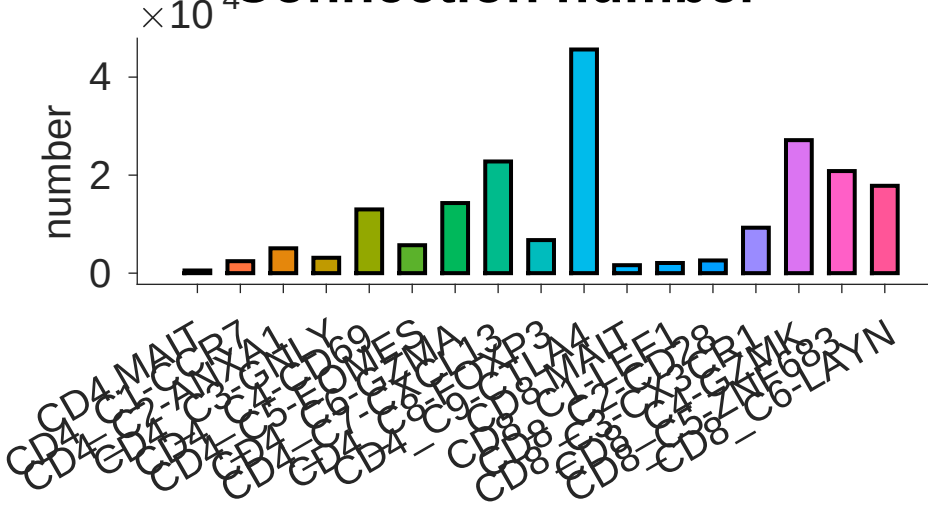Connection number