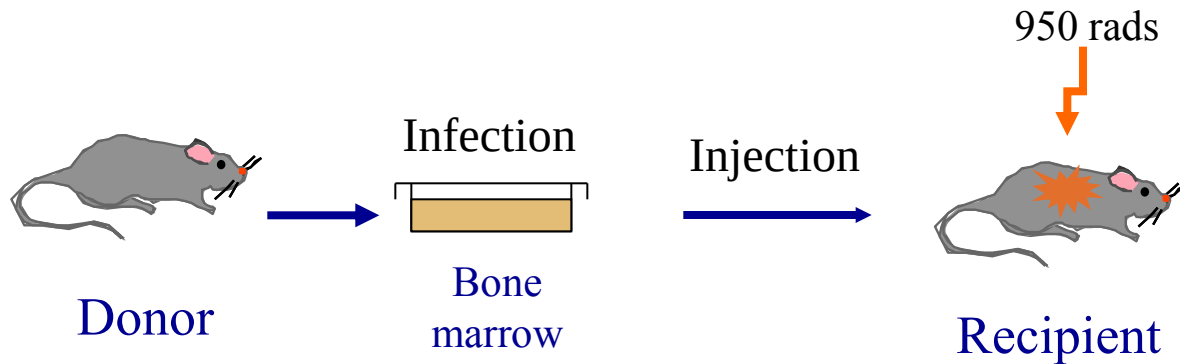


JAK2^{V617F} retroviral model

Principle: Adoptive transfer of bone marrow cells infected by a retrovirus expressing JAK2^{V617F}

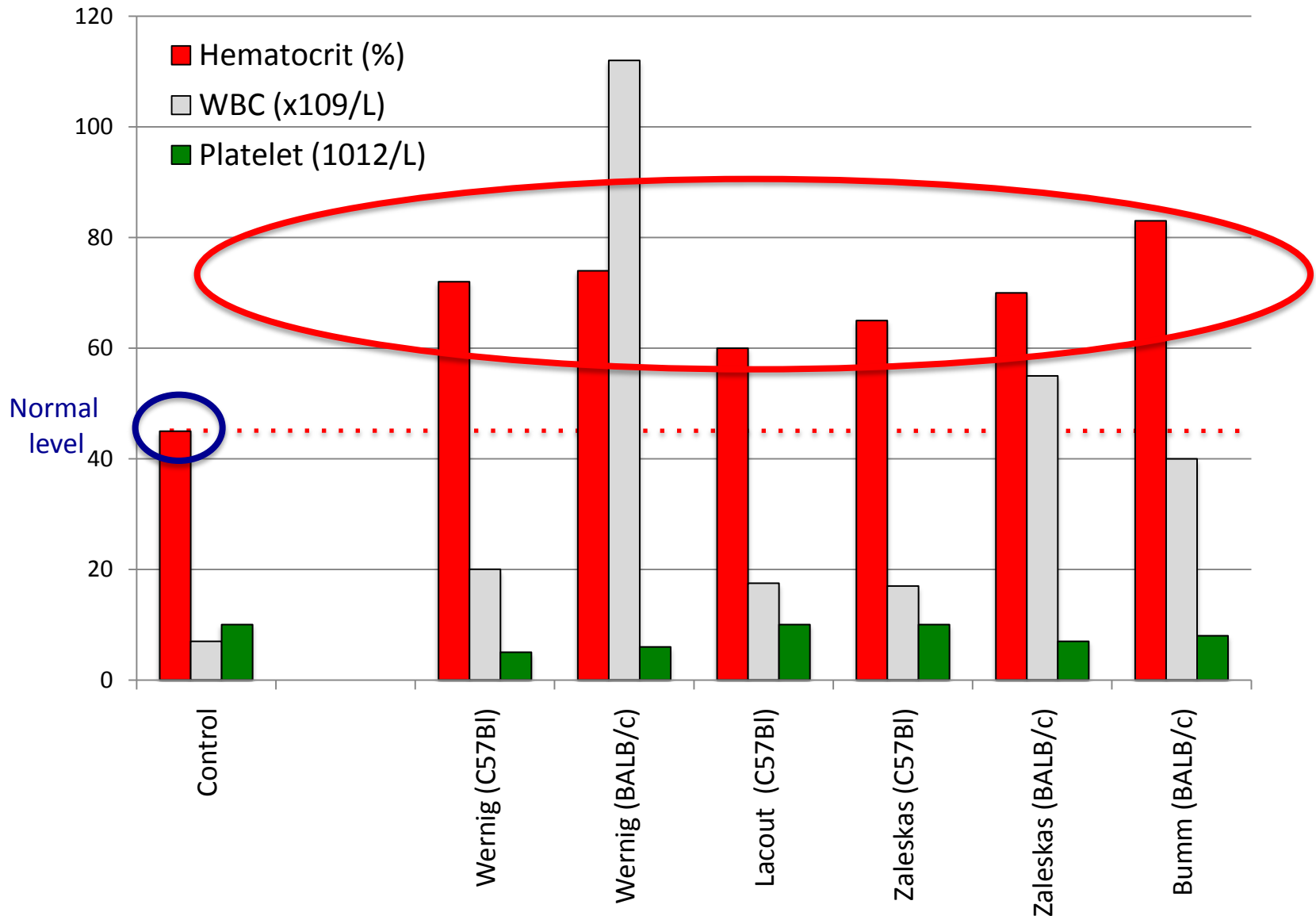


Over-expression of JAK2^{V617F}
(up to 20-fold the endogenous JAK2^{WT} level)

(Wernig et al. Blood 2006, Lacout et al. Blood 2006,
Zaleskas et al. Plos One 2006, Bumm et al. Cancer res. 2006)

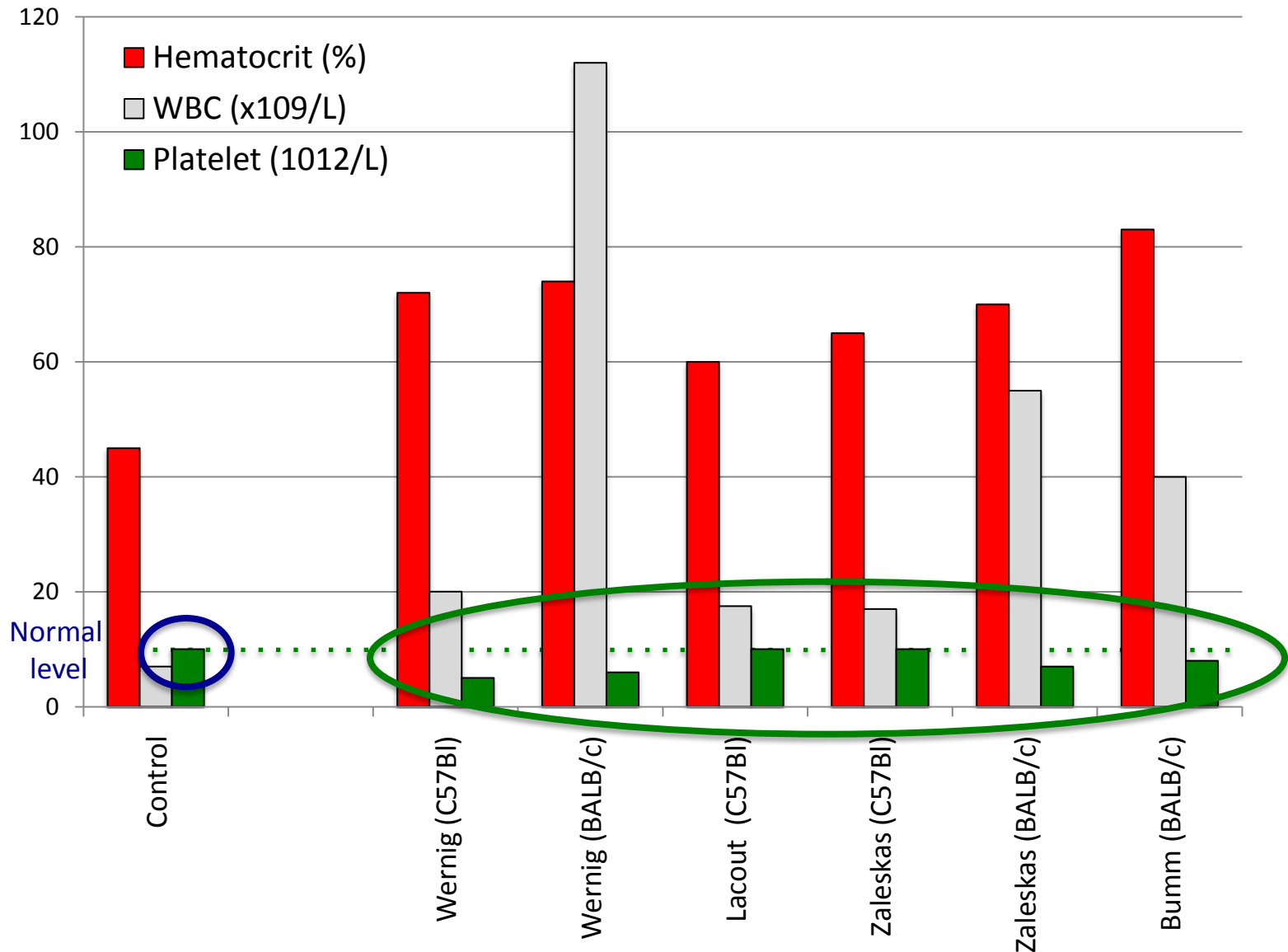
Retroviral models

All demonstrated high / rapid erythrocytosis



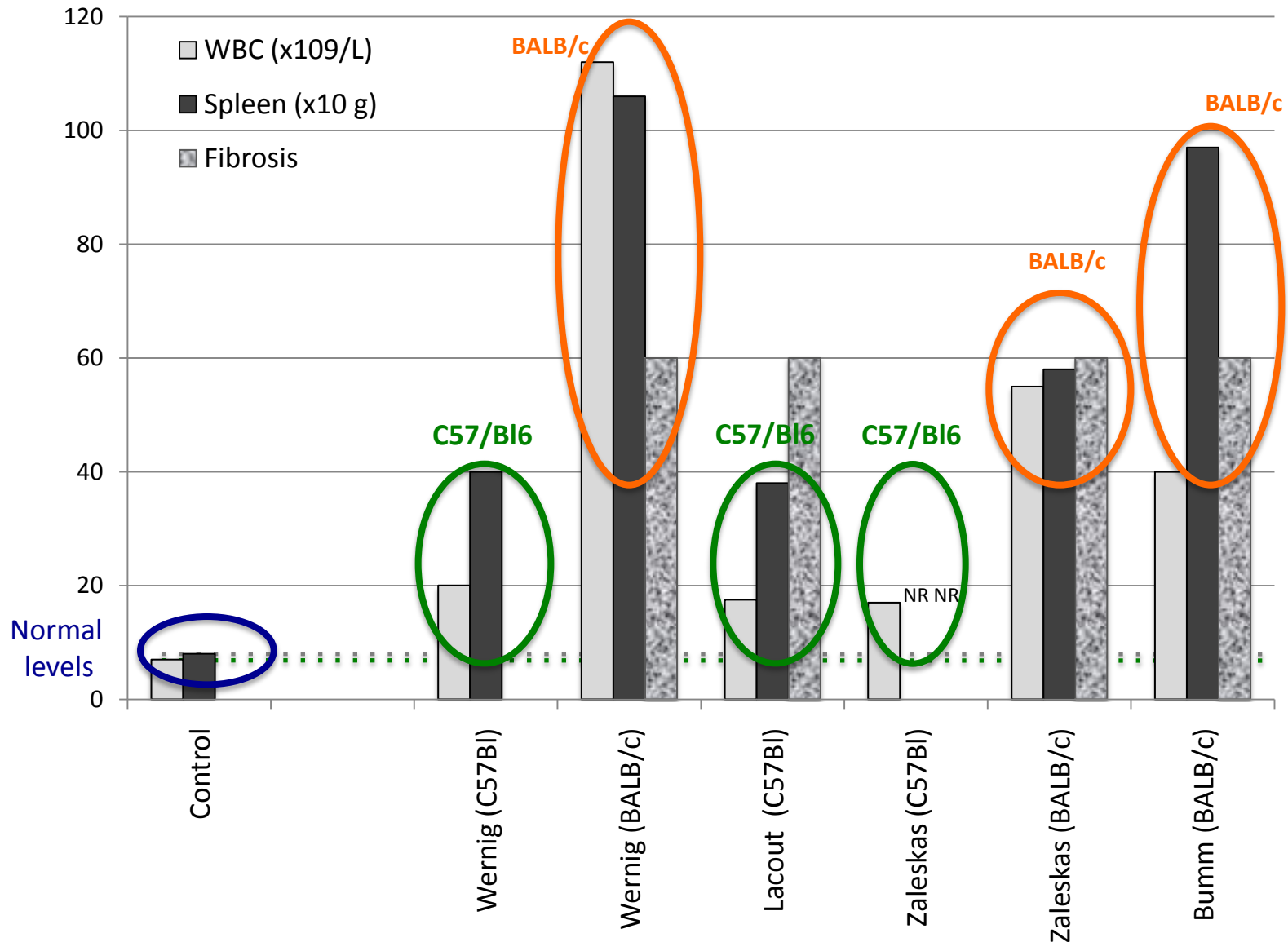
Retroviral models

Normal platelet levels



Retroviral models

Levels of myeloid hyperplasia and fibrosis depended on the mouse strains

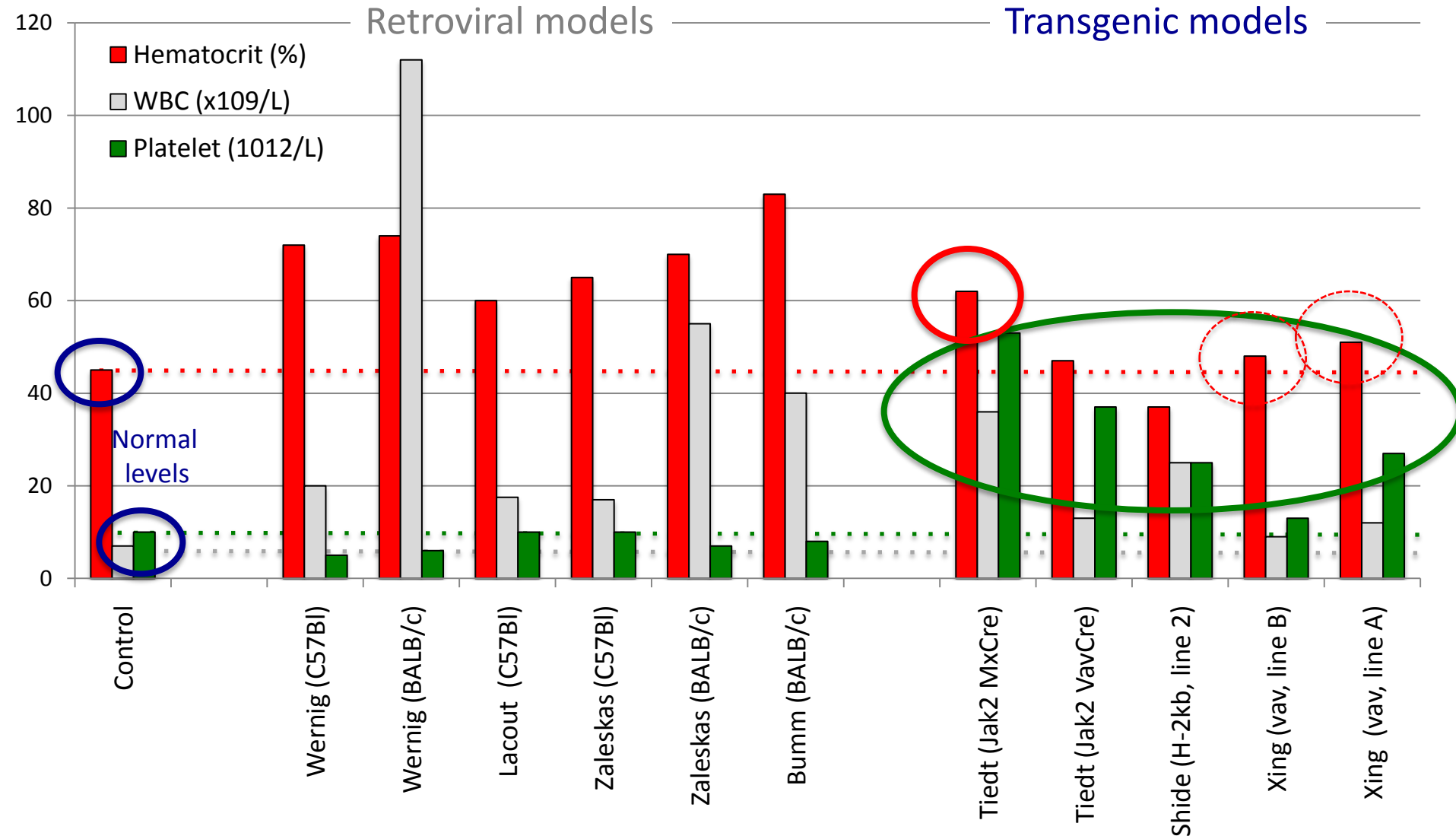


Conclusions

- 1) Direct contribution of JAK2^{V617F} to pathogenesis of human PV
- 2) Genetic modifiers are involved in the diversity of JAK2^{V617F}-positive MPN.
- 1) High sustained JAK2^{V617F} expression is sufficient for myelofibrosis. Fibrosis is the “natural” evolution of the disease without the need of an additional defect.
- 1) High JAK2^{V617F} expression does not induce high platelet level (no ET-phenotype)

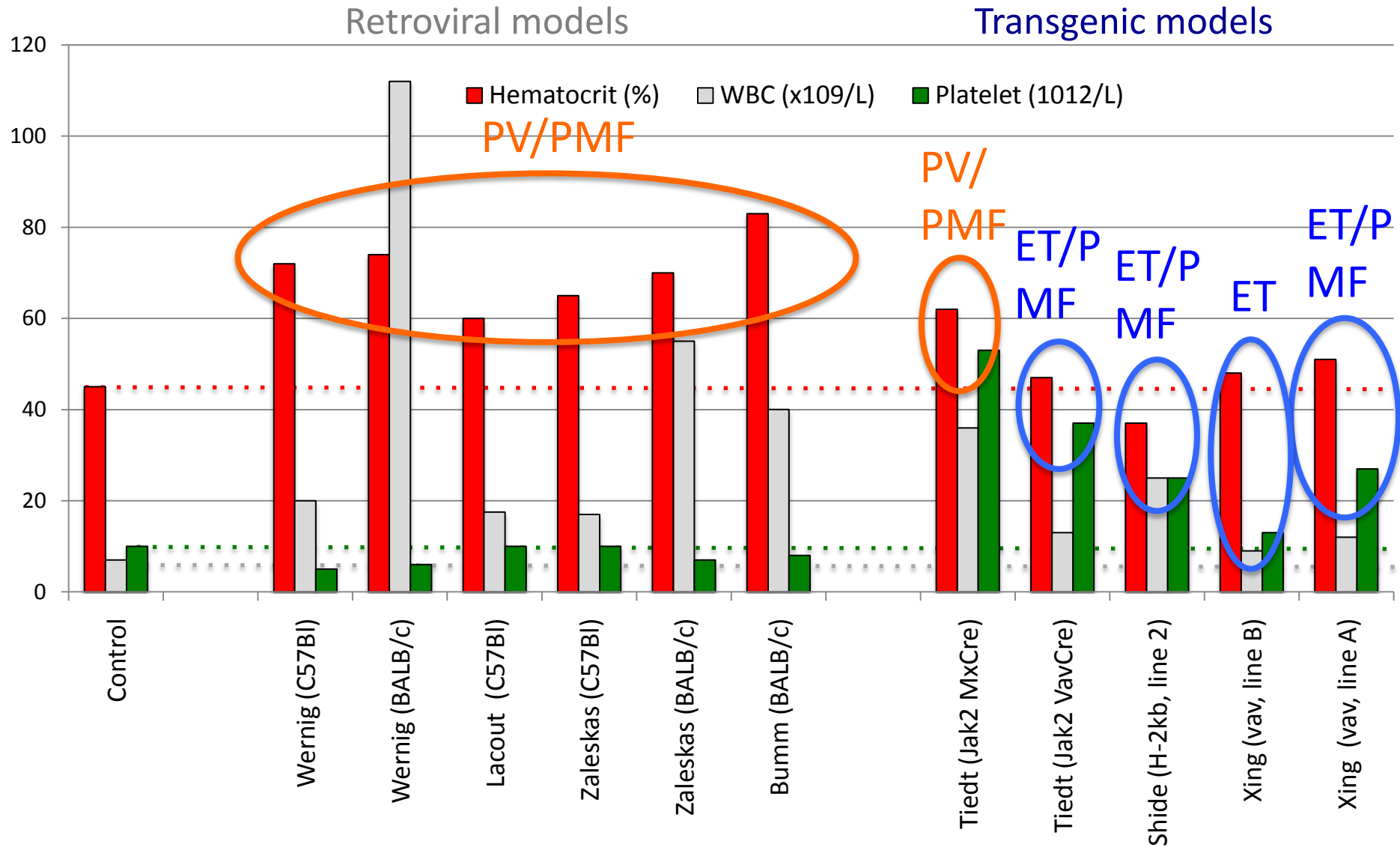
Transgenic models

In contrast to RV models, most TG models developed thrombocytopenia with mild or no polycythemia



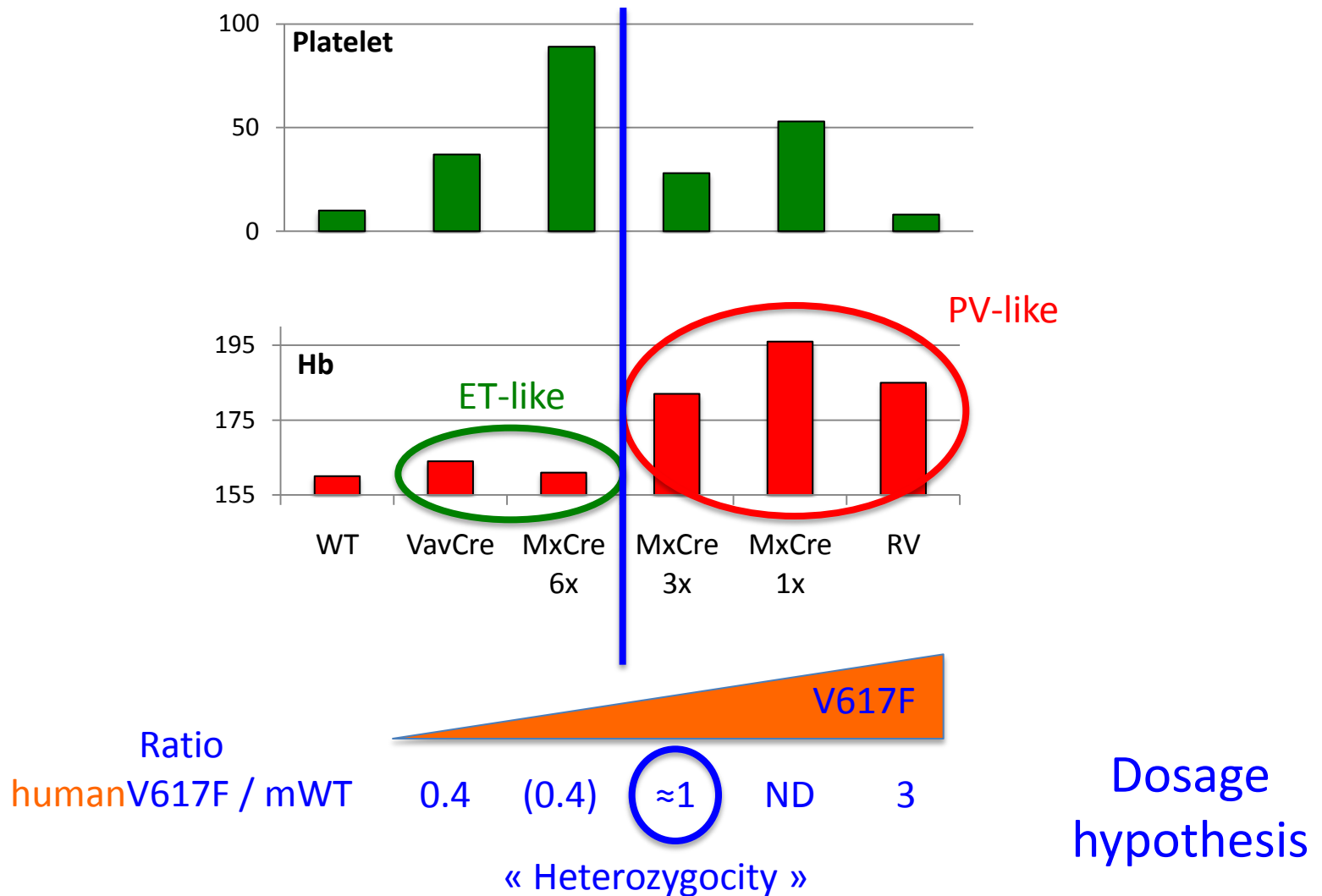
Transgenic models

Most develop ET or «fruste ET»-like phenotypes



MPD phenotypes in TG mice depend on the V617F/WT ratio

(Tiedt et al. Blood 2008)



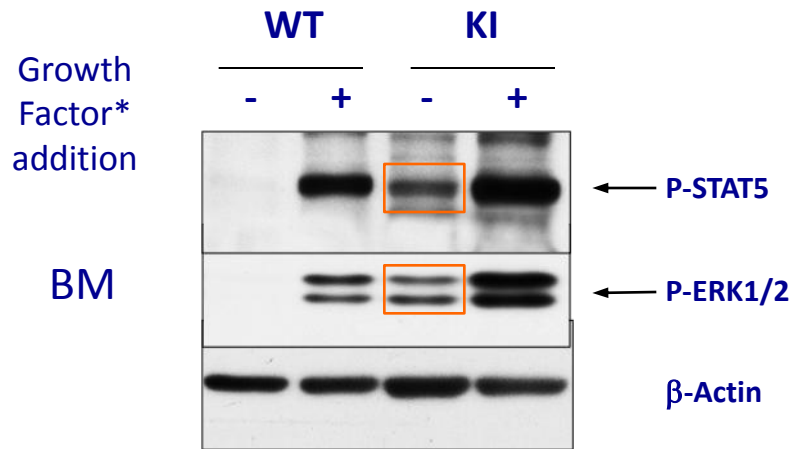
KI models

Given the crucial ratio $JAK2^{V617F} / JAK2^{WT}$ in disease phenotype, KI models seem mandatory to faithfully model the human disease

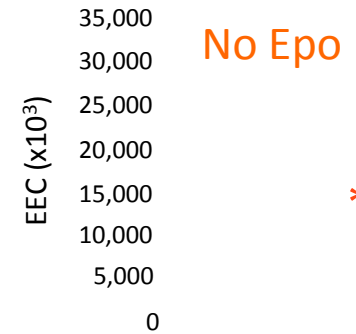
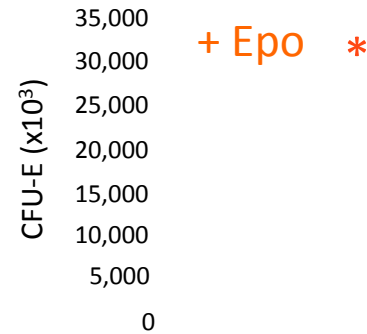
1) Constitutive KI * (Germline) => inherited MPN

2) Conditional KI (Cre-dependent) => acquired MPN

Constitutive KI

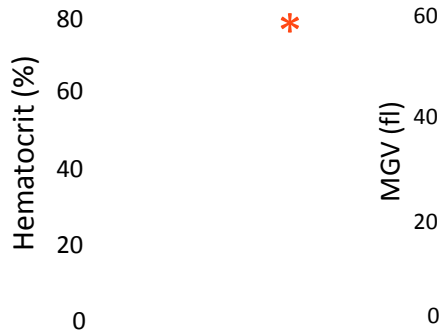


Constitutive activation
JAK/Stat pathway

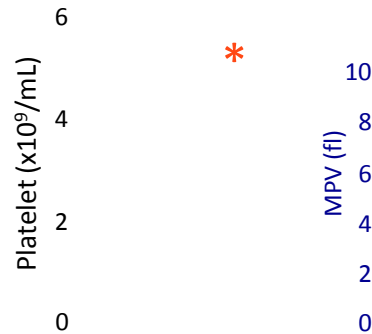


Autonomous growth of CFU-E

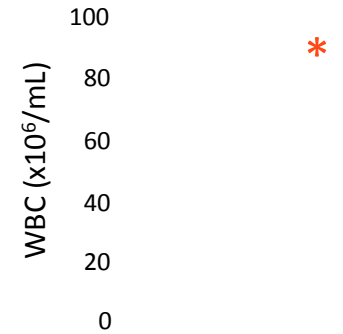
□ WT
■ KI



Erythrocytosis
(microcytosis)



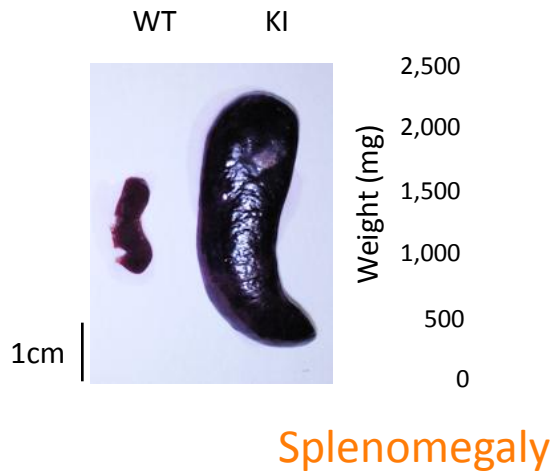
Thrombocytopenia
(large platelets)



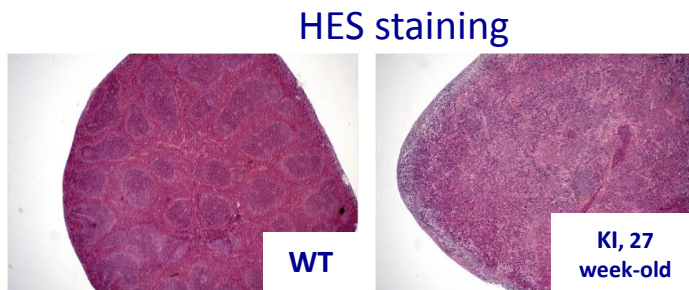
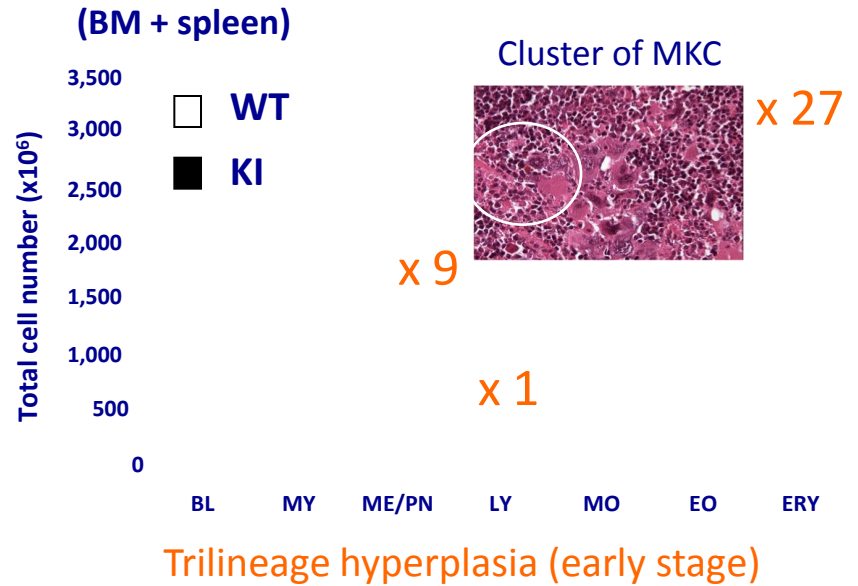
Leucocytosis

- n=11
- 12±2 weeks of age

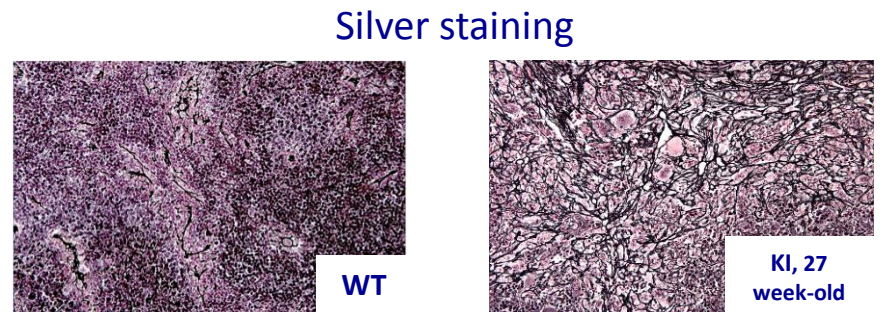
Constitutive KI



*



Spreading of the red pulp (myeloid)



Grade I

**Grade III
Fibrosis (late stage)**

Conclusions

Heterozygous expression of JAK2^{V617F} results in a PV-like disease
followed by secondary myelofibrosis

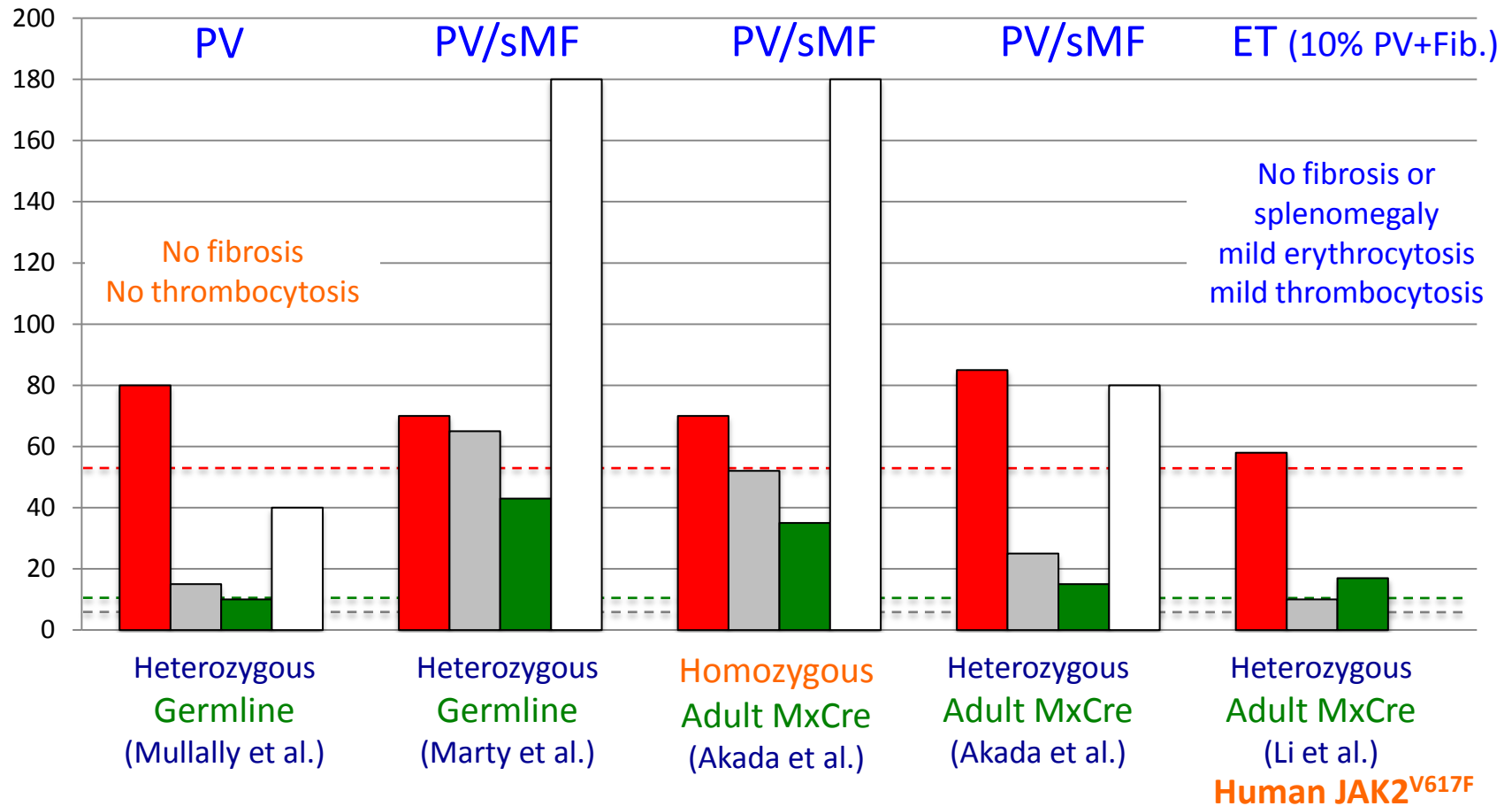
≈

Opposite to what is expected from patient studies where
heterozygosity is usually associated with ET and not PV

Different KI models

(C57 or C57/129Sv mixed background)

- Hematocrit (%)
- WBC (x10⁹/L)
- Platelet (10¹²/L)
- Spleen (x10 g)



No change in LSK
“Minor competitive advantage”
(LSK/myeloid)

2-3-fold increase in LSK

Stem cell impairment

Some lessons from animal models

- Heterozygous expression of mJAK2^{V617F} does not lead to ET-phenotype.

Reason unknown, species differences?

- JAK2^{V617F} confers a minor competitive advantage to stem cells

Fits well with a disease appearing late in human life

Would a single stem cell expressing JAK2^{V617F} compete with normal hematopoiesis?

How long will it take for disease appearance?

- JAK2^{V617F} is sufficient for phenotype pleiotropy of MPN (PV / ET and MF) depending on gene dosage and genetic background

Why would other genetic defects be required for MPN?

⇒ For JAK2^{V617F} occurrence in human (initiating/"mutator")

⇒ For clonal dominance if JAK2^{V617F} works differently in human than in mice

=> For accelerating the disease (TET2, EZH2 or ASXL1 frequent in human PMF)

➔ Novel animal models combining JAK2^{V617F} and others defects are needed

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