Hypothesis-driven interpretable neural network for interactions between genes

Modelling and predicting genotype-fitness maps

Shuhui Wang, Alexandre Allauzen, Philippe Nghe, Vaitea Opuu







Modelling genotype-fitness maps

- Collection of **mutation-fitness**
- Predictive genotype-fitness model
- Interpretation to build hypotheses
- Biological system engineering



SOTA

• Mechanistic:

Explicit modelling of the biological system

$$F(X,Y) = \left(w + \mu\varphi - \frac{\nu}{1/\eta - \varphi}\right) \left(1 - \theta_X X - \theta_Y Y\right),$$

highly interpretable but not streamlined & not scalable

• Machine learning:

Statistical modelling of the data

easy modelling & high accuracy but low interpretability



Hypothesis-Driven Modelling ML ~ Mechanistic

- Phenotype inference
- Identify genetic trade-offs
- Extrapolate outside of the data domain



Shuhui Wang

• 1 gene \leftrightarrow 1 phenotype \leftrightarrow 1 latent variable



- 1 gene \leftrightarrow 1 phenotype \leftrightarrow 1 latent variable
- Fitness = nonlinear function combining phenotypes



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The challenge of non-monotonous landscapes



Naive model

Artificial data

The challenge of non-monotonous landscapes

- Construct a graph of mutations
- Spectral initialization (Laplacian)





Similarity graph

The challenge of non-monotonous landscapes

- Construct a graph of mutations
- Spectral initialization (Laplacian)



 φ_2

-1





Spectral initialization

 φ_1

Naive model

Artificial data

Similarity graph

Phenotype inference

• Artificial fitness landscape:

$$F(X,Y) = \left(w + \mu\varphi - \frac{\nu}{1/\eta - \varphi}\right) \left(1 - \theta_X X - \theta_Y Y\right),$$

Kemble *et al* 2020



• Assign numerical phenotypic values

• Artificial fitness landscape:

$$F(X,Y) = \left(w + \mu\varphi - \frac{\nu}{1/\eta - \varphi}\right) \left(1 - \theta_X X - \theta_Y Y\right),$$

Kemble *et al* 2020

• Assign numerical **phenotypic values**





Artificial fitness landscape:

$$F(X,Y) = \left(w + \mu\varphi - \frac{\nu}{1/\eta - \varphi}\right) \left(1 - \theta_X X - \theta_Y Y\right),$$

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Assign numerical phenotypic values



Х

Measure fitness

for combinatorial

pertrubations

Artificial fitness landscape:

$$F(X,Y) = \left(w + \mu\varphi - \frac{\nu}{1/\eta - \varphi}\right) \left(1 - \theta_X X - \theta_Y Y\right),$$

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Assign numerical phenotypic values

Latent variables \propto phenotype



Х

 $X_1 Y_1$

 $X_2 Y_2$

 $\overline{X_3}Y_3$

...

Measure fitness

for combinatoria

pertrubations

Identify trade-offs

Identify a genetic trade-off



- 2 genes influencing growth
- Fitness measured: growth (sequencing/barcoding)

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Recovery of biophysical/mechanistic insights



- Previous biophysical modelling
- Latent variable correlated to earlier hypotheses



Recovery of biophysical/mechanistic insights



- Previous biophysical modelling
- Latent variable correlated to earlier hypotheses



Extrapolate beyond training data

Latent ↔ Phenotype map

• No data for high fitness

 Measure phenotypic values (Single measures ↔ combinatorial measures)



Latent \leftrightarrow Phenotype map

• No data for high fitness

 Measure phenotypic values (Single measures ↔ combinatorial measures)

• Fit phenotypic values with latent variables





Latent \leftrightarrow Phenotype map

• No data for high fitness

 Measure phenotypic values (Single measures ↔ combinatorial measures)

• Fit phenotypic values with latent variables

• Infer fitness



Thank you !

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