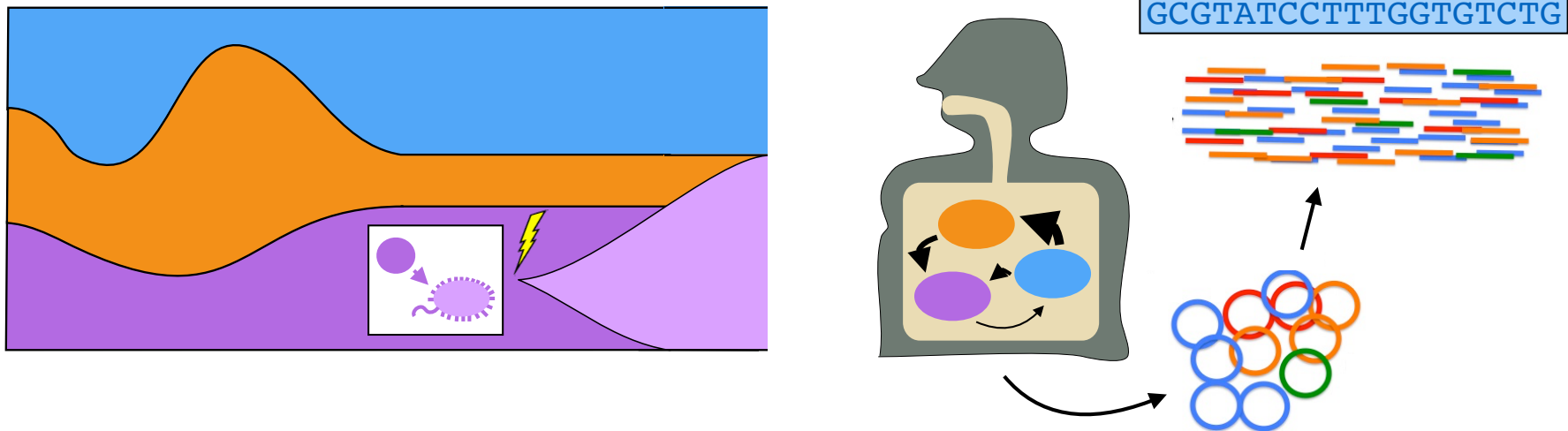


Eco-evolutionary feedbacks in the gut microbiome

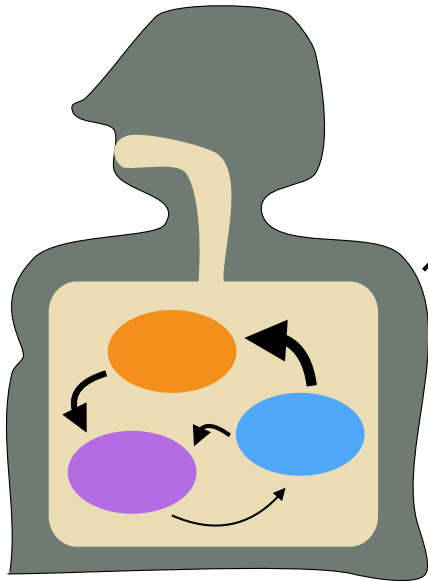


Benjamin Good

Assistant Professor of Applied Physics
Stanford University

The Ecology and Evolution of Microbial Communities 7/26/21
Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics

Understanding the *collective behavior* of microbial communities



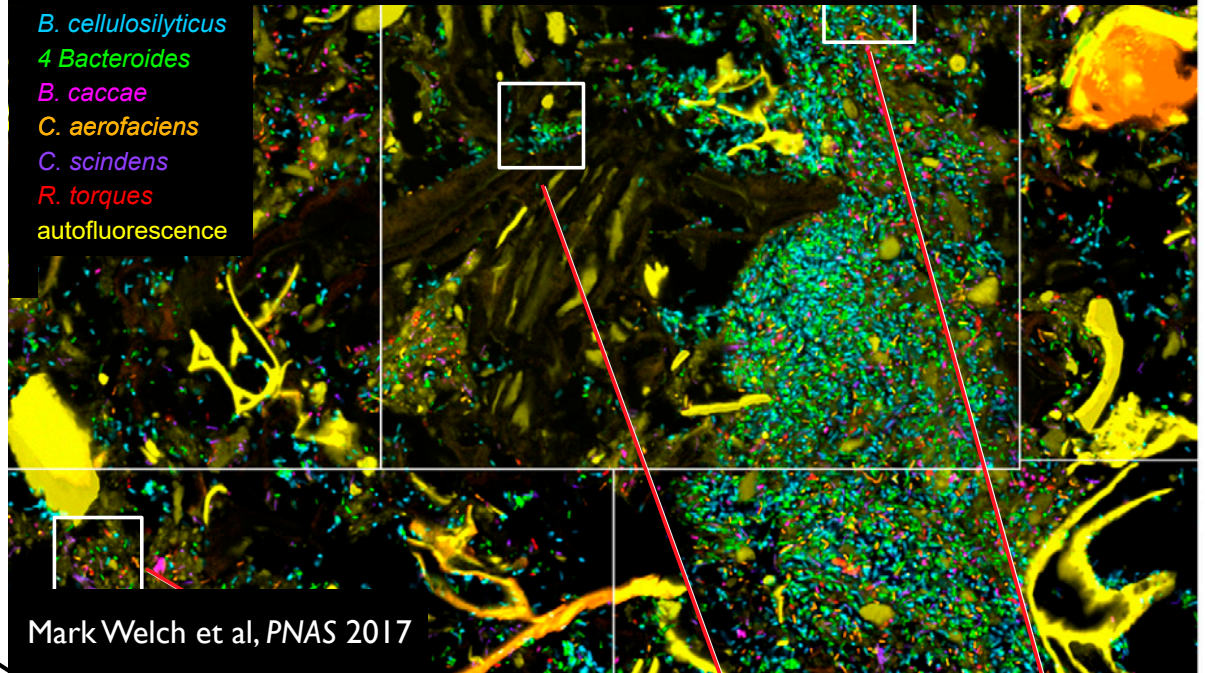
Large intestine:

~ 10^{12} cells

~ 100 distinct species

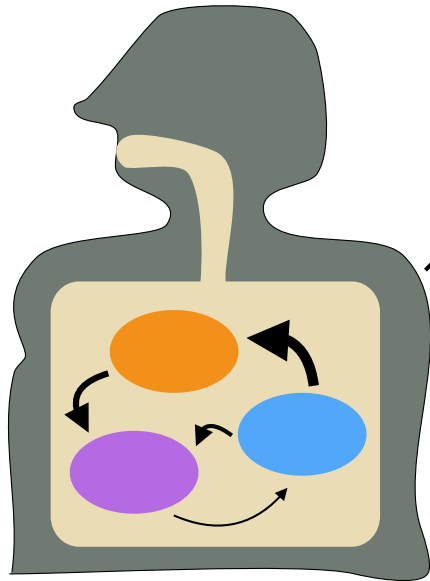
E.g., *in situ* microscopy of a (mouse) gut microbiome

B. cellulosilyticus
4 *Bacteroides*
B. caccae
C. aerofaciens
C. scindens
R. torques
autofluorescence



Mark Welch et al, PNAS 2017

Understanding the *collective behavior* of microbial communities



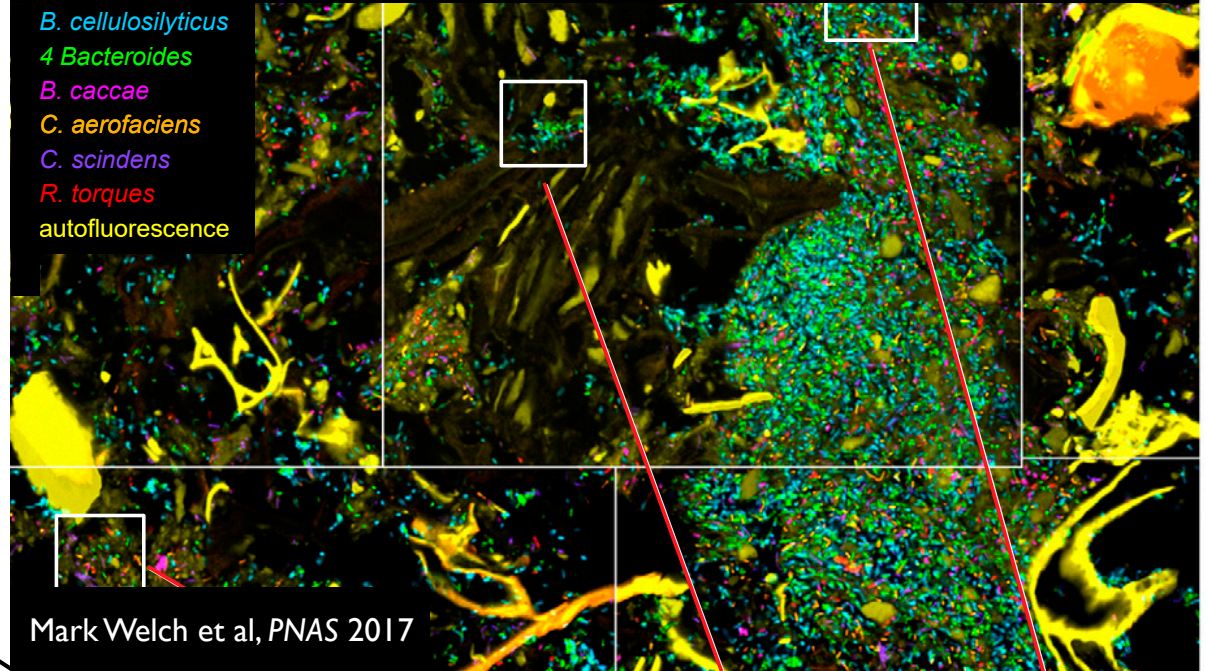
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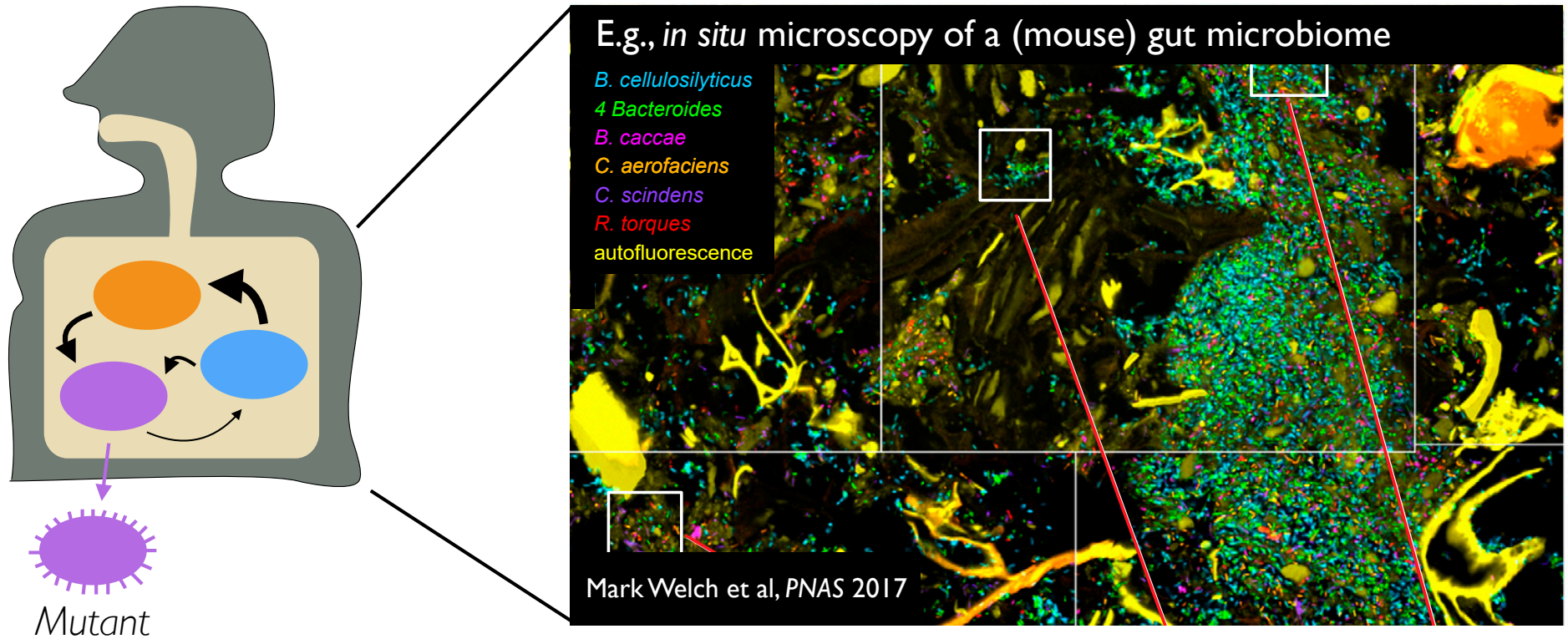


Mark Welch et al, PNAS 2017

Challenges:

- I. Structure & function emerge from many interacting parts (*ecology*)

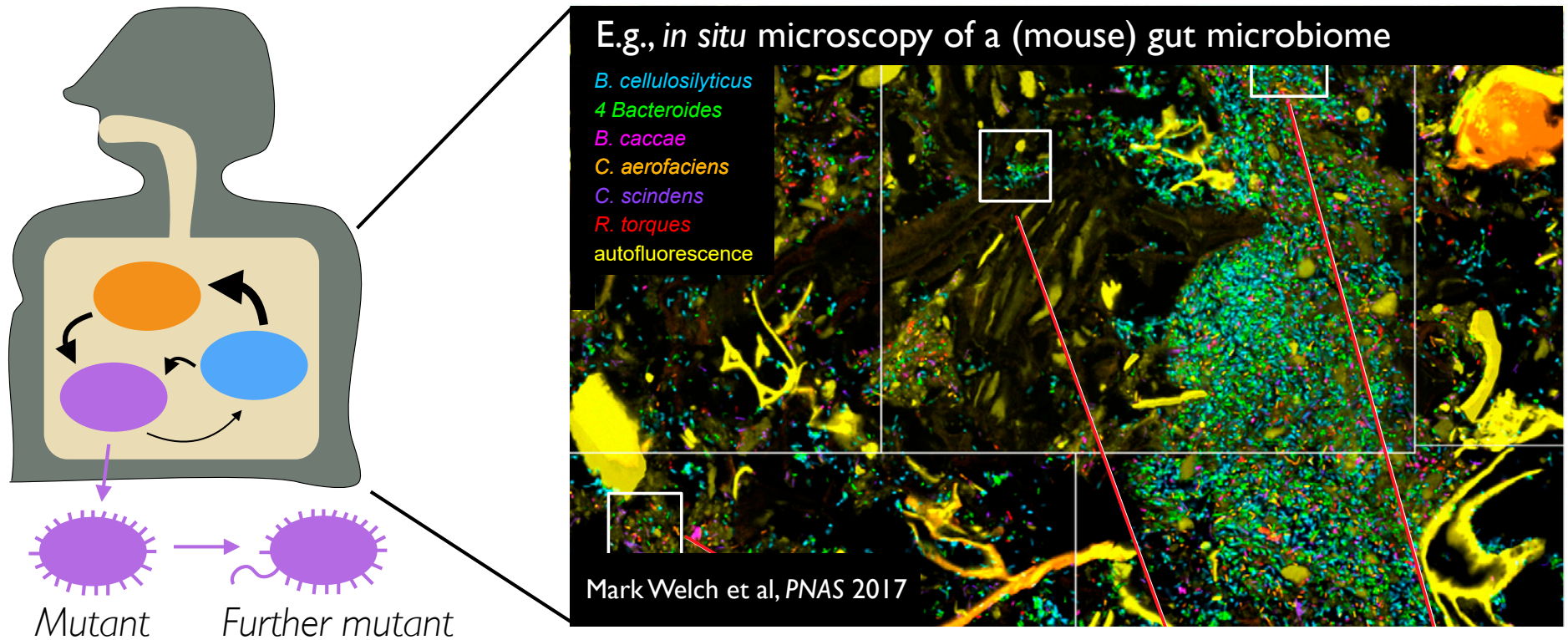
Understanding the *collective behavior* of microbial communities



Challenges:

1. Structure & function emerge from many interacting parts (**ecology**)
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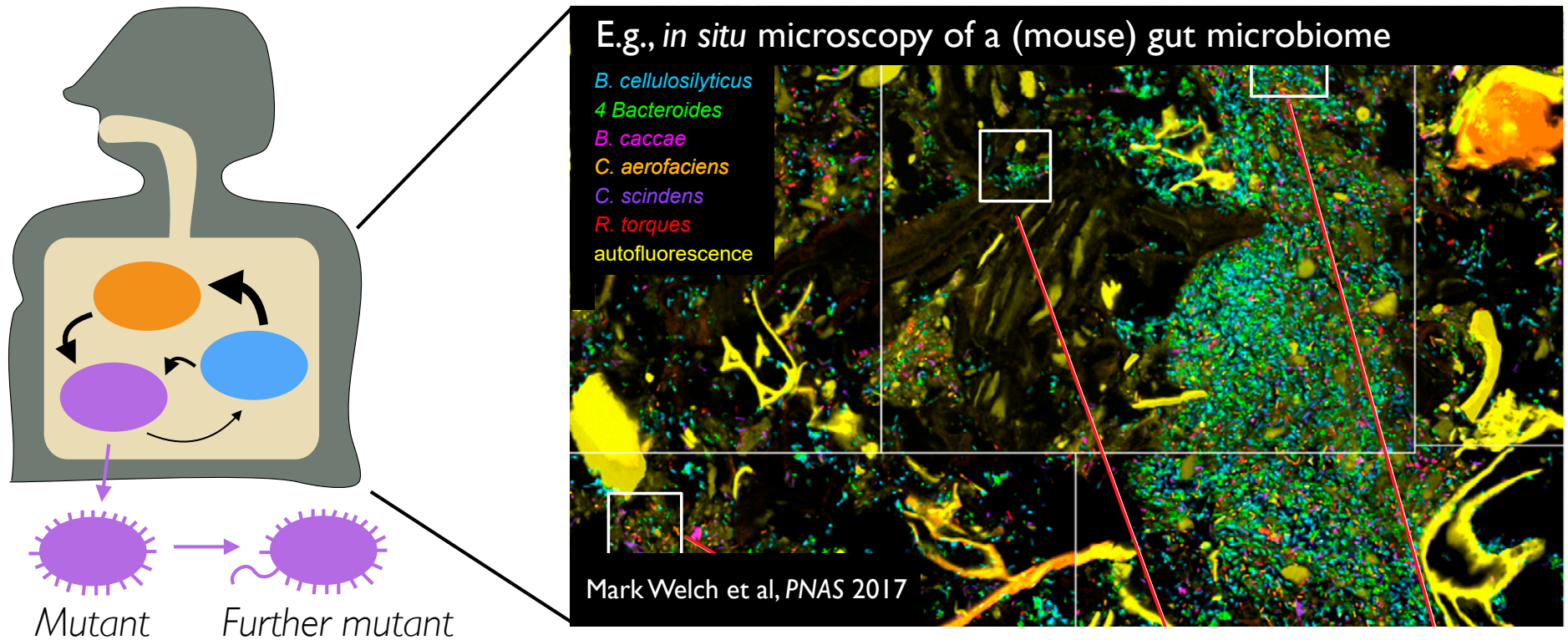
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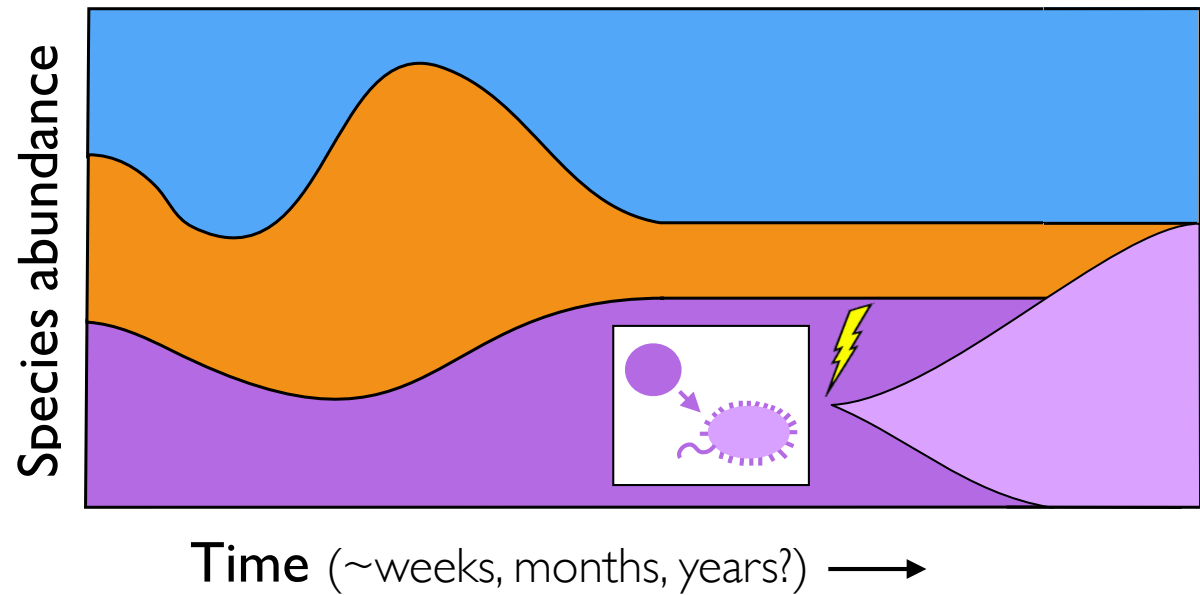
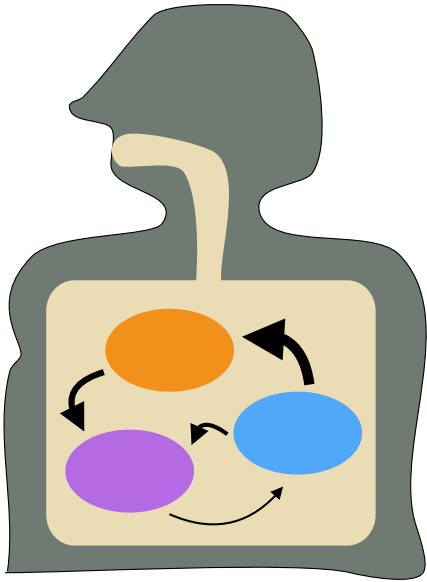
Understanding the *collective behavior* of microbial communities



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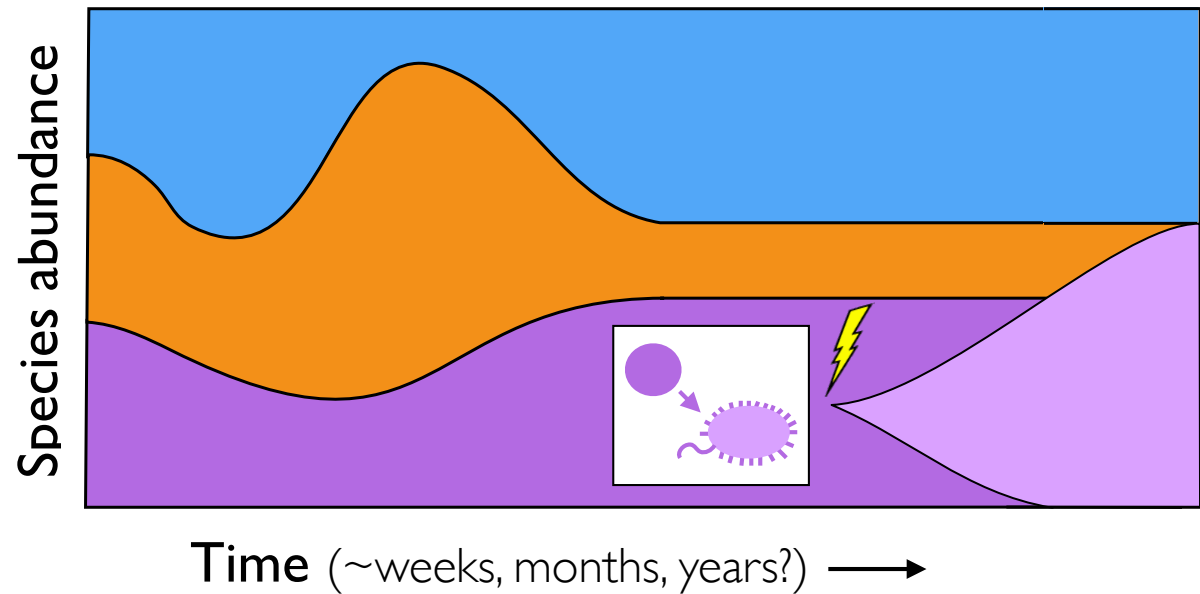
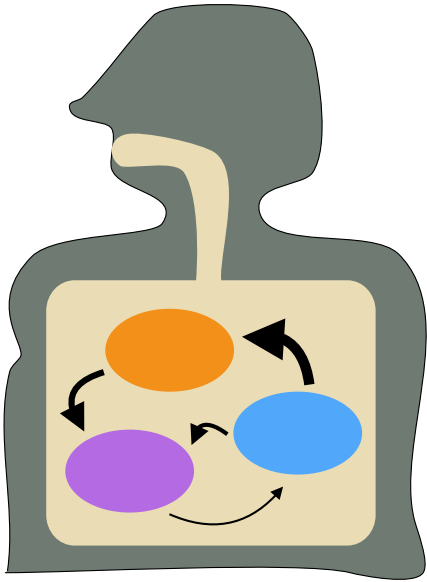
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(pathogens, lab expt's: $\Delta t \sim$ years, months, days)

Is short-term evolution important in the gut microbiome?



Problem: little empirical data. **Many basic questions still not known.**

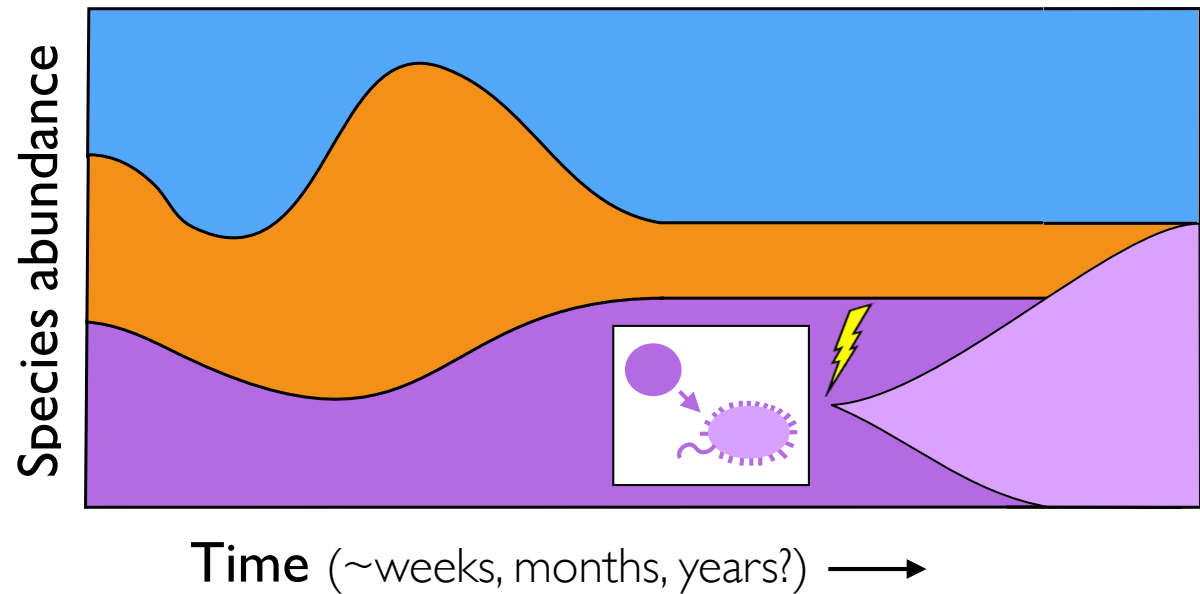
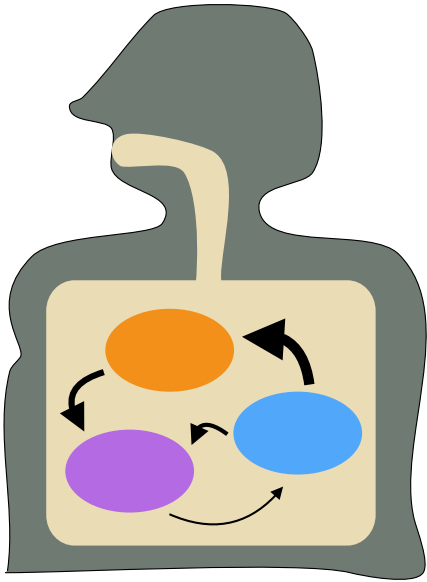
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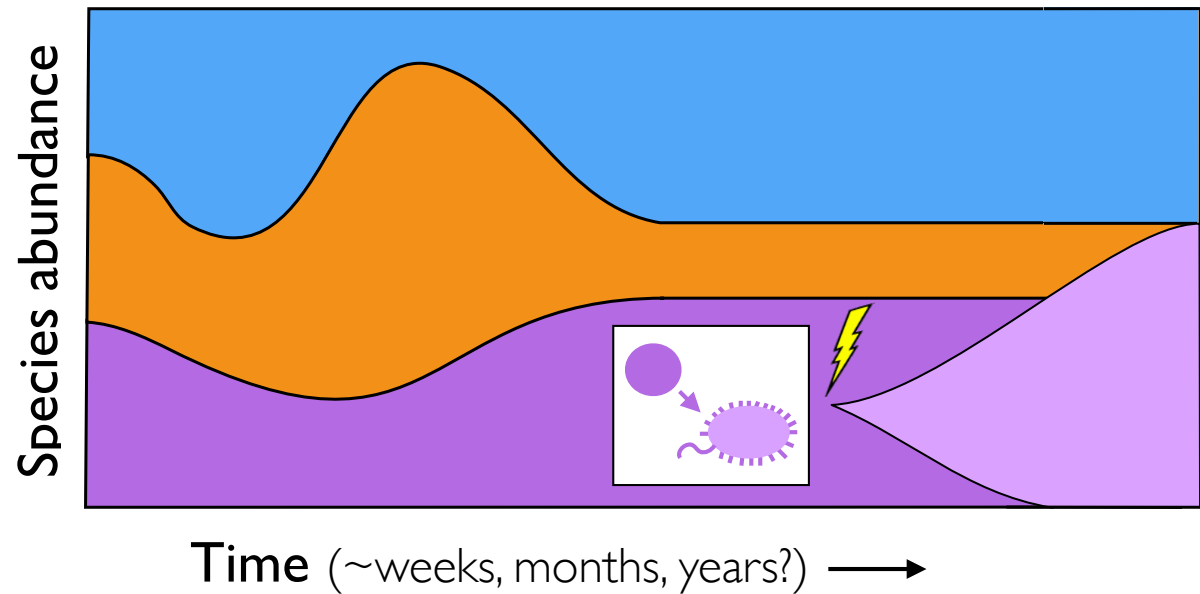
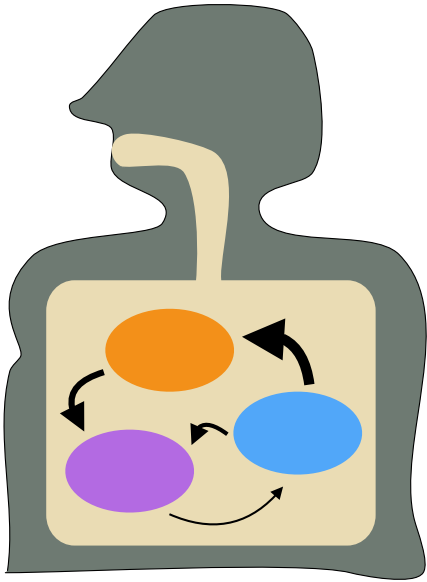
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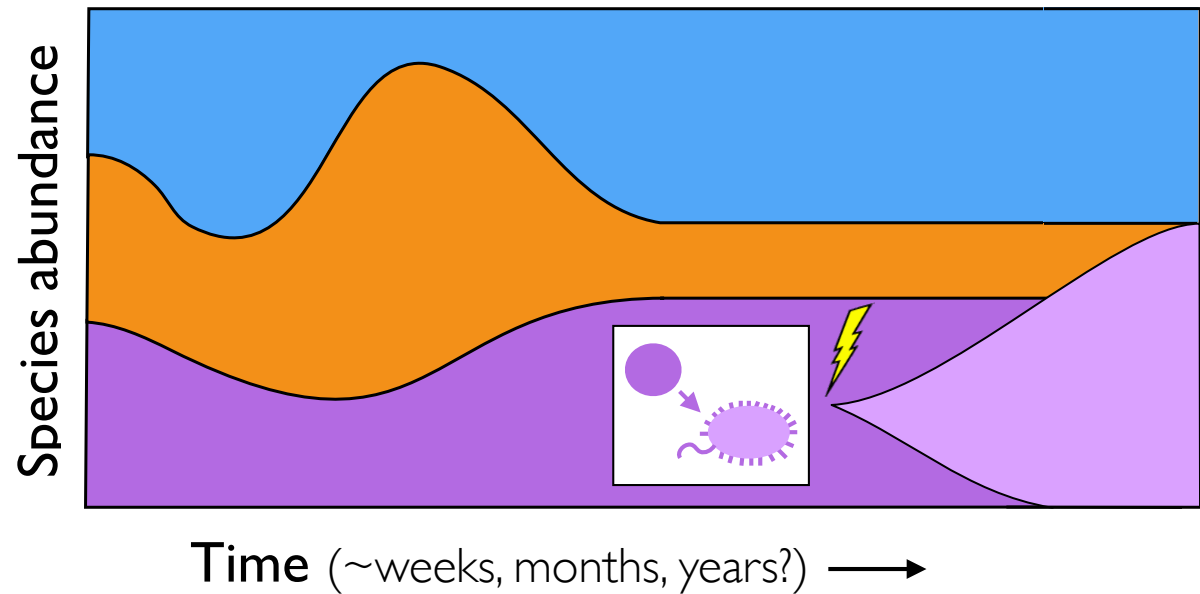
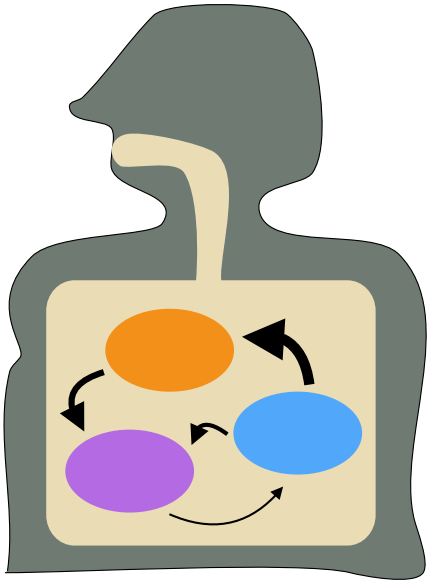
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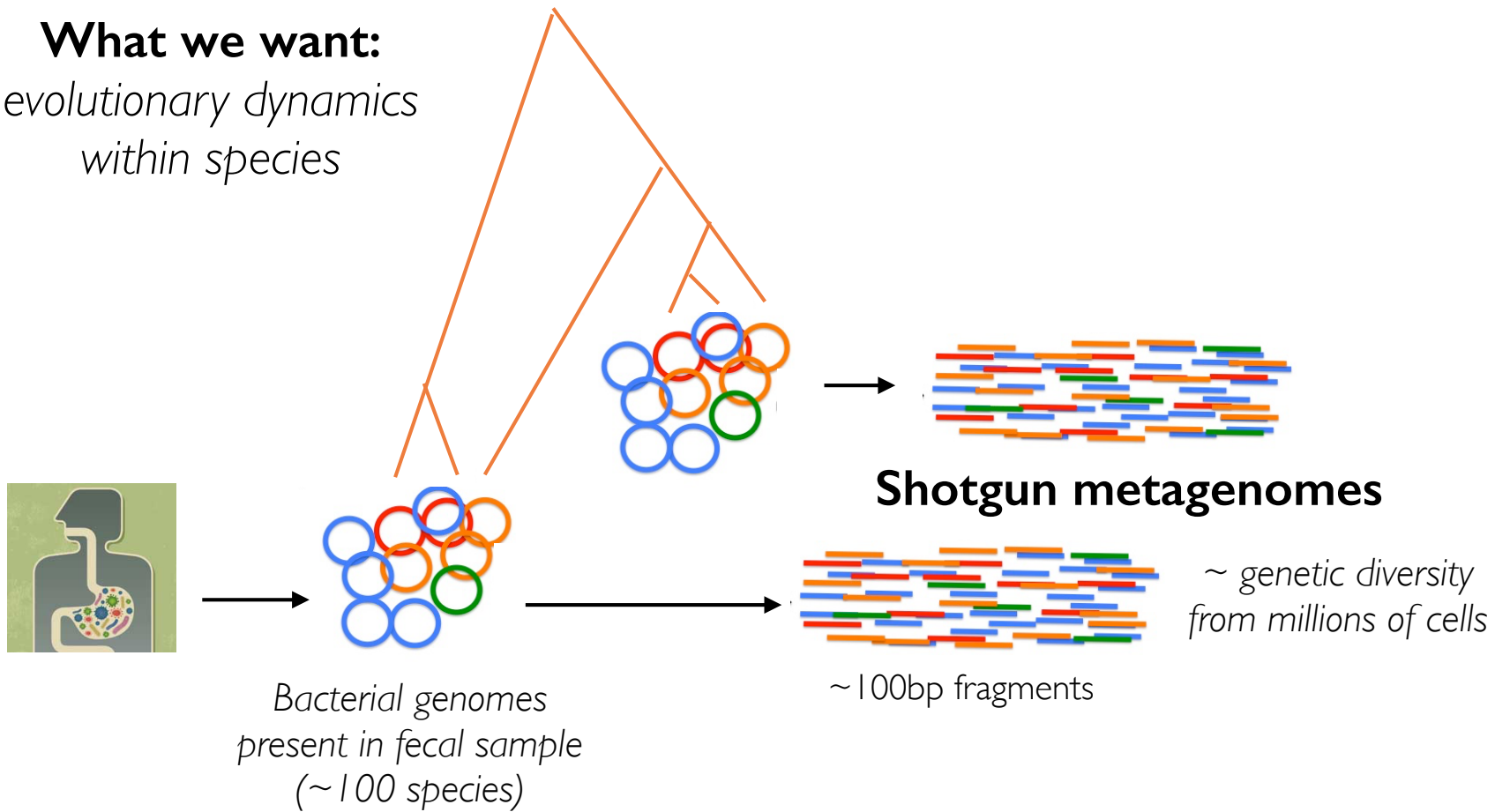


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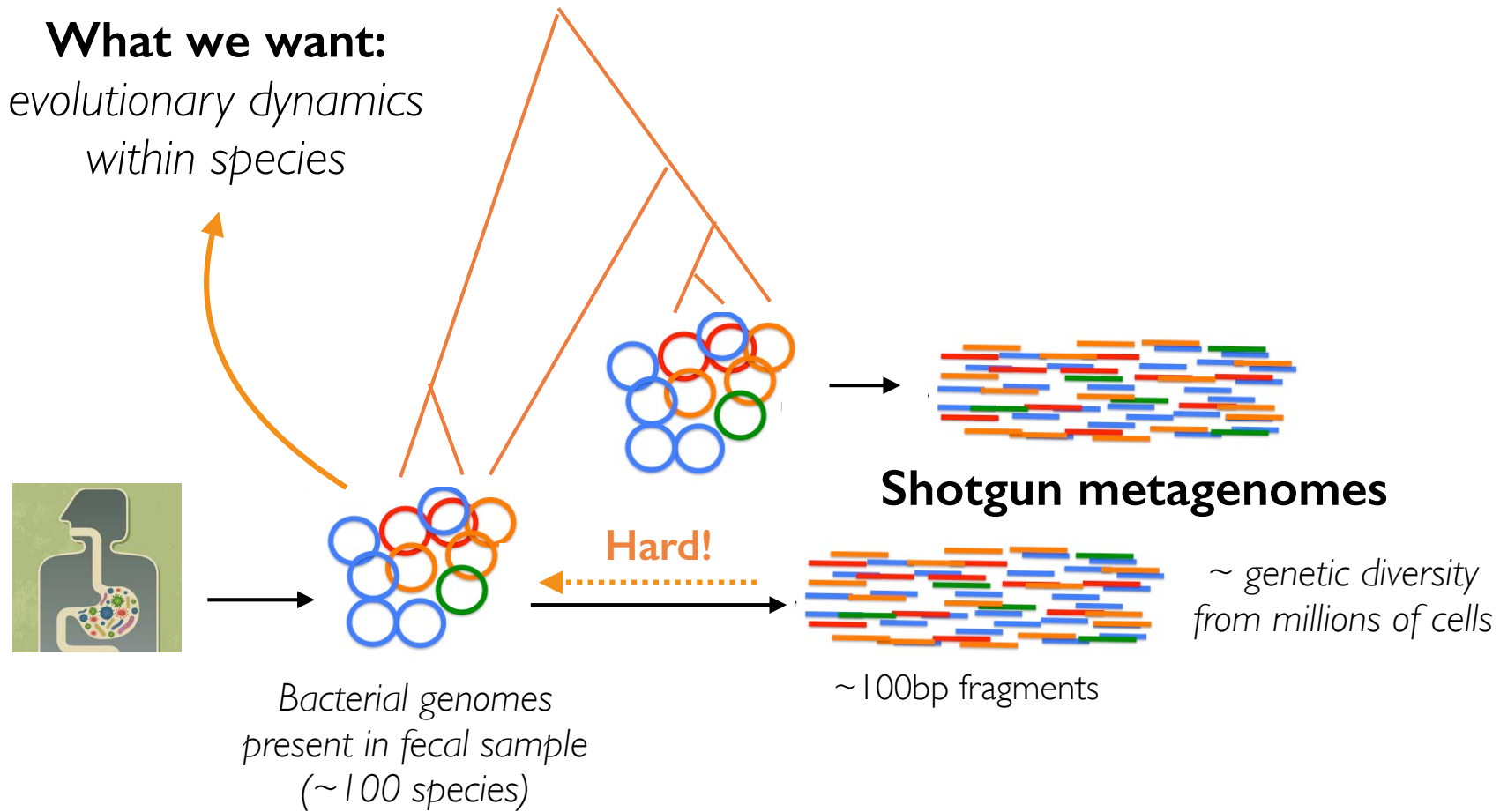
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 - How important are genetic drift, horizontal gene transfer, immigration?

Measuring evolutionary dynamics in shotgun metagenomes

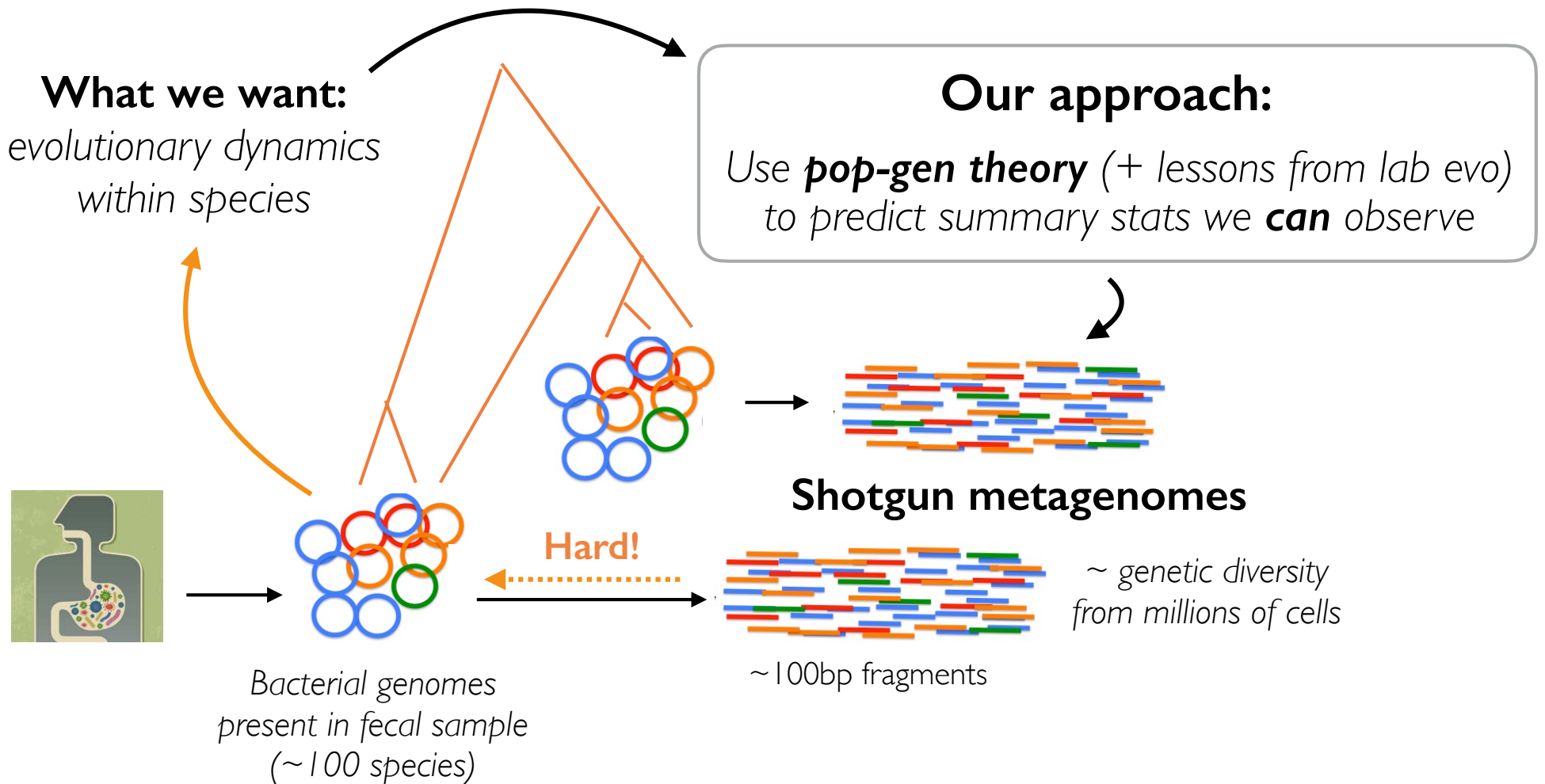
What we want:
*evolutionary dynamics
within species*



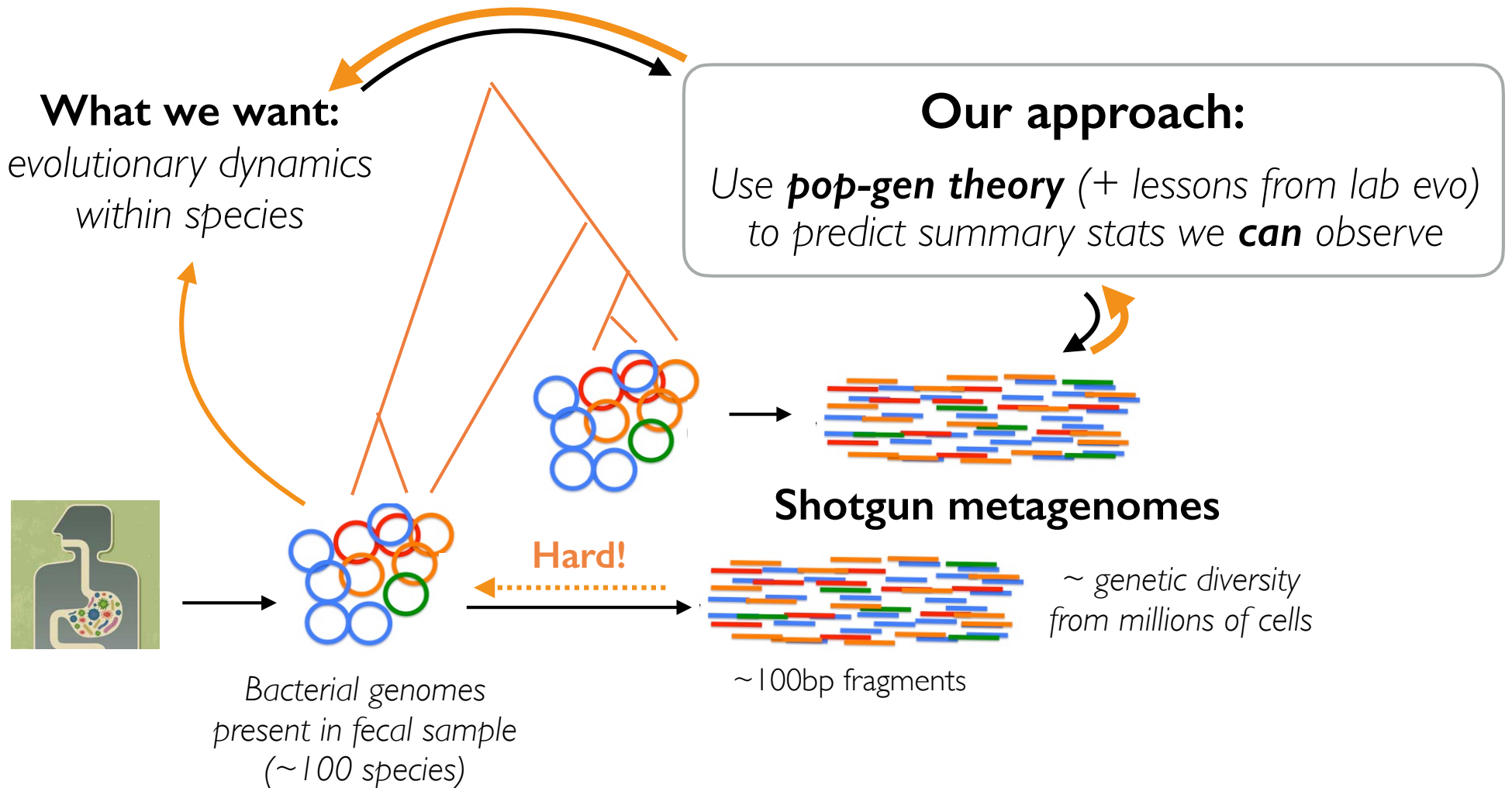
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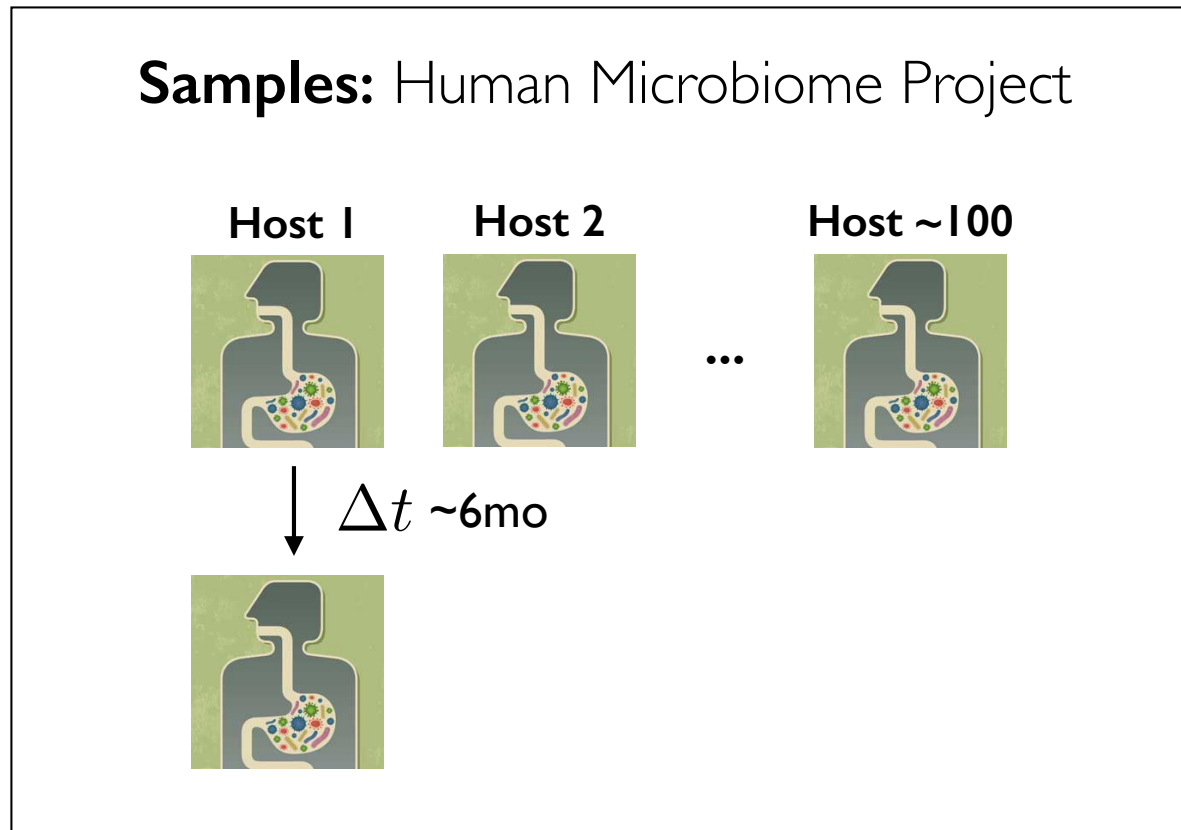
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Measuring evolutionary dynamics in shotgun metagenomes



First pass: what can we learn from a large healthy cohort?



joint
work
with



* Nandita Garud
(UCLA)

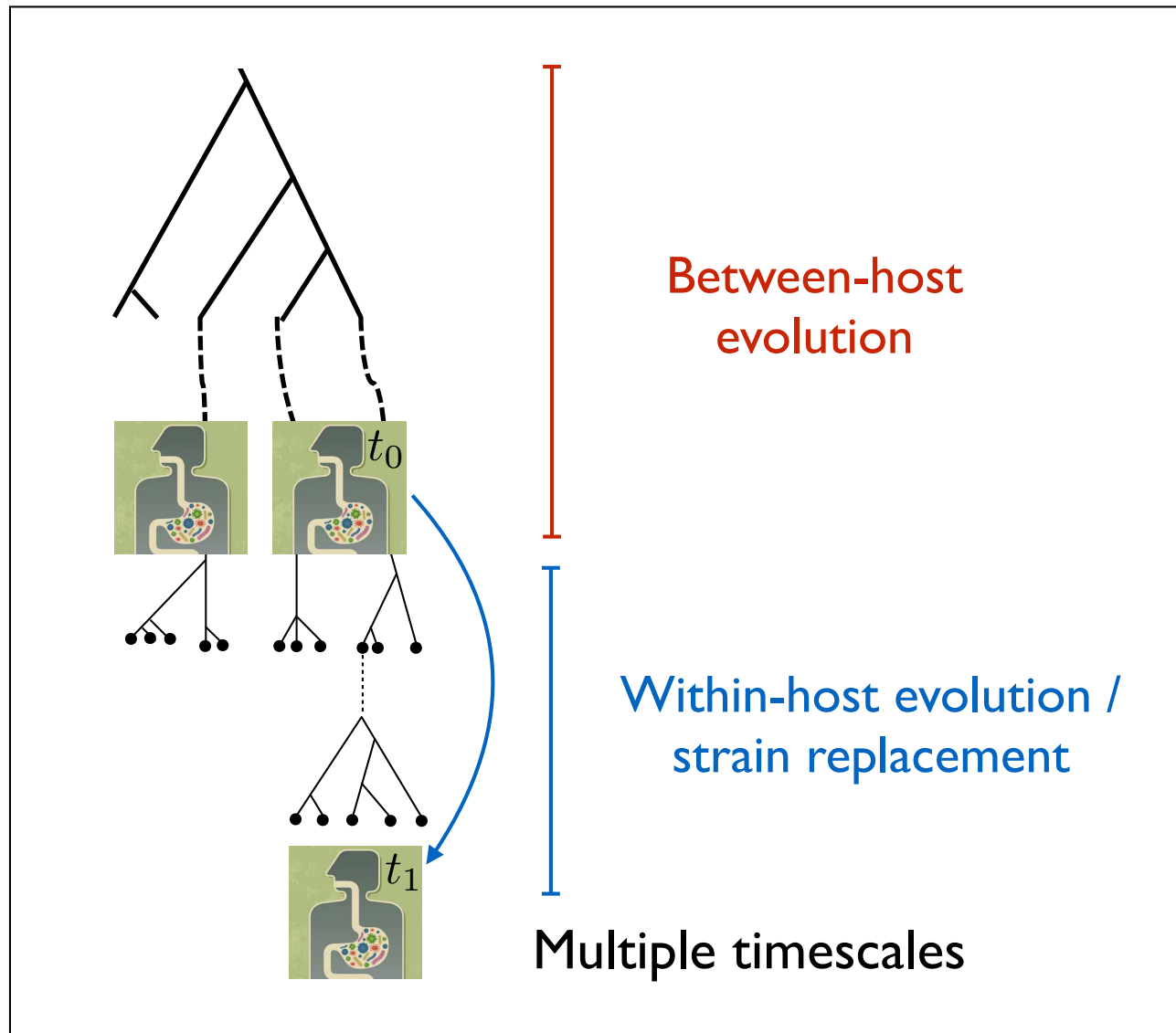


K. Pollard
(UCSF)

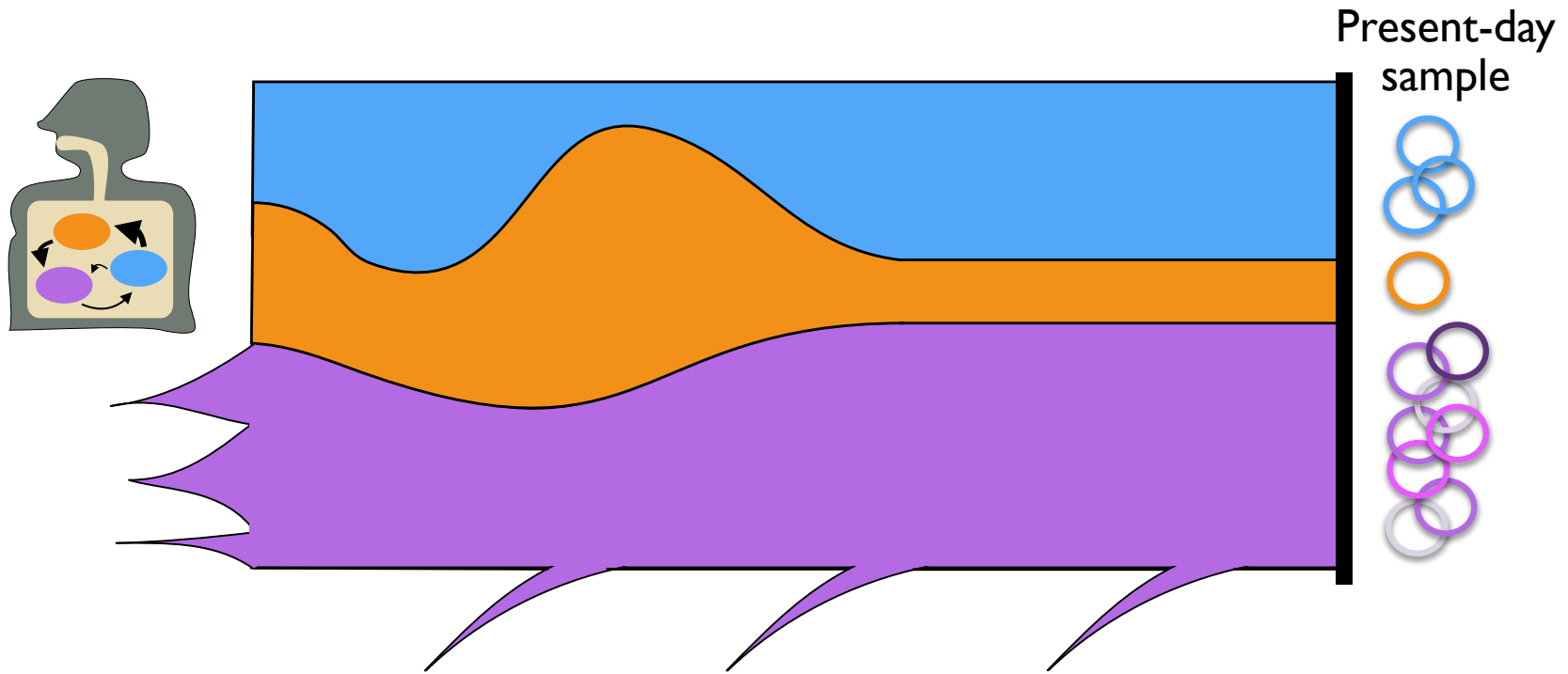


O. Hallatschek
(UC Berkeley)

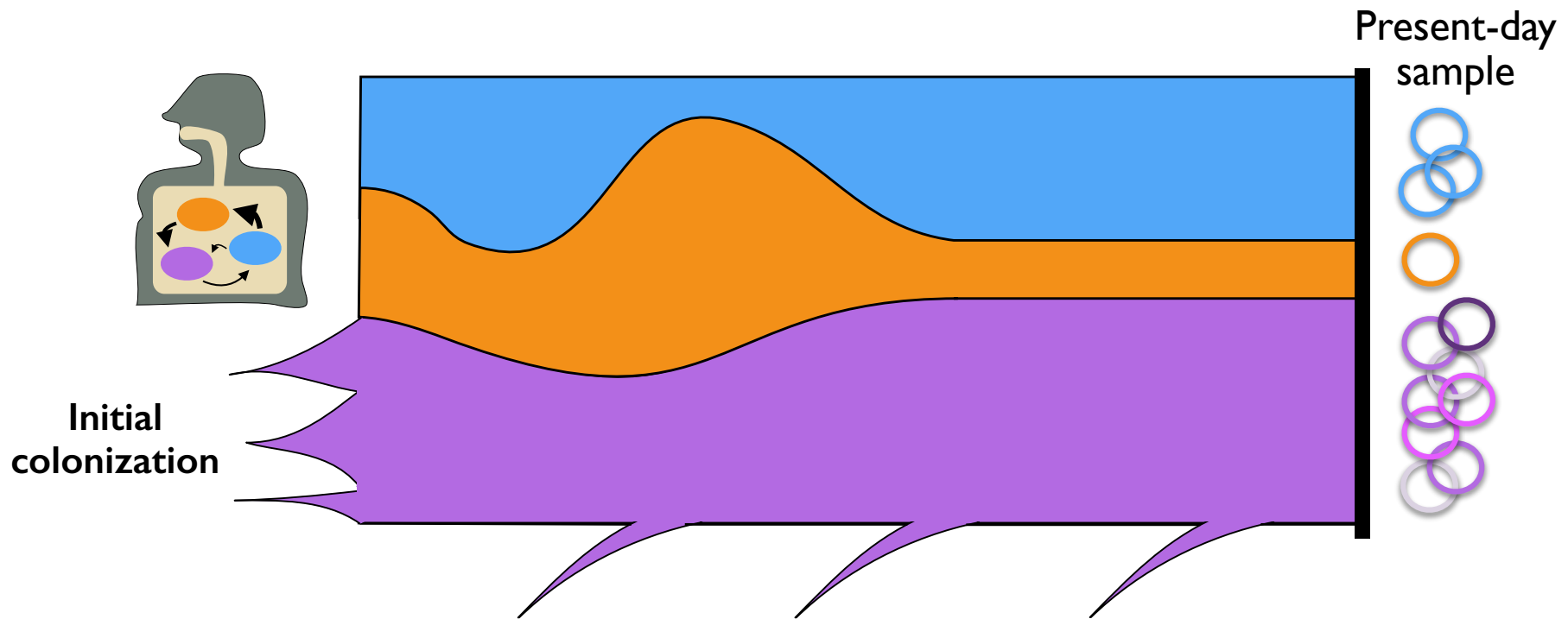
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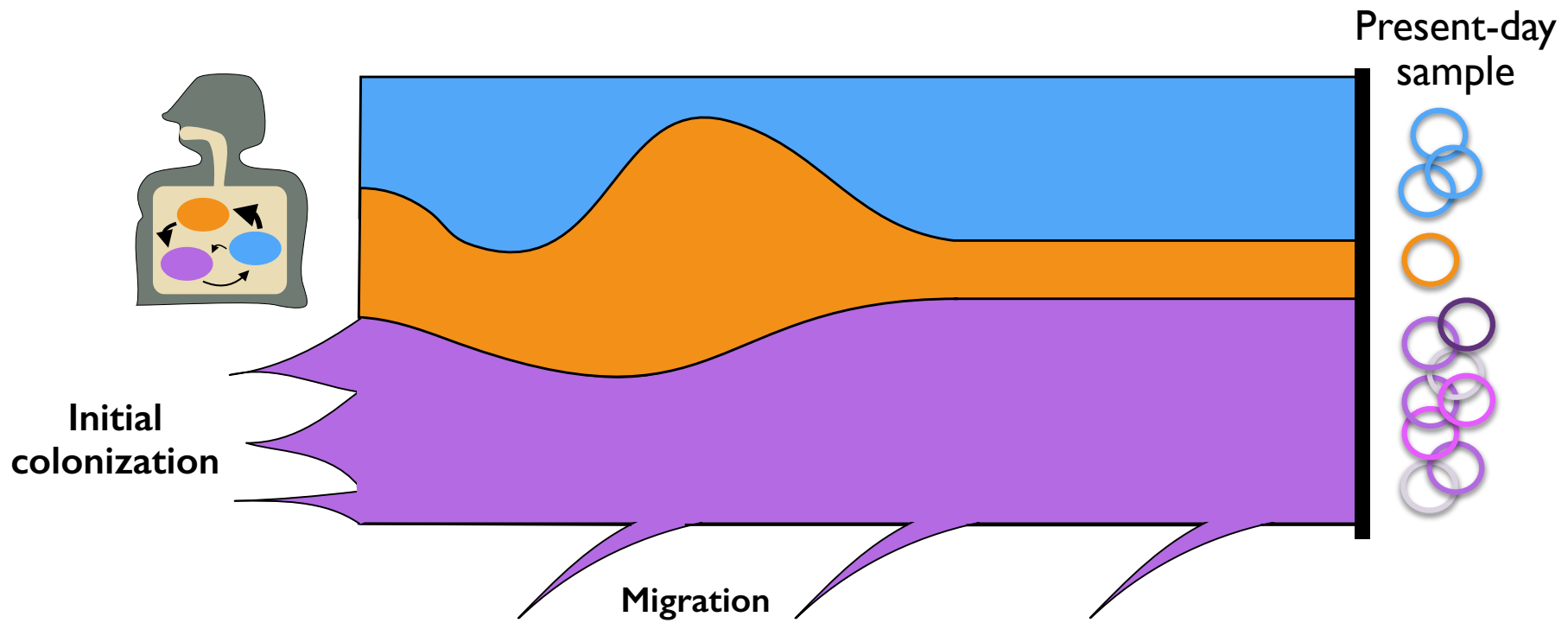
Parsing the genetic structure of a single resident population



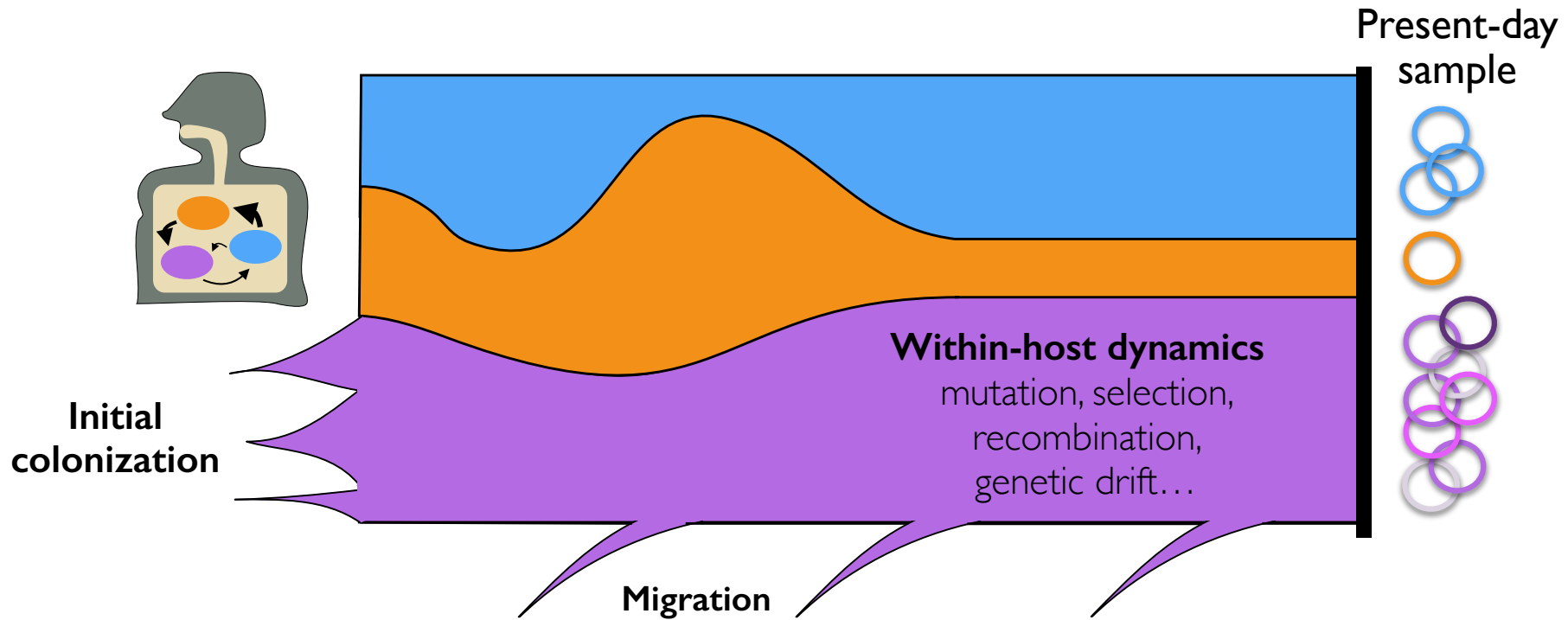
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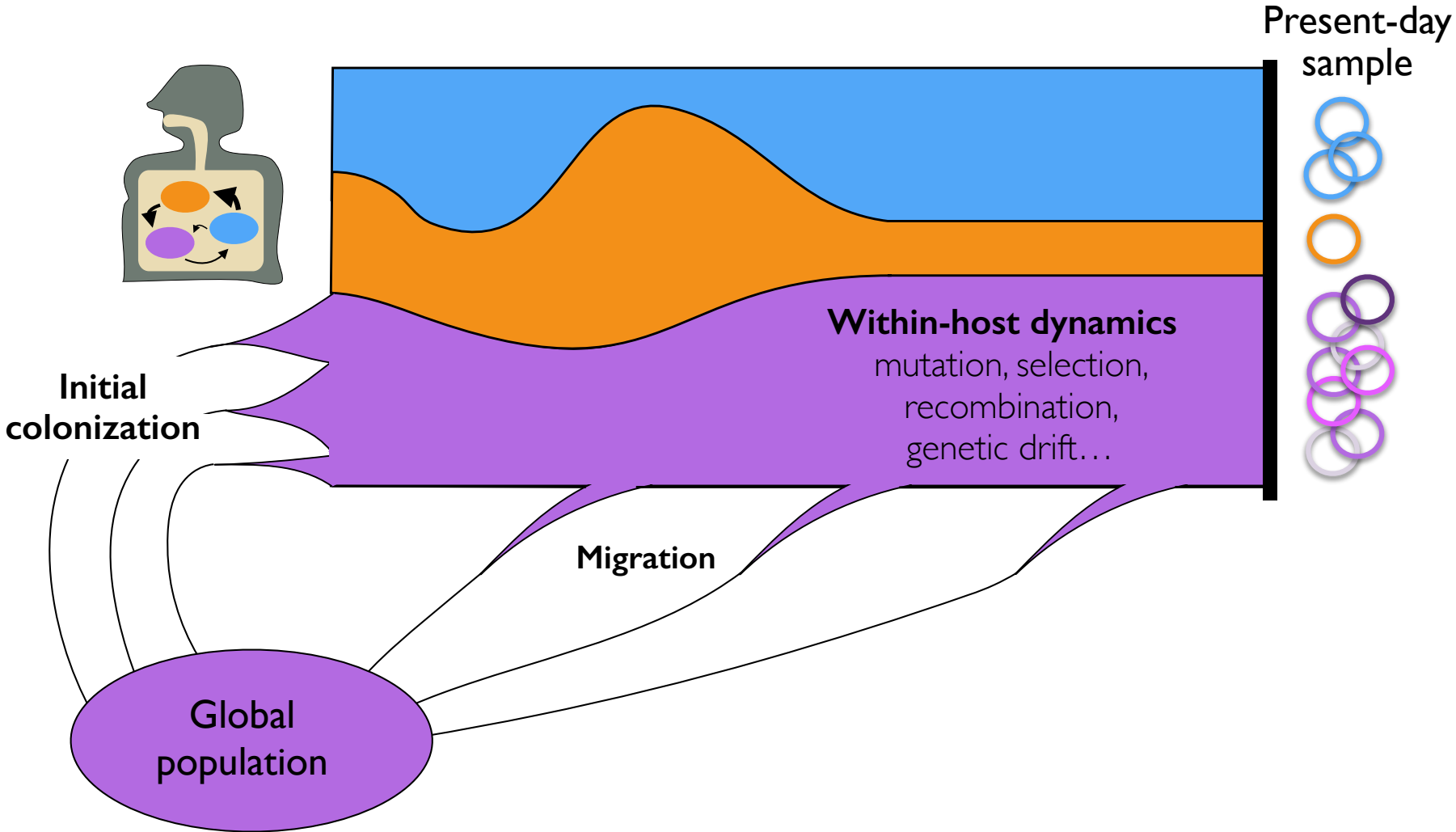
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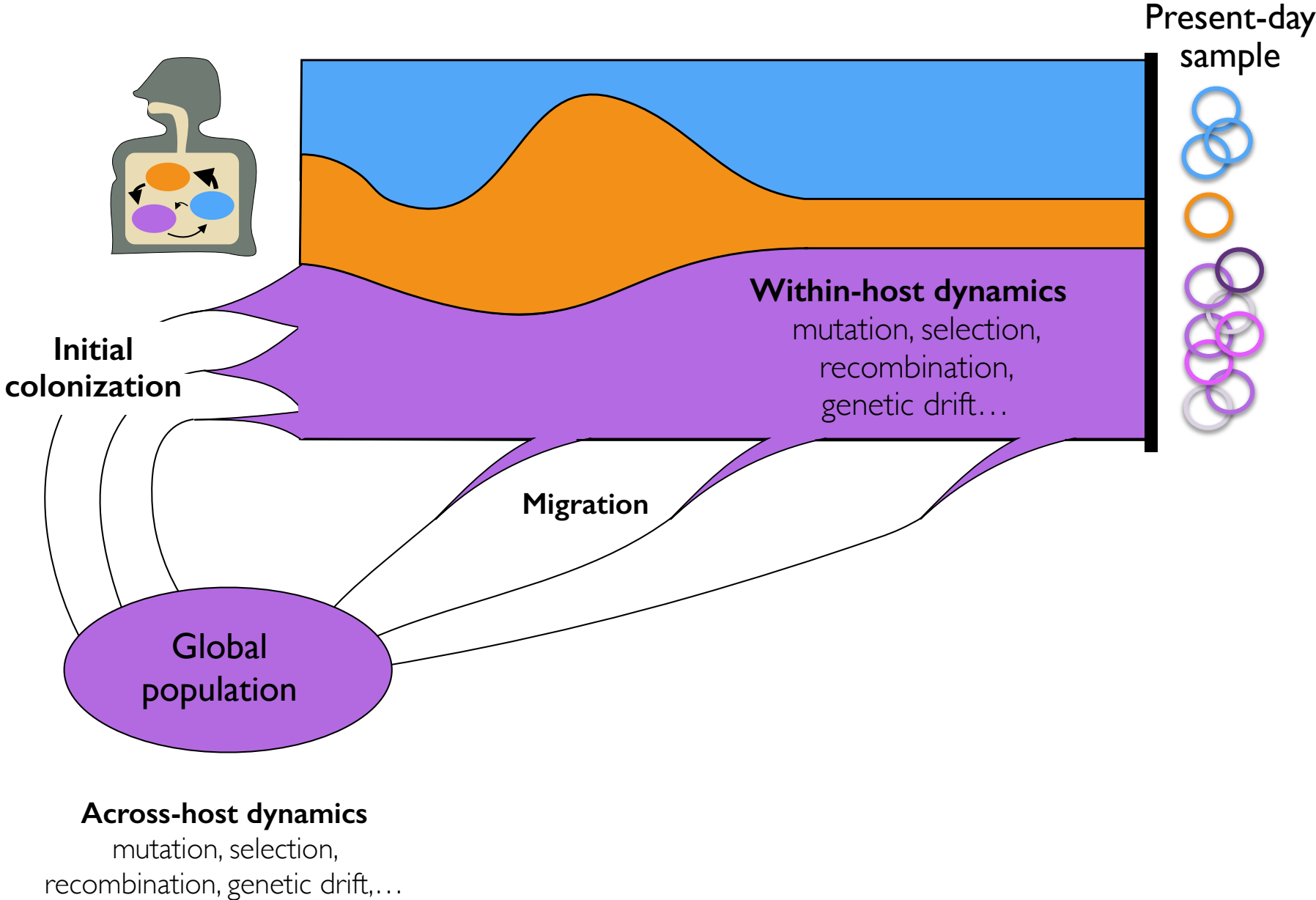
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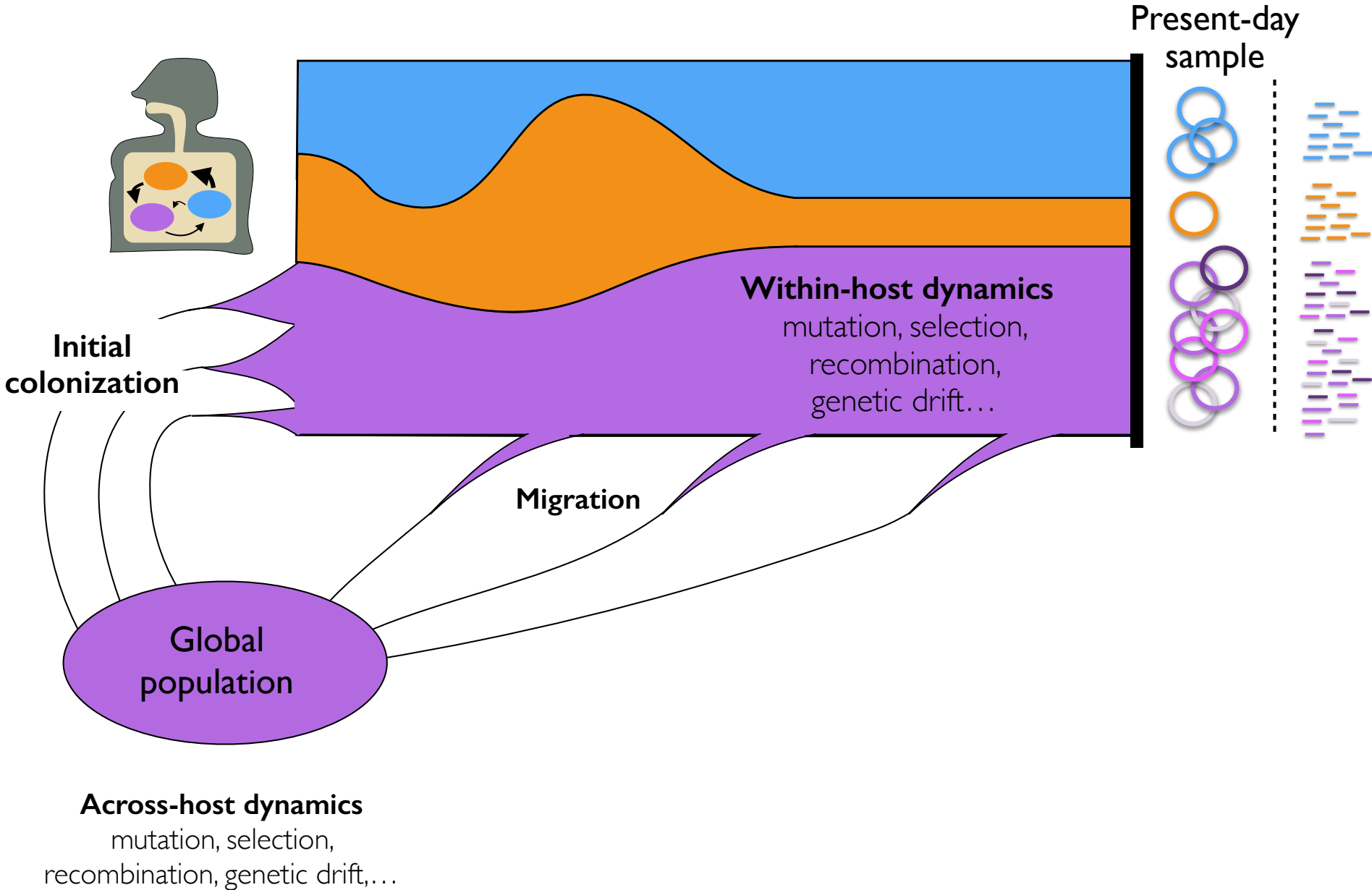
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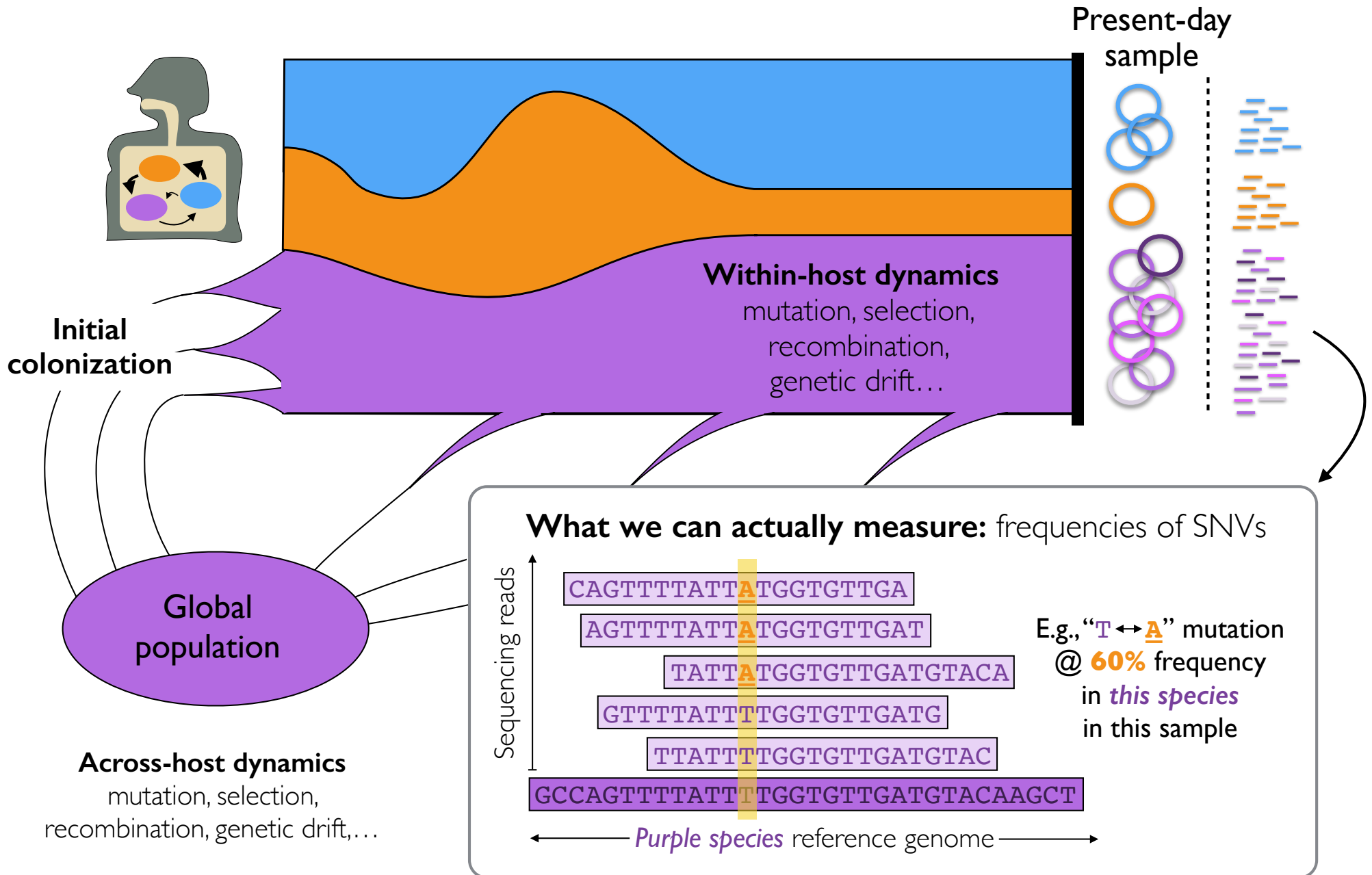
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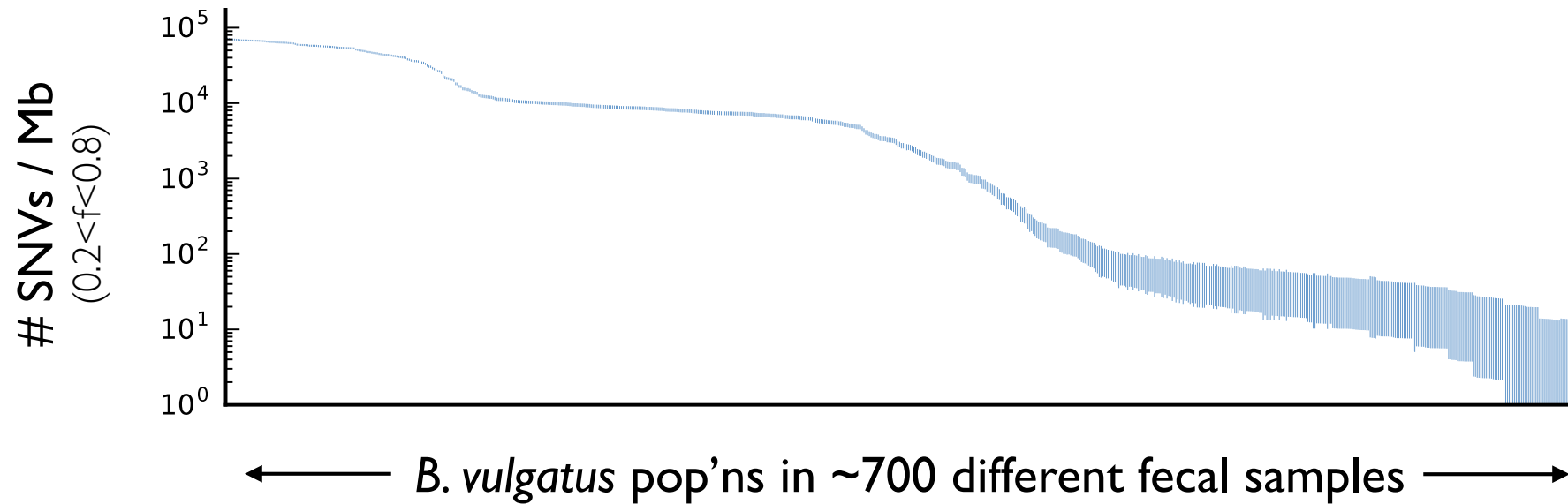
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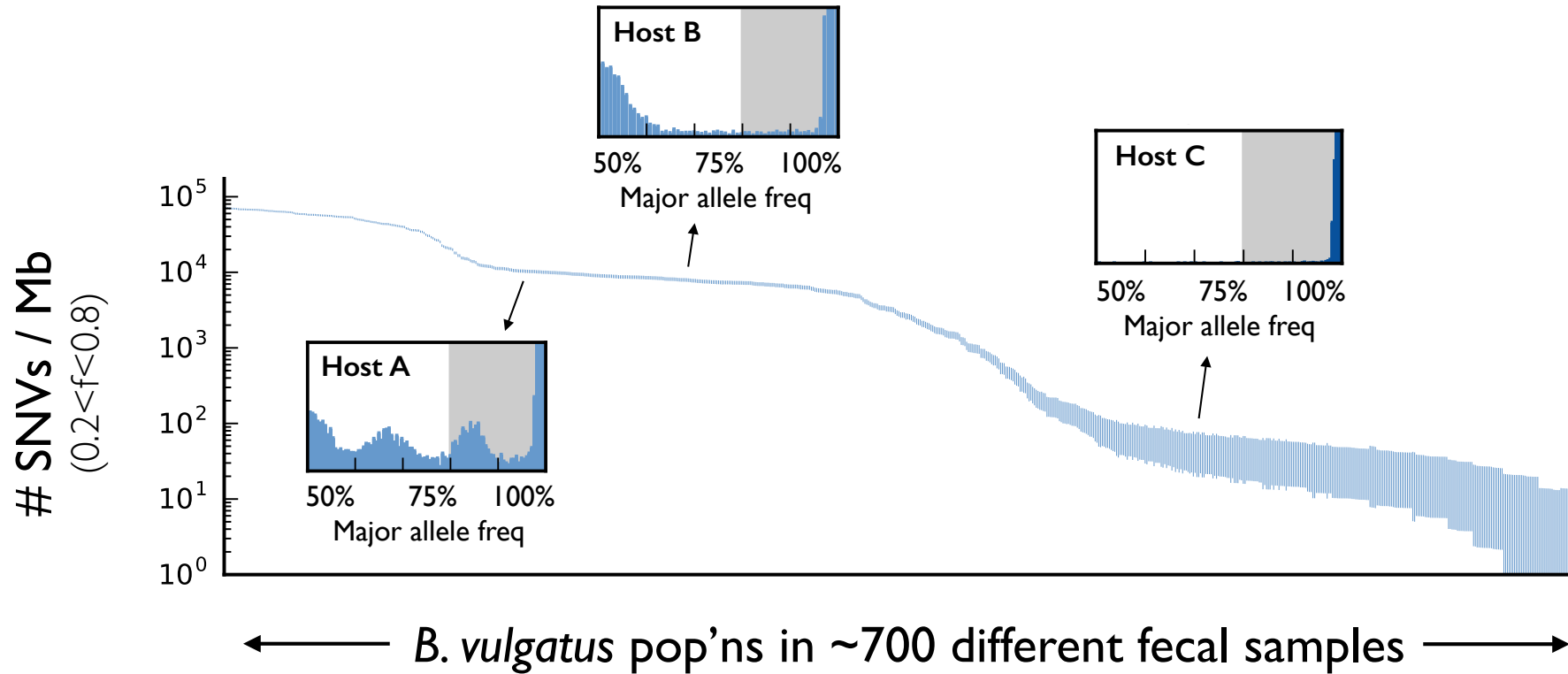
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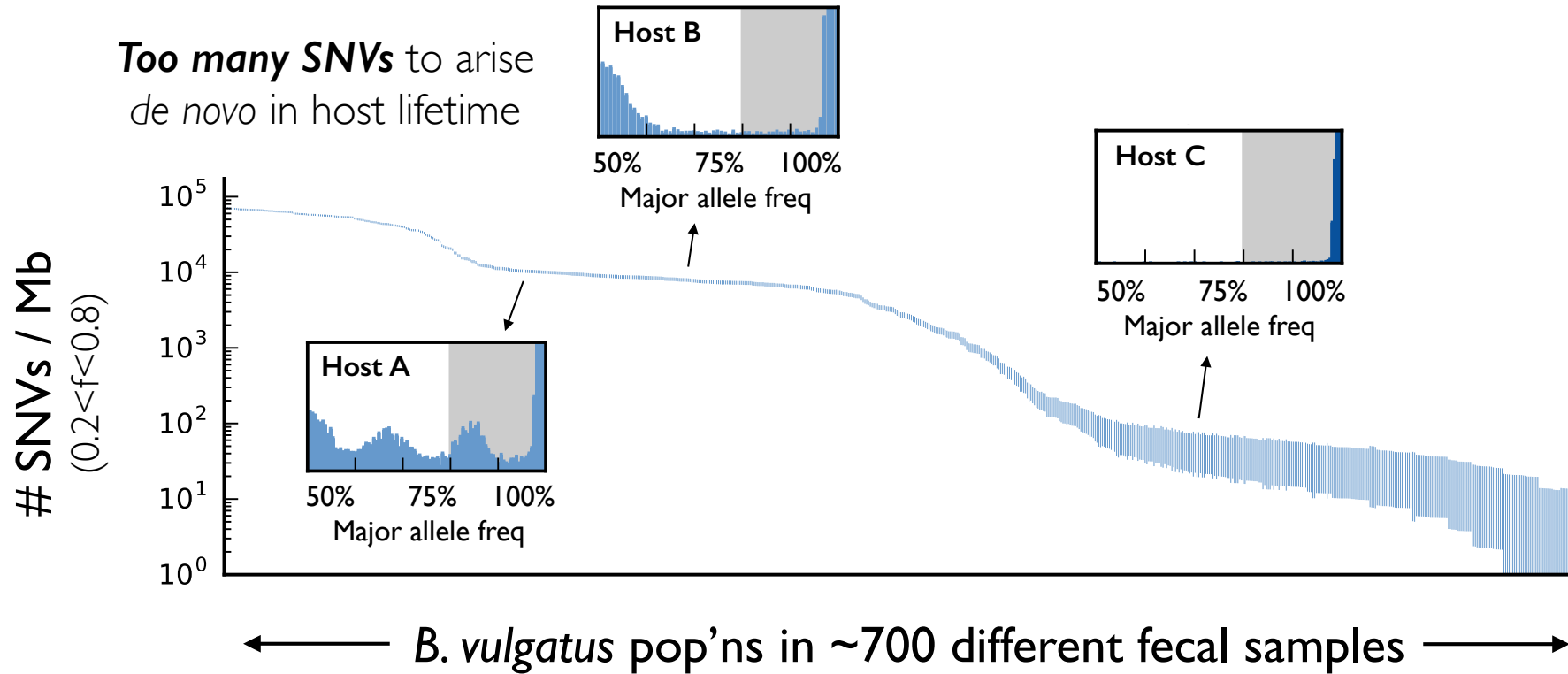
Genetic structure of resident pop'ns is highly variable across hosts



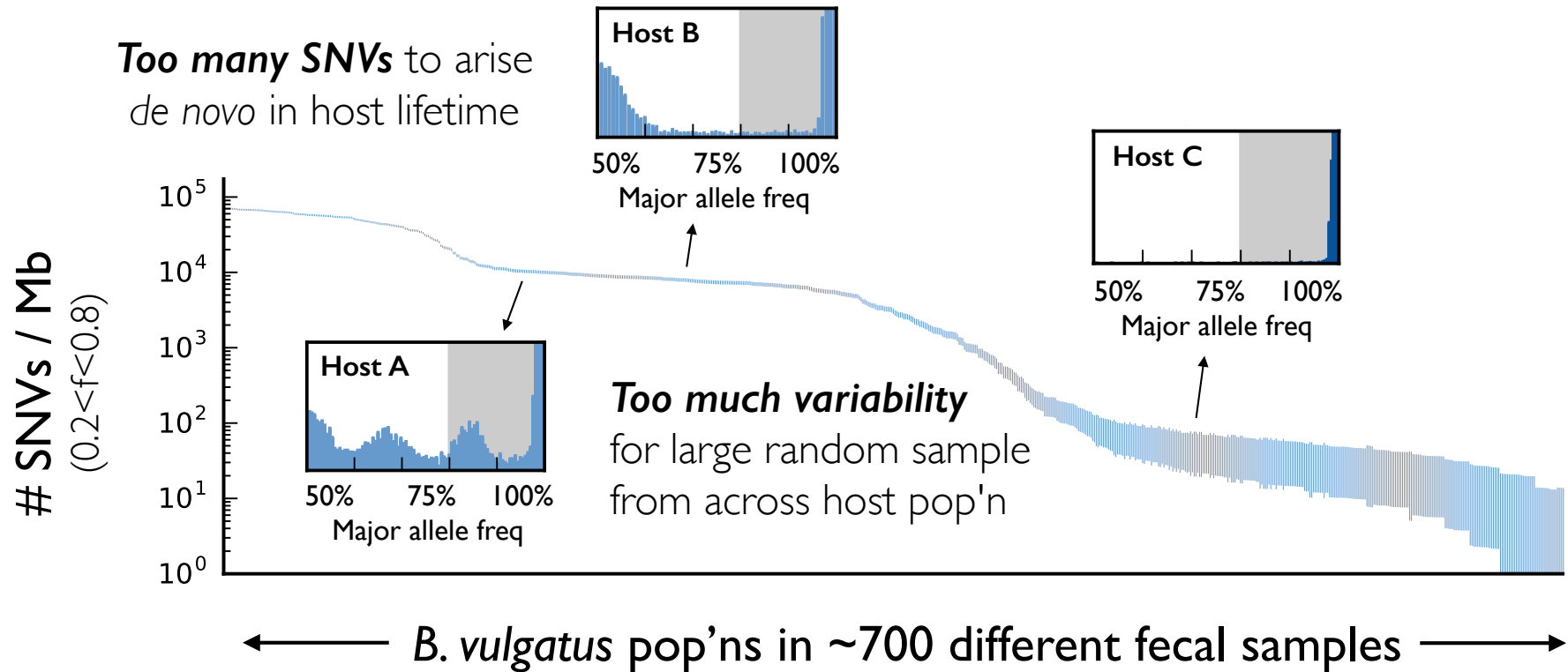
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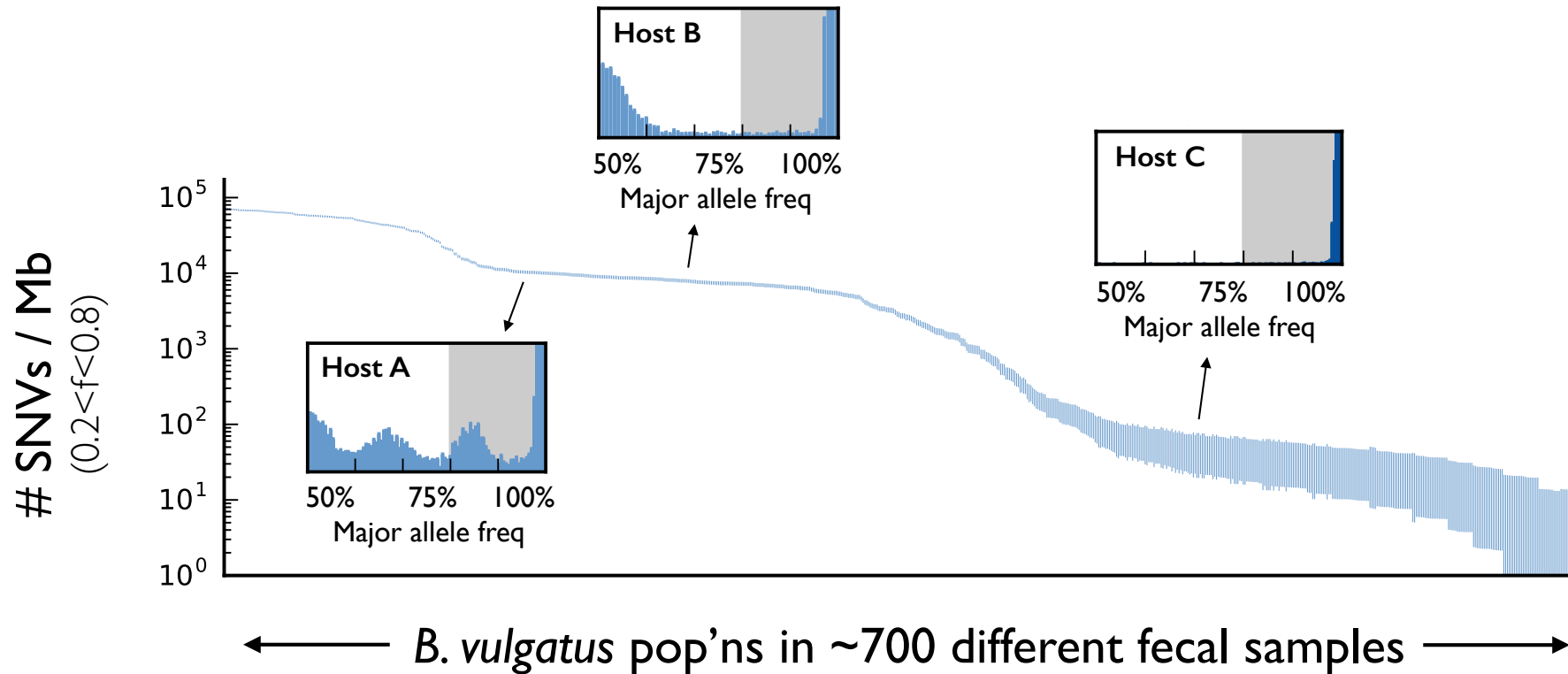
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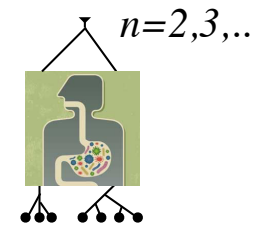
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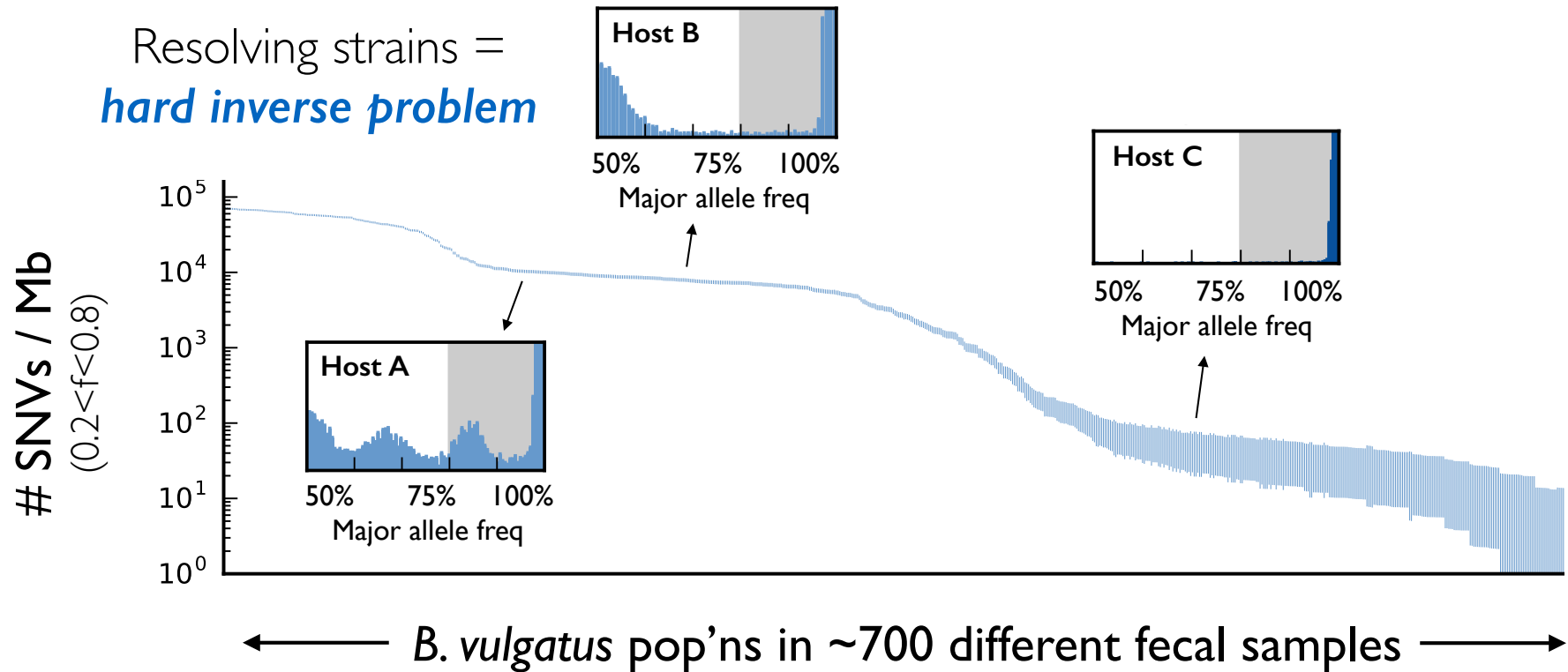
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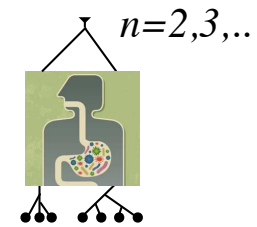
“Oligo-colonization” ~ a few external strains
at intermediate freqs
see also *Truong et al 2017*



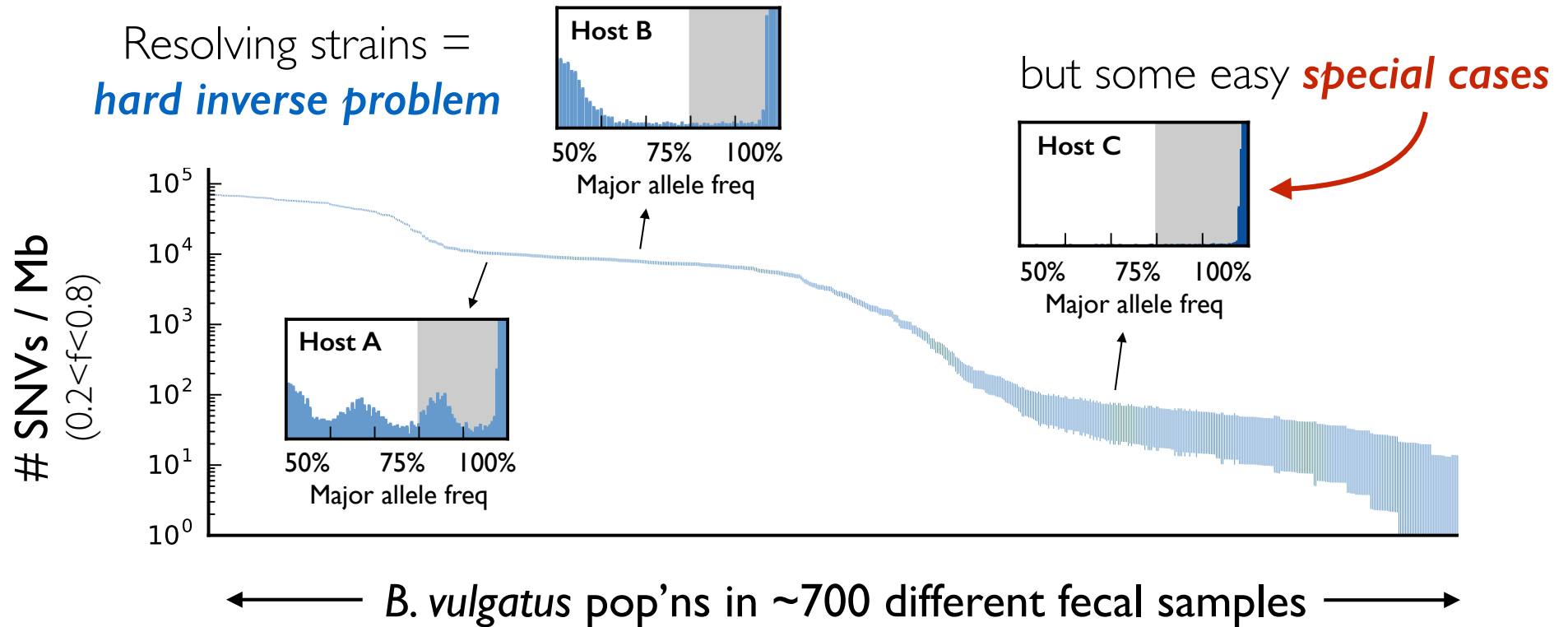
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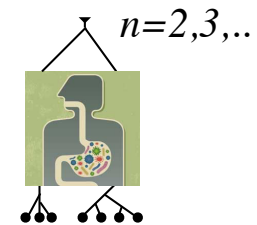
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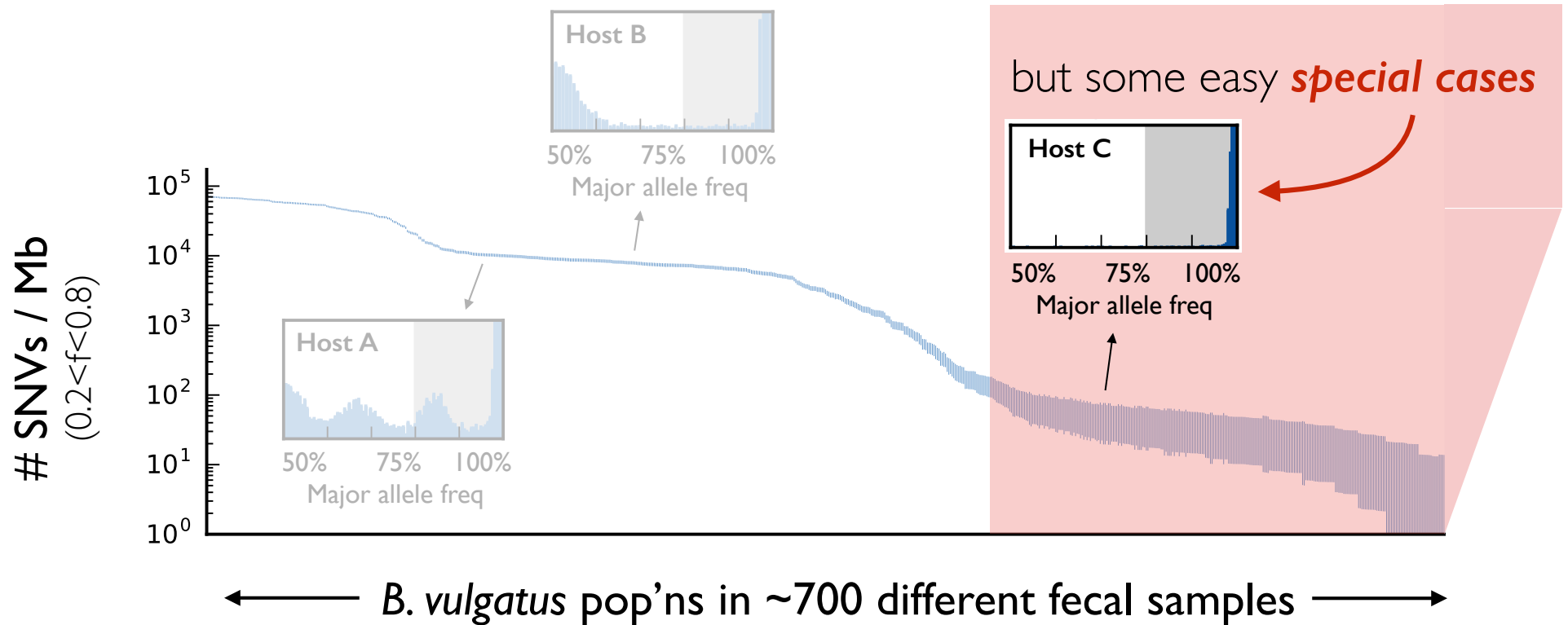
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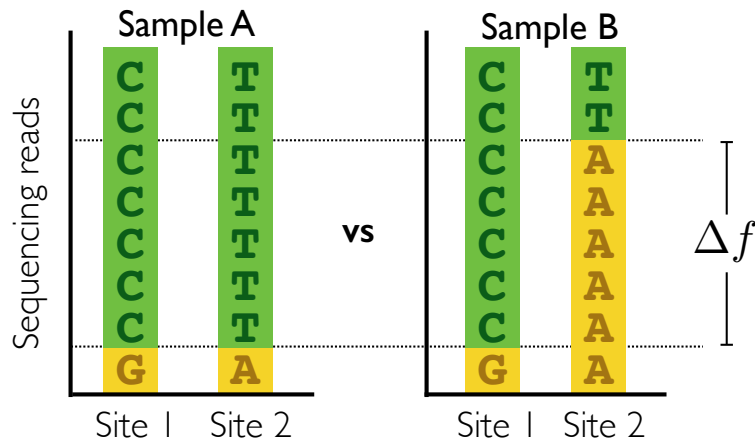


Genetic structure of resident pop'ns is highly variable across hosts



Approach: Focus on “**easy**” **samples** where we can infer the **dominant lineage** w/ high confidence

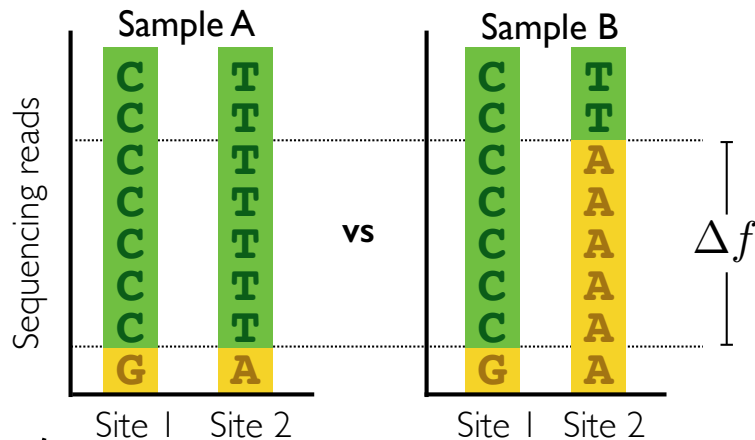
Detecting genetic differences between strains in “easy” samples



Approach: model **sampling noise**
(using pooled mutation frequency dist'n)

Choose thresholds & discard samples
until **< 1 expected error per genome**

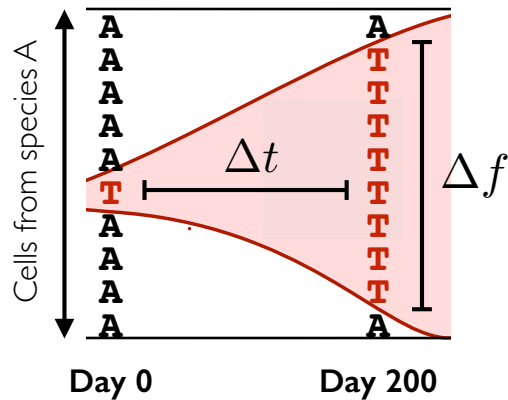
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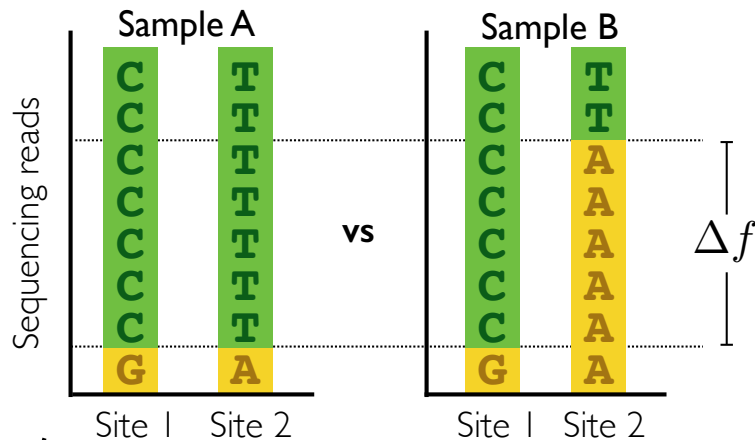
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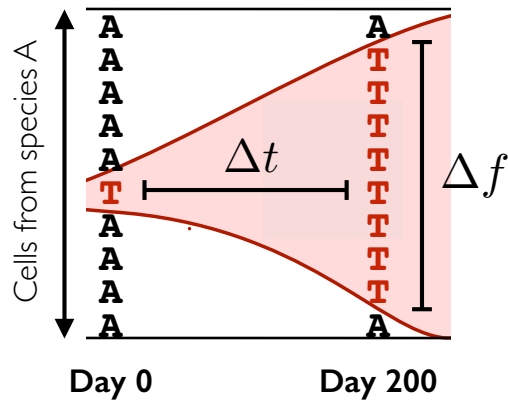


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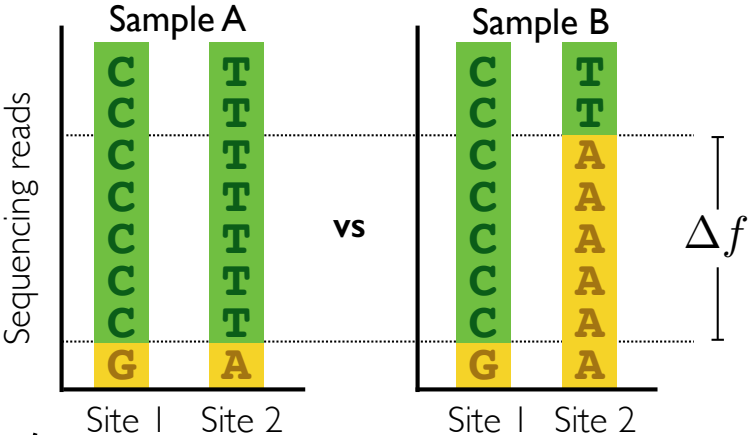
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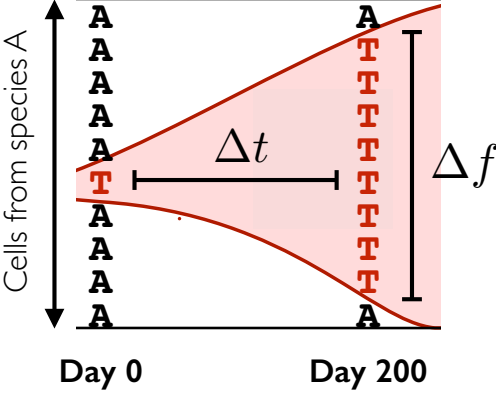


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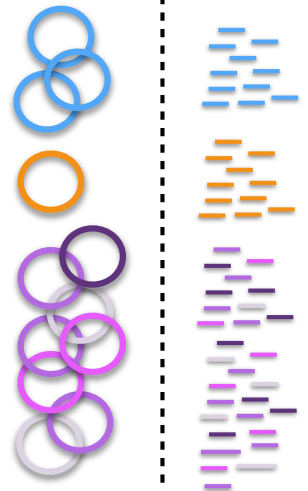
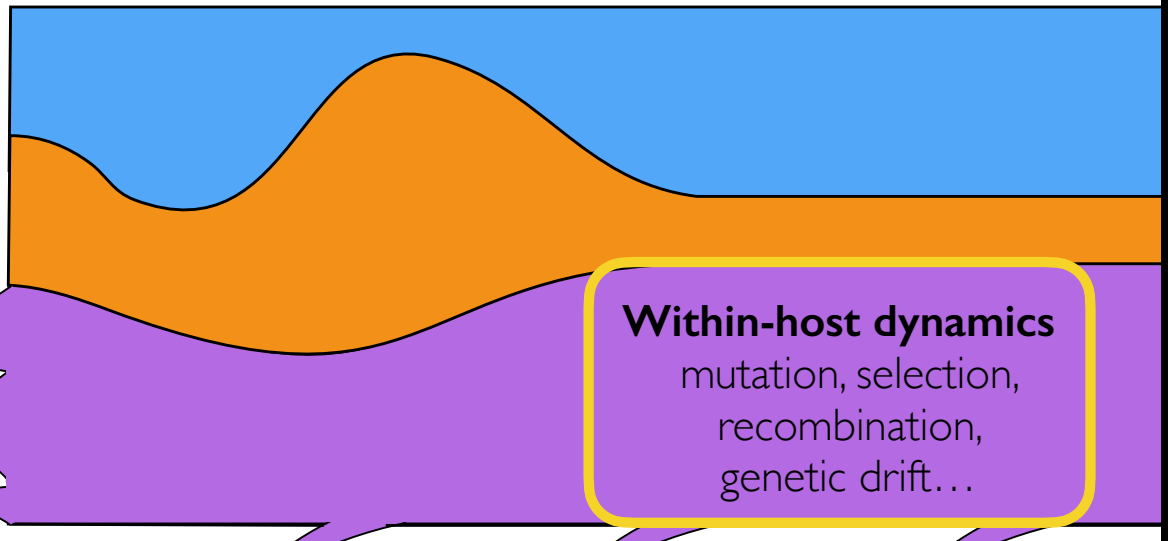
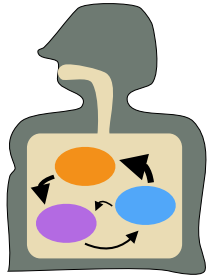
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E.g., host-wide “sweep” w/in species



but w/ **~100's of hosts**, can resolve genetic diffs btw **~1000's of strains** across **~40 prevalent species**



Initial colonization

Within-host dynamics
mutation, selection,
recombination,
genetic drift...

Migration

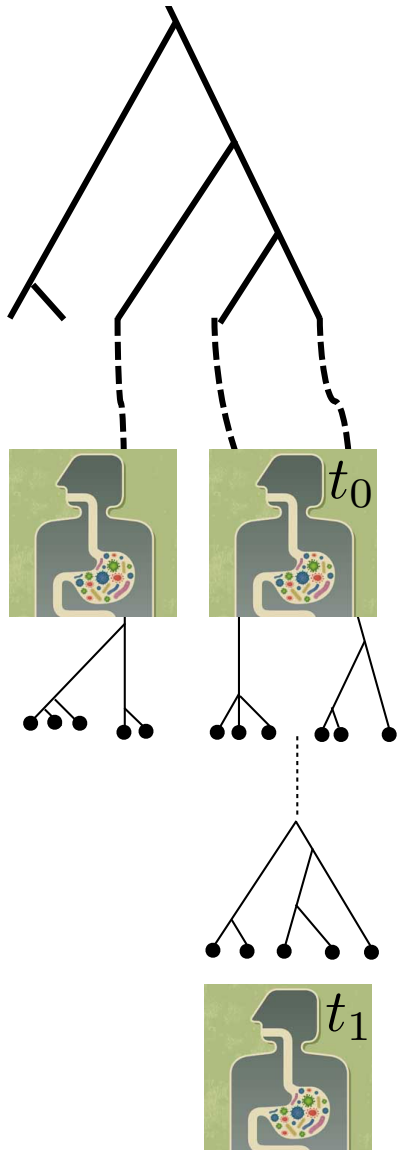
Global population

Across-host dynamics
mutation, selection,
recombination, genetic drift,...

Applications to HMP cohort: general trends across ~40 species

Across-host timescales ($\sim T_c$)

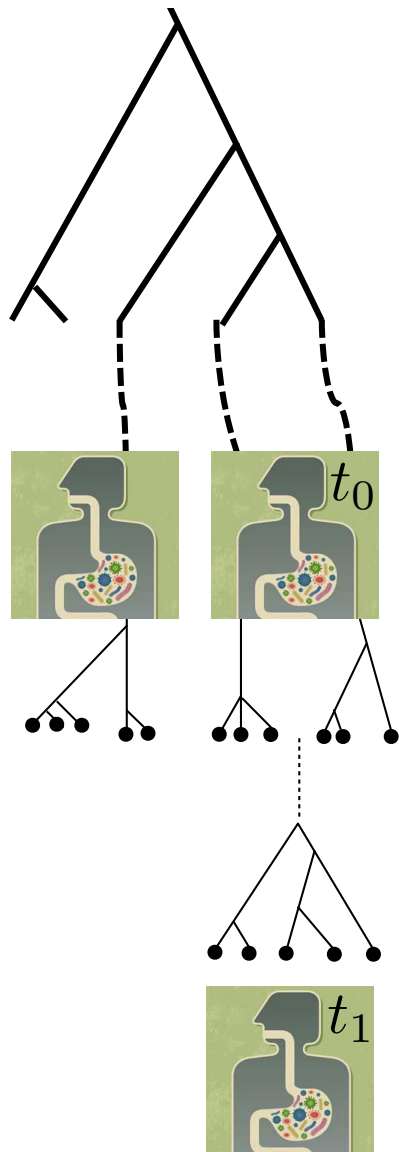
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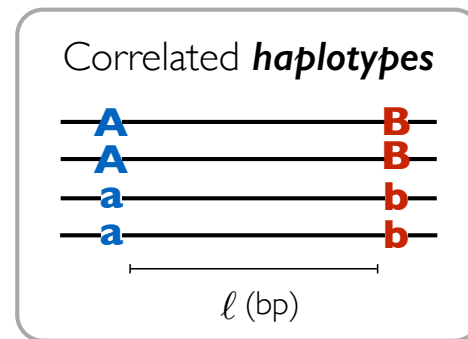
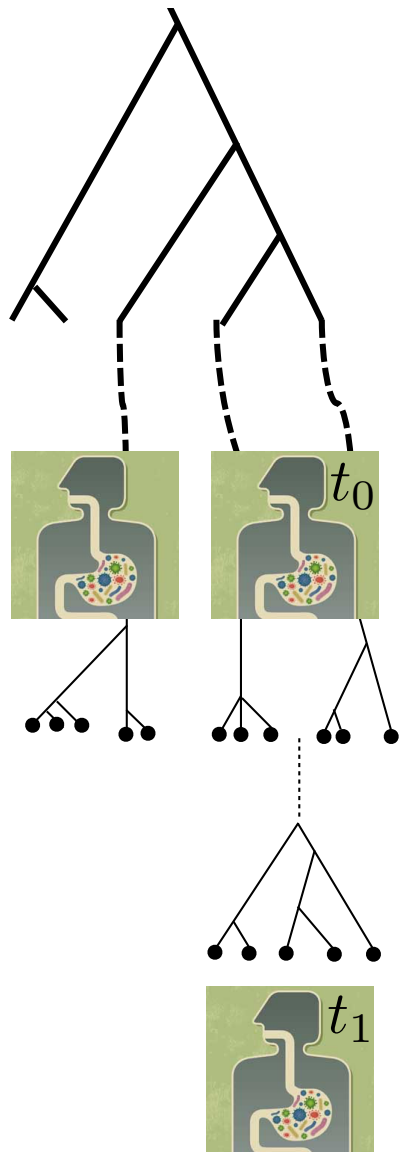
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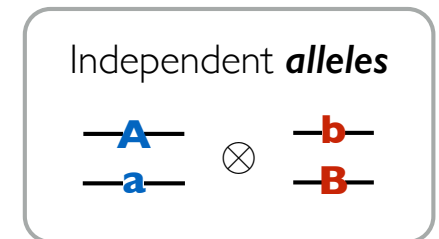
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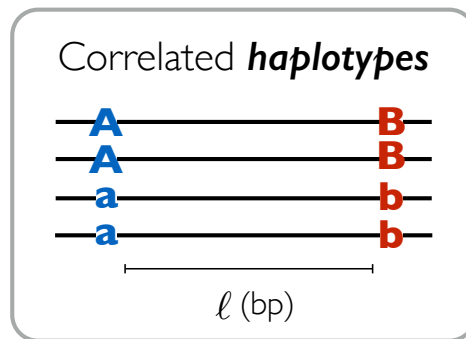
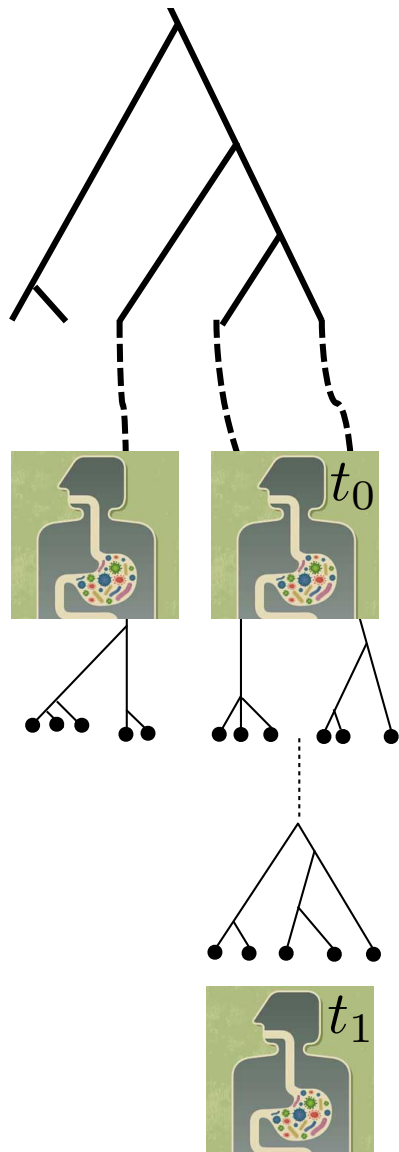
$l r t \gg 1$



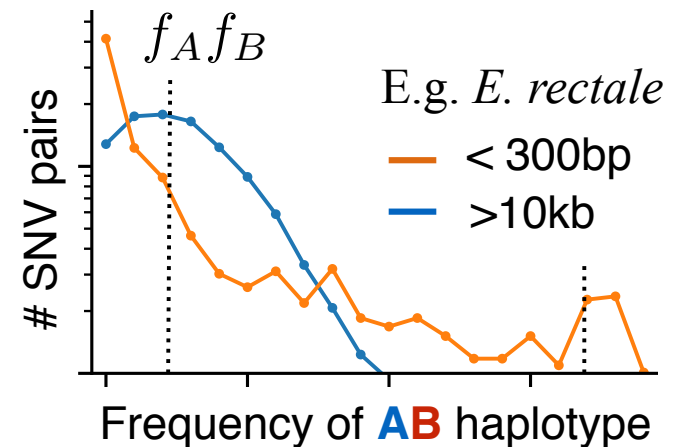
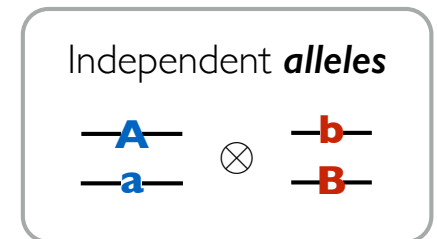
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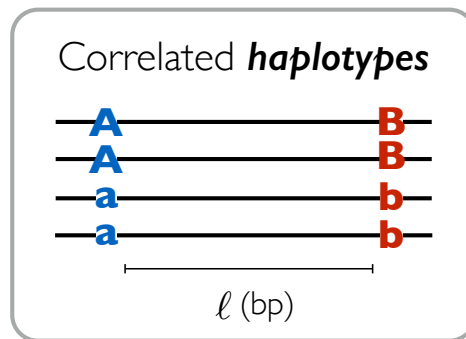
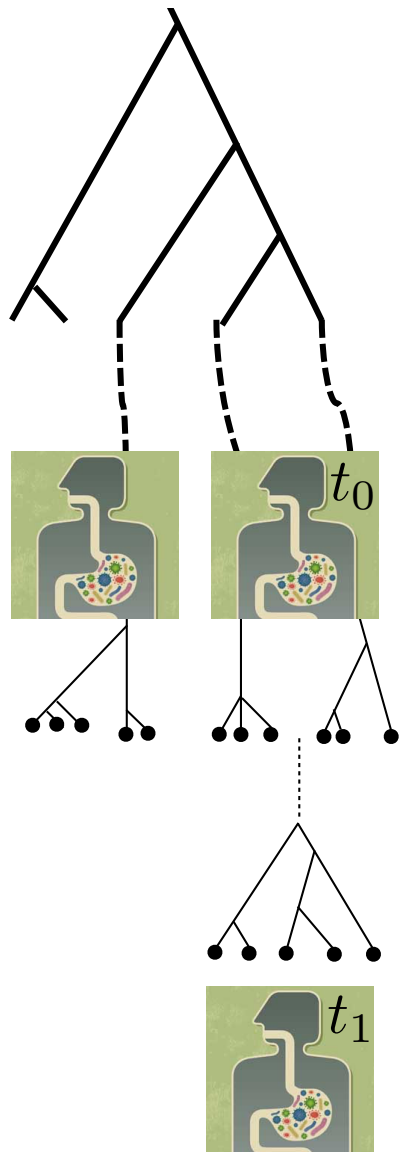
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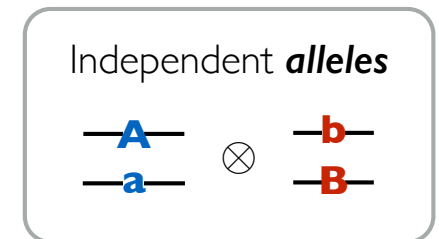
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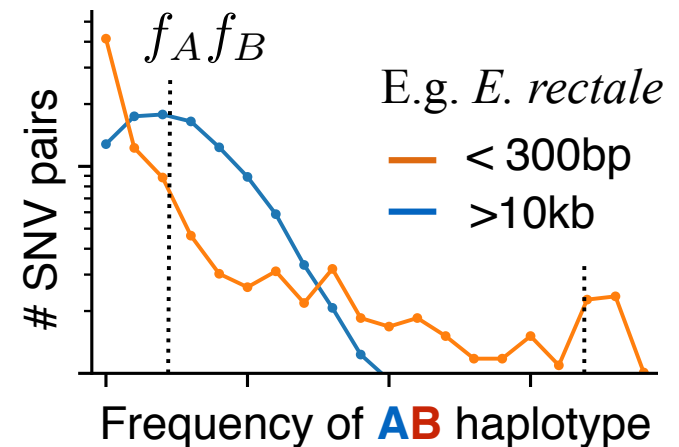
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$$l r t \gg 1$$



Zhiru Liu
(here @ KITP!)

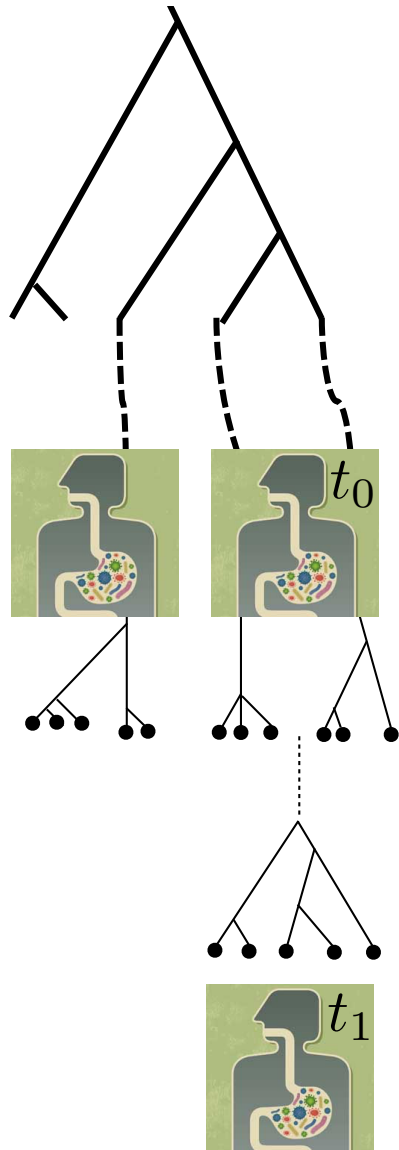


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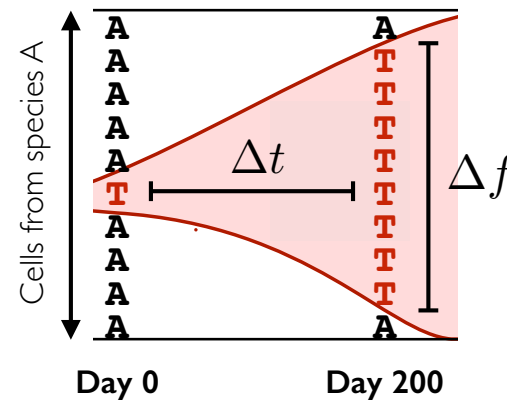
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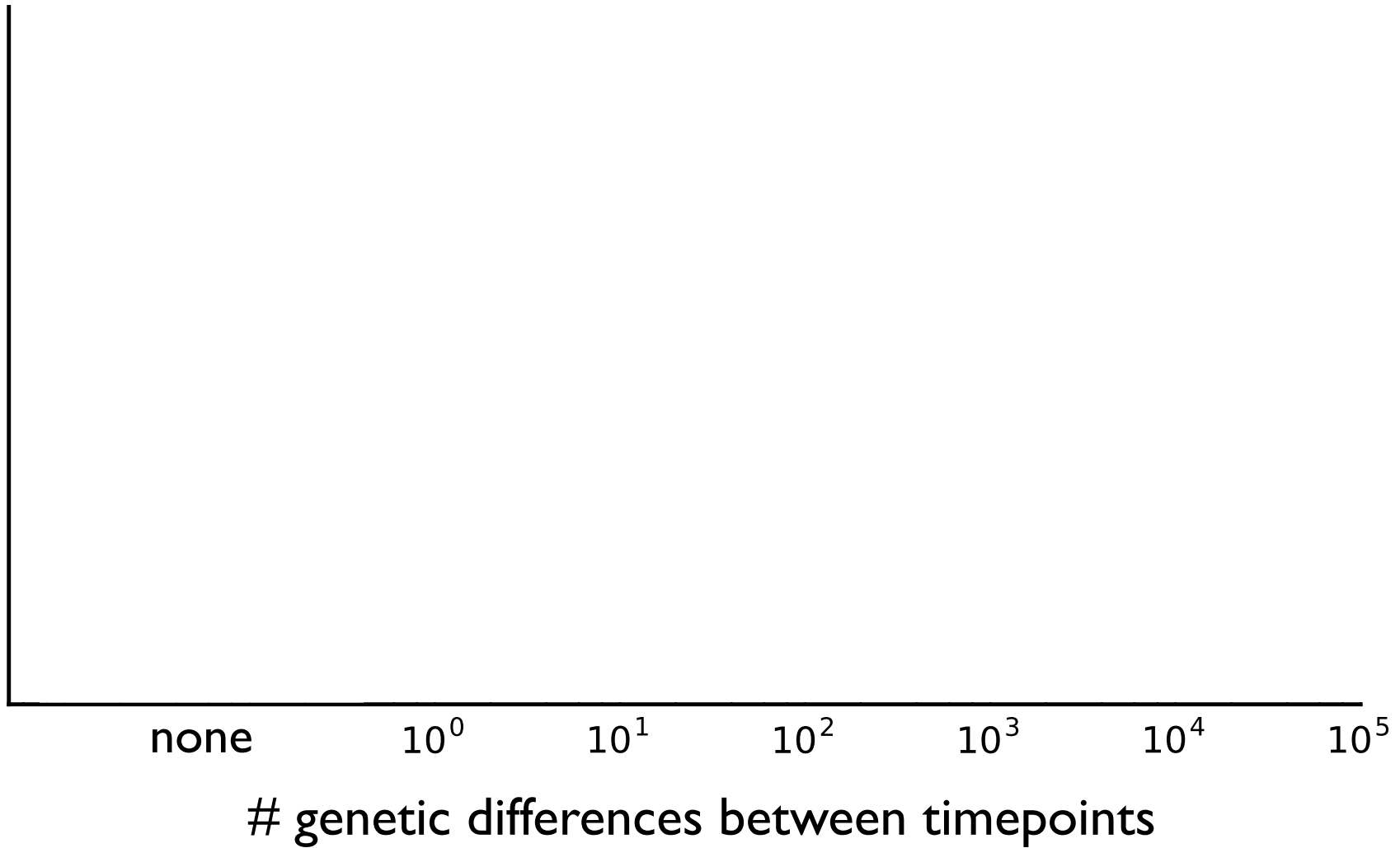
Within-host timescales ($\sim 6\text{mo}$)



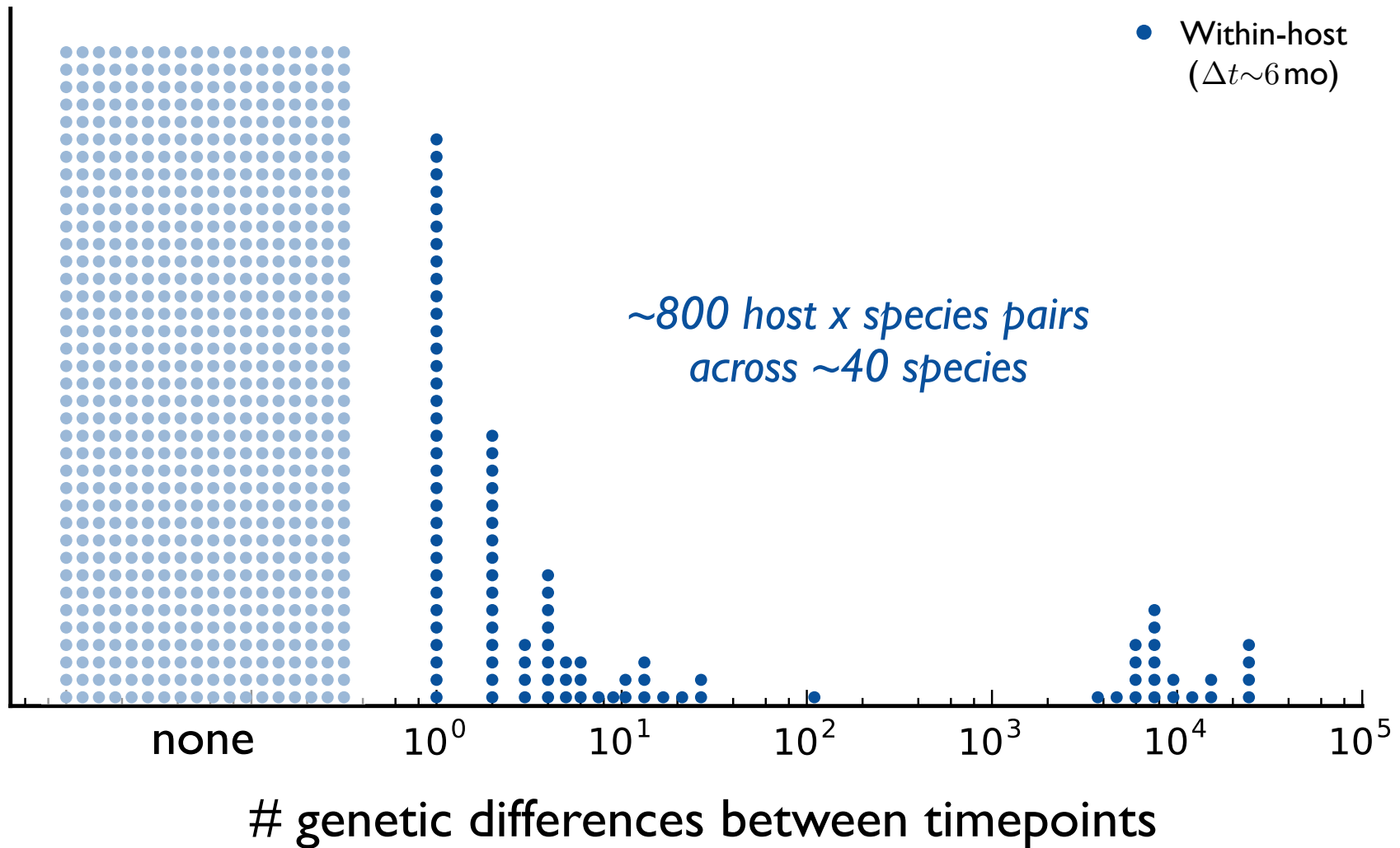
Scan for host-wide sweeps...



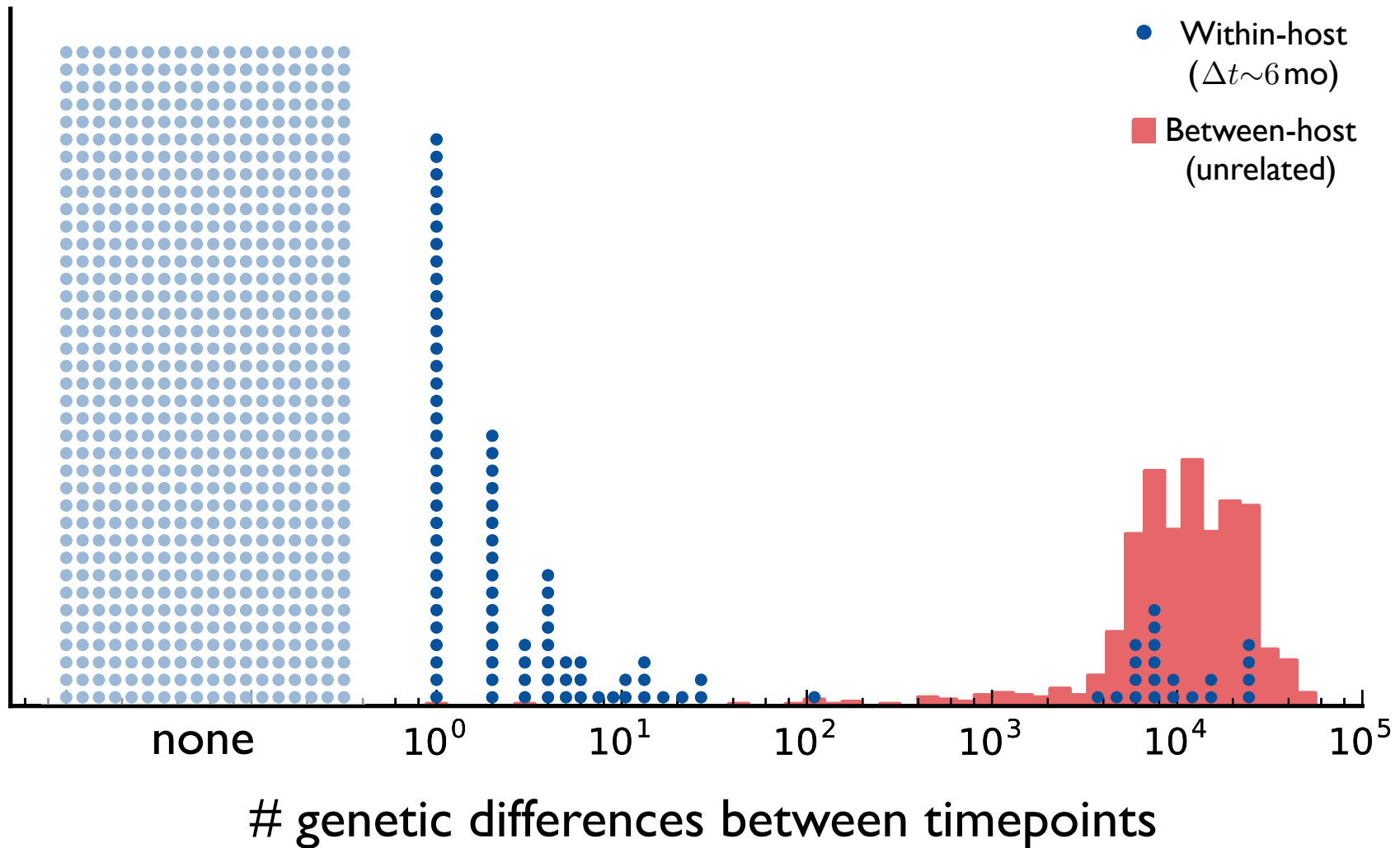
Within-host dynamics over ~6 month timescales



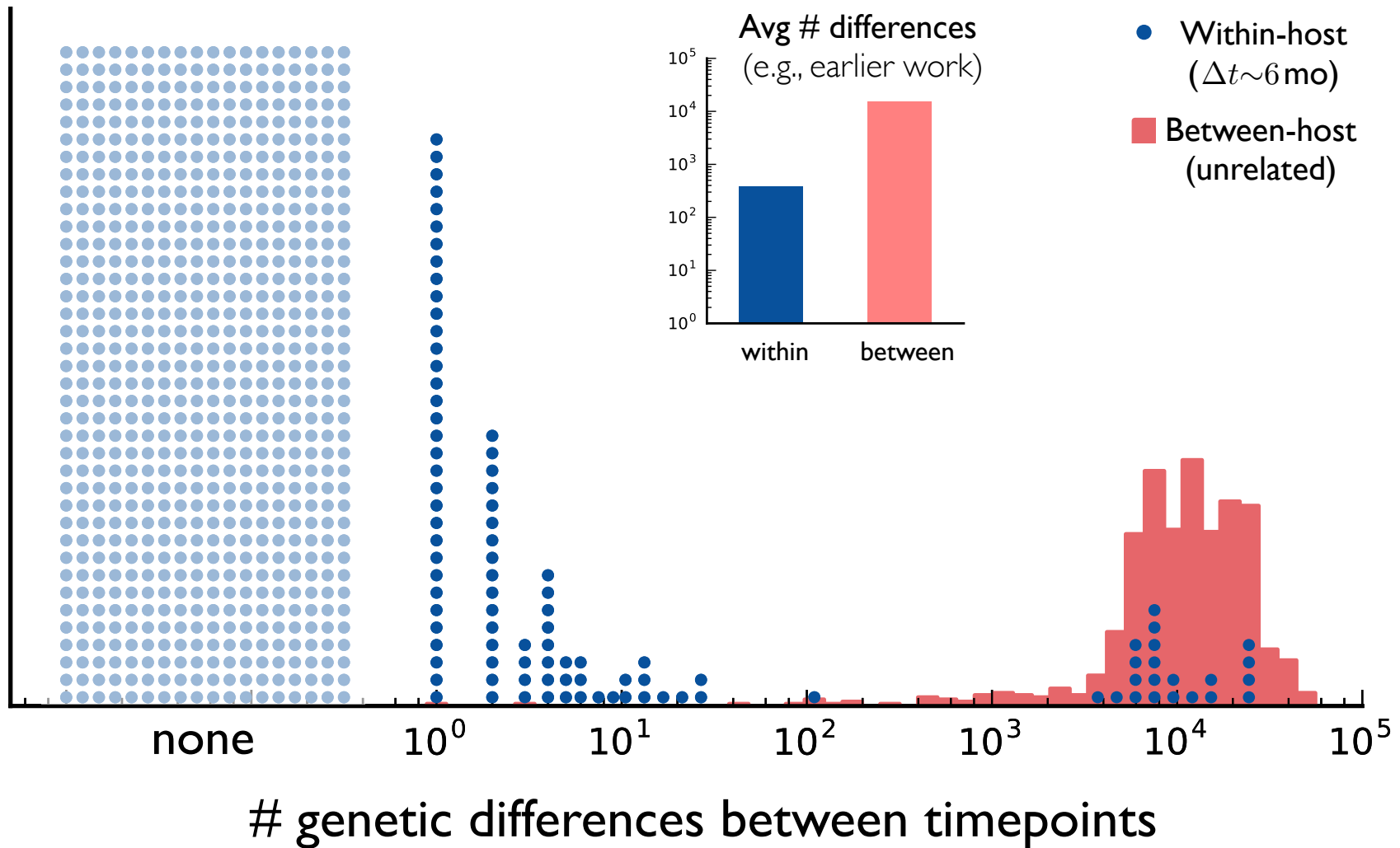
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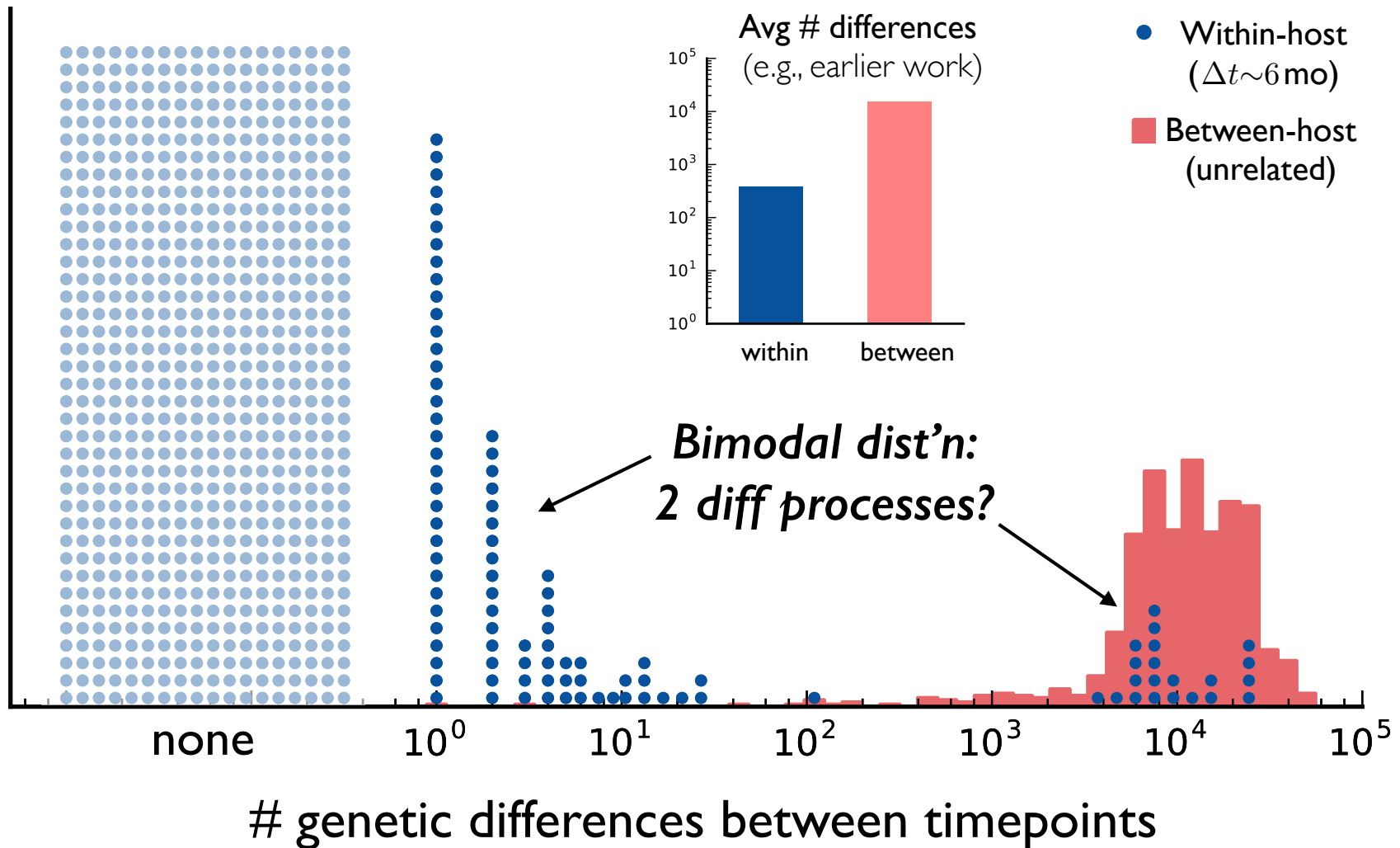
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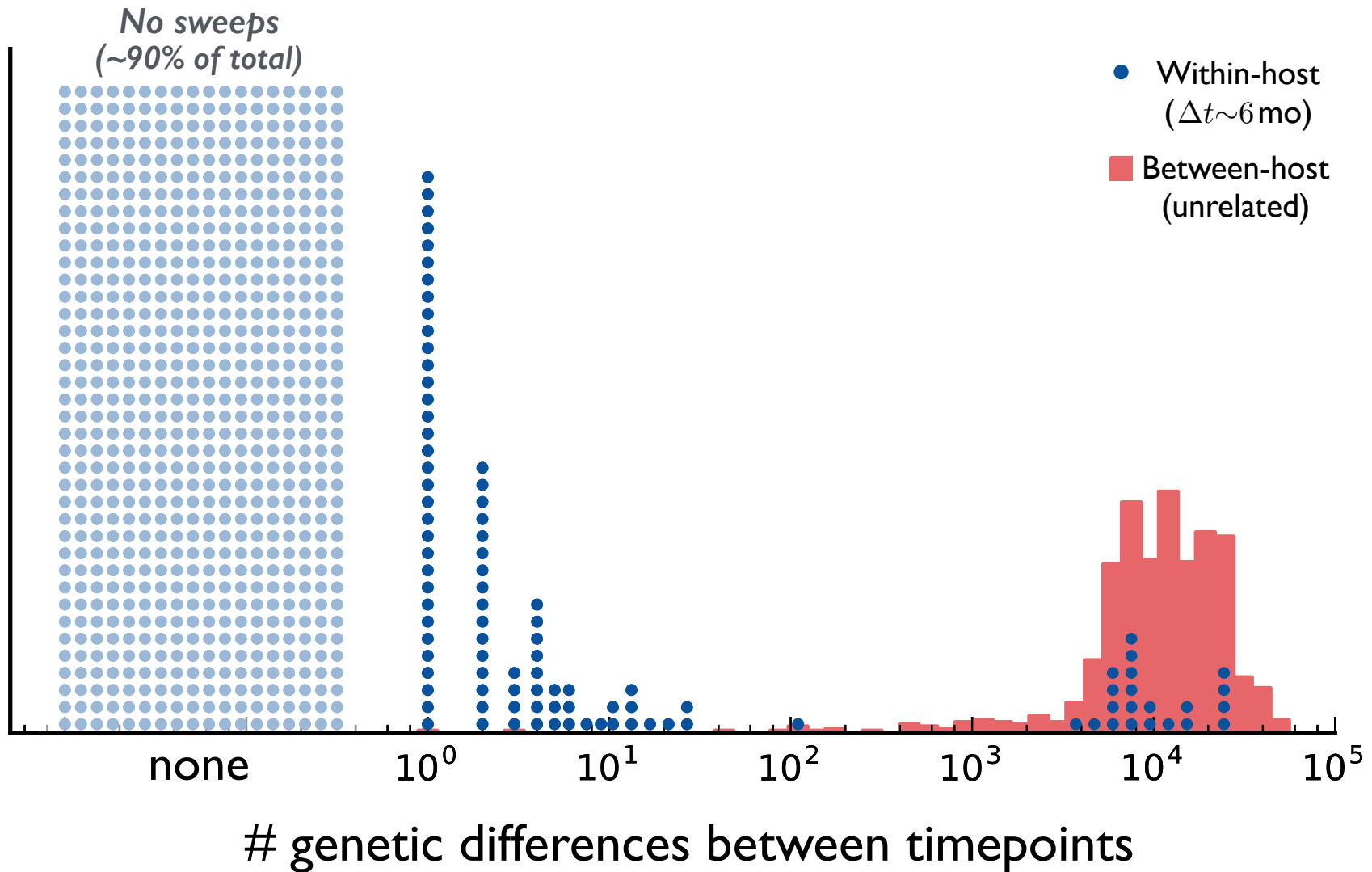
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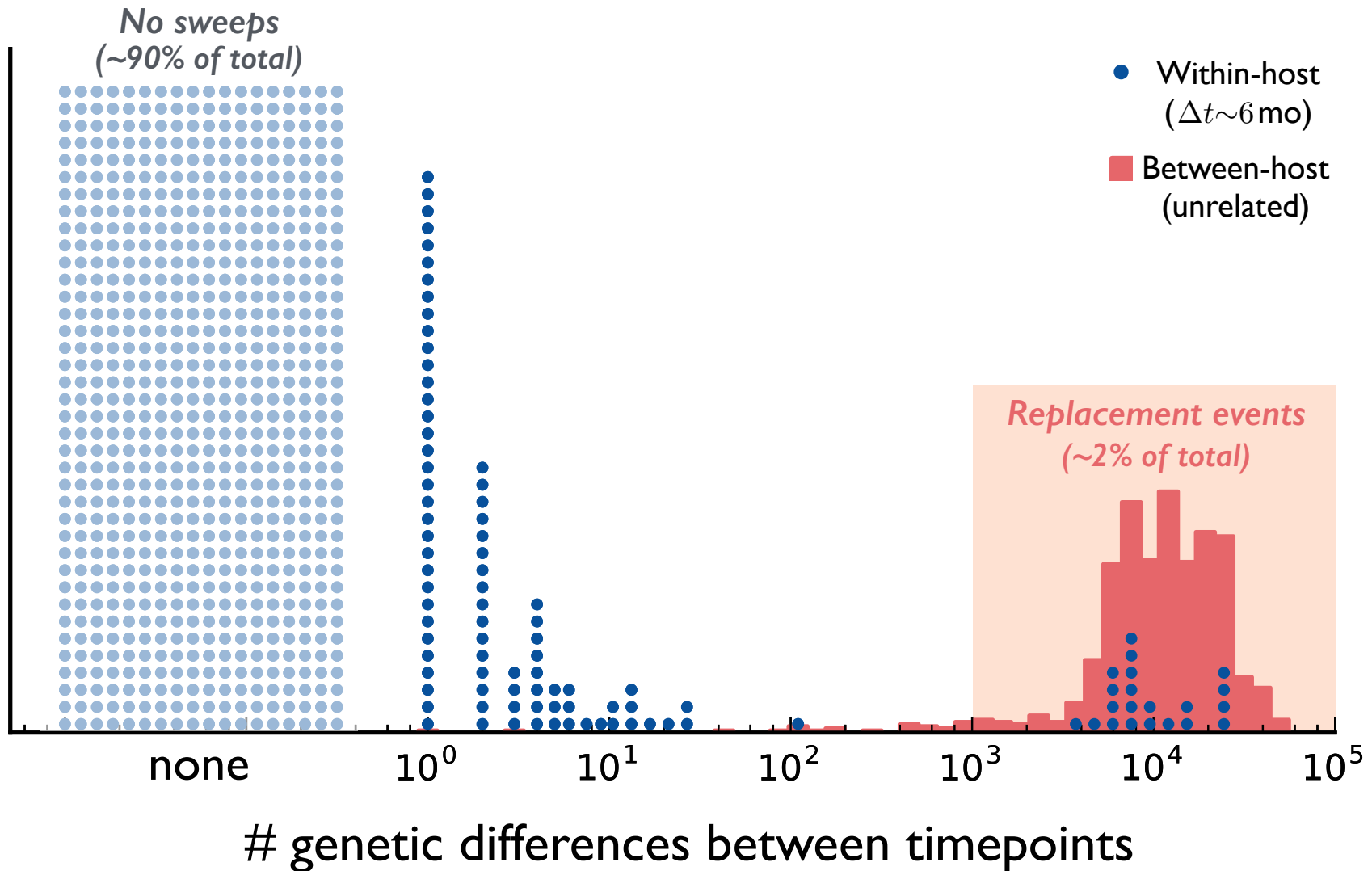
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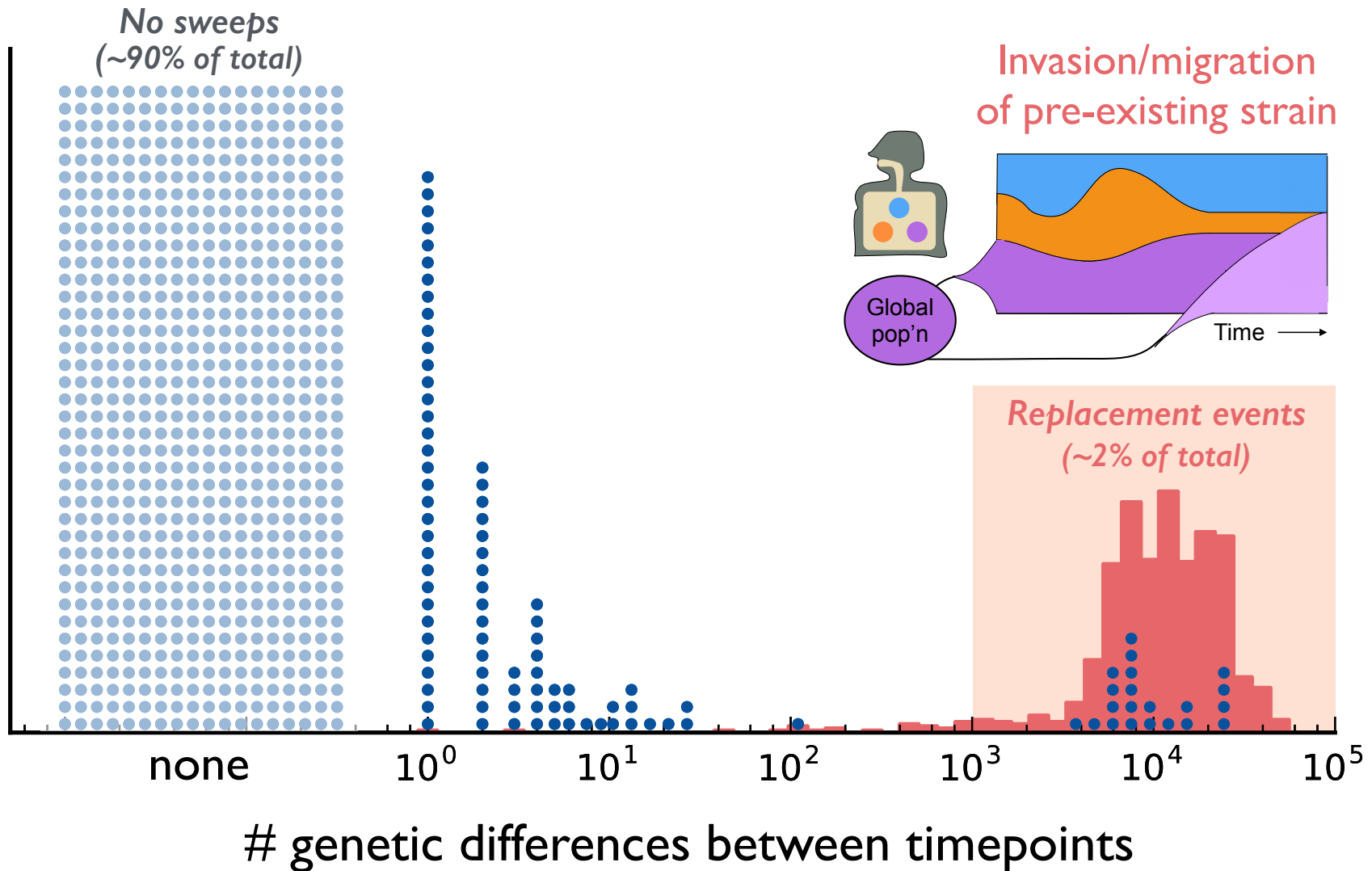
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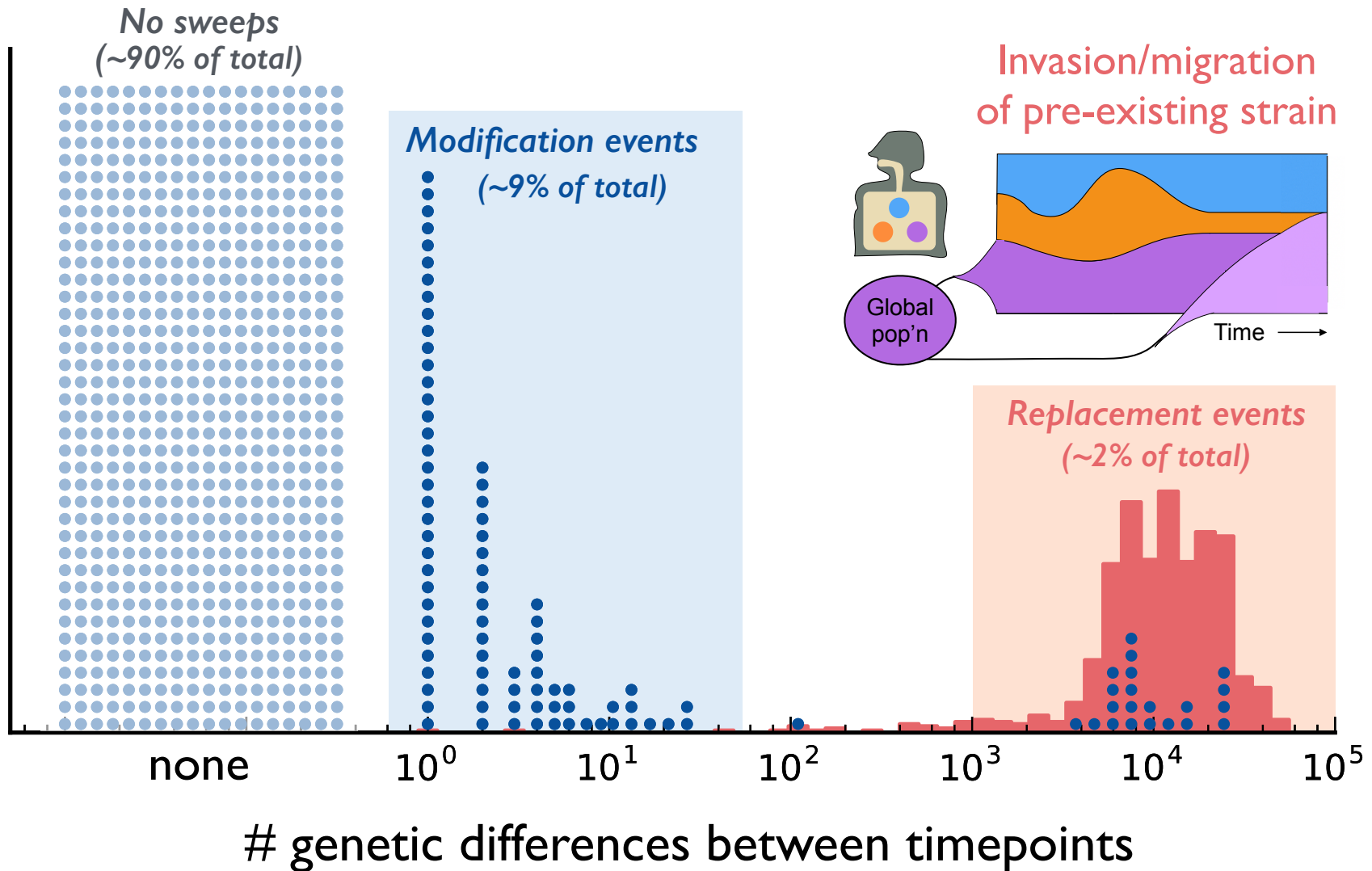
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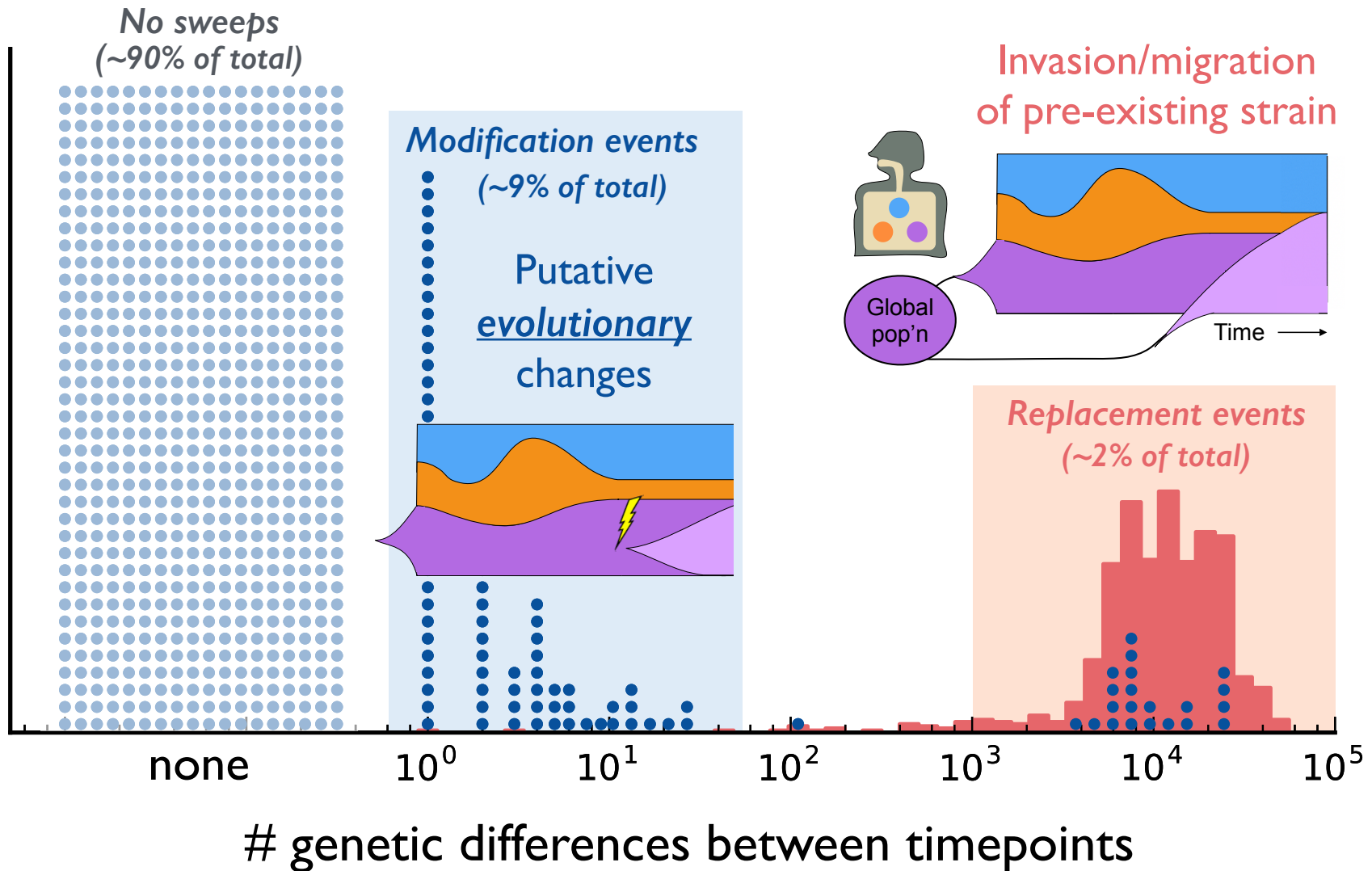
Within-host dynamics over ~6 month timescales



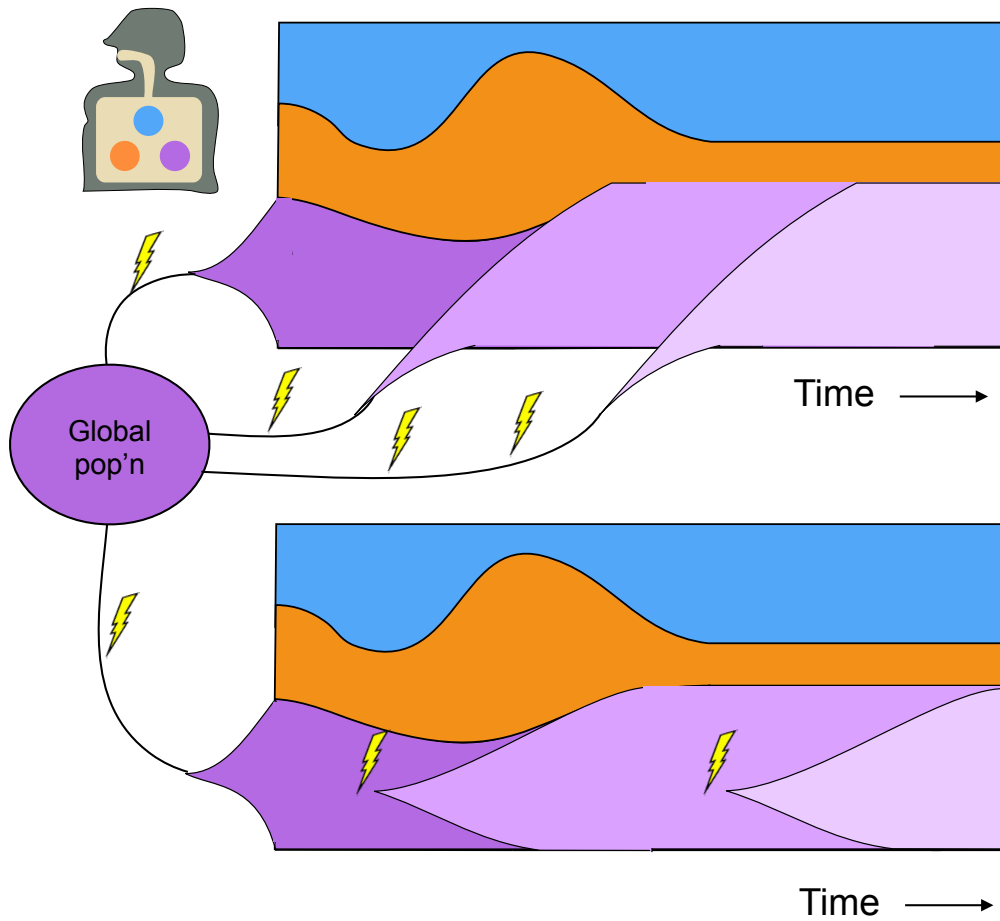
Within-host dynamics over ~6 month timescales



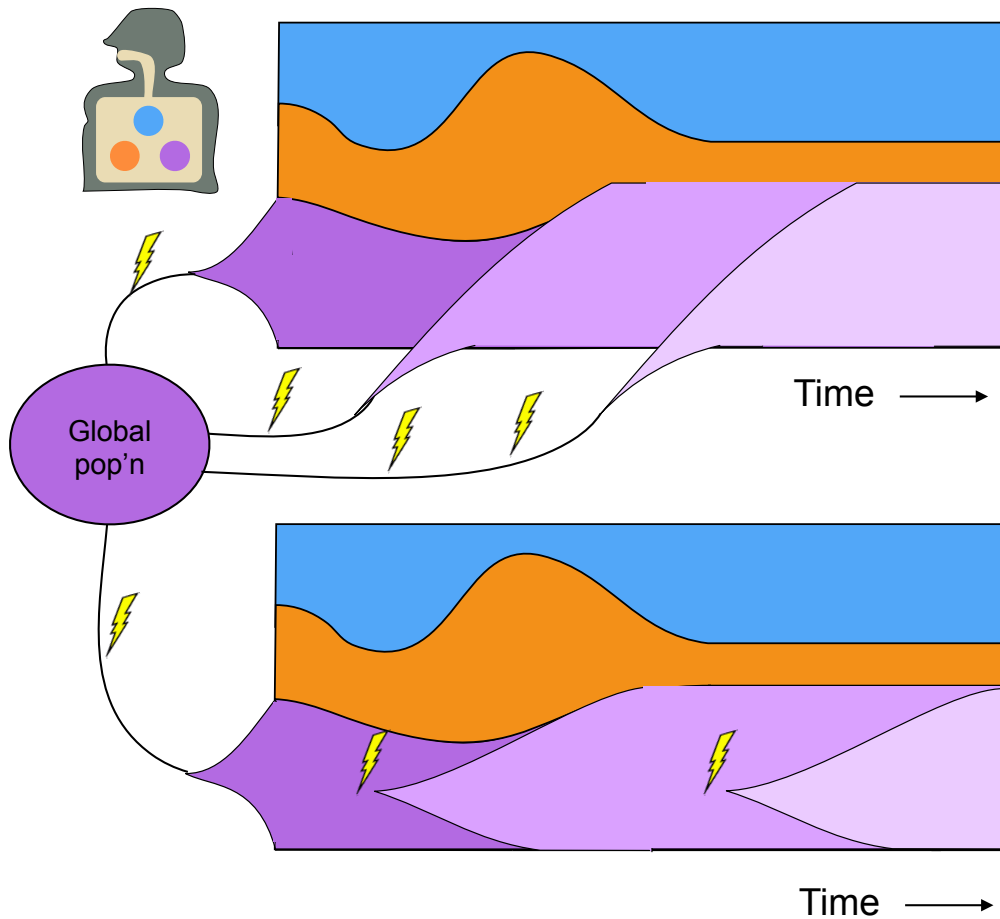
Within-host dynamics over ~6 month timescales



Distinguishing local evolution & strain replacement using time-reversal symmetry



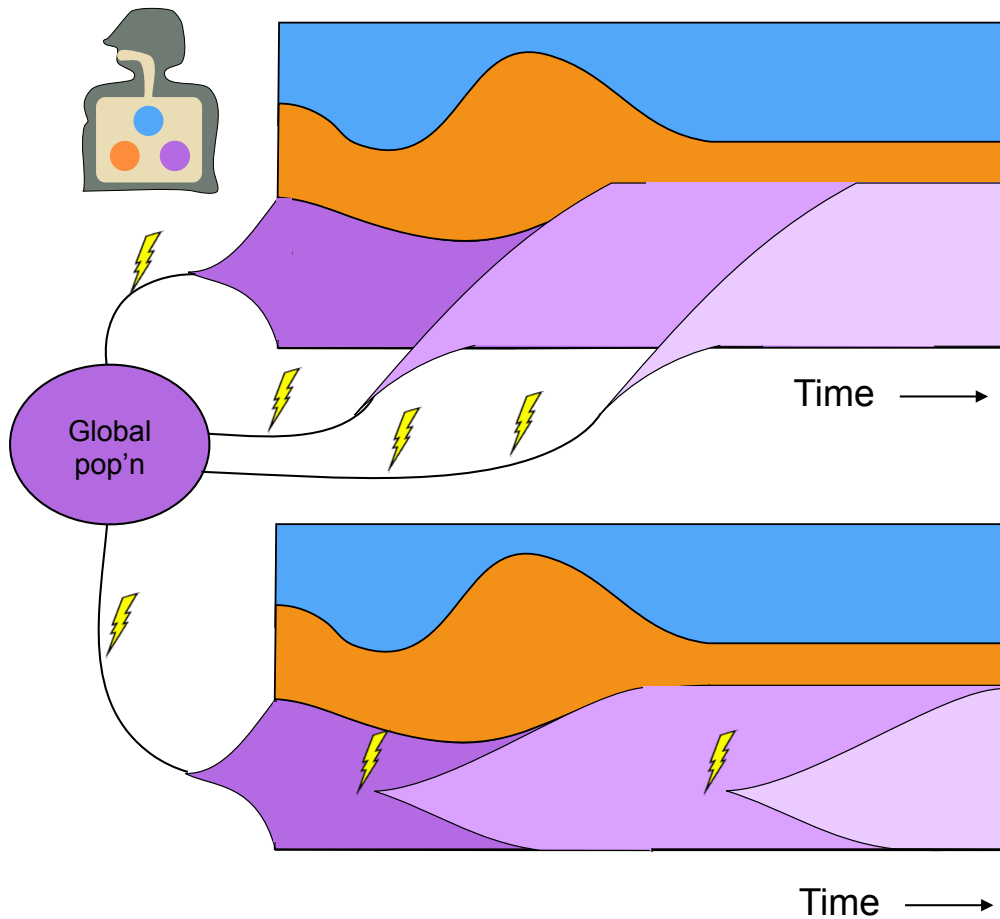
Distinguishing **local evolution** & **strain replacement** using time-reversal symmetry



Global strain replacement:

population genetic quantities
should be **locally symmetric**
under time-reversal ($t \mapsto -t$)

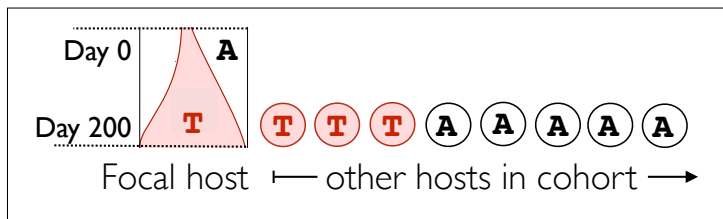
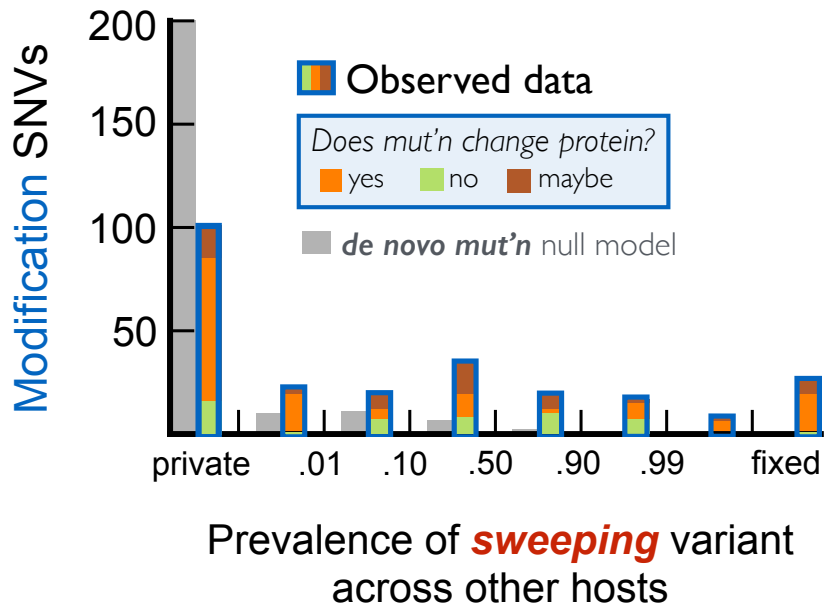
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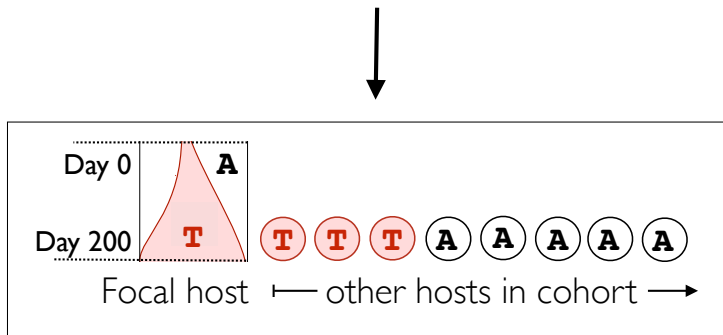
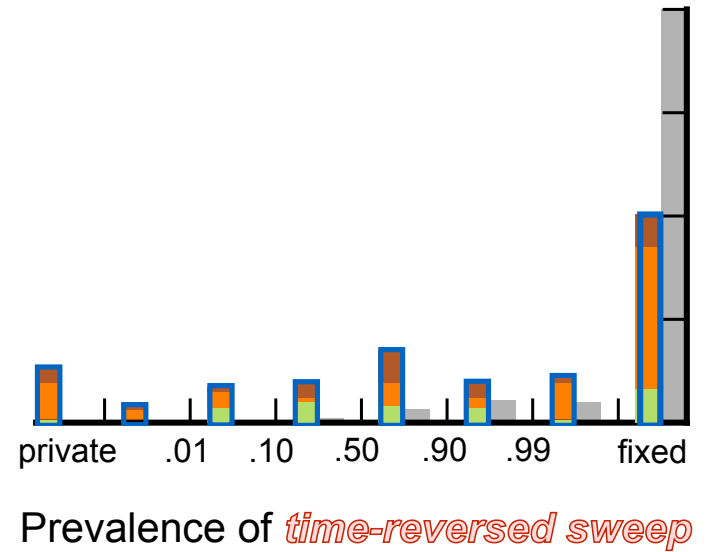
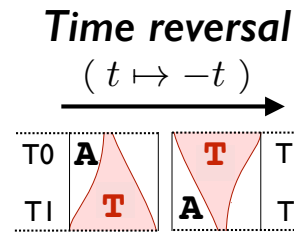
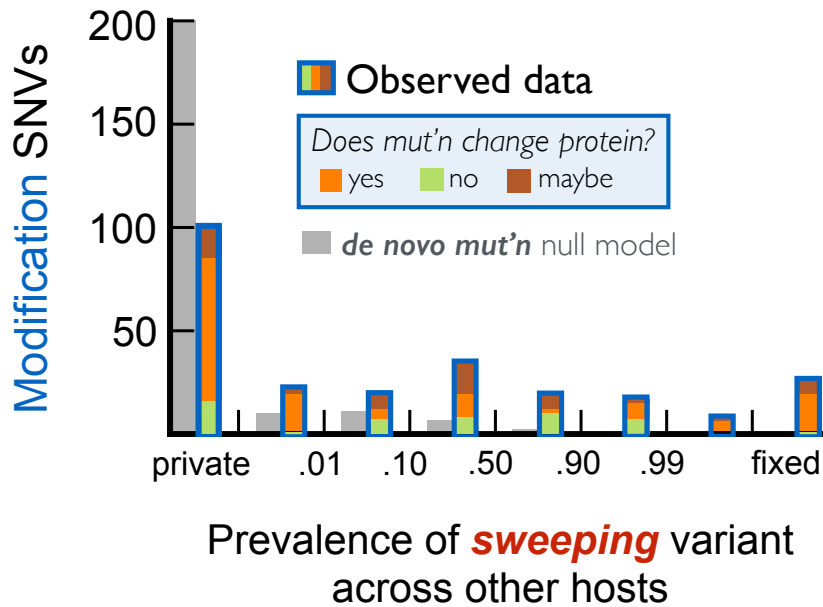
Local evolution: asymmetric
(most new mutations biased
away from global consensus)

Distinguishing local evolution & strain replacement using time-reversal symmetry



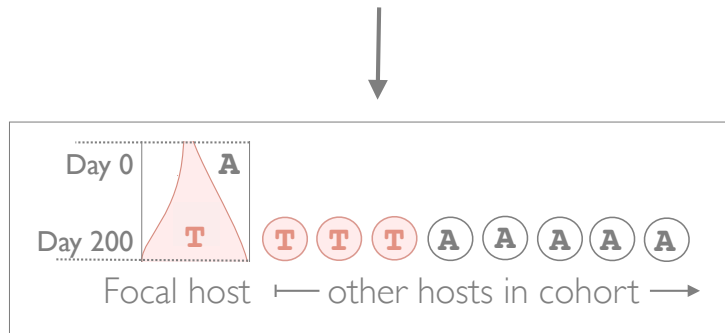
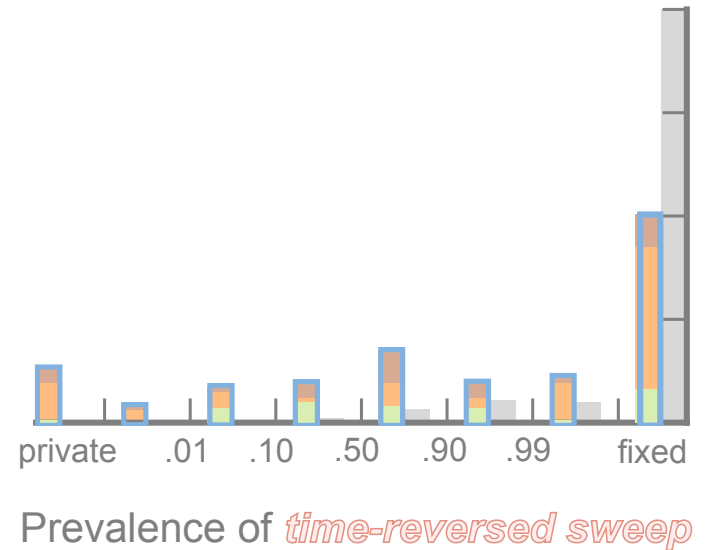
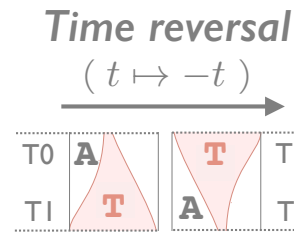
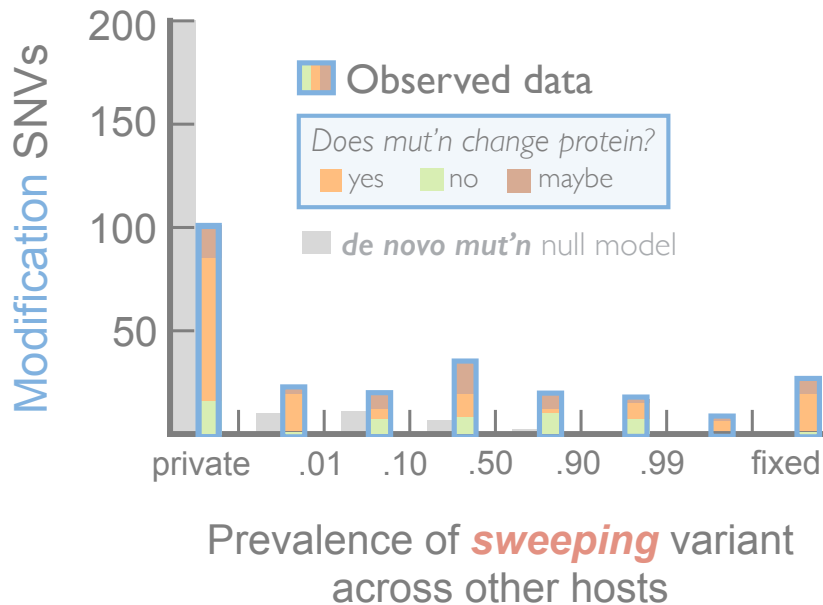
Do we see same variant in other hosts?

Distinguishing local evolution & strain replacement using time-reversal symmetry



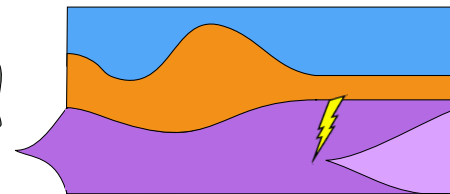
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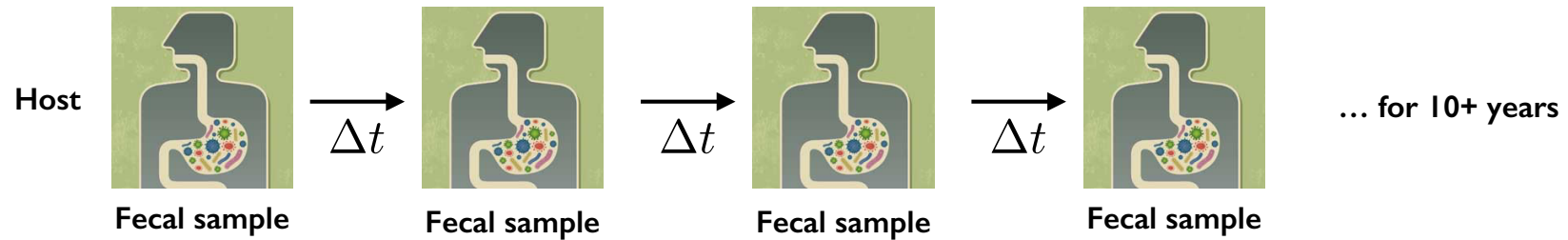
Modification events are **asymmetric** under local time reversal ($p < 10^{-4}$)



~ local evolution

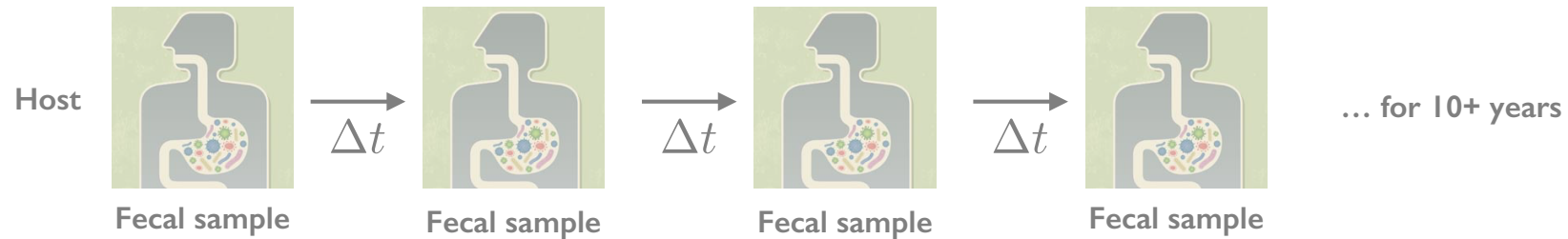
Probing *replacement* & *modification* on longer timescales

Ideal data: *track (many) individual hosts over 10+ years*

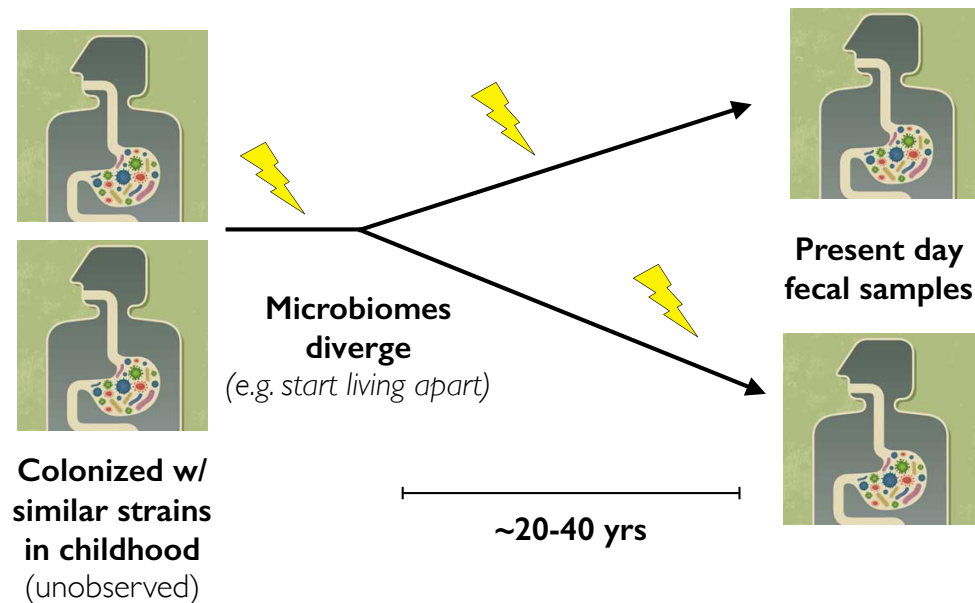


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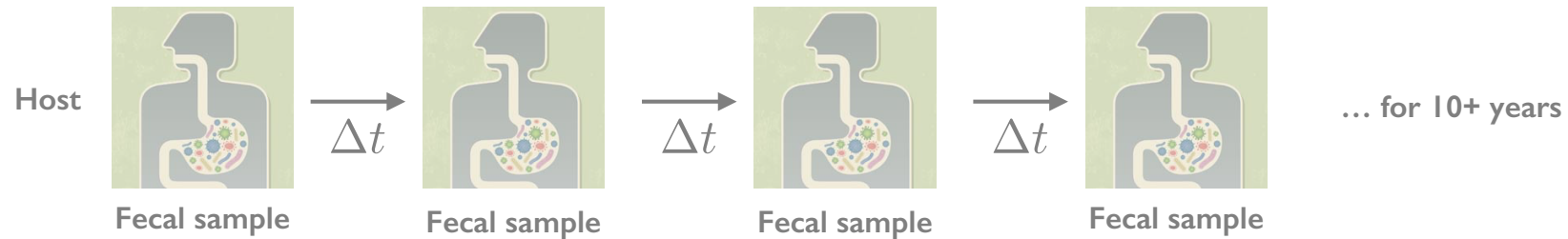


Proxy: *compare microbiomes of ~200 adult twins*

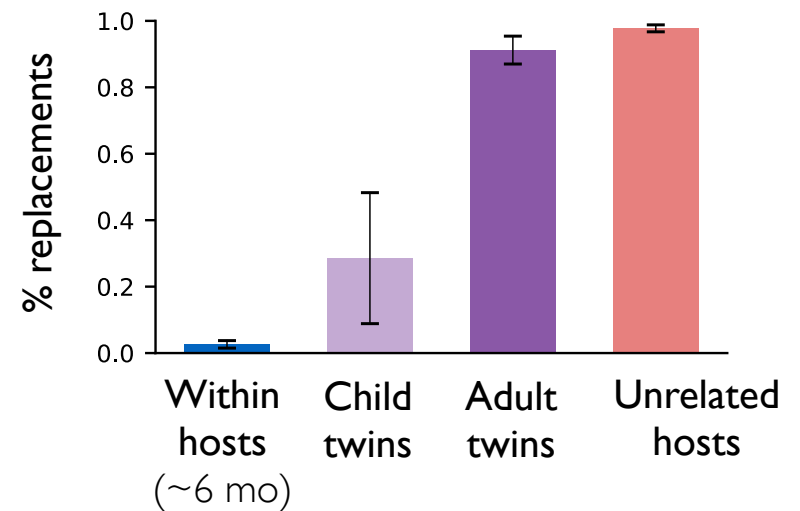
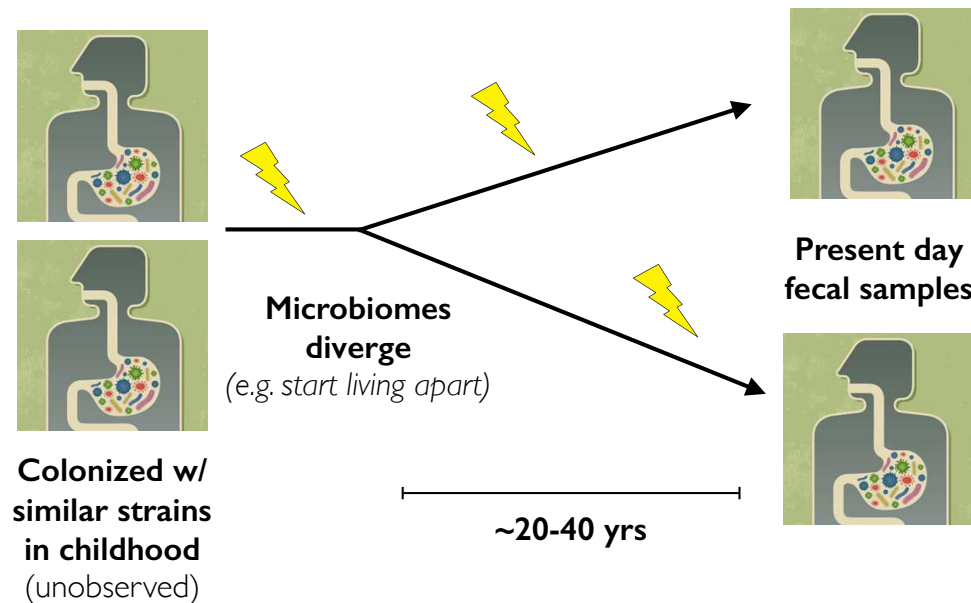


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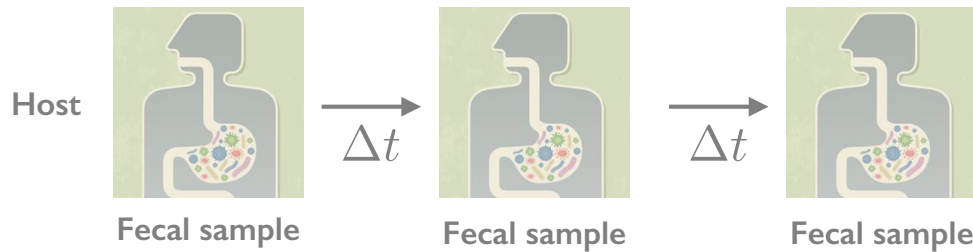


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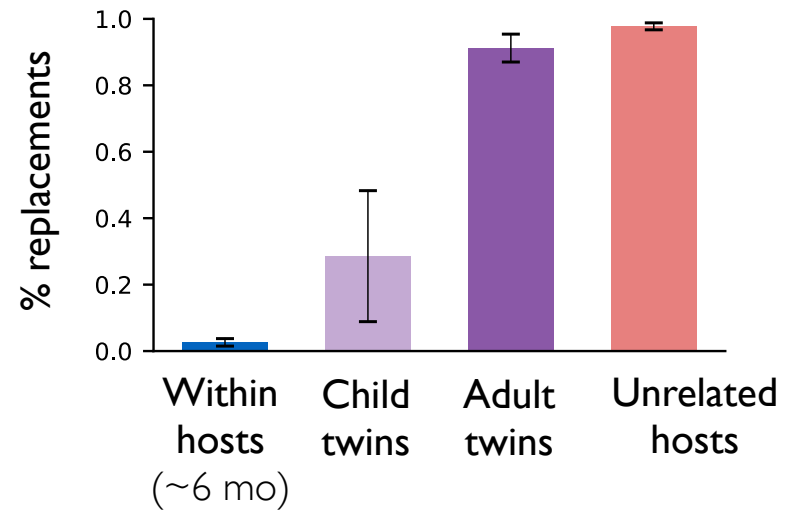
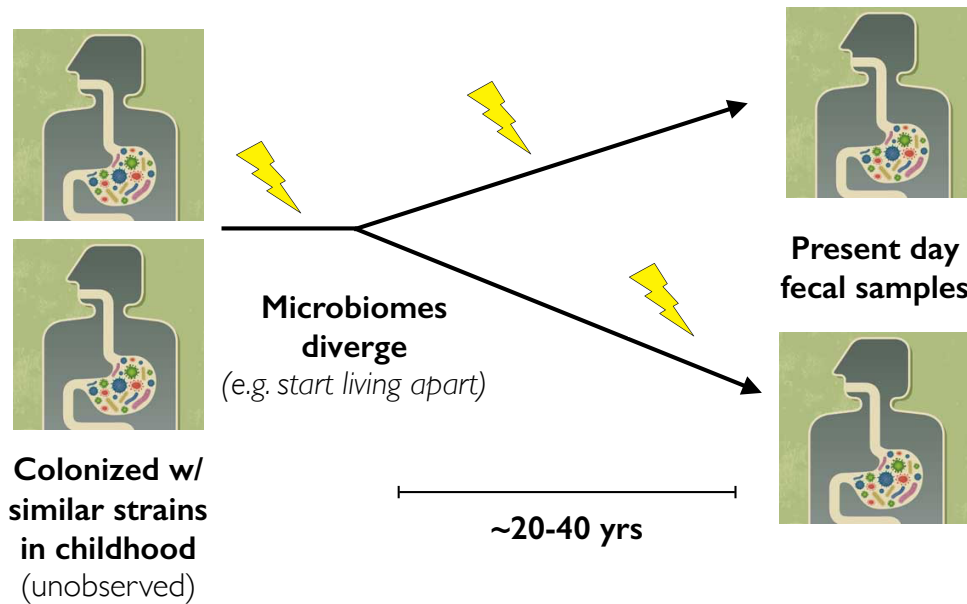
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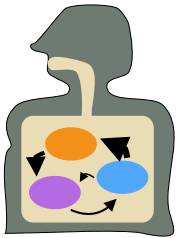
→ benefits of *local evolution* don't compound indefinitely

Proxy: compare microbiomes of ~200 adult twins

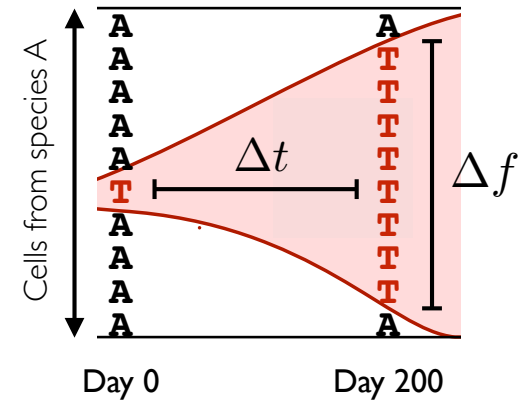


Key takeaways

- **Comparing 2 timepoints:** native microbiota **can** acquire genetic diffs on human-relevant timescales

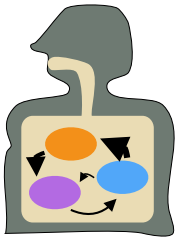


→ mixture of “**strain replacement**”
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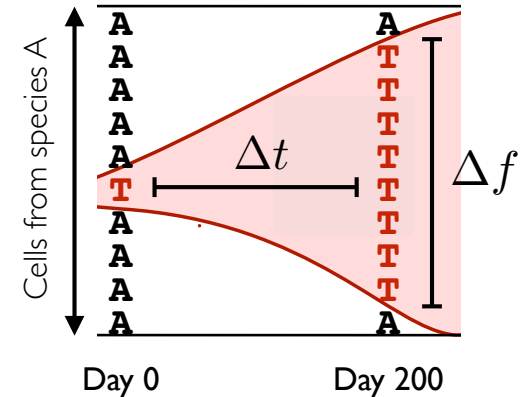


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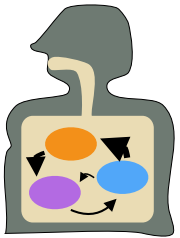
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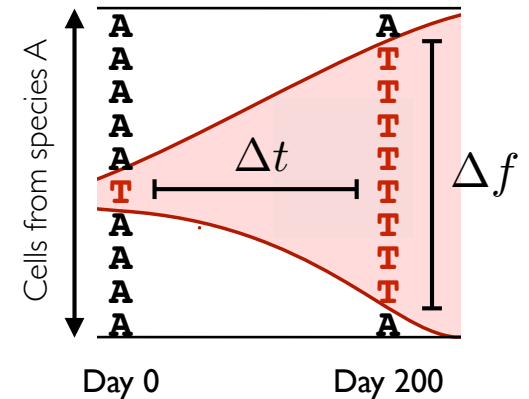
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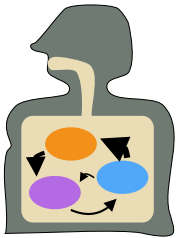
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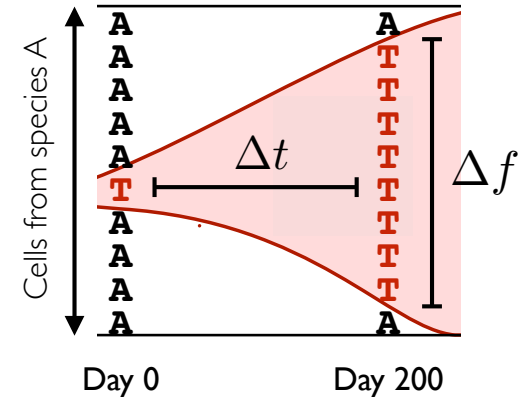
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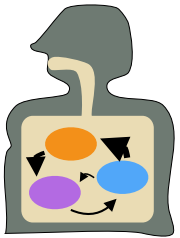
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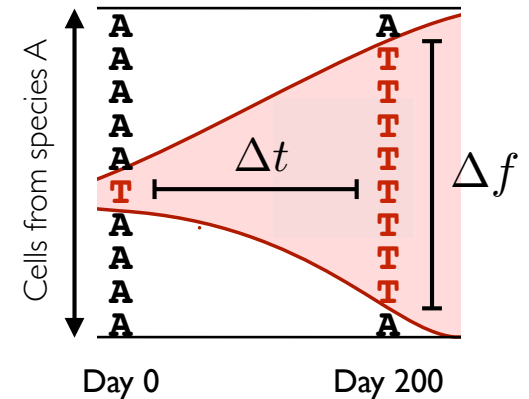
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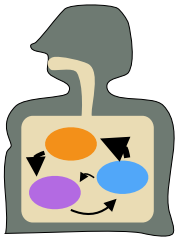
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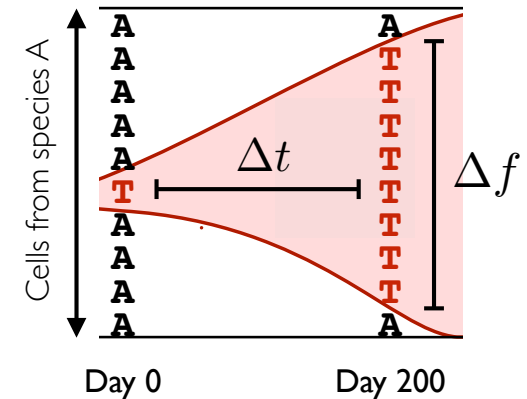
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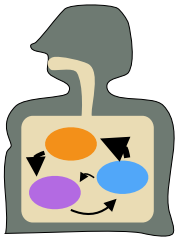


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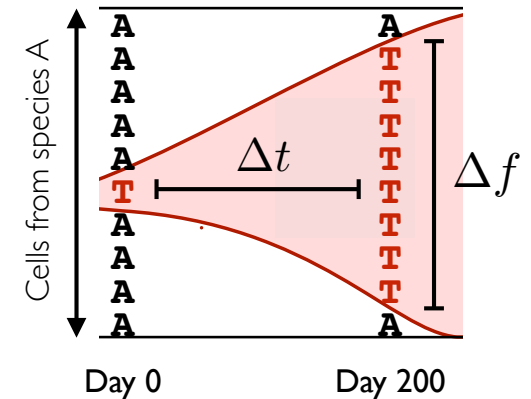
Does it matter if “**strain replacement**” vs “**evolutionary modification**”?

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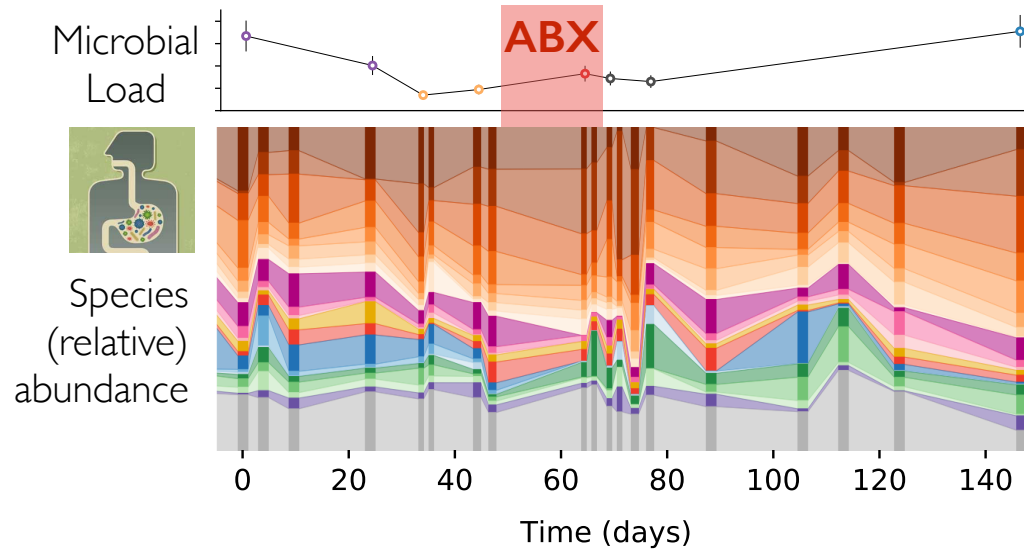


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Does it matter if “**strain replacement**” vs “**evolutionary modification**”?

→ **requires denser longitudinal sampling**

Next steps: dense time series data to infer dynamics of this process

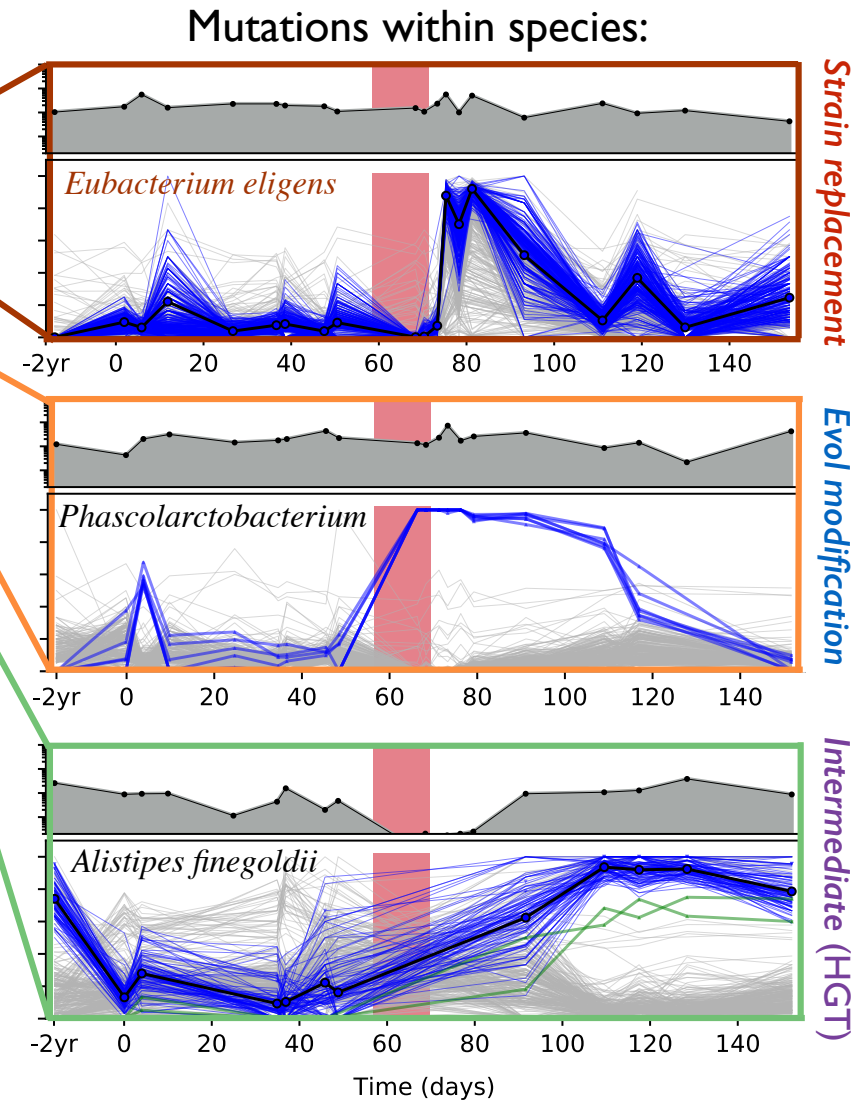
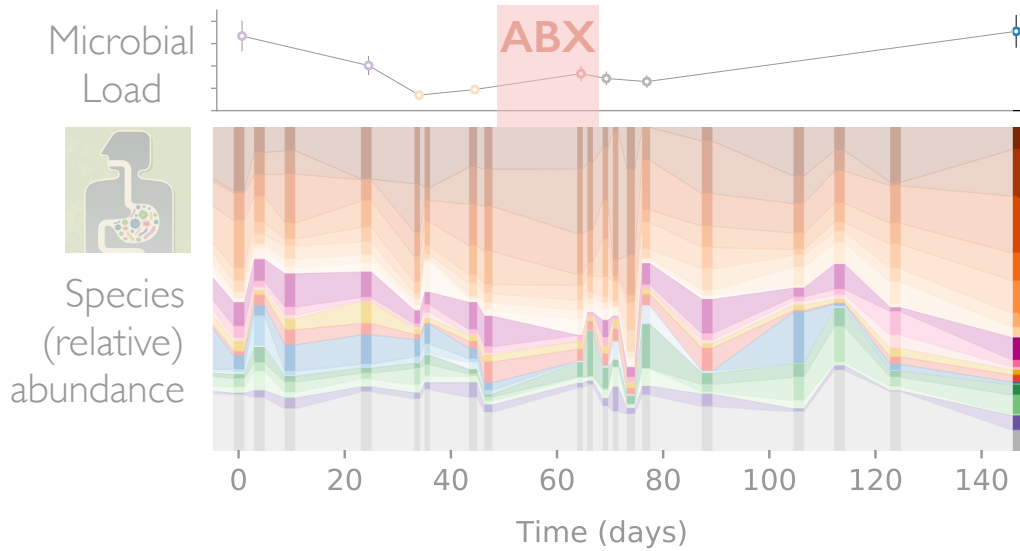


Morteza
Roodgar



Mike Snyder
(Stanford)

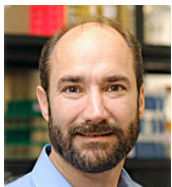
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+
33 other species
(18 w/ genetic changes)

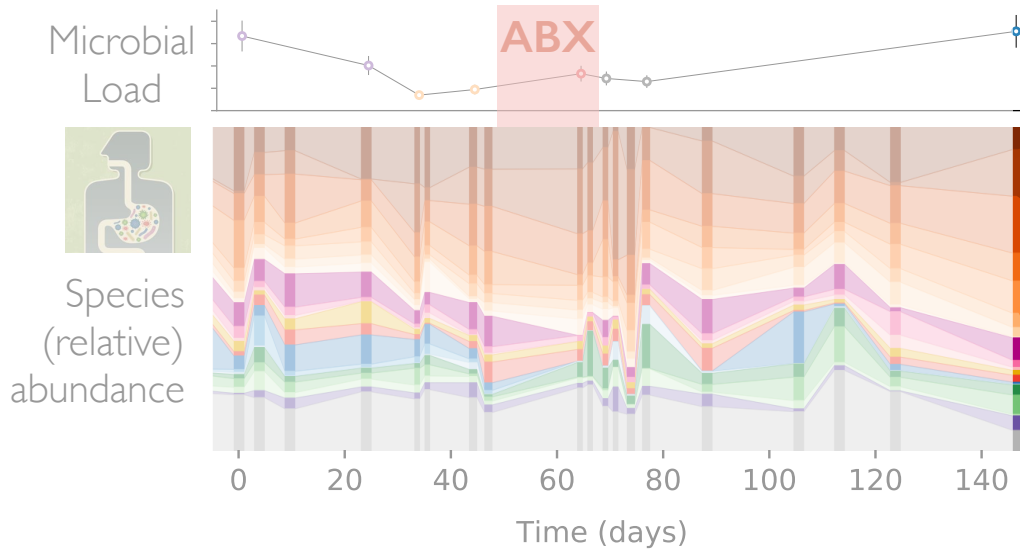


Morteza Roodgar

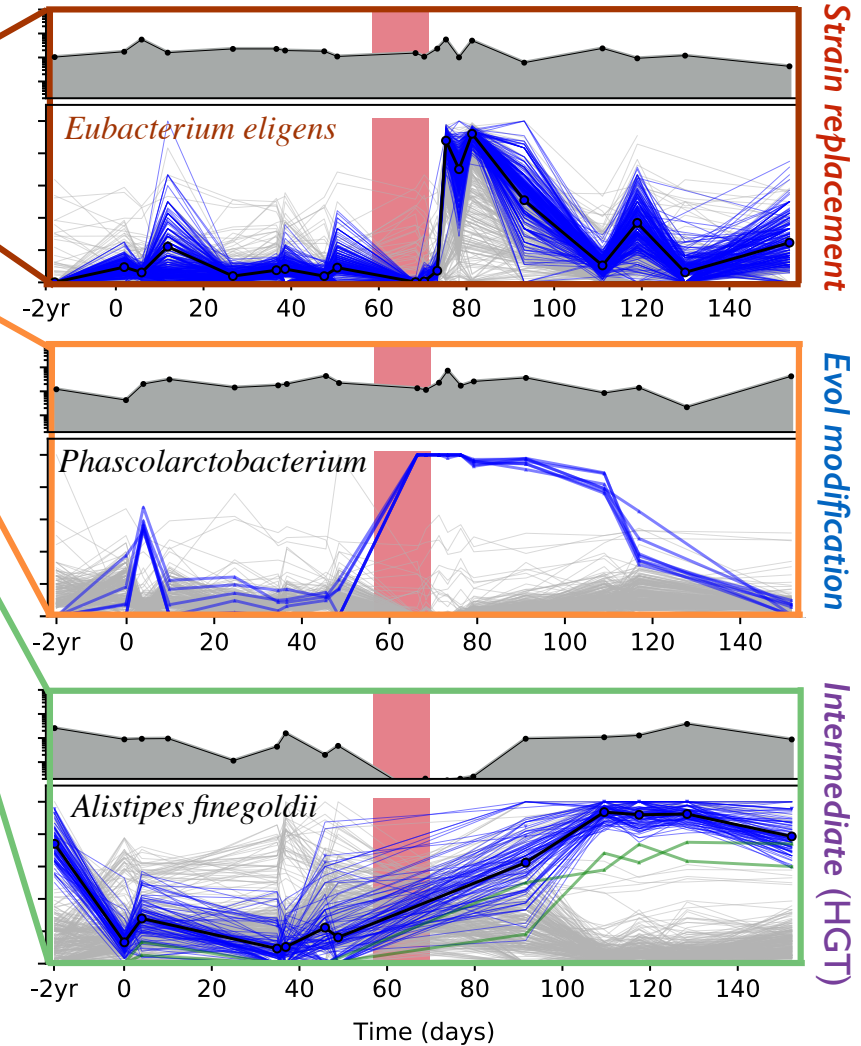


Mike Snyder (Stanford)

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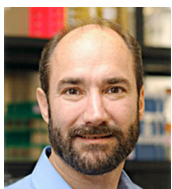
Mutations within species:



Question: how do native gut microbiota respond to ABX perturbations at the **genetic level**?



Morteza Roodgar

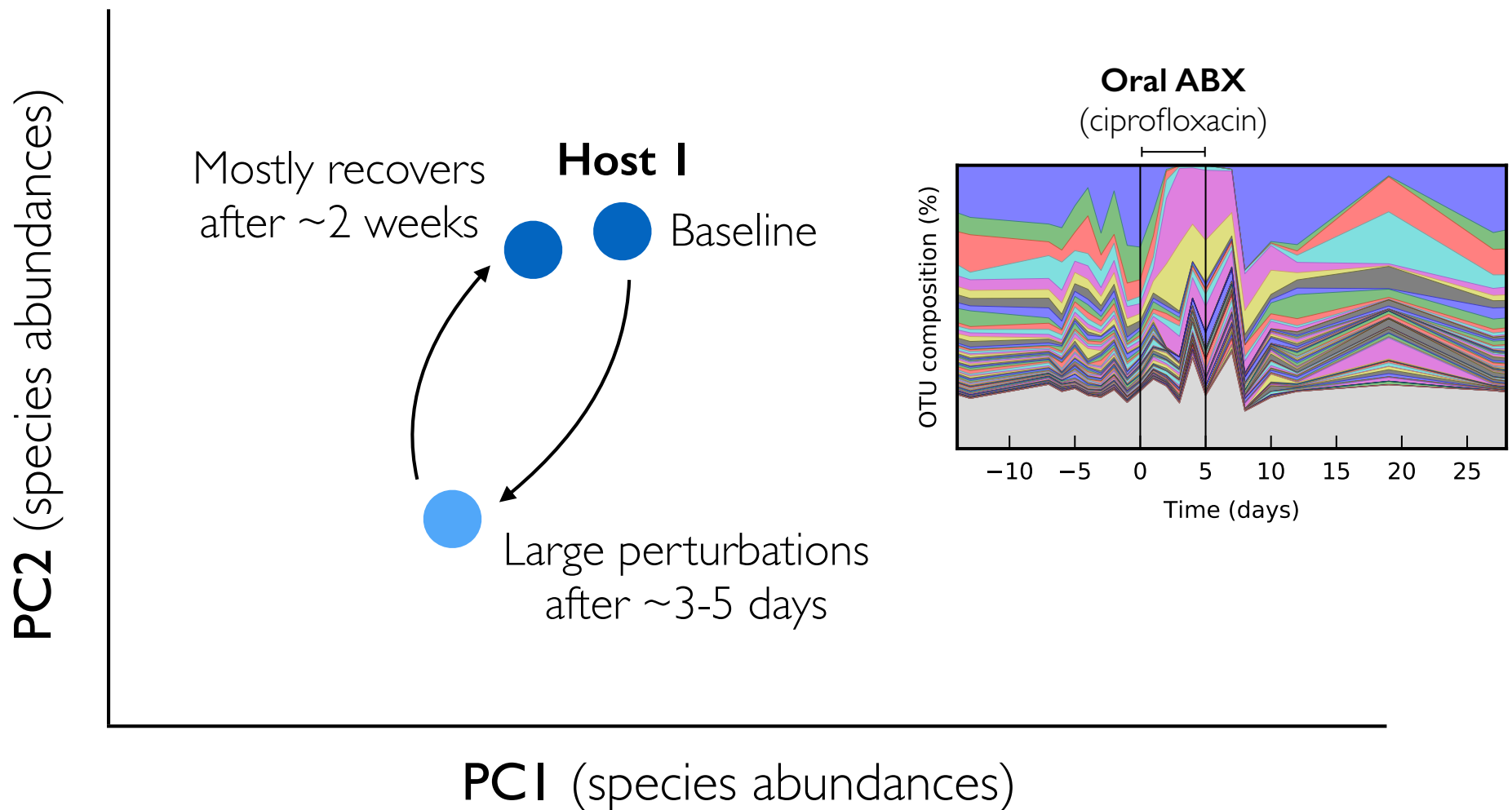


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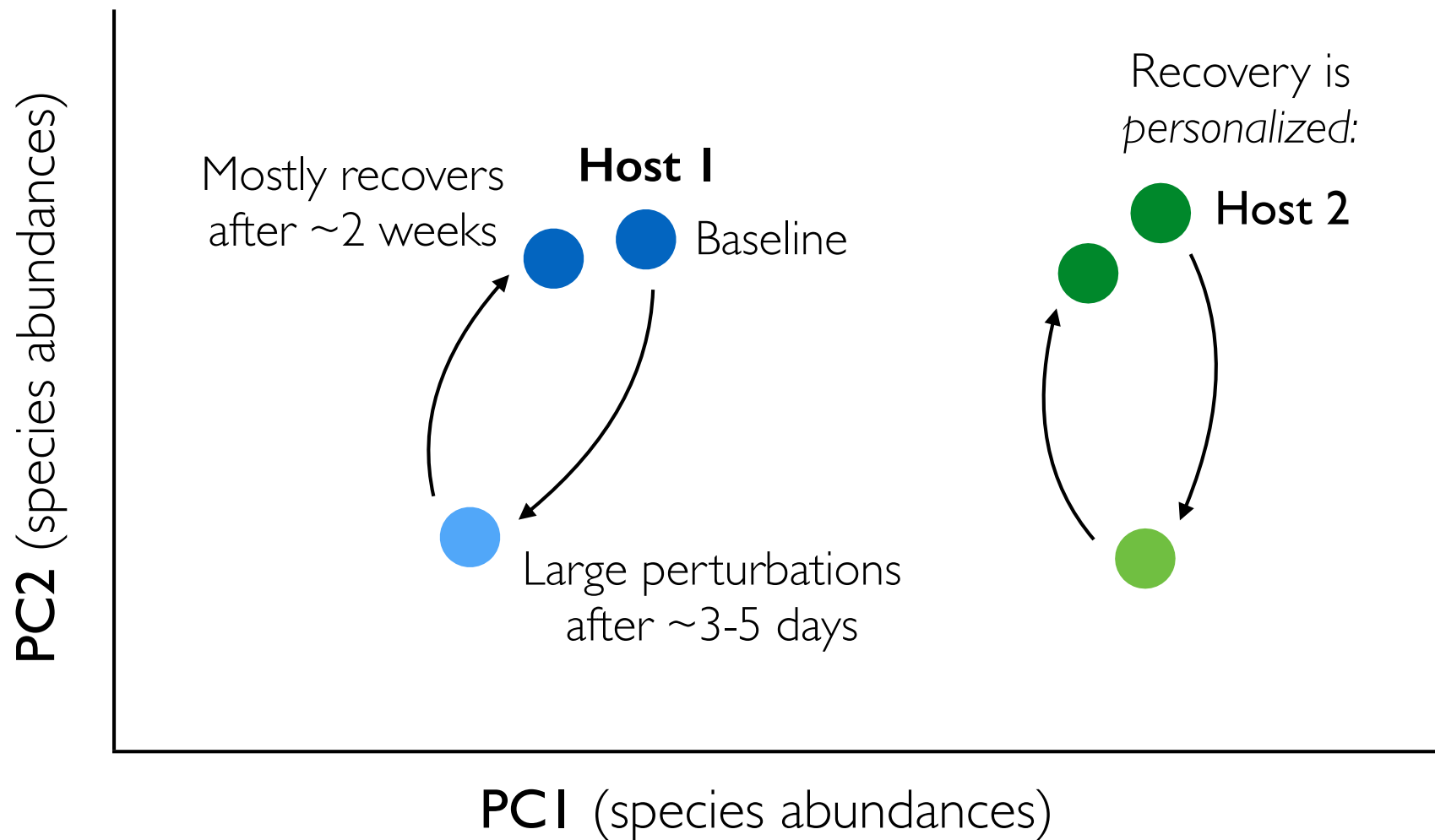
Previous work: effects of ABX treatment at species level

- Severe cases → purges native flora, allows for *C. diff* infection
- Typical oral dose produces more resilient response:

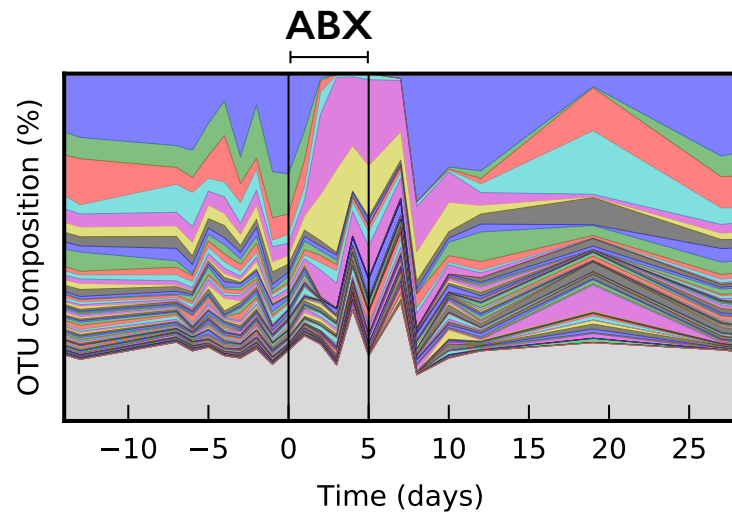


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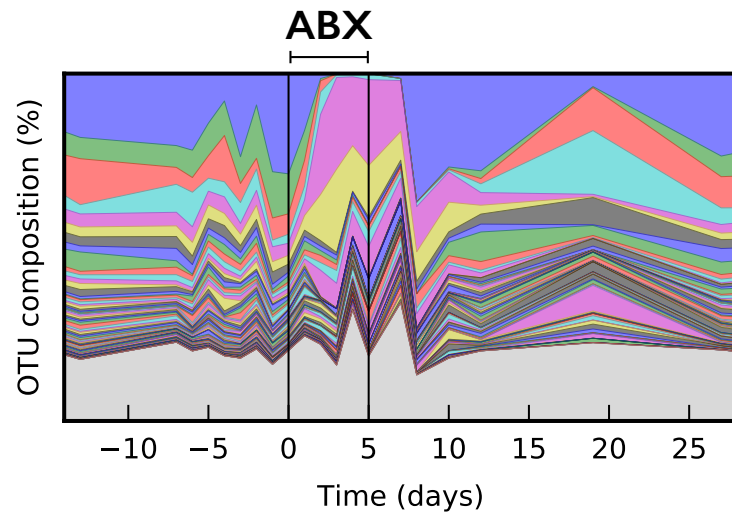
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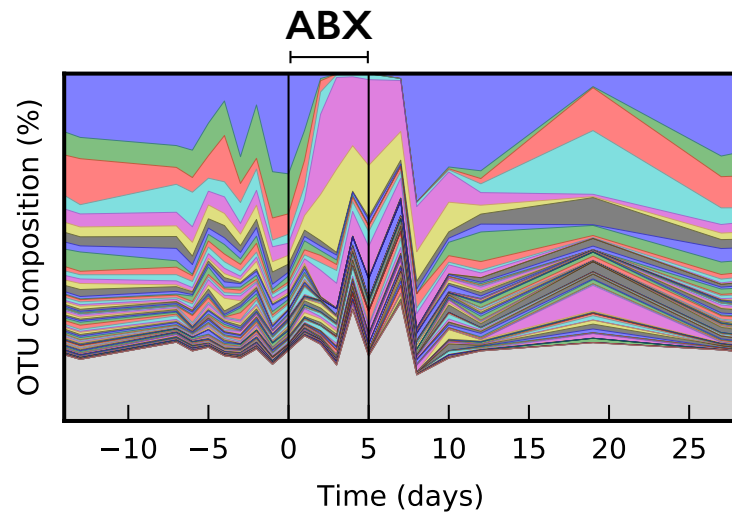


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Re-colonization by new strain of same species?
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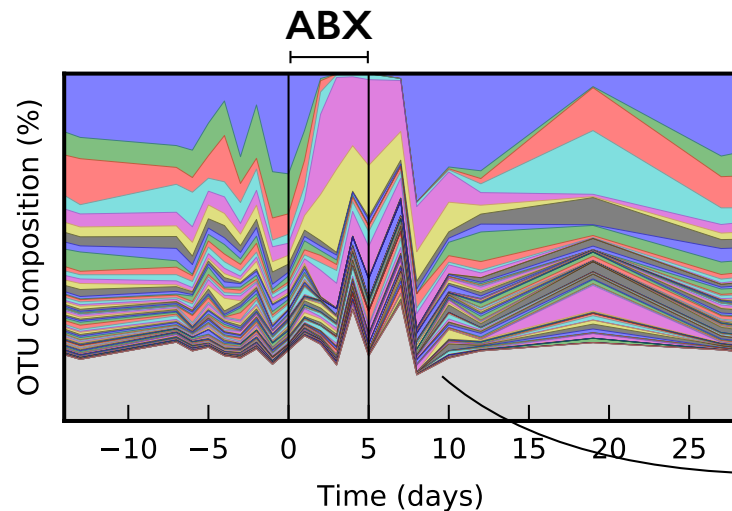
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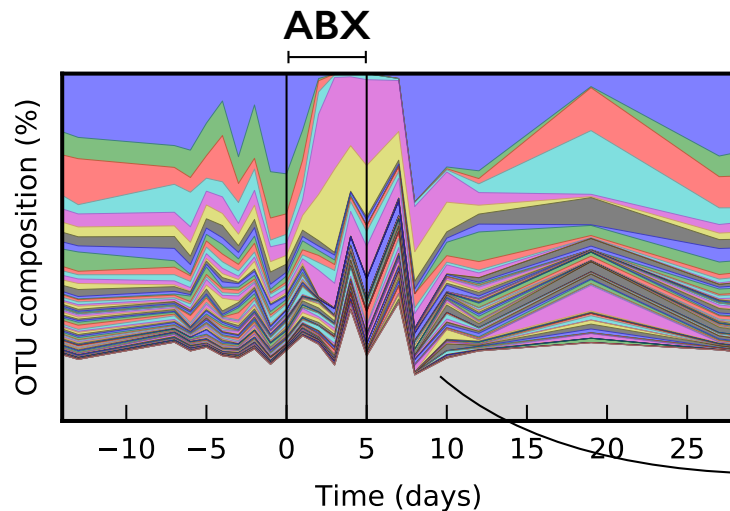


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Add'l selection pressures unmasked
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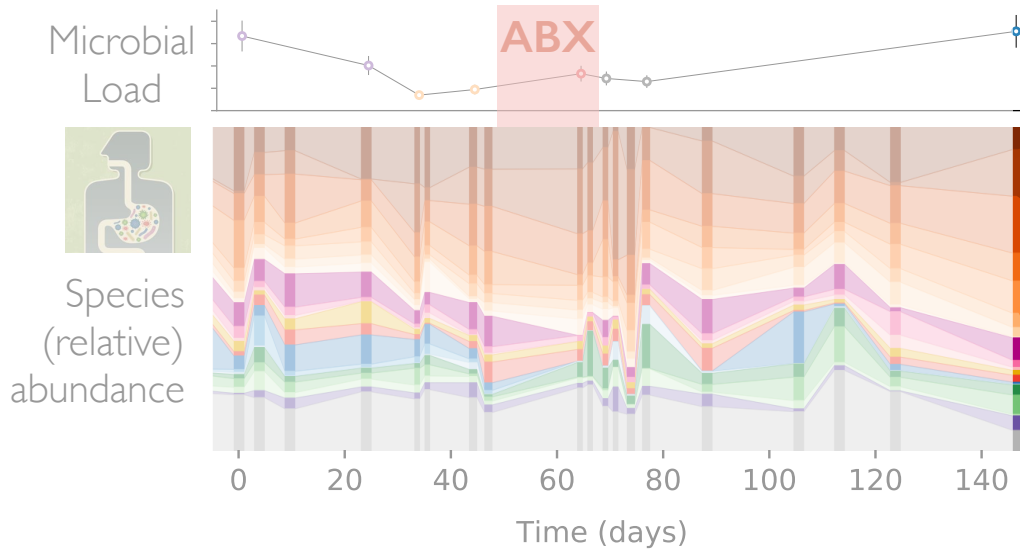
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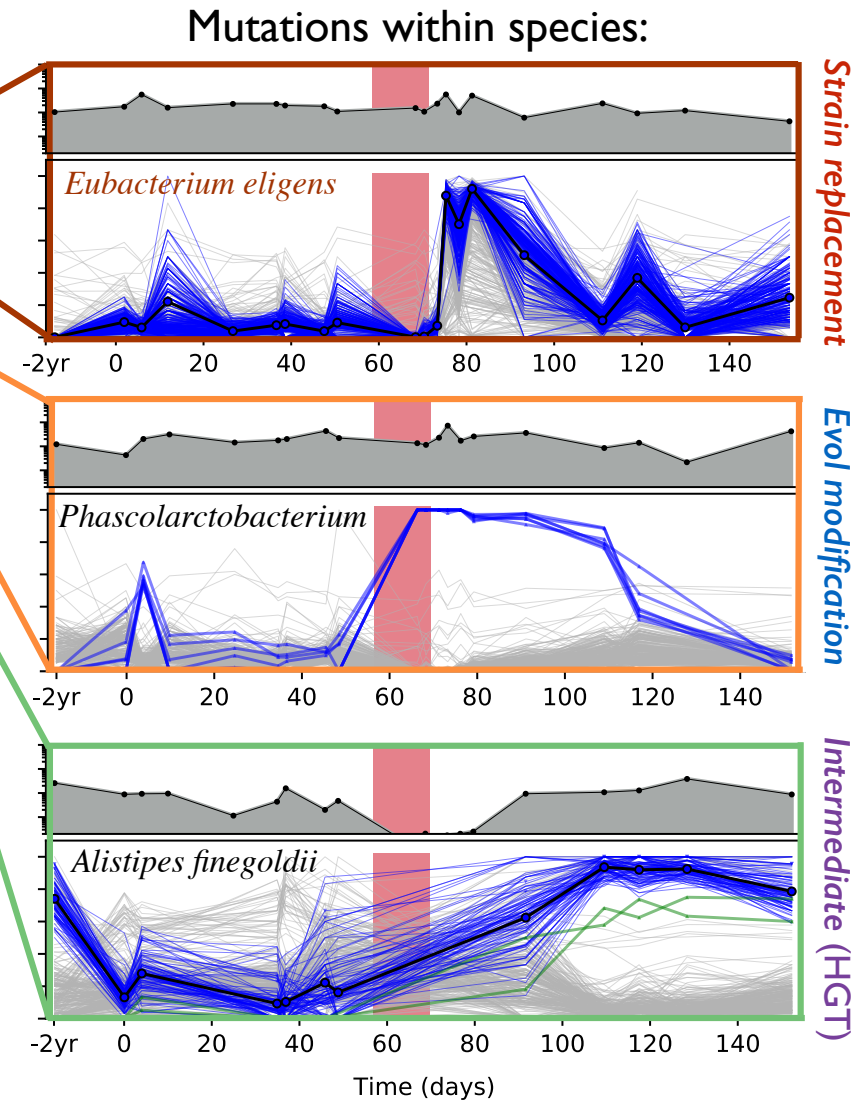
Add'l selection pressures unmasked during transient recovery phase?

Can we look “under the hood” to find out?

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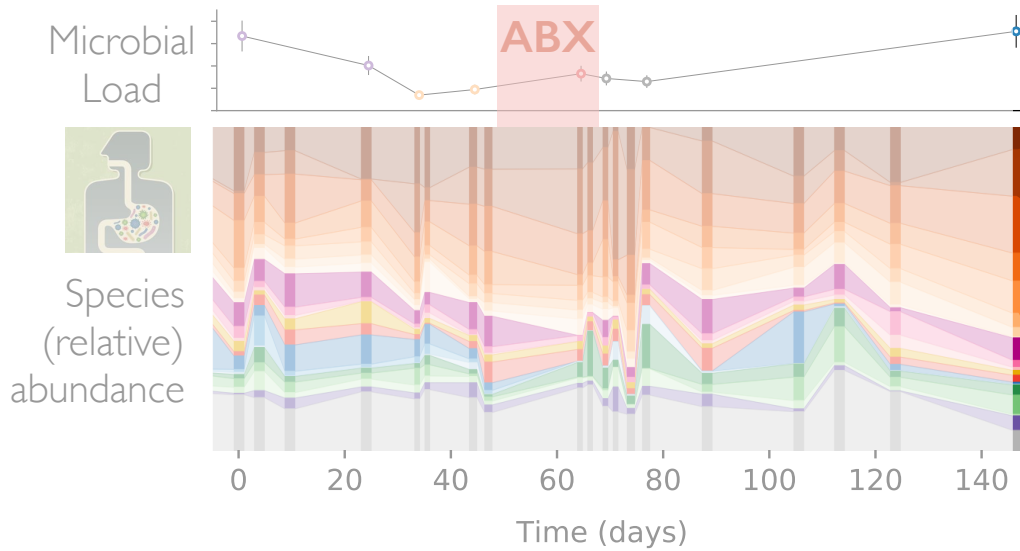


ABX can drive *rapid genetic changes* w/in species this complex community



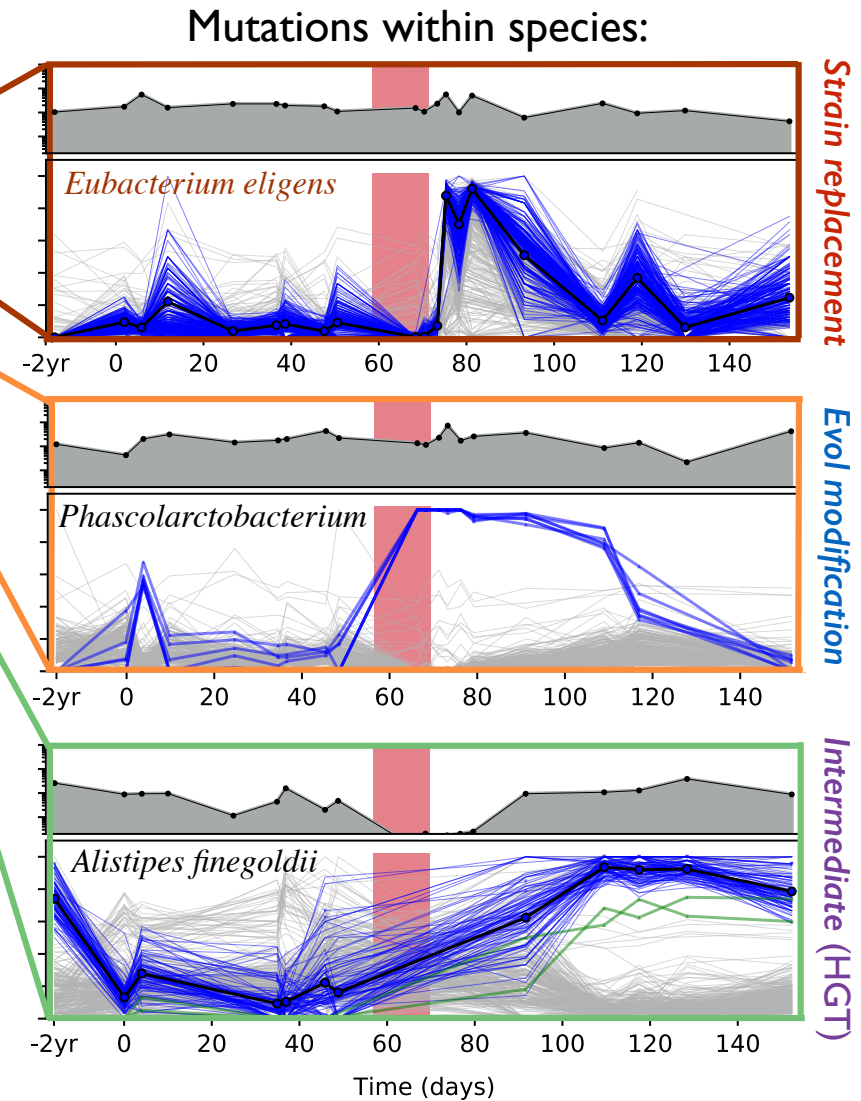
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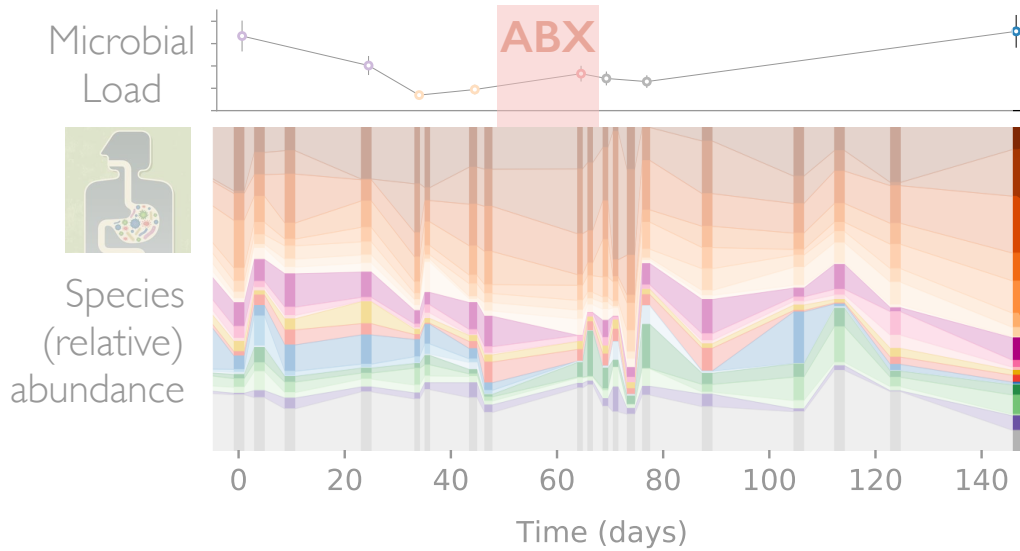
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↳ **but not consistent with simple extinction & recolonization picture...**

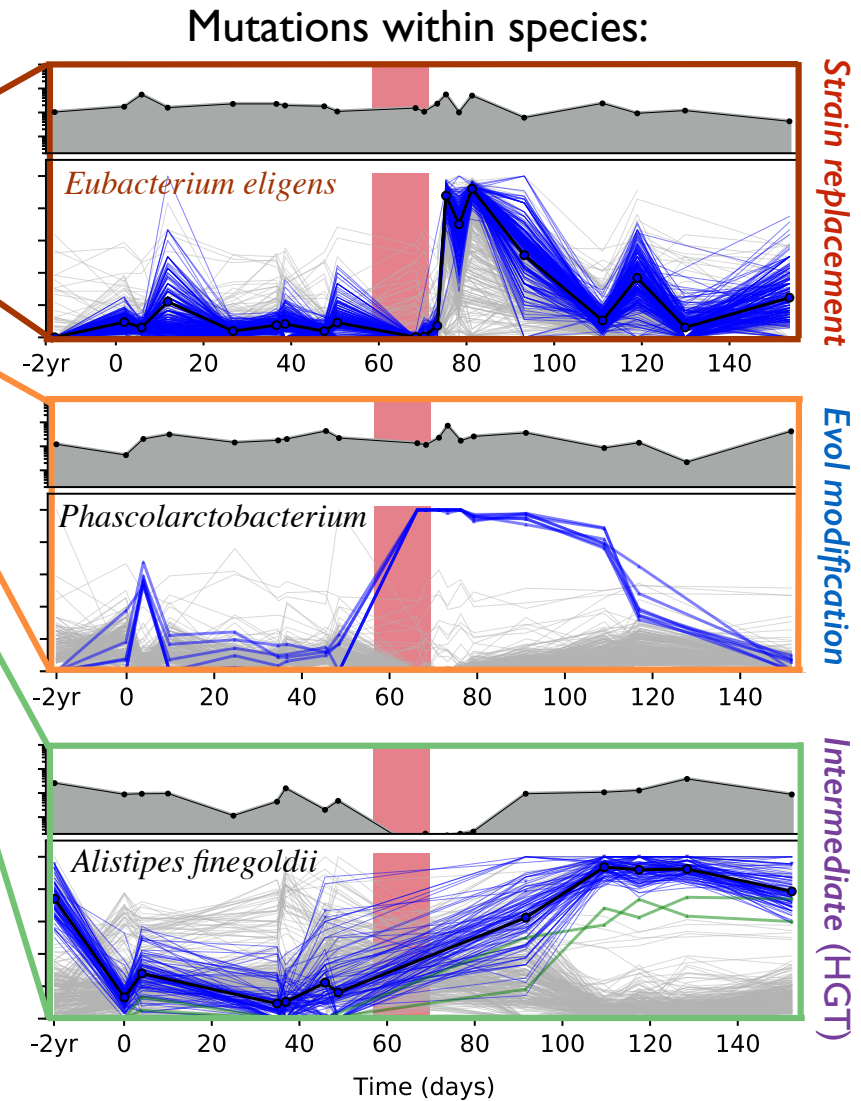
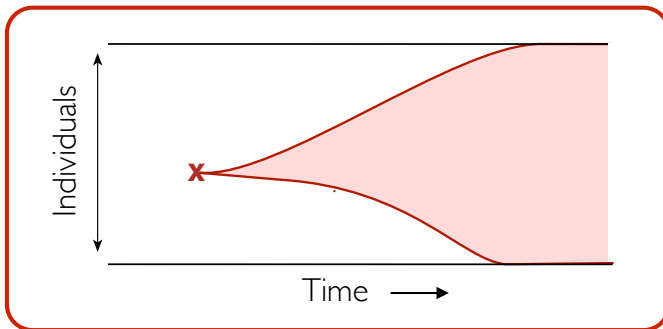


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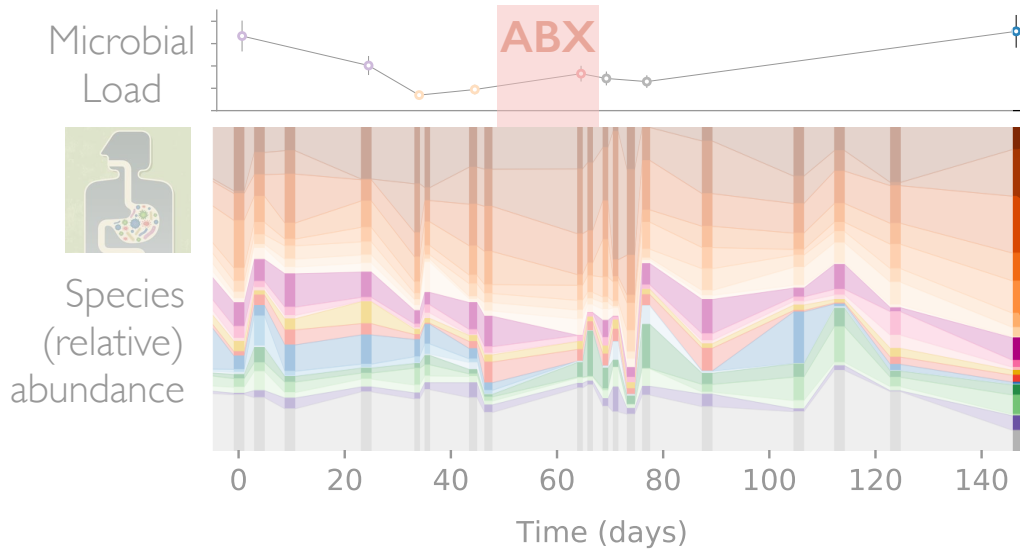


→ **but also inconsistent w/ simplest models of ABX resistance evolution**

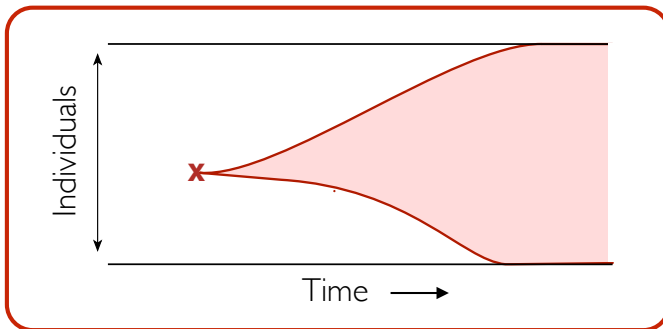


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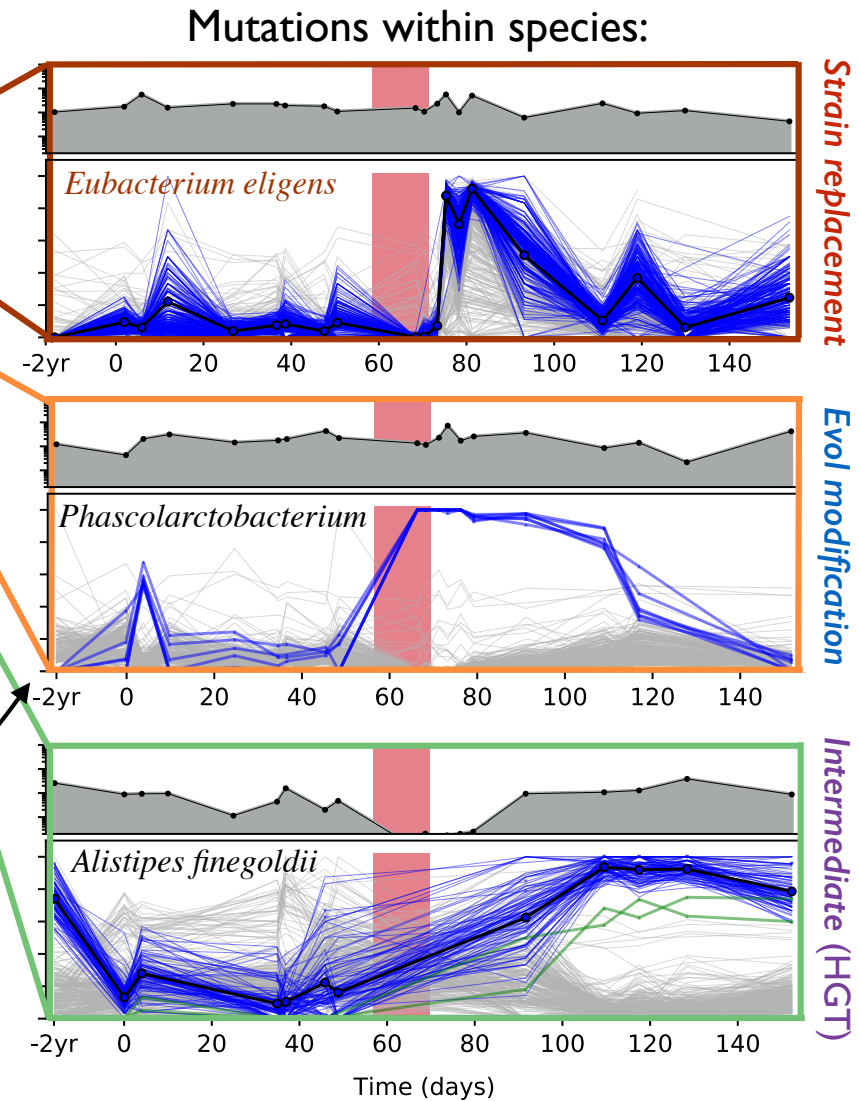
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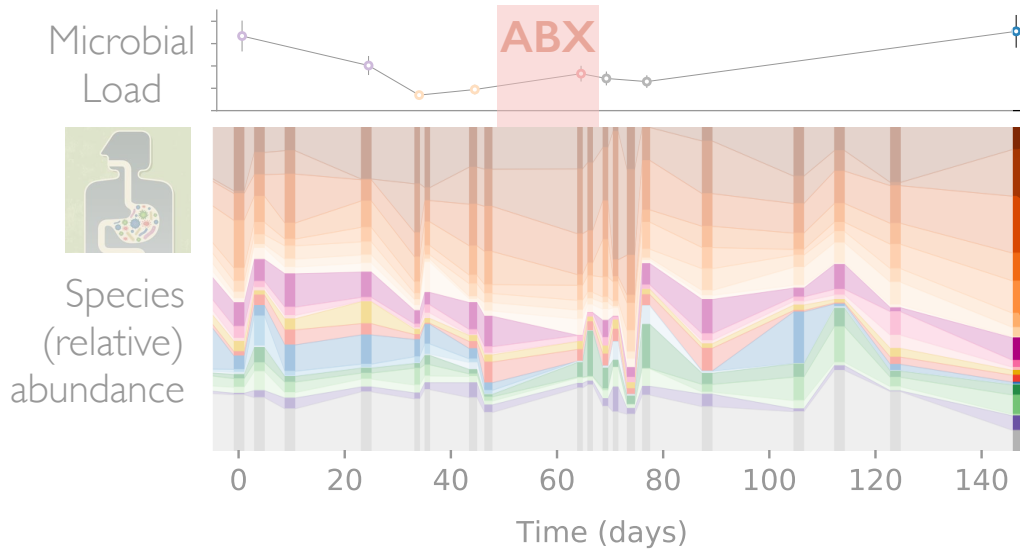


Very different from cartoon!

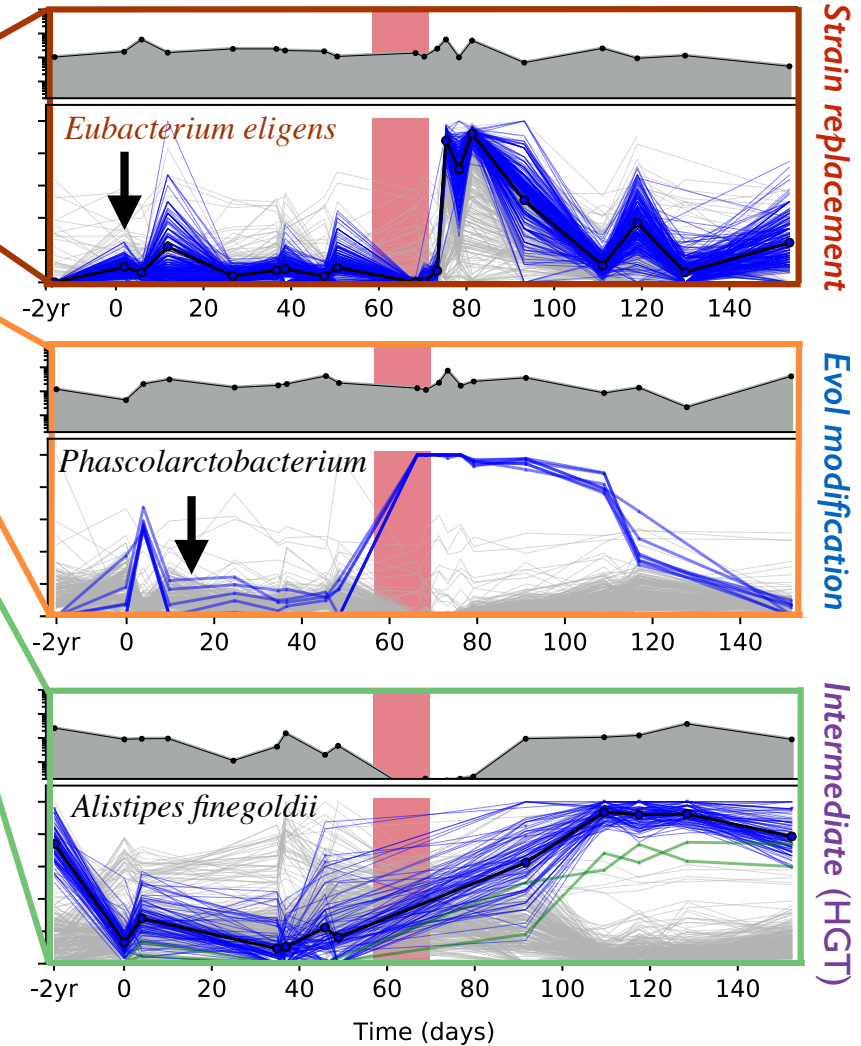


+
33 other species
(18 w/ genetic changes)

Next steps: dense time series data to infer dynamics of this process



Mutations within species:

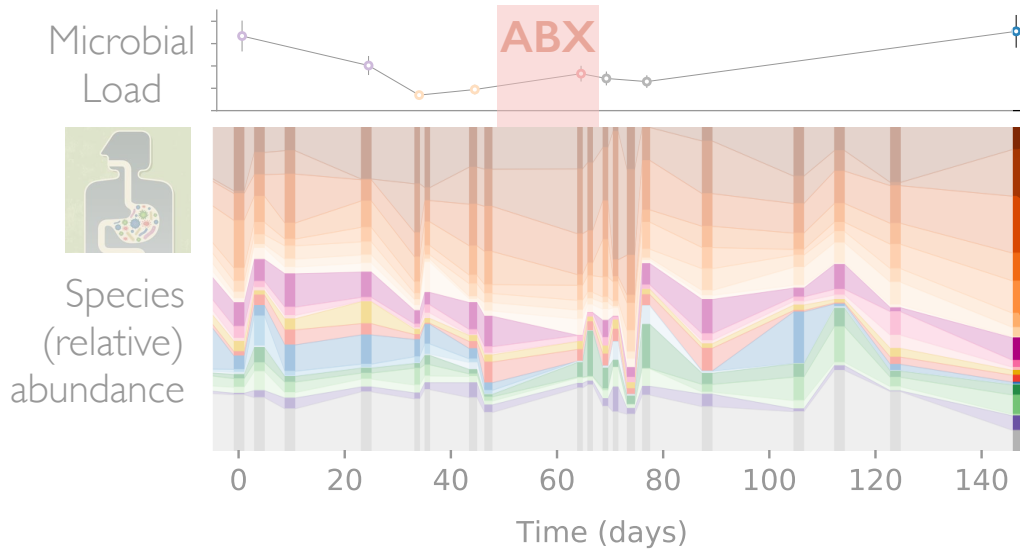


Instead, common trends:

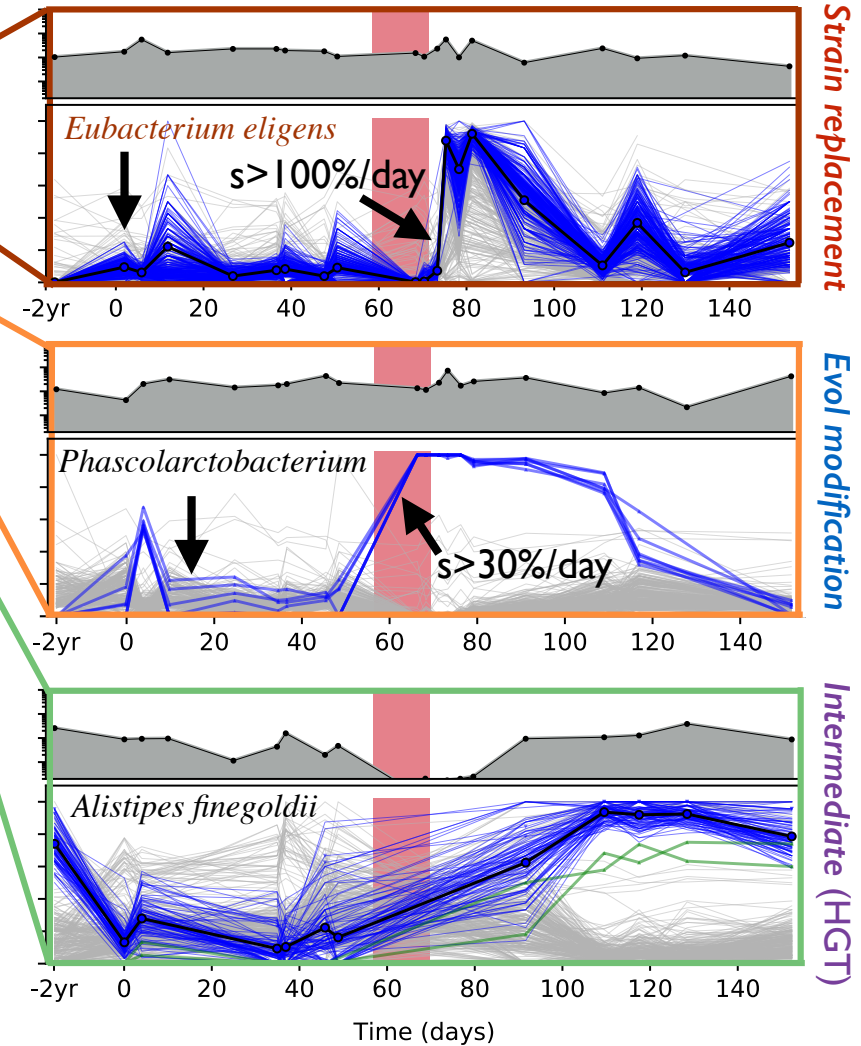
- Sweeping variants often present at low freqs before ABX

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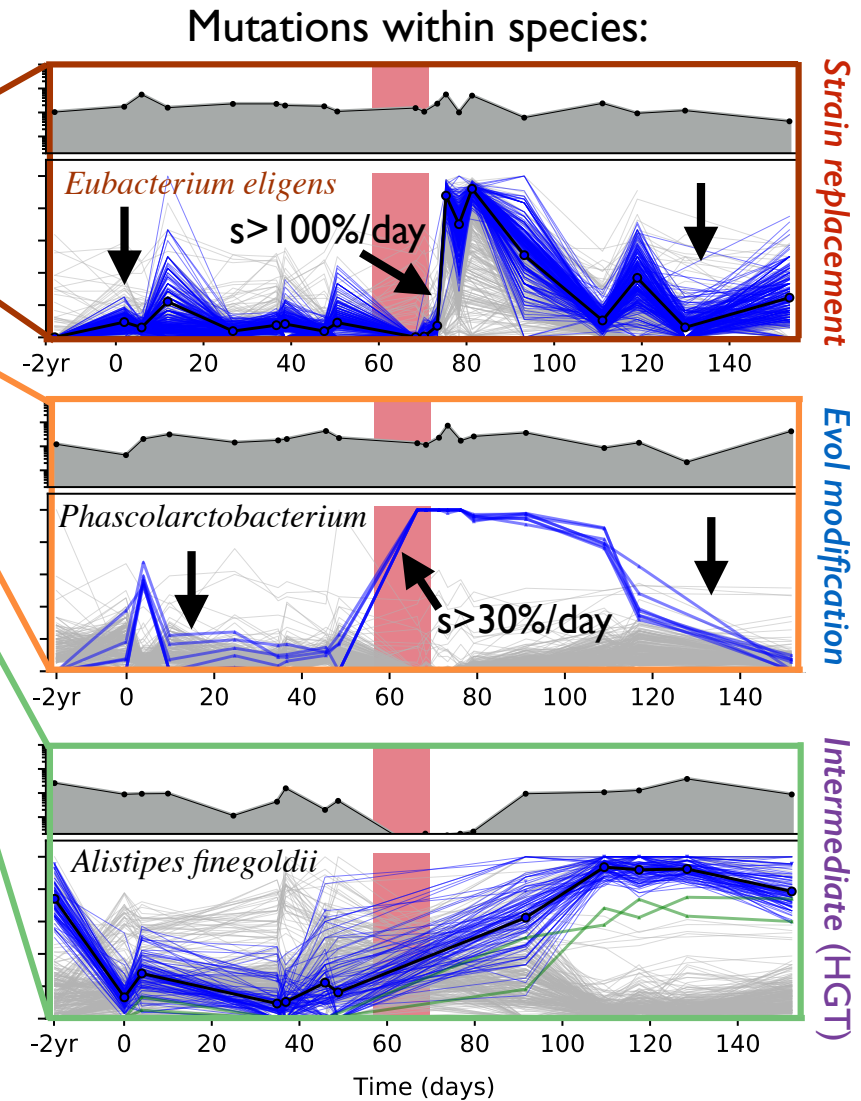
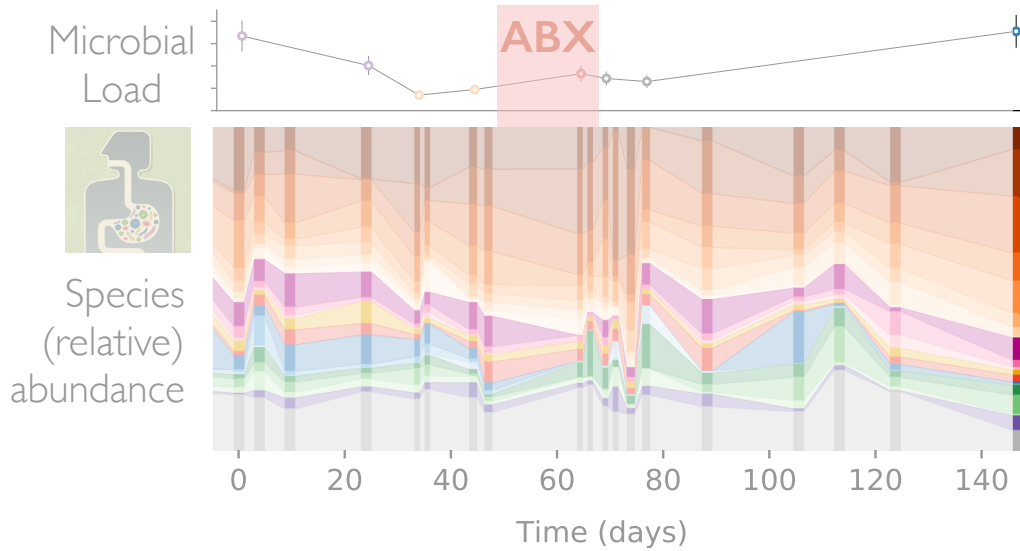


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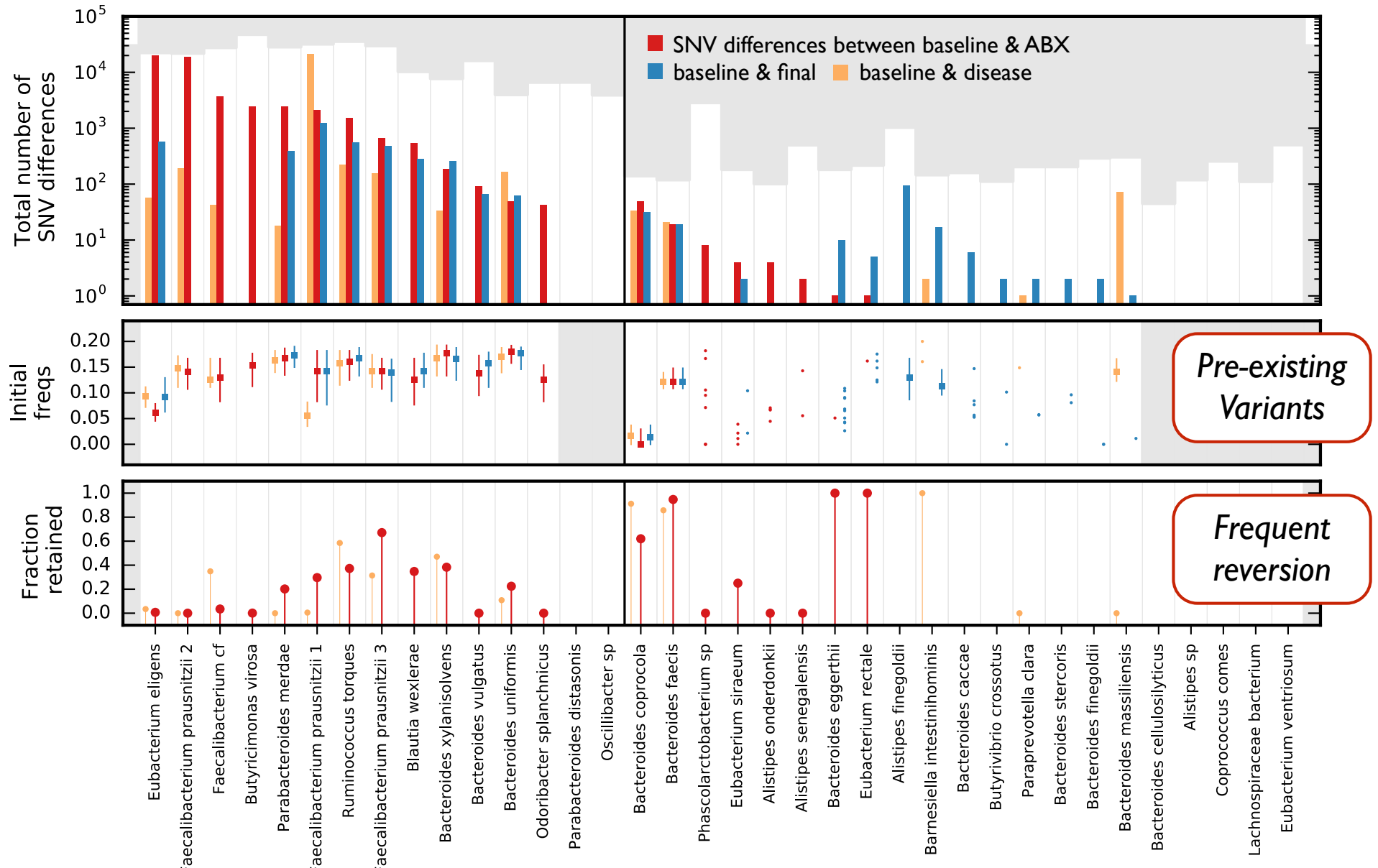


Instead, common trends:

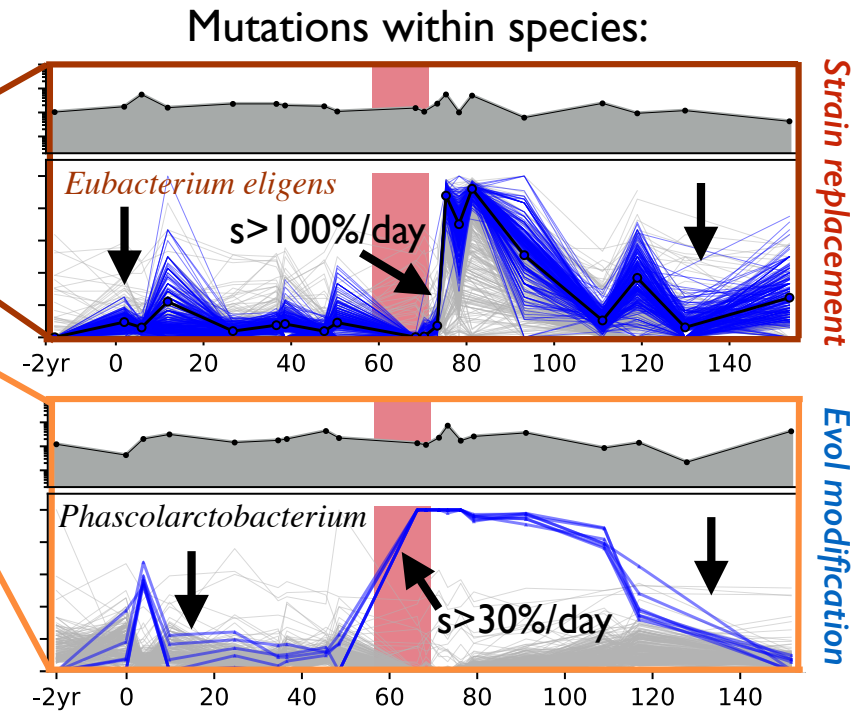
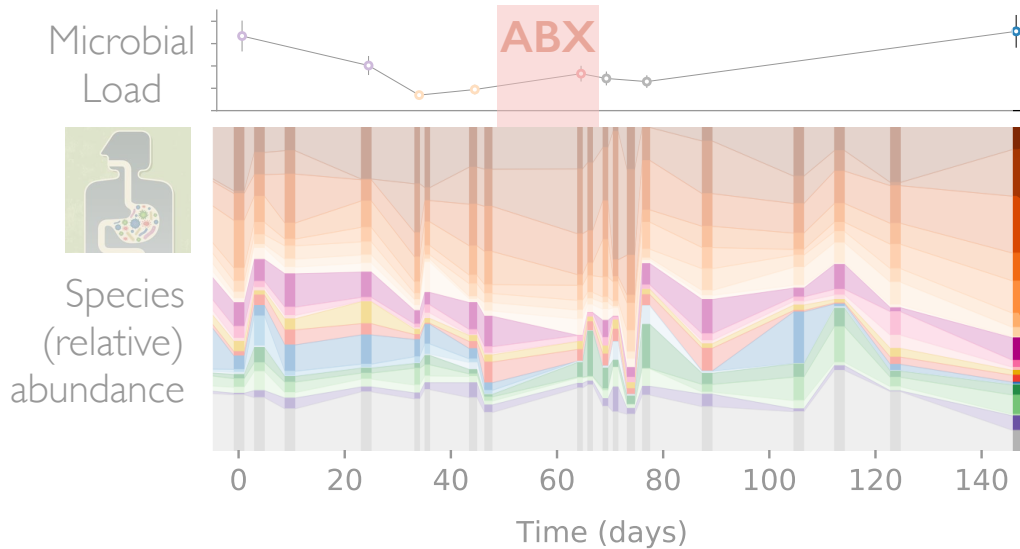
- Sweeping variants often present at low freqs before ABX
- But few fix — many return back to initial levels w/in a few months

+
33 other species
(18 w/ genetic changes)

These trends are recapitulated across ~35 species in the community



Next steps: dense time series data to infer dynamics of this process



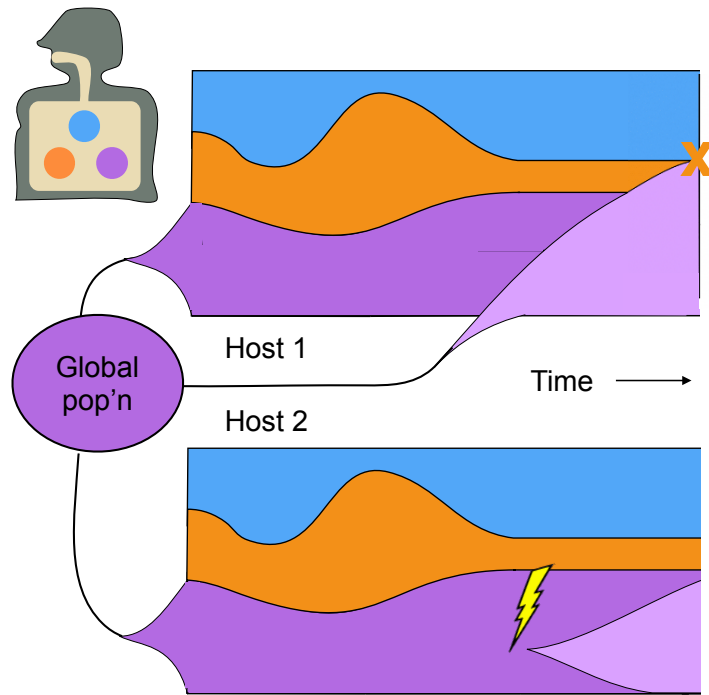
Instead, common trends:

- Sweeping variants often present at low freqs before ABX
- But few fix — many return back to initial levels w/in a few months

+ 34 other species (19 w/ genetic changes)

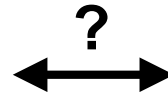
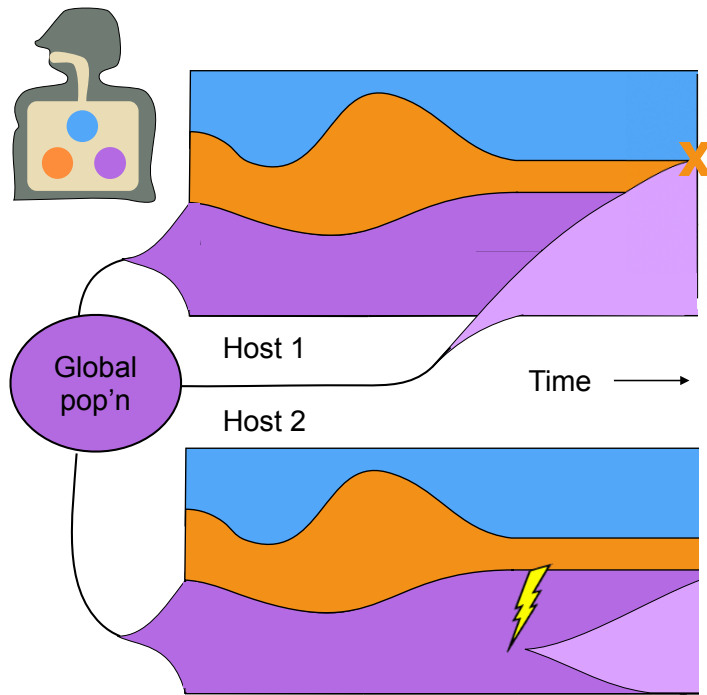
Evidence for add'l ecological structure within species in this complex community?

Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

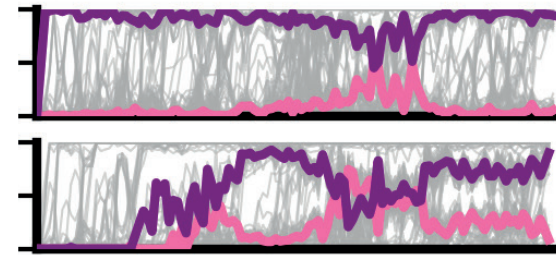


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Undergrad BioX Fellow

Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?



Good*, McDonald* et al (*Nature*, 2017)

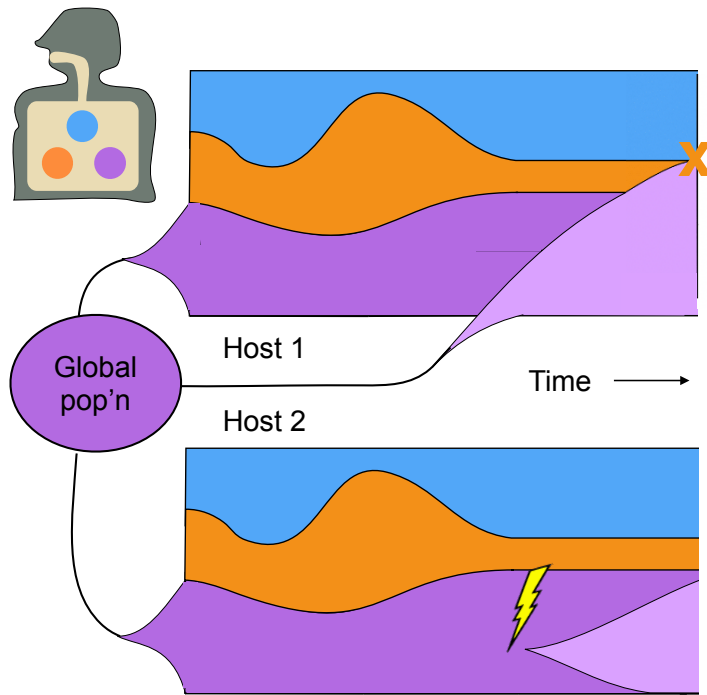


Like
Lenski's
LTEE?



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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

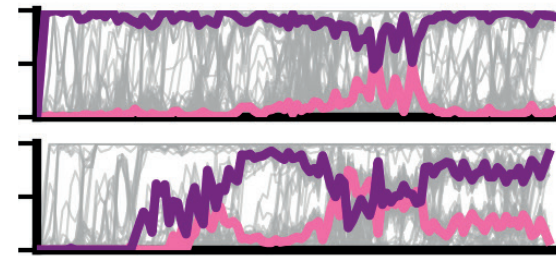


?

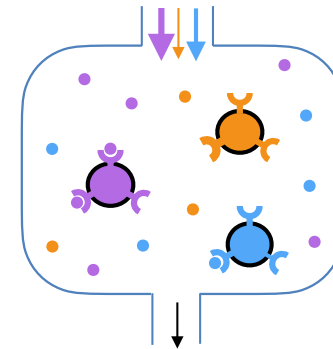
VS

?

Good*, McDonald* et al (*Nature*, 2017)



Like
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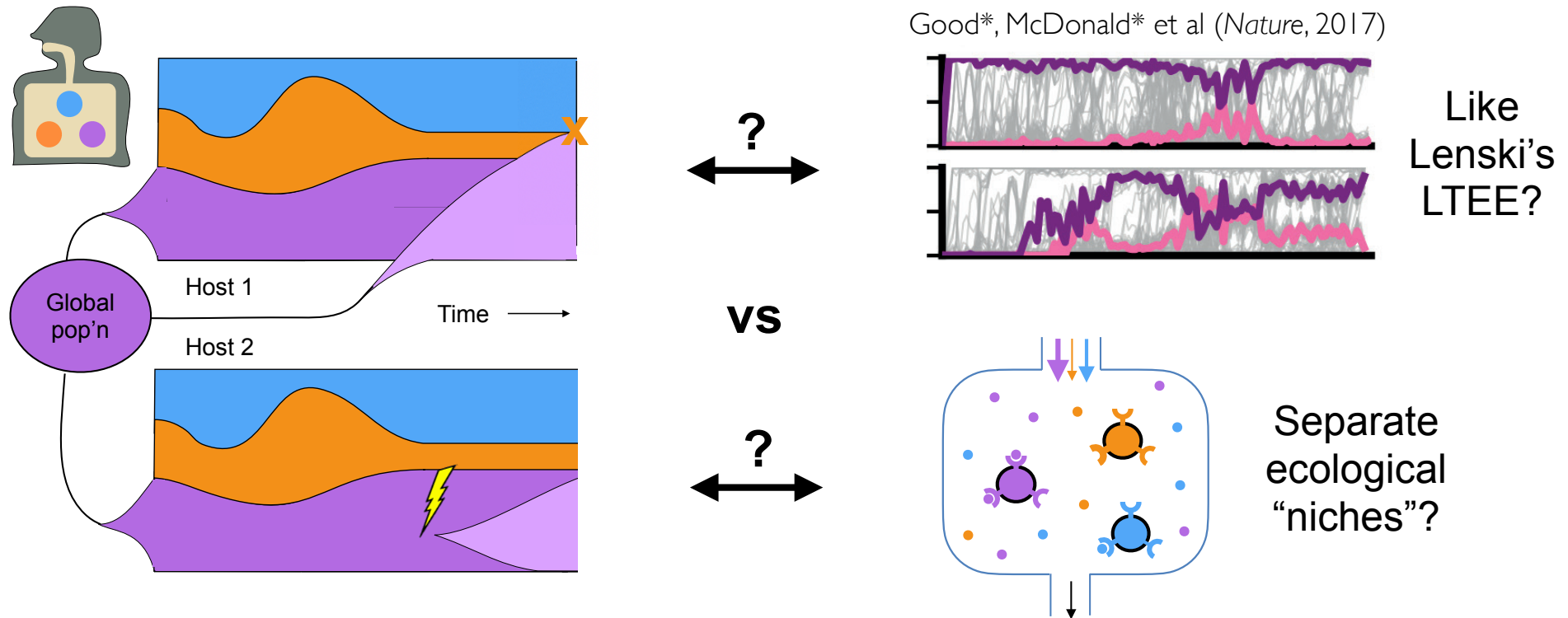


Separate
ecological
"niches"?



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Undergrad BioX Fellow

Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

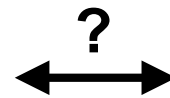
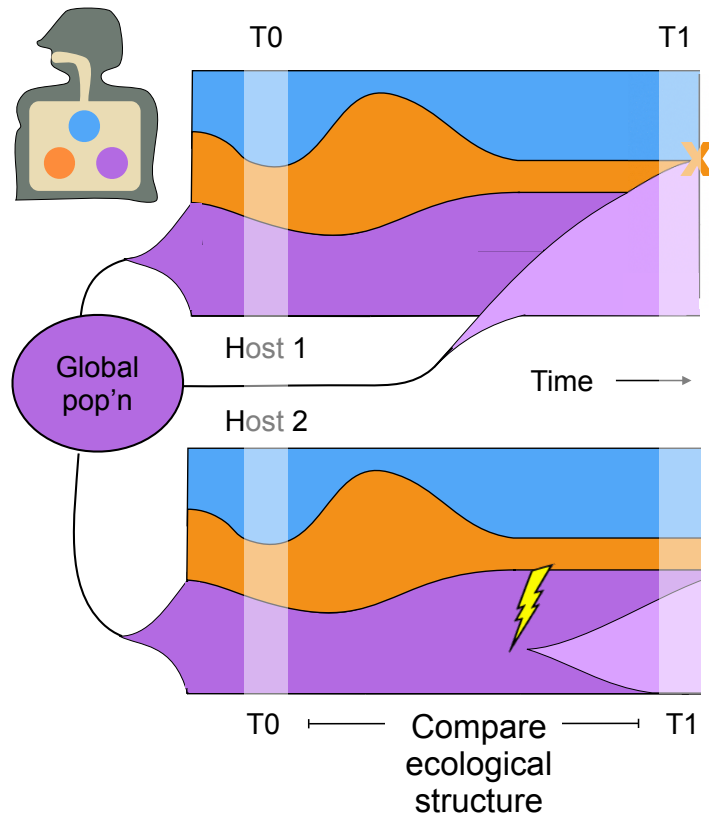


Challenge: a few known examples, but ***global impact*** difficult to quantify due to extensive ***heterogeneity*** (hosts, species, mut's)

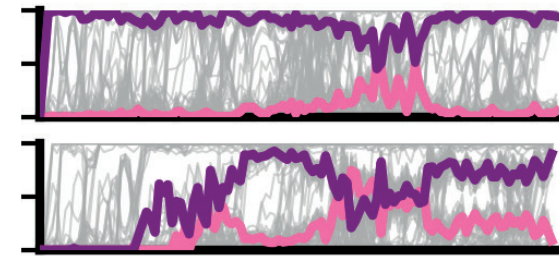


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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

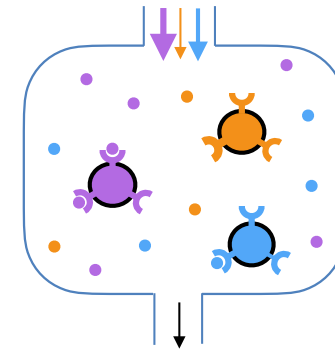
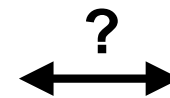


Good*, McDonald* et al (*Nature*, 2017)



Like
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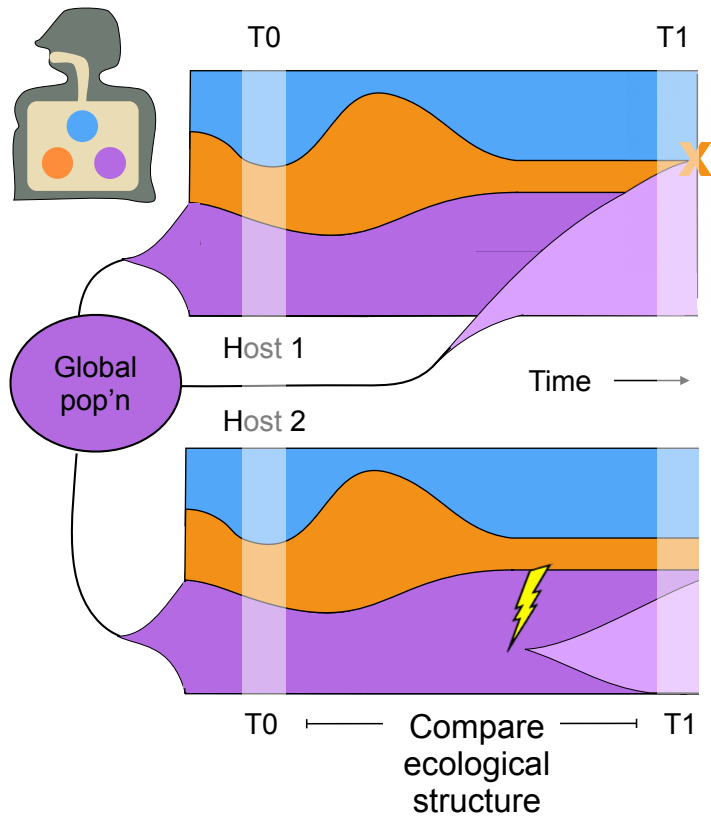
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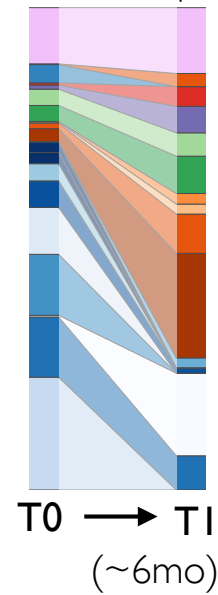


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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

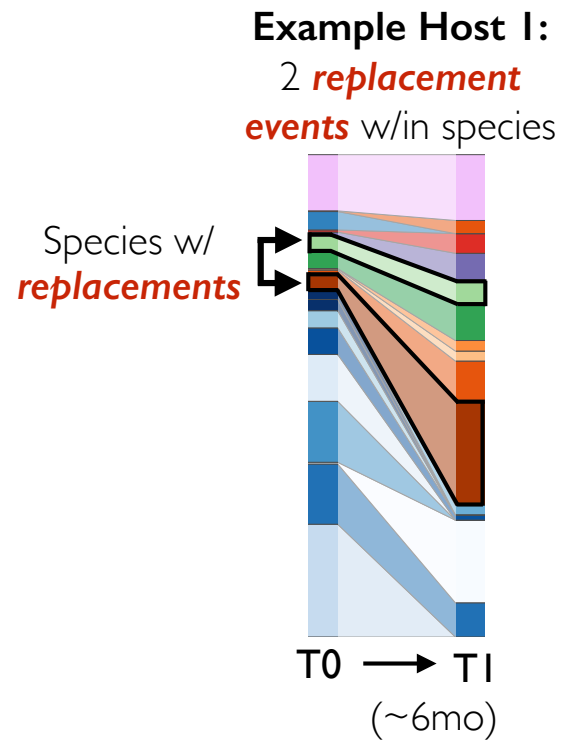
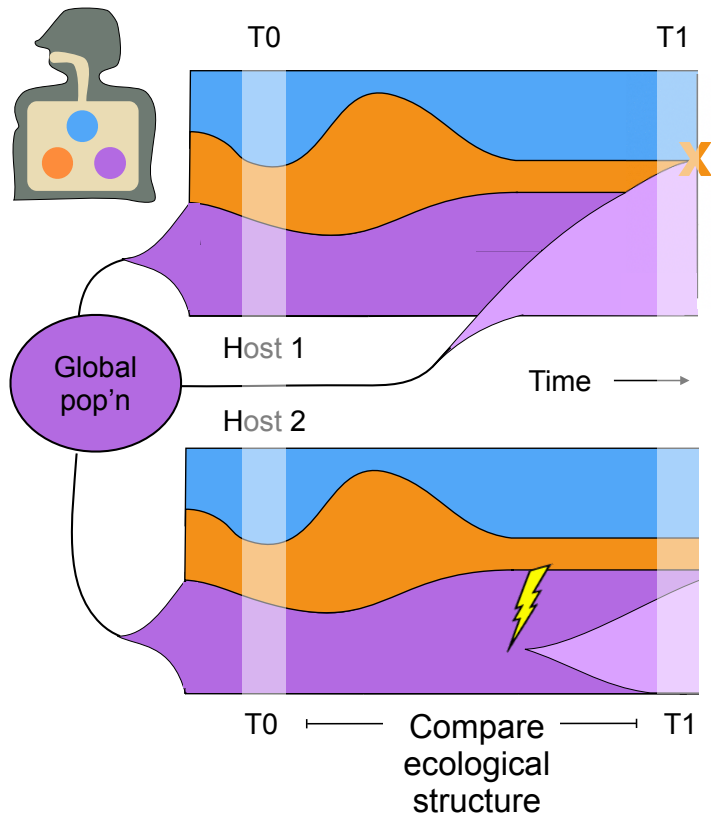


Example Host 1:
2 *replacement events* w/in species



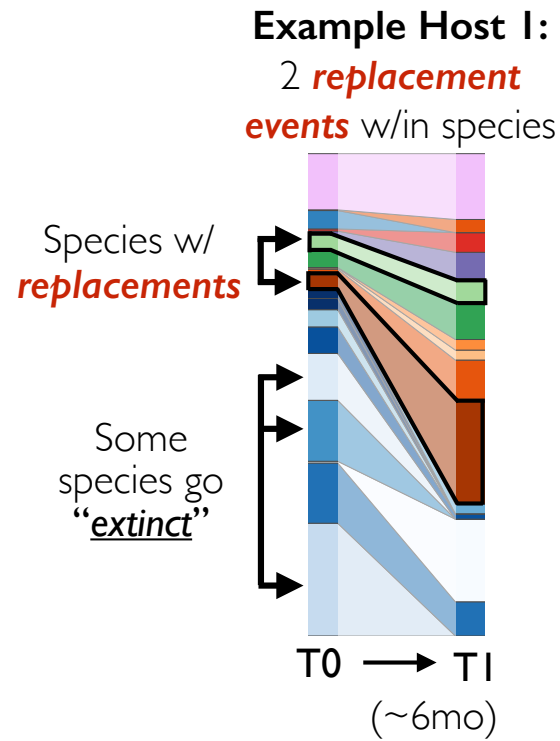
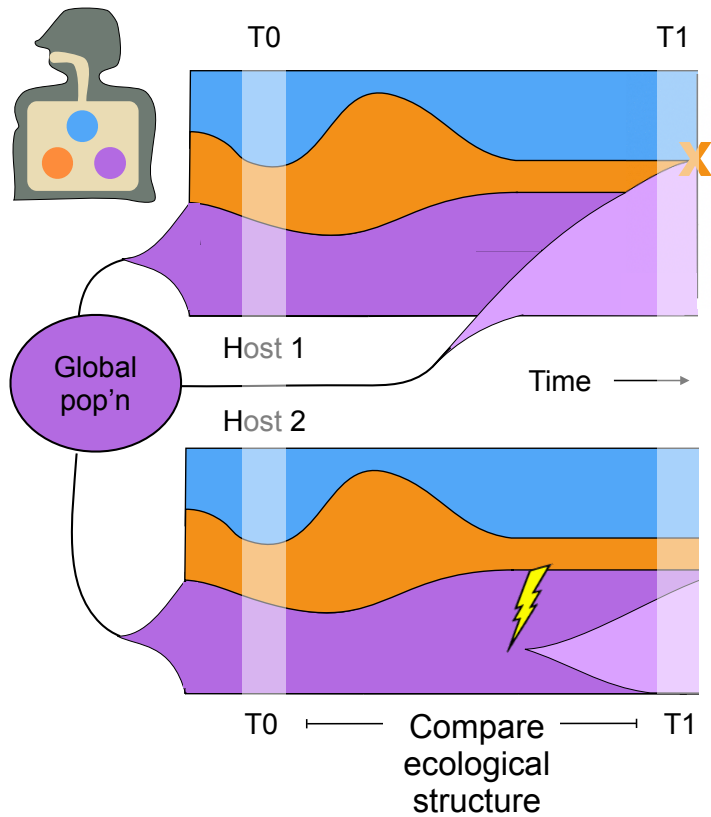
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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?



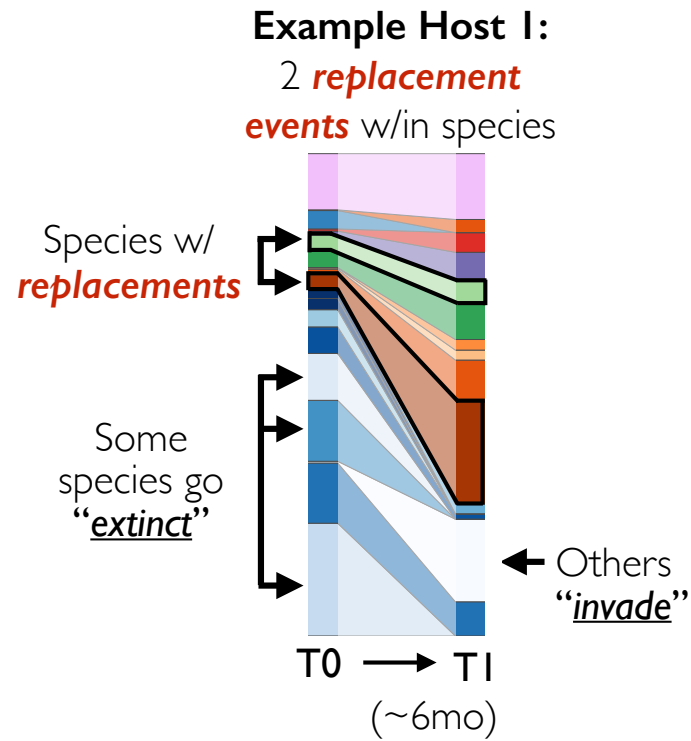
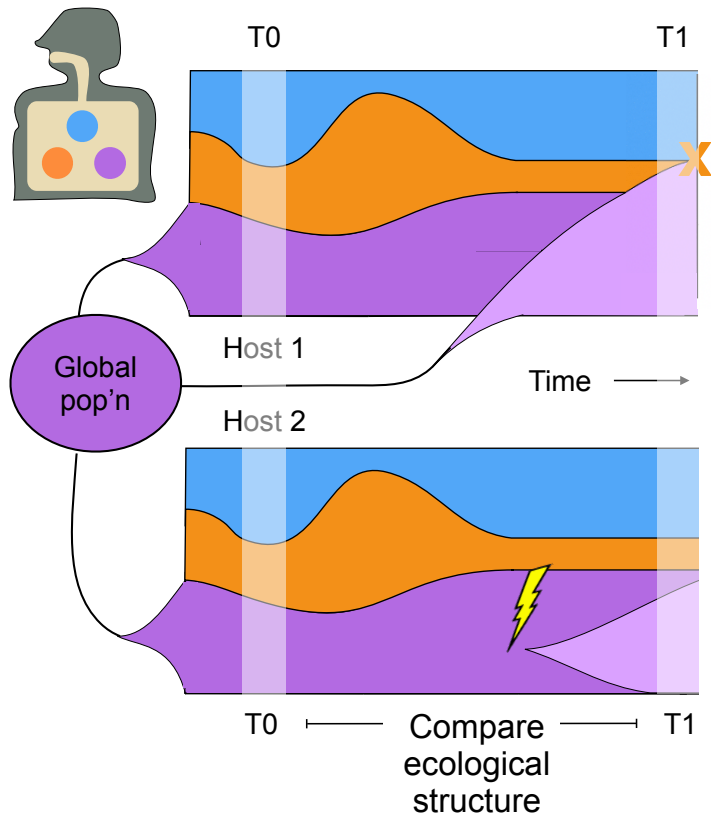
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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?



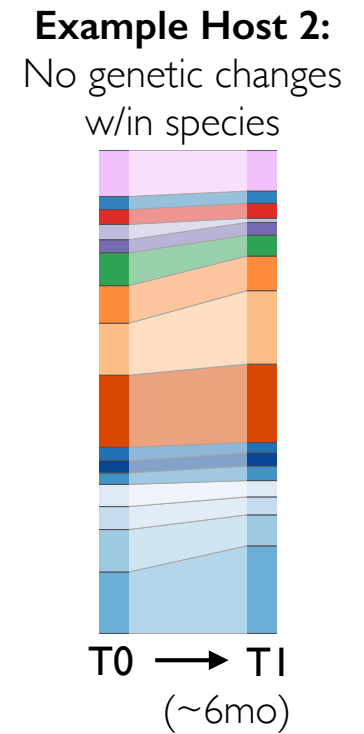
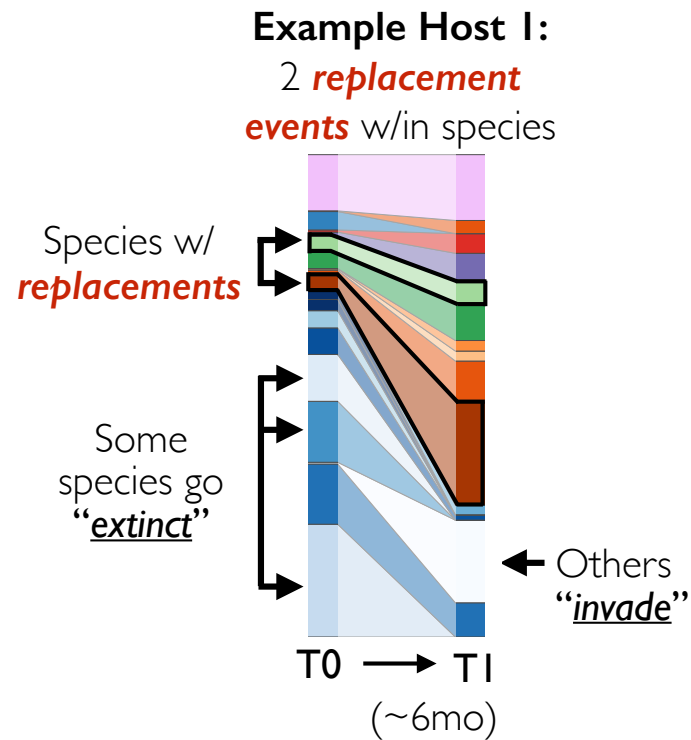
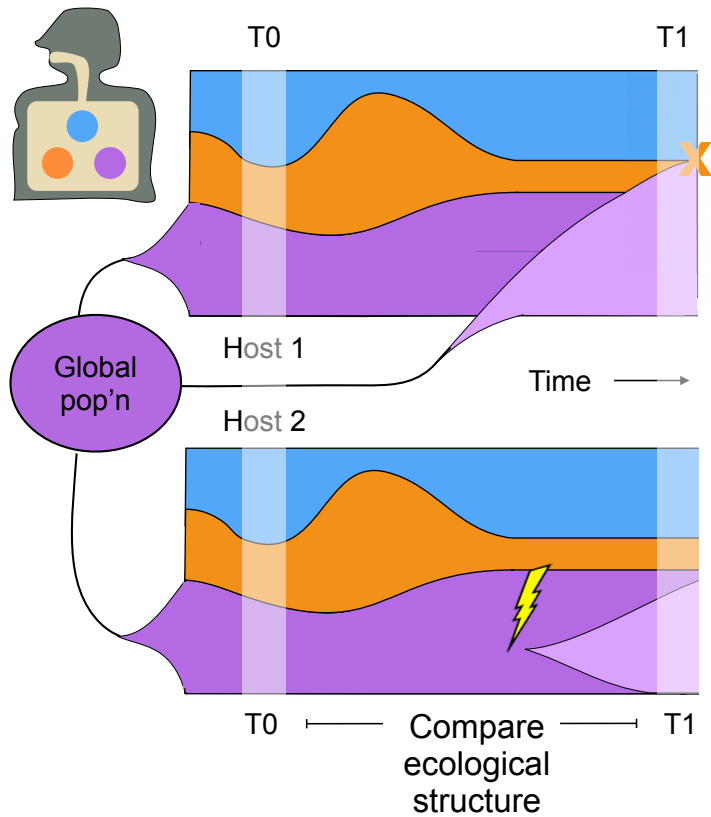
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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?



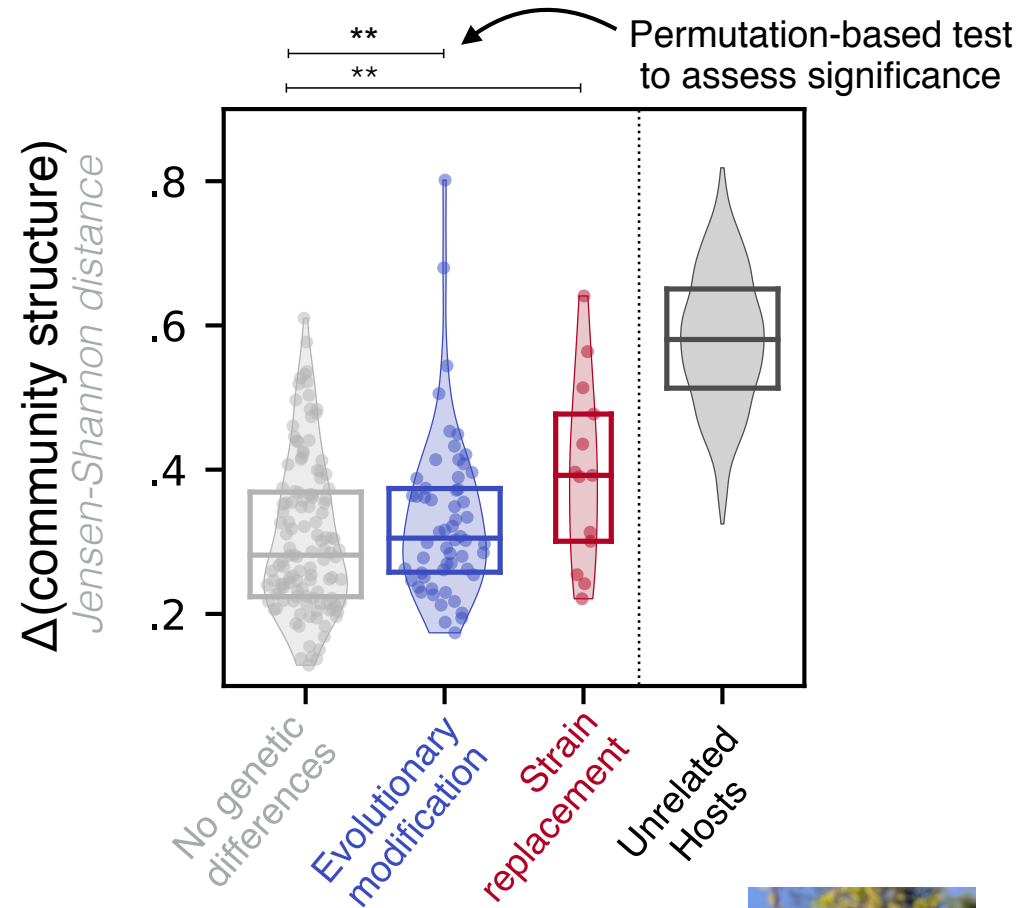
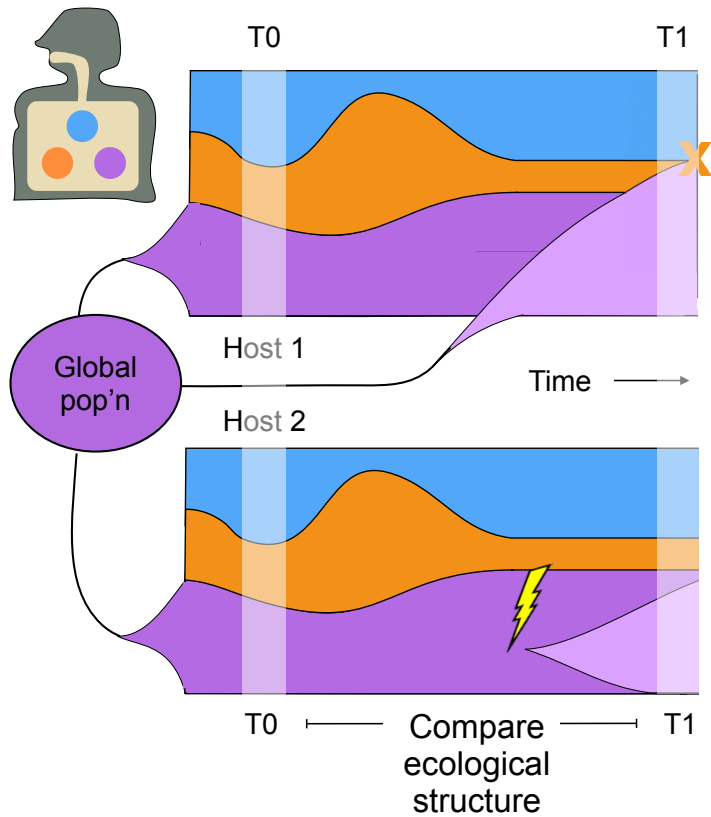
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Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?



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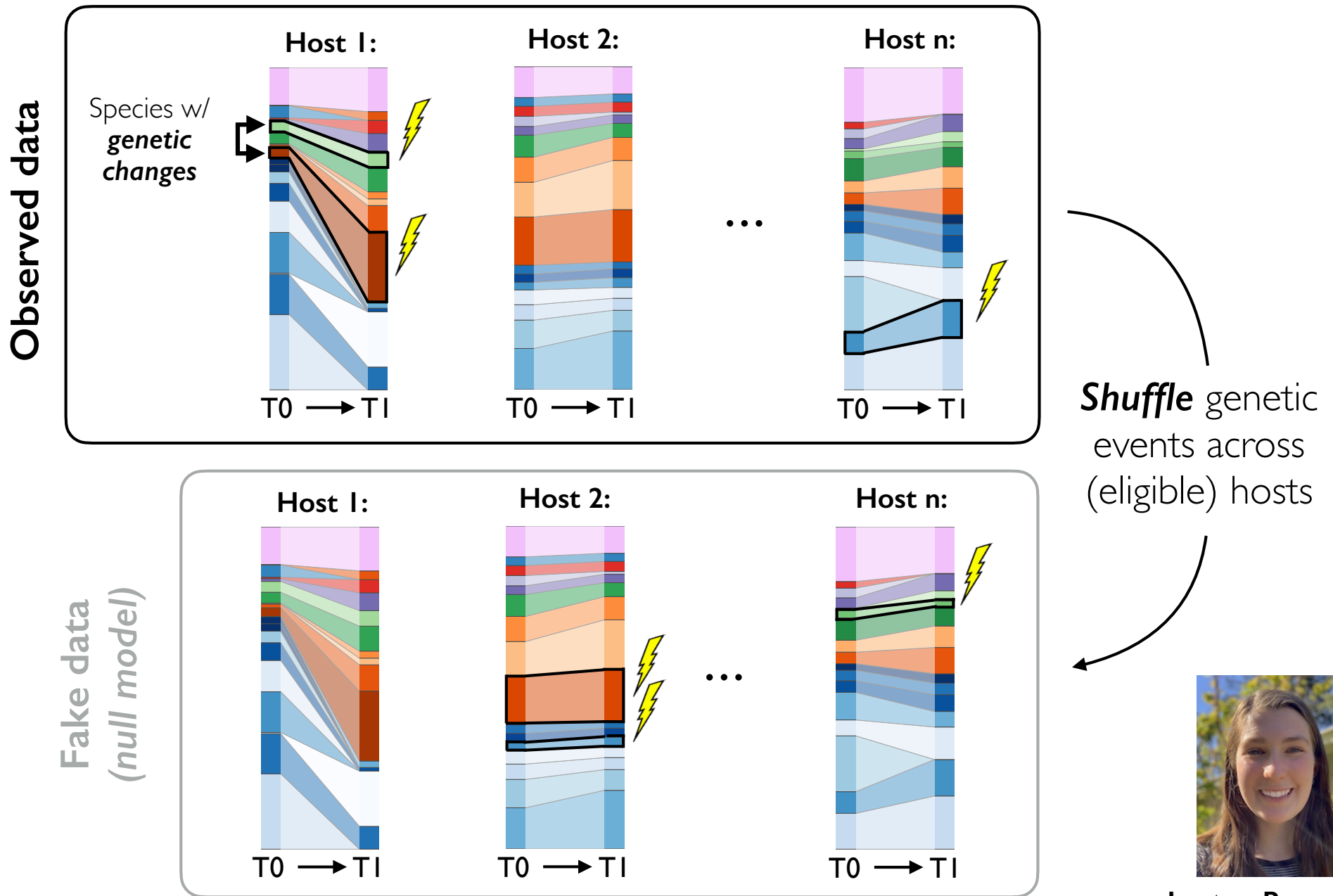


Preliminary evidence that *genetic changes w/in species* are **statistically associated** w/ larger *shifts in species composition*



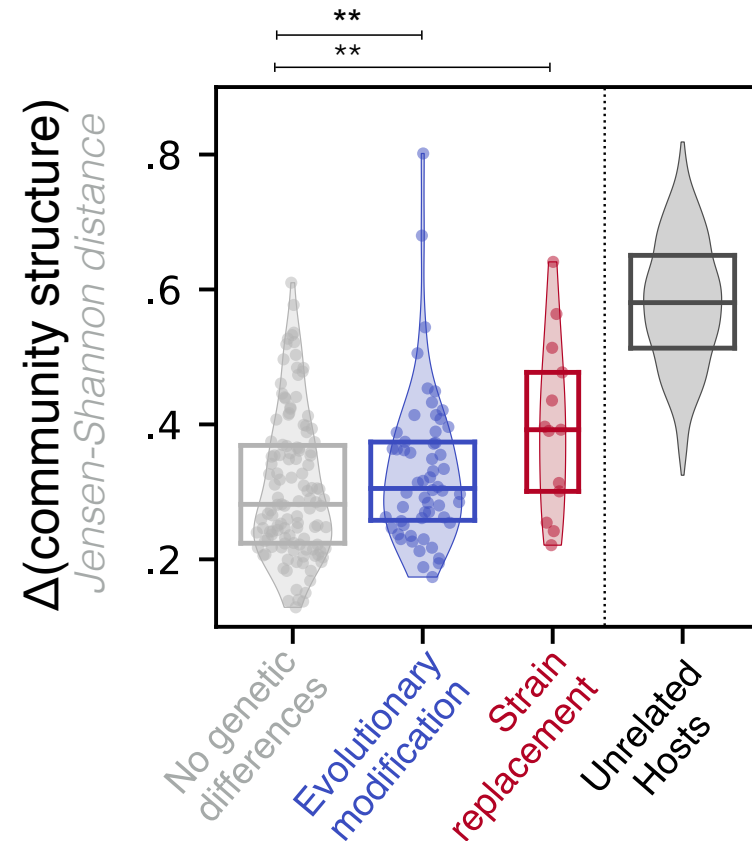
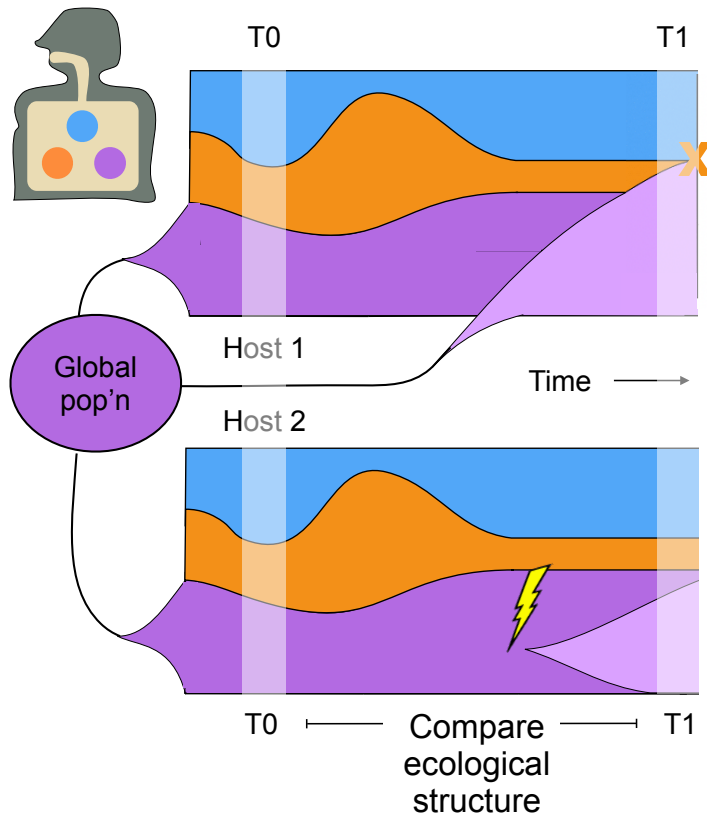
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Permutation tests to quantify eco-evolutionary correlations



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Undergrad BioX Fellow

Genetic turnover w/in species is associated with larger shifts in the species-level composition of the gut microbiota

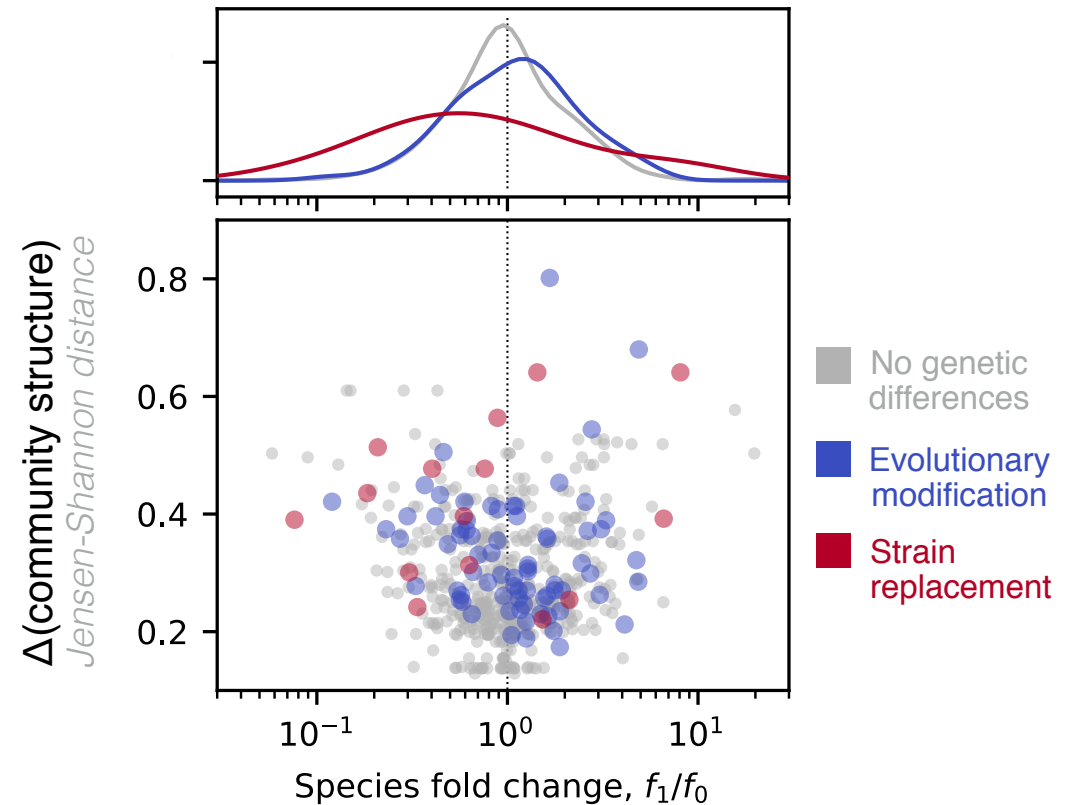
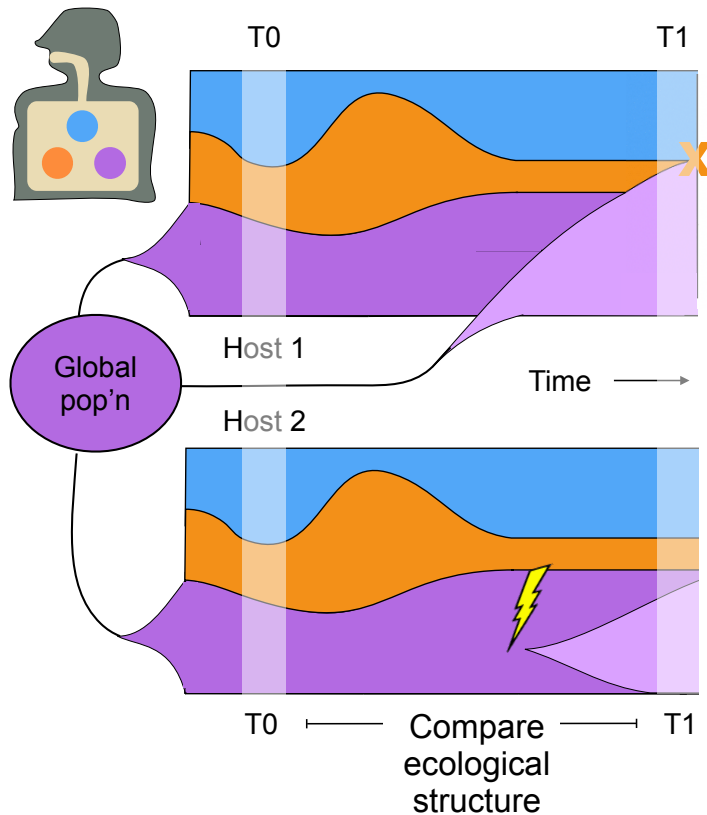


But, changes in **community structure** not solely driven by frequency increases in **focal species**



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Genetic turnover w/in species is associated with larger shifts in the species-level composition of the gut microbiota

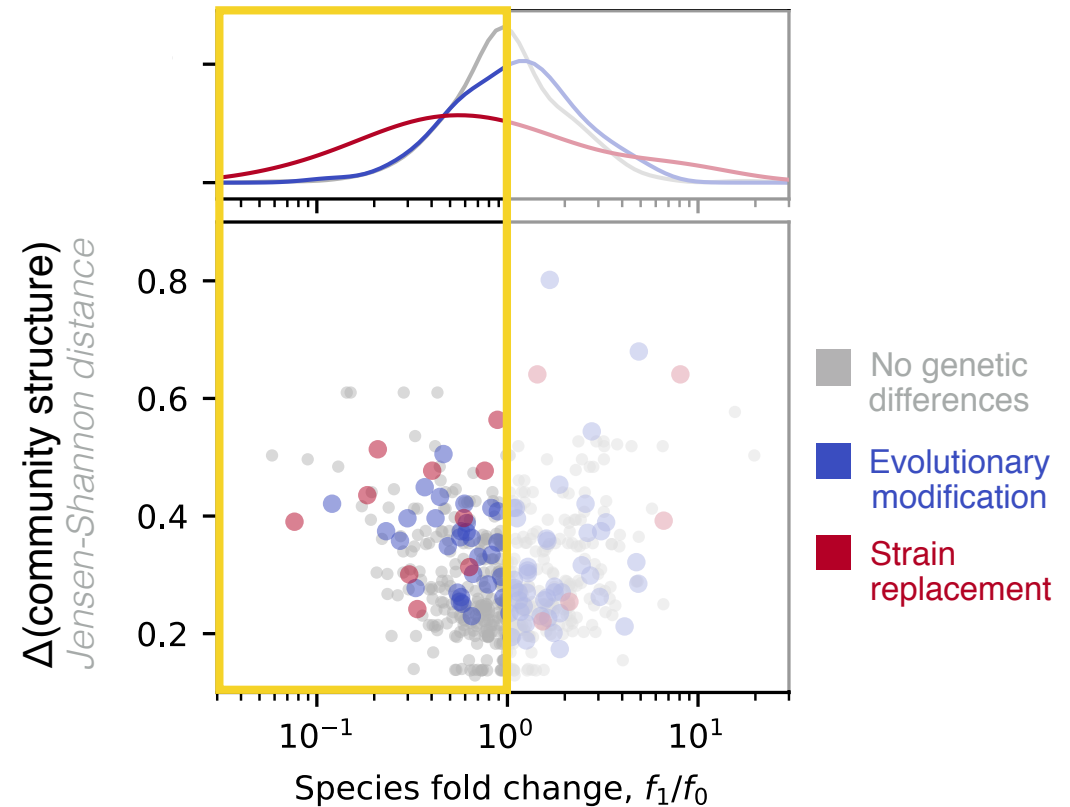
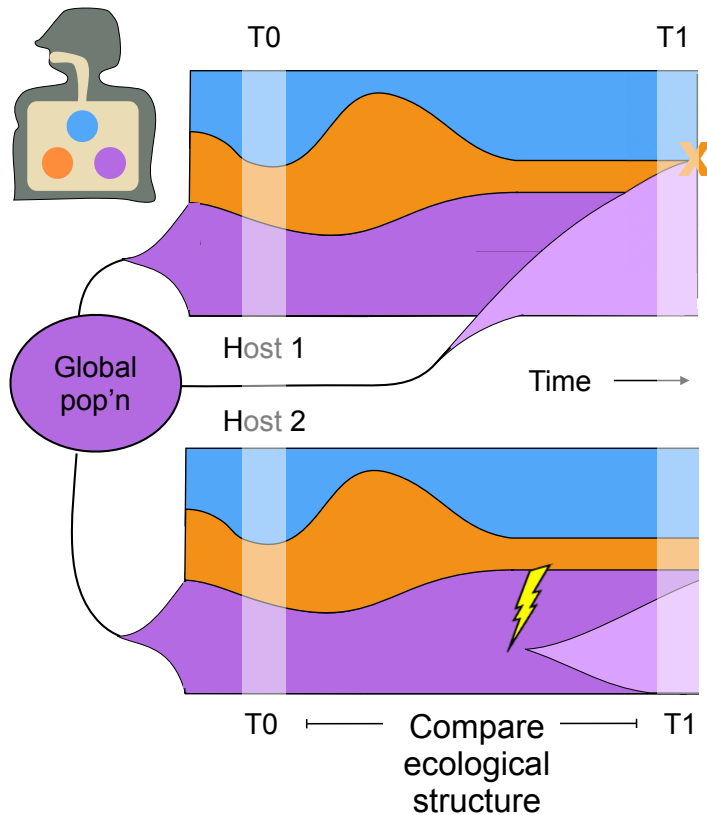


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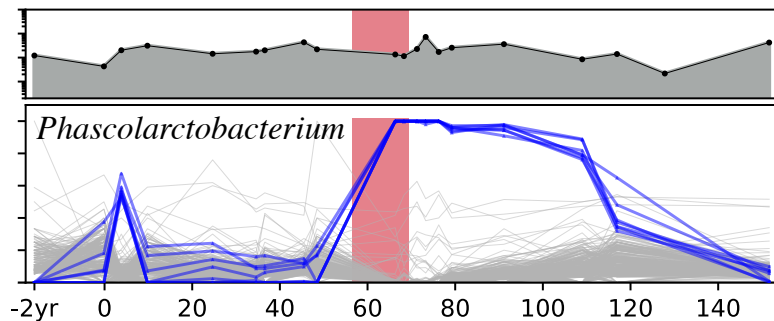
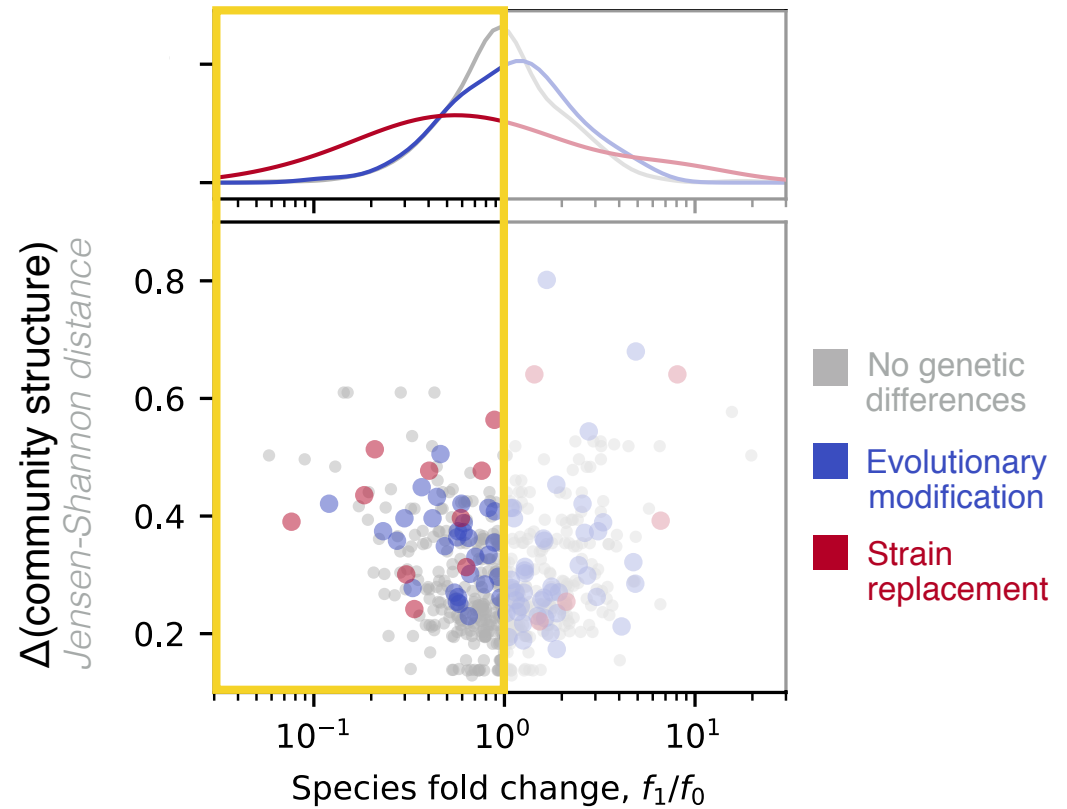
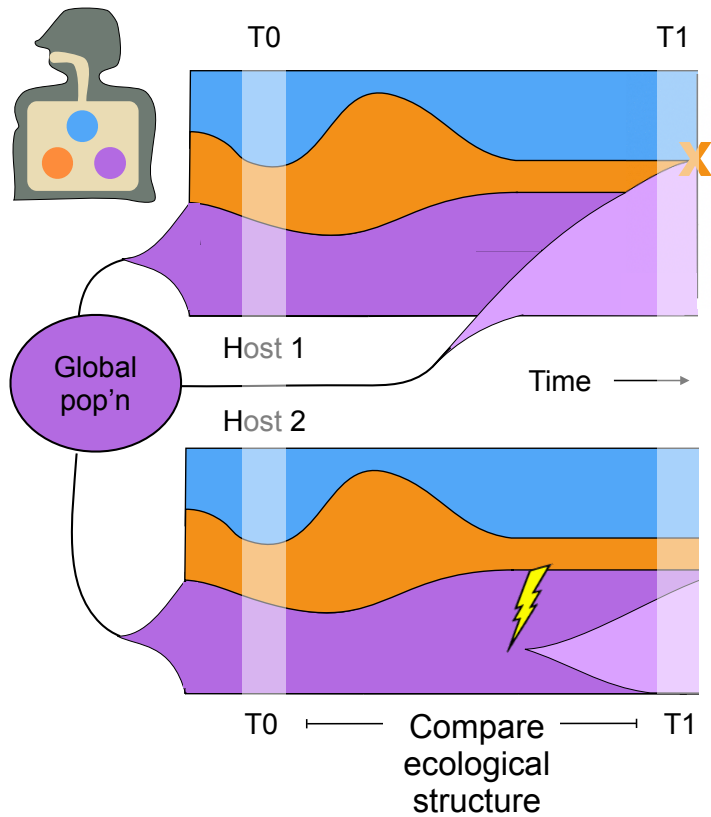


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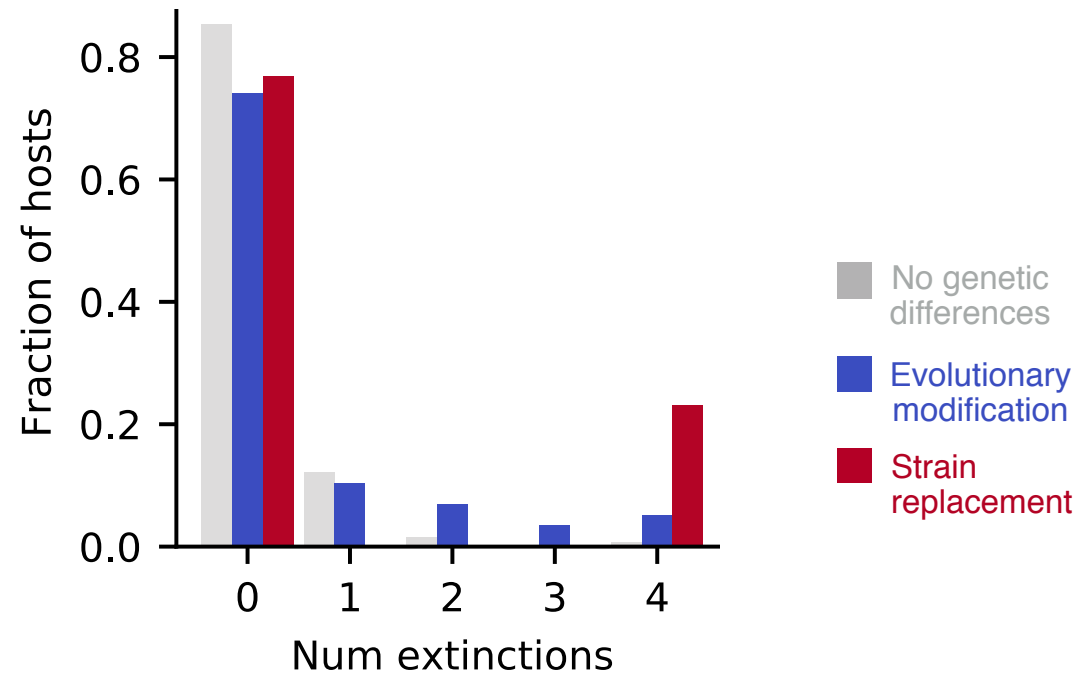
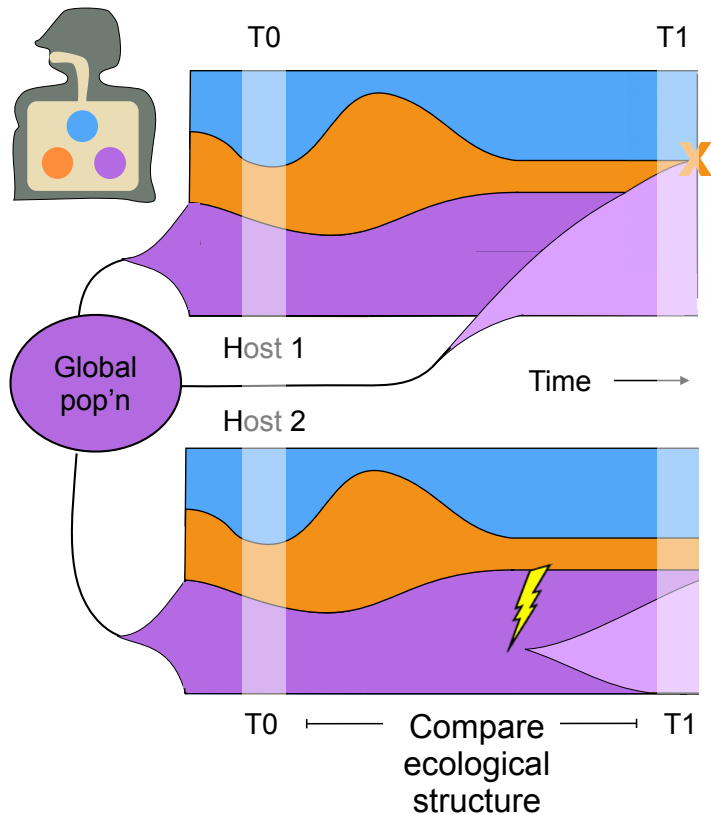


Similar to ABX timecourse



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Genetic turnover w/in species is associated with larger shifts in the species-level composition of the gut microbiota

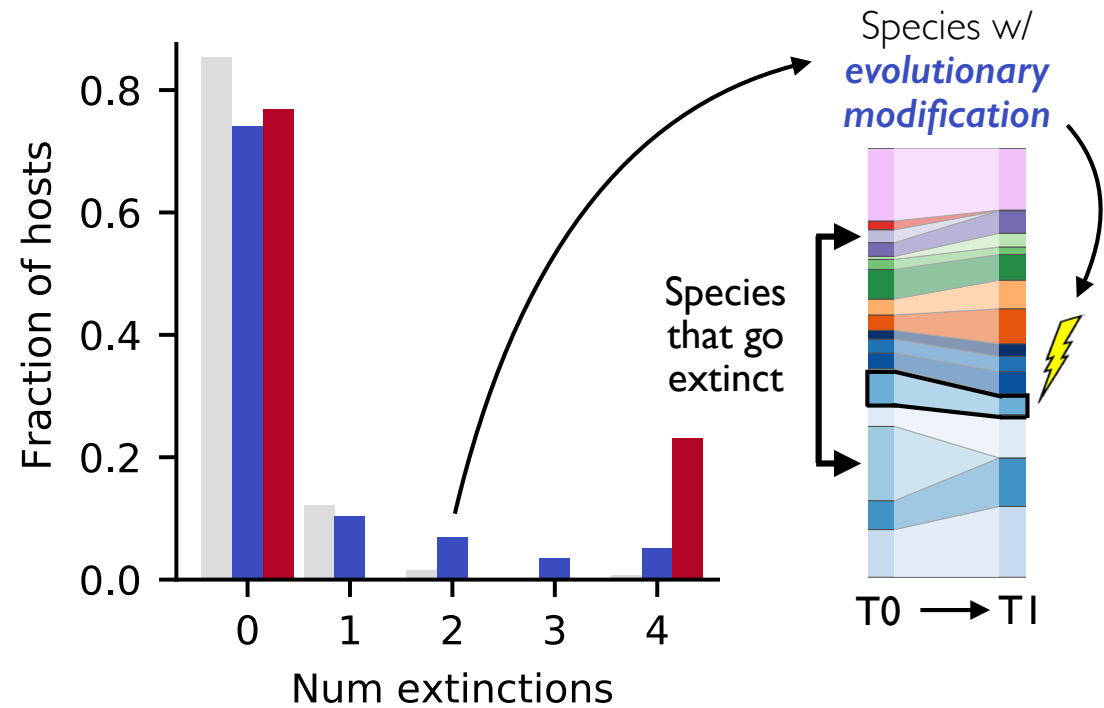
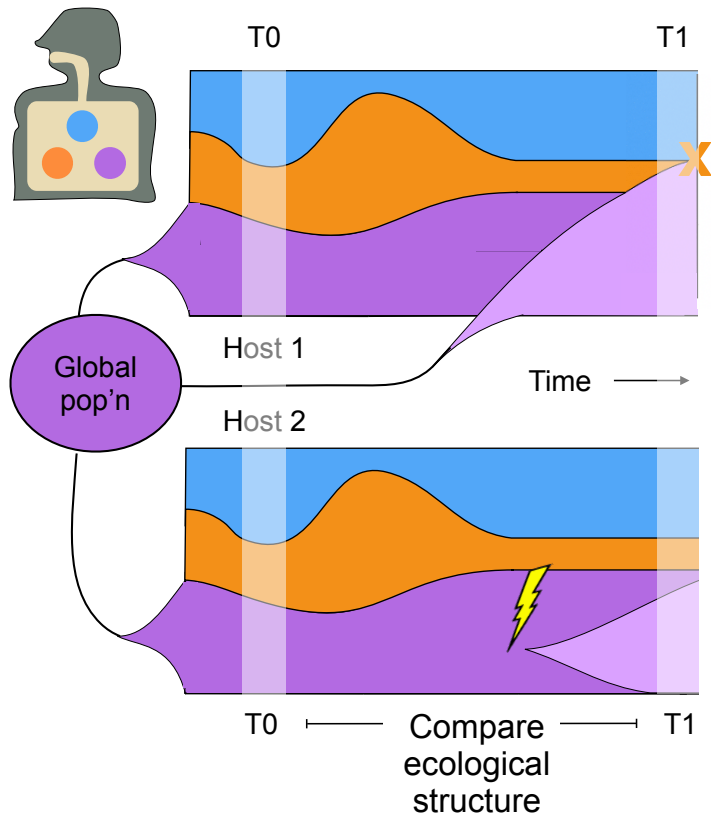


Genetic turnover w/in species is associated with more frequent *extinction events in other species* (even if *focal species* declines)



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Undergrad BioX Fellow

Genetic turnover w/in species is associated with larger shifts in the species-level composition of the gut microbiota



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Layton Rosenfeld
Undergrad BioX Fellow

Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

Possible causal scenarios:

Genetic turnover
w/in species



Shifts in species
composition

?

Shifts in species
composition



Genetic turnover
w/in species

?

Environmental
perturbation



Genetic turnover
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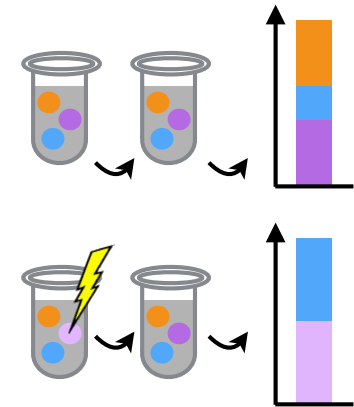
Genetic turnover
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Shifts in species
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?

I. Replay experiments
w/ synthetic communities



Next steps: does evolution alter ecological structure of gut microbiota?

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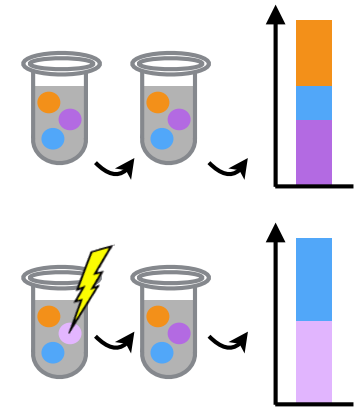


Genetic turnover
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Shifts in species
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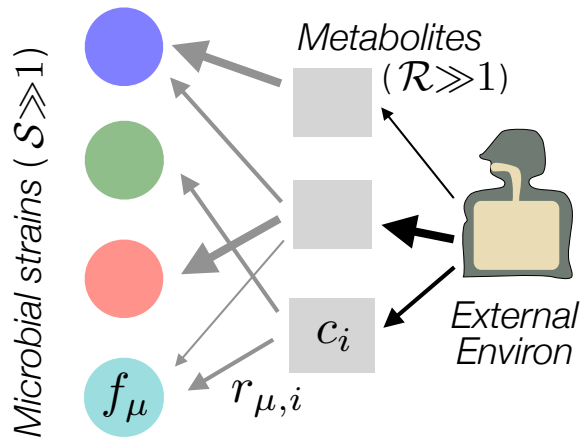
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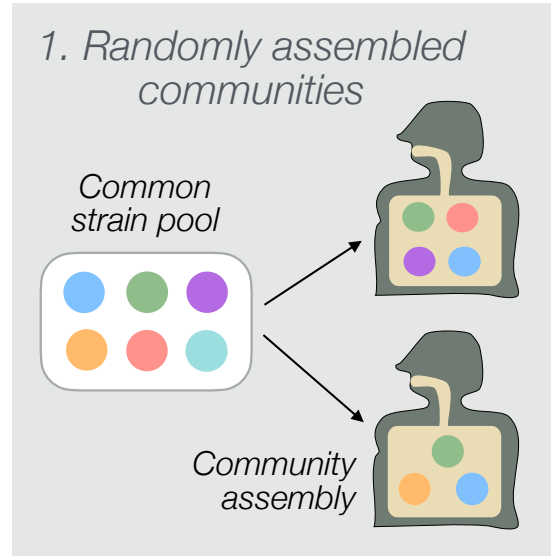
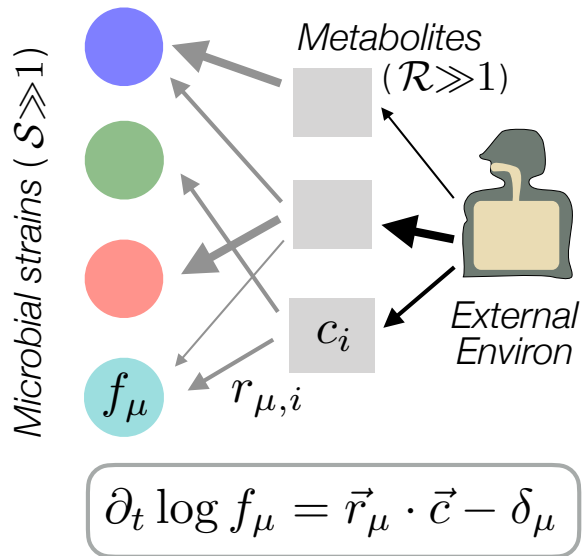
2. Theory: do similar behaviors emerge in simple models where interactions are known?

Some qualitative features can be recapitulated by simple resource competition models evolving in the high diversity limit

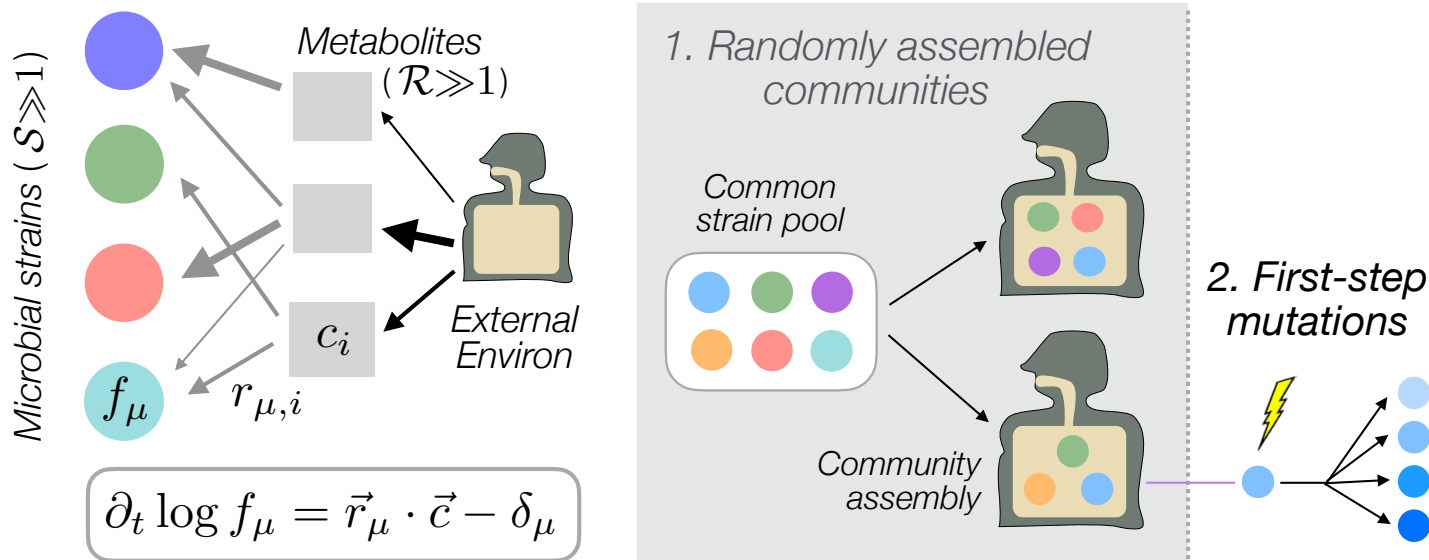


$$\partial_t \log f_\mu = \vec{r}_\mu \cdot \vec{c} - \delta_\mu$$

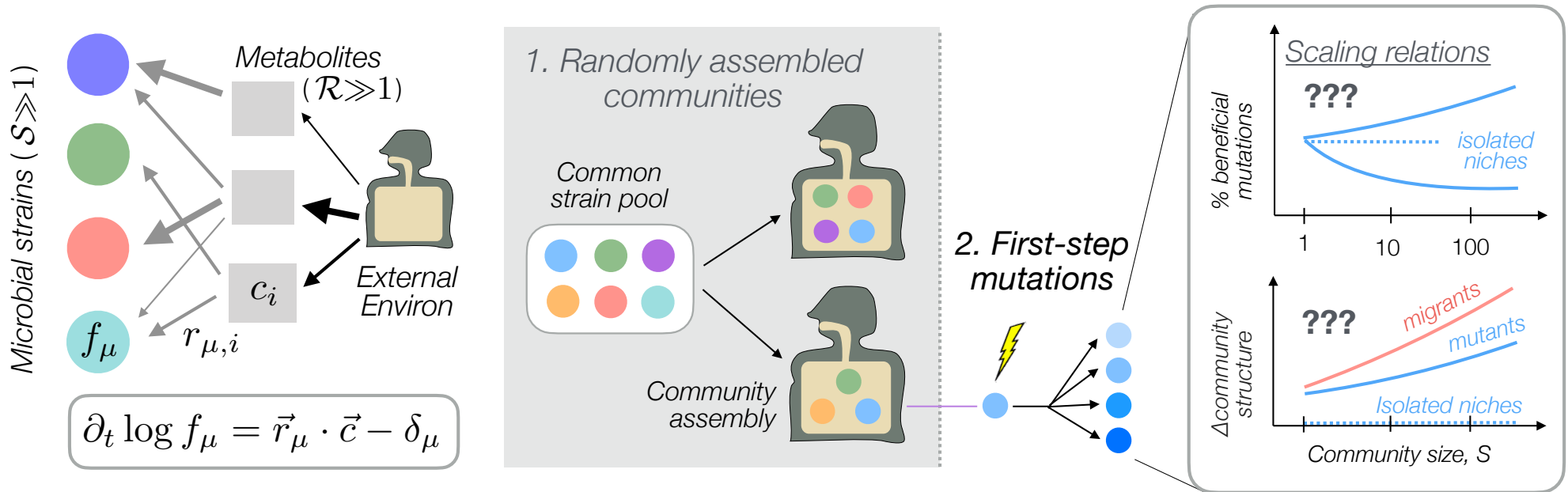
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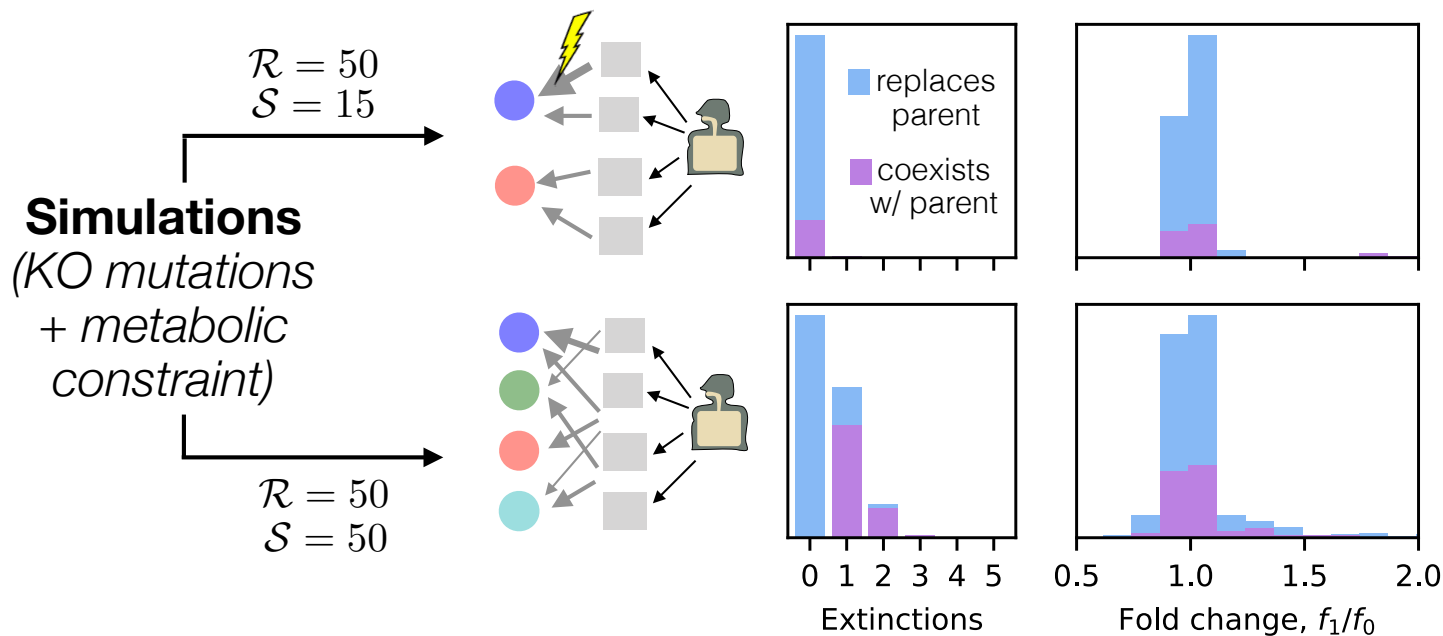
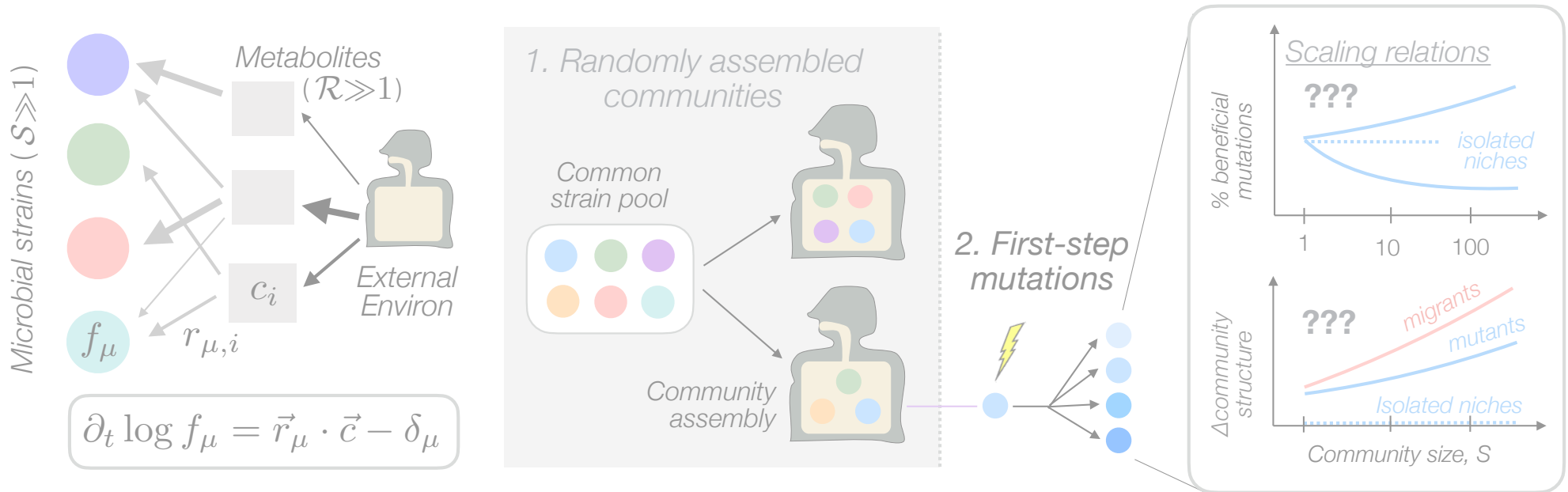
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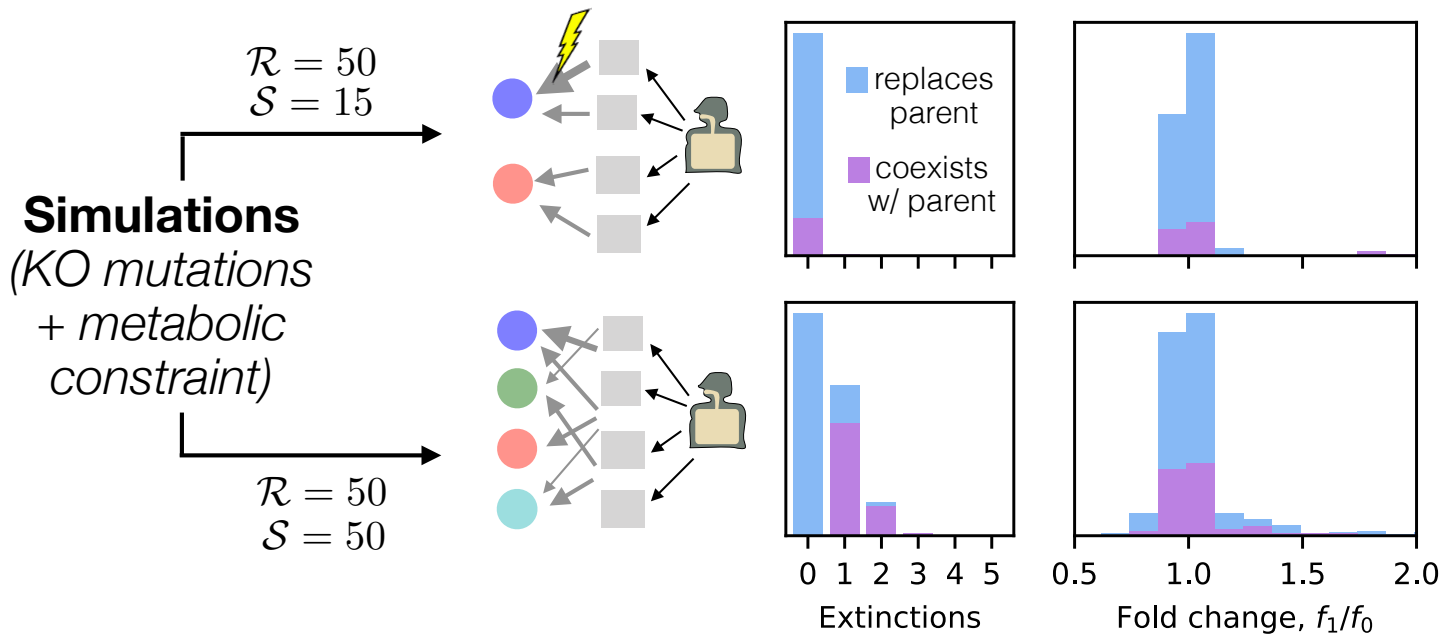
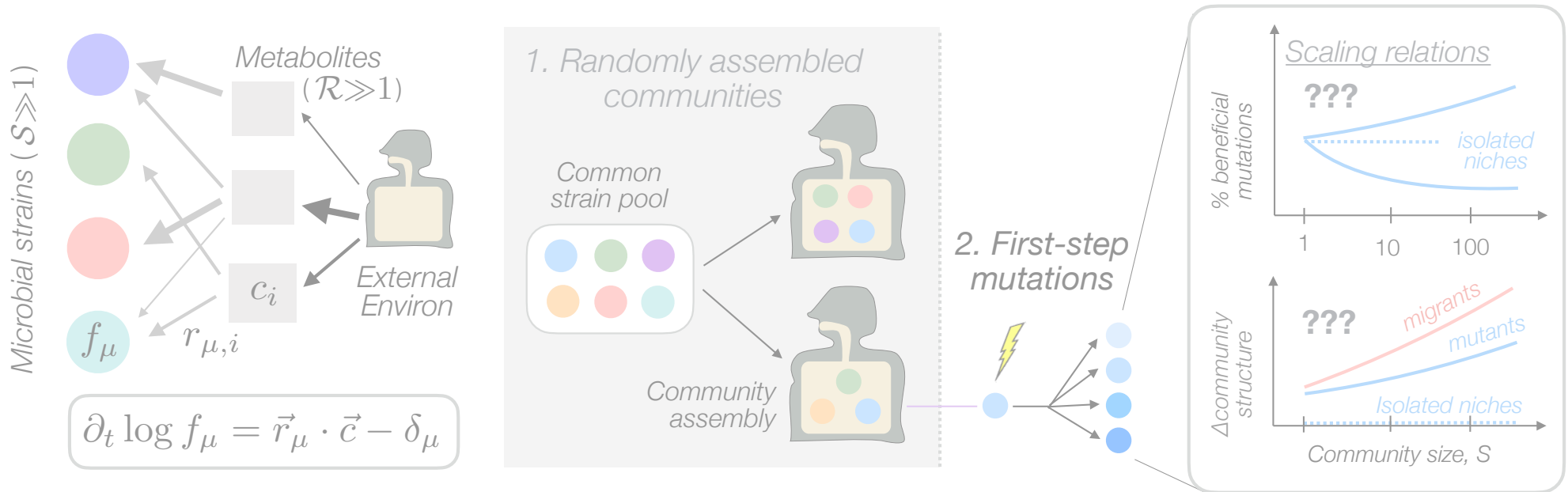
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Some qualitative features can be recapitulated by simple resource competition models evolving in the high diversity limit

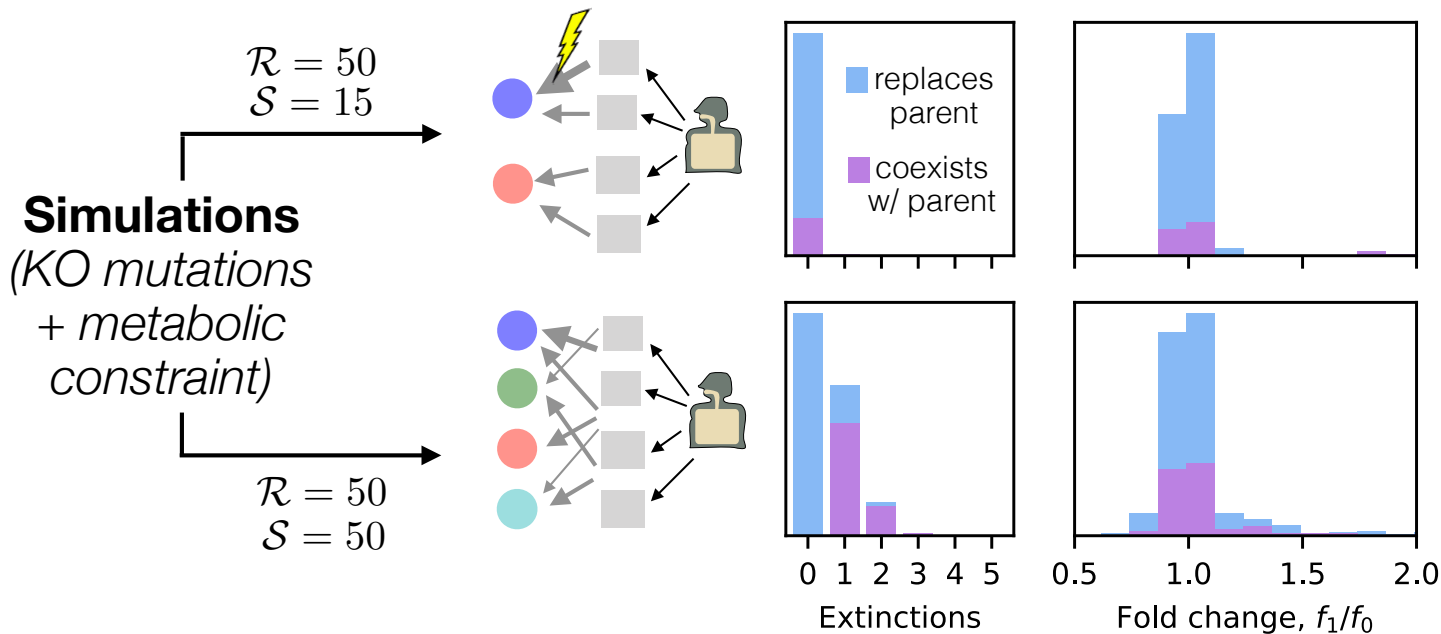
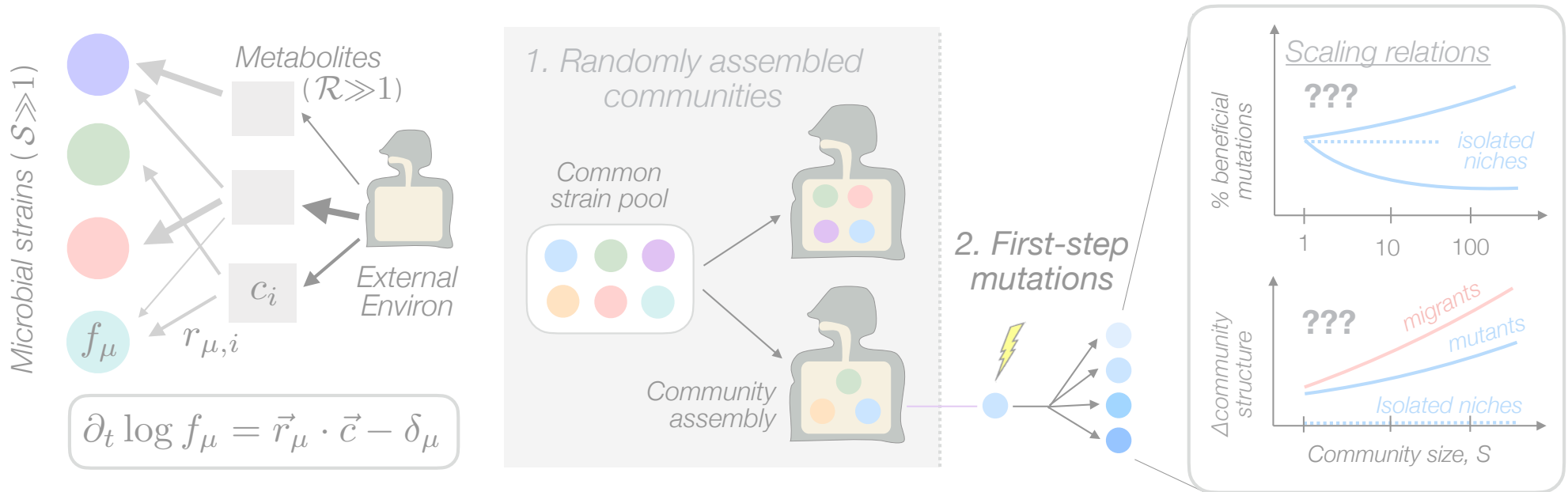


Some qualitative features can be recapitulated by simple resource competition models evolving in the high diversity limit



Many successful KOs can **coexist with parent strain**, even in 'saturated' comm's where **other species are driven to extinction**.

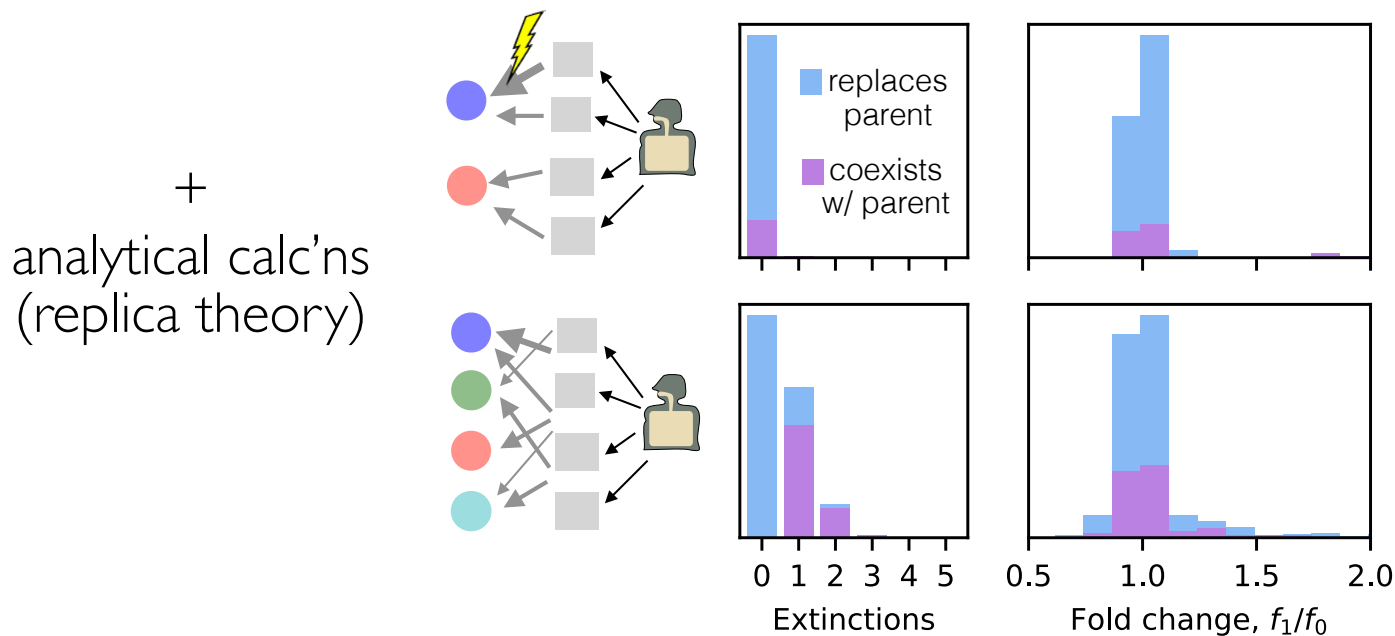
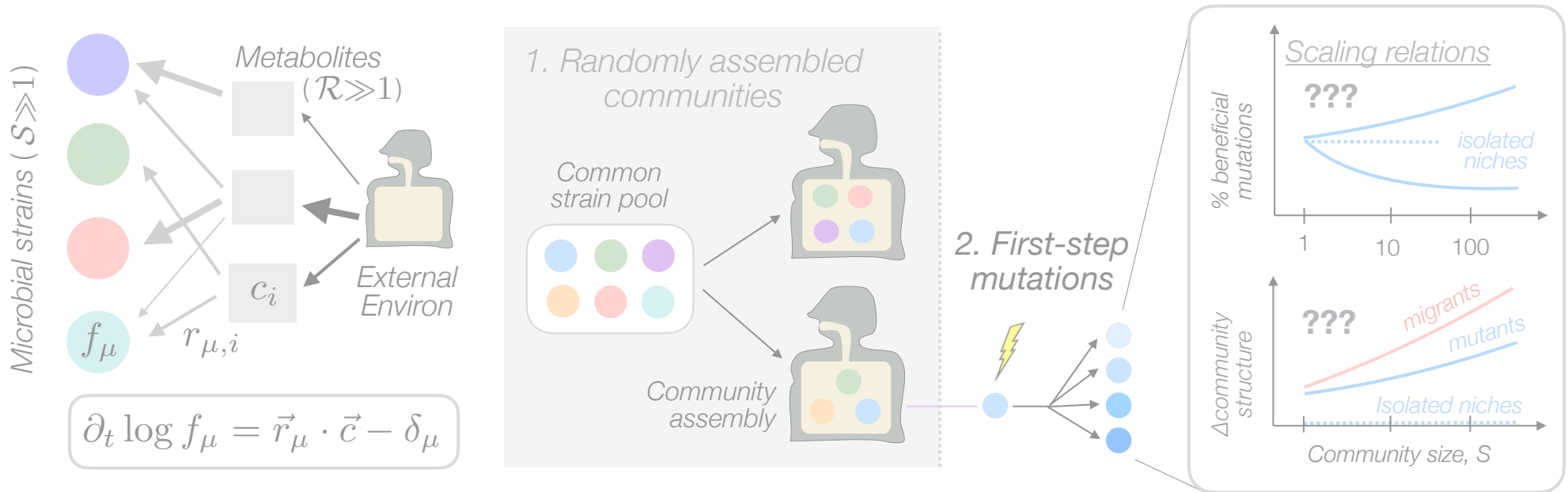
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+ small / negative changes in freq of **focal species**

Some qualitative features can be recapitulated by simple resource competition models evolving in the high diversity limit



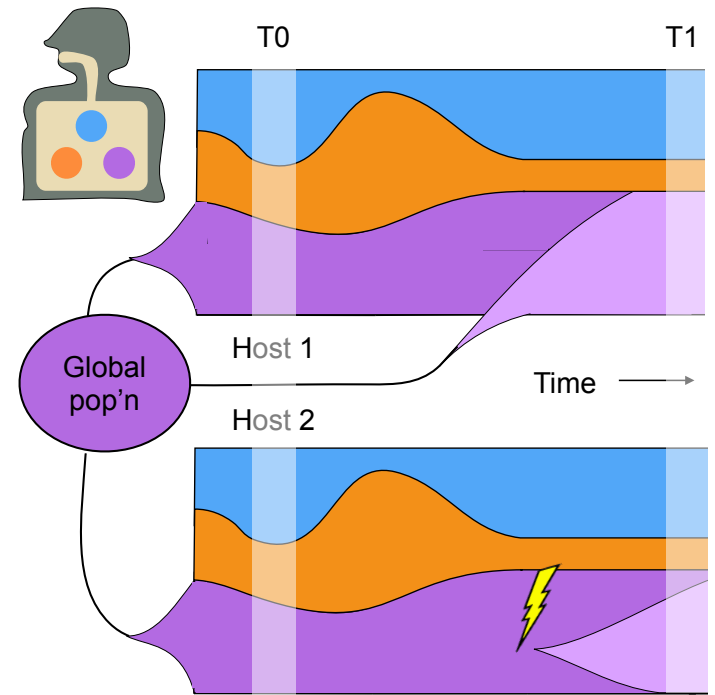
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Conclusions

- Native gut bacteria **can** evolve within healthy human hosts on clinically relevant timescales

→ mixture of “**strain replacement**”
and “**evolutionary modification**”

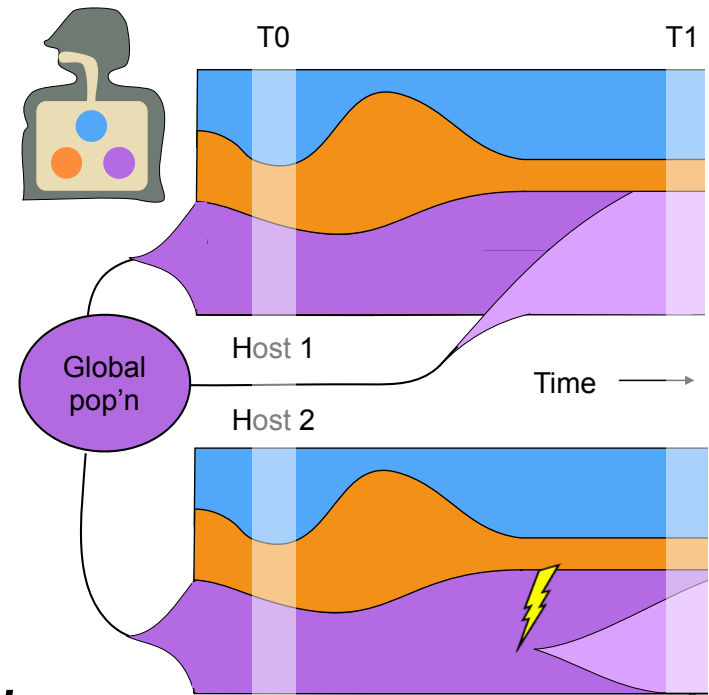


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- Ecological and evolutionary processes are **coupled**



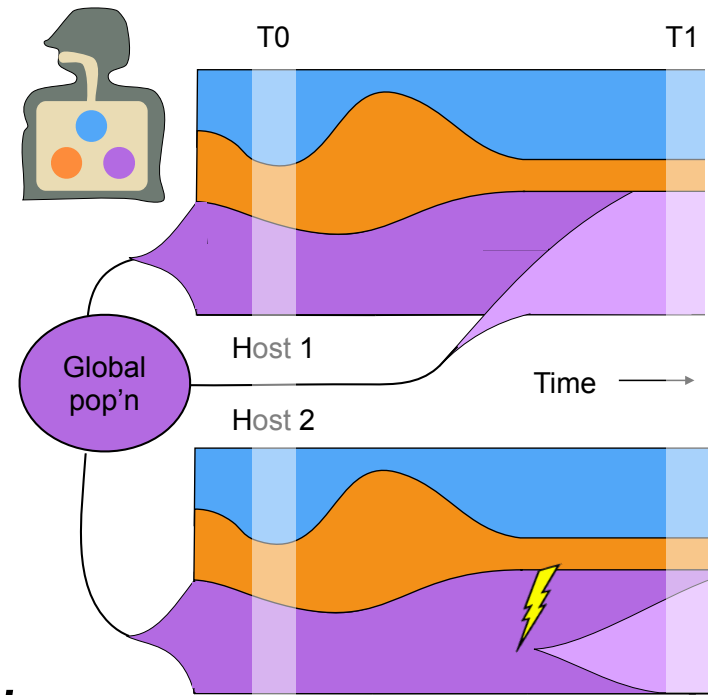
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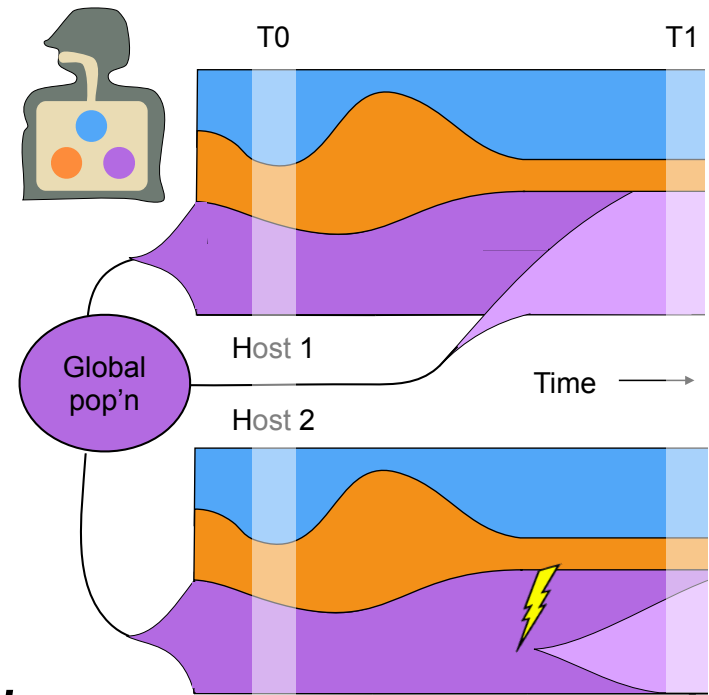
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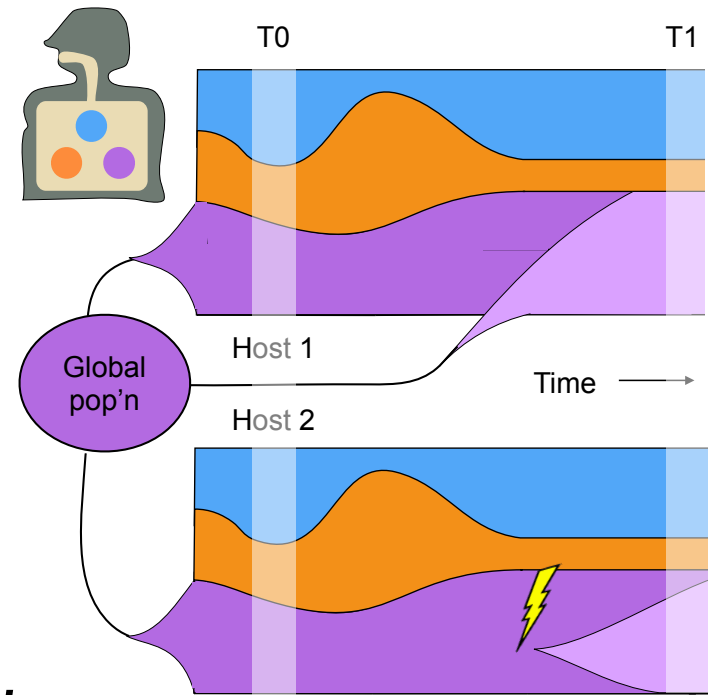
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→ Genetic responses to ABX suggest **add'l ecological structure w/in species**

→ **Genetic turnover** correlated w/ **global shifts in species-level composition**
(but not necessarily w/ abundance of **focal species**)



Conclusions

- Native gut bacteria **can** evolve within healthy human hosts on clinically relevant timescales

→ mixture of “**strain replacement**” and “**evolutionary modification**”

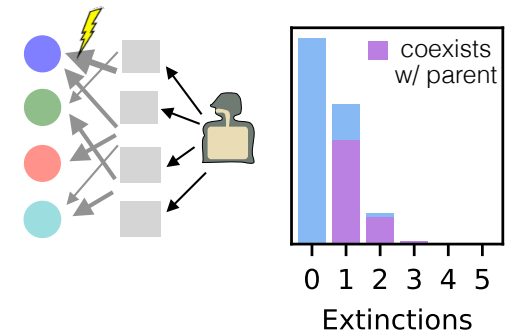
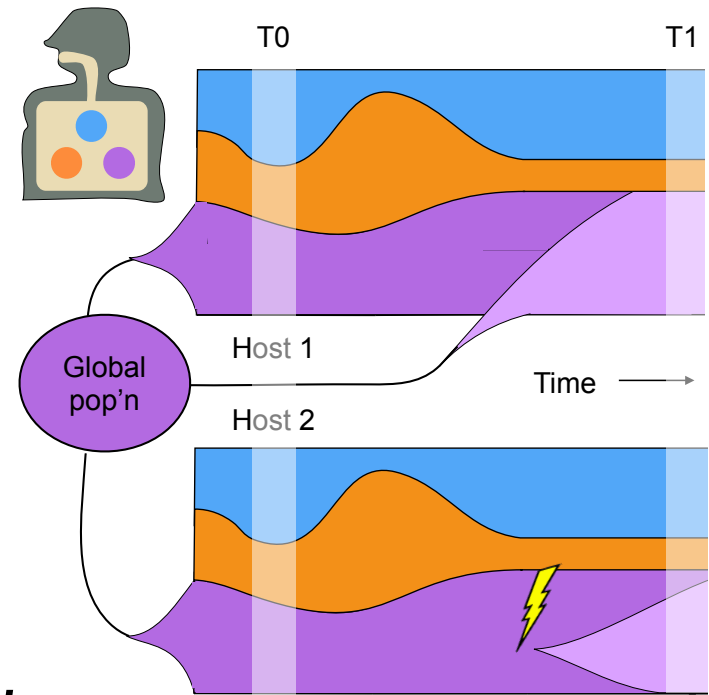
- Ecological and evolutionary processes are **coupled**

→ Genetic responses to ABX suggest **add'l ecological structure w/in species**

→ **Genetic turnover** correlated w/ **global shifts in species-level composition**
(but not necessarily w/ abundance of **focal species**)

- Similar qualitative behavior observed in simple resource competition models evolving in the high-diversity limit

→ **Can theory help us understand the mechanisms drive this counter-intuitive behavior?**



Thanks!

Evolutionary dynamics in the human gut microbiome:

Garud*, **BHG***, et al, *PLoS Bio* 2019



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Longitudinal ABX study
Roodgar*, **BHG*** biorxiv 2020



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Interested in our work?
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Graduate Students



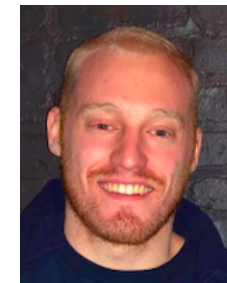
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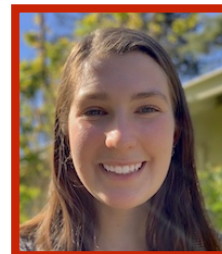


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Conclusions

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