

Probabilistic mapping of the sub-cellular proteome

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Abstract: In biology, localisation is function - understanding the sub-cellular localisation of proteins is paramount to comprehend the context and full extend of their functions. Shotgun mass spectrometry-based spatial proteomics method are orthogonal to widely used targeted microscopy-based assay. In conjunction with contemporary machine learning, the former enable to build proteome-wide protein localisation maps, informing us on the location of thousands of proteins. When studying these proteome-wide spatial maps, one can learn that while some proteins can be found in a single location within a cell, up to half of the proteins may reside in multiple locations, can dynamically re-localise, or reside within an unknown functional compartment, leading to considerable uncertainty in associating proteins to their sub-cellular location. Recent Bayesian modelling approaches enable us to mine these data, and in particular the dynamic fraction of the spatial proteome, in much greater depth. We are now in a position to (1) probabilistically model protein localisation as well as quantify the uncertainty in the location assignments, and (2) compute a probability for, and quantify uncertainty in, whether a protein is differentially localised upon cellular perturbation. These computational approaches lead to better and more trustworthy biological interpretation of these rich spatial proteomics data.

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Computational challenges

Novelty detection

Quantifying uncertainty

Spatial dynamics

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Thank you for your attention

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