

**Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques  
and DNA-Profiling in Particular**

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La Rochelle, France, November 7 to 10, 2017**

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## **ASSIGNMENT TESTS FOR GENOTYPE CLASSIFICATION**

*Document prepared by experts from the Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO)*

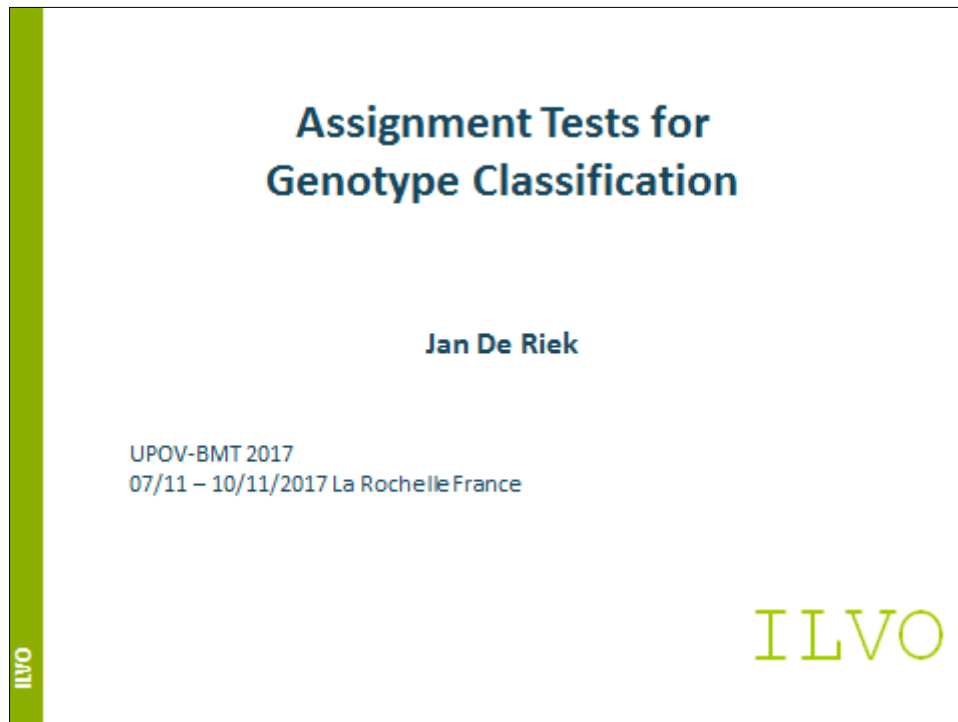
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The Annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation “Assignment Tests for Genotype Classification” to be made at its sixteenth session of the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques and DNA-Profiling in particular (BMT).

[Annex follows]

ASSIGNMENT TESTS FOR GENOTYPE CLASSIFICATION

Presentation prepared by experts from the Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (ILVO)

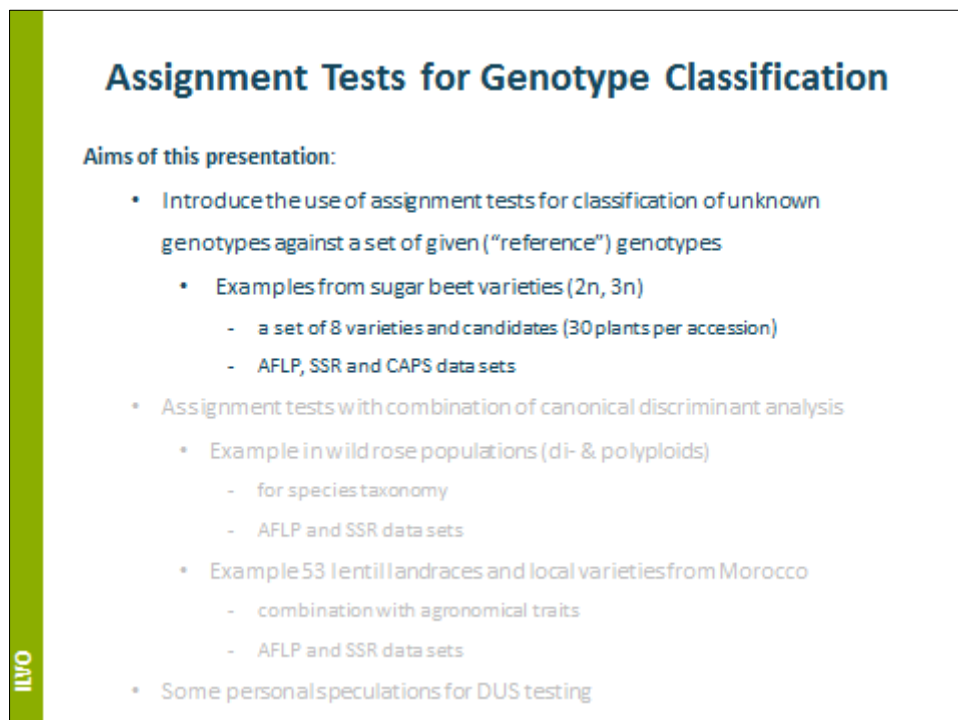


**Assignment Tests for  
Genotype Classification**

**Jan De Riek**

UPOV-BMT 2017  
07/11 – 10/11/2017 La Rochelle France

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**Assignment Tests for Genotype Classification**

**Aims of this presentation:**

- Introduce the use of assignment tests for classification of unknown genotypes against a set of given (“reference”) genotypes
  - Examples from sugar beet varieties (2n, 3n)
    - a set of 8 varieties and candidates (30 plants per accession)
    - AFLP, SSR and CAPS data sets
  - Assignment tests with combination of canonical discriminant analysis
    - Example in wild rose populations (di- & polyploids)
      - for species taxonomy
      - AFLP and SSR data sets
    - Example 53 lentil landraces and local varieties from Morocco
      - combination with agronomical traits
      - AFLP and SSR data sets
  - Some personal speculations for DUS testing

## Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties Used Methods

High genetic variation within sugar beet varieties hampers reliable classification procedures independent of the type of marker technique applied. AFLPs, SSRs and CAPSs marker datasets in 8 sugar beet varieties were subjected to

(i) supervised classifiers:

- methods in which individual assignments are made to predefined classes

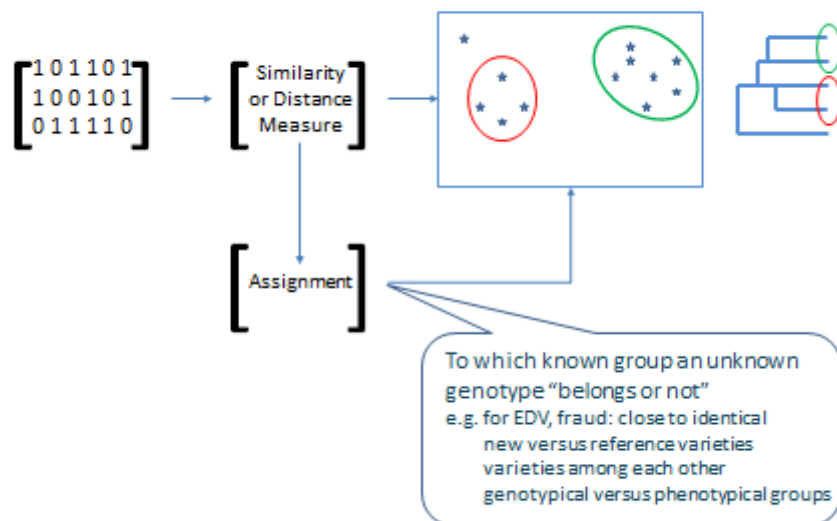
(ii) unsupervised classifiers:

- defined afterwards on the similarity in marker composition from sampled individuals

(De Mick et al. 2007; Crop Science)

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### Non-supervised classification



### Supervised classification

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**Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties**  
**Assignment 10 most similar plants**

Assignment based on the pairwise similarity data

	From	To									
		Ariana	Aurelia	Fortis	H66377	KWS8123	MK9907	Princesse	Sylvester		
AFLP	Ariana	76	69	16	23	42	17	41	16		
	Aurelia	43	<b>114</b>	17	27	34	15	30	20		
	Fortis	11	39	<b>148</b>	27	26	12	22	15		
	H66377	10	20	14	<b>8</b>	26	30	37	25		
	KWS8123	21	28	14	6	<b>169</b>	12	22	8		
	MK9907	14	27	22	1	23	<b>117</b>	30	16		
	Princesse	22	34	9	32	24	19	<b>150</b>	10		
	Sylvester	13	39	22	62	23	28	32	<b>81</b>		
	Ariana	62	56	38	21	30	21	43	19		
	Aurelia	45	<b>88</b>	16	15	37	14	46	39		
C/S	Fortis	33	37	1	5	31	32	31	30		
	H66377	30	26	45	15	26	30	23			
	KWS8123	14	2	1	198	1	24	7			
	MK9907	26	2	33	12	<b>92</b>	25	36			
	Princesse	21	48	25	23	14	<b>105</b>	33			
	Sylvester	21	63	24	13	26	58	77			
	Ariana	<b>137</b>	88	6	14	28	4	33	12		
	Aurelia	62	<b>149</b>	20	12	3	4	16	9		
	Fortis	3	27	<b>195</b>	24	1	1	14	20		
	H66377	4	11	28	<b>194</b>	15	13	27			
STMS	KWS8123	4	9	6	1	2	2	1			
	MK9907		1	6	19	55	2	9			
	Princesse	45	32	18	10	10	<b>161</b>	14			
	Sylvester	12	16	28	29	16	15	<b>170</b>			

**Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties**  
**Assignment 10 most similar plants**

Assignment based on the pairwise similarity data

	Ariana	Aurelia	Fortis	H66377	KWS8123	MK9907	Princesse	Sylvester
ArianaP1	5	1	0	0	23	42	17	41
P2	3	0	1	0	27	34	15	30
P3	6	1	2	0	27	26	12	22
P4	4	0	1	0	8	26	30	37
P5	2	1	0	2	6	<b>169</b>	12	22
P6	3	0	1	0	1	23	<b>117</b>	30
P7	0	7	1	0	32	24	19	<b>150</b>
...					62	23	28	32
P30	5	2	0	0	23	23	28	<b>81</b>
Ariana	62	56	38	21	30	21	43	19
Aurelia	45	<b>149</b>	20	12	3	4	16	9
Fortis	3	27	<b>195</b>	24	1	1	14	20
H66377	4	11	28	<b>194</b>	15	13	27	
KWS8123	4	9	6	1	2	2	1	
MK9907		1	6	19	55	2	9	
Princesse	45	32	18	10	10	10	<b>161</b>	14
Sylvester	12	16	28	29	16	15	15	<b>170</b>

## Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties Assignment 10 most similar plants

### Calculation of $S_{a,x,y}$

$$76/300=0.253$$

$$(11/300+16/300)/2=0.045$$

		To					
		From	Ariana	Aurelia	Fortis	H66377	KWS8123
rd similarity data	AFLP	Ariana	76	69	16	23	42
		Aurelia	43	114	17	27	34
		Fortis	11	39	148	27	26
		H66377	10	20	14	138	26
		KWS8123	21	28	14	26	169
		MK9907	14	27	22	51	23
		Princesse	22	34	9	32	24
		Sylvester	13	39	22	62	23

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## Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties $S_{a,x,y}$

		To									
		From	Ariana	Aurelia	Fortis	H66377	KWS8123	MK9907	Princesse	Sylvester	
Similarity by assignment $S_{a,x,y}$	AFLP	Ariana	0.253								
		Aurelia	0.187	0.380							
		Fortis	0.045	0.093	0.493						
		H66377	0.055	0.078	0.068	0.460					
		KWS8123	0.105	0.103	0.067	0.087	0.563				
		MK9907	0.052	0.070	0.057	0.135	0.058	0.390			
		Princesse	0.105	0.107	0.052	0.115	0.077	0.082	0.500		
		Sylvester	0.048	0.098	0.062	0.145	0.052	0.073	0.070	0.270	
		Ariana	0.214								
		Aurelia	0.172	0.293							
CAPS	Fortis	0.121	0.088	0.337							
	H66377	0.086	0.068	0.017	0.483						
	KWS8123	0.075	0.102	0.092	0.043	0.650					
	MK9907	0.080	0.072	0.110	0.120	0.022	0.307				
	Princesse	0.124	0.159	0.095	0.072	0.080	0.066	0.362			
	Sylvester	0.068	0.170	0.090	0.068	0.033	0.103	0.154	0.257		
	Ariana	0.457									
	Aurelia	0.250	0.497								
	Fortis	0.015	0.078	0.650							
	H66377	0.023	0.038	0.087	0.647						
STMS	KWS8123	0.030	0.062	0.037	0.015	0.917					
	MK9907	0.000	0.008	0.012	0.057	0.017	0.850				
	Princesse	0.130	0.080	0.053	0.038	0.030	0.010	0.537			
	Sylvester	0.040	0.042	0.080	0.093	0.028	0.038	0.048	0.567		

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## Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties Conclusions

Assignment tests showed a higher consistency across classifications independent from the marker technique

A good allocation to the proper variety was obtained, together with a reliable allocation pattern among the other varieties. Both aspects deal with the variation within a variety and the distance to other varieties

Assignment data were transformed into an average similarity measure Similarity by assignment ( $Sa_{x,y}$ ) which is a new genetic distance measure with interesting properties

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(De Meek et al., 2007; Crop Science)

## Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties Conclusions

( $Sa_{x,y}$ ) is a new genetic distance measure with interesting properties

- $Sa_{x,y}$  is highly independent of the marker technique used
- $Sa_{x,y}$  matrices calculated on the same marker technique but using a different similarity measure were in good agreement
- The scales and scopes for  $Sa_{x,y}$  distances measured may be values relatively insensitive to the degree of polymorphism of the marker technique used
- The level of distinction between varieties obtained were much higher (i.e., a higher number of plants is assigned correctly)
- The measure produced comparable results when calculated using different numbers of best assigned plants

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## Assignment Tests for Variety Identification in Sugar Beet Varieties

Results and discussion are based on statistical techniques developed in:

- De Riek J, Calsyn E, Everaert I, Van Bockstaele E & De Loose M (2001). AFLP based alternatives for the assessment of distinctness, uniformity and stability of sugar beet varieties. Theor. Appl. Genet. 103:1254-1265.

Also reported in: BMT/6/3 Angers, France, March 1 to 3, 2000

- De Riek J, Everaert I, Esselink D, Calsyn E, Smulders MJM & Vosman B (2007). Assignment tests for variety identification compared to genetic similarity-based methods using experimental datasets from different marker systems in sugar beet, Crop Sci. 47: 1964-1974

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## Assignment Tests for Genotype Classification

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## An example from rose taxonomy

Here, we combined assignment tests (De Riek et al., 2001, 2007) with canonical discriminant analysis using SPSS to obtain structured ordinations.

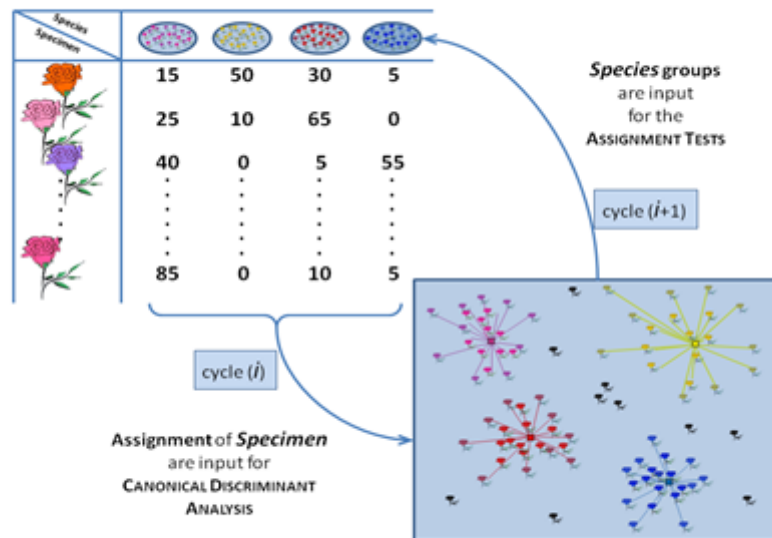
First, an assignment table was produced, which showed for each specimen under evaluation the most related set of species.

The assignment values were taken as input to a canonical discriminant analysis, targeting the classification towards membership of taxonomical sections, subsections (dogroses) or species. The independent variables were entered simultaneously. The covariance matrix within groups was used for the ordination; prior probabilities for classification were computed from the group sizes. Classifications were based both on case-wise results, and on the leave-one-out method.

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(De Riek et al., 2010; Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution)

## Assignment test scheme



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(De Riek et al., 2010; Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution)



## Moroccan local lentil landraces and cultivars

Assignment of genotypes to the geographic locations of landrace collection site or cultivar was tested using the assignment table combined with canonical discriminant analysis (De Riek et al. 2001, 2013) using SPSS-Statistics 22 to display genetic variation.

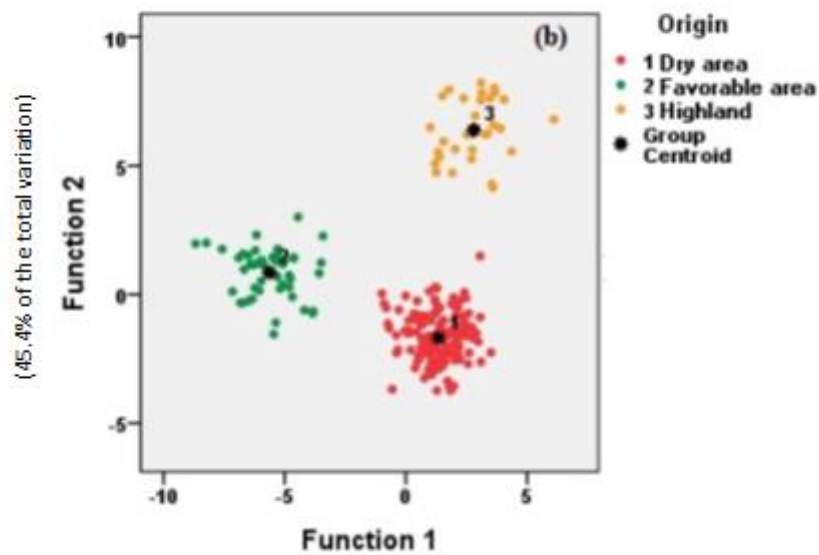
For SSRs, a ranking of the 100 most resembling genotypes (single plants) per individual was made, and pairs of genotypes with chi-square distance above 7 were excluded.

For AFLP, a ranking of the 100 most resembling single plants per individual was made whereby pairs of genotypes with Jaccard's similarity index below 0.45 were excluded. This allowed producing assignment tables showing for each geographic location of landraces or varieties the most-related single plants. Assignment tables were then used as input files for discriminant analysis in order to classify the genotypes according to the type of their origin, cycle duration and early growing vigor.

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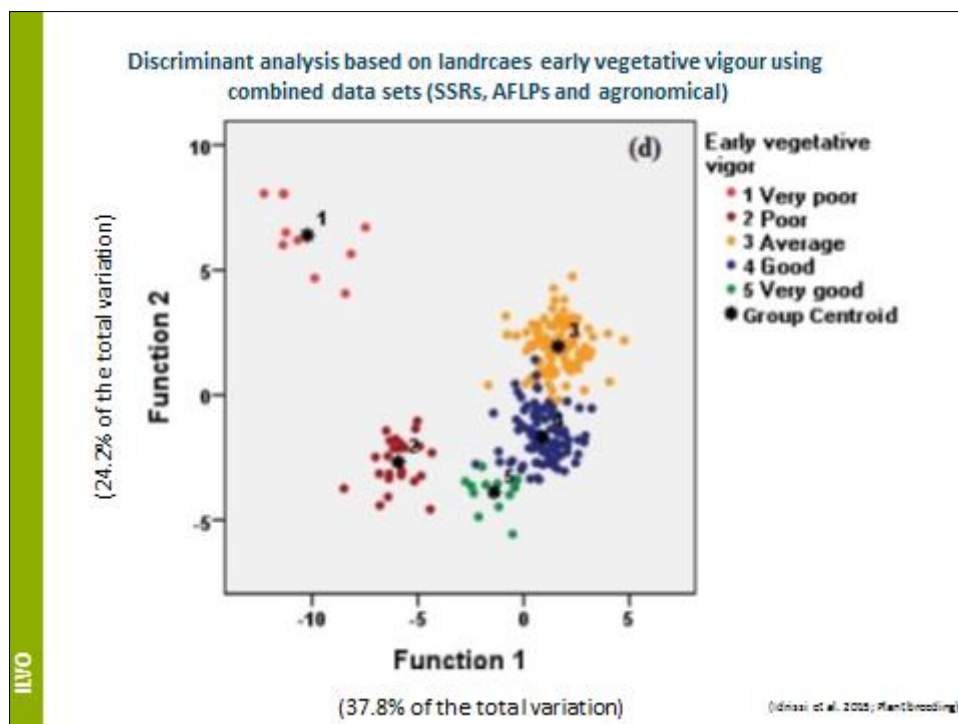
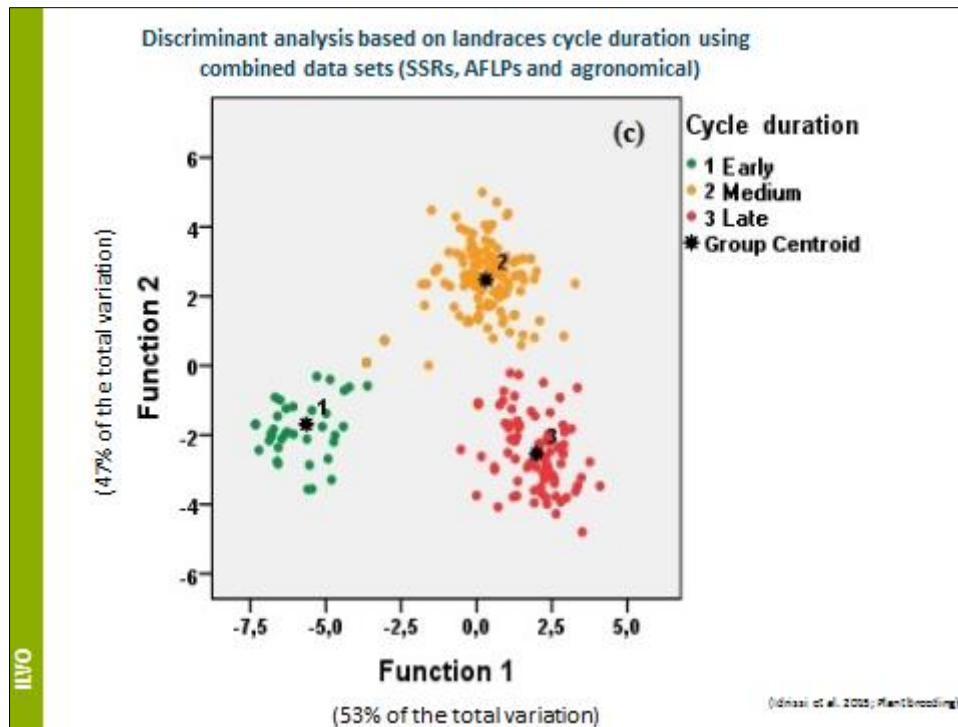
(Dinazi et al. 2015; PlantBreeding)

Discriminant analysis based on landraces agro-environmental origins using combined data sets (SSRs, AFLPs and agronomical)



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(Dinazi et al. 2015; PlantBreeding)



## Assignment tests combined with canonical discriminant analysis

These additional examples are taken from:

- De Riek J, De Cock K, Smulders MJM & Nybom H (2013). AFLP-based population structure analysis as a means to validate the complex taxonomy of dogroses (*Rosa* section *Caninae*), *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 67: 547-559
- Idrissi O, Udupa SM, Houasli C, De Keyser E, Van Damme P & De Riek J (2015), Genetic diversity analysis of Moroccan lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik.) landraces using Simple Sequence Repeat and Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphisms reveals functional adaptation towards agro-environmental origins. *Plant Breed*, 134: 322–332.

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## Some personal speculations for DUS testing

### Observations

**Assignment based measures** gave more reliable classifications in heterogeneous (polyploidy) sugar beet hybrid varieties

- More balanced as the genetic distances are averaged because of the allocation pattern over the “best friends”
- Highly independent of marker technique used
- Supervised classification outcompetes straightforward clustering etc.

### Speculations

- A database related measure as  $Sa_{x,y}$  is better to work with a set of reference varieties instead of e.g. the Jaccard or Nei genetic measures directly
- It can deal in a more consistent way with the shift of standards over time as the allocation pattern among the tested varieties can even be taken as a running yardstick

## Some personal speculations for DUS testing

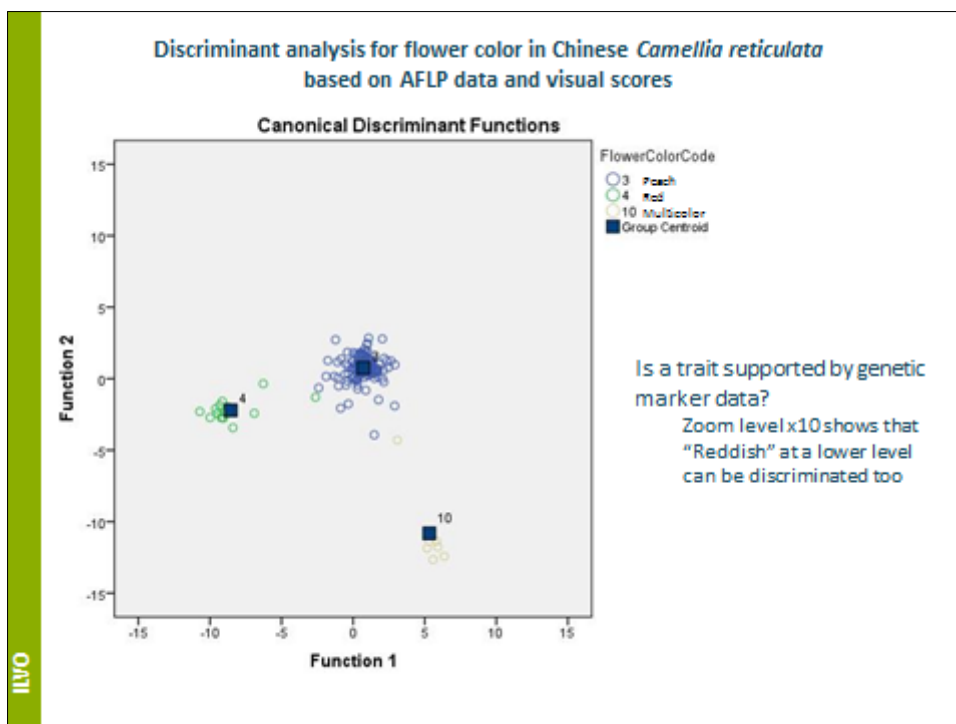
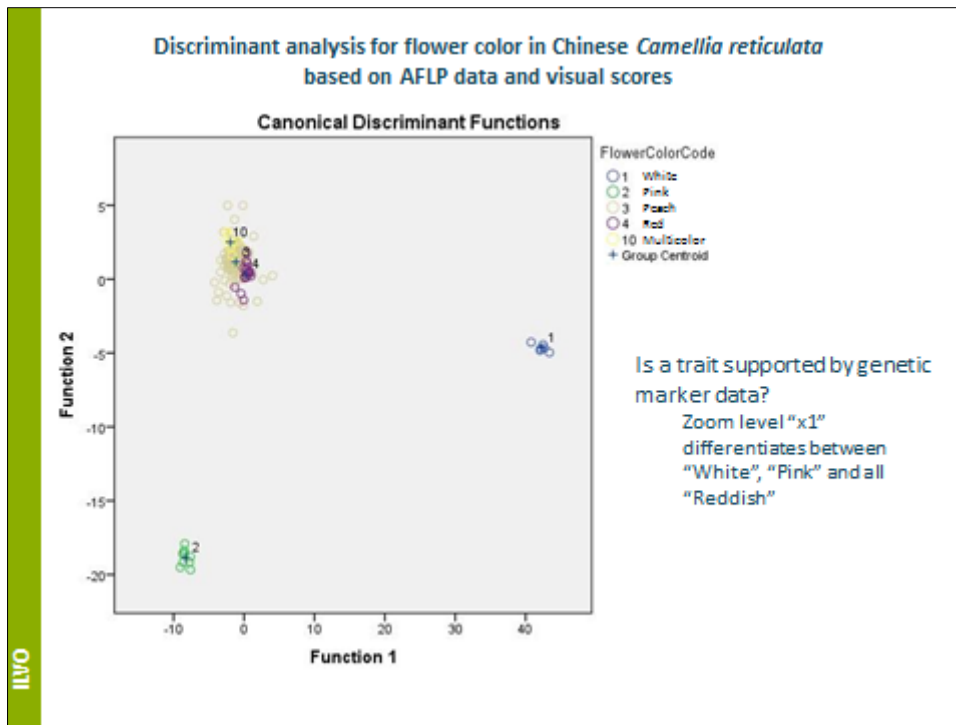
### Observations

**Assignment tests** combined with **canonical discriminant analysis** can

- starting from genetic data, classify genotypes according to taxonomical groups (phylogeny), regional origin, plant performance
- identify unknown genotypes by placing them in an existing classification. In its recurrent use it appears to be a self learning system that can finally lead to a clear-cut ordered solution

### Speculations

- It can be used to test a valid genetic “background” underlying a trait
- It can make an estimate of the degree of such genetic background
- It can break the “triangular relationship” observed between trait based classifications and genetic distance measures



# Thank you

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