

APRIL 9, 2020

# Perspectives on Cancer & Aging

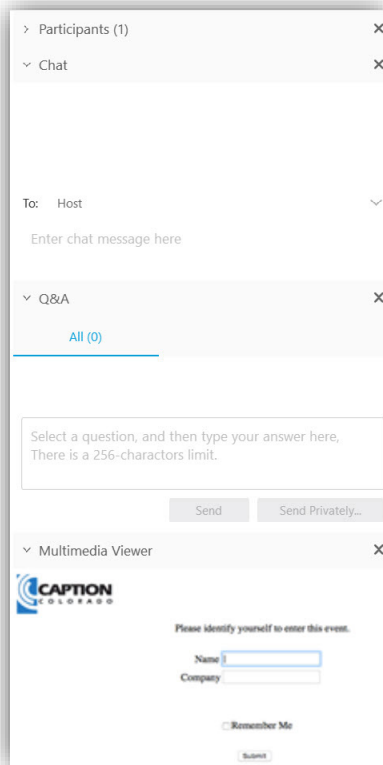
ARTI HURRIA MEMORIAL WEBINAR SERIES

## Cancer and Aging: Biological and Phenotypic Measures of Aging

A WEBINAR TRIBUTE TO DR. ARTI HURRIA

Luigi Ferrucci, M.D., Ph.D.  
Morgan Levine, Ph.D.  
Cancer & Aging Research Group

# Using WebEx and webinar logistics



- All lines will be in listen-only mode
- Make sure icons are selected for them to appear as a drop-down option
- Submit questions at any time during the presentation by typing into the Q&A feature on the right-hand side of the WebEx interface.
  - Select Host and a moderator will ask the questions on your behalf
- Closed captioning available by selecting the Media Viewer Panel on the right-hand side of the screen
- This webinar is being recorded

## Today's speakers:



**Luigi Ferrucci, M.D., Ph.D.**  
*Geriatrician and Epidemiologist*  
*Scientific Director*  
*National Institute on Aging*



**Morgan Levine, Ph.D.**  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Pathology*  
*Yale School of Medicine*

April 9th 2020  
Perspectives on Cancer and Aging Webinar

**“Connecting the biological and phenotypic manifestations of aging: the case of muscle aging”.**

**Luigi Ferrucci** - National Institute on Aging



# The Metrics of Aging

## Functional Aging (impact on daily life)

- Cognitive Function
- Physical Function
- Mood
- Mental Health



## Phenotypic Aging (phenotypes that change)

- Body Composition
- Energetics
- Homeostatic Mechanisms
- Brain health



## Biological Aging (root mechanisms)

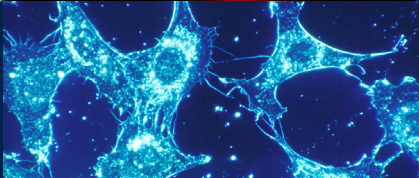
- Molecular damage
- Defective repair
- Energy exhaustion
- Signal/noise reduction





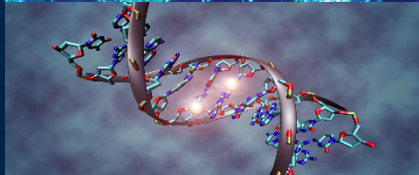
# Genomic Instability

The Accumulation of Somatic Mutations with Aging



# Cellular Senescence

Trade-off Between Cancer and Aging



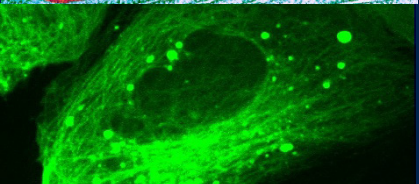
# Epigenetics (methylation)

The "Epigenetic Clock"



# Mitochondrial Dysfunction

The Power Plant



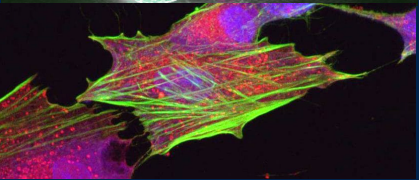
# Proteostasis (autophagy)

Repair, Recycle or Trash?



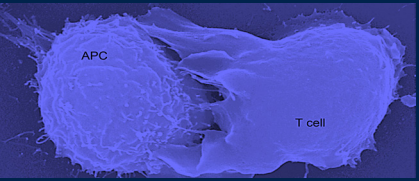
# Telomere Length

Protecting the DNA During Replication



# Stem Cell Exhaustion

Templates for Cells Restoration



# Cell to Cell Communication

Accuracy and Context in the Flow of Information

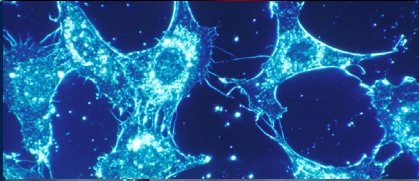


The Hallmarks of Aging  
Carlos Lopez-Otin et al.



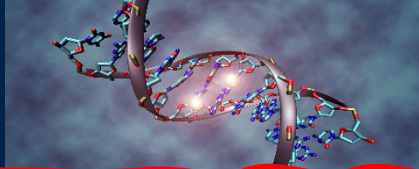
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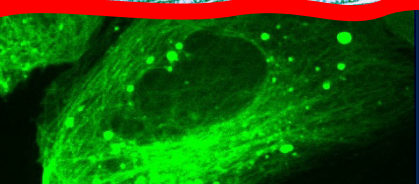
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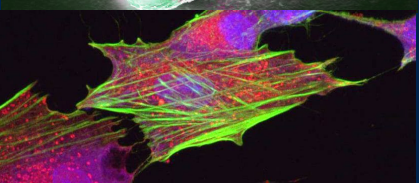
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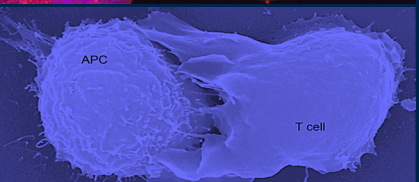
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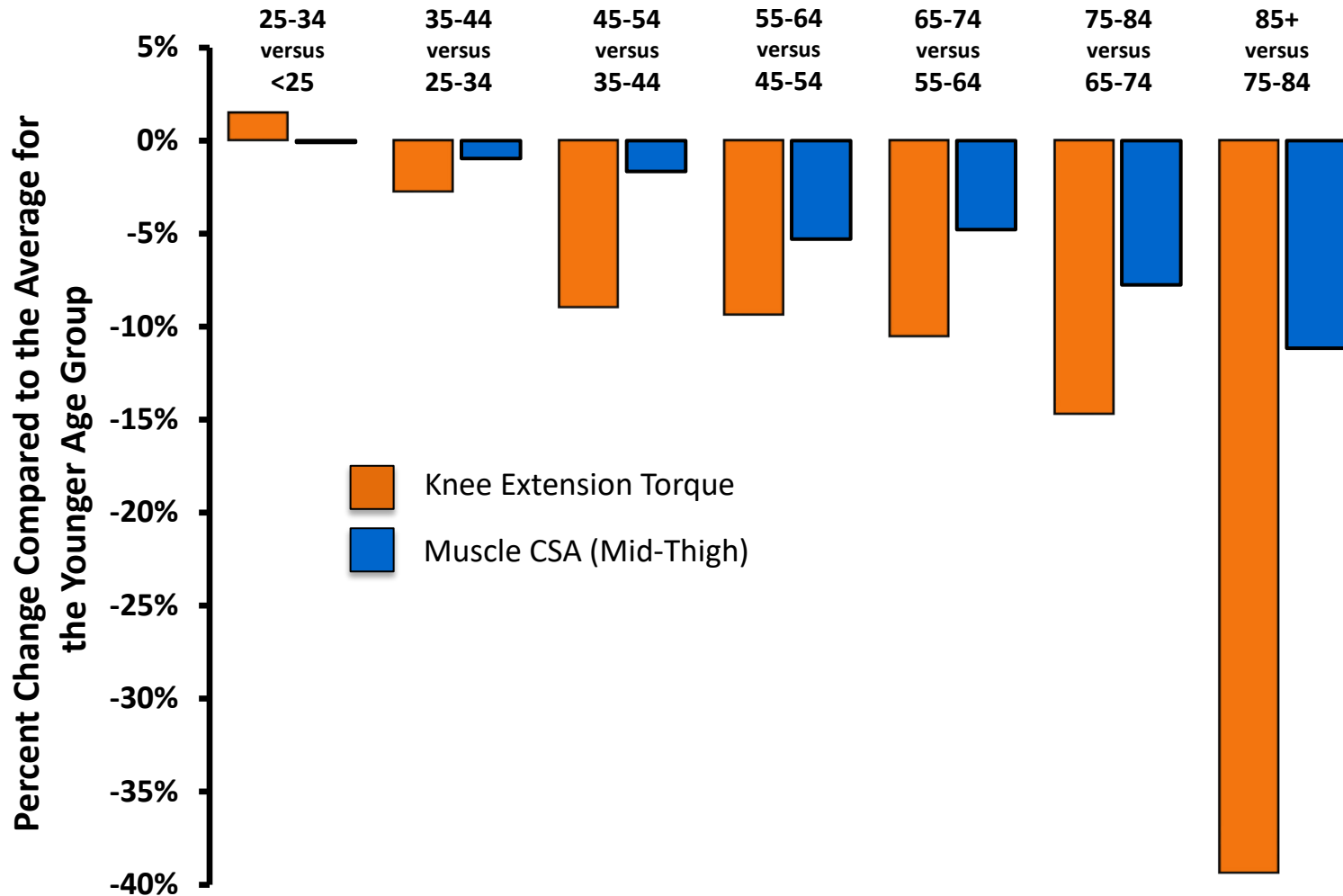
Accuracy and Context in the Flow of Information



The Hallmarks of Aging  
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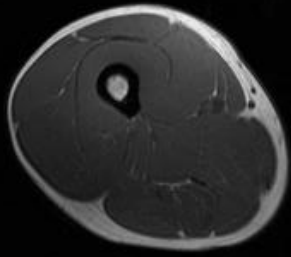
# Muscle

## Strength/ Mass Ratio in BLSA Participants 60-70 yrs Old

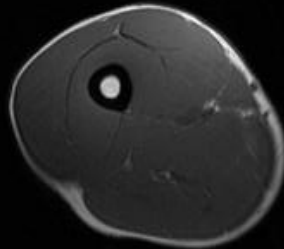




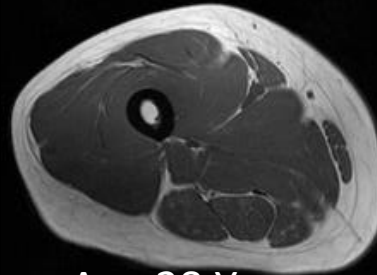
# Mid-thigh T1w MRI Images (Men; GESTALT)



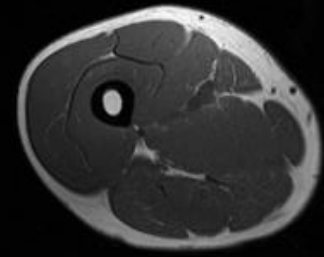
Age 23 Years



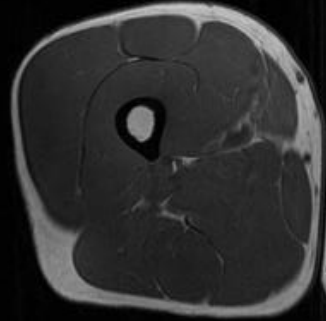
Age 26 Years



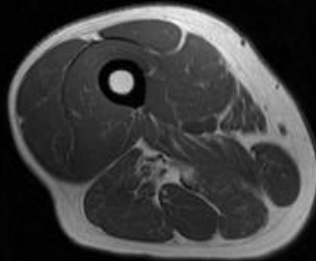
Age 28 Years



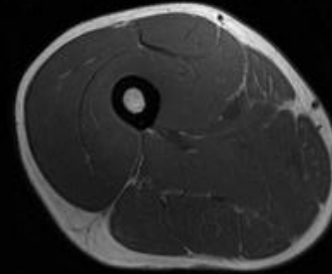
Age 31 Years



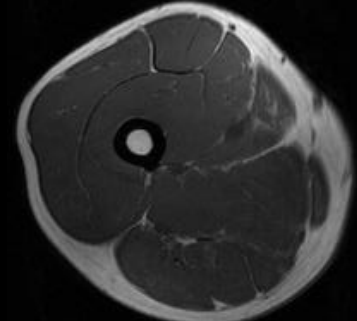
Age 31 Years



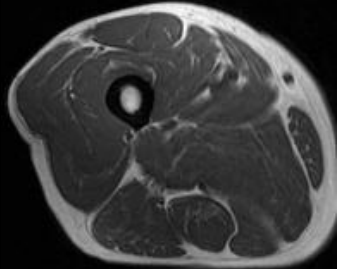
Age 42 Years



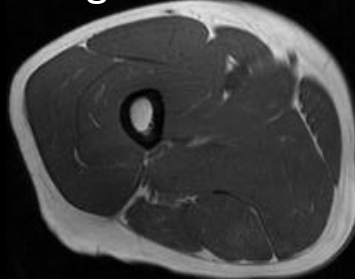
Age 45 Years



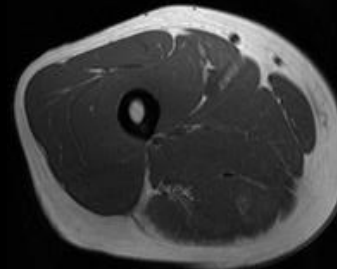
Age 45 Years



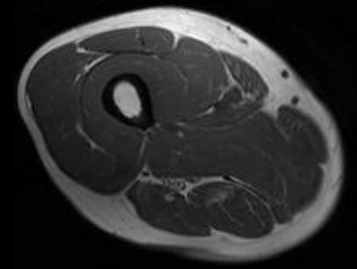
Age 51 Years



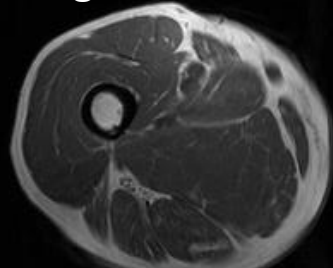
Age 52 Years



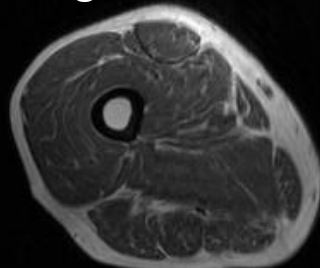
Age 57 Years



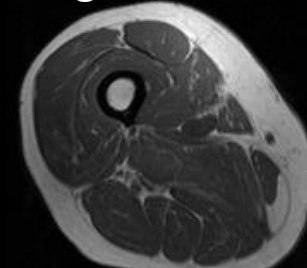
Age 60 Years



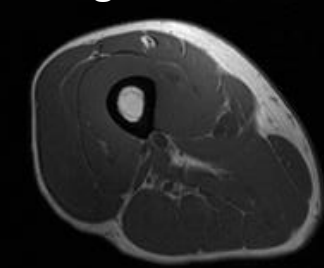
Age 67 Years



Age 72 Years



Age 81 Years



Age 83 Years



David Reiter

# NESTED CASE-CONTROL STUDY in BLSA

Selection of 79 pairs of cases (low muscle quality) and controls (high muscle quality), matched by age ( $\pm 2.5$  years), sex, and height ( $\pm 1.5$ cm). Muscle quality defined as knee extension torque/mid-thigh muscle cross-sectional area.

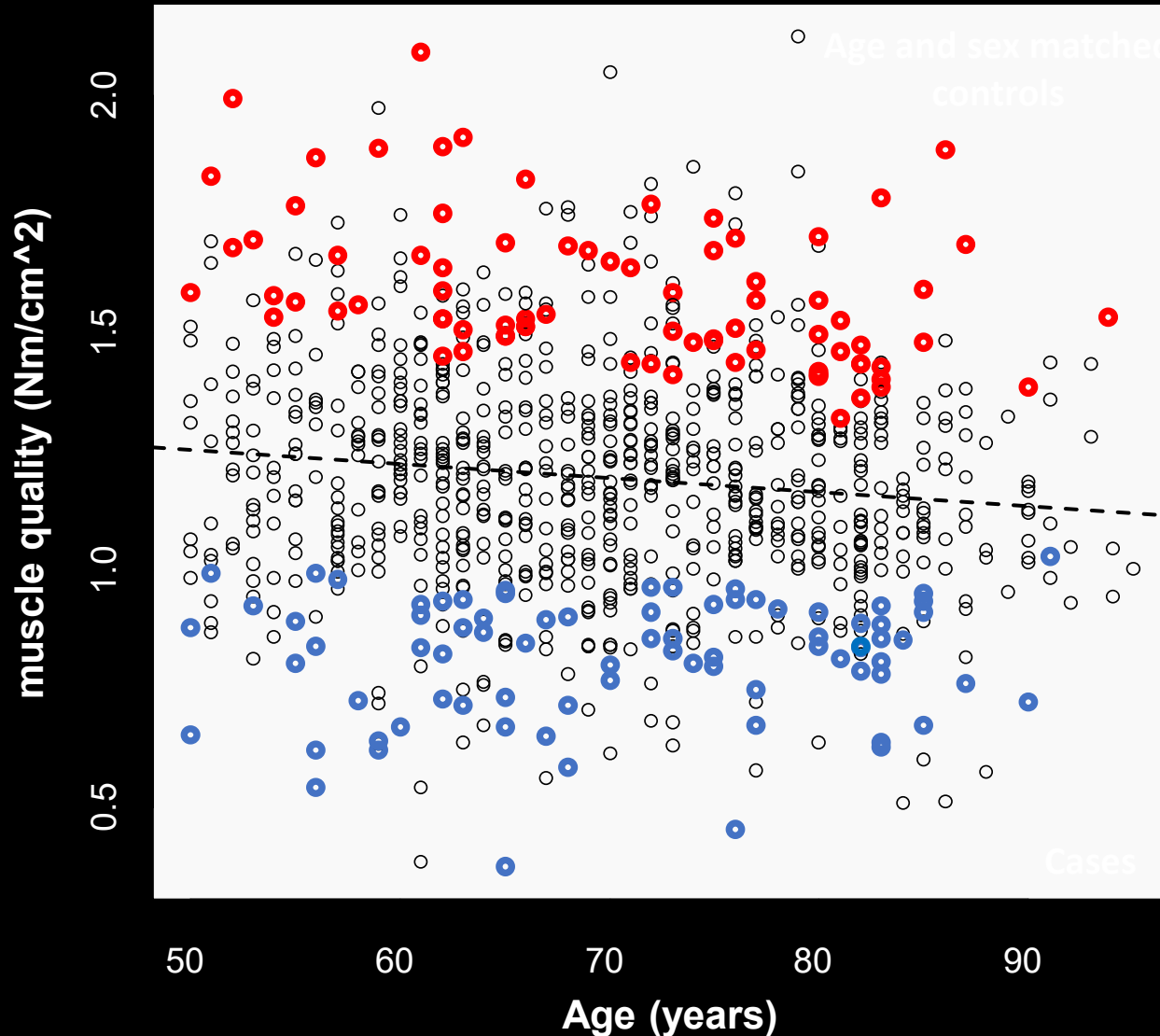
Moaddel R et al. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. March 2016. doi:10.1093/gerona/glw046



Ruin Moaddel



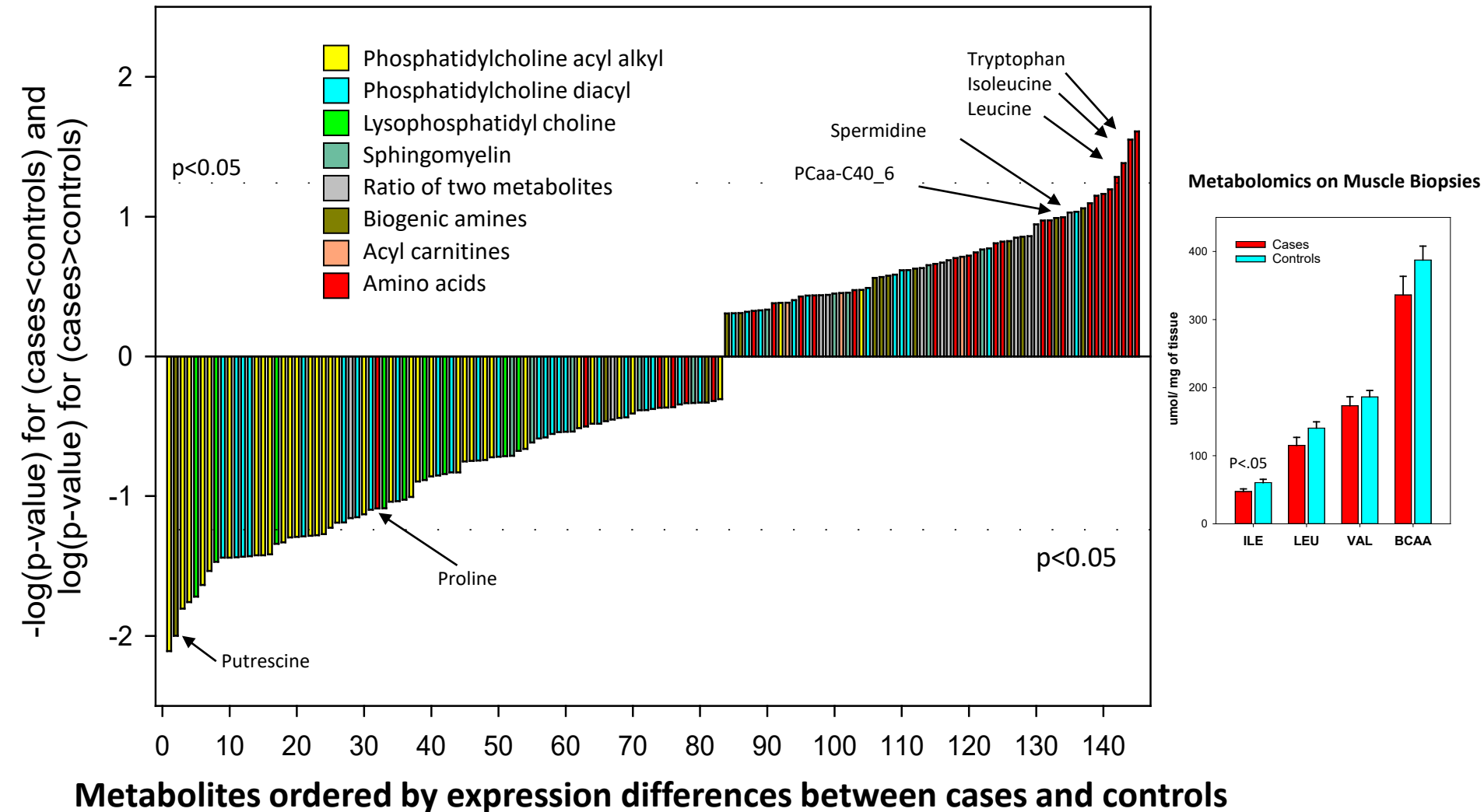
Elisa Fabbri



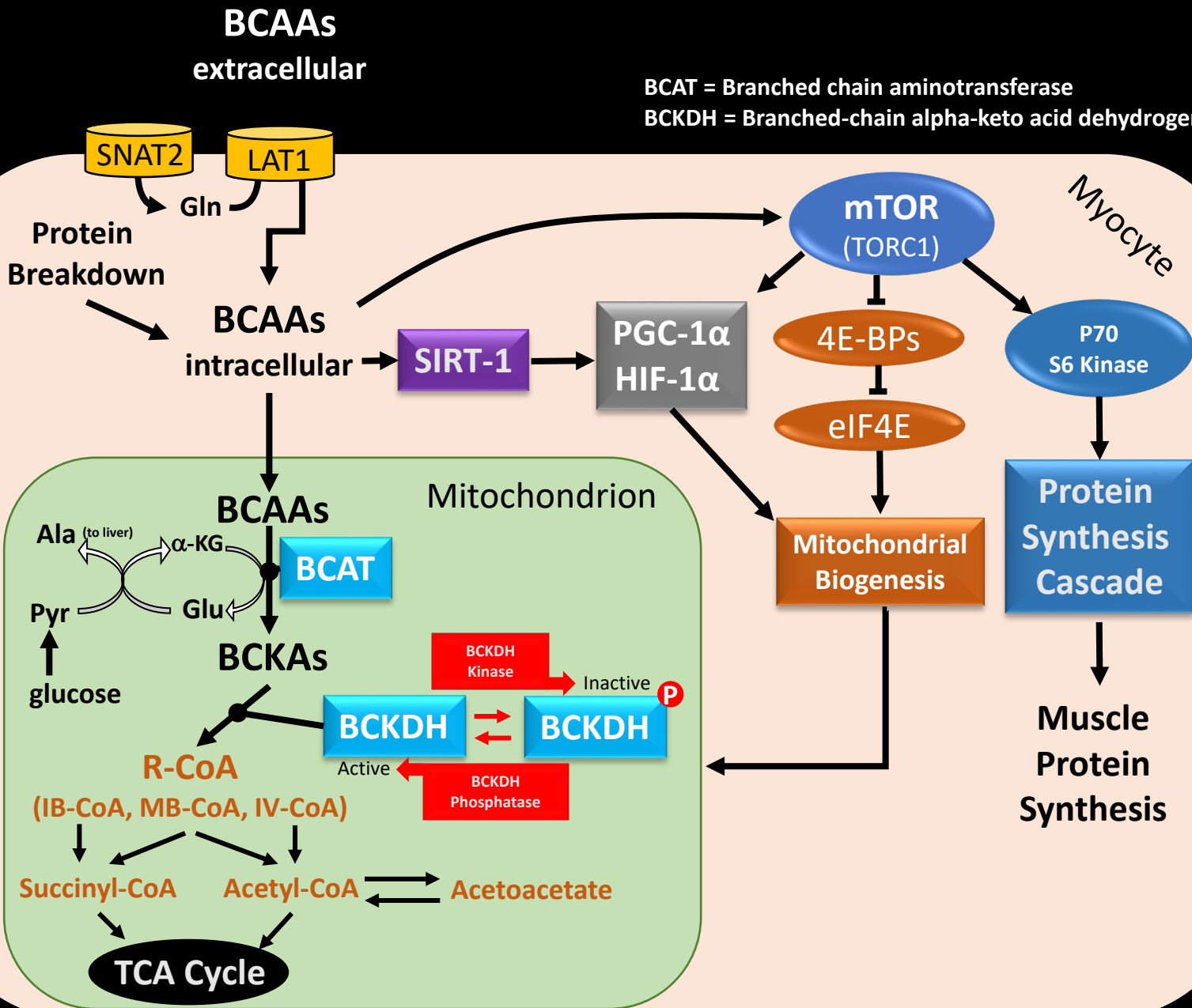
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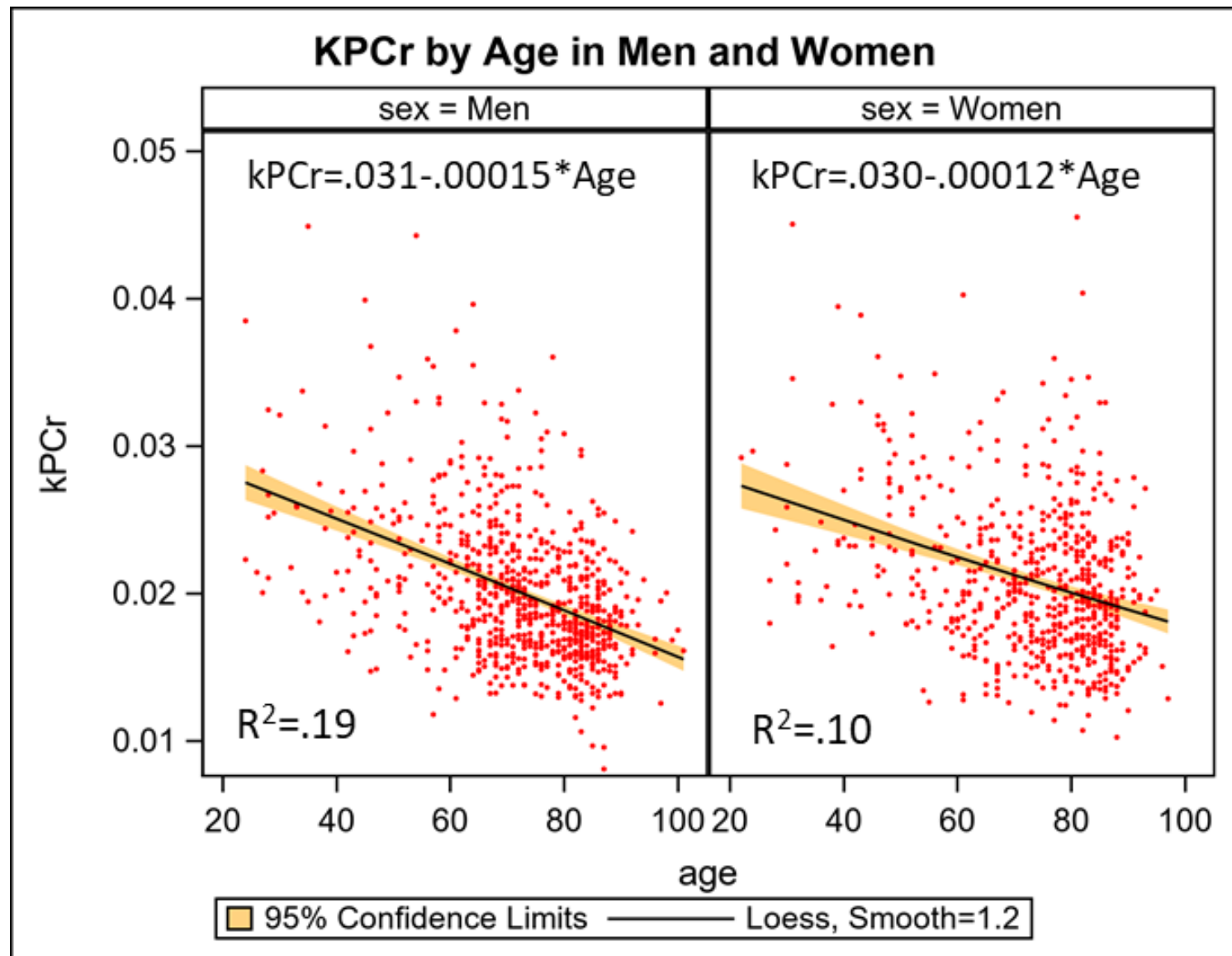
126 Metabolites according to down-regulation or up-regulation in cases (low muscle quality) compared to controls (high muscle quality)

Moaddel R et al. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. March 2016. doi:10.1093/gerona/glw046



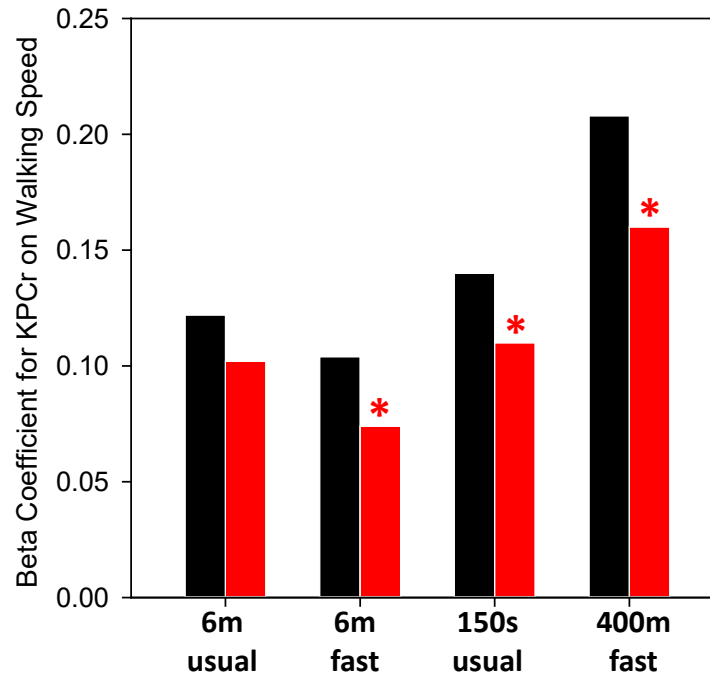
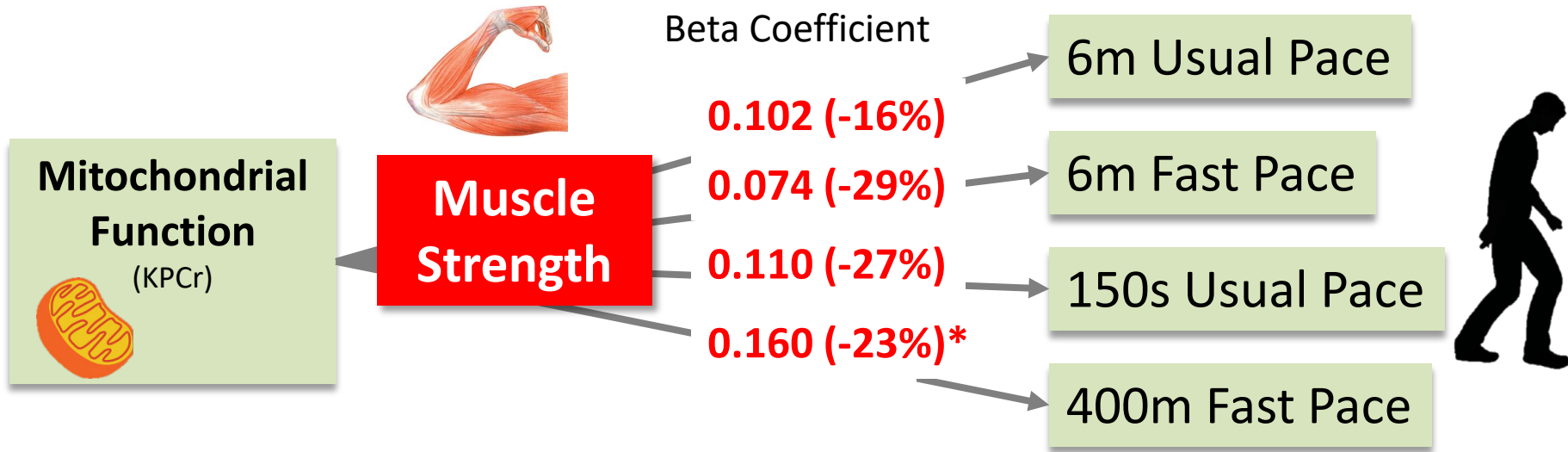
# BCAAs stimulates energy production and protein synthesis





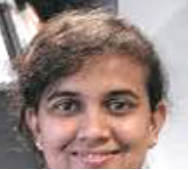
**Figure 1.** Skeletal muscle oxidative capacity, a proxy marker of mitochondrial function, declines with aging both in men (n=400) and women (n=331). BLSA 2020 limited to first measures.

# Muscle Strength Mediates the Effect of Mitochondrial Function on Walking Performance.



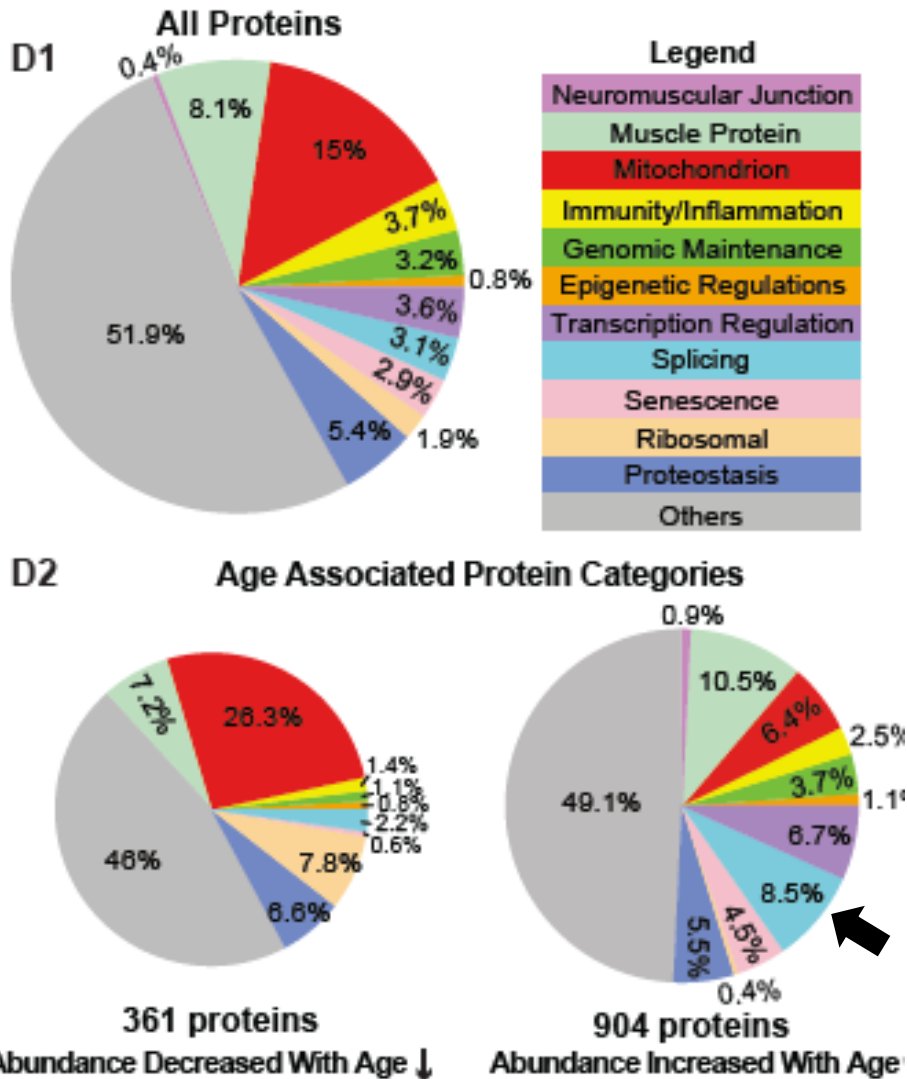
\* Sobel Test (mediation):  $P < .05$

All models adjusted for sex, height, weight, and %PCr depletion; \*  $P < .05$ ; \*\*  $P < .01$



# Classification of Age-associated Proteins In Skeletal Muscle

Proteins associated with Aging

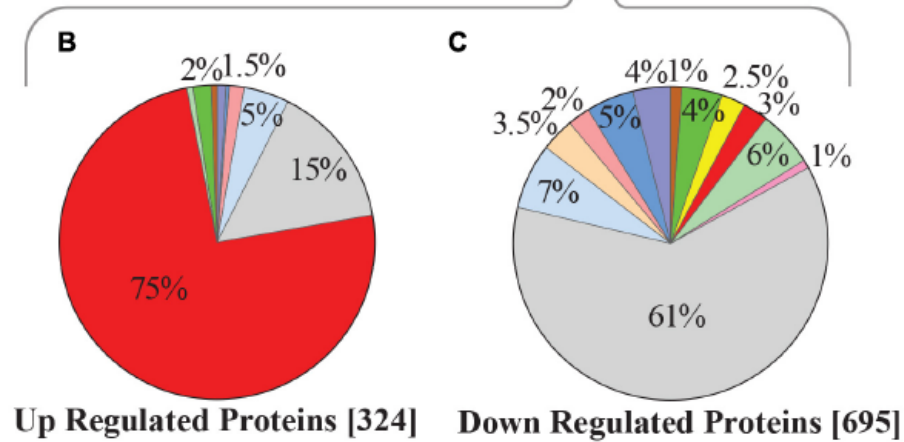
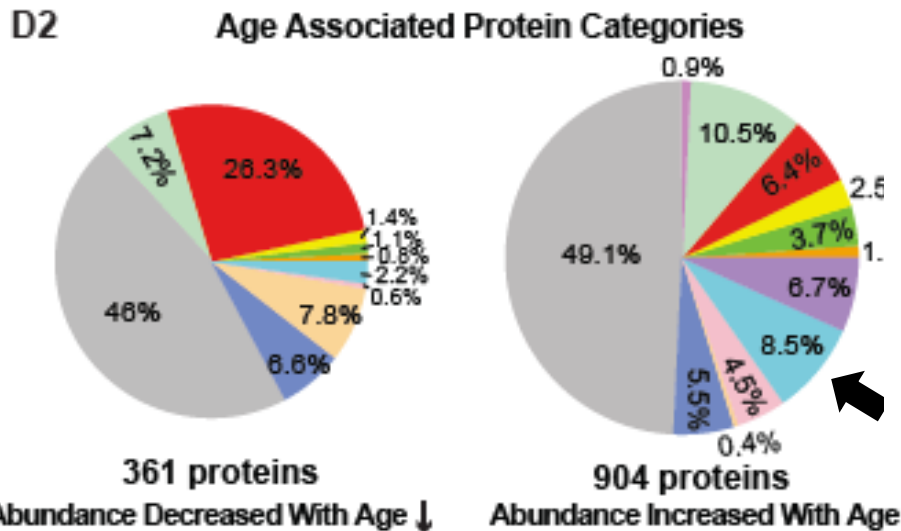
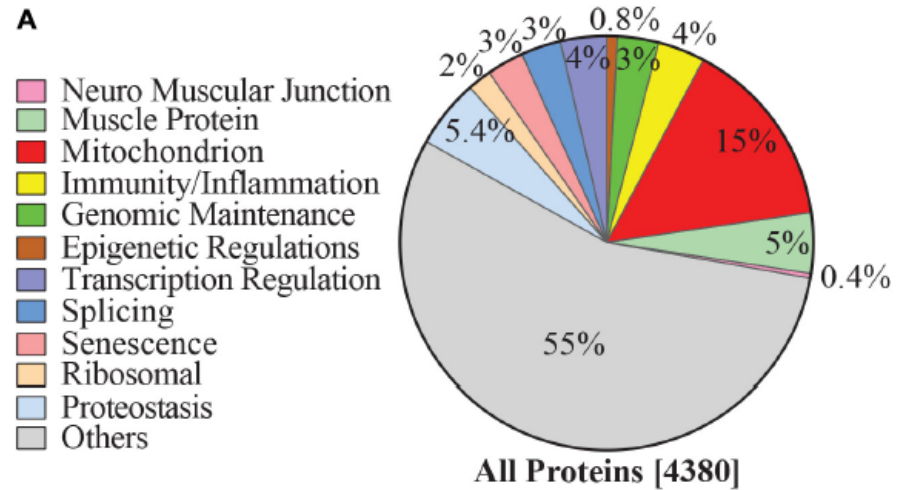
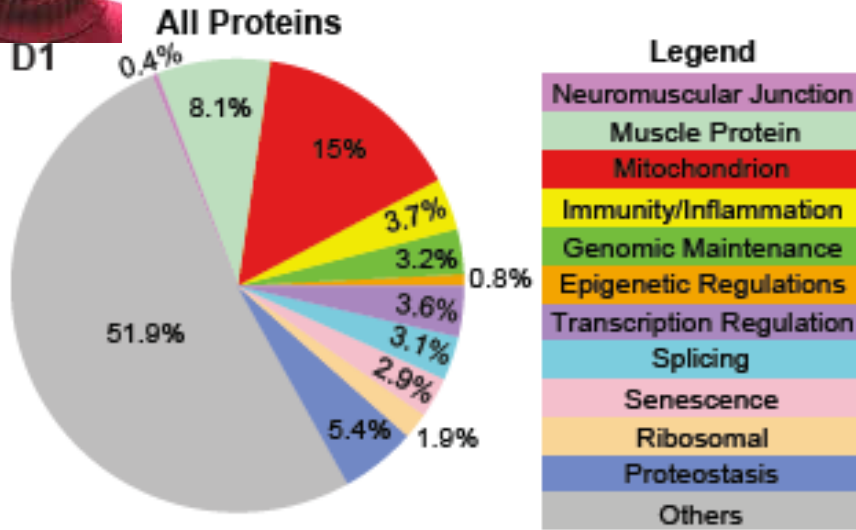




# Classification of Age-associated Proteins In Skeletal Muscle

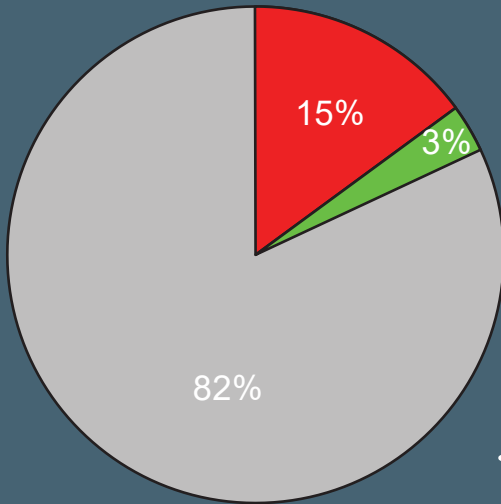
Proteins associated with Aging

Proteins associated with Physical Activity





## Hallmarks of Aging



**Mitochondrion**

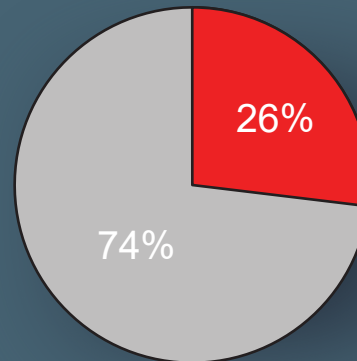
**Splicing**

**Others**

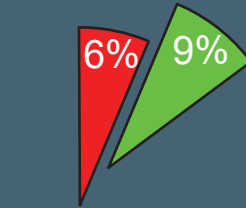
(Immunity/Inflammation, NMJ, Proteostasis, Senescence, Transcription Regulation, Epigenetic Regulations, Genomic Maintenance, Ribosomal, Unknown)

## Age Associated Protein Categories

Adjusted for Gender, PA, Race, Fiber ratio, BMI and Batch effects



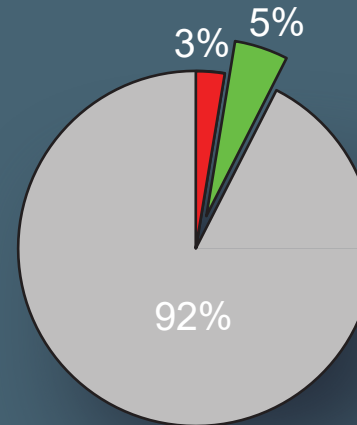
Abundance Decreased With Age (361)



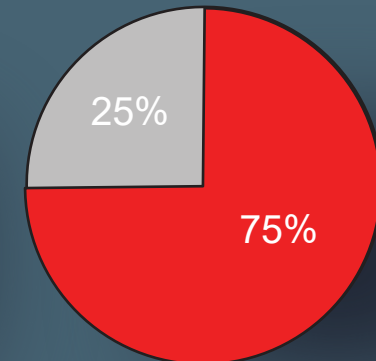
Abundance Increased With Age (904)

## Physical Activity Associated Protein Categories

Adjusted for Gender, Age, Race, Fiber ratio, BMI and Batch effects



Abundance Decreased With PA (695)



Abundance Increased With PA (324)

# Figure 3 Functional Decline of Mitochondrial Proteins with Age

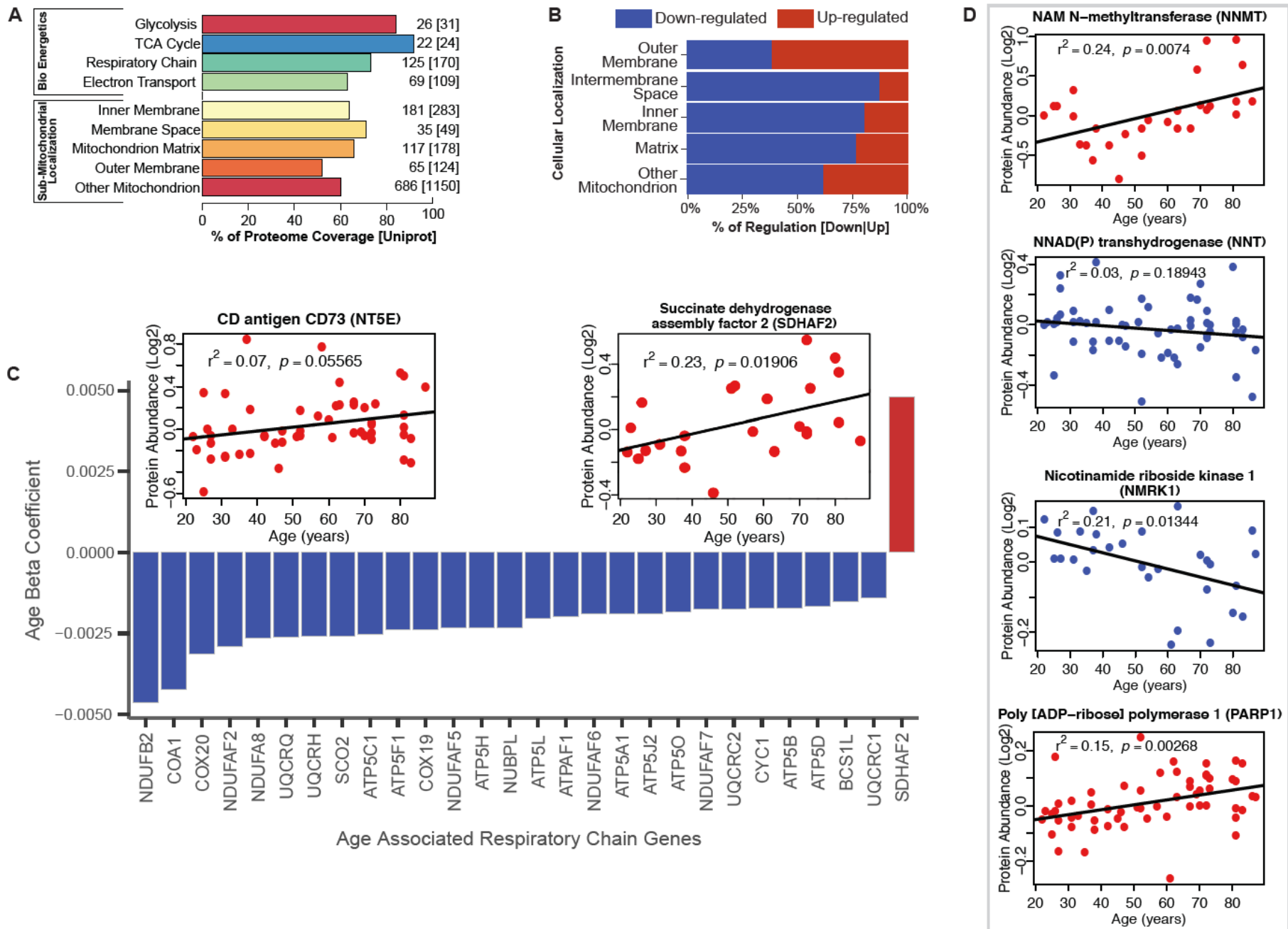
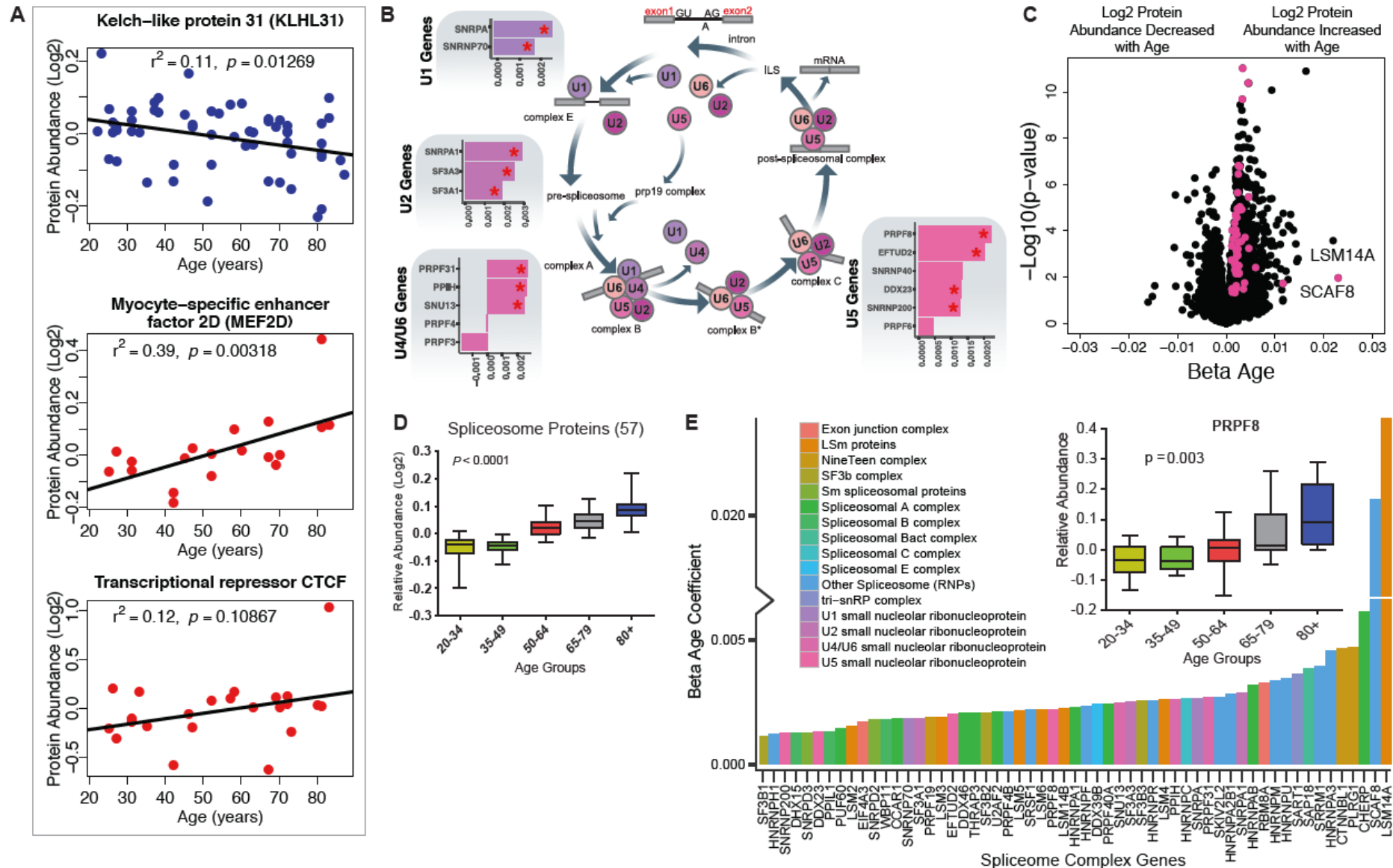
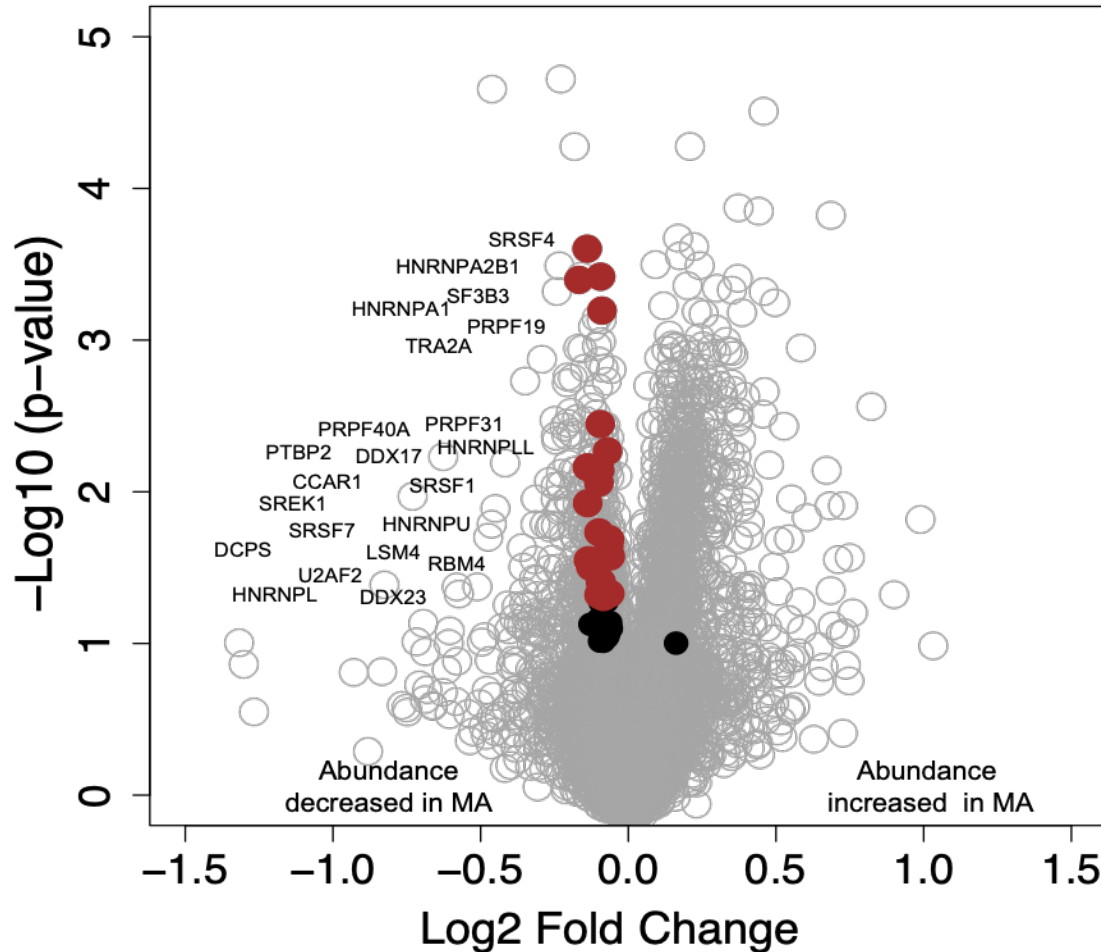


Figure 4 Implications of Proteins that Modulate Transcription and Splicing



# Relative Abundance of Spliceosome Proteins in Master Athletes Compared to Age-Matched Controls

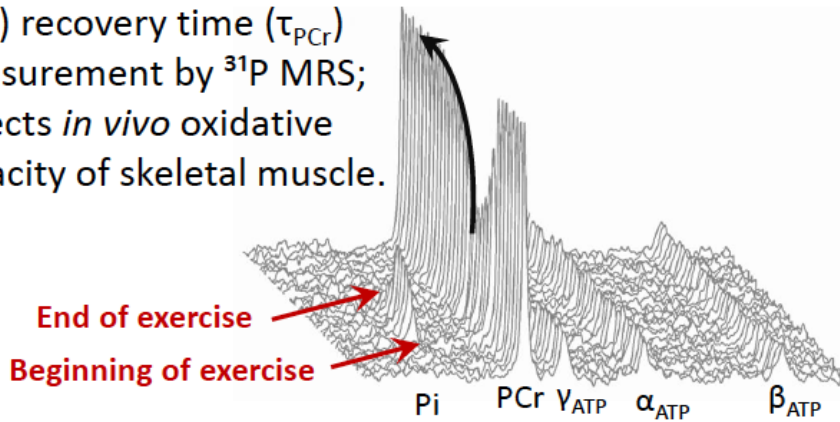
Collaboration with Russel Hepple, PhD (University of Florida)



Discovery proteomics on muscle biopsies quantified using TMT and LC-MS methods. Overall, 132 spliceosome pathway proteins were quantified. Of these, 122 were underrepresented in master athletes compared to controls, and for 22 of them the difference was significant.

# Adjusting for Age and Physical Activity, Up-Regulation of the Splicing Machinery is Associated with Better Mitochondrial Function

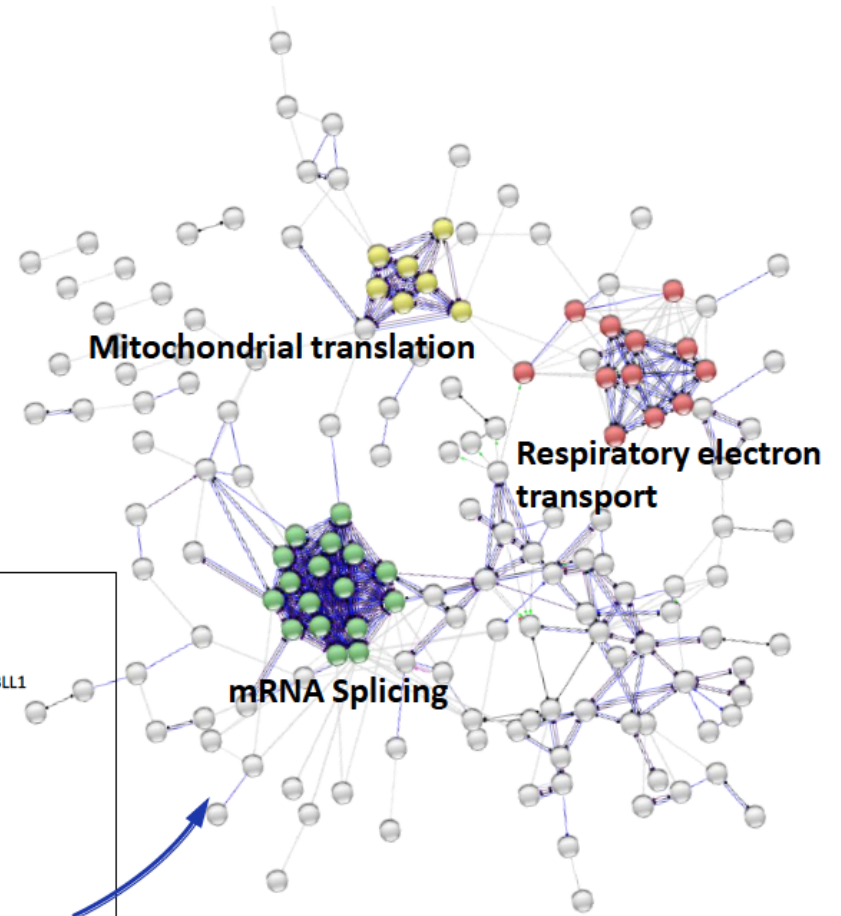
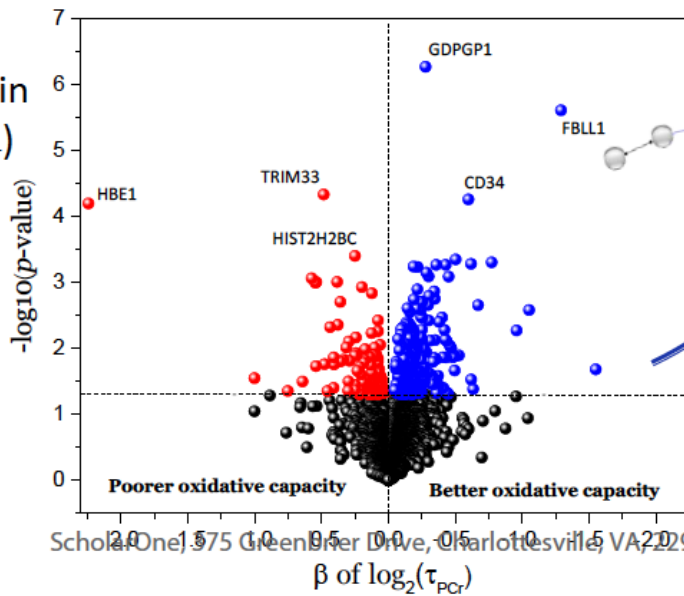
Post-exercise phosphocreatine (PCr) recovery time ( $\tau_{PCr}$ ) measurement by  $^{31}P$  MRS; reflects *in vivo* oxidative capacity of skeletal muscle.



Skeletal muscle protein association with ( $\tau_{PCr}$ )



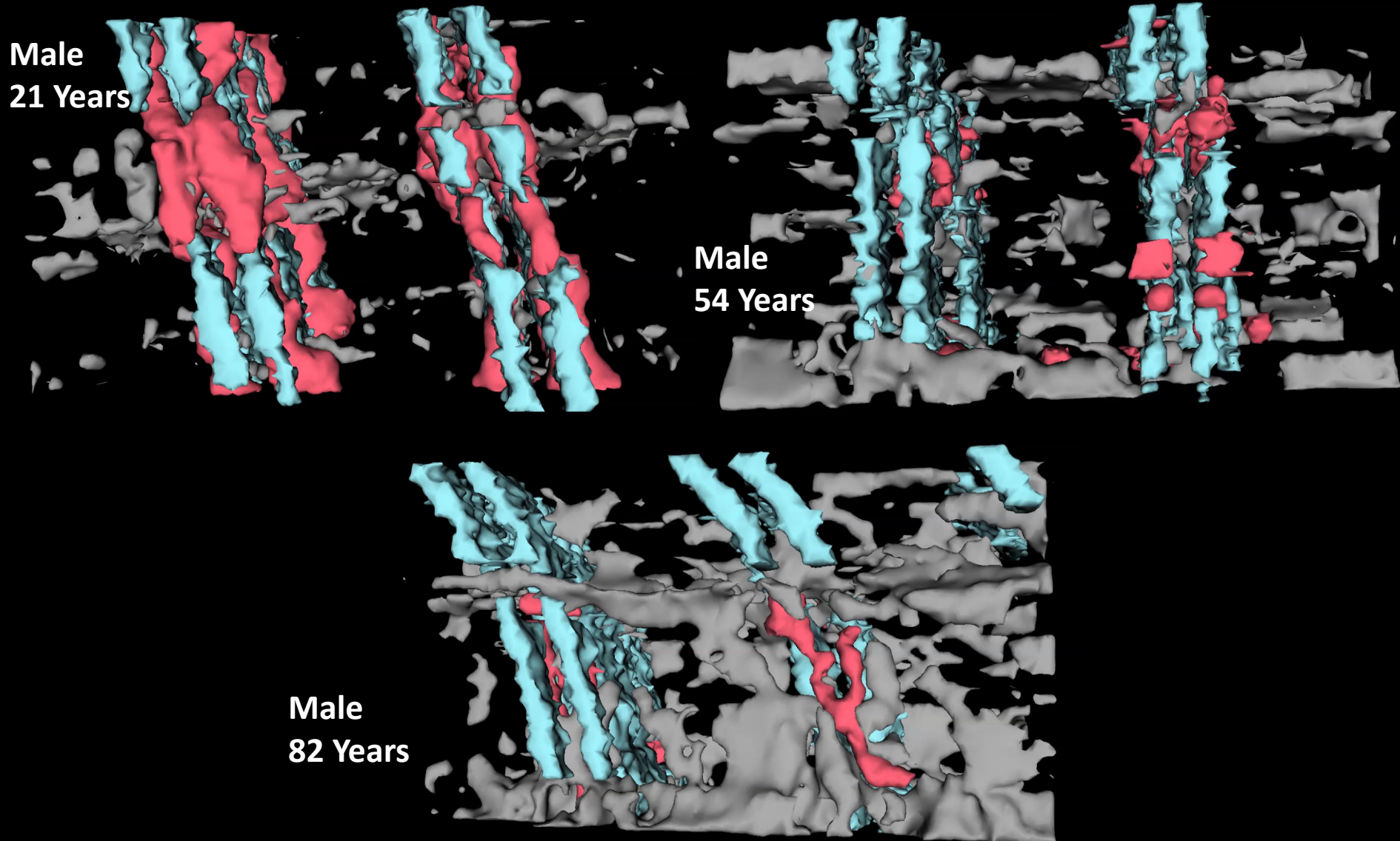
Fatemeh Adelnia



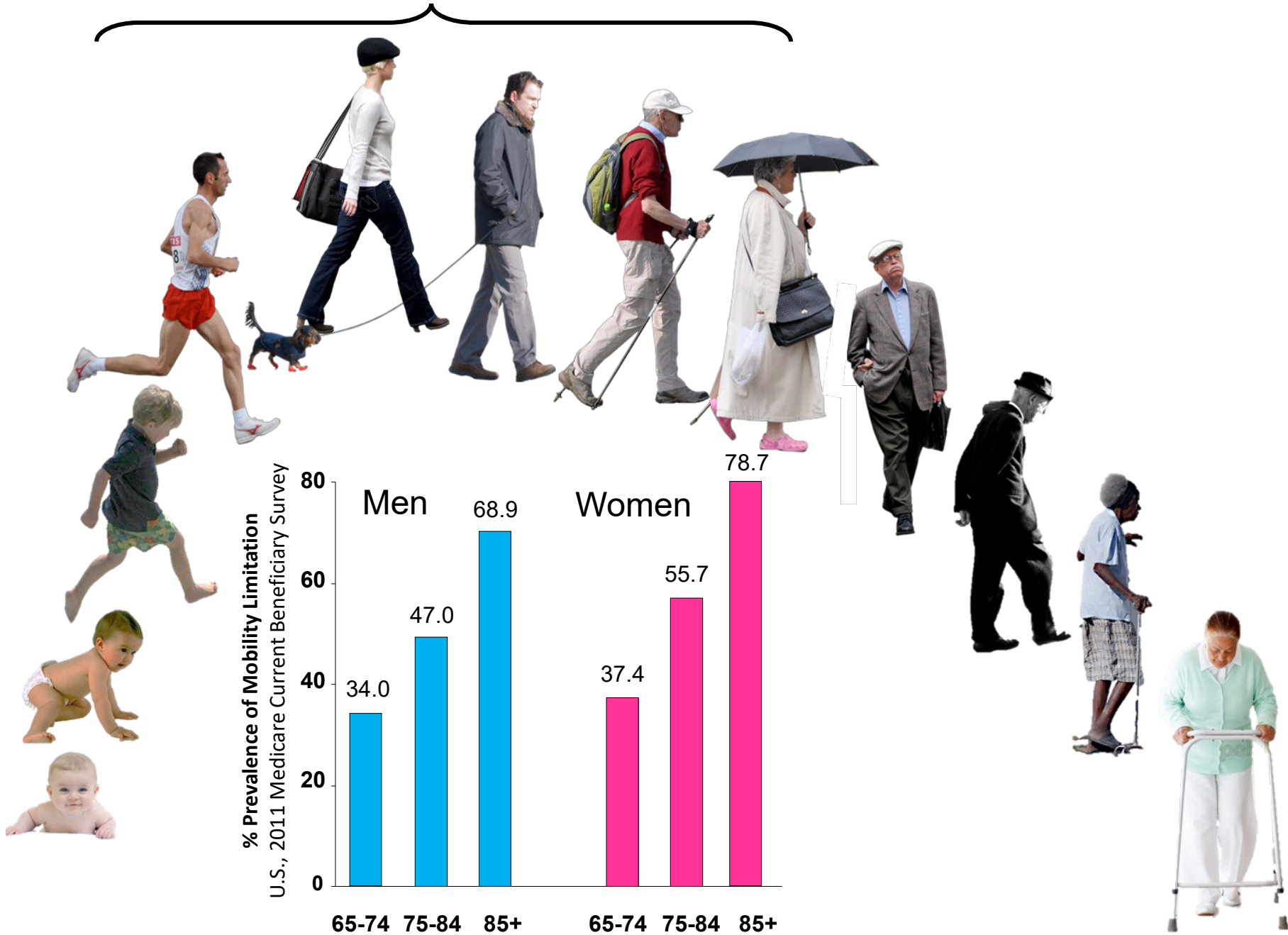
Network representation of the 253 proteins associated with better muscle oxidative capacity

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**3D Reconstructions of FIB-SEM images in 3 different age groups.  
Mitochondria are pink, Z-bands are cyan, and voided areas are gray.**

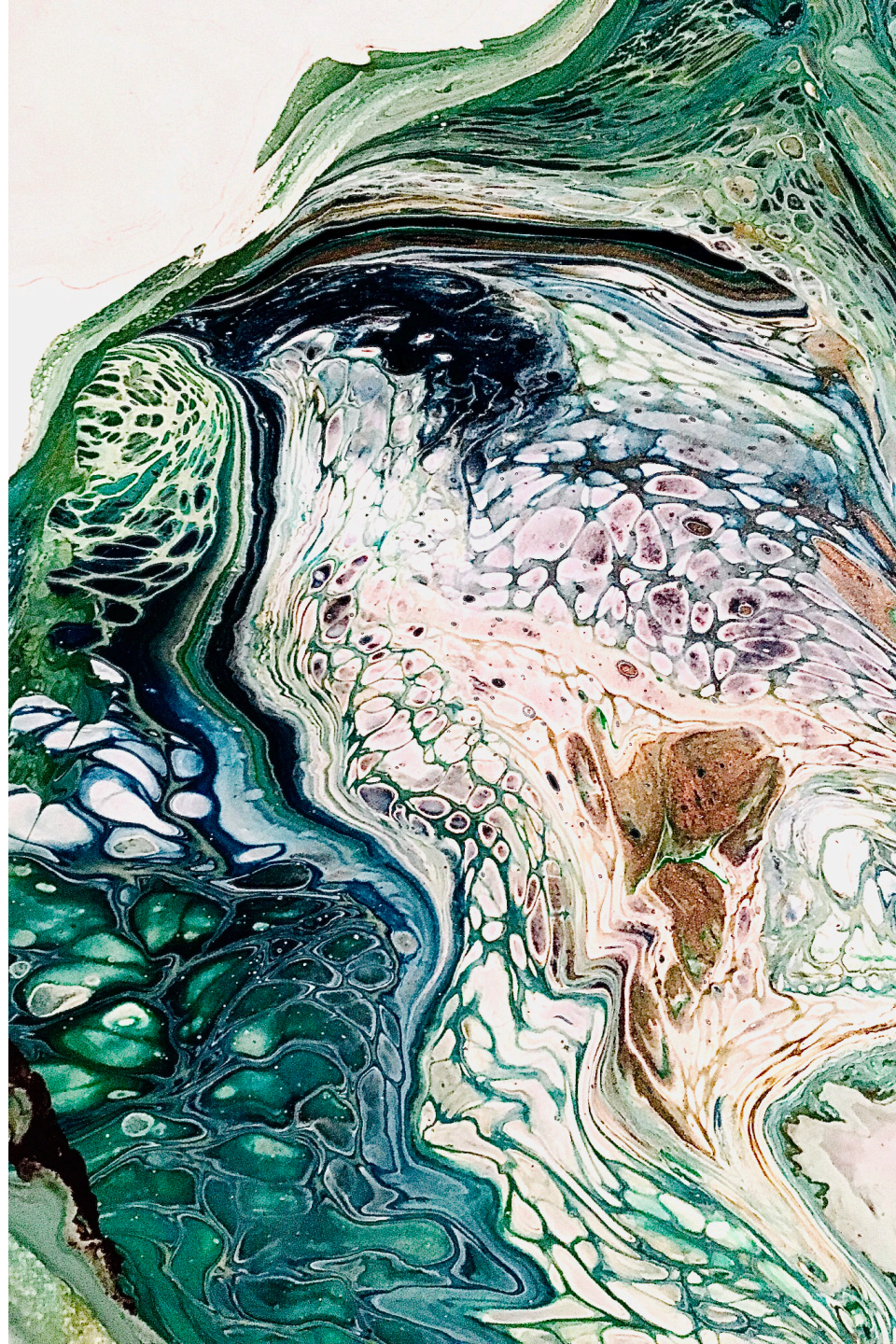


# Geroscience anticipates secondary prevention



# DNA Methylation Landscapes in Aging & Disease

**Morgan Levine**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Pathology  
Yale University School of Medicine





# Cancer Risk

What is the biggest risk factor for lung cancer?

**Smoking increases lung cancer incidence and death by 15 to 30 fold**

**1 in 200k chance for ages 25-29, nearly 400 in 100k chance ages 75-79**

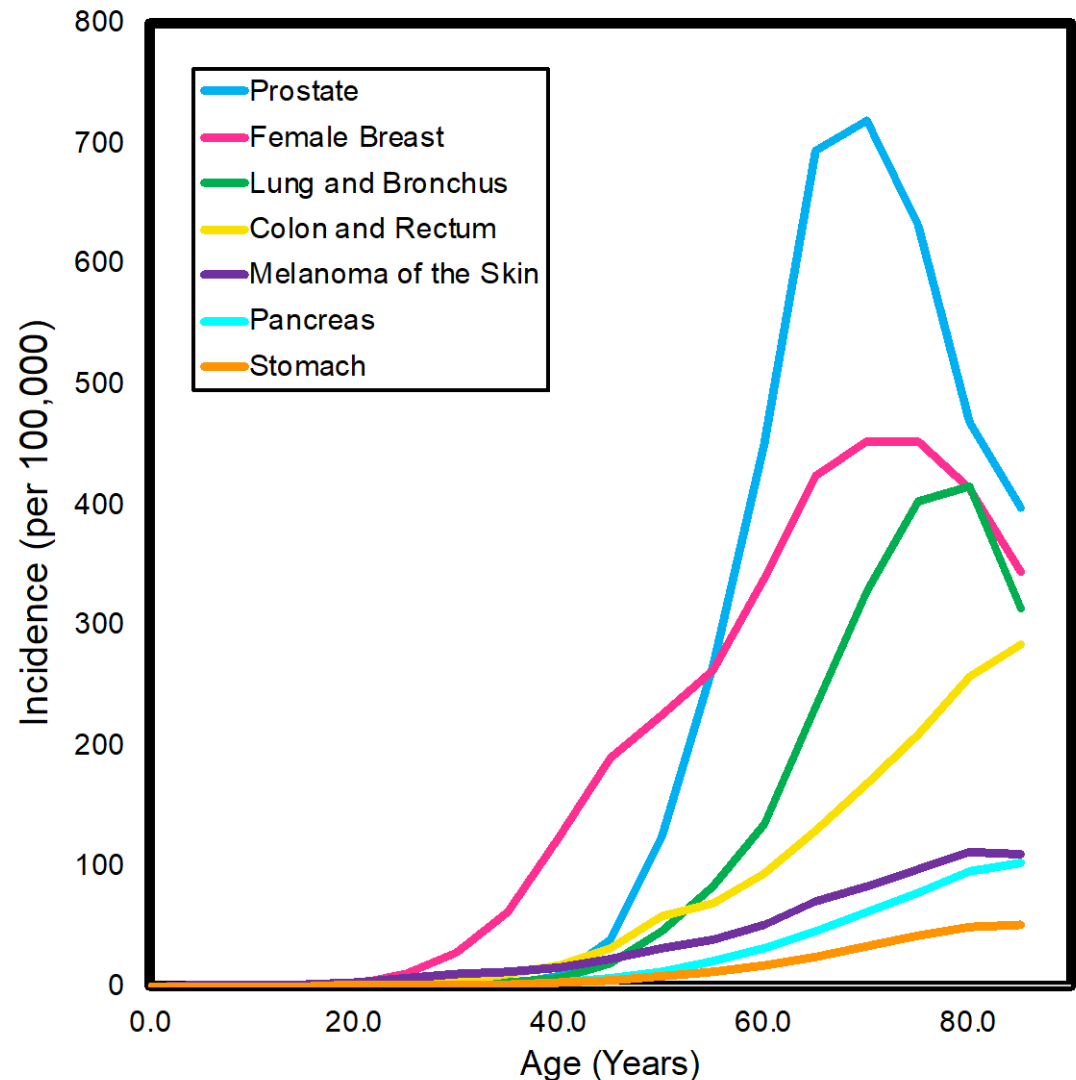


# Geroscience

The aging process is thought to play a causal role in the etiology of most major chronic diseases.

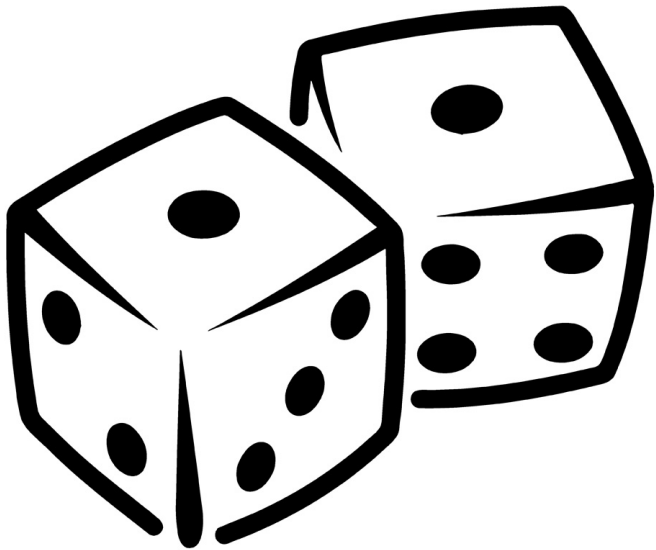


'YOU'RE DELIBERATLY PUTTING YOURSELF AT RISK OF ILL HEALTH BY BEING OVER 65...'



# Cancer Risk & Age

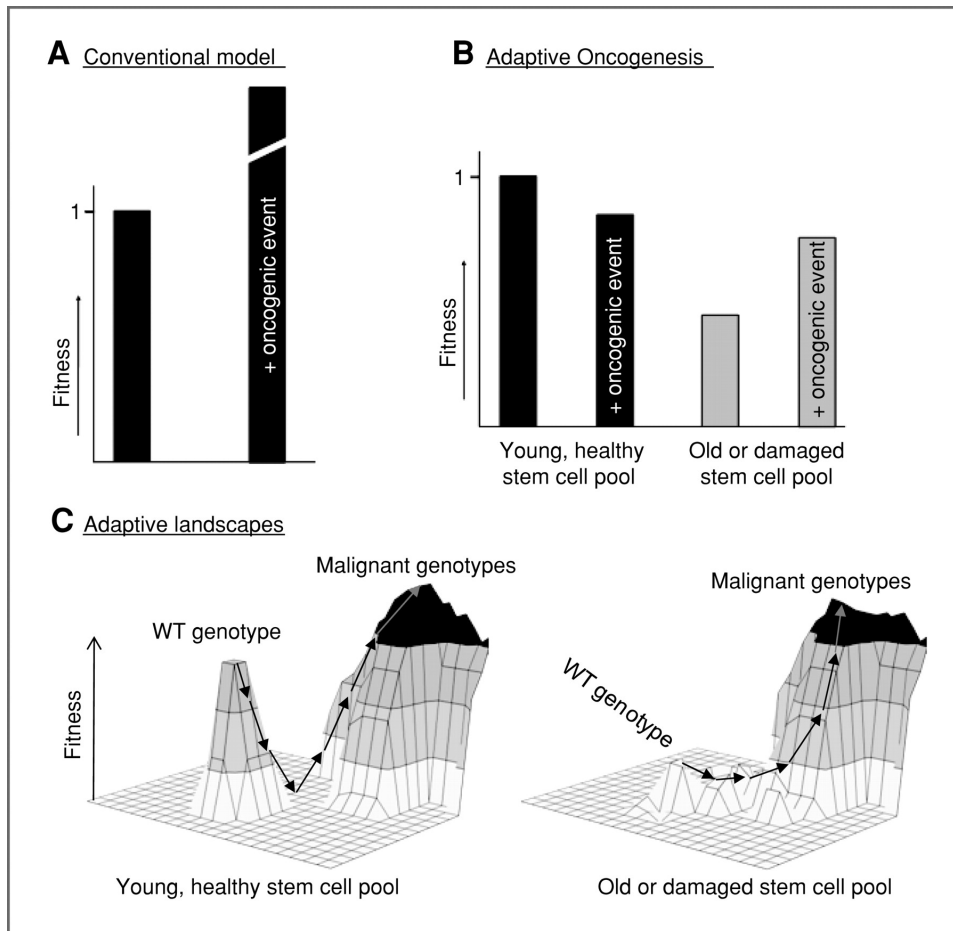
Is aging causal or consequential in cancer?



The more times you roll the dice  
(function of chronological time)  
the more likely your chances?

# Cancer Risk & Age

Is aging causal or consequential in cancer?



## Adaptive Oncogenesis Model

Dr. James DeGregori

Roughly half of all mutations occur before full body maturation

## **Context matters!**

system-level dynamics that change with age alter the fitness landscape

# Biomarkers of Aging

Useful proxies that estimate aging  
(or agedness) of a sample.

## Should Answer:

Biologically, what differentiates  
the average 20 year old from the  
average 80 year old?

What differentiates a healthy 80  
years old from an unhealthy 80  
year old?

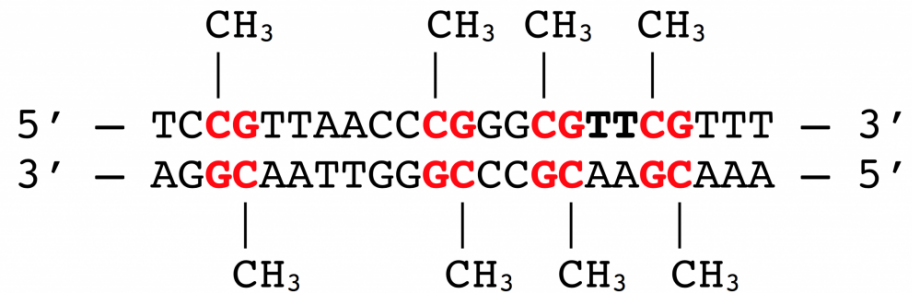
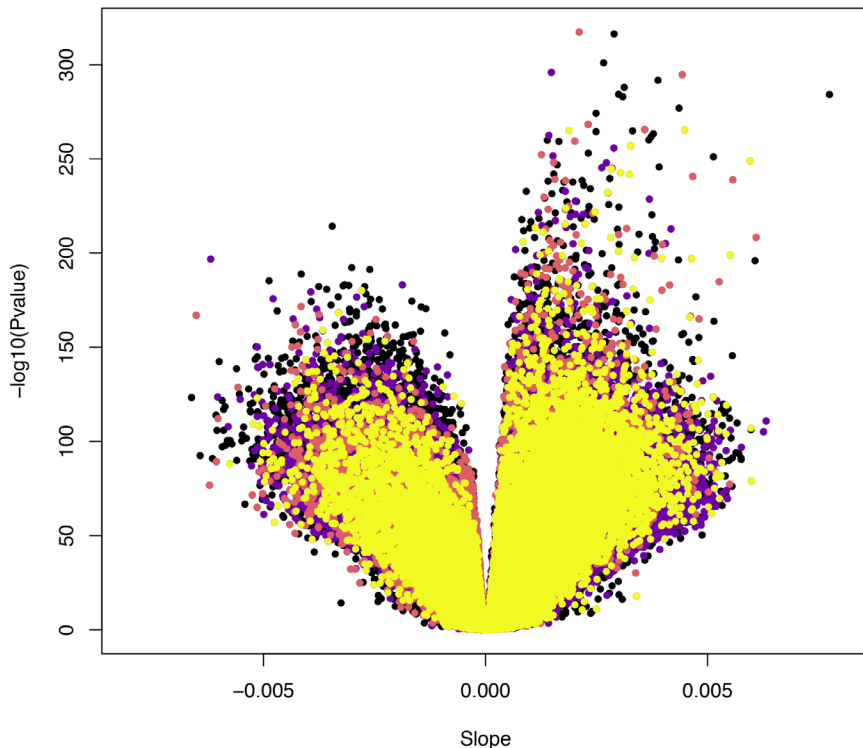


# Epigenetics: Molecular OS

## DNA Methylation (DNAm)

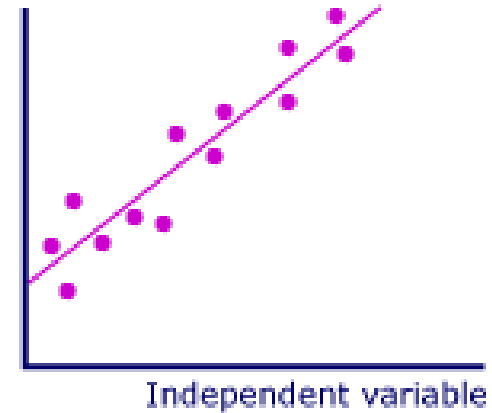
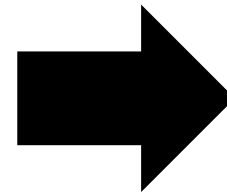
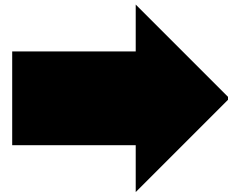
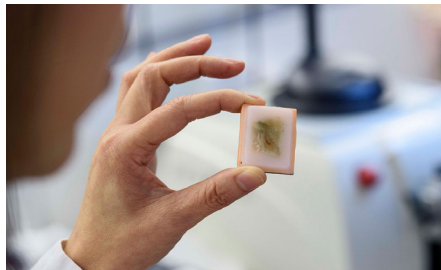
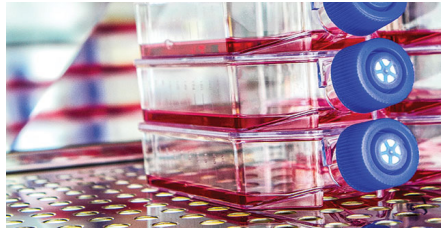
Involved in cell proliferation/differentiation, transcriptional repression, genomic imprinting, organization of chromatin.

DNAm and Age

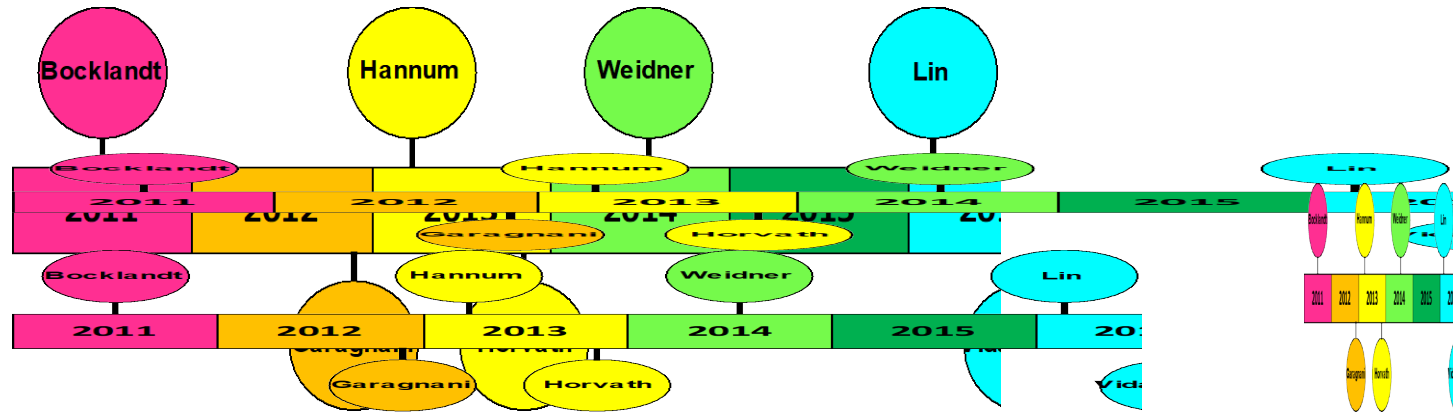


# Epigenetic Clocks

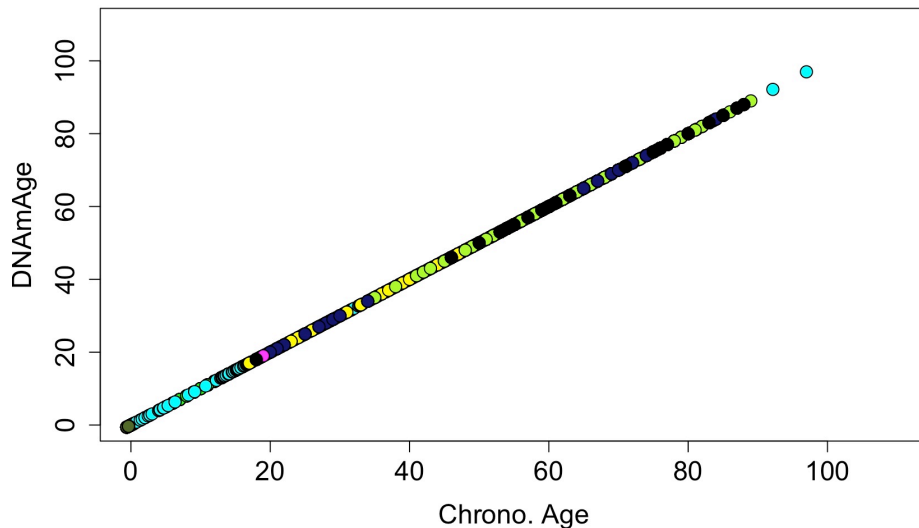
Because of the precise age changes, we can use machine learning to predict “the age” of a sample based on its DNAm levels.



# Epigenetic Clocks



cor=1,  $p < 1e-200$

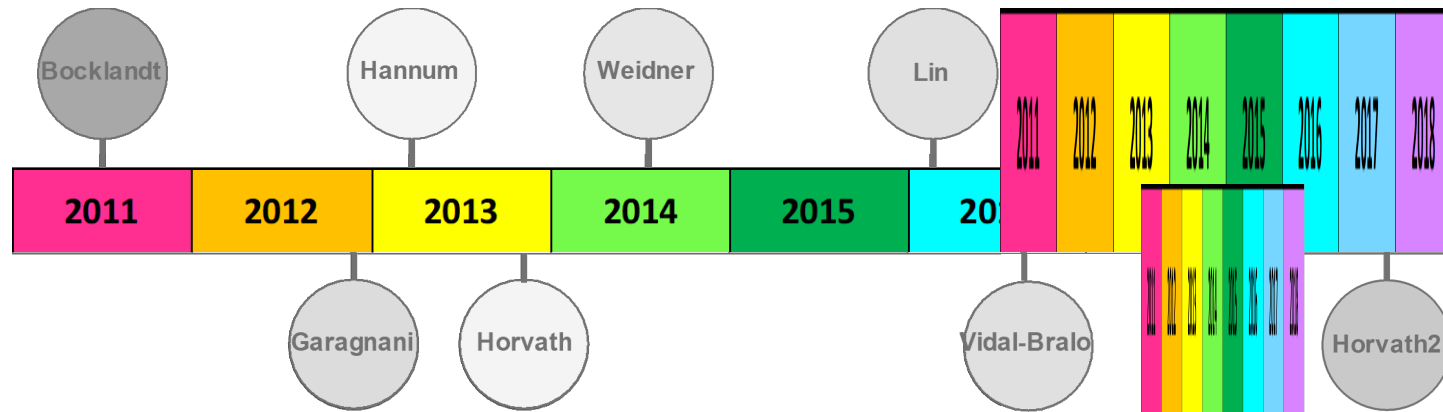


## 1<sup>st</sup> Generation: Age Predictors

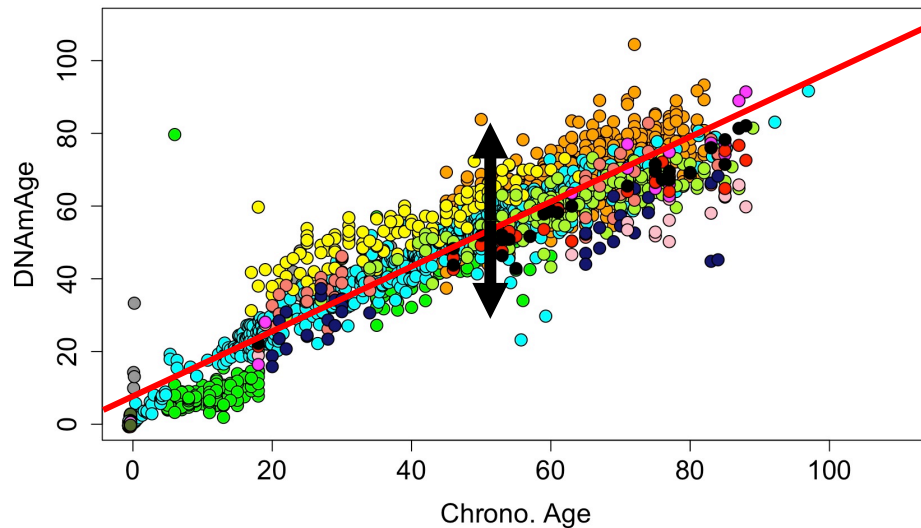
Supervised machine learning  
to predict age from  
hundreds of CpGs



# Epigenetic Clocks

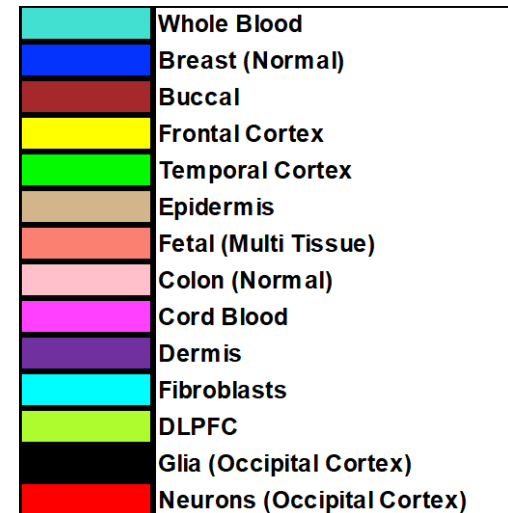
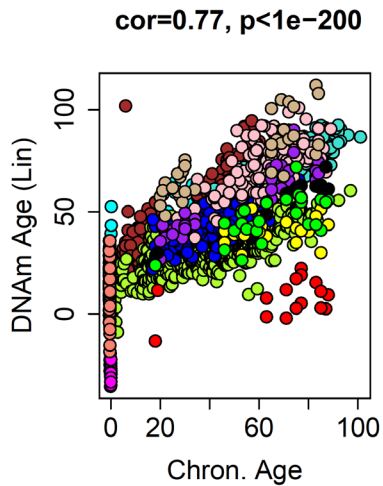
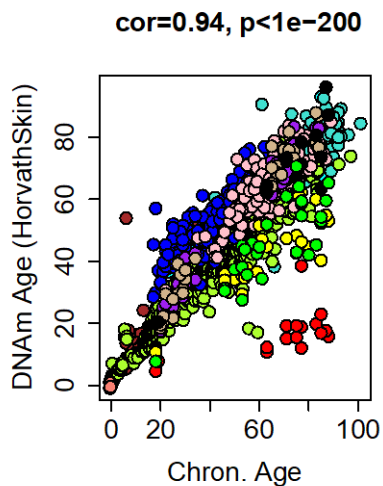
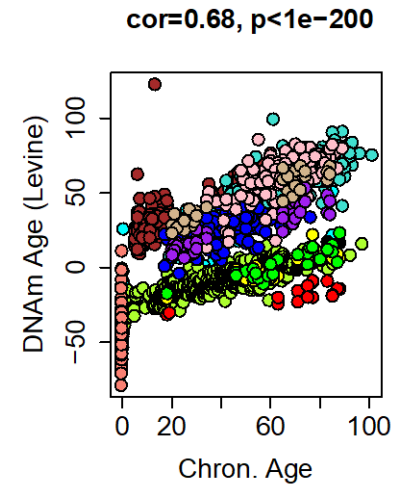
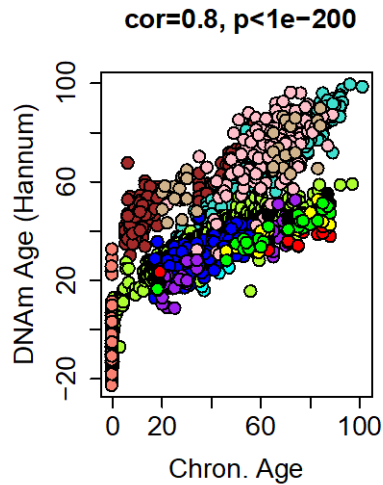
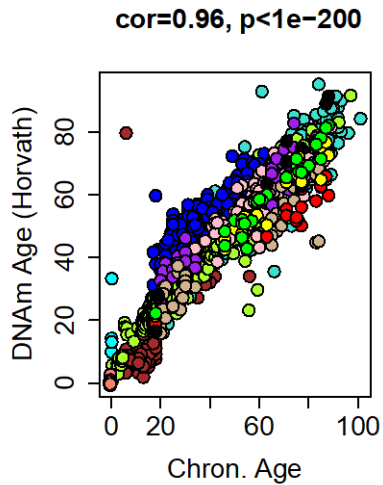


cor=0.95,  $p < 1e-200$



2<sup>nd</sup> Generation:  
Aging Outcome Predictors  
Supervised machine learning  
to predict age-related outcomes  
from hundreds of CpGs

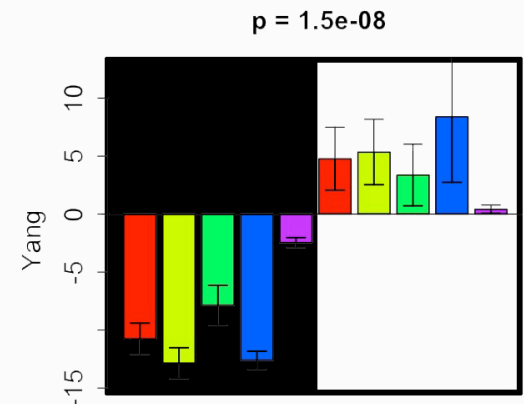
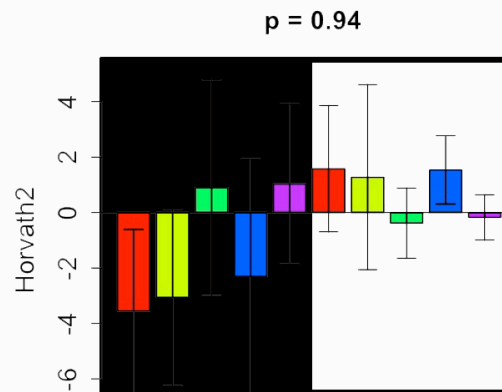
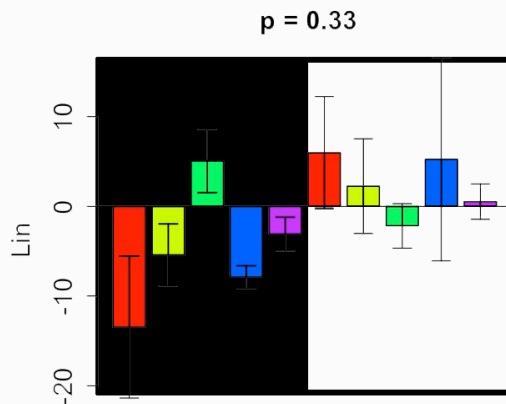
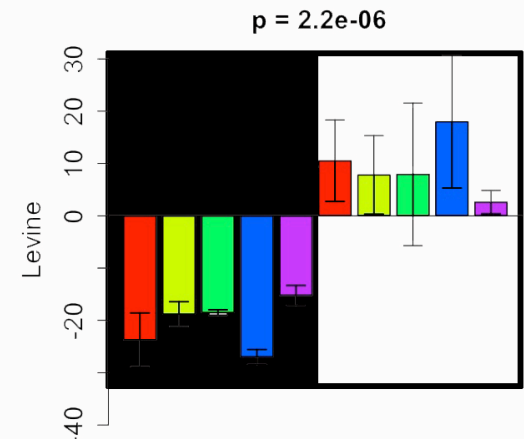
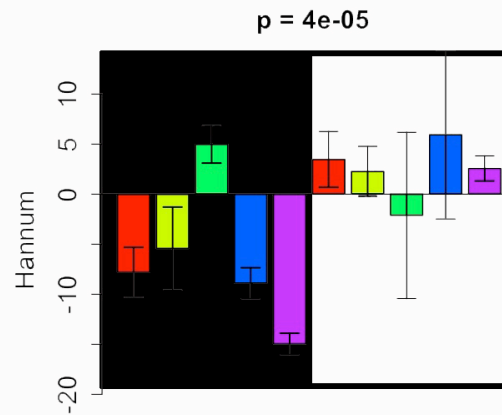
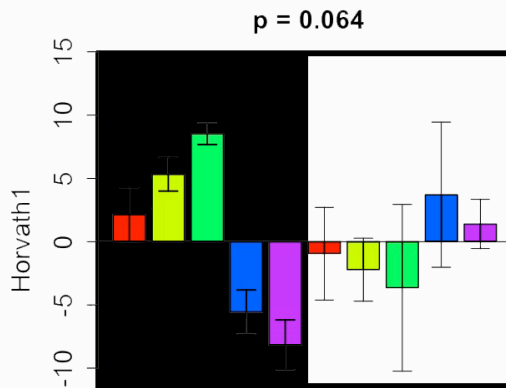
# Epigenetic Clocks



# Epigenetic Clocks

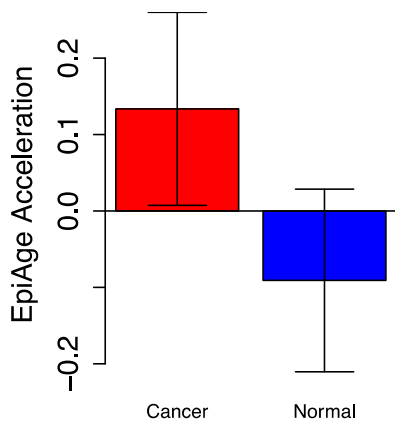
Normal Tumor

breast, colon, lung, pancreas, thyroid

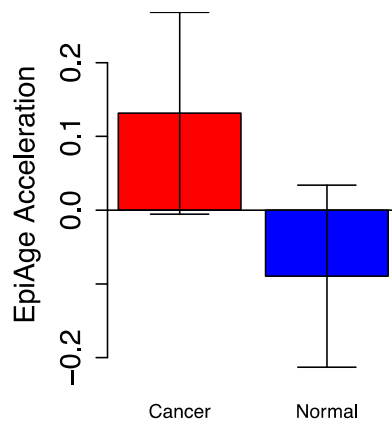


# Epigenetic Clocks

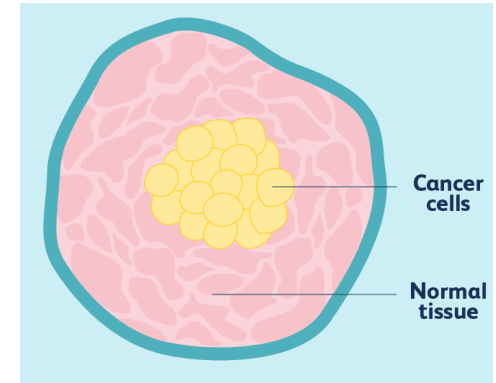
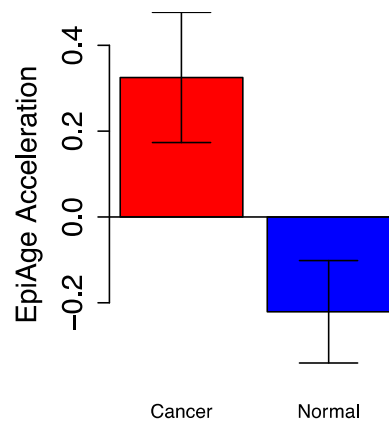
Horvath1 p = 0.21



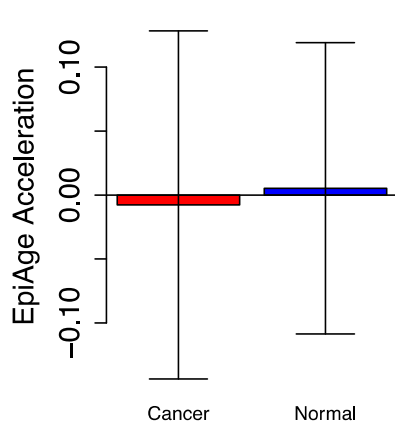
Hannum p = 0.23



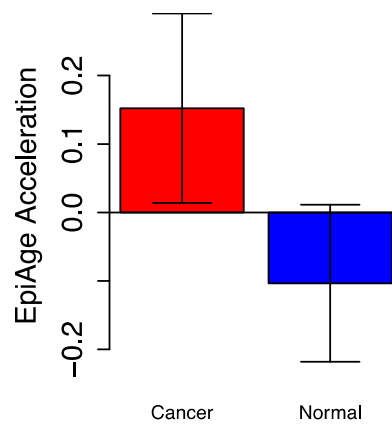
Levine p = 0.0023



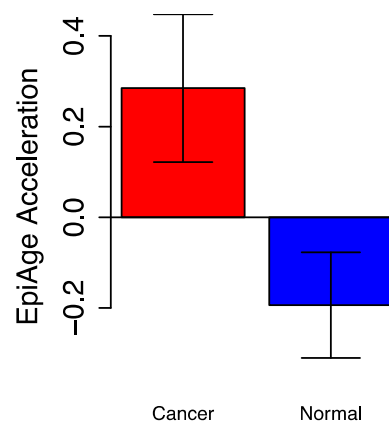
Lin p = 0.88



Horvath2 p = 0.19



Yang p = 0.01



# Epigenetic Clocks



alarm clock

taking apart

© photo by Gabriel Menashe | 06/2013  
takingapart.com

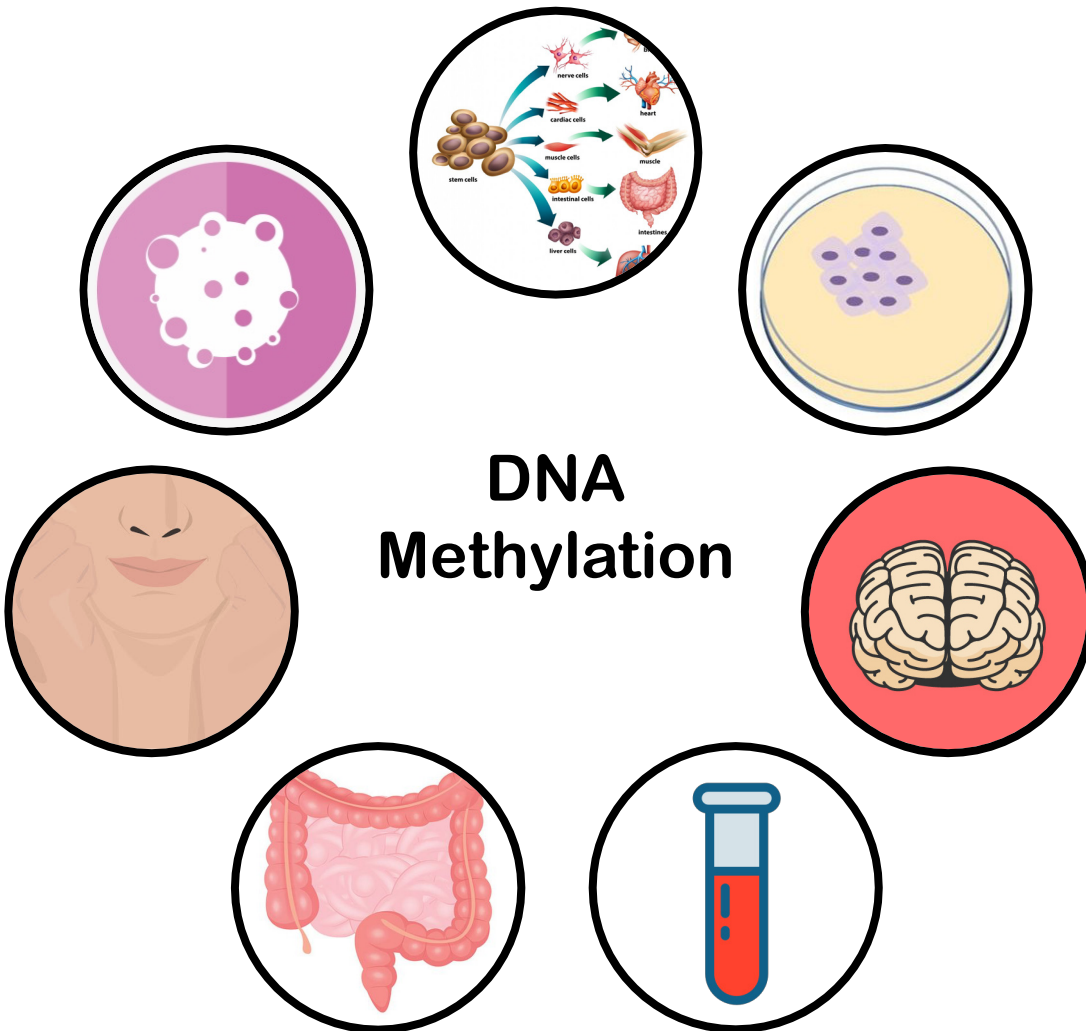


**DNAm can capture a lot of cellular/molecular changes.**

**What are the core signals (parts) being captured by the clocks?**

**Are there shared signals across aging phenomena and/or tissues?**

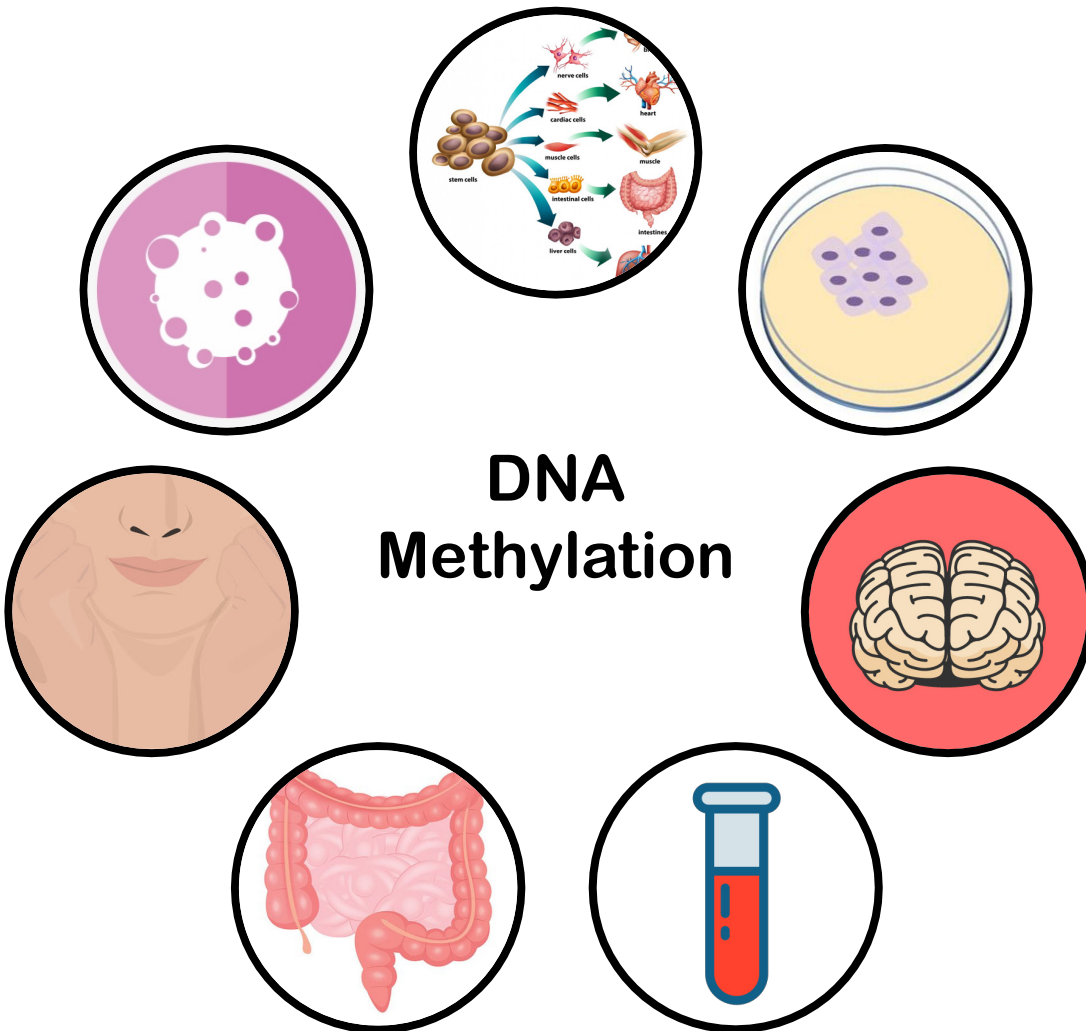
# Shared DNAm Signals



## PCA in 9 Datasets

Whole blood  
Adult Brain  
Developmental Brain  
Dermis  
Epidermis  
Senescence  
iPSC/Reprogramming  
Tumor/Normal

# Shared DNAm Signals

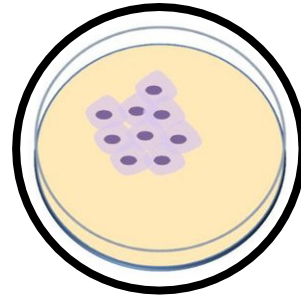
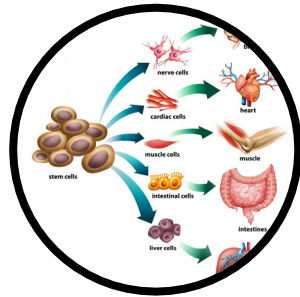


## PCA in 9 Datasets

Whole blood  
Adult Brain  
Developmental Brain  
Dermis  
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Senescence  
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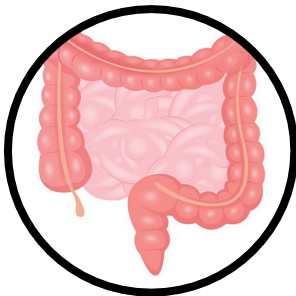
Estimate top 10 PCs in all datasets (n=90 variables in each dataset)

# Shared DNAm Signals



**10 of the 90 PCs  
had consistent  
age and/or aging-  
outcome  
associations  
across all 9  
datasets**

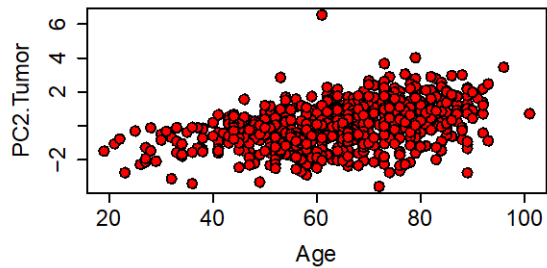
**DNA  
Methylation**



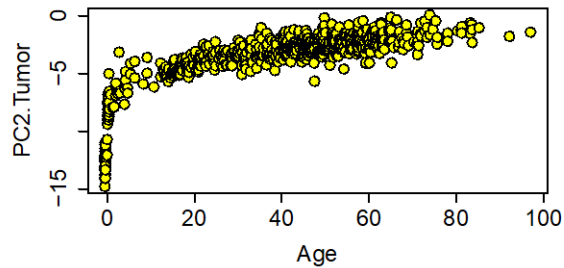


# Shared DNAm Signals

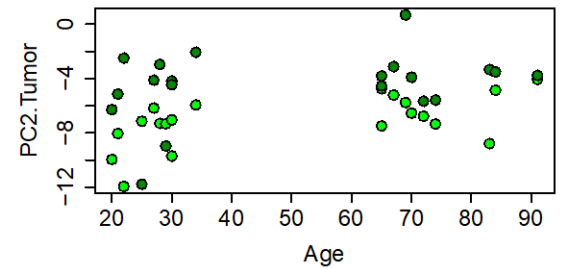
Blood bicor=0.42,  $p=2e-29$



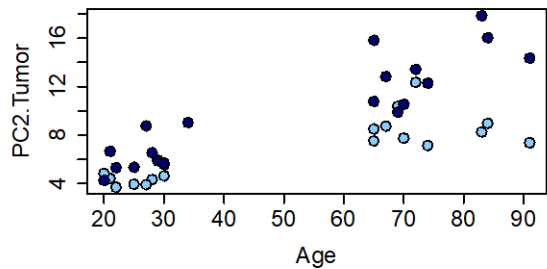
DLPFC bicor=0.71,  $p=1.4e-104$



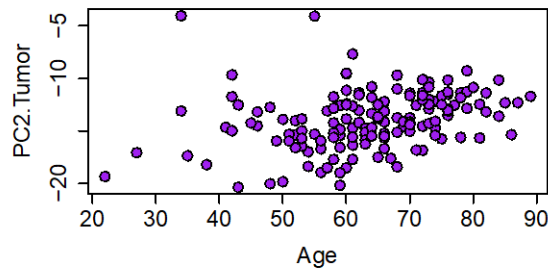
Dermis bicor=0.35,  $p=0.027$



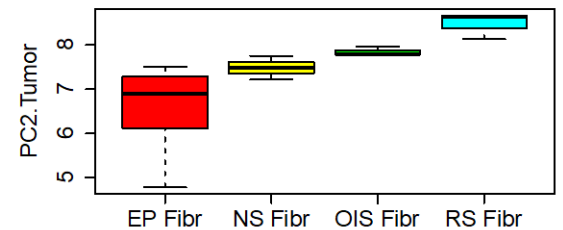
Epidermis bicor=0.6,  $p=6.8e-05$



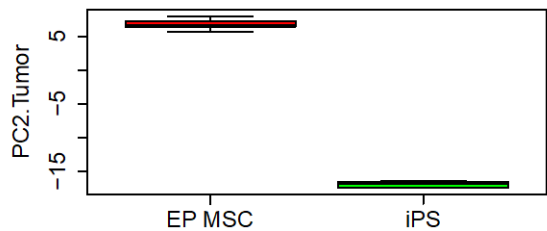
Colon bicor=0.38,  $p=1.8e-06$



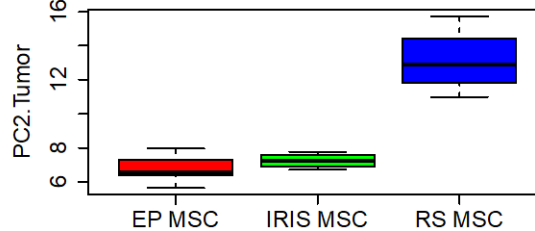
Sen  $p = 0.0085$



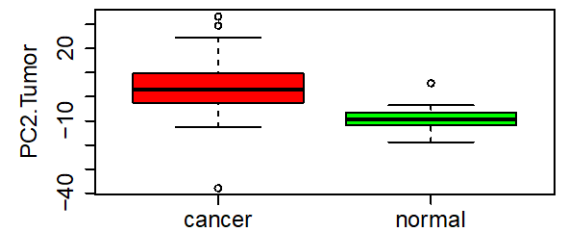
IPSC  $p = 0.0062$



IPSC  $p = 0.017$

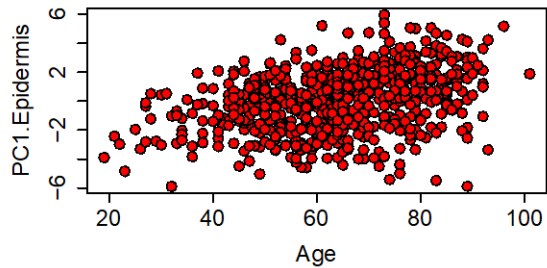


Tumor  $p = 2.2e-05$

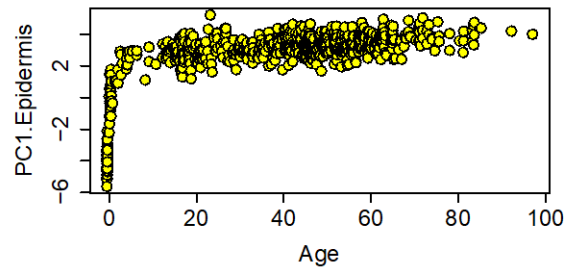


# Shared DNAm Signals

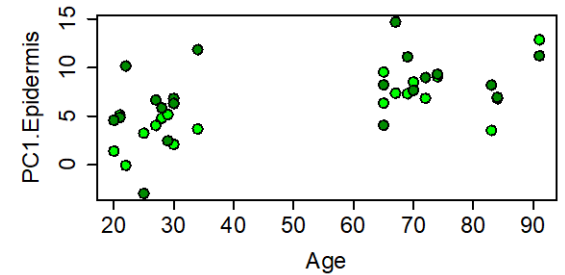
Blood bicor=0.37,  $p=1e-22$



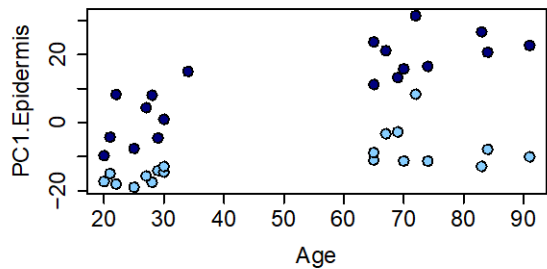
DLPFC bicor=0.48,  $p=3.4e-40$



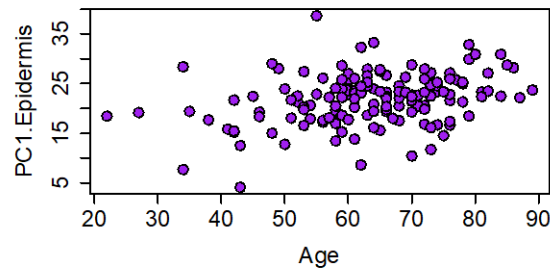
Dermis bicor=0.59,  $p=6.2e-05$



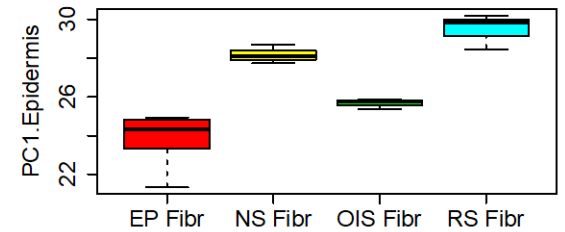
Epidermis bicor=0.28,  $p=0.089$



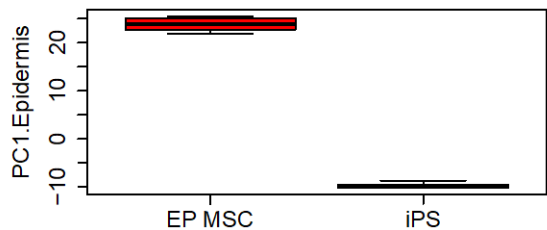
Colon bicor=0.32,  $p=6.9e-05$



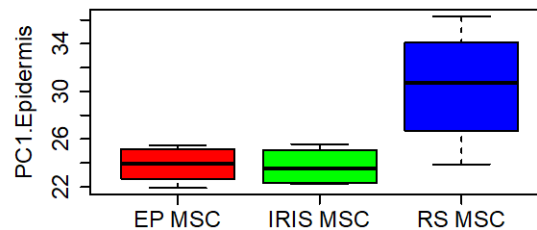
Sen  $p = 0.0057$



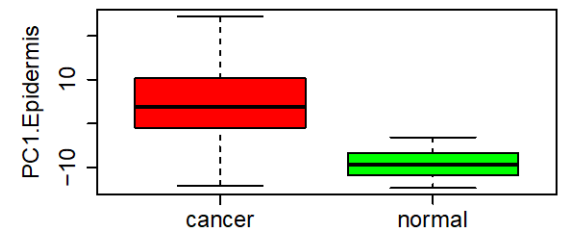
IPSC  $p = 0.0062$



IPSC  $p = 0.13$



Tumor  $p = 3.5e-07$



# Conclusions

Does biological aging in a tissue predispose it to tumorigenesis?

- Aging/Cancer: probability with time vs. causal driver

Preliminary Evidence for Aging → Cancer

1. One can estimate “aging” in various tissues using DNAm.
2. For most clocks, tissues show different rates of aging.
3. DNAmAge can differentiate tumor versus normal tissue (acceleration in cancer).
4. DNAmAge can differentiate normal breast tissue in women with history of breast cancer versus controls.
5. DNAm patterns in cancer apply to other tissues.
  1. Correlate with age in blood, brain, skin, colon
  2. Accelerated in skin exposed to sun
  3. Accelerated in senescent cells (oncogene induced and replicative)

# Acknowledgements



Laboratory for  
AGING IN LIVING SYSTEMS

## Current Members

Kyra Thrush (PhD Student Computational Biology)  
Albert Higgins-Chen (Post Doc)  
John Gonzalez (PhD Student in Molecular Medicine)  
Margarita Meer (Assistant Research Scientist)  
Diana Leung (PhD Student Computational Biology)  
Chris Minter (PhD Student in Molecular Medicine)

## Former Members

Zuyun Liu (Former Post Doc)



National Institut  
on Aging



**GLENN FOUNDATION**  
FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

Human Immunology Project Consortium

**ELYSIUM**

Yale Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center



# Q&A

# Save the date for the next webinar:

- September 14, 1-2 p.m. ET
  - Speakers: Dr. Hyman Muss and Dr. Grant Williams
- Send speaker suggestions and other feedback to:  
[NCIDCCPSagingwebinar@mail.nih.gov](mailto:NCIDCCPSagingwebinar@mail.nih.gov)



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