Geometric Deep Learning for gene networks

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Curios Al lab

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- Alessandro Marchetti (Campus Biomedico, Roma)
- Silvia Galfrè (University of Pisa)
- Antonio Di Cecco (University of Chieti-Pescara) f
- **...**

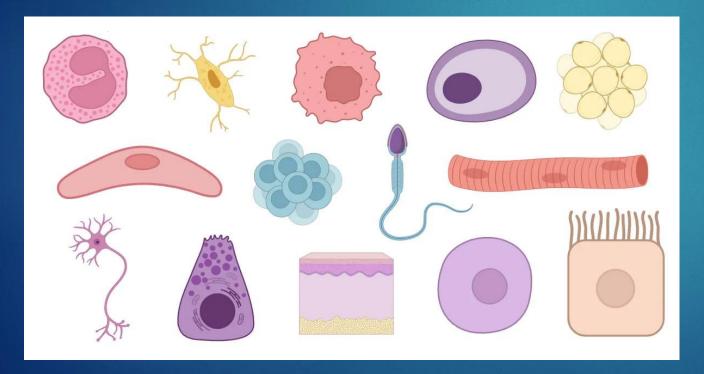
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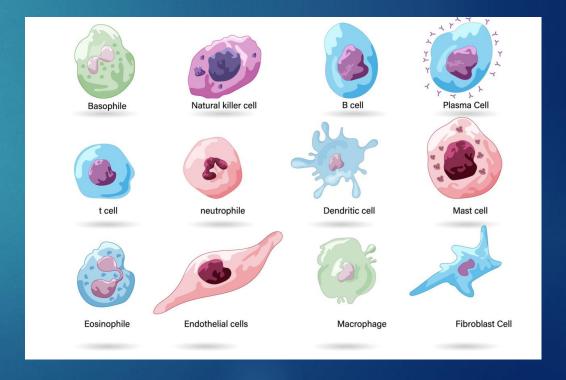
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- Very applied research

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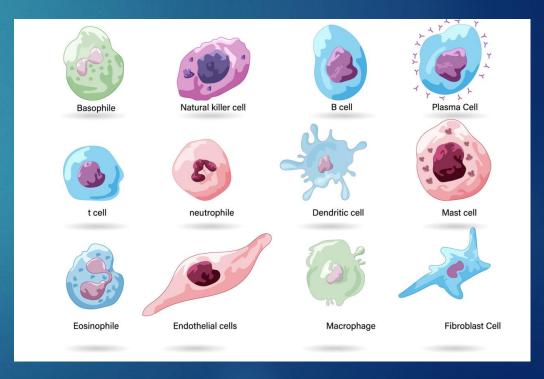


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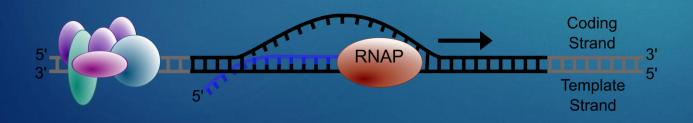


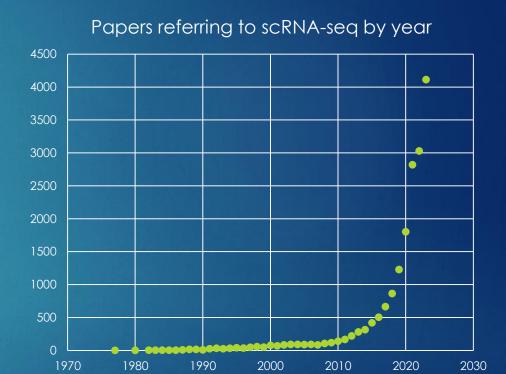
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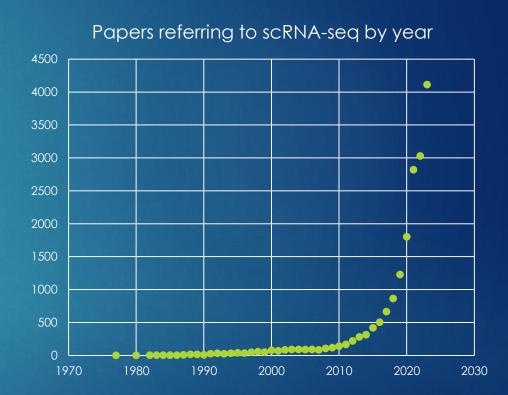


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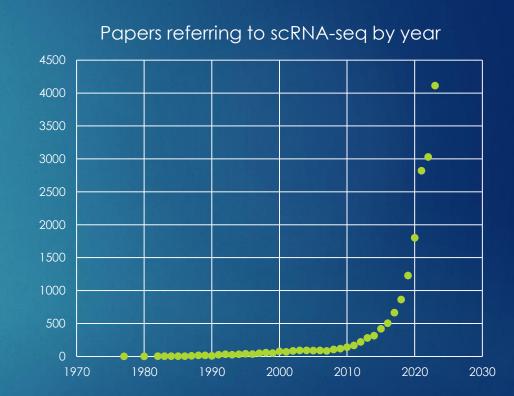




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- For each cell in a sample and each gene in the genome we get a molecule count
- Task: classify cells by type, from gene counts of RNA



	TUBB2A	ZNF217	SNHG7	STK19	KIAA1324	RNF41	RASA3	ELP1	THRA	LINC01431	label
AAACCTGAGAGTGAGA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	82
AAACCTGAGGCATTGG	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
AAACCTGCACCAGGTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
AAACCTGCAGGGATTG	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	58
AAACCTGCAGTCAGAG	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	66
TTTGTCAGTTGATTCG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37
TTTGTCATCATAACCG	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	63
TTTGTCATCATCATTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
TTTGTCATCATGCTCC	0	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	65
TTTGTCATCCACGTTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
10137 rows × 13055 column	S										

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- Why not to use NN with pseudo-labels?

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$$\{0, 1, 2, \dots\} \ni R_{i,j} \to X_{i,j} := \log\left(1 + \frac{10^4}{N} \frac{R_{i,j}}{R_{i,*}}\right), \quad \text{cell } i, \text{gene } j$$

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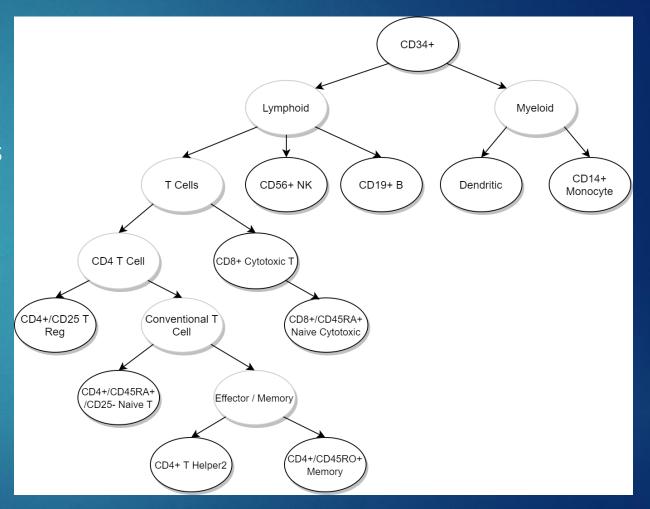
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- Most methods restrict the genome to the highly variable genes

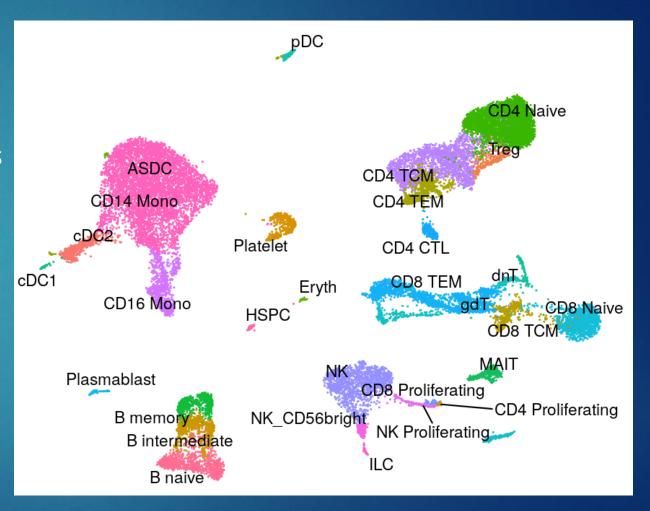
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- Clustering yields pseudo-labels



Expression levels $X_{i,j} = \log(1 + cR_{i,j}/R_{i,*})$ as input

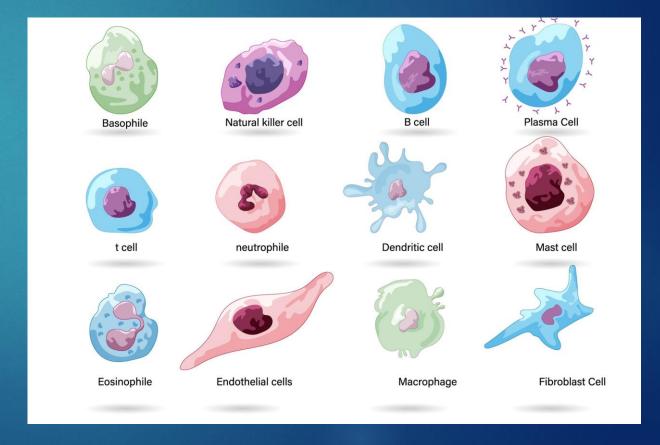
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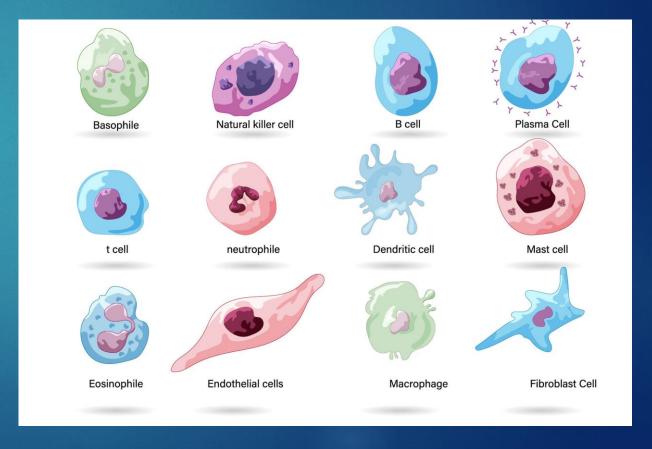
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- There is no foundation model
- We investigate network architectures fit for scRNA-seq data

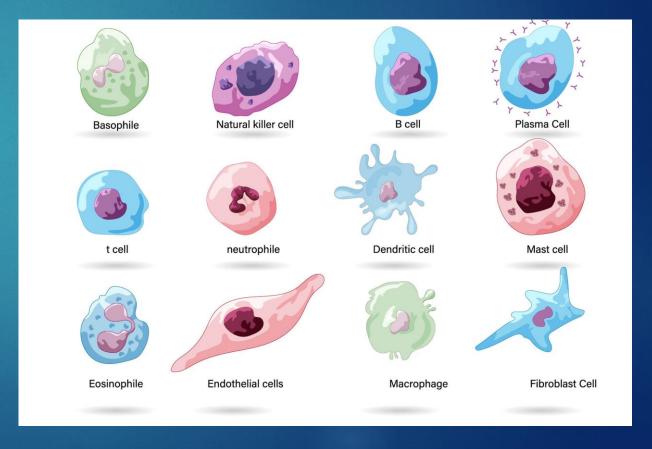
Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells (PBMC) [10x]



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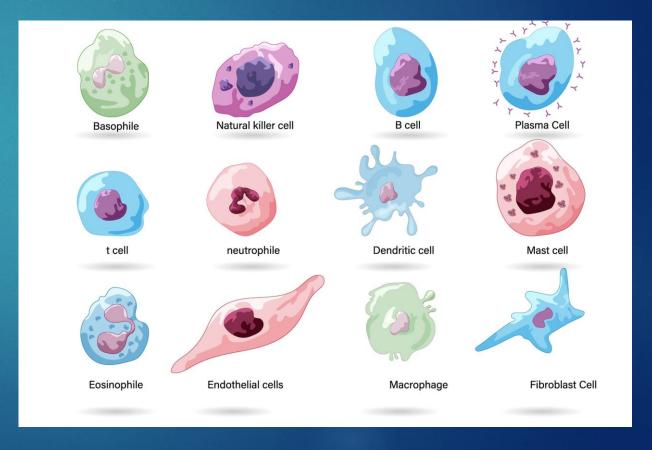


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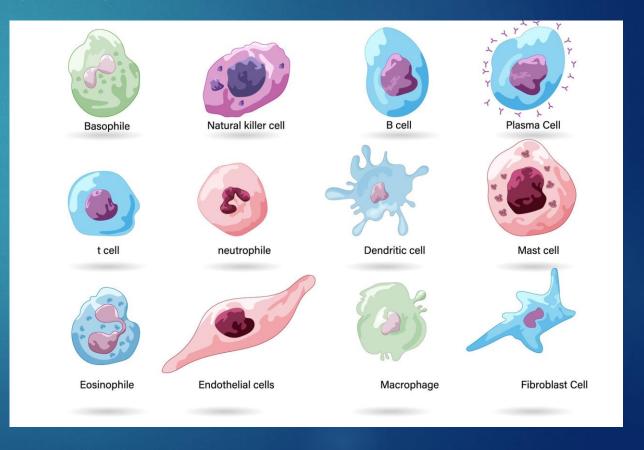
0	1	2	3+		
89%	7.5%	1.5%	2%		



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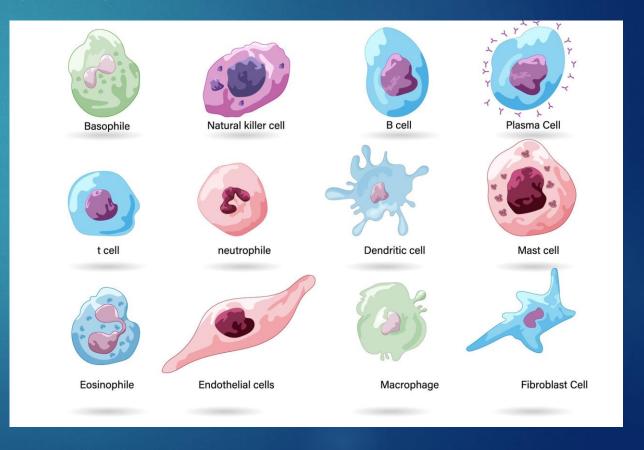
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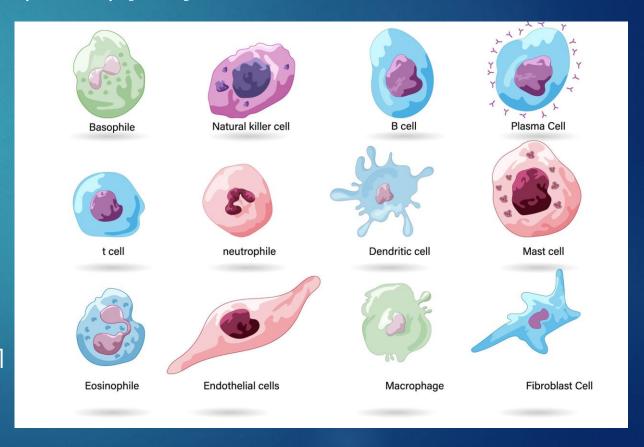
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- ▶ 80% genes $R_{*,j} < 0.2$
- ▶ 15% genes $R_{*,j} < 0.01$
- ▶ 5% genes have counts only 0 and 1



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AAACCTGAGAGTGAGA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	82
AAACCTGAGGCATTGG	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
AAACCTGCACCAGGTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
AAACCTGCAGGGATTG	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	58
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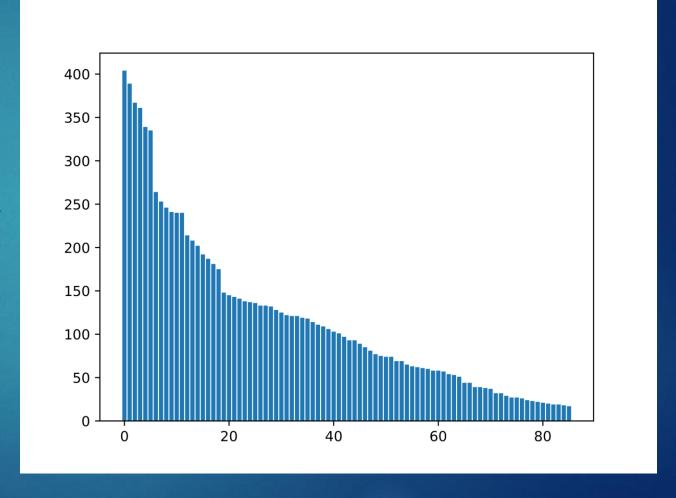
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AAACCTGCAGGGATTG	0.0	0.0	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	1.806	0.0	0.0	0.0	58
AAACCTGCAGTCAGAG	0.0	0.0	0.000	0.000	0.00	0.000	1.265	0.0	0.0	0.0	66
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TTTGTCATCATGCTCC	0.0	0.0	2.408	0.000	3.66	2.434	1.265	0.0	0.0	0.0	65
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C = 86 classes (pseudo-labels)

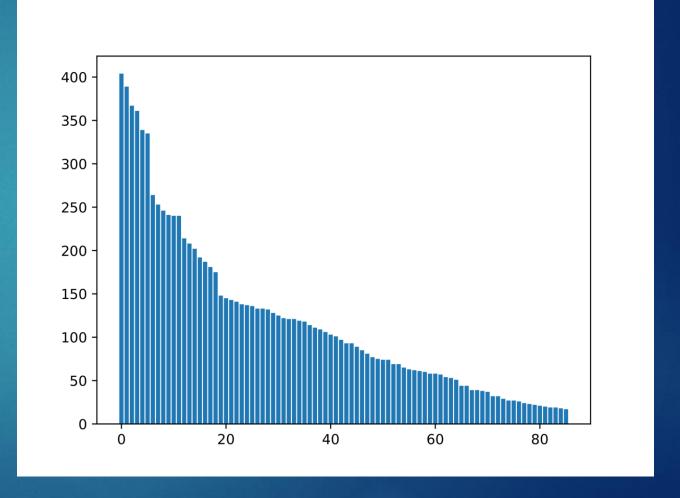
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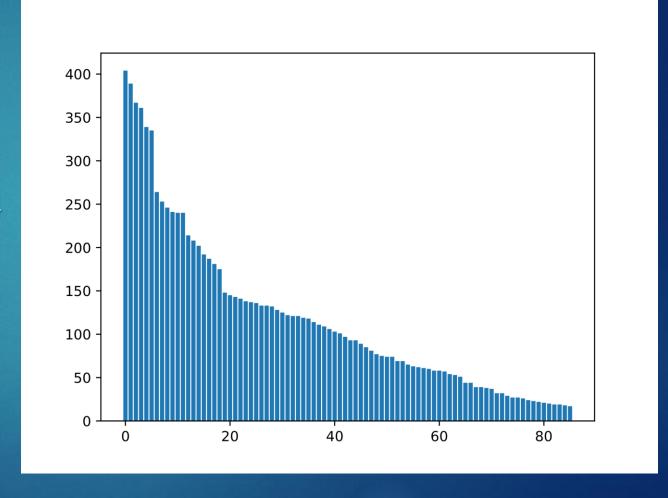
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- genes sorted by variability
- only the first 2000 used in the typical pipeline



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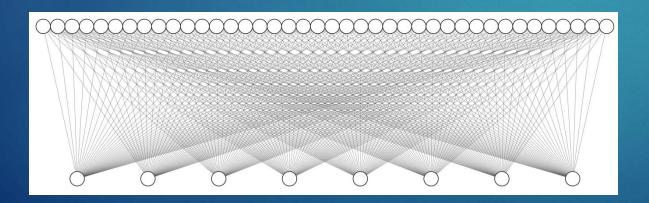
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- ▶ 10k cells split in 70% training, 15% validation, 15% test (stratified for labels)

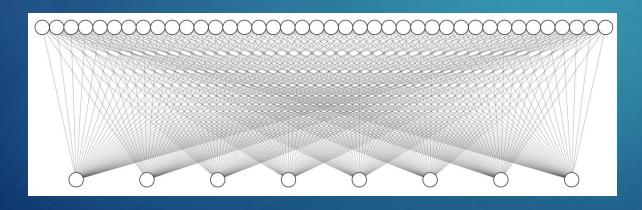
Vanilla models

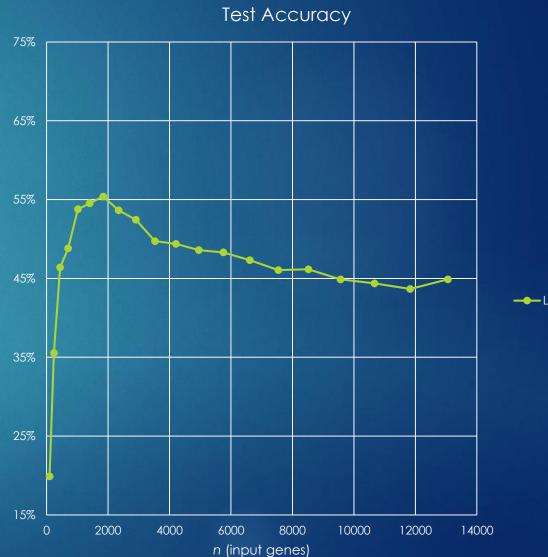
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- AdamW optimizer
- Strong L² regularization, standard learning rate
- 3 replicates per experiment
- 10k cells split in 70% training, 15% validation, 15% test (stratified for labels)
- Score is test accuracy (TA) for the model with best validation accuracy (checked at epoch end)

▶ 86n parameters, from 9k to 1.1M

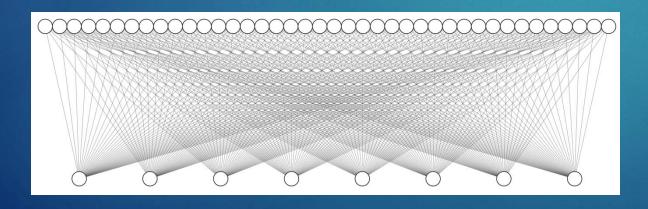


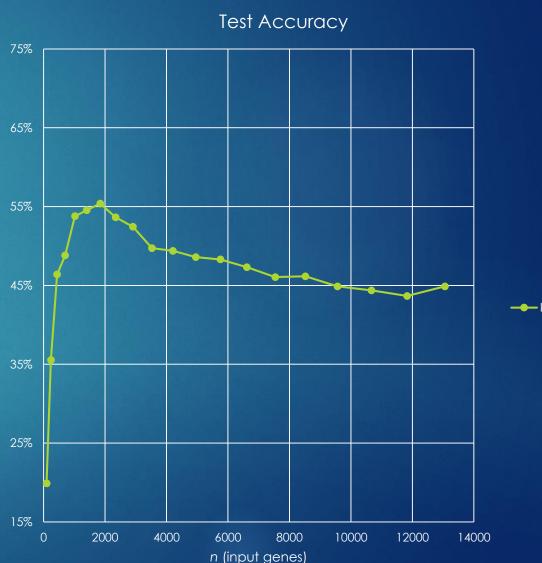
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- ightharpoonup top TA 55.4% at n = 1800



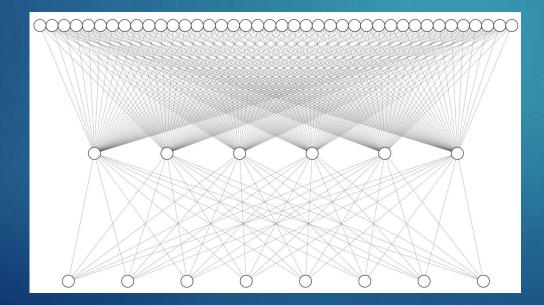


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- for large n, TA decreases from 49% to 44%

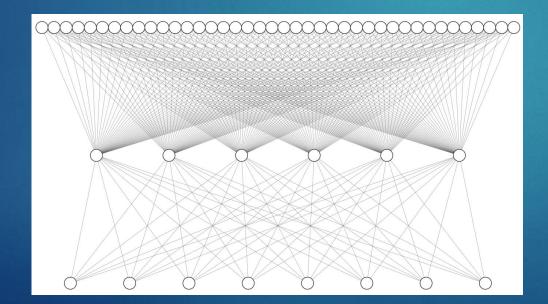




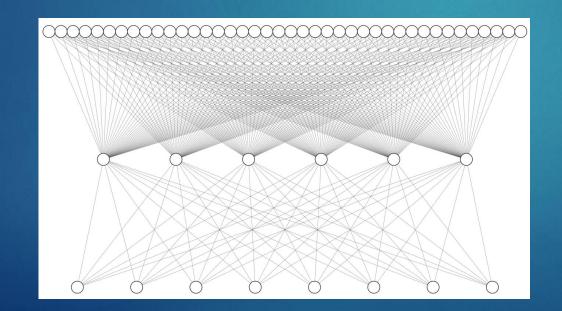
1 hidden layer with 64 units

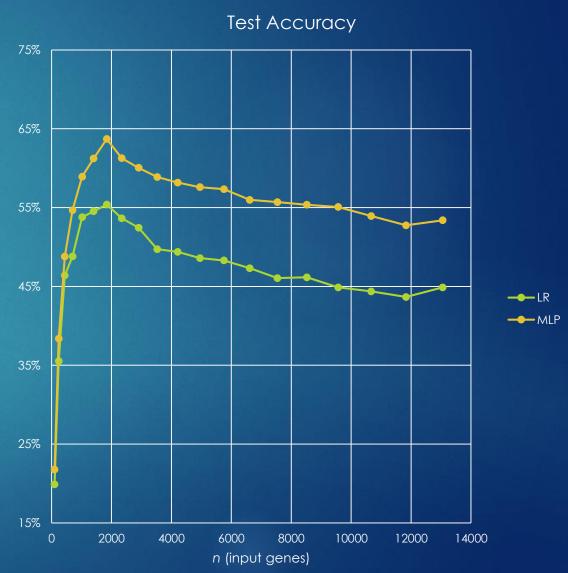


- 1 hidden layer with 64 units
- \rightarrow 64(n+86) parameters, from 12k to 0.84M

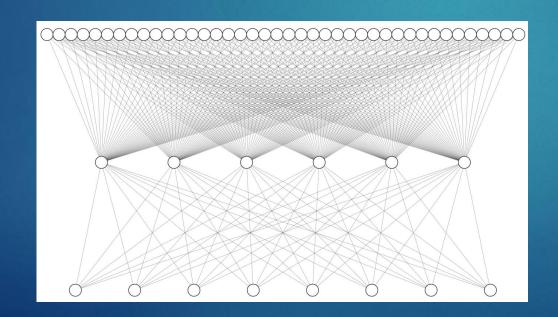


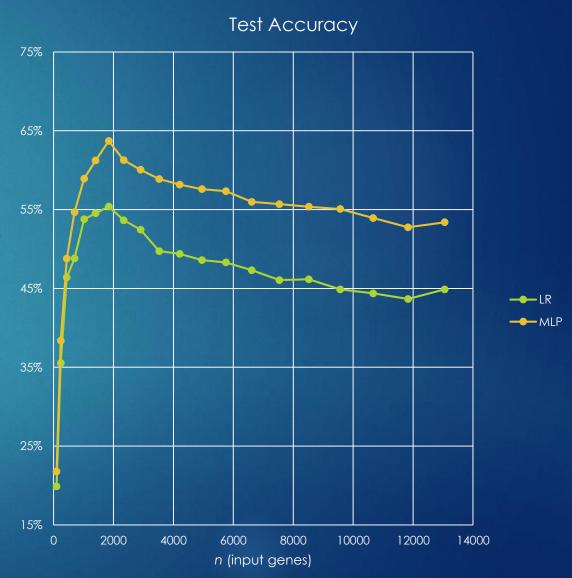
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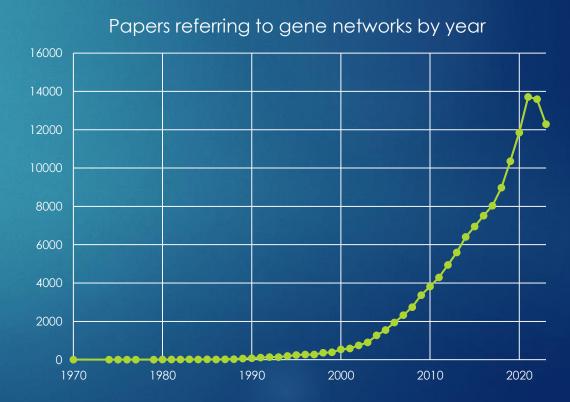


- 1 hidden layer with 64 units
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- \blacktriangleright top TA 63.7% at n=1800
- for large n, TA decreases from 57% to 52%



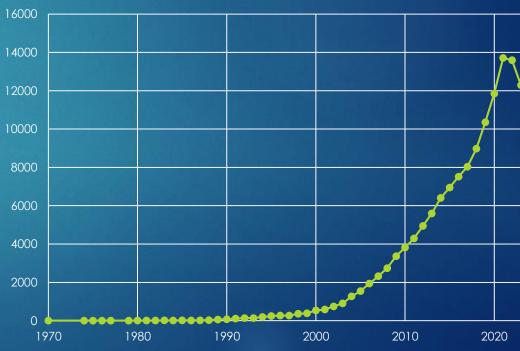


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TUBB2A	0.00000	0.00089	-0.00036	0.00866	0.01848	0.00160	-0.00428	0.00304	0.00128	-0.00438
ZNF217	0.00089	0.00000	-0.00257	0.02519	0.00926	0.01145	0.01328	0.00838	0.01100	0.00054
SNHG7	-0.00036	-0.00257	0.00000	-0.01815	-0.00393	0.00915	-0.02798	-0.01806	-0.02084	0.00027
STK19	0.00866	0.02519	-0.01815	0.00000	-0.01672	0.00245	0.00713	0.00877	0.00178	-0.00003
KIAA1324	0.01848	0.00926	-0.00393	-0.01672	0.00000	-0.00223	0.00609	0.00391	-0.01231	-0.00165
RNF41	0.00160	0.01145	0.00915	0.00245	-0.00223	0.00000	-0.02768	-0.00850	-0.01359	0.01427
RASA3	-0.00428	0.01328	-0.02798	0.00713	0.00609	-0.02768	0.00000	-0.00533	0.01680	-0.00589
ELP1	0.00304	0.00838	-0.01806	0.00877	0.00391	-0.00850	-0.00533	0.00000	-0.01805	-0.00478
THRA	0.00128	0.01100	-0.02084	0.00178	-0.01231	-0.01359	0.01680	-0.01805	0.00000	-0.00994
LINC01431	-0.00438	0.00054	0.00027	-0.00003	-0.00165	0.01427	-0.00589	-0.00478	-0.00994	0.00000

- Gene networks are graphs of genes (10k+ papers per year)
- Connected by functionality or co-expression in cell types
- Common to start from a correlation matrix
- Get an adjacency matrix by hard threshold

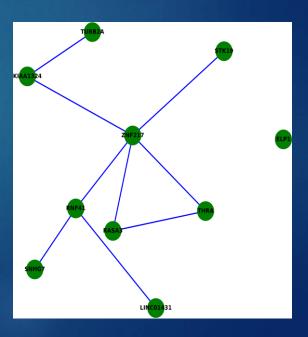
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TUBB2A	0.00000	0.00089	-0.00036	0.00866	0.01848	0.00160	-0.00428	0.00304	0.00128	-0.00438
ZNF217	0.00089	0.00000	-0.00257	0.02519	0.00926	0.01145	0.01328	0.00838	0.01100	0.00054
SNHG7	-0.00036	-0.00257	0.00000	-0.01815	-0.00393	0.00915	-0.02798	-0.01806	-0.02084	0.00027
STK19	0.00866	0.02519	-0.01815	0.00000	-0.01672	0.00245	0.00713	0.00877	0.00178	-0.00003
KIAA1324	0.01848	0.00926	-0.00393	-0.01672	0.00000	-0.00223	0.00609	0.00391	-0.01231	-0.00165
RNF41	0.00160	0.01145	0.00915	0.00245	-0.00223	0.00000	-0.02768	-0.00850	-0.01359	0.01427
RASA3	-0.00428	0.01328	-0.02798	0.00713	0.00609	-0.02768	0.00000	-0.00533	0.01680	-0.00589
ELP1	0.00304	0.00838	-0.01806	0.00877	0.00391	-0.00850	-0.00533	0.00000	-0.01805	-0.00478
THRA	0.00128	0.01100	-0.02084	0.00178	-0.01231	-0.01359	0.01680	-0.01805	0.00000	-0.00994
LINC01431	-0.00438	0.00054	0.00027	-0.00003	-0.00165	0.01427	-0.00589	-0.00478	-0.00994	0.00000

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- Connected by functionality or co-expression in cell types
- Common to start from a correlation matrix
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TUBB2A	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
ZNF217	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0
SNHG7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
STK19	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KIAA1324	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RNF41	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
RASA3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
ELP1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THRA	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
LINC01431	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

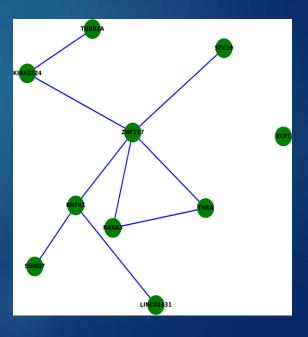
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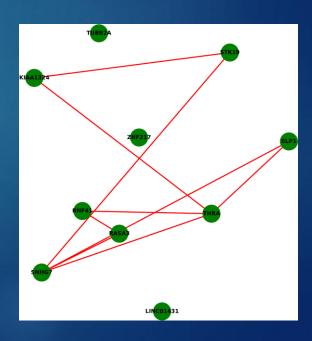
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- Can get several graphs with different thresholds
- We use the coex matrix [COTAN]
- ► G1: corr > 0.054, G2: corr < -0.06

Atypical GNN task

The graph is **fixed** and independent from the samples (gene network)

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- ▶ Features at each node depend on the sample (=cell) to classify

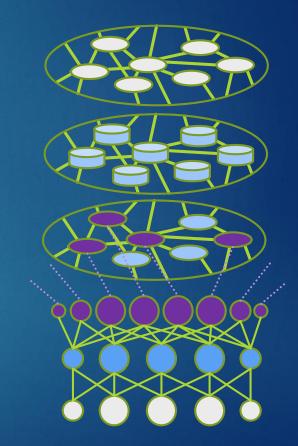
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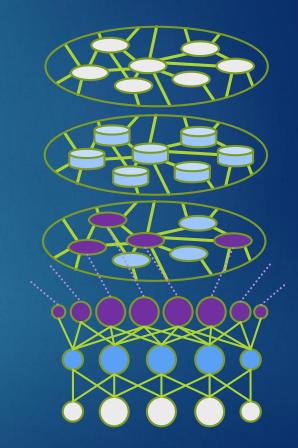
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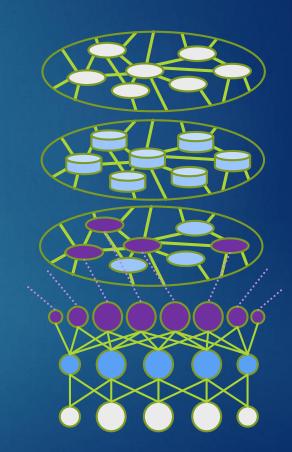
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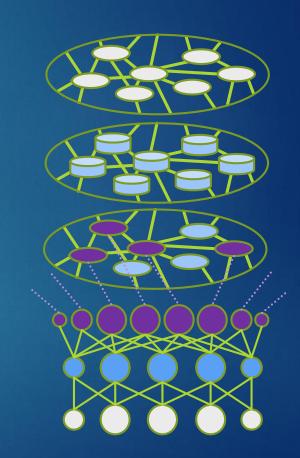
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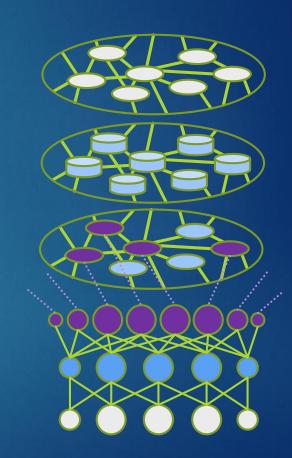
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- Basic structure:
 - start with all N genes
 - ▶ two GNN layers with 16 and 1 features per node
 - ightharpoonup restrict to n nodes (n highest variability genes)
 - ▶ flatten, then MLP (as before, 1 hidden layer with 64 units)



Ideas to improve:

Straightforward GNN models

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- Ideas to improve:
 - skip connection (after GNN, add the input)
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 - use several graphs in parallel for the first layer, concatenate before second layer

► **GraphSAGE** [Hamilton, Ying, Leskovec, 2017]

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$$x_i' = W_1 x_i + W_2 \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(i)|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i)} x_j$$

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$$x_i' = W \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i) \cup \{i\}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hat{d}_i \, \hat{d}_j}} x_j$$

▶ Graph Attention Networks [Veličković et al, 2018]
GATv2 [Brody, Alon, Yahav, 2021]

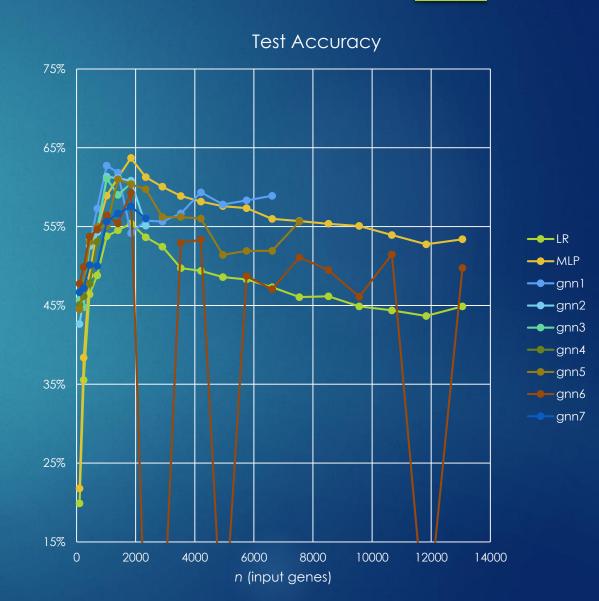
Graph Attention Networks [Veličković et al, 2018]
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$$x_i' = W_2 \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i) \cup \{i\}} \alpha_{i,j} x_j$$

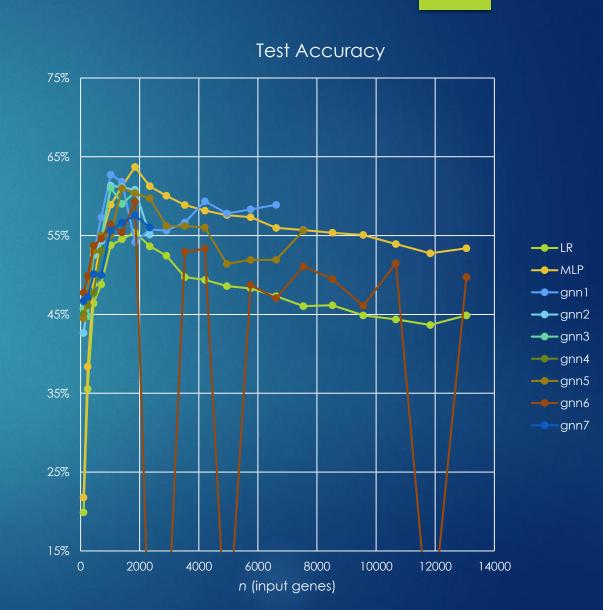
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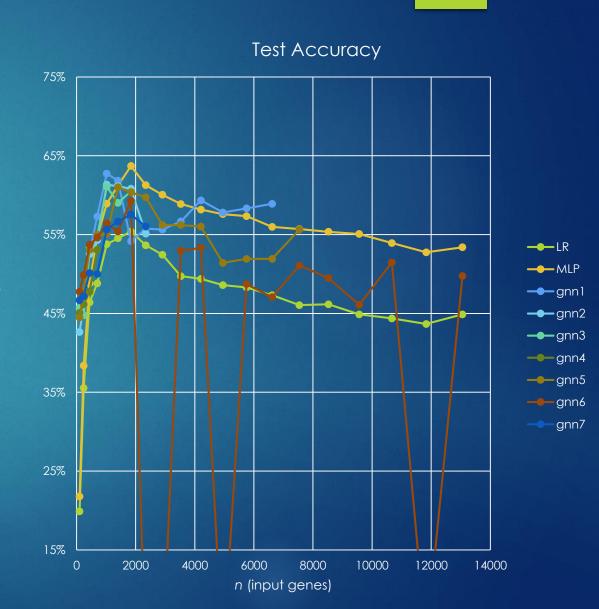
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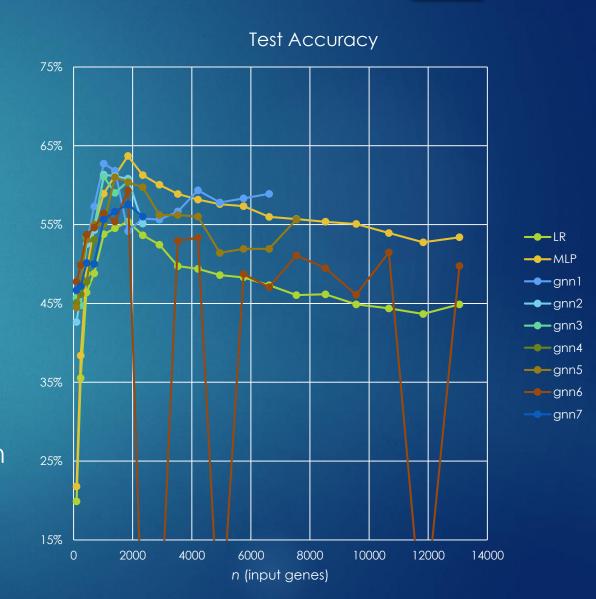
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 - they belong to different families
 - they are correlated for different reasons
- We should make several averages within different families



Multi-head GAT

$$x_i' = \prod_{h=1}^K W_2^h \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i) \cup \{i\}} \alpha_{i,j}^h x_j$$

$$\alpha_{i,j}^h = \underset{j \in \mathcal{N}(i) \cup \{i\}}{\operatorname{softmax}} (a_h^\mathsf{T} \varphi(W_1^h x_i + W_2^h x_j))$$

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- Still doesn't work
- (Maybe also because it needs richer input features)

Graph Cheat-Attention Network

(TENTATIVE NAME)

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$$y = b_1 + W_1 \varphi(b_0 + W_0 x), \qquad W_0: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^D, \quad W_1: \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}^C$$

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$$y = b_1 + W_1 \varphi(b_0 + W_0 x), \qquad W_0: \mathbb{R}^N \to \mathbb{R}^D, \quad W_1: \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}^C$$

the **signatures** are the **weights** of the first fully connected layer the column $W_0^{(i)}$ is the signature of gene i

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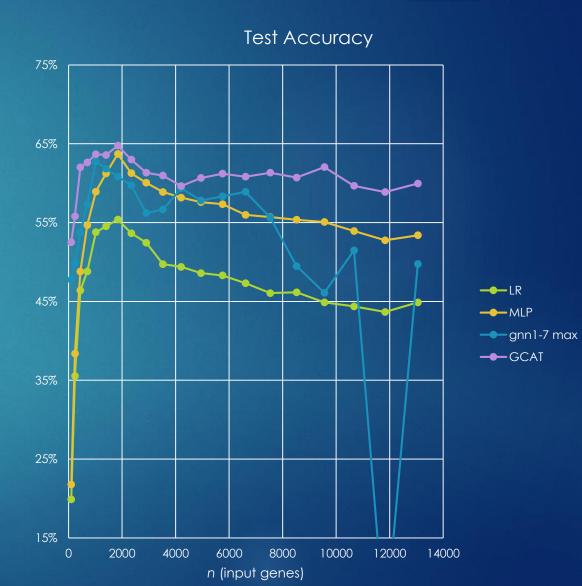
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(tentative name)

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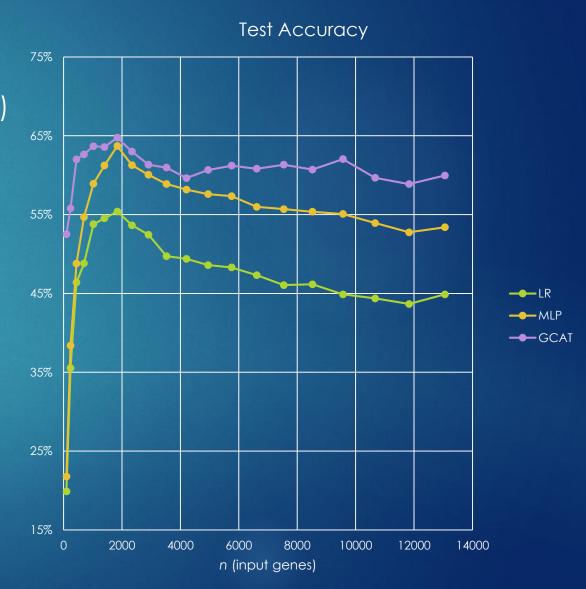


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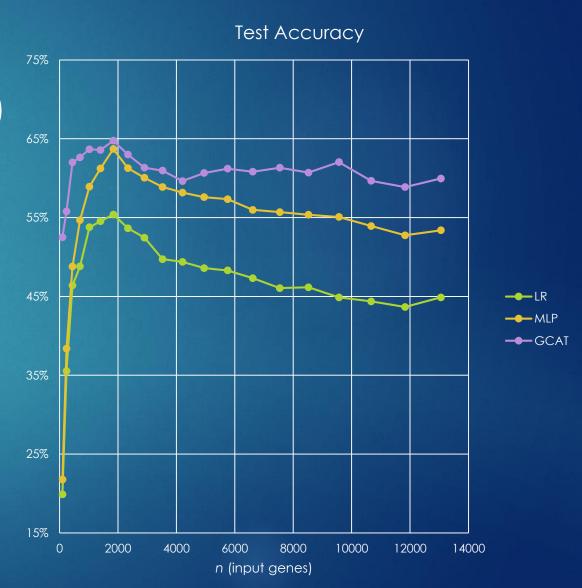
(tentative name)

auxiliary MLP (1 hidden layer with 64 units)



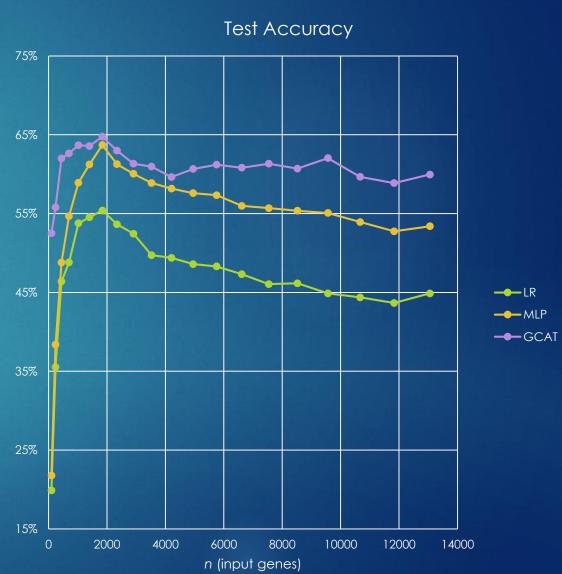
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- auxiliary MLP (1 hidden layer with 64 units)
- ▶ 64-dim gene signatures

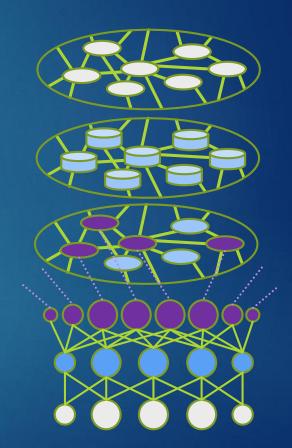


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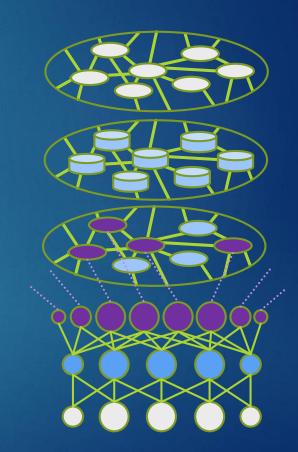
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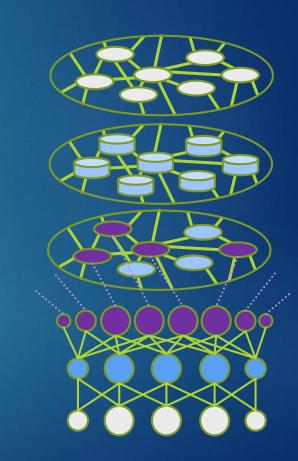
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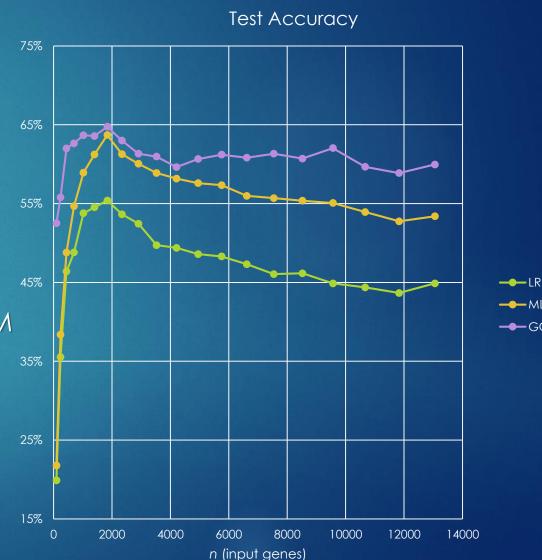


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- \sim 64(N + n) parameters, from 0.85M to 1.7M



(tentative name)

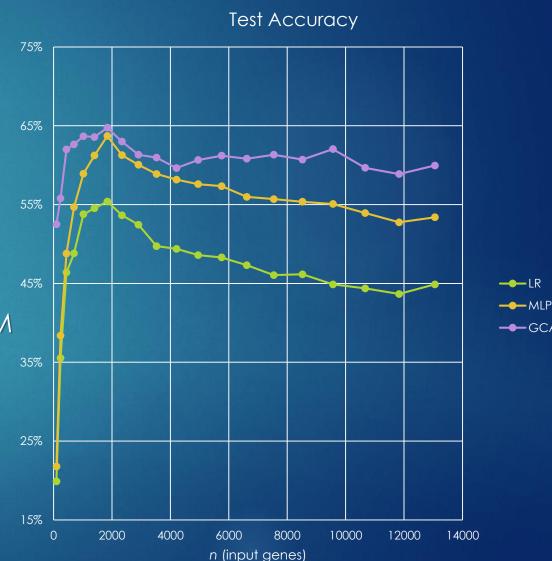
- auxiliary MLP (1 hidden layer with 64 units)
- ▶ 64-dim gene signatures
- **cheat-attention** with 64 heads
- ▶ 1 GCAT layer using two graphs
- 1 graph convolutional layer with 1 output
- \sim 64(N + n) parameters, from 0.85M to 1.7M
- \blacktriangleright top TA 64.8% at n=1800



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- \blacktriangleright top TA 64.8% at n=1800
- for large n, TA stays at about 60%



Thanks for the attention