

# OCÉANE CASSAN

Postdoctoral researcher in statistical learning for systems biology

## EDUCATION

- 2022 | 2019 • **University of Montpellier**  
PhD in Systems Biology 📍 Montpellier, France
- 2019 | 2018 • **University Claude Bernard (UCBL)**  
MSc in Computer Science - Artificial Intelligence 📍 Lyon, France
- 2019 | 2014 • **National Institute of Applied Sciences (INSA)**  
Engineering degree in Bioinformatics and Modelling 📍 Lyon, France

## RESEARCH

- 2024 | 2023 • **Postdoc - Laboratory of Computer Science, Robotics and Microelectronics of Montpellier (LIRMM)**  
Statistical learning to predict and interpret biological signals at transcription initiation sites from DNA sequence. 📍 Montpellier, France
  - Prediction of R-loops formation (DNA-RNA hybrids with roles in gene regulation and genomic instability) from low complexity DNA sequence features at transcription initiation sites. Collaborators : Rosemary Kiernan (IGH) and Jérôme Moreaux (CHU).
  - Prediction of transcriptional activity at enhancers and promoters in the course of neuron differentiation from low complexity DNA sequence features and TF binding motifs. Collaborators : **FANTOM6** international consortium
  - Team : Joint **IGMM/LIRMM/IMAG Computational Regulatory Genomics**. Supervisors: Laurent Bréhélin, Charles Lecellier
- 2022 | 2019 • **PhD - Institute for Plant Sciences in Montpellier (IPSIM)**  
Systems biology approaches to discover regulatory pathways in plants under elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. 📍 Montpellier, France
  - **Statistical inference of the gene regulatory networks in *Arabidopsis thaliana* under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> and nutritional limitations.** Development of novel network reconstruction methods via ensembles of regression trees or penalized linear regression based on transcriptomic data and regulatory sequences information. **Computational and experimental validation** of network-derived hypotheses and candidate genes.
  - **Genome Wide Association studies** to identify genetic determinants of mineral status response under elevated CO<sub>2</sub>
  - **Development of an interactive suite** for reproducible transcriptomic analyses and the inference of regulatory networks
  - Supervisors : Antoine Martin, Sophie Lèbre
  - Team : **SIRENE**



## CONTACT

- ✉ [oceane.cassan@lirmm.fr](mailto:oceane.cassan@lirmm.fr)
- 🌐 [github.com/OceaneCsn](https://github.com/OceaneCsn)
- 📞 +33 6 79 42 48 89

## SKILLS

**Pluridisciplinarity** : ability to understand and articulate biology, statistics and computer science to test hypotheses

**Statistics** : statistical learning, interpretable machine learning, (sparse) regression and feature selection, mixed models, tree-based methods

**Computer science** : R (ggplot, tidyverse, package development, Rmarkdown, Shiny), Python, LaTeX-beamer, Bash, calculation server administration and usage, web application deployment

**Biology** : gene regulation, systems biology, regulatory genomics, omics data analysis (RNA-Seq, (ONT-)CAGE-Seq, TF Binding experiments, GWAS data)

2019 ● **6 months research internship - Laboratory of Computer Science, Robotics and Microelectronics of Montpellier (LIRMM)**  
Supervised statistical learning to predict chromosomic interactions in the human genome, based on CAGE data and chromatin contact data.  
📍 Montpellier, France

- Supervisor : Laurent Bréhélin
- Team : Joint IGMM/LIRMM/IMAG Computational Regulatory Genomics

2017 ● **1 month research internship - Laboratory of Computer Science, Robotics and Microelectronics of Montpellier (LIRMM)**  
Sparse logistic regression to model transcription factor combinatorics for gene regulation in human  
📍 Montpellier, France

- Supervisor : Laurent Bréhélin
- Team : Joint IGMM/LIRMM/IMAG Computational Regulatory Genomics

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018 ● **4 months internship in quantitative biology - Nanolive SA**  
Development of software tools for the 3D detection and tracking of biological objects in label free images  
📍 Lausanne, Switzerland

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023 | 2021 ● **Instructor of R for 3<sup>rd</sup> year bachelor plant biology students**  
**Teaching material** 📍 University of Montpellier, France

- Good practices and scientific integrity around data analysis
- Data manipulation and visualisation in R

2023 | 2020 ● **Instructor of Rmarkdown for Master data science students**  
**Teaching material** 📍 University Paul Valéry of Montpellier, France

2024 | 2022 ● **Statistical inference of regulatory networks for Master plant biology students**  
**Lecture and practical session** 📍 University of Montpellier, France

2021 | 2022 ● **Student supervision**

- Master 2 intern in biostatistics applied to gene regulation and transcriptomics
- Master 1 data science students for an annual project on Genome-Wide-Association studies

## PUBLICATIONS

2023 ● **Optimizing data integration improves Gene Regulatory Network inference in *Arabidopsis thaliana***  
Océane Cassan, Charles-Henri Lecellier, Antoine Martin, Laurent Bréhélin, Sophie Lèbre. 2023, Preprint. [See preprint](#)

- 2023 ● **A gene regulatory network reveals the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on nutrient signaling pathways and mineral composition in *Arabidopsis***  
Océane Cassan, Léa-Lou Pimparé, Antoine Beckers, Alain Gojon, Liên Bach, Christian Dubos, Sophie Lèbre, Antoine Martin. 2022, *New Phytologist*. [See article](#)
- 2023 ● **Natural genetic variation underlying the negative effect of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on ionome composition in *Arabidopsis thaliana***  
Océane Cassan, Léa-Lou Pimparé, Timothy Mozzanino, Cécile Fizames, Sébastien Devidal, Fabrice Roux, Alexandru Milcu, Sophie Lèbre, Alain Gojon, Antoine Martin. 2023, Preprint. [See preprint](#)
- 2022 ● **The decline of plant mineral nutrition under rising CO<sub>2</sub>: physiological and molecular aspects of a bad deal**  
 Alain Gojon, Océane Cassan, Liên Bach, Laurence Lejay, Antoine Martin. 2022 Review article, *Trends in Plant Science*. [See article](#)
- 2022 ● **Loss of Polycomb proteins CLF and LHP1 leads to excessive RNA degradation in *Arabidopsis***  
 David Séré, Océane Cassan, Fanny Bellegarde, Cécile Fizames, Jossia Boucherez, Geoffrey Schivre, Jacinthe Azevedo, Thierry Lagrange, Alain Gojon, Antoine Martin. 2022 *Journal of Experimental Botany*. [See article](#)
- 2021 ● **Inferring and Analyzing Gene Regulatory Networks from Multi-Factorial Expression Data: A Complete and Interactive Suite**  
Océane Cassan, Sophie Lèbre, and Antoine Martin. 2021 *BMC Genomics* 22 (1). [See article](#)
- 2019 ● **Probing Transcription Factor Combinatorics in Different Promoter Classes and in Enhancers**  
 Vandel Jimmy, Océane Cassan, Sophie Lèbre, Charles-Henri Lecellier, and Laurent Bréhélin. 2019 *BMC Genomics* 20 (1): 1–19. [See article](#)

## CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- 2023 ● **FANTOM6 consortium meeting**  
 Speaker 📍 Milan, Italy  
 • Probing the contribution of DNA low complexity regions in transcriptional regulations during neuron differentiation
- 2023 ● **ISMB-ECCB**  
 Speaker 📍 Lyon, France  
 • Gene-specific optimisation of data integration in regression-based Gene Regulatory Network inference. **Awarded the best oral presentation in the NETBIO session.**
- 2022 ● **Machine Learning in Montpellier, Theory & Practice**  
 Speaker 📍 University of Montpellier, France  
 • Discussing : Reconciling modern machine-learning practice and the classical bias–variance trade-off, Belkin et al, 2019.

- 2022 ● **Molecular responses of plants facing climate change**  
**Organizer and poster presenter** 📍 Montpellier, France  
 • Genetic determinants of the mineral status response under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> in Arabidopsis populations
- 2021 ● **JOBIM**  
**Poster presenter** 📍 Virtual  
 • Dashboard for the Inference and Analysis of Networks from Expression data
- 2021 ● **International Plant Systems Biology**  
**Poster presenter** 📍 Virtual  
 • Gene Regulatory Network inference of Arabidopsis under elevated CO<sub>2</sub> and nutritional limitations
- 2020 ● **Netbio, biological networks inference**  
**Speaker** 📍 Virtual  
 • Presenting the Dashboard for the Inference and Analysis of Networks from Expression data
- 2024 |  
 2023 ● **Methods and Algorithms for Bioinformatics Seminars**  
**Organizer** 📍 Montpellier, France  
 • Co-planner (with Eric Rivals) of regular team seminars on the topic of bioinformatics

## ACADEMIC REFEREES

PhD:

Antoine Martin, senior researcher in plant biology, head of SIRENE team, IPSiM, CNRS : [antoine.martin@cnrs.fr](mailto:antoine.martin@cnrs.fr)

Sophie Lèbre, lecturer and researcher in statistics, IMAG, University of Montpellier, University Paul Valéry : [sophie.lebre@umontpellier.fr](mailto:sophie.lebre@umontpellier.fr)

Postdoc:

Laurent Bréhélin, senior researcher in computational biology, head of MAB team, LIRMM, co-head of the Computational Regulatory Genomics team : [brehelin@lirmm.fr](mailto:brehelin@lirmm.fr)

Charles Lecellier, senior researcher in computational biology, co-head of the Computational Regulatory Genomics team : [charles.lecellier@igmm.cnrs.fr](mailto:charles.lecellier@igmm.cnrs.fr)