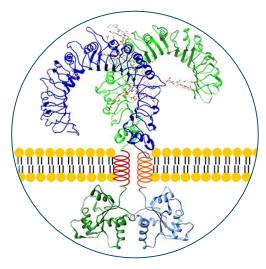
## Investigation of a (putative) causal mutation in Toll-like receptor family member 1A in chickens

Animal Genetics and Disease 2019

Tom Berghof









#### Co-authors & Acknowledgment



#### **Marleen Visker**

Henk Parmentier Henk Bovenhuis Jan van der Poel Joop Arts





Applied and Engineering Sciences





## Genome-wide association study

- 1,628 purebred white layer individuals (♂ + ♀)
  - Around 16 weeks of age

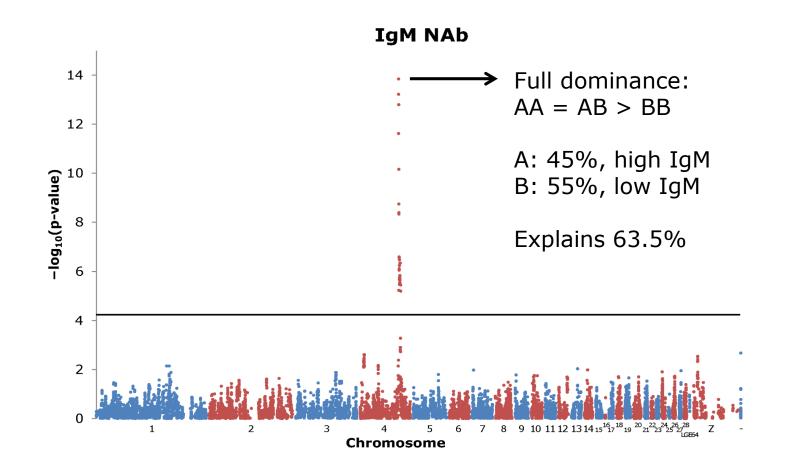
Total, IgM, IgA, IgG KLH-binding <u>natural antibody</u> titers

■ 57,636 SNP
 → After quality control: 15,578 SNP



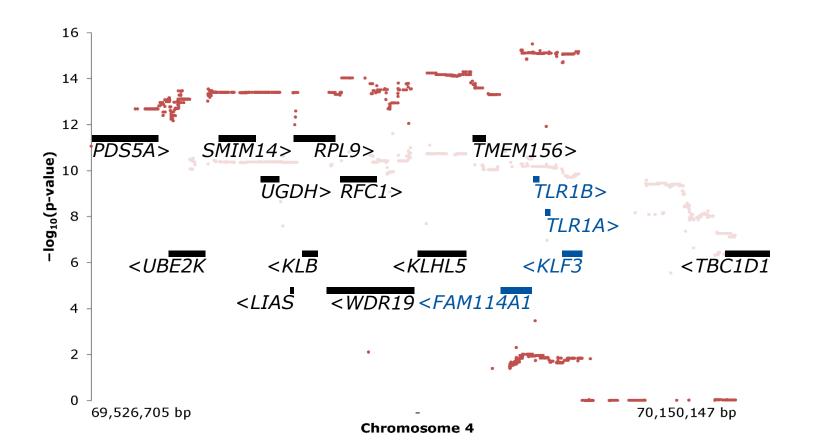


#### Manhattan plots IgM



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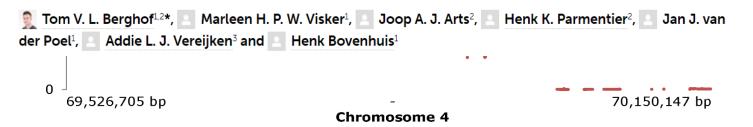
#### Fine mapping of GGA4 for IgM NAb



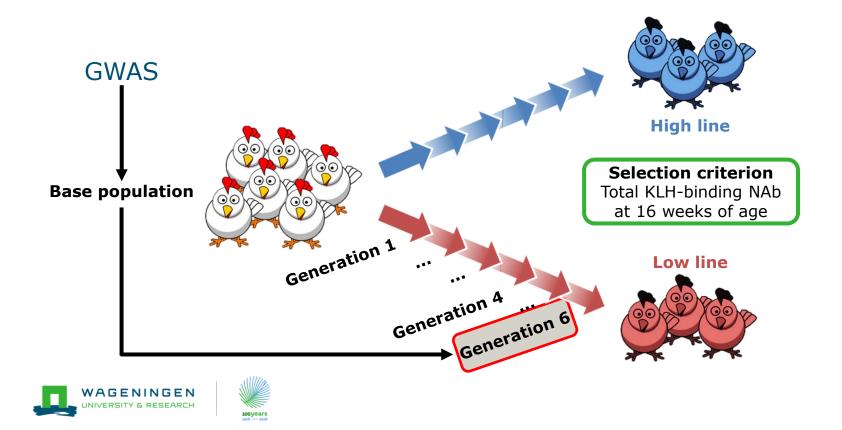
#### Fine mapping of GGA4 for IgM NAb



#### Genomic Region Containing Toll-Like Receptor Genes Has a Major Impact on Total IgM Antibodies Including KLH-Binding IgM Natural Antibodies in Chickens



#### Selection experiment on natural antibodies



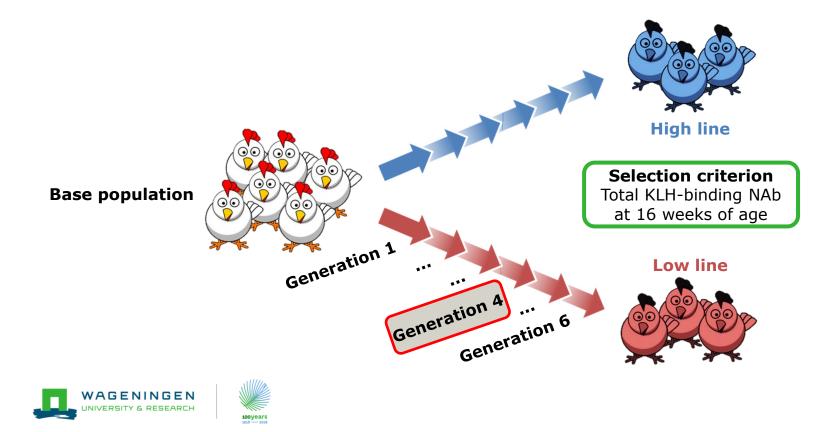
## Allele frequency changes

Population		A-variant (dominant, high IgM)	B-variant (recessive, low IgM)
GWAS		0.45	0.55
Generation 6	High line	0.64 🛩	0.36
	Low line	0.07	0.93

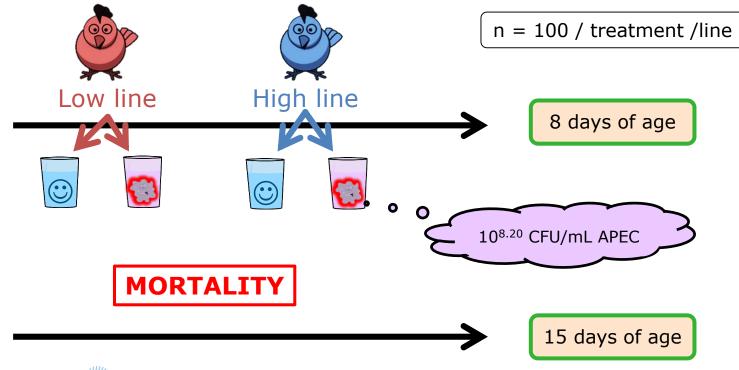




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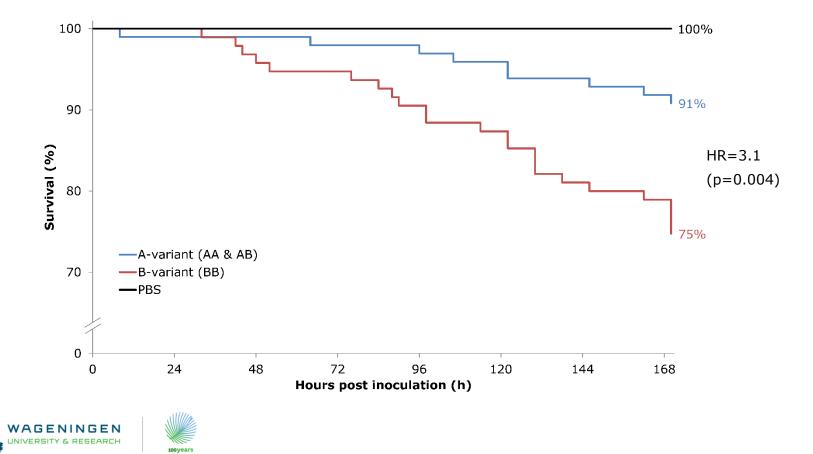
#### Infection experiment



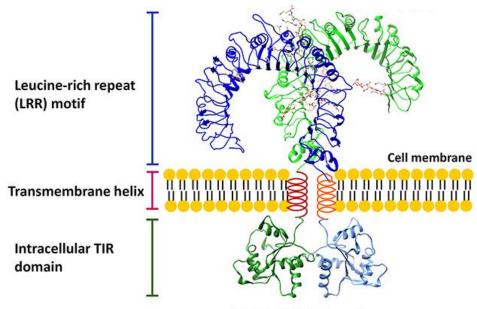




#### Mortality per variant (over lines)



## Toll-like receptor (TLR)



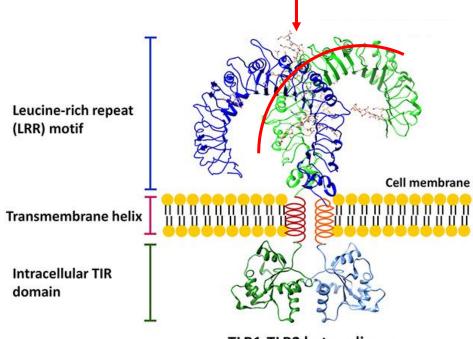
**TLR1-TLR2** heterodimer

- Evolutionary conserved
- Recognize PAMP
  - f.e. TLR4  $\rightarrow$  LPS
- Genetic variants associated with (risk for) diseases<sup>1</sup>
  - Escherichia coli?

 $^{1}$  for overviews: Schröder et al., 2005, Lancet Infect <u>P</u>is; Netea et al., 2012, Nat Immunol; Medvedev, 2013, Interferon Res

Gao et al., 2017, Front Physiol

## Toll-like receptor family member 1A (TLR1A)



**TLR1-TLR2** heterodimer

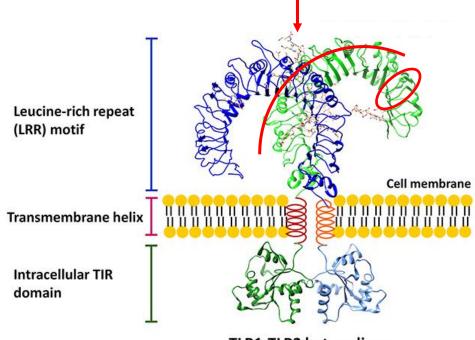
- Heterodimer with TLR2(A/B)
- LRR6-16 for recognition of<sup>1</sup>:
  - Bacterial lipoproteins
  - Mycoplasma
  - Related (synthetic) structures

Gao et al., 2017, Front Physiol

<sup>1</sup>Keestra et al., 2007, J Immunol; Higuchi et al., 2008, Dev Comp Immunol

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#### Putative causal mutation



TLR1-TLR2 heterodimer

- Protein position 126 in LRR4
- C/G polymorphism
  → Phe/Leu AA substitution
- Dominant variant: C/Phe Recessive variant: G/Leu

→ No evidence that mutation will affect ligand recognition

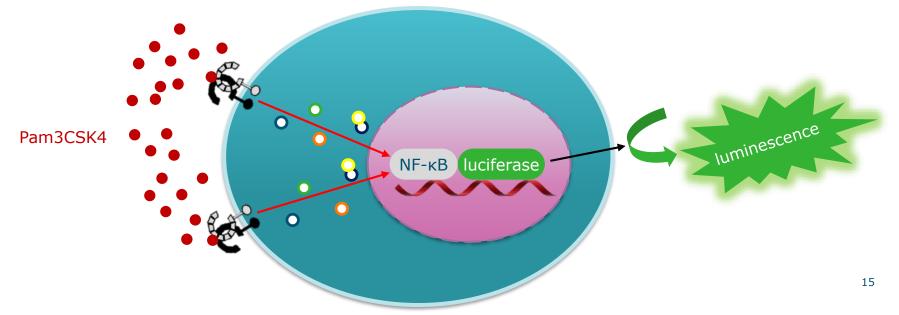
#### TLR1A activation in vitro

- HeLa cells with luciferase reporter
- Transfected with TLR2B and TLR1A variants

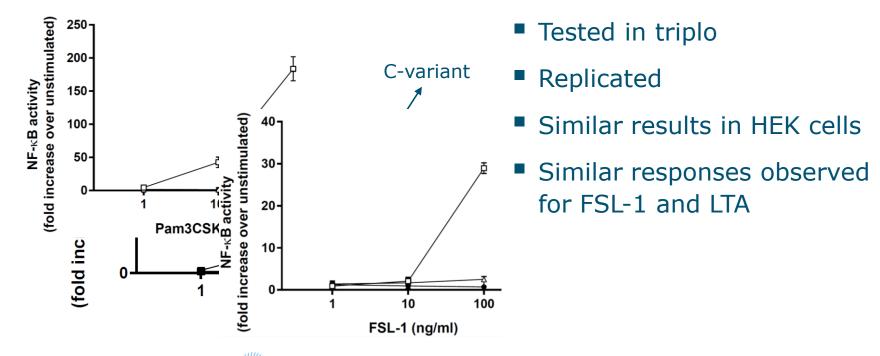


Carlos Voogdt

Utrecht University



## No (downstream) TLR1A activation for G-variant





looyear

#### Causal mutation confirmed

C-variant (Phe) is functional. G-variant (Leu) seems non-functional.

- G-variant is deleterious mutation: "natural knock-out"1
- C compensates G in heterozygotes: full dominance (GWAS)
- G-variant not found in any other chicken line, human or mouse TLR
  - Currently testing (Voogdt et al., in preparation)
- Working mechanism remains to be elucidated





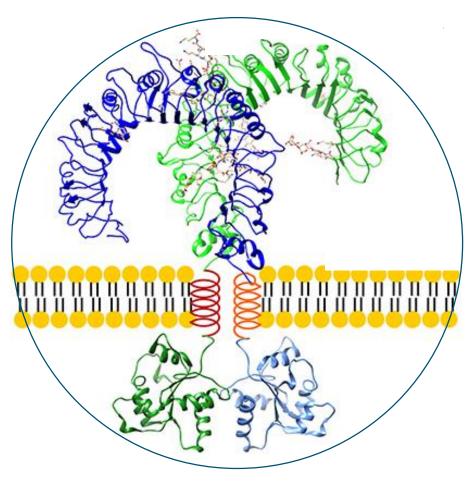
## Take-home messages

- Mutation in *TLR1A* confirmed
  → Natural knock-out?!
- TLR1A influence IgM (natural) antibody levels and might influence disease resistance

# QUESTIONS?









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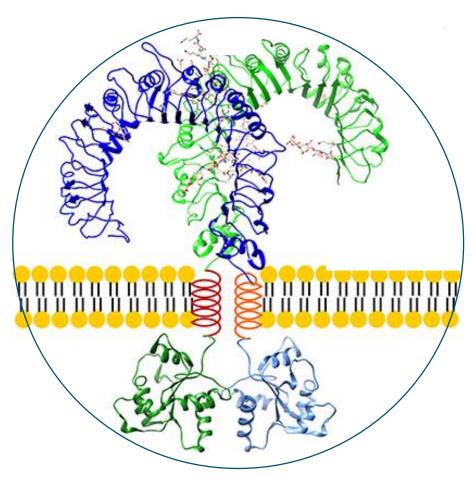
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# QUESTIONS?









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#### Effect of causal mutation

#### On TLR activation

- Ligand recognition
- Dimerization
- Co-receptor binding

#### On IgM antibody levels

- IgM production by B-cells
- Naïve B-cells proliferation
- IgM plasma cell proliferation
- Differential downstream signal transduction in the NF-kB pathway
- Indirect via other immune cells









