Supplementary Material: Robust gene coexpression networks using signed distance correlation

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1 Rhizobium leguminosarum expression data

Table S1 provides the details of the gene expression data employed to generate the gene coexpression networks for R. leguminosarum. We used 54 different microarrays obtained under 18 conditions (first column). The second column indicates the growth condition of the bacteria; for example, "7 days pea, 1 day PI" stands for inoculation of seven days old pea plant sampled one day post-inoculation. The last column indicates the type of sample, which can be "Free-living" (bacteria grown in liquid culture), "Rhizosphere" (bacteria isolated from the fraction of soil in contact with the plant), or "Bacteroid" (bacteria that have infected the plant and differentiated). This data has been published previously [8, 6, 3] but never analysed jointly.

| Microarrays (channels) | Growth condition | Type |
|---|---|-------------|
| kk21 (Cy3), kk41 (Cy5), kk45 (Cy3) | Succinate NH_4 | Free-living |
| Jay10 (Cy5), Jay11 (Cy5), Jay12 (Cy3) | Glucose Glutamate | Free-living |
| Jay10 (Cy3), Jay11 (Cy3), Jay12 (Cy5) | Glucose Aspartate | Free-living |
| kk46 (Cy3), kk48 (Cy3), kk50 (Cy3) | Pyruvate NH_4 | Free-living |
| Vinoy43 (Cy5), Vinoy44 (Cy5), Vinoy45 (Cy3) | Pyruvate NH ₄ Hespertin | Free-living |
| Ade7 (Cy3), Ade9 (Cy3), Ade18 (Cy5) | Pyruvate NH ₄ IAA | Free-living |
| Ade8 (Cy5), Ade11 (Cy3), Ade15 (Cy5) | Pyruvate NH ₄ Kinetin | Free-living |
| kk39 (Cy5), kk43 (Cy5), kk51 (Cy3) | Inositol NH_4 | Free-living |
| Vinoy26 (Cy5), Vinoy31 (Cy5), Vinoy34 (Cy3) | 7 days pea, 1 day PI | Rhizosphere |
| Vinoy27 (Cy5), Vinoy32 (Cy5), Vinoy35 (Cy3) | 7 days pea, 3 day PI | Rhizosphere |
| Vinoy28 (Cy5), Vinoy33 (Cy5), Vinoy36 (Cy3) | 7 days pea, 7 day PI | Rhizosphere |
| Vinoy29 (Cy5), Vinoy37 (Cy5), Vinoy39 (Cy3) | 14 days pea, 1 day PI | Rhizosphere |
| Vinoy30 (Cy5), Vinoy38 (Cy5), Vinoy40 (Cy3) | $21~{\rm days}$ pea, $1~{\rm day}~{\rm PI}$ | Rhizosphere |
| kk67 (Cy5), kk71 (Cy3), kk72 (Cy5) | 1 week pea, 7 days PI | Bacteroid |
| kk65 (Cy5), kk68 (Cy3), kk69 (Cy3) | 1 week pea, 15 days PI | Bacteroid |
| kk73 (Cy5), kk74 (Cy3), kk75 (Cy5) | 1 week pea, 21 days PI | Bacteroid |
| kk64 (Cy5), Vinoy22 (Cy3), Vinoy24 (Cy3) | 1week pe a, 28 days PI | Bacteroid |
| kk70 (Cy5), kk60 (Cy3), kk61 (Cy5) | Vetch seed, 28 days PI | Bacteroid |

Table 1: Rhizobium leguminosarum gene expression data description

2 Spearman correlation networks for *R. leguminosarum*

We construct a Spearman correlation matrix R from the pre-processed gene expression matrix M^* by computing the Spearman correlation between every pair of gene expression vectors. We threshold R to construct two networks $NR(d_S)$ and $NR(d_P)$ with edge density d_S and d_P , respectively. Similarly to the networks obtained using Pearson correlation $NP(d_S)$ and $NP(d_P)$, the ones based on Spearman correlation have a larger and less densely connected largest connected component than $NS(d_S)$ and $NS(d_P)$. The summaries of these two networks can be found in Table S2. We evaluate the Spearman networks using STRING as described in the paper. The results obtained are higher than the obtained by the Pearson correlation networks but lower than those using signed distance correlation. Table S3 and Figure S1 show the results of the STRING evaluation for the Spearman networks.

| Network | Number of Edges | Number of vertices in LCC | Edge density LCC * 100 | Global clustering coeff. LCC |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\overline{NR(d_S)}$ | 313,348 | 6,664 | 1.41 | 0.515 |
| $NR(d_P)$ | $406,\!977$ | $6,\!831$ | 1.34 | 0.515 |

 Table 2: Summaries of Spearman networks for R. leguminosarum

 LCC Denotes largest connected component.

| Network | All of STRING information (C) | Only coexpression information (C^{\dagger}) | All information except coexpression (C^{\ddagger}) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| $\overline{NR(d_S)}$ | 8,936,856 | 2,715,646 | 7,994,795 |
| $NR(d_P)$ | $10,\!488,\!856$ | 3,003,020 | $9,\!422,\!007$ |

Table 3: Evaluation of the biological content of the Spearman networks with STRING



Figure 1: Scores obtained for the *R. leguminosarum* gene coexpression networks using STRING. All panels show the score for the different networks in the y-axis, and the network density on the x-axis. The scores are the result of adding up the confidence scores with all evidence (C), only coexpression evidence (C^{\dagger}) and everything excluding coexpression (C^{\ddagger}) from STRING associated with the edges in the networks, each computed using different of information. The black box plots correspond to the scores obtained by 30 random networks. Blue circles, red triangles and yellow squares represent signed distance correlation, Pearson correlation and Spearman correlation, respectively.

3 Gene coexpression network analysis for the study of Yeast RNA-Seq data

We use our signed correlation pipeline to generate a gene coexpression network from a dataset obtained using RNA-Seq of yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) expressing pathways designed to increase ATP or GTP consumption. We obtain all the raw-counts for experiment E-MTAB-5174 in Expression Atlas [5] and remove the genes with zero expression variance. The final dataset which we feed into our pipeline includes the expression of 6,930 genes across 209 samples.

Following the pipeline described in the methodology section, we pre-process the data and obtain the distance correlation matrix D, the Pearson correlation matrix P, the signed correlation matrix S, and the matrix |P| of absolute values of the Pearson correlation. Table S4 and Figure S2 show the summaries and distribution of these matrices.

| Correlation matrix | Min | 1st q | Median | 3rd q | Max | Mean |
|--------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|------|------|
| D | 0.00 | 0.26 | 0.40 | 0.57 | 1.00 | 0.42 |
| P | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.30 | 0.51 | 1.00 | 0.34 |
| P | -0.96 | -0.29 | 0.00 | 0.31 | 1.00 | 0.01 |
| S | -0.97 | -0.39 | -0.05 | 0.40 | 1.00 | 0.01 |

Table 4: Summaries for the correlation matrices of the Yeast dataset



Figure 2: Density plots of the distribution of the values of the correlation matrices from the Yeast dataset. Panel A shows the distribution of values in the distance correlation matrix (blue) and of the absolute value of the values in the Pearson correlation matrix (red). Panel B shows the distribution of values in the signed distance correlation matrix (blue) and of the values in the Pearson correlation matrix (red).

We estimate the optimal threshold values θ^* and θ^* to construct the unweighted gene coexpression networks $A_S(\theta^*)$ and $A_P(\theta^*)$ using COGENT [2]. We follow our pipeline to calculate the selfconsistency of the networks. We adjust the similarity score by subtracting the network density. Fig S3 shows the variation of the score function for the correlation matrices across different edge densities. For both signed distance correlation and Pearson correlation, there is a edge density value for which the score function reaches its maximum. This value is $d_S = 0.0131$ for the signed distance correlation (score of 0.746, which is achieved for $\theta^* = 0.84$) and $d_P = 0.0146$ for the Pearson correlation (score of 0.733, which is achieved for $\theta^* = 0.81$). The results show that the use of signed distance correlation offers more stable networks. However, the difference between the performance of the two studied correlations is lower than the observed in the study of *R. leguminosarum*. We analyse the networks $NS(d_S)$ (edge density d_S) and $NS(d_P)$ (edge density d_P) retrieved from *S*, the networks $NP(d_S)$ (edge density d_S) and $NP(d_P)$ (edge density d_P) retrieved from *P*, and the networks $NR(d_S)$ (edge density d_S) and $NR(d_P)$ (edge density d_P) obtained using Spearman correlation. The summaries of the six networks are detailed in Table S5.



Yeast networks score function

Figure 3: Score function values for different edge densities using the Yeast dataset. The blue line with circles shows the scores obtained using signed distance correlation and the red line with triangles those obtained using Pearson correlation. The dotted lines indicate the position of the highest score point for each line. This value is 0.746 for the signed distance correlation network (giving edge density 0.0131 which is achieved with $\theta^* = 0.84$) and 0.733 for the Pearson correlation network (giving edge density 0.0146 which is achieved with $\theta^* = 0.81$).

We evaluate the six networks using STRING [9]. We use the three different sets of confidence scores: obtained using all the evidence in STRING (C), obtained using only coexpression information (C^{\dagger}) , and obtained using all the evidence except the coexpression information (C^{\ddagger}) . Table S6 and Figure S4 present the results. For all the studied cases, the results obtained using the signed distance correlation networks are the highest. Unlike with the *R. leguminosarum* dataset, the Pearson correlation networks perform better than the Spearman correlation networks. In fact, the results for the signed distance correlation and Pearson correlation are almost identical (as in the case of the self-consistency study).

| Network | Number of Edges | Number of vertices in LCC | Edge density LCC * 100 | Global clustering coeff. LCC |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\overline{NS(d_S)}$ | 314,771 | $3,\!987$ | 3.91 | 0.651 |
| $NS(d_P)$ | $350,\!549$ | 4,154 | 4.02 | 0.607 |
| $NP(d_S)$ | 314,771 | $4,\!497$ | 3.07 | 0.431 |
| $NP(d_P)$ | $350,\!549$ | $4,\!615$ | 3.25 | 0.516 |
| $NR(d_S)$ | 314,771 | 5,060 | 2.39 | 0.578 |
| $NR(d_P)$ | $350,\!549$ | $5,\!117$ | 2.44 | 0.578 |

Table 5: Summaries of yeast networks. LCC denotes largest connected component.

These results suggest that a high similarity in the self-consistency of the networks may imply a similarity in the amount of biological information that the networks are able to capture.

We generate 60 random networks of which 30 have edge density d_S and the other 30 have edge density d_P . We evaluate these networks with the STRING information and find that the six networks in Table S5 outperform all of them. The highest difference to random is obtained for signed distance correlation networks when using only coexpression information (C^{\dagger}) to evaluate the networks; for $NS(d_S)$ the score is 17.69 times higher than the mean score obtained by random networks with matching densities.

| Network | All of STRING information (C) | Only coexpression information (C^{\dagger}) | All information except coexpression (C^{\ddagger}) |
|----------------------|--|---|---|
| $\overline{NS(d_S)}$ | $36,\!941,\!775$ | $26,\!763,\!561$ | $21,\!135,\!268$ |
| $NP(d_S)$ | 36,610,618 | 26,706,960 | $20,\!873,\!493$ |
| $NR(d_S)$ | $23,\!557,\!830$ | $15,\!143,\!418$ | $15,\!889,\!580$ |
| RE d_S | 4,412,687 + 43 162 | 1,512,629 | 3,741,742 + 36,640 |
| $\overline{NS(d_P)}$ | <u>39,013,837</u> | 27,935,541 | 22,642,609 |
| $NP(d_P)$ | 38,609,494 | 27,822,217 | 22,310,410 |
| $NR(d_P)$ | $25,\!395,\!572$ | $16,\!143,\!245$ | 17,243,212 |
| RE d_P | $\begin{array}{c} 4,916,218 \\ \pm \ 50,112 \end{array}$ | $1,678,870 \\ \pm 24,502$ | $4,174,943 \\ \pm 46,196$ |

Table 6: Evaluation of the biological content of the networks with STRING. RE indicates the expected (mean) result based on random networks with the indicated edge density and its standard deviation.

We conclude that the Yeast gene coexpression networks obtained using signed distance correlation are more stable and recover more biological information than those based on Pearson correlation or Spearman correlation.



Figure 4: Scores obtained for the yeast gene coexpression networks using STRING. All panels show the score for the different networks in the y-axis, and the network density on the x-axis. The scores are the result of adding up the confidence scores from STRING associated with the edges in the networks. Each plot corresponds to a different set of values: using all evidence C, only coexpression evidence C^{\dagger} and excluding coexpression evidence C^{\ddagger} . The black box plots correspond to the scores obtained by 30 random networks. Blue circles, red triangles and yellow squares represent signed distance correlation, Pearson correlation and Spearman correlation, respectively.

4 Gene coexpression network analysis for the study of human liver single-cell RNA-Seq data

We use our signed correlation pipeline to generate a gene coexpression network from a dataset obtained using single-cell RNA-Seq of human liver cells [4]. The original dataset measures the expression of 15,353 genes in 1,622 cells.

This dataset is considerably different from the previous two, both in the data itself – the measurements correspond to different cells instead of to different samples – and the organism – while both *R. leguminosarum* and *S. cerevisiae* are unicellular organisms, humans are not. Hence, a considerable proportion of genes are not expressed in the studied cells (for example, specific genes in neurons will not be expressed in cells from liver). For this reason, we employ a different pre-processing strategy in this case. In the first place, we quantile-normalise the data [1] to make the measurements in the different cells comparable. Afterwards, as in [7], we identify the "non-changing genes". These genes are those for which the difference between its highest and lowest expression value ("expression difference") is lower than the median of all the expression differences calculated for each gene, and in addition for which the mean expression signal between samples is lower than the median of all the expression signals calculated for each gene. After removing the "non-changing genes" we obtain an already quantile-normalised dataset with information for 8,585 genes. We do not apply more preprocessing steps to this dataset (we do not quantile normalise again the data and we do not set the lowest expressed genes from each sample to the lowest expression value).

We calculate the distance correlation matrix (D), the Pearson correlation matrix (P), the signed correlation matrix (S), and the matrix |P| of absolute values of the Pearson correlation. Table S7 and Figure S5 show the summaries and distribution of these matrices.

| Correlation matrix | Min | 1st q | Median | 3rd q | Max | Mean |
|--------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|------|------|
| D | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.88 | 0.04 |
| P | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.91 | 0.02 |
| P | -0.63 | -0.02 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.91 | 0.00 |
| S | -0.71 | -0.03 | -0.02 | 0.04 | 0.88 | 0.00 |

Table 7: Summaries for the correlation matrices of the single-cell dataset from human liver

We estimate the optimal threshold values θ^* and θ^* to construct unweighted gene coexpression networks $A_S(\theta^*)$ and $A_P(\theta^*)$ using COGENT [2]. We follow a similar pipeline as the one employed in the case of R. lequminosarum to calculate and adjust the self-consistency of the networks. The only difference is that as the input expression matrix is already quantile-normalised and low expressed genes have already been filtered out, in each of the 25 iterations the pre-processing steps are omitted. Figure S6 shows the variation of the score function for the correlation matrices across different edge densities. In both cases, there is a edge density value for which the score function reaches its maximum. This value is $d_S = 0.00009$ for the signed distance correlation (score of 0.896, which is achieved for $\theta^* = 0.44$) and $d_P = 0.000089$ for the Pearson correlation (score of 0.781, which is achieved for θ^* = 0.43). The results show that for all tested edge densities, the use of signed distance correlation offers more stable networks. We analyse the networks $NS(d_P)$ (edge density d_S) and $NS(d_P)$ (edge density d_P) retrieved from S, the networks $NP(d_S)$ (edge density d_S) and $NP(d_P)$ (edge density d_P) retrieved from P. We also construct two networks from a correlation matrix obtained using Spearman correlation: $NR(d_S)$ (edge density d_S) and $NR(d_P)$ (edge density d_P). The summaries of the six networks are detailed in Table S8. We note that the largest connected components of the networks contain a lower proportion of the total vertices than in previous datasets. The networks obtained using signed distance correlation have a smaller and denser largest connected component than those obtained using Pearson correlation. In contrast to the two previous datasets, the largest connected component of the networks obtained using Spearman correlation is smaller and denser than those from signed distance correlation and Pearson correlation networks; however, the signed distance correlation networks still have the highest global clustering coefficient.

Similarly as for the two previous datasets, we evaluate the constructed networks using three sets of



Figure 5: Density plots of the distribution of the values of the correlation matrices from the Yeast dataset. Panel A shows the distribution of values in the distance correlation matrix (blue) and of the absolute value of the values in the Pearson correlation matrix (red). Panel B shows the distribution of values in the signed distance correlation matrix (blue) and of the values in the Pearson correlation matrix (red).

| Network | Number of Edges | Number of vertices in LCC | Edge density LCC * 100 | Global clustering coeff. LCC |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| $\overline{NS(d_S)}$ | 3320 | 212 | 14.61 | 0.87 |
| $NS(d_P)$ | 3279 | 210 | 14.71 | 0.87 |
| $NP(d_S)$ | 3320 | 219 | 12.42 | 0.83 |
| $NP(d_P)$ | 3279 | 216 | 12.62 | 0.83 |
| $NR(d_S)$ | 3320 | 161 | 25.54 | 0.81 |
| $NR(d_P)$ | 3279 | 160 | 25.54 | 0.81 |

Table 8: Summaries of single cell human liver networks.LCC denotes largest connected component.

confidence values obtained from STRING. We also evaluate 60 random networks with edge densities d_S (30 networks) and d_P (30 networks). Table S9 and Figure S7 show the results. The networks obtained using Spearman correlation get a higher score than the Pearson ones when evaluating them using exclusively the coexpression information from STRING (C^{\dagger}), whereas the situation is the reverse in the two other scenarios (C and C^{\ddagger}). Overall, the networks obtained using signed distance correlation $NS(d_S)$ and $NS(d_P)$ retrieve a higher score than their competitors based on either Pearson or Spearman correlation. This result suggest that among the assessed methods, signed distance correlation captures the broadest range of biological information, which makes it a tool of choice to generating gene coexpression networks. All the analysed networks obtain a higher score than the random ones. The highest difference to random is obtained for signed distance correlation networks when using only coexpression information (C^{\dagger}) to evaluate the networks; for $NS(d_P)$ the score is 92.92 times higher than the mean score obtained by random networks with matching densities; for $NS(d_S)$ it is even 94.28 than the corresponding mean score for the random networks.



Figure 6: Plot of the score function values for different edge densities using the human liver single-cell RNA-Seq dataset. The blue line shows the scores obtained using signed distance correlation and the red line those obtained using Pearson correlation. The dotted lines indicate the position of the highest score point for each line. This value is 0.896 for the signed distance correlation network (giving edge density $9.01e^{-05}$ which is achieved with $\theta^* = 0.44$) and 0.781 for the Pearson correlation network (giving edge density $8.90e^{-05}$ which is achieved with $\theta^* = 0.43$).

| Network | All of STRING information (C) | Only coexpression information (C^{\dagger}) | All information except coexpression (C^{\ddagger}) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| $\overline{NS(d_S)}$ | 703,908 | $615,\!363$ | 675,788 |
| $NP(d_S)$ | 651,712 | $563,\!881$ | $624,\!554$ |
| $NR(d_S)$ | 607,793 | $574,\!426$ | $595,\!682$ |
| RE d_S | $22,398 \pm 2,434$ | $\begin{array}{c} 6,527 \\ \pm 971 \end{array}$ | $19,593 \\ \pm 2,430$ |
| $\overline{NS(d_P)}$ | 696,299 | 609,262 | 668,927 |
| $NP(d_P)$ | 645,745 | 560,246 | $619,\!247$ |
| $NR(d_P)$ | 603,929 | $570,\!977$ | $592,\!232$ |
| RE d_P | $223,778 \pm 2,687$ | $\begin{array}{c} 6,557 \\ \pm 1,064 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c}19,\!605\\\pm\ 2,\!552\end{array}$ |

Table 9: Evaluation of the biological content of the networks with STRING. RE indicates the expected (mean) result based on random networks with

the indicated edge density and its standard deviation.

We conclude that the liver gene coexpression networks obtained using signed distance correlation are more stable and show recover more biological information than those based on Pearson correlation and that our signed distance correlation method is suitable for studying single cell gene expression data.



Figure 7: Scores obtained for the single-cell human liver gene coexpression networks using STRING. All panels show the score for the different networks in the y-axis, and the network density on the x-axis. The scores are the result of adding up the confidence scores from STRING associated with the edges in the networks. Each plot corresponds to a different set of values: using all evidence C, only coexpression evidence C^{\dagger} and excluding coexpression evidence C^{\ddagger} . The black box plots correspond to the scores obtained by 30 random networks. Blue circles, red triangles and yellow squares represent signed distance correlation, Pearson correlation and Spearman correlation, respectively.

5 Network evaluation using information from STRING

We use the interactions between proteins reported in STRING to evaluate the amount of biological information that the constructed networks capture. The association evidence in STRING is categorized into independent channels, weighted, and integrated, resulting in a confidence score for all recorded protein interactions. For each organism, we use three different sets of interactions and confidence scores: the overall confidence score C provided by STRING, the C^{\dagger} obtained attending only to coexpression information, and the C^{\ddagger} obtained excluding all coexpression information.

The recomputing of the each of the scores was done using the python script located on the STRING webpage (Figure 8), which was accessed on the 20^{th} of April 2020 using the URL https://string-db. org/cgi/help.pl?&subpage=faq%23how-are-the-scores-computed. The script can be found at the end of this section. We commented out lines 96–98, 100–102 in the script to compute the C^{\dagger} values; and the line 99 in the script to obtain the C^{\ddagger} values.

| rsion: 11.0 | LOGIN | REGIST |
|--|---|-----------|
| STRING | Search Download Help | My Da |
| Search docs | Docs » User documentation » FAQ | |
| łome | | |
| lser documentation | How are the scores computed? | |
| Getting started | non ale the scores compated | |
| Protein window | The combined score is computed by combining the probabilities from the diffe | rent |
| AQ | evidence channels and corrected for the probability of randomly observing an interaction. For a more detailed description places see you Maring, et al. Nucle | die. |
| How are the scores computed? | Acids Res. 2005 | |
| How can I obtain the complete data set? | | |
| How do I change the color of the nodes? | To combine the scores we add the probabilities for each of the channels. To each | :h |
| l am interested in retrieving data of a few particular interaction for my script. How do I go about to get it? | channel, a 'prior' has been added to account for the probability that two rando picked proteins are interacting. Before combing the channels the 'prior' has to removed and then added hack assist to the combined score. Here is how the | mly be |
| How can I save a certain network? | combined score is computed for an interaction. | |
| For my latest manuscript, I would like to use a picture in svg-format produced by STRING. Must I ask for permission? | For each of the scores for the individual channels (s_i) remove the prior (p=0.041): | |
| How to cite STRING? | | |
| How can I trace the origin of the different evidences for an interaction? | s_i _noprior = $(s_i - p) / (1 - p)$ | |
| Which databases does STRING extract experimental data from? | 2. Combine the scores of the channels: | |
| From which databases does STRING extract curated data? | <pre>s_running_total = 1 - s_running_total * (1 - s_i_noprior)</pre> | |
| How do I extract purely experimental data? | 3. Add the prior back (once): | |
| I want to extract PPI for a given species, but only from experimental data and not from transferred from other species | <pre>s_total = s_running_total + p * (1 - s_running_total)</pre> | |
| I want to differentiate physical interactions from functional ones within STRING | In code it would be something like this: | |
| What does the columns in proteins.actions file mean? | s_exp = 0.621 s_txt = 0.585 p = 0.641 | |
| How do I link to STRING networks? | <pre>s_exp_nop = (s_exp - p) / (1 - p) s_txt_nop = (s_txt - p) / (1 - p)</pre> | |
| It is stated that STRING is locus-based and only a single translated protein per locus is stored. What does this mean? | $s_{tot=nop} = 1 - (1 - s_{exp,nop}) * (1 - s_{txt=nop})$ $s_{tot=s_{tot=nop} + p} * (1 - s_{tot=nop})$ Also homology correction is applied to the co-occurrence and text-mining sco | res. |
| Does STRING contain any Gene Ontology information? We see that there is a table called funcats. What type of information does this contain? | effective co-occurrence score = co-occurrence score * (1 - homology score) effective text-mining score = text-mining score * (1 - homology score) | |
| Is there any phenotype information contained in STRING? More specifically, is | If you would like to see the exact algorithm or calculate the combined score yourself you can utilize and modify the follwing python script. | |

Figure 8: STRING FAQ webpage. Accessed on the 20th of April 2020. The content describes how the STRING combines the scores of the different channels. At the end of the section there is the link to the script which was modified and used in this work.

```
1 from __future__ import print_function
2 import os
3 import sys
6 ## This script combines all the STRING's channels subscores
7 ## into the final combined STRING score.
8 ## It uses unpacked protein.links.full.xx.txt.gz as input
9 ## which can be downloaded from the download subpage:
10 ##
          https://string-db.org/cgi/download.pl
12
13 input_file = "9606.protein.links.full.v10.5.txt"
14
15 if not os.path.exists(input_file):
      sys.exit("Can't locate input file %s" % input_file)
16
17
18 \text{ prior} = 0.041
19
20 def compute_prior_away(score, prior):
21
22
      if score < prior: score = prior</pre>
23
      score_no_prior = (score - prior) / (1 - prior)
24
      return score_no_prior
25
26
27 header = True
28 for line in open(input_file):
29
      if header:
30
          header = False
31
          continue
32
33
      l = line.split()
34
35
36
      ## load the line
37
      (protein1, protein2,
38
       neighborhood, neighborhood_transferred,
39
       fusion, cooccurrence,
40
       homology,
41
       coexpression, coexpression_transferred,
42
       experiments, experiments_transferred,
43
       database, database_transferred,
44
       textmining, textmining_transferred,
45
       initial_combined) = 1
46
47
      ## divide by 1000
48
49
      neighborhood = float(neighborhood) / 1000
50
      neighborhood_transferred = float(neighborhood_transferred) / 1000
51
      fusion = float(fusion) / 1000
52
      cooccurrence = float(cooccurrence) / 1000
      homology = float(homology) / 1000
54
      coexpression = float(coexpression) / 1000
55
      coexpression_transferred = float(coexpression_transferred) / 1000
56
      experiments = float(experiments) / 1000
57
      experiments_transferred = float(experiments_transferred) / 1000
58
      database = float(database) / 1000
59
      database_transferred = float(database_transferred) / 1000
60
61
      textmining = float(textmining) / 1000
      textmining_transferred = float(textmining_transferred) / 1000
62
      initial_combined = int(initial_combined)
63
64
      ## compute prior away
65
66
```

```
neighborhood_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (neighborhood,
67
      prior)
       neighborhood_transferred_prior_corrected = compute_prior_away (
68
      neighborhood_transferred, prior)
       fusion_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (fusion, prior)
69
                                                 = compute_prior_away (cooccurrence,
70
       cooccurrence_prior_corrected
      prior)
       coexpression_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (coexpression,
71
      prior)
       coexpression_transferred_prior_corrected = compute_prior_away (
      coexpression_transferred, prior)
       experiments_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (experiments, prior
       experiments_transferred_prior_corrected = compute_prior_away (
74
      experiments_transferred, prior)
       database_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (database, prior)
75
       database_transferred_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (
      database_transferred, prior)
       textmining_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (textmining, prior)
       textmining_transferred_prior_corrected
                                                 = compute_prior_away (
78
      textmining_transferred, prior)
79
       ## then, combine the direct and transferred scores for each category:
80
81
       neighborhood_both_prior_corrected = 1.0 - (1.0 - neighborhood_prior_corrected) *
82
      (1.0 - neighborhood_transferred_prior_corrected)
       coexpression_both_prior_corrected = 1.0 - (1.0 - coexpression_prior_corrected) *
83
       (1.0 - coexpression_transferred_prior_corrected)
       experiments_both_prior_corrected = 1.0 - (1.0 - experiments_prior_corrected) *
84
       (1.0 - experiments_transferred_prior_corrected)
       database_both_prior_corrected
                                          = 1.0 - (1.0 - database_prior_corrected) * (1.0
85
       - database_transferred_prior_corrected)
                                         = 1.0 - (1.0 - textmining_prior_corrected) *
       textmining_both_prior_corrected
86
       (1.0 - textmining_transferred_prior_corrected)
87
       ## now, do the homology correction on cooccurrence and textmining:
88
89
90
       cooccurrence_prior_homology_corrected = cooccurrence_prior_corrected * (1.0 -
      homology)
91
       textmining_both_prior_homology_corrected = textmining_both_prior_corrected * (1.0
        - homology)
92
       ## next, do the 1 - multiplication:
93
94
       combined_score_one_minus = (
95
           (1.0 - neighborhood_both_prior_corrected) *
96
           (1.0 - fusion_prior_corrected) *
97
           (1.0 - cooccurrence_prior_homology_corrected) *
98
           (1.0 - coexpression_both_prior_corrected) *
99
           (1.0 - experiments_both_prior_corrected) *
100
           (1.0 - database_both_prior_corrected) *
           (1.0 - textmining_both_prior_homology_corrected) *
           1)
104
       ## and lastly, do the 1 - conversion again, and put back the prior *exactly once*
106
       combined_score = (1.0 - combined_score_one_minus)
                                                                      ## 1- conversion
107
       combined_score *= (1.0 - prior)
                                                                      ## scale down
108
       combined_score += prior
                                                                      ## and add prior.
109
       ## round
112
       combined_score = int(combined_score * 1000)
       print(protein1, protein2, combined_score)
114
```

```
Listing 1: Combine subscores script
```

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