

# Combinatorial group testing and signal recovery

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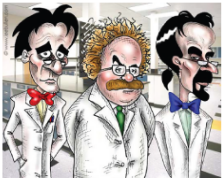
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# Combinatorial group testing

Scitentist-types



Big Party ~ 1 week



7 unlabelled bottles



1 bottle

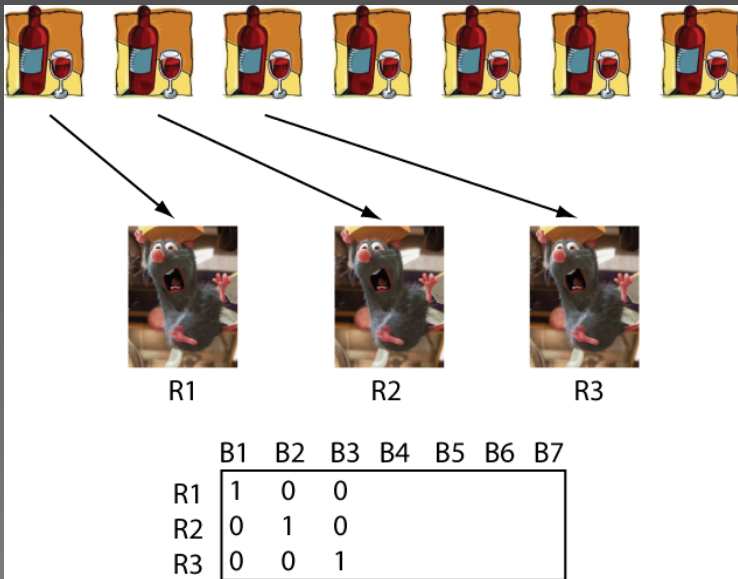


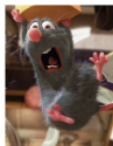
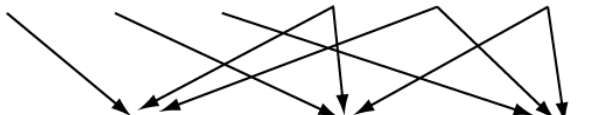
3 Rats



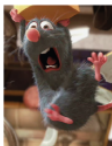
Rat dies only 1 week *after* drinking poisoned wine

Being good (computer) scientists, they do the following:

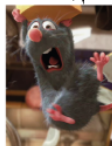




R1

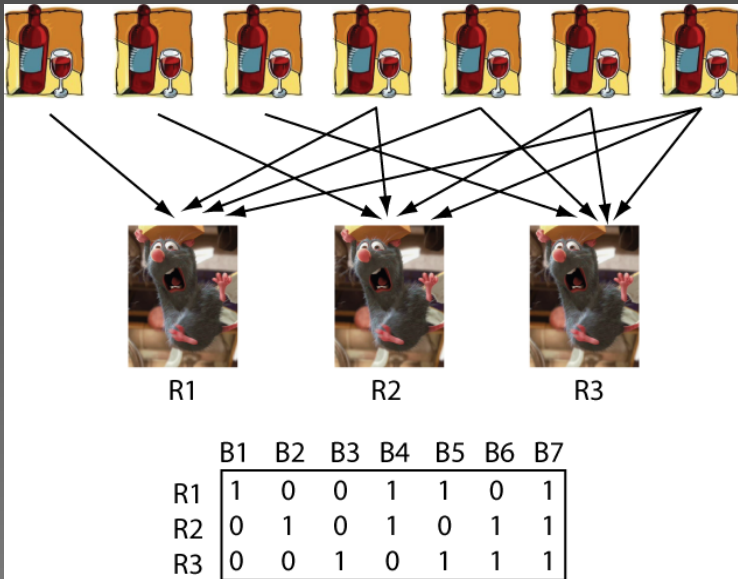


R2



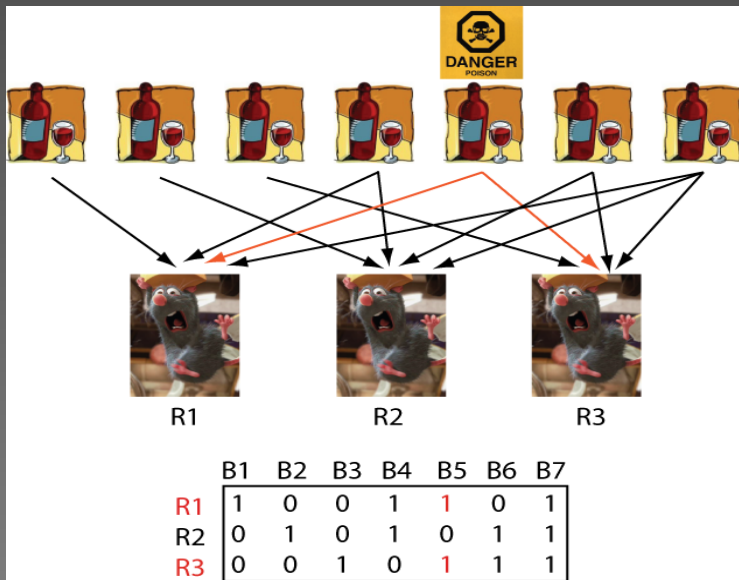
R3

	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7
R1	1	0	0	1	1	0	
R2	0	1	0	1	0	1	
R3	0	0	1	0	1	1	

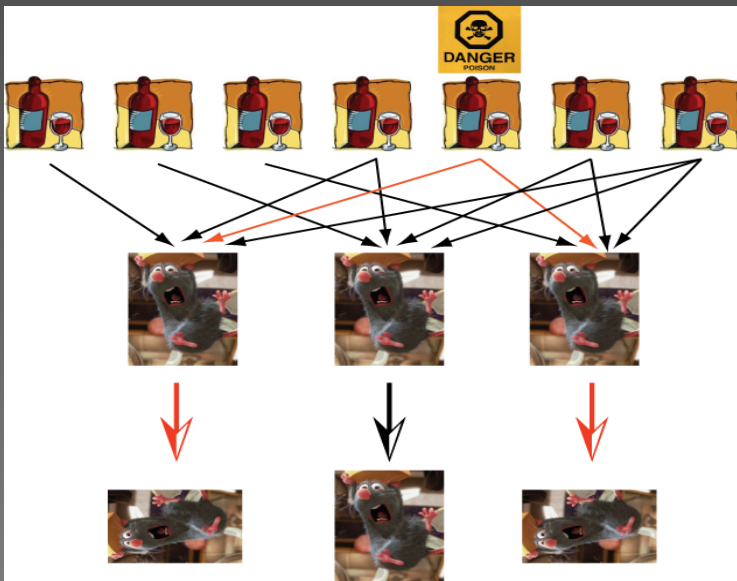


*Unique encoding of each bottle*

If bottle 5 were poison...

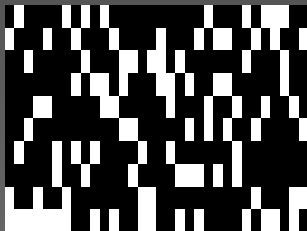


...after 1 week



# Problem statement: CGT

$m$  as small  
as possible



Assume  $x$  has  
low complexity:  
 $x$  has  $k$ -defects  
the rest are zero

Construct matrix  $A: \mathbb{B}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{B}^m$

Given  $Ax$  for any signal  $x \in \mathbb{B}^n$ , we can quickly recover  $k$  defects present in  $x$ . Note: arithmetic is boolean and result from pooled test is  $\{0, 1\}$ .



# Parameters

Number of measurements  $m$

Recovery time

Recovery of all  $k$  defects

One matrix vs. distribution over matrices

Explicit construction of matrix

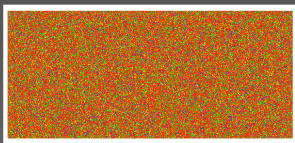
Tolerance to measurement errors (bits flipped, missing bits)

Number of replicates (number of times test each item)

Number of items in each pool

# Problem statement: Sparse signal recovery

$m$  as small  
as possible



Assume  $x$  has  
low complexity:  
 $x$  is  $k$ -sparse  
(with noise)

Construct matrix  $A: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

Given  $Ax$  for any signal  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we can quickly recover  $\hat{x}$  with

$$\|x - \hat{x}\|_p \leq C \min_{y \text{ } k\text{-sparse}} \|x - y\|_q$$

# Parameters

Number of measurements  $m$

Recovery time

Approximation guarantee (norms, mixed)

One matrix vs. distribution over matrices

Explicit construction

Tolerance to measurement noise

# High Throughput Screening (HTS)

HTS is an essential step in drug discovery  
(and elsewhere in biology)

Large chemical libraries screened on a  
biological target for activity

Basic  $\{0, 1\}$  type biological assays to find  
active compounds

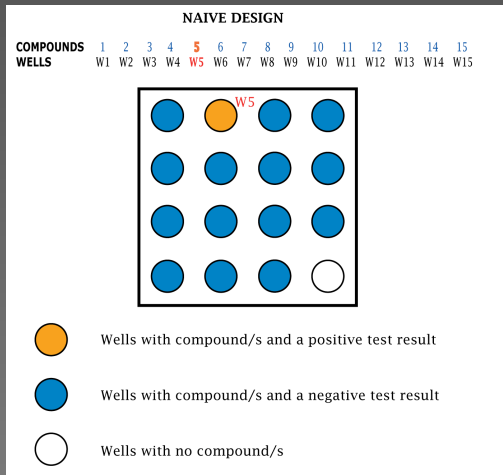
Usually a small number of compounds found

One-at-a-time screening: automation and  
miniaturization

Noisy assays with false positives and  
negative errors

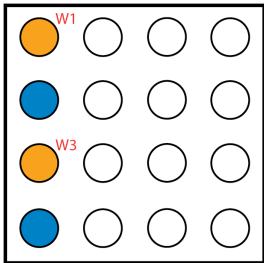


Current HTS uses one-at-a-time testing scheme (with repeated trials).



# Pooled HTS design

POOLING DESIGN



WELLS

W1

1 3 5 7 9 11 13 15

W2

2 3 6 7 10 11 14 15

W3

4 5 6 7 12 13 14 15

W4

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

COMPOUNDS

Propose using pooled testing of compounds

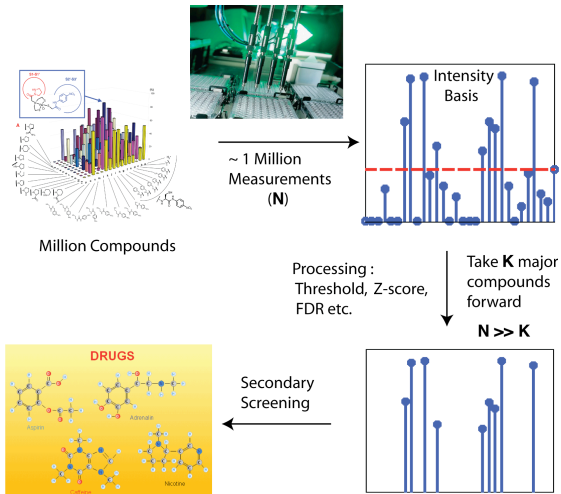
Uses fewer tests

Work moved from testing (costly) to computational analysis (cheap)

Handles errors in testing better due to built-in replication

**Additional quantitative information**

# HTS and signal recovery



# Quantitative analysis of pooling in HTS

## Constraints

linearity: measured quantities map linearly to compound activities

sparsity: most compounds inactive

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ & \vdots & & \vdots & \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n-1} \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

## Challenges

choosing a good mixing scheme

enforcing a mixing constraint

recovery algorithm tolerant to measurement noise + errors

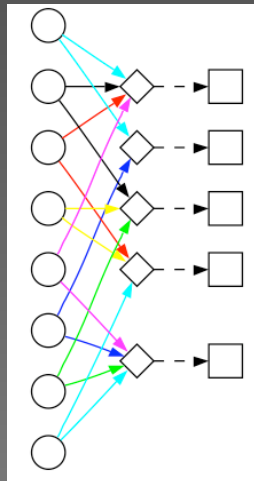


# Our approach

Binary measurement matrix: adjacency matrix of unbalanced expander graph

Appropriate linear biochemical model

Decoding via linear programming



# Compressed sensing: sparse matrices

LP decoding using sparse matrices

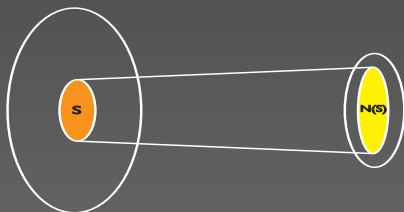
Deterministic (explicit) constructions

Control over number of replicates, number of compounds per pool

LP decoding robust to measurement noise

Recall: Piotr Indyk's talk Thursday

# Sparse matrices: Expander graphs



Adjacency matrix  $A$  of a  $d$  regular  $(1, \epsilon)$  expander graph

Graph  $G = (X, Y, E)$ ,  $|X| = n$ ,  $|Y| = m$

For any  $S \subset X$ ,  $|S| \leq k$ , the neighbor set

$$|N(S)| \geq (1 - \epsilon)d|S|$$

Probabilistic construction:

$$d = O(\log(n/k)/\epsilon), m = O(k \log(n/k)/\epsilon^2)$$

Deterministic construction:

$$d = O(2^{O(\log^3(\log(n)/\epsilon))}), m = k/\epsilon 2^{O(\log^3(\log(n)/\epsilon))}$$

# RIP(p)

A measurement matrix  $A$  satisfies RIP( $p, k, \delta$ ) property if for any  $k$ -sparse vector  $x$ ,

$$(1 - \delta)\|x\|_p \leq \|Ax\|_p \leq (1 + \delta)\|x\|_p.$$

RIP( $p$ )  $\iff$  expander

Theorem

$(k, \epsilon)$  expansion implies

$$(1 - 2\epsilon)d\|x\|_1 \leq \|Ax\|_1 \leq d\|x\|_1$$

for any  $k$ -sparse  $x$ . Get RIP( $p$ ) for  $1 \leq p \leq 1 + 1/\log n$ .

Theorem

RIP(1) + binary sparse matrix implies  $(k, \epsilon)$  expander for

$$\epsilon = \frac{1 - 1/(1 + \delta)}{2 - \sqrt{2}}.$$

# Expansion $\implies$ LP decoding

## Theorem

$\Phi$  adjacency matrix of  $(2k, \epsilon)$  expander. Consider two vectors  $x, x_*$  such that  $\Phi x = \Phi x_*$  and  $\|x_*\|_1 \leq \|x\|_1$ . Then

$$\|x - x_k\|_1 \leq \frac{2}{1 - 2\alpha(\epsilon)} \|x - x_k\|_1$$

where  $x_k$  is the optimal  $k$ -term representation for  $x$  and  $\alpha(\epsilon) = (2\epsilon)/(1 - 2\epsilon)$ .

Guarantees that Linear Program recovers good sparse approximation

Robust to noisy measurements too

RIP(1)  $\implies$  LP decoding

### $\ell_1$ uncertainty principle

Lemma

Let  $y$  satisfy  $Ay = 0$ . Let  $S$  the set of  $k$  largest coordinates of  $y$ .  
Then

$$\|y_S\|_1 \leq \alpha(\epsilon) \|y\|_1.$$

### LP guarantee

Theorem

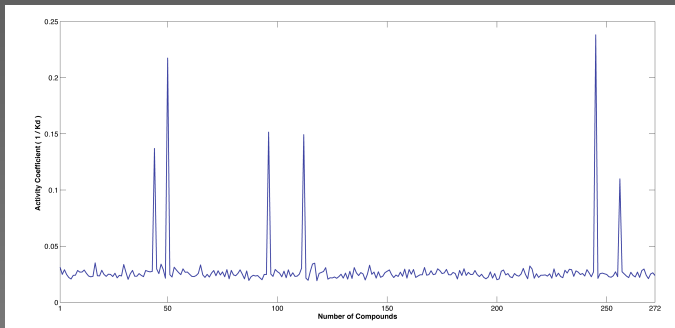
Consider any two vectors  $u, v$  such that for  $y = u - v$  we have  
 $Ay = 0$ ,  $\|v\|_1 \leq \|u\|_1$ .  $S$  set of  $k$  largest entries of  $u$ . Then

$$\|y\|_1 \leq \frac{2}{1 - 2\alpha(\epsilon)} \|u_{S^c}\|_1.$$

# Small library

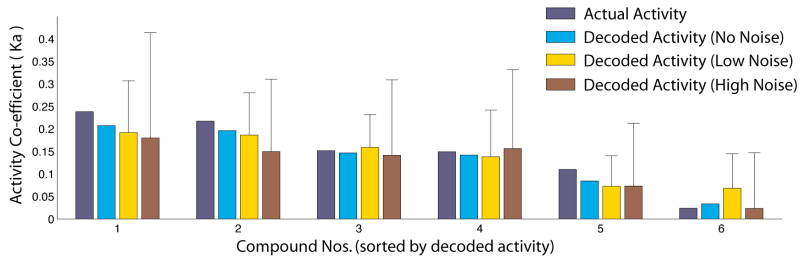
**Synthetic screen:** small molecule ligands for formylpeptide receptor, 6 active [Edwards, et al., Nature Protocols '06]

$n = 272$ ,  $k = 6$ , using deterministic STD matrix,  $m = 116$





# In silico

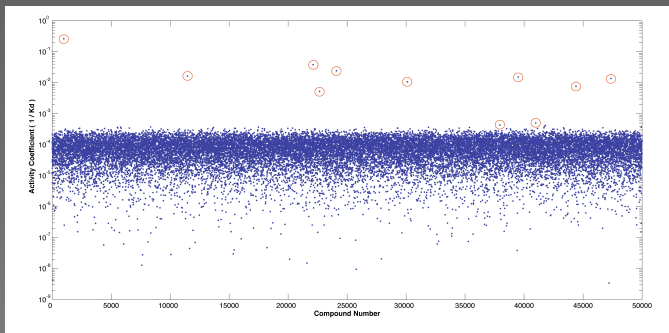


# Large library

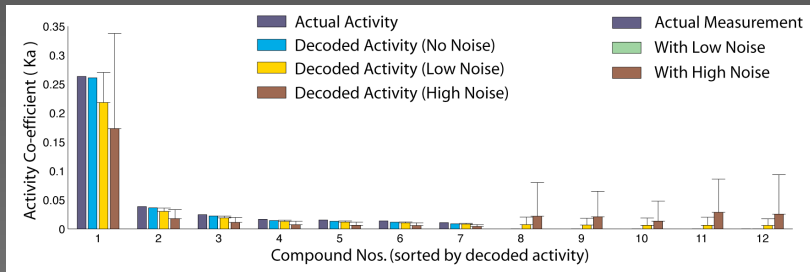
**Actual screen:** 50,000 compounds screened against *E. coli* dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), 12 active [McMaster HTS Lab Data

Mining and Docking Competition '05]

$n = 50,000$ ,  $k = 12$  screened in 122 blocks of 410 compounds using STD deterministic matrix,  $m = 10,004$



# In silico



# Current/Future work

## Computer Science:

- greedy algorithms in place of LP decoding
- decoding with noise + missing measurements
- refined error analysis
- decoding algorithms to rank compounds

## Chemical Engineering:

- good/best explicit constructions which meet experimental constraints
- refine error analysis, algorithm output for cultural interpretations of biologists
- design and implementation of several in vitro experiments (HTS, differential gene expression)