Active Networks

T. M. Murali

August 20, 2008

Motivation: Manual Systems Biology

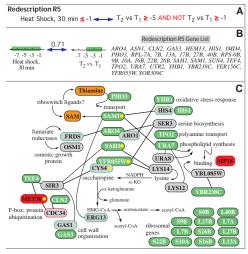
- ▶ Biologists want to study a favourite stress, e.g., oxidative stress or desiccation tolerance.
- Measure gene expression, apply clustering algorithms, and find genes whose expression level change in response to the stress.

August 20, 2008 **Active Networks**

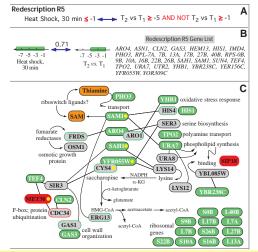
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- ▶ Biologists want to study a favourite stress, e.g., oxidative stress or desiccation tolerance.
- ► Measure gene expression, apply clustering algorithms, and find genes whose expression level change in response to the stress.
- ► Trace genes by hand through databases of protein-protein interactions, gene regulatory networks, metabolic pathways, PubMed searches to build networks activated in response to the stress.

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Can we automate this process?

S. cerevisiae Wiring Diagram

- ► Physical network
 - ► 15,429 protein-protein interactions from the Database of Interacting Proteins (DIP).
 - ▶ 5869 protein-DNA interactions (Lee et al., Science, 2002).
 - ▶ 6,306 metabolic interactions (proteins operate on at least common metabolite) based on KEGG.
- ► Genetic network
 - ▶ 4,125 synthetically lethal/sick interactions (Tong et al., Science, 2004).
 - ▶ 687 synthetically lethal interactions (MIPS).
- ➤ Overall network has 32,416 (27,604 physical and 4,812 genetic) interactions between 5601 proteins (Kelley and Ideker, Nature Biotech., 2005).

Challenges in Utilising the Wiring Diagram

- ▶ Networks are large; they contain tens of thousands of interactions.
- ► High-throughput experiments contain many errors.
- ▶ Networks are incomplete; experiments are expensive and have biases.

Challenges in Utilising the Wiring Diagram

- Networks are large; they contain tens of thousands of interactions.
- ► High-throughput experiments contain many errors.
- ▶ Networks are incomplete; experiments are expensive and have biases.
- ▶ A biologist wants to explore and analyse system of interest.
- ▶ How do we zoom into the appropriate parts of the wiring diagram?

Active Networks

Murali and Rivera, Journal of Computational Biology, 2008

Active Network: network of interactions activated in response to a stress or in a particular condition.

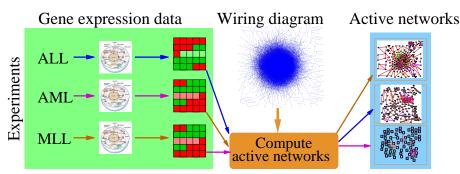
▶ Overlay molecular profile for a particular stress on wiring diagram to obtain active network for that stress.

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- Overlay molecular profile for a particular stress on wiring diagram to obtain active network for that stress.
- ▶ Why does the SAMBA approach not solve this problem?



Related Research

- Discovering regulatory and signalling circuits in molecular interaction networks, Ideker et al. ISMB 2002.
- ▶ Discovering molecular pathways from protein interaction and gene expression data, Segal, Wang, and Koller, ISMB 2003.
- ► Computational discovery of gene modules and regulatory networks, Bar-Joseph et al., Nature Biotechnology, November 2003.
- Revealing modularity and organization in the yeast molecular network by integrated analysis of highly heterogeneous genomewide data, Tanay et al., PNAS, March 2004.
- ► Evidence for dynamically organized modularity in the yeast protein-protein interaction network, Han et al., Nature, July 2004.
- ► Genomic analysis of regulatory network dynamics reveals large toplogical changes, Luscombe et al., Nature, October 2004.
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We find the most highly active subnetwork.

Defining Highly-Active Subnetworks

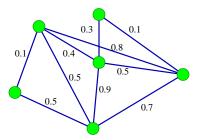
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Defining Highly-Active Subnetworks

- ▶ How do we measure the activity/weight of a subnetwork?
- Sum or average of edge weights?
- ► The *density* of a network with *n* nodes is the total weight of the edges divided by *n*.
- Problem: Compute the subnetwork with highest density.

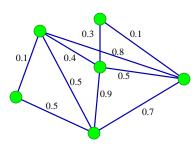


Computing Most Dense Subnetwork

- \triangleright $O(n^3)$ time network flow-based approach gives optimal result (Gallo, Grigoriadis, Tarjan, SIAM J. Comp. 1989).
- ► Can also be solved by linear programming.

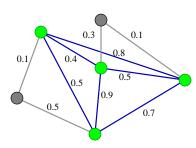
Computing Most Dense Subnetwork

- Greedy algorithm:
 - ► Weight of a node ≡ total weight of incident edges.
 - Repeatedly delete nodes with the smallest weight.
 - Keep track of density of remaining network.
 - ▶ Return the most dense subnetwork.



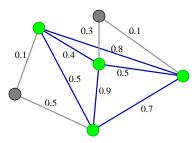
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Computing Most Dense Subnetwork

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 - Weight of a node ≡ total weight of incident edges.
 - Repeatedly delete nodes with the smallest weight.
 - Keep track of density of remaining network.
 - ▶ Return the most dense subnetwork.
- Computed subnetwork is at least half as dense as the most dense subnetwork (Charikar, Proc. APPROX, 2000).



Computing Multiple Dense Subnetworks

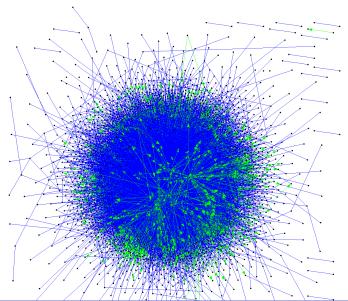
- Repeat
 - 1. Apply greedy algorithm to compute most dense subnetwork.
 - 2. Remove edges of computed subnetwork from the network.
- ▶ Until remaining network has density less than the original network.
- ▶ Output is a sequence of decreasingly dense subnetworks that can share nodes but not edges.

Advantages of Dense Subnetworks

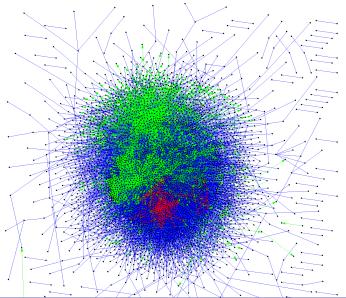
- Uses no parameters.
- ▶ Avoid inclusion of interactions that appear active due to noise.
- Relatively weakly correlated interactions can reinforce each other.

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Example of an Active Network



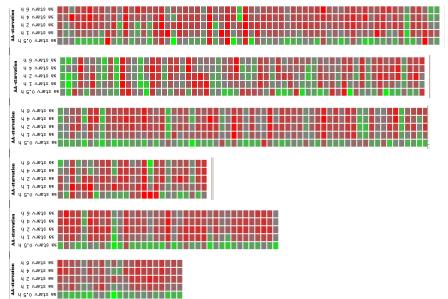
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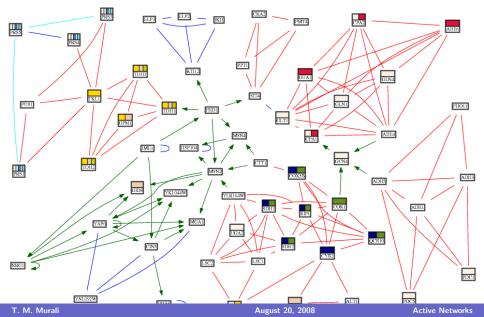
Further Analysis of an Active Network

- Visualise the network (Graphviz package) and the gene expression profiles.
- Measure functional enrichment.
 - Use hypergeometric distribution to calculate the significance of functions enriched in an active network.
 - ▶ Use Bonferroni correction to adjust for testing multiple hypotheses.

AA Starvation: Conventional Analysis



AA Starvation: Active Network



Active Modules

Discovering regulatory and signalling circuits in molecular interaction networks, Ideker et al. ISMB 2002. (Available as plugin for Cytoscape.)

- ▶ Suppose for each gene, we have a *p*-value that indicates the degree of differential expression of that gene?
- ▶ How do we utilise *p*-value to compute active networks?

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- ▶ Convert each *p*-value into a *z*-score: $z(g) = N^{-1}(p(g))$.
- ▶ Define score for a network that combines these z-scores.
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- ▶ Suppose G = (V, E) is a network of interactions.

$$z(G) = \frac{\sum_{v \in V} z(v)}{\sqrt{|V|}}$$

Concerns with Previous Approaches

- Wiring diagrams are very incomplete.
- ▶ How does incompleteness affect the results provided by the previous algorithms?

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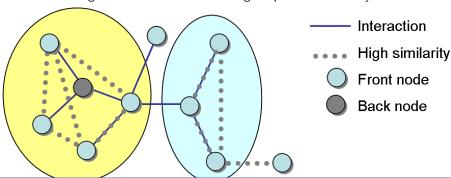
Concerns with Previous Approaches

- ▶ Wiring diagrams are very incomplete.
- ► How does incompleteness affect the results provided by the previous algorithms?
- ► Can we compute active networks even though wiring diagrams are incomplete?

The MATISSE Algorithm

Identification of functional modules using network topology and high-throughput data. Ulitsky and Shamir, BMC Systems Biology, 2007.

- ▶ Use wiring diagram as a constraint network and gene expression data to measure similarity between genes.
 - 1. Convert gene expression data into similarities between pairs of genes.
 - 2. Find connected sub-networks (modules) of the wiring diagram such that genes in the module have high expression similarity.



MATISSE on Human Cell Cycle Arrest Data

