

# Polygenic prediction incorporating functional annotations

Jian Zeng

Functional genomic annotations provide orthogonal information which can be used to improve polygenic prediction.

- Chromatin states
- Biological functions
- Pathways
- Context dependent
- Molecular quantitative trait loci (xQTL)
- LD and MAF
- etc

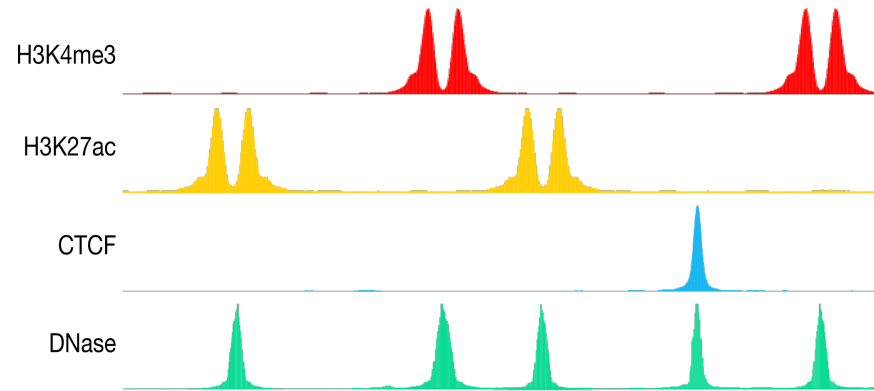
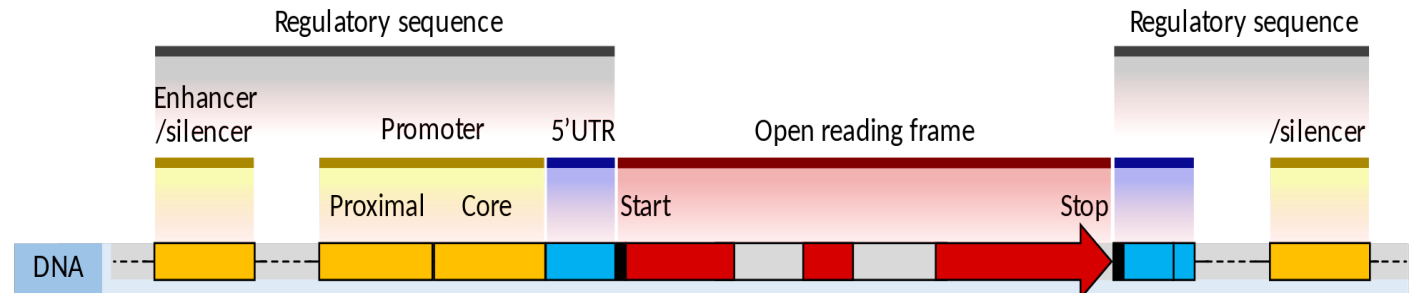


Image from ENCODE

# Help interpret the association signal

GWAS signals

SBayesR signals

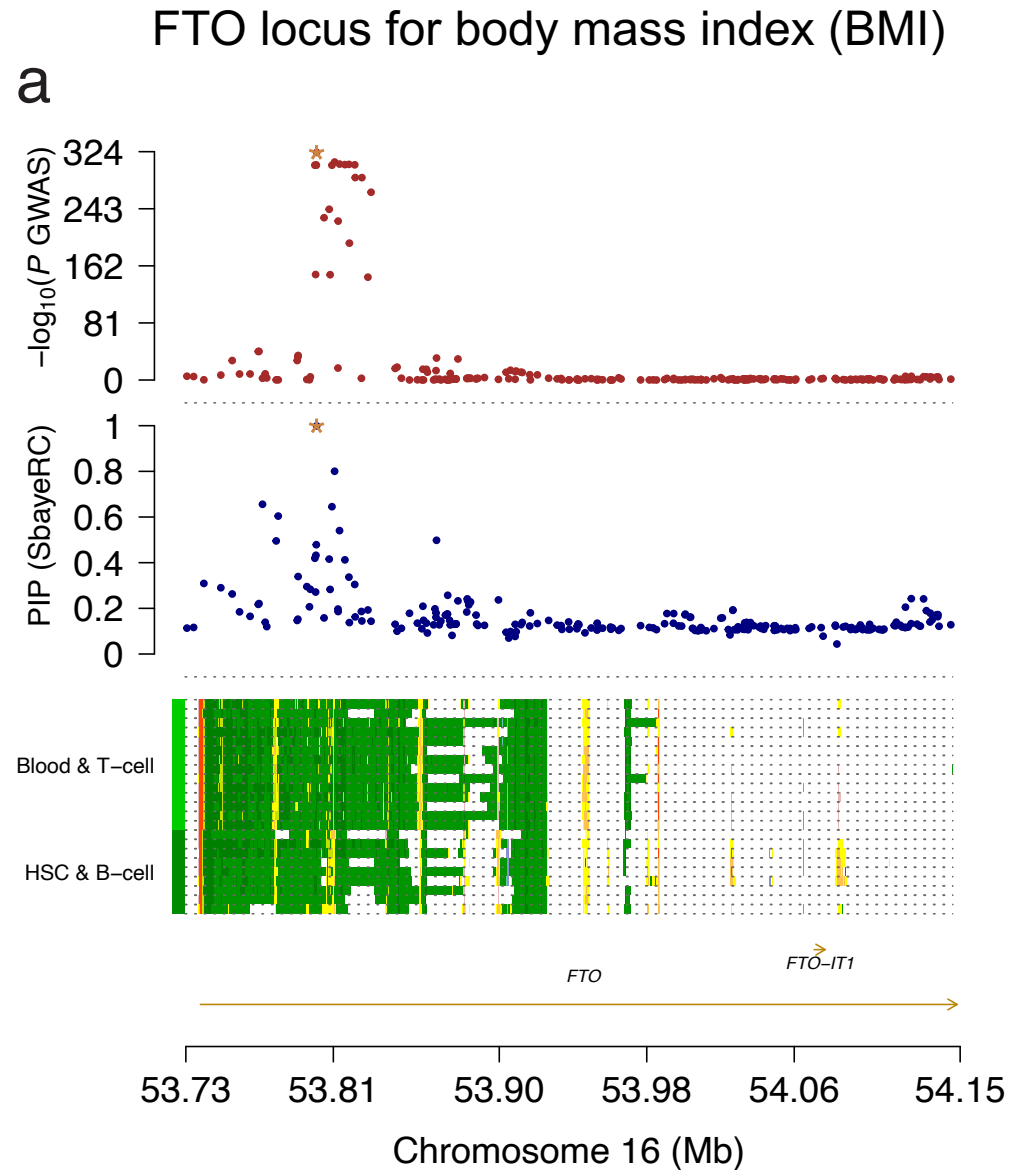
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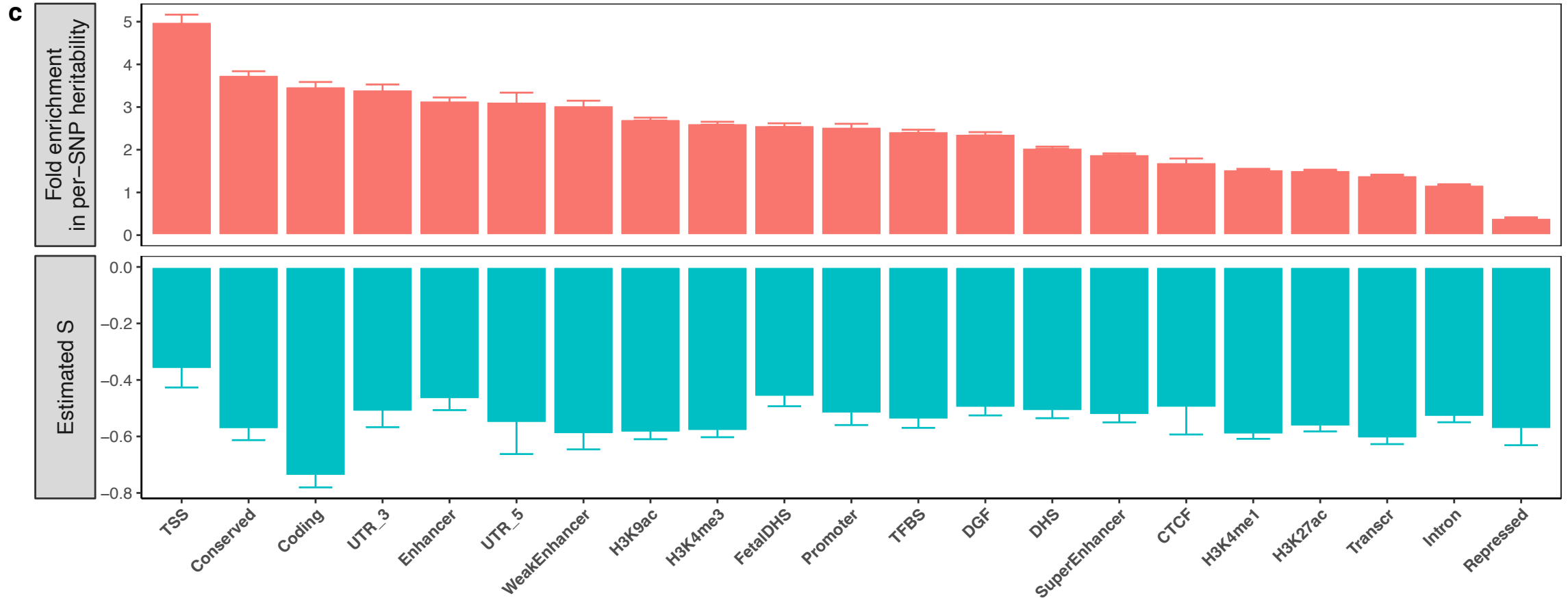


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ESTABLISHED IN 1812 SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 VOL. 373 NO. 10

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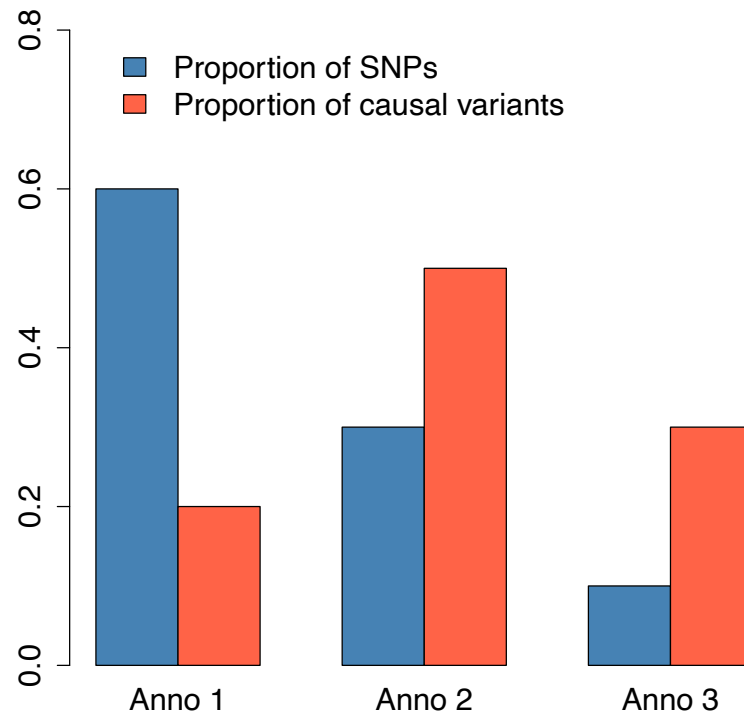
# Functional genetic architecture



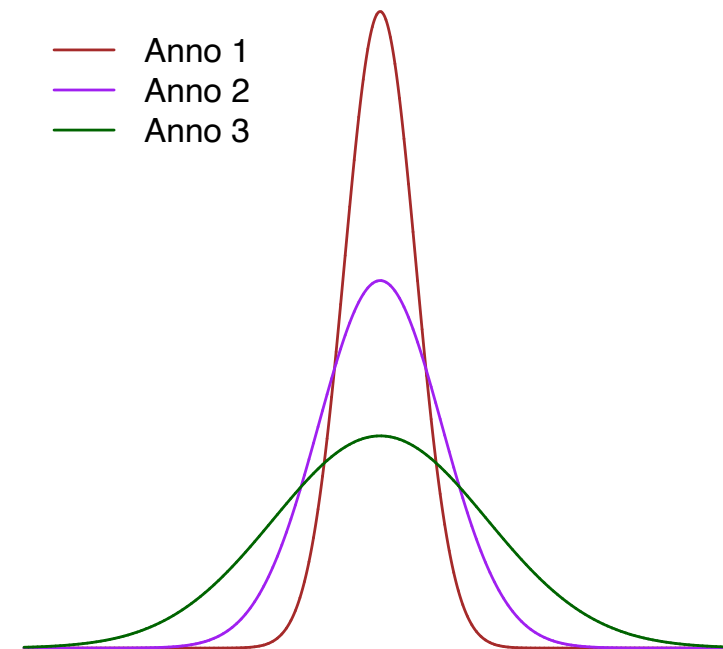
Zeng et al 2021 Nature Communications

Functional annotations are informative on both the presence of causal variants and the distribution of causal effect sizes.

Differences in proportion of causal variants

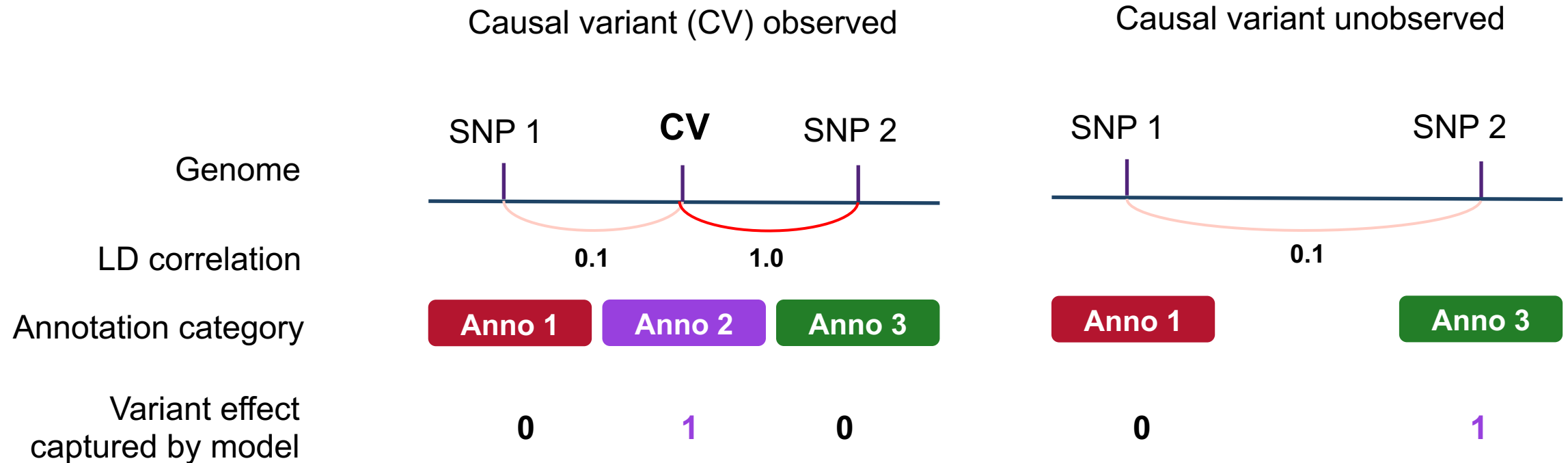


Differences in distribution of causal effects



# Opportunities/challenges

Separate the causal variants from non-causal SNPs in high LD. However, variant annotation and effect may discord if the causal variant is not observed.



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### Incorporating functional priors improves polygenic prediction accuracy in UK Biobank and 23andMe data sets

[Carla Márquez-Luna](#) , [Steven Gazal](#), [Po-Ru Loh](#), [Samuel S. Kim](#), [Nicholas Furlotte](#), [Adam Auton](#), [23andMe Research Team](#) & [Alkes L. Price](#) 

#### LDpredFunc method

### Exploiting biological priors and sequence variants enhances QTL discovery and genomic prediction of complex traits

[I. M. MacLeod](#) , [P. J. Bowman](#), [C. J. Vander Jagt](#), [M. Haile-Mariam](#), [K. E. Kemper](#), [A. J. Chamberlain](#), [C. Schrooten](#), [B. J. Hayes](#) & [M. E. Goddard](#)

*BMC Genomics* **17**, Article number: 144 (2016) | [Cite this article](#)

**6209** Accesses | **146** Citations | **9** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

#### BayesRC method

## PLOS COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

### Leveraging functional annotations in genetic risk prediction for human complex diseases

[Yiming Hu](#) , [Qiongshi Lu](#) , [Ryan Powles](#), [Xinwei Yao](#), [Can Yang](#), [Fang Fang](#), [Xinran Xu](#), [Hongyu Zhao](#) 

#### AnnoPred method

### Winner's Curse Correction and Variable Thresholding Improve Performance of Polygenic Risk Modeling Based on Genome-Wide Association Study Summary-Level Data

[Jianxin Shi](#) , [Ju-Hyun Park](#), [Jubao Duan](#), [Sonja T. Berndt](#), [Winton Moy](#), [Kai Yu](#), [Lei Song](#), [William Wheeler](#), [Xing Hua](#), [Debra Silverman](#), [Montserrat Garcia-Closas](#), [Chao Agnes Hsiung](#), [Jonine D. Figueroa](#), [ ... ], [Nilanjan Chatterjee](#)  [ view all ]

#### P+T-funct-LASSO method

Need prediction methods that can simultaneously fit all SNPs and learn weights of annotations from the data.

# Low-rank model (fits 7M SNPs or more)

In each quasi-independent LD block:

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{R} \boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

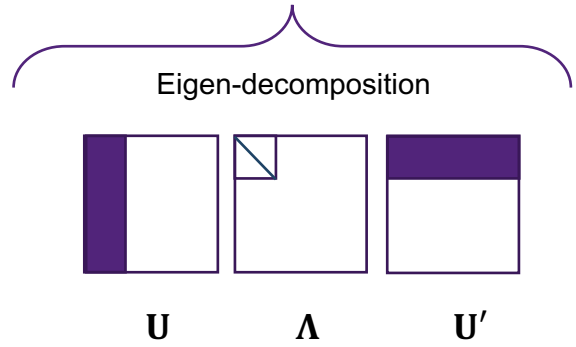
GWAS SNP marginal effects

LD correlation matrix

SNP joint effects

Residuals

Var( $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ )  $\propto$



$$\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}' \mathbf{b} = \boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}' \boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}' \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

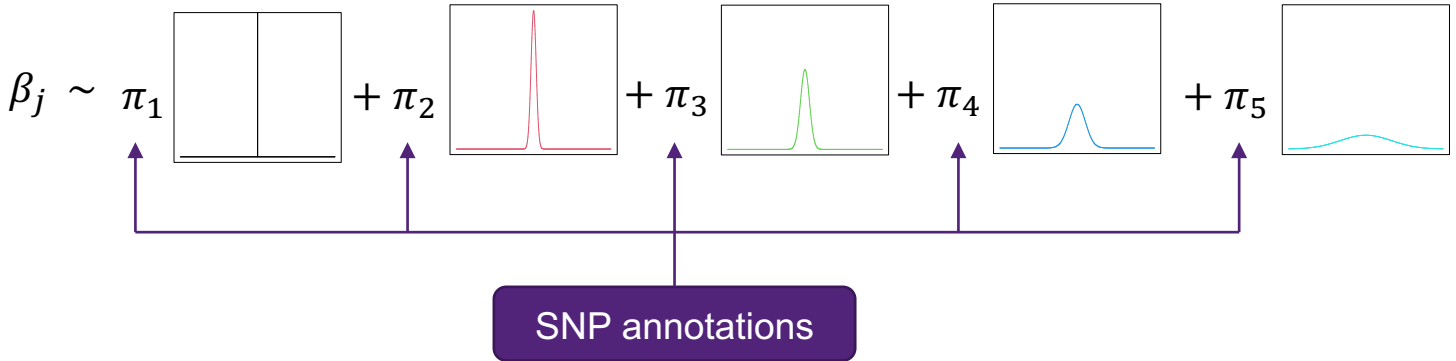
$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{Q} \boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

Var( $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ )  $\propto$

It only requires the top 20% eigenvalues to explain 99.5% of the variance in LD!



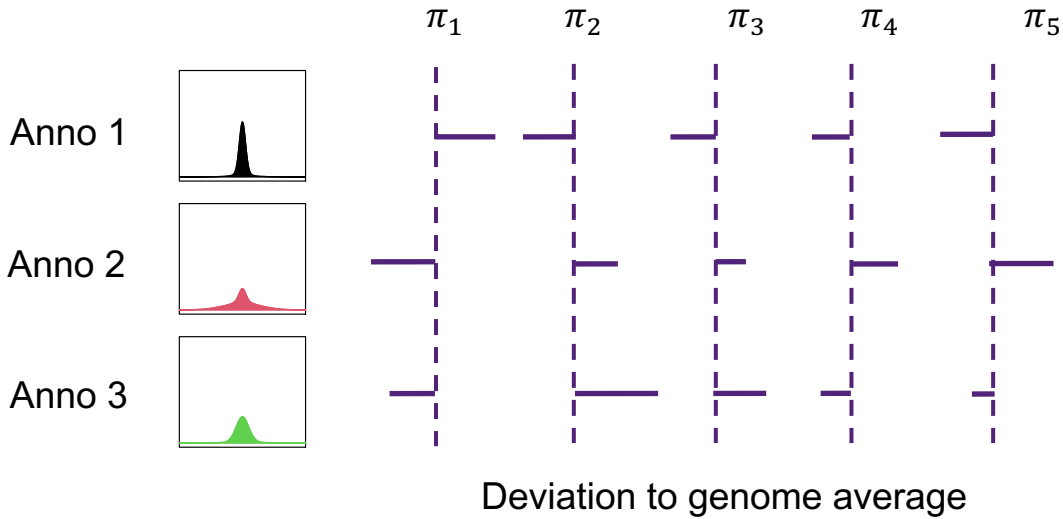
# Modelling functional annotations (SBayesRC)



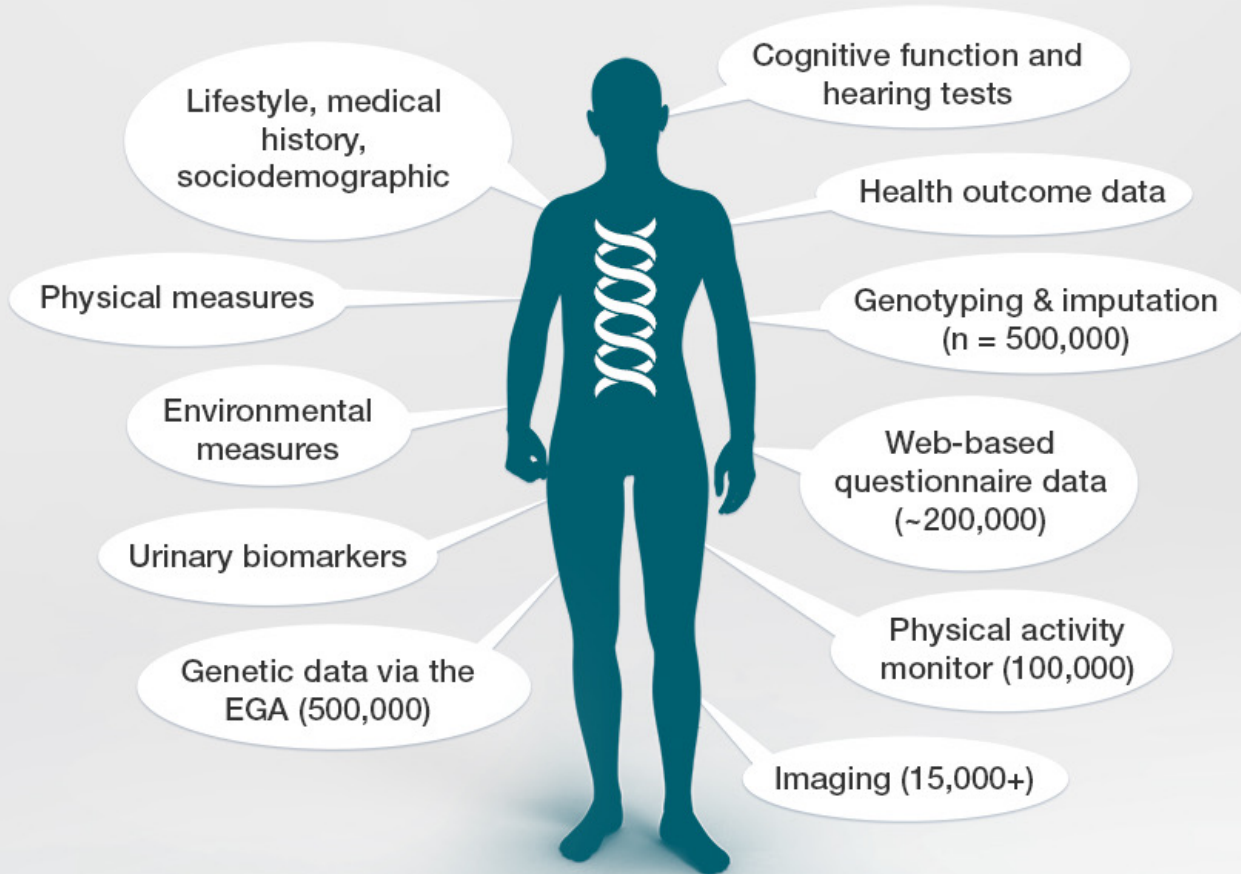
$$f(\pi_{jk}) = \text{Intercept} + \sum \text{SNP annotation} \times \text{annotation effect}$$

annotation effect  $\sim N(0, \sigma_\alpha^2)$

Probit link is used to enable Gibbs sampling



## Data on UK Biobank participants



- 340K unrelated individuals of European ancestry
- 28 independent traits with large sample size (including 8 diseases)
- Adjust for age, sex and 10PCs
- 96 continuous and categorical SNP annotations from **BaselineLDv2.2** (Gazal et al 2017 Nature Genetics)
- Random sample of 20K individuals of European ancestry as LD reference

# Within European ancestry prediction

Benchmark is the prediction accuracy from SBayesR using 1M HapMap3 SNPs (dash line).

$$\frac{R_X^2 - R_{\text{SBayesR}}^2}{R_{\text{SBayesR}}^2}$$

**LDpred2**

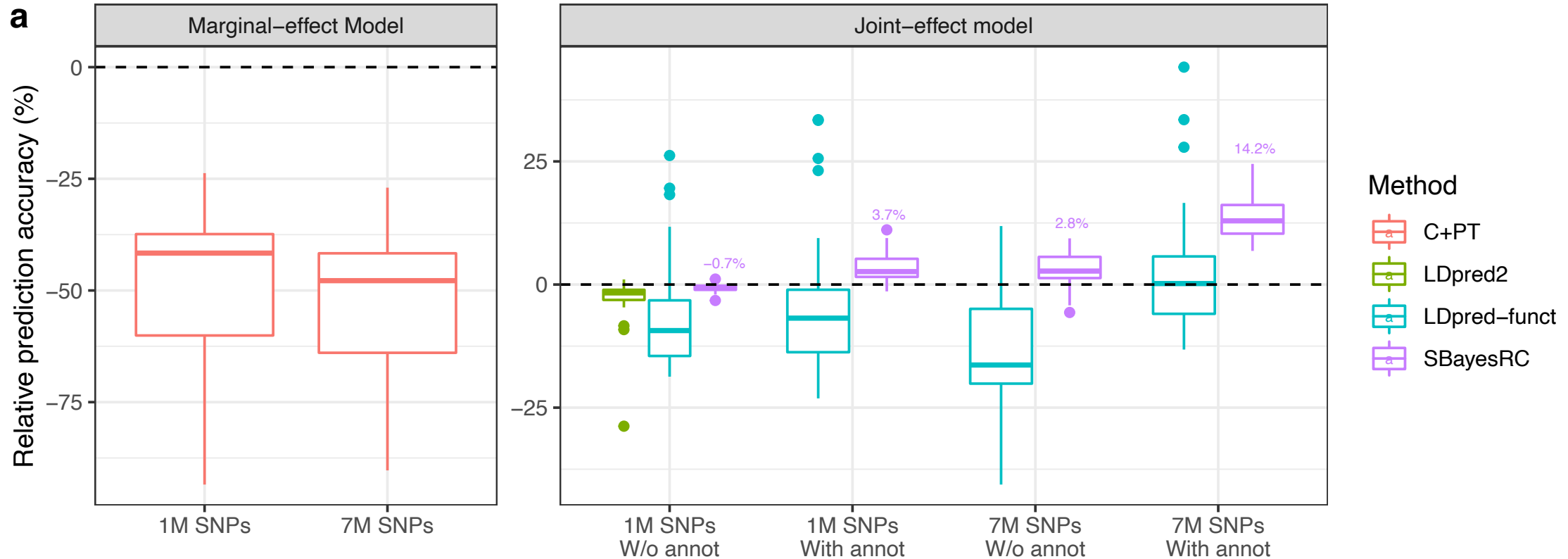
*Bioinformatics*, 2021, 1–8  
doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btaa1029  
Advance Access Publication Date: 16 December 2020  
Original Paper

Genetics and population analysis  
**LDpred2: better, faster, stronger**  
Florian Privé<sup>1,\*</sup>, Julyan Arbel<sup>2</sup> and Bjarni J. Vilhjálmsson<sup>1,3,\*</sup>

nature COMMUNICATIONS **LDpred-funct**

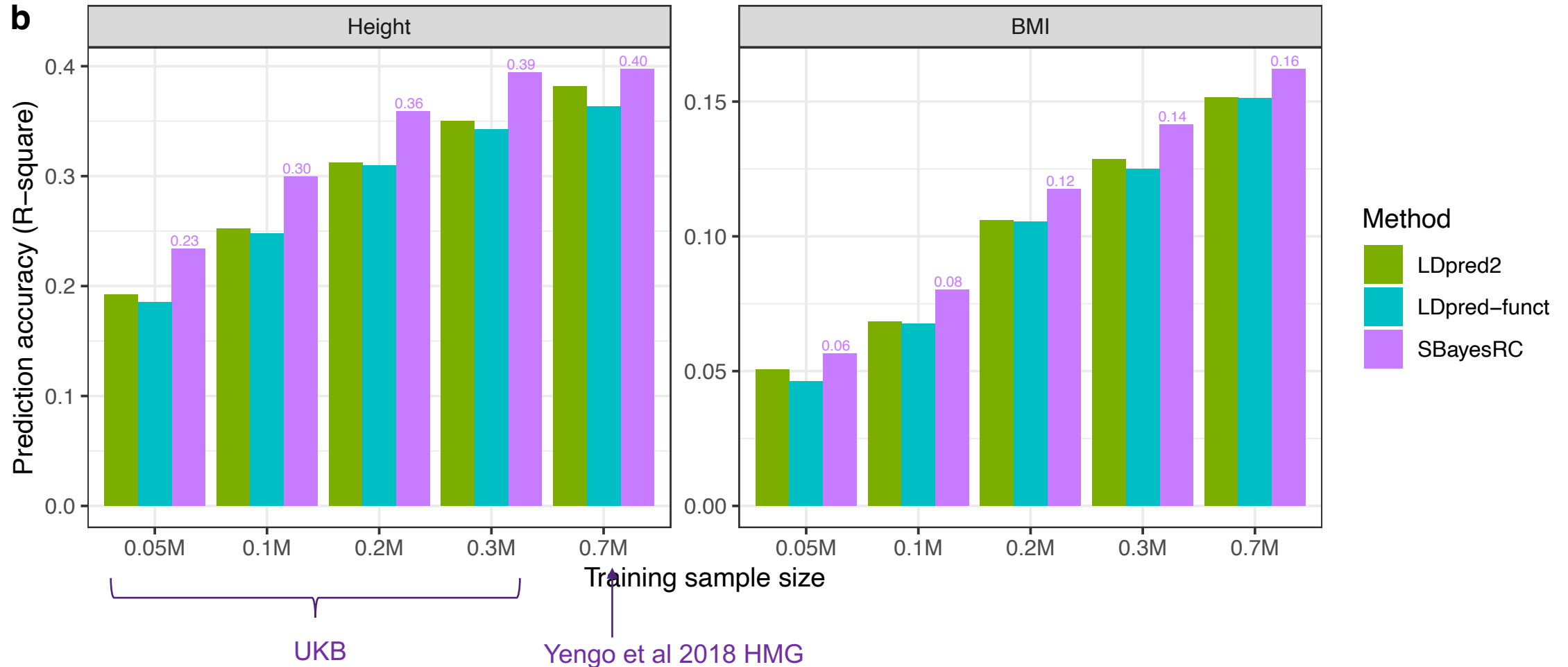
ARTICLE  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-25171-9> OPEN

Incorporating functional priors improves polygenic prediction accuracy in UK Biobank and 23andMe data sets



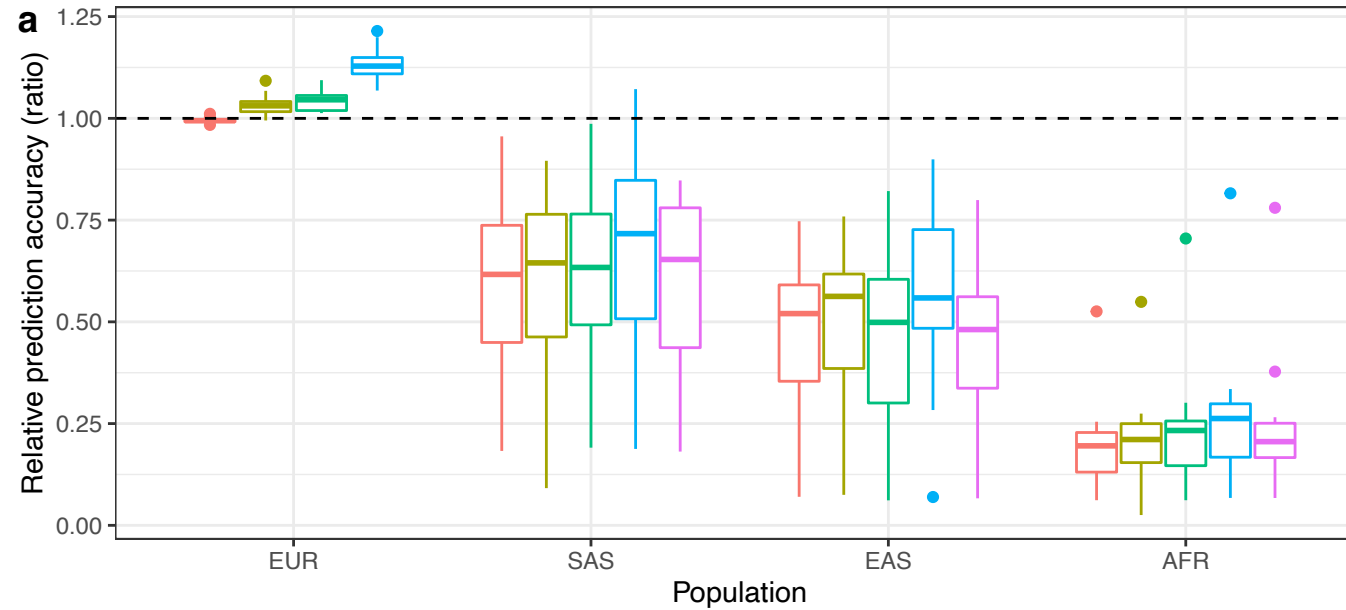
# Cross-biobank prediction (Lifelines)

Prediction  $R^2 = 0.4$  in height and  $0.16$  in BMI (~70% SNP-based heritability)

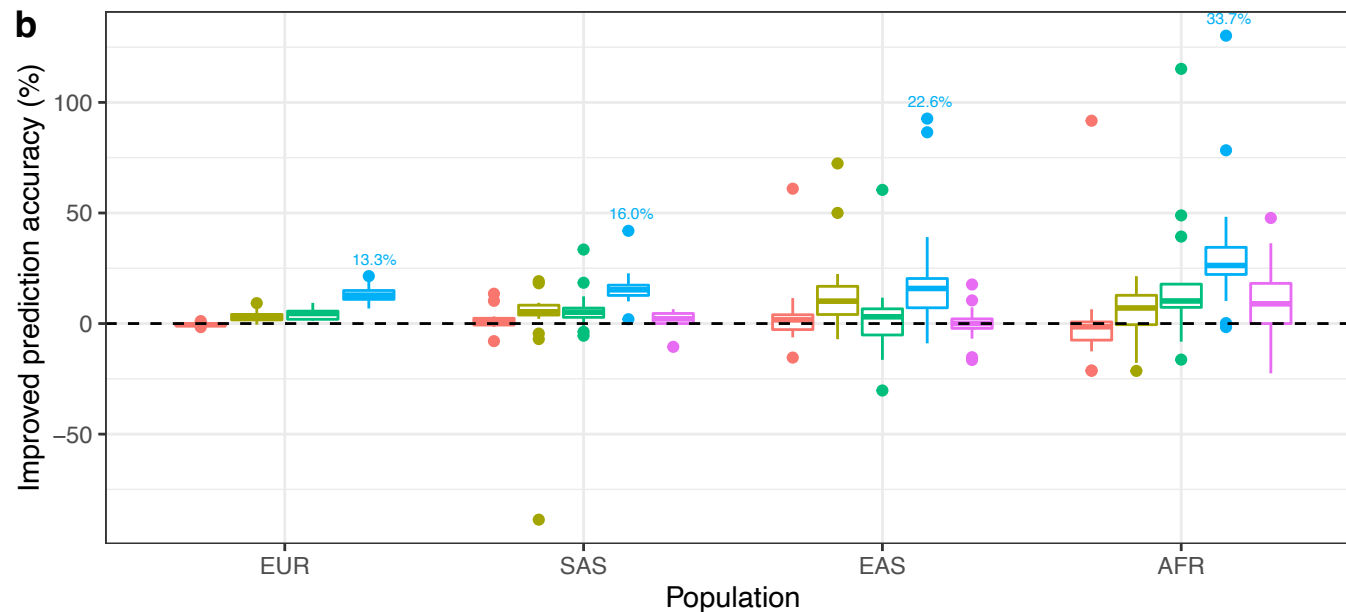


# Trans-ancestry prediction

$$\frac{R_X^2(\text{Pop})}{R_{\text{SBayesR}}^2(\text{EUR})}$$



$$\frac{R_X^2(\text{Pop}) - R_{\text{SBayesR}}^2(\text{Pop})}{R_{\text{SBayesR}}^2(\text{Pop})}$$



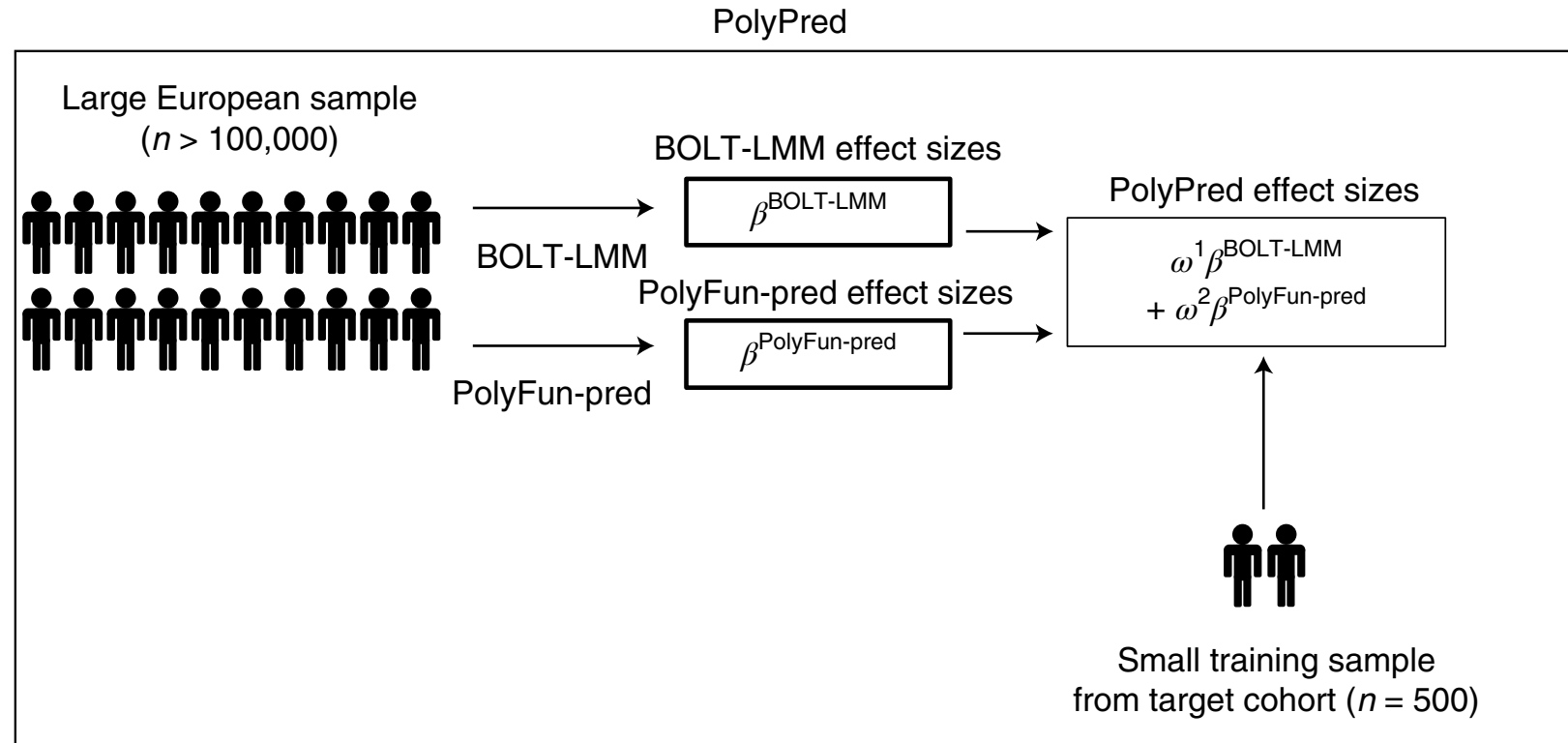
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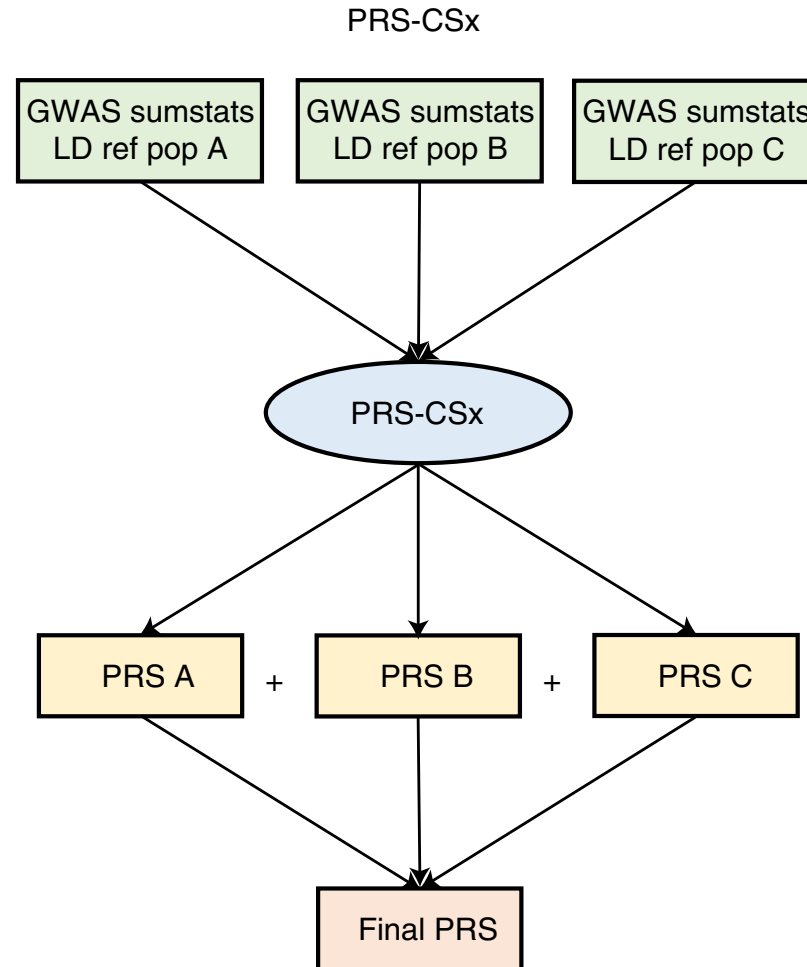
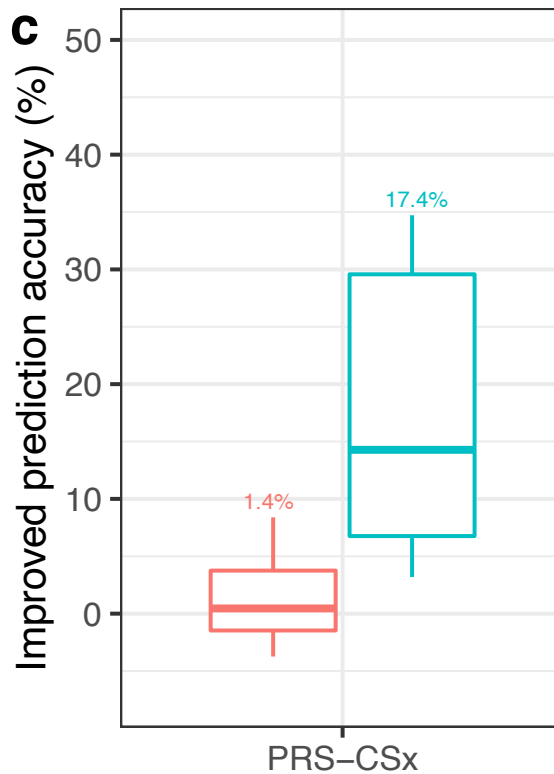
**Leveraging fine-mapping and multipopulation training data to improve cross-population polygenic risk scores**



PolyPred-S is a variation of PolyPred with BOLT-LMM replaced by SBayesR estimates.

# Trans-ancestry prediction

Use GWAS data from UKB EUR and BBJ (Biobank Japan) EAS to predict UKB EAS



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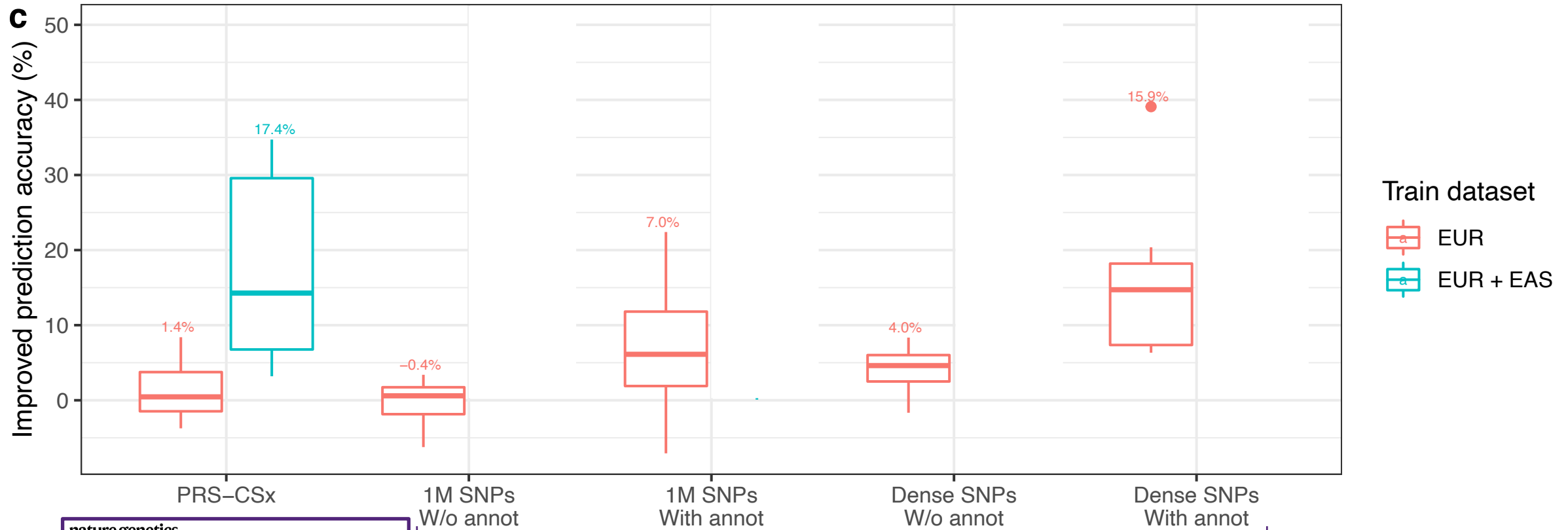
## Improving polygenic prediction in ancestrally diverse populations

Train dataset

- EUR
- EUR + EAS

# Trans-ancestry prediction

Use GWAS data from UKB EUR and BBJ (Biobank Japan) EAS to predict UKB EAS



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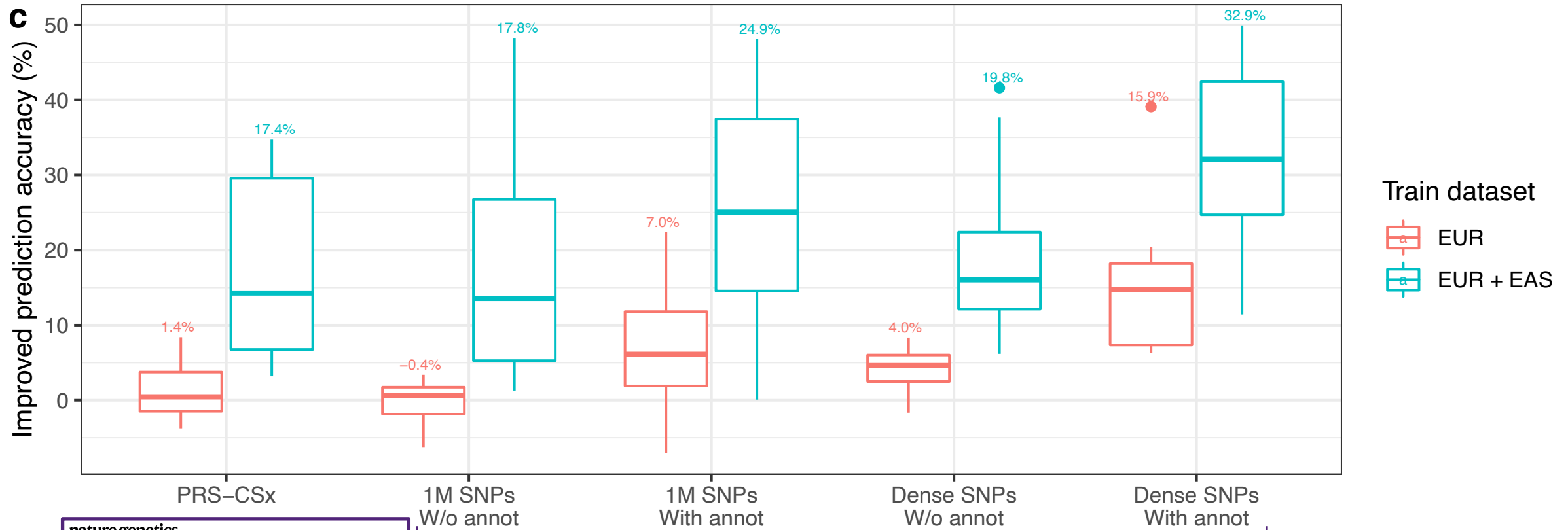
**Improving polygenic prediction in ancestrally diverse populations**

SBayesRC



# Trans-ancestry prediction

Use GWAS data from UKB EUR and BBJ (Biobank Japan) EAS to predict UKB EAS



SBayesRC

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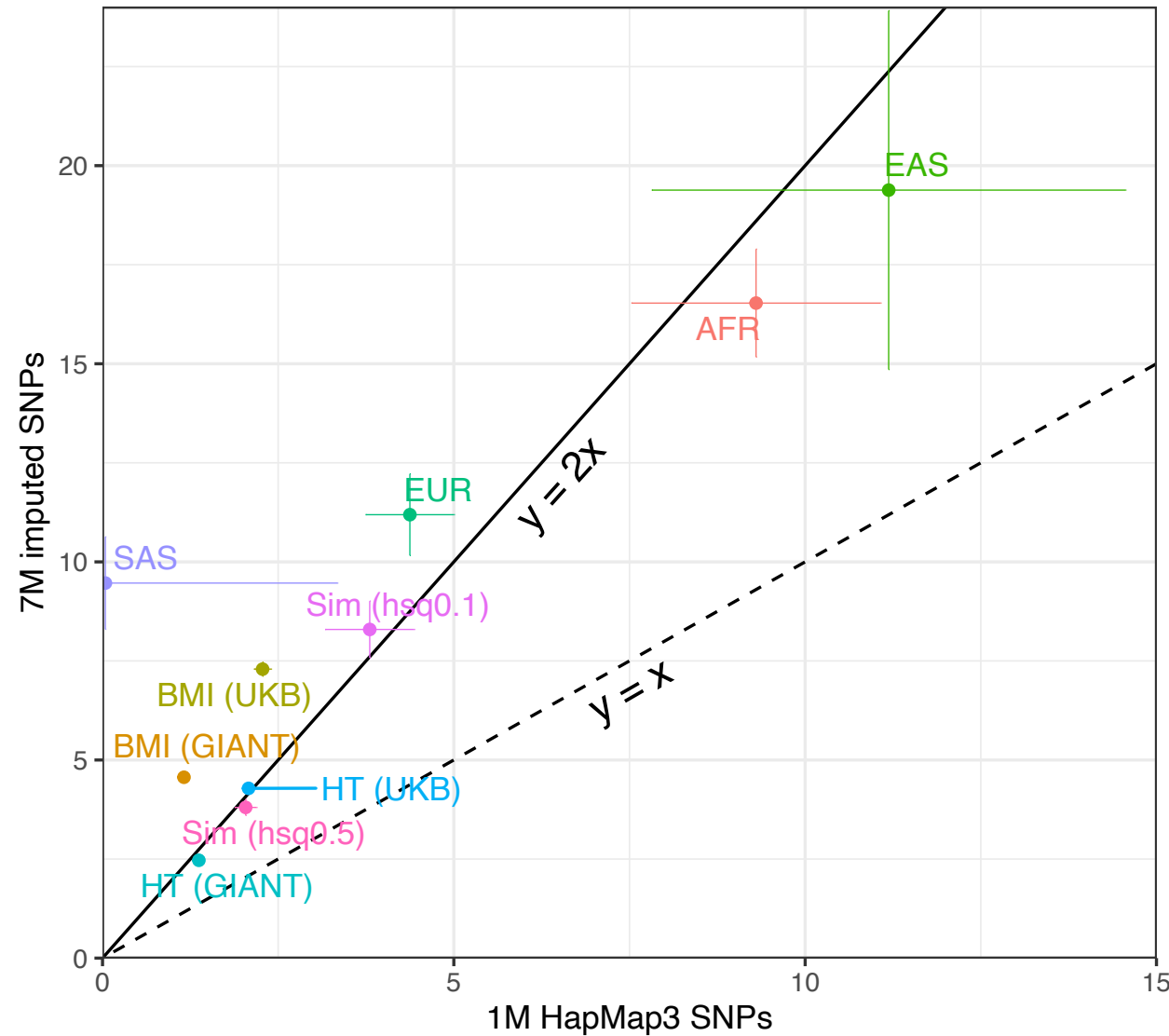
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**Improving polygenic prediction in ancestrally diverse populations**

# Interaction between SNP density and annotation information



Improvement (%) in prediction accuracy for SBayesRC using annotations relative to that without annotations:

$$\frac{R_{\text{annot}}^2 - R_{\text{wo}}^2}{R_{\text{wo}}^2}$$

regression slope = 1.88 (se = 0.22)

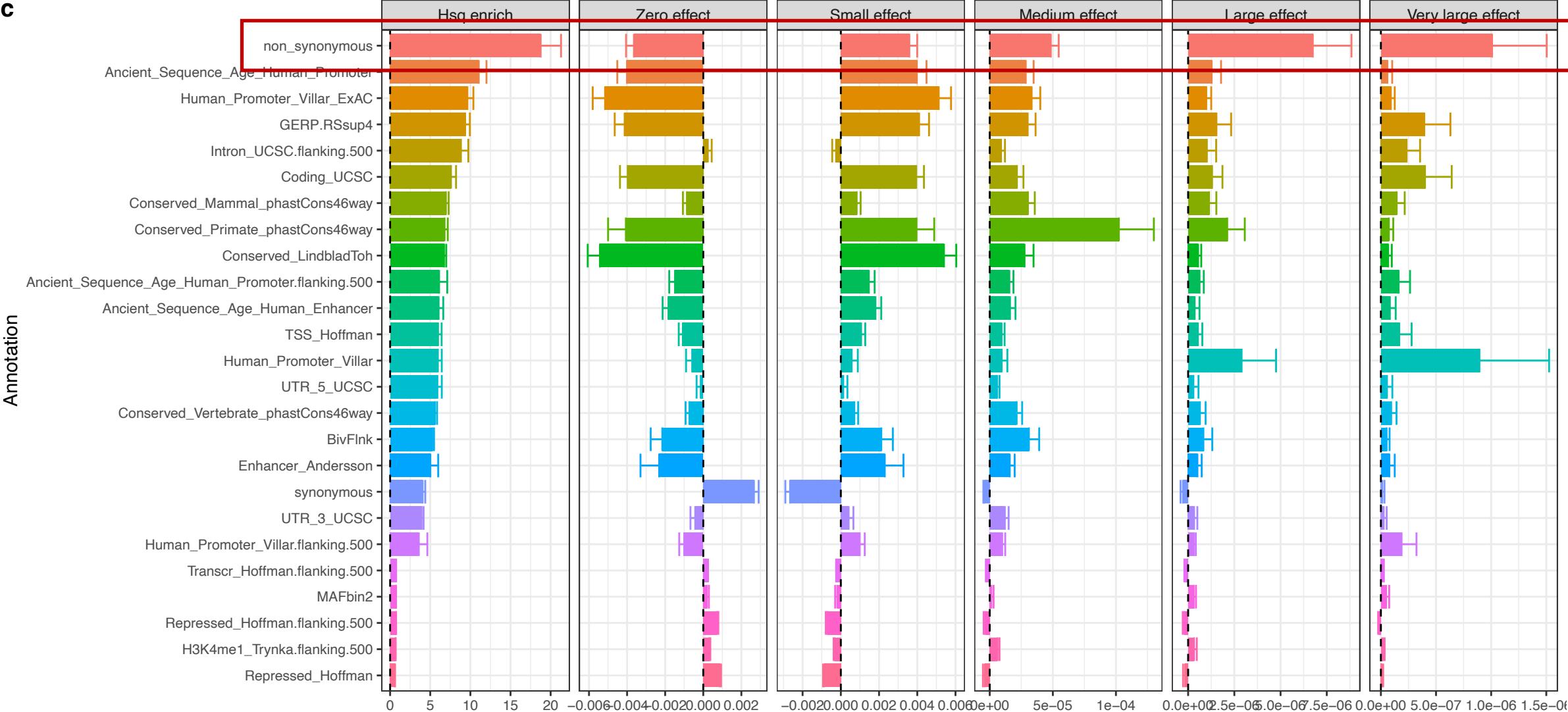
# Contributions of functional categories to prediction accuracy

Regions conserved across 29 mammals covers 3% genome but contributed 41% prediction accuracy!



# Functional genetic architecture

**c**



# Computational efficiency

Results are average values across traits using 4 CPU cores.

Method (No. SNPs)	Runtime (hours)	Memory (GB)	Storage (GB)
<b>SBayesRC (7M)</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>75.1</b>	<b>130</b>
LDpred-funct (7M)	6.0	120.6	40-50 per trait
PolyPred-S (7M)	19.8	71.7	2,800
LDpred2 (1M)	5.5	53.4	43
<b>SBayesRC (1M)</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>
SBayesR (1M)	0.5	27.0	22
PRS-CSx (1M)	14.2	4.7	5.6

- SBayesRC improves prediction accuracy by 14% in European ancestry and by up to 33% in trans-ancestry prediction, compared to the baseline method SBayesR which does not use annotations.
- SBayesRC outperforms state-of-the-art methods LDpred-funct, PolyPred-S and PRS-CSx by 12-15% in prediction accuracy.
- We identified a significant interaction between SNP density and annotation information, encouraging future use of whole-genome sequence variants for prediction.
- Functional partitioning analysis highlights a major contribution of evolutionary constrained regions to prediction accuracy.

GCTB software <https://cnsgenomics.com/software/gctb>

R package at <https://github.com/zhilizheng/SBayesRC>





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## **Leveraging functional genomic annotations and genome coverage to improve polygenic prediction of complex traits within and between ancestries**

Zhili Zheng, Shouye Liu, Julia Sidorenko, Loic Yengo, Patrick Turley, Alireza Ani, Rujia Wang, Ilja M. Nolte, Harold Snieder, Lifelines Cohort Study,  Jian Yang,  Naomi R Wray, Michael E Goddard, Peter M Visscher,  Jian Zeng

**doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.12.510418>