



# The Personalized Medicine Use Case of the EVENFLOW project

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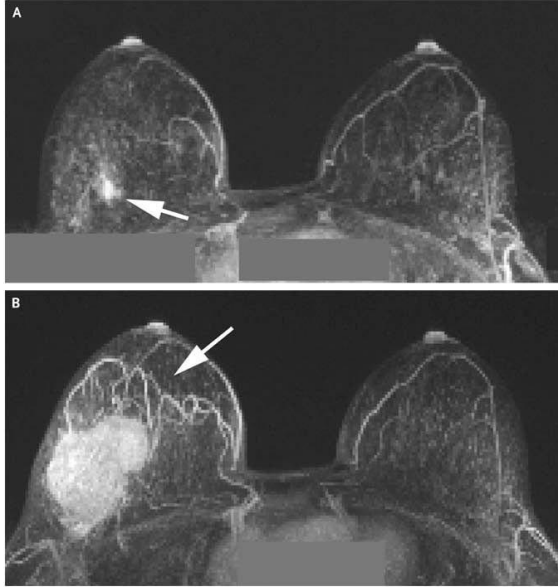
# Tackling a major challenge in biomedicine



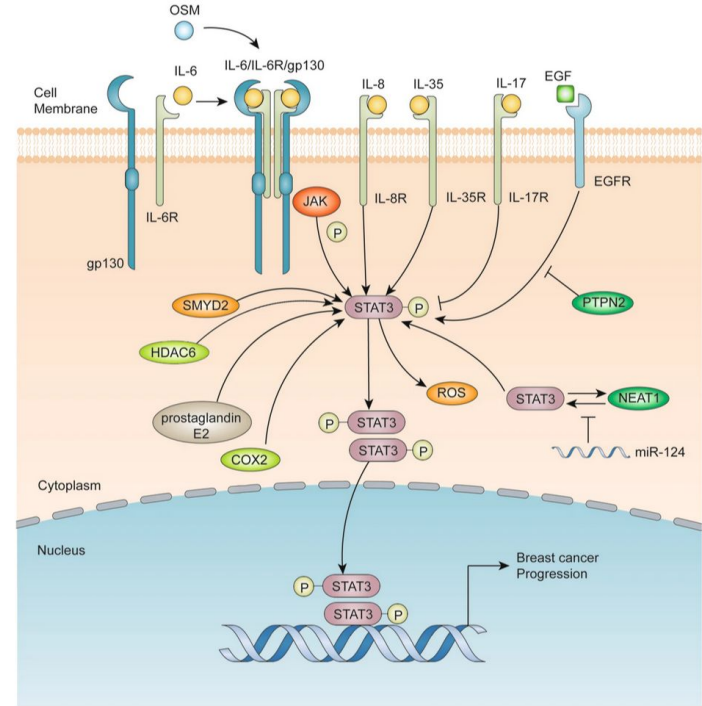
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# The role of time in biological processes



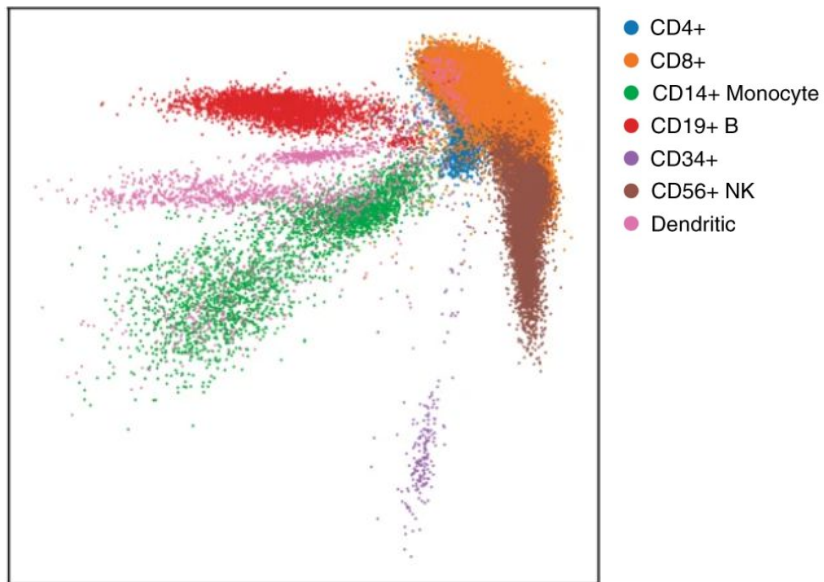
*N Engl J Med.* 2007;356(13):e12.  
doi: 10.1056/NEJMicm063760.



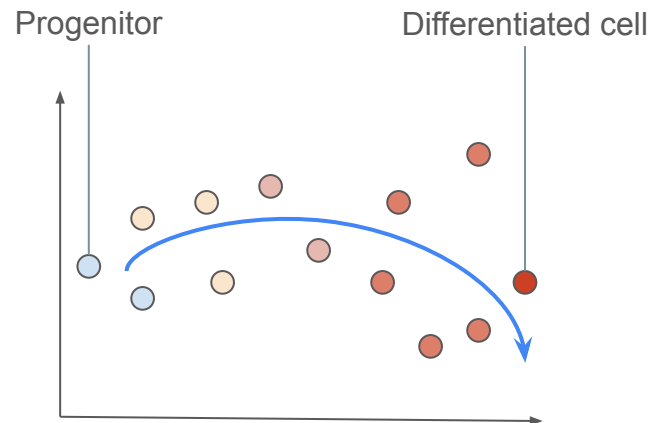
*Cell Commun Signal.* 2020;18(1):33.  
doi: 10.1186/s12964-020-0527-z

*How can we accurately reconstruct temporal processes from just a series of snapshots?*

# Lessons learnt from single cell dynamics

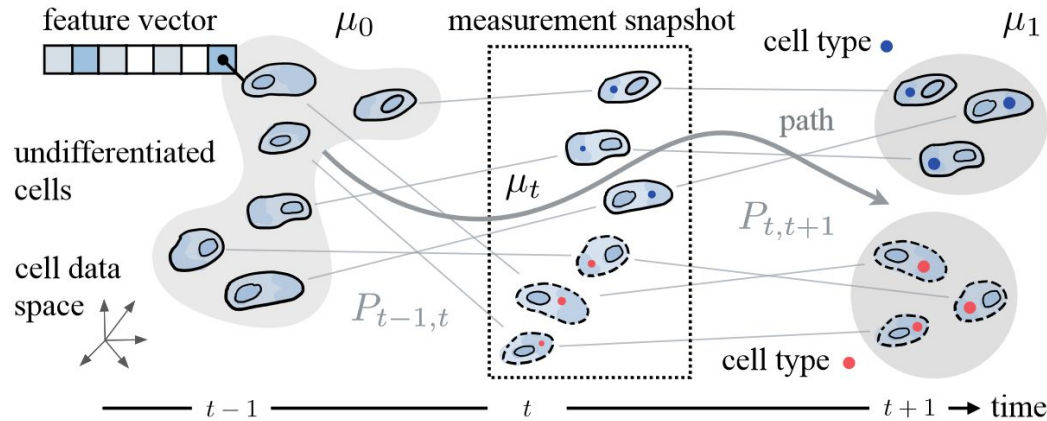


Eralsan & Simon et al. *Nat Comm* 2019



adapted from F. Thais (ECCB 2024)

# Lessons learnt from single cell dynamics



adapted from Bunne (ETH Zurich, 2023)

## Neural Optimal Transport for Dynamical Systems

Methods and Applications in Biomedicine

Charlotte Bunne

Diss. ETH No. 29594

**Operations based on such data representations can aid in generating accurate predictions**

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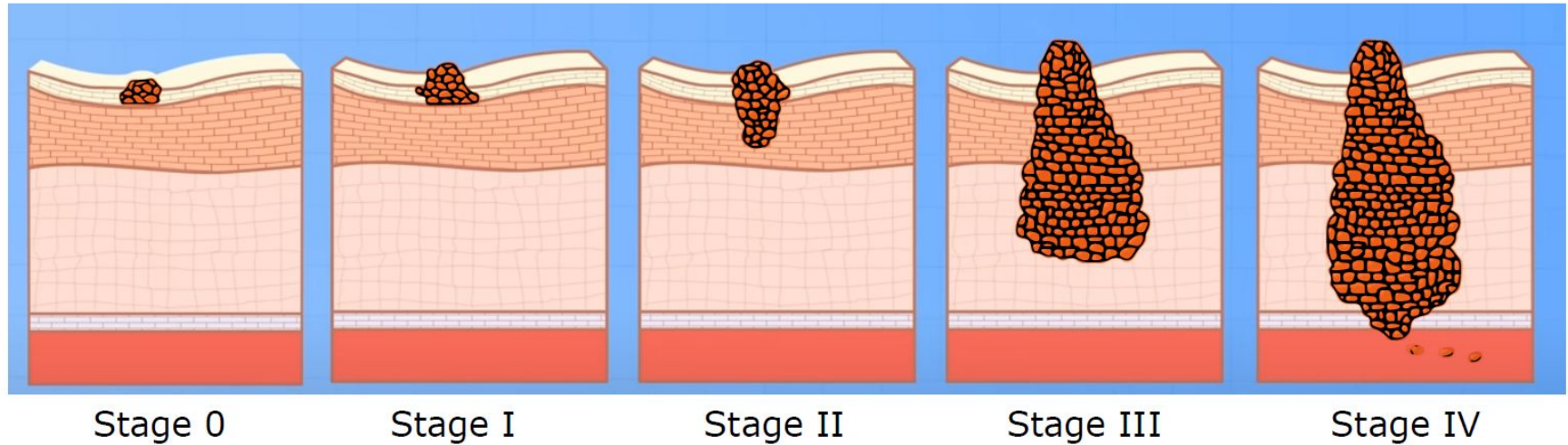
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# Identifying the molecular determinants of cancer staging

benign tumor

metastasis



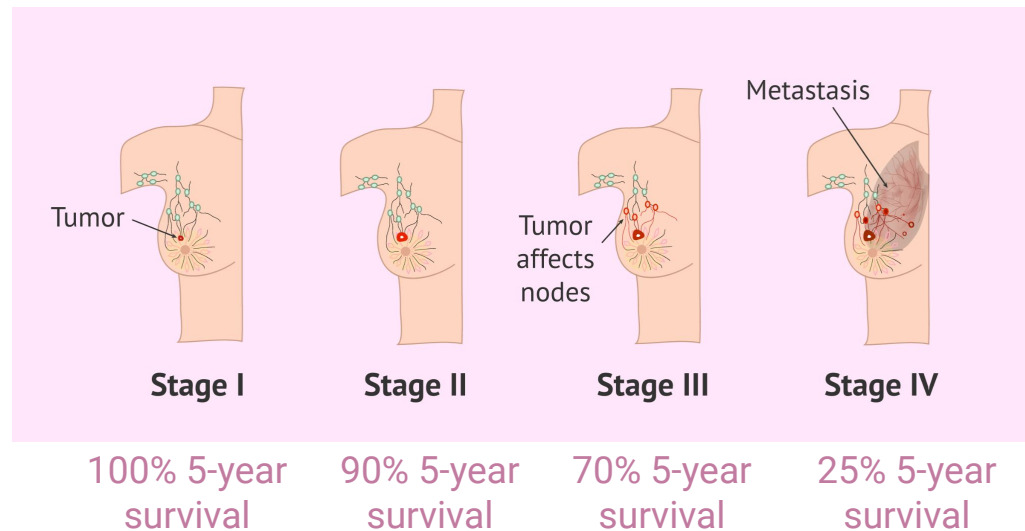
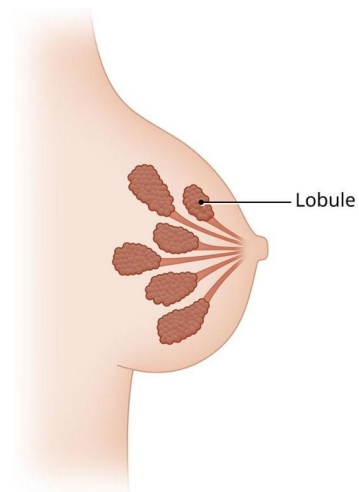
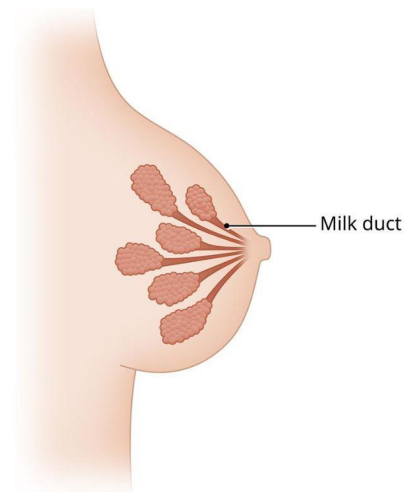


# Identifying the molecular determinants of cancer staging



Invasive ductal carcinoma

Invasive lobular carcinoma



**~900 women**

gene expression data  
(bulk RNA-sequencing)

lobular, stage III



ductal, stage I



lobular, stage III



lobular, stage I



ductal, stage I



lobular, stage II



lobular, stage I



ductal, stage I



ductal, stage III

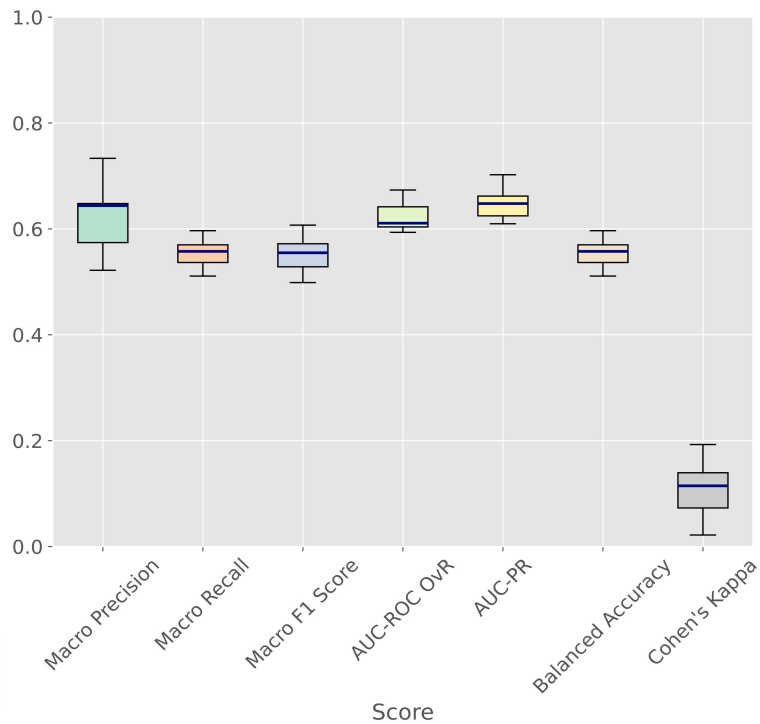


lobular, stage II

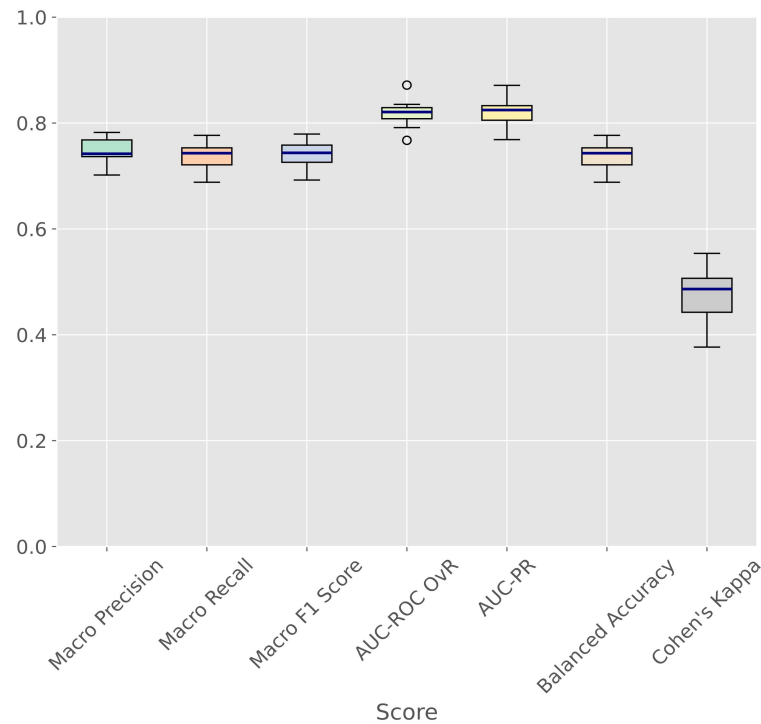


# Predicting breast cancer staging is hard...

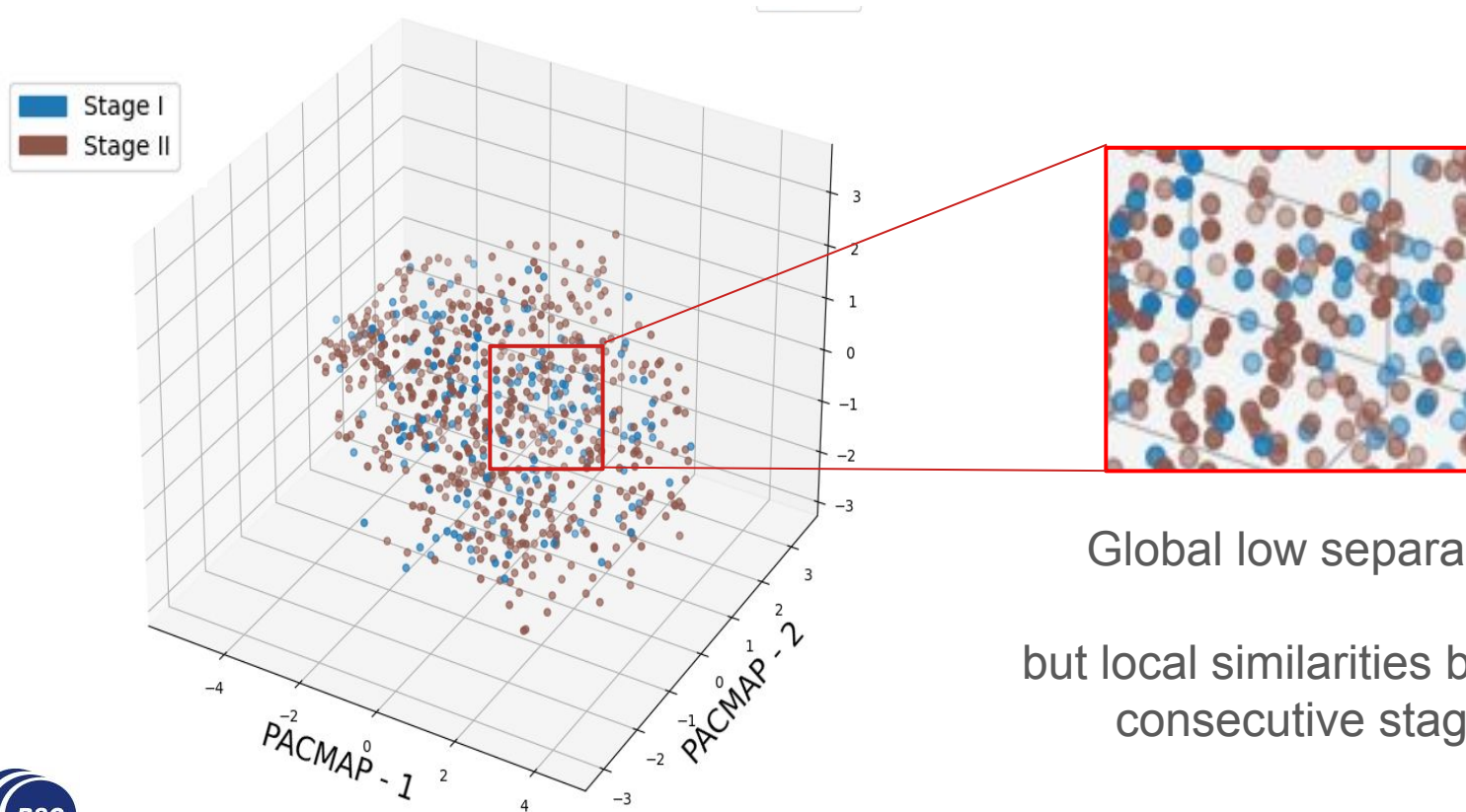
## Breast cancer (TCGA)



## Kidney cancer (TCGA)



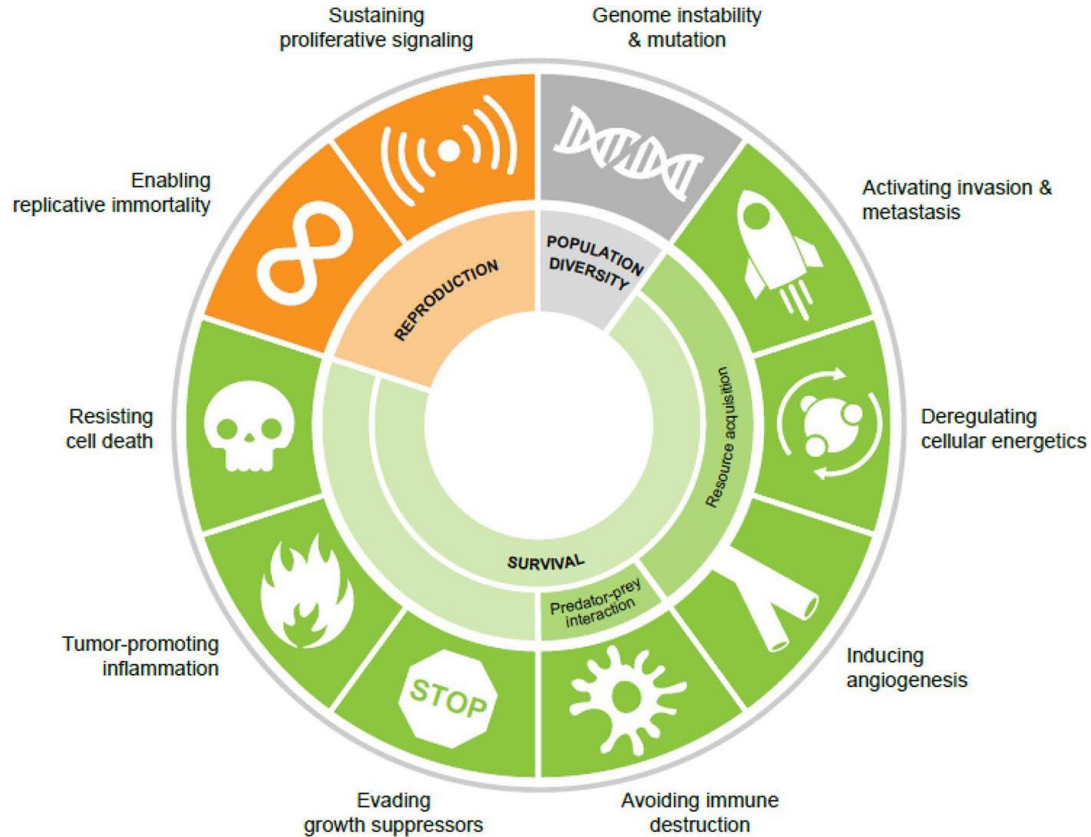
*...due to cancer heterogeneity*



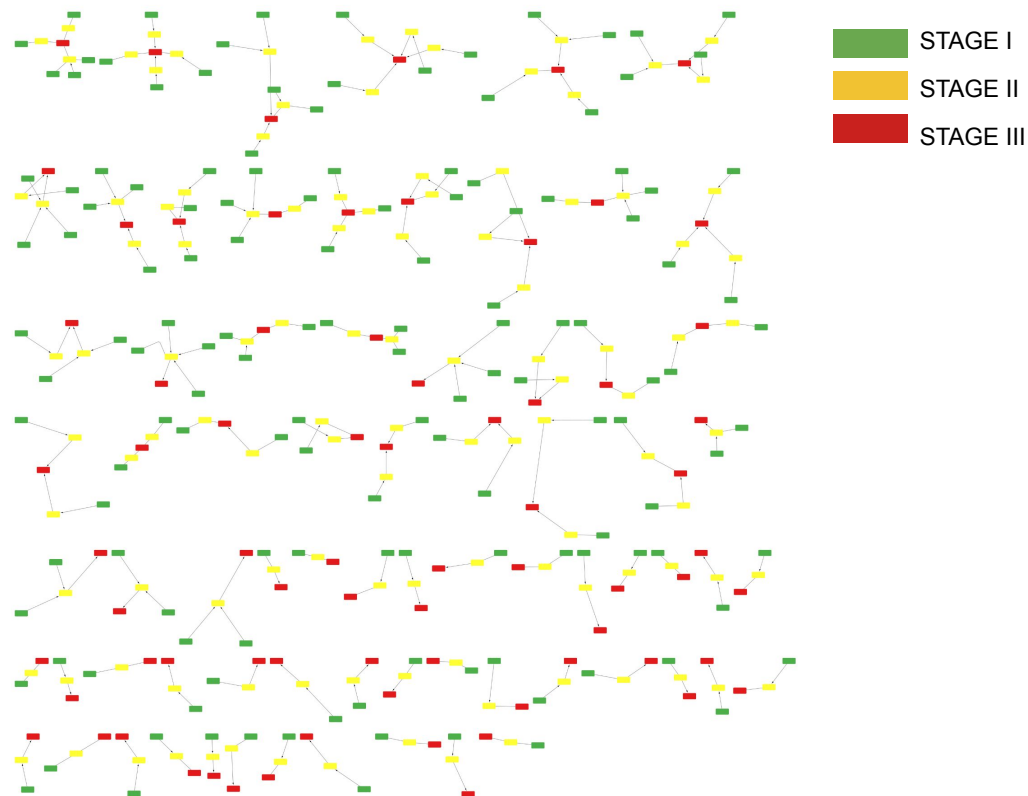
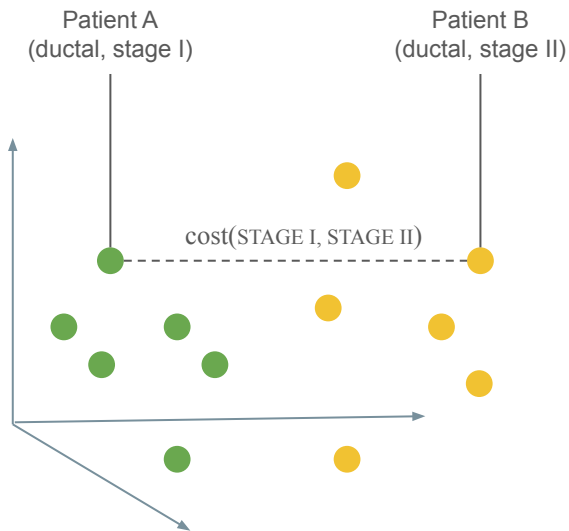
Global low separability

but local similarities between consecutive stages!

# Hallmarks of cancer

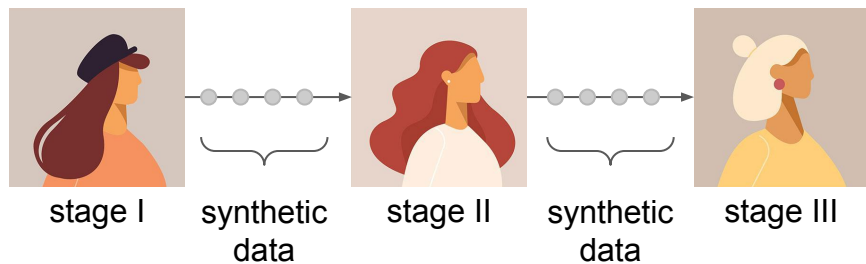


# Pseudo-time stage trajectories as a Linear Assignment Problem

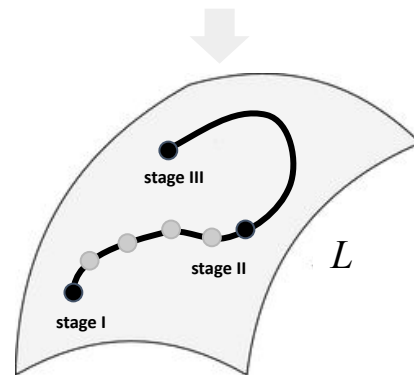
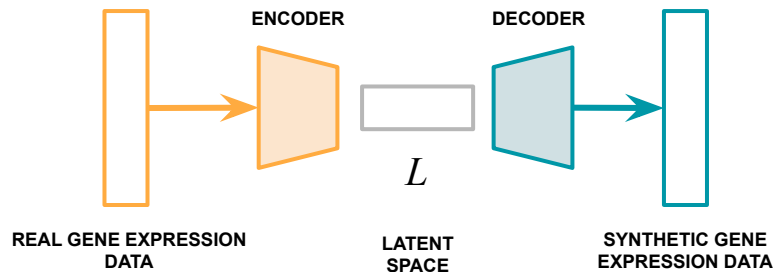




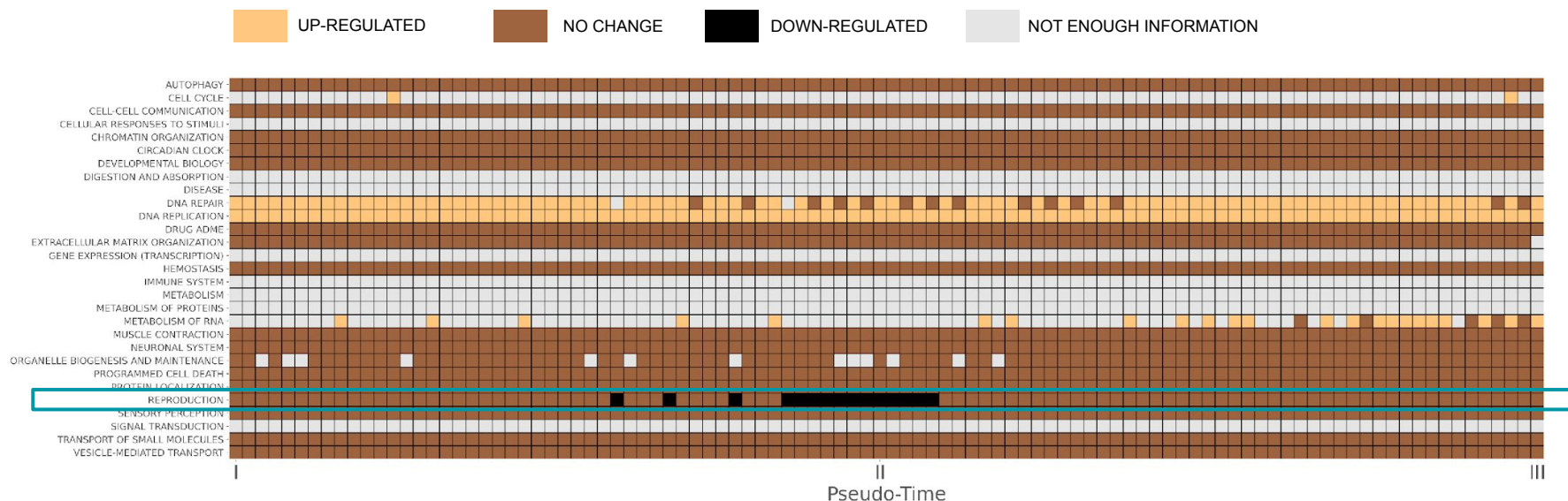
# Leveraging Generative AI to reconstruct the stage transitions



## Variational AutoEncoder (VAE)

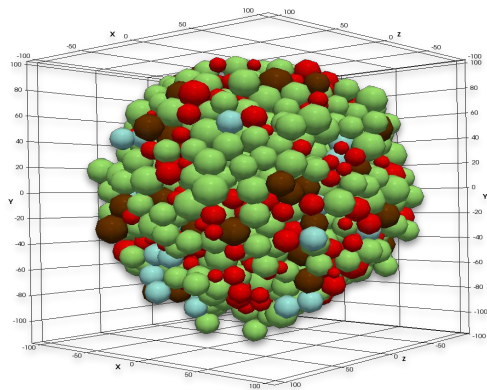


# Pathway enrichment analysis across stage transitions

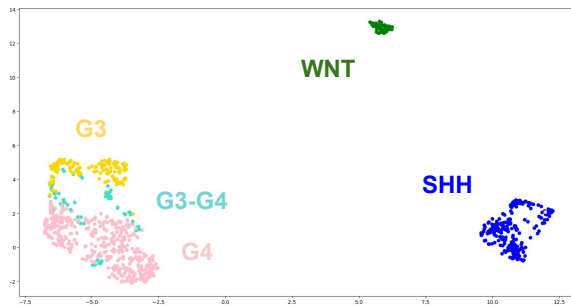


*ACR, ADAM21, ATM, B4GALT1, BLM, BMP4, BRCA1, BRCA2, CATSPER1, CATSPER2, CATSPER3, CATSPERG, CXCR4, DMC1, EOMES, H2AFX, HSPA2, HVCN1, LMNA, LMNB1, MND1, MSH4, MSH5, NANOG, NANOS3, OVGP1, PDPN, POU5F1, PRDM1, PSMC3IP, RAD21, RAD51, RAD51C, RBBP8, REC8, SOX17, STAG1, STAG3, SUN2, SYCE2, SYCP2, SYNE1, SYNE2, TFAP2C, ZP1, ZP3*

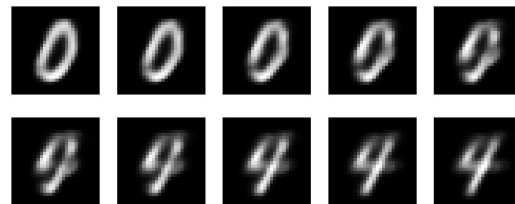
# *EVENFLOW beyond breast cancer*



**MULTI-SCALE  
CELLULAR  
SIMULATIONS OF  
TUMOR GROWTH**



**SYNTHETIC DATA  
AUGMENTATION IN  
MEDULLOBLASTOMA**



**CONDITIONAL  
PSEUDO-TIME  
TRAJECTORY  
GENERATION IN  
BREAST CANCER**

# Critical insights and takeaways



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## *Critical insights and takeaways*

- The Personalized Medicine Use Case of the EVEFLOW project tackles the challenging problem of **reconstructing dynamical processes from snapshots**.
- The Use Case focuses on identifying the **molecular determinants of cancer staging** specifically in breast cancer characterized by data heterogeneity and sparsity.
- The applications of AI techniques based on **representation learning and generative models** can elucidate dynamic processes, identifying biomarkers of cancer staging and facilitate prediction and forecasting.





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EXCELENCIA  
SEVERO  
OCHOA

EVENTFLOW



Funded by  
the European Union

Thanks!



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