# DeCovarT, a generative model for the deconvolution of heterogeneous transcriptomic samples









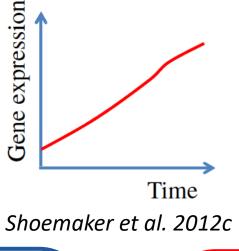
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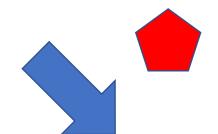


# Confusing biological noise

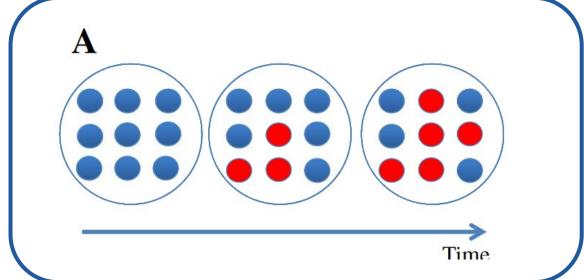


activated cell population 1

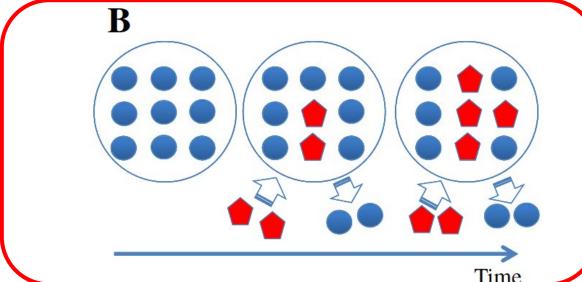




activated cell population 2



Scenario A: increase of the gene expression is generated by an **activation** of cell population 1



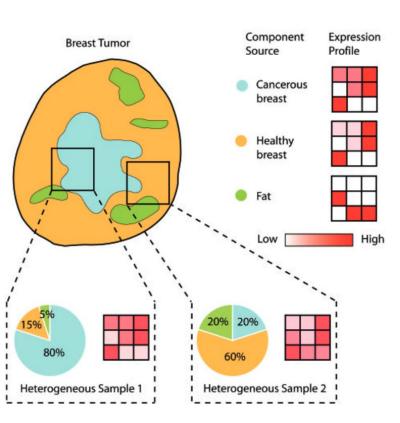
Scenario B: the gene expression increases due to the **arrival** of a **new** cell population 2







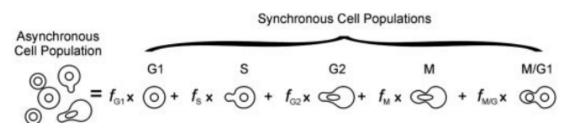
## Heterogenity of tissues



Mixture of tissues

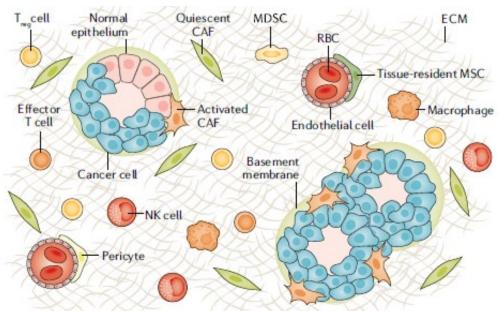
Quon and Morris, 2009





#### Mixture of cell phases

Lu et al, 2003



Mixture of cell populations

Finotello and Trajanoski 2018





### **Deconvolution inputs**

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{1,1} & \dots & x_{1,J} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{G,1} & \dots & x_{G,J} \end{pmatrix}$$

X stores purified cellular expression profiles

$$egin{pmatrix} x_{G_1,1} & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & x_{G_2,2} & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & x_{G_k,k} \end{pmatrix}$$

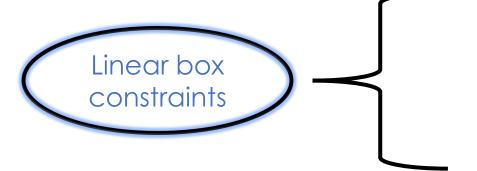
Marker-based

$$\left(\begin{array}{cccc} p_{1,1} & \dots & p_{1,N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{J,1} & \dots & p_{J,N} \end{array}\right)$$

**p** is the individual vector of cell ratios

$$egin{pmatrix} y_{1,1} & \cdots & y_{1,N} \ dots & \ddots & dots \ y_{G,1} & \cdots & y_{G,N} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Y** stores the resulting bulk expression values



$$oldsymbol{X}p_i = oldsymbol{y}_i$$

$$\begin{cases} \sum_{j=1}^{J} p_{ji} = 1 \\ \forall j \in \{1, \dots, J\}, \quad p_{ji} \ge 0 \end{cases}$$







# Deconvolution ecosystem

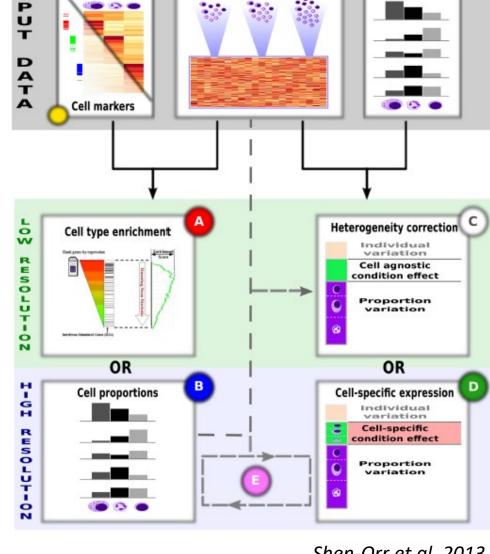
Estimate the ratios *p* for all individuals with the purified cell signature **X** and bulk mixture **y**.

**Partial** deconvolution

> Try to infer cell specific expression profiles **X** based on **p** and **y**.

Complete deconvolution

Try to infer alternatively both p and X (unsupervised, reference-free methods). Undetermined problem without prior.



Global gene expression

Reference profiles

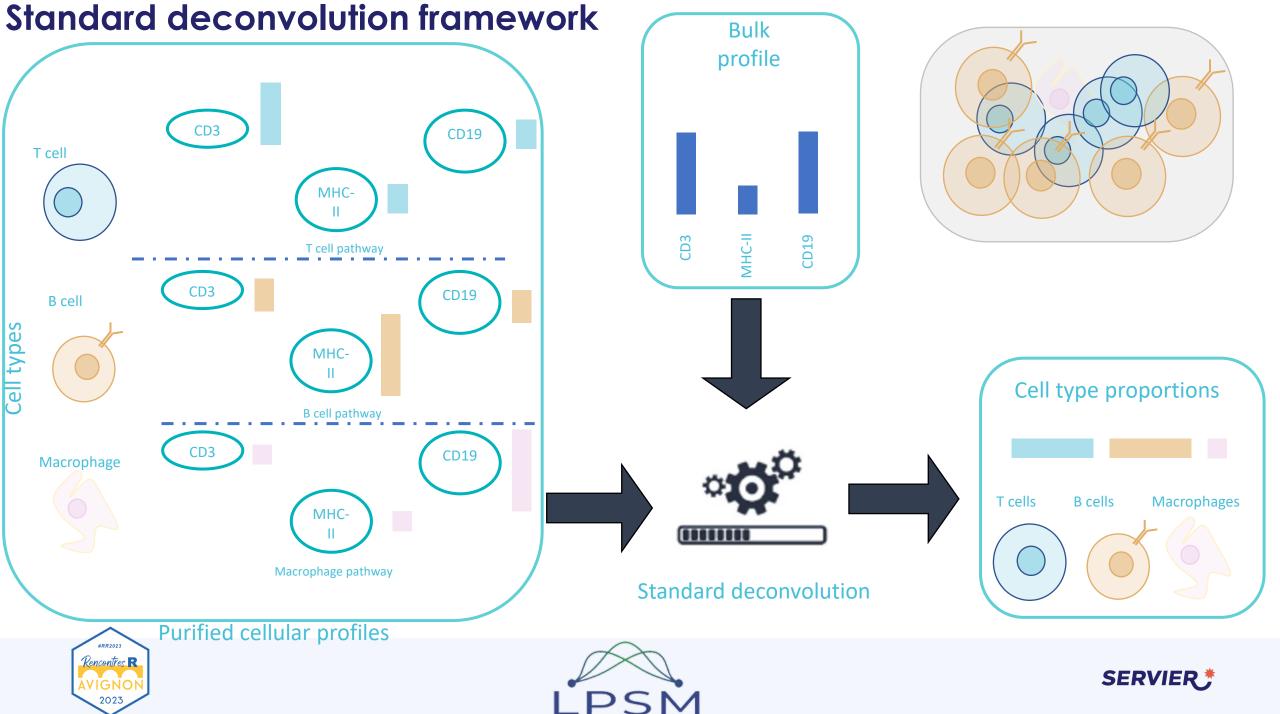
Shen-Orr et al, 2013

Cell proportions

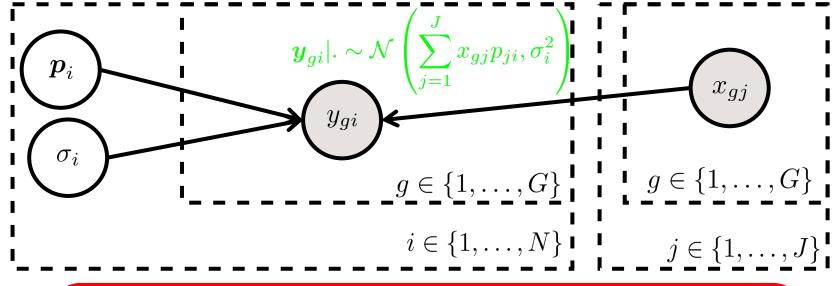


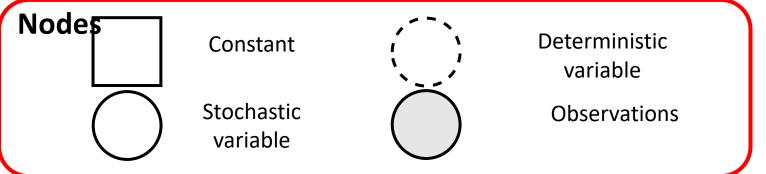






## Graphical model of linear regression





#### **Parameters**

Estimated parameters

$$\theta = (\boldsymbol{p}, \sigma)$$

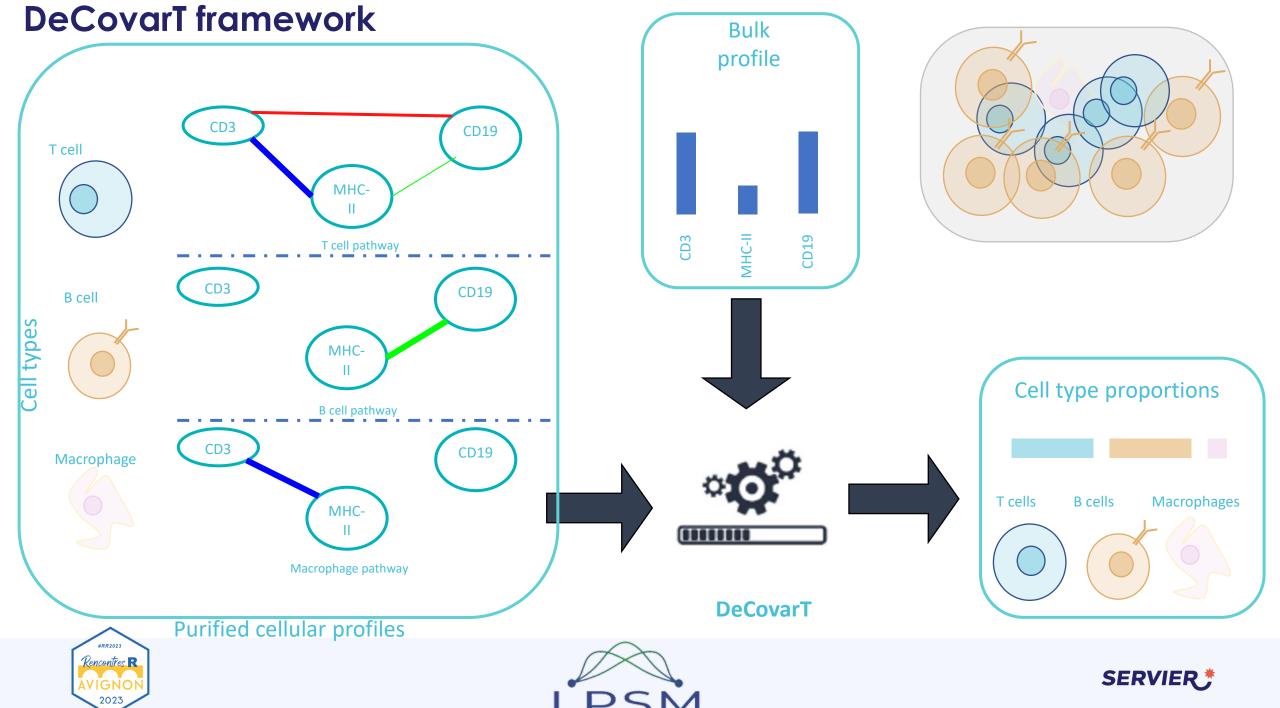
### **Distribution probabilities**

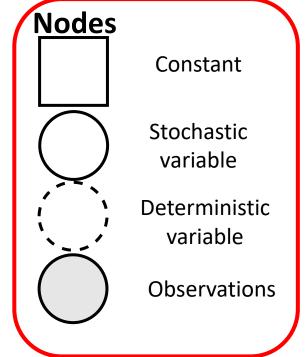
Likelihood Laws  $f(\mathcal{D}|\theta)$ 

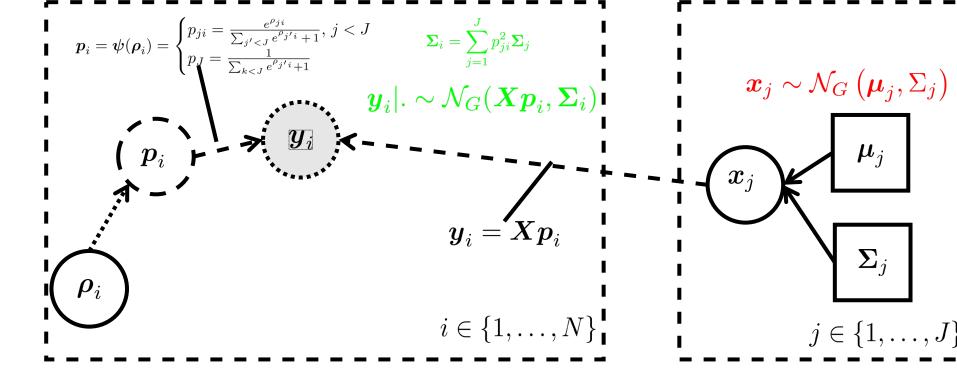












## Graphical model of DeCoVarT

#### **Parameters**

Prior parameters

Estimated parameters

$$\zeta = (\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \qquad \theta = (\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{X})$$

#### **Distribution probabilities**

Prior laws  $f(\theta|\xi)$ 

Likelihood Laws  $f(\mathcal{D}|\theta)$ 



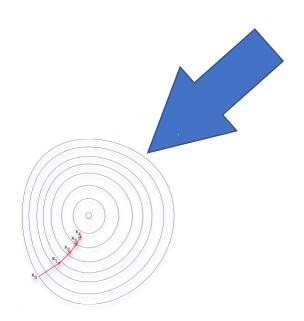




Optimisation algorithms in R

$$\ell_{\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X},\Sigma}(\mathbf{p}) = C + \log \left( \det \left( \sum_{j=1}^{J} p_j^2 \Sigma_j \right)^{-1} \right) - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{p})^{\top} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{J} p_j^2 \Sigma_j \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\mathbf{p})$$

Log-likelihood associated to the model = log-likelihood of a multivariate Gaussian distribution



Steepest descent method

$$\theta^{(q+1)} = \theta^{(q)} + \gamma \nabla \ell \left(\theta^{(q)}\right)$$





in package *marqLevAlg* 

BP Hejblum, 2021, R Journal

$$\theta^{(q+1)} = \theta^{(q)} + \gamma_q \frac{\nabla \ell \left(\theta^{(q)}\right)}{\widetilde{\mathbf{H}}_{\ell} \left(\theta^{(q)}\right)}$$







Newton Raphson method

$$\theta^{(q+1)} = \theta^{(q)} + \frac{\nabla \ell \left(\theta^{(q)}\right)}{\mathbf{H}_{\ell} \left(\theta^{(q)}\right)}$$

