# Joint network inference with the consensual LASSO

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2014 ENBIS-SFdS Spring Meeting Paris, 9-11 April

Joint work with Matthieu Vignes, Nathalie Viguerie and Magali San Cristobal



consensus Lasso

#### Outline

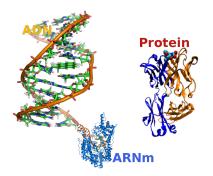
#### 1 Short overview on network inference with GGM

2 Inference with multiple samples

#### 3 Simulations



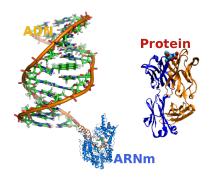
#### Transcriptomic data



# DNA transcripted into mRNA to produce proteins



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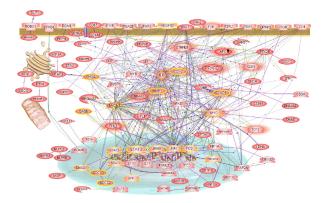


# DNA transcripted into mRNA to produce proteins

transcriptomic data: measure of the quantity of mRNA corresponding to a given gene in given cells (blood, muscle...) of a living organism



# Systems biology



Some genes' expressions **activate** or **repress** other genes' expressions  $\Rightarrow$  understanding the whole cascade helps to comprehend the global functioning of living organisms<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Picture taken from: Abdollahi A *et al.*, *PNAS* 2007, **104**:12890-12895. © 2007 by National Academy of Sciences



#### Model framework

Data: large scale gene expression data

individuals  

$$n \simeq 30/50$$

$$\begin{cases}
X = \begin{pmatrix}
\cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\
\cdot & \cdot & X_i^j & \cdot & \cdot \\
\cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot
\end{cases}$$

variables (genes expression),  $p \simeq 10^{3/4}$ 

What we want to obtain: a graph/network with

- nodes: genes;
- edges: strong links between gene expressions.



# Advantages of inferring a network from large scale transcription data

over raw data: focuses on the strongest direct relationships: irrelevant or indirect relations are removed (more robust) and the data are easier to visualize and understand (track transcription relations).



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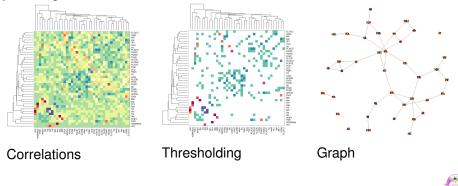
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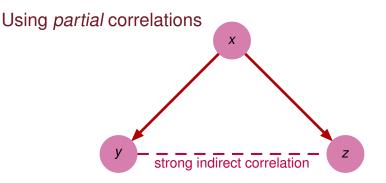
over bibliographic network: can handle interactions with yet unknown (not annotated) genes and deal with data collected in a particular condition.



# Using *correlations*: relevance network [Butte and Kohane, 1999, Butte and Kohane, 2000]

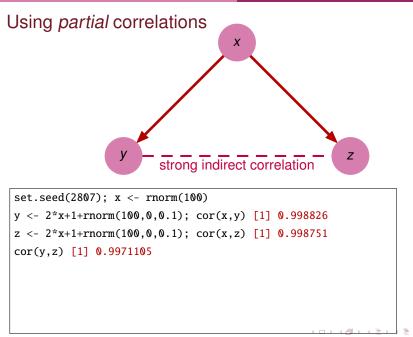
**First (naive) approach**: calculate correlations between expressions for all pairs of genes, threshold the smallest ones and build the network.





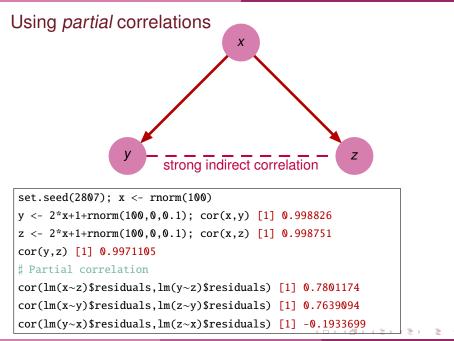






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## Partial correlation in the Gaussian framework

 $(X_i)_{i=1,...,n}$  are **i.i.d. Gaussian random variables**  $\mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$  (gene expression); then

 $j \longleftrightarrow j'$  (genes j and j' are linked)  $\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathrm{or}\left(X^{j}, X^{j'}| (X^{k})_{k \neq j, j'}\right) > 0$ 



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If (concentration matrix)  $S = \Sigma^{-1}$ ,

$$\mathbb{C}\mathbf{or}\left(X^{j}, X^{j'}| (X^{k})_{k\neq j, j'}\right) = -\frac{S_{jj'}}{\sqrt{S_{jj}S_{j'j'}}}$$

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**Problem:**  $\Sigma$ : *p*-dimensional matrix and  $n \ll p \Rightarrow (\widehat{\Sigma}^n)^{-1}$  is a **poor** estimate of *S*)!



#### Graphical Gaussian Model

- seminal work: [Schäfer and Strimmer, 2005a, Schäfer and Strimmer, 2005b] (with shrinkage and a proposal for a Bayesian test of significance)
  - estimate  $\Sigma^{-1}$  by  $(\widehat{\Sigma}^n + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1}$
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 $\forall j$ , estimate the linear model:

$$X^{j} = \beta_{j}^{\mathsf{T}} X^{-j} + \epsilon$$
 ;  $\arg \max_{(\beta_{jj'})_{j'}} (\log \mathrm{ML}_{j})$ 

because  $\beta_{jj'} = -\frac{S_{jj'}}{S_{jj}}$ .

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- estimate  $\Sigma^{-1}$  by  $(\widehat{\Sigma}^n + \lambda \mathbb{I})^{-1}$
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- sparse approaches:

[Meinshausen and Bühlmann, 2006, Friedman et al., 2008]:

 $\forall j$ , estimate the linear model:

$$X^{j} = \beta_{j}^{\mathsf{T}} X^{-j} + \epsilon \qquad ; \qquad \arg\min_{(\beta_{ij'})_{j'}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( X_{ij} - \beta_{j}^{\mathsf{T}} X_{i}^{-j} \right)^{2} + \lambda ||\beta_{j}||_{L^{1}}$$

with  $\|\beta_j\|_{L^1} = \sum_{j'} |\beta_{jj'}|$  $L^1$  penalty yields to  $\beta_{jj'} = 0$  for most j' (variable selection)

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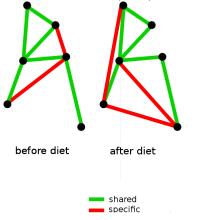
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# Motivation for multiple networks inference

**Pan-European project Diogenes**<sup>2</sup> (with Nathalie Viguerie, INSERM): gene expressions (lipid tissues) from 204 obese women **before** and **after** a low-calorie diet (LCD).



- Assumption: A common functioning exists regardless the condition;
- Which genes are linked independently from/depending on the condition?



12/30

<sup>2</sup>http://www.diogenes-eu.org/; see also [Viguerie et al., 2012]

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consensus Lasso

## Naive approach: independent estimations

**Notations**: *p* genes measured in *k* samples, each corresponding to a specific condition:  $(X_j^c)_{j=1,...,p} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma^c)$ , for c = 1, ..., k. For c = 1, ..., k,  $n_c$  independent observations  $(X_{ii}^c)_{i=1,...,n_c}$  and  $\sum_c n_c = n$ .

Independent inference

Estimation  $\forall c = 1, \dots, k$  and  $\forall j = 1, \dots, p$ ,

$$X_j^c = \mathbf{X}_{ij}^c \beta_j^c + \epsilon_j^c$$

are estimated (independently) by maximizing pseudo-likelihood:

$$\mathcal{L}(S|\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{c=1}^{k} \sum_{j=1}^{p} \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} \log \mathbb{P}\left(X_{ij}^c | \mathbf{X}_{i, \setminus j}^c, S_j^c\right)$$

**Problem**: previous estimation does not use the fact that the different networks should be somehow alike!

**Previous proposals** 

[Chiquet et al., 2011] replace Σ<sup>c</sup> by Σ<sup>c</sup> = <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>Σ<sup>c</sup> + <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>Σ<sup>c</sup> and add a sparse penalty;



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- [Chiquet et al., 2011] LASSO and Group-LASSO type penalties to force identical or sign-coherent edges between conditions:

$$\sum_{jj'} \sqrt{\sum_c (S_{jj'}^c)^2} \quad \text{or} \ \sum_{jj'} \left[ \sqrt{\sum_c (S_{jj'}^c)_+^2} + \sqrt{\sum_c (S_{jj'}^c)_-^2} \right]$$

 $\Rightarrow S^c_{jj'}=0 \; \forall \, c$  for most entries OR  $S^c_{jj'}$  can only be of a given sign (positive or negative) whatever c



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- [Mohan et al., 2012] add a group-LASSO like penalty ∑<sub>c≠c'</sub> ∑<sub>j</sub> ||S<sub>j</sub><sup>c</sup> - S<sub>j</sub><sup>c'</sup> ||<sub>L<sup>2</sup></sub> that focuses on differences due to a few number of nodes only.



## Consensus LASSO

#### Proposal

Infer multiple networks by forcing them toward a consensual network: i.e., explicitly **keeping the differences** between conditions under control but **with a**  $L^2$  **penalty** (allow for more differences than Group-LASSO type penalties).

**Original optimization:** 

$$\max_{(\beta_{jk}^{c})_{k\neq j,c=1,\dots,C}} \sum_{c} \left( \log \mathrm{ML}_{j}^{c} - \lambda \sum_{k\neq j} |\beta_{jk}^{c}| \right).$$



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[Ambroise et al., 2009, Chiquet et al., 2011]: is equivalent to minimize p problems having dimension k(p-1):

$$\frac{1}{2}\beta_j^T\widehat{\Sigma}_{\backslash j\backslash j}\beta_j + \beta_j^T\widehat{\Sigma}_{j\backslash j} + \lambda \|\beta_j\|_{L^1}, \qquad \beta_j = (\beta_j^1, \dots, \beta_j^k)$$

with  $\widehat{\Sigma}_{i/i}$ : block diagonal matrix  $\mathbb{D}iag(\widehat{\Sigma}_{i/i}^1, \dots, \widehat{\Sigma}_{i/i}^k)$  and similarly for  $\widehat{\Sigma}_{i/i}$ 

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Add a constraint to force inference toward a "consensus"  $\beta^{cons}$ 

$$\frac{1}{2}\beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{\backslash j \backslash j} \beta_j + \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{j \backslash j} + \lambda \|\beta_j\|_{L^1} + \mu \sum_c w_c \|\beta_j^c - \beta_j^{\text{cons}}\|_{L^2}^2$$

with:

- $w_c$ : real number used to weight the conditions ( $w_c = 1$  or  $w_c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_c}}$ );
- $\mu$  regularization parameter;
- β<sup>cons</sup><sub>i</sub> whatever you want...?

#### Choice of a consensus: set one...

Typical case:

- a prior network is known (e.g., from bibliography);
- with no prior information, use a fixed prior corresponding to (e.g.) global inference

 $\Rightarrow$  given (and fixed)  $\beta^{cons}$ 



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#### Proposition

Using a fixed  $\beta_j^{\text{cons}}$ , the optimization problem is equivalent to minimizing the *p* following standard quadratic problem in  $\mathbb{R}^{k(p-1)}$  with *L*<sub>1</sub>-penalty:

$$\frac{1}{2}\beta_j^T B^1(\mu)\beta_j + \beta_j^T B^2(\mu) + \lambda ||\beta_j||_{L^1},$$

#### where

- $B^{1}(\mu) = \widehat{\Sigma}_{\forall\forall j} + 2\mu \mathbb{I}_{k(p-1)}$ , with  $\mathbb{I}_{k(p-1)}$  the k(p-1)-identity matrix
- $B^2(\mu) = \widehat{\Sigma}_{j,j} 2\mu \mathbb{I}_{k(p-1)}\beta^{\text{cons}}$  with  $\beta^{\text{cons}} = \left( (\beta_j^{\text{cons}})^T, \dots, (\beta_j^{\text{cons}})^T \right)_{j=1}^T$

## Choice of a consensus: adapt one during training...

Derive the consensus from the condition-specific estimates:

$$\beta_j^{\rm cons} = \sum_c \frac{n_c}{n} \beta_j^c$$



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#### Proposition

Using  $\beta_j^{\text{cons}} = \sum_{c=1}^k \frac{n_c}{n} \beta_j^c$ , the optimization problem is equivalent to minimizing the following standard quadratic problem with  $L_1$ -penalty:

$$\frac{1}{2}\beta_j^T S_j(\mu)\beta_j + \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{j\setminus j} + \lambda \|\beta_j\|_L$$

where  $S_j(\mu) = \widehat{\Sigma}_{\forall\forall\forall} + 2\mu A^T(\mu)A(\mu)$  where  $A(\mu)$  is a  $[k(p-1) \times k(p-1)]$ -matrix that does not depend on *j*.



# Computational aspects: optimization

#### Common framework

Objective function can be decomposed into:

convex part 
$$C(\beta_j) = \frac{1}{2}\beta_j^T Q_j^1(\mu) + \beta_j^T Q_j^2(\mu)$$

 $L^1$ -norm penalty  $\mathcal{P}(\beta_i) = \|\beta_i\|_{L^1}$ 



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#### optimization by "active set" [Osborne et al., 2000, Chiquet et al., 2011]

1: **repeat**( $\lambda$  given)

2: Given  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\beta_{jj'}$  st:  $\beta_{jj'} \neq 0, \forall j' \in \mathcal{A}$ , solve (over *h*) the **smooth** minimization problem restricted to  $\mathcal{A}$ 

 $C(\beta_j + h) + \lambda \mathcal{P}(\beta_j + h) \implies \beta_j \leftarrow \beta_j + h$ 



#### 4: until

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3: Update  $\mathcal{A}$  by adding most violating variables, i.e., variables st:

abs 
$$\left|\partial C(\beta_j) + \lambda \partial \mathcal{P}(\beta_j)\right| > 0$$

with  $[\partial \mathcal{P}(\beta_j)]_{j'} \in [-1, 1]$  if  $j' \notin \mathcal{A}$ 

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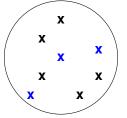
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small  $\lambda$ 

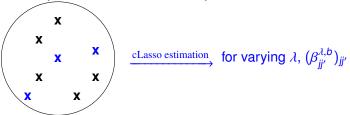
# Bootstrap estimation ~ BOLASSO [Bach, 2008]

subsample n observations with replacement





## Bootstrap estimation ~ BOLASSO [Bach, 2008] subsample *n* observations with replacement





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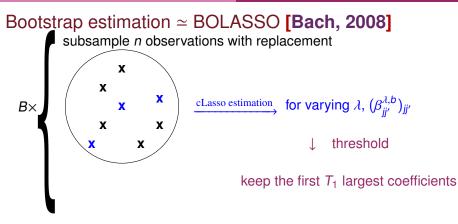
↓ threshold

keep the first  $T_1$  largest coefficients

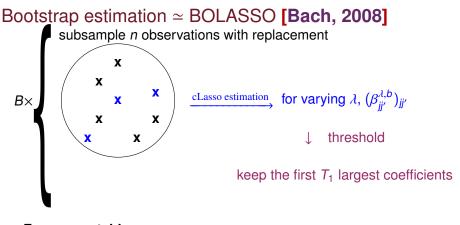


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| Frequency table |       |       |  |         |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|--|---------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                 | (1,2) | (1,3) |  | (j, j') |  |  |  |  |  |
|                 | 130   | 25    |  | 120     |  |  |  |  |  |



 Frequency table

 (1,2)
 (1,3)
 ...
 (j,j')
 ...
  $\longrightarrow$  K

 130
 25
 ...
 120
 ...

 $\longrightarrow$  Keep the  $T_2$  most frequent pairs



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#### 1 Short overview on network inference with GGM

2 Inference with multiple samples





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#### Simulation

### Simulated data

Expression data with known co-expression network

- original network (scale free) taken from http://www.comp-sys-bio.org/AGN/data.html (100 nodes, ~ 200 edges, loops removed);
- rewire a ratio r of the edges to generate k "children" networks (sharing approximately 100(1 – 2r)% of their edges);

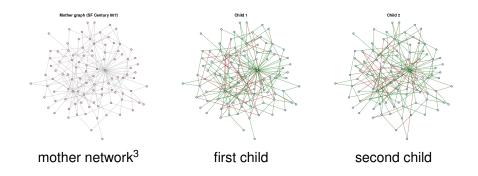
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- rewire a ratio *r* of the edges to generate *k* "children" networks (sharing approximately 100(1 2r)% of their edges);
- generate "expression data" with a random Gaussian process from each chid:
  - use the Laplacian of the graph to generate a putative concentration matrix;
  - use edge colors in the original network to set the edge sign;
  - correct the obtained matrix to make it positive;
  - invert to obtain a covariance matrix...;
  - ... which is used in a random Gaussian process to generate expression data (with noise).

Simulation

## An example with k = 2, r = 5%



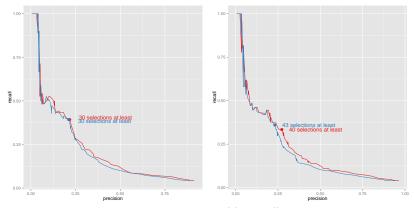
<sup>3</sup>actually the **parent network**. My co-author wisely noted that the mistake was unforgivable for a feminist...  $\langle \Box \rangle \langle \Box \rangle$ 

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consensus Lasso



#### Choice for $T_2$ Data: r = 0.05, k = 2 and $n_1 = n_2 = 20$ 100 bootstrap samples, $\mu = 1$ , $T_1 = 250$ or 500



Dots correspond to best  $F = 2 \times \frac{\text{precision} \times \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$   $\Rightarrow$  Best *F* corresponds to selecting a number of edges approximately equal to the number of edges in the original network.



consensus Lasso

## Choice for $T_1$ and $\mu$

|                | μ                     | $T_1$               | % of improvement |  |  |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|--|
|                | 0.1/1                 | $\{250, 300, 500\}$ | of bootstrapping |  |  |
| network sizes  | rewired edges: 5%     |                     |                  |  |  |
| 20-20          | 1                     | 500                 | 30.69            |  |  |
| 20-30          | 0.1                   | 500                 | 11.87            |  |  |
| 30-30          | 1                     | 300                 | 20.15            |  |  |
| 50-50          | 1                     | 300                 | 14.36            |  |  |
| 20-20-20-20-20 | 1                     | 500                 | 86.04            |  |  |
| 30-30-30-30    | 0.1                   | 500                 | 42.67            |  |  |
| network sizes  | es rewired edges: 20% |                     |                  |  |  |
| 20-20          | 0.1                   | 300                 | -17.86           |  |  |
| 20-30          | 0.1                   | 300                 | -18.35           |  |  |
| 30-30          | 1                     | 500                 | -7.97            |  |  |
| 50-50          | 0.1                   | 300                 | -7.83            |  |  |
| 20-20-20-20-20 | 0.1                   | 500                 | 10.27            |  |  |
| 30-30-30-30    | 1                     | 500                 | 13.48            |  |  |
|                |                       |                     |                  |  |  |

24 / 30

## Comparison with other approaches

Method compared (direct and bootstrap approaches)

- independant Graphical LASSO estimation gLasso
- methods implementated in the R package simone and described in [Chiquet et al., 2011]: intertwinned LASSO iLasso, cooperative LASSO coopLasso and group LASSO groupLasso
- fused graphical LASSO as described in [Danaher et al., 2013] as implemented in the R package fgLasso



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- consensus Lasso with
  - fixed prior (the mother network) cLasso(p)
  - fixed prior (average over the conditions of independant estimations) cLasso(2)
  - adaptative estimation of the prior cLasso(m)



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  - adaptative estimation of the prior cLasso(m)

**Parameters set to**:  $T_1 = 500, B = 100, \mu = 1$ 



## Selected results (best F)

#### rewired edges: 5% - conditions: 2 - sample size: 2 × 30

#### direct version Method groupLasso coopLasso gLasso iLasso 0.28 0.35 0.32 0.35 Method fgLasso cLasso(m) cLasso(p) cLasso(2) 0.32 0.31 0.86 0.30

#### bootstrap version

| Method | gLasso  | iLasso    | groupLasso | coopLasso |
|--------|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|
|        | 0.31    | 0.34      | 0.36       | 0.34      |
| Method | fgLasso | cLasso(m) | cLasso(p)  | cLasso(2) |
|        | 0.36    | 0.37      | 0.86       | 0.35      |

#### Conclusions

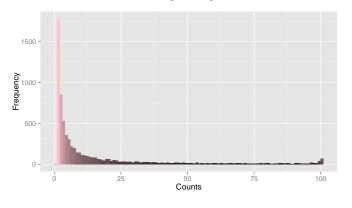
- bootstraping improves results (except for iLasso and for large r)
- joint inference improves results
- using a good prior is (as expected) very efficient
- adaptive approch for cLasso is better than naive approach

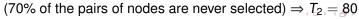


### Real data

204 obese women ; expression of 221 genes before and after a LCD  $\mu = 1$  ;  $T_1 = 1000$  (target density: 4%)

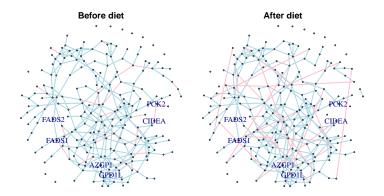
Distribution of the number of times an edge is selected over 100 bootstrap samples







#### Networks



densities about 1.3% - some interactions (both shared and specific) make sense to the biologist



## Thank you for your attention...

Programs available in the R package **therese** (on R-Forge)<sup>4</sup>. Joint work with





Magali SanCristobal (GenPhySe, INRA Toulouse) Matthieu Vignes (MIAT, INRA Toulouse)



Nathalie Viguerie (I2MC, INSERM Toulouse)



<sup>4</sup>https://r-forge.r-project.org/projects/therese=pkgep >

consensus Lasso



#### **Questions?**



Nathalie Villa-Vialaneix (INRA, Unité MIA-T)

consensus Lasso

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#### Simulation

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#### Simulation



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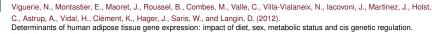
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