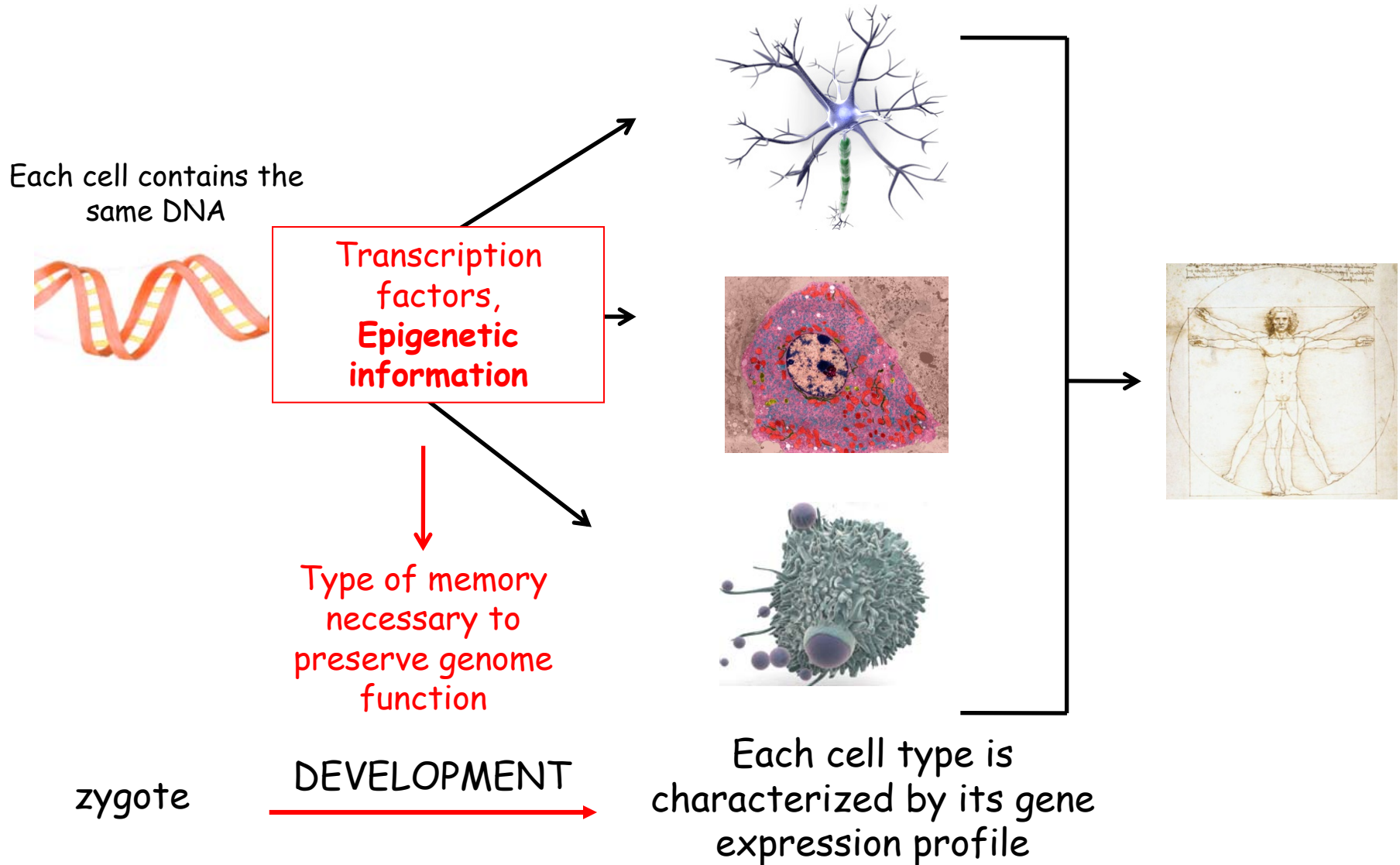


# Uloga epigenetičkih fenomena u ekologiji i evoluciji biljaka; studija slučaja endemičnih hrvatskih kadulja

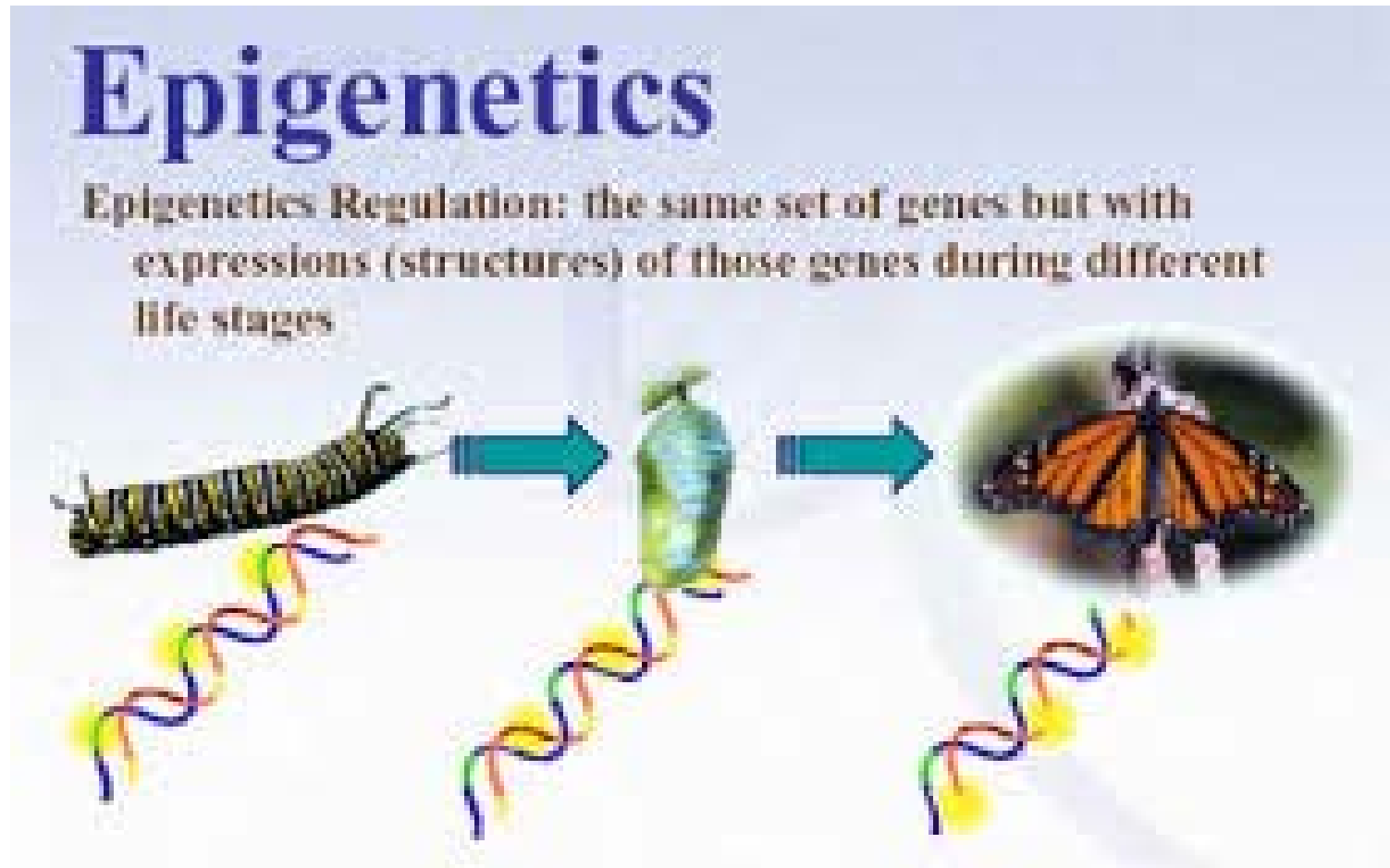


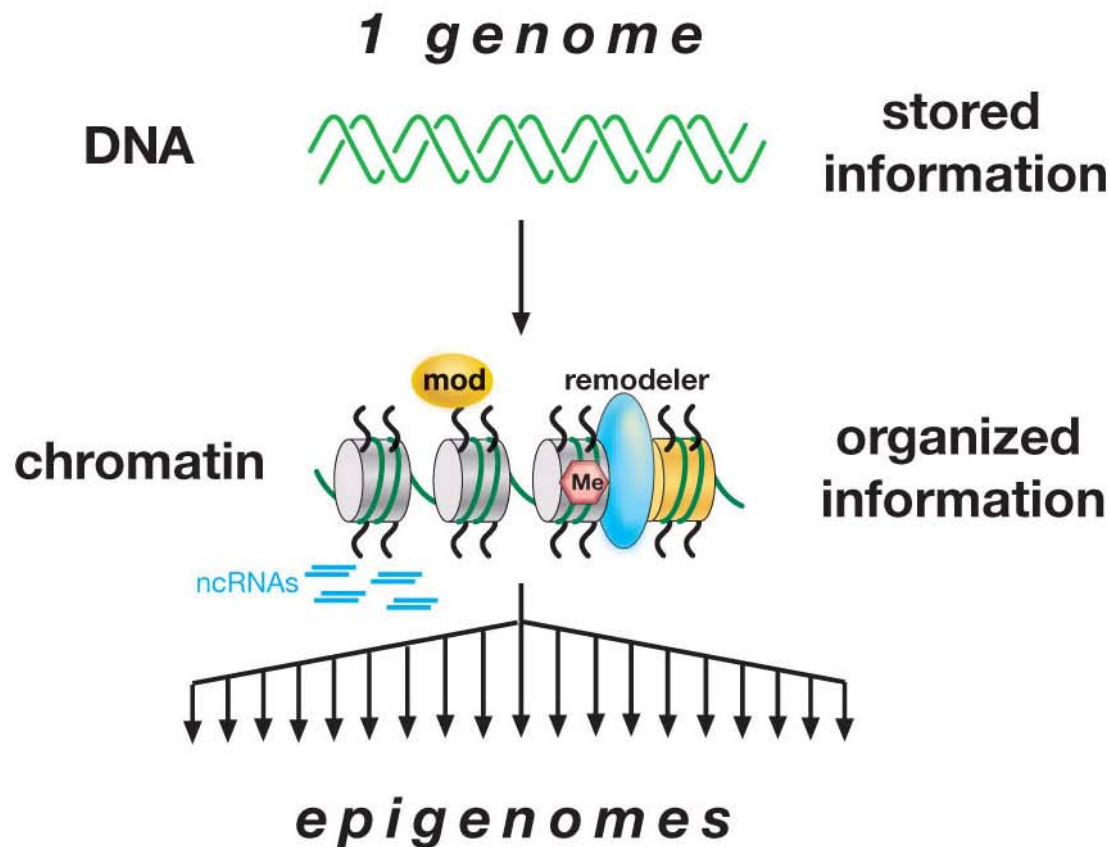
Vlatka Zoldoš  
Zavod za molekularnu biologiju  
Biološki odsjek, PMF

# Epigenetics defines cellular identity



Different patterns of gene expression  
determine extremely different structures





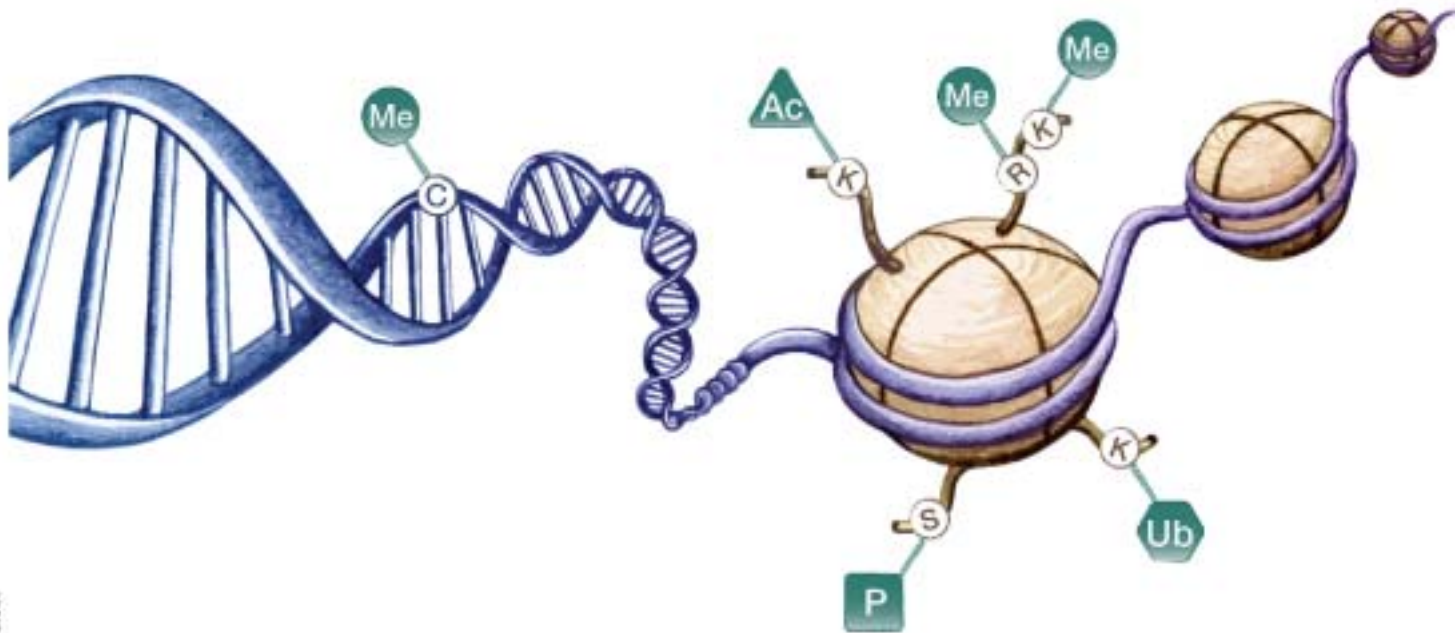
## DNA versus CHROMATIN

**EPIGENOME** - the overall chromatin composition that indexes the entire genome in any given cell.



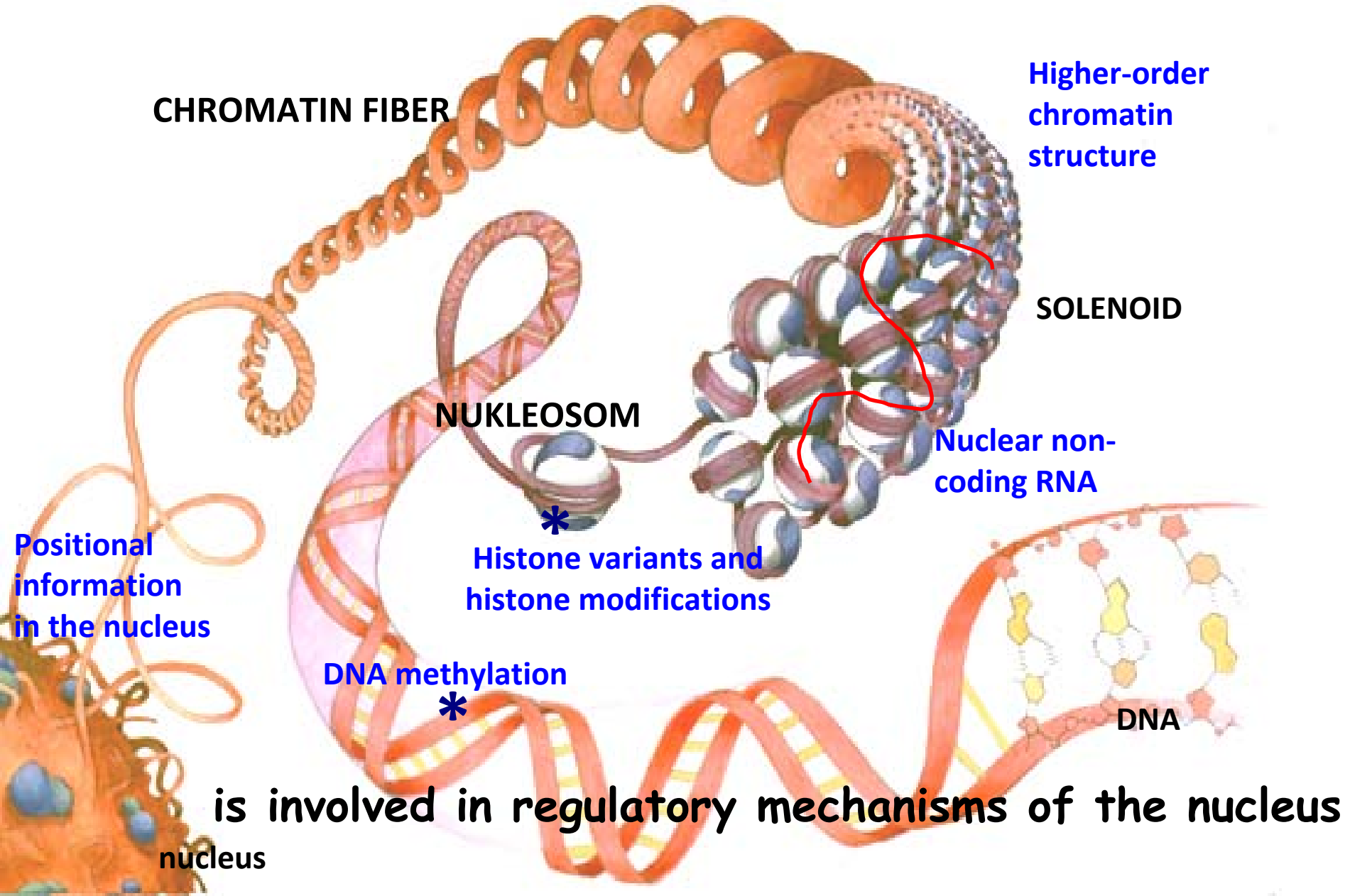
# Epigenetic mechanisms

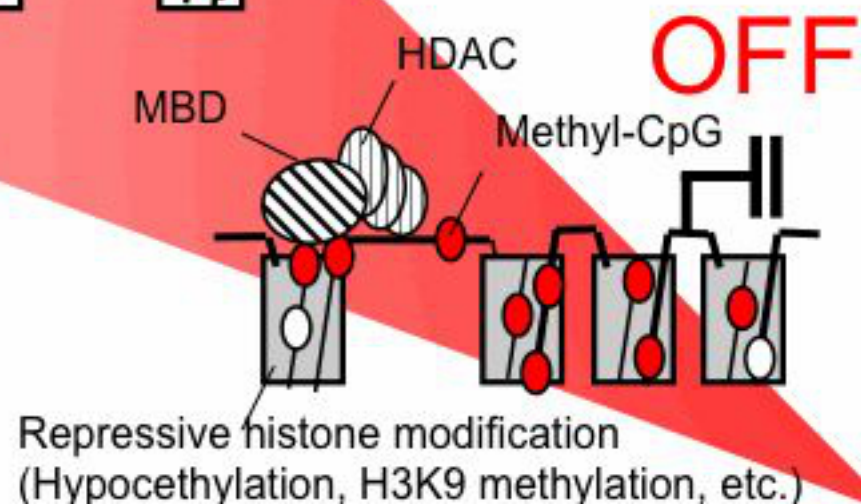
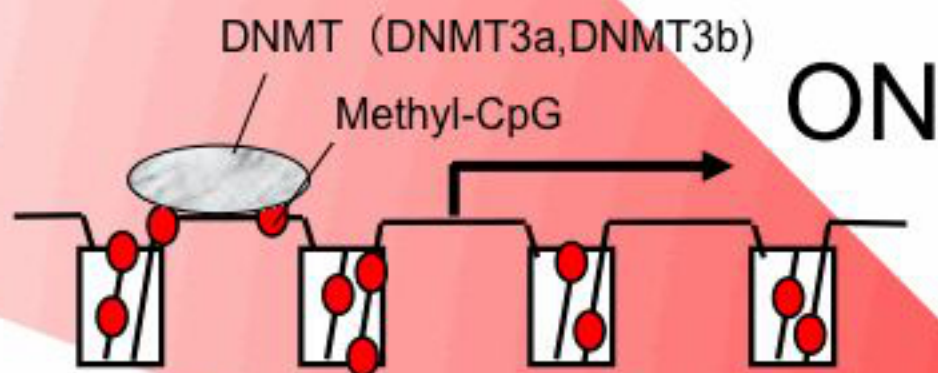
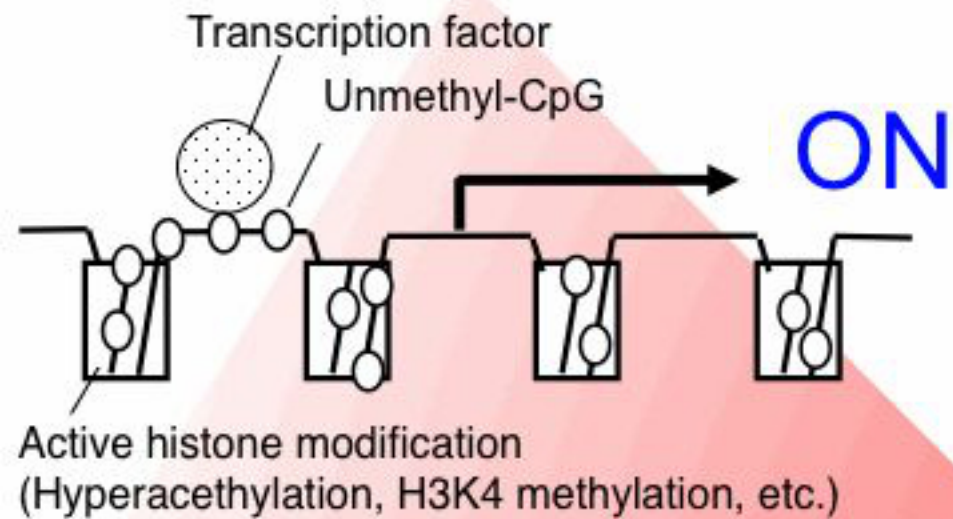
Modifications of DNA molecule and histone tails (Arg, Lys):  
by acetylation, methylation, phosphorylation, ubiquitination,  
sumoylation, addition of GlcNac

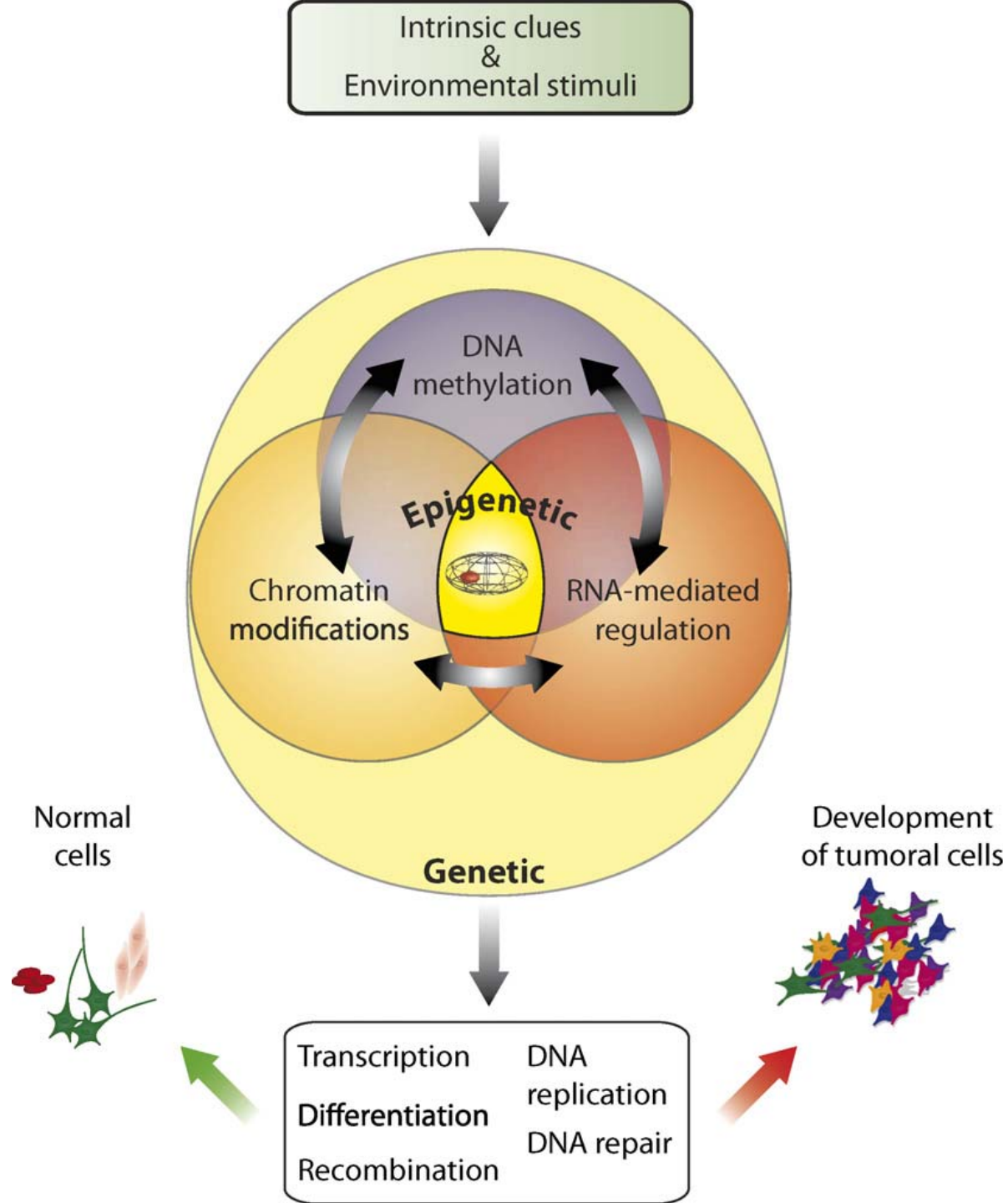


Histone code - defines open or repressed  
chromatin state

# Epigenetic information at the chromatin level....

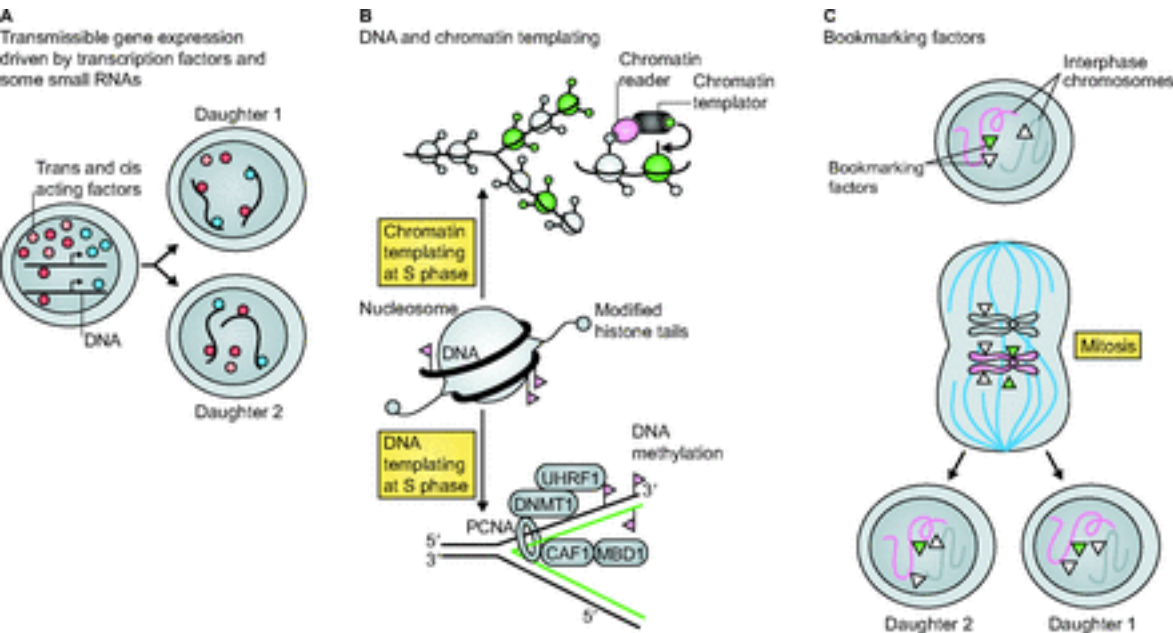








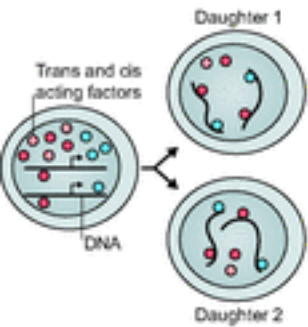
# Epigenetic cell memory



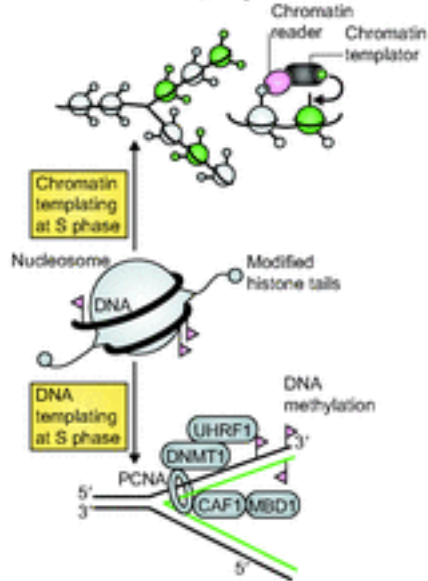
- Inheritance of the epigenetic information during mitosis (DNA replication)
  - Inheritance of epigenetic information through gametes during meiosis -
- TRANSGENERATIONAL EPIGENETIC INHERITANCE**

# Epigenetic cell memory

**A** Transmissible gene expression driven by transcription factors and some small RNAs



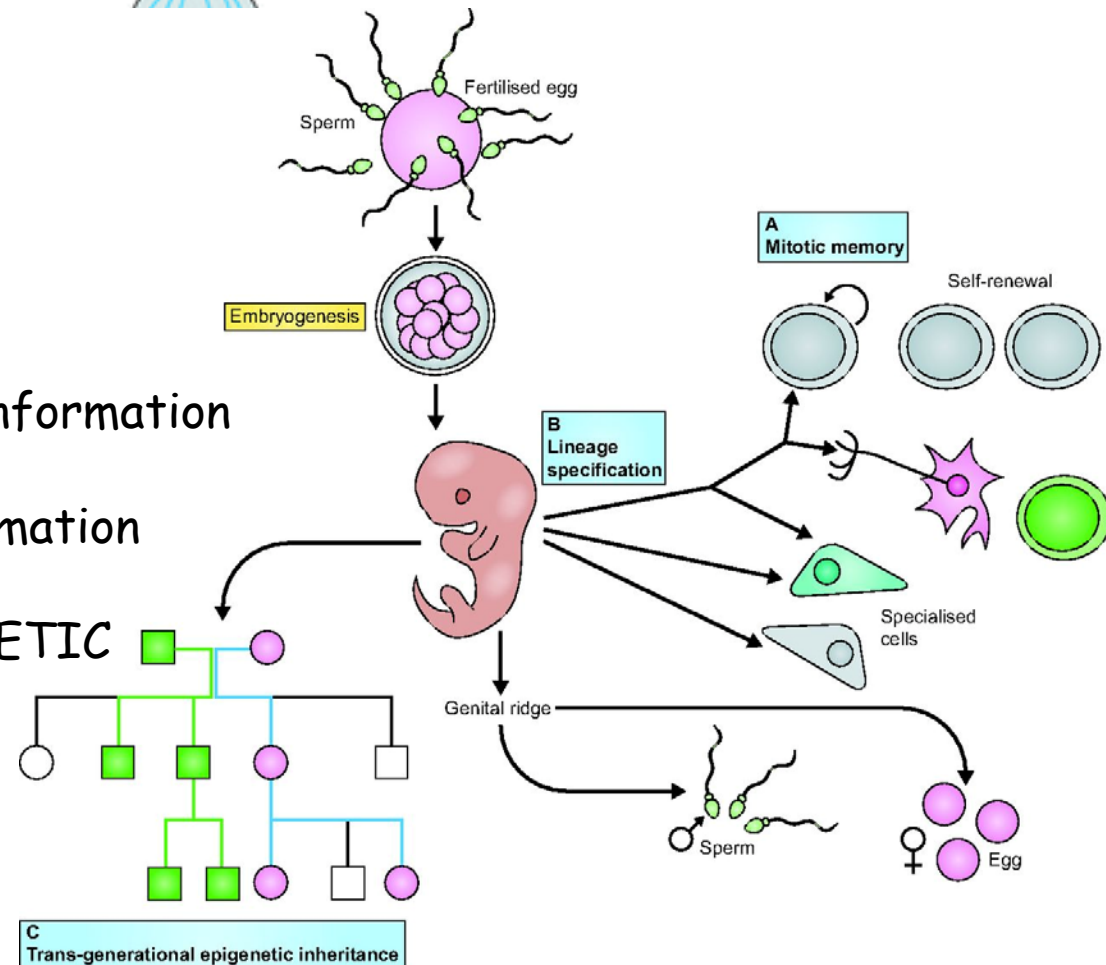
**B** DNA and chromatin templating

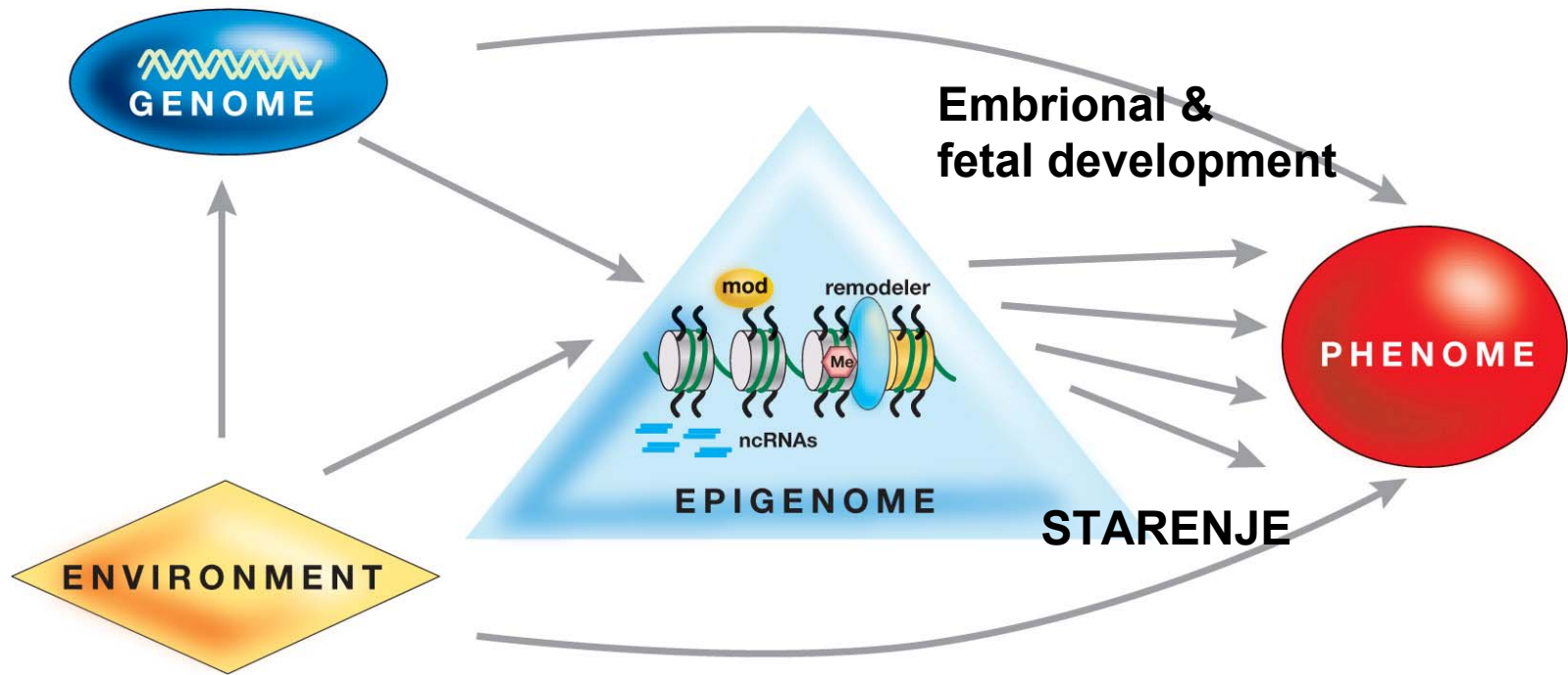


**C** Bookmarking factors

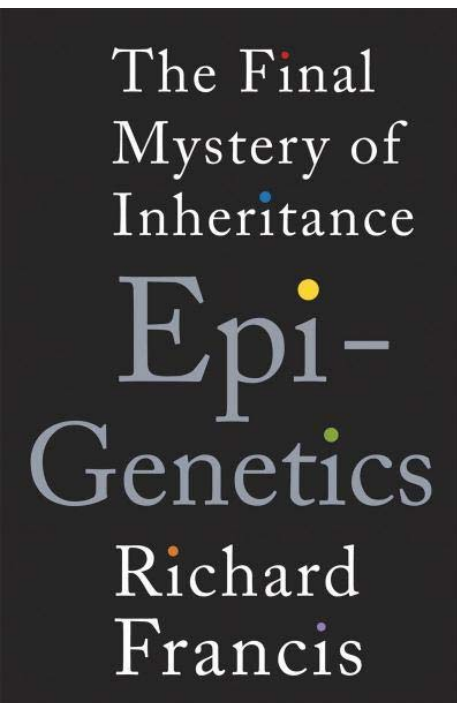
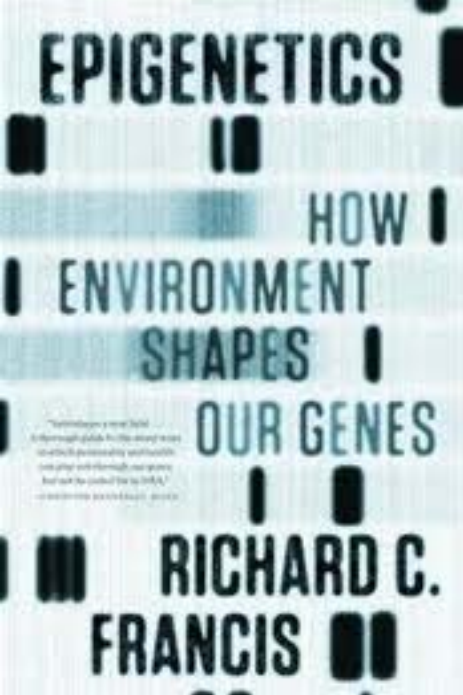


- Inheritance of the epigenetic information during mitosis (DNA replication)
- Inheritance of epigenetic information through gametes during meiosis - **TRANSGENERATIONAL EPIGENETIC INHERITANCE**



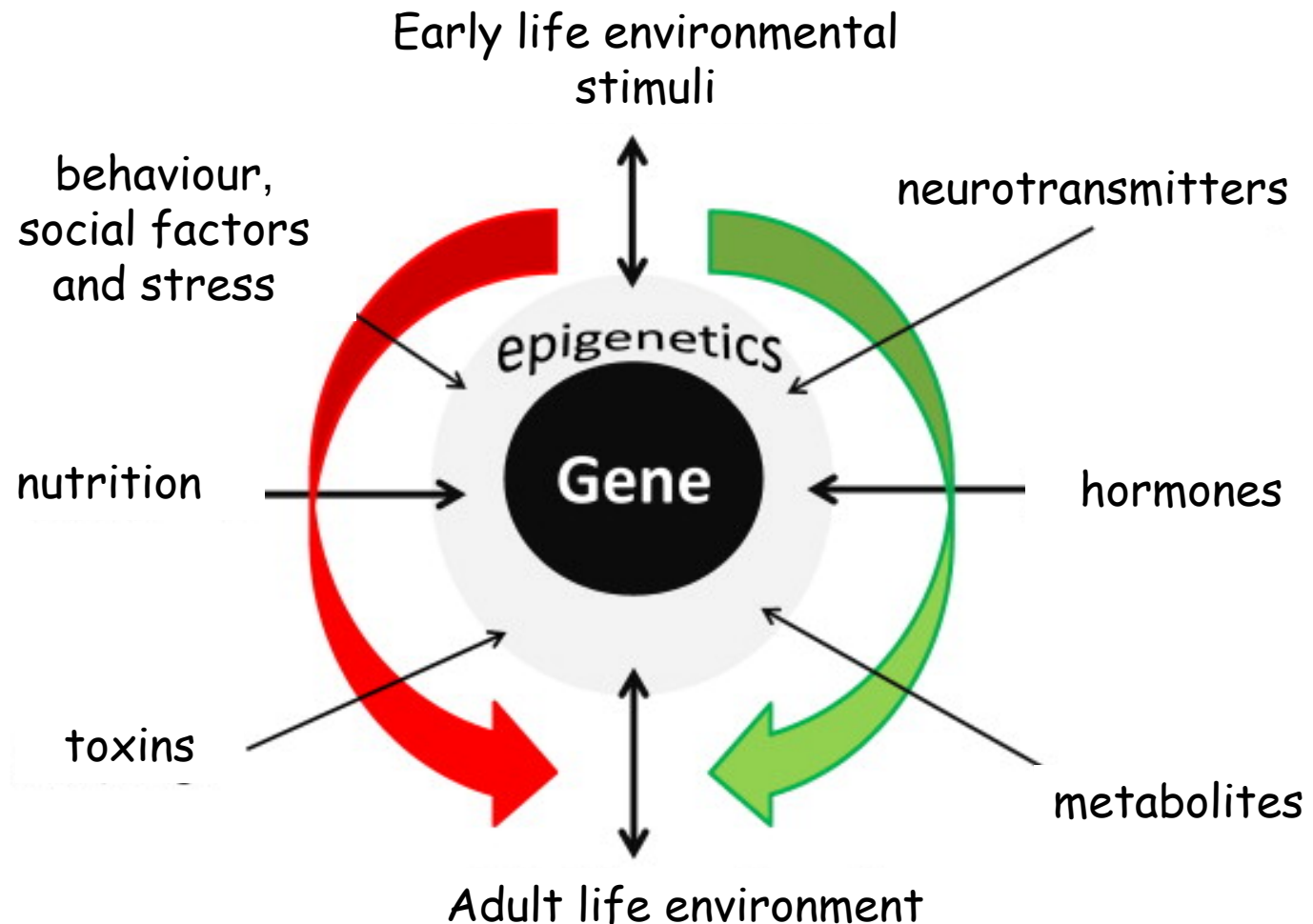


- Epigenome is a mediator between environment and a genome and thus contributes to phenotype (during early development, and also during adult life of an individual through stochastic epigenetic changes provoked by environmental factors)
- The capacity for epigenetic plasticity is selected by evolution and contributes to adaptive processes



# Probabilistic epigenetics

structure ----- function  
gene ----- environment





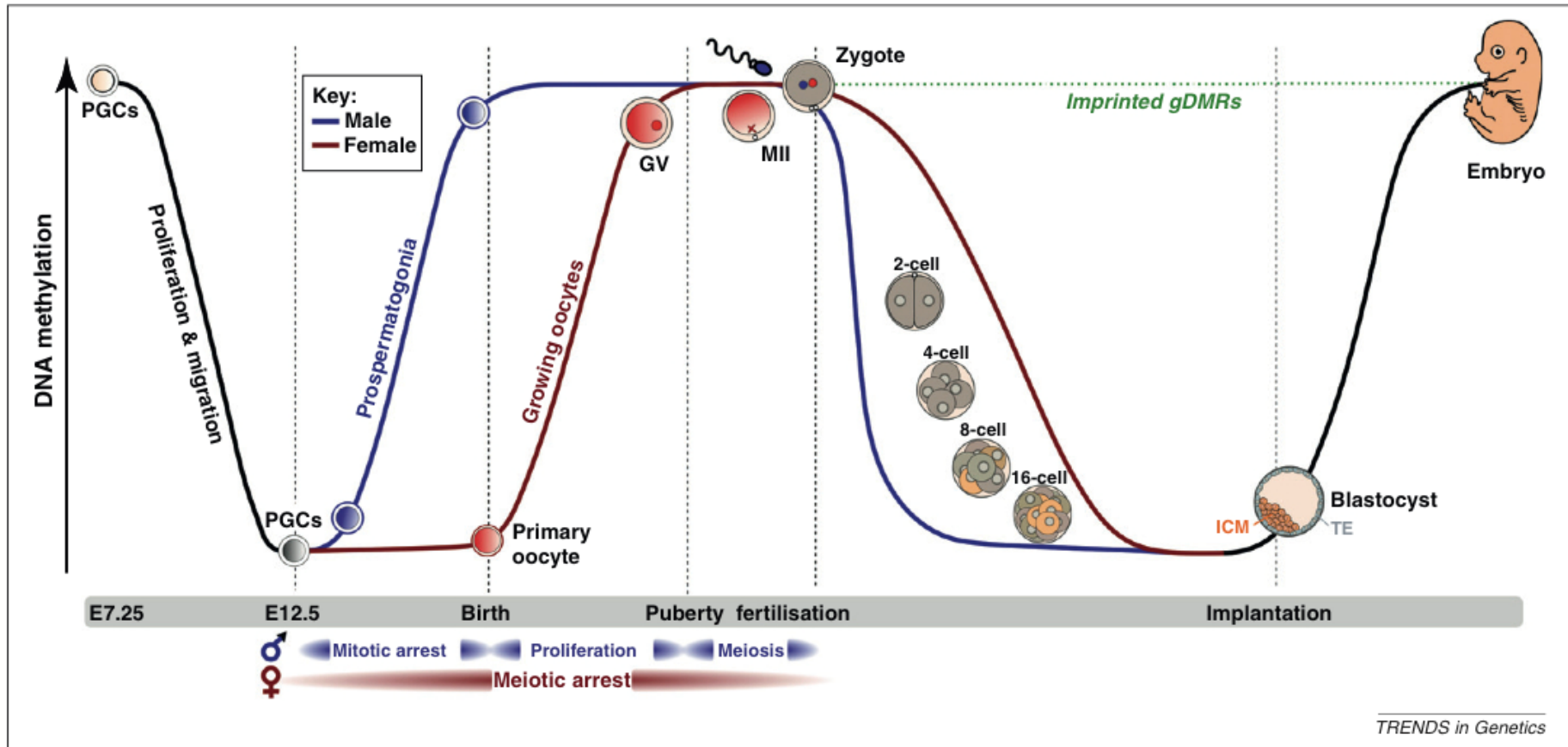
# Interindividual epigenetic variability

*Fraga et al. (2005) PNAS*: Epigenetic differences arise during the lifetime of monozygotic twins.

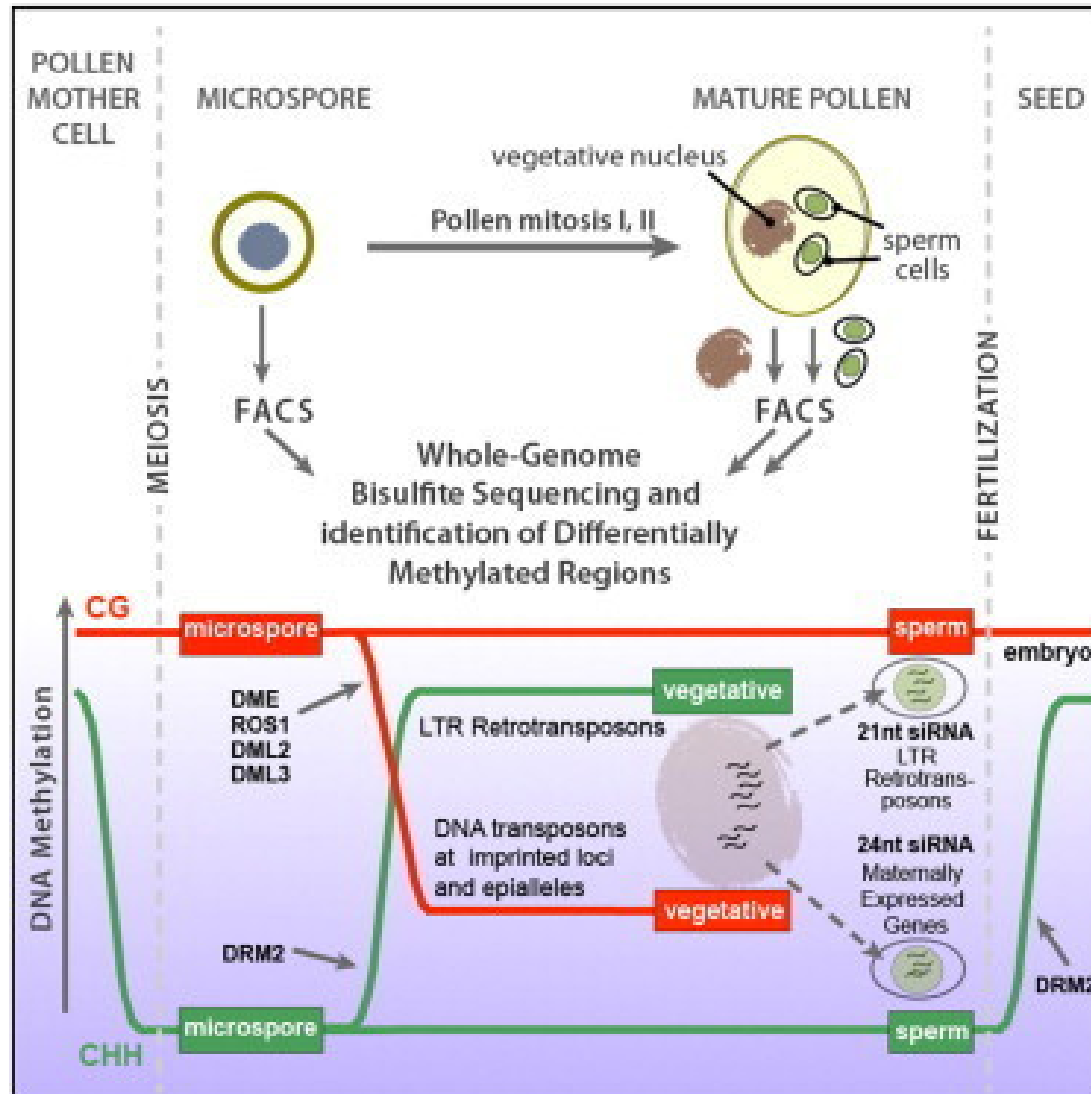


- The amount of differences is proportional to the degree of intra-pair lifestyle dissimilarity: age and environment largely influence epigenetic differences
- **Contribution of the epigenotype to the phenotypic manifestation of the inherited genotype**

# Two waves of epigenetic reprogramming in mammals



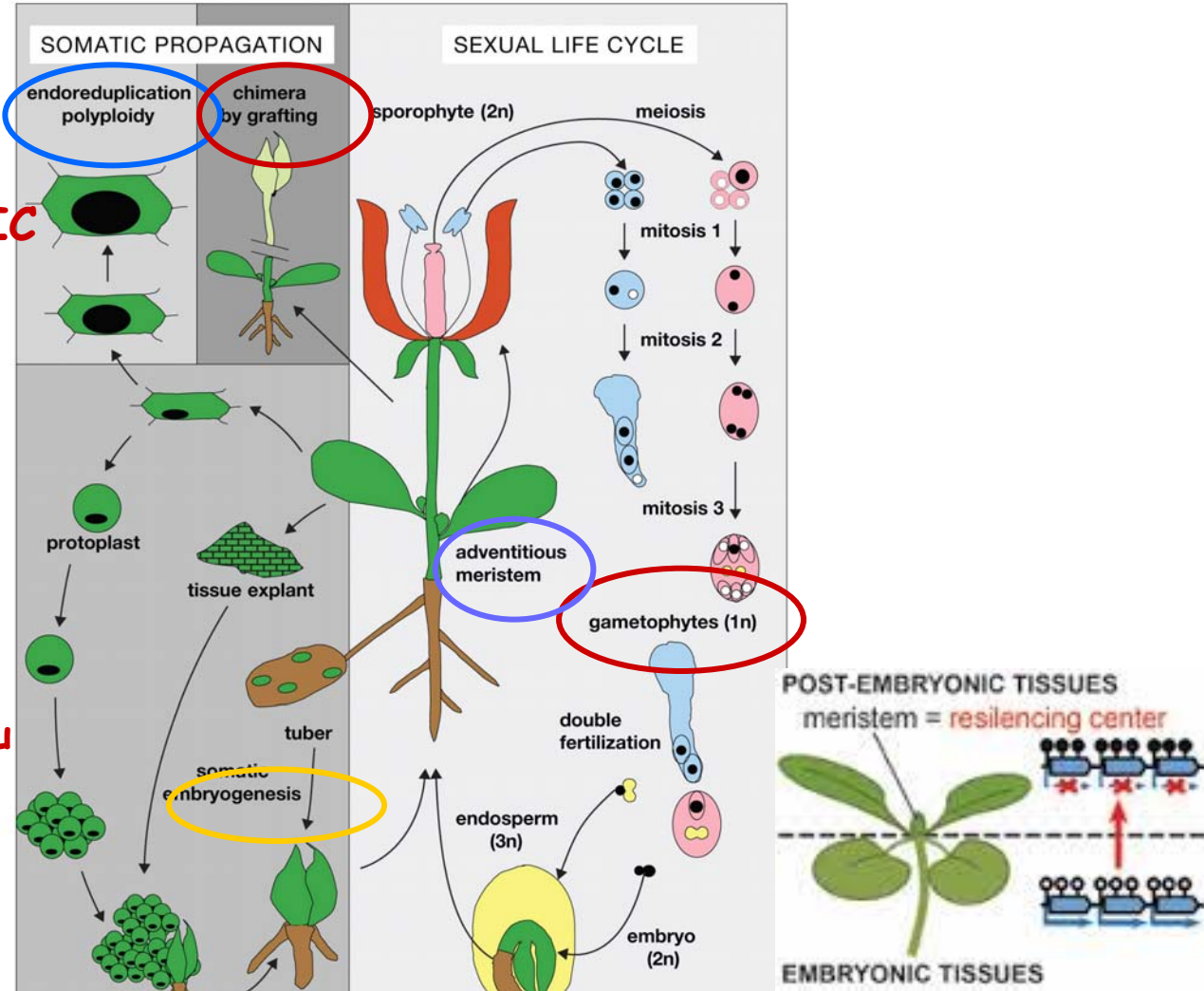
# Epigenetic reprogramming in plants



CpG motifs  
CpNpG motifs  
CpNpN motifs

# PLANTS HAVE SPECIFIC LIFE STYLE AND SPECIFIC EPIGENETICS

Epigenetičke oznake se češće nasljeđuju na potomke (EPI-ALELI), ali su fleksibilnije i reverzibilnije nego u kromatinu animalnih genoma<sup>1</sup>.



- independent haploid phase (gametophyte) between meiosis and fertilisation : importance for maintenance of epigenetic information
- no global epigenetic reprogramming - epialleles and transgenerational epigenetic inheritance
- continuous growths through apical and lateral meristems (continuous differentiation)
- vegetative propagation (specialized organs) - somatic embryogenesis and somaclonal variability
- plasmodesmata; vegetative chimera (flexible and reversible epigenome)



## DNA methyltransferases in plants (*Arabidopsis thaliana*) :

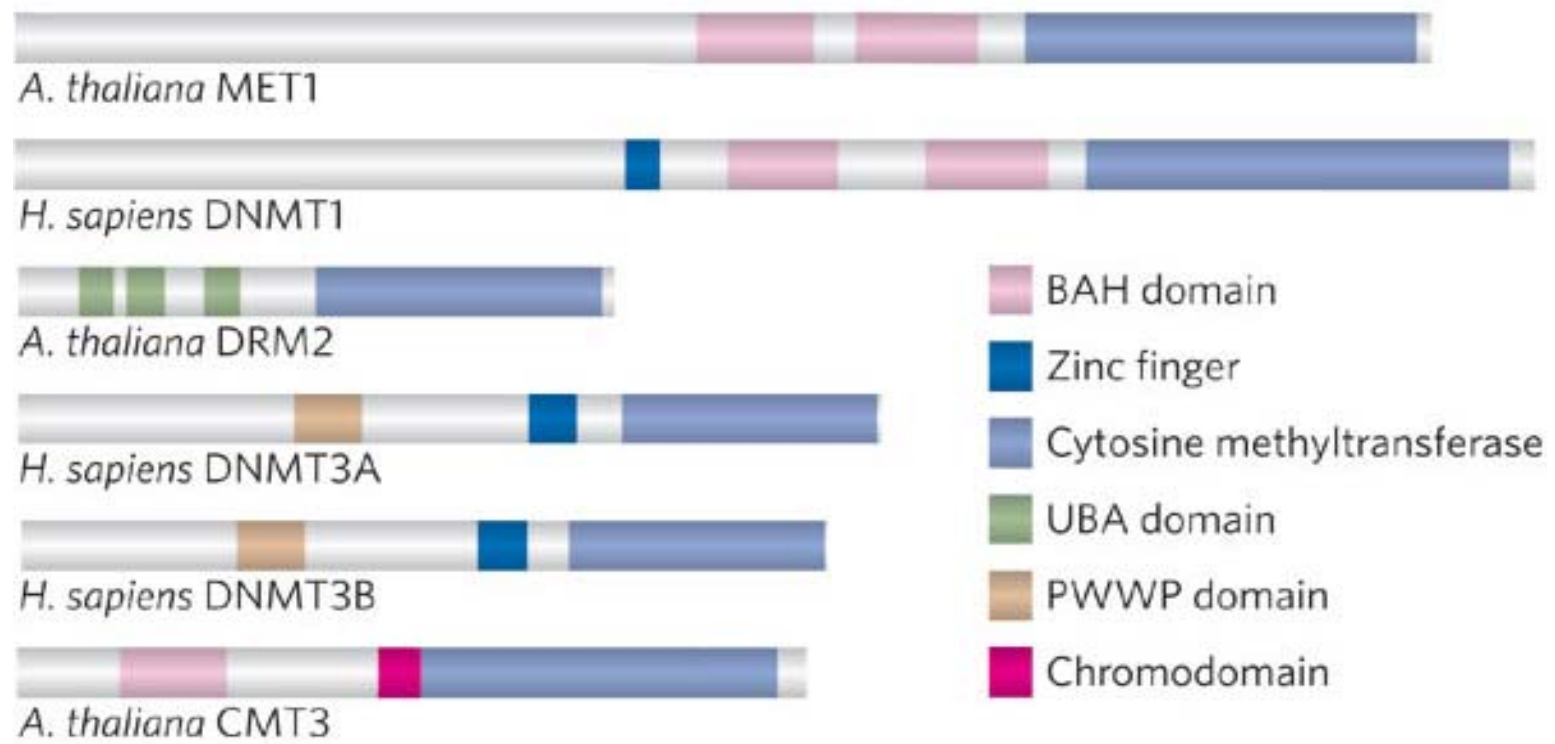
**MET1** (Dnmt1) - maintenance methyltransferase (recognize hemimethylated DNA)

methylation of CpG motifs (can methylate *de novo*), important for plant development

**DRM2** (Dnmt3a/Dnmt3b) - *de novo* methylation of CpG, CpNpG, CpNpN motifs (methylation of asymmetrical motifs), involved in RdDM pathway

**CMT3** - specific for plants; *maintenance and de novo* methyltransferase; methylation of asymmetric CpNpG motifs; involved in silencing of retrotransposons

**b**



# Plant mutants for epigenetic effectors



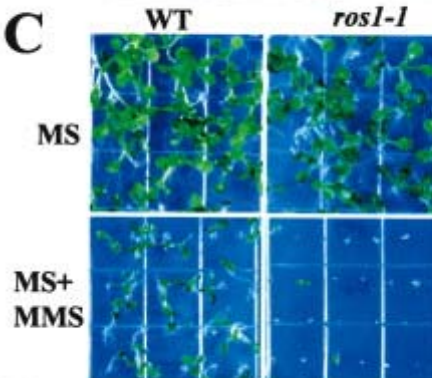
Columbia  
*MET1*

Columbia  
*met1-1*

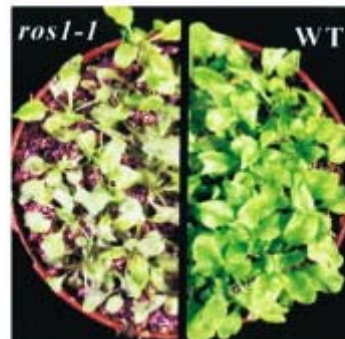
**A**



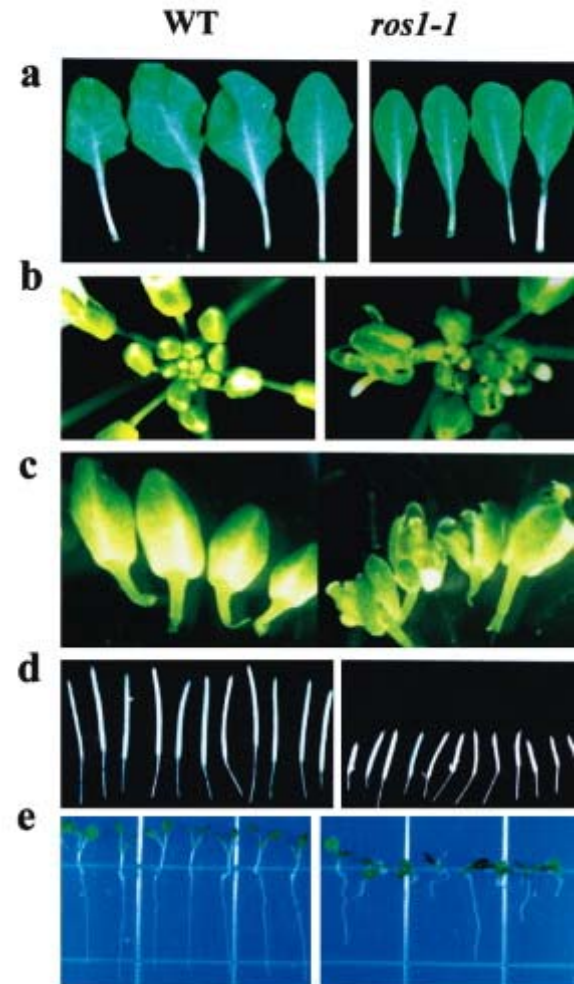
**C**

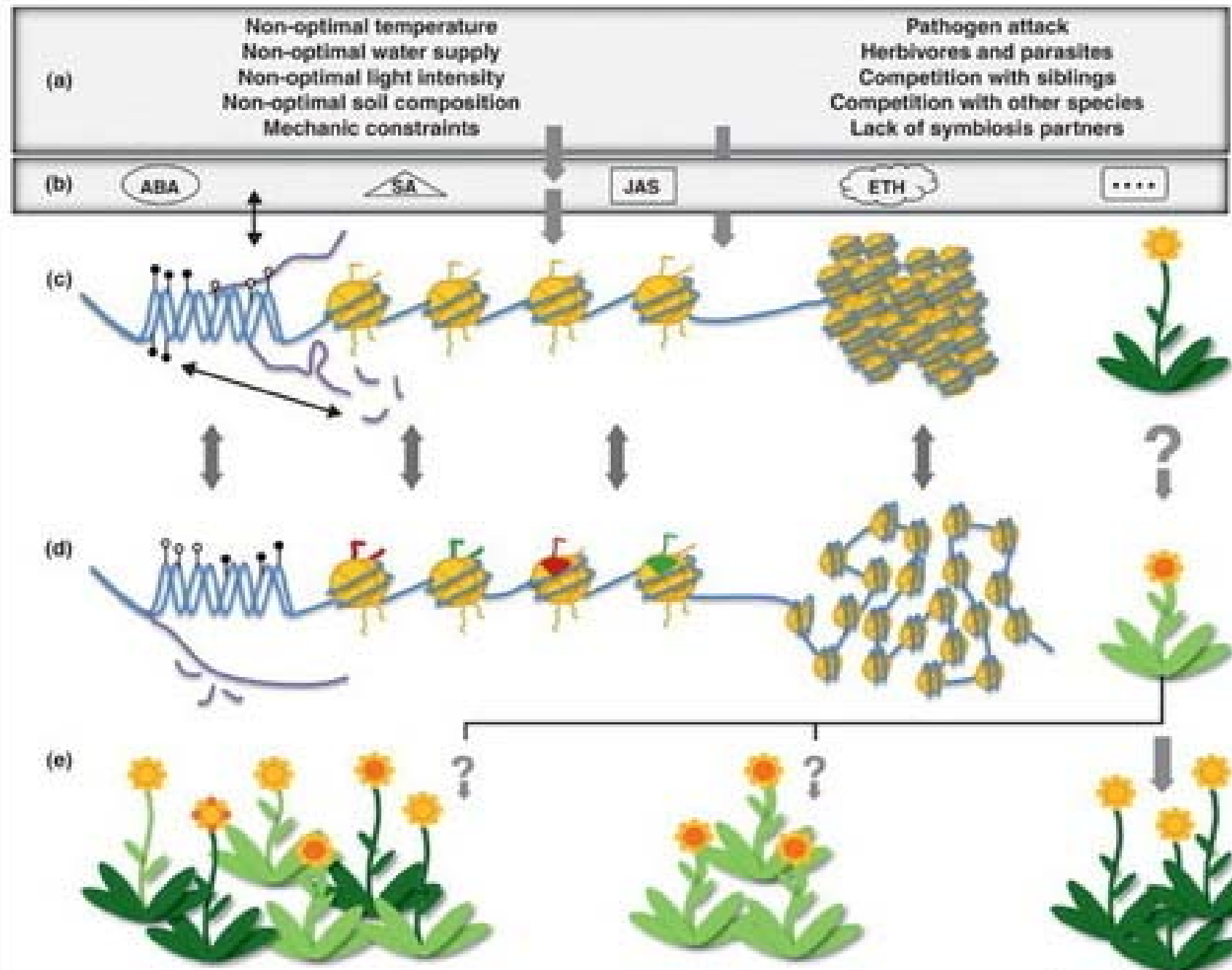


**D**

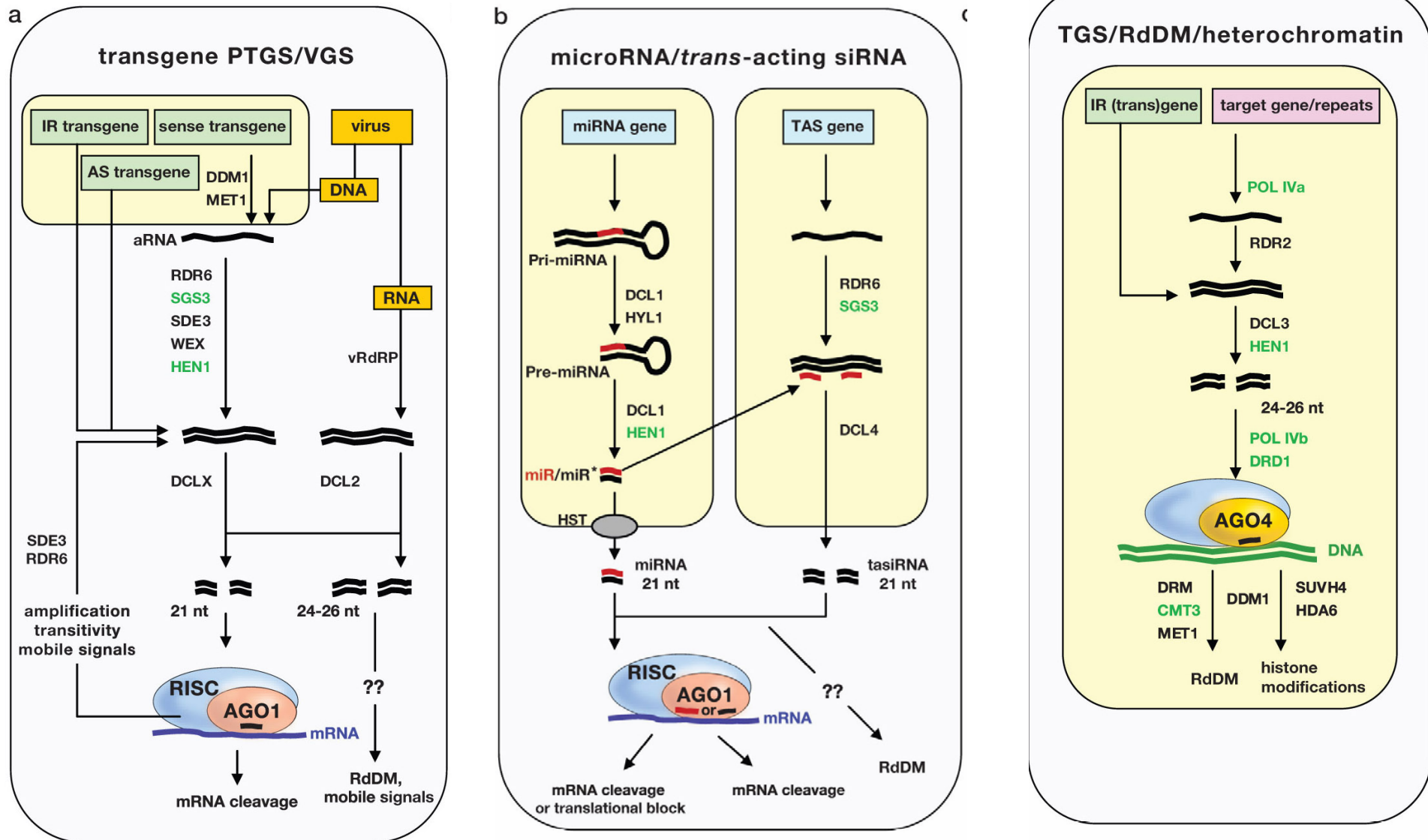


**B**





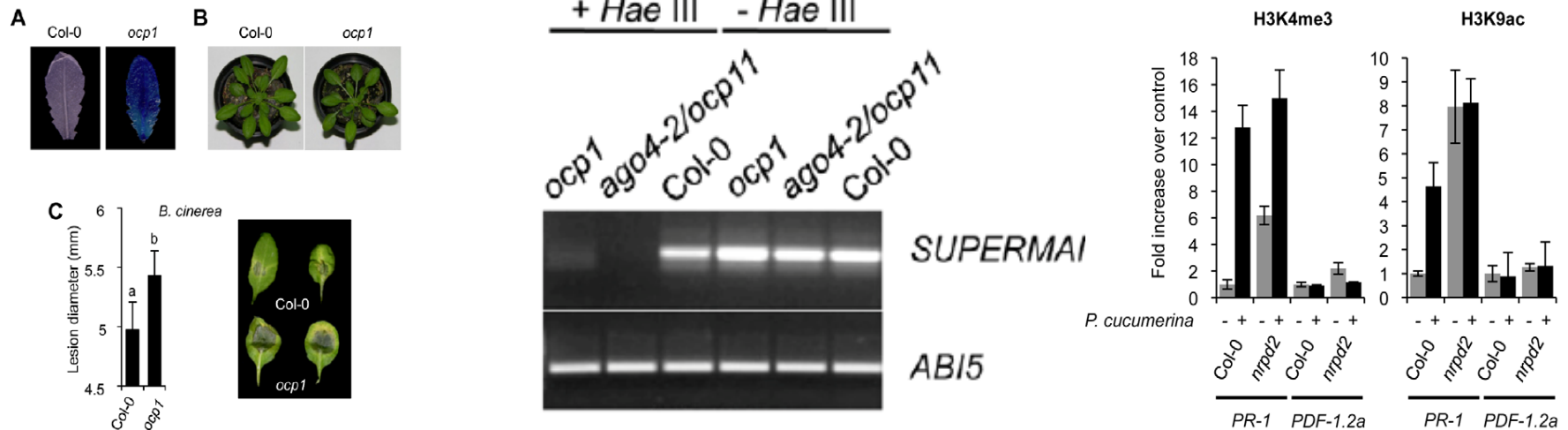
# Involvement of TGS and PTGS in stress signaling





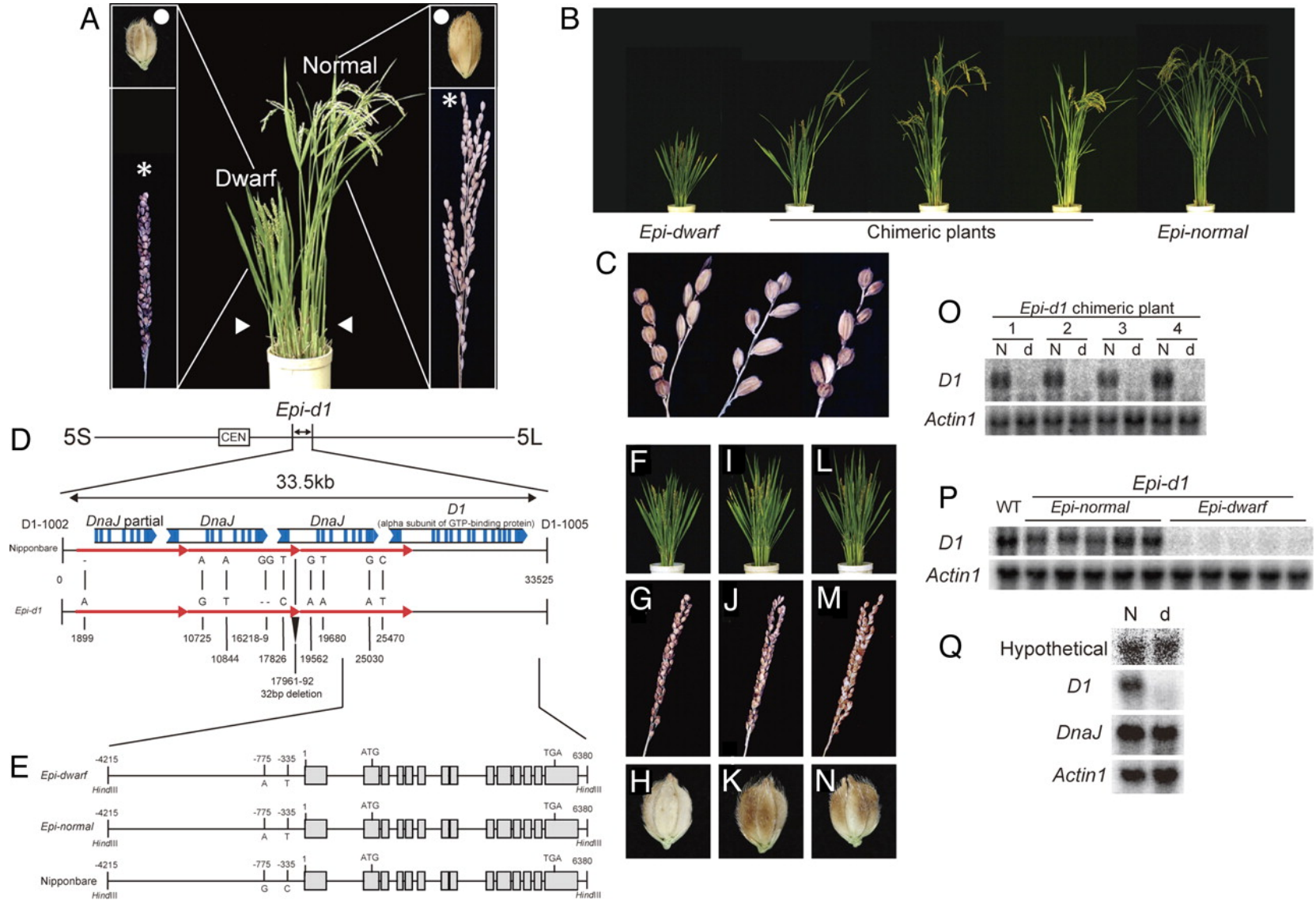


# Overlap between plant stress signaling and epigenetic mechanisms (RdMD involving ncRNAs)



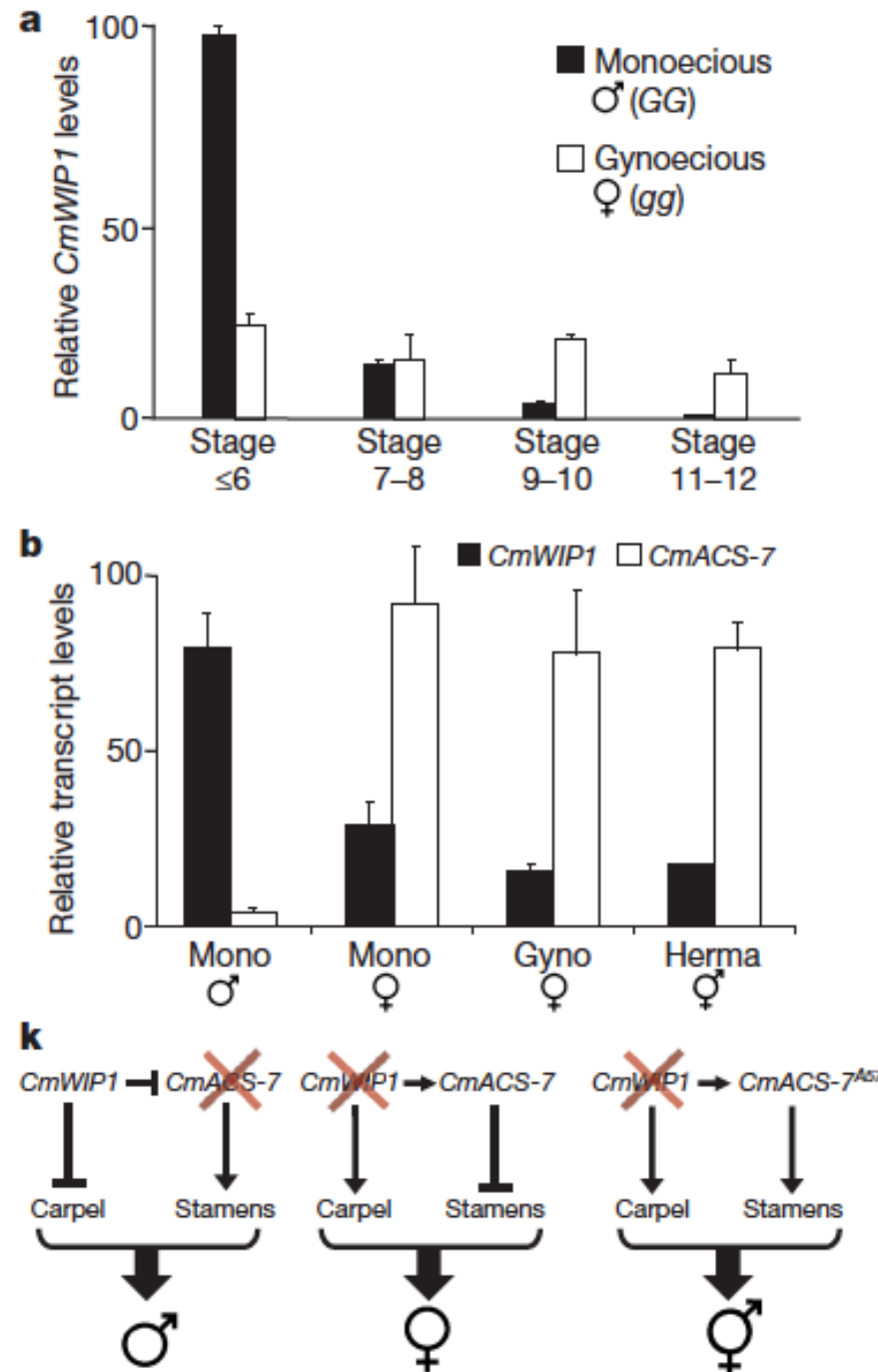
- *Arabidopsis* mutant for NRPD2 gene - constitutive expression for salicylic acid
- Mechanistic link between stress signaling and RdMD
- RdMD mutant plants have compromised immune response to pathogenic fungi
- **Overlap between stress signaling using plant hormones and epigenetic mechanisms (RdMD) involving action of ncRNAs**

# Plant epi-mutants



# Metastable epialleles

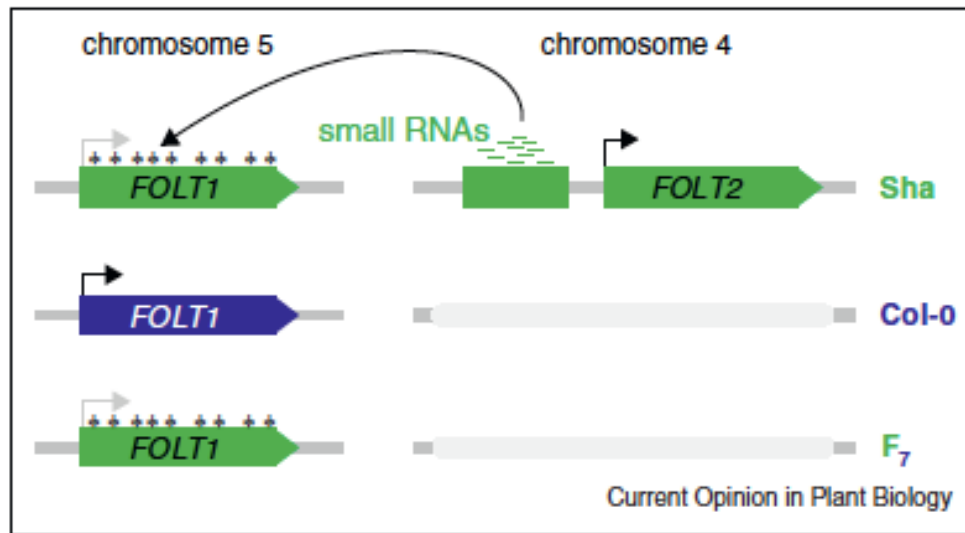
- sex determination mutant in melon *Cucumis melo*
- a transposon-induced epigenetic change in promoter of CmWIP1 gene
- removal of TE from CmWIP1 promoter reactivates the gene activity



*Martin et al. 2009 Nature*



# Epialleles or genetic mutation?



*Durand et al. 2012 Curr Biol*

Table 1. Incompatibility and *AtFOLT1* Expression in 24 Segregating Populations

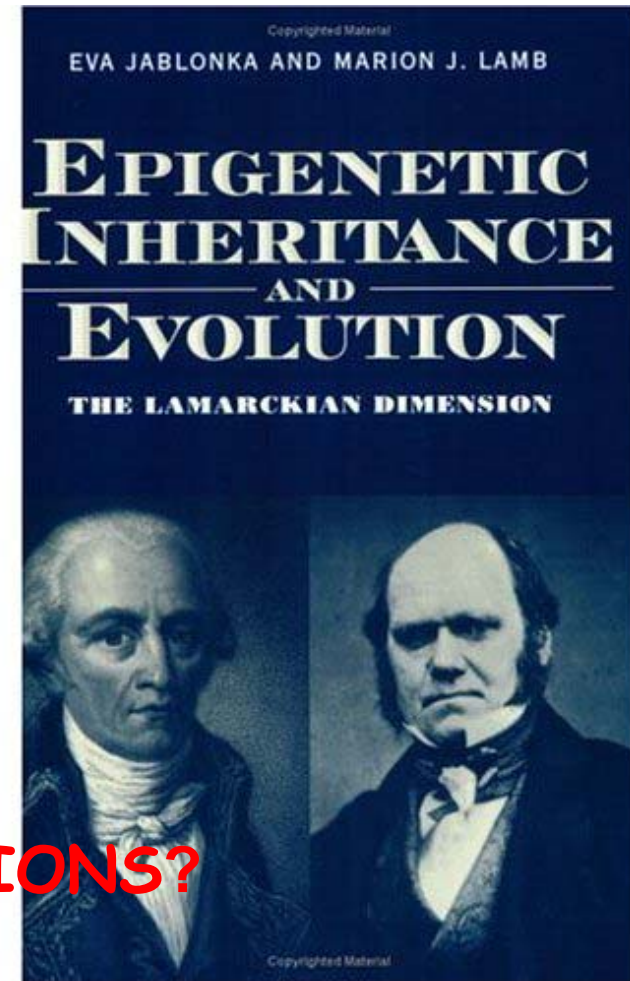
Accession	Geographical Origin	Segregating Population (× Col-0)	AtFOLT Incompatibility	AtFOLT1 Expression
Bla-1	Spain	RIL	–	+
Blh-1	Czech Republic	RIL	–	+
Bur-0	Ireland	RIL	–	+
Can-0	Canary Islands	RIL	–	+
Ct-1	Italy	RIL	–	+
Cvi-0	Cape Verde Islands	RIL	–	+
Dja-1	Kyrgyzstan	F2	–	+
Ge-0	Switzerland	RIL	–	+
Ishikawa	Japan	F2	–	+
Ita-0	Morocco	RIL	–	+
Jea	France	RIL	–	+
Kar-1	Kyrgyzstan	F2	+	–
Kyr-1	Kyrgyzstan	F2	+	–
Ler	Poland	F2	–	+
Ms-0	Russia	F2	+	–
Nok-1	Netherlands	RIL	–	+
Oy-0	Norway	RIL	–	+
Ri-0	Canada	RIL	–	+
Rld-2	Russia	F2	+	–
Sakata	Japan	F2	–	+
Sus-1	Kyrgyzstan	F2	–	+
Tsu-0	Japan	RIL	–	+
Yo-0	USA	RIL	–	+
Zal-1	Kyrgyzstan	F2	+	–

Rapid establishment of genetic incompatibility through natural epigenetic variation

# Epialleles in adaptation and evolution

## NEO-LAMARCKISM and EPIGENETICS: "SOFT-INHERITANCE"

- Lamarck
- Trofim Lysenko
- **Conrad Waddington** - *intrinsic dynamics of development - the "epigenetic landscape" is the real source of novel non-random variations for evolution*
- Environment can induce stable change of epigenetic state in a genome - the molecular mechanism that enables environment to have permanent biological effect



WHAT ABOUT NATURAL POPULATIONS?

# Analysis of global genome methylation

- Methods based on differential sensitivity of restriction enzymes (isoshizomeres) such as *MspI/HpaII* to methylation : **MSAP** (methylation sensitive amplified polymorphism)

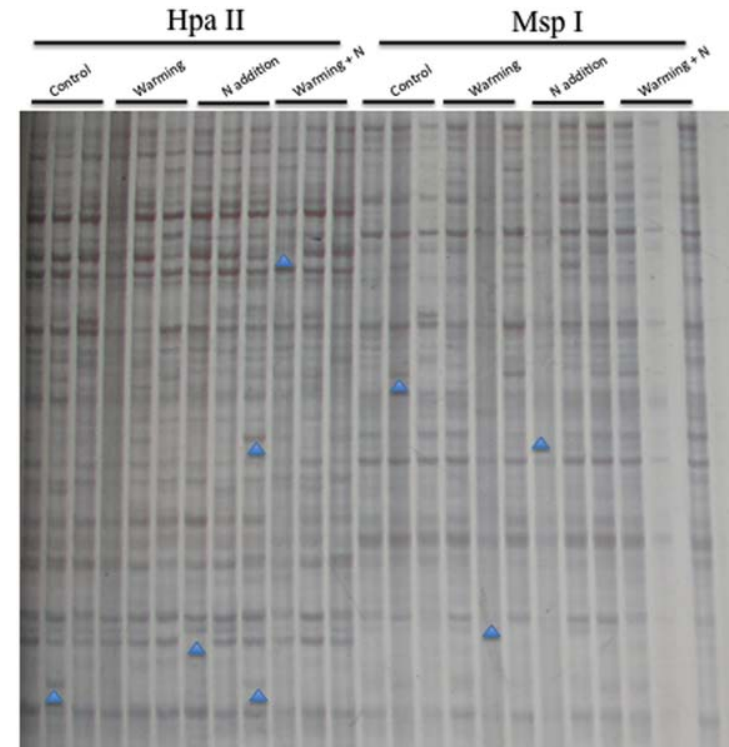
# MSAP = Methylation Sensitive Amplified Polymorphism

Methylation event	Sequence	HpaII	MspI
I	CCGG GGCC	+	+
II	<sup>5m</sup> CCGG GGCC	+	-
III	C <sup>5m</sup> CGG G GCC	-	+
IV	C <sup>5m</sup> C GG G G <sup>5m</sup> CC	-	+
V	<sup>5m</sup> C <sup>5m</sup> C G G G G <sup>5m</sup> C <sup>5m</sup> C	-	-

*EcoRI* = GAATTC  
*HpaII*/*MspI* = CCGG

*EcoRI*/*HpaII* = genetički podatci  
*EcoRI*/*MspI* = epigenetički podatci

	Accession A		Accession B		Site Status
	<i>HpaII</i>	<i>MspI</i>	<i>HpaII</i>	<i>MspI</i>	
Site 1	■		■		METHYLATED
Site 2	■				METHYLATED
Site 3	■		■	■	METHYLATION POLYMORPHIC

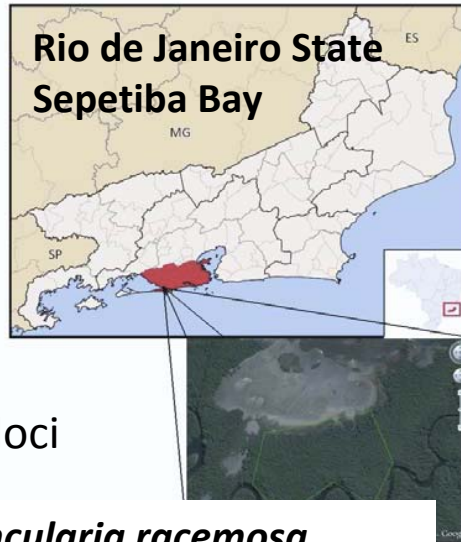




TX number/accession number																						
ID no.																				Delcott	Tamcott	
	34	168	98	116	493	6	119	303	2089	230	141	461	1009	44	656	706	724	210	344	CAMD-E	B444	B559
G1.384	1	1	1	1	1	1	?	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	?	1	1	1	1
G1.367	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?
G1.307	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	?	?
G1.192 <sup>b</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
G2.428	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G2.151 <sup>b</sup>	0	0	0	1	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G3.491	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
G3.482	0	1	1	0	1	?	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	?	?
G3.430	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G3.392 <sup>c</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
G3.292	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G3.274 <sup>b</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G3.160 <sup>b</sup>	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
G3.154	1	1	1	1	1	?	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G4.491 <sup>b</sup>	1	0	1	1	1	?	1	?	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G4.368	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G4.288	?	1	1	1	1	1	1	?	0	1	?	0	?	1	?	0	1	1	1	1	?	?
G4.194	1	?	0	0	?	1	?	1	1	0	1	1	0	?	1	1	?	?	?	?	?	0
G4.172	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	?	?
G4.165	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	?	?	?	1	0	0	0	0
B1.424	1	?	1	1	?	?	?	0	?	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	?
B1.218	0	0	0	1	0	?	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	1	?	?
B2.493	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	?
B2.465	?	?	?	?	?	1	?	?	?	?	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
B2.232 <sup>c</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
B2.158	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B3.416	0	1	1	0	?	?	0	?	1	0	0	1	?	1	0	?	0	?	0	?	0	?
B3.359 <sup>b</sup>	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
B3.208 <sup>b</sup>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
B4.499	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	?	0	0	0	1
B4.327	?	0	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	?	1	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	0	0
B4.325	0	?	?	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	?	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	?	?
B4.175	1	?	1	1	0	?	0	0	0	0	?	0	0	?	0	1	0	?	1	1	1	0

# Epigenetic change as a long term strategy in plant adaptation

- Analysis of 183 informative MSAP loci



*Laguncularia racemosa*



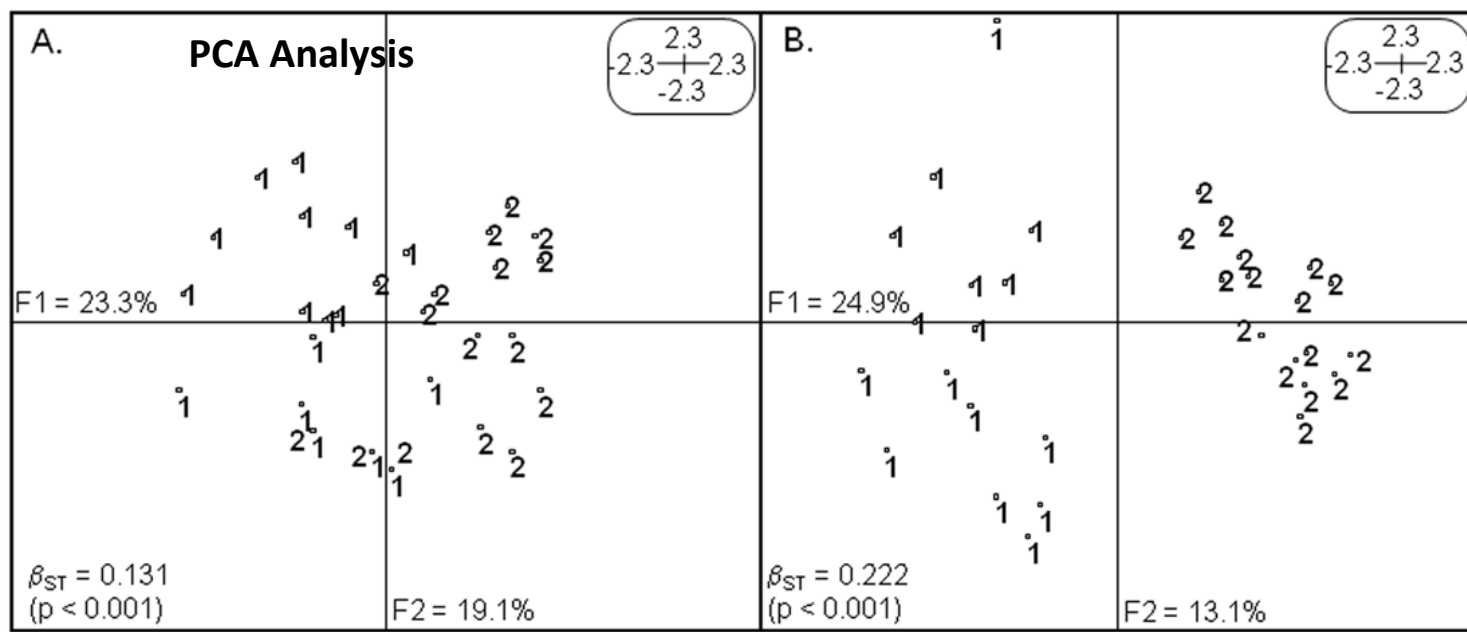
50 cm



1 meter



strategy in



- Analysis of 183 informative MSAP loci

*Laguncularia racemosa*

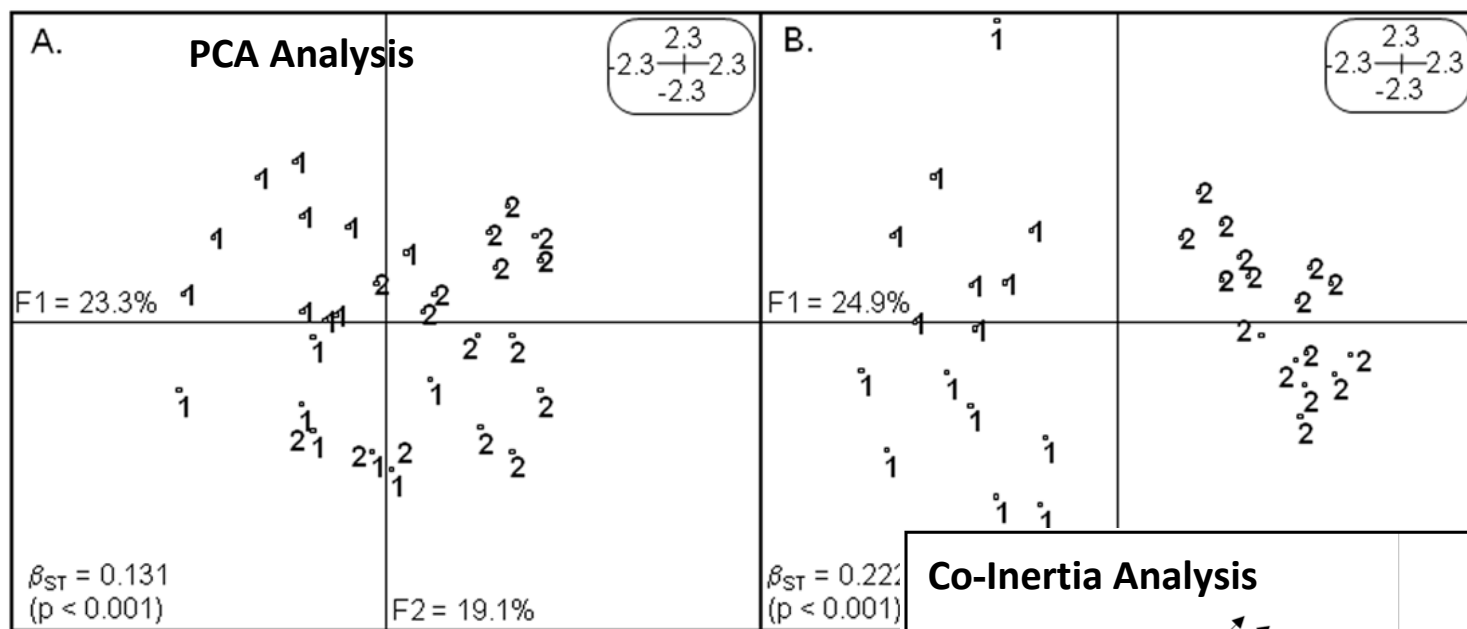


50 cm



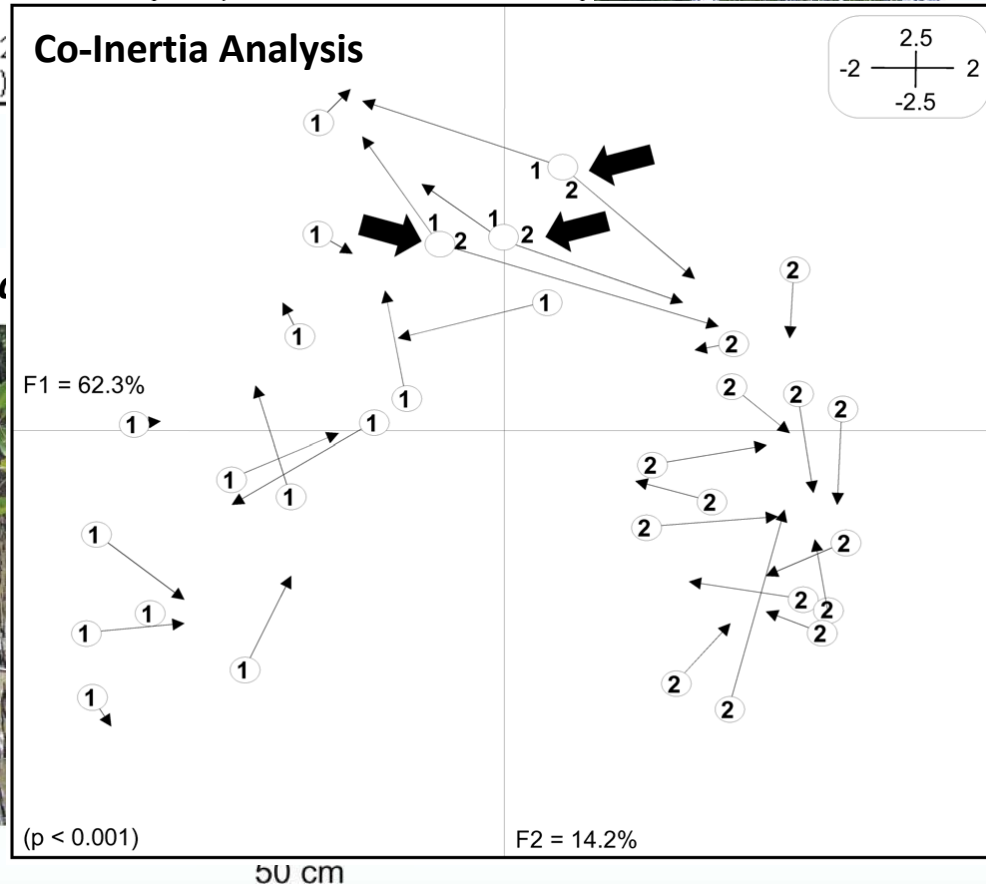
1 meter

strategy in



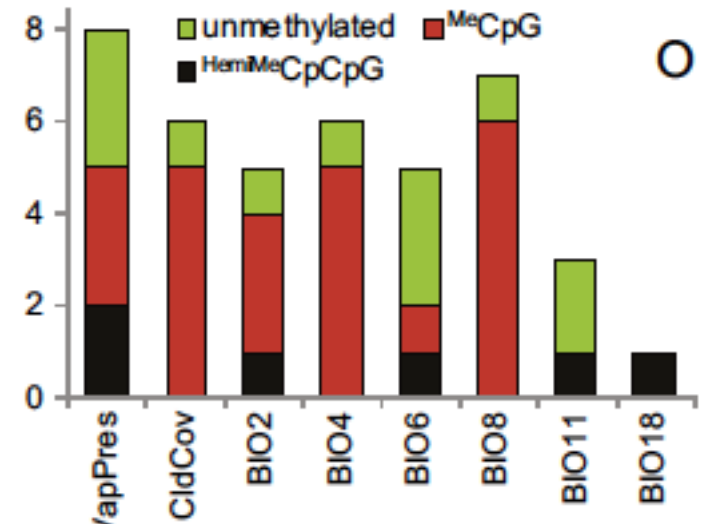
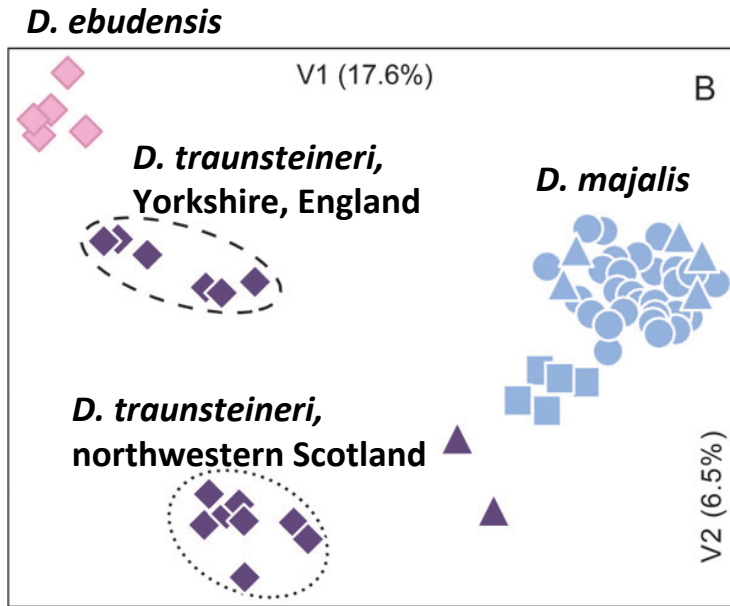
- Analysis of 183 informative MSAP loci

*Laguncularia*



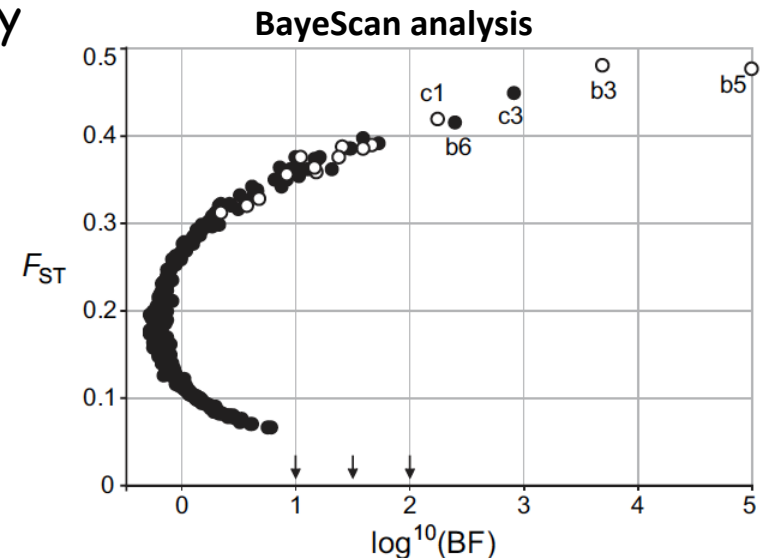


# Environmental allopatry through epigenetic changes

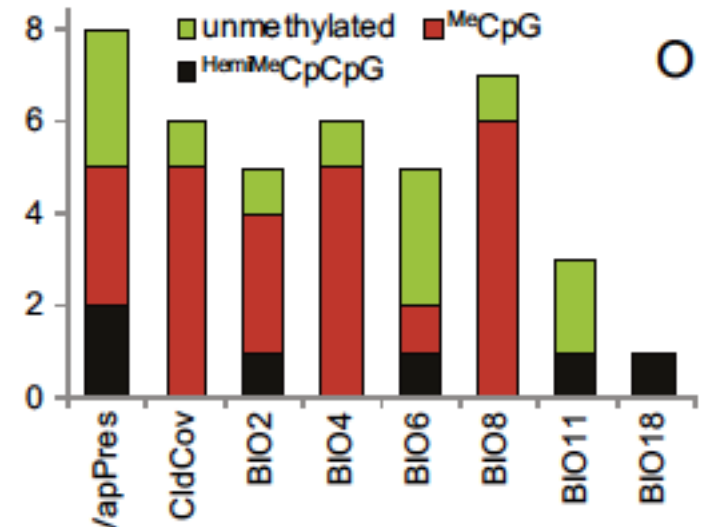
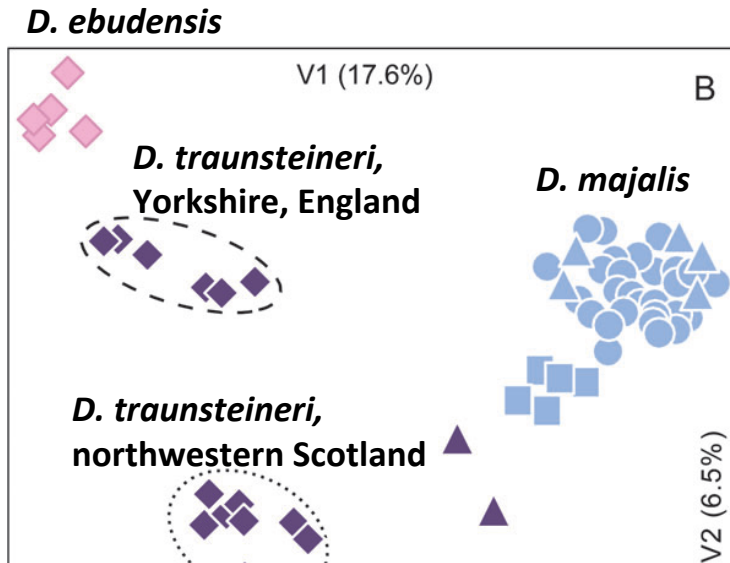


**87 methylation markers correlated with environmental variables (temp/water availability)**

- Allopolyploid *Dactylorhiza* sibling species - hybridisation and polyploidisation in evolutionary history
- Morphological similarities and highly similar genetic constitution (AFLP)
- Epigenetic differences (MSAP) provoked by genome duplication



# Environmental allopatry through epigenetic changes

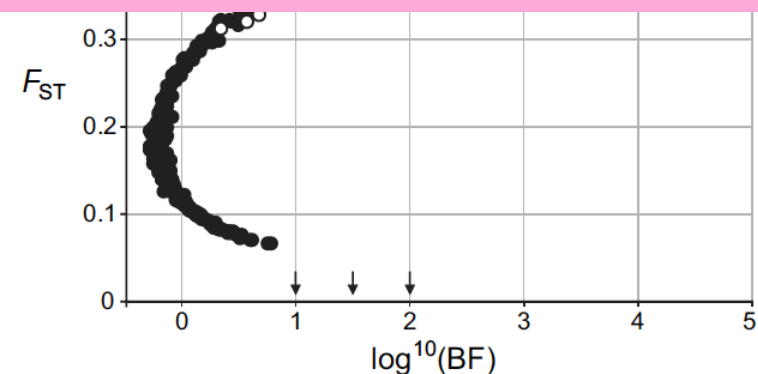


87 methylation markers correlated

- Ecological divergence largely the result of adaptation achieved by epigenetic effects that modulate gene expression (cDNA- AFLP) under environmental influence.

genetic constitution (AFLP)

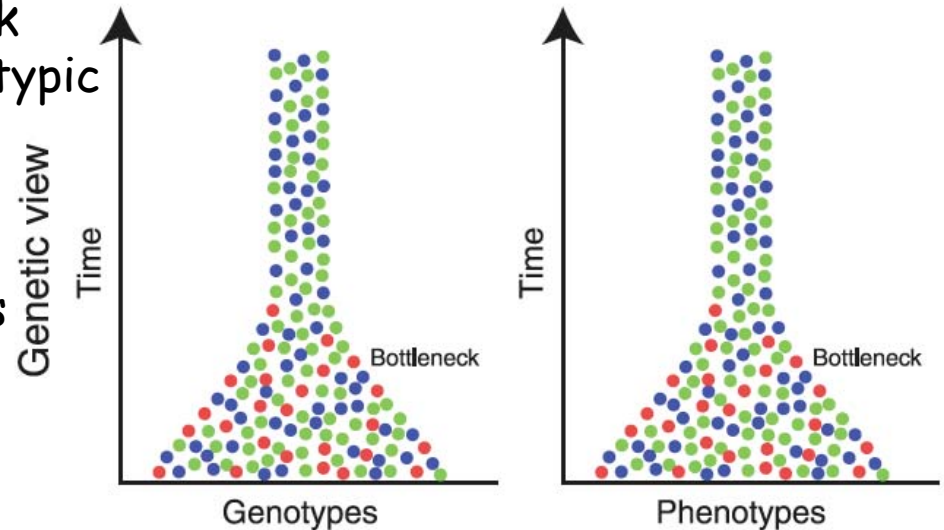
- Epigenetic differences (MSAP) provoked by genome duplication



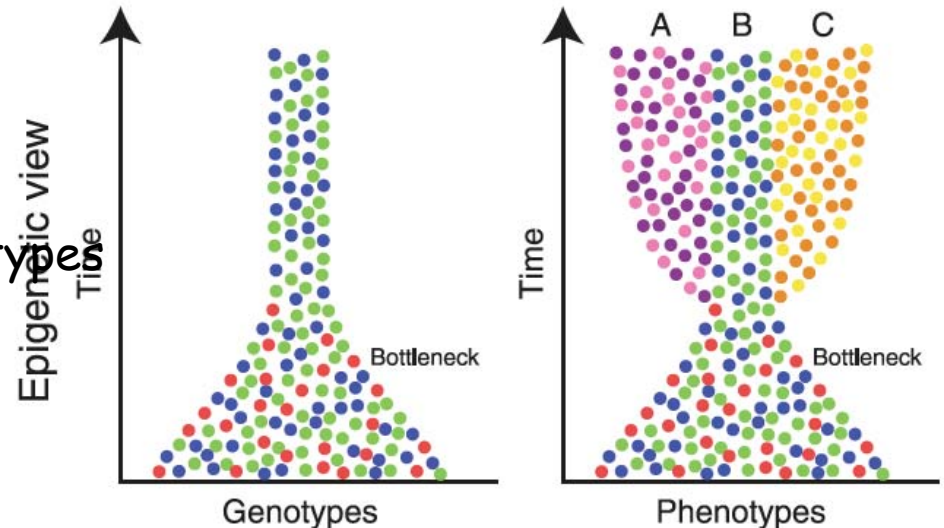
# Epigenetic view of the genetic bottleneck

- Interspecies hybridisation and polyploidisation provoke genomic disruption and genomic shock which have effect of genetic bottleneck
- Promotion and fixation of new phenotypic variants in small populations

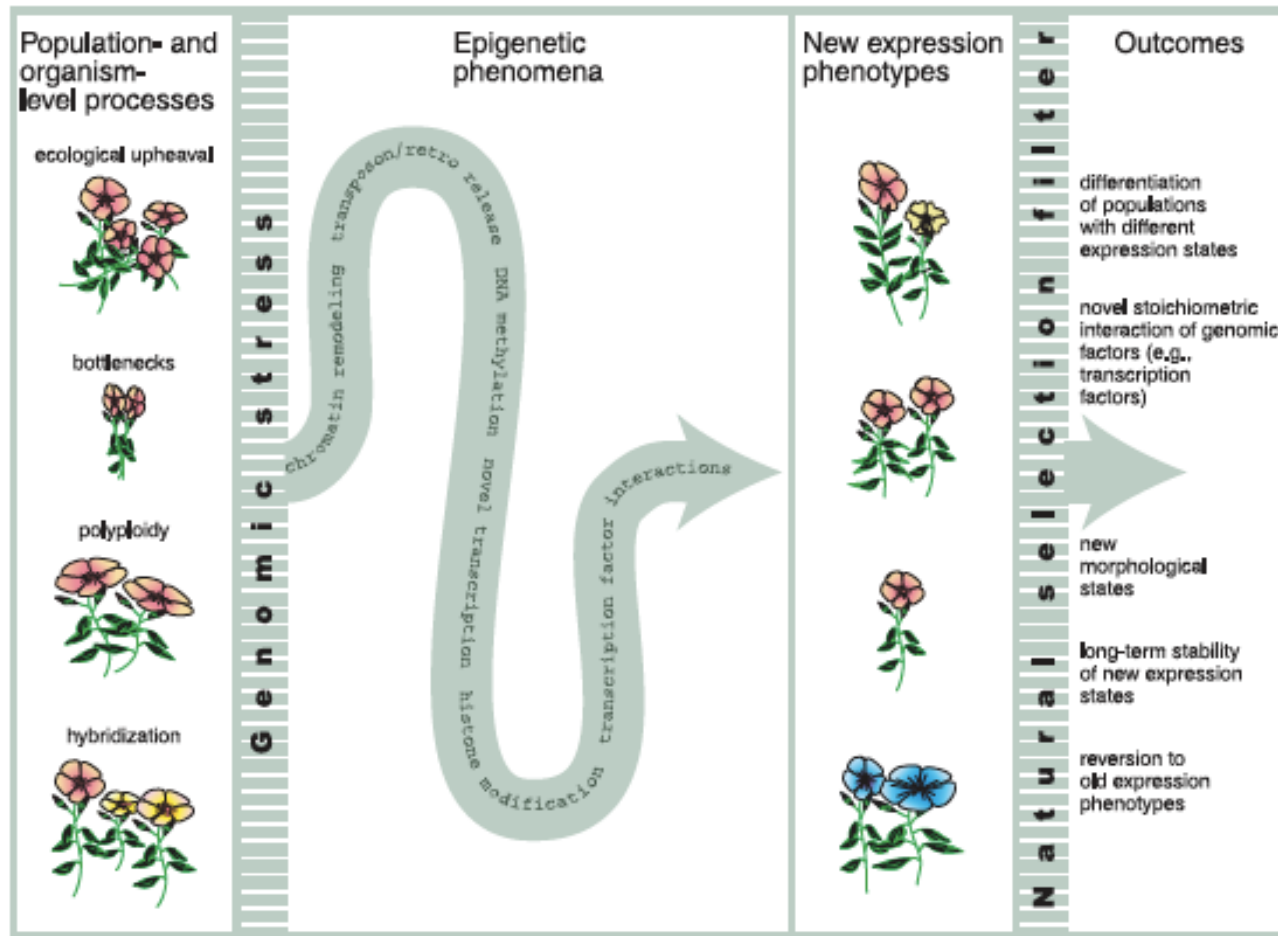
Winnowing of genotypes and phenotypes in requirements of genetic drift and natural selection



Winnowing process is ameliorated by novel epigenetically mediated phenotypes



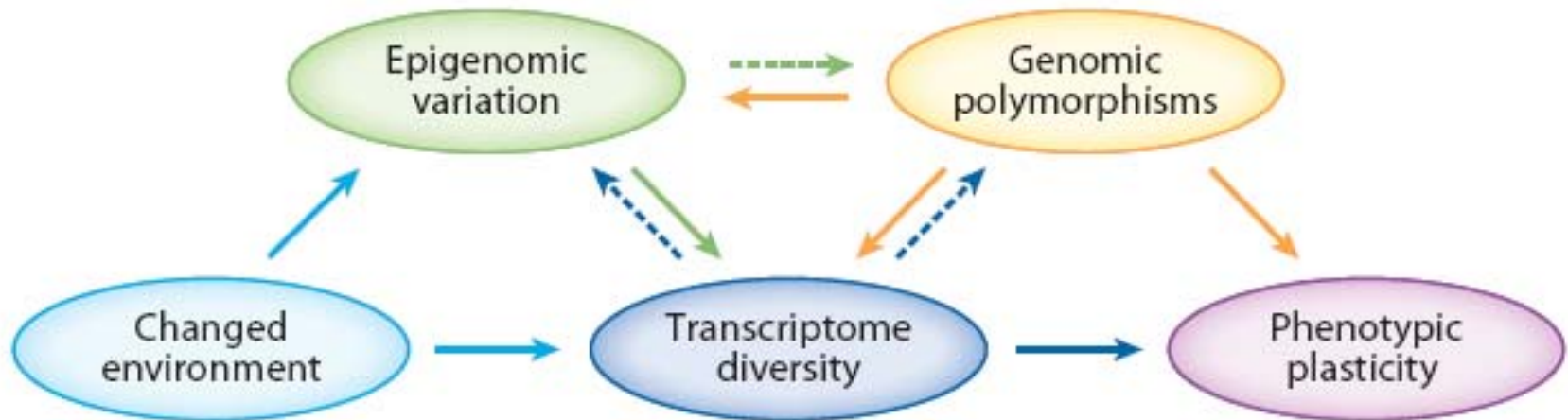
# Epigenetic variation contributes to evolution



In this view, a bottleneck could provide the stimulus for evolutionary novelty, mediated by epigenetic response to genomic stress/ecological upheaval, where new phenotypic variability can rapidly be achieved and fixed within a population.



# Interaction of genome, epigenome and transcriptome diversity in response to changed environment in creation of phenotype



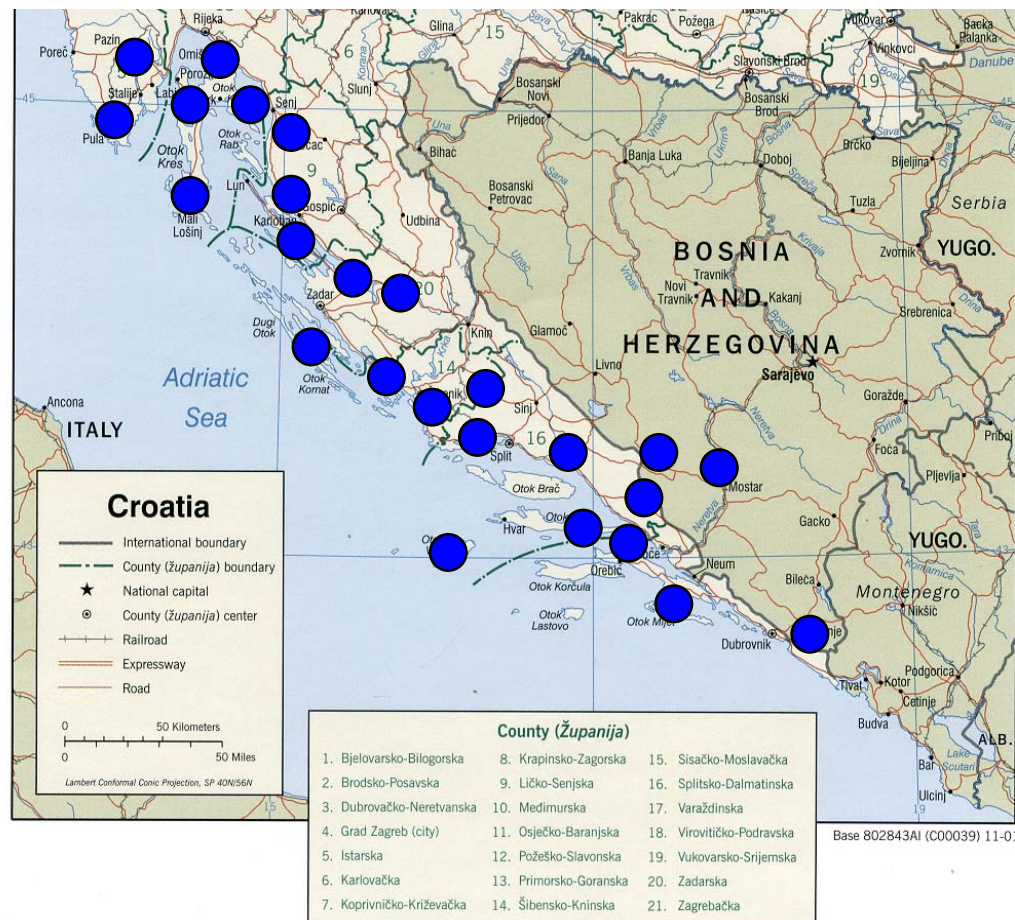
**Plasticity and dynamics of plant (epi)genomes**

# Epigenetic phenomena in natural variation and microevolution in *Salvia* species

- 3 croatian endemic salvia species: *S. officinalis* L., *S. brachyodon* Vandas, *S. x auriculata* Mill.
- *S. x auriculata* Mill. (hybrid between *S. officinalis* L. and *S. fruticosa*) - Vis
- Each collection site will be geocoded with high precision by GPS and abiotic factors will be generated by GIS
- Variables - altitude, slope, exposition (min, max, mean for each variable) will be determined

# LJEKOVITA KADULJA (*Salvia officinalis* L.)

- 44 poznate okolišne (klimatske i bioklimatske) varijable
- GIS (gografski informacijski sustav)  
- dr. T. Nikolić



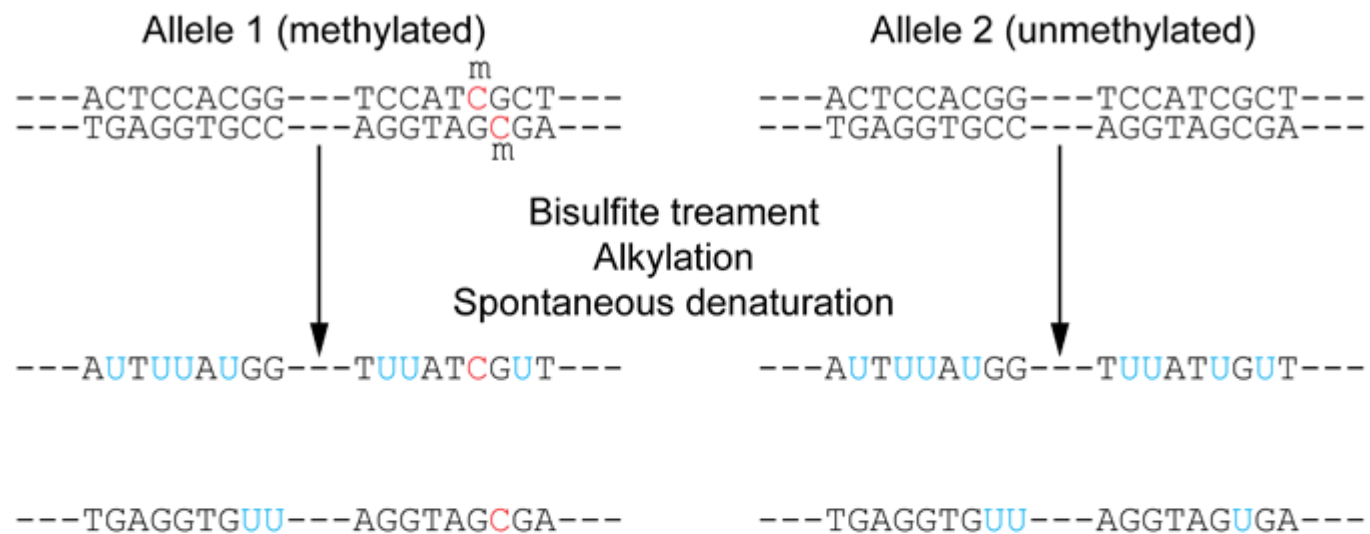
## 25 populacija po 25 biljaka

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1 Šušnjevica  | 14 Šparadići |
| 2 Kamenjak    | 15 Vinišće   |
| 3 Krk         | 16 Unešić    |
| 4 Stara Baška | 17 Biokovo   |
| 5 Cres        | 18 Runovići  |
| 6 Lošinj      | 19 Mostar    |
| 7 Vratnik     | 20 Međugorje |
| 8 Karlobag    | 21 Hvar      |
| 9 Pag         | 22 Vis       |
| 10 Dugi Otok  | 23 Pelješac  |
| 11 Otišina    | 24 Mljet     |
| 12 Pirovac    | 25 Konavle   |
| 13 Zrmanja    |              |

# Ongoing studies

- Genetic (AFLP) versus epigenetic diversity (MSAP)
- *S. officinalis* L. - widely distributed along eastern Adriatic coast
- *S. brachyodon* Vandas - genetic bottleneck, steoendemic plant with very narrow range size (Mount Ilija, Pelješac, and Mount Orijen, Montenegro)
- *S. x auriculata* Mill - hybridisation events, Vis is the only site of appearance
- Informative epialleles - estimation of methylation level by pyrosequencing



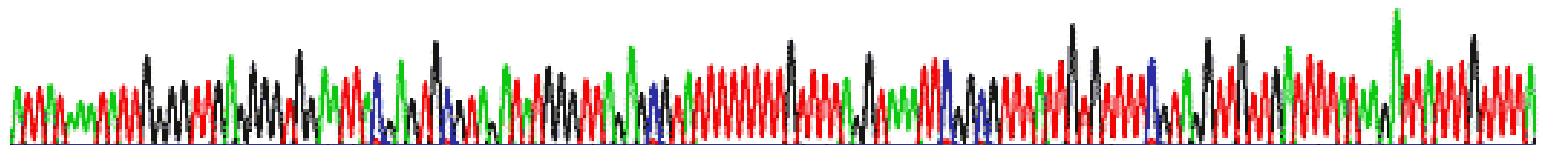


Non-methylation-specific PCR  
 Methylation-specific PCR

Differentiation of bisulfite-generated polymorphisms

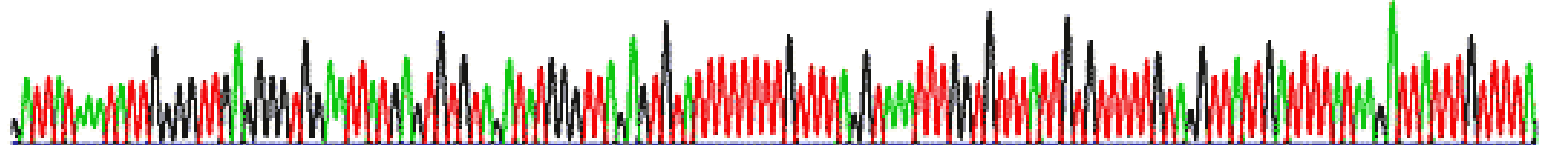
**Methylated**

ATTATAAATATTGGGGTTGAGGGCTGGAAATTACGAGTGGCTAGATATGGGTTACGGCTATTTTCTTTCTTTTTCGTTTACGTAAATTCGGCGCTTTATTGTCTTTTGGTAGGTTGATTTTATAAGATTATTGTTTTA



**Unmethylated**

ATTATAAATATTGGGGTTGAGGGCTGGAAATTACGCTGCTGTAGATAAGGCTTACAGTCTATTCTTTTCTTTTACGTAAATTCGGCTTTATTGTCTTTTCTAGCTTATTGATTTTATAGATTATTGTTTTA





SVEUČILIŠTE U  
ZAGREBU

# Epi-group



**A. Vojta, PhD**



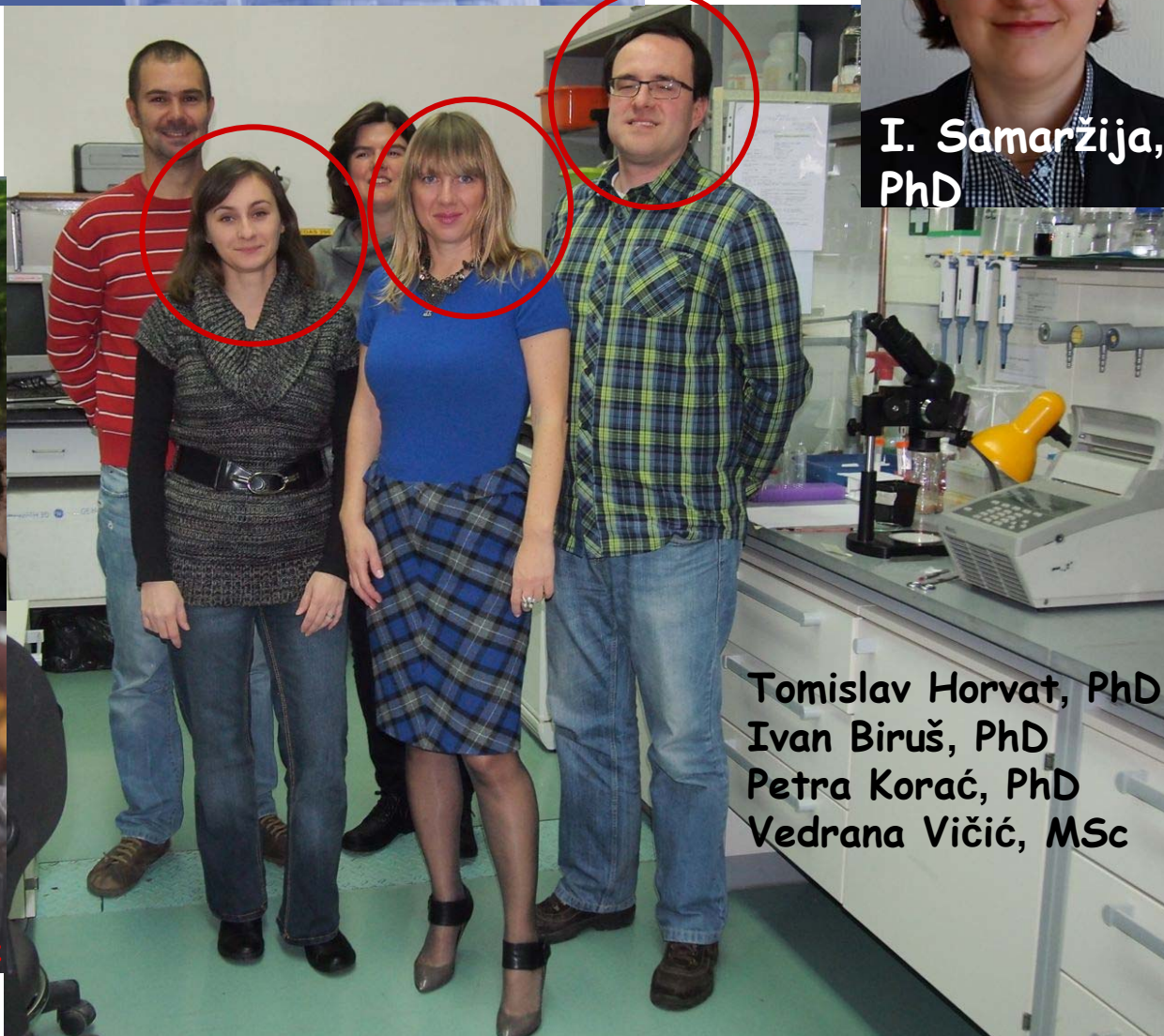
**P. Dobrinić, MSc**



**D. Markulin, MSc**



**M. Klasić, MSc**



**I. Samaržija, PhD**

**Tomislav Horvat, PhD  
Ivan Biruš, PhD  
Petra Korać, PhD  
Vedrana Vičić, MSc**



**FUNDING:** FP7 IBD-BIOM, FP7-Reg-Pot INTEGRA-Life,  
HRZZ-EpiSalvia, HRZZ-IgGGlyco