

# Probabilistic modelling of protein sub-cellular localisation

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`http://lgatto.github.io/about`

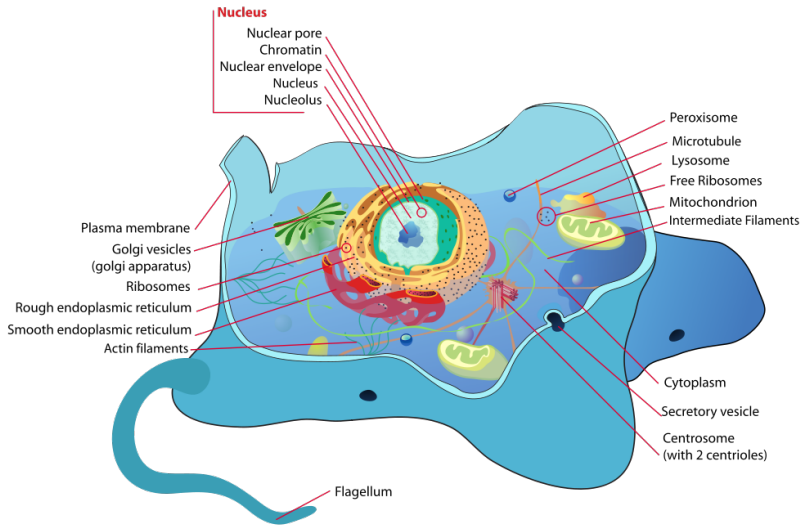
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Slides: `http://bit.ly/20190613Turing`

13 June 2019 – The Alan Turing Institute  
*Workshop on Statistical Data Science for  
Proteomics and Metabolomics*

**Use case:** spatial proteomics.

# Cell organisation - regulation of protein localisation

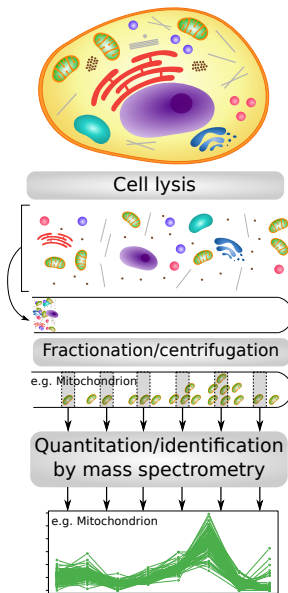


**Spatial proteomics** is the systematic study of protein localisations.

# Experimental design

**Gradient approaches:** PCP (Dunkley et al., 2006), LOPIT (Foster et al., 2006), hyperLOPIT (Christoforou et al., 2016; Mulvey et al., 2017) and **Differential centrifugation** Itzhak et al. (2016), LOPIT-DC (Geladaki et al., 2018).

**Explorative/discovery approaches, steady-state global localisation maps.**



## Quantitation data and organelle markers

	Fraction <sub>1</sub>	Fraction <sub>2</sub>	...	Fraction <sub>L</sub>	markers
$x_1$	$x_{1,1}$	$x_{1,2}$	...	$x_{1,L}$	unknown
$x_2$	$x_{2,1}$	$x_{2,2}$	...	$x_{2,L}$	<i>loc<sub>1</sub></i>
$x_3$	$x_{3,1}$	$x_{3,2}$	...	$x_{3,L}$	unknown
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$x_i$	$x_{i,1}$	$x_{i,2}$	...	$x_{i,L}$	<i>loc<sub>k</sub></i>
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$x_N$	$x_{N,1}$	$x_{N,2}$	...	$x_{N,K}$	unknown

# Data analysis

# Visualisation

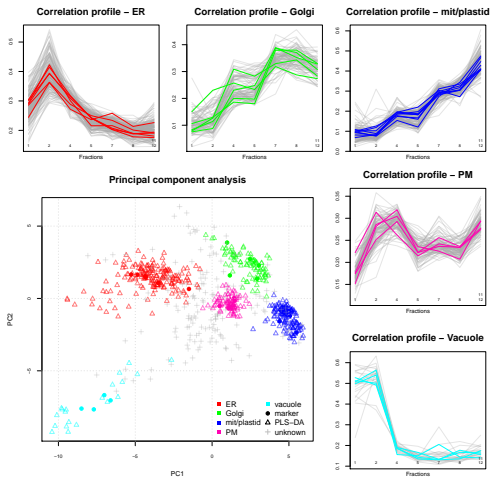
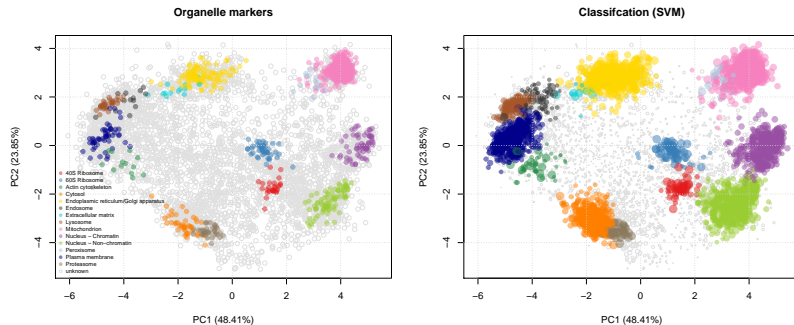


Figure: From Gatto et al. (2010), *Arabidopsis thaliana* data from Dunkley et al. (2006).

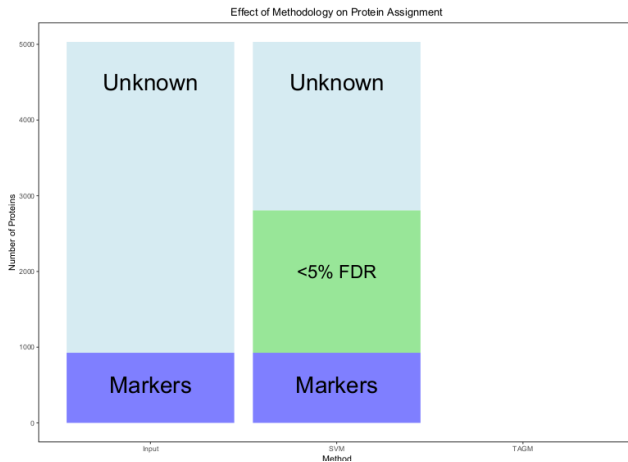
# Supervised Machine Learning



**Figure:** Support vector machines classifier (after 5% FDR classification cutoff) on the embryonic stem cell data from [Christoforou et al. \(2016\)](#).



# How much do we learn? How much do we miss?



# A Bayesian Mixture Modelling Approach For Spatial Proteomics

- ▶ *T* Augmented Gaussian Mixture model (TAGM) is a **multivariate Gaussian generative model** for MS-based spatial proteomics data (Crook et al., 2018, 2019). It posits that each annotated sub-cellular niche can be modelled by a multivariate Gaussian distribution.

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- ▶ With the prior knowledge that many proteins are not captured by known sub-cellular niches, we augment our model with an **outlier component**. Outliers are often dispersed and thus this additional component is described by a heavy-tailed distribution: the multivariate Student's t-distribution, leading us to a *T Augmented Gaussian Mixture model*.

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- ▶ This methodology allows proteome-wide **uncertainty quantification**, thus adding a further layer to the analysis of spatial proteomics.

We initially model the distribution of profiles associated with proteins that localise to the  $k$ -th component as multivariate normal with mean vector  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_k$  and covariance matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k$ , so that:

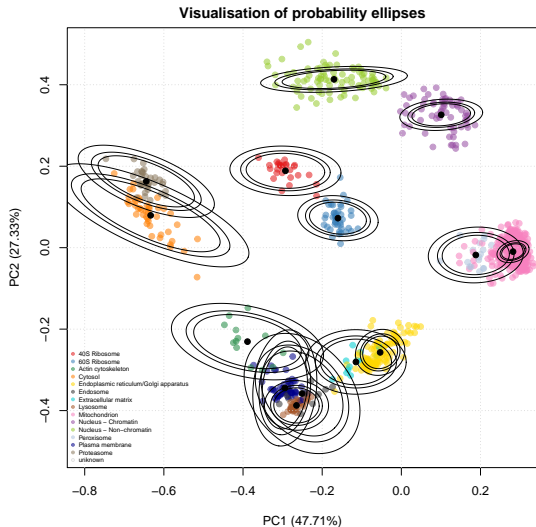
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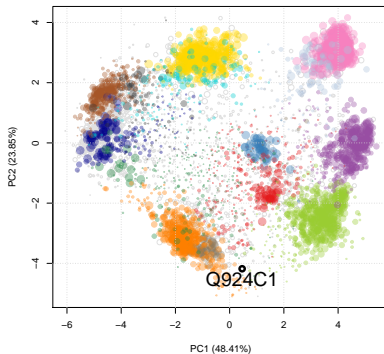
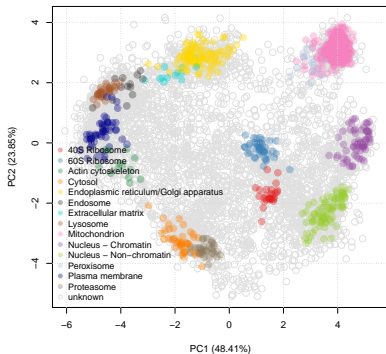
$$\mathbf{x}_i | z_i = k \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \quad (1)$$

We extend it by introducing an additional *outlier component*. To do this, we augment our model by introducing a further indicator latent variable  $\phi$ . Each protein  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is now described by an additional variable  $\phi_i$ , with  $\phi_i = 1$  indicating that protein  $\mathbf{x}_i$  belongs to a organelle derived component and  $\phi_i = 0$  indicating that protein  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is not well described by these known components. This outlier component is modelled as a multivariate T distribution with degrees of freedom  $\kappa$ , mean vector  $\mathbf{M}$ , and scale matrix  $V$ .

$$\mathbf{x}_i | z_i = k, \phi_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)^{\phi_i} \mathcal{T}(\kappa, \mathbf{M}, V)^{1-\phi_i} \quad (2)$$

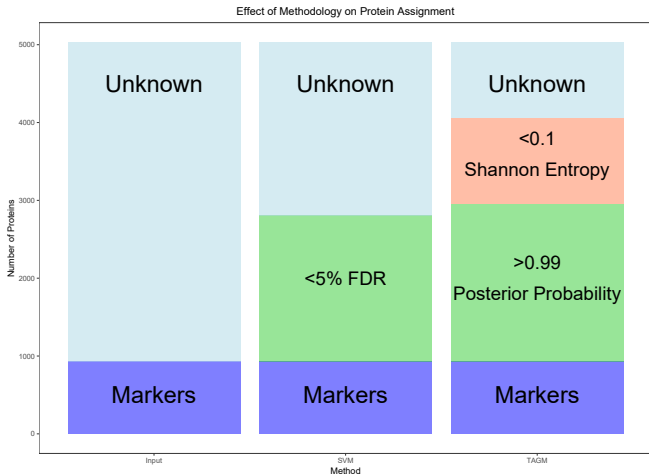


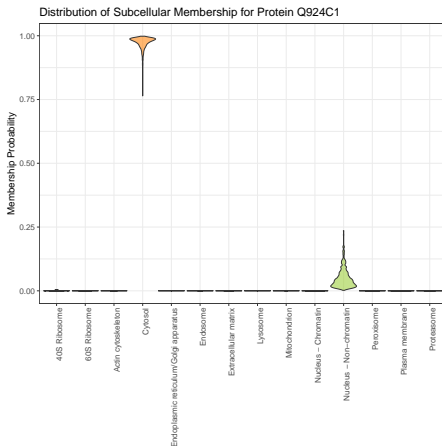
**Figure:** Illustration of how the TAGM model describes the pluripotent mouse embryonic stem cell data. Each ellipse contains a proportion of total probability of a particular multivariate Gaussian density. The outer ellipse contains 99% of the total probability whilst the middle and inner ellipses contain 95% and 90% of the probability respectively.



**Figure:** Assignment of proteins of *unknown* location to one of the annotated classes. The dots are scaled according to the protein assignment probabilities.







**Figure:** Exportin 5 (Q924C1) forms part of the micro-RNA export machinery, transporting miRNA from the nucleus to the cytoplasm for further processing. It then translocates back through the nuclear pore complex to return to the nucleus to mediate further transport between nucleus and cytoplasm. The model correctly infers that it most likely localises to the cytosol but there is some uncertainty with this assignment. This uncertainty is reflected in possible assignment of Exportin 5 to the nucleus non-chromatin and reflects the multi-location of the protein.



**Behind the scenes:** software/data structures and open research practice.

## Beyond the figures<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Software: **infrastructure** (MSnbase, Gatto and Lilley (2012)), **dedicated machine learning** (pRoloc, Gatto et al. (2014)), **interactive visualisation**<sup>2</sup> (pRolocGUI, Breckels et al. (2017)) and **data** (pRolocdata, Gatto et al. (2014)) for spatial proteomics.
- ▶ **Open source**, and **coordinated and collaborative development**, enabling **reproducible research**, enables understanding of the data (not a black box) and **drive scientific innovation**.

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<sup>1</sup>... which are all reproducible, by the way.

<sup>2</sup><https://lgatto.shinyapps.io/christoforou2015/>

# Conclusions

- ▶ Protein sub-cellular localisation: technologies (hyperLOPIT) and opportunities.
- ▶ Reliance on computational biology, statistics and dedicated software (pRoLoc *et al.*) to interpret data and acquire biological knowledge.
- ▶ Rigorous computational infrastructure and sound data analysis and interpretation is a **long term investment**.

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**Thank you for your attention**