

NGS2 course

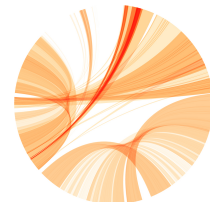
Making Sense of Gene Lists

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Zürich** ^{UZH}

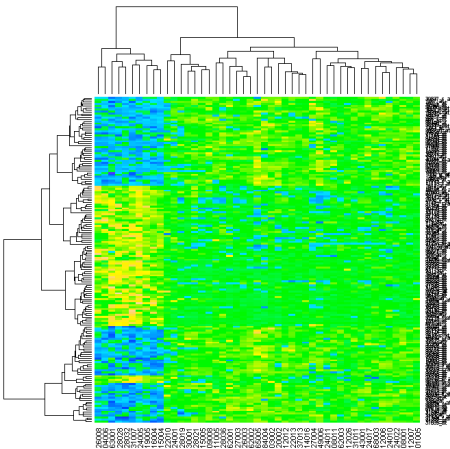


**URPP
Evolution
in Action**

Gene List Annotation

- You performed a genomic experiment and obtained a gene list
- Who wants to work through a list of hundreds of genes?
- What's next?

Your omics experiment
(RNA-Seq, microarrays,
proteomics, GWAS,...)



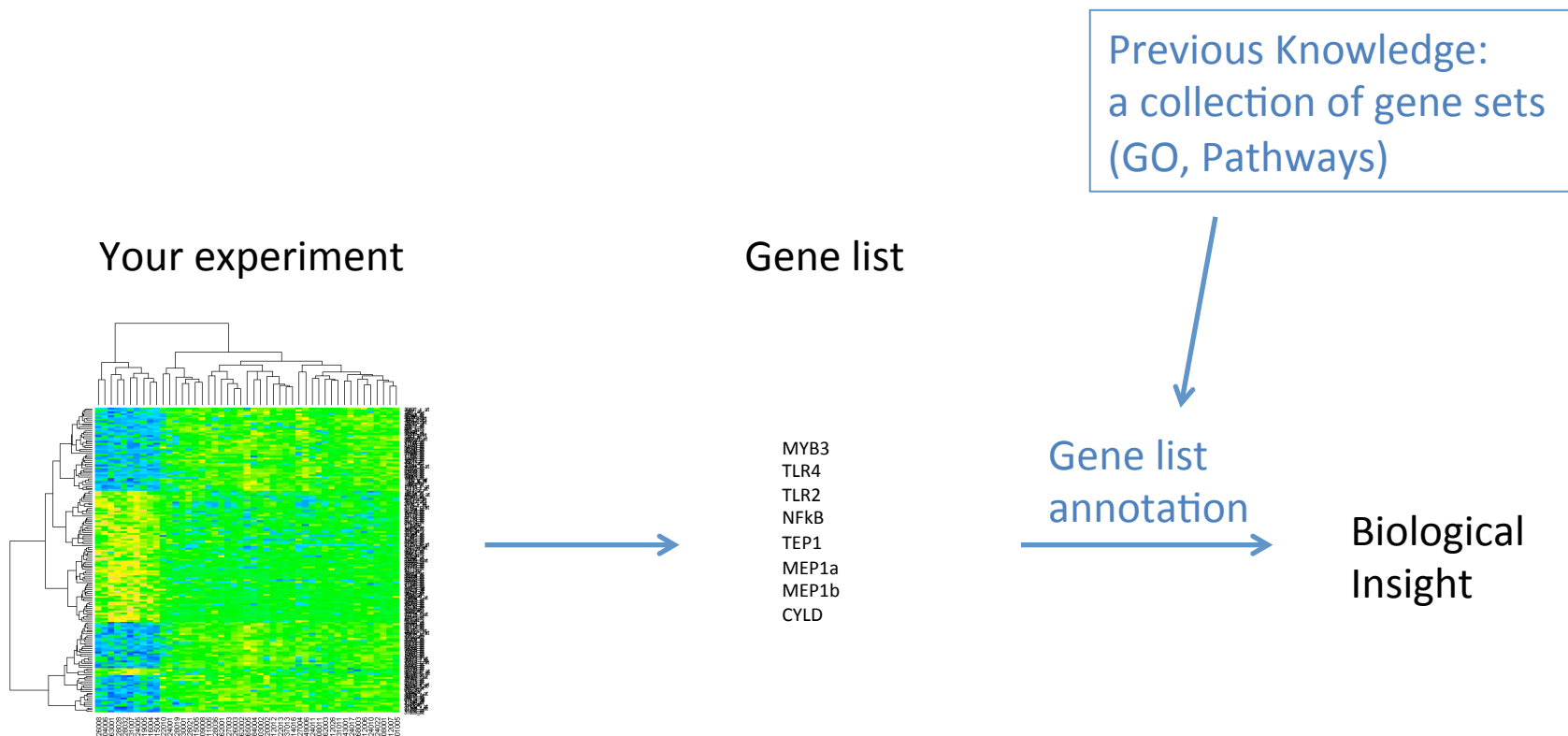
Gene list

MYB3
TLR4
TLR2
NFkB
DAG1
MEP1a
MEP1b
CYLD
USP40
APEH
USP3

?

Gene List Annotation

- We test whether the differentially expressed genes in our experiment are enriched in some predefined gene lists.
- Based on previous knowledge



Obtaining Biological Insight

- to summarize gene lists
- to help and speed up the interpretation of an experiment
- to gain mechanical insight
- to find regulated processes/pathways
- to find involved regulatory elements (TF, miRNA)
- to identify new members of a pathway
- to find similar experiments
-

Analysis based on gene lists is expected to be more **robust** and **reproducible** than single-gene analysis.

Enrichment Analysis

Over-Representation Analysis

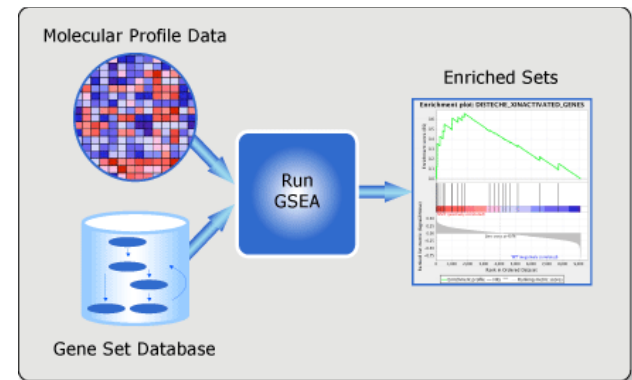
- hypergeometric aka Fisher's exact test
- input: 4 counts
- we need to set a cut-off a priori
- different results at different thresholds!

8	12
2	2412

Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA)

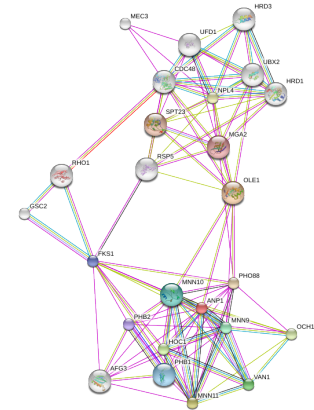
Subramanian et al. (2005) PNAS and many follow-up papers

- bypasses the need for a cut-off
- input: list of all measured genes ranked by some statistics / effect size
- weak but consistent regulation of several members of a gene set can be detected



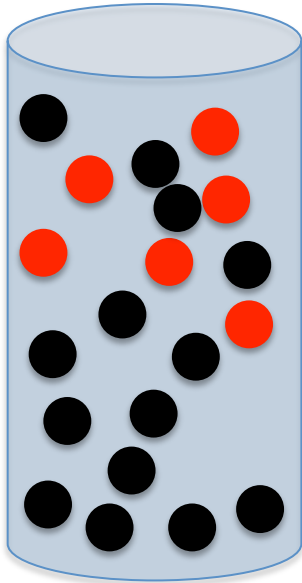
Network Analysis

- covers also the less well understood portion of gene interactions
- based on co-expression, co-citation, PPI,
- example: STRING (<http://www.string-db.org/>)



Over-Representation Analysis

5000 black and 10 red balls in an urn
each ball represents 1 gene
10 red balls ("Cytochromes")



Our list of differentially
expr. genes: 4/5 balls are red

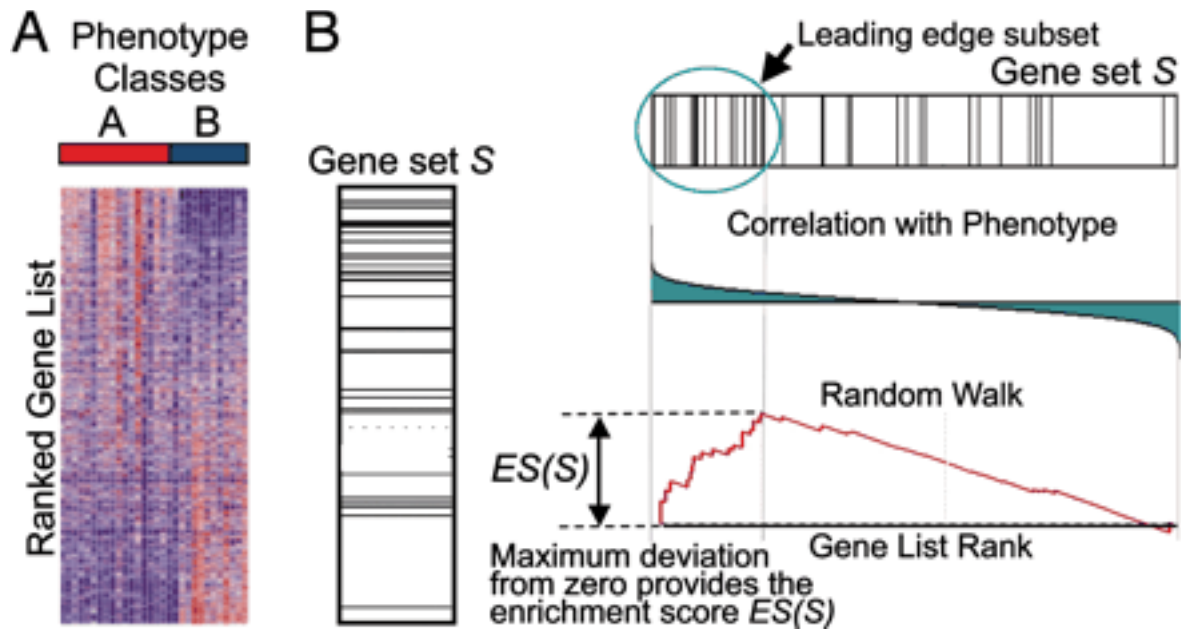
- CYP4F11
- CYP1A
- MEP1A
- CYP26B
- CYP3A43

What is the probability?
2x2 contingency table

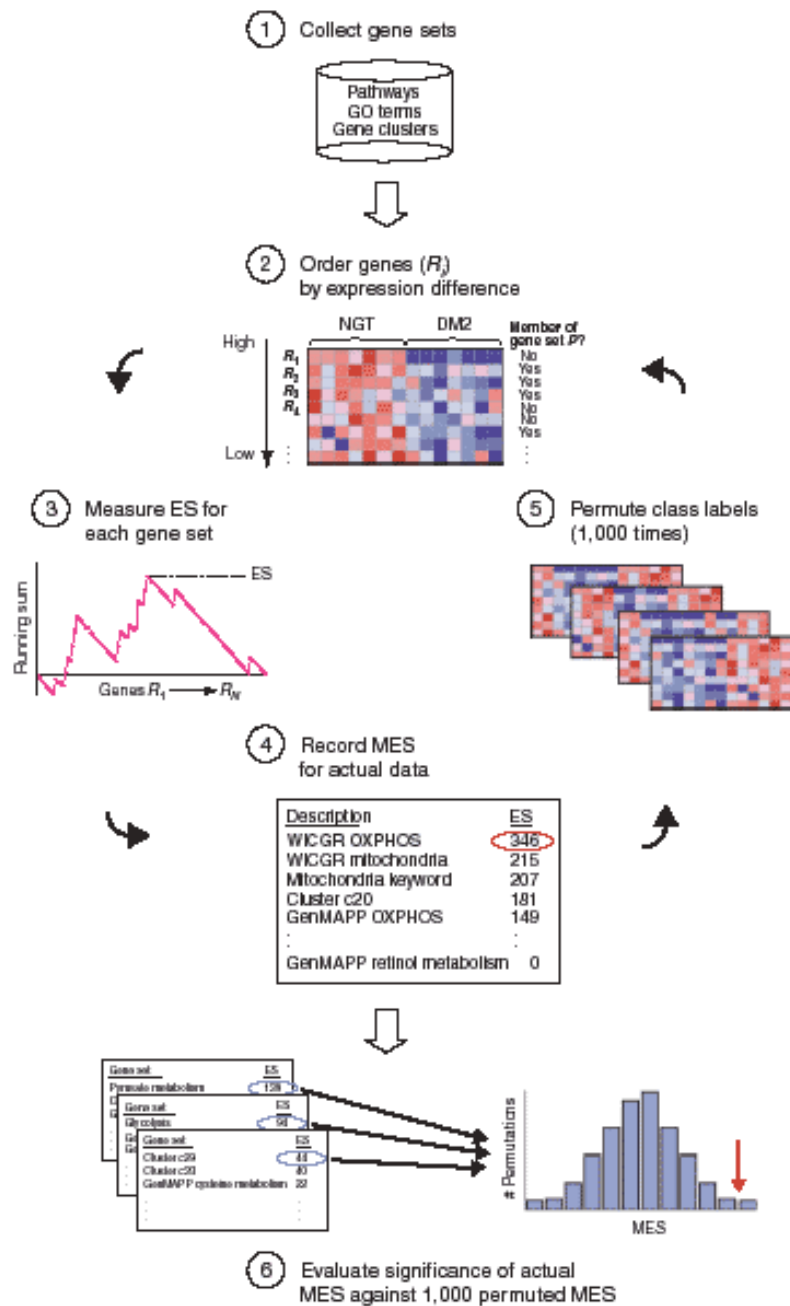
	Selected	Not
in category	4	6
not in category	1	4989

one-sided Fisher's
exact test
p-value = 4.03e-11

Gene Set Enrichment Analysis

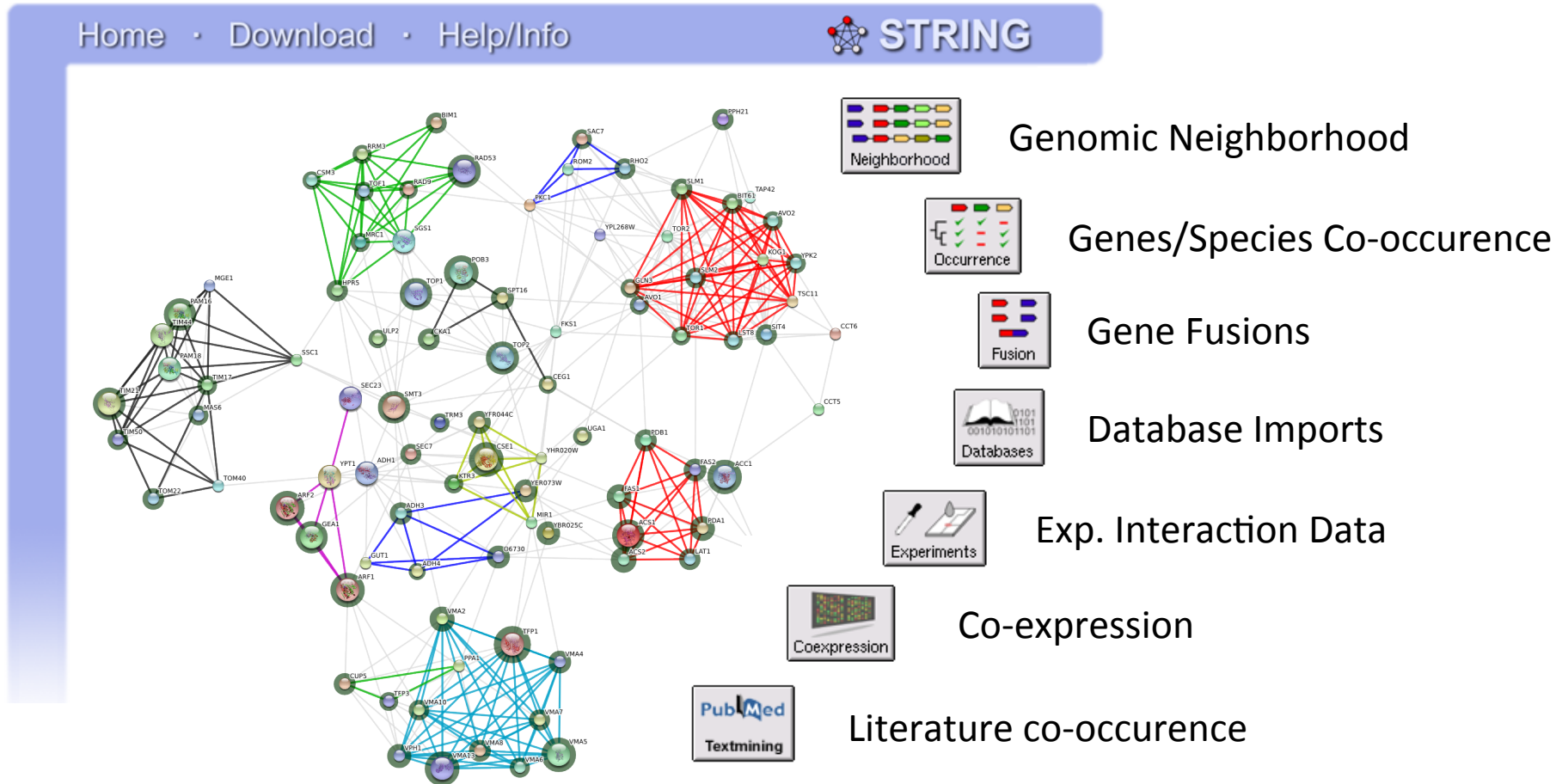


Subramanian et al. (2005) PNAS



STRING

<http://string-db.org/>

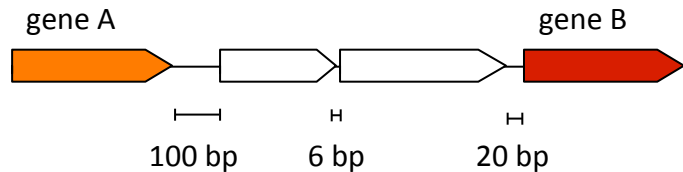


- **functional association networks (physical or functional interactions)**
- **focus on useability and speed**
- **integrated scoring scheme (each interaction has confidence score)**
- ***information transfer between species (>2000 species: Animals, Bact, Plants,...)***

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The raw score regimes

Neighborhood



raw score: sum of intergenic distances

Fusion



raw score: constant (0.99)

experimental interactions

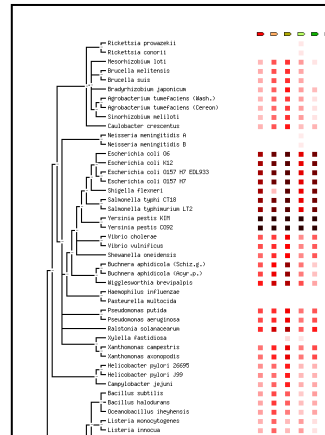
- two-hybrid, TAP, annotated complexes, ...
- topology-based analysis: who with whom, how many other partners?

raw score: various (usually ‘uniqueness’ of interaction).

Co-expression

- download all microarray datasets for a given species
- data normalization (spatial correction)

raw score: pairwise pearson-correlation coefficient



Phylogenetic profiles

- “similarity profiles”
- singular value decomposition

raw score: euclidean distance

filter: downweigh scores for homologous pairs

Textmining

- download all PubMed abstracts
- identify proteins in the abstracts
- search for co-mentioned pairs

raw score: log-odds score

Annotation Sources

Pathways

KEGG, Reactome, BioCyc, ...

Gene Ontology (GO)

Gene/Protein Networks

e.g. STRING



Level of
Detail



genes
annotated

Pathways

- pathway maps (aka reaction networks / wiring diagrams) represent experimental knowledge on metabolism and various other functions of the cell and the organism
- manually curated
- the main databases are KEGG and Reactome
- KEGG is free to use over the web but file download requires subscription
- KEGG covers >3'800 species (Archae, Bacteria, Plants, Animals) and Reactome covers 20 species (mostly mammals + fly + plants + E.coli) as of May 2015.

Example KEGG Pathway



Retinol metabolism - Mus musculus (mouse)

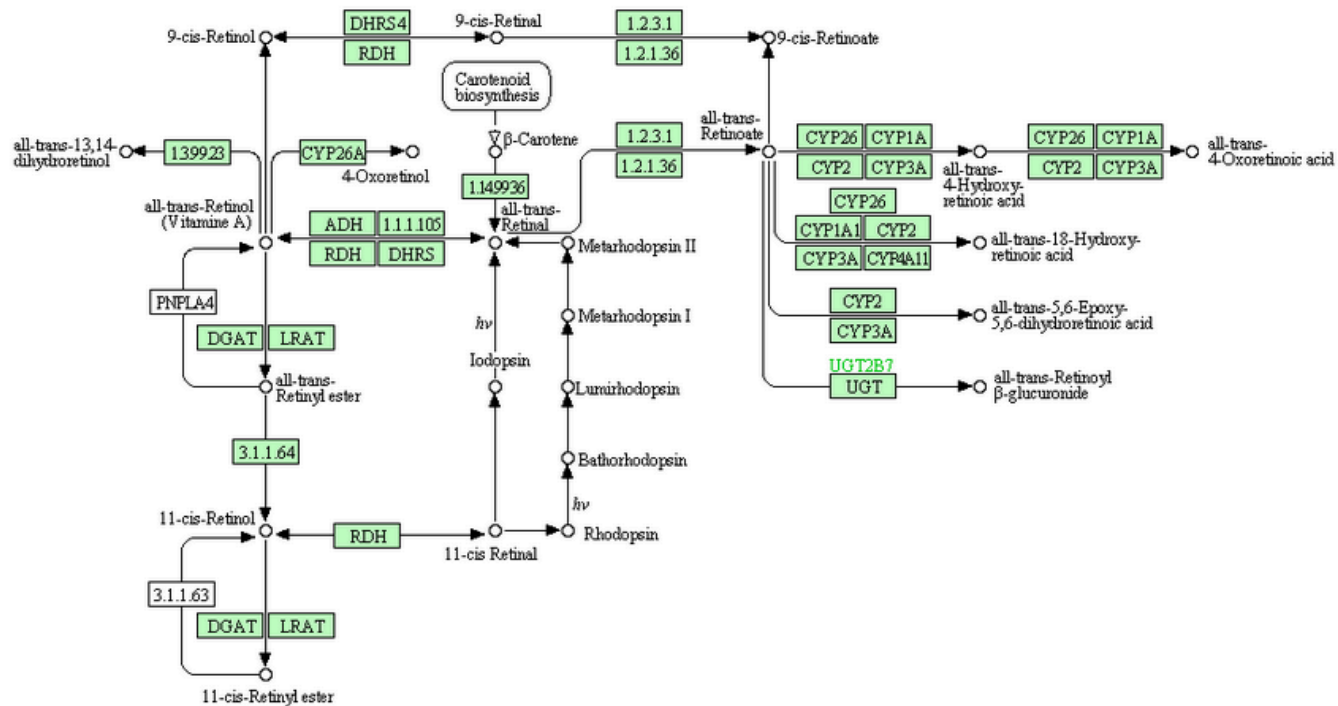
[[Pathway menu](#) | [Organism menu](#) | [Pathway entry](#) | [Download KGML](#) | [User data mapping](#)]

Mus musculus (mouse)

Go

100%

RETINOL METABOLISM IN ANIMALS



Gene Ontology

Gene Ontology (GO)

<http://www.geneontology.org/>

- describes how gene products behave in a cellular context (BP, MF, C)
- controlled vocabulary of terms
- transparent (sources)
- manually curated lists for model species
- transfer to orthologs in other species (inferred annotation)

Example

murine ADAM10

Molecular function

GO:0008237 metallopeptidase activity

GO:0042169 SH2 domain binding

..

Biological Process

GO:0007220 Notch receptor processing

GO:0001701 in utero embryonic development

GO:0008284 positive regulation of cell proliferation

..

Cellular Compartment

GO:0005794 Golgi apparatus


GO:0009986 cell surface

..

Lookup of GO terms

AmiGO

<http://amigo.geneontology.org>

 *the Gene Ontology*

AmiGO





SearchBrowseBLASTHomolog AnnotationsTools & ResourcesHelp

Search GO

☒ terms☐ genes or proteins☐ exact match

Send

proteolysis


Term information  Term neighborhood  External references  24356 gene product associations 

Term Information

Accession	GO:0006508
Ontology	Biological Process
Synonyms	narrow: ATP-dependent proteolysis exact: peptidolysis
Definition	The hydrolysis of proteins into smaller polypeptides and/or amino acids by cleavage of their peptide bonds. Source: GOC:bf, GOC:mah
Comment	This term was intentionally placed under 'protein metabolic process ; GO:0019538' rather than 'protein catabolic process ; GO:0030163' to cover all processes centered on breaking peptide bonds, including those involved in protein maturation.
Subset	PIR GO slim Prokaryotic GO subset
Community	Add usage comments for this term on the GONUTS wiki.

GO Table View

GO:0006508 Proteolysis

Filter lineage gene product counts 

Data source
No filter
ASAP
AspGD
CGD

Species
G. gallus
H. sapiens
M. grisea
M. musculus

Ancestors and Children

Inferred Tree View

Graph View

Other Views

Downloads

Mappings

- I** GO:0008150 biological_process [24796 gene products]
- I** GO:0008152 metabolic process [9742 gene products]
- I** GO:0071704 organic substance metabolic process [8982 gene products]
- I** GO:0043170 macromolecule metabolic process [7191 gene products]
- I** GO:0044238 primary metabolic process [8588 gene products]
- I** GO:0019538 protein metabolic process [4116 gene products]
- ▼** **GO:0006508 proteolysis [1284 gene products]**
 - I** GO:0033619 membrane protein proteolysis [38 gene products]
 - R** GO:0045861 negative regulation of proteolysis [46 gene products]
 - G** GO:0045862 positive regulation of proteolysis [83 gene products]
 - I** GO:0035897 proteolysis in other organism [0 gene products]
 - I** GO:0051603 proteolysis involved in cellular protein catabolic process [406 gene products]
 - R** GO:0030162 regulation of proteolysis [490 gene products]
 - I** GO:0097264 self proteolysis [2 gene products]

Ancestors and Children

AmiGO

<http://amigo.geneontology.org>

Ancestors and Children

Inferred Tree View







Graph View

Other Views








Downloads

Mappings

Ancestors of proteolysis (GO:0006508)

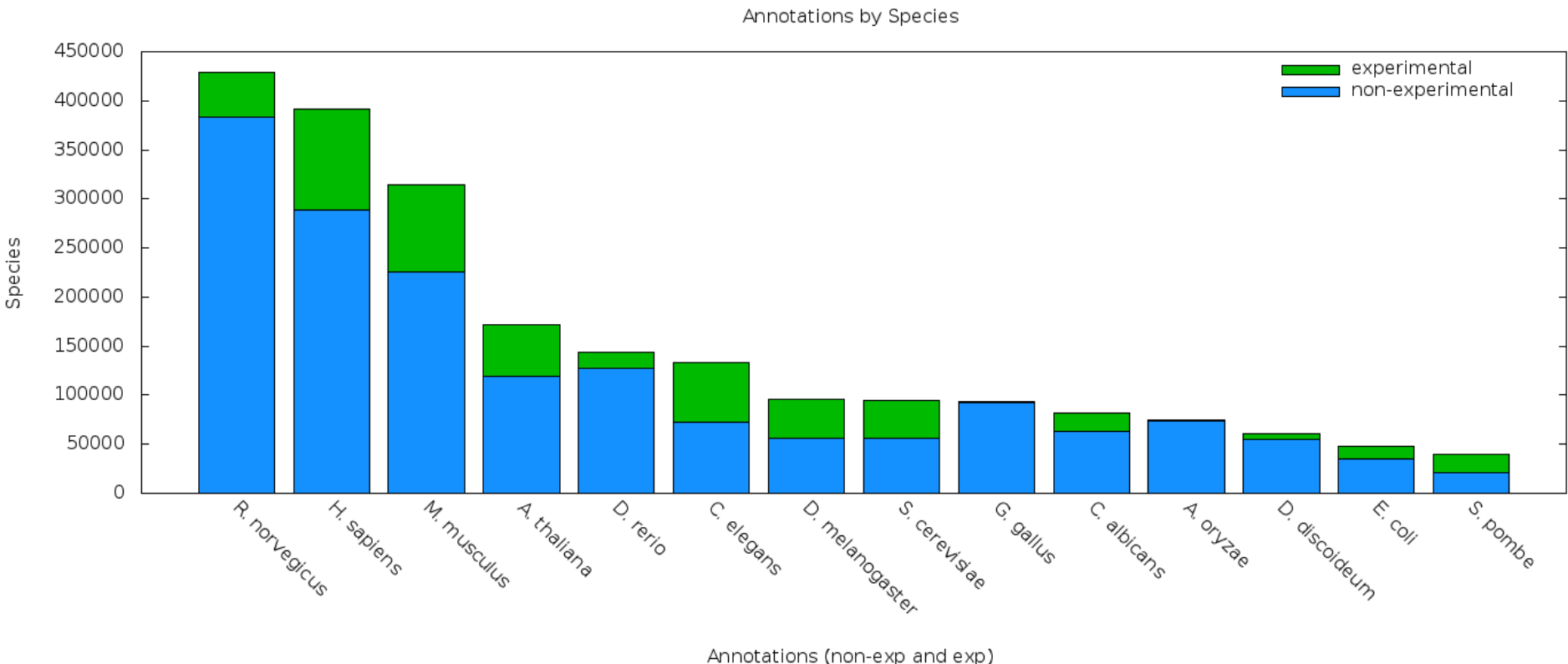
subject ↕	relation ↕	object ↕	annotations ↕
proteolysis	 is_a (inferred)	biological process (GO:0008150)	665024
proteolysis	 is_a (inferred)	metabolic process (GO:0008152)	368913
proteolysis	 is_a (inferred)	organic substance metabolic process (GO:0071704)	300256
proteolysis	 is_a (inferred)	macromolecule metabolic process (GO:0043170)	202070
proteolysis	 is_a (inferred)	primary metabolic process (GO:0044238)	277534
proteolysis	 is_a	protein metabolic process (GO:0019538)	105597

Children of proteolysis (GO:0006508)

subject ↕	relation ↕	object ↕	annotations ↕
membrane protein proteolysis (GO:0033619)	 is_a	proteolysis	387
negative regulation of proteolysis (GO:0045861)	 negatively_regulates	proteolysis	502
positive regulation of proteolysis (GO:0045862)	 positively_regulates	proteolysis	696
proteolysis in other organism (GO:0035897)	 is_a	proteolysis	83
proteolysis involved in cellular protein catabolic process (GO:0051603)	 is_a	proteolysis	8312
regulation of proteolysis (GO:0030162)	 regulates	proteolysis	4093
self proteolysis (GO:0097264)	 is_a	proteolysis	38

GO statistics

Even in model organisms only a minority of genes has experimental GO annotation



False Discovery Rate (FDR)

Significance (alpha) level: probability of rejecting the null hypothesis given that it is true

Therefore at 5% significance level: for 100 tests where all null hypotheses are true, the expected number of incorrect rejections is 5

tests	incorrect rejections
100	5
10,000	500

Multiple Testing Correction

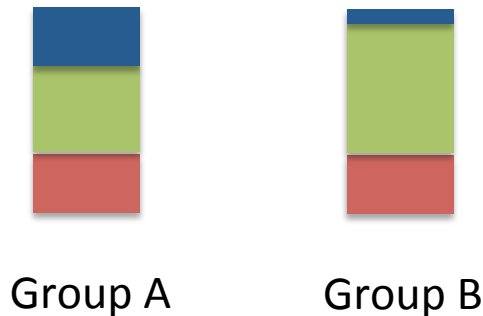
- Bonferroni
- False Discovery Rate (FDR): If we find 100 genes significantly differentially expressed at a 5% FDR, we expect at most 5 false discoveries in the list.

Experimental design

Interpretability depends mostly on appropriate experimental design!

Randomize samples/treatments across lanes / flow cells

Multiple tissues/cell types/stages pooled in a sample -> complex and difficult to understand the ongoing processes (e.g. observed changes can simply be due to changes in relative abundance of different cell types independent of regulation)



Blood example during pregnancy

Summary

- Gene list annotation with Pathways and Gene Ontology can help to obtain biological insight.
- Biological interpretation is often by far the most difficult and time-consuming step of an experiment as it requires broad knowledge of physiology&biochemistry.
- Even experts can usually not make sense of all the significantly enriched processes/pathways in well understood biological systems.
- Good experiments start with good experimental design! Think of possible confounders

URLs & Tips

Main general Annotation Sources

- Gene Ontology (<http://www.geneontology.org/>)
 - AmiGO: <http://amigo.geneontology.org>
 - QuickGO: <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/QuickGO/>
 - Compilation of GO Tools: <http://www.geneontology.org/GO.tools.shtml>
- KEGG (<http://www.genome.jp/kegg>)
- Reactome (<http://www.reactome.org>)

- Most pathway databases offer also tools to colorize genes of interest on pathways
- Pathway analysis can also be done in R/bioconductor, see http://www.bioconductor.org/packages/release/BiocViews.html#___Pathways