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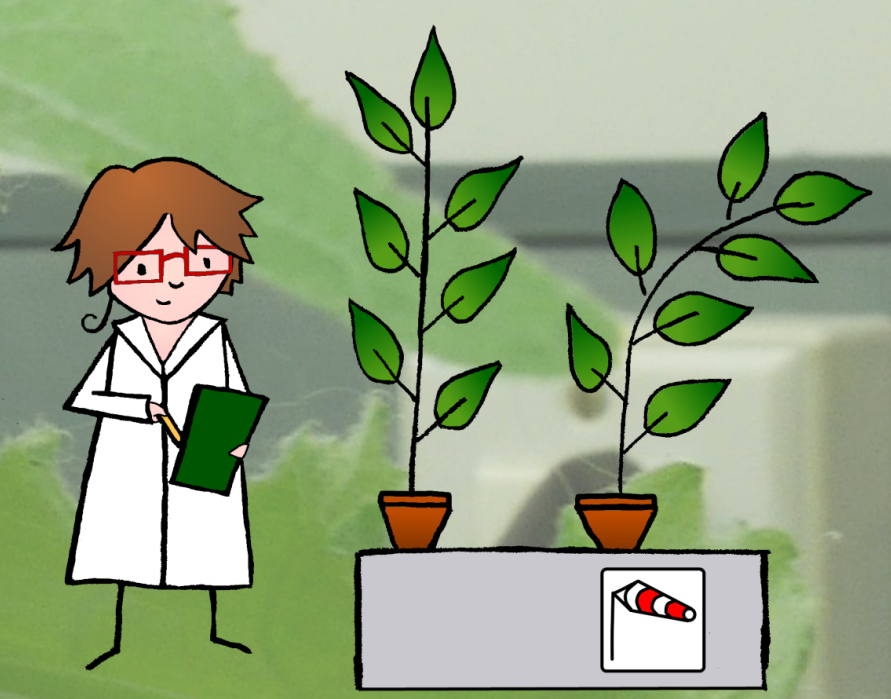
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Acclimation of *Populus* to wind: kinetic of the transcriptomic response to single or repeated stem bending.

Lise Pomiès^{1,2}, Mélanie Decourteix^{1,2}, Jérôme Franchel^{1,2}, Bruno Moulià^{2,1}, Nathalie Leblanc-Fournier^{1,2}

¹ Université Blaise Pascal, UMR 547 PIAF, 8 avenue Blaise Pascal, 63 178 Aubière

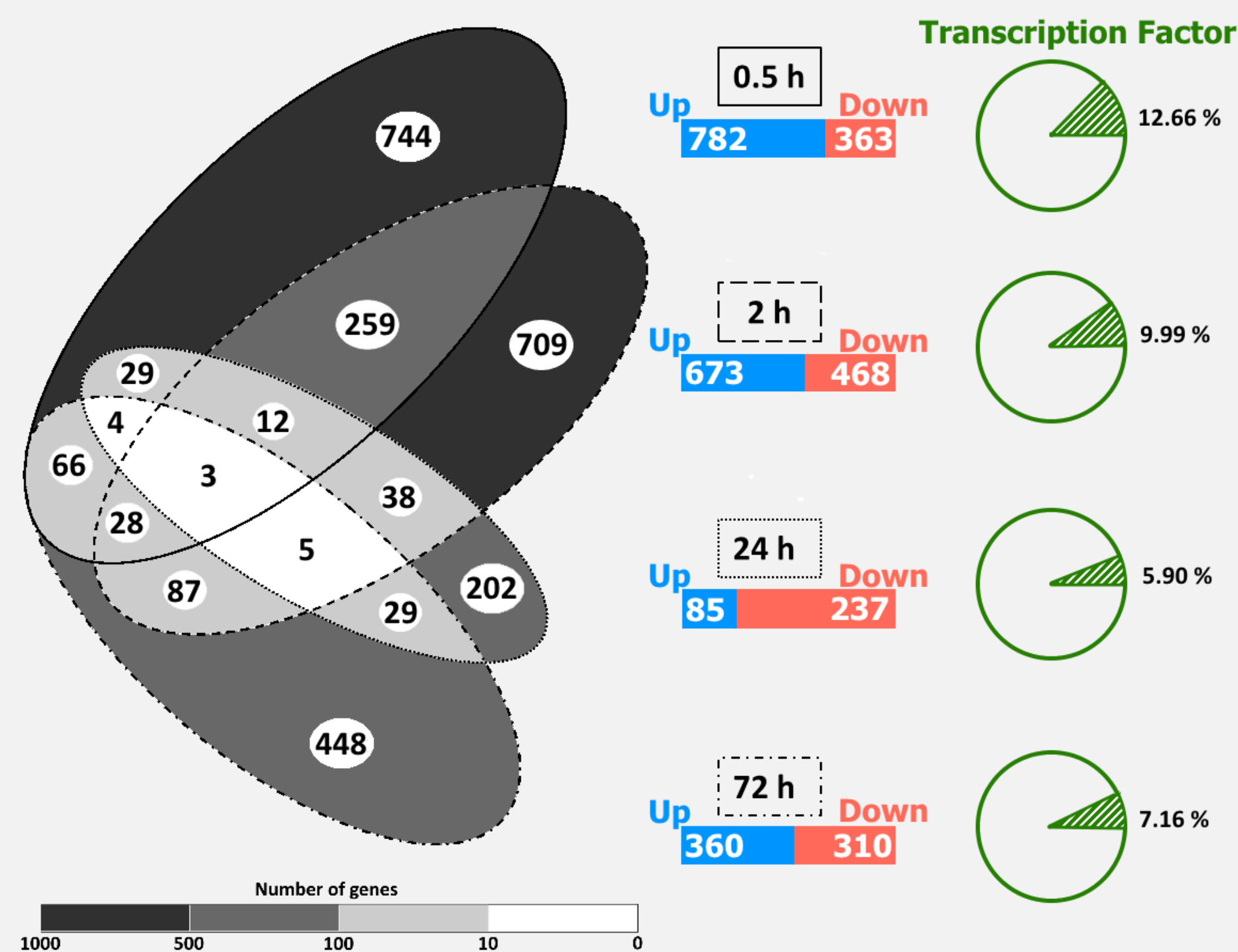
² Inra, UMR 547 PIAF, 5 chemin de Beaulieu, 63 039 Clermont-Ferrand



Storms are the 1st cause of damages to European forests. Trees are sensitive to stem bending due to chronic wind. After 1 bending, they respond by modifying their growth during several days [1]. However, repeated stem bending induce a reduction in tree responsiveness, a phenomenon called accommodation [2][3]. Due to climate changes, strong wind may be more frequent [4]. **How will trees acclimate or not to such new wind regimes?**

First global and kinetic picture of molecular responses to stem bending

Long-term time series expression profiling



Gene expression modifications were assessed at 0.5 h, 2 h, 24 h and 72 h after a **transitory controlled bending** (with Affymetrix microarray).

→ **2,633 differentially expressed genes (DEG)**

→ 75.6% of DEG are detected at 0.5 h and 2 h after the bending

→ Many DEG are **detected at several time points.**

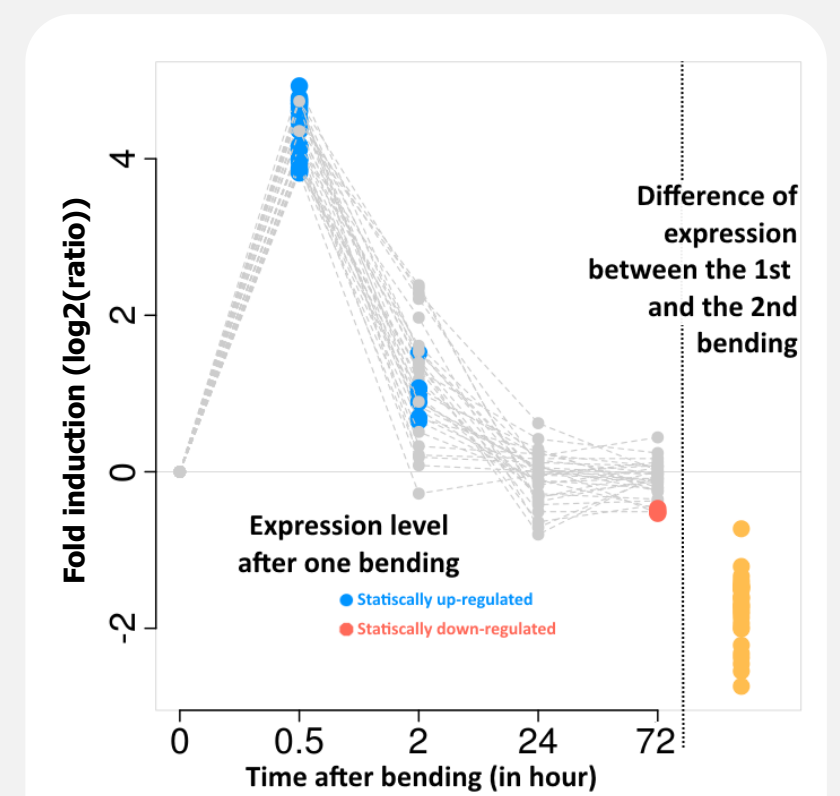
Identification & characterization of temporal patterns in gene expression

k-means clustering

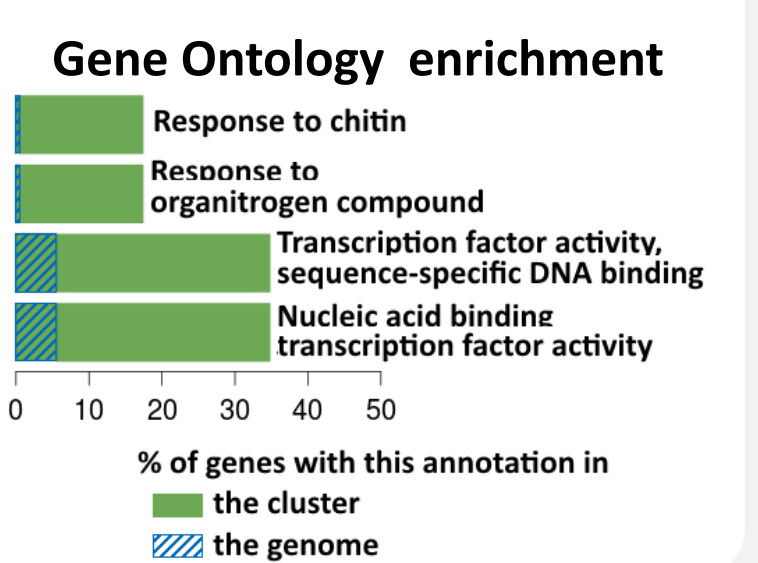
⇒ **40 different temporal patterns (clusters)**

Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment in each cluster

⇒ Temporal patterns are assigned a biological function



Example: Cluster 4
31 genes up-regulated 0,5h after 1 bending with a transcription factor activity GO affiliation.



Refinement of the early time course analysis for the biological processes involved

Refined time course analysis using **Q-PCR** → 6 extra time points between 0,5 h and 24 h for representative genes of each cluster

Chosen **genes represent the temporal patterns and the GO annotations** of the cluster.

BP annotation of clusters of up-regulated genes

- Protein phosphorylation
- Regulation of jasmonic acid mediated pathway
- Jasmonic acid mediated pathway
- Response to hormone
- Response to chitine
- Regulation of nucleic acid templated transcription
- Regulation of cellular process
- Regulation of defense response
- Defense response

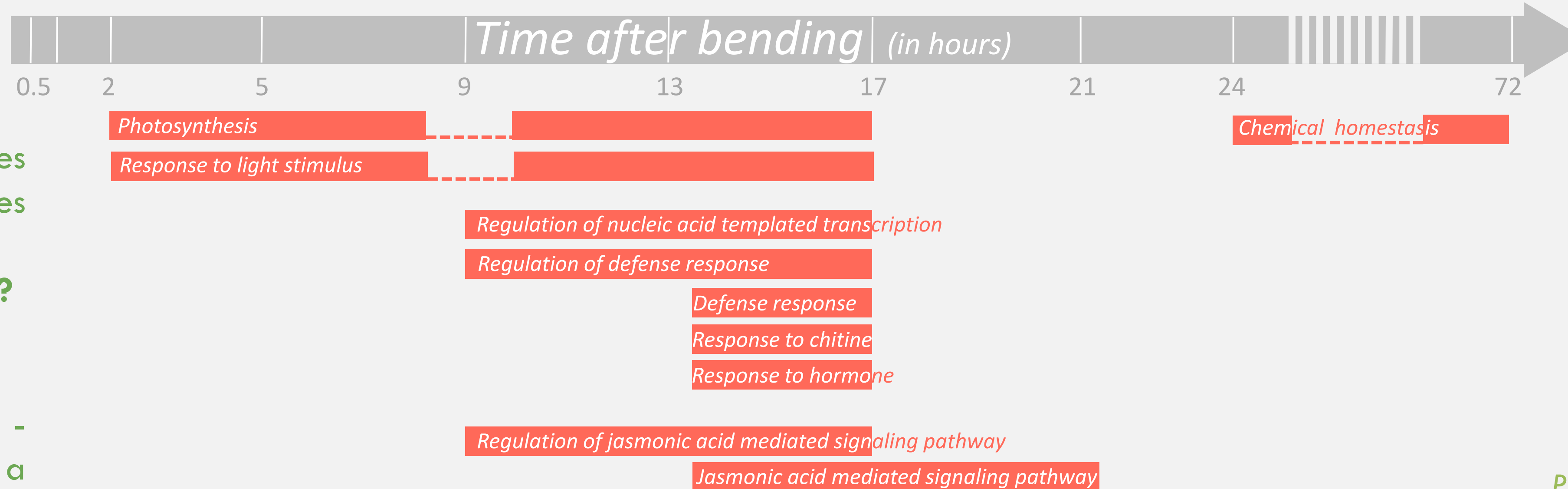
BP annotation of clusters of down-regulated genes

- Carbohydrate derivative metabolic process
- Cell wall organization or biogenesis

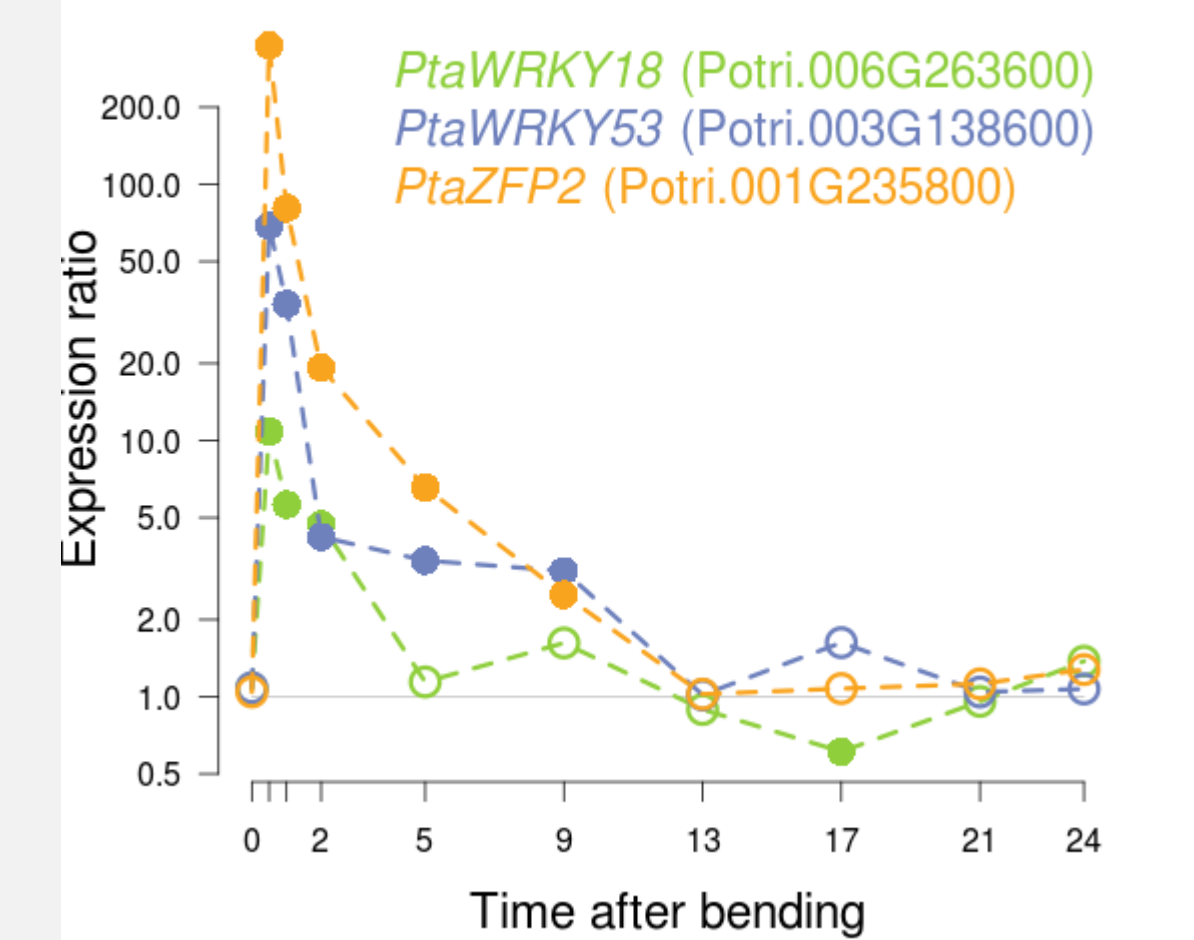
• **Early regulated genes** are related to “stress response”:
- Transcription factors families (e.g. fig. A);
- Jasmonic acid and ethylene signaling (e.g. fig. B).

• Some early up-regulated genes are down-regulated in later stages (see *PtaJAZ2* fig. B)
→ **negative feedback mechanism?**

• **Late up-regulated genes** (21 h - 72 h), seem to be linked to a remodeling of cell wall-related processes.

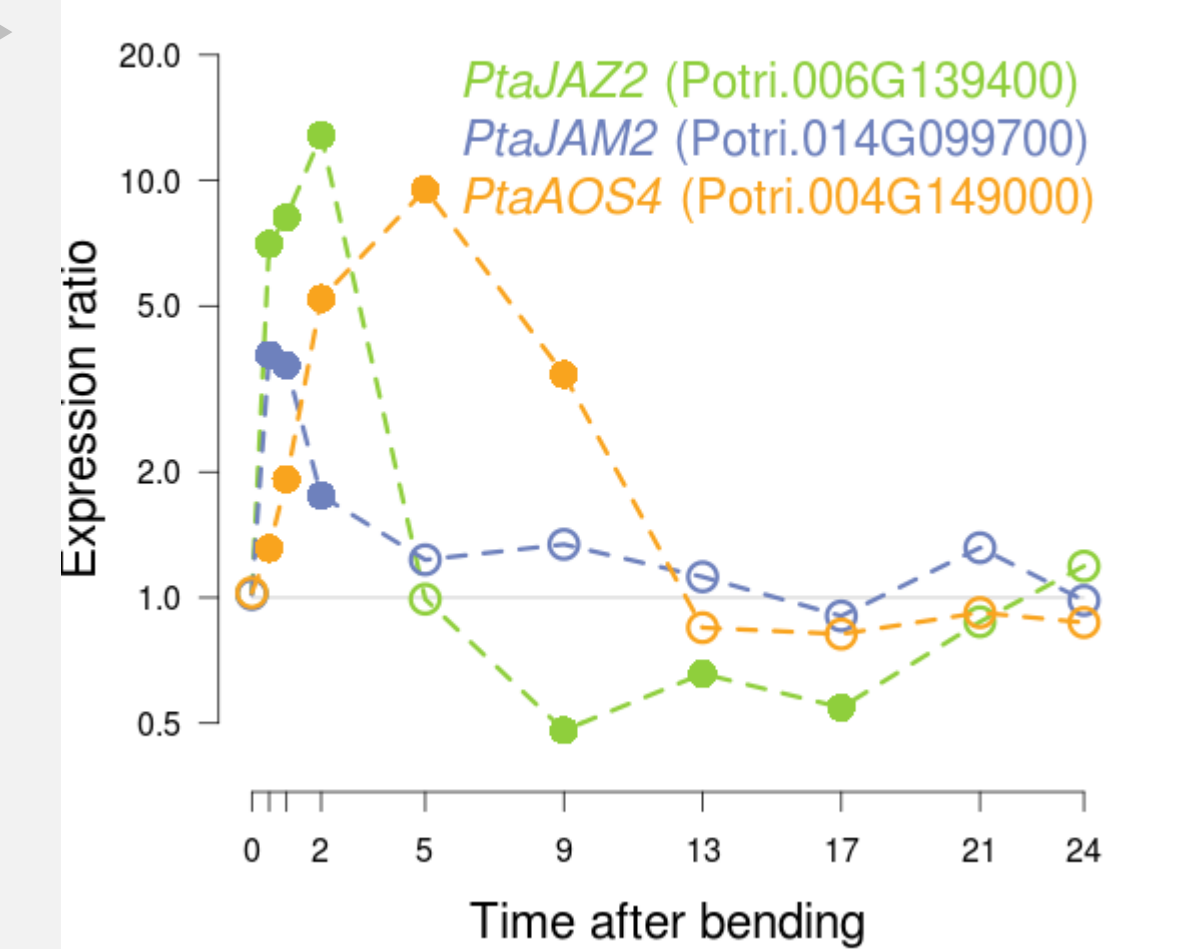


A - Transcription Factor



PtaWRKY18, *PtaWRKY53*, *PtaZFP2* (**C2H2**): transcription factors

B - Jasmonic Acid (JA)



PtaJAZ2, *PtaJAM2* JA-induced transcription factors, negative regulator of JA responses
PtaAOS4, allene oxide synthase, JA biosynthetic pathway

Toward a better understanding of the accommodation process

3 types of genes:

Objectives: to investigate the extent of the molecular accommodation and to identify potential molecular actors.

Gene expression 0.5 h after 1 bending

vs.

Gene expression 0.5 h after 2 bending (24 h interval)

96% of the early regulated genes after a 1st bending are **less regulated** after a 2nd bending

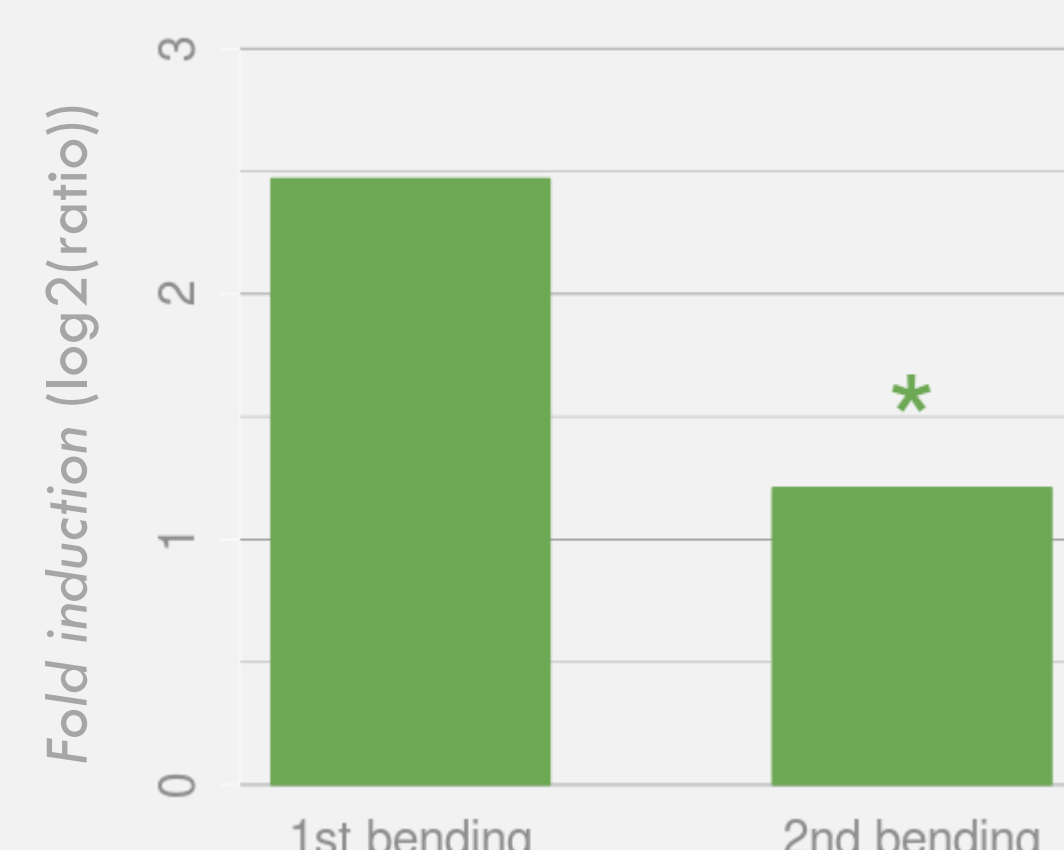
This mechanism may allow the plant to **avoid over-reaction** to successive bending.

Accommodated

Less regulated after the 2nd bending, than after the 1st one.

1,098 genes

Example : *PtaWRKY18* (Potri.006G63600)

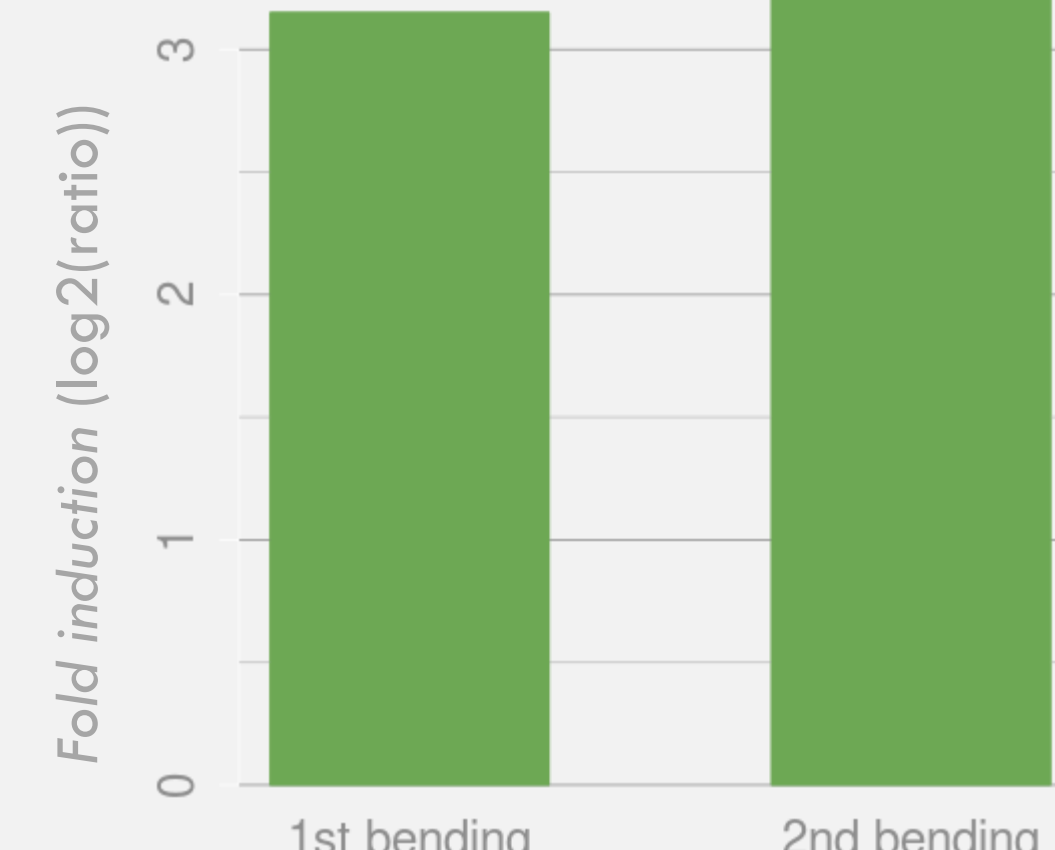


Non Accommodated

Equally regulated after the 2nd bending, than after the 1st one.

44 genes

Example : *PtaHRD* (Potri.006G021000)

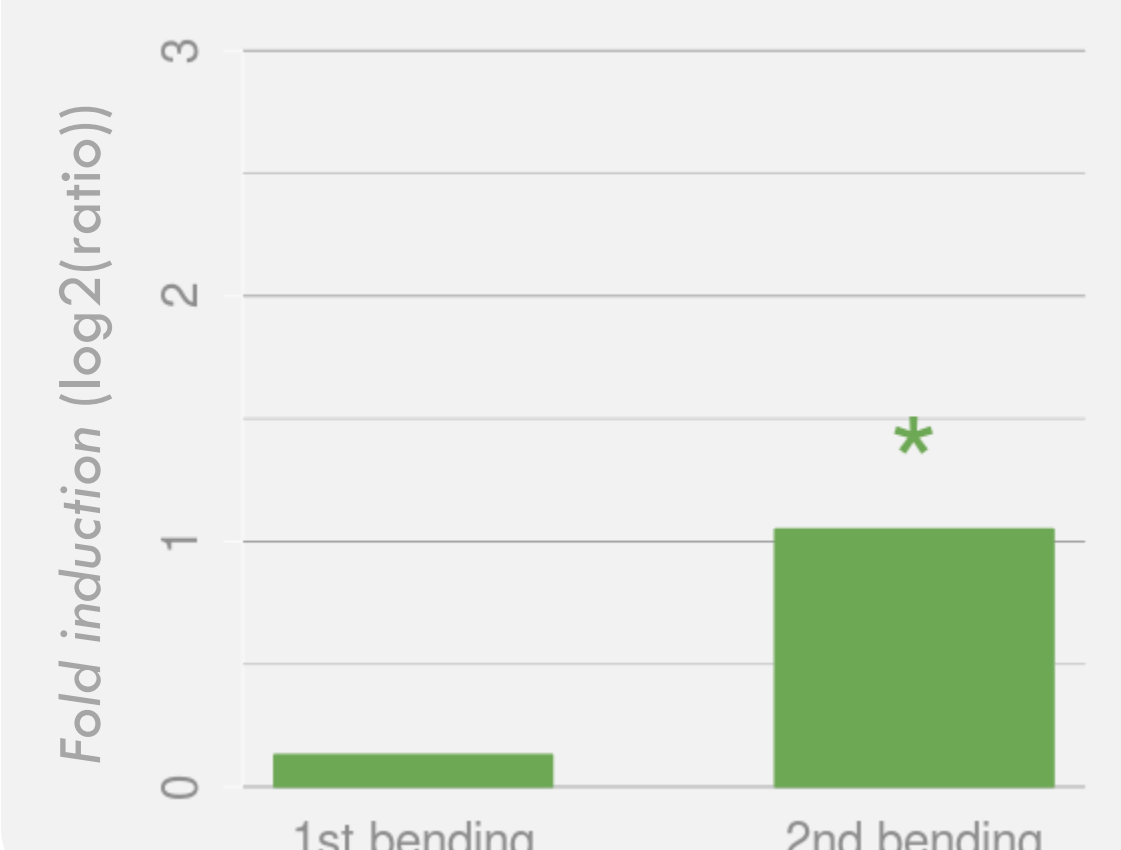


Newly Regulated

Regulated after the 2nd bending only.

18 genes

Example : *PtaPEROX* (Potri.007G096200)



Perspectives : We are currently working on new methods of gene network inference to understand the fine regulation of this mechanical signaling pathway.

[1] C. Coutand, L. Martin, N. Leblanc-Fournier, M. Decourteix, J.-L. Julien, and B. Moulià. 2009. “Strain mechanosensing quantitatively controls diameter growth and *PtaZFP2* gene expression in poplar”. *Plant Physiol.* 151(1): 223–32

[2] L. Martin, N. Leblanc-Fournier, J.-L. Julien, B. Moulià, and C. Coutand. 2010. “Acclimation kinetics of physiological and molecular responses of plants to multiple mechanical loadings.” *J. Exp. Bot.* 61(9): 2403–12

[3] N. Leblanc-Fournier, L. Martin, C. Lenne, and M. Decourteix. 2014. “To respond or not to respond, the recurring question in plant mechanosensitivity.” *Front. Plant Sci.*, 5: 401

[4] R. J. Haarsma, W. Hazeleger, C. Severijns, H. de Vries, A. Sterl, R. Bintanja, G. J. van Oldenborgh, and H. W. van den Brink. 2013. “More hurricanes to hit western Europe due to global warming”. *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 40(9): 1783–1788