

# Strain select Package: a R-tool for strain selection



L. Guillier

[Laurent.guillier@anses.fr](mailto:Laurent.guillier@anses.fr)

OHEJP WP4 Dissemination Webinar on  
Surveillance and Risk Assessment  
28 March 2023

# The Strain select R package

## Impact

**Aim:** Propose a formal and reproducible method to select strains in a collection based on their metadata

### Areas on applications:

- Any pathogens
- Many contexts in One Health studies
  - Choosing strains to be sequenced for epi. investigations
  - Establishing a set of strains for phenotyping
  - Selecting strains representative of consumer exposure or risk
  - Selecting strains based on their virulence/antimicrobial profiles
  - ...

## Added values

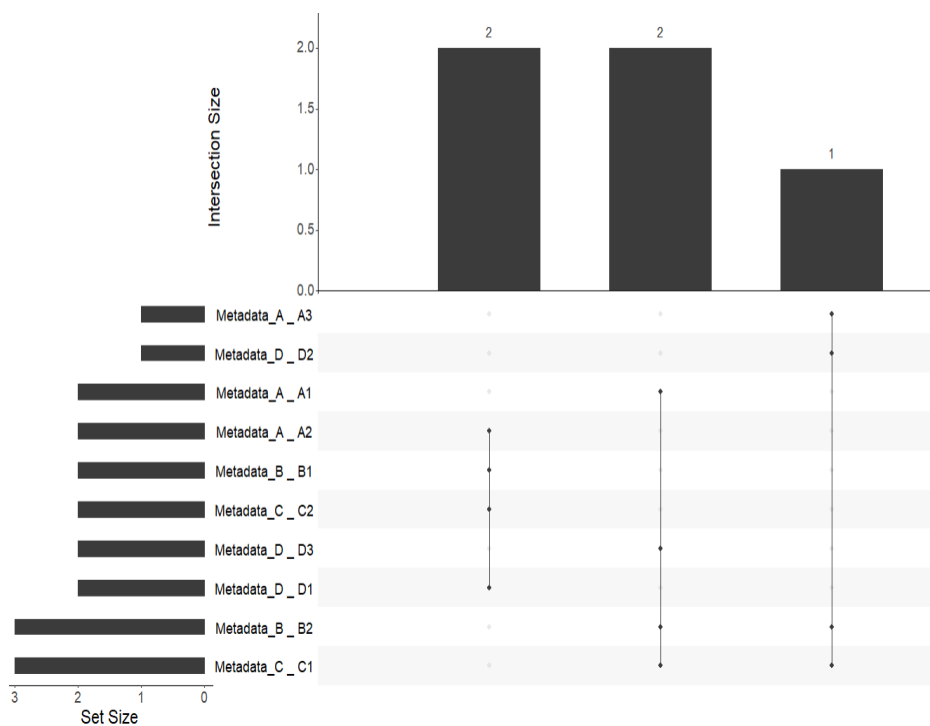
- Reference laboratories (NL- EU-)
- Research teams working on population structure, source attribution



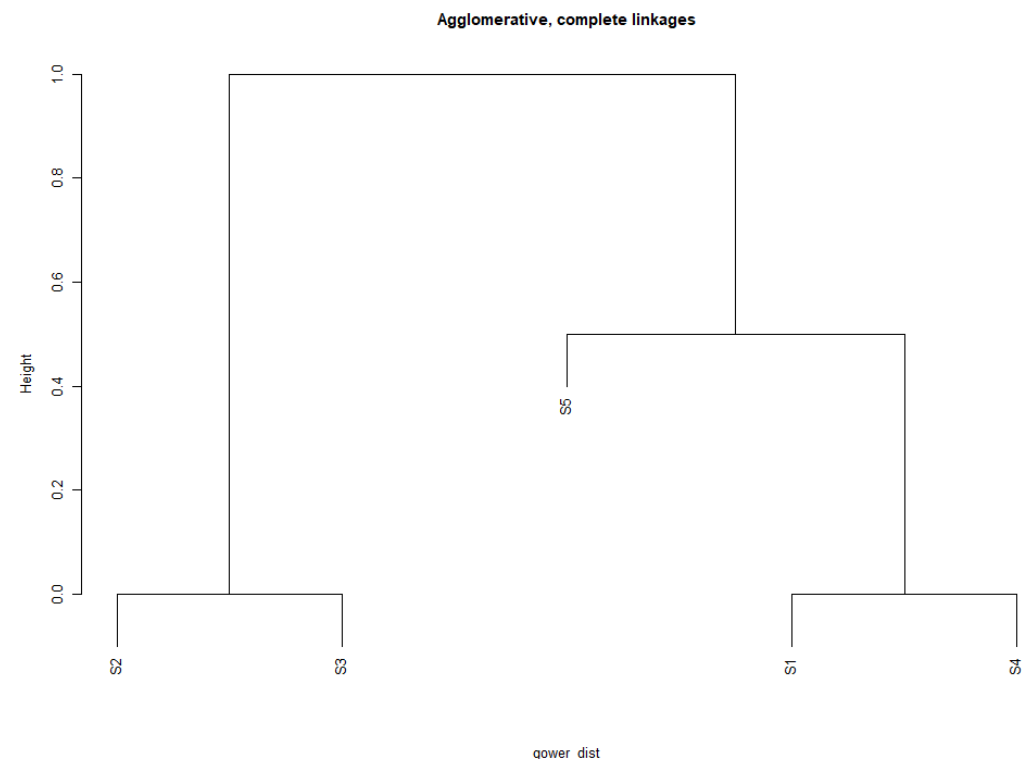


# Strain select R package: Two methods for selecting strains

## ① Intersection-based method



## ② Clustering method (Gower)





# Strain select R package: Two methods for selecting strains

Same structure of data frame for the two methods

```
prepare_input(filename, metadata)
```



Mystrains.xlsx

Selection of metadata (column numbers)

Outputs:

- quality checks (e.g. duplicate strain names)
- data input for selection methods

Error in strainselect::prepare\_input(raw\_data, col\_select = c(7, 10, 13, :  
duplicate ID : 2020LSAL10060

Strain ID	Metadata_A	Metadata_B	Metadata_C	Metadata_D
S1	A1	B2	C1	D2
S2	A2	B1	C2	D1
S3	A2	B1	C2	D1
S4	A1	B2	C1	D2
S5	A2	B2	C2	D2





# Strain select R package: ① Intersection-based method

Strain ID	Metadata_A	Metadata_B	Metadata_C	Metadata_D
S1	A1	B2	C1	D2
S2	A2	B1	C2	D1
S3	A2	B1	C2	D1
S4	A1	B2	C1	D2
S5	A2	B2	C2	D2



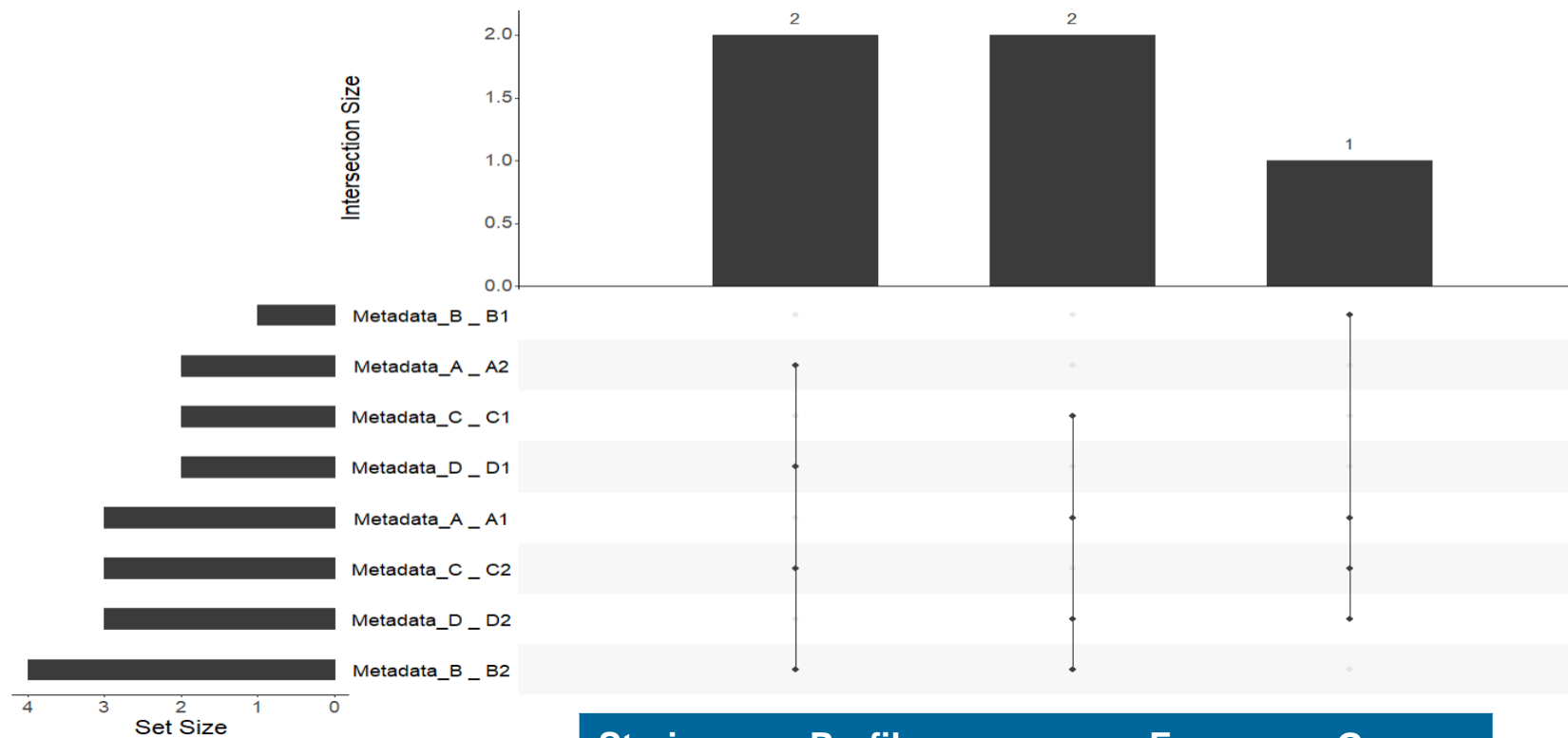
prepare\_upset()

Strain ID	Metadata_A_A1	Metadata_A_A2	Metadata_B_B1	...	Metadata_D_D2
S1	1	0	0	...	1
S2	0	1	1	...	0
S3	0	1	1	...	0
S4	1	0	0	...	1
S5	0	1	0	...	1





# Strain select R package: ① Intersection-based method



Strain	Profiles	Freq	Group
S1	10011001	2	1
S2	01100110	2	2
S3	01100110	2	2
S4	10011001	2	1
S5	01010101	1	3

Group	Selected strain
1	S4
2	S3
3	S5

define\_profiles() and  
select\_profiles()

→ Random selection in  
groups





## Strain select R package: ② Clustering method (Gower)

Strain	Metadata_A	Metadata_B	Metadata_C	Metadata_D
S1	A1	B2	C1	D2
S2	A2	B1	C2	D1
S3	A2	B1	C2	D1
S4	A1	B2	C1	D2
S5	A2	B2	C2	D2

assess\_gower()



$$D_{Gower}(x_i, x_j) = 1 - S_{Gower}(x_i, x_j)$$

$$S_{Gower}(x_i, x_j) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^p s_{ijk}}{p}$$

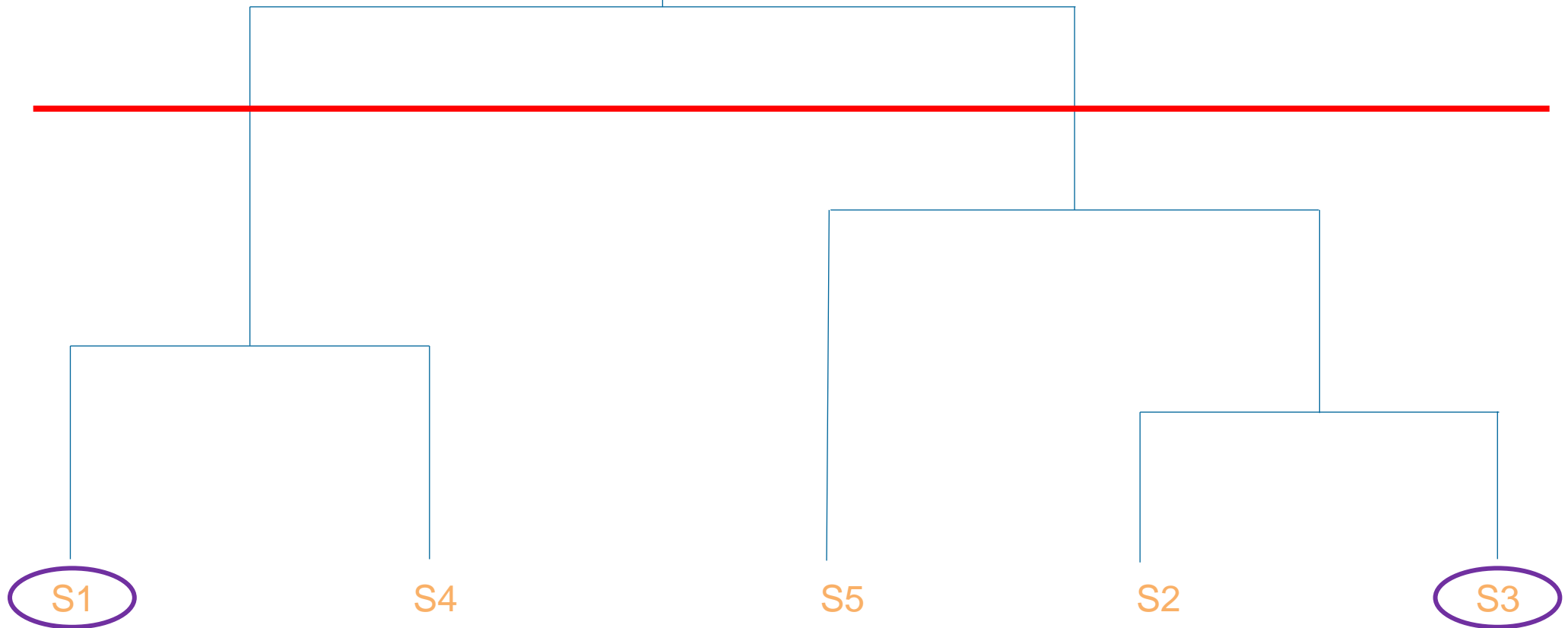
	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5
S1	0	4	4	0	2
S2		0	0	4	2
S3			0	4	3
S4				0	2
S5					0





# Strain select R package: ② Clustering method (Gower)

`cstats_table()` → optimal number of clusters



`select_silhouette()` → Random selection of strains in clusters

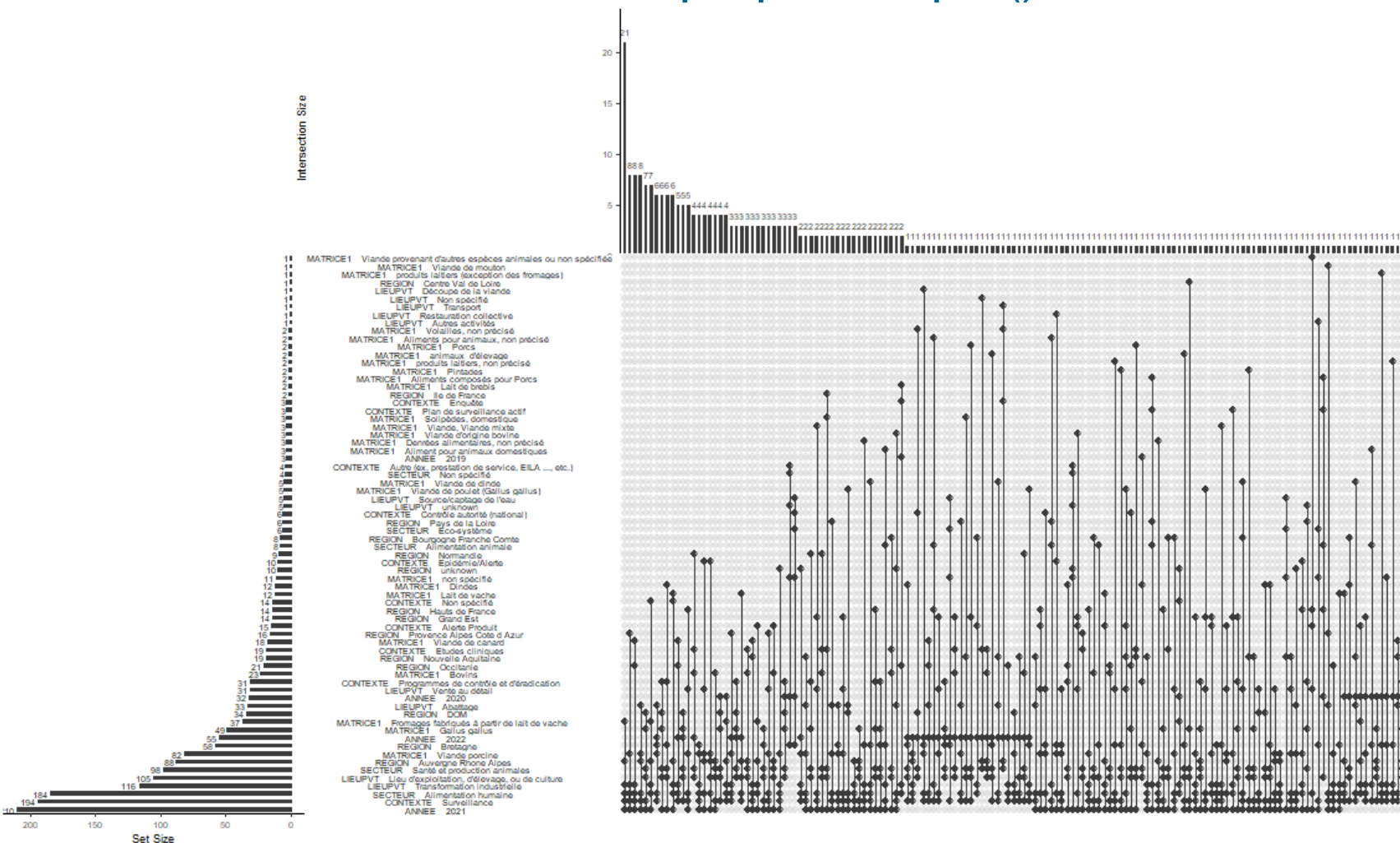






# Strain select R package: Example of application

Dataset of 300 *Salmonella* Typhimurium strains – Metadata: 24 variables  
→ 6 variables selected with `prepare_input()` + ① Intersection-based method



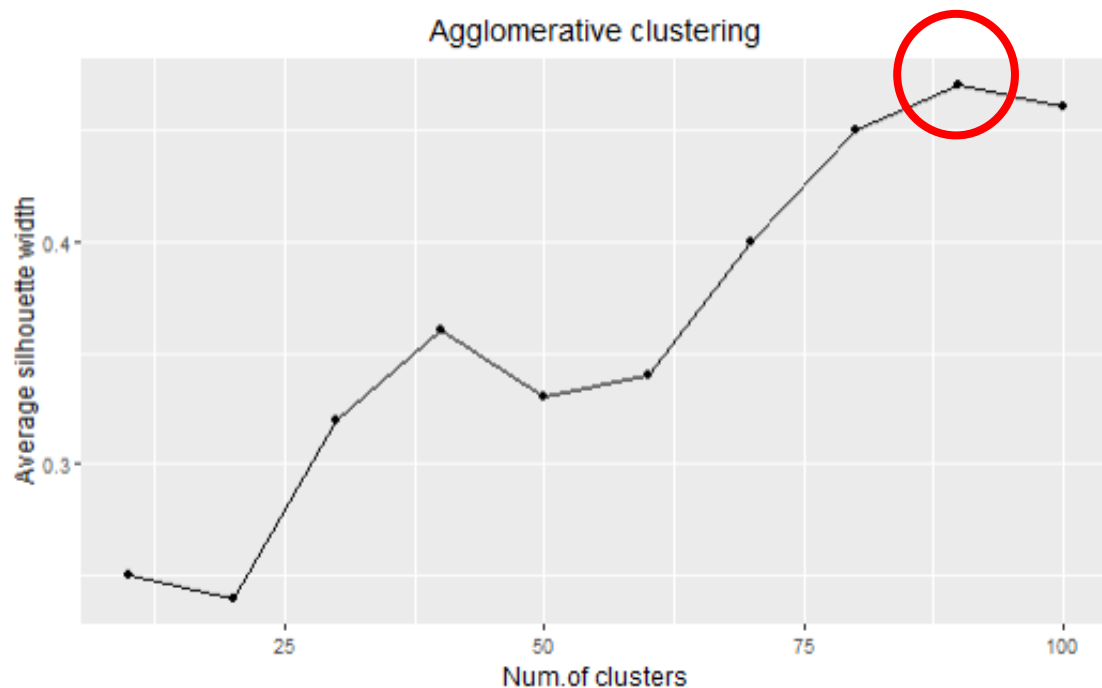
→ 149  
different  
profiles are  
identified





# Strain select R package: Example of application

Dataset of 300 *Salmonella* Typhimurium strains – Metadata: 24 variables  
→ 6 variables selected with `prepare_input()` + ② Clustering method (Gower)



User constraints = no more than 100

→ Optimal number of clusters = 90

90 strains selected tagged in the output

- Metadata (remainder of input)
- Group (n° 1:90)
- Selection (Y/N)



Mystrains\_selection.xlsx





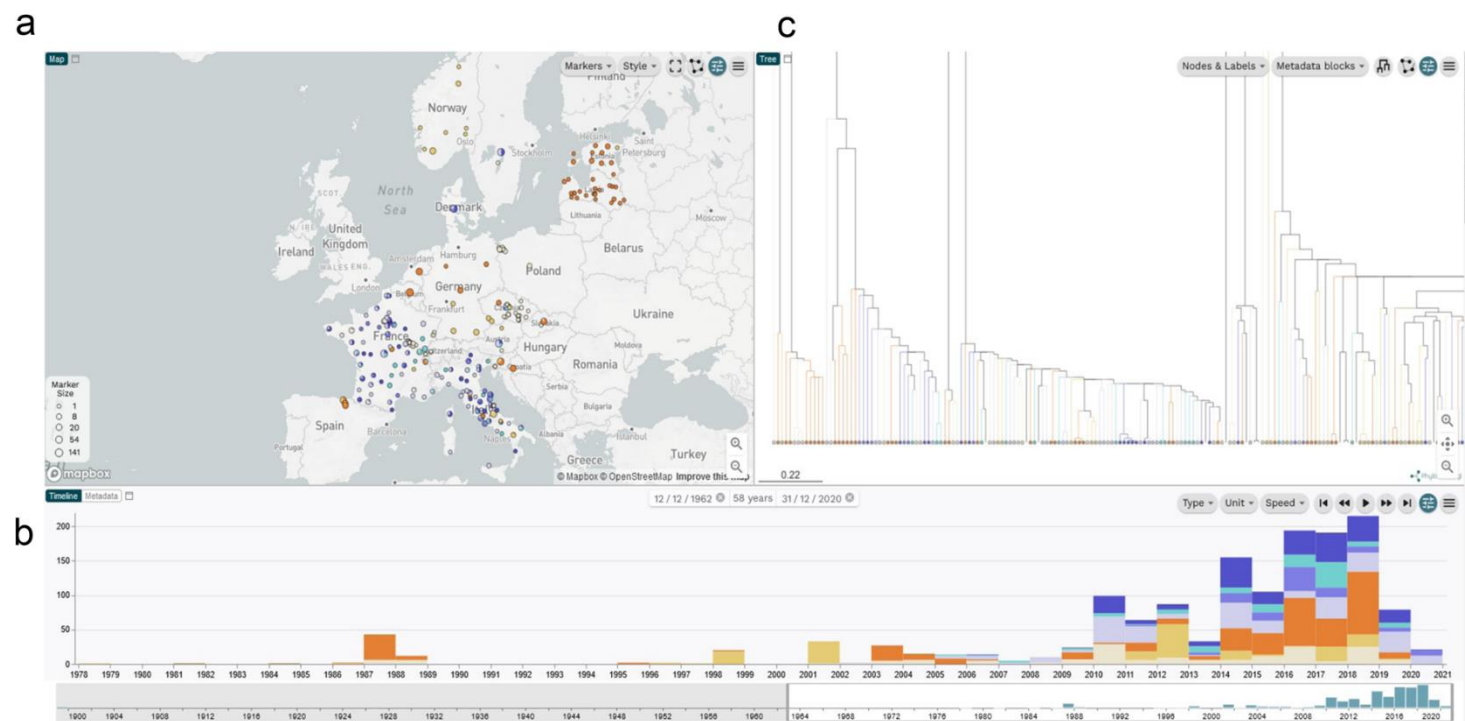
# Projects that have used Strain select method

Selection of environmental *L. monocytogenes* strains



Felix et al. (2022)

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-022-01278-6>



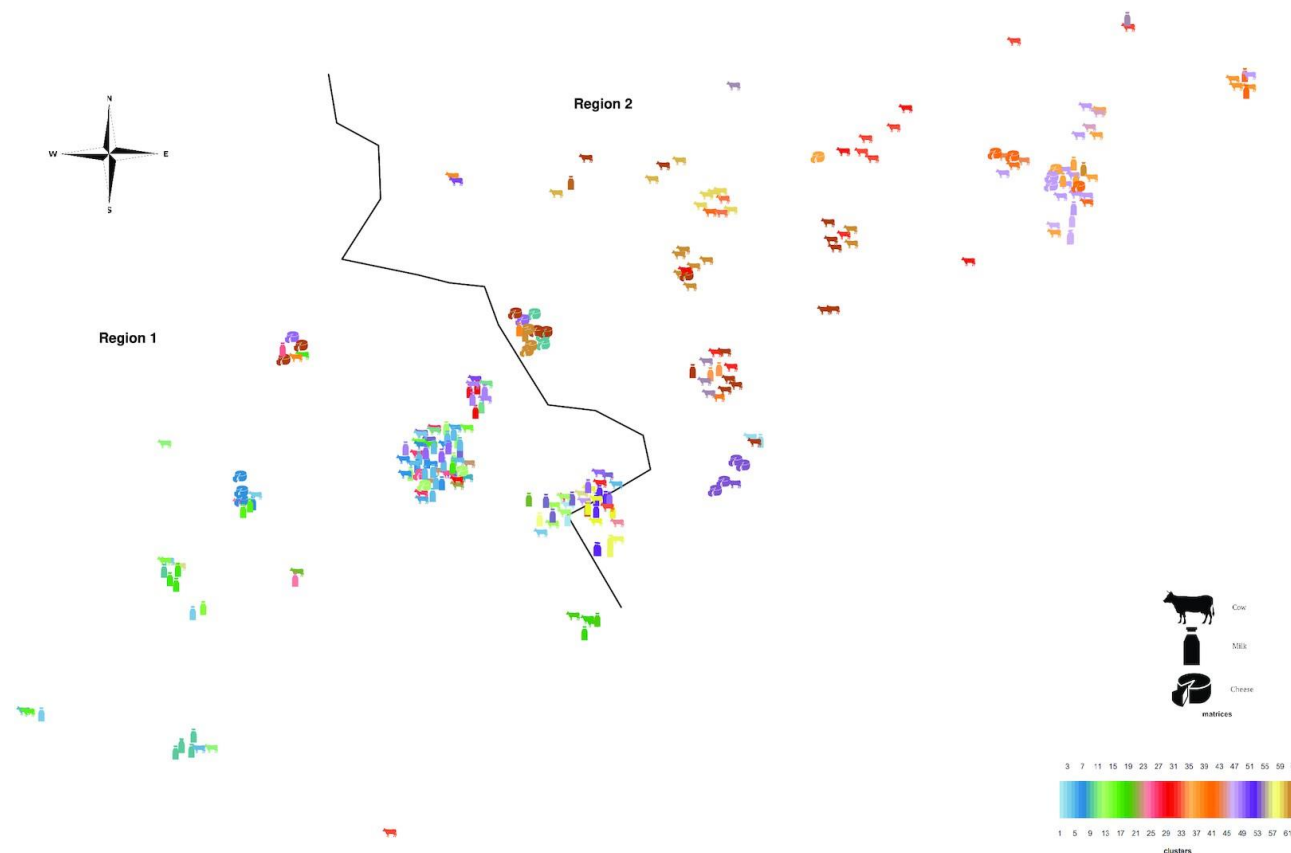


# Projects that have used Strain select method

Selection on *Salmonella* Dublin strains: population structure and epidemiological investigations (France)

De Sousa Violante et al. (2022)

<https://doi.org/10.1093/nargab/lqac047>





# Additional informations on Strain select



Availability: [https://github.com/valleemarie/strainselect\\_package](https://github.com/valleemarie/strainselect_package)

Publication (2023) submission to <https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/browse/articles>

## Follow on activities

- Continuation of the work of the CARE project:
  - Method to select strains within CARE collection
  - Method to integrate potential new strains
- Support to EU-RLs: feel free to contact [laurent.guillier@anses.fr](mailto:laurent.guillier@anses.fr)





Marie Vallée

Thank you for your attention!

