

# Integrative analysis of the influence of aluminum stress on the expression of the metabolic phenotype of cultivated rice (*Oryza sativa* L.)



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El conocimiento  
es de todos

Minciencias

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2023



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Cali

# Rice cultivation as a key element in food security

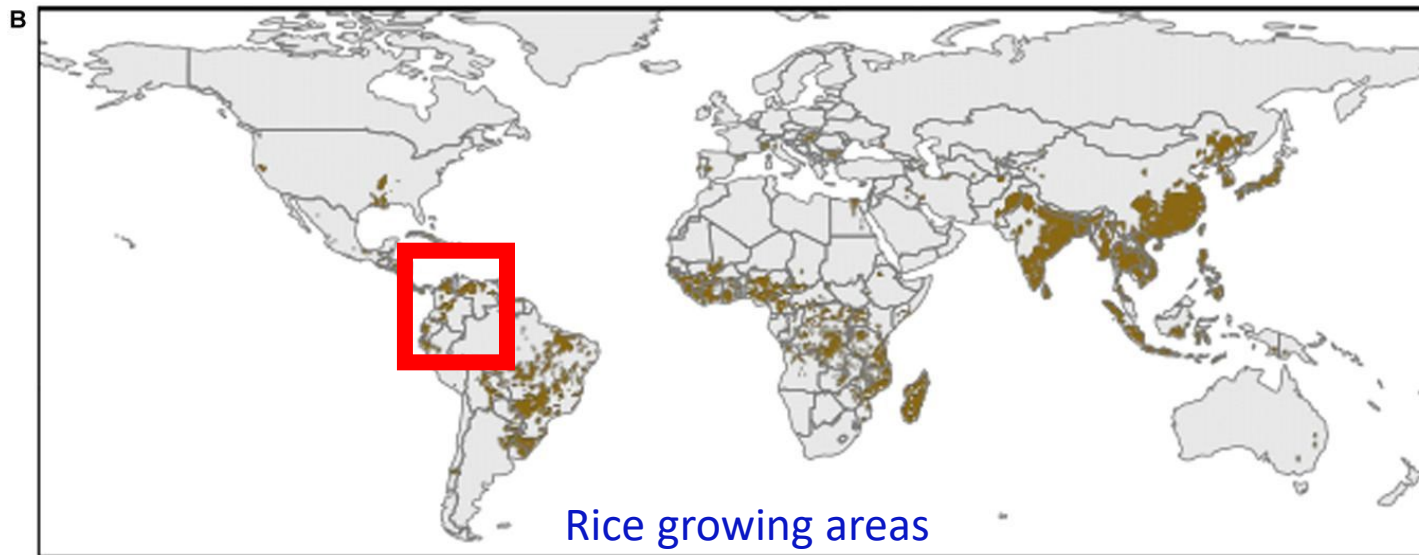
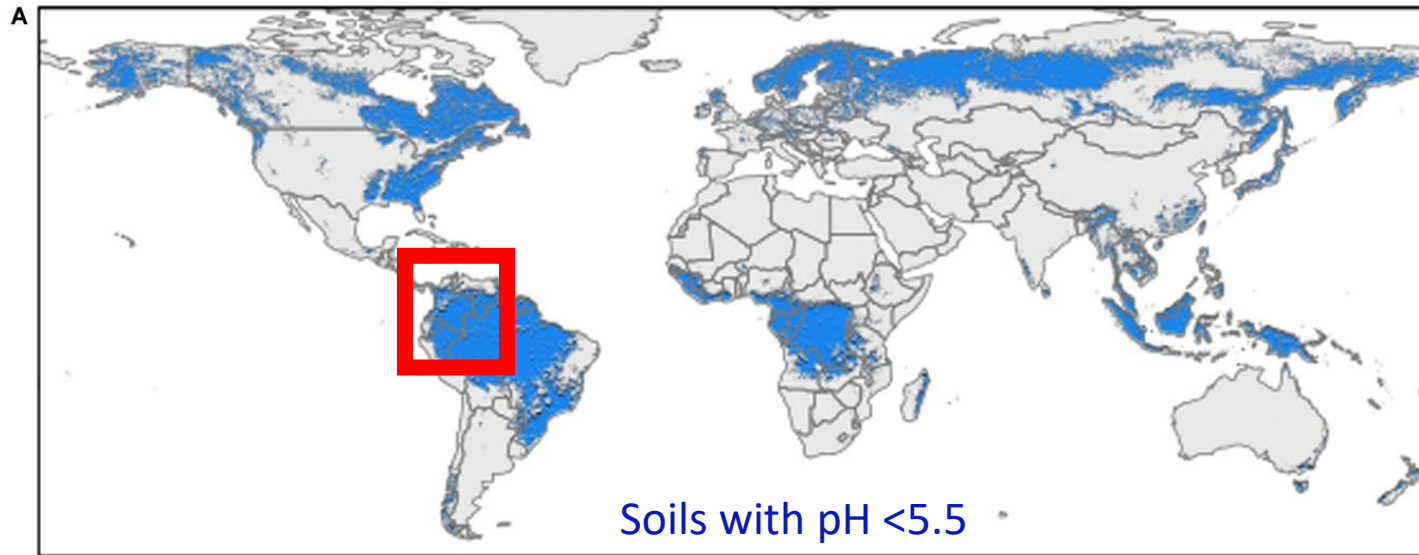
- Rice is the most widely used crop for caloric intake in Latin America and Asia
- Rice is an important part of sustainable development strategy



**Table 1** Food sources\* of energy (kcal)†, mean contribution and as percentage of energy intake a adults aged 15 to 65 years (n 9090), Latin American Study of Health and Nutrition

Rank	Main group	Subgroup	Category
ELANS (n 9090)			
1	Grains	Cooked grains	<b>Rice</b>
2	Grains	Breads, rolls and tortillas	Yeast breads
3	Mixed dishes	Mixed dishes, grain-based	Turnovers and other grain-based items
4	Mixed dishes	Mixed dishes, soups	Soups
5	Mixed dishes	Mixed dishes, drain-based	Rice mixed dishes





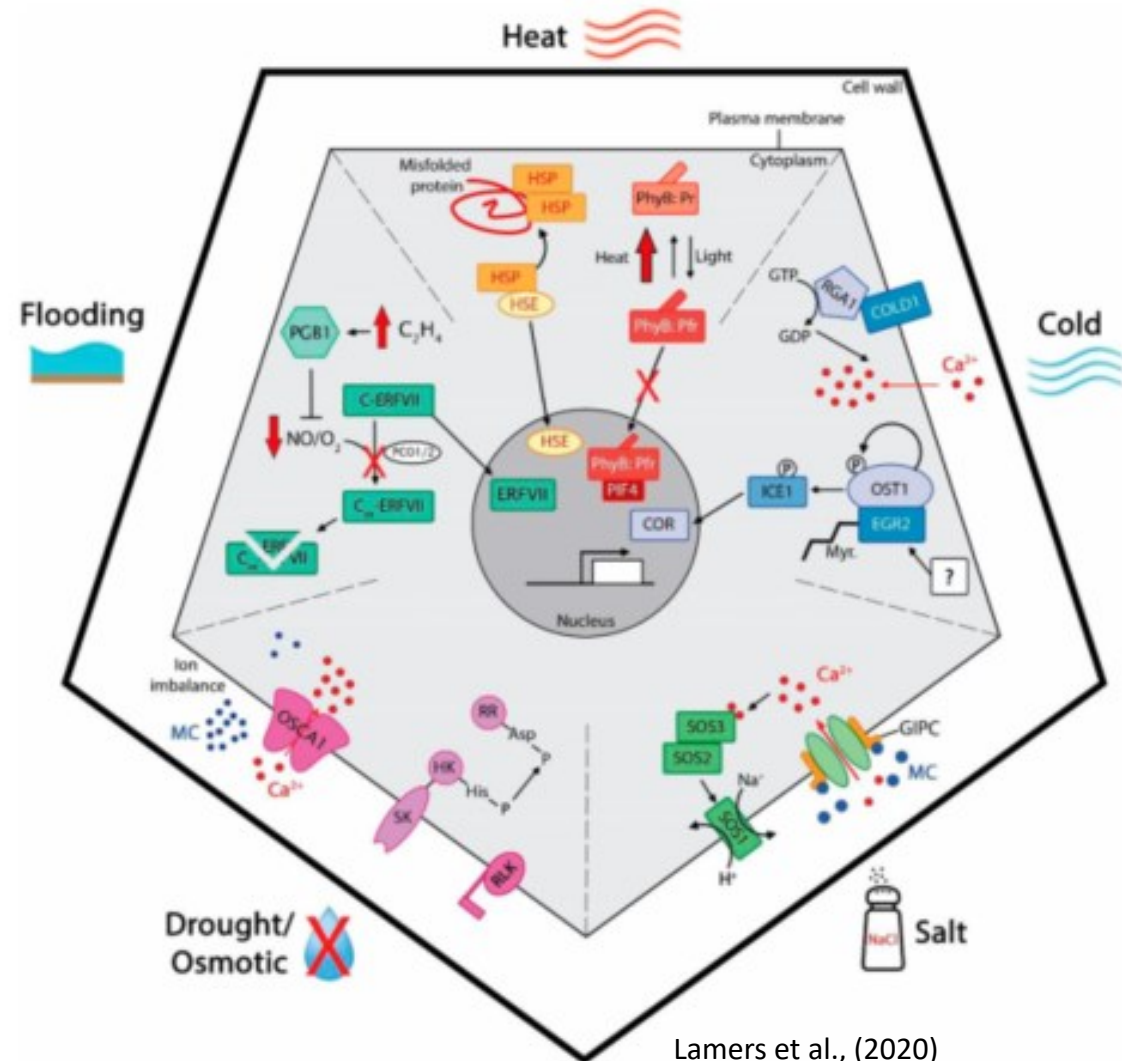
## The problem of acidic soils

- pH < 5
- About 50% of the arable land is in acid soils.
- 85% of acid soils are located in the torrid region of South America
- Aluminum is the most abundant metal on earth crust

# Main types of abiotic stresses exist in plants

- Temperature
- Cold
- Salt
- Drought
- Flooding
- Heavy metals

The physiological response is complex!

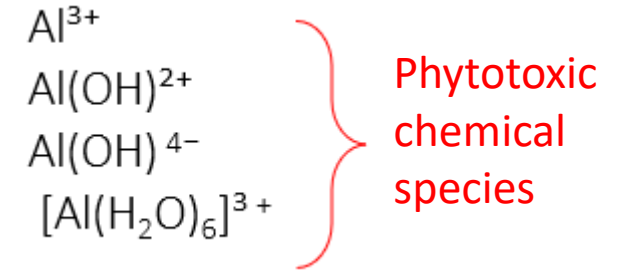
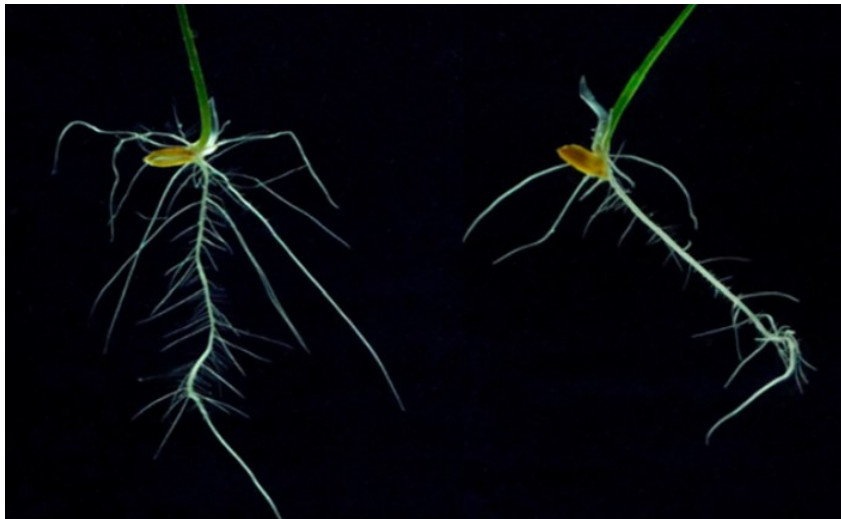




# Plants have mechanisms that allow them to tolerate aluminotoxic conditions!

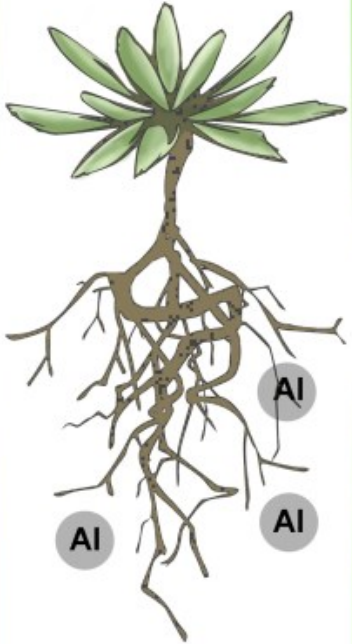
- Toxic effects
- Beneficial effects
- External exclusion mechanisms
- Internal mechanisms

**Rice can be affected by aluminum!**



- 1 Toxic effect**
- ✓ Inhibition of root growth
  - ✓ Inhibition uptake of water and nutrients
  - ✓ Lipid peroxidation
  - ✓ Modification of the cytoskeleton
  - ✓ Inhibition of cell division

- 2 Beneficial effect**
- ✓ Stimulate plants growth ( roots and shoots)
  - ✓ Promote nutrient uptake
  - ✓ Increases defense pathogens
  - ✓ Alleviation of abiotic stress
  - ✓ Increased metabolism and antioxidant activity
  - ✓ Modulate colors flowers

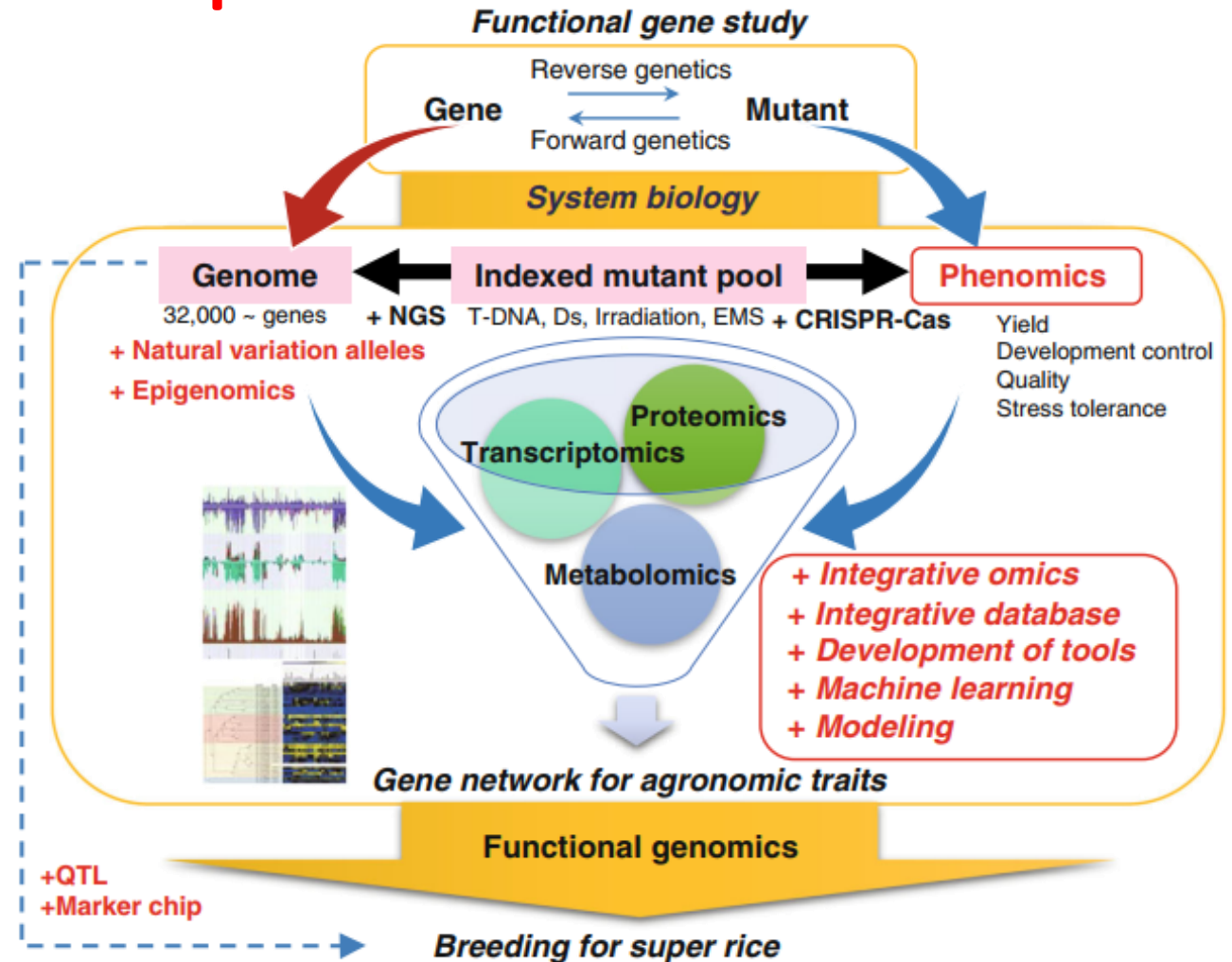


- 3 Exclusion tolerance**
- ✓ Changes in pH of the rhizosphere
  - ✓ Plasma membrane properties and cell wall composition
  - ✓ Excretion chelating molecules and secretion of mucilage
  - ✓ Alleviation toxicity aluminum with elements, auxins, and others
  - ✓ Cap type structures in the root apex

- 4 Internal tolerance**
- ✓ Chelation Al in the cytosol ( organic acids, proteins and others organic ligands)
  - ✓ Al transporters
  - ✓ Vacuolar compartmentalization and vesicular trafficking
  - ✓ Modification plant metabolism and DNA checkpoints
  - ✓ Alleviation toxicity aluminum

# Rice is a model species for plant stress studies!

- 3000 rice accessions has been sequenced
- Information for about 10000 coding proteins is available
- Available information for aluminum stress conditions
- There is a genetics core that act by identified stress types!

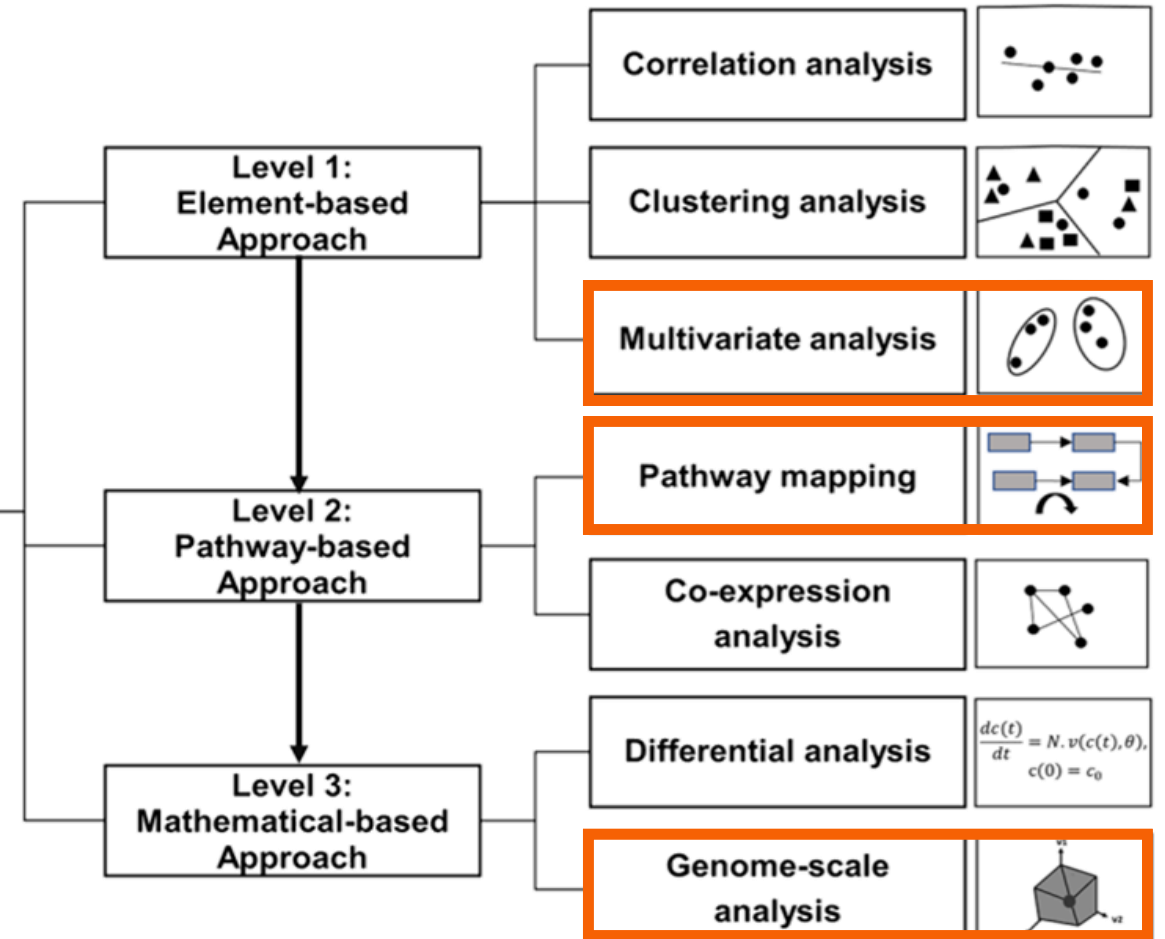
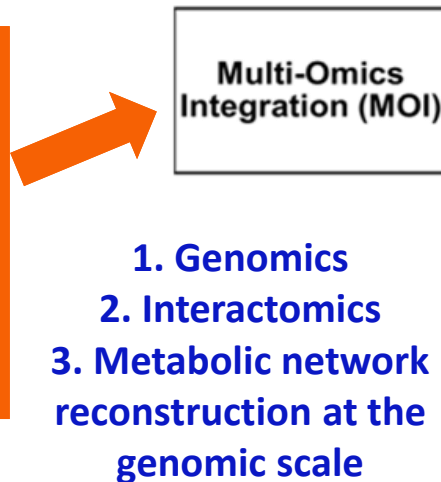


Hong et al., (2019)

# What do we know about the interaction of rice with aluminum?

- There is a molecular signaling network in different types of stresses
- Genes identified via omics technologies

**It is unknown how the interaction between biological processes, proteins, and metabolites related to aluminum tolerance takes place.**



To model the aluminum effect over the cellular metabolism of cultivated rice (*Oryza sativa* L.),

**STAGE I:** Functional perspective

**STAGE II:** Metabolic response based on genome-scale network reconstruction

**STAGE III:** Potential regulatory elements



# STAGE I: Functional perspective (Graph theory for comparative genomics)

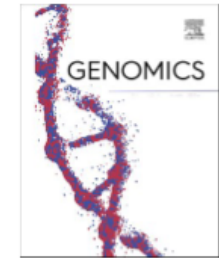
Genomics 115 (2023) 110528



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Genomics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ygeno](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ygeno)



## GOCompare: An R package to compare functional enrichment analysis between two species

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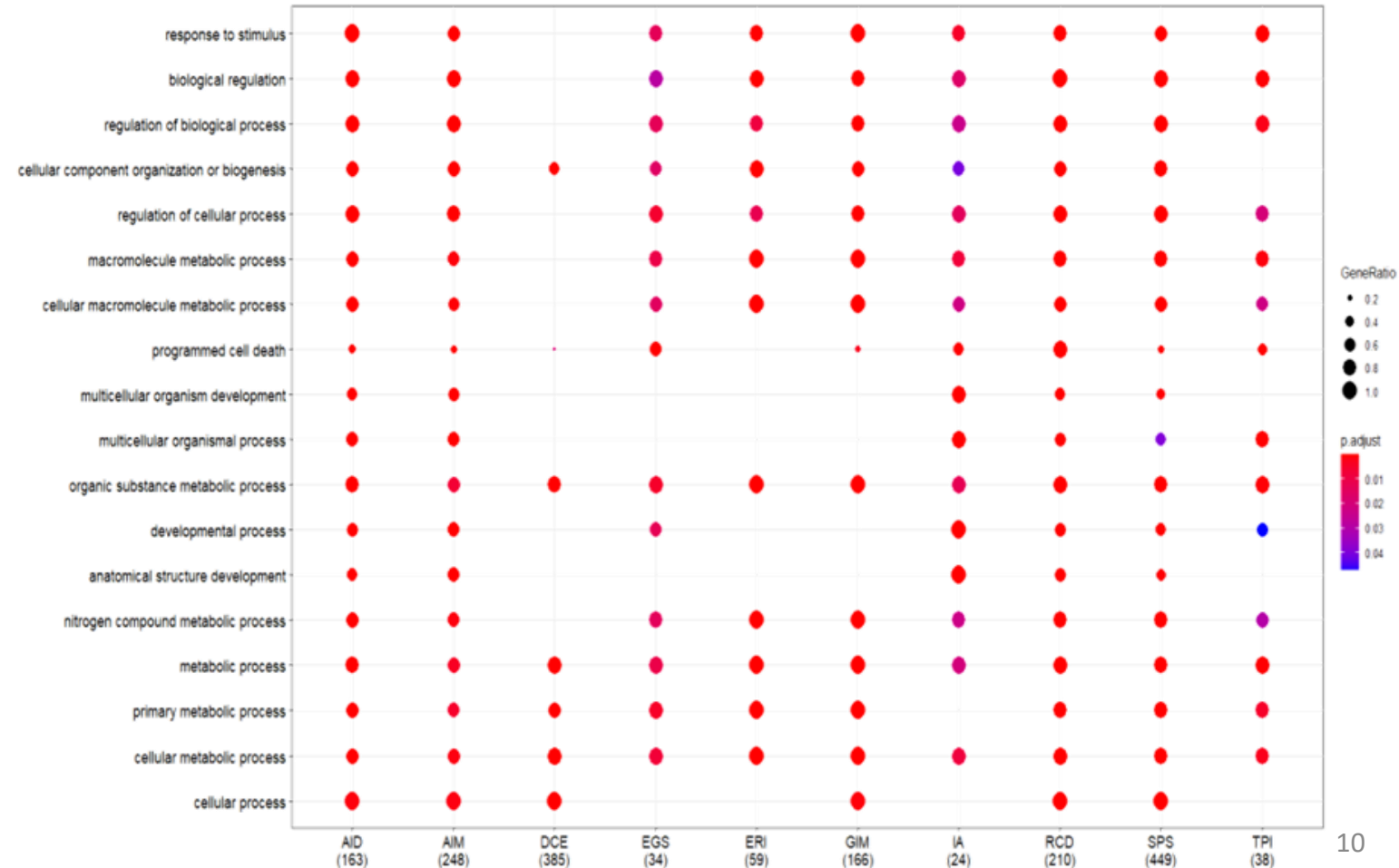
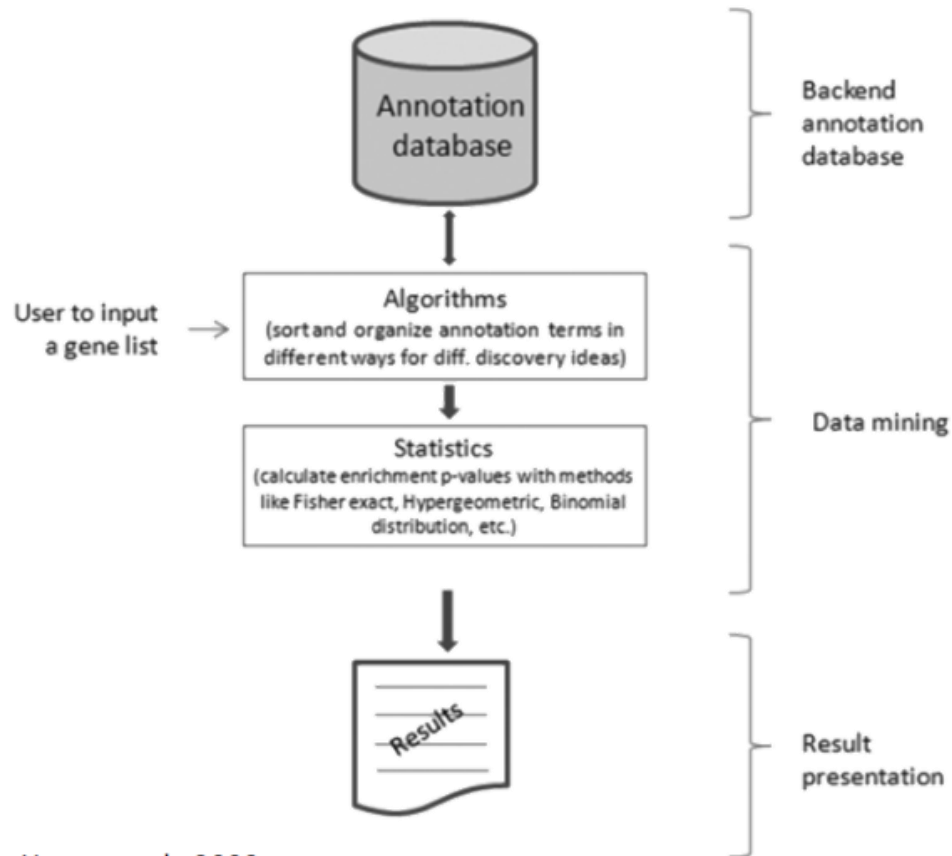


# Functional enrichment analysis

Multiple gene lists enrichment comparison is descriptive!

## How multiple gene lists are compared?

### How an enrichment analysis works?



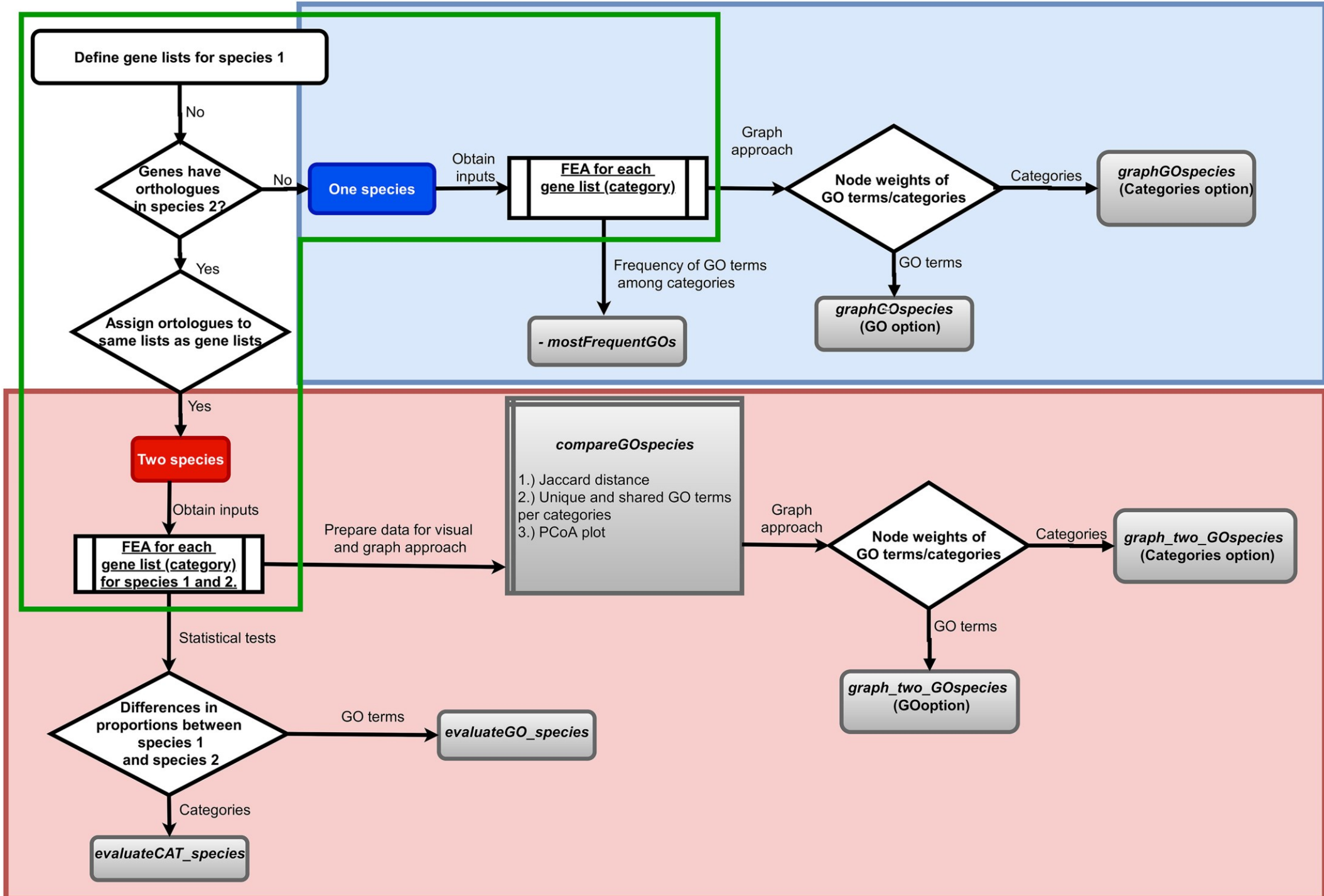
# The idea

- Use undirected weighted graphs to identify statistically relevant GO terms for categories (gene lists) and species

<https://github.com/ccsosa/GOCompare>

- **Advantages**

- I. Avoid the use of complex algorithms (memory and DAG dependent)
- II. Visualization of GO terms interactions
- III. Detect differences in genome annotations
- IV. Numerical outcomes easily readable in Cytoscape
- V. Statistical testing for GO terms and gene lists composition
- VI. Reproducibility



- Categories (gene lists) similarity

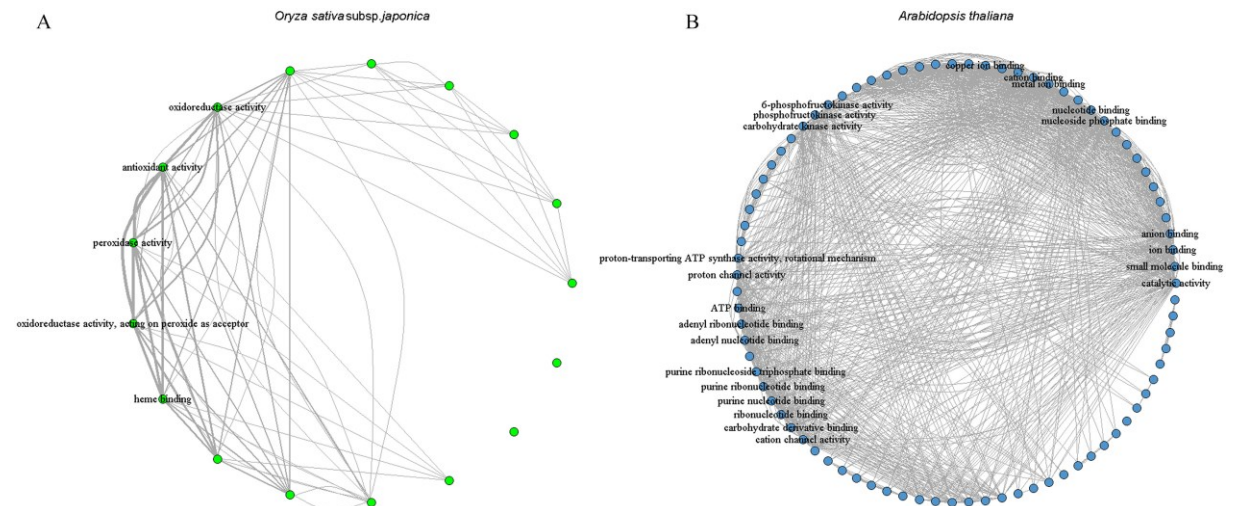
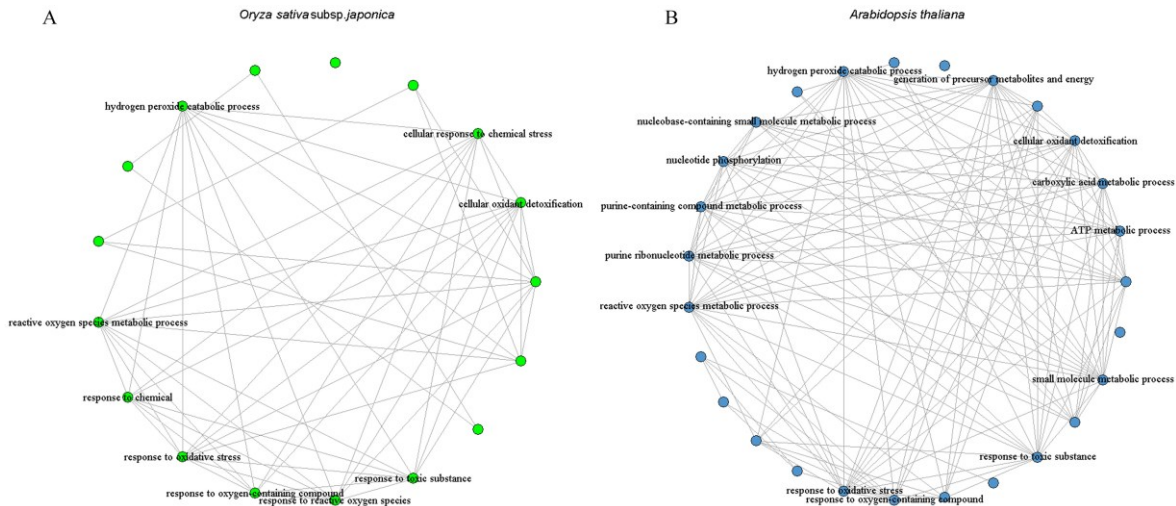
$$w(e) = \frac{|BP_u \cap BP_v|}{|BP|}$$

$$K_w(u) = \sum_{v \in V} w(u, v)$$

- GO Terms frequency

$$w'(e') = \frac{|Cu' \cap Cv'|}{|BP|}$$

$$K'_w(u') = \sum_{v' \in V'} w'(u', v')$$





- Comparison between species

$$\widehat{K}_w(u) = \sum_{v \in V_1} w(u, v) + \sum_{x \in V_2} w(u, x)$$

- High values within categories with highly frequent GO terms co-occurring

- A Combined approach for categories:

- Shared:

$$s(e) = \frac{|N_1 \cap N_2|}{|N_1 \cup N_2|}$$

$$K_s(u) = \sum_{v \in (V_1 \cup V_2)} s(u, v)$$

- Combined: (Shared + Categories weight)

$$\text{min\_max}(y) = \frac{y - \text{min}(y)}{\text{max}(y) - \text{min}(y)}$$

$$K_c(u) = \text{min\_max}(\widehat{K}_w(u)) + \text{min\_max}(K_s(u)) - 1$$

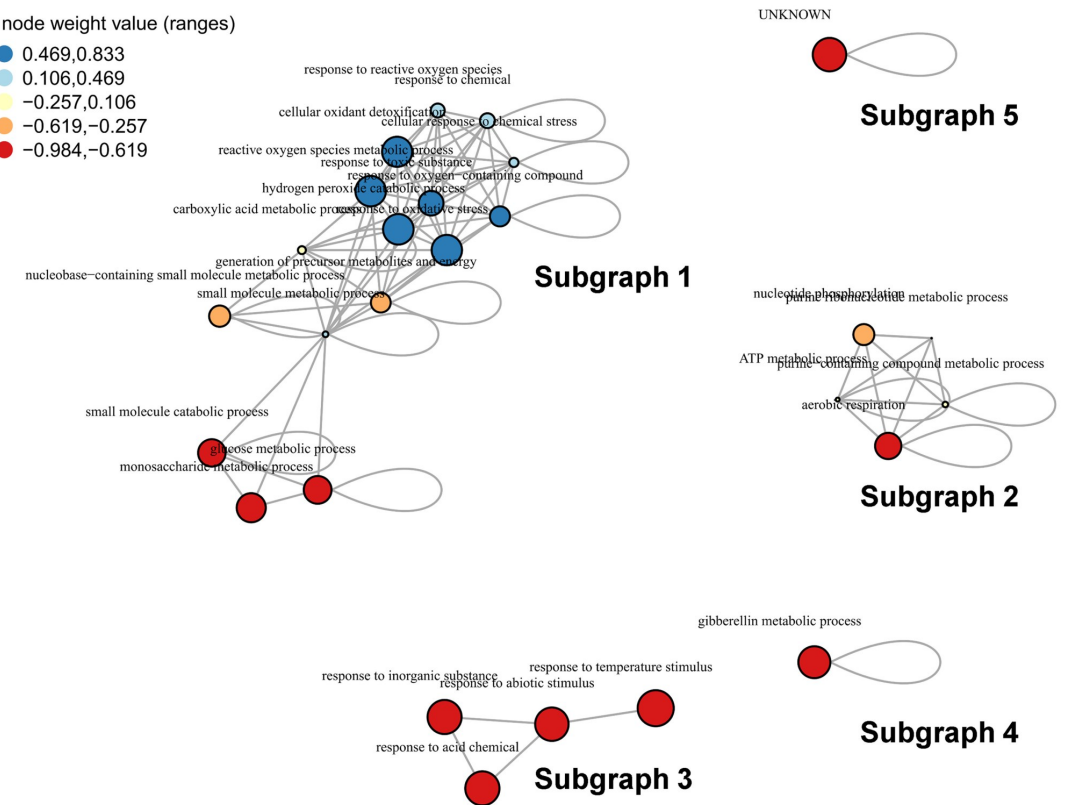
- An index with values from -1 (unique for a species) to 1 (Shared between species)

# Towards a functional perspective comparative genomics

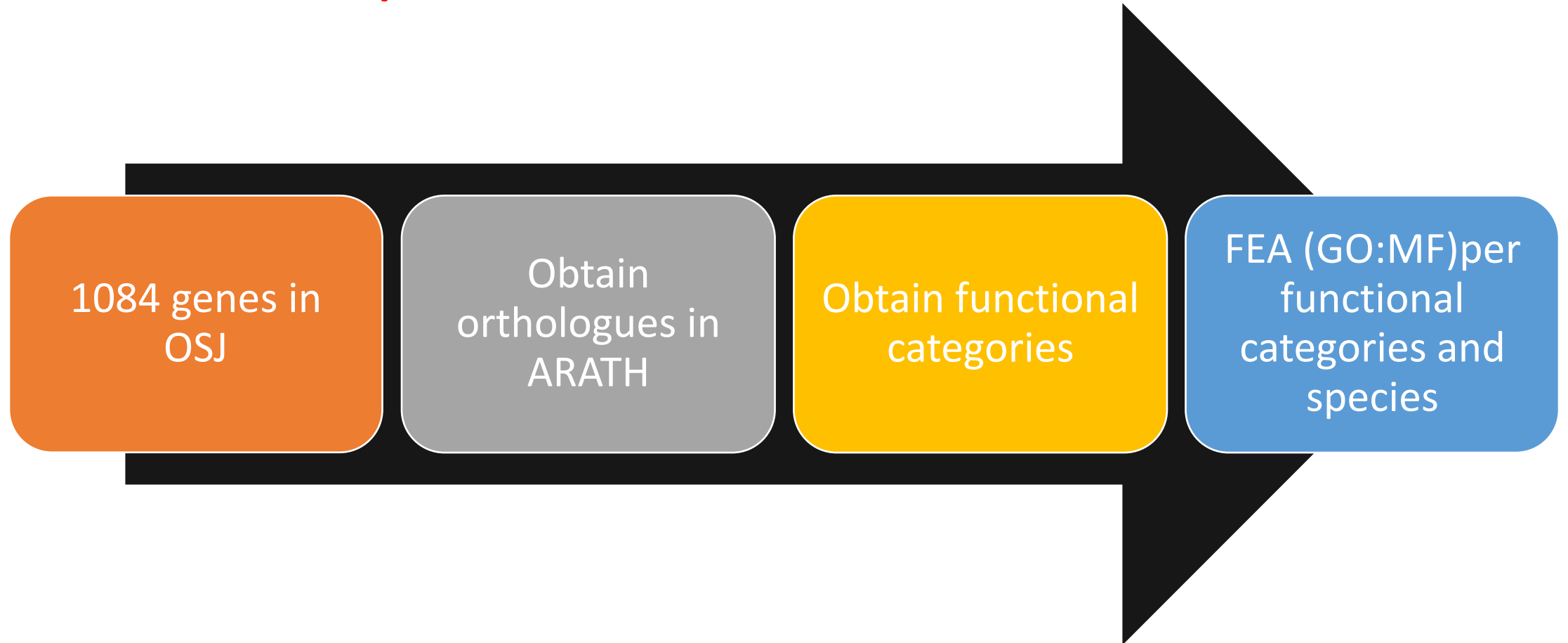
Functional category	GO weight	Shared GO weight	Combined weight
Reactive oxygen species metabolic process	0.636	7.989	0.8303
Response to reactive oxygen species	0.36	7.6	0.3701
Response to temperature stimulus	0.012	0	-1

Combined node weight value (ranges)

- 0.469,0.833
- 0.106,0.469
- -0.257,0.106
- -0.619,-0.257
- -0.984,-0.619

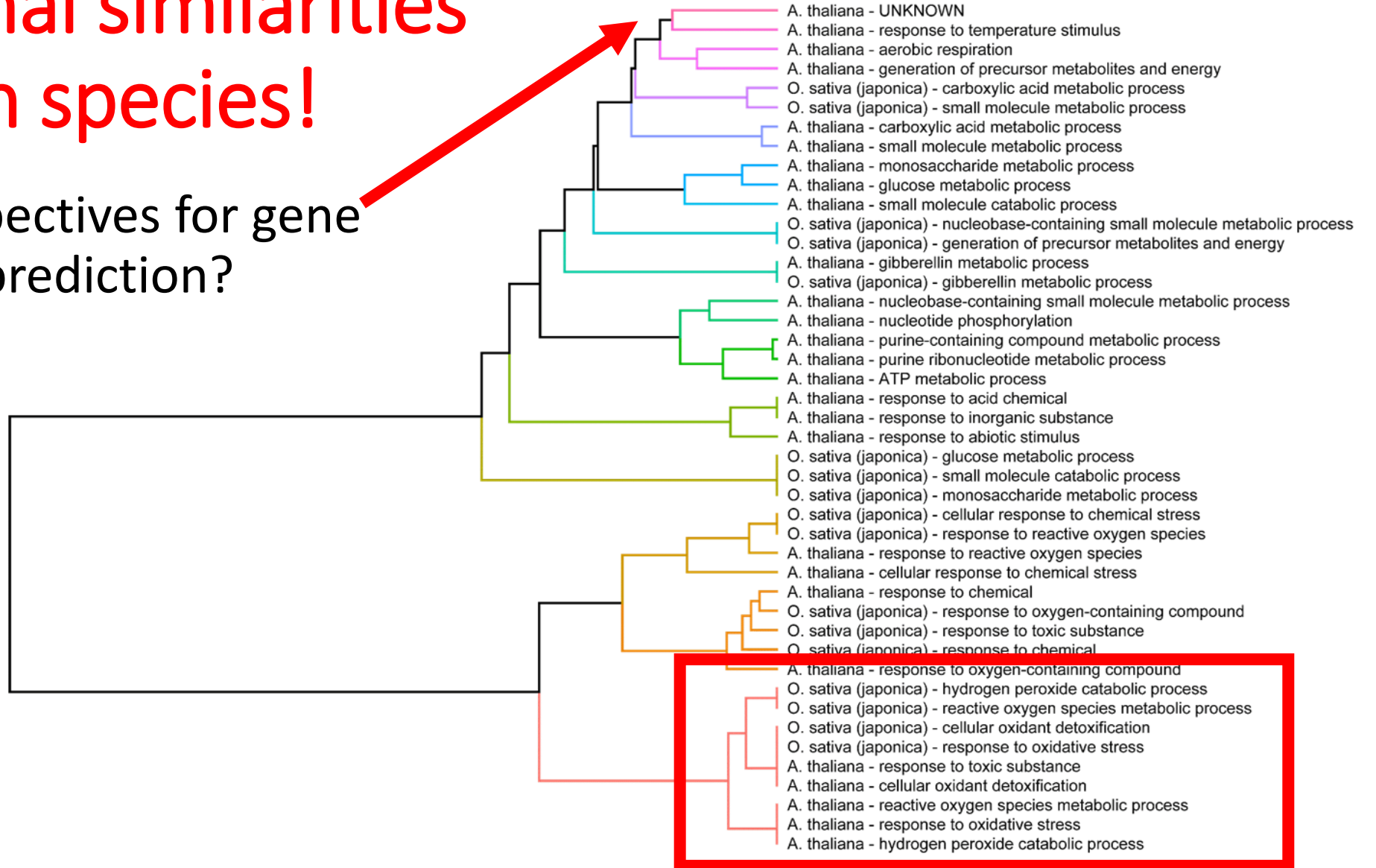


# ¿How to detect divergences in aluminum tolerance mechanisms between *Oryza sativa* subsp. japonica and *Arabidopsis thaliana*?



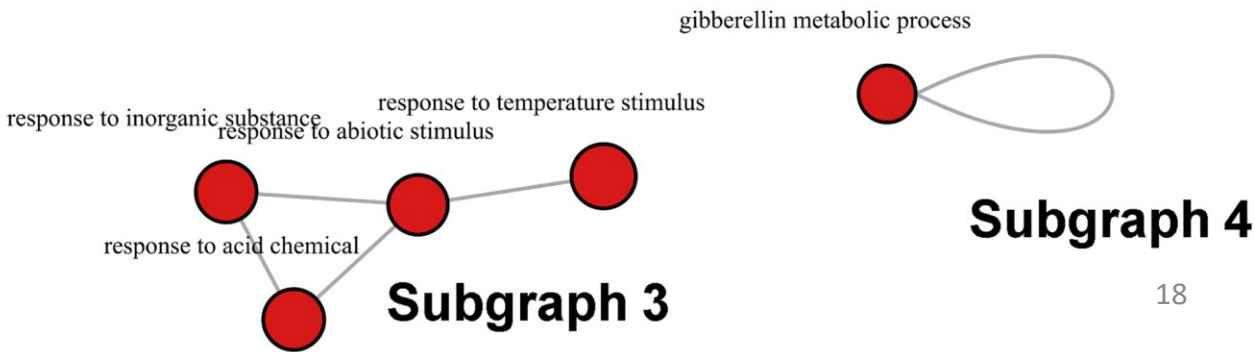
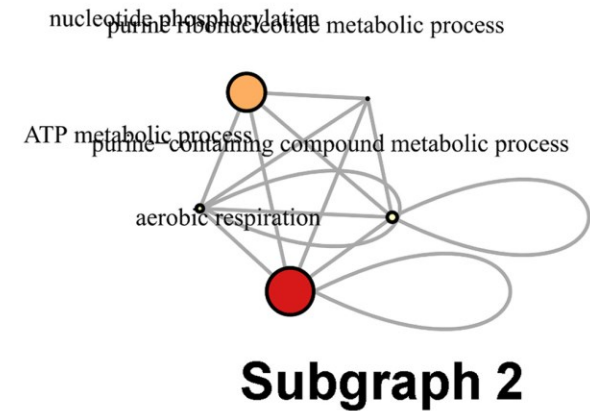
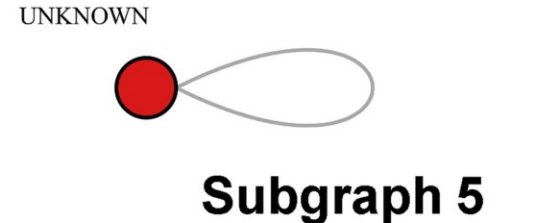
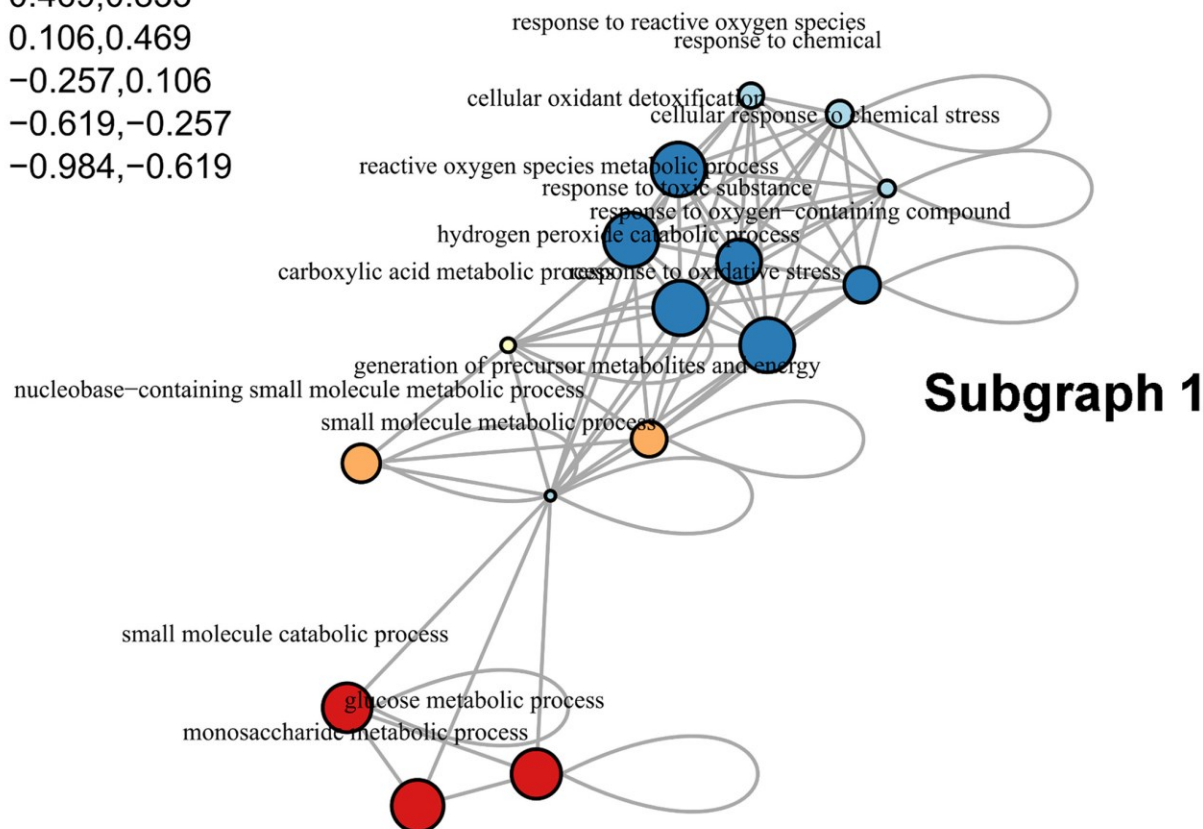
# Functional similarities between species!

Future perspectives for gene annotation prediction?



Combined node weight value (ranges)

- 0.469,0.833
- 0.106,0.469
- -0.257,0.106
- -0.619,-0.257
- -0.984,-0.619

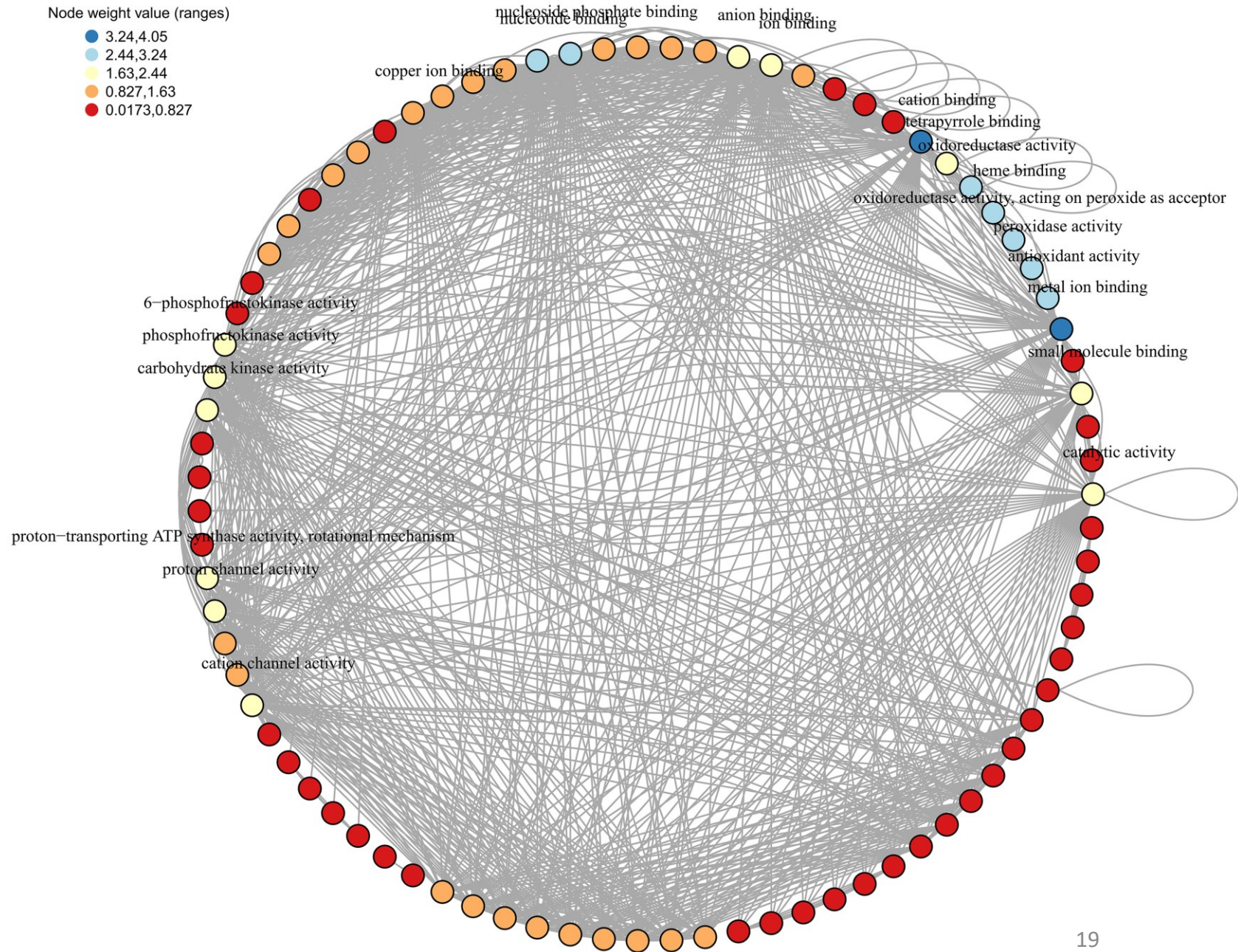


# Categories similarity

**Conserved ROS mechanisms between OSJ and ARA!**



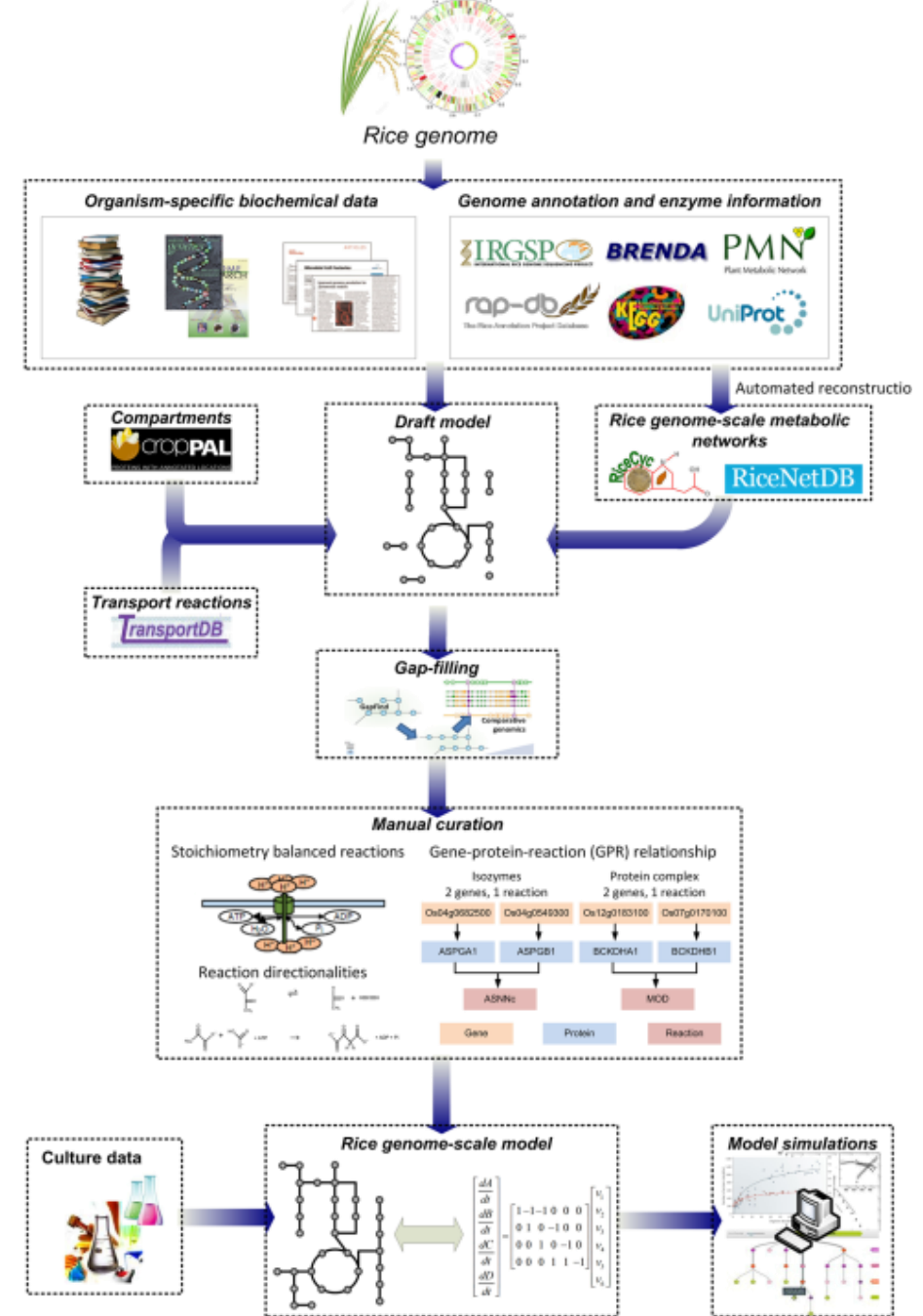
# Most frequent GO molecular functions



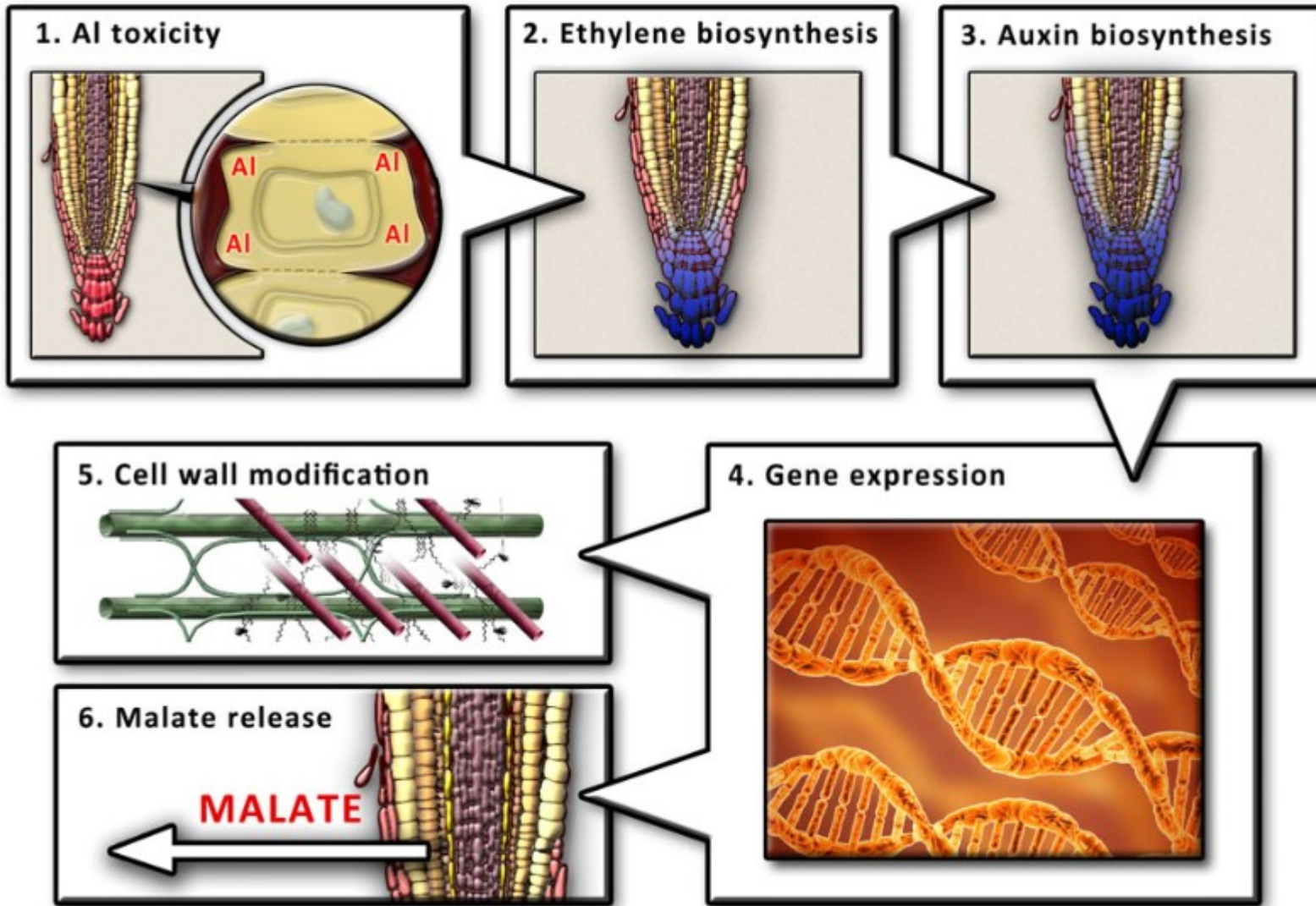
Oxidoreduction process  
Binding processes

# STAGE II: Metabolic response based on genome-scale network reconstruction

- Manual curation of the iOS2164 model
- 228 new reactions detected from 1084 genes and aluminum:
  - 41 reactions associated with aluminum
  - 187 reactions associated with genes that were associated with aluminum studies in rice.

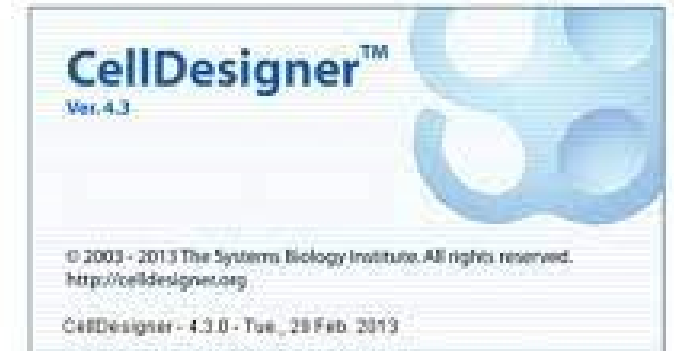






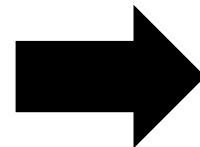
**ONGOING: 74 candidate genes**

- 39 high priority
- 16 possible targets



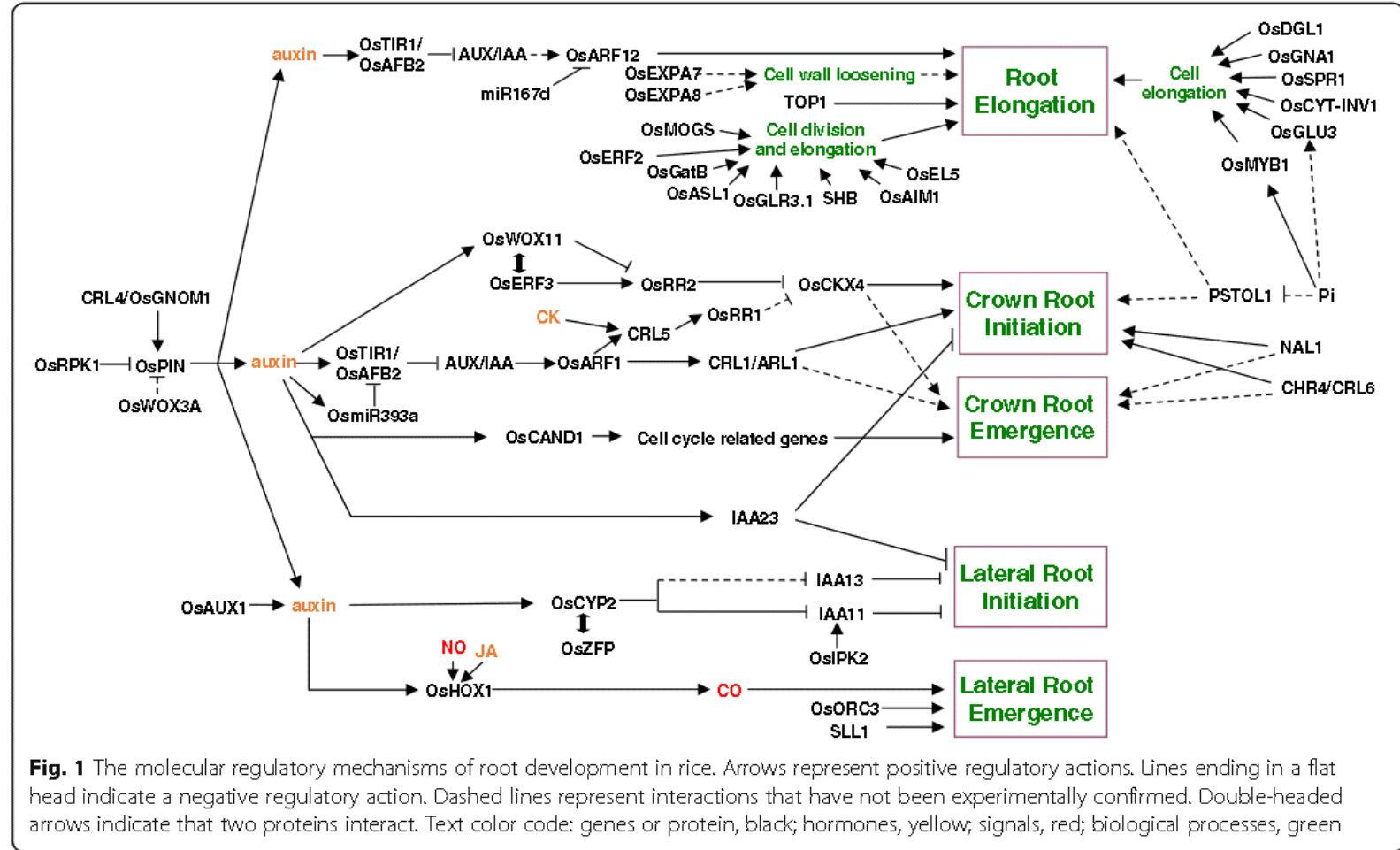
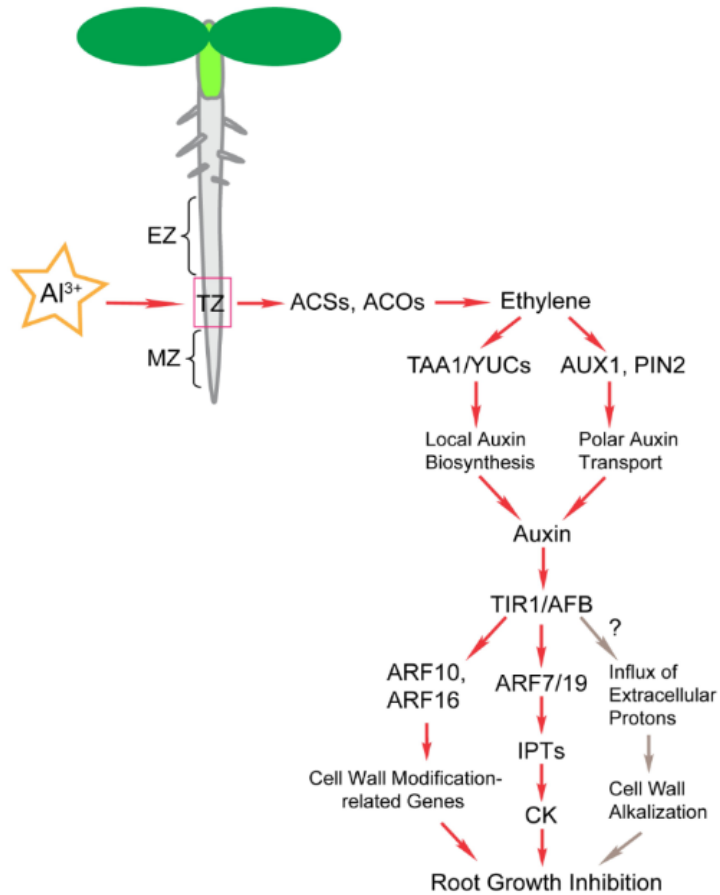
CellDesigner Ver.4.3.0 has been released!

How aluminum affects the root growth response?



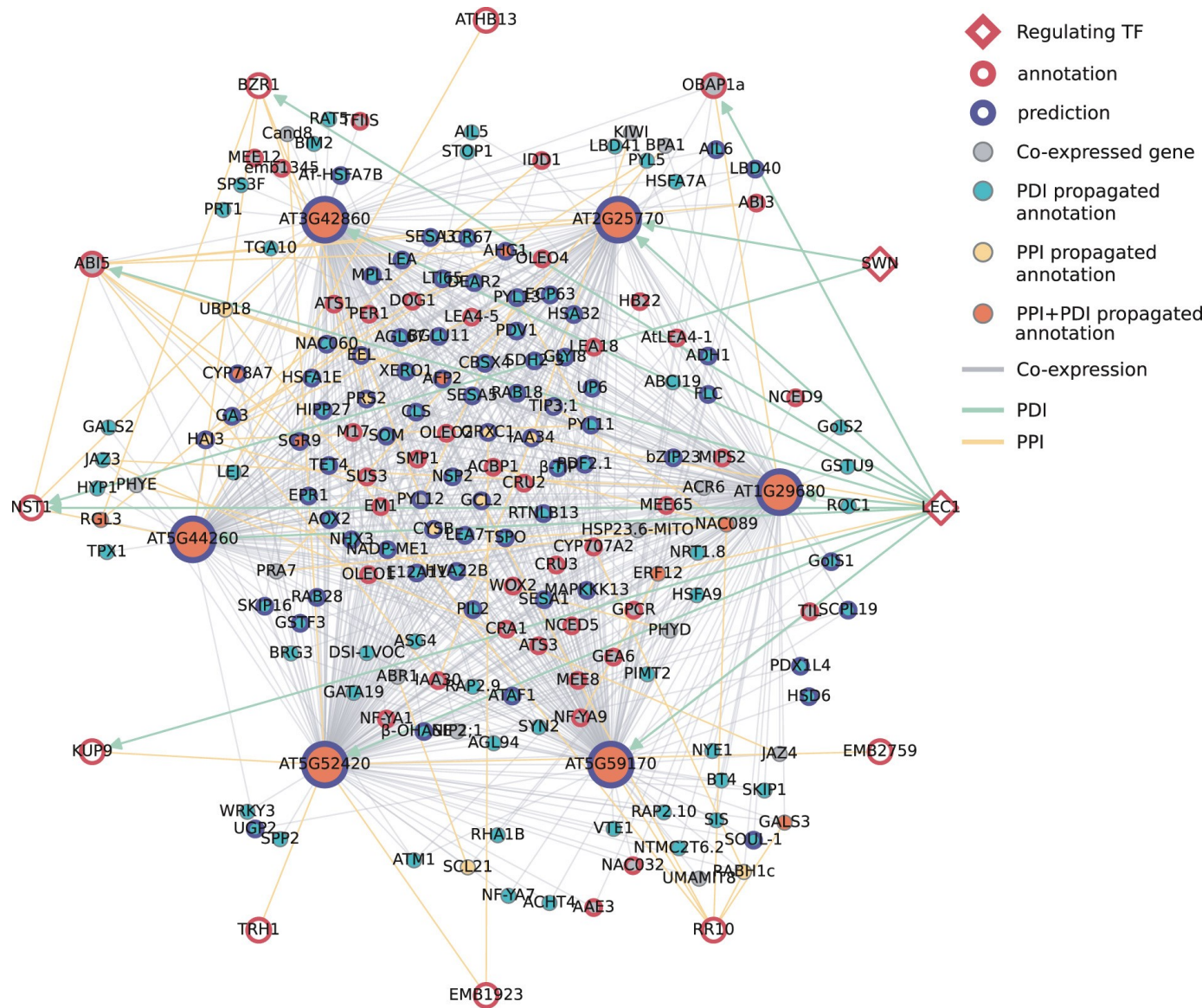
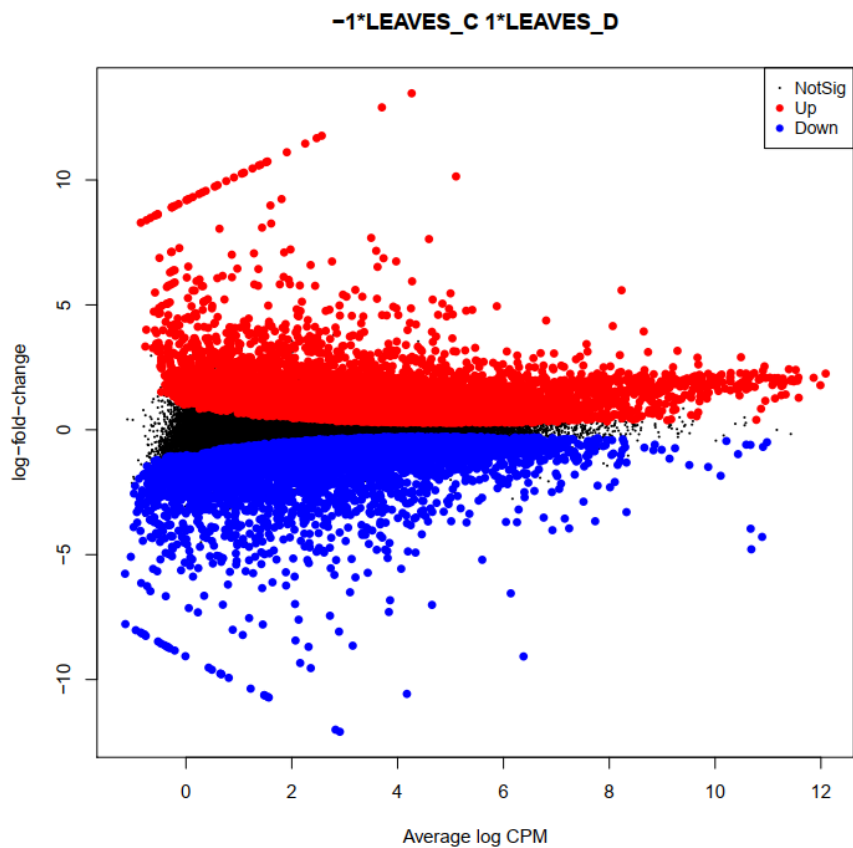
Auxins and ethylene biosynthesis

# The AI in rice root model vs the root regulatory mechanisms in rice



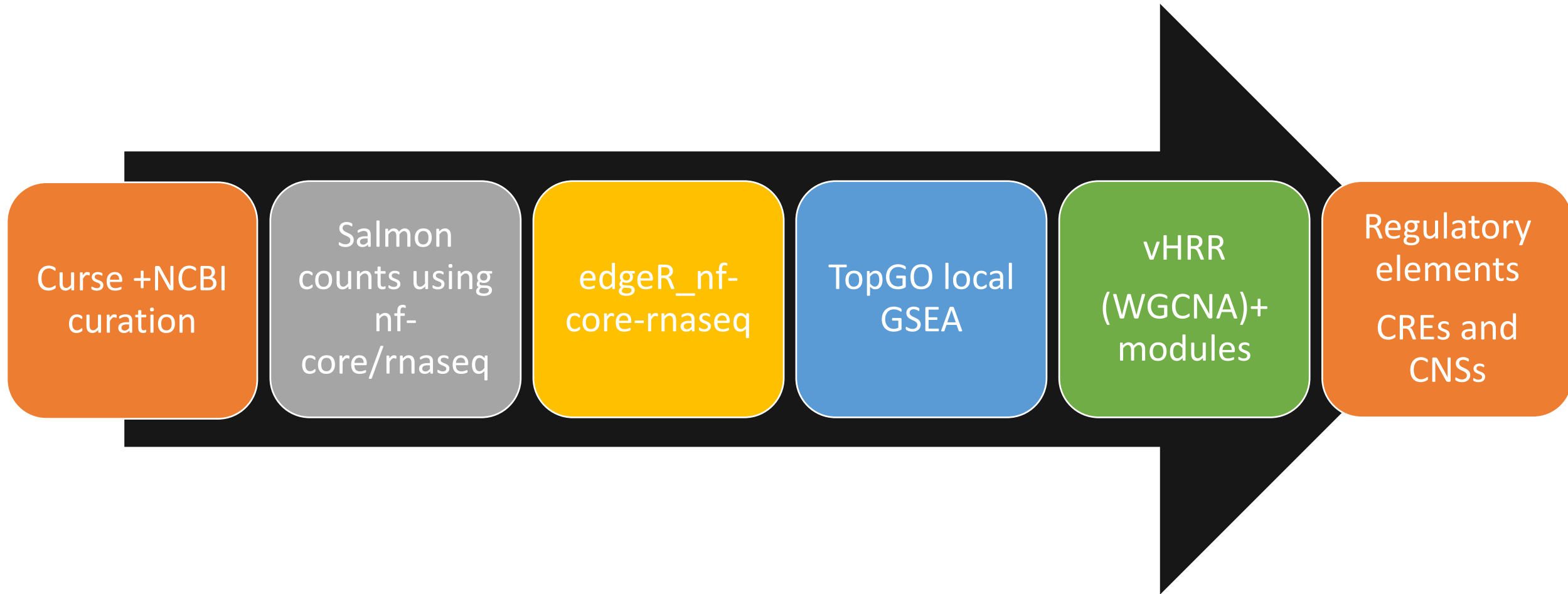
**Fig. 1** The molecular regulatory mechanisms of root development in rice. Arrows represent positive regulatory actions. Lines ending in a flat head indicate a negative regulatory action. Dashed lines represent interactions that have not been experimentally confirmed. Double-headed arrows indicate that two proteins interact. Text color code: genes or protein, black; hormones, yellow; signals, red; biological processes, green

# STAGE III: Potential regulatory elements

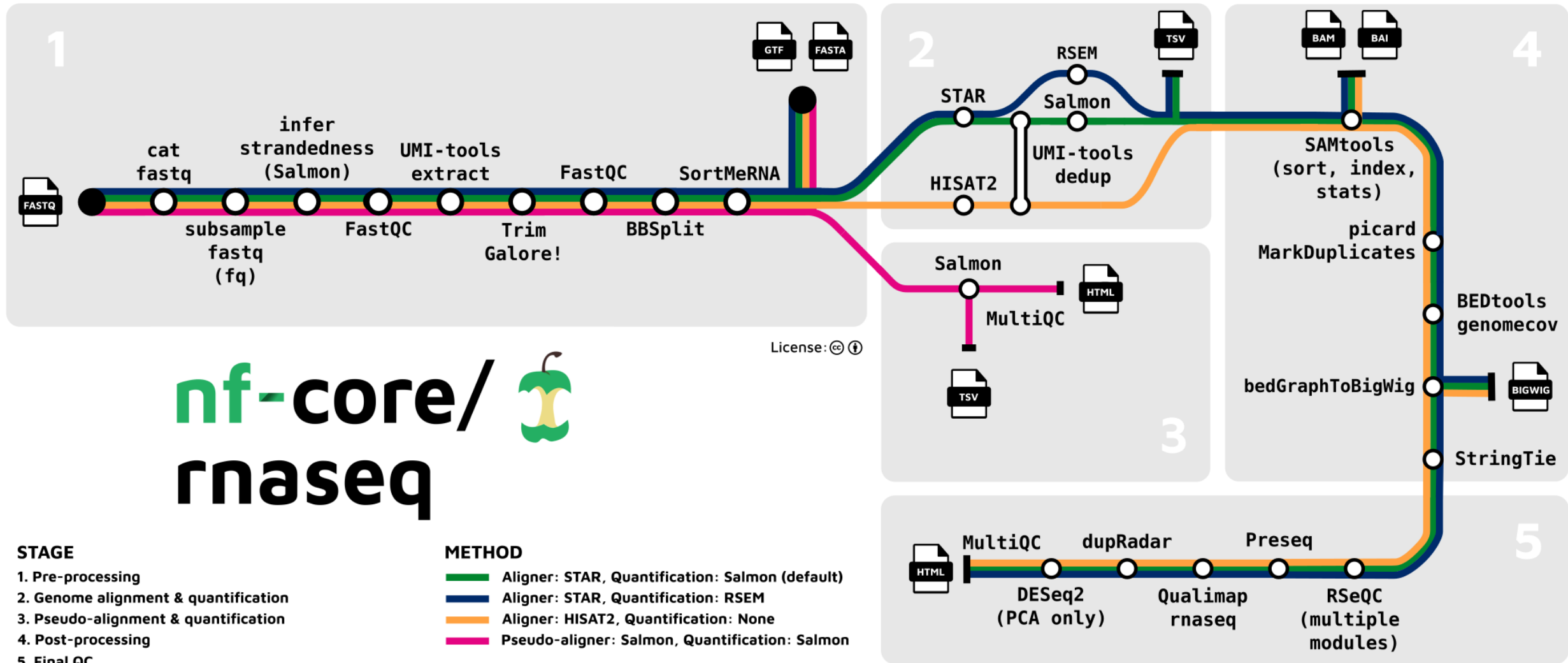




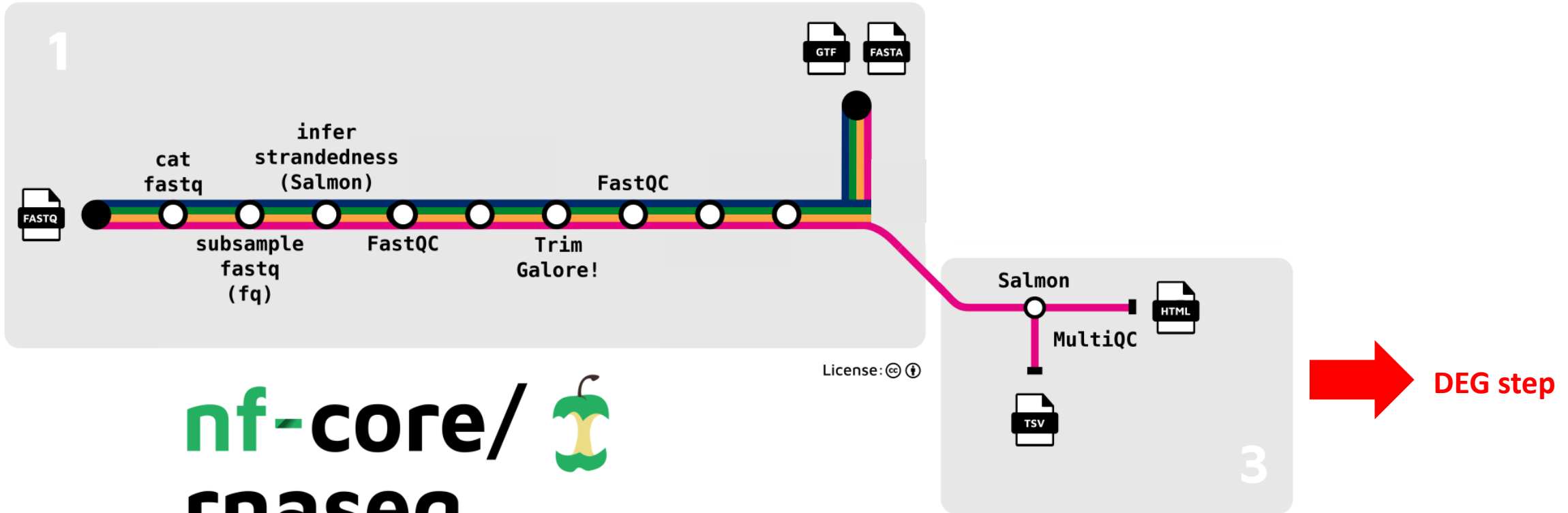
# The workflow



# Original nf-core/rnaseq workflow



# Bulk RNASeq experiments



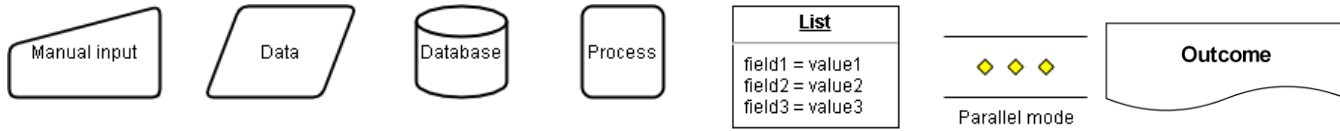
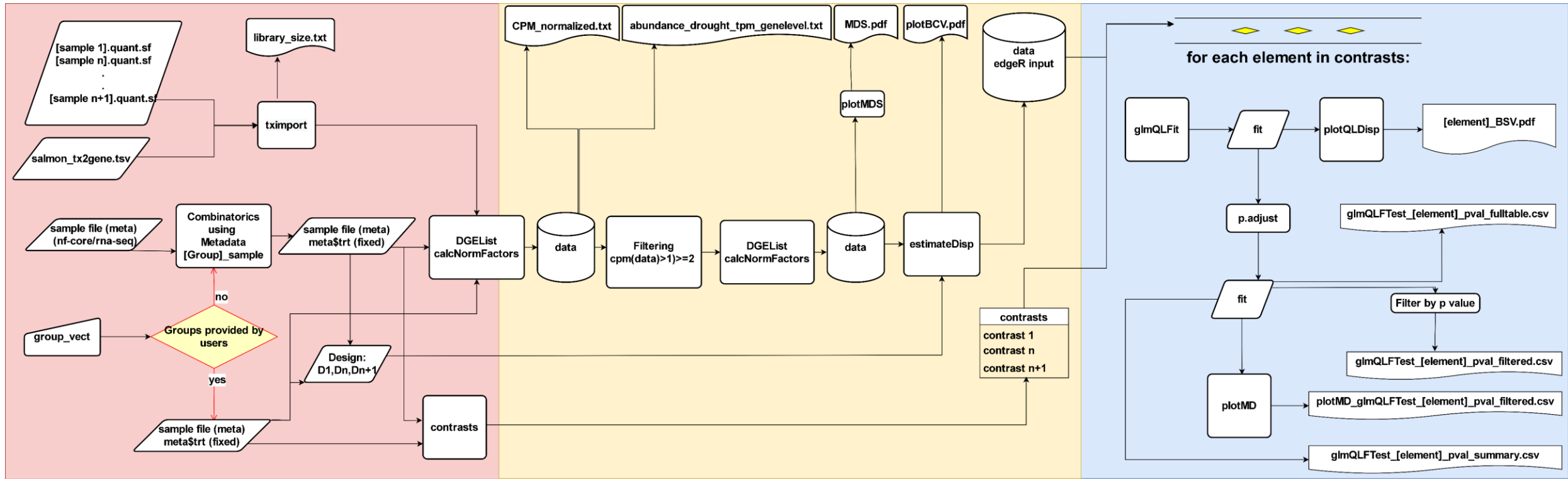
**nf-core/**  
**rnaseq**

**STAGE**  
1. Pre-processing  
3. Pseudo-alignment & quantification

**METHOD**  
Pseudo-aligner: Salmon, Quantification: Salmon

- The exploratory step requires aligners use
- A differential expressed genes calculation step is missing!

<https://nf-co.re/rnaseq>



- Red: Data preprocessing
- Yellow: EdgeR preprocessing
- Blue EdgeR paralleling processing



[https://github.com/ccsosa/edgeR\\_nf-core-rnaseq](https://github.com/ccsosa/edgeR_nf-core-rnaseq)


# Studies:

Plant Direct

Open Access

ORIGINAL RESEARCH |  Open Access |  

## *ALUMINUM RESISTANCE TRANSCRIPTION FACTOR 1 (ART1)* contributes to natural variation in aluminum resistance in diverse genetic backgrounds of rice (*O. sativa*)

Juan D. Arbelaez, Lyza G. Maron, Timothy O. Jobe, Miguel A. Piñeros, Adam N. Famoso, Ana Rita Rebelo, Namrata Singh, Qiyue Ma, Zhangjun Fei, Leon V. Kochian, Susan R. McCouch 

First published: 16 October 2017 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/pld3.14> | Citations: 17

**Characterization of aluminum stress tolerance mechanisms through  
transcriptional analysis of the contrasting rice species *Oryza sativa* and  
*Oryza glumaepatula***

**IN PREPARATION**

- 28 samples in two studies

Variety	Aluminum	Control
Azucena	7 (3 P1)	7 (3 P1)
<b>AZU[IR64121] (near-isogenic line)</b>	5	3
BGI	3	3



Thanks...



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