

Multi-Omic

Christian Maltecca

Multiomics

- **Definition:**

Multiomics is an integrative approach that combines data from multiple "omics" fields (genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, etc.) to provide a comprehensive understanding of biological systems.

- **Goal:**

- To gain understanding of molecular mechanisms and interactions within a cell or organism.
- In animal breeding context also an attempt to improve prediction accuracy or better account for additional variation

- 1.Genomics:** Study of an organism's complete set of DNA (genome).
- 2.Transcriptomics:** Study of RNA transcripts produced by the genome.
- 3.Proteomics:** Study of the full set of proteins encoded by the genome.
- 4.Metabolomics:** Study of the chemical processes involving metabolites.
- 5.Epigenomics:** Study of chemical modifications on DNA and histone proteins affecting gene expression without altering the DNA sequence.
- 6.Lipidomics:** Study of cellular lipids and their role in metabolism and cell signaling.
- 7.Metagenomics:** Is the study of genetic material from entire microbial communities directly from environmental samples, revealing their diversity and functions.

- Can be seen as either additional source of information in modeling phenotypic variation
- Or can be seen as intermediate phenotypes closing the gap between genome and phenome
- Or in some cases can be seen as a direct target of selection

- Most of them have some common data-structure because they arise from NGS

Illumina Sequencing: Uses sequencing by synthesis with reversible terminator bases, offering high accuracy and throughput for a wide range of applications.

Ion Torrent Sequencing: Detects DNA sequence by measuring changes in pH as nucleotides are incorporated, suitable for targeted sequencing and smaller genomes.

PacBio (Pacific Biosciences) Single Molecule Real-Time (SMRT) Sequencing: Utilizes real-time observation of DNA polymerase activity, enabling long-read sequencing with high consensus accuracy.

Oxford Nanopore Sequencing: Reads DNA or RNA molecules as they pass through a nanopore, providing long reads and real-time data for real-time analysis and flexibility in read length.

SOLiD (Sequencing by Oligonucleotide Ligation and Detection) Sequencing: Uses ligation-based sequencing, known for high accuracy in sequencing by repeated rounds of ligation and imaging.

BGI/MGI Sequencing: Employs DNA nanoballs and combinatorial probe-anchor synthesis, providing high throughput and cost-effectiveness for a variety of sequencing applications.

- After some (lengthy and sometime perilous bioinformatics) are normally represent as a table of counts per feature (akin to what we have seen for the SNP)
- The advantage of this structure is that it is straightforward to extend the machinery we have developed for BLUP and GBLUP to other technologies, since we can always obtain a matrix product $\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T$ based on a matrix \mathbf{W} of n individuals by m features

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{Z}^\top \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{Z}^\top \mathbf{Z} + \text{Etc.}^{-1} \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\beta} \\ \mathbf{a} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{Z}^\top \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix}$$

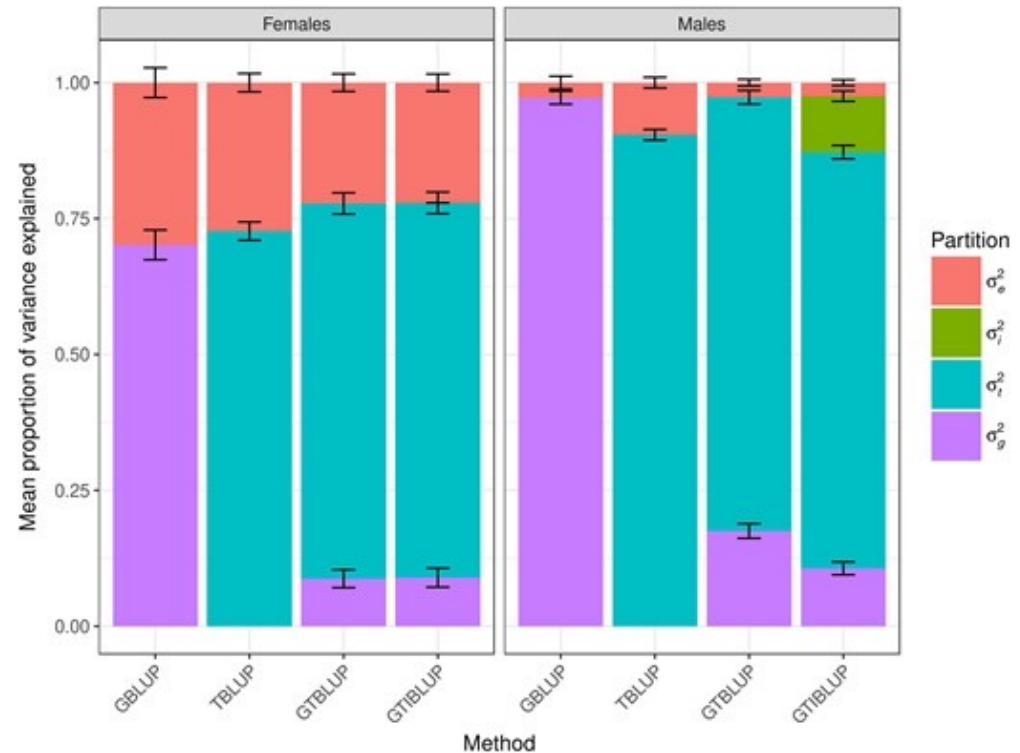
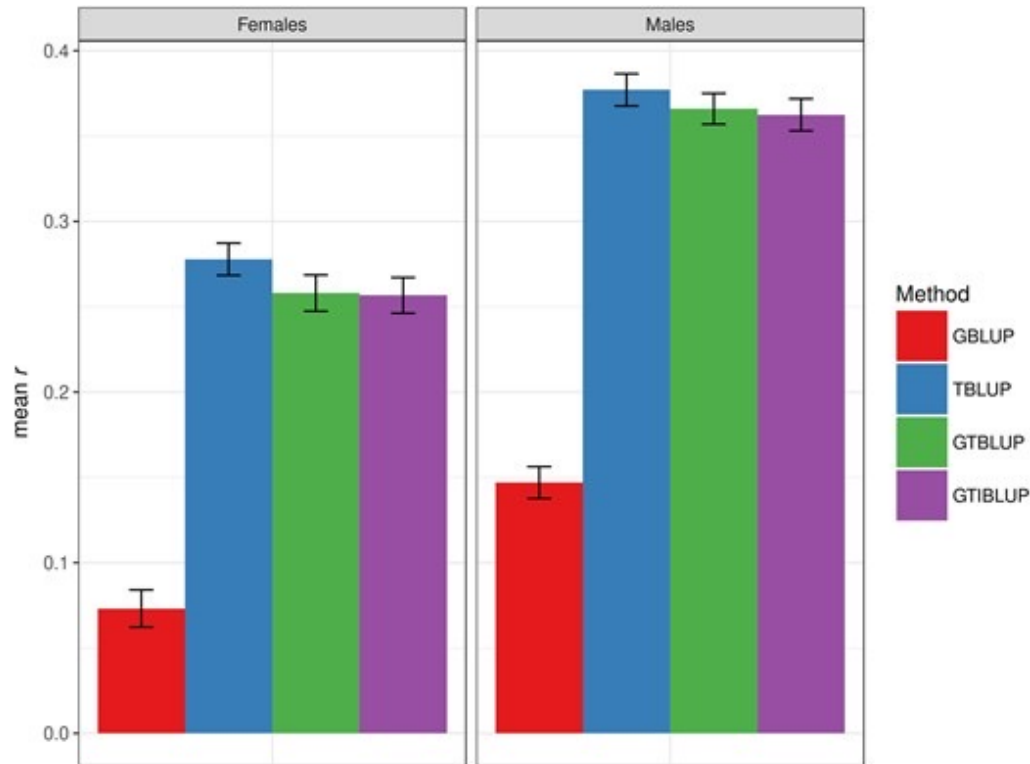
Leveraging Multiple Layers of Data To Predict *Drosophila* Complex Traits

Fabio Morgante , Wen Huang, Peter Sørensen, Christian Maltecca, Trudy F C Mackay

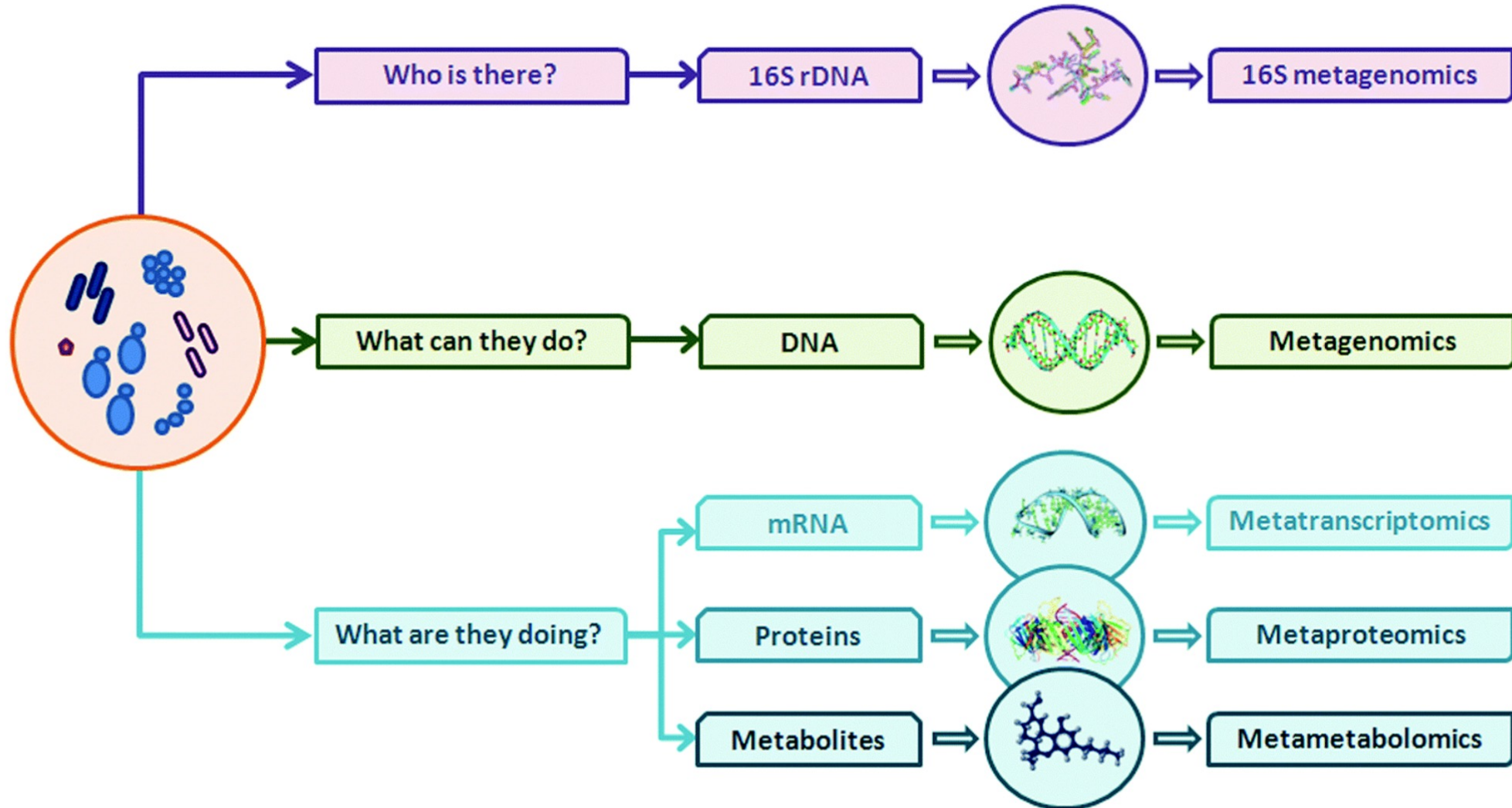
[Author Notes](#)

G3 Genes|Genomes|Genetics, Volume 10, Issue 12, 1 December 2020, Pages 4599–4613,
<https://doi.org/10.1534/g3.120.401847>

Published: 01 December 2020 **Article history** 



- Microbiome as a case example







Livestock Science
Volume 269, March 2023, 105171



Invited Review

Invited review: Novel methods and perspectives for modulating the rumen microbiome through selective breeding as a means to improve complex traits: Implications for methane emissions in cattle

O. González-Recio^a  , M. Martínez-Álvarez^b, Francesco Tiezzi^c, A. Saborío-Montero^{d e}, C. Maltecca^f, R. Roehe^b

INVITED REVIEW

The interaction between microbiome and pig efficiency: A review

Christian Maltecca, Matteo Bergamaschi , Francesco Tiezzi

First published: 01 October 2019 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/jbg.12443> | Citations: 36

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Chapter 18 Manipulation of gut microbiome composition by genetic selection of the host

In: [Environmental effects on gut health in production animals](#)

Authors: [Francesco Tiezzi](#) and [Christian Maltecca](#)

Type: Chapter

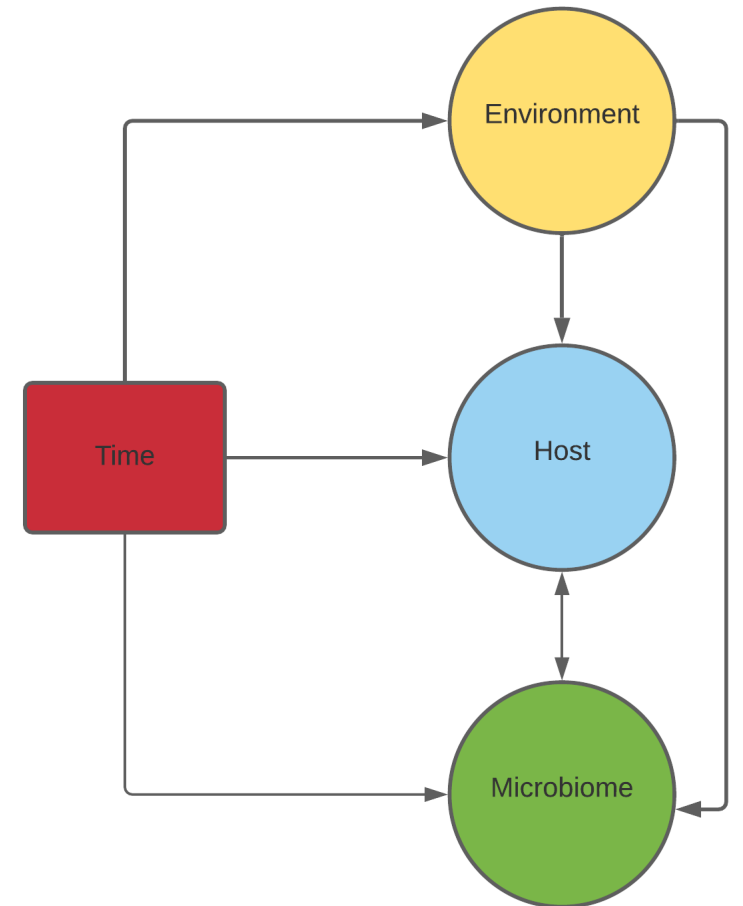
Pages: 459–487

DOI: https://doi.org/10.3920/9789004695467_019

If the only tool you have is a hammer, it is tempting to treat everything as if it were a nail

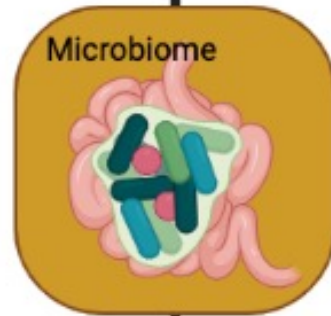
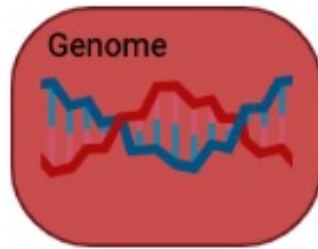
Breeding while accounting for the interaction between Host **Genome** **Microbiome** **Environment**

$$G + E + (G E) + M + (G M) + (E M) + (G E M)$$

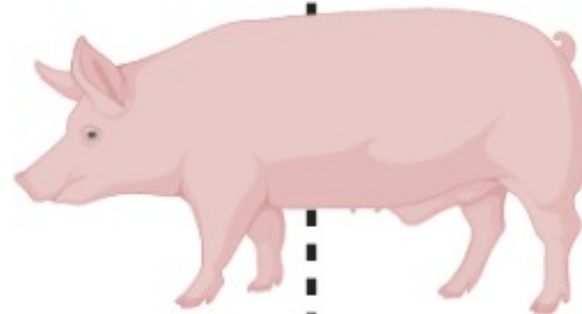


Microbiome is “Signal Dense”

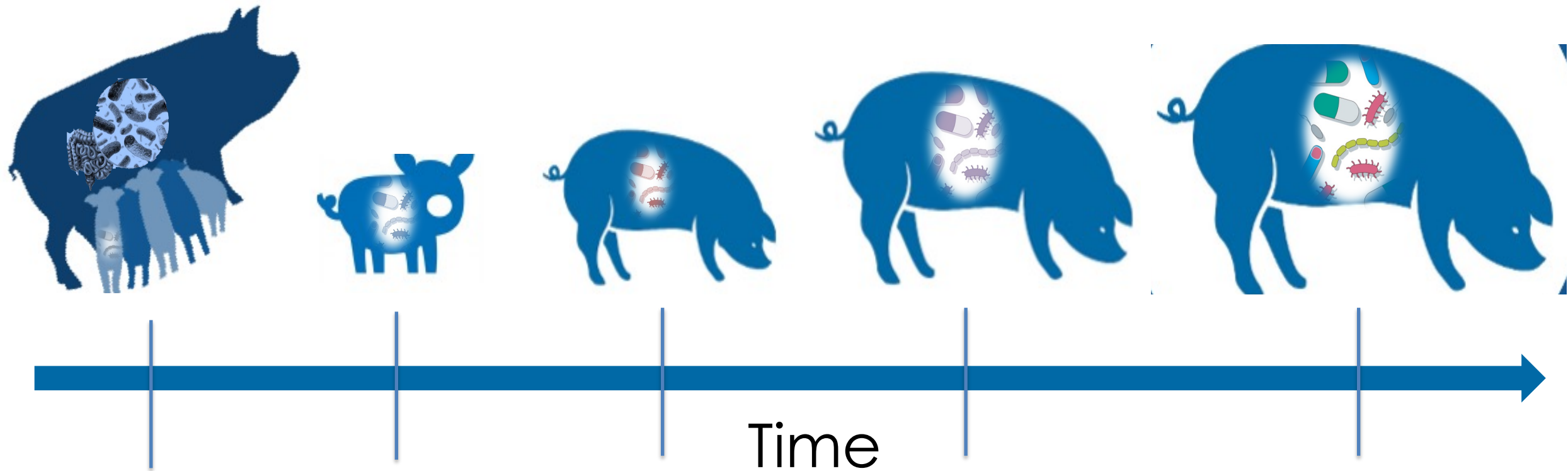
Determines



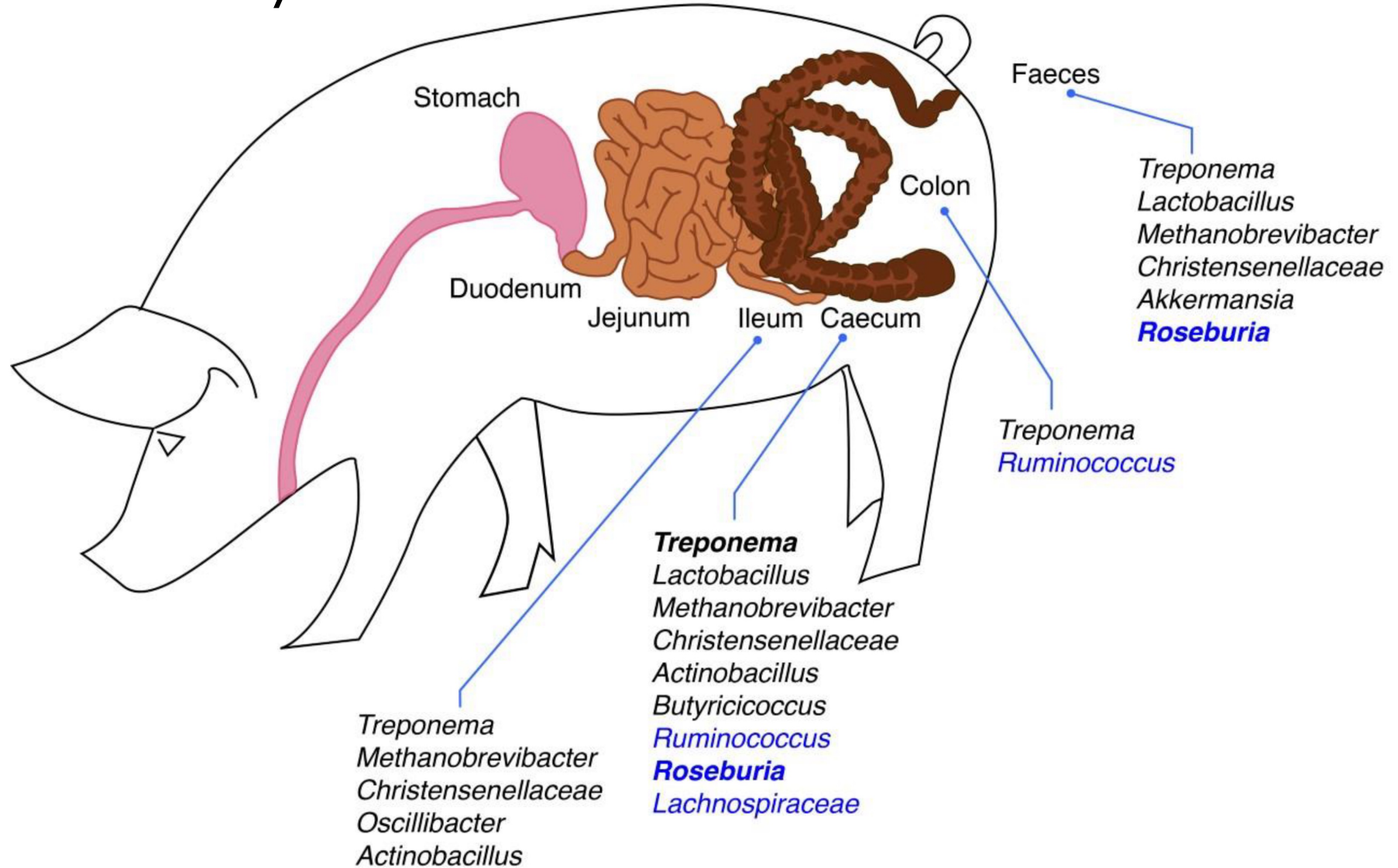
Measures



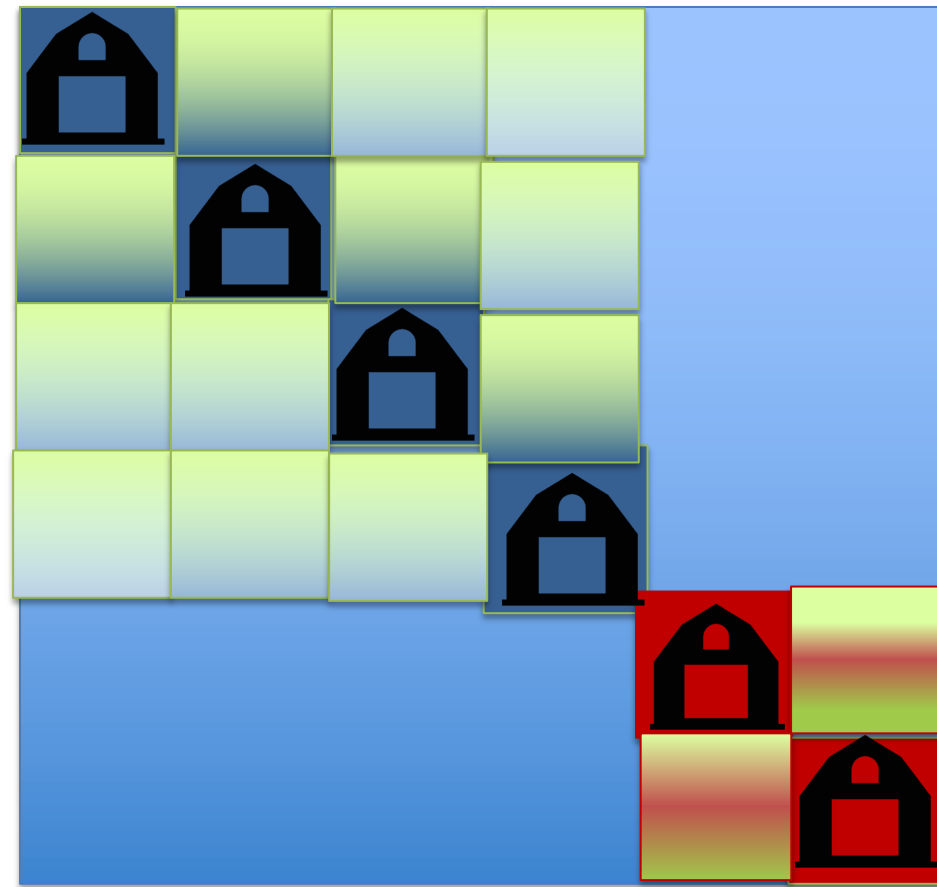
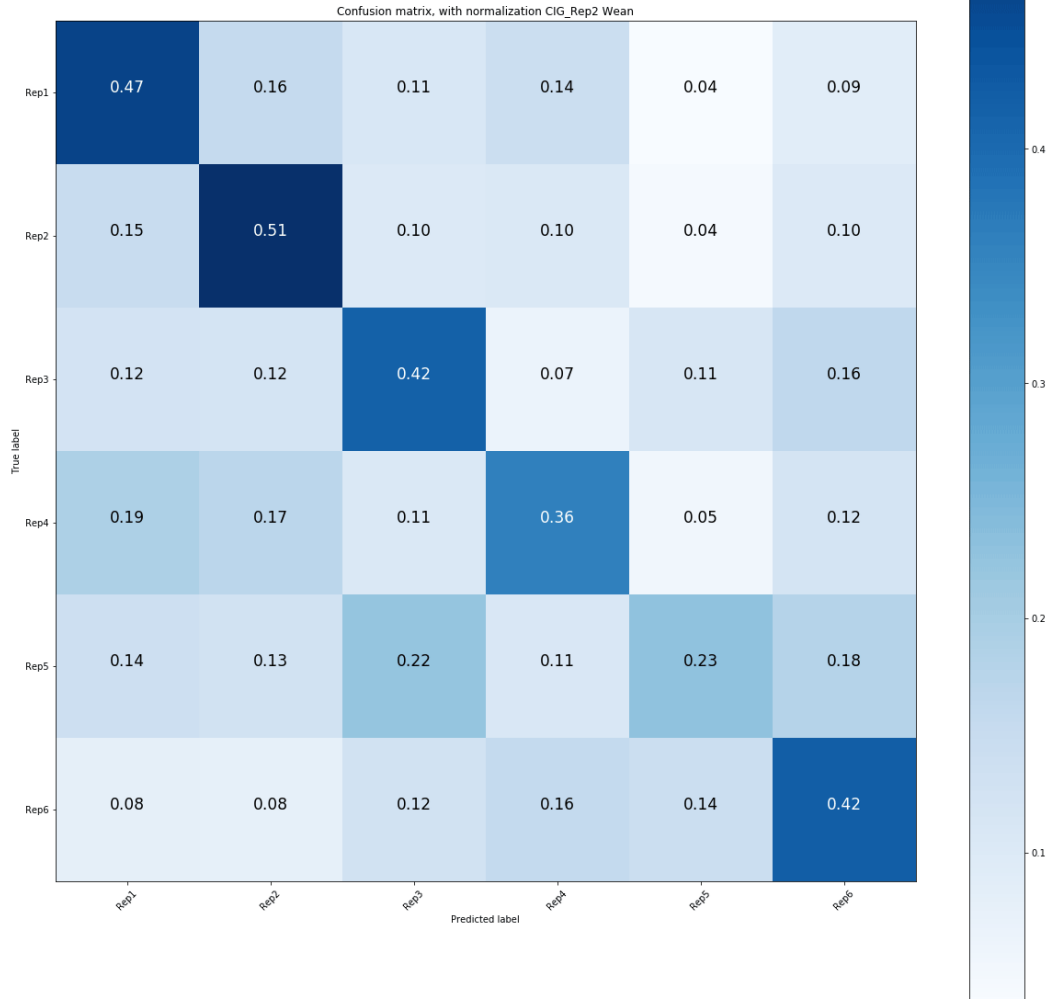
Longitudinal variability

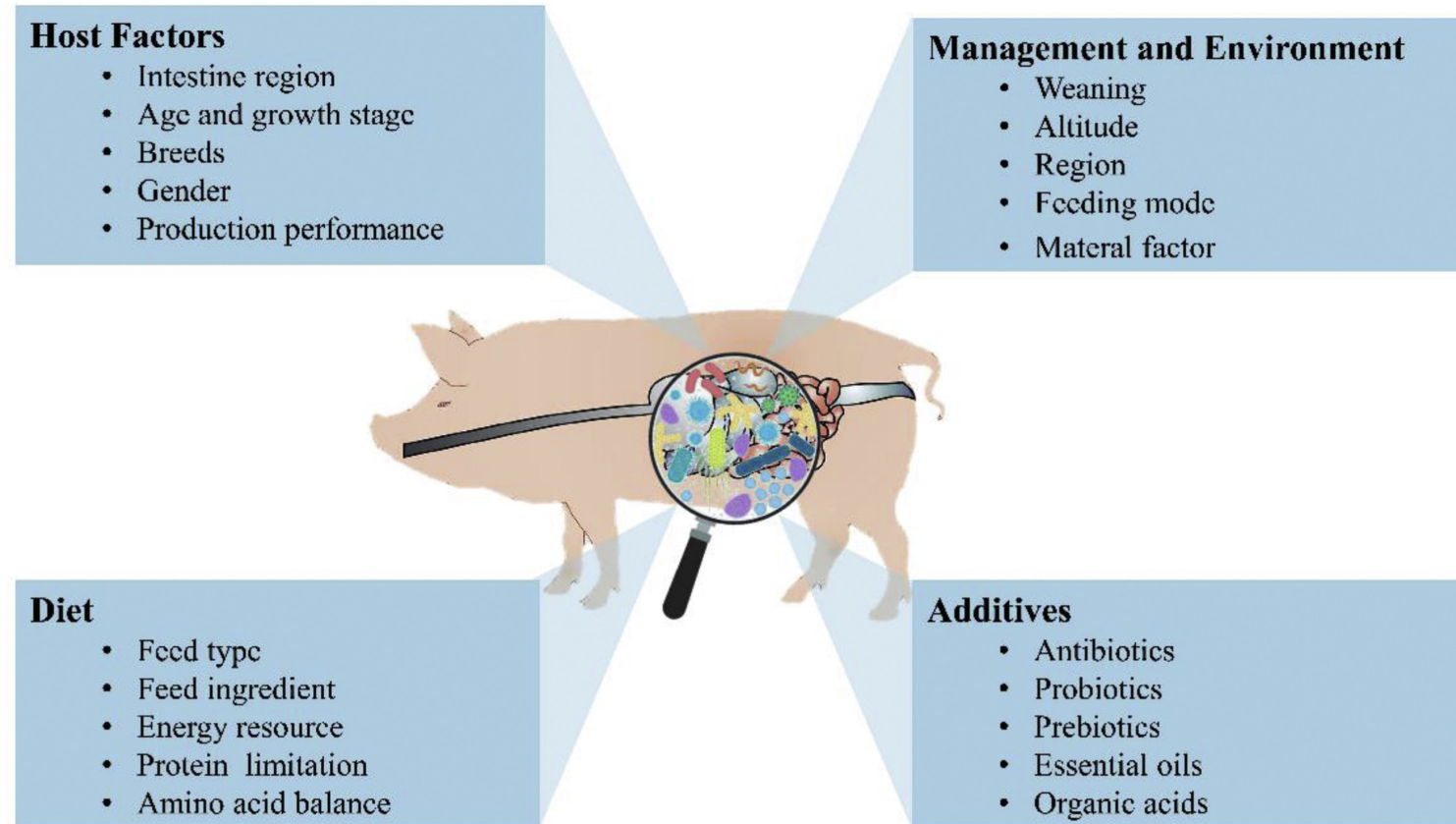


Spatial Variability



Spatial and temporal Variability





- What Microbiome measured with RNA 16S looks like

> M[1:10,1:10]

	S1_m37981	S1_m2462	S1_m2464	S1_m2466	S1_m2469	S1_m3732	S1_m3730	S1_m3735	S1_m12017	S1_m2929
GLDS_246469	1.58678767	1.58678767	0.74591747	1.30763592	0.3150390	0.60775331	1.40205477	0.015087119	0.63158829	0.37459862
GLDS_246470	1.50030975	1.50030975	0.70191963	1.23568450	0.2907513	0.57132880	-0.04347259	0.004010025	0.59398139	0.34869026
GLDS_246471	-0.04958071	-0.04958071	-0.08662655	-0.05385650	-0.1445418	-0.08148515	1.09311844	-0.194517910	-0.08002377	-0.11564941
GLDS_246472	-0.07408433	-0.07408433	-0.09909339	-0.07424403	-0.1514238	-0.09180608	-0.35172545	-0.197656618	-0.09067973	-0.12299057
GLDS_246473	-0.74811544	-0.74811544	-0.44202386	-0.63505189	-0.3407282	-0.37570802	-0.48369496	-0.283994336	-0.38379751	-0.32492703
GLDS_246479	-0.84201460	-0.84201460	-0.48979744	-0.71317793	-0.3671002	-0.41525835	-0.50207961	-0.296022028	-0.42463170	-0.35305876
GLDS_246482	0.06082816	0.06082816	-0.03045323	0.03800597	-0.1135330	-0.03498093	-0.32531074	-0.180375462	-0.03200996	-0.08257144
GLDS_246485	-1.08151278	-1.08151278	-0.61164823	-0.91244539	-0.4343642	-0.51613500	-0.54897130	-0.326699731	-0.52878294	-0.42481125
GLDS_246486	-0.61548582	-0.61548582	-0.37454516	-0.52470129	-0.3034786	-0.31984442	-0.45772722	-0.267005596	-0.32612050	-0.28519183
GLDS_246487	-1.23919744	-1.23919744	-0.69187431	-1.04364230	-0.4786506	-0.58255179	-0.57984461	-0.346897810	-0.59735571	-0.47205281

> |

- After some massaging needed due to the nature of the datapoints

- Compositional
- 0-Inflated
- ...

Will just pretend everything is fine here



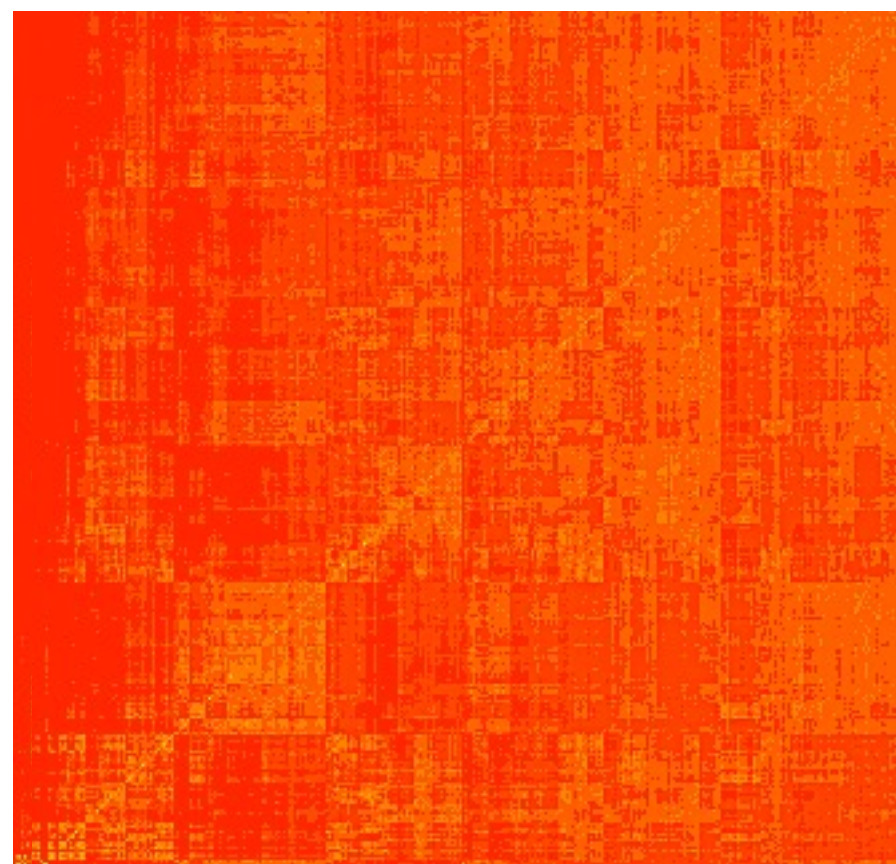
Exploring methods to summarize gut microbiota composition for microbiability estimation and phenotypic prediction in swine

Yuqing He , Francesco Tiezzi, Jicai Jiang, Jeremy Howard, Yijian Huang, Kent Gray, Jung-Woo Choi, Christian Maltecca

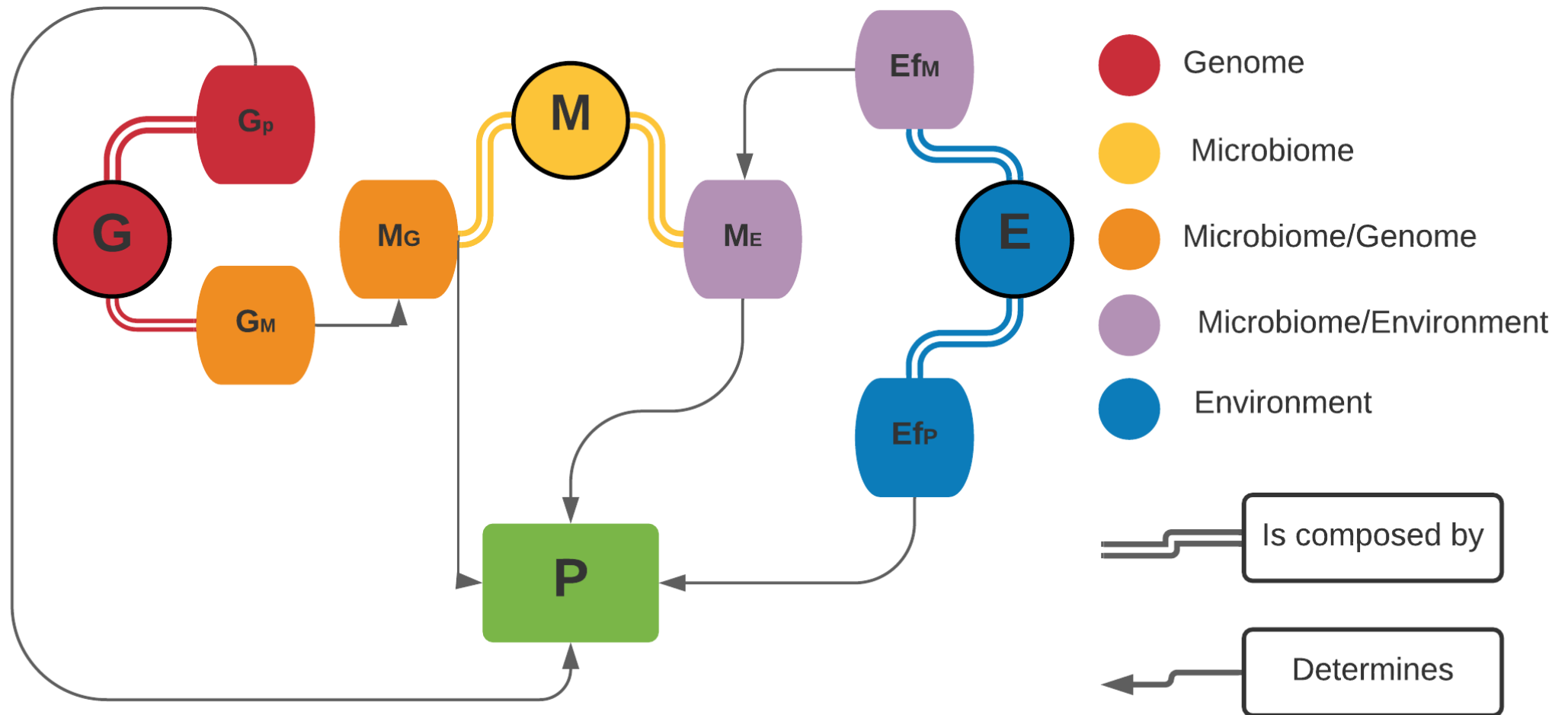
Journal of Animal Science, Volume 100, Issue 9, September 2022, skac231,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jas/skac231>

Published: 01 July 2022 [Article history](#) ▾

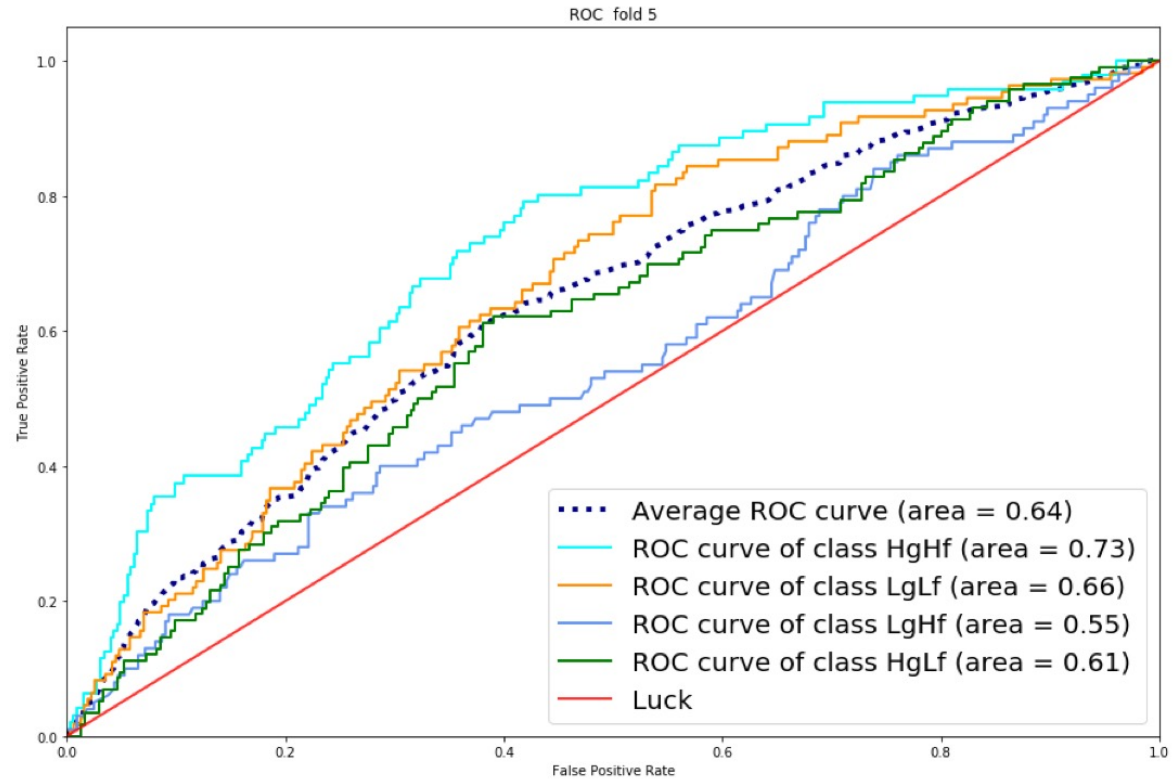
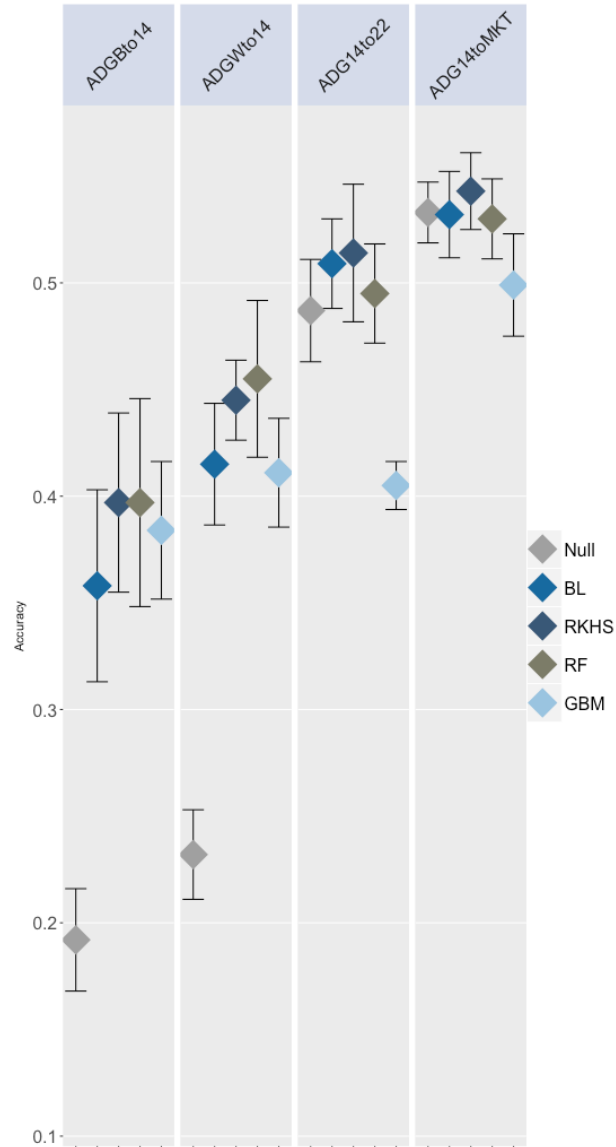
Group	Method ¹	Input Data	Function ²	Construction of <i>M</i> matrix
General Kernel	LK	Centred and scaled log(count + 1)	$LK = XX^T(\frac{1}{p})$	LK
	PK		$PK = (XX^T(\frac{1}{p}))^3$	PK
	GK		$GK = e^{-\frac{1}{p}[X^T X - 2X^T X + X^T X]}$	GK
	AK1		$\theta = \cos^{-1}(\frac{X^T X}{\ X\ \ X\ })$ $AK1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \ X\ \ X\ [\sin(\theta) + (\pi - \theta)\cos(\theta)]$	AK1
Dissimilarity	BC	log(count + 1)	$BC = \frac{\sum a_i - b_i }{\sum(a_i + b_i)}$	1 - BC
	JA		$JA = \frac{y+z}{x+y+z}$	1 - JA
Ordination	MDS	log(count + 1)	$BC = \frac{\sum a_i - b_i }{\sum(a_i + b_i)}$ X = Vectors	$XX^T(\frac{1}{p})$
	DCA		$BC = \frac{\sum a_i - b_i }{\sum(a_i + b_i)}$ X = Projections	$XX^T(\frac{1}{p})$



A- Biological Structure



Predicting Performance with the use of microbiome information



Research Article | [Open Access](#) | Published: 29 July 2020

Modeling host-microbiome interactions for the prediction of meat quality and carcass composition traits in swine

Piush Khanal [✉], Christian Maltecca, Clint Schwab, Justin Fix, Matteo Bergamaschi & Francesco Tiezzi

Genetics Selection Evolution 52, Article number: 41 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

1122 Accesses | [8](#) Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Article | [Open Access](#) | Published: 25 April 2019

Predicting Growth and Carcass Traits in Swine Using Microbiome Data and Machine Learning Algorithms

Christian Maltecca [✉], Duc Lu, Constantino Schillebeeckx, Nathan P. McNulty, Clint Schwab, Caleb Shull & Francesco Tiezzi [✉]

Scientific Reports 9, Article number: 6574 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)

Microbiability of meat quality and carcass composition traits in swine

Piush Khanal, Christian Maltecca, Clint Schwab, Justin Fix, Francesco Tiezzi

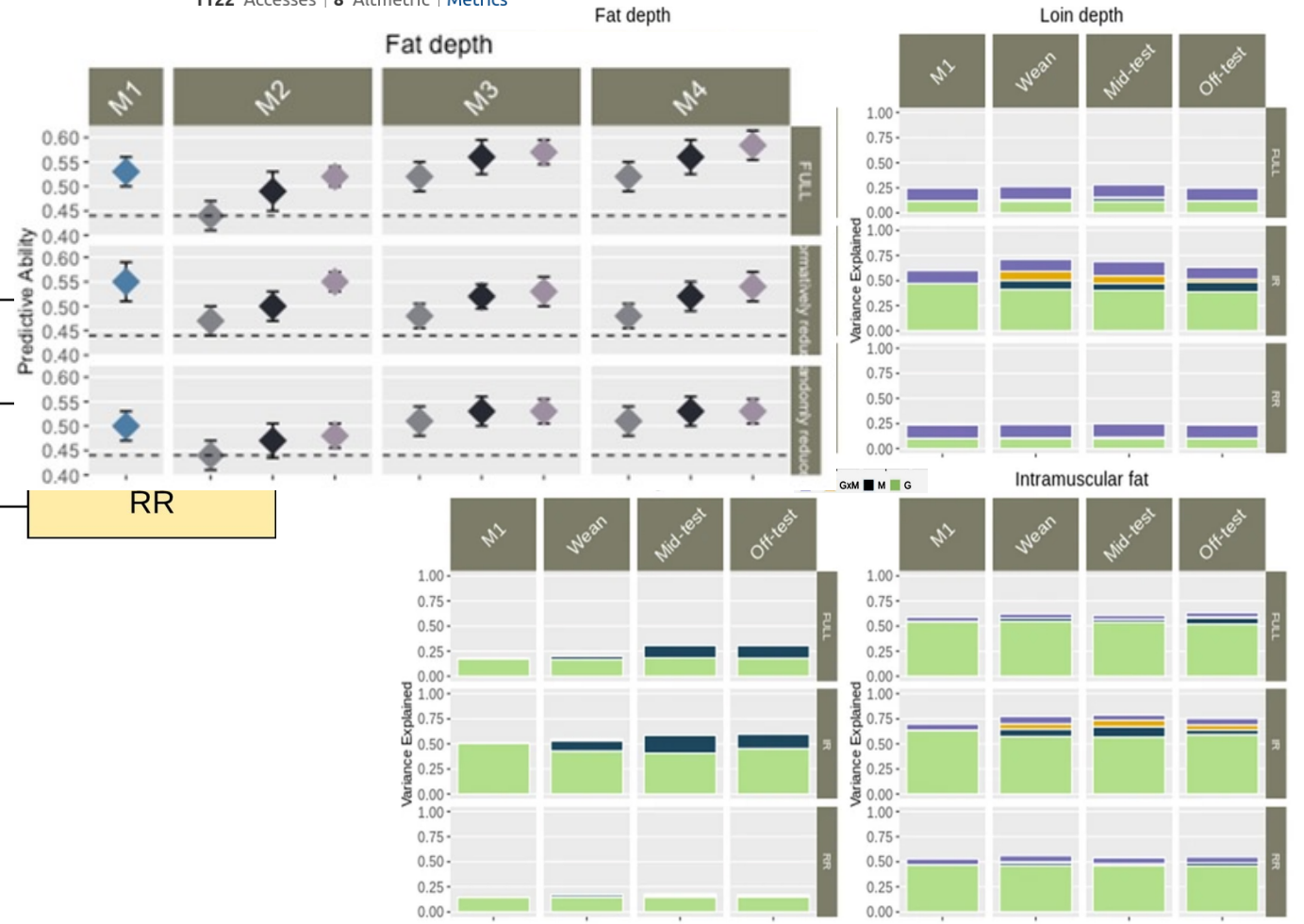
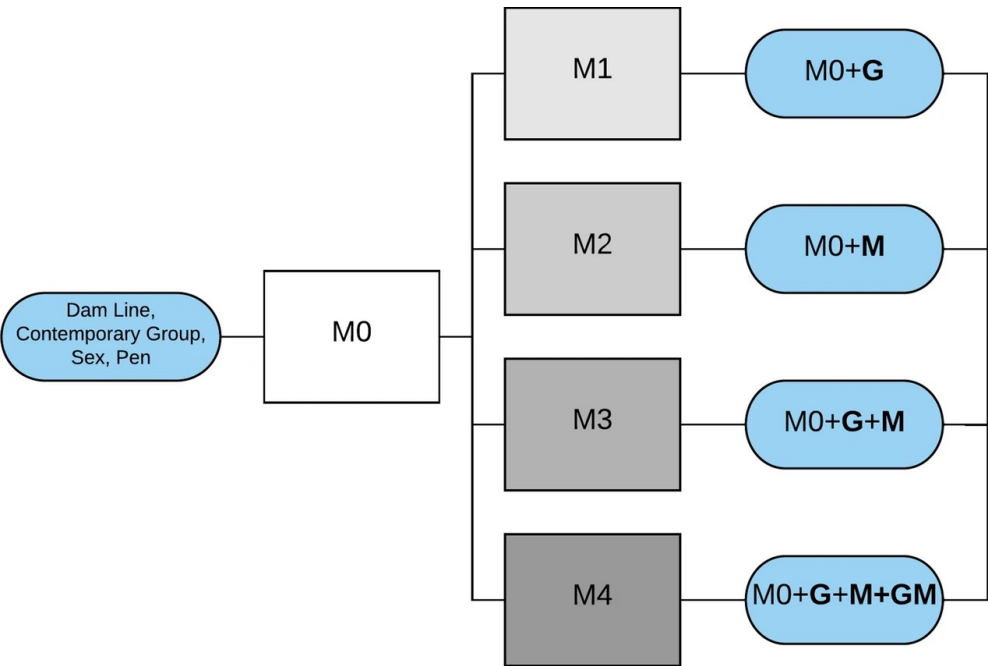
First published: 26 September 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/jbg.12504>

Modeling host-microbiome interactions for the prediction of meat quality and carcass composition traits in swine

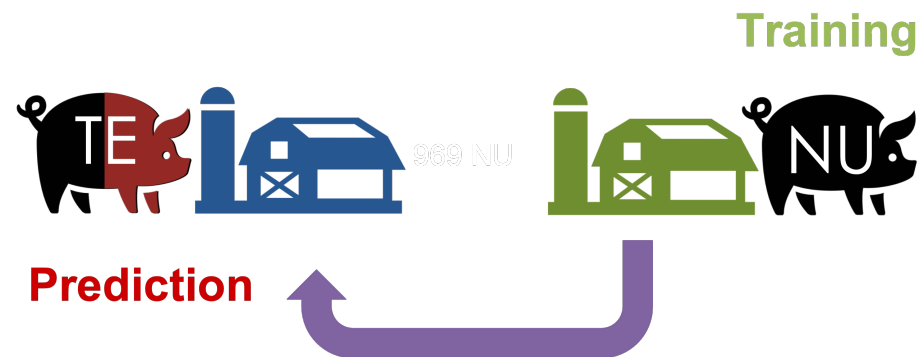
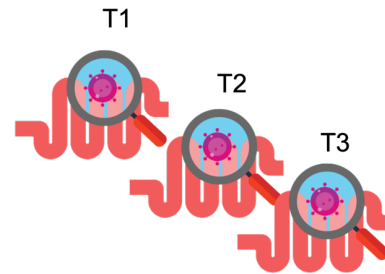
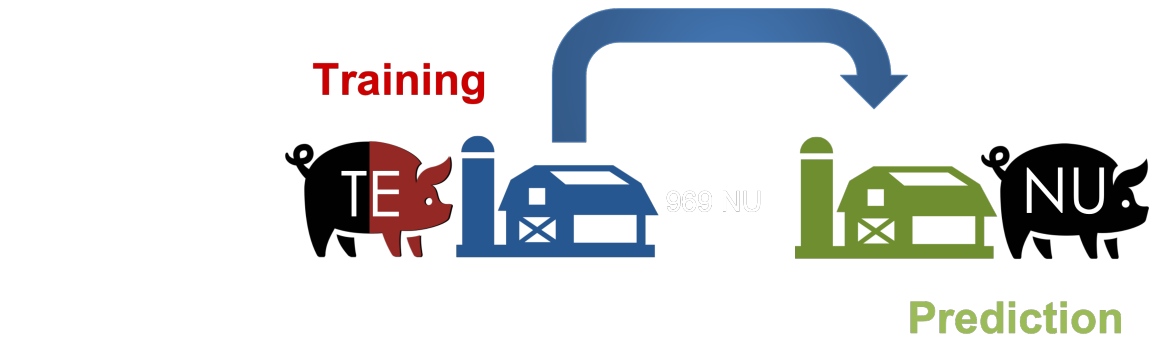
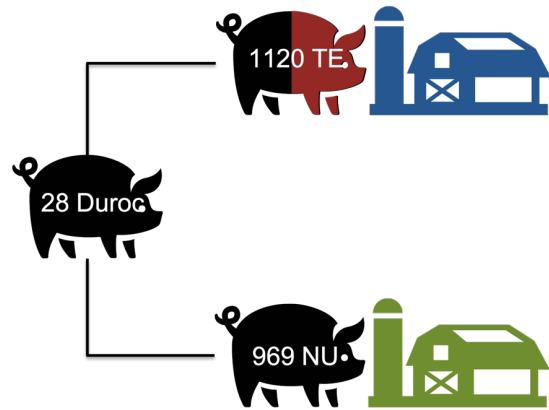
Piush Khanal, Christian Maltecca, Clint Schwab, Justin Fix, Matteo Bergamaschi & Francesco Tiezzi

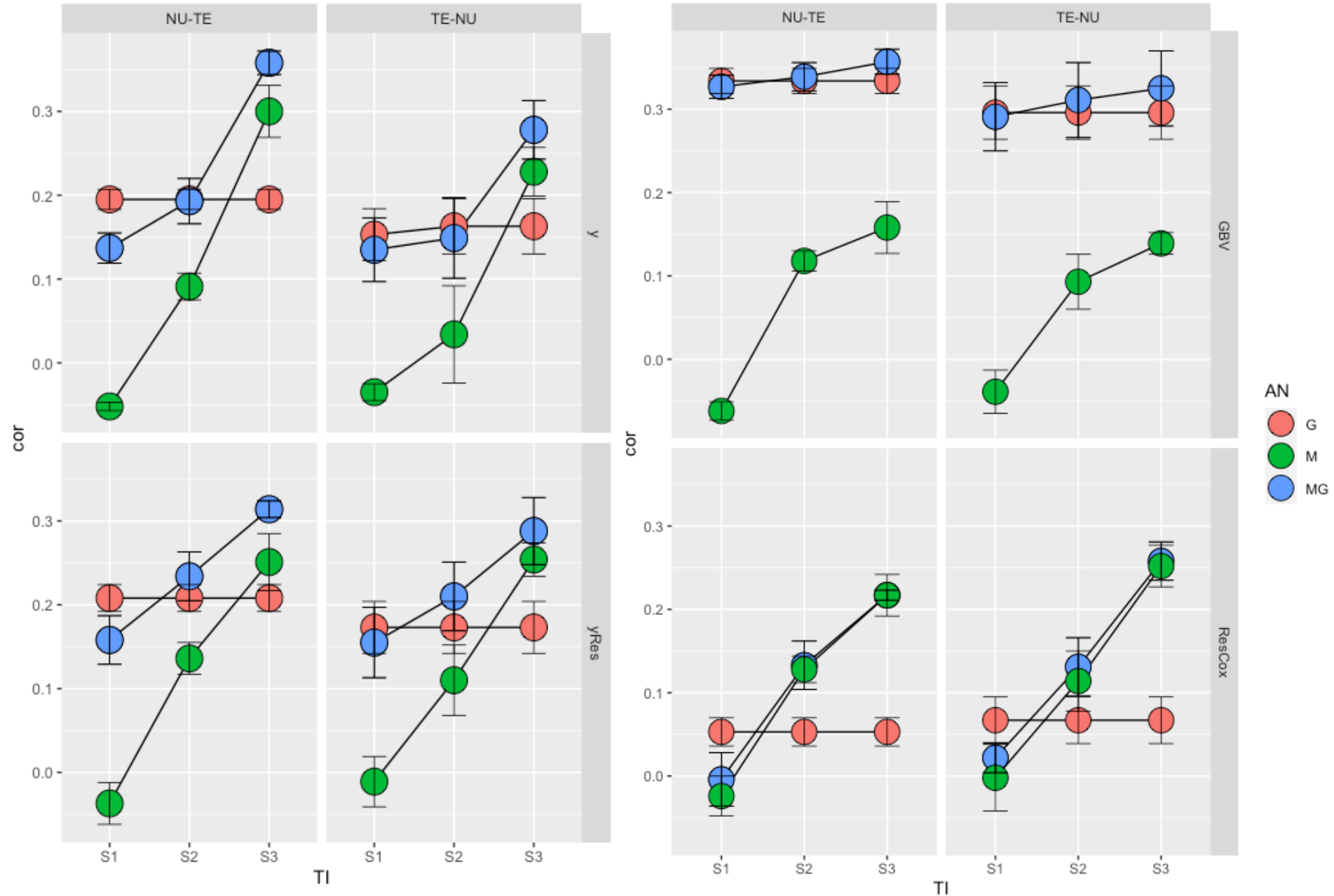
Genetics Selection Evolution 52, Article number: 41 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

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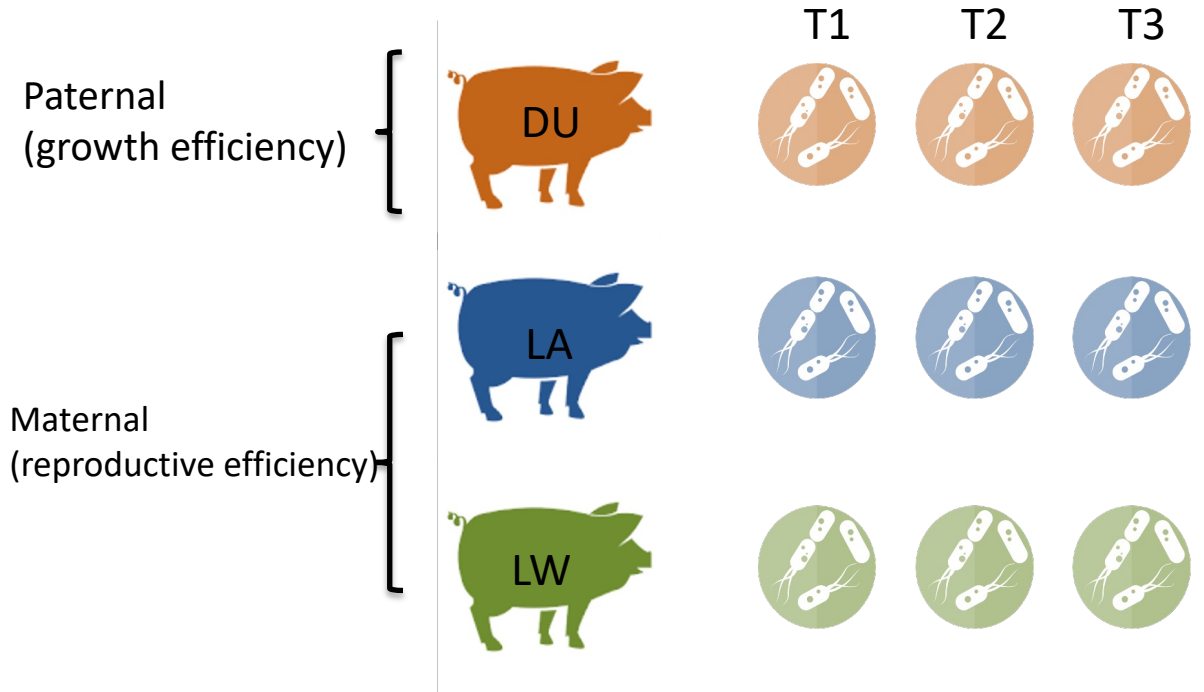
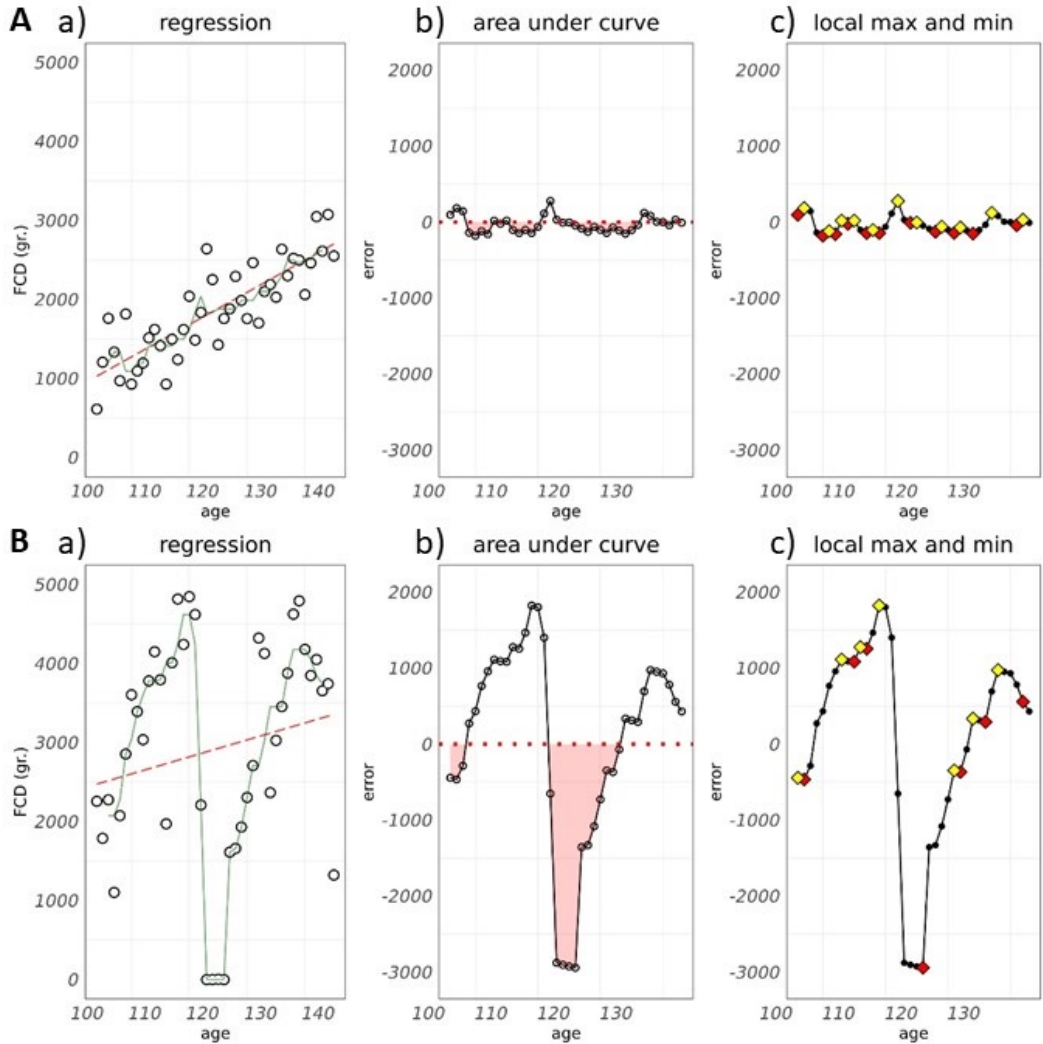


Predicting Performance across systems





A first characterization of the Microbiota-Resilience Link in Swine

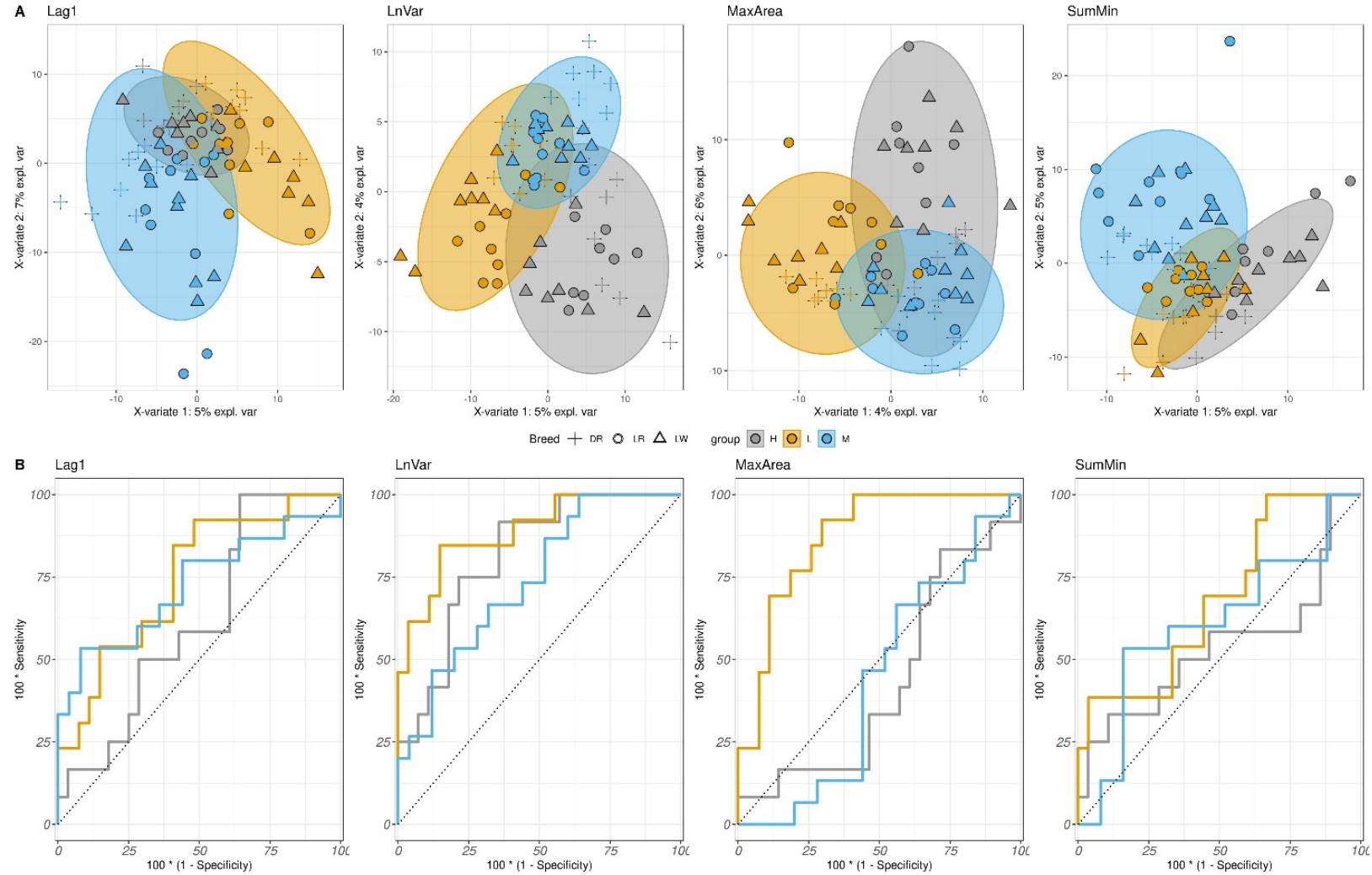


• Does microbiome contribute to broad-sense resilience in pigs?

Home > Microbiome > Article

A first characterization of the microbiota-resilience link in swine

Research | Open access | Published: 15 March 2024
 Volume 12, article number 53, (2024) | Cite this article



Microbiome as a source of phenotypic variability

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{M}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{e}$$

\mathbf{y} is the selection trait of interest,

\mathbf{X} and \mathbf{b} incidence matrix and vector of solutions for the environmental effects,

\mathbf{M} is a matrix that contains the information on the microbial features (e.g. species abundance, microbial diversity)

\mathbf{u} is the vector of microbial effects

\mathbf{Z} and \mathbf{a} are the incidence matrix and vector of solutions for the additive genetic effects of the host

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Xb} + \mathbf{Mu} + \mathbf{Za} + \mathbf{e}$$

Estimates for the variance components for the two random effects allows calculate the ratio of each variance component to the total phenotypic variance. h^2 and m^2

m^2 “microbiability” considers m independent of g (problem)

Covariance between m and g can be considered in the model (akin to maternal effects)

Disentangling the covariance between the two terms might be challenging in practice

- EBV of an individual is determined by the genetic architecture of the trait and the known genotype of the individual
- EMV of an individual is determined by the effect of each microbial feature on the trait and the (relative) abundance of microbial features in the individual.
 - Time dependent
 - Genetic and Environment determine microbial composition.
- EMV of an individual could be determined by an environmental component that is not found in the EBV.
 - Hard to estimate covariance
 - Holds in statistical terms
 - Might lack biological rationale

Host genetic and microbial effects can also be fitted in interaction. Hadamard product of G and M .

- Holobiont concept, used to describe the system composed by a host and its associated communities of microorganisms.

- Estimate of holobiability (Saborio Montero 2019)

- $h^2_0 = (\sigma^2_g + \sigma^2_m + \sigma^2_{gm}) / (\sigma^2_g + \sigma^2_m + \sigma^2_{gm} + \sigma^2_e)$

- Genetic variation in microbial composition can cause partial genotype by genotype interaction.

Microbiome as a trait

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{m}_i = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}_{m_i} + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{a}_{m_i} + \mathbf{e}_{m_i} \\ \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{b}_y + \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{a}_y + \mathbf{e}_y \end{cases} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_{m_i} \\ \mathbf{a}_y \end{bmatrix} \sim N(0, \mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{G})$$

m (with $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$) could be a

- Individual feature
- principal component
- ecological measurement of richness and diversity of the microbiota itself

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_{m_i} \\ \mathbf{e}_y \end{bmatrix} \sim N(0, \mathbf{R} \otimes \mathbf{I})$$

- This model allows the estimation of the host genetic effects on both the microbiome and the phenotype
- Note that estimation of the VCV is now feasible since both \mathbf{a}_m and \mathbf{a}_y are now **free of environmental effects**

A microbial trait can be considered as a selection criterion if:

- It is present in a large part of the population
- Shows considerable phenotypic variation across animals
- Is heritable and genetically correlated with traits of interest

Today taxonomical composition is considered as the obvious selection target

- Even within the same genus, different species might have very different metabolic pathways
 - Heritability of a microbial trait is most likely to occur in terms of functional pathways
 - Mixed results with core bacteria and core genes showing similar h^2 estimates in cattle (and in pigs)
- The magnitude of r_g depends strongly on the trait and the “microbic” effect on the objective trait.

A few options:

- Selection index based on the top XX % alr(clr)-transformed features
- Latent component of SVD (or alternative dimensionality reductions)
 - Loss of interpretability but facilitate breeding

Caveats:

- Microbial metabolic pathways might be shared by several objective traits
 - Also likely to interact with other microbial activities that affect host metabolism.
 - Before microbial activity is targeted by genetic selection, the expected correlated response on other productive traits and overall animal fitness must be examined.
- Potential advantage of breeding on microbiome profiles:
 - Unfavorable genomic may not be reflected in functional microbiome.
 - Some microbial activities may be found with positive effect on more than one trait offsetting negative genetic covariances.

Predicting Breeding Values with including Omics

[Genetics](#). 2021 Oct; 219(2): iyab130.

Published online 2021 Aug 7. doi: [10.1093/genetics/iyab130](https://doi.org/10.1093/genetics/iyab130)

Genetic evaluation including intermediate omics features

[Ole F Christensen](#),¹ [Vinzent Börner](#),¹ [Luis Varona](#),² and [Andres Legarra](#)³

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$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{ZM}\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \mathbf{Z}_r\mathbf{a}_r + \boldsymbol{\epsilon},$$

$$\mathbf{m}_i = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_i + \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}\tilde{\mathbf{g}}_i + \mathbf{e}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, k.$$

Weishaar R, Wellmann R, Camarinha-Silva A, Rodehutschord M, Bennewitz J.. 2020. Selecting the hologenome to breed for an improved feed efficiency in pigs—a novel selection index. *J Anim Breed Genet.* **137**:14–22. [[PubMed](#)] [[Google Scholar](#)] [[Ref list](#)]



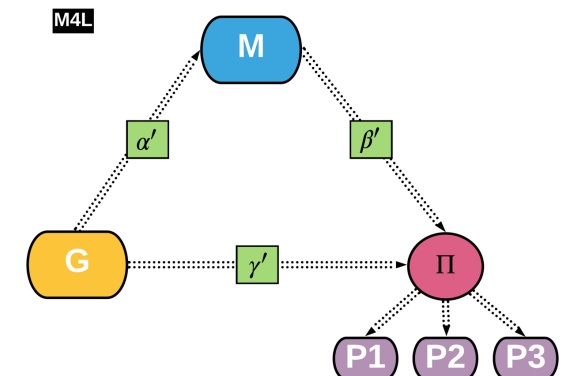
Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal

Volume 19, 2021, Pages 530-544



Gut microbiome mediates host genomic effects on phenotypes: a case study with fat deposition in pigs

Francesco Tiezzi ^{a, 2, 3}, Justin Fix ^b, Clint Schwab ^{b, c}, Caleb Shull ^c, Christian Maltecca ^a



$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{G}\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \mathbf{a}_r. \quad h^2 = c_m^2 h_m^2 + h_r^2,$$

BLUP of regression effects of omics expression levels and residual genetic effects are obtained as solutions to the mixed model equations (MME)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{Z}_r \\ (\mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M})^T \mathbf{X} & (\mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M})^T \mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M} + \xi_1 \mathbf{I} & (\mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M})^T \mathbf{Z}_r \\ \mathbf{Z}_r^T \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{Z}_r^T \mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{Z}_r^T \mathbf{Z}_r + \xi_2 \mathbf{H}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \\ \hat{\mathbf{a}}_r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{y} \\ (\mathbf{Z} \mathbf{M})^T \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{Z}_r^T \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{M}\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} + \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}\hat{\mathbf{a}}_r,$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{X}} & \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{Z}} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{X}} & \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{Z}} + \zeta \mathbf{H}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\tilde{\mathbf{B}}} \\ \hat{\mathbf{G}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{M} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^T \mathbf{M} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{a}} &= \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{a} | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{G}\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \mathbf{a}_r | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{G} | \mathbf{M}] \mathbf{E}[\boldsymbol{\alpha} | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] + \hat{\mathbf{a}}_r \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{G}}\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} + \hat{\mathbf{a}}_r, \end{aligned}$$

directly predicting genetic effects on individuals

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\mathbf{a}} &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{G}\boldsymbol{\alpha}|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] + \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{a}_r|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{G}\boldsymbol{\alpha}|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}]|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] + \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{a}_r|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}] \\
 &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{G}\boldsymbol{\alpha}|\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\alpha}]_{\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\alpha}=\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\alpha}|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}]} + \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{a}_r|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{M}],
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{X} & \mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{Z} & \mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{Z}_r \\
 \mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{X} & \mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{Z} + \xi_1(\mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}^T)^{-1} & \mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{Z}_r \\
 \mathbf{Z}_r^T\mathbf{X} & \mathbf{Z}_r^T\mathbf{Z} & \mathbf{Z}_r^T\mathbf{Z}_r + \xi_2\mathbf{H}^{-1}
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \\
 \hat{\mathbf{u}} \\
 \hat{\mathbf{a}}_r
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{X}^T\mathbf{y} \\
 \mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{y} \\
 \mathbf{Z}_r^T\mathbf{y}
 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T\tilde{\mathbf{X}} & \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T\tilde{\mathbf{Z}} \\
 \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^T\tilde{\mathbf{X}} & \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^T\tilde{\mathbf{Z}} + \zeta\mathbf{H}^{-1}
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \hat{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}}}\boldsymbol{\alpha} \\
 \hat{\mathbf{a}}_m
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T\hat{\mathbf{u}} \\
 \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^T\hat{\mathbf{u}}
 \end{bmatrix}.$$