

# Joint gene network inference with multiple samples: a bootstrapped consensual approach

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Joint work with Matthieu Vignes, Nathalie Viguerie  
and Magali SanCristobal



# Outline

- 1 Short overview on network inference with GGM
- 2 Inference with multiple samples
- 3 Simulations



# Framework

**Data:** large scale gene expression data

individuals  
 $n \simeq 30/50$

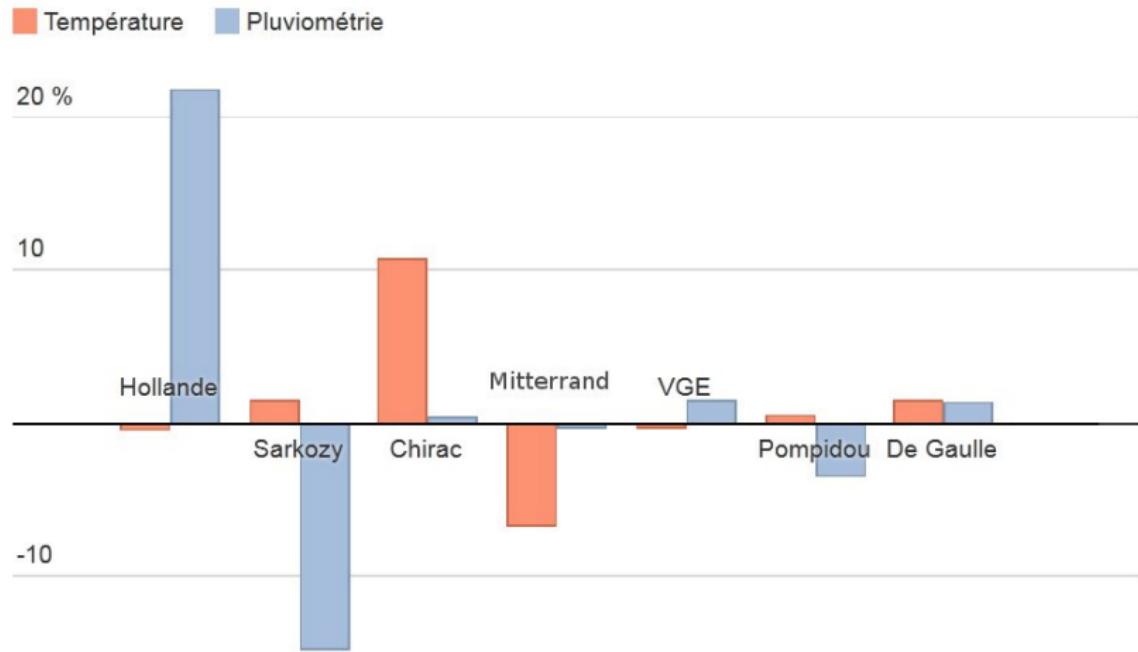
$$X = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & X_i^j & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{variables (genes expression), } p \simeq 10^{3/4}}$$

**What we want to obtain:** a graph/network with

- nodes: genes;
- edges: strong links between gene expressions.



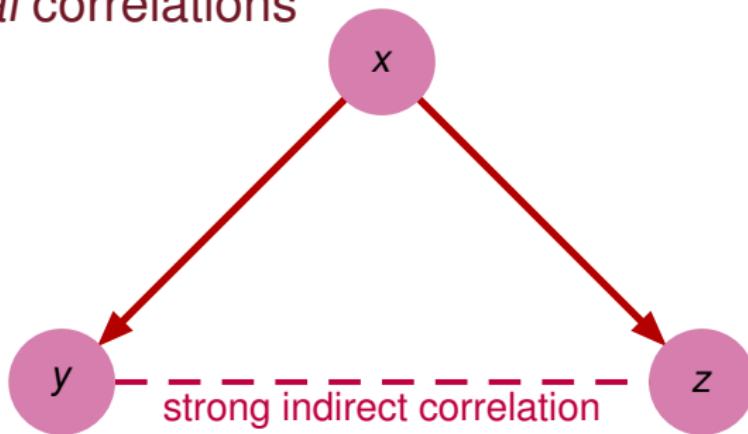
# Using *partial* correlations



correlation is not causality...



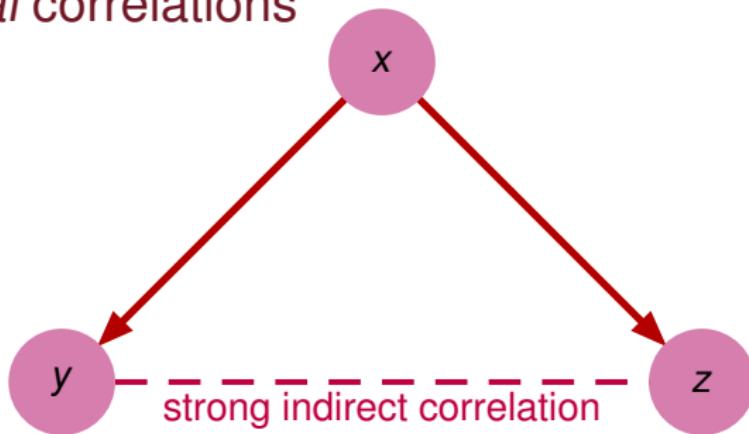
# Using *partial* correlations



```
set.seed(2807); x <- rnorm(100)
y <- 2*x+1+rnorm(100,0,0.1); cor(x,y) [1] 0.998826
z <- 2*x+1+rnorm(100,0,0.1); cor(x,z) [1] 0.998751
cor(y,z) [1] 0.9971105
```



# Using *partial* correlations



```

set.seed(2807); x <- rnorm(100)
y <- 2*x+1+rnorm(100,0,0.1); cor(x,y) [1] 0.998826
z <- 2*x+1+rnorm(100,0,0.1); cor(x,z) [1] 0.998751
cor(y,z) [1] 0.9971105
# Partial correlation
cor(lm(x~z)$residuals,lm(y~z)$residuals) [1] 0.7801174
cor(lm(x~y)$residuals,lm(z~y)$residuals) [1] 0.7639094
cor(lm(y~x)$residuals,lm(z~x)$residuals) [1] -0.1933699
  
```



# Theoretical framework

**Gaussian Graphical Models (GGM)** [Schäfer and Strimmer, 2005, Meinshausen and Bühlmann, 2006, Friedman et al., 2008]

gene expressions:  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$

**Sparse approach:** partial correlations are estimated by using linear models and a sparse penalty:  $\forall j$

$$X^j = \beta_j^T X^{-j} + \epsilon \quad ; \quad \arg \max_{(\beta_{jj'})_{j'}} \left( \log \text{ML}_j - \lambda \sum_{j' \neq j} |\beta_{jj'}| \right)$$

In the **Gaussian framework**:  $\beta_{jj'} = -\frac{S_{jj'}}{S_{jj}}$  where  $S = \Sigma^{-1}$  (concentration matrix) is related to partial correlations by  $\pi_{jj'} = -\frac{S_{jj'}}{\sqrt{S_{jj} S_{j'j'}}$ .



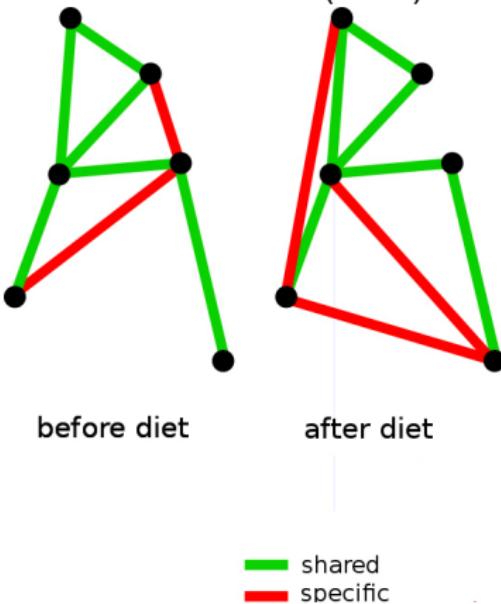
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# Motivation for multiple networks inference

Pan-European project **Diogenes**<sup>1</sup> (with Nathalie Viguerie, INSERM): gene expressions (lipid tissues) from 204 obese women **before** and **after** a low-calorie diet (LCD).



- **Assumption:** A common functioning exists regardless the condition;
- Which genes are linked **independently from/depending on** the condition?

<sup>1</sup><http://www.diogenes-eu.org/>; see also [Viguerie et al., 2012]



# Naive approach: independent estimations

**Notations:**  $p$  genes measured in  $k$  samples, each corresponding to a specific condition:  $(X_j^c)_{j=1,\dots,p} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma^c)$ , for  $c = 1, \dots, k$ .

For  $c = 1, \dots, k$ ,  $n_c$  independent observations  $(X_{ij}^c)_{i=1,\dots,n_c}$  and  $\sum_c n_c = n$ .

## Independent inference

Estimation  $\forall c = 1, \dots, k$  and  $\forall j = 1, \dots, p$ ,

$$X_j^c = \mathbf{X}_{\setminus j}^c \beta_j^c + \epsilon_j^c$$

are estimated (independently) by maximizing pseudo-likelihood:

$$\mathcal{L}(S|\mathbf{X}) = \sum_c \sum_j \log \mathbb{P}(X_j^c | \mathbf{X}_{\setminus j}^c, S_j^c), \quad S \text{ concentration matrix}$$



# Related papers

**Problem:** previous estimation does not use the fact that the different networks should be somehow alike!

## Previous proposals

- [Chiquet et al., 2011] replace  $\Sigma^c$  by  $\widetilde{\Sigma}^c = \frac{1}{2}\Sigma^c + \frac{1}{2}\bar{\Sigma}$  and add a sparse penalty;
- [Chiquet et al., 2011] LASSO and Group-LASSO type penalties to force consistent or sign-coherent edges between conditions;
- [Danaher et al., ] add a sparse penalty and the penalty  $\sum_{c \neq c'} \|S^c - S^{c'}\|_{L^1}$ ;
- [Mohan et al., 2012] add a group-LASSO like penalty  $\sum_{c \neq c'} \sum_j \|S_j^c - S_j^{c'}\|_{L^2}$  that focuses on differences due to a few number of **nodes** only.



# Consensus LASSO

**Proposal:** Infer multiple networks by forcing them toward a consensual network: i.e., explicitly **constraining the differences** between conditions to be under control but **with a  $L^2$  penalty** to allow for more differences than with Group-LASSO type penalties.

**Original optimization:**

$$\max_{(\beta_{jk}^c)_{k \neq j, c=1,\dots,C}} \sum_c \left( \log \text{ML}_j^c - \lambda \sum_{k \neq j} |\beta_{jk}^c| \right).$$



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[Ambroise et al., 2009, Chiquet et al., 2011]: is equivalent to minimize  $p$  problems having dimension  $k(p - 1)$ :

$$\frac{1}{2} \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{\setminus j} \beta_j + \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{j \setminus j} + \lambda \|\beta_j\|_{L^1}$$

with  $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\setminus j}$  is the block diagonal matrix  $\text{Diag}(\widehat{\Sigma}_{\setminus j}^1, \dots, \widehat{\Sigma}_{\setminus j}^k)$  and similarly for  $\widehat{\Sigma}_{j \setminus j}$ .



# Consensus LASSO

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Add a constraint to force inference toward a “consensus”  $\beta^{\text{cons}}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{\setminus j} \beta_j + \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{j \setminus j} + \lambda \|\beta_j\|_{L^1} + \mu \sum_c w_c \|\beta_j^c - \beta_j^{\text{cons}}\|_{L^2}^2$$

with:

- $w_c$ : real number used to weight the conditions ( $w_c = 1$  or  $w_c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_c}}$ );
- $\mu$  regularization parameter;
- $\beta_j^{\text{cons}}$  whatever you want...?



# Choice of a consensus

$\beta_j^{\text{cons}} = \sum_c \frac{n_c}{n} \beta_j^c$  is a good choice because:

- the consensual penalty is then **quadratic** with respect to  $\beta_j$ ;



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- thus, solving the optimization problem is **equivalent to maximizing**

$$\frac{1}{2} \beta_j^T S_j(\mu) \beta_j + \beta_j^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{j \setminus j} + \lambda \sum_c \frac{1}{n_c} \|\beta_j^c\|_1$$

with  $S_j(\mu) = \widehat{\Sigma}_{j \setminus j} + 2\mu A^T A$  with  $A$  a matrix that does not depend on  $j$ .



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Convex part +  $L^1$ -norm penalty

similar to standard LASSO problems: use of an “active set” approach as described in **[Osborne et al., 2000, Chiquet et al., 2011]**



# Bootstrap estimation

## Bootstrapped Consensus Lasso

- 1: **Require:** List of genes:  $\{1, \dots, p\}$ ; Gene expressions:  $X$ ; Condition ids:  $c_i \in \{1, \dots, C\}$
- 2: **Initialize**  $\forall j, j' \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ ,  $N^c(j, j') \leftarrow 0$ ;  $\mu$  fixed
- 3: **for**  $b = 1 \rightarrow P$  **do**
- 4:     Take a bootstrap sample  $B_b$
- 5:     Estimate  $(\beta_j^{c,b,\lambda})_{j,c,\lambda}$  from the previous method for several  $\lambda$  (decreasing order)
- 6:     Find  $\left\{ \left( \sum_{j,j',c} \mathbb{I}_{\beta_j^{c,\lambda,b} \neq 0} \right) > T_1 \right\}$  **return**  $(\beta_j^{c,b})_{j,c} := (\beta_j^{c,\lambda_{\max},b})_{j,c}$
- 7:     **if**  $\beta_j^{c,b} \neq 0$  **then**
- 8:          $N^c(j, j') \leftarrow N^c(j, j') + 1$
- 9:     **end if**
- 10: **end for**
- 11: Select edges with  $N^c(j, j') > T_2$  ( $T_2$  chosen)

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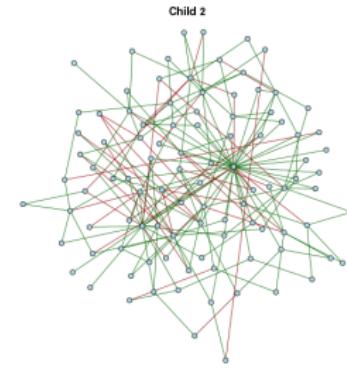
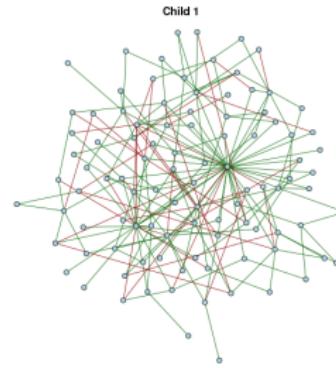
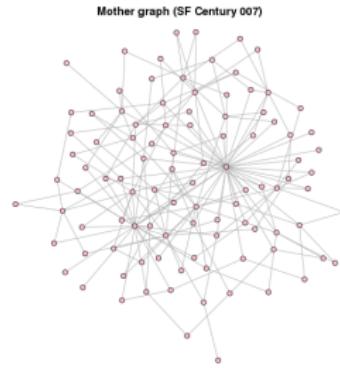
# Simulated data

## Expression data with known co-expression network

- original network (scale free) taken from  
<http://www.comp-sys-bio.org/AGN/data.html> (100 nodes,  
~ 200 edges, loops removed);
- rewire a ratio  $r$  of the edges to generate  $k$  “children” networks  
(sharing approximately  $100(1 - 2r)\%$  of their edges);
- generate “expression data” with a random Gaussian process from  
each chid.



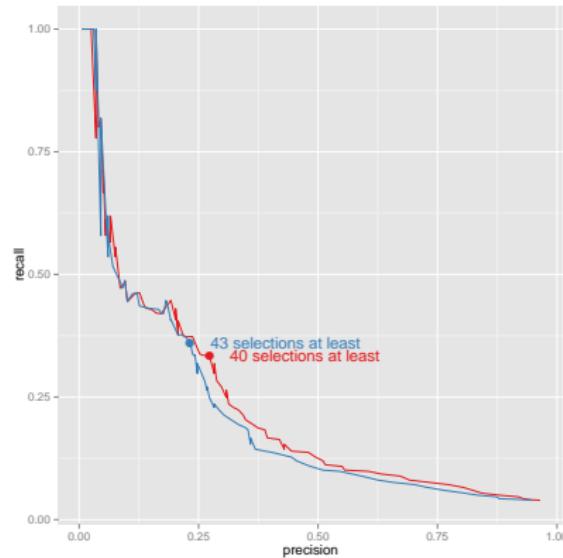
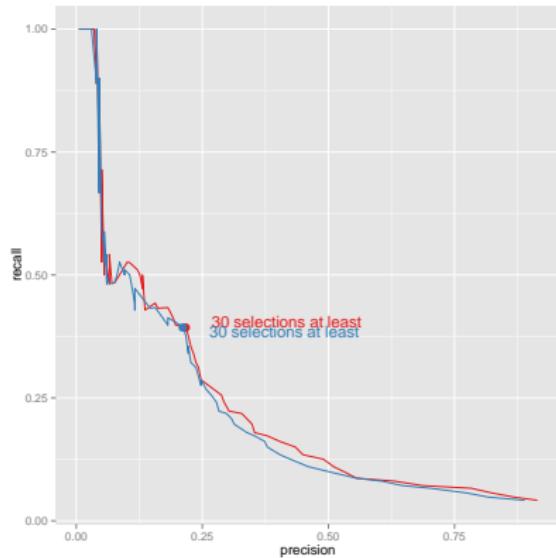
# An example with $k = 2$ , $r = 5\%$



# Choice for $T_2$

**Data:**  $r = 0.05$ ,  $k = 2$  and  $n_1 = n_2 = 20$

**100 bootstrap samples**,  $\mu = 1$ ,  $T_1 = 250$  or  $500$



Dots correspond to best  $F = 2 \times \frac{\text{precision} \times \text{recall}}{\text{precision} + \text{recall}}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Best  $F$  corresponds to selecting a number of edges approximately equal to the number of edges of the original network.



# Choice for $T_1$ and $\mu$

$\mu$	$T_1$	% of improvement of bootstrapping
0.1/1	{250, 300, 500}	
network sizes	<b>rewired edges: 5%</b>	
20-20	1	500
20-30	0.1	500
30-30	1	300
50-50	1	300
20-20-20-20-20	1	500
30-30-30-30	0.1	500
network sizes	<b>rewired edges: 20%</b>	
20-20	0.1	300
20-30	0.1	300
30-30	1	500
50-50	0.1	300
20-20-20-20-20	0.1	500
30-30-30-30	1	500



# Comparisons (best/worst case $F$ for different parameters)

Method	gLasso	cLasso	gLasso+boot	cLasso+boot
$n_c$	<b>rewired edges: 5%</b>			
20-20	0.19	0.22 (0.18)	0.27 (0.26)	<b>0.29 (0.27)</b>
20-30	0.26	0.30 (0.26)	0.31 (0.29)	<b>0.33 (0.32)</b>
30-30	0.28	0.31 (0.27)	0.35 (0.31)	<b>0.38 (0.36)</b>
50-50	0.36	0.43 (0.36)	0.47 (0.46)	<b>0.49 (0.49)</b>
20-20-20-20-20	0.19	0.23 (0.18)	0.39 (0.38)	<b>0.43 (0.40)</b>
30-30-30-30	0.30	0.36 (0.29)	0.49 (0.48)	<b>0.51 (0.50)</b>
$n_c$	<b>rewired edges: 20%</b>			
20-20	0.21	<b>0.23 (0.19)</b>	0.18 (0.17)	0.19 (0.17)
20-30	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.26 (0.25)</b>	0.20 (0.19)	0.22 (0.20)
30-30	0.28	<b>0.31 (0.29)</b>	0.27 (0.27)	0.29 (0.28)
50-50	0.42	<b>0.43 (0.41)</b>	0.38 (0.37)	0.40 (0.38)
20-20-20-20-20	0.20	0.22 (0.20)	0.22 (0.20)	<b>0.24 (0.24)</b>
30-30-30-30	0.27	0.29 (0.27)	0.30 (0.30)	<b>0.33 (0.31)</b>

Not shown here but when the % of rewired edges is larger (20%), **intertwinned Lasso** has better performances (they are not improved by bootstrapping).

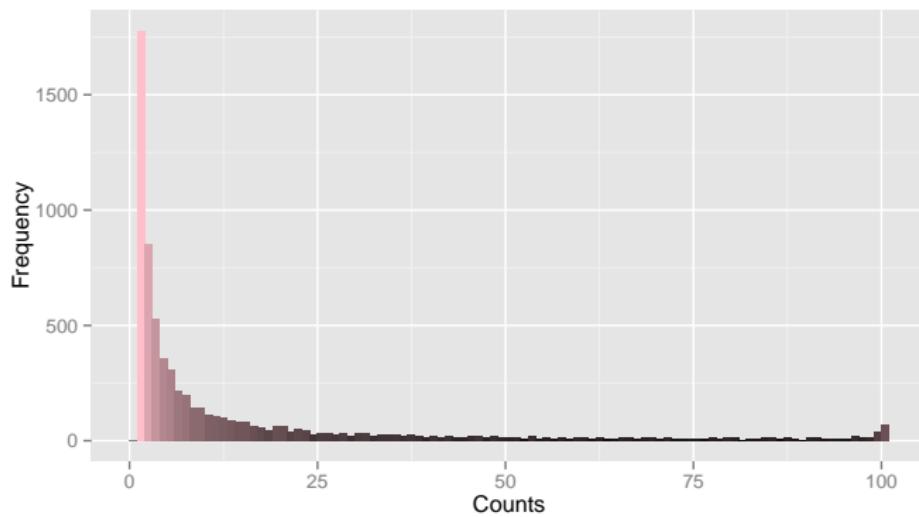


# Real data

204 obese women ; expression of 221 genes before and after a LCD

$\mu = 1$  ;  $T_1 = 1000$  (target density: 4%)

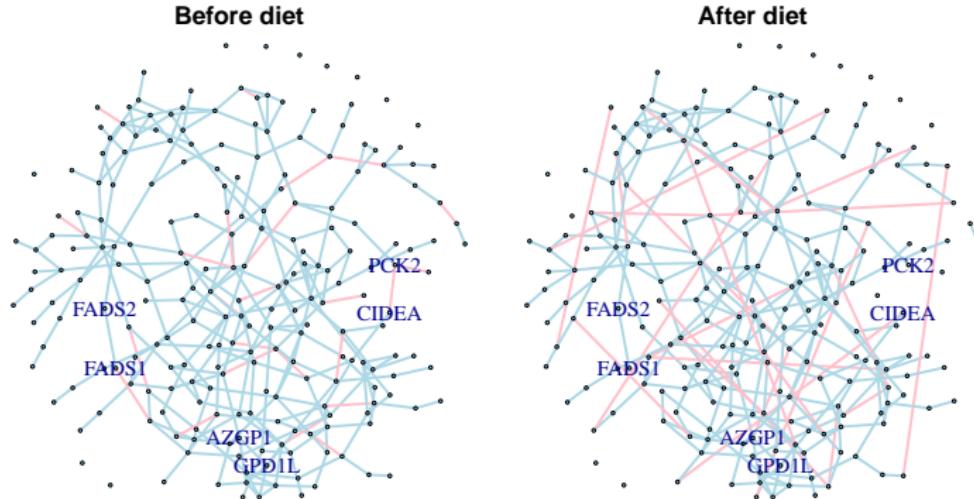
## Distribution of the number of times an edge is selected over 100 bootstrap samples



(70% of the pairs of nodes are never selected)  $\Rightarrow T_2 = 80$



# Networks



densities about 1.3% - some interactions (both shared and specific) make sense for the biologist



# Thank you for your attention...

Programs available in the R package **therese** (on R-Forge). Joint work with



Magali SanCristobal  
(LGC, INRA de Toulouse)



Matthieu Vignes  
(MIAT, INRA de Toulouse)



Nathalie Viguerie  
(I2MC, INSERM Toulouse)



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