



# Link Between Metastatic Genetic Heterogeneity and the Immune Contexture in Colorectal Cancer

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SITC  
Houston, TX, USA  
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# Link Between Metastatic Genetic Heterogeneity and the Immune Contexture in Colorectal Cancer

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# Disclosures

Co-founder and chairman of the scientific advisory board:

- *HalioDx*

Collaborative Research Agreement (grants) :

- *Perkin-Elmer, IObiotech, MedImmune, Janssen, Imcheck Therapeutics*

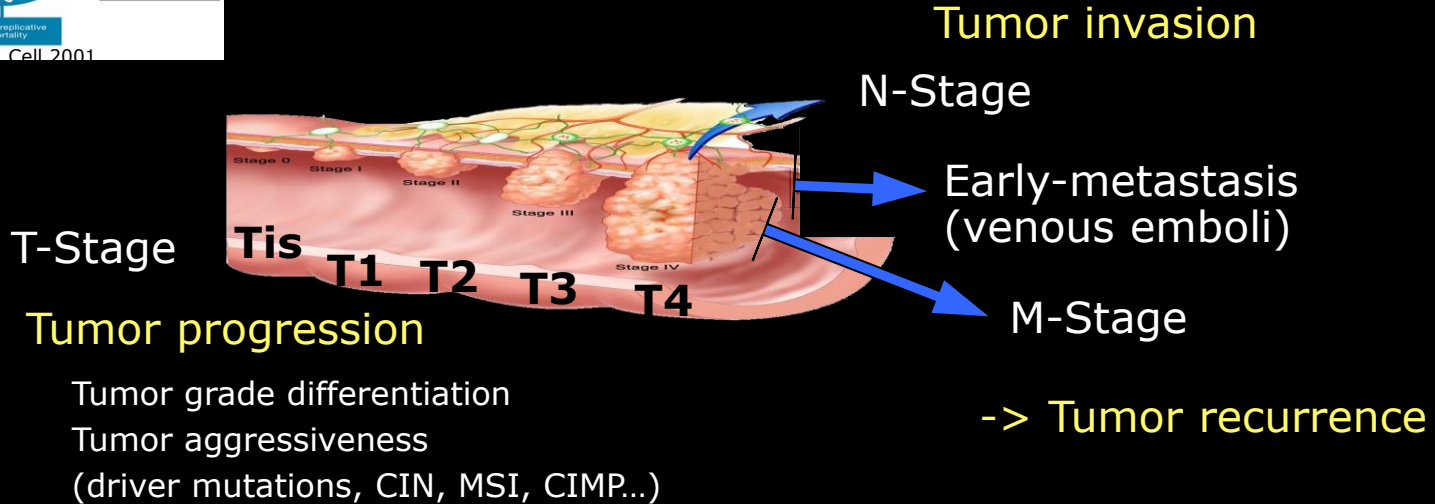
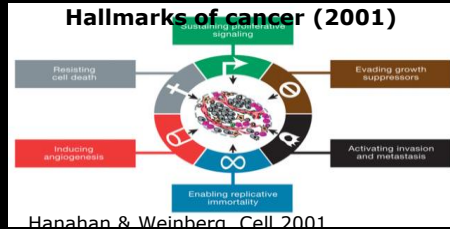
Participation to Scientific Advisory Boards:

- *BMS, MedImmune, Astra Zeneca, Novartis, Definiens, Merck Serono, IObiotech, ImmunID, Nanostring, Illumina, Northwest Biotherapeutics, Actelion, Amgen, Merck MSD*

Consultant :

- *BMS, Roche, GSK, Compugen, Mologen, Gilead, Sanofi*

# Definition of cancer



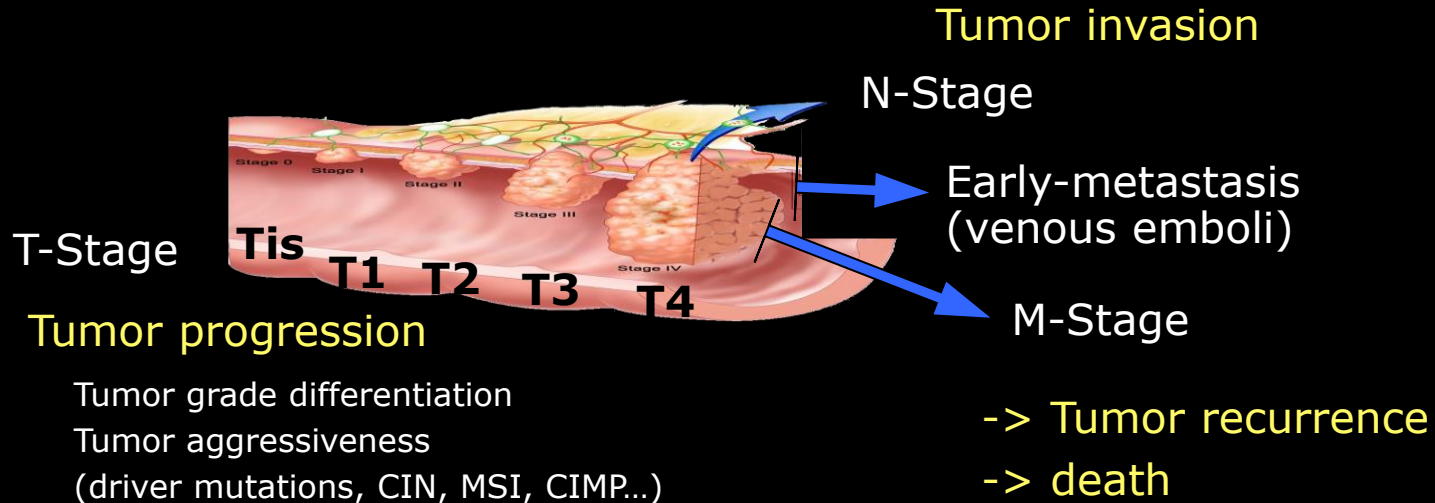
-> Tumor aggressiveness, progression, invasion and recurrence define early and late stage cancers, and the severity of the disease

# Novel paradigm

“Hot” Tumor

**Immunoscore**  
**Immune contexture**

“Cold” Tumor



- ✓ Tumor progression, invasion and recurrence are dependent on pre-existing immunity and on Immunoscore
- ✓ Pre-existing immunity is determining the fate and survival of the patient
- ✓ Pre-existing immunity is determining the likelihood of response to immunotherapy

# The Immune landscape and the importance of the immune contexture

Oncogenesis

Pre-cancer lesions

Progression

T-stage

Prognosis

Recurrence  
Death

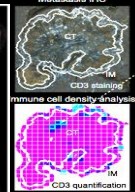
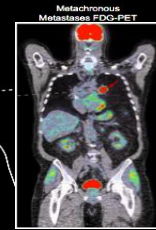
VELIP1+

Dissemination

N+

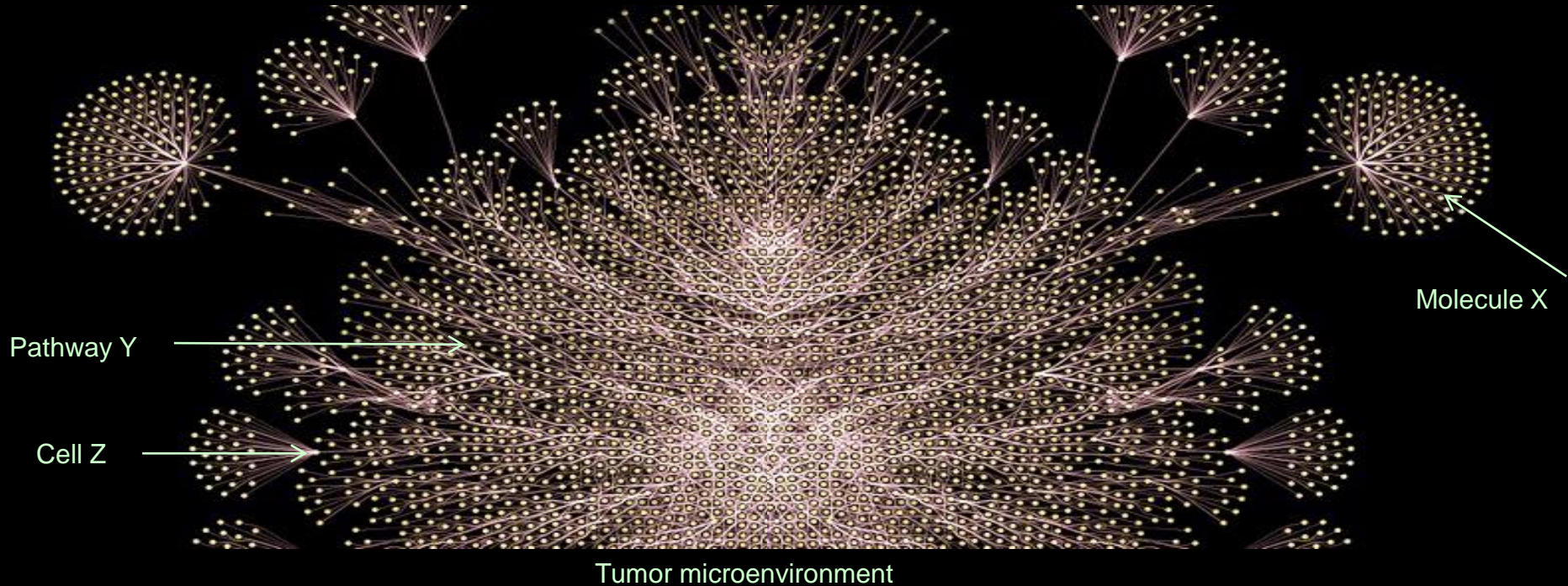
Invasion

M+



Immunotherapy

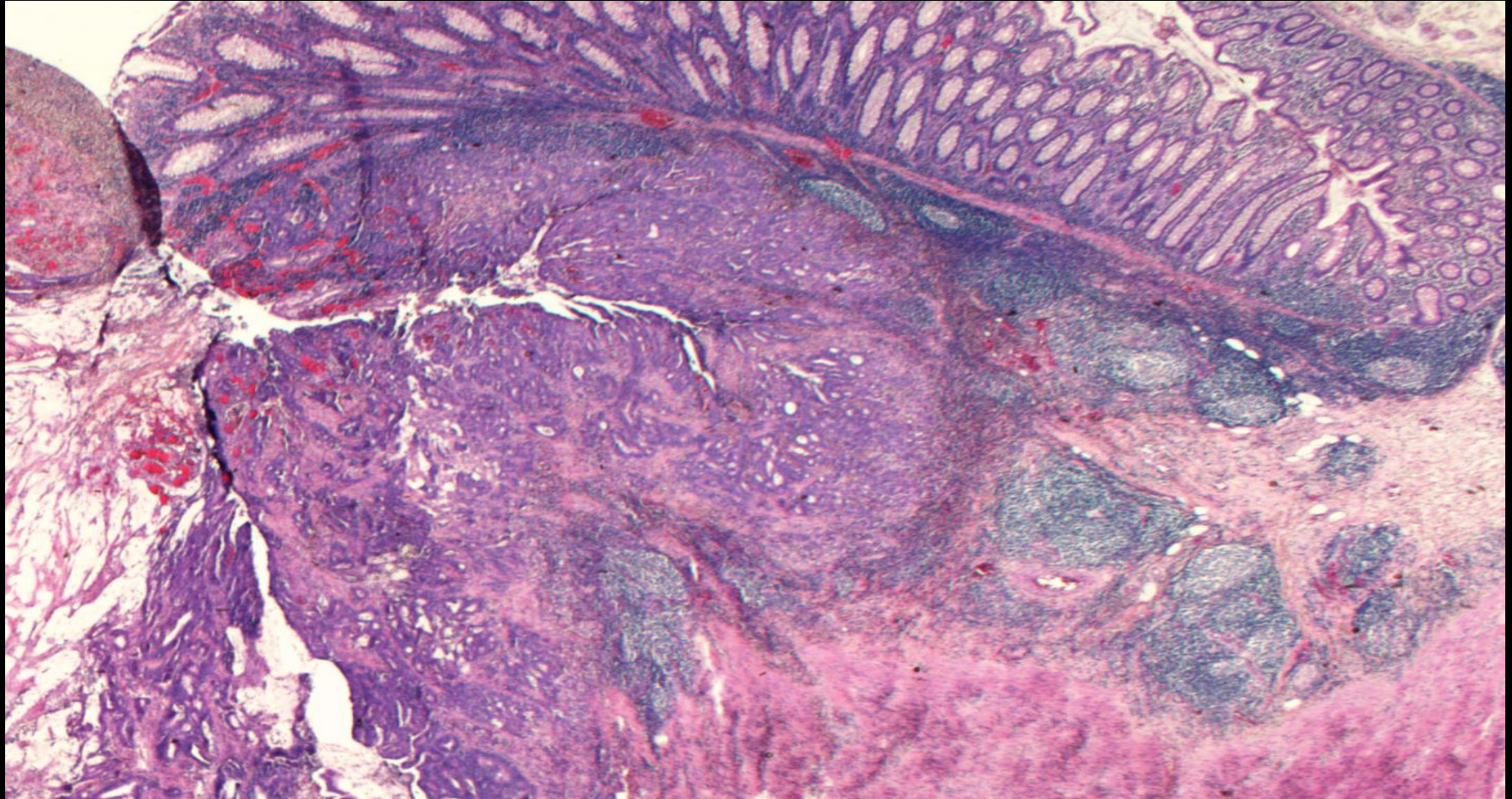
Cancer is one of the most complex biological system of all



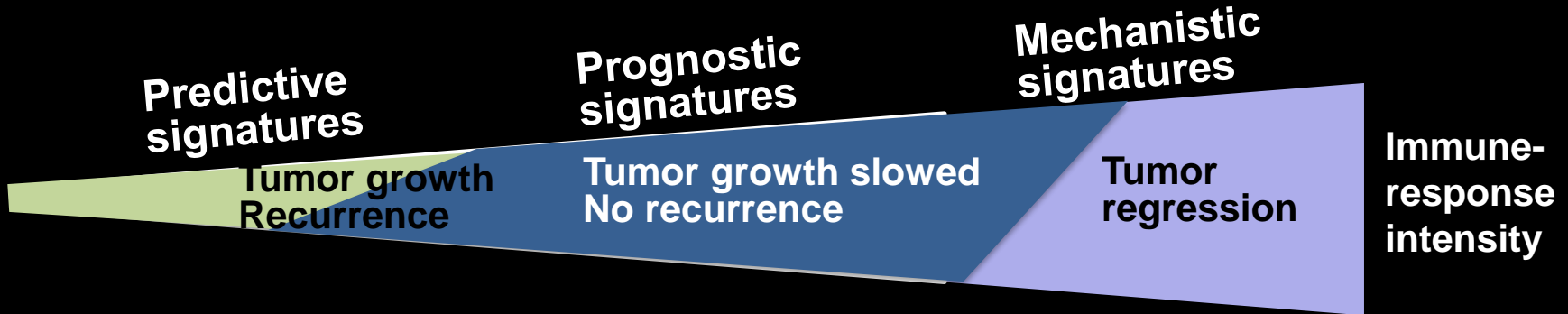
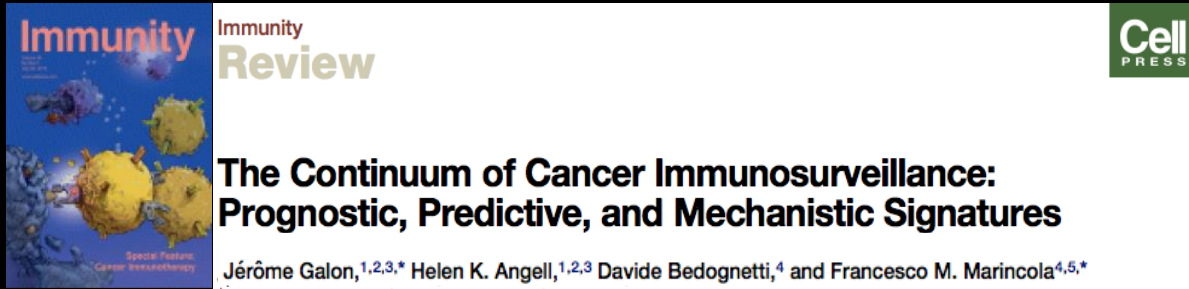
*"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts", Aristotle*

-> Systems biology in human cancer

## Tumor microenvironment



# The continuum of cancer immunosurveillance

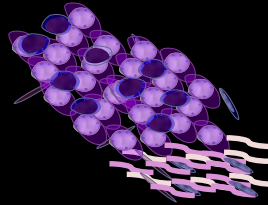


# The continuum of cancer immunosurveillance

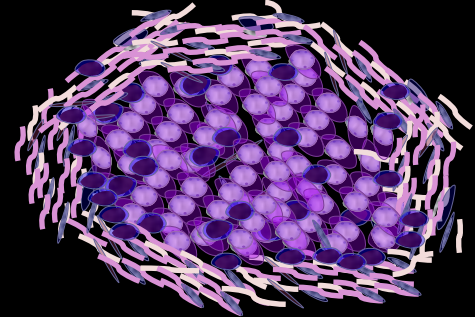
**Pre-cancerous  
lesions**



**Primary  
Carcinoma**



**Metastasis**



Mascaux C. ... Galon J.  
*Nature* 2019

Pagès F. ... Galon J.  
*Lancet* 2018

Angelova M. ... Galon J.  
*Cell* 2018

What is the importance of the pre-existing immunity within tumors ? Does it matter ?

MacCarty WC, Mahle AE.

Relation of differentiation and lymphocytic infiltration to postoperative longevity in gastric carcinoma.

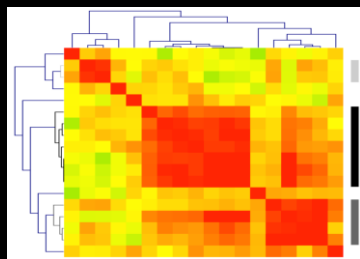
**J Lab Clin Med** 1921 ; 6:473.

## Type, Density, and Location of Immune Cells Within Human Colorectal Tumors Predict Clinical Outcome

Jérôme Galon,<sup>1\*</sup> Anne Costes,<sup>1</sup> Fatima Sanchez-Cabo,<sup>2</sup> Amos Kirilovsky,<sup>1</sup> Bernhard Mlecnik,<sup>2</sup> Christine Lagorce-Pagès,<sup>3</sup> Marie Tosolini,<sup>1</sup> Matthieu Camus,<sup>1</sup> Anne Berger,<sup>4</sup> Philippe Wind,<sup>4</sup> Franck Zinzindohoué,<sup>5</sup> Patrick Bruneval,<sup>6</sup> Paul-Henri Cugnenc,<sup>5</sup> Zlatko Trajanoski,<sup>2</sup> Wolf-Herman Fridman,<sup>1,7</sup> Franck Pagès<sup>1,7</sup>†

29 SEPTEMBER 2006 VOL 313 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

- ✓ Gene expression profiling
- ✓ Qualitative immune signature



Survival

Inflammation

Adaptive immunity

Immune suppression

**Quality**

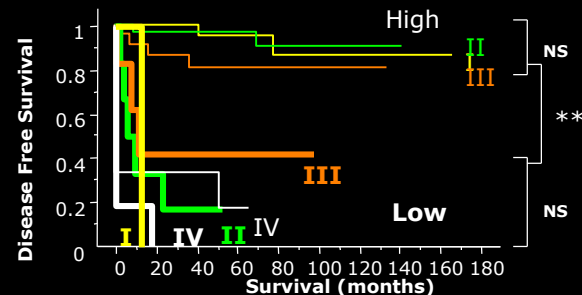
**Optimized Immunosign**

The foundation a new concept



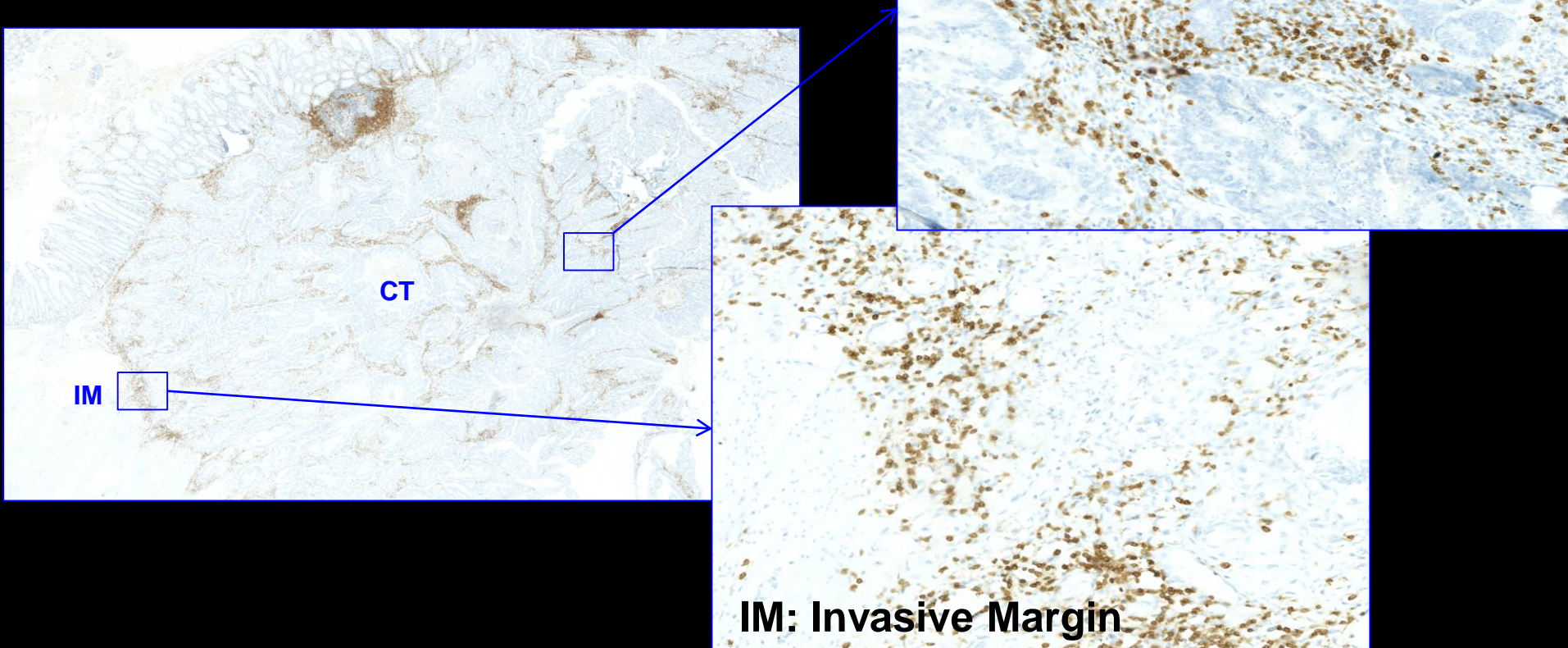
**Immune contexture**

- ✓ Immunohistochemistry (IHC)
- ✓ Digital Pathology
- ✓ Quantitative immune cell infiltration

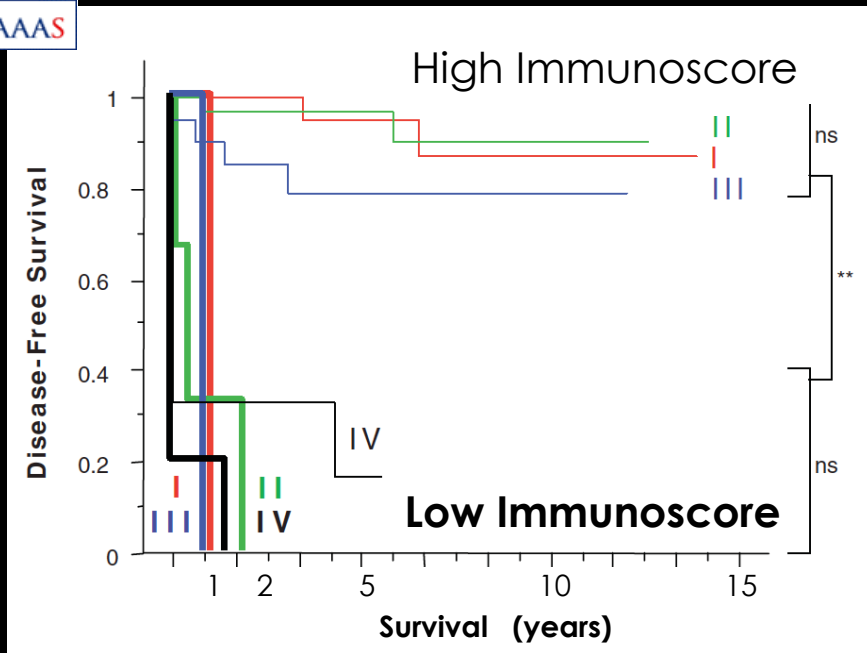


**Type/Density/Location**

# Digital quantification of immune cells infiltrating tumors: *Immunoscore*



# Immunoscore: a novel paradigm for cancer



- ✓ High Immunoscore
  - ✓ Inflamed tumors
  - ✓ Strong pre-existing adaptive immunity
- 
- ✓ Low Immunoscore
  - ✓ Non-Inflamed tumors
  - ✓ Weak/absent pre-existing adaptive immunity

Coordinated adaptive immune reaction (Immunoscore) more than tumor invasion predicts clinical outcome

# A Novel Paradigm for Cancer

## Multivariate Cox Analysis

<i>Parameters</i>	<i>HR</i>	<i>P value</i>
• T-stage	1.2	0.25
• N-stage	1.4	0.15
• Differentiation	1.1	0.84
• <b>Immunescore</b>	1.9	0.00001

### "Immune Contexture" :

Cells ->	✓ <b>Type</b>	}	-> <b>Immunescore</b>
Quantity ->	✓ <b>Density</b>		
Spatial ->	✓ <b>Location</b>		
Quality ->	✓Immune <b>functional</b> orientation		-> <b>Immunosign</b>

# Essential role of the pre-existing immunity: The Immune contexture

## Major immune categories of tumors

2

**Absent**

Immunoscore Low  
Non-Inflamed  
COLD

**Optimal**

Immunoscore High  
Inflamed  
HOT

*Galon et al. Science 2006*  
*Galon et al. Cancer Res 2007*

3

**Absent**

Immunoscore Low  
Non-Inflamed  
COLD

**Altered**

Immunoscore Int.

**Optimal**

Immunoscore High  
Inflamed  
HOT

*Galon et al. Science 2006*  
*Camus & Galon Cancer Res 2009*

4

**Absent**

Immunoscore Low  
Non-Inflamed  
COLD

**Altered**

Immunoscore Int.  
*Exclusion*

**Altered**

Immunoscore Int.  
*Immuno  
supressed*

**Optimal**

Immunoscore High  
Inflamed  
HOT

*Camus & Galon Cancer Res 2009*

# The Immunoscore as a New Possible Approach for the Classification of Cancer



## World Immunotherapy Council inaugural meeting (Feb 2012)

**Support** (moral) from the World Immunotherapy Council (WIC), and support from societies including, EATI, BDA, CCIC, CIC, CRI, CIMT, CSCO, TIBT, DTIWP, ESCII, NIBIT, JACI, NCV-network, PIVAC, ATTACK, TVACT...

## Worldwide Immunoscore consortium (PI: J Galon)

(17 countries: >3000 Stage I/II/III Colon cancer patients)

Assay  
harmonization



### Immunoscore meetings :

- Feb 2012, Italy
- Dec 2012, Italy
- Nov 2013, SITC, USA
- Dec 2013, Italy
- Jan 2014, Qatar
- Jul 2014, Paris, France
- Nov 2014, SITC, USA
- Nov 2015, SITC, USA
- Dec 2015, Italy
- Feb 2016, USCAP, USA
- April 2016, USA
- Nov 2016, SITC, USA
- Dec 2016, Italy
- Feb 2017, USCAP, USA
- Dec 2017, Italy

## International validation of the consensus Immunoscore for the classification of colon cancer: a prognostic and accuracy study

*Franck Pagès, Bernhard Mlecnik, Florence Marliot, Gabriela Bindea, Fang-Shu Ou, Carlo Bifulco, Alessandro Lugli, Inti Zlobec, Tilman T Rau, Martin D Berger, Iris D Nagtegaal, Elisa Vink-Börger, Arndt Hartmann, Carol Geppert, Julie Kolwelter, Susanne Merkel, Robert Grützmann, Marc Van den Eynde, Anne Jouret-Mourin, Alex Kartheuser, Daniel Léonard, Christophe Remue, Julia Y Wang, P Bavi, Michael H A Roehrl, Pamela S Ohashi, Linh T Nguyen, SeongJun Han, Heather L MacGregor, Sara Hafezi-Bakhtiari, Bradly G Wouters, Giuseppe V Masucci, Emilia K Andersson, Eva Zavadoa, Michal Vocka, Jan Spacek, Lubos Petruzelka, Bohuslav Konopasek, Pavel Dundr, Helena Skalova, Kristyna Nemejcova, Gerardo Botti, Fabiana Tatangelo, Paolo Delrio, Gennaro Ciliberto, Michele Maio, Luigi Laghi, Fabio Grizzi, Tessa Fredriksen, Bénédicte Buttard, Mihaela Angelova, Angela Vasaturo, Pauline Maby, Sarah E Church, Helen K Angell, Lucie Lafontaine, Daniela Bruni, Carine El Sissy, Nacilla Haicheur, Amos Kirilovsky, Anne Berger, Christine Lagorce, Jeffrey P Meyers, Christopher Paustian, Zipei Feng, Carmen Ballesteros-Merino, Jeroen Dijkstra, Carlijn van de Water, Shannon van Lent-van Vliet, Nikki Knijn, Ana-Maria Muşină, Dragos-Viorel Scripcariu, Boryana Popivanova, Mingli Xu, Tomonobu Fujita, Shoichi Hazama, Nobuaki Suzuki, Hiroaki Nagano, Kiyotaka Okuno, Toshihiko Torigoe, Noriyuki Sato, Tomohisa Furuhashi, Ichiro Takemasa, Kyogo Itoh, Prabhu S Patel, Hemangini H Vora, Birva Shah, Jayendrakumar B Patel, Kruti N Rajvik, Shashank J Pandya, Shilin N Shukla, Yili Wang, GuanJun Zhang, Yutaka Kawakami, Francesco M Maricola, Paolo A Ascierto, Daniel J Sargent\*, Bernard A Fox, Jérôme Galon*

# International validation of the consensus Immunoscore for the classification of colon cancer:

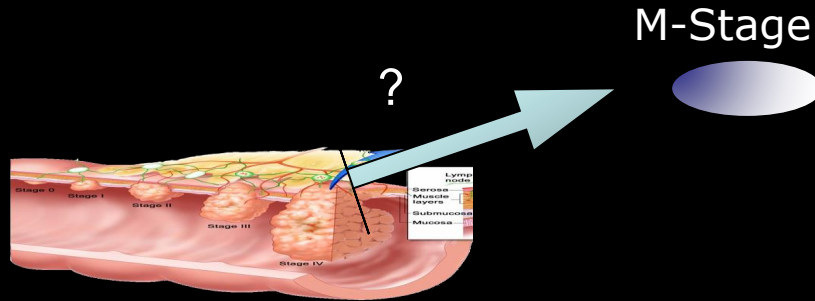
irAEs: immune-related Adverse Effects.

irRC: immune-related Response Criteria  
(Wolchock et al. Clin Can Res 2009).

irRECIST: immune-related Response Evaluation Criteria In Solid Tumor  
(Wong et al. NEJM 2017).

**Strong arguments for introducing a “I” for Immune  
into the classification of cancer: TNM-I**

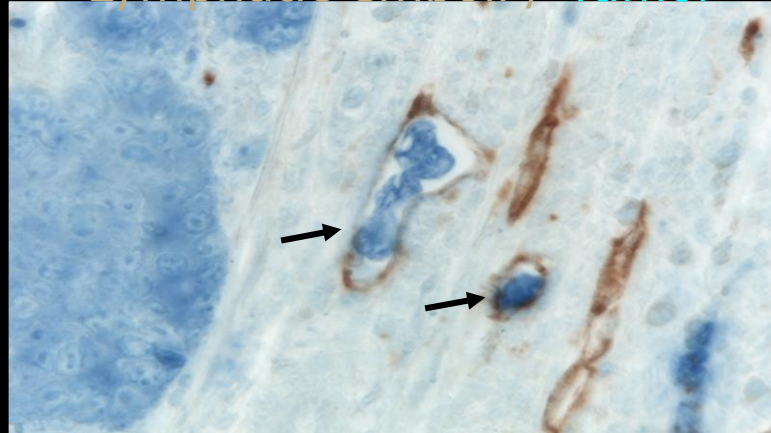
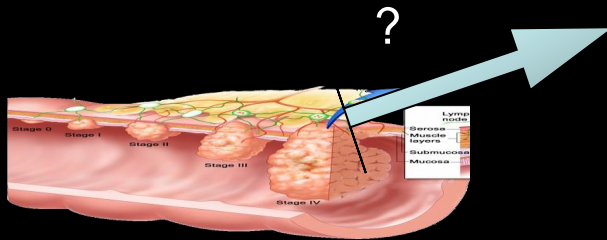
What are the parameters associated with the dissemination to distant metastasis? What is driving metastasis ?



# What are the mechanisms of early-metastatic dissemination ?

VELIPI: Venous Emboli, Lymphatic Invasion, Perineural Invasion

Lymphatic emboli / Tumor



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Effector Memory T Cells, Early Metastasis, and Survival in Colorectal Cancer

Franck Pagès, M.D., Ph.D., Anne Berger, M.D., Ph.D., Matthieu Camus, M.Sc.,  
Fatima Sanchez-Cabo, Ph.D., Anne Costes, B.S., Robert Molitor, Ph.D.,  
Bernhard Mlecnik, M.Sc., Amos Kirilovsky, M.Sc., Malin Nilsson, B.S.,  
Diane Damotte, M.D., Ph.D., Tchao Meatchi, M.D., Patrick Bruneval, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Paul-Henri Cugnenc, M.D., Ph.D., Zlatko Trajanoski, Ph.D.,  
Wolf-Herman Fridman, M.D., Ph.D., and Jérôme Galon, Ph.D.\*

Memory T cells, in particular, T<sub>EM</sub> correlate with the absence of early-metastatic invasion, and improved clinical outcome in colorectal carcinoma.

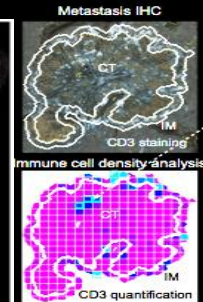
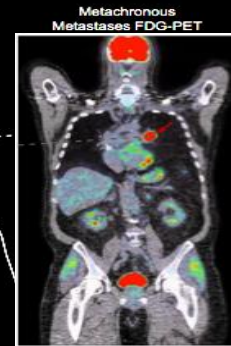
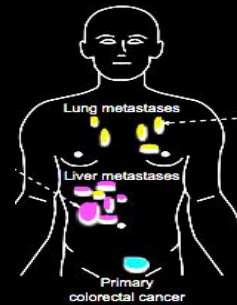
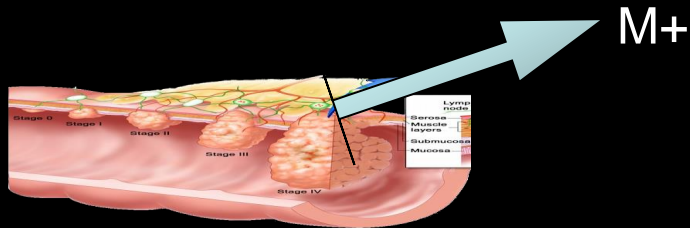
Pagès F, et al. **N Engl J Med.** 2005

Pagès F & Galon J. **N Engl J Med.** 2006

Is there an immune escape at the metastatic stage  
?

Stage IV

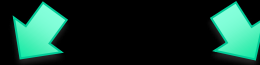
# Immunoscore in Stage IV metastatic colon cancer



# Metastasis analysis

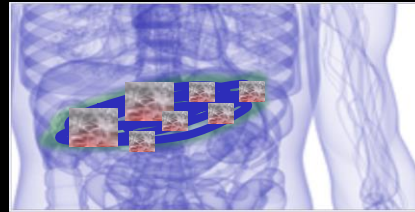
One primary tumor

Colorectal cancer



Multiple metastatic sites

Liver Metastasis



Lung Metastasis



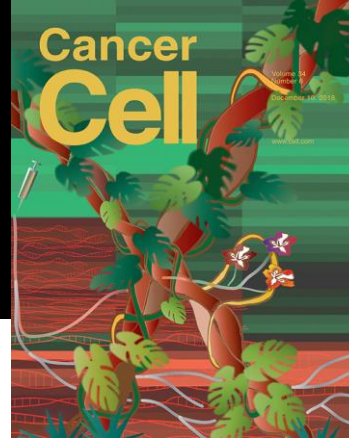
N=603 metastases

- Immunoscore within multiple metastases at different sites

Mlecnik et al. *JNCI* 2018

Van den Eynde M. et al. *Cancer Cell* 2018

# Metastasis analysis



CellPress

Cancer Cell  
Article

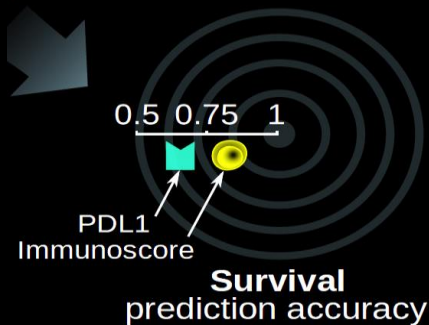
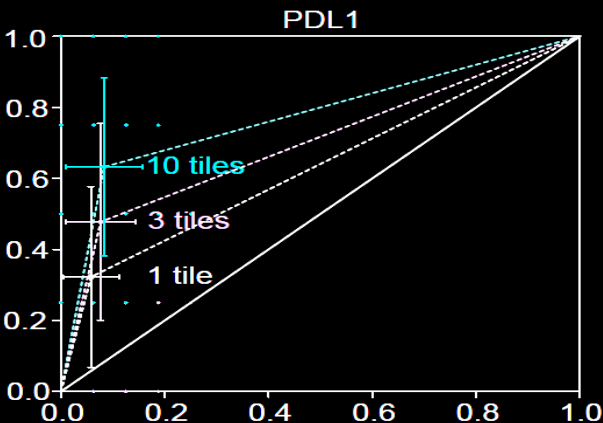
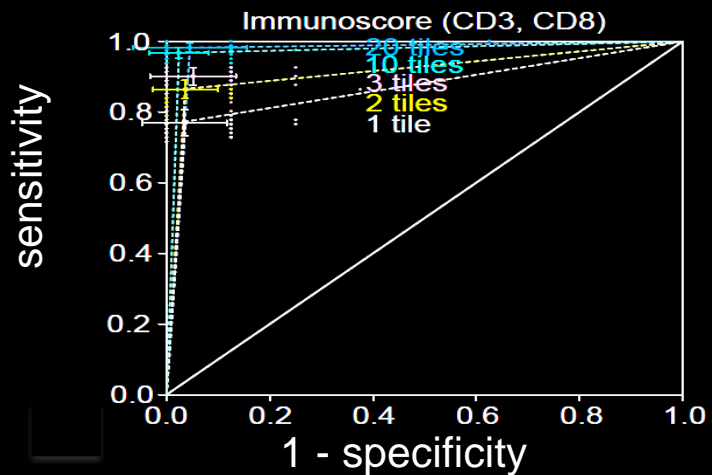
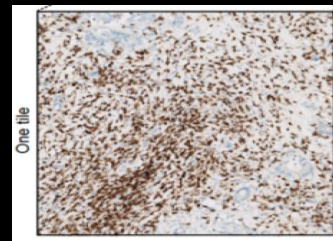
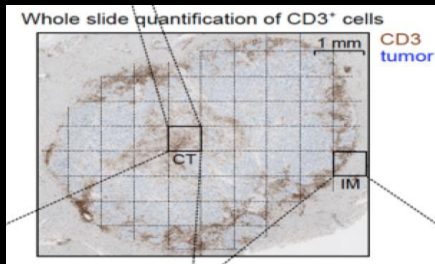
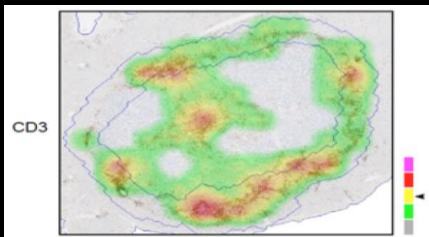
## The Link between the Multiverse of Immune Microenvironments in Metastases and the Survival of Colorectal Cancer Patients

Marc Van den Eynde,<sup>1,2,9</sup> Bernhard Mlecnik,<sup>2,3,9</sup> Gabriela Bindea,<sup>2,9</sup> Tessa Fredriksen,<sup>2</sup> Sarah E. Church,<sup>2</sup> Lucie Lafontaine,<sup>2</sup> Nacilla Haicheur,<sup>4</sup> Florence Marliot,<sup>2,4</sup> Mihaela Angelova,<sup>2</sup> Angela Vasaturo,<sup>2</sup> Daniela Bruni,<sup>2</sup> Anne Jouret-Mourin,<sup>1</sup> Pamela Baldin,<sup>1</sup> Nicolas Huyghe,<sup>1</sup> Karin Haustermans,<sup>5,6</sup> Annelies Debucquoy,<sup>5</sup> Eric Van Cutsem,<sup>7</sup> Jean-Francois Gigot,<sup>1</sup> Catherine Hubert,<sup>1</sup> Alex Kartheuser,<sup>1</sup> Christophe Remue,<sup>1</sup> Daniel Léonard,<sup>1</sup> Viia Valge-Archer,<sup>8</sup> Franck Pagès,<sup>2,4</sup> Jean-Pascal Machiels,<sup>1</sup> and Jérôme Galon<sup>2,10,\*</sup>

➤ Immunoscore within multiple metastases at different sites

Van den Eynde et al. **Cancer Cell** 2018

# ROC curves illustrating the predictive value of 1, 2, 3, 10 biopsies compared to whole slide metastasis evaluation



✓ *Immunoscore Biopsy* is more reliable than PD-L1 expression

What drives metastasis ?

What are the metastatic escape mechanisms ?

A Novel theory of cancer evolution ?

# Current theories of cancer evolution

## Models

LINEAR



NEUTRAL



BIG-BANG



BRANCHED



Immune pressure from Darwinian selection

NO

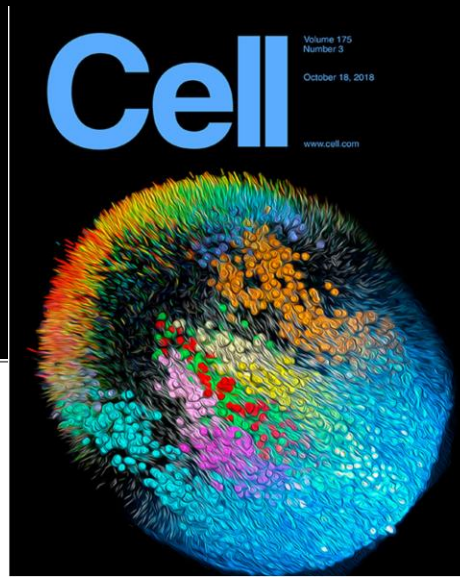
NO

NO

NO

- The 4 proposed theories of cancer evolution
- All theories are tumor cell-centric. None involves a role of the immune system.

## Article



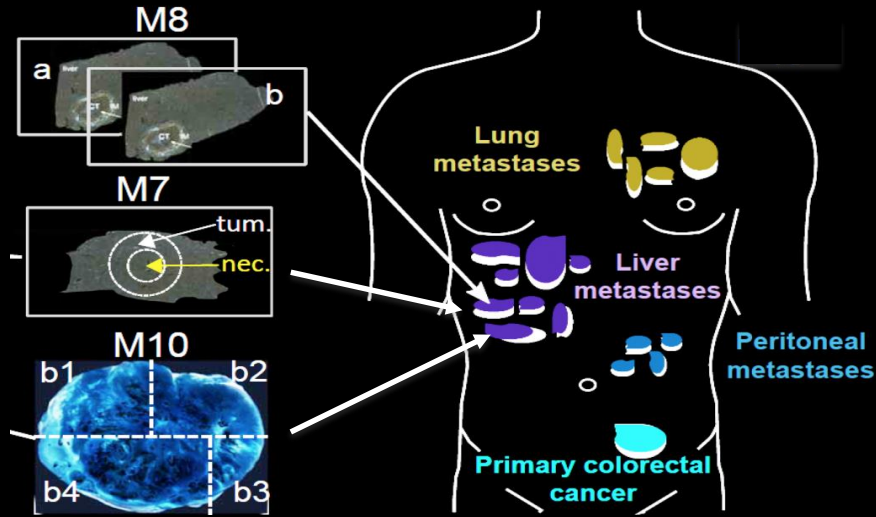
Cell

# Evolution of Metastases in Space and Time under Immune Selection

Mihaela Angelova,<sup>1</sup> Bernhard Mlecnik,<sup>1,2</sup> Angela Vasaturo,<sup>1</sup> Gabriela Bindea,<sup>1</sup> Tessa Fredriksen,<sup>1</sup> Lucie Lafontaine,<sup>1</sup> Bénédicte Buttard,<sup>1</sup> Erwan Morgand,<sup>1</sup> Daniela Bruni,<sup>1</sup> Anne Jouret-Mourin,<sup>3</sup> Catherine Hubert,<sup>3</sup> Alex Kartheuser,<sup>3</sup> Yves Humblet,<sup>3</sup> Michele Ceccarelli,<sup>4,5</sup> Najeeb Syed,<sup>6</sup> Francesco M. Marincola,<sup>7,8</sup> Davide Bedognetti,<sup>9,10</sup> Marc Van den Eynde,<sup>1,3,10</sup> and Jérôme Galon<sup>1,11,\*</sup>

Angelova M. *et al.* **Cell** 2018

# What drives metastasis?



Primary tumors

↓  
Synchronous metastases

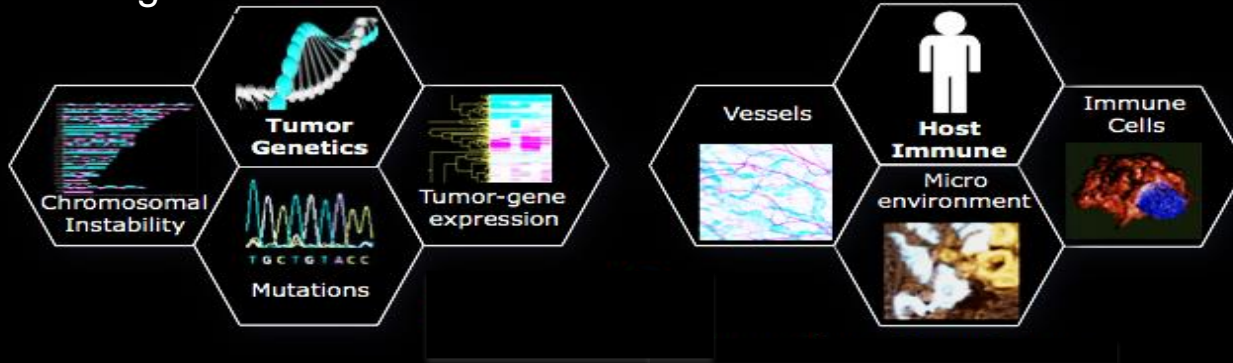
↓  
Metachronous metastases

↓  
Metachronous metastases

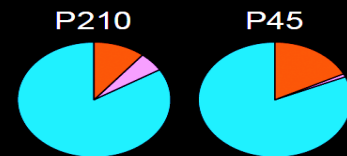
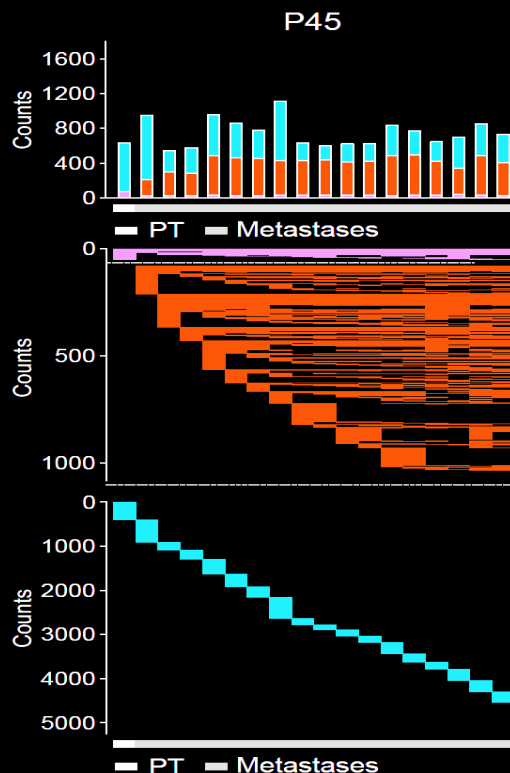
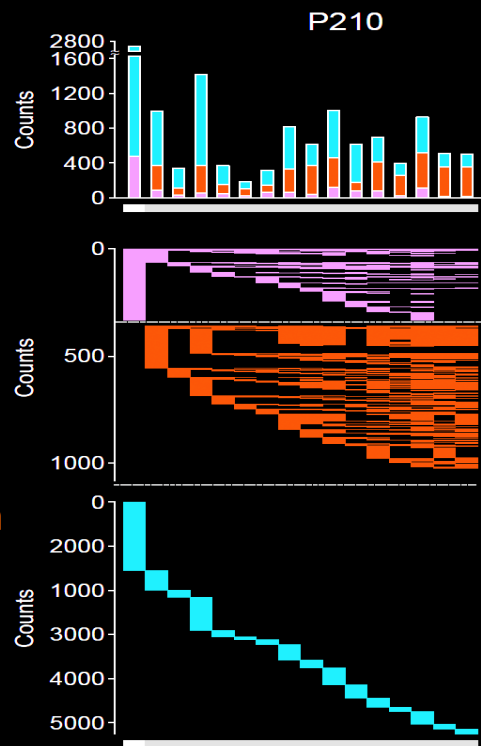
↓  
Metachronous metastases

↓  
> 11 years

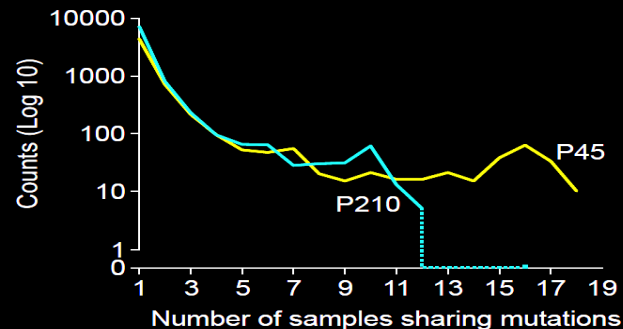
Multi-Omics technologies



# Mutational landscape across metastases

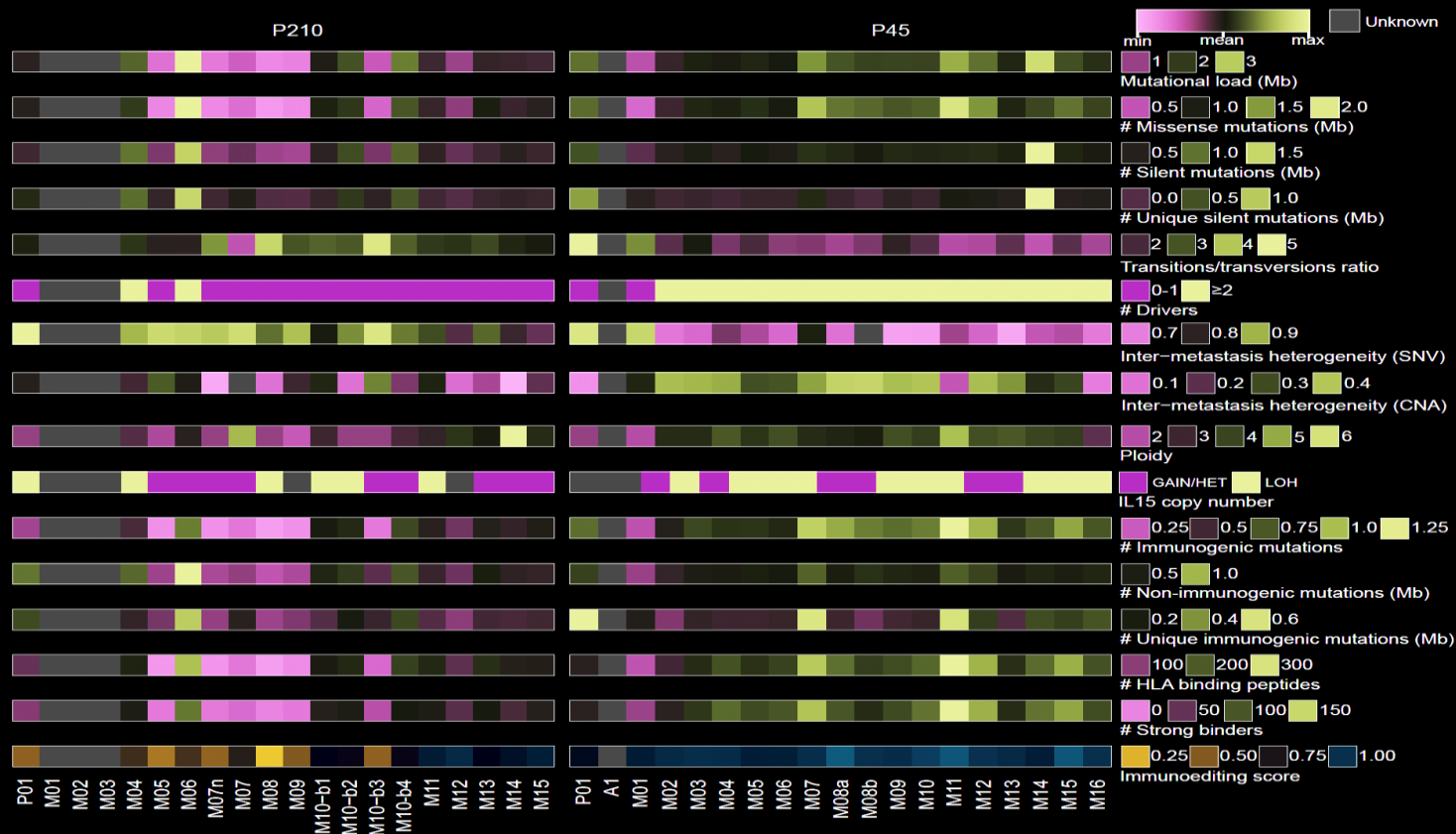


Mutations: Varscan2 + Mutect  
 Unique counts per sample  
 Shared mutations  
 Among PT and metastases  
 Among metastases



✓ ExomeSeq deep analysis of all synchronous and metachronous metastases

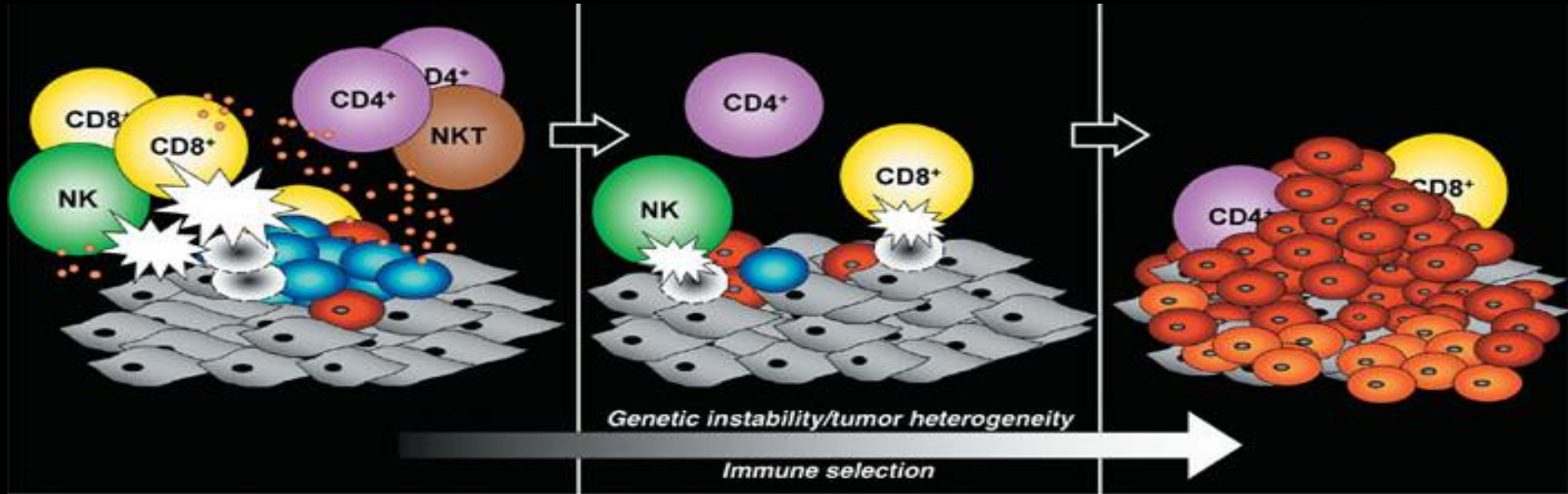
# Genomics of primary tumors and metastases



✓ Highly heterogeneous genomic patterns between metastases

# Immunoediting of cancer cells

Schreiber et al. *Science* 2011



## Elimination

refers to effective immune surveillance for clones that express TSA

Shankaran et al. *Nature* 2001  
*Immunosurveillance RAG-/- STAT1-/-*

## Equilibrium

refers to the selection for resistant clones (red)

Koebel et al. *Nature* 2007  
*Immunoediting / Equilibrium*

## Escape

refers to the rapid proliferation of resistant clones in the immunocompetent host

Matsushita et al. *Nature* 2012  
*Immunoediting / Escape*

# Tumor and microenvironment evolution: immunoediting in Human

Genetic evidence for immunoediting in tumors and tumor-intrinsic resistance to cytolytic activity

Rooney MS et al. *Cell* 2015

Demonstration of the existence of immunoediting in Human with genetic evidence for missense and frameshift mutations

Mlecnik B et al. *Immunity* 2016

Anti-PD1 immunotherapy induces changes in the mutational burden of tumors, with loss of certain neoantigens, clonal T-cell expansion, and changes in immune contexture (mechanistic signature)

Riaz N et al. *Cell* 2017

First demonstration that Immunoscore and immunoediting in Human shape the evolution of specific tumor clones. Darwinian selection of immune-escape variant tumor clones through parallel immune selection model.

Angelova M et al. *Cell* 2018

# Observed compared to expected frameshift and missense epitopes (immunogenic mutations) using ExomeSeq data

Genetic analysis of missense and frameshift immunogenic mutations (epitopes)

- ✓ ExomeSeq
- ✓ RNAseq
- ✓ Mutations detection
- ✓ Variant calling
- ✓ HLA haplotypes prediction
- ✓ Epitopes prediction
- ✓ HLA / TCR peptide binding prediction
- ✓ Immunogenicity scores

Silent mutations



PanCancer rate (n=3659 Pts.)



Non-immunogenic mutations



Expected immunogenic mutations



Observed immunogenic mutations

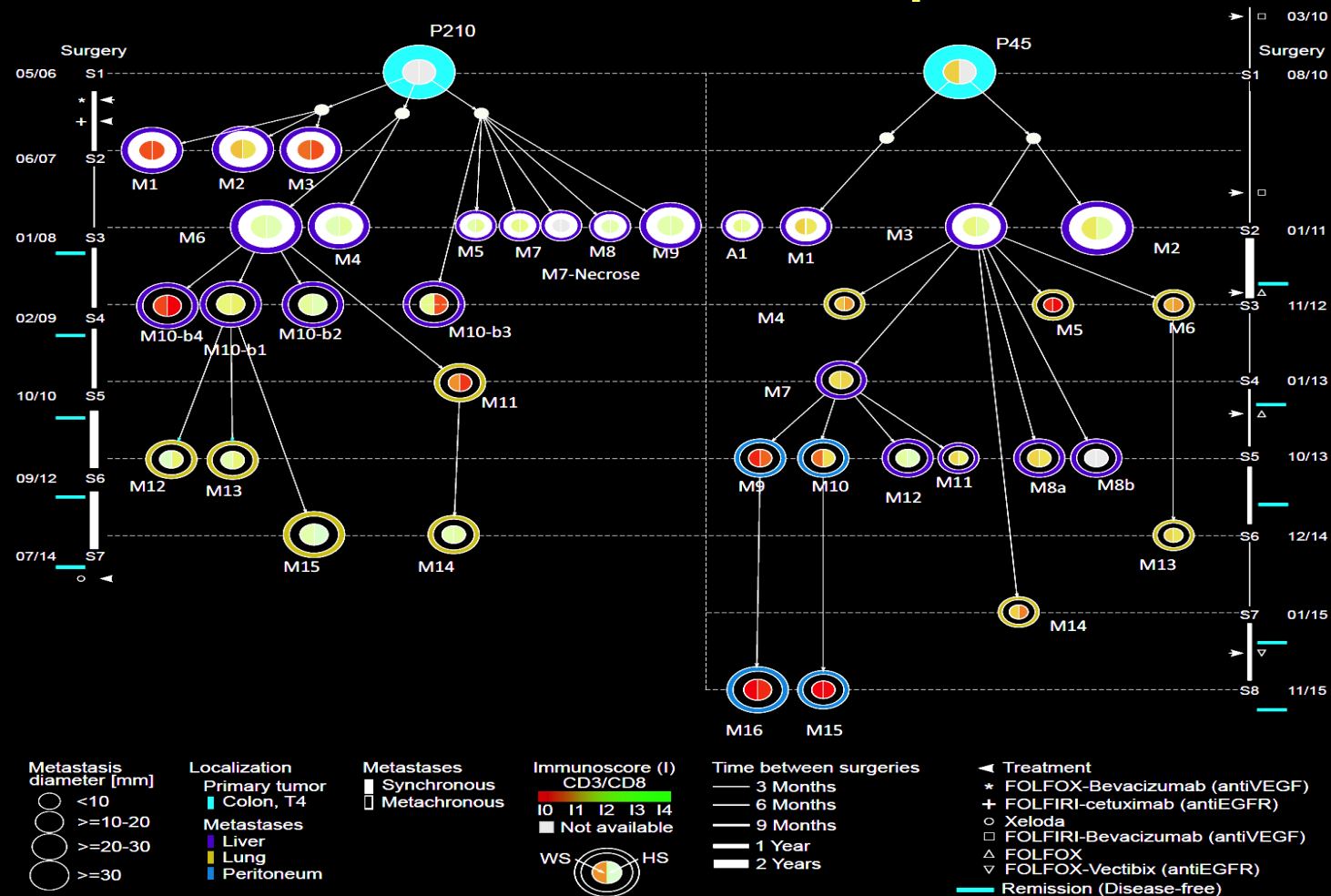
# Clonal dissemination – Parent/child-relationship

Primary tumors

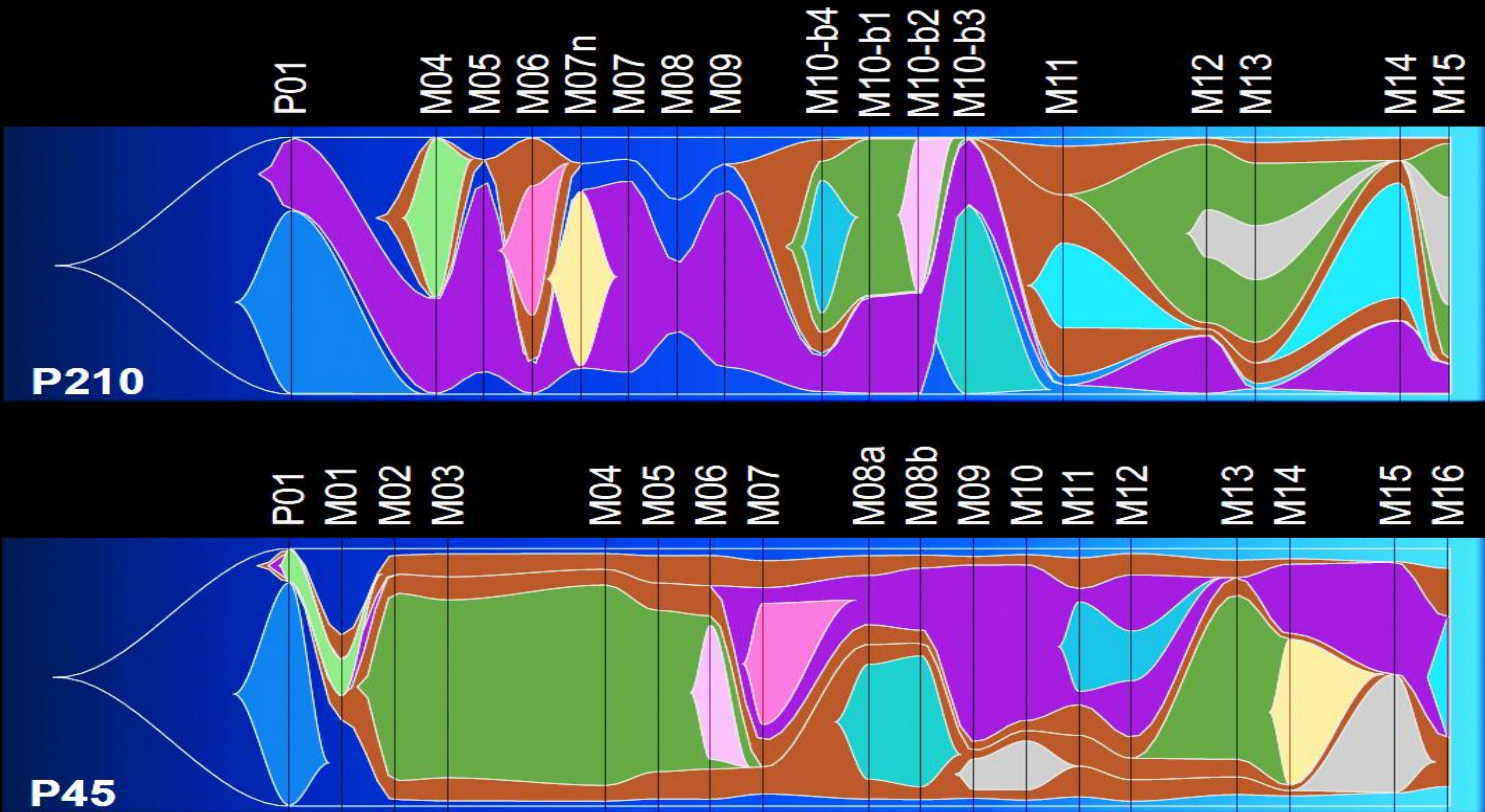
Synchronous meta

Metachronous meta

11 years



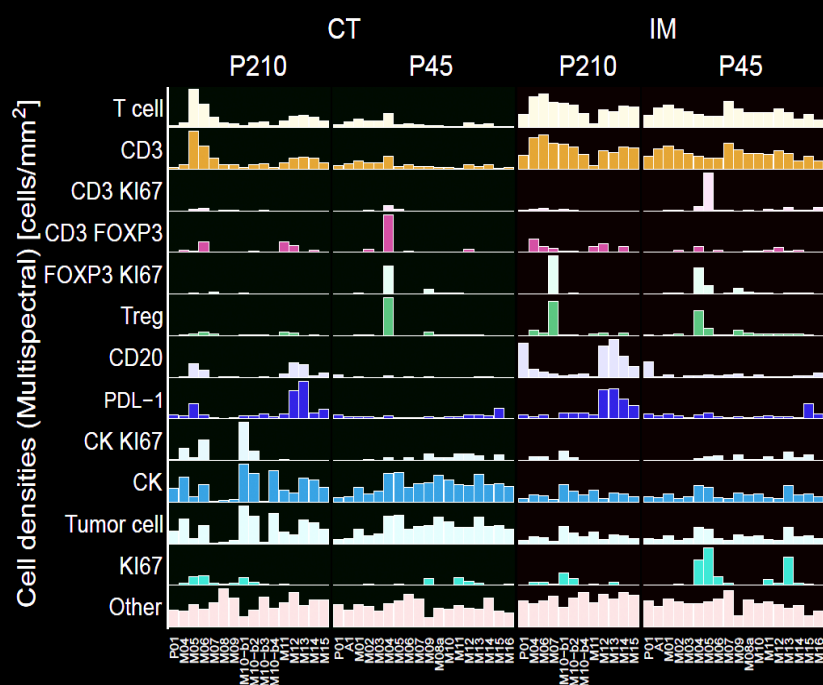
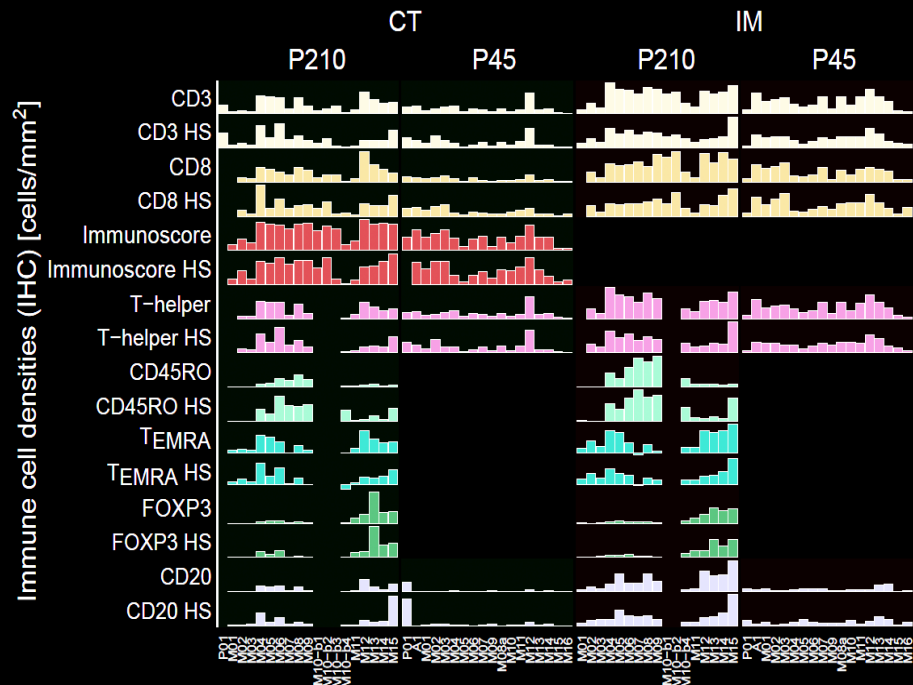
# Evolvogram of tumor clones



- ✓ Clonal evolution and cancer evolvogram
- ✓ Non-recurrent clones are immunoedited. Progressing clones are immune privileged

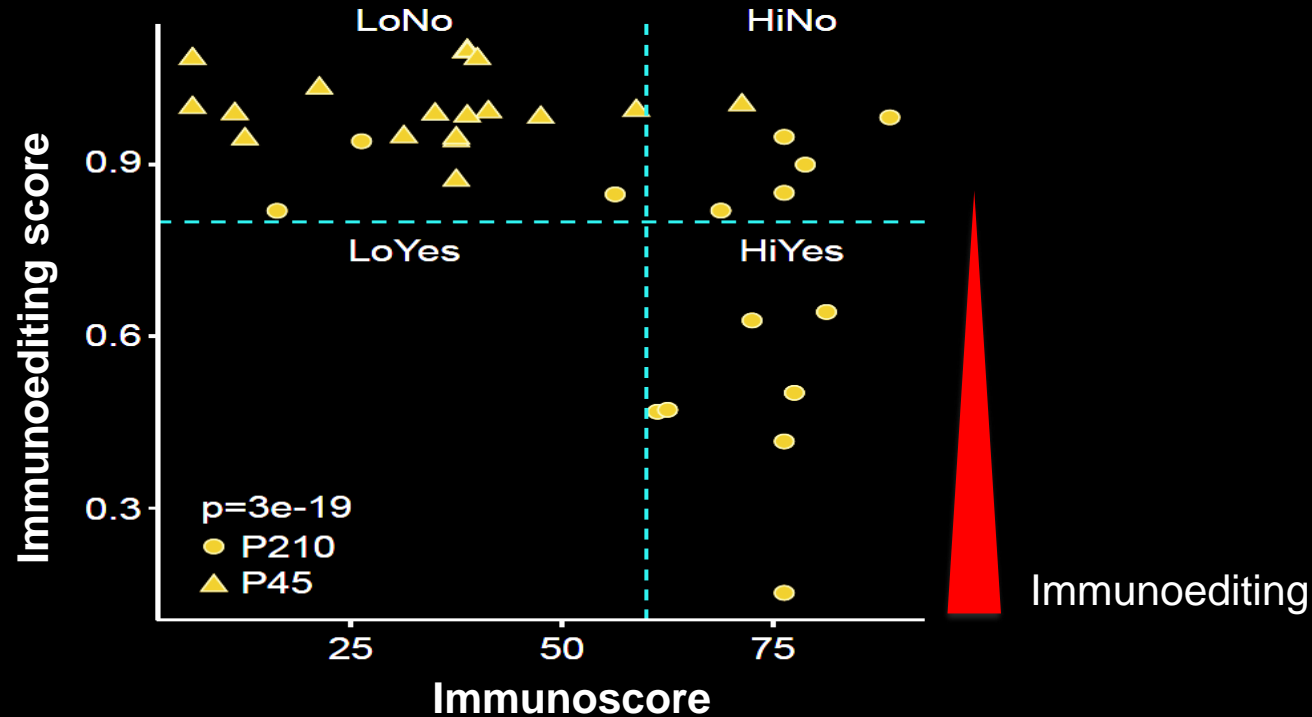
# Immune microenvironment

Immune cell densities (cells/mm<sup>2</sup>)



- ✓ Highly heterogeneous Immunomics patterns and immune cell infiltration between metastases

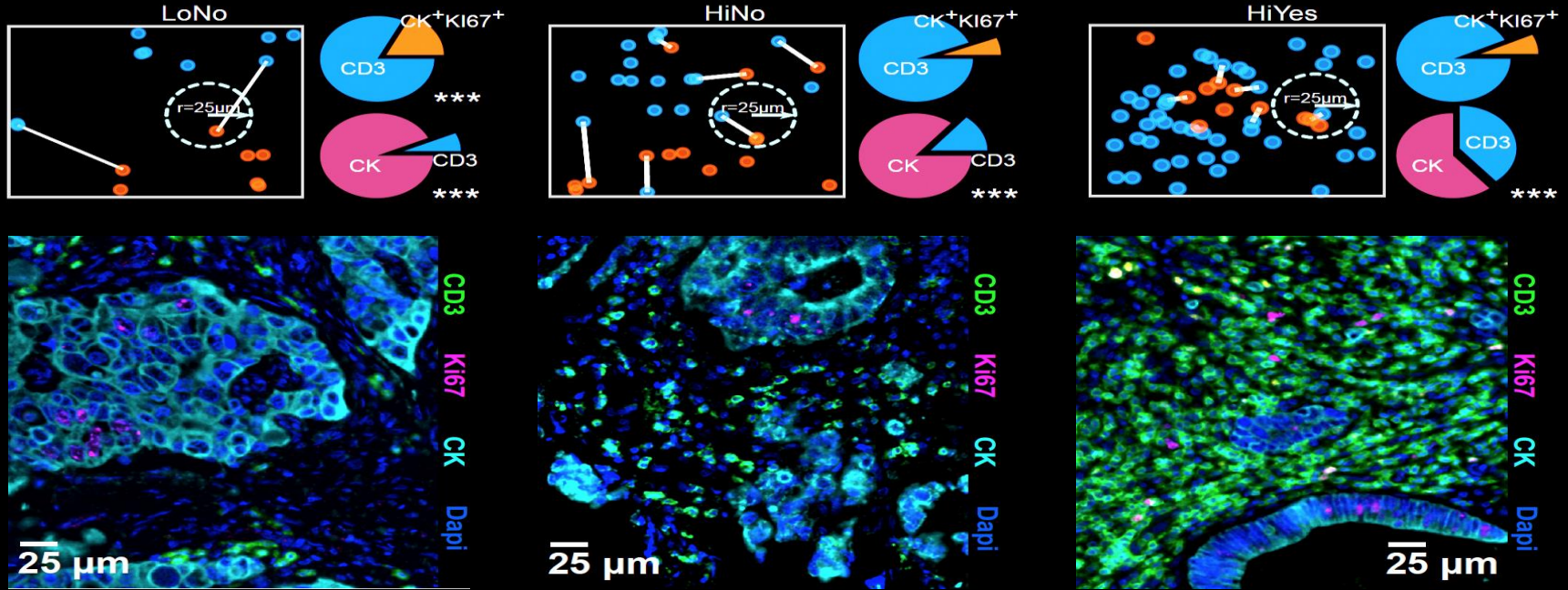
# Immunoscore and Immunoediting within metastases



- ✓ For Immunoediting to occur, High-Immunoscore is necessary
- ✓ Immunoscore is not sufficient, since High-Immunoscore may not show immunoediting

# What drives metastasis?

## Spatial mapping of the metastatic microenvironment

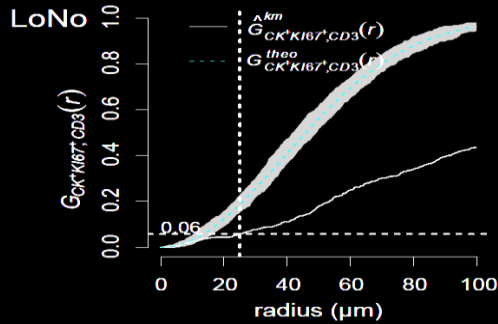


- Distance between CD3 + cells and tumor cells Ki67+ are associated with Immunoscore and Immunoediting groups, and with metastasis recurrence.

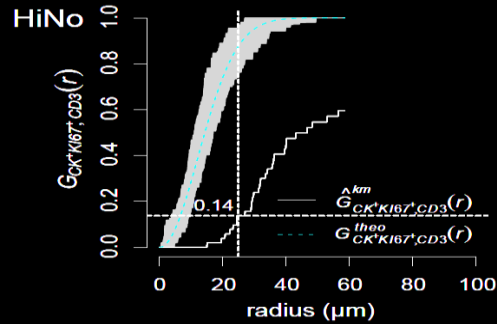
# What drives metastasis?

## Immunoscore - Immunoediting

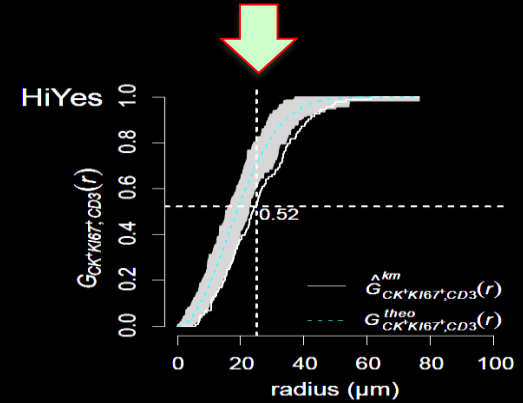
### Lo-No



### Hi-No

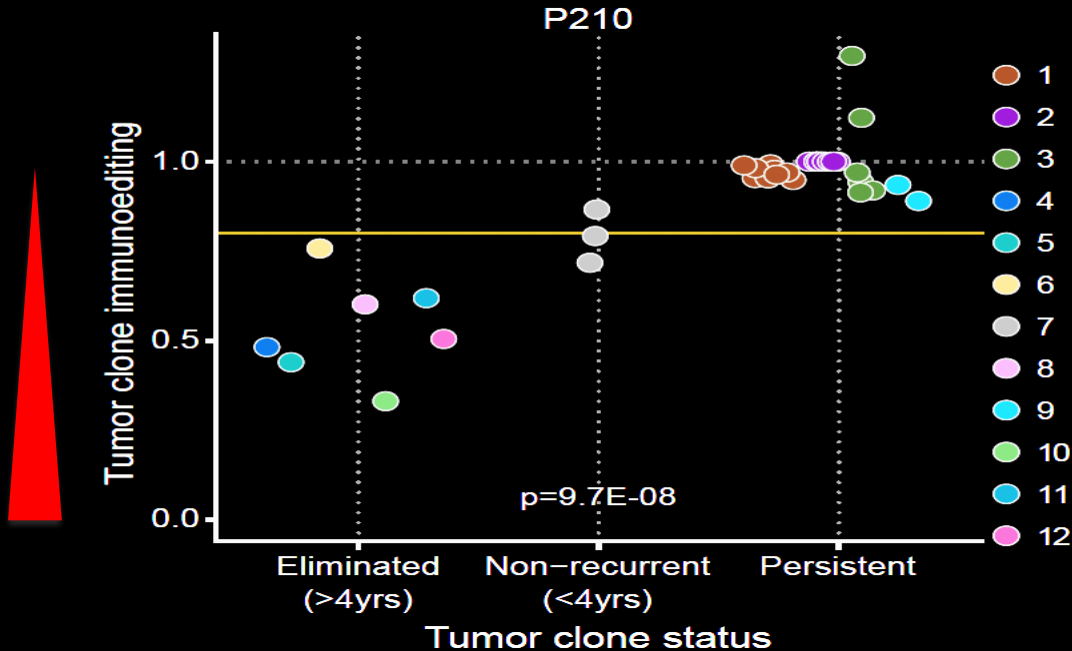


### Hi-Yes



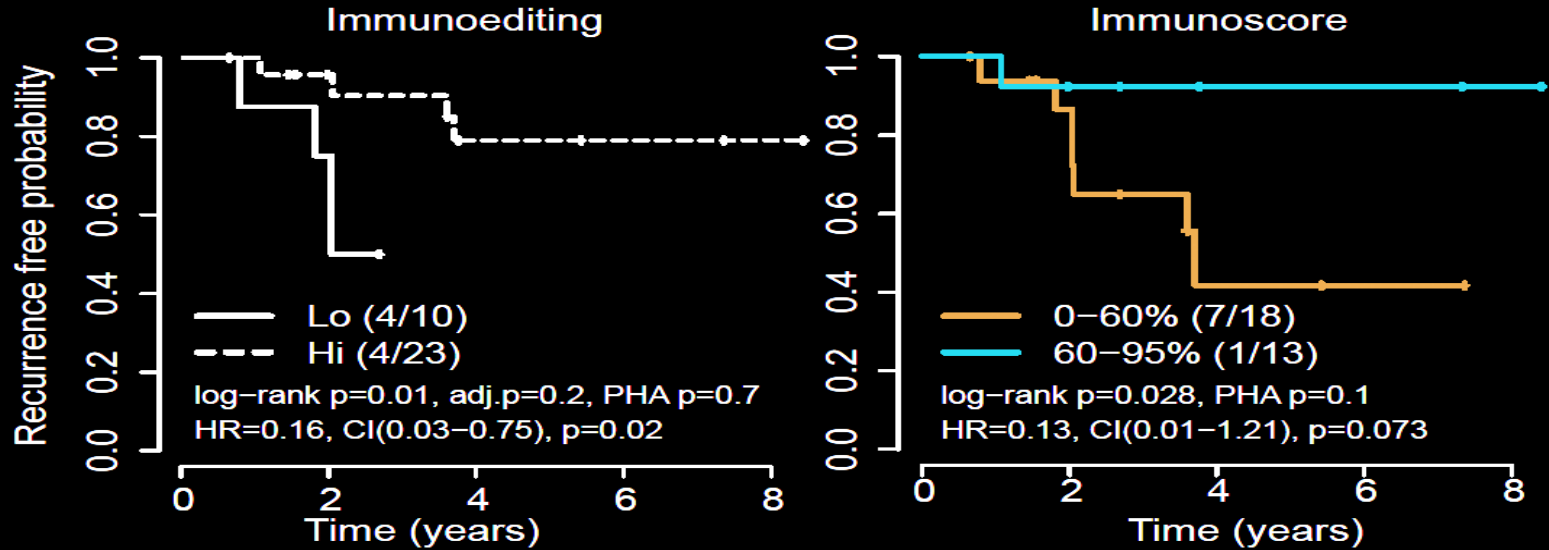
- ✓ **HiYes** metastases had shorter average mutual neighbor distances between  $CD3^+$  and  $CK^+Ki67^+$  cells
- ✓ **HiYes** metastases had on average 50% of the proliferating tumor cells in CT surrounded by  $CD3^+$  T-cells within a radius of 25  $\mu m$

# Elimination of Immunoedited clones



- ✓ Eliminated clones are immunoedited
- ✓ Non-recurrent clones (<4 years) have a low immunoediting score
- ✓ Persistent clones are immune privileged (not-immunoedited)

# Metastasis recurrence



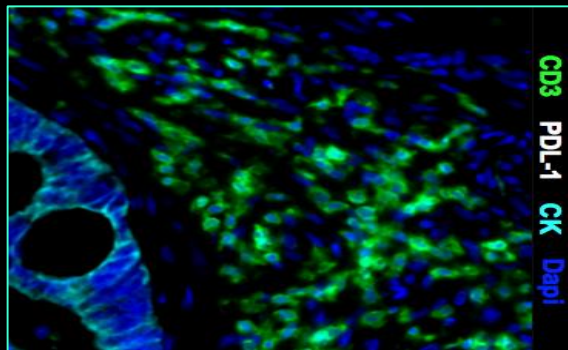
- ✓ Immunoediting and Immunoscore are associated with metachronous metastasis recurrence

# Spatial mapping of the metastatic microenvironment

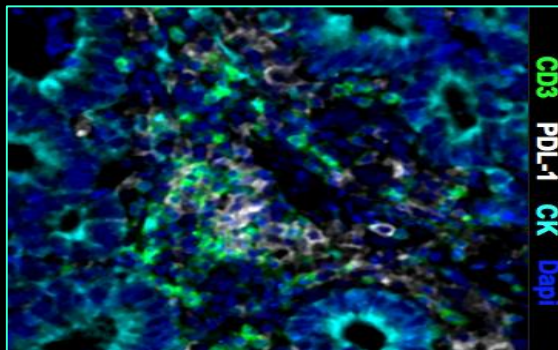
Cumulative distribution function of nearest neighbors between CD3+ and PD-L1+

Immunoscore - Immunoediting

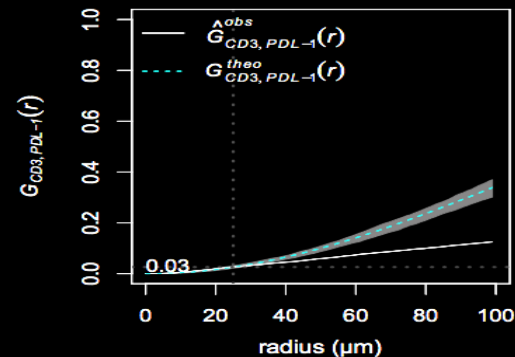
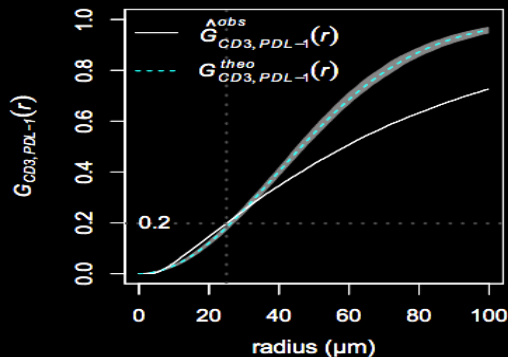
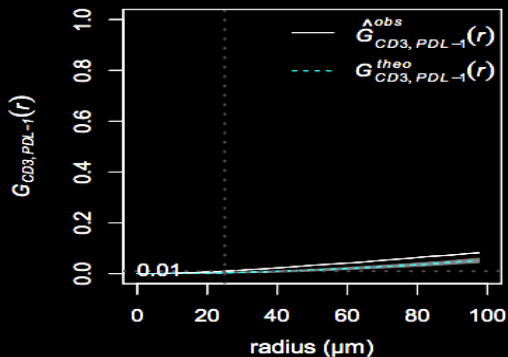
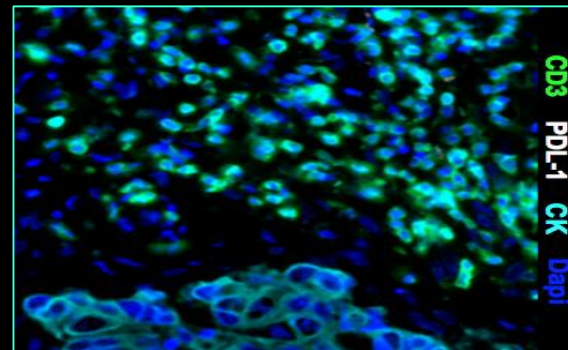
Lo-No



Hi-No



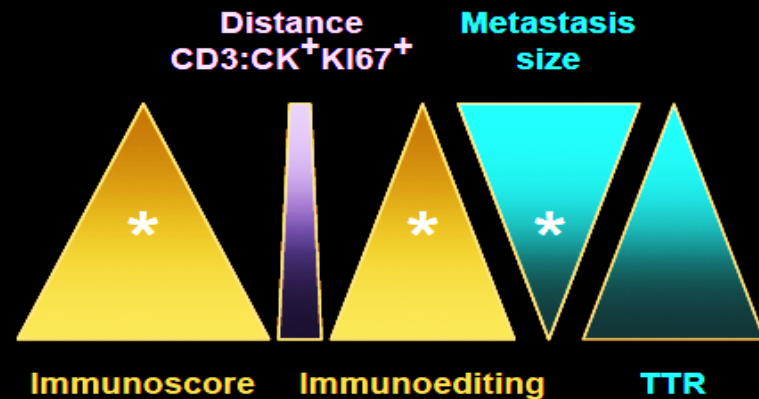
Hi-Yes



HiNo metastases have a higher percentage of T cells (CD3<sup>+</sup>) that have the nearest PD-L1+ within a radius of 25 $\mu m$

# Multivariate analysis of all genomics and immunomics parameters

Excluded variable	Df	First recurrence		Multiple recurrences	
		AIC	log(HR)	AIC	log(HR)
<none>		43.3		124	
CD3 to CK+KI67+ mutual neighbor distance (Hi)	1	43.7	-2.2	124.1	-1.6
Immunoscore (>60%)	1	46.2	-3.1	124.8	-1.8
Immunoediting (Low)	1	48.1	-3.1	133	-1.9
Meta Size (log)	1	45.9	2.5	133.7	2.6

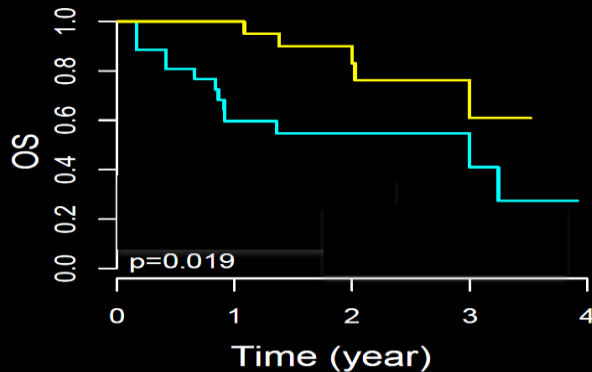
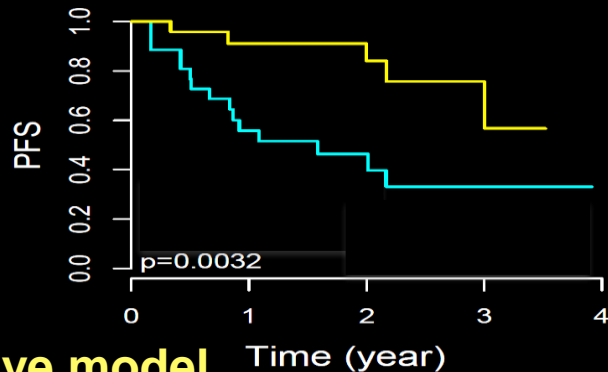


- ✓ Cox multivariate analysis revealed 4 parameters associated with metastatic dissemination:
- ✓ Immunoscore, Immunoediting, the distance between CD3 T-cells and Ki67+ tumor cells, and the size of the parent metastasis

# Validation Study

CRC Primary tumor recurrence (n=132 patients)

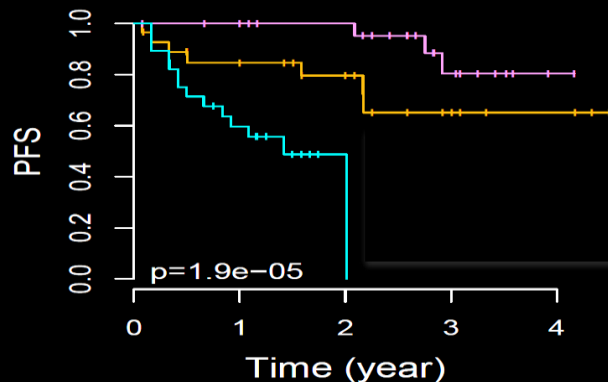
## Immunoediting



Immunoediting

No Immunoediting

## Predictive model



### Predictive model

Recurrence probability

Low

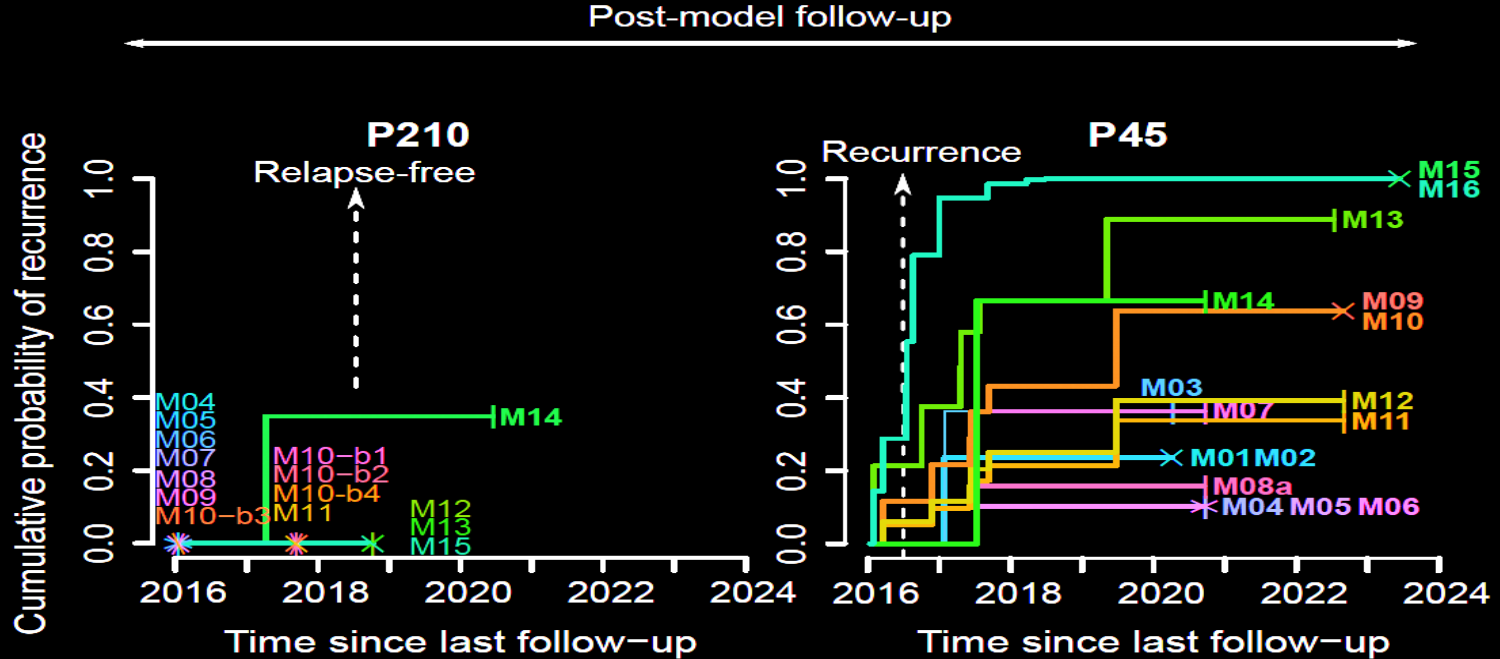
Int

High

➤ Immunoediting and Predictive model are predictive factors of recurrence.

Angelova M. et al. *Cell* 2018

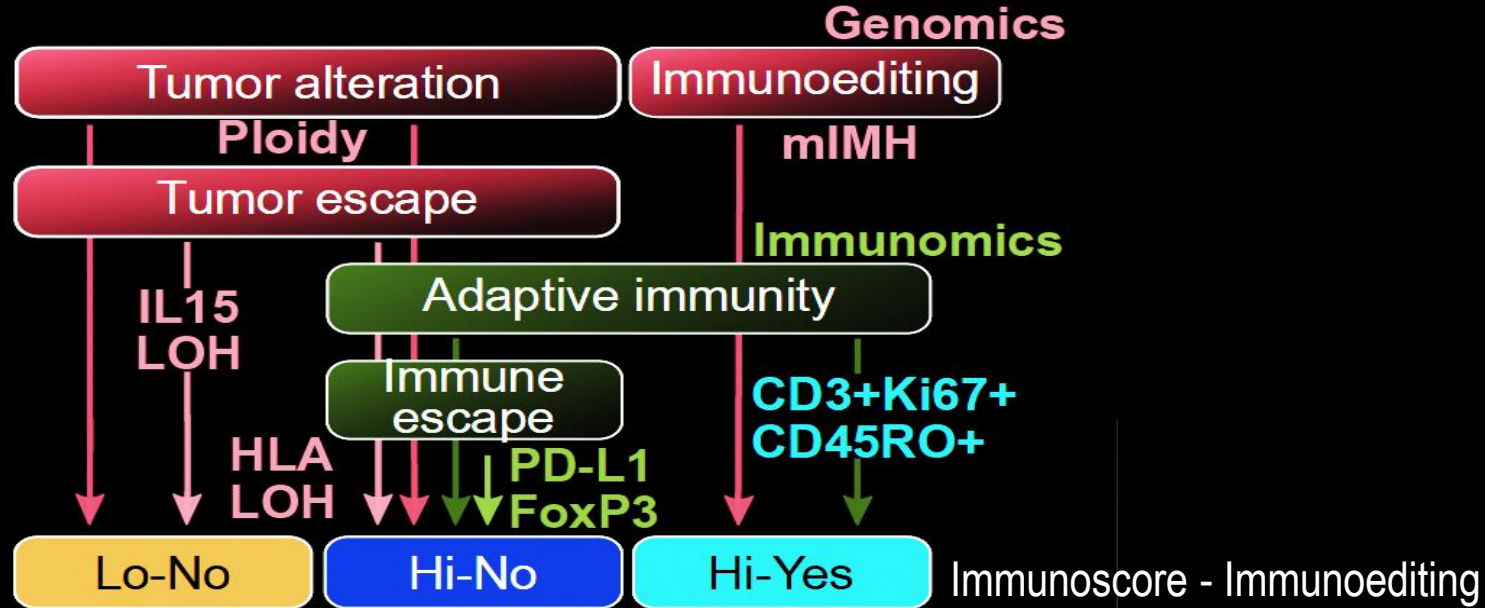
# Predictive model of dissemination



- ✓ Model for cumulative probability of recurrence
- ✓ -> Prediction model

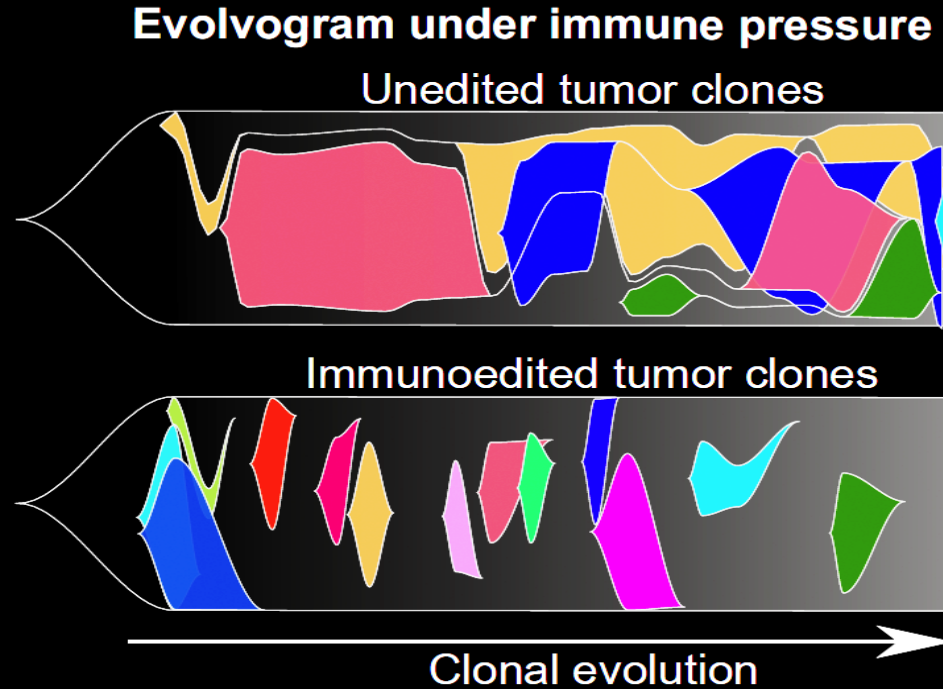
# What drives metastasis? Conclusions

## Immune escape mechanisms



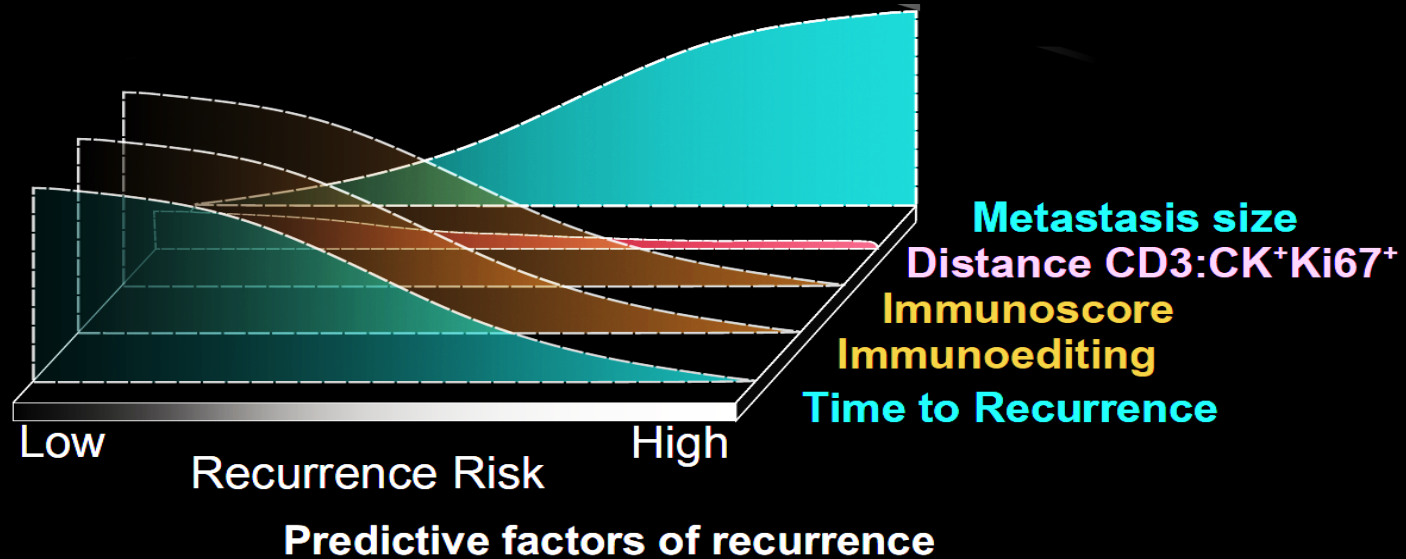
- Different escape mechanisms delineated by lack of adaptive immunity or immunoediting.

# What drives metastasis? Conclusions (2)



- Multiverse of metastases evolution in space and time under immune selection
- Evolution of tumor clones is linked to the intra-metastatic immune contexture.
- Non-recurrent clones are immunoedited. Progressing clones are immune privileged.

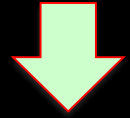
# What drives metastasis? Conclusions (3)



- Parallel selection model describes tumor evolution during the metastatic process.
- Immunoediting and Immunoscore are predictive factors of metastasis recurrence.
- Distance between CD3 + cells and tumor cells Ki67+ and metastasis size are also associated metastasis recurrence.

# A Novel theory of cancer evolution

## Models



LINEAR

NEUTRAL

BIG-BANG

BRANCHED

SELECTION



Immune pressure from Darwinian selection

NO

NO

NO

NO

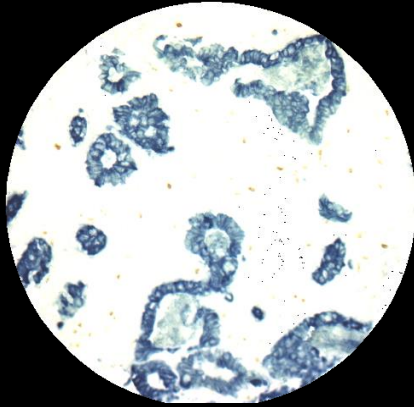
YES

➤ **Parallel immune selection model**

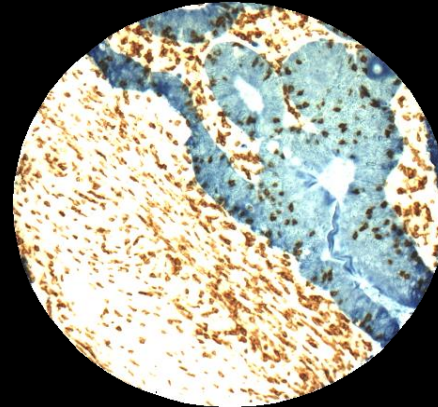
➤ Dynamic interaction of tumor-cells with immune-cells and Darwinian selection of immune escape variant, with parallel evolution and multiverse of metastases.

# Deciphering the tumor immune microenvironment: Clinical implications

"Cold" Tumor  
I 0



CD3  
Tumor



"Hot" Tumor  
I 4

**Clinical implications**



**Predictions**

Need T-cell priming  
Cancer vaccine




Response to immunotherapies  
(CTLA4, PD1, PDL1, ...)

But it is not as simple since biology is complex and is not dichotomized in good & bad

Galon J. & Bruni D.  
***Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 2019**

# Approaches to treat immune hot, altered and cold tumours with combination immunotherapies

Jérôme Galon \* and Daniela Bruni

2019

**Absent**  
Low Immunoscore

Cold  
Non-inflamed

**Altered**  
Intermediate Immunoscore

Excluded  
CT-Lo, Hi-IM

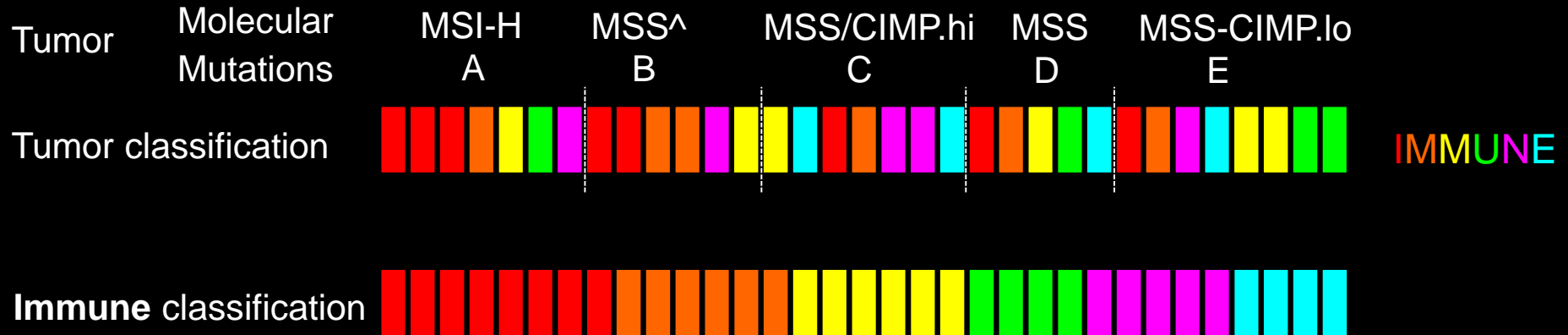
Immunosuppressed

**Optimal**  
High Immunoscore

Hot  
Inflamed

Response to T cell checkpoint inhibition

# Stratification of cancer based on the immune status



-> Importance of having standardized immune Assays

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