



# Dog Aging Project

LONGER, HEALTHIER LIVES.  
TOGETHER.

## Companion Dogs as a Model of Aging

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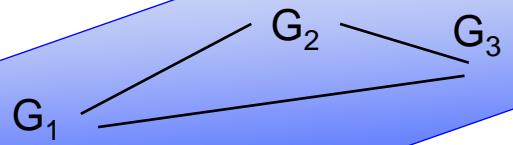
promislo@uw.edu      <https://www.dogagingproject.org>



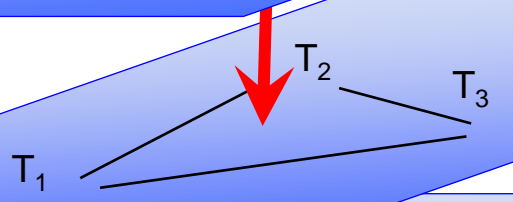
Environment ('exposome')

G

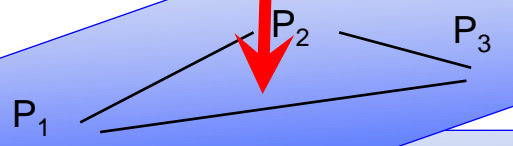
Genotype



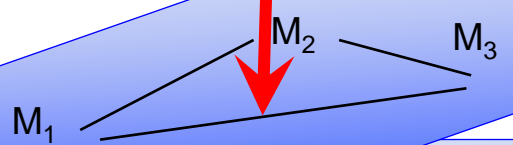
Epige Trans



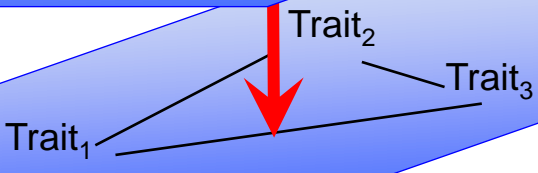
Prote



Metab Micro

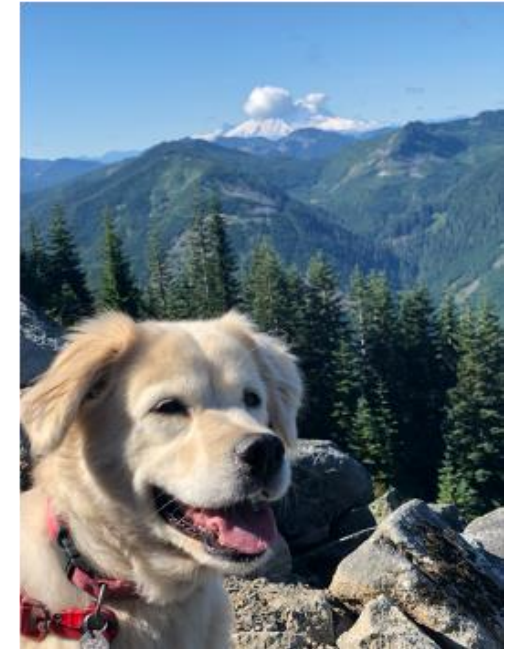
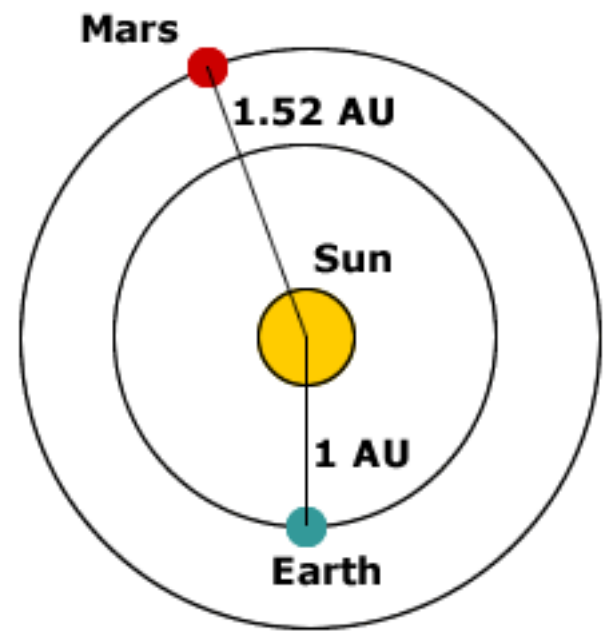


Phenotype



P

Aging



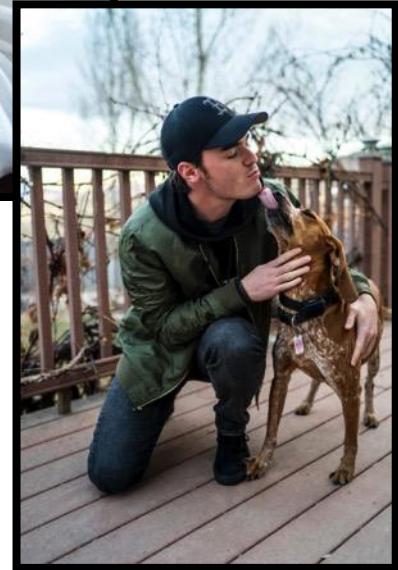
# Why dogs?



Maddy: 5 years & 10 years



Lily: 8 months & 15 years



- Accelerated and well-documented life course
- Morbidity, mortality and environment shared with humans
- Sophisticated health care system
- People love dogs

# The Dog Aging Project

[dogagingproject.org](https://dogagingproject.org)

Longer, healthier lives. Together.

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## Partner with us to discover the keys to healthy lifespan!

The Dog Aging Project brings together a community of people committed to giving dogs the happiest, longest lives possible. Our expert veterinarians and scientists will team up with 10,000 dogs and their owners to identify factors critical to improving healthy lifespan.

If you and your best friend are interested in being part of the most ambitious canine health study in the world, start the process by clicking the button below.

[Nominate Your Dog](#) 



DAP is a long-term longitudinal study of the biological and environmental determinants of healthy aging.

## DAP is all dogs

- all ages
- all sizes
- mixed breed and purebred
- every state in the US

# Dog Aging Project dogs

**DAP Pack, 100,000+ dogs,**  
Survey data

**Foundation**  
8500 dogs  
(+DNA, EMRs)

**Precision**  
1000 dogs  
(+ omics, activity)

**Intervention**  
500 dogs  
(+ rapamycin)

Centenarians (~300 dogs)

Health and Life  
Experience Survey +  
regular surveys

Annual vet check; EMR  
Demography  
Home and local  
environment  
Behavior

Tissue/blood samples  
Activity data  
Necropsy/Pathology

Echocardiograms  
Vet teaching hospitals

# From genotype to phenotype



G  
E

~~Project 2~~

Project 3

Project 1

**G** Whole genome sequencing/  
Breed info



Air, water, green space  
Home environment

**E** Social setting  
Diet, exercise, health care  
Age, size, sex

Clinical chemistry  
Metabolome  
Epigenome  
Microbiome  
Transcriptome  
FACS



**P**

Age-specific disease  
Frailty, Comorbidity  
Mortality  
Fecundity

Project 4

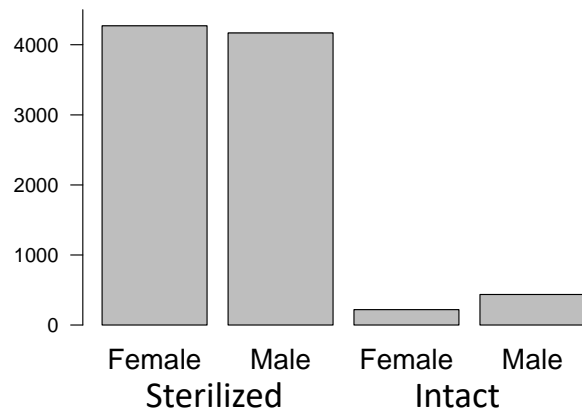
The TRIAD Trail—Test of Rapamycin in Aging Dogs

# Health and Life Experience Survey

Current size: >17,000 dogs x 4973 questions

## Dog Demographics

Characteristics	(%) of subjects (N=10226)
<b>Breed</b>	
Purebred	5147 (50%)
Mixed breed	5079 (50%)
<b>Sex, Spayed or Neutered</b>	
Female, Spayed/Neutered	4749 (46%)
Male, Spayed/Neutered	4719 (46%)
Male, un-Spayed/un-Neutered	516 (5%)
Female, un-Spayed/un-Neutered	242 (2%)



## Chases birds given chance

Never	2100 (21%)
Seldom	1960 (19%)
Sometimes	2359 (23%)
Usually	2081 (20%)
Always	1680 (16%)
Cannot answer	46 (<1%)

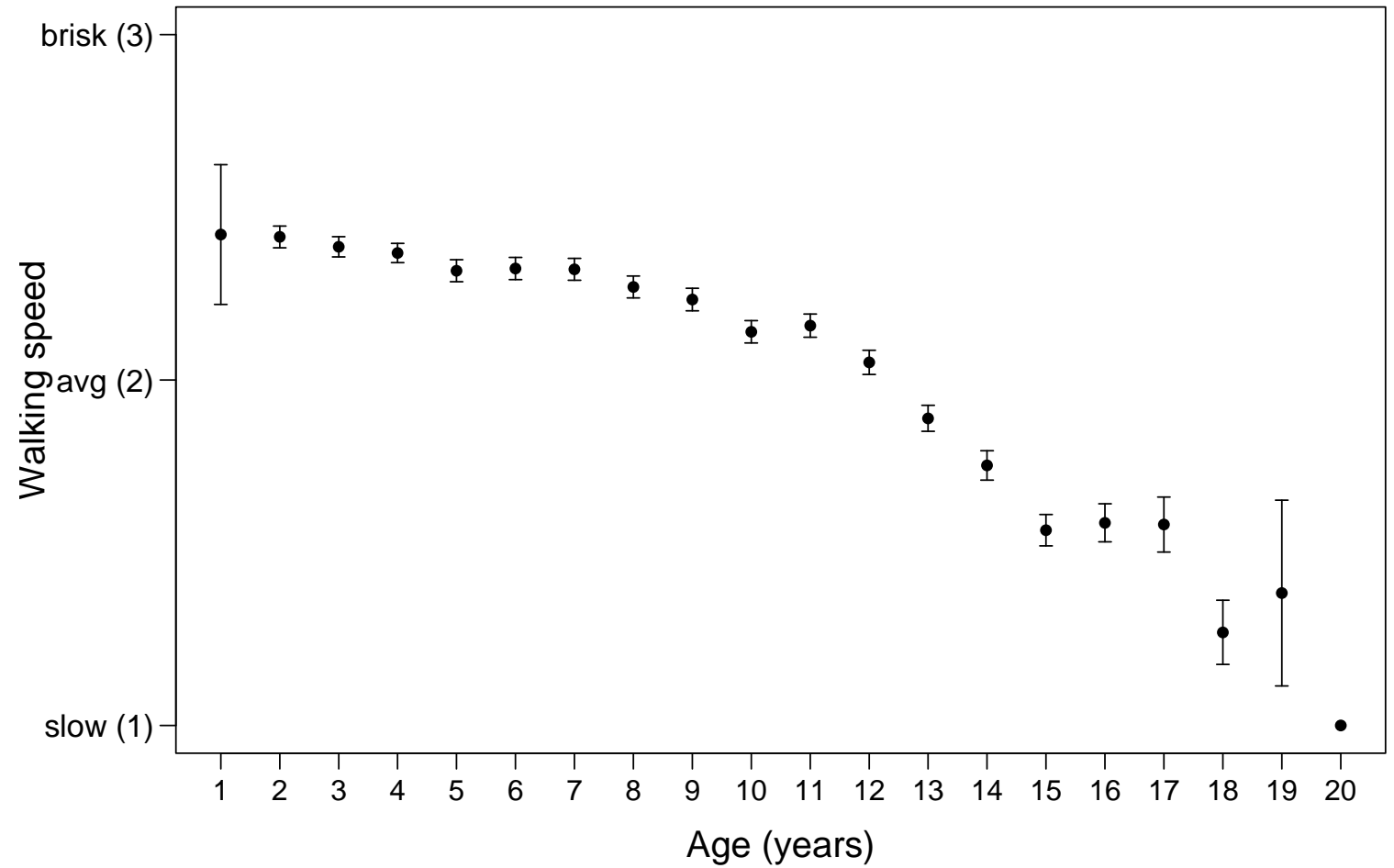
## Primary component of diet

Commercial, dry	8546 (84%)
Commercial, canned	401 (4%)
Home, cooked	391 (4%)
Commercial, frozen raw	356 (3%)
Other	187 (2%)
Home, raw	129 (1%)
Commercial, freeze-dried	117 (1%)
Commercial, semi-dry	99 (<1%)

## Diagnosed Conditions

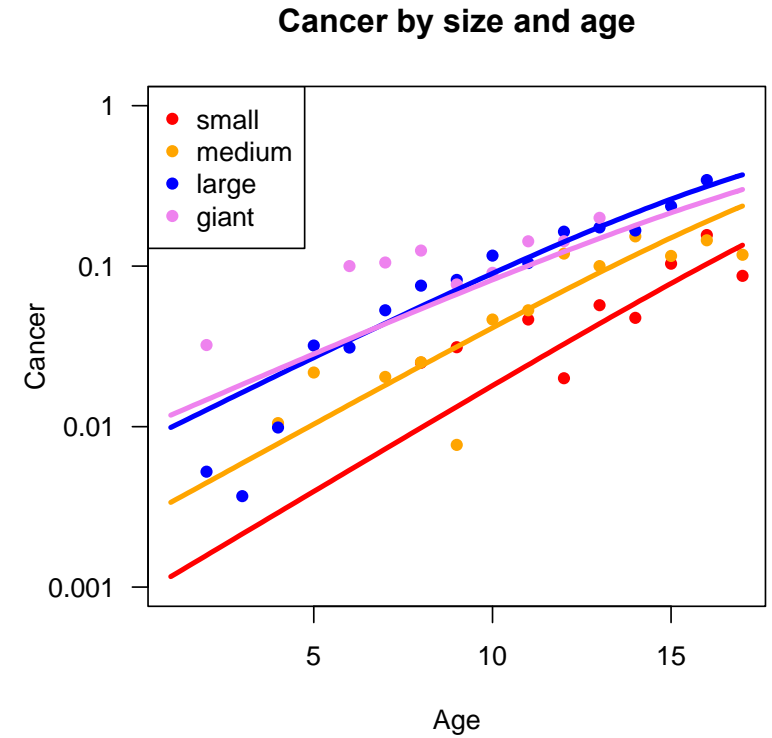
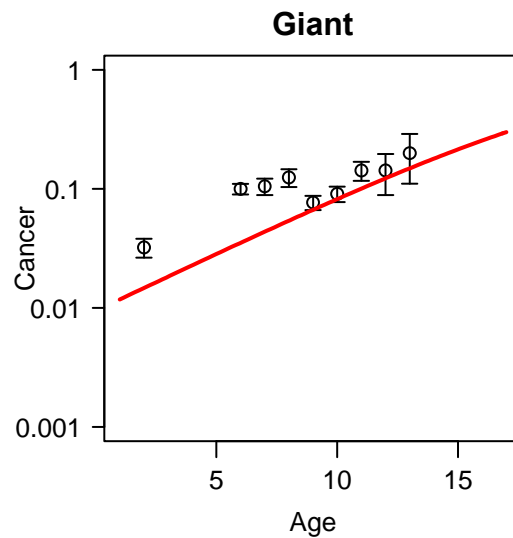
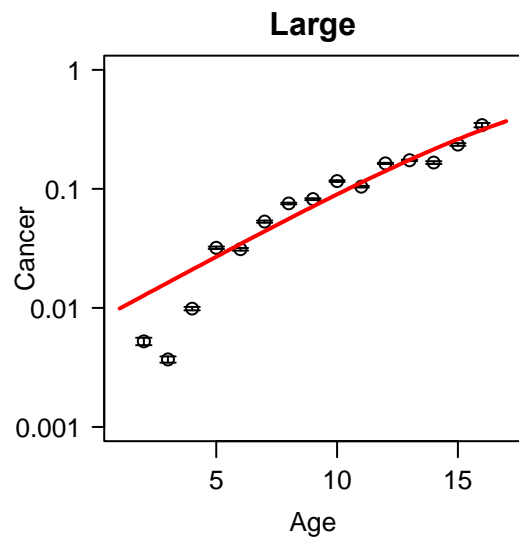
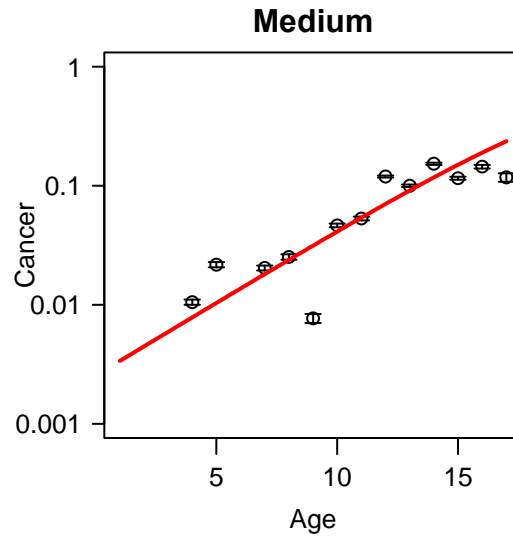
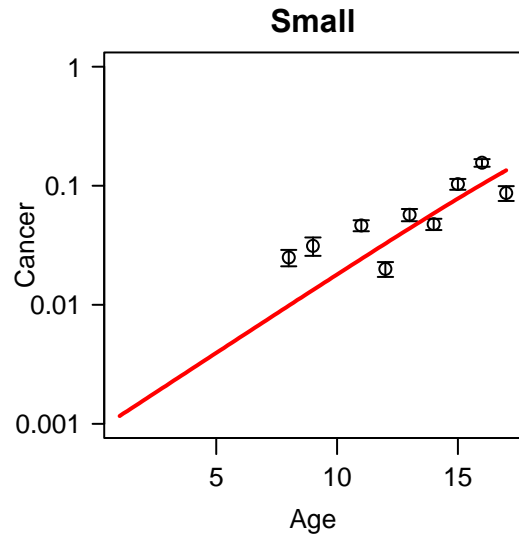
Characteristics	No. (%) of subjects (N=10226)
<b>Skin disorders</b>	2942 (29%)
<b>Trauma</b>	2926 (29%)
<b>Dental or oral disease</b>	2791 (27%)
<b>Infectious or parasitic disease</b>	2758 (27%)
<b>Orthopedic disorders</b>	1968 (19%)
<b>Gastrointestinal disorders</b>	1451 (14%)
<b>Ear, nose, and throat disorders</b>	1307 (13%)
<b>Eye disorders</b>	1304 (13%)
<b>Toxic or controlled substance</b>	1152 (11%)
<b>Kidney or urinary disorders</b>	771 (8%)
<b>Cancer or tumors</b>	635 (6%)
<b>Cardiac disorders</b>	583 (6%)
<b>Neurologic disorders</b>	496 (5%)
<b>Respiratory disorders</b>	365 (4%)

# Walk speed

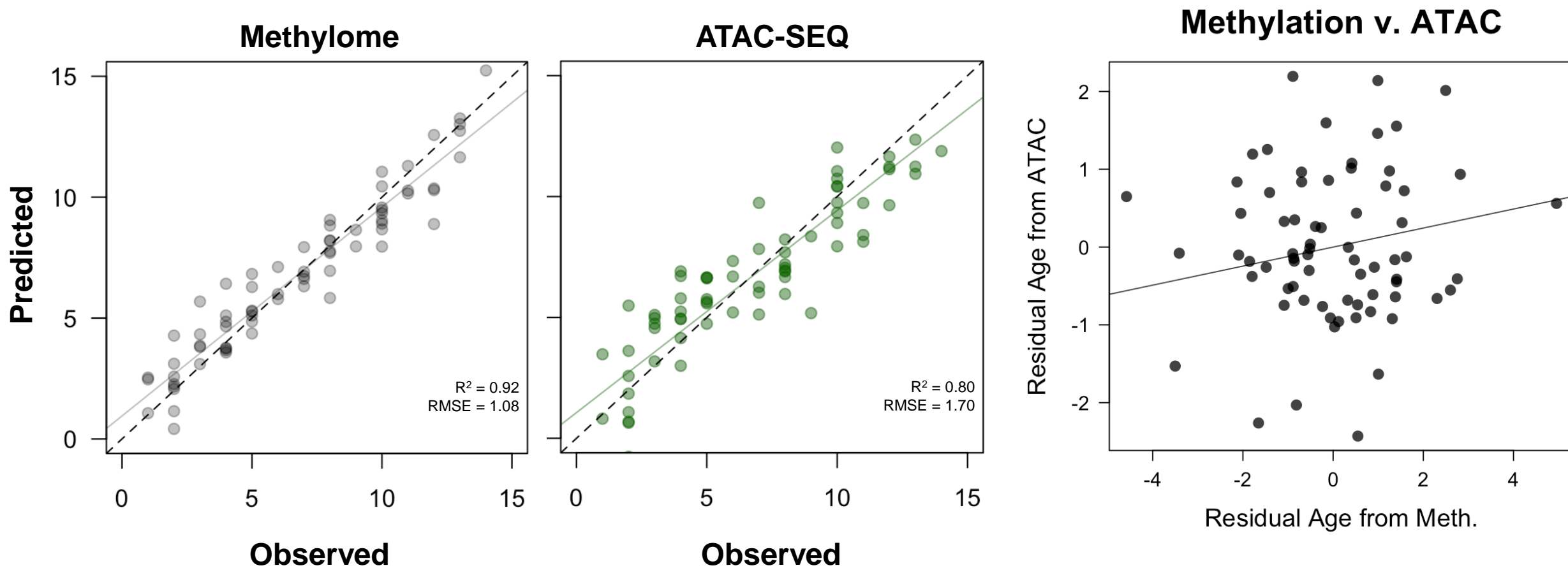




# Cancer



# Canine Epigenetic Clock



# Building bridges with DAP

1. Dogs as a model for Alzheimer's Disease
2. Impact of early-life experience on aging trajectory
3. Environmental stressors in dogs
4. Effect of socioeconomic status
5. Mechanisms of aging/Systems biology
6. Dogs as a translational bridge

# Major gaps

1. The lab world  $\neq$  the real world
2. What happens as dogs age? (Veterinary geriatrics)
3. Integrated, interdisciplinary study of aging
  - Evolution, Ethics, Environment, Early-life
  - Systems biology as bridge between G/E and P
4. Science in crisis
  - Open data
  - Community science
  - In dog we trust

# The Dog Aging Project is a collaborative, interdisciplinary, nationwide team



Arizona State University  
Broad Institute  
Colorado State University  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Res Ctr  
Iowa State University  
North Carolina State University  
Oregon State University  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Seattle Children's Research Inst  
Texas A&M University  
University of Arizona  
University of Georgia  
University of Washington  
Washington State University



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The Promislow Lab**



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Felipe Sierra (ret.)**



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# Dog Aging Project

THANK YOU

Let us know if you have any questions or suggestions!

