



# Réseaux de gènes contrôlant la biologie de l'embryon de porc préimplantatoire et des cellules souches pluripotentes révélées par une approche multi-omiques à l'échelle cellule unique

Hervé Acloque

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# Gene networks controlling functional cell interactions in the pig embryo revealed by omics studies

Hervé Acloque

GABI Laboratory INRAE Jouy en Josas France

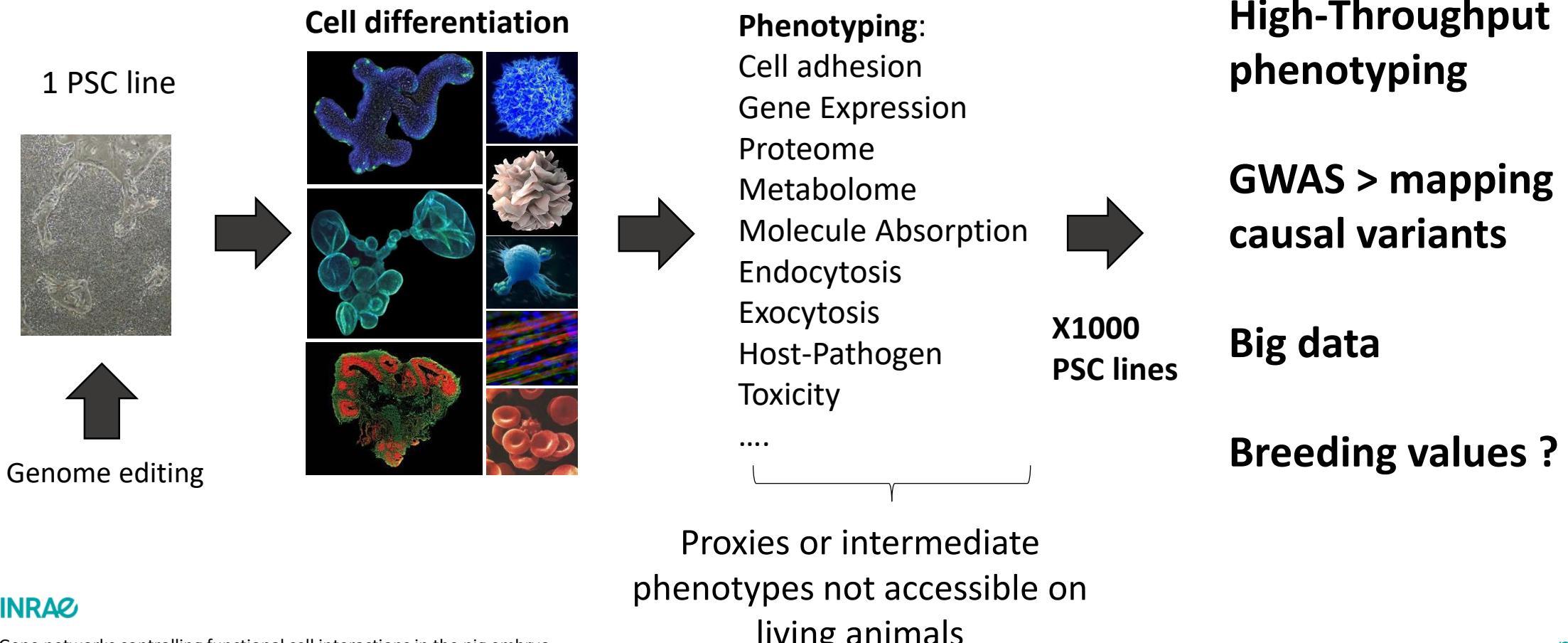
[herve.acloque@inrae.fr](mailto:herve.acloque@inrae.fr)



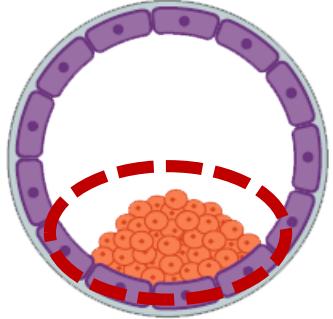
**INRAE**

## ➤ Pluripotent stem cells in livestock: a platform for high throughput phenotyping

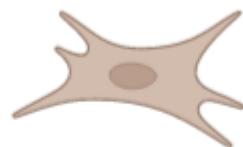
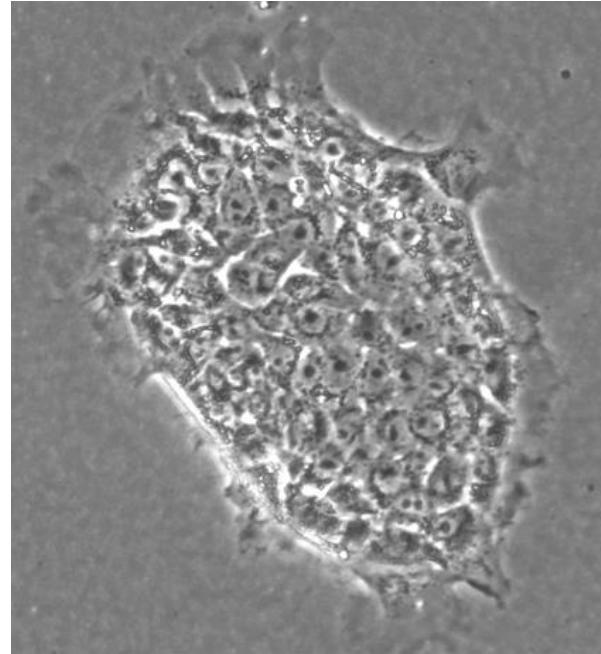
A challenge for animal production: phenotyping complex traits and predicting breeding values for those traits



## ➤ Producing standardized true PSCs for livestock species is still challenging



Amplification of Epiblast cells



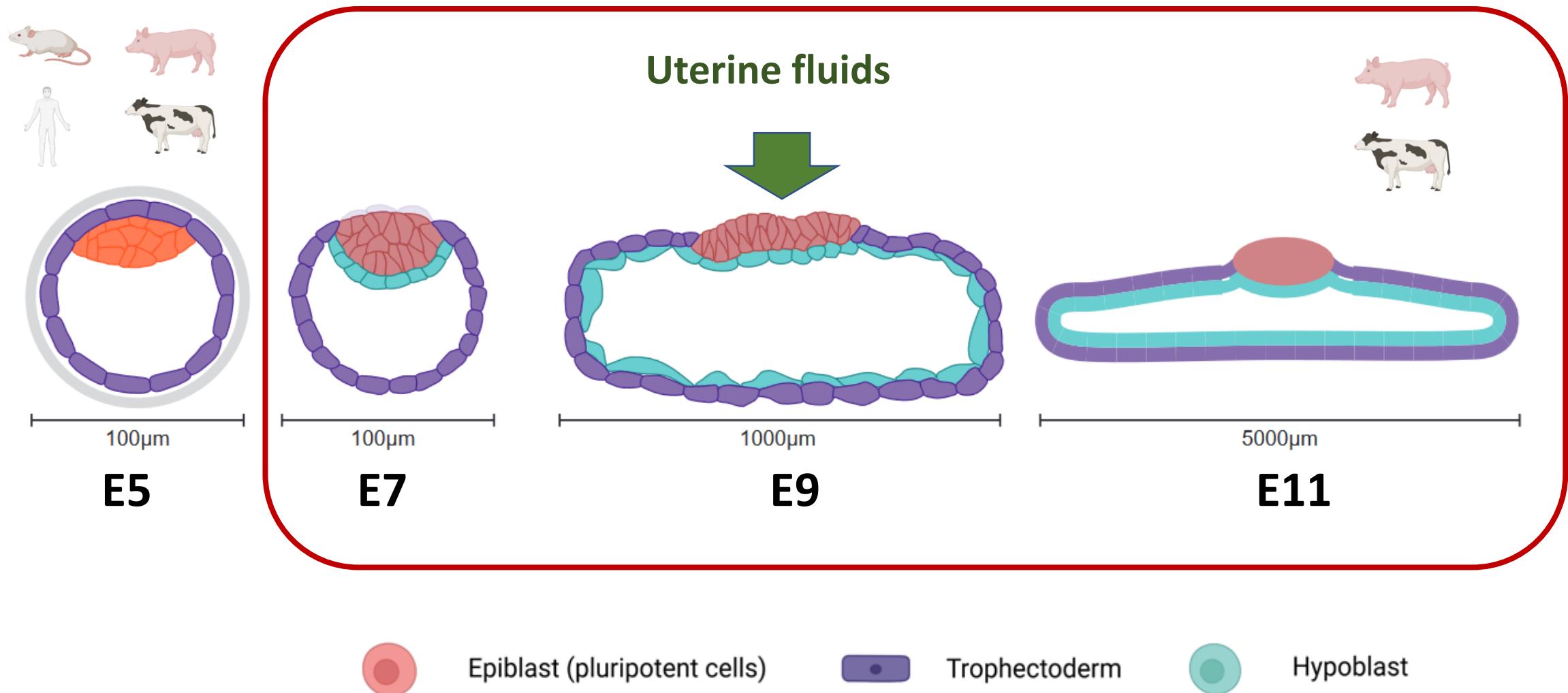
Chemically defined medium

Reprogramming cocktail  
(OCT4, SOX2, KLF4, MYC)

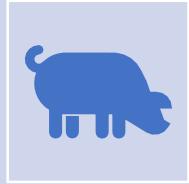


Heterogeneity ?  
Stability overtime ?  
Differentiation potential ?

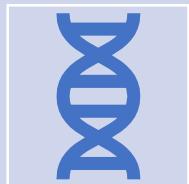
## What can we learn from the embryo ?



## > Working hypothesis

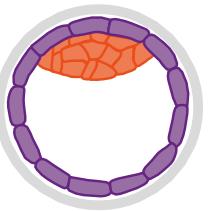


Paracrine regulations specific to pig embryonic development are not taken into consideration for the establishment of pig's pluripotent lines

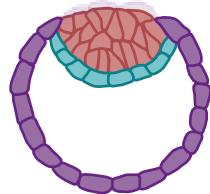


Embryonic regulatory networks are not necessarily conserved in mammals

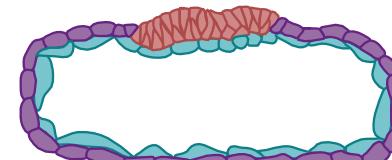
## > Methods



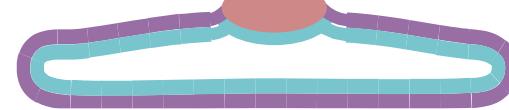
Early blastocyst E5



Hatched blastocyst E7



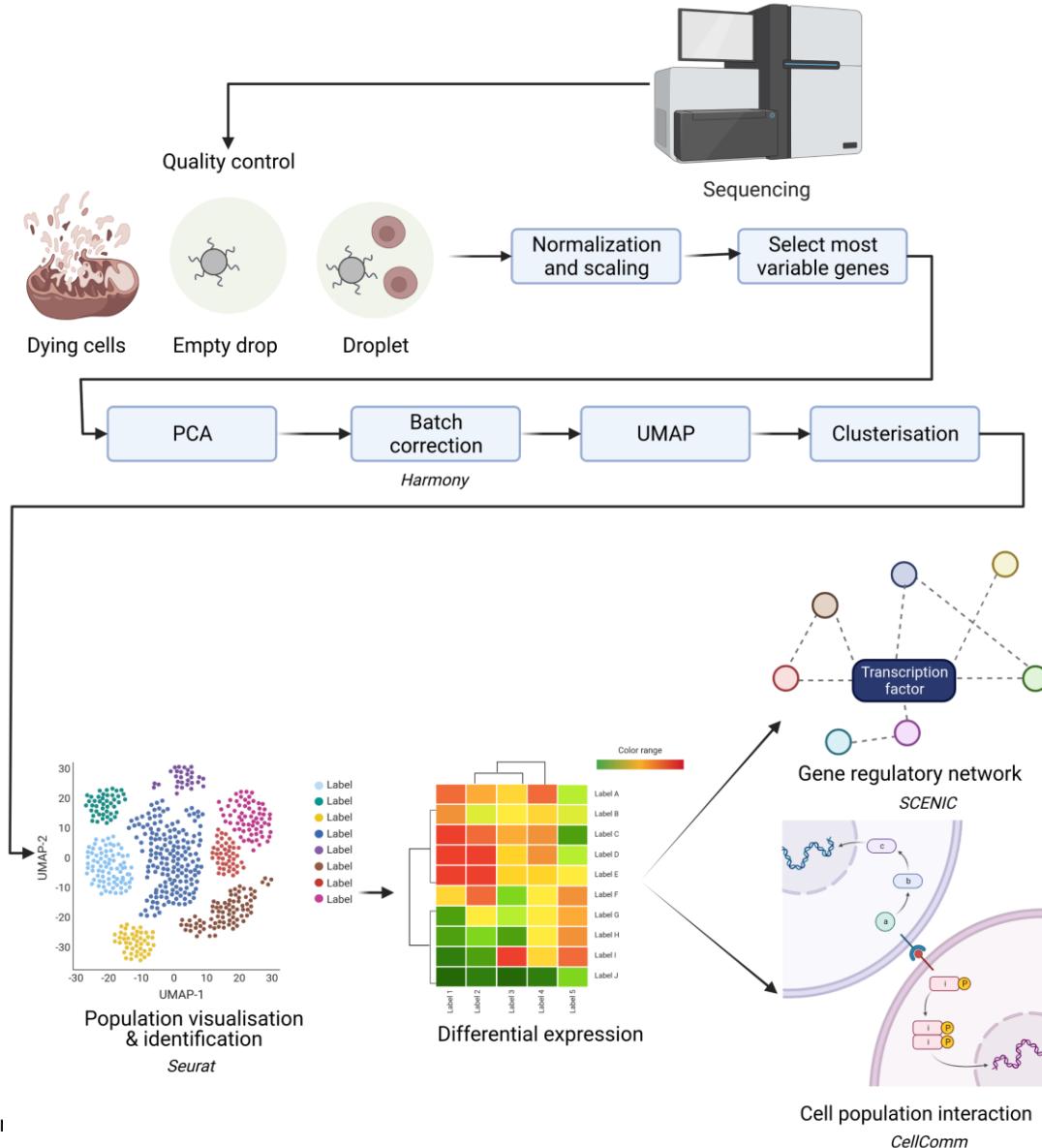
Spherical blastocyst E9



Ovoid blastocyst E11

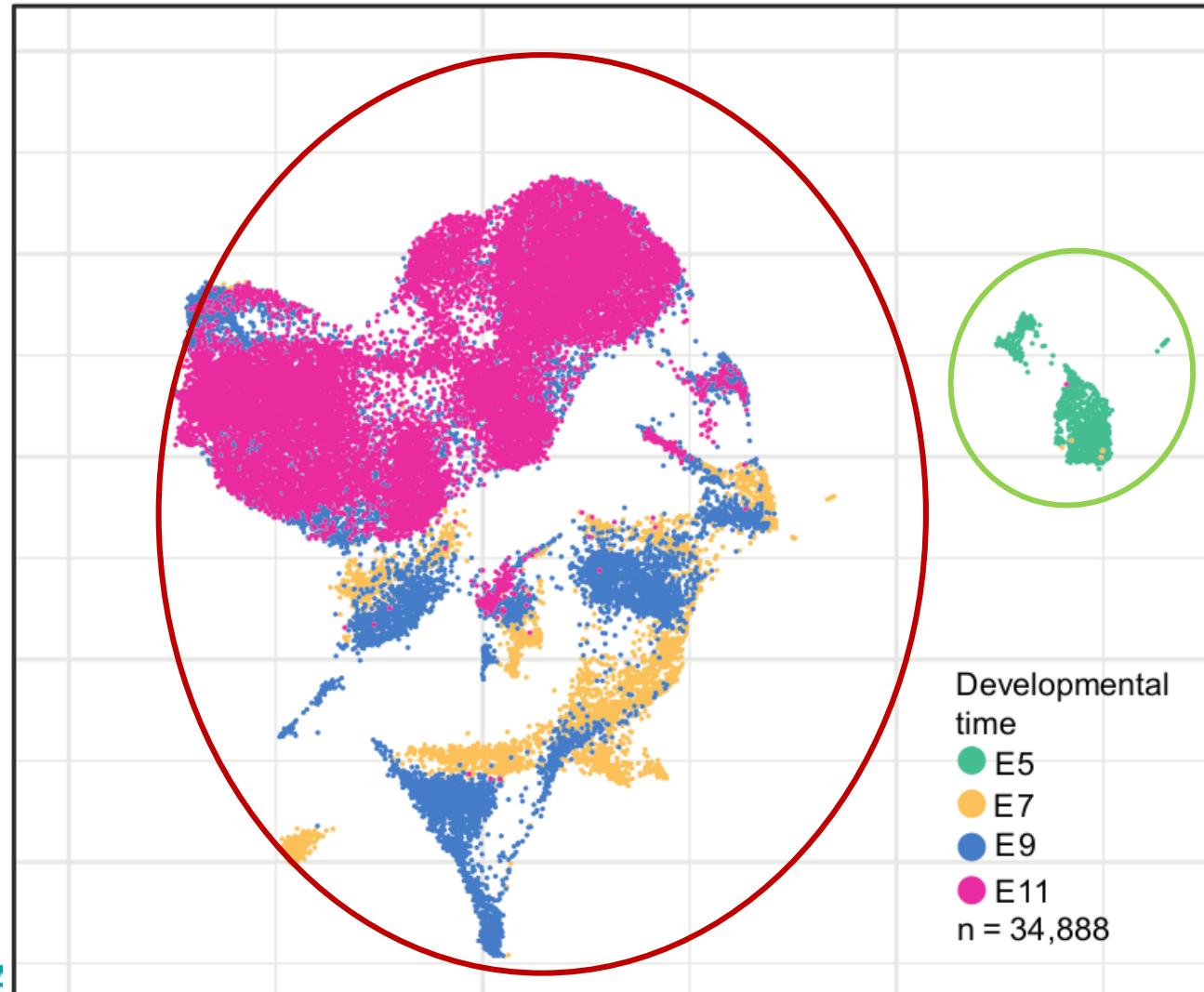
Single-cell RNAseq	2 libraries (~2000 cells each)	4 libraries (~1000 cells each)	4 libraries (~3000 cells each)	2 libraries (~6000 cells each)
Uterine fluids	8 sows	4 sows	3 sows	3 sows
Single-cell multiomics (scATAC-seq + scRNA-seq)	0	1 library (~2000 cell's nucleus)	2 libraries (~4000 cell's nucleus)	4 libraries (~8000 cell's nucleus)

# > Methods

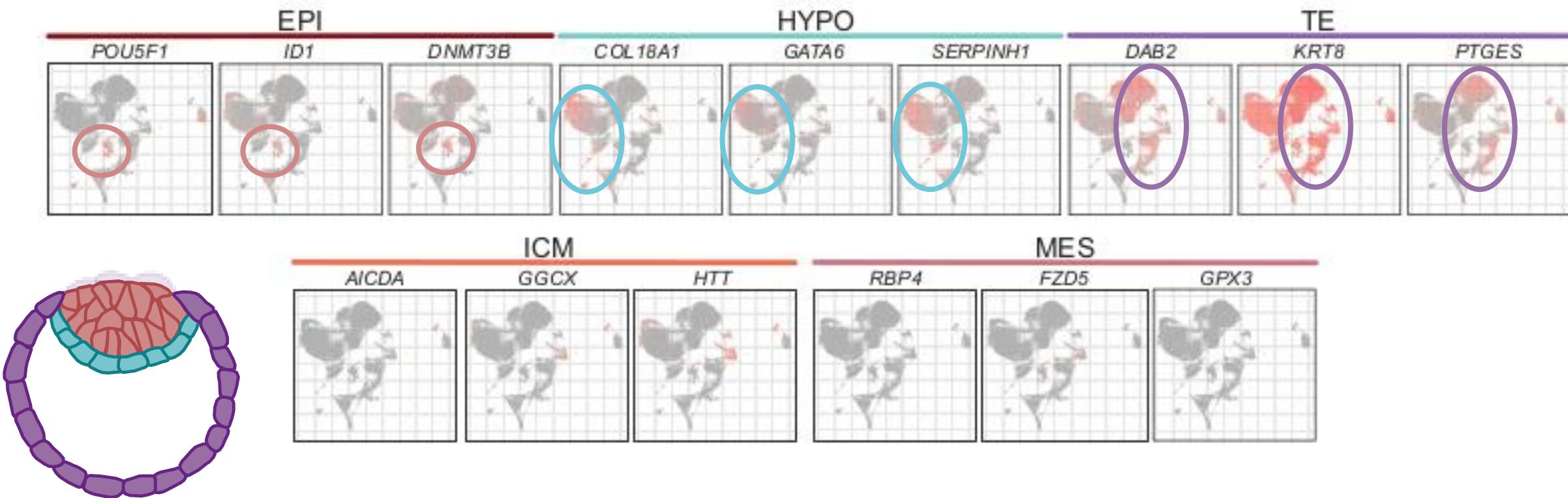


➤ scRNAseq allows the identification of cell populations constituting the embryo

UMAP  
of 34,888 cells



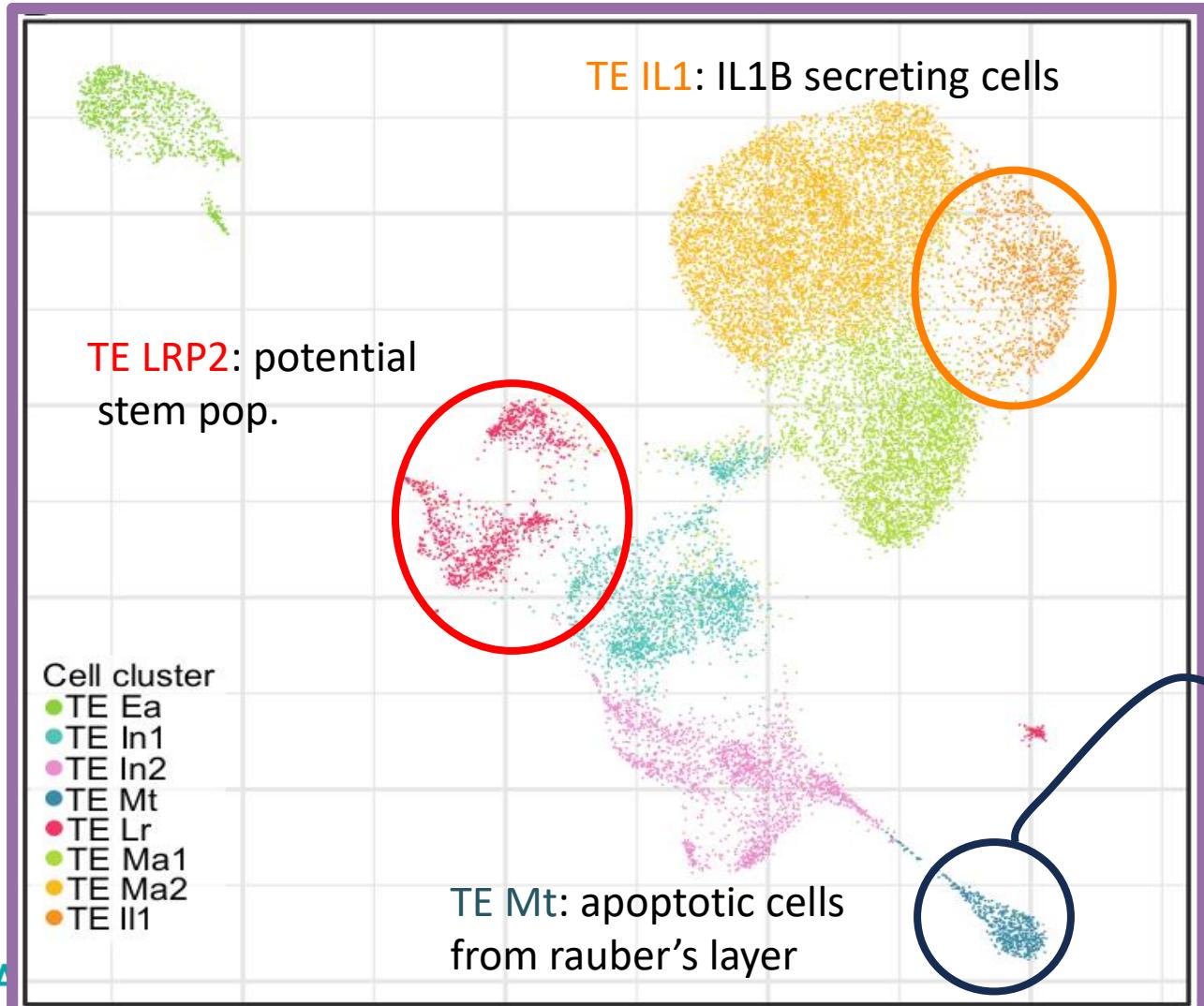
➤ scRNASeq allows the identification of cell populations constituting the embryo



- scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

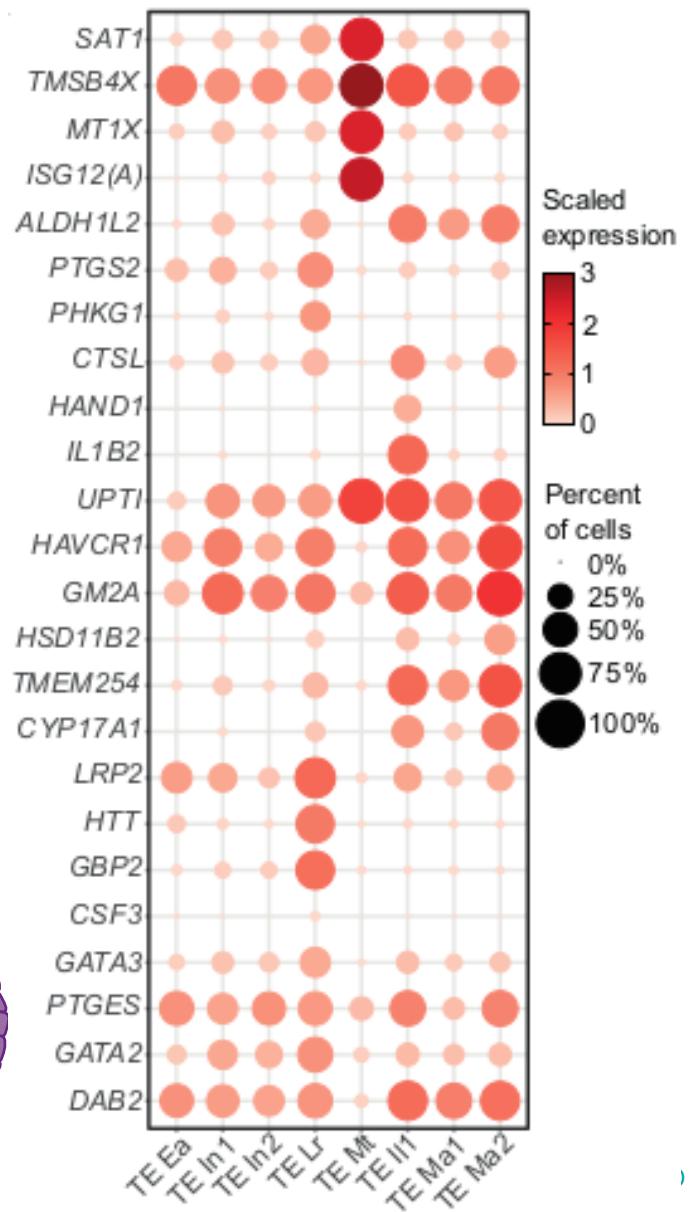
## Identify new subpopulations

UMAP of  
18,239 TE cells



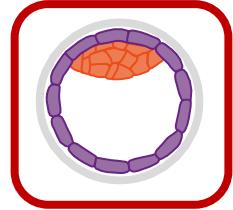
Gene networks controlling functional cell interactions in the pig embryo

16 Octobre 2023/ EPIPHASE meeting / Hervé Acloque

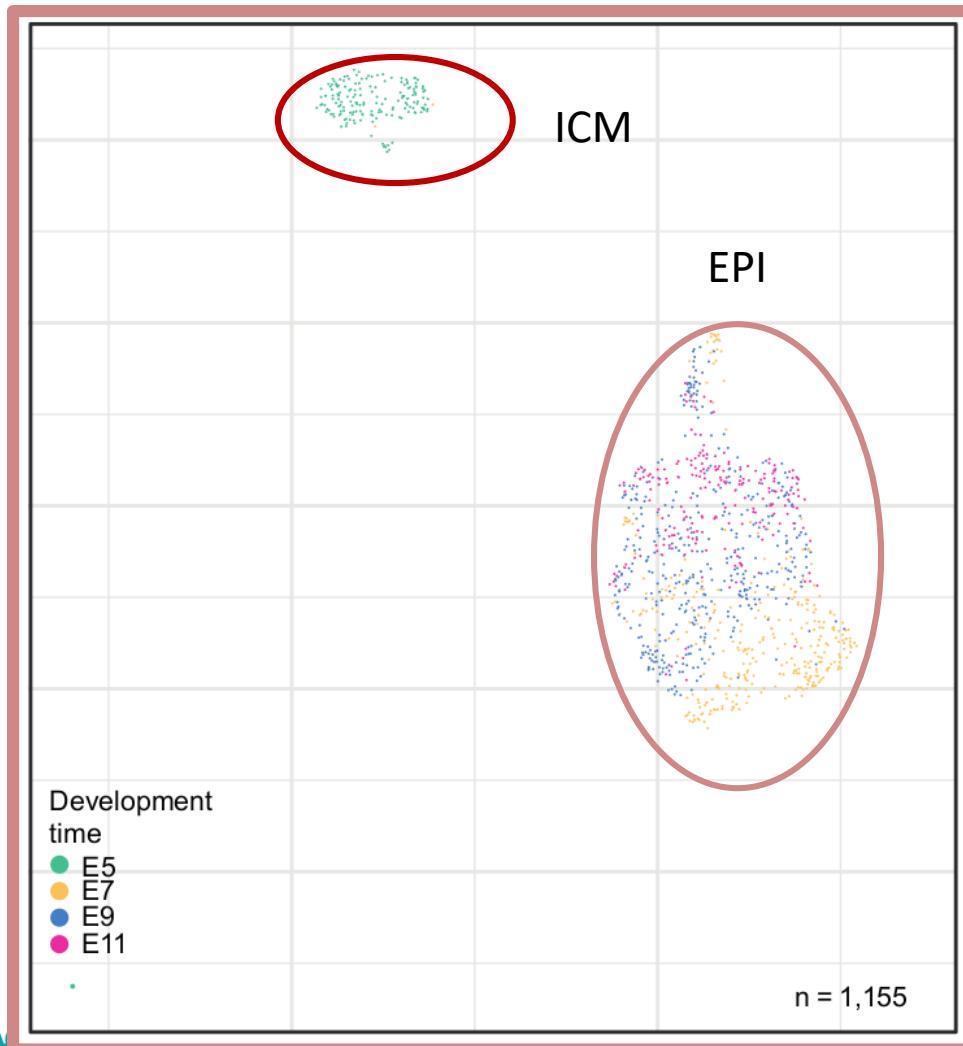


➤ scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

## Identify subpopulations

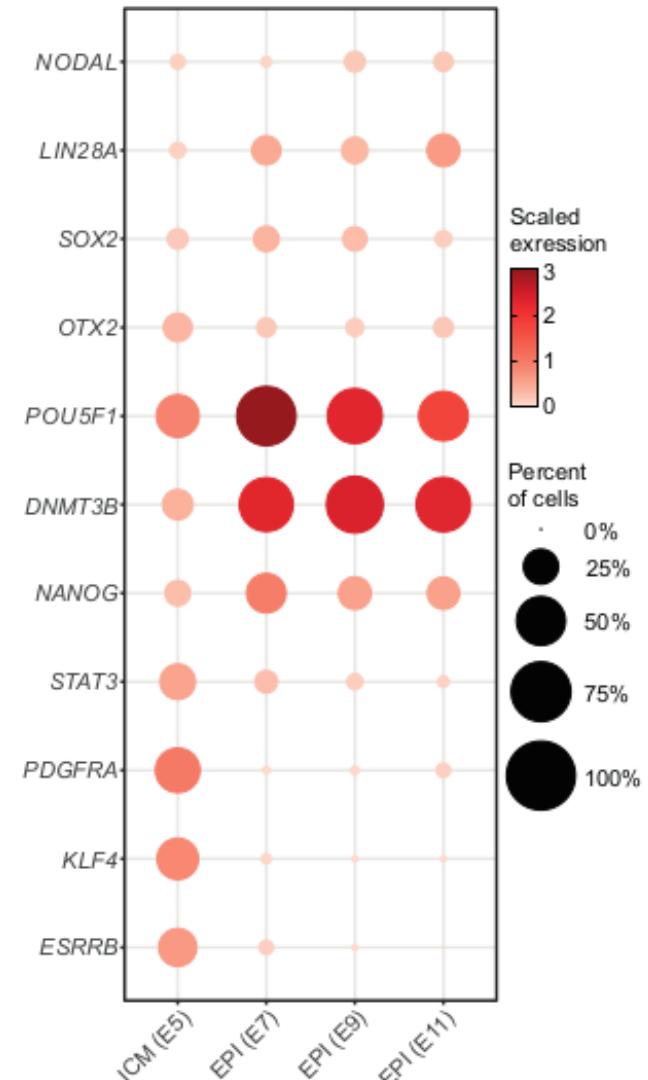
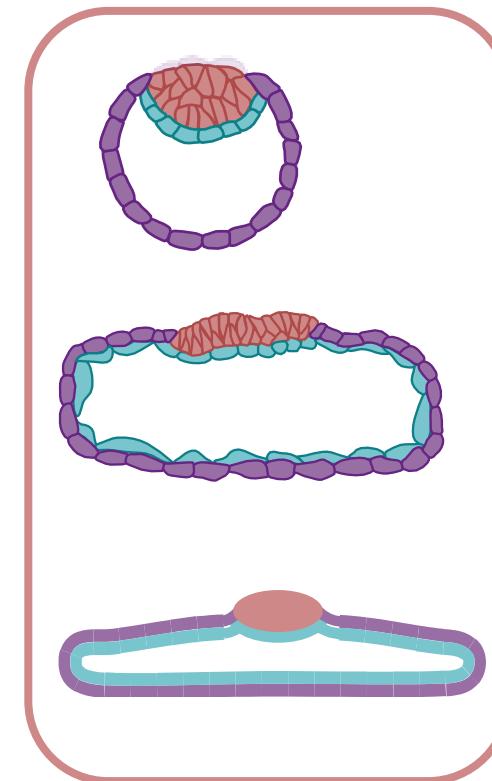


UMAP of 1'155  
EPI cells



Gene networks controlling functional cell interactions in the pig embryo

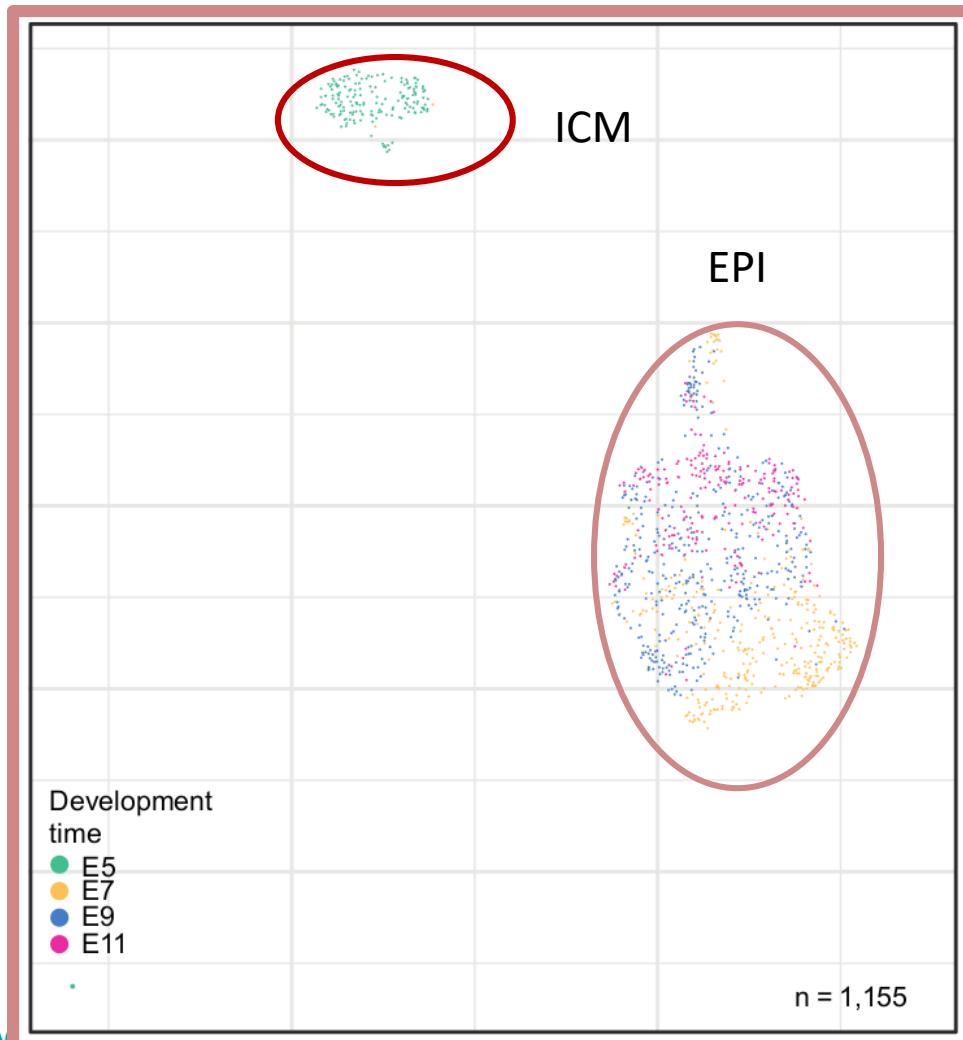
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➤ scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

## Identify subpopulations

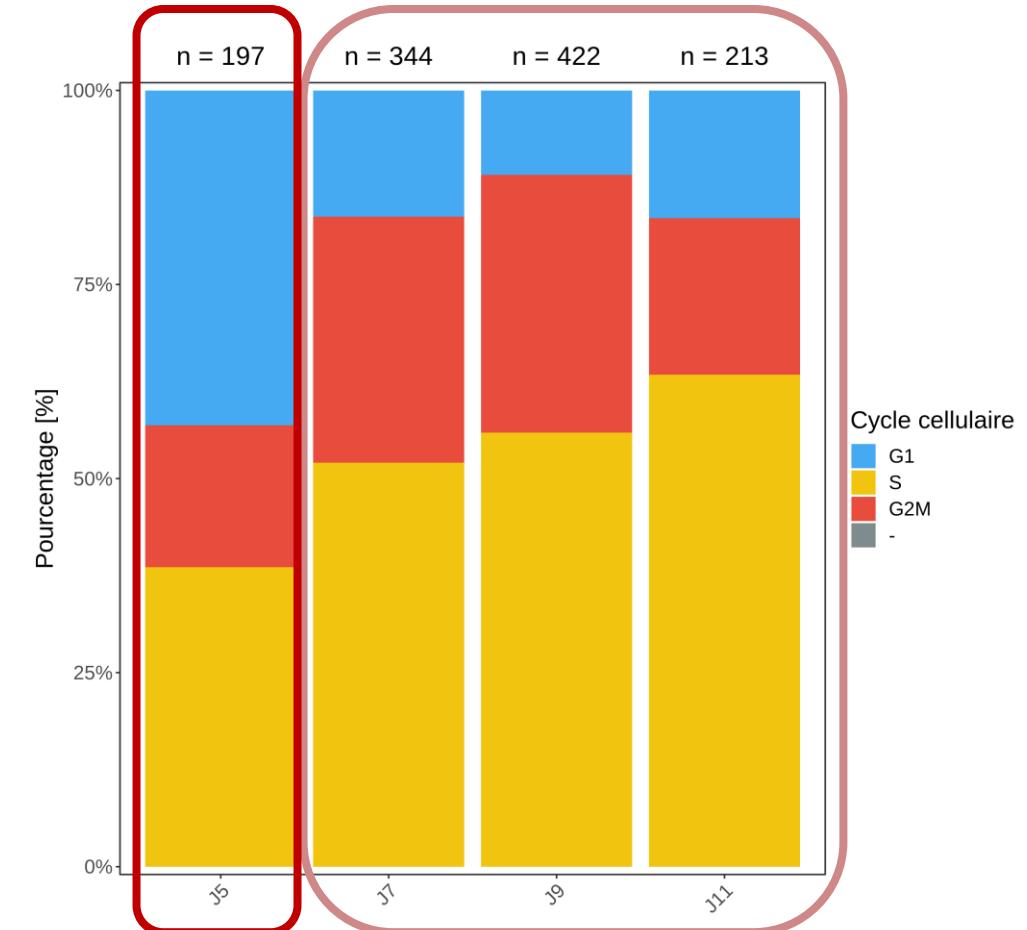
UMAP of 1'155 EPI cells



INRA

Gene networks controlling functional cell interactions in the pig embryo

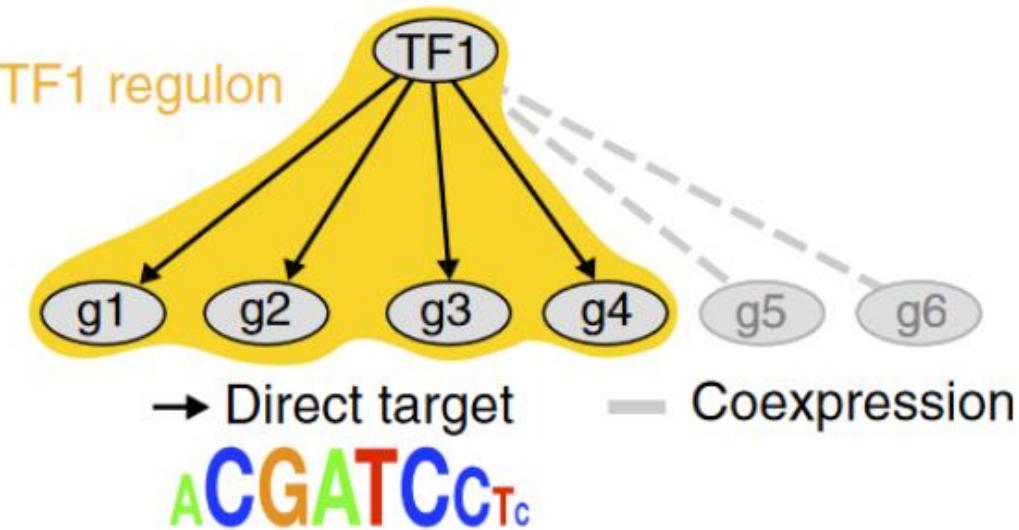
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- scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

## Identify modules of gene regulation

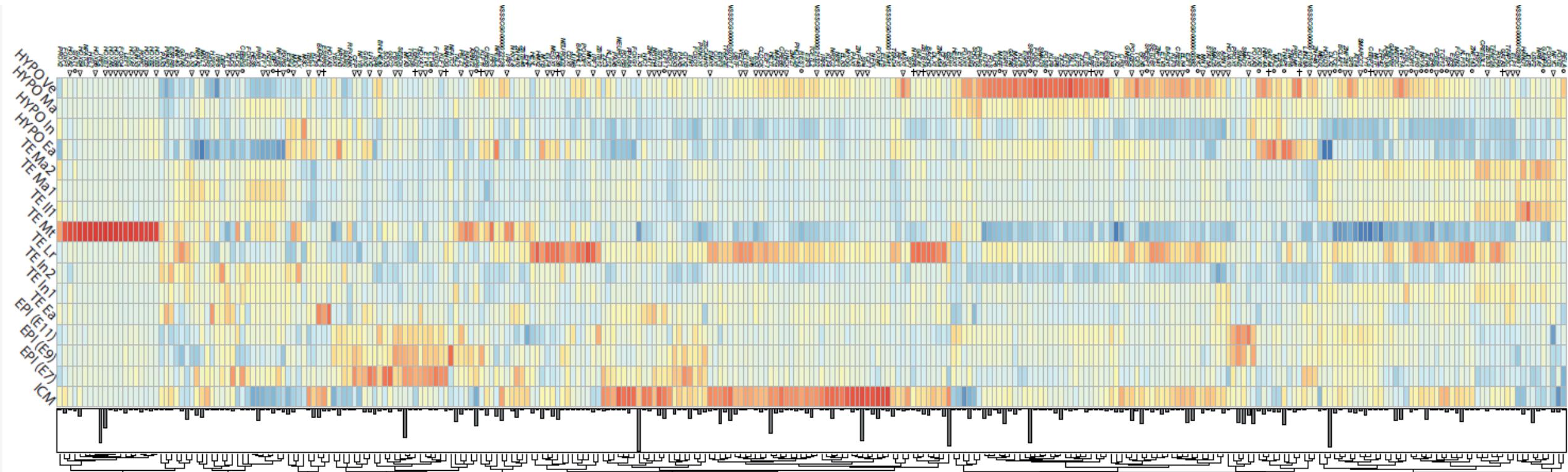
### Regulons (gene regulatory network)



Aibar et al. 2017

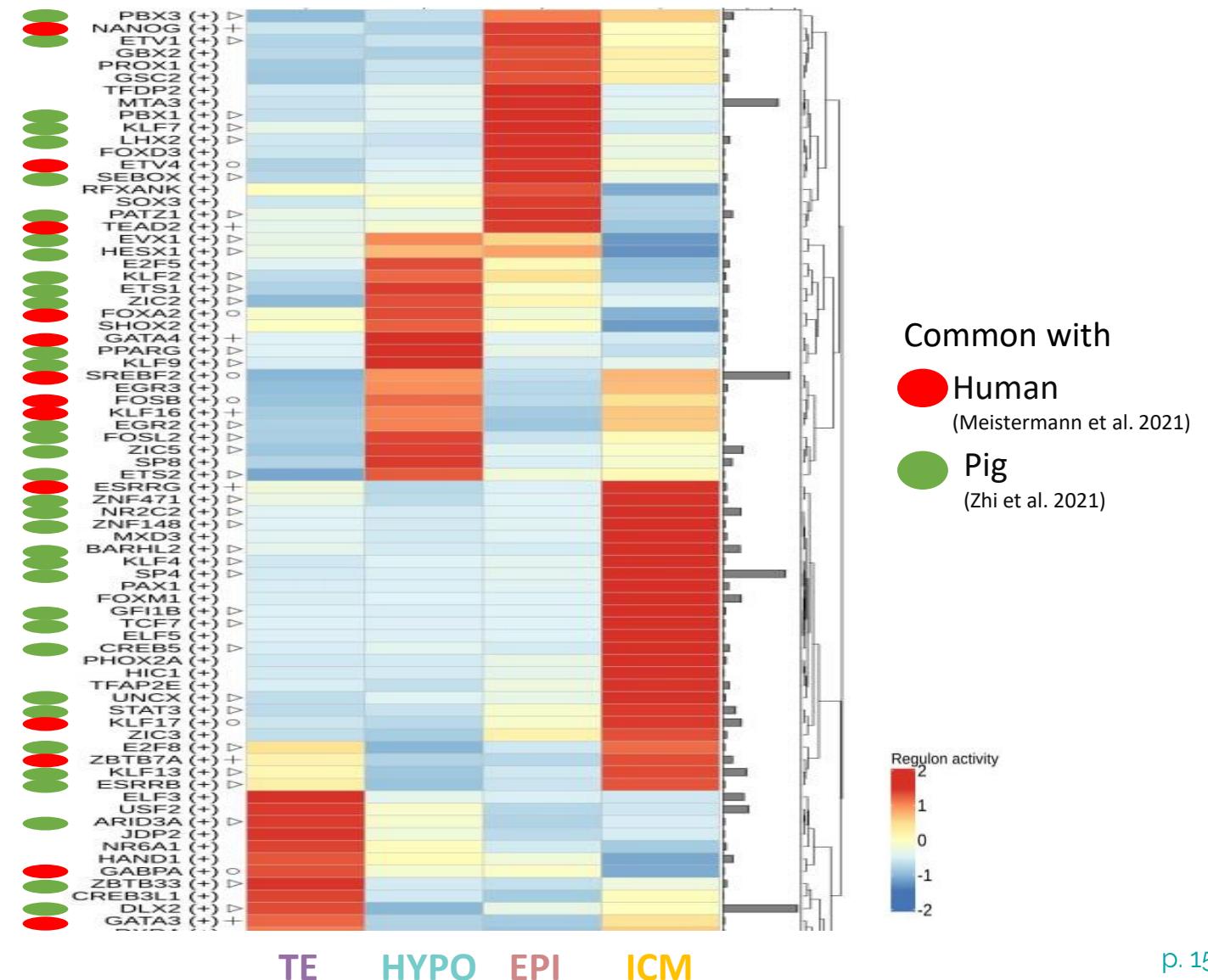
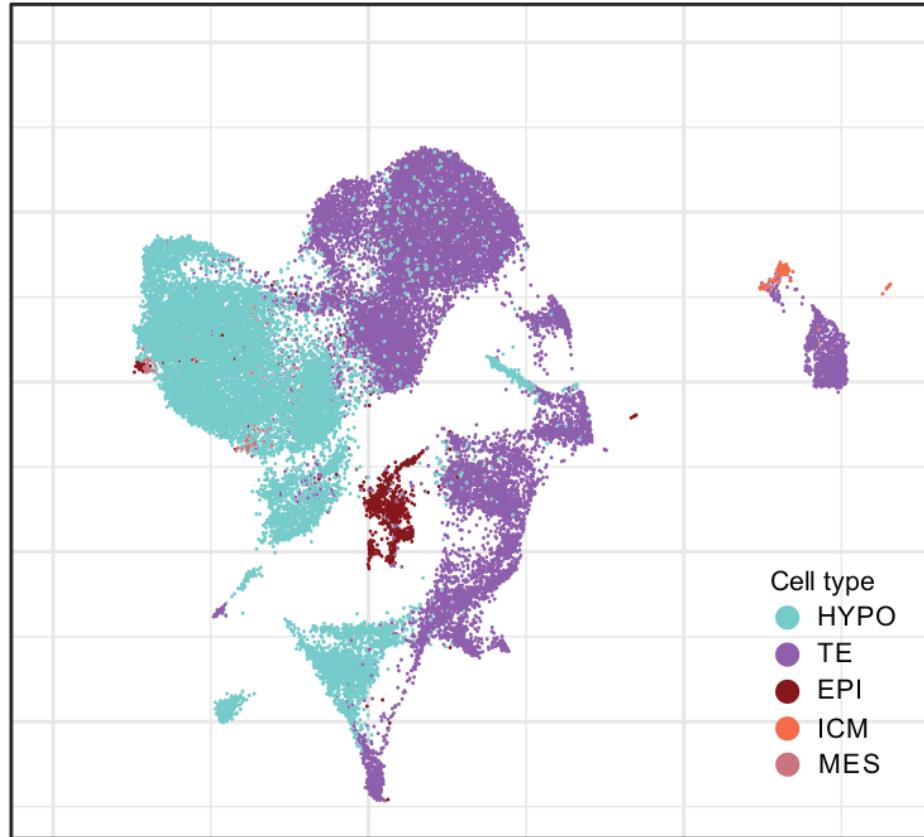
- scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

## Identify modules of gene regulation

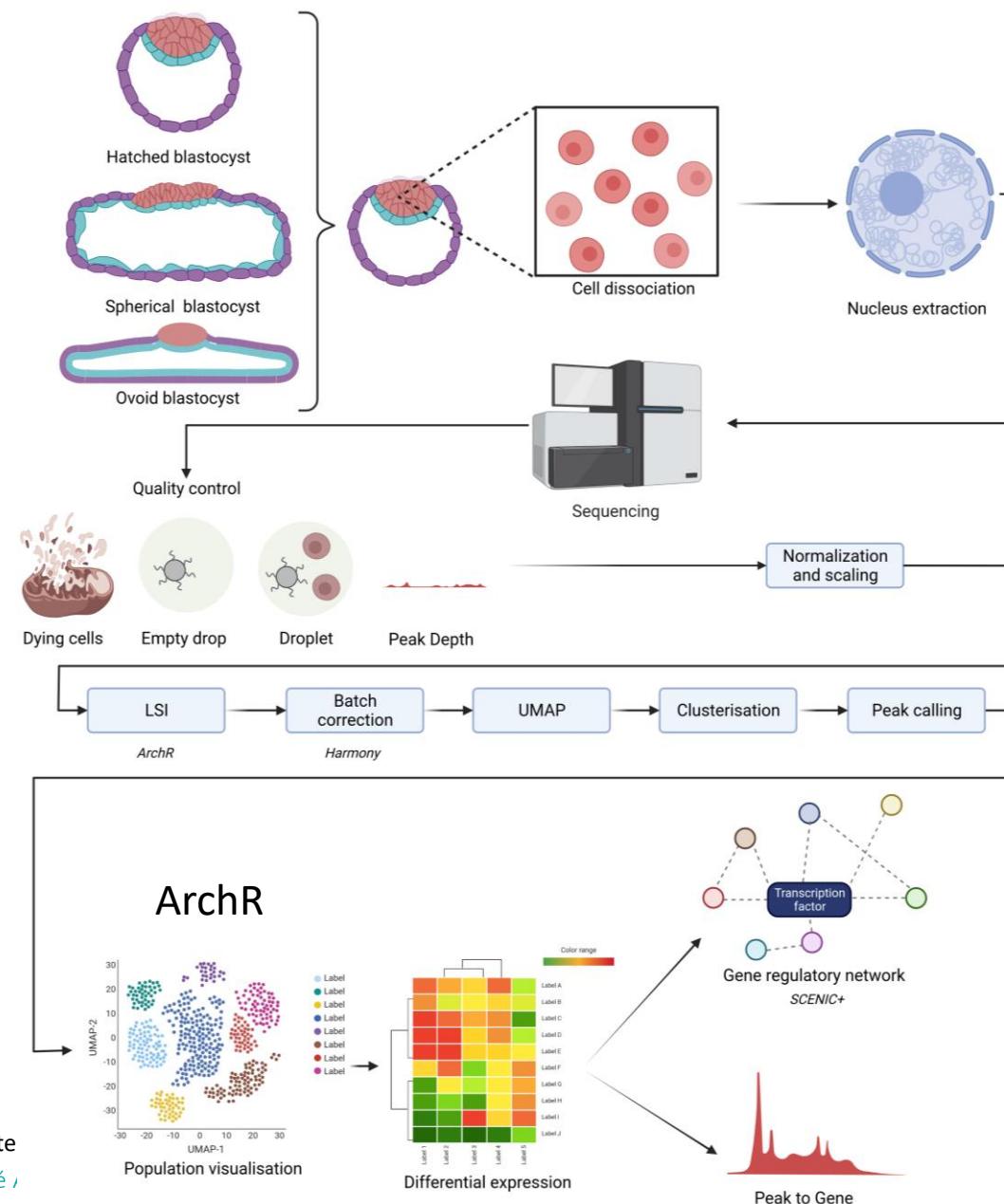


➤ scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

## Identify modules of gene regulation



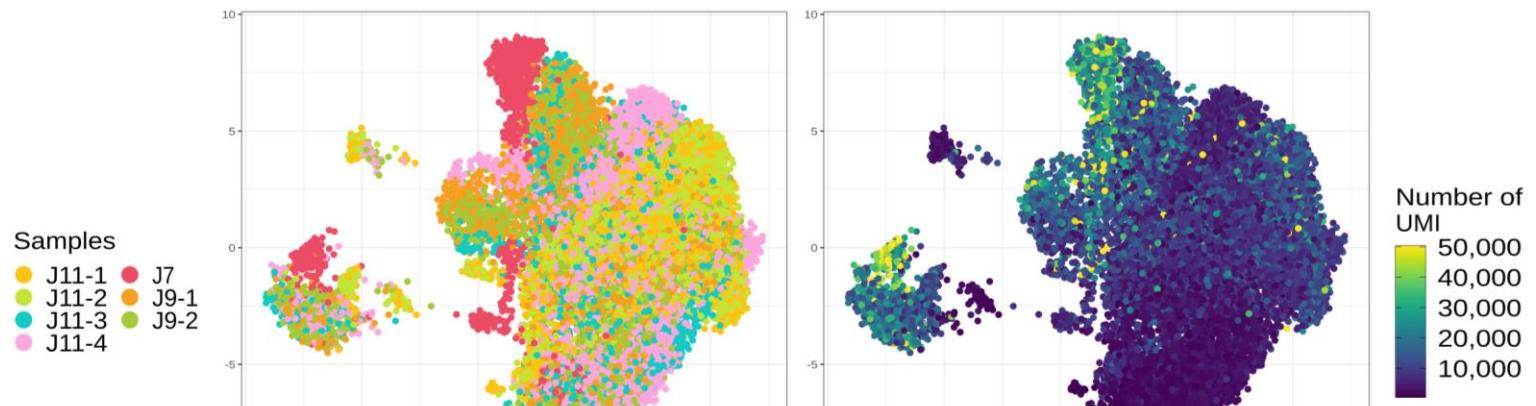
## ➤ scOMICS: adding a layer of information to refine module of gene regulation



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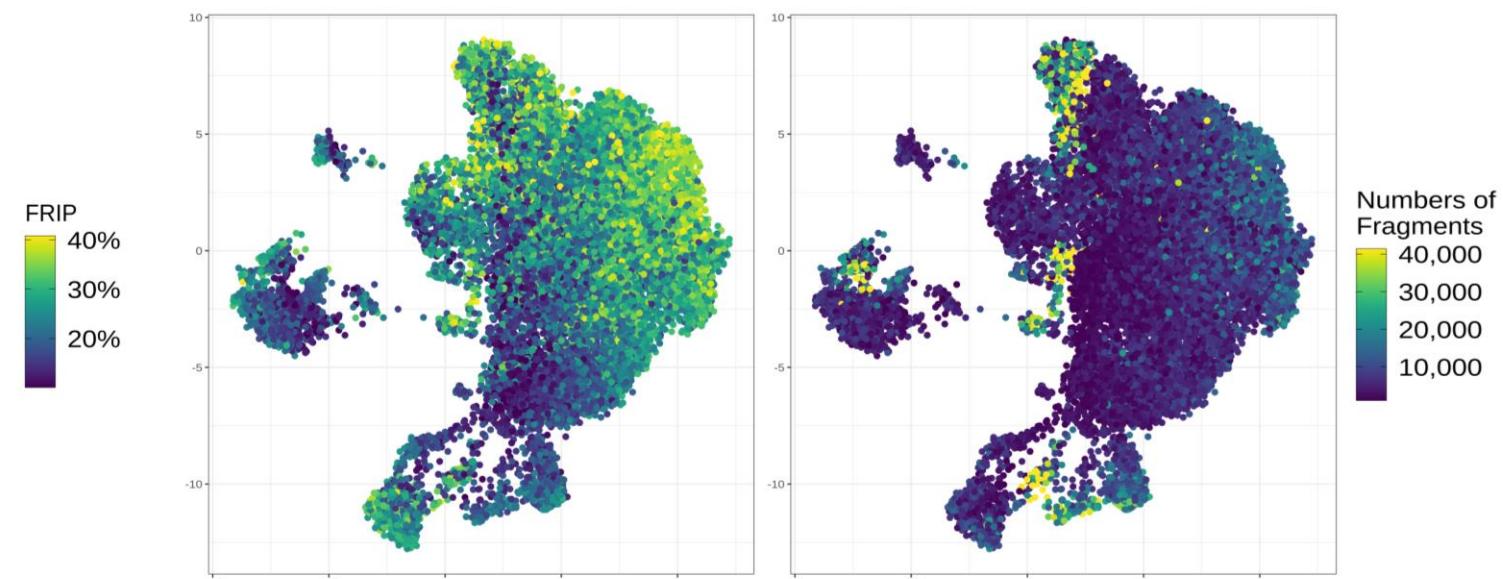
### Quality Control

- Remove cells without both information (RNA+ATAC)
- Remove doublets (~5%)

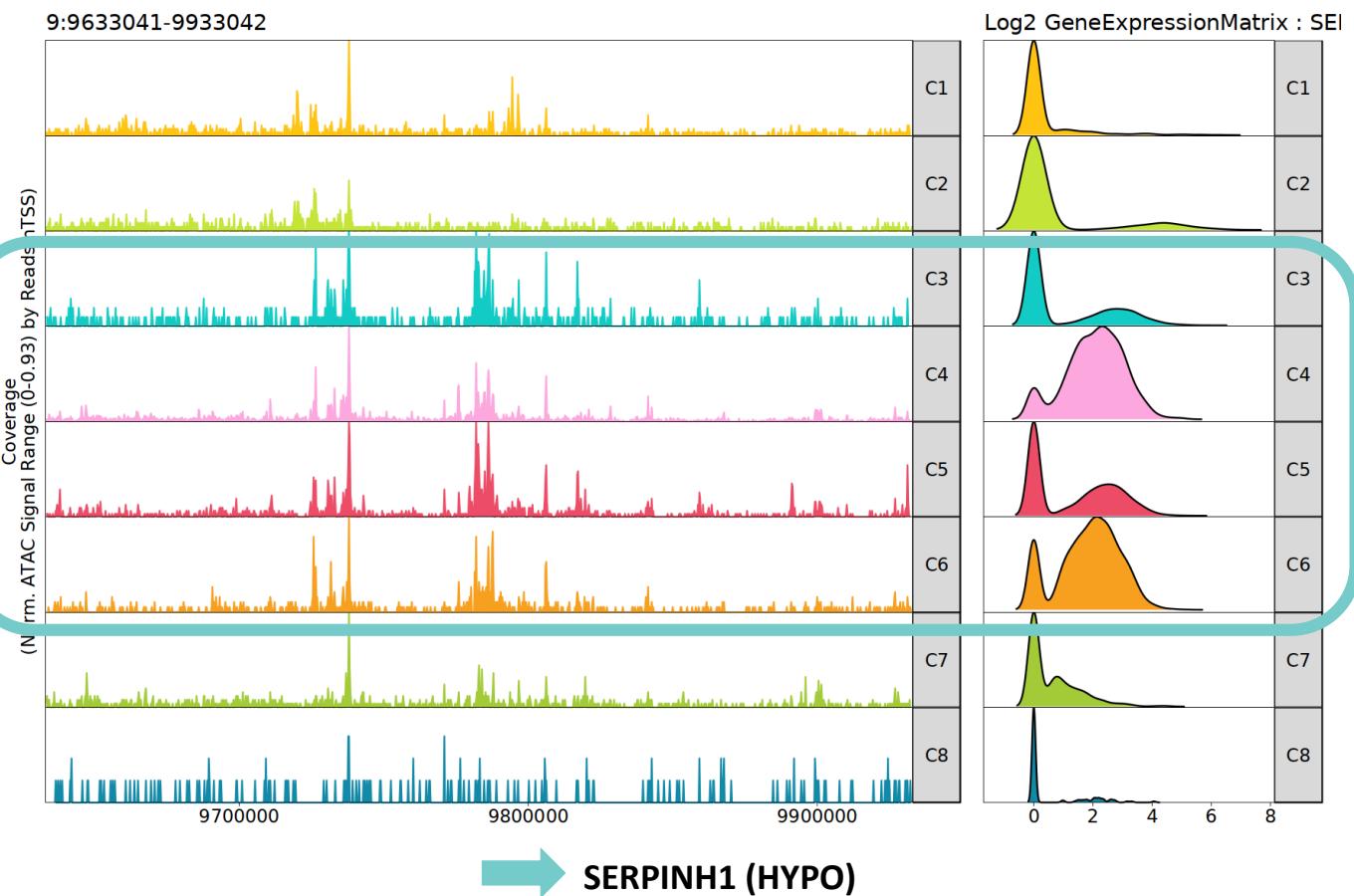
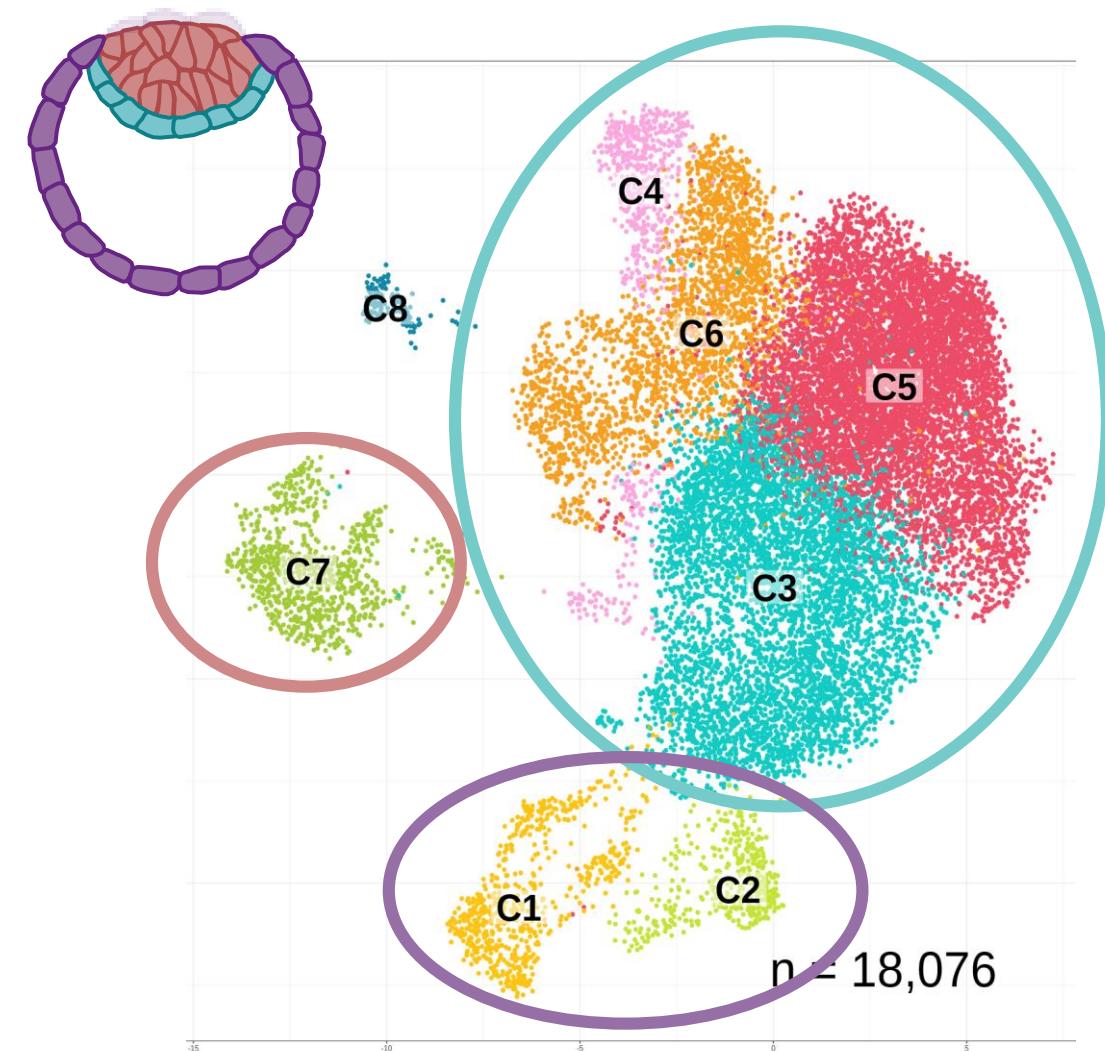


Select cells based on:

- UMIs number
- Fragments number
- FRIP score

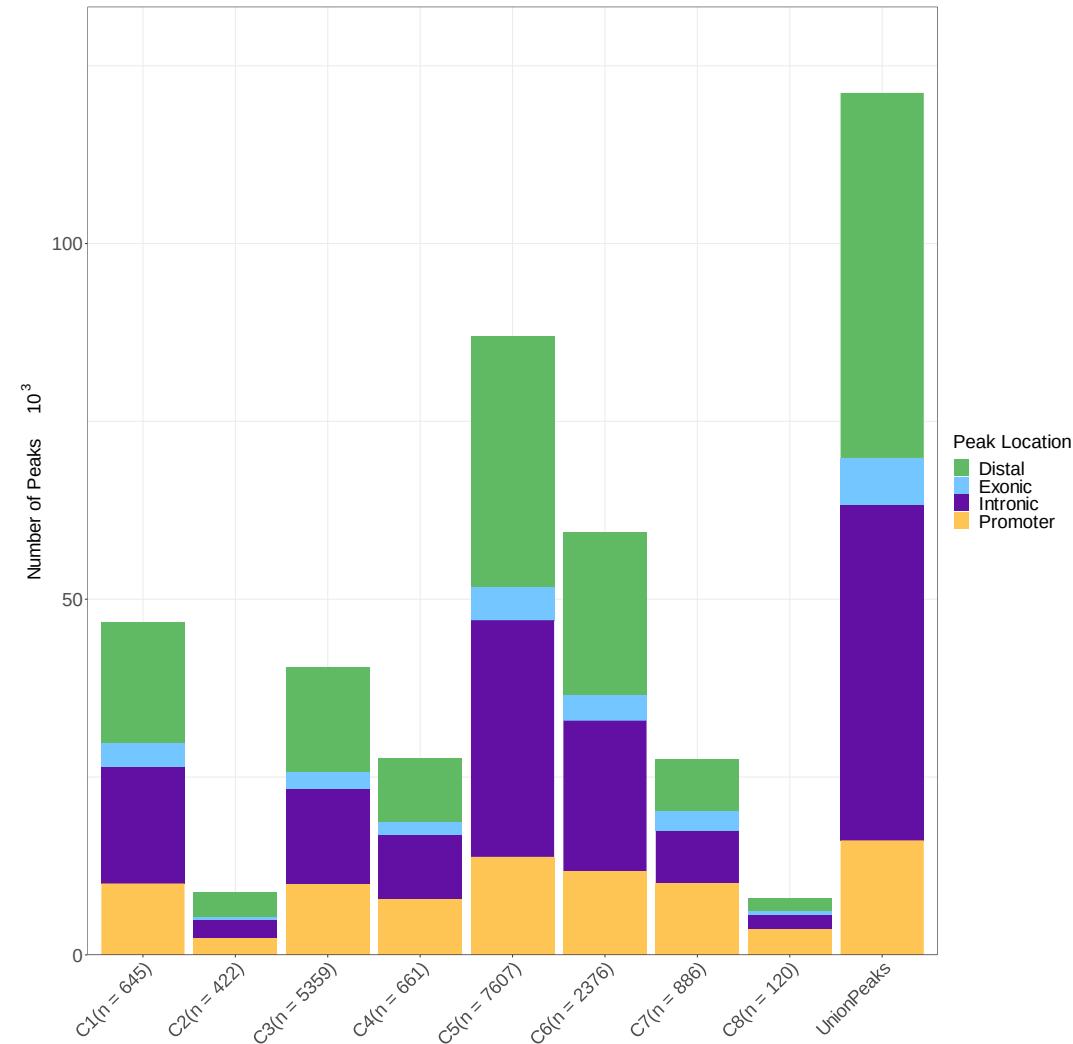


## ► scOMICS: adding a layer of information to refine module of gene regulation



## ➤ scOMICS: adding a layer of information to refine module of gene regulation

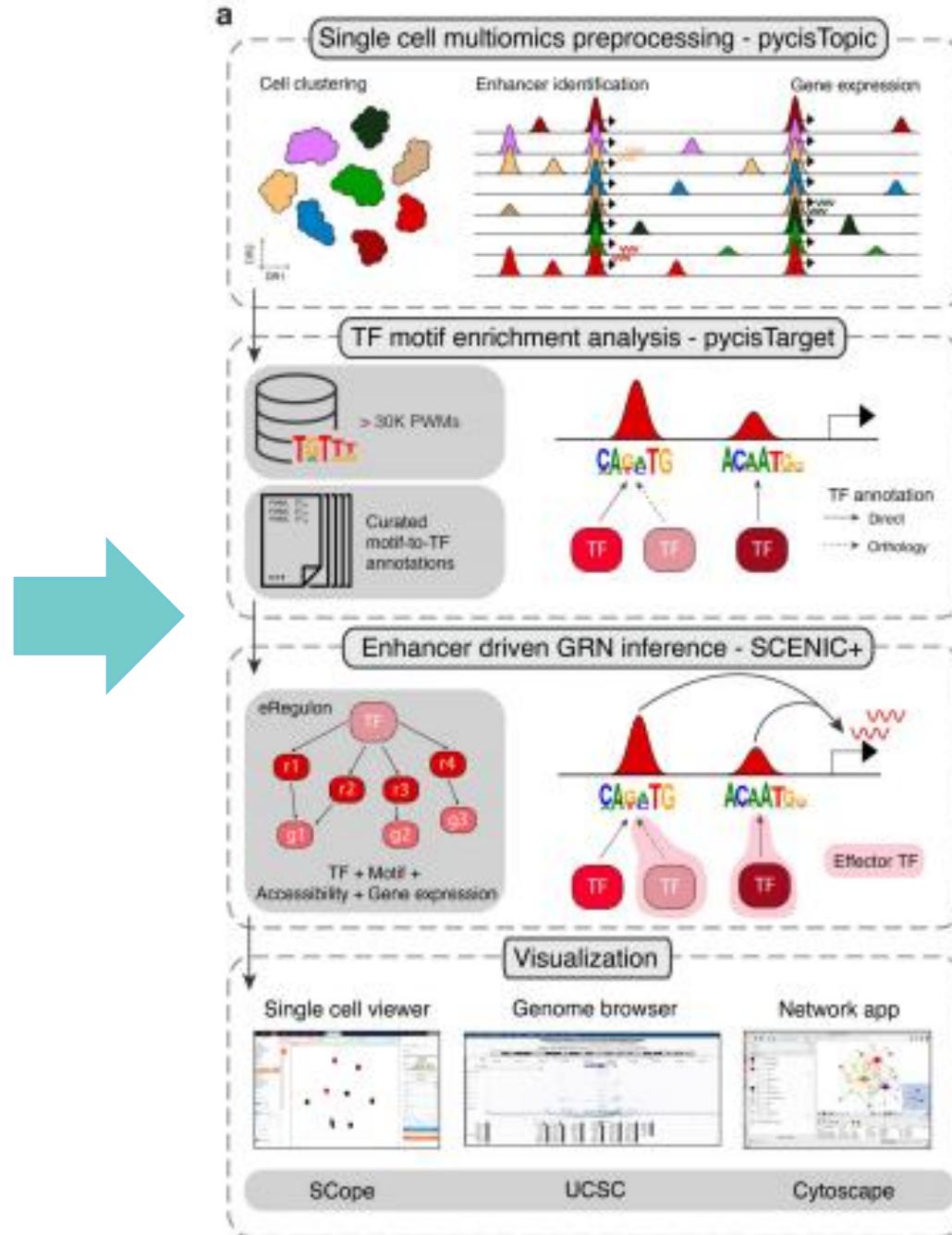
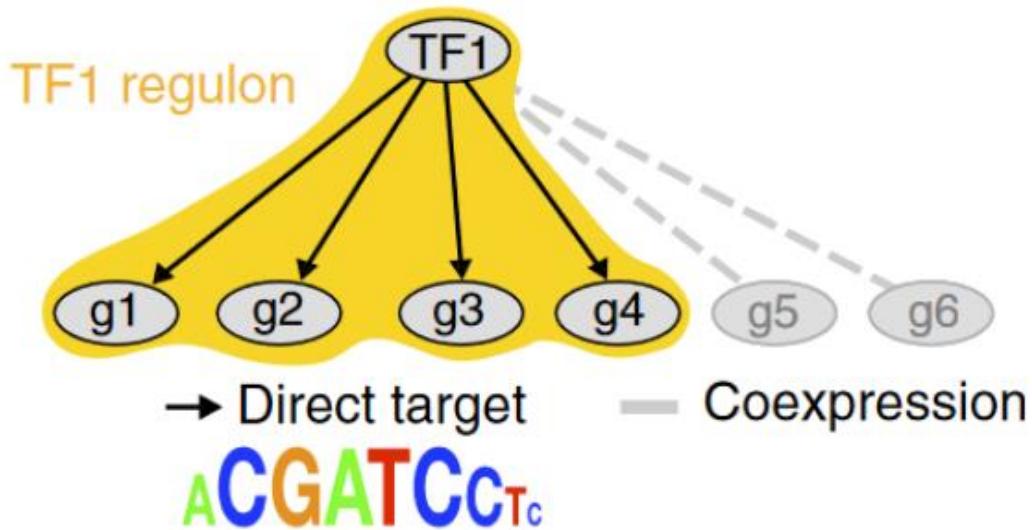
### Peaks' localization



## ► scOMICS: adding a layer of information to refine module of gene regulation

### Identification of regulons By SCENIC+

#### Regulons (gene regulatory network)

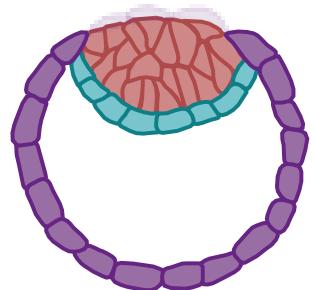
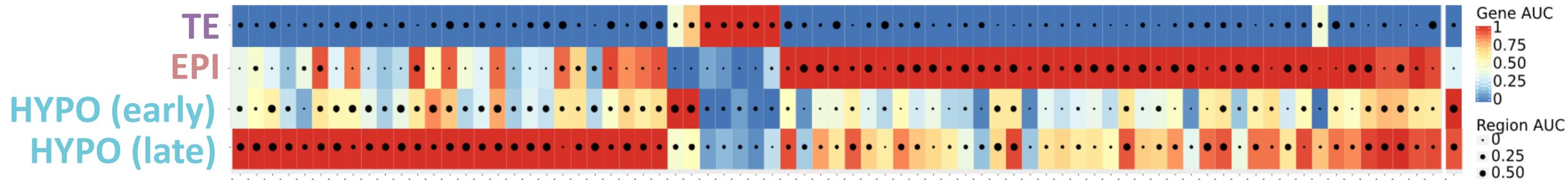


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Gene networks controlling functional cell interactions in the pig embryo

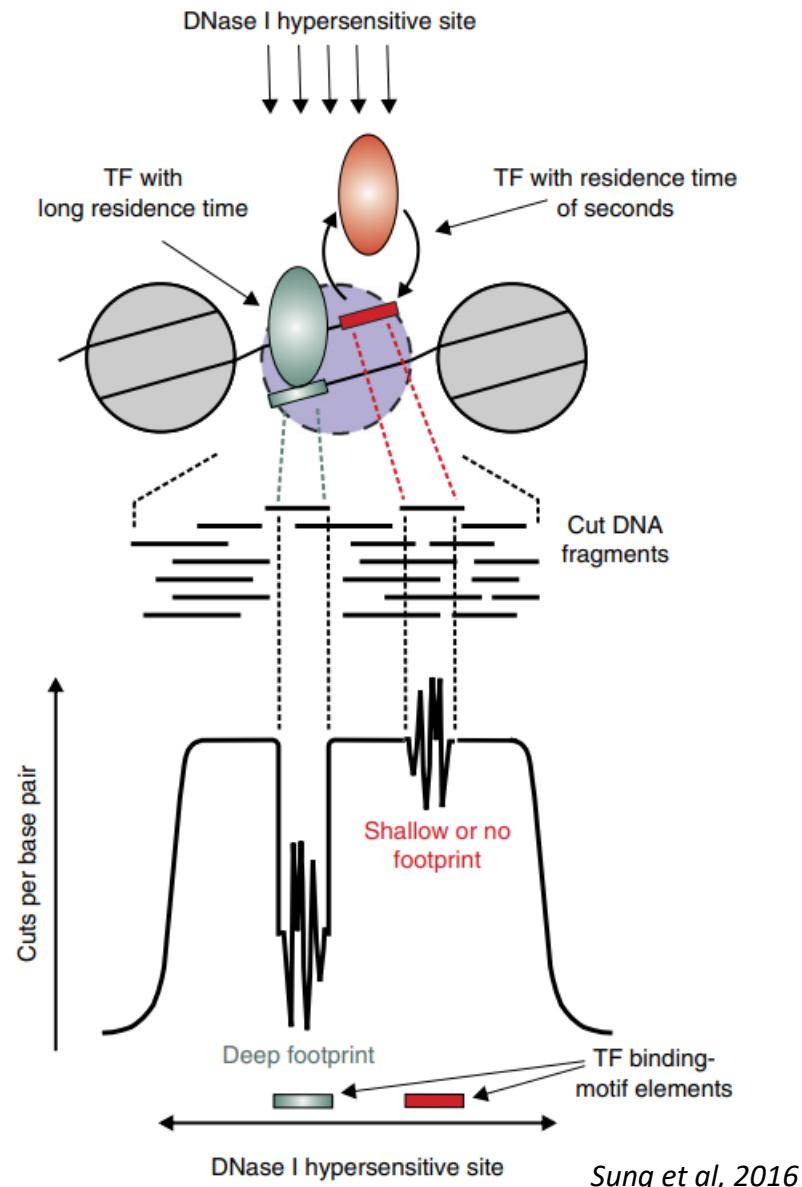
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## ➤ Added value of omics data: selection of active regulons



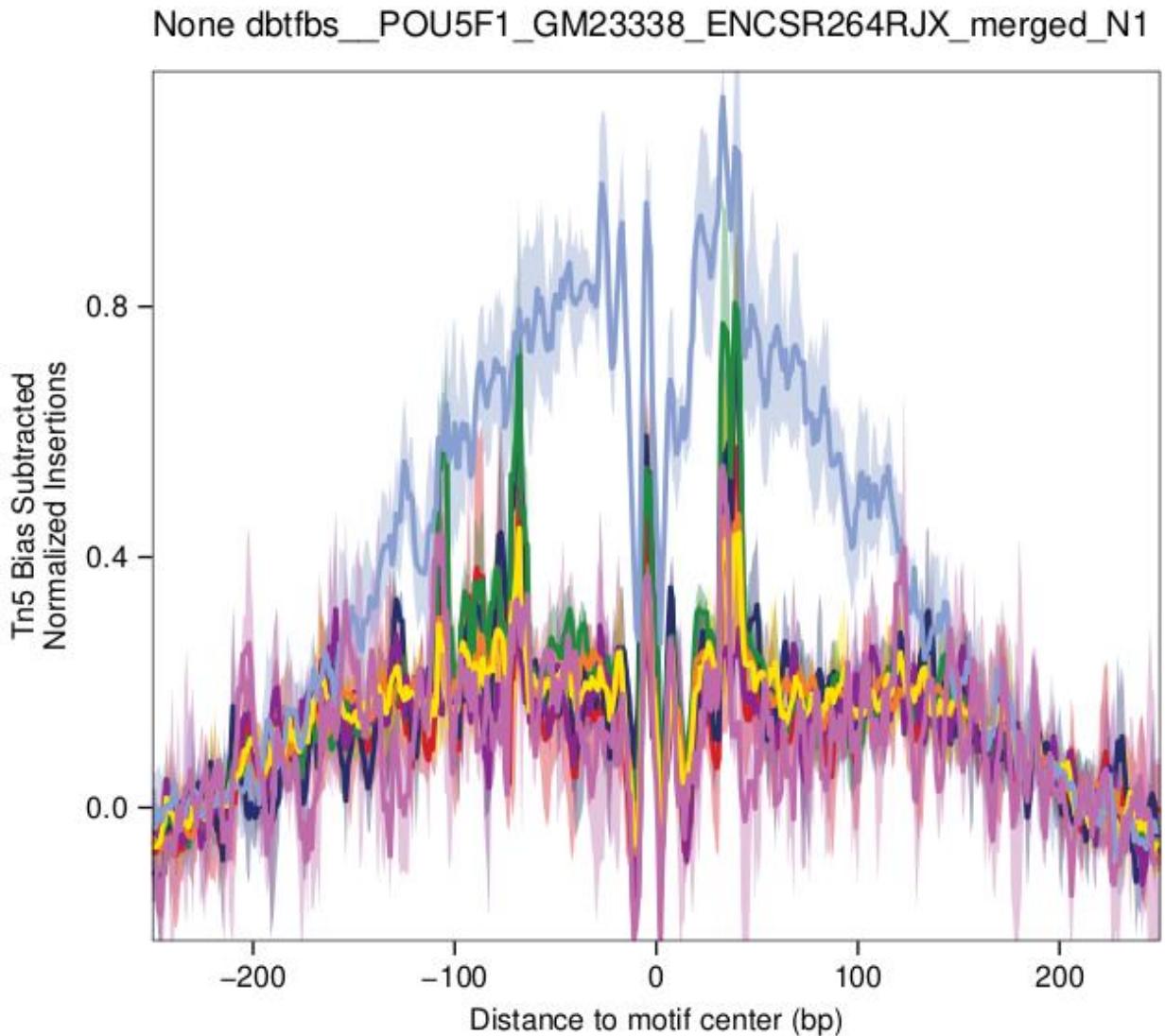
## ➤ Added value of omics data: selection of active regulons

### Detection of TFs' footprint



## ➤ Added value of omics data: selection of active regulons

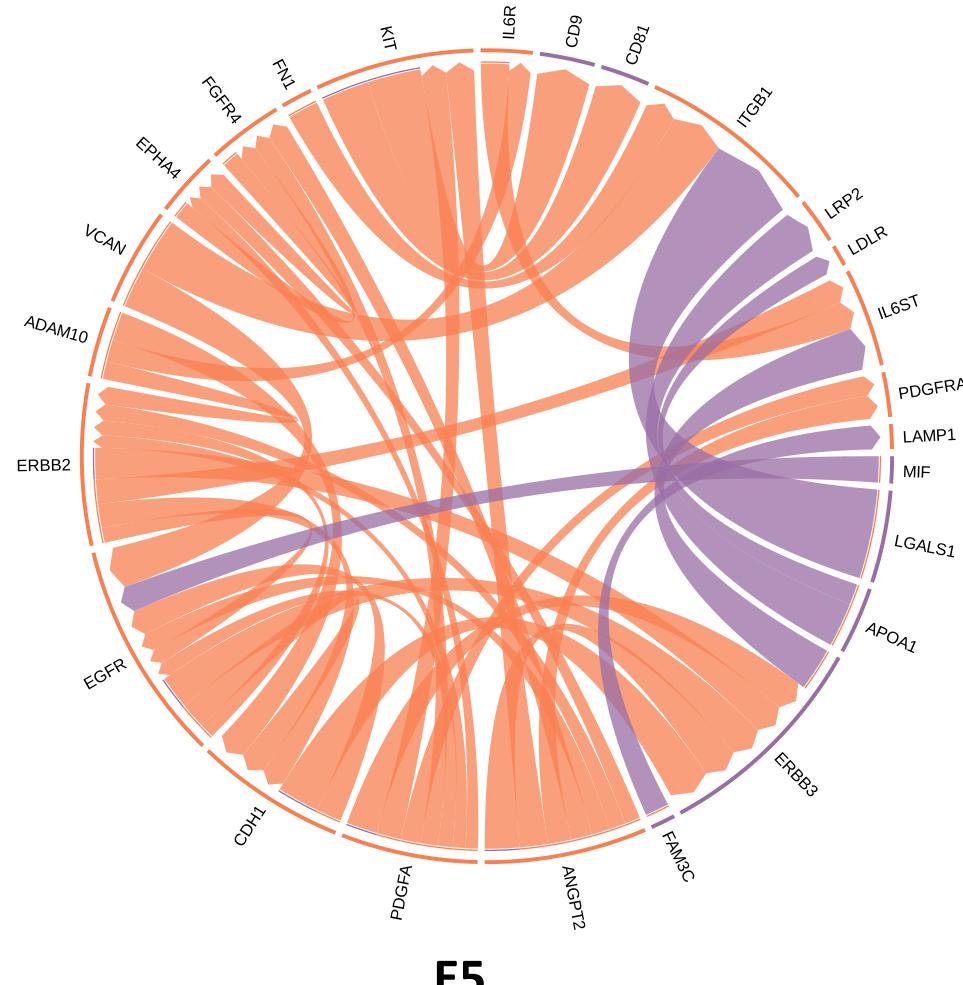
### Detection of TFs' footprint



# scRNASeq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

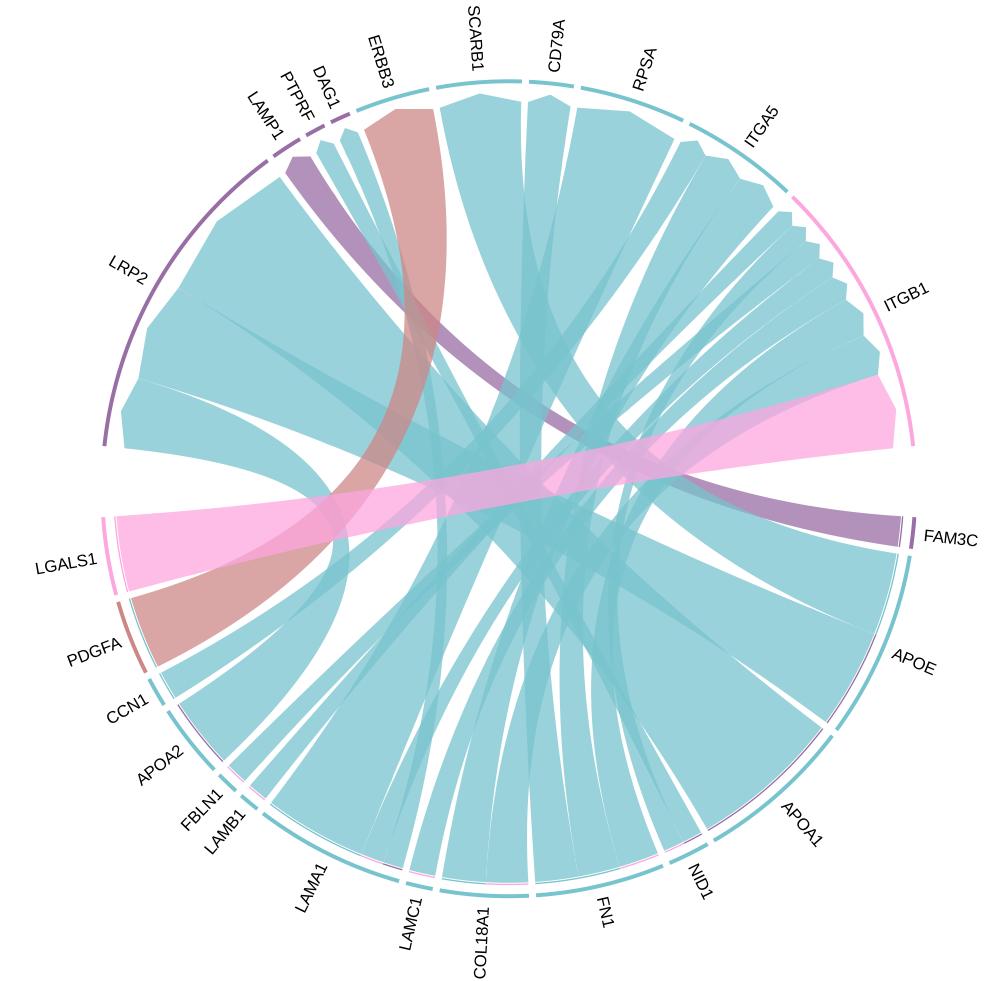
24

## From ligand/receptor interactions to modules of gene regulation



- Epiblast
- Trophectoderm
- Hypoblast
- Pas de préférence

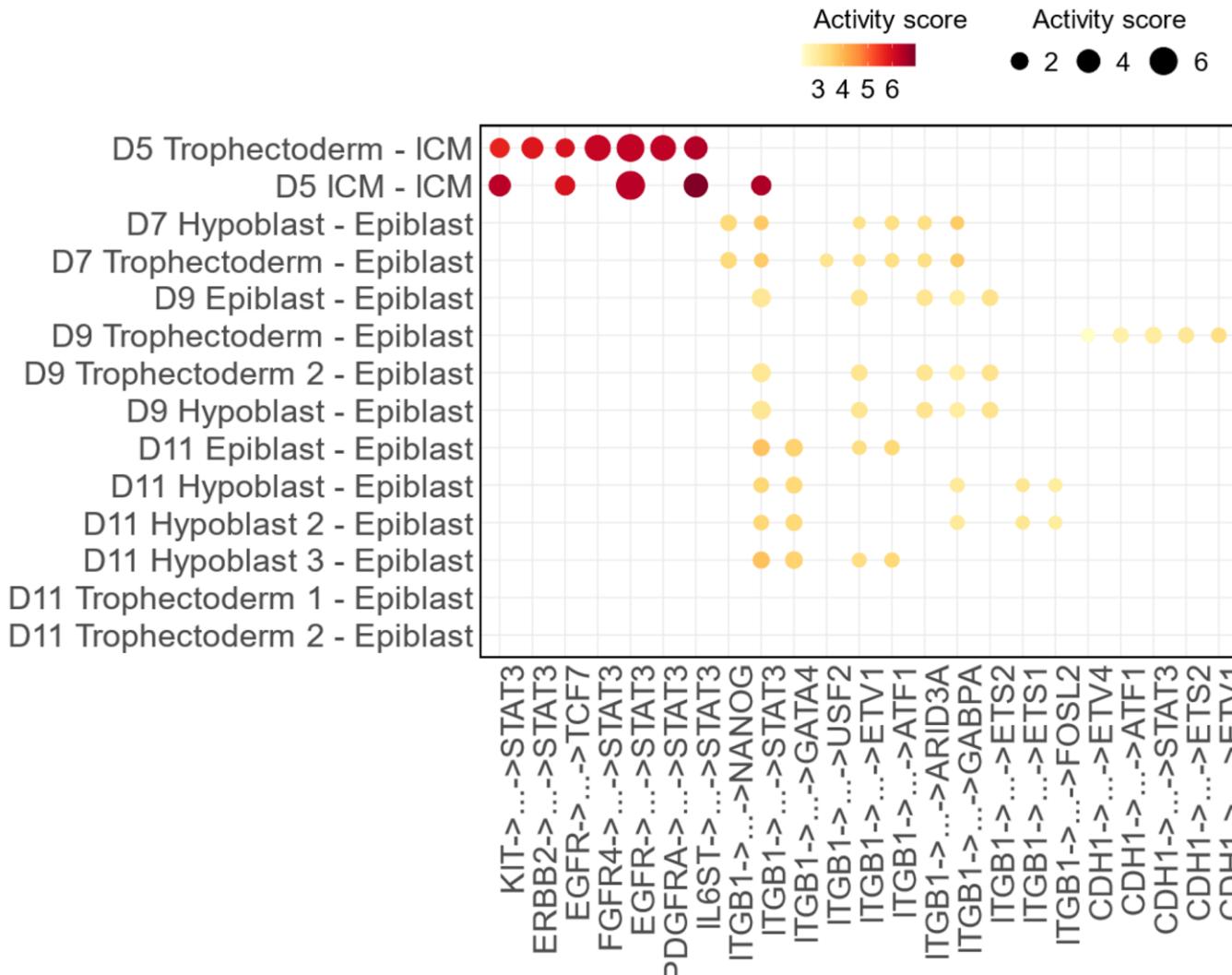
E5



E7

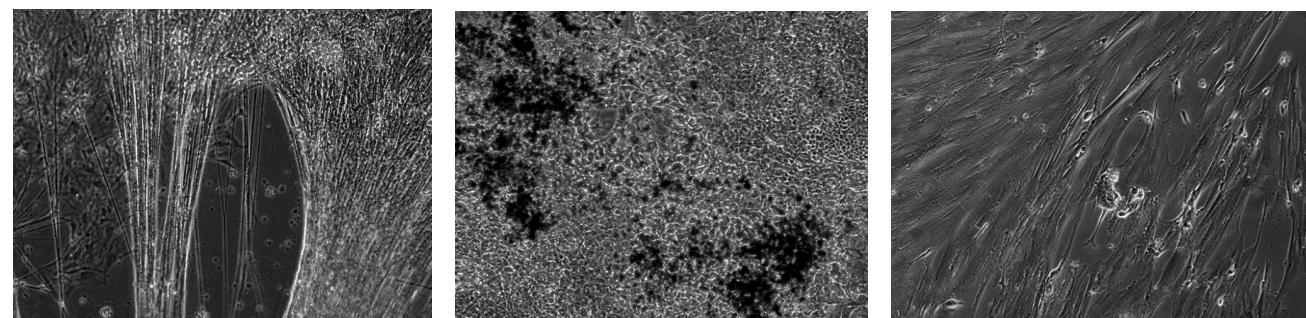
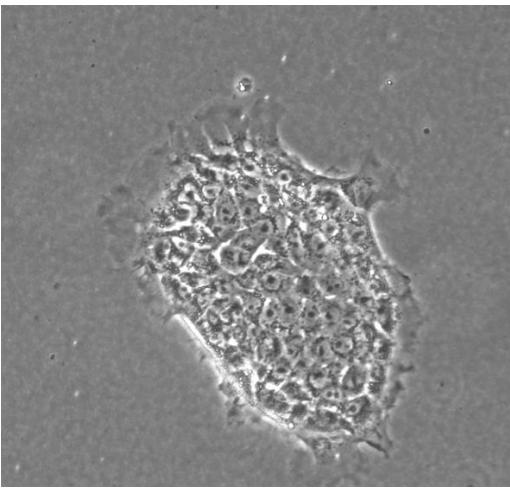
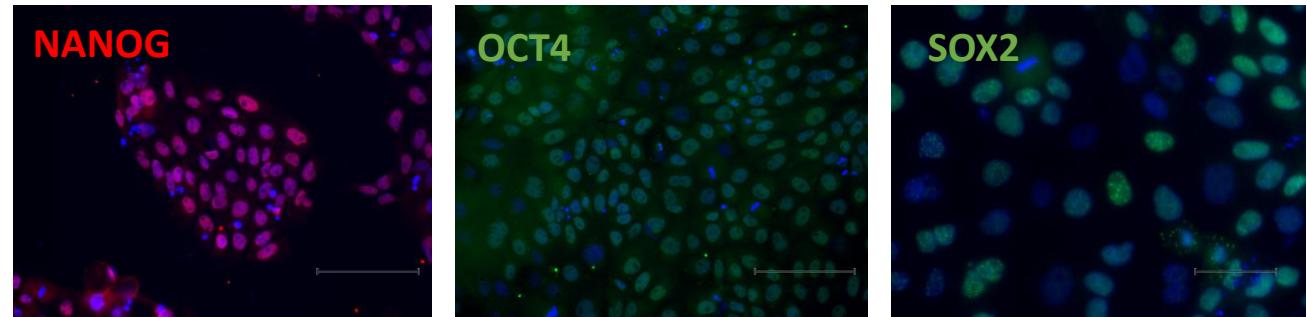
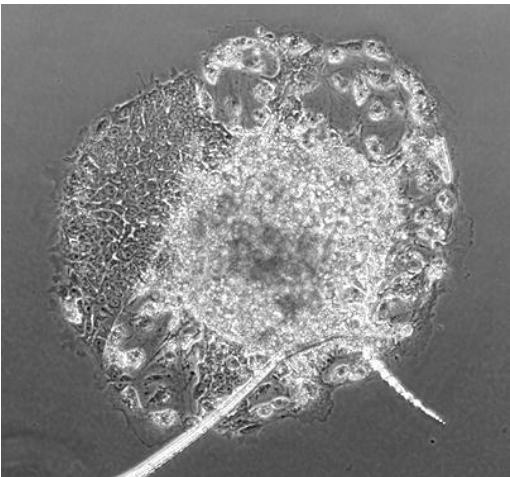
- scRNAseq data provide cues to better understand the biology of the pig embryo

## From ligand/receptor interactions to modules of gene regulation

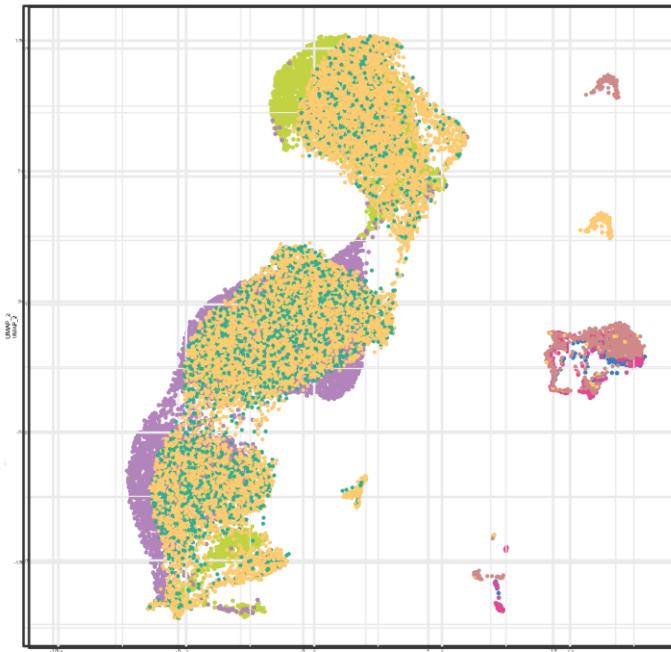


## ➤ Omics plus-value: detection of poised states in pig ESCs

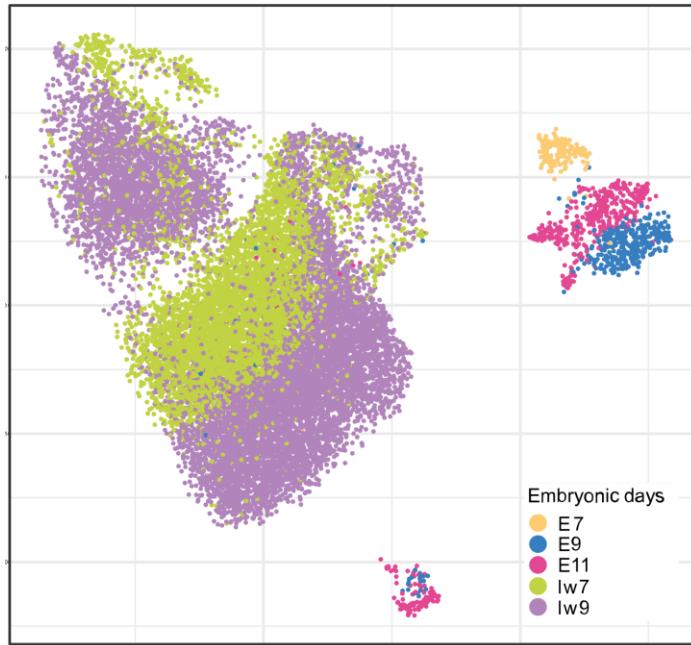
Pig ESCs



## Omics plus-value: detection of poised states in pig ESCs

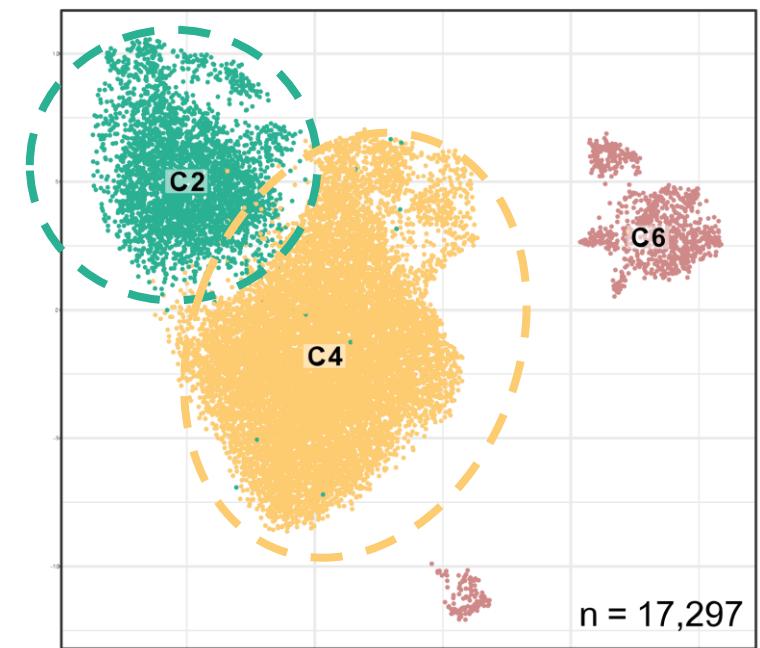


scRNAseq



scOMICS

Cells poised toward a neural fate



Cells poised toward non neural ectoderm & mesendoderm fate

## ➤ Conclusions

### **Added values of omics vs gene expression:**

- Identification of potential molecular interactions between embryonic cells and uterine fluids
- Better characterisation of gene regulatory networks at work in embryonic cells
- Validation of candidate regulons with motif footprints
- Detection of cell states not detectable by looking at gene expression only

## > Acknowledgements

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