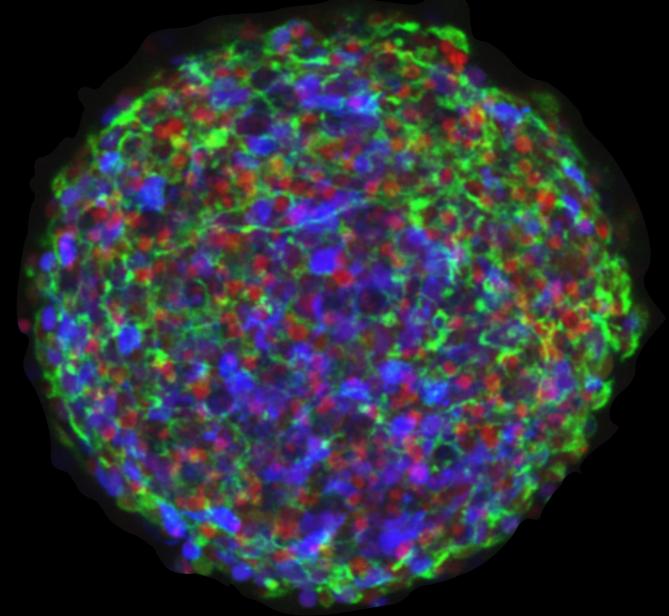
# CRISPR-based functional genomics in iPSC models of brain disease

NASEM workshop October 6, 2021



# Martin Kampmann

Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases
Department of Biochemistry & Biophysics, UCSF

**Chan Zuckerberg Biohub** 

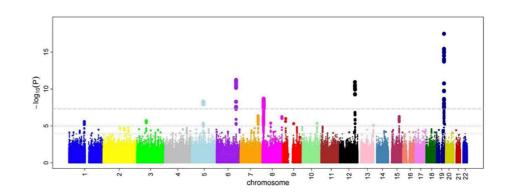




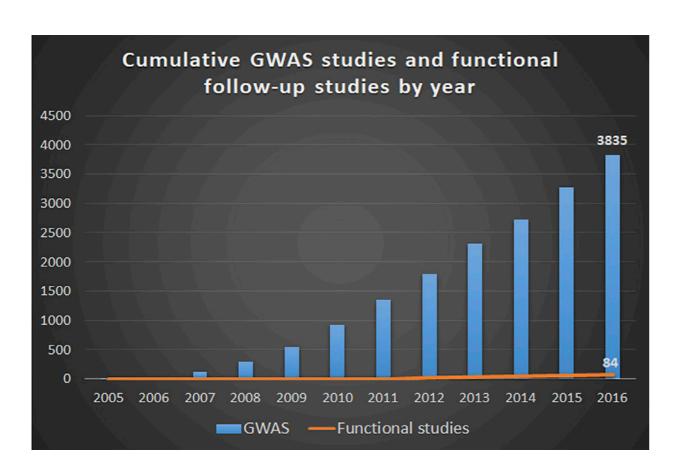
- Variants in the genome
  - Impact of genetic background, ancestry
  - Genetic modifiers
- Differentially expressed genes
  - Selective vulnerability of cell types
  - Disease-relevant cell states
- Significance
  - Stratify patients
  - Understand disease mechanisms
  - Identify new therapeutic targets



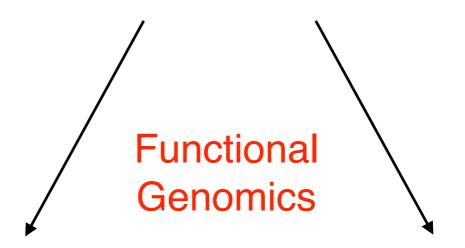




Genetic variants associated with traits/disease

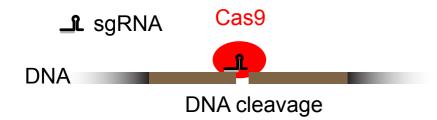


Gallagher & Chen-Plotkin (2018) AJHG

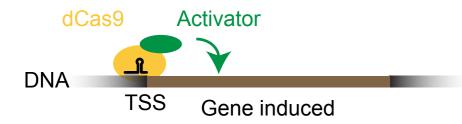


Mechanism? When? Where? Therapeutic strategy?

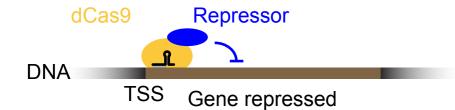
# Functional genomics in iPSC-derived models of disease







#### CRISPR interference (CRISPRi)



#### **Genome-wide screening platform**

Gilbert ... Kampmann\* & Weissman\* (2014) Cell 159:647

#### + iPSC technology

Control sgRNA

Some of the contraction of the c

GRN sgRNA

GRN Tuj1 Hoechst

**Neurons** Tian *et al.* (2019) *Neuron* 

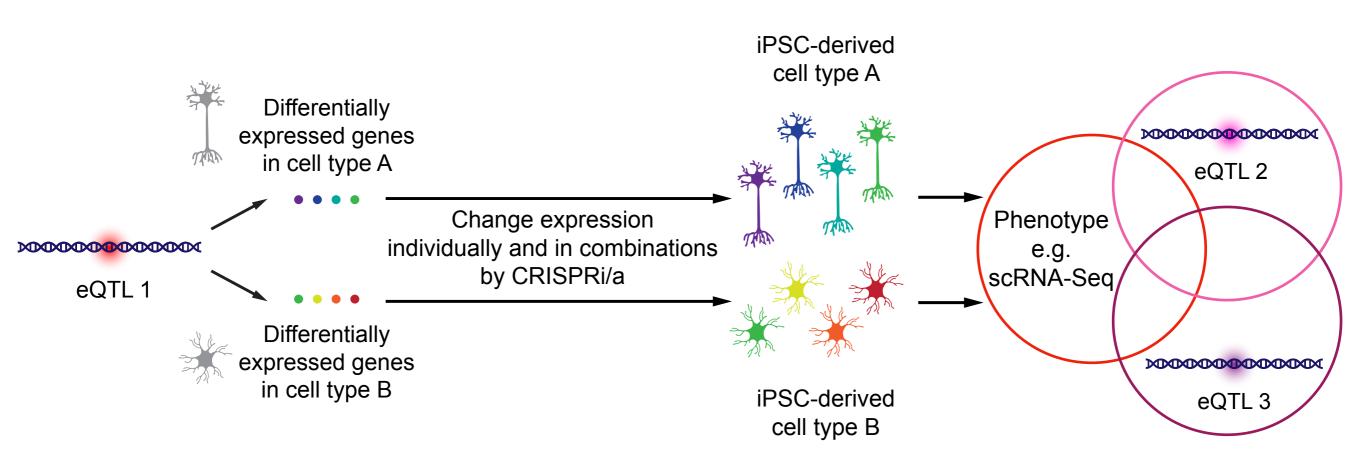
Tian et al. (2021) Nature Neuroscience

Microglia Dräger et al (2021) bioRxiv 2021.06.16.448639

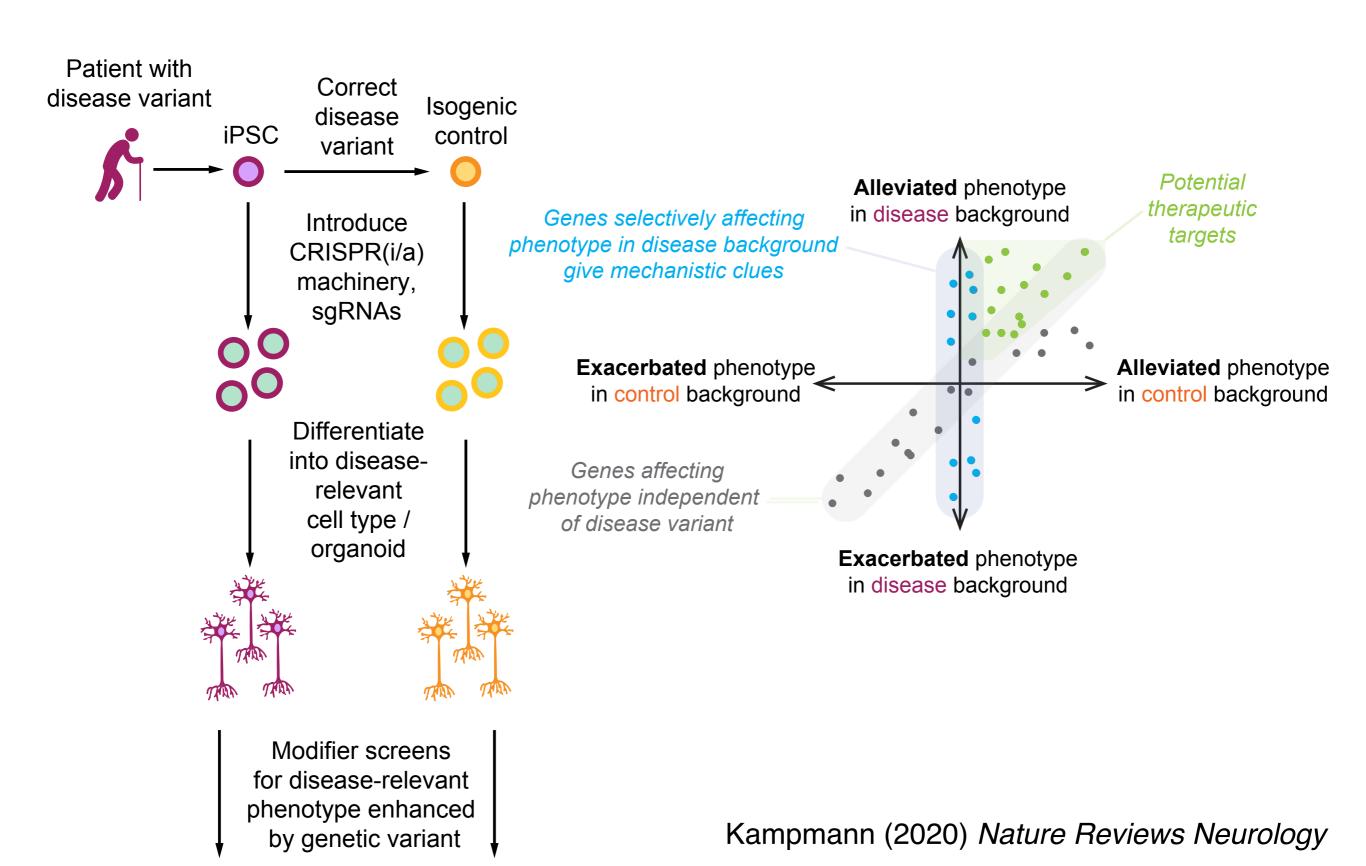
**Astrocytes** Leng et al (2021) *bioRxiv* 2021.08.23.457400

Rooney\*, Leng\* et al (2021) bioRxiv 2021.09.11.459904

## High-throughput modeling of genetic variants / DEGs

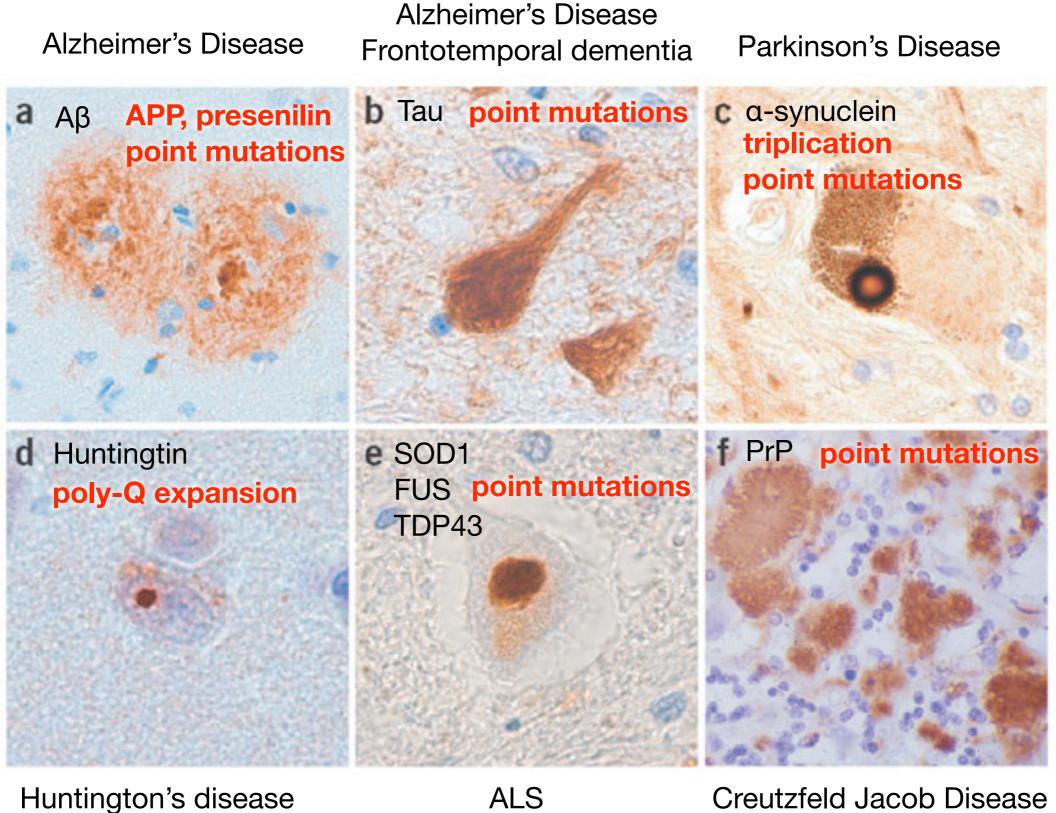


# Genome-wide modifier screens of disease phenotypes





## Protein aggregates in neurodegenerative diseases

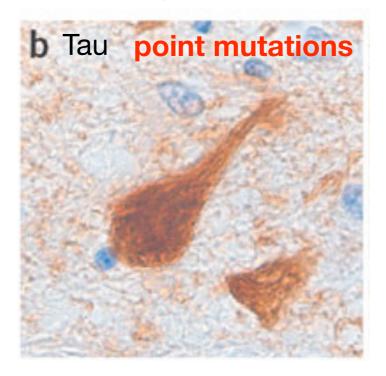


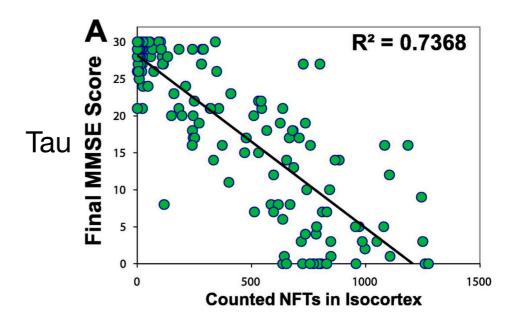
ALS Creutzfeld Jacob Disease adapted from Forman *et al* (2004)

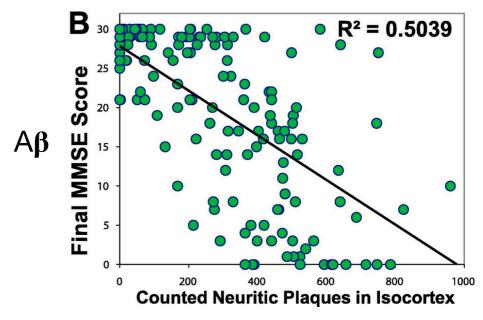


## Protein aggregates in neurodegenerative diseases

Alzheimer's Disease Frontotemporal dementia





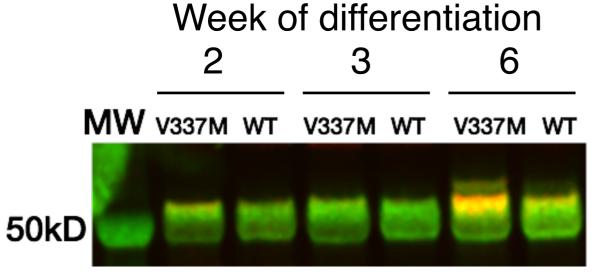


Nelson et al (2017) JNEN



# V337M tau forms oligomers in iPSC-derived neurons

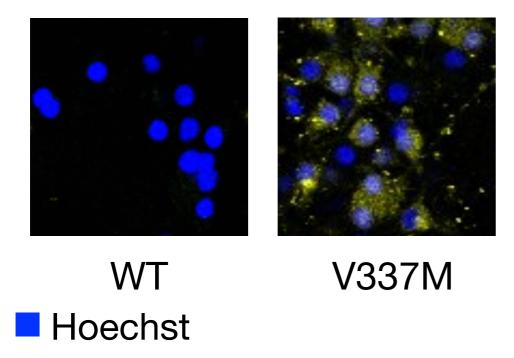
Neurons from isogenic MAPT V337M vs. WT iPSCs (Li Gan)



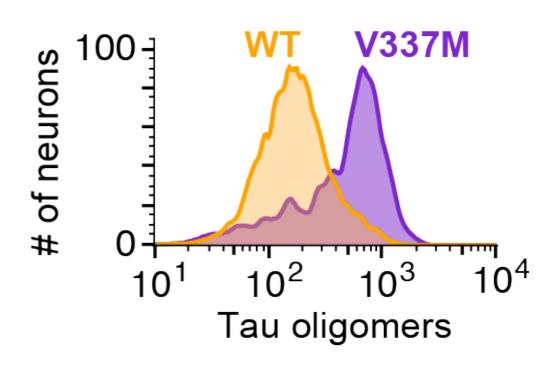
Total tau Phospho-tau (AT8)



Avi Samelson

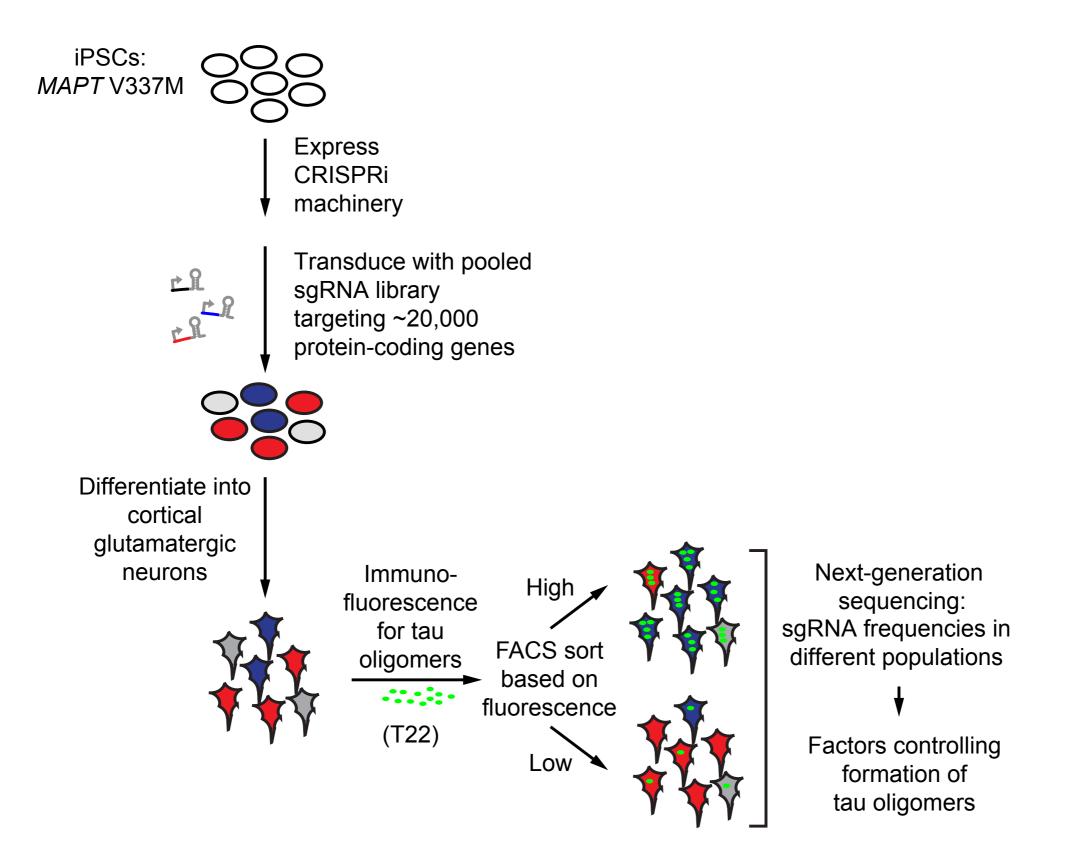


Tau oligomers (T22)





# Genome-wide CRISPRi screen for tau aggregation

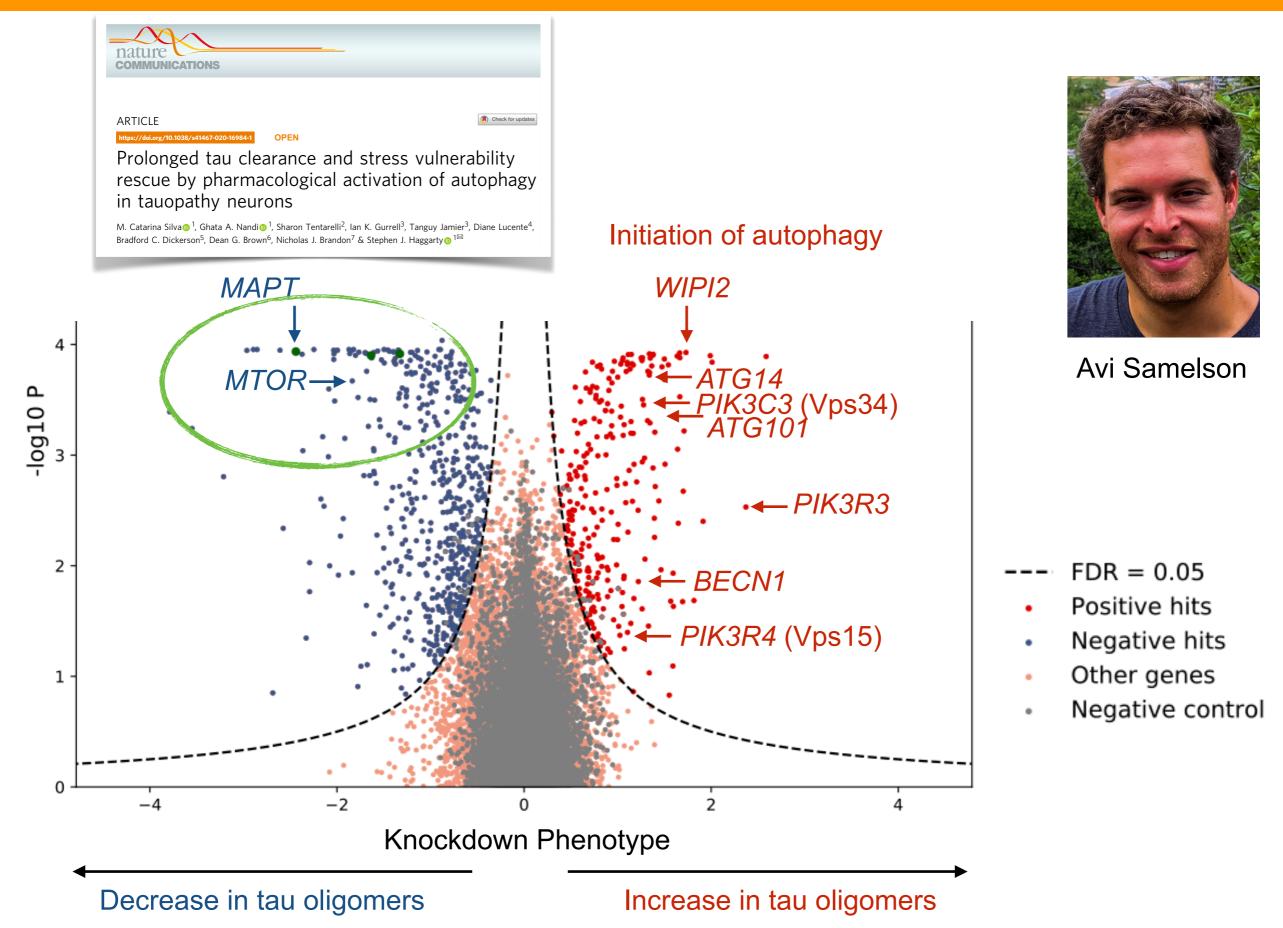




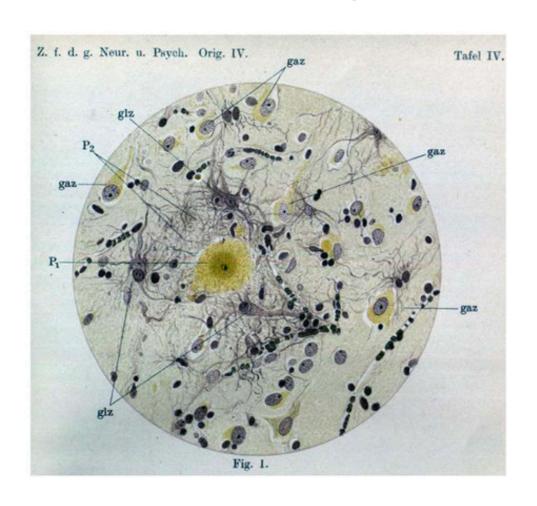
Avi Samelson



# Modifiers of neuronal tau aggregation



### How do microglia contribute to neurodegenerative disease?



- Microglia undergo disease-associated changes
- Human genetics supports a causal role for microglia in neurodegenerative diseases
- Which mechanisms control disease states?
- Therapeutic strategies?



Nina Dräger



**Syd Sattler** 

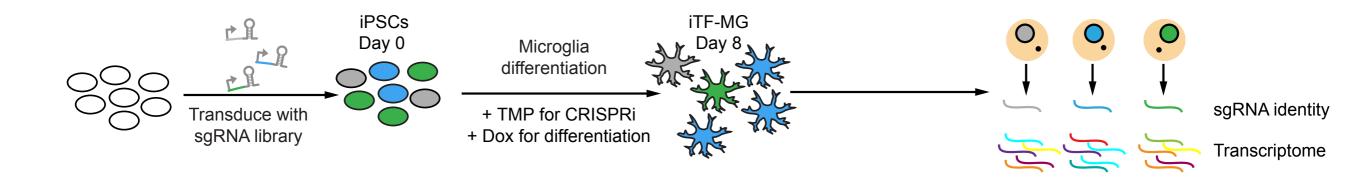


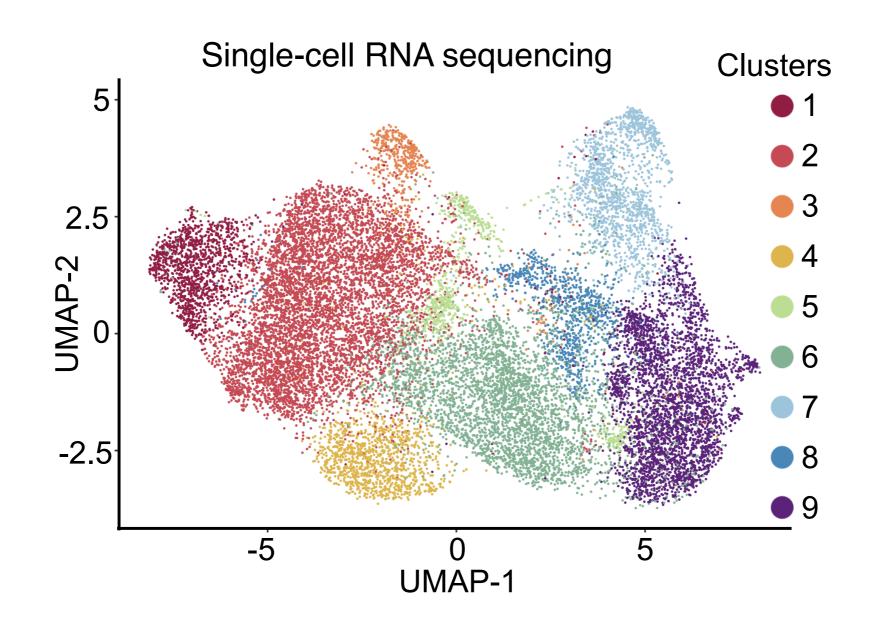
Olivia Teter

Collaboration with Li Gan

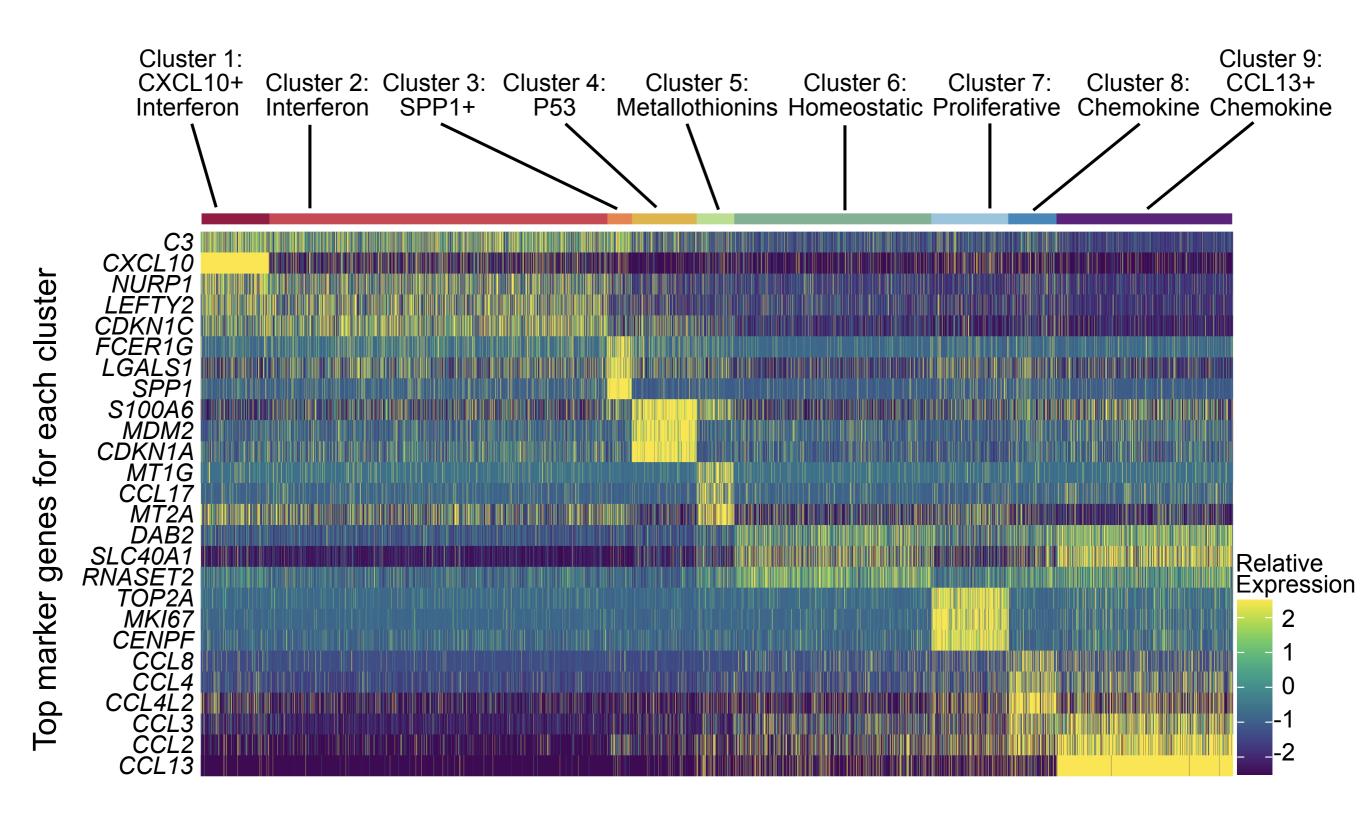
bioRxiv 2021.06.16.448639

# CROP-Seq screen in iPSC-derived microglia

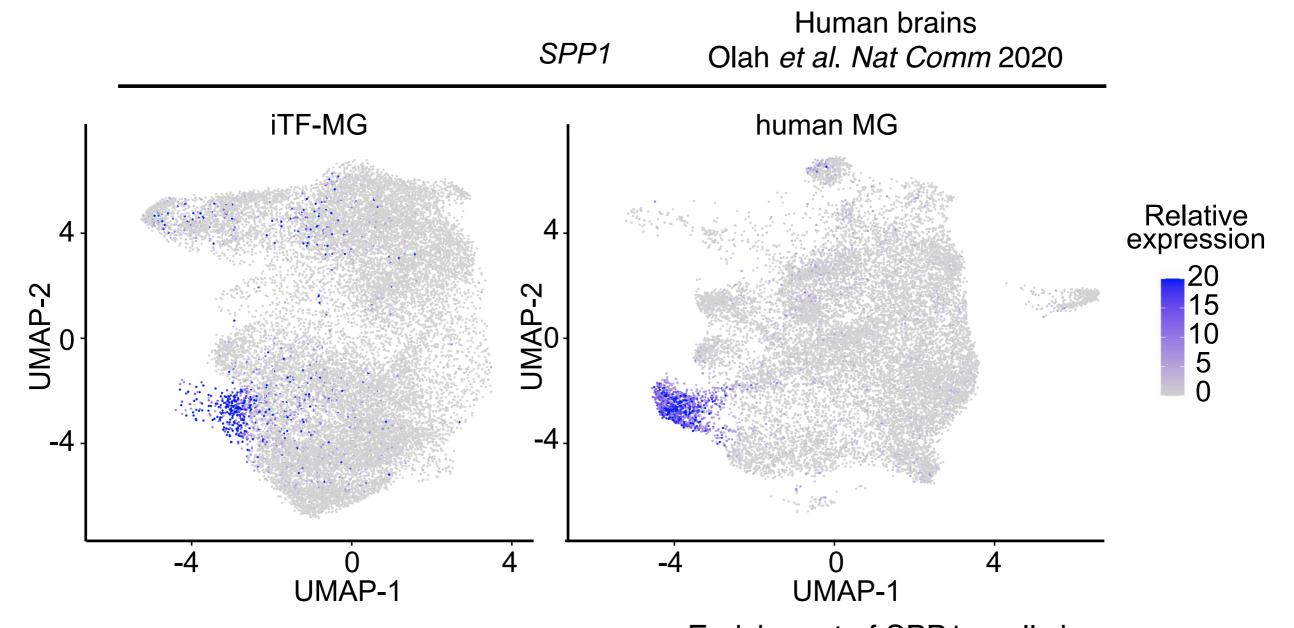




# iPSC-derived microglia adopt disease-relevant states

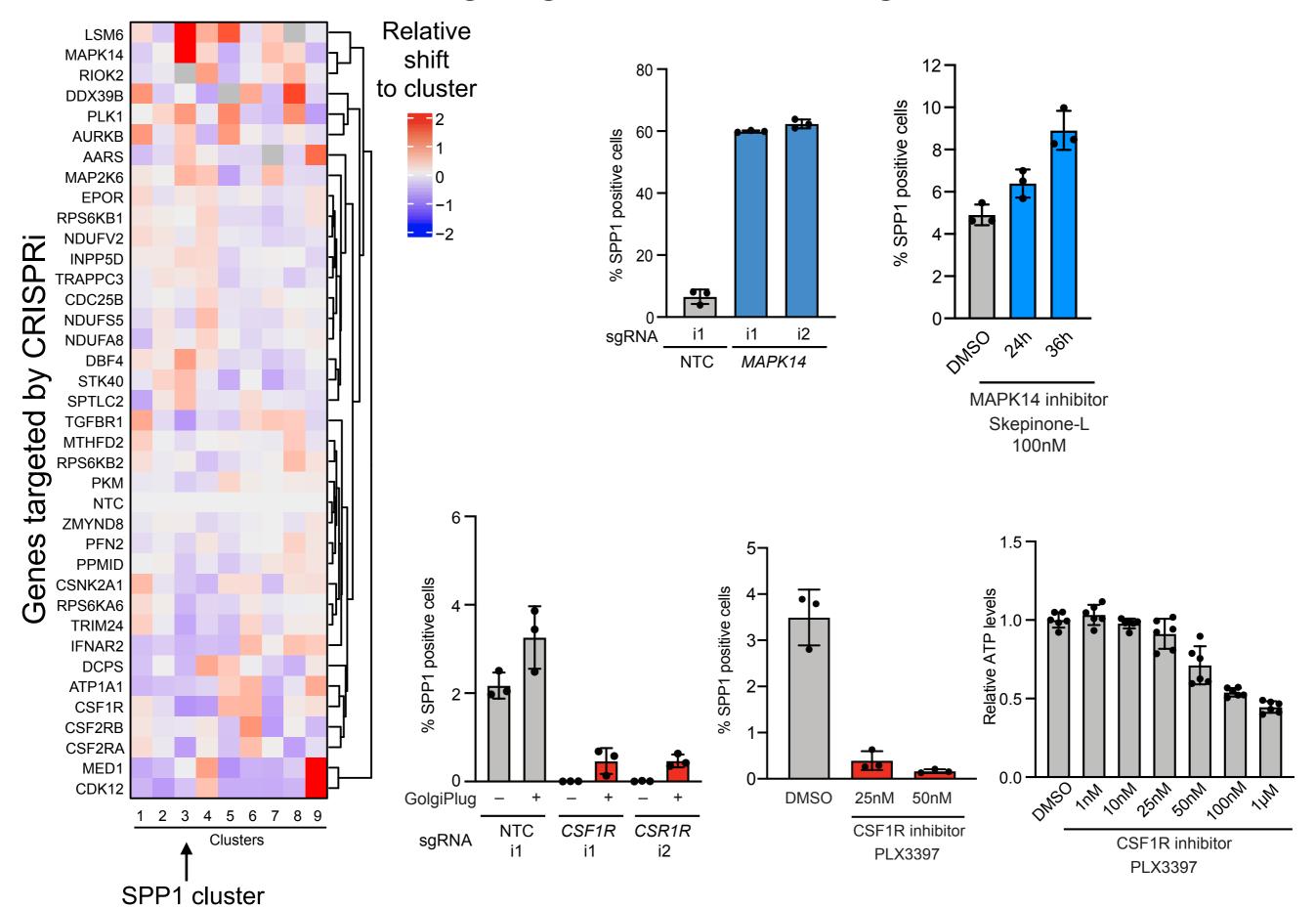


# iPSC-derived microglia adopt disease-relevant states



Enrichment of SPP1+ cells in Alzheimer's disease brains over control:  $P < 10^{-6}$ 

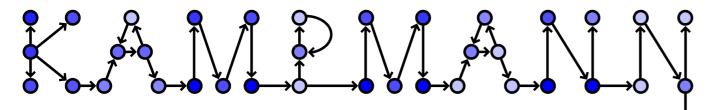
# Uncovering regulators of microglia states



# Future directions / challenges

Define relevant readouts in cell-based model systems

- Develop CRISPR screens in more physiological systems
  - Specific neuronal subtypes
  - 3D co-culture models
  - Brain organoids
  - In vivo models
- Large-scale characterization of genetic variation on the nucleotide level
  - Base editing / prime editing
  - Deep mutational scanning









@MartinUCSF

@KampmannLab (trainee account)

@CRISPRbrain



#### Li Gan (Weill Cornell)



CZI

Ben Barres

Early Career

Acceleration

**Award** 









EW INNOVATOR



Allen Distinguished Investigator **Award** 



NIH/NIA



Tau

Consortium





NIH/NINDS Tau Center without Walls



Alzheimer's **Association**