### **Supplementary Material**

Main document: A compositional model to assess expression changes from single-cell RNA-seq data

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This supplement is organized to match the sectioning of the main document. In summary,

- 1. Introduction
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- 2. Modeling
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EBSeq modalClust Randomized K—means Selecting K

• Double Dirichlet Mixture

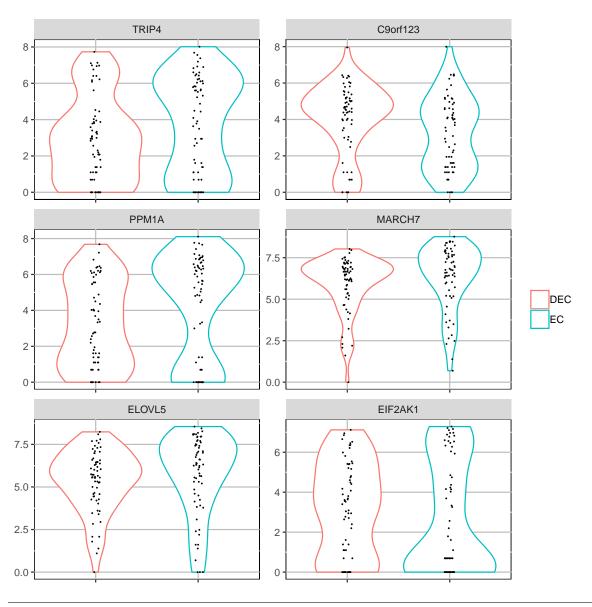
Proof of Properties 1-8 and Theorem 3

- 3. Numerical Experiments
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# 1 Introduction

### 1.1 DEC vs EC

Using data from GSE75748, comparing conditions DEC vs EC. We have genes potentially to be DD uniquely identified by scDDboost. (supplementary Fig 1)



Supplementary Figure 1: Potentially to be DD genes uniquely identified by us.

### 1.2 R package

Reference can be found at github site ...

\*\*on scDDboost, web page, etc\*\*

## 2 Modeling

### 2.1 Data Structure, Sampling Model, and Parameters

Proof of Theorem 2.

*Proof.* The change of proportion of subtypes  $A_{\pi}$  is independent with mean expression change between subtypes  $M_{g,\pi}$  given expression data X, condition label y and cluster label z. Further, conditioning on condition label y and cluster label z, the change of proportion of subtypes  $A_{\pi}$  is independent with the expression data X and similarly conditioning on z and X,  $M_{g,\pi}$  is independent with y. Thus we have  $P\left(A_{\pi} \cap M_{g,\pi} | X, y, z\right) = P\left(A_{\pi} | y, z\right) P\left(M_{g,\pi} | X, z\right)$ .

### 2.2 Method Structure and Clustering

#### 2.2.1 EBSeq

Suppose we have K subtypes, let  $X_g^I = X_{g,1}^I, ..., X_{g,S_1}^I$  denote transcripts at gene g from subtype I, I = 1, ...K. In the EBSeq model it assumed that counts within subtype I are distributed as Negative Binomial:  $X_{g,s}^I | r_{g,s}, q_g^I \sim NB(r_{g,s}, q_g^I)$  Where

$$P(X_{g,s}^{I}|r_{g,s},q_g^{I}) = {X_{g,s} + r_{g,s} - 1 \choose X_{g,s}} (1 - q_g^{I})^{X_{g,s}^{I}} (q_g^{I})^{r_{g,s}}$$

and 
$$\mu_{g,s}^I = r_{g,s}(1-q_g^I)/q_g^I; \sigma_{g,s}^I = r_{g,s}(1-q_g^I)/(q_g^I)^2$$
.

The EBSeq model assumed a prior distribution on  $q_g^I:q_g^I|\alpha$ ,  $\beta^{I_g}\sim Beta(\alpha,\beta^{I_g})$ . The hyperparameter  $\alpha$  is shared by all the isoforms and  $\beta^{I_g}$  is  $I_g$  specific. Now we are using EBSeq for expression inference of genes rather than isoforms, we made a modification to the original prior from EBSeq. We still make  $\alpha$  to be shared by all the genes and  $\beta^g$  becomes gene specific parameter.

The modeling of  $r_{g,s}$  is the same as what EBSeq does. Specifically, we further assume that  $r_{g,s} = r_{g,0} * l_s$  where  $r_{g,0}$  is an isoform specific parameter common across subtypes and  $r_{g,s}$  depends on it through the sample-specific normalization factor  $l_s$ 

What we are interested at those *K* groups comparison is the expression pattern, through EBSeq modeling we are able to obtain posterior probabilities over

$$M_{g,\pi} = \{\theta \in \Theta : \mu_{g,k} = \mu_{g,k'} \iff k,k' \in b, b \in \pi\}.$$

For any partition  $\pi$  of K elements.

For example K = 3, there are 5 expression pattern,  $P_1, P_2, ..., P_5$ 

$$P1: q_g^1 = q_g^2 = q_g^3$$

$$P2: q_g^1 = q_g^2 \neq q_g^3$$

$$P3: q_g^1 \neq q_g^2 = q_g^3$$

$$P4: q_g^1 = q_g^3 \neq q_g^2$$

$$P5: q_g^1 \neq q_g^2 \neq q_g^3 \text{ and } q_g^1 \neq q_g^3$$

Under the assumption that two groups I and J share the same  $q_g$  we can pool the counts from the two groups by viewing them come from same distribution i.e.  $X_g^{I,J}|r_{g,s},q_g\sim NB(r_{g,s},q_g),\ q_g|\alpha,\beta^g\sim Beta(\alpha,\beta^g)$  and obtained the prior predictive function  $f_0^g(X_g^{I,J})=\int_0^1 P(X_g^{I,J}|r_{g,s},q_g)*P(q_g|\alpha,\beta^g)dq_g=\left[\prod_{s=1}^S {X_{g,s}+r_{g,s}-1\choose X_{g,s}}\right]\frac{Beta(\alpha+\Sigma_{s=1}^Sr_{g,s},\beta^g+\Sigma_{s=1}^SX_{g,s})}{Beta(\alpha,\beta^g)}$ . Consequently, we have prior predictive function for P1,...,P5 as

P1: 
$$q_g^1 = q_g^2 = q_g^3$$
  
P2:  $q_g^1 = q_g^2 \neq q_g^3$   
P3:  $q_g^1 \neq q_g^2 = q_g^3$   
P4:  $q_g^1 = q_g^3 \neq q_g^2$   
P5:  $q_g^1 \neq q_g^2 \neq q_g^3$  and  $q_g^1 \neq q_g^3$ 

Under the assumption that two groups I and J share the same  $q_g$  we can pool the counts from the two groups by viewing them come from same distribution i.e.  $X_g^{I,J}|r_{g,s},q_g\sim NB(r_{g,s},q_g),\ q_g|\alpha,\beta^g\sim Beta(\alpha,\beta^g)$  and obtained the prior predictive function  $f_0^g(X_g^{I,J})=\int_0^1P(X_g^{I,J}|r_{g,s},q_g)*P(q_g|\alpha,\beta^g)dq_g=\left[\prod\limits_{s=1}^S\binom{X_{g,s}+r_{g,s}-1}{X_{g,s}}\right]\frac{Beta(\alpha+\sum_{s=1}^Sr_{g,s},\beta^g+\sum_{s=1}^SX_{g,s})}{Beta(\alpha,\beta^g)}$ . Consequently, we have prior predictive function for P1,...,P5 as

$$\begin{split} h_1^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2,3}) &= f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2,3}) \\ h_2^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2,3}) &= f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2}) f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^3) \\ h_3^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2,3}) &= f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^1) f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{2,3}) \\ h_4^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2,3}) &= f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,3}) f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^2) \\ h_5^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^{1,2,3}) &= f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^1) f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^2) f_0^{\mathcal{S}}(X_{\mathcal{S}}^3) \end{split}$$

Then the marginal distribution of counts  $X_g^{1,2,3}$  is  $\sum_{k=1}^5 p_k h_k^g(X_g^{1,2,3})$ , where proportion parameters  $p_k$  satisfying  $\sum_{k=1}^5 p_k = 1$  and are estimated by EM algorithm. Thus, the posterior probability of an expression pattern k is obtained by:

$$\frac{p_k h_k(X_g^{1,2,3})}{\sum_{k=1}^5 p_k h_k^g(X_g^{1,2,3})}$$

In the optimization steps for determining the hyper parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta^g$  and proportion of DE patterns p, the computation and memory increase exponentially with the number of subtypes K. We use one-step EM as an approximation for the solution, that is  $\alpha$  and  $\beta^g$  are updated through gradient aescent. p can still be updated by the explicit form of the maximizer of the log likelihood.

#### 2.2.2 modalClust

#### **Product Partition Model**

Let  $X = (X_1, X_2, ..., X_n)$  be n one dimension observed data, given a partition for the data  $\pi = \{S_1, ..., S_q\}$ , where  $S_i$  are disjoint subsets of  $\{1, 2, ..., n\}$  and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^q S_i = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ . The likelihood for X satisfying such partition is

$$p(X|\pi) = \prod_{i=1}^{q} f(X_{S_i})$$

where  $X_{S_i}$  is the vector of observations corresponding to the items of component  $S_i$ , The component likelihood  $f(X_S)$  is defined for any non-empty component S and can take any form. The partition  $\pi$  is the only parameter we are interested at. Any other parameters that may have been involved in the model have been integrated over their prior.

The prior distribution for a partition  $\pi$  is also taken as a product form. We use the partition that maximize the posterior  $p(\pi|X) \propto p(X|\pi)p(\pi)$  as the estimated clustering of X.

Dahl demonstrated by some choice of f and prior of  $\pi$ , we can reduce the time complexity of finding the MAP partition from factorial(n) to  $O(n^2)$  (?), And the crucial condition for f is that if  $X_{S_1}$  and  $X_{S_2}$  are overlapped in the sense that  $\min\{X_{S_2}\} < \max\{X_{S_1}\} < \max\{X_{S_2}\}$  or  $\min\{X_{S_1}\} < \max\{X_{S_2}\} < \max\{X_{S_1}\}$ ,  $X_{S_1^*}$  and  $X_{S_2^*}$  be the sets of swapping one pair of those overlapped terms and keep the other unchanged. Then  $f(X_{S_1})f(X_{S_2}) \leq f(X_{S_1^*})f(X_{S_2^*})$ . Under such condition, we know that possible MAP candidates must be those partition that for any two subgroups of data, all the data from subgroup1 has to be either greater or smaller than all the data from subgroup2.

In Poisson-Gamma Model we assuming:

$$X_i | \pi, \lambda \sim Poisson(X_i | \lambda_1 \mathbf{I}\{i \in S_1\} + ... + \lambda_q \mathbf{I}\{i \in S_q\})$$
  
 $\pi \sim p(\pi)$   
 $\lambda_j \sim Gamma(\alpha_0, \beta_0)$ 

where  $p(\pi) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{q} \eta_0 \Gamma(|S_i|)$ . Integrate out  $\lambda$ ,  $f(X_S)$  is obtained as:

$$f(X_S) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{(|S| + \beta)^{\sum\limits_{i \in S} X_i + \alpha}} \frac{\Gamma(\sum\limits_{i \in S} X_i + \alpha)}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{1}{\prod\limits_{i \in S} X_i}$$

 $f(X_S)$  still satisfying the condition mentioned

*Proof.* if  $X_{S_1}$  and  $X_{S_2}$  are overlapped, without loss of generality, we assume  $\min\{X_{S_2}\} < \max\{X_{S_1}\} < \max\{X_{S_2}\}$ , and we swap  $\max\{X_{S_1}\}$  with  $\min\{X_{S_2}\}$  and keep the rest unchanged or we could also swap  $\max\{X_{S_1}\}$  with  $\max\{X_{S_2}\}$ . We denote the new set forming by swap of  $\max\{X_{S_1}\}$  with  $\min\{X_{S_2}\}$  as  $S_1^*$  and  $S_2^*$  and swap of  $\max\{X_{S_1}\}$  with  $\max\{X_{S_2}\}$  as  $S_1^{**}$ ,  $S_2^{**}$  accordingly.

Then we need to show at least one of the following happens

$$f(X_{S_1^*})f(X_{S_2^*}) \ge f(X_{S_1})f(X_{S_2}) \tag{1}$$

$$f(X_{S_1^{**}})f(X_{S_2^{**}}) \ge f(X_{S_1})f(X_{S_2}) \tag{2}$$

Let  $a = \max\{X_{S_1}\}$ ,  $b = \min\{X_{S_2}\}$  and  $c = \max\{X_{S_2}\}$ .  $h_1 = \sum_{i \in S_1} X_i - a$  and  $h_2 = \sum_{i \in S_2} X_i - b$ ,  $n_1$  and

 $n_2$  are the number of elements in  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . Then

$$f(X_{S_{1}^{*}})f(X_{S_{2}^{*}}) \geq f(X_{S_{1}})f(X_{S_{2}}) \iff \frac{\Gamma(h_{1}+a+\alpha)}{(n_{1}+\beta)^{h_{1}+a+\alpha}} \frac{\Gamma(h_{2}+b+\alpha)}{(n_{2}+\beta)^{h_{2}+b+\alpha}} \leq \frac{\Gamma(h_{2}+a+\alpha)}{(n_{2}+\beta)^{h_{2}+a+\alpha}} \frac{\Gamma(h_{1}+b+\alpha)}{(n_{2}+\beta)^{h_{1}+b+\alpha}} \iff \frac{\Gamma(h_{1}+a+\alpha)}{\Gamma(h_{1}+b+\alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(h_{2}+b+\alpha)}{\Gamma(h_{2}+a+\alpha)} \leq (\frac{n_{1}+\beta}{n_{2}+\beta})^{a-b}$$

Left hand side of above formula is LHS<sub>1</sub> =  $\frac{(h_1+b+\alpha)...(h_1+a-1+\alpha)}{(h_2+b+\alpha)...(h_2+a-1+\alpha)}$  by the property of Gamma function and  $X_i$  are integer.

Similarly,

$$f(X_{S_1^{**}})f(X_{S_2^{**}}) \ge f(X_{S_1})f(X_{S_2}) \iff \frac{\Gamma(h_2 + c + \alpha)}{\Gamma(h_2 + a + \alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(h_1 + a + \alpha)}{\Gamma(h_1 + c + \alpha)} \le (\frac{n_2 + \beta}{n_1 + \beta})^{c - a}$$

Left hand side of above formula is LHS<sub>2</sub> =  $\frac{(h_2+a+\alpha)...(h_2+c-1+\alpha)}{(h_1+a+\alpha)...(h_1+c-1+\alpha)}$ 

If 
$$h_1 \le h_2$$
, then LHS<sub>1</sub>  $\le (\frac{h_1 + a - 1 + \alpha}{h_2 + a - 1 + \alpha})^{a - b}$  and LHS<sub>2</sub>  $\le (\frac{h_2 + c - 1 + \alpha}{h_1 + c - 1 + \alpha})^{a - b}$ 

So if 
$$\frac{h_1+a-1+\alpha}{h_2+a-1+\alpha} \le \frac{n_1+\beta}{n_2+\beta}$$
 then (12) holds, if  $\frac{h_2+c-1+\alpha}{h_1+c-1+\alpha} \le \frac{n_1+\beta}{n_2+\beta}$  then (13) holds

We multiply those two inequalities, we found that  $\frac{h_1+a-1+\alpha}{h_2+a-1+\alpha}*\frac{h_2+c-1+\alpha}{h_1+c-1+\alpha}=\frac{h_1+a-1+\alpha}{h_1+c-1+\alpha}*\frac{h_2+c-1+\alpha}{h_2+a-1+\alpha}\leq 1$  as c>a and  $h_1\leq h_2$  But  $\frac{n_1+\beta}{n_2+\beta}*\frac{n_1+\beta}{n_2+\beta}=1$ . At least one equality holds, consequently at least one of (12) and (13) holds.

Similar proof for the case  $h_1 > h_2$ .

#### 2.2.3 Randomized K-means

# **2.2.4 Selecting** *K*

In order to determine the number of clusters, we consider the change of validity =  $\frac{intra}{inter}$  defined in ?,

where **intra** = 
$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{K} \sum_{x \in C_i} ||x - z_i||^2$$
, **inter** =  $mean(||z_i - z_j||^2)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, ..., K - 1$ .  $j = i + 1, ..., K$  and  $z_i$  is

the center(medoids) of cluster *i*. **intra** is the average of distance of a point to its corresponding cluster center, which measures the compactness of clusters. We made a small change here, in original paper **inter** was defined as minimum distance between medoids, we use average instead for the purpose of getting a smoother quantity. **inter** is the average distance of two cluster centers, which measures the separation between clusters. We want to have a small intra-cluster distance and a big inter-cluster distance, consequently we want to minimize the *validity*. From empirical study, we constantly observe a monotone decreasing relation between number of clusters and *validity*. However this quantity stabilize

when K is sufficiently large. The stopping rule for searching K is when  $|validity_K - min(validity_K)| < \epsilon$  is satisfied. We set the default value of  $\epsilon$  to be 1. As we found DD analysis results to be most consistent with other scRNA method.

#### 2.3 Double Dirichlet Mixture

On the double Dirichlet masses, using notation as in Section 2.3 we have density functions:

$$p_{\pi}(\phi, \psi) = q_{\pi}(\Phi_{\pi}, \Psi_{\pi}) \prod_{b \in \pi} [p(\tilde{\phi}_b)p(\tilde{\psi}_b)]$$

with

$$q_{\pi}(\Phi_{\pi}, \Psi_{\pi}) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{b \in \pi} \beta_b)}{\prod_{b \in \pi} \Gamma(\beta_b)} \left[ \prod_{b \in \pi} \Phi_b^{\beta_b - 1} \right] 1 \left[ \Phi_{\pi} = \Psi_{\pi} \right]$$

and

$$p(\tilde{\phi}_b) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k \in b} \alpha_k)}{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(\alpha_k)} \prod_{k \in b} \tilde{\phi}_k^{\alpha_k - 1}, \qquad p(\tilde{\psi}_b) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k \in b} \alpha_k)}{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(\alpha_k)} \prod_{k \in b} \tilde{\psi}_k^{\alpha_k - 1}.$$

Proof of property 1

*Proof.* When  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  only satisfy the coarsest constrants:  $\sum_{i=1}^K \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^K \psi_i = 1$ .  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are independently dirichlet distributed. When  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  satisfy finer constraints,  $P(\phi|\psi)! = P(\phi)$  as there is some subsets b such that  $\sum_{i \in b} \phi = \sum_{i \in b} \psi$ . So  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are dependent

Proof of property 2

*Proof.*  $E_{\pi}(\phi_k) = E_{\tilde{\phi}_b}(\tilde{\phi}_k) E_{\Phi}(\Phi_b)$  where b is the block containing subtype index k. As  $\tilde{\phi}_b \sim \text{Dirichlet}_{N(b)}[\alpha_b^1]$  and  $\Phi_{\pi} \sim \text{Dirichlet}_{N(\pi)}[\beta_{\pi}]$  We have  $E_{\tilde{\phi}_b}(\tilde{\phi}_k) = \frac{\alpha_k^1}{\sum_{k' \in b} \alpha_{k'}^1}$  and  $E_{\Phi}(\Phi_b) = \frac{\beta_b}{\sum_{b' \in \pi} \beta_{b'}}$ . Similarly we could proof the case for  $E_{\pi}(\psi_k)$ 

Proof of property 3

*Proof.*  $t^1/t_{\pi}^1$  is independent with  $t^2/t_{\pi}^2$  conditioning on  $t_{\pi}^1$  and  $t_{\pi}^2$  by the Neutrality property of dirichlet distribution

Proof of property 4

*Proof.* For j=1,2, let  $T_b^j$  be the vector of  $t_k^j$  such that  $k \in b$ . Recall  $t_b^j = \sum_{k \in b} t_k^j$ . Without loss of generality, we consider the case condition j=1. We can decompose the density to each blocks by the property of multinomial distribution

$$p_{\pi}(t^{1}|t_{\pi}^{1},y) = \prod_{b \in \pi} (p(T_{b}^{1}|t_{b}^{1},y))$$

and prior predictive function can be obtained via integral out  $\tilde{\phi}_b$  given the prior Dirichlet $[\alpha_b^1]$  and  $p(T_b^1|\tilde{\phi}_b)$  is multinomial $(\tilde{\phi}_b)$  distributed.

$$p(T_b^1|t_b^1,y) = \int_{\tilde{\phi}_b} p(T_b^1|\tilde{\phi}_b)p(\tilde{\phi}_b)d\tilde{\phi}_b$$

$$= \left\{ \left[ \frac{\Gamma(t_b^j + 1)}{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(t_k^j + 1)} \right] \left[ \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k \in b} \alpha_k^j)}{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(\alpha_k^j)} \right] \left[ \frac{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(\alpha_k^j + t_k^j)}{\Gamma(t_b^j + \sum_{k \in b} \alpha_k^j)} \right] \right\}$$

Proof of property 5

*Proof.*  $t_{\pi}^1$  and  $t_{\pi}^2$  given the condition label y are independent identical distributed.  $t_{\pi}^1|\Phi \sim \text{multinomial}(\Phi)$ 

$$p_{\pi}(t_{\pi}^{1}, t_{\pi}^{2}|y) = \int_{\Phi} p(t_{\pi}^{1}|\Phi)p(t_{\pi}^{2}|\Phi)p(\Phi)d\Phi$$

$$= \left[\frac{\Gamma(n_{1}+1)\Gamma(n_{2}+1)}{\prod_{b\in\pi}\Gamma(t_{b}^{1}+1)\Gamma(t_{b}^{2}+1)}\right] \left[\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{b\in\pi}\beta_{b})}{\prod_{b\in\pi}\Gamma(\beta_{b})}\right] \left[\frac{\prod_{b\in\pi}\Gamma(\beta_{b}+t_{b}^{1}+t_{b}^{2})}{\Gamma(n_{1}+n_{2}+\sum_{b\in\pi}\beta_{b})}\right].$$

As prior of  $\Phi$  is Dirchlet[ $\beta$ ].  $n_j = \sum_{b \in \pi} t_b^j$  for j = 1, 2

**Lemma 1.** If  $\pi_2$  is not refinement of  $\pi_1$  then  $A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2}$  is a lower dimensional subset of  $A_{\pi_2}$ 

in order to proof property 6 we gave a lemma of dimensionality of the intersection of two  $A_{\pi}$ s Proof of lemma 1

*Proof.* Let V denote the orthogonal space of  $\phi - \psi$ , when  $(\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2}$ , and  $\dim(A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2}) = \dim(\phi - \psi) + \dim(\psi) = 2K - \dim(V) - 1$ . Also let  $\pi_1 = \{b_1^1, ..., b_s^1\}$ ,  $\pi_2 = \{b_1^2, ..., b_t^2\}$ . The corresponding vectors are  $v_1^1, ..., v_s^1$  and  $v_1^2, ..., v_t^2$ . We claim there must be a  $b_i^1 \in \pi$  whose corresponding  $v_i^1$  is linear independent with  $v_1^2, ..., v_t^2$ . If not, for every  $v_i^1$  there exists  $\alpha_1^i, ..., \alpha_t^i$  such that

$$v_i^1 = \sum_{j=1}^t \alpha_j^i v_j^2 \tag{*}$$

If  $b_j^2 \cap b_i^1 \neq \emptyset$ , then multiply  $v_j^2$  on both sides of (\*), we obtain  $v_i^1 * v_j^2 = \alpha_j^i (v_j^2)^2$ , as  $v_j^2$  are orthogonal vectors, and  $v_i^1 * v_j^2 > 0$  implies  $\alpha_j^i > 0$ . Consider  $x = f(b_j^2 \setminus b_i^1)$ , we have  $x * v_i^1 = 0$  and we multiply x on both sides of (\*) to obtain  $\alpha_j^i v_j^2 * x = 0$ , thus x must be zero vector and  $b_j^2 \setminus b_i^1 = \emptyset$ , which implies  $b_j^2 \subset b_i^1$ . That is to say when  $b_j^2 \cap b_i^1 \neq \emptyset$ ,  $b_j^2$  must be subset of  $b_i^1$ . So  $b_i^1$  is union of some blocks in  $\pi_2$ . Which implies  $\pi_2$  is refinement of  $\pi_1$ , contradiction.

Consequently there exists  $b \in \pi_1$  with v(b) linear independent with  $v(b'), b' \in \pi_2$ . dim(V) is at least  $N(\pi_2) + 1$ , dim $(A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2}) < \dim(A_{\pi_2})$ 

Proof of property 6

*Proof.* by lemma 1, it is easy to verify.

Proof of theorem 3

*Proof.*  $p_{\pi}(t^1|t^1_{\pi},y)p_{\pi}(t^2|t^2_{\pi},y)p_{\pi}(t^1_{\pi},t^2_{\pi}|y)$  The DDM:  $p(\phi,\psi) = \sum_{\pi \in \Pi} p_{\pi}(\phi,\psi)$ . we know  $p(\phi,\psi|y,z) \propto p(\phi,\psi,y,z) = \sum_{\pi \in \Pi} p(y,z|\phi,\psi)p_{\pi}(\phi,\psi)\omega_{\pi}$  And  $p(y,z|\phi,\psi)p_{\pi}(\phi,\psi) = p(y,z|\tilde{\phi},\tilde{\psi},\Phi_{\pi})p(\tilde{\phi})p(\tilde{\phi})p(\Phi_{\pi})$ consider the support of  $p_{\pi}(\phi, \psi)$ .

Right hand side of the above equation is

$$U_{\pi} = A_1 * A_2 * A_3 * \prod_{k=1}^{K} (\tilde{\phi}_k)^{t_k^1 + \alpha_k^1} (\tilde{\psi}_k)^{t_k^2 + \alpha_k^2} \prod_{b \in \pi} (\Phi_b)^{t_b^1 + t_b^2 + \beta_b}$$

Where  $A_1$  is the product of normalizing terms from multinomial distribution of  $z^1$  and  $z^2$ ,  $A_1 =$  $\frac{\Gamma(n_1+1)\Gamma(n_2+1)}{\prod_{j=1}^2\prod_{k=1}^K\Gamma(t_k^j+1)}$ 

 $A_2$  is the product of normalizing terms from Dirichlet distribution of  $\tilde{\phi}$  and  $\tilde{\psi}$ ,  $A_2 = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^1 + 1)\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^2 + 1)}{\prod_{i=1}^2 \prod_{k=1}^2 \Gamma(\alpha_i^i + 1)}$ 

 $A_3$  is the normalizing term from Dirichle distribution of  $\Phi_{\pi}$ ,  $A_3 = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{b \in \pi} \beta_b + 1)}{\prod_{b \in \pi} \Gamma(\beta_b + 1)}$ To convert  $U_{\pi}$  to have form similar of  $p_{\pi}$ , We need  $U_{\pi} \propto f_1 f_2 f_3$  proportional to product of three Dirichlet densities. We know  $f_1 \sim \text{Dirichlet}[\alpha^1 + t^1]$ ,  $f_2 \sim \text{Dirichlet}[\alpha^2 + t^2]$  and  $f_3 \sim \text{Dirichlet}[\beta + t^1 + t^2]$ . Considering the normalizing factors for  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  and  $f_3$ , and multiplying them with  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  and  $A_3$ . We have the  $U_{\pi}=C_{\pi}*f_1f_2f_3$ . The final normalizing term is  $p_{\pi}(t^1|t_{\pi}^1,y)$   $p_{\pi}(t^2|t_{\pi}^2,y)$   $p_{\pi}(t_{\pi}^1,t_{\pi}^2|y)$  Then we have  $(\phi, \psi)|y, z \sim \text{DDM}\left[\omega^{\text{post}} = (\omega_{\pi}^{\text{post}}), \alpha^1 + t^1, \alpha^2 + t^2\right]$  and  $\omega_{\pi}^{\text{post}} \propto p_{\pi}(t^1|t_{\pi}^1, y) p_{\pi}(t^2|t_{\pi}^2, y) p_{\pi}(t_{\pi}^1, t_{\pi}^2|y) \omega_{\pi}$ . Notice in DDM, we constrained  $\beta = \alpha^1 + \alpha^2$ .

# **Numerical Experiments**

# Synthetic Data

We first look at the pca plots of the simulated data (supplementary figure 2,3,4)

We also have roc curve for the simulated data, each sub-figure is averaged over two replicates under the same parameters setting. scDDboost tends to outperform other methods (supplementary figure 5)

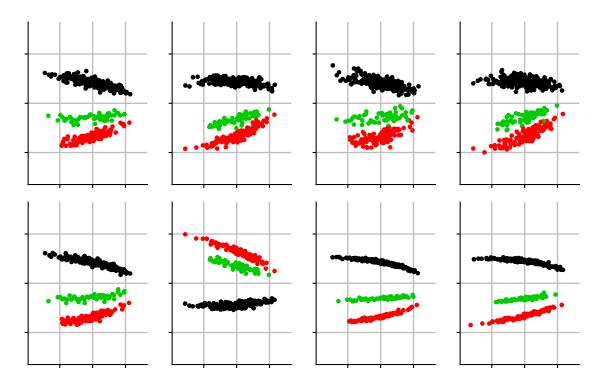
# **Empirical Study**

Data sets details for the datasets used in the empirical studies of the main paper (supplementary table 1)

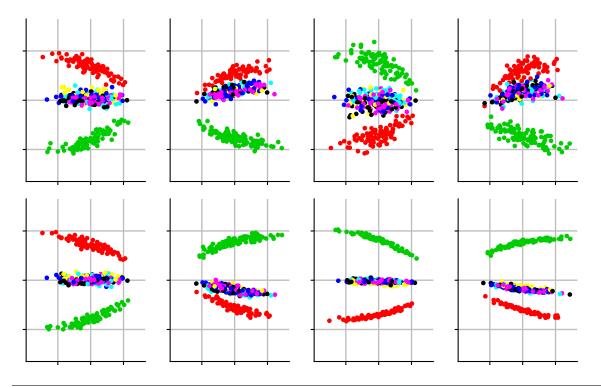
#### Null cases 3.3

datasets used for generating the Null cases (supplementary table 2)

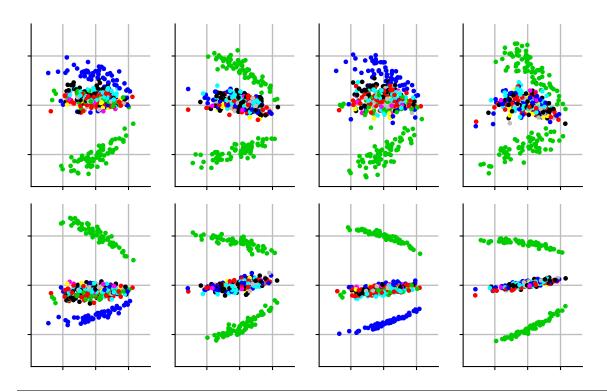
scDDboost may lose FDR control if we keep pushing number of subtypes K bigger.



Supplementary Figure 2: first two principal components of transcripts under different parameters for simulated data. Different parameters resulted in different degree of separation of subtypes. We have 4 different settings for hyper-parameters of simulation, each setting has 2 replicates K = 3



**Supplementary Figure 3:** similar plots K = 7



**Supplementary Figure 4:** similar plots K = 12

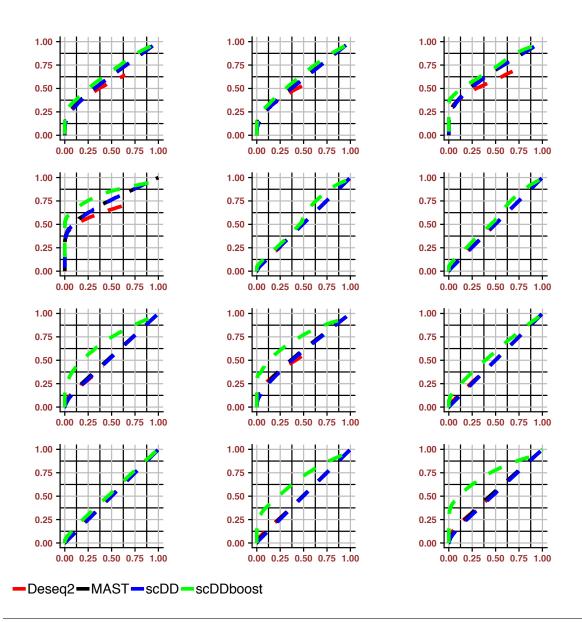
Conditions	Number of	Organism	Ref	K
	cells/condition	n		
0 min unstim vs 75min stim	186,145	human	(?)	9
BMDC (2h LPS stimulation) vs	96,96	mouse	(?)	4
6h LPS				
T0 vs T72	69,74	human	(?)	7
NKT1 vs NTK2	46,68	mouse	(?)	7
G1 vs G2M	95,96	mouse	(?)	6
Gad2tdTpositive vs	80,140	mouse	(?)	4
Cux2tdTnegative				
	91,76	human	(?)	6
	51, 89	human	?	4
	50, 60	mouse	(?)	4
,				
,	40,26	mouse	(?)	6
	64, 64	human	(?)	5
neoplastic cells vs non-	546, 664	human	(?)	9
	0 min unstim vs 75min stim BMDC (2h LPS stimulation) vs 6h LPS T0 vs T72 NKT1 vs NTK2 G1 vs G2M Gad2tdTpositive vs Cux2tdTnegative G1 vs G2 patient1 vs patient2 16-cell stage blastomere vs mid blastocyst cell Primordial Germ Cells, develop- mental stage: 7 week gestation vs Somatic Cells, developmental stage: 7 week gestation DEC vs EC	cells/condition  0 min unstim vs 75min stim  BMDC (2h LPS stimulation) vs 6h LPS  T0 vs T72  NKT1 vs NTK2  G1 vs G2M  Gad2tdTpositive  Cux2tdTnegative  G1 vs G2  patient1 vs patient2  16-cell stage blastomere vs mid blastocyst cell  Primordial Germ Cells, develop- mental stage: 7 week gestation  DEC vs EC  neoplastic cells vs non-  186,145  89,96  69,74  NKT1 vs NTK2  46,68  91,76  51, 89  50, 60  40,26  40,26  64, 64	cells/condition  0 min unstim vs 75min stim BMDC (2h LPS stimulation) vs 6h LPS T0 vs T72 69,74 human NKT1 vs NTK2 46,68 mouse G1 vs G2M 95,96 mouse Gad2tdTpositive vs 80,140 mouse Cux2tdTnegative G1 vs G2 91,76 human patient1 vs patient2 51, 89 human 16-cell stage blastomere vs mid blastocyst cell Primordial Germ Cells, develop- mental stage: 7 week gestation DEC vs EC 64, 64 human  186,145 human mouse mouse 69,74 human mouse  80,140 mouse  80,140 mouse  61 vs G2 91,76 human mouse  62 vs G2 91,76 human mouse mouse  64,64 human mouse	cells/condition  0 min unstim vs 75min stim BMDC (2h LPS stimulation) vs 6h LPS  T0 vs T72 69,74 human (?) NKT1 vs NTK2 46,68 mouse (?) G1 vs G2M 95,96 mouse (?) Gad2tdTpositive vs Cux2tdTnegative G1 vs G2 patient1 vs patient2 16-cell stage blastomere vs mid blastocyst cell Primordial Germ Cells, develop- mental stage: 7 week gestation DEC vs EC neoplastic cells vs non-  cells, developmental stage: 7 meoplastic cells vs non-  cells, developmental vs non- cells, developmental

Supplementary Table 1: datasets used for comparisons of DD analysis under different methods

# 4 Random weighting and proof for consistency theorems

# 4.1 Stability of posterior under random weighting

Number of subtypes K is a crucial factor controlling the accuracy of our modeling. Too small K may end up in an underfit such that cells within same subtype can still be very different, mean expression change among subtypes is incapable to capture the distribution change for some genes

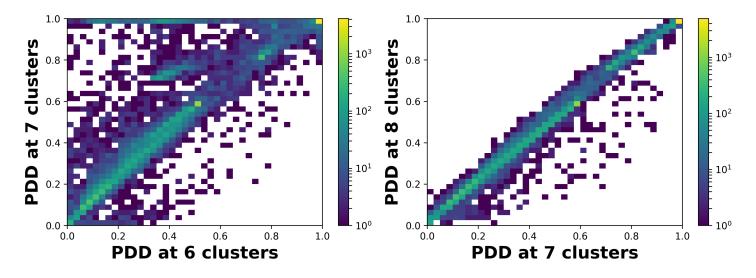


**Supplementary Figure 5:** Roc curve of the 12 simulation settings, under each setting, TPR and FPR are averaged over two replicates, generally we found scDDboost perform better than other methods

Data set	Conditions	Number of	Organism
		cells/condition	
GSE63818null	7 week gestation	20,20	mouse
GSE75748null	DEC	32, 32	human
GSE94383null	T0	93, 93	human
GSE48968-	BMDC (2h LPS stimulation)	48,48	mouse
GPL13112null			
GSE74596null	NKT1	23,23	mouse
EMTAB2805null	G1	48,48	mouse
GSE71585-	Gad2tdTpositive	40,40	mouse
GPL13112null			
GSE64016null	G1	46,45	human
GSE79102null	patient1	26, 25	human

Supplementary Table 2: datasets used for null cases, as cells are coming from same biological condition, there should not be any differential distributed genes, any positive call is false positive

and consequently reducing the power of scDDBOOST. Too big K may end up in an overfit such that two subtypes can be very similar, given we have fixed number of samples (cells), allowing more



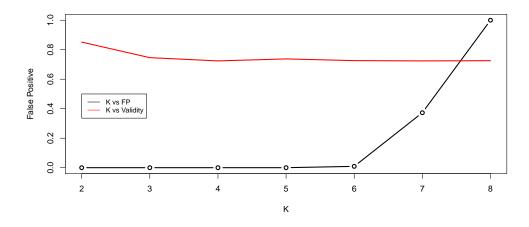
**Supplementary Figure 6:** comparison of posterior probabilities of being DD among different number of subtypes, when we underestimate the number of subtypes, the difference is huge, see PDD between 6 subtypes and 7 subtypes. There is an approximate horizontal line with massive points at the top of left panel, which indicate that we underestimate lots of DD genes due to underestimate the number of subtypes. While in the case when we overestimate the number of subtypes 7 subtypes vs. 8 subtypes, though inflating PDD but the variation of difference is small, from 6 to 8 subtypes the PDD become more linear related.

clusters will introduce may patterns (both for mean expression change and proportion change) to infer. Also notice the limitation of DDM model (see section 4), overestimating *K* in scDDBoost may losing FDR control (Fig7).

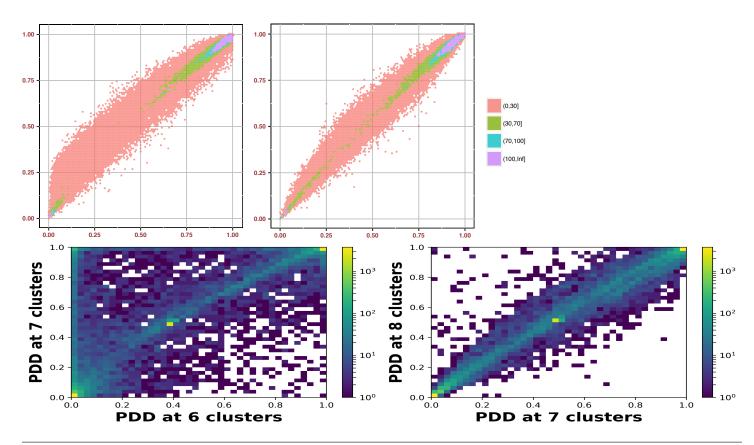
\*\*\*something about change of PDD over K, even though PDD is monotone increasing but it would remain stable in the sense that  $PDD_{K+1} - PDD_K$  will have small variance over different genes\*\*\*

From our empirical experience, it would be sufficient to capture the heterogeneity underlying cells with number of clusters not greater than 9. And we generally obtain stable in validity score and PDD simultaneously (see supplementary)

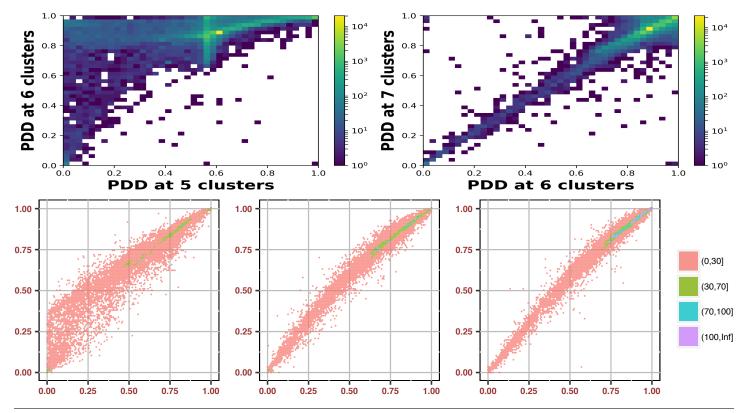
We demonstrate the change of posterior probabilities of differential distribution given different number of subtypes at data GSE75748 and GSE48968. In both cases, if allowing one more subtype would result in a lot increases in posterior probabilities, which suggests that the number of subtypes is underestimated since we found more distribution differences between conditions given one more mixture component. If posterior inference is stable after increasing the number of subtypes, then we consider previous number of subtypes to be optimal.



**Supplementary Figure 7:** under NULL case, using dataset GSE52529, when using too big K we may completely lose FDR control (black line shows proportion of false positive identified by scDDboost under 0.05 threshold, while validity score become stable at K = 3



**Supplementary Figure 8:** selecting number of subtypes for data GSE57872, we observe posterior probabilities become stable at more than 6 subtypes. Since increasing number of subtypes tends to decrease sample size of each subtypes, make complicate constraints for equivalent distribution and inflate estimated PDD. We select number of subtypes to be 7



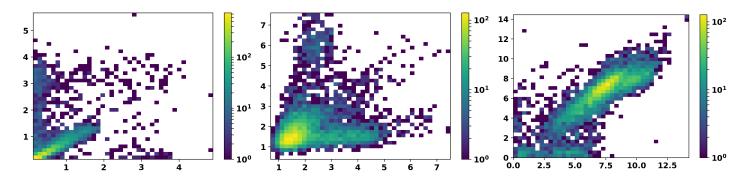
**Supplementary Figure 9:** selecting number of subtypes for data GSE48968, we observe posterior probabilities become stable at more than 5 subtypes

### 4.2 Bursting parameters

\*\*\*on the method estimated p-value, update later\*\*\*

D3E(?) is a distributional method that can identify bursting parameters of transcripts. Rate of promoter activation, rate of promoter inactivation and the rate of transcription when the promoter is in the active state are estimated by D3E. We investigate DD genes identified by scDDboost and their change of those three parameters on dataset GSE71585

**Supplementary Figure 10:** D3E method will estimate 3 bursting parameters probability of a gene being on (a) and off (b) and the expression rate when the gene expression is on (c), we plot the hexbin plot of probability of a gene being DD under out method v.s. the absolute value of log fold change of **a**, **b** and **c** across the two conditions accordingly. The log fold change is scaled by dividing the largest log fold change so that ends up in a value between 0 and 1 Here we use the GSE71585 data



**Supplementary Figure 11:** 2D histogram for bursting parameters of DD genes identified by scDDboost from dataset EMTAB2805 estimated by D3E. Left panel: comparison of rate of promoter activation between two conditions, similarly, middle panel: rate of promoter inactivation and right panel: rate of transcription when the promoter is in the active state. We observe that difference between transcription rate is smaller compare to difference between the activation and inactivation rate.

We observed that DD genes identified by scDDboost tends to have similar transcription rate when the promoter is active across condition, while there are lots of variabilities in the action and inactivation rate. Estimations from D3E reveals that the major factor to drive DD genes are activation and inactivation rate (proportions of different subtyps), it make sense to consider mixture model like scDDboost.

### 5 Theoretical issues

### 5.1 Posterior consistency

Under some parameters settings, the double dirichlet prior will have limited resolution and lead to inconsistency of posterior probabilities, which we investigate with the following asymptotic analysis.

We first give the expression of posterior probability. Since there is no information favorable of any particular  $A_{\pi}$ , we select discrete uniform distribution as the prior for it, then the posterior probability is

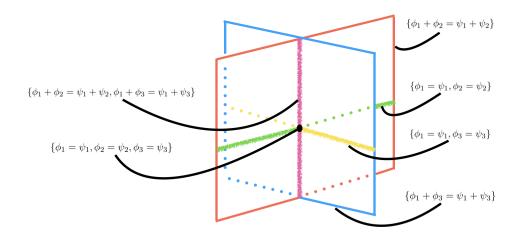
$$p(A_{\pi}|t^{1}, t^{2}) = c * \sum_{\pi' \text{ refines } \pi} p(t^{1}|t_{\pi'}^{1}) p(t^{2}|t_{\pi'}^{2}) p(t_{\pi'}^{1}, t_{\pi'}^{2}|A_{\pi'})$$
(3)

for a normalizing constant  $\frac{1}{c} = \sum_{\pi' \in \Pi} p(t^1 | t_{\pi'}^1) \ p(t^2 | t_{\pi'}^2) \ p(t_{\pi'}^1, t_{\pi'}^2 | A_{\pi'}).$ 

Let 
$$\Omega = \{(\phi, \psi) : \sum_{i=1}^{K} \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^{K} \psi_i = 1, \phi_i \ge 0, \psi_i \ge 0, i = 1, ..., K\}$$
 be the whole space. There is a

subset of  $\Omega$  we lack posterior inference. Let us first see an example:

In Fig 10, there are four subtypes, the rectangle with magenta boundary is a simplex  $A_{\pi_1} = \{(\phi, \psi) : \phi_1 + \phi_2 = \psi_1 + \psi_2\}$ , the rectangle with blue boundary is a simplex  $A_{\pi_2} = \{(\phi, \psi) : \phi_1 + \phi_3 = \psi_1 + \psi_3\}$ . The green line refers to  $A_{\pi_3} = \{(\phi, \psi) : \phi_1 = \psi_1, \phi_2 = \psi_2\}$ , the yellow line refers to  $A_{\pi_4} = \{(\phi, \psi) : \phi_1 = \psi_1, \phi_3 = \psi_3\}$ , the purple line refers to  $A_{\pi_5} = \{(\phi, \psi) : \phi_1 + \phi_2 = \psi_1 + \psi_2, \phi_1 + \phi_3 = \psi_1 + \psi_3\}$ , which is the intersection of  $A_{\pi_1}$  and  $A_{\pi_2}$ , and finally the black dot which is the intersection of those three lines refers to the simplex with finest partitions,  $\phi_i = \psi_i, \forall i = 1,...,4$ . We lack posterior inference for  $(\phi, \psi)$  along the purple line except the black dot. While on the green line, yellow line and black dot, we have consistent posterior inference(theorem 2). To explain why some space lacking posterior inference and define such space, we define a special subset  $A_{\pi}^*$  of simplex  $A_{\pi}$ .  $A_{\pi}^* = A_{\pi} \setminus_{\frac{\pi}{\pi} \text{ is not coarser than } \pi}$  is obtained by removing all intersection with other  $A_{\pi}$  (excluding those  $A_{\pi}$  that is superset of  $A_{\pi}$ ) from  $A_{\pi}$ . Since we removed those intersection parts. It is intuitive



**Supplementary Figure 12:** Four subtypes of cells, simplexes of  $(\phi, \psi)$  satisfying different constraints.

that  $A_{\pi}^*$  will be disjoint subsets of  $\Omega$ .

**Proposition 1.** if  $\pi_1 \neq \pi_2$ , then  $A_{\pi_1}^* \cap A_{\pi_2}^* = \emptyset$ 

Let  $Q = \Omega \setminus \bigcup_{\pi \in \Pi} A_{\pi}^*$ , and we have following proposition of the existence of Q.

**Proposition 2.** *Let* K *be number of subtypes. When* K > 3,  $Q \neq \emptyset$ , *when*  $K \leq 3$ ,  $Q = \emptyset$ 

When the number of subtypes is bigger than three, we lack posterior inference on Q. To see that we can rewrite  $A_{\pi}^*$  as  $A_{\pi}^* = A_{\pi} \setminus \bigcup_{\tilde{\pi} \text{ is not coarser than } \pi} (A_{\tilde{\pi}} \cap A_{\pi})$ ,  $\tilde{\pi}$  is not coarser than  $\pi$ , which is equivalently to say  $\pi$  is not refinement of  $\tilde{\pi}$ . By property 8 in section 2,  $A_{\tilde{\pi}} \cap A_{\pi}$  is a lower dimensional subset of  $A_{\pi}$ . So  $A_{\pi} \setminus A_{\pi}^*$  is a lower dimensional subset of  $A_{\pi}$ . For posterior on Q, it degenerates to integral on a lower dimensional subset of the simplex associating with densities, which will vanish

**Proposition 3.** *When K* > 3,  $p(Q|z^1, z^2) = 0$ 

But for  $(\phi, \psi) \in \Omega \setminus Q$ , we have consistent posterior inference.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $n = min(n_1, n_2)$  be the smaller number of cells of two conditions and  $n_1 = O(n_2)$  namely  $ln(\frac{n_1}{n_2}) = 0$ , and hyper parameters of DDM  $\alpha^1$ ,  $\alpha^2$  be vectors of constants,  $\alpha_k^j \ge 1$ ,  $\forall k, j$  and  $\beta = \alpha^1 + \alpha^2$ . Then if parameter  $(\phi, \psi) \in \Omega \setminus Q$  we have

$$p(A_{\pi}|y,z) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{a.s.} \begin{cases} 1 & if (\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi} \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Things become more complicate when  $(\phi, \psi)$  falling into Q, we know p(Q|y, z) vanishes, but  $p(A_{\pi}|y, z)$  may not.

Recall  $N(\pi)$  represents number of blocks b in  $\pi$ . Let  $S = \{\pi, (\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi}\}$ , which is the collection of partitions whose associated simplexes covering  $(\phi, \psi)$ . Let  $N^* = \max_{\pi \in S} N(\pi)$ , which is the max number of blocks of partitions from S. Let  $S^* = \{\pi, (\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi} \text{ and } N(\pi) = N^*\}$ , which is the collection of partitions that covering  $(\phi, \psi)$  with number of blocks equal to the max number  $N^*$ .

For example, when K = 7, For a  $(\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2} \cap A_{\pi_3}$ ,  $\pi_1 = \{\{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6, 7\}\}, \pi_2 = \{\{1, 6, 7\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3, 5\}\}, \pi_3 = \{\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}\},$  and also  $(\phi, \psi)$  does not belong to any other simplex  $A_{\pi}$ . Then  $S = \{\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3\}, N^* = 3, S^* = \{\pi_2\}.$ 

**Theorem 2.** Following the setting in theorem 1, when parameter  $(\phi, \psi) \in Q$ , and further if  $\alpha^j$ , j = 1, 2 are vectors of integers, we have

$$(p(A_{\pi}|y,z))_{\pi\in S^*} \xrightarrow[n\to\infty]{d} (V_1,...,V_{N(S^*)})$$

 $V_1,...,V_{N(S^*)}$  are random variables and  $V_1+..+V_{N(S^*)}=1$ 

Still using above example, in limiting case, we have  $p(A_{\pi_3}|y,z)=1$ ,  $p(A_{\pi_2}|y,z)=1$  and  $p(A_{\pi_1}|y,z)=0$ . When the DE pattern is  $B_{\pi_1}$  for some genes and our estimation of  $p(A_{\pi_1}|y,z)=0$ , we will falsely classify those genes as differential distributed.

The asymptotic properties help us gain insight of the performance of our approach, scDDboost may work poorly, when  $(\phi, \psi) \in Q$ , we may underestimate the posterior probability of true proportion change pattern, which reduce the posterior probabilities of true negative and enlarge false positive rate.

### 5.2 Random weighting

In this section, we gave an intuitive justification for consistency between bayesian framework clustering analysis and random weighting procedure. A full bayesian analysis for clustering needs to specify the density of data given the partition. Specifically, in single cell analysis we need to know the density of transcripts of genes given the partitions which requires understanding of co-expression and dependence between genes. Instead of trying to untangle the mystery behind the dependence of genes, we consider following approximation

$$P(\operatorname{Partition}|X) \leftarrow P(\operatorname{Partition}|D) \leftarrow P(\Delta|D) \leftarrow D/W$$

where D is the estimated distance matrix of X,  $\Delta$  is the true distance of X and W is randomly distributed matrix of weights. We conjecture that the probability of partitions given data can be approximated by switching conditioning on data to conditioning on the estimated distance of data. As distance matrix typically gave the geometrical structure between elements which can be used to infer how likely a partition is. In addition, partition can be obtained by distance based clustering algorithm (K-medoids) on true distance matrix  $\Delta$ . To approximate distribution  $(\Delta|D)$ , we use our random weighting procedure, namely sampling a weighting matrix W first and then do the component-wisely dividing of original distance matrix D by W.

We gave a brief justification for this approximation, suppose units i and j are merged into a common cluster if (and only if)  $d_{i,j} < c$ . Then  $P(d_{i,j}^* < c) = P(w_{i,j} > c/d_{i,j})$ ,  $w_{i,j} \sim \text{Gamma}(a,b)$ . From Bayesian perspective, given the true distance  $\Delta_{i,j}$ ,  $d_{i,j}|\Delta_{i,j} \sim \text{Gamma}(a_1,a_1/\Delta_{i,j})$ , so that the sampling mean of  $d_{i,j}$  is  $\Delta_{i,j}$ . Further, for simplicity we ignore any issues about the d's or  $\Delta$ 's being true distances. The condition for qualifiable distance matrix is the triangle inequality among the pairwise distances, such

condition would not affect our clustering results too much. But, a simple analysis might suppose that a-priori  $1/\Delta_{i,j} \sim \text{Gamma}(a_0,d_0)$ . The scaling is such that  $\text{E}(1/\Delta_{i,j}) = a_0 \ d_0$ . The posterior, by conjugacy, has  $1/\Delta_{i,j}|d_{i,j} \sim \text{Gamma}(a_0+a_1,d_0+a_1d_{i,j})$ . Then the posterior probability that i and j should be clustered is the posterior probability that  $\Delta_{i,j} < c$ , which is  $P(\text{Gamma}((a_0+a_1),(a_0+a_1)) > (d_0+a_1*d_{i,j})/(a_0+a_1)*1/c)$ , parameters  $(a_0,d_0,a_1)$  are estimated from maximizing the marginal likelihood of  $d_{i,j}$ .

In order to match the posterior probability that elements i and j belongs to the same cluster through the simple bayesian analysis to random weighting, which is equivalently to match

$$P(\Delta_{i,j} < c|d_{i,j}) = P(1/\Delta_{i,j} > 1/c|d_{i,j})$$

and

$$P(d_{i,j}/w_{i,j} < c|d_{i,j}) = P(w_{i,j}/d_{i,j} > 1/c|d_{i,j})$$

yielding  $a = a_0 + a_1$  and  $b = a_1$ . Therefore, we gave a way of modeling the distribution of weights such that partition based on random generated distance D/W would approximate the partition given data based on a full bayesian framework.

#### Randomized k-means

#### 5.3 simulation

We random generate one-dimensional data *X* from a mixture of 5 normal distributions with different means and same variance. We compare clustering results between random weighting and bayesian clustering with Dirichlet process as prior in terms of posterior probabilities that two elements belong to the same class given the whole data and adjusted rand index comparing to the underlying true class label (Fig 12).

We are determining the parameter for weights through maximizing the marginal likelihood of our estimated distance  $d_{i,j}$ . More specifically, we gave a simple bayesian framework for distance in the following way: given the true distance  $\Delta_{i,j}$ ,  $d_{i,j}|\Delta_{i,j}\sim \mathrm{Gamma}(a_1,a_1/\Delta_{i,j})$ ), so that the sampling mean of  $d_{i,j}$  is  $\Delta_{i,j}$ . We suppose that a-priori  $1/\Delta_{i,j}\sim \mathrm{Gamma}(a_0,d_0)$ . And our weights  $w_{i,j}\sim \mathrm{Gamma}(a,a)$ .  $a=a_0+a_1$ . Notice that  $E(\Delta_{i,j})/Var(\Delta_{i,j})=d_0$ . We approximate  $d_0$  by the ratio of first and second moments of  $d_{i,j}$ , Once we have the estimated of  $d_0$ , we plug it into the marginal likelihood of  $d_{i,j}$  and obtain the MLE of  $a_0$  and  $a_1$ . An issue is that the frequently used optimizing function in r (optim or nlminb) typically gave extreme large value of  $a_0$  or  $a_1$ , which will yield a degenerate weights without randomness. The reason is the stopping criterion as relative tolerance is too small under default setting. We pick a relative big value for the stopping threshold and obtain much smaller  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  while maintain the likelihood close to the optimal value under default threshold.

We also justified our choice of stopping threshold is reasonable. We plot the adjusted random index between the randomly generated clustering to original clustering under the distance without dividing by the random weights across eight datasets. Though the mean varies, the length between the 25% and 75% is wide enough presenting a reasonable variation of our randomly generated clustering.

#### **Proofs:**

As the density of DDM is computed by product or ratio over bunches of gamma function and gamma function is not easy to direct work on it and derive limiting theorem. To proof theorem 4 and 5, we need a crucial lemma which gave us an approximation to the gamma function, namely

**Lemma 2.** For  $x \ge 1$ ,  $\frac{x^{x-c}}{e^{-x}} \le \Gamma(x) \le \frac{x^{x-1/2}}{e^{-x}}$ , where c = 0.577215... is the Euler-Mascheroni constant.

*Proof.* By (?), we have  $\frac{x^{x-c}}{e^{-x}} \le \Gamma(x) \le \frac{x^{x-1/2}}{e^{-x}}$  for x > 1 and now we added the case when x = 1,  $\Gamma(x) = 1$  so that both sides will include the equality case.

**Lemma 3.** For positive integer n,  $\sqrt{2\pi}n^{n+1/2}e^{-n} \le \Gamma(n+1) \le en^{n+1/2}e^{-n}$ 

We have another two lemmas and theorem 1 and 2 are just proportion of the lemma

**Lemma 4.** If  $(\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2}$ , follow the conditions in theorem 1 then

$$\frac{\omega_{\pi_1}^{post}}{\omega_{\pi_2}^{post}} \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{a.s.} 0 \quad \text{if } N(\pi_1) < N(\pi_2)$$

*Proof.* Recall  $\omega_{\pi}^{\text{post}} \propto p_{\pi}(t^1|t_{\pi}^1,y) \ p_{\pi}(t^2|t_{\pi}^2,y) \ p_{\pi}(t_{\pi}^1,t_{\pi}^2|y) \ \omega_{\pi}$ . and RHS =  $g(\pi,\alpha,\beta,n_1,n_2) f(\pi,t^1,t^2,\alpha,\beta)$  and  $\frac{\omega_{\pi_1}^{\text{post}}}{\omega_{\pi_2}^{\text{post}}} = \frac{g(\pi_1,\alpha,\beta,n_1,n_2)}{g(\pi_2,\alpha,\beta,n_1,n_2)} \frac{f(\pi_1,t^1,t^2,\alpha,\beta)}{f(\pi_2,t^1,t^2,\alpha,\beta)}$  where

$$g(\pi, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) = \left[\prod_{j=1}^{2} \prod_{b \in \pi} \frac{\Gamma(\Sigma_{k \in b} \alpha_{k}^{j})}{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(\alpha_{k}^{j})}\right] \frac{\Gamma(n_{1}+1)\Gamma(n_{2}+1)}{\prod_{b \in \pi} \Gamma(\beta_{b})} \frac{\Gamma(\Sigma_{b \in \pi} \beta_{b})}{\Gamma(n_{1}+n_{2}+\Sigma_{b \in \pi} \beta_{b})}$$
$$f(\pi, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) = \left[\prod_{j=1}^{2} \prod_{b \in \pi} \frac{1}{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(t_{k}^{j}+1)} \frac{\prod_{k \in b} \Gamma(\alpha_{k}^{j}+t_{k}^{j})}{\Gamma(t_{k}^{j}+\Sigma_{k \in b} \alpha_{k}^{j})}\right] \prod_{b \in \pi} \Gamma(\beta_{b}+t_{b}^{1}+t_{b}^{2})$$

For notation simplicity, we use the abbreviation  $g(\pi)$ ,  $f(\pi)$  to substitute  $g(\pi,\alpha,\beta,n_1,n_2)$ ,  $f(\pi,t^1,t^2,\alpha,\beta)$ . We take  $\log$  on  $\frac{\omega_{\pi_1}^{post}}{\omega_{\pi_2}^{post}}$ , denote it as LR.  $LR = \ln g(\pi_1) - \ln g(\pi_2) + \ln f(\pi_1) - \ln f(\pi_2)$ . Denote  $C(\pi_1,\pi_2,\alpha,\beta) = \ln g(\pi_1) - \ln g(\pi_2)$ ,  $C(\pi_1,\pi_2,\alpha,\beta)$  does not change with sample size  $n_1,n_2$  and is a constant determined by partition  $\pi_1,\pi_2$  and hyper parameters  $\alpha,\beta$ . For further convenience of notation let  $h(x) = \ln \Gamma(x)$  and  $\gamma_b^j = \Sigma_{k \in b} \alpha_k^j$ . Denote  $R(\pi_1,\pi_2,t^1,t^2,\alpha,\beta) = \ln f(\pi_1) - \ln f(\pi_2)$ . And removing the common part of  $f(\pi_1)$  and  $f(\pi_2)$ , we have

$$R(\pi_1, \pi_2, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta) = d(\pi_1, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta) - d(\pi_2, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta)$$

where

$$d(\pi, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) = \sum_{b \in \pi} h(\beta_{b} + t_{b}^{1} + t_{b}^{2}) - \sum_{j=1}^{2} \sum_{b \in \pi} h(t_{b} + \gamma_{b}^{j})$$

Recall  $\beta_b = \gamma_b^1 + \gamma_b^2$  and from lemma 2,  $(x-c)\ln(x) - x \le h(x) \le (x-1/2)\ln(x) - x$  we have

$$d(\pi, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta) \ge \sum_{b \in \pi} (\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2 - c) \ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{b \in \pi} (t_b^j + \gamma_b^j - 1/2) \ln(t_b^j + \gamma_b^j)$$
(4)

$$d(\pi, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta) \le \sum_{b \in \pi} (\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2 - 1/2) \ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{b \in \pi} (t_b^j + \gamma_b^j - c) \ln(t_b^j + \gamma_b^j)$$
 (5)

RHS of (4) = 
$$\Sigma_b \left[ (t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1) \ln(1 + \frac{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2}{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}) + (t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2) \ln(1 + \frac{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2}) + (1 - c) \ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - 1/2 \left( \ln(1 + \frac{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2}{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}) + \ln(1 + \frac{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2}) \right) \right]$$

By Taylor expansion at x = 1,  $\ln(x+1) = \ln 2 + 1/2(x-1) - 1/8(x-1)^2 + g(\xi)(x-1)^3$ , where  $g(\xi)$  is the reminder term of form  $\frac{1}{3(1+\xi)^3}$  for  $0 < \xi < x$  For a fixed  $n_1, n_2$ , we have

RHS of (4) = 
$$(n_1 + n_2)\ln 2 - \sum_{b \in \pi} (1/8(X_b^1 + X_b^2) + g(\xi_b)(Y_b^1 + Y_b^2)) + T(\pi)$$

where  $X_1=\frac{(t_b^1-t_b^2+\gamma_b^1-\gamma_b^2)^2}{t_b^1+\gamma_b^1}$ ,  $X_2=\frac{(t_b^1-t_b^2+\gamma_b^1-\gamma_b^2)^2}{t_b^2+\gamma_b^2}$ ,  $Y_1=\frac{(t_b^1-t_b^2+\gamma_b^1-\gamma_b^2)^3}{(t_b^1+\gamma_b^1)^2}$ ,  $Y_2=\frac{(t_b^1-t_b^2+\gamma_b^1-\gamma_b^2)^3}{(t_b^2+\gamma_b^2)^2}$  and  $T(\pi)=\Sigma_{b\in\pi}\big[(1-c)\ln(\beta_b+t_b^1+t_b^2)-1/2(\ln(1+\frac{t_b^2+\gamma_b^2}{t_b^1+\gamma_b^1})+\ln(1+\frac{t_b^1+\gamma_b^1}{t_b^2+\gamma_b^2}))\big]$  Similarly

RHS of (5) = 
$$(n_1 + n_2)\ln 2 - \sum_{b \in \pi} (1/8(X_b^1 + X_b^2) + g(\xi_b)(Y_b^1 + Y_b^2)) + U(\pi)$$

$$U(\pi) = \sum_{b \in \pi} \left[ (2c - 1/2) \ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - c(\ln(1 + \frac{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2}{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}) + \ln(1 + \frac{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2})) \right]$$

Using above inequalities, we have

$$R(\pi_{1}, \pi_{2}, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) \geq T(\pi_{1}) - U(\pi_{2}) - 1/8(\Sigma_{b \in \pi_{1}}(X_{b}^{1} + X_{b}^{2}) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_{2}}(X_{b}^{1} + X_{b}^{2}))$$

$$-\Sigma_{b \in \pi_{1}}g(\xi_{b})(Y_{b}^{1} + Y_{b}^{2}) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_{2}}g(\xi_{b})(Y_{b}^{1} + Y_{b}^{2})$$

$$R(\pi_{1}, \pi_{2}, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) \leq U(\pi_{1}) - T(\pi_{2}) - 1/8(\Sigma_{b \in \pi_{1}}(X_{b}^{1} + X_{b}^{2}) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_{2}}(X_{b}^{1} + X_{b}^{2}))$$

$$+\Sigma_{b \in \pi_{1}}g(\xi_{b})(Y_{b}^{1} + Y_{b}^{2}) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_{2}}g(\xi_{b})(Y_{b}^{1} + Y_{b}^{2})$$

By CLT we know  $X_b^1, X_b^2$  are asymptotic gamma( $\chi$ -square) distributed and  $Y_b^1, Y_b^2$  are  $o_p(1), g(\xi_b)$  has bounded variance and  $T(\pi_1) - U(\pi_2) = -\ln(n)$  if  $N(\pi_2) < N(\pi_2)$  as  $\ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - \ln(\beta_{b'} + t_{b'}^1 + t_{b'}^2) = \ln(\frac{\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2}{n_1}) - \ln(\frac{\beta_{b'} + t_{b'}^1 + t_{b'}^2}{n_1}) \to 0$  a.s. so we complete the proof

**Lemma 5.** If  $(\phi, \psi) \in A_{\pi_1} \cap A_{\pi_2}$ , follow the conditions in theorem 1 and further we have  $\alpha^j$ , j = 1, 2 be vectors of integers then

$$\dfrac{\omega_{\pi_1}^{post}}{\omega_{\pi_2}^{post}} \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{d} v \quad \textit{if } N(\pi_1) = N(\pi_2)$$

v is a random variable

*Proof.* follow almost same procedure in lemma 4, but instead of using inequalities in lemma 2, we use lemma 3. And we still have

$$d(\pi, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta) = \sum_{b \in \pi} h(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{b \in \pi} h(t_b + \gamma_b^j)$$

and by lemma 3

$$d(\pi, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) \geq \sum_{b \in \pi} (\beta_{b} + t_{b}^{1} + t_{b}^{2} - 1/2) \ln(\beta_{b} + t_{b}^{1} + t_{b}^{2}) - \sum_{j=1}^{2} \sum_{b \in \pi} (t_{b}^{j} + \gamma_{b}^{j} - 1/2) \ln(t_{b}^{j} + \gamma_{b}^{j}) + \ln(\sqrt{2\pi}) - 1$$

$$(6)$$

$$d(\pi, t^{1}, t^{2}, \alpha, \beta) \leq \sum_{b \in \pi} (\beta_{b} + t_{b}^{1} + t_{b}^{2} - 1/2) \ln(\beta_{b} + t_{b}^{1} + t_{b}^{2}) - \sum_{j=1}^{2} \sum_{b \in \pi} (t_{b}^{j} + \gamma_{b}^{j} - 1/2) \ln(t_{b}^{j} + \gamma_{b}^{j}) + 1 - \ln(\sqrt{2\pi})$$

$$(7)$$

$$R(\pi_1, \pi_2, t^1, t^2, \alpha, \beta) \approx D(\pi_1) - D(\pi_2) - 1/8(\Sigma_{b \in \pi_1}(X_b^1 + X_b^2) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_2}(X_b^1 + X_b^2)) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_1} g(\xi_b)(Y_b^1 + Y_b^2) - \Sigma_{b \in \pi_2} g(\xi_b)(Y_b^1 + Y_b^2)$$

where 
$$D(\pi) = \sum_{b \in \pi} \left[ 1/2 \ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - c(\ln(1 + \frac{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2}{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}) + \ln(1 + \frac{t_b^1 + \gamma_b^1}{t_b^2 + \gamma_b^2})) \right]$$
 And  $D(\pi_1) - D(\pi_2)$  is  $O(1)$  if  $N(\pi_1) = N(\pi_2)$  as  $\ln(\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2) - \ln(\beta_{b'} + t_{b'}^1 + t_{b'}^2) = \ln(\frac{\beta_b + t_b^1 + t_b^2}{n_1}) - \ln(\frac{\beta_{b'} + t_b^1 + t_b^2}{n_1}) \to 0$  a.s.

Proof of theorem 4 and theorem 5

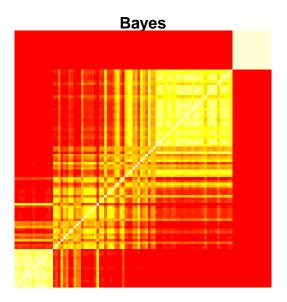
*Proof.* Recall  $\Sigma_{\pi}\omega_{\pi}^{post}=1$  and  $P(A_{\pi}|y,z)=\sum_{\tilde{\pi}\in\Pi}\omega_{\tilde{\pi}}^{post}1[\tilde{\pi} \text{ refines }\pi]$ . For all the  $A_{\pi}$  covers  $(\phi,\psi)$  there is one finest  $\pi^*$  with the largest  $N(\pi^*)$  and every other  $\pi$  that  $(\phi,\psi)\in A_{\pi}$  is coarser than  $\pi^*$ . We get the results of theorem 1 by lemma 4.

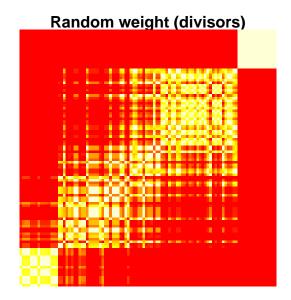
Similarly we use lemma 5 could proof theorem 2.

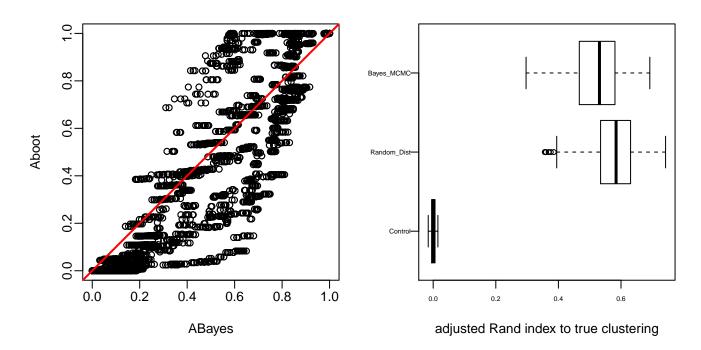
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#### References

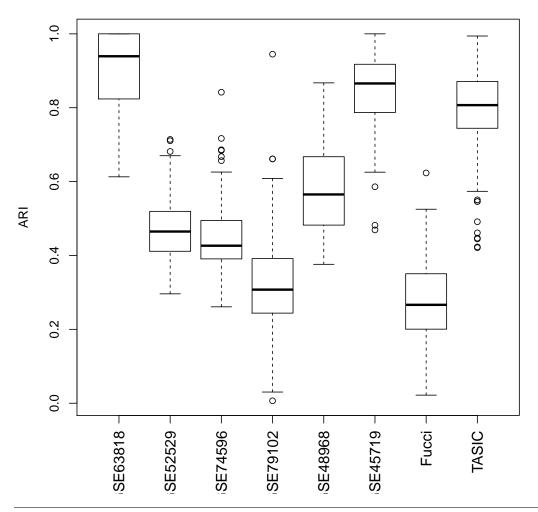
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**Supplementary Figure 13:** comparison between random weighting scheme and bayesian clustering procedure in terms of posterior probabilities that two elements belong to the same class given the whole data and adjusted rand index comparing to the underlying true class label



**Supplementary Figure 14:** Adjusted rand indexes to the clustering based on the original distance matrix without dividing weights. We investigate the randomness of clustering given by our weights through 8 datasets. All have stopping threshold for nlminb optimizing function in r with relative tolerance as 0.01