



# Marine invertebrate environmental memory

## Implications, mechanisms, and opportunities

**Steven Roberts - University of Washington**

[github.com/sr320/talk-SZAN-2024](https://github.com/sr320/talk-SZAN-2024)















## *Early-life Priming*

### *Hardening*



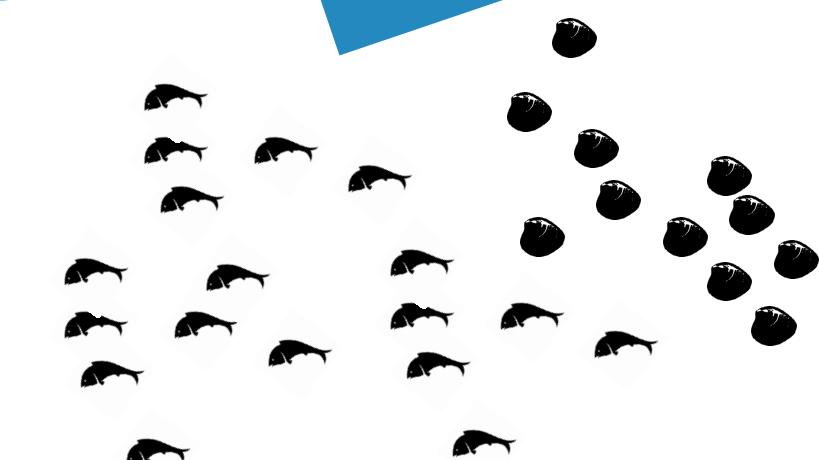
Adults

Influencing adult phenotype by altering early life environment



## *Transgenerational Plasticity*

### *Carry-over effects*



Larvae

Influencing offspring phenotype by altering environmental conditions of parents

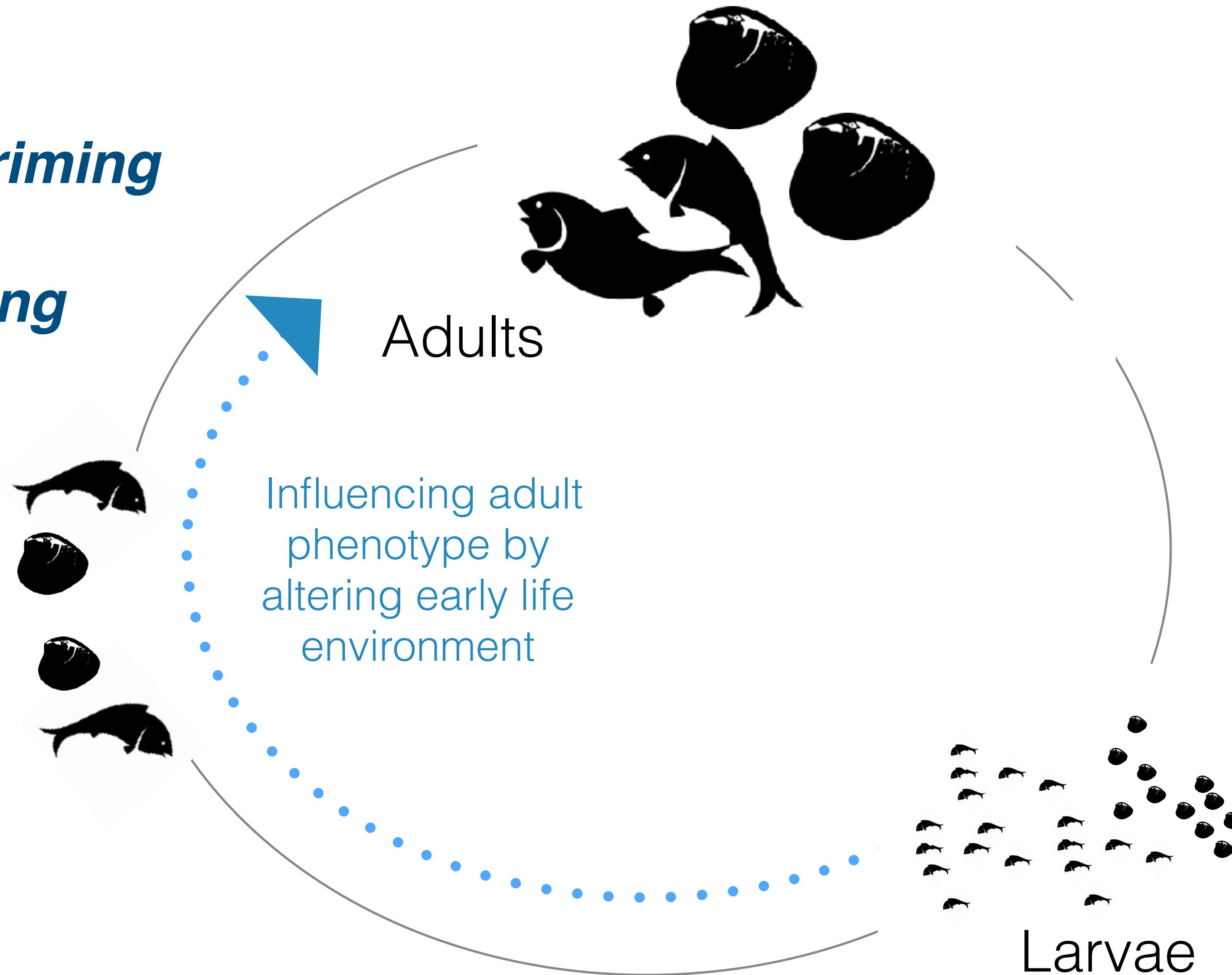
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Influencing adult  
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Larvae



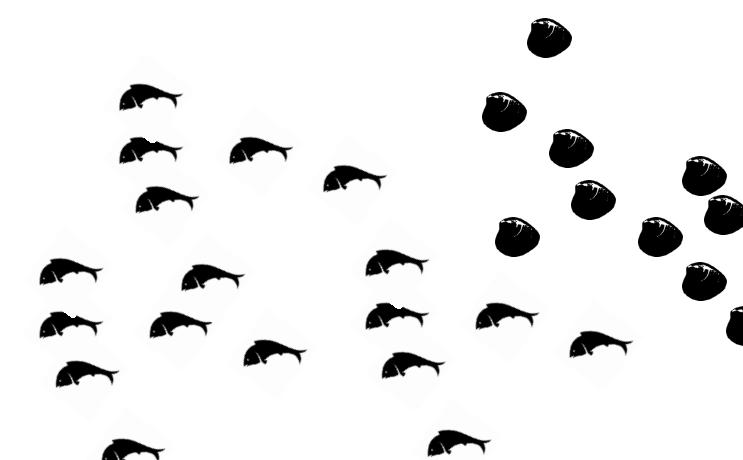
# Trends in Plant Science

## Early-life Priming

### Hardening



Haipei Liu ,<sup>1</sup> Amanda J. Able ,<sup>1</sup> and Jason A. Able  <sup>1,@,\*</sup>

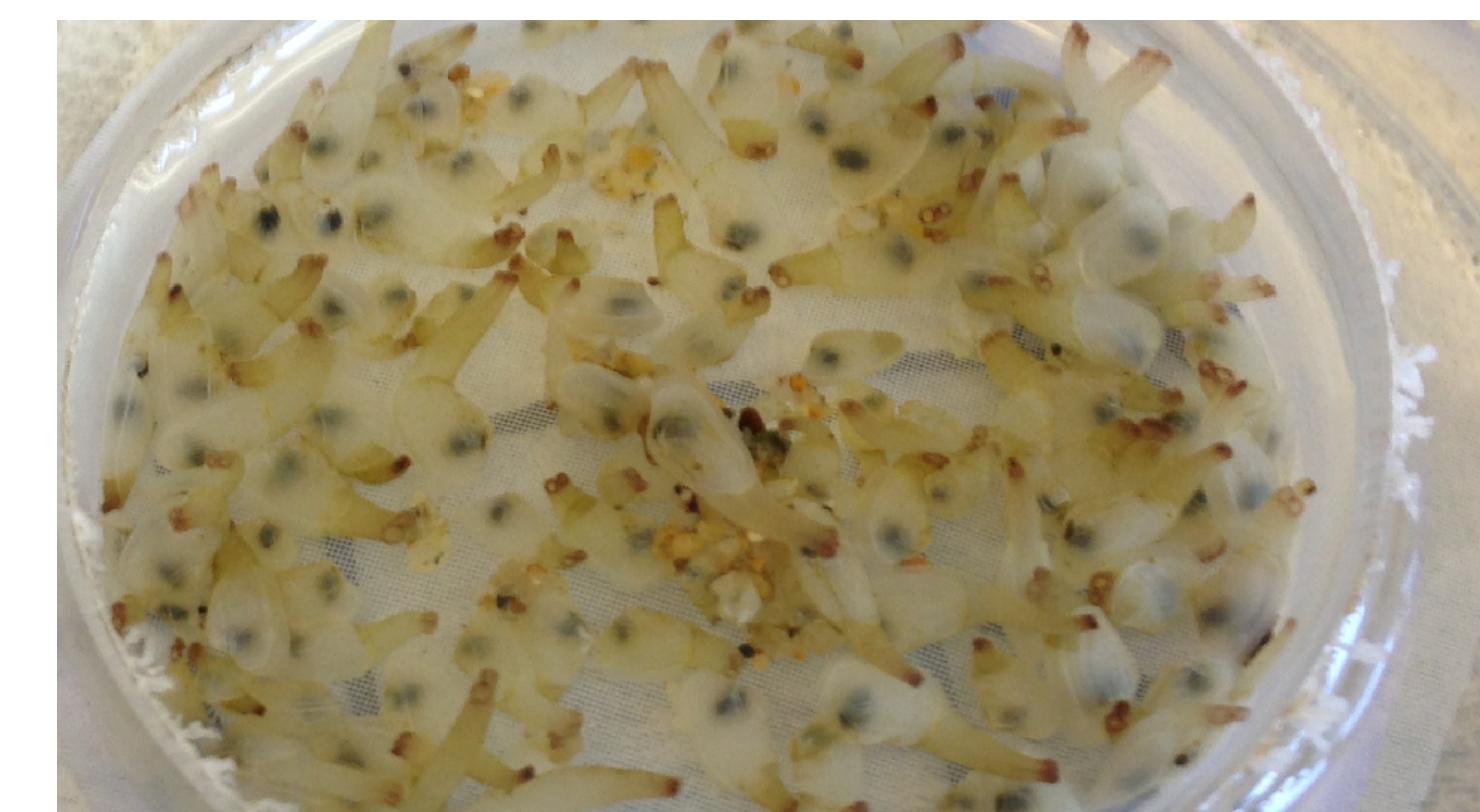
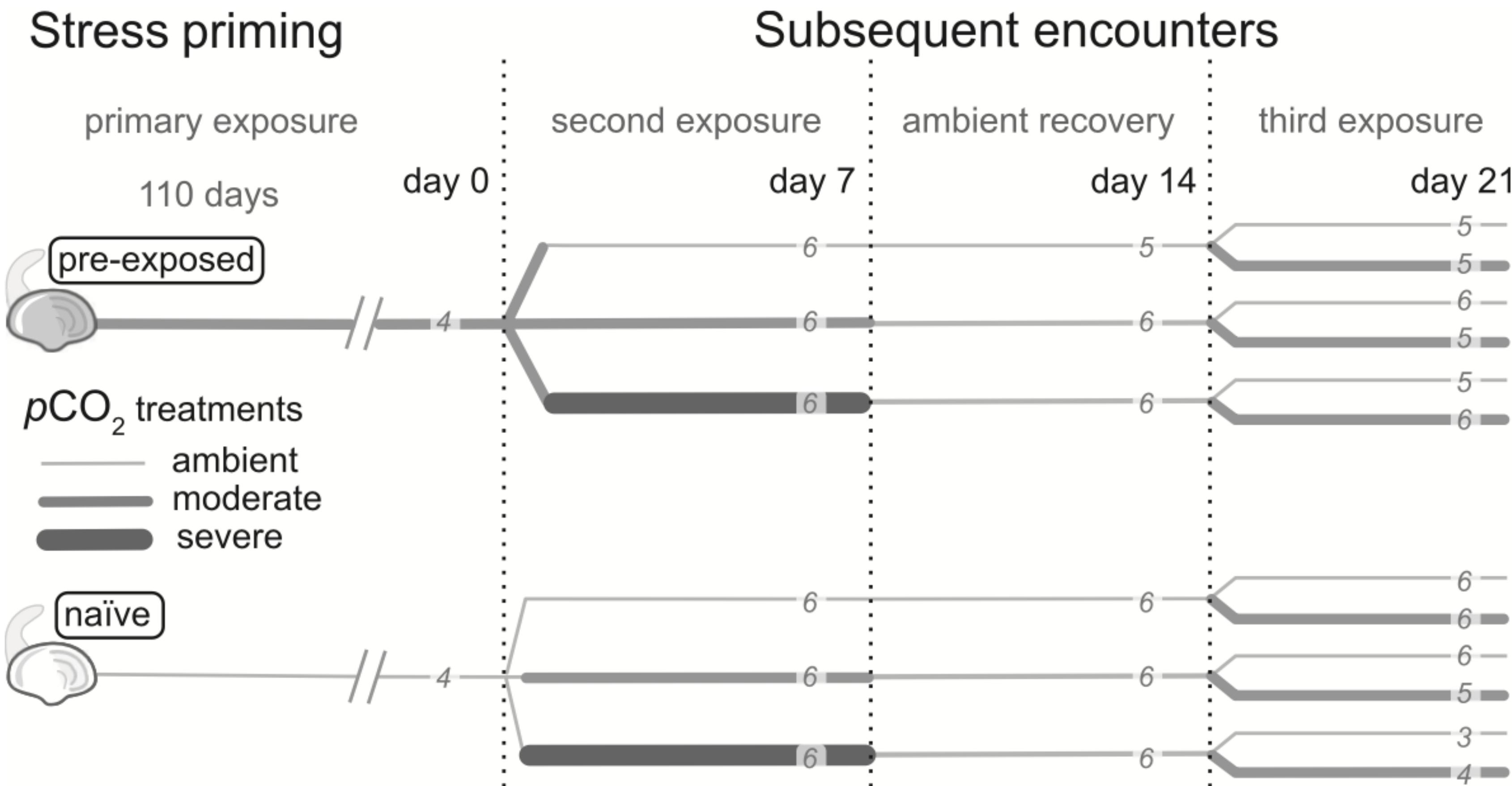


*Cross-stress priming success relies on synergistic stress signaling pathways being shared across stresses varying in nature and intensity.*

# Geoduck Clams

Repeat exposure to hypercapnic seawater modifies growth and oxidative status in a tolerant burrowing clam

Samuel J. Gurr<sup>1,\*</sup>, Shelly A. Wanamaker<sup>2</sup>, Brent Vadopalas<sup>3</sup>, Steven B. Roberts<sup>2</sup> and Hollie M. Putnam<sup>1</sup>



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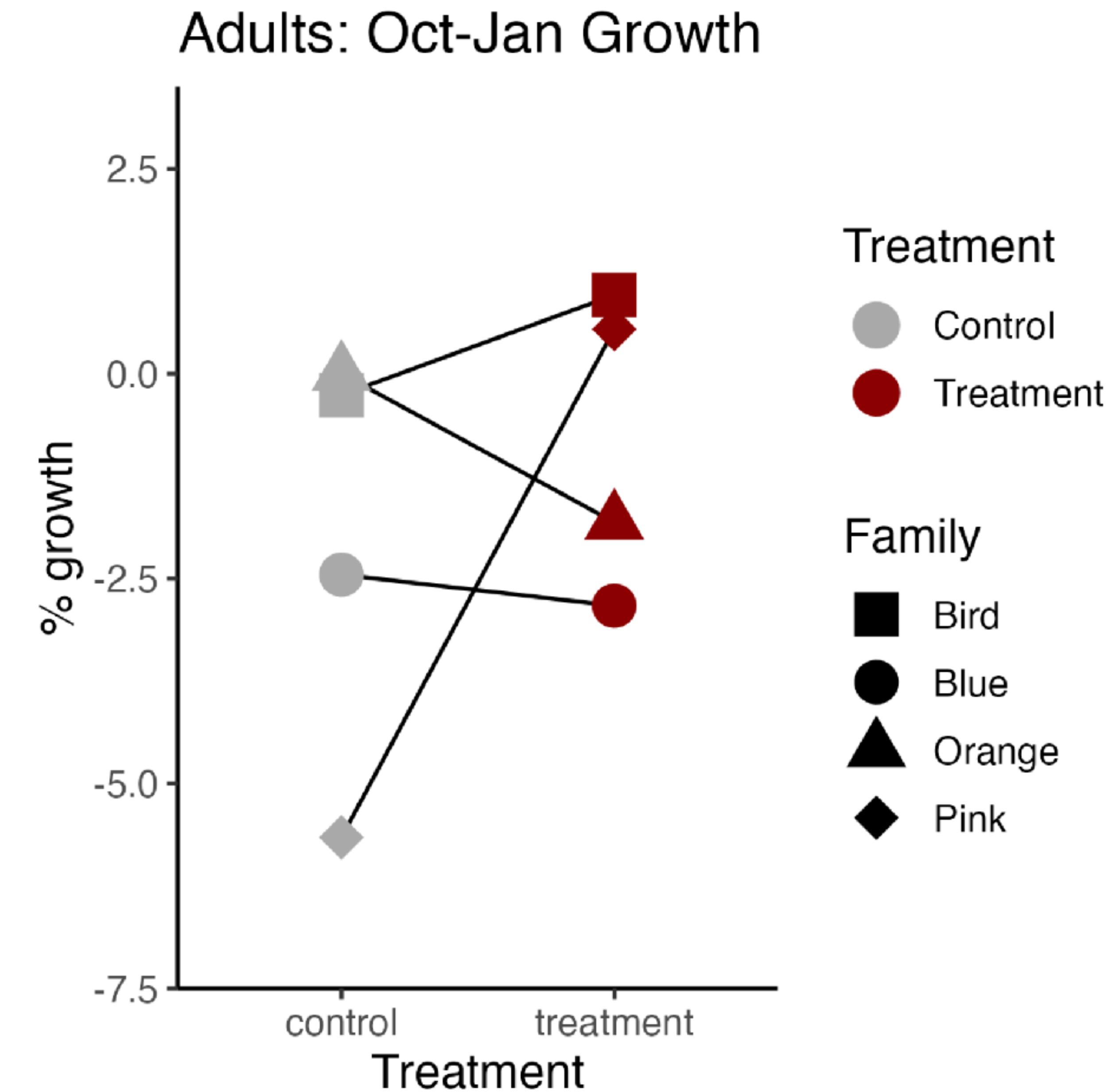
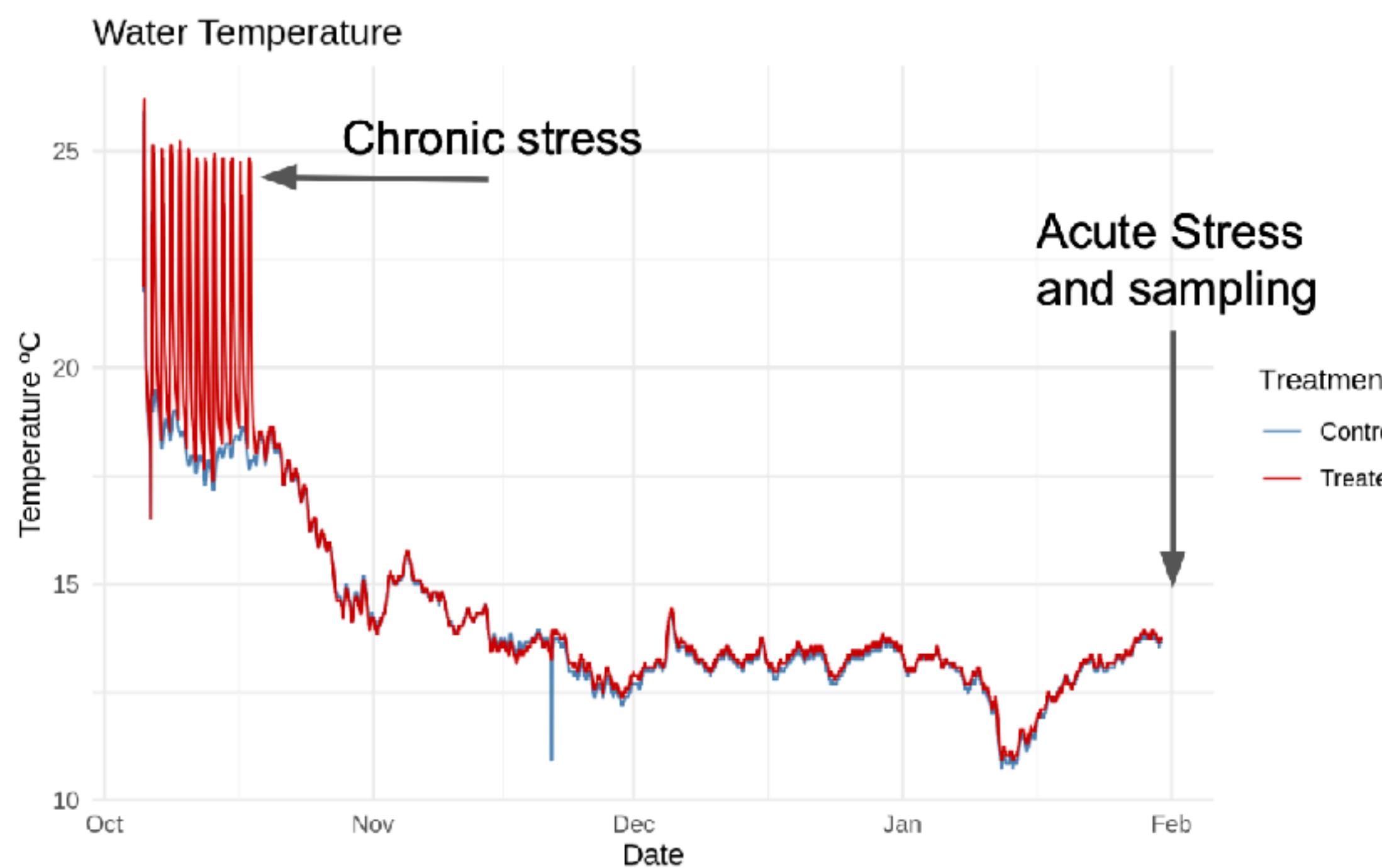
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- Initial conditioning followed by second and third exposure to severe and moderate acidification stress increased respiration rate, organic biomass and shell size, suggesting a stress-intensity-dependent effect on energetics.
- Stress acclimated clams had lower antioxidant capacity compared with clams under ambient conditions, supporting the hypothesis that stress over postlarval-to-juvenile development affects oxidative status later in life.



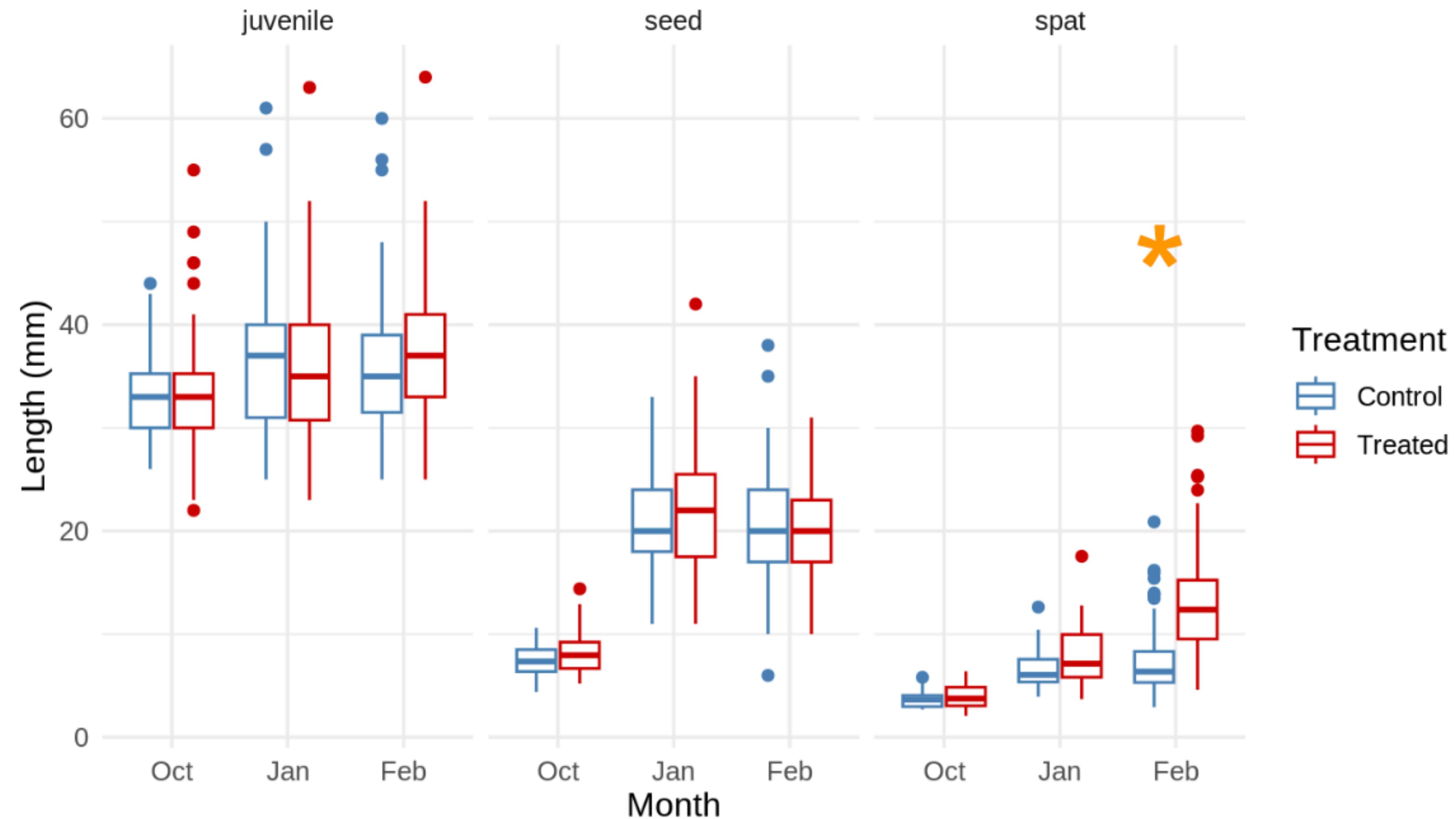
# *Crassostrea gigas*

## New data

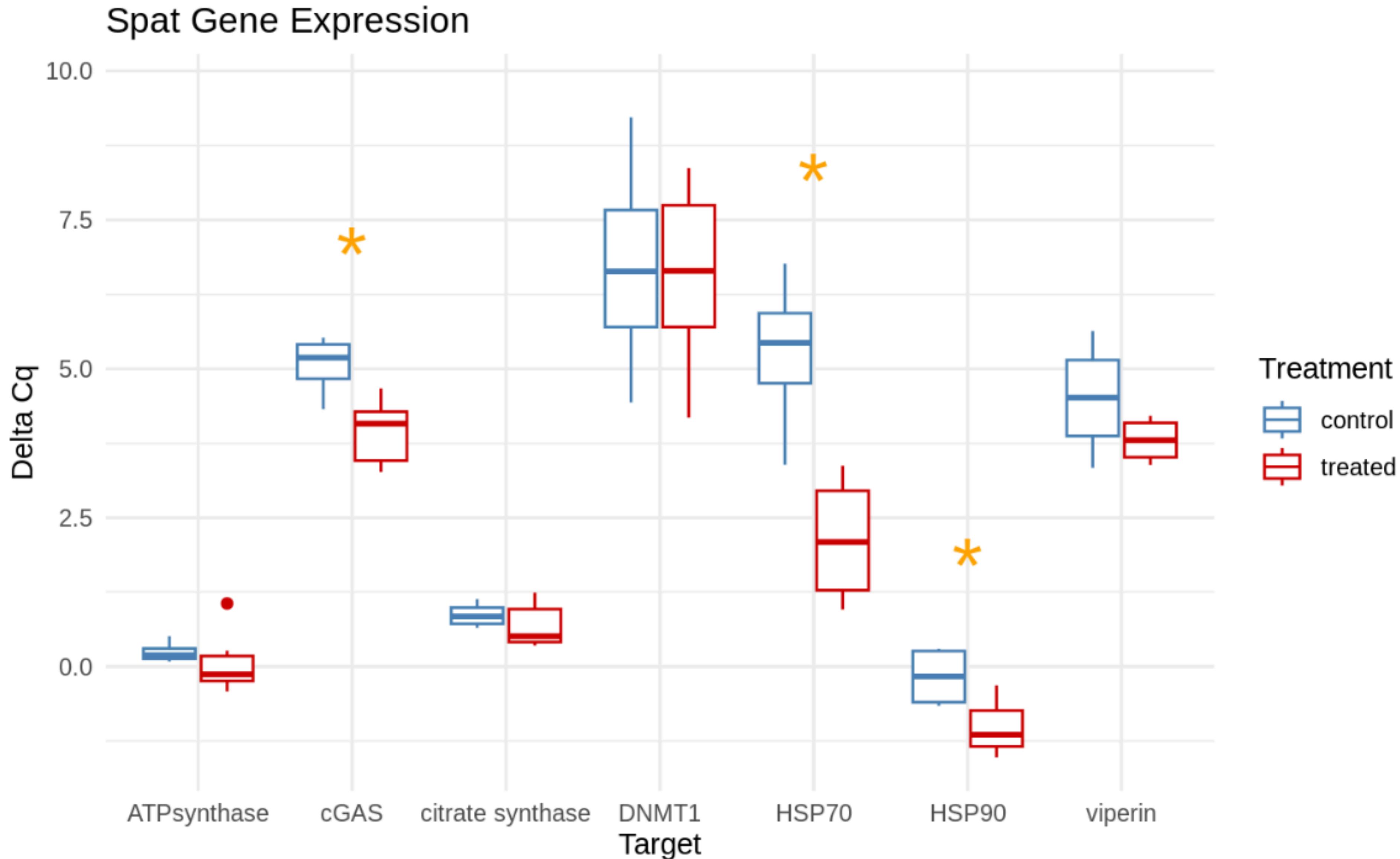


# *Crassostrea gigas*

## Growth



# *Crassostrea gigas*



# *Crassostrea gigas*

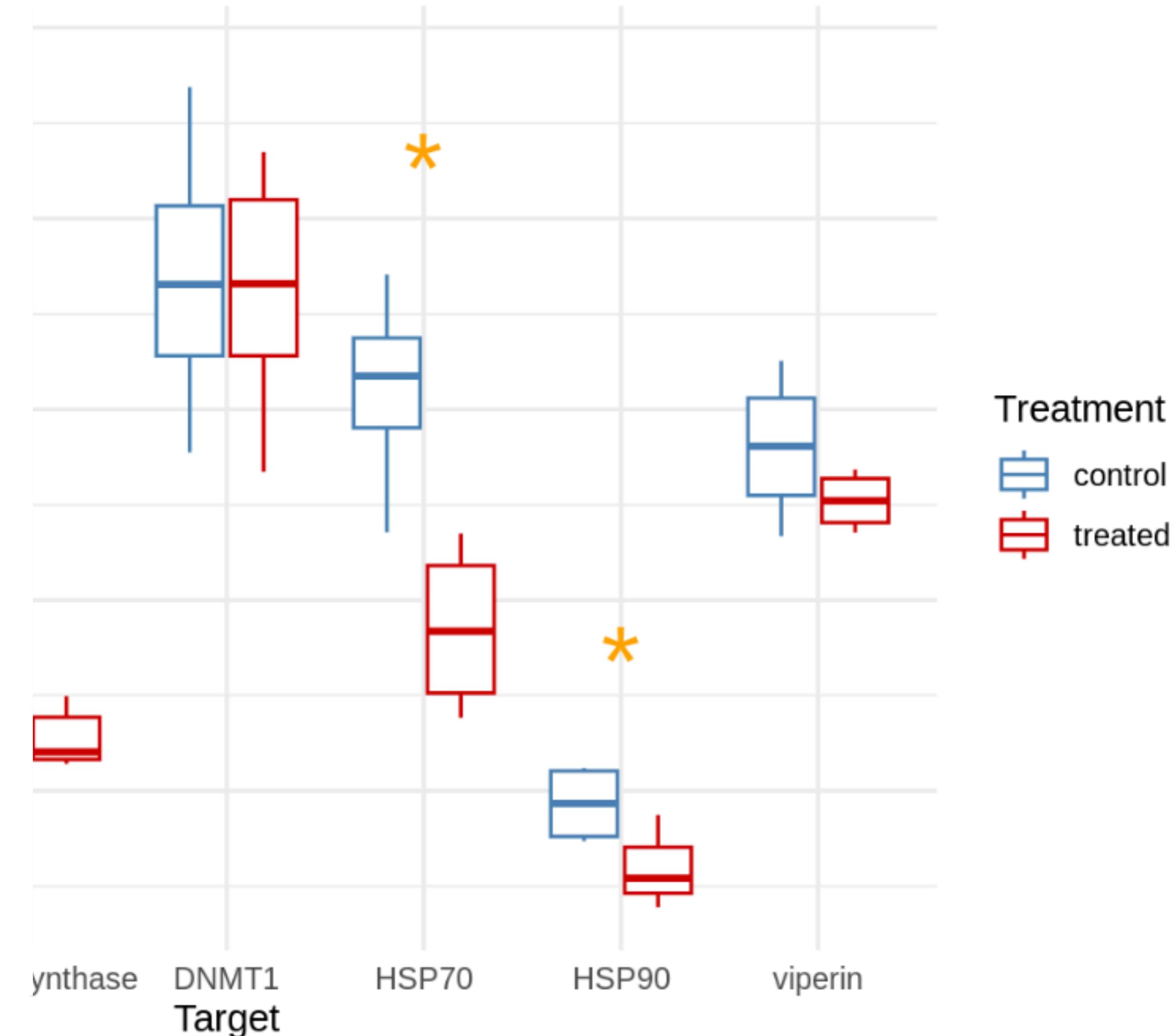
## Spat Gene Expression

**Naive spat**



**Hardened spat**

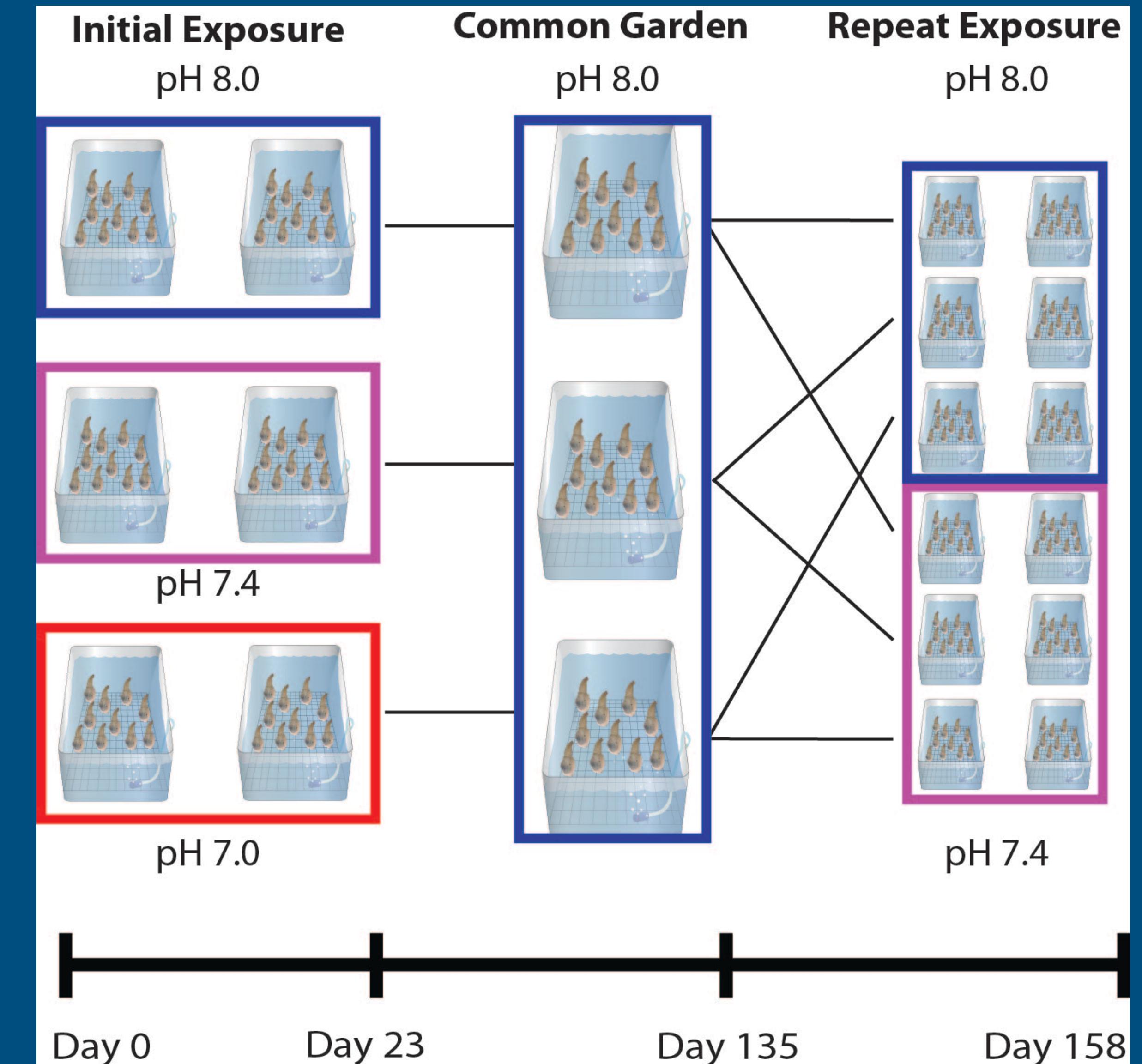
- Immunity
- Heat shock
- Growth



## GEODUCKS CLAMS

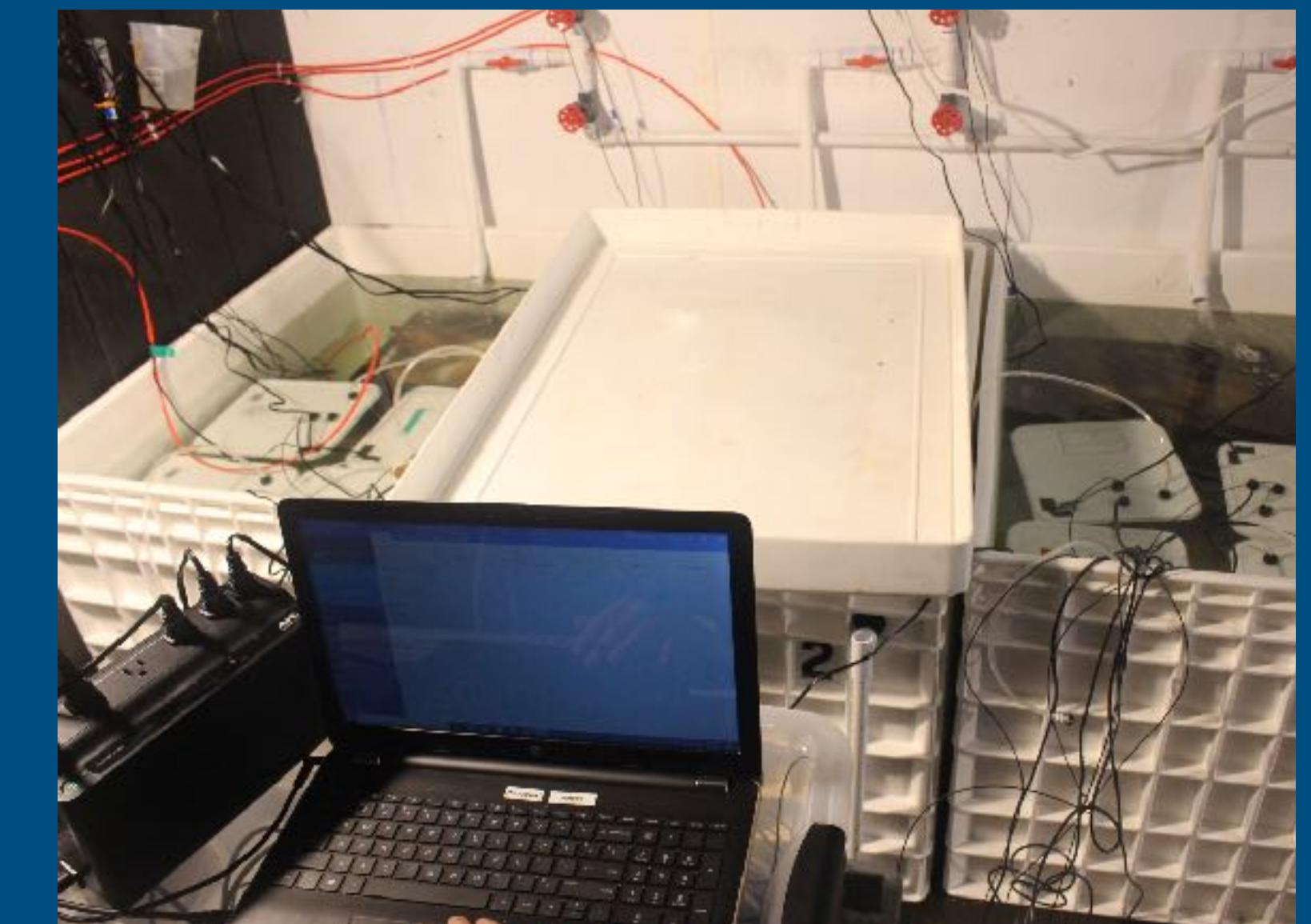


- ▶ Does conditioning to low pH confer tolerance within a generation?



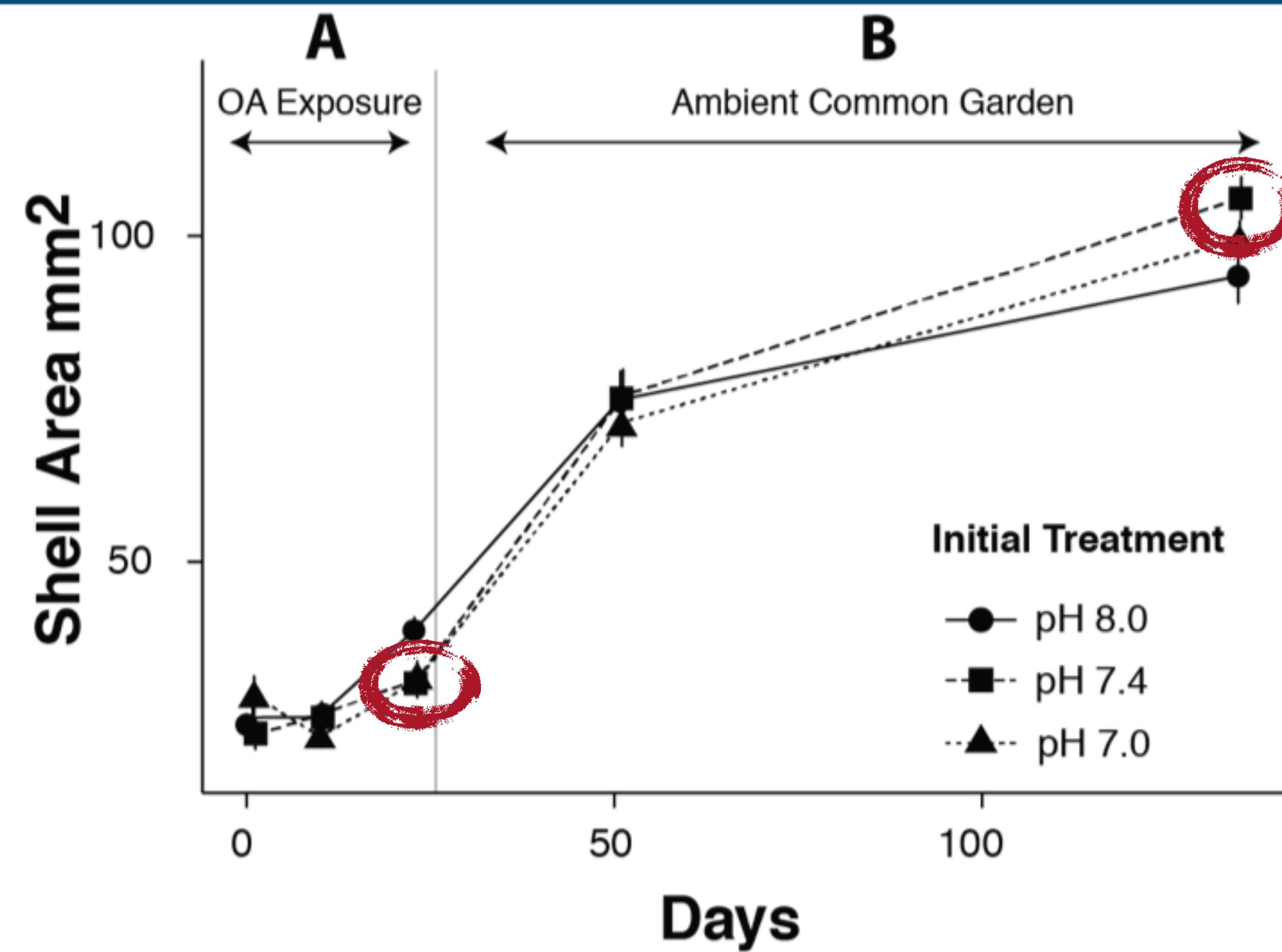
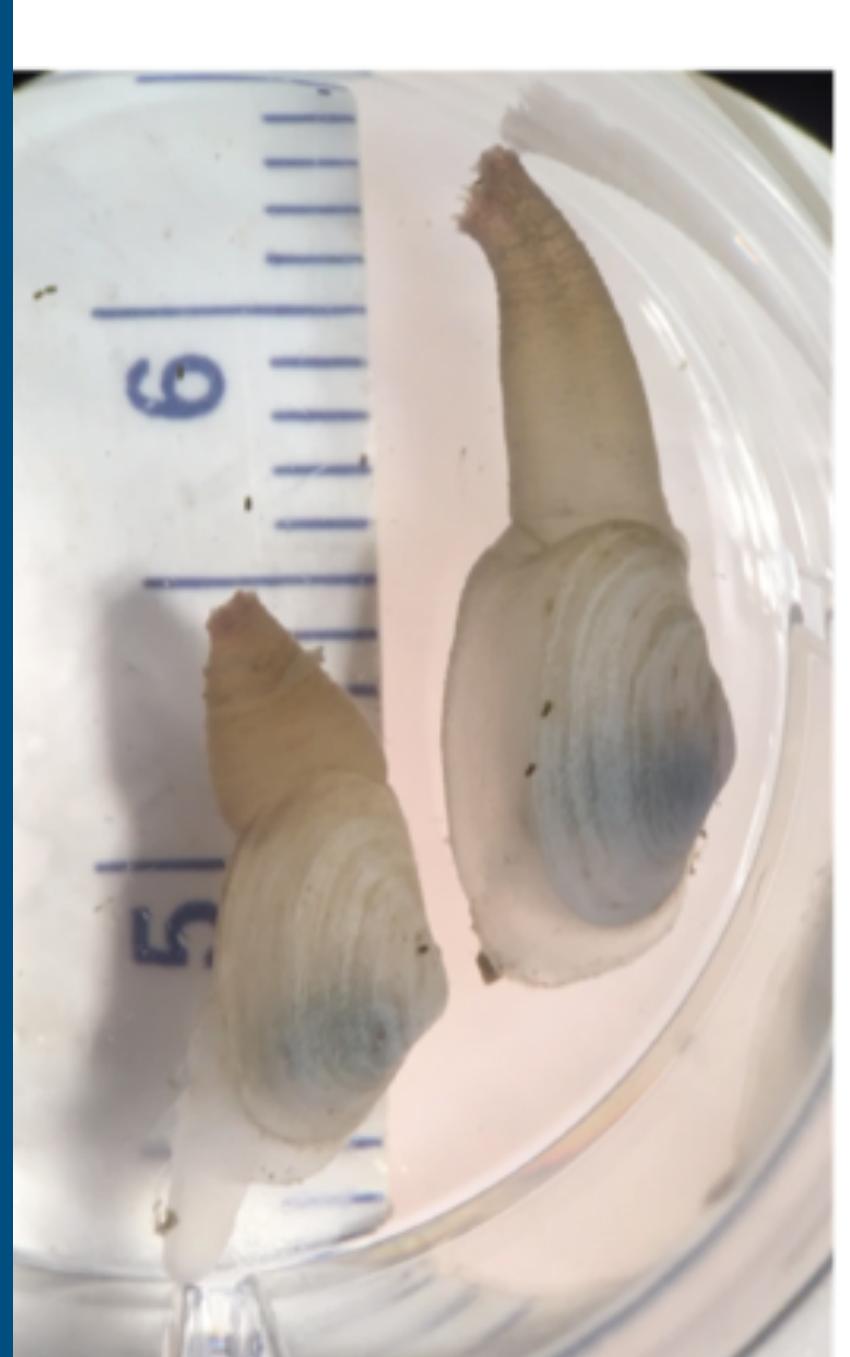
HOLLIE PUTNAM, SAM GURR, BRENT VADOPALAS, SHELLY TRIGG, JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE

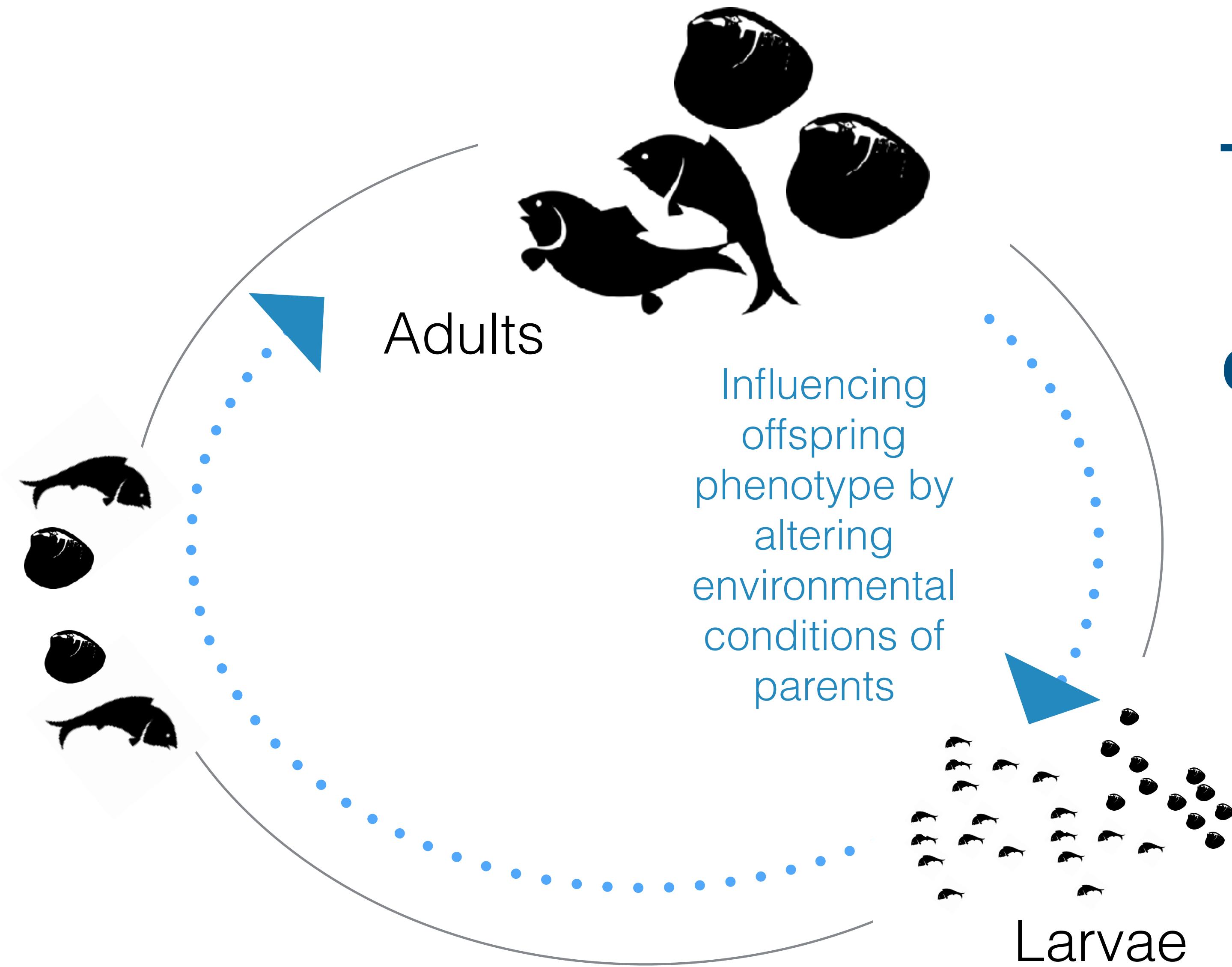
## GEODUCKS CLAMS



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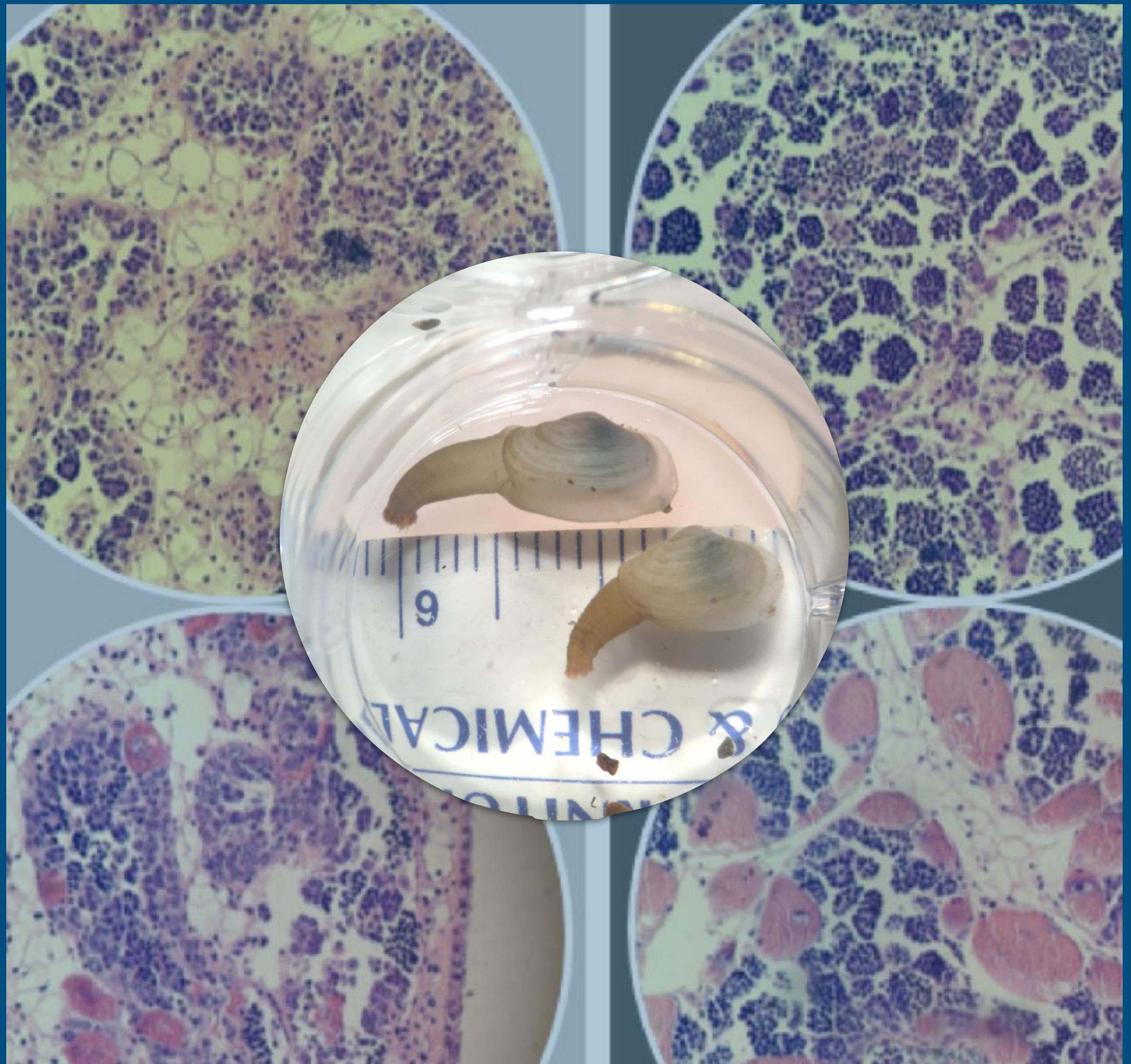




**Transgenerational  
Plasticity**  
**Carry-over effects**

# INFLUENCE OF PARENTAL CONDITIONS

- ▶ Selection (various generations)
- ▶ Germ cells are present
- ▶ Maternal provisioning
- ▶ Paternal role?
- ▶ Beneficial versus detrimental
- ▶ *Mechanisms at play*



# EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE AND OA IN OLYMPIA OYSTER POPULATIONS

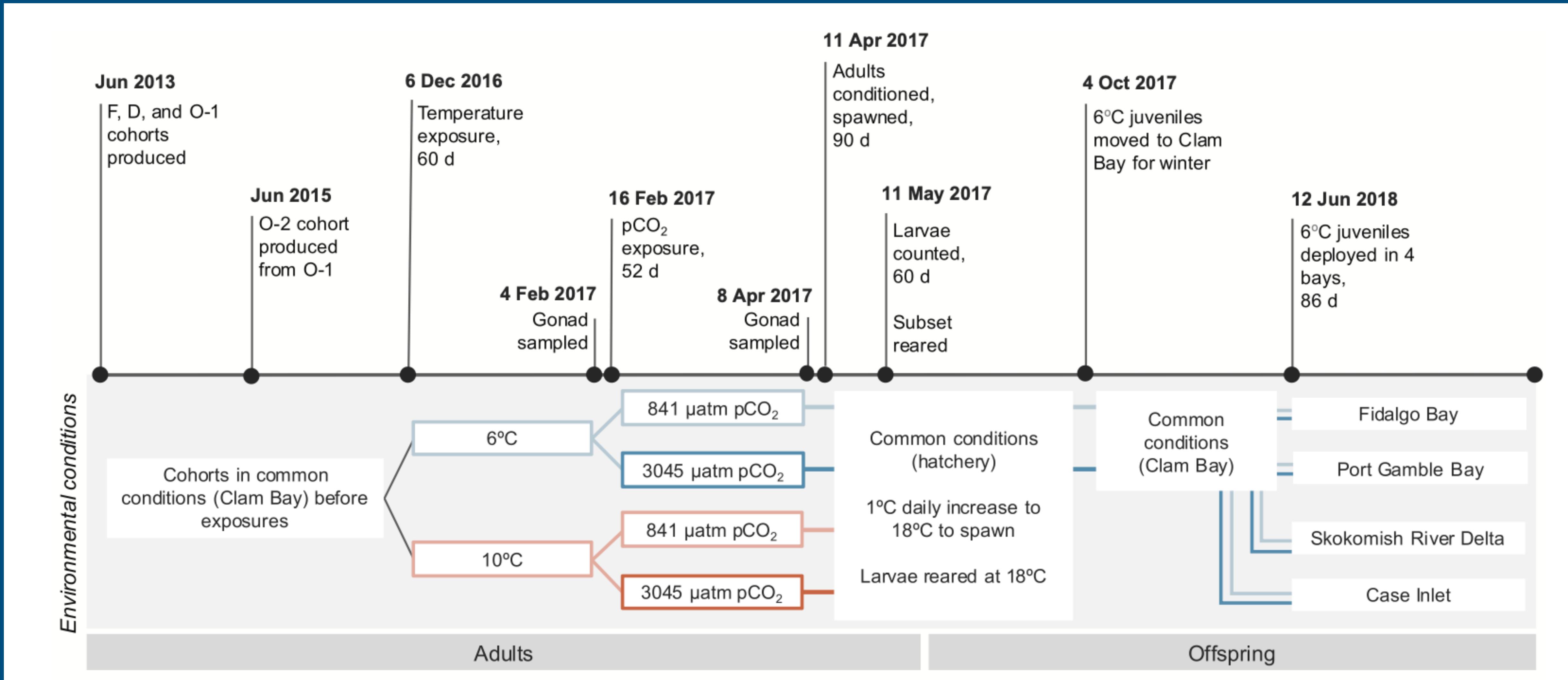


- ▶ Oysters were held at two temperature regimes ( $6^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) for 60 days in December
- ▶ A differential pCO<sub>2</sub> exposure was carried out after the temperature treatment ended. Held at ambient pCO<sub>2</sub> (841  $\mu\text{atm}$ ) or high pCO<sub>2</sub> (3045  $\mu\text{atm}$ ) for 52 days, during the Winter.

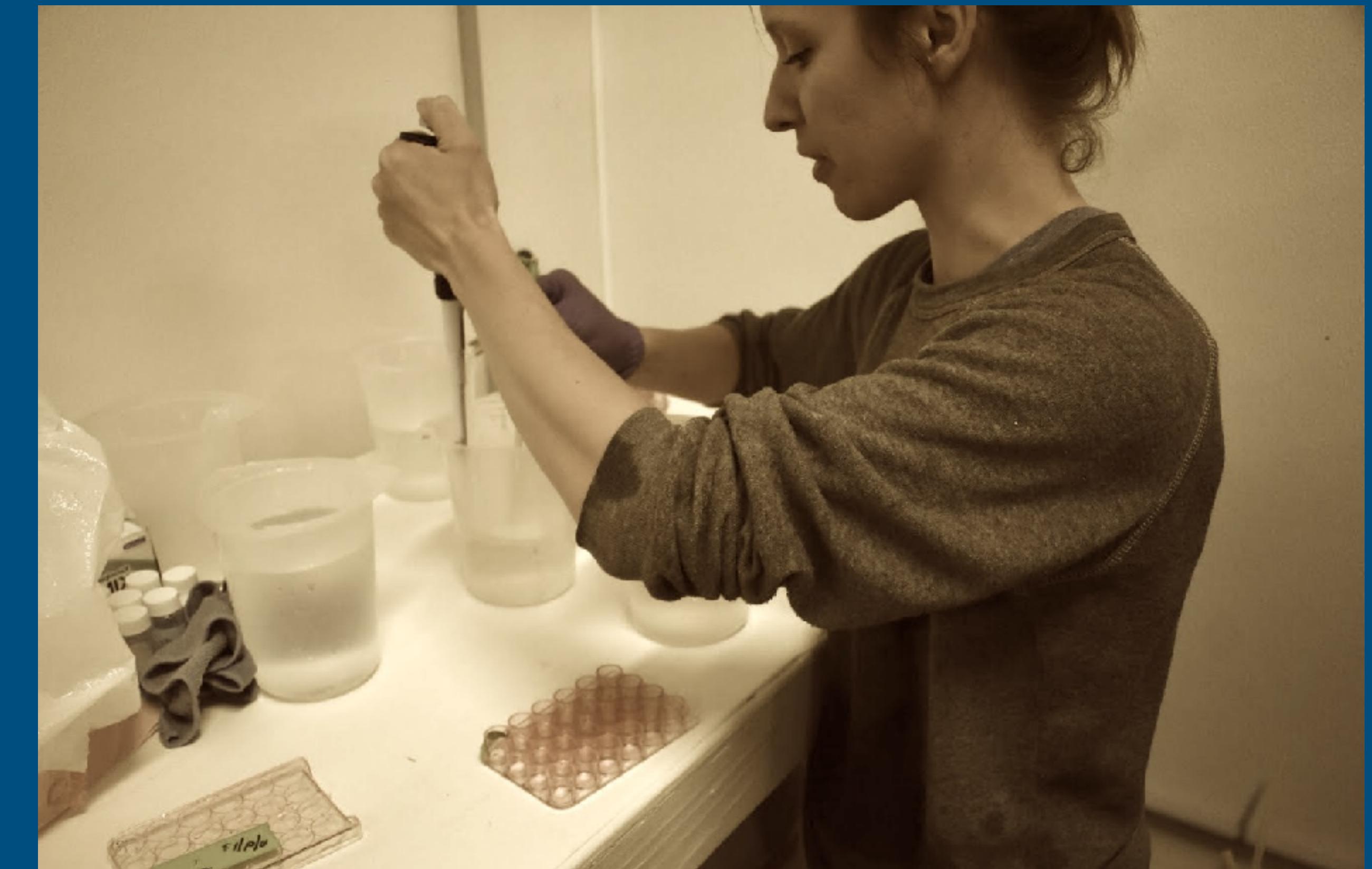
Carryover effects of temperature and pCO<sub>2</sub> across multiple Olympia oyster populations

LAURA H. SPENCER,<sup>1</sup> YAAMINI R. VENKATARAMAN,<sup>1</sup> RYAN CRIM,<sup>2</sup> STUART RYAN,<sup>2</sup> MICAH J. HORWITZ,<sup>3</sup> AND STEVEN B. ROBERTS<sup>1,4</sup>

# TEXT



# EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE AND OA IN OLYMPIA OYSTER POPULATIONS

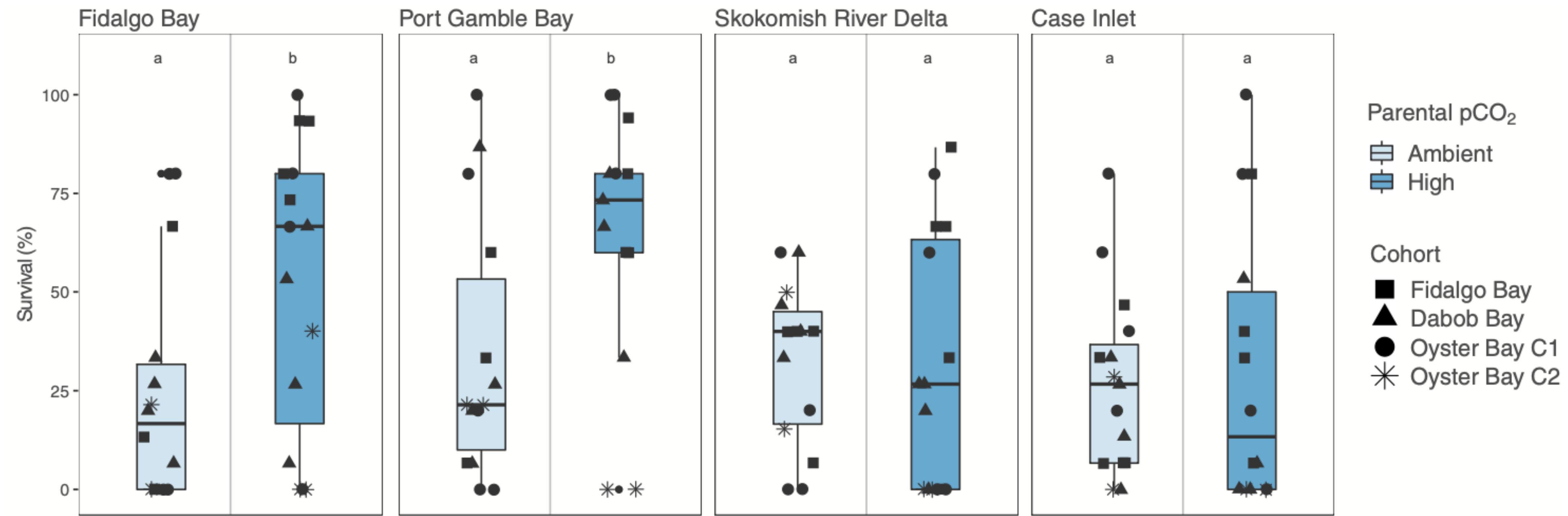


# EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURE AND OA IN OLYMPIA OYSTER POPULATIONS



- ▶ Larval release occurred earlier in warm-exposed oysters
- ▶ Winter warming conditions increased larval production
- ▶ No effects on larval survival were detected
- ▶ **Juveniles of parents exposed to elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> had higher survival rates in the natural environment**

# EFFECTS OF OA IN OLYMPIA OYSTER POPULATIONS



# Eastern Oyster

LIMNOLOGY  
and  
OCEANOGRAPHY



*Limnol. Oceanogr.* 67, 2022, 1732–1745  
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doi: 10.1002/lo.12162

## Parental exposure of Eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) to elevated $p\text{CO}_2$ mitigates its negative effects on early larval shell growth and morphology

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Justin B. Ries

Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences, Marine Science Center, Northeastern University, Nahant, Massachusetts

Transgenerational plasticity in early larval shell growth and morphology, but not in survival, in response to the parental  $p\text{CO}_2$  exposure. Larvae from parents exposed to elevated  $p\text{CO}_2$  exhibited faster shell growth rates than larvae from control parents, with this effect being significantly larger when larvae were grown under elevated  $p\text{CO}_2$

# Eastern Oyster

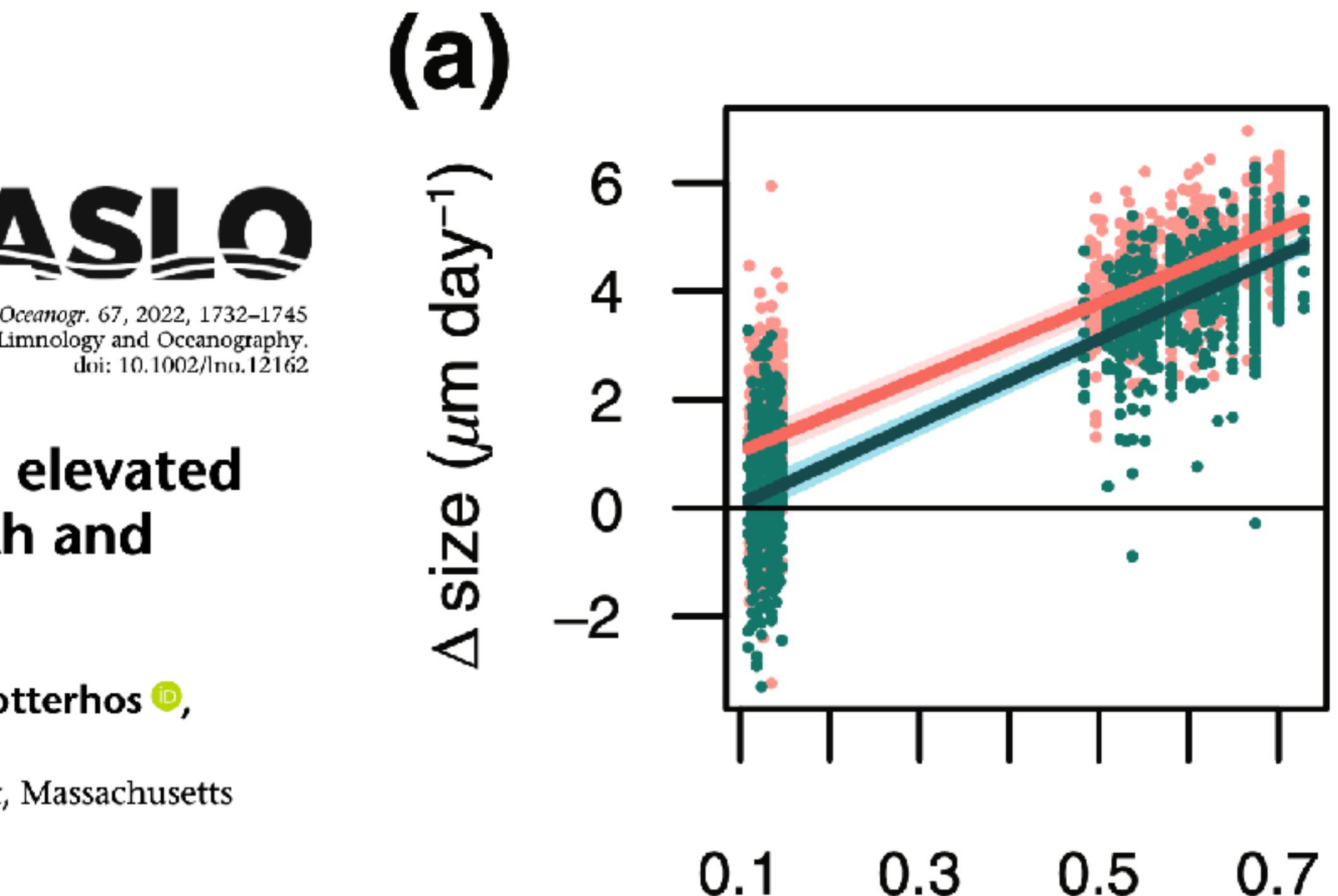
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# Environmental Memory



CAN BE BENEFICIAL  
STAGE DEPENDENT  
ACROSS GENERATION  
IMPLICATIONS ...

# Environmental Memory



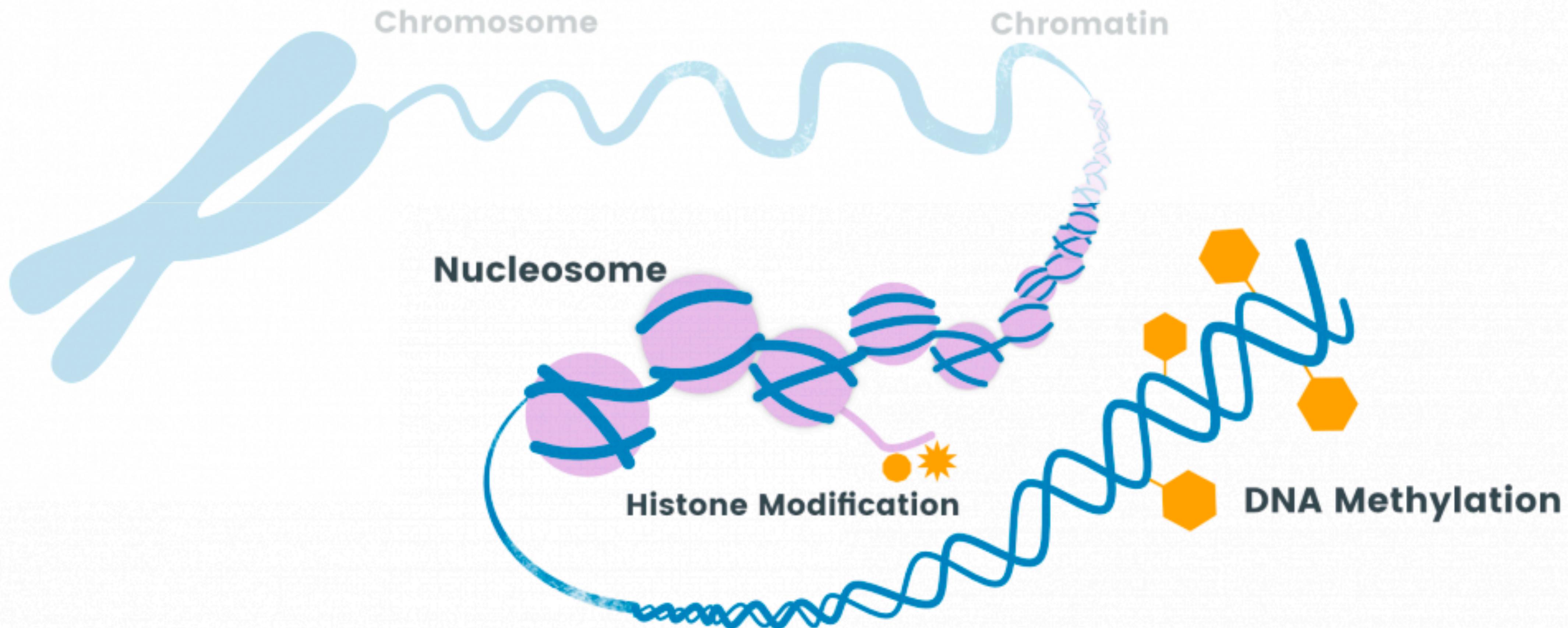
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**Epigenetic Mechanisms**

# Epigenetics

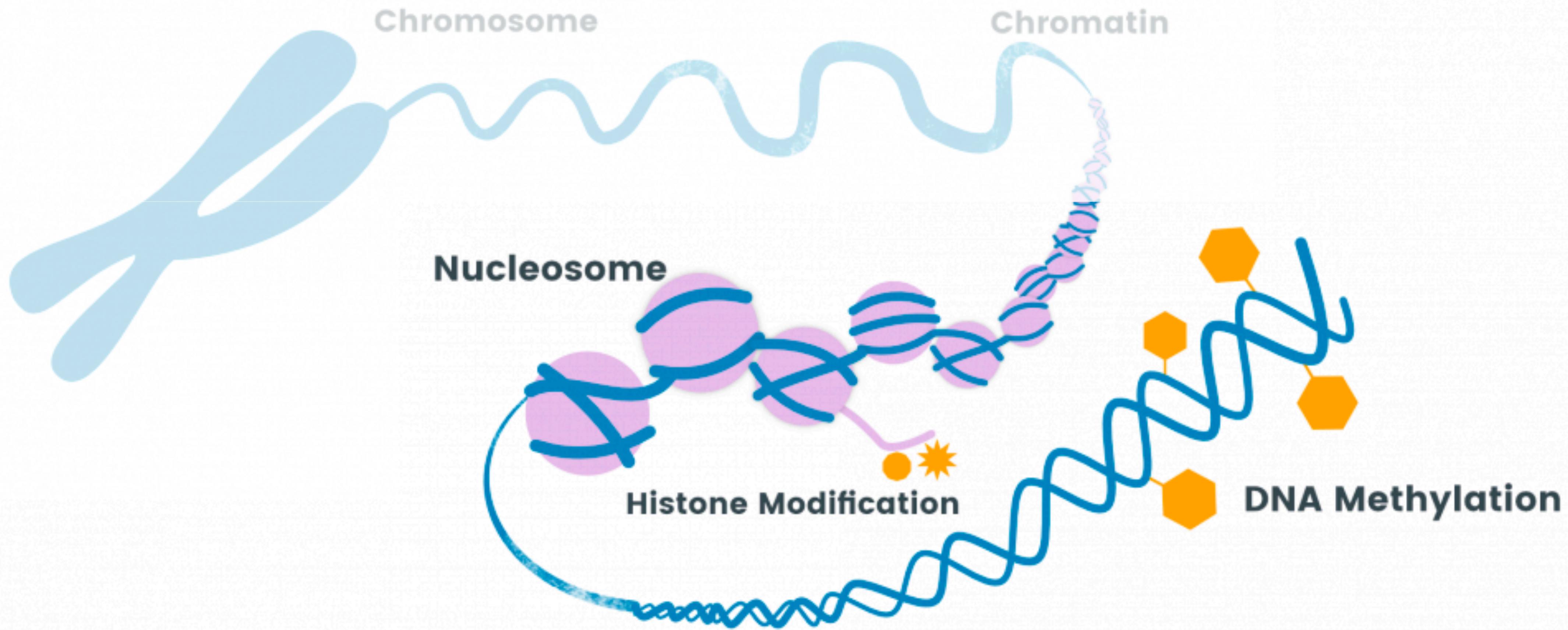
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**ALTERS THE PHENOTYPE (WITHOUT CHANGING DNA CODE); HERITABLE**

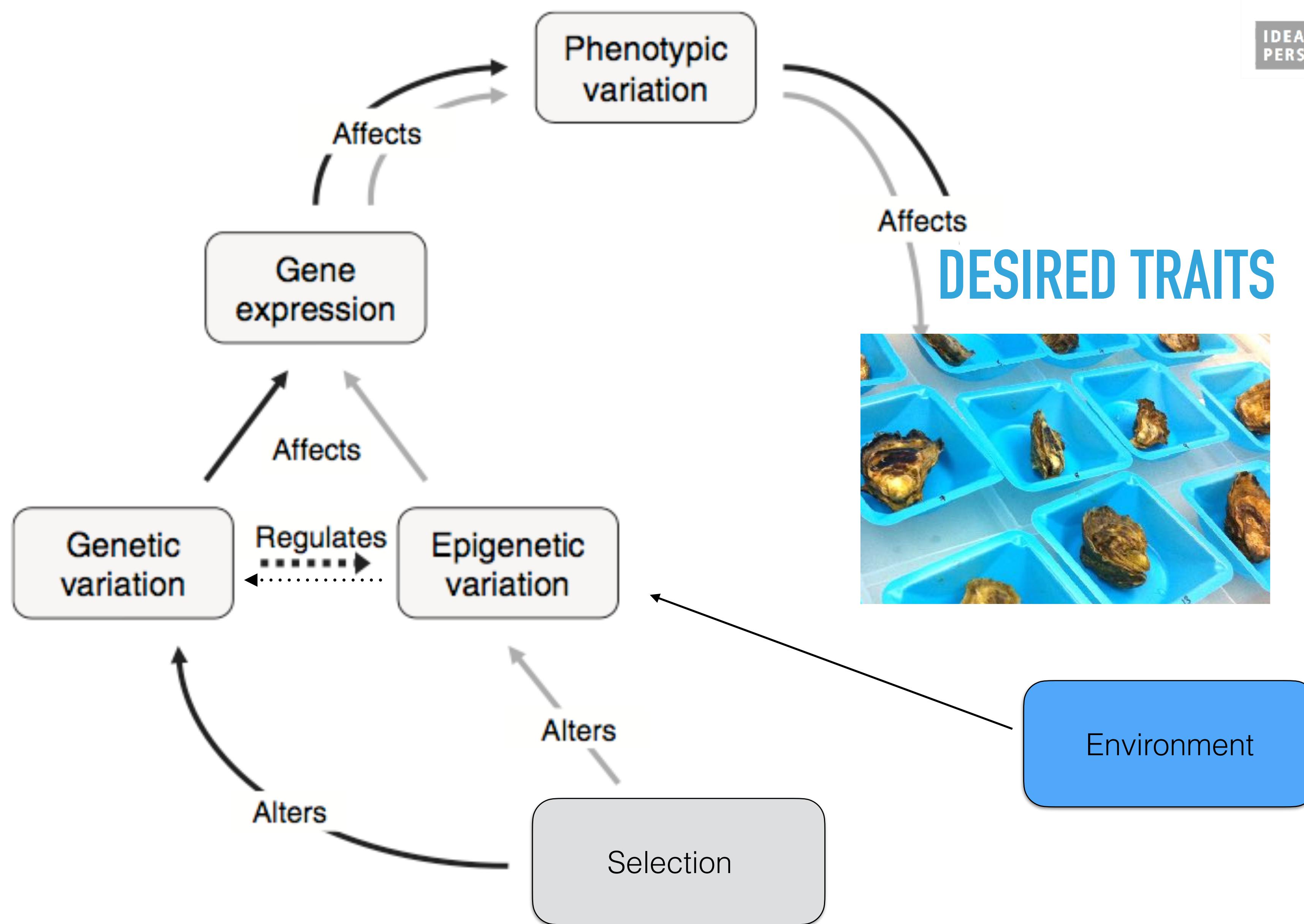


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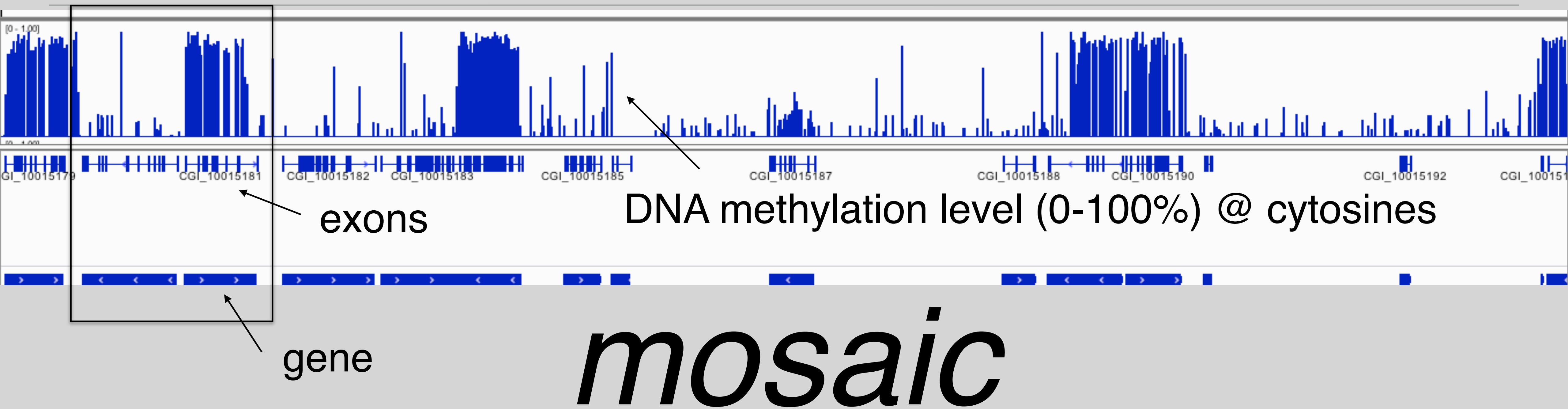
**CAN BE INDUCED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MANIPULATION**



IDEA AND  
PERSPECTIVE

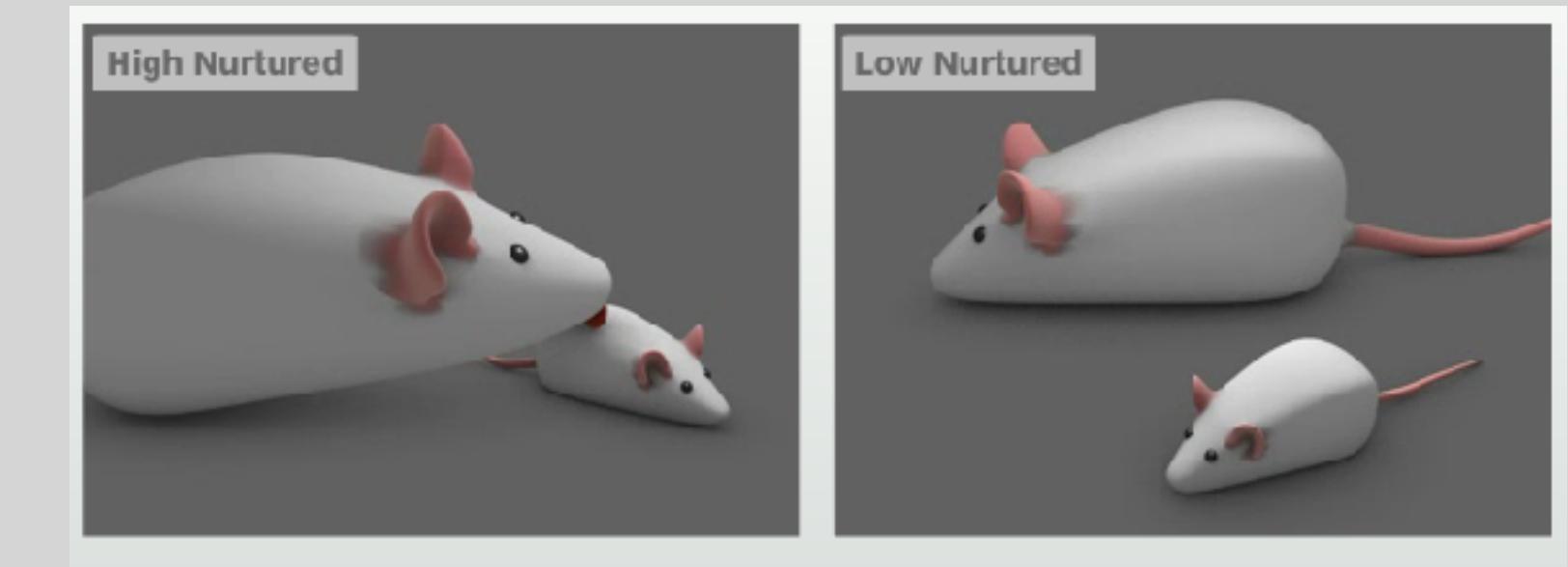
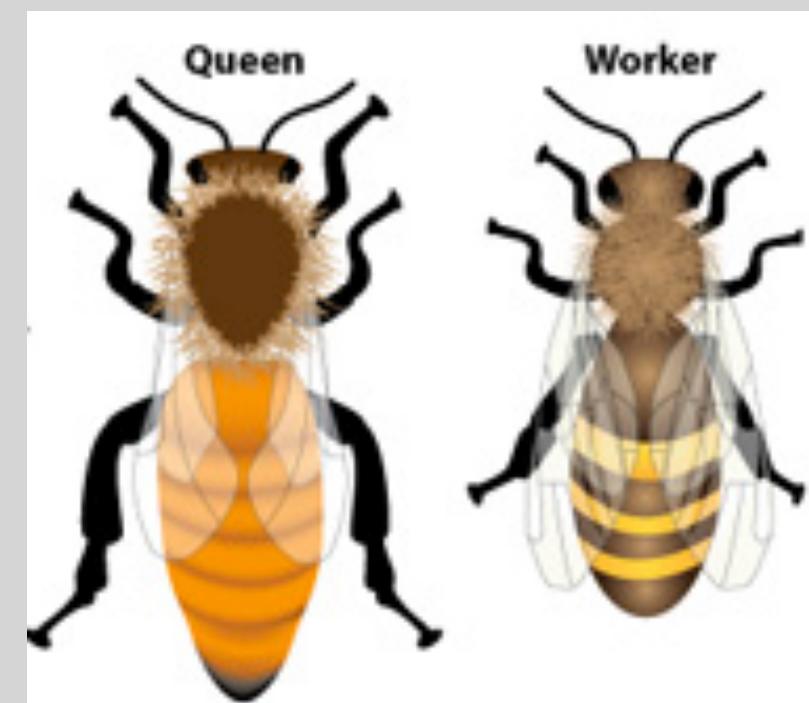
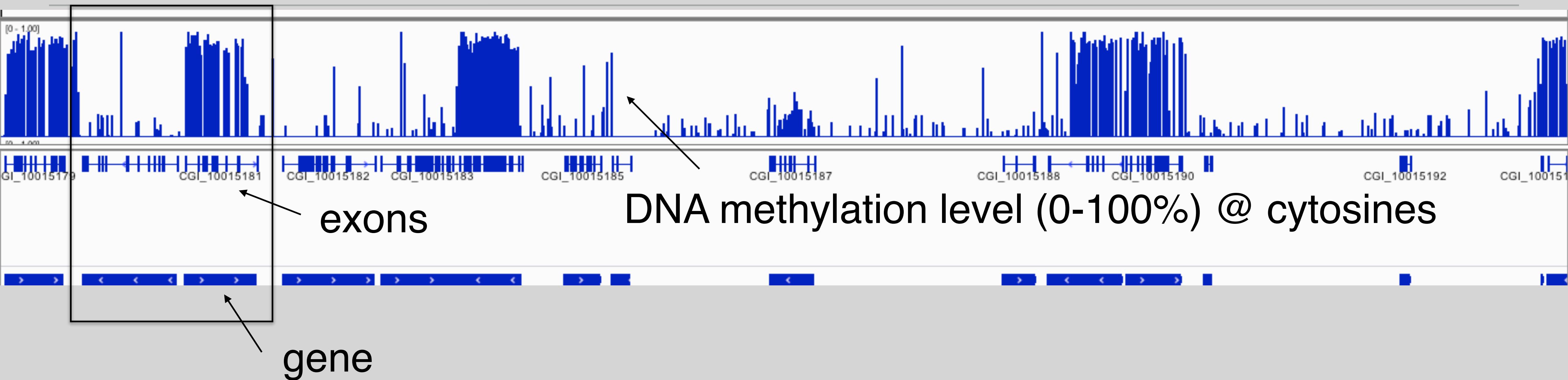
Epigenetics for ecologists

## METHYLATION LANDSCAPE IN MARINE INVERTEBRATES



associated with gene bodies

# METHYLATION LANDSCAPE IN MARINE INVERTEBRATES



# Four Dimensionalities



Targeted Regulation

Stochastic Regulation

Reliable Transcription

Spurious Transcription

# Four Dimensionalities

- Evolutionary
- Life History Driven
- Constitutive

Reliable Transcription

Spurious Transcription

# Four Dimensionalities

- Distinct Lineage
- Experiential
- Inducible

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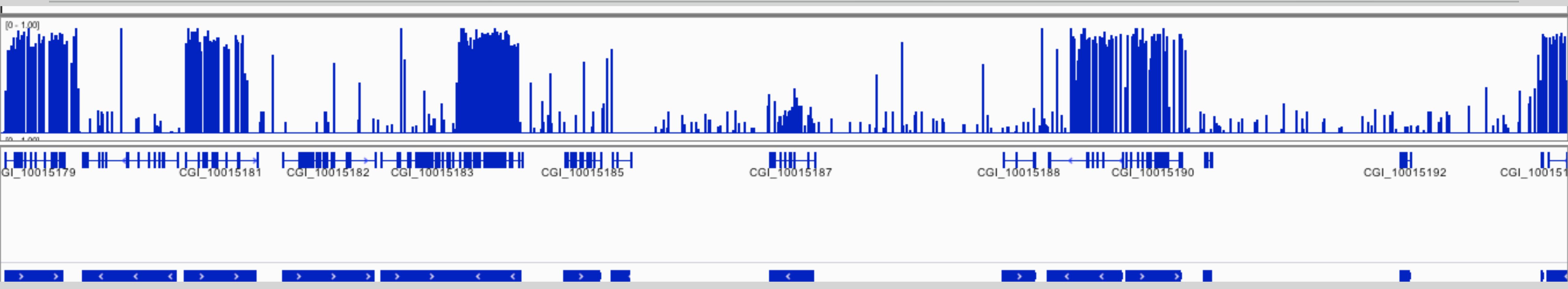
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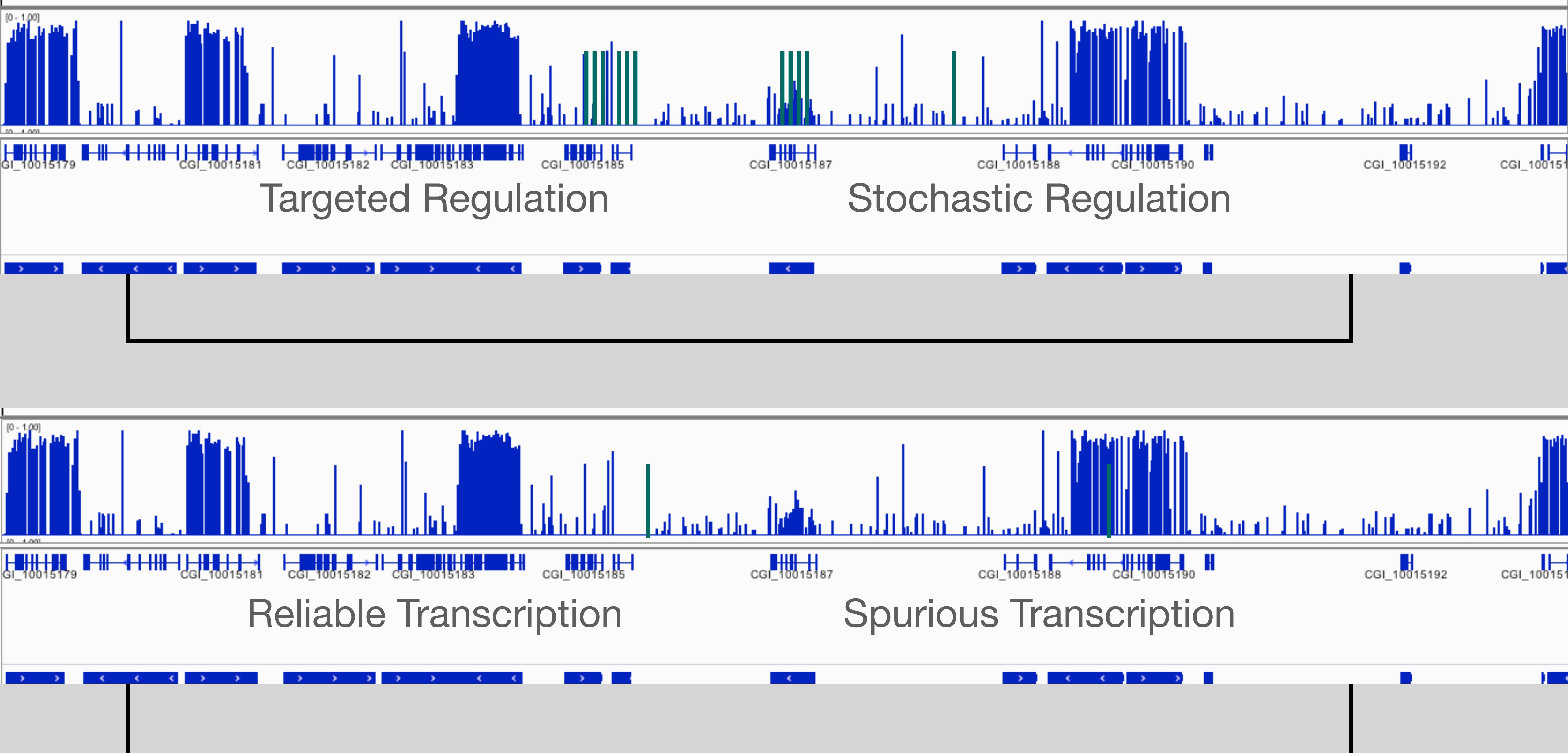
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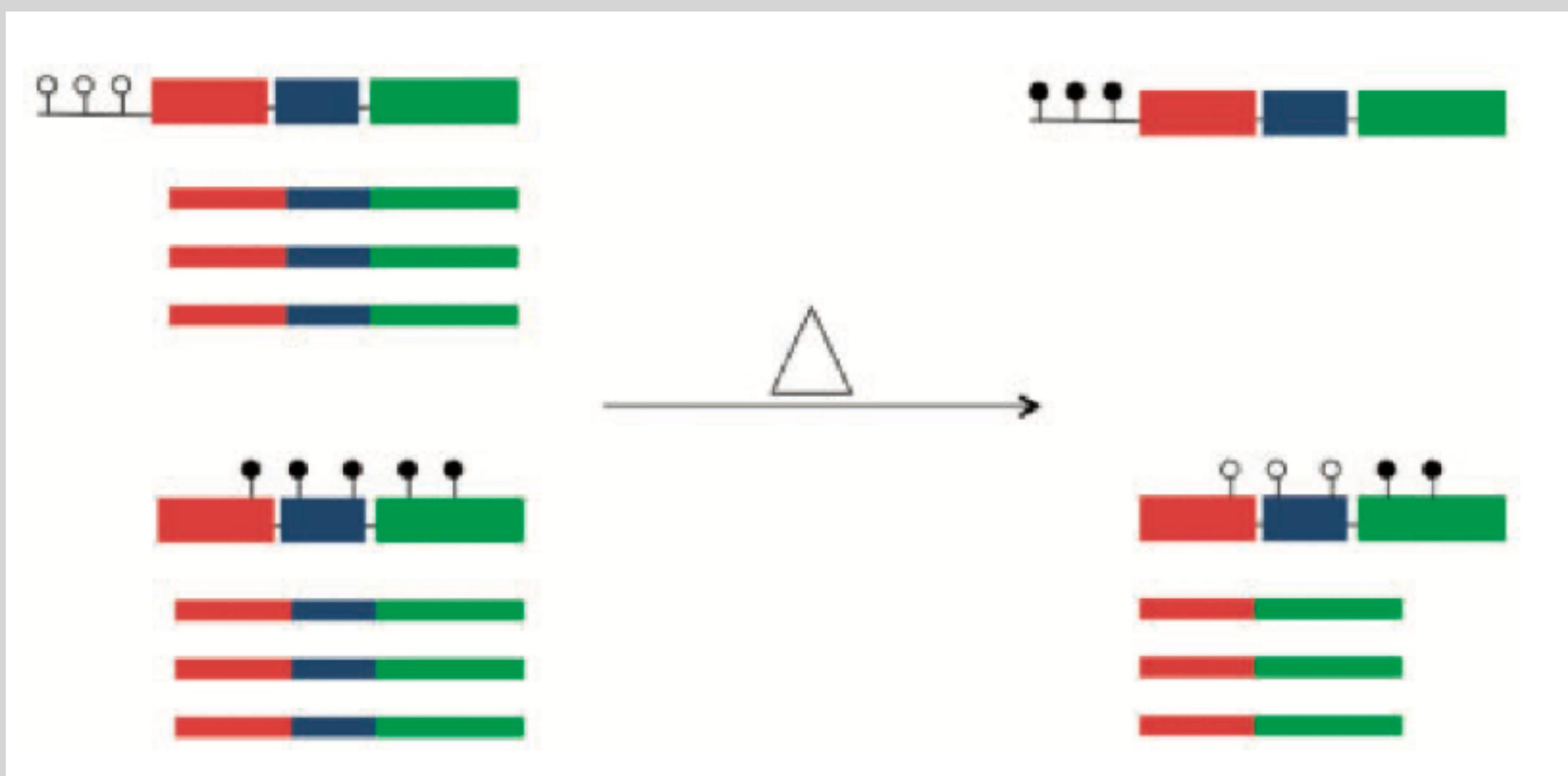
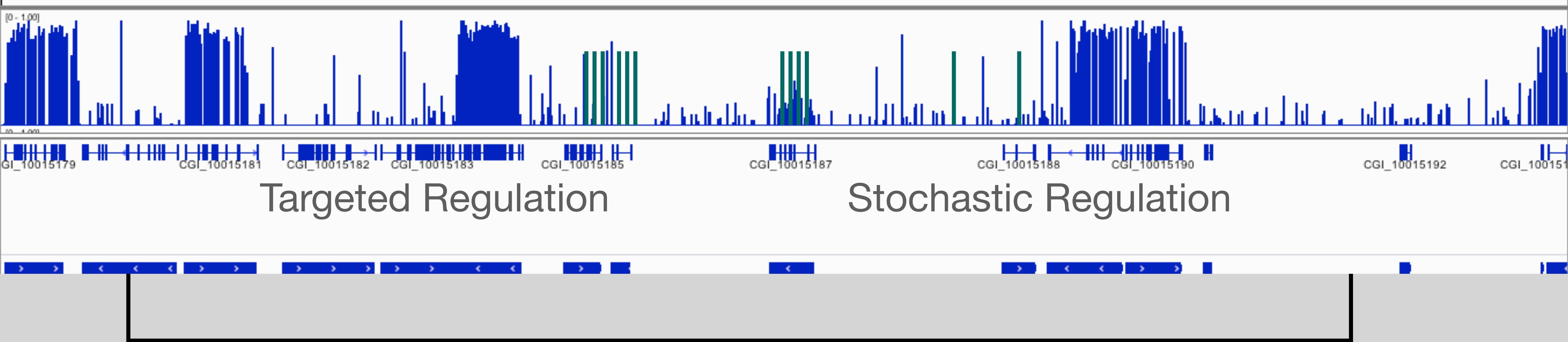
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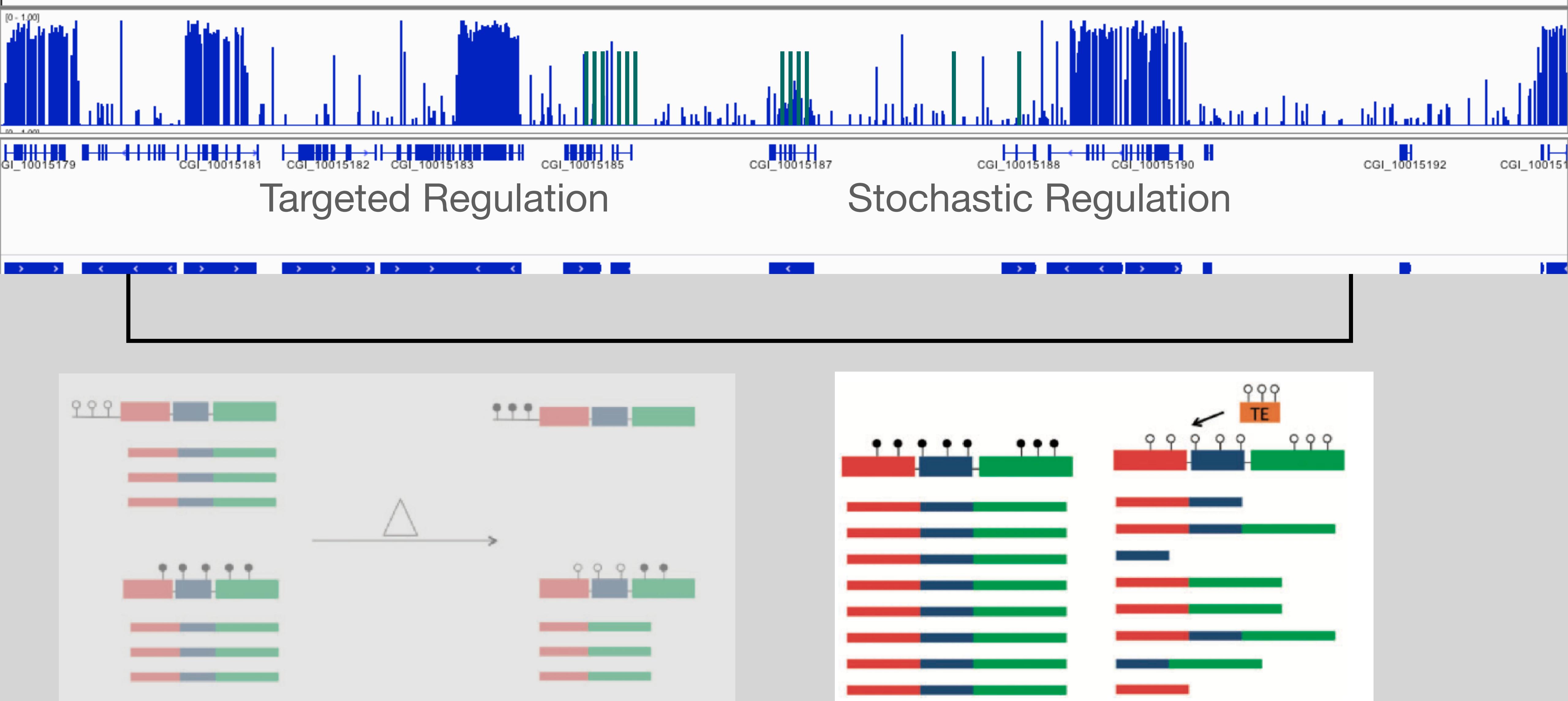
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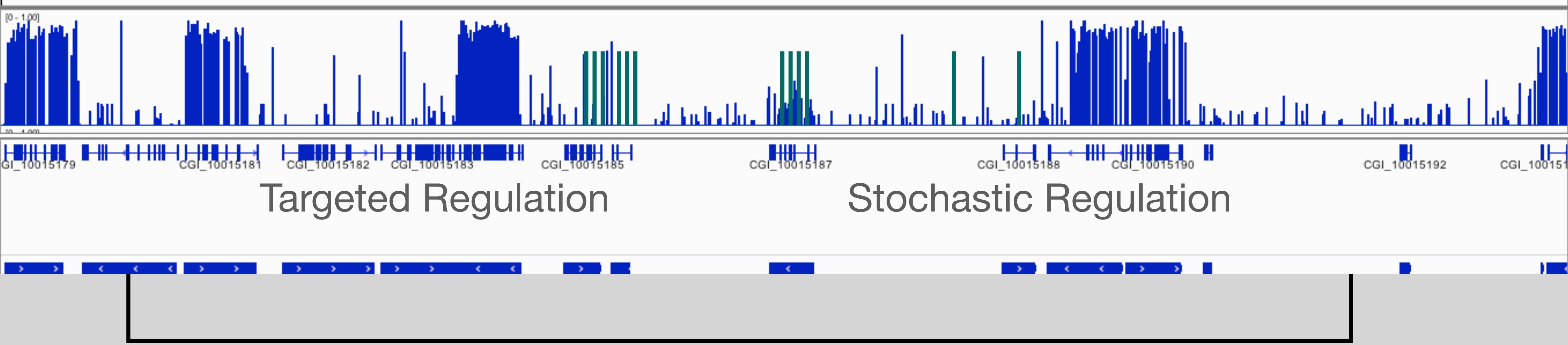
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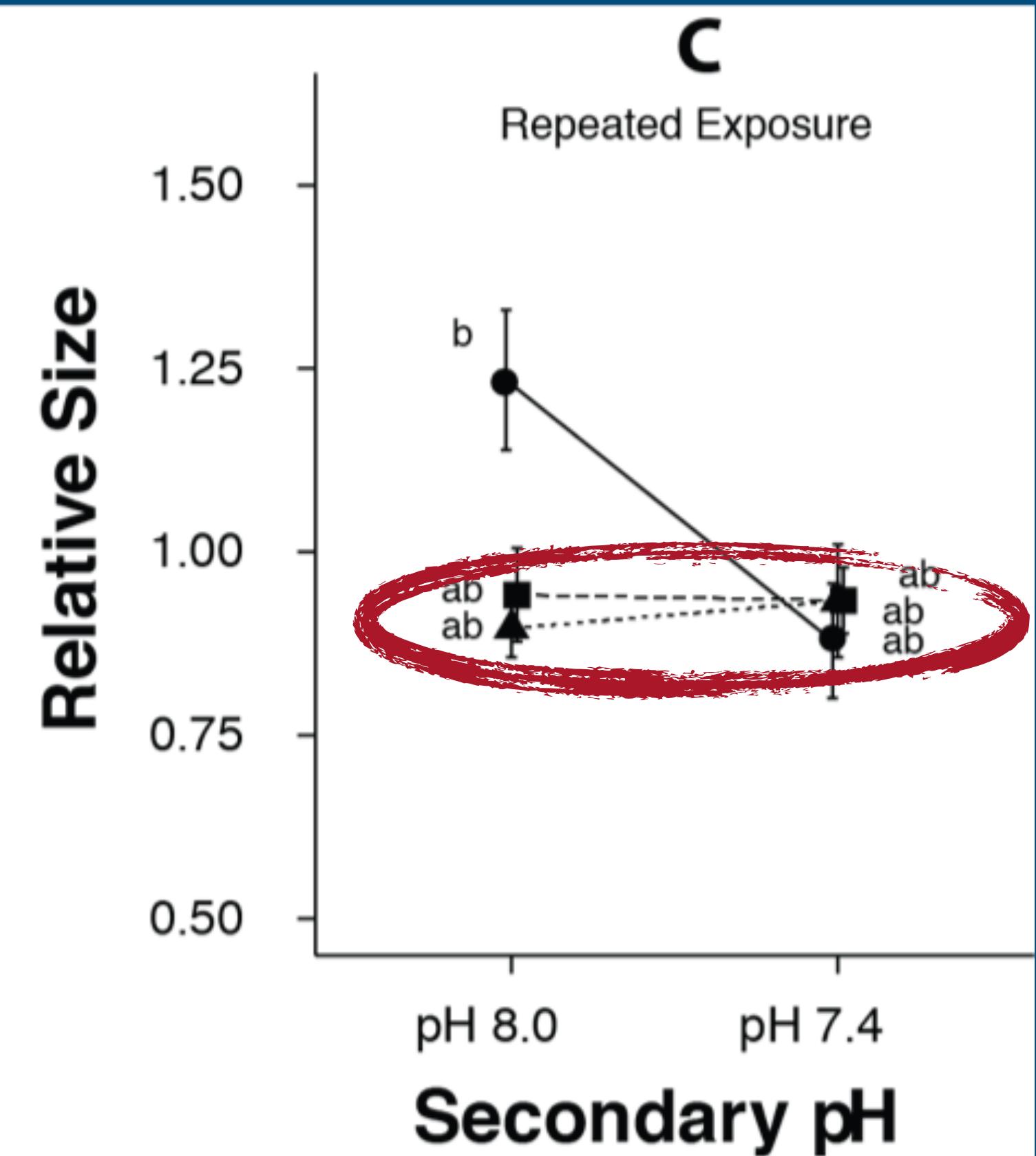
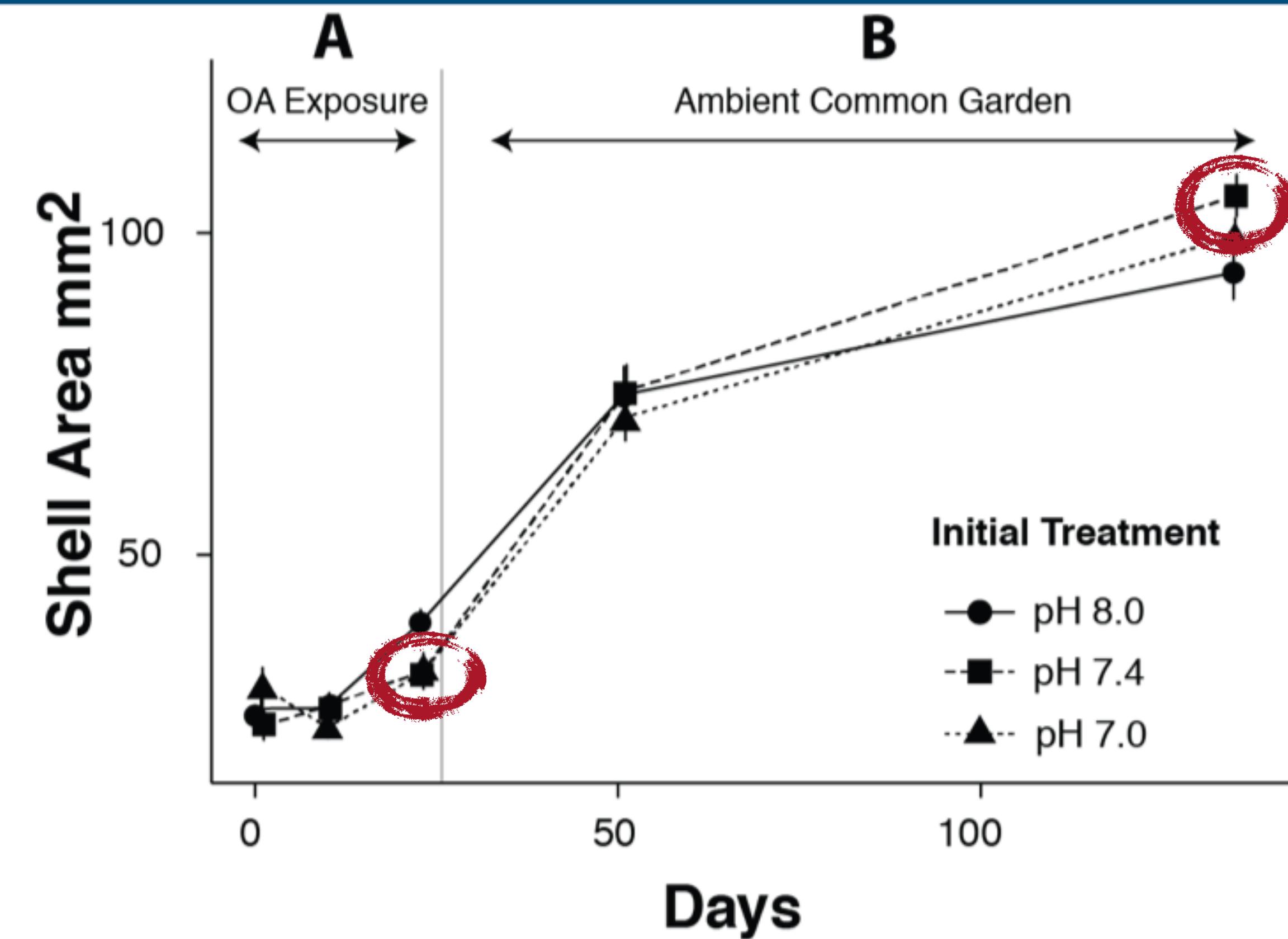
## METHYLATION LANDSCAPE IN MARINE INVERTEBRATES



We *do not* see correlation of differential expressed genes  
and differential methylation patterns

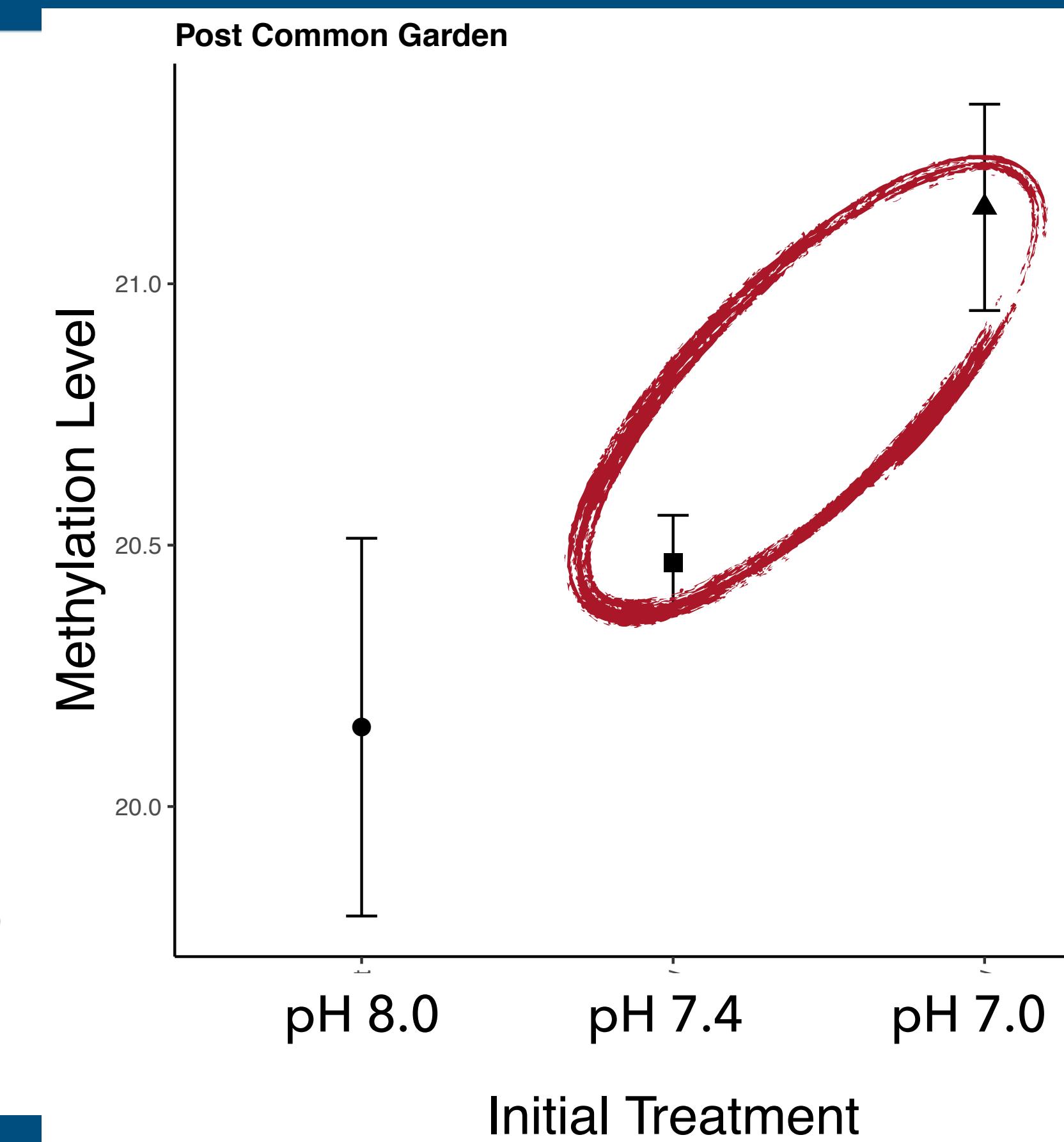
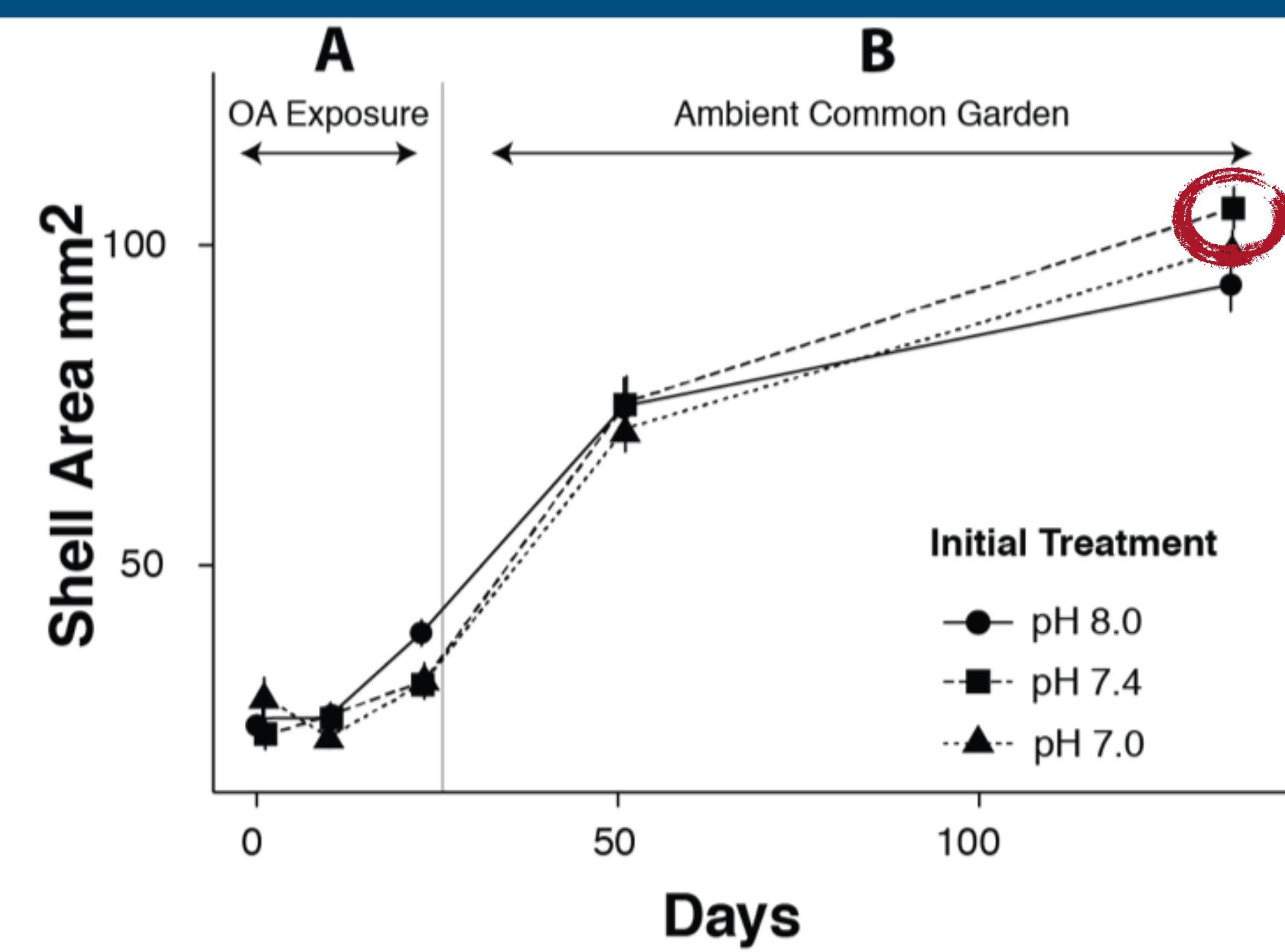
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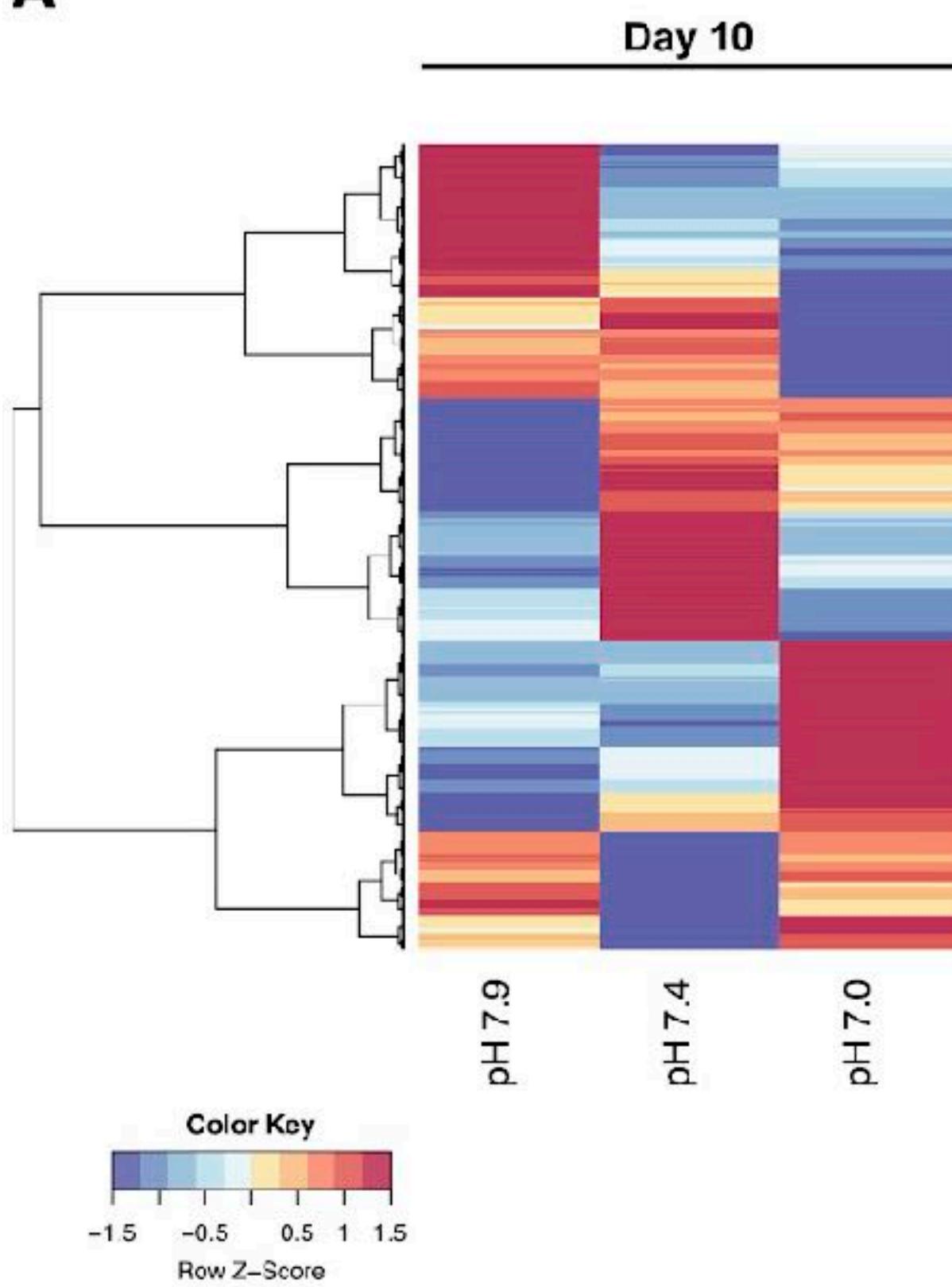
# GEODUCKS AND OA

# DNA METHYLATION

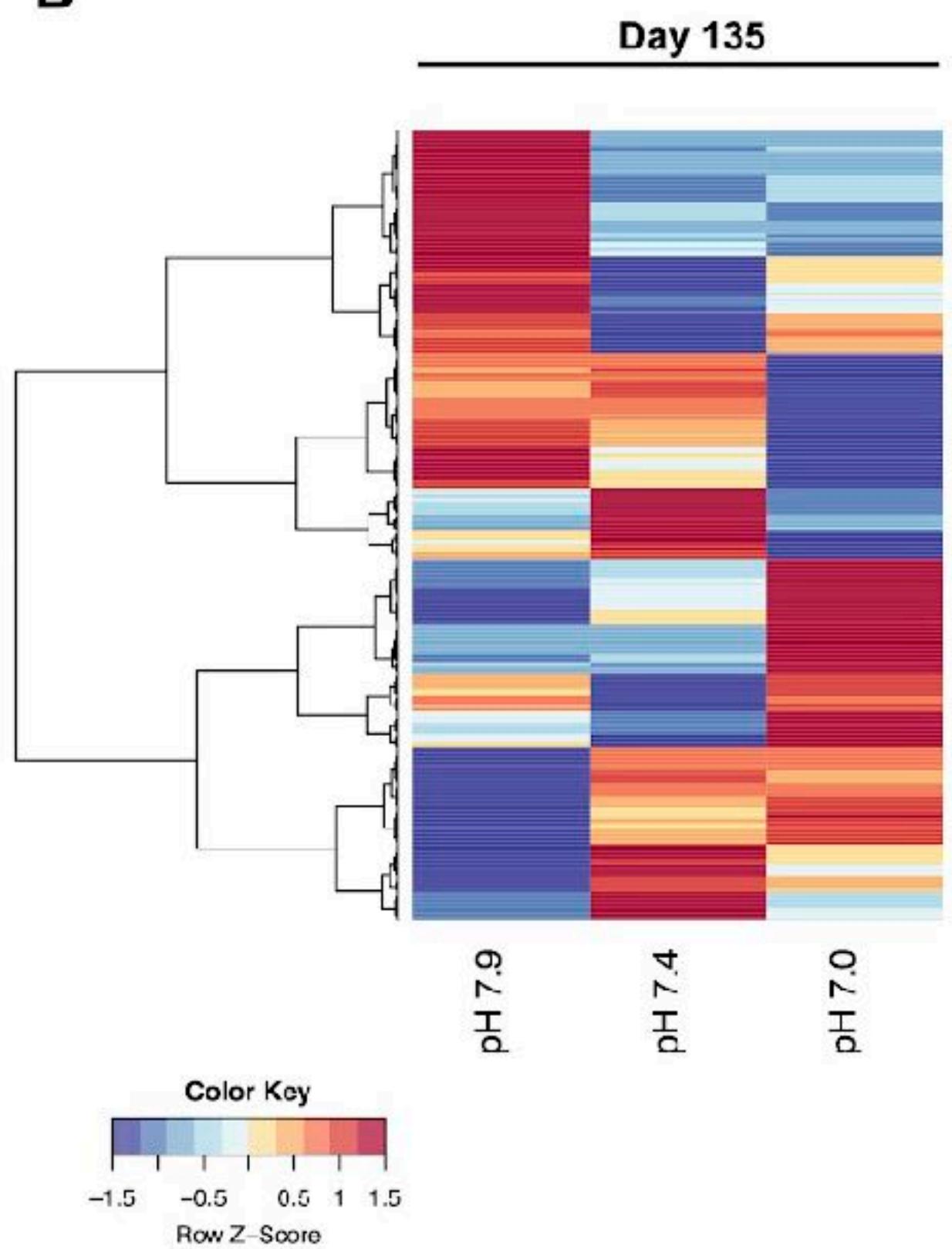


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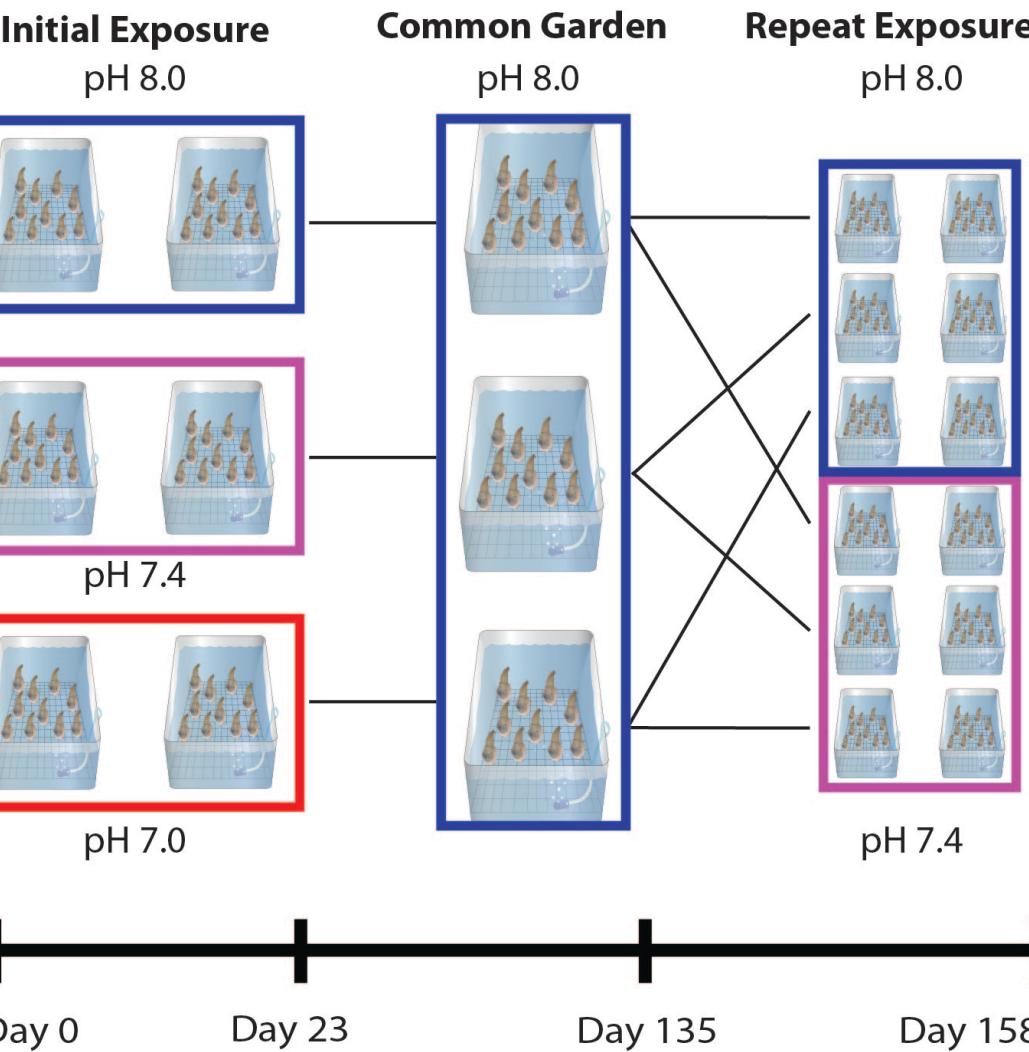
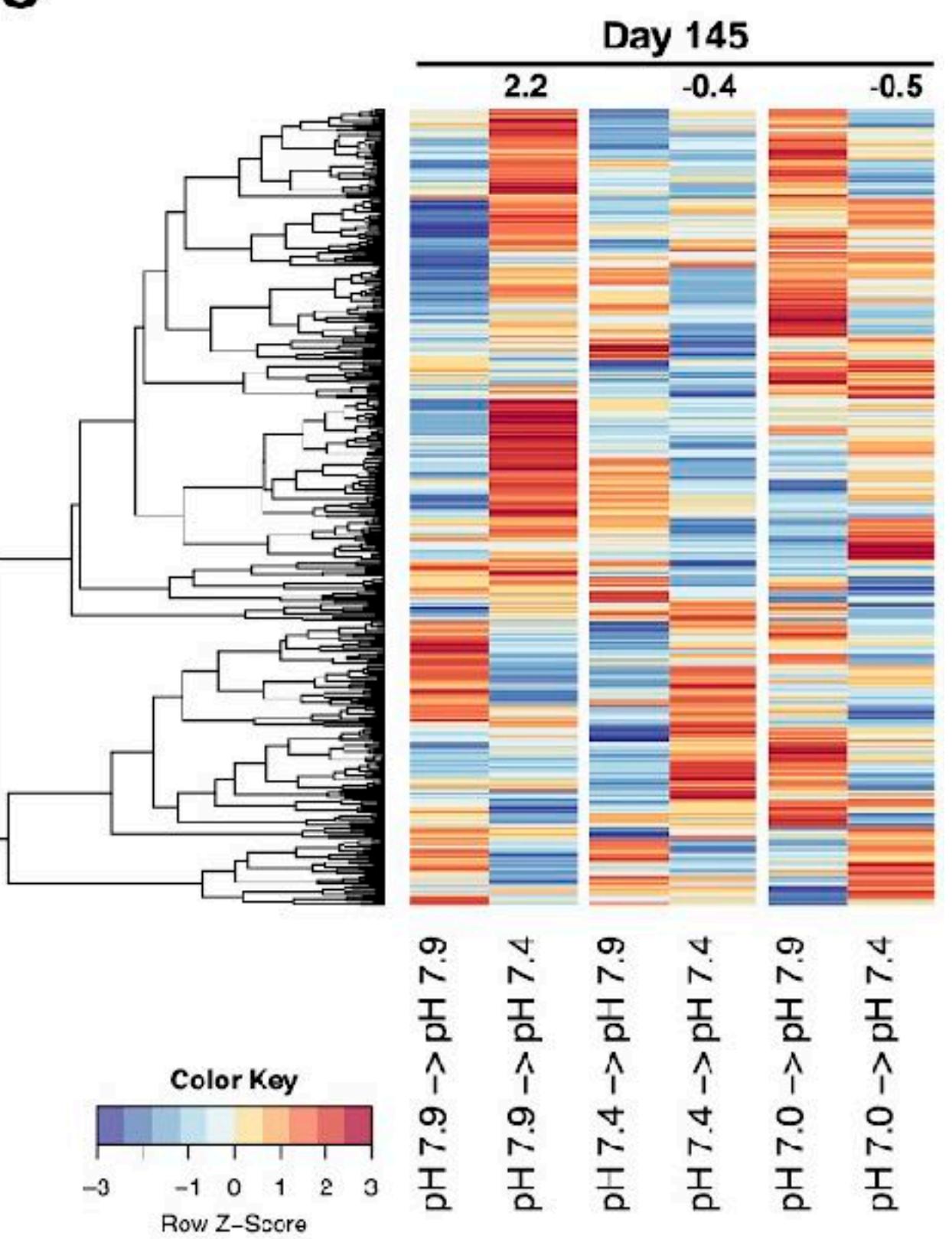
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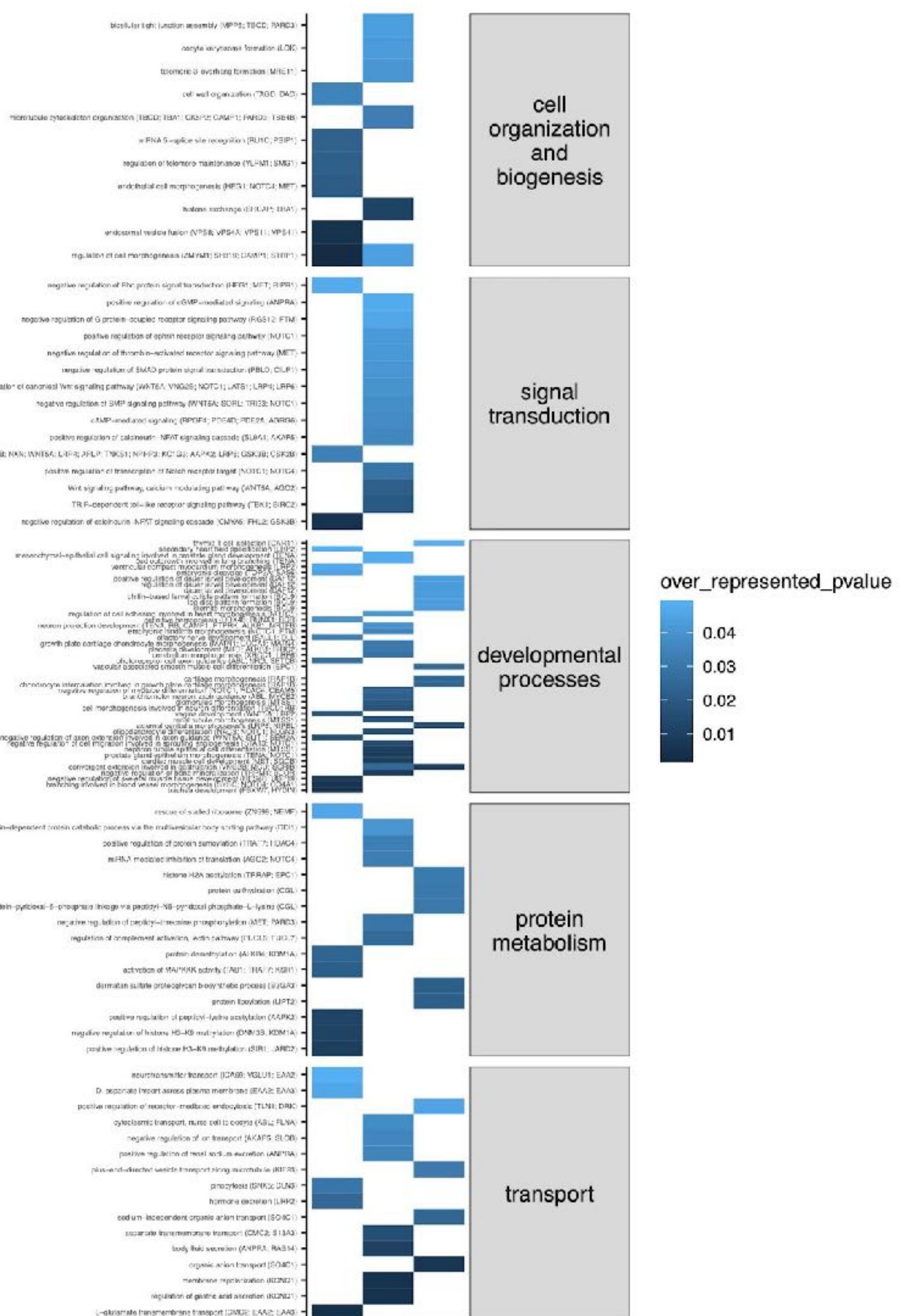
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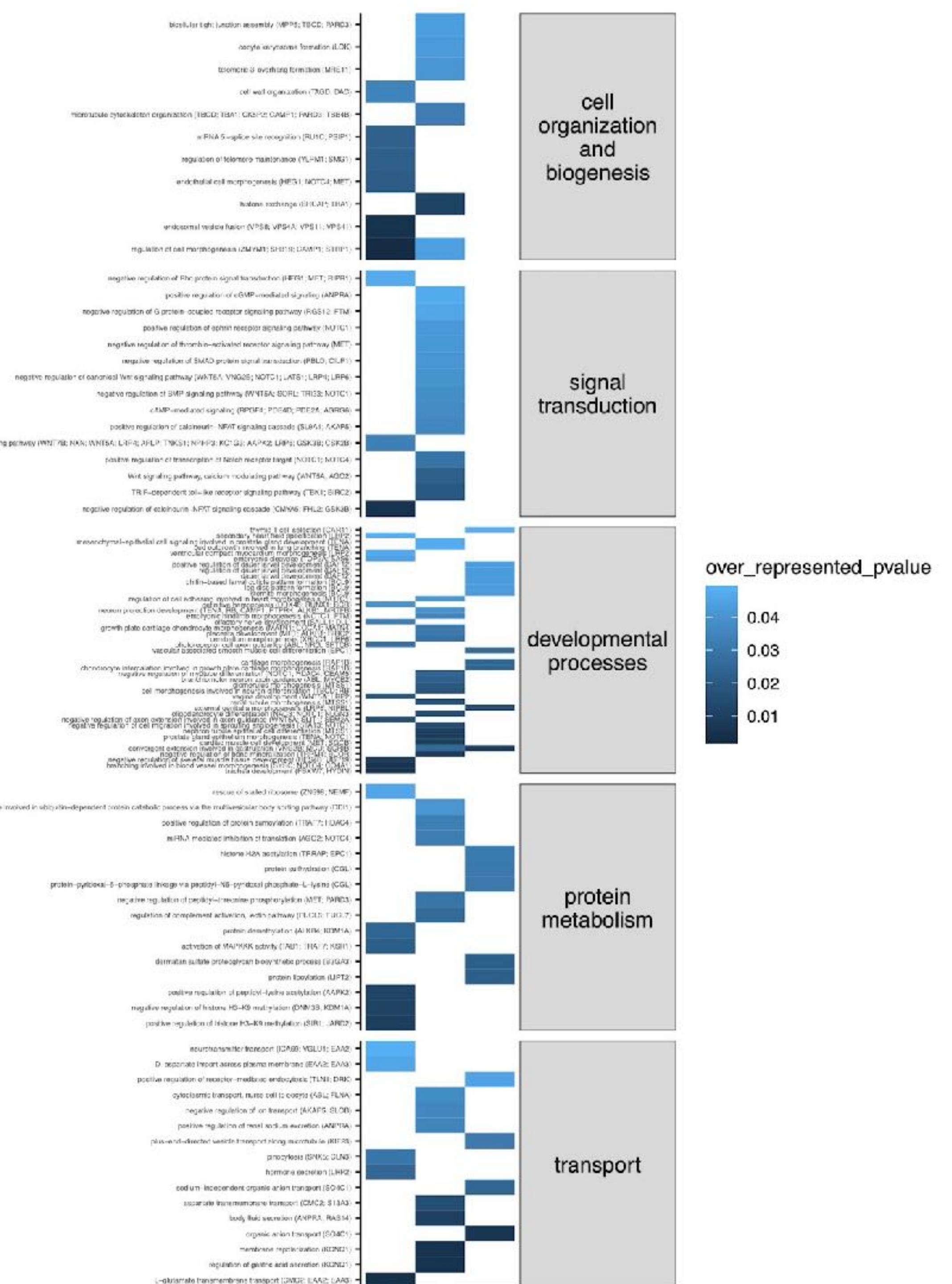
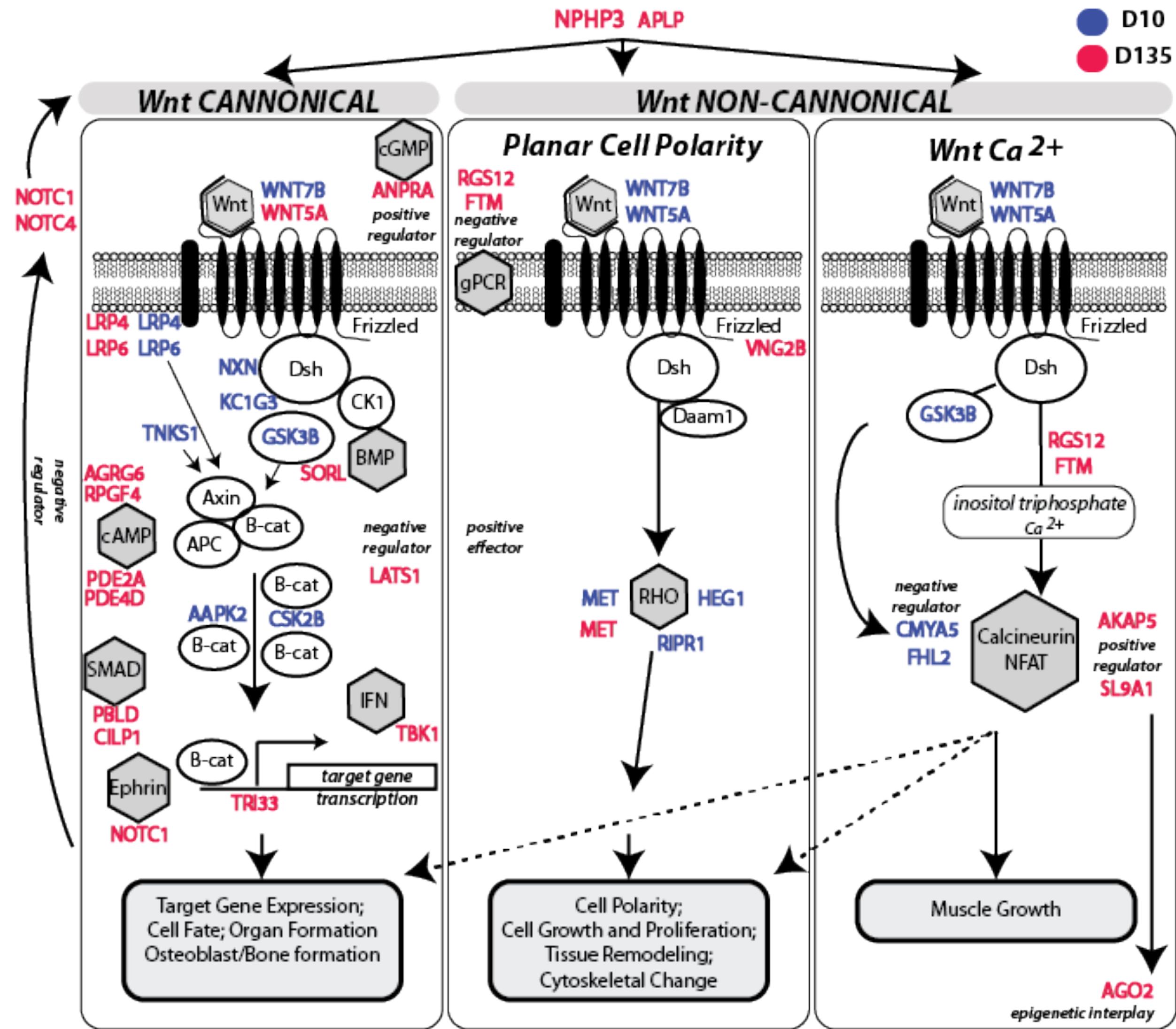
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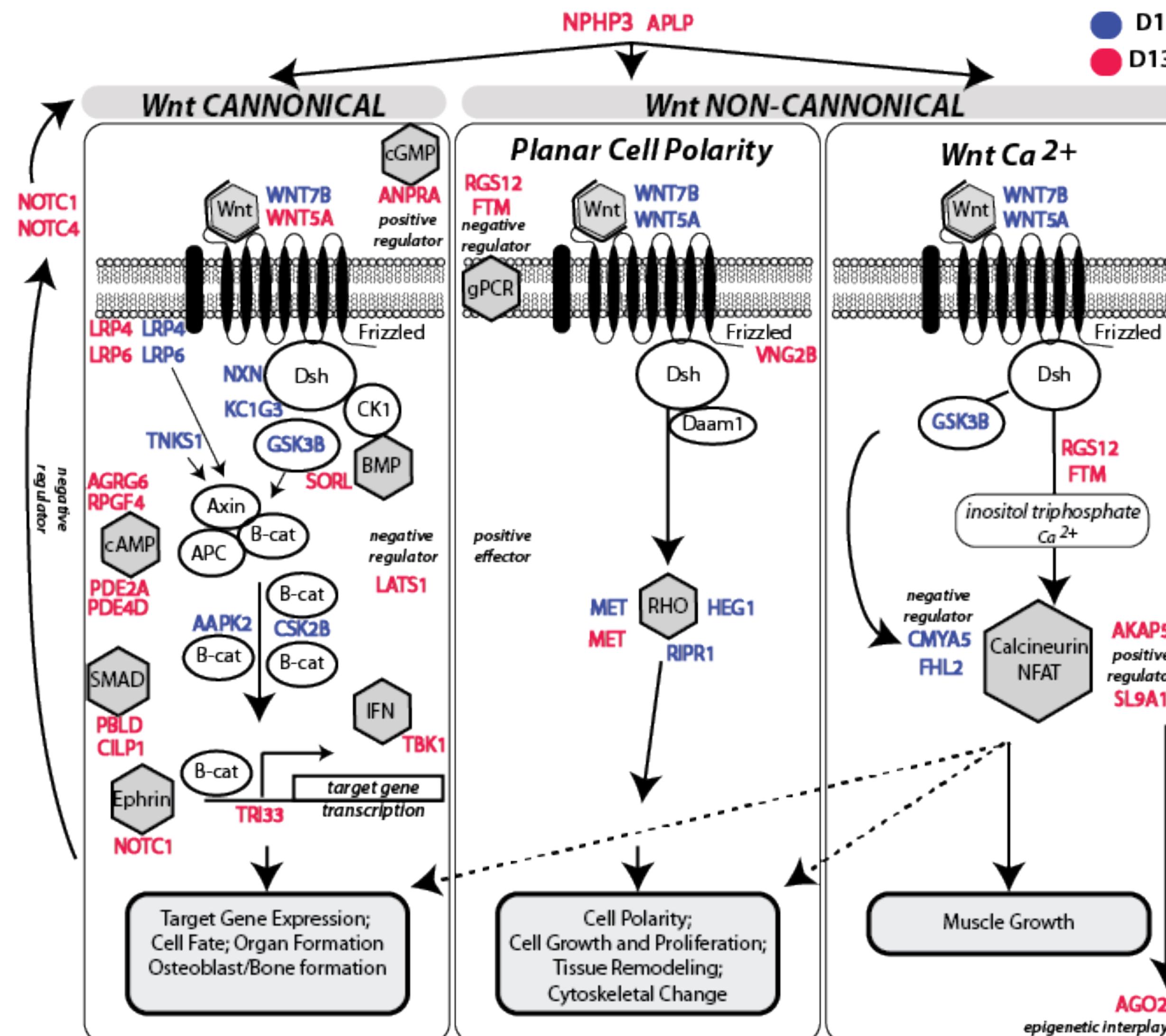
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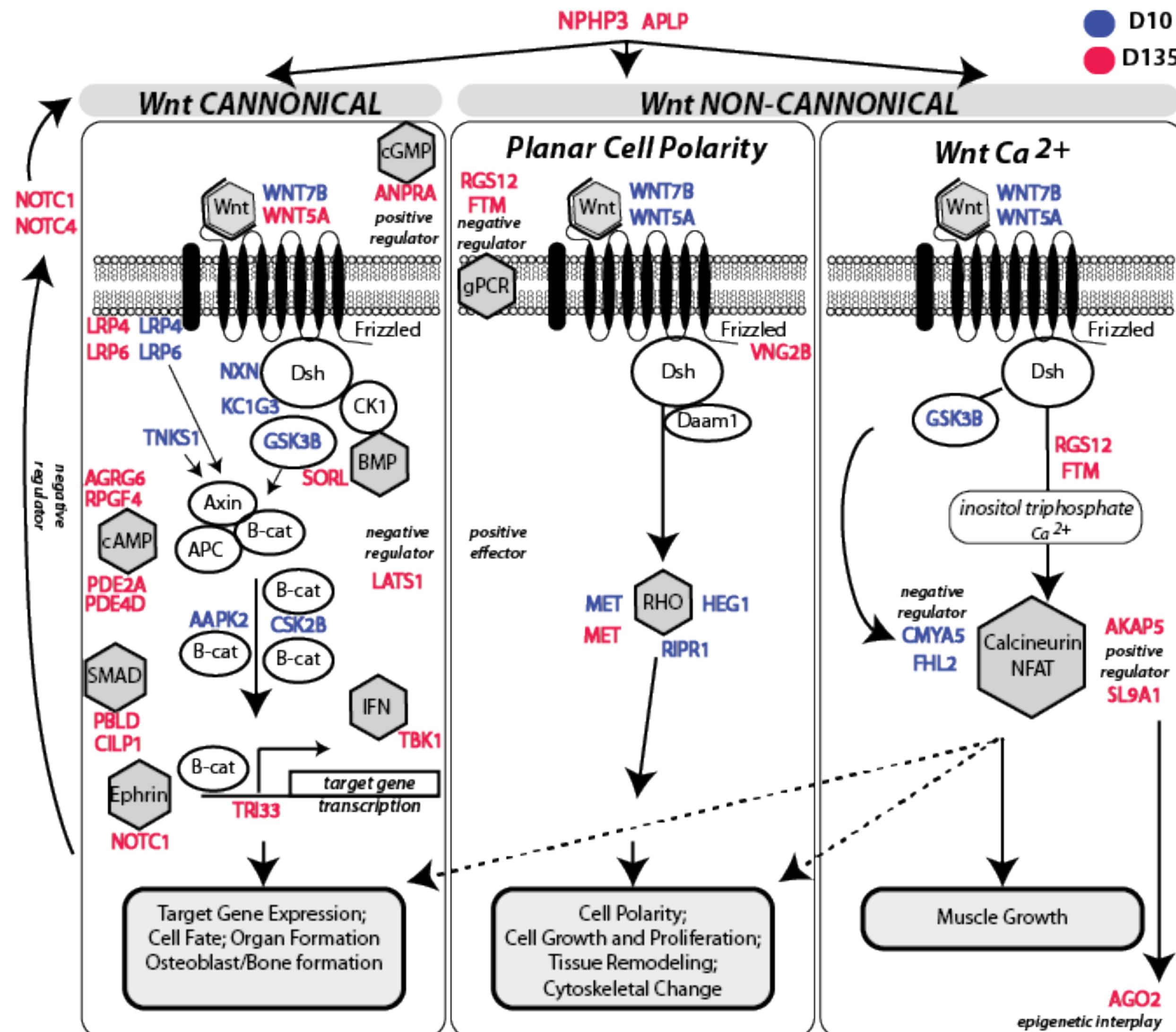


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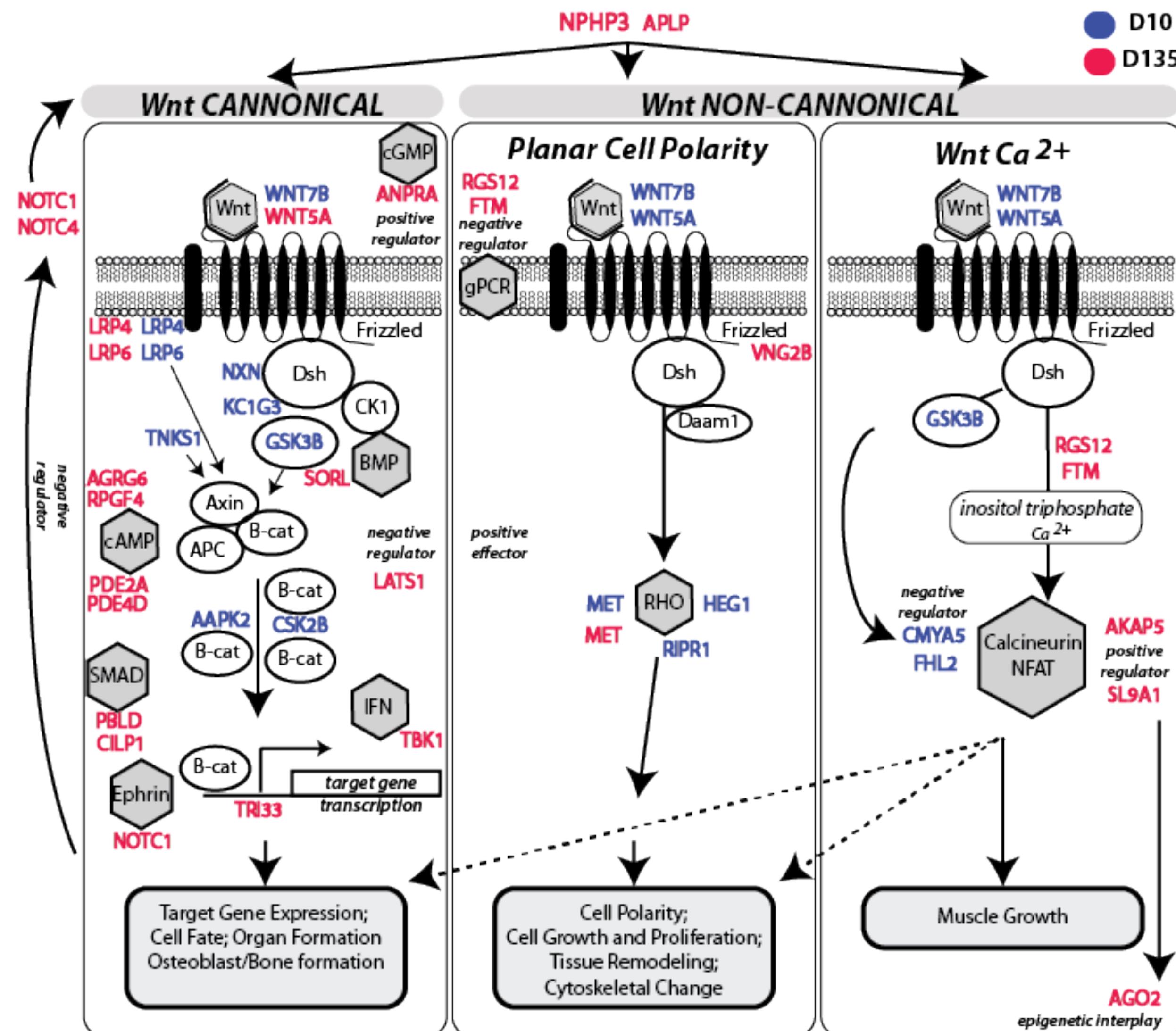
Hollie M. Putnam, Shelly A. Trigg, Samuel J. White, Laura H. Spencer, Brent Vadopalas, Aparna Natarajan, Jonathan Hetzel, Erich Jaeger, Jonathan Soohoo, Cristian Gallardo-Escárate, Frederick W. Goetz, Steven B. Roberts  
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.06.24.497506>

# GEODUCKS AND OA



Following four months of ambient common-garden conditions, **juveniles initially exposed to low pH compensatorily grew larger**, with DNA methylation indicative of these phenotypic differences, demonstrating epigenetic carryover effects persisted months after initial exposure.

# GEODUCKS AND OA



Functional enrichment analysis of differentially methylated genes revealed regulation of signal transduction through widespread changes in the **Wnt signaling pathways that influence cell growth, proliferation, tissue and skeletal formation, and cytoskeletal change.**

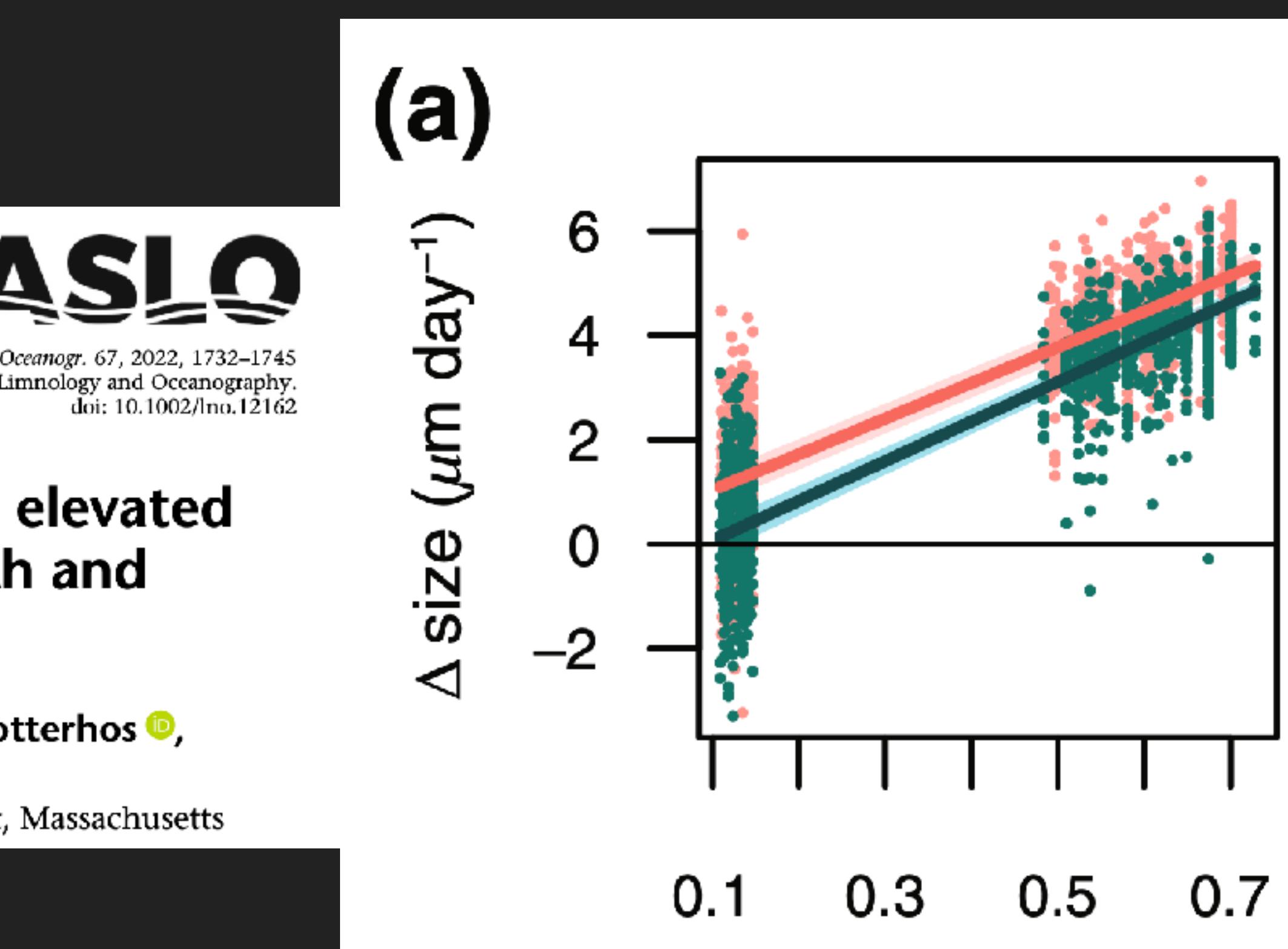
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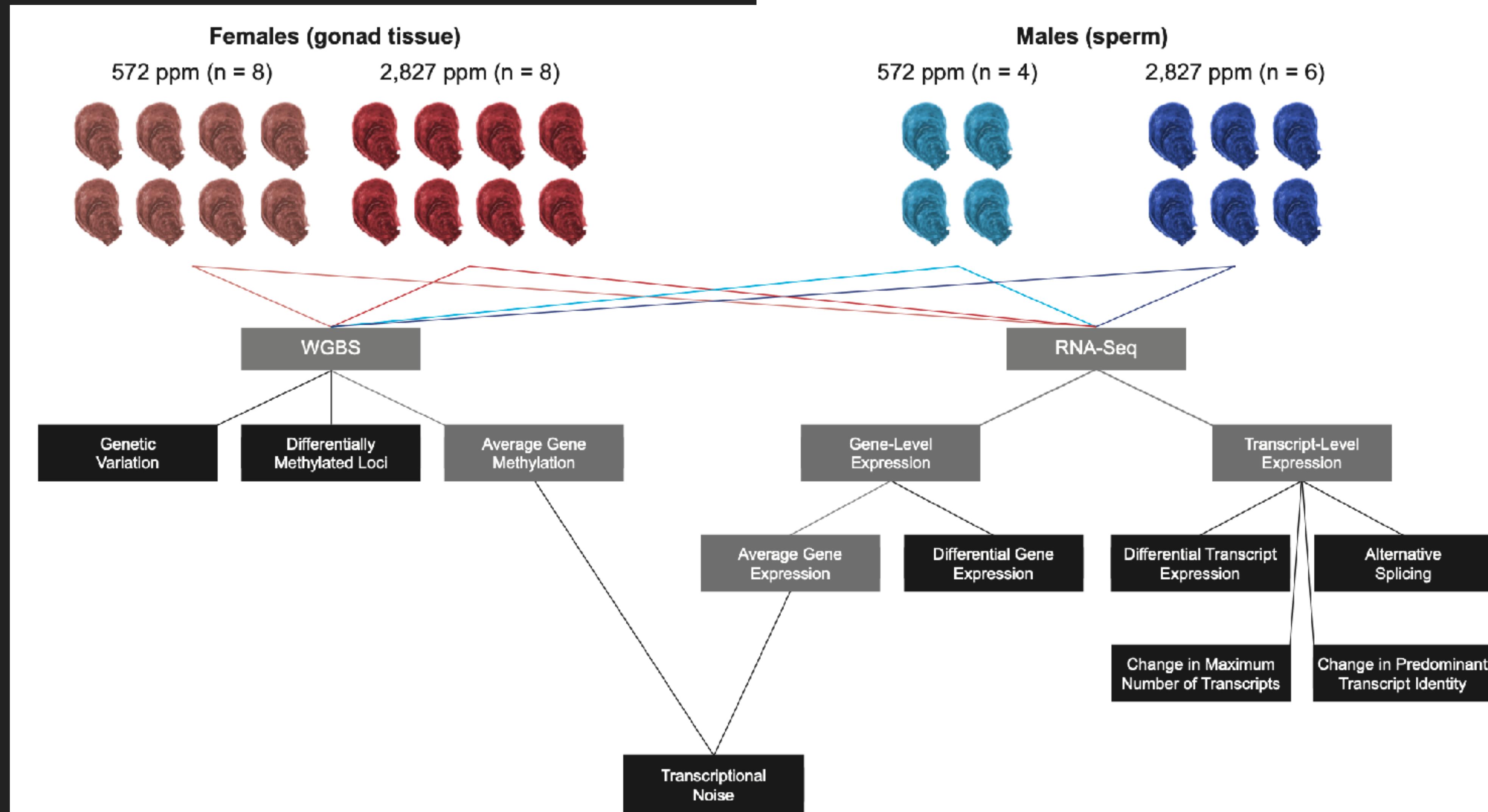
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DNA methylation correlates with transcriptional noise in response to elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> in the eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*)

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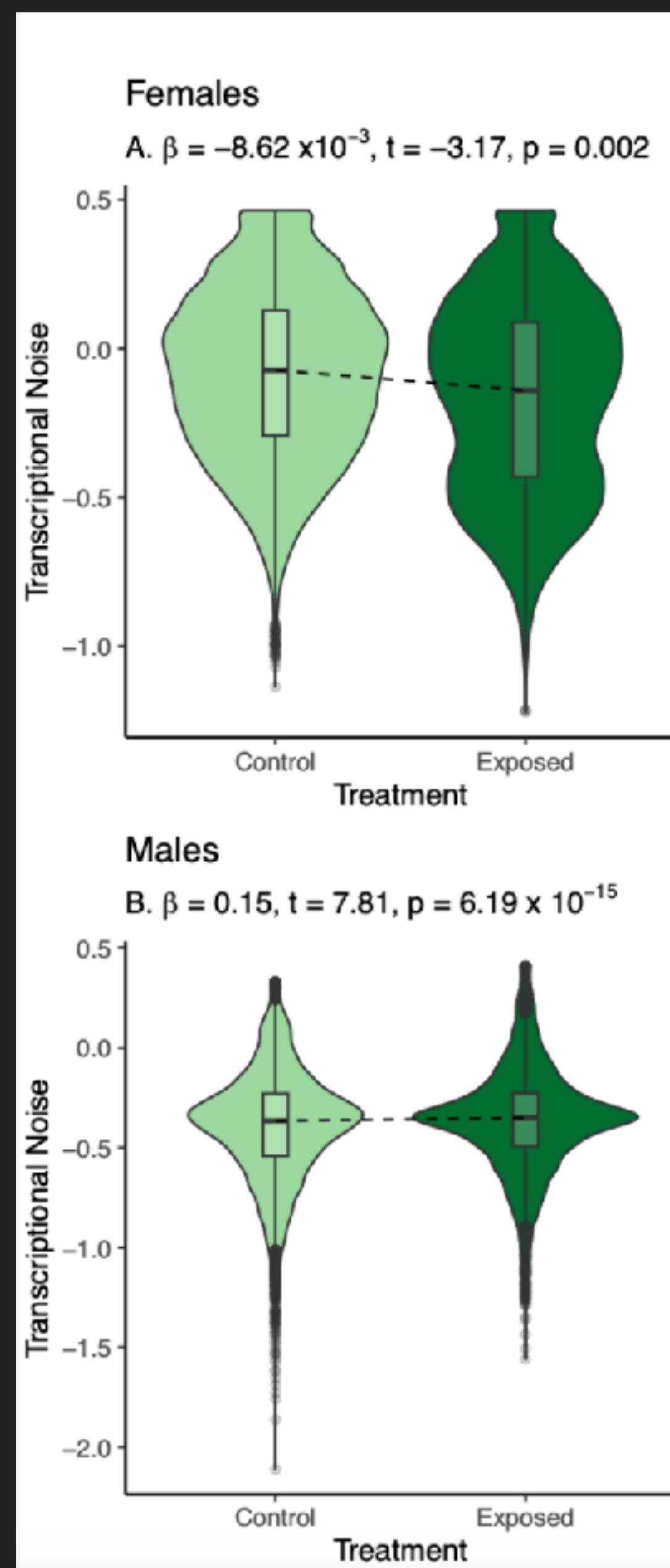
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Gene body methylation impacts maximum number of transcripts expressed per gene and changes in the predominant transcript expressed. Elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> exposure increased gene expression variability (transcriptional noise) in males but decreased noise in females, suggesting a sex-specific role of methylation in gene expression regulation.

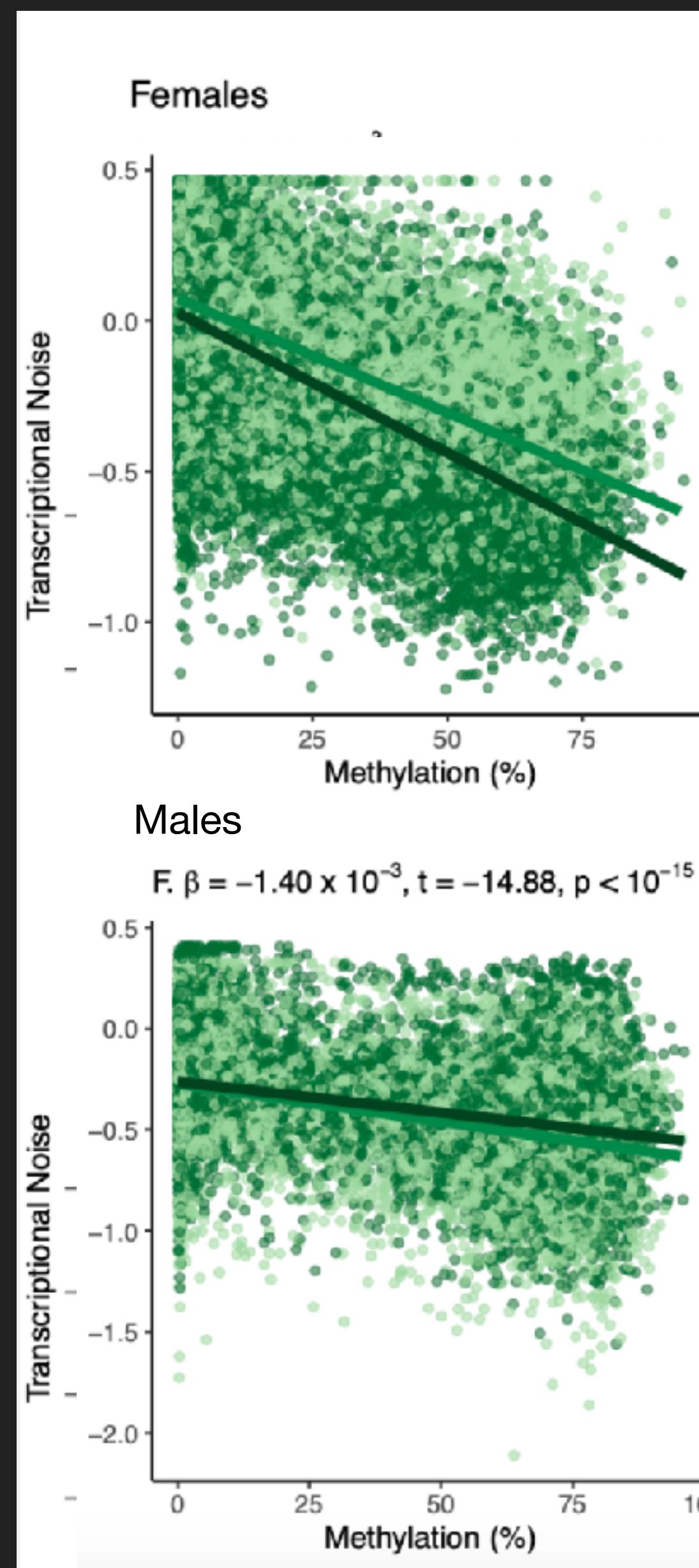
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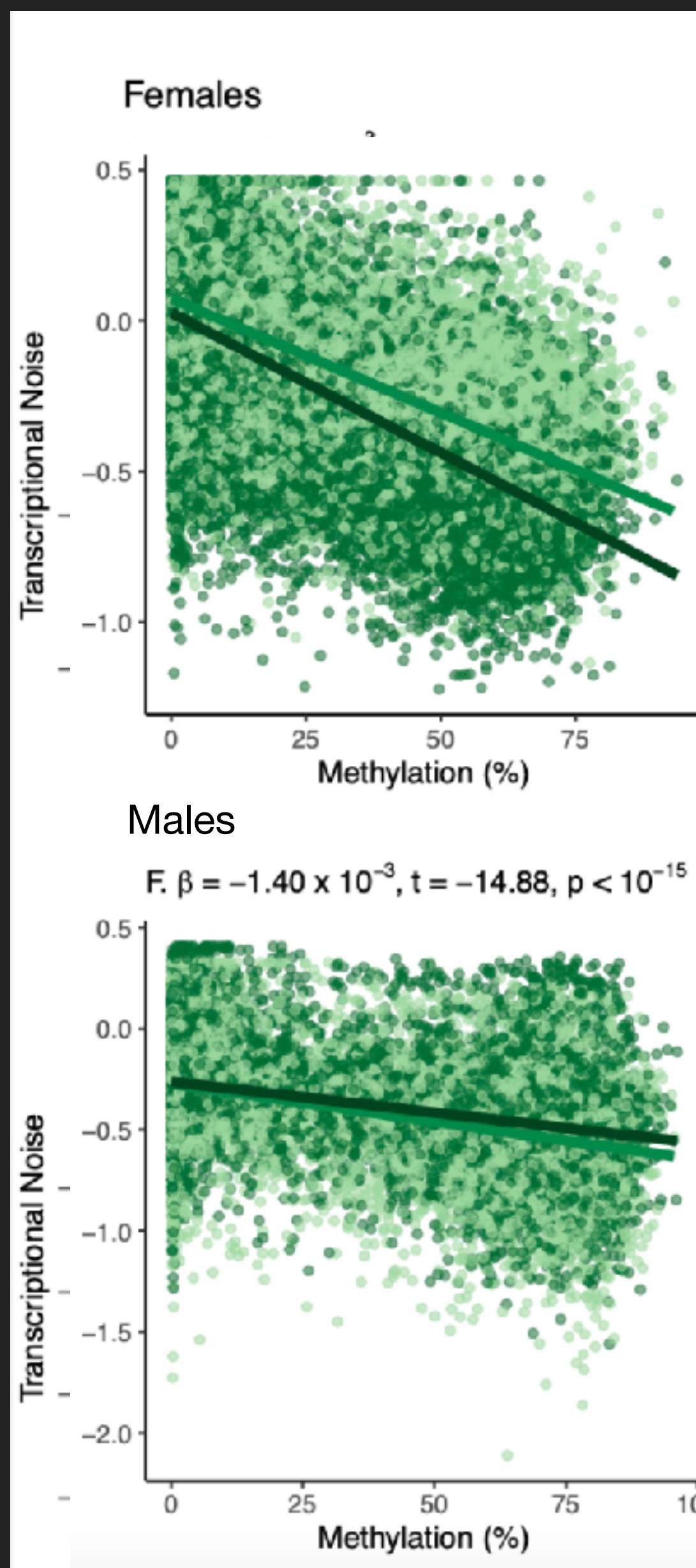
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Yaamini R. Venkataraman<sup>1\*</sup>, Ariana S. Huffmyer<sup>2,3</sup>, Samuel J. White<sup>2</sup>, Alan Downey-Wall<sup>4</sup>, Jill Ashey<sup>3</sup>, Danielle M. Becker<sup>3</sup>, Zachary Bengtsson<sup>2</sup>, Hollie M. Putnam<sup>3</sup>, Emma Strand<sup>3,5</sup>, Javier A. Rodríguez-Casariego<sup>6</sup>, Shelly A. Wanamaker<sup>5</sup>, Kathleen E. Lotterhos<sup>7</sup>, Steven B. Roberts<sup>2</sup>

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Methylation has a genome-wide regulatory role, effectively maintaining gene expression homeostasis in reproductive tissues under elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> by reducing transcriptional noise.

The relationship between methylation and transcriptional noise was different between female reproductive tissue and sperm: male oysters required higher levels of methylation to achieve similar reductions in transcriptional noise when compared to female oysters.

Epigenetic maintenance of reproduction could confer intergenerational resilience to environmental perturbations.

# VENKATARAMAN: DNA METHYLATION CORRELATES WITH TRANSCRIPTIONAL NOISE

Males

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## *Early-life Priming*

### *Hardening*

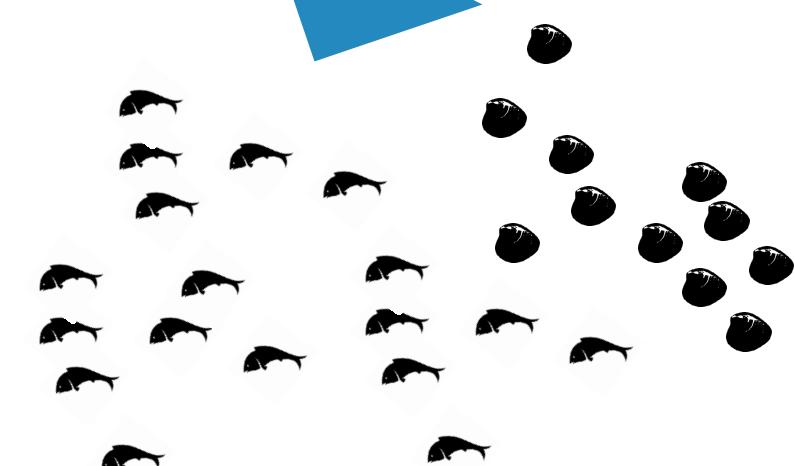


Adults

Influencing adult phenotype by altering early life environment



Influencing offspring phenotype by altering environmental conditions of parents



Larvae

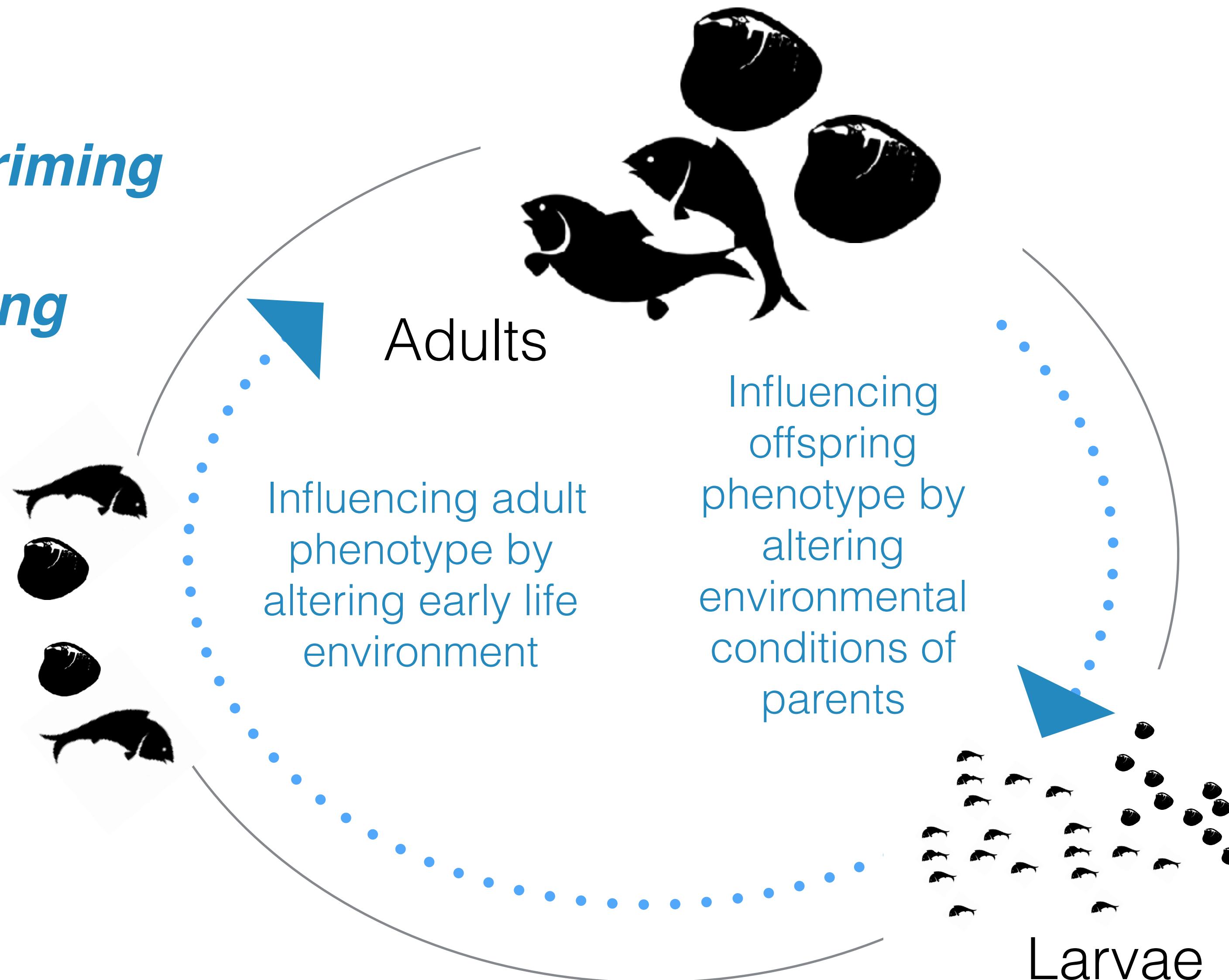
## *Transgenerational Plasticity*

### *Carry-over effects*

Can we see an imprint in parents transmitted to the offspring?

## *Early-life Priming*

### *Hardening*



## *Transgenerational Plasticity*

### *Carry-over effects*

Can we see an imprint in parents transmitted to the offspring?

**NO**



EXCITING?  
COMPLEX  
'LAYER' OF RESILIENCE



# EXCITING? COMPLEX 'LAYER' OF RESILIENCE

## Genetic Linkage

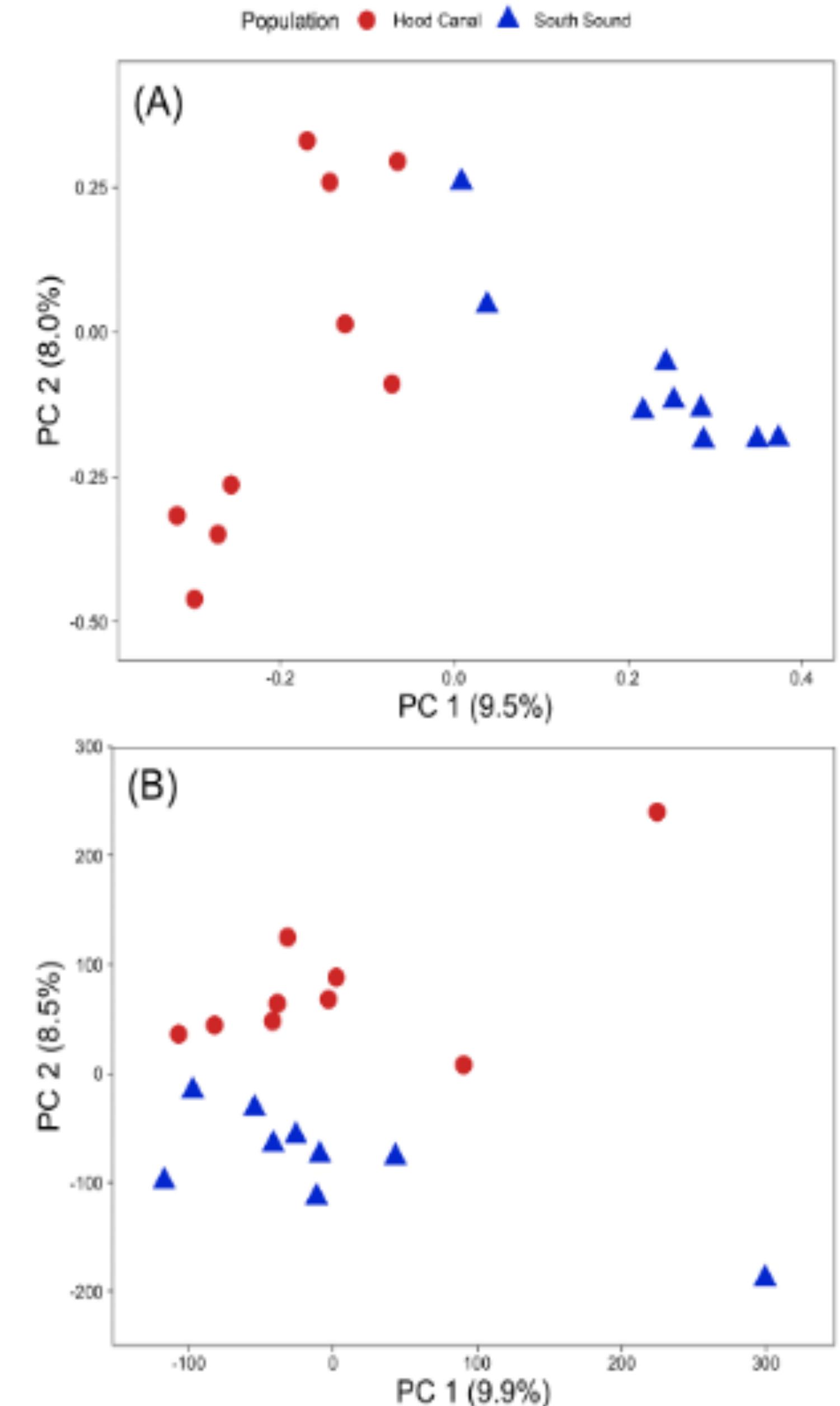
# Epigenetic and Genetic Population Structure is Coupled in a Marine Invertebrate

Katherine Silliman <sup>1,†</sup>, Laura H. Spencer <sup>2,†</sup>, Samuel J. White<sup>2</sup>, and Steven B. Roberts <sup>2,\*</sup>

First characterization of genome-wide DNA methylation patterns in the oyster genus *Ostrea*

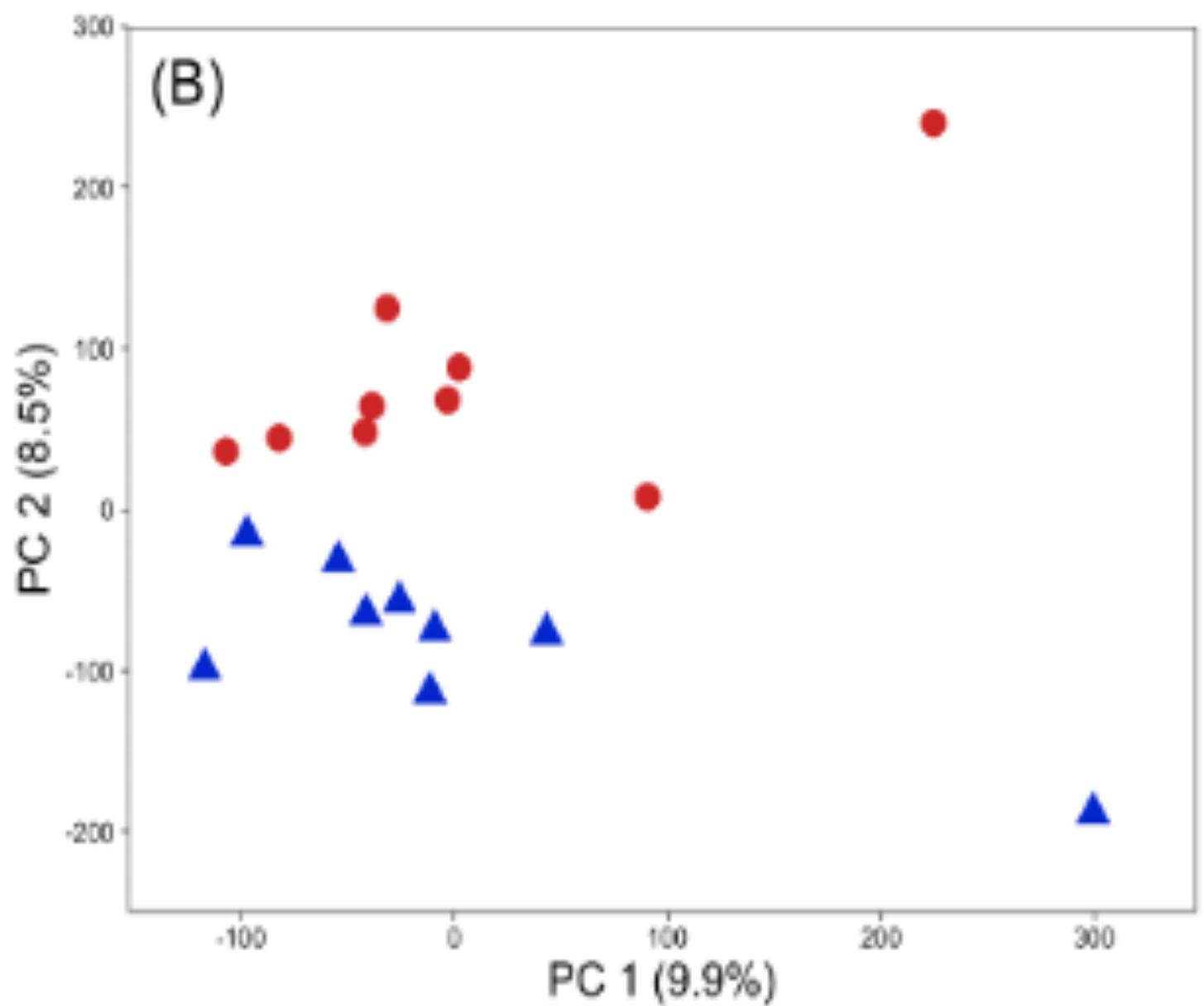
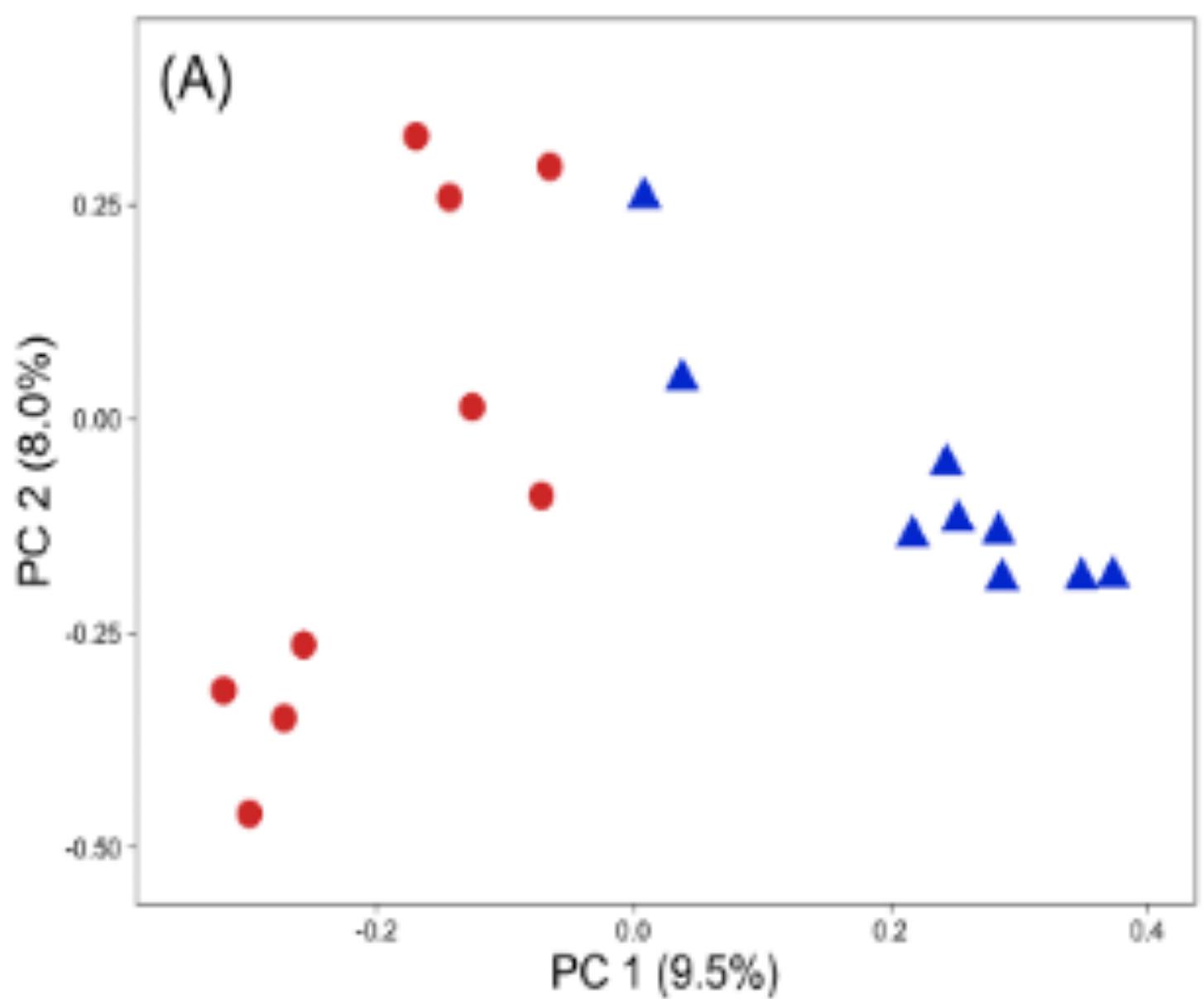
Identified 3,963 differentially methylated loci between populations. Clear coupling between genetic and epigenetic patterns of variation, **with 27% of variation in inter-individual methylation differences explained by genotype.**

Underlying this association are both direct genetic changes in CpGs (CpG-SNPs) and genetic variation with indirect influence on methylation (mQTLs).



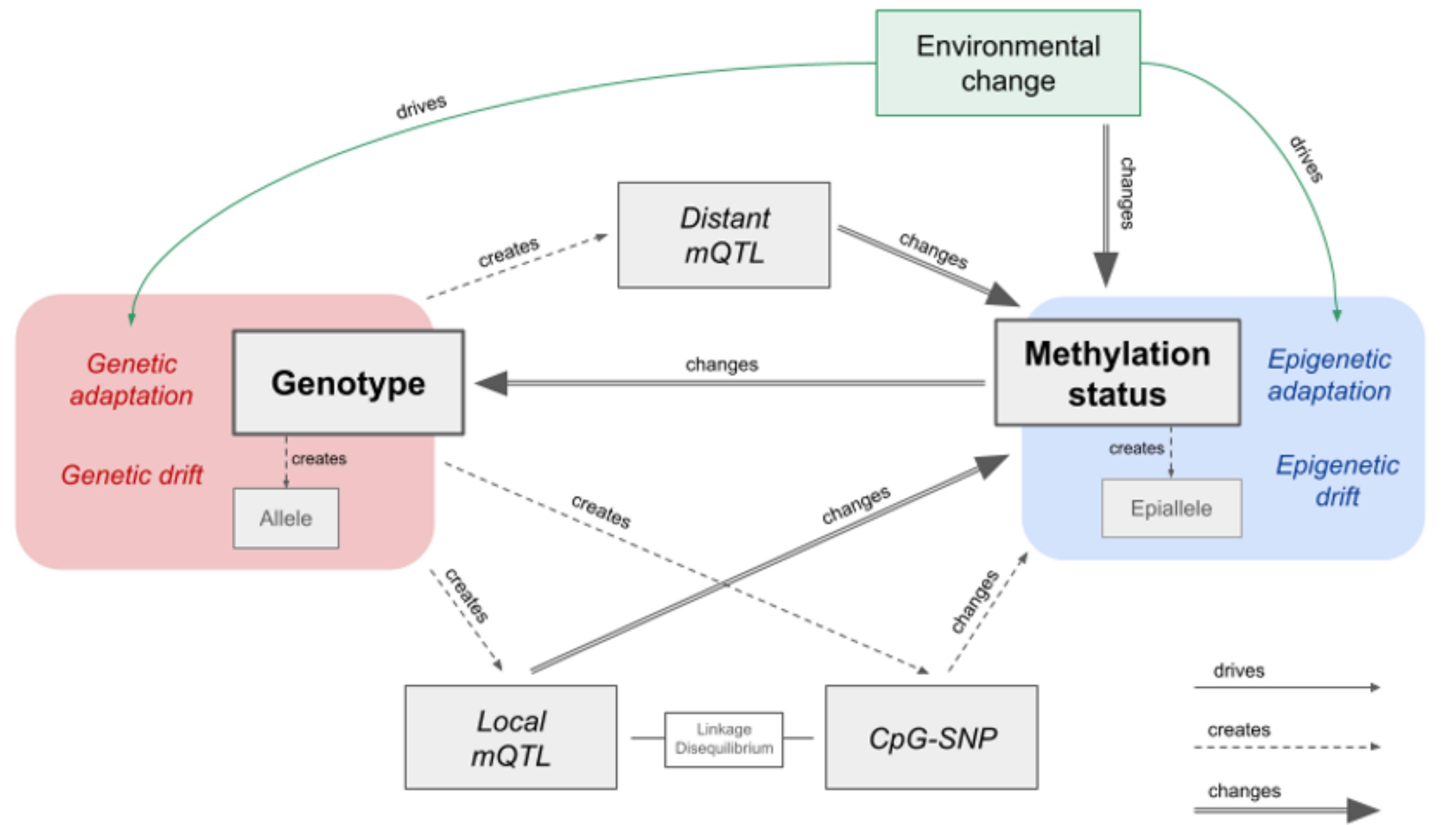
# EPIGENETIC AND GENETIC POPULATION STRUCTURE

Population ● Hood Canal ▲ South Sound



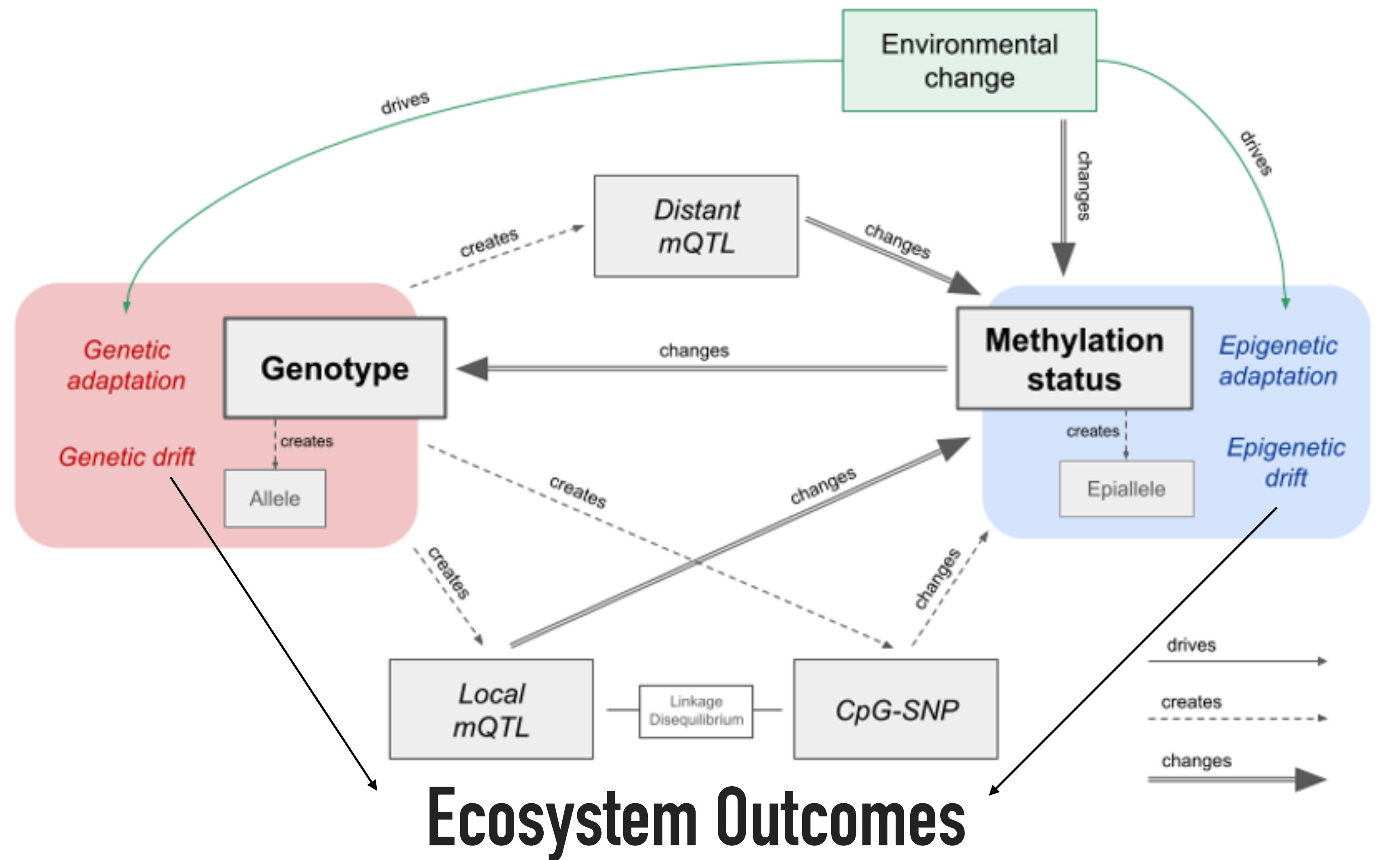
## IMPLICATIONS

# EPIGENETIC AND GENETIC POPULATION STRUCTURE



## IMPLICATIONS

# EPIGENETIC AND GENETIC POPULATION STRUCTURE



# Open Science



# Bioinformatic Approaches in non-model species

## marineomics.io

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### APPLICATION

#### A dynamic web resource for robust and reproducible genomics in nonmodel species: marineomics.io

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Topics covered within RADSeq tutorial

RADseq

Katherine Silliman, Danielle Davenport

Description of tutorial steps

Setup for running code

If you would like to run the R code examples that are scattered throughout the guide (recommended but not required!), you will need to install some R packages. Only need to run this code once:

```
install.packages("tidyverse")
if (!requireNamespace("BiocManager", quietly = TRUE))
  install.packages("BiocManager")

BiocManager::install("SeqArray")
BiocManager::install("SNPRelate")
```

Example code to run using real data

Now load those packages, if using:

```
library(SeqArray) # efficient storage and filtering of genomic data
```

```
## Loading required package: gdsfmt
```

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