
Copula-based models for the inference of multi-omics regulation networks

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Résumé

When inferring multi-omics regulation networks, one can be quickly faced with statistical challenges arising from the heterogeneous and high-dimensional nature of the data. In that case, a good strategy can be to use a Gaussian copula model in order to identify independent modules within the network. When the marginal laws of the variables are unknown, a semi-parametric estimation of the correlation matrix of the copula can be done via the pairwise maximum likelihood with respect to a mix of Lebesgue and counting measures, leading to asymptotically normal estimators. We show that a block structure of the correlation matrix corresponds to the presence of independent modules within the network. We discuss thresholding methods in order to control the false discovery rate of non-zero coefficients. We illustrate the benefits of copula-based models with respect to standard approaches on simulations and real data.

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