

Appendix 3: Estimating species interactions

Inferring species interactions from co-occurrence data with Markov networks

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This document describes how the different models were fit to the simulated data from Appendix 2 and how each model's performance was evaluated.¹

Note that the `pairs` program was run separately (outside of R) with the following options:

- Batch mode
- Sequential swap ("s")
- Printing all pairs ("y")
- C-score co-occurrence measure ("c")
- Default confidence limits (0.05)
- Default iterations (100)
- Maximum of 20 species

Initialization:

```
mc.cores = 8

library(dplyr)           # For manipulating data structures
library(corpcor)         # For regularized partial covariances
library(rosalia)         # For Markov networks
library(arm)             # For regularized logistic regression
library(BayesComm)       # For joint species distribution modeling
library(parallel)        # for mclapply
set.seed(1)
```

A function to import the data file and run each method on it:

```
fit_all = function(identifier){
  ##### Import #####

  data_filename = paste0("fakedata/matrices/", identifier, ".csv")
  truth_filename = paste0("fakedata/truths/", identifier, ".txt")

  # first column is row numbers; drop it
  raw_obs = as.matrix(read.csv(data_filename)[ , -1])

  # Identify species that are never present (or never absent) so they
```

¹The PDF version of this document has been manually altered to omit 150 lines of output from the `corpcor` package of the form “## Estimating optimal shrinkage intensity lambda (correlation matrix): 0.0326”

```

# can be dropped
species_is_variable = diag(var(raw_obs)) > 0
pair_is_variable = tcrossprod(species_is_variable) > 0

x = raw_obs[, species_is_variable]
truth = unlist(read.table(truth_filename))[pair_is_variable[upper.tri(pair_is_variable)]]

splitname = strsplit(identifier, "/|-|\\.").[[1]]
n_sites = as.integer(splitname[[1]])
rep_name = splitname[[2]]

# Species IDs
sp1 = combn(colnames(x), 2)[1, ]
sp2 = combn(colnames(x), 2)[2, ]

##### Partial correlations #####
p_corr = pcor.shrink(x)

##### Correlations #####
corr = cor(x)
##### GLM #####
coef_matrix = matrix(0, ncol(x), ncol(x))
for(i in 1:ncol(x)){
  if(var(x[,i]) > 0){
    coefs = coef(bayesglm(x[,i] ~ x[, -i], family = binomial))[-1]
    coef_matrix[i, -i] = coefs
  }
}
coef_matrix = (coef_matrix + t(coef_matrix)) / 2

##### Markov network #####
rosie = rosalia(x, maxit = 200, trace = 0, prior = make_logistic_prior(scale = 2), hessian =

rosie_point = rosie$beta[upper.tri(rosie$beta)]
rosie_se = sqrt(diag(solve(rosie$opt$hessian))[-(1:sum(species_is_variable))])

##### BayesComm and partial BayesComm #####
bc = BC(Y = x, model = "community", its = 1000)

bc_pcors = sapply(
  1:nrow(bc$trace$R),
  function(i){
    Sigma = matrix(0, nrow = ncol(x), ncol = ncol(x))
    Sigma[upper.tri(Sigma)] <- bc$trace$R[i, ] # Fill in upper triangle

```

```

Sigma <- Sigma + t(Sigma)                                # Fill in lower triangle
diag(Sigma) <- 1 # Diagonal equals 1 in multivariate probit model
pcor = cor2pcor(Sigma)
pcor[upper.tri(pcor)]
}
)

```

```

bind_rows(
  data_frame(
    rep_name = rep_name,
    n_sites = n_sites,
    sp1 = sp1,
    sp2 = sp2,
    method = "Markov network",
    truth = truth,
    estimate = rosie_point,
    lower = qnorm(.025, rosie_point, rosie_se),
    upper = qnorm(.975, rosie_point, rosie_se)
  ),
  data_frame(
    rep_name = rep_name,
    n_sites = n_sites,
    sp1 = sp1,
    sp2 = sp2,
    method = "GLM",
    truth = truth,
    estimate = coef_matrix[upper.tri(coef_matrix)],
    lower = NA,
    upper = NA
  ),
  data_frame(
    rep_name = rep_name,
    n_sites = n_sites,
    sp1 = sp1,
    sp2 = sp2,
    method = "correlation",
    truth = truth,
    estimate = corr[upper.tri(corr)],
    lower = NA,
    upper = NA
  ),
  data_frame(
    rep_name = rep_name,

```

```

    n_sites = n_sites,
    sp1 = sp1,
    sp2 = sp2,
    method = "partial correlation",
    truth = truth,
    estimate = p_corr[upper.tri(p_corr)],
    lower = NA,
    upper = NA
  ),
  data_frame(
    rep_name = rep_name,
    n_sites = n_sites,
    sp1 = sp1,
    sp2 = sp2,
    method = "partial BayesComm",
    truth = truth,
    estimate = rowMeans(bc_pcors),
    lower = apply(bc_pcors, 1, quantile, .025),
    upper = apply(bc_pcors, 1, quantile, .975)
  ),
  data_frame(
    rep_name = rep_name,
    n_sites = n_sites,
    sp1 = sp1,
    sp2 = sp2,
    method = "BayesComm",
    truth = truth,
    estimate = colMeans(bc$trace$R),
    lower = apply(bc$trace$R, 2, quantile, .025),
    upper = apply(bc$trace$R, 2, quantile, .975)
  )
)
}

```

Run the above function on all the files:

```

# Find all the csv files in the fakedata/matrices folder,
# then drop .csv
identifiers = dir("fakedata/matrices", pattern = "\\*.csv$") %>%
  gsub("\\*.csv$", "", .)

mclapply(identifiers, fit_all, mc.cores = mc.cores, mc.preschedule = FALSE, mc.silent = TRUE) %>%
  bind_rows() %>%
  write.csv(file = "estimates.csv")

```