

# Joint Estimation and Inference for Multiple Multi-layered Gaussian Graphical Models

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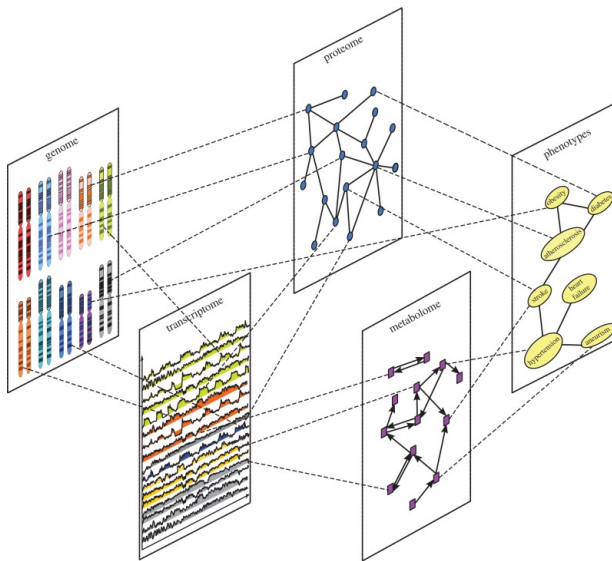
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- Biological processes in the body have a natural hierarchical structure, e.g. **Gene > Protein > Metabolite**;
- There are within layer and between-layer connections in this structure;
- These connections can be different inside different organs, experimental conditions, or for different subtypes of the same disease;
- We design a framework for *joint estimation and hypothesis testing* for all the connections in these complex biological structure.

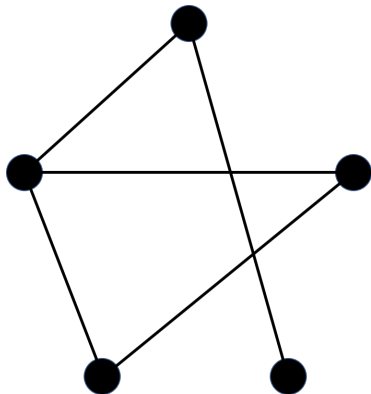
# Schematic of data integration



(Source: Gligorijević and Pržulj (2015))

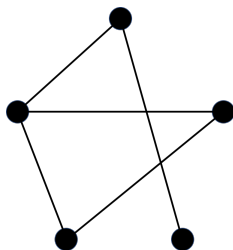
- 1 **Formulation of multiple multi-level graphical models**
- 2 Model formulation, computation and theory
- 3 Hypothesis testing
- 4 Simulation studies

$$\mathbb{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_p)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_x); \quad \Omega_x = \Sigma_x^{-1}$$

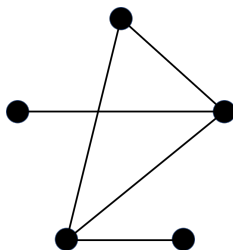


Sparse estimation of  $\Omega_x$ : [Meinshausen and Bühlmann \(2006\)](#)  
Multiple testing and error control: [Drton and Perlman \(2007\)](#).

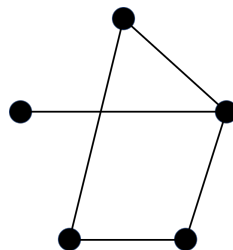
$$\mathbb{X}^k = (X_1^k, \dots, X_p^k)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_x^k); \quad \Omega_x^k = (\Sigma_x^k)^{-1}$$
$$k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$



$k = 1$



$k = 2$



$k = 3$

- Joint estimation of  $\{\Omega_x^k\}$ :
- Difference and similarity testing with FDR control: [Liu \(2017+\)](#)

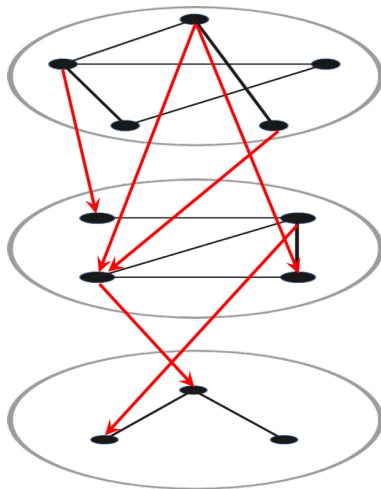
# Multi-Layered Gaussian Graphical models

$$\mathbb{E} = (E_1, \dots, E_q)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_y);$$

$$\Omega_y = (\Sigma_y)^{-1}$$

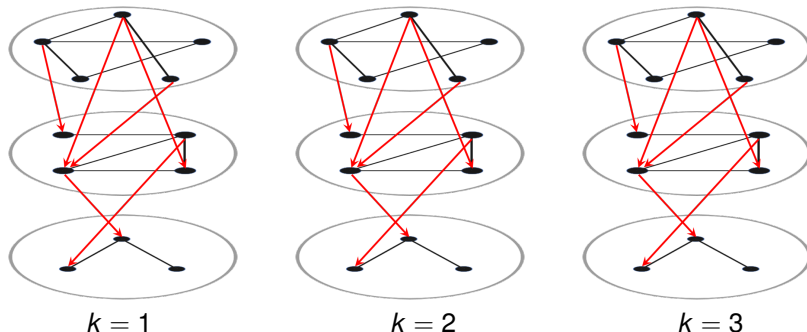
$$\mathbb{Y} = \mathbb{X}\mathbf{B} + \mathbb{E}$$

- $\Omega_x, \Omega_y$  give undirected within-layer edges, while  $\mathbf{B}$  gives directed between-layer edges.
- Sparse estimation of  $(\Omega_y, \Omega_x, \mathbf{B})$ : [Lin et al. \(2016\)](#).



# Multiple Multi-layered Gaussian Graphical models

$$\mathbb{E}^k = (E_1^k, \dots, E_q^k)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_y^k); \quad \Omega_y^k = (\Sigma_y^k)^{-1}$$
$$\mathbb{Y}^k = \mathbb{X}^k \mathbf{B}^k + \mathbb{E}^k; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$



- We estimate  $\{\Omega_x^k, \Omega_y^k, \mathbf{B}^k\}$  jointly for all  $k$  from a single model;
- For  $K = 2$  and  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ , we also provide a global test for  $\mathbf{b}_i^1 = \mathbf{b}_i^2$ , and do multiple testing for  $b_{ij}^1 = b_{ij}^2, j = 1, 2, \dots, q$ .



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- **For single GGM:** Estimate neighboring edges for each node, then refit.

$$\hat{\zeta}_i = \operatorname{argmin}_{\zeta_i} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{X}_i - \mathbf{X}_{-i} \zeta_i\|^2 + \nu_n \sum_{i' \neq i} |\zeta_{ii'}| \right\};$$

$$\hat{\Omega}_x = \operatorname{argmin}_{\Omega_x \in \cup_i \operatorname{support}(\zeta_i)} \{ \operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{S}_x \Omega_x) + \log \det(\Omega_x) \}$$

Can do this because  $\zeta_{ii'} = -\omega_{ii'}/\omega_{ii}$ .

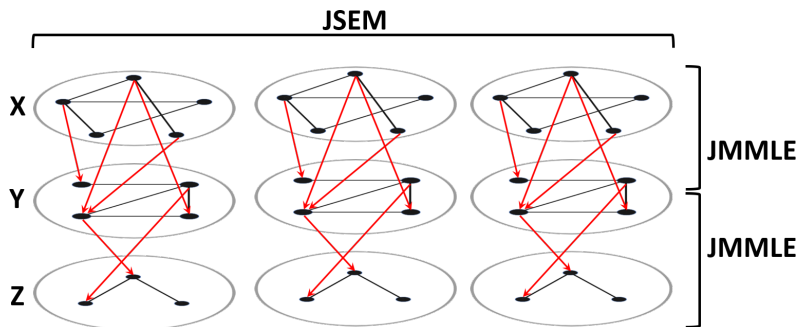
- **For multiple GGM:** Incorporate penalty across different  $k$  (JSEM: **Ma and Michailidis (2016)**).

$$\hat{\zeta}_i = \operatorname{argmin}_{\zeta_i} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{n_k} \|\mathbf{X}_i^k - \mathbf{X}_{-i}^k \zeta_i^k\|^2 + \nu_n \sum_{i' \neq i, g \in \mathcal{G}_{ii'}} \|\zeta_{ii'}^{[g]}\| \right\};$$

$$\hat{\Omega}_x^k = \operatorname{argmin}_{\Omega_x^k \in \cup_i \operatorname{support}(\zeta_i^k)} \{ \operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{S}_x^k \Omega_x^k) + \log \det(\Omega_x^k) \};$$

### Joint Multiple Multi-Level Estimation (JMMLE)

We decompose the multi-layer problem into a series of two layer problems. For within-layer connections in the topmost layer, we use JSEM. For other connections we use JMMLE.



We combine sparse neighborhood selection in the Y-network with sparse estimation of  $\{\mathbf{B}^k\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{\hat{\mathcal{B}}, \hat{\Theta}\} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathcal{B}, \Theta} & \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^q \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{k=1}^K \left\| \mathbf{Y}_j^k - (\mathbf{Y}_{-j}^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}_{-j}^k) \theta_j^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}_j^k \right\|^2 \right. \\ & \left. + \lambda_n \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \|\mathbf{B}^{[h]}\| + \gamma_n \sum_{j' \neq j, g \in \mathcal{G}_{jj'}} \|\theta_{jj'}^{[g]}\| \right\} \\ \hat{\Omega}_y^k = & \operatorname{argmin}_{\Omega_y^k \in \cup_i \operatorname{support}(\theta_i^k)} \left\{ \operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{S}_y^k \Omega_y^k) + \log \det(\Omega_y^k) \right\} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \end{aligned}$$

$$\{\hat{\mathcal{B}}, \hat{\Theta}\} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathcal{B}, \Theta} \{f(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}, \Theta) + P(\mathcal{B}) + Q(\Theta)\}$$

The objective function is biconvex, so we solve the above by the following alternating iterative algorithm:

- 1 Start with initial estimates of  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\Theta$ , say  $\mathcal{B}^{(0)}, \Theta^{(0)}$ .
- 2 Iterate:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}^{(t+1)} &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathcal{B}} \left\{ f(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}, \Theta^{(t)}) + Q(\mathcal{B}) \right\} \\ \Theta^{(t+1)} &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\Theta} \left\{ f(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}^{(t+1)}, \Theta) + P(\Theta) \right\}\end{aligned}$$

- 3 Continue till convergence.

For  $\lambda_n \geq 4\sqrt{|h_{\max}|}\mathbb{R}_0\sqrt{\frac{\log(pq)}{n}}$ , the following hold with probability approaching 1 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta_0\|_1 \leq \frac{48\sqrt{|h_{\max}|}s_\beta\lambda_n}{\psi^*}$$

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta_0\| \leq \frac{12\sqrt{s_\beta}\lambda_n}{\psi^*}$$

$$\sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \|\beta^{[h]} - \beta_0^{[h]}\| \leq \frac{48s_\beta\lambda_n}{\psi^*}$$

with  $\psi^*, \mathbb{R}_0$  being constants, and  $\beta = (\text{vec}(\mathbf{B}^1)^T, \dots, \text{vec}(\mathbf{B}^K)^T)^T$ ,  $|h_{\max}|$  the maximum group size in  $\beta_0$  and  $s_\beta$  the sparsity of  $\beta_0$ .

For  $\gamma_n = 4\sqrt{|g_{\max}|}\mathbb{Q}_0\sqrt{\frac{\log(pq)}{n}}$ , the following hold with probability approaching 1 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\|\hat{\Theta}_j - \Theta_{0,j}\|_F &\leq \frac{12\sqrt{s_j}\gamma_n}{\psi} \\ \sum_{j \neq j', g \in \mathcal{G}_y^{jj'}} \|\hat{\theta}_{jj'}^{[g]} - \theta_{0,jj'}^{[g]}\| &\leq \frac{48s_j\gamma_n}{\psi} \\ |\text{support}(\hat{\Theta}_j)| &\leq \frac{128s_j}{\psi} \\ \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \|\hat{\Omega}_y^k - \Omega_y^k\|_F &\leq O\left(\frac{\sqrt{S}\gamma_n}{\sqrt{K}}\right)\end{aligned}$$

with  $\psi, \mathbb{Q}_0$  being constants,  $|g_{\max}|$  the maximum group size in  $\Theta_0$ ,  $s_j$  the sparsity of  $\Theta_j$  and  $S = \sum_j s_j$ .



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- Consider the case  $K = 2$ , and suppose we are interested in testing if the effect of variable  $i$  in the X-data is different across the two populations.
- For this we use the  $i^{\text{th}}$  rows of the estimates  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}^1$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}^2$ .
- We debias these row vectors using the neighborhood coefficients in the X-network computed previously using JSEM: In this setup, define the desparsified estimate of  $\mathbf{b}_i^k$  as

$$\hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^k = \hat{\mathbf{b}}_i^k + \frac{1}{nt_i^k} \left( \mathbf{X}_i^k - \mathbf{X}_{-i}^k \hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}_i^k \right)^T (\mathbf{Y}^k - \mathbf{X}^k \hat{\mathbf{B}}^k)$$

for  $k = 1, 2$ , where  $t_i^k := (\mathbf{X}_i^k - \mathbf{X}_{-i}^k \hat{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}_i^k)^T \mathbf{X}_{-i}^k / n$ .

Assume we have 'good enough' estimators:

$$\|\hat{\zeta}^k - \zeta_0^k\|_1 = O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\log p}{n}}\right); \quad \|\hat{\mathbf{B}}^k - \mathbf{B}_0^k\|_1 = O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\log(pq)}{n}}\right)$$

$$\left\|(\hat{\Omega}_y^k)^{1/2} - (\Omega_y^k)^{1/2}\right\|_\infty = O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\log q}{n}}\right)$$

Also define

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}_i^k := \sqrt{\|\mathbf{X}_i^k - \mathbf{X}_{-i}^k \hat{\zeta}_i^k\|^2 / n}; \quad m_i^k := \sqrt{nt_i^k} / \hat{\mathbf{s}}_i^k$$

Then for sample size satisfying  $n \gtrsim \log(pq)$ ,  $\log p = o(n^{1/2})$ ,  $\log q = o(n^{1/2})$  we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\Omega}_y^1 & \\ & \hat{\Omega}_y^2 \end{bmatrix}^{1/2} \begin{bmatrix} m_i^1(\hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^1 - \mathbf{b}_i^1) & \\ & m_i^2(\hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^2 - \mathbf{b}_i^2) \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}_{2q}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}) + o_P(1)$$

- 1 Obtain the debiased estimators  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^1, \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^2$ ;
- 2 Calculate the test statistic

$$D_i = \left\| m_i^1 (\hat{\Omega}_y^1)^{1/2} \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^1 - m_i^2 (\hat{\Omega}_y^2)^{1/2} \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^2 \right\|^2$$

- 3 Reject  $H_0$  if  $D_i \geq \chi_{2q, 1-\alpha}^2$ .

## Simultaneous tests for $H_0^j : b_{0ij}^1 = b_{0ij}^2$ at level $\alpha, 0 < \alpha < 1$

- 1 Calculate the pairwise test statistics  $d_{ij}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, q$ :

$$d_{ij} = \frac{\tau_{ij}^1 \hat{\mathbf{c}}_{ij}^1 - \tau_{ij}^2 \hat{\mathbf{c}}_{ij}^2}{1/m_i^1 + 1/m_i^2}$$

where  $\tau_{ij}^k$  is the  $(i, j)^{\text{th}}$  element of  $(\hat{\Omega}_y^k)^{1/2}, k = 1, 2$ .

- 2 Obtain the threshold

$$\hat{\tau} = \inf \left\{ \tau \in \mathbb{R} : 1 - \Phi(\tau) \leq \frac{\alpha}{2q} \max \left( \sum_{j \in \mathcal{I}_q} \mathbb{I}(|d_{ij}| \geq \tau), 1 \right) \right\}$$

- 3 For  $j \in \mathcal{I}_q$ , reject  $H_0^j$  if  $|d_{ij}| \geq \hat{\tau}$ .

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# THANK YOU!

Questions?