

Corrected R code from chapter 12 of the book

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Integrated weighted correlation network analysis of mouse liver gene expression data

Chapter 12 and this R software tutorial describe a case study for carrying out an integrated weighted correlation network analysis of mouse gene expression, sample trait, and genetic marker data. It describes how to

- i) use sample networks (signed correlation networks) for detecting outlying observations,
- ii) find co-expression modules and key genes related to mouse body weight and other physiologic traits in female mice,
- iii) study module preservation between female and male mice,
- iv) carry out a systems genetic analysis with the network edge orienting approach to find causal genes for body weight,
- v) define consensus modules between female and male mice.

We also describe methods and software for visualizing networks and for carrying out gene ontology enrichment analysis.

The mouse cross is described in section 5.5 (and reference Ghazalpour et al 2006). The mouse gene expression data were generated by the labs of Jake Lusis and Eric Schadt. Here we used a mouse liver gene expression data set which contains 3600 gene expression profiles. These were filtered from the original over 20,000 genes by keeping only the most variant and most connected probes.

In addition to the expression data, several physiological quantitative traits were measured for the mice, e.g. body weight.

The expression data is contained in the file "LiverFemale3600.csv" that can be found at the following webpages:

www.genetics.ucla.edu/labs/horvath/CoexpressionNetwork/Book

or

www.genetics.ucla.edu/labs/horvath/CoexpressionNetwork/Rpackages/WGCNA/.

Much of the following R code was created by Peter Langfelder.

Important comment: This material is slightly different from what is presented in the book. There were small errors in the R code of the book chapter which have been corrected.

Section 12.1 Constructing a sample network for outlier detection

Here we use sample network methods for finding outlying microarray samples (see section 7.7). Specifically, the **Euclidean distance based sample network** is simply the canonical Euclidean distance based network

$$A(uv)=1-\|S(u)-S(v)\|^2/\maxDiss$$

(Eq 7.18). Next we use the standardized connectivity

$$Z.k_u=(k_u-\text{mean}(k))/(\text{sqrt}(\text{var}(k))) \text{ (Eq. 7.24) to identify array outliers.}$$

In the following, we present relevant R code.

```
# Change the path to the directory
# On Windows use a forward slash / instead of the usual \.
setwd("C:/Users/Horvath/Documents/Classes/Class278/2011/Lecture2WGCNA/Chapter12Rcode")
```

```
library(WGCNA)
library(cluster)
options(stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
```

```
#Read in the female liver data set
femData = read.csv("LiverFemale3600.csv")
dim(femData)
```

```
[1] 3600 143
```

Note there are 3600 genes and 143 columns

The column names are

```
names(femData)
```

the output shows that the first 8 columns contain gene information

```
[1] "substanceBXH" "gene_symbol" "LocusLinkID" "ProteomeID"
[5] "cytogeneticLoc" "CHROMOSOME" "StartPosition" "EndPosition"
[9] "F2_2" "F2_3" "F2_14" "F2_15"
[13] "F2_19" "F2_20" "F2_23" "F2_24"
.....ETC (remainder of output omitted)
```

#Remove gene information and transpose the expression data

```
datExprFemale=as.data.frame(t(femData[, -c(1:8)]))
names(datExprFemale)=femData$substanceBXH
rownames(datExprFemale)=names(femData)[-c(1:8)]
```

Now we read in the physiological trait data

```
traitData = read.csv("ClinicalTraits.csv")
```

```
dim(traitData)
```

```
names(traitData)
```

use only a subset of the columns

```
allTraits=traitData[,c(2, 11:15, 17:30, 32:38)]
names(allTraits)
```

```
[1] "Mice" "weight_g" "length_cm"
[4] "ab_fat" "other_fat" "total_fat"
[7] "X100xfat_weight" "Trigly" "Total_Chol"
[10] "HDL_Chol" "UC" "FFA"
[13] "Glucose" "LDL_plus_VLDL" "MCP_1_phys"
[16] "Insulin_ug_l" "Glucose_Insulin" "Leptin_pg_ml"
[19] "Adiponectin" "Aortic.lesions" "Aneurysm"
[22] "Aortic_cal_M" "Aortic_cal_L" "CoronaryArtery_Cal"
[25] "Myocardial_cal" "BMD_all_limbs" "BMD_femurs_only"
```

Order the rows of allTraits so that

```

# they match those of datExprFemale:
Mice=rownames(datExprFemale)
traitRows = match(Mice, allTraits$Mice)
datTraits = allTraits[traitRows, -1]
rownames(datTraits) = allTraits[traitRows, 1]
# show that row names agree
table(rownames(datTraits)==rownames(datExprFemale))

TRUE
135
Message: the traits and expression data have been aligned correctly.

# sample network based on squared Euclidean distance
# note that we transpose the data
A=adjacency(t(datExprFemale),type="distance")
# this calculates the whole network connectivity
k=as.numeric(apply(A,2,sum))-1
# standardized connectivity
Z.k=scale(k)

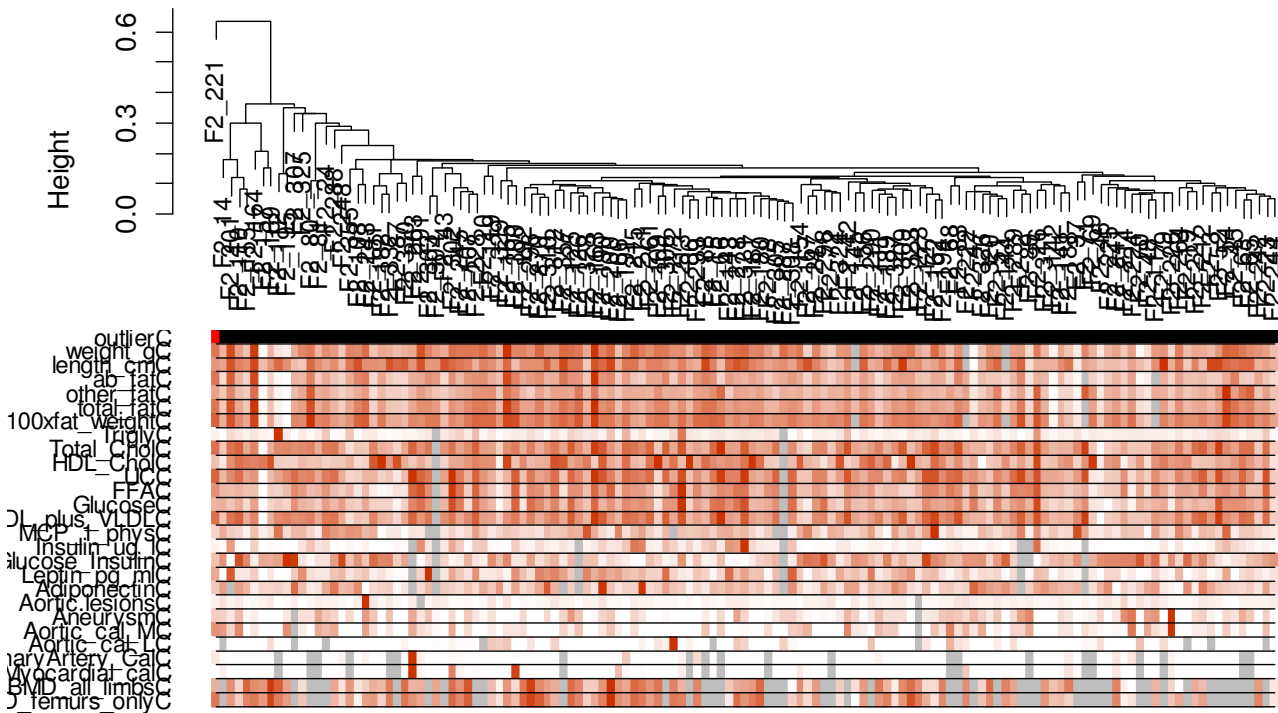
# Designate samples as outlying
# if their Z.k value is below the threshold
thresholdZ.k=-5 # often -2.5

# the color vector indicates outlyingness (red)
outlierColor=ifelse(Z.k<thresholdZ.k,"red","black")

# calculate the cluster tree using flashClust or hclust
sampleTree = flashClust(as.dist(1-A), method = "average")
# Convert traits to a color representation:
# where red indicates high values
traitColors=data.frame(numbers2colors(datTraits,signed=FALSE))
dimnames(traitColors)[[2]]=paste(names(datTraits),"C",sep="")
datColors=data.frame(outlierC=outlierColor,traitColors)
# Plot the sample dendrogram and the colors underneath.
plotDendroAndColors(sampleTree,groupLabels=names(datColors),
colors=datColors,main="Sample dendrogram and trait heatmap")

```

Sample dendrogram and trait heatmap



Caption: Cluster tree of mouse liver samples. The leaves of the tree correspond to the mice. The first color band underneath the tree indicates which arrays appear to be outlying. The second color band represents body weight (red indicates high values). Similarly, the remaining color-bands color-code the numeric values of physiologic traits.

The Figure shows the resulting cluster tree where each leaf corresponds to a mouse sample. The first color-band underneath the tree indicates which samples appear outlying (colored in red) according to a low $Z.k$ value. The mouse labelled F2_221 is highly outlying ($Z.k < -5$), which is why we remove it from the subsequent analysis.

The other color bands color-code physiological traits. Note that the outlying samples do not appear to have systematically different physiologic trait values. Although the outlying samples are suspicious, we will keep them in the subsequent analysis.

```
# Remove outlying samples from expression and trait data
remove.samples= Z.k<thresholdZ.k | is.na(Z.k)
# the following 2 lines differ from what is written in the book
datExprFemale=datExprFemale[!remove.samples,]
datTraits=datTraits[!remove.samples,]
# Recompute the sample network among the remaining samples
A=adjacency(t(datExprFemale),type="distance")
# Let's recompute the Z.k values of outlyingness
k=as.numeric(apply(A,2,sum))-1
Z.k=scale(k)
```

Section 12.2: Co-expression modules in female mouse livers

12.2.1: Choosing the soft threshold beta via scale free topology

As detailed in section 4.3, we propose to choose the soft threshold power beta based on the scale free topology criterion Zhang and Horvath 2005, i.e. we choose the lowest beta that results in approximate scale free topology as measured by the scale free topology fitting index (Eq.~1.13)

$$R^2 = \text{ScaleFreeFit} = \text{cor}(\log(p(dk)), \log(\text{BinNo}))^2$$

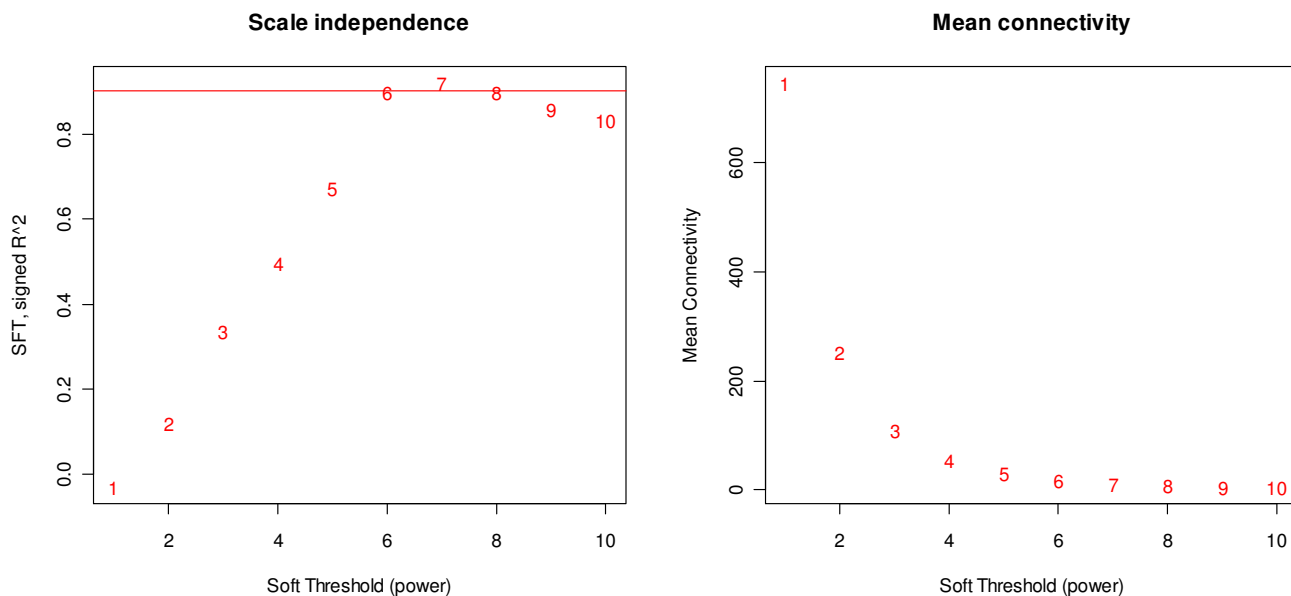
The following R code illustrates the use of the R function `pickSoftThreshold` for calculating scale free topology fitting indices R^2 corresponding to different soft thresholding powers beta.

```
# Choose a set of soft thresholding powers
powers=c(1:10) # in practice this should include powers up to 20.
# choose power based on SFT criterion
sft=pickSoftThreshold(datExprFemale,powerVector=powers)
```

```
#output
      Power SFT.R.sq  slope truncated.R.sq mean.k. median.k. max.k.
1         1  0.0286  0.350          0.461  747.00    762.00 1210.0
2         2  0.1240 -0.597          0.843  254.00    251.00  574.0
3         3  0.3390 -1.030          0.972  111.00    102.00  324.0
4         4  0.4990 -1.420          0.969   56.50     47.20  202.0
5         5  0.6770 -1.700          0.940   32.20     25.10  134.0
6         6  0.8990 -1.490          0.961   19.90     14.50   94.8
7         7  0.9200 -1.660          0.917   13.20      8.68   84.1
8         8  0.9040 -1.720          0.876    9.25      5.39   76.3
9         9  0.8620 -1.700          0.840    6.80      3.56   70.5
10        10  0.8360 -1.660          0.834    5.19      2.38   65.8
```

```
#Digression: if you want to pick a soft threshold for a signed network write
#sft=pickSoftThreshold(datExprFemale,powerVector=powers, networkType = "signed")
# but then you should consider higher powers. Default beta=12.
```

```
# Plot the results:
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
# SFT index as a function of different powers
plot(sft$fitIndices[,1],-sign(sft$fitIndices[,3])*sft$fitIndices[,2],
xlab="Soft Threshold (power)",ylab="SFT, signed R^2",type="n",main=paste("Scale independence"))
text(sft$fitIndices[,1],-sign(sft$fitIndices[,3])*sft$fitIndices[,2],
labels=powers,col="red")
# this line corresponds to using an R^2 cut-off of h
abline(h=0.90,col="red")
# Mean connectivity as a function of different powers
plot(sft$fitIndices[,1],sft$fitIndices[,5],type="n",
xlab="Soft Threshold (power)",ylab="Mean Connectivity",main=paste("Mean connectivity"))
text(sft$fitIndices[,1],sft$fitIndices[,5],labels=powers,col="red")
```



Caption: Scale free topology criterion of the female mouse liver co-expression network. SFT plot for choosing the power β for the unsigned weighted correlation network. Left hand side: the SFT index R^2 (y-axis) as a function of different powers β (x-axis). While R^2 tends to go up with higher powers, there is not a strictly monotonic relationship. Right hand side: the mean connectivity (y-axis) is a strictly decreasing function of the power β (x-axis).

The result is shown in the Figure. We choose the power $\beta=7$ since this where the curve reaches a saturation point. Also note that for this choice of β , we obtain the maximum value for $R^2=0.92$. Incidentally, this power is slightly different from the default choice ($\beta=6$) for unsigned weighted networks. An advantage of weighted networks is that they are highly robust with regard to the power β .

12.2.3 Automatic module detection via dynamic tree cutting

While the stepwise module detection approach described in section 12.2.4 allows the user to interact with the software it may be inconvenient. In contrast, the function `blockwiseModules` automatically implements all steps of module detection, i.e. it automatically constructs a correlation network, creates a cluster tree, defines modules as branches, and merges close modules. It outputs module colors and module eigengenes which can be used in subsequent analysis. Also one can visualize the results of the module detection.

The function `blockwiseModules` has many parameters, and in this example most of them are left at their default value. We have attempted to provide reasonable default values, but they may not be appropriate for the particular data set the reader wishes to analyze. We encourage the user to read the help file provided within the package in the R environment and experiment with changing the parameter values.

```
mergingThresh = 0.25
net = blockwiseModules(datExprFemale, corType="pearson",
maxBlockSize=5000, networkType="unsigned", power=7, minModuleSize=30,
```

```

mergeCutHeight=mergingThresh,numericLabels=TRUE,saveTOMs=TRUE,
pamRespectsDendro=FALSE,saveTOMFileBase="femaleMouseTOM")
moduleLabelsAutomatic=net$colors
# Convert labels to colors for plotting
moduleColorsAutomatic = labels2colors(moduleLabelsAutomatic)

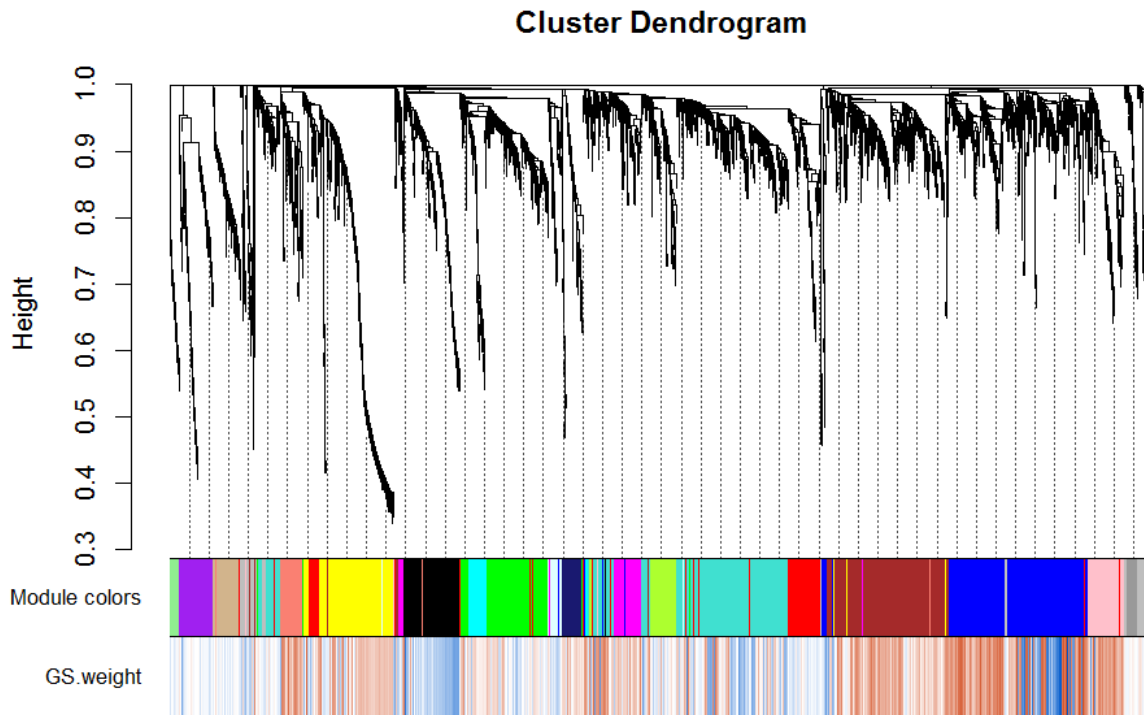
# A data frame with module eigengenes can be obtained as follows
MEsAutomatic=net$MEs

#this is the body weight
weight = as.data.frame(datTraits$weight_g)
names(weight)="weight"
# Next use this trait to define a gene significance variable
GS.weight=as.numeric(cor(datExprFemale,weight,use="p"))
# This translates the numeric values into colors
GS.weightColor=numbers2colors(GS.weight,signed=T)
blocknumber=1
datColors=data.frame(moduleColorsAutomatic,GS.weightColor)[net$blockGenes[[blocknumber]],]

# Plot the dendrogram and the module colors underneath
plotDendroAndColors(net$dendrograms[[blocknumber]],colors=datColors,
groupLabels=c("Module colors","GS.weight"),dendroLabels=FALSE,
hang=0.03,addGuide=TRUE,guideHang=0.05)

```

The result can be found in the Figure.



Caption. Hierarchical cluster tree (average linkage, dissTOM) of the 3600 genes. The color bands provide a simple visual comparison of module assignments (branch cuttings) based on the dynamic hybrid branch cutting method. The first band shows the results from the automatic single block analysis and the second color band visualizes the gene significance measure: "red" indicates a high positive correlation with mouse body weight. Note that the brown, blue and red module contain many genes that have high positive correlations with body weight.

The parameter `maxBlockSize` tells the function how large the largest block can be that the reader's computer can handle. The default value is 5000 which is appropriate for most modern desktops. Note that if this code were to be used to analyze a data set with more than 5000 rows, the function `blockwiseModules` would split the data set into several blocks.

We briefly mention the function `recutBlockwiseTrees` that can be applied to the cluster tree(s) resulting from `blockwiseModules`. This function can be used to change the branch cutting parameters without having to repeat the computationally intensive recalculation of the cluster tree(s).

12.2.3 Blockwise module detection for large networks

In this mouse co-expression network application, we work with a relatively small data set of 3600 measured probes. However, modern microarrays measure up to 50,000 probe expression levels at once. Constructing and analyzing networks with such large numbers of nodes is computationally challenging even on a large server.

We now illustrate a method, implemented in the WGCNA package, that allows the user to perform a network analysis with such a large number of genes. Instead of actually using a very large data set, we will for simplicity pretend that hardware limitations restrict the number of genes that can be analyzed at once to 2000. The basic idea is to use a two-level clustering. First, we use a fast, computationally inexpensive and relatively crude clustering method to pre-cluster genes into blocks of size close to and not exceeding the maximum of 2000 genes. We then perform a full network analysis in each block separately. At the end, modules whose eigengenes are highly correlated are merged. The advantage of the block-wise approach is a much smaller memory footprint (which is the main problem with large data sets on standard desktop computers), and a significant speed-up of the calculations. The trade-off is that due to using a simpler clustering to obtain blocks, the blocks may not be optimal, causing some outlying genes to be assigned to a different module than they would be in a full network analysis.

We will now pretend that even the relatively small number of genes, 3600, that we have been using here is too large, and the computer we run the analysis on is not capable of handling more than 2000 genes in one block. The automatic network construction and module detection function `blockwiseModules` can handle the splitting into blocks automatically; the user just needs to specify the largest number of genes that can form a block:

```
bwnet = blockwiseModules(datExprFemale,corType="pearson",
maxBlockSize=2000,networkType="unsigned",power=7,minModuleSize=30,
mergeCutHeight=mergingThresh,numericLabels=TRUE,saveTOMs=TRUE,
pamRespectsDendro=FALSE,saveTOMFileBase="femaleMouseTOM-blockwise",verbose=3)
```

Below we will compare the results of this analysis to the results of Section 12.2.2 in which all genes were analyzed in a single block. To make the comparison easier, we relabel the block-wise module labels so that modules with a significant overlap with single-block modules have the same label:

```
# Relabel blockwise modules so that their labels
# match those from our previous analysis
moduleLabelsBlockwise=matchLabels(bwnet$colors,moduleLabelsAutomatic)
# Convert labels to colors for plotting
moduleColorsBlockwise=labels2colors(moduleLabelsBlockwise)

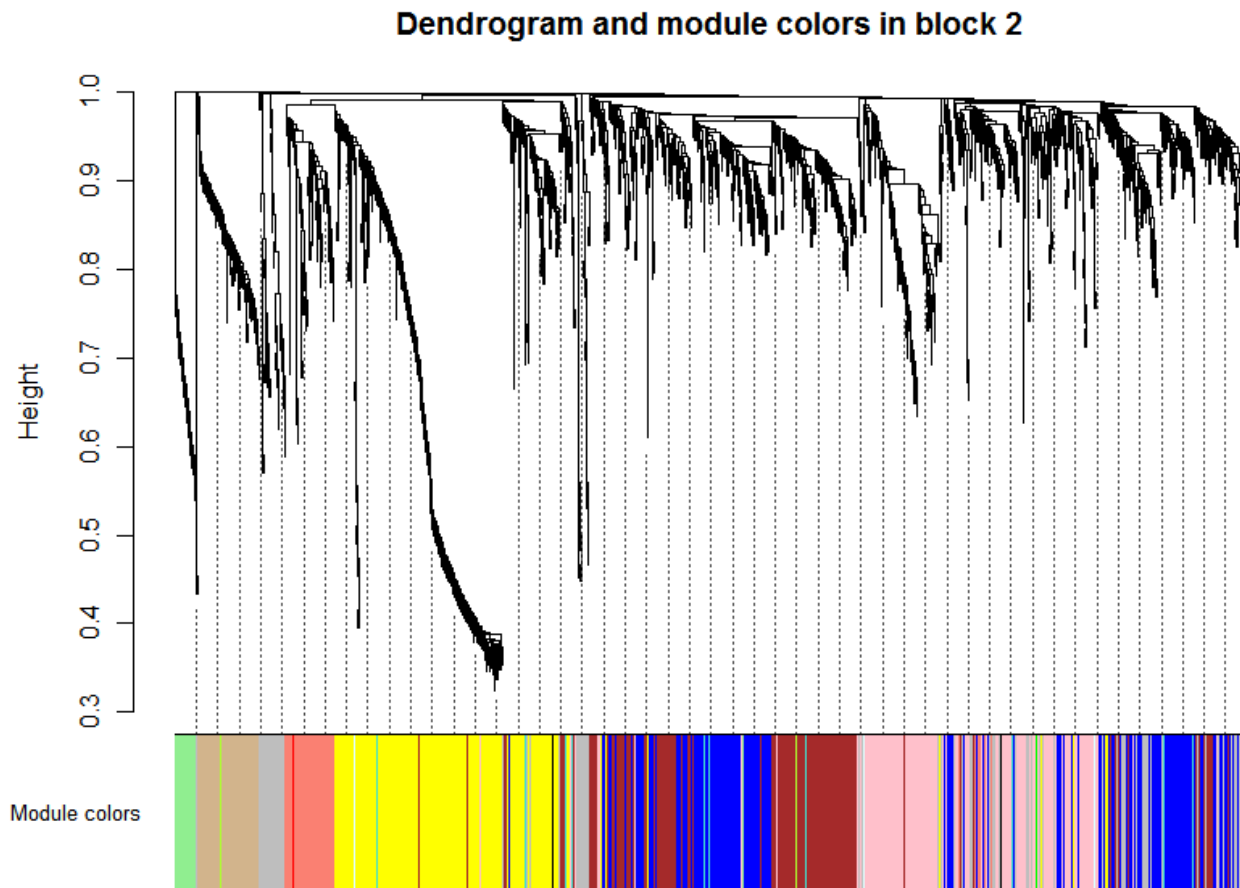
# measure agreement with single block automatic procedure
mean(moduleLabelsBlockwise==moduleLabelsAutomatic)
# output
0.6988889
```

The colorbands in the Figure below allow one to compare the results of the 2-block analysis with those from the single block analysis. Clearly, there is excellent agreement between the two automatic module detection methods.

The hierarchical clustering dendrograms (trees) used for the module identification in the i-th block are returned in `bwnet$dendrograms[[i]]`.

For example, the cluster tree in the 2nd block can be visualized the following code:

```
blockNumber=2  
# Plot the dendrogram for the chosen block  
plotDendroAndColors(bwnet$dendrograms[[blockNumber]],  
moduleColorsBlockwise[bwnet$blockGenes[[blockNumber]],"Module colors",  
main=paste("Dendrogram and module colors in block",blockNumber),  
dendroLabels=FALSE,hang=0.03,addGuide=TRUE,guideHang=0.05)
```



The function `recutBlockwiseTrees` can be used to change parameters of the branch cutting procedure without having to recompute the cluster tree.

12.2.4 Manual, stepwise module detection

Here we present R code that implements the following steps of module detection using the default WGCNA approach.

1. Define a weighted adjacency matrix A.
2. Define the topological overlap matrix (Eq.1.27) based dissimilarity measure $\text{dissTOM}_{\{ij\}} = 1 - \text{TopOverlap}_{\{ij\}}$.
3. Construct a hierarchical cluster tree (average linkage).
4. Define modules as branches of the tree.

Branches of the dendrogram group together densely interconnected, highly co-expressed genes.

Modules are defined as branches of the cluster tree, i.e. module detection involves

cutting the branches of the tree. There are several methods for branch cutting.

As described in section 8.6, the most flexible approach is the dynamic tree cutting method implemented in the `cutreeDynamic` R function (Langfelder, Zhang et al 2007).

Although the default values of the branch cutting method work well, the user may explore choosing alternative parameter values. In the following R code, we choose a relatively large minimum module size of `minClusterSize=30`, and a medium sensitivity (`deepSplit=2`) to branch splitting.

```
# We now calculate the weighted adjacency matrix, using the power 6:
```

```
A = adjacency(datExprFemale, power = 7)
```

```
# Digression: to define a signed network choose
```

```
#A = adjacency(datExprFemale, power = 12, type="signed")
```

```
#define a dissimilarity based on the topological overlap
```

```
dissTOM = TOMdist(A)
```

```
#hierarchical clustering
```

```
geneTree = flashClust(as.dist(dissTOM),method="average")
```

```
# here we define the modules by cutting branches
```

```
moduleLabelsManual1=cutreeDynamic(dendro=geneTree,distM=dissTOM,  
method="hybrid",deepSplit=2,pamRespectsDendro=F,minClusterSize=30)
```

```
# Relabel the manual modules so that their labels
```

```
# match those from our previous analysis
```

```
moduleLabelsManual2=
```

```
  matchLabels(moduleLabelsManual1,moduleLabelsAutomatic)
```

```
# Convert labels to colors for plotting
```

```
moduleColorsManual2=labels2colors(moduleLabelsManual2)
```

Clustering methods may identify modules whose expression profiles are very similar. More specifically, a module detection method may result in modules whose eigengenes are highly correlated. Since highly correlated modules are not distinct, it may be advisable to merge them.

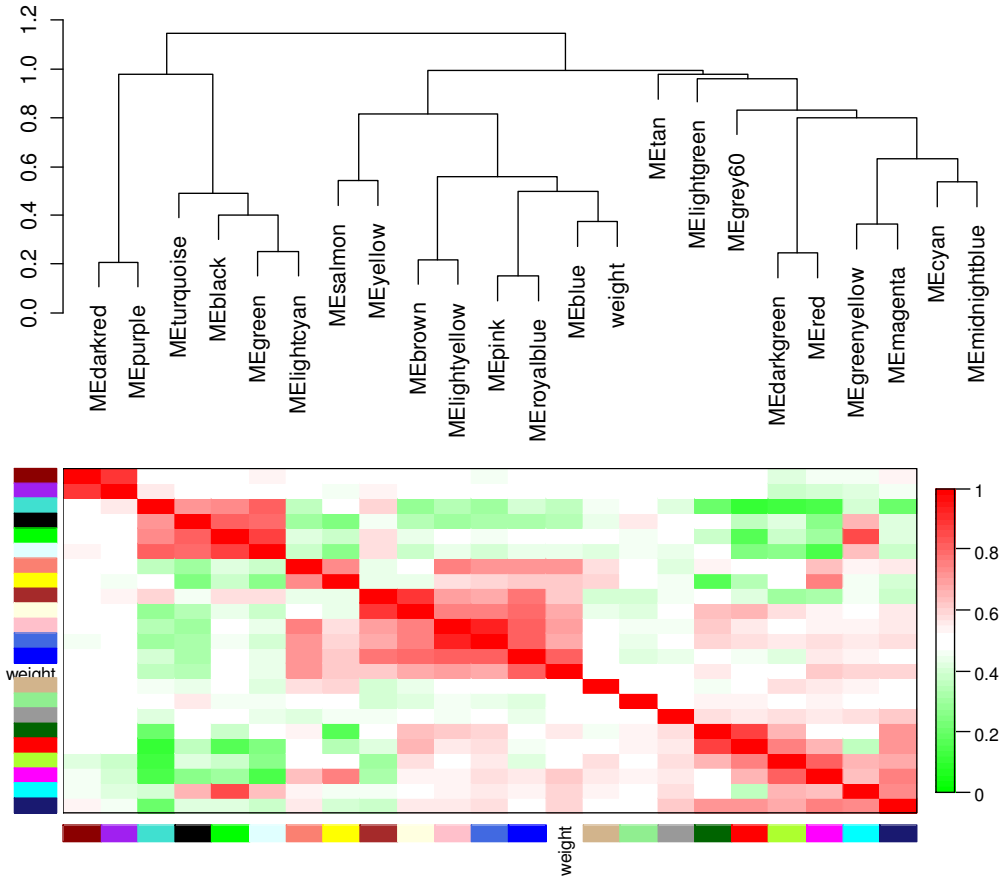
The following code shows how to create a cluster tree of module eigengenes and how to merge them (if their pairwise correlation is larger than 0.75).

```

# Calculate eigengenes
MEList=moduleEigengenes(datExprFemale,colors=moduleColorsManual2)
MEs = MEList$eigengenes
# Add the weight to existing module eigengenes
MET=orderMEs(cbind(MEs,weight))
# Plot the relationships among the eigengenes and the trait
plotEigengeneNetworks(MET,"",marDendro=c(0,4,1,2),
marHeatmap=c(3,4,1,2),cex.lab=0.8,xLabelsAngle=90)

```

The Figure shows the result of this analysis.



Caption: Visualization of the eigengene network representing the relationships among the modules and the sample trait body weight. The top panel shows a hierarchical clustering dendrogram of the eigengenes based on the dissimilarity $diss(q_1, q_2) = 1 - cor(E^{(q_1)}, E^{(q_2)})$. The bottom panel shows the eigengene adjacency $A_{q1, q2} = 0.5 + 0.5 cor(E^{(q_1)}, E^{(q_2)})$.

```

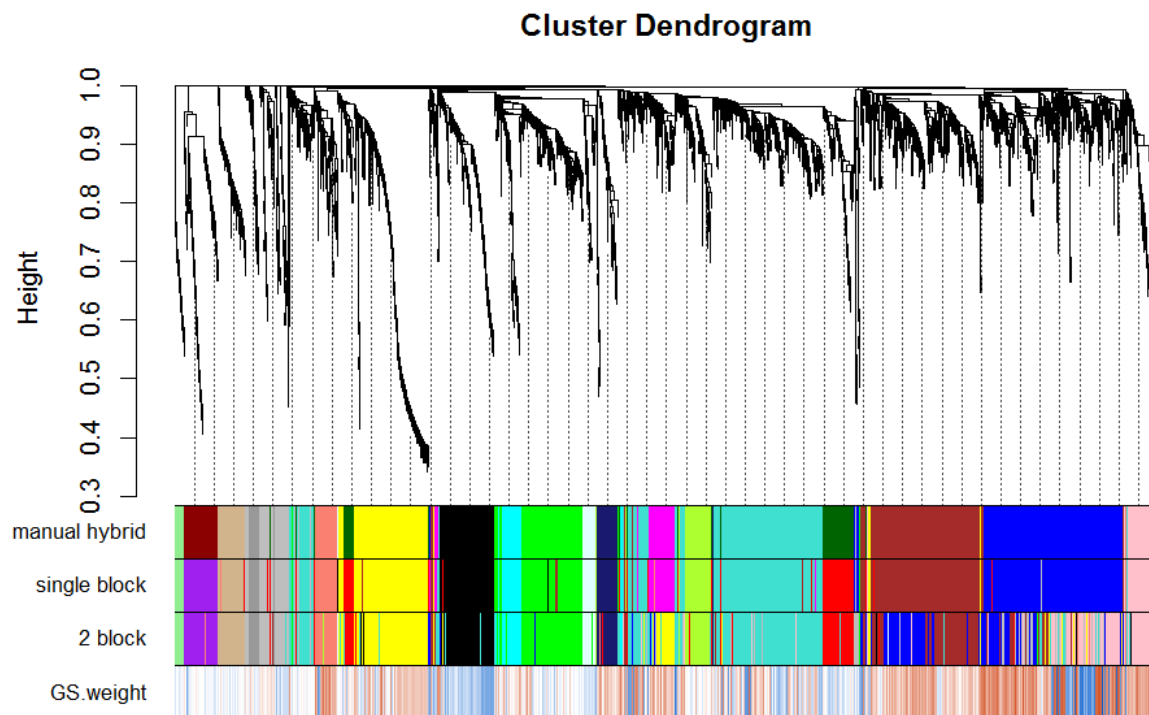
# automatically merge highly correlated modules
merge=mergeCloseModules(datExprFemale,moduleColorsManual2,
cutHeight=mergingThresh)
# resulting merged module colors
moduleColorsManual3 = merge$colors
# eigengenes of the newly merged modules:

```

```
MEsManual = merge$newMEs
```

```
# Show the effect of module merging by plotting the
# original and merged module colors below the tree
datColors=data.frame(moduleColorsManual3,moduleColorsAutomatic,
moduleColorsBlockwise,GS.weightColor)
plotDendroAndColors(geneTree,colors=datColors,
groupLabels=c("manual hybrid","single block","2 block","GS.weight"),
dendroLabels=FALSE,hang=0.03,addGuide=TRUE,guideHang=0.05)
```

The result can be found in the Figure



Caption: Cluster tree of 3600 genes of the mouse liver co-expression network. The color bands provide a simple visual comparison of module assignments (branch cuttings) from 3 different branch cutting methods based on the dynamic hybrid branch cutting method. The first band shows the results from the manual (interactive) branch cutting approach, the second band shows the results of the automatic single block analysis, and the third band shows the results from the 2 block analysis. Note the high agreement among the methods. While overall little is lost when using the blockwise approach, there is some disagreement with respect to the blue module...

```
# check the agreement between manual and automatic module labels
mean(moduleColorsManual3==moduleColorsAutomatic)
```

```
Output
[1] 0.8805556
```

12.2.5 Relating modules to physiological traits

Here we show how to identify modules that are significantly associated with the physiological traits. Since the module eigengene is an optimal summary of the gene expression profiles of a given module, it is natural to correlate eigengenes with these traits and to look for the most significant associations.

```
# Choose a module assignment
moduleColorsFemale=moduleColorsAutomatic
# Define numbers of genes and samples
nGenes = ncol(datExprFemale)
nSamples = nrow(datExprFemale)
# Recalculate MEs with color labels
MEs0 = moduleEigengenes(datExprFemale,moduleColorsFemale)$eigengenes
MEsFemale = orderMEs(MEs0)
modTraitCor = cor(MEsFemale, datTraits, use = "p")
modTraitP = corPvalueStudent(modTraitCor, nSamples)
#Since we have a moderately large number of modules and traits,
#a suitable graphical representation will help in reading
#the table. We color code each association by the correlation value:
# Will display correlations and their p-values
textMatrix = paste(signif(modTraitCor, 2), "\n(",
signif(modTraitP, 1), ")", sep = "")
dim(textMatrix) = dim(modTraitCor)
par(mar = c(6, 8.5, 3, 3))
# Display the correlation values within a heatmap plot
labeledHeatmap(Matrix = modTraitCor, xLabels = names(datTraits),
yLabels = names(MEsFemale), ySymbols = names(MEsFemale),
colorLabels =FALSE,colors=greenWhiteRed(50),textMatrix=textMatrix,
setStdMargins = FALSE, cex.text = 0.5, zlim = c(-1,1),
main = paste("Module-trait relationships"))
```

The resulting color-coded table is shown in the Figure. The analysis identifies the several significant module-trait associations. We will concentrate on weight (first column) as the trait of interest.

Module-trait relationships

	weight_g	length_cm	ab_fat	other_fat	total_fat	X100fat_weight	Trigly	Total Chol	HDL Chol	UC	FFA	Glucose	LDL_plus_VLDL	MCP_1_phys	Insulin_uq_I	Glucose_Insulin	Leptin_pg_ml	Adiponectin	Aortic_lesions	Aneurysm	Aortic_cal_M	Aortic_cal_L	CoronaryArtery_Cal	Myocardial_cal	BMD_all_limbs	BMD_femurs_only
MEpurple	-0.014 (-0.04)	0.08 (0.41)	-0.0031 (1)	-0.029 (0.7)	-0.013 (0.8)	-0.059 (0.9)	0.019 (0.8)	-0.026 (0.7)	0.052 (0.8)	-0.072 (-0.13)	-0.093 (-0.3)	-0.028 (0.7)	-0.027 (0.8)	-0.0095 (0.4)	0.08 (0.4)	-0.062 (0.5)	0.052 (0.6)	0.016 (0.1)	-0.0012 (1)	0.19 (0.03)	-0.094 (-0.1)	-0.053 (0.5)	-0.033 (0.7)	0.079 (0.1)	0.015 (0.8)	
METurquoise	-0.29 (-0.09)	-0.15 (-0.09)	0.34 (-0.09)	-0.069 (-0.04)	-0.25 (-0.01)	-0.22 (0.03)	0.015 (0.9)	-0.094 (-0.3)	-0.14 (0.5)	-0.063 (0.5)	0.029 (0.3)	-0.062 (0.5)	0.089 (0.3)	0.019 (0.8)	-0.099 (-0.23)	-0.39 (-0.13)	-0.091 (0.04)	0.18 (0.4)	0.14 (0.5)	0.063 (0.4)	0.069 (0.5)	0.026 (0.2)	-0.25 (-0.2)	-0.22 (-0.1)	0.015 (0.8)	
MEblack	-0.32 (-16.94)	-0.17 (0.05)	0.28 (-0.04)	-0.15 (0.09)	-0.24 (0.05)	-0.18 (0.03)	-0.078 (0.03)	-0.16 (0.4)	-0.081 (0.06)	0.2 (0.4)	-0.24 (0.02)	-0.28 (0.06)	-0.16 (0.07)	0.054 (0.07)	-0.33 (-16.94)	0.45 (-0.08)	-0.37 (-0.06)	-0.11 (0.2)	0.18 (0.04)	0.1 (0.3)	0.083 (0.03)	0.048 (0.2)	0.028 (0.6)	0.27 (0.7)	-0.29 (0.01)	
MEgreen	-0.17 (-16.94)	-0.13 (0.05)	-0.028 (-0.04)	0.21 (0.09)	0.081 (0.05)	0.12 (0.03)	-0.11 (0.03)	-0.18 (0.4)	-0.035 (0.06)	-0.047 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.068 (0.07)	-0.069 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	-0.066 (0.07)	
MElightcyan	-0.12 (-0.2)	-0.12 (0.03)	-0.19 (0.4)	0.077 (0.3)	-0.083 (0.3)	-0.082 (0.3)	-0.049 (0.6)	-0.1 (0.2)	-0.1 (0.2)	-0.11 (0.3)	-0.082 (0.3)	-0.16 (0.3)	-0.098 (0.3)	0.068 (0.4)	-0.13 (0.4)	0.25 (0.04)	-0.29 (-0.23)	-0.1 (0.04)	0.19 (0.03)	0.19 (0.03)	0.039 (0.7)	0.12 (0.2)	0.057 (0.5)	-0.29 (-0.04)	-0.27 (-0.02)	
MEbrown	0.21 (-26.94)	0.038 (0.7)	0.29 (-0.04)	0.23 (0.08)	0.27 (0.04)	0.27 (0.02)	-0.11 (0.2)	-0.087 (0.2)	0.073 (0.4)	0.07 (0.4)	0.16 (0.06)	0.11 (0.2)	0.24 (0.06)	0.019 (0.2)	-0.12 (-0.4)	0.25 (0.03)	0.064 (0.5)	0.19 (0.3)	-0.085 (0.3)	-0.18 (0.06)	-0.084 (0.3)	-0.21 (0.01)	-0.18 (0.4)	-0.088 (0.3)	-0.022 (0.8)	
MEblue	0.63 (-16.94)	0.13 (0.5)	0.51 (0.5)	0.5 (0.5)	0.56 (0.5)	0.53 (0.5)	-0.12 (0.3)	0.34 (0.06)	0.095 (0.4)	0.33 (0.3)	0.35 (0.3)	0.34 (0.3)	0.13 (0.4)	0.38 (0.4)	-0.47 (-0.2)	0.46 (0.03)	0.069 (0.5)	-0.11 (-0.03)	-0.093 (-0.1)	-0.053 (-0.1)	0.058 (0.1)	-0.019 (-0.01)	-0.0089 (-0.05)	0.095 (0.3)		
MEpink	0.41 (-16.94)	0.11 (0.2)	0.33 (0.2)	0.36 (0.2)	0.38 (0.2)	0.38 (0.2)	0.024 (0.6)	0.31 (0.2)	0.073 (0.4)	0.26 (0.03)	0.18 (0.04)	0.26 (0.02)	0.31 (0.4)	0.06 (0.5)	0.2 (0.2)	-0.33 (-0.4)	0.35 (0.06)	0.16 (0.4)	-0.074 (-0.07)	-0.16 (0.3)	-0.083 (0.2)	-0.11 (0.6)	-0.045 (0.5)	0.055 (0.3)	0.092 (0.2)	
MEsalmon	0.42 (-26.97)	0.22 (0.01)	0.35 (0.03)	0.29 (0.04)	0.37 (0.05)	0.37 (0.04)	0.18 (0.4)	0.27 (0.04)	0.12 (0.03)	0.29 (0.06)	0.35 (0.4)	0.33 (0.02)	0.28 (0.4)	-0.11 (-0.08)	0.47 (0.03)	-0.58 (0.03)	0.25 (0.2)	-0.021 (-0.2)	-0.12 (0.4)	0.08 (0.5)	-0.061 (0.6)	0.15 (0.7)	0.036 (0.1)	0.13 (0.05)	0.17 (0.01)	
MEyellow	0.21 (-26.97)	0.048 (0.01)	0.18 (0.03)	0.21 (0.03)	0.21 (0.03)	0.19 (0.03)	0.1 (0.4)	0.29 (0.04)	0.071 (0.03)	0.36 (0.04)	0.42 (0.04)	0.41 (0.02)	0.29 (0.4)	-0.16 (-0.08)	0.46 (0.03)	0.2 (0.03)	0.015 (0.4)	-0.11 (-0.04)	-0.042 (-0.04)	0.56 (0.09)	0.13 (0.02)	0.028 (0.03)	0.23 (0.3)	0.33 (0.03)		
MElightgreen	-0.06 (-0.5)	0.13 (0.1)	-0.011 (0.9)	-0.048 (0.6)	-0.032 (0.7)	-0.017 (0.8)	0.013 (0.9)	-0.028 (0.7)	0.069 (0.4)	-0.045 (0.6)	-0.052 (0.5)	-0.017 (0.8)	-0.021 (0.7)	-0.059 (-0.2)	0.072 (0.4)	-0.15 (-0.07)	-0.023 (0.8)	0.065 (0.4)	0.011 (0.5)	0.04 (0.6)	0.051 (0.9)	-0.011 (0.7)	0.029 (0.1)	0.14 (0.8)	0.098 (0.3)	
MEtan	-0.024 (-0.6)	0.051 (0.2)	0.022 (0.3)	0.13 (0.5)	0.085 (0.3)	0.13 (0.4)	-0.042 (-0.9)	-0.029 (-0.8)	-0.084 (-0.3)	-0.017 (0.7)	-0.029 (0.5)	-0.078 (0.3)	-0.026 (0.5)	-0.098 (-0.5)	-0.14 (-0.2)	-0.086 (-0.1)	-0.12 (-0.03)	-0.0043 (-0.04)	0.094 (0.5)	0.051 (0.9)	-0.079 (-0.2)	0.027 (0.6)	-0.063 (-0.8)	0.087 (0.3)		
MEgrey60	-0.018 (-0.6)	-0.068 (0.4)	0.055 (0.5)	0.00017 (0.7)	0.036 (0.4)	0.089 (0.6)	-0.049 (-0.8)	0.023 (0.1)	-0.011 (0.4)	0.069 (0.6)	0.061 (0.5)	0.046 (0.6)	0.023 (0.8)	0.019 (0.8)	-0.064 (-0.3)	0.16 (0.3)	0.0071 (0.3)	0.13 (0.5)	-0.012 (-0.1)	0.054 (0.9)	-0.057 (-0.5)	-0.094 (-0.4)	-0.055 (-0.7)	-0.037 (-0.3)	-0.089 (0.3)	
MEred	-0.0089 (-0.9)	0.1 (0.2)	0.056 (0.5)	-0.22 (0.1)	-0.064 (0.5)	-0.087 (0.3)	0.052 (0.5)	-0.12 (0.2)	0.11 (0.2)	-0.17 (0.05)	-0.22 (0.01)	-0.19 (0.03)	-0.12 (0.2)	0.041 (0.6)	-0.13 (-0.1)	-0.082 (-0.2)	0.2 (0.2)	0.11 (0.3)	-0.092 (-0.2)	-0.16 (-0.3)	-0.095 (-0.3)	-0.053 (-0.5)	0.19 (0.3)	0.07 (0.4)		
MEgreenyellow	-0.025 (-0.04)	-0.025 (0.03)	0.046 (0.03)	-0.097 (-0.04)	-0.014 (0.03)	0.0042 (0.05)	-0.0094 (0.03)	-0.086 (-0.9)	-0.091 (-0.3)	-0.1 (0.5)	-0.16 (-0.2)	-0.1 (0.3)	-0.083 (-0.3)	-0.095 (-0.3)	-0.083 (-0.2)	-0.026 (0.03)	0.093 (0.04)	0.063 (0.03)	0.043 (0.02)	0.021 (0.01)	-0.067 (-0.1)	-0.11 (-0.1)	0.017 (0.1)	0.069 (0.01)		
MEmagenta	0.025 (-0.004)	0.18 (0.03)	0.13 (0.03)	0.12 (0.03)	0.25 (0.03)	0.24 (0.03)	-0.0096 (0.05)	0.19 (0.03)	0.077 (0.05)	0.11 (0.05)	0.2 (0.05)	0.18 (0.03)	0.2 (0.03)	0.18 (0.03)	0.18 (0.04)	-0.2 (-0.04)	0.28 (0.04)	0.037 (0.01)	-0.12 (-0.2)	0.13 (0.2)	0.1 (0.3)	0.096 (0.4)	-0.021 (-0.3)	0.011 (0.01)	0.27 (0.01)	
MEcyan	0.019 (-0.004)	-0.025 (0.03)	0.13 (0.03)	0.081 (0.01)	0.0001 (0.002)	0.0001 (0.002)	0.0001 (0.002)	-0.011 (0.2)	0.011 (0.5)	0.023 (0.2)	0.071 (0.7)	0.11 (0.1)	0.08 (0.8)	0.07 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	0.08 (0.8)	
EMidnightblue	0.17 (-0.08)	0.15 (0.07)	0.24 (0.03)	0.056 (0.8)	0.18 (0.03)	0.14 (0.03)	-0.073 (-0.4)	0.041 (0.7)	0.2 (0.03)	-0.0071 (-0.1)	-0.12 (-0.6)	-0.068 (-0.3)	-0.024 (-0.4)	0.02 (0.03)	0.016 (0.1)	0.12 (0.05)	0.22 (0.05)	0.05 (0.03)	-0.079 (-0.4)	-0.16 (-0.05)	-0.052 (-0.8)	-0.027 (-0.6)	0.061 (0.8)	0.08 (0.015)		
MEgrey	0.089 (-0.3)	0.098 (0.3)	0.19 (0.03)	0.04 (0.2)	0.12 (0.2)	0.11 (0.2)	-0.033 (0.7)	0.058 (0.5)	0.16 (0.7)	0.048 (0.6)	0.025 (0.8)	-0.025 (-0.6)	-0.052 (-0.5)	-0.13 (-0.1)	-0.051 (-0.6)	-0.046 (-0.8)	0.13 (0.8)	-0.018 (-0.4)	-0.027 (-0.7)	-0.048 (-0.8)	0.18 (0.4)	-0.049 (-0.3)	0.04 (0.7)	0.072 (0.01)		

Caption: Table of module-trait correlations and p-values.

Each cell reports the correlation (and p-value) resulting from correlating module eigengenes (rows) to traits (columns). The table is color-coded by correlation according to the color legend.

Gene relationship to trait and important modules: Gene Significance and Module Membership

We quantify associations of individual genes with our trait of interest (weight) by defining Gene Significance GS as (the absolute value of) the correlation between the gene and the trait. For each module, we also define a quantitative measure of module membership MM as the correlation of the module eigengene and the gene expression profile. This allows us to quantify the similarity of all genes on the array to every module.

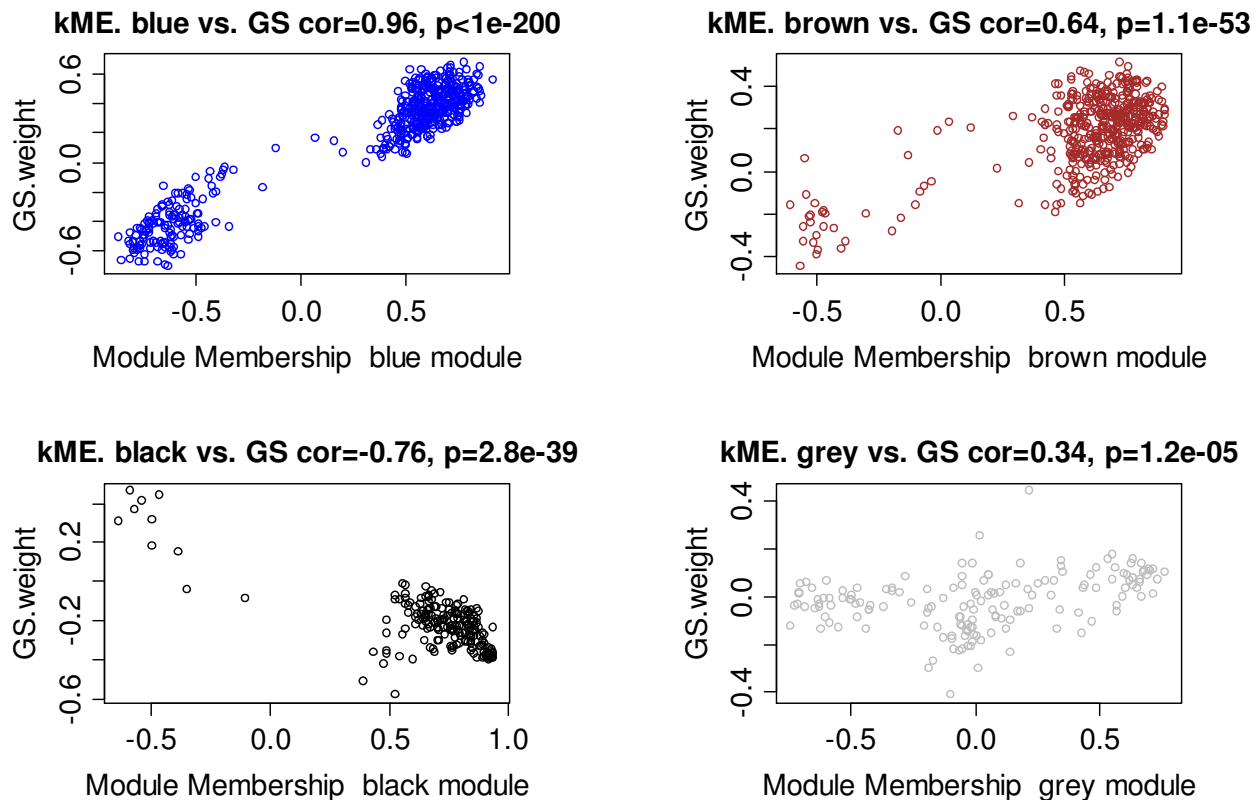
```
# calculate the module membership values
# (aka. module eigengene based connectivity kME):
datKME=signedKME(datExprFemale, MEsFemale)
```

Intramodular analysis: identifying genes with high GS and MM

Using the GS and MM measures, we can identify genes that have a high significance for weight as well as high module membership in interesting modules. As an example, we look at the brown module that a high correlation with body weight. We plot a scatterplot of Gene Significance vs. Module Membership in select modules...

```
colorOfColumn=substring(names(datKME),4)
par(mfrow = c(2,2))
selectModules=c("blue","brown","black","grey")
par(mfrow=c(2,length(selectModules)/2))
for (module in selectModules) {
  column = match(module,colorOfColumn)
  restModule=moduleColorsFemale==module
  verboseScatterplot(datKME[restModule,column],GS.weight[restModule],
    xlab=paste("Module Membership ",module,"module"),ylab="GS.weight",
    main=paste("kME.",module,"vs. GS"),col=module)}
```

The result is presented in the Figure.



Caption: Gene significance (GS.weight) versus module membership (kME) for the body weight related modules. GS.weight and MM.weight are highly correlated reflecting the high correlations between weight and the respective module eigengenes.

We find that the brown, blue modules contain genes that have high positive and high negative correlations with body weight. In contrast, the grey "background" genes show only weak correlations with weight.

12.2.6 Output file for gene ontology analysis

Here we present code for merging the probe data with a gene annotation table (which contains locus link IDs and other information for the probes). Next, we show how to export the results. The list of locus link identifiers (corresponding to the genes inside a given module) can be used as input of gene ontology (GO) and functional enrichment analysis software tools such as David (EASE) (<http://david.abcc.ncifcrf.gov/>) or AmiGO, Webgestalt.

The R software also contains relevant packages, e.g. GOSim (Frohlich 2007). Most gene ontology based functional enrichment analysis software programs simply take lists of gene identifiers as input. Ingenuity Pathway Analysis allows the user to input gene expression data or gene identifiers.

The following code shows how to add gene identifiers and how to output the network analysis results.

```
# Read in the probe annotation
GeneAnnotation=read.csv(file="GeneAnnotation.csv")
# Match probes in the data set to those of the annotation file
probes = names(datExprFemale)
probes2annot = match(probes, GeneAnnotation$SubstanceBXH)
# data frame with gene significances (cor with the traits)
datGS.Traits=data.frame(cor(datExprFemale, datTraits, use="p"))
names(datGS.Traits)=paste("cor", names(datGS.Traits), sep=".")
datOutput=data.frame(ProbeID=names(datExprFemale),
GeneAnnotation[probes2annot,], moduleColorsFemale, datKME, datGS.Traits)
# save the results in a comma delimited file
write.table(datOutput, "FemaleMouseResults.csv", row.names=F, sep=",")
```

12.3 Systems genetic analysis with NEO

The identification of pathways and genes underlying complex traits using standard mapping techniques has been difficult due to genetic heterogeneity, epistatic interactions, and environmental factors.

One promising approach to this problem involves the integration of genetics and gene expression.

Here, we describe a systems genetic approach for integrating gene co-expression network analysis with genetic data (Ghazalpour A, et al 2006, Presson A, et al 2008).

The following steps summarize our overall approach:

- (1) Construct a gene co-expression network from gene expression data (see section 12.2.2)
- (2) Study the functional enrichment (gene ontology etc) of network modules (see section 12.2.6)
- (3) Relate modules to the clinical traits (see section 12.2.5)
- (4) Identify chromosomal locations (QTLs) regulating modules and traits
- (5) Use QTLs as causal anchors in network edge orienting analysis (described in chapter 11) to find causal drivers underlying the clinical traits.

In step 4, we identify chromosomal locations (genetic markers) that relate to body weight and module eigengenes. The traditional quantitative trait locus (QTL) mapping approach relates clinical traits (e.g. body weight) to genetic markers directly.

To relate quantitative traits to a single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) marker, one can

use a correlation test (section 10.3)) if the SNP is numerically coded. For example, an additive marker coding of a SNP results in trivariate ordinal variable, which takes on values 0,1,2.

Alternatively, one can carry out a LOD score analysis using the `qtl` R package (Broman et al 2003). In practice, we find that results from a single locus LOD score analysis (with additive marker coding) are rank-equivalent with those from a correlation test analysis. Several authors have proposed a strategy that uses gene expression data to help map clinical traits. The strategy uses the genetics of gene expression and utilizes gene expression as a quantitative trait, thereby mapping expression QTL (eQTL) (Jansen et al 2001, Schadt et al 2003). Since we were interested in studying the genetics of modules as opposed to the genetics of the entire network, when searching for mQTLs, we focused on module-specific eQTL hot spots. We used 1065 single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) markers that were evenly spaced across the mouse genome, to map gene expression values for all genes within each gene module (Ghazalpour et al 2006).

A module quantitative trait locus (mQTL) is a chromosomal location (e.g. a SNP) which correlates with many gene expression profiles of a given module.

We found that one of the modules that was highly correlated with body weight had nine module QTLs. These were located on Chromosomes 2, 3, 5, 10 (middle), 10 (distal), 12 (proximal), 12 (middle), 14, and 19. In particular, the mQTL on chromosome 19 has a highly significant correlation mouse body weight. We use this mQTL (denoted mQTL19.047) as causal anchor in step 5.

In step 5, we use genetic markers to calculate Local Edge Orienting (LEO) scores for a) determining whether the module eigengene has a causal effect on body weight, and b) for identifying genes inside the trait related modules that have a causal effect on body weight. For example, for the i -th expression profile x_i in the blue module, we calculate the LEO.SingleAnchor score (section 11.8.1) for assessing the relative causal fit of $mQTL19.047 \rightarrow x_i \rightarrow weight$.

Copy and paste the following R code from section 11.8.1 into the R session.

```
library(sem)
# Now we specify the 5 single anchor models
# Single anchor model 1: M1->A->B
CausalModel1=specifyModel()
A -> B, betaAtoB, NA
M1 -> A, gammaM1toA, NA
A <-> A, sigmaAA, NA
B <-> B, sigmaBB, NA
M1 <-> M1, sigmaM1M1, NA

# Single anchor model 2: M->B->A
CausalModel2=specifyModel()
B -> A, betaBtoA, NA
M1 -> B, gammaM1toB, NA
A <-> A, sigmaAA, NA
B <-> B, sigmaBB, NA
M1 <-> M1, sigmaM1M1, NA

# Single anchor model 3: A<-M->B
CausalModel3=specifyModel()
M1 -> A, gammaM1toA, NA
M1 -> B, gammaM1toB, NA
A <-> A, sigmaAA, NA
B <-> B, sigmaBB, NA
M1 <-> M1, sigmaM1M1, NA

# Single anchor model 4: M->A<-B
CausalModel4=specifyModel()
M1 -> A, gammaM1toA, NA
B -> A, gammaBtoA, NA
A <-> A, sigmaAA, NA
B <-> B, sigmaBB, NA
M1 <-> M1, sigmaM1M1, NA

# Single anchor model 5: M->B<-A
CausalModel5=specifyModel()
M1 -> B, gammaM1toB, NA
A -> B, gammaAtoB, NA
A <-> A, sigmaAA, NA
B <-> B, sigmaBB, NA
M1 <-> M1, sigmaM1M1, NA
```

```
# Function for obtaining the model fitting p-value
# from an sem object:
ModelFittingPvalue=function(semObject){
  ModelChisq=summary(semObject)$chisq
  df= summary(semObject)$df
  ModelFittingPvalue=1-pchisq(ModelChisq,df)
  ModelFittingPvalue}

```

```
# this function calculates the single anchor score
LEO.SingleAnchor=function(M1,A,B){
  datObsVariables= data.frame(M1,A,B)
  # this is the observed correlation matrix
  S.SingleAnchor=cor(datObsVariables,use="p")
  m=dim(datObsVariables)[[1]]

```

```
semModel1 =sem(CausalModel1,S=S.SingleAnchor,N=m)
semModel2 =sem(CausalModel2,S=S.SingleAnchor,N=m)
semModel3 =sem(CausalModel3,S=S.SingleAnchor,N=m)
semModel4 =sem(CausalModel4,S=S.SingleAnchor,N=m)
semModel5 =sem(CausalModel5,S=S.SingleAnchor,N=m)

```

```
# Model fitting p-values for each model
p1=ModelFittingPvalue(semModel1)
p2=ModelFittingPvalue(semModel2)
p3=ModelFittingPvalue(semModel3)
p4=ModelFittingPvalue(semModel4)
p5=ModelFittingPvalue(semModel5)
LEO.SingleAnchor=log10(p1/max(p2,p3,p4,p5))

```

```
data.frame(LEO.SingleAnchor,p1,p2,p3,p4,p5)
} # end of function

```

```
# Get SNP markers which encode module QTLs
SNPdataFemale=read.csv("SNPandModuleQTLFemaleMice.csv")
# find matching row numbers to line up the SNP data
snpRows=match(dimnames(datExprFemale)[[1]],SNPdataFemale$Mice)
# define a data frame whose rows correspond to those of datExpr
datSNP = SNPdataFemale[snpRows,-1]
rownames(datSNP)=SNPdataFemale$Mice[snpRows]
# show that row names agree
table(rownames(datSNP)==rownames(datExprFemale))

```

```
SNP=as.numeric(datSNP$mQTL19.047)
weight=as.numeric(datTraits$weight_g)
MEblue=MEsFemale$MEblue
MEbrown=MEsFemale$MEbrown

```

```
# evaluate the relative causal fit
# of SNP -> ME -> weight
LEO.SingleAnchor(M1=SNP,A=MEblue,B=weight)[[1]]
LEO.SingleAnchor(M1=SNP,A=MEbrown,B=weight)[[1]]

```

```
> LEO.SingleAnchor(M1=SNP,A=MEblue,B=weight)[[1]]
[1] -2.454137
> LEO.SingleAnchor(M1=SNP,A=MEbrown,B=weight)[[1]]
[1] -3.838955

```

Thus, there is no evidence for a causal relationship ME-> weight if mQTL19.047 is used as causal anchor. However, we caution the reader that other causal anchors (e.g. SNPs in other chromosomal locations) or other module eigengenes may lead to a different conclusion. The critical step in a NEO analysis is to find

valid causal anchors. While the module eigengene has no causal effect on weight, it is possible that individual genes inside the brown module may have a causal effect. The following code shows how to identify genes inside the brown module that have a causal effect on weight.

```
whichmodule="blue"
restGenes=moduleColorsFemale==whichmodule
datExprModule=datExprFemale[,restGenes]
attach(datExprModule)
LEO.SingleAnchorWeight=rep(NA, dim(datExprModule)[[2]] )
for (i in c(1:dim(datExprModule)[[2]])) {
  printFlush(i)
  LEO.SingleAnchorWeight[i]=
  LEO.SingleAnchor(M1=SNP,A=datExprModule[,i],B=weight)[[1]]}
```

```
# Find gens with a very significant LEO score
restCausal=LEO.SingleAnchorWeight>3 # could be lowered to 1
names(datExprModule)[restCausal]
```

```
# this provides us the corresponding gene symbols
data.frame(datOutput[restGenes,c(1,6)], LEO.SingleAnchorWeight=
LEO.SingleAnchorWeight )[restCausal,]
#output
```

	ProbeID	gene_symbol	LEO.SingleAnchorWeight
7145	MMT00024300	Cyp2c40	3.219350
8873	MMT00030448	4833409A17Rik	3.777643
11707	MMT00041314	<NA>	3.669293

Note that the NEO analysis implicates 3 probes, one of which corresponds to the gene Cyp2c40. Using alternative mouse cross data, gene Cyp2c40 had already been found to be related to body weight in rodents (reviewed in Ghazalpour et al 2006). Let's determine pairwise correlations

```
signif(cor(data.frame(SNP,MEblue,MMT00024300,weight),use="p"),2)
#output
```

	SNP	MEblue	MMT00024300	weight
SNP	1.00	0.20	-0.70	0.32
MEblue	0.20	1.00	-0.54	0.63
MMT00024300	-0.70	-0.54	1.00	-0.53
weight	0.32	0.63	-0.53	1.00

Note that the causal anchor (SNP) has a weak correlation ($r=0.2$) with MEblue, a strong negative correlation ($r=-0.70$) with probe MMT00024300 (of gene Cyp2c40), and a positive correlation with weight ($r=0.32$). The differences in pairwise correlations illustrate why MMT00024300 appears causal for weight while MEblue does not. Further, note that MMT00024300 has only a moderately high module membership value of $kMEblue=-0.54$, i.e. this gene is *not* a hub gene in the blue module. This makes sense in light of our finding that the module eigengene (which can be interpreted as the ultimate hub gene) is not causal for body weight. In Presson et al 2008, we show how one can integrate module membership and causal testing analysis to develop systems genetic gene screening criteria.

12.4 Visualizing the network

Module structure and network connections can be visualized in several different ways.

While R offers a host of network visualization functions, there are also valuable external software packages.

12.4.1 Connectivity-, TOM-, and MDS plots

A **connectivity plot** of a network is simply a heatmap representation of the connectivity patterns of the adjacency matrix or another measure of pairwise node interconnectedness. In an undirected network the connectivity plot is symmetrical around the diagonal and the rows and columns depict network nodes (which are arranged in the same order). Often the nodes are sorted to highlight the module structure. For example, when the topological overlap matrix is used as measure of pairwise interconnectedness, then the **topological overlap matrix (TOM) plot** (Ravasz et al 2002) is a special case of a connectivity plot. The TOM plot provides a 'reduced' view of the network that allows one to visualize and identify network modules. The TOM plot is a color-coded depiction of the values of the TOM measure whose rows and columns are sorted by the hierarchical clustering tree (which used the TOM-based dissimilarity as input).

As an example, consider the Figure below where red/yellow indicate high/low values of TOM_{ij} . Both rows and columns of TOM have been sorted using the hierarchical clustering tree. Since TOM is symmetric, the TOM plot is also symmetric around the diagonal. Since modules are sets of nodes with high topological overlap, modules correspond to red squares along the diagonal.

Each row and column of the heatmap corresponds to a single gene. The heatmap can depict topological overlap, with light colors denoting low adjacency (overlap) and darker colors higher adjacency (overlap).

In addition, the cluster tree and module colors are plotted along the top and left side of the heatmap.

The Figure was created using the following code.

```
# WARNING: On some computers, this code can take a while to run (20 minutes??).
```

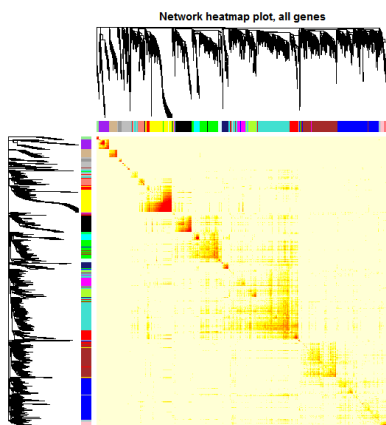
```
# I suggest you skip it.
```

```
# Set the diagonal of the TOM dissimilarity to NA
```

```
diag(dissTOM) = NA
```

```
# Transform dissTOM with a power to enhance visibility
```

```
TOMplot(dissim=dissTOM^7,dendro=geneTree,colors=moduleColorsFemale, main = "Network heatmap plot, all genes")
```



Caption: Topological Overlap Matrix (TOM) plot (also known as connectivity plot) of the network connections. Genes in the rows and columns are sorted by the clustering tree. Light color represents low topological overlap and progressively darker red color represents higher overlap. Clusters correspond to squares along the diagonal. The cluster tree and module assignment are also shown along the left side and the top.

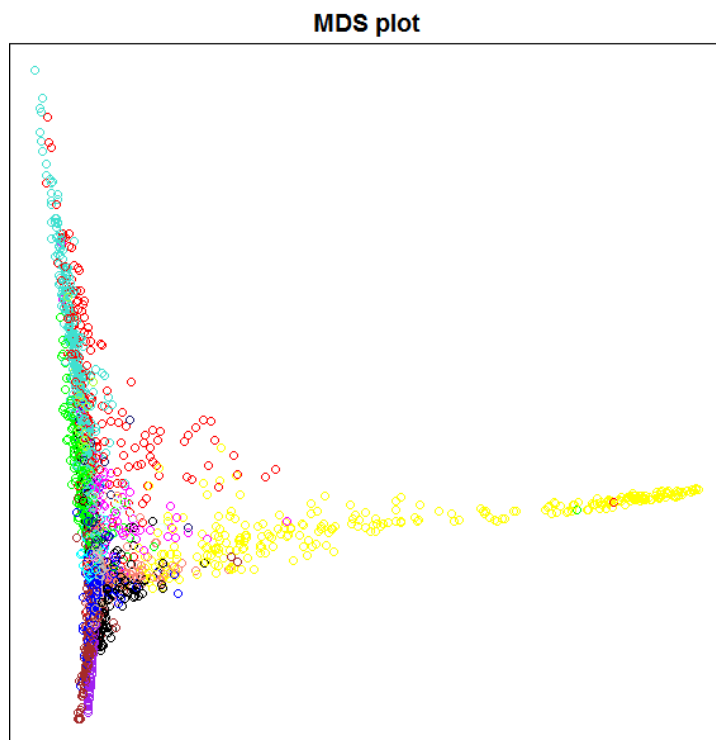
Multidimensional scaling (MDS) is an approach for visualizing pairwise relationships specified by a dissimilarity matrix. Each row of the dissimilarity matrix is visualized by a point in a Euclidean space. The Euclidean distances between a pair of points is chosen to reflect the corresponding pairwise dissimilarity. An MDS algorithm starts with a dissimilarity matrix as input and assigns a location to each row (object, node) in d-dimensional space, where d is specified a priori. If d=2, the resulting point locations can be displayed in the Euclidean plane.

There are two major types of MDS: classical MDS (implemented in the R function `cmdscale`) and non-metric MDS (R functions `isoMDS` and `sammon`).

The following R code shows how to create a classical MDS plot using d=2 scaling dimensions.

```
cmd1=cmdscale(as.dist(dissTOM),2)
par(mfrow=c(1,1))
plot(cmd1,col=moduleColorsFemale,main="MDS plot", xlab="Scaling Dimension 1",ylab="Scaling Dimension 2")
```

The resulting plot can be found below.



Caption: Classical multidimensional scaling plot whose input is the TOM dissimilarity. Each dot (gene) is colored by the module assignment.

VisANT plot and software

VisANT (Hu et al 2004) is a software framework for visualizing, mining, analyzing and modeling multi-scale biological networks. The software can handle large-scale networks. It is also able to integrate interaction data, networks and pathways. The implementation of metagraphs enables VisANT to integrate multi-scale knowledge. The WGCNA R function `exportNetworkToVisANT` allows the user to export networks from R into a format suitable for VisANT.

The following R code shows how to create a VisANT input file for visualizing the intramodular connections of the blue module.

```
# Recalculate topological overlap
TOM = TOMsimilarityFromExpr(datExprFemale, power=7)
module = "blue"
# Select module probes
probes = names(datExprFemale)
inModule = (moduleColorsFemale==module)
modProbes = probes[inModule]
# Select the corresponding Topological Overlap
modTOM = TOM[inModule, inModule]
# Because the module is rather large,
# we focus on the 30 top intramodular hub genes
nTopHubs = 30
# intramodular connectivity
KIN = softConnectivity(datExprFemale[, modProbes])
selectHubs = (rank (-KIN) <= nTopHubs)
vis = exportNetworkToVisANT(modTOM[selectHubs,selectHubs],
file=paste("VisANTInput-", module, "-top30.txt", sep=""),
weighted=TRUE,threshold = 0, probeToGene=
data.frame(GeneAnnotation$substanceBXH,GeneAnnotation$gene_symbol))
```

To provide an example of a VisANT visualization, you can load file produced by the above code in VisANT. For better readability we recommend you change the thresholds for displaying a link between two nodes.

Here is a typical VisANT plot.



Caption: VisANT plot

Cytoscape and Pajek software

The WGCNA R function `exportNetworkToCytoscape` allows the user to export networks in a format suitable for Cytoscape (Shannon et al 2003). Cytoscape is a widely used software platform for visualizing networks and biological pathways and integrating these networks with annotations, gene expression profiles and other data. Although Cytoscape was originally designed for biological research, it is a general platform for complex network analysis and visualization. Cytoscape core distribution provides a basic set of features for data integration and visualization. Additional features are (freely) available as plugins. For example, plugins are available for network and molecular profiling analyses, scripting, and connection with databases.

Cytoscape allows the user to input an edge file and a node file, which allow one to specify connection strengths (link weights) and node colors. The following R code shows how to create an input file for Cytoscape.

```
# select modules
modules = c("blue","brown")
# Select module probes
inModule=is.finite(match(moduleColorsFemale,modules))
modProbes=probes[inModule]
match1=match(modProbes,GeneAnnotation$substanceBXH)
modGenes=GeneAnnotation$gene_symbol[match1]
# Select the corresponding Topological Overlap
modTOM = TOM[inModule, inModule]
dimnames(modTOM) = list(modProbes, modProbes)
# Export the network into edge and node list files for Cytoscape
cyt = exportNetworkToCytoscape(modTOM,
edgeFile=paste("CytoEdge",paste(modules,collapse="-"),".txt",sep=""),
nodeFile=paste("CytoNode",paste(modules,collapse="-"),".txt",sep=""),
weighted = TRUE, threshold = 0.02,nodeNames=modProbes,
altNodeNames = modGenes, nodeAttr = moduleColorsFemale[inModule])
```

Inputting the network into Cytoscape is a bit involved since many options exist for interpreting edges and nodes.

We refer the reader to Cytoscape documentation for the necessary details.

Another powerful network visualization software is called Pajek (de Nooy et al., 2005)

This freely available software is widely used in many social network and biological applications.

12.5 Module preservation between female and male mice

In the following, we present R code for studying the preservation of gene co-expression modules between female and male mouse liver networks. In section 12.2, we present R code for defining the modules as branches of a hierarchical clustering tree. This application demonstrates that module preservation statistics allow us to identify invalid, non-reproducible modules due to array outliers.

In this section we use the WGCNA function `modulePreservation` to study module preservation of female modules in the male data.

WARNING: On some computers, this code can take a while to run (30 minutes??).

I suggest you skip it.

```
maleData = read.csv("LiverMaleFromLiverFemale3600.csv")
names(maleData)
datExprMale=data.frame(t(maleData[,-c(1:8)]))
names(datExprMale)=maleData$substanceBXH
```

```
# We now set up the multi-set expression data
# and corresponding module colors:
setLabels = c("Female", "Male")
multiExpr=list(Female=list(data=datExprFemale),
               Male=list(data=datExprMale))
moduleColorsFemale=moduleColorsAutomatic
multiColor=list(Female=moduleColorsFemale)
```

```
# The number of permutations drives the computation time
# of the module preservation function. For a publication use 200 permutations.
# But for brevity, let's use a small number
nPermutations1=20
# Set it to a low number (e.g. 3) if only the medianRank statistic
# and other observed statistics are needed.
# Permutations are only needed for calculating Zsummary
# and other permutation test statistics.
# set the random seed of the permutation test analysis
set.seed(1)
system.time({
  mp = modulePreservation(multiExpr, multiColor,
    referenceNetworks = 1, nPermutations = nPermutations1,
    randomSeed = 1, quickCor = 0, verbose = 3)
})
# Save the results of the module preservation analysis
save(mp, file = "modulePreservation.RData")
# If needed, reload the data:
load(file = "modulePreservation.RData")

# specify the reference and the test networks
ref=1; test = 2
```

Obs.PreservationStats= mp\$preservation\$observed[[ref]][[test]]

Z.PreservationStats=mp\$preservation\$Z[[ref]][[test]]

Look at the observed preservation statistics

Obs.PreservationStats

#output

	moduleSize	medianRank.pres	medianRankDensity.pres	medianRankConnectivity.pres		
black	174	6	3.5	11		
blue	450	13	12.5	13		
brown	442	10	7.5	11		
cyan	92	19	19.0	18		
gold	1000	18	18.5	15		
green	313	8	6.5	8		
greenyellow	103	14	14.5	14		
grey	76	18	18.5	18		
grey60	39	4	4.0	1		
lightcyan	75	1	1.0	4		
lightgreen	35	18	17.5	19		
magenta	127	11	11.5	6		
midnightblue	82	2	2.0	2		
pink	155	10	10.5	3		
purple	123	13	11.5	16		
red	205	6	5.5	12		
salmon	95	8	8.5	7		
tan	95	16	15.0	17		
turquoise	603	15	15.5	8		
yellow	316	6	6.5	6		
	propVarExplained.pres	meanSignAwareKME.pres	meanSignAwareCorDat.pres	meanAdj.pres		
black	0.5208306	0.70703246	0.49723477	0.048261106		
blue	0.4075079	0.60361892	0.36663661	0.021827187		
brown	0.4819713	0.67694470	0.45699458	0.035260426		
cyan	0.1643936	0.30188695	0.09024969	0.003564930		
gold	0.1681903	0.02032178	0.15715827	0.004681072		
green	0.4939907	0.65679980	0.43351887	0.084504989		
greenyellow	0.3505446	0.54953416	0.30697810	0.016370183		
grey	0.1852836	0.17792478	0.06933377	0.030470665		
grey60	0.5328528	0.68819826	0.46736172	0.080130180		
lightcyan	0.6295787	0.78606133	0.61318698	0.111082345		
lightgreen	0.2579459	0.38322244	0.13726823	0.002837489		
magenta	0.4128704	0.61327289	0.37553608	0.020547949		
midnightblue	0.6013812	0.75087227	0.56192658	0.109395752		
pink	0.4244345	0.61800497	0.38130630	0.034360631		
purple	0.4316000	0.57899401	0.33947392	0.060700954		
red	0.4927525	0.67896981	0.46106342	0.046498292		
salmon	0.4768445	0.66067710	0.43191812	0.044777940		
tan	0.3765942	0.48028323	0.23298344	0.033085462		
turquoise	0.3266849	0.53782418	0.29084066	0.010865679		
yellow	0.4870529	0.67715454	0.45837981	0.036294449		
	meanClusterCoeff.pres	meanMAR.pres	cor.kIM	cor.kME	cor.kMEall	cor.cor
black	0.11836241	0.13742214	0.76685489	0.95993302	0.854072763	0.9406078
blue	0.07544842	0.08587702	0.63905216	0.95633642	0.890230749	0.9203100
brown	0.08732546	0.09913143	0.86247323	0.96739479	0.900659222	0.9346109
cyan	0.05992407	0.06320805	0.02534689	0.70246723	0.384782259	0.4313034
gold	0.07168121	0.08945747	0.68172375	0.02076125	0.001523842	0.8252675
green	0.27216779	0.25160730	0.98716514	0.97100589	0.836037032	0.9483610
greenyellow	0.10084128	0.12338297	0.76195590	0.93657022	0.613956457	0.8752356
grey	0.30338402	0.30902769	0.42402113	0.15813388	0.274845454	0.6252416
grey60	0.17969768	0.19099377	0.95329465	0.99302720	0.907885024	0.9816644
lightcyan	0.22460584	0.23979246	0.95520526	0.97610058	0.927928481	0.9574539
lightgreen	0.01932394	0.02009961	0.17511768	0.22348801	0.366804250	0.1692617
magenta	0.06640662	0.08060880	0.87830256	0.98251885	0.934042943	0.9539166
midnightblue	0.22078245	0.21746076	0.96662342	0.98196013	0.919383975	0.9697846
pink	0.12373785	0.13231409	0.96381143	0.98620284	0.953686282	0.9572345
purple	0.20128573	0.18940913	0.69308016	0.39344681	0.701265867	0.4910934
red	0.12767495	0.14168584	0.93852405	0.95976855	0.906350153	0.9322583
salmon	0.14208295	0.15492550	0.92382758	0.97758391	0.881804351	0.9528986
tan	0.10293882	0.10158904	0.55749687	0.35192956	0.455270983	0.3591447
turquoise	0.05340020	0.06519394	0.90322637	0.98467544	0.937778839	0.9353145
yellow	0.08771193	0.09393610	0.90263733	0.98159079	0.933421885	0.9629133
	cor.clusterCoeff	cor.MAR				

black	0.66214901	0.78156344
blue	0.52093009	0.69095285
brown	0.70384453	0.81178156
cyan	-0.02514713	0.01650132
gold	0.76962524	0.80069759
green	0.89834959	0.96226863
greenyellow	0.69717441	0.81433845
grey	0.56401971	0.56615922
grey60	0.96956096	0.95604559
lightcyan	0.86625995	0.94255148
lightgreen	0.15776588	0.11701675
magenta	0.84295244	0.89059181
midnightblue	0.94247307	0.97605856
pink	0.93968121	0.96389569
purple	0.82021264	0.82444949
red	0.92353879	0.93808337
salmon	0.89676435	0.94553864
tan	0.43207296	0.53227848
turquoise	0.53743758	0.74396925
yellow	0.92918969	0.92178477

Z statistics from the permutation test analysis

Z.PreservationStats

#output

	moduleSize	Zsummary.pres	Zdensity.pres	Zconnectivity.pres	Z.propVarExplained.pres		
black	174	36.311043	49.4301585	23.1919267	22.70306522		
blue	450	33.974619	35.0474751	32.9017636	20.91854442		
brown	442	48.278106	52.2198519	44.3363599	32.63974466		
cyan	92	7.099727	3.5817393	10.6177140	-1.08635486		
gold	1000	11.265568	-0.3053811	22.8365167	-0.59195641		
green	313	41.584162	60.7417155	22.4266086	27.65369391		
greenyellow	103	14.579873	14.1485599	15.0111854	15.39705228		
grey	76	7.287391	9.1225231	5.4522584	-0.01211296		
grey60	39	25.005017	38.8711465	11.1388876	15.35162740		
lightcyan	75	28.444103	37.3491697	19.5390364	28.09334526		
lightgreen	35	2.105560	3.4287495	0.7823712	3.11825832		
magenta	127	16.992069	18.2921191	15.6920196	14.70996564		
midnightblue	82	27.891636	37.6450978	18.1381745	22.82810752		
pink	155	23.676816	27.0785881	20.2750436	23.15917344		
purple	123	17.376608	27.2644772	7.4887386	15.10382594		
red	205	38.124971	56.3155443	19.9343968	30.39355254		
salmon	95	20.907884	28.2389089	13.5768595	17.20628212		
tan	95	10.253791	14.5431674	5.9644138	10.98955977		
turquoise	603	47.445042	48.4947281	46.3953555	22.00796119		
yellow	316	35.633433	42.2418814	29.0249850	26.38914720		
	Z.meanSignAwareKME.pres	Z.meanSignAwareCorDat.pres	Z.meanAdj.pres	Z.meanClusterCoeff.pres			
black	17.95837293	85.414177	76.157252	6.4492991			
blue	33.96477617	213.797467	36.130174	-0.2250833			
brown	32.36284083	133.102109	71.799959	2.0526721			
cyan	8.23052672	23.269561	-1.067048	-0.2618116			
gold	-0.01880588	218.839793	-1.691487	-1.4558707			
green	20.69531531	93.829737	128.585662	20.1671746			
greenyellow	9.14930642	35.126285	12.900067	2.4078799			
grey	4.24694814	13.998098	16.379695	14.1700859			
grey60	18.01993242	59.722361	61.030582	9.2719538			
lightcyan	11.12276153	46.604994	59.782317	8.1787130			
lightgreen	3.73924062	5.708549	-1.350285	-2.0657377			
magenta	12.28100450	54.218075	21.874273	-0.2818902			
midnightblue	14.09535607	52.462088	91.337220	8.9003495			
pink	19.59134639	87.330956	30.998003	3.1354811			
purple	14.69409796	39.425128	59.265926	12.4447592			
red	22.67892382	103.481308	82.237536	5.6832883			
salmon	14.64613262	54.865565	39.271536	5.6358315			
tan	6.93453117	18.096775	24.875273	2.6251203			
turquoise	74.98149498	439.694982	13.866176	-4.6360258			
yellow	18.64594900	116.705362	58.094616	1.5686405			
	Z.meanMAR.pres	Z.cor.kIM	Z.cor.kME	Z.cor.kMEall	Z.cor.cor	Z.cor.clusterCoeff	Z.cor.MAR
black	7.6194689	15.9644874	23.1919267	81.202689	51.177199	10.2617831	12.0748856

blue	-0.8820878	13.2814381	32.9017636	76.841861	142.575439	10.2339397	14.5194336
brown	1.4390176	17.5348203	44.3363599	86.761008	78.430212	14.8263193	18.0288536
cyan	-0.4502011	0.3177784	10.6177140	37.407786	34.078442	-0.1195485	0.1960346
gold	-1.4883545	22.8365167	-0.2348565	-1.147385	303.787111	25.0240096	27.6807513
green	15.3211159	16.5694459	22.4266086	71.567186	68.230757	16.5001756	15.3207960
greenyellow	3.2023970	9.2095808	15.0111854	75.553513	33.821474	8.1836522	10.0944896
grey	12.8988358	5.4522584	0.7187799	40.433585	24.985867	5.4265193	5.7640202
grey60	9.3849852	5.5549683	11.1388876	94.411662	34.825195	6.0581685	6.5459936
lightcyan	8.5746731	9.2276057	19.5390364	82.026120	35.514237	7.2162427	7.9908197
lightgreen	-2.0292446	0.7823712	0.5132751	33.379042	2.104348	0.8298627	0.6032884
magenta	0.3263960	9.2899134	15.6920196	141.010027	38.750589	8.0117188	7.7310623
midnightblue	7.9433268	9.3878885	18.1381745	97.155189	35.018714	8.7882992	9.2040176
pink	3.0017651	18.0525218	20.2750436	96.826244	58.099702	14.2446693	14.5714032
purple	9.2974426	7.4887386	5.6803655	80.542722	20.624025	9.9530630	8.8148768
red	5.8697354	10.2068278	19.9343968	102.645489	55.072560	11.4448585	10.7142115
salmon	5.2346864	8.4302248	13.5768595	90.513575	44.154947	8.8569315	9.6044472
tan	1.8741857	5.5644989	5.9644138	40.001461	16.426606	4.7185513	5.5223603
turquoise	-5.0794970	24.6502866	46.3953555	115.207259	397.652866	13.3789687	19.2105478
yellow	0.6960469	19.6528079	29.0249850	92.086439	80.973247	19.3095807	16.3631591

Let us now visualize the data.

```
modColors = rownames(Obs.PreservationStats)
```

```
moduleSize = Obs.PreservationStats$moduleSize
```

```
# we will omit the grey module (background genes)
```

```
# and the gold module (random sample of genes)
```

```
selectModules = !(modColors %in% c("grey", "gold"))
```

```
# Text labels for points
```

```
point.label = modColors[selectModules]
```

```
#Composite preservation statistics
```

```
medianRank=Obs.PreservationStats$medianRank.pres
```

```
Zsummary=Z.PreservationStats$Zsummary.pres
```

```
par(mfrow=c(1,2),mar = c(4.5,4.5,2.5,1))
```

```
# plot medianRank versus module size
```

```
plot(moduleSize[selectModules],medianRank[selectModules],col=1,
```

```
bg=modColors[selectModules],pch = 21,main="medianRank Preservation",
```

```
cex = 2, ylab = "medianRank",xlab="Module size", log="x")
```

```
labelPoints(moduleSize[selectModules],medianRank[selectModules],point.label,cex=1,offs=0.03)
```

```
# plot Zsummary versus module size
```

```
plot(moduleSize[selectModules],Zsummary[selectModules], col = 1,
```

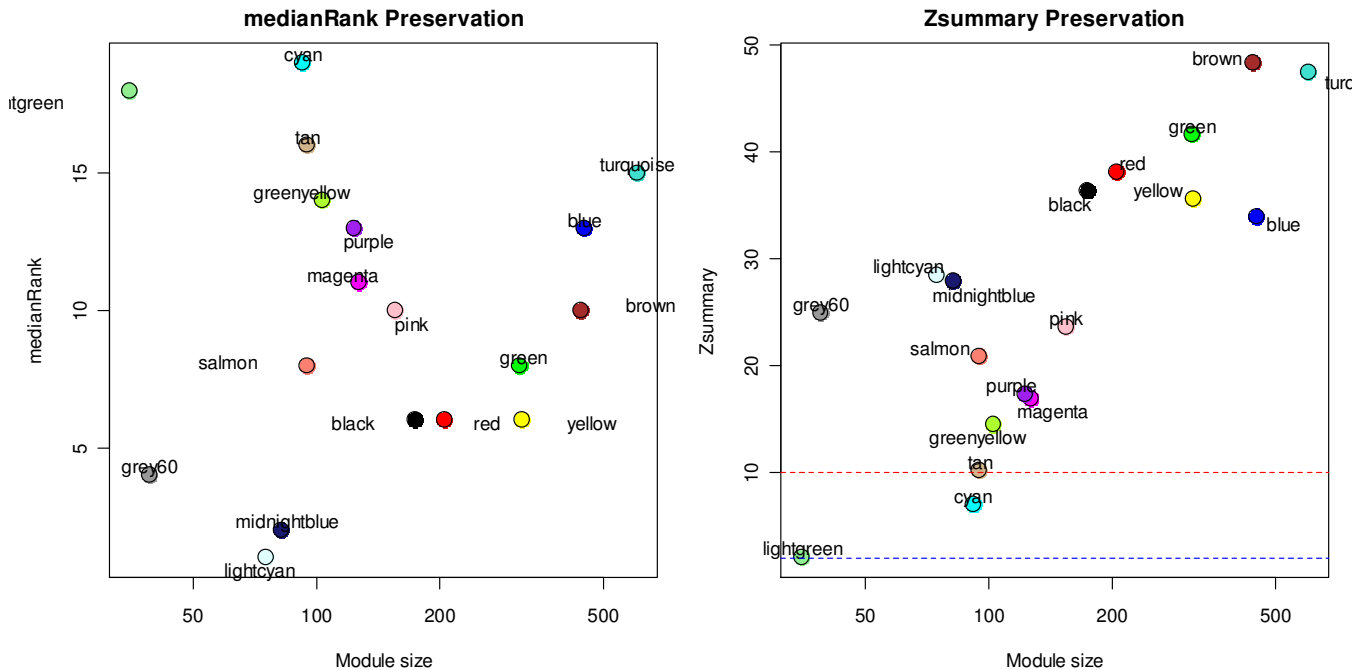
```
bg=modColors[selectModules],pch = 21,main="Zsummary Preservation",
```

```
cex=2,ylab = "Zsummary", xlab = "Module size", log = "x")
```

```
labelPoints(moduleSize[selectModules],Zsummary[selectModules],point.label,cex=1,offs=0.03)
```

```
# Add threshold lines for Zsummary
```

```
abline(h=0); abline(h=2, col = "blue", lty = 2); abline(h=10, col = "red", lty = 2)
```

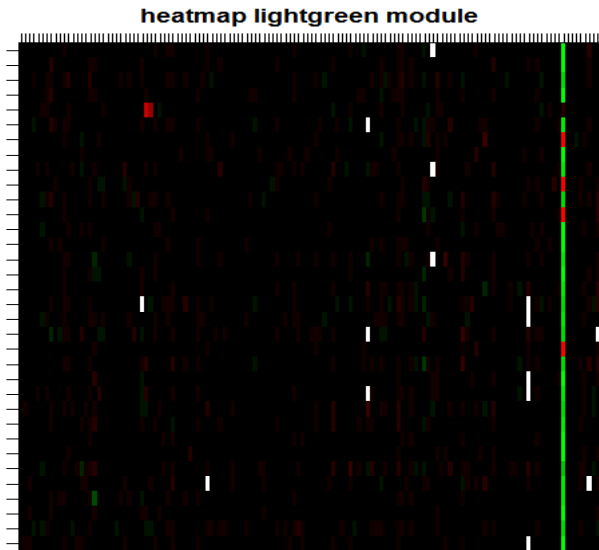


Caption: Preservation of female mouse liver modules in male livers. The right panel shows the composite statistic medianRank (Eq.9.20) versus module size. The higher the medianRank the less preserved is the module relative to other modules. Since medianRank is based on the observed preservation statistics (as opposed to Z statistics or p-values) we find that it is much less dependent on module size. The upper right panel shows the composite statistic Zsummary (Eq.9.1). If $Zsummary > 10$ there is strong evidence that the module is preserved (Langfelder et al 2011). If $Zsummary < 2$, there is no evidence that the module preserved. Note that Zsummary shows a strong dependence on module size. The lightgreen female module shows no evidence of preservation in the male liver network.

The resulting plot is shown in the Figure. We find that most modules show strong evidence of preservation $Zsummary > 10$. The exception is the lightgreen module which has the second highest medianRank statistic implying that all but one of the other modules show stronger evidence of preservation. The lightgreen module also shows no evidence of preservation according to the Zsummary statistic for which it obtains the lowest value of 2.00.

Let us now create a heatmap of the lightgreen module expression values.

```
whichmodule="lightgreen"
Eigengene=MEsFemale$MElightgreen
datExprModule=datExprFemale[,moduleColorsFemale==whichmodule]
# set the margins of the graphics window
par(mfrow=c(1,1),mar=c(0.3, 5.5, 3, 2))
# create a heatmap whose columns correspond to the arrays
# and whose rows correspond to genes
plotMat(t(scale(datExprModule)),cex.axis=2,nrgcols=30,rlabels=F,
rcols=whichmodule,main=paste("heatmap",whichmodule,"module"))
```

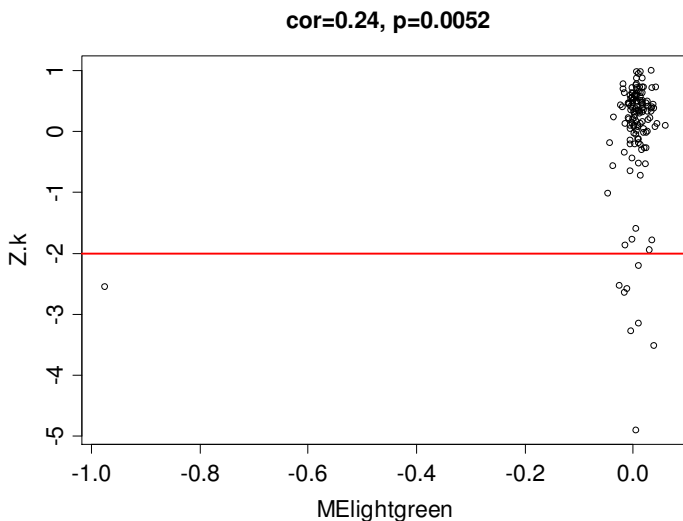


Caption: The panel shows a heatmap of the lightgreen module gene expressions (rows correspond to genes, columns correspond to female mouse tissue samples). The heatmap color-codes the scaled gene expression values: red corresponds to over-expression and green to under-expression.

Note that most genes are under-expressed in a single female mouse, which suggests that this module is due to an array outliers.

Let us now produce a scatter plot of module eigengene of the light green module versus the standardized sample network connectivity $Z.k$ (Eq. 7.24), which is the measure of outlyingness described in section 12.1.

```
#scatter plot between eigengene and sample network connectivity
par(mfrow=c(1,1))
verboseScatterplot(Eigengene,Z.k,xlab=paste("ME",whichmodule,sep=""))
abline(h=-2,col="red",lwd=2)
```



Caption: Scatter plot of the lightgreen module eigengene (x-axis) versus the standardized sample network connectivity $Z.k$ (Eq.7.24), which is the measure of outlyingness described in section 12.1. Note that the module eigengene takes on an extreme negative value for one female mouse sample (corresponding to the sample where most module genes are under-expressed). The red horizontal line in the scatter plot corresponds to a $Z.k$ threshold of -2.

Note that the eigenvector takes on an extreme negative value for one female mouse sample (corresponding to the sample where most module genes are under-expressed).

Note that the outlying female mouse sample would have been removed if we had applied a stringent threshold of -2 to $Z.k$. This supports the golden rule of data pre-processing: when in doubt, throw it out.

In section 8.7, we described several cluster quality statistics based on network concepts.

In Table 8.1, we provide an overview of the cluster quality statistics (Eq.8.12).

In the following we present R code for evaluating the cluster quality of the modules inside the female mouse network.

```
# This calculates the quality of the modules in the female data
Obs.QualityStatsFemale= mp$quality$observed[[1]][[2]]
Z.QualityStatsFemale=mp$quality$Z[[1]][[2]]
QualityStats=data.frame(Obs.QualityStatsFemale[,1:2],
Zsummary.qual=Z.QualityStatsFemale$Zsummary.qual)
QualityStats["lightgreen",]
# Output
      moduleSize medianRank.qual Zsummary.qual
lightgreen      35           1      34.70496
```

According to the quality statistics in the female network, the lightgreen module looks fine (medianRank.qual=1 ,Zsummary.qual= 34.7). This illustrates that no matter how good the quality statistics of a module in reference data set, there is no guarantee that it will be preserved in a test data set.

12.6 Consensus modules between female and male liver tissues

In section 12.5, we described how to assess module preservation between female and male mice. A related but distinct data analysis task is to construct modules that are present in several networks. In section 7.11.1 we described how to construct "consensus" modules that are present in each of the underlying networks. For example, consensus modules in the female and male mouse liver networks are trivially preserved in each sex. In the following, we describe how to use the consensus dissimilarity $D^{\text{Consensus,TOM}}$ (Eq 7.40)

for finding modules that are present in multiple correlation networks. Specifically, we find consensus modules that are present in both the female and the male mouse liver networks. We start out by defining the input of the automatic module detection function `blockwiseConsensusModules`.

```
# number of networks used in the consensus network analysis:
nSets=2
# Vector with descriptive names of the two sets.
setLabels=c("Female liver", "Male liver")
shortLabels=c("Female", "Male")
#Define a list whose components contain the data
multiExpr=vector(mode="list",length=nSets)
multiExpr[[1]] = list(data = datExprFemale)
names(multiExpr[[1]]$data) = names(datExprFemale)
rownames(multiExpr[[1]]$data) = dimnames(datExprFemale)[[1]]
multiExpr[[2]] = list(data = datExprMale)
names(multiExpr[[2]]$data) = names(datExprMale)
rownames(multiExpr[[2]]$data) = dimnames(datExprMale)[[1]]
# Check that the data has the correct format:
exprSize = checkSets(multiExpr)

# The variable exprSize contains useful information
# about the sizes of all of the data sets
# now we run automatic module detection procedure
netConsensus=blockwiseConsensusModules(multiExpr,maxBlockSize=5000,
power=7,minModuleSize=30,deepSplit=2,pamRespectsDendro=FALSE,
mergeCutHeight=0.25,numericLabels=TRUE,
minKMEtoStay=0,saveTOMs=TRUE)
```

```
# list of consensus module eigengenes
consMEs = netConsensus$multiMEs
# module labels
modLabCons0 = netConsensus$colors
# Relabel the consensus modules so that their labels match those
# from the automatic analysis in female mice only
modLabCons = matchLabels(modLabCons0,moduleLabelsAutomatic)
# check the agreement between consensus- and females-only modules
mean(modLabCons==moduleLabelsAutomatic)
```

```
#output
1] 0.6236111
```

```
# Convert the numeric labels to color labels
moduleColorsConsensus = labels2colors(modLabCons)
```

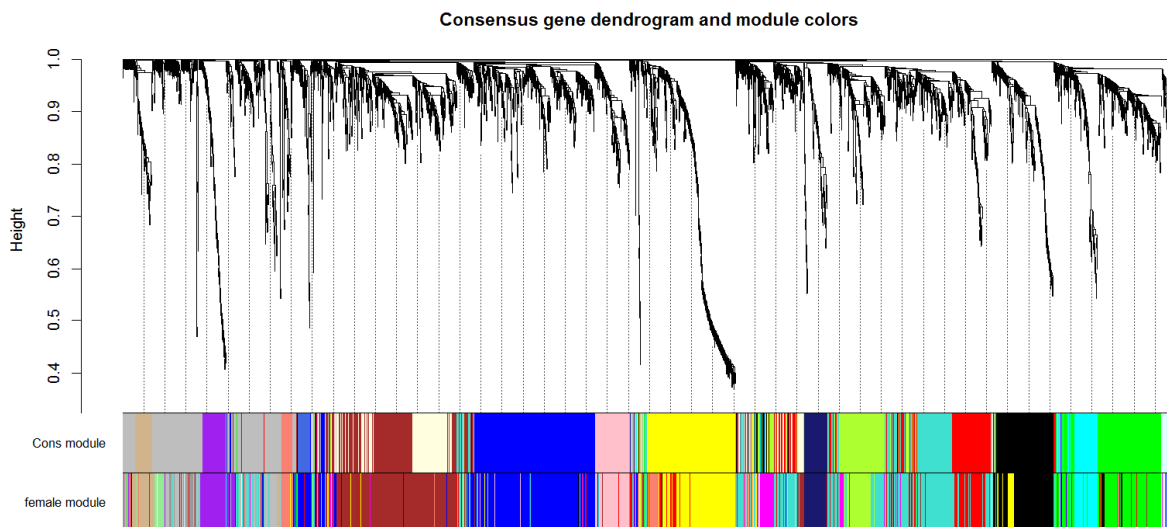
Similar to the function `blockwiseModules`, `blockwiseConsensusModules` has many parameters, and in this example most of them are left at their default value.

When dealing with many genes, it can be advantageous to carry out a blockwise consensus module detection analysis analogous to the case of a single network (see section 12.2.3).

The function `blockwiseConsensusModules` automatically partitions the genes into blocks of maximum size specified by the argument `maxBlockSize`. Since in our case, the number of genes is smaller than `maxBlockSize` the analysis amounts to a single block analysis. The consensus dendrogram (of the first block) is given by

```
blocknumber=1
consTree = netConsensus$dendrograms[[blocknumber]]
# plot the consensus dendrogram and module colors
datColors=data.frame(moduleColorsConsensus,moduleColorsFemale)[netConsensus$blockGenes[[blocknumber]],]
plotDendroAndColors(consTree,datColors,c("Cons module","female module"),dendroLabels=FALSE,
hang=0.03,addGuide=TRUE,guideHang=0.05,main="Consensus gene dendrogram and module colors")
```

The Figure shows the consensus dendrogram, modules, and a comparison with the female modules.



Caption: The consensus dendrogram for female and male mouse liver coexpression networks. The average linkage hierarchical clustering tree is

based on the consensus dissimilarity $D^{\{Consensus, TOM\}}$ (Eq.7.40) of the female and male data. The first color-band shows the result of dynamic hybrid branch cutting of the consensus dendrogram. The second color-band shows the module colors based on the female mouse data alone. By visual inspection, it is clear that there is high agreement between the two module assignments, which reflects that many of the female mouse modules are also preserved in the male network.

12.6.1 Relating consensus modules to the traits

In this section we illustrate the use of module eigengenes to relate consensus modules to external microarray sample information such as classical clinical traits. In this analysis we have available several clinical traits. We relate the traits to consensus module eigengenes in each of the two sets. We remind the reader that while the consensus modules is a single module assignment for all genes, the module eigengenes represent the modules in each of the two sets. In other words, we have a single module assignment for each gene, but we have two sets of consensus module eigengenes, because a given module (set of genes) has a particular expression profile in the female mice, and a different expression profile in the male mice. Similarly, we have the trait data separately for the female and for the male mice.

```

traitData = read.csv("ClinicalTraits.csv")
dim(traitData)
names(traitData)
# remove columns that hold information we do not need.
allTraits=traitData[, -c(31, 16)]
allTraits=allTraits[, c(2, 11:36) ]
# Data descriptions
dim(allTraits)
[1] 361 27

names(allTraits)
[1] "Mice" "weight_g" "length_cm" "ab_fat"
"other_fat"
[6] "total_fat" "X100xfat_weight" "Trigly" "Total_Chol"
"HDL_Chol"
[11] "UC" "FFA" "Glucose" "LDL_plus_VLDL"
"MCP_1_phys"
[16] "Insulin_ug_l" "Glucose_Insulin" "Leptin_pg_ml" "Adiponectin"
"Aortic.lesions"
[21] "Aneurysm" "Aortic_cal_M" "Aortic_cal_L" "CoronaryArtery_Cal"
"Myocardial_cal"
[26] "BMD_all_limbs" "BMD_femurs_only"

# Form a multi-set structure that will hold the clinical traits.
TraitsL = vector(mode="list", length = nSets)
for (set in 1:nSets)
{
  setSamples = rownames(multiExpr[[set]]$data)
  traitRows = match(setSamples, allTraits$Mice)
  TraitsL[[set]] = list(data = allTraits[traitRows, -1])
  rownames(TraitsL[[set]]$data) = allTraits[traitRows, 1]
}
collectGarbage()

```

```

# Define data set dimensions
nGenes = exprSize$nGenes
nSamples = exprSize$nSamples

# Set up variables to contain the module-trait correlations
modTraitCor = list()
modTraitP = list()
# Calculate the correlations
for (set in 1:nSets){
  modTraitCor[[set]]=
    cor(consMEs[[set]]$data,TraitsL[[set]]$data,use="p")
  modTraitP[[set]]=
    corPvalueFisher(modTraitCor[[set]],exprSize$nSamples[set])}

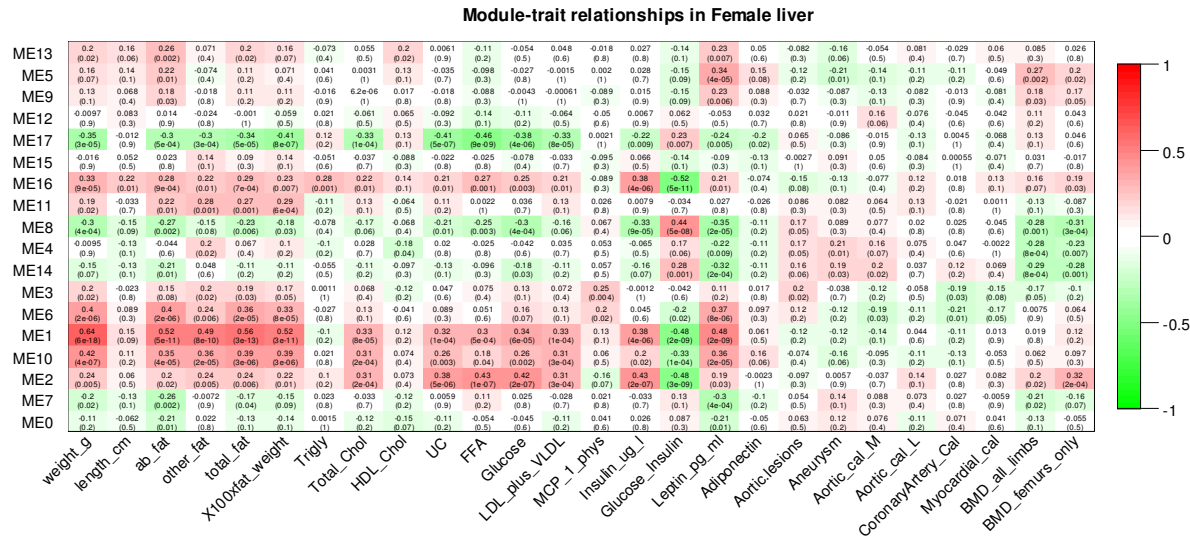
```

Now we will display the module-trait relationships using a color-coded table.
 The table reports the correlations and the corresponding p-values.
 Entries are color-coded according to the p-value.

```

MEColors = substring(names(consMEs[[1]]$data), 3)
MEColorNames = paste("ME", MEColors, sep="")
# Plot the module-trait relationship table for set number
set = 1 # 1 for females, 2 for males
textMatrix = paste(signif(modTraitCor[[set]], 2), "\n(",
  signif(modTraitP[[set]], 1), ")", sep = "")
dim(textMatrix) = dim(modTraitCor[[set]])
par(mar = c(6, 8.8, 3, 2.2))
labeledHeatmap(Matrix = modTraitCor[[set]],xLabels = names(TraitsL[[set]]$data),yLabels =
  MEColorNames,ySymbols = MEColorNames,colorLabels = FALSE,colors=greenWhiteRed(50),
  textMatrix=textMatrix,setStdMargins=FALSE,cex.text=0.5,zlim=c(-1,1),
  main=paste("Module-trait relationships in", setLabels[set]))

```



Caption: Table of correlations and p-values for studying the relationships between consensus module eigengenes (rows) and physiological traits (columns) in the female mice. An analogous table could also be created for the male mice.

The Figure presents the color-coded table.

One can create an analogous Figure based on the male data by choosing `set=2` in the above code.

12.6.2 Manual consensus module analysis

Here we present a manual or interactive approach for finding consensus modules.

Calculation of network adjacencies

Network construction starts by calculating the adjacencies in the individual sets

`beta=7`

`# Initialize an appropriate array to hold the adjacencies`

`adjacencies=array(0,dim = c(nSets,nGenes,nGenes))`

`# Calculate adjacencies in each individual data set`

`for (set in 1:nSets)`

`{adjacencies[set,,]=abs(cor(multiExpr[[set]]$data,use="p"))^beta}`

`# Let's calculate corresponding Topological Overlap Matrices:`

`# Initialize an appropriate array to hold the TOMs`

`TOM = array(0, dim = c(nSets,nGenes,nGenes))`

`# Calculate TOMs in each individual data set`

`for (set in 1:nSets){TOM[set,,] = TOMsimilarity(adjacencies[set,,])}`

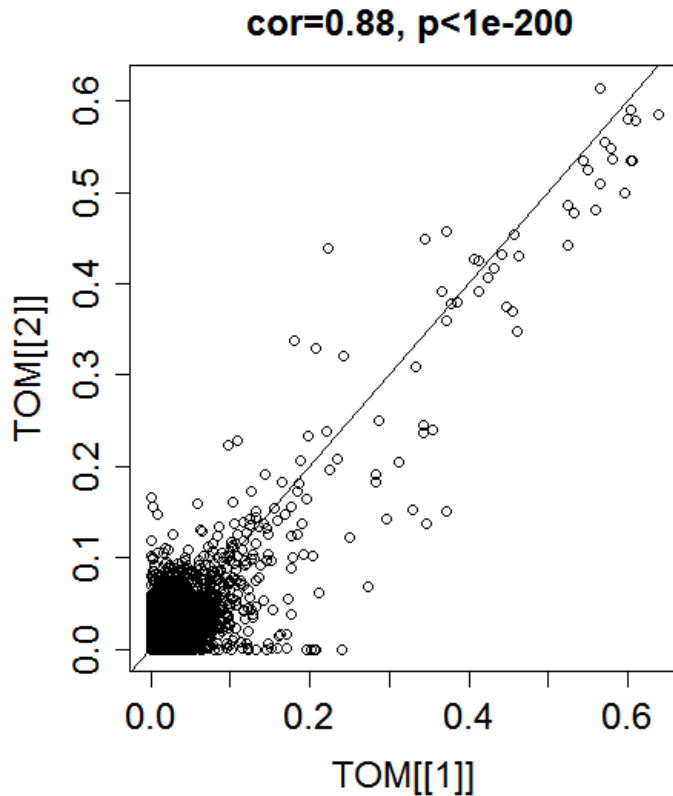
`#remove the adjacencies to free up space`

`rm(adjacencies)`

Since the topological overlap matrices of the individual data sets may be differently calibrated (e.g. reflecting different sample sizes) it can be advantageous to calibrate them. For example, the TOM in the male data may be systematically lower than the TOM in female data. Since consensus is defined as the component-wise minimum of the two TOMs, a bias may result. Here we illustrate a simple scaling that mitigates the effect of different statistical properties to some degree.

In section 4.5, we describe how to use the power adjacency function AF^{power} (Eq. 4.2) to calibrate weighted networks. We calibrate the male TOM such that its $\text{prob}=0.95$ quantile equals that of the female TOM. The notation is explained in section 4.5.

```
# Define the percentile (called prob) for defining the quantile
prob = 0.95
# Set random seed for reproducibility of sampling
set.seed(1)
#number of randomly samples entries of the TOM matrix
nSubset = 20000
# Choose the sampled TOM entries
subsetEntries = sample(nGenes*(nGenes-1)/2, size = nSubset)
TOMsubset = list()
# vector of quantiles of the individual TOM matrices
quantile.TOM = rep(1, nSets)
# Scaling powers to equalize reference TOM values
beta.prob = rep(1, nSets)
# Loop over sets
for (set in 1:nSets)
{# Select the sampled TOM entries
TOMsubset[[set]]=vectorizeMatrix(TOM[set,,][subsetEntries]
# Calculate the quantile corresponding to prob
quantile.TOM[set] = quantile(TOMsubset[[set]],probs=prob,type = 8)
# calculate the power of the adjacency function
beta.prob[set] = log(quantile.TOM[1])/log(quantile.TOM[set])
# use the power adjacency function for calibrating the TOM
TOM[set, ,] = TOM[set, ,]^(beta.prob[set])
}
# let us look at the powers used for calibration
beta.prob
# output
[1] 1.0000000 0.9799084
# Pairwise relationship between uncalibrated matrices
par(mfrow=c(1,1))
verboseScatterplot(TOMsubset[[1]],TOMsubset[[2]],
  xlab="TOM[[1]]",ylab="TOM[[2]]"); abline(0,1)
```



By definition, the power beta of the reference (female) network equals 1.
 Note that the power beta.95=0.98 for the test (male) network is very close to 1 suggesting that even without calibration, the two networks are very comparable.

Consensus module identification

We now calculate the consensus Topological Overlap by defining it using the parallel minimum of the TOMs in individual sets (Eq. 7.36) We use the consensus TOM as input to hierarchical clustering, and identify modules in the resulting dendrogram using the Dynamic Tree Cut algorithm.

```
consensusTOM=pmin(TOM[1, ],TOM[2, ])
consTreeManual=flashClust(as.dist(1-consensusTOM),method="average")
# Module identification using dynamic tree cut:
unmergedLabels=cutreeDynamic(dendro=consTreeManual,distM=1-consensusTOM,
deepSplit=2,cutHeight=0.995,minClusterSize=30,pamRespectsDendro=FALSE)
unmergedColors=labels2colors(unmergedLabels)
```

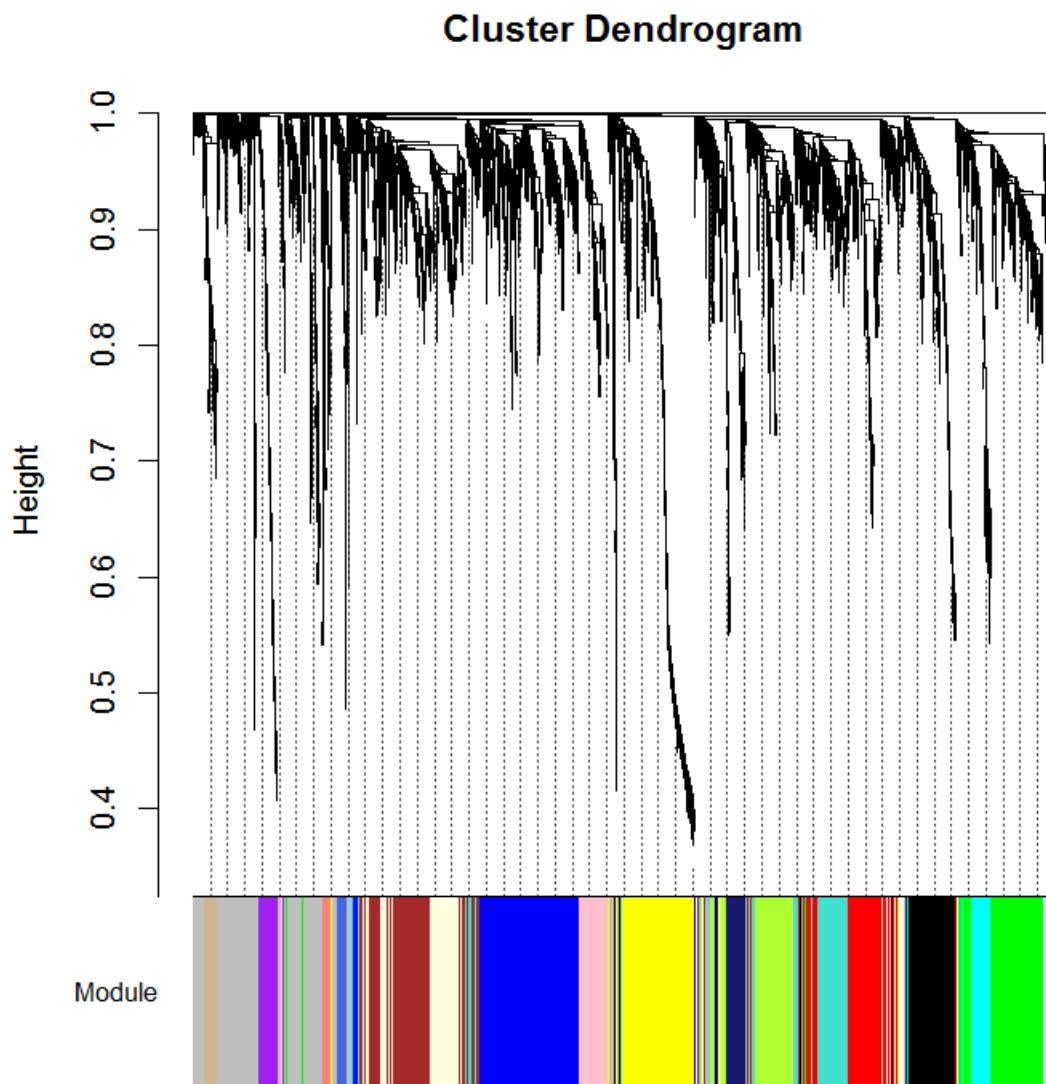
The Dynamic Tree Cut may identify modules whose expression profiles are very similar. It may be prudent to merge such modules since their genes are highly co-expressed. To quantify co-expression similarity of entire modules, we calculate their eigengenes (MEs) and cluster them on their consensus correlation, that is the minimum correlation across the two sets:

```

# Calculate module eigengenes
unmergedMEs=
  multiSetMEs(multiExpr,colors=NULL,universalColors=unmergedColors)
# Calculate consensus dissimilarity of consensus module eigengenes
consMEDiss=consensusMEDissimilarity(unmergedMEs)
# Cluster consensus modules
consMETree=flashClust(as.dist(consMEDiss), method = "average")
# The merging can be performed automatically:
merge = mergeCloseModules(multiExpr,unmergedLabels,cutHeight=0.25)
# resulting merged color
modLabConsManual0=merge$colors

# Relabel the manual consensus modules so that their labels match those
# from the automatic analysis
modLabConsManual=matchLabels(modLabConsManual0,modLabCons)
# Agreement between consensus modules and females-only modules
mean(modLabConsManual==modLabCons)
#output
1
# Convert the numeric labels to color labels
moduleColorsConsensusManual=labels2colors(modLabConsManual)
# Calculate consensus module eigengenes in each data set
consMEs=multiSetMEs(multiExpr,colors=NULL,
  universalColors=moduleColorsConsensusManual)
#Plot the gene dendrogram again:
plotDendroAndColors(consTreeManual,moduleColorsConsensusManual, groupLabels="Module",
dendroLabels=FALSE,hang=0.03,addGuide=TRUE,guideHang=0.05)

```



Caption: The resulting plot is identical to that which was based on the automatic analysis implemented in the function `blockwiseConsensusModules`.

Exercises

Exercise 1. Reverse the role of the female and male mouse liver data sets and re-analyze the data.

In particular, carry out the following tasks.

- i) Construct a sample network based on the male mouse liver samples and identify potential outliers.
- ii) Use different module detection procedures for finding co-expression modules in the male liver samples. Hint: dynamic hybrid method: single block, 2 block, and manual module analysis.
- iii) Evaluate the agreement between the module detection methods.
- iv) Relate the module eigengenes to physiological traits in male mice.
- v) Evaluate module preservation of male modules in the female network.
- vi) Discuss whether you have found something interesting. Is it publishable?

Exercise 2 regarding visualizing a network.

Use your favorite data set to define a weighted correlation network and modules (based on hierarchical clustering).

Visualize the network and the modules using

- i) a connectivity (TOM) plot,
 - ii) a classical multidimensional scaling plot,
 - iii) a ViSANT plot,
 - iv) Which plots or software packages allow one to visualize a weighted network? Which tools work only for an unweighted network?
 - v) How can one visualize a weighted network with a tool that only visualizes unweighted networks?
- Answer: threshold the adjacency matrix.

Exercise 3 regarding systems genetic analysis with NEO.

Recall that the analysis in section 12.3 focused on the blue module. Here you are asked to analyze the brown module instead.

- i) Show that the brown module correlates with body weight.
- ii) Determine which SNP(s) correlate with the brown module eigengene. Hint:
`Run cor(datSNP, MEbrown, use="p").`
- iii) Use the most significant SNP to determine whether SNP->MEbrown-> weight.
- iv) Which genes in the brown module show evidence of causally affecting body weight? Hint: use the SNP from iii)
- iv) How do the NEO results change if you use the second most significant SNP.
- v) How do the results change if you use the LEO.CPA score (which uses the two most significant SNPs)?
Hint: Use the R code from section 11.8.2.

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