

# Plantes numériques : accélérer la sélection variétale et le développement de biosolutions

- Peyraud Rémi -



# The team

Baudoin Delépine

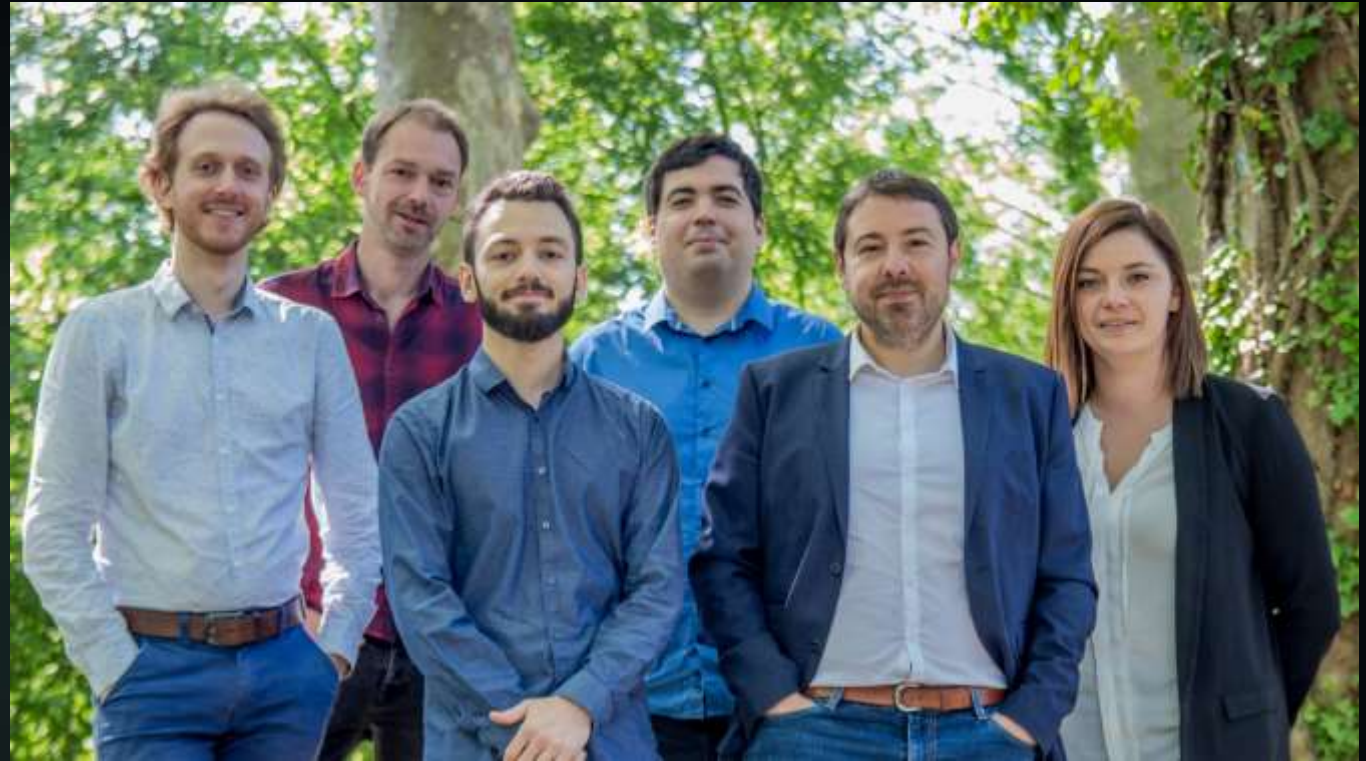


Founded in 2018

INRAE

Jonathan Verbeke

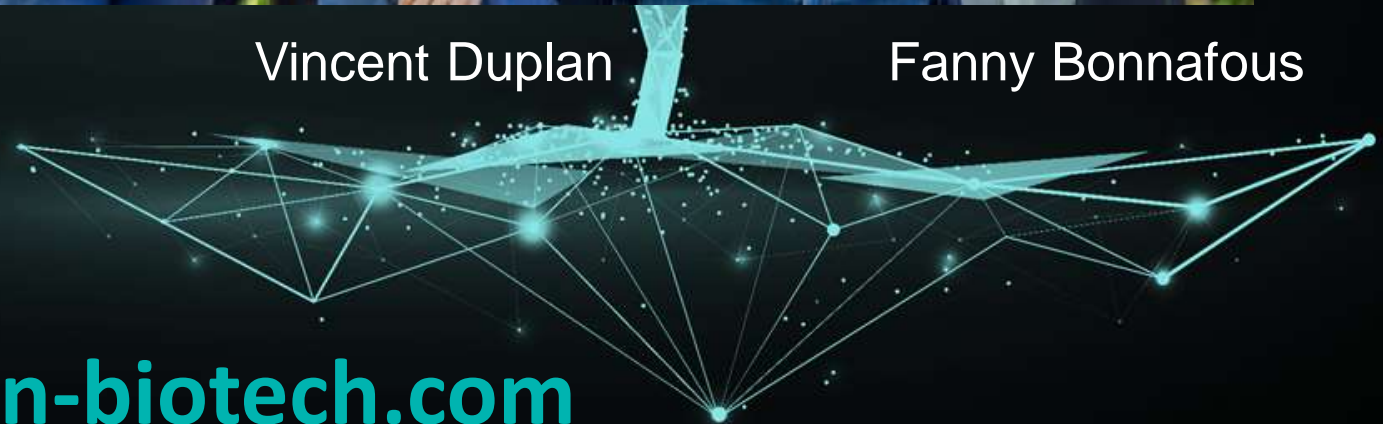
Lucas Marmiesse



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# CONTEXT

WHY MODELING PLANT

PLANT AND MICROBES  
MODELING

DESIGN CROP BREEDING

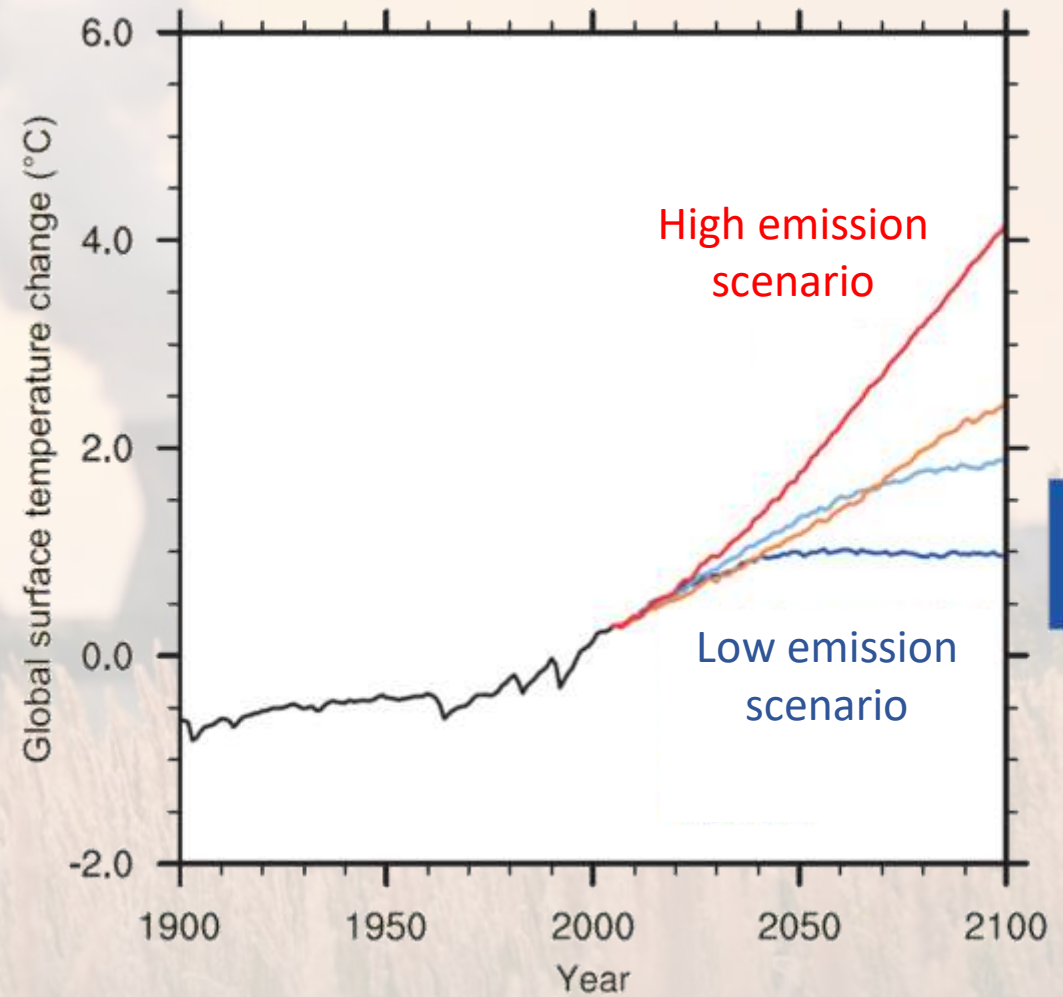
DESIGN MICROBIAL  
COMMUNITIES







# GLOBAL WARMING



IPCC report



**Food  
productivity**



**Sustainable  
agriculture**

**increasing food productivity, the most impactful option for mitigation, adaptation, combating desertification and land degradation, and enhancing food security.**

IPCC

**«540 billion \$ per year if spread of invasive pests and pathogens is not stopped »**

State of the World's Plants

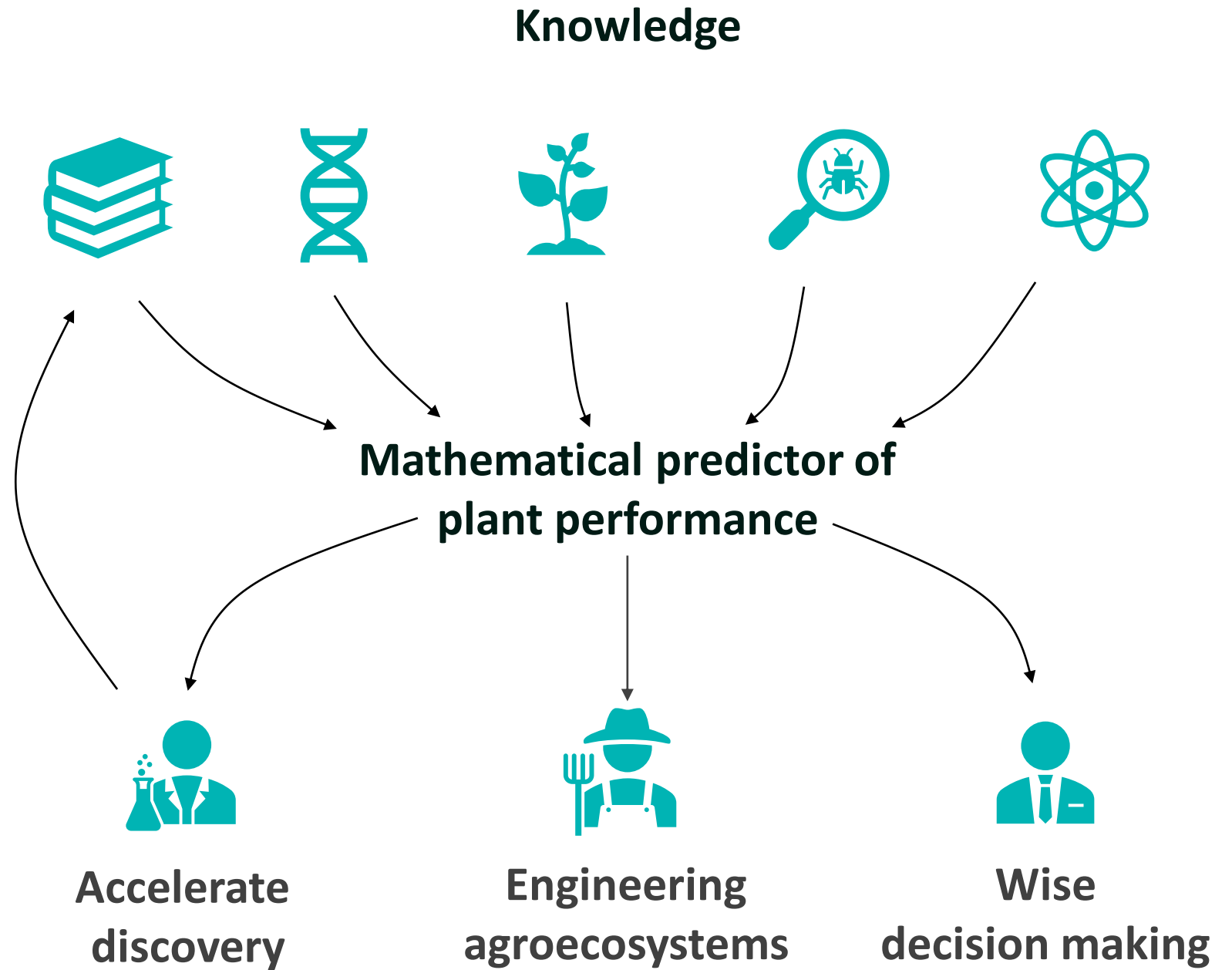


# **How to find solutions, NOW?**

**Scenario 1. We accelerate game breaking discoveries?**

**Scenario 2. We mobilize all the knowledge we already have?**





CONTEXT

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COMMUNITIES



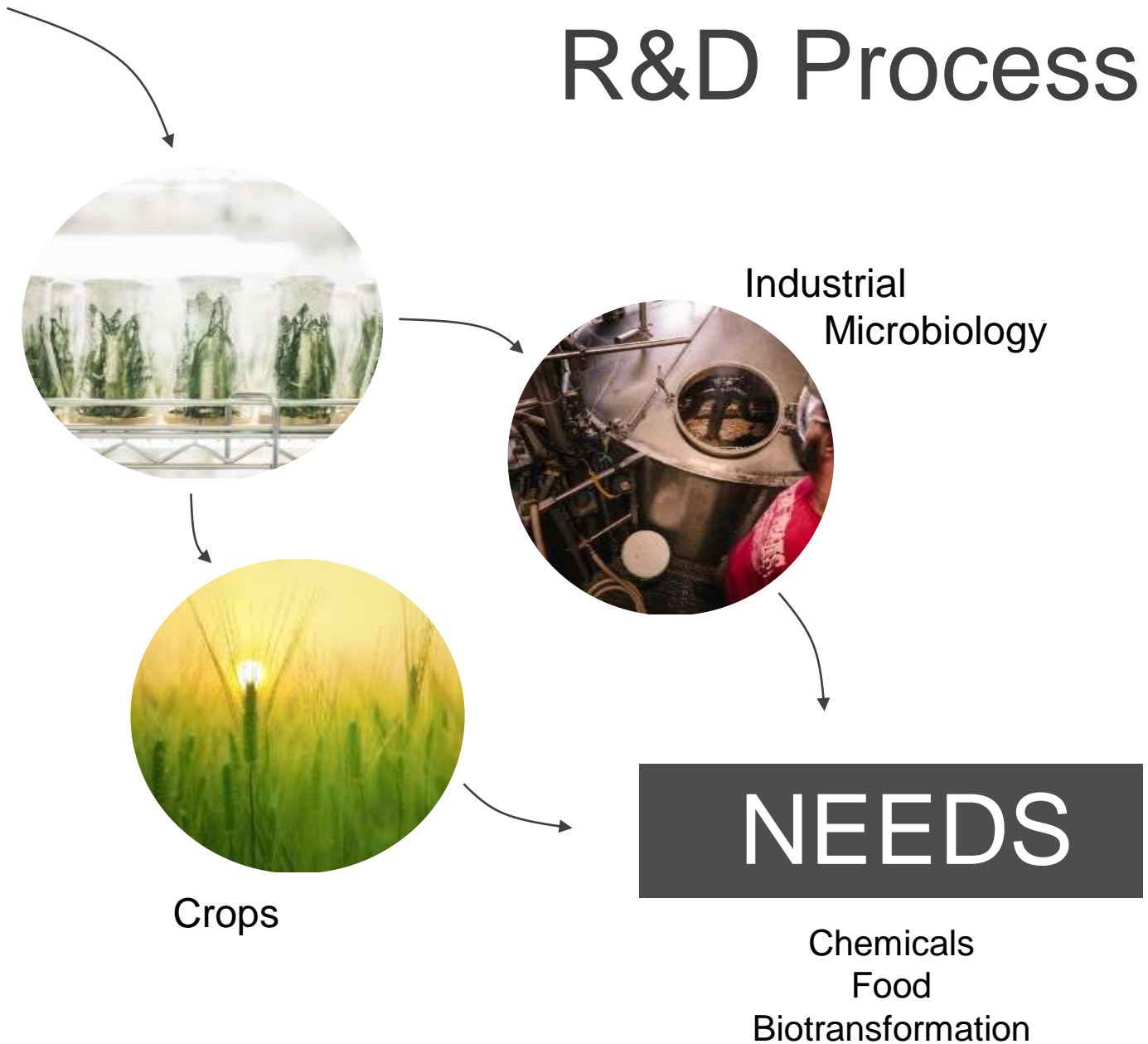


# NATURE

Ressources



## R&D Process



# NATURE

Ressources

***Time to market***  
***~10 years***

***Investment cost***  
***~ 5M €/4Y -> up to 100M€***

***Failure rate***  
***up to 85%***

Crops

## R&D Process

Industrial  
Microbiology

## NEEDS

Chemicals  
Food  
Biotransformation

Life is  
complex

Living organisms functioning  
is a black box



Source of failure  
Pain to find solutions

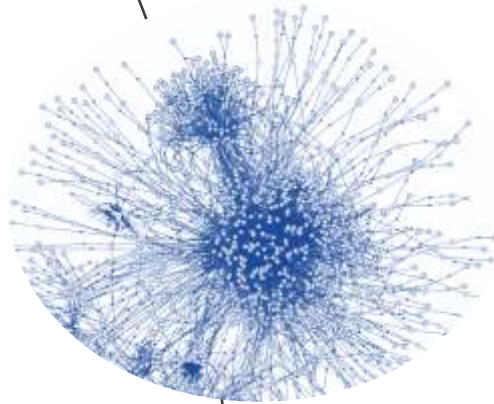


# Life modelling



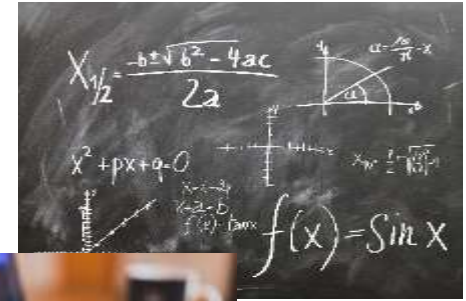
gene

Complex molecular  
networks



Phenotype

Mathematical modelling



Digital organism



Understanding



Engineering



Innovation

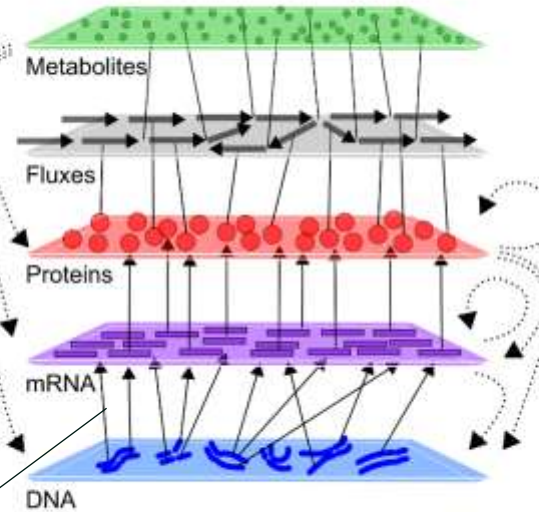
# Life modelling

## Inside the cell

Environment



Biochemical organisation of the cell



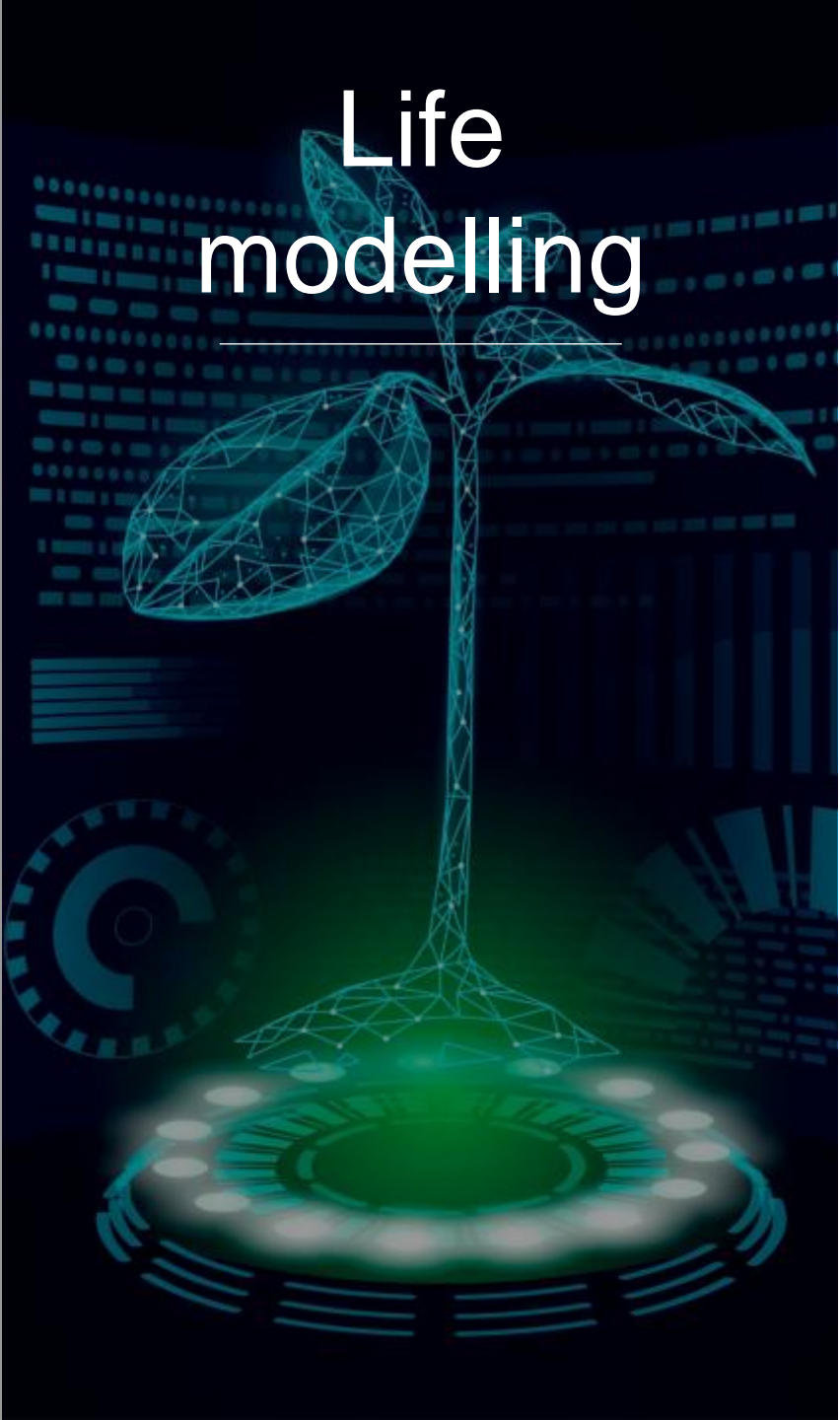
Phenotype



Causal  
relationship

Genotype

# Life modelling



## ***Models based on causal mechanisms***

Physics laws	} State of the art scientific knowledge
Molecular makeup	
Biochemistry	
Cellular physiology	
Enzymology	



**High prediction capacity**



# Predict plant traits

**Robustness to  
environmental changes**



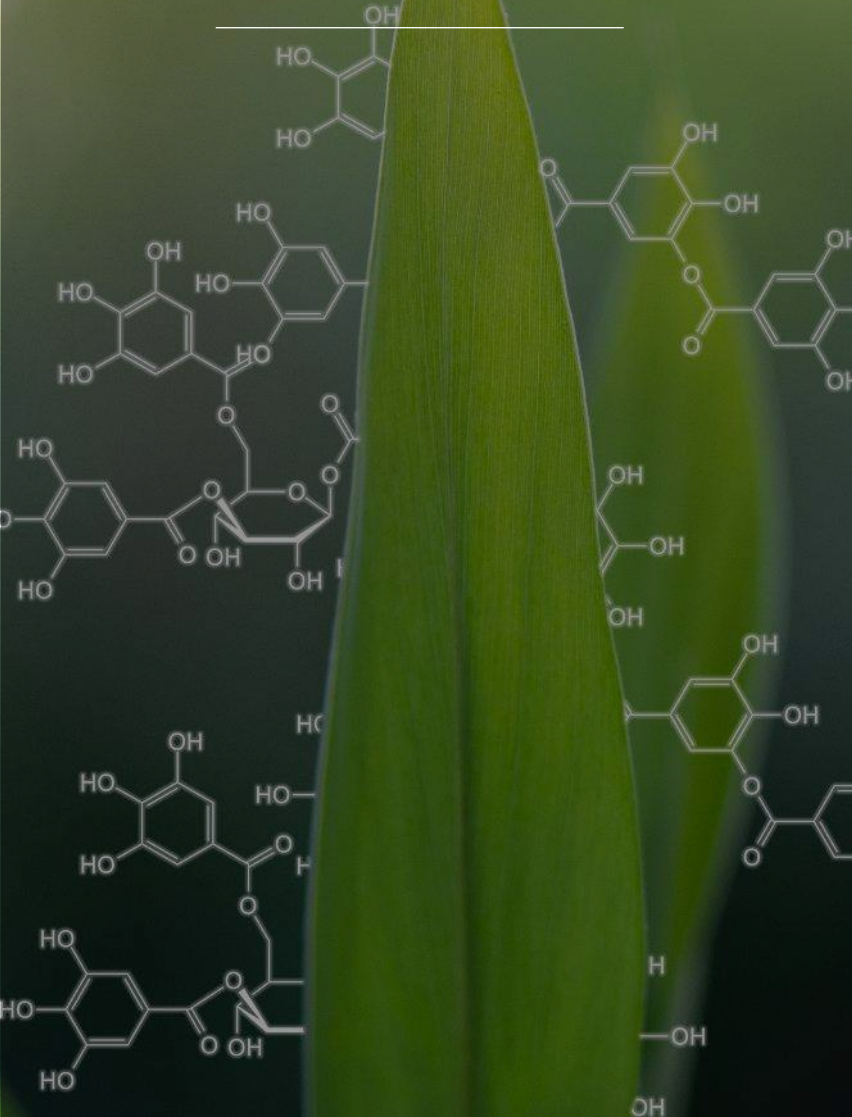
**Yield**



**Resistance to  
pathogens**



# Predict interactions



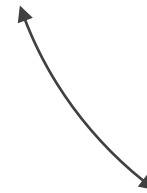
Crops  
Horticultures



Environmental  
microbes

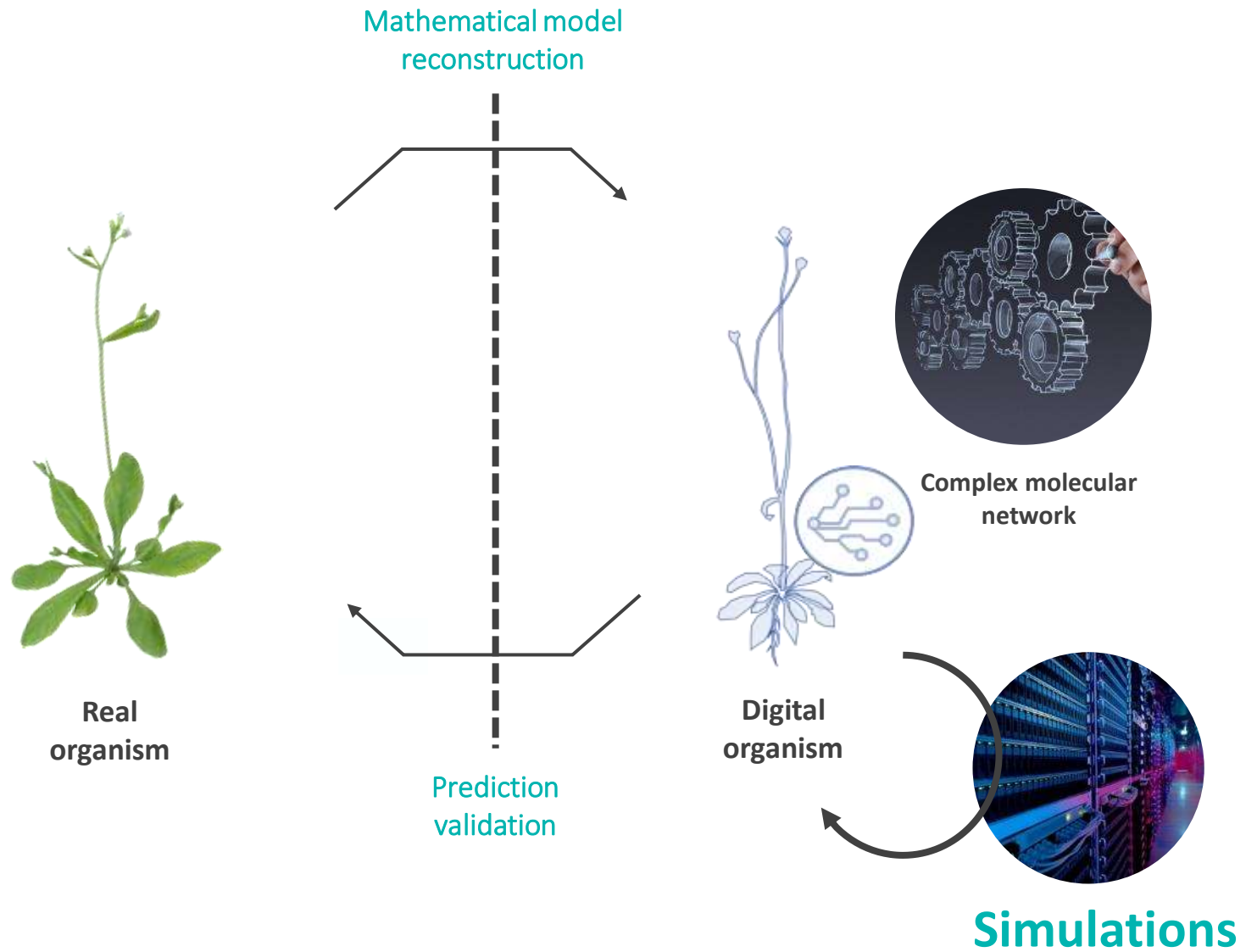


Pathogens





# *In silico* experiments





CONTEXT

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**PLANT AND MICROBES  
MODELING**

DESIGN CROP BREEDING

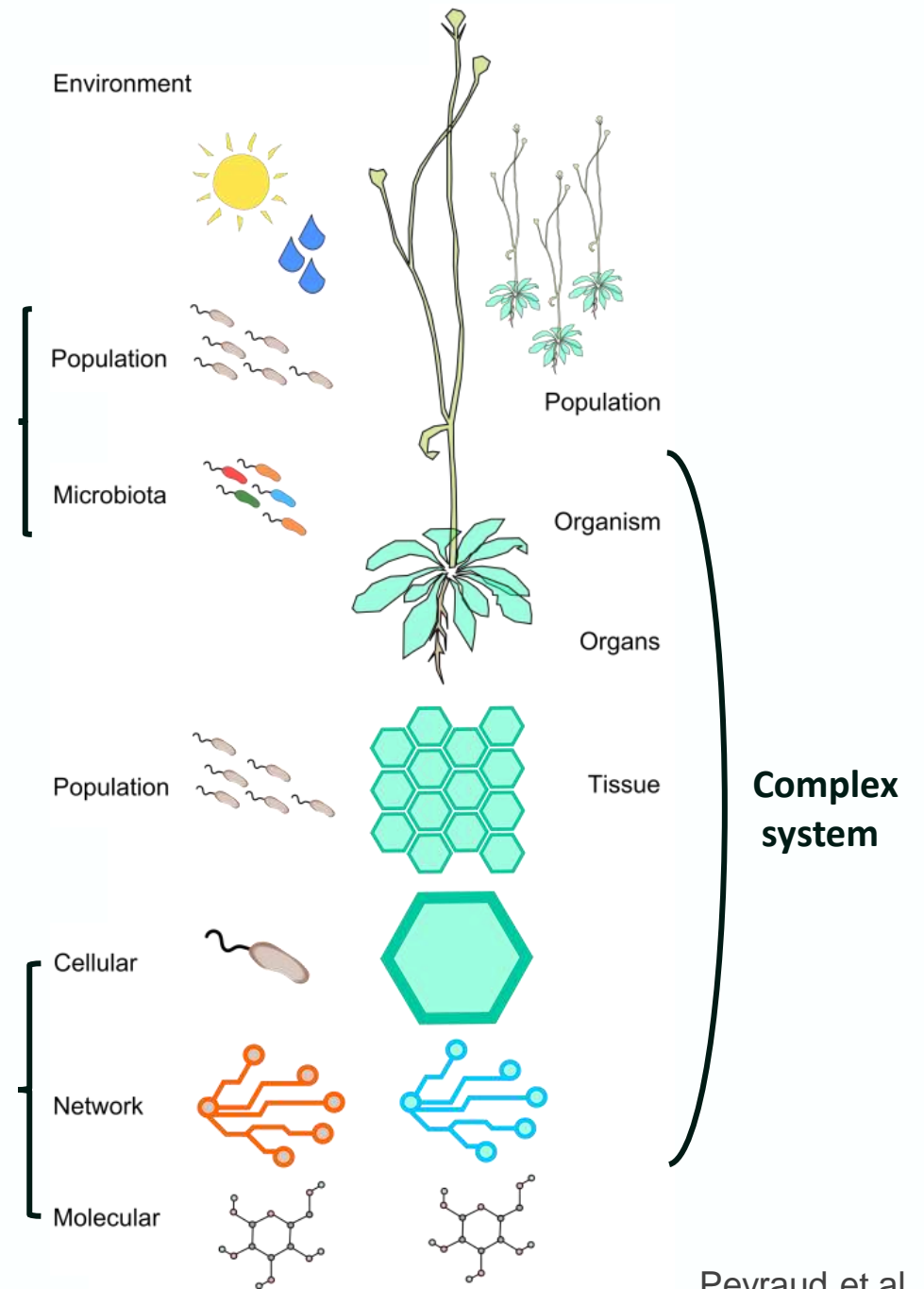
DESIGN MICROBIAL  
COMMUNITIES





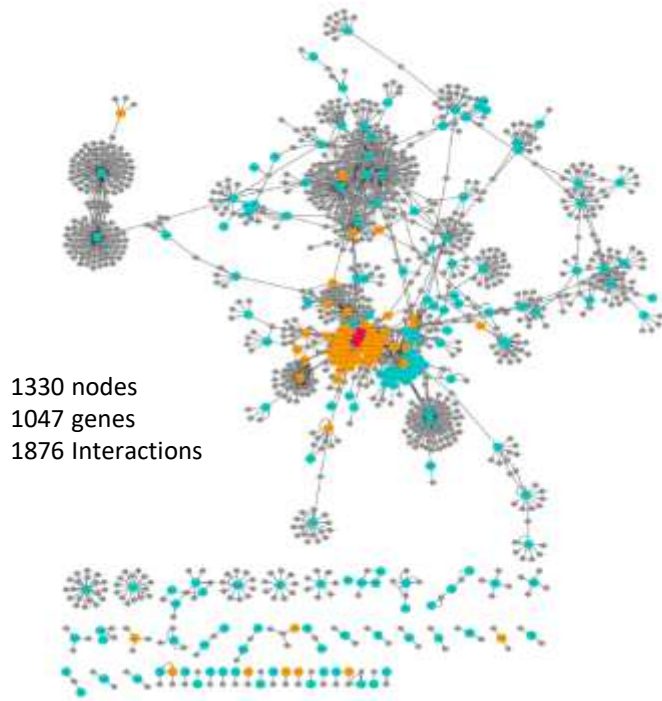
**Phenotype/selection level**

**Interaction level**

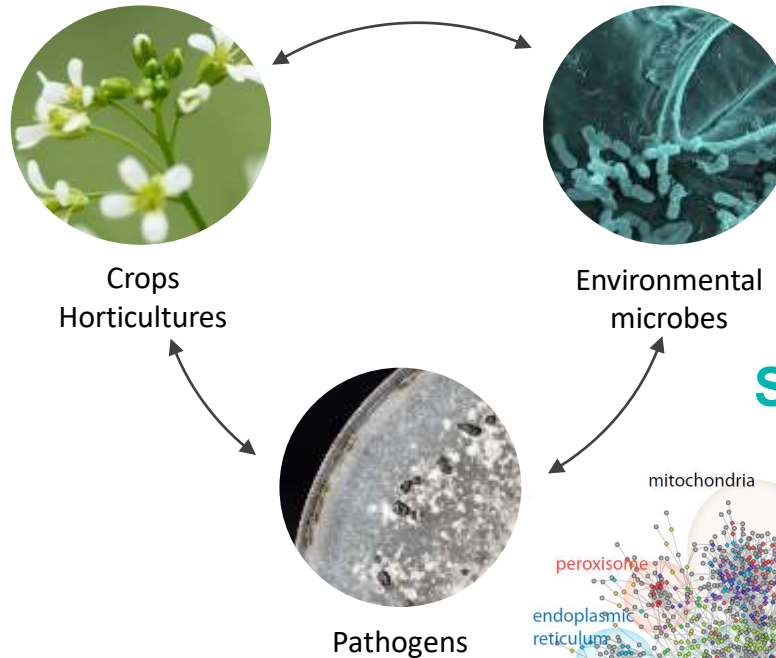


# The molecular level

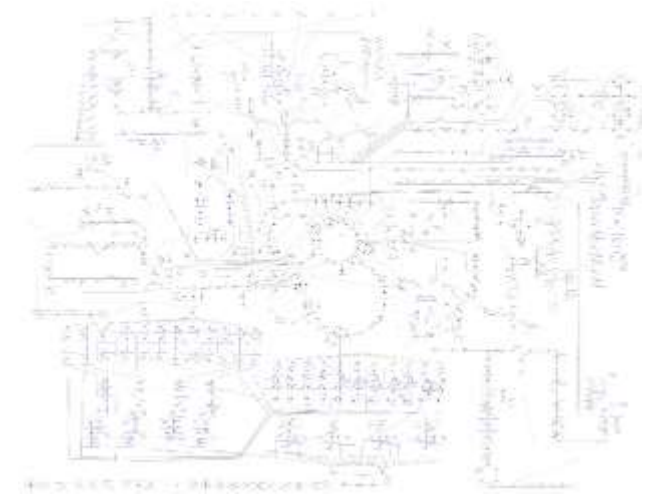
## Arabidopsis thaliana quantitative resistance



Immune system network  
Delplace et al. in press PNAS 2020



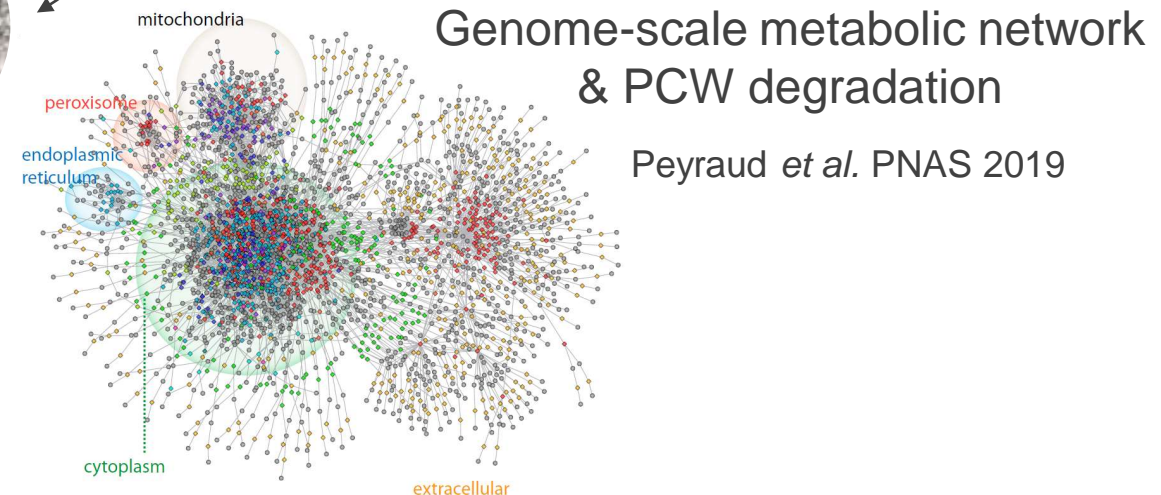
## Methylobacterium extorquens



Genome-scale metabolic network

Peyraud *et al.* PNAS 2009  
Peyraud *et al.* BMCsystbiol 2011

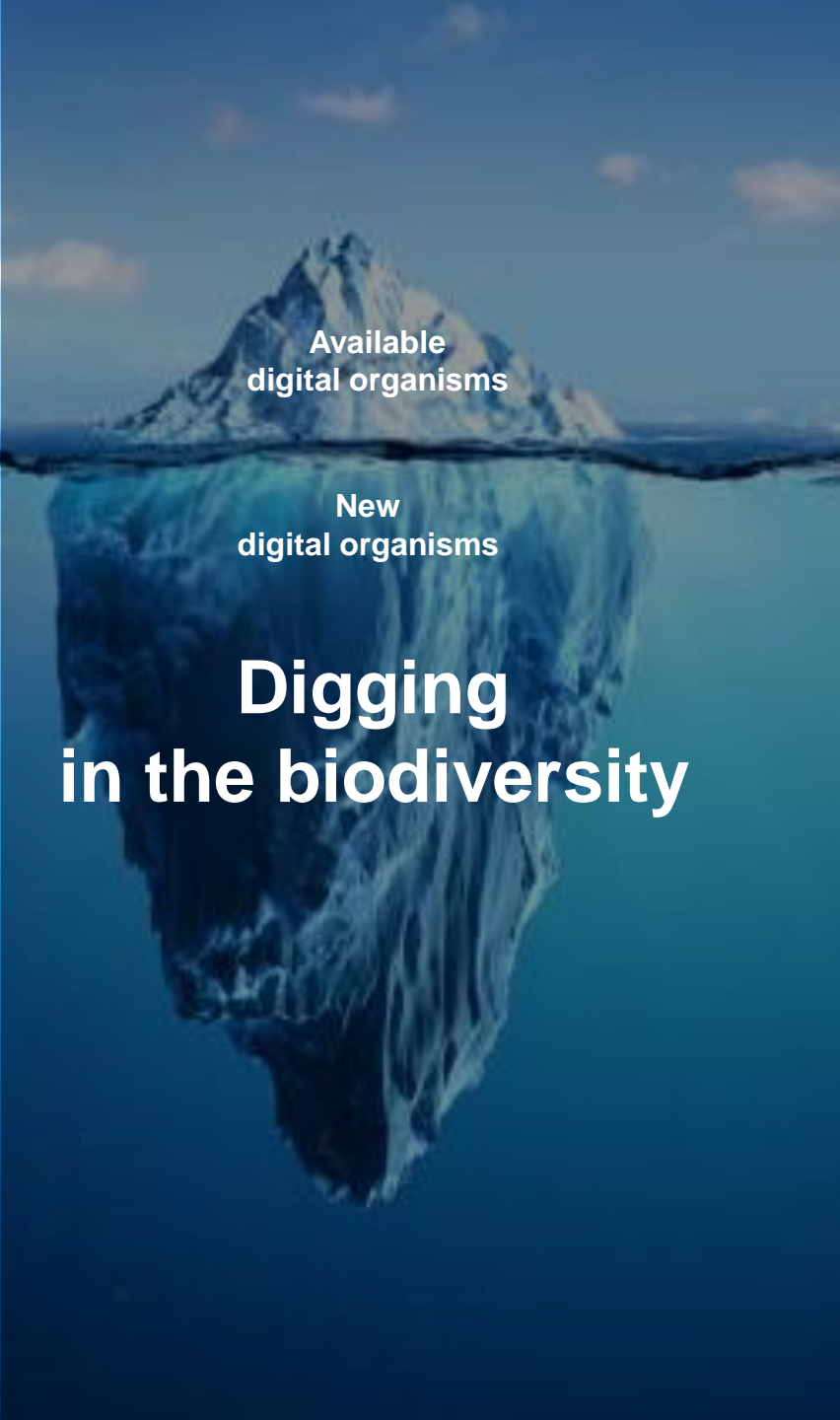
## Sclerotinia sclerotiorum



Genome-scale metabolic network  
& PCW degradation

Peyraud *et al.* PNAS 2019

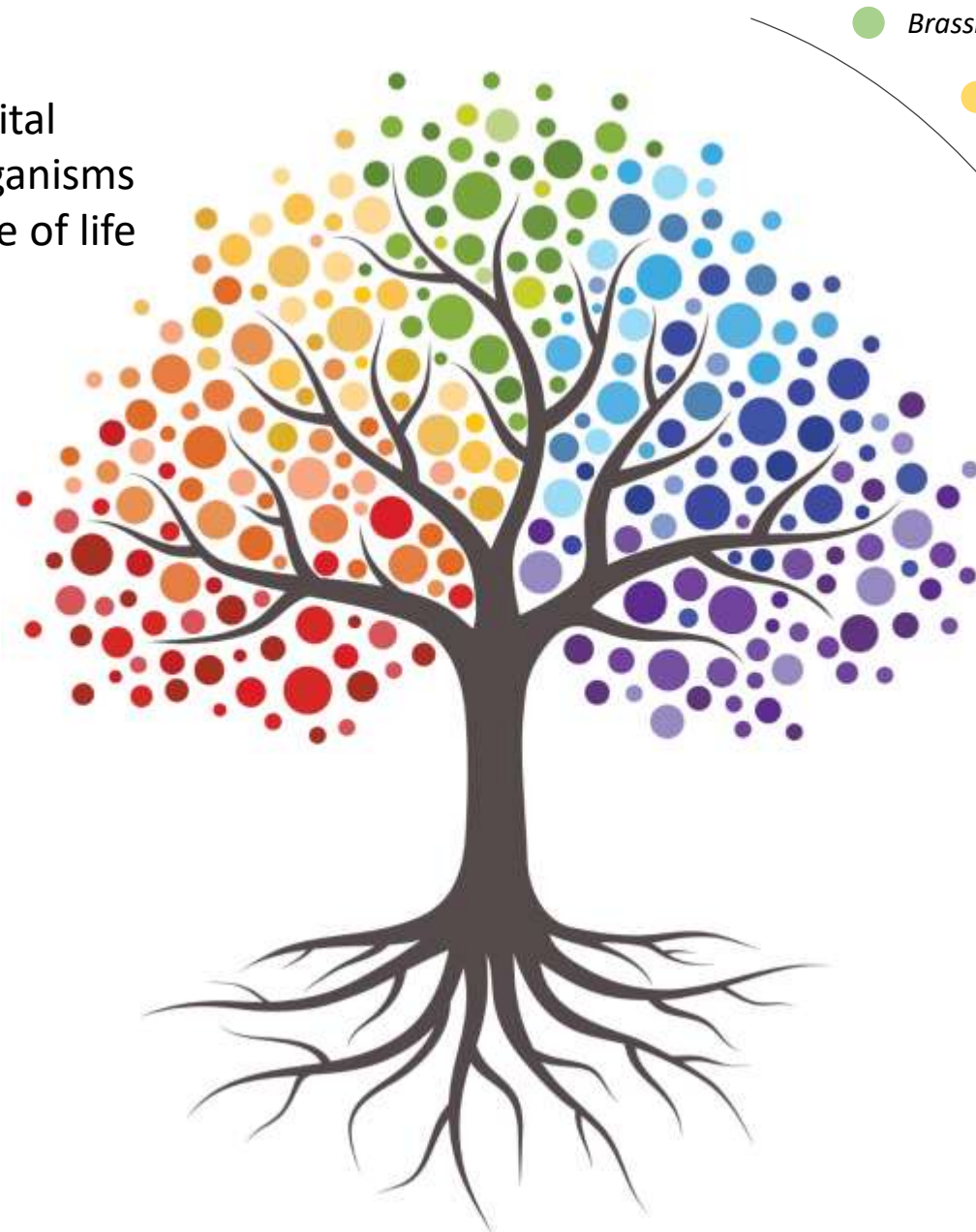




# Cutting access price to the technology

2 years			6 months
150 k€			50 k€

Digital  
Organisms  
Tree of life



Gaïa - iMEAN database

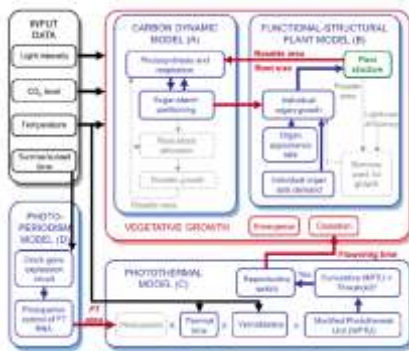
- *Brassicales* *Green plant*
- *Chlamydomonadales* *Green algae*
- *Eurotiales* *Fungi*
- *Saccharomycetales*
- *Bacillales* *Firmicutes*
- *Streptomycetales* *Actinobacteria*
- *Burkholderiales* *β-proteobacteria*
- *Enterobacterales* *γ-proteobacteria*
- *Pseudomonadales*
- *Rhizobiales* *α-proteobacteria*

Models delivered in 2019

8 industrial organisms  
6 environmental organisms

# The whole plant level

Whole plant model



Environmental stimuli

Cellular model

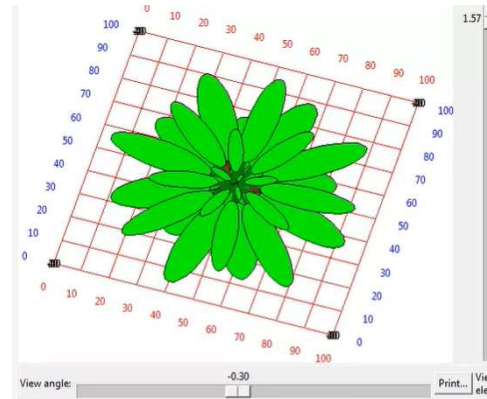
Exchange flux





# The whole plant level

- ✓ Predicting plant growth
- ✓ Predicting resources allocation
- ✓ Predicting plant architecture



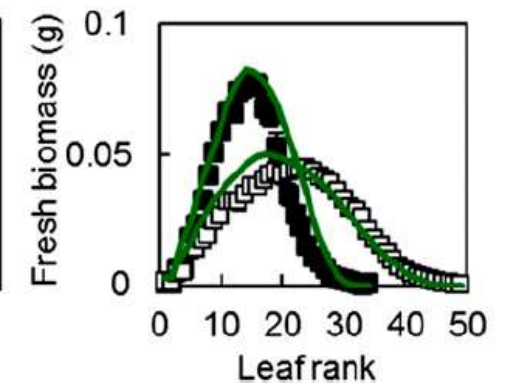
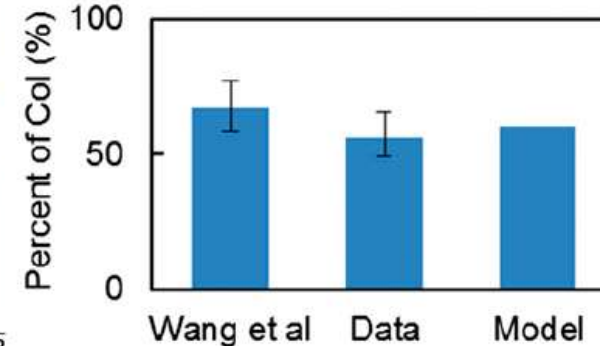
Individual Leaf area



Col



Pro35S:MIR156



CONTEXT

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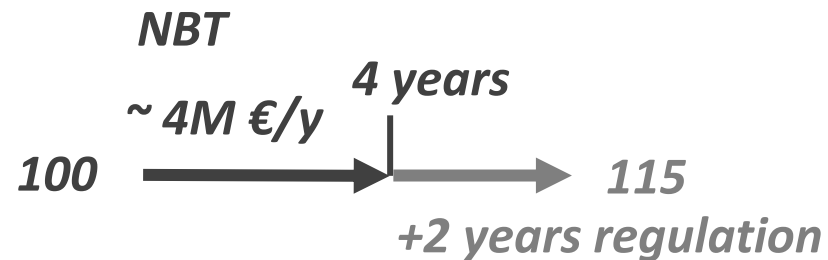
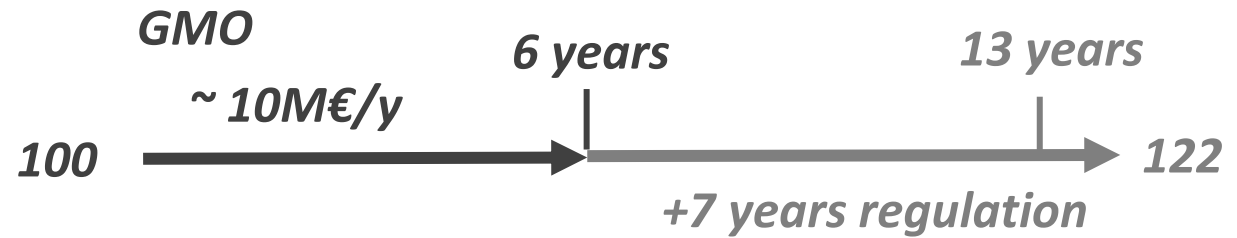
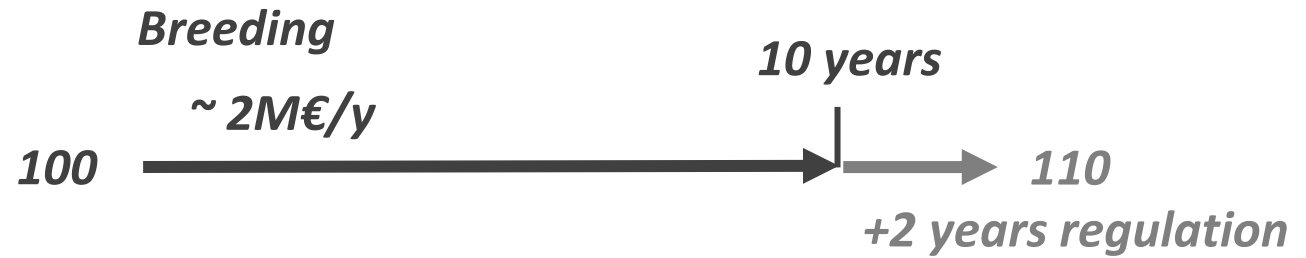
**DESIGN CROP BREEDING**

DESIGN MICROBIAL  
COMMUNITIES



# Seed R&D cost & benefits

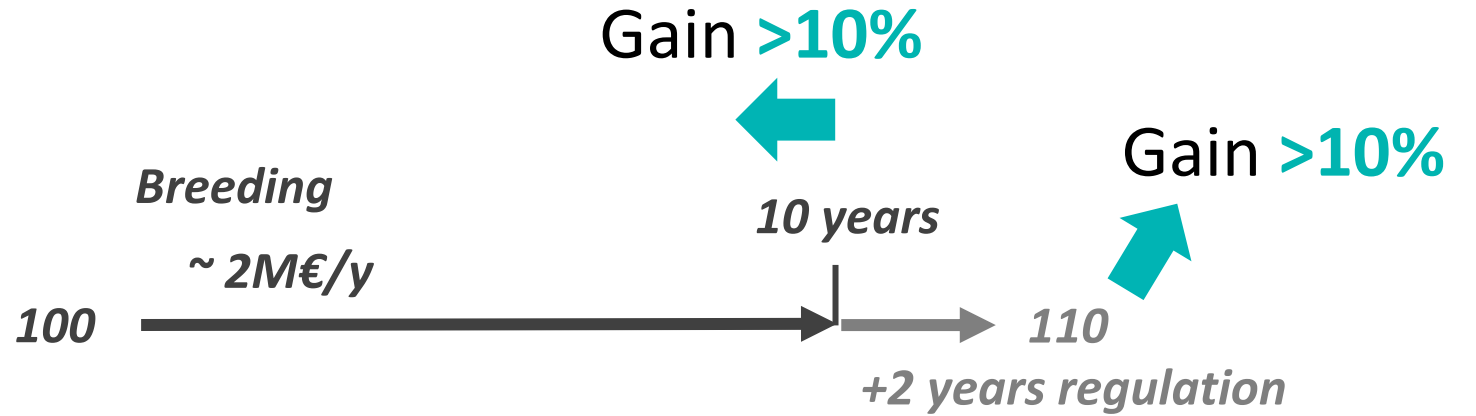
*Yield, base 100*





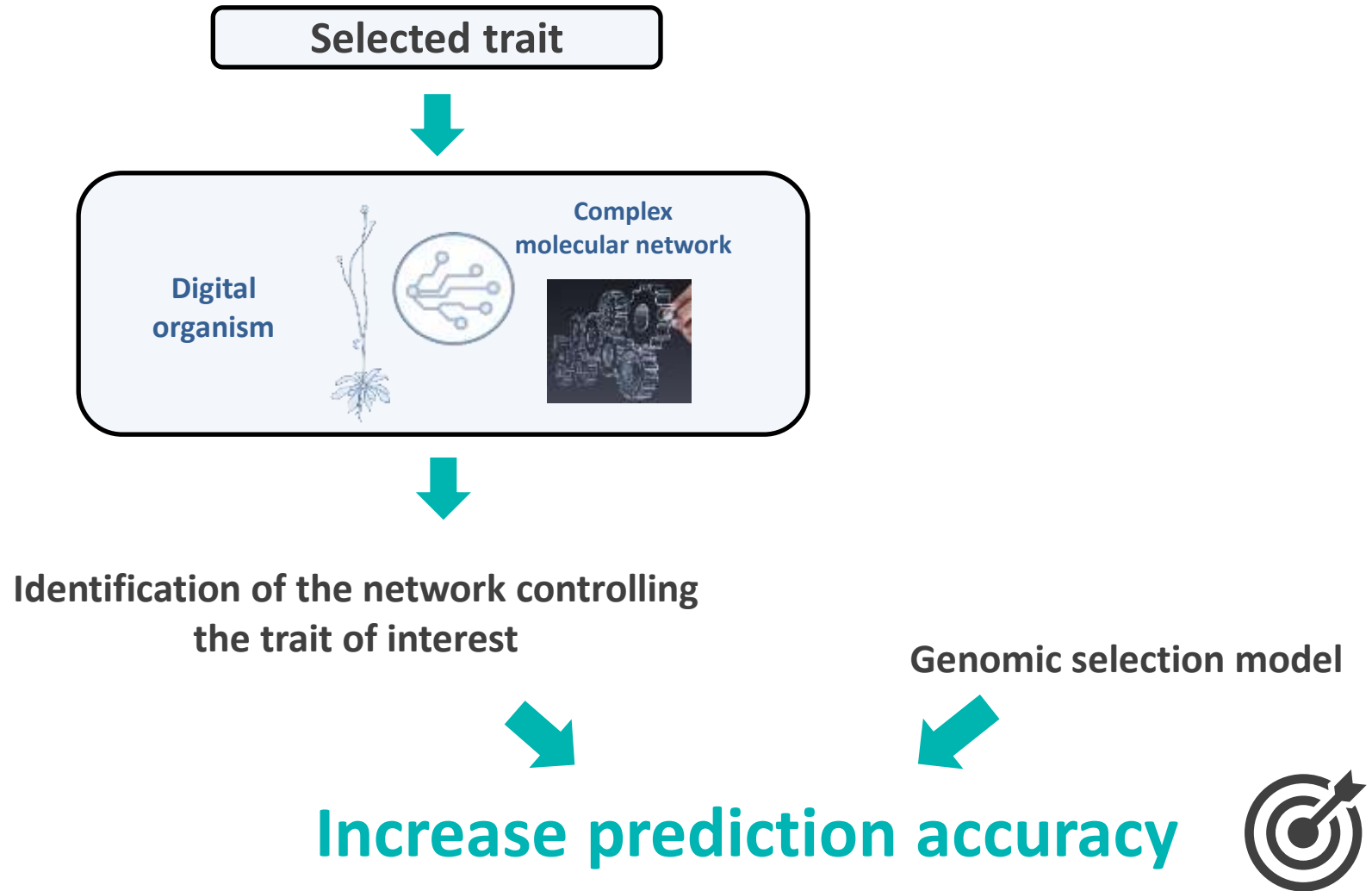
# Seed Design

New traits  
New varieties  
New process



Crop **breeding**  
assisted by **systems biology**

# How it works



# PLANT SYS

*Arabidopsis thaliana*

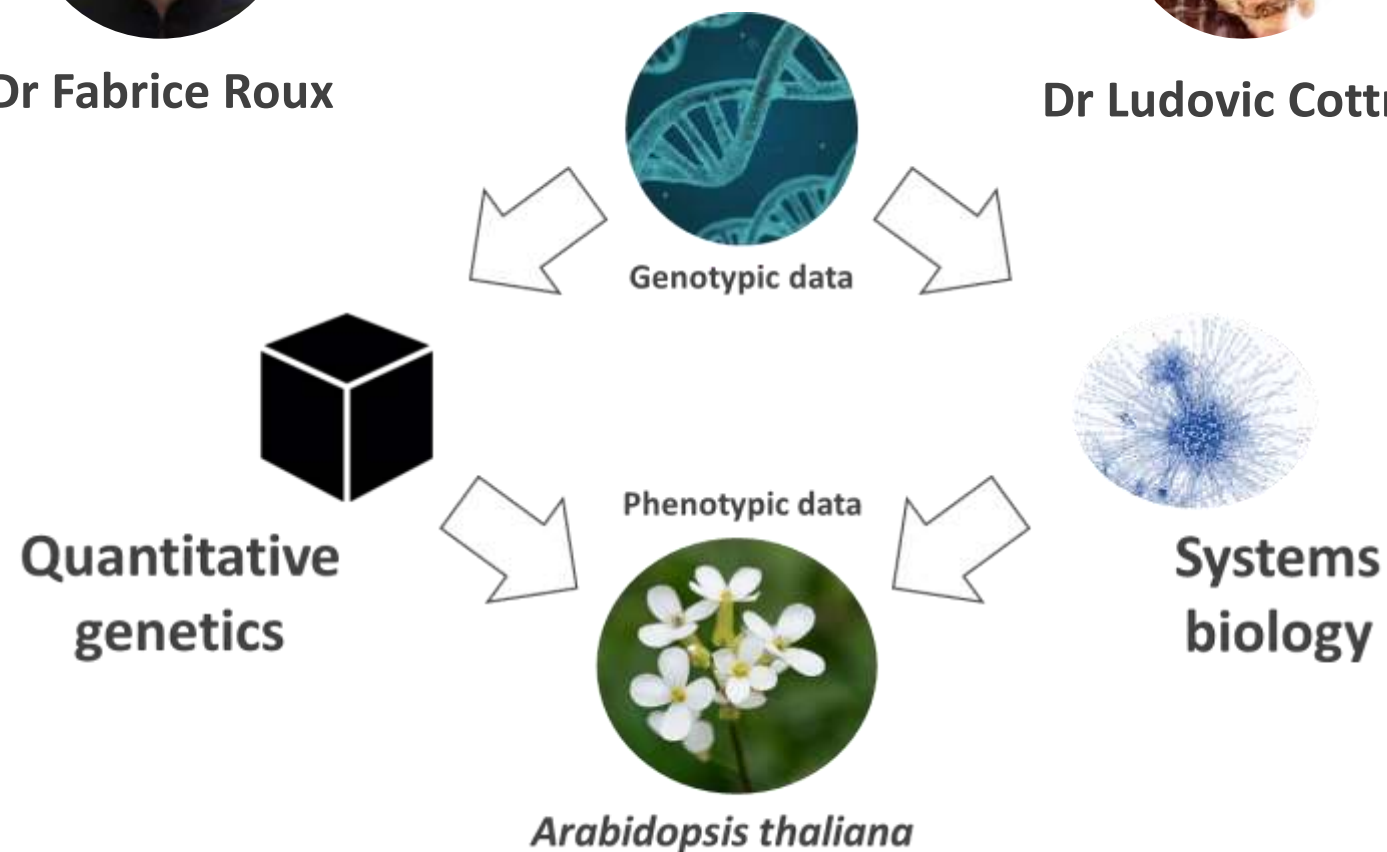
## Predicting plant phenotype by systems biology



Dr Fabrice Roux



Dr Ludovic Cottret



INRAE





# Experimental setup

## Genotypic data

Mapping population of **305** natural lines  
~1.9 million SNPs

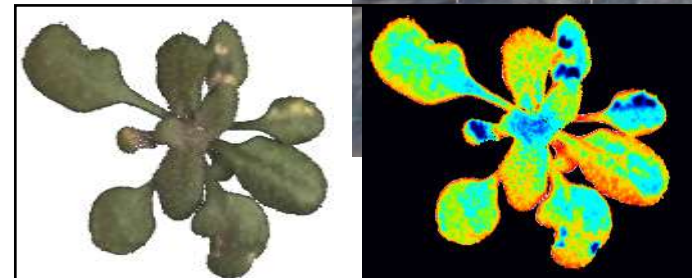
## Phenotyping platform



Toulouse Plant-Microbe Phenotyping Platform



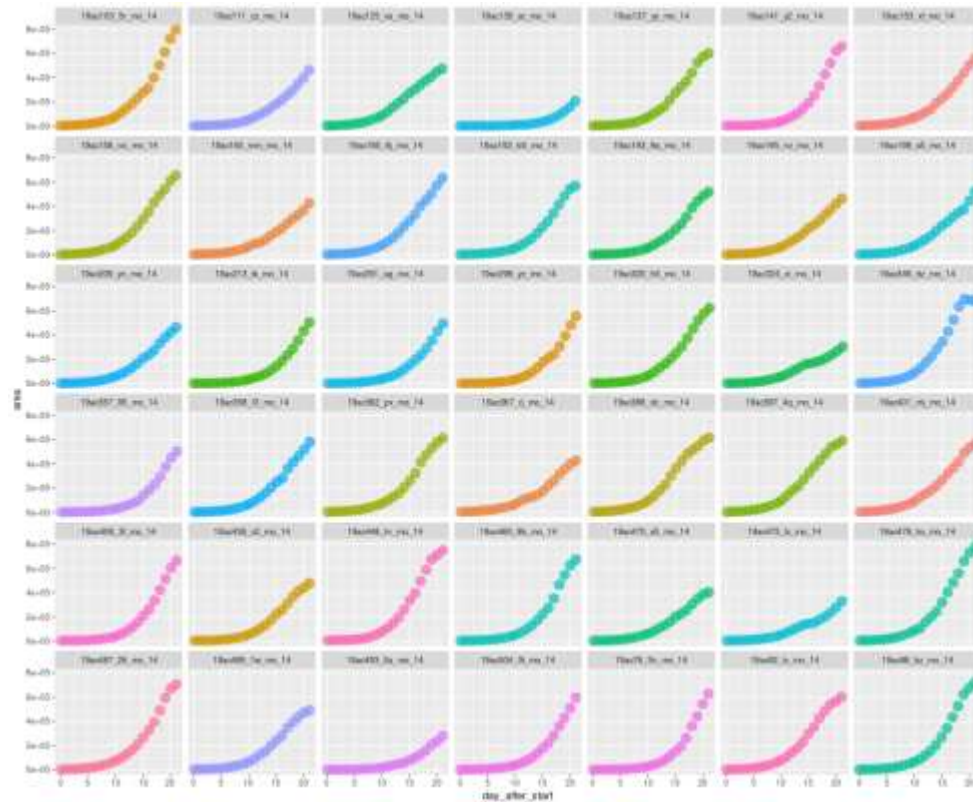
## Field experiment



# Experimental setup

## Experimental data

Genotypes

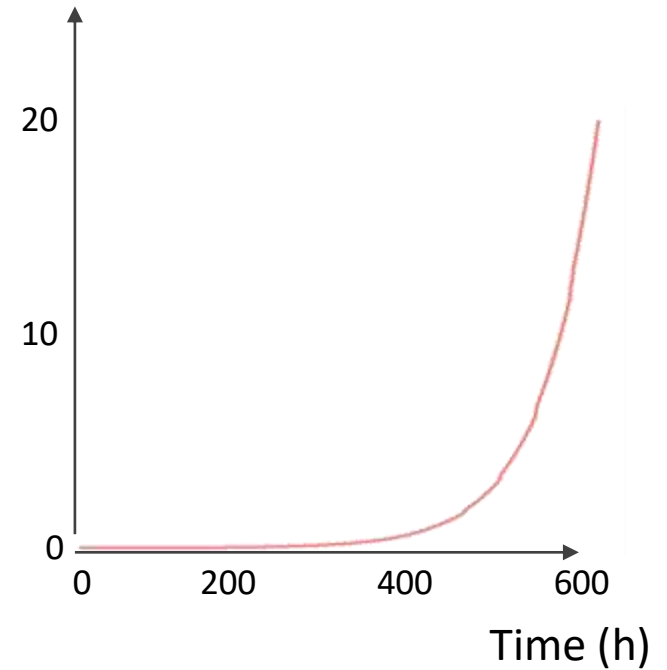


Plant area

time

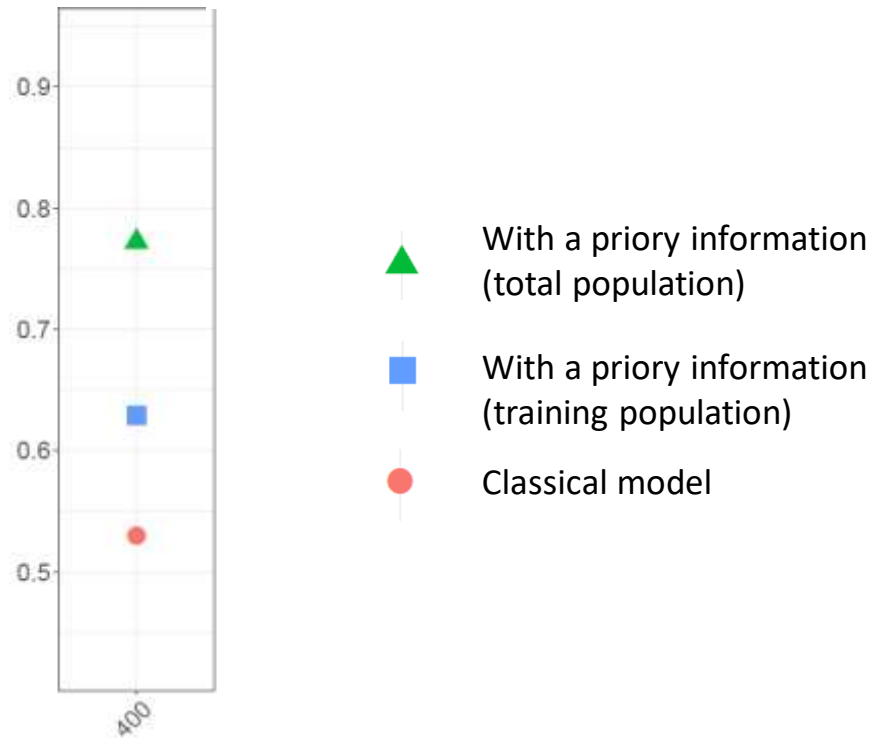
## Simulated data

Plant area  
(cm²)

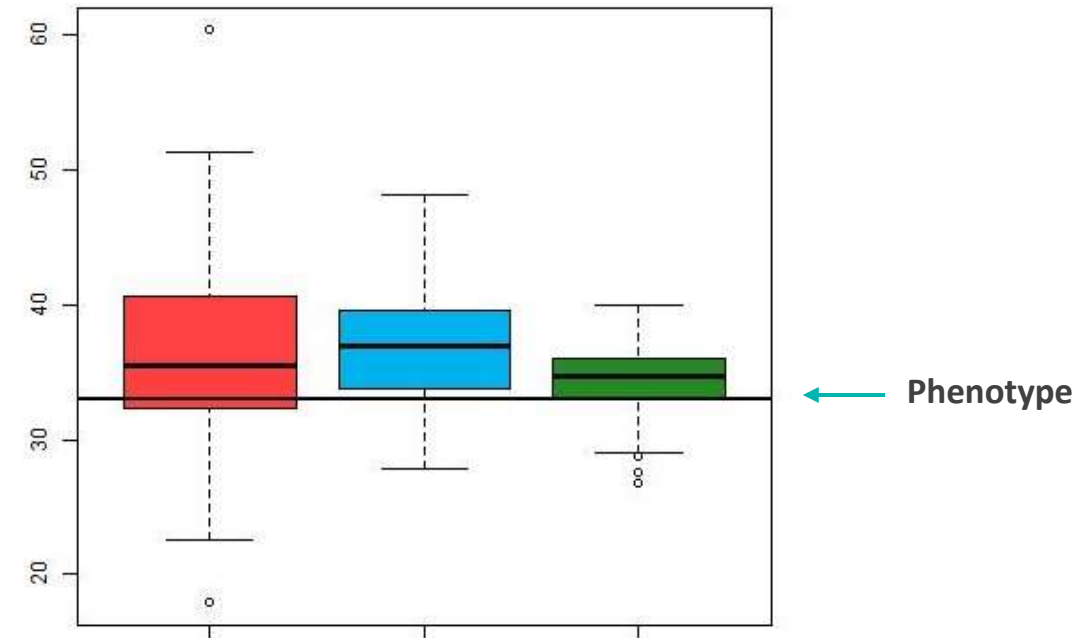


# Results

Accuracy  
 $h^2=0.6$  , 400 individuals, 10000 SNPs



Variability of genetic values predicted on 100 samples **for one individual**







# **DESIGN CROP BREEDING**

**The technology is soon validated with  
model plant in field condition**

**Need to be demonstrated on crop**

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DESIGN CROP BREEDING

**DESIGN MICROBIAL  
COMMUNITIES**





# Synthetic microbial community Design

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Efficient biopesticides  
Robust products





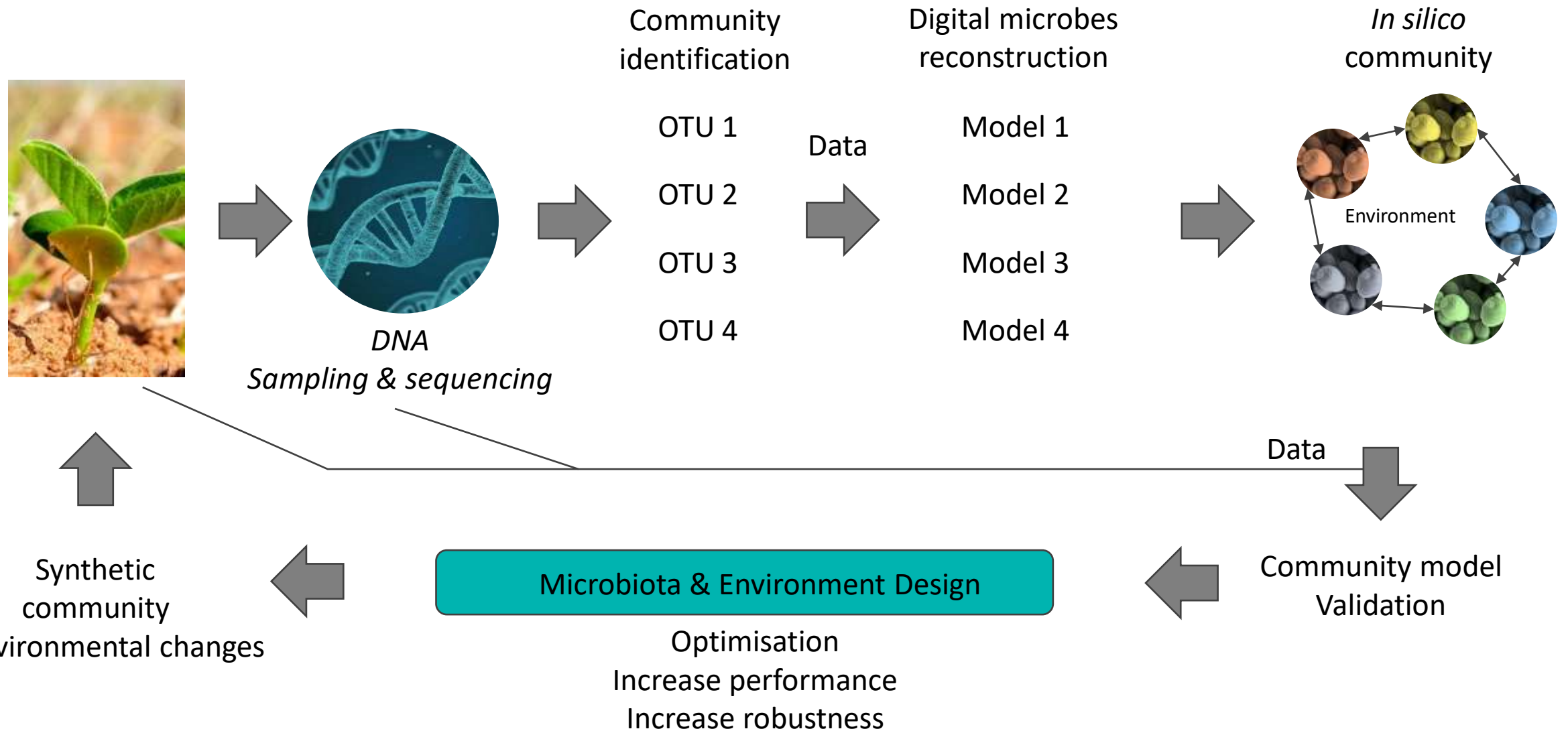
# **MICROBIOTA**

**Improving plant health & productivity  
thanks to microbial communities**

**Low robustness in front of  
variation in field conditions**

**Fastidious empirical testing  
Data based on diversity**

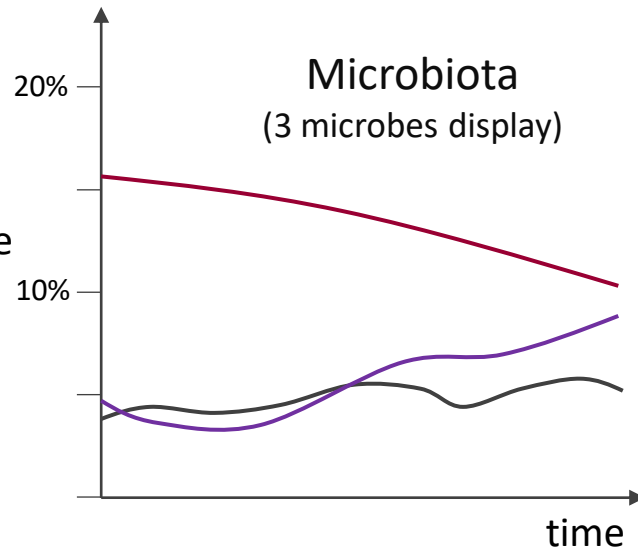
# Synthetic microbial community Design



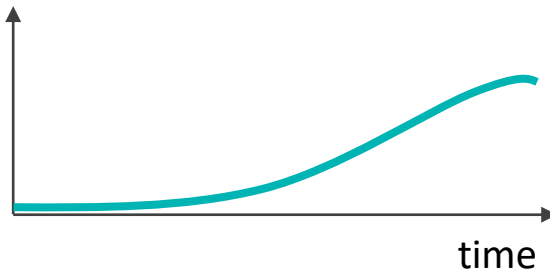
# *In silico* screening of biopesticides

Rational design based on population dynamics

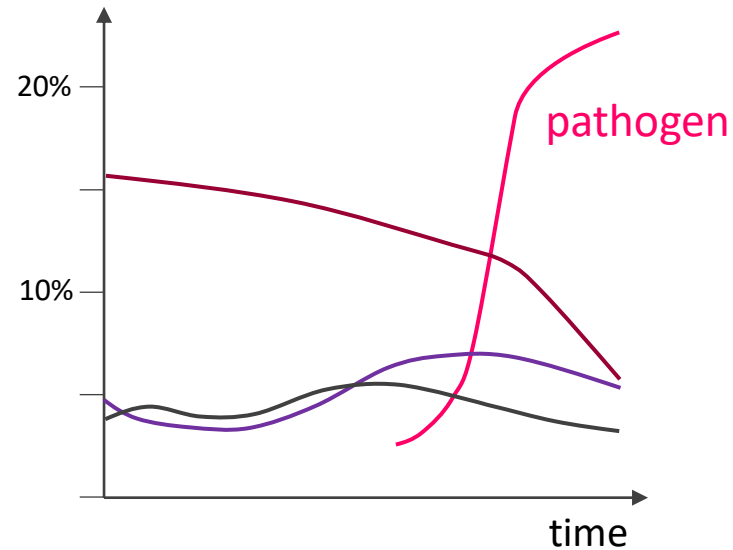
Scenario without pathogen



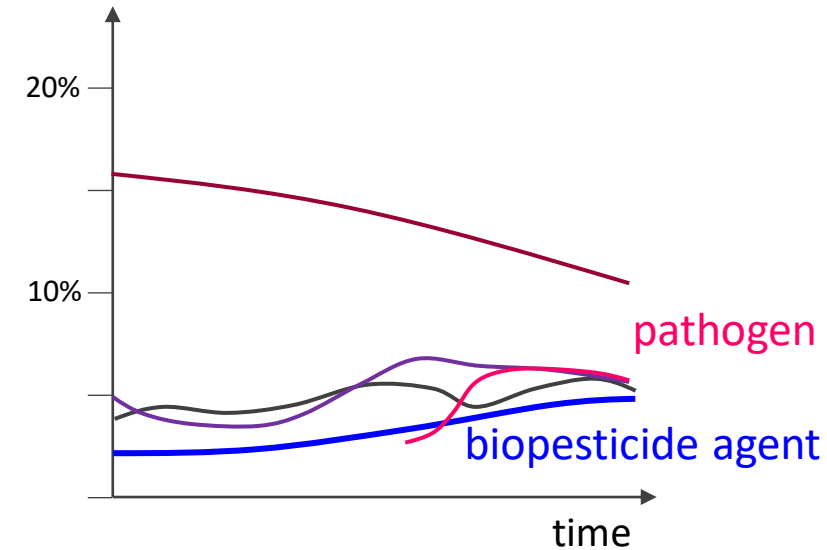
Plant growth



Scenario with pathogen  
(no trophic competition)



Scenario with pathogen  
& trophic competition







# **MICROBIAL COMMUNITY MODELING**

**The technology is ready for rational design  
of microbiome**

**The time to build models is the key  
limitation factor**

**The technology can be plugged with plant  
breeding programs**

# Thank you



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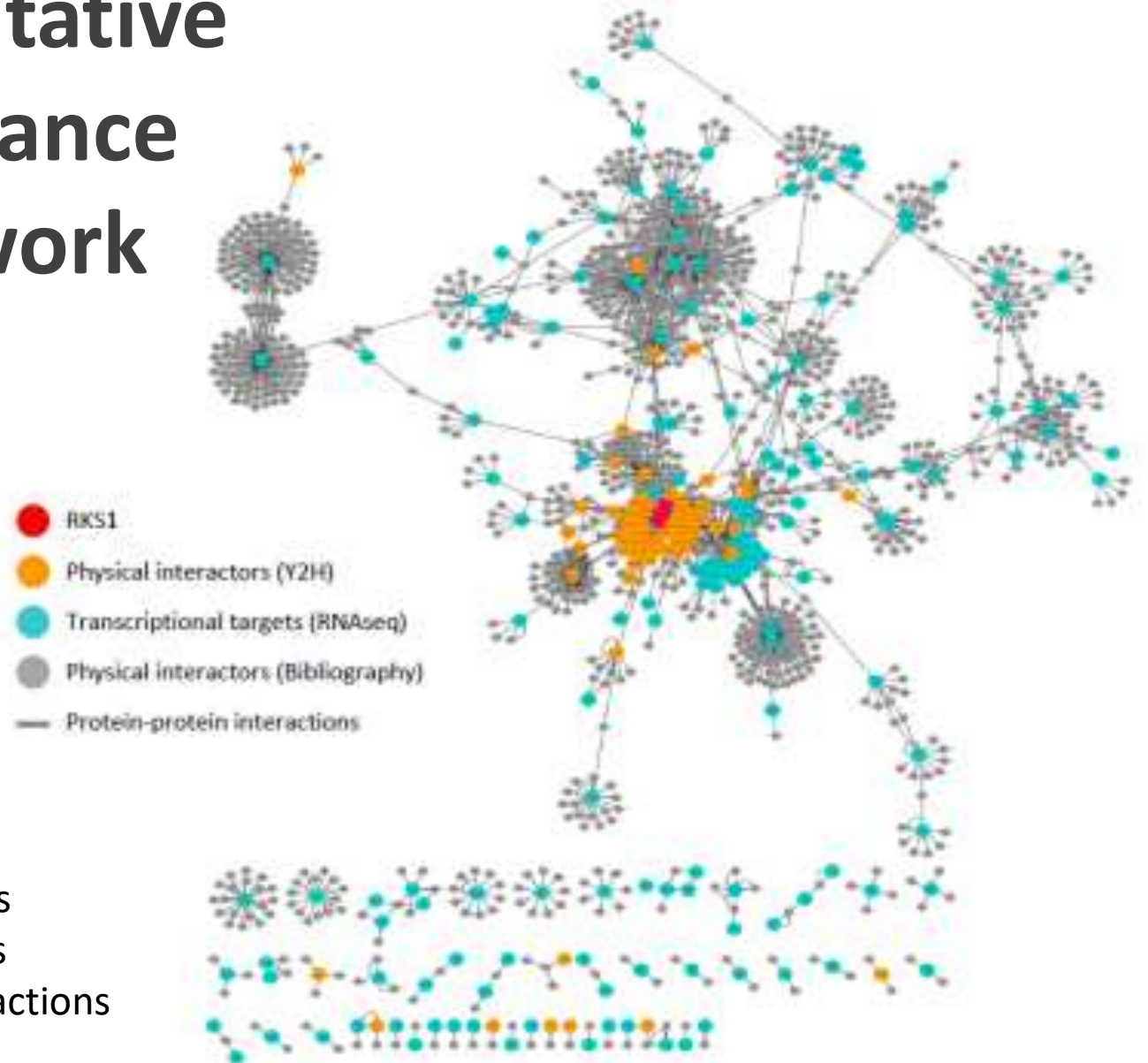






# Immune system network

## Quantitative resistance network

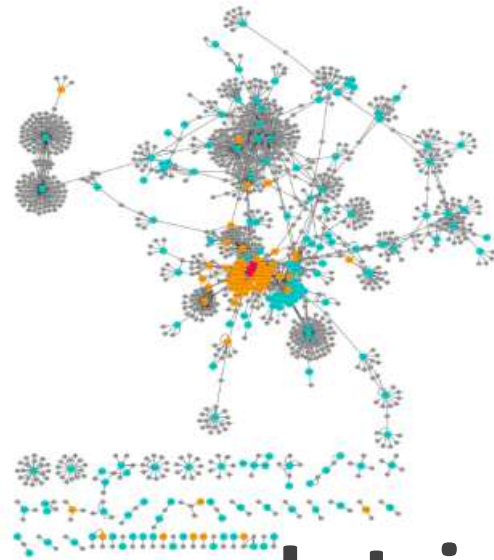


1330 nodes  
1047 genes  
1876 Interactions



# Immune system network

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## Intricate protein-protein interaction network

Decentralised structure

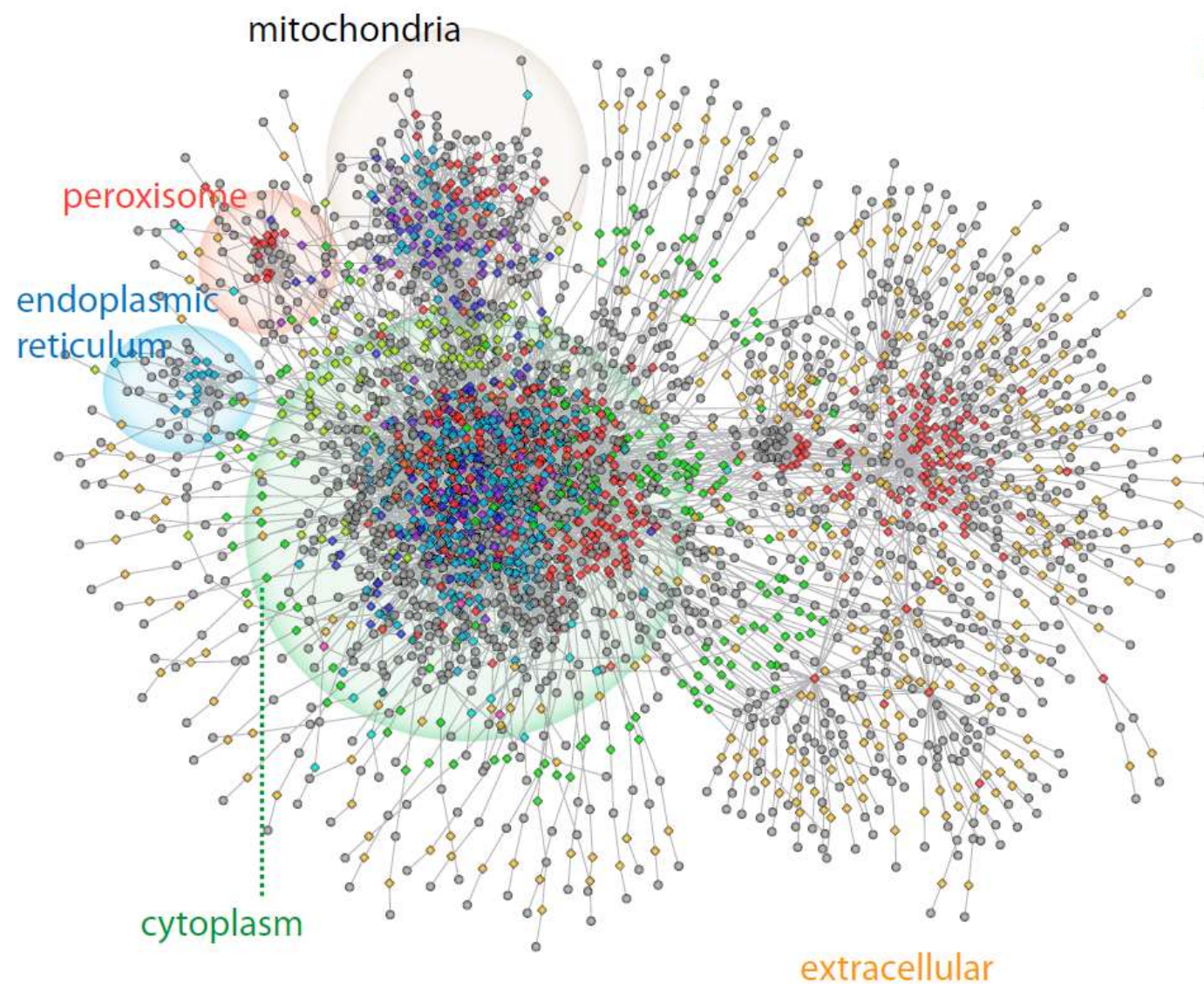
Various biological functions



**Robustness to pathogen evolution**



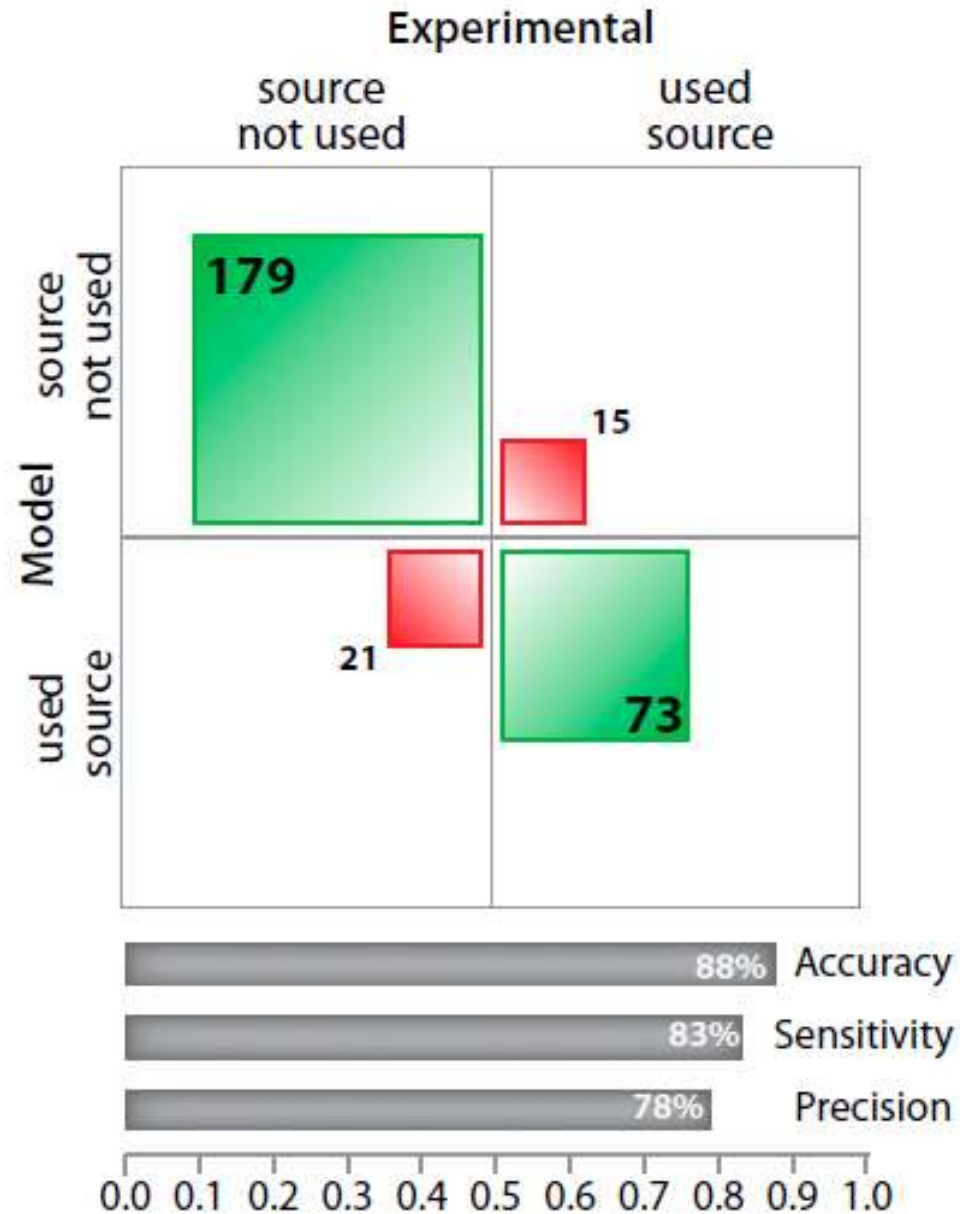
# Genome-scale metabolic network of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*



Model features	Metabolic PCW deg.	
	module	module
<b>Reactions</b>		
◆ Biomass biosynthesis	291	0
◆ Central metabolism	89	0
◆ Cofactor biosynthesis	77	0
◆ Degradation pathway	280	83
◆ Exchange	213	135
◆ Regulation	6	0
◆ Salvage pathway	9	0
◆ Secondary metabolism	33	0
◆ Sink	14	0
◆ Transport, external	183	0
◆ Transport, internal	82	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1277</b>	<b>218</b>
● Metabolites	1185	340
<b>Genes</b>	919	120

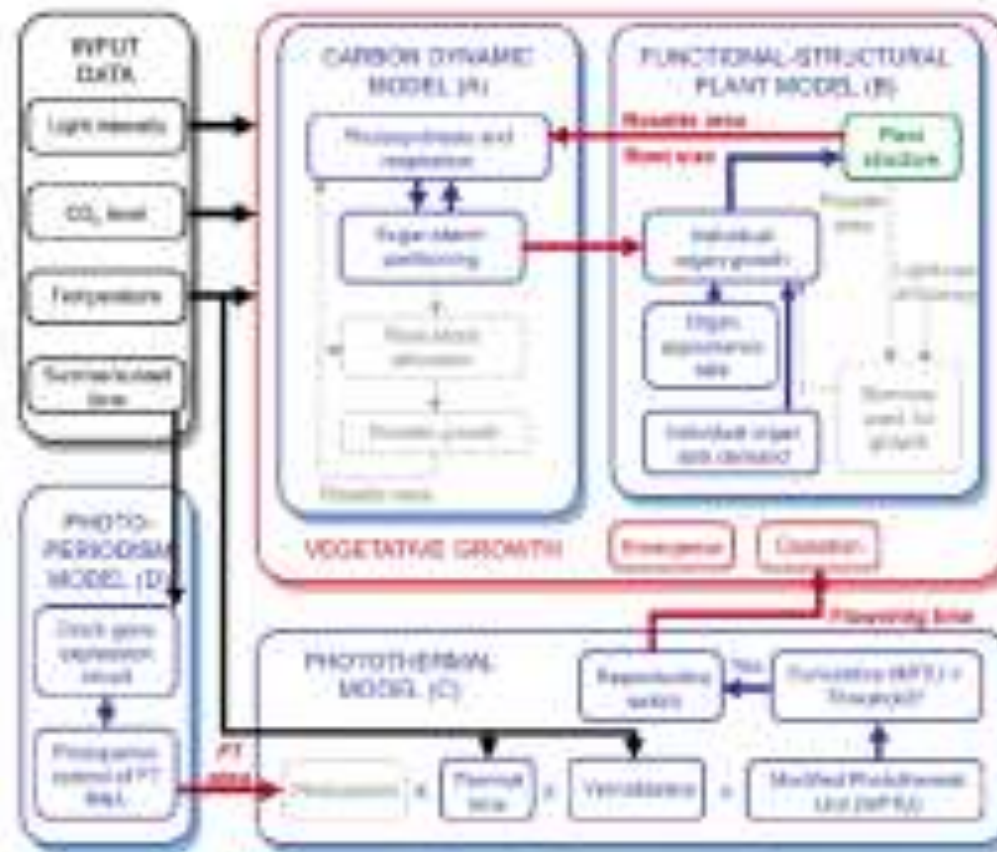


## *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* substrate usage



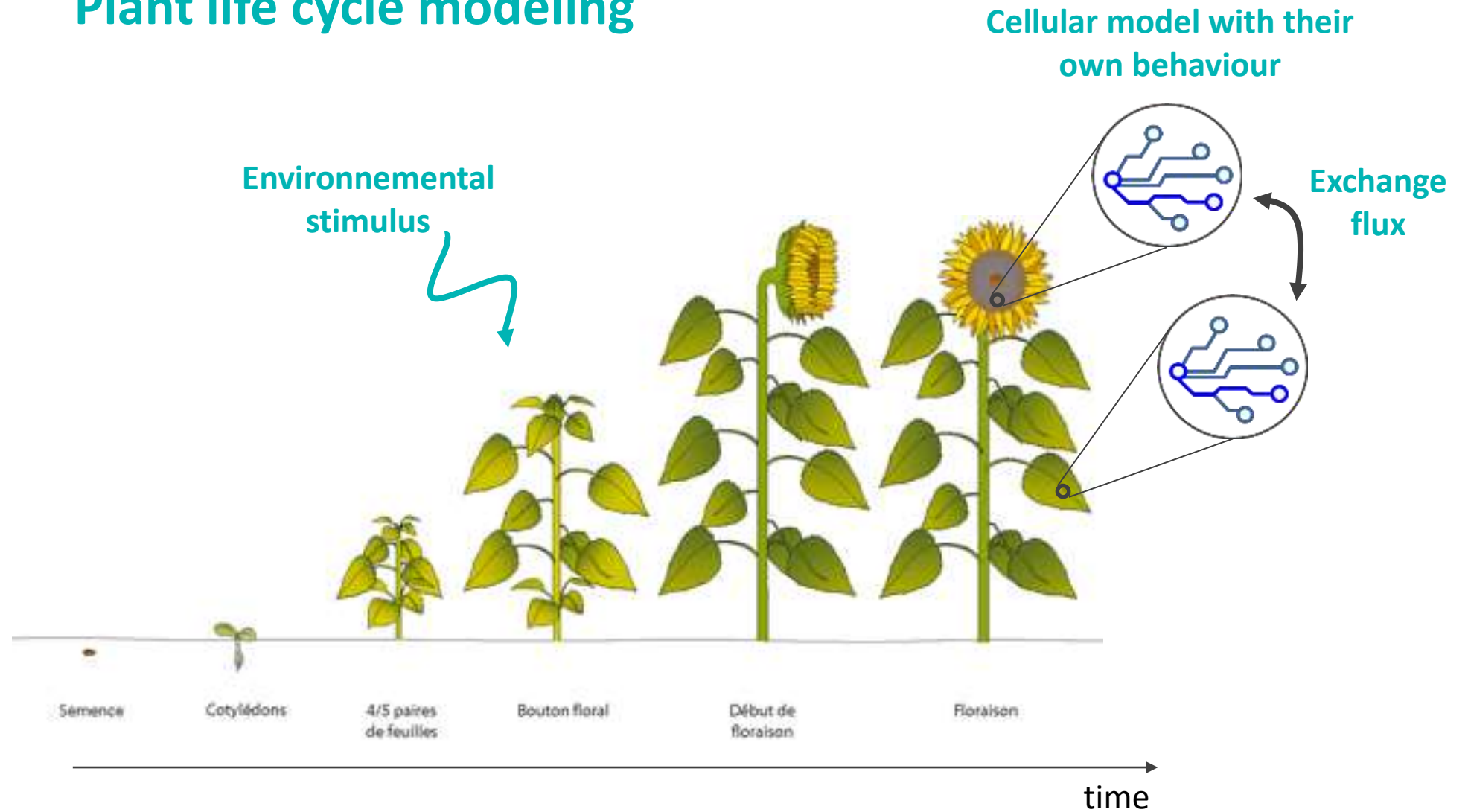


# Whole digital plant

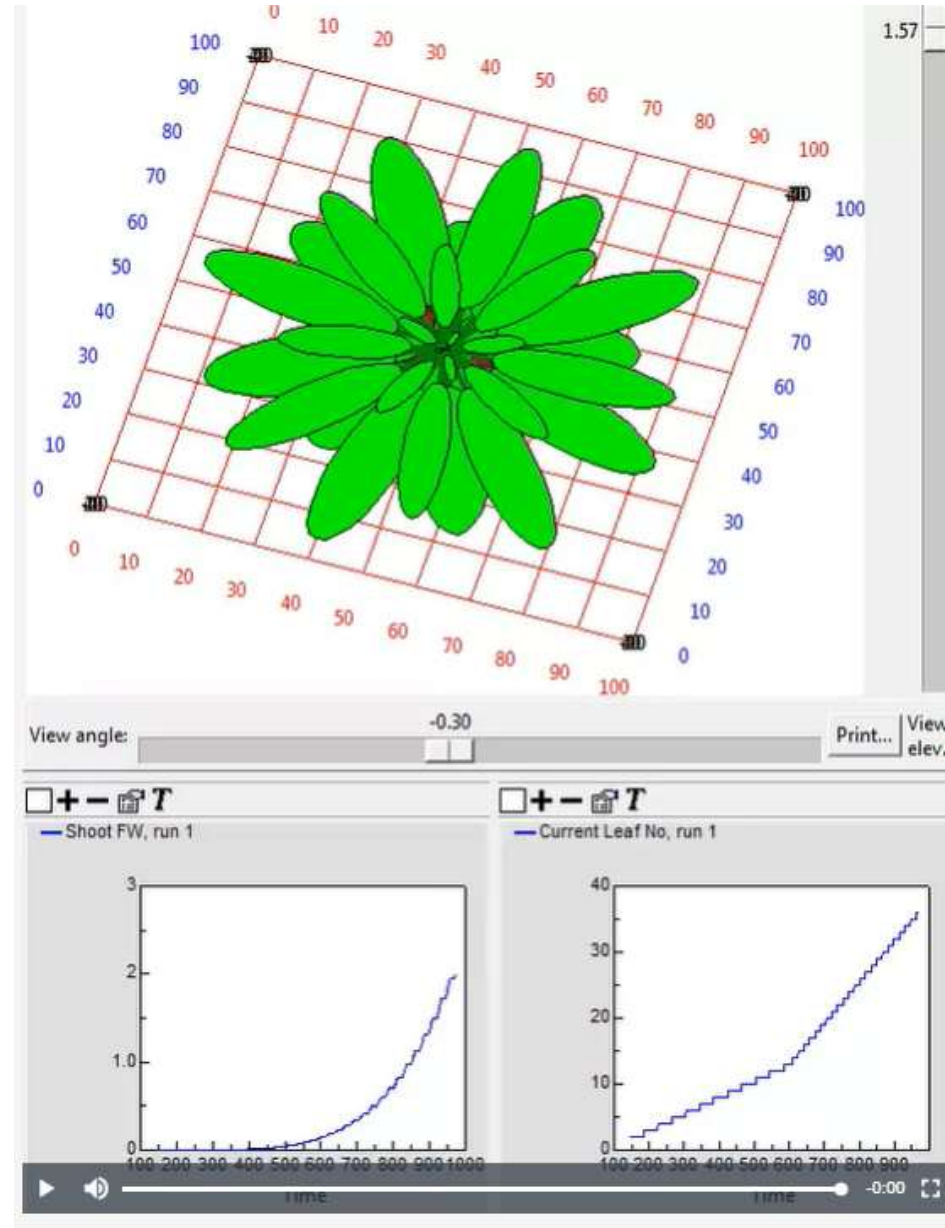




# Plant life cycle modeling

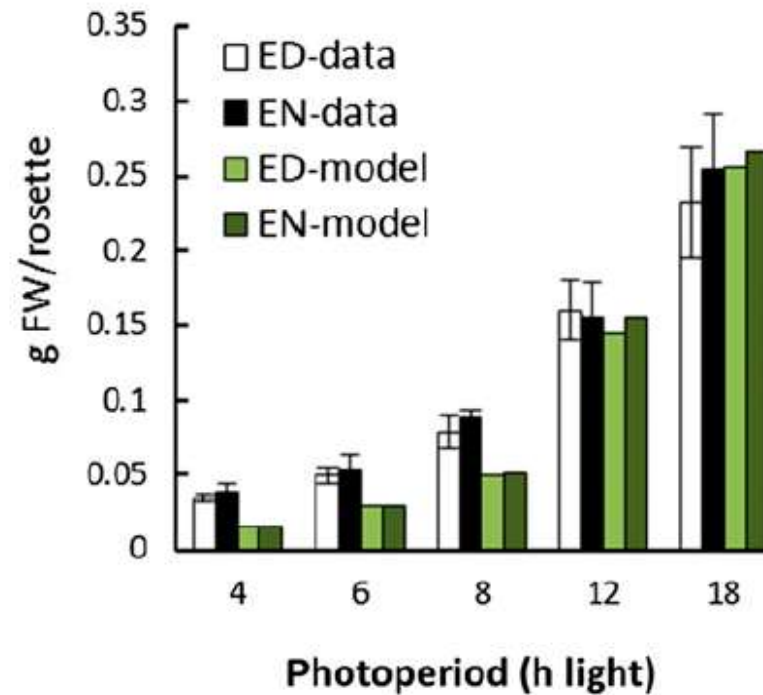
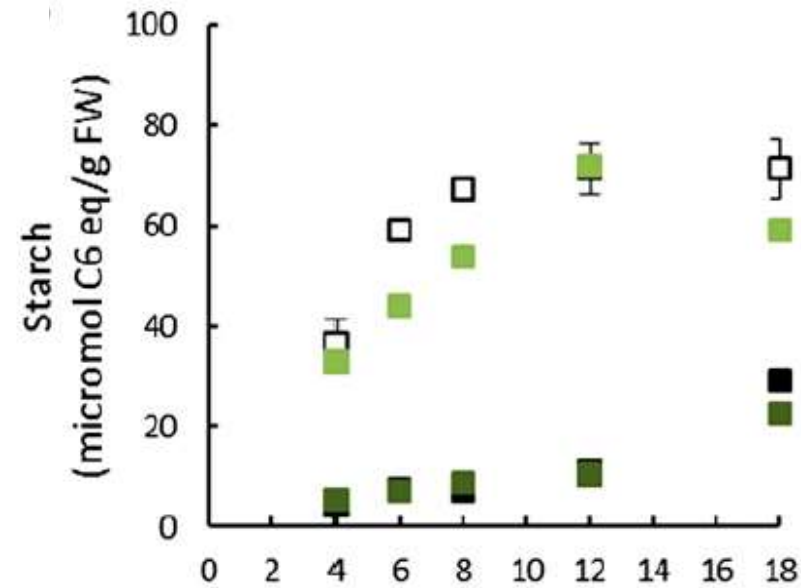


# Predicting plant growth



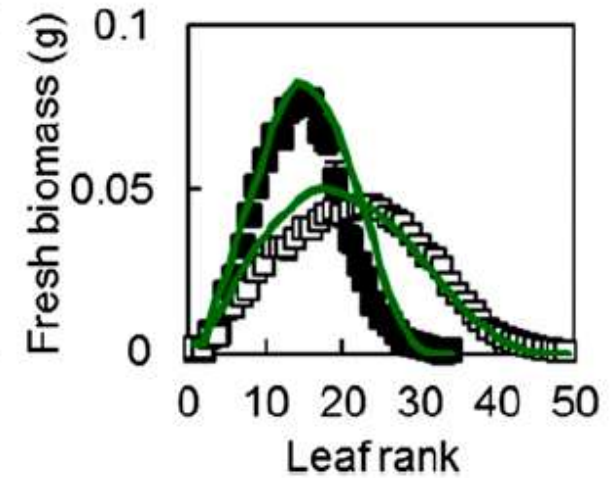
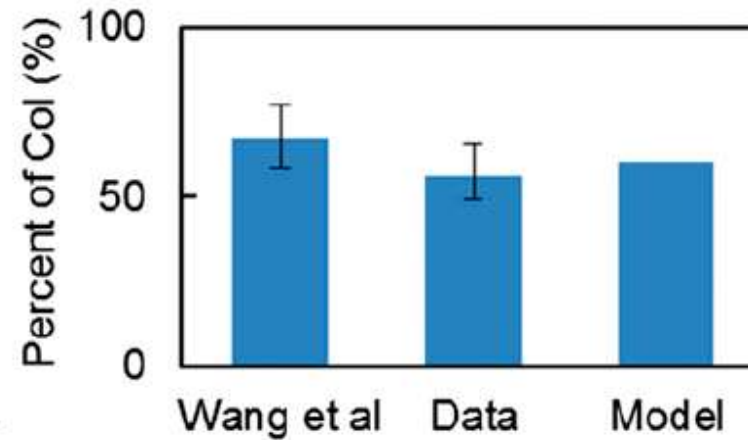
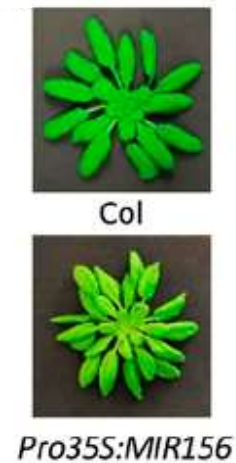


## Predicting resources allocation

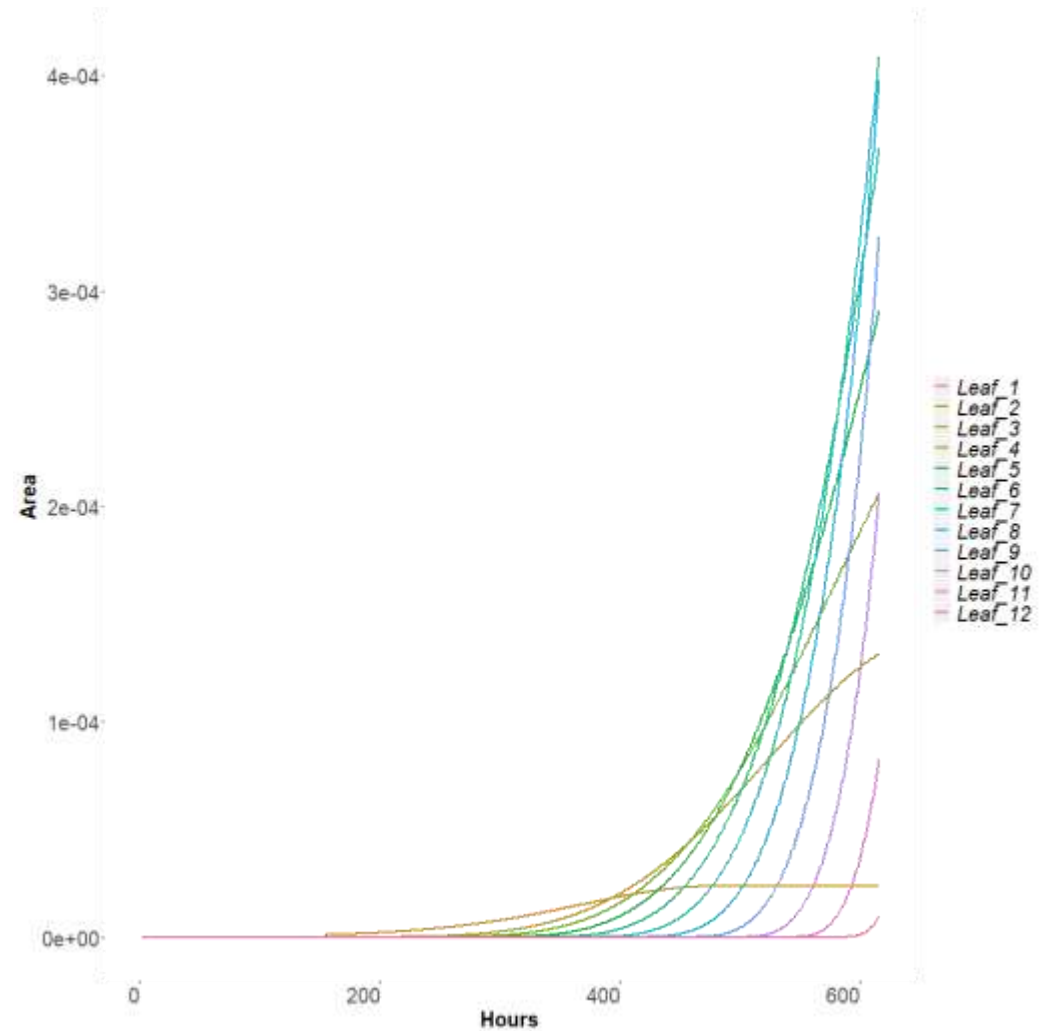




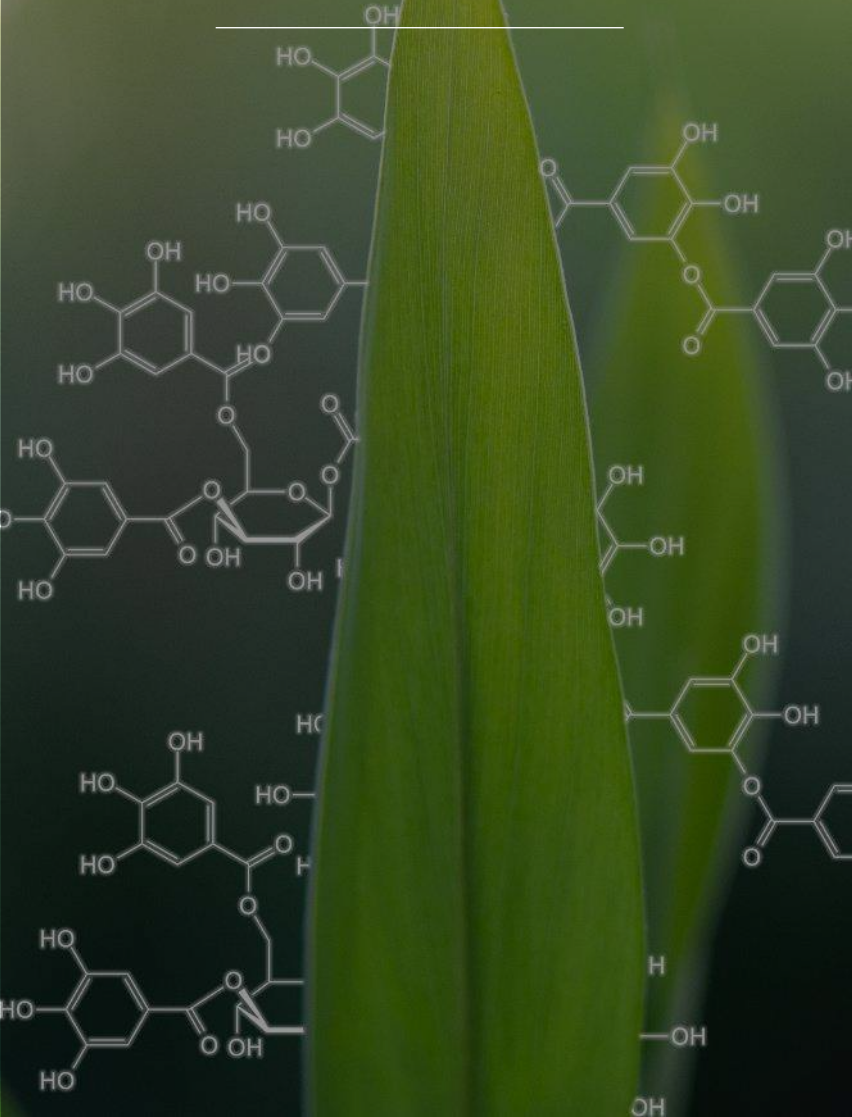
## Predicting plant architecture



## Predicting leaf growth from genome-scale metabolic network



# Predict interactions



## Trophic interaction Secondary metabolites exchanges



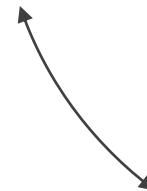
Crops  
Horticultures



Environmental  
microbes



Pathogens







**Engineering network  
(epistasis “domestication”)**

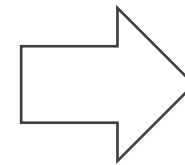
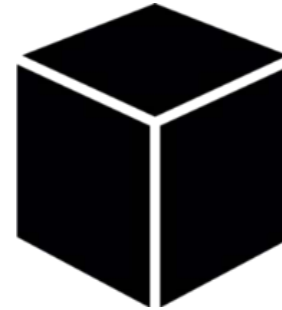
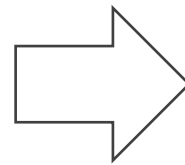


**Design novel traits**

**Increase robustness of the crops**

# Genomic selection

Most advance solution



**Genotypic diversity**  
**& Phenotypic diversity**

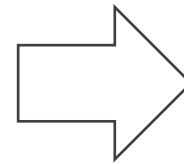
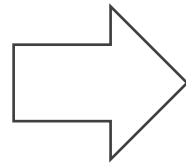


**Learning correlations**

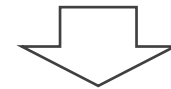
# Systems biology

Tomorrow technology

Complex molecular network



Scientific knowledge  
& environmental constraints



Causal relationship



# How it works

**Genotypic diversity**



***in silico* diversity**

**Environmental constraints**



**Phenotypic diversity  
prediction**

# Experimental setup - Robotized phenotyping platform

## Genotypic data

- Mapping population of **216** natural lines  
~1.9 million SNPs

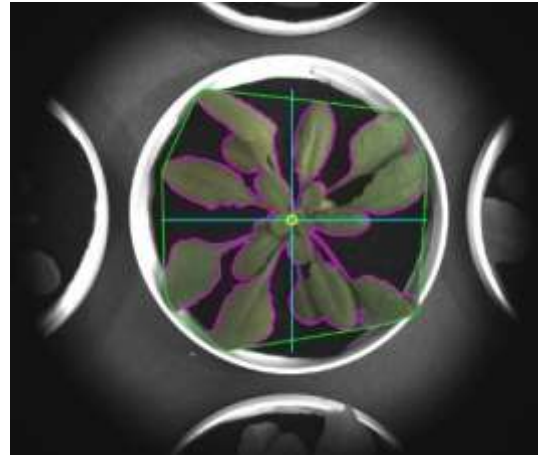
## Phenotypes & stresses

- Biomass growth
- Pathogen attack (collected in Midi-Pyrénées)
- Photoperiod

## Imaging

High definition imaging

- Multispectral imaging
- Chlorophyll Fluorescence imaging



Toulouse Plant-Microbe Phenotyping Platform

# Experimental setup - Field experiment

## Genotypic data

- Mapping population of **305** natural lines  
~1.9 million SNPs

## Phenotypes & stresses

- Biomass growth and seed production (Yield)
- Flowering time
- Pathogen attack (collected in Midi-Pyrénées)
- Photoperiod

