Lecture Notes: 27 Feb, 2012

## Boolean networks

A boolean network is a graph G(V, F) consisting of a set of vertices V (genes) and a list of boolean functions  $F = f_1, f_2, ..., f_n$  where  $f_i = v_k 1, v_k 2, ..., v_k n$ .

An expression pattern is a function  $\psi: V -->0,1$ 

One can define dynamics on a boolean network by the following scheme.

$$\psi_{t+1}(v_i) = f_i(\psi_t(v_i1), \psi_t(v_i2), ..., \psi_t(v_ik))$$

Consider a dataset of the form

$$D = (I_1, O_1), (I_2, O_2), ..., (I_m, O_m)$$

where  $I_k$  and  $O_k$  are expression profiles.

## **Definitions**

1. We say that a node  $v_i$  in a boolean network is consistent with  $(I_i, O_i)$  if

$$O_j(v_i) = f_i(I_j(v_i1), ..., I_j(V_ik))$$

2. We say G(V, F) is consistent with  $(I_j, O_j)$  if all nodes are consistent

Given n (the number of genes) and data D, decide whether or not there exists a boolean network G(F, V) consistent with D, and output one if it exists