# RAIN: RNA-protein Association and Interaction Networks

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# non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs)

- RNAs not coding for proteins exist in all kingdoms of life
- Fulfill diverse set of biological functions
- Functions rely on **interactions** with proteins, coding RNAs and other non-coding RNAs



# ncRNA-Protein Interactions

# Example: ribosomal RNAs (rRNAs)

- Ribosome apparatus consists of two subunits
- Each subunit composed of rRNA and different proteins
- Catalytic core made of rRNAs
   ⇒ Ribosome is ribozyme
- Proteins form scaffold



### ≈80 proteins Ribosomal RNAs

PDB Molecule of the Month series by David

S. Goodsell, October 2000

# ncRNA-mRNA Interactions

# Example: microRNAs (miRNAs)

- Short, single-stranded RNA molecules of  $\approx$  22 nucleotides
- Basepairing with complementary target mRNAs results in
- 1. Translation inhibition or
- 2. mRNA degradation



Ameres & Zamore, Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology, 2013

# Current Understanding of ncRNAs and Proteins

#### Interactions of ncRNAs are often not well characterized.

What about proteins?

# The STRING Database (http://string-db.org/)

- Protein-protein interaction networks for 1133 organisms
- Integrates known and predicted protein-protein interactions
  - Experiments
  - Text mining
  - Genomic context
  - Databases
- Interactions are scored according to their reliability



Franceschini et al., Nucleic Acids Res., 2013

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- No such resource for ncRNA-target interactions



Franceschini et al., Nucleic Acids Res., 2013

# Main Project Goals

Aim: Integrate ncRNAs into STRING by

- 1. **Collecting** ncRNA-RNA and ncRNA-protein interactions from various sources
- 2. **Unifying** ncRNA-target interactions and protein-protein interactions

 $\rightarrow$  Facilitate understanding of the cell's complex interaction network

# Sources for RNA-target Interactions



Experimentally validated interactions from

- StarBase [Li et al., Nucleic Acids Res., 2014]
- CLASH [Helwak et al., Cell, 2013]
- miRTarBase [Hsu et al., Nucleic Acids Res., 2014]
- NPInter [Yuan el al., Nucleic Acids Res, 2014]

Predicted miRNA-target interactions from

- miRanda [John et al., PLoS Biol., 2005]
- PicTar [Krek et al., Nature Genetics, 2005]
- TargetScan [Garcia et al., Nat Struct Mol Biol., 2011]
- STarMirDB [Rennie et al., Nucleic Acids Res, 2014]

miRNA	Target mRNA	Raw Score
hsa-miR-4685-5p	ENSP00000407818	16.8
hsa-miR-548at-3p	ENSP00000406043	13.2
hsa-miR-205-3p	ENSP00000407858	2.0
:	:	:
	•	:

 $\rightarrow$  translate raw scores into reliability score  $\in [0, 1]$ 

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Raw interaction score

Gold standard: 152 expert curated miRNA-mRNA interactions from [Croft et al., BMC Syst Biol, 2012]



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# **RAIN** webinterface

#### http://rth.dk/resources/rain

#### Interactions with reliability score > 0.15 per organism

Organisms	Curated	Experiments	Predictions	Text mining	Total
Homo sapiens	419	70.984	612.342	9.775	688.659
Mus musculus	0	6.042	332.776	1.025	339.248
Danio rerio	0	98	82.318	54	82.442
S. cerevisiae	0	5.098	0	1	5.099

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# RAIN: RNA-protein Association and Interaction Networks Search Search for interactions by non-coding RNA (ncRNA) or protein name in an organism of interest. Help ncRNA or protein name: (examples: #1 #2) Download CCNE1 Help [2] Download

Homo sapiens

Search Reset

#### **RAIN developers**

RAIN is being developed at CBS, CPR, RTH, SIB, DTU, KU and UZH.

#### **RAIN** reference

to be announced

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# Summary

- Integrate different sources of ncRNA-target interactions
- Convert raw interaction scores into confidences
- Provide research community with more complete picture
  - Protein-protein interactions
  - ncRNA-protein interactions
  - ncRNA-RNA interactions

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## Future Work:

- More gold standard interactions
- More sources of evidence
- Cover *more* organisms

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- Xiaoyong Pan<sup>1,2</sup>
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- Ferhat Alkan<sup>1</sup>

- Christian Anthon<sup>1</sup>
- Christian von Mering<sup>4</sup>
- Christopher T. Workman<sup>1,3</sup>
- Lars Juhl Jensen<sup>1,2</sup>
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