Benchmarking algorithms for gene regulatory network inference from single-cell transcriptomic data

Presented by: Aji John & Johannes Linder, Yuliang Wang

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

nature methods

ANALYSIS

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41592-019-0690-6

Benchmarking algorithms for gene regulatory network inference from single-cell transcriptomic data

Aditya Pratapa[1], Amogh P. Jalihal[2], Jeffrey N. Law[2], Aditya Bharadwaj[1] and T. M. Murali[1*]

Overview

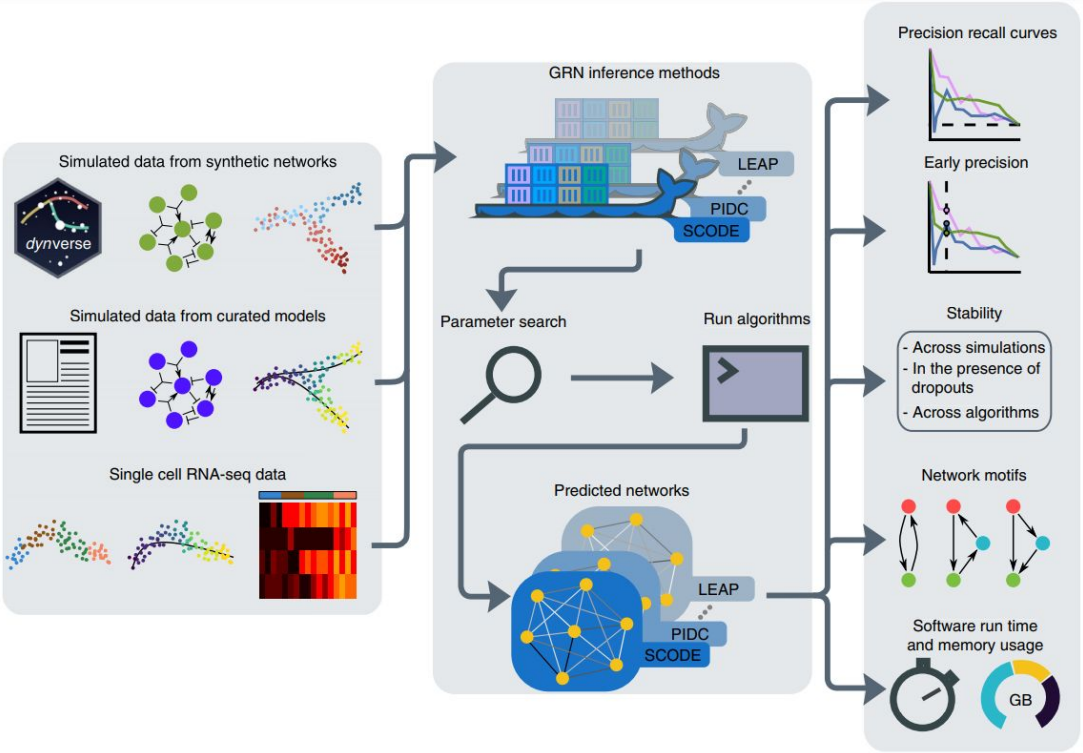


Fig. 1 | An overview of the BEELINE evaluation framework. We apply GRN inference algorithms to three types of data: datasets from synthetic networks,

Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

What is a Gene Regulatory Network?

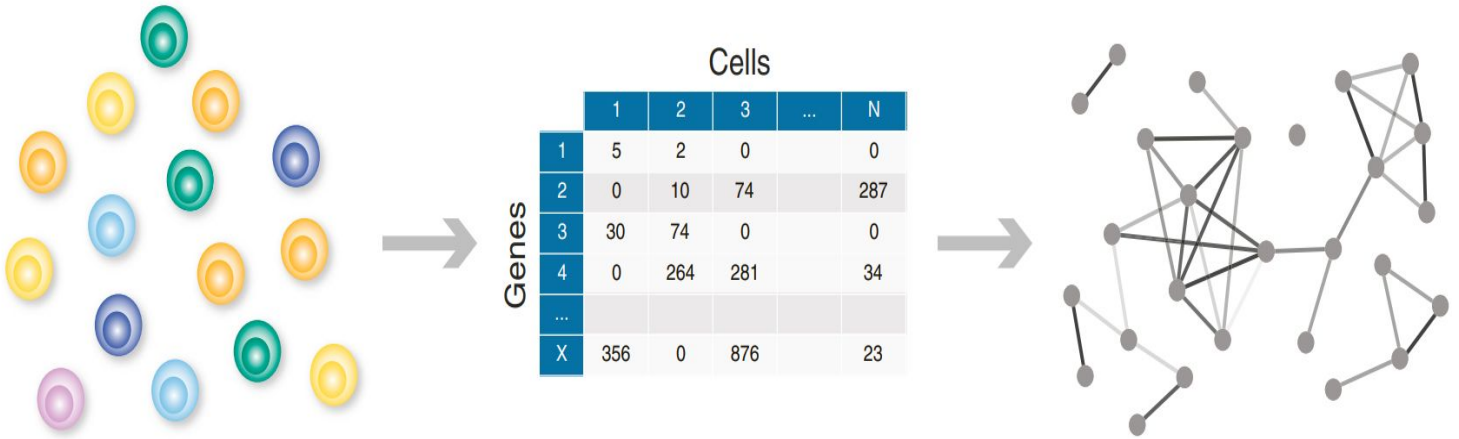


Figure 1. Network Inference from Single-Cell Data

*** Chan, T. E., Stumpf, M. P. H. & Babtie, A. C. Gene regulatory network inference from single-cell data using multivariate information measures. Cell Syst. 5, 251–267 (2017).**

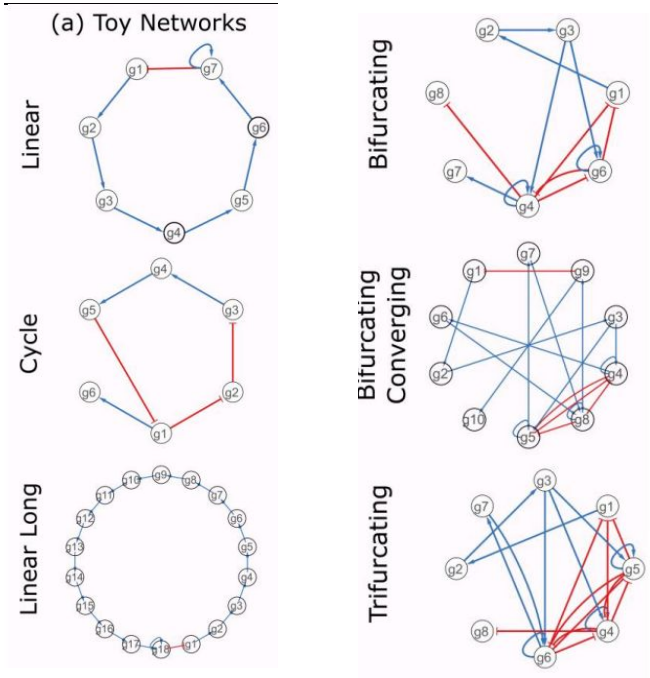
Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

Synthetic GRN datasets

Simple in-silico single-cell gene expression datasets

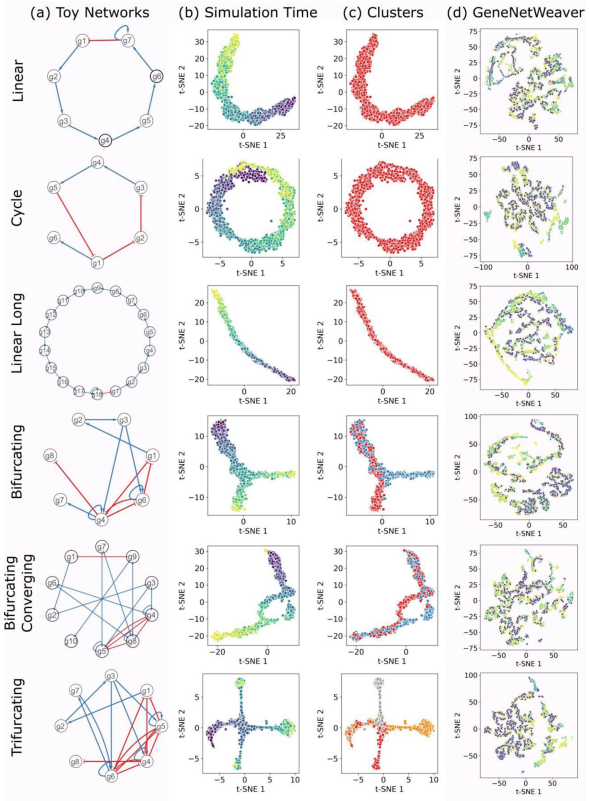
- **Not affected by pseudotime inference alg.**
- **Simple trajectories for these networks (linear, cycle ..)**
- **Used BoolODE to simulate the networks (coming up in the next set of slides)**



Synthetic GRN datasets

End product

- **Used BoolODE by sampling parameters 10 times (5000 simulations per parameter set)**
- **5 datasets per parameter set, one each with 100, 200, 500, 2000 and 5000 cells by sampling one cell per simulation. Finally got 50 different expression sets**
- **On the right is 2-D projection**



Curated, simulated GRN datasets

Boolean models

- **Viz. Mammalian cortical area development (mCAD), ventral spinal cord (VSC) development, hematopoietic stem cell (HSC) differentiation and gonadal sex determination (GSD)**
- **Used BoolODE to simulate it - 10 different sets with 2000 cells for each model**
- **Pseudotime using Slingshot**

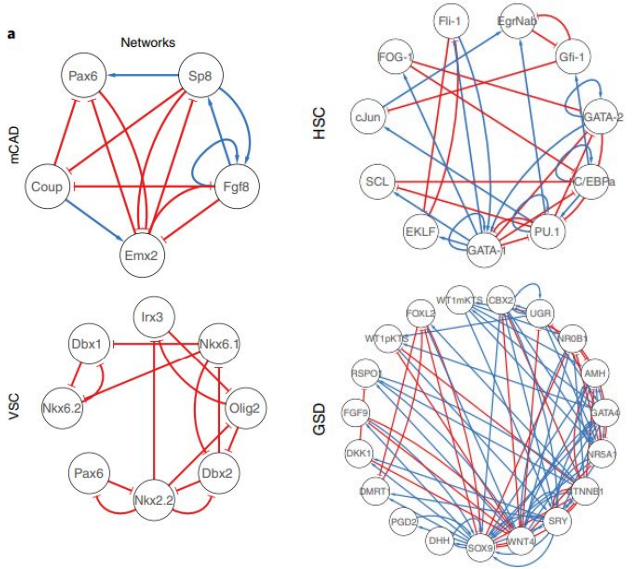


Fig. 3 | Visualization of *t*-SNE projections

Human & Mouse sc-Seq datasets

Single-cell RNA-seq datasets

- 2 in human and 3 in mouse cells (Total 7 cell types)

Dataset	Reference	Species	Starting cell type	Ending cell type(s)	#Cells	#Genes	# TFs
mHSC-E	Nestorowa *et al.*[1]	Mouse	HSCs	Erythroid	1,071	2,634	204
mHSC-L				Lymphoid	847	692	60
mHSC-GM				Granulocyte-Macrophage	889	1,595	132
mESC	Hayashi *et al.* [2]	Mouse	mESCs	Primitive endoderm	421	8,150	620
mDC	Shalek *et al.* [3]	Mouse	DCs	-	383	3,755	321
hHep	Camp *et al.* [4]	Human	iPSCs	Mature hepatocytes	425	4,336	311
hESC	Chu *et al.* [5]	Human	hESCs	Definitive endoderm	758	4,406	330

Human & Mouse sc-Seq datasets

Single-cell RNA-seq datasets - Ground truth

- 2 in human and 3 in mouse cells (Total 7 cell types)

	Source	#TFs	#Genes (incl. TFs)	#Edges	Density	Gene expression dataset
Mouse	mHSC, E, L, G-M ChIP-Atlas	137	19,324	1,078,888	0.407	mHSC, Nestorowa *et al.*[1]
	mESC, ESCAPE+ ChIP-Atlas	247	25,703	6,348,394	0.154	mESC, Hayashi *et al.*[2]
	mESC, LOGOF, ESCAPE	57	18,427	104,797	0.1	mESC, Hayashi *et al.* [2]
	DC, ChIP-Atlas	36	11,092	30,658	0.077	mDC, Shalek *et al.* [3]
	TRRUST + RegNetwork	1,455	17,852	100,139	0.004	All mouse datasets
	STRING	1,350	7,771	157,134	0.015	
Human	HEPG2, ChEA + ChIP-Atlas	84	16,822	342,862	0.243	Camp *et al.* [4]
	hESC, ChEA + ChIP-Atlas	130	18,104	436,563	0.186	Chu *et al.* [5]
	TRRUST + RegNetwork + DoRothEA	2,165	23,566	386,293	0.008	All human datasets
	STRING	1,489	8,806	198,285	0.015	

Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

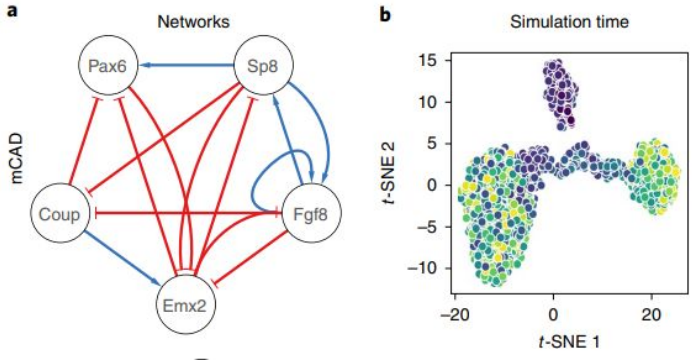
Single-cell generation (BoolODE)

To sample a dataset of N cells:

1. **Initialize gene and protein concentrations $[x_i]$, $[p_i]$ at time 0 for every gene i.**
2. **Simulate the system ODE.**
3. **Sample state at an end time t.**

$$\frac{d[x_i]}{dt} = mf(R_i) - l_x[x_i]$$

$$\frac{d[p_i]}{dt} = r[x_i] - l_p[p_i]$$



Single-cell generation (BoolODE)

To sample a dataset of N cells:

1. **Initialize gene and protein concentrations $[x_i]$, $[p_i]$ at time 0 for every gene i.**
2. **Simulate the stochastic system ODE.**
3. **Sample state at an end time t.**

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}[x_i]}{\mathrm{dt}} = mf(R_i) - l_x[x_i]$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}[p_i]}{\mathrm{dt}} = r[x_i] - l_p[p_i]$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}[x_i]}{\mathrm{dt}} = mf(R_i) - l_x[x_i] + s\sqrt{[x_i]}\Delta W_t$$

$$\frac{d[p_i]}{dt} = r[x_i] - l_p[p_i] + s\sqrt{[p_i]}\Delta W_t$$

$$\Delta W_t = \mathcal{N}(0, h)$$

Single-cell generation (BoolODE)

- The regulatory function f(R_i) is constructed from the (known) GRN (regulator set R_i).

E.g. Gene X is governed by activator proteins P (or) Q, and inhibited by R.

$$X = (P \vee Q) \wedge \neg(R)$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}[x_i]}{\mathrm{dt}} = m f(R_i) - l_x[x_i]$$

Single-cell generation (BoolODE)

- The regulatory function f(R_i) is constructed from the (known) GRN (regulator set R_i).

=> f is a Hill function with P and Q in numerator and P, Q and R in denominator.

$$X = (P \vee Q) \wedge \neg(R)$$

$$\frac{d[X]}{dt} = m\left(\frac{[P]+[Q]+[P][Q]}{1+[P]+[Q]+[R]+[P][Q]+[P][R]+[Q][R]+[P][Q][R]}\right) - l_x[X]$$

Parameters globally shared across genes.

Set to achieve target steady states.

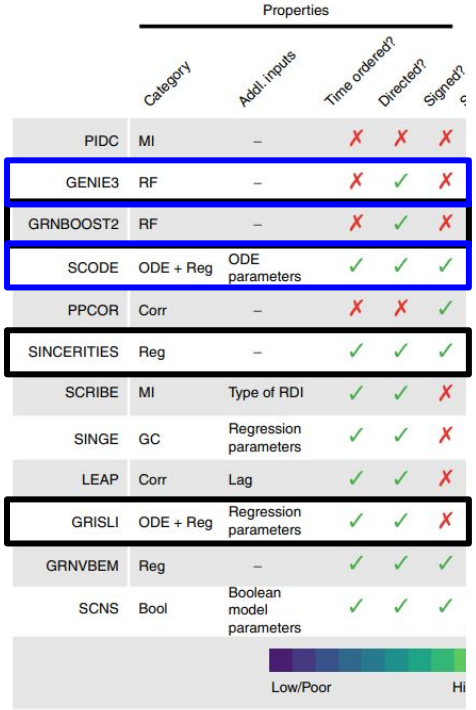
Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

Prediction-based Algorithms

Algorithms based on predicting or modeling gene expression based on other gene profiles.

- **GENIE3 (Random Forest)**
- **GRNBOOST2 (Random Forest)**
- **SCODE (ODE + Regression)**
- **SINCERITIES (Sparse Regression)**
- **GRISLI (ODE + Regression)**



	Properties				
	Category	Addl. inputs	Time ordered?	Directed?	Signed?
PIDC	MI	–	✗	✗	✗
GENIE3	RF	–	✗	✓	✗
GRNBOOST2	RF	–	✗	✓	✗
SCODE	ODE + Reg	ODE parameters	✓	✓	✓
PPCOR	Corr	–	✗	✗	✓
SINCERITIES	Reg	–	✓	✓	✓
SCRIBE	MI	Type of RDI	✓	✓	✗
SINGE	GC	Regression parameters	✓	✓	✗
LEAP	Corr	Lag	✓	✓	✗
GRISLI	ODE + Reg	Regression parameters	✓	✓	✗
GRNVBEM	Reg	–	✓	✓	✓
SCNS	Bool	Boolean model parameters	✓	✓	✓

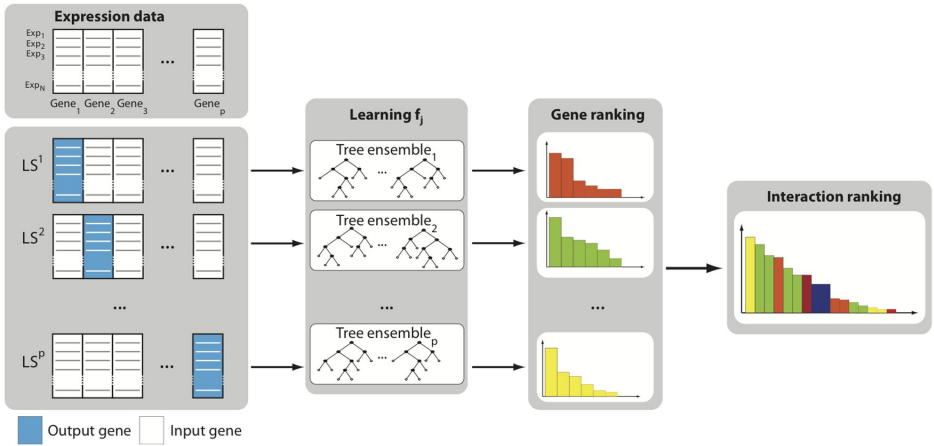
Fig. 6 | Summary of properties of GRN inference algorithms a

GENIE3 (Random Forest)

Idea (for Genes *j* = 1 to *p*)

- Generate the learning sample of input-output pairs for gene j:

$$LS^j = \{(\mathbf{x}_k^{-j}, x_k^j), k = 1, \ldots, N\}.$$



Huynh-Thu VA, Irrthum A, Wehenkel L, Geurts P (2010) Inferring Regulatory Networks from Expression Data Using Tree-Based Methods. PLoS ONE 5(9): e12776.

GENIE3 (for "GEne Network Inference with Ensemble of trees")

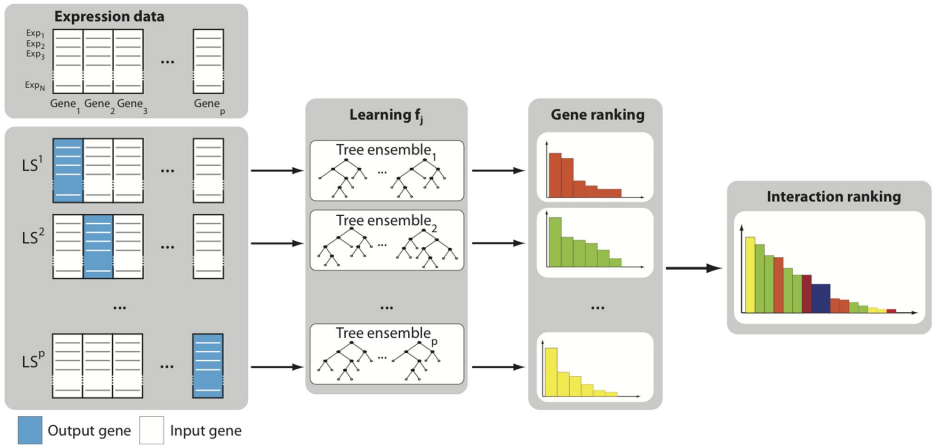
GENIE3 (Random Forest)

Idea (for Genes j = 1 to p)

- Generate the learning sample of input-output pairs for gene j:

$$LS^j = \{(\mathbf{x}_k^{-j}, x_k^j), k = 1, \ldots, N\}.$$

- Use feature selection technique on LS^j to get confidence intervals $w_{i,j}$



Huynh-Thu VA, Irrthum A, Wehenkel L, Geurts P (2010) Inferring Regulatory Networks from Expression Data Using Tree-Based Methods. PLoS ONE 5(9): e12776.

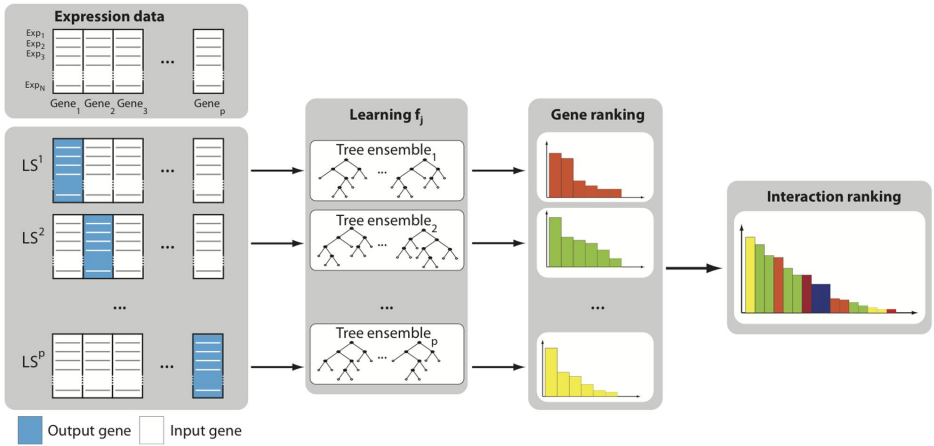
GENIE3 (Random Forest)

Idea (for Genes j = 1 to p)

- Generate the learning sample of input-output pairs for gene j:

$$LS^j = \{(\mathbf{x}_k^{-j}, x_k^j), k = 1, \ldots, N\}.$$

- Use feature selection technique on LS^j to get confidence intervals $w_{i,j}$
- Aggregate the p individual gene rankings to get global rankings



Huynh-Thu VA, Irrthum A, Wehenkel L, Geurts P (2010) Inferring Regulatory Networks from Expression Data Using Tree-Based Methods. PLoS ONE 5(9): e12776.

ODE+ Regression

TF expression dynamics throughout differentiation with linear ordinary differentiation equations (ODEs) :

$\boldsymbol{dx} = \mathbf{A}x\,dt$

where x is a vector of length G (G is the number of TFs) that denotes the expression of TFs and **A** corresponds to a square matrix with dimensions equal to G that denotes the regulatory network among TFs.

- **Infer TF regulatory network by optimizing A such that the ODE can successfully describe the observed expression data at a time point.**
- **Pseudotime data also required as input.**

Matsumoto H, Kiryu H, Furusawa C, Ko MSH, Ko SBH, Gouda N, Hayashi T, Nikaido I. SCODE: an efficient regulatory network inference algorithm from single-cell RNA-Seq during differentiation. Bioinformatics. 2017

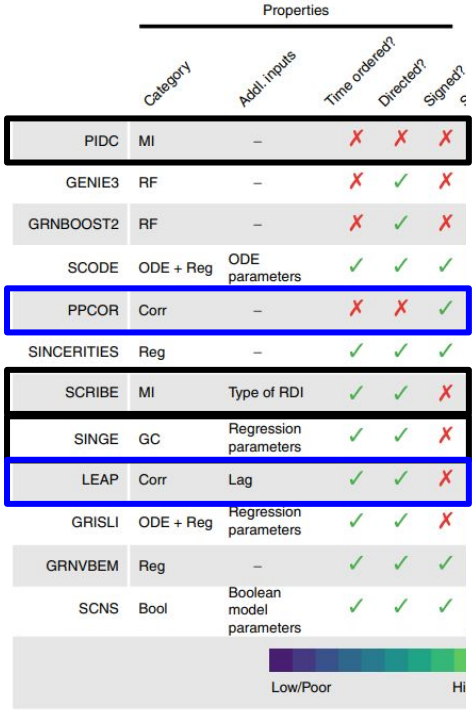
Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

Correlation / Info. Theory Algorithms

Algorithms based on measuring amount of information one gene provides of another gene.

- **PIDC (Mutual Information)**
- **PPCOR (Correlation)**
- **SCRIBE (Mutual Information)**
- **SINGE (Granger Causality)**
- **LEAP (Correlation)**



	Properties				
	Category	Addl. inputs	Time ordered?	Directed?	Signed?
PIDC	MI	–	✗	✗	✗
GENIE3	RF	–	✗	✓	✗
GRNBOOST2	RF	–	✗	✓	✗
SCODE	ODE + Reg	ODE parameters	✓	✓	✓
PPCOR	Corr	–	✗	✗	✓
SINCERITIES	Reg	–	✓	✓	✓
SCRIBE	MI	Type of RDI	✓	✓	✗
SINGE	GC	Regression parameters	✓	✓	✗
LEAP	Corr	Lag	✓	✓	✗
GRISLI	ODE + Reg	Regression parameters	✓	✓	✗
GRNVBEM	Reg	–	✓	✓	✓
SCNS	Bool	Boolean model parameters	✓	✓	✓

Fig. 6 | Summary of properties of GRN inference algorithms a

PPCOR (Correlation)

Partial Correlation

- Degree of association between two random variables, with the effect of a set of controlling random variables removed.

$$\rho_{XY\cdot\mathbf{Z}} = \frac{\rho_{XY\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}} - \rho_{XZ_0\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}\rho_{Z_0Y\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}}{\sqrt{1-\rho^2_{XZ_0\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}}\sqrt{1-\rho^2_{Z_0Y\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}}}$$

*** Kim, S. ppcor: An R package for a fast calculation to semi-partial correlation coefficients. Commun. Stat. Appl. Methods 22, 665–674 (2015).**

PPCOR (Correlation)

Partial Correlation

- Degree of association between two random variables, with the effect of a set of controlling random variables removed.

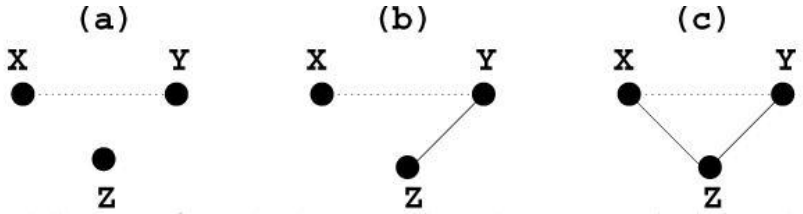
$$\rho_{XY\cdot\mathbf{Z}} = \frac{\rho_{XY\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}} - \rho_{XZ_0\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}\rho_{Z_0Y\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}}{\sqrt{1-\rho^2_{XZ_0\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}}\sqrt{1-\rho^2_{Z_0Y\cdot\mathbf{Z}\setminus\{Z_0\}}}}$$

Example: Variables X, Y, Z

(a) $p_{XY*Z} = p_{XY}$

(b) p_{XY*Z} != p_{XY}

(c) p_{XY*Z} != p_{XY}

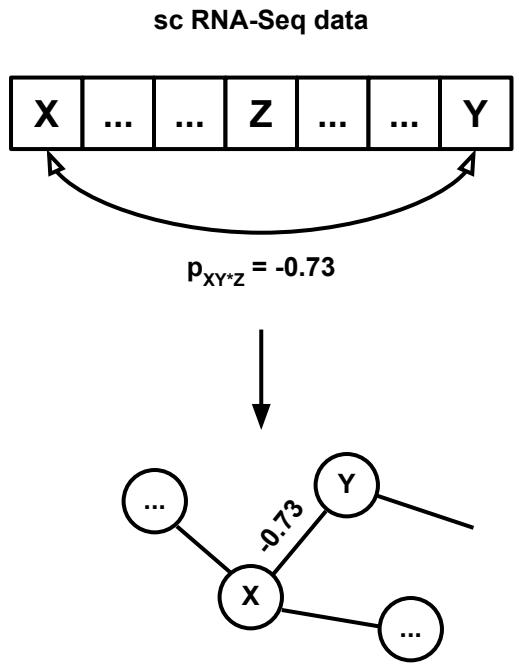


*** Kim, S. ppcor: An R package for a fast calculation to semi-partial correlation coefficients. Commun. Stat. Appl. Methods 22, 665–674 (2015).**

PPCOR (Correlation)

PPCOR Algorithm for GRNs:

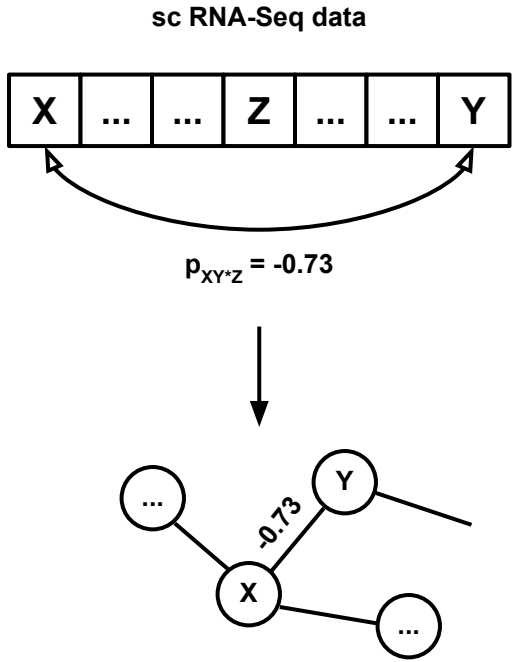
1. Calculate p_{XY*Z} for all pairs of genes X and Y, removing the effects of all other genes Z.
2. Use coefficients p_{XY*Z} as interaction weights in the GRN. Sign = Activation / Inhibition.



PPCOR (Correlation)

PPCOR Algorithm Properties:

- **Does not rely on pseudo-time.**
- **Undirected GRN graph.**
- **Signed GRN graph.**



PIDC (Mutual Information)

Mutual Information

$$H(X) = -\sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log p(x)$$

- Entropy H(X): Degree of uncertainty in X

*** Chan, T. E., Stumpf, M. P. H. & Babtie, A. C. Gene regulatory network inference from single-cell data using multivariate information measures. Cell Syst. 5, 251–267 (2017).**

PIDC (Mutual Information)

Mutual Information

- Entropy H(X): Degree of uncertainty in X

- Mut. Information I(X, Y): Amount of information that X provides about Y

$$H(X) = -\sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log p(x)$$

$$I(X;Y) = \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x,y) \log \left(\frac{p(x,y)}{p(x)p(y)} \right)$$
$$= H(X) + H(Y) - H(X,Y)$$

*** Chan, T. E., Stumpf, M. P. H. & Babtie, A. C. Gene regulatory network inference from single-cell data using multivariate information measures. Cell Syst. 5, 251–267 (2017).**

PIDC (Mutual Information)

Mutual Information

- Entropy H(X): Degree of uncertainty in X

- Mut. Information I(X, Y): Amount of information that X provides about Y

- PID (Partial Inf. Decomp.) I(Z; X, Y): How much information X, Y provide about Z.

$$H(X) = -\sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log p(x)$$

$$I(X;Y) = \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x,y) \log \left(\frac{p(x,y)}{p(x)p(y)} \right)$$
$$= H(X) + H(Y) - H(X,Y)$$

$$I(X;X,Y) = \text{Synergy}(Z;X,Y) + \text{Unique}_Y(Z;X) + \text{Unique}_X(Z;Y) + \text{Redundancy}(Z;X,Y) ,$$

*** Chan, T. E., Stumpf, M. P. H. & Babtie, A. C. Gene regulatory network inference from single-cell data using multivariate information measures. Cell Syst. 5, 251–267 (2017).**

PIDC (Mutual Information)

Mutual Information

- **Entropy H(X): Degree of uncertainty in X**
- **Mut. Information I(X, Y): Amount of information that X provides about Y**
- **PID (Partial Inf. Decomp.) I(Z; X, Y): How much information X, Y provide about Z.**
- **There is a relationship between I(X, Z) and components of the PID.**

$$H(X) = -\sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log p(x)$$

$$I(X;Y) = \sum_{x \in X} \sum_{y \in Y} p(x,y) \log \left(\frac{p(x,y)}{p(x)p(y)} \right)$$
$$= H(X) + H(Y) - H(X,Y)$$

$$I(X;X,Y) = \text{Synergy}(Z;X,Y) + \text{Unique}_Y(Z;X) + \text{Unique}_X(Z;Y) + \text{Redundancy}(Z;X,Y),$$

$$I(X;Z) = \text{Unique}_Y(Z;X) + \text{Redundancy}(Z;X,Y)$$

*** Chan, T. E., Stumpf, M. P. H. & Babtie, A. C. Gene regulatory network inference from single-cell data using multivariate information measures. Cell Syst. 5, 251–267 (2017).**

PIDC (Mutual Information)

The PUC (Prop. Unique Contribution):

- Computed between two genes X and Y as the sum of the ratio $Unique_Z(X; Y) / I(X; Y)$ for every other gene Z in a network.

- The mean proportion of MI between two genes X and Y that is accounted for by their unique information only (information from other genes has been removed).

$$u_{X,Y} = \sum_{Z \in S \setminus \{X,Y\}} \frac{\text{Unique}_Z(X;Y)}{I(X;Y)} + \sum_{Z \in S \setminus \{X,Y\}} \frac{\text{Unique}_Z(Y;X)}{I(X;Y)}$$

*** Chan, T. E., Stumpf, M. P. H. & Babtie, A. C. Gene regulatory network inference from single-cell data using multivariate information measures. Cell Syst. 5, 251–267 (2017).**

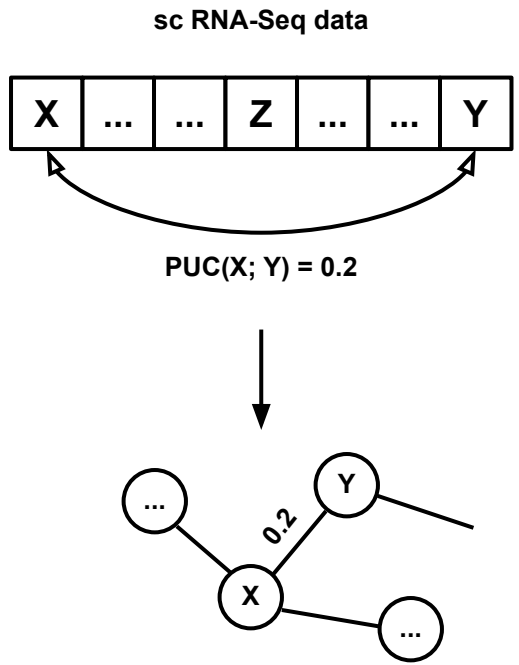
PIDC (Mutual Information)

PIDC Algorithm for GRNs:

1. Calculate PUC(X; Y) for all pairs of genes X and Y, removing the effects of all other genes Z.

2. Calculate per-gene thresholds to keep only the most significant PUC's.

3. Use PUC(X; Y) as the interaction strength between genes X and Y.

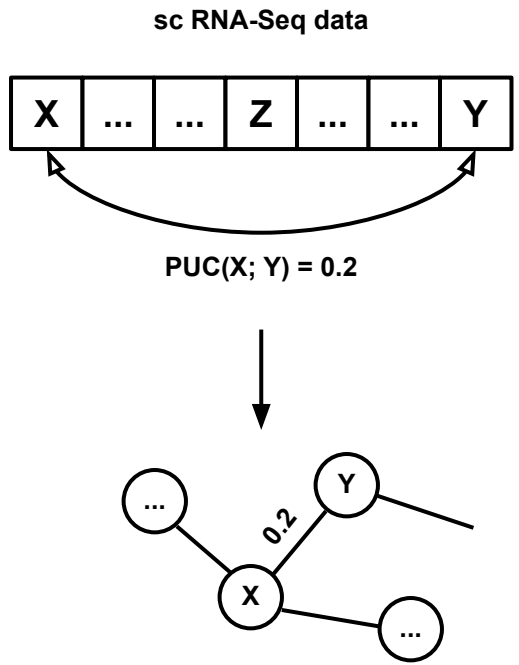


PIDC (Mutual Information)

PIDC Algorithm for GRNs:

- **Does not rely on pseudo-time.**
- **Undirected GRN graph.**
- **Unsigned GRN graph.**

Comment from authors: Fewer false positives (indirect connections) compared to PPCOR



LEAP (Correlation)

Pseudo-time ordering

- Pre-processing step
- In: Gene-cell count matrix
- Out: Gene-cell count matrix
  sorted such that cell i “precedes” j, i < j
- LEAP internally uses Monocle for this

* Specht, A. T. & Li, J. LEAP: constructing gene co-expression networks for single-cell RNA-sequencing data using pseudotime ordering. Bioinformatics 33, 764–766 (2017).

LEAP (Correlation)

Pseudo-time ordering

- Pre-processing step
- In: Gene-cell count matrix
- Out: Gene-cell count matrix
  sorted such that cell i “precedes” j, i < j
- LEAP internally uses Monocle for this

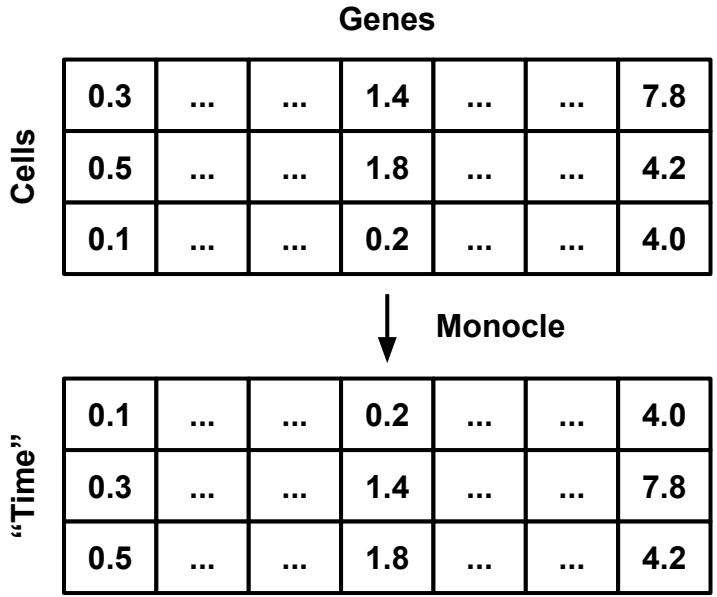
Cells \ Genes						
0.3	...	...	1.4	...	...	7.8
0.5	...	...	1.8	...	...	4.2
0.1	...	...	0.2	...	...	4.0

* Specht, A. T. & Li, J. LEAP: constructing gene co-expression networks for single-cell RNA-sequencing data using pseudotime ordering. Bioinformatics 33, 764–766 (2017).

LEAP (Correlation)

Pseudo-time ordering

- Pre-processing step
- In: Gene-cell count matrix
- Out: Gene-cell count matrix
  sorted such that cell i “precedes” j, i < j
- LEAP internally uses Monocle for this

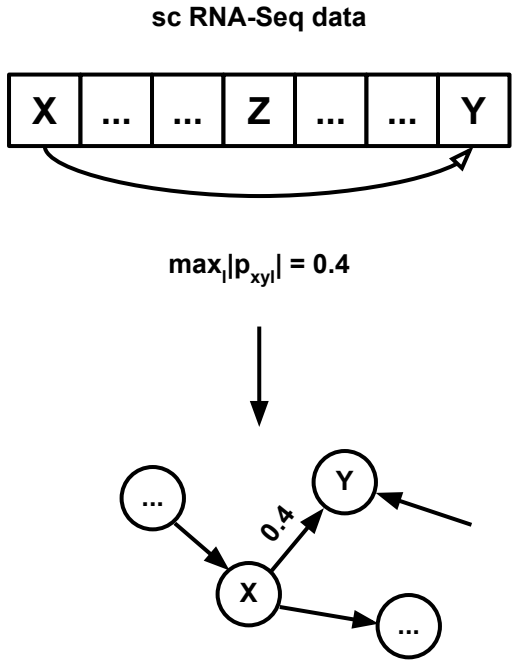


* Specht, A. T. & Li, J. LEAP: constructing gene co-expression networks for single-cell RNA-sequencing data using pseudotime ordering. Bioinformatics 33, 764–766 (2017).

LEAP (Correlation)

Lag-based correlation testing

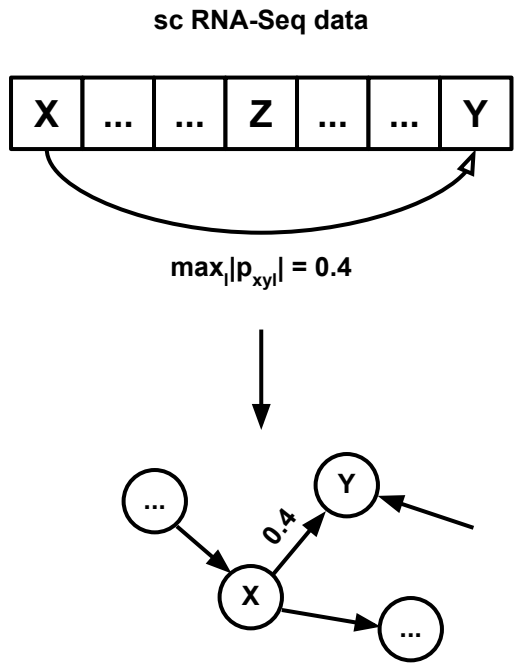
- Tests for correlation between gene i and j, but over windows of pseudo-time delay.
- Time series for gene i: $X_{i,1}, \ldots, X_{i,s}$
- Time series for lagged gene j: $X_{i,l+1}, \ldots, X_{i,l+s}$
- Interaction strength = $\max_l |p_{ijl}|$



LEAP (Correlation)

LEAP Algorithm for GRNs:

- Relies on pseudo-time.
- Directed GRN graph.
- Unsigned GRN graph.



Overview

- What is a Gene Regulatory Network?
- Datasets: 400 Simulated and 5 Real sc-data
  - Synthetic, Curated (synthetic) and Real Single-cell data
  - BoolODE
- Methods: 12 Different Algorithms for GRN Inference
  - Random Forest
  - ODE and Regression
  - Correlation / Mutual Information / Causality
- Benchmarking Results

Benchmarking Results

- Each algorithm tested on each of the six types of synthetic datasets (Linear, Cycle, Long Linear, Bifurc., Bicurfc. Converg., Trifurc.).
- Test the ability to infer edges in the GRN.

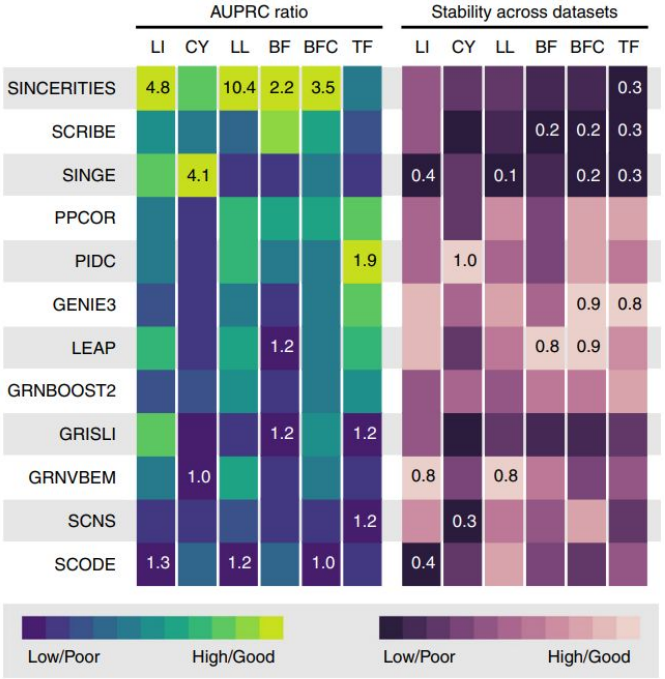


Fig. 2 | Summary of results for datasets from synthetic networks. The first

Benchmarking Results

- Each algorithm tested on each of the six types of synthetic datasets (Linear, Cycle, Long Linear, Bifurc., Bicurfc. Converg., Trifurc.).
- Test the ability to infer edges in the GRN.
- AUPRC Ratio: Divide area under precision-recall curve by that of random predictor.
- Stability: For all datasets of a single type, compare the Top-K-edges (Jaccard Index).

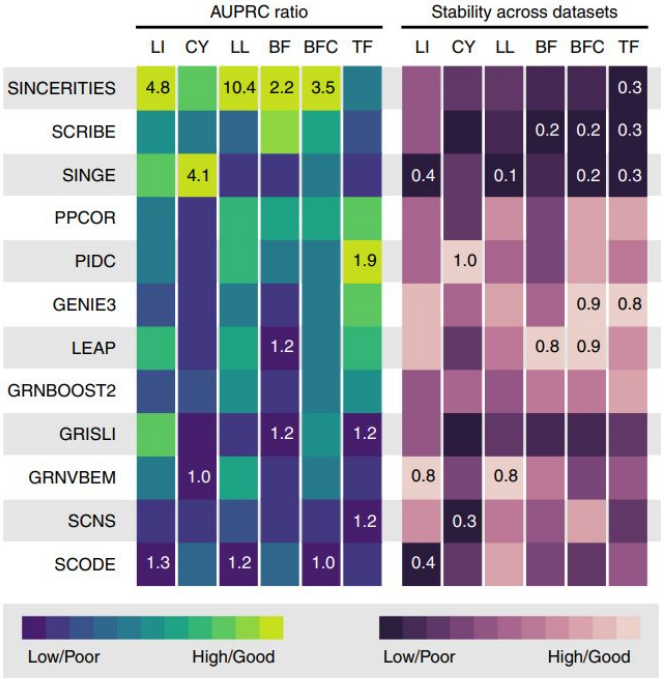


Fig. 2 | Summary of results for datasets from synthetic networks. The first

Benchmarking Results

- Not shown: Varying the number of cells (100 - 5,000) had no significant effect on GENIE3, GRNVBEM, LEAP, SCNS and SCODE.

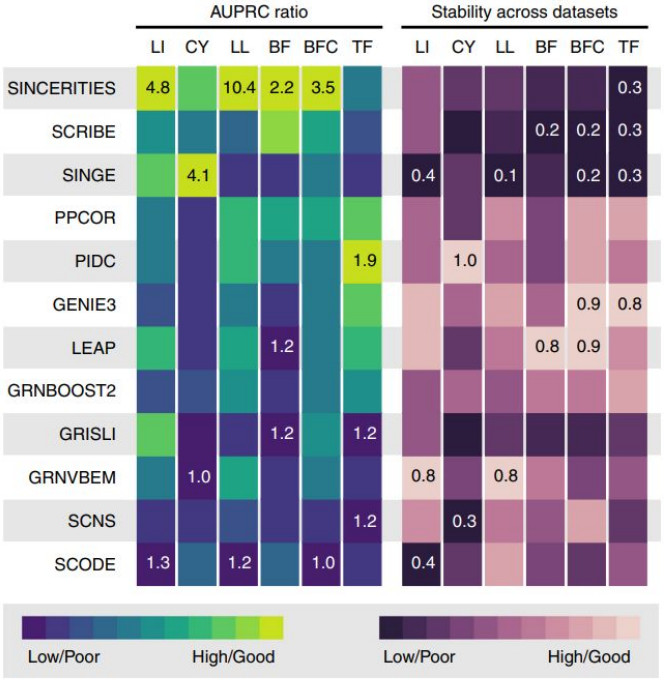


Fig. 2 | Summary of results for datasets from synthetic networks. The first

Benchmarking Results

- Each algorithm tested on each of the four curated GRN datasets.
- Best algorithms on synthetic GRNs: SINCERITIES, SCRIBE and SINGE
  Close to random perf. on curated GRNs.
- Possible causes:
  Denser sub-networks.

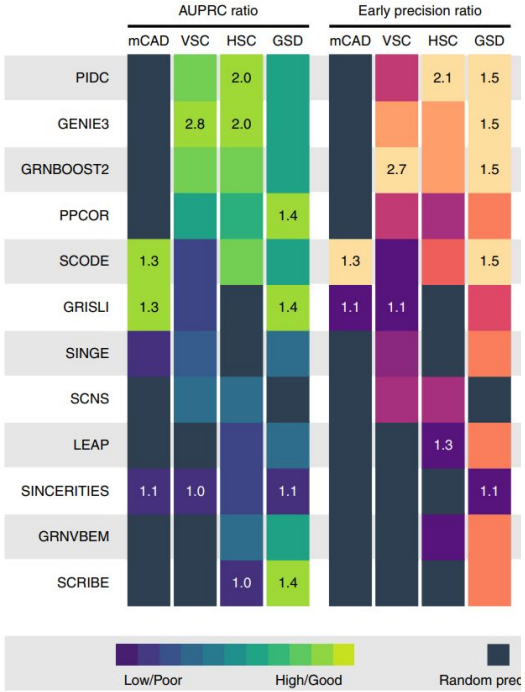


Fig. 4 | Summary of results for ten datasets without dropouts from curated models. Rc

Benchmarking Results

- Not shown: Most methods had significant drops in AUPRC ratio with either 50% or 70% dropout.
- The four methods not affected by dropout: GRNVBEM, LEAP, SCRIBE and SINCERITIES Had worse than random AUPRC on on the mCAD and VSC datasets.

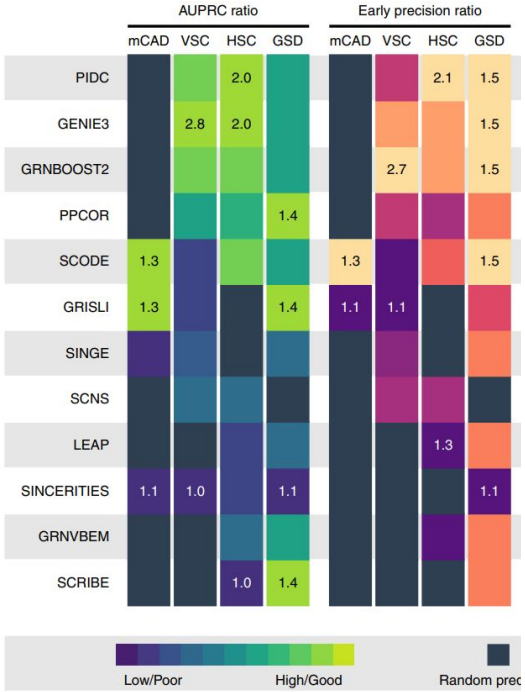


Fig. 4 | Summary of results for ten datasets without dropouts from curated models. Rc

Benchmarking Results

- Pseudo-time ordered algorithms are much worse on real sc RNA-Seq data

  E.g.

  SCODE, SINCERITIES

- Possible causes:

  Noise pseudo-time.

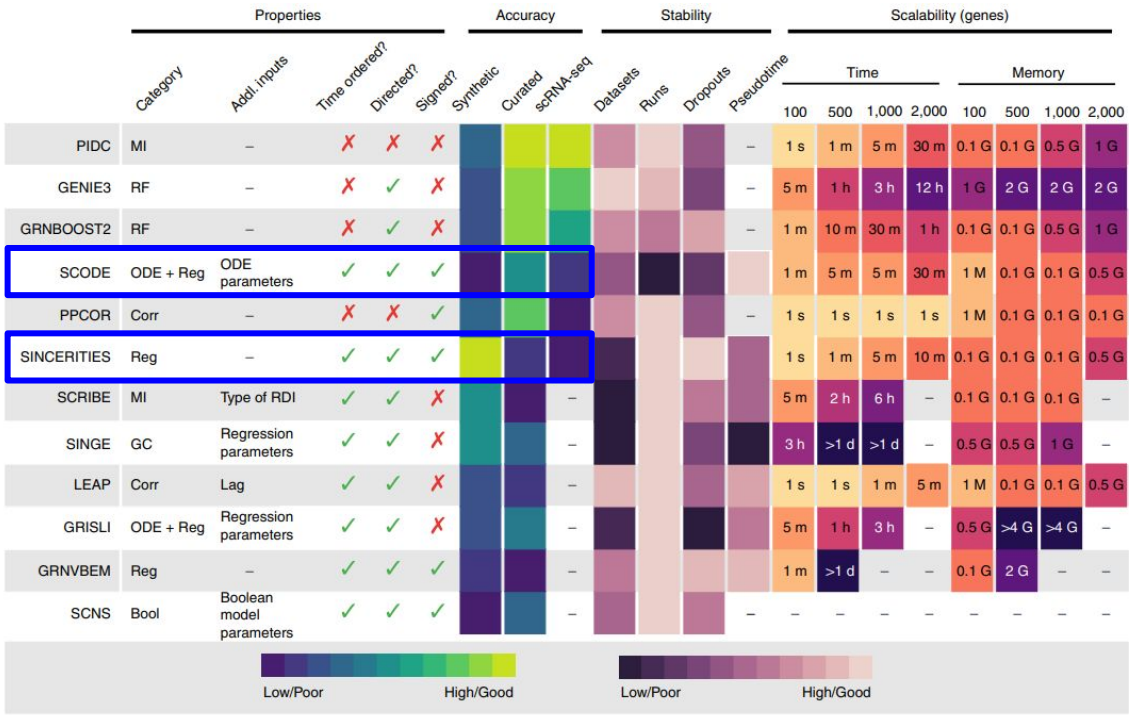


Fig. 6 | Summary of properties of GRN inference algorithms and results obtained from BEELINE. Each row corresponds to one of the algorithms included

Benchmarking Results

Recommendation:

- **PIDC, GENIE3 and GRNBoost2.**
- **GENIE3 and PIDC had better stability.**
- **GRNBoost2 faster than GENIE3.**

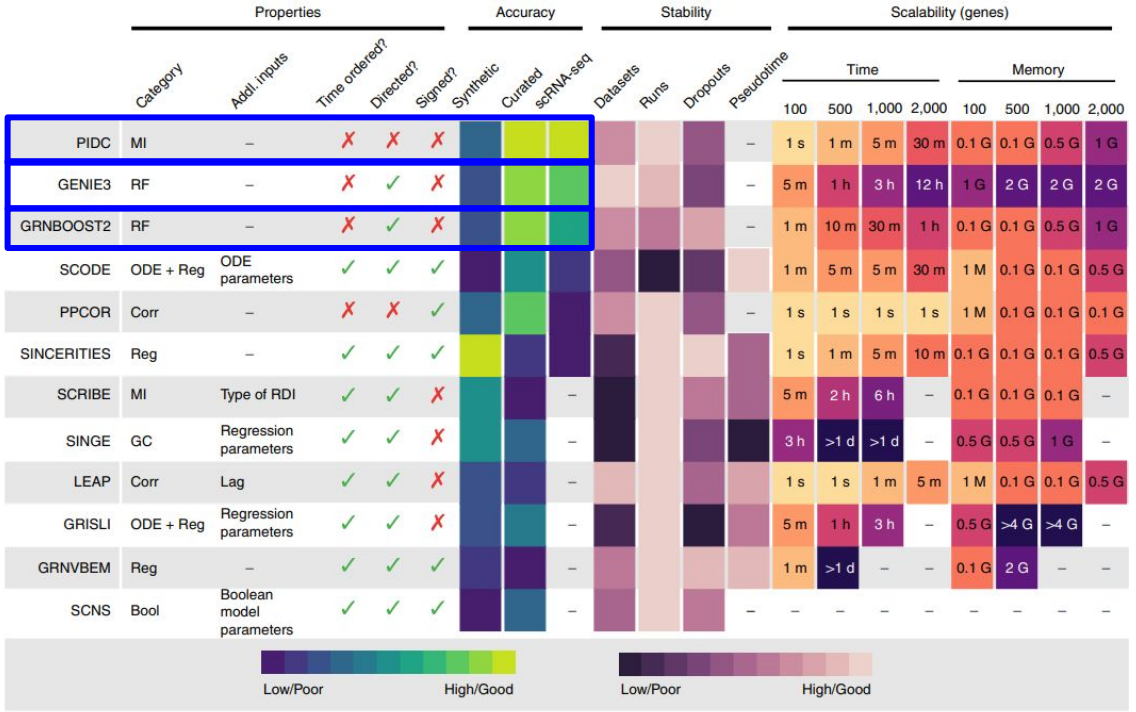


Fig. 6 | Summary of properties of GRN inference algorithms and results obtained from BEELINE. Each row corresponds to one of the algorithms included

Discussion

- Surprisingly, classical algorithms designed for bulk transcriptomics data (GENIE3, PPCOR) outperformed specialized algorithms such as LEAP or SINCERITIES.
- Is Inference (GRN) based on already inferred data (pseudo-time) the culprit?
- What other data could be incorporated to increase performance?
- Do we believe in the BoolODE-simulated single-cell datasets?