

metabox: a toolbox for metabolomic data analysis, visualization and 'omic' integration

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1 INSTALLATION

Metabox can run as a web application locally with OpenCPU single-user server. Follow the steps below to install and run required software packages.

1.1 INSTALL metabox

- 1) Require R software 3.1.1 or higher (<https://www.r-project.org/>)
- 2) Install R package metabox from GitHub by using the following commands in R terminal:

```
## Install R package devtools, if not exist
> install.packages("devtools")

## Install required packages if not exist
> source('https://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R')
> biocLite(c('impute', 'preprocessCore', 'GO.db', 'AnnotationDbi', 'WGCNA', 'piano',
            'qpgraph', 'BioNet', 'ChemmineR'))

## Install R package metabox
> devtools::install_github("kwanjeeraw/metabox")
> library(metabox)
```

1.2 INSTALL OpenCPU

- 1) Install OpenCPU single-user server and run the application in a browser by using the following commands in R terminal:

```
## Install OpenCPU single-user server
> install.packages("opencpu")
> library(opencpu)

## Run metabox on a web browser
> opencpu$browse("library/metabox/www")
```

1.3 Neo4j database

The Neo4j database is a graph database, a part of the tool for biological network queries and pathway enrichment analysis. Currently the precompiled databases are available on our server for human and will be connected automatically after installing metabox.

2 GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE

Graphical user interface (GUI) is compatible on a standard web browser e.g. Chrome, Firefox and Safari. The web page is a two-column layout (Fig 1). A side navigation bar contains the list of different functions and the page content to the right is changed automatically according to the selected function.

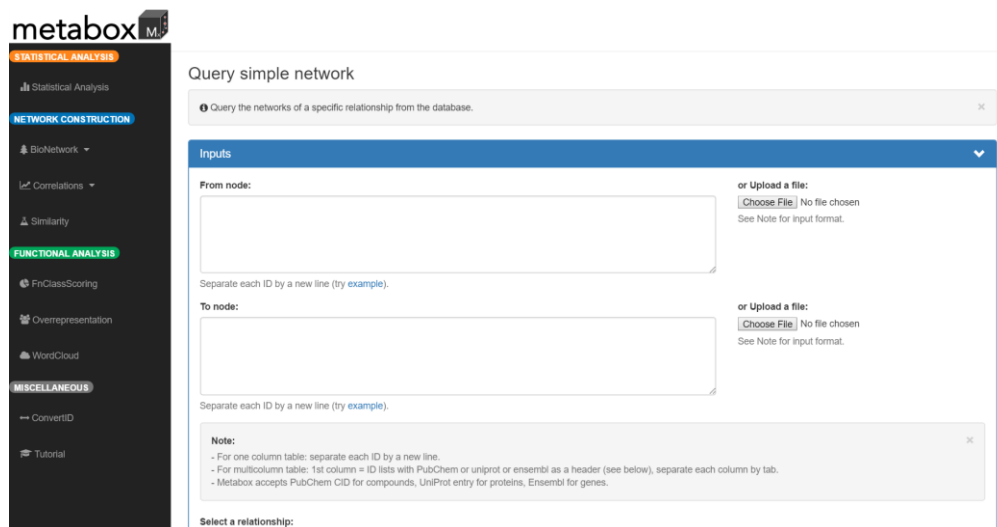


Fig 1. Screenshot of GUI.

3 WORKFLOWS

Metabox supports three different analysis workflows (Fig 2). The tool accepts external inputs and generates outputs at every level of the analysis workflows.

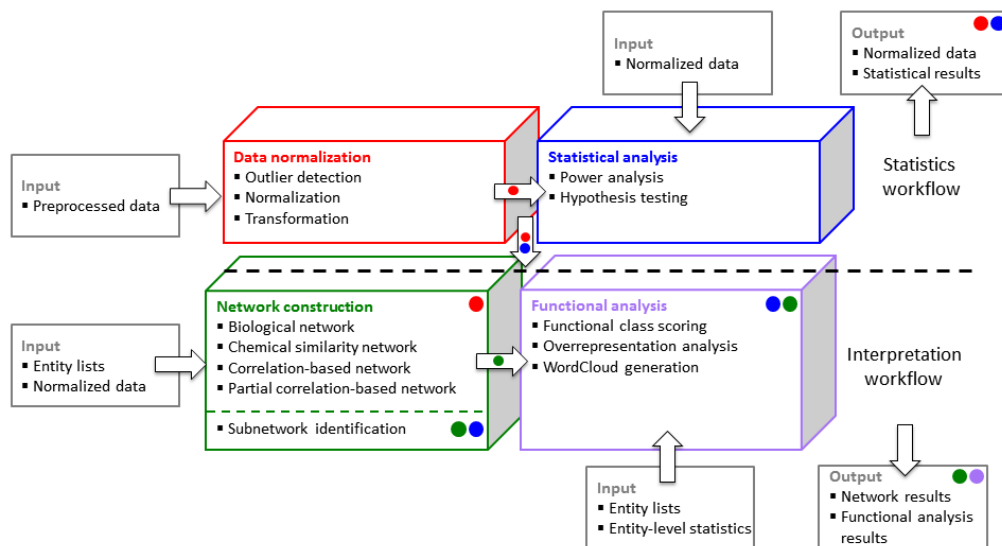


Fig 2. Metabox analysis workflows.

This workflow is for data normalization and the identification of significant entities from experimental inputs. It includes the functions for data normalization, data transformation and statistical analysis. The outputs are in a standard file format, which can be used in the interpretation workflow or in other software.

- Excel file contains meta-data, features and quantified data (e.g. expression values) using the format in Fig 3 and details are listed in Table 1.

- Comma-separated values (CSV) file with basic statistics, including mean, standard deviation of each experiment group, p-values and adjusted p-values corresponding to experimental design.

PubChem or ensemble or uniprot is required for complete workflow

Fig 3. Input format for statistics workflow. Red is a required session. Green is required if you want to use complete workflow. For gene data, header “ensembl” is required for complete workflow. For protein data, “uniprot” is required for complete workflow. For compound data, “PubChem” is required for complete workflow. Detailed information is in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of headers of input data for statistics workflow.

| Name | Description | Example | Required | Note |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| phenotype_index | Positive Integer. From 1 to the number of total samples. | 1,2,3,...,100 | NO | If missing, it would be automatically added. |
| subjectID | Positive integer. From 1 to the number of subjects. Same subject must have same subjectID which will indicate paired-samples. | 1,2,3,...,100 | YES | If missing, it would be automatically added considering there is no repeated measure. |
| QC | TRUE or FALSE indicating which sample is quality control. This can be used as calculating RSD and used for loess normalization. | TRUE, FALSE | NO | If missing, there is no QC thus metabox cannot calculate RSD or do loess normalization. |
| Time_of_Injection | Possitive value. Timestamp. Format can be yyyy-mm-dd HH:MM:SS. | 2005-12-24 16:39:58 | NO | If missing, cannot do Loess normalization |
| Batch | Strings indicating batches of samples. | A, B or Batch1, Batch2 etc. | NO | If missing, cannot do Batch Median Correction normalization. |
| feature_index | Positive Integer. From 1 to the number of total entities. | 1,2,3,...,100 | NO | If missing, it would be automatically added. |
| KnownorUnknown | TRUE or FALSE indicating whether it is an known compounds. This is used for mTIC. | TRUE, FALSE | NO | Helpful when doing mTIC normalization |
| PubChem | PubChem id. | 439205 | NO | If missing, you can only use statistics workflow but not complete workflow. |
| ensembl | Ensembl id | ENSG00000166913 | NO | If missing, you can only use statistics workflow but not complete workflow. |
| uniprot | UniProt entry | P31946 | NO | If missing, you can only use statistics workflow but not complete workflow. |

3.2 Interpretation workflow

The workflow supports the analysis and interpretation of entity lists, processed or normalized data, and entity lists with associated entity-level statistics in biological concepts. It includes the functions to generate different kinds of networks and the options for functional analysis. The workflow accepts both the outputs from the statistics workflow and results from other tools.

Inputs:

- List of entities in a one-column table or multi-column table for Biological network query, Chemical structure similarity, Overrepresentation analysis and WordCloud generation (Fig 4, One-column)
- Tab-delimited text file of multi-column table containing list of entities and associated statistical values for Subnetwork identification and Functional class scoring (Fig 4, Multi-column)
- Tab-delimited text file of quantified data where each row is an entity or variable and columns are samples for Correlation and Partial correlation analysis (Fig 4, Expression table)
- Column header is required for multi-column tables. For gene data, header “ensembl” is required. For protein data, “uniprot” is required. For compound data, “PubChem” is required.

Outputs:

- Tab-delimited text files
- Image files

| One-column | Multi-Column | | | Expression table | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| ENSG00000175445 | PubChem | adjPval | log2FC | PubChem | T1 | T2 | T3 | T4 | T5 | T6 | T7 | T8 | T9 | T10 | N1 |
| ENSG00000123989 | 5325915 | 0.0078 | -0.68524 | 439205 | 8.8009 | 8.463524 | 8.280771 | 8.550747 | 8.912889 | 8.430453 | | 8 | 8.266787 | 8.330917 | 7.794416 |
| ENSG00000239672 | 5312542 | 0.0098 | 0.622795 | 6287 | 14.95932 | 14.50016 | 14.70315 | 15.03802 | 14.86041 | 14.94059 | 15.07117 | 15.04119 | 15.06251 | 15.01035 | 15 |
| ENSG00000115339 | 656504 | 0.0053 | 1.139506 | 1176 | 12.01576 | 11.45943 | 12.06945 | 12.18982 | 11.76777 | 11.74861 | 12.30663 | 12.50009 | 12.13475 | 12.41864 | 12 |
| ENSG00000140297 | 445675 | 0.0001 | 1.210164 | 1174 | 11.63436 | 9.35975 | 7.761551 | 8.693487 | 12.59945 | 9.705632 | 8.903882 | 9.554589 | 10.12153 | 8.357552 | 8.2 |
| ENSG00000198488 | 440043 | 0.0396 | -0.46088 | 445675 | 14.15062 | 13.69729 | 13.58061 | 14.00158 | 14.0784 | 13.921 | 9.463524 | 9.851749 | 9.636625 | 9.409391 | 9.5 |
| ENSG00000068383 | 439194 | 0.0406 | 0.477637 | 17473 | 9.820179 | 9.400879 | 8.67948 | 8.906891 | 9.071462 | 8.768184 | 9.430453 | 9.377211 | 9.197217 | 9.247928 | 8.9 |
| ENSG00000143379 | 439176 | 0.0001 | 0.866406 | 6057 | 12.77684 | 13.88303 | 14.12121 | 14.75994 | 14.56748 | 14.14235 | 14.28338 | 14.34748 | 14.37198 | 14.27037 | 14 |
| ENSG00000241644 | 145742 | 0.0076 | 0.500492 | 6305 | 12.15703 | 11.60825 | 12.04474 | 12.15006 | 12.18797 | 12.29806 | 12.05019 | 12.08281 | 11.98797 | 11.90727 | 12 |
| ENSG00000123505 | 107526 | 0.001 | -1.01618 | 5810 | 9.047124 | 8.921841 | 8.693487 | 8.294621 | 9.063395 | 8.511753 | 8.011227 | 9.152285 | 7.857981 | 7.954196 | 8.0 |
| ENSG00000117308 | 100714 | 0.033 | 0.342076 | 6288 | 15.61646 | 15.05698 | 15.07431 | 15.2862 | 15.4166 | 15.17028 | 15.25577 | 15.50718 | 15.15217 | 15.00453 | 14 |
| ENSG00000109814 | 94270 | 0.0003 | 1.095649 | 1123 | 6.965784 | 6.066089 | 6.658211 | 6.599913 | 6.491853 | 6.584963 | 6.426265 | 6.409391 | 6.83289 | 6.247928 | 6.1 |
| ENSG00000105650 | 94270 | 0.0003 | 1.095649 | 439312 | 11.06878 | 10.38909 | 10.59712 | 10.94691 | 11.04985 | 10.91364 | 6.569856 | 6.087463 | 6.523562 | 6.169925 | 6.3 |
| ENSG00000205268 | 94154 | 0.009 | 0.496837 | 5988 | 8.129283 | 1 | 5.672425 | 5.087463 | 7.70044 | 6.169925 | 7.312883 | 4.523562 | 5.807355 | 8.857981 | 6.3 |
| ENSG00000113448 | 92729 | 0.0154 | 0.296059 | 1110 | 8.906891 | 5.807355 | 8.290019 | 8.375039 | 8.60733 | 8.055282 | 8.535275 | 8.936638 | 8.535275 | 8.897845 | 8.2 |
| ENSG00000160688 | 92092 | 0.0456 | -0.39271 | 5281 | 16.62104 | 15.83333 | 16.40939 | 16.35049 | 16.56133 | 15.79238 | 16.21603 | 16.47071 | 16.52182 | 16.34918 | 15 |
| ENSG00000173599 | 91486 | 0.0011 | -0.62586 | 5780 | 16.29336 | 16.01676 | 16.19608 | 16.22466 | 16.09358 | 16.08402 | 9.211888 | 9.204571 | 9.049849 | 9.103288 | 9.6 |
| ENSG00000134333 | 65150 | 0.0011 | 0.547527 | 441432 | 12 | 9.548822 | 10.56701 | 11.35645 | 11.82377 | 11.6786 | 6.84549 | 6.97728 | 6.70044 | 6.491853 | 6.2 |
| ENSG00000002726 | 64960 | 0.0342 | -0.25267 | 5951 | 14.21158 | 13.67121 | 13.71607 | 13.94141 | 14.0921 | 13.79228 | 14.57784 | 14.91439 | 14.21379 | 14.4641 | 14 |
| ENSG00000068366 | 33032 | 0.0058 | 0.458267 | 6998 | 10.75822 | 9.326429 | 9.394463 | 10.22641 | 9.753217 | 9.990104 | 9.61471 | 10.35755 | 10.86109 | 11.04371 | 11 |
| ENSG00000237289 | 17473 | 0.0112 | 0.319933 | 33037 | 6.942515 | 6.672425 | 6.247928 | 6.149747 | 6.584963 | 6.569856 | 7.72792 | 7.584963 | 6.266787 | 6.584963 | 6.1 |

Fig 4. Input formats for Network construction and Functional analysis.

3.3 Complete workflow

Metabox supports thorough analysis of metabolomic data. Raw data are normalized and entity-level statistics can be computed by several methods. The outputs from statistics workflow are subsequently analyzed and delineated in various contexts including chemical networks, pathway- and chemical-based functions.

Inputs:

- Excel file contains meta-data, features and quantified data (e.g. expression values) using the format in Fig 3 and details are listed in Table 1. This file is used for data normalization or statistical analysis.
- Result table from statistics workflow (Fig 6) contains at least a column of entities e.g. list of compounds, proteins or genes with the following header: PubChem, uniprot or ensemble respectively. The resulting table will be transferred for analysis in other modules including Chemical structure similarity (for compounds only), Functional class scoring, Overrepresentation analysis and WordCloud generation.

Outputs:

- Tab-delimited text files
- Image files

4 FUNCTIONS

Metabox allows comprehensive analyses of metabolomic data by including several statistical methods to process and identify keys entities of input experiments, and providing different integrative analysis methodologies to facilitate biological interpretation.

4.1 DATA NORMALIZATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

4.1.1 Data normalization

Data normalization procedure includes different kinds of normalization methods and outlier detection (Fig 5).

Normalization method includes sample normalization (mTIC normalization, loess normalization and batch median normalization), data transformation (log and power transformation) and data scaling (auto scaling, pareto scaling and range scaling).

Furthermore, users are able to detect the outlier samples using principal component analysis (PCA) score plot. Then users could further decide on whether to remove them before further analysis or keep them and carry on regardless.

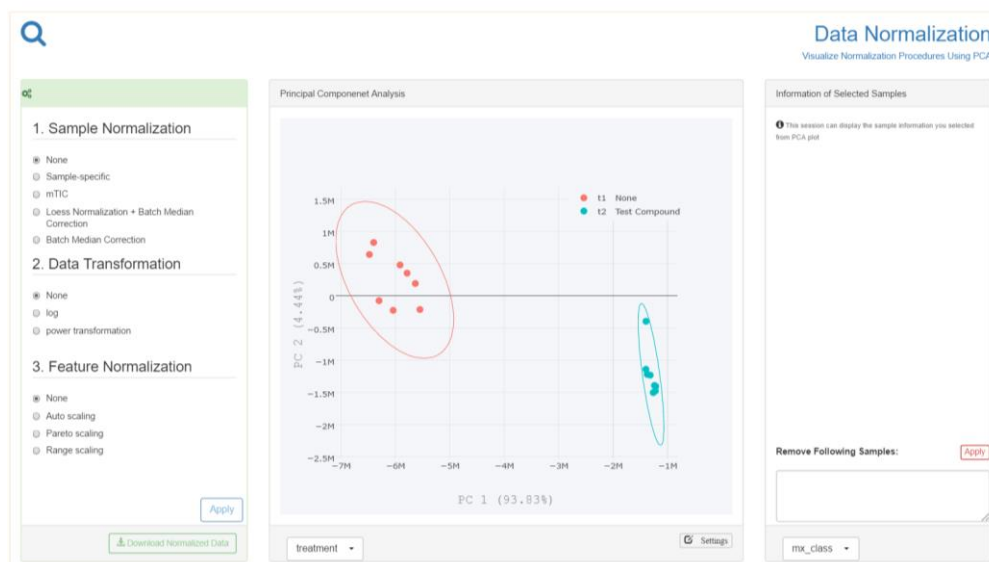


Fig 5. Screenshot of Data Normalization panel. Principal component analysis (PCA) score plot is used for real-time visualization during data normalization procedures. It allows users to detect outliers and choose appropriate methods for data normalization and transformation. Users are able to select scatters on the PCA score plot, get the corresponding sample information from a donut chart and can remove unwanted samples.

4.2.1 Statistical Analysis

Currently only univariate statistical analysis is available. Different hypothesis testing procedures can be applied to different study designs accordingly. Possible study design types (default hypothesis testing methods) are

- One independent factor with two levels (Welch t test, Mann-Whitney U test)
- One independent factor with multiple levels (Welch one way ANOVA, Kruskal–Wallis one way ANOVA, post hoc analysis: Games Howell test, Dunn's test with Bonferroni adjustment)
- One repeated-measure factor with two levels (paired t test, Wilcoxon signed-rank test)
- One repeated-measure factor with multiple levels (one way repeated ANOVA with Greenhouse-Geisser adjustment, Friedman test, post hoc: paired t test with Bonferroni adjustment, Wilcoxon signed-rank test with a Bonferroni adjustment)
- Two independent factors (two way ANOVA, two way ANOVA with robust estimation)
- Two repeated-measure factors (two way repeated ANOVA)
- Mixed factors with one independent factor and one repeated-measure factor (mixed ANOVA)

For simple study design (one factor cases), Benjamini–Hochberg procedure (or post hoc procedure for multi-levels cases) will be performed to deal with multiple comparison problems. For complex study design (two-factor cases), a thorough analysis on all the possible combination of levels (with post hoc procedure) would be performed. This means that after testing for interaction between two factors, main effect and simple main effect will also be tested, followed by corresponding post hoc analysis.

Except two repeated-measure factors case and mixed factor case, non-parametric tests are provided as default to eliminate the effects of violation of the parametric test assumptions.

Inputting the study design type is simple (Fig 6, left). User could just select the factor name listed in Experiment Factor within Study Design panel and metabox will automatically choose the above listed hypothesis testing after required normalization procedure. In addition, users can also select hypothesis testing other than default settings (Fig 6, top).

The screenshot shows the 'Univariate Statistics' interface. On the left is the 'Study Design' panel with a dropdown for 'Experiment Factor' set to 'treatment', a 'Sample Size' section with 't1' selected, and a 'Power Analysis' section with 'Desired Power' set to '80%'. A 'Submit!' button is at the bottom. On the right is the 'Result Table' section. It includes a 'Parametric' section with a link to 'Use Welch's t test' and a 'Non-Parametric' section with a link to 'Use Mann-Whitney U test'. Below these is a table with the following columns: feature_index, KnownUnknown, BinBase_name, ref_index, quant_mz, BB_id, KEGG, and PubChem. The table displays 16 rows of data for various metabolites. At the bottom of the table, there are buttons for 'Download Statistical Analysis Result', 'Enrichment', 'Overrepresentation', 'WordCloud', and 'Similarity'.

| feature_index | KnownUnknown | BinBase_name | ref_index | quant_mz | BB_id | KEGG | PubChem |
|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|--------|---------|
| 24 | TRUE | serine | 395020 | 218 | 25 | C00055 | 5951 |
| 25 | TRUE | salicylic acid | 480599 | 267 | 3063 | C00805 | 338 |
| 26 | TRUE | ribulose-5-phosphate | 736908 | 357 | 42027 | C00199 | 439184 |
| 27 | TRUE | ribose | 553135 | 217 | 1962 | C00121 | 5779 |
| 28 | TRUE | ribonic acid | 597646 | 292 | 84543 | C01685 | 546067 |
| 29 | TRUE | ribitol | 575497 | 217 | 7362 | C00474 | 827 |
| 30 | TRUE | pyruvic acid | 213805 | 174 | 5864 | C00022 | 1060 |
| 31 | TRUE | pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid | 394886 | 240 | 483 | C05842 | 12473 |
| 32 | TRUE | pyrophosphate | 327517 | 110 | 88181 | C00013 | 1023 |
| 30 | TRUE | pyruvic acid | 213805 | 174 | 5864 | C00022 | 1060 |
| 31 | TRUE | pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid | 394886 | 240 | 483 | C05842 | 12473 |
| 32 | TRUE | pyrophosphate | 327517 | 110 | 88181 | C00013 | 1023 |
| 33 | TRUE | pyridoxal-5-phosphate | 825754 | 219 | 2550 | C00018 | 1051 |
| 34 | TRUE | putrescine | 588119 | 174 | 21703 | C00138 | 1049 |

Fig 6. Screenshot of Univariate Statistics panel and resulting table from the analysis. Study Design panel is for selection of experimental factor and power value for the statistical analysis (left). Metabox will automatically choose hypothesis testing methods, however, users can also select other methods if need (top). The result can be downloaded or transferred to other analysis modules.

4.2 NETWORK CONSTRUCTION

Several approaches are included to generate networks in different contexts.

4.2.1 Biological network query (BioNetwork)

The function supports the integrative exploration of biological entities in the context of biological networks. The Neo4j graph database is required here. The database contains domain knowledge relationships among a variety of biological entities such as gene-encode-protein associations, protein-compound catalytic reactions and substrate-product pairs (Fig 7).

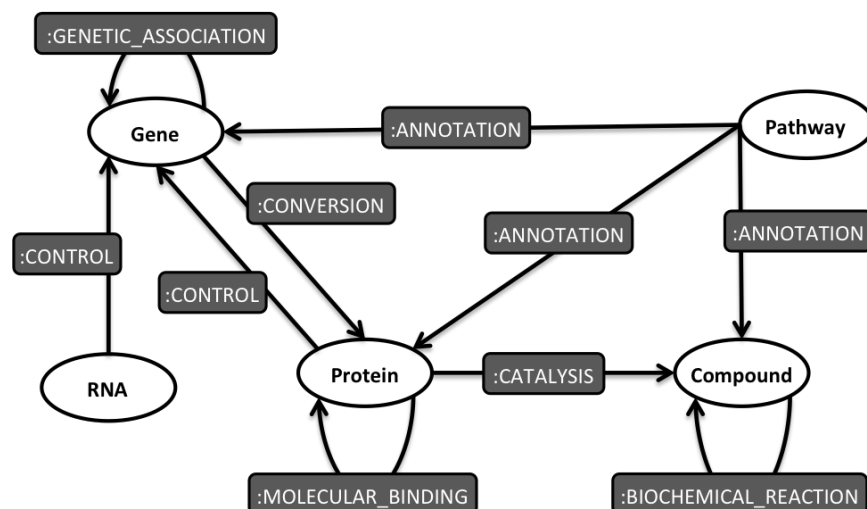


Fig 7. Database schema. Ovals denote biological entities and round rectangular indicate relationships.

There are two options to query biological networks from the database: SimpleNetwork and HeterogeneousNetwork. SimpleNetwork is to query biological networks of a specific relationship. Here we provide a list of relationships where users can choose to query (Fig 8).

Inputs

From node:

1. Enter a list of entity ids that will be the start nodes in the network or upload a list of entity in a one-column table using 'Upload a file' option on the right. Leave blank to include all possible start nodes.

or Upload a file:
Choose File No file chosen
See Note for input format.

To node:

2. Enter a list of entity ids that will be the end nodes in the network or upload a list of entity in a one-column table using 'Upload a file' option on the right. Leave blank to include all possible end nodes.

or Upload a file:
Choose File No file chosen
See Note for input format.

Select a relationship:

- (from:Compound)-[:BIOCHEMICAL_REACTION]->(to:Compound)
- (from:Gene)-[:CONVERSION]->(to:Protein)
- (from:Gene)-[:GENETIC_ASSOCIATION]->(to:Gene)
- (from:Pathway)-[:ANNOATION]->(to:Compound)
- (from:Pathway)-[:ANNOATION]->(to:Gene)
- (from:Pathway)-[:ANNOATION]->(to:Protein)
- (from:Protein)-[:CATALYSIS]->(to:Compound)
- (from:Protein)-[:CONTROL]->(to:Gene)
- (from:Protein)-[:MOLECULAR_BINDING]->(to:Protein)
- (from:RNA)-[:CONTROL]->(to:Gene)

3. Choose a relationship

NOTE: Metabox accepts:

- Ensemble id for gene
- UniProt entry for protein
- PubChem CID for compound
- MIRTarBase for RNA
- KEGG for pathway

Query Clear

Fig 8. SimpleNetwork option. Steps to query biological networks are listed in blue boxes and a green box contains related explanation.

HeterogeneousNetwork is to query biological networks containing one or several relationship types. Here users can use the constructor to provide relationship pattern for the query (Fig 9).

The screenshot shows the 'Inputs' section of the HeterogeneousNetwork interface. It includes three main input areas: 'From node:', 'To node:', and 'Pattern:'. Each area has a text box with instructions and a 'Choose File' button. A green box on the right contains a 'NOTE' about accepted identifiers: Ensemble id for gene, UniProt entry for protein, PubChem CID for compound, MIRTarBase for RNA, and KEGG for pathway. Below the input areas, there is a section for defining the relationship pattern using a constructor. This section includes radio buttons for 'From node', 'To node', and 'Other node' types (Compound, Protein, Gene, Pathway) and a list of relationship types (ANNOTATION, BIOCHEMICAL_REACTION, CATALYSIS, CONTROL, CONVERSION, GENETIC_ASSOCIATION, MOLECULAR_BINDING). A 'Database schema' diagram is shown on the right, and a green box at the bottom states 'All possible relationship patterns are shown in this database schema figure.'

Fig 9. HeterogeneousNetwork option. Steps to query biological networks are listed in blue boxes and a green box includes explanation.

The queried network can be visualized interactively. Node and edge lists are provided and can be downloaded as tab-delimited text files. The network can be analyzed further in the scope of subnetwork, functional class scoring (or set enrichment analysis), overrepresentation analysis and WordCloud generation (Fig 10).

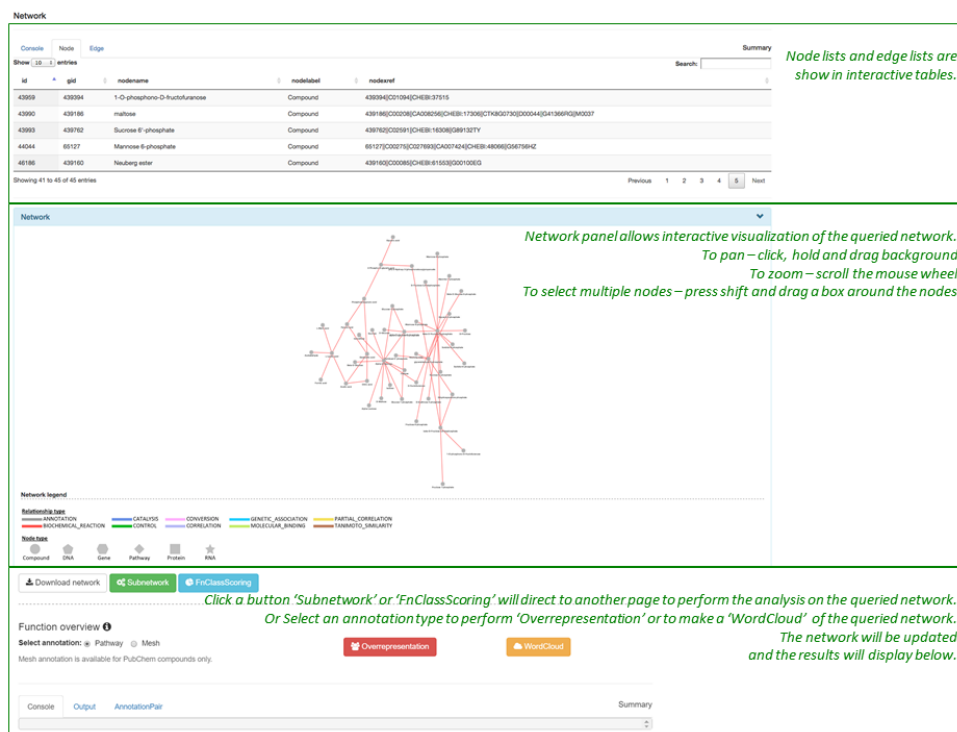


Fig 10. Network visualization and functional analysis.

4.2.2 Correlations

We include both pairwise and partial correlation analysis approaches to estimate empirical relationships from quantified data (see Fig 11 for Inputs panel). The pairwise correlation, including Pearson, Spearman or Kendall correlation is based on WGCNA R package (1), and the partial correlation is based on qqgraph R package (2, 3). Similar to BioNetwork, the correlation networks can be visualized interactively. Node and edge lists are shown in interactive tables and can be downloaded as tab-delimited text files. The network can be analyzed further in the scope of subnetwork, functional class scoring (or set enrichment analysis), overrepresentation analysis and WordCloud generation.

Inputs

Upload data: 1. Upload multi-column data

Choose File Hep_Glu_24HR.txt

Tab-delimited input data (Try with [example data](#))

and data show in the below table

Input data

Show 10 entries

Entity type:

compound

2. Choose the type of an entity. If the database is installed, entity information will automatically be queried.

Input overview

Search:

| PubChem | Glu5M_24h_1 | Glu5M_24h_2 | Glu5M_24h_3 | Glu5M_24h_4 | Glu5M_24h_5 | Glu5M_24h_6 | Glu10M_24h_1 | Glu10M_24h_2 | GI |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----|
| BinBase61 | 8.9218 | 8.7039 | 9.1111 | 9.0362 | 9.1972 | 8.9944 | 8.9069 | 8.6475 | 8.4 |
| BinBase6330 | 10.7117 | 10.6421 | 10.8368 | 10.3309 | 10.8114 | 10.8471 | 10.3531 | 10.3231 | 10. |
| BinBase66261 | 7.0444 | 8.1497 | 8.1189 | 8.2336 | 8.6366 | 8.2046 | 8.4471 | 8.7616 | 8.7 |
| BinBase7408 | 8.4429 | 7.8765 | 8.1749 | 8.4594 | 8.1396 | 7.7748 | 7.5236 | 6.585 | 6.1 |
| BinBase84181 | 8.1749 | 8.3129 | 8.2336 | 9.1573 | 8.0553 | 8 | 9.236 | 9.9425 | 9.7 |
| BinBase84566 | 7.7211 | 6.7549 | 7.8009 | 7.2288 | 6.9189 | 6.8074 | 7.4757 | 8.1293 | 8.2 |
| BinBase86075 | 9.0471 | 8.543 | 8.8234 | 9.1824 | 8.8611 | 8.9425 | 9.0224 | 9.1189 | 9.4 |

Showing 61 to 67 of 67 entries

Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Next

Minimum correlation coefficient: 0.7

Maximum p-value: 0.05

Method: spearman

Compute **Clear**

3. Set parameters if need and Click 'Compute'.

Fig 11. Inputs panel of Correlations function. Steps to compute correlation networks are listed in blue boxes.

4.2.3 Similarity

The function computes a chemical structure similarity network for the list of PubChem compounds (PubChem CIDs) (Fig 12). The chemical-based network is computed from PubChem substructure fingerprints using chemical similarity searching approach (4, 5). Similar to BioNetwork and Correlations, the similarity networks can be visualized interactively. Node and edge lists are shown in interactive tables and can be downloaded as tab-delimited text files. The network can be analyzed further in the scope of subnetwork, functional class scoring (or set enrichment analysis), overrepresentation analysis and WordCloud generation.

Compute chemical-structure similarity network

Compute chemical structure similarity network.

Inputs

PubChem CIDs:

1. Enter a list of PubChem CIDs or upload a list of PubChem CIDs in a one-column table or multi-column table using 'Upload a file' option on the bottom.

Separate each CID by a new line (try [example](#)).

or Upload a file:

Choose File No file chosen

For one column table: separate each CID by a new line.
For multicolun table: 1st column = CID lists with PubChem as a header, separate each column by tab.

Minimum Tanimoto similarity correlation coefficient:

0.7

Compute **Clear**

2. Set the parameter if need and Click 'Compute'.

Fig 12. Inputs panel of Similarity function. Steps to compute similarity networks are listed in blue boxes.

4.2.4 Subnetwork

The function identifies an active subnetwork of an input network generated by BioNetwork, Correlations and Similarity using entity-level statistics (Fig 13). This approach is based on BioNet R package (6, 7), which identifies the subnetwork by computing node scores and using a heuristic search for the high-scoring subnetwork. Similar to BioNetwork, Correlations and Similarity, the subnetworks can be visualized interactively. Node and edge lists are shown in interactive tables and can be downloaded as tab-delimited text files. The network can be analyzed further in the scope of functional class scoring (or set enrichment analysis), overrepresentation analysis and WordCloud generation.

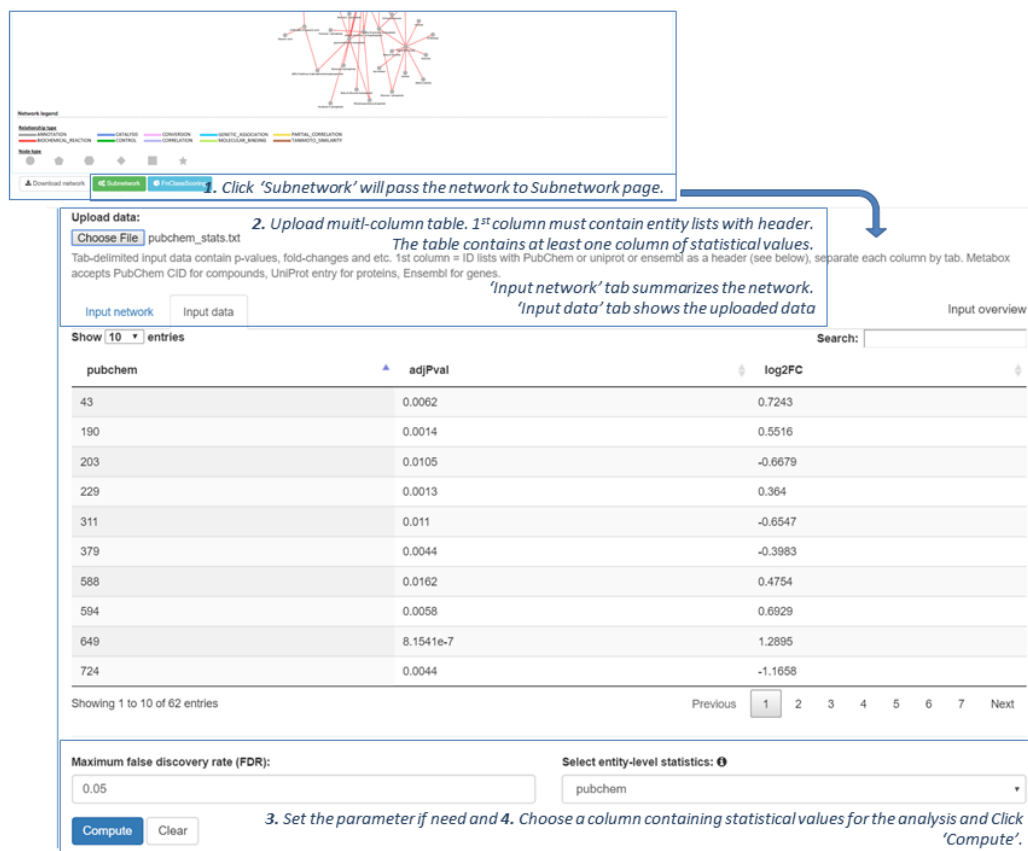


Fig 13. Subnetwork option. Steps to compute a subnetwork are listed in blue boxes.

4.3 FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS

Three different approaches are provided to support functional analysis of entity lists or network nodes. Functional interpretations in the context of KEGG pathways are available for all entity types and the analysis in the scope of Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) (8) chemicals and drugs category from PubChem is included for compounds.

4.3.1 Functional class scoring

Functional class scoring or set enrichment analysis evaluates the significance of annotation terms using entity-level statistics. The function is based on an R package Piano (9) that contains widely used methods for this analysis including Reporter features (10, 11), Fisher's method (12), Stouffer's method (13), Median and Mean. Metabox allows the analysis for network nodes (Fig 14A) as a result of BioNetwork, Correlations, Similarity and Subnetwork and for input entities (Fig 14B).

(A)

Functional class scoring

Estimate enriched functional classes on the input network.

Inputs

Upload data: pubchem_stats.txt
 Tab-delimited input data contain p-values, fold-changes and etc. 1st column = ID lists with PubChem or Uniprot or GeneSymbol as a header (see below), separate each column by tab. Metabox accepts PubChem CID for compounds, UniProt entry for proteins, Ensembl for genes.

Input network ☒ Input data

Input network overview:
 No. of nodes: 45
 No. of edges: 52

Select method:
 Select annotation: ☒ Pathway ☐ Mesh
 Mesh annotation is available for Compound only.

Select entity-level statistics:

2. Upload multi-column table. 1st column must contain entity lists with header. The table contains at least one column of statistical values.
 'Input network' tab summarizes the network. 'Input data' tab shows the uploaded data.
 2. Select analysis method.
 3. Select annotation type.
 4. Choose a column containing statistical values for the analysis and Click 'Compute'.

(B)

Inputs

Upload data: ensembl_stats.txt
 Tab-delimited input data contain p-values, fold-changes and etc. 1st column = ID lists with PubChem or Uniprot or GeneSymbol as a header (see below), separate each column by tab. Metabox accepts PubChem CID for compounds, UniProt entry for proteins, Ensembl for genes. (try example)

Input data ☒ Input overview

Show entries

| ensembl | adjPval | log2FC |
|------------------|----------|--------|
| ENSG00000005673 | 5.66e-21 | 1.01 |
| ENSG00000008366 | 4.32e-15 | -1.18 |
| ENSG00000011275 | 1.52e-15 | -1.25 |
| ENSG000000117308 | 1.24e-26 | 1.55 |
| ENSG000000123989 | 8.23e-25 | 1.75 |
| ENSG000000128268 | 1.51e-17 | -1.28 |
| ENSG000000140297 | 6.07e-23 | 3.22 |
| ENSG000000141934 | 4.72e-24 | 1.53 |
| ENSG000000147162 | 0.0076 | 0.378 |
| ENSG000000162407 | 6.62e-34 | -2.02 |

Showing 1 to 10 of 12 entries

Entity type: Select method: Select annotation: ☒ Pathway ☐ Mesh
 Mesh annotation is available for Compound only.

Select entity-level statistics:

2. Choose the type of an entity.
 3. Select analysis method.
 4. Select annotation type.
 5. Choose a column containing statistical values for the analysis and Click 'Compute'.

Fig 14. FnClassScoring option. Functional class scoring for the input network (A) for the input entities (B). Steps are listed in blue boxes.

4.3.2 Overrepresentation

The function is to identify overrepresented functional terms for the given list of preselected entities using hypergeometric test. Similar to Enrichment, the overrepresentation analysis can be performed on network nodes (Fig 15A) as a result of BioNetwork, Correlations, Similarity and Subnetwork and for input entities (Fig 15B).

(A)

(B)

Overrepresentation analysis

Perform overrepresentation analysis on the input entities.

Inputs

Entity IDs:

1. Enter a list of entity ids or upload a list of entities in a one-column table or multi-column table using 'Upload a file' option on the right.

or Upload a file:

Choose File No file chosen

For one column table: separate each ID by a new line.
For multicolun table: 1st column = ID lists with PubChem or uniprot or ensmbi as a header (see below), separate each column by tab.
Metabox accepts PubChem CID for compounds, UniProt entry for proteins, Ensembl for genes.

Separate each ID by a new line (try example).

Entity type:

compound

Select annotation: Pathway Mesh

Mesh annotation is available for Compound only.

2. Choose the type of an entity.

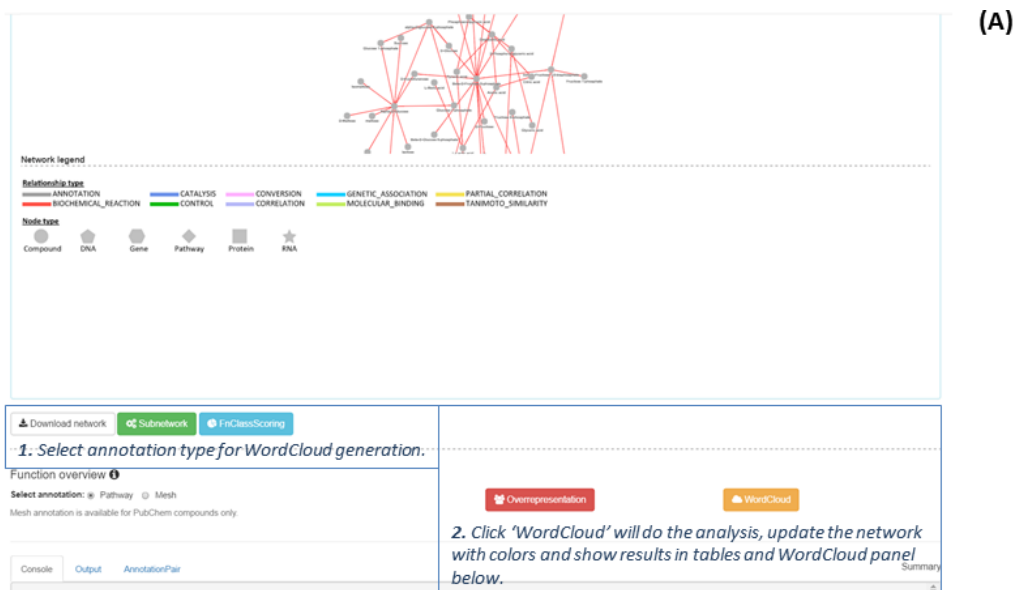
3. Select annotation type for the analysis and Click 'Compute'

Compute Clear

Fig 15. Overrepresentation option. Overrepresentation analysis for the network nodes (A) and overrepresentation analysis for the input entities (B). Steps are listed in blue boxes.

4.3.3 WordCloud

A word cloud is a simple, graphical presentation of words in which the size of a word corresponding to its frequency. It provides a quick summary of annotation terms of the given entities. Similar to Enrichment and Overrepresentation, the WordCloud generation can be performed on network nodes (Fig 16A) as a result of BioNetwork, Correlations, Similarity and Subnetwork and for input entities (Fig 16B).



(B)

Compute WordCloud

Compute WordCloud for the input.

Inputs

Entity IDs:

1. Enter a list of entity ids or upload a list of entities in a one-column table or multi-column table using 'Upload a file' option on the right.

or Upload a file:

Choose File No file chosen

For one column table: separate each ID by a new line.
For multicolun table: 1st column = ID lists with PubChem or uniprot or ensembl as a header (see below), separate each column by tab.
Metabox accepts PubChem CID for compounds, UniProt entry for proteins, Ensembl for genes.

Separate each ID by a new line (try example).

Entity type:

compound

Select annotation: Pathway Mesh

Mesh annotation is available for Compound only.

Compute Clear

2. Choose the type of an entity.

3. Select annotation type for the analysis and Click 'Compute'

Fig 16. WordCloud option. WordCloud generation for the network nodes (A) and WordCloud generation for the input entities (B). Steps are listed in blue boxes.

4.4 CONVERT ID

We include an option to convert input entities to internal ids (IDs) and Grinn ids (GIDs) (Fig 17). The function accepts name of entities or cross-reference ids e.g. KEGG ids.

Convert IDs

Convert to internal database IDs.

Inputs

External IDs:

1. Enter a list of entities or upload a list of entities in a one-column or multiple-column table using 'Upload a file' option. For the multiple-column table, the first column must be the list of entities to be converted.

Separate each ID by a new line (try [example](#)).

or Upload a file:

Choose File No file chosen

Tab-delimited input file, 1st column = IDs

Input file Input overview

Entity type: compound Convert from: xref

Convert Clear

2. Choose type of entity

3. Choose type of feature and Click 'Compute'

Fig 17. ConvertID option. Steps are listed in blue boxes.

5 VISUALIZATION

5.1 Interactive table

The interactive table is used to display multi-column input data and results. Users can customize the number of entries to show, sort data by a specific column and search data in the table (Fig 18). In addition, table outputs of functional analysis will be colored to illustrate top ten annotation terms (See section 5.5 Functional analysis results for details).

Show 10 entries Set the number of entries to show per page Search data in the table Search:

Click a column header to sort

| PubChem | Pval_24h |
|---------|-----------|
| 43 | 4.2022e-8 |
| 51 | 0.0178 |
| 70 | 0.3314 |
| 190 | 0.9952 |
| 196 | 0.4822 |
| 208 | 5.5036e-7 |
| 239 | 0.1302 |
| 243 | 0.0029 |
| 311 | 3.6359e-7 |
| 453 | 0.1616 |

Showing 1 to 10 of 117 entries Previous 1 2 3 4 5 ... 12 Next

Fig 18. Interactive table.

5.2 MeSH tree

The results for MeSH annotations are displayed as a tree in which color scale is ranging from yellow to red (Fig 19). Yellow denotes high p-values for FnClassScoring and Overrepresentation, or small number of frequency for WordCloud, whereas red scale denotes low p-values for FnClassScoring and Overrepresentation, or large number of frequency for WordCloud.

5.4 Interactive network

Network outputs can be interactively explored in the Network panel. Using a mouse or a touchpad can do network navigation such as pan, zoom and select. Network legend is included at the bottom of the panel. Thickness of edges conforms correlation coefficient for weighted-correlation and similarity networks. Solid and dashed lines denote positive and negative correlations respectively. The network will be updated and network nodes will be colored after functional analysis (See section 5.5 Functional analysis results for details).

5.5 Functional analysis results

The results of functional analysis functions including FnClassScoring, Overrepresentation and WordCloud are presented in a table (Fig 21) and a network form (Fig 22).

Enrichment table, Overrepresentation table and WordCloud table contain a rank column, which is sorted by p-values for FnClassScoring and Overrepresentation, or by frequency for WordCloud. Top ten annotation terms will be colored and the color legend is illustrated in the Network panel. The tables include statistical values of annotation terms, number of input entities and the list of entities of each annotation term.

| rank | id | gid | nodename | nodelabel | nodesref | p | p_adj | no_of_entities | annotation_size | member |
|------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | D013403 | D013403 | Sugar Phosphates | Mesh | D013403 | 0.0051 | 0.2882 | 6 | 342 | 439184,440043,208,754,65533,2526 |
| 2 | D009711 | D009711 | Nucleotides | Mesh | D009711 | 0.0131 | 0.2882 | 3 | 2314 | 445675,17473,6083 |
| 3 | D012265 | D012265 | Ribonucleotides | Mesh | D012265 | 0.0131 | 0.2882 | 3 | 1598 | 445675,17473,6083 |
| 4 | D006027 | D006027 | Glycosides | Mesh | D006027 | 0.0208 | 0.3432 | 5 | 5137 | 445675,17473,6083,60961,439176 |
| 5 | D011743 | D011743 | Pyrimidines | Mesh | D011743 | 0.0408 | 0.5386 | 3 | 3374 | 1174,445675,17473 |
| 6 | D006573 | D006573 | Heterocyclic Compounds, 1-Ring | Mesh | D006573 | 0.0711 | 0.6958 | 6 | 27777 | 1174,445675,17473,1049,7405,588 |
| 7 | D005977 | D005977 | Glutamines | Mesh | D005977 | 0.0738 | 0.6958 | 3 | 79 | 31,1662,43 |
| 8 | D000409 | D000409 | Alanine | Mesh | D000409 | 0.0902 | 0.7607 | 3 | 112 | 9813,239,6960 |
| 9 | D003998 | D003998 | Dicarboxylic Acids | Mesh | D003998 | 0.1532 | 0.9762 | 8 | 957 | 110,525,444972,1081,51,196,1662,43 |

Showing 1 to 10 of 66 entries
Sorted by statistical values.
Top ten terms are colored.
Colors in the table and nodes are the same.
Color legend is in the Network panel.

Statistical values from the analysis

Number of users input entities member of the term

Total number of entities member of the term from the resources

Ids of members of the term

Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Next

Fig 21. Table form of functional analysis result. The outputs of functional analysis (FnClassScoring in this figure) compose of three tables. The Enrichment table is shown here.

Network nodes or input entities in the Network panel are shown with a pie-chart format in which colors represent top ten annotation terms from the analysis. The color legend is automatically generated in the Network panel and colors also show in the result tables. Pie size does not reflect any typical value. Each node can totally contain ten pies if it belongs to the top ten annotation terms. Nodes that are not the parts of the top ten annotations or not annotated are in grey.

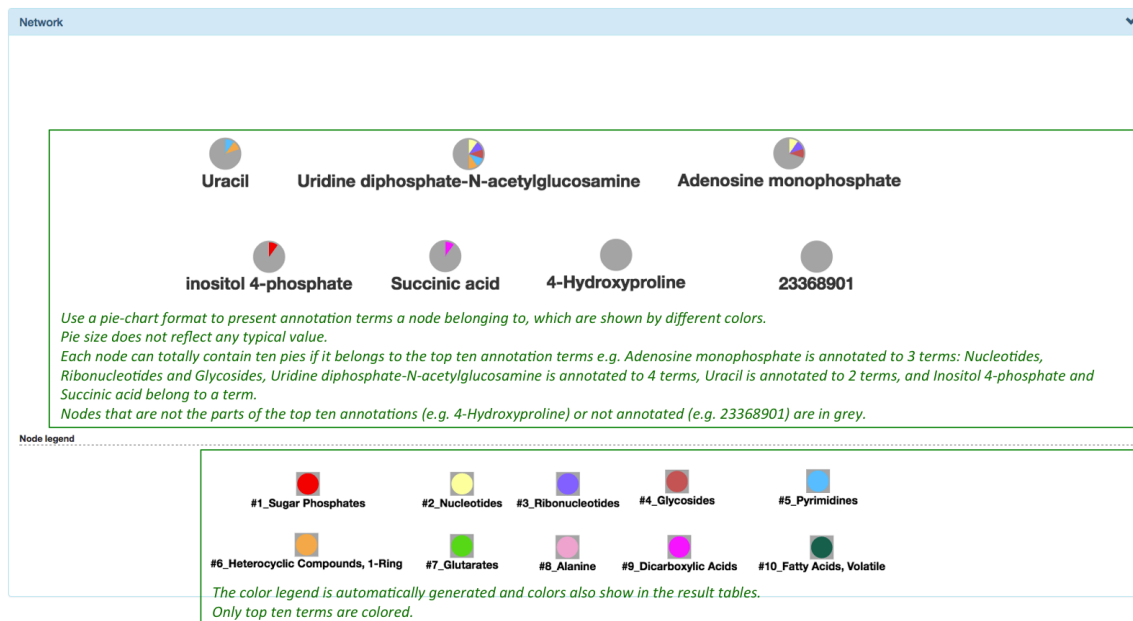


Fig 22. Network form of functional analysis result. The network output of functional analysis (FnClassScoring in this figure) is shown with a pie-chart format.

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