

# Lessons from yeast: synergistic effects of damage formation, repair, retention and resilience in the context of cellular rejuvenation and health span

**Marija Cvijovic**

**CHALMERS** |  **UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG**

[cvijoviclab.org](http://cvijoviclab.org)  
[@CvijovicLab](https://twitter.com/CvijovicLab)

# Becoming a systems biologist

PhD Mathematics (2008) Systems Biology  
Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics  
Berlin Germany

University of Bordeaux, France  
Virginia Tech (VT), USA

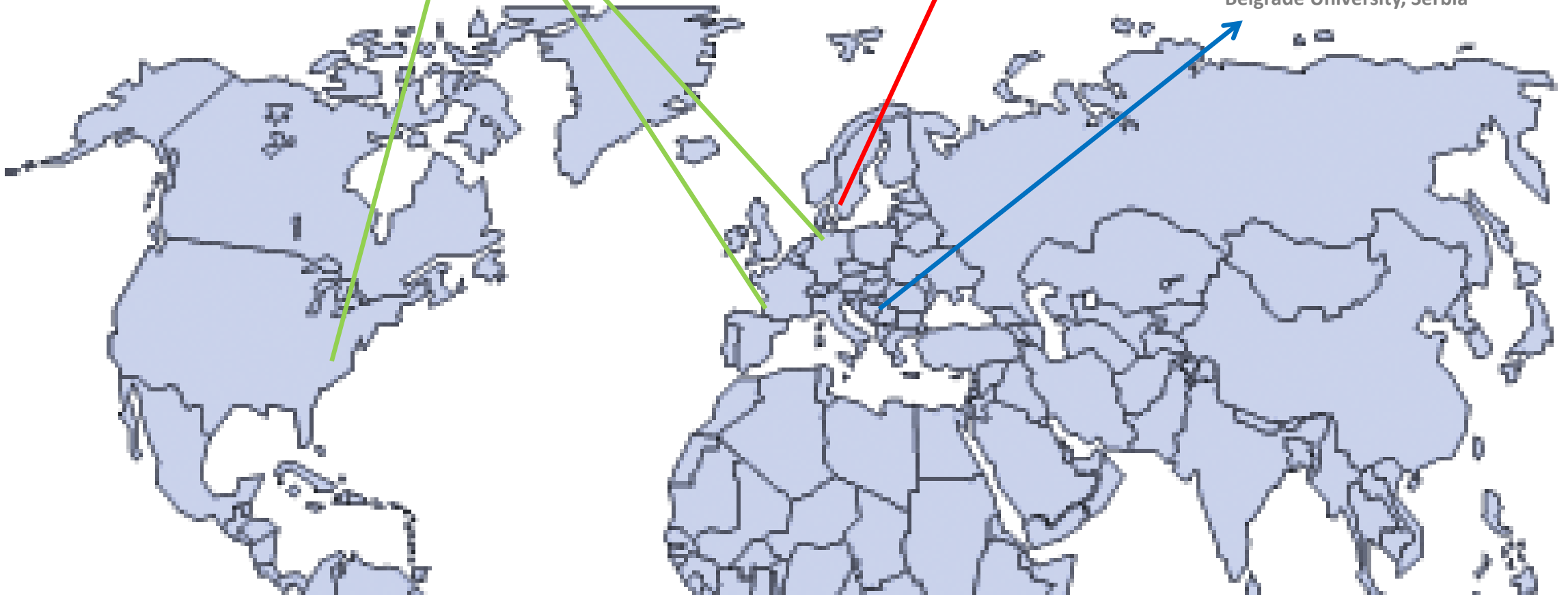
Associate professor (2015), Department of Mathematical Sciences, University of Gothenburg

Assistant professor (2011), Department of Mathematical Sciences, University of Gothenburg

Postdoc (2008-2010), Metabolic Engineering, Chalmers

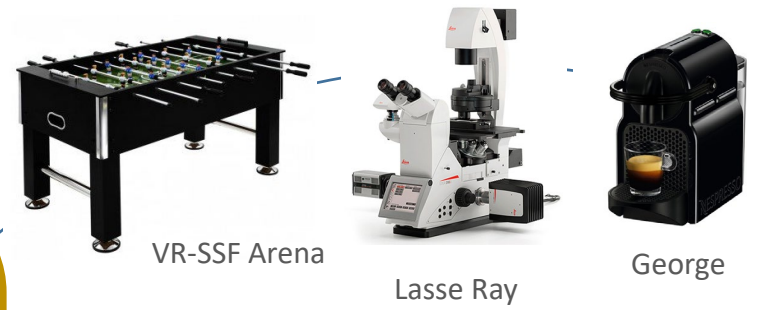
MSc Bioinformatics (2005), Chalmers

BSc Mathematics (2003)  
Belgrade University, Serbia





dry wet

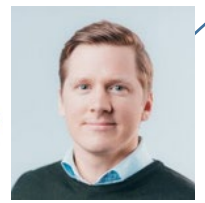


VR-SSF Arena

Lasse Ray

George

## PK/PD modelling



Methods for parameter estimation in mixed-effects models

Jacob Leander



Julia Larsson



Hasselbladstiftelsen

## Cvijovic Lab



STIFTELSEN för STRATEGISK FORSKNING

## Systems Biology ageing (damage accumulation and polarization) branch



Barbara Schnitzer

Cell-to-cell heterogeneity in the aging process



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG



Svenja Braam

Theoretical aspects of ageing and cellular rejuvenation

## Systems Biology signalling branch

Osmotic stress and metabolic imbalance (sensing and adaptation)



Patrick Reith

Dynamic regulation of central metabolism and cell signalling

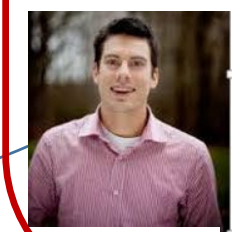


Sebastian Persson

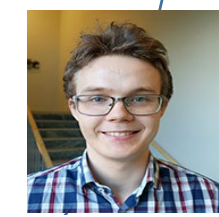


Linnea Österberg

## Vetenskapsrådet




Niek Welkenhuysen



Johannes Borgqvist

Mapping metabolic alterations during ageing to age-related syndromes and diseases

# ageing

/ˈeɪdʒɪŋ/ 

*noun*

1. the process of growing old.  
"the external signs of ageing"

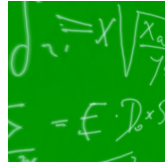
*adjective*

1. (of a person) growing old; elderly.  
"an ageing population"

## What is Ageing?

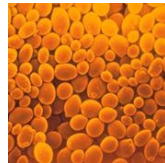
You know you are getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.

Bob Hope



### Mathematical definition:

The likelihood of death of individuals within a population increases exponentially with age.



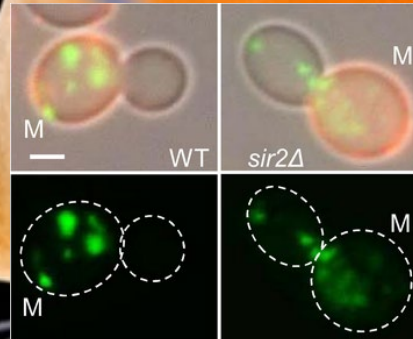
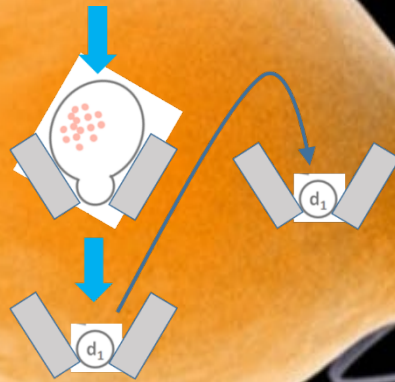
### Biological definition:

Ageing is simply the age - or time -dependent changes that occur to biological entities.

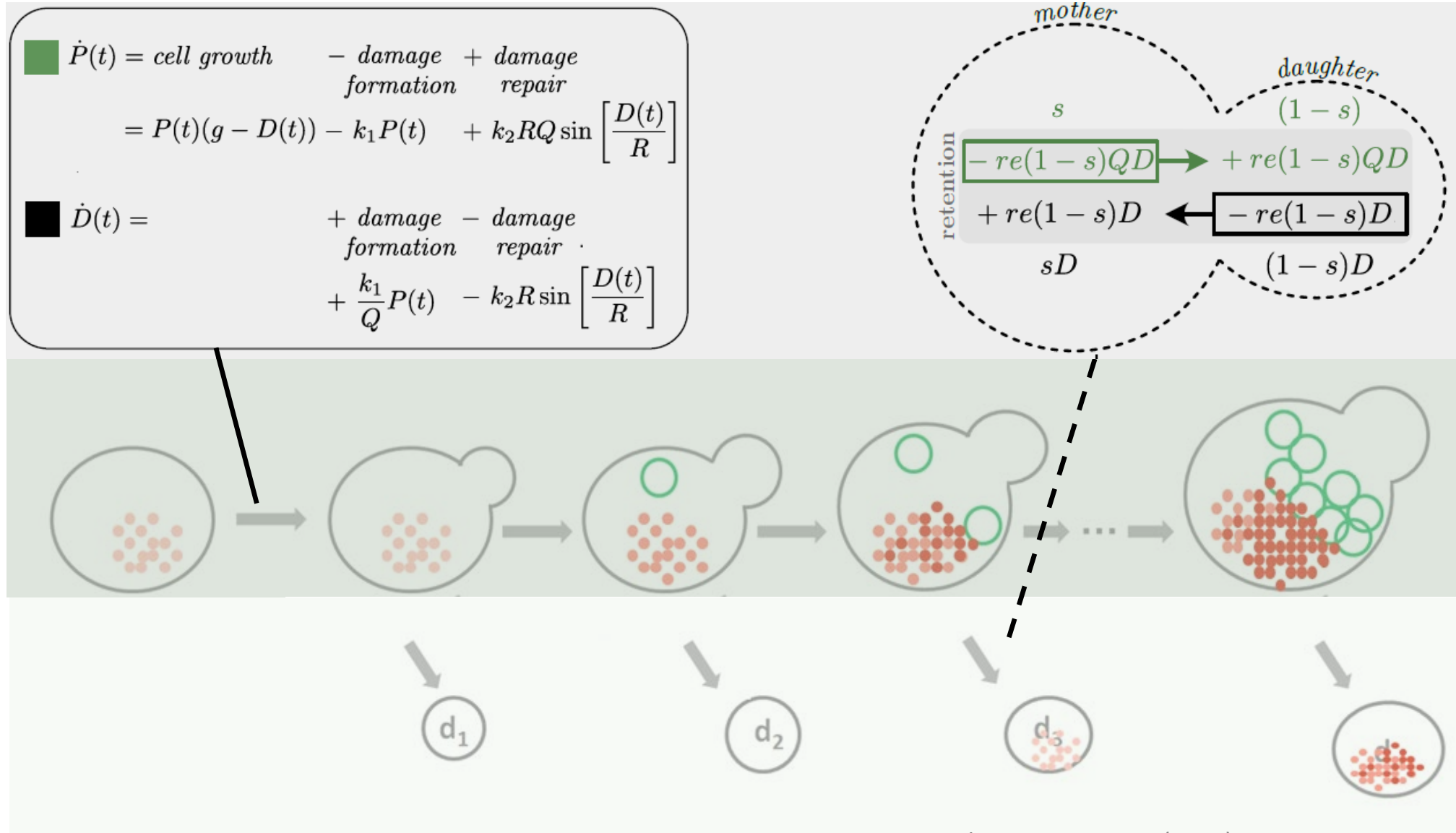
# How and why we age?

The role of damage formation, repair and retention

Microfluidics + optical tweezers + yeast genetics + math



# Single cell model of replicative ageing





# Nondimensionalisation of the model


## Rescaling of parameters and variables

- Simplify the system without changing the qualitative behaviour

### UPDATING RULES

$$t \leftarrow \mu t$$
$$D \leftarrow \frac{D}{D_c}$$
$$P \leftarrow \frac{P}{P_c}$$
$$Q \leftarrow \frac{D_c}{P_c}$$

$$k_1 \leftarrow \frac{k_1}{\mu}$$
$$k_2 \leftarrow \frac{k_2}{\mu D_c}$$
$$R \leftarrow \frac{R}{\pi}$$



model	original	non-dimensionalised
$\dot{P}(t)$	$\begin{aligned} &\mu P(t) \left( g - \frac{D(t)}{D_c} \right) \\ &- k_1 P(t) \\ &+ \frac{k_2 R}{\pi} \sin \left[ \frac{\pi}{R} \frac{D(t)}{D_c} \right] \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} &P(t) (g - D(t)) \\ &- k_1 P(t) \\ &+ k_2 R Q \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right] \end{aligned}$
$\dot{D}(t)$	$\begin{aligned} &+ k_1 P(t) \\ &- \frac{k_2 R}{\pi} \sin \left[ \frac{\pi}{R} \frac{D(t)}{D_c} \right] \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} &+ \frac{k_1}{Q} P(t) \\ &- k_2 R \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right] \end{aligned}$
parameter bounds	$\begin{aligned} &P \in [0, P_c], \quad D \in [0, D_c] \\ &g \geq 1, \quad \mu, k_1, k_2 > 0 \\ &R \geq 1 \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} &P \in [0, 1], \quad D \in [0, 1] \\ &g \geq 1, \quad k_1, k_2 > 0 \\ &R \geq \pi^{-1} \end{aligned}$

# Damage repair ( $r(D)$ )

■

$\dot{P}(t) =$  cell growth

$-$  damage formation

$+$  damage repair

$= P(t)(g - D(t)) - k_1 P(t) + k_2 R Q \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right]$

■

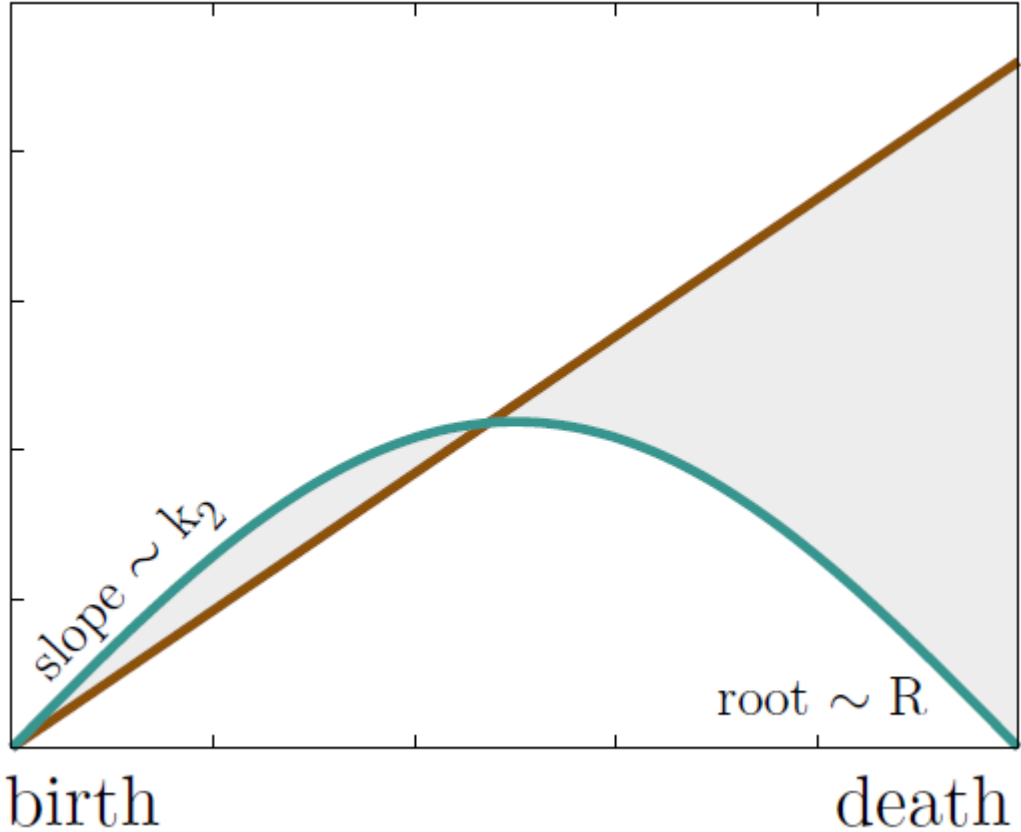
$\dot{D}(t) =$

$+$  damage formation

$-$  damage repair

$+ \frac{k_1}{Q} P(t) - k_2 R \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right]$

$$r(D) = k_2 R \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right]$$



— decline in repair capacity — — unlimited repair capacity —



# Resilience to damage (Q)

■

$$\dot{P}(t) = \text{cell growth} - \text{damage formation} + \text{damage repair}$$

$$= P(t)(g - D(t)) - k_1 P(t) + k_2 R Q \sin\left[\frac{D(t)}{R}\right]$$

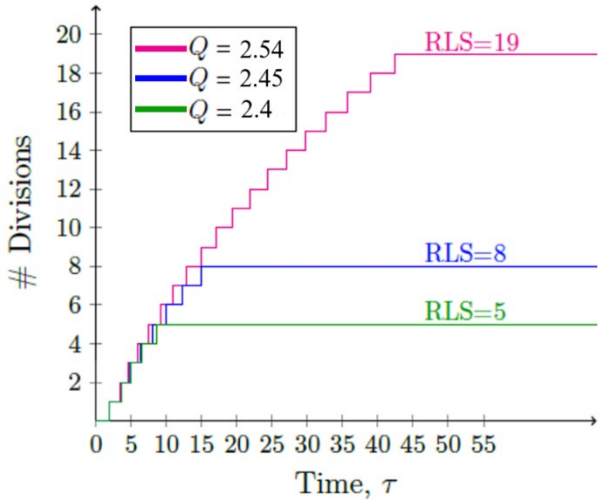
■

$$\dot{D}(t) = \text{+ damage formation} - \text{damage repair}$$

$$+ \frac{k_1}{Q} P(t) - k_2 R \sin\left[\frac{D(t)}{R}\right]$$

Defined as the quotient between the death and division thresholds, i.e. and can be interpreted as the capacity of the cell to cope with damage:

$$Q = \frac{D_{\text{death}}}{P_{\text{div}}}$$



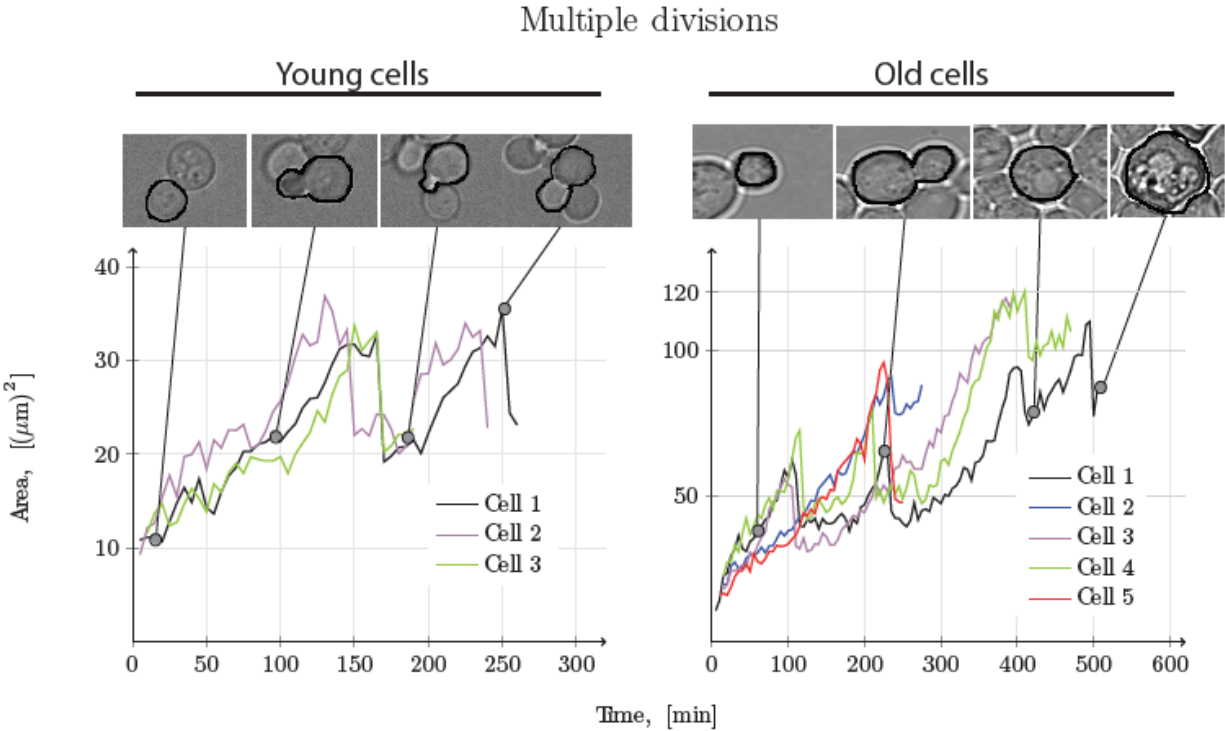
Damage resilience corresponds to the increase in size of an old cell compared to a young cell

$$\text{cell area} \propto P + D$$

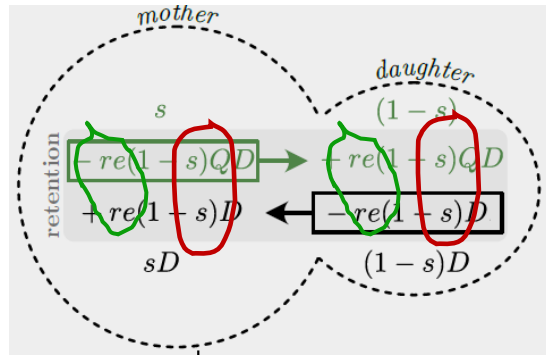
An old mother cell:

$$y = 1 + Q$$

Data suggests that this area is appx 3.5  $\rightarrow Q \approx 2.5$

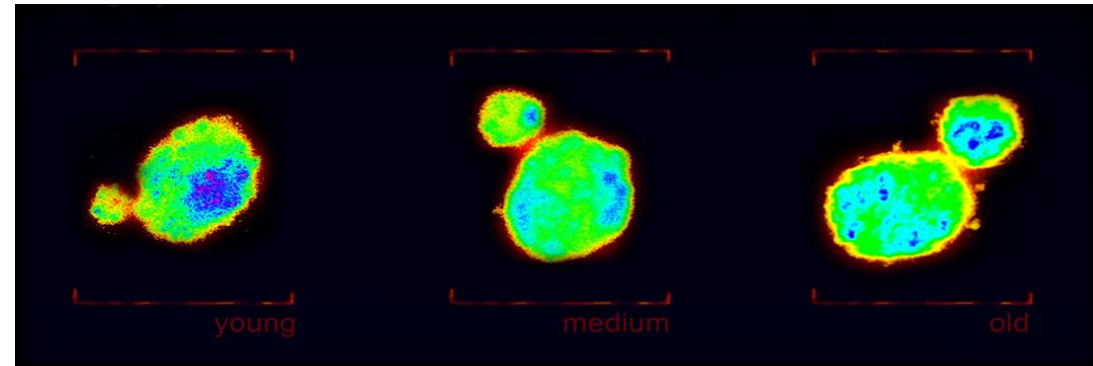
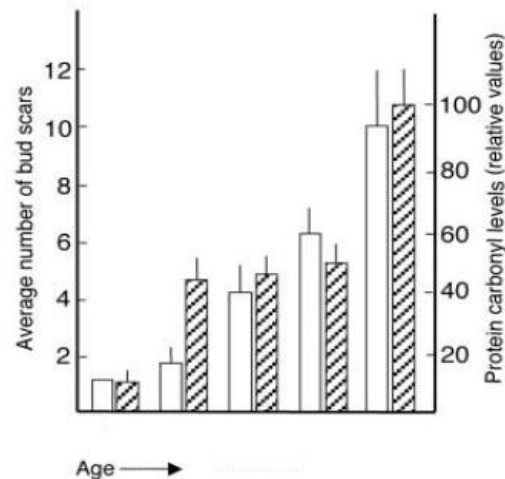


# Cell size ( $s$ ) and damage retention ( $re$ )



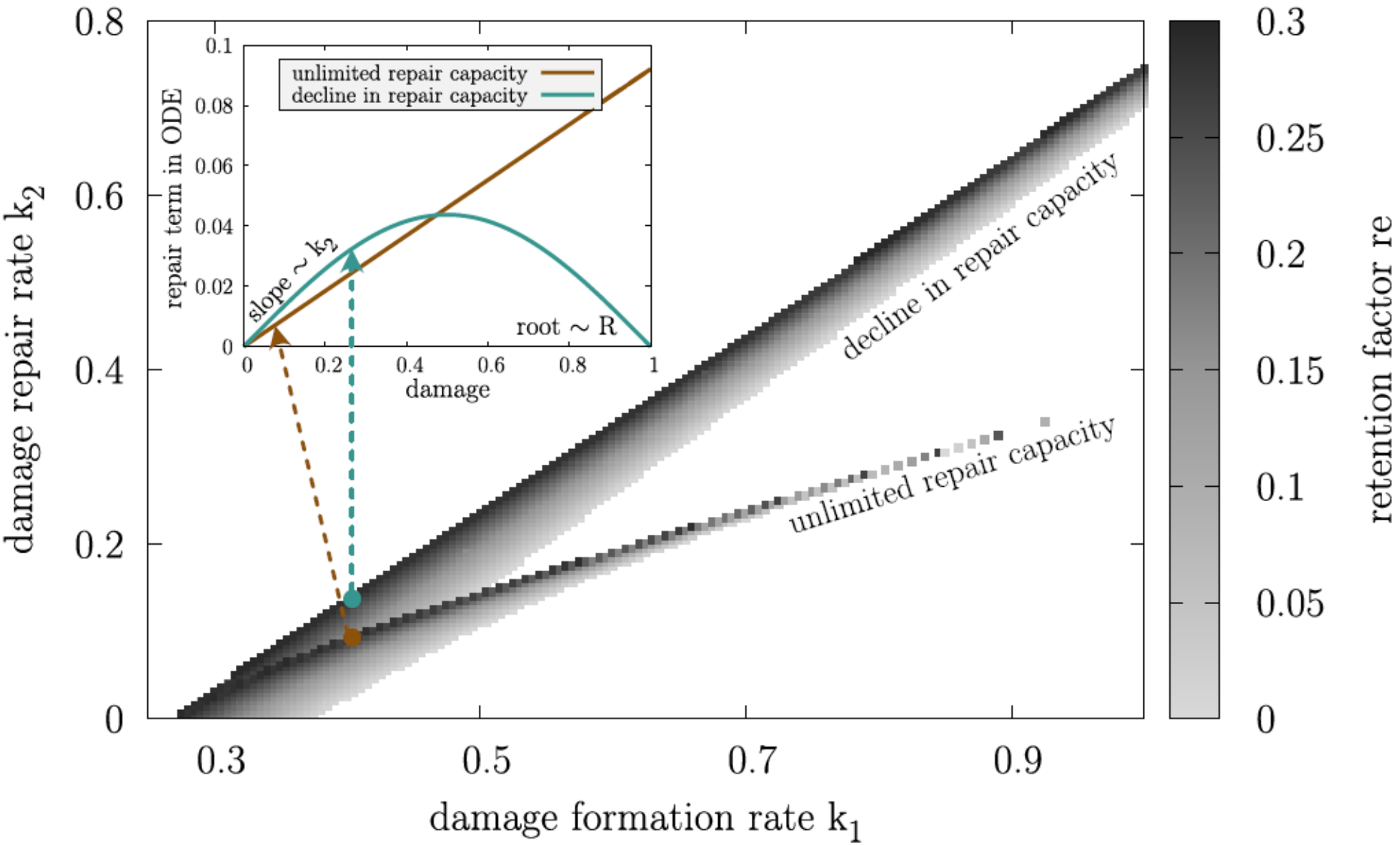
**Cell size:** Yeast divides asymmetrically where mother is approx. 3 times larger than its daughter

**Damage retention:** active mechanism; age-related damage retained within the mother cell at each division



**Replicative lifespan (RLS):** Number of divisions before cell death.  
Measure of age of a single yeast cell.

# Synergy between repair and retention



# Interplay between Retention, Resilience, Damage and Cell size

Assumption:

Minimal amount of intact proteins that a cell is required to have after cell division

$$P_{0,\min} = (1 - s)$$

$$0 \leq \overset{\text{retention}}{\text{re}} \leq \frac{1}{\underset{\text{resilience}}{Q}} \left( \frac{\overset{\text{size}}{2s} - 1}{1 - \overset{\text{size}}{s}} \right) \frac{1}{\underset{\text{damage}}{\overline{D}}}$$

- (1) How much damage can a mother cell retain?
- (2) How does the capacity to retain change with age?
- (3) What factors limit the amount of damage a mother cell can retain at cell division?
- (4) How does the degree of asymmetry in the cell division affect the capacity to retain damage?

# Asymmetric division allows for retention of damage which comes at the price of a lower resilience to damage

(1) The capacity to retain damage decreases as the amount of damage increases  $re \propto 1/D$

(2) Investing resources in the capacity to retain damage comes at the cost of a lower degree of resilience to damage

for the individual cell  $re \propto 1/Q$

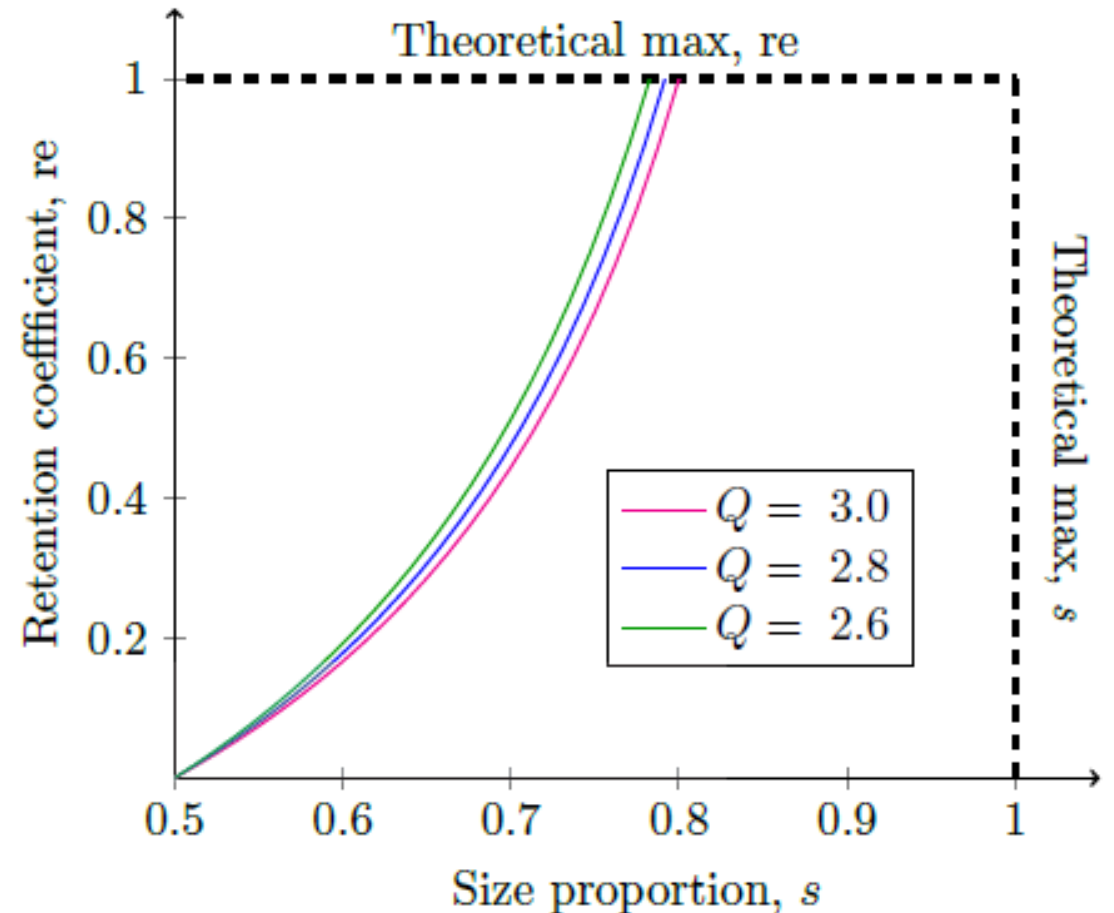
(3) a) Retention is a by-product of asymmetric division

$$0 \leq re \leq \frac{1}{Q} \left( \frac{2s - 1}{1 - s} \right) \frac{1}{D}$$

b) The maximum degree of retention is proportional to the degree of asymmetry  $re \propto s$

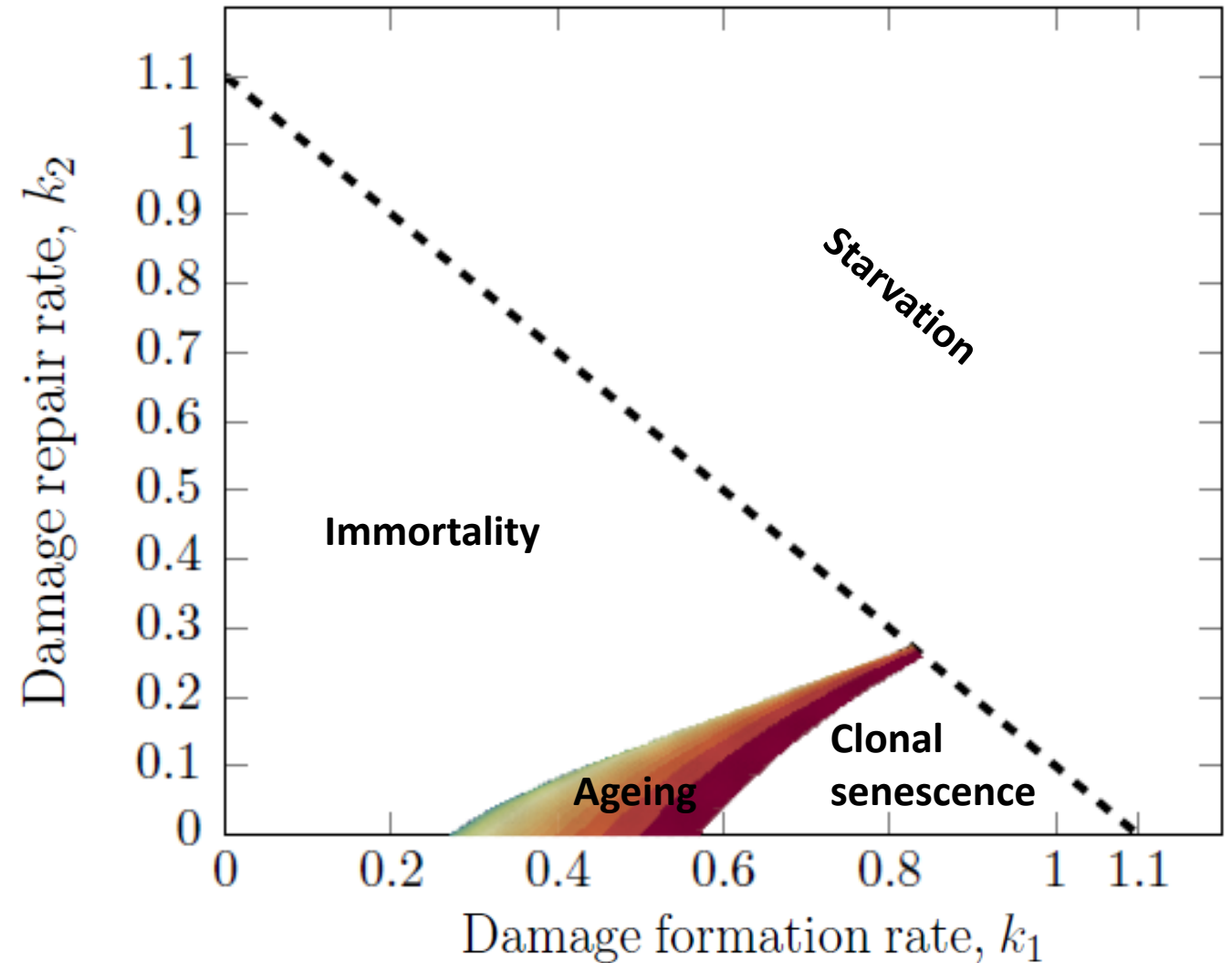
c) Maximal degree of asymmetry at which a cell can divide

$$s_{\max} = \frac{Q + 1}{Q + 2}, \quad s_{\max} = 0.8.$$



# “Triangle of Ageing”

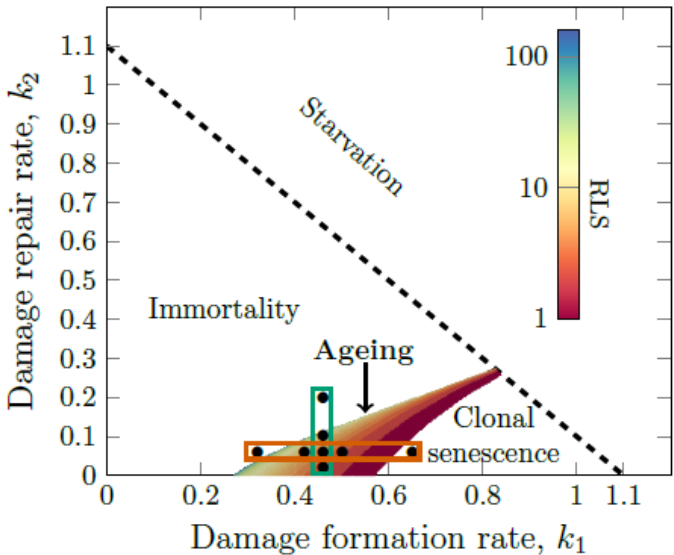
- Given enough food, the cells should grow and as a consequence of cell growth damage should accumulate
- Every cell has a finite replicative life span and should therefore die after a finite amount of cell divisions



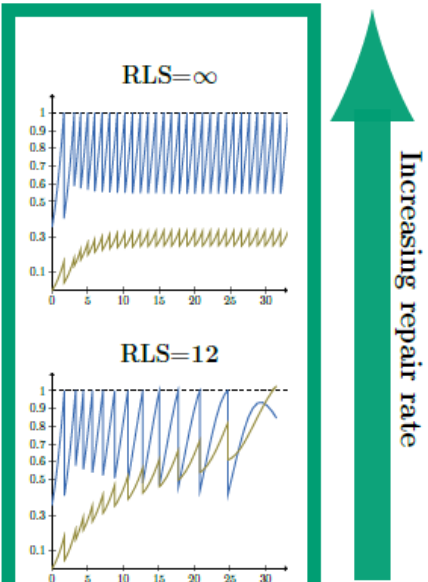


Replicative lifespan can be altered either by increased damage repair rate or by slowing damage formation rate

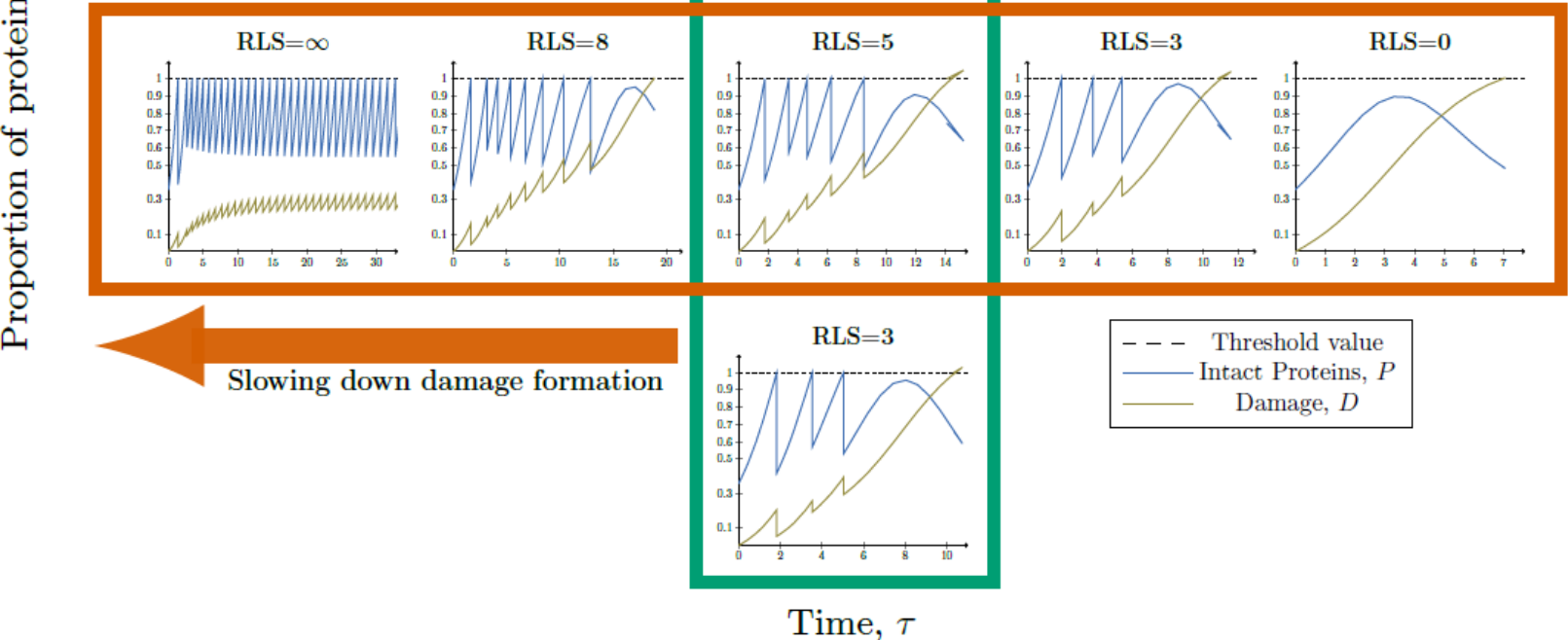
(A)



(C)



(B)

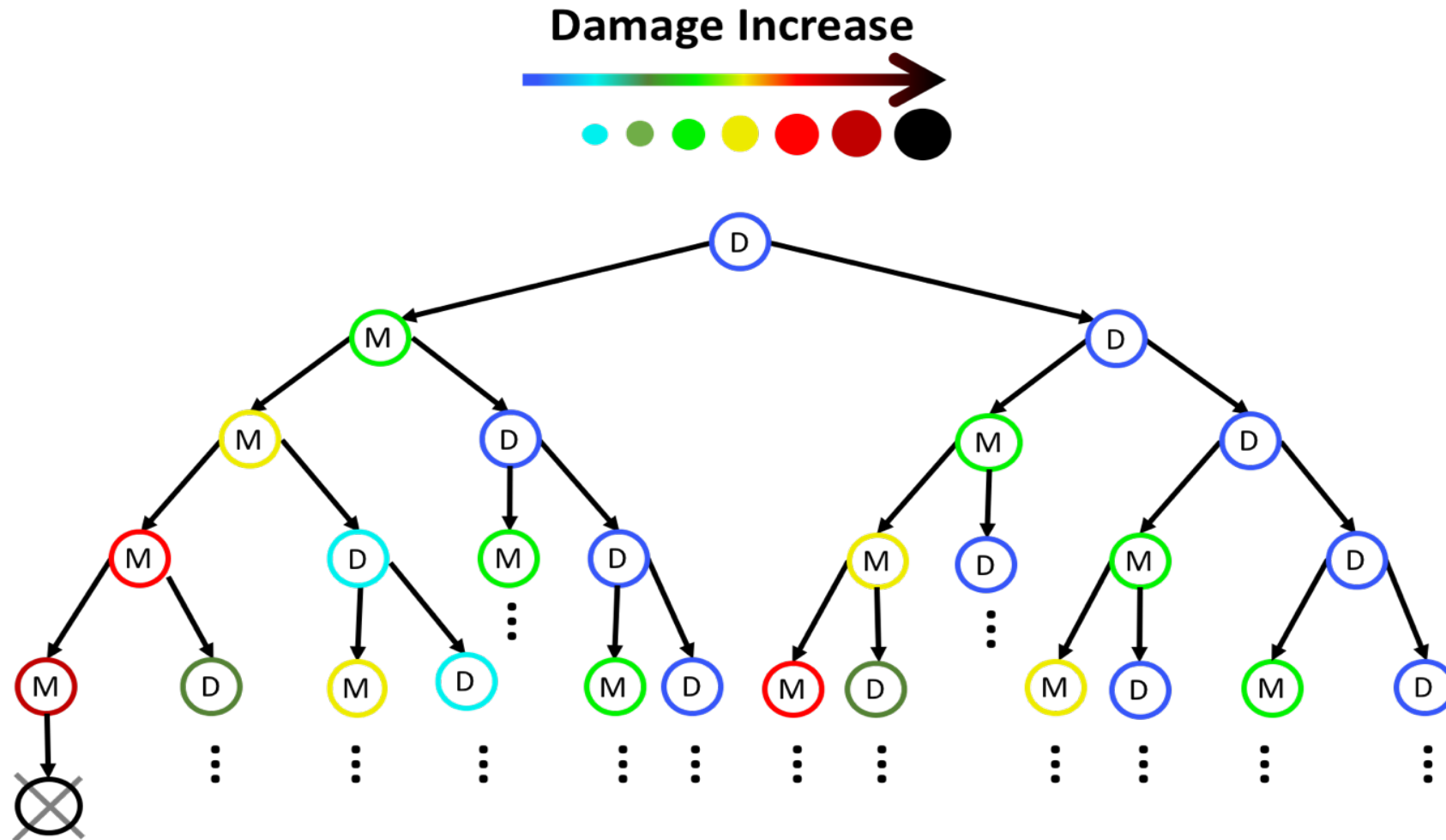


# How ageing of the individual cell contributes to the ageing of the whole population: Towards the whole population model

Challenge:

**Biology:** traditional experiments do not provide means to systematically assess the whole population

**Modelling:** computationally very expensive to efficiently simulate lineages



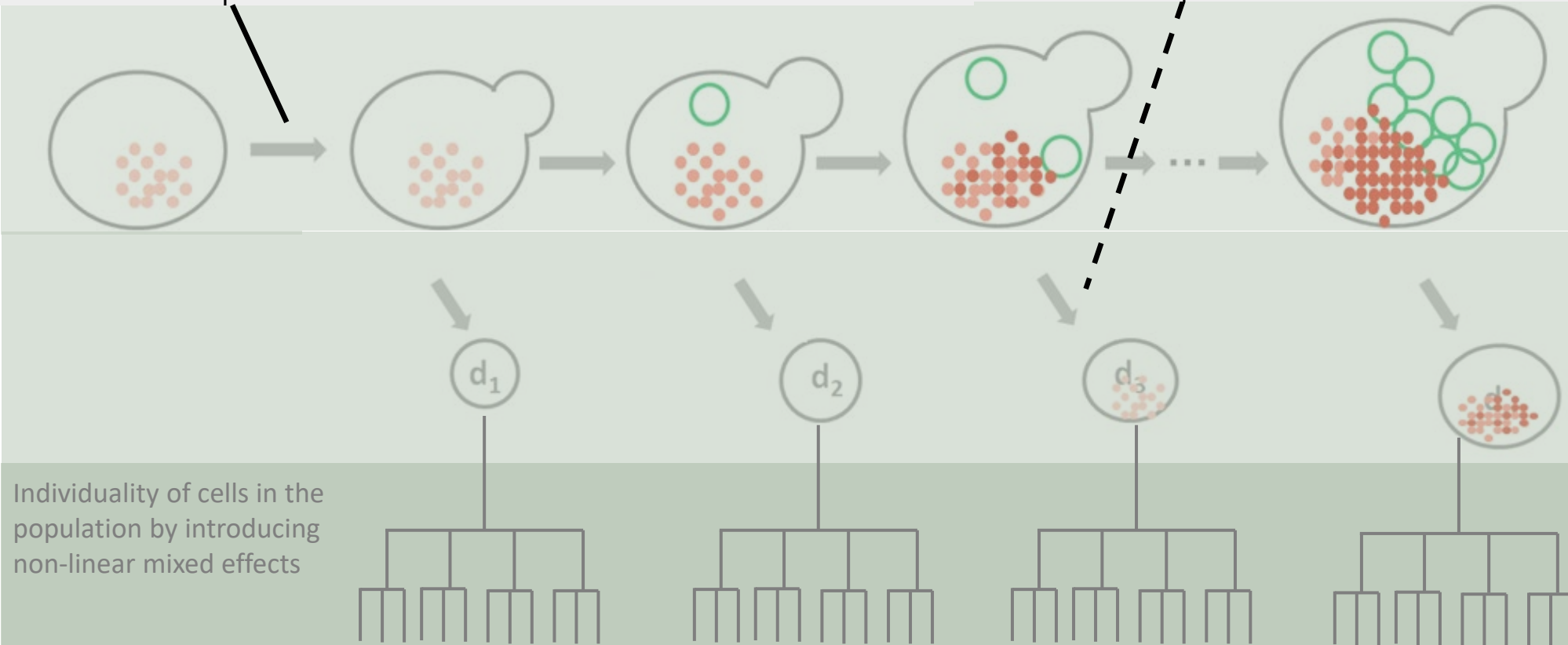
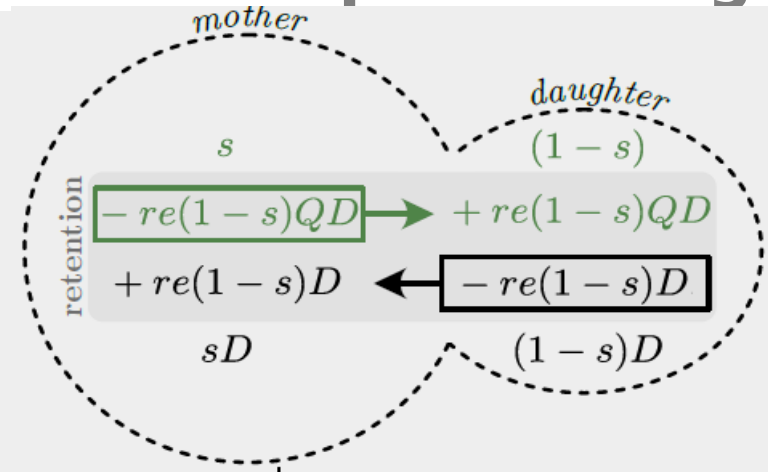
# From single-cell to a whole population model of replicative ageing

■  $\dot{P}(t) = \text{cell growth} - \text{damage formation} + \text{damage repair}$   

$$= P(t)(g - D(t)) - k_1 P(t) + k_2 R Q \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right]$$

■  $\dot{D}(t) =$ 

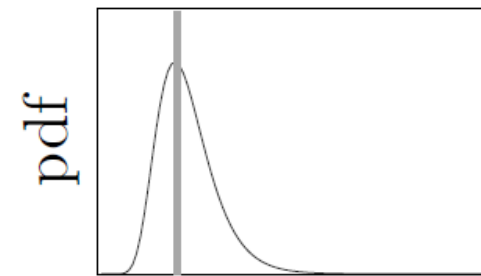
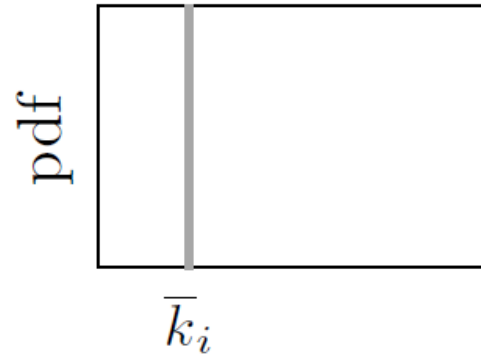
$$\begin{aligned} &+ \text{damage formation} - \text{damage repair} \\ &+ \frac{k_1}{Q} P(t) - k_2 R \sin \left[ \frac{D(t)}{R} \right] \end{aligned}$$



The individuality is reflected in the cell growth, damage formation  $k_1$  and damage repair  $k_2$

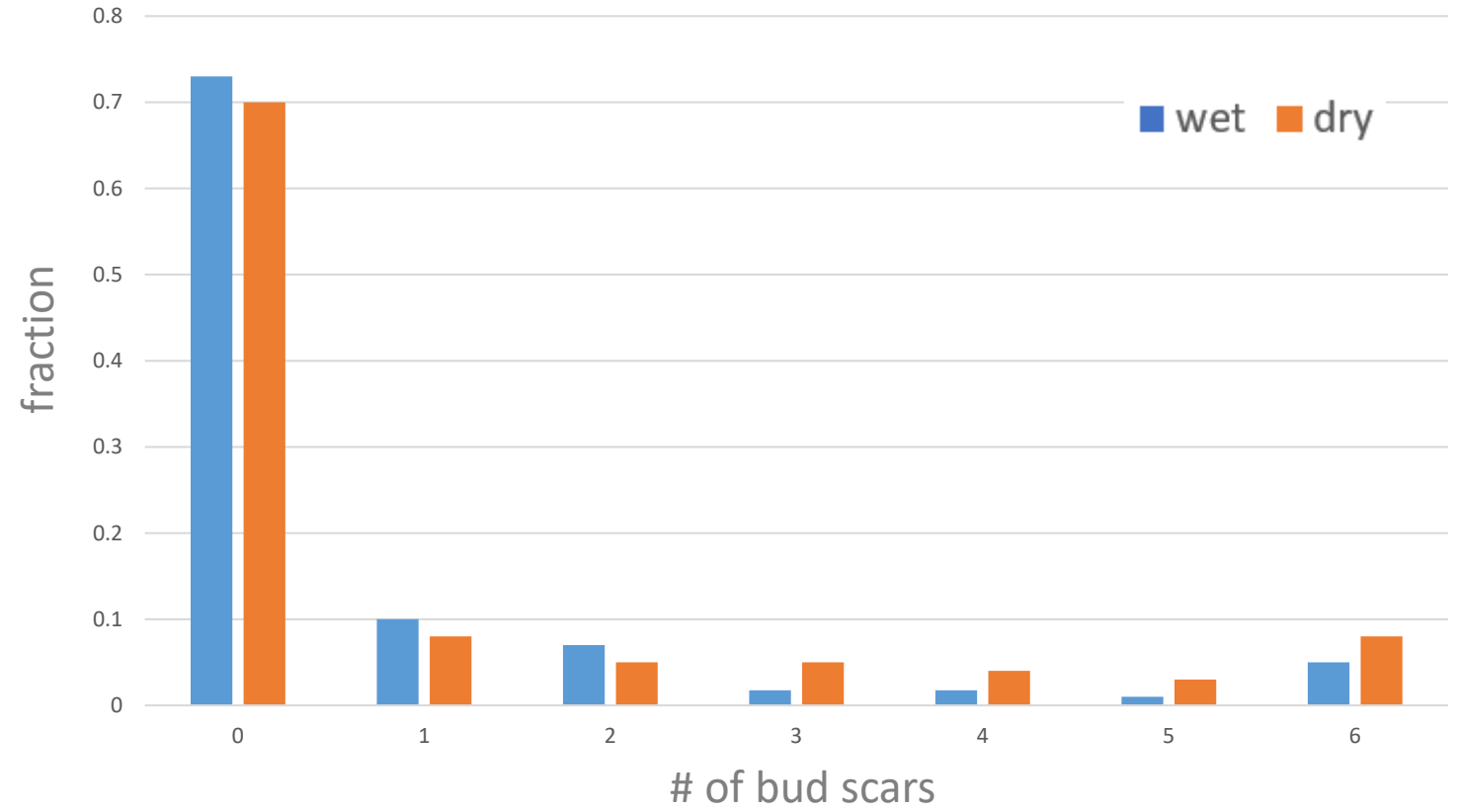
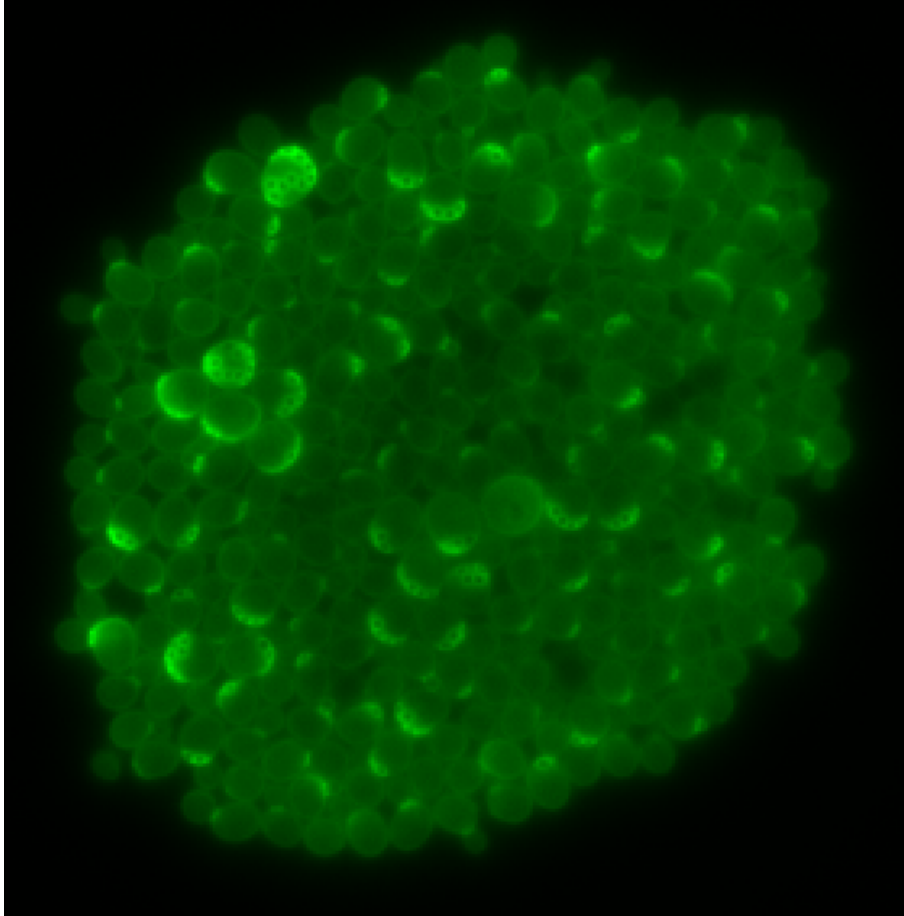
# Non-linear mixed effects model accounts for individuality of cells

- ▶ damage formation rate ( $k_1$ )
- ▶ damage repair rate ( $k_2$ )

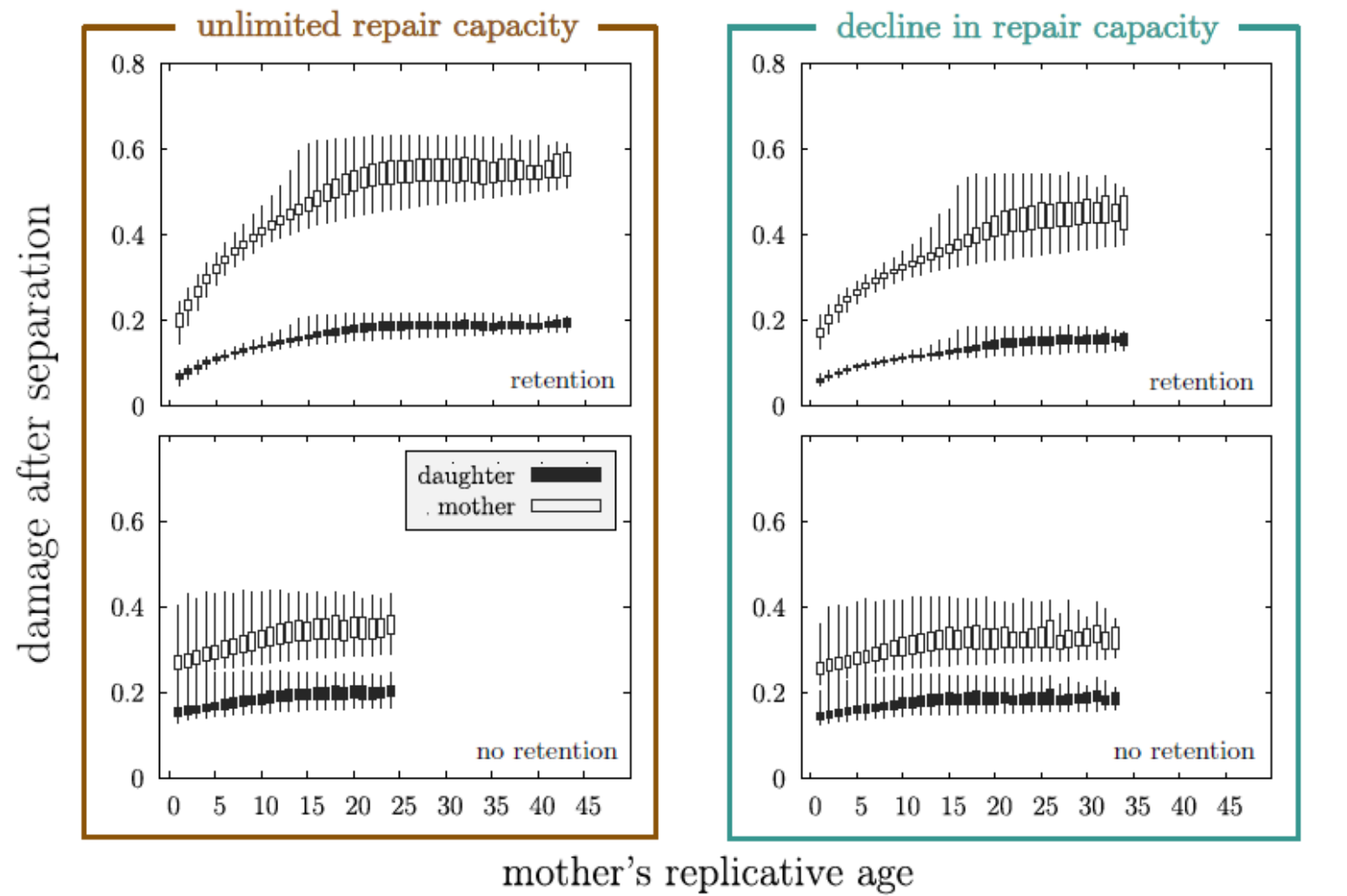
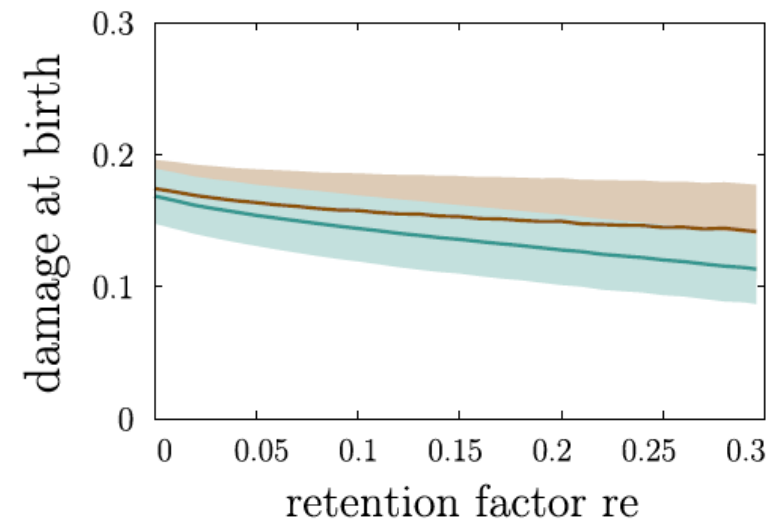
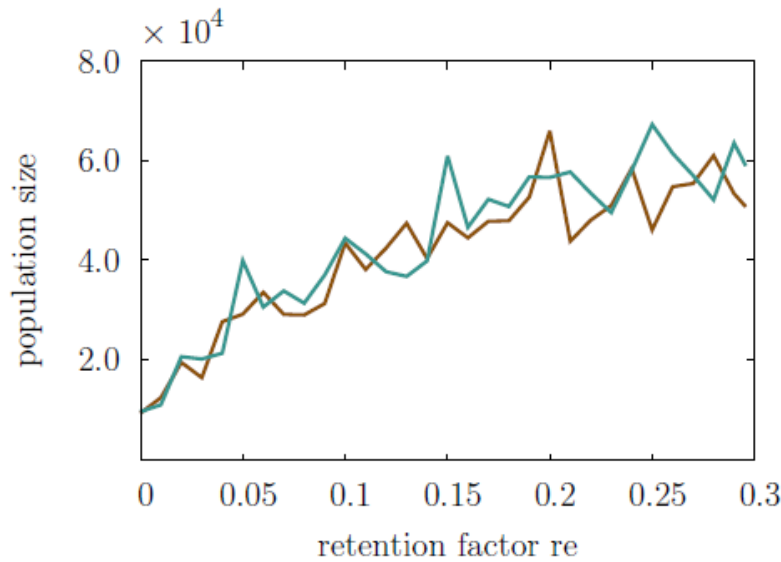


$$k_1 = \bar{k}_1 \exp[\eta_1]$$
$$k_2 = \bar{k}_2 \exp[\eta_2]$$
$$\eta_1, \eta_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

# The model captures age distribution



# Retention leads to bigger populations with lower damage levels at birth



— decline in repair capacity — — unlimited repair capacity —

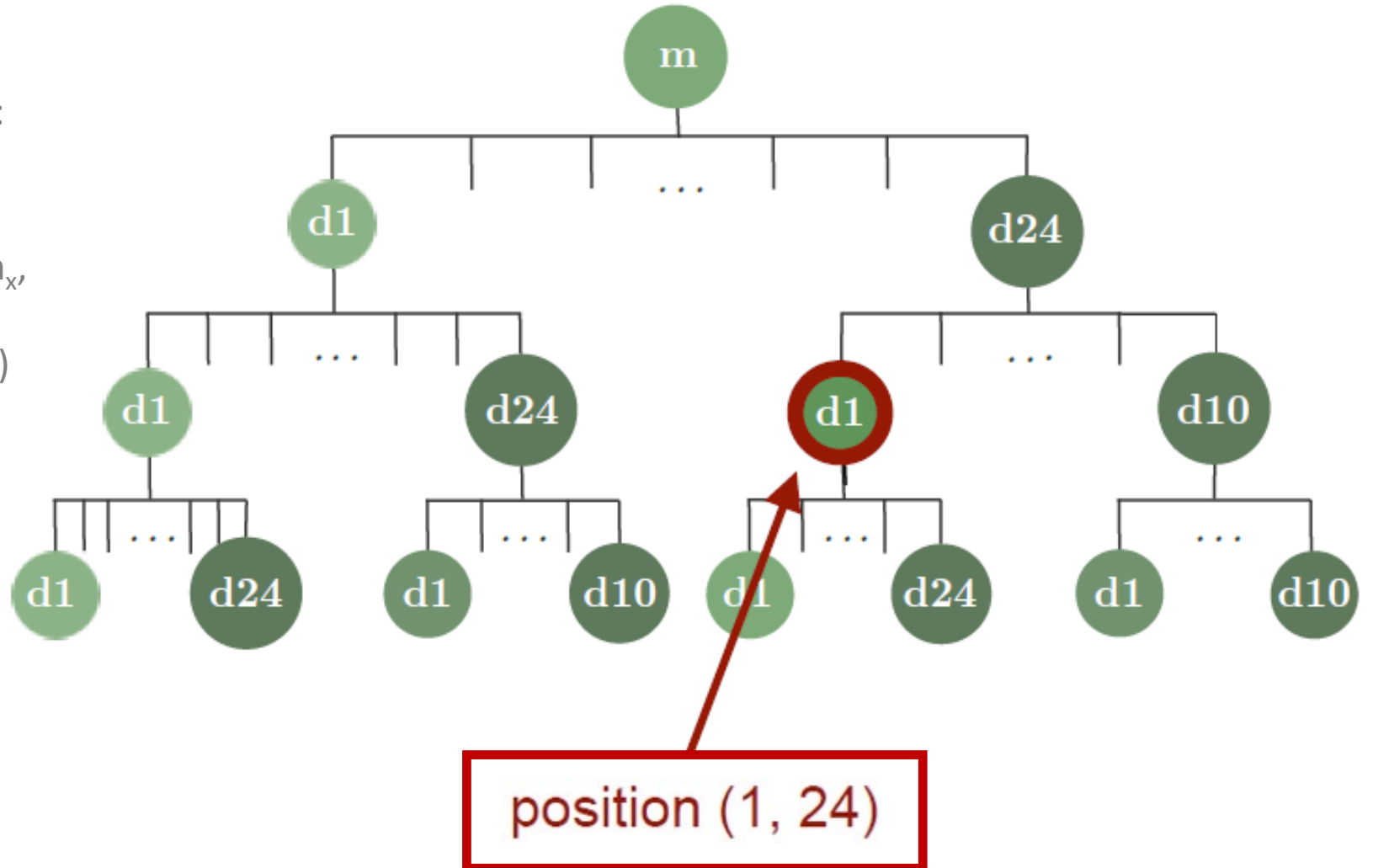


# Dissecting population

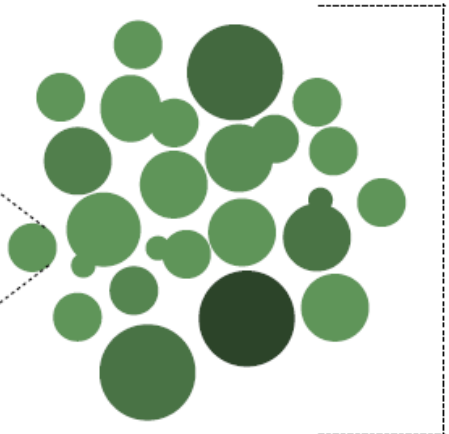
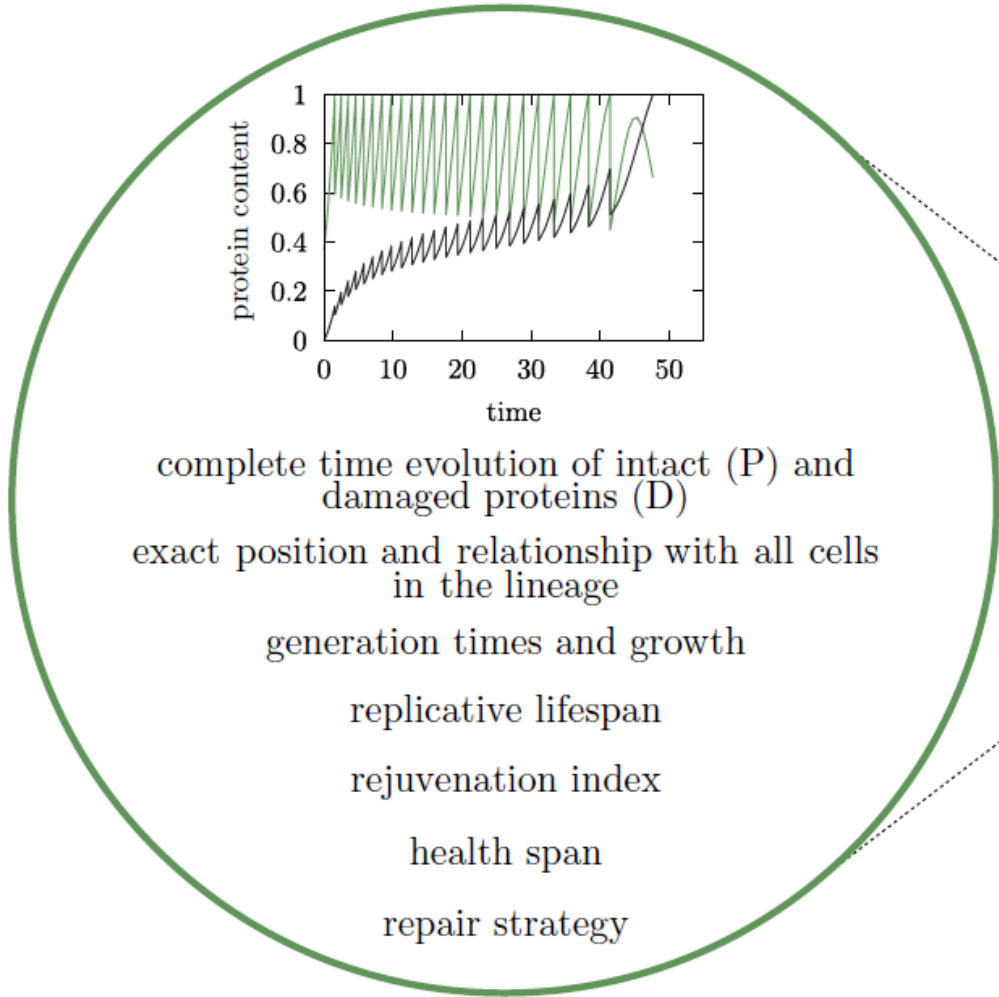
For each cell  $x$  in the population, we define:

## Lineage position $(i, j)$ :

Cell  $x$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  daughter of its mother  $m_x$ , which is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  daughter of its mother  $m_{m_x}$  (cell's  $x$  grandmother)

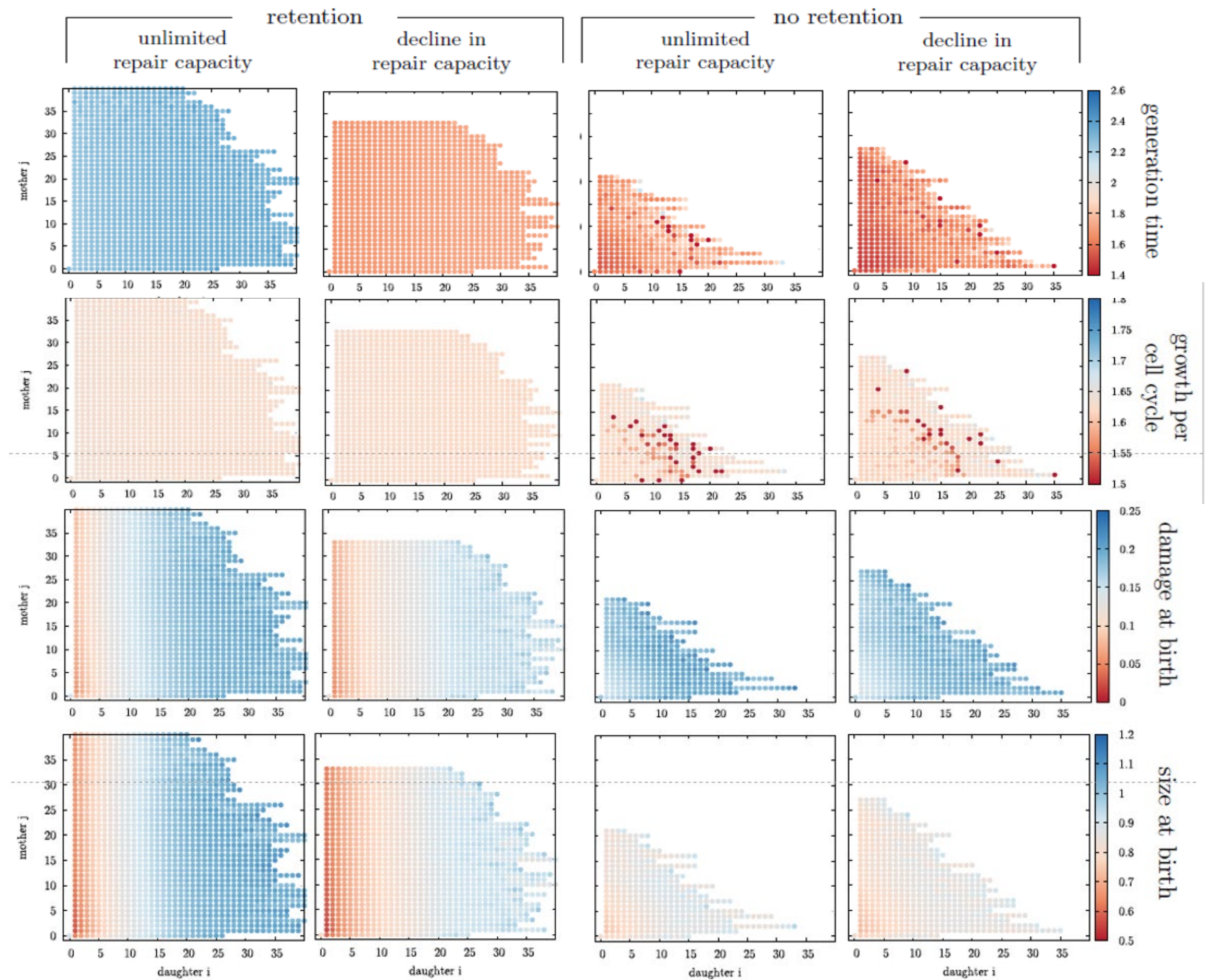


# Measurable properties of individual cell and the whole population

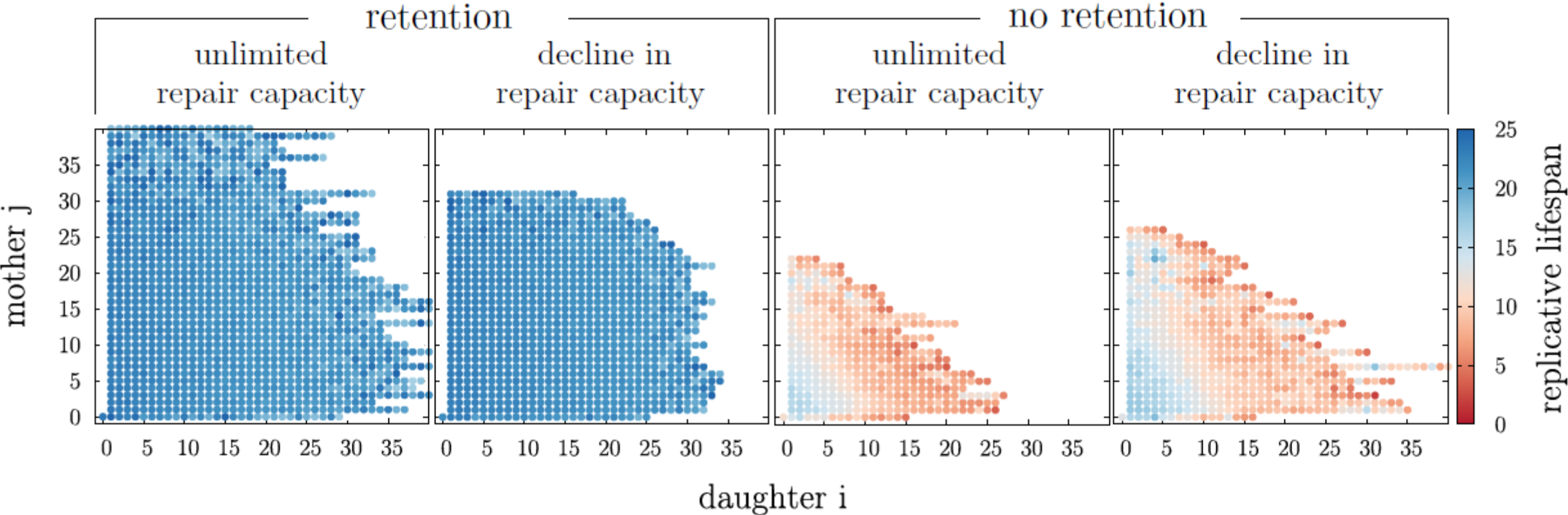


- retention
- population size
- fraction and degree of rejuvenation
- health of cells
- doubling time

# Properties of the population



# Retention decreases the variability across the lineage





# rejuvenate

/rɪˈdʒuːvəneɪt/

verb

make (someone or something) look or feel better, younger

"a bid to rejuvenate the town centre"

synonyms: **revive**, **revitalize**, **renew**, **regenerate**

"It is now possible for the **first time ever** to take **control of aging** and indeed health at the cellular level"

- (1) Which cells are especially prone to rejuvenation?
- (2) What makes them different from others?
- (3) How does retention affect the cell populations, especially in terms of rejuvenation?
- (4) How can repair mechanism influence ageing and rejuvenation?
- (5) How can repair and retention together promote health span?

- 10 years younger in 28 days. Doctor Endo
- 11 of the most powerful Anti-Aging and NueroPept

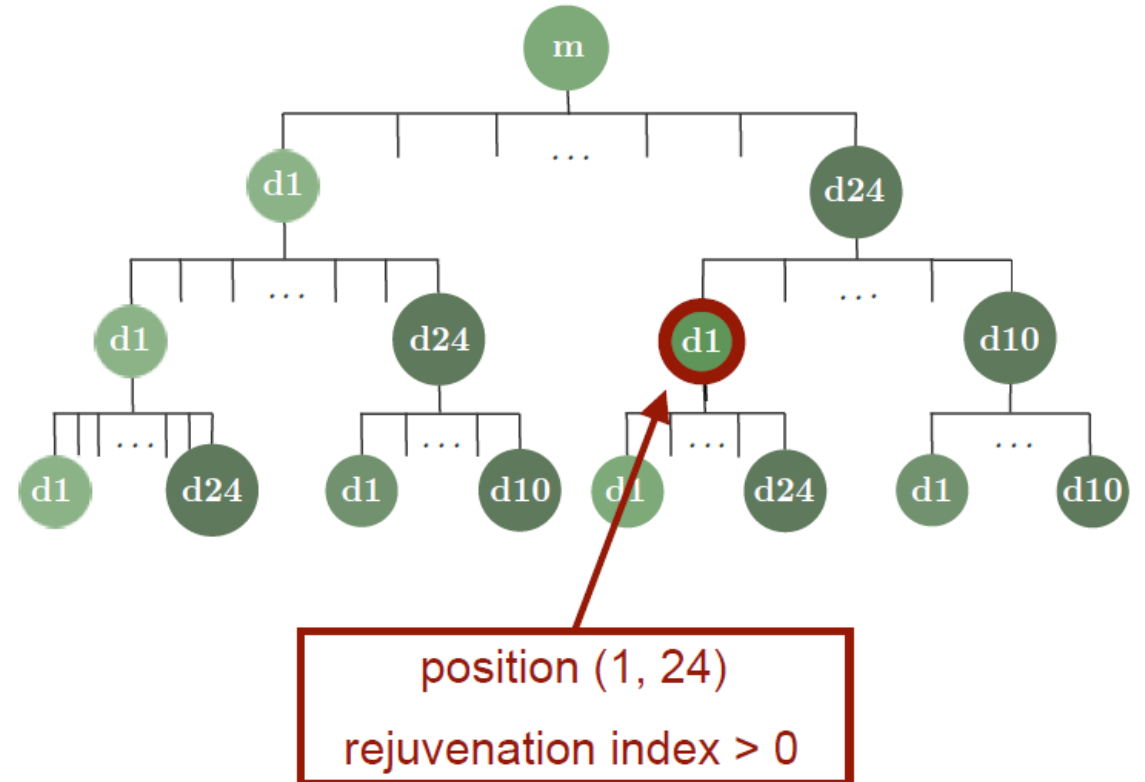
telomere - a part of your DNA structure. It's the part that tells the cell how it v  
telomeres get shorter. The shorter they get, the more the cell is like a dryer, or  
Rejuvenation Cream helps maintain telomeres and stop the cell from dying. Plus, it enha  
tissue... extending the youth span of the skin to reduce all visible signs of aging. Not just wrinl

# Measuring rejuvenation in the populations

For each cell  $x$  in the population, we define:

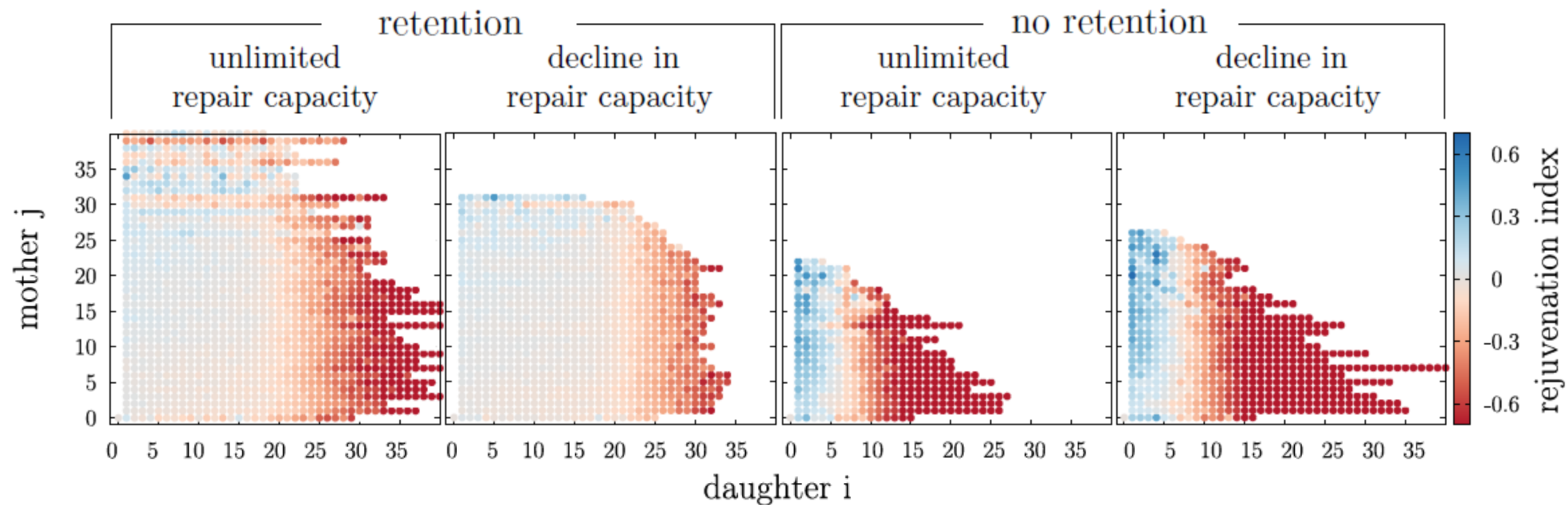
**Rejuvenation index:** 
$$\frac{rls(x) - rls(m_x)}{\overline{rls}}$$

where rejuvenated cell has a positive rejuvenation index

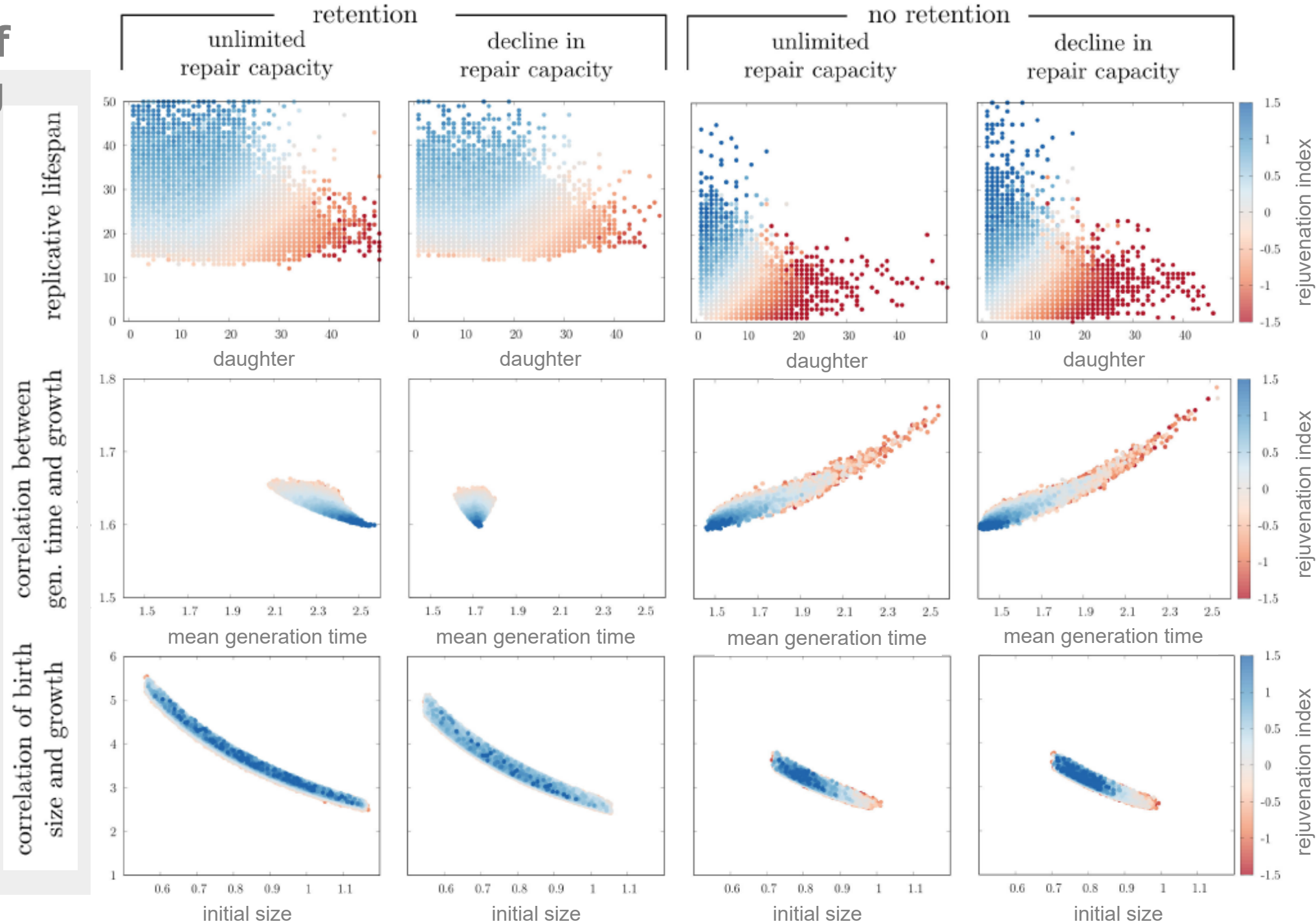




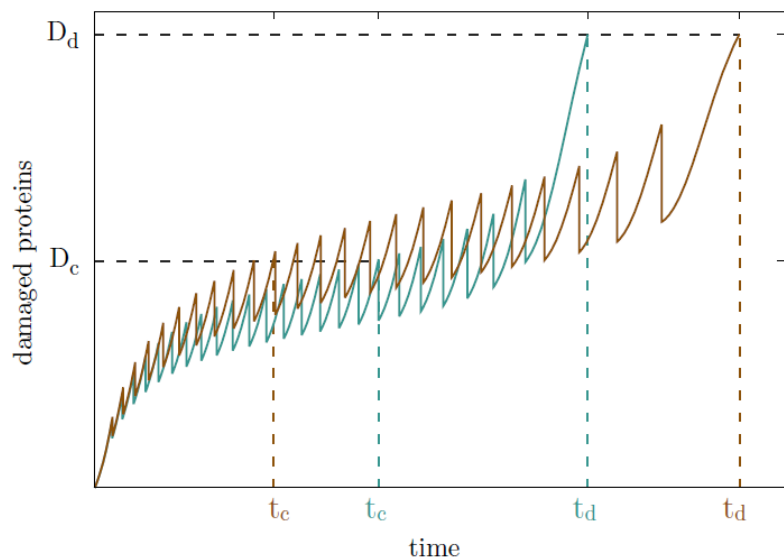
# Your grandma determines your ability to rejuvenate



# Properties of rejuvenating cells



# Measuring health span: pinpin korori in yeast

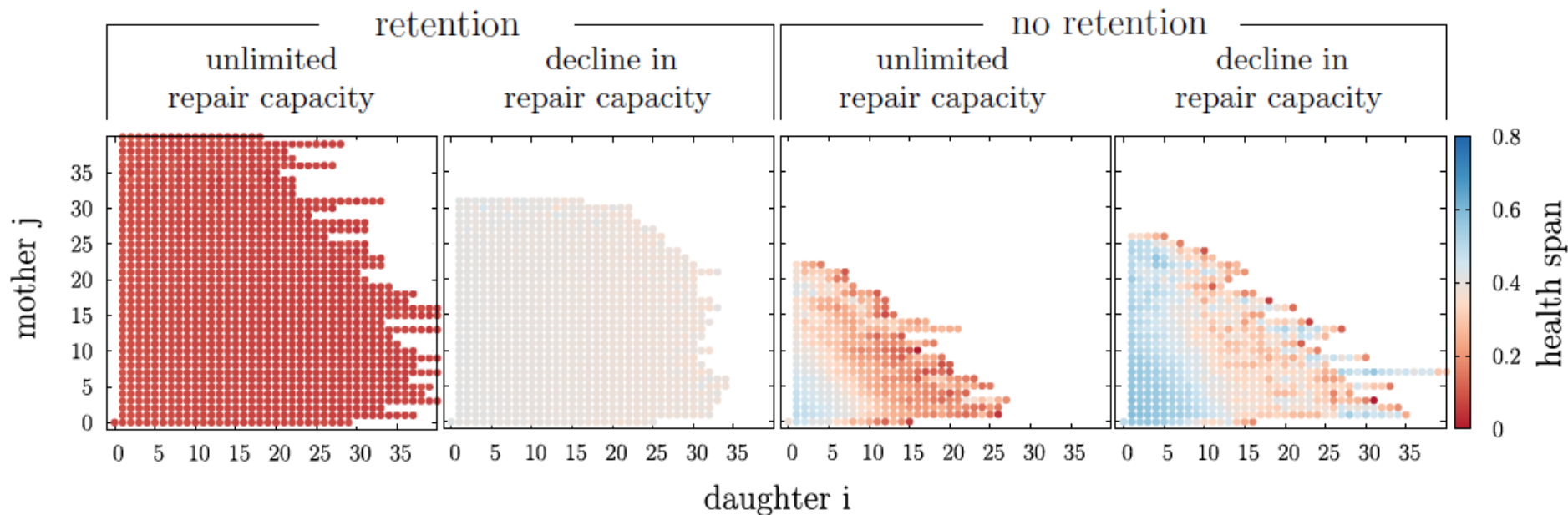


For each cell in the population, we define:

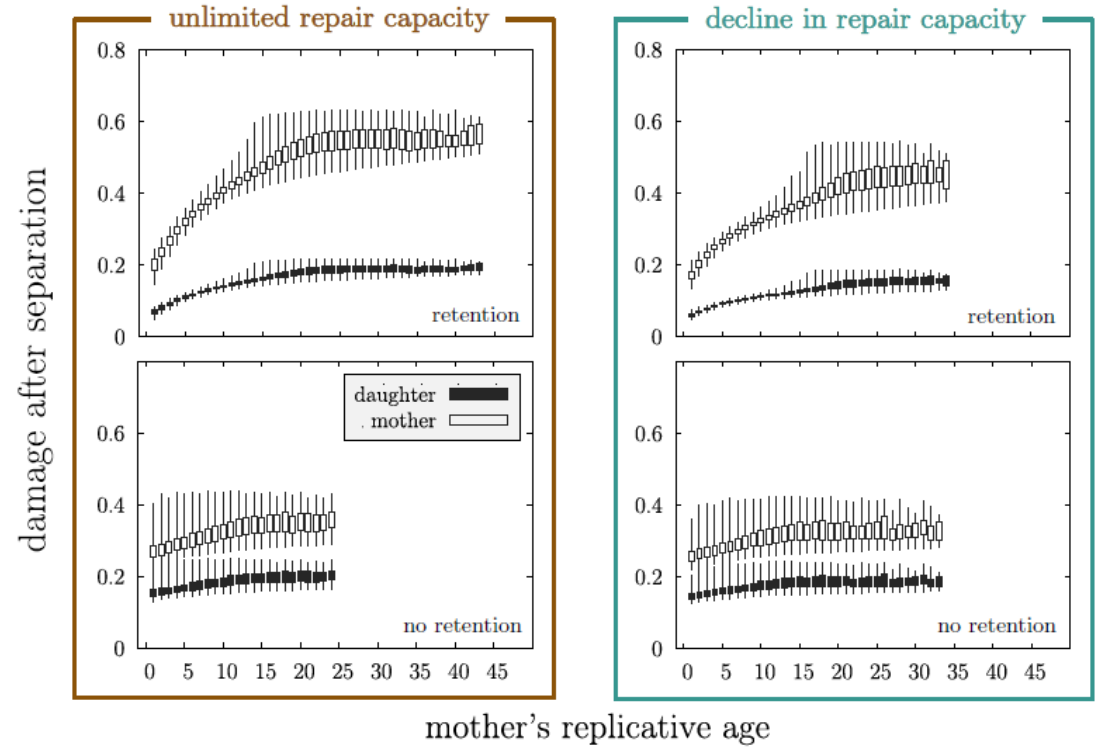
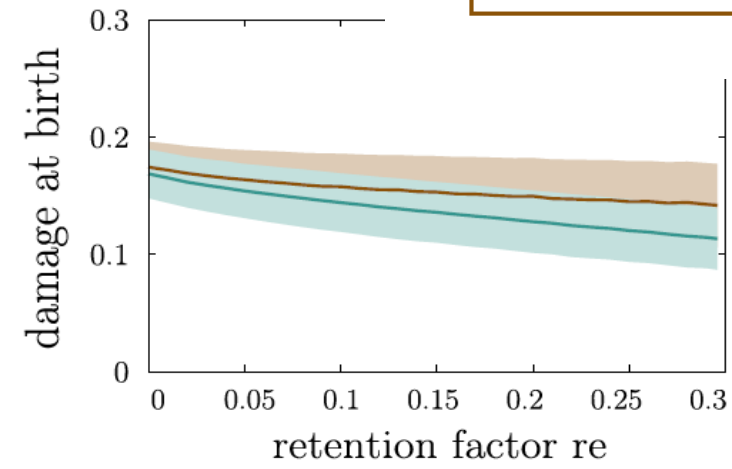
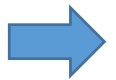
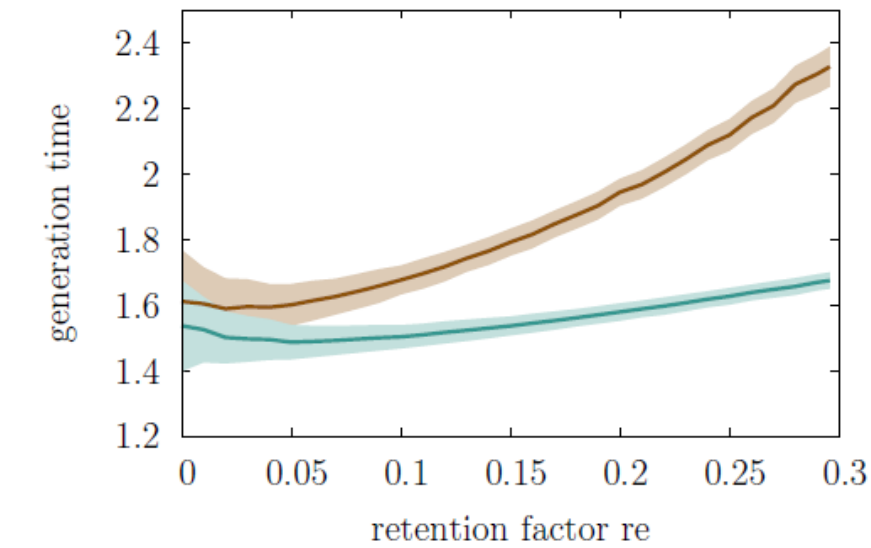
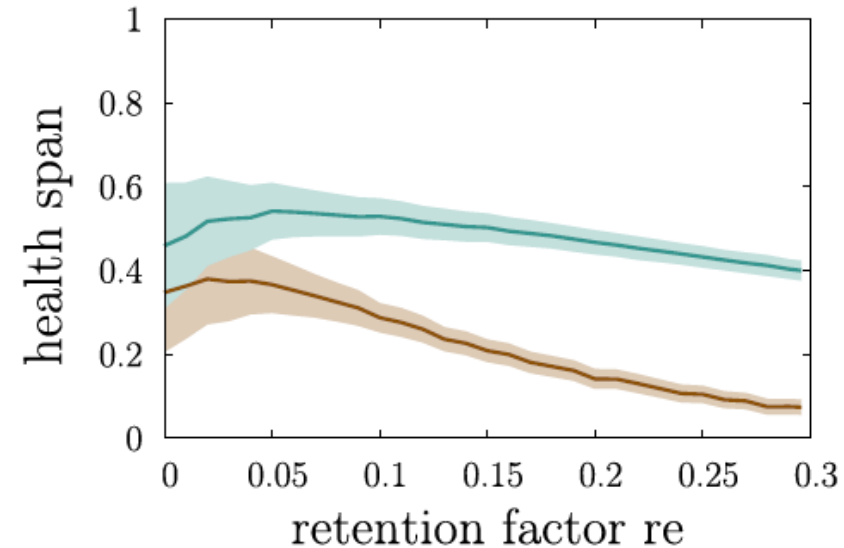
**Health span:** 
$$\frac{t_c}{t_d} \cdot \frac{rls_c}{rls_d}$$

Having a long health span means :

- low damage levels as long as possible
- many divisions when damage levels are low



# Decline in repair capacity prolongs the health span by increasing generation time and lowering damage levels



— decline in repair capacity — unlimited repair capacity —

# Towards healthy ageing : lessons learned from yeast

investing in yourself

investing in your progeny

investing in repair  
early in life



fast divisions with low  
damage levels



when damage takes over  
and repair deteriorates,  
cell stops dividing and dies



retention of  
damaged proteins



homogenous populations  
with rejuvenation  
distributed across whole  
population

► longer health span

► larger population size

# What did we learn

- The capacity to retain damage deteriorates with high age
- Asymmetrical division allows for an optimal trade-off between damage resilience and damage retention (A high resilience to damage corresponds to a cell that can obtain a high age and retention corresponds to a sacrifice of fitness for the individual cell for the sake of its offspring)
- Rejuvenation occurs to a greater extent when retention is present
- Retention leads to more homogenous populations which are larger and have lower damage levels
- Rejuvenation is always present in asymmetrically dividing cells but only together with retention it can be fully exploited
- Investing in repair early in life compensates the decline of repair during ageing and at the same time prolongs the health span of the cell
- The repair mechanism does not influence rejuvenation
- Healthy ageing is promoted by investment in repair in early life together with retention of damage