

clustering algorithms is available in Mutwil et al. 2010.

Supplemental Figure 2. Outline for the NetworkComparer pipeline.

Supplemental Data. Mutwil et al. (2011). Plant Cell 10.1105/tpc.111.083667.



-A table reporting the frequency of specific PFAM families being present in NVNs of the red PFAM family.



Supplemental Figure 3. Co-expressed gene vicinity networks for *PSA-D* genes in Arabidopsis (left) and Rice (right). Nodes in the network resemble individual genes and the connecting edges represent co-expressed links. The colouration of nodes and edges are explained in Figure 2. Examples of genes common to the two NVNs are indicated in blue colour with the gene acronyms (see also Supplemental Dataset 2). The expression of the *PSA-D*-related genes across different tissues is displayed above the networks. The interactive networks may be found at http://aranet.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/aranet/a11983, and http://aranet.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/ricenet/r1587, respectively.





Supplemental Figure 5. Co-expressed gene vicinity network for Chalcone Synthase (CHS; At5g13930) in

Arabidopsis. Many of the genes co-expressed in this NVN (left) participate in the flavonol (orange font), flavonoid (black font) and phenylpropanoid (blue font) pathway (right) leading to anthocyanin production. *The alternative pathway in gray is observed in F3'H (TT7, At5g07990) knockout mutant. The interactive network may be found at http://aranet.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/aranet/a17217.



Supplemental Figure 6. NVN for CHS-related gene (At4g34850) in Arabidopsis.

Nodes in the network resemble individual genes and the connecting edges represent co-expressed links. The coloration of nodes and edges are explained in Figure 2. Expression of the *CHS*-related gene across different tissues is displayed upper left. The interactive network may be found at http://aranet.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/aranet/a14232.



Supplemental Figure 7. Co-expressed gene vicinity for Chalcone Synthase 4 (CHS4) in Medicago. Nodes in the network resemble individual genes and the connecting edges represent co-expressed links. The colouration of nodes and edges are explained in Figure 2. Genes potentially associated with flavonol/flavonoid biosynthesis are indicated with acronyms in bold. The interactive network may be found at http://aranet.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/medinet/m19811.



Supplemental Figure 8. Co-expressed MapMan ontology network for Medicago. Each node indicates a MapMan ontology term, and an edge between two nodes indicates that the two terms are co-expressed with each other. Key to the MapMan ontology is displayed on the right. The network is available at http://aranet.mpimp-golm.mpg.de/medinet/Mapman_network.

Supplemental Figure 9. Pseudocode for Column Selection.

Input: matrix $A_{m x n}$, with biological experiments as columns, and a range $[t_1, t_2]$ for the number of columns to be considered.

Output: matrix $C_{m x k_opt}$, with columns of A

1. for k in t_1 to t_2 do
//Randomized step
//randomly select $c = k \cdot \log(k)$ columns of A and form a matrix $T_{m x c}//$
2. for 1 in 1 to 40 do
3. for j in 1 to n do
4. assign a score to the jth column of A: $pj = Ai _2^2/ A F^2$
5. select the jth column with probability $min(1,c \cdot pj)$
6. if the jth column is chosen
7. keep a rescaling factor $sqrt(1/min(1, c \cdot pj))$
8. end for
9. keep the c columns of minimum spectral norm
//Deterministic step
//deterministically select k columns from T
//form the matrix Cm x k using RRQR decomposition with pivoting.
10. $C(k) = RRQR(T)$
11. end for
12. apply elbow criterion on the spectral norms of $C(k)$ to determine k_{opt}
13. return C(kopt)

In the first step, for a given matrix A and a parameter k, one performs randomized sampling of size $k \cdot \log(k)$ columns with probabilities given by $p_j = ||Ai||22/||A||F2$. After repeating the randomized sampling 40 times, suggested and tested in (Boutsidis et al. (2008)), one selects those c columns which minimize the spectral norm of the submatrix T. In the second step, we rely on the deterministic rank revealing QR (RRQR) decomposition. Given a matrix A, its QRdecomposition is a representation of A as Q*R, where R is an upper triangular matrix (all entries below the principle diagonal are zero) and Q is an orthogonal matrix (i.e., a matrix satisfying $Q^{*}Q^{T} = I$ with Q^{T} being the transpose of Q and I is the identity matrix). We applied the RRQR decomposition to find the k columns, from the c preselected in T, which are most mutually independent. Note that in our computations, we employ the RRQR decomposition with pivoting, as implemented in LAPACK (Anderson et al., 1999). The randomized step can be avoided to arrive at the column selection problem of Golub (1965) with lower bounds on the spectral norm, still acceptable for applications. Due to the large size of the analyzed data compendia, here we rely on the deterministic step in order to avoid calculations of singular value decomposition necessary for establishing the probabilities for selecting columns in the randomized step. Here we provide an extension to this method to allow automatic selection of the number of most mutually independent columns. To this end, we first determine the minimum spectral norm for a number k of columns in the range [t1, t2] from A. thaliana data compendium,

with t1 = 20 and t2 = 1400. The corresponding matrix will be termed optimal with respect to the spectral norm. We define the optimum k as that which appears at the elbow of the curve, determined by the number of columns and the spectral norm, above which only a negligible improvement is observed. By inspecting this curve for A. thaliana data compendium (Supplemental Figure 10), we observe that kopt = 279, and its corresponding spectral norm is 15% of the spectral norm of the optimal 20-column submatrix. A computational speed-up can be achieved by testing from right to left and using previous results for k independent columns. To provide fair comparison with the data compendia from the other species used in the analysis, we rely on the values obtained from applying our method on *A. thaliana* data compendium: We seek that kopt in another species, whose corresponding spectral norm is also 15% of its corresponding optimal 20-column submatrix. This resulted in the following values for kopt = 181, 156, 163, 83, 165, 171, corresponding to barley, rice, Medicago, poplar, wheat and soybean.



Supplemental Figure 10. Spectral norm of optimal k-column submatrices for Arabidopsis in the range of 20 to 1400.



Supplemental Figure 11. Distribution of correlation coefficients observed for specific ranks on the Arabidopsis data collection.



Supplemental Figure 12. Figure 4: Distribution of reciprocal ranks on the Arabidopsis data collection. Permuted ranks are distributed uniformly. The area under the curve shaded in grey determines 1% of the overall area of the permuted ranks and coincides with a rank cut-off of 228.

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Supplemental Figure 13. Influence of HRR cut-off and NVN step size on the biological relevance for the seven analyzed species. The x-axis represents HRR value cut-off which was used to construct a co-expression network, while the y-axis represents the score. Blue, red and green lines represent step sizes of 1,2 and 3 used to generate NVNs.



Supplemental Figure 14. Influence of HRR cut-off on the percentage of connected nodes in the networks of the seven analyzed species. The different species are color coded, as shown in the legend.