Some contributions of machine learning to bioinformatics

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- 1 Including prior knowledge in classification and regression
- Virtual screening and chemogenomics
- Inference on biological networks
- 4 Conclusion

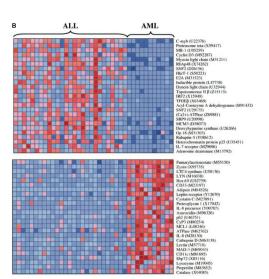
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Motivation



Goal

- Design a classifier to automatically assign a class to future samples from their expression profile
- Interpret biologically the differences between the classes

Difficulty

- Large dimension
- Few samples

Linear classifiers

The model

- Each sample is represented by a vector $x = (x_1, \dots, x_p)$
- Goal: estimate a linear function:

$$f_{\beta}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \beta_i x_i + \beta_0.$$

• Interpretability: the weight β_i quantifies the influence of feature i (but...)

Linear classifiers

Training the model

$$f_{\beta}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \beta_i x_i + \beta_0.$$

• Minimize an empirical risk on the training samples:

$$\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{p+1}} R_{emp}(\beta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} I(f_{\beta}(x_i), y_i),$$

• ... subject to some constraint on β , e.g.:

$$\Omega(\beta) \leq C$$
.

Example: Norm Constraints

The approach

A common method in statistics to learn with few samples in high dimension is to constrain the Euclidean norm of β

$$\Omega_{ridge}(\beta) = \|\beta\|_2^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i^2,$$

(ridge regression, support vector machines...)

Pros

 Good performance in classification

Cons

- Limited interpretation (small weights)
- No prior biological knowledge

Example: Feature Selection

The approach

Constrain most weights to be 0, i.e., select a few genes (< 100) whose expression are sufficient for classification.

- Greedy feature selection (T-tests, ...)
- Contrain the norm of β : LASSO penalty ($\|\beta\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^p |\beta_i|$), elastic net penalty ($\|\beta\|_1 + \|\beta\|_2$), ...)

Pros

- Good performance in classification
- Biomarker selection
- Interpretability

Cons

- The gene selection process is usually not robust
- No use of prior biological knowledge

Incorporating prior knowledge

The idea

• If we have a specific prior knowledge about the "correct" weights, it can be included in Ω in the contraint:

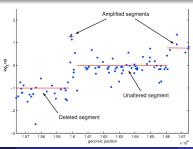
Minimize
$$R_{emp}(\beta)$$
 subject to $\Omega(\beta) \leq C$.

- If we design a convex function Ω , then the algorithm boils down to a convex optimization problem (usually easy to solve).
- Similar to priors in Bayesian statistics

Example: CGH array classification

The problem

- Comparative genomic hybridization (CGH) data measure the DNA copy number along the genome
- Very useful, in particular in cancer research
- Can we classify CGH arrays for diagnosis or prognosis purpose?
- Prior knowledge: we expect β to be sparse, and piecewise constant along the genome

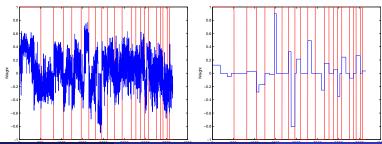


Example: CGH array classification

A solution (Rapaport et al., 2008)

$$\Omega_{\mathit{fusedlasso}}(eta) = \sum_{i} |eta_{i}| + \sum_{i \sim j} |eta_{i} - eta_{j}| \,.$$

- Good performance on diagnosis for bladder cancer, and prognosis for melanoma.
- More interpretable classifiers



Example: finding discriminant modules in gene networks

The problem

- Classification of gene expression: too many genes
- A gene network is given (PPI, metabolic, regulatory, signaling, co-expression...)
- We expect that "clusters of genes" (modules) in the network contribute similarly to the classification

Two solutions (Rapaport et al., 2007, 2008)

$$\Omega_{\text{spectral}}(\beta) = \sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2,$$

$$\Omega_{ extit{graphfusion}}(eta) = \sum_{i \sim j} |eta_i - eta_j| + \sum_i |eta_i| \,.$$

Example: finding discriminant modules in gene networks

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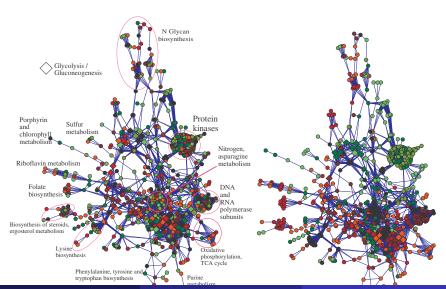
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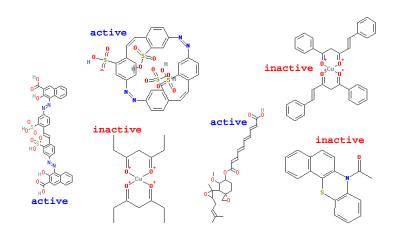
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Example: finding discriminant modules in gene networks



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Ligand-Based Virtual Screening and QSAR



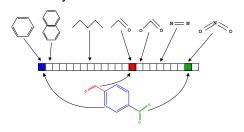
NCI AIDS screen results (from http://cactus.nci.nih.gov).

Classical approaches

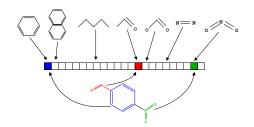
Two steps

- Map each molecule to a vector of fixed dimension using molecular descriptors
 - Global properties of the molecules (mass, logP...)
 - 2D and 3D descriptors (substructures, fragments,)
- Apply an algorithm for regression or pattern recognition.
 - PLS, ANN, ...

Example: 2D structural keys



Which descriptors?



Difficulties

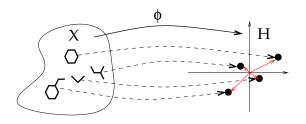
- Many descriptors are needed to characterize various features (in particular for 2D and 3D descriptors)
- But too many descriptors are harmful for memory storage, computation speed, statistical estimation

Kernels

Definition

- Let $\Phi(x) = (\Phi_1(x), \dots, \Phi_p(x))$ be a vector representation of the molecule x
- The kernel between two molecules is defined by:

$$K(x,x') = \Phi(x)^{\top} \Phi(x') = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \Phi_i(x) \Phi_i(x').$$



Example: 2D fragment kernel

• $\phi_d(x)$ is the vector of counts of all fragments of length d:

$$\begin{split} \phi_1(\mathbf{X}) &= \left(\quad \text{\# (C), \# (N), \dots} \right)^\top \\ \phi_2(\mathbf{X}) &= \left(\quad \text{\# (C-C), \# (C-N), \# (C-N), \dots} \right)^\top \quad \text{etc...} \end{split}$$

• The 2D fragment kernel is defined, for $\lambda < 1$, by

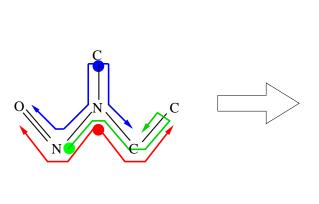
$$K_{fragment}(x, x') = \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} r(\lambda) \phi_d(x)^{\top} \phi_d(x')$$
.

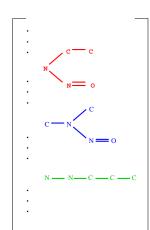
Example: 2D fragment kernel

In practice

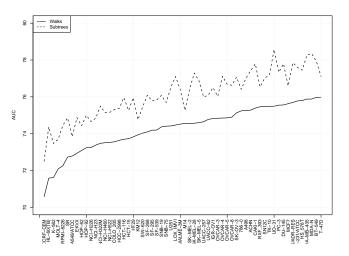
- K_{fragment} can be computed efficiently (geometric kernel, random walk kernel...) although the feature space has infinite dimension.
- Increasing the specificity of atom labels improves performance
- Selecting only "non-tottering" fragments can be done efficiently and improves performance.

Example: 2D subtree kernel





2D Subtree vs fragment kernels (Mahé and V, 2007)



Screening of inhibitors for 60 cancer cell lines (from Mahé and V., 2008)

Example: 3D pharmacophore kernel (Mahé et al., 2005)

$$K(x,y) = \sum_{p_{x} \in \mathcal{P}(x)} \sum_{p_{y} \in \mathcal{P}(y)} \exp(-\gamma d(p_{x}, p_{y})).$$

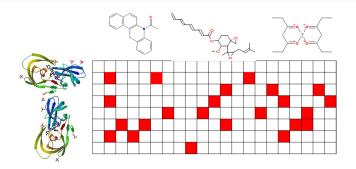
Results (accuracy)

Kernel	BZR	COX	DHFR	ER
2D (Tanimoto)	71.2	63.0	76.9	77.1
3D fingerprint	75.4	67.0	76.9	78.6
3D not discretized	76.4	69.8	81.9	79.8

Chemogenomics

The problem

- Similar targets bind similar ligands
- Instead of focusing on each target individually, can we screen the biological space (target families) vs the chemical space (ligands)?
- Mathematically, learn $f(target, ligand) \in \{bind, notbind\}$



Chemogenomics with SVM

Tensor product SVM

Take the kernel:

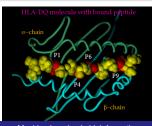
$$K((t,l),(t',l'))=K_l(t,t')K_l(l,l').$$

- Equivalently, represent a pair (t, l) by the vector $\phi_t(t) \otimes \phi_l(l)$
- Allows to use any kernel for proteins K_t with any kernel for small molecules K_t
- When K_t is the Dirac kernel, we recover the classical paradigm: each target is treated independently from the others.
- Otherwise, information is shared across targets. The more similar the targets, the more they share information.

Example: MHC-I epitope prediction across different alleles

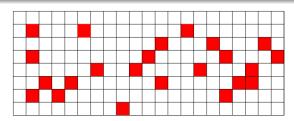
The approach (Jacob and V., 2007)

- take a kernel to compare different MHC-I alleles (e.g., based on the amino-acids in the paptide recognition pocket)
- take a kernel to compare different epitopes (9-mer peptides)
- Combine them to learn the f(allele, epitope) function
- State-of-the-art performance
- Available at http://cbio.ensmp.fr/kiss



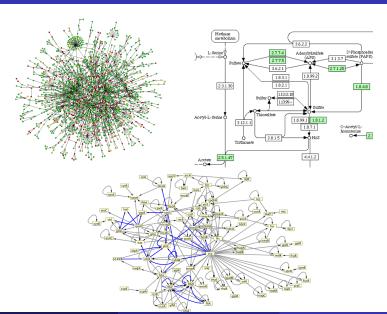
Generalization: collaborative filtering with attributes

- General problem: learn f(x, y) with a kernel K_x for x and a kernel K_y for y.
- SVM with a tensor product kernel $K_x \otimes K_y$ is a particular case of something more general: estimating an operator with a spectral regularization.
- Other spectral regularization are possible (e.g., trace norm) and lead to efficient algorithms
- More details in Abernethy et al. (2008).

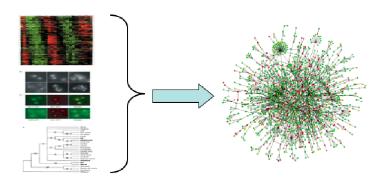


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Biological networks



Our goal



Data

- Gene expression,
- Gene sequence,
- Protein localization, ...

Graph

- Protein-protein interactions,
- Metabolic pathways,
- Signaling pathways, ...

More precisely

"De novo" inference

- Given data about individual genes and proteins
- Infer the edges between genes and proteins

"Supervised" inference

- Given data about individual genes and proteins
- and given some known interactions
- infer unknown interactions

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Main messages

- Most methods developed so far are "de novo" (e.g., co-expression, Bayesian networks, mutual information nets, dynamical systems...)
- However most real-world application fit the "supervised" framework
- Solving the "supervised" problem is much easier (and more efficient) than the "de novo" problem. It requires less hypothesis.

De novo methods

Typical strategies

- Fit a dynamical system to time series (e.g., PDE, boolean networks, state-space models)
- Detect statistical conditional indenpence or dependency (Bayesian netwok, mutual information networks, co-expression)

Pros

- Excellent approach if the model is correct and enough data are available
- Interpretability of the model
- Inclusion of prior knowledge

Cons

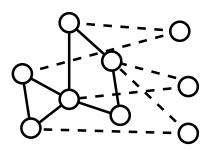
- Specific to particular data and networks
- Needs a correct model!
- Difficult integration of heterogeneous data
- Often needs a lot of data and long computation time

Supervised methods

Motivation

In actual applications,

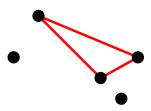
- we know in advance parts of the network to be inferred
- the problem is to add/remove nodes and edges using genomic data as side information



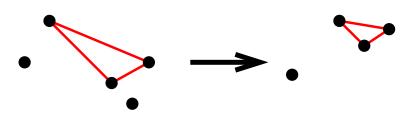
Supervised method

- Given genomic data and the currently known network...
- Infer missing edges between current nodes and additional nodes.

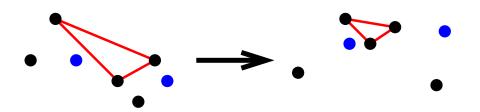
- The direct similarity-based method fails because the distance metric used might not be adapted to the inference of the targeted protein network.
- Solution: use the known subnetwork to refine the distance measure, before applying the similarity-based method
- Examples: kernels CCA (Yamanishi et al. 2004), kernel metric learning (V and Yamanishi, 2005)



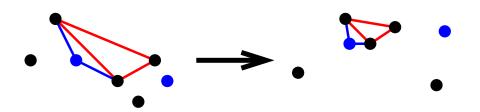
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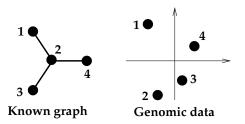
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Supervised inference by pattern recognition

Formulation and basic issue

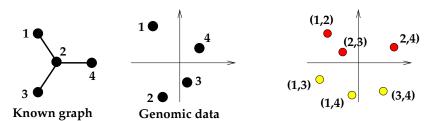
- A pair can be connected (1) or not connected (-1)
- From the known subgraph we can extract examples of connected and non-connected pairs
- However the genomic data characterize individual proteins; we need to work with pairs of proteins instead!



Supervised inference by pattern recognition

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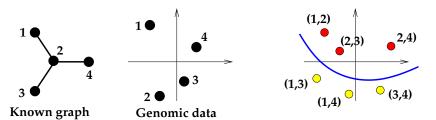
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Tensor product SVM (Ben-Hur and Noble, 2006)

- Intuition: a pair (A, B) is similar to a pair (C, D) if:
 - A is similar to C and B is similar to D, or...
 - A is similar to D and B is similar to C
- Formally, define a similarity between pairs from a similarity between individuals by

$$K_{TPPK}((a,b),(c,d)) = K(a,c)K(b,d) + K(a,d)K(b,c)$$

- If K is a positive definite kernel for individuals then K_{TPPK} is a p.d. kernel for pairs which can be used by SVM
- This amounts to representing a pair (a, b) by the symmetrized tensor product:

$$(a,b) o (a \otimes b) \oplus (b \otimes a)$$
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Metric learning pairwise SVM (V. et al, 2007)

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$$K_{MLPK}((a,b),(c,d)) = (K(a,c) + K(b,d) - K(a,c) - K(b,d))^{2}$$

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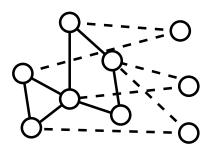
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Supervised inference with local models

The idea (Bleakley et al., 2007)

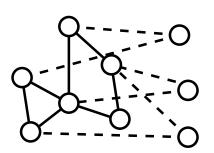
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- Treat each node independently from the other. Then combine predictions for ranking candidate edges.

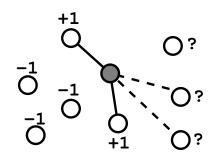


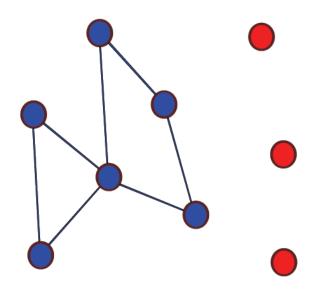
Supervised inference with local models

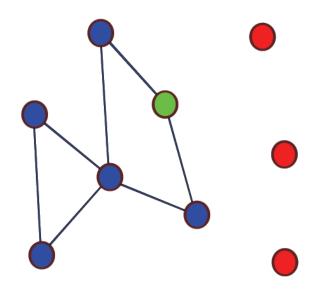
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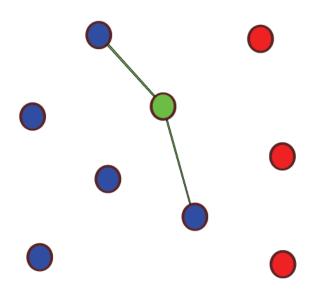
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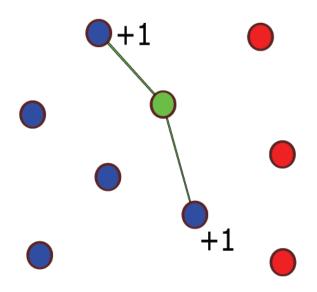


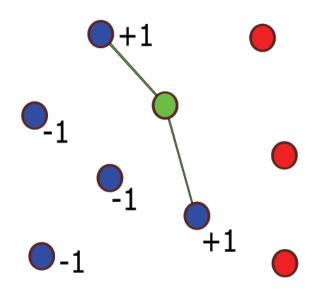


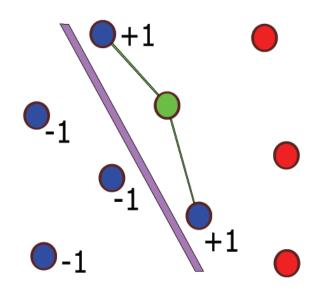


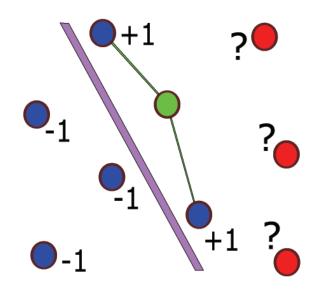


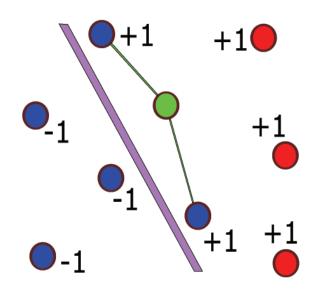


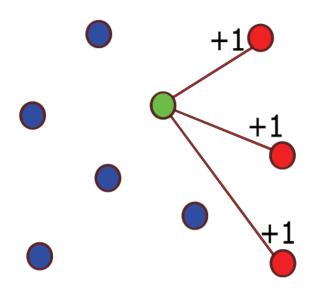


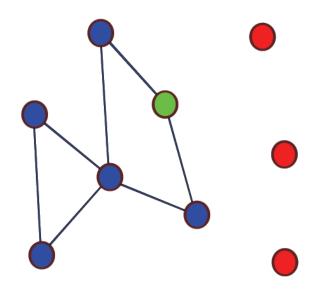


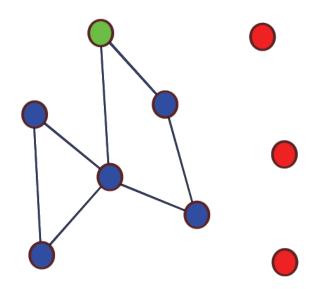


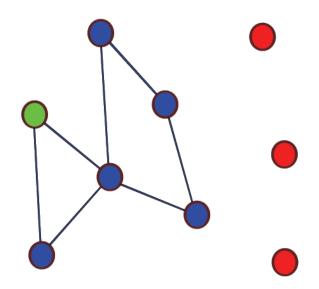


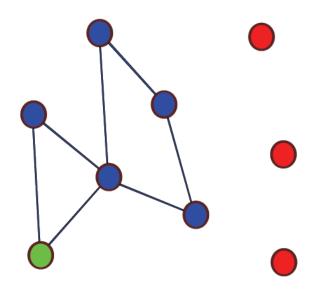


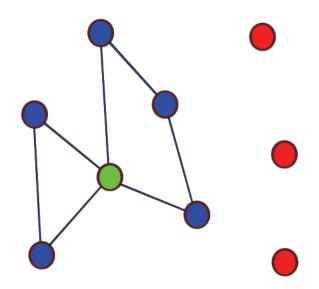


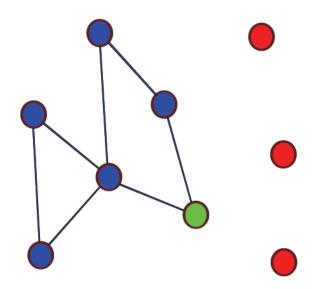




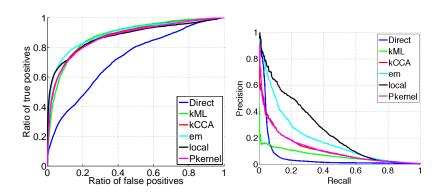






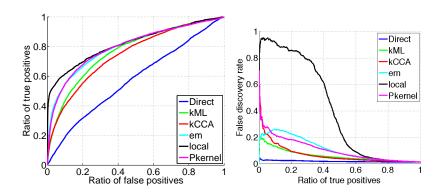


Results: protein-protein interaction (yeast)



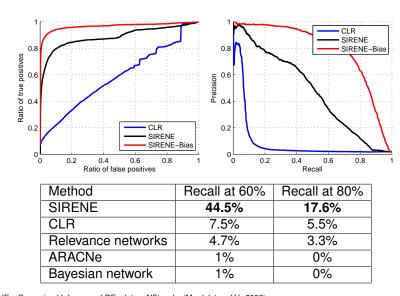
(from Bleakley et al., 2007)

Results: metabolic gene network (yeast)



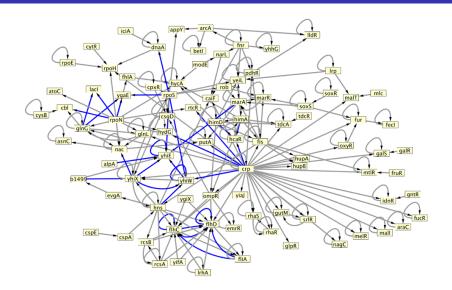
(from Bleakley et al., 2007)

Results: regulatory network (E. coli)



SIRENE = Supervised Inference of REgulatory NEtworks (Mordelet and V., 2008)

Results: predicted regulatory network (E. coli)



Prediction at 60% precision, restricted to transcription factors (from Mordelet and V., 2008).

Outline

- Including prior knowledge in classification and regression
- Virtual screening and chemogenomics
- Inference on biological networks
- 4 Conclusion

What we saw

- Modern machine learning methods for regression / classification lend themselves well to the integration of prior knowledge in the penalization / regularization function, in particular for feature selection / grouping. Applications in array CGH classification, siRNA design, microarray classification with gene networks
- Kernel methods (eg SVM) allow to manipulate complex objects (eg molecules, biological sequences) as soon as kernels can be defined and computed. Applications in virtual screening, QSAR, chemogenomics.
- Inference of biological networks can be formulated as a supervised problem if the graph is partly known, and powerful methods can be applied. Application in PPI, metabolic and regulatory networks inference.

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Including prior knowledge in penalization

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Virtual screening, kernels etc..

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Network inference

Kevin Bleakley, Fantine Mordelet, Yoshihiro Yamanihi, Gérard Biau, Minoru Kanehisa, William Noble, Jian Qiu...