

همایش ملی ریاضیات زیستی

# APPLICATIONS OF CONVEX OPTIMIZATION IN METABOLIC NETWORK ANALYSIS

Mojtaba Tefagh

October 22, 2020

Carbohydrate Metabolism

Photosynthesis

Cellular Respiration

Amino Acid Metabolism

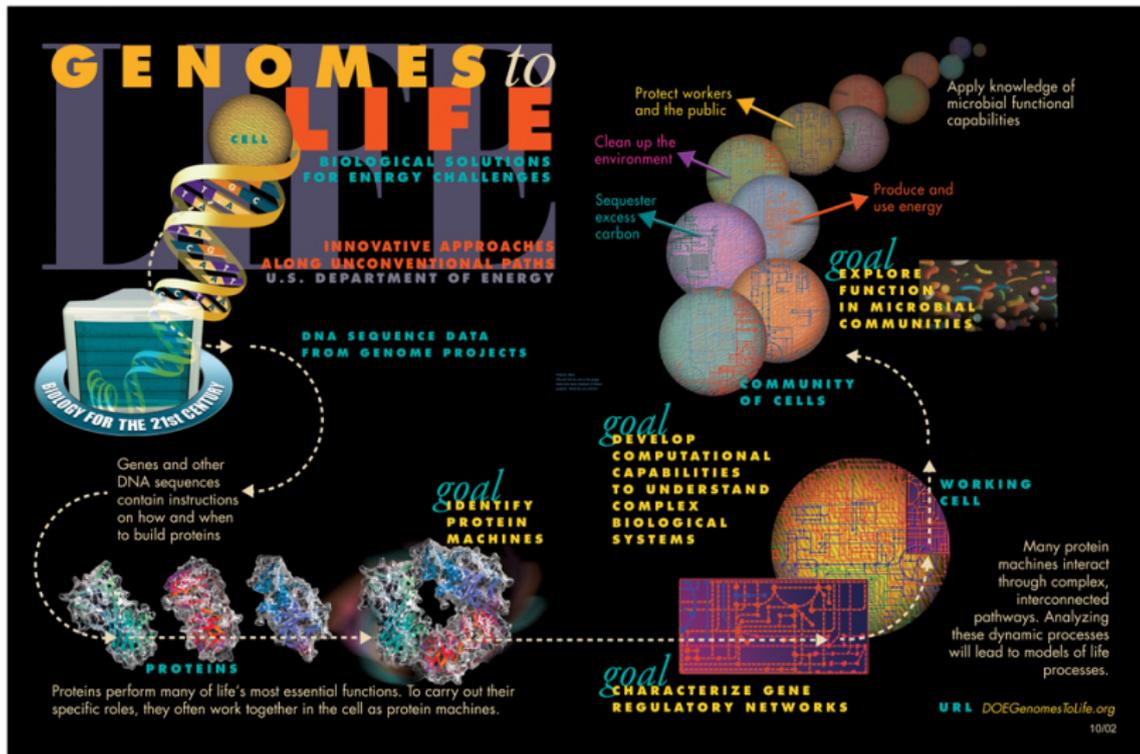
Vitamin & Cofactor Metabolism

Lipid Metabolism

Messengers

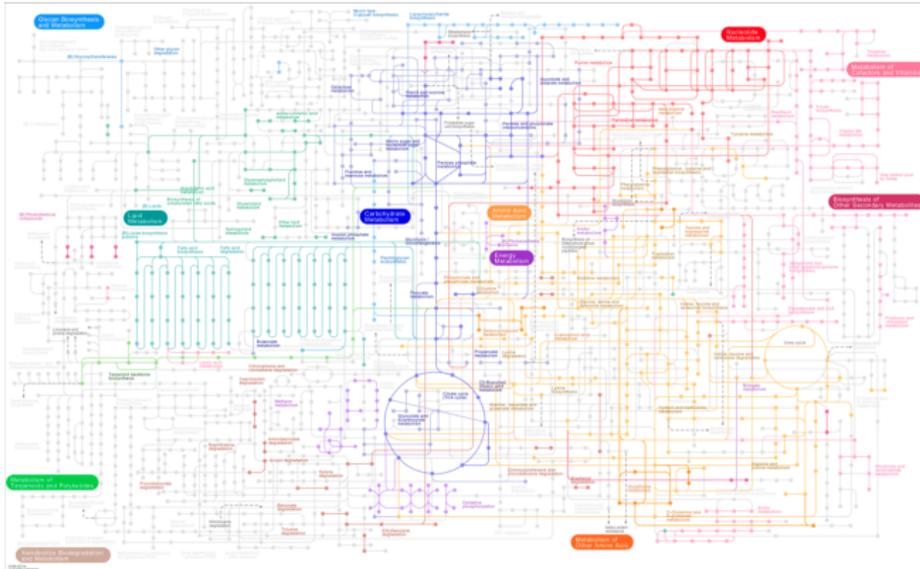


# Motivation



“However, many things have a plurality of parts and are not merely a complete aggregate but instead some kind of a whole beyond its parts.”

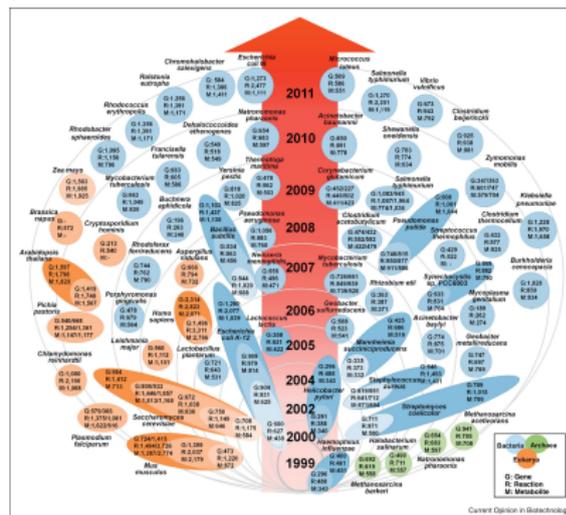
Aristotle, *Metaphysics* 8.6



A metabolic network from KEGG pathway database

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis



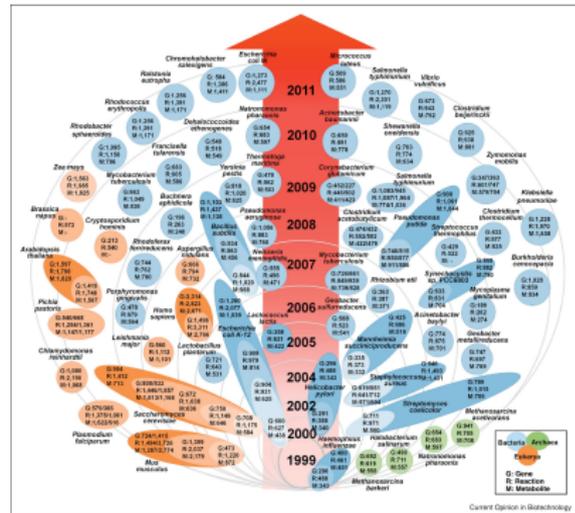
Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis



- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$

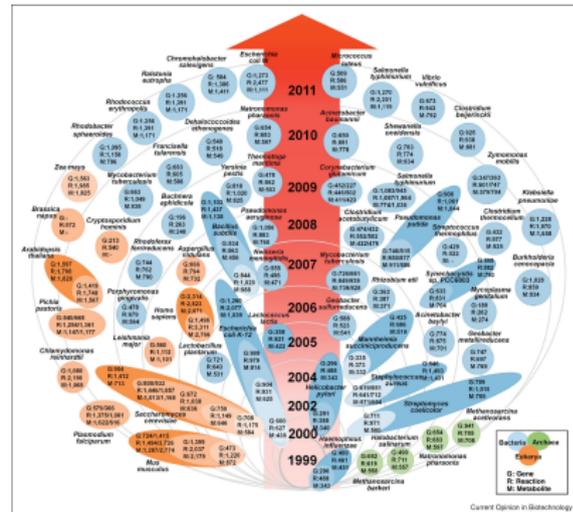


Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis

- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$

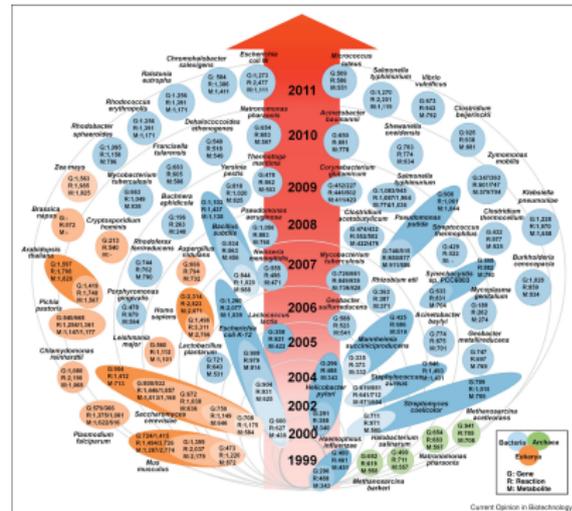


Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis

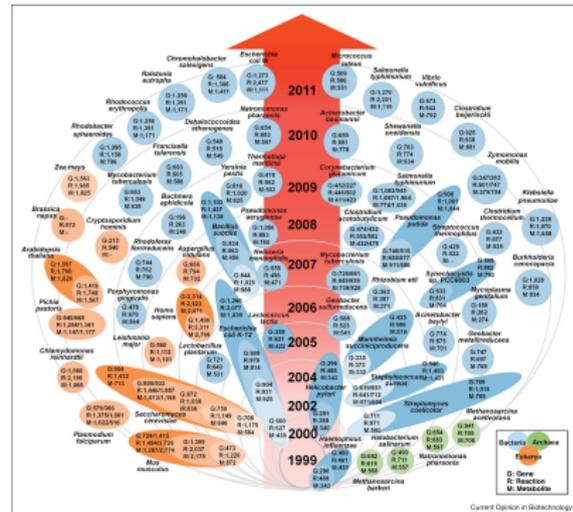
- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$



# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis

- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$

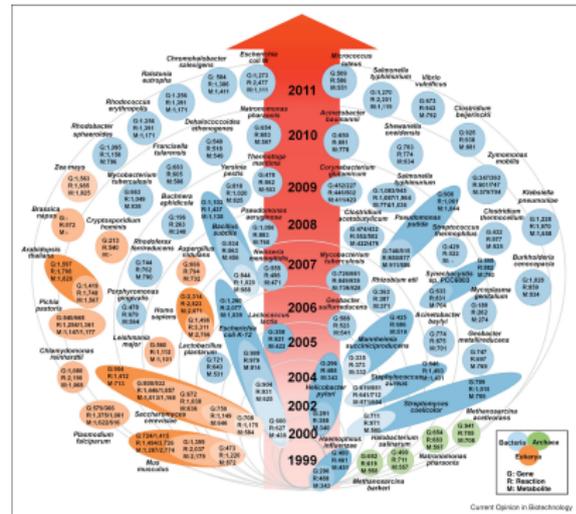


Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis

- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$
- ▶ Irreversible reactions:  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$

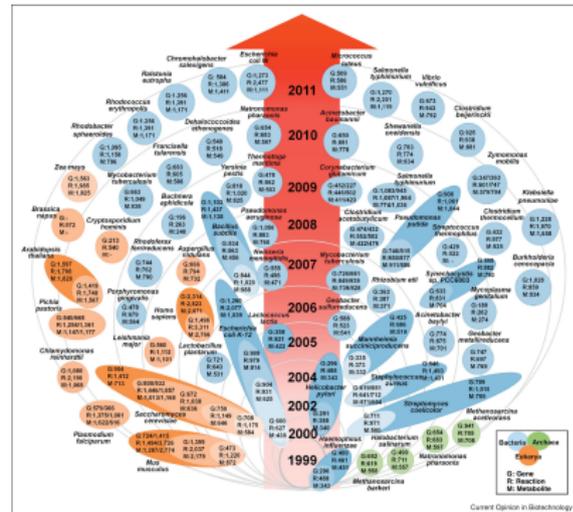


Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis

- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$
- ▶ Irreversible reactions:  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$
- ▶ Flux distribution:  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$



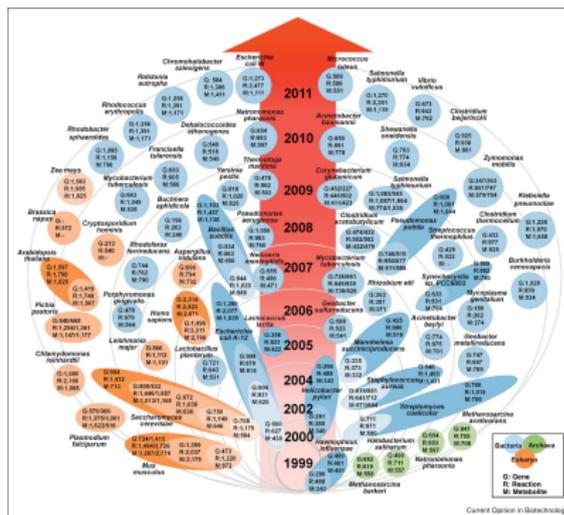
Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis



- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$
- ▶ Irreversible reactions:  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$
- ▶ Flux distribution:  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$
- ▶ Mass balance condition:  $Sv = 0$

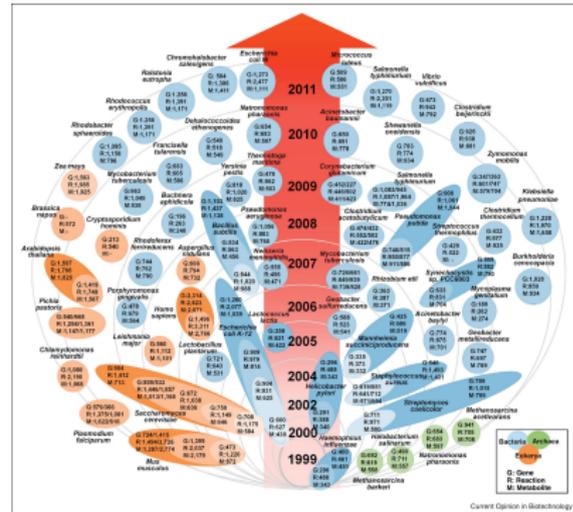


Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis

- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$
- ▶ Irreversible reactions:  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$
- ▶ Flux distribution:  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$
- ▶ Mass balance condition:  $Sv = 0$
- ▶ Thermodynamic directionality:  $v_{\mathcal{I}} \geq 0$



Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

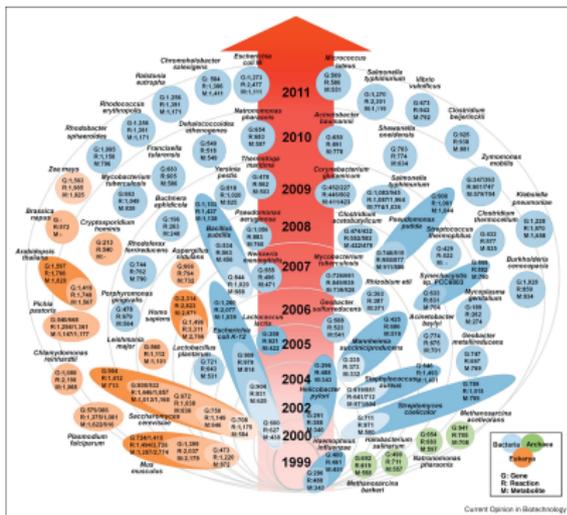
# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis



4

- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$
- ▶ Irreversible reactions:  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$
- ▶ Flux distribution:  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$
- ▶ Mass balance condition:  $Sv = 0$
- ▶ Thermodynamic directionality:  $v_{\mathcal{I}} \geq 0$
- ▶ Steady-state flux cone:  $\mathcal{C} = \{v \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid Sv = 0, v_{\mathcal{I}} \geq 0\}$



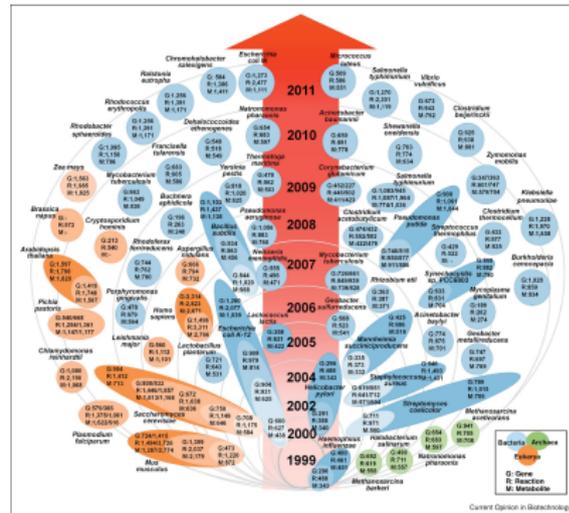
Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Introduction

## COntstraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis



- ▶ Genome-scale metabolic network:  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$
- ▶ Metabolites:  $\mathcal{M} = \{M_i\}_{i=1}^m$
- ▶ Reactions:  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_i\}_{i=1}^n$
- ▶ Stoichiometric matrix:  $S$
- ▶ Irreversible reactions:  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{R}$
- ▶ Flux distribution:  $v \in \mathbf{R}^n$
- ▶ Mass balance condition:  $Sv = 0$
- ▶ Thermodynamic directionality:  $v_{\mathcal{I}} \geq 0$
- ▶ Steady-state flux cone:  $\mathcal{C} = \{v \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid Sv = 0, v_{\mathcal{I}} \geq 0\}$
- ▶ We call  $R_i \in \mathcal{R}$  a blocked reaction if  $v_i = 0, \forall v \in \mathcal{C}$ .



Source: [Kim et al., 2012]

# Consistency Checking

## The Naive Approach



Definition ([Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994])

A metabolic network with no blocked reactions is called a flux consistent metabolic network.

# Consistency Checking

The Naive Approach



Definition ([Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994])

A metabolic network with no blocked reactions is called a flux consistent metabolic network.

By  $n_i + 2n_r$  LP's:

# Consistency Checking

## The Naive Approach



5

Definition ([Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994])

A metabolic network with no blocked reactions is called a flux consistent metabolic network.

By  $n_i + 2n_r$  LP's:

► *The forward direction:*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & v_j \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_i \leq 1 \end{array}$$

# Consistency Checking

## The Naive Approach



Definition ([Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994])

A metabolic network with no blocked reactions is called a flux consistent metabolic network.

By  $n_i + 2n_r$  LP's:

► *The forward direction:*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & v_i \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_i \leq 1 \end{array}$$

► *The reverse direction:*

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & v_i \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_i \geq -1 \end{array}$$

# Consistency Checking

SWIFTCC



6

- Identifying irreversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & \mathbf{1}^T \min(v_I, \mathbf{1}) \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C}. \end{array}$$

# Consistency Checking

SWIFTCC



6

- ▶ Identifying irreversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{1}^T \min(v_I, \mathbf{1}) \\ & \text{subject to} && v \in \mathcal{C}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{1}^T u \\ & \text{subject to} && Sv = 0 \\ & && v_I \succcurlyeq u \\ & && \mathbf{1} \succcurlyeq u \succcurlyeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

# Consistency Checking

SWIFTCC



- ▶ Identifying irreversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{1}^T \min(v_I, \mathbf{1}) \\ & \text{subject to} && v \in \mathcal{C}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{1}^T u \\ & \text{subject to} && Sv = 0 \\ & && v_I \succcurlyeq u \\ & && \mathbf{1} \succcurlyeq u \succcurlyeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Requires one LP.

# Consistency Checking

SWIFTCC



- ▶ Identifying irreversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & \mathbf{1}^T \min(v_I, \mathbf{1}) \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C}. \end{array}$$

- ▶ Identifying reversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{cases} Sx = 0 \\ e_i^T x = 1 \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Equivalently,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & \mathbf{1}^T u \\ \text{subject to} & Sv = 0 \\ & v_I \succcurlyeq u \\ & \mathbf{1} \succcurlyeq u \succcurlyeq 0. \end{array}$$

- ▶ Requires one LP.

# Consistency Checking

SWIFTCC



6

- ▶ Identifying irreversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{1}^T \min(v_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{1}) \\ & \text{subject to} && v \in \mathcal{C}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{1}^T u \\ & \text{subject to} && Sv = 0 \\ & && v_{\mathcal{I}} \succcurlyeq u \\ & && \mathbf{1} \succcurlyeq u \succcurlyeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Requires one LP.

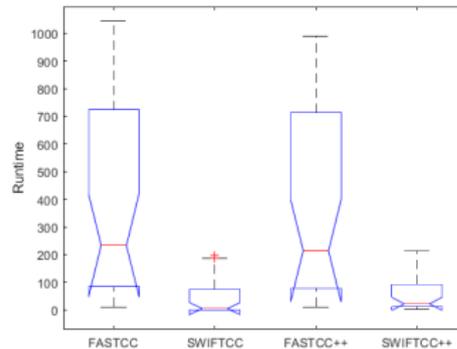
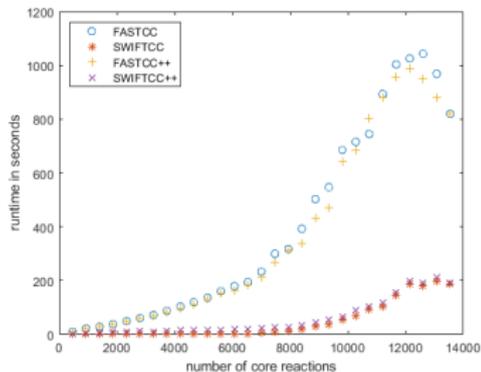
- ▶ Identifying reversible blocked reactions by,

$$\begin{cases} Sx = 0 \\ e_i^T x = 1 \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Requires one QR decomposition.

# Consistency Checking

## Benchmark



SWIFTCC is more than  $8\times$  faster than FASTCC on average over 29 iterations of varying sizes for the Recon3D model.



FCA [Burgard et al., 2004]

Let  $(R_i, R_j)$  be an arbitrary pair of unblocked reactions.



FCA [Burgard et al., 2004]

Let  $(R_i, R_j)$  be an arbitrary pair of unblocked reactions.

Directional Coupling:  $R_i \rightarrow R_j$  if

$$v_i \neq 0 \Rightarrow v_j \neq 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{C}.$$

## FCA [Burgard et al., 2004]

Let  $(R_i, R_j)$  be an arbitrary pair of unblocked reactions.

Directional Coupling:  $R_i \longrightarrow R_j$  if

$$v_i \neq 0 \Rightarrow v_j \neq 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Partial Coupling:  $R_i \longleftrightarrow R_j$  if

$$v_i \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow v_j \neq 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{C}.$$



## FCA [Burgard et al., 2004]

Let  $(R_i, R_j)$  be an arbitrary pair of unblocked reactions.

Directional Coupling:  $R_i \longrightarrow R_j$  if

$$v_i \neq 0 \Rightarrow v_j \neq 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Partial Coupling:  $R_i \longleftrightarrow R_j$  if

$$v_i \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow v_j \neq 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Full Coupling:  $R_i \iff R_j$  if there exists a constant  $c \neq 0$  such that

$$v_i = cv_j, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{C}.$$



### Problem

Given the stoichiometric matrix  $S$  and the subset of irreversible reactions  $\mathcal{I}$ , identify all the blocked reactions and the pairs of reactions which are directional, partially, or fully coupled.

### Problem

Given the stoichiometric matrix  $S$  and the subset of irreversible reactions  $\mathcal{I}$ , identify all the blocked reactions and the pairs of reactions which are directional, partially, or fully coupled.

### FFCA [David et al., 2011]

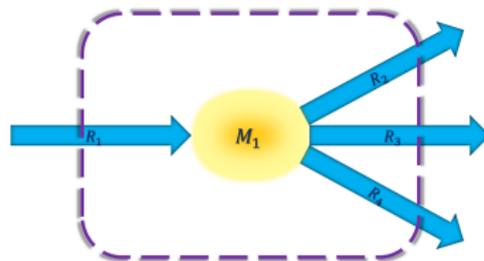
By  $n(n_i + 2n_r) + 2n_p$  LP's:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & v_j \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_j = 0 \\ & v_i \leq 1. \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & v_j \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_j = 1. \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & v_j \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_j = 0 \\ & v_i \geq -1. \end{array}$$

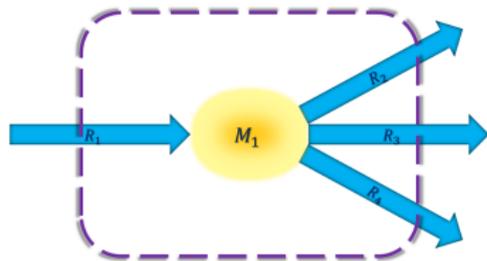
$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & v_j \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \\ & v_j = 1. \end{array}$$



For  $t = 2, 3, 4$ ,  $R_t \rightarrow R_1$  can be inferred from the DCE corresponding to  $M_1$ .

- For  $R_{i_1}, R_{i_2}, \dots, R_{i_l} \in \mathcal{I}$ , there exists  $c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_l} > 0$ , such that

$$V_j = c_{i_1} V_{i_1} + c_{i_2} V_{i_2} + \dots + c_{i_l} V_{i_l}.$$



For  $t = 2, 3, 4$ ,  $R_t \rightarrow R_1$  can be inferred from the DCE corresponding to  $M_1$ .

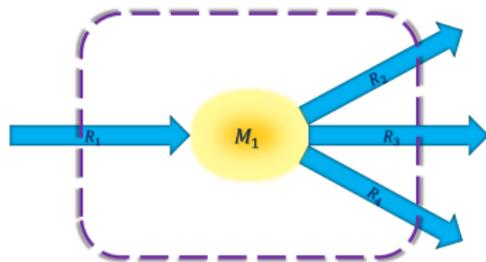
- ▶ For  $R_{i_1}, R_{i_2}, \dots, R_{i_l} \in \mathcal{I}$ , there exists  $c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_l} > 0$ , such that

$$v_j = c_{i_1} v_{i_1} + c_{i_2} v_{i_2} + \dots + c_{i_l} v_{i_l}.$$

- ▶ There exists  $c'_{i_{l+1}} \neq 0$ ,

$$v_j = c'_{i_1} v_{i_1} + c'_{i_2} v_{i_2} + \dots + c'_{i_{l+1}} v_{i_{l+1}}.$$

For  $t = 2, 3, 4, R_t \rightarrow R_1$  can be inferred from the DCE corresponding to  $M_1$ .



- ▶ For  $R_{i_1}, R_{i_2}, \dots, R_{i_l} \in \mathcal{I}$ , there exists  $c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_l} > 0$ , such that

$$v_j = c_{i_1} v_{i_1} + c_{i_2} v_{i_2} + \dots + c_{i_l} v_{i_l}.$$

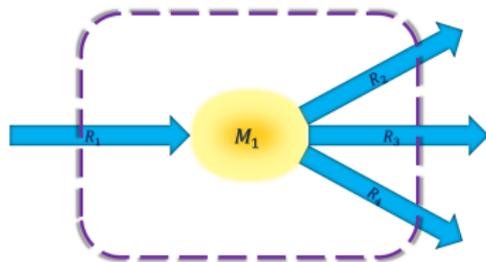
- ▶ There exists  $c'_{i_{l+1}} \neq 0$ ,

$$v_j = c'_{i_1} v_{i_1} + c'_{i_2} v_{i_2} + \dots + c'_{i_{l+1}} v_{i_{l+1}}.$$

For  $t = 2, 3, 4, R_t \rightarrow R_1$  can be inferred from the DCE corresponding to  $M_1$ .

- ▶

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{c}\right)v_j = \left(c_{i_1} + \frac{c'_{i_1}}{c}\right)v_{i_1} + \left(c_{i_2} + \frac{c'_{i_2}}{c}\right)v_{i_2} + \dots + \left(c_{i_l} + \frac{c'_{i_l}}{c}\right)v_{i_l} + \frac{c'_{i_{l+1}}}{c}v_{i_{l+1}}$$



### Theorem ([Tefagh and Boyd, 2018])

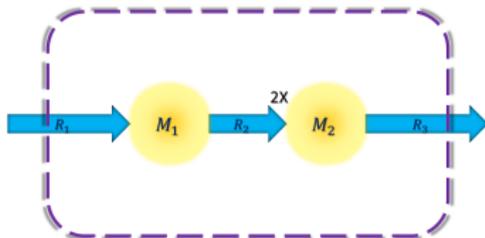
Suppose that  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  has no irreversible blocked reactions. Let  $R_j$  be an arbitrary unblocked reaction, and  $\mathcal{D}_j \subseteq \mathcal{I}$  denote the set of all the irreversible reactions which are directionally coupled to  $R_j$  excluding itself. Then,  $\mathcal{D}_j \neq \emptyset$  if and only if there exists  $c_d > 0$  for each  $R_d \in \mathcal{D}_j$ , such that the following directional coupling equation (DCE)

$$v_j = \sum_{d: R_d \in \mathcal{D}_j} c_d v_d,$$

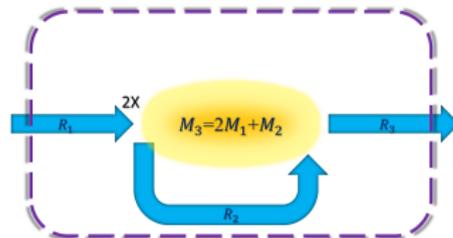
holds for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}$ . Moreover, for any unblocked  $R_i \notin \mathcal{I}$ , we have  $R_i \longrightarrow R_j$  if and only if there exists an extended directional coupling equation (EDCE)

$$v_j = \sum_{d: R_d \in \mathcal{D}_j} c'_d v_d + c'_i v_i \quad c'_i \neq 0,$$

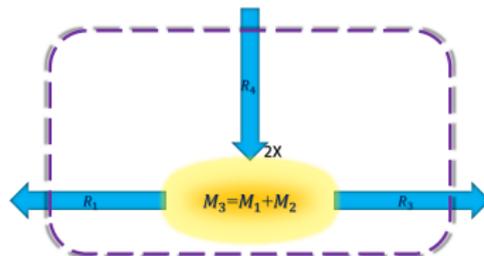
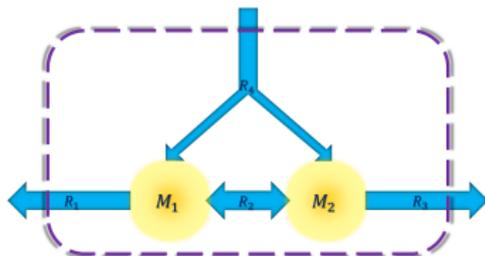
which holds for all  $v \in \mathcal{C}$ .



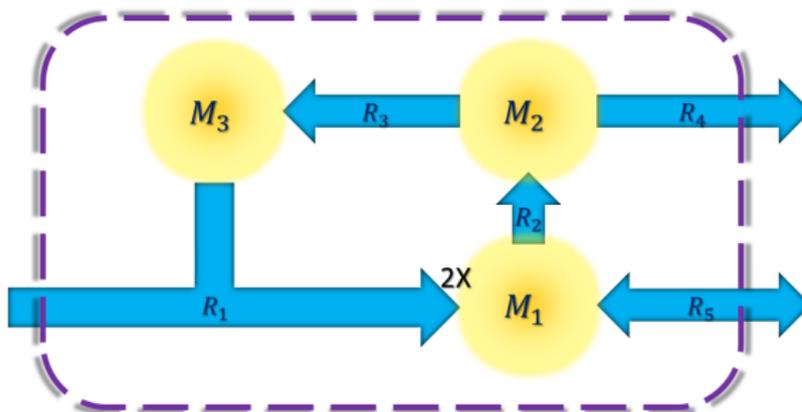
(a) the original metabolic network



(b) the transformed metabolic network



$R_2 \longrightarrow R_4$  can be inferred from the EDCEs corresponding to  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ .



$M_1$  and  $M_1 + M_3$  provide EDCEs,  $M_2$  and  $M_2 + M_3$  provide DCEs, and  $M_3$  provides an FCE.



### Definition

We call  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}^n$  a fictitious metabolite if there exists  $\nu \in \mathbf{R}^m$  such that  $\lambda = S^T \nu$ .



## Definition

We call  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}^n$  a fictitious metabolite if there exists  $\nu \in \mathbf{R}^m$  such that  $\lambda = S^T \nu$ .

## Theorem

*Suppose that in a given metabolic network specified by  $S$  and  $\mathcal{I}$ , there are no irreversible blocked reactions. Then for any  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\lambda$  is a fictitious metabolite if and only if*

$$\lambda^T \nu = 0, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathcal{C}.$$



## Definition

We call  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}^n$  a fictitious metabolite if there exists  $\nu \in \mathbf{R}^m$  such that  $\lambda = S^T \nu$ .

## Theorem

*Suppose that in a given metabolic network specified by  $S$  and  $\mathcal{I}$ , there are no irreversible blocked reactions. Then for any  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $\lambda$  is a fictitious metabolite if and only if*

$$\lambda^T \nu = 0, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathcal{C}.$$

## Lemma

*Suppose that in a given metabolic network specified by  $S$  and  $\mathcal{I}$ , there are no irreversible blocked reactions. Then for any  $\lambda \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,*

$$\lambda^T \nu = 0, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathcal{C} \Leftrightarrow \lambda^T u = 0, \quad \forall u \in \ker(S).$$

$$\begin{aligned}M = & 4 \times 13dpg[c] + 2 \times 2pg[c] + 2 \times 3pg[c] \\ & + 4.8756 \times 6pgc[c] + 3.8756 \times 6pgl[c] + 2 \times actp[c] \\ & - 2 \times adp[c] - 4 \times amp[c] + 2 \times dhap[c] \\ & - 1.8756 \times e4p[c] + 2 \times f6p[c] + 4 \times fdp[c] \\ & + 2 \times g3p[c] + 2 \times g6p[c] + 2 \times pep[c] \\ & + 2 \times pi[c] + 1 \times pi[e] - 5.7513 \times r5p[c] \\ & + 5.8756 \times ru5p - D[c] - 1.8756 \times s7p[c] \\ & + 5.8756 \times xu5p - D[c]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 M = & 4 \times 13dpg[c] + 2 \times 2pg[c] + 2 \times 3pg[c] \\
 & + 4.8756 \times 6pgc[c] + 3.8756 \times 6pgl[c] + 2 \times actp[c] \\
 & - 2 \times adp[c] - 4 \times amp[c] + 2 \times dhap[c] \\
 & - 1.8756 \times e4p[c] + 2 \times f6p[c] + 4 \times fdp[c] \\
 & + 2 \times g3p[c] + 2 \times g6p[c] + 2 \times pep[c] \\
 & + 2 \times pi[c] + 1 \times pi[e] - 5.7513 \times r5p[c] \\
 & + 5.8756 \times ru5p - D[c] - 1.8756 \times s7p[c] \\
 & + 5.8756 \times xu5p - D[c]
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ 3-Phospho-D-glyceroyl-phosphate
- ▶ D-Glycerate-2-phosphate
- ▶ 3-Phospho-D-glycerate
- ▶ 6-Phospho-D-gluconate
- ▶ 6-phospho-D-glucono-1-5-lactone
- ▶ Acetyl-phosphate
- ▶ ADP
- ▶ AMP
- ▶ Dihydroxyacetone-phosphate
- ▶ D-Erythrose-4-phosphate
- ▶ D-Fructose-6-phosphate

- ▶ D-Fructose-1-6-bisphosphate
- ▶ Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate
- ▶ D-Glucose-6-phosphate
- ▶ Phosphoenolpyruvate
- ▶ Phosphate (pi[c])
- ▶ Phosphate (pi[e])
- ▶ alpha-D-Ribose-5-phosphate
- ▶ D-Ribulose-5-phosphate
- ▶ Sedoheptulose-7-phosphate
- ▶ D-Xylulose-5-phosphate

Table: a bird's eye view of QFCA

	positive certificates	negative certificates	$A$
$\mathcal{B}_R$ EDCE FCE	$(S^{(A)})^T x = e_i^{(A)}$	$S^{(A)} u = 0$ $e_i^{(A)T} u = 1$	$\emptyset$ $\mathcal{D}_j \cup \{R_j\}$ $\{R_j\}$
$\mathcal{B}_I$ DCE	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(\lambda^{(A)}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $S^T \nu = \lambda$ $\lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I}$ $\lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus A$	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(v_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $v \in \mathcal{C}$ $v_A = 0$	$\emptyset$ $\{R_j\}$

Table: a bird's eye view of QFCA

	positive certificates	negative certificates	$A$
$\mathcal{B}_R$ EDCE FCE	$(S^{(A)})^T x = e_i^{(A)}$	$S^{(A)} u = 0$ $e_i^{(A)T} u = 1$	$\emptyset$ $\mathcal{D}_j \cup \{R_j\}$ $\{R_j\}$
$\mathcal{B}_I$ DCE	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(\lambda^{(A)}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $S^T \nu = \lambda$ $\lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I}$ $\lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus A$	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(\nu_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $\nu \in \mathcal{C}$ $\nu_A = 0$	$\emptyset$ $\{R_j\}$

► Certificates as potential differences

Table: a bird's eye view of QFCA

	positive certificates	negative certificates	$A$
$\mathcal{B}_R$ EDCE FCE	$(S^{(A)})^T x = e_i^{(A)}$	$S^{(A)} u = 0$ $e_i^{(A)T} u = 1$	$\emptyset$ $\mathcal{D}_j \cup \{R_j\}$ $\{R_j\}$
$\mathcal{B}_I$ DCE	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(\lambda^{(A)}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $S^T v = \lambda$ $\lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I}$ $\lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus A$	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(v_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $v \in \mathcal{C}$ $v_A = 0$	$\emptyset$ $\{R_j\}$

- ▶ Certificates as potential differences
- ▶ Certificates as fictitious metabolites

Table: a bird's eye view of QFCA

	positive certificates	negative certificates	$A$
$\mathcal{B}_R$ EDCE FCE	$(S^{(A)})^T x = e_i^{(A)}$	$S^{(A)} u = 0$ $e_i^{(A)T} u = 1$	$\emptyset$ $\mathcal{D}_j \cup \{R_j\}$ $\{R_j\}$
$\mathcal{B}_I$ DCE	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(\lambda^{(A)}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $S^T v = \lambda$ $\lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I}$ $\lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \setminus A$	maximize $\mathbf{1}^T \min(v_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{1})$ subject to $v \in \mathcal{C}$ $v_A = 0$	$\emptyset$ $\{R_j\}$

- ▶ Certificates as potential differences
- ▶ Certificates as fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Certificates as generalizations of fully coupling constants

$$v_1 = -\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} v_2 - \frac{\lambda_3}{\lambda_1} v_3 - \dots - \frac{\lambda_l}{\lambda_1} v_l$$



## QFCA

**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}$

**Output:**  $A, b$



## QFCA

**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}$

**Output:**  $A, b$

identifying and removing the blocked reactions from the metabolic network



## QFCA

**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}$

**Output:**  $A, b$

identifying and removing the blocked reactions from the metabolic network  
aggregating all the isozymes and removing the newly blocked reactions



## QFCA

**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}$

**Output:**  $A, b$

identifying and removing the blocked reactions from the metabolic network  
aggregating all the isozymes and removing the newly blocked reactions  
identifying the fully coupled pairs of reactions and merging each pair



## QFCA

**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}$

**Output:**  $A, b$

identifying and removing the blocked reactions from the metabolic network  
aggregating all the isozymes and removing the newly blocked reactions

identifying the fully coupled pairs of reactions and merging each pair

computing the set of fully reversible reactions and reversibility type pruning

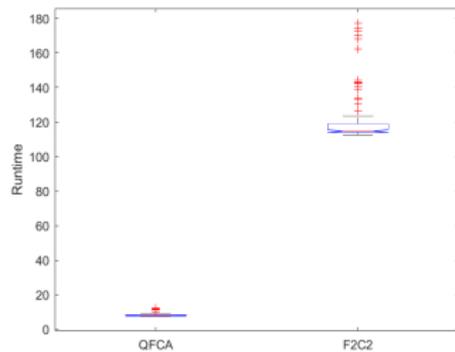


## QFCA

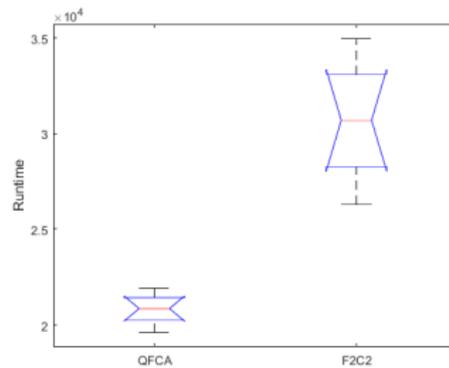
**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}$

**Output:**  $A, b$

identifying and removing the blocked reactions from the metabolic network  
aggregating all the isozymes and removing the newly blocked reactions  
identifying the fully coupled pairs of reactions and merging each pair  
computing the set of fully reversible reactions and reversibility type pruning  
finding the directional and partial coupling relations by positive certificates



(a) YEASTNET v3.0 with 2292 reversible and 49 irreversible reactions



(b) Recon3D with 5238 reversible and 5362 irreversible reactions

QFCA average runtime is 7% and 68% of F2C2 average runtime, respectively.



- ▶ A quantitative approach to FCA

$$v_j \geq cv_i$$

- ▶ A quantitative approach to FCA

$$v_j \geq cv_i$$

Equivalently the optimal value of the following LP is zero.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & v_j - cv_i \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \end{array}$$

- ▶ A quantitative approach to FCA

$$v_j \geq cv_i$$

Equivalently the optimal value of the following LP is zero.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & v_j - cv_i \\ \text{subject to} & v \in \mathcal{C} \end{array}$$

Deriving the dual,

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & 0 \\ \text{subject to} & S^T v + e_j - ce_i = \lambda \\ & \lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I} \\ & \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \end{array}$$

- ▶ A quantitative approach to FCA

$$v_j \geq cv_i$$

Equivalently the optimal value of the following LP is zero.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && v_j - cv_i \\ & \text{subject to} && v \in \mathcal{C} \end{aligned}$$

Deriving the dual,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && 0 \\ & \text{subject to} && S^T v + e_j - ce_i = \lambda \\ & && \lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I} \\ & && \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \end{aligned}$$

As a result,

$$(1 - \lambda_j^*)v_j = (c + \lambda_i^*)v_i + \sum_{d \neq i,j} \lambda_d^* v_d,$$

- ▶ A quantitative approach to FCA

$$v_j \geq cv_i$$

Equivalently the optimal value of the following LP is zero.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && v_j - cv_i \\ &\text{subject to} && v \in \mathcal{C} \end{aligned}$$

Deriving the dual,

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{maximize} && 0 \\ &\text{subject to} && S^T v + e_j - ce_i = \lambda \\ & && \lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I} \\ & && \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \end{aligned}$$

As a result,

$$(1 - \lambda_j^*)v_j = (c + \lambda_i^*)v_i + \sum_{d \neq i, j} \lambda_d^* v_d,$$

- ▶ Sensitivity analysis

- ▶ A quantitative approach to FCA

$$v_j \geq cv_i$$

Equivalently the optimal value of the following LP is zero.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && v_j - cv_i \\ & \text{subject to} && v \in \mathcal{C} \end{aligned}$$

Deriving the dual,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && 0 \\ & \text{subject to} && S^T v + e_j - ce_i = \lambda \\ & && \lambda_i = 0, \quad i \notin \mathcal{I} \\ & && \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \end{aligned}$$

As a result,

$$(1 - \lambda_j^*)v_j = (c + \lambda_i^*)v_i + \sum_{d \neq i,j} \lambda_d^* v_d,$$

- ▶ Sensitivity analysis
- ▶ The metabolic gap-filling problem

# Metabolic Network Reductions

A Toy example



20

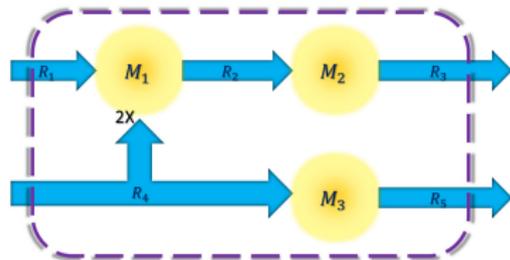
$$\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5\}$$

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{R}$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & 0 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



the original metabolic network

# Metabolic Network Reductions

A Toy example



20

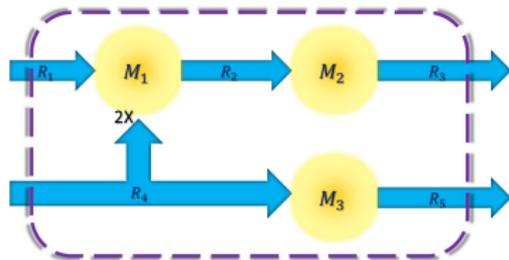
$$\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{M_1, M_2, M_3\}$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \{R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5\}$$

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{R}$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & 0 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



the original metabolic network

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_3 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

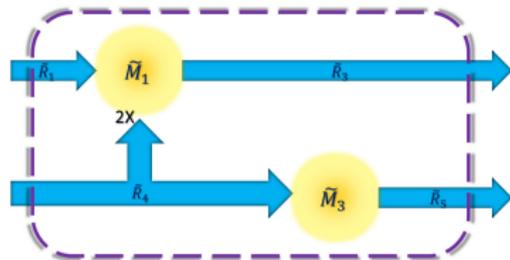
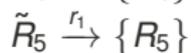
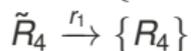
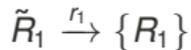
# Metabolic Network Reductions

A Toy example



21

$$\tilde{S} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



the reduced metabolic network

# Metabolic Network Reductions

A Toy example



21

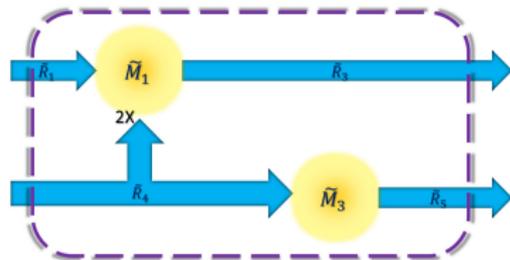
$$\tilde{S} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{R}_1 \xrightarrow{r_1} \{R_1\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_3 \xrightarrow{r_1} \{R_2, R_3\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_4 \xrightarrow{r_1} \{R_4\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_5 \xrightarrow{r_1} \{R_5\}$$



the reduced metabolic network

$$Sv = S \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

A Toy example



22

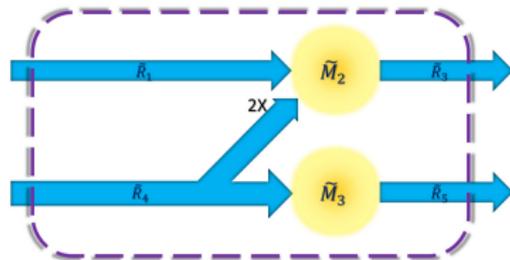
$$\tilde{S} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{R}_1 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_1, R_2\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_3 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_3\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_4 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_2, R_4\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_5 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_5\},$$



a DCE-induced reduction

# Metabolic Network Reductions

A Toy example



22

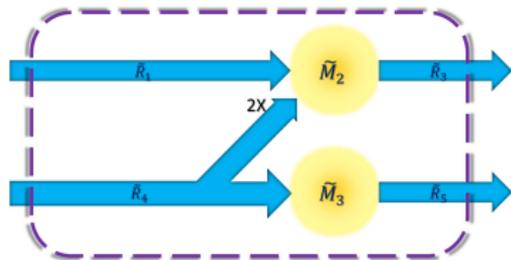
$$\tilde{S} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & -1 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{R}_1 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_1, R_2\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_3 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_3\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_4 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_2, R_4\}$$

$$\tilde{R}_5 \xrightarrow{r_2} \{R_5\},$$



a DCE-induced reduction

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_1 + 2v_4 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ +1 & 0 & +2 & 0 \\ 0 & +1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & +1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & +1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \\ v_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## QFCA Reductions



- ▶ First, we eliminate all the blocked reactions.



# Metabolic Network Reductions

## QFCA Reductions



- ▶ First, we eliminate all the blocked reactions.
- ▶ Second, we merge all the fully coupled reactions.



# Metabolic Network Reductions

## QFCA Reductions



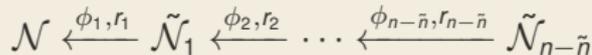
- ▶ First, we eliminate all the blocked reactions.
- ▶ Second, we merge all the fully coupled reactions.
- ▶ Third, we remove the eligible reactions by the DCE-induced reductions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## QFCA Reductions



- ▶ First, we eliminate all the blocked reactions.
- ▶ Second, we merge all the fully coupled reactions.
- ▶ Third, we remove the eligible reactions by the DCE-induced reductions.



$$\tilde{S} = SPA$$

$$\phi^{n-\tilde{n}}(\tilde{v}) = PA\tilde{v}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} \lambda_{11} & & & & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \\ \lambda_{a_1 1} & & & & \\ & \lambda_{12} & & & \\ & \vdots & & & \\ & \lambda_{a_2 2} & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \lambda_{1f} & \\ & & & \vdots & \\ 0 & & & \lambda_{a_f f} & \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} C \end{matrix} \end{pmatrix} \quad 0$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



We say that the metabolic network  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}} = (\tilde{\mathcal{M}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}, \tilde{\mathcal{I}})$  is a reduction of  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  if

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



We say that the metabolic network  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}} = (\tilde{\mathcal{M}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}, \tilde{\mathcal{I}})$  is a reduction of  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  if

1. there exists a surjection  $\phi : \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ,



# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



We say that the metabolic network  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}} = (\tilde{\mathcal{M}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}, \tilde{\mathcal{I}})$  is a reduction of  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  if

1. there exists a surjection  $\phi : \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ,
2. there exists a reduction map  $r : \tilde{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$  such that

$$r(\tilde{R}_i) \not\subseteq \bigcup_{k \neq i} r(\tilde{R}_k) \quad \forall \tilde{R}_i \in \tilde{\mathcal{R}},$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



We say that the metabolic network  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}} = (\tilde{\mathcal{M}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}, \tilde{\mathcal{I}})$  is a reduction of  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  if

1. there exists a surjection  $\phi : \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ ,
2. there exists a reduction map  $r : \tilde{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$  such that

$$r(\tilde{R}_i) \not\subseteq \bigcup_{k \neq i} r(\tilde{R}_k) \quad \forall \tilde{R}_i \in \tilde{\mathcal{R}},$$

3. and the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{\text{supp}} & \mathcal{P}(\tilde{\mathcal{R}}) \\ \phi \downarrow & & \downarrow \tilde{r} \\ \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{\text{supp}} & \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R}) \end{array}$$

where  $\tilde{r} : \mathcal{P}(\tilde{\mathcal{R}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$  is defined by

$$\tilde{r}(\{\tilde{R}_i\}_{i \in I}) = \bigcup_{i \in I} r(\tilde{R}_i).$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



$\phi_1 \circ \phi_2 : \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a surjection because the composition of surjective functions is surjective,

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



$\phi_1 \circ \phi_2 : \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a surjection because the composition of surjective functions is surjective,

$\tilde{r}_1 \circ r_2 : \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$  is a legitimate reduction map because for any  $\tilde{R}_i \in \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2$  we have

$$\exists \tilde{R}_j \in r_2(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} r_2(\tilde{R}_k) \Rightarrow \exists R_t \in r_1(\tilde{R}_j) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq j} r_1(\tilde{R}_k) \Rightarrow R_t \in \tilde{r}_1 \circ r_2(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} \tilde{r}_1 \circ r_2(\tilde{R}_k),$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Canonical Reductions



$\phi_1 \circ \phi_2 : \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a surjection because the composition of surjective functions is surjective,

$\tilde{r}_1 \circ r_2 : \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$  is a legitimate reduction map because for any  $\tilde{R}_i \in \tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2$  we have

$$\exists \tilde{R}_j \in r_2(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} r_2(\tilde{R}_k) \Rightarrow \exists R_t \in r_1(\tilde{R}_j) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq j} r_1(\tilde{R}_k) \Rightarrow R_t \in \tilde{r}_1 \circ r_2(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} \tilde{r}_1 \circ r_2(\tilde{R}_k),$$

and the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_2 & \xrightarrow{\text{supp}} & \mathcal{P}(\tilde{\mathcal{R}}_2) \\ \phi_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow \tilde{r}_2 \\ \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_1 & \xrightarrow{\text{supp}} & \mathcal{P}(\tilde{\mathcal{R}}_1) \\ \phi_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \tilde{r}_1 \\ \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{\text{supp}} & \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R}) \end{array}$$

because for any  $\tilde{v} \in \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_2$

$$\text{supp}(\phi_1 \circ \phi_2(\tilde{v})) = \tilde{r}_1(\text{supp}(\phi_2(\tilde{v}))) = \tilde{r}_1 \circ \tilde{r}_2(\text{supp}(\tilde{v})).$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Canonical reductions preserve EM's



## Definition ([Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994])

We call a nonzero feasible flux distribution  $0 \neq v \in \mathcal{C}$  an *elementary mode* (EM), if its support is minimal, or equivalently, if there does not exist any other nonzero feasible flux distribution  $0 \neq u \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\text{supp}(u) \subset \text{supp}(v)$ .

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Canonical reductions preserve EM's



## Definition ([Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994])

We call a nonzero feasible flux distribution  $0 \neq v \in \mathcal{C}$  an *elementary mode* (EM), if its support is minimal, or equivalently, if there does not exist any other nonzero feasible flux distribution  $0 \neq u \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\text{supp}(u) \subset \text{supp}(v)$ .

## *Minimal conserved pool identification* (MCPI)

Replace FCA by *Metabolite concentration coupling analysis* (MCCA) and everything works!

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Canonical reductions are minimal



27

## Theorem (The reduction theorem)

*Suppose that  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}} = (\tilde{\mathcal{M}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}, \tilde{\mathcal{I}})$  is a metabolic network reduction of  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  by the surjection  $\phi : \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and the reduction map  $r : \tilde{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$ . For each  $\tilde{R}_i, \tilde{R}_j \in \tilde{\mathcal{R}}$  such that  $\tilde{R}_i \rightarrow \tilde{R}_j$ , any reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} r(\tilde{R}_k)$  is directionally coupled to any reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_j)$ .*

*Conversely, if there exists a reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_i)$  which is directionally coupled to some reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_j) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq j} r(\tilde{R}_k)$ , then  $\tilde{R}_i \rightarrow \tilde{R}_j$ .*

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Canonical reductions are minimal



27

## Theorem (The reduction theorem)

*Suppose that  $\tilde{\mathcal{N}} = (\tilde{\mathcal{M}}, \tilde{\mathcal{R}}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}, \tilde{\mathcal{I}})$  is a metabolic network reduction of  $\mathcal{N} = (\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I})$  by the surjection  $\phi : \tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and the reduction map  $r : \tilde{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{R})$ . For each  $\tilde{R}_i, \tilde{R}_j \in \tilde{\mathcal{R}}$  such that  $\tilde{R}_i \rightarrow \tilde{R}_j$ , any reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} r(\tilde{R}_k)$  is directionally coupled to any reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_j)$ .*

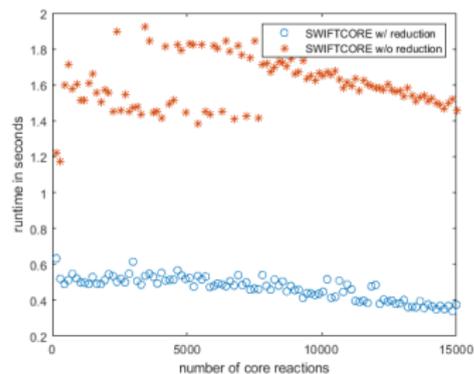
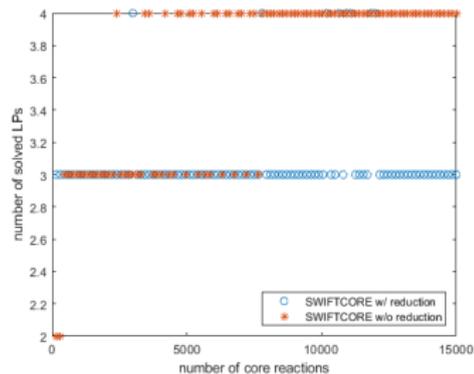
*Conversely, if there exists a reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_i)$  which is directionally coupled to some reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_j) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq j} r(\tilde{R}_k)$ , then  $\tilde{R}_i \rightarrow \tilde{R}_j$ .*

## Remark

By setting  $i = j$  in the reduction theorem, any reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_i) \setminus \bigcup_{k \neq i} r(\tilde{R}_k)$  is directionally coupled to any reaction in  $r(\tilde{R}_i)$ .

# Metabolic Network Reductions

## Benchmark



SWIFTCORE runs more than  $3\times$  faster on the reduced BiGG universal model

$$m = 13249, n = 24311, nnz(S) = 95774$$

$$\tilde{m} = 1278, \tilde{n} = 10255, nnz(\tilde{S}) = 56457$$

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...



# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions
- ▶ of older evolutionary age

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions
- ▶ of older evolutionary age
- ▶ evolutionary more conserved

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions
- ▶ of older evolutionary age
- ▶ evolutionary more conserved
- ▶ essential in a wide range of conditions

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions
- ▶ of older evolutionary age
- ▶ evolutionary more conserved
- ▶ essential in a wide range of conditions
- ▶ their associated genes are more expressed

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions
- ▶ of older evolutionary age
- ▶ evolutionary more conserved
- ▶ essential in a wide range of conditions
- ▶ their associated genes are more expressed
- ▶ the reactions that produce biomass metabolites uniquely

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Metabolic Network Reductions

Biological Intuition



29

The DCE reduced reactions are...

- ▶ essential reactions
- ▶ exchange reactions
- ▶ of older evolutionary age
- ▶ evolutionary more conserved
- ▶ essential in a wide range of conditions
- ▶ their associated genes are more expressed
- ▶ the reactions that produce biomass metabolites uniquely
- ▶ the reactions enriching the vital metabolic processes of the cell

Essential reactions are the symmetric counterpart of the blocked reactions.

# Conclusions



► QFCA

# Conclusions



- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations



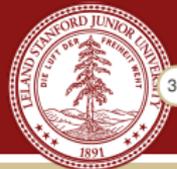
- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations
  - ▶ Fictitious metabolites



- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations
  - ▶ Fictitious metabolites
  - ▶ Better worst-case complexity



- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations
  - ▶ Fictitious metabolites
  - ▶ Better worst-case complexity
  - ▶ Faster in practice



- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations
  - ▶ Fictitious metabolites
  - ▶ Better worst-case complexity
  - ▶ Faster in practice
  - ▶ Biologically interpretable



- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations
  - ▶ Fictitious metabolites
  - ▶ Better worst-case complexity
  - ▶ Faster in practice
  - ▶ Biologically interpretable
  - ▶ Providing lower bounds



- ▶ QFCA
  - ▶ Flux coupling equations
  - ▶ Fictitious metabolites
  - ▶ Better worst-case complexity
  - ▶ Faster in practice
  - ▶ Biologically interpretable
  - ▶ Providing lower bounds
  - ▶ Robust to missing reactions



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity
- ▶ Context-free reductions



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity
- ▶ Context-free reductions
- ▶ Preserving EM's



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity
- ▶ Context-free reductions
- ▶ Preserving EM's
- ▶ The first axiomatic framework



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity
- ▶ Context-free reductions
- ▶ Preserving EM's
- ▶ The first axiomatic framework
- ▶ Provable optimal efficiency



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity
- ▶ Context-free reductions
- ▶ Preserving EM's
- ▶ The first axiomatic framework
- ▶ Provable optimal efficiency
- ▶ Speed up analysis in practice



## ▶ QFCA

- ▶ Flux coupling equations
- ▶ Fictitious metabolites
- ▶ Better worst-case complexity
- ▶ Faster in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable
- ▶ Providing lower bounds
- ▶ Robust to missing reactions
- ▶ Metabolic gap-filling problem

## ▶ Metabolic Network Reduction

- ▶ Decreasing the size
- ▶ Preserving sparsity
- ▶ Context-free reductions
- ▶ Preserving EM's
- ▶ The first axiomatic framework
- ▶ Provable optimal efficiency
- ▶ Speed up analysis in practice
- ▶ Biologically interpretable



- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network





- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network
- ▶ SWIFTCC++



- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network
- ▶ SWIFTCC++
- ▶ SWIFTCORE



- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network
- ▶ SWIFTCC++
- ▶ SWIFTCORE
- ▶ SWIFTGAPFILL



- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network
- ▶ SWIFTCC++
- ▶ SWIFTCORE
- ▶ SWIFTGAPFILL
- ▶ SPARSEQFCA

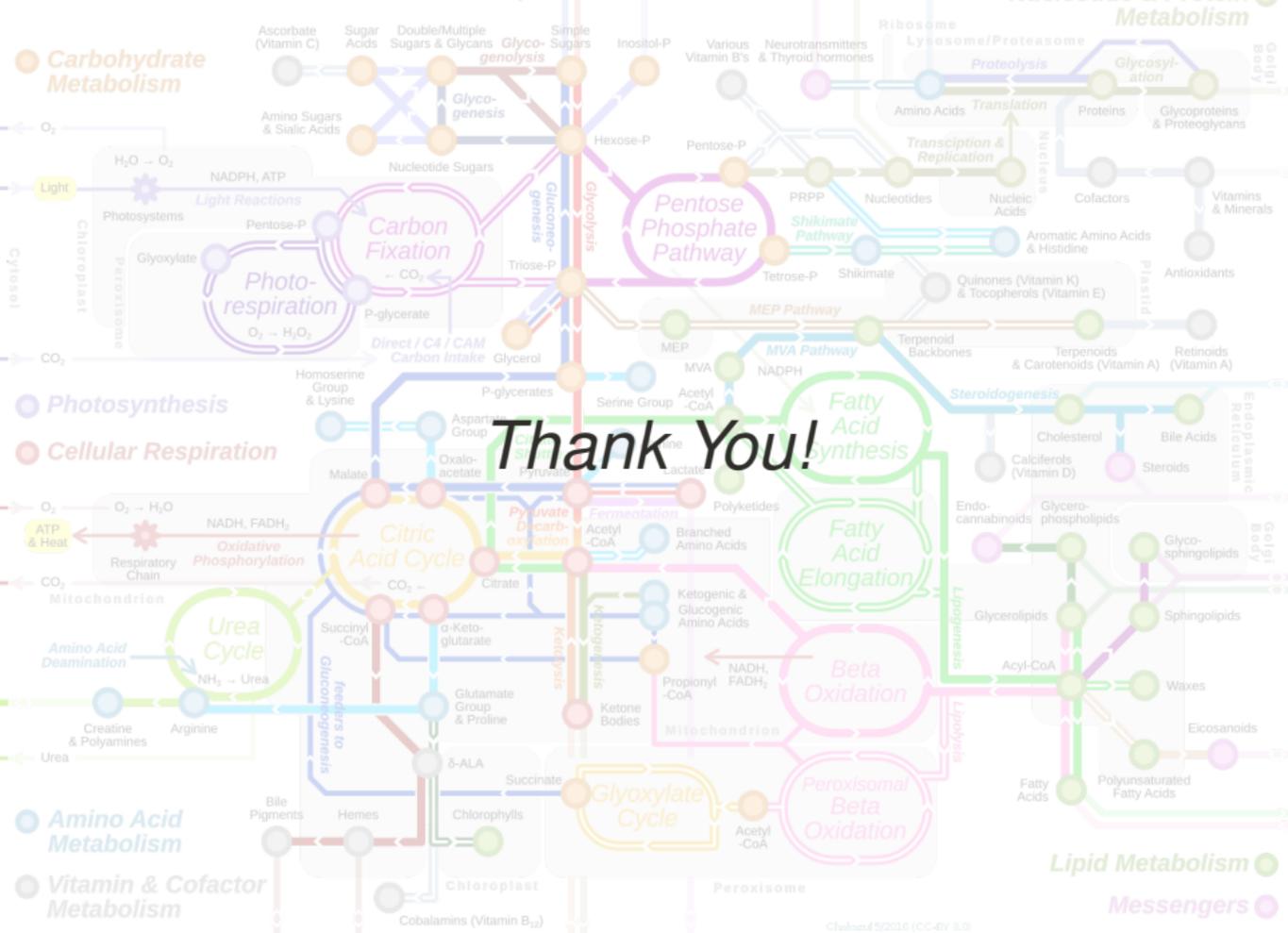


- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network
- ▶ SWIFTCC++
- ▶ SWIFTCORE
- ▶ SWIFTGAPFILL
- ▶ SPARSEQFCA
- ▶ Inhibition analysis



- ▶ Closure of a metabolic network
- ▶ SWIFTCC++
- ▶ SWIFTCORE
- ▶ SWIFTGAPFILL
- ▶ SPARSEQFCA
- ▶ Inhibition analysis
- ▶ Biological fidelity

# Metabolic Metro Map



Thank You!

# Metabolic Metro Map



Any Questions?

- [Burgard et al., 2004] Burgard, A. P., Nikolaev, E. V., Schilling, C. H., and Maranas, C. D. (2004). Flux coupling analysis of genome-scale metabolic network reconstructions. *Genome Research*, 14(2):301–312.
- [David et al., 2011] David, L., Marashi, S.-A., Larhlimi, A., Mieth, B., and Bockmayr, A. (2011). FFCA: a feasibility-based method for flux coupling analysis of metabolic networks. *BMC Bioinformatics*, 12(1):236.
- [Kim et al., 2012] Kim, T. Y., Sohn, S. B., Kim, Y. B., Kim, W. J., and Lee, S. Y. (2012). Recent advances in reconstruction and applications of genome-scale metabolic models. *Current opinion in biotechnology*, 23(4):617–623.
- [Schuster and Hilgetag, 1994] Schuster, S. and Hilgetag, C. (1994). On elementary flux modes in biochemical reaction systems at steady state. *Journal of Biological Systems*, 2(02):165–182.
- [Tefagh and Boyd, 2018] Tefagh, M. and Boyd, S. P. (2018). Quantitative flux coupling analysis. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*.