

# Tracing Homoeolog Expression Bias Inheritance in wheat

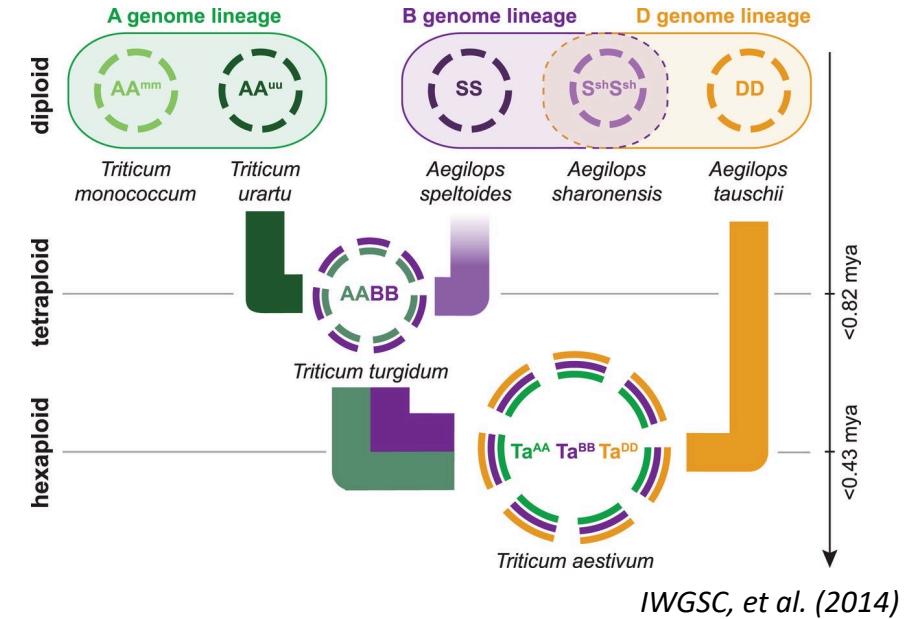
Marek Glombik

13<sup>th</sup> January 2024

*Plant and Animal Genome  
conference, San Diego, US*

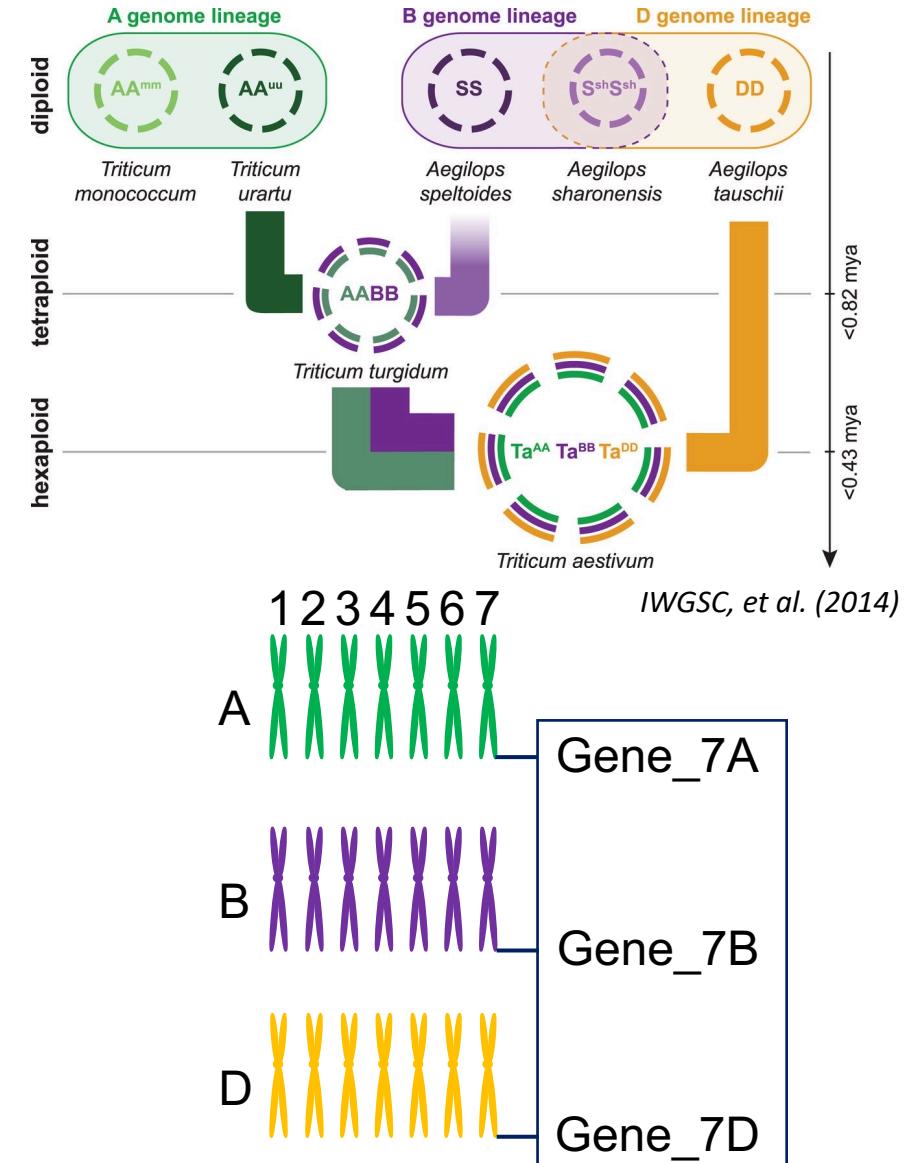
# Wheat genome

- Allohexaploid – three subgenomes (**A**, **B**, **D**)



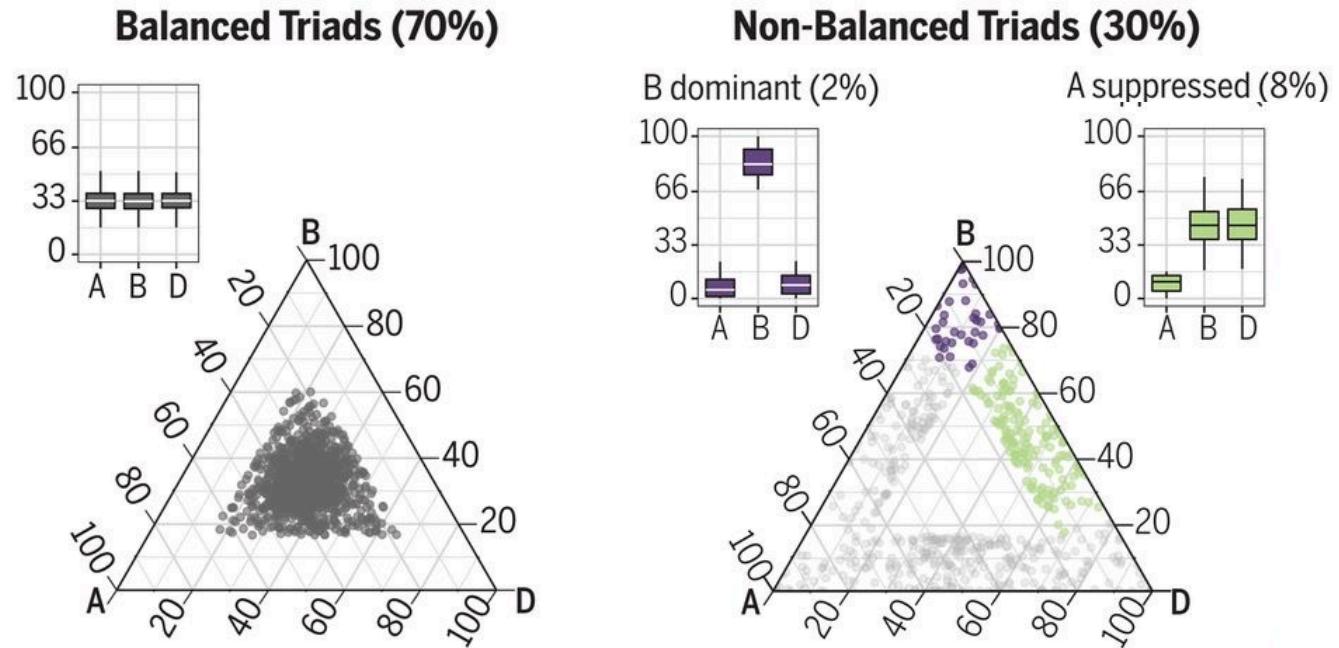
# Wheat genome

- Allohexaploid – three subgenomes (**A**, **B**, **D**)
- Over 53,000 genes have 1:1:1 correspondence across subgenomes = **triad**
- Corresponding genes = **homoeologs**



# Wheat transcriptome

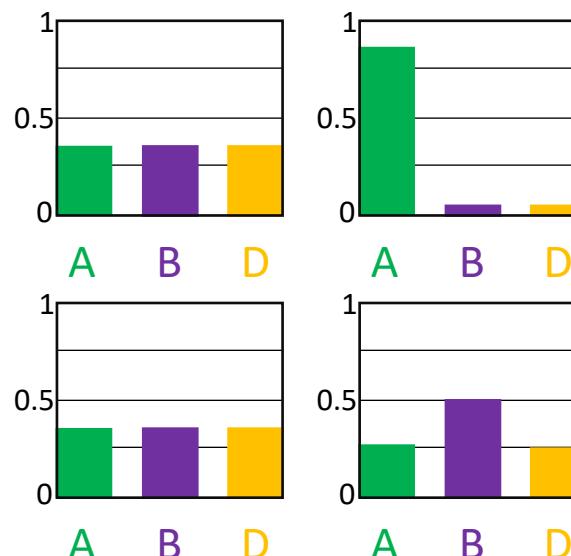
- 70 % of triads display balanced expression (no Homoeolog Expression Bias - HEB)



Ramírez-González, R. H., Borrill, P. et al. (2018)

# Wheat transcriptome

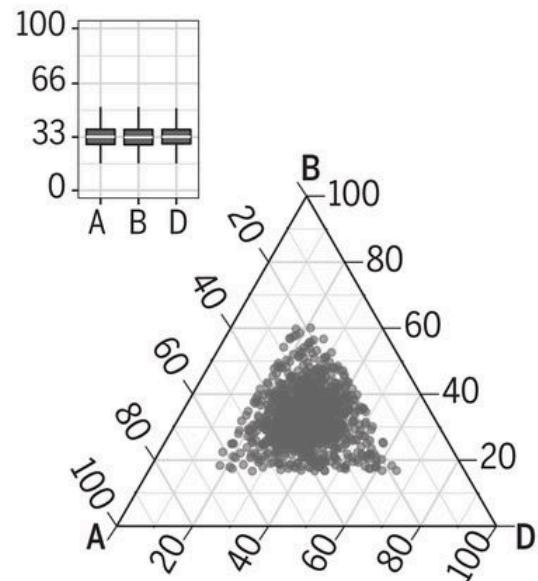
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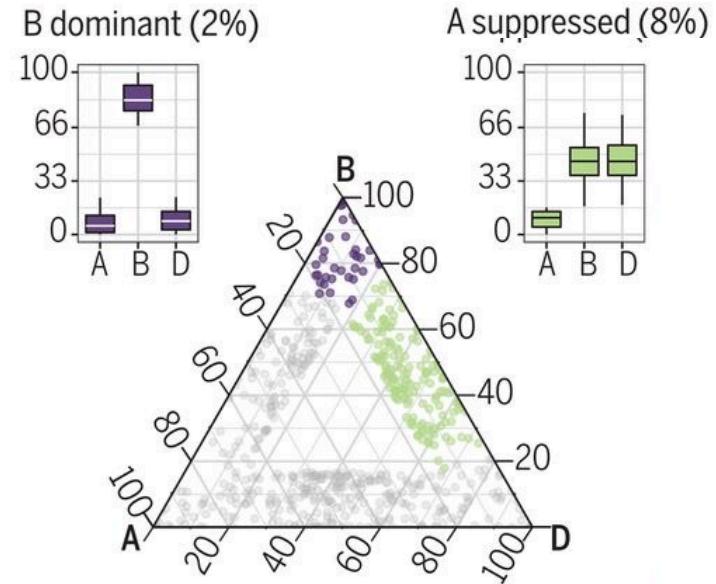
Variety X

Variety Y

Balanced Triads (70%)



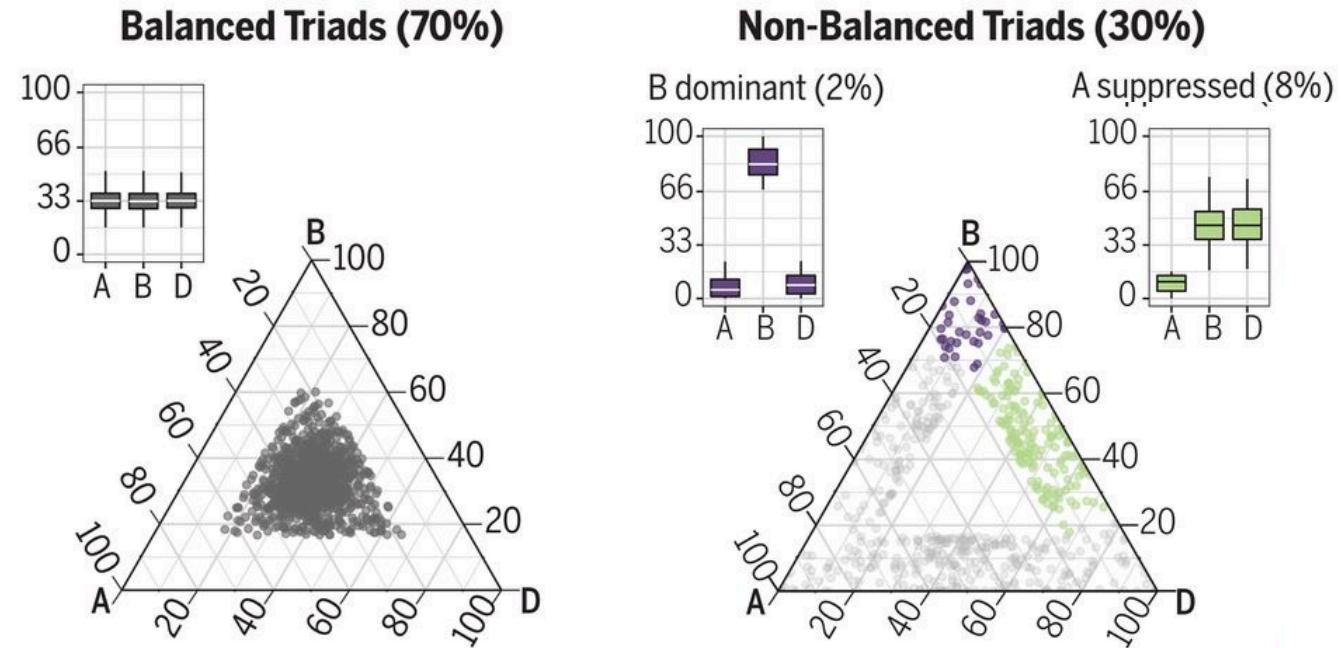
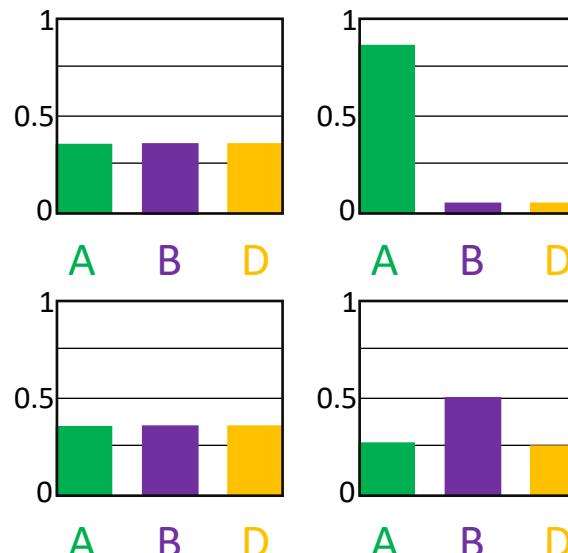
Non-Balanced Triads (30%)



Ramírez-González, R. H., Borrill, P. et al. (2018)

# Wheat transcriptome

- 70 % of triads display balanced expression (no Homoeolog Expression Bias - HEB)



Ramírez-González, R. H., Borrill, P. et al. (2018)

Variety X  
X  
Variety Y → Progeny?

Paragon  
(W10074 PF-1)



x

Charger  
(WPxCHA 10001)



Paragon  
(W10074 PF-1) x Watkins  
(WATDE0228 PF-1)



x



Germplasm Resources Unit

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Biological Sciences  
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John Innes Centre  
Unlocking Nature's Diversity

Paragon  
(W10074 PF-1)



x

Charger  
(WPxCHA 10001)



6th generation of  
single seed descent



50  $F_6$  lines

Paragon  
(W10074 PF-1)



x

Watkins  
(WATDE0228 PF-1)



50  $F_6$  lines



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Paragon  
(W10074 PF-1)



x

Charger  
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Paragon  
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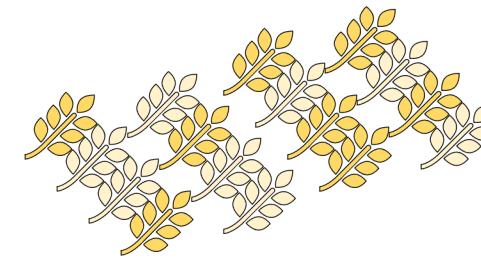
Watkins  
(WATDE0228 PF-1)



6th generation of  
single seed descent



50 F<sub>6</sub> lines



50 F<sub>6</sub> lines

Leaf  
tissue  
14-day old  
seedlings

RNA-sequencing

Leaf  
tissue  
14-day old  
seedlings

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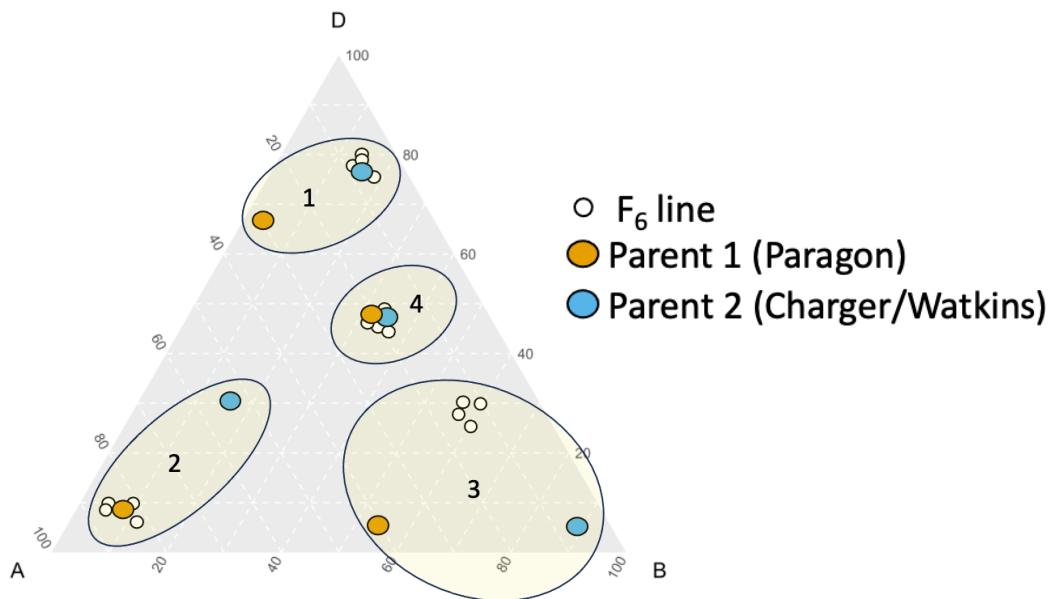
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Research Council

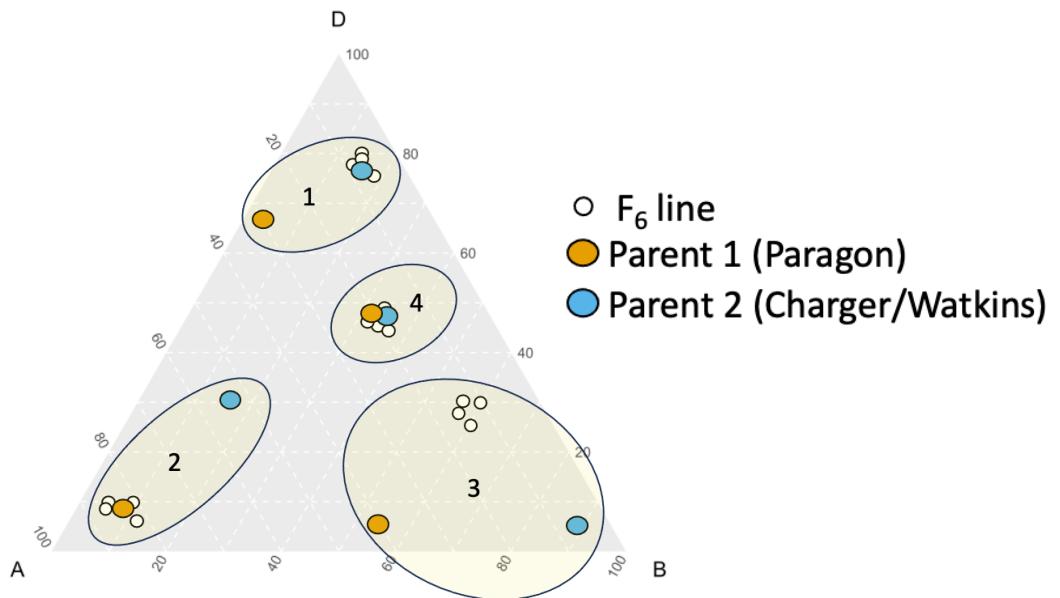
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# HEB analysis



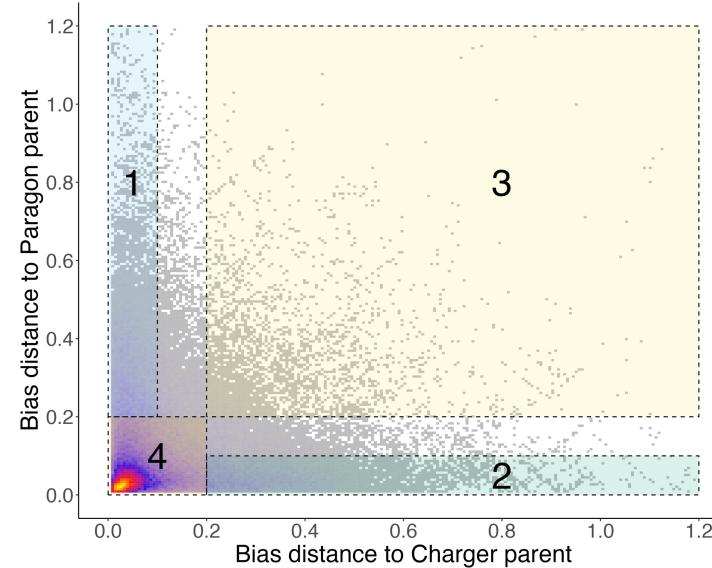
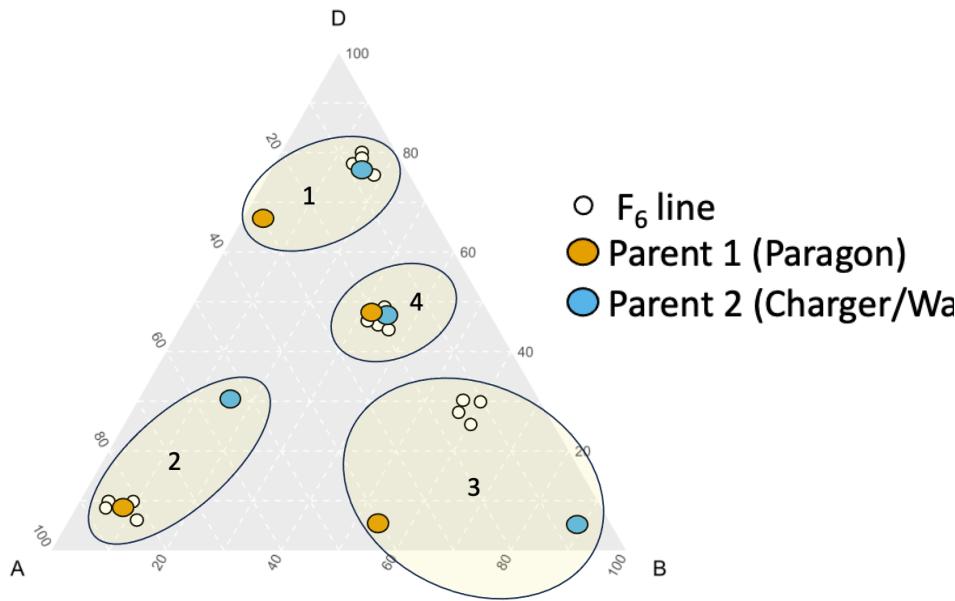
# HEB analysis

- Bias distance – relative distance between  $F_6$  line HEB and parental HEB

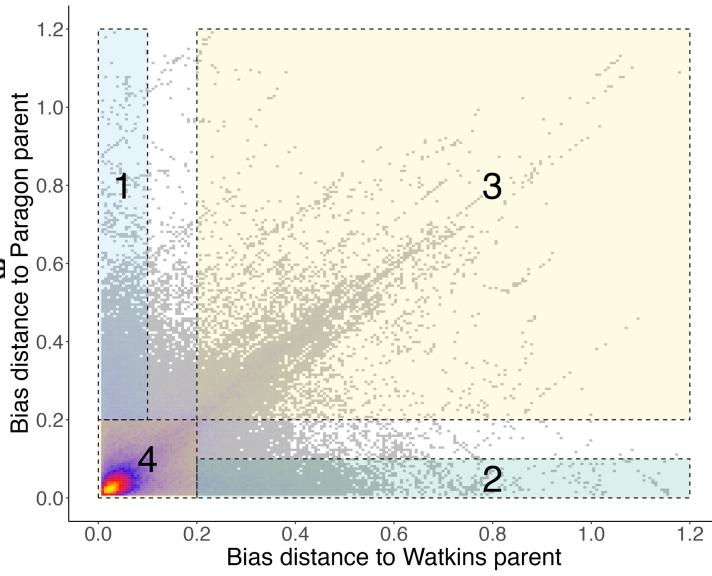


# HEB analysis

- Bias distance – relative distance between  $F_6$  line HEB and parental HEB



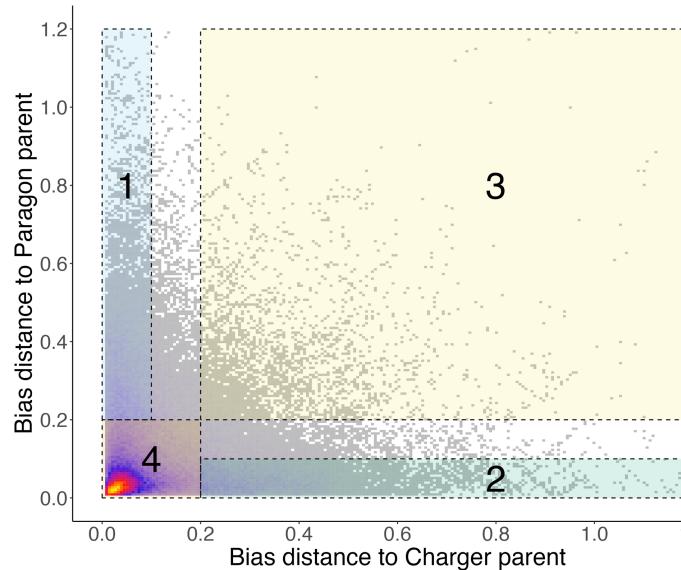
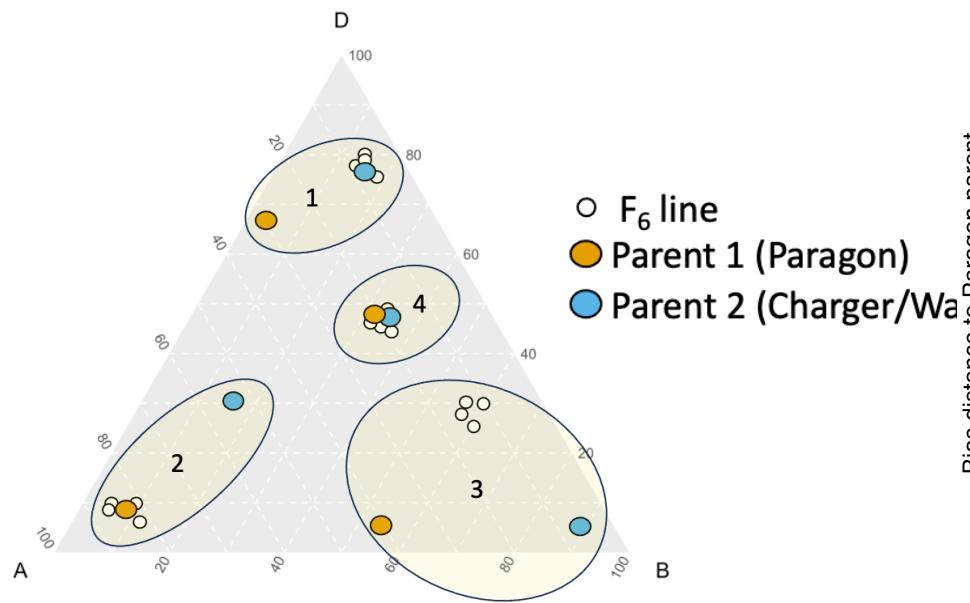
PxC



PxW

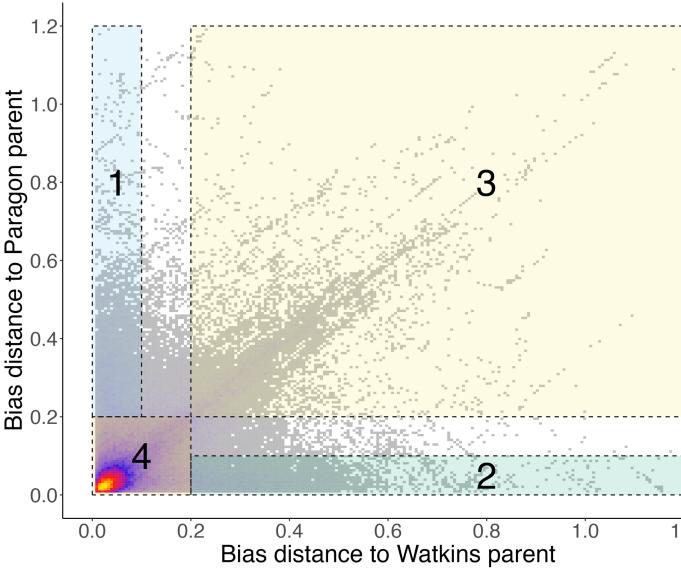
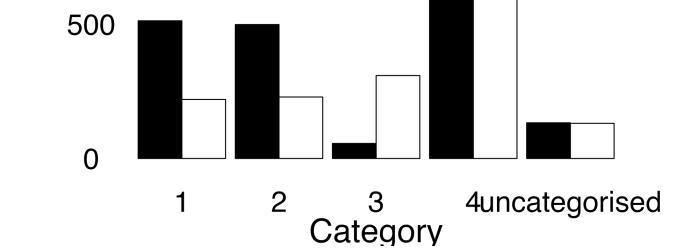
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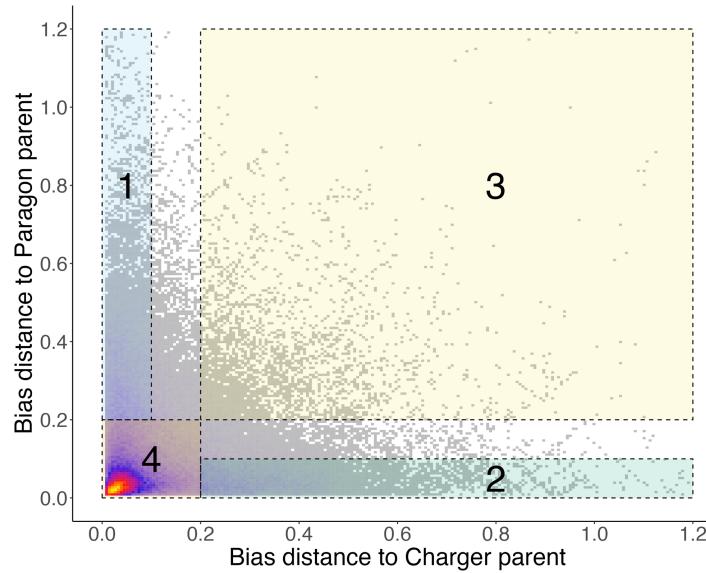
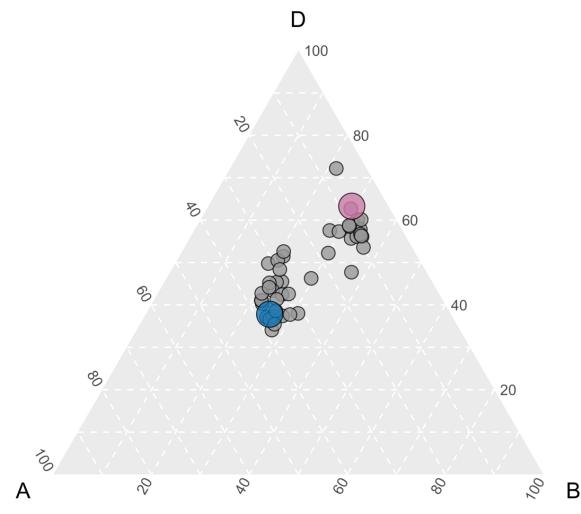


PxC

Triad count



PxW



PxC

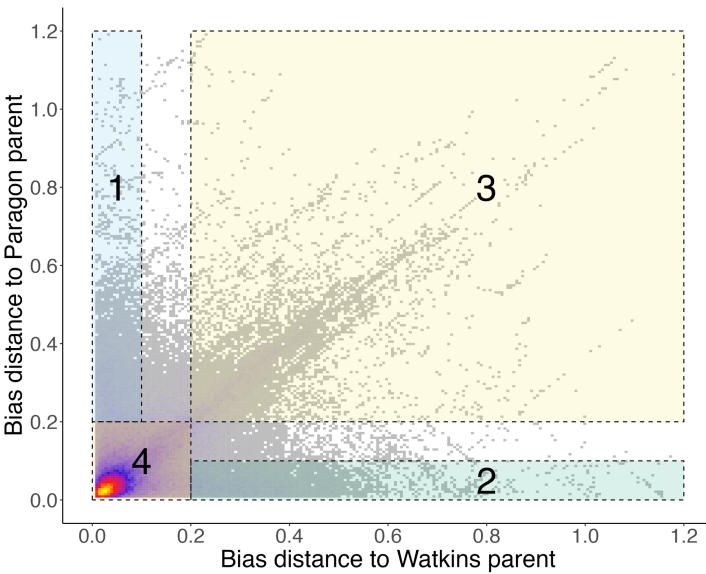
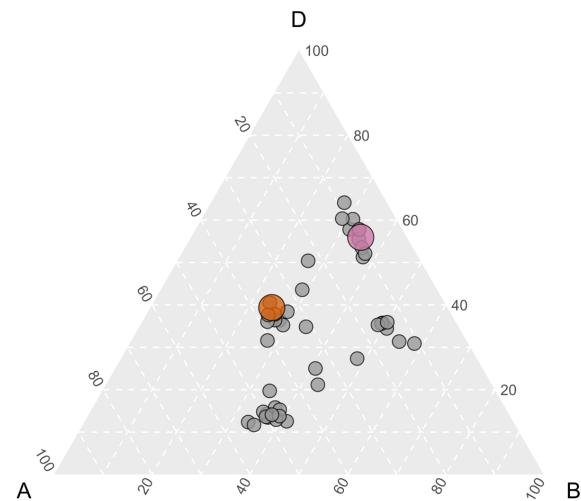
2000  
1500  
1000

Triad count

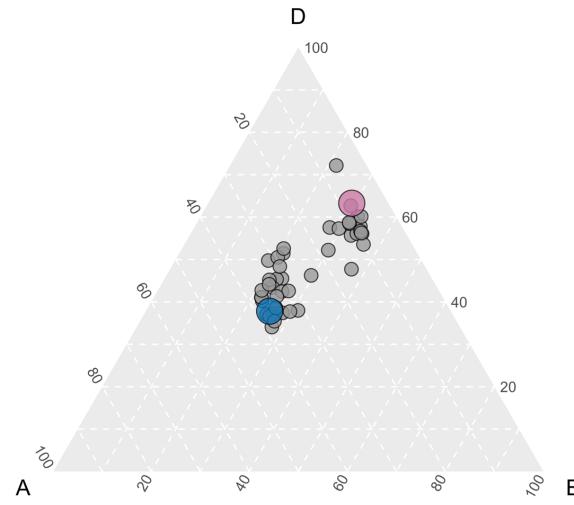
500  
0

1 2 3 4 uncategorised

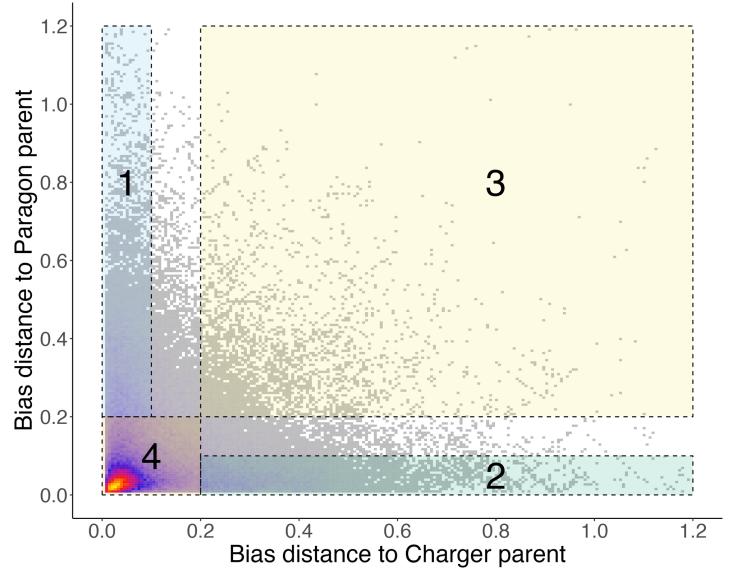
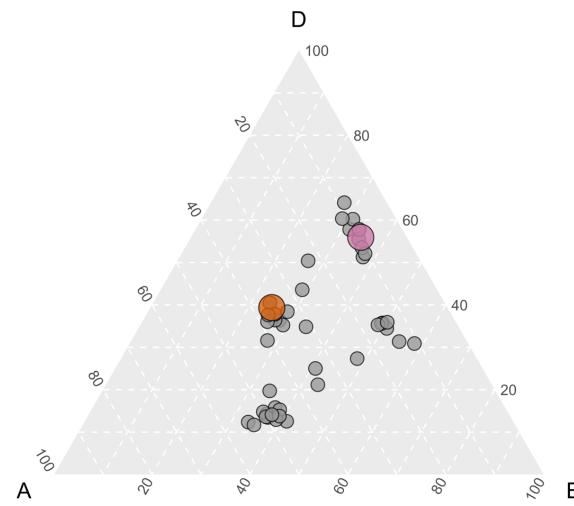
cross  
■ PxC  
□ PxB



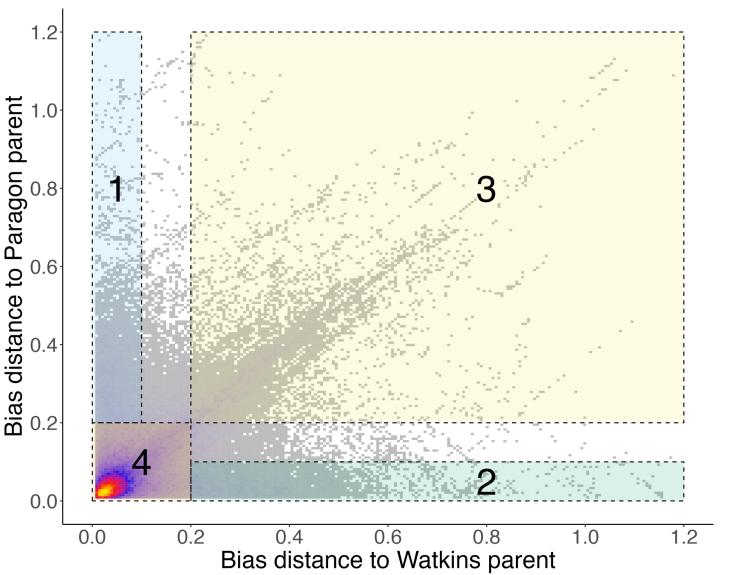
PxW



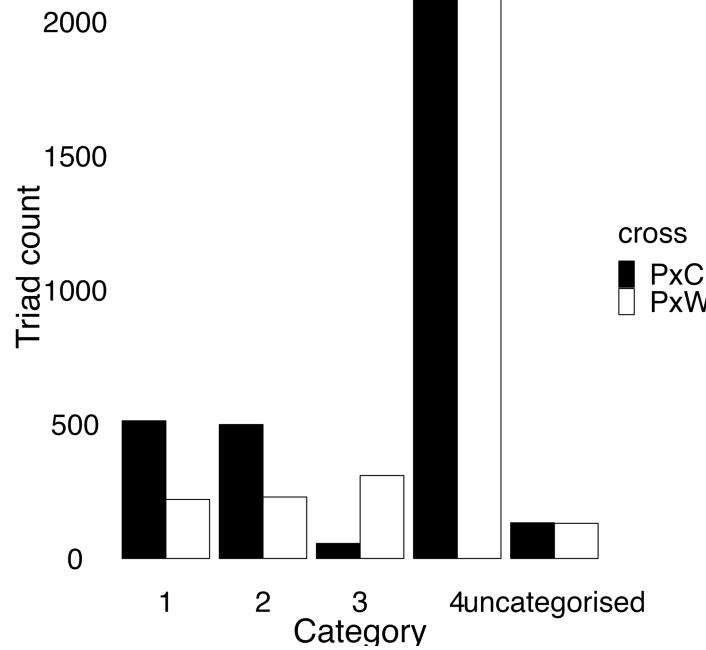
Link to genotype?



PxC



PxW



cross  
■ PxC  
□ PxW

# Association between a SNP and gene expression

- eQTL analysis



# Association between a SNP and gene expression

- eQTL analysis
- **7 957 SNPs in 3 080 genes PxC**
- **5 538 SNPs in 2 059 genes PxW**

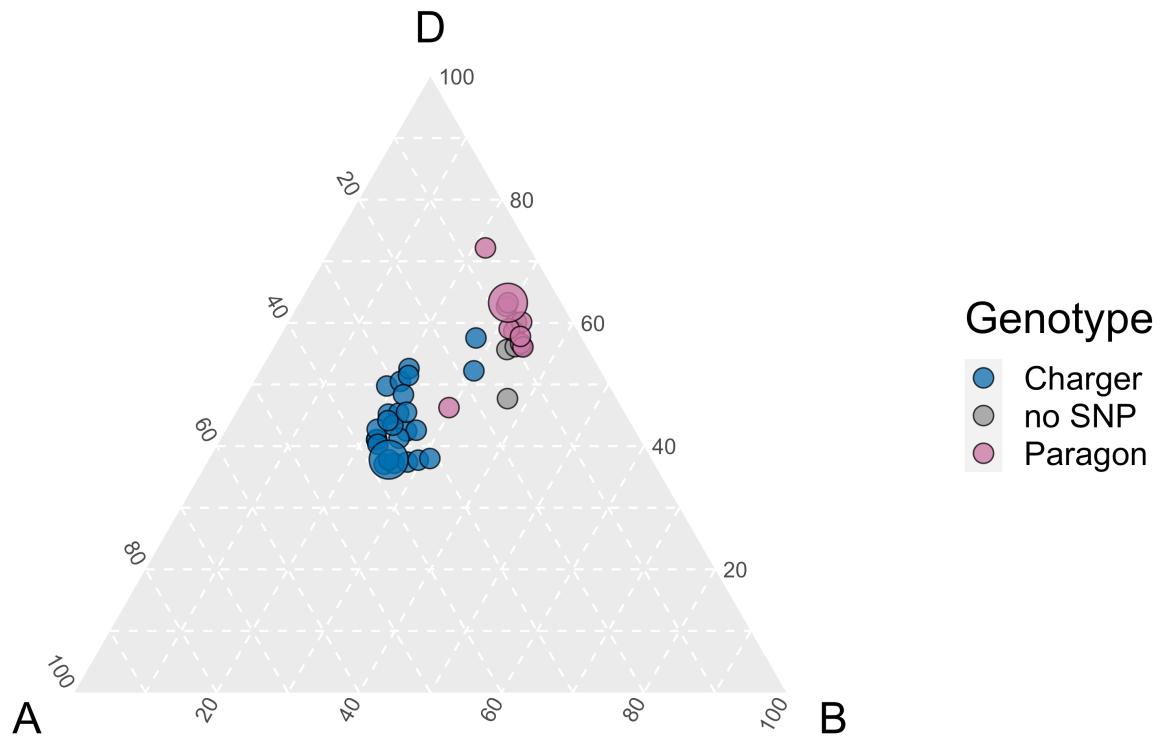


# Association between a SNP and gene expression

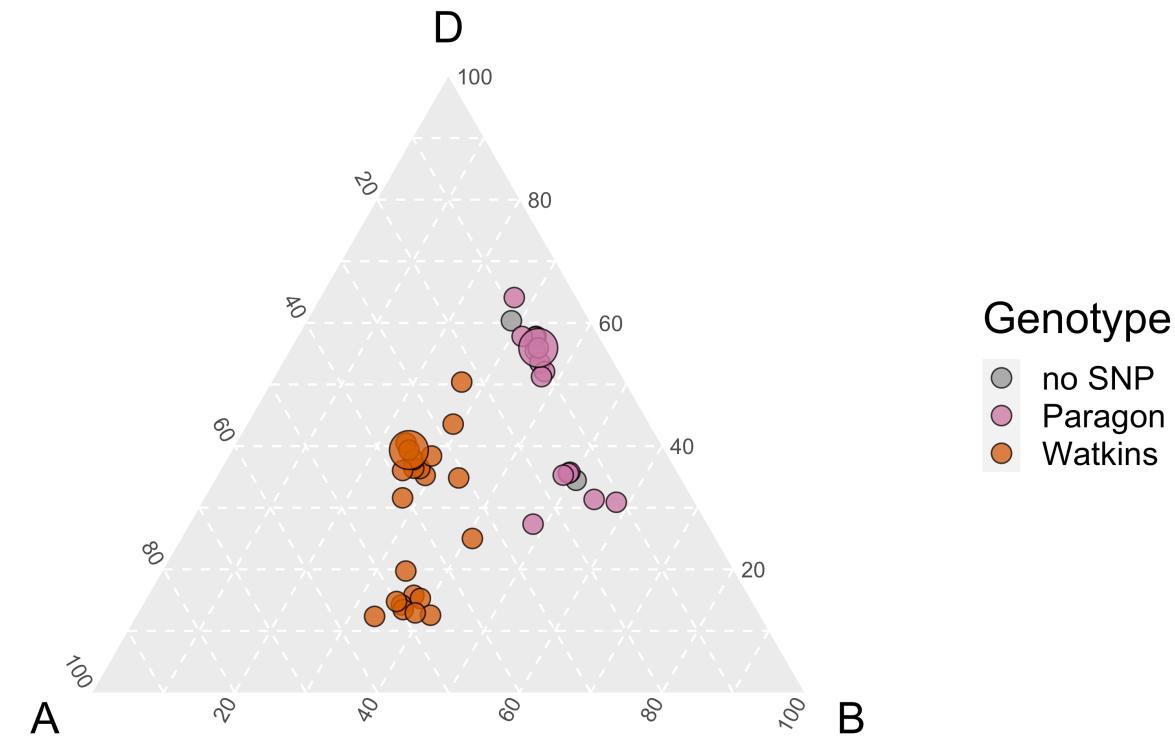
- eQTL analysis
  - **7 957 SNPs in 3 080 genes PxC**
  - **5 538 SNPs in 2 059 genes PxW**
  - **512 triads in PxC – 75 %**
  - **76 triads in PxW – 54 %**
- Connected to HEB analysis based  
on bias distance calculations**

# Association between a SNP and gene expression

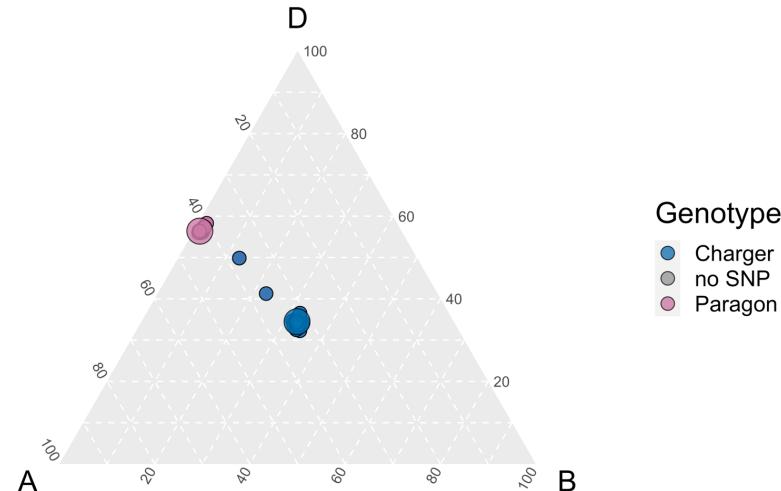
PxC



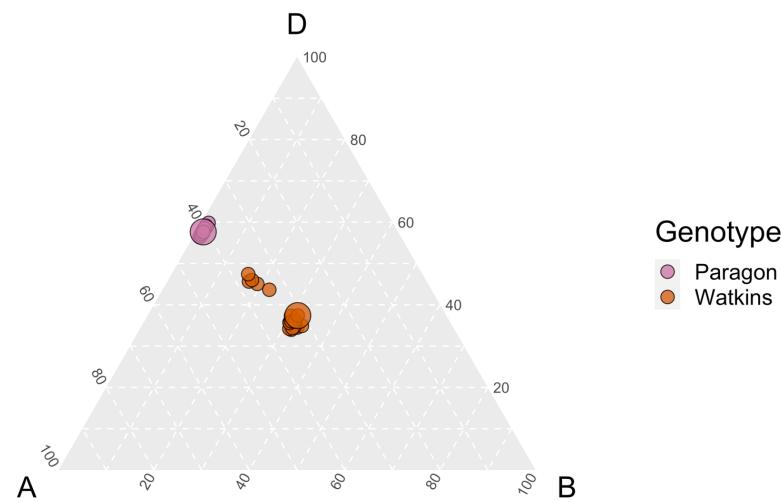
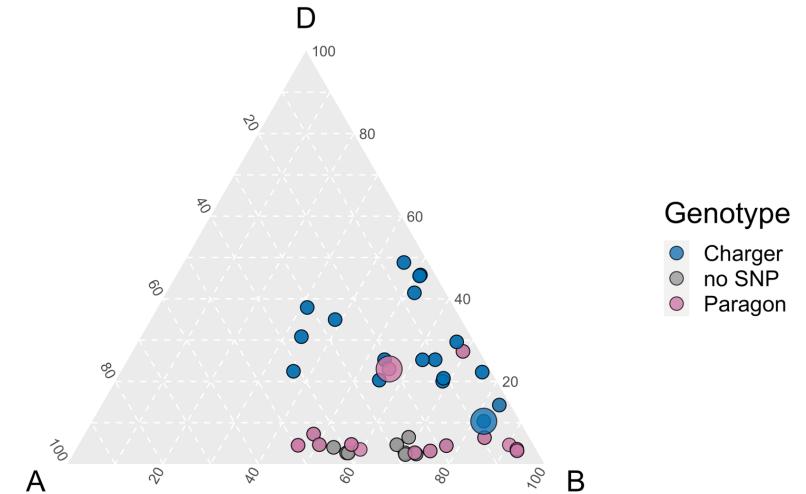
PxW



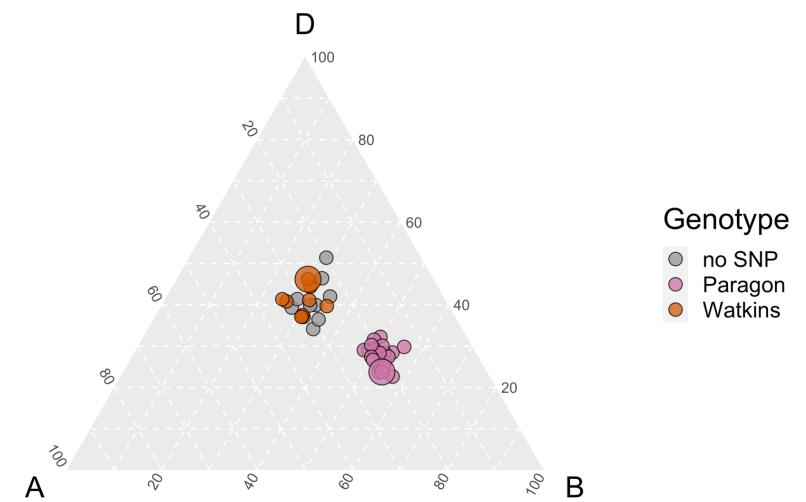
# Association between a SNP and gene expression



PxC



PxW



# Take home message

- HEB in wheat is partially linked to genotype
- Crossing wheat varieties may lead to a myriad of triad expression patterns that can highly differ from parental lines **and potentially influence trait expression**



# Acknowledgement



## Borrill Lab

Philippa Borrill  
Sam Burrows  
Catherine Evans

Arunkumar Ramesh



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