

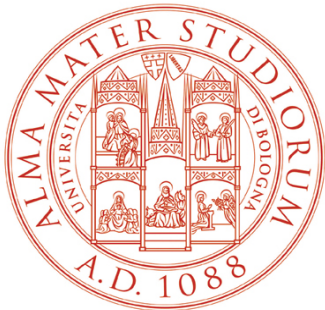
# Biophysics and systems biology of cellular responses to perturbations.

**Gastone.Castellani@unibo.it**

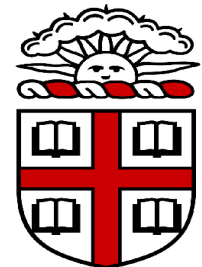
**Castellani G.C., Remondini D., Giampieri E., de Oliveira L., Sala C.,  
Menichetti G., Virelli A., Zironi I.**

Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia, Università di Bologna

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IBNS & Physics Department Brown University Providence RI USA*



Trieste 27-09-2013

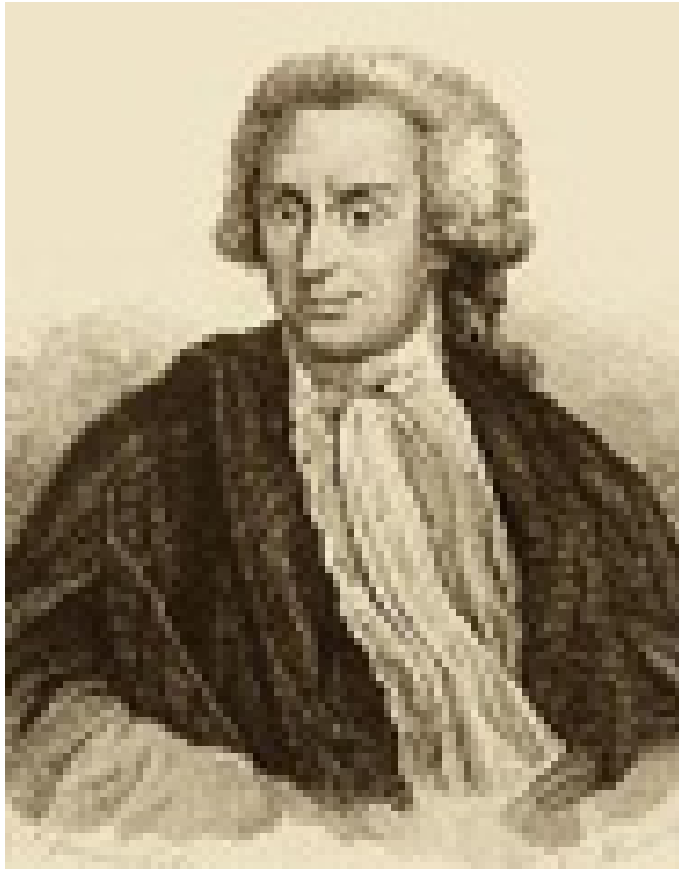


BROWN





**Centro Interdipartimentale  
“L. Galvani” (CIG)  
Università di Bologna  
Italy**



**DNA as the tree of knowledge.**

# Bologna Center for Biocomplexity

2000: L. Galvani Center for integrated studies of Biophysics Bioinformatics and Biocomplexity (<http://www.centrogalvani.unibo.it>) including Systems Biology, Genomics of Longevity and Laser-Plasma Physics.

Bio-immuno-pathological group: expertise in cell culture, sorting and omics measurements: is one of the leading laboratory in Europe and in the World for the study of Aging and senescence in humans, including the centenarians;

Biophysics group: decennial activity in the field of complex cellular function modeling and advanced data analysis, and recently is developing biophysical measurements as patch clamp and fluorescence microscopy.



An intriguing aspect of **Radiation** effect is the **sharing of mechanisms** with **cellular senescence, organismic aging** and **LDR-induced carcinogenesis** in humans as: e.g. the **Free radical theory (FRT)**.

Harman in the 1950s, .

1) the rate of living theory, which holds that lifespan is an inverse function of metabolic rate. In turn, this is proportional to oxygen consumption,

2) hyperbaric oxygen toxicity and radiation toxicity could be explained by the same underlying phenomenon: oxygen free radicals.

# Perspectives

Anecdotal, Historical and Critical Commentaries on Genetics

*Edited by Adam S. Wilkins*

## **The Szilard Hypothesis on the Nature of Aging Revisited**

**Henrik Zetterberg,<sup>\*,1</sup> Magnus Båth,<sup>†,‡</sup> Madeleine Zetterberg,<sup>§,\*\*\*</sup> Peter Bernhardt<sup>†,‡</sup>  
and Ola Hammarsten<sup>††</sup>**

1 aging is the accumulation of damaged chromosomes or genes

2 a certain species is characterized by a certain aging hit rate:

3 aging hits are random events and do not vary interindividually

4 the surviving fraction of functional somatic cells determines the biological age of an individual:



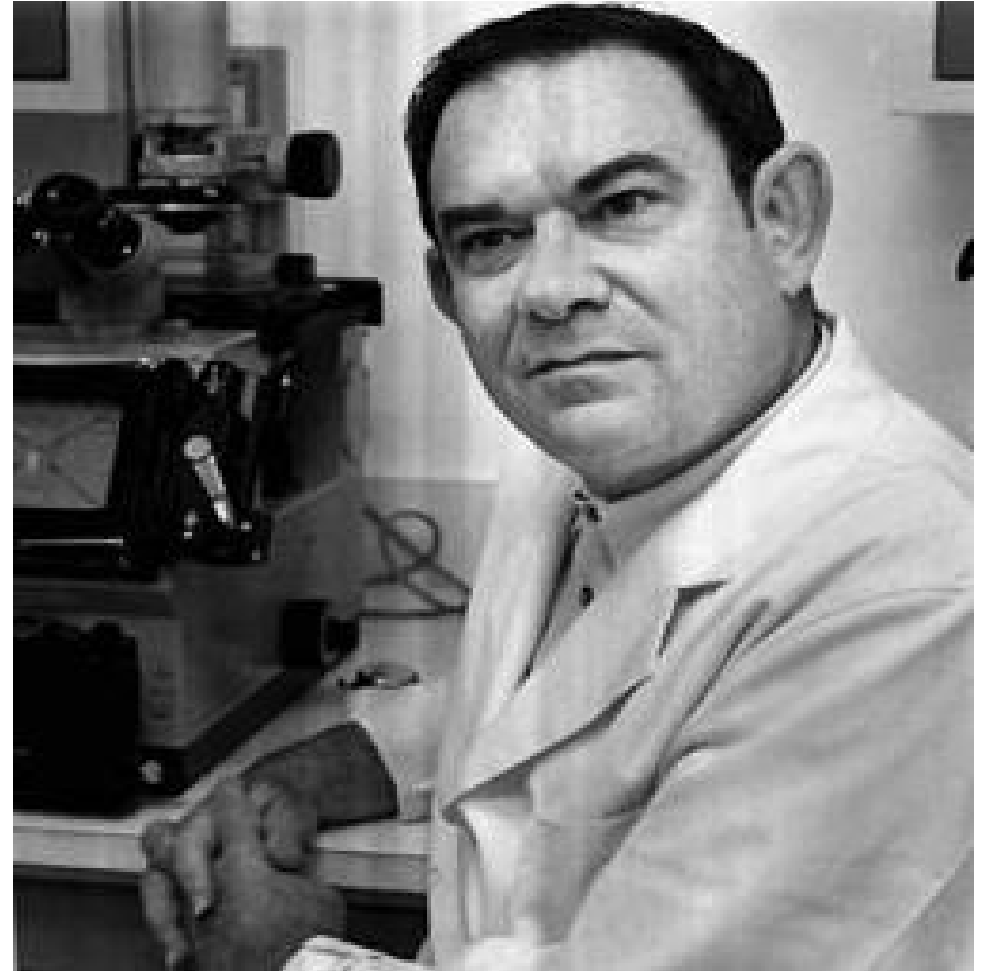
# Cellular senescence

Normal diploid cells cease to divide, normally after about 50 cell divisions in vitro.

This phenomenon is also known as "**replicative senescence**", the

**"Hayflick phenomenon"**,

or the **Hayflick limit** in honour of Hayflick, 1961.



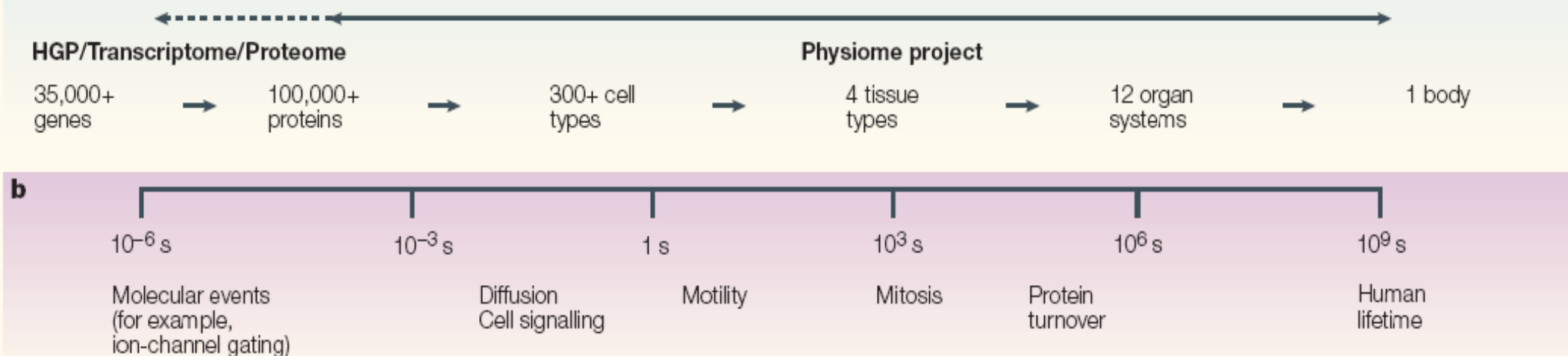
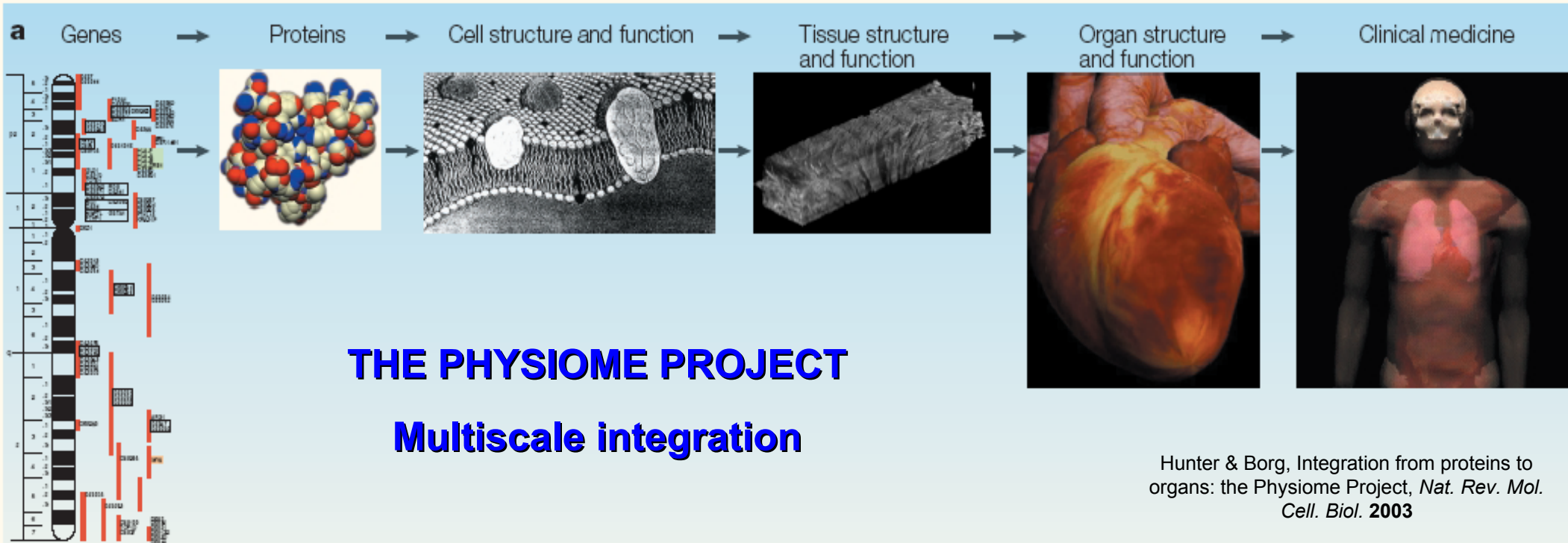
Senescence is a multiscale and stochastic process:

level of the whole organism  
(organismal senescence)

level of its individual cells  
(cellular senescence).

The relations between these two processes  
are still not clear





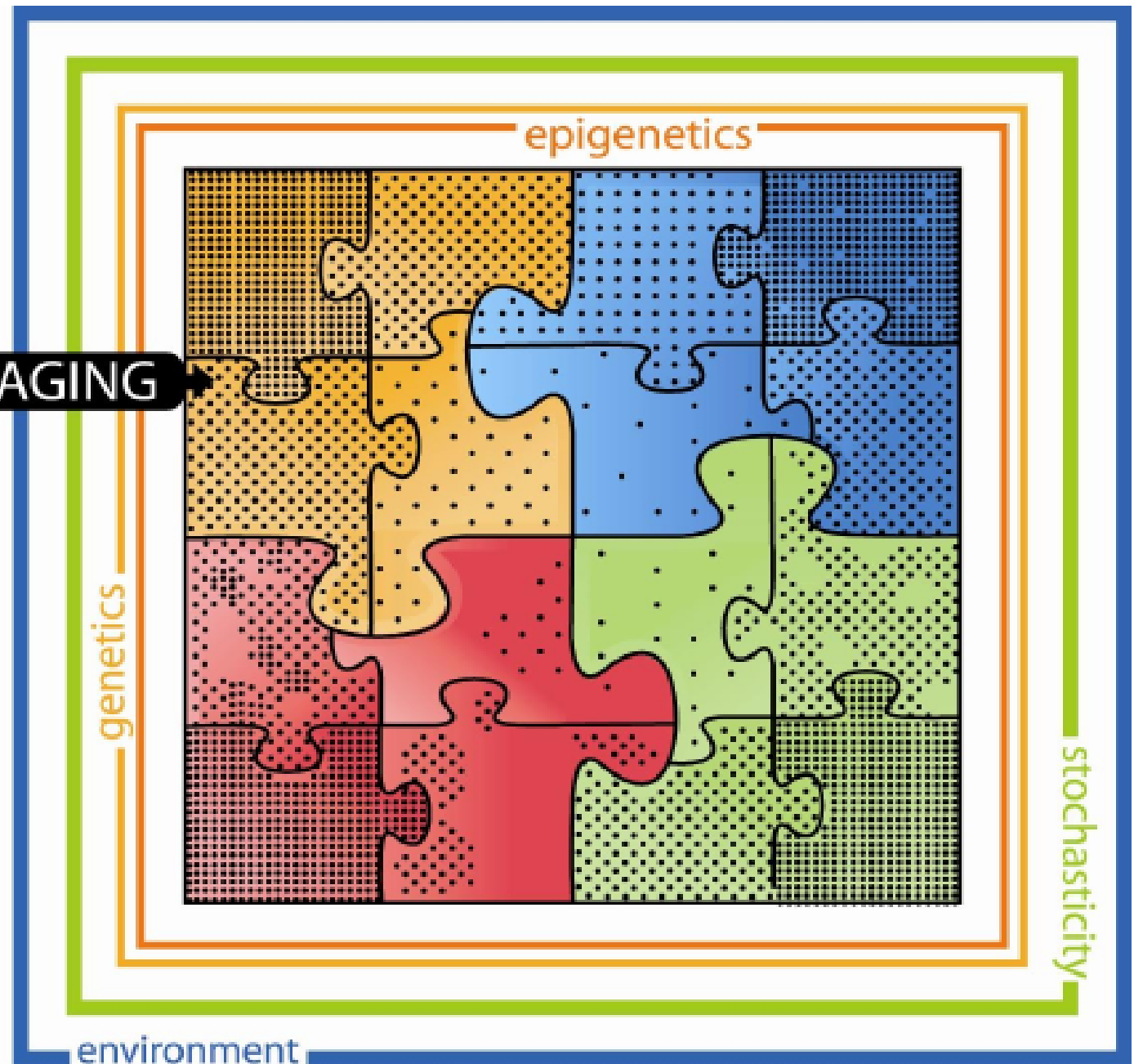
**L'organizzazione a livelli multipli di scale spaziali (da 1 nm per le proteine a 1 m per l'intero corpo) e temporali (da 10<sup>-6</sup> s a livello molecolare a 10<sup>9</sup> s per l'intero corpo) richiede una gerarchia di modelli**

# The mosaic of aging

great variability  
at all levels  
of biological  
organization:

- macromolecules
- organelles
- cells
- organs
- individuals
- populations

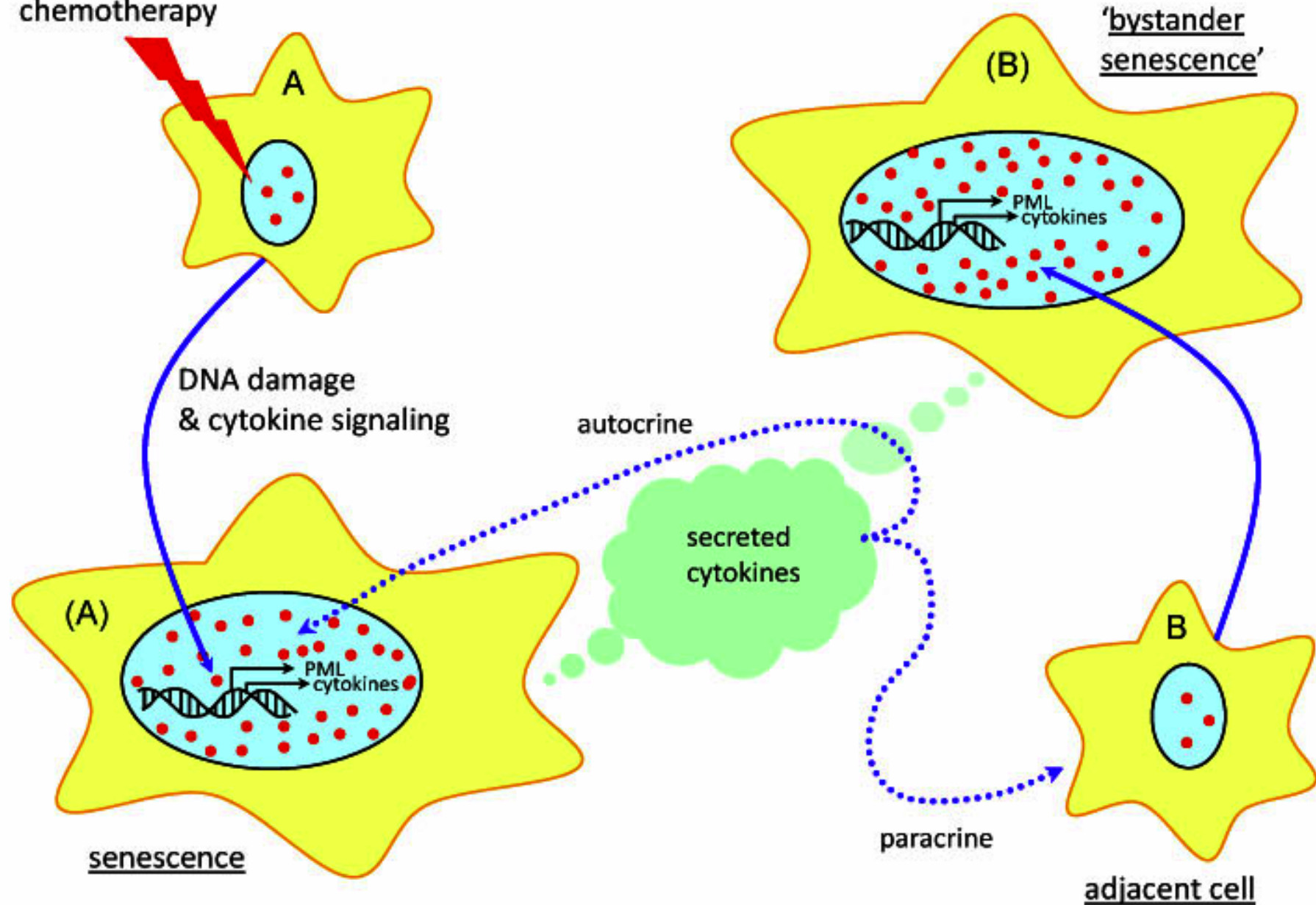
AGING



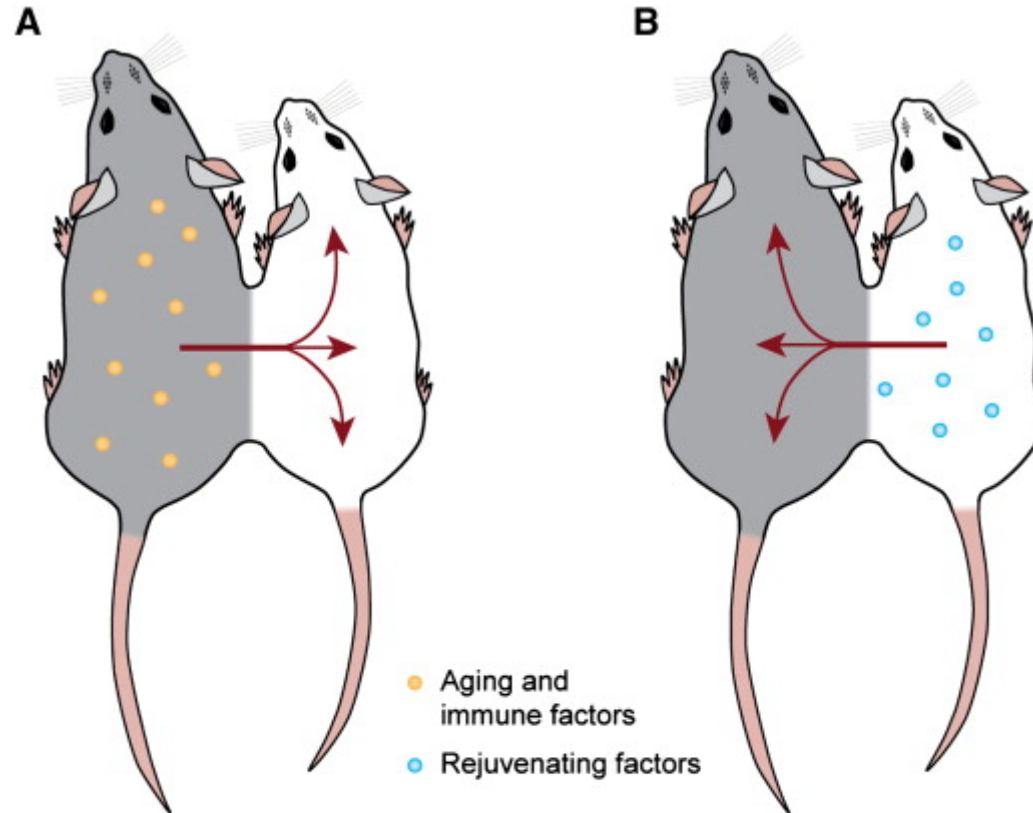


# Ionizing Radiations

Genotoxic stress  
chemotherapy



# Parabiosis experiment



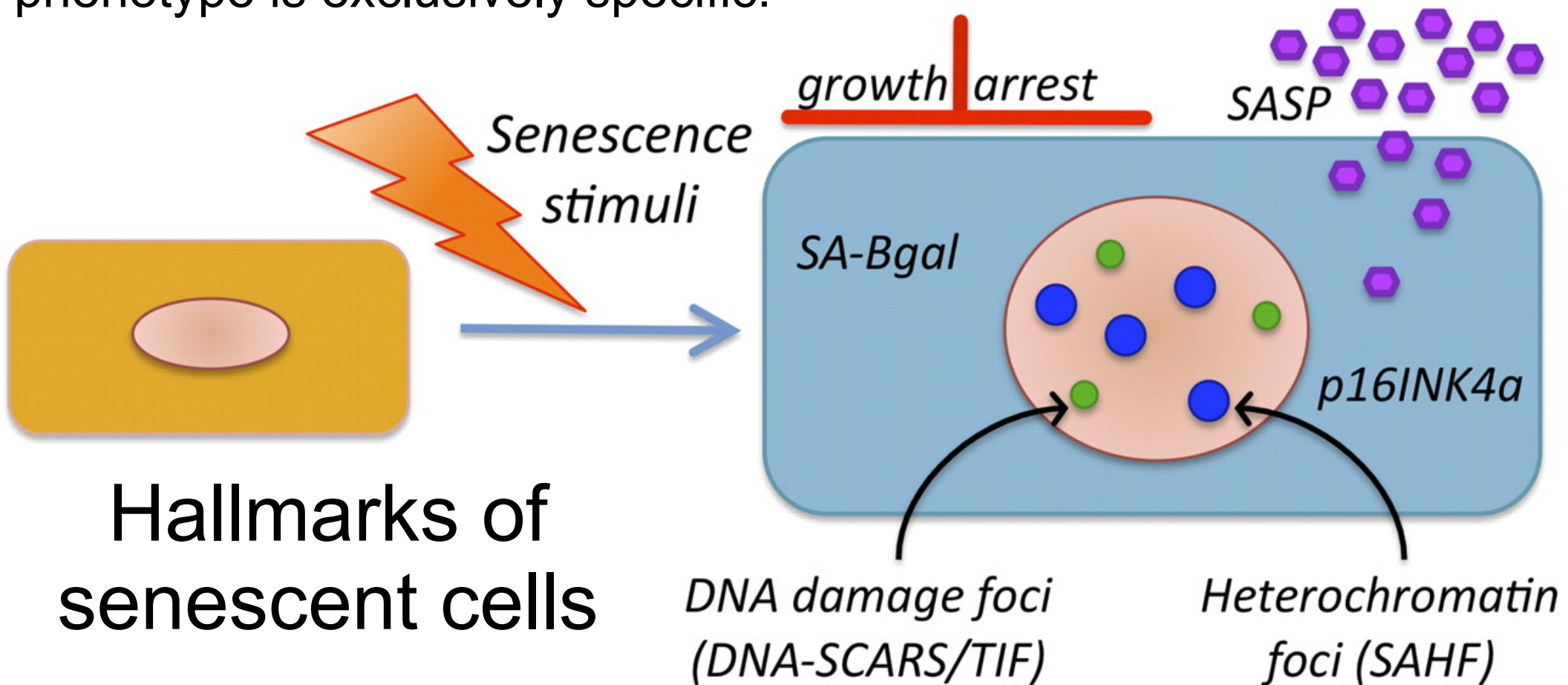
## Aging

- Decreased neurogenesis
- Impaired synaptic plasticity
- Impaired cognition

## Rejuvenation

- Increased neurogenesis
- Unknown effect on synaptic plasticity?
- Unknown effect on cognition?

Senescent cells differ from nondividing (quiescent, terminally differentiated), even if no single feature of the senescent phenotype is exclusively specific.



## Hallmarks of senescent cells

Irreversible growth arrest; Expression of SA-Bgal and p16INK4a; Robust secretion of numerous growth factors, cytokines, proteases, and other proteins (SASP); Nuclear foci containing DDR proteins (DNA-SCARS/TIF) or heterochromatin (SAHF).

# Systemic character of Radiobiology

Radiation causes "mutation, cancer and aging":

Oxygen free radicals produced during normal respiration would cause cumulative damage which would eventually lead to organismal loss of functionality, and ultimately death.

Free radical damage within cells has been linked to diseases as: cancer, atherosclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, and diabetes.

Free radicals play an important role in cellular processes such as phagocytosis, inflammation, and apoptosis.

Diffusible factors induce the spreading of damage to the other cells/tissues/organs



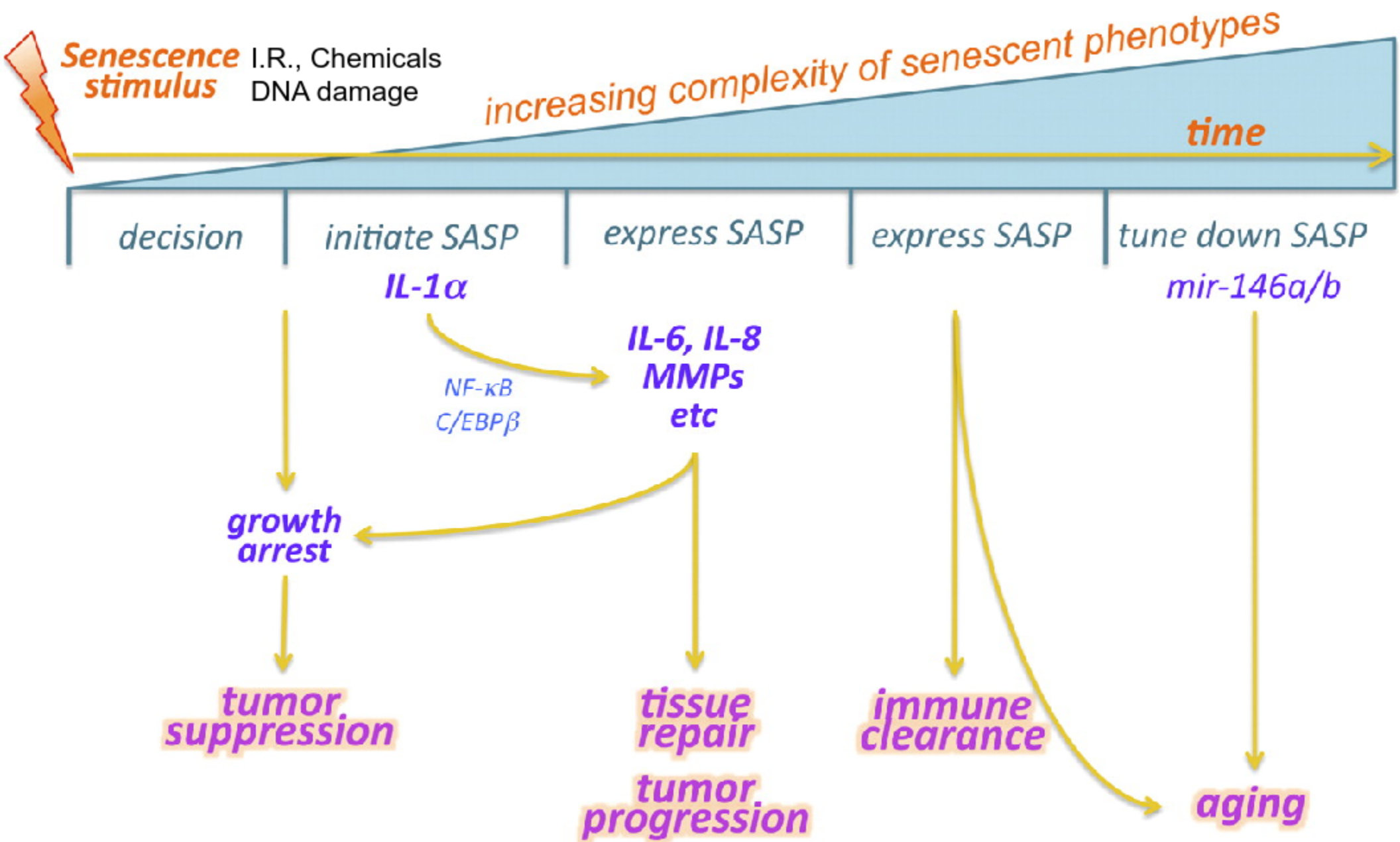
# Ionizing Radiations can induce senescence and Radiation Associated Secretory Phenotype (RASP)

than can be the mechanism of the Bystander  
effect

J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2013 May 20.

Ionizing Radiation Promotes the Acquisition of a Senescence-Associated Secretory Phenotype and Impairs Angiogenic Capacity in Cerebromicrovascular Endothelial Cells: Role of Increased DNA Damage and Decreased DNA Repair Capacity in Microvascular Radiosensitivity.

Ungvari Z, Podlutzky A, Sosnowska D, Tucsek Z, Toth P, Deak F, Gautam T, Csiszar A, Sonntag WE.



Ionizing radiation act as a multiscale and stochastic process:

level of the whole organism  
(organismal effect)

level of its individual cells and molecules  
(cellular and molecular effects).

The relations between these two processes  
are still not clear

Radiat Environ Biophys (2008) 47:3–4

DOI 10.1007/s00411-008-0157-0

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EDITORIAL

# **The first international workshop on Systems Radiation Biology: a new approach to solve old questions**

Herwig G. Paretzke



Cascade of switches can be the mechanism for micro-macro transition and vice-versa

Senescence can take place at various levels:

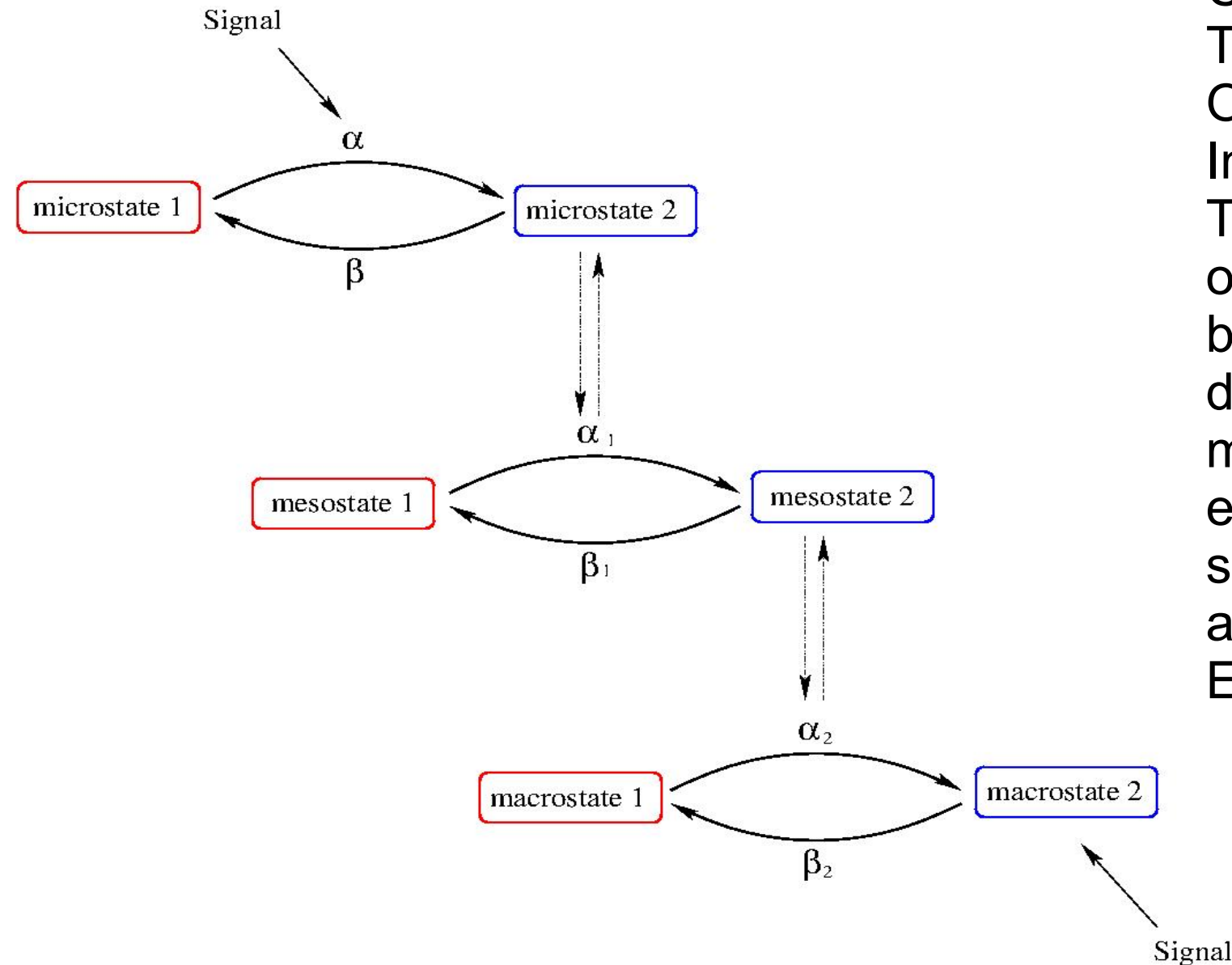
Cells

Tissues

Organs

Individuals

This cascade of switches can be implemented by deterministic methods (differential equation) and stochastic methods as Chemical Master Equation (CME).



Cells can also be induced to senescence by signals such as

toxins, irradiation, or the activation of certain oncogenes.

In response to DNA damage (including shortened telomeres), cells either age or undergoes apoptosis, if the damage cannot be easily repaired.

How we can study complex  
phenomena such as

Aging and Radiation Biology?

**Systems Biology!!!**

# What is Systems Biology?

## Classical definition (Kitano et al 2002)

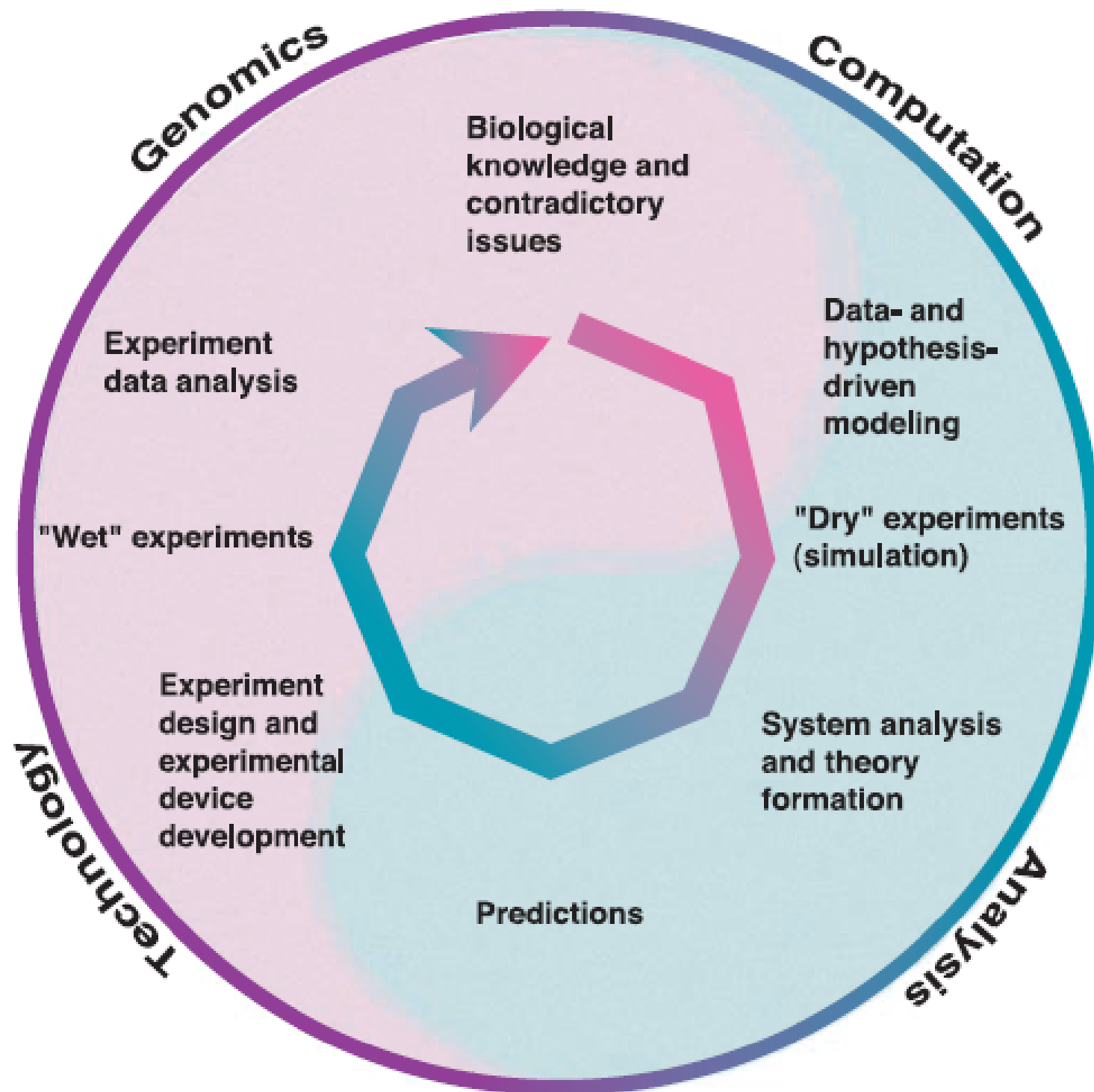
Omics data-Computation-Modeling

Not a new idea (Von Bertalanffy)

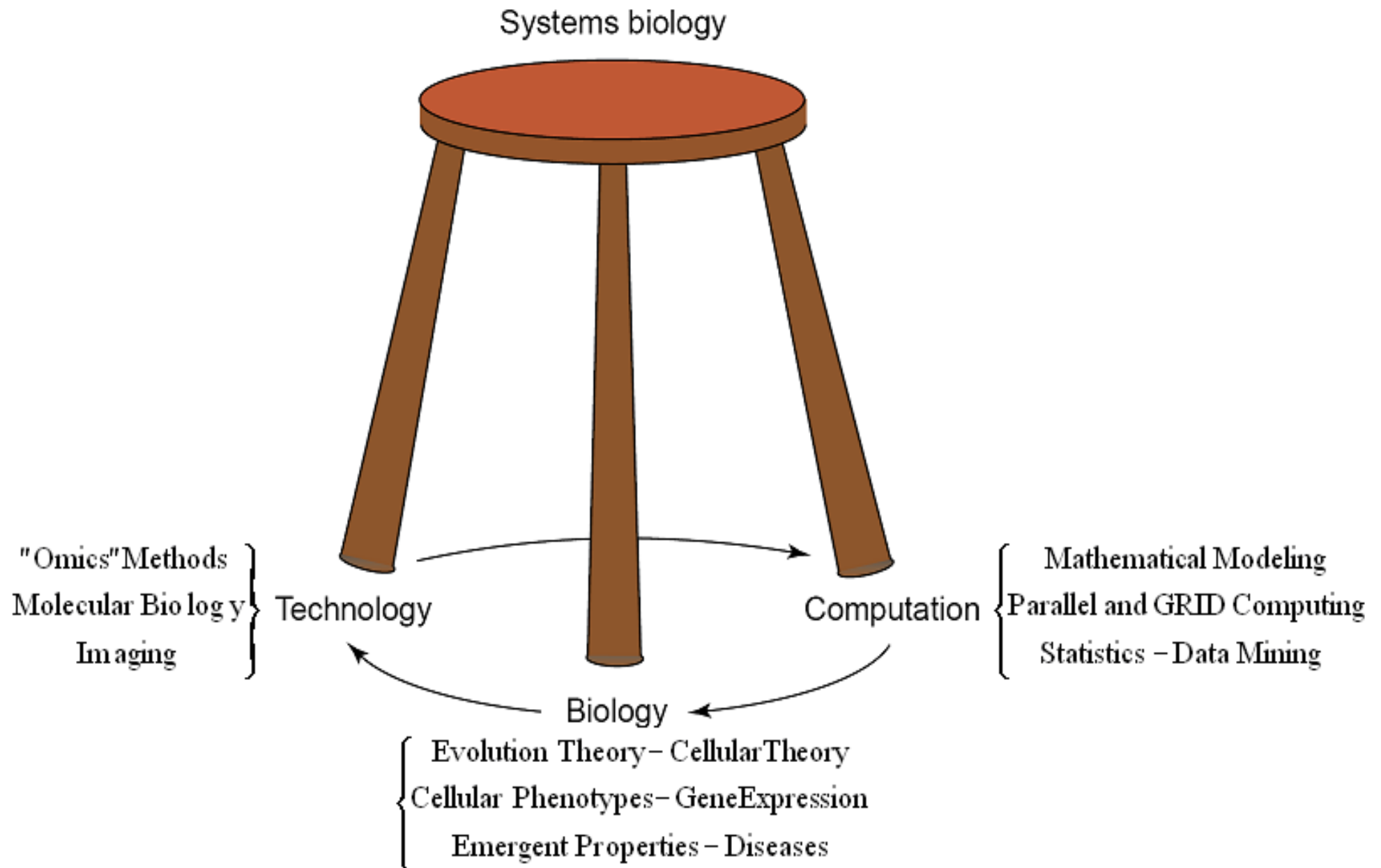
Even older  
scientific method (Galileo)

Hypothesis-Experiments-Model





# The interdisciplinary character of Systems Biology



Genomics Comparative Genomics:

Functional genomics:

Metagenomics:

Epigenomics:

Transcriptomics:

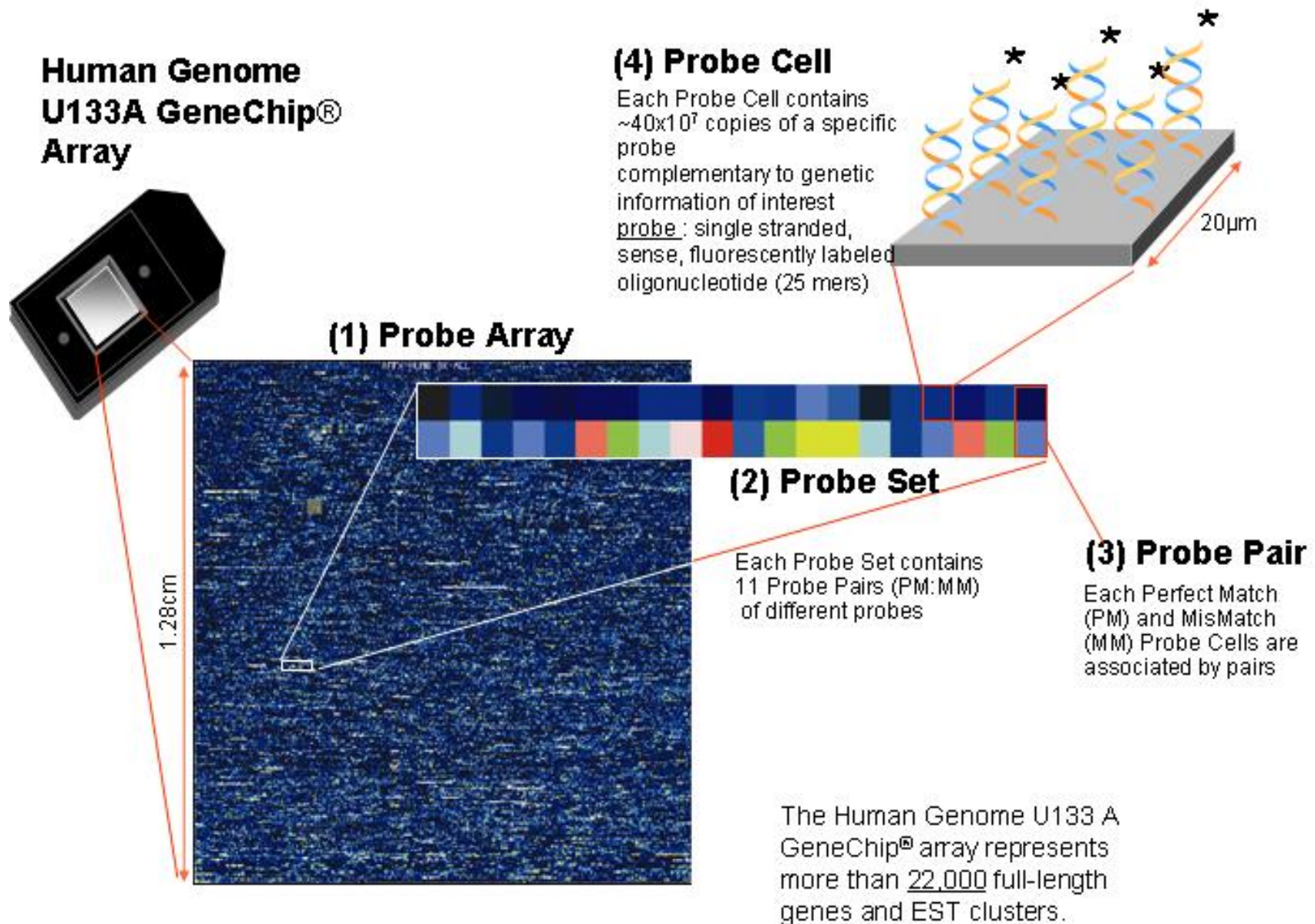
Proteomics: Immunoproteomics:

Nutriproteomics: Proteogenomics:

Metabolomics:

Metabonomics:

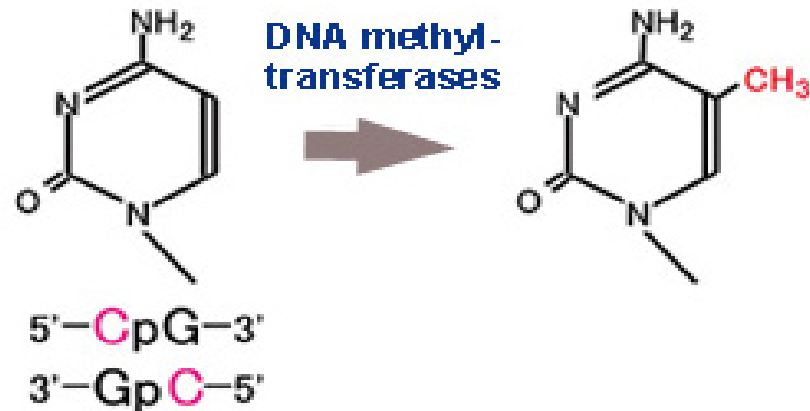
# Chips and Features



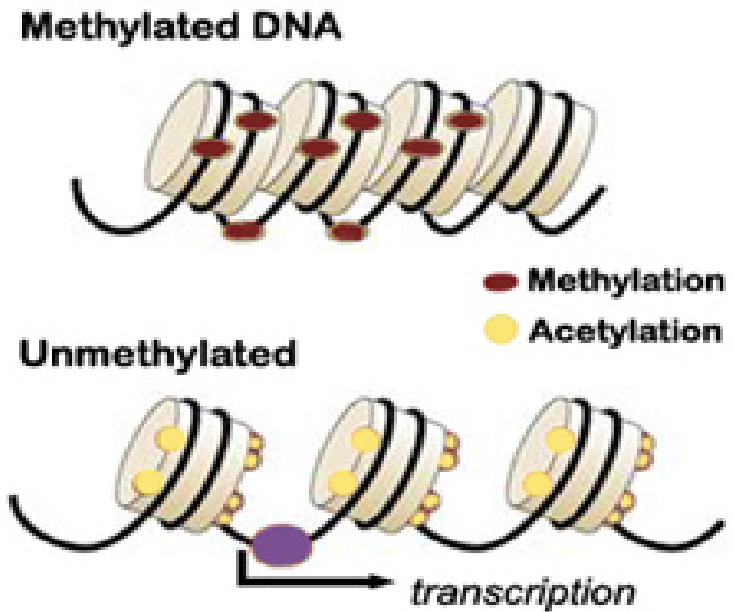


# DNA methylation pattern

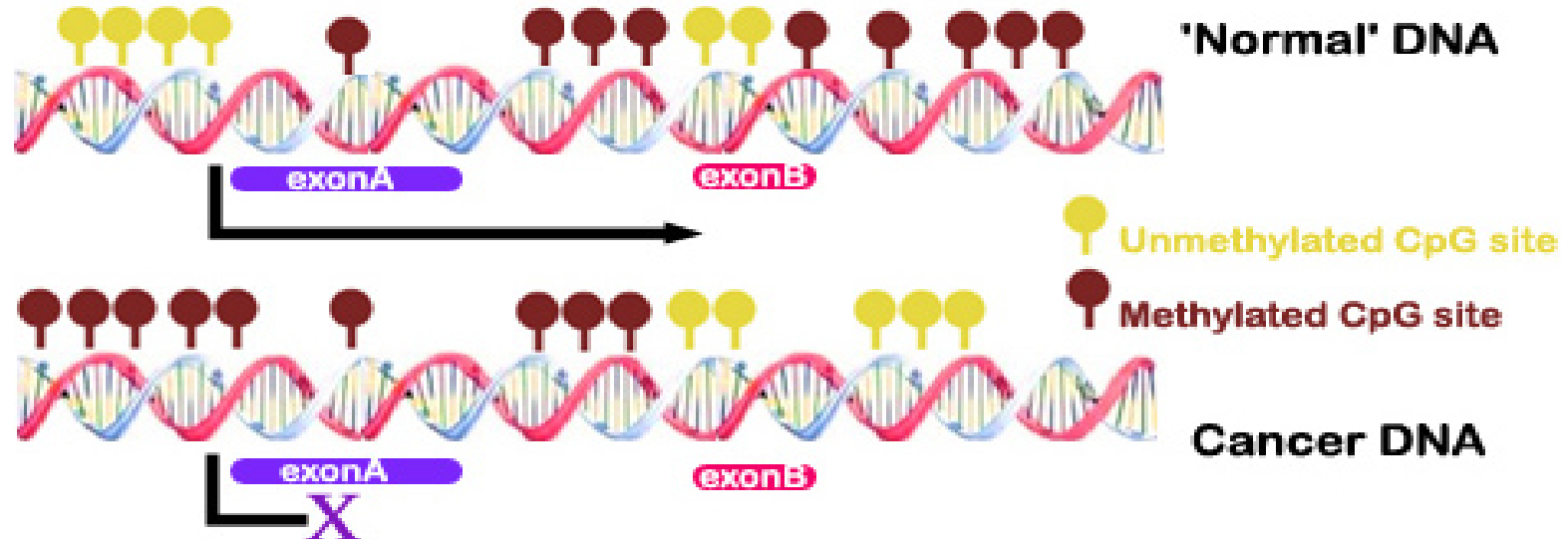
**A**



**B**



**C**



A key ingredient to understand  
cellular response to “perturbation”  
such as ionizing radiation  
is the notion of

BIOLOGICAL(BIOCHEMICAL)  
PATHWAY

Krebs 1930

# **What is a biological Pathway ?**

**We can have at least two good definitions:**

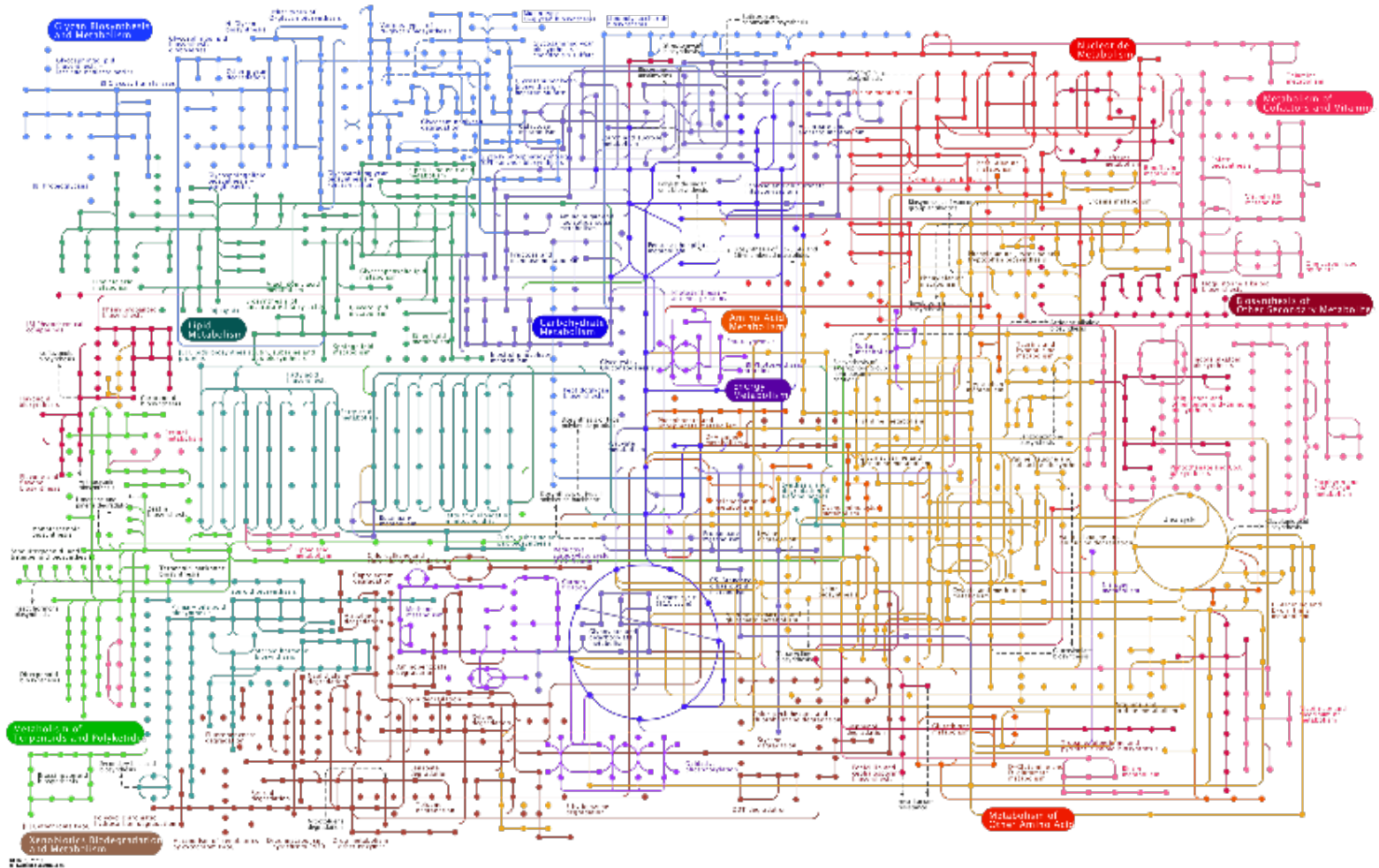
## **Biological**

**Biochemical Pathway: interacting molecules (proteins) that perform a biological function**

## **Physico-computational**

**Molecules that can be clusterized together or that show high correlation (spatial or temporal)**

**Pathways definition:** <http://www.genome.jp/kegg/>  
“a priori biological knowledge”

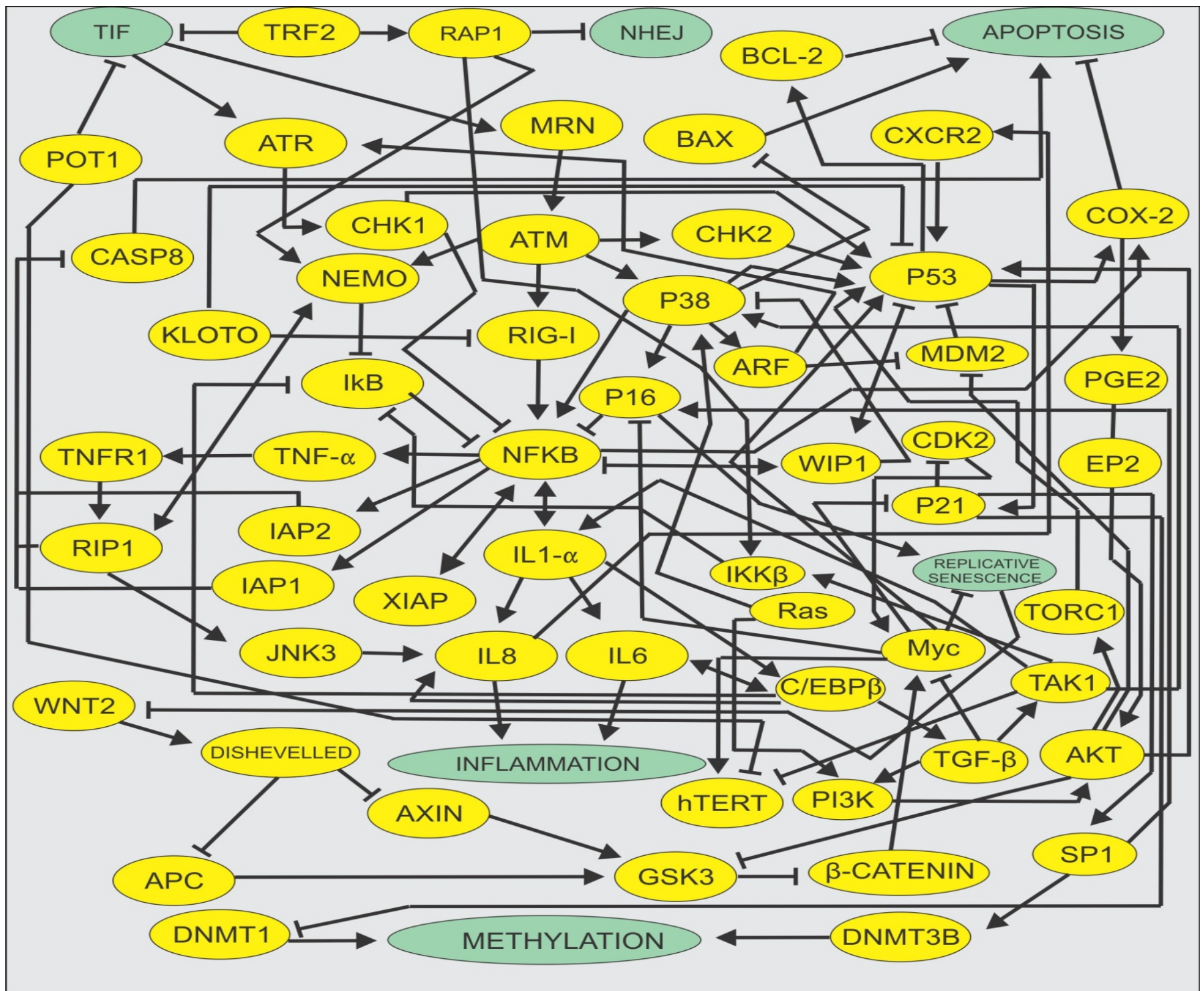


The biological definition of pathway is based on biological knowledge

A biological pathway is a series of reactions among molecules in a cell that leads to a certain product or a function in a cell.

Pathways can be involved in:

- assembly of new molecules (biosynthesis)
- degradation of molecules
- signaling
- etc...





# Pathways identification: Networks-unsupervised

## Keywords:

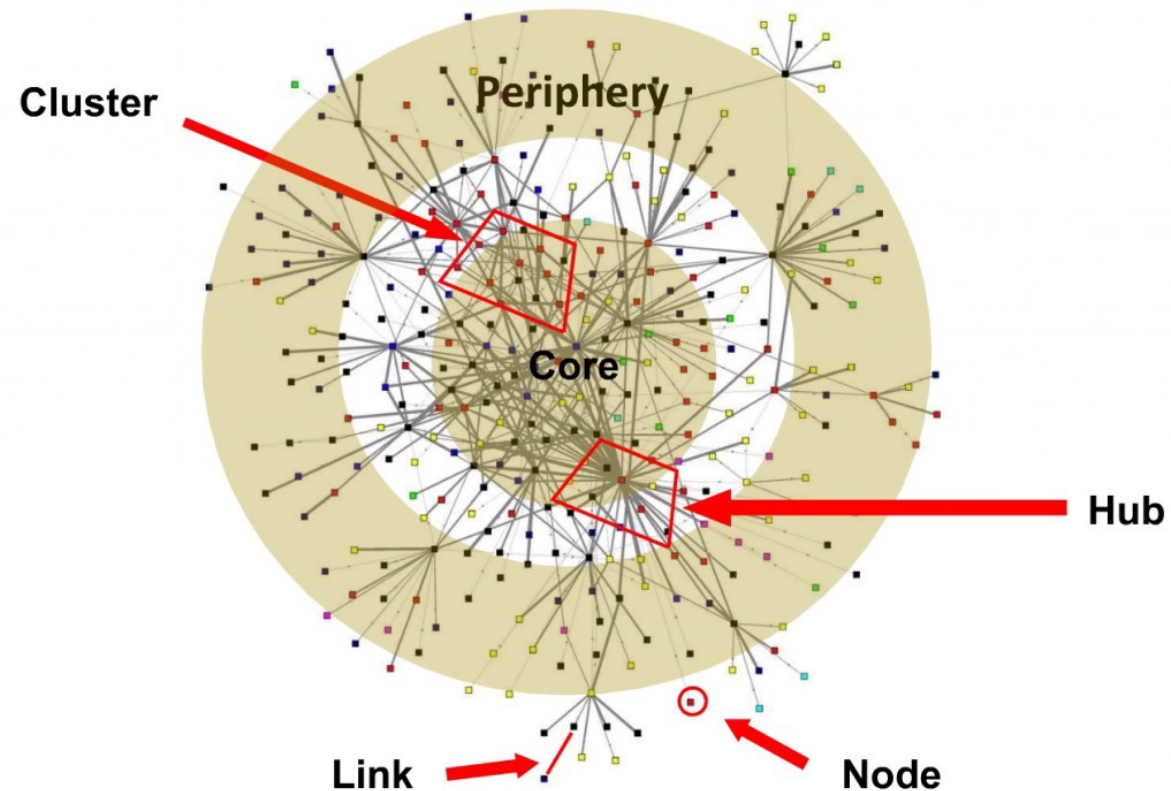
Node

Link

Connectivity

Data driven

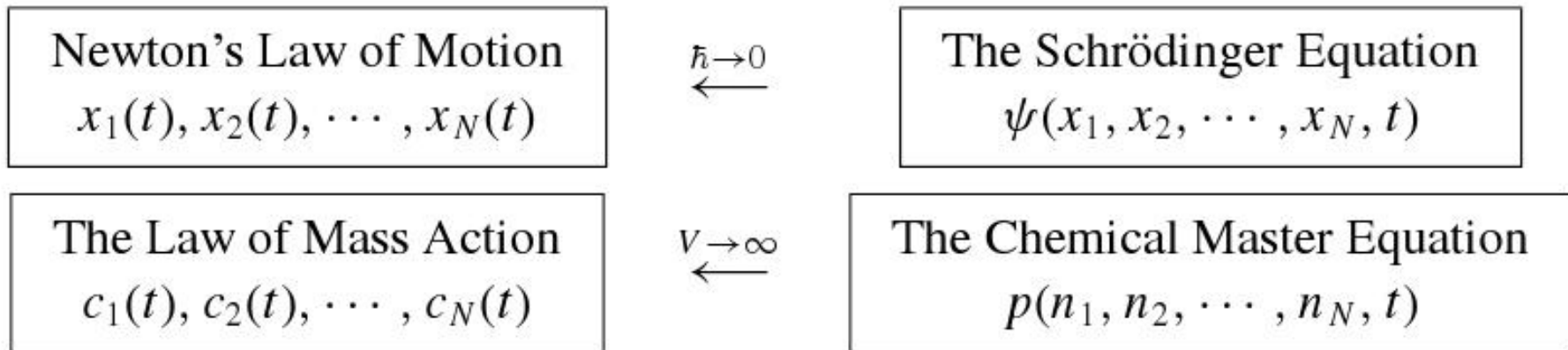
Degree distribution



Main structure  
in complex  
systems

- ✓ No central control
- ✓ Collective behavior
- ✓ Appearance of emergent properties


# Pathways Modeling: Deterministic vs Stochastic description



$$\frac{dp_m(t)}{dt} = \sum_{\ell \neq m} Q_{\ell m} p_{\ell} - \sum_{\ell \neq m} Q_{m \ell} p_m$$

Castellani GC, Bazzani A, Cooper LN. Toward a microscopic model of bidirectional synaptic plasticity. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2009

# Correlation method

- 1) Temporal correlation between genes
  - 2) Correlation between genes over replicas (cell lines)
  - 3) Grouping the correlation for pathways or functional groups
  - 4) Discretization of the correlation matrix 
- Visual representation of interactions (graphical model)

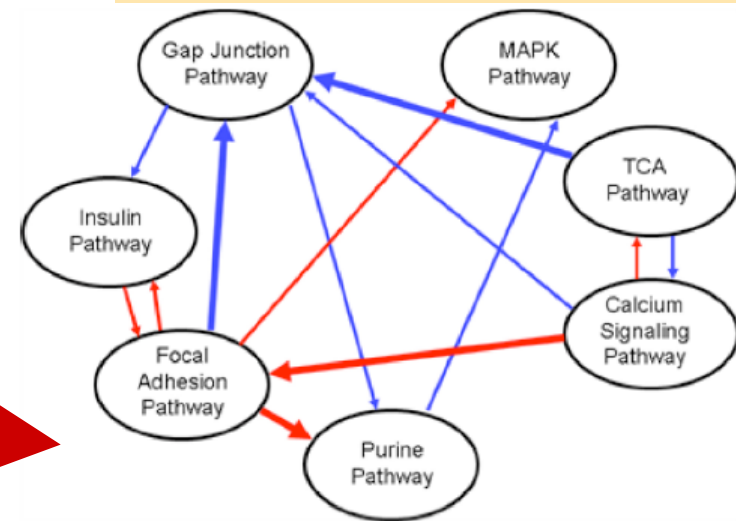
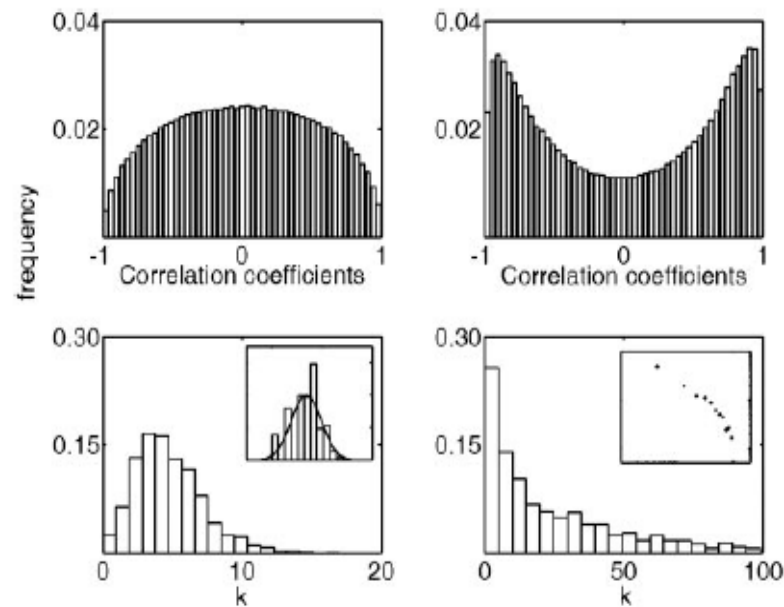
# Connectivity map: Correlation method

## Targeting c-Myc-activated genes with a correlation method: Detection of global changes in large gene expression network dynamics

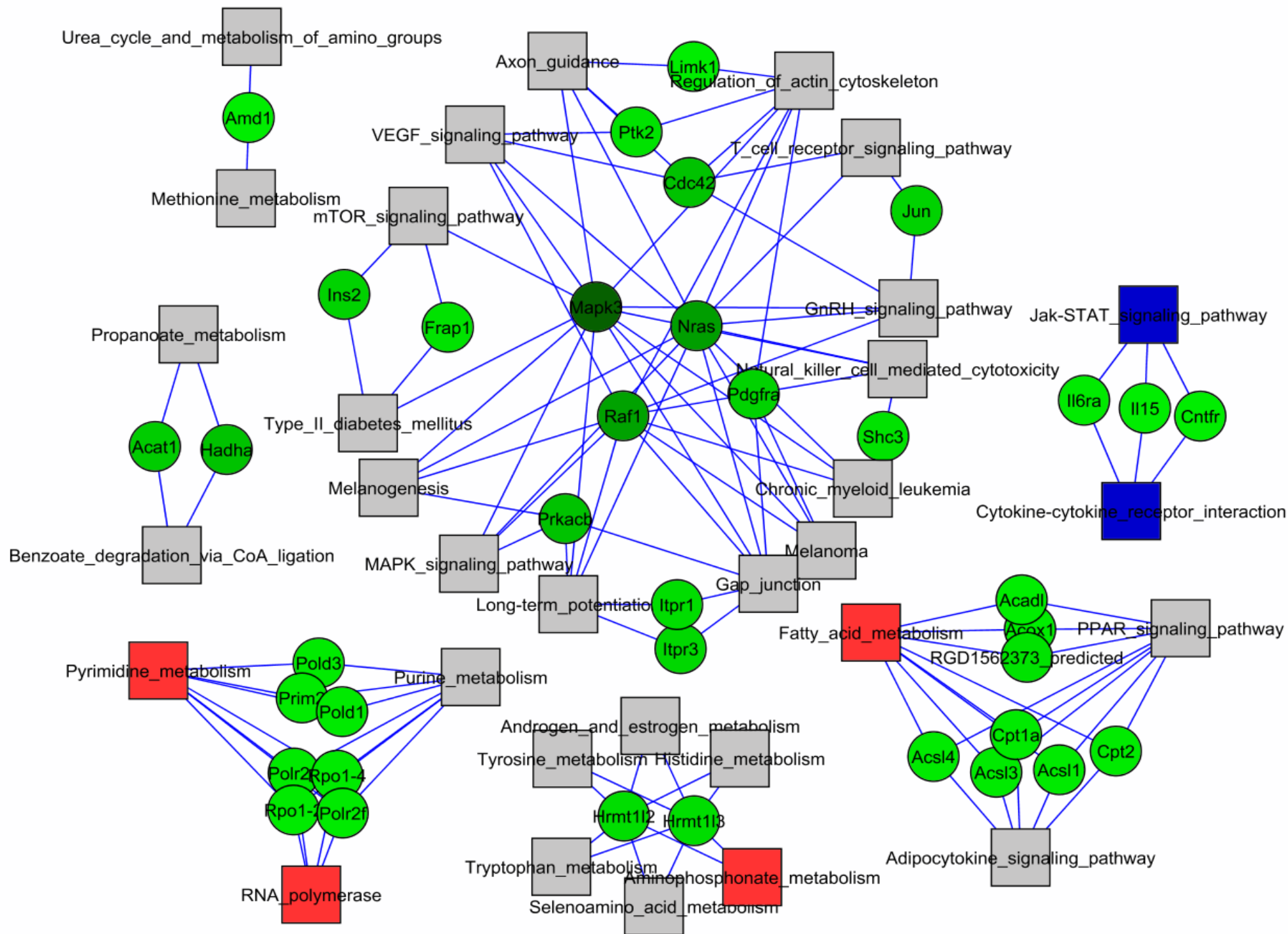
D. Remondini<sup>\*†‡</sup>, B. O'Connell<sup>§</sup>, N. Intrator<sup>||</sup>, J. M. Sedivy<sup>§</sup>, N. Neretti<sup>†¶</sup>, G. C. Castellani<sup>\*†¶\*\*</sup>, and L. N. Cooper<sup>†\*\*\*†</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Dipartimento di Fisica and <sup>†</sup>Galvani Center for Biocomplexity, Università di Bologna, Bologna 40127, Italy; Departments of <sup>§</sup>Molecular Biology, Cell Bi and Biochemistry, <sup>††</sup>Physics, and <sup>†††</sup>Neuroscience and <sup>||</sup>Institute for Brain and Neural Systems, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912; <sup>||</sup>School of Compu Science, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel; and <sup>\*\*</sup>Dipartimento di Morfologia Veterinaria e Produzioni Animali, Università di Bologna, Ozzano Emilia 40064, Italy

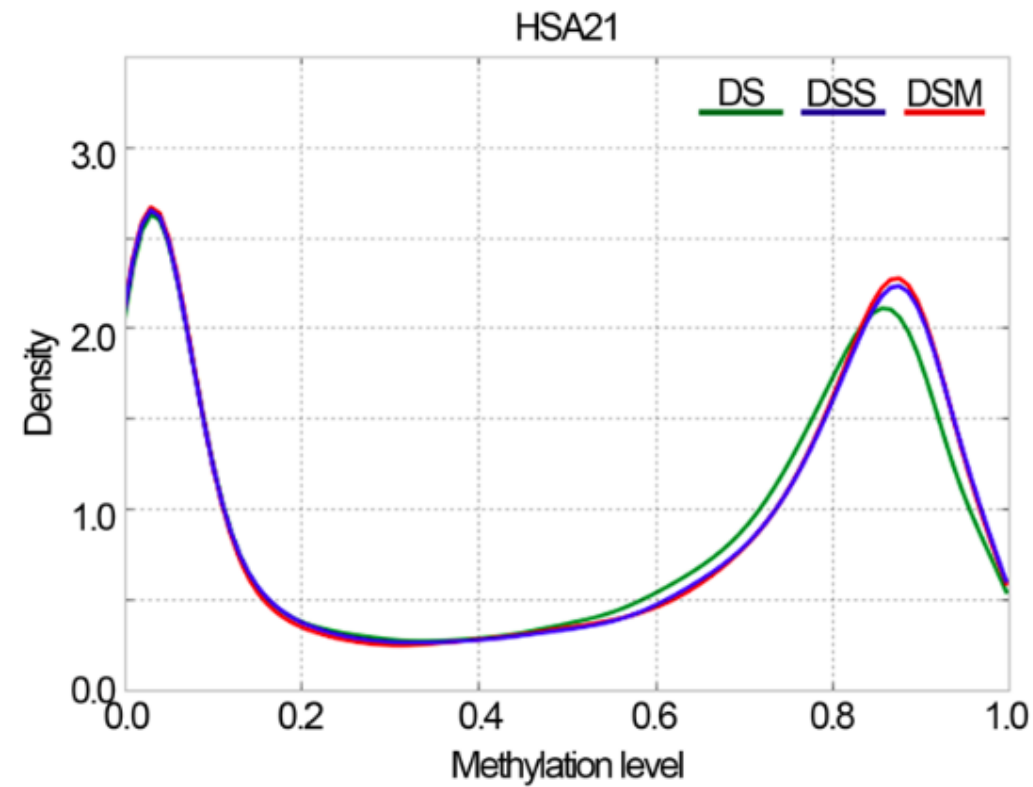
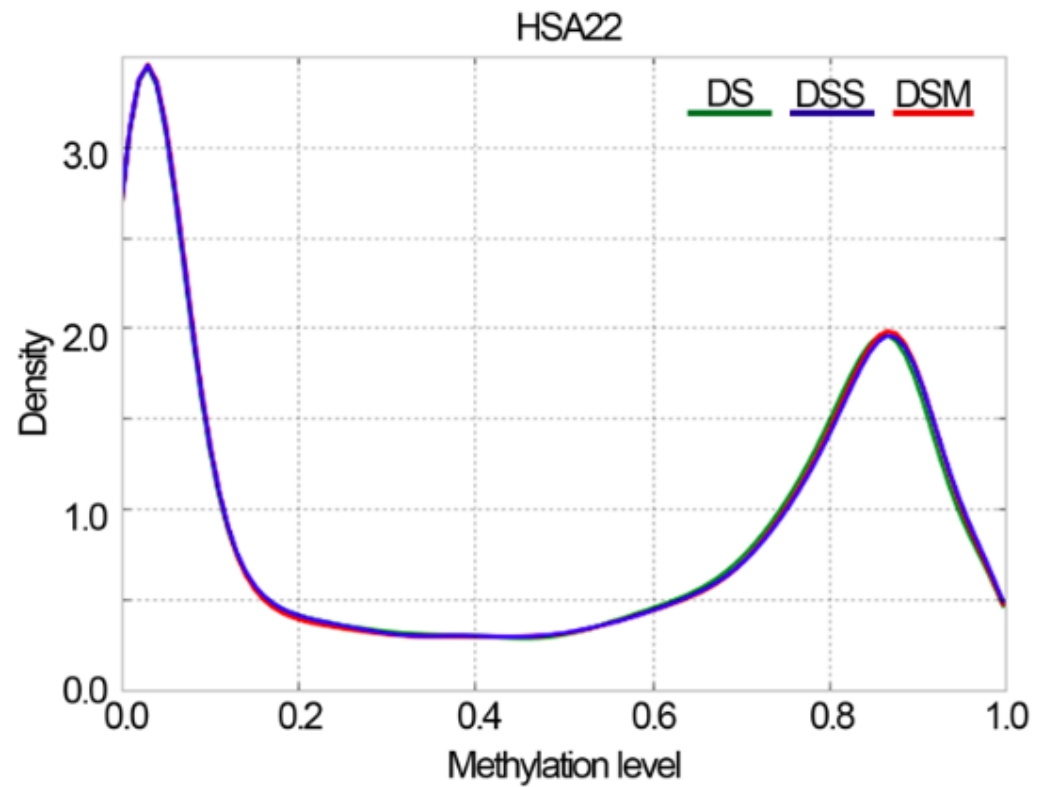
Contributed by L. N. Cooper, March 14, 2005



**Fig. 3.** Network of selected Myc-influenced pathways showing positive and negative correlations. The red and blue arrows denote positive and negative co-regulation, respectively. The thickness of the arrows is proportional to the magnitude, or absolute value, of the co-regulation. A network with these properties is called a weighted directed graph.



# Overall DNA Methylation



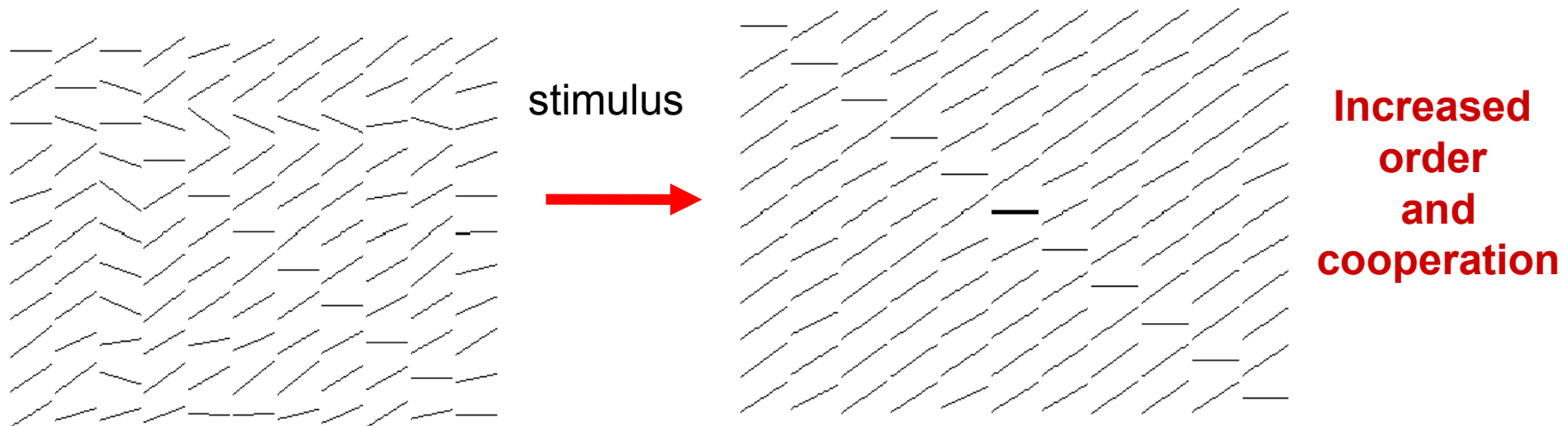


# Perturbation approach

Many experiments can be conceptualized as **“perturbation”** of a “basal state” (cell growth, metabolism, young or healthy phenotype, )

“External perturbations” like temperature in physical systems are realized by gene activation via physical, chemical or biological signals (ionizing radiations, transcription factors, aging, infections etc..)

• Emergent properties arising in the context of perturbation theory are the so called **“phase transitions”**



# Gene expression measurements

We analyzed gene expression measurements from the GEO Omnibus, The analysis are based on the methods described in [ Francesconi et al. 2008, Neretti et al 2007]. P53 is the first pathway influenced by ionizing radiations, as coded by KEGG ([www.genome.ad.jp/kegg/](http://www.genome.ad.jp/kegg/)) followed by steroids biosynthesis and cell cycle.

1: Neretti N, Remondini D, Tatar M, Sedivy JM, Pierini M, Mazzatti D, Powell J, Franceschi C, Castellani GC. Correlation analysis reveals the emergence of coherence in the gene expression dynamics following system perturbation. BMC Bioinformatics. 2007 Mar 8;

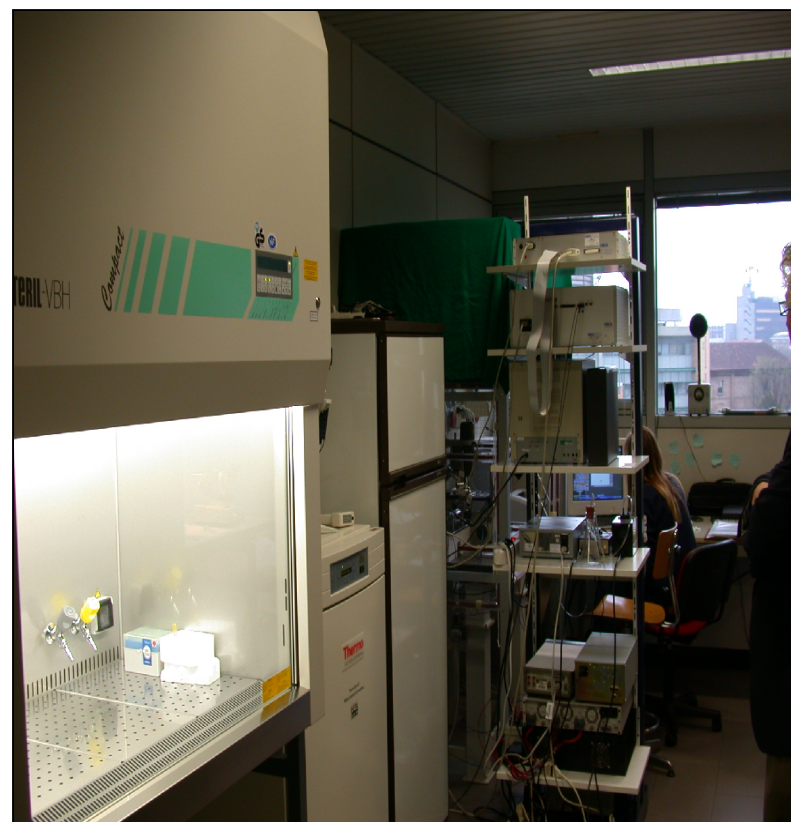
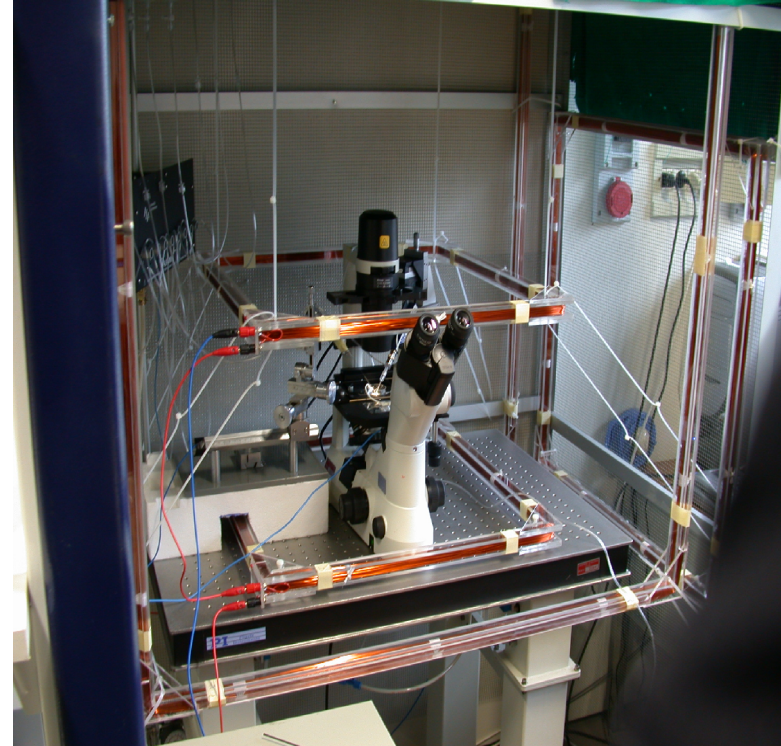
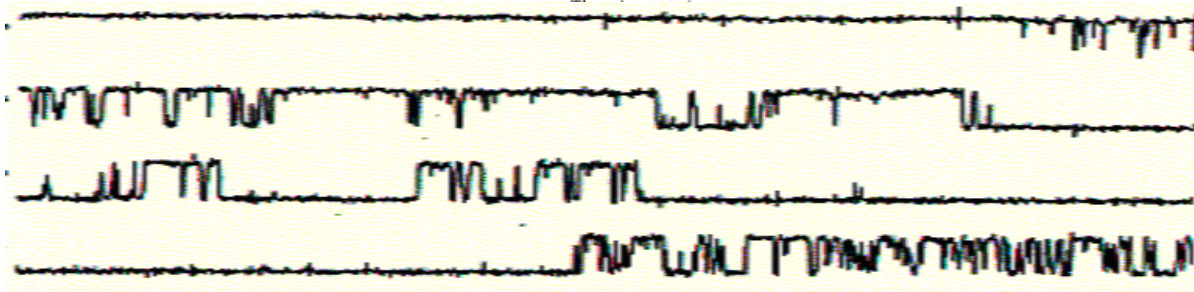
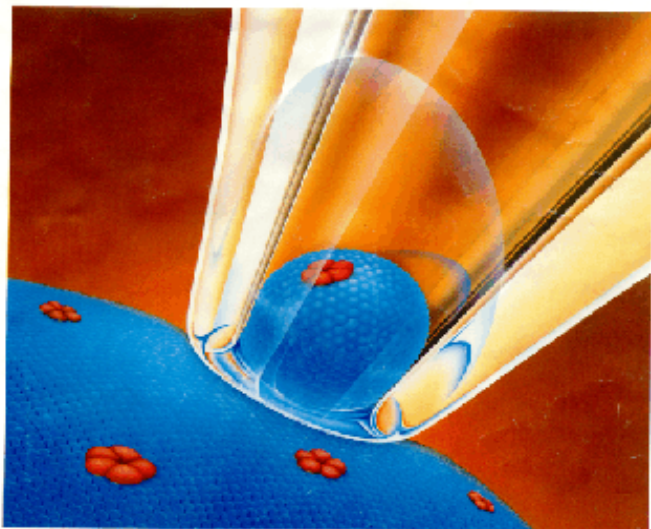
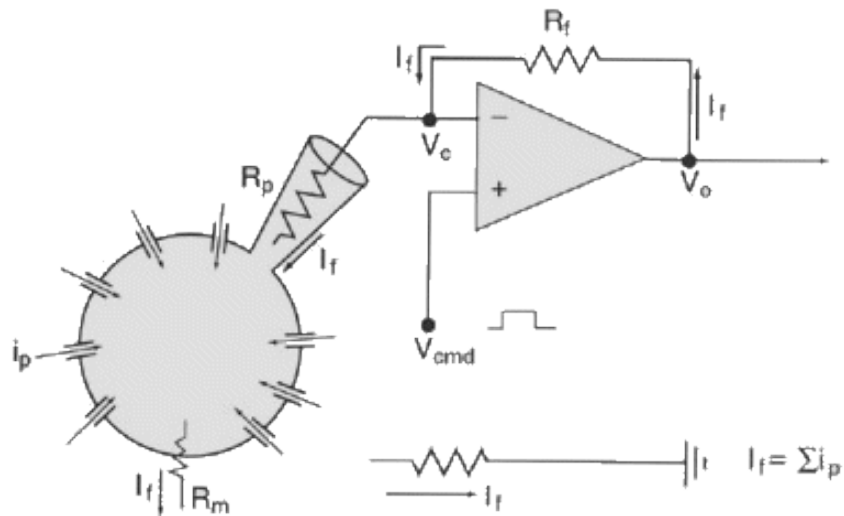
2: Francesconi M, Remondini D, Neretti N, Sedivy JM, Cooper LN, Verondini E, Milanesi L, Castellani G. Reconstructing networks of pathways via significance analysis of their intersections. BMC Bioinformatics. 2008 Apr 25;9

Pathways	pval	U/D	Pathways	pval	U/D
p53 signaling pathway	6.35E-17	1	Cyanoamino acid metabolism	0.0088605	1
Biosynthesis of steroids	1.00E-10	1	Pancreatic cancer	0.010856689	1
Cell cycle	1.06E-08	1	Reductive carboxylate cycle (CO2 fixation)	0.01565399	1
Neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction	1.42E-07	-1	Valine, leucine and isoleucine biosynthesis	0.02007625	1
Aminoacyl-tRNA biosynthesis	7.63E-07	1	Folate biosynthesis	0.020348718	1
Cell Communication	8.92E-07	-1	Starch and sucrose metabolism	0.028190214	1
Terpenoid biosynthesis	1.72E-06	1	Focal adhesion	0.028564124	-1
Apoptosis	1.06E-05	1	Glycerolipid metabolism	0.028731531	-1
T cell receptor signaling pathway	0.00039307	1	Adherens junction	0.029670313	-1
Polyunsaturated fatty acid biosynthesis	0.000875007	1	Phenylalanine metabolism	0.030074211	-1
Natural killer cell mediated cytotoxicity	0.002964111	1	Dentatorubropallidoluysian atrophy (DRPLA)	0.030910646	-1
Ribosome	0.00480522	-1	Phenylalanine, tyrosine and tryptophan biosynthesis	0.033487807	1
Small cell lung cancer	0.005294056	1	Pathogenic Escherichia coli infection – EHEC	0.044350053	-1
B cell receptor signaling pathway	0.005519981	1	Pathogenic Escherichia coli infection – EPEC	0.044350053	-1
Calcium signaling pathway	0.006255598	-1	One carbon pool by folate	0.044827933	1
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	0.006301049	1	Maturity onset diabetes of the young	0.045306449	-1
Tight junction	0.008687461	-1	Metabolism of xenobiotics by cytochrome P450	0.046093339	-1

espressione genica in 3 linee di fibroblasti umani  $\gamma$  irraggiati (1.5Gy )su vari intervalli di tempo.( 2,6 e 24h) (GEOD7075 [www.ebi.ac.uk](http://www.ebi.ac.uk)). e a 6h non irraggiate

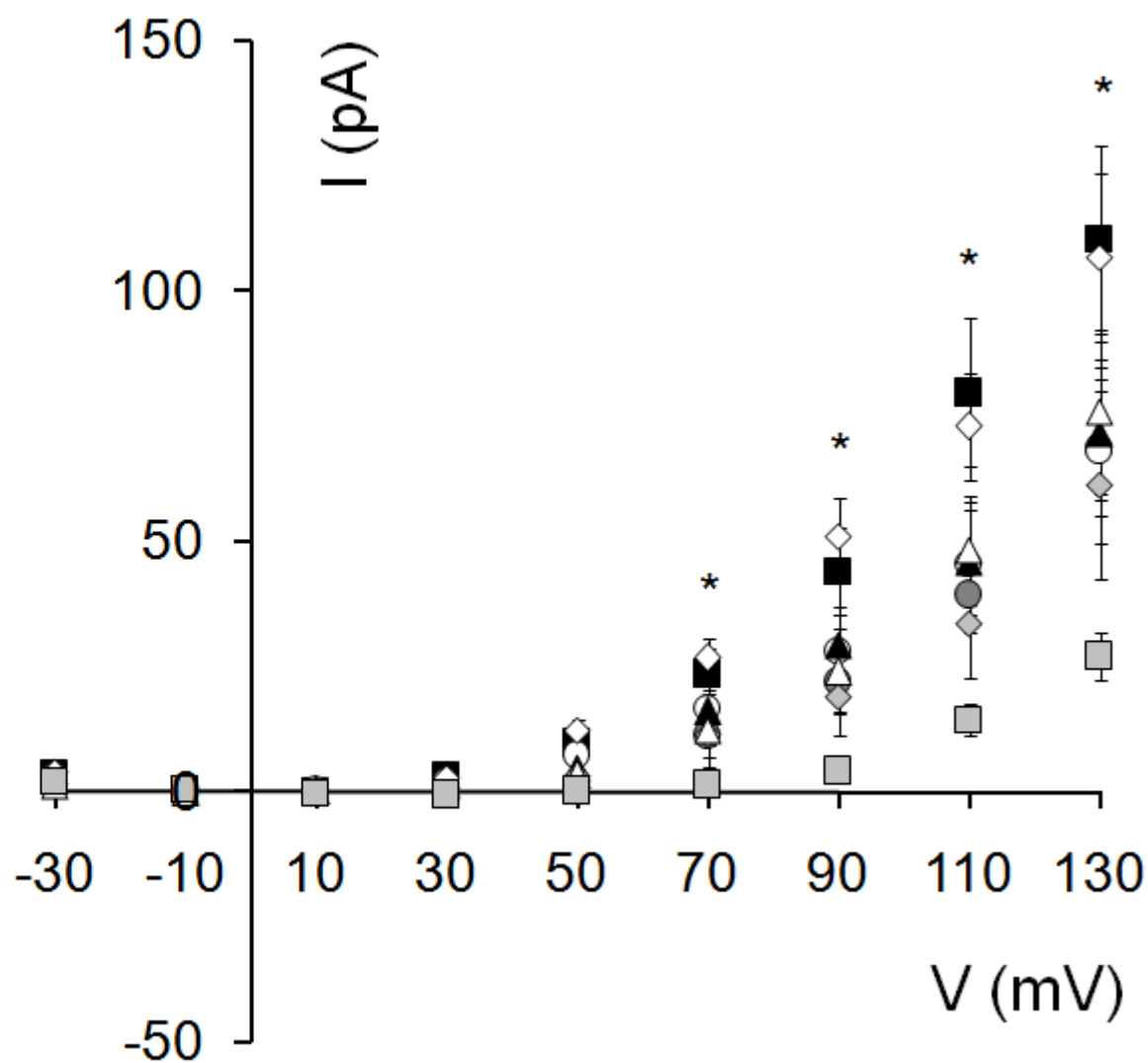
nome gene	P	descrizione gene
KCNJ5	0,000975	potassium inwardly-rectifying channel, subfamily J, member 5 (KCNJ5),
KCNK2	0,003001	potassium channel, subfamily K, member 2 (KCNK2), mRNA [NM_014217]
KCNQ2	0,006573	potassium voltage-gated channel, KQT-like subfamily, member 2 (KCNQ2), ]
KCNK17	0,014396	potassium channel, subfamily K, member 17 (KCNK17), mRNA [NM_031460]
KCNK16	0,020902	potassium channel, subfamily K, member 16 (KCNK16), mRNA [NM_032115]
KCNB2	0,02129	potassium voltage-gated channel, Shab-related subfamily, member 2
KCNAB1	0,024799	potassium voltage-gated channel, shaker-related subfamily, beta member 1
KCNE1L	0,02737	potassium voltage-gated channel, Isk-related family, member 1-like (KCNE1L)
KCNAB1	0,027802	potassium voltage-gated channel, shaker-related subfamily, beta member 1
KCND3	0,036798	potassium voltage-gated channel, Shal-related subfamily, member 3 (KCND3),
KCNJ10	0,036905	potassium inwardly-rectifying channel, subfamily J, member 10 (KCNJ10),
KCNJ9	0,04971	potassium inwardly-rectifying channel, subfamily J, member 9 (KCNJ9),





# $\gamma$ rays

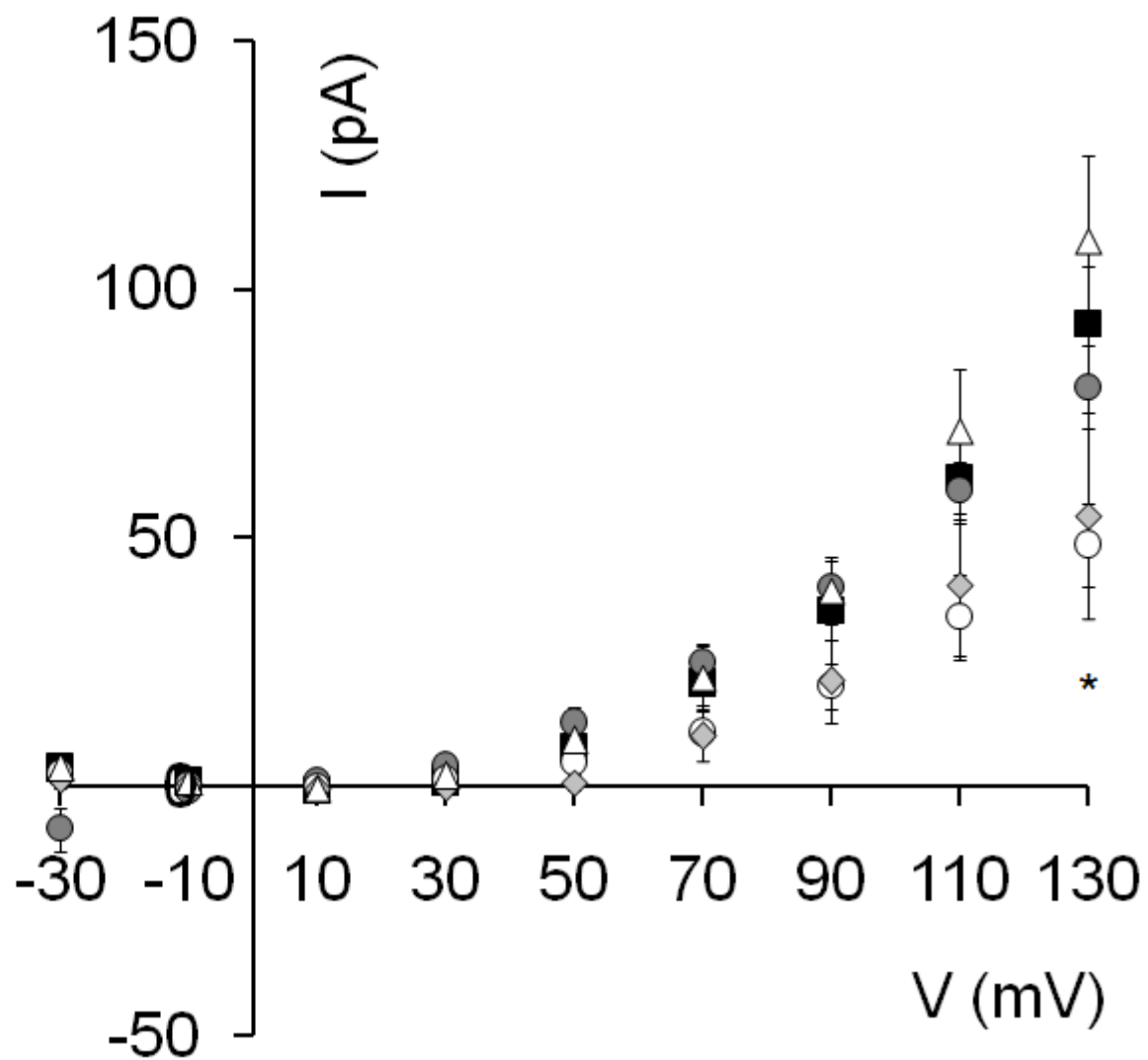
■ Control	n = 26
● 0.25 Gy	n = 8
○ 0.5 Gy	n = 5
▲ 1 Gy	n = 4
◆ 2 Gy	n = 8
△ 6.5 Gy	n = 11
◇ 10 Gy	n = 10
■ 12 Gy	n = 7



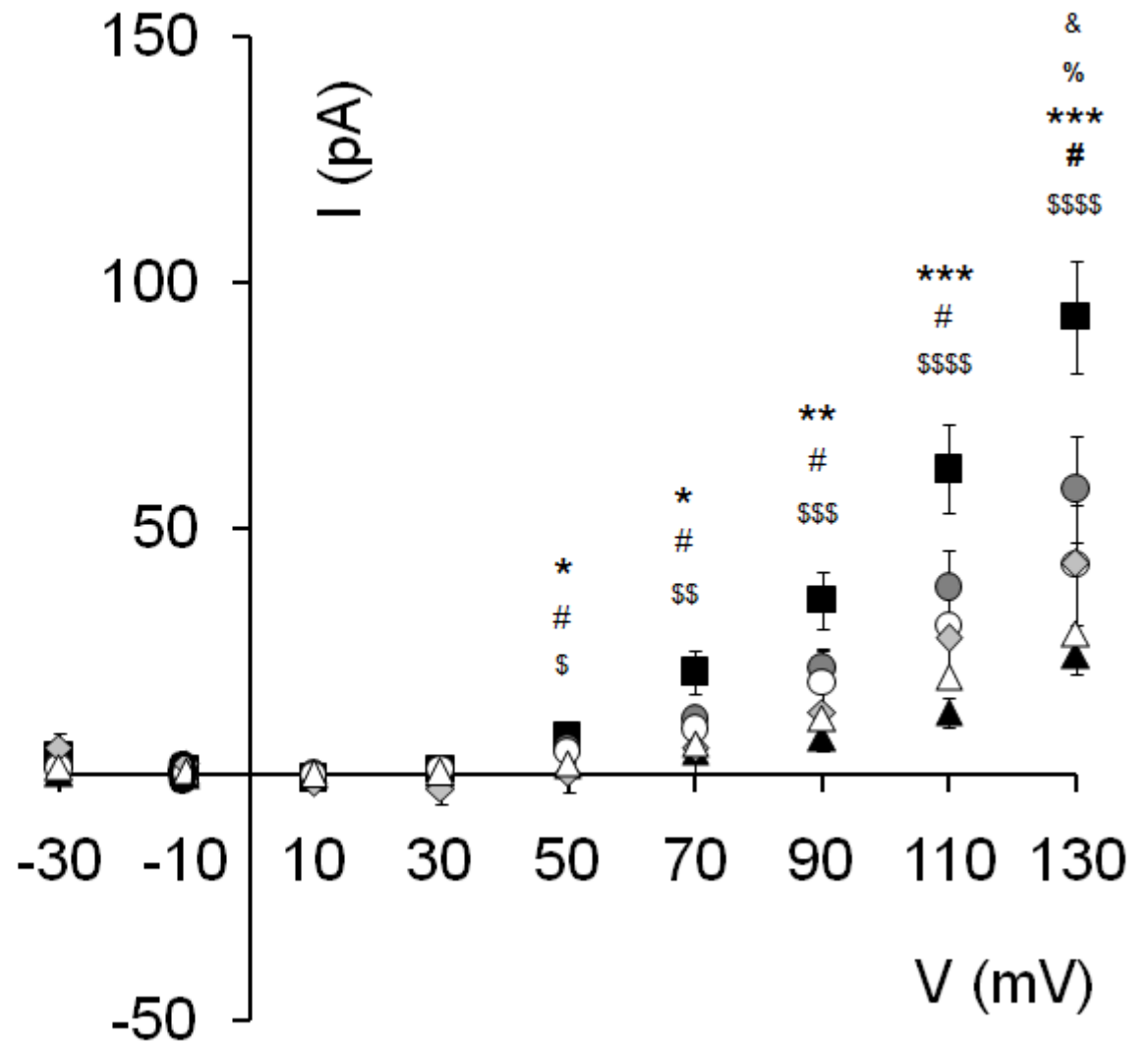
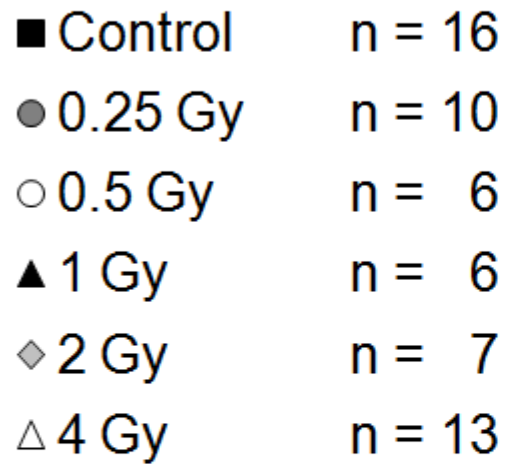


# $\alpha$ particles

- Control n = 16
- 0.25 Gy n = 8
- 0.5 Gy n = 5
- ◆ 2 Gy n = 7
- △ 4 Gy n = 5



# Protons

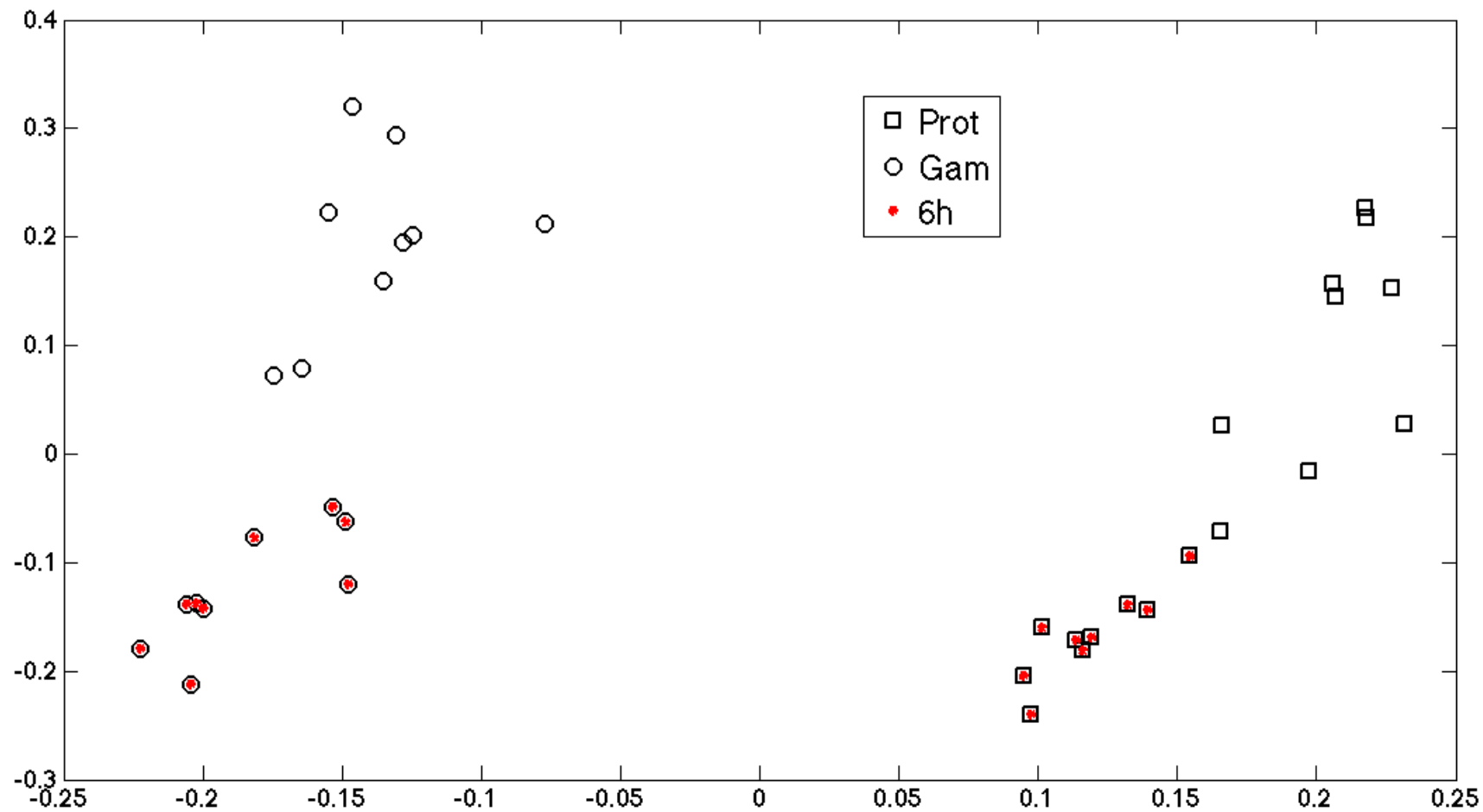


# Esperimento INFN Excalibur

Sampld	IR	DOSE	TIME
1	Protoni	0	6
2	Protoni	0	6
3	Protoni	0	6
4	Protoni	0.25	6
5	Protoni	0.25	6
6	Protoni	0.25	6
7	Protoni	2	6
8	Protoni	2	6
9	Protoni	2	6
11	Gamma	0	6
12	Gamma	0.25	6
13	Gamma	2	6
14	Gamma	0	6
15	Gamma	0.25	6
16	Gamma	2	6
17	Gamma	0	6
18	Gamma	0.25	6
19	Gamma	2	6

Sampld	IR	DOSE	TIME
20	Gamma	0	24
21	Gamma	0.25	24
22	Gamma	2	24
23	Gamma	0	24
24	Gamma	0.25	24
25	Gamma	2	24
26	Gamma	0	24
27	Gamma	0.25	24
28	Gamma	2	24
29	Protoni	0	24
30	Protoni	0	24
31	Protoni	0	24
32	Protoni	0.25	24
33	Protoni	0.25	24
34	Protoni	0.25	24
35	Protoni	2	24
36	Protoni	2	24
37	Protoni	2	24

# PCA analysis of the EXCALIBUR experiment





## KEGG PATHWAY Database

Wiring diagrams of molecular interactions, reactions, and relations

KEGG2 PATHWAY BRITE MODULE DISEASE DRUG KO GENOME GENES LIGAND DBGET

Select prefix

Enter keywords

map

Organism

Go

Help

### Pathway Maps

**KEGG PATHWAY** is a collection of manually drawn pathway maps (see [new maps](#) and [update history](#)) representing our knowledge on the molecular interaction and reaction networks for:

#### 0. Global Map

#### 1. Metabolism

Carbohydrate Energy Lipid Nucleotide Amino acid Other amino acid Glycan  
Cofactor/vitamin Terpenoid/PK Other secondary metabolite Xenobiotics  
Reaction module Chemical structure

#### 2. Genetic Information Processing

#### 3. Environmental Information Processing

#### 4. Cellular Processes

#### 5. Organismal Systems

#### 6. Human Diseases

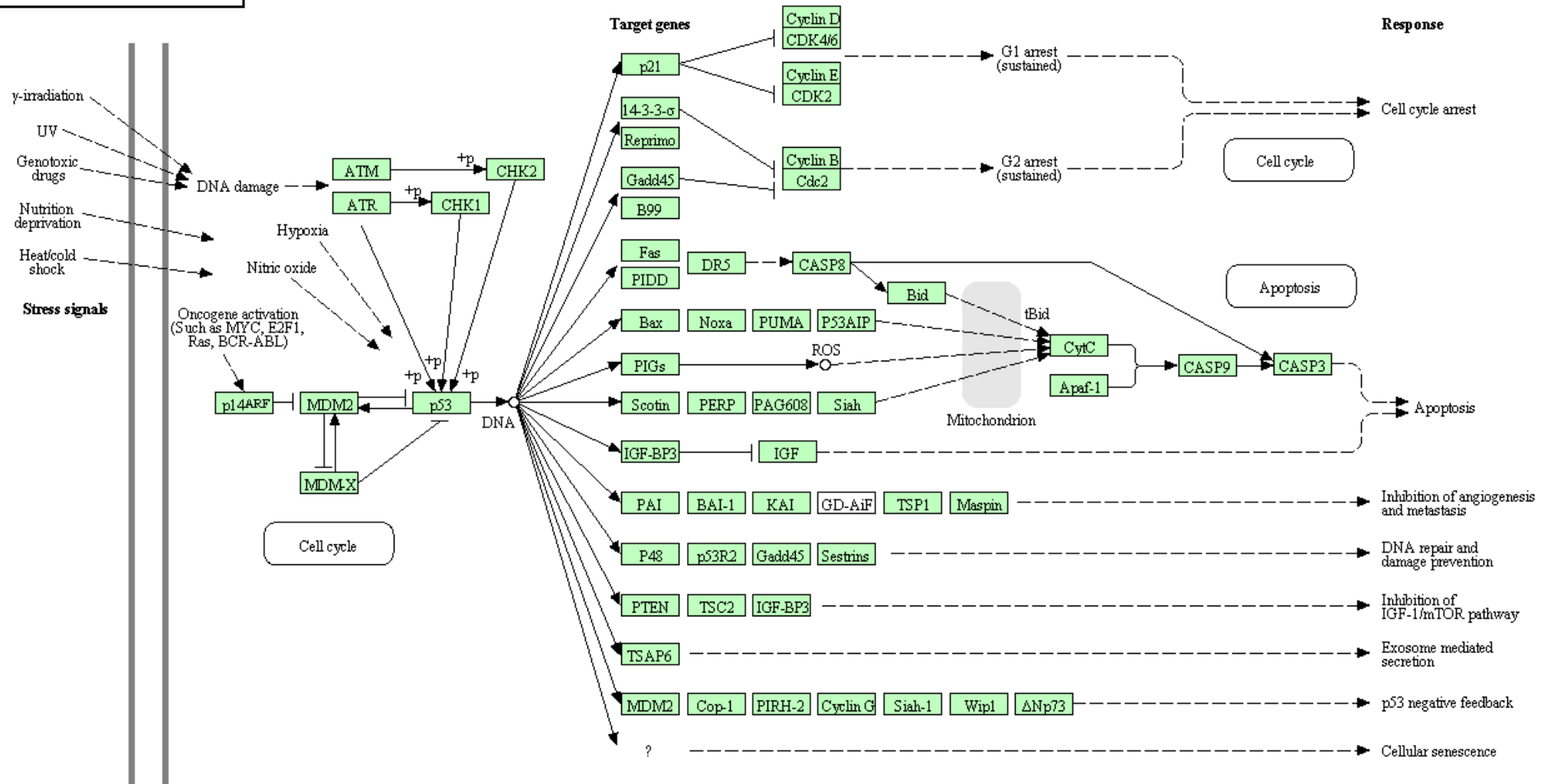
and also on the structure relationships (KEGG drug structure maps) in:

#### 7. Drug Development

### Pathway Mapping

KEGG PATHWAY mapping is the process to map molecular datasets, especially large-scale datasets, in

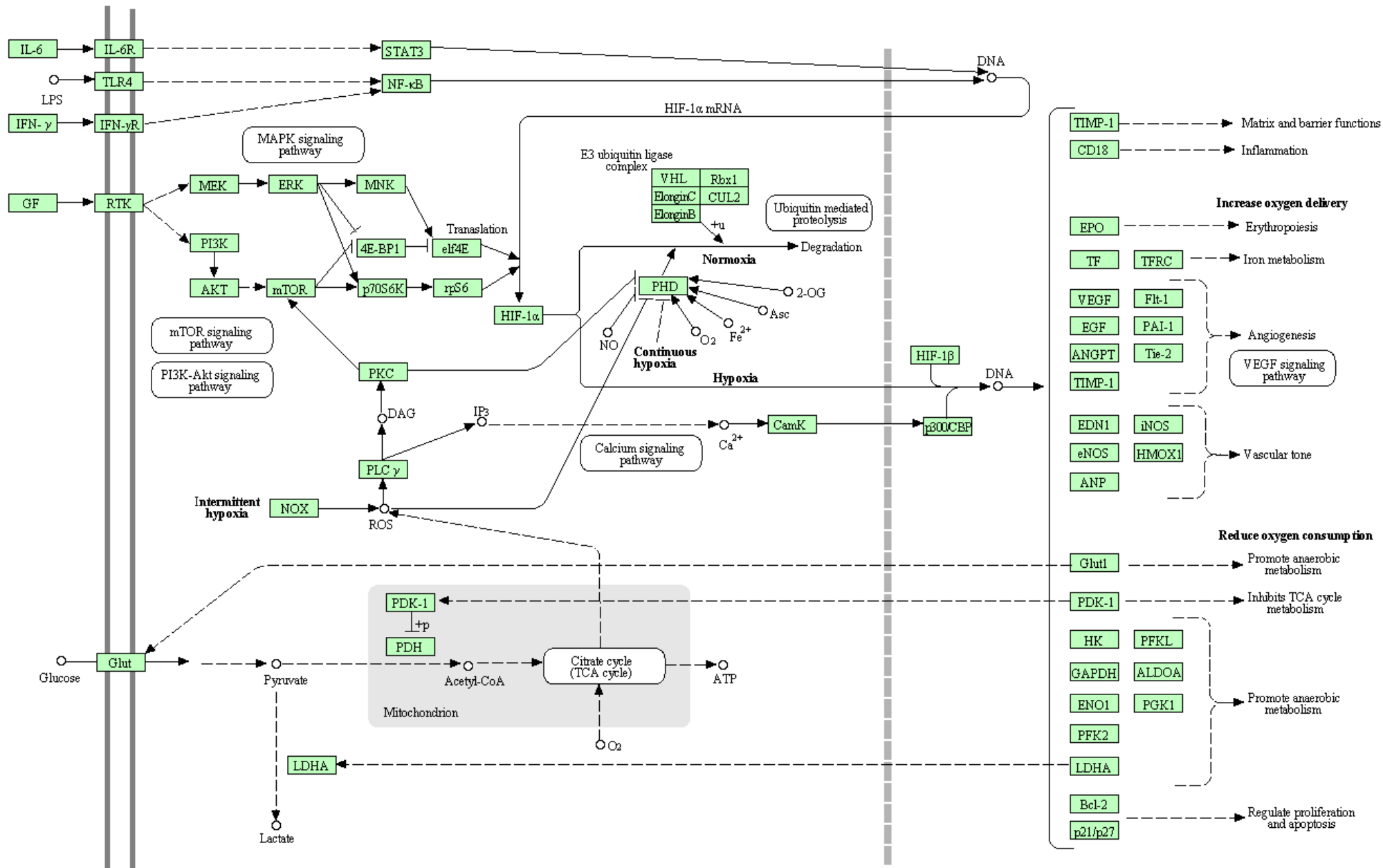
# P53 SIGNALING PATHWAY



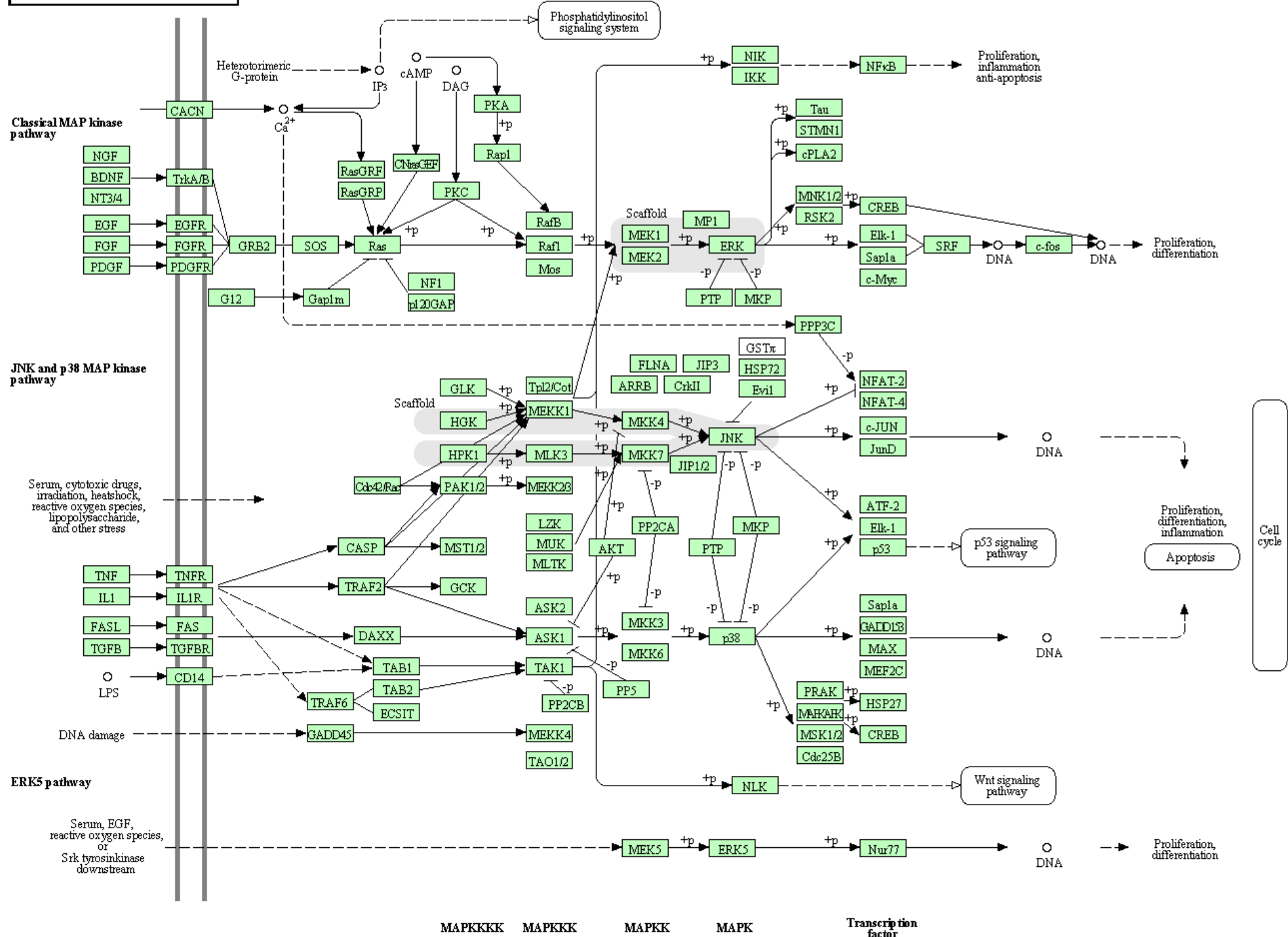


# Hypoxia-inducible factor 1 (HIF-1) is a transcription factor that functions as a master regulator of oxygen homeostasis

## HIF-1 SIGNALING PATHWAY



# MAPK SIGNALING PATHWAY



The results show

- 1) Induction of secretory phenotype (production of inflammatory cytokines)
- 2) Activation of P53 pathway (genomic instability)
- 3) Involvement of cellular communication and signal transduction( MAPK)
- 4) A clear discrimination between Protons and Gamma, as well as between time and doses

Senescence and IR Biological effects share a number of features including bystander effect and Secretory Phenotype

This is the basis of the systemic character of aging and Ionizing Radiation biological effects

A powerful method to study these complex phenotypes is the Systems Biology approach

Systems Biology is just the scientific method in Biology with the help of computation and molecular biology (mainly high throughput technology)

Ionizing radiations (gamma and protons) are capable to induce RASP

# Past EU projects

TCIA (T Cell In vitro aging) closed

GEHA Genetics of Healthy Aging closed

MARKAGE Markers of Aging (near to be closed)

NUAGE Nutrition and aging (in progress)



# FibeBiotics

**THEME [KBBE.2011.2.2-01]  
[Development of functional foods and ingredients]**

Grant agreement for: Collaborative project

<b>Annex I - "Description of Work"</b>
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Project acronym: FibeBiotics

Project full title: " Dietary Fibers supporting Gut and Immune Function - From polysaccharide compound to health claim "

Grant agreement no: 289517

Version date: 2011-09-27



# MIMOmics

**THEME [HEALTH.2012.2.1.1-3]**

**[Statistical methods for collection and analysis of -omics data]**

Grant agreement for: Collaborative project

<b>Annex I - "Description of Work"</b>
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Project acronym: MIMOmics

Project full title: " Methods for Integrated analysis of Multiple Omics datasets "

Grant agreement no: 305280

Version date: 2012-05-09



# Mission2D

Small or medium-scale focused research project (STREP)

**ICT Call 9**

FP7-ICT-2011-9



**Multiscale Immune System Simulator for the Onset of Type 2  
Diabetes integrating genetic, metabolic and nutritional data**

**MISSION-T2D**

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