**Manual**

**EPIC: Elution Profile-based Inference of Protein Complex Membership**

Welcome to the EPIC installation manual, in this document we provide a step-by-step guide on installing and running the EPIC pipeline using Docker. For instructions on installing EPIC directly on your computer, please follow the README.MD file at the root of EPIC’s GitHub repository.

**1 Installing dependencies**

In order to run EPIC locally on your machine, docker needs to be installed, and for easy installation of the EPIC docker image we recommend installing kitematic, as well as creating a docker hub login. Additionally to the docker software suite, we also recommend installing the current version of Cytoscape.

**Docker:**

For mac OS X follow instructions from (https://docs.docker.com/docker-for-mac/)

**Kitematic:**

The current version of Kitematic can be downloaded and installed from (https://kitematic.com/).

**Cytoscape:**

Cytoscape is available from (http://www.cytoscape.org/).

**2 Building the docker image**

The docker EPIC image is online available and can be easily installed by running the following command line in the Terminal/shell (this is recommended):

docker pull baderlab/bio-epic

Alternatively the docker can also be installed using the Kitematic user interface as follows:

Macintosh HD:Users:florian:Documents:EPIC-manual1.pdf

1. First starting Kitematic and enter bio-epic into the search mask
2. Clicking on the CREATE button on the Repository selection

**3 Input files**

EPIC accepts three types of input files:

**3.1 Elution profile files**

This is a tab separated file containing the elution profile for all the proteins in one distinct co-fractionation experiment, thus in case of multiple experiments each experiment has its own elution profile file. The first line of the elution profile file is the header line where the first column is ignored, and each subsequent column contains the name of the fraction. Each following line of the elution profile file contains the elution profile for one protein, where the first column contains the protein ID and the following columns each contain the MS value (either spectral counts or intensity) of the protein in each distinct fraction. Examples of the elution profile file can be found in EPIC GitHub (https://github.com/BaderLab/EPIC/tree/master/test\_data/elution\_profiles/).

**3.2 Reference protein complexes (optional)**

This file can be optionally supplied as protein complex reference set, instead of having them automatically generated from CORUM, IntAct, and GO. This file does not have a header line, and each row of the file describes one protein complex by concatenating all its members with tab characters. An example of this file can be found in EPIC GitHub (https://github.com/BaderLab/EPIC/tree/master/test\_data/Worm\_reference\_complexes.txt).

**3.3 Functional annotation network (optional)**

This file can be supplied as an alternative source for functional annotation data that should be used by the EPIC pipeline. This file is also tab separated and has a header line that contains the name of each supplied functional annotation score. Each row contains the scores for each protein pair, where the first two columns contain the protein IDs, and the following columns contain the annotation scores for the protein interaction. An example of functional annotation network file can be found in EPIC GitHub (https://github.com/BaderLab/EPIC/blob/master/test\_data/WormNetV3\_noZeros\_no\_physical\_interactions.txt).

**4 Input folder structure**

For EPIC to properly run the user needs to create a folder that will be linked with the docker image, from which the docker can read and write data from the user. This folder should contain a sub-folder for each elution file the user wants to process, and this folder stores all the elution profile files for the given project. In turn EPIC will read in the data and once done will create an output folder in the same directory that contains all the output files and has the suffix “inputfolder\_out”.

Note that before running, this folder should only contain elution profile files. This file folder shouldn’t have any other unnecessary files. If you want to run EPIC again, make sure remove the output files/folders first.

For example, here we created a folder named input, which contains a folder named test, which in turn contains 4 elution profile files.

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**5 Starting EPIC**

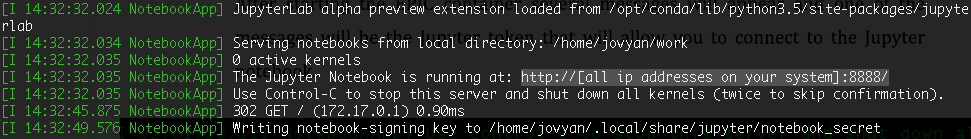
We recommend setting 6.0 GiB for Memory and 3.0 GiB for Swap. Make sure you re-start Docker after updating from our Docker repository.

Before starting EPIC, if you want to see the output results in Cytoscape, Cytoscape should be running on your computer before you run EPIC.

For mac OS X, Jupyter EPIC can be started by opening a terminal window. First copy the start-EPIC.sh file from …/src/ folder (if you’ve cloned the EPIC GitHub repository) or copy the file from https://github.com/BaderLab/EPIC/tree/master/src to the directory containing the input folder (see 4). After cd to the directory containing the input folder (see 4). Use the following command:

bash start-EPIC.sh

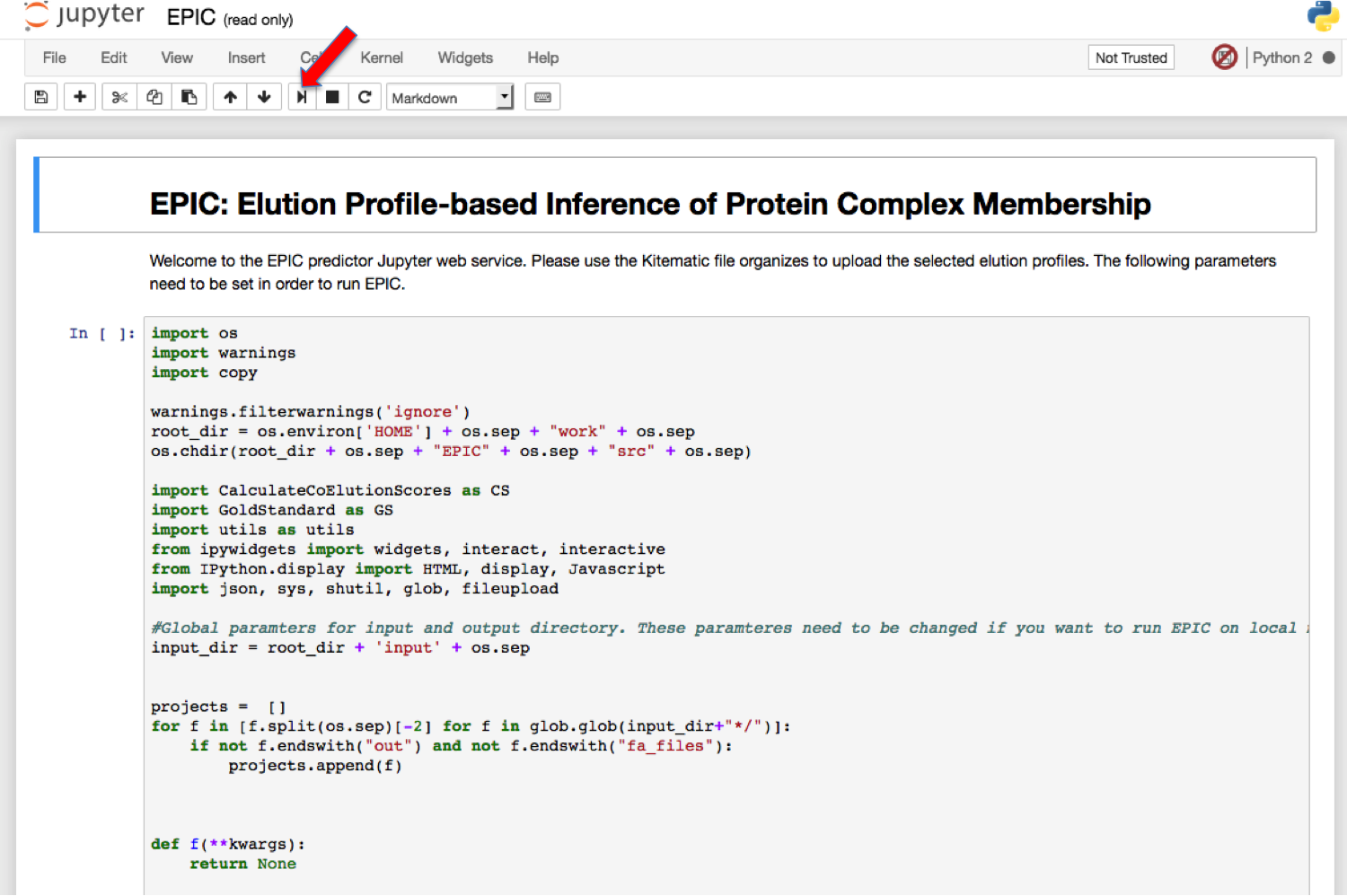
After starting the EPIC container several messages will appear and one of the messages will be the Jupyter token that will allow you to connect to the Jupyter notebook.



The highlighted part can be modified to “http://localhost:8888/”, after typing this into a web browser, you will see this:

Macintosh HD:Users:florian:Documents:EPIC-manual4.pdf

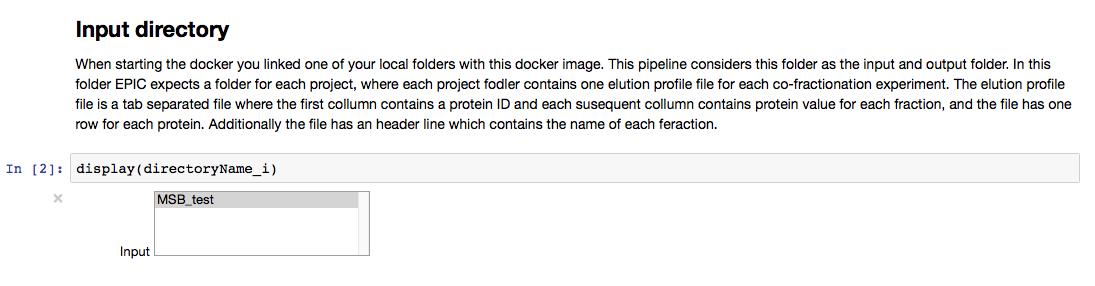
From here, after clicking EPIC.ipynb the EPIC notebook will be started and you will see:



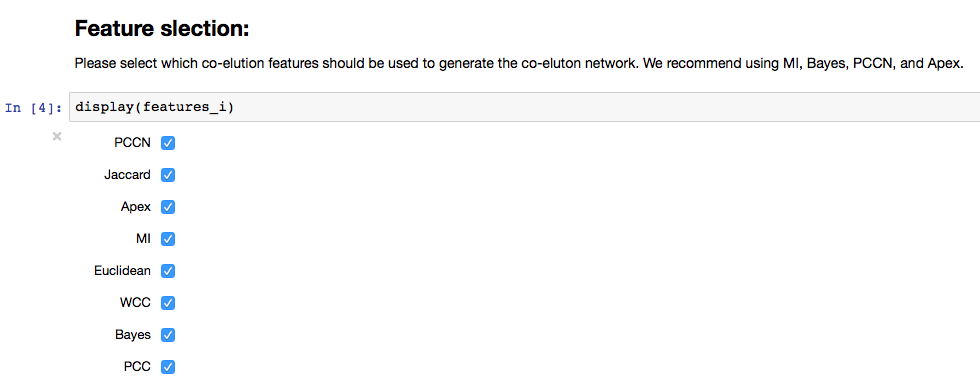
You can click the run button (red arrow) to process each cell. Jupyter is easy to use, as there are plenty of online tutorials available. If you are interested into this, you should definitely check them.

Note: There are a couple of steps that require user input parameters to be set, which we highlight below. You need to keep clicking the run button to run each notebook cell until the notebook asks for parameters, then set the required parameter and continue clicking run to run each notebook cell.

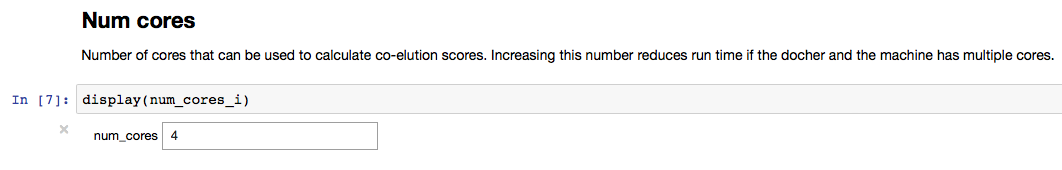
Make sure you go back to re-click to run the cell after you typing your own input!



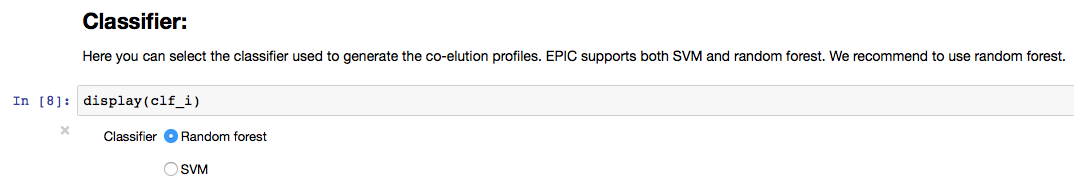
In the input box shown above, you should see the file folder containing all your elution profile files, and you should click it and then click run to process to the next cell/step.

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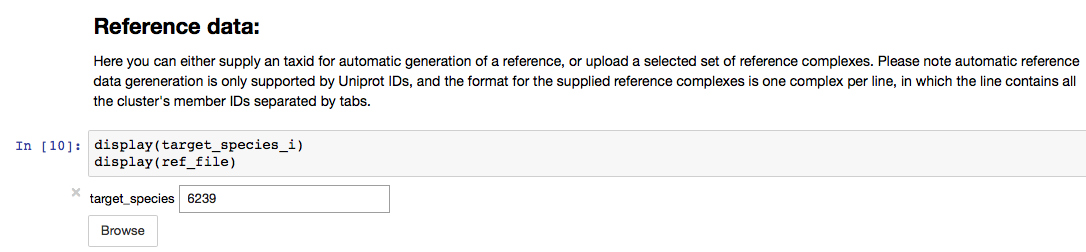
In the input box shown above, you should click the correlation scores you want to use. You should make your own decision. Ideally, you can benchmark all possible combinations using a super computing platform, or use the score combinations we optimized in the EPIC paper.



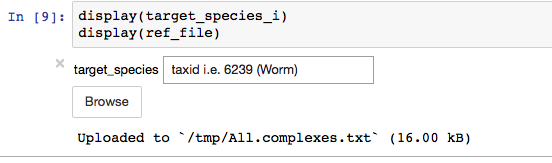
In the input box shown above, you should specify the number of cores you want to use for running EPIC. In general, the more cores used, the faster the EPIC will be, but the optimal number of cores to specify is dependent on your computer hardware.



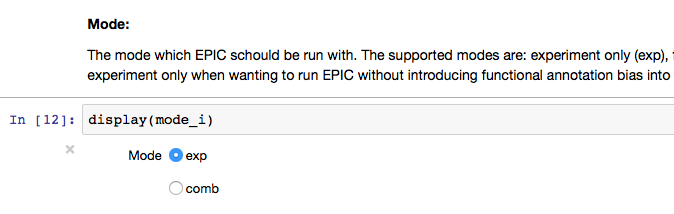
In the input box shown above, you see the two machine learning algorithms used in EPIC. You can select the one you want to use.



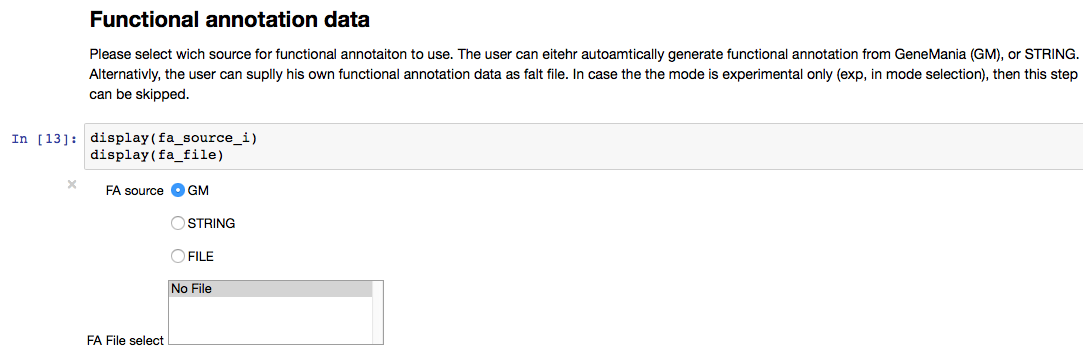
In the input box shown above, you should type the taxonomy identifier for the species you want to study. EPIC helps you automatically downloaded all the data from public databases: CORUM, GO and IntAct. The reference protein complexes file was generated after merging all the redundant protein complexes.



Or you can supply a reference file you want to use from you own collection. An example of this reference file can be found at GitHub (https://github.com/BaderLab/EPIC/blob/master/test\_data/Worm\_reference\_complexes.txt). In this case, you should not touch your “target\_species” input box. And browse the reference complexes file. When you see the “Uploaded to …” message, this tells you the local functional evidence data is uploaded successfully and you can safely move to the next step.



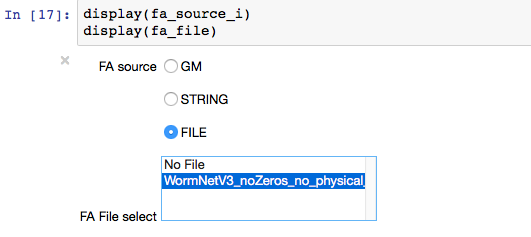
In the input box shown above, you can select, if you want to incorporate functional evidence or not. “exp” means purely based on functional evidence, and “comb” means the data is based on both experimental data and functional evidence.



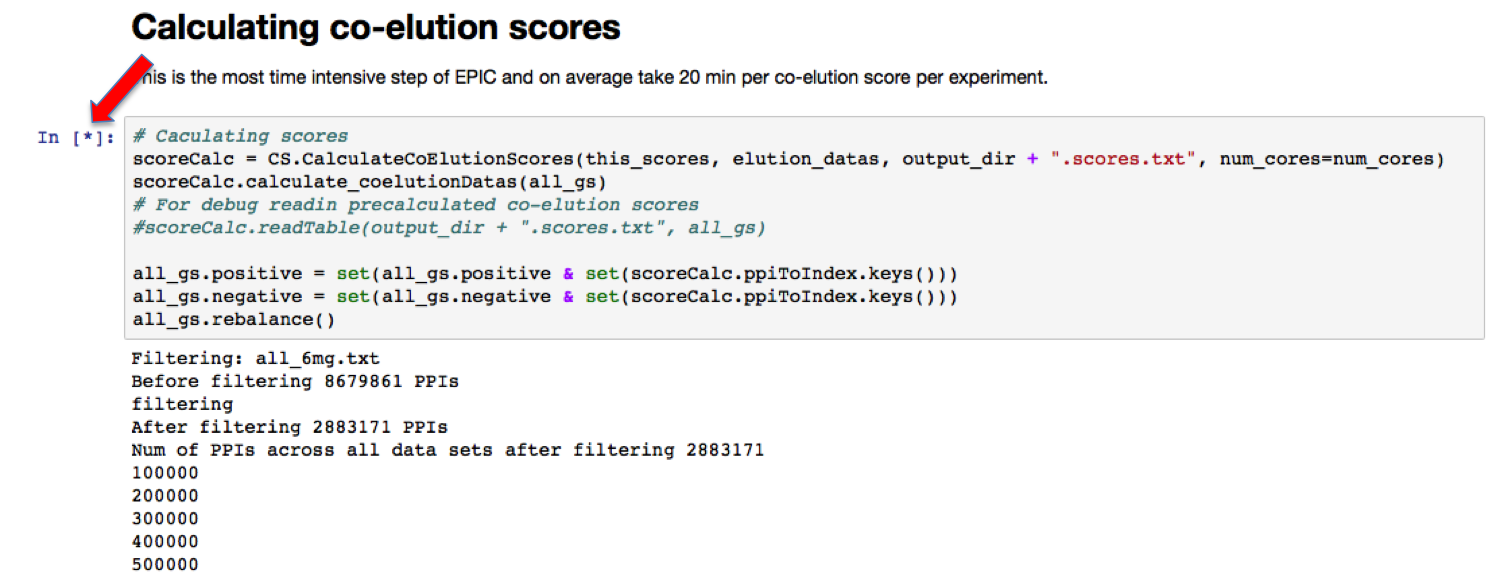
In the input box shown above, you can select the resource of functional evidence you want to incorporate. If you select “exp” in the Mode section, this step can be skipped and left as default.

Macintosh HD:Users:lucasminghu:Desktop:Screen Shot 2018-05-21 at 12.28.49 PM.png

You can also supply your own functional evidence file. An example of function evidence file can be found in GitHub as mentioned before (<https://github.com/BaderLab/EPIC/blob/master/test_data/WormNetV3_noZeros_no_physical_interactions.txt>). If you want to use your own functional evidence data, you should create a file folder named “fa\_files” in your input directory and put your functional evidence data into this file folder (as below). In the input directory, there should be two file folders, one has elution files (MSB\_test) and one has functional evidence data (fa\_files). It is noted that the elution file folder name can be anything you want, but the functional evidence data file folder is fixed. In general, it is best to place these files in their required locations before starting the Docker container.



Then to use functional evidence data, you will select the “FILE” and the selected functional evidence data file as shown below.



This is the most time-consuming step in EPIC. It might take hours, depending on the size of your input data. The star pointed by red arrow means this cell/step is currently running.

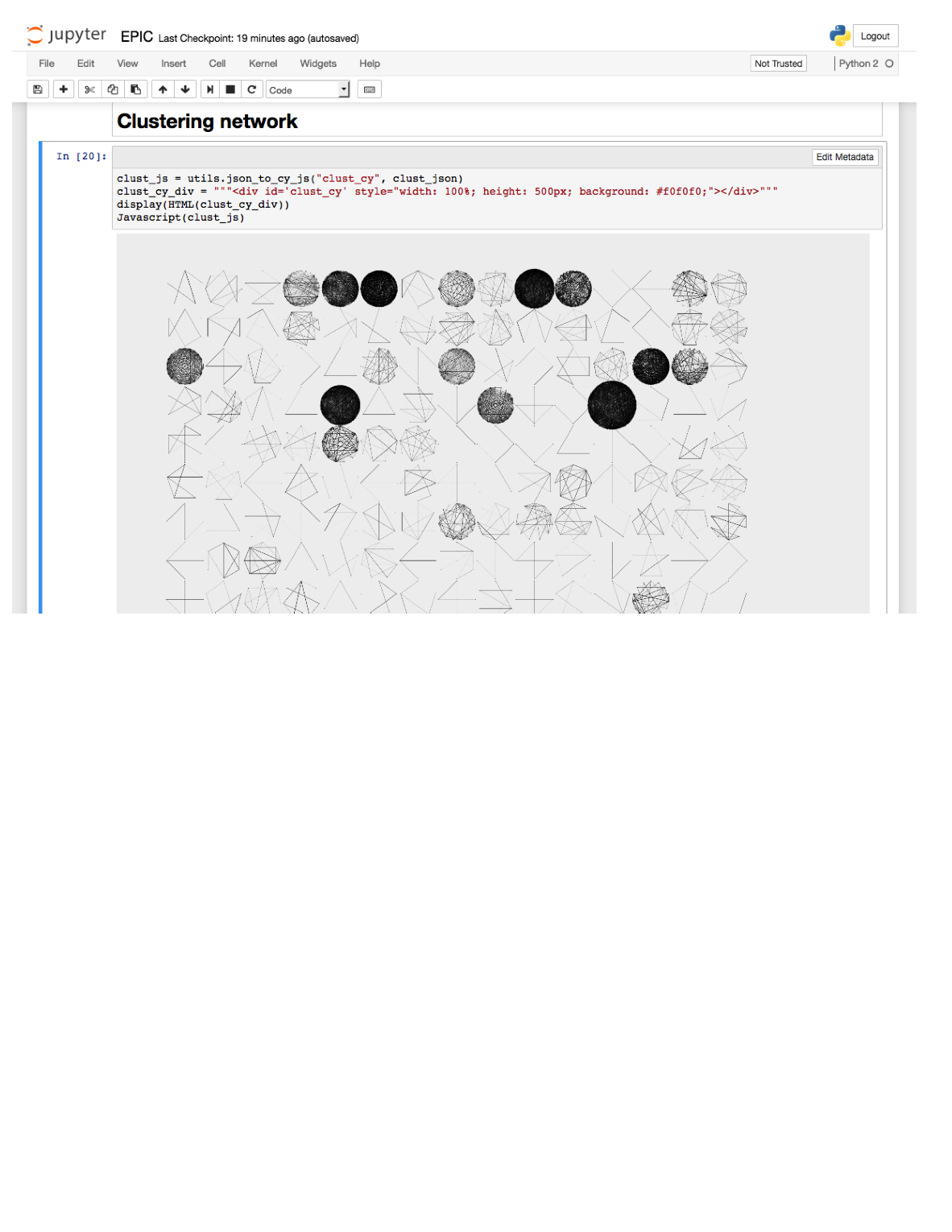
**6 EPIC output**

After following the prompts of the Jupyter notebook several output files and plots will be generated as well as Cytoscape network will be generated in a running Cytoscape instance.

**7 EPIC output**

After following the prompts of the Jupyter notebook several output files and plots will be generated as well as a Cytoscape network will be generated in a running Cytoscape instance.

**7.1 Cytoscape visualization within the browser**

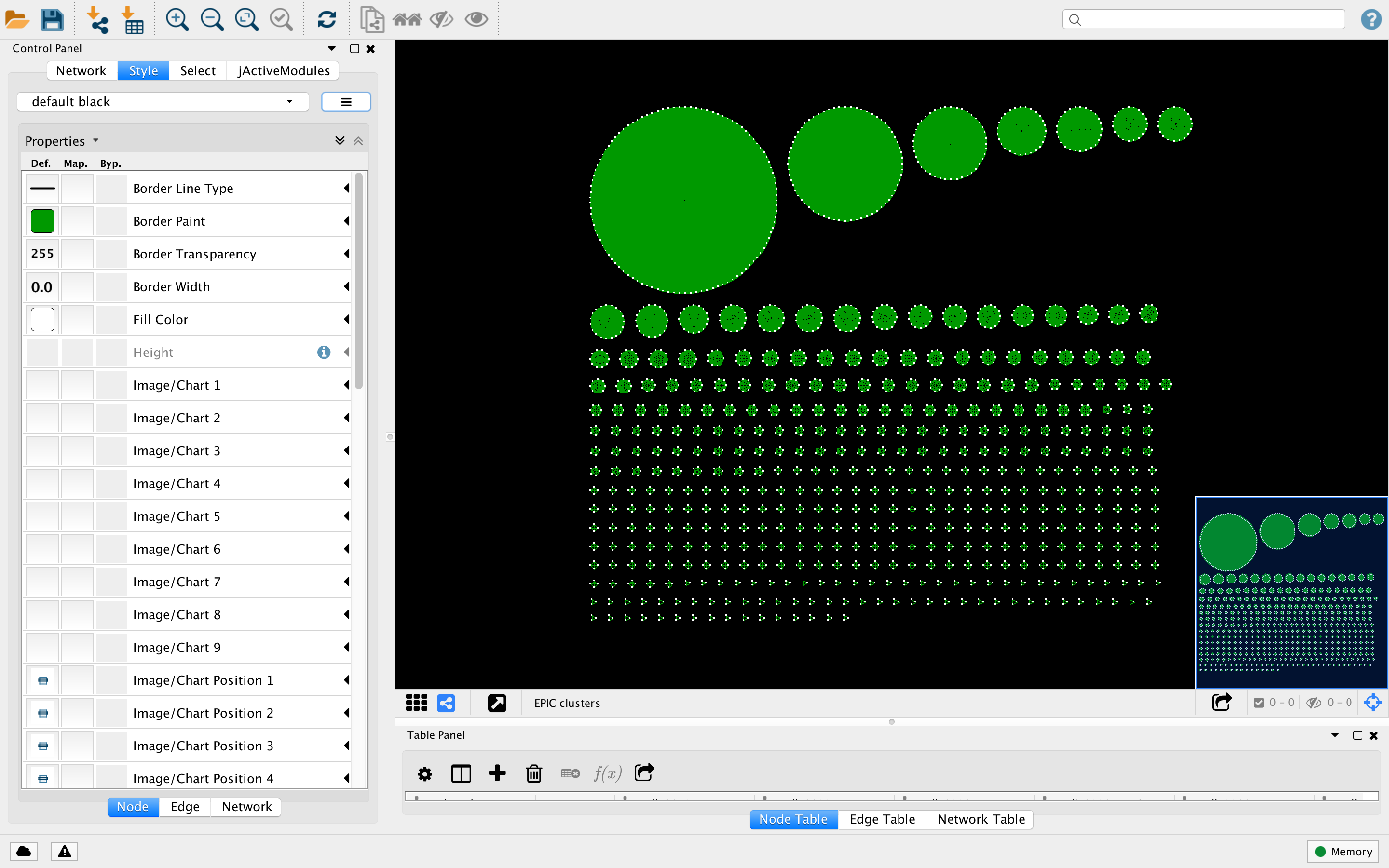


The next figure shows the interactive cytoscape.js widget that visualizes the generated protein complexes, and the user can zoom in and out as well move clusters in side this widget. This allows users to have an initial glance at their created protein complexes, and can always be generated even if the user does not have Cytoscape locally installed.

**7.2 Cytoscape**

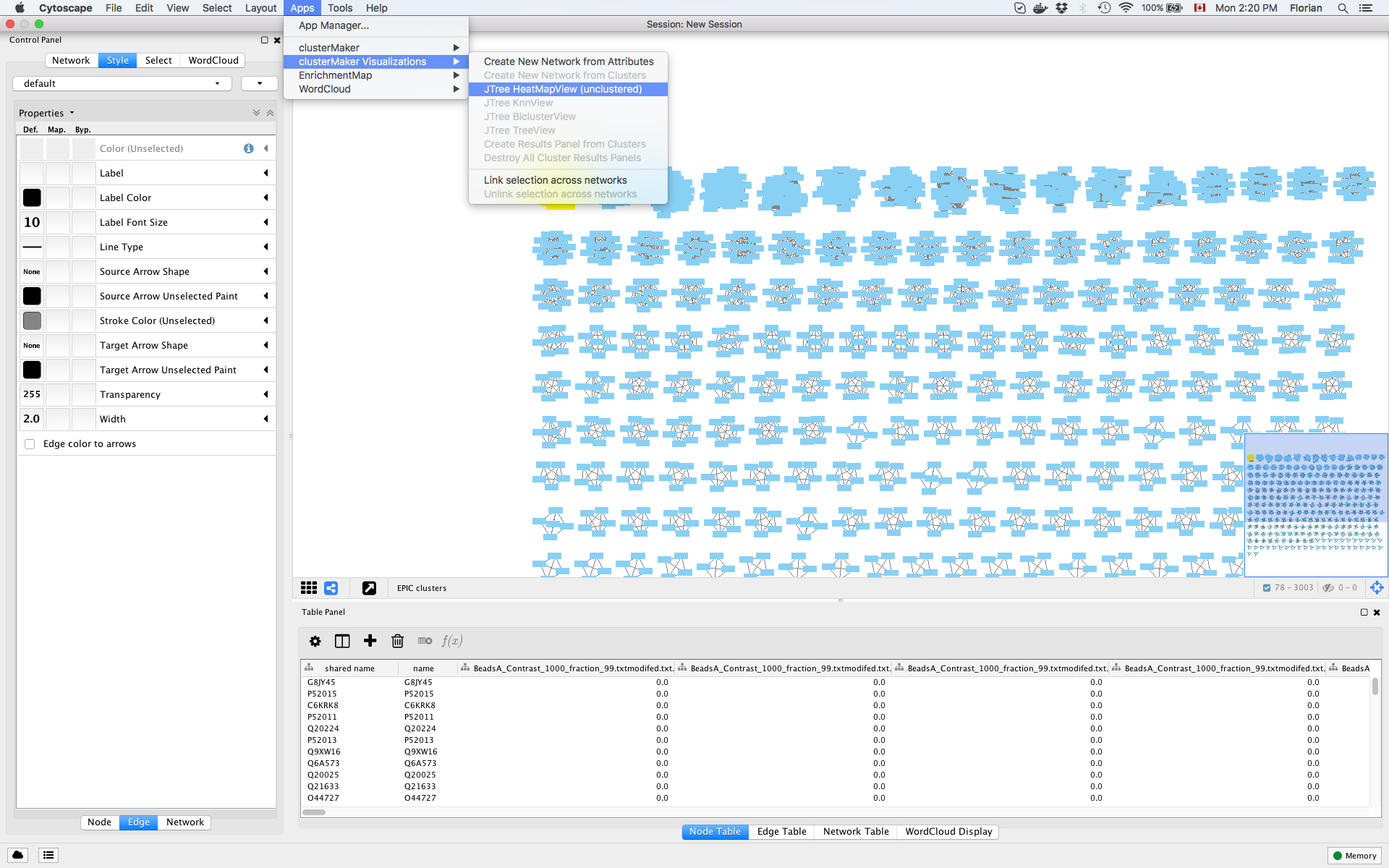
(Make sure your Cytoscape is running before running the Jupyter Notebook, if you want to process this step.)

Running the last cell in the EPIC Jupyter script will send the created clusters to a running Cytoscape instance and generate a new network named “EPIC clusters”, and once selecting the running Cytoscape session the user is prompted to create the view. Once the view has been created the user will see a network that contains a connected component for each predicted cluster. (Make sure to run the layout to see the map!)

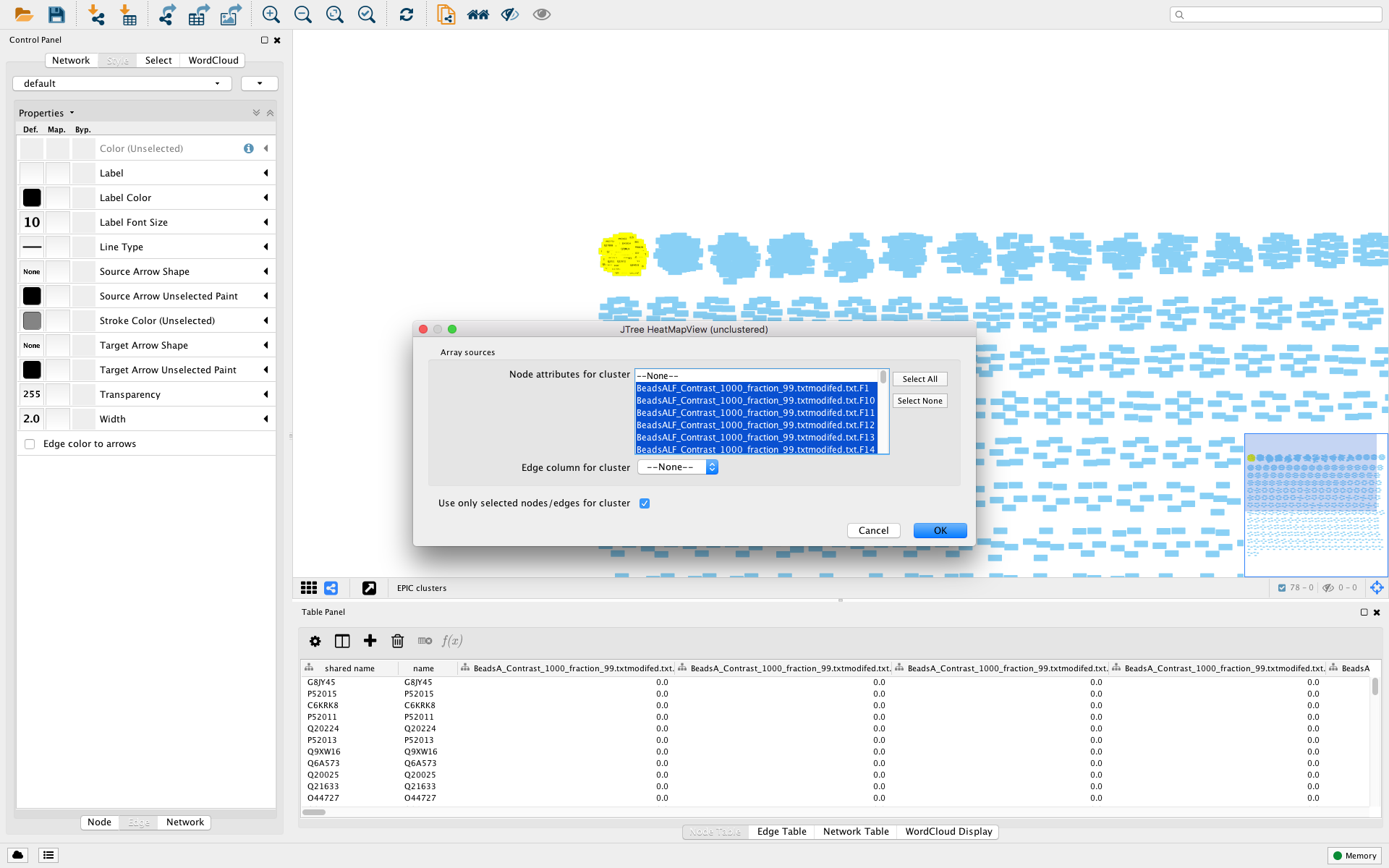


If the user has installed the clustermaker2 app from the Cytoscape app store he can visualize the elution profile for any selected protein as follows (Note, this app is not functional in Cytoscape 3.6.0+, but we are working on fixing it):

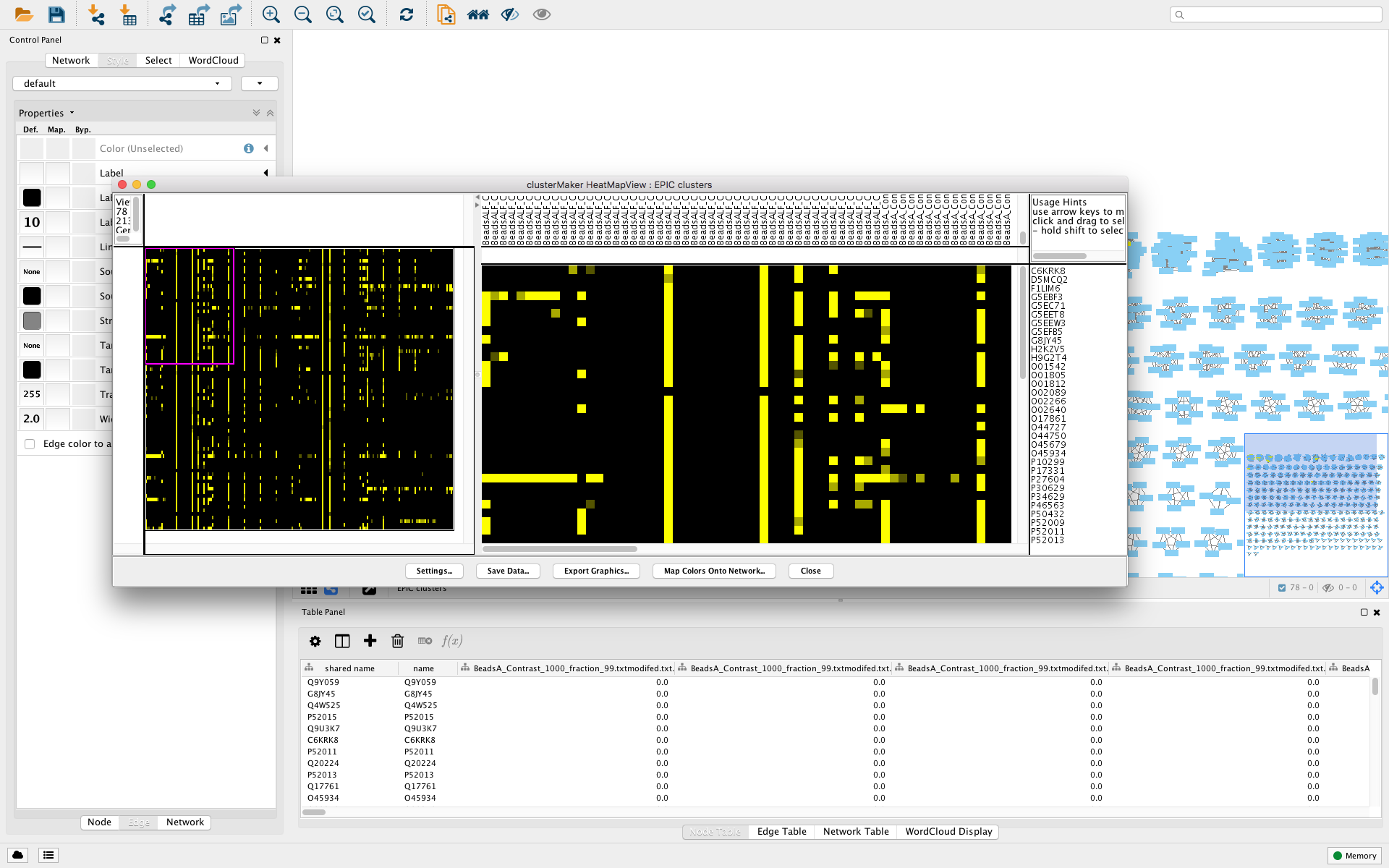
First select the JTree heatMapView from Apps:



This will open the following window, in which the user should select all elution score Node attributes, and check the lower box that says “Use only selected nodes/edges for clustering”:



This will result in opening another window in which the user can freely browse the elution profiles of the selected proteins:



**8 Collecting the output**

EPIC will create an output directory in the shared folder that contains the project folder and stores several output files in it. Each file has a prefix consisting of the used classifier method and the mode in which EPIC was run with (modes are EXP, or COMB). For example if EPIC was run with a random forest classifier and experiment only each file will have the prefix “Out.rf.exp”. The most important files are as follows:

**\*.scores.txt**

contains the raw co-elution score.

**\*.pred.txt**

This tab-separated file contains the generated binary protein interaction network, where the first two columns store the protein ids and the third column is the classifier confidence score.

**\*.comp.txt**

This is the predicted protein complex file, where each line describes one protein complex.