Review - “Information Dynamics of the Gene Regulatory Network

Underlying Mammalian Cortical Area Development”, by Harrison Smith

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This is a clearly and concisely written paper, and one that I enjoyed reading. I particularly found the discussion on control nodes, and the delineation between type I and type II, intriguing, as I hadn't previously considered the possible variation in network dynamics control structures.

The author's finding of Pax6 being a control node, and not Emx2, could use more elaboration- from reading that section, it wasn't clear to me what the difference between the first and second analysis were, and why this difference existed, nor what the consequences of this result were.

Lastly, while I understand that these are very much preliminary results, I think some speculation on the author on why the control nodes have high AI and low TE wouldn't be unwarranted, as long as it was described as speculation. This feature seems like a natural starting point for the formation of testable hypothesis about the control nodes.