Advancing clinical proteomics using protein complexes as a contextualization framework

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(Based on joint work with Wilson Goh, Kevin Lim)

Challenges in proteomic profile analysis

- **Poor reproducibility of measurements**
- **Sparse # of features measured**
- **Uncertainty in mapping peptides to proteins**
- **Small sample size**

$\Rightarrow$ **Much more challenging than gene expression profile analysis**

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Some exciting ideas in gene expression profile analysis can be useful in improving proteomic profile analysis…

A DETOUR TO GENE EXPRESSION ANALYSIS

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Why small sample size?

- **Biological constraint**
  - Comparing cell lines
  - Comparing mutants vs wildtype
- **Rare-sample constraint**
- **Population-size constraint**
  - Singapore is small, we often wait a long time for enough patients presenting the desired phenotype
- **Cost & technological constraints**

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Outline

- **Ideals of a perfect method for gene selection in gene expression profile analysis**
- **Failure of commonly-used methods**
- **Reproducible precise & sensitive selection of genes, even when sample size is extremely small**
- **Reliable accurate cross-batch classification, even when batch effect is severe and sample size is small**

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THE IDEAL

A perfect method for identifying causal factors of a disease

- **A perfect method should …**
  - Completeness: Report all causal factors in a dataset
  - Soundness: Not report any non-factor

⇒ **When applied to two representative datasets of the disease, the two sets of identified factors should be the same**

⇒ **Factors identified from a subset of a dataset should be subset of factors identified from the whole dataset**

⇒ **Factors identified from one dataset should do well when used for classifying new datasets**

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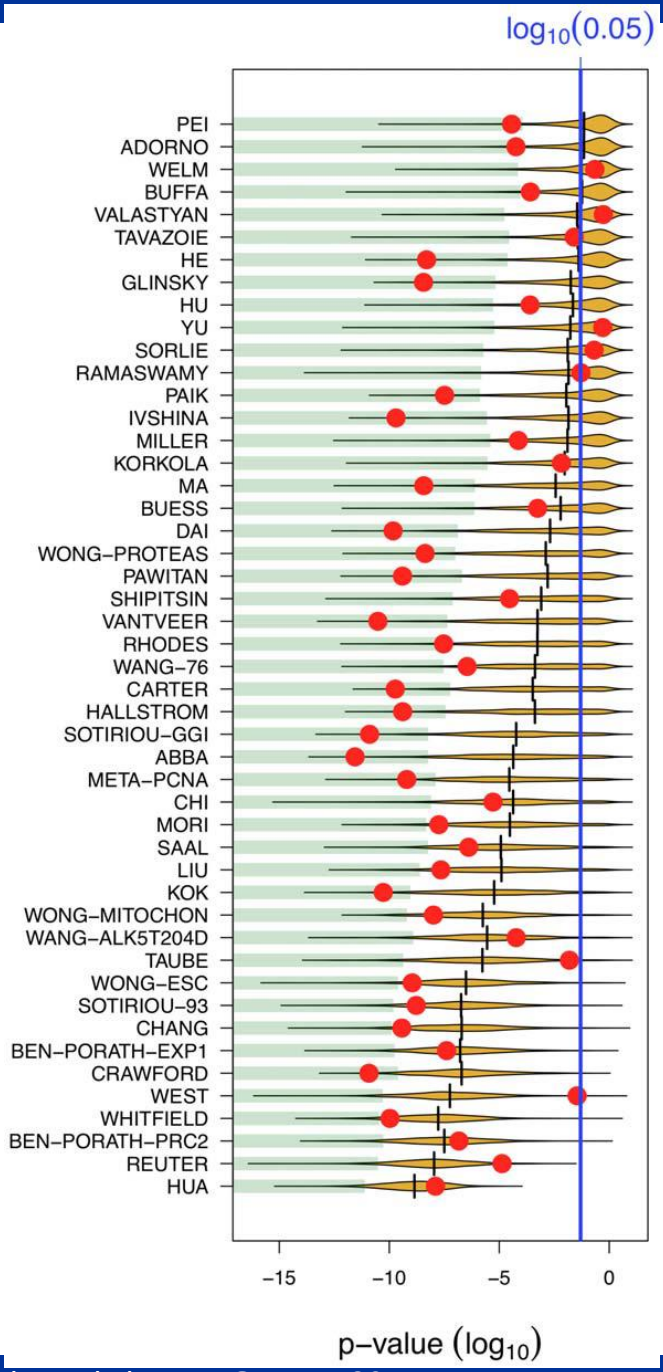
THE REALITY

Percentage of overlapping genes

- **Low % of overlapping genes from diff expt in general**
  - Prostate cancer
    - **Lapointe et al, 2004**
    - **Singh et al, 2002**
  - Lung cancer
    - **Garber et al, 2001**
    - **Bhattacharjee et al, 2001**
  - DMD
    - **Haslett et al, 2002**
    - **Pescatori et al, 2007**

Datasets	DEG	POG
Prostate Cancer		
	Top 10	0.30
	Top 50	0.14
	Top100	0.15
Lung Cancer		
	Top 10	0.00
	Top 50	0.20
	Top100	0.31
DMD		
	Top 10	0.20
	Top 50	0.42
	Top100	0.54

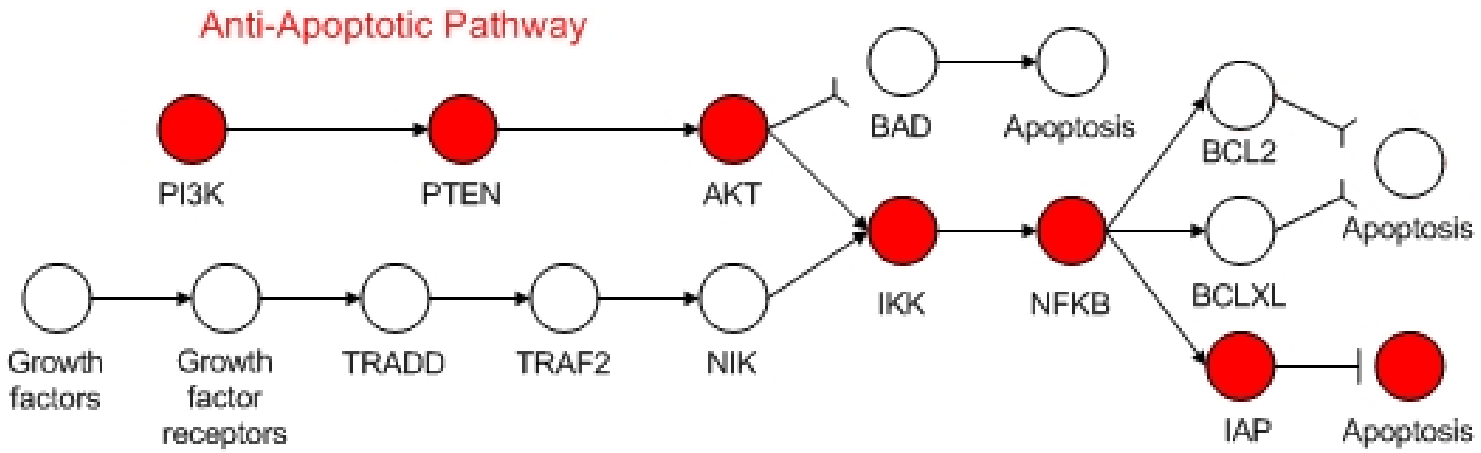
Zhang et al, *Bioinformatics*, 2009



"Most random gene expression signatures are significantly associated with breast cancer outcome"

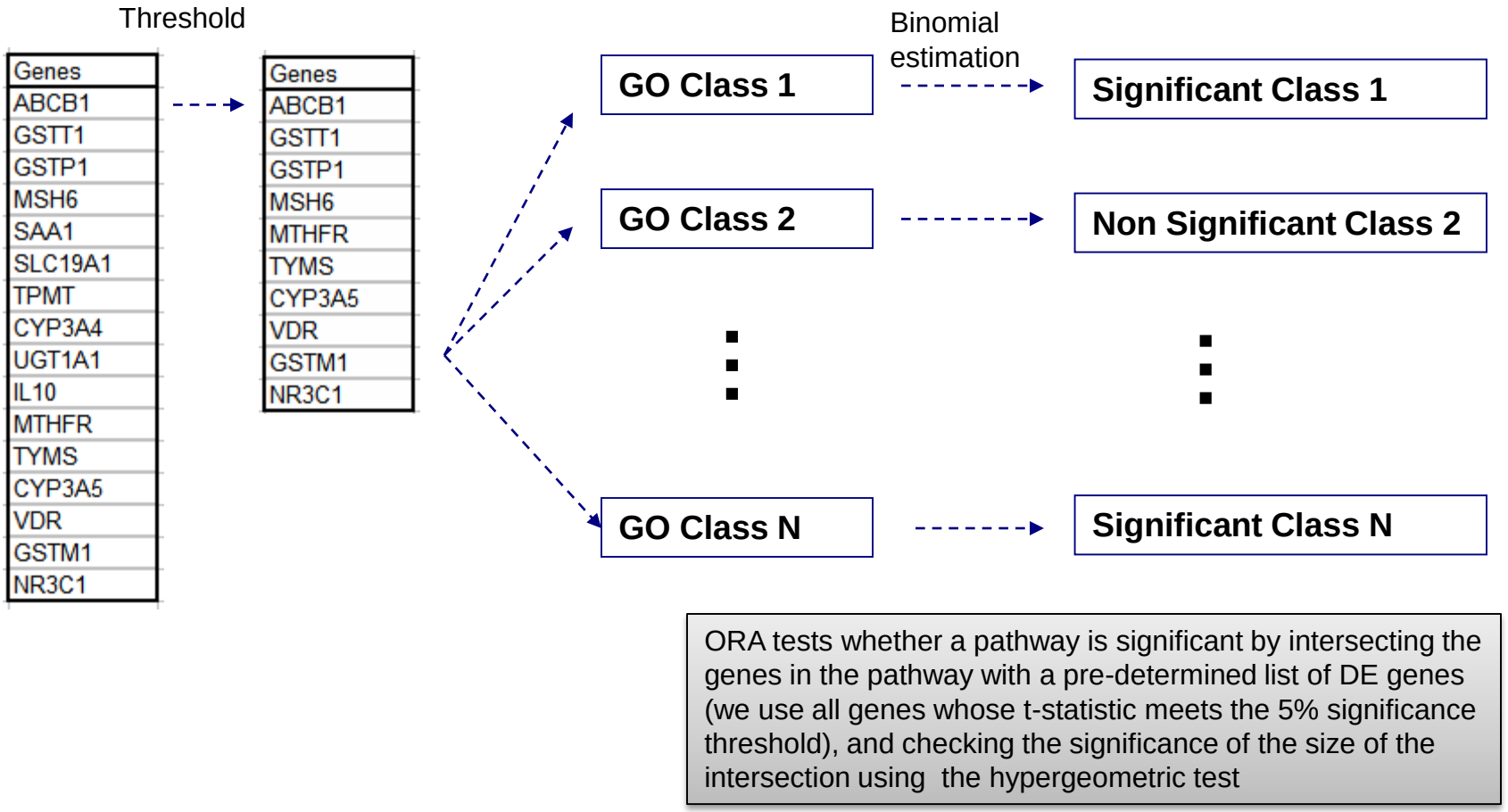
Venet et al., *PLoS Comput Biol*, 7(10):e1002240, 2011.

Gene regulatory circuits



- **Each disease has some underlying cause**
- **There is some unifying biological theme for genes that are truly associated with a disease**

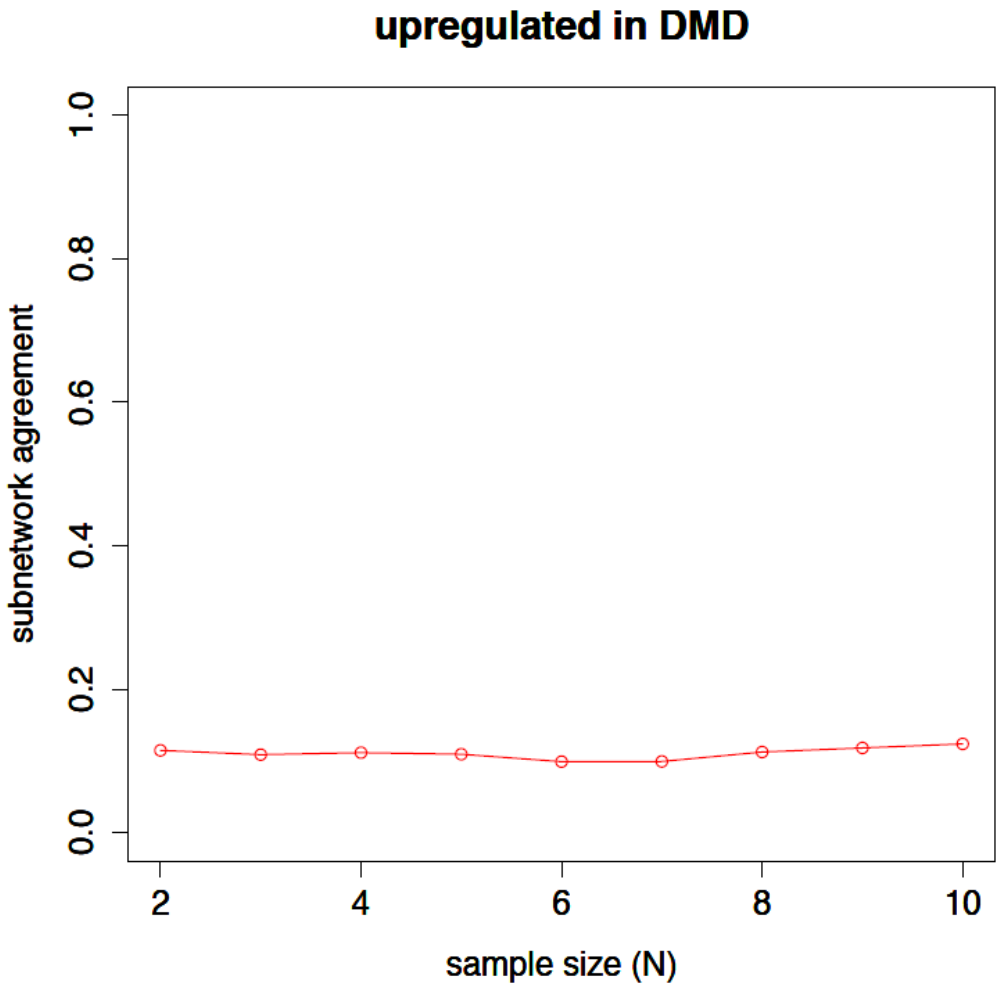
Overlap analysis: ORA



ORA tests whether a pathway is significant by intersecting the genes in the pathway with a pre-determined list of DE genes (we use all genes whose t-statistic meets the 5% significance threshold), and checking the significance of the size of the intersection using the hypergeometric test

S Draghici et al. “Global functional profiling of gene expression”. *Genomics*, 81(2):98-104, 2003.

Disappointing performance



DMD gene expression data
- Pescatori et al., 2007
- Haslett et al., 2002

Pathway data
- PathwayAPI, Soh et al., 2010

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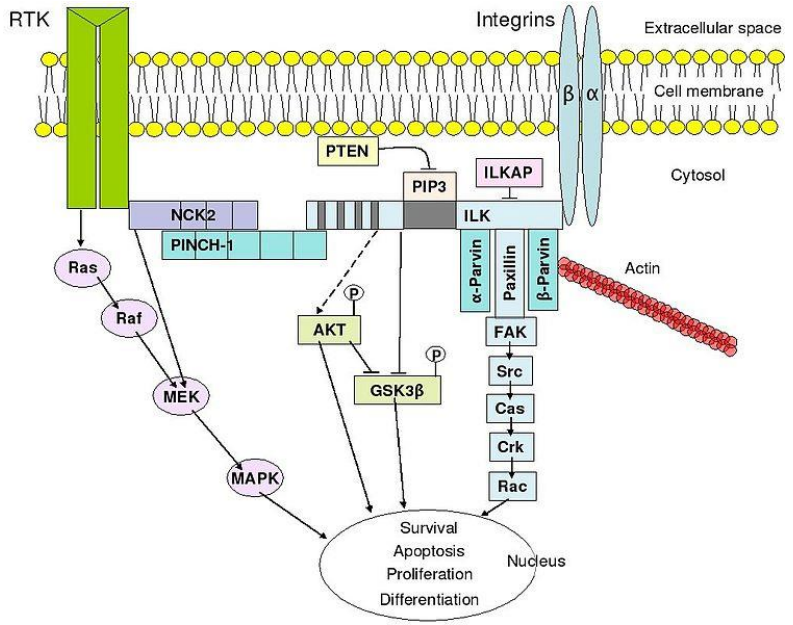
THE REASONS

Issue #1 with ORA

- **Its null hypothesis basically says "Genes in the given pathway behaves no differently from randomly chosen gene sets of the same size"**

- **This null hypothesis is obviously false**

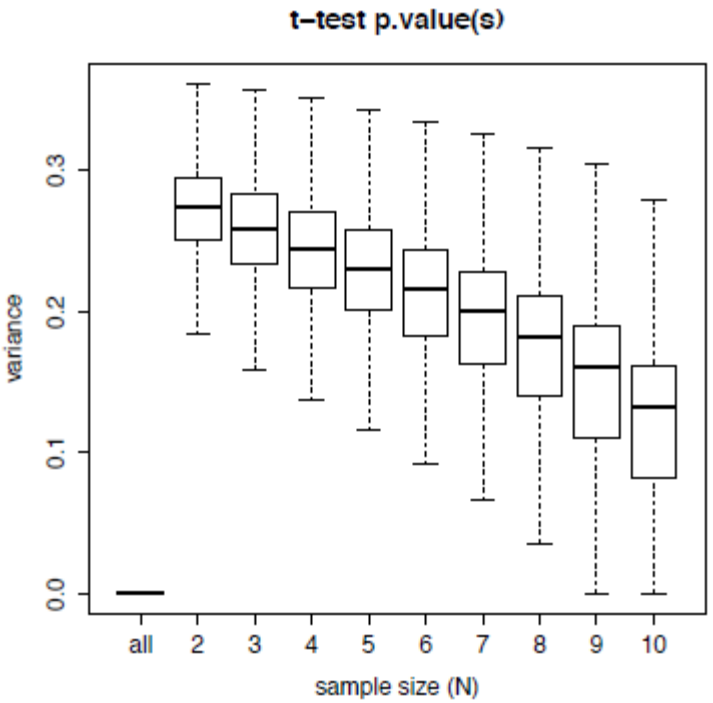
⇒ **Lots of false positives**



- A biological pathway is a series of actions among molecules in a cell that leads to a certain product or a change in a cell. Thus necessarily the behavour of genes in a pathway is more coordinated than random ones

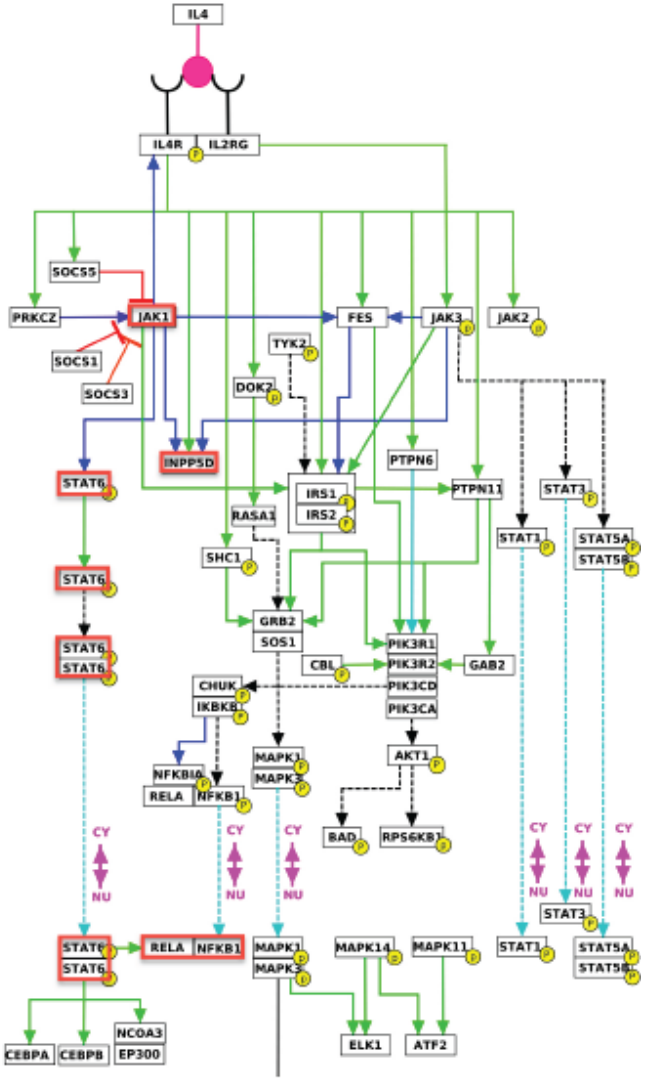
Issue #2 with ORA

- **It relies on a pre-determined list of DE genes**
- **This list is sensitive to the test statistic used and to the significance threshold used**
- **This list is unstable regardless of the threshold used when sample size is small**

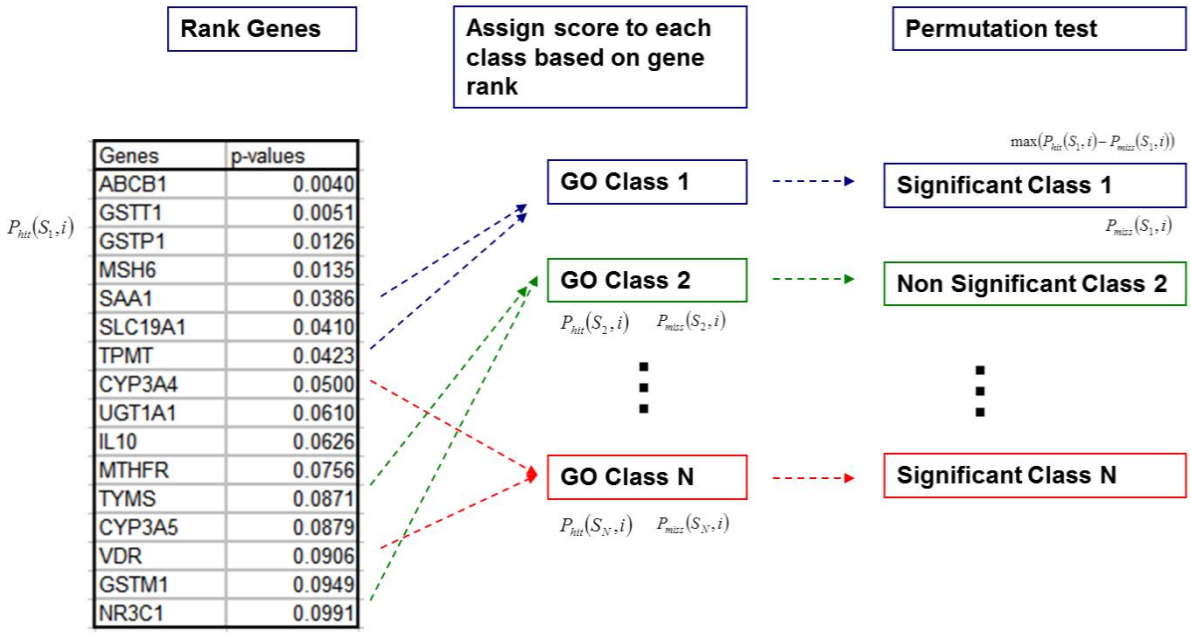


Issue #3 with ORA

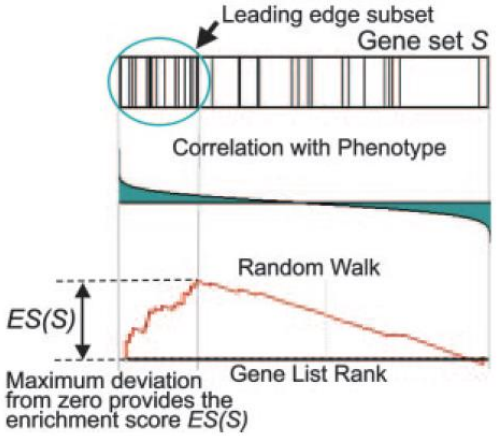
- **It tests whether the entire pathway is significantly differentially expressed**
- **If only a branch of the pathway is relevant to the phenotypes, the noise from the large irrelevant part of the pathways can dilute the signal from that branch**



GSEA in gene-permutation mode

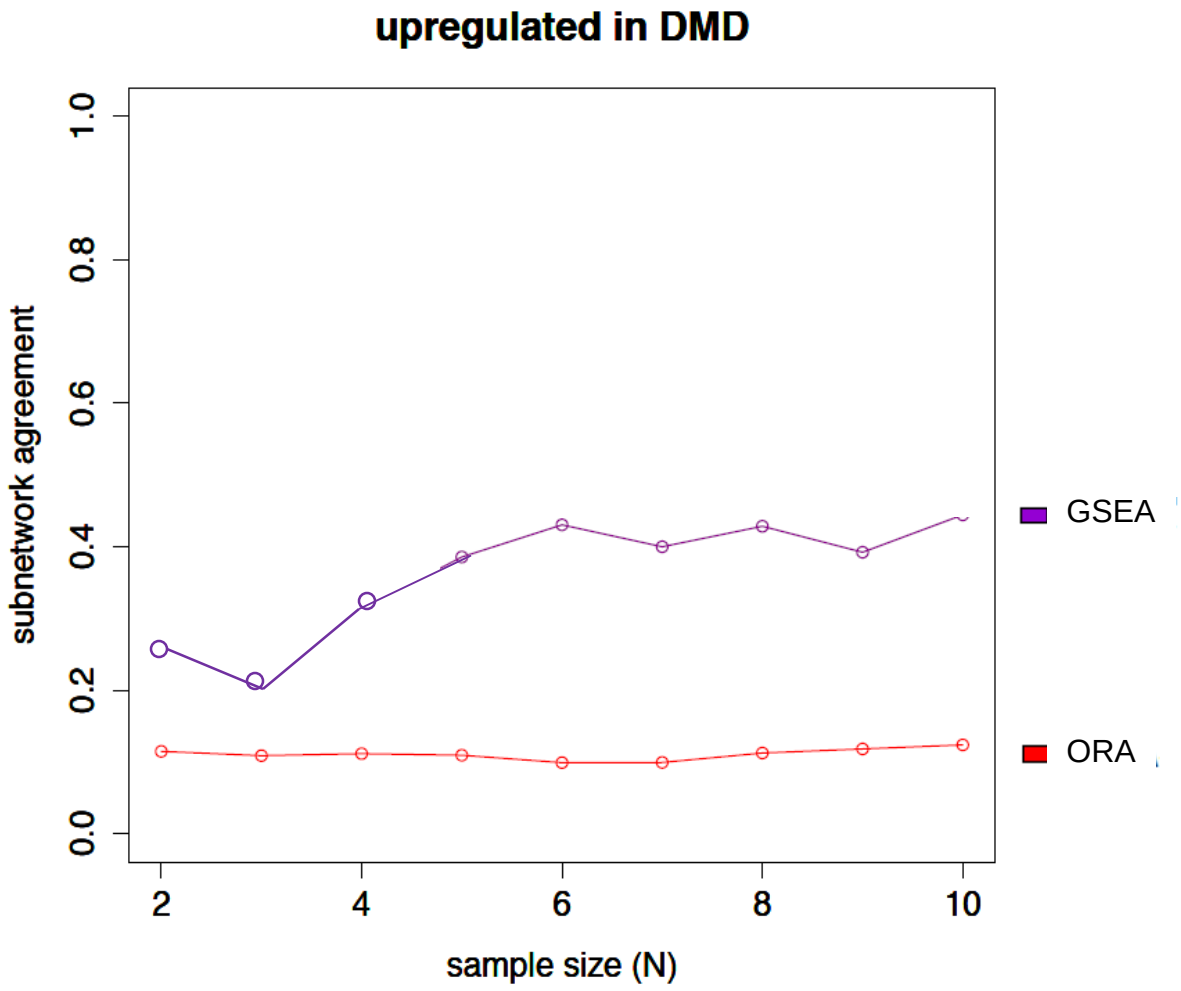


Note: Class label permutation mode cannot be used when sample size is small



- **Issue #2 & #3 solved to different degrees**
  - Does not need pre-determined list of DE genes, but gene ranking (based on t-test p-value) is still unstable for small sample size
  - Irrelevant genes in pathway have only small effect on the ES(S) peak
- **Issues #1 (when sample size is small) is unsolved**

Better performance, but not great



PFSNet: Exploiting subnetworks

- **Induce subnetworks from pathways by considering only genes highly expressed in majority of patients in any class**

Wt of gene i in +ve class

$$\beta_1^*(g_i) = \sum_{p_j \in D} \frac{fs(e_{g_i,p_j})}{|D|} \qquad \beta_2^*(g_i) = \sum_{p_j \in \neg D} \frac{fs(e_{g_i,p_j})}{|\neg D|}$$

-ve class wt

Score of subnet S in patient k w/ +ve class wt

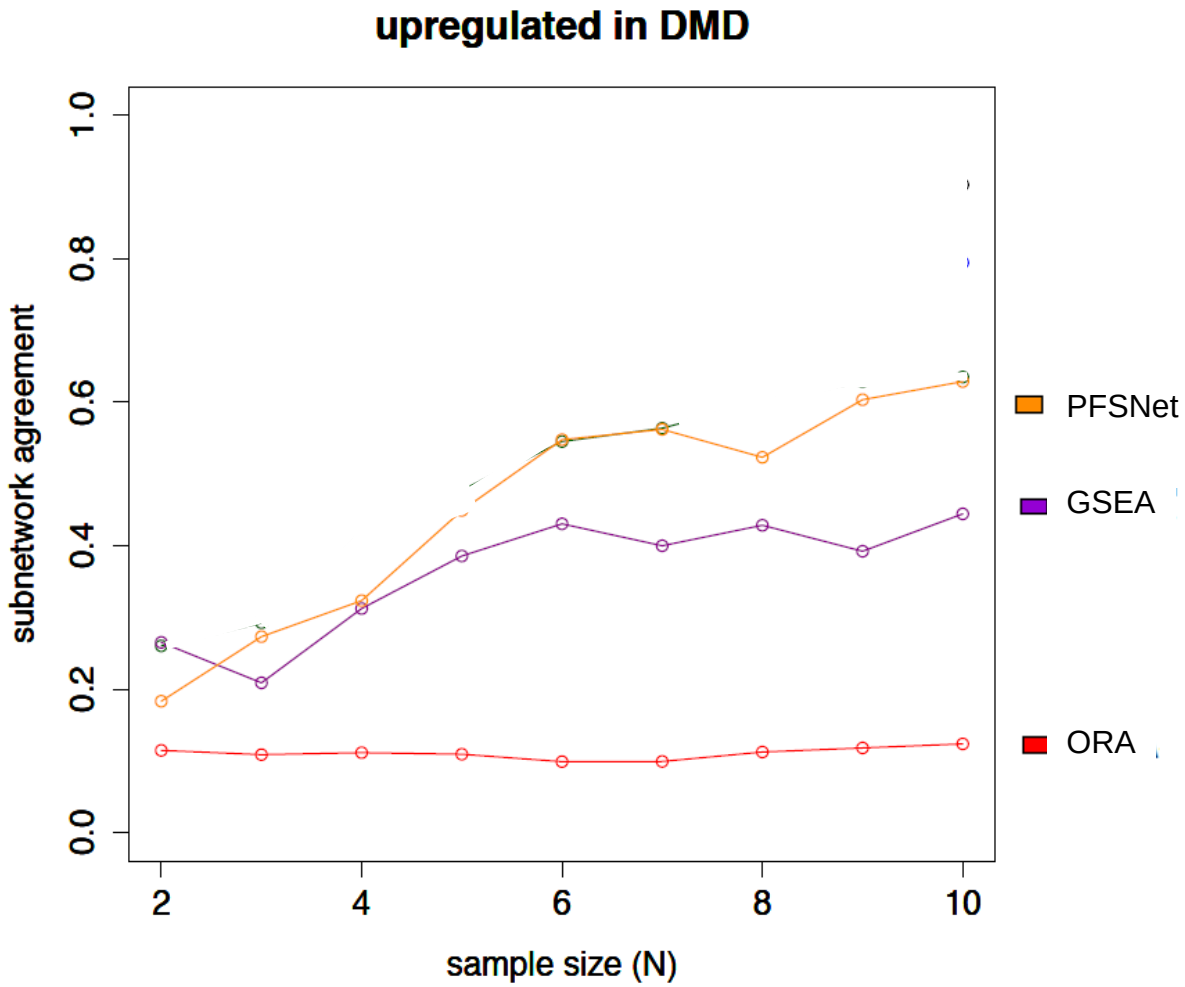
$$Score_1^{p_k}(S) = \sum_{g_i \in S} fs(e_{g_i,p_k}) * \beta_1^*(g_i) \qquad Score_2^{p_k}(S) = \sum_{g_i \in S} fs(e_{g_i,p_k}) * \beta_2^*(g_i)$$

- **For an irrelevant subnetwork S, the two scores above for each patient P_k should be roughly equal, regardless of class**
  - Interestingly, expression of the *same gene* is not compared between patients!
- **Do a paired t-test to decide whether S is relevant**
  - Get null distribution by permuting class labels

- β weights become unstable
- Cannot generate null distribution

- **All 3 issues solved, but not when sample size is small**

Much better performance but still not great



THE QUANTUM LEAP

EVEN WHEN SAMPLE SIZE IS EXTREMELY SMALL

ORA-Paired: Paired test and new null hypothesis

- Let g_i be genes in a given pathway P
- Let p_j be a patient
- Let q_k be a normal
- Let $\Delta_{i,j,k} = Expr(g_i,p_j) – Expr(g_i,q_k)$
- Test whether $\Delta_{i,j,k}$ is a distribution with mean 0

- **Issue #1 is solved**
  - Null hypothesis is “Pathway P is irrelevant to the difference between patients and normals, and the genes in P behave similarly in patients and normals”
- **Issue #2 is solved**
  - No longer need a pre-determined list of DE genes
- **Issue #3 is unsolved**
- **Is sample size now larger?**
  - |patients| * |normals| * |genes in P|

Testing the null hypothesis

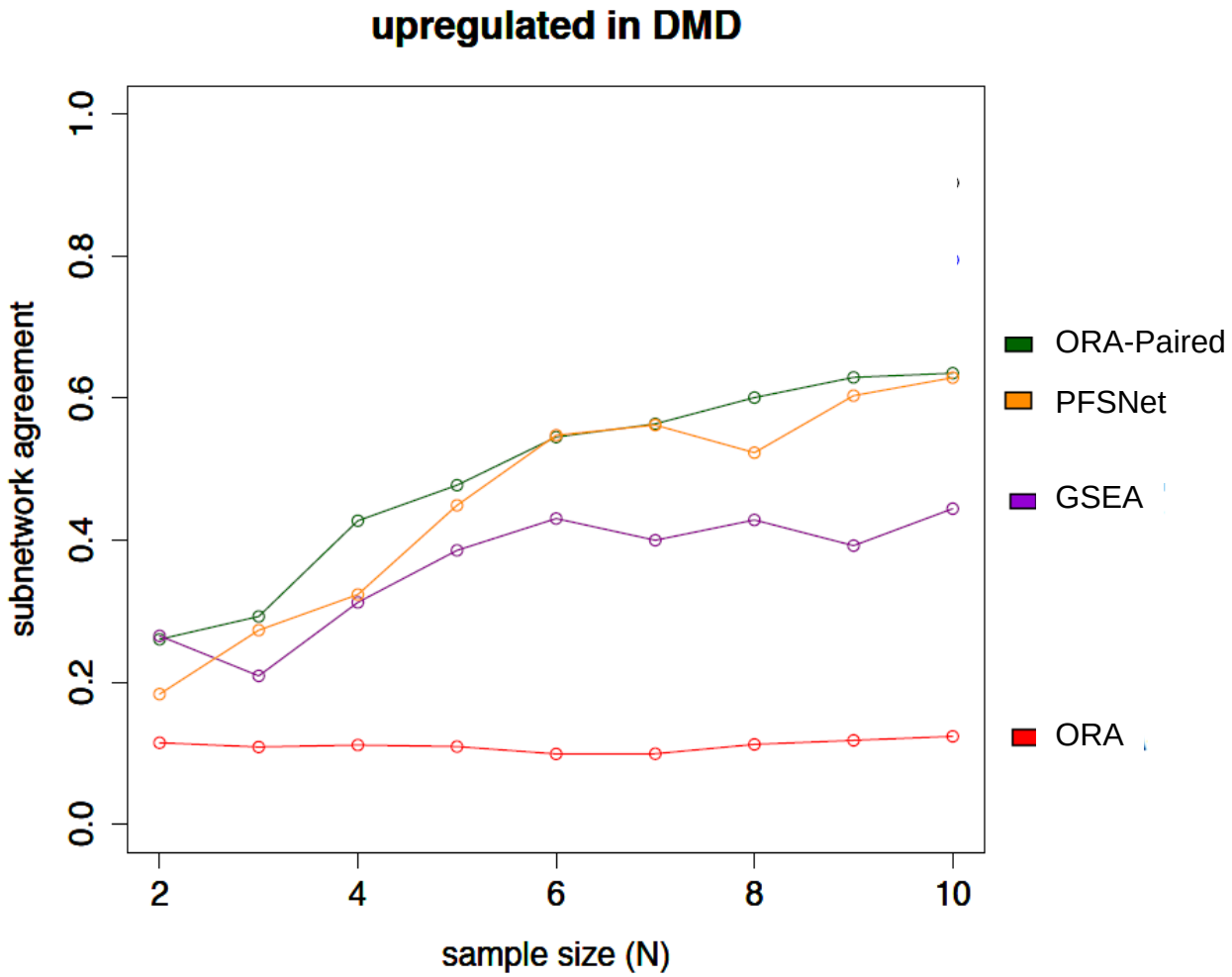
"Pathway P is irrelevant to the difference between patients and normals and so, the genes in P behave similarly in patients and normals"

- **Method #1**
  - T-test w/ a conservative degree of freedom
    - **E.g., # normals + # patients**
- **Method #2**
  - By the null hypothesis, a dataset and any of its class-label permutations are exchangeable

  ⇒ Get null distribution by class-label permutations
    - **Only for large-size sample**
- **Method #3**
  - Modified null hypothesis
    - **"Pathway P induces gene-gene correlations, and genes in P behave according to these gene-gene correlations;**
    - **P is irrelevant to the diff betw patients and normals and so, genes in P behave similarly in patients and normals"**

  ⇒ Get null distribution using datasets that conserve gene-gene correlations in the original dataset
    - **E.g., array rotation**

Similar to PFSNet, good but not great

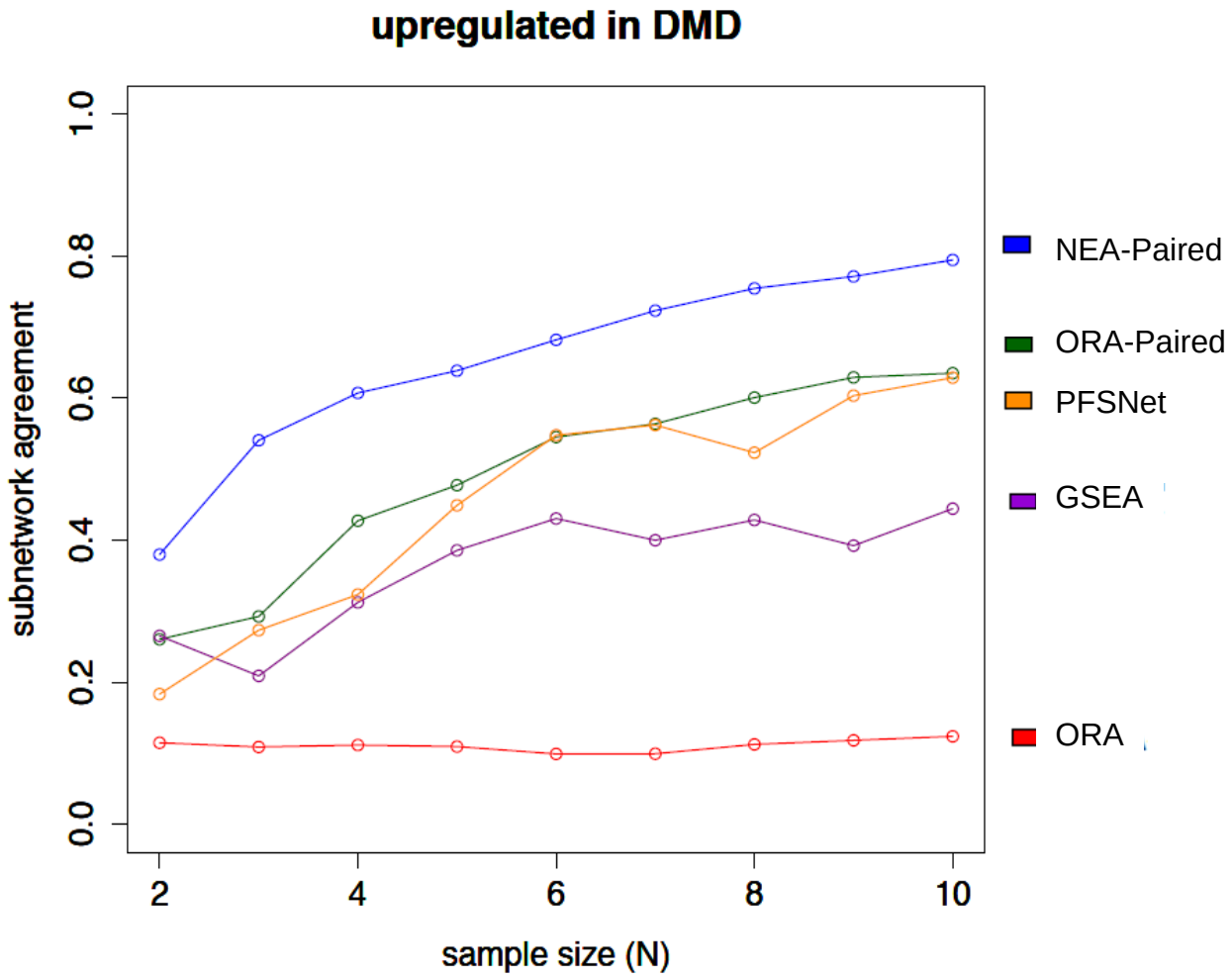


NEA-Paired: Paired test on subnetworks

- **Given a pathway P**
- **Let each node and its immediate neighbourhood in P be a subnetwork**
- **Apply ORA-Paired on each subnetwork individually**

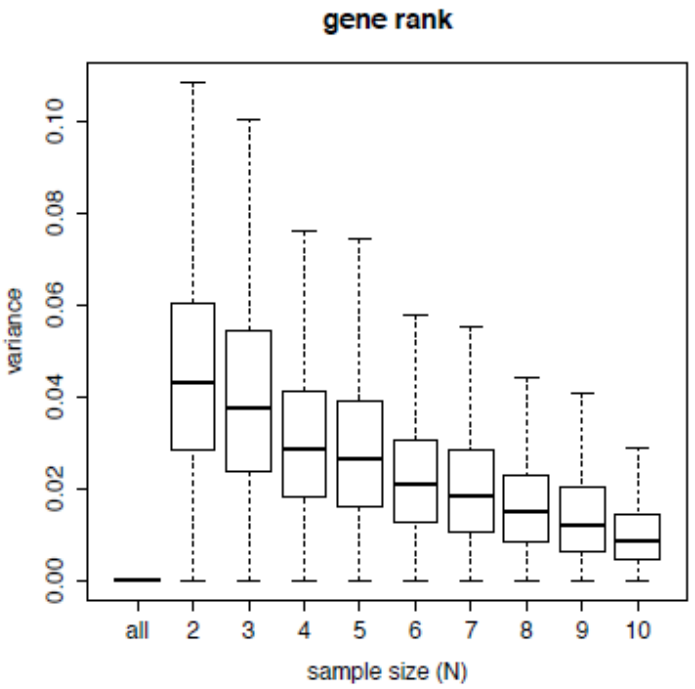
- **Issues #1 & #2 are solved as per ORA-Paired**
- **Issue #3 is partly solved**
  - Testing subnetworks instead of whole pathways
  - But subnetworks derived in a simple-minded way

Much better performance



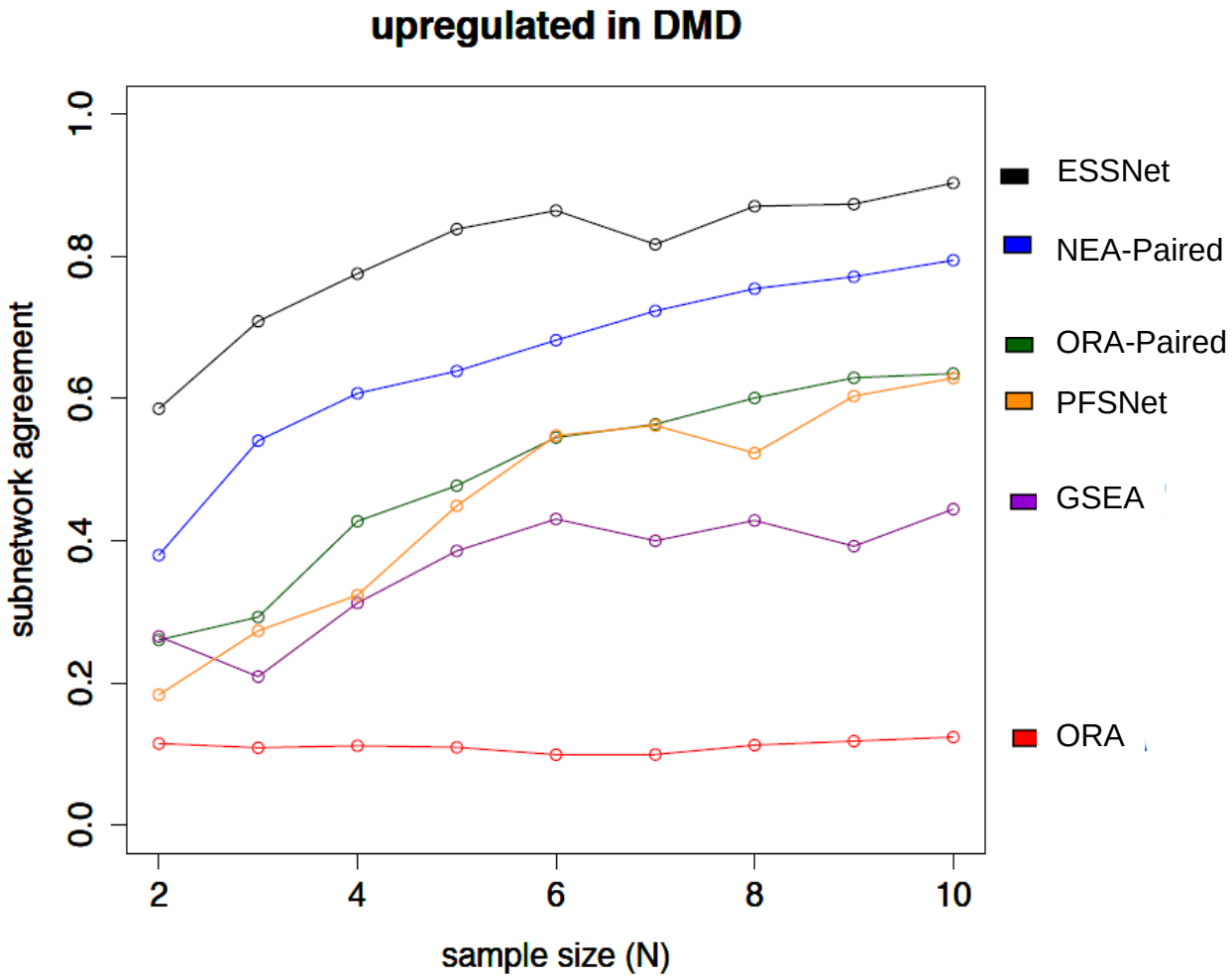
ESSNet: Larger subnetworks

- **Compute the average rank of a gene based on its expression level in patients in any class**
- **Use the top α% to extract large connected components in pathways**
- **Test each component using ORA-Paired**



- **Gene rank is very stable**
- **Issues #1 - #3 solved**

Fantastic performance



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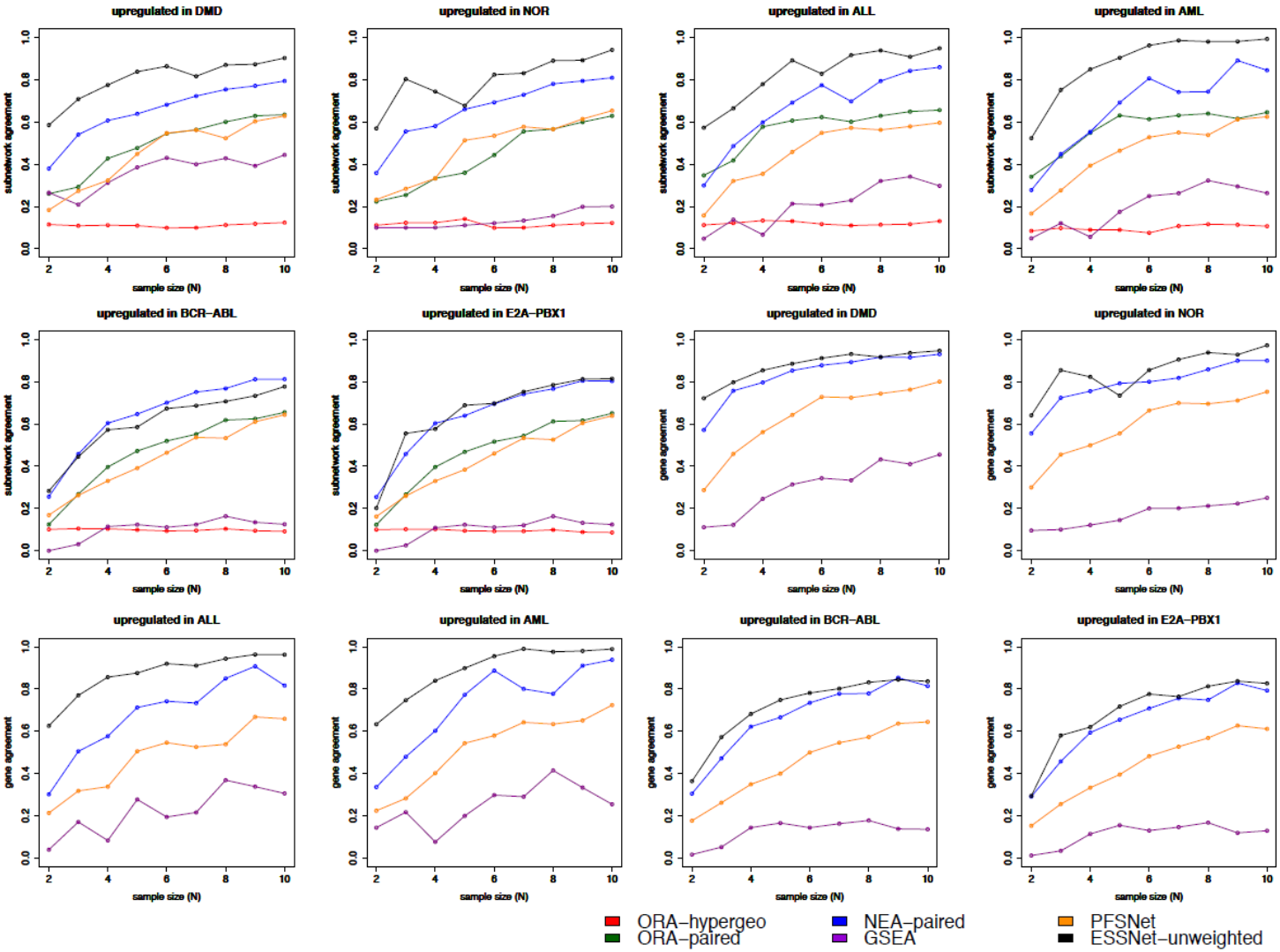
More datasets tested



ESSNet is unlikely to report junk

TABLE 4.2: Average number of subnetworks predicted by ESSNet over the sample sizes (N); the first number denotes the number of subnetworks in the numerator of the subnetwork-level agreement and the second number denotes the number of subnetworks in the denominator of the subnetwork-level agreement; cf. equation 4.5.

		DMD	ALL	BCR
sample size (N)	2	8.2/13.4	7.0/11.9	4.8/12.6
	3	11.1/15.9	11.3/17.9	5.0/11.7
	4	13.18/16.5	11.9/15.9	6.2/10.4
	5	14.2/16.7	14.6/18.3	7.9/12.7
	6	15.14/17.6	14.9/18.0	11.0/15.7
	7	15.2/17.4	16.1/19.2	12.9/17.5
	8	15.4/17.5	16.2/19.0	15.3/20.4
	9	16.6/18.8	17.0/19.8	15.8/20.8
	10	17.6/19.7	17.3/19.7	16.2/20.8

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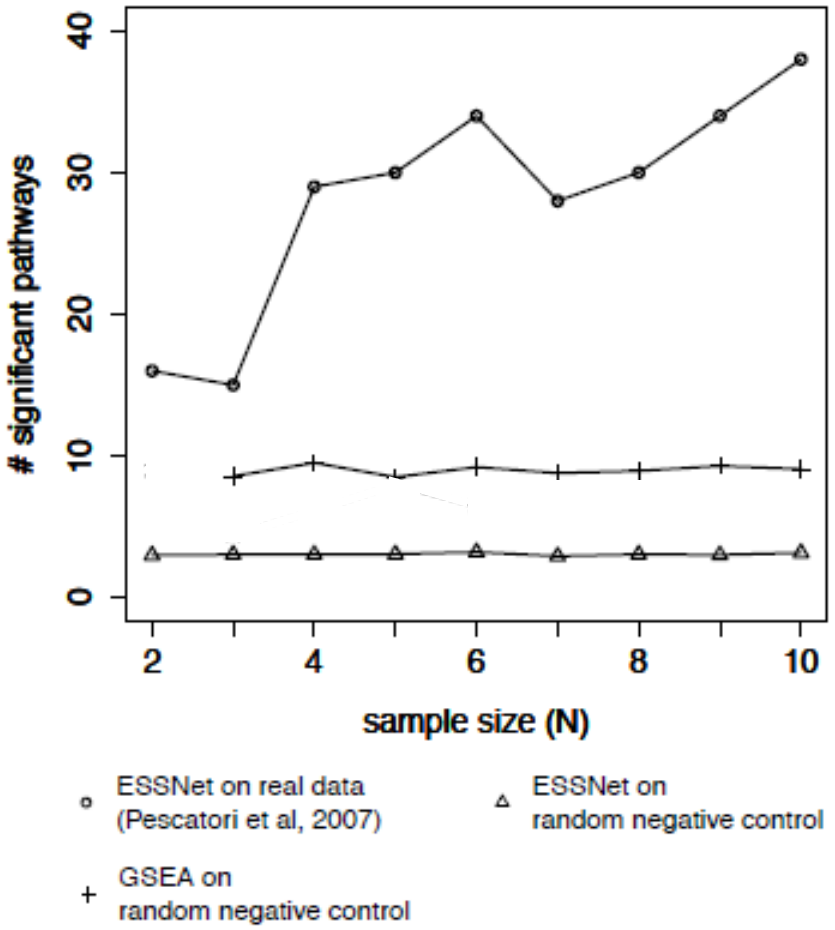
A negative-control experiment showing that ESSNet does not report junk



ESSNet also dominates when sample size is large

TABLE 4.3: Number of subnetworks predicted by the various methods on a full dataset where the null distribution is computed using array rotation (rot), class-label swapping (cperm) and gene swapping (gswap); the first number denotes the number of subnetworks in the numerator of the subnetwork-level agreement and the second number denotes the number of subnetworks in the denominator of the subnetwork-level agreement; cf. equation 4.5.

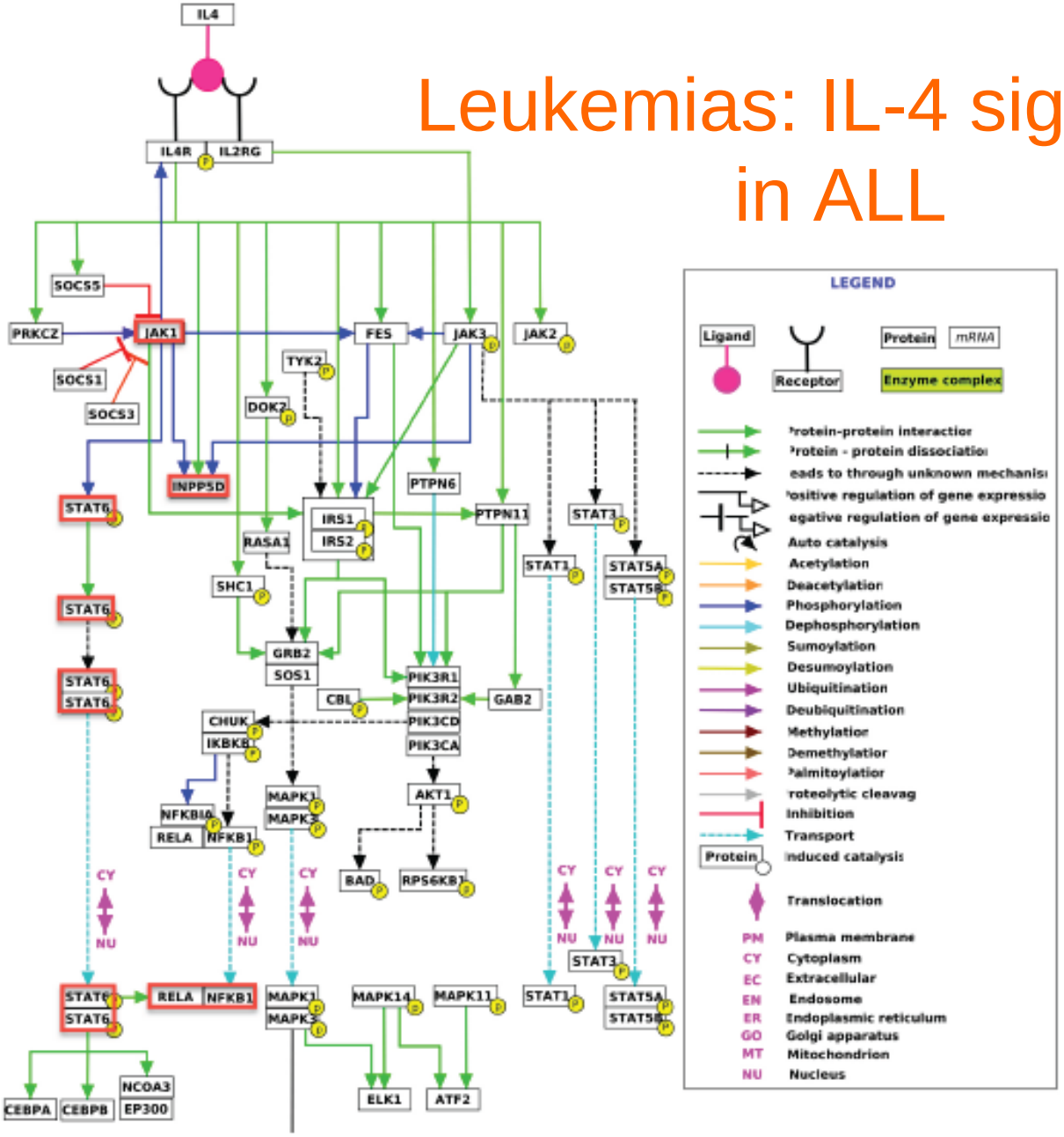
	DMD		ALL		BCR	
	rot	cperm	rot	cperm	rot	cperm
ESSNet	20/23	13/15	22/24	25/27	24/29	30/32
NEA-paired	77/98	91/115	140/163	109/119	176/192	37/43
ORA-paired	30/62	30/62	34/74	34/74	53/99	53/99
ORA-hypergeo	20/46	41/141	24/60	48/73	4/14	32/166
	cperm	gswap	cperm	gswap	cperm	gswap
GSEA	23/64	24/69	8/52	17/48	7/57	5/46

Do ESSNet results agree on small datasets vs big datasets?

sample size (N)	Precision						Recall					
	DMD		ALL		BCR		DMD		ALL		BCR	
	D	¬D	D	¬D	D	¬D	D	¬D	D	¬D	D	¬D
2	0.96	0.88	0.87	0.95	0.93	0.91	0.45	0.31	0.34	0.25	0.19	0.17
3	0.93	0.86	0.99	0.89	0.90	0.87	0.56	0.45	0.56	0.41	0.21	0.16
4	0.88	0.88	0.97	0.92	0.91	0.87	0.67	0.50	0.51	0.53	0.35	0.48
5	0.89	0.88	0.94	0.90	0.89	0.90	0.73	0.52	0.74	0.55	0.36	0.38
6	0.82	0.88	0.93	0.92	0.89	0.91	0.78	0.62	0.74	0.62	0.44	0.438
7	0.85	0.86	0.95	0.93	0.90	0.87	0.75	0.59	0.66	0.64	0.55	0.53
8	0.84	0.89	0.97	0.94	0.90	0.92	0.81	0.69	0.74	0.66	0.61	0.66
9	0.88	0.90	0.94	0.92	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.67	0.76	0.74	0.65	0.67
10	0.88	0.93	0.97	0.92	0.90	0.90	0.86	0.84	0.89	0.74	0.66	0.73

- **Use ESSNet's results on entire datasets as the benchmark to evaluate ESSNet's results on small subsets of the datasets**
- **The precision (i.e., agreement) is superb, though some subnetworks are missed when smaller datasets are analysed**

Leukemias: IL-4 signaling in ALL



For the Leukemia dataset (in which patients are either classified to have acute lymphoblastic leukemia or acute myeloid leukemia), one of the significant subnetworks that is biologically relevant is part of the Interleukin-4 signaling pathway; see figure 6b (supplementary material). The binding of Interleukin-4 to its receptor (Cardoso *et al.*, 2008) causes a cascade of protein activation involving JAK1 and STAT6 phosphorylation. STAT6 dimerizes upon activation and is transported to the nucleus and interacts with the RELA/NFKB1 transcription factors, known to promote the proliferation of T-cells (Rayet and Gelinas, 1999). In contrast, acute myeloid leukemia does not have genes in this subnetwork up-regulated and are known to be unrelated to lymphocytes.

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Remarks

- **Consistent successful gene expression profile analysis needs deep integration of background knowledge**
- **Most gene expression profile analysis methods fail to give reproducible results when sample size is small (and some even fail when sample size is quite large)**
- **Logical analysis to identify key issues and simple logical solution to the issues can give fantastic results**

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DIFFICULTY OF CROSS-BATCH CLASSIFICATION

Batch effects

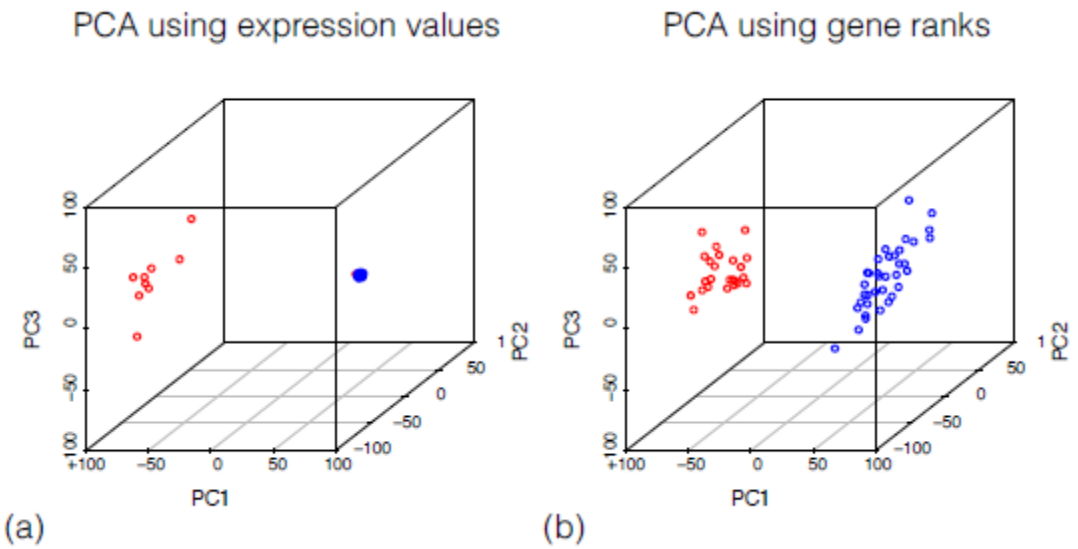
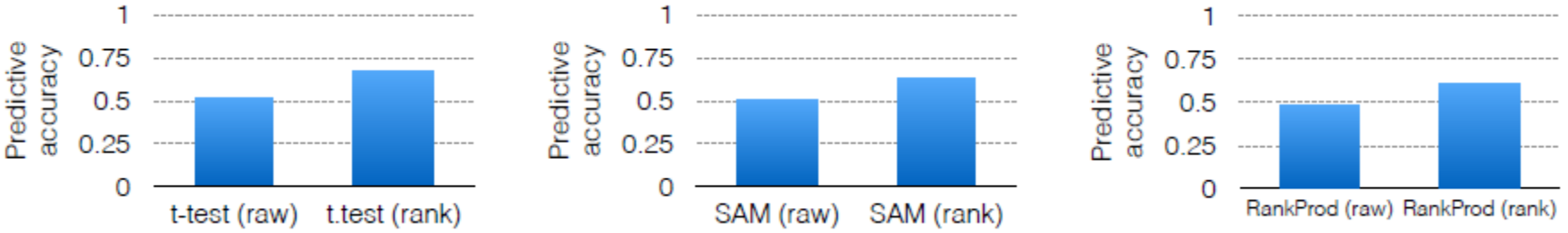


FIGURE 5.1: Batch effects in the DMD/NOR datasets, the blue and red color denote different data batches. (a) Scatterplot on the first 3 components using gene-expression values. (b) Scatterplot on the first 3 components using gene ranks.

- **Batch effects are common**
- **Batch effects cannot always be removed using common normalization methods**

Gene-feature-based classifiers do badly when there are batch effects, even after normalization



Predictive accuracy of gene-feature-based classifiers with and w/o rank normalization in the ALL/AML dataset

Gene selection by t-test, SAM, or rank product. Classifier by naïve Bayes

SUCCESSFUL CROSS-BATCH CLASSIFICATION

WHEN SAMPLE SIZE IS LARGE

PFSNet-based features

- **PFSNet**
  - Induce subnetworks from pathways by considering only genes highly expressed in majority of patients in any class
  - For each subnetwork S and each patient P_k, compute a pair of scores:

$$\beta_1^*(g_i) = \sum_{p_j \in D} \frac{fs(e_{g_i,p_j})}{|D|} \qquad \beta_2^*(g_i) = \sum_{p_j \in \neg D} \frac{fs(e_{g_i,p_j})}{|\neg D|}$$

$$Score_1^{p_k}(S) = \sum_{g_i \in S} fs(e_{g_i,p_k}) * \beta_1^*(g_i) \qquad Score_2^{p_k}(S) = \sum_{g_i \in S} fs(e_{g_i,p_k}) * \beta_2^*(g_i)$$

- **Straightforward to use these scores as features**

Successfully reducing batch effects

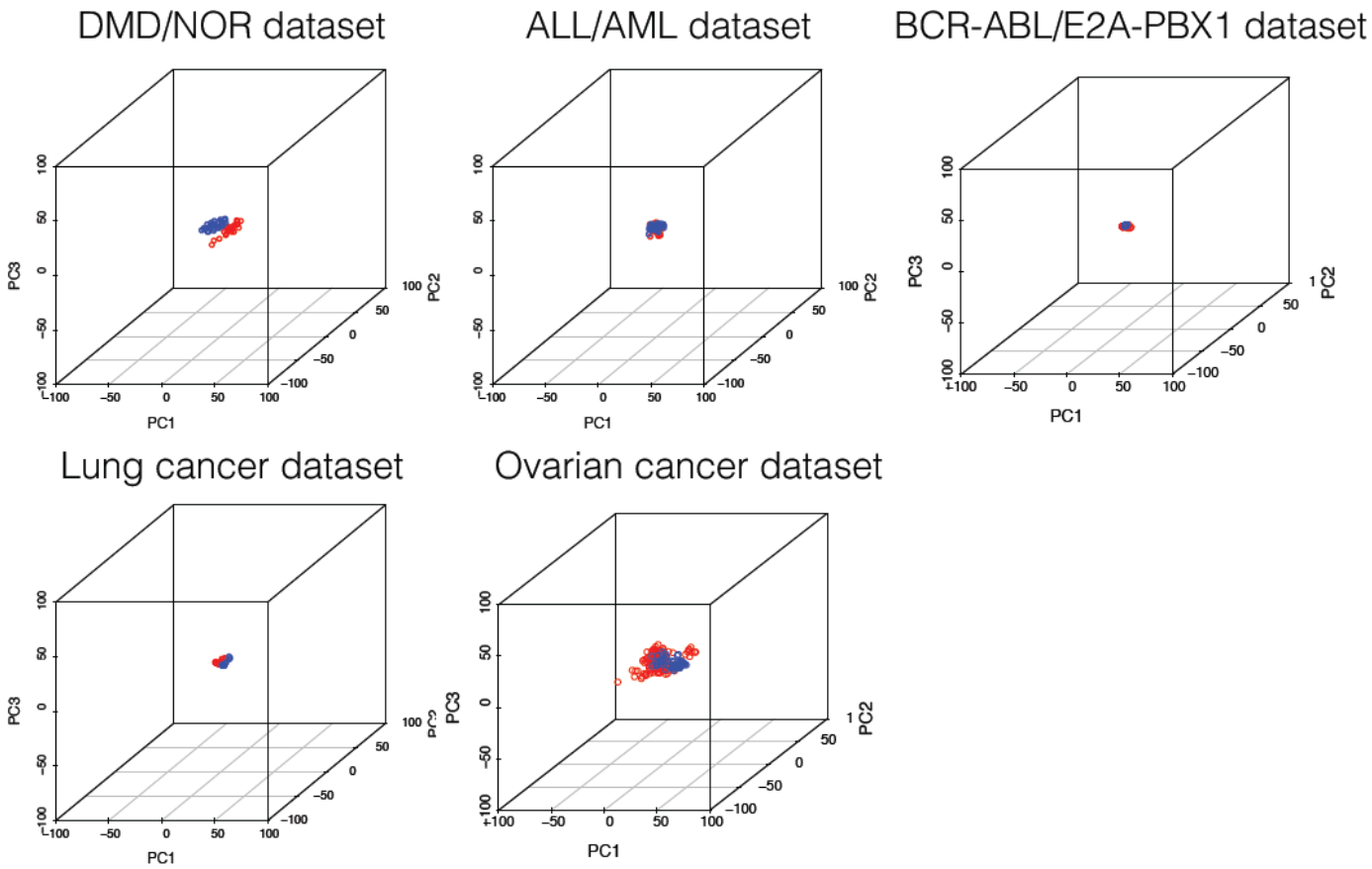


FIGURE 5.6: A figure showing that the batch effects are reduced by PFSNet subnetwork features. The colors red and blue represent different batches.

Successful cross-batch classification

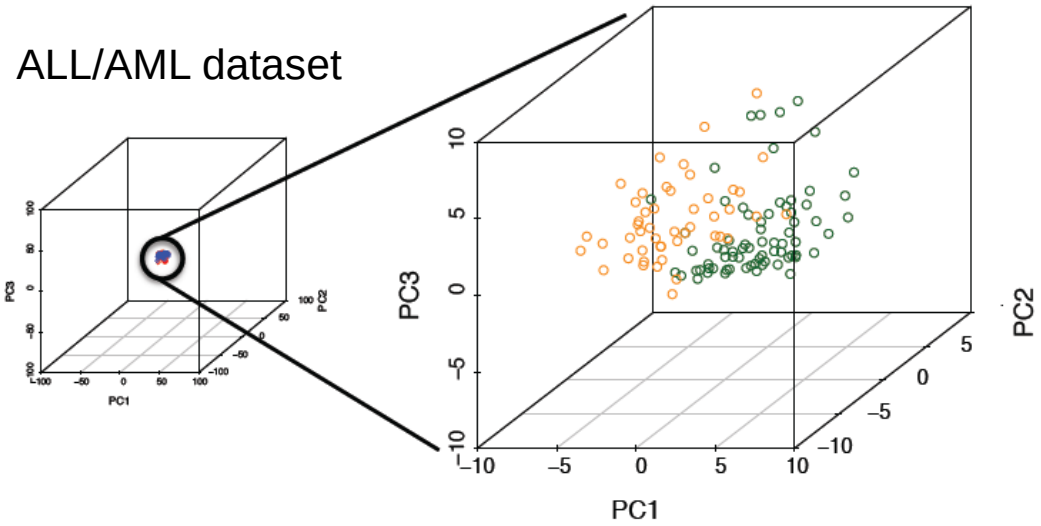


FIGURE 5.7: A figure showing that data points are separated by class labels instead of batch when PFSNet features are used. The colors green and orange represent different classes.

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SUCCESSFUL CROSS-BATCH CLASSIFICATION

EVEN WHEN SAMPLE SIZE IS SMALL

ESSNet

- Induce subnetworks using genes highly expressed in majority of samples in any class
- Let g_i be genes in a given subnetwork S
- Let p_j be patients
- Let q_k be normals
- Let $\Delta_{i,j,k} = Expr(g_i,p_j) – Expr(g_i,q_k)$
- Test whether $\Delta_{i,j,k}$ is a distribution with mean 0

ESSNet scores subnetworks but not patients.

How to produce feature vectors for patients?

ESSNet-based features

- **The idea is to see whether the pairwise differences of genes with a subnetwork betw a given subject p_x and the two separate classes (D and ¬D) have a distribution around 0**

$$\Delta_{(D)}(S, p_x) = \{e_{g_i,p_x} - e_{g_i,p'} \mid g_i \in S \text{ and } p' \in D\}$$

$$\Delta_{(\neg D)}(S, p_x) = \{e_{g_i,p_x} - e_{g_i,p'} \mid g_i \in S \text{ and } p' \in \neg D\}$$

- **We expect $\Delta(D)(S,P_x)$ and $\Delta(\neg D)(S,P_x)$ to have +ve or –ve median for patients in one of the classes iff subnetwork S is useful for classification**
  - The median and ±2 std dev of $\Delta(D)(S,P_x)$ and $\Delta(\neg D)(S,P_x)$ give 6 features for P_x

ESSNet-based features

- **We also obtain pairwise differences of genes within a subnetwork among all possible pairs of patients in D and ¬D**

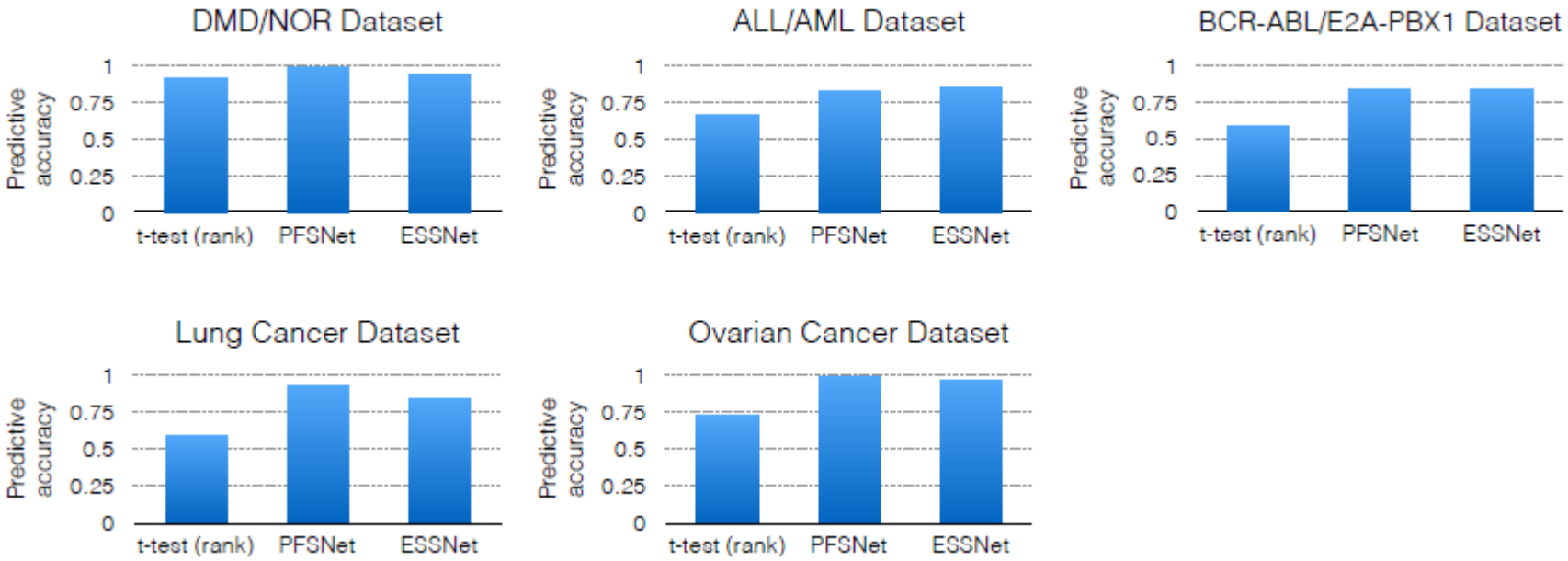
$$\Delta_{(D--\neg D)}(S) = \{e_{g_i,p'} - e_{g_i,p''} \mid g_i \in S \text{ and } p' \in D \text{ and } p'' \in \neg D\}$$

Similarly for $\Delta_{(\neg D - \neg D)}(S)$, $\Delta_{(\neg D - D)}(S)$, $\Delta_{(D - D)}(S)$

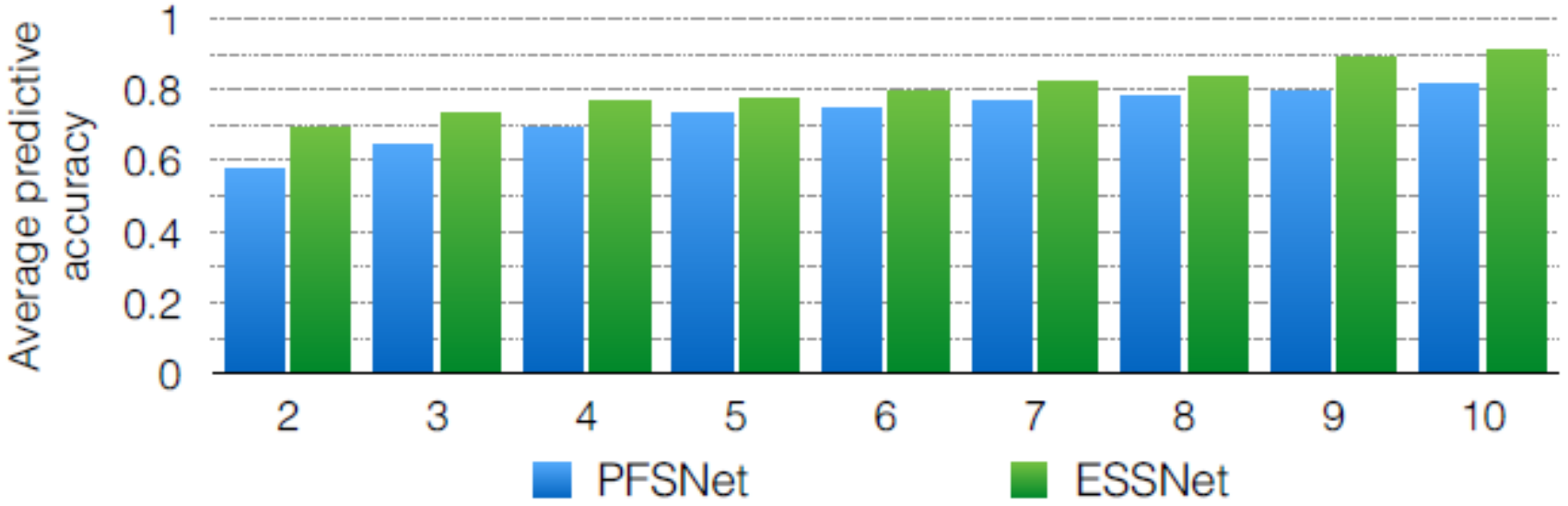
- **This gives 4 more features**

$$ESSNet\_feature_7^{p_x,S} = T\_statistic(\Delta_{(\neg D)}(S,p_x), \Delta_{(D--\neg D)}(S))$$
$$ESSNet\_feature_8^{p_x,S} = T\_statistic(\Delta_{(\neg D)}(S,p_x), \Delta_{(\neg D--\neg D)}(S))$$
$$ESSNet\_feature_9^{p_x,S} = T\_statistic(\Delta_{(D)}(S,p_x), \Delta_{(D-D)}(S))$$
$$ESSNet\_feature_{10}^{p_x,S} = T\_statistic(\Delta_{(D)}(S,p_x), \Delta_{(\neg D-D)}(S))$$

ESSNet-based features lead to high cross-batch classification accuracy



ESSNet-based features retain high cross-batch classification accuracy even when training-sample size is small



Remarks

- **Traditional methods of classifying gene expression profiles often have difficulty predicting outcome of new batches of patients**
  - Normalization does not always help
- **ESSNet-based features are much more robust even when training-sample size is small**
  - Subnetworks found by ESSNet are reproducible and gave high cross-batch classification accuracy

$\Rightarrow$ **ESSNet is successful in isolating disease-relevant subnetworks from pathways**

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BACK TO PROTEOMICS

- **Not so easy to use the ESSNet idea in proteomics**
  - $\Delta_{i,j,k}$ = Expr(g_i,p_j) – Expr(g_i,q_k) in ESSNet compares expression of gene g_i in subjects p_j and q_k
  - Proteomic profiling is "semi random"
    - **A protein/peptides may get measured in p_j but may not get measured in q_k**

- **PFSNet, interestingly, does not need to compare the expression of the same genes in two subjects**

$\Rightarrow$ **So use the PFSNet idea for proteomic profile analysis**

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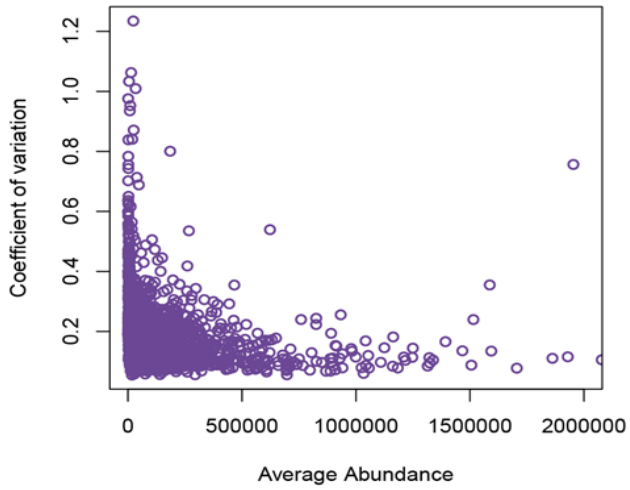
Analyzing proteomic profiles in context of protein complexes

SNET, FSNET, PFSNET

SNet

1/ Identify DE complexes, rather than DE proteins

2/ Only highest-abundance proteins get to vote



- **Given a protein gi and a class of tissues Cj, let**

$$\beta(gi, Cj) = \sum_{pk \in Cj} \frac{fs(gi, pk)}{|Cj|}$$

- **where fs(gi,pk) = 1, if the protein gi is among the top α% most abundant proteins in the tissue pk, and = 0 otherwise**

- **Let the score of a protein complex S and a tissue pk wrt to a class Cj be defined as :**

$$score(S, pk, Cj) = \sum_{gi \in S} [fs(gi, pk) * \beta(gi, Cj)]$$

- **The test statistic is defined as:**

$$f_{SNET(S,X,Y,Cj)} = \frac{mean(S, X, Cj) - mean(S, Y, Cj)}{\sqrt{\frac{var(S, X, Cj)}{|X|} + \frac{var(S, Y, Cj)}{|Y|}}}$$

- **where mean(S,#,Cj) and var(S,#,Cj) are respectively the mean and variance of the list of scores { score(S,pk,Cj) | pk is a tissue in # }.**

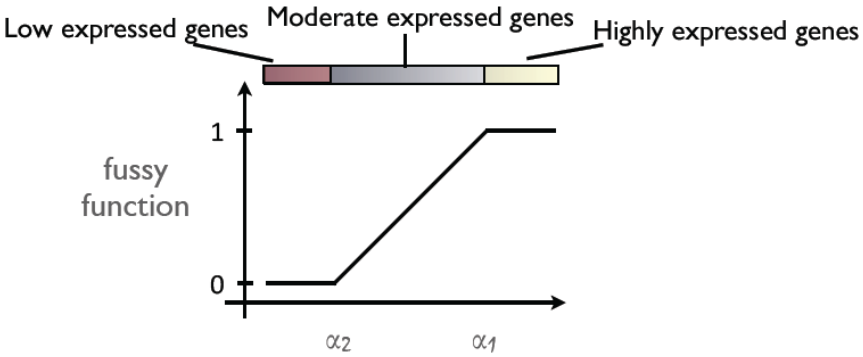
- **Given two classes C1 and C2, the set of significant complexes returned by SNet is the union of {S | $f_{SNet(S,C1,C2,C1)}$ is significant} and {S | $f_{SNet(S,C2,C1,C2)}$ is significant}**

FSNet

1/ Identify DE complexes, rather than DE proteins

2/ Only highest-abundance proteins get to vote

3/ Give other high-abundance proteins partial vote



- **Given a protein gi and a class of tissues Cj, let**

$$\beta(gi, Cj) = \sum_{pk \in Cj} \frac{fs(gi, pk)}{|Cj|}$$

- and fs(gi,pk) = 1.0, 0.8, 0.6, 0.4, 0.2, 0.0 depending on how abundant gi is in pk

- **Let the score of a protein complex S and a tissue pk wrt to a class Cj be defined as :**

$$score(S, pk, Cj) = \sum_{gi \in S} [fs(gi, pk) * \beta(gi, Cj)]$$

- **The test statistic is defined as:**

$$f_{FSNET}\ (S,X,Y,Cj) = \frac{mean(S, X, Cj) - mean(S, Y, Cj)}{\sqrt{\frac{var(S, X, Cj)}{|X|} + \frac{var(S, Y, Cj)}{|Y|}}}$$

- **where mean(S,#,Cj) and var(S,#,Cj) are respectively the mean and variance of the list of scores { score(S,pk,Cj) | pk is a tissue in # }.**

- Given classes C1 and C2, the set of FSNet-significant complexes is the union of {S | f_{FSNET}(S, C1, C2, C1) is significant} and {S | f_{FSNET}(S, C2, C1, C2) is significant}

PFSNet

1/ Identify DE complexes, rather than DE proteins

2/ Only highest-abundance proteins get to vote

3/ Give other high-abundance proteins partial vote

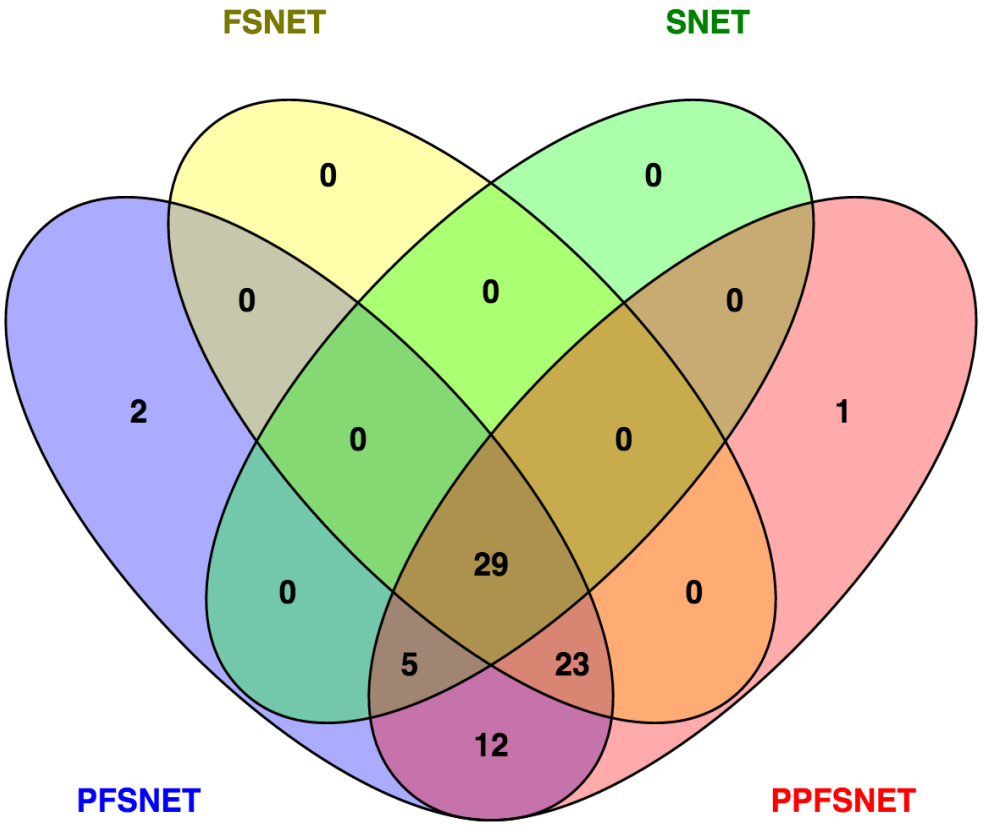
4/ Let the votes be weighted by their abundance in both phenotypes

- **Let delta(S,pk,X,Y) = score(S,pk,X) – score(S,pk,Y), where score(S,pk,#) is as in FSNet**
- **If complex S is irrelevant, E(delta(S, pk, X,Y)) = ~0. So define a one-sample t-statistic:**

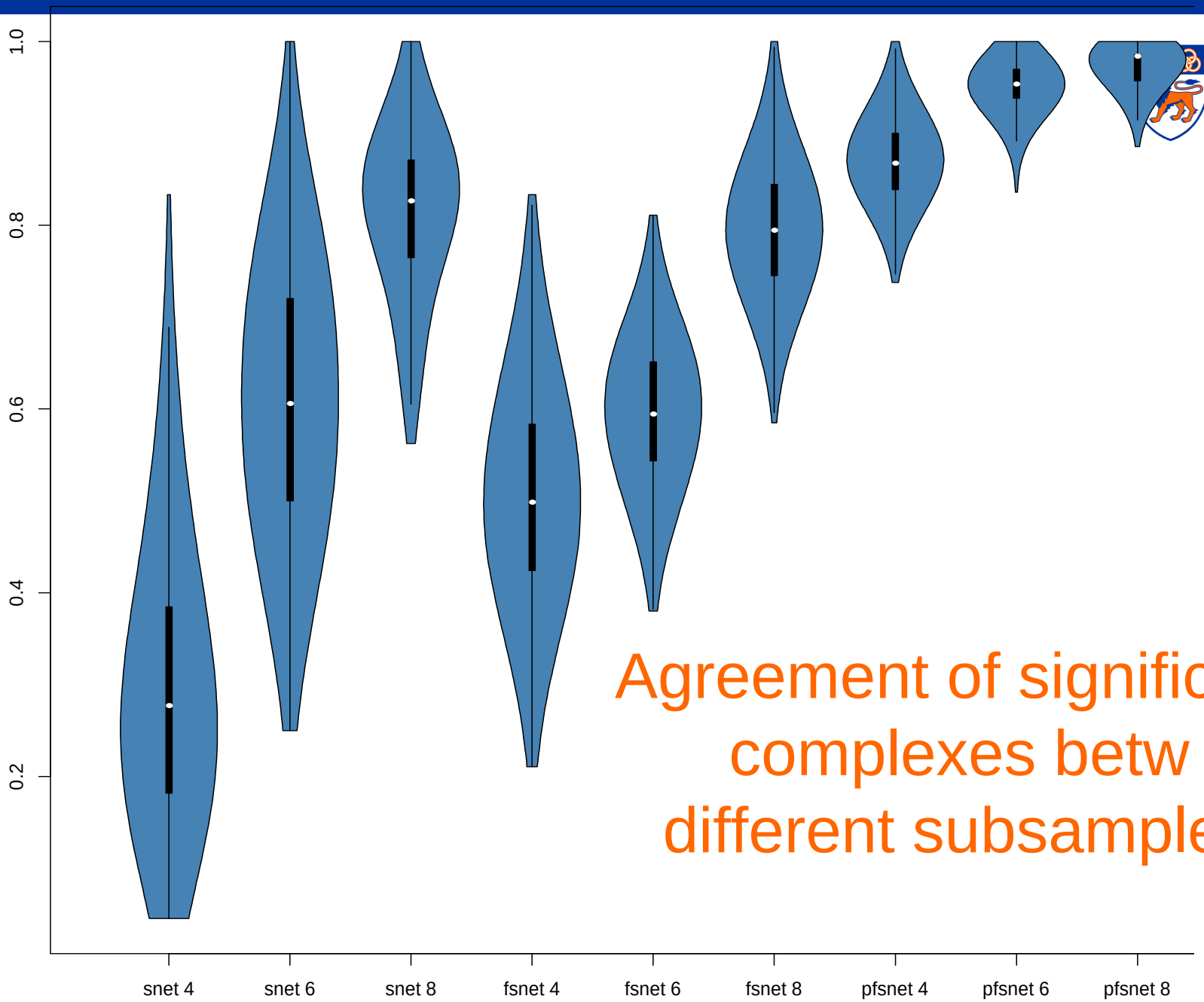
$$f_{PFSNET(S,X,Y,Z)} = \frac{mean(S,X,Y,Z)}{se(S,X,Y,Z)}$$

- **where mean(S, X, Y, Z) and se(S, X, Y, Z) are respectively mean and s.e. of the list { delta(S, pk, X, Y) | pk is a tissue in Z}**
- **Given two classes C1 and C2, the set of PFSNet-significant complexes is union of {S | f_{PFSNet}(S, C1, C2, Z) is significant} and {S | f_{PFSNet}(S,C2,C1, Z) is significant}, where Z = C1 ∪ C2**

Agreement betw SNet, FSNet, PFSNet, PPFSNet



The SWATH dataset from (Guo et al. 2015) was used in this and later slides. It contains 24 SWATH runs from 6 pairs of non-tumorous and tumorous clear-cell renal carcinoma tissues, which have been swathed in duplicates (12 normal, 12 cancer).



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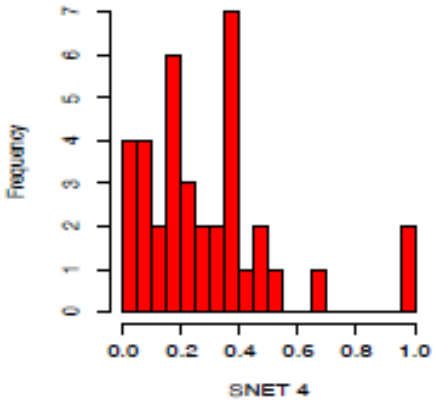
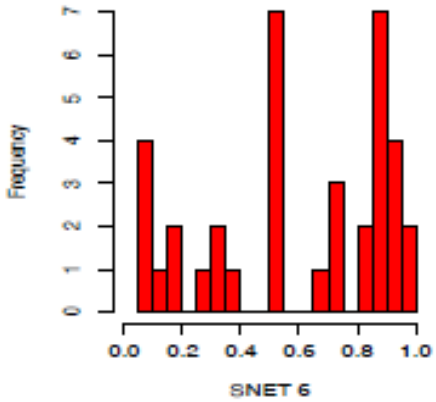
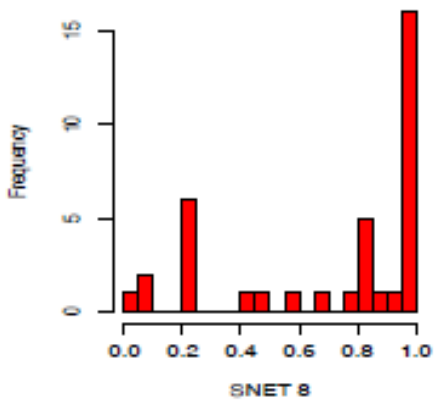
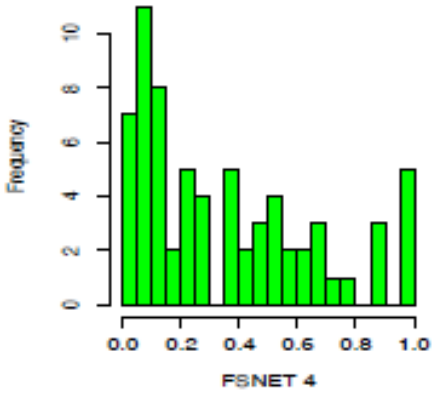
Agreement of significant complexes betw different subsamples

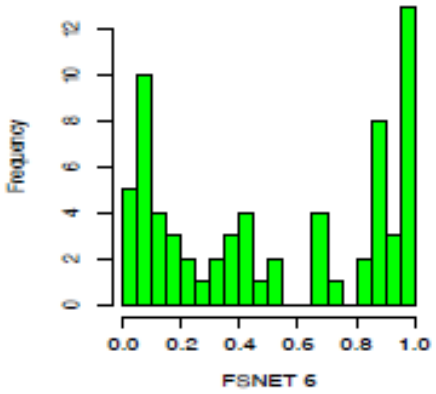
Stability of significant complexes

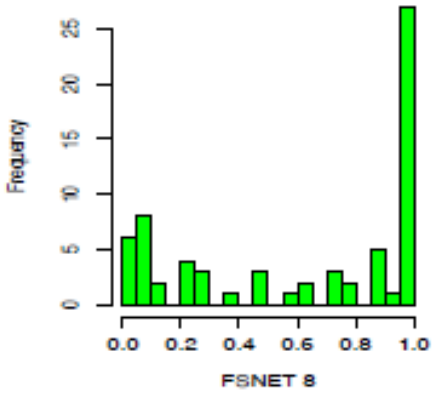


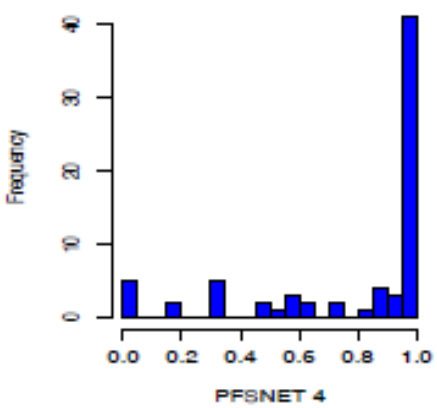


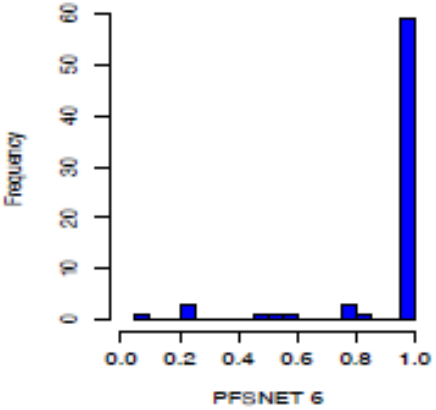


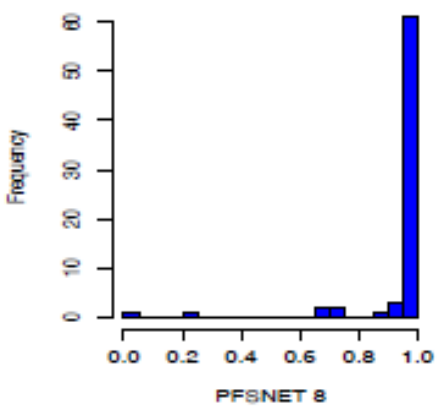


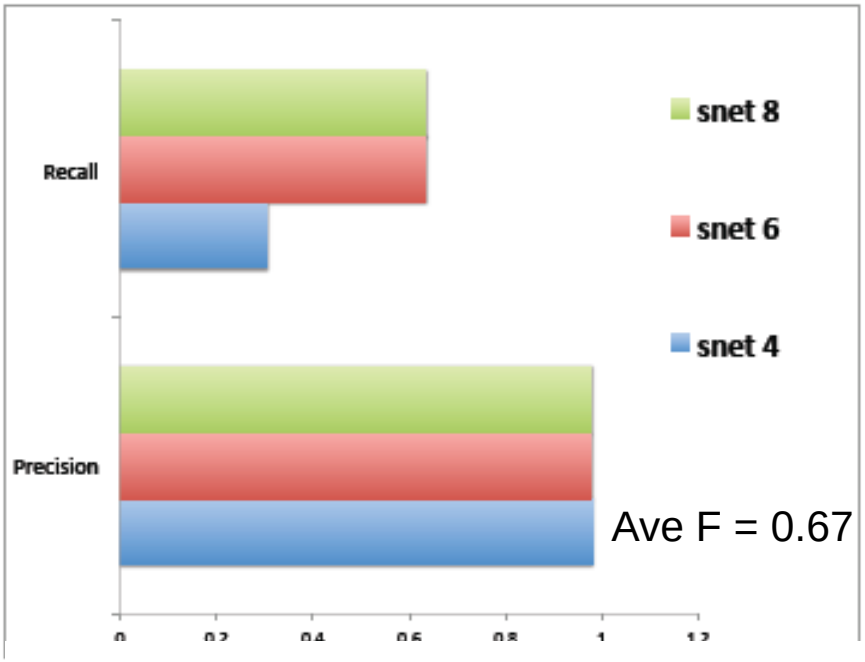


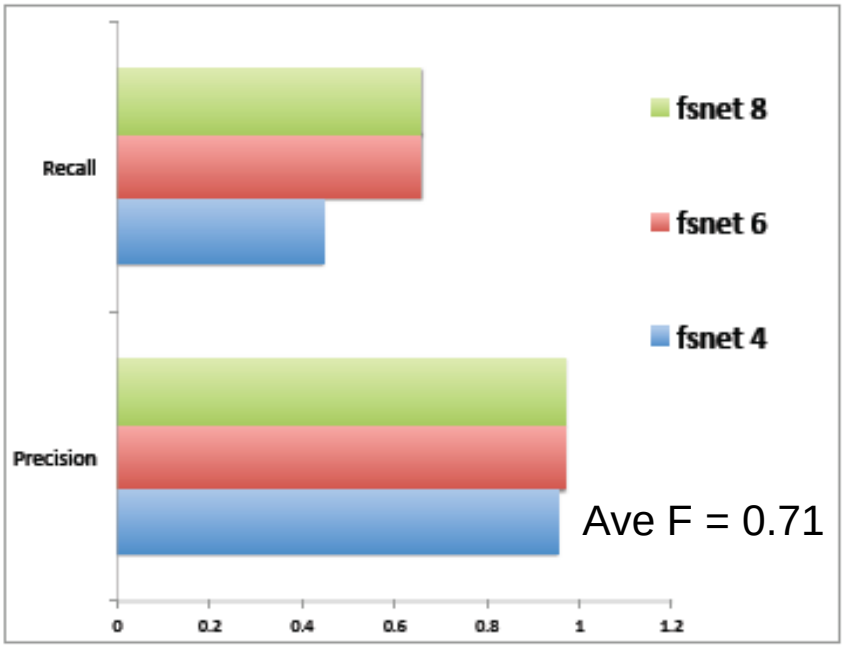


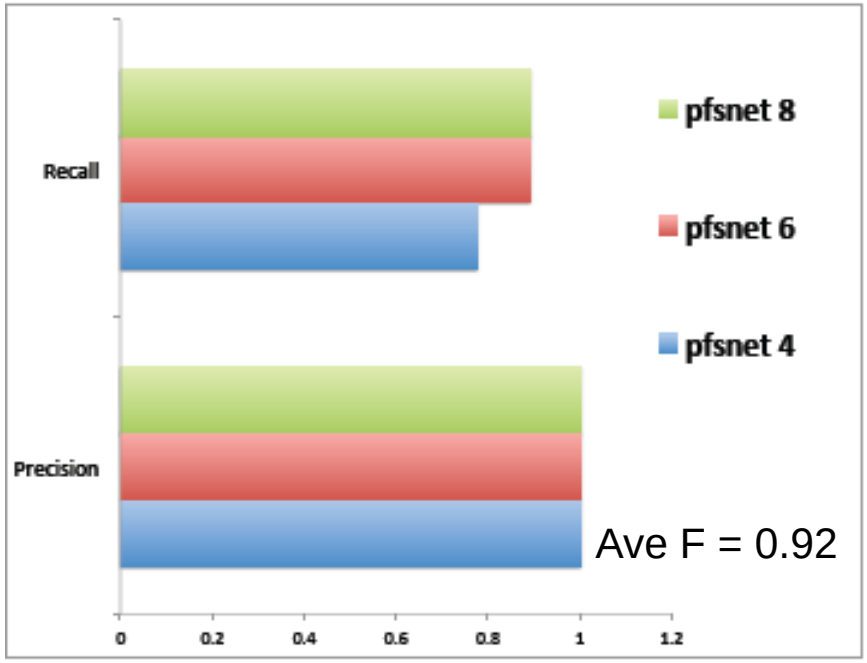












Precision & recall wrt complexes identified using the whole dataset

Cross-validation performance

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	SNET			FSNet			PFSNet		
Group	No. significant features (0.05)	self_validation	cross_validation	No. significant features (0.05)	self_validation	cross_validation	No. significant features (0.05)	self_validation	cross_validation
1.00	21.00	0.92	1.00	36.00	1.00	0.75	66.00	1.00	0.83
2.00	23.00	1.00	0.92	40.00	1.00	0.92	68.00	1.00	0.83
3.00	20.00	0.83	0.83	35.00	1.00	0.67	62.00	1.00	0.67
4.00	17.00	1.00	0.50	37.00	1.00	1.00	65.00	1.00	1.00
5.00	26.00	0.92	0.83	39.00	1.00	1.00	63.00	1.00	0.92
6.00	18.00	1.00	0.75	37.00	1.00	0.83	66.00	1.00	0.92
7.00	15.00	1.00	1.00	34.00	1.00	1.00	62.00	1.00	1.00
8.00	19.00	1.00	0.75	30.00	1.00	1.00	64.00	1.00	1.00
9.00	18.00	1.00	1.00	30.00	1.00	1.00	58.00	1.00	0.92
10.00	23.00	0.92	1.00	37.00	1.00	1.00	65.00	1.00	1.00
mean	20.00	0.96	0.86	35.50	1.00	0.92	63.90	1.00	0.91
s.d.	3.30	0.06	0.16	3.37	0.00	0.12	2.81	0.00	0.11
COV	0.16	0.06	0.19	0.10	0.00	0.14	0.04	0.00	0.12

- **Naïve Bayes training using score(S,pk,#), delta(S,pk,X,Y) and paired(S,pk,X,Y) for SNet/FSNet, PFSNet**
- **Good performance despite small # of features used**

Closing remarks

- **SNet/FSNet/PFSNet are based on ranks, not actual abundance level**
- **They also do not rely on comparing abundance level of the same proteins in different tissues**

⇒ **Potentially more robust in future data batches**

⇒ **Extend utility of proteomic analysis, and increase the likelihood of identifying stable, consistent and generalizable biomarkers**

Acknowledgements

- **My students**
  - Donny Soh
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- Donny Soh, Difeng Dong, Yike Guo, Limsoon Wong. **Finding Consistent Disease Subnetworks Across Microarray Datasets**. *BMC Genomics*, 12(Suppl. 13):S15, November 2011
- Kevin Lim, Limsoon Wong. **Finding consistent disease subnetworks using PFSNet**. *Bioinformatics*, 30(2):189--196, January 2014
- Kevin Lim, Zhenhua Li, Kwok Pui Choi, Limsoon Wong. **A quantum leap in the reproducibility, precision, and sensitivity of gene expression profile analysis even when sample size is extremely small**. *JBCB*, in press.