

Network Synergy Recent Papers

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October 4, 2024

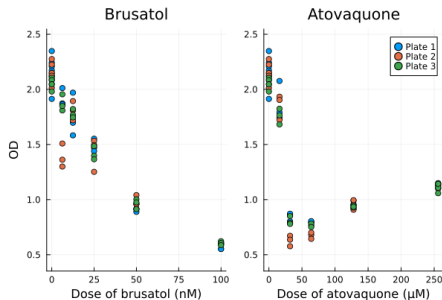
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- 1 Drug Synergy
- 2 Network Synergy via Modules
- 3 Synergy in Transcriptional Profiles
- 4 Tumor Microenvironments
- 5 Available Data

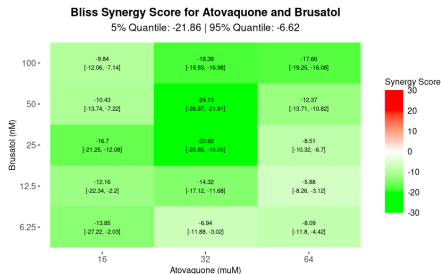
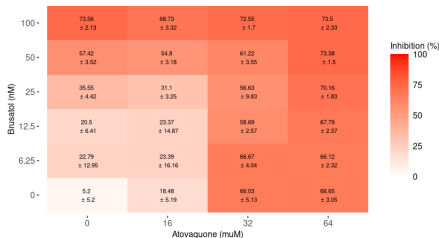
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Synergy via Potency



Heatmap of % inhibition for Atovaquone and Brusatol



Promises of Synergistic Combinations

The promises associated with synergistic drug combinations are:

- Overcoming chemoresistance
- Repurposing existing drugs
- Increasing efficacy
- Reducing toxicity

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- Reducing toxicity

Relevant XKCD

WHEN YOU SEE A CLAIM THAT A
COMMON DRUG OR VITAMIN "KILLS
CANCER CELLS IN A PETRI DISH,"

KEEP IN MIND:



SO DOES A HANDGUN.

Synergy via Biological Networks

Goal: describe the mechanism, rather than the strength, of interaction between two drugs.

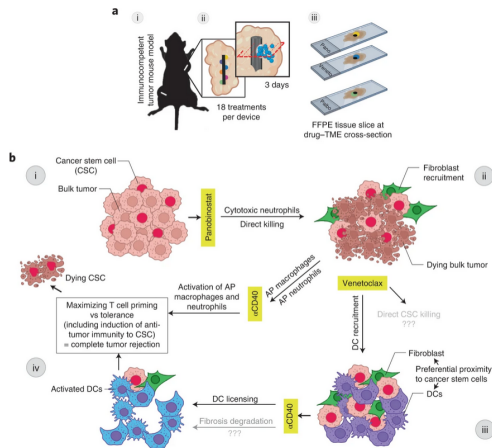
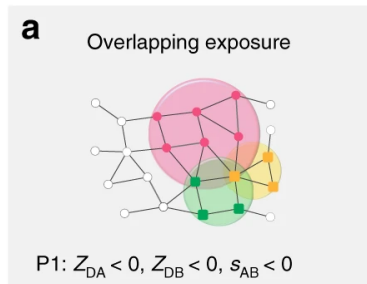
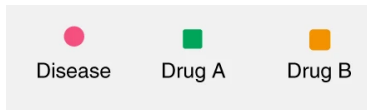
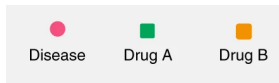


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Module Approach



Antihypertensive
Combinations
(FDA-approved, ClinicalTrials.gov,
& pre-clinical [literatures])

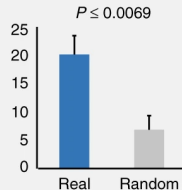
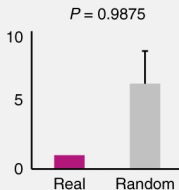
Adverse drug
Interactions
(high-blood pressure)

a Overlapping exposure



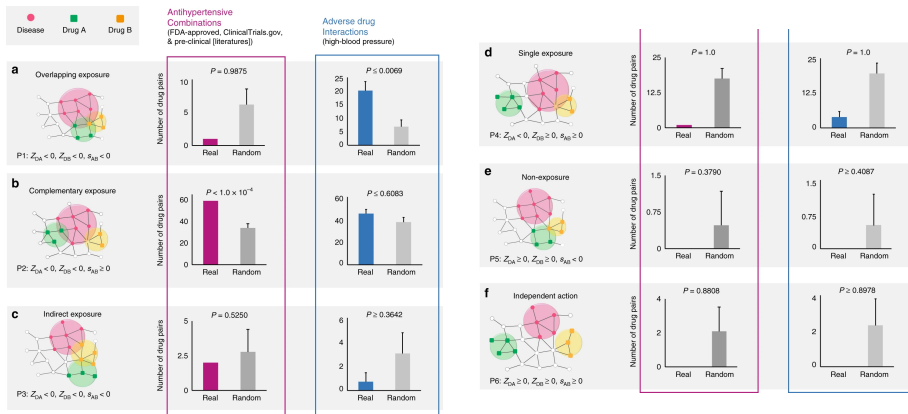
$$P1: Z_{DA} < 0, Z_{DB} < 0, s_{AB} < 0$$

Number of drug pairs



Network-based prediction of drug combinations, Cheng, Kovacs, Barabasi, 2019 [2]

Module Approach

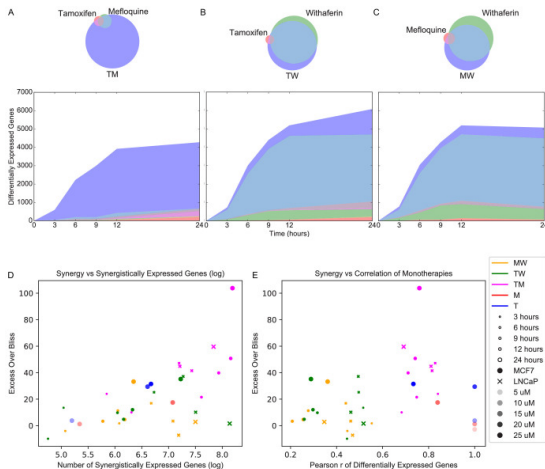


Network-based prediction of drug combinations, Cheng, Kovacs, Barabasi, 2019 [2]

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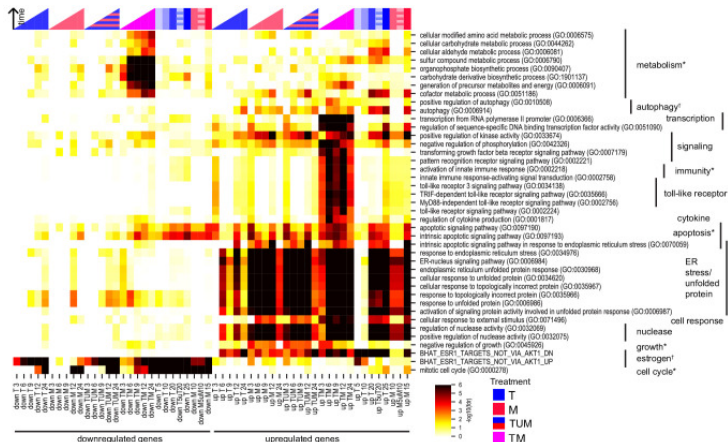
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Synergy in Transcriptional Profiles



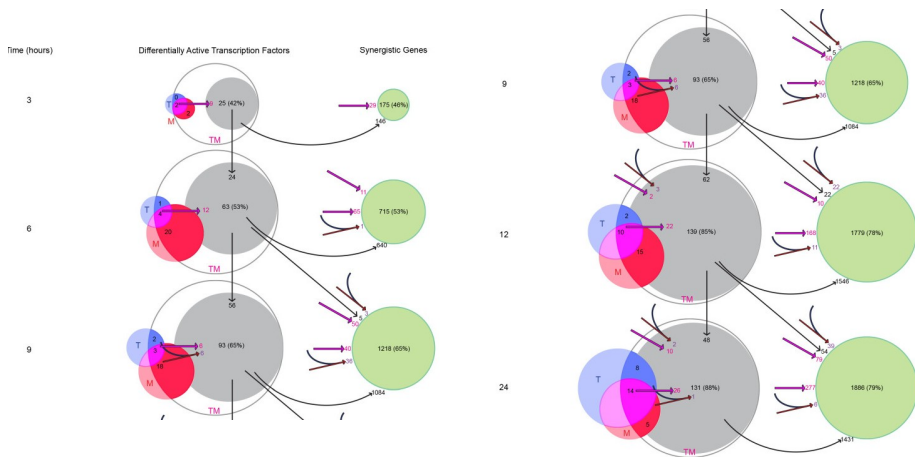
The transcriptomic response of cells to a drug combination is more than the sum of the responses to the monotherapies, Diaz et. al., 2020 [3]

Synergistically Expressed Genes in GSEA



The transcriptomic response of cells to a drug combination is more than the sum of the responses to the monotherapies, Diaz et. al., 2020 [3]

Transcription Cascade of Differentially Active TFs

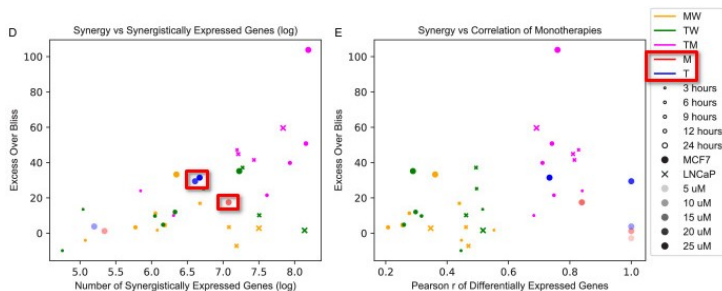


The transcriptomic response of cells to a drug combination is more than the sum of the responses to the monotherapies, Diaz et. al., 2020 [3]

The Sham-Combination Principle

The Sham-Combination Principle

A drug combined with itself should be additive.



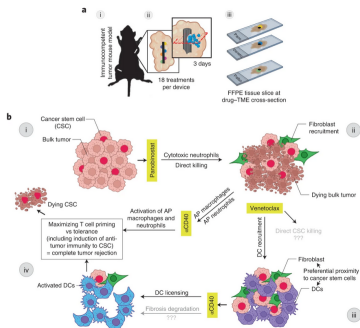
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Multiplex Implantable Microdevice Assay

- An Implantable Microdevice (IMD) emits a small amount of several types of drugs into spatially separated regions of the tissue
- Multiplexed Immunohistochemical (mIHC) stainings enable spatial analysis of the TME's response to each treatment
- Synergistic treatment combinations, such as immunotherapies, can be predicted from the results



Identifying drug combinations that enhance treatment responses mediated by the tumor microenvironment, Tatarova, Jonas, and Gray, 2022 [1]

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Available Data

- Time-course bulk RNA-Seq of Tamoxifen, Withaferin, and Mefloquine in different doses, including pairwise combinations
- Drug targets for 42 drugs, and 73 experimentally verified combinations of them
- Various mIHC and/or cyclF imaging from murine breast cancer models
- “Combi-seq” (bulk RNA-seq, but for many drug combinations) data for 420 drug combinations [4]

References I



Identifying drug combinations that enhance treatment responses mediated by the tumor microenvironment.

Nature Biotechnology, 40(12):1770–1771, December 2022.



Feixiong Cheng, Istvan A. Kovacs, and Albert-Laszlo Barabasi.

Network-based prediction of drug combinations.

Nature Communications, 10(1):1197, March 2019.



Jennifer El Diaz, Mehmet Eren Ahsen, Thomas Schaffter, Xintong Chen, Ronald B Realubit, Charles Karan, Andrea Califano, Bojan Losic, and Gustavo Stolovitzky.

The transcriptomic response of cells to a drug combination is more than the sum of the responses to the monotherapies.

Elife, 9, September 2020.

References II



L. Mathur, B. Szalai, N. H. Du, R. Utharala, M. Ballinger, J. J. M. Landry, M. Ryckelynck, V. Benes, J. Saez-Rodriguez, and C. A. Merten.

Combi-seq for multiplexed transcriptome-based profiling of drug combinations using deterministic barcoding in single-cell droplets. *Nature Communications*, 13(1):4450, August 2022.