



Photo by David Oliete - [www.davidoliête.com](http://www.davidoliете.com)

Spatio-temporal regulatory landscape of sex-determination



Juan A. Rodríguez
Irene Mota
Dario Lupiañez

Marc A. Martí-Renom

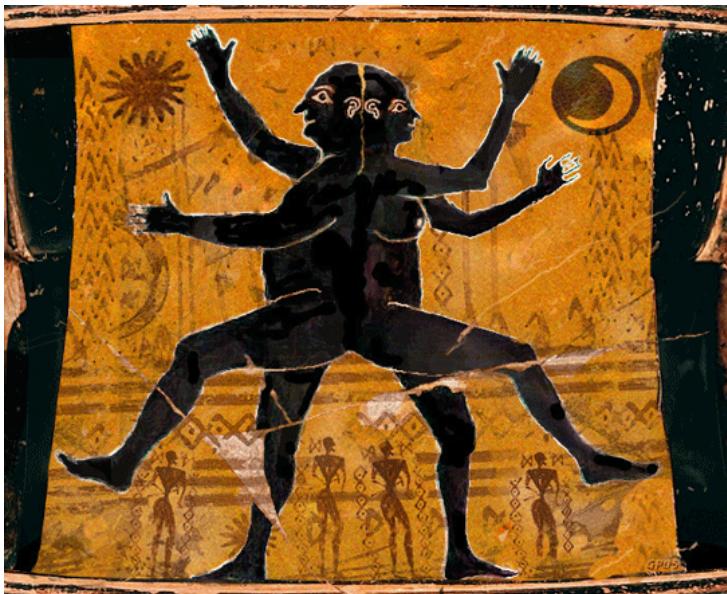
CNAG-CRG · ICREA

BioRxiv 2022

<http://marciuslab.org>
<http://3DGenomes.org>
<http://cnag.crg.eu>

Sex determination: a 3,000 year-old enigma

Mythology



Hermaphrodite primeval men

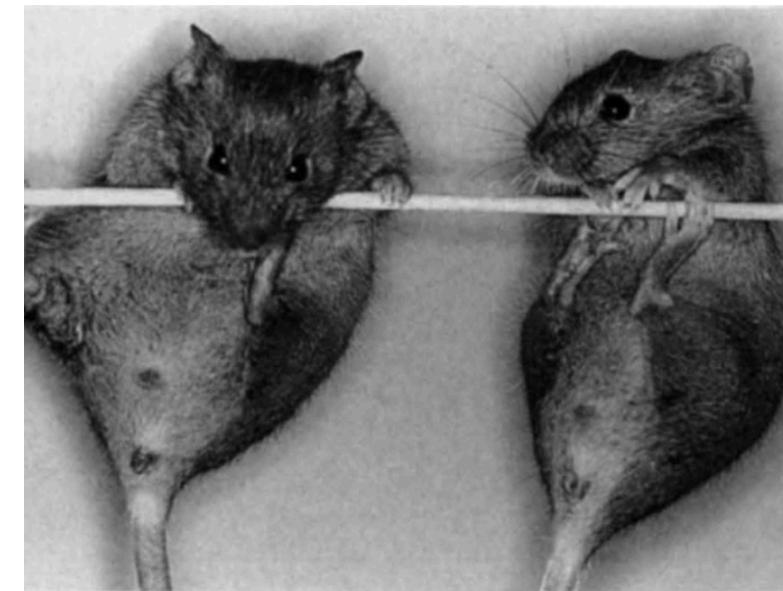
Plato's symposium, 385-370 BC

Theories



Left-right theory
Alexandrian manuscripts, 1st cent. BC

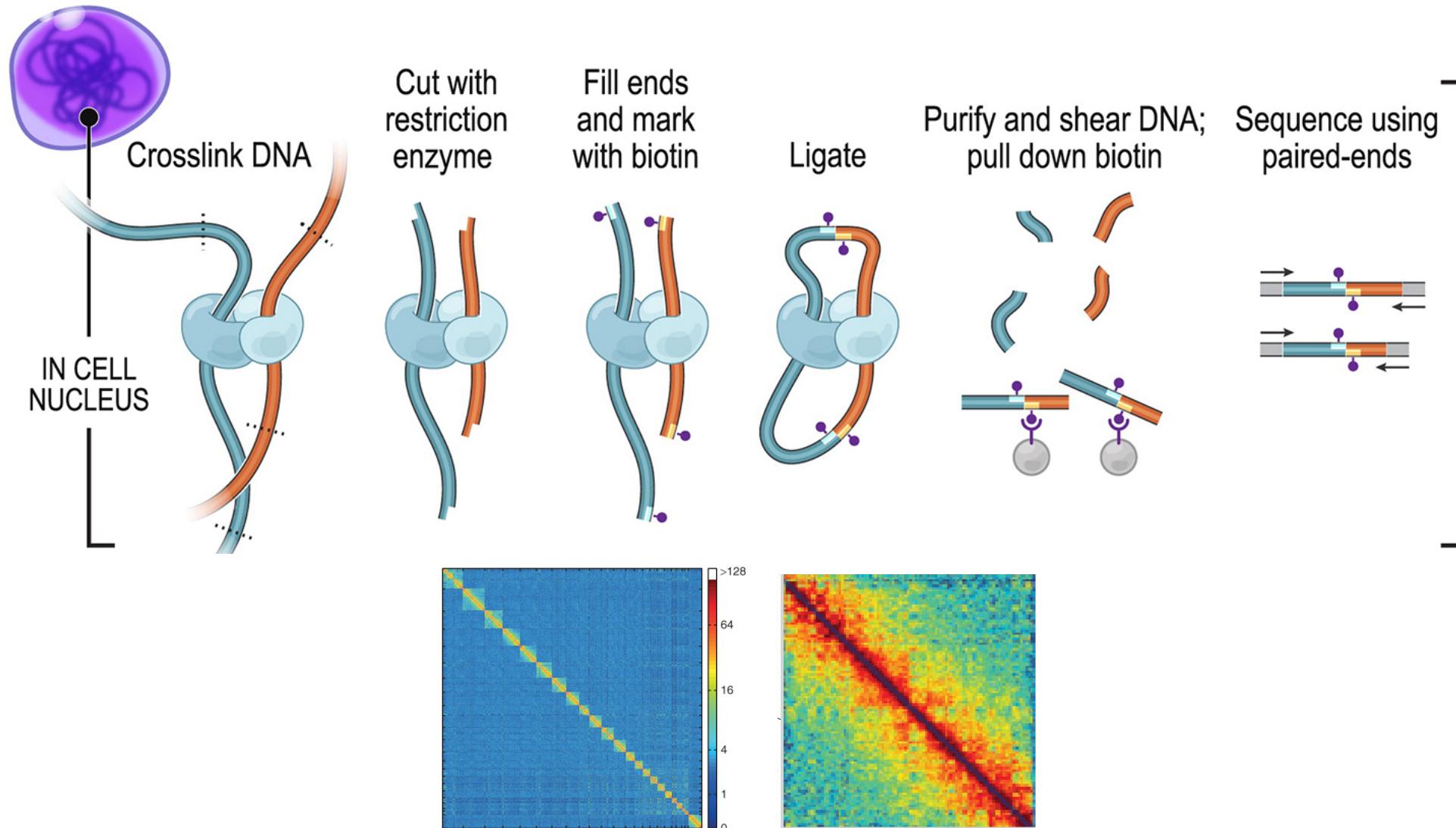
Genetics



Discovery of *Sry* gene
Koopman et al., Nature, 1991
(Goodfellow & LovellBadge labs)

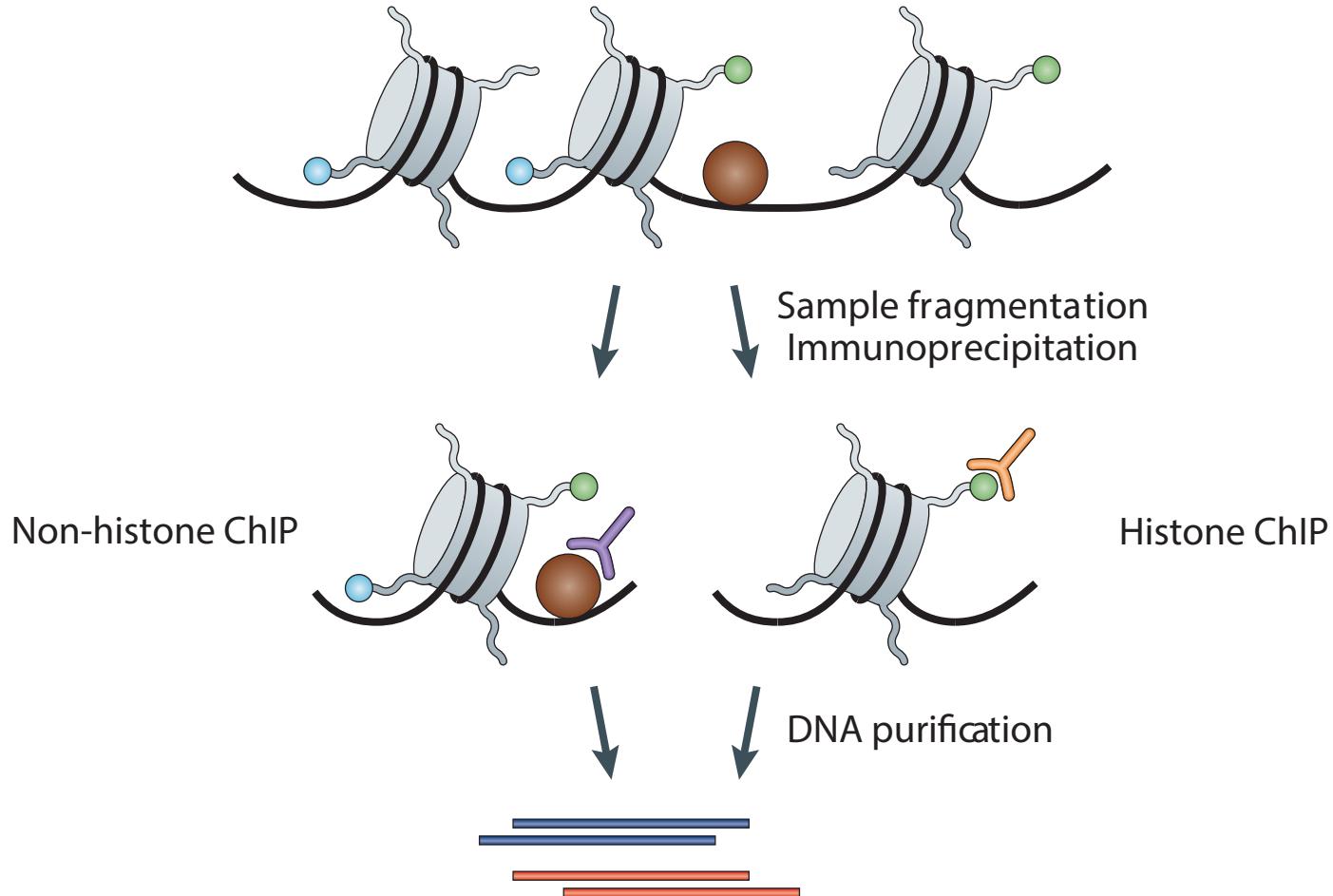
Chromosome Conformation Capture

Dekker, J., Rippe, K., Dekker, M., & Kleckner, N. (2002). *Science*, 295(5558), 1306–1311.
Lieberman-Aiden, E., et al. (2009). *Science*, 326(5950), 289–293.

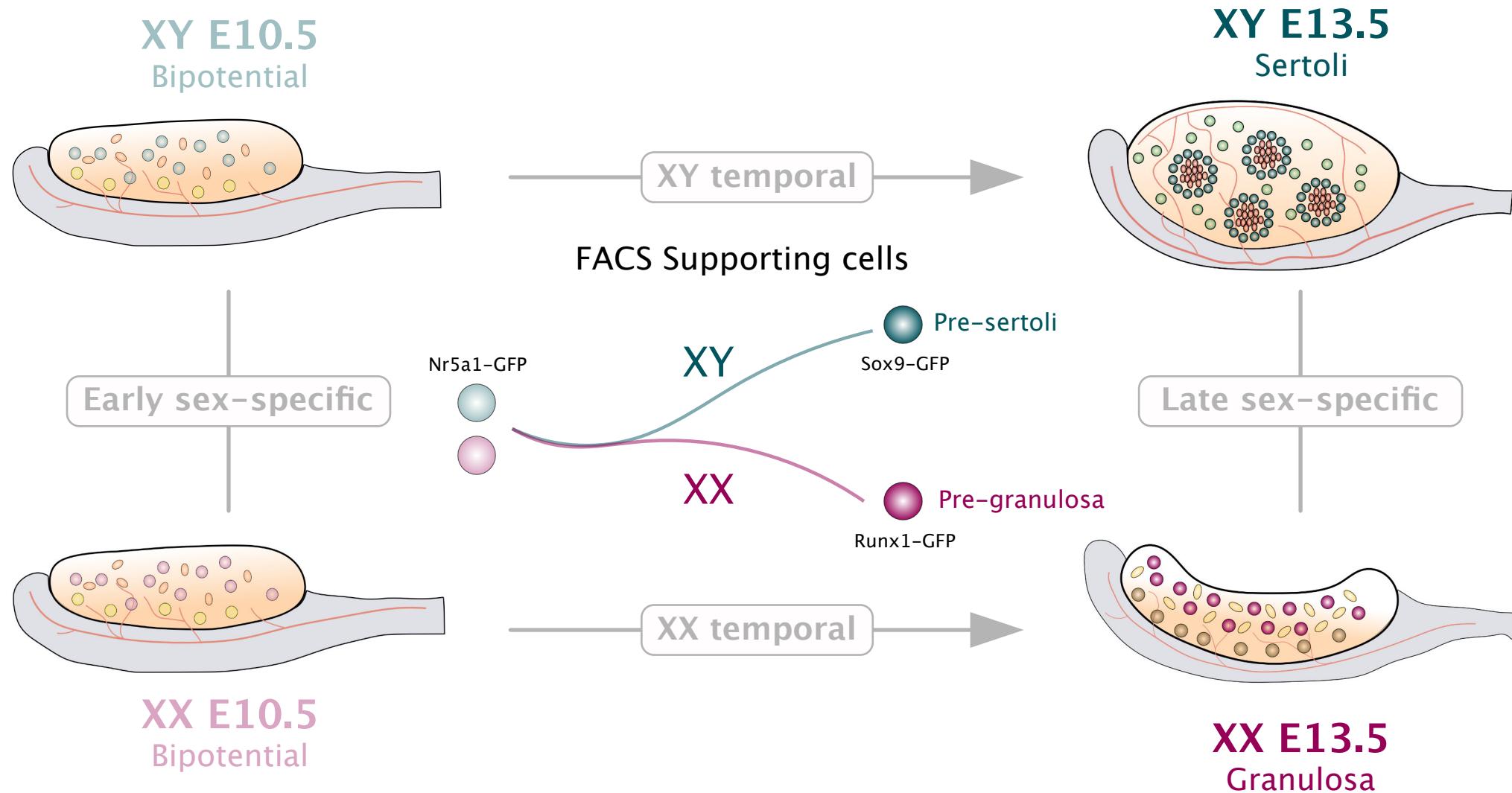


Chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP)

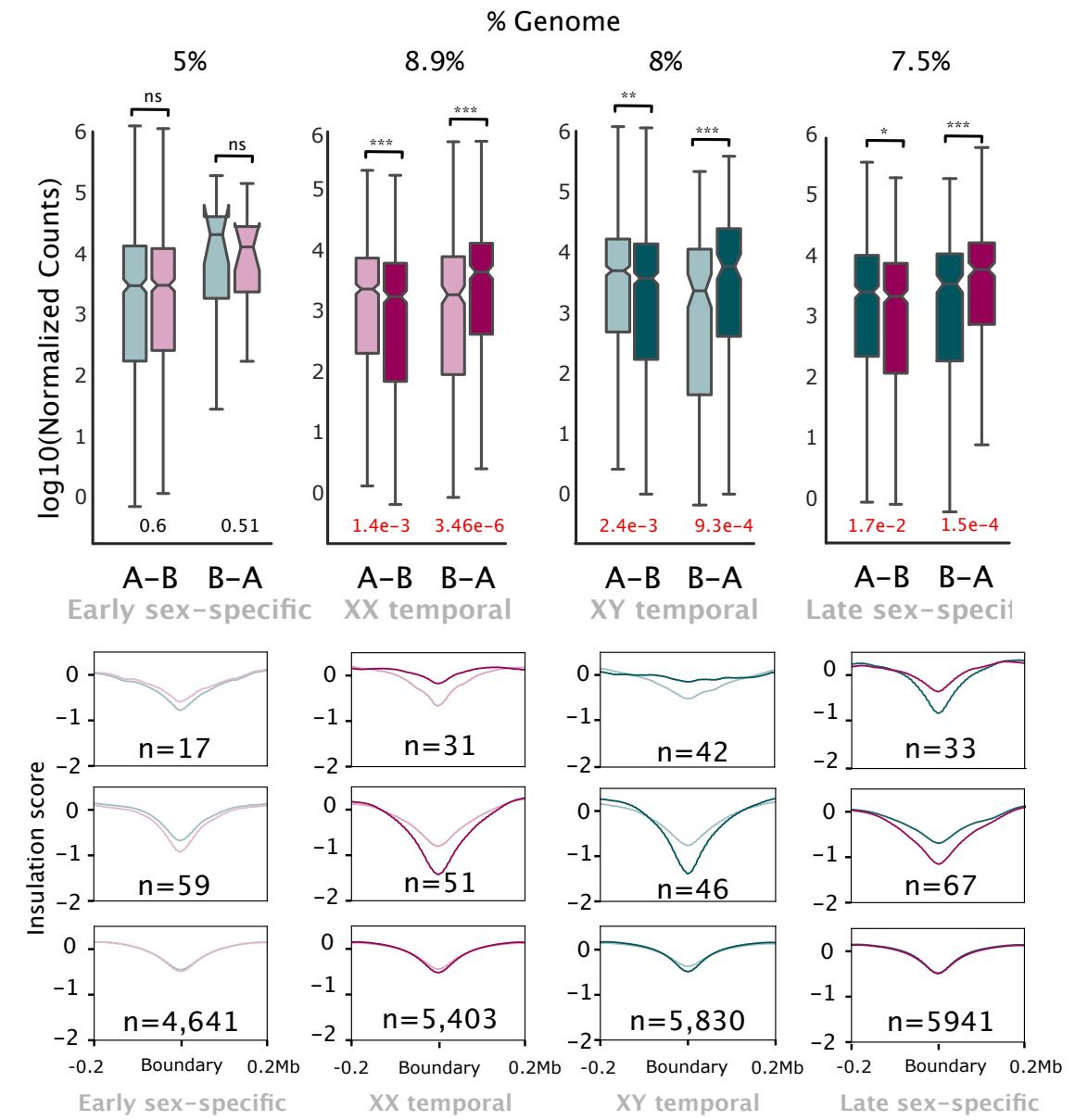
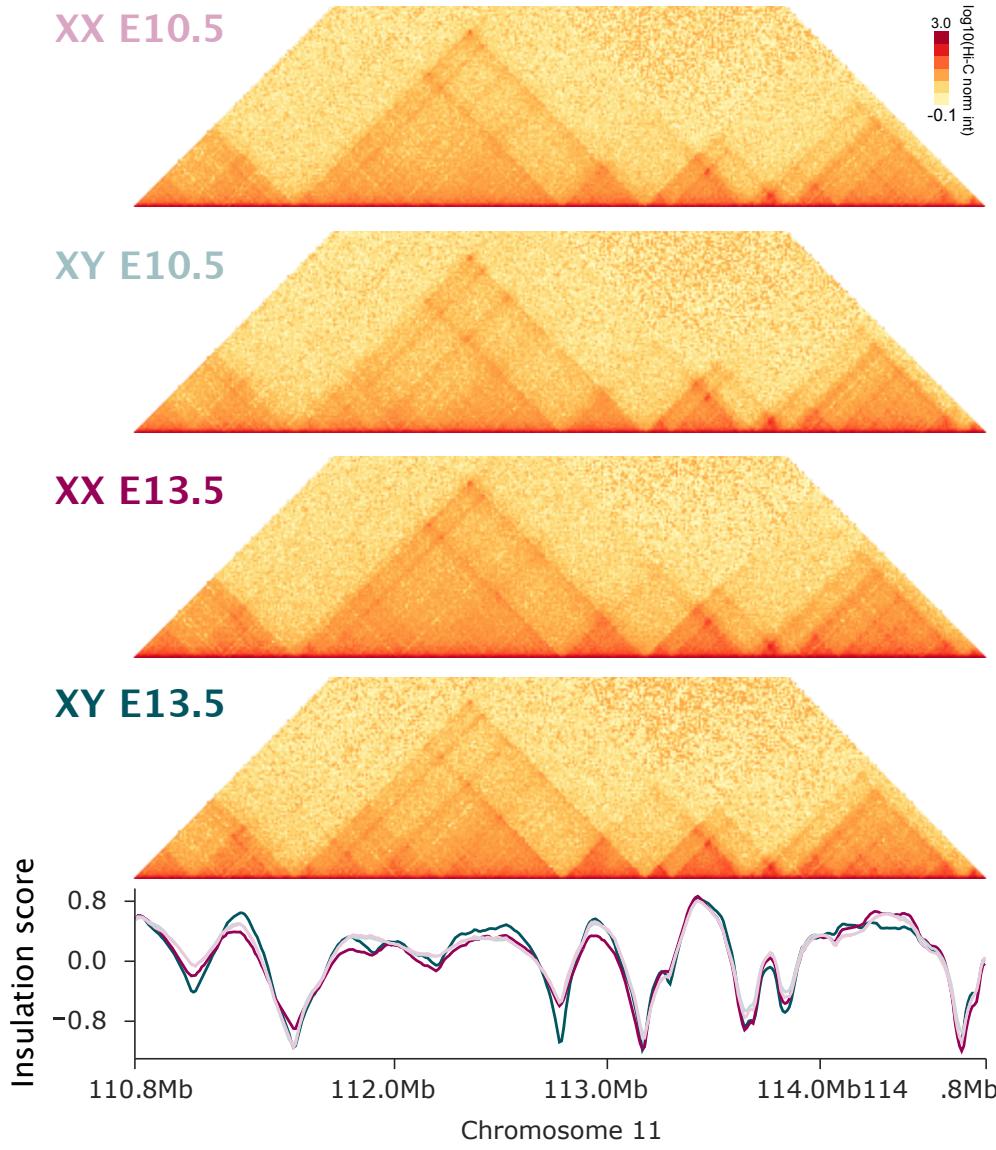
Solomon, M. J., Larsen, P. L. & Varshavsky, A. (1988) Cell 53, 937–947.
Park, P.J. (2009) Nature Reviews Genetics 10, 669–680.

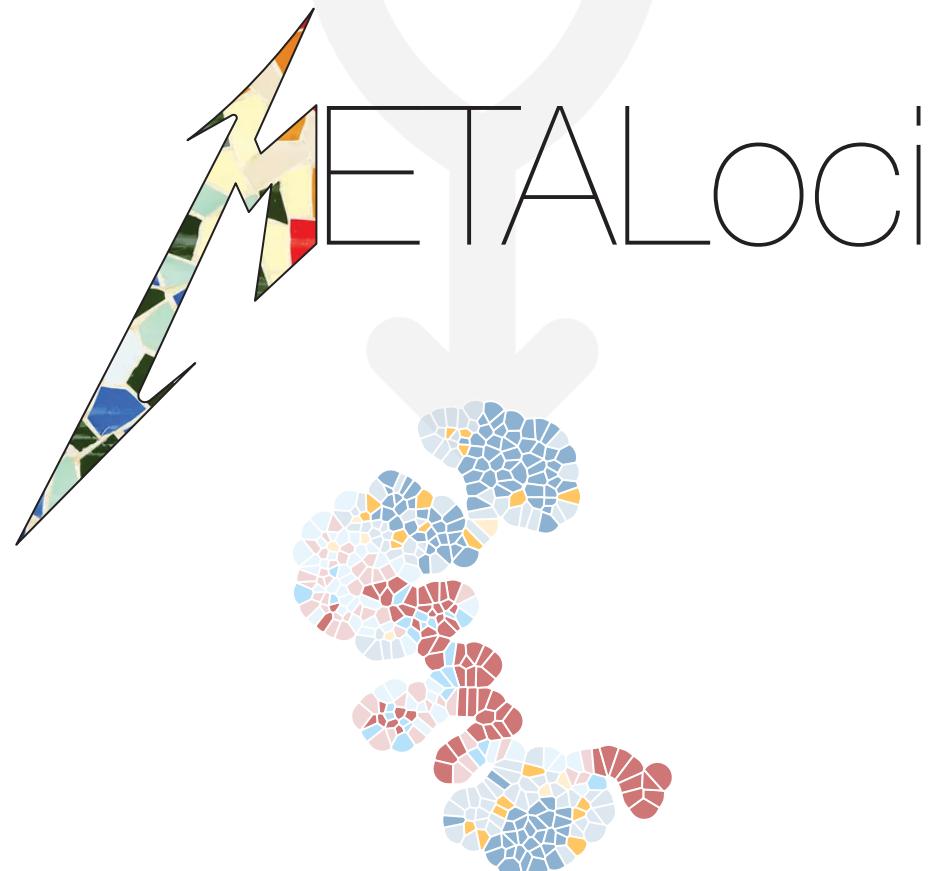
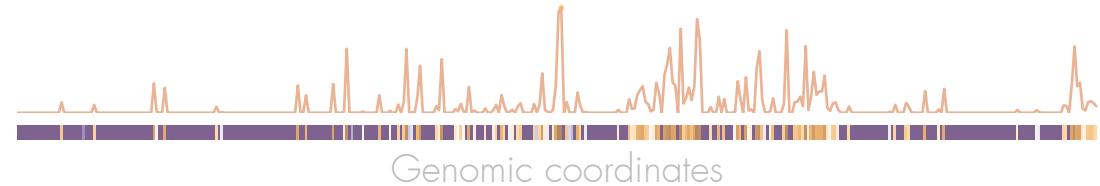
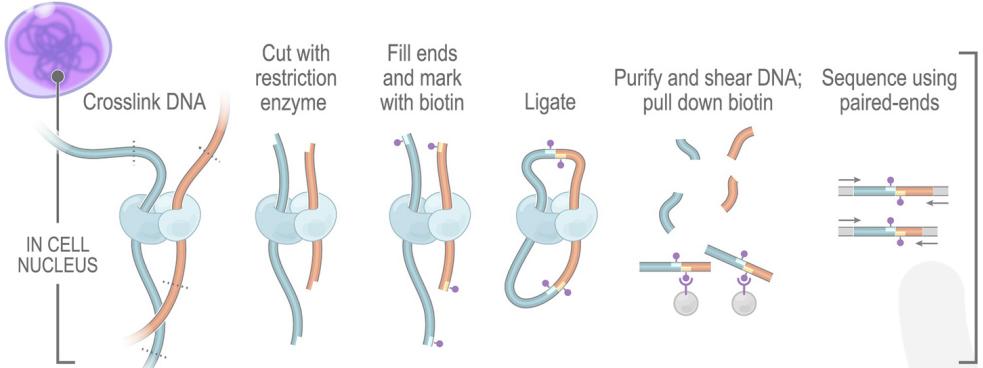


Sex-determination as a model for “bipotential” commitment



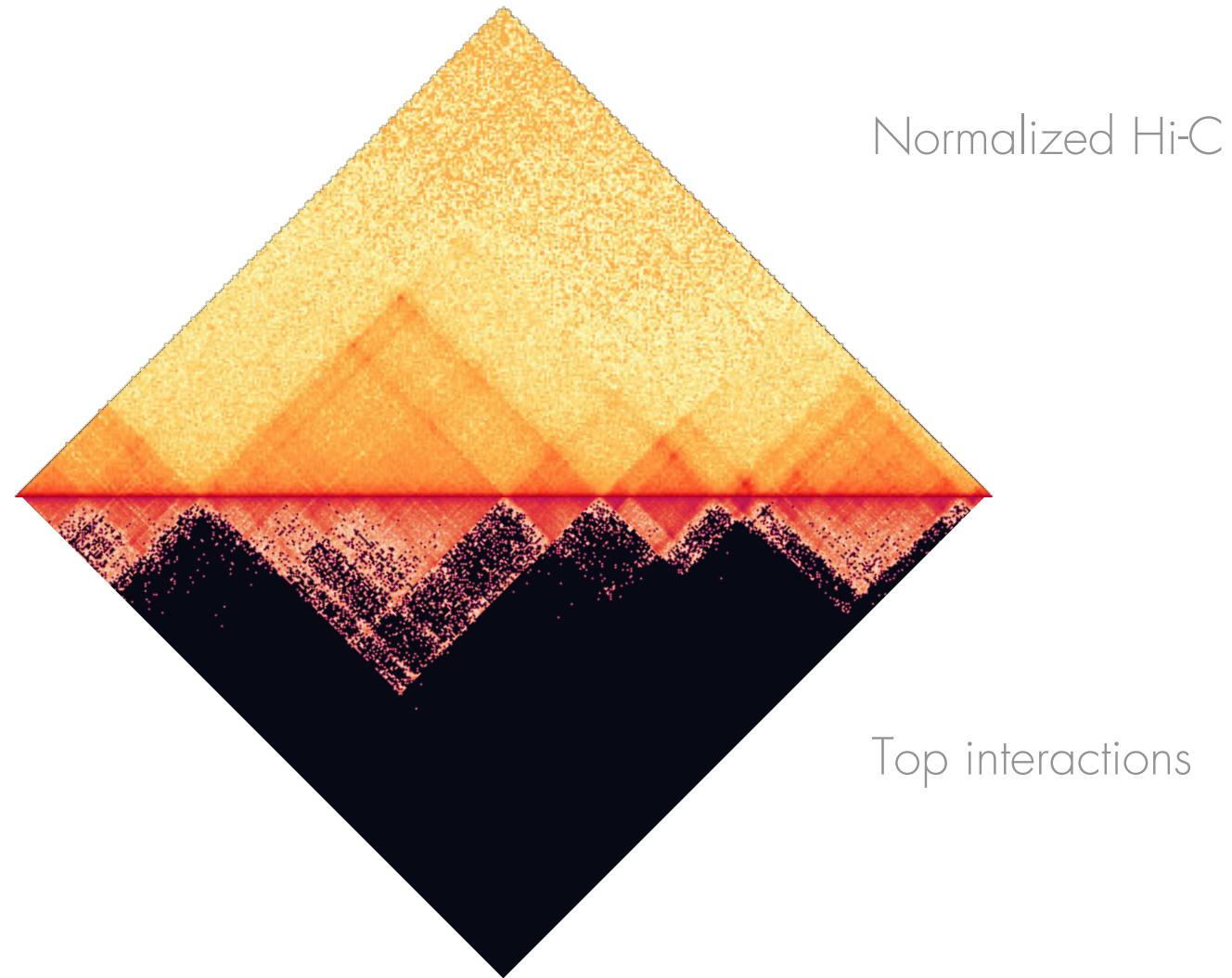
No major structural (apparent) differences





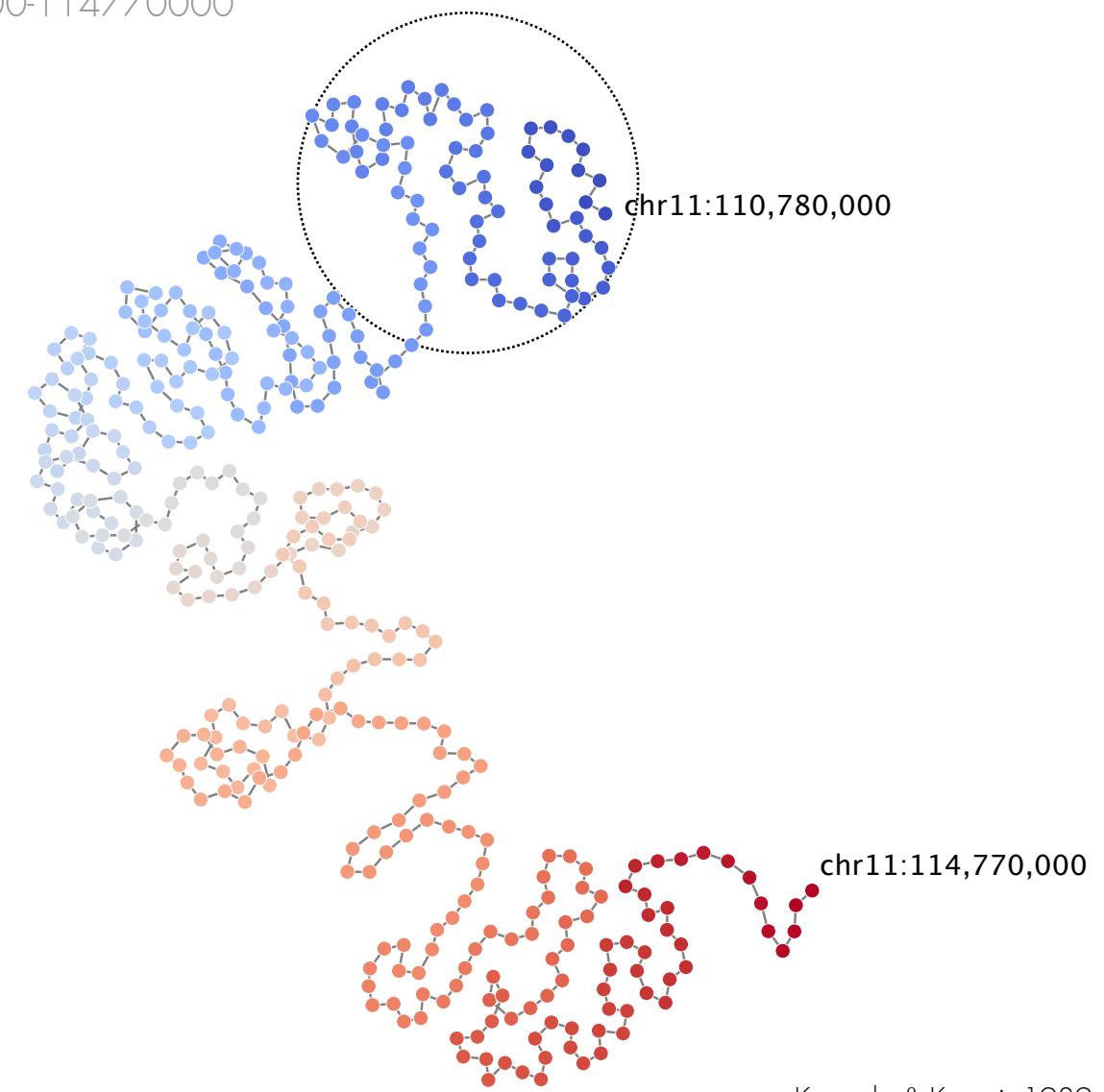
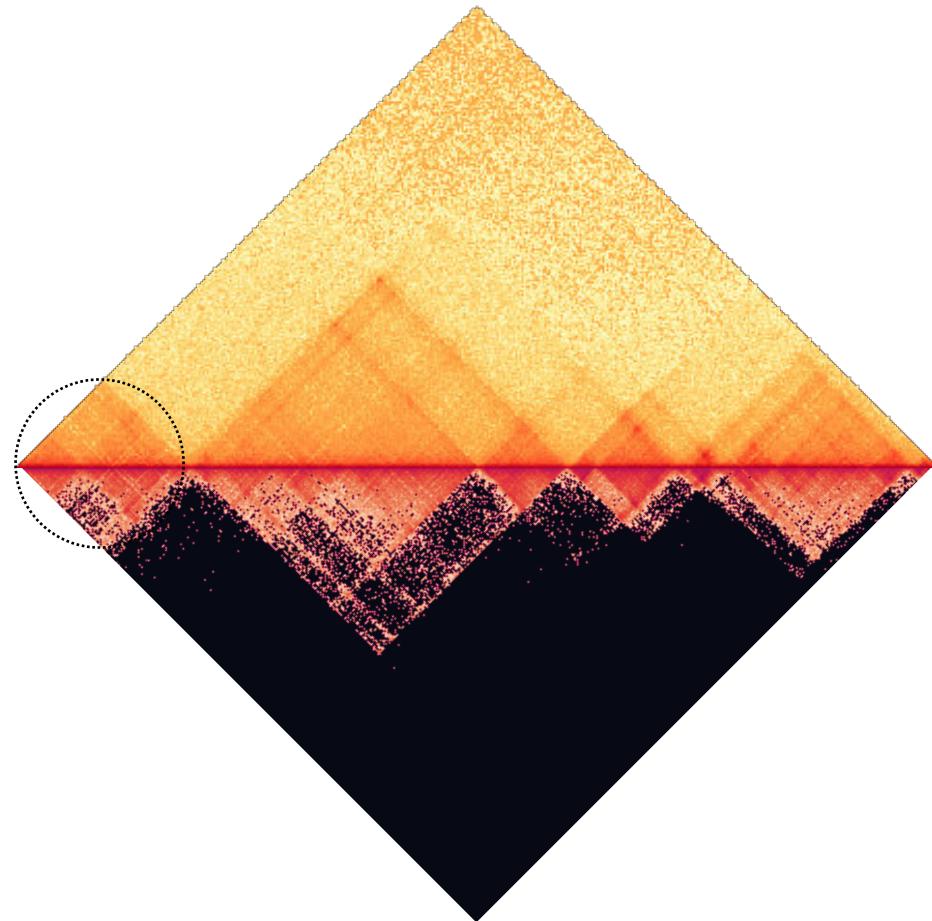
Hi-C normalization and interaction selection

chr11:110780000-114770000



Spatial lay-out of significant interactions

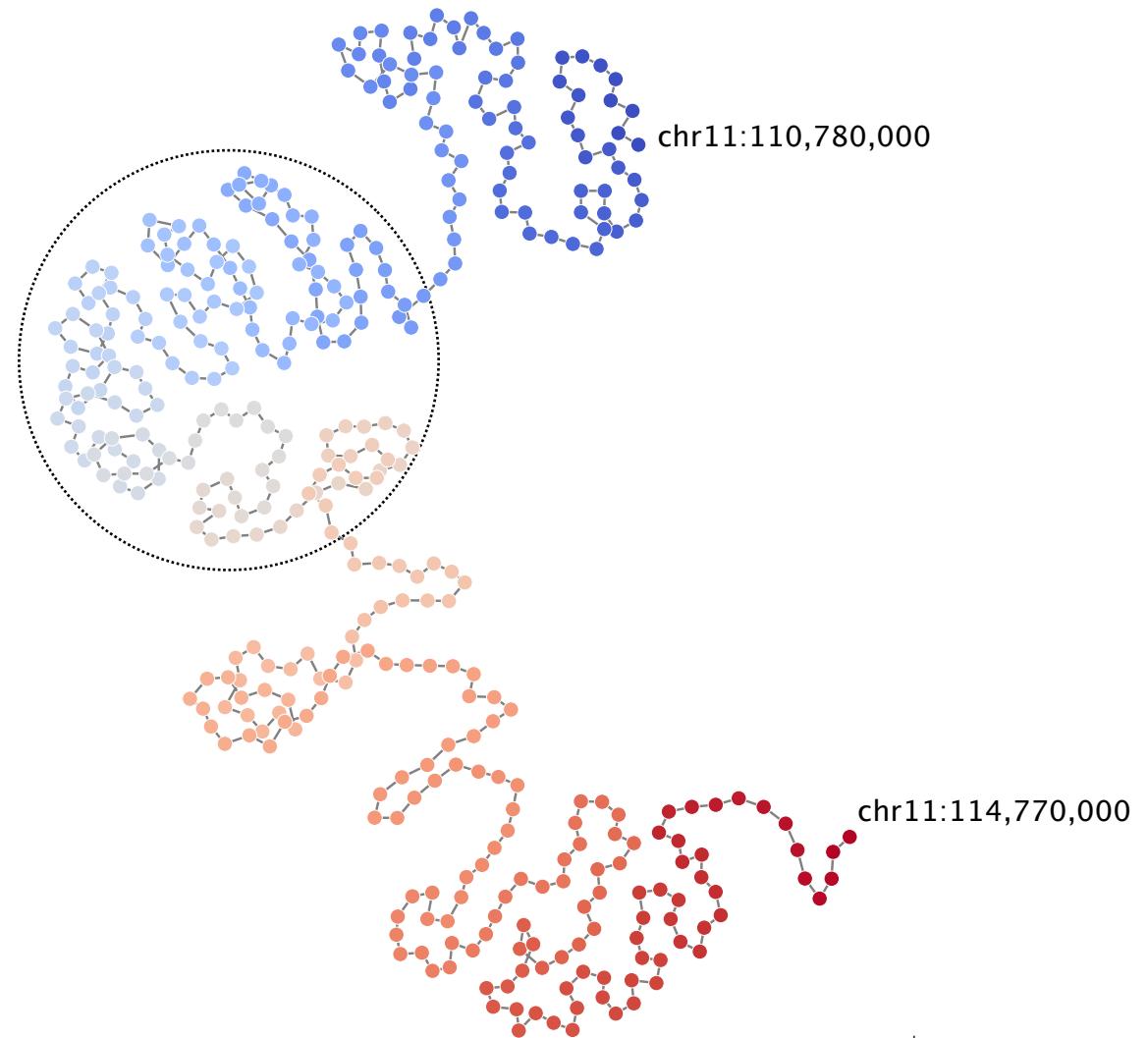
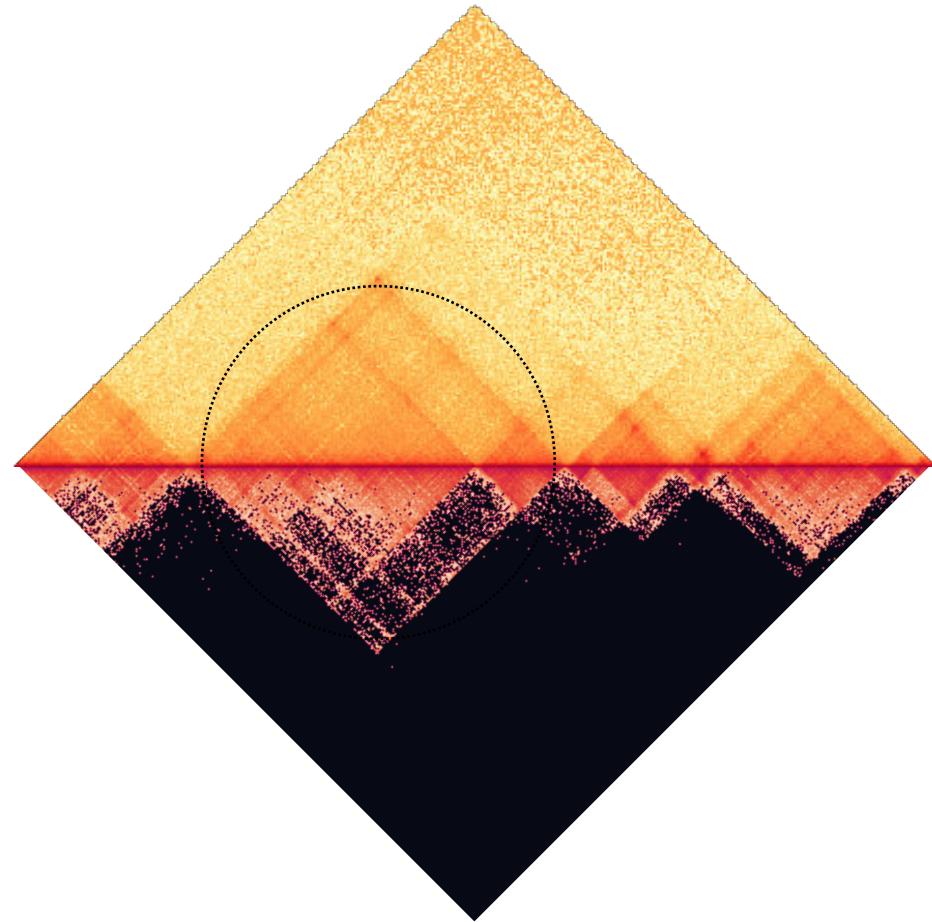
chr11:110780000-114770000



Kamada & Kawai, 1989

Spatial lay-out of significant interactions

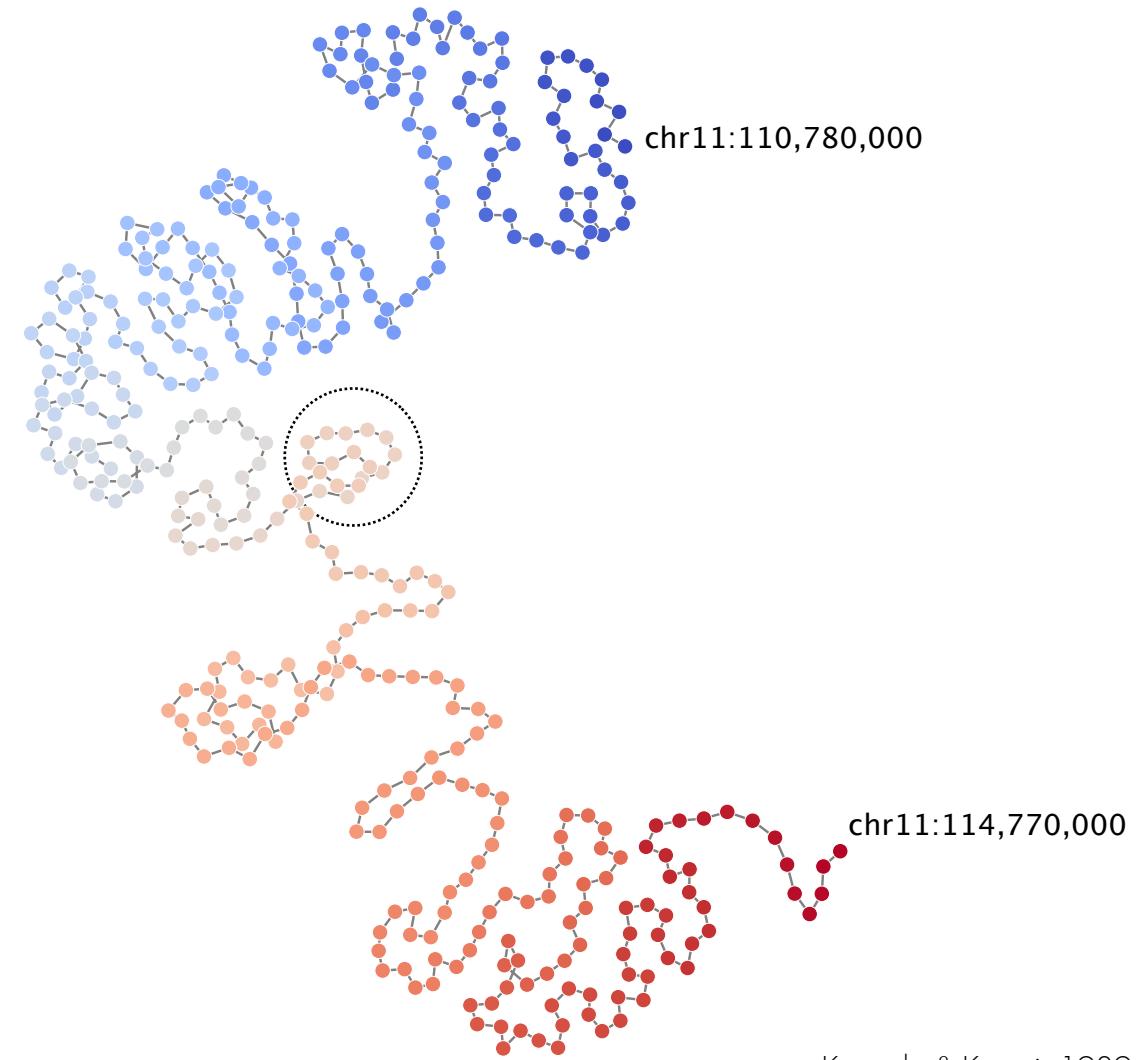
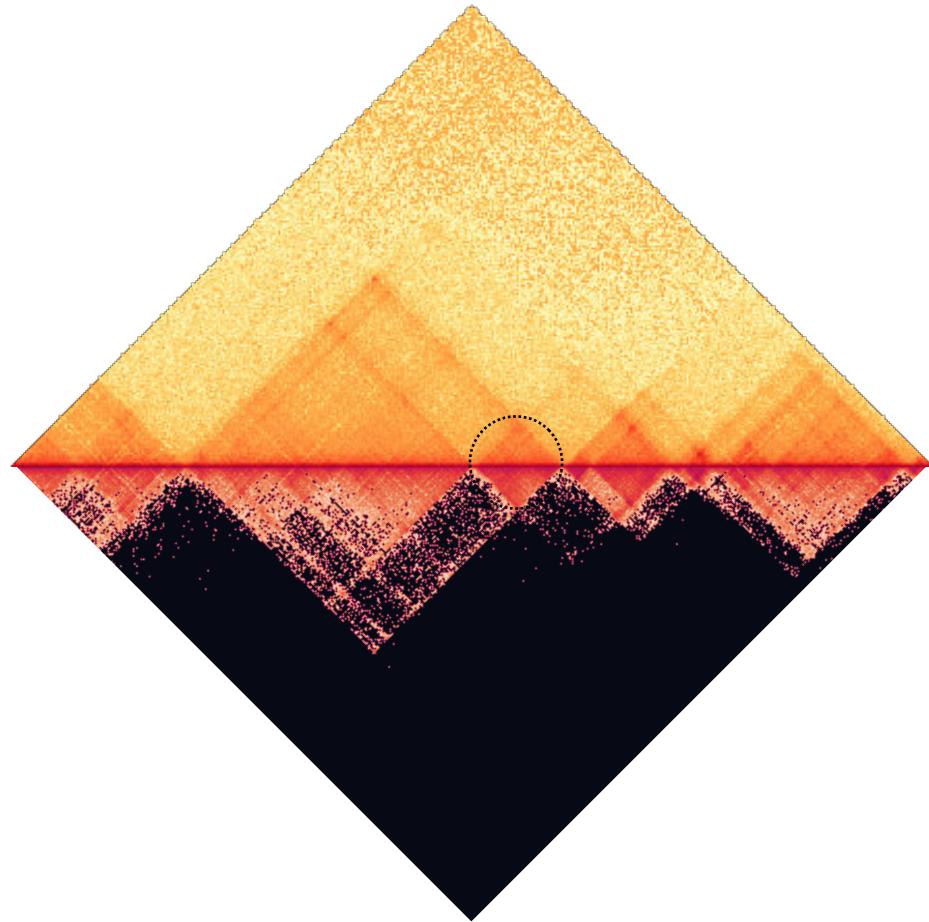
chr11:110780000-114770000



Kamada & Kawai, 1989

Spatial lay-out of significant interactions

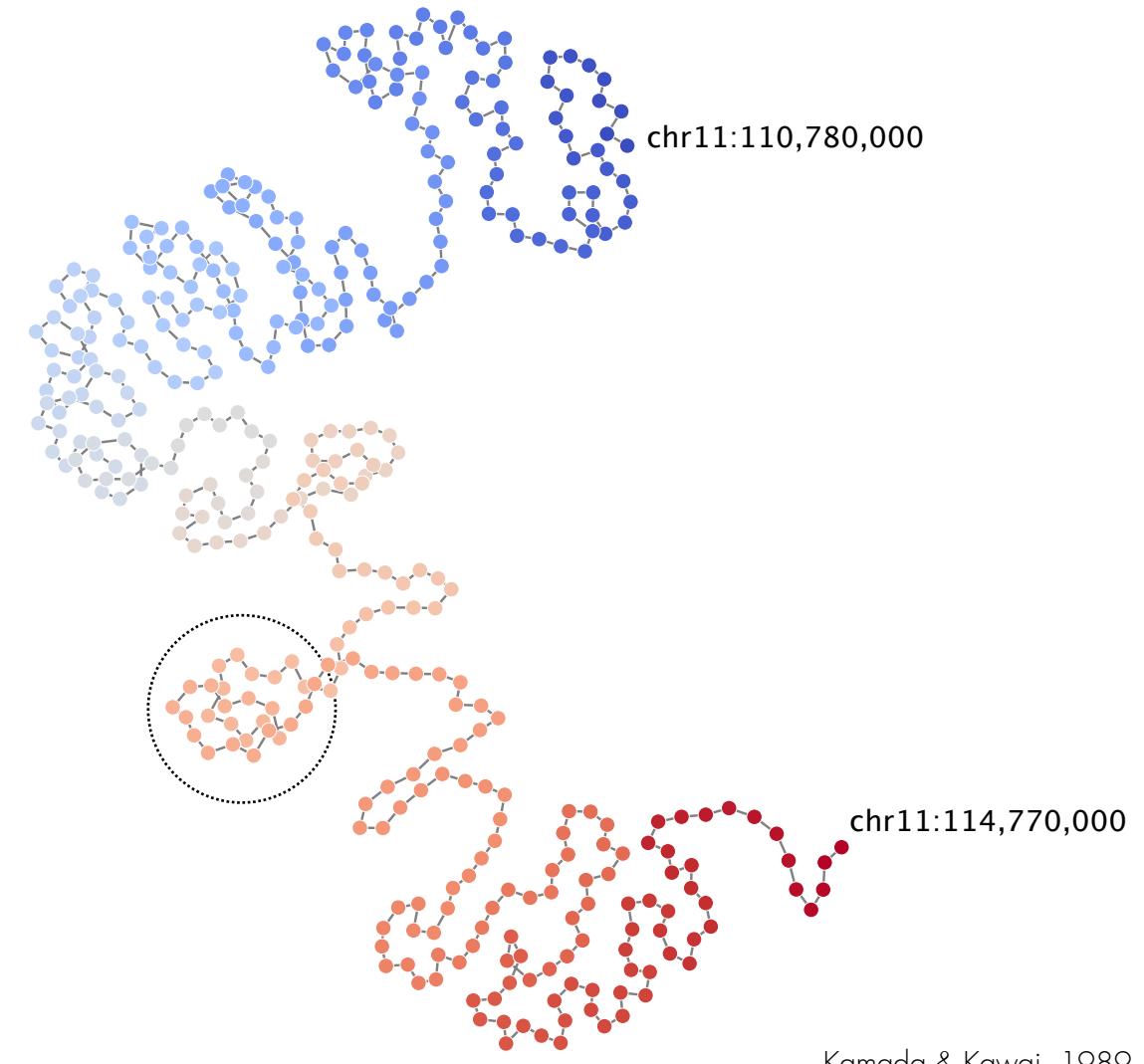
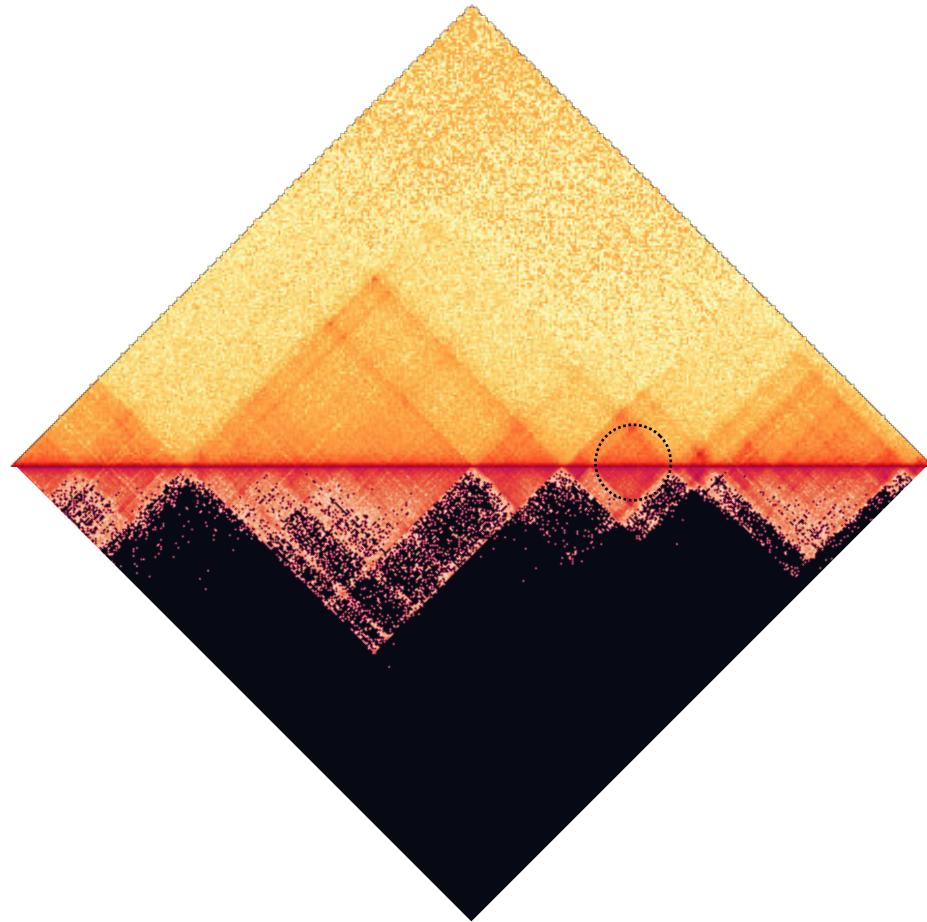
chr11:110780000-114770000



Kamada & Kawai, 1989

Spatial lay-out of significant interactions

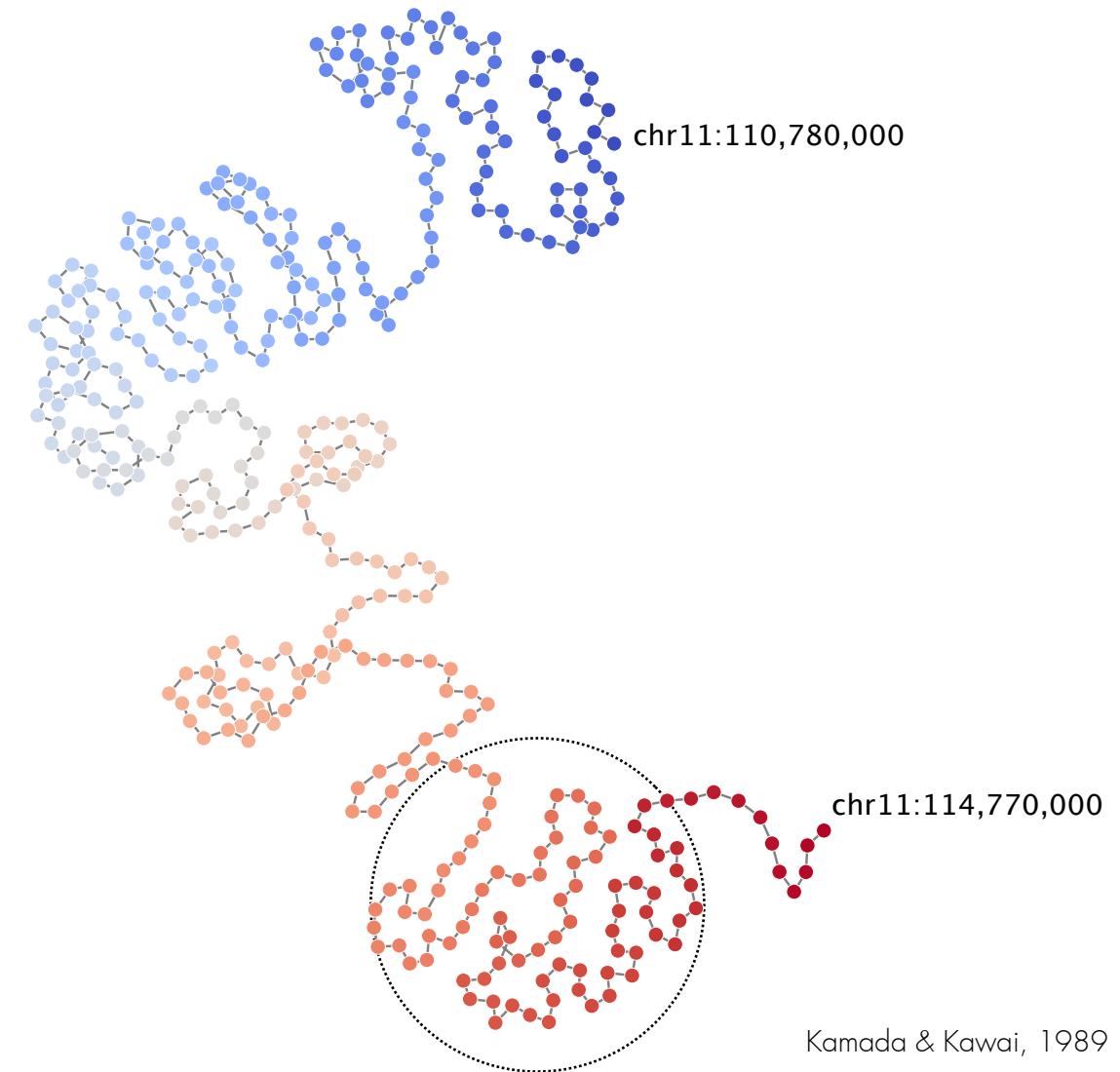
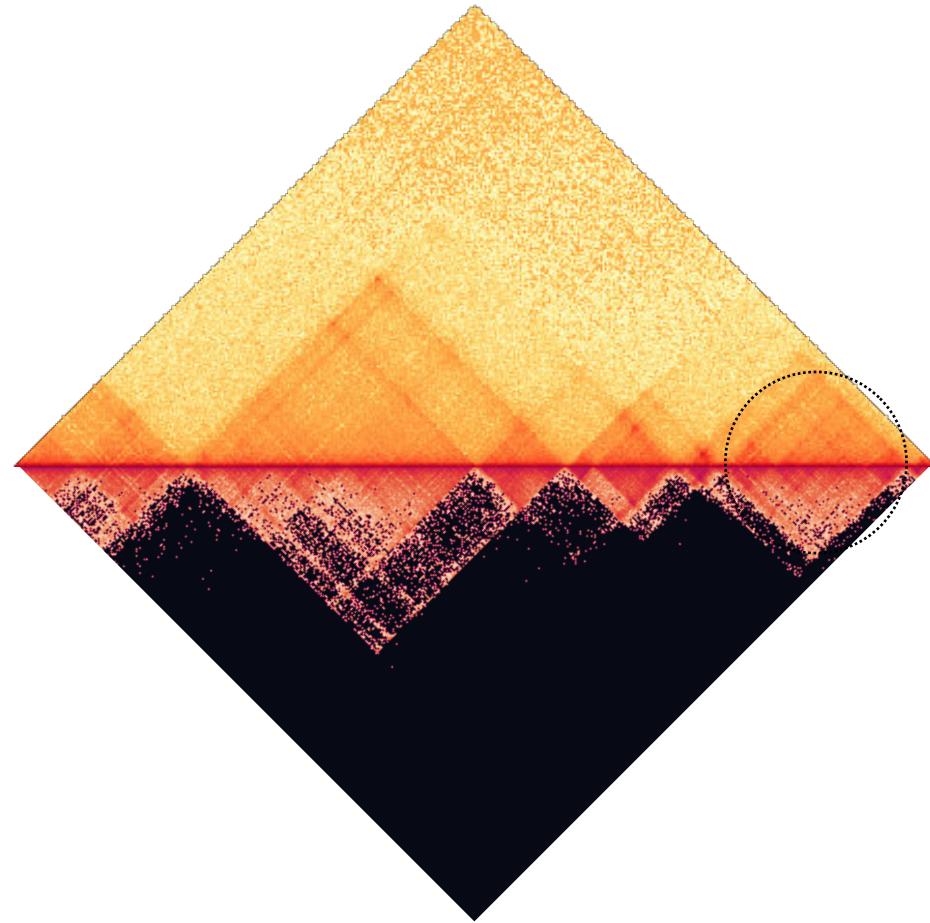
chr11:110780000-114770000



Kamada & Kawai, 1989

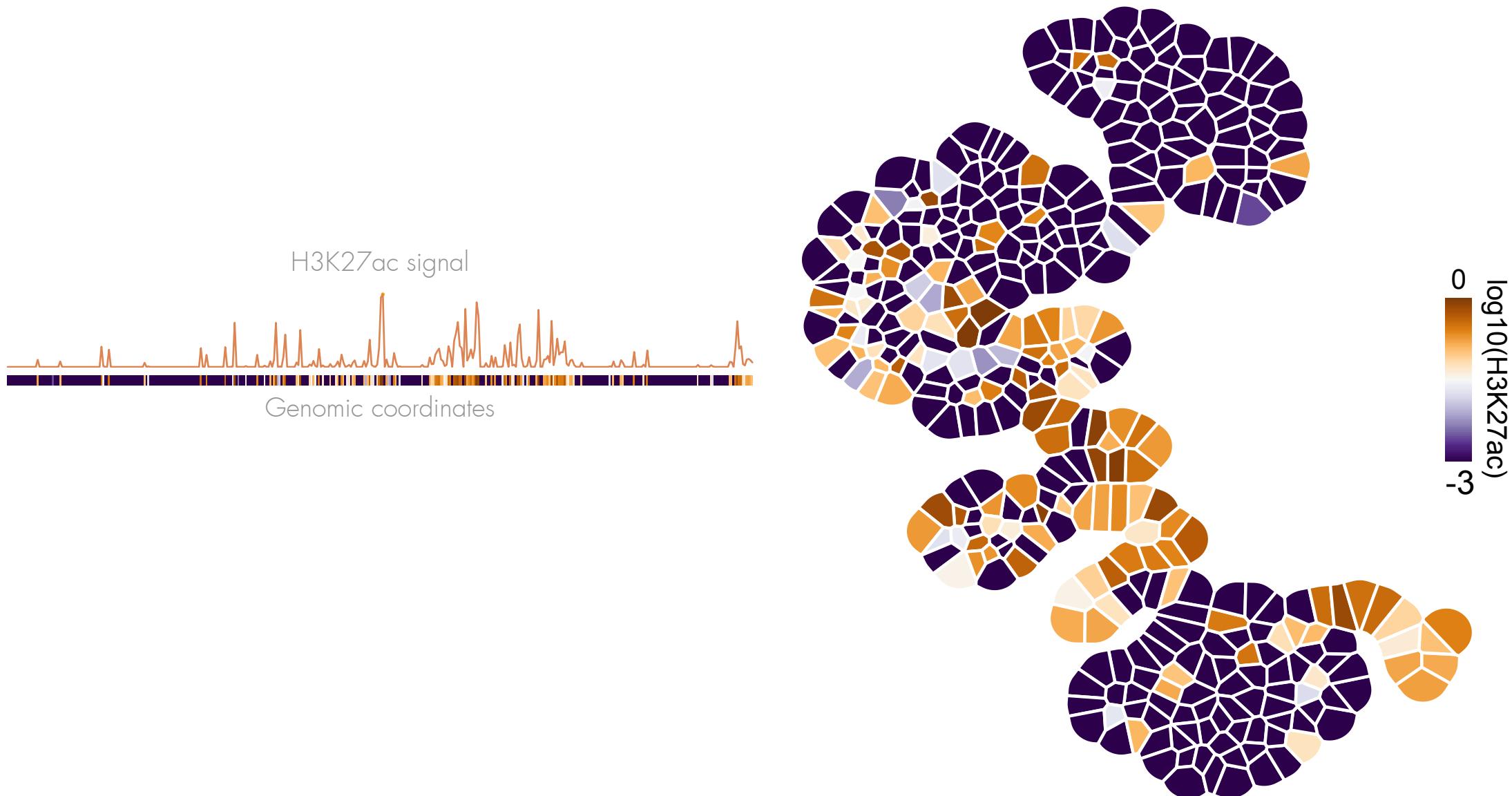
Spatial lay-out of significant interactions

chr11:110780000-114770000

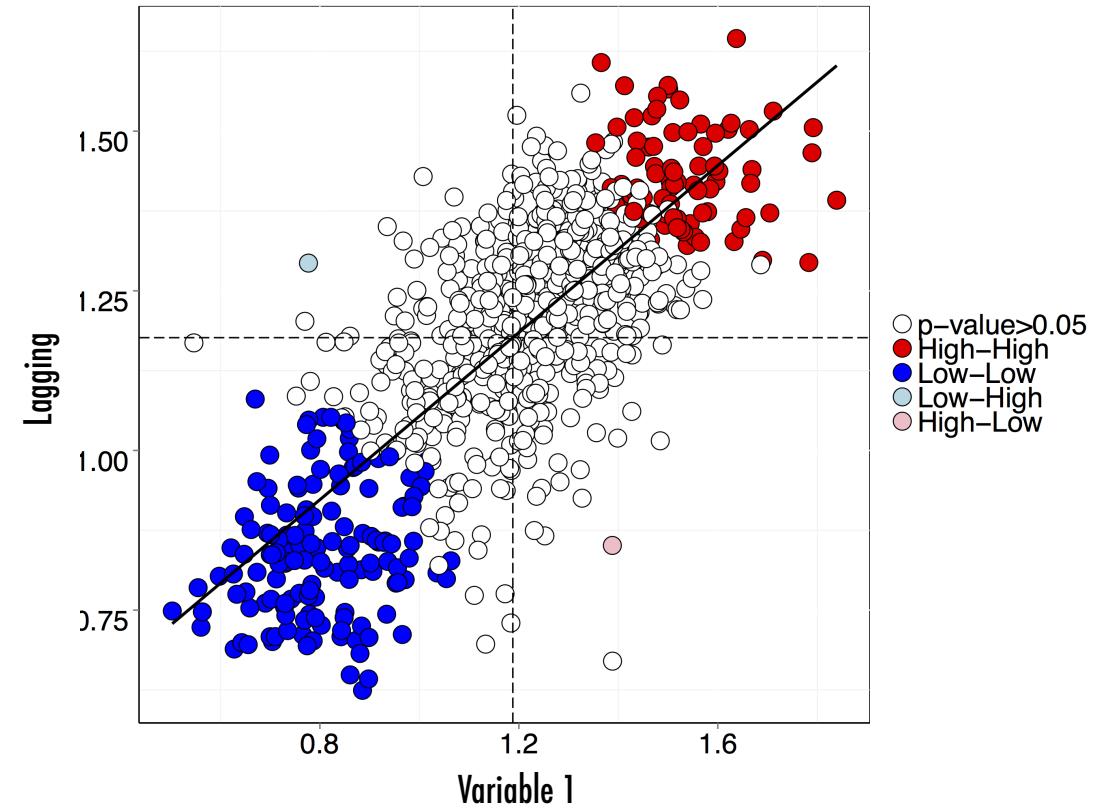
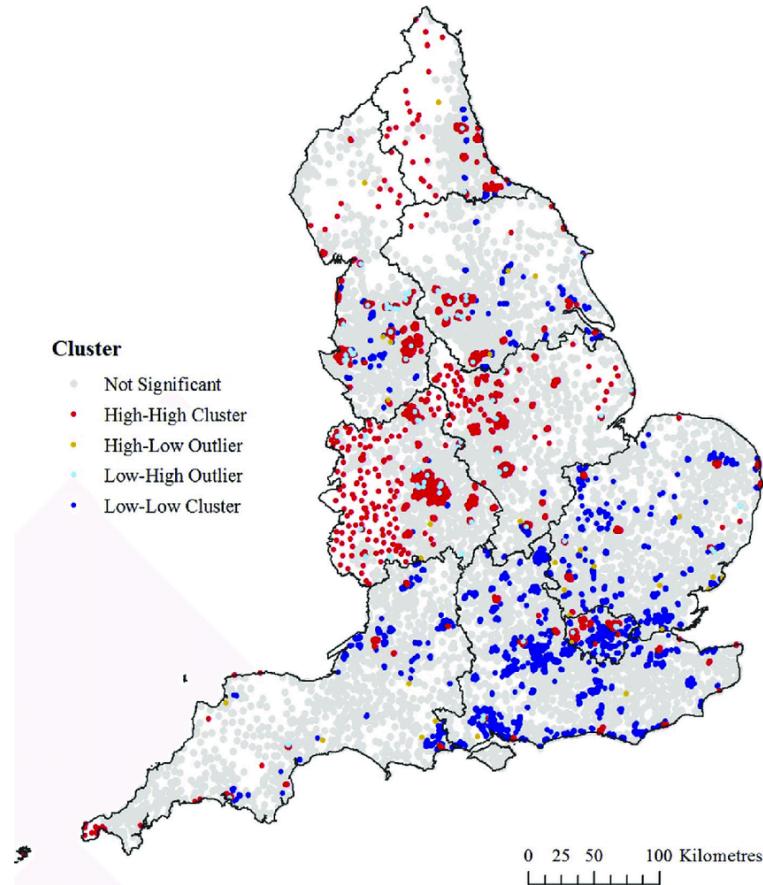


Marker (H3K27ac) into 2D mapping

chr11:110780000-114770000



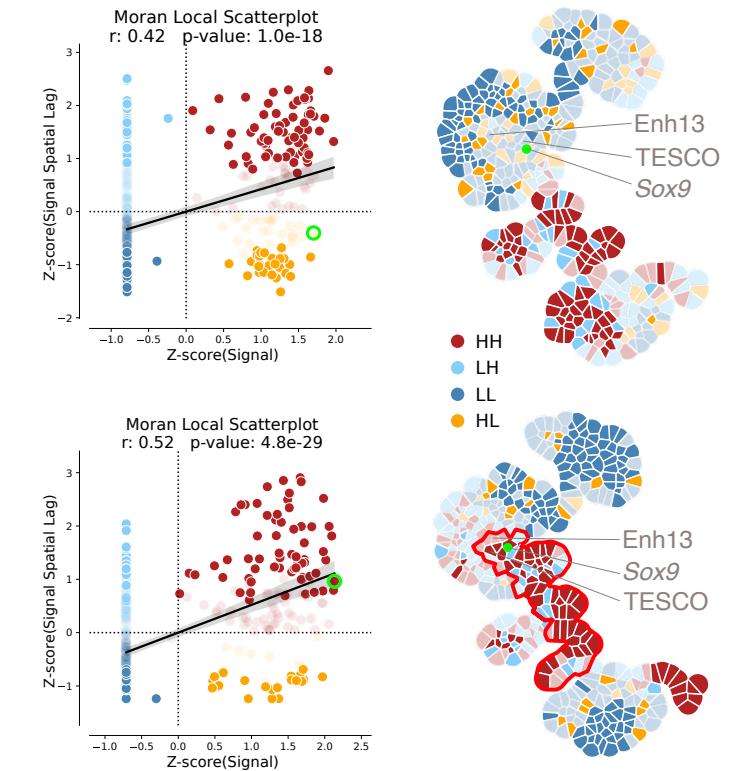
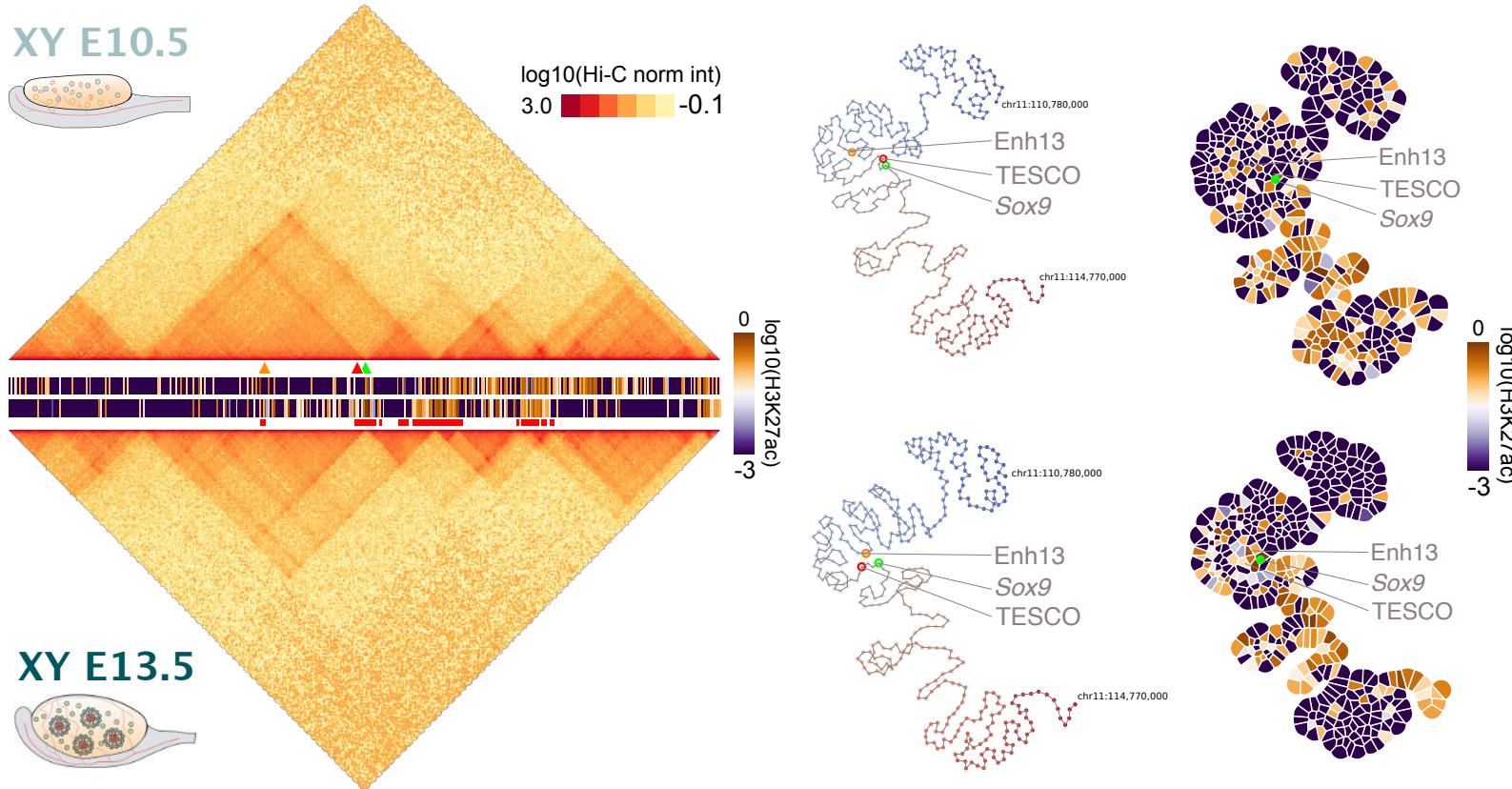
Local Moran Index



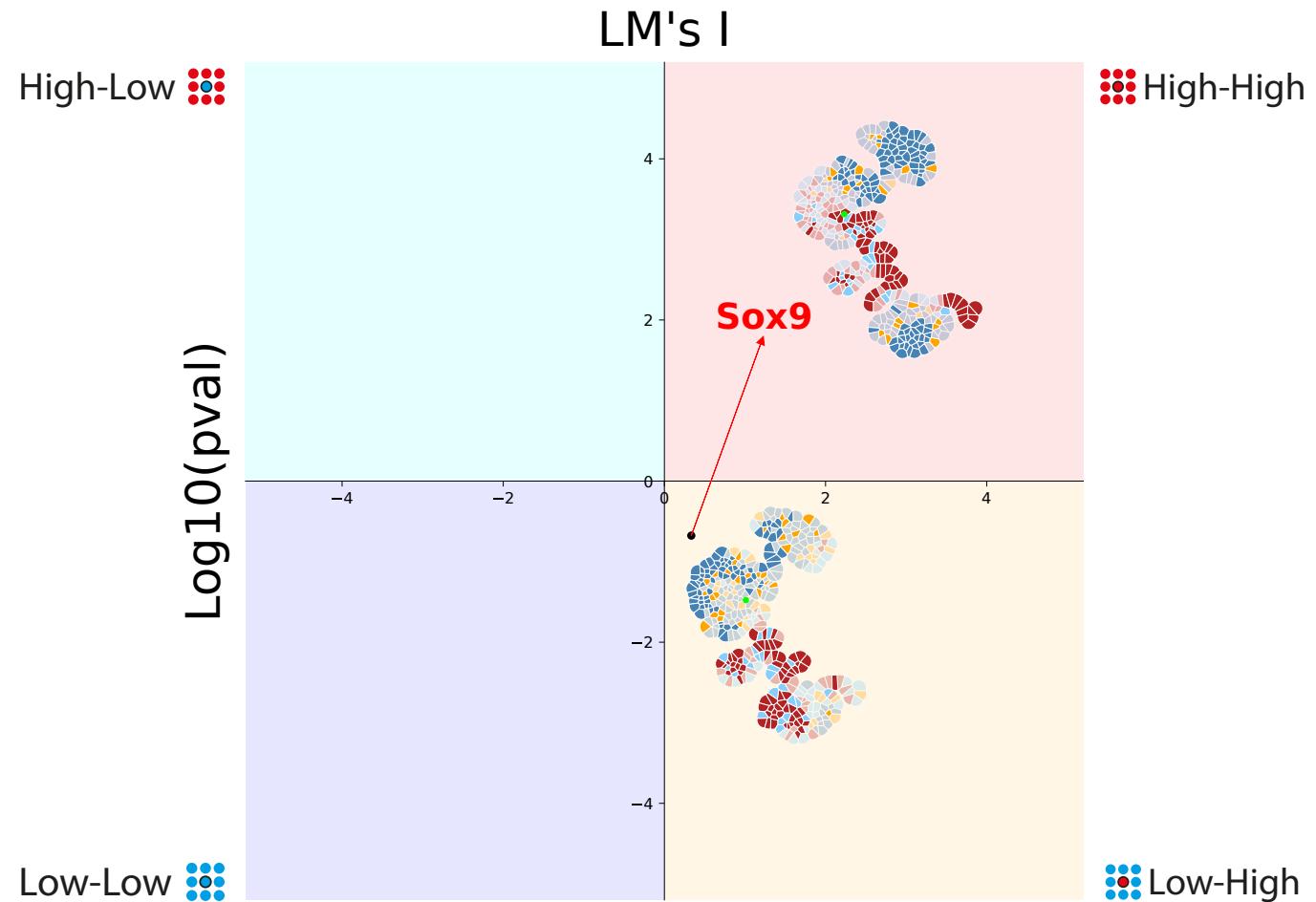
Quantifying regulatory environments bin by bin



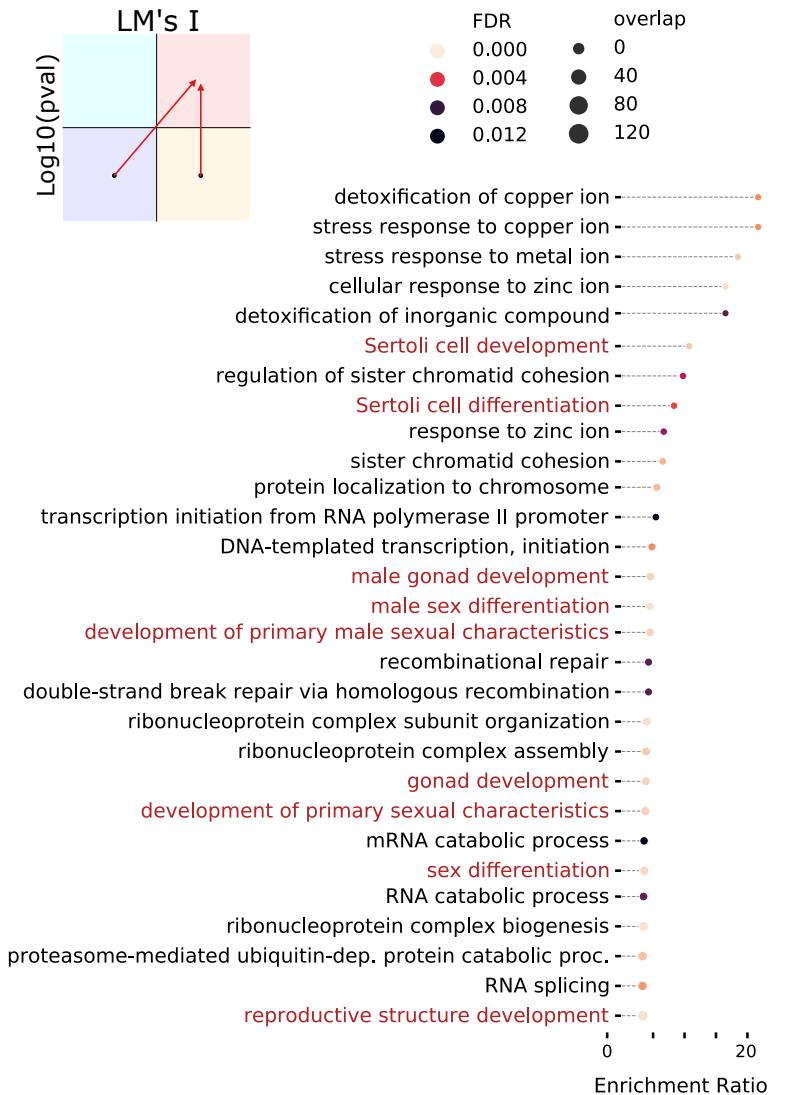
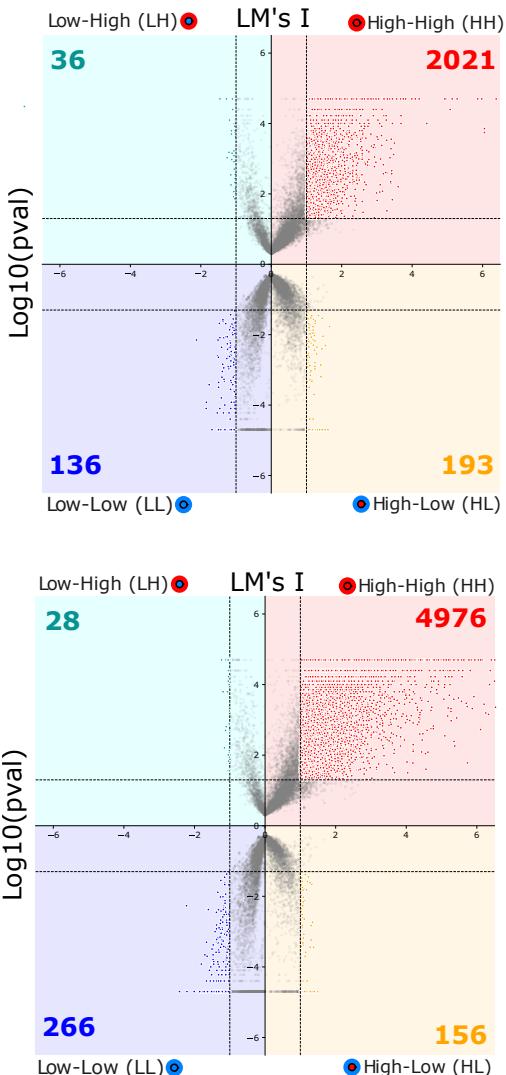
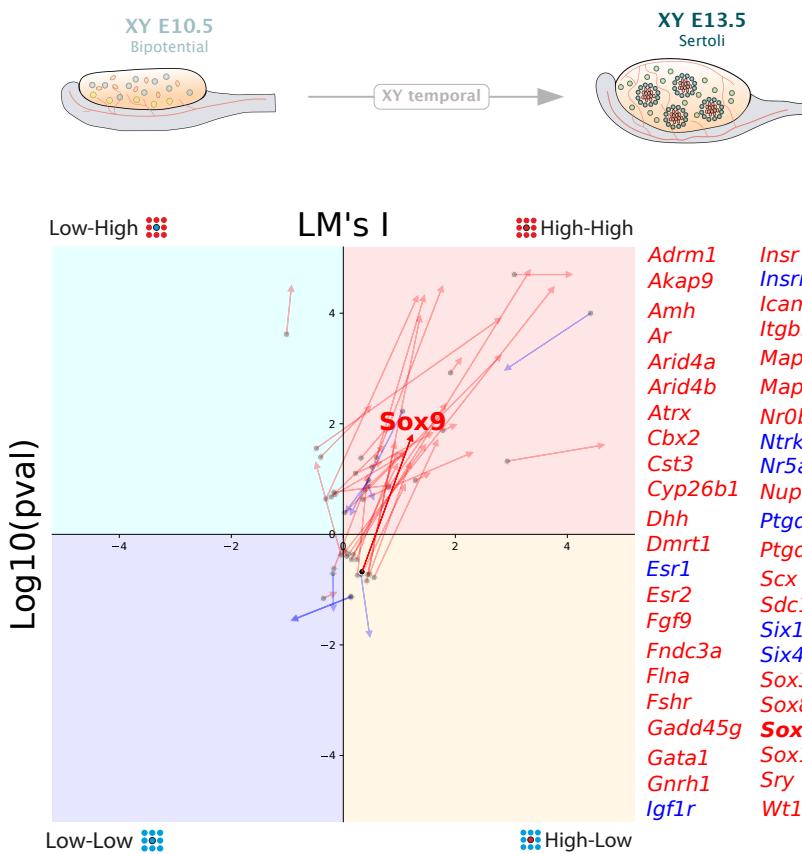
Sox9 locus chr11:110,780,000-114,770,000



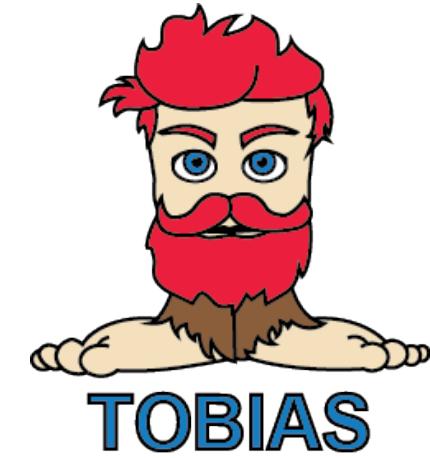
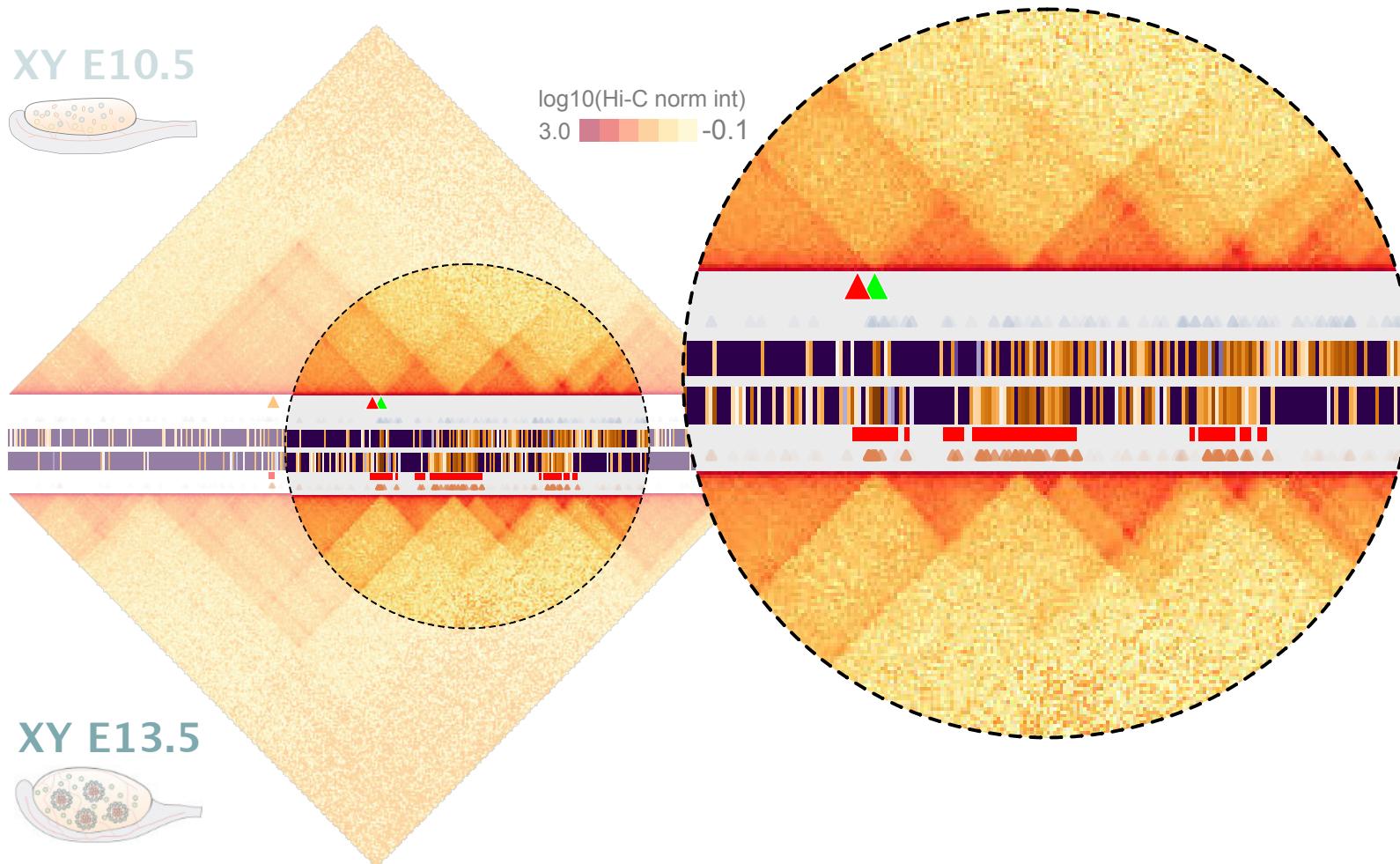
LMI Trip for Sox9 gene



All genes LM's Trip

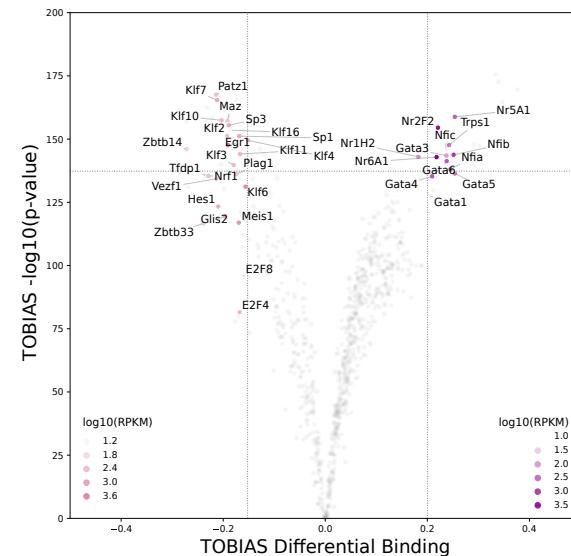
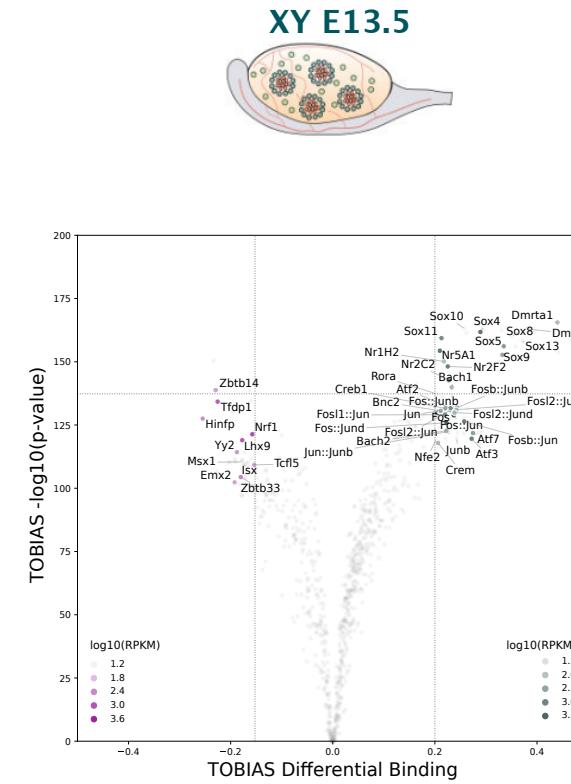
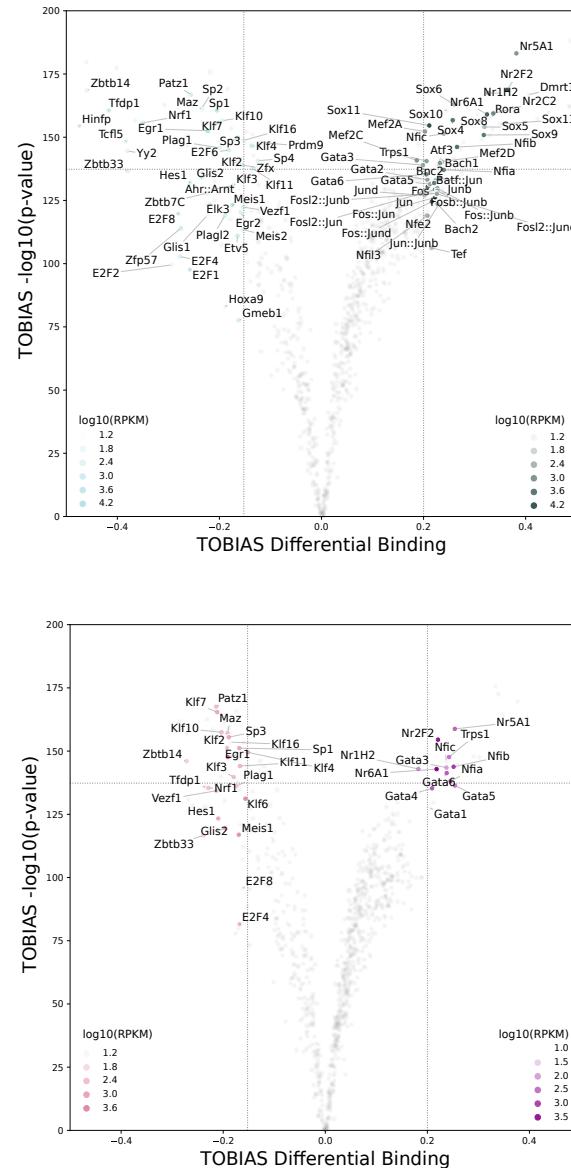
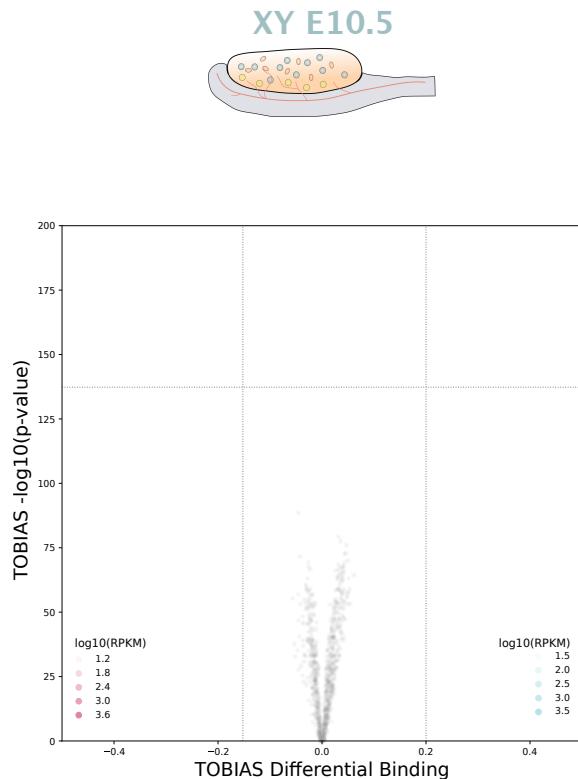


Are there specific Transcription Factors within the metaloci?



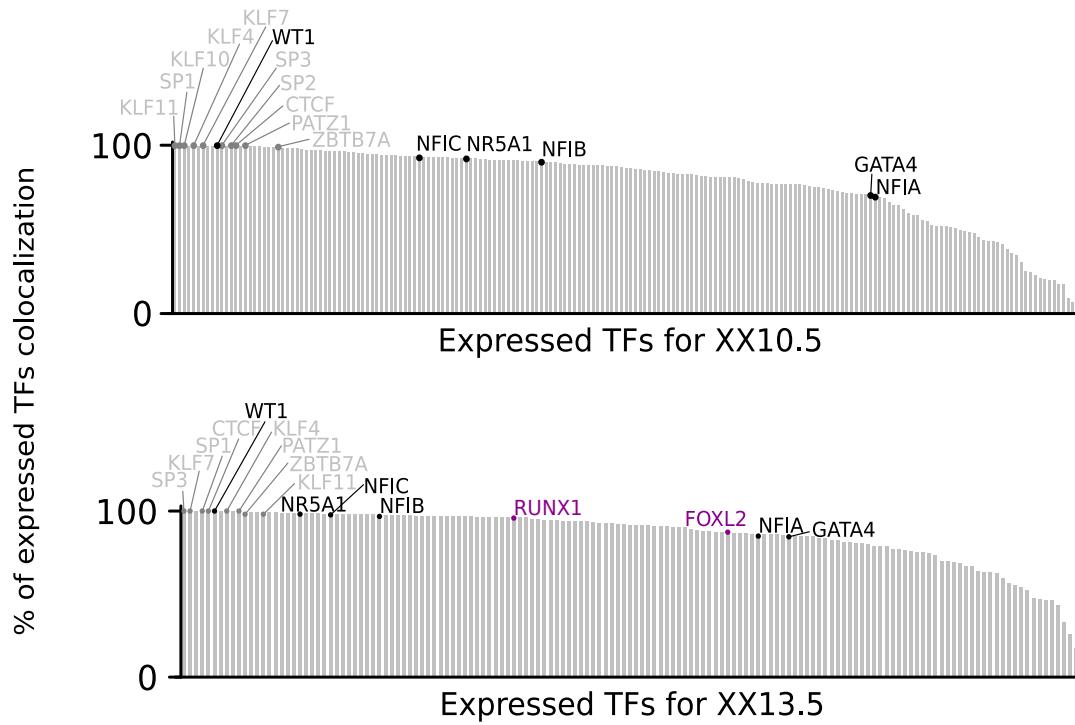


TF footprints

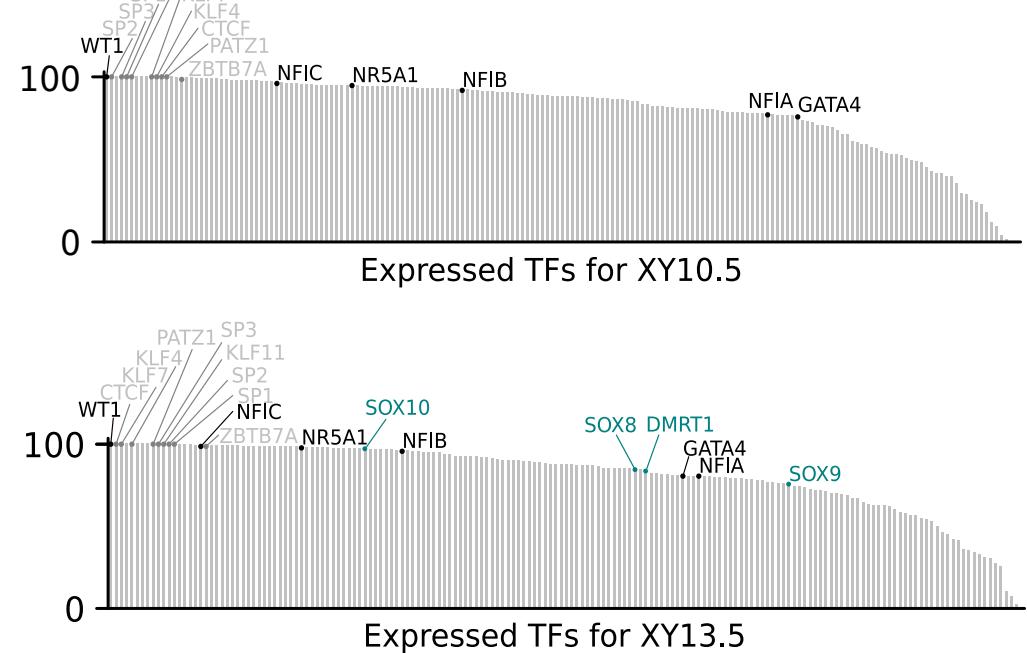




"Stripe" TFs



% of expressed TFs colocalization



General · Gonad Specific · Female · Male

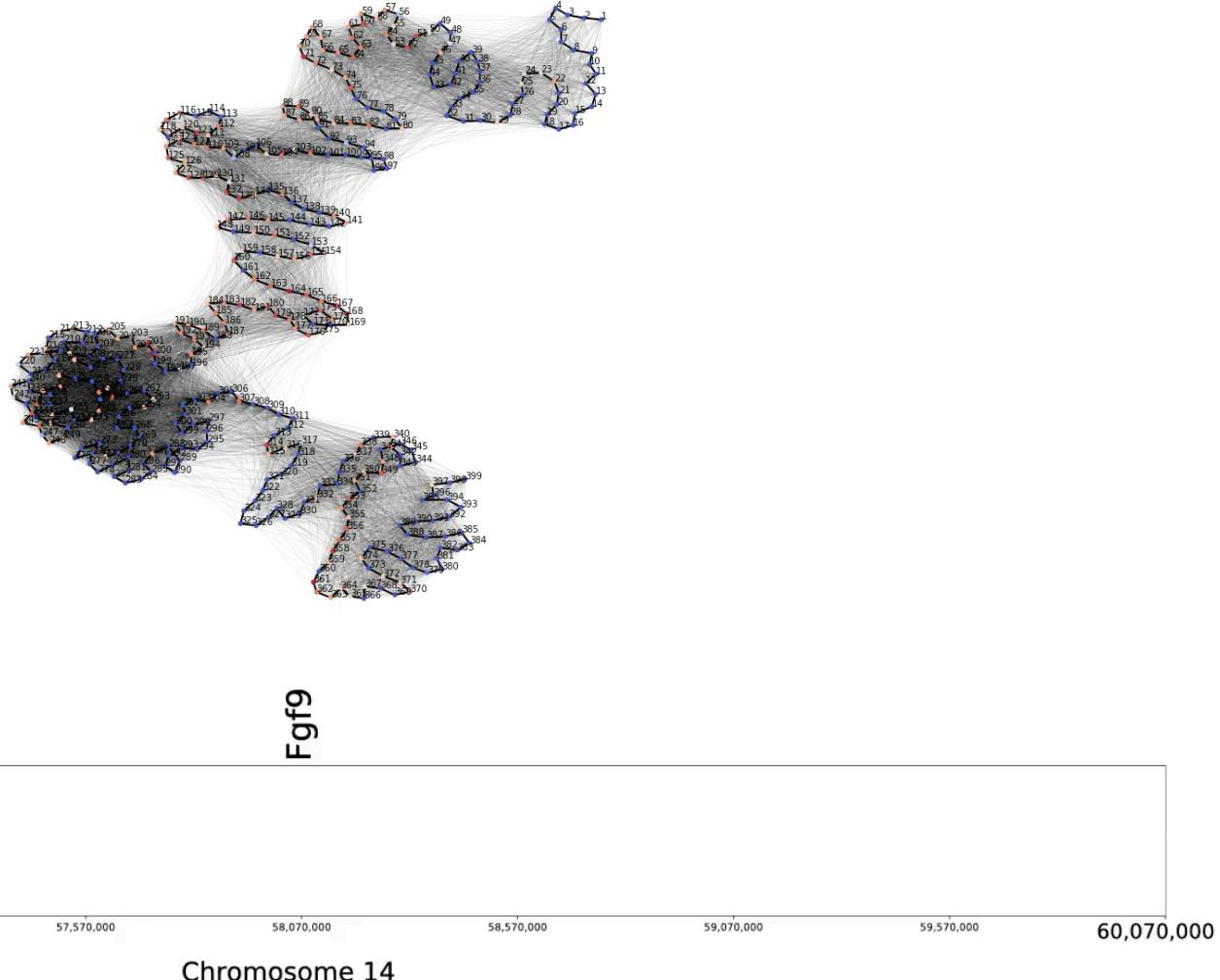
Now that we know the genes....

Can we identify regulatory elements using



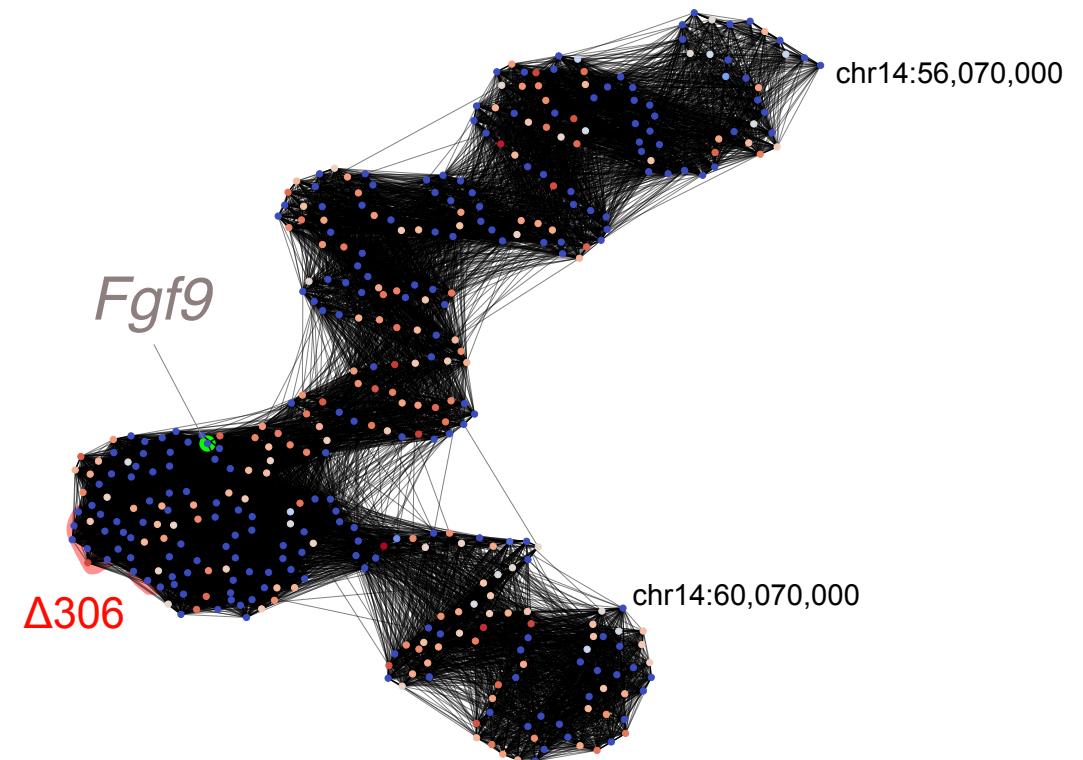
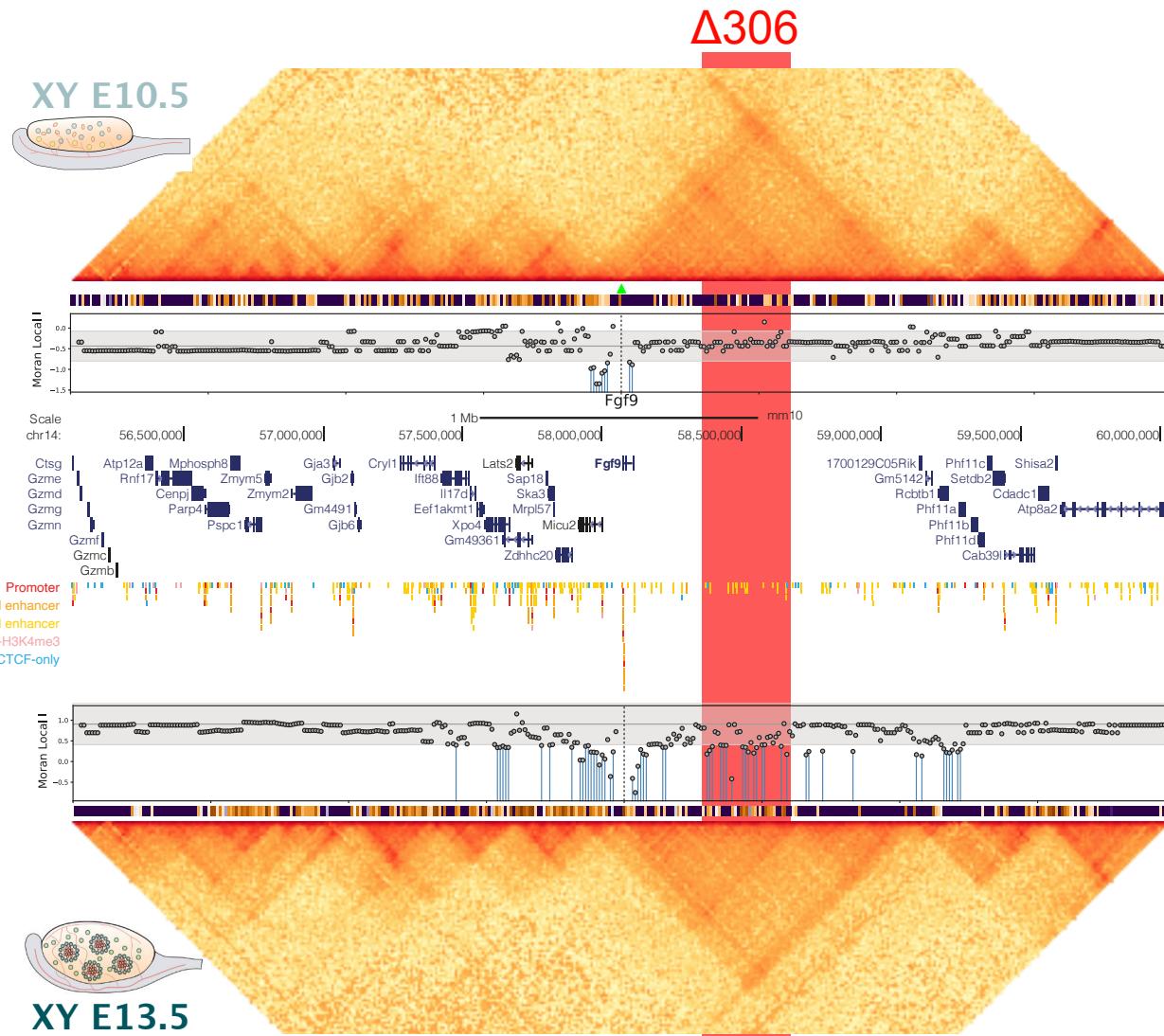
METALoci predictive mode

Fgf9 locus chr14:56,070,000-60,070,000



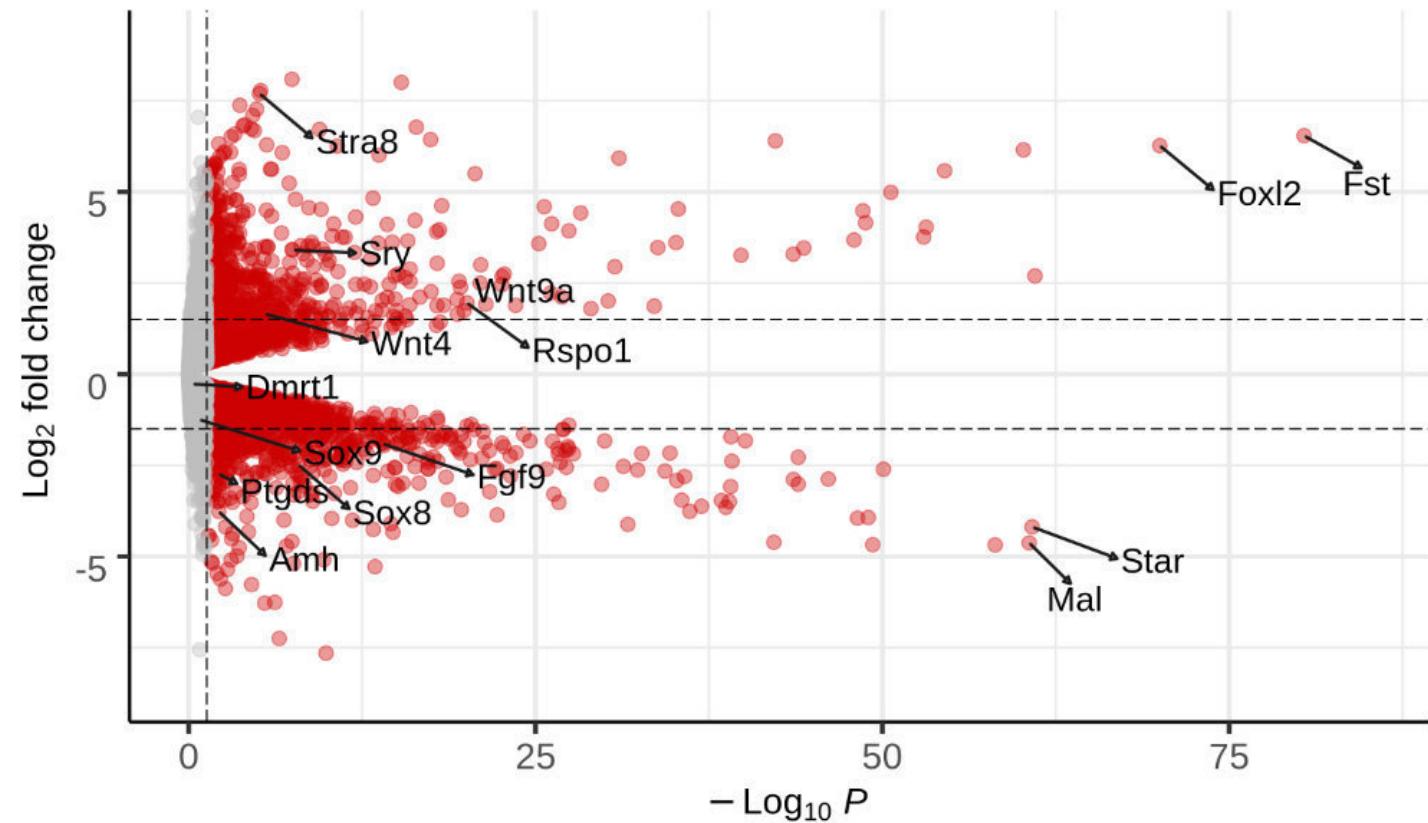
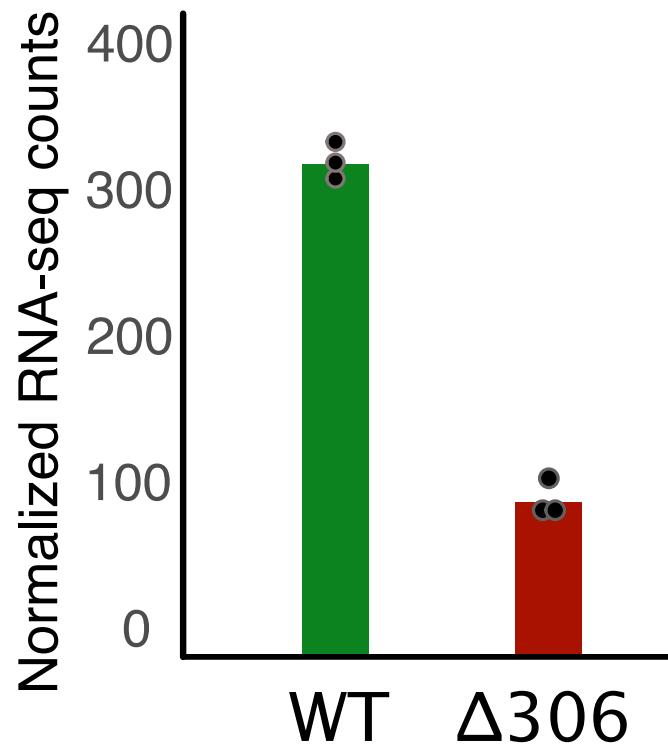
METALoci predictive mode

Fgf9 locus chr14:56,070,000-60,070,000



METALoci predictive mode

Fgf9 XY $\Delta 306$ mutant



METALoci predictive mode

Fgf9 XY Δ306 mutant

XY Wildtype



Testis

XY Δ306



Ovotestis

XX Wildtype



Ovary-like



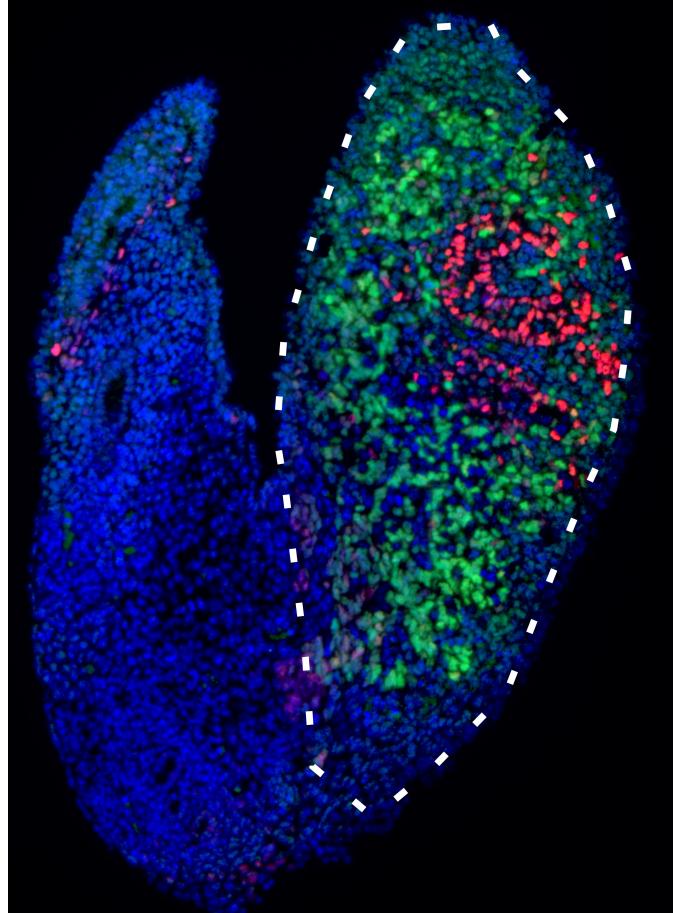
Ovary

250um

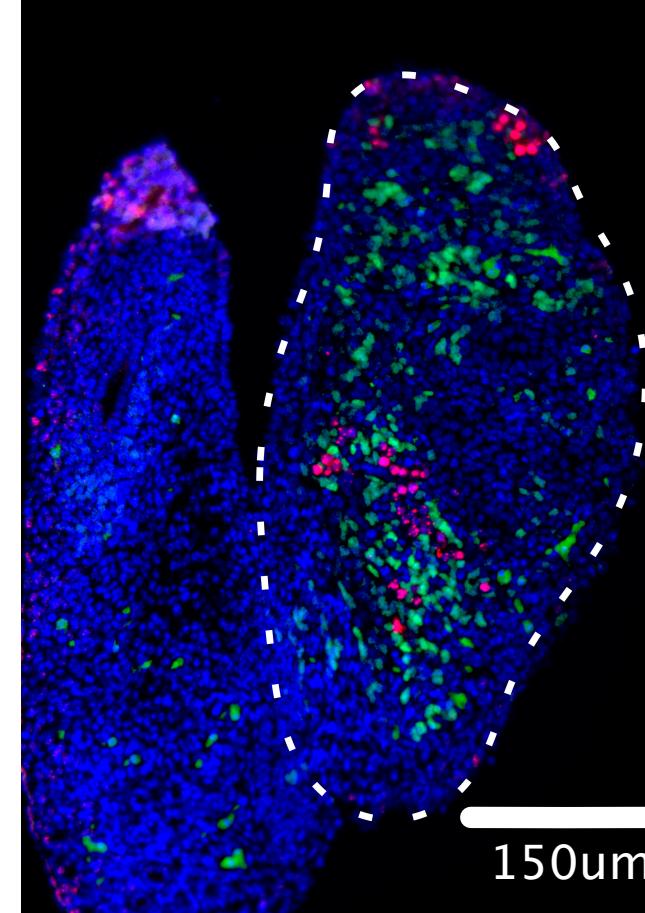
METALoci predictive mode

Fgf9 XY Δ306 mutant

FOXL2SOX9



FOXL2SYCP3



Take home messages:

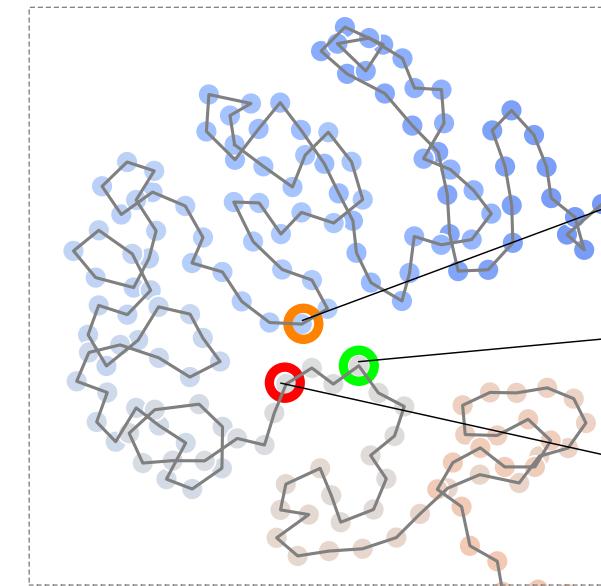
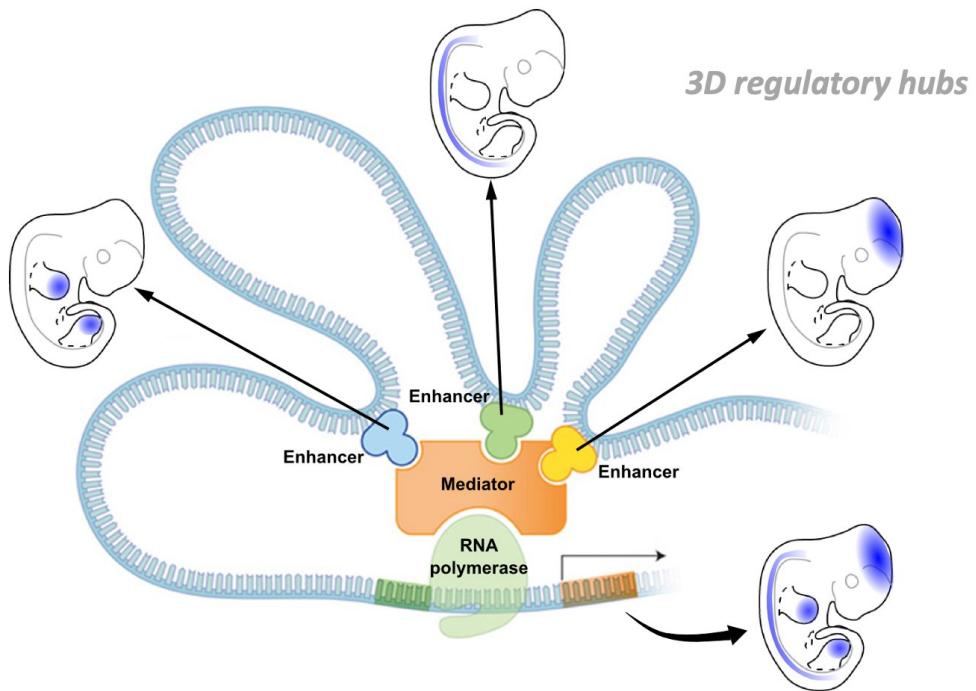
First characterization of the 3D regulatory landscape of sex determination

METALoci is an unbiased approach to quantify gene regulatory activity

METALoci is a predictive tool to identify critical regulatory loci

Discovery of a novel non-coding region controlling sex determination

Take home messages:

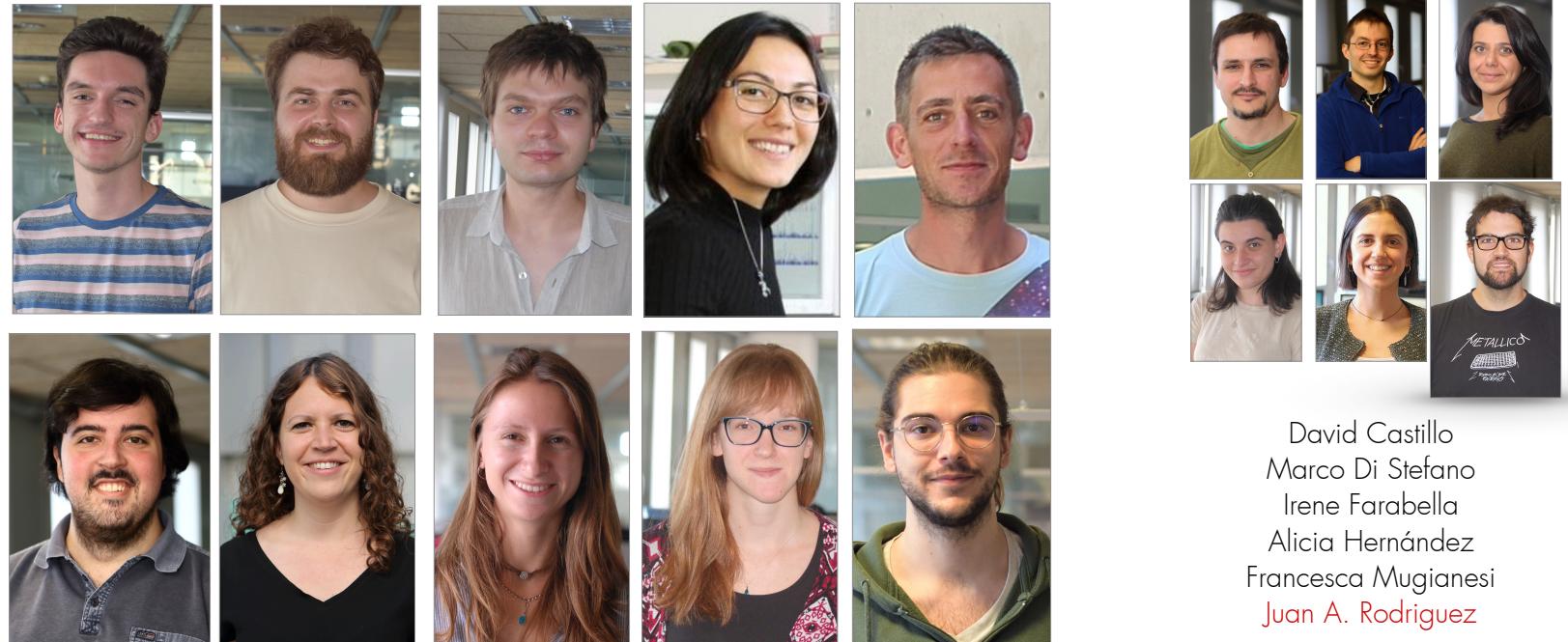


Enh13
Sox9
TESCO

<http://marciuslab.org>
<http://3DGenomes.org>



Alexander Barclay
Nikolai Bykov
Ronan Duchesne
Iana Kim
François Le Dily
Iago Maceda
Maria Martí-Marimon
Meritxell Novillo
Aleksandra Sparavvier
Leo Zuber



David Castillo
Marco Di Stefano
Irene Farabella
Alicia Hernández
Francesca Mugianesi
Juan A. Rodríguez

In collaboration with the Capel Lab (Duke U.) and Lupiañez Lab (MDC Berlin)

.: Our current sponsors :.



.: Conflict of Interest Statement :.

Marc A. Martí-Renom serves as a consultant to Acuity Spatial Genomics, Inc., and receives compensation for these services.