Computational tools for systems analysis

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Systems Analysis Goals

To provide an integrated understanding of cellular response to environmental signals



Analysis strategies

- Clustering/Dimensionality reduction approaches
- Network reconstruction approaches
- Network-based data integration
- Network-based interpretation
 - Gene prioritization methods
 - Gene set analysis

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Characterizing chromatin state dynamics during cellular reprogramming



Chromatin Module INference on Trees (CMINT)



Input

Output

Chromatin state during reprogramming is defined by 15 different patterns



Chromatin state dynamics of a pluripotency regulator

Switched its chromatin state in iPSC cells but not (completely) in pre-iPSCs



CMINT states can be used to identify novel genes with an Oct4 signature

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Network transitions during NSC differentiation



Lippmann ES, Williams CE, Estevez-Silva MC, Coon JJ, and Ashton RS. *Stem Cell Reports* **4** (2015)

Network transitions during NSC differentiation



and Ashton RS. Stem Cell Reports 4 (2015)



Publicly available and new RNA-seq data used to construct network



97 samples from 11 different experiments

Overview of inferred NSC regulatory network



Network stats (FDR<0.01)

Network property	Value
Regulators	2,081
Targets	4,072
Edges	6,448



Network predicts regulatory connections among HOX genes



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Systems biology studies to understand host response Influenza virus infections



Yoshi Kawaoka



Amie Eisfeld



Different dosage and time points

What are the regulatory networks driving host response?

What are key regulators of host response?

Proteome

Transcriptome



Integrative reconstruction of the host response regulatory network

Step 1. Learn host response **regulatory module networks** from mRNA using MERLIN

Step 2. Identify protein regulators for each module



Step 3. Predict physical regulatory subnetworks

connecting mRNA- and proteinbased regulators



Module-level regression models to integrate mRNA and protein levels





Physical regulatory program connects known immune response regulators to novel genes



Concluding thoughts

- Clustering/dimensionality reduction
 - General patterns of expression/activity
 - Useful for exploratory analysis and interpretation of large datasets
 - Co-clustering could be used to characterize unknown genes and samples
 - Example tools: CMINT, PCA, Kmeans clustering
- Network reconstruction
 - Infer the connectivity among the genes and regulators
 - Needed for prioritization of important nodes and interpretation
 - Example tools: MERLIN, MERLIN-P, GENIE3, Inferelator
- Network-based integration and interpretation
 - Integrating gene hits from different assays, e.g. differentially expressed genes with genes from screening assays
 - Gene prioritization
 - Example tools: Subnetwork identification, OmicsIntegrator

Summary



Mapping regulatory connections

Interpreting regulatory connections









NIH U19AI106772 (Kawaoka), US EPA 83573701 (Murphy)