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Kevin J. Verstrepen serves as a professor in Genetics and Genomics at Leuven University (KU Leuven), director of the VIB – KU Leuven Center for Microbiology and Guest Professor at Tianjin Institute for Industrial Microbiology. His team uses the brewer's yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* to study the molecular mechanisms underlying rapid phenotypic and genetic adaptation. In addition, his lab uses a systems approach to generate superior industrial yeasts for various applications in traditional and precision fermentation, including production of fermented foods and beverages, biofuels, enzymes, flavor compounds, antibodies and fine chemicals.