

# Variational Inference in the Poisson lognormal model

Application to multivariate analysis of count data

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joint work with M. Mariadasou, S. Robin

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J.C., Mahendra Mariadassou, Stéphane Robin,  
Variational inference for probabilistic Poisson PCA  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1214/18-AOAS1177> Ann Appl Statist 12: 2674–2698, 2018



J.C., Mahendra Mariadassou, Stéphane Robin,  
Variational inference for sparse network reconstruction from count data  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.03120> (submitted)



PLNmodels package, development version on github  
`devtools::install_github("jchiquet/PLNmodels@v0.7.0.2")`  
<https://jchiquet.github.io/PLNmodels/>  
<http://julien.cremeriefamily.info/slides/mollusk/mollusk.html>

# Motivations: oak powdery mildew pathobiome

Metabarcoding data from [JFS<sup>+</sup>16]

- ▶  $n = 116$  leaves,  $p = 114$  species (66 bacteria, 47 fungies + *E. alphitoides*)

```
counts[1:3, c(1:4, 48:51)]
```

```
##           f_1 f_2 f_3 f_4 E_alphitoides b_1045 b_109 b_1093
## A1.02    72  5 131  0           0         0     0     0
## A1.03   516 14 362  0           0         0     0     0
## A1.04   305 24 238  0           0         0     0     0
```

- ▶  $d = 8$  covariates (tree susceptibility, distance to trunk, orientation, ...)

```
covariates[1:3, ]
```

```
##           tree distT0trunk distT0ground pmInfection orientation
## A1.02 intermediate         202         155.5           1         SW
## A1.03 intermediate         175         144.5           0         SW
## A1.04 intermediate         168         141.5           0         SW
```

- ▶ Sampling effort in each sample (bacteria  $\neq$  fungi)

```
offsets[1:3, c(1:4, 48:51)]
```

```
##           f_1  f_2  f_3  f_4 E_alphitoides b_1045 b_109 b_1093
## [1,]   2488 2488 2488 2488         2488   8315  8315  8315
## [2,]   2054 2054 2054 2054         2054    662   662   662
## [3,]   2122 2122 2122 2122         2122    480   480   480
```

# Problematic & Basic formalism

Data tables:  $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_{ij}), n \times p$ ;  $\mathbf{X} = (X_{ik}), n \times d$ ;  $\mathbf{O} = (O_{ij}), n \times p$  where

- ▶  $Y_{ij}$  = abundance (read counts) of species  $j$  in sample  $i$
- ▶  $X_{ik}$  = value of covariate  $k$  in sample  $i$
- ▶  $O_{ij}$  = offset (sampling effort) for species  $j$  in sample  $i$

Need for multivariate analysis to help deciphering the pathobiome

- ▶ exhibit **patterns of diversity**  
↪ summarize the information from  $\mathbf{Y}$  (PCA, clustering, ...)
- ▶ understand **between-species interactions**  
↪ 'network' inference (variable/covariance selection)
- ▶ correct for technical and **confounding effects**  
↪ account for covariables and sampling effort

↪ need a generic framework to **model dependences between count variables**

# Models for multivariate count data

If we were in a Gaussian world, the **general linear model** would be appropriate

For each sample  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , it explains

- ▶ the abundances of the  $p$  species ( $\mathbf{Y}_i$ )
- ▶ by the values of the  $d$  covariates  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and the  $p$  offsets  $\mathbf{O}_i$

$$\mathbf{Y}_i = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{\text{account for covariates}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{O}_i}_{\text{account for sampling effort}} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}_p, \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{dependence between species}})$$

+ null covariance  $\Leftrightarrow$  independence  $\rightsquigarrow$  uncorrelated species do not interact

But we are not, and there is no generic model for multivariate counts

- ▶ Data transformation ( $\log, \sqrt{\cdot}$ ) : quick and dirty
- ▶ Non-Gaussian multivariate distributions: do not scale to data dimension yet
- ▶ Latent variable models: interaction occur in a latent (unobserved) layer

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$$\mathbf{Y}_i = \underbrace{\mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\Theta}}_{\text{account for covariates}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{O}_i}_{\text{account for sampling effort}} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i, \quad \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}_p, \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{dependence between species}})$$

+ ~~null covariance  $\Leftrightarrow$  independence  $\rightsquigarrow$  uncorrelated species do not interact~~

But we are not, and there is no generic model for multivariate counts

- ▶ Data transformation ( $\log, \sqrt{\cdot}$ ) : quick and dirty
- ▶ Non-Gaussian multivariate distributions: do not scale to data dimension yet
- ▶ **Latent variable models**: interaction occur in a latent (unobserved) layer

# Poisson-log normal (PLN) distribution

A latent Gaussian model

Originally proposed by Atchisson [AH89]

$$\mathbf{Z}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$$

$$\mathbf{Y}_i | \mathbf{Z}_i \sim \mathcal{P}(\exp\{\mathbf{O}_i + \mathbf{X}_i^T \Theta + \mathbf{Z}_i\})$$

## Interpretation

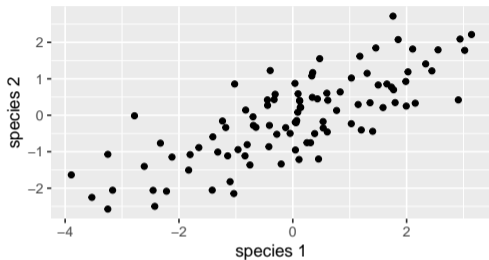
- ▶ Dependency structure encoded in the latent space (i.e. in  $\Sigma$ )
- ▶ Additional effects are fixed
- ▶ Conditional Poisson distribution = noise model

## Properties

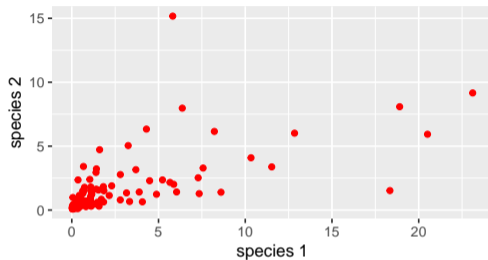
- + over-dispersion
- + covariance with arbitrary signs
- maximum likelihood via EM algorithm is limited to a couple of variables

# Geometrical view

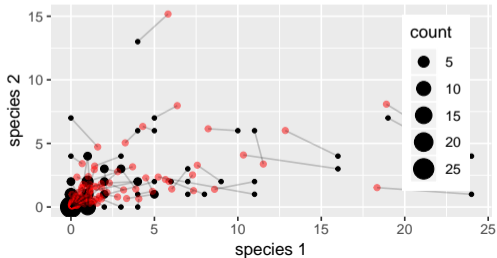
Latent Space (Z)



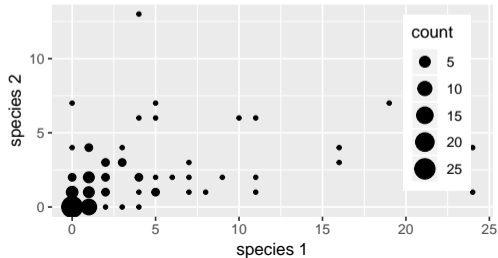
Observation Space ( $\exp(Z)$ )



Observation Space ( $Y = P(\exp(Z)) + \text{noise}$ )



Observation Space (Y) + noise



# Outline

Variational inference of PLN models

Probabilistic PCA for count data

Discriminant Analysis for count data

Network inference for count data



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# Intractable EM

Aim of the inference:

- ▶ estimate  $\beta = (\Theta, \Sigma)$
- ▶ predict the  $\mathbf{Z}_i$

Maximum likelihood

PLN is an incomplete data model: try EM

$$\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbb{E}[\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) | \mathbf{Y}] + \mathcal{H}[p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y})]$$

EM requires to evaluate (some moments of)

$$p(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y}) = \prod_i p(\mathbf{Z}_i | \mathbf{Y}_i)$$

but no close form for  $p(\mathbf{Z}_i | \mathbf{Y}_i)$ .

- ▶ [Kar05] resorts to numerical or Monte-Carlo integration.
- ▶ Variational approach [WJ08]: use a proxy of  $p(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y})$ .

# Variational EM

**Variational approximation:** choose a class of distribution  $\mathcal{Q}$

$$\mathcal{Q} = \left\{ \tilde{p} : \tilde{p}(\mathbf{Z}) = \prod_i \tilde{p}_i(\mathbf{Z}_i), \quad \tilde{p}_i(\mathbf{Z}_i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{Z}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_i, \tilde{\mathbf{s}}_i) \right\}$$

and maximize the lower bound ( $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  = expectation under  $\tilde{p}$ )

$$J(\theta, \tilde{p}) = \log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}) - KL[\tilde{p}(\mathbf{Z}) \parallel p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Z} \mid \mathbf{Y})] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})] + \mathcal{H}[\tilde{p}(\mathbf{Z})]$$

Variational EM.

► VE step: find the optimal  $\tilde{p}$ :

$$\tilde{p}^h = \arg \max_{\tilde{p} \in \mathcal{Q}} J(\beta^h, \tilde{p}) = \arg \min_{\tilde{p} \in \mathcal{Q}} KL[\tilde{p}(\mathbf{Z}) \parallel p_{\beta^h}(\mathbf{Z} \mid \mathbf{Y})]$$

► M step: update  $\hat{\beta}$

$$\hat{\beta}^h = \arg \max_{\beta} J(\beta, \tilde{p}^h) = \arg \max_{\beta} \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})]$$

# Variational EM

**Variational approximation:** choose a class of distribution  $\mathcal{Q}$

$$\mathcal{Q} = \left\{ \tilde{p} : \tilde{p}(\mathbf{Z}) = \prod_i \tilde{p}_i(\mathbf{Z}_i), \quad \tilde{p}_i(\mathbf{Z}_i) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{Z}_i; \tilde{\mathbf{m}}_i, \tilde{\mathbf{s}}_i) \right\}$$

and maximize the lower bound ( $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  = expectation under  $\tilde{p}$ )

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**Variational EM.**

► VE step: find the optimal  $\tilde{p}$ :

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► M step: update  $\hat{\beta}$

$$\hat{\beta}^h = \arg \max_{\beta} J(\beta, \tilde{p}^h) = \arg \max_{\beta} \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})]$$

# Variational EM

**Property:** The lower  $J(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \tilde{p})$  is bi-concave, i.e.

- ▶ wrt  $\tilde{p} = (\tilde{\mathbf{M}}, \tilde{\mathbf{S}})$  for given  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$
- ▶ wrt  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \boldsymbol{\Theta})$  for given  $\tilde{p}$

but not jointly concave in general.

**Optimization:** projected gradient ascent for the complete parameter  $(\tilde{\mathbf{m}}, \tilde{\mathbf{s}}, \boldsymbol{\beta})$

- ▶ **algorithm:** conservative convex separable approximations [Sva02]
- ▶ **implementation:** NLOpt nonlinear-optimization package [Joh11]
- ▶ **initialization:** LM after log-transformation applied independently on each variables + concatenation of the regression coefficients + Pearson residuals

PLNmodels R-package:

<https://github.com/jchiquet/PLNmodels>

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# Model with offsets and covariates

Prepare the data set

Load the package, prepare the data, compute a basic offset

```
library(PLNmodels)
oaks <- prepare_data(counts, covariates)
str(oaks)

## 'data.frame': 116 obs. of 7 variables:
## $ Abundance : int [1:116, 1:114] 72 516 305 152 529 317 200 158 88 297 ...
## ..- attr(*, "dimnames")=List of 2
## .. ..$ : chr "A1.02" "A1.03" "A1.04" "A1.05" ...
## .. ..$ : chr "f_1" "f_2" "f_3" "f_4" ...
## $ tree : Factor w/ 3 levels "intermediate",...: 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ distT0trunk : num 202 175 168 148 138 136 115 88 79 198 ...
## $ distT0ground: num 156 144 142 134 130 ...
## $ pmInfection : int 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 5 1 0 ...
## $ orientation : Factor w/ 2 levels "NE","SW": 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
## $ Offset : num 9944 2104 1967 2498 2560 ...
```

# Model with offsets and covariates

Fit the PLN model

## Fit the model with offsets

```
system.time(PLN_offset <- PLN(Abundance ~ 1 + offset(log(Offset)), oaks))
```

```
##  
## Initialization...  
## Adjusting a PLN model with full covariance model  
## Post-treatments...  
## DONE!  
##      user  system elapsed  
## 10.220   0.017   2.850
```

## Now the model with offsets and the 'tree' covariate

```
PLN_tree <- PLN(Abundance ~ 0 + tree + offset(log(Offset)), oaks)
```

```
##  
## Initialization...  
## Adjusting a PLN model with full covariance model  
## Post-treatments...  
## DONE!
```



# Model with offsets and covariates

Accessing the model parameters

```
coef(PLN_offset) %>% exp() %>% head() %>% t() %>% knitr::kable(format = "latex")
```

	f_1	f_2	f_3	f_4	f_5	f_6
(Intercept)	0.0659714	0.0003894	0.1011897	0.0003132	0.0050419	0.005493

```
coef(PLN_tree) %>% exp() %>% head() %>% t() %>% knitr::kable(format = "latex")
```

	f_1	f_2	f_3	f_4	f_5	f_6
treeintermediate	0.0854752	0.0035076	0.1428223	0.0000063	0.0002539	0.0074122
treeresistant	0.0628723	0.0001377	0.1094356	0.0010107	0.0194141	0.0026414
treesusceptible	0.0524241	0.0001785	0.0650146	0.0001073	0.0122173	0.0081335

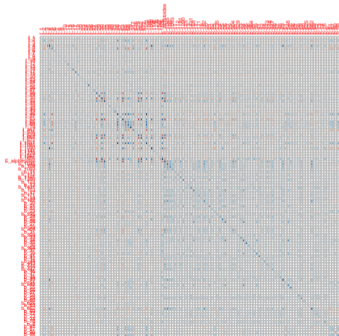
```
rbind(  
  M00 = PLN_offset$criteria,  
  M01 = PLN_tree$criteria) %>% knitr::kable(format = "latex")
```

	degrees_freedom	loglik	BIC	ICL	R_squared
M00	6669	-32376.95	-48227.80	-52270.95	0.9924747
M01	6897	-32503.54	-48896.29	-52808.74	0.9885133

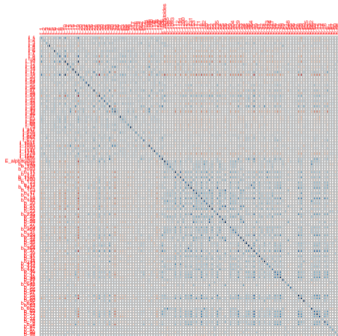
# Model with offsets and covariates

A large part of the variance is explained by the covariates

```
corrplot(  
  vcov(PLN_offset),  
  is.corr = FALSE,  
  tl.cex = .5, cl.pos = "n"  
)
```



```
corrplot(  
  vcov(PLN_tree),  
  is.corr = FALSE,  
  tl.cex = .5, cl.pos = "n"  
)
```



# PLN: natural extensions for multivariate analysis

## Idea(s)

Put some additional constraint on the residual variance.

**PCA:** constraint the rank of  $\Sigma$ .

**LDA:** a 'supervised' version of PCA

**Network:** put sparsity constraint on  $\Omega = \Sigma^{-1}$ .

## Challenges

- ↪ a variant of the variational algorithm is required for each model
- ↪ interpretation is not exactly like in the "usual" Gaussian world

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# Probabilistic PCA

**Dimension reduction.** Typical task in multivariate analysis

**Model:** Probabilistic PCA (pPCA):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Z}_i & \text{ iid } \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\mathbf{0}_p, \Sigma), \\ \mathbf{Y}_i | \mathbf{Z}_i & \sim \mathcal{P}(\exp\{\mathbf{O}_i + \mathbf{X}_i \Theta + \mathbf{Z}_i\})\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{rank}(\Sigma) = q \ll p$$

Recall that:  $\text{rank}(\Sigma) = q \Leftrightarrow \exists \mathbf{B}(p \times q) : \Sigma = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}^\top$ .

**pPCA in the PLN model.** Variational inference:

$$\text{maximize } J(\beta, \tilde{p})$$

$\rightsquigarrow$  Still bi-concave in  $\beta = (\mathbf{B}, \Theta)$  and  $(\tilde{\mathbf{M}}, \tilde{\mathbf{S}})$

# Model selection

Number of components  $q$  needs to be chosen.

Penalized 'likelihood'.

▶  $\log p_{\hat{\beta}}(\mathbf{Y})$  intractable: replaced with  $J(\hat{\beta}, \tilde{p})$

▶ BIC  $\rightsquigarrow$   $\text{BIC}_q = J(\hat{\beta}, \tilde{p}) - \frac{1}{2}p(d + q) \log(n)$

▶ ICL  $\rightsquigarrow$   $\text{ICL}_q = \text{BIC}_q - \mathcal{H}(\tilde{p})$

Chosen rank:

$$\hat{q} = \arg \max_q \text{BIC}_q \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{q} = \arg \max_q \text{ICL}_q$$

# Visualization

PCA: Optimal subspaces nested when  $q$  increases.

PLN-pPCA: Non-nested subspaces.

↪ For the selected dimension  $\hat{q}$ :

- ▶ Compute the estimated latent positions  $\mathbb{E}_{\hat{p}}(\mathbf{Z}_i) = \tilde{\mathbf{M}}\hat{\mathbf{B}}^\top$
- ▶ Perform PCA on the  $\tilde{\mathbf{M}}\hat{\mathbf{B}}^\top$
- ▶ Display result in any dimension  $q \leq \hat{q}$

## Goodness of fit

**pPCA:** Cumulated sum of the eigenvalues = % of variance preserved on the first  $q$  components.

**PLN-pPCA:** Deviance based criterion.

- ▶ Compute  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^{(q)} = \mathbf{O} + \mathbf{X}\hat{\Theta}^\top + \tilde{\mathbf{M}}^{(q)} \left( \hat{\mathbf{B}}^{(q)} \right)^\top$
- ▶ Take  $\lambda_{ij}^{(q)} = \exp \left( \tilde{Z}_{ij}^{(q)} \right)$
- ▶ Define  $\lambda_{ij}^{\min} = \exp(\tilde{Z}_{ij}^0)$  and  $\lambda_{ij}^{\max} = Y_{ij}$
- ▶ Compute the Poisson log-likelihood  $\ell_q = \log \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Y}; \lambda^{(q)})$

**Pseudo- $R^2$ :**

$$R_q^2 = \frac{\ell_q - \ell_{\min}}{\ell_{\max} - \ell_{\min}}$$



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# Fit the PLNPCA models

## Fit the model with offsets, and various covariates

```
Qmax = 30; Q <- 1:Qmax;

## Model with offset
PLN_offset <- PLNPCA(Abundance ~ 1 + offset(log(Offset)), data = oaks, ranks=Q)

## Models with offset and covariates (tree + orientation)
formula <- Abundance ~ 0 + tree + orientation + offset(log(Offset))
PLN_tree_orientation <- PLNPCA(formula, data = oaks, ranks = Q)

## model at initialization: log of count + LM
logLM_tree_orientation <-
  PLNPCA(
    formula, ranks = Q,
    control.main=list(inception="LM", maxeval=1),
    control.init=list(inception="LM", maxeval=1)
  )
```

# Models selection criteria

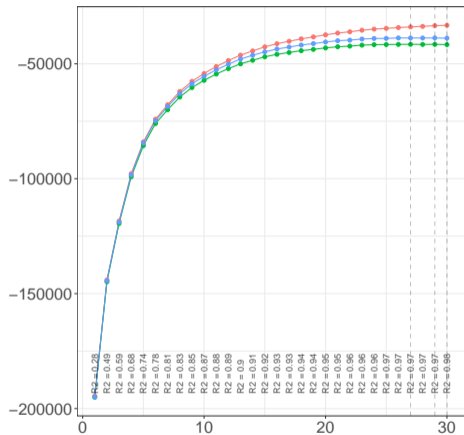
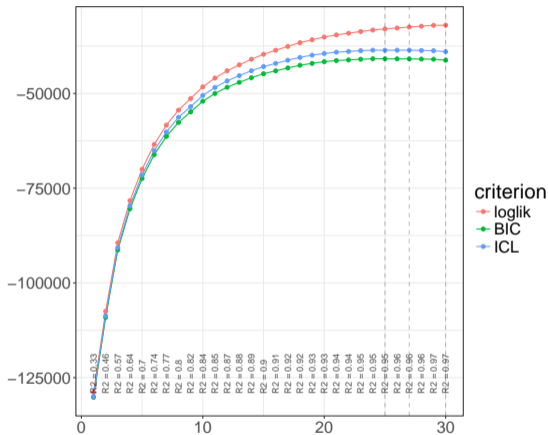


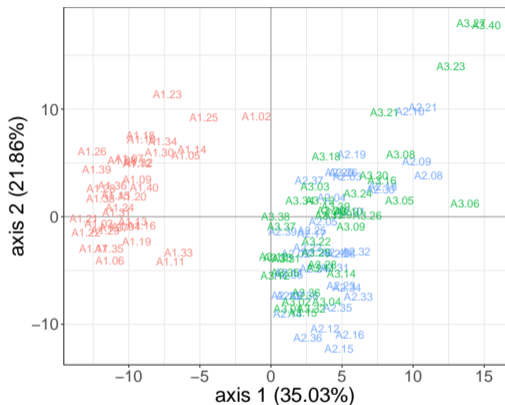
Figure: offset only:  $\hat{q} = 24$



offset + covariates:  $\hat{q} = 21$

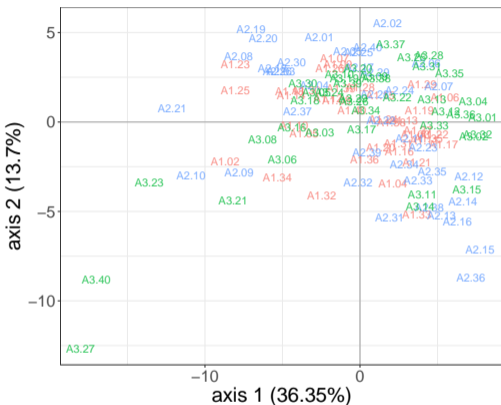
# PCA: vizualization I

basic transformation + LM fails at exhibiting basic structure in the data



tree ■ intermediate ■ resistant ■ susceptible

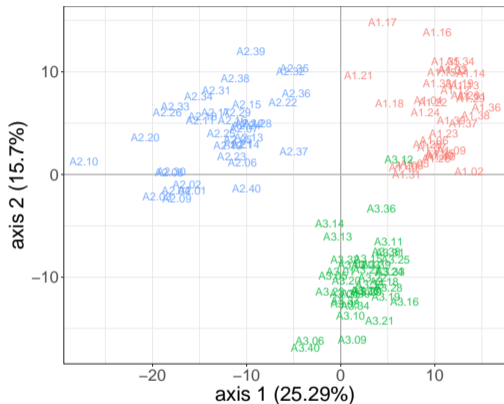
Figure: offset only



offset + covariates

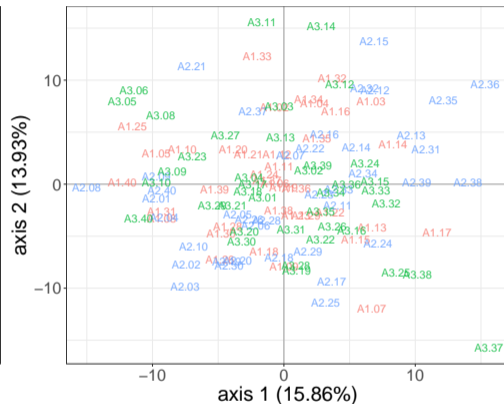
# PCA: vizualization II

PLN PCA separates well the kind of tree



tree ■ intermediate ■ resistant ■ susceptible

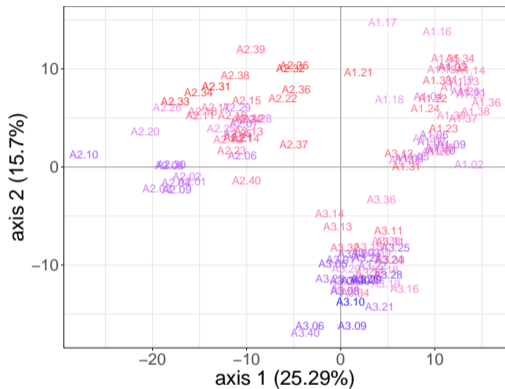
Figure: offset only



offset + covariates

# PCA: vizualization III

Introduction of covariates unravel hidden patterns




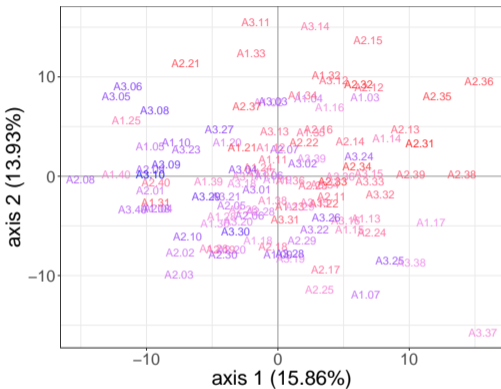
distance to ground   
100 250

Figure: offset only



offset + covariates

# PCA: vizualization IV

Introduction of covariates unravel different groups of species

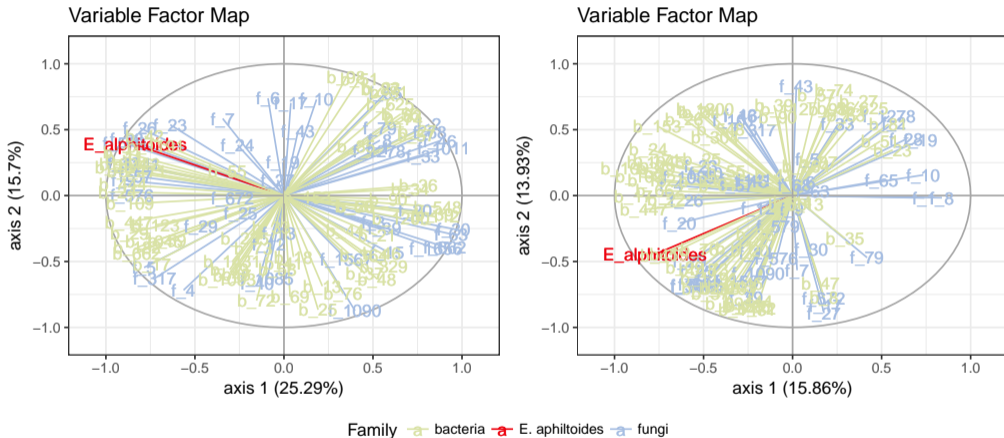


Figure: offset only

offset + covariates

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# Gaussian LDA

## Model

Assume the samples are distributed in  $K$  groups and note

- ▶  $\mathbf{G}$  the group membership matrix
- ▶  $\mathbf{U} = [\boldsymbol{\mu}_1^\top, \dots, \boldsymbol{\mu}_K^\top]^\top$  the matrix of group-specific means

The model is

$$\mathbf{z}_i = \mathcal{N}(\underbrace{\mathbf{g}_i^\top \mathbf{U}}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}_i}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

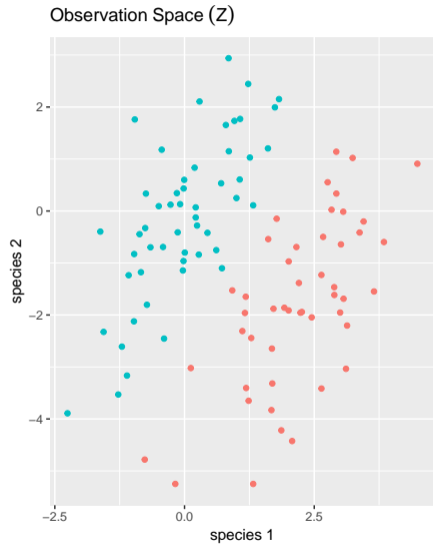
**Aim of LDA.** Find the linear combination(s)  $\mathbf{Z}u$  ( $u \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ) maximizing separation between groups

## Solution

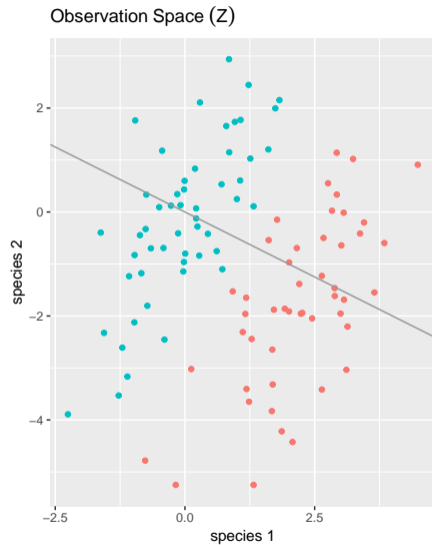
Find the first eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{W}^{-1}\mathbf{B}$  where

- ▶  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$  is the **within**-group variance matrix, i.e. the unbiased estimated of  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ :
- ▶  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}$  is the **between**-group variance matrix, estimated from  $\mathbf{U}$ .

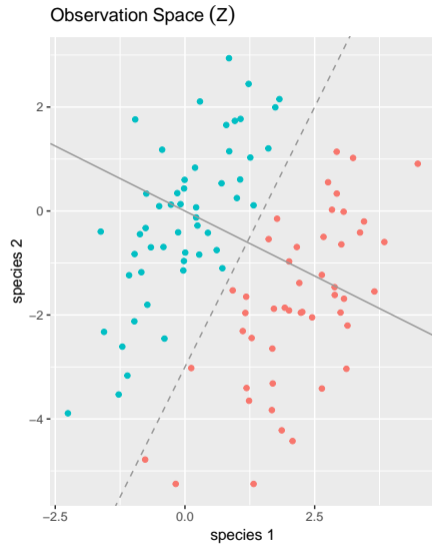
# Geometric view: LDA



# Geometric view: LDA



# Geometric view: LDA



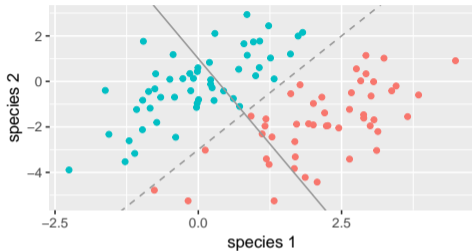
# PLN LDA (I)

Model: LDA + Poisson layer

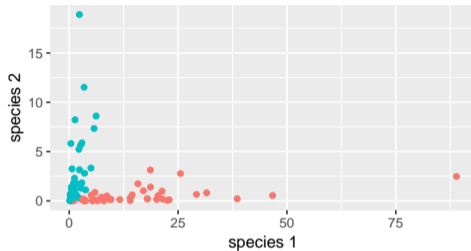
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Z}_i \text{ indep.}, \quad \mathbf{Z}_i &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{g}_i^\top \mathbf{U}, \Sigma) \\ \mathbf{Y}_i \text{ indep.} | \mathbf{Z}, \quad \mathbf{Y}_i &\sim \mathcal{P}(\exp(\mathbf{O}_i + \mathbf{X}_i^\top \Theta + \mathbf{Z}_i)) \end{aligned}$$

# PLN LDA (I)

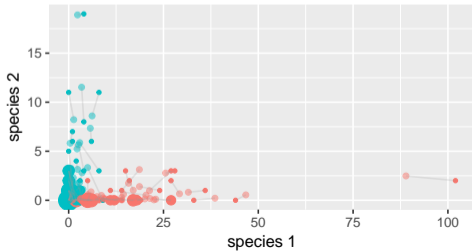
Latent Space (Z)



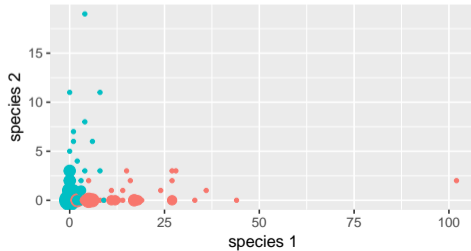
Observation Space ( $\exp(Z)$ )



Observation Space + noise ( $Y = P(\exp(Z))$ )

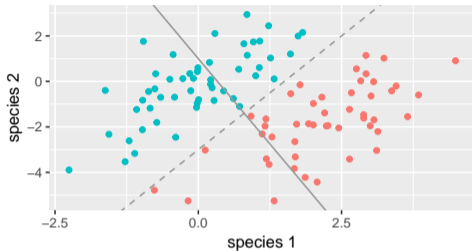


Observation Space (Y) + noise

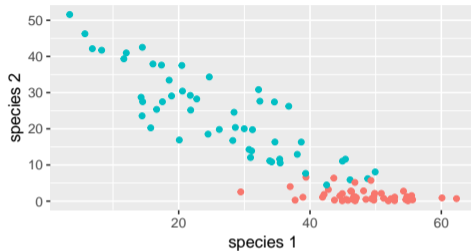


# PLN LDA (I)

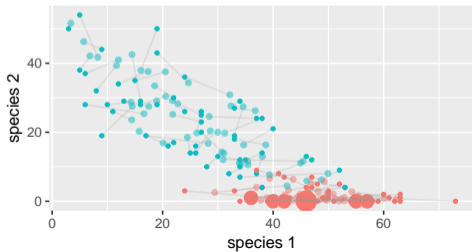
Latent Space (Z)



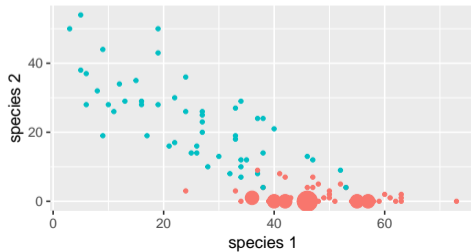
Observation Space ( $\exp(Z+O)$ )



Observation Space + noise ( $Y = P(\exp(Z+O))$ )



Observation Space (Y) + noise



## PLN LDA (II)

Similar to normal PLN with

- ▶  $\mathbf{X} \rightarrow (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{G})$
- ▶  $\Theta \rightarrow (\Theta, \mathbf{U})$

Inference:

- ▶ Use **variational inference** to estimate  $\Sigma$ ,  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}_i$
- ▶ Compute  $\hat{\Theta}$  as

$$\hat{\Theta} = \frac{1}{K-1} \sum_k n_k (\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_k - \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{\bullet})(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_k - \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{\bullet})^{\top}$$

- ▶ Compute first  $K-1$  eigenvectors of  $\hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \hat{\Theta} = \mathbf{P}^{\top} \Lambda \mathbf{P}$



# PLN LDA (III)

## Graphical representation

### Mimick gaussian LDA:

- ▶ Center the estimated latent positions  $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$
- ▶ Compute the estimated coordinates along the discriminant axes

$$\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^{LDA} = \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}\mathbf{P}\Lambda^{1/2}$$

## Prediction

### For each group $k$

- ▶ Assume that the new sample  $\mathbf{Y}_{\text{new}}$  comes from group  $k$
- ▶ Compute (variational) likelihood  $p_k = P(\mathbf{Y}_{\text{new}} | \hat{\Sigma}, \hat{\Theta}, \hat{\mu}_k)$
- ▶ Compute posterior probability  $\pi_k \propto \frac{n_k p_k}{n}$

Assign to group with highest  $\pi_k$

# PLN LDA (III)

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# Outline

Variational inference of PLN models

Probabilistic PCA for count data

**Discriminant Analysis for count data**

**Illustration: the oak powdery mildew data set**

Network inference for count data

# Fit the PLNLDA models

find the linear combination that separates the grouping

Fit the model with offsets, and the 'tree' covariates

```
myLDA_tree <- PLNLDA(Abundance ~ offset(log(Offset)), data = oaks, grouping = oaks$tree)
```

```
##  
## Performing discriminant Analysis...  
## DONE!
```

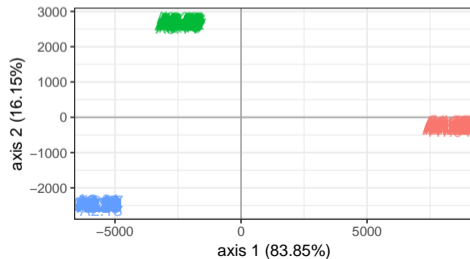
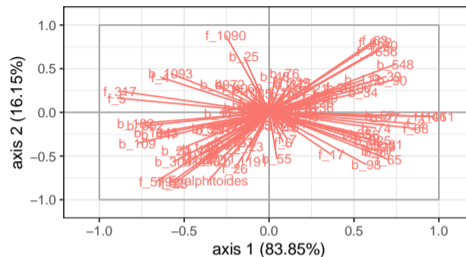
```
plot(myLDA_tree)
```

# LDA on tree status

Axes contribution

axis 1 : 83.85%

axis 2 : 16.15%



classification

a intermediate

g resistant

b susceptible

# Outline

Variational inference of PLN models

Probabilistic PCA for count data

Discriminant Analysis for count data

**Network inference for count data**

Illustration: the oak powdery mildew data set

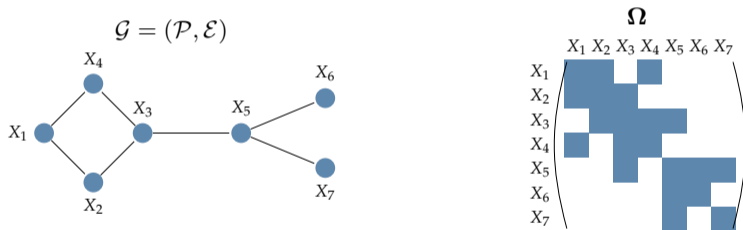
# Background on Gaussian Graphical Models

Suppose  $\mathbf{Y}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Omega}^{-1} = \mathbf{\Sigma})$

Conditional independence structure

$$(i, j) \notin \mathcal{E} \Leftrightarrow Y_i \perp\!\!\!\perp Y_j \mid Y_{\setminus\{i,j\}} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{\Omega}_{ij} = 0.$$

Graphical interpretation



Graphical-Lasso [BDE08,YL08,FHT07]

Network reconstruction is (roughly) a variable selection problem

$$\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}_{\lambda} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{\Theta} \in \mathbb{S}_+} \ell(\mathbf{\Omega}; \mathbf{Y}) - \lambda \|\mathbf{\Theta}\|_1$$

# PLN network model

Model:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Z}_i & \text{ iid } \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\mathbf{0}_p, \boldsymbol{\Omega}^{-1}), & \boldsymbol{\Omega} \text{ sparse} \\ \mathbf{Y}_i | \mathbf{Z}_i & \sim \mathcal{P}(\exp\{\mathbf{O}_i + \mathbf{X}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\Theta} + \mathbf{Z}_i\})\end{aligned}$$

Interest: Similar to Gaussian graphical model (GGM) inference

Sparsity-inducing regularization: graphical lasso

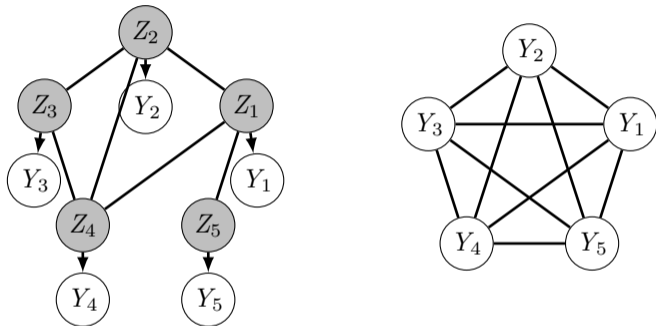
$$\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}) - \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\Omega}\|_{1,\text{off}}$$

Cheat: Use the PLN model and infer the graphical model of  $Z$

*Graphical model of  $Z \neq$  Graphical model of  $Y$*

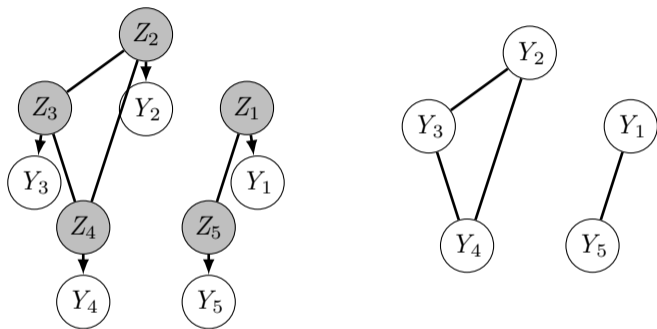


# PLN network graphical model: examples I



**Figure:** Left: joint distribution of  $p(Z_i, Y_i)$ . Right: marginal distribution  $p(Y_i)$ . The graph on the right is a clique because the graph of the  $Z_i$ 's on the left is connected.

## PLN network graphical model: examples II



**Figure:** Left: joint distribution of  $p(Z_i, Y_i)$ . Right: marginal distribution  $p(Y_i)$ .

# Variational inference

Same problem:  $\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y})$  is intractable

Variational approximation: maximize

$$J(\beta, \tilde{p}) - \lambda \|\Omega\|_{1,\text{off}} = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\log p_{\beta}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z})] + \mathcal{H}[\tilde{p}(\mathbf{Z})] - \lambda \|\Omega\|_{1,\text{off}}$$

taking  $\tilde{p} \in \mathcal{Q}$ .

↪ Still bi-concave in  $\beta = (\Omega, \Theta)$  and  $\tilde{p} = (\tilde{\mathbf{M}}, \tilde{\mathbf{S}})$ . Ex:

$$\hat{\Omega} = \arg \max_{\Omega} \frac{n}{2} \left( \log |\Omega| - \text{tr}(\hat{\Sigma}\Omega) \right) - \lambda \|\Omega\|_{1,\text{off}} : \quad \text{gLasso problem}$$

# Model selection

Alternative to model selection criteria

Sparsity level  $\lambda$  needs to be chosen.

## Stability-based approach for Network by resampling: StARS

1. Infers  $B$  networks  $\Omega^{(b,\lambda)}$  on subsamples of size  $m$  for varying  $\lambda$ .
2. Frequency of inclusion of each edges  $e = i \sim j$  is estimated by

$$p_e^\lambda = \#\{b : \Omega_{ij}^{(b,\lambda)} \neq 0\} / B$$

3. Variance of inclusion of edge  $e$  is  $v_e^\lambda = p_e^\lambda(1 - p_e^\lambda)$ .
4. Network stability is  $\text{stab}(\lambda) = 1 - 2\bar{v}^\lambda$  where  $\bar{v}^\lambda$  is the average of the  $v_e^\lambda$ .

$\rightsquigarrow$  StARS<sup>1</sup> selects the smallest  $\lambda$  (densest network) for which  $\text{stab}(\lambda) \geq 1 - 2\beta$

---

<sup>1</sup>[LRW10] suggest using  $2\beta = 0.05$  and  $m = \lfloor 10\sqrt{n} \rfloor$  based on theoretical results.

# Simulation study

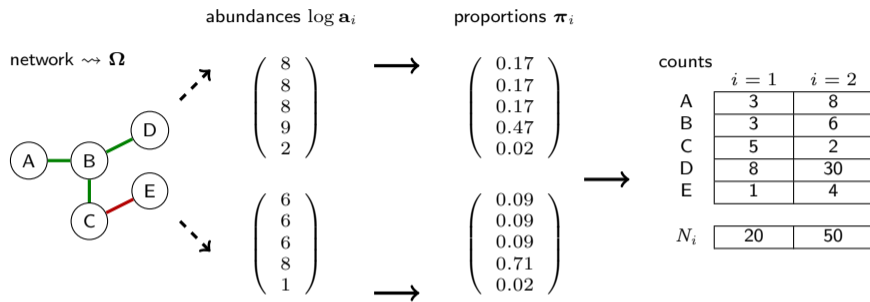


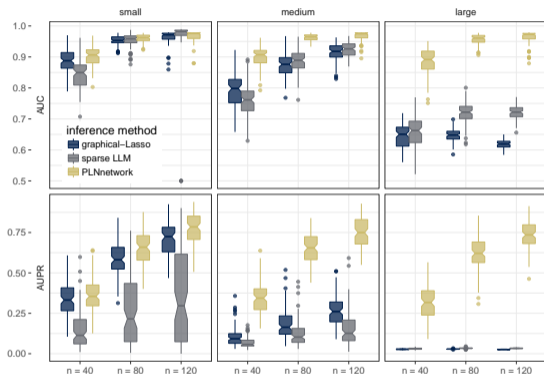
Figure: Compositional model used for data generation

- i) Draw (unreachable) *abundances*  $\mathbf{a}_i$  :  $\log(\mathbf{a}_i) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Theta}, \boldsymbol{\Omega}^{-1})$ 
  - ▶  $\mathbf{X}$  accounts for some covariates
  - ▶  $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$  is the latent network between species
- ii) Transform abundances  $\mathbf{a}_i$  to *proportions*  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_i$  with logistic-transform
- iii) Draw observed *counts*  $Y_i \sim \mathcal{M}(N_i, \boldsymbol{\pi}_i)$  with random  $N_i$  – the sampling effort

# Simulation results

Non-compositional methods fail

## Variance of the sampling effort



**Figure:** Effect of the variability of the sampling effort on the quality of the reconstruction of 50-node random networks (100 simulations.)

# Simulation results

Accounting for covariates effect does matter

covar.	method	area under the ROC			area under the PR		
		n = p/2	n = p	n = 2p	n = p/2	n = p	n = 2p
<b>scale-free network</b>							
small	PLNnetwork	.66 ( 0.05)	<b>.78</b> (0.05)	<b>.91</b> (0.03)	<b>.11</b> ( 0.04)	<b>.25</b> (0.07)	<b>.49</b> ( 0.08)
	sparCC	.66 ( 0.05)	.73 (0.05)	.79 (0.05)	.09 ( 0.03)	.16 (0.05)	.24 ( 0.07)
	SPiEC-Easi	<b>.67</b> ( 0.04)	.77 (0.05)	.85 (0.04)	.10 ( 0.03)	.17 (0.05)	.27 ( 0.07)
medium	PLNnetwork	<b>.62</b> ( 0.05)	<b>.73</b> (0.05)	<b>.85</b> (0.05)	<b>.09</b> ( 0.03)	<b>.18</b> (0.06)	<b>.34</b> ( 0.08)
	sparCC	.55 ( 0.05)	.57 (0.05)	.58 (0.05)	.05 ( 0.01)	.05 (0.01)	.06 ( 0.01)
	SPiEC-Easi	.61 ( 0.04)	.66 (0.04)	.71 (0.03)	.06 ( 0.01)	.06 (0.01)	.07 ( 0.01)
large	PLNnetwork	<b>.58</b> ( 0.05)	<b>.67</b> (0.05)	<b>.78</b> (0.05)	<b>.07</b> ( 0.03)	<b>.12</b> (0.04)	<b>.23</b> ( 0.07)
	sparCC	.52 ( 0.04)	.53 (0.04)	.53 (0.05)	.04 ( 0.01)	.04 (0.01)	.04 ( 0.01)
	SPiEC-Easi	.57 ( 0.04)	.60 (0.03)	.65 (0.03)	.05 ( 0.01)	.05 (0.01)	.05 ( 0.01)

**Table:** Areas under the ROC curve and Areas under the Precision-Recall curve of the compositional methods (PLNnetwork, sparCC and SPiEC-Easi) in various settings, averaged over 100 simulations, with standard errors.

# Simulation results

Accounting for covariates effect does matter

covar.	method	area under the ROC			area under the PR		
		n = p/2	n = p	n = 2p	n = p/2	n = p	n = 2p
<b>random network</b>							
small	PLNnetwork	.77 ( 0.07)	<b>.90</b> (0.04)	<b>.96</b> (0.01)	<b>.14</b> ( 0.07)	<b>.36</b> (0.11)	<b>.64</b> ( 0.09)
	sparCC	.76 ( 0.06)	.83 (0.06)	.89 (0.04)	.11 ( 0.05)	.23 (0.09)	.36 ( 0.11)
	SPiEC-Easi	<b>.78</b> ( 0.05)	.87 (0.04)	.92 (0.03)	.11 ( 0.05)	.23 (0.09)	.36 ( 0.11)
medium	PLNnetwork	<b>.72</b> ( 0.06)	<b>.85</b> (0.05)	<b>.94</b> (0.02)	<b>.09</b> ( 0.04)	<b>.24</b> (0.09)	<b>.49</b> ( 0.10)
	sparCC	.59 ( 0.06)	.61 (0.07)	.62 (0.06)	.03 ( 0.01)	.04 (0.02)	.04 ( 0.02)
	SPiEC-Easi	.67 ( 0.05)	.74 (0.05)	.77 (0.03)	.04 ( 0.01)	.05 (0.02)	.05 ( 0.01)
large	PLNnetwork	<b>.64</b> ( 0.07)	<b>.78</b> (0.06)	<b>.88</b> (0.04)	<b>.06</b> ( 0.03)	<b>.14</b> (0.07)	<b>.29</b> ( 0.09)
	sparCC	.54 ( 0.05)	.53 (0.06)	.54 (0.06)	.02 ( 0.01)	.02 (0.01)	.03 ( 0.01)
	SPiEC-Easi	.61 ( 0.05)	.65 (0.04)	.68 (0.03)	.03 ( 0.00)	.03 (0.00)	.03 ( 0.01)

**Table:** Areas under the ROC curve and Areas under the Precision-Recall curve of the compositional methods (PLNnetwork, sparCC and SPiEC-Easi) in various settings, averaged over 100 simulations, with standard errors.



# Simulation results

Accounting for covariates effect does matter

covar.	method	area under the ROC			area under the PR		
		n = p/2	n = p	n = 2p	n = p/2	n = p	n = 2p
<b>community network</b>							
small	PLNnetwork	.60 ( 0.04)	.69 (0.04)	<b>.78</b> (0.05)	<b>.17</b> ( 0.03)	<b>.26</b> (0.04)	<b>.38</b> ( 0.05)
	sparCC	<b>.62</b> ( 0.04)	.66 (0.04)	.70 (0.04)	.16 ( 0.02)	.21 (0.04)	.26 ( 0.04)
	SPiEC-Easi	<b>.62</b> ( 0.04)	<b>.70</b> (0.04)	.77 (0.04)	<b>.17</b> ( 0.02)	.24 (0.04)	.31 ( 0.04)
medium	PLNnetwork	.57 ( 0.03)	<b>.65</b> (0.04)	<b>.73</b> (0.05)	<b>.15</b> ( 0.02)	<b>.22</b> (0.03)	<b>.31</b> ( 0.05)
	sparCC	.55 ( 0.03)	.56 (0.04)	.56 (0.03)	.11 ( 0.02)	.12 (0.02)	.12 ( 0.02)
	SPiEC-Easi	<b>.58</b> ( 0.03)	.63 (0.03)	.67 (0.03)	.13 ( 0.02)	.14 (0.02)	.15 ( 0.02)
large	PLNnetwork	<b>.55</b> ( 0.03)	<b>.60</b> (0.04)	<b>.67</b> (0.04)	<b>.13</b> ( 0.02)	<b>.17</b> (0.03)	<b>.24</b> ( 0.04)
	sparCC	.52 ( 0.03)	.52 (0.03)	.52 (0.03)	.10 ( 0.02)	.10 (0.02)	.10 ( 0.02)
	SPiEC-Easi	<b>.55</b> ( 0.03)	.58 (0.03)	.62 (0.03)	.11 ( 0.01)	.11 (0.02)	.12 ( 0.01)

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# Outline

Variational inference of PLN models

Probabilistic PCA for count data

Discriminant Analysis for count data

Network inference for count data

Illustration: the oak powdery mildew data set

# PLNnetwork models: consensus or tree-specific networks?

We consider 3 setups

1. **resistant** samples, with covariates
2. **susceptible** samples, with covariates
3. **both samples** samples, with covariates + tree effect and interactions

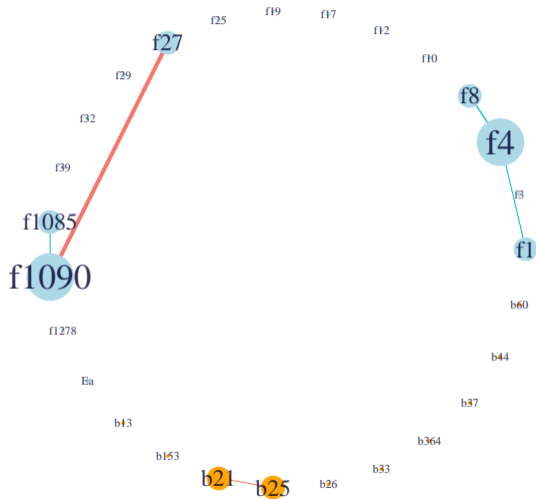
Network inference

PLNnetwork + 'StARS' for model selection

- ▶ 100 resamplings
- ▶ high level of stability (edges frequencies  $> 0.995$ )

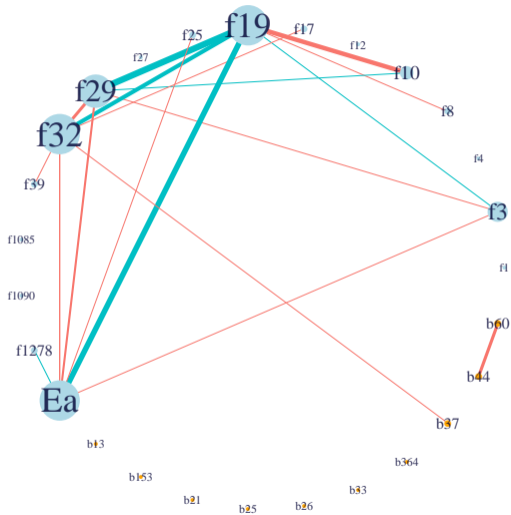
# PLNnetwork models: resistant

Trees resistant to mildew (*E. Alphitoïdes*)



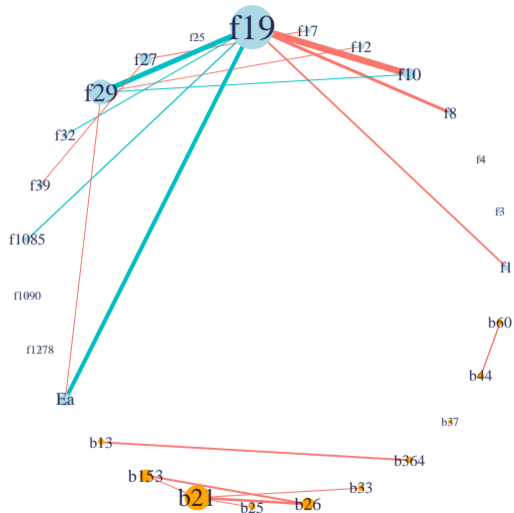
# PLNnetwork models: susceptible

Trees susceptibles to mildew (*E. Alphitoïdes*)



# PLNnetwork models: consensus

Both Trees



# Discussion

## Summary

- ▶ PLN = generic model for multivariate count data analysis
- ▶ Allows for covariates
- ▶ Flexible modeling of the covariance structure
- ▶ Efficient VEM algorithm
- ▶ PLNmodels package: <https://github.com/jchiquet/PLNmodels>

## Extensions

- ▶ Model selection criterion for network inference
- ▶ Other covariance structures (spatial, time series, ...)
- ▶ Mixture model in the latent space
- ▶ Confidence interval and tests for the regular PLN

# Statistical properties of variational estimates

## General properties of VEM inference.

- ▶ VEM stationary point  $\neq$  log-likelihood stationary point
- ▶ Some consistency results, typically when  $p(Z | Y)$  asymptotically belongs to  $\mathcal{Q}$  (SBM, Bayesian logistic regression).

## Using VEM output as a starting point for regular inference:

- ▶ Get maximum-(composite-)likelihood estimates starting from  $\tilde{\beta}_{VEM}$  (proposed internship)

↪ Hopefully: few iterations are needed

Thanks to you for your patience and to my co-workers



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