# Mining metadata for meaningful information

## The combination of 'OMICS' data from different sources provides novel insights into transcription factor function



Dierk Wanke dierk.wanke@zmbp.uni-tuebingen.de



# Principle of functional genomics



Besides the four classical ,omes', a number of derived omes exist:

with **Interactome** being probably the most important one!







The biologist is an expert in his field and defines the scientific question!





# Quantitative vs. qualitative analyses

Acquiring of quantitative data of subcellular processes with high spatiotemporal resolution in living (plant) cells in their native tissue environment





# All quantitative data come as (huge) tables

Genome			
	Cluster_Te 11102if_3 11105if_3	11109if_3 11102if_4 11102if_5	11105if_4 11105if_5
	6899@966.62 9,636363636 12,78787879 7,	,272727273 16,3030303 18,84848485 2	21,51515152 23,09090909
	8524@966.95 NA NA NA	A NA NA N	A NA
L L	2394@967.86 NA NA 0,	1,229984618 NA NA (	1,857215394 0,522692313
$\sim$	5620@968.95 36.88362919 46.6469428 50	0.0680.0181 28 180.07337 27 71203156	57 322/8521 58 85108/81
			51.85185185 80
Short descript: 0.1 c.12.1 S.o.12.1	S.o.12.2 S.m.12.1 S.m.12.2 c.2/	24.1 c.24.2 NA 8	30.39215686 91.50326797
244901 at 4.98072715 4.96429922 5.82272	2173 5,20073917 4,95276634 5,52057836 4,3	92219068 5.08664! NA	5.40192926 6.495176849
244902_st 5,25010354 5,57852668 5,4288	952 5,60793703 5,21570258 5,84559431 5,	14045535 4,98998: B738 NA	13,41301461 17,26427623
244903_st 6,74899845 7,25116532 7,433	506 6,70907196 5,77584963 6,91387399 6,	<b>96290224 7,27186</b> 7863 1,988351075	9,03795943 10,14259892
244904_at 6,10083774 6,20317367 5,3794	789 5,62983219 5,36774539 5,50417868 6,	05476603 5,67808: NA	21,13482935 30,81940925
244905_at 4,53313994 4,73388145 4,48748	<b>197 4,38979413 4,54050568 4,32528707 4,</b>	82327215 4,36567	
244906_et 6,63359314 6,32232272 6,23708	5889 6,31570287 6,23476669 5,91015254 6,	30000291 6,42464	
244907_et 3,32556863 3,76633758 3,36920	456 3,49864772 3,44533384 3,44426154 3,	28993331 3,43361!	
244908_at 3,37294902 3,30417887 3,67395	087 3,37338062 3,17164516 3,5144585 3, 2499 4,19592529 4,1269096 4,17942752 4,	43930283 3,39203	
$244505_{41}$ $4,05705450$ $4,0252500$ $4,14050$ 244910 $e$ $pt$ $2.20044524$ $2.25017417$ $2.15280$	H93 4,10392333 4,12009030 4,17942732 4, 1777 216806211 218276813 277747811 2	12162206 2 20049	
244911 at 2.6988995 2.88894738 2.9524	1567 2.70294981 2.82032507 2.82696673 2.	99587735 2.5616	
244912_at 7,79307587 9,04998205 9.55880	564 8,19654828 8,80385359 8,58862916 9.	00955502 8,5717	
244918_at 4,71741055 4,78211288 4,14227	238 4,36870193 4,51389857 4,2420551 4,	04281355 4,90157	6
244014	1340 2 06453502 3 07334640 3 09274 797 3	02046021 3 4071E.	







# Analysis of developing barley caryopses



Mangelsen et al., 2010a; Mangelsen et al., 2010b

# Analysis of developing barley caryopses



Combined analysis of Transcriptome and Metabolome → high temporal correlation between transcripts and certain metabolites



Mangelsen et al., 2010a; Mangelsen et al., 2010b



Gene list overlap is a typical application to compute the probability of occurrence by **hypergeometric distribution**.

# Hypergeometric distribution

$$p(x,N,n,m) = \frac{\binom{m}{x}\binom{N-m}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

- **N** is the population size
- **m** is the number of success states in the population
- n is the number of draws
   (i.e. quantity drawn in each trial)
- **x** is the number of observed successes

After sampling 4 balls from the bowl,

I gained 2 red ones! Was this expected on average?

Hyper.Dist. returns the probability  $(P_{hyp})$  of successes (x) in a sample (n), without replacement, from a finite population (N), in which the total number of successes is known (m).



ZMBP

# Hypergeometric distribution

$$p(x,N,n,m) = \frac{\binom{m}{x}\binom{N-m}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

- **13** is the population size
- 4 is the number of success states in the population
- **4** is the number of draws (i.e. quantity drawn in each trial)
- 2 is the number of observed successes

After sampling 4 balls from the bowl,

I gained 2 red ones! Was this expected on average?  $P_{hvp} = 0.30$ 

Hyper.Dist. returns the probability (*Hyp P*) of successes (x) in a sample (n), without replacement, from a finite population (N), in which the total number of successes is known (m).

 $4 \text{ red} \rightarrow 4/13$   $2 \text{ blue} \rightarrow 2/13$   $4 \text{ have a white dot} \rightarrow 4/13$ 



# Analysis of developing barley caryopses



Mangelsen et al., 2010a; Mangelsen et al., 2010b



# Quantitative vs. qualitative analyses

Acquiring of quantitative data of subcellular processes with high spatiotemporal resolution in living (plant) cells in their native tissue environment



## Transcriptome of the abiotic stress response in Arabidopsis thaliana



## Transcriptome of the abiotic stress response in Arabidopsis thaliana





Kilian et al., 2007 Wanke et al., 2009

## The AtGenExpress expression atlas comprises 1295 microarray experiments

# **AtGen***Express*

...was a multinational effort designed to uncover the transcriptome of the multicellular model organism Arabidopsis thaliana

#### All 41 different experimental core-conditions have been finished in time:

- Development
- Biotic Stress Treatment
- Abiotic Stress Treatment
- Nutrient Experiment
- Hormone Treatment

We contributed the abiotic stress experiments

Currently, there are more than 3000 highly comparable microarray expression profiles in the database



### Temporal resolution provides a dynamical insight into stress responses

#### **Transcriptome**



## Temporal resolution provides a dynamical insight into stress responses

**Transcriptome** 

UV-B

light

stress



→ including the time trajectory in regulatory network analyses uncovers information flow and dynamics of stress responses



Wanke et al.,2009



# My research interest: Gene expression control



 $\rightarrow$  Can we infer putative binding sites in genomes?

**Transcriptome** → What are the effects of transcription factor (TF) binding?

Proteome → Which are the TF binding sites in vivo?
→ Which protein partners act together?



Genome

## Is there a cryptic code in non-coding regulatory sequence?

Genome



Berendzen et al., 2006



## Motif-distribution in promoters

#### Genome





## BPC proteins are plant GAGA-binding proteins

#### Genome

We identified unique GAGA-frequency characteristics in plant promoters by bioinformatics



Wanke & Harter, 2009; Berendzen et al., 2006, Santi et al., 2003

**MBP** 

## Plant and animal GAGA-factors are unrelated

#### Genome



Although plant and animal GAGA-binding factors recognize GAGA-motifs, they appear to be phylogenetically unrelated and functionally distinct

![](_page_26_Picture_4.jpeg)

## A unique Alanine-zipper domain in BPC6

#### Interactome

Question: Is the N-terminal Coiled-Coil domain important for homodimerization?

CC Zn BPC6

BPC6 ERDAAIQERNLAISEKKAAVAERDMAFLQRDTAIAERNNAI

C-Jun SRKRKLERIARLEEKVKTLKAQNSELASTANMLREQVAQLKQKVM

![](_page_27_Picture_6.jpeg)

- Use the available structural information of c-Jun to derive a predicted model structure for BPC6
- Apply **Molecular Dynamics simulations** to compare the different domains

![](_page_27_Picture_9.jpeg)

## A unique Alanine-zipper domain in BPC6

#### Interactome

#### Genome

C-JunSRKRKLERIARLEEKVKTLKAQNSELASTANMLREQVAQLKQKVMBPC6ERDAAIQERNLAISEKKAAVAERDMAFLQRDTAIAERNNAI

Physcomitrella Microcystis Azorhizobium Aspergillus Homo Sus AFKDRHKAAIEREQAIKEKAQAEREKMQAEREKAQVE AQQERNQAQQERNQAQQERDQAQQERDRAFARLRELG AQTYRNAAETFRNDASRFRNEAETFRNQAAQSAANAA ARKERELAEIARDAAEKERVAAENERKEAAAERQRA LCQELKEALQEADVAKCRRDWAFQERDKIVAERD LEQKGRALEQRDTAQEQKEKA

![](_page_28_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_7.jpeg)

#### Answer:

- Yes, the CC-domain can form dimers that are stabilized by salt bridges between the monomers
- Molecular Dynamics simulations propose that parallel dimers are formed.

![](_page_28_Picture_11.jpeg)

## BPC6 forms homotypic dimers

#### Interactome

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Quantitative vs. qualitative analyses

Acquiring of quantitative data of subcellular processes with high spatiotemporal resolution in living (plant) cells in their native tissue environment

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### Interactome

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

Green- and Red- fluorescent protein fusions under UV excitation light

![](_page_31_Picture_4.jpeg)

#### Interactome

![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

Wanke et al., 2011; Elgass et al., 2010 Z

Interactome

![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

in plasma membrane

Time with detectable GFP signal **AFTER** the excitation light was switched off!

#### Interactome

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

## FLIM provides quantitative data!

#### Interactome

![](_page_35_Figure_2.jpeg)

- FRET-FLIM validates that parallel homotypic dimers are formed *in vivo*
- First experiment to study protein conformation in a living eukaryote cell
### WHY is that an Interactome? - FLIM data is generated for all pixels ('Pixelome')

### Pixelome

All GFP-lifetime data of all pixels of a spectro-microscopic image



The pixel-wise information of an image is a **qualitative** 'ome' already!



### pixel-wise FLIM is an 'Pixelome' OMICS

Pixelome

All GFP-lifetime data at all pixels of a spectro-microscopic image



### pixel-wise FLIM is an 'Pixelome' OMICS

#### <sup>I</sup> Pixelome

Pixel-wise comparison between different fluorescence signal of the same image



Comparison of **quantitative** fluorescence information between different channels → spacial signal information → lifetime (LT) changes in microdomains → in vivo interaction data



### Spatial analysis of protein - protein interaction by FLIM





## FLIM provides quantitative data!

### Interactome

Question: Are there more proteins interacting with BPC6?





### Group II BPCs interact with LHP1 and VRN2 and others...

Interactome



FLIM uncovered that a larger BPC6 dependent complex exists in the nucleoplasm: LHP1 (part of PRC1) and VRN2 (part of PRC2) associate with BPC6 in vivo



### PRC1 and PRC2 are involved in gene silencing



Our data suggest a role for BPC6 in gene silencing *via* Histone 3 trimethylation (H3K27me3)

Hecker et al., 2015

### Does BPC6 recruit LHP1 to GAGA-motifs?

#### Interactome

### Question: Does BPC6 recruit LHP1 to GAGA-motifs?



Recombinant LHP1-His and GFP-BPC6 are extracted from E.coli  $\rightarrow$  DPI-R-ELISA (DNA-Protein-Interaction - Recruitment-ELISA)

Hecker et al., 2015 Z MBP

## Does BPC6 recruit LHP1 to GAGA-motifs?

Interactome



Recombinant LHP1-His and GFP-BPC6 are extracted from E.coli  $\rightarrow$  DPI-R-ELISA (DNA-Protein-Interaction - Recruitment-ELISA)



### BPC6 recruits LHP1 to GAGA-motifs!









46

## DNA-binding studies using quantitative DPI-ELISA

### Interactome



**Answer:** Yes, BPC6 is sufficient to recruit LHP1 to GAGA-motifs.



#### <sup>I</sup> Proteome

Rosetta (David Baker Lab) uses all available data on protein structures to identify 'lead'-signatures for the de novo model structure prediction.

#### **Question:**

Can we propose a structure for the DNA-binding domain that consolidates our data on the Interactome (protein-DNA, dimerization) Genome (GAGA-distribution)?



Rosetta@home

Protein Folding, Design, and Docking





#### Answer:

Yes, a conclusive model structure was derived for BPC-DNA-binding domains The DNA-binding domains were proposed to interact strongly *via* disulfide bonds

Theune et al., 2017

### Proteome

Rosetta@home

Question: Are the disulfide bonds important for DNA-binding?

Cvc217-Cvc217	1	185 21	l8 283
Cys216-Cys204	BPC1		
Cys204-Cys216	BPC1_mut1	X	
	BPC1_mut2		
Cys195-Cys197	BPC1_mut3		
	BPC1_mut4		
	BPC1_mut5		
	BPC1_mut6	X	
	BPC1_DBD		
Cys197-Cys195	BPC1_short		

Inter- and intramolecular disulfide binds are formed



### <sup>I</sup> Proteome

Rosetta@home

Question: Are the disulfide bonds important for DNA-binding?



#### **Answer:**

Yes, they modulate binding specificity, but do not contact the DNA-bases directly. Deletion of all five Cysteins did not prevent GAGA-motif binding.



### Proteome

Rosetta@home

**Question:** If not the Cysteins are making contact with the DNA, which residues might bind to GAGA-motifs then?









#### <sup>I</sup> Proteome

Rosetta@home

**Question:** If not the Cysteins are making contact with the DNA, which residues might bind to GAGA-motifs then?





#### **Answer:**

The very N-terminus with its conserved WAKHGTN and TIK peptide signatures is required for GAGA-motif recognition.



### Where do we find GAGA-motifs?

### Genome



GAGA-motifs are significantly enriched close to the translation start site!



# Quantitative data come as (huge) tables





# Biological relevance of our findings

Mutants in transcription factor genes exhibit differences in development





# Biological relevance of our findings



# bpc4 bpc6 ...... Ihp1-4 bpc4 bpc6 5cm



# Biological relevance of our findings

### **Transcriptome**

Strong developmental defects!



Transcriptome (microarray) analysis to understand what is wrong!



# Transcriptome uncovered a synergistic function for LHP1 and BPC6



#### Problem:

The hypergeometric distribution works only between two gene lists and their overlap. But not for  $3! \rightarrow 3$  consecutive analyses



# Transcriptome uncovered a synergistic function for LHP1 and BPC6









- more induced genes in the mutants  $\rightarrow$  function as repressor proteins
- repression coincides with already known repressive H3K27me3 marks



# Transcriptome data consolidated our model



BPC6 recruits LHP1 to Polycomb-repressive element (PRE)-like GAGA-Motifs



# Which genes are BPC6-targets? $\rightarrow$ ChIP-seq

### Genome - Interactome



Interactome (ChIP-seq) analysis to identify direct target genes!



# Which genes are BPC6-targets? $\rightarrow$ ChIP-seq

### Interactome



• we could identify 4032 unambiguous peaks that coincide with GAGA motifs



# Microarray vs. ChIP-seq

### Transcriptome - Interactome



• significant overlap between expression in the triple mutant and ChIP data



# In which processes are BPC-proteins involved in?

**Transcriptome** 



#### **Answer:**

Mutants with multiple loss-of-function mutants in BPC genes are less sensitive to a the plant hormone Cytokinin. Involvement in hormone homeostasis!

# A subset of cytokinin responses are BPC dependent

**Transcriptome** 





# BPC6 and ARR10 target the same subset of cytokinin response genes

#### Transcriptome - Interactome



#### **Answer:**

Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) in the mutant are not direct targets of BPC6. But a subset of hormone responsive genes are targeted by ARR10 (cytokinin signal integrator) and BPC6 simultaneously.

# Do BPC6 and LHP1 target the same genes?



# Do BPC6 and LHP1 target the same genes?



#### **Answer:**

Yes, about 25% of the sequences are targeted simultaneously!



# What about bpc-dependent gene expression?

### Genome - Transcriptome - Interactome



## The AtGenExpress expression atlas comprises 1295 microarray experiments

# **AtGen***Express*

...was a multinational effort designed to uncover the transcriptome of the multicellular model organism *Arabidopsis thaliana* 



Currently, there are more than 3000 highly comparable microarray expression profiles in the database



## What else is targeted by BPC6?


### What are the other target genes targeting?



#### **Answer:**

**ALL** known brassinosteroid *signaling* components are targeted by BPC6 in vivo! This finding is exclusive for brassinosteroid and not found for any other hormone signaling pathway!

The use of brasinosteroids as a plant hormone has evolved 'recently' in land plant evolution!



# The targeting of the BL-pathway gene occurs at very different levels!



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## The targeting of the BL-pathway gene occurs at very different levels!

BL-dependent signaling processes in the cytosol



## The targeting of the BL-pathway gene occurs at very different levels!



### What are the 'take-home-messages'?

Combined 'Omics' analyses are a powerful resource of in functional biology!

- Integration of novel quantitative interactome methods (protein-DNA or protein-protein-.... interaction) is highly desirable
- Try to apply simulations to gain novel insights into the functional mechanistic of your research object
- Be clear in the scientific questions you are asking and check whether your experiment will provide you with an answer

• don't stay with significance – validate your results independently!





### Thank you!



AUSTRA

ASIEN

### Tübingen

Andreas Hecker CarlZeiss Stiftung

Rebecca Dautel Joachim Kilian

#### Saarland

Marius Theune Tobias Bardhun Christine Zehren Angelika Anna Umeå University Markus Schmid Silvio Collani

Uni Chapell Hill Joe Kieber INRA Versailles Valerie Gaudin

ETH Zürich

Sam Zeeman

Uni Würzburg Wolfgang Dröge-Laser











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