



# Cytoscape User Tutorial

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#### Today's Schedule



- 10:00- 10:15 Introductions/Installation
- 10:15- 10:45 Introduction to Cytoscape
- 10:45-11:30 Hands-on Tutorial
- 11:30- 12:00 Q&A/Plugins

#### Installation



#### • USB Stick

- Cytoscape 2.7 installers
- A plugins folder with a variety of plugins
- Several PDF's with tutorial exercises
  - We'll start with the "Introduction to Cytoscape"
- Several sample data sets

#### Installation



- If you have not yet installed Cytoscape 2.7:
  - Install Cytoscape 2.7 by executing the appropriate installer
- If desired, copy plugins into your Cytoscape plugins folder
  - Linux: {Cytoscape install directory}/plugins
  - $Windows: \ \ Files \ \ v2.7.0 \ \ plugins$
  - Mac OS X: /Applications/Cytoscape\_v2.7.0/plugins



#### What is Cytoscape?





#### www.cytoscape.org

- Visualization
- Integration
- Analysis



# What is Cytoscape?





- Open source
- Cross platform
- A consortium





Read

Normal View

#### The Challenge



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# The Challenge



- Biological networks (nodes and edges)
  - Seldom tell us anything by themselves
  - Analysis involves:
    - Understanding the characteristics of the network
      - Modularity
      - Comparison with other networks (specifically random networks)
  - Visualization involves:
    - Placing nodes in a meaningful way (layouts)
    - Mapping biologically relevant data to the network
      - Node size
      - Node color
      - Edge weights













#### Working with Data



- Loading Networks
- Loading and Manipulating Attributes







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#### Visualizing data



- Data mapping
- Layouts
- Animation







- Avoid cluttering your visualization with too much data
  - Map the data you are specifically interested in to call out meaningful differences
  - Mapping too much data to visual attributes may just confuse the viewer
  - Can always create multiple networks and map different values







#### Layouts



- Use layouts to convey the relationships between the nodes
- Layout algorithms may need to be "tuned" to fit your network
  - − Layouts→Settings... menu
- Lots of parameters to change layout algorithm behavior
- Can also consider laying out portions of your network









- "Root graph"
  - "There is one graph to rule them all...."
  - The networks in Cytoscape are all "views" on a single graph.
  - Changing the attribute for a node in one network *will* also change that attribute for a node with the same ID in all other loaded networks
  - There is no way to "copy" a node and keep the same ID
  - Make a copy of the session





- Network views
  - When you open a large network, you will not get a view by default
  - To improve interactive performance, Cytoscape has the concept of "Levels of Detail"
    - Some visual attributes will only be apparent when you zoom in
    - The level of detail for various attributes can be changed in the preferences
    - To see what things will look like at full detail:
      - View→Show Graphics Details

# RBVI

#### Tips & Tricks



#### • Sessions

- Sessions save pretty much everything:
  - Networks
  - Properties
  - Visual styles
  - Screen sizes
- Saving a session on a large screen may require some resizing when opened on your laptop

# RBVI

#### Tips & Tricks



#### • Logging

- By default, Cytoscape writes it's logs to the Error
  Dialog: Help→Error Dialog
- Can change a preference to write it to the console
  - Edit→Preferences→Properties...
  - Set logger.console to true
  - Don't forget to save your preferences
  - Restart Cytoscape
- (can also turn on debugging: cytoscape.debug, but I don't recommend it)



#### • Memory

- Cytoscape uses lots of it
- Doesn't like to let go of it
- An occasional restart when working with large networks is a good thing
- Destroy views when you don't need them
- Java doesn't give us a good way to get the memory right at start time
  - Cytoscape 2.7 does a much better job at "guessing" good default memory sizes than previous versions





- .cytoscape directory
  - Your defaults and any plugins downloaded from the plugin manager will go here
  - Sometimes, if things get really messed up, deleting (or renaming) this directory can give you a "clean slate"
- Plugin manager
  - "Outdated" doesn't necessarily mean "won't work"
  - Plugin authors don't always update their plugins immediately after new releases
  - Click on "Show outdated plugins" to see the entire list of plugins.



#### Questions?



- Thanks for your attention!
- Fire up Cytoscape and follow the Introduction\_to\_Cytoscape.pdf tutorial



