BMI 702: Biomedical Artificial Intelligence

Foundations of Biomedical Informatics II, Spring 2024

Lecture 14: Design of chemical and genetic perturbations, drug repurposing, protein design, emerging uses of generative Al



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Outline for today's class

 High-throughput genetic and chemical perturbations

 Drug repurposing, indication and contra-indication prediction

Generative protein design

Generative Al agents



Words and genes share a correspondence: their **meanings** arise from their **context**.

Gene perturbation measurements across diverse cell contexts induce **semantics for genes**

(under the right approach)

"apple" is a **polysemic** word...



Q grow an apple

Q buy an apple

... whose particular meaning is resolved via sentence context.

Google

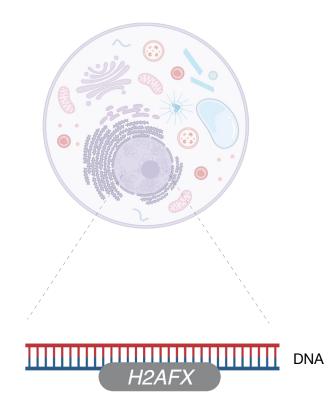
- Q grow an apple
- Q grow an apple tree
- Q grow an apple tree from seed
- Q grow an apple tree in a pot
- Q grow an apple tree indoors



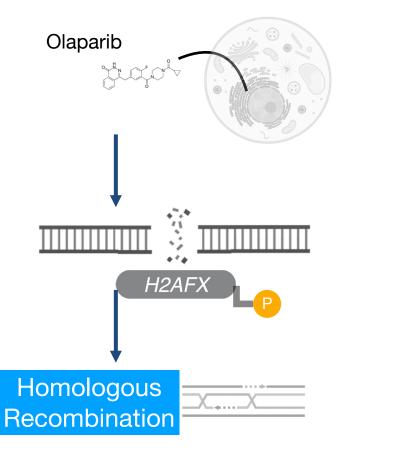
- Q buy an apple
- Q buy an apple watch
- Q buy an apple gift card
- Q buy an apple tv

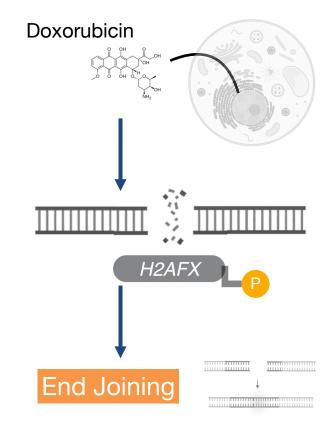


H2AFX is a **pleiotropic** gene...



... whose particular function is resolved via cell context.





While unsupervised learning of word polysemy is **common**...

Data: corpus of sentence contexts

Approach: word embeddings w/ linear semantics

king - man + woman \approx queen

unsupervised learning of gene pleiotropy is **unsolved**

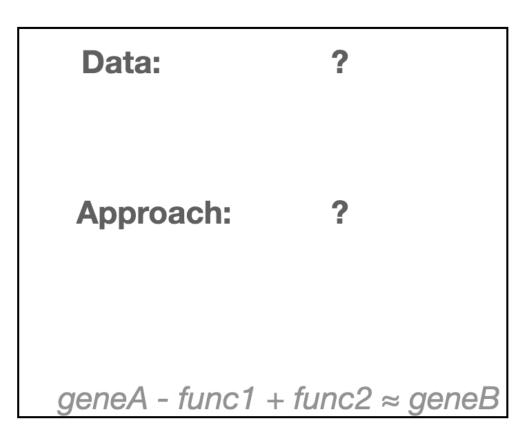
Data: ?

Approach: ?

geneA - func1 + func2 ≈ geneB

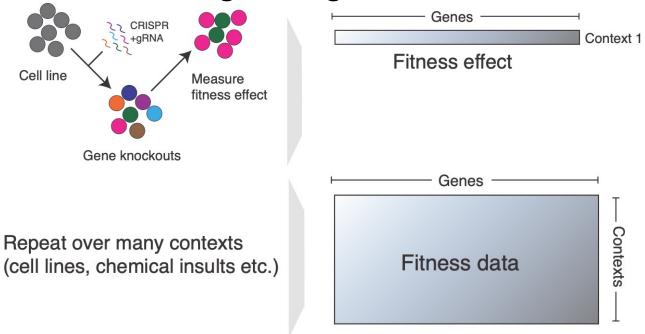
Our goal for today

Unsupervised learning of gene pleiotropy with applications to therapeutic science



Data

Use gene perturbation effect measurements for inferring biological functions

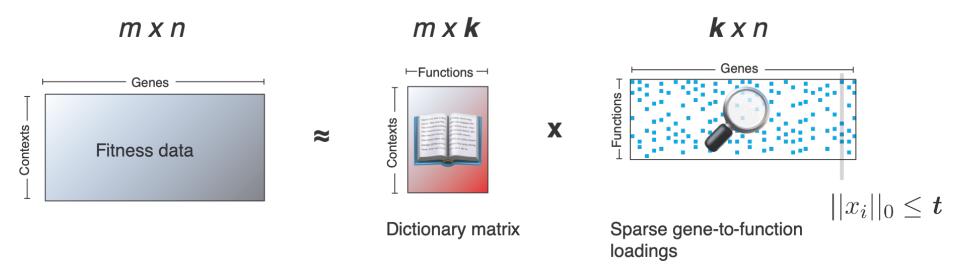


Why perturbation datasets? Alternative data types:

- Transcriptomics: gene co-expression is necessary but not sufficient for co-function
- Protein-protein interactions: direct interactions are not necessary for co-function

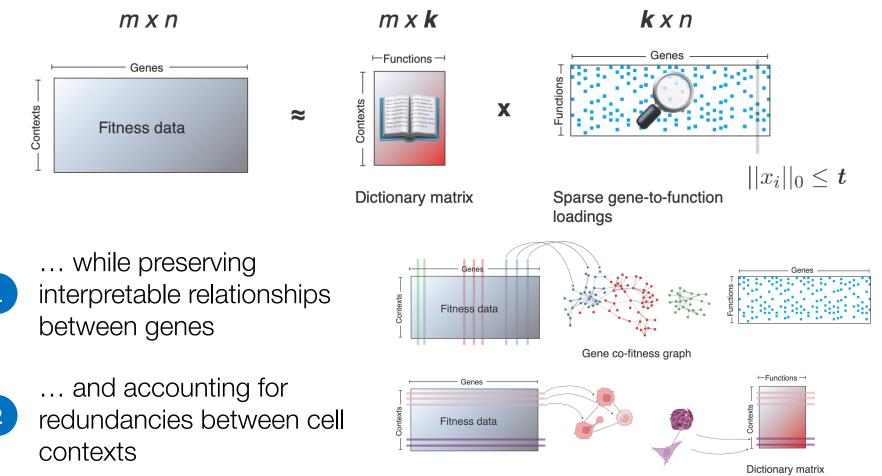
Approach: Webster

- Low-dimensional vector embeddings that satisfy three criteria:
 - Sparse
 - Latents are biologically meaningful
 - Account for redundancy between cell contexts



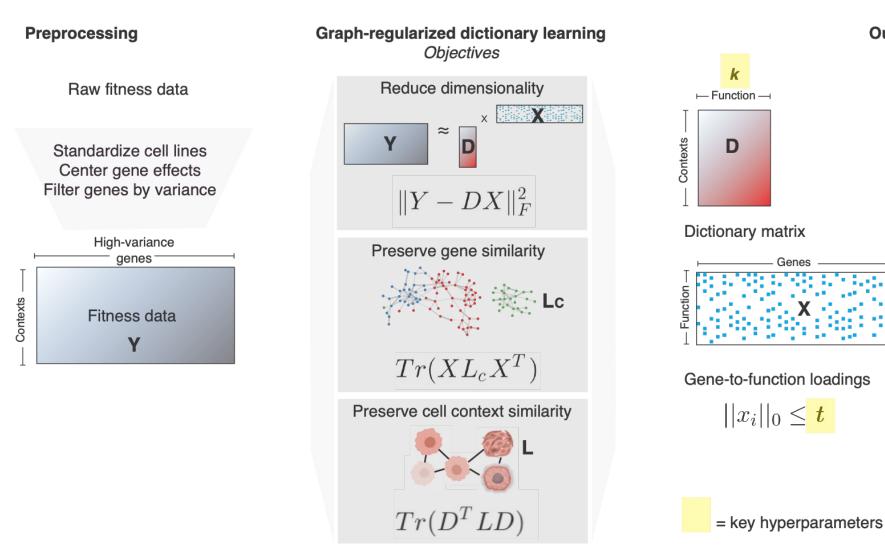
Approach: Webster

Webster learns a dictionary matrix that **sparsely** approximates gene effects...

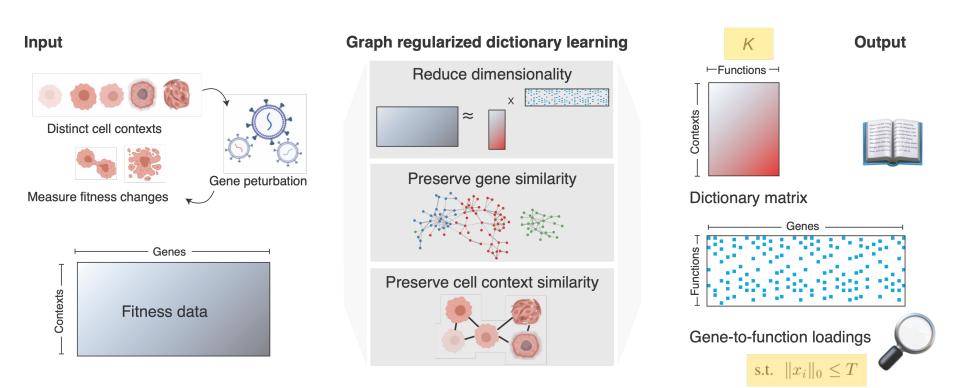


Cell context similarity graph

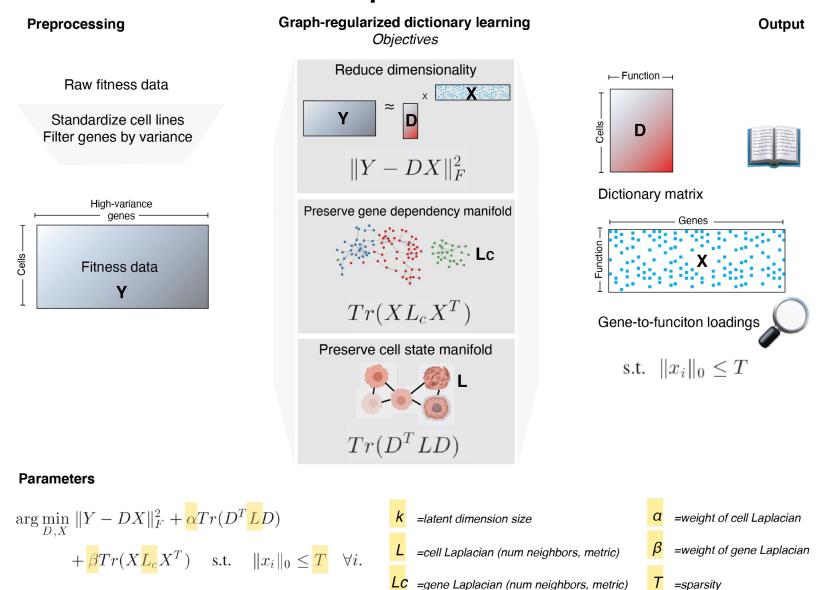
Overview of Webster



Its key parameters are dictionary size (K) and sparsity on loadings (T)



Model optimization



Applications to three screens of gene perturbation effects

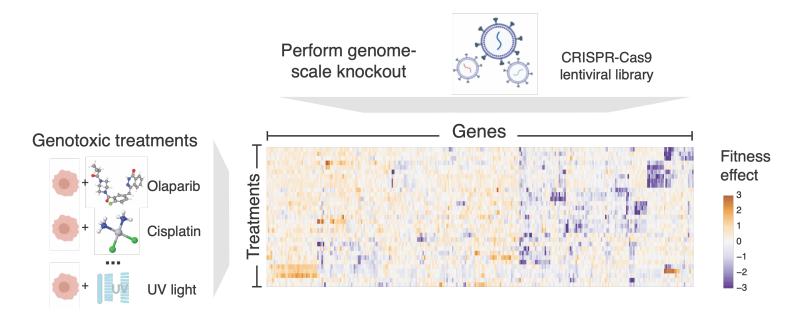
1) Genotoxic screens

2) Cancer fitness screens

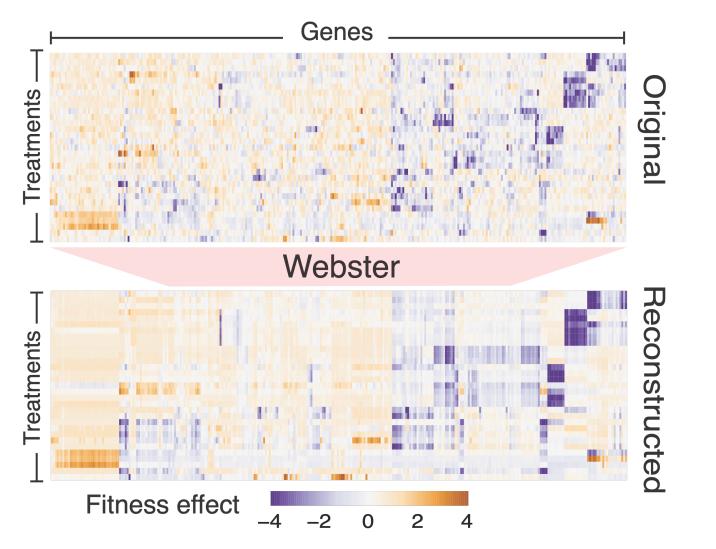
3) Compound sensitivity screens

Part 1: Genotoxic screens

Olivieri et al. 2020: fitness effect of gene knockout in presence of genotoxins

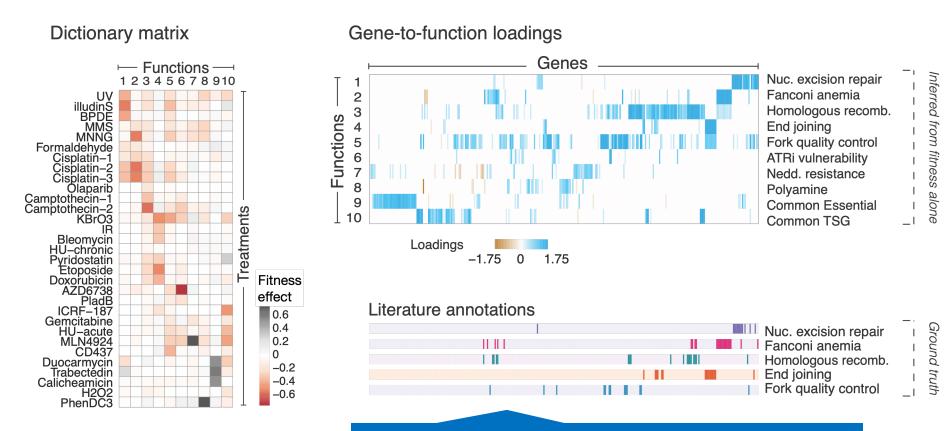


Webster approximates the input data matrix...



k=10 *t*=2

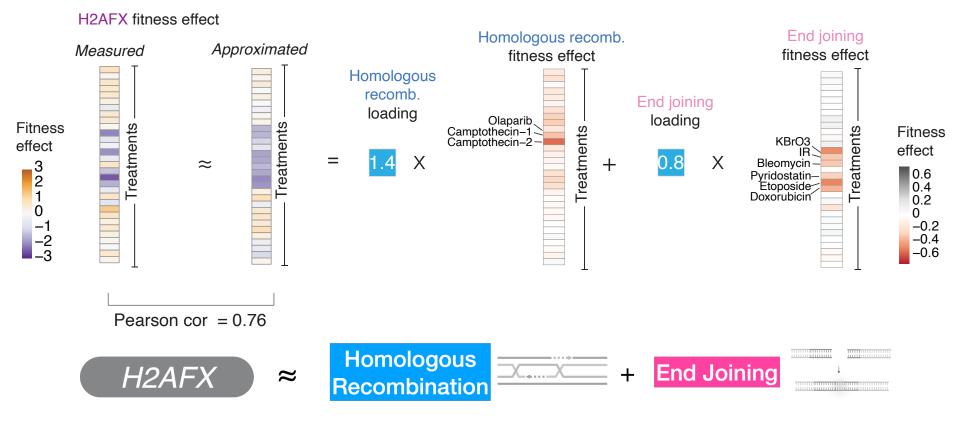
... as a product between a dictionary matrix and a loadings matrix



Learned gene-to-function loadings recover biological genesets hidden during model training

19

Latents inferred by the model recapitulate pleiotropy *without prior knowledge*

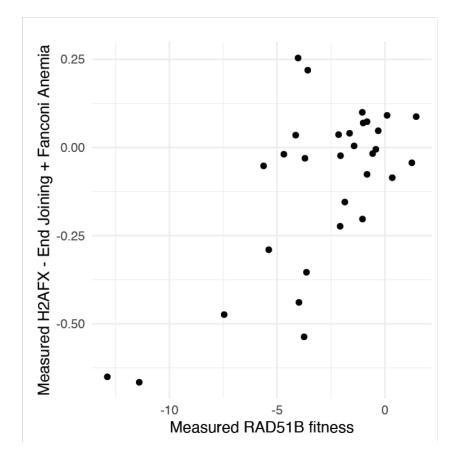


(hidden during model training!)

Latents are biologically meaningful

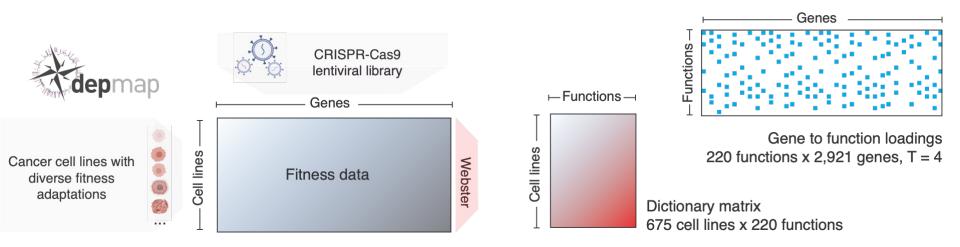
geneA - func1 + func2 \approx geneB

H2AFX - End Joining + Fanconi Anemia ≈ RAD51B



= cell context (treatment)

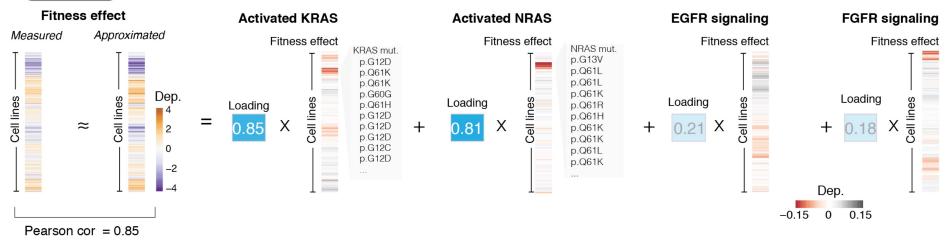
Part 2: Cancer fitness screens



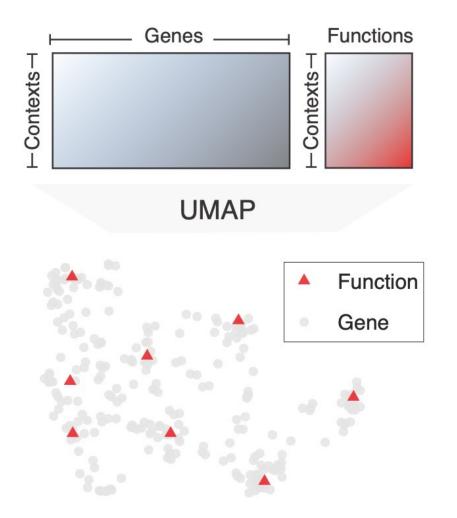
Pleiotropic genes obey linear semantics in the latent space

SHOC2 ≈ Activated KRAS + Activated NRAS + EGFR Signaling + FGFR Signaling

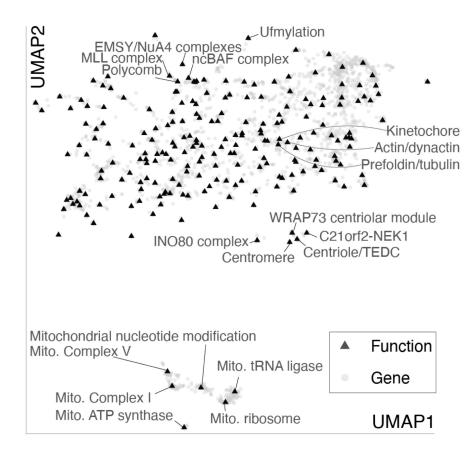




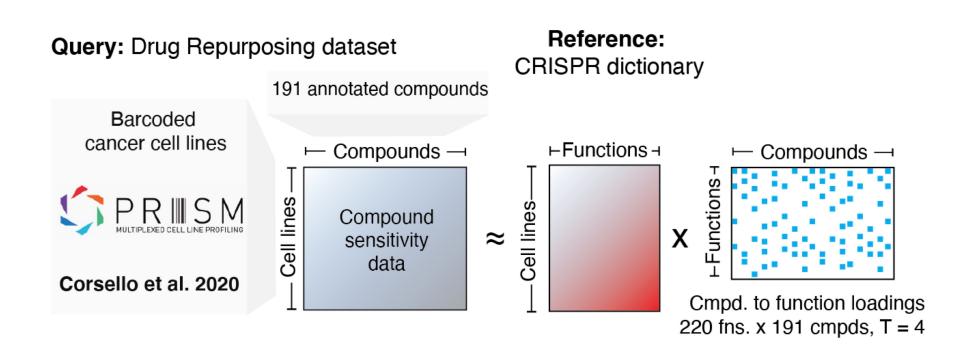
Joint embedding space of genes and functions



It captures interpretable processes in cancer



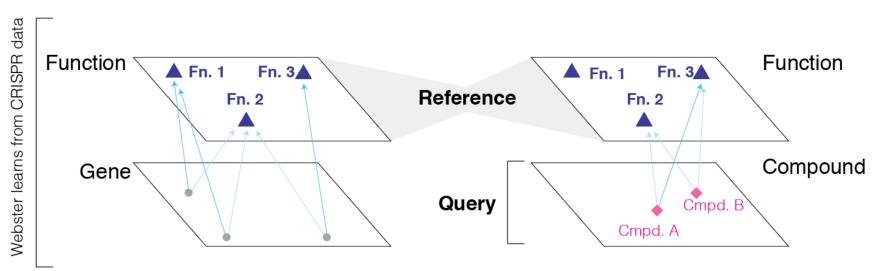
Part 3: Compound sensitivity screens



Modeling compound sensitivity profiles as mixtures of functions learned from CRISPR

Modeling compounds as mixtures of latent functions

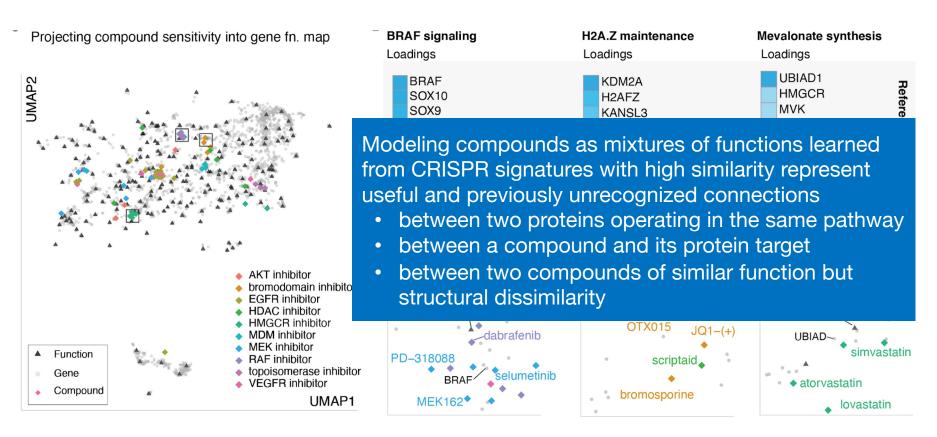
Reference-query projection



- Modeling compounds as mixtures of functions learned from CRISPR signatures with high similarity represent useful and previously unrecognized connections
 - between two proteins operating in the same pathway
 - between a small-molecule and its protein target
 - between two small-molecules of similar function but structural dissimilarity
- Such a catalog of connections can serve as a functional look-up table of compounds to predict sensitivity and genotoxic profiles and to inform therapeutic use

Compounds' mechanisms of action

Compounds are embedded nearby gene functions, reflecting their mechanism of action



Key takeaways

- Analogously to word semantics, genes can be modeled as distributions over latent bio functions
 - Sparse learning is an effective strategy for learning bio functions from high-dimensional chemical and genetic perturbations
 - New perturbations can be projected into learned space



geneA - func1 + func2 \approx geneB

https://depmap.org/webster

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		Published Paper at Cell Systems 🎧 Code for paper 🎧 Dictionary le Design write-up	arning code 🛛 🍈 Figshare data	
	learr Read Th	ore relationships between genes and ed from CRISPR fitness screens usin ^{e Paper:} <u>"Sparse Dictionary Learning Recovers Pleiotropy From F</u> t this tool	g Webster.	
Genotoxic	+ Abo	Search to select a gene or function	- 2d 3d Q Q reset view	v clear selection
Select function group	~			
ATRi vulnerability (V3)		Selected function: ATRi vulnerability (V3)		highlighted in plot Gene DHX35 (ec: ### loading, function nome) 1.08 ATR! vulnerability
Nedd. resistance (V5)	- Alian - Alia	Pan UMAP w/		(V3) 1.00 Fork quality control (V9) Approximation quality (Pearson)
Polyamine (V1)	- La construction - La constru	$ \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \leftarrow & \rightarrow \\ \downarrow \\ \textcircled{Q} \\ \textcircled{Q} \end{array} $		0.74
		• Functions • Genes • Gene positive association • Gene nega	tive association	

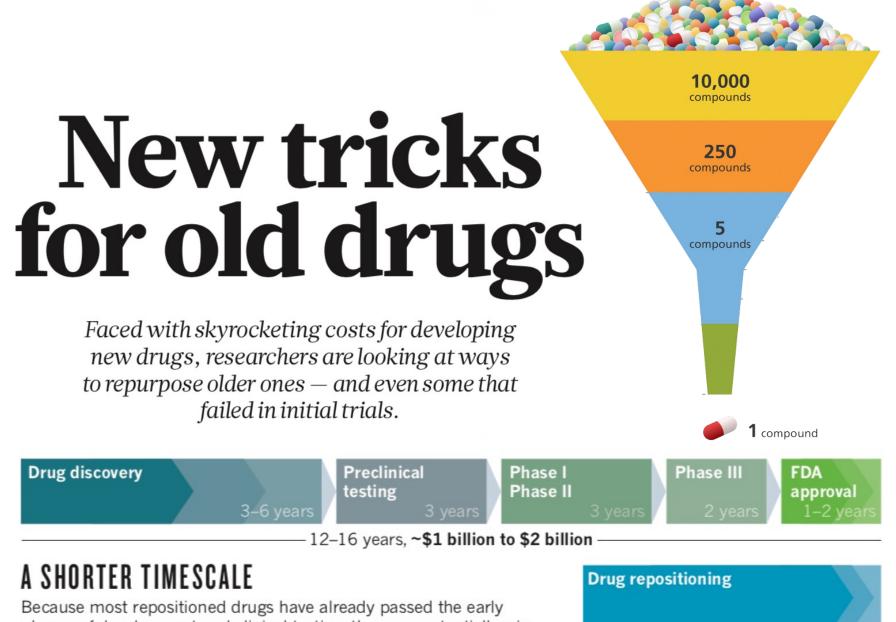
Outline for today's class

 High-throughput genetic and chemical perturbations

Drug repurposing, indication and contra-indication prediction

Generative protein design

Generative Al agents



Because most repositioned drugs have already passed the early phases of development and clinical testing, they can potentially win approval in less than half the time and at one-quarter of the cost.

~6 years, ~\$300 million

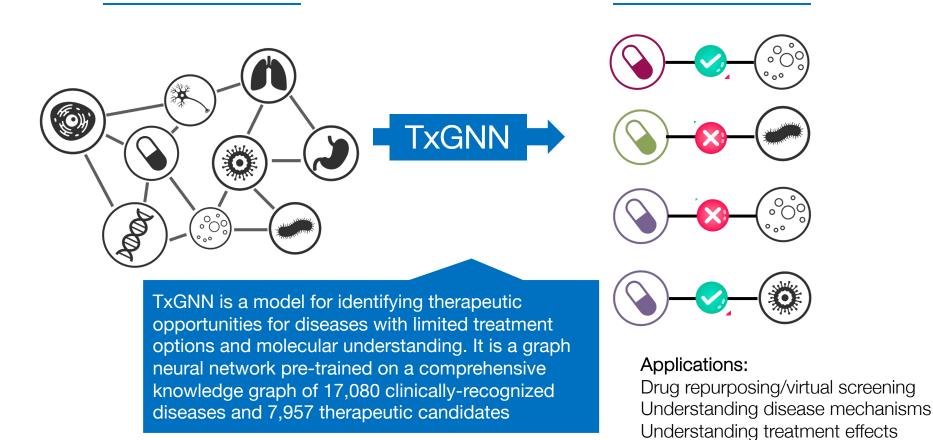
31

12–16 years, ~\$1 billion to \$2 billion

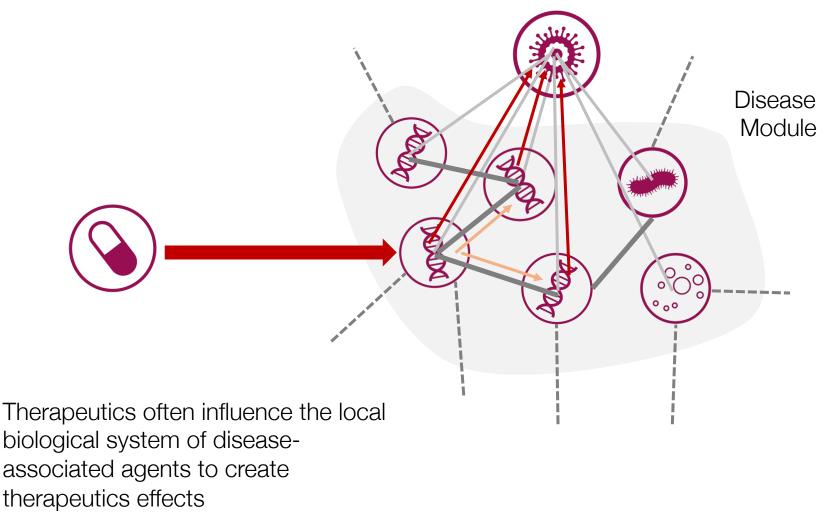
Therapeutic use prediction

Comprehensive knowledge graph of 17,080 clinically-recognized diseases

Process various therapeutic tasks, such as indication and contraindication prediction, in a unified formulation



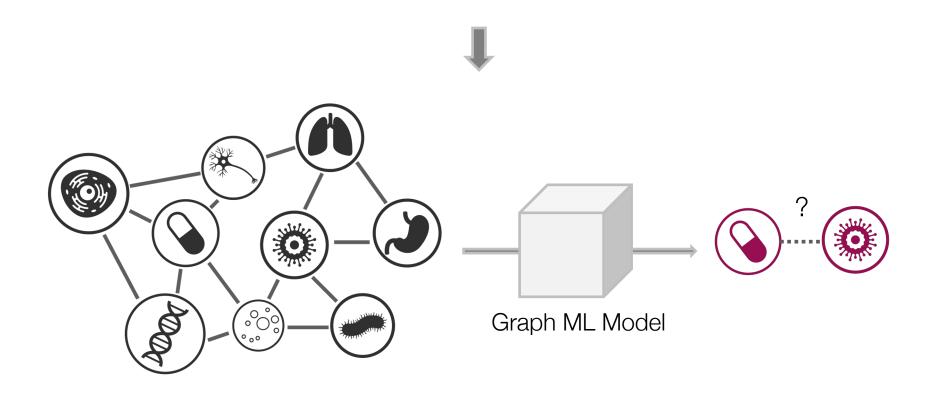
TxGNN: Mechanistic view of drug effects



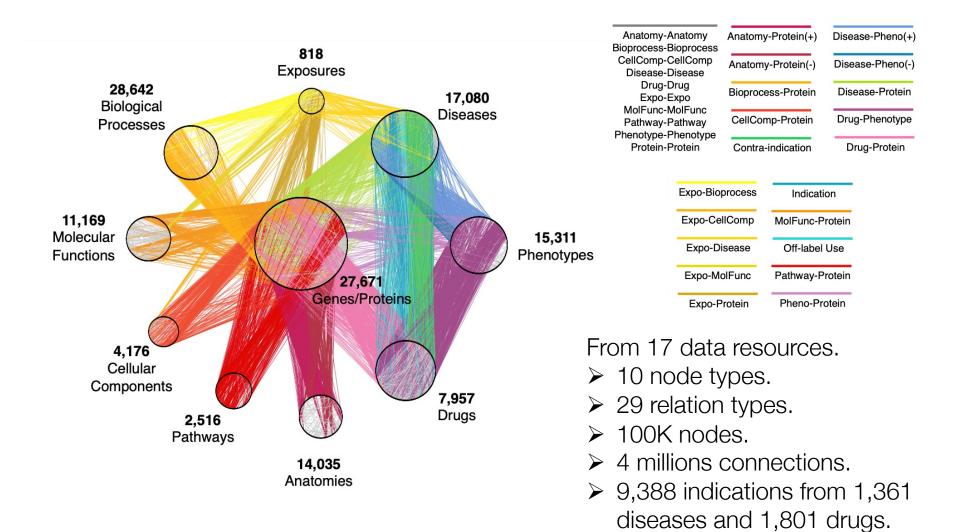
Li et al., Graph Representation Learning in Biomedicine and Healthcare. Nature Biomedical Engineering, 2022

TxGNN

To model this mechanistic view, we need to ground the model in known mechanisms of diseases and drug effects

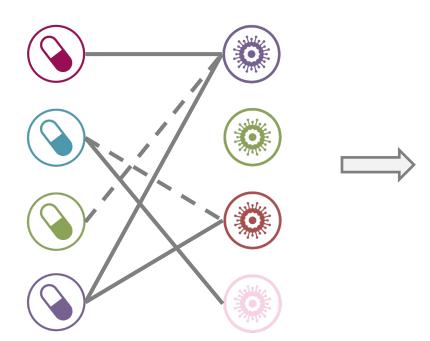


Dataset: PrimeKG



Setting: Baseline approach

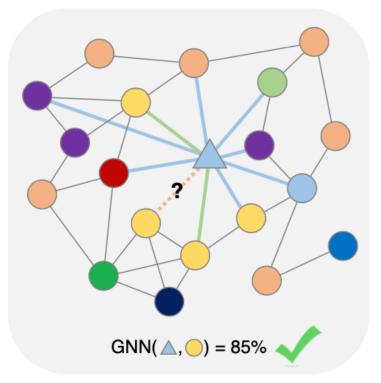
Random split across known drug-disease pairs



- Test Drug-Disease Pair

- ···· Treatment candidate
- Molecular underpinnings
 - Existing treatments
- Drug
- ents
- Other node types

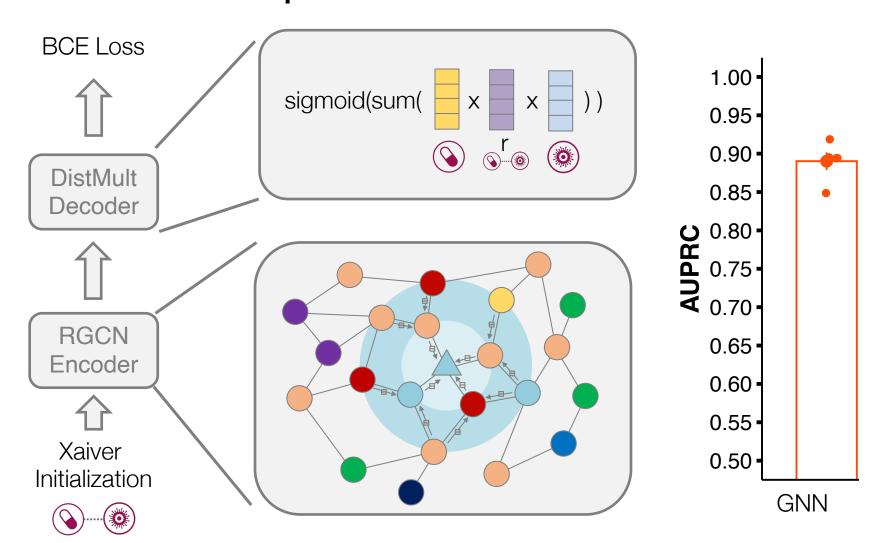
Target disease



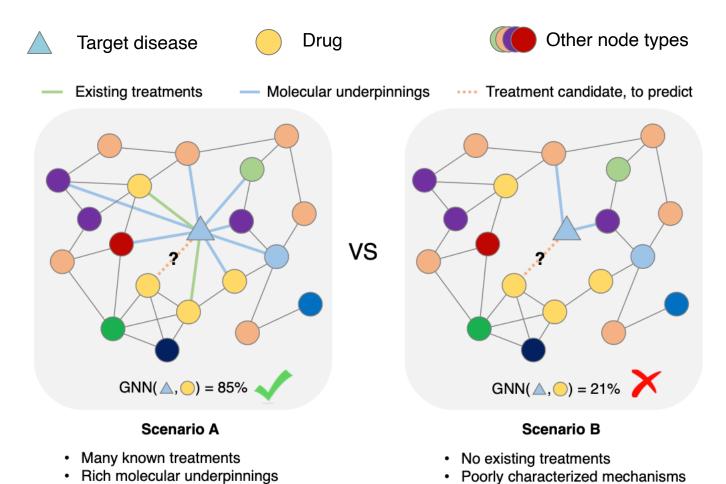
Scenario A

- Many known treatments
- Rich molecular underpinnings

In this setting, existing methods perform well

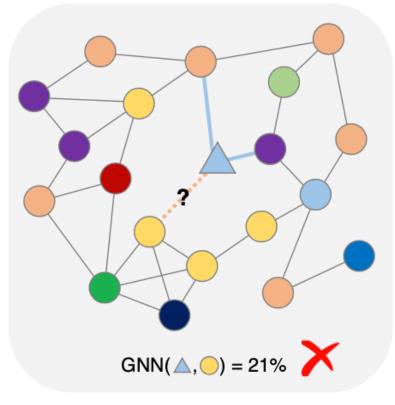


How about other settings?



No treatments = No links between disease and any drug nodes Poorly characterized mechanisms = Sparse local neighborhoods

Performance in other settings

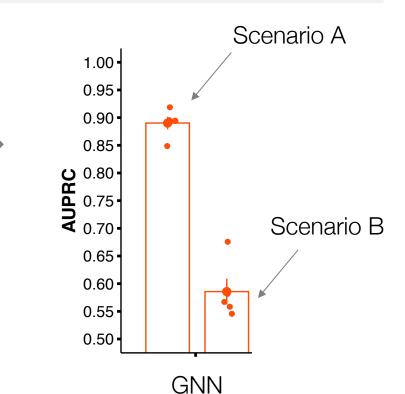


Scenario B

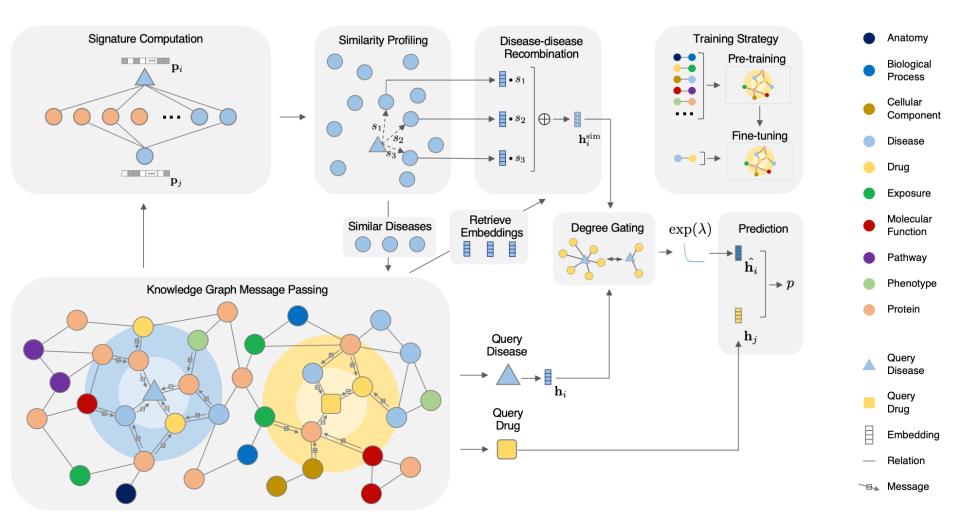
- No existing treatments
- Poorly characterized mechanisms
- Challenging to predict

Need better disease embeddings -- Is there an inductive bias (biological rationale) that can be incorporated into the ML model?

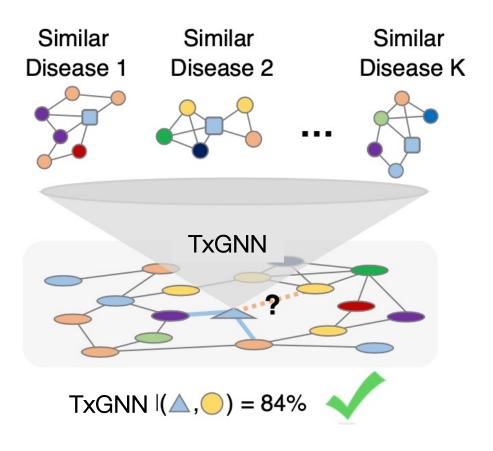
Disease embeddings are less meaningful because so many relationships are unknown



Approach: TxGNN



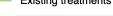
TxGNN: Transfer learning across diseases

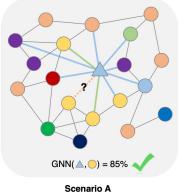


(1) identify similar diseases

(2) leverage disease similarities

Once trained, TXGNN can perform zero-shot inference on new diseases • without additional parameters or fine-tuning on ground truth labels



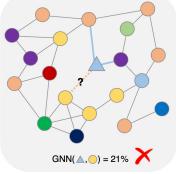


Existing treatments

Molecular underpinnings

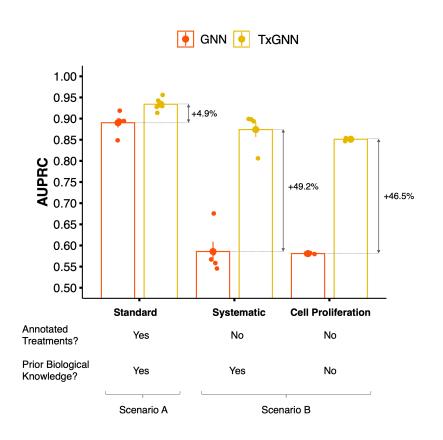
····· Treatment candidate, to predict

- Many known treatments
- Known molecular understanding
- "Easy" to predict

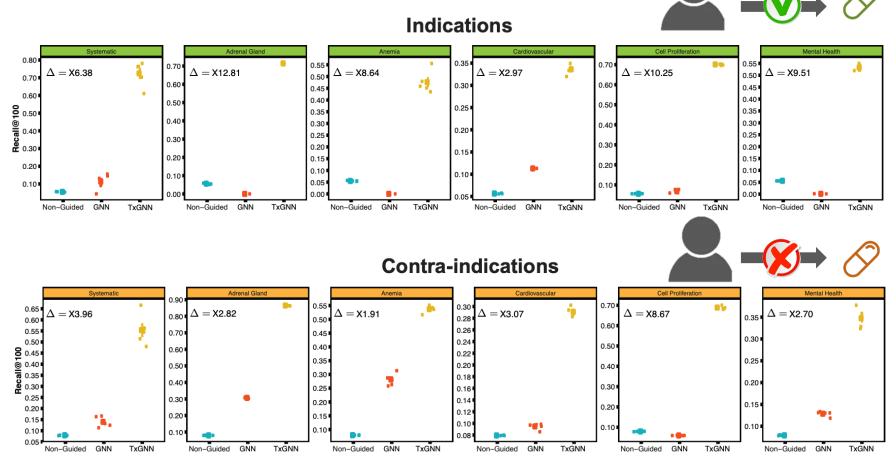


Scenario B

- No known treatments
- Poor molecular understanding
- "Hard" to predict

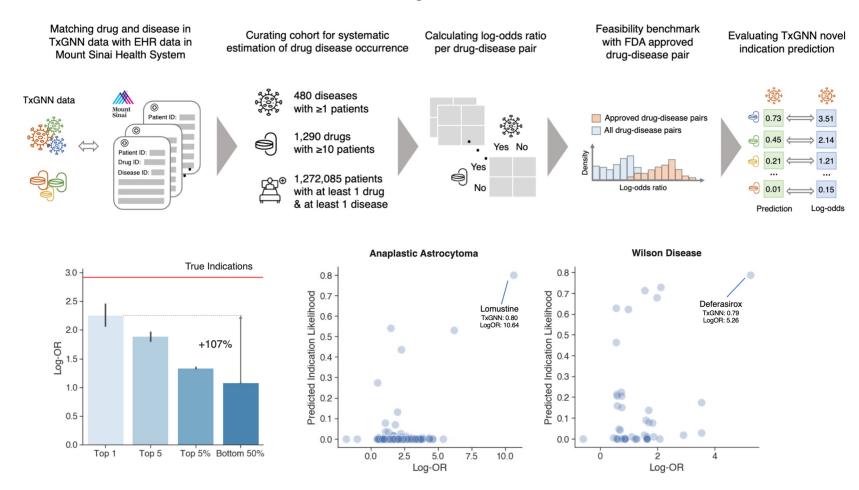


• TxGNN improves over existing methods, with up to 49.2% higher accuracy in indication and 35.1% higher accuracy in contraindication



Zero-Shot Prediction of Therapeutic Use with Geometric Deep Learning and Clinician Centered Design, medRxiv, 2023

• TxGNN's novel predictions are consistent with off-label prescription decisions made by clinicians in a large healthcare system



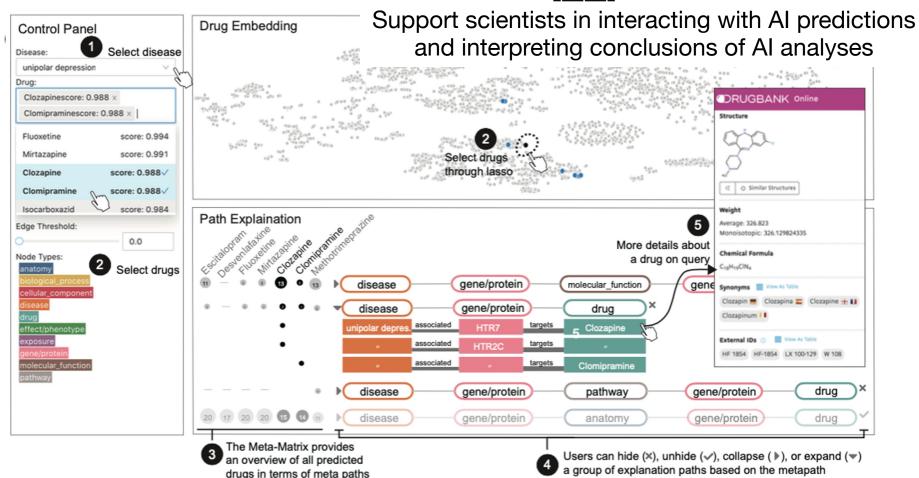
Zero-Shot Prediction of Therapeutic Use with Geometric Deep Learning and Clinician Centered Design, medRxiv, 2023

• TxGNN can also predict therapeutic use for recent FDA approvals

Drug name	Ingredient	Disease	Approval date	Company	FDA Number	Orphan	Prediction	Percentile
Welireg	Belzutifan	von Hippel-Lindau disease	08/13/2021	Merck	NDA215383	Yes	0.720	4.11%
Livtencity	Maribavir	Cytomegalovirus infection	11/23/2021	Takeda	NDA215596	Yes	0.033	66.37%
Tezspire	Tezepelumab-Ekko	Asthma	12/17/2021	Astrazeneca	BLA761224	No	0.233	32.41%
Leqvio	Inclisiran Sodium	Familial hypercholesterolemia	12/22/2021	Novartis	NDA214012	No	0.301	19.32%
Adbry	Tralokinumab	Atopic dermatitis	12/27/2021	Leo Pharma	BLA761180	No	0.040	50.37%
Vabysmo	Faricimab-Svoa	Macular degeneration	01/28/2022	Genentech	BLA761235	No	0.938	2.25%
Vonjo	Pacritinib Citrate	Myelofibrosis	02/28/2022	Cti Biopharma	NDA208712	Yes	0.011	63.14%
Ztalmy	Ganaxolone	CDKL5 disorder	03/18/2022	Marinus	NDA215904	Yes	0.335	18.73%
Mounjaro	Tirzepatide	Type 2 diabetes mellitus	05/13/2022	Eli Lilly	NDA215866	No	0.286	12.50%
Vtama	Tapinarof	Psoriasis	05/23/2022	Dermavant	NDA215272	No	0.261	32.70%

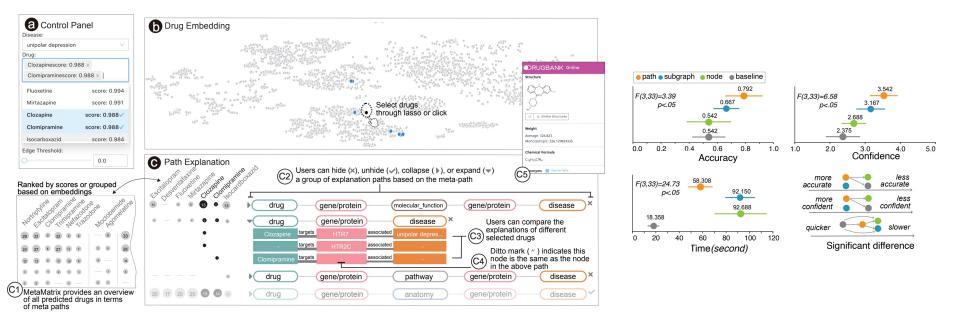
Al-clinician collaboration

"Will clozapine treat unipolar depression? What is the disease treatment mechanism?"



Probing GNN Explainers: A Rigorous Theoretical and Empirical Analysis of GNN Explanation Methods, AISTATS 2022 Extending the Nested Model for User-Centric XAI: A Design Study on GNN-based Drug Repurposing, IEEE VIS 2022 (Best Paper Award) Identification of Disease Treatment Mechanisms through the Multiscale Interactome, Nature Communications 2021

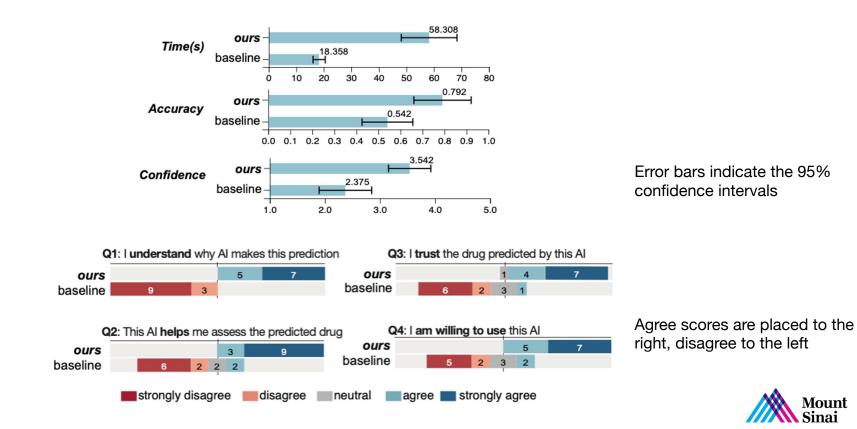
Clinician-centered AI design



Zero-shot prediction of therapeutic use with geometric deep learning and clinician centered design, medRxiv, 2023 Probing GNN Explainers: A Rigorous Theoretical and Empirical Analysis of GNN Explanation Methods, *AISTATS* 2022 Extending the Nested Model for User-Centric XAI: A Design Study on GNN-based Drug Repurposing, *IEEE VIS* 2022 (**Best Paper Award**) Identification of Disease Treatment Mechanisms through the Multiscale Interactome, Nature Communications 2021

Usability study with end users

Compared to a no-explanation baseline in terms of user answer accuracy, exploration time, user confidence, and user agreement across a spectrum of usability questions



Zero-Shot Prediction of Therapeutic Use with Geometric Deep Learning and Clinician Centered Design, medRxiv, 2023 Extending the Nested Model for User-Centric XAI: A Design Study on GNN-based Drug Repurposing, *IEEE VIS* 2022 (**Best Paper Award**) 48

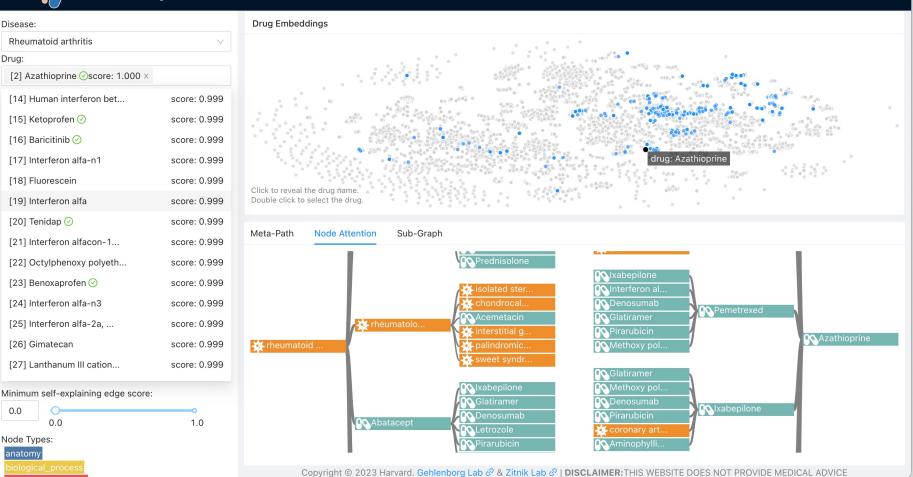
http://txgnn.org

TxGNN Explorer

+

(i) About

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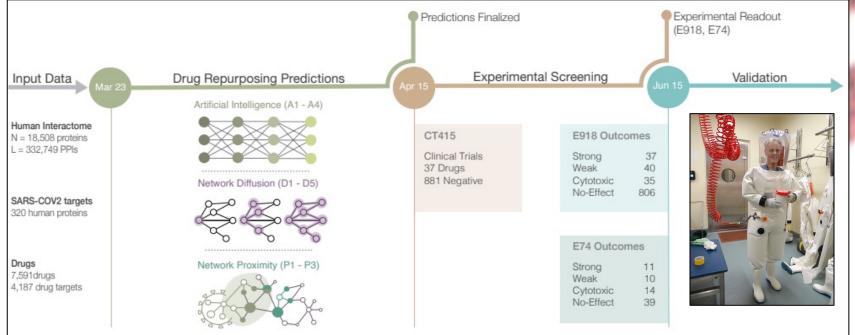


Zero-Shot Prediction of Therapeutic Use with Geometric Deep Learning and Clinician Centered Design, medRxiv, 2023

Emerging pathogens

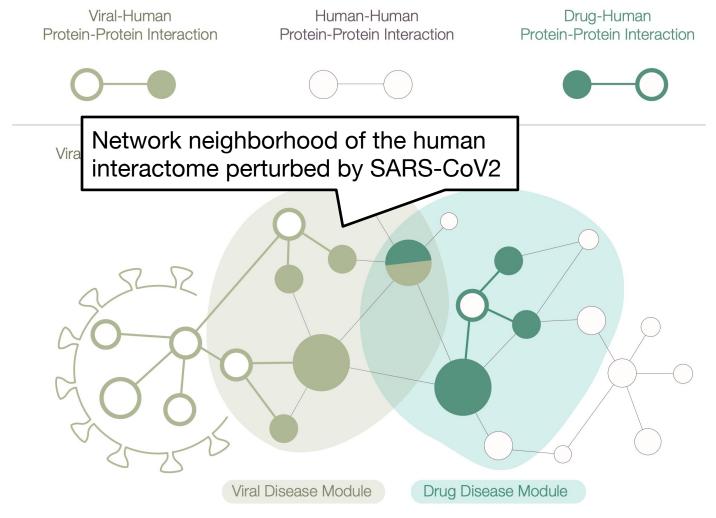
The traditional approach of iterative development, experimental testing, clinical validation, and approval of new drugs are not feasible

A more realistic strategy relies on drug repurposing, requiring us to identify clinically approved drugs that have a therapeutic effect in COVID-19 patients



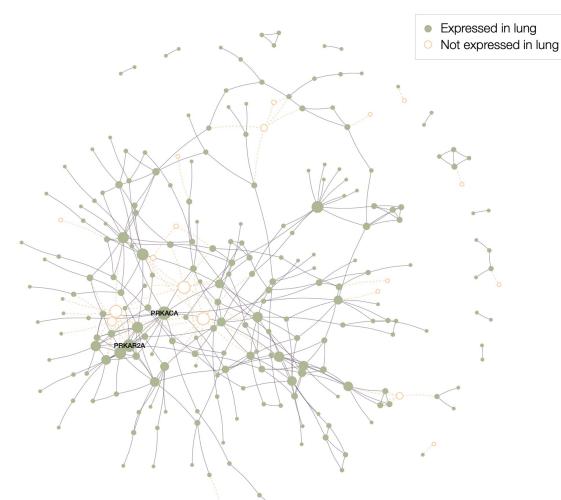
Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021

How to represent COVID-19? Map SARS-CoV2 targets to the human interactome



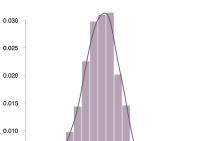
Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021

COVID-19 disease module



Gordon et al., Nature 2020 expressed 26 of the 29 SARS-CoV2 proteins and used AP-MS to identify 332 human proteins to which viral proteins bind

Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021



COVID-19 LCC

Density

0.005

0.000

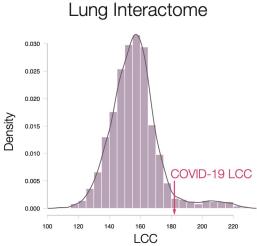
140

160

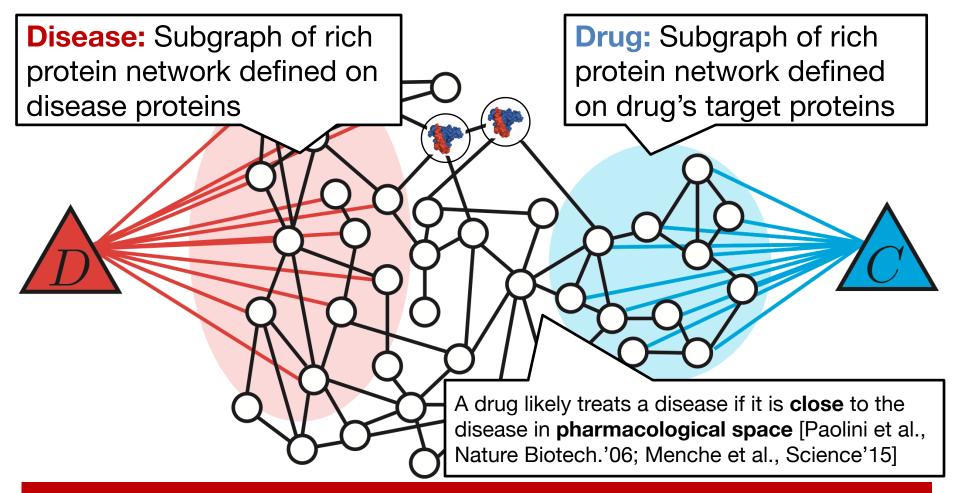
180

200 LCC

Full Interactome



Key Insight: subgraphs

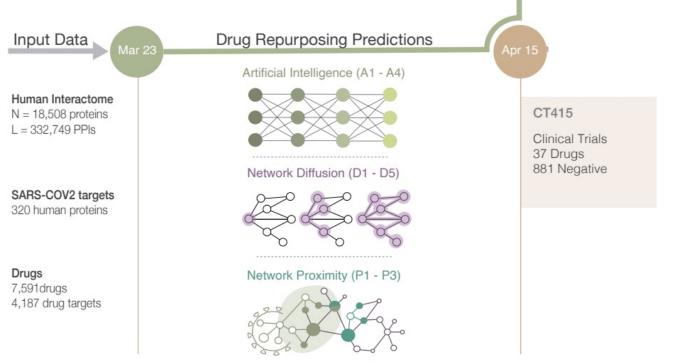


Idea: Use the paradigm of embeddings to operationalize the concept of closeness in pharmacological space

Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021

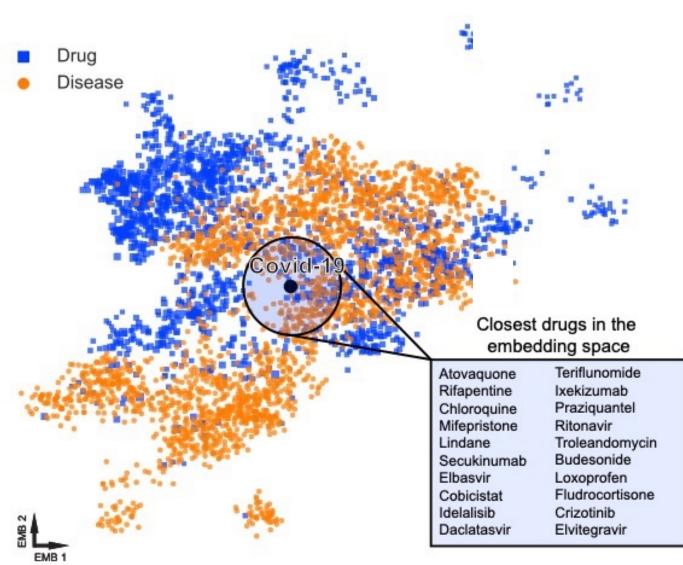
Computational setup

- Proxy for ground-truth information:
 - Monitor drugs under clinical trials
 - Capture the medical community's assessment of drugs with potential COVID-19 efficacy



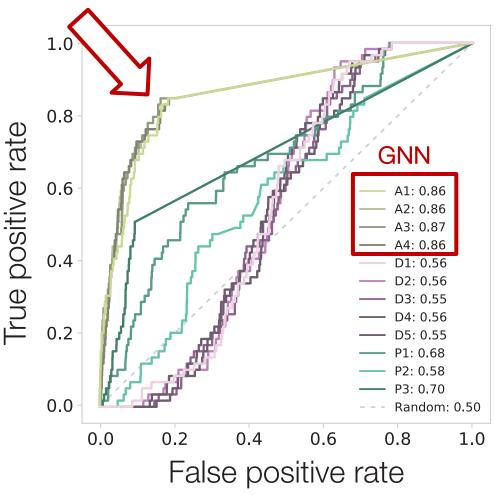
Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021

Embedding space



Results: COVID-19 Repurposing

Individual ROC



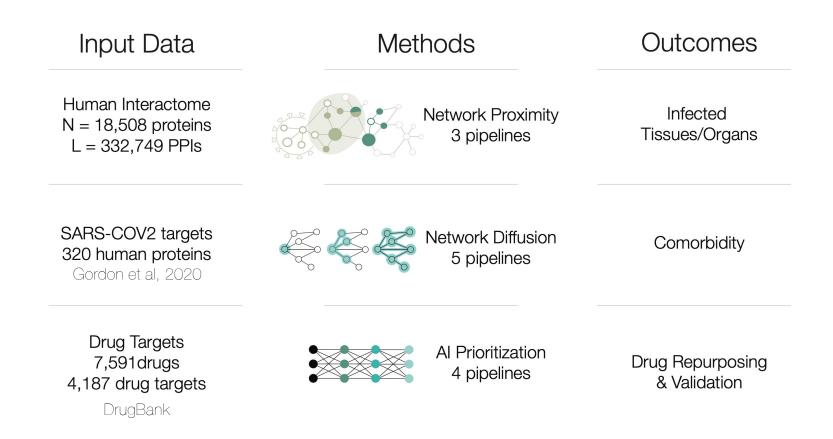
We test each pipeline's ability to recover drugs currently in clinical trials for COVID-19

The best individual ROC curves are obtained by the GNN methods

The second-best performance is provided by the proximity P3. Close behind is P1 with AUC = 0.68 and AUC = 0.58

Diffusion methods offer ROC between 0.55-0.56

Final Prediction Model – Part #1



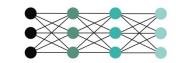
Final Prediction Model – Part #2

Methods





Network Diffusion 5 pipelines



Al Prioritization 4 pipelines

A COVID-19 treatment can not be derived from the arsenal of therapies approved for specific diseases

- Repurposing strategies focus on drugs previously approved for other pathogens, or on drugs that target the human proteins to which viral proteins bind.
- Most approved drugs do not target directly disease proteins but bind to proteins in their network vicinity
- [Yildirim, Nature Biotech. 2007]
- Identify drug candidates that have the potential to perturb the network vicinity of the COVID-19 disease module.
- Implement 3 Network Repurposing Methods.

Final Prediction Model – Part #3

Rank Aggregation Algorithm: Maximize the number of pairwise agreements between the final ranking and each input ranking.

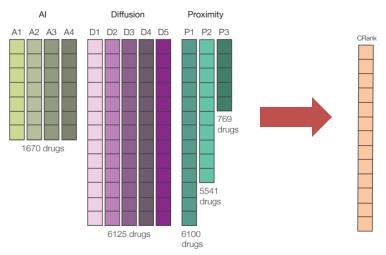
The combined performance of the AI methods is 0.87, the same as A3.

Improvement for proximity pipelines: $0.70 \rightarrow 0.72$.

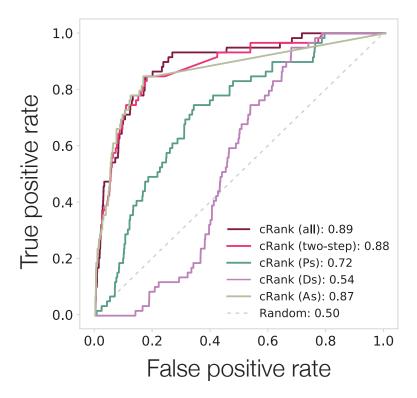
Combined diffusion pipelines have lower performance (0.54 vs 0.56, for D1, D2, and D4).

Combining all 12 pipelines, gives AUROC=0.89, the highest of any individual or combination-based pipelines,

Individual pipelines offer complementary information harnessed by the combined ranking.



Combined ROC



Predicted Drug Candidates

86 drugs selected from the top 10% of the rank list.

Respiratory drugs (e.g., theophylline, montelukast).

Cardiovascular systems (e.g., verapamil, atorvastatin).

Antibiotics used to treat viral (e.g., ribavirin, lopinavir), parasitic (e.g., hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin, praziquantel), bacterial (e.g., rifaximin, sulfanilamide), mycotic (e.g., fluconazole), and mycobacterial (e.g., isoniazid) infections.

Immunomodulating/anti-inflammatory drugs (e.g., interferon- β , auranofin, montelukast, colchicine)

Anti-proteasomal drugs (e.g., bortezomib, carfilzomib)

Less obvious choices: aminoglutethimide, melatonin, levothyroxine, calcitriol, selegiline, deferoxamine, mitoxantrone, metformin, nintedanib, cinacalcet, and sildenafil.

	Drug	C-rank	Drug
20	Ritonavir	1	Mesalazine
	Isoniazid	2	Pentamidine
	Troleandomycin	3	Verapamil
\sim	Cilostazol	4	Melatonin
(76)	Chloroquine	5	Griseofulvin
\sim	Rifabutin	6	Auranofin
	Flutamide	7	1 Atovaquone
2	Dexamethasone	8	Montelukast
	Rifaximin	9	Romidepsin
	Azelastine	10	1 Cobicistat
	Folic Acid	16	(17) Lopinavir
	Rabeprazole	27	Pomalidomide
	Methotrexate	32	Sulfinpyrazone
	Digoxin	33	1 Levamisole
	Theophylline	34	Calcitriol
	Fluconazole	41	1 Interferon-β-1a
_	Aminoglutethimide	42	Praziquantel
67)	Hydroxychloroquine	e 44	1 Ascorbic acid
0	Methimazole	47	Fluvastatin
1	Ribavirin	49	1 Interferon-β-1b
1	Omeprazole	50	Selegiline
	Bortezomib	53	1 Deferoxamine
	Leflunomide	54	Ivermectin
	Dimethylfumarate	55	1 Atorvastatin
4	Colchicine	57	Mitoxantrone
	Quercetin	63	Glyburide

67

(2)

Thalidomide

of Clinical trials from ClinicalTrials.gov

Joseph Loscalzo

C-rank

118 124

131 138

141 146

155

157

161

164

173

176

195 199

203 206

227

235

243 250 259

262

Drug



	-3	
	Sulfanilamide	265
	Hydralazine	269
	Gemfibrozil	281
4	Ruxolitinib	284
	Propranolol	297
	Carbamazepine	301
	Doxorubicin	309
	Levothyroxine	329
	Dactinomycin	335
	Tenofivir	338
	Tadalafil	339
	Doxazosin	367
	Rosiglitazone	397
	Aminolevulinic acid	398
	Nitroglycerin	418
	Metformin	457
1	Nintedanib	466
	Allopurinol	471
-	Ponatinib	491
1	Sildenafil	493
	Dapagliflozin	504
	Nitroprusside	515
	Cinacalcet	553
	Mexiletine	559
	Sitagliptin	706
	Carfilzomib	765
1	Azithromycin	786

Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021

Mebendazole

Experimental validation of predictions



National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL)

CRank	Drug Name
1	Ritonavir
2	Isoniazid
3	Troleandomycin
4	Cilostazol
5	Chloroquine
6	Rifabutin
7	Flutamide
8	Dexamethasone
9	Rifaximin
10	Azelastine
11	Crizotinib

17	Celecoxib	
18	Betamethasone	
19	Prednisolone	
20	Mifepristone	
21	Budesonide	
22	Prednisone	
23	Oxiconazole	
24	Megestrol acetate	
25	Idelalisib	
26	Econazole	
07	Debenrozele	

Ranked lists of drugs

New algorithms:

Prioritizing Network Communities, *Nature Communications* 2018 Subgraph Neural Networks, *NeurIPS* 2020 Graph Meta Learning via Local Subgraphs, *NeurIPS* 2020

Results: 918 compounds screened for their efficacy against SARS-CoV-2 in VeroE6 cells:

- 37 had a strong effect being active over a broad range of concentrations
- 40 had a weak effect on the virus
- An order of magnitude higher hit rate among top 100 drugs than prior work

Network Medicine Framework for Identifying Drug Repurposing Opportunities for Covid-19, PNAS 2021

Results: Network drugs

- 76/77 drugs that successfully reduced viral infection do not bind proteins targeted by SARS-CoV-2:
 - These drugs rely on network-based actions that cannot be identified by docking-based strategies

Weak						Dire
CRank	Drug Name	CRank	Drug Name	CRank	Drug Name	
5	Chloroquine	423	Pitavastatin	742	Mianserin	dr
6	Rifabutin	431	Tenoxicam	755	Clofazimine	u
9	Rifaximin	438	Quinidine	767	Chlorpromazine	
10	Azelastine	456	Sertraline	772	Imipramine	
16	Folic acid	460	Ingenol mebutate	830	Promazine	
32	Methotrexate	463	Norelgestromin	900	L-Alanine	
33	Digoxin	493	Sildenafil	917	Moxifloxacin	
44	Hydroxychloroquine	499	Eliglustat	933	Tasimelteon	
50	Omeprazole	518	Ulipristal	995	Vandetanib	
113	Clobetasol propionate	553	Cinacalcet	1000	Azilsartan medoxomil	
118	Auranofin	556	Perphenazine	1020	Frovatriptan	1
120	Vinblastine	558	Idarubicin	1034	Zolmitriptan	
199	Fluvastatin	564	Perhexiline	1035	Procarbazine	~
210	Clomifene	569	Amiodarone	1093	Asenapine	4
233	Ibuprofen	577	Duloxetine	1107	Dyclonine	
235	Ivermectin	585	Toremifene	1140.5	Clemastine	2
243	Atorvastatin	586	Afatinib	1194	Prochlorperazine	
253	Pralatrexate	601	Amitriptyline	1222	Miglustat	
263	Cobimetinib	626	Meclizine	1224	Prenylamine	5
269	Hydralazine	635	Valsartan	1276	Dalfampridine	
297	Propranolol	651	Eletriptan	1314	Cinchocaine	
317	Osimertinib	673	Sotalol	1355	Methotrimeprazine	
348	Vincristine	678	Thioridazine	1396	Methylthioninium	
367	Doxazosin	695	Chlorcyclizine	1403	Metixene	
397	Rosiglitazone	707	Omacetaxine mepesuccinate	1443	Trifluoperazine	
398	Aminolevulinic acid	721	Candesartan			

58/77 drugs with positive experimental outcome are among top 750 ranked drugs

Network drugs (D3)

L14 Quick Check

https://forms.gle/B5PBaa2DCTLZpEqh8

BMI 702: Biomedical Artificial Intellig	ence
Foundations of Biomedical Informatics II, Spring 2024	
Quick check quiz for lecture 14: Design of chemical and genetic perturbations, dr repurposing, protein design, emerging uses of generative AI.	ug
Course website and slides: https://zitniklab.hms.harvard.edu/BMI702	
marinka@hms.harvard.edu Switch accounts	Ø
* Indicates required question	
First and last name *	
Your answer	
Harvard email address *	
Your answer	
Go to http://txgnn.org and examine predictions for rheumatoid arthritis. Or evaluation will focus on disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) is a class of drugs indicated for the treatment of several inflammatory arth including rheumatoid arthritis, as well as for the management of other con tissue diseases and some cancers. Answer the following four questions.), which nritides,
1) What is the predicted rank of sulfasalazine , a common conventional DM	IARD?
2) What is the predicted rank of methotrexate , another common DMARD?	
 Give two examples of reasoning paths (meta-paths) used by the algorith relate rheumatoid arthritis with sulfasalazine. Comment the results. 	hm to
4) Give two examples of reasoning paths (meta-paths) used by the algorith relate rheumatoid arthritis with methotrexate. Comment the results. Exam	
meta-paths that use this template: Disease-Drug-Gene/Protein-Drug.	

Outline for today's class

 High-throughput genetic and chemical perturbations

 Drug repurposing, indication and contra-indication prediction

Generative protein design

Generative Al agents