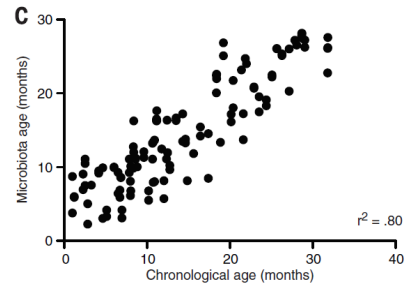
**Severe Acute Malnutrition is associated with significant relative microbiota immaturity**

- Machine Learning approach: Random Forest models

## APPLICATIONS OF THE “METAGENOMIC CLOCK” IN PRECLINICAL STUDIES

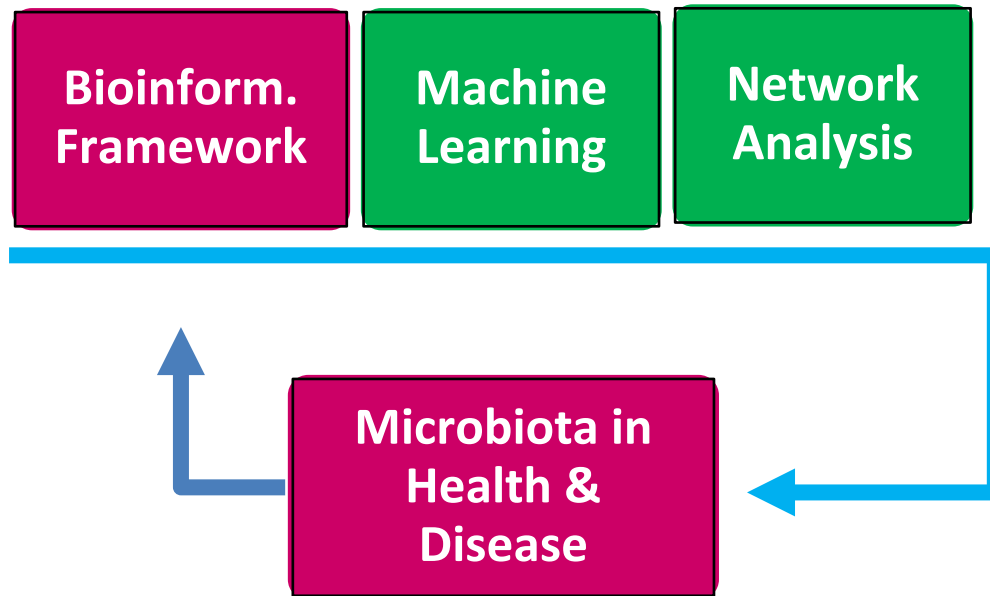
Gut bacteria that prevent growth impairments transmitted by microbiota from malnourished children.

Blanton LV et al, Science, Feb 2016

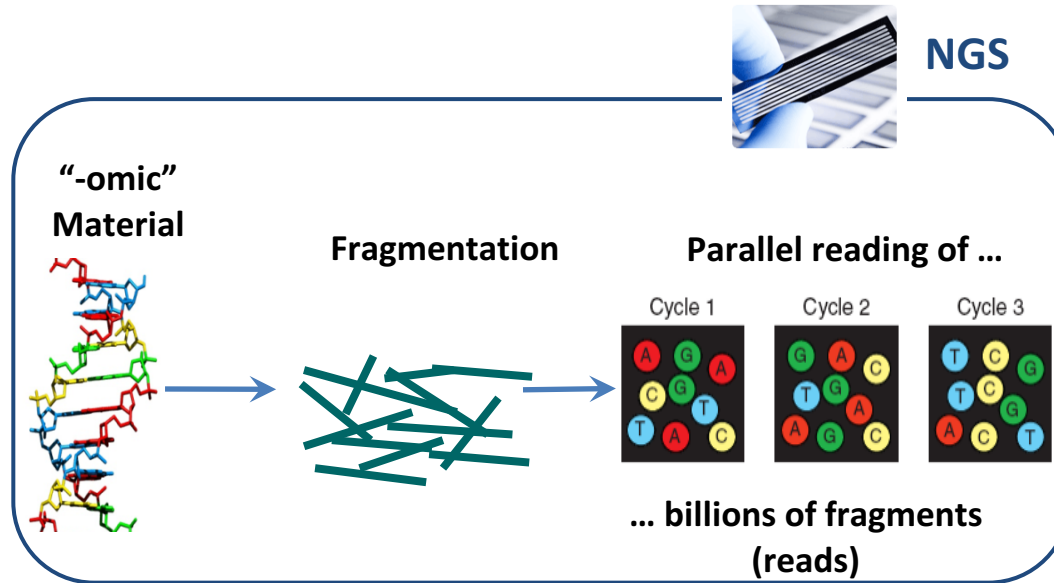


**Preclinical evidence that gut microbiota immaturity is causally related to childhood under-nutrition.** (A) A model of normal gut microbial community development in Malawian infants and children, based on the relative abundances of 25 bacterial taxa that provide a microbial signature

- **Model of microbiota:** 36 mo maturation in twin pairs healthy Malawian infants and children by using RF to regress OTUs against chronological age, val on 259 h.
- **Undernourished children in a Malawian birth cohort:** → immature gut microbiota.
- Unlike microbiota from healthy children, **immature microbiota transmit impaired growth**, altered bone morphology, and metabolic abnormalities in the muscle, liver, and brain to recipient gnotobiotic mice.



# Next Generation sequencing

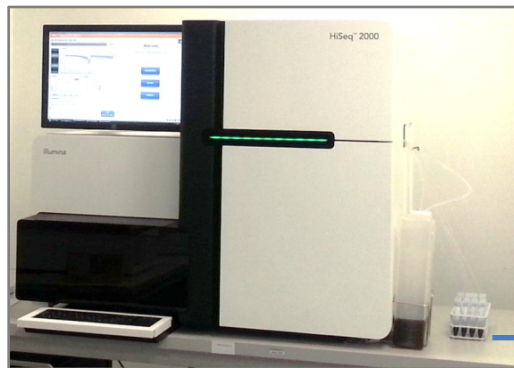
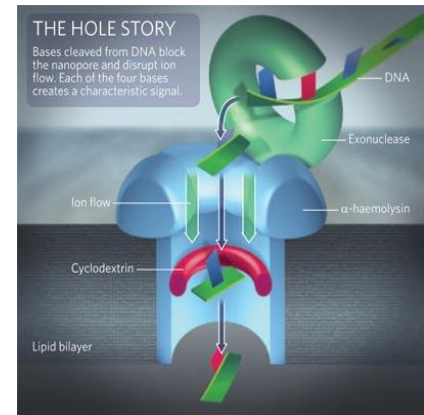


- **Massively parallel** sequencing platforms able to produce **millions of sequences** concurrently, with protocols for DNA, gene expression, methylation, ...
- Throughput: up to 25 Gb (~8 human genomes) per day
- More than 85% bases correctly sequenced with accuracy  $\geq 99.9\%$  (Illumina HiSeq 2000)

# Which platforms for metagenomics markers?

Next Gen Sequencing methods for metagenomics research and clinical applications:

1. Roche 454 Genome Sequencer FLX System
2. Illumina HiSeq / MiSeq
3. Ion Torrent PGM
4. Oxford Nanopore



**LaBSSAH:** Lab. of Biomolecular Sequence and Structure Analysis for Health, a partnership of FBK, UniTN/CIBIO & CNR, with FEM

MinION: electronic single-molecule nanopore sensing (DNA, proteins)

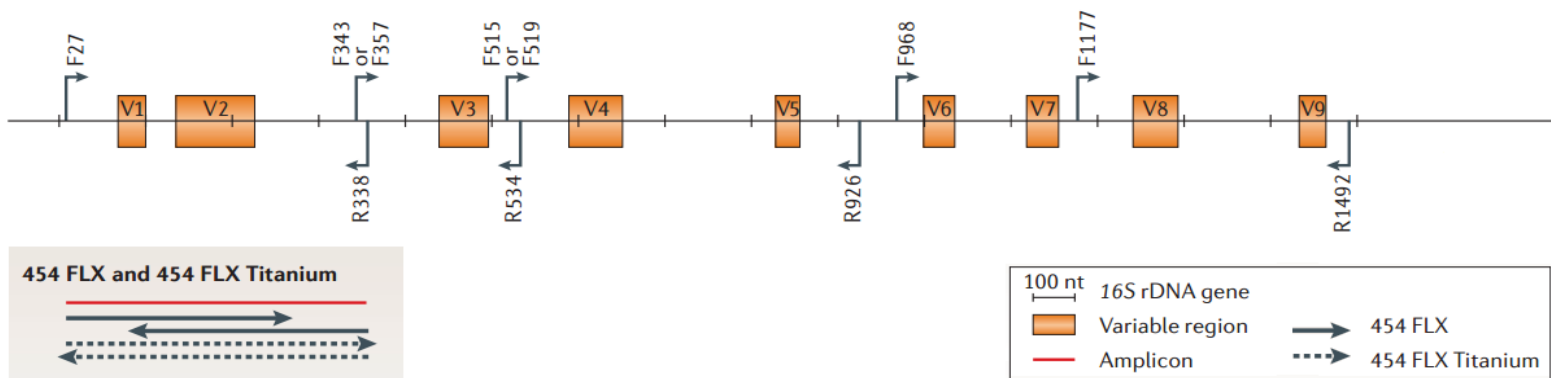
# Studying Metagenomics with NGS

## Targeted amplicons sequencing

- Only *Gene 'markers'* assumed phylogenetically informative are sequenced
- Most used marker: the gene **16S rRNA**, common in all life forms

## Whole genome sequencing(WGS)

- Whole (intronic+exonic) genomes from the potential microbiota, incl. fungi and viruses
- Similar 16S are distinguished
- Strains may be identified
- 3 billion 100bp reads (HiSeq), 15 million 36bp (MiSeq)



Experimental and analytical tools for studying the human microbiome. Kuczynski, 2012.



# Bioinformatics and the microbiome

## Major research areas

1. Sequence Analysis
2. Genome Annotation
3. Computational Biology
4. Meta-transcriptomics
5. Functional Annotations
6. Comparative Genomics
7. Phylogenetics Analysis
8. Networks & Systems Biology

## Bioinformatics

- A. Sequence Pre-filtering
- B. Assembly
- C. Gene Prediction
- D. Biodiversity
- E. Comparative Metagenomics

## International Projects (USA,EU)



Integrative Human Microbiome Project



The Inflammatory  
Bowel Disease  
Multi'omics  
Database



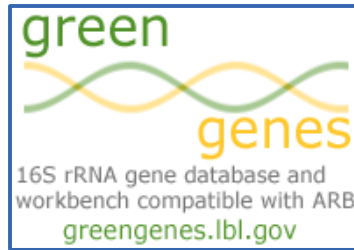
Multi-Omic  
Microbiome Study-  
Pregnancy  
Initiative



Onset of Type 2  
Diabetes

# Major reference databases

16S rRNA



Release gg\_13\_5\_99 (2013/05):

- 202,421 bacterial and archaeal sequences



Release 115 (SSURef NR):

- 418,497 bacterial sequences
- 17,530 archaeal sequences
- 43,698 eukaryotic sequences

WGS



Ref. metagenome (<http://www.hmpdacc.org/HMREFG/>):

- 1,253 Bacteria
- 97 Archaea
- 326 Eukaryotes
- 1,420 Viruses

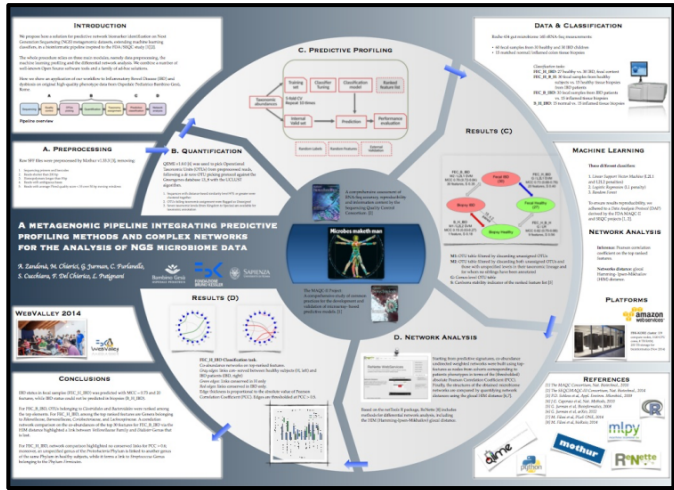
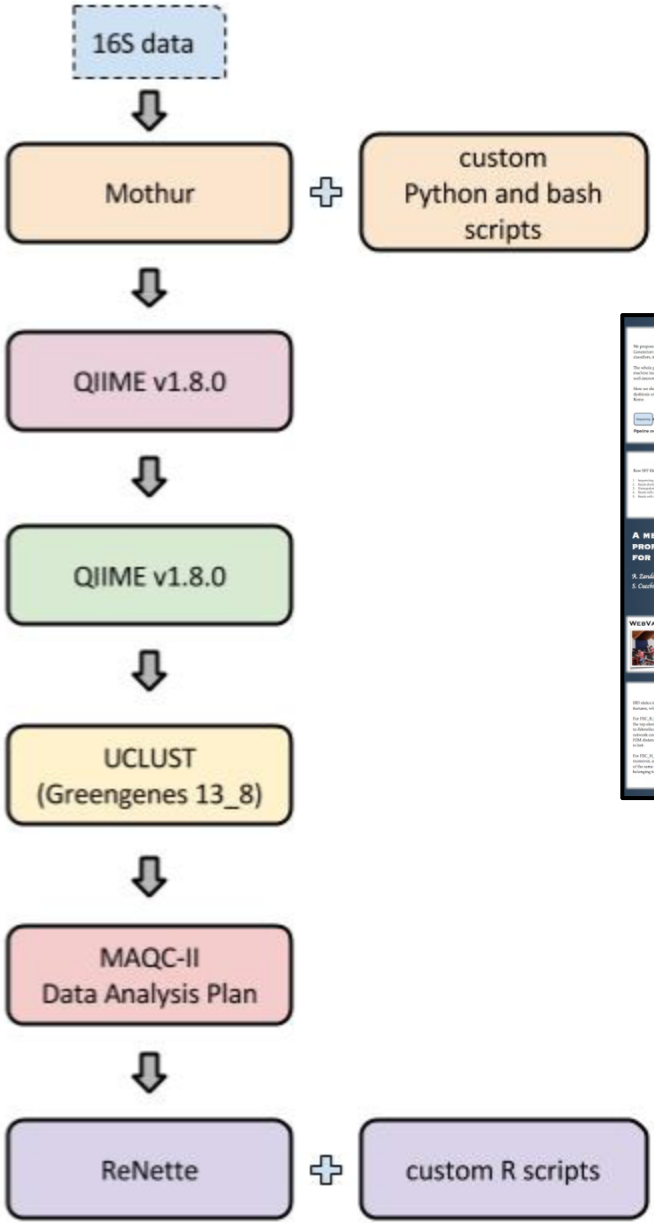
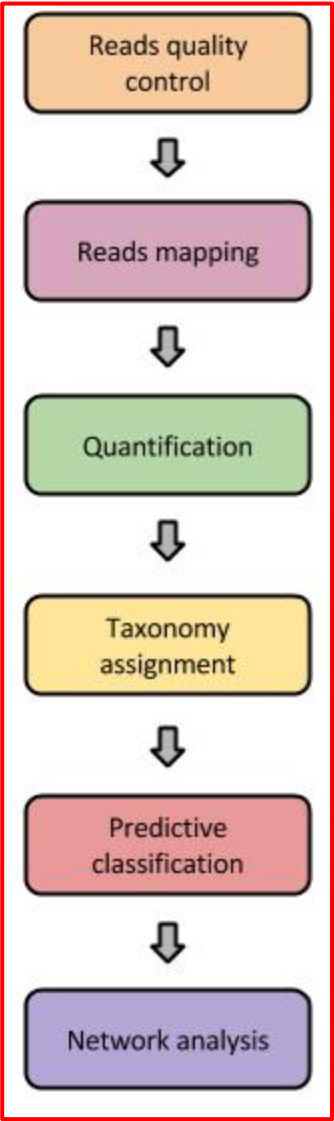


Ref. metagenome (2013/06):

- 2,367 Bacteria, Archaea
- 35 Fungi
- 2,397 Viruses

Also: KEGG, COG, GO, EggNOG

# Bioinformatics + ML Framework



Zandonà, Chierici, Jurman, Del Chierico, Cucchiara, Putignani, Furlanello  
**NIPS-MLCB Workshop 2014**  
 Machine Learning in Computational Biology: Montreal- Dec 13, 2014



*The FBK Kore HPC cluster - May 2013: ~1000 cores in 196 multi-processor sockets (“blades”); about 5 TB RAM, 25 TB scratch area, 200 TB for genomics, 100 utenti (SON of Grid Engine queue system) – now connected to FEM campus*

Roche 454 GS Junior sequencer



Biological samples



Reads quality control

Reads mapping

Quantification

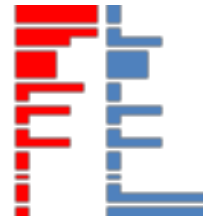
Taxonomy assignment

Absolute or relative (compositional data)

Microbial abundances matrix

sample	OTU1	OTU2	...
S01	120	42	...
S02	11	108	...
S03	0	49	...
...	...	...	...

abundance profiles



OTU: operational taxonomic units = clusters of sequences by DNA similarity → taxonomic biomarkers

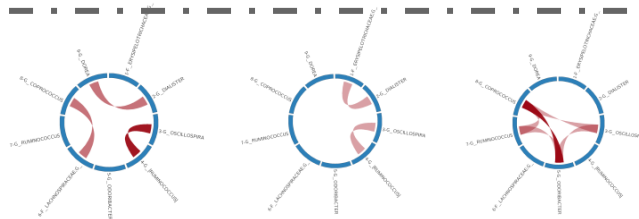
Predictive classification



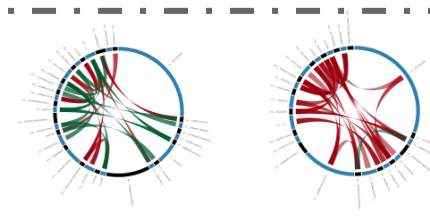
Machine Learning



Network analysis



Networks trajectories



Networks distance

# A warning about compositional data

Two types of metagenomic data: absolute vs **relative abundance**  
(compositional data)



For each sample, sum of microbial abundance is equal to 1  
(growth or decay is connected to decay or growth of all others)

- Traditional **Pearson correlation** analysis treating the observed data as absolute abundances of the microbes may lead to spurious results with relative abundances.



- Special care and appropriate methods are required prior to correlation analysis for these compositional data.

**CClasso**: novel method based on least squares with  $\ell_1$  penalty to infer the correlation network for latent variables of compositional data from metagenomic data.

An effective alternating direction algorithm from augmented Lagrangian method is used to solve the optimization problem.

Roche 454 GS Junior sequencer



Biological samples



Reads quality control

- All sequencing platforms have artefacts

Reads mapping

main artefact: long homopolymers

```

:CTTCGGGTGCGTTTTTTTTGCCCC
:CTTCGGGTGCG-TTTTTTTGCCCC
:CTTCGGGTGCGTTTTTTTTGCCCC
:CTTCGGGTGCG-TTTTTTTGCCCC
:CTTCGGGTGCG-TTTTTTTGCCCC

```

Quantification

- Aim: getting qualitative and quantitative information about data available for further analysis

Taxonomy assignment

<http://www.mothur.org>



Predictive classification

**trim.seqs()**

**remove:**

- redundancies
- low quality reads
- long homopolymers
- primers and adapters

Network analysis

# Trimming primers and adaptors



The adapter and primer sequences do not correspond to the bases at the 3' end of the reference genome sequence

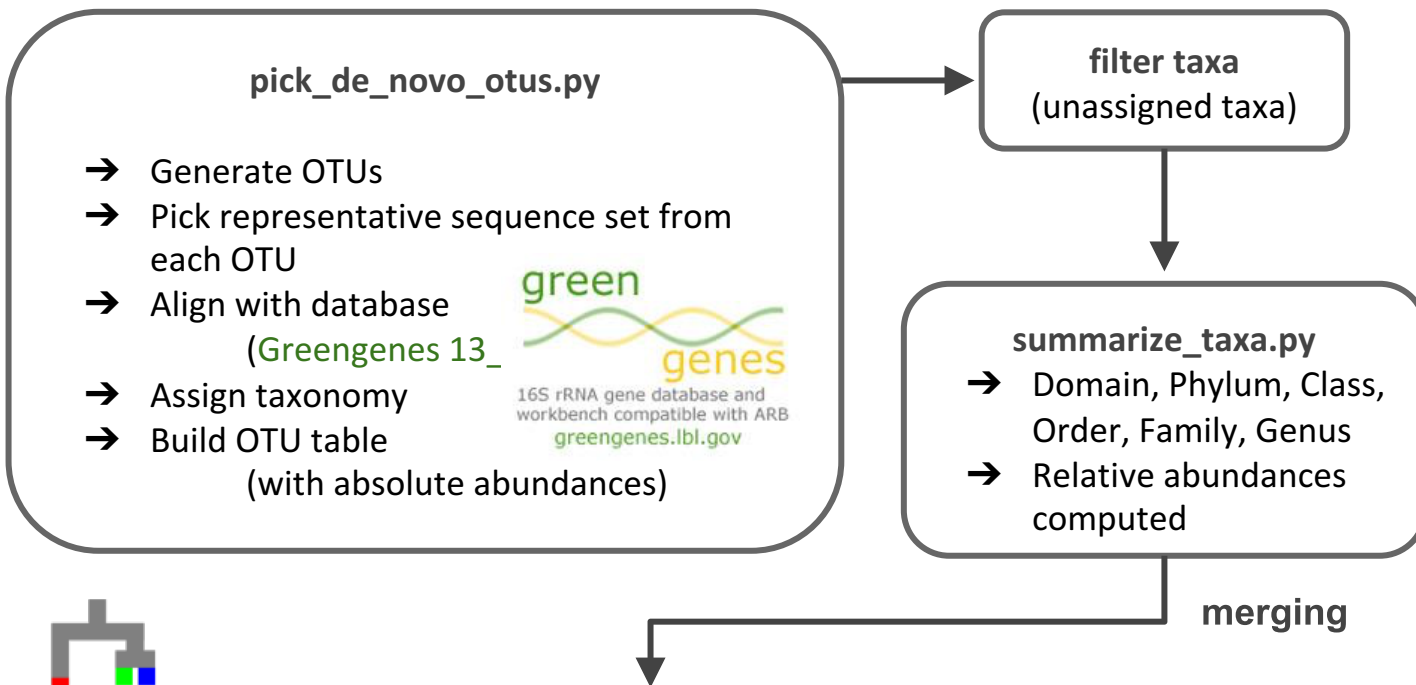
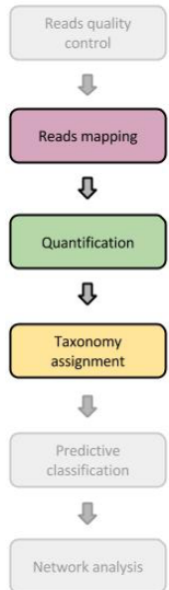


This can cause an otherwise mappable sequence not to align

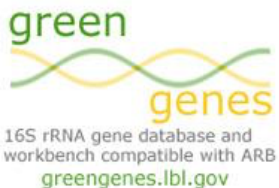
Introns and primer sequence frequently flank the sequence of amplified exons. Unless removed by trimming, any of these artifacts will distort your sequence assembly and downstream sequence analysis.



# Assigning Taxa



- pick\_de\_novo\_otus.py**
- Generate OTUs
  - Pick representative sequence set from each OTU
  - Align with database (Greengenes 13\_)
  - Assign taxonomy
  - Build OTU table (with absolute abundances)



**filter taxa**  
(unassigned taxa)

**summarize\_taxa.py**

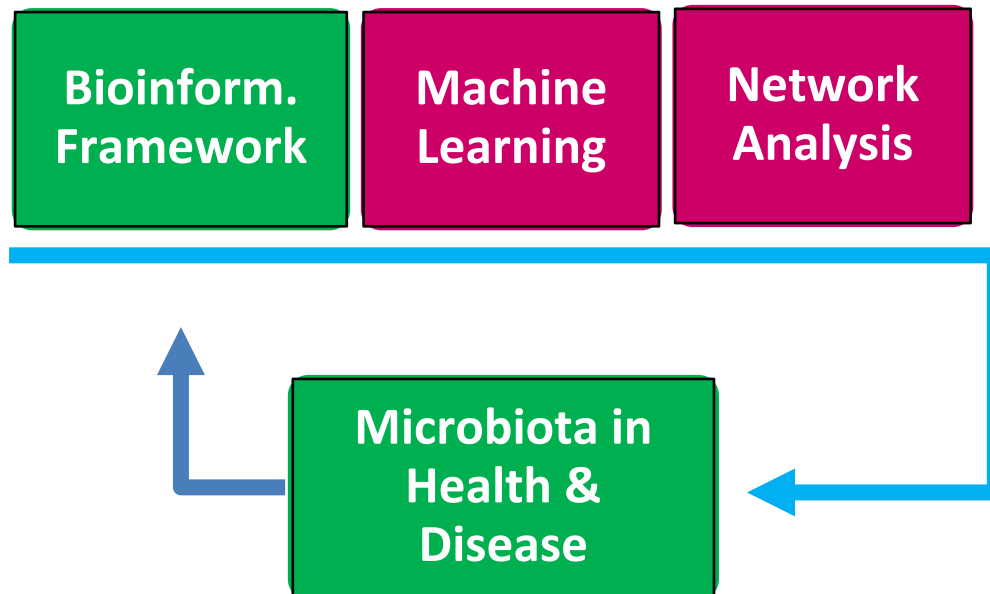
- Domain, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus
- Relative abundances computed

**merging**



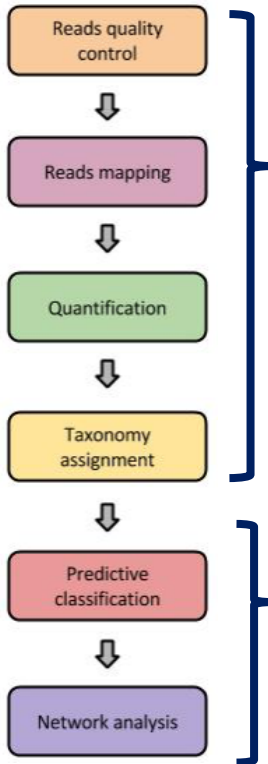
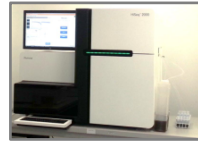
**OTU table**

sample	OTU1	OTU2	...
S01	120	42	...
S02	11	108	...
S03	0	49	...
...	...	...	...

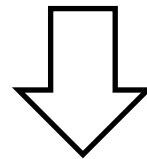


# Conceptual pipelines: meta-blocks

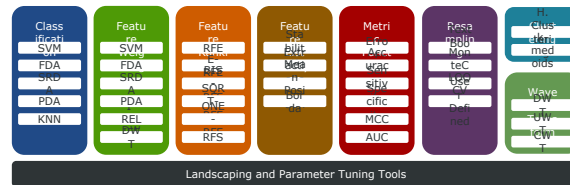
High-throughput platform



UPSTREAM



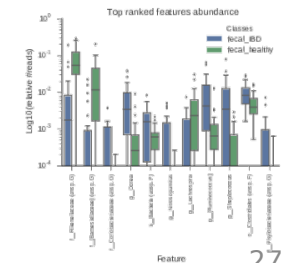
DOWNSTREAM



Landscaping and Parameter Tuning Tools

Data preparation  
— QC  
— preprocessing

“Sense-making”  
— Machine learning  
— Networks





# The MAQC/SEQC initiatives

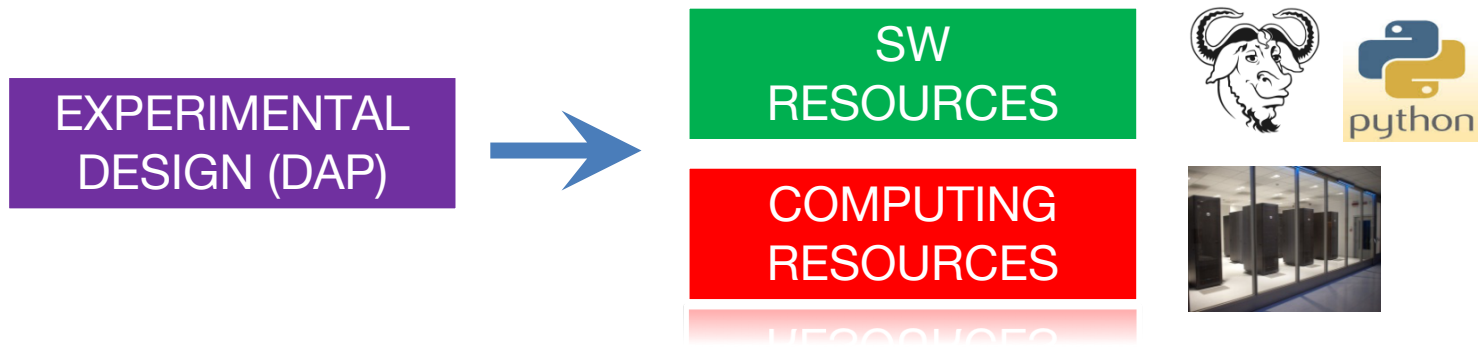
*A set of guidelines for predictive profiling*  
(2014: for high-throughput sequencing with NGS )

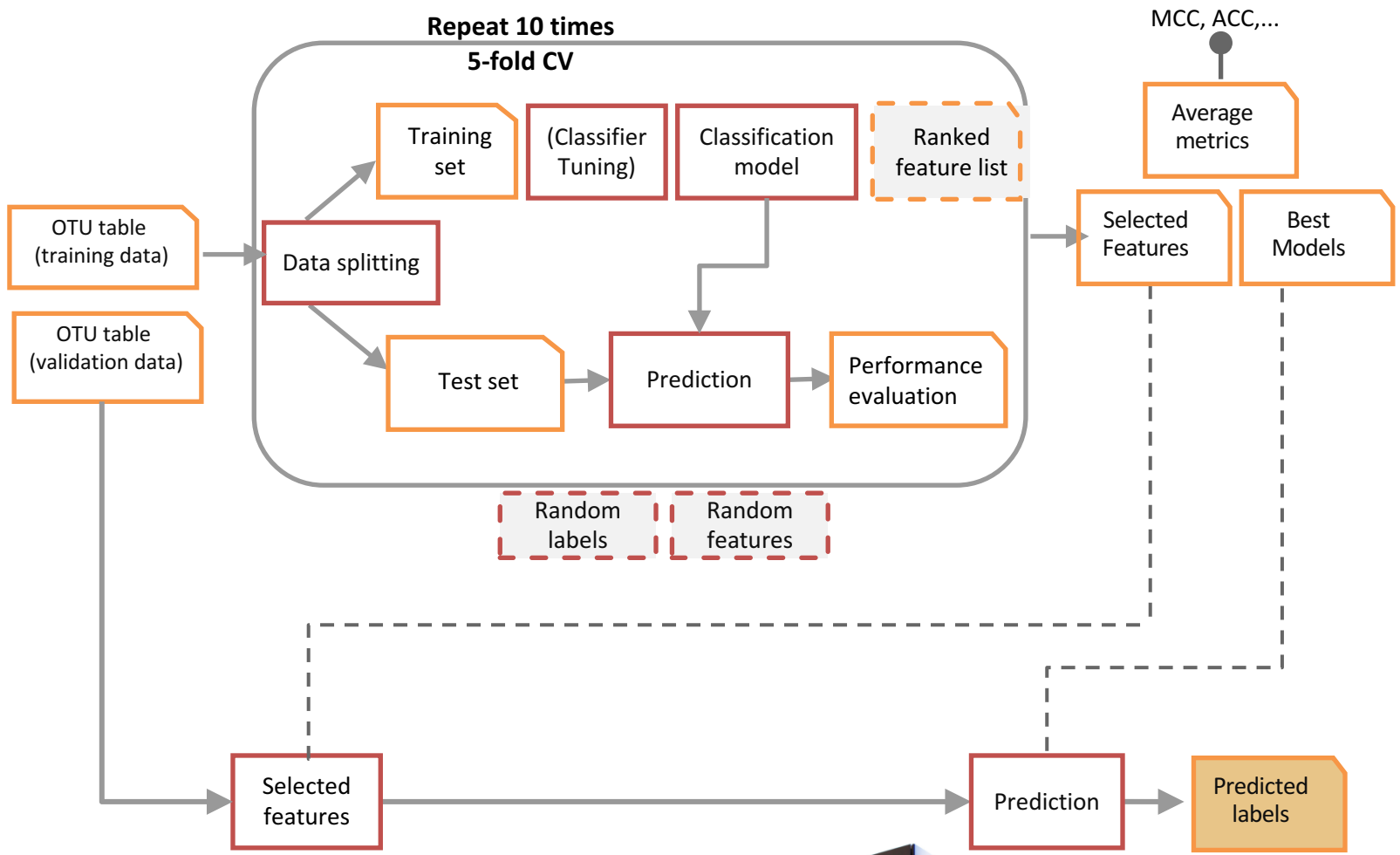
1. Predictive models can be derived from high-throughput data,
2. But they need to be **carefully developed** and independently tested
3. **Reproducibility** requires substantial effort.



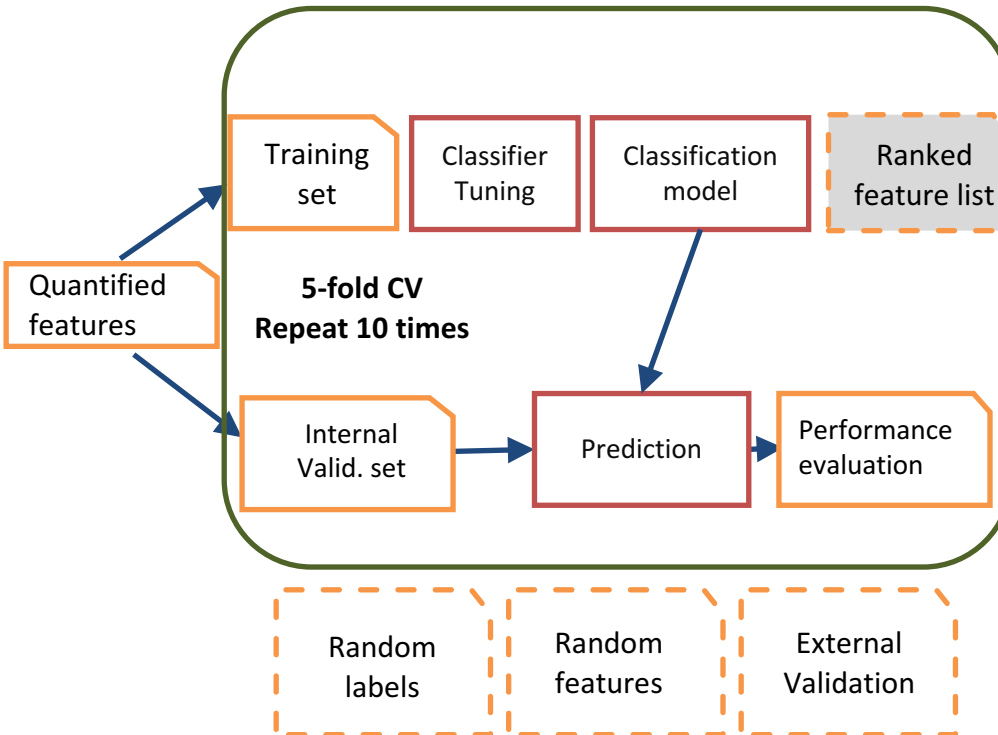
# Need for Data Analysis Protocols

A **Data Analysis Protocol (DAP)** must be defined that details all the procedures used to develop the predictive classifiers, **including the data preprocessing**





# A MAQC-II/SEQC Data Analysis Plan



## Used in

- Su Z *et al.* A comprehensive assessment of RNA-Seq accuracy, reproducibility and information content by the Sequencing Quality Control Consortium. *Nature Biotech*, 2014
- Wang C *et al.* The concordance between RNA-Seq and microarray data depends on chemical treatment and transcript abundance. *Nature Biotech*, 2014
- Zhang W *et al.* Comparison of RNA-seq and microarray-based models for clinical endpoint prediction. *Genome Biology*, 2015

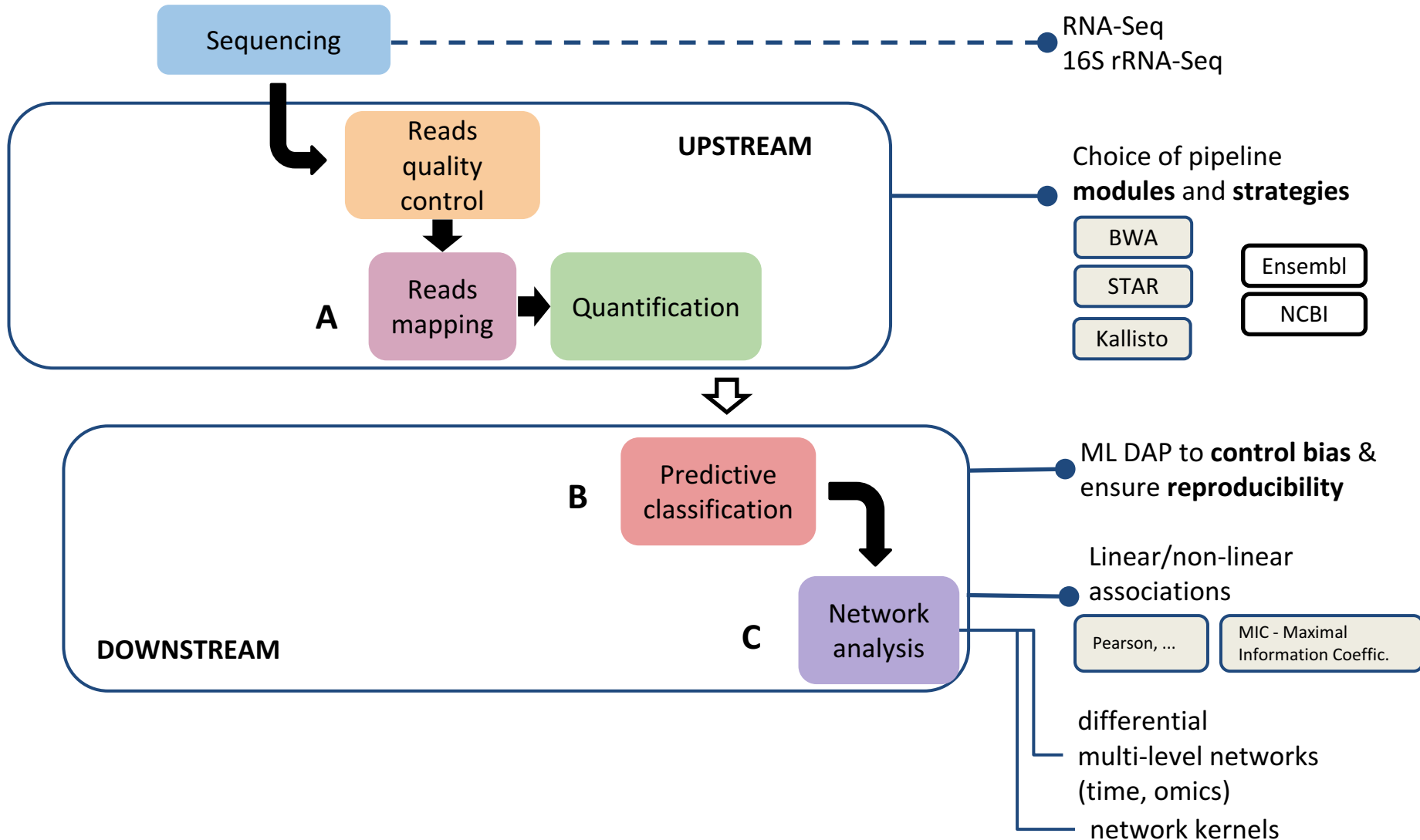
The screenshot shows the ReNette WebServices interface. The main heading is 'ReNette WebServices' with a subtitle: 'This is a web-interface for network analysis. It supports inference methods, quantitative network distance and network stability analysis.' Below this, there are sections for 'Network Distance' (with a video tutorial player) and 'Network Inference'. On the right side, there are panels for 'Network Distance', 'Network Inference', 'Network Stability', 'Network Statistics', and 'My process list'. At the bottom right, there is a network graph visualization with nodes and edges.

## network analysis

For network analysis of metagenomics data we apply **ReNette** (based on the **netTools** R package)

- Filosi M *et al.* **ReNette: a web-infrastructure for reproducible network analysis.** *bioRxiv*, Aug 2014
- Zandonà, et al **A metagenomic pipeline integrating predictive profiling methods and complex networks for the analysis of NGS microbiome data.** NIPS-MLCB Machine Learning in Computational Biology: Montreal, Dec 13, 2014

# Summary of decisions/Challenges



**A:** Characterization of the features of interest (e.g. transcriptome);

**B:** Identification of predictive biomarkers; **C:** Co-abundance networks inference and analysis



# MINEPY

in metagenomics  
networks: a novel  
tool to quantify  
NON LINEAR  
ASSOCIATIONS  
between abundance  
of microbial taxa

Home
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minepy 0.3.5 released (2012-11-16)
minepy 0.3.4 released (2012-10-01)
minepy 0.3.3 released (2012-08-21)
minepy 0.3.2 released (2012-06-13)
minepy 0.3.1 released (2012-06-06)
minepy 0.3.0 released (2012-05-31)

## minepy Maximal Information-based Nonparametric Exploration in C, C++, Python and MATLAB/Octave

minepy provides an ANSI C library (with C++, Python and MATLAB/OCTAVE wrappers) for Maximal Information-based Nonparametric Exploration (MIC and MINE family)

minepy contains:

- an ANSI C core API,
- a C++ interface,
- an efficient Python API written in Cython,
- an efficient MATLAB/OCTAVE API,
- a command-line application similar to MINE.jar (<http://www.exploredata.net/Downloads/MINE-Application>).

minepy is **multiplatform** (Linux, Mac OS X and Windows Xp, Vista and 7), it works with **Python 2** and 3 and it is **Open Source**, distributed under the GNU General Public License version 3.

If you use minepy, please cite:



Davide Albanese, Michele Filosi, Roberto Visintainer, Samantha Riccadonna, Giuseppe Jurman and Cesare Furlanello.

**minerva and minepy: a C engine for the MINE suite and its R, Python and MATLAB wrappers.**

*Bioinformatics* (2013) 29(3): 407-408 first published online December 14, 2012

doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/bts707.

[\[Abstract\]](#) [\[Full Text \(HTML\)\]](#) [\[Full Text \(PDF\)\]](#) [\[Supplementary Data\]](#) [\[Download citation\]](#)

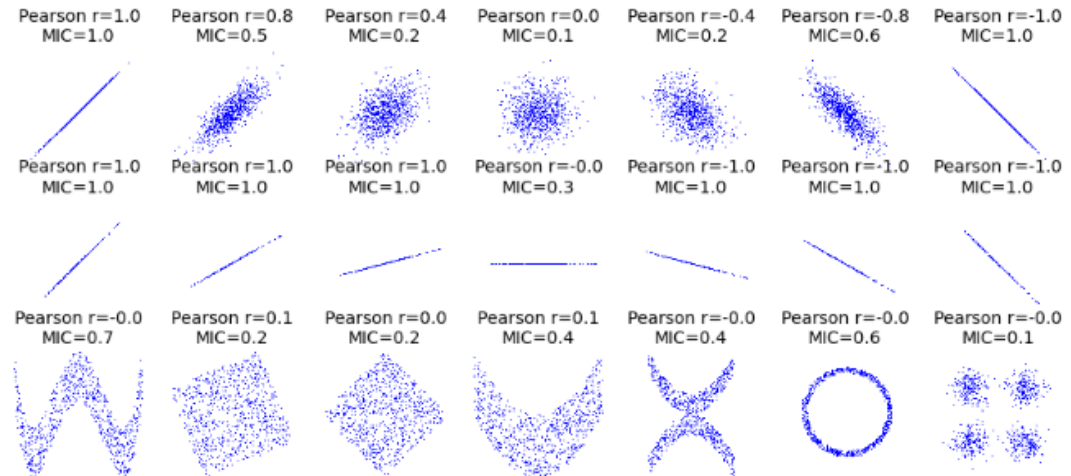
## RESEARCH ARTICLES

### Detecting Novel Associations in Large Data Sets

David N. Reshef,<sup>1,2,3\*</sup> Yakir A. Reshef,<sup>2,4\*</sup> Hilary K. Finucane,<sup>3</sup> Sharon R. Grossman,<sup>2,4</sup> Gilean McVean,<sup>5,7</sup> Peter J. Turnbaugh,<sup>6</sup> Eric S. Lander,<sup>2,4,9</sup> Michael Mitzenmacher,<sup>10</sup> Pardis C. Sabeti<sup>2,4</sup>

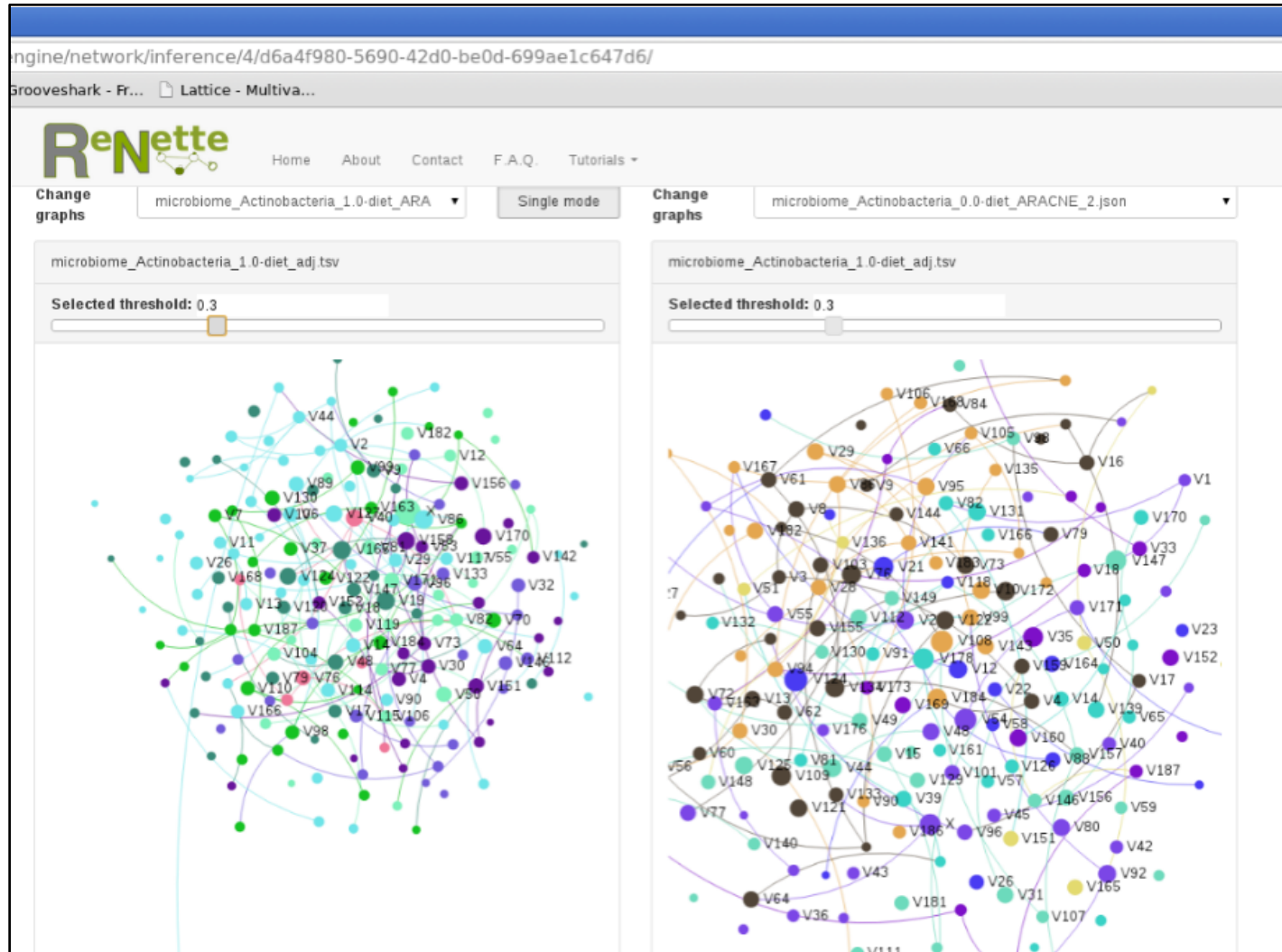
Identifying interesting relationships between pairs of variables in large data sets is increasingly important. Here, we present a measure of dependence for two-variable relationships: the maximal information coefficient (MIC). MIC captures a wide range of associations both functional and not, and for functional relationships provides a score that roughly equals the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) of the data relative to the regression function. MIC belongs to a larger class of maximal information-based nonparametric exploration (MINE) statistics for identifying and classifying relationships. We apply MIC and MINE to data sets in global health, gene expression, major-league baseball, and the human gut microbiota and identify known and novel relationships.

16 DECEMBER 2011 VOL 334 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

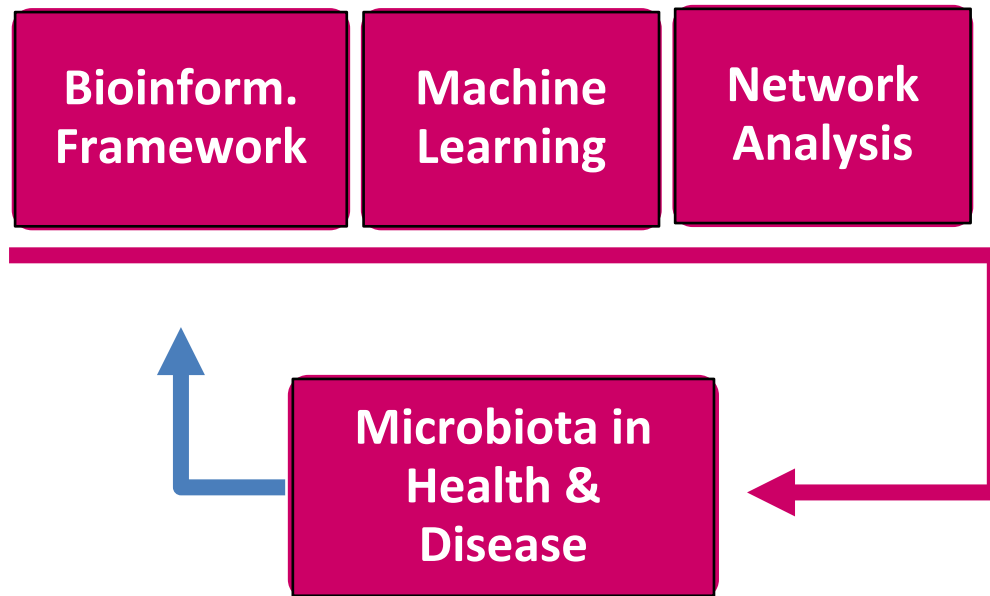


Albanese et al (Bioinformatics 2013): an open source implementation of MINE  
MINEPY (Python) , MINERVA (in R), also in MATLAB, Octave C++.

# Microbiome: network differences



The open source R package `nettools` and the dedicated web interface `ReNette`: a complete implementation of the stability indicators and HIM with different network inference methods (e.g. MIC)



# Example 1: Diet Induced Diversity

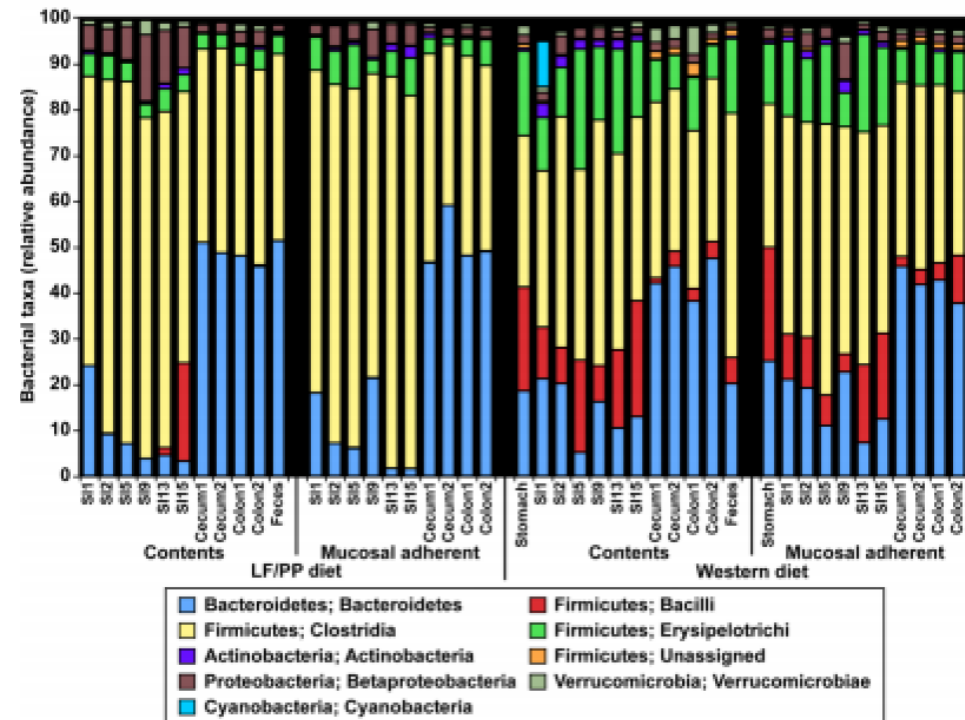
## Diet induced diversity

“The effect of diet on the human gut microbiome: a metagenomic analysis in humanized gnotobiotic mice.”

[Turnbaugh P et al, 2009]



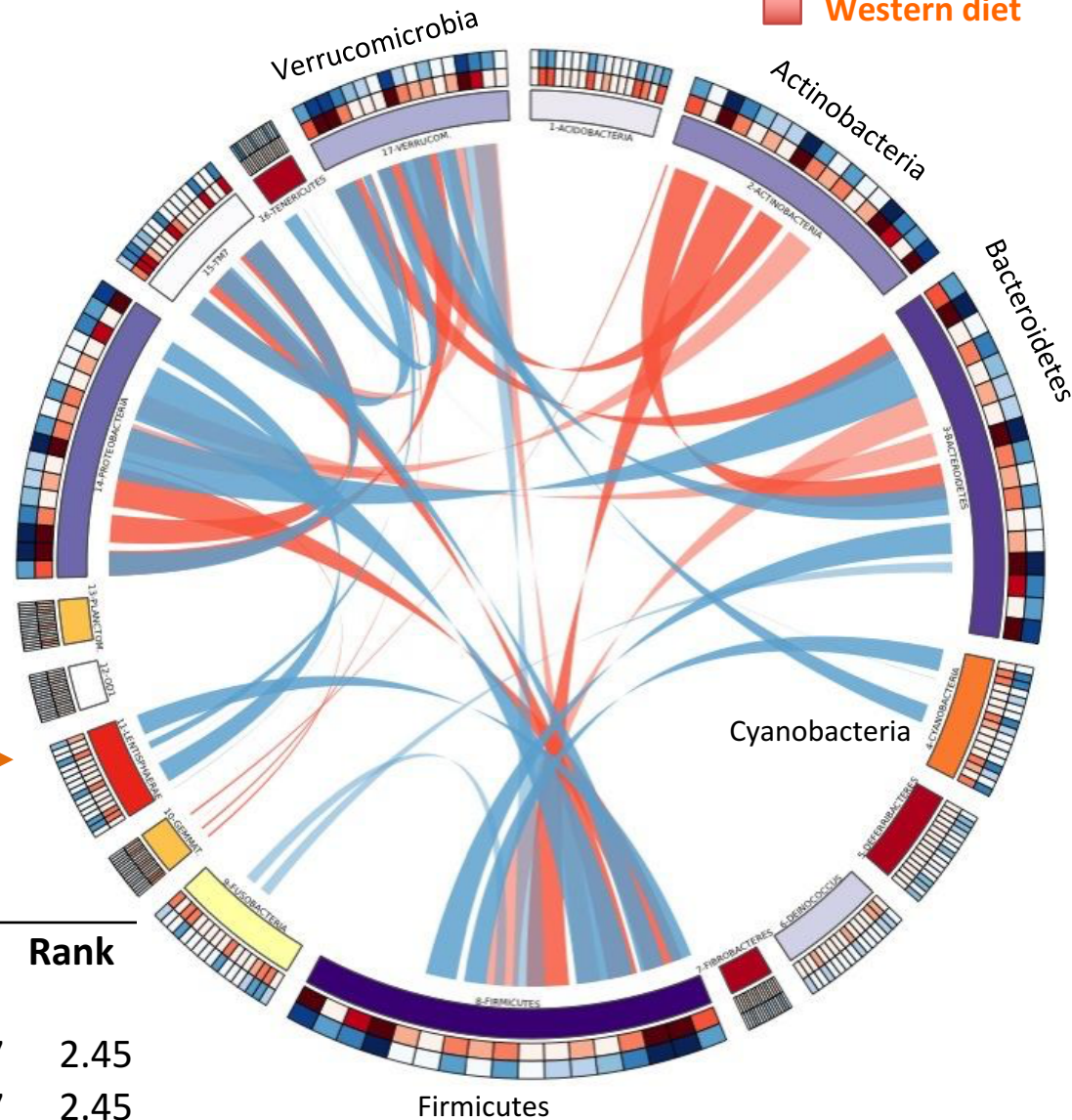
- Illumina GA II gut microbiome 16S rRNA-seq
- 389 low-fat, plant polysaccharide-rich (LF) diet  
269 high-fat, high-sugar (Western) diet
- **TASK.** Compare the network co-occurrence structure



# Difference induced by diet: NETWORKS

■ Low-fat diet  
■ Western diet

- ONLY IN WESTERN DIET MICE  
Co-occurrence of Actinobacteria with Bacteroidetes, Firmicutes e Verrucomicrobia
- ONLY IN LOW-FAT DIET MICE  
Co-occurrence of Cyanobacteria with Firmicutes and Verrucomicrobia
- **Western vs LF wrt taxonomy**



## Top 5 discriminant nodes

Phylum	Western	LF	Total	Rank
Deferribacteres	1.60E-06	0	6.53E-07	2.45
Fibrobacteres	1.55E-06	0	6.32E-07	2.45
Tenericutes	1.25E-05	0	5.12E-06	2.45
Lentisphaerae	1.34E-05	8.76E-07	5.98E-06	2.09
Cyanobacteria	1.67E-05	1.66E-06	7.81E-06	1.93

Nodes = Phyla (~ OTU abundance)  
 Weighted edges: non linear MIC assoc.

# Example 2



## Gut microbiota and GI in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

[Kang *et al*, 2013]

- Platform: Pyrosequencing 16S rDNA, Roche 454 FLX-Titanium
  - Mean: 24 695 reads per sample per campione
  - Bioinformatics Pipeline: FBK (taxa level: 712 species)
  - **39 children (3-16 y) in 2 classes: 20 neurotypically developed, 19 ASD**
- ASD Phenotype: ADI-revised, ADOS, ATEC, PDD-BI  
 GI: Gastro-Intestinal Severity Index, diet patterns survey\*
- TASK. Marker characterizing autism and GI condition**

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

 PLOS ONE

## Reduced Incidence of *Prevotella* and Other Fermenters in Intestinal Microflora of Autistic Children

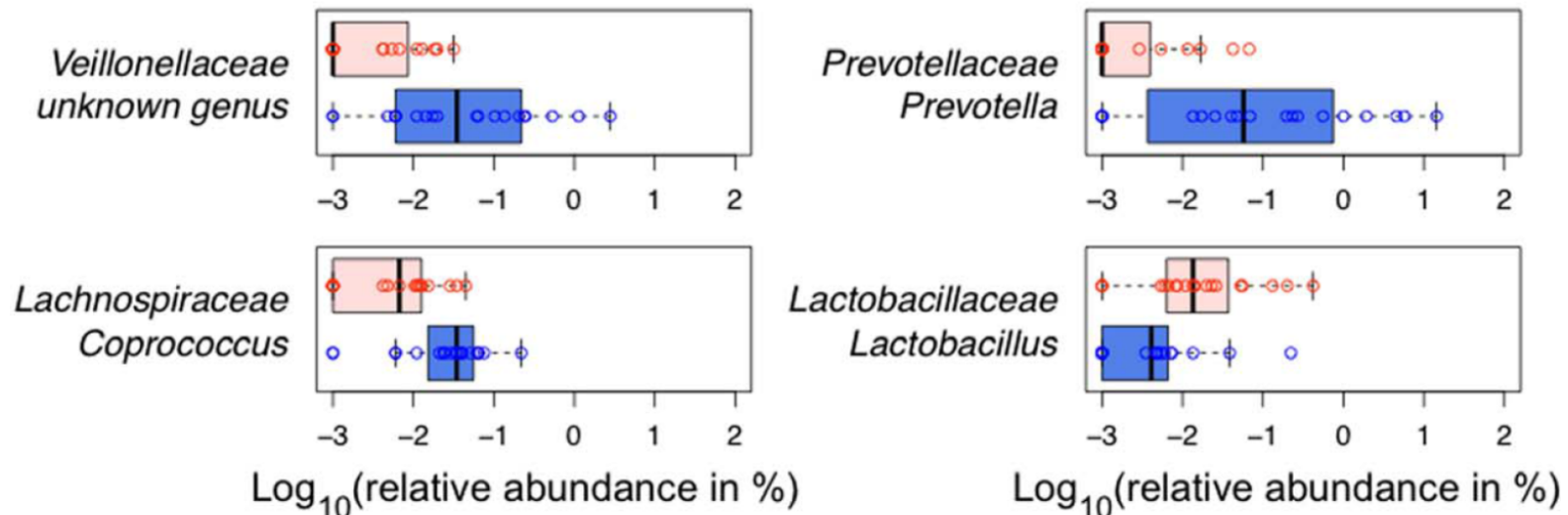
Dae-Wook Kang<sup>1,3</sup>, Jin Gyoon Park<sup>2,3</sup>, Zehra Esra Ilhan<sup>1</sup>, Garrick Wallstrom<sup>2,3</sup>, Joshua LaBaer<sup>2</sup>, James B. Adams<sup>4</sup>, Rosa Krajmalnik-Brown<sup>1,5\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Swette Center for Environmental Biotechnology, Biodesign Institute, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, United States of America, <sup>2</sup> Virginia G. Piper Center for Personalized Diagnostics, Biodesign Institute, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, United States of America, <sup>3</sup> Department of Biomedical Informatics, Arizona State University, Scottsdale, Arizona, United States of America, <sup>4</sup> School for Engineering of Matter, Transport and Energy, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, United States of America, <sup>5</sup> School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, United States of America

# Results (Kang 2013)

Kang 2013

- Limited association between 6-GSI score and severity of ASD
- Difference in microbiome composition (richness, diversity)
- Genus level: significant difference for 4 OTUs, specifically for *Prevotella*, confirmed with qPCR, also for subgenus



- Autism
- Neurotypical

# Results (FBK 2014)

- a. Complete replication, from reads to biomarker extraction, based on the FDA/SEQC Data Analysis Plan: classifier Support Vector Machine\*

Taxonomic level (NCBI, 340 genera-712 species), which after filtering 105 genus, 195 species

## **RISULTATI:**

**70 species: Acc 72% (CI 0.69-0.76), OR: 7.11, with 3 sp in *Prevotellae***

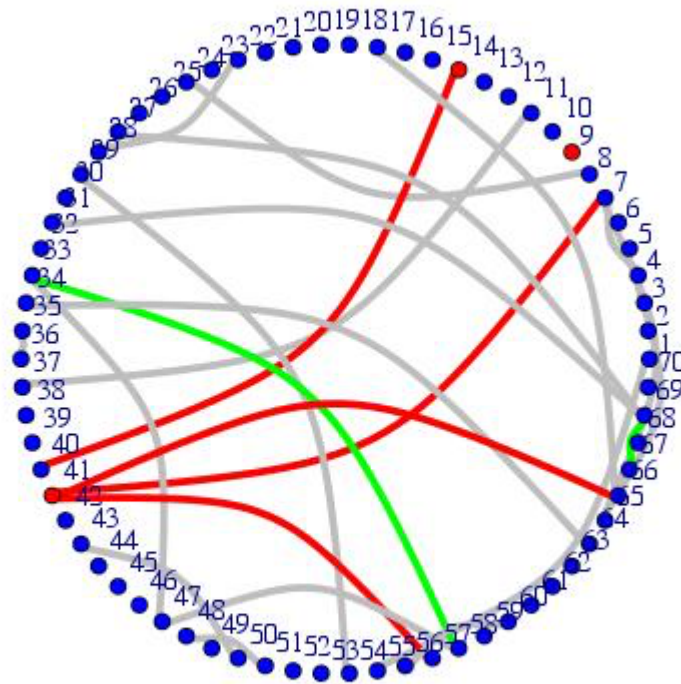
- b. Top 70 OTUs then used to develop co-abundance networks
- **For all OTU pairs : Pearson correlation on normalized number of reads (method: TMM-edgeR)**
  - **Consider separately neurotypical development and ASD cases**

**GOAL: identify network difference**

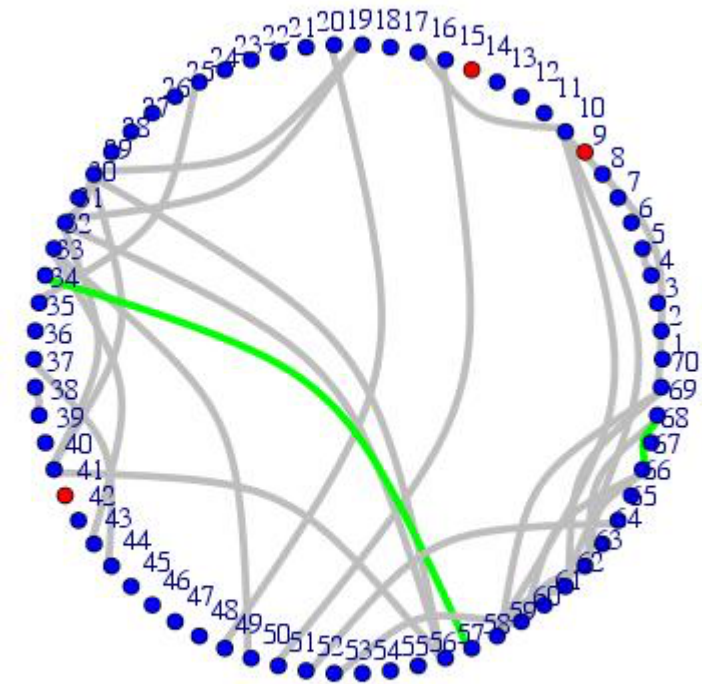
\* (SVM-L2R/L2loss dual),



# Network dysbiosis



Neurotypical



ASD

- OTU ● *Prevotellae*
- Link: *Prevotellae* – altra OTU
- conserved
- non conserved

# Microbiota & Behaviour

## Microbiota Modulate Behavioral and Physiological Abnormalities Associated with Neurodevelopmental Disorders



Cell

Elaine Y. Hsiao,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Sara W. McBride,<sup>1</sup> Sophia Hsien,<sup>1</sup> Gil Sharon,<sup>1</sup> Embriette R. Hyde,<sup>3</sup> Tyler McCue,<sup>3</sup> Julian A. Codelli,<sup>2</sup> Janet Chow,<sup>1</sup> Sarah E. Reisman,<sup>2</sup> Joseph F. Petrosino,<sup>3</sup> Paul H. Patterson,<sup>1,4,\*</sup> and Sarkis K. Mazmanian<sup>1,4,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

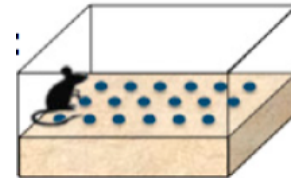
<sup>2</sup>Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

<sup>3</sup>Alkek Center for Metagenomics and Microbiome Research, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX 77030, USA

<sup>4</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work

\*Correspondence: [ehsiao@caltech.edu](mailto:ehsiao@caltech.edu) (E.Y.H.), [php@caltech.edu](mailto:php@caltech.edu) (P.H.P.), [sarkis@caltech.edu](mailto:sarkis@caltech.edu) (S.K.M.)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2013.11.024>



Hsiao *et al.*, 19 Dec, 2013

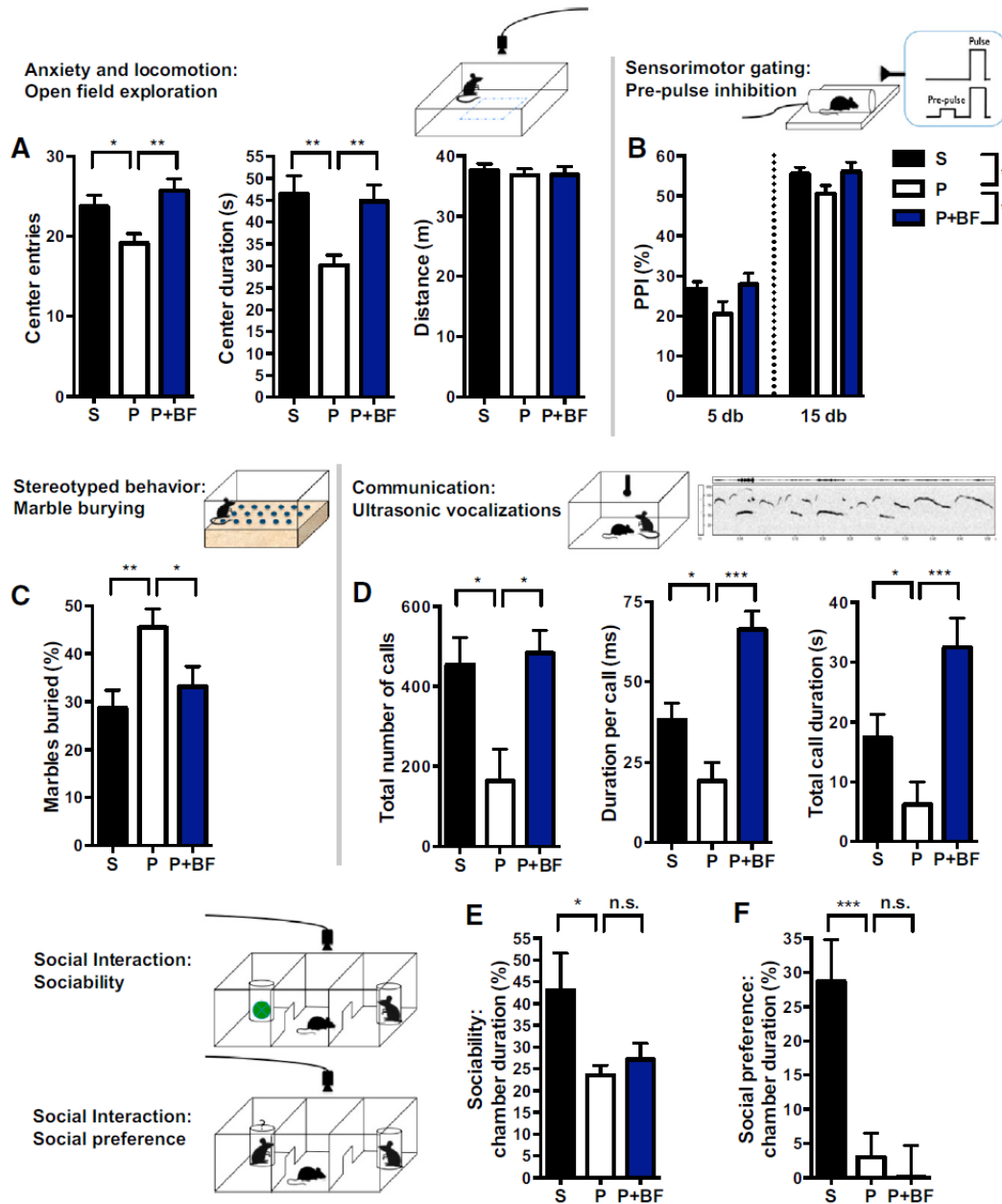
**Mice: 30 sequenced on 16S rRNA - Roche 454-Titanium**

**10 subjects with maternal immune activation (MIA) exhibit atypical behaviours ASD-like (e.g. stereotypic, anxiety, reduced communication and socialization ... ) + GSI**

1. Microbiota is diverse from 10 mice fed with placebo
2. *Bacteroides fragilis* corrects the behavioural trait (10 MIA treated)

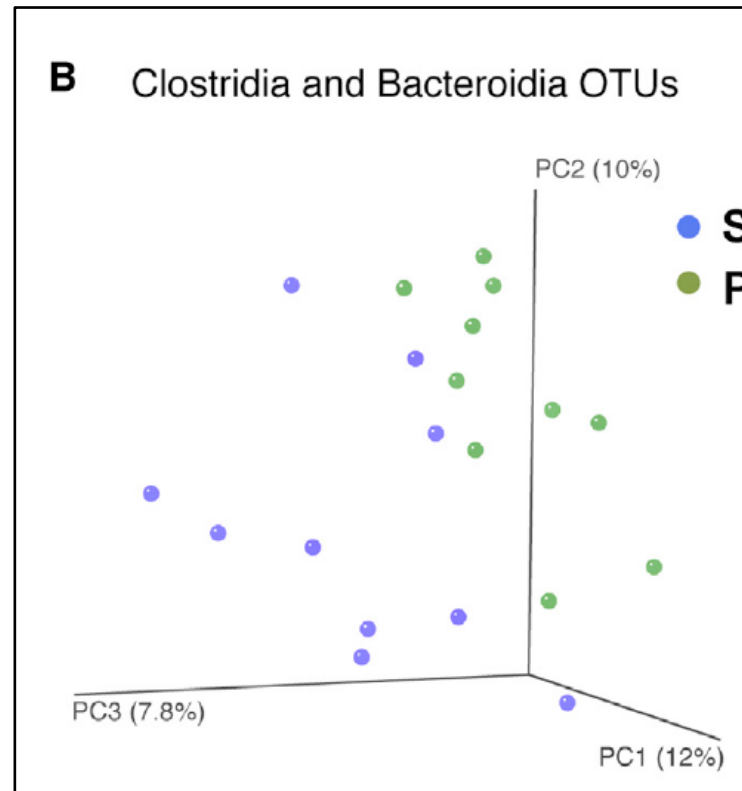
## B. fragilis

1. Improves gut barrier integrity
2. Corrects species level abnormalities
3. Ameliorates autism-related behavioral abnormalities in MIA offspring



# Results (Hsiao et al 2013)

- Limited diversity differences between MIA or control adults
- Significant phylogenetic distance between microbial communities: OUT structure change is the main drivers of difference
- 1474 OTUs identified, of which 67 discriminants (19+ controls, 48 MIA+), with alteration in OTU mixtures for Bacteroidia and Clostridia classes



# Results (FBK)

- Analysis on 1474 OTUs (Hsiao 2013):  
after filtering: 351 OTUs
- Data Analysis plan from FDA/SEQC,  
with SVM-L2R/L2loss dual
- RESULTS:**  
**10 OTUs: Acc 93% (CI 0.89-0.97),**  
OR > 100

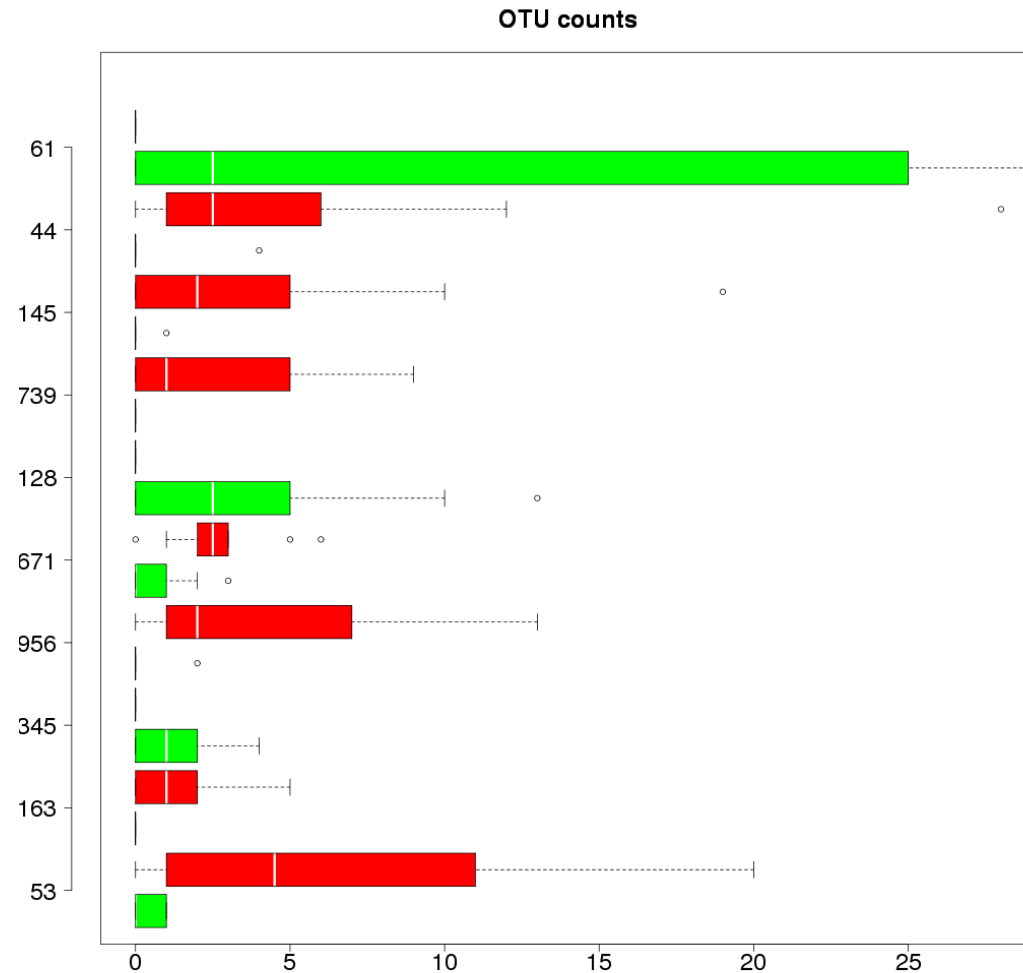
**NB: our top 10 markers are  
discriminants in Hsiao 2013**

**OTU classes:**

***Erysipelotrichi*: 61**

***Bacteroidia*: 44, 739, 671**

***Clostridia*: 145, 128, 956, 345, 53**



# IBD OPBG clinical dataset\*

## TRACKING GUT MICROBIOTA DYSBIOSIS AND HOST RESPONSE TO PREVENT IBD AND IBS THROUGHOUT LIFE

### Objectives of the bioinformatics analysis:

1. Identification of **omics markers** as IBD/IBS predictors
2. Development of a dysbiosis scale useful to stratify the risk for IBS/IBD.

### Outcomes (for clinical tests):

1. New laboratory tests for IBD and IBS (biomarkers)
2. Evaluation of the different staging of the dysbiosis status (risk factor)
3. Support to intervention protocols

#### \*CREDITS:

- OPBG (**Lorenza Putignani**)  
- Dip. Univ. Pediatria e  
Neuropsichiatria Infantile,  
Sapienza Università di Roma  
(**S. Cucchiara**)

#### DATASET 1:

- Fecal IBD/healthy
- Paired biopsies IBD/ctrl



#### Pyrosequencing:

barcoded pyrosequencing **V1-V3** regions of the 16S rRNA gene (amplicon size 520 bp) on GS Junior platform (**Roche 454**)

#### DATASET 2:

- Biopsies healthy

2014

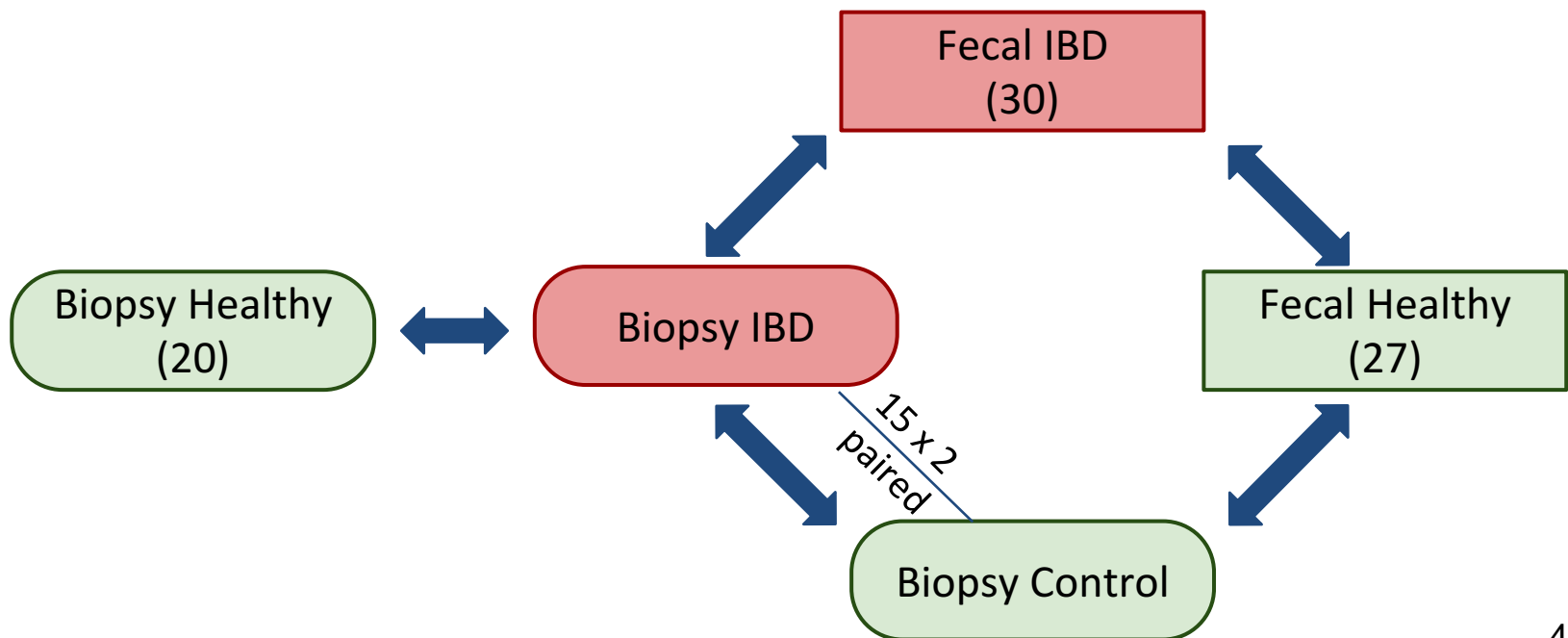
Jul

Nov



# IBD OPBG clinical dataset

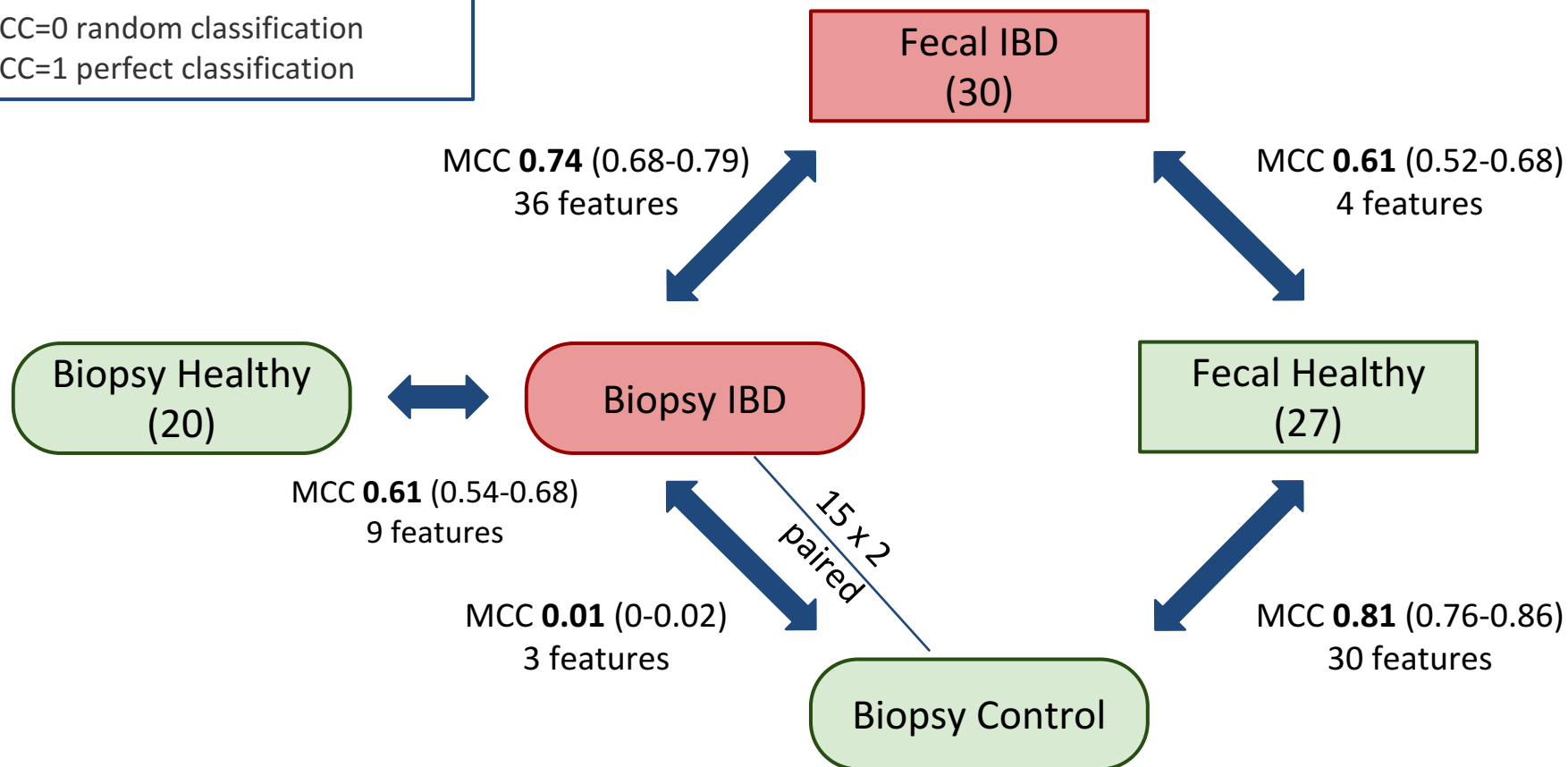
- Roche 454 GS Junior gut microbiome 16S rRNA-Seq
- **30 IBD** vs **27 healthy** children (fecal samples)
- **15 paired** (inflamed/control) **biopsies** from colon
- **20** colon **biopsies** from **healthy** individuals
- Age: 4 -19 years old



# IBD Classification models

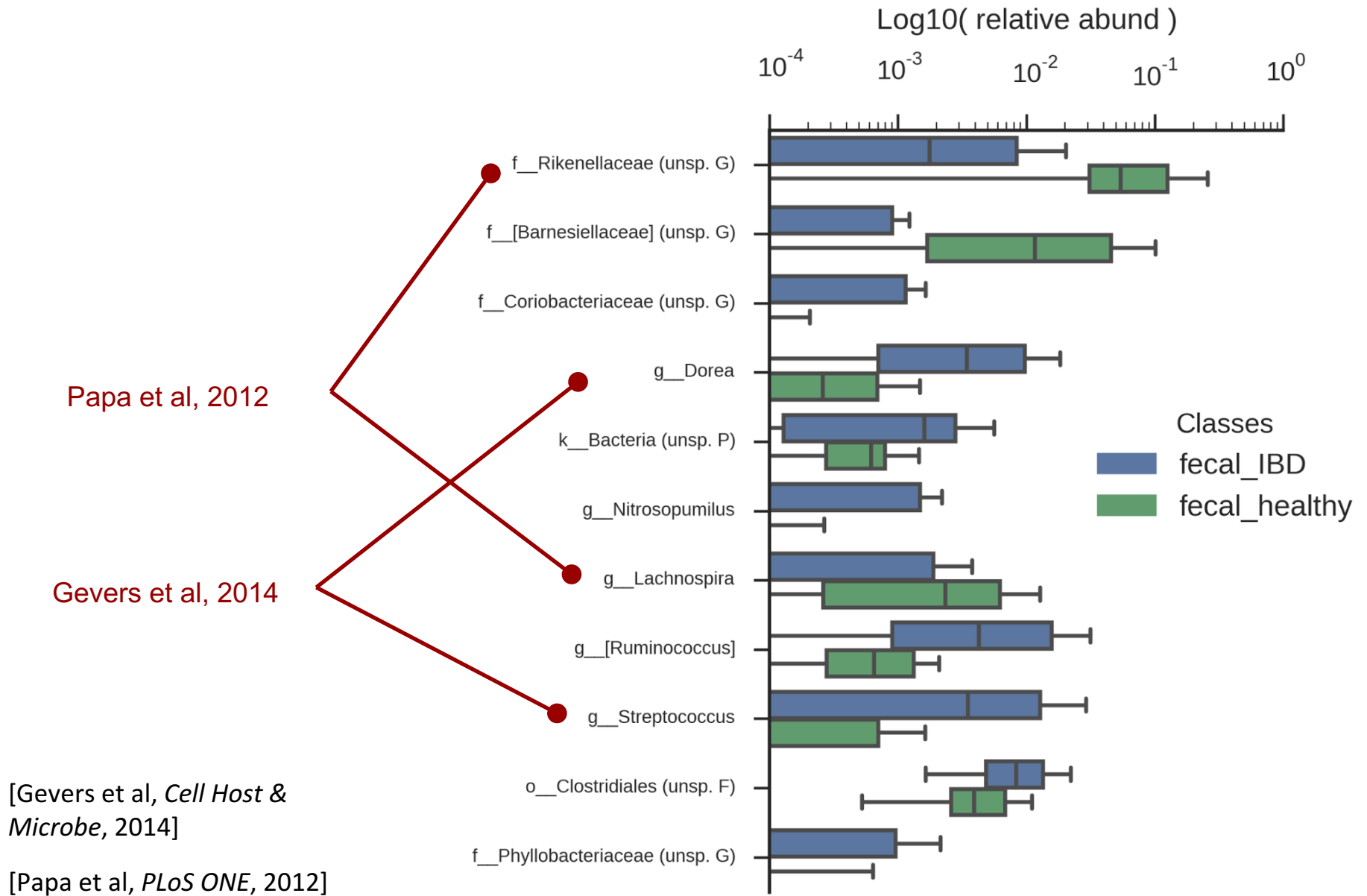
Matthews correlation coefficient  
(**MCC**): Indicator of predictive performance

MCC=0 random classification  
MCC=1 perfect classification



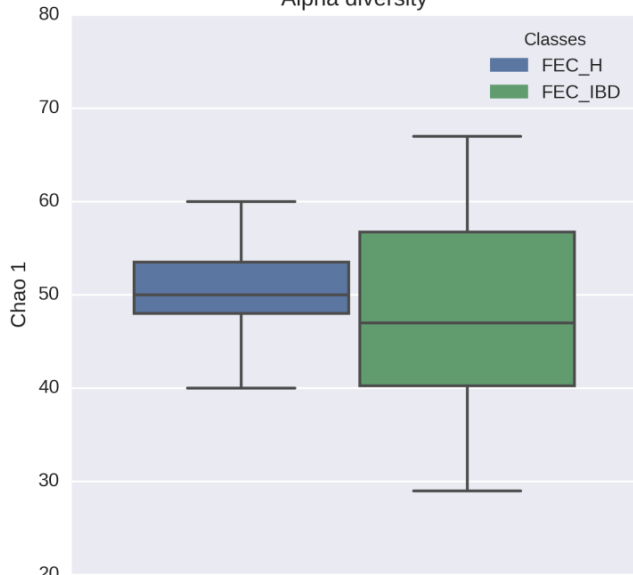


# Top discriminant features



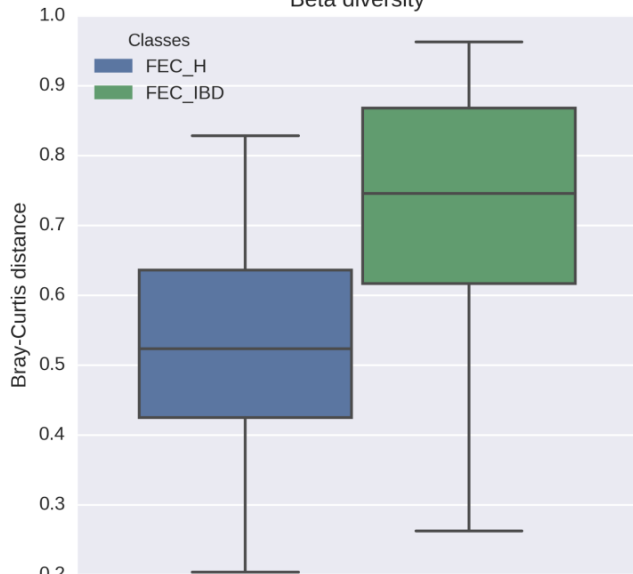
# Microbiome characterization

Alpha diversity



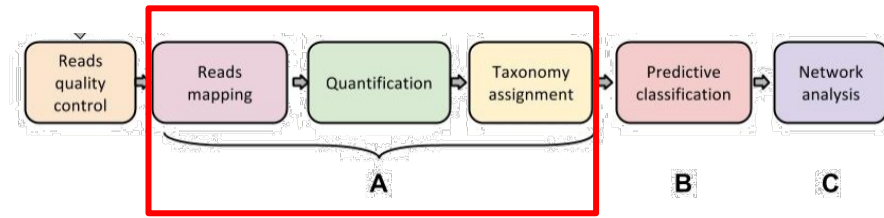
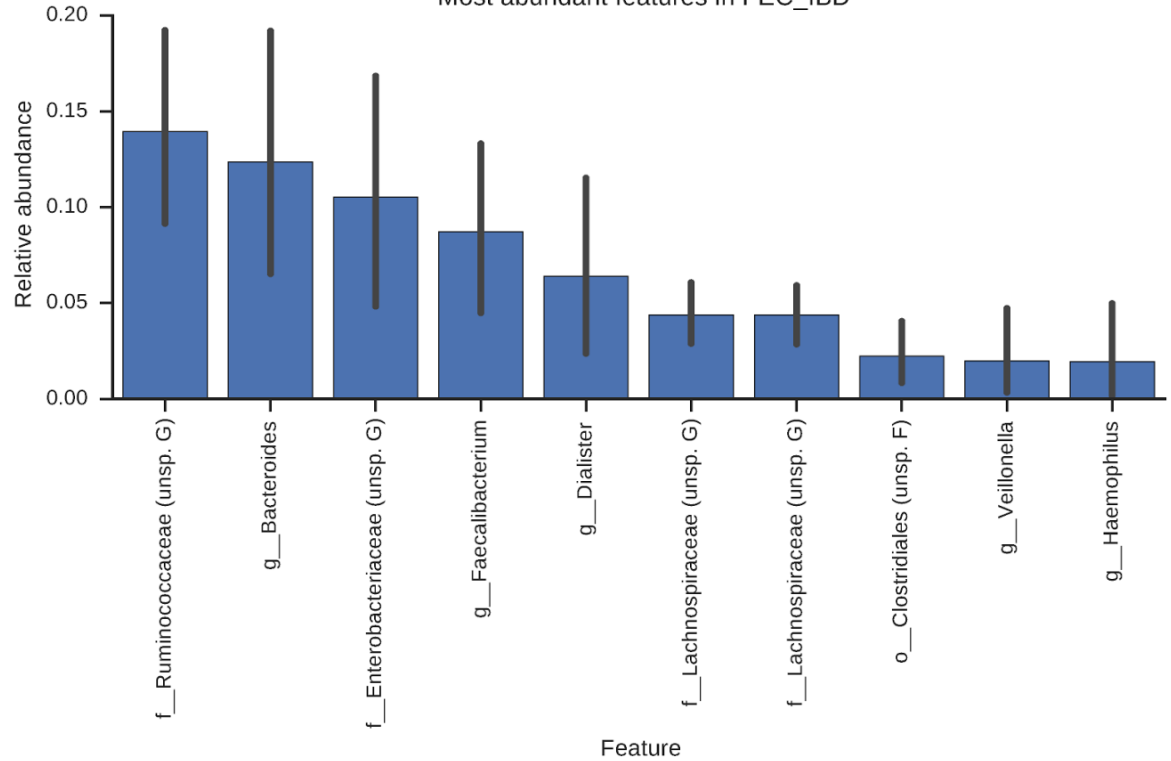
P-value = 0.3534

Beta diversity

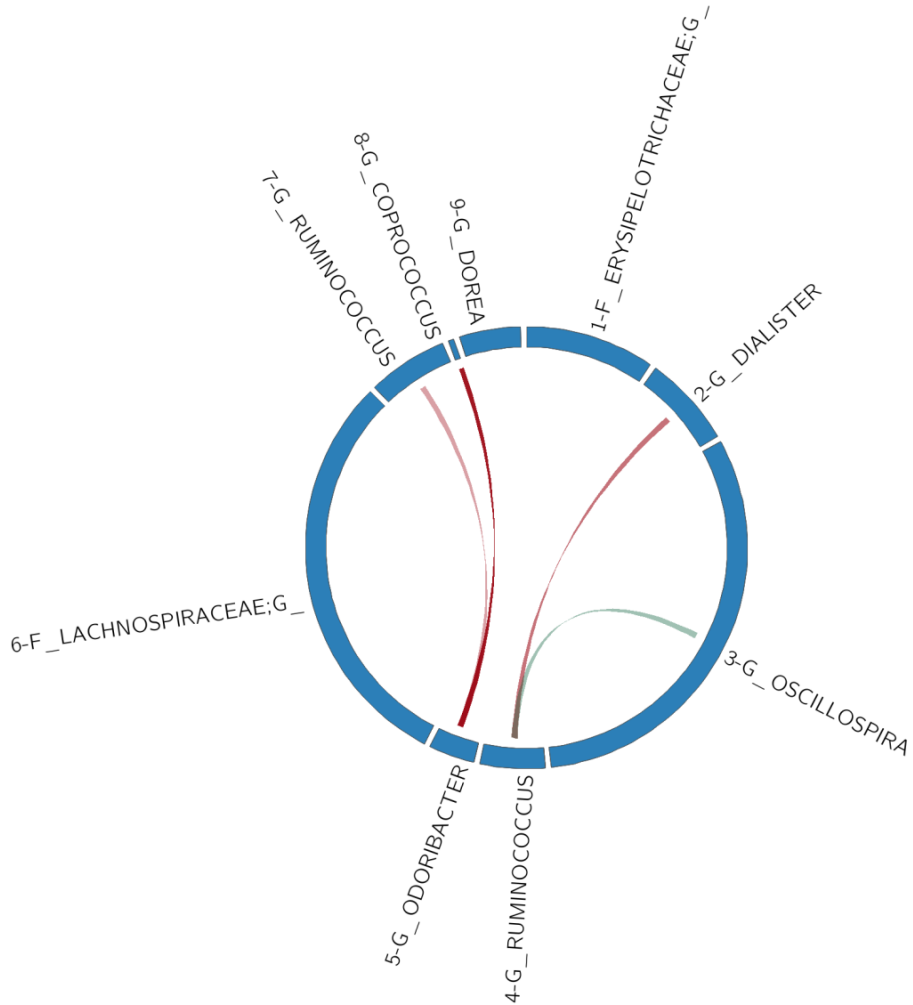


P-value = 1.053e-50

Most abundant features in FEC\_IBD



# Networks: IBD vs. healthy



- Links conserved in healthy only
- Links conserved in IBD only

Top discriminant features between biopsies IBD vs. healthy



Pearson Correlation

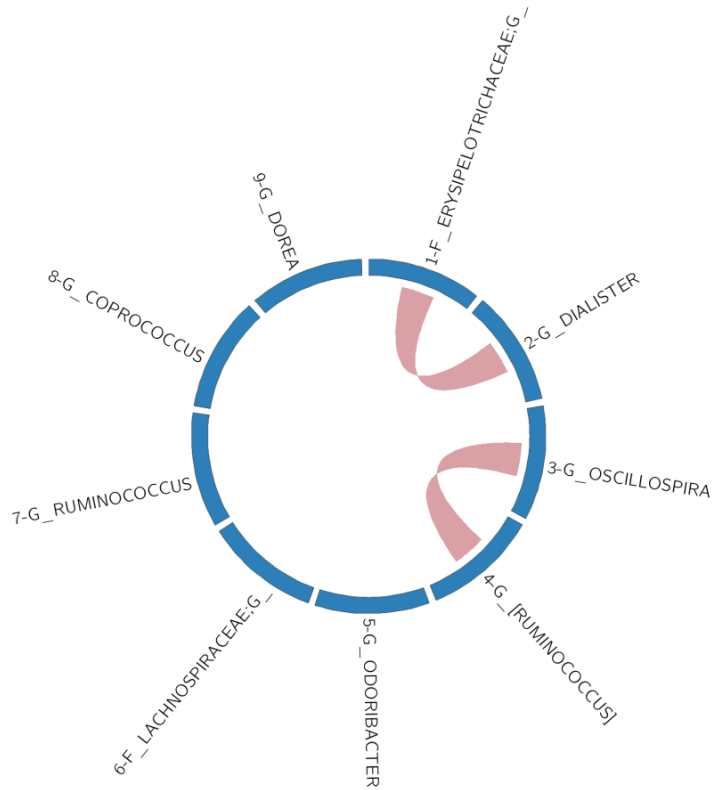


Co-occurrence networks inference

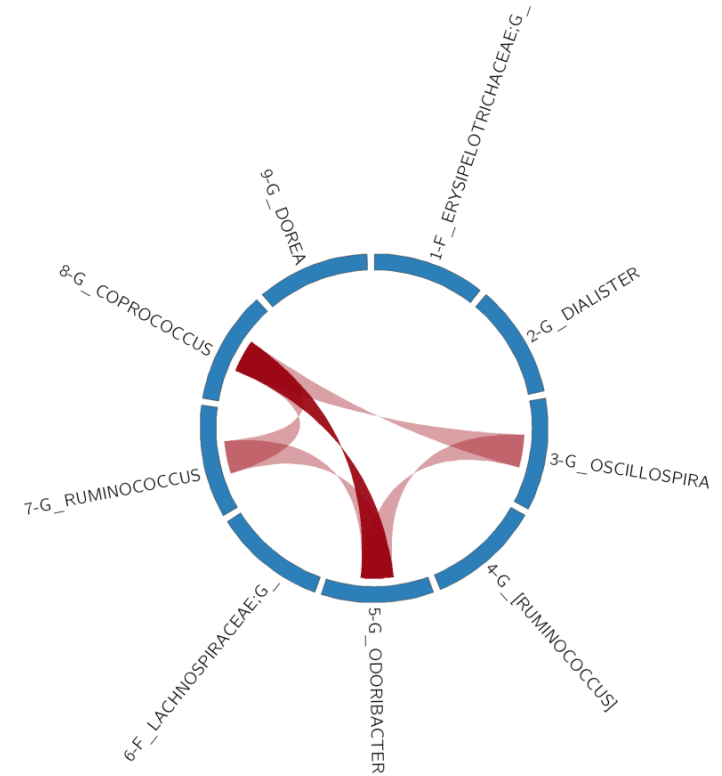
Edge's color intensity  $\propto$  absolute value of Pearson correlation coefficient (PCC)

Shown links with PCC  $> 0.65$

# Calprotectin level is associated to increasing dysbiosis in Biopsy Networks



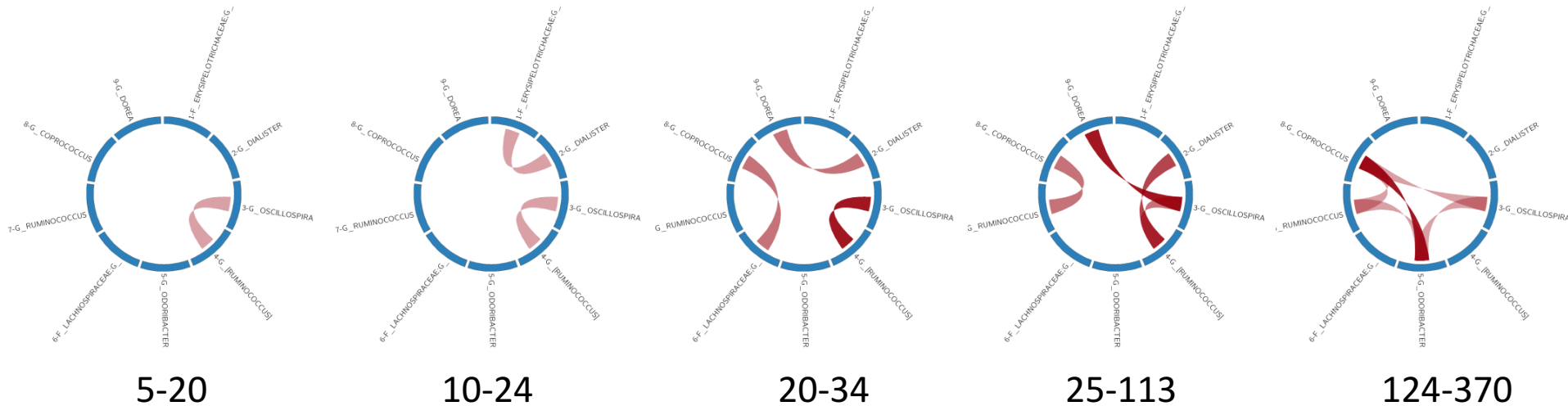
10-24 [mg/kg]



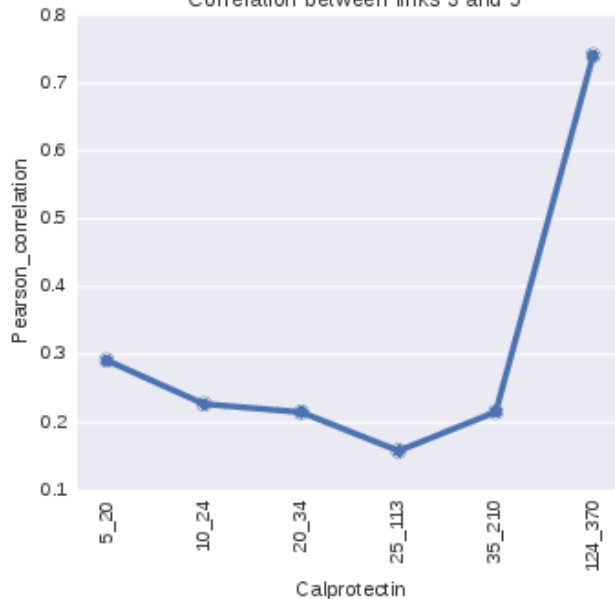
124-370  
[mg/kg]

Healthy : Calprotectin < 50 mg/kg

# Calprotectin level is associated to increasing dysbiosis in Biopsy Networks



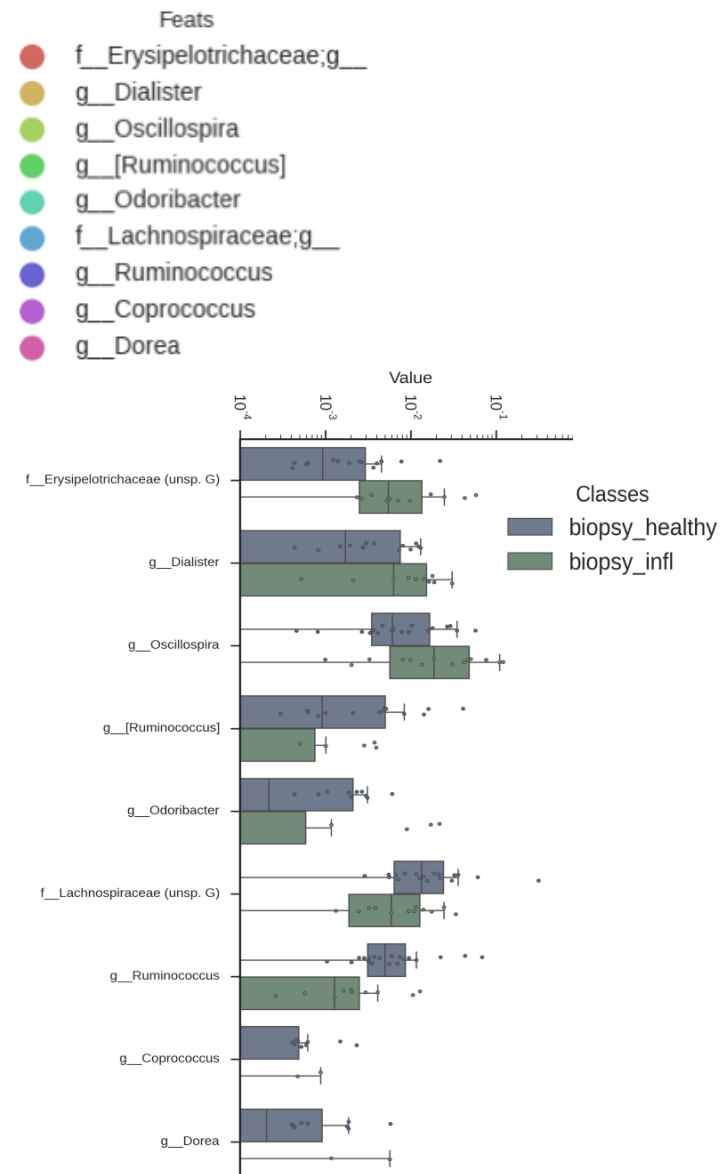
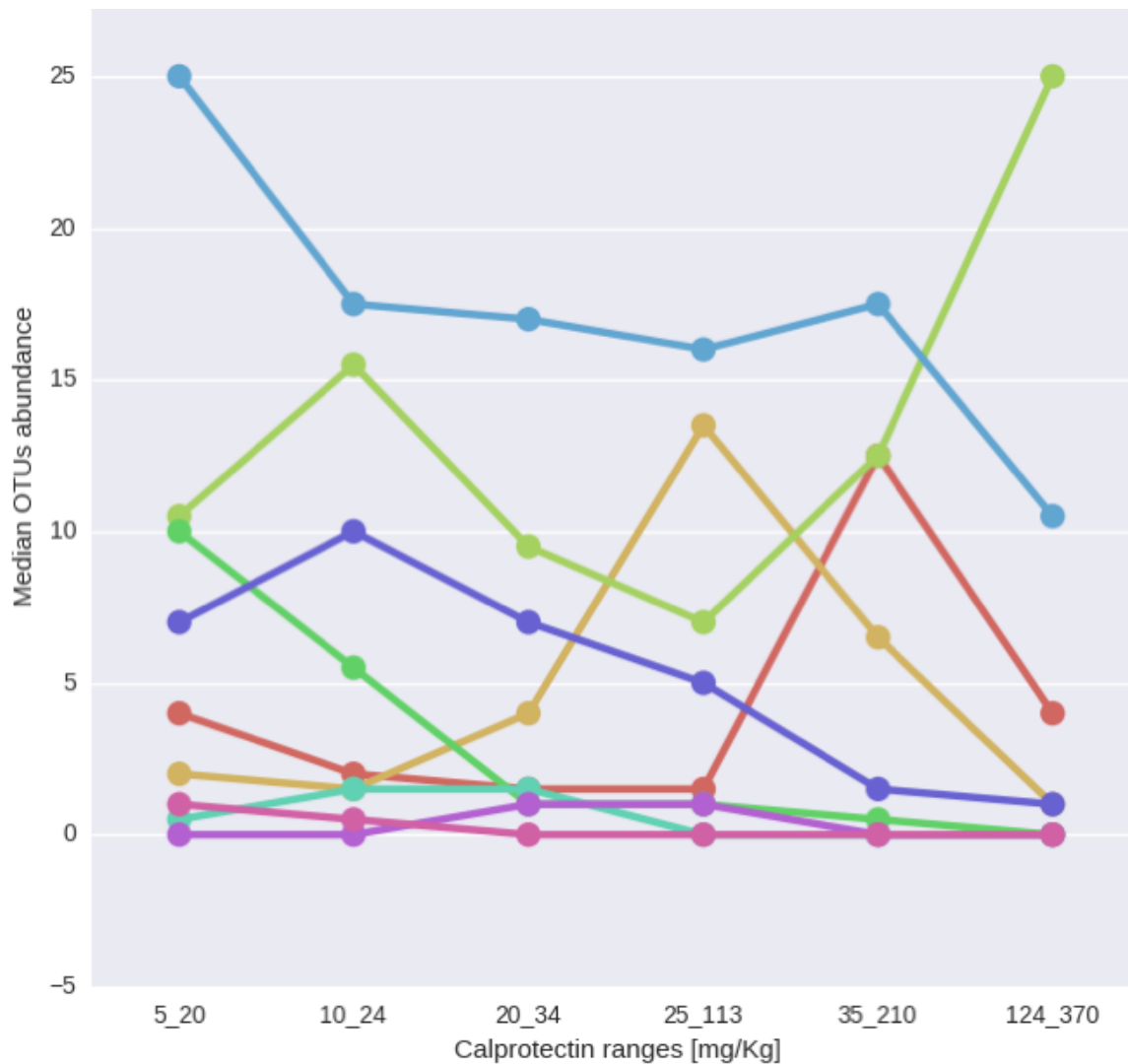
Correlation between links 3 and 5



1. Firmicutes;c\_Erysipelotrichi;o\_Erysipelotrichales;f\_Erysipelotrichaceae
2. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Veillonellaceae;g\_Dialister
3. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Ruminococcaceae;g\_Oscillospira
4. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Lachnospiraceae;g\_Ruminococcus
5. Bacteroidetes;c\_Bacteroidia;o\_Bacteroidales;f\_Odoribacteraceae;g\_Odoribacter
6. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Lachnospiraceae;g\_
7. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Ruminococcaceae;g\_Ruminococcus
8. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Lachnospiraceae;g\_Coproccoccus
9. Firmicutes;c\_Clostridia;o\_Clostridiales;f\_Lachnospiraceae;g\_Dorea

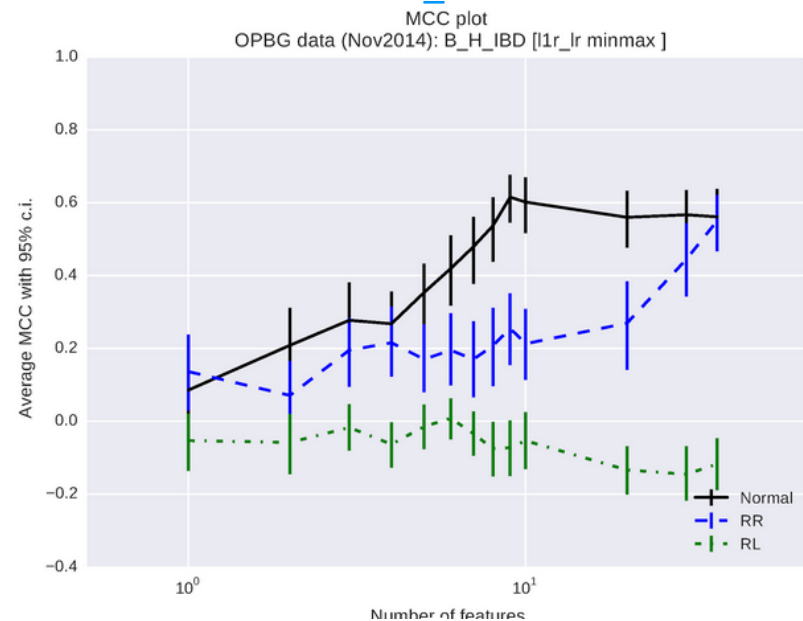
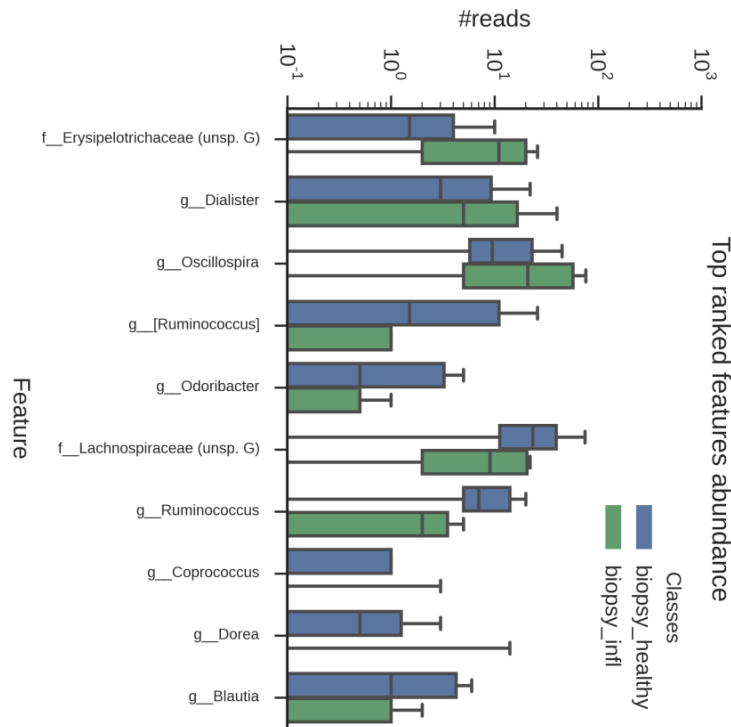
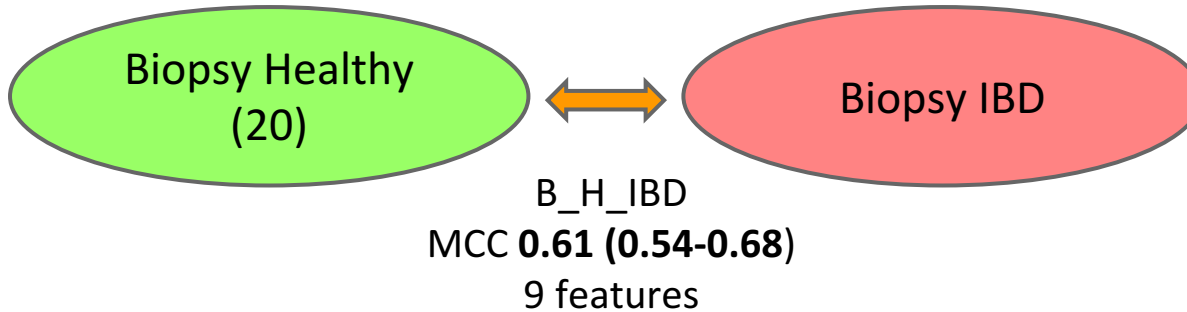
# Markers patterns vs Calprotectin

Features abundance vs Calprotectin\_range



# Biopsy IBD Networks

Co-occurrence nets for Pearson Correlation, for stronger links only (PCC > 0.5), taxonomic assignment 6 levels deep: 20% presence filter > 3510 OTUs table led to 168 OTUs,



# Biopsy networks trajectories

Calprotectin [5-20 mg/kg] vs other ranges

**HIM distance:**

a quantitative method for evaluating differences between networks, here for metagenomics co-occurrence.

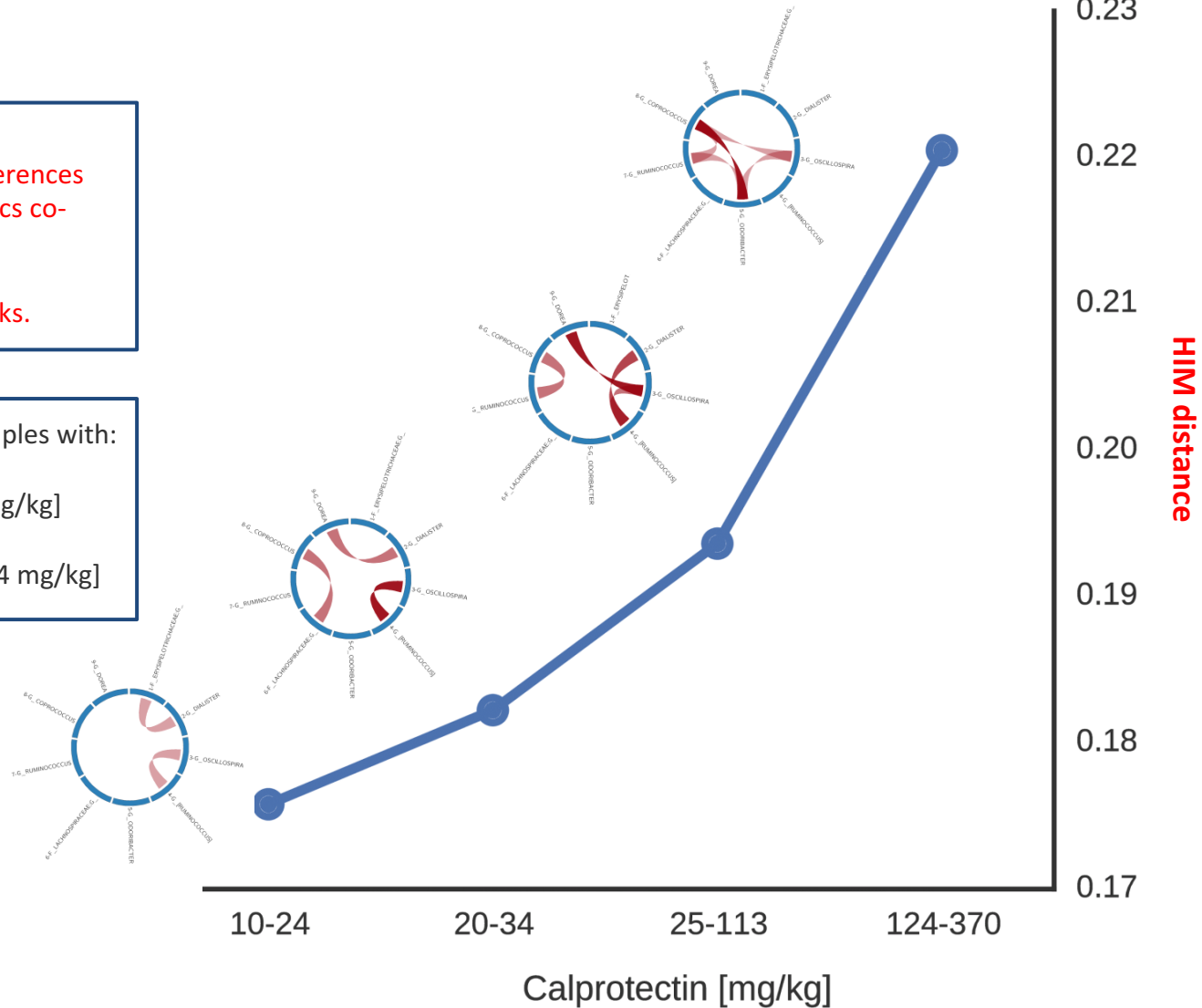
Low distance means more similar networks.

HIM distances between networks on samples with:

**lowest** levels of calprotectin [5-20 mg/kg]

vs.

**increasing** levels of calprotectin [10 -374 mg/kg]







# Summary 1

## Characterization of the bioinformatics/ML/network framework (predictive classifiers+ networks) on

- Public data (Hsiao 2013, Kang 2013, Gevers 2014)
- **High quality data/phenotype from OPBG** (IBD and dysbiosis)



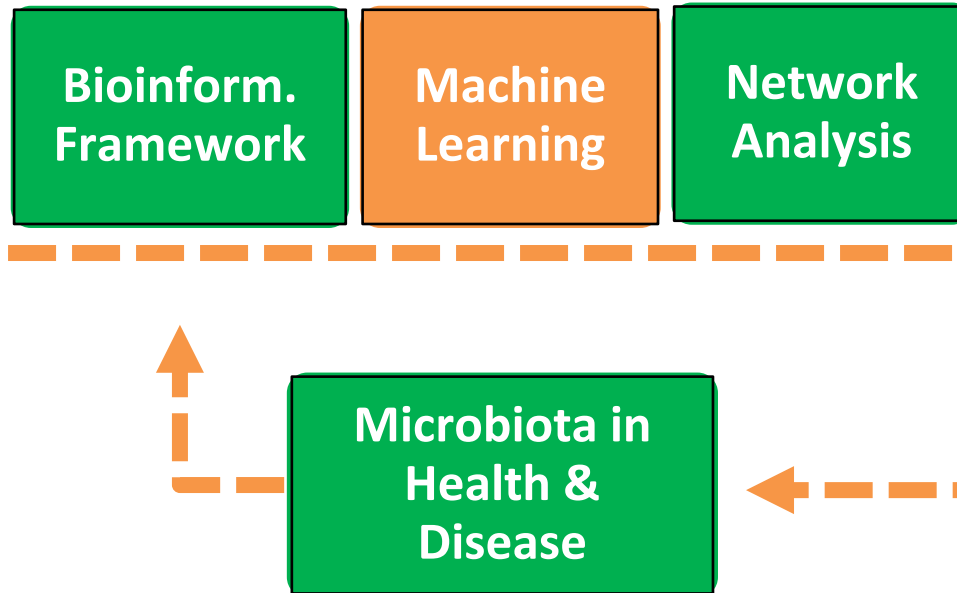
### IN PROGRESS

- A. Integration of complementary omics data:** metagenomics, metaproteomics, metabolomics
- B. On metaproteomics and metagenomics data**  
A novel gut::brain study Autism Spectrum Disorders  
(UniTN-ODFLab, OPBG, FBK)

### IN PROGRESS: METHODS

- C. Dysbiosis trajectory:** microbiome  
**longitudinal dynamics by network evolution**
- D. Functional Metagenomics Features** (with N. Segata, UniTN-CiBio)

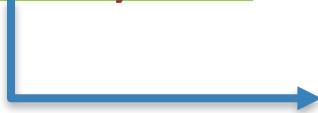
## HOW-TO ... NOW?



# ML Framework for Metagenomics

**MetAML**

(July 2016)



 **PLOS** | COMPUTATIONAL  
BIOLOGY

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Machine Learning Meta-analysis of Large Metagenomic Datasets: Tools and Biological Insights

Edoardo Pasoli<sup>1</sup>, Duy Tin Truong<sup>1</sup>, Faizan Malik<sup>2</sup>, Levi Waldron<sup>2</sup>, Nicola Segata<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Centre for Integrative Biology, University of Trento, Trento, Italy, <sup>2</sup> Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy, City University of New York, New York, New York, United States of America

## A framework for validating computational tools for ML tasks in metagenomics

- 8 large-scale studies («shotgun» aka whole-genome, 2424 samples):  
Liver Cirrhosis, Colorectal Cancer, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Obesity, Type2 Diabetes, HMP Controls (~1K, no disease)
- **Quantitative species/subspecies-level taxonomic profiling** with MetaPhlAn2  
Species (~ 500 features) vs strain (~100 000 features)  
from 30-70 ML reads
- **Support the systematic assessment of Models transferred between studies,**  
possibly on full archives on clinical outcomes.

# MetAML RESULTS

## A Data Analysis Plan oriented to meta-analysis (Leave-One-Dataset-Out)

- SVM and Random Forests classifiers
- Lasso, Elastic net, regularized multiple log regr, ANN, Bayes. Logistic Regression

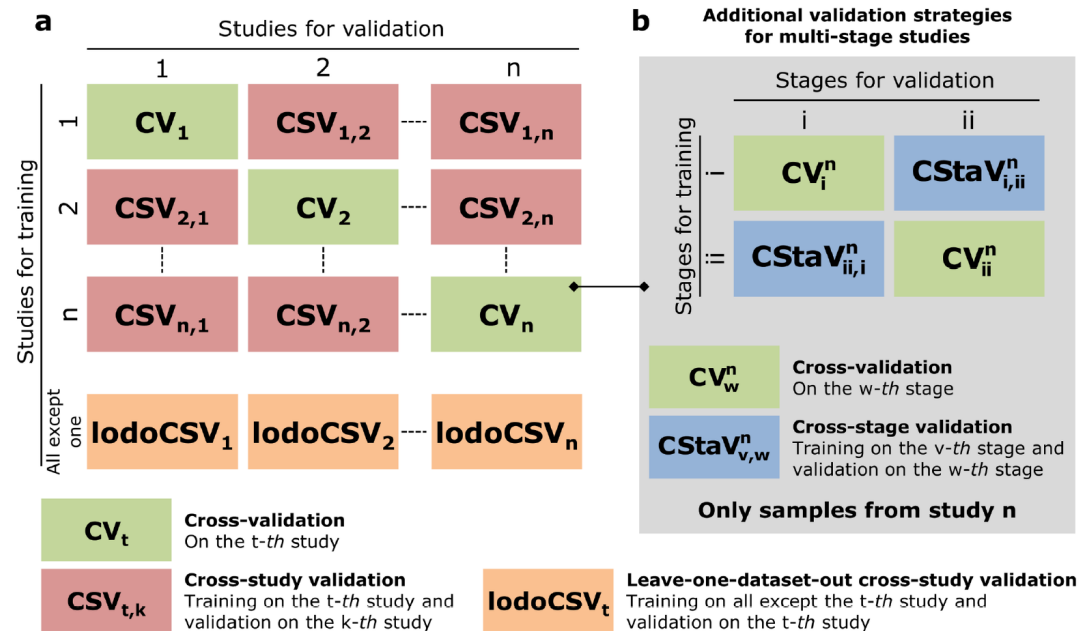


Fig 1. Validation strategies implemented in the developed framework. (a) Main strategies include cross-validation on single studies and cross-validation across multiple studies. (b) Additional strategies when multiple stages are available from the same study.

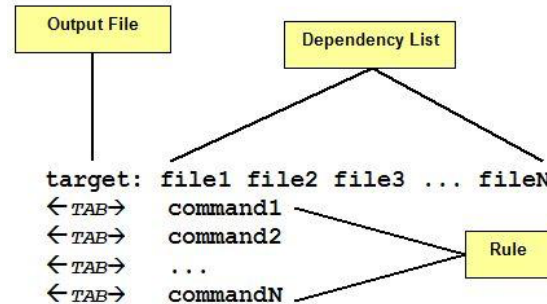
doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1004977.g001

1. **Good disease prediction** from metagenomic data in cv studies
2. RF advantage at species level
3. Best: **strain-level** markers and feature selection (with linear SVM > RF)
4. Extension to non-disease classification (gender, body site)
5. Cross-stage (labs ...) generalization is OK
6. **Generalization improved** by including healthy samples from other cohorts
7. **Good Cross-disease prediction** ("general non-healthy status" = dysbiosis)

# For reproducibility and upscaling

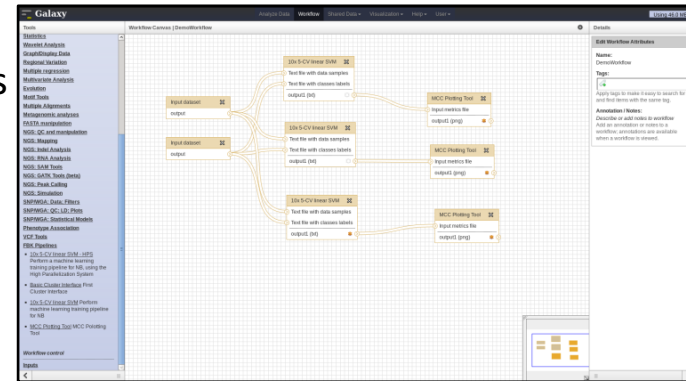
## Pipelines as Makefiles

- Better automation
- Built-in control of parallelization
- Improved reproducibility



## Galaxy Workflow Modeler

- Automatic recording of analysis steps & parameters
- Allows non-computational investigators to run complex pipelines



## Pushing pipelines on the Cloud

- Completely scalable infrastructure
- Use of computing resources as a service
- Pay-as-you-go



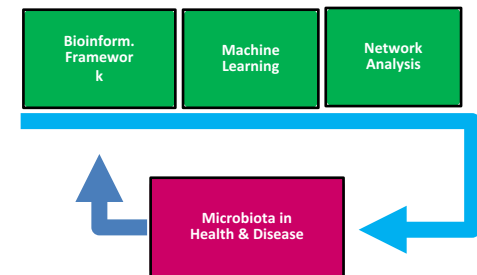
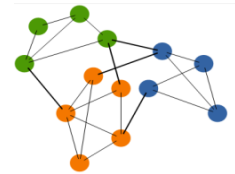
## Hunting patterns in metagenomes with ML

1. Questions start from high throughput metagenomics (aim to whole-genome, 100K features)
  - ML framework: now available for a quick start
2. Bioinformatics pipelines
  - The FDA/SEQC protocols for predictive markers
  - Differential Network Analysis

Example 1: **Markers and Diet** (gut microbiome)

Example 2: **Gut:brain axis** (autism)

Example 3: **Pediatric Dysbiosis**



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**Giuseppe Jurman**, Marco Mina, Roberto Visintainer, Michele Filosi, **Marco Chierici**, Calogero Zarbo, **Alessandro Zandonà**  
 Silvano Paoli, Roberto Flor



## Collaborations

Weida Tong (FDA), Leming Shi (Fudan Univ & FDA), D. Cavalieri, C. De Filippo, K. Tuohy (FEM), A. Barla (UniGE), B. Di Camillo, G. Toffolo (UniPD), A. Quattrone, O. Jousson, N. Segata (CiBIO), GP Tonini (CdS), Louise & Mike Showe (Wistar Inst.), Victor Moreno (ICO Barcelona), **A. Tozzi, L. Putignani, A. Alisi, F. Del Chierico, P. Vernocchi, D. Fruci (OPBG), S. Cucchiara, S. Isoldi** (Uni Sapienza), P. Venuti (UniTN), P. Zanini - Unifarm