

# Estimating Time-Varying Networks

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Booth School of Business

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# Acknowledgments



E. Xing



L. Song



A. Ahmed



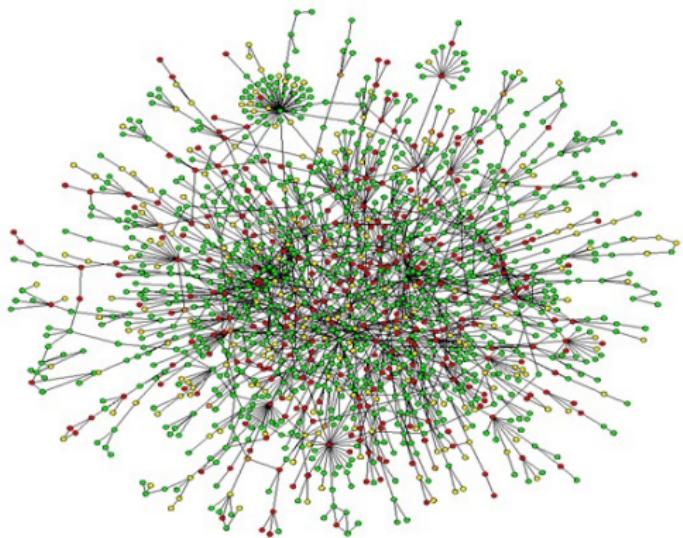
A. Parikh

Networks are mathematical abstractions of complex systems

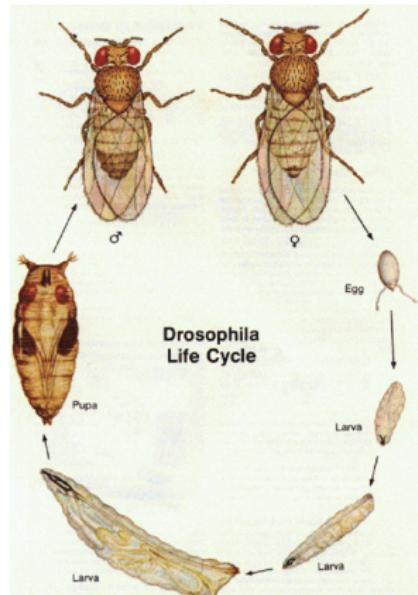
Networks are useful for

- visualization
- discovery of regularity patterns
- exploratory analysis
- ...

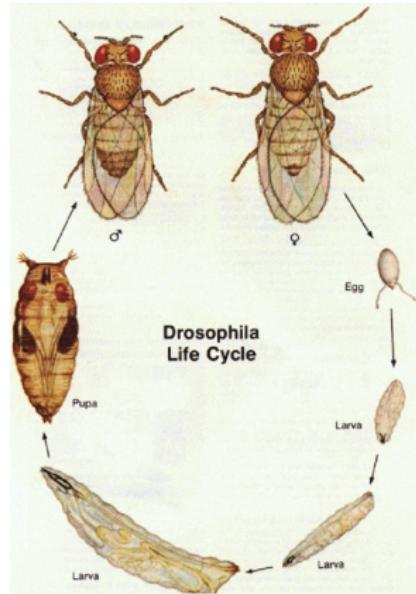
of complex systems.



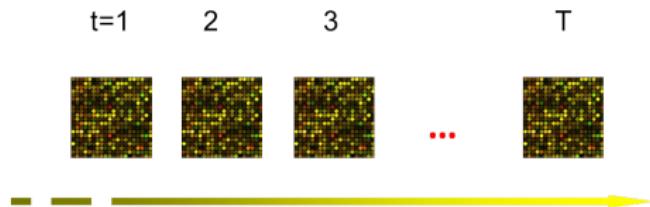
# Interactions between variables are not always observable



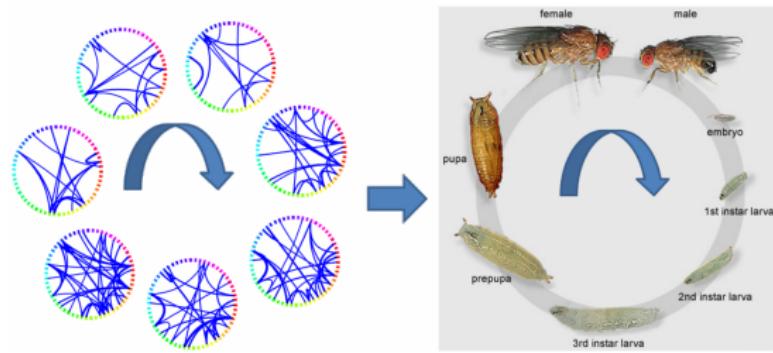
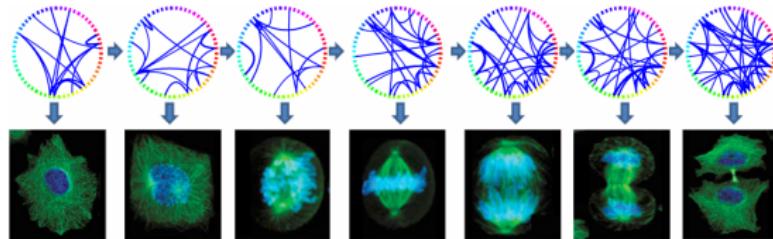
# Interactions between variables are not always observable



Data collected over a period of time is easily accessible



# Estimating time-varying networks



# Talk Objective

How to recover *changing* interactions between objects from data  
*collected over time?*

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How to recover *changing* interactions between objects from data  
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Challenges:

- Number of samples small
- Large number of objects
- Noisy data
- Data may contain missing values
- ...

# Outline

- ① Estimating Conditional Independence Relationships
  - Representation – Markov Networks
  - Estimating Graph Structure

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- ① **Estimating Conditional Independence Relationships**
  - Representation – Markov Networks
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# Markov Networks

Random vector  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_p)'$

Graph  $G = (V, E)$  with  $p$  nodes

- represents conditional independence relationships between nodes

Useful for exploring associations between measured variables

$$(a, b) \notin E \iff X_a \perp X_b \mid X_{\overline{ab}} \quad (\overline{ab} := V \setminus \{a, b\})$$

$$\mathbb{P}[X_a \mid X_b, X_{\overline{ab}}] = \mathbb{P}[X_a \mid X_{\overline{ab}}]$$

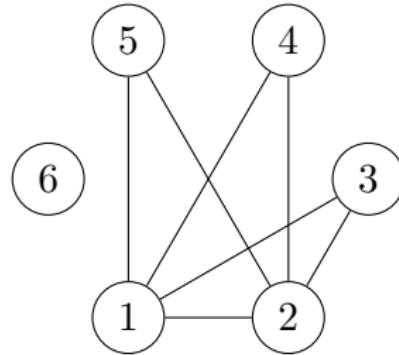
# Two Common Markov Networks

Gaussian Markov Network:  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$$

The precision matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Omega} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$  encodes both parameters and the graph structure

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



(Koller and Friedman, 2009; Lauritzen, 1996)

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Discrete Markov network:  $\mathbf{X} \in \{-1, 1\}^p$  (Ising model)

$$p(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\Theta}) \propto \exp\left(\sum_{a \in V} x_a \theta_{aa} + \sum_{a,b \in V \times V} x_a x_b \theta_{ab}\right)$$

$\boldsymbol{\Theta} = (\theta_{ab})_{ab}$  encodes the conditional independence relationships

(Koller and Friedman, 2009; Lauritzen, 1996)

# Structure Learning Problem

Given an *i.i.d.* sample  $\mathcal{D}_n = \{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  from a distribution  $\mathbb{P} \in \mathcal{P}$

Learn the set of conditional independence relationships

$$\hat{G} = \hat{G}(\mathcal{D}_n)$$

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Gaussian Markov Networks (Drton and Perlman, 2007)

- Form the maximum likelihood estimator for the covariance matrix
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Discrete Markov Networks (Chickering, 1996)

- Hard to learn structure, since the log partition function cannot be evaluated efficiently

# Structure Learning in High-Dimensions

## Penalized Pseudo-Likelihood Estimation

- Neighborhood Selection
- Useful for learning the structure of Gaussian and discrete Markov Networks

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_a = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_a \in \mathbb{R}^p} \sum_{i \in [n]} \gamma(\boldsymbol{\theta}_a; \mathbf{x}_i) - \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_a\|_1$$

Conditional likelihood:  $\gamma(\boldsymbol{\theta}_a; \mathbf{x}_i) = \log \mathbb{P}[x_{i,a} \mid \mathbf{x}_{i,\bar{a}}; \boldsymbol{\theta}_a]$

(Meinshausen and Bühlmann, 2006)  
(Ravikumar, Wainwright, and Lafferty, 2009)

# Neighborhood Selection

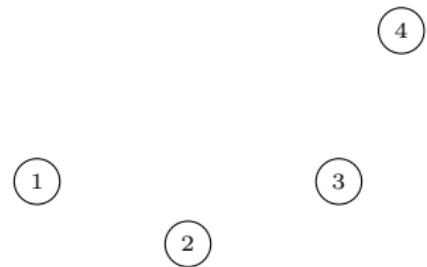
Local structure estimation

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_a = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_a \in \mathbb{R}^p} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}_a; \mathcal{D}_n) - \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_a\|_1$$



Estimated neighborhood

$$\hat{\mathbf{N}}_a = \{b \in V \mid \hat{\theta}_{ab} \neq 0\}$$



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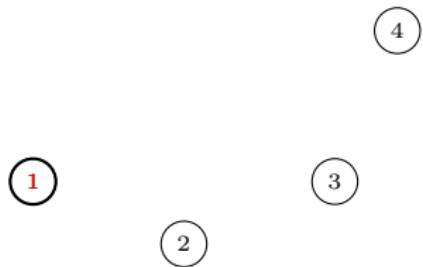
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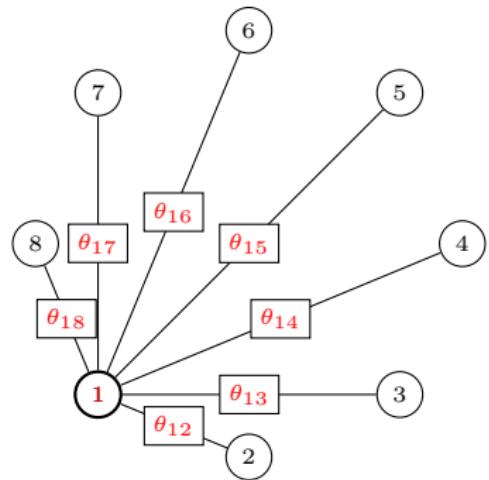
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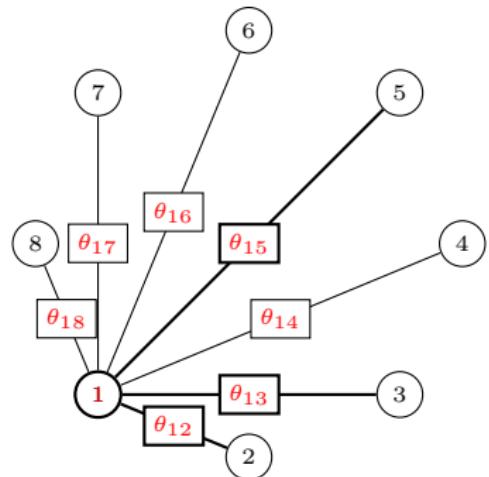
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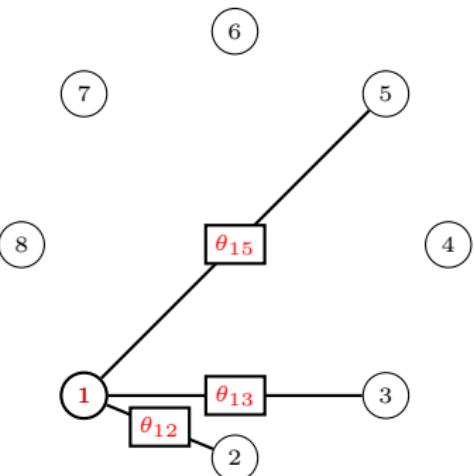
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$$\hat{\mathbf{N}}_a = \{2, 3, 5\}$$



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Local structure estimation

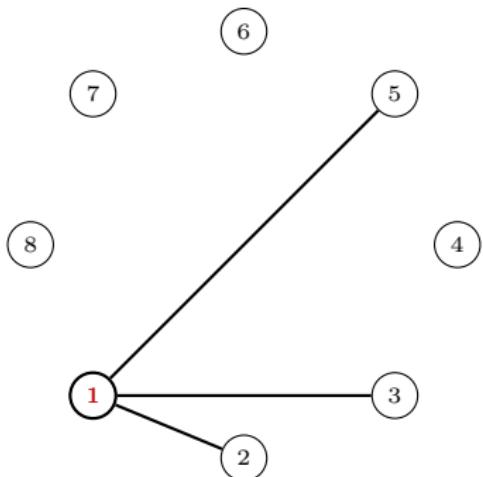
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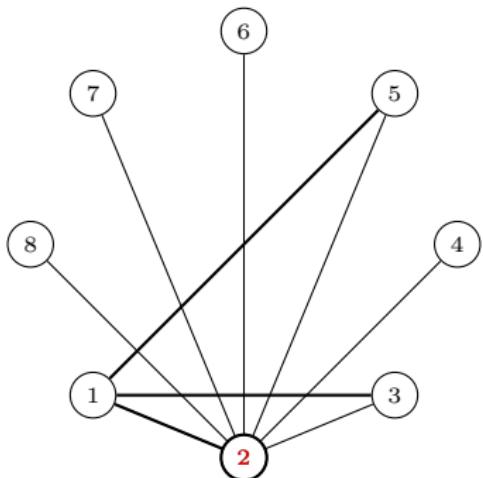
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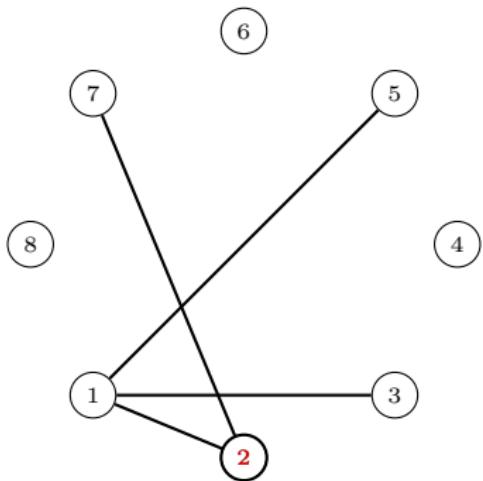
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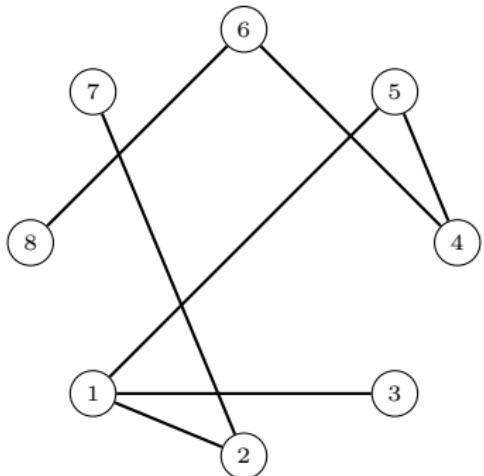
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# Properties of Neighborhood Selection

Graph structure can be recovered consistently

- provable guarantees in a high-dimensional setting
- Meinshausen and Bühlmann (2006); Ravikumar, Wainwright, and Lafferty (2009)  
Peng, Wang, Zhou, and Zhu (2009)

Fast estimation procedures

- efficient solvers for  $\ell_1$  penalized problems
- Beck and Teboulle (2009); Friedman, Hastie, and Tibshirani (2008)

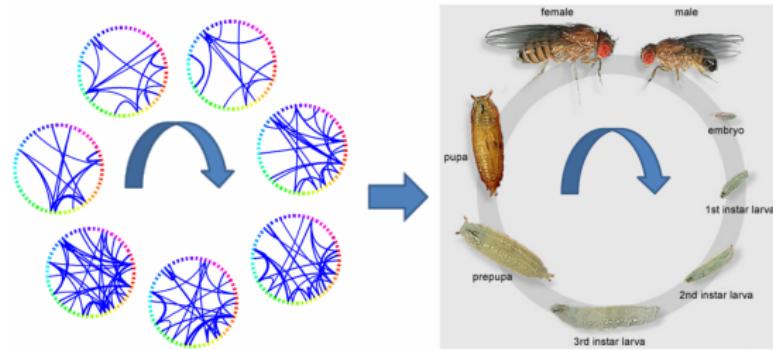
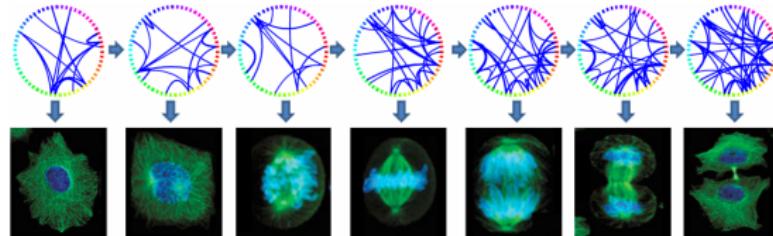
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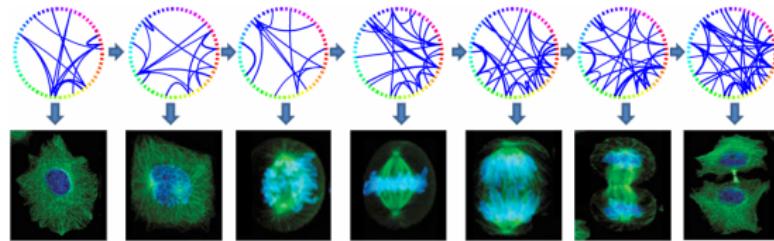
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# Estimating Time-Varying Networks

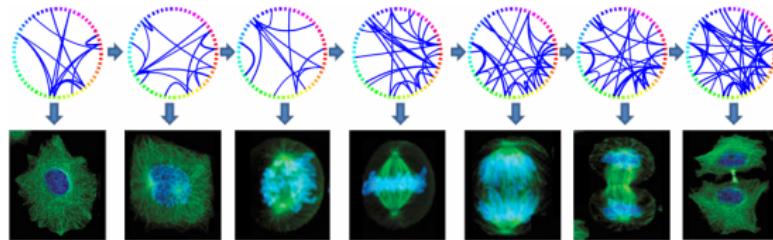


# Estimating Time-Varying Networks



$$\mathbf{x}^t \sim \mathbb{P}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^t; G^t)$$

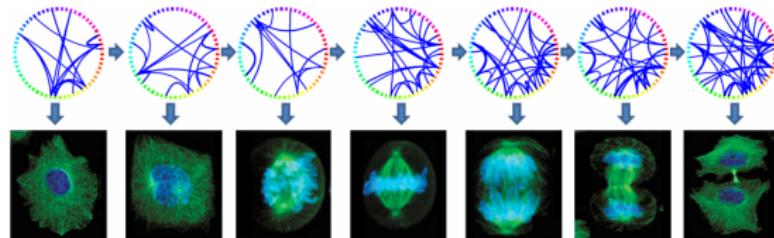
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Nodal observations

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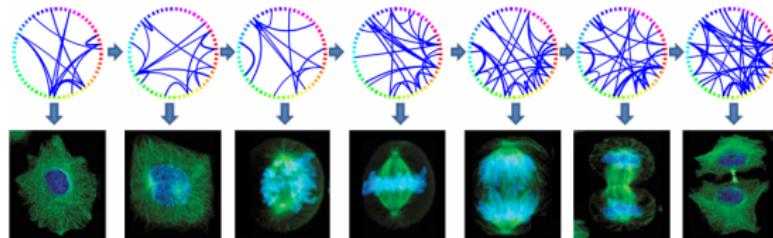


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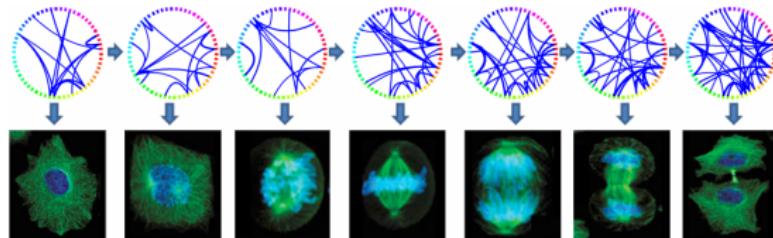
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$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}^t \sim \mathbb{P}(\underline{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^t; \underline{G}^t)$$

Nodal observations

Varying Structure

Varying Coefficients

$$E^t = \{(a, b) \in V \times V \mid \theta_{ab}^t \neq 0\}$$

# General Estimation Framework

Data:  $\mathcal{D}_n = \{\mathbf{x}^t \mid \mathbf{x}^t \sim \mathbb{P}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^t; G^t)\}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_n}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}_n = \{1/n, 2/n, \dots, 1\}$

$$\arg \max \ell(\mathcal{D}_n, \{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\}) - \text{pen}(\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\})$$

Loss:  $\ell(\mathcal{D}_n, \{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\})$

- measures the fit of model to data

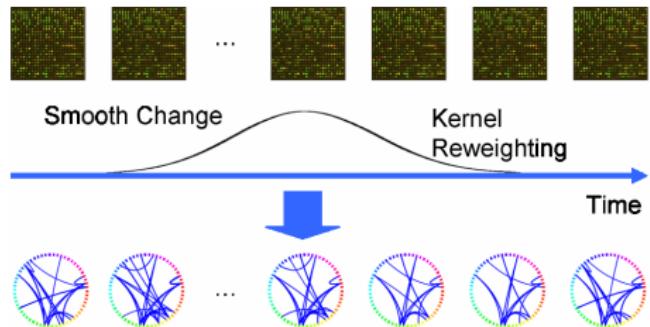
Penalty:  $\text{pen}(\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\})$

- balances the complexity of model and the fit to data
- encodes structural assumptions about model class

# Two scenarios

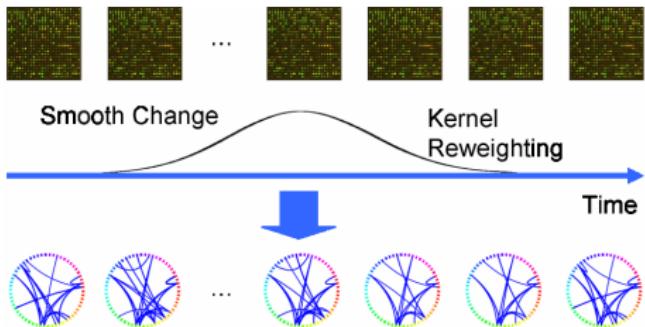
# Two scenarios

## ① Smooth Networks

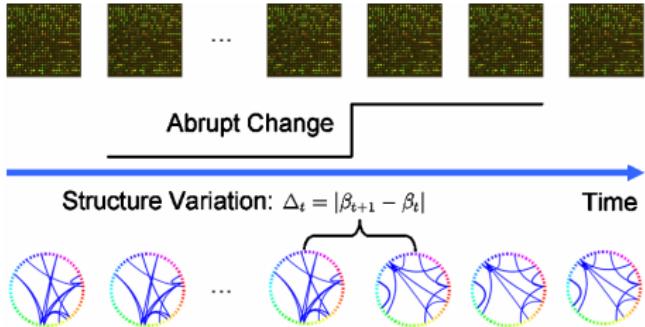


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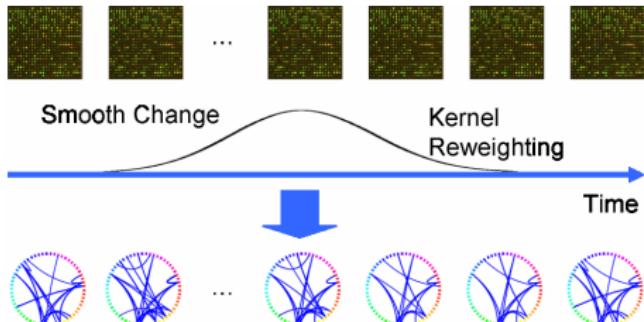
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(Song et al., 2009)

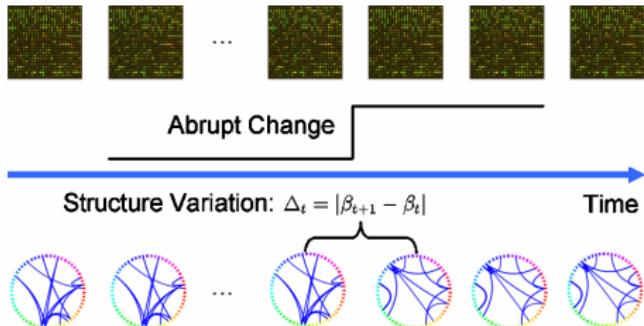
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## ② Networks With Jumps

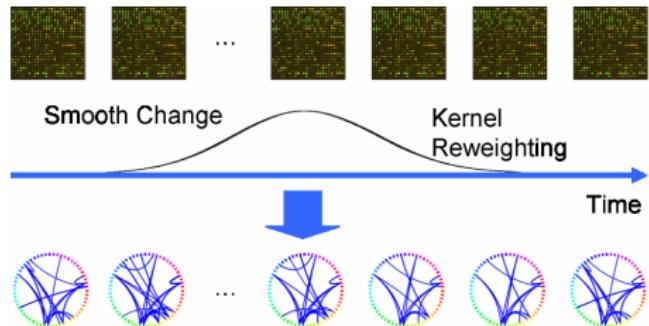


# Smoothly Evolving Networks

$$\gamma(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}_t) = \log \mathbb{P}[x_{t,a} \mid \mathbf{x}_{t,\bar{a}}; \boldsymbol{\theta}]$$

$$w_\tau(t) = \frac{K_h(t - \tau)}{\sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_n} K_h(t - \tau)}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_a(\tau) = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}} w_\tau(t) \gamma(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}_t) - \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1$$



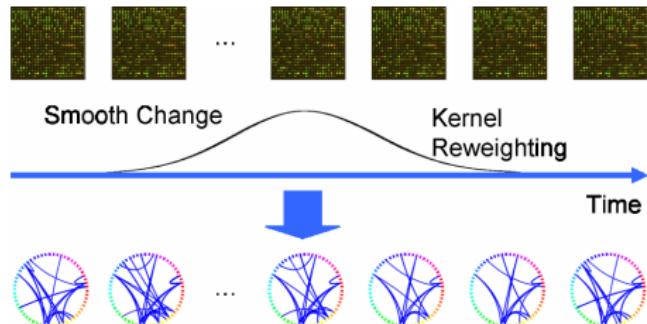
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Smoothness



## Smoothly Evolving Networks

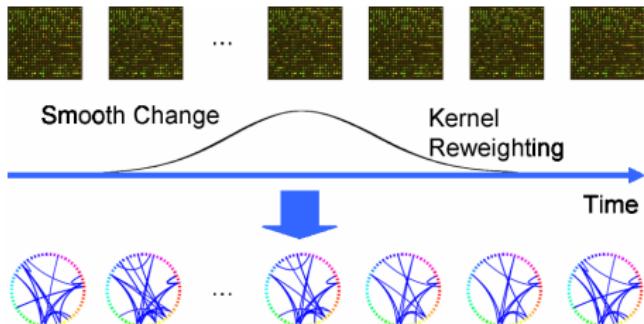
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## Smoothness

## Sparsity



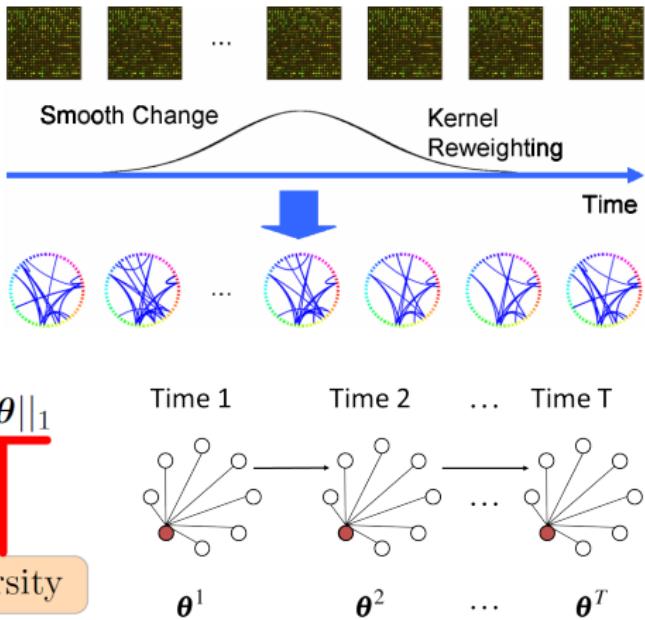
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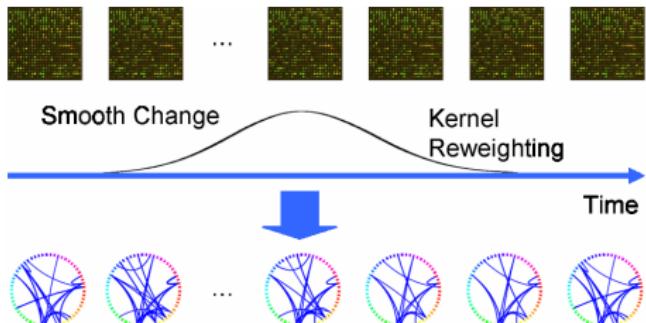
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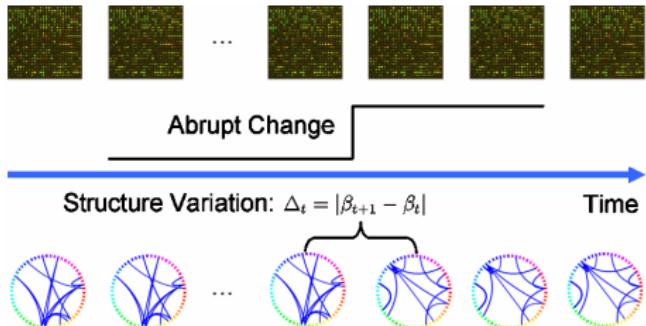
Kolar, Song, Ahmed, and Xing (2010)

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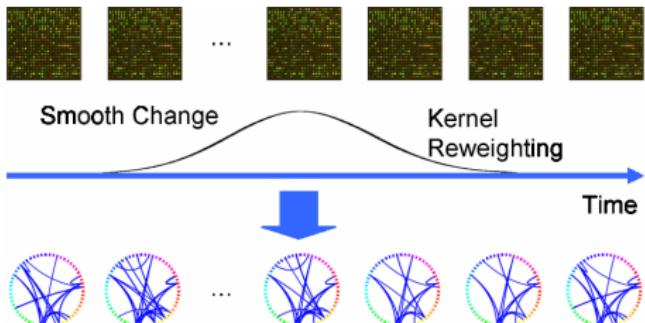


## ② Networks With Jumps



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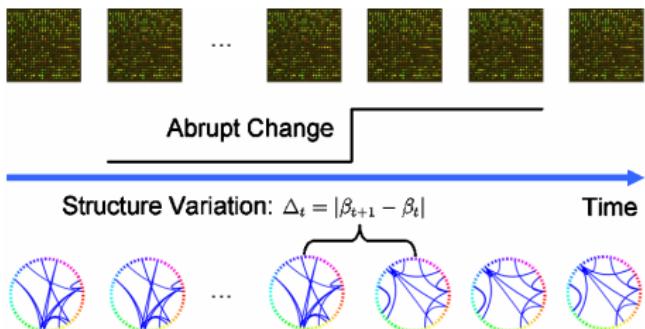


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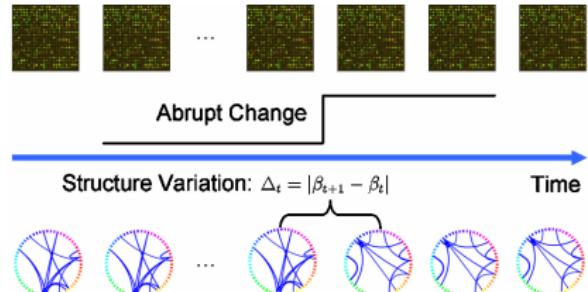
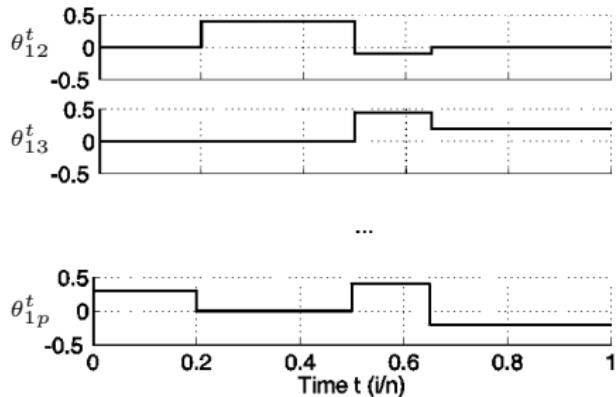
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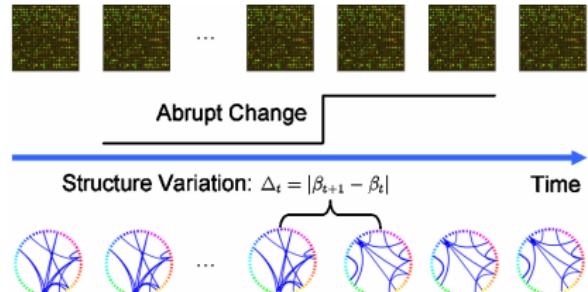
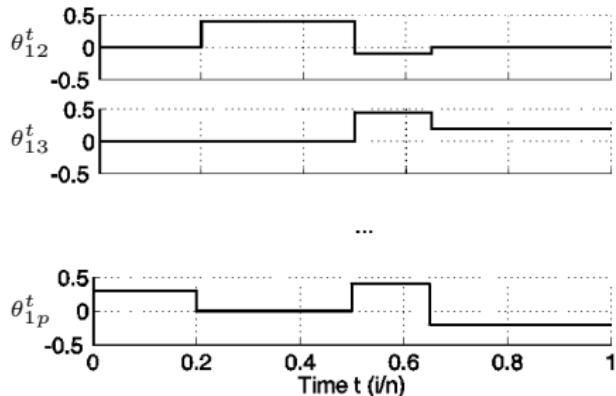
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$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_n}} \quad & \sum_t \gamma(\boldsymbol{\theta}^t; \mathbf{x}^t) - \lambda_1 \sum_t \|\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\|_1 \\ & - \lambda_2 \sum_t \|\boldsymbol{\theta}^t - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t-1}\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

Kolar, Song, Ahmed, and Xing (2010)

# Networks With Jumps

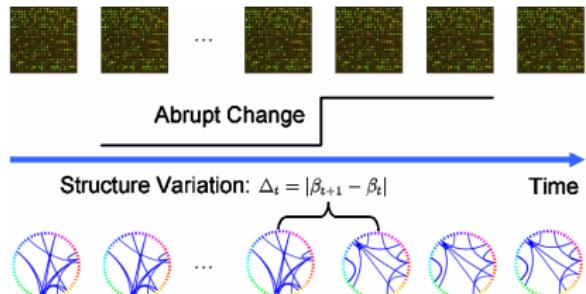
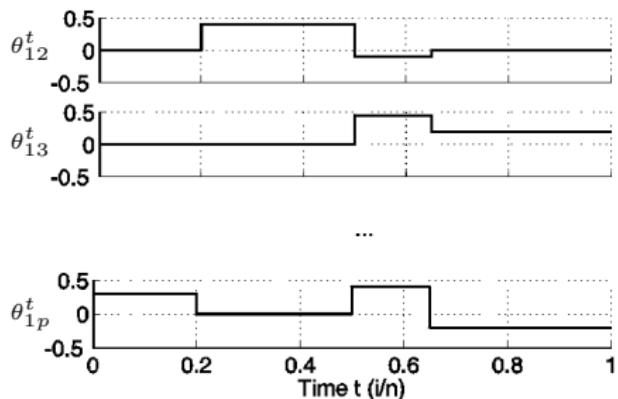


$$\max_{\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_n}} \sum_t \gamma(\boldsymbol{\theta}^t; \mathbf{x}^t) - \lambda_1 \sum_t \|\boldsymbol{\theta}^t\|_1 - \lambda_2 \sum_t \|\boldsymbol{\theta}^t - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{t-1}\|_2$$

Sparsity

Kolar, Song, Ahmed, and Xing (2010)

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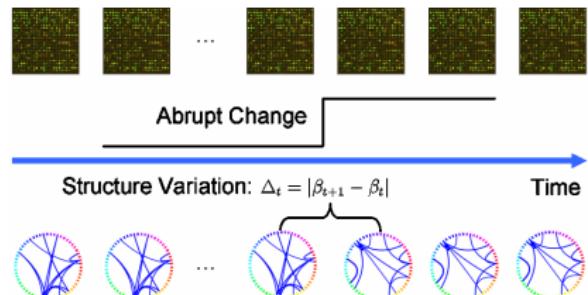
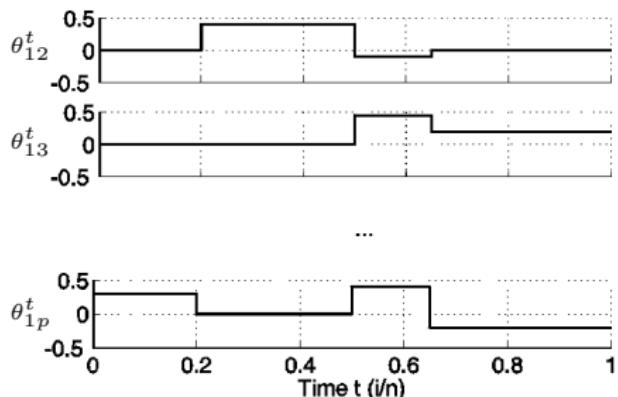
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Structural Changes

Kolar, Song, Ahmed, and Xing (2010)

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Fused Penalty (Tibshirani et al., 2005)

Kolar, Song, Ahmed, and Xing (2010)

# Outline

- ① Estimating Conditional Independence Relationships
  - Representation – Markov Networks
  - Estimating Graph Structure
- ② Time-Varying Networks
  - Smoothly Varying Networks
  - Networks With Jumps
- ③ An Application
- ④ Some theoretical results

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# Drosophila Life Cycle

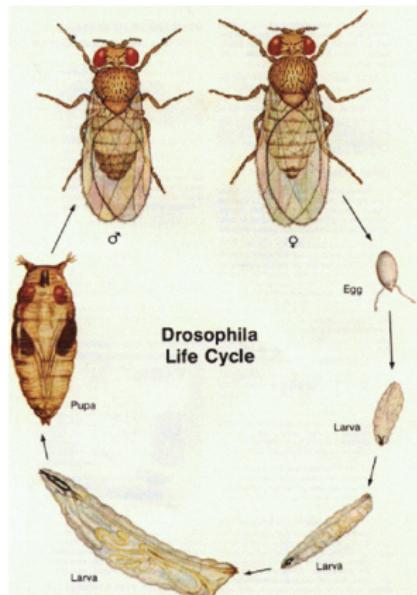
Data from Arbeitman et al. (2002)

66 microarray measurements across full life cycle

Four stages in the life cycle

- embryo
- larva
- pupal
- adult

Analyze subset of 588 genes related to development



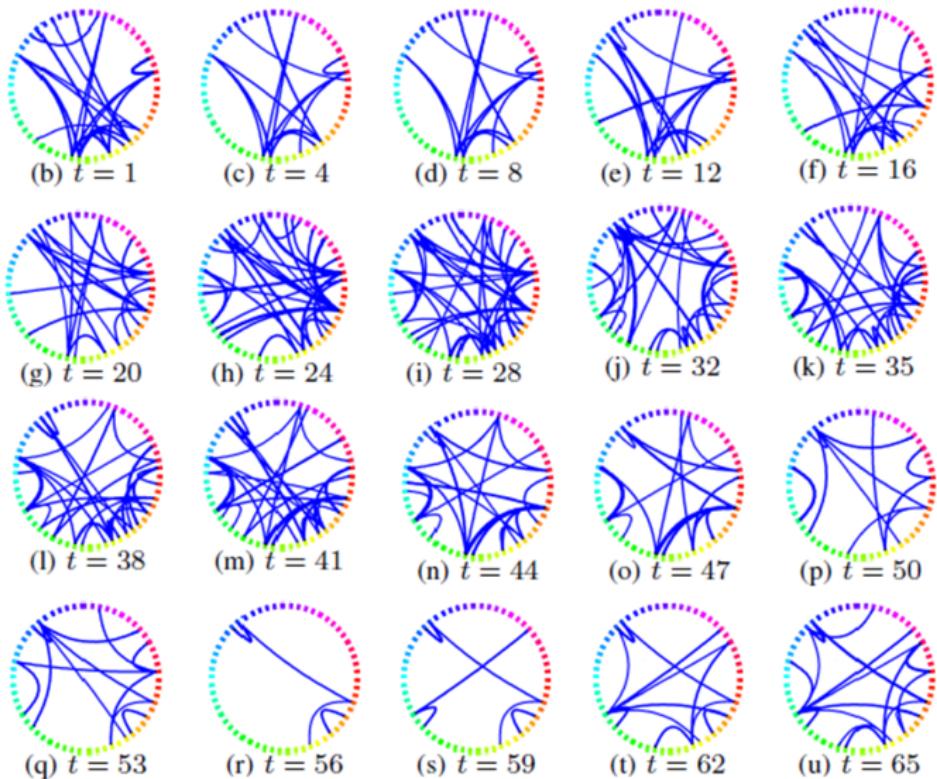
# Estimated Dynamic Network

biological  
process

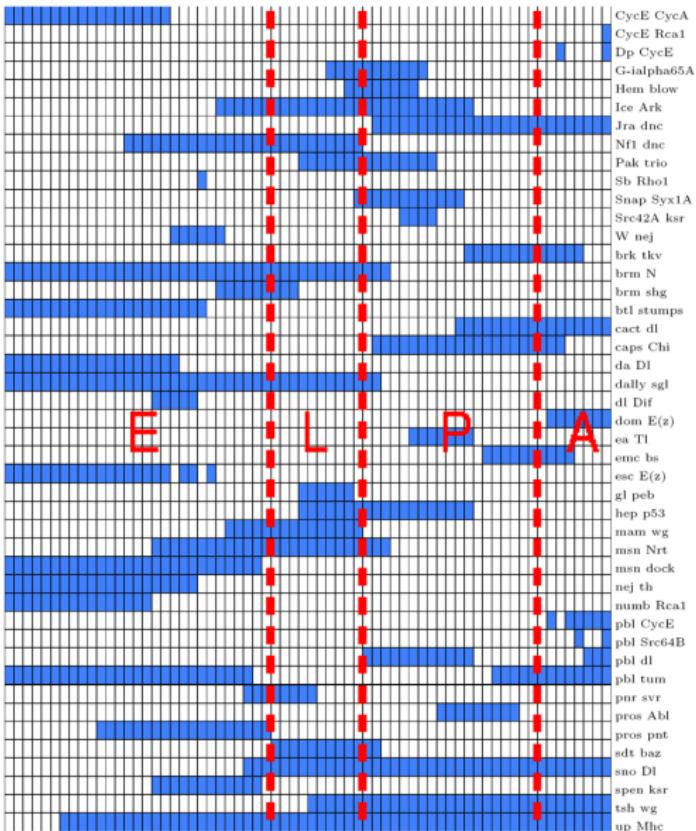
molecular  
function

cellular  
component

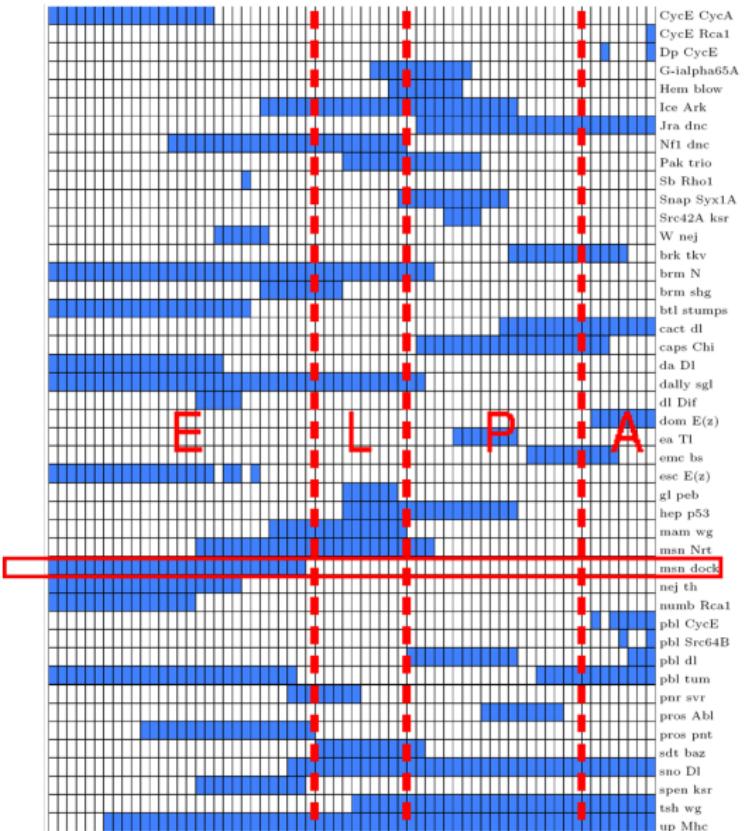
# Transient Group Interactions



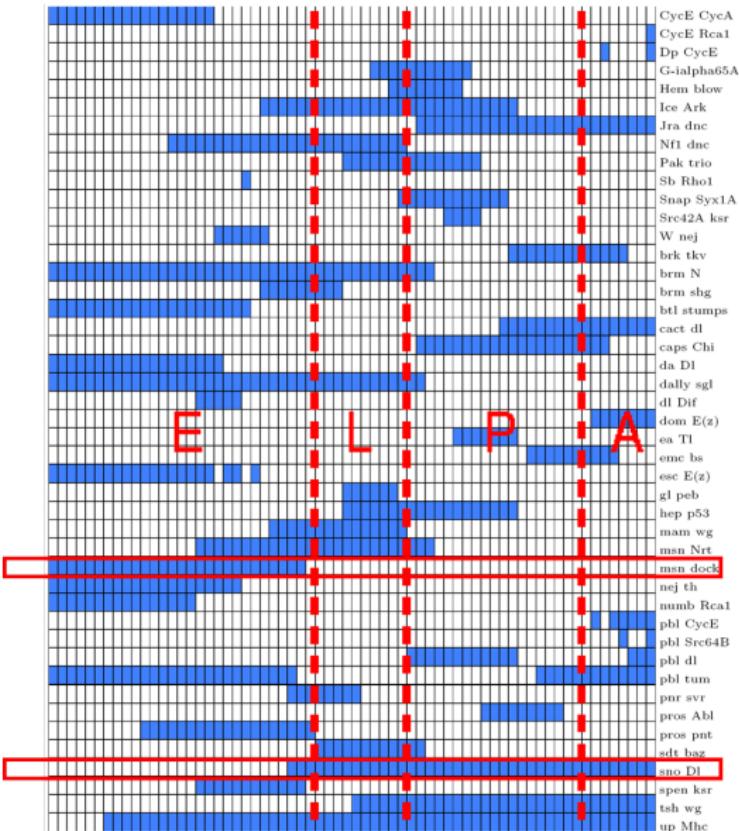
# Known Gene Interactions



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# Theoretical Properties

Theorem (Kolar and Xing (2012c))

*Under suitable technical assumptions the graph  $G^\tau$  is recovered with exponentially high probability for any fixed point  $\tau \in [0, 1]$ .*

Fisher information matrix:

$$\mathbf{Q}_a^\tau := \mathbb{E}[\nabla^2 \log \mathbb{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_a^\tau}[X_a | \mathbf{X}_{\bar{a}}]], a \in V, \tau \in [0, 1]$$

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Kernel satisfies regularity conditions

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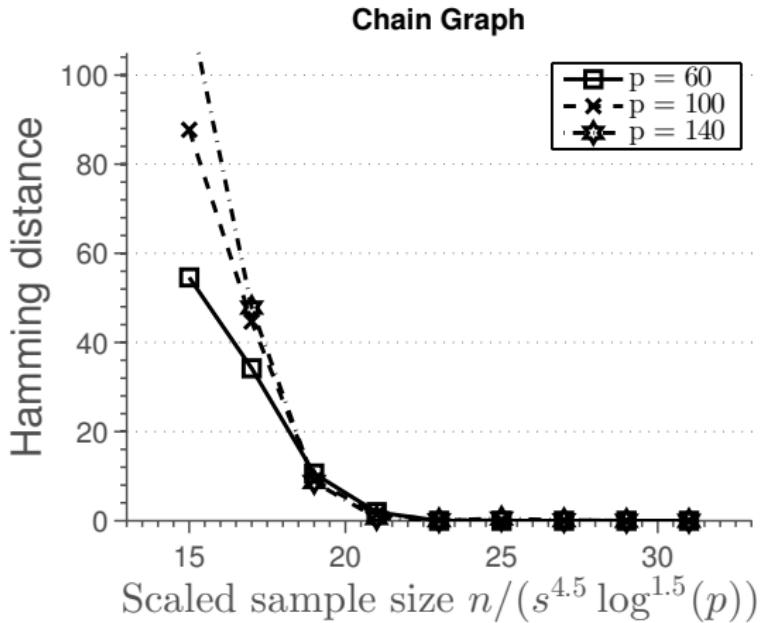
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$$\mathbb{P}[\text{graph not recovered}] = \mathcal{O}\left(\exp(-Cs^{-3}nh + C' \log p)\right) \xrightarrow{n,p \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

# Simulation Results



Thank you!

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