

# **AutoSOME User Manual**

**February 16, 2014**

Written by Aaron M. Newman, Ph.D.

Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine  
Stanford University

# Table of Contents

Introduction .....	1
System Requirements .....	1
Installing and Running the AutoSOME GUI .....	1
Using AutoSOME .....	2
Input Format .....	2
Missing Values .....	3
AutoSOME GUI .....	3
Load (and Filter) Input .....	3
Input Adjustment .....	6
Basic Fields .....	7
Advanced Fields .....	8
Fuzzy Cluster Networks .....	8
Memory .....	8
Algorithm Settings .....	8
Self-Organizing Map (SOM) .....	8
Cartogram .....	9
Running AutoSOME .....	9
Output .....	10
Output Files .....	10
Cluster tree .....	10
Heat maps .....	11
Signal plots .....	12
View>settings>Image Settings .....	12
View>settings>scale using entire data set .....	13
Search .....	14
Saving data .....	14
Files written to disk .....	14
Opening previous clustering results .....	15
Reset .....	15
Enhanced GUI vs. Basic GUI .....	15
AutoSOME Command Line Version .....	16
Creating Fuzzy Cluster Networks .....	18
References .....	23

## Introduction

AutoSOME is a powerful unsupervised computational method for identifying discrete and fuzzy clusters of diverse geometries from potentially large, multi-dimensional, data sets without prior knowledge of cluster number or structure [Newman and Cooper, 2010]. We have implemented the AutoSOME method as a Graphical User Interface (GUI) and command line tool to facilitate its use by the academic research community. Below, instructions are provided for using both versions of AutoSOME, and a protocol is given for generating AutoSOME fuzzy cluster networks in Cytoscape [Shannon et al., 2005]. Refer to the AutoSOME website for tutorials, software, and FAQ [<http://jimcooperlab.mcdb.ucsb.edu/autosome>].

## System Requirements

AutoSOME is coded in Java to promote platform independence. To launch the GUI from the AutoSOME website [<http://jimcooperlab.mcdb.ucsb.edu/autosome>], Java Web Start technology needs to be installed on your computer along with Java Standard Edition 1.6, both of which are freely available at <http://java.sun.com>. The command line version of AutoSOME will run in JAVA 1.5 and perhaps earlier versions. In general, the more memory and processors available, the better the performance of AutoSOME. Without user intervention, both the GUI and command line versions will greedily use all available CPUs. For 32-bit Windows systems, the maximum amount of memory that can be allocated to AutoSOME is about 1.6 GB, while 64-bit operating systems with 64-bit Java can allocate up to ~30 GB of memory. Microarray data sets like the HG U133 Plus 2.0 Affymetrix chipset (>54k probes) with dozens of samples can be run with 1.6 GB RAM.

*The 'Java Web Start' launch button on the 'AutoSOME Web Portal' homepage will automatically allocate up to 1 GB of RAM. To run AutoSOME with more or less memory, download the .jar file from:*

*<http://jimcooperlab.mcdb.ucsb.edu/autosome/downloads>.*

## Installing and Running the AutoSOME GUI

Download AutoSOME from the website, and then unzip all contents of the downloaded archive into the same directory. Using your system console, navigate to the directory where you installed AutoSOME, and type:

```
java -Xmx1600m -Xms1600m -jar autosome_vXXXXXX.jar
```

XXXXXX = the GUI version you downloaded (each version is named by the date of compilation, e.g. 120109). The -Xmx,-Xms arguments allocate additional memory to the

Java Virtual Machine necessary for running large data sets. Allocate more or less memory as needed for your input data set, parameters, and machine architecture. Also, AutoSOME has not been internationalized. If it is behaving oddly, try adding the following JVM argument ‘-Duser.language=en’.

For instructions on how to use the AutoSOME command line interface, see *AutoSOME Command Line Version* below.

## Using AutoSOME

### *Input Format*

AutoSOME accepts three kinds of numerical input files.

**Standard format:** The input file is a table of numerical values with optional column labels (row 1) and mandatory row labels (column 1). If column labels are specified, column 1 also needs a label in row 1. All entries must be tab, comma, or space delimited. Input data can be easily formatted using Microsoft Excel. See Table 1 below for an example.

**Table 1**

Probe	hESC-1	hESC-2	hESC-3	hESC-4	iPSC-1	iPSC-2	iPSC-3
212853_at	8.221449	8.297634	7.694108	8.215596	10.1284	10.25488	10.21546
212854_x_at	8.523748	8.706556	8.044123	8.992252	8.87927	8.974617	9.083473
212855_at	10.64296	10.4093	10.60148	11.03563	12.08599	11.91321	12.04592
212856_at	8.936721	9.218977	9.109346	8.425392	8.431269	8.418733	8.450901
212857_x_at	6.195244	5.929077	4.432911	6.764105	4.344787	4.786857	4.953329

### **Microarray formats:**

- 1) **Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) Series Matrix.** This format contains all chipset expression data as well as user-supplied annotation in a spreadsheet style. AutoSOME can automatically extract expression information content and column names from a raw series matrix file. This allows for rapid analysis of any GEO data set by simply downloading the archive containing the series matrix text file, unzipping it, and loading it into AutoSOME.
- 2) **PCL = Pre CLuster** format used for the Cluster software [Eisen et al. (1998) PNAS 95:14863].  
For an example, see <http://puma.princeton.edu/help/formats.shtml#pcl> or the Cluster/TreeView User Manual. The first two columns are reserved for gene annotation (column 1 = row identifiers, column 2 = gene names or annotation). Column 3 is optional, is called GWEIGHT, and specifies how to weigh each gene

when computing gene-gene similarity. This column is read by AutoSOME, but is ignored since AutoSOME does not cluster genes using a similarity matrix. Row 1 is mandatory and is used to provide column names including names of each array (e.g. ID, NAME, GWEIGHT, array1, array2, ...). Row 2 is optional, is called EWEIGHT, and specifies how each array is weighed when computing array-array similarity. In contrast to GWEIGHT, AutoSOME will use EWEIGHT when constructing a distance matrix for transcriptome clustering (fuzzy cluster networks option).

### Missing Values

There are two strategies implemented in AutoSOME for handling missing values (blank space, '?', or 'NA').

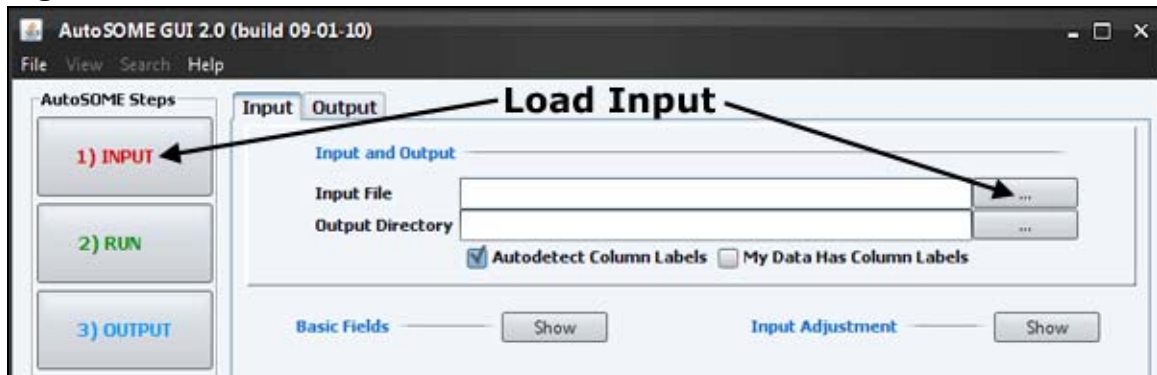
- 1) Replace missing values with median of columns (or rows).
- 2) Replace missing values with mean of columns (or rows).

Go to File>Settings to launch a window that will allow you to specify which of these two techniques to use.

## AutoSOME GUI

The AutoSOME GUI is launched using Java Web Start from your browser or via the command line, and is used to run AutoSOME as well as to browse and generate publication quality visualizations of the cluster output (Figure 1).

Figure 1

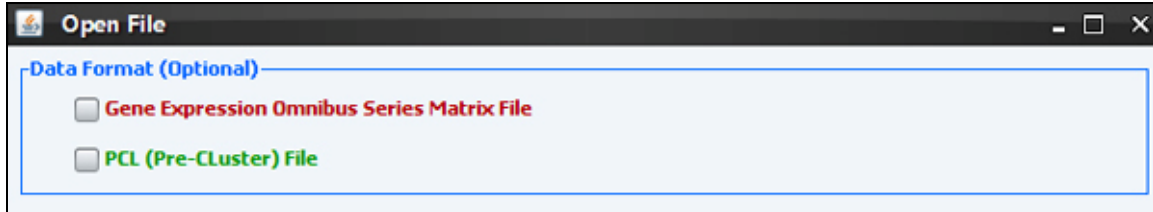


### Load (and Filter) Input

To begin, launch a file browser by either pressing the large 'INPUT' button in the 'AutoSOME Steps' panel on the top left, or by clicking the browse button adjacent to the input file text box in the 'Input and Output' section (Figure 1). A file browser will appear. For standard input (see Input Format above), simply find your file and open it. For

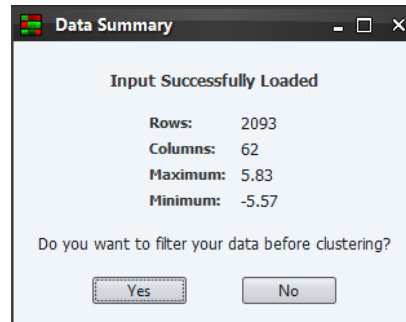
microarray input, optional data formats are shown at the top of the file browser (see Figure 2). Select the appropriate file format for your microarray data set and load the file.

**Figure 2**



Once loaded, you will be asked whether you want to filter your input data set (Figure 3).

**Figure 3**

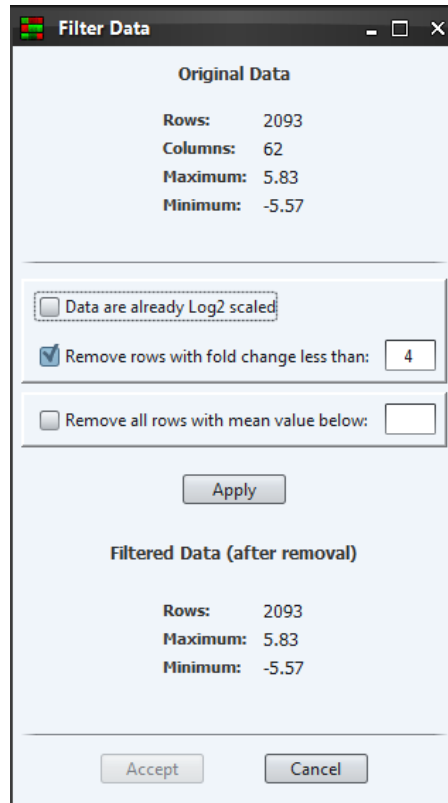


If you choose 'yes' you will be redirected to a 'Filter Data' window (Figure 4 below). This window provides two simple data filtration options:

- i) Remove rows with fold change less than  $X$ . The fold change is calculated by the difference between the minimum and maximum values for each row. All rows with fold change  $< X$  will be removed. Importantly, if your data are already log<sub>2</sub> scaled, make sure you select the corresponding checkbox.
- ii) Remove rows with mean value below  $Y$ . The mean  $\mu$  of each row is calculated, and the row is removed if  $\mu < Y$ .

After specifying filtration options, press 'Apply' to preview the filtered data, and if you approve, press 'Accept'.

**Figure 4**



**Figure 5**

Input Data	
Property	Value
Rows	54675
Columns	92
Maximum	14.9503
Minimum	2.485541

After your input file has loaded, the number of rows and columns will be displayed in the 'Input Data' panel on the left side of the GUI (see Figure 5). The maximum and minimum values over the entire data set are also provided. When finished clustering, this table will dynamically update based on the contents of selected clusters in the cluster tree (see Output below).

## *Input Adjustment*

AutoSOME implements several input normalization methods in addition to log<sub>2</sub> scaling. For an excellent overview of these techniques, see the manual to the Cluster software available at <http://rana.lbl.gov/manuals/ClusterTreeView.pdf> [Eisen et al., 1998]. Press the ‘Show’ button to the right of the ‘Input Adjustment’ label to access input scaling and normalization options (see Figure 6 below). All input adjustment operations are performed in the order listed in the GUI, from top to bottom. In brief:

- i) Log<sub>2</sub> Scaling: Logarithmic scaling is routinely used for microarray data sets to amplify small fold changes in gene expression, and is completely reversible. We recommend applying log<sub>2</sub> scaling in cases where expression values span several orders of magnitude. All other implemented input adjustment methods irreversibly change the input to make it more suitable for analysis.
- ii) Unit variance: forces all columns to have zero mean and a standard deviation of one, and is commonly used when there is no *a priori* reason to treat any column differently from any other.
- iii) Range [0,x]: Alternatively, data in all columns can be normalized to share lowest and highest values (0,x) by specifying an upper bound *x*.
- iv) Median Center Rows/Arrays: For microarray analysis, centering each gene (row) and/or array (column) by subtracting the median value of the row/column eliminates amplitude shifts to cluster distinct expression patterns rather than overall transcript levels. We recommend applying median centering to genes before co-expression clustering (clustering rows).
- v) Sum of Squares=1 Rows/Arrays: This normalization procedure smoothes the data set by forcing the sum of squares of all expression values to equal 1 for each row/column in the data set. The impact of this method on cluster identification can be significant and tends to result in the detection of larger clusters trailing off into genes with minimal differential expression (after clustering, the signal to noise ratio can be boosted by using the confidence filter; see Output below)

As an example, to run AutoSOME co-expression analysis, one may apply log<sub>2</sub> scaling, unit variance normalization, and median-centering of genes (and/or arrays). To run AutoSOME transcriptome clustering (fuzzy cluster networks, see tutorial below), it is generally recommended to apply unit variance normalization to your data set. Other normalization settings may also be desirable. Input can also be adjusted using Microsoft Excel or the Cluster software [Eisen et al., 1998] and then imported into AutoSOME.



**Figure 6**

The screenshot displays the AutoSOME software interface with several configuration panels:

- Basic Fields:** Includes a 'Hide' button, 'Cluster Analysis' (Rows), 'Running Mode' (Normal), 'No. Ensemble Runs' (50), 'P-value Threshold' (0.1), and 'No. CPUs' (12).
- Input Adjustment:** Includes a 'Hide' button and four checkboxes: '1. Log2 Scaling', '2. Unit Variance', '3. Median Center' (Rows), and '4. Sum Squares = 1' (Both).
- Advanced Fields:** Includes a 'Hide' button.
- Fuzzy Cluster Networks:** Includes a 'Hide' button and a sub-panel for 'Column Clustering' with 'Distance Metric' (Euclidean Distance) and 'Unit Variance Normalize' checkbox.
- Algorithm Settings:** Includes a 'Hide' button and a sub-panel for 'SOM' with 'Maximum Grid Length' (30), 'Minimum Grid Length' (5), 'Training Iterations' (500), and 'Use Square Topology (Circular=Default)' checkbox.
- Memory:** Includes a 'Write Ensemble Runs to Disk' checkbox.
- Cartogram:** Includes a 'Resolution' dropdown set to 32x32.

### ***Basic Fields***

Press the 'Show' button to expand the 'Basic Fields' section (see Figure 6).

- i) Cluster Analysis: Switch among clustering rows (e.g. genes), columns (e.g. experiments), or both rows and columns in a single step.
- ii) Running Mode: This parameter alters advanced AutoSOME algorithm settings to switch among 'Precision', 'Normal', and 'Speed' modes of operation. 'Precision' takes longer, but provides greater training of the SOM node lattice (2X1000 iterations) and greater resolution for density-equalization of the SOM error surface (64X64). For enhanced performance, and especially for first-pass exploratory cluster analysis, choose 'Speed' for less SOM iterations (2X250) and less resolution for density-equalization (16X16). 'Normal' provides a compromise between the other two settings (2X500 SOM iterations and 32X32 cartogram resolution). In our experiments, 'Normal' works quite well, and in fact, often yields comparable results to 'Precision'. Choose 'Speed' for a first-pass exploratory analysis.
- iii) No. Ensemble Runs: The default of 50 ensemble iterations should be sufficient to begin investigating the cluster structure of most data sets. Although in practice, AutoSOME clustering results can be quite stable with ~50 ensemble iterations (and even as little as 20), for final clustering results, it is recommended to increase this number to at least 100.
- iv) P-value Threshold: AutoSOME has been extensively benchmarked on a highly diverse array of clustering problems using a P-value cutoff of 0.1. Reduce the p-value threshold to identify tighter clusters.

- v) No. CPUs: To liberate processor resources, decrease ‘No. CPUs’. AutoSOME running time will decrease approximately linearly with respect to increasing number of dedicated CPUs.

### *Advanced Fields*

**Fuzzy Cluster Networks.** When clustering columns (i.e. ‘Cluster Analysis’ in *Basic Fields* is set to ‘columns’ or ‘both’), the ‘Fuzzy Cluster Networks’ window will be automatically enabled (see Figure 6). In this window, you can pick one of three distance metrics for calculating the input distance matrix (Euclidean, Pearson’s and Uncentered correlation). Euclidean distance is selected by default due to good results obtained from empirical testing. See the review by D’haeseleer (2005) for descriptions of Euclidean, Pearson’s and Uncentered correlation distance metrics. In brief, Euclidean distance is sensitive to amplitude shifts while Pearson’s correlation is not. Experiment with these metrics to get a feel for how they work. If smoothing out the distance matrix is desired, ‘Unit Variance Normalize’ can be selected to normalize the distance matrix columns to unit variance. When finished clustering, AutoSOME will automatically generate additional output files for building fuzzy cluster networks in Cytoscape (see Fuzzy Cluster Networks below).

**Memory.** Write Intermediate Runs to Disk: If AutoSOME crashes (or seems to hang for a long period of time), then ‘Write Ensemble Runs to Disk’ should be selected (see Figure 6) as an out of memory error is likely. This may be necessary on systems with insufficient RAM for large data sets and many ensemble runs (e.g. 45k probes, 100 samples, and 2000 ensemble runs). Overall running time will be slower due to reading and writing to disk. Files will be written to a temporary folder in the output directory. Also, try reducing the number of CPUs to free up memory.

**Algorithm Settings.** Press the ‘Show’ button to expand the ‘Algorithm Settings’ section (see Figure 6). The GUI permits modification of the most critical algorithm parameters. For access to all algorithm parameters, use the command line version of AutoSOME.

#### **Self-Organizing Map (SOM).**

- i) Maximum Grid Length: The maximum number of nodes for the x/y length of the SOM node lattice.
- ii) Minimum Grid Length: The minimum number of nodes for the x/y length of the SOM node grid.

In general increase ‘Maximum Grid Length’ to provide greater resolution for cluster separation in the SOM, and to increase the number of possible clusters. Increase ‘Minimum Grid Length’ to force AutoSOME to use an SOM lattice with

specific minimum dimensions. Set both parameters to the same value to disable automatic adjustment of grid length by the algorithm. The SOM grid length is set, by default, between 5 and 30, providing sufficient cluster resolving power for most clustering problems. *If a data set with at least 5,000 rows is imported (e.g. whole-genome microarray), the maximum grid length will be automatically set to 20 for more efficient running time.*

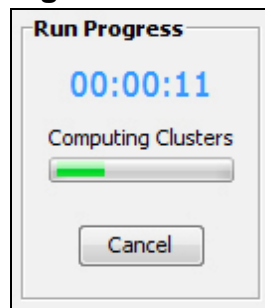
- iii) **Training Iterations:** The number of iterations for training the SOM node lattice. The value of this parameter dictates the number of iterations for each of two phases, coarse-grained followed by fine-grained training. This value can be toggled between ‘1000’ iterations for precision (used during benchmarking in Newman and Cooper, 2010), ‘500’ iterations for normal, and ‘250’ iterations for speed.
- iv) **Use Square Topology:** Select this checkbox to use a square-shaped node lattice rather than a circular node lattice (default). Benchmarking results indicate both topologies yield comparable results. See the Manuscript for more details.

**Cartogram. Resolution:** The density-equalizing cartogram algorithm requires an input array with dimensions that are a power of two. Although all benchmarking tests were conducted using an array size of 64X64, greater resolutions may yield more accurate density-equalization (especially when the SOM dimensions are large). On the other hand, going from 64X64 to 32X32 may increase running time dramatically (up to ~4X), and is sufficient for accurate clustering results in many cases (especially when the SOM dimensions are less than 30X30).

### *Running AutoSOME*

After the input file and parameters are specified, execute AutoSOME clustering by pressing the green ‘RUN’ button in the ‘AutoSOME Steps’ panel (see Figure 1). Progress is shown in the lower left corner of the GUI and elapsed time is displayed (see Figure 7). When finished, the GUI will automatically be redirected to the output panel for browsing the cluster output. The input and output panels can be toggled back and forth using the tabs or the ‘INPUT’ and ‘OUTPUT’ buttons in the control panel.

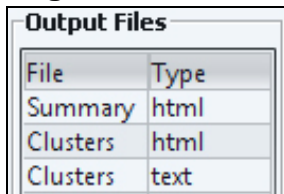
**Figure 7**



## Output

**Output Files.** The ‘Output Files’ table, located on the center-left side of the GUI, will show links to the AutoSOME output files after clustering is finished (Figure 8). Simply select a file from the table and the file will be automatically displayed. For details of the output files generated by AutoSOME, see *files written to disk* below.

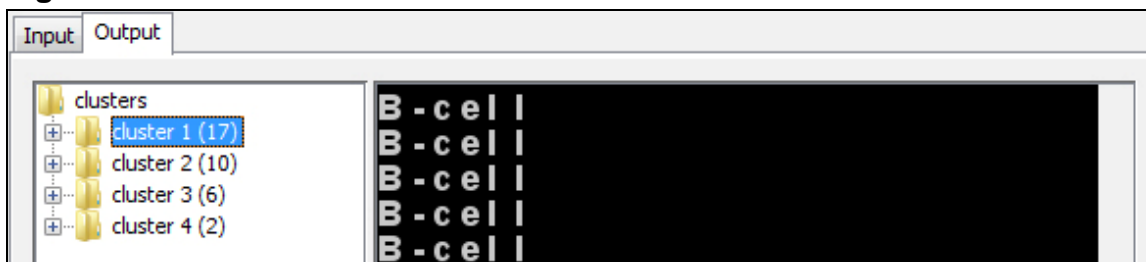
**Figure 8**



File	Type
Summary	html
Clusters	html
Clusters	text

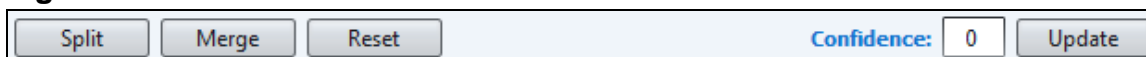
**Cluster tree.** As shown in Figure 9, all clusters are listed using a dynamic tree structure and are ordered from top to bottom by decreasing size.

**Figure 9**



Once a cluster node is selected using your mouse, the cluster tree can be rapidly traversed by pressing the ‘↑’ and ‘↓’ keys. To select more than one cluster, hold down the ‘Shift’ or ‘Control’ key and select using your mouse. Clusters can be manually modified using the control panel below the cluster tree (Figure 10). Use ‘Split’ to make a new cluster from a selected group of data points (first expand a cluster node by double-clicking, then select data points with mouse). Press Delete key to erase entire clusters or specific data points. Press ‘Merge’ to combine the contents of all selected clusters into a single cluster. Press ‘Reset’ to return to the original clustering output. To filter clustering results by cluster confidence (metric ranging from 1-100, where 100=data point always in cluster x) type in confidence threshold  $\leq 100$  in the ‘Confidence’ text box and press ‘Update’.

**Figure 10**



By default, the contents of the selected cluster(s) will be displayed as a list of cluster labels. For additional viewing options, see below.

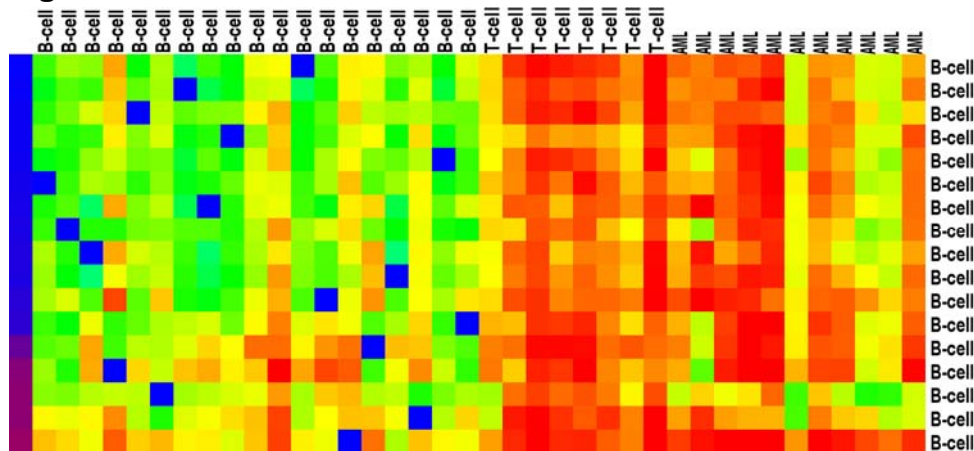
**Heat maps.** Several heat map visualizations are available. Go to ‘View’ in the menu bar, and select ‘green red’, ‘rainbow’, ‘gray scale’, or ‘blue white’ from the ‘heat map’ submenu. Table 2 summarizes the key attributes of the available heat map color modes.

**Table 2**

Heat map Mode	High Value (R,G,B)	Low Value (R,G,B)	Middle Value(s)
green red	Green (0,255,0)	Red (255,0,0)	Black
rainbow	Red (255,0,0)	Blue (0,0,255)	Blue, Light Blue, Green, Yellow, Red (evenly spaced)
gray scale	Black (0,0,0)	White (255,255,255)	shades of Gray
blue white	Blue (0,0,255)	White (255,255,255)	shades of Blue

The mouse scrollbar is used to zoom in or out. To fit the heat map to the screen, go to view>fit to screen, or right-click your mouse when hovering over the heat map display. By default, cluster confidence is shown as a vertical bar to the left of the heat map with blue=high and red=low confidence (see rainbow-colored heat map in Figure 11 below). For fine-grained control over heat map visualization parameters, select view>settings>image settings (see below).

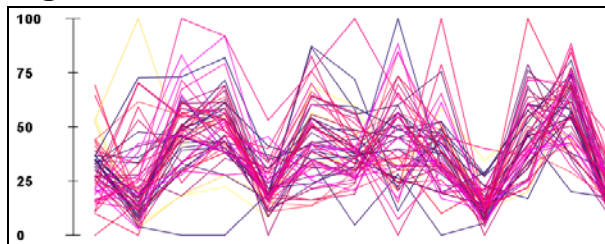
**Figure 11**



**Signal plots.** As indicated in Figure 12, signal plots display all numerical vectors in the selected cluster(s) as a line graph across all column categories (x-axis). Go to ‘View’ in the menu bar, and select ‘rainbow’ or ‘red’ from the ‘signal plot’ submenu.

- i) Scale bar: By default, a scale bar is shown on the y-axis. Deselect the ‘scale bar’ checkbox in View>signal plot to remove. To increase or decrease the scale-bar resolution, use the up and down arrow keys in the number pad (8 and 2), respectively. To change the decimal precision of each number, use the left and right arrow keys in the number pad (4 and 6).
- ii) Mean signal: Select the ‘mean signal’ checkbox in View>signal plot. Collapses signal plot into one line representing the mean of all vectors in the selected cluster(s).

**Figure 12**



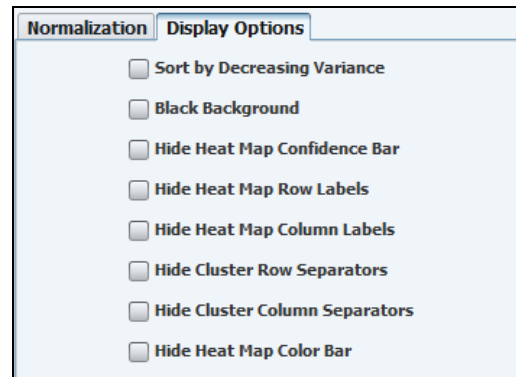
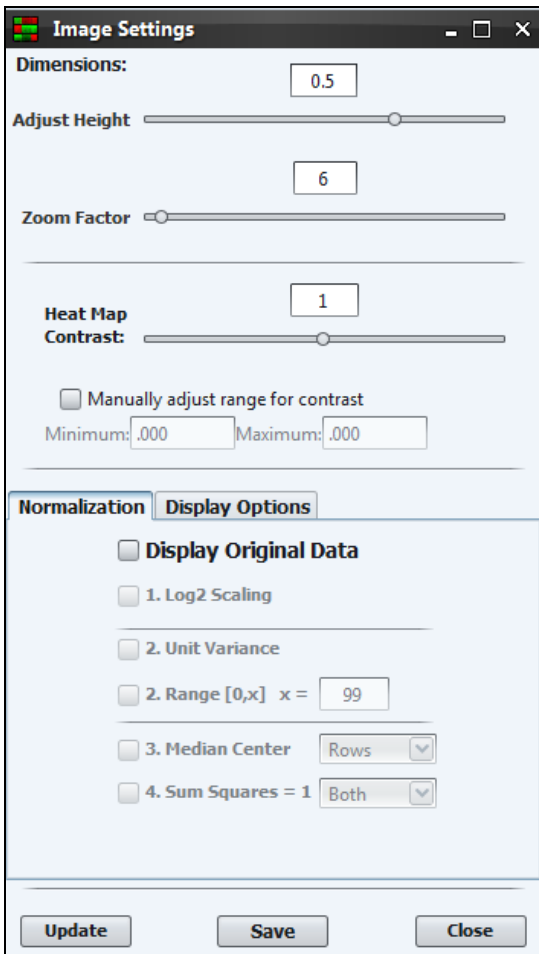
**View>settings>Image Settings.** The image settings window provides several options for customizing the heat map and signal plot display (see Figure 13 below).

- i) Dimensions:
  - a. Adjust Height: Determines the vertical resolution of the image (can be used to compress or expand image height). The value of adjust height multiplied by the Zoom Factor (see below) gives the total number of vertical pixels for each heat map cell.
  - b. Zoom Factor: This slider directly controls the number of horizontal pixels in each heat map cell. The overall image size is then adjusted by computing the dimensions (width x height in pixels) of each heat map cell=Zoom Factor x (Adjust Height\*Zoom Factor). Use this option for saving high-resolution images.
- ii) Heat Map Contrast: Adjusts the maximum and minimum values used for heat map display. Contrast  $C$  increases the original maximum value  $M$  and decreases the original minimum value  $m$  by  $(C-1)*(M-m)/2$ .
  - a. Manually adjust range for contrast: Select this option to manually input maximum and minimum values for contrast adjustment. By default, the maximum and minimum values of the entire input data set are used. To see the maximum and minimum values for a particular cluster (or set of clusters), check the ‘Input Data’ table on the left panel of the GUI.

- iii) Normalization Tab: By selecting ‘Display Original Data’ the heat map will render the cluster (s) using your original input data (pre-normalization). You can then select any of the data transformation options (e.g. log2 and median-centering) to re-normalize your data as desired. This option is useful for displaying a more meaningful range of values in the heat map (e.g. down to up-regulated genes).
- iv) Display Options Tab: Most of these options are self-explanatory. If you select ‘Sort by Decreasing Variance’ the contents of every cluster will be sorted by decreasing order of row vector variance (e.g. gene probe variance).

Although the heat map will update after changing most display settings, you can force the image to refresh by pressing ‘Update’. Click ‘Save’ to launch a file browser for saving your heat map output. All images are saved in the Portable Network Graphics (PNG) format. Importantly, if you want to output a high-resolution image, make sure you select a large ‘Zoom Factor’ before saving.

**Figure 13**



**View>settings>scale using entire dataset.** When selected (go to View>settings), both the contrast in the heat map and y-axis for signal plots are scaled using the maximum and minimum values of the data set. When deselected, maximum and minimum values are set based on the selected cluster(s). Deselecting is useful for amplifying cluster-specific signals that are otherwise washed out in the context of the entire input data set.

**Search.** To find a particular data item in the cluster output, go to ‘Search>Find’. This will invoke a search window. Either find your data point from the ‘Choose Identifier’ list of manually enter your data item identifier, then click ‘Submit’. If it is found, your data item will be highlighted in yellow using the heat map display (you might need to scroll down to find it). Please make sure your data items are uniquely labeled for this feature to work properly.

**Saving data.**

- i) Images: All images can be saved by selecting ‘File>Export>save image’ from the menu.
- ii) Tabular Data: To export tabular data from the selected cluster(s), go to ‘File>Export>save tabular data’. This option will save all cluster contents, along with cluster labels and cluster confidence for each data point. You can choose between saving clusters with your original data (pre-normalized) or with data after normalization has been applied (‘current normalization’). The current normalization is dependent upon whether you have altered the heat map display using the ‘Display Original Data’ feature in the ‘image settings’ window (Figure 13). The output format is identical to output file 3 (see *Files written to disk* below).

**Files written to disk.** AutoSOME writes the following files to your hard drive:

**X** = No. ensemble iterations (e.g. E100)

**Y** = p-value threshold (e.g. Pval0.1)

**Z** = rows or columns, depending upon the value of ‘Cluster Analysis’ (see pg. 9)

- 1) AutoSOME\_inputName\_EX\_PvalY\_Summary\_Z.html = summary table of file name, parameters used, and cluster output table with size of each cluster, mean cluster confidence, and hyperlinks to data content of each cluster.
- 2) AutoSOME\_inputName\_EX\_PvalY\_Z.html = all clusters and data contents, including individual cluster confidence for each data point.
- 3) AutoSOME\_inputName\_EX\_PvalY\_Z.txt = text file with same data as file (2). First row = column labels (if provided as input), first column ‘CLUST’=cluster label, second column ‘CONF’=cluster confidence, third column ‘NAME’ =data point label, all other columns=data vectors.
- 4) AutoSOME\_inputName\_rows\_columns.txt = text file produced from clustering both rows **and** columns. Is in same format as (3) with the exception of an additional row (row 2) that stores cluster identifiers for the columns.



If your data set was normalized using AutoSOME, a code is stored using row 1 of output file (3) in order to properly reopen the file (*see Opening old clustering results* below). The code legend: #=input data set has column labels, n=log2 scaling, u=unit variance, sX=normalized from [0,X], m=median centering of rows, M=median centering of columns, q=sum of squares normalization of rows, Q=sum of squares normalization of columns.

If columns are clustered (see ‘Cluster Analysis’, pg. 9), three additional files are written to disk:

- 5) AutoSOME\_inputName\_EX\_PvalY\_Edges.txt = fuzzy edges among data points: first two columns denote connected nodes, third column = pairwise affinity or the fraction of times the two data points were co-clustered (pairwise affinity ranges from -.5, never co-clustered, to 0.5, always co-clustered).
- 6) AutoSOME\_inputName\_EX\_PvalY\_Nodes.txt = All clustered data points: first column= unique data point label, second column=cluster label, third column=original data point label
- 7) AutoSOME\_inputName\_EX\_PvalY\_Matrix.txt = pairwise affinity matrix of all data points compared to all data points; essentially the same information content of output file (4) presented in a form suitable for a heat map display. This file can be immediately read as input into the Cluster 3.0 software [Eisen et al., 1998] to hierarchically reorder the matrix. Results can be visualized with Java TreeView [Saldanha, 2004].

Since Fuzzy Cluster Networks are computed from a distance matrix of all vertical data vectors (e.g. cell samples), output files (1)-(3) and (6) contain data points represented as a distance matrix (not the original input data).

**Opening previous clustering results.** To browse previous clustering results, select ‘Open AutoSOME Results’ from the ‘File’ menu. Use the file browser to find the output text file, either file (3) or (4) in *files written to disk* above, and press ‘Open’. The GUI will be immediately redirected to the ‘output’ window and display the cluster tree. All original data normalization settings are automatically restored for display in the output window.

**Reset.** To reset all AutoSOME settings, go to File>Reset.

**Enhanced GUI vs. Basic GUI.** The enhanced and basic GUIs offer identical functionality. The look and feel of the enhanced GUI makes use of the Substance freeware package (<https://substance.dev.java.net/>) while the basic GUI uses the default system look and feel.

## AutoSOME Command Line Version

>Usage:

```
java -jar autosome_vXXXXXX.jar [Input] [Options]
```

>maximum JVM memory recommended, e.g.

```
java -Xmx1600m -Xms1600m -jar autosome_vXXXXXX.jar [Input] [Options]
```

where XXXXXX=release date of AutoSOME (e.g. 040110)

**To display all input parameters, run AutoSOME with the parameter `-o` (letter ‘o’ for options).**

As indicated below, the command line version of AutoSOME has many options not available in the GUI, including the option to use alternative clustering algorithms (i.e. K-Means, Hierarchical Clustering with four linkage types) and alternative dimensional reduction techniques (i.e. density-equalized SOM, normal SOM, and Sammon’s Mapping). For alternative clustering methods, the number of input clusters needs to be specified using the `-k` parameter (see below). In addition, all of these clustering methods, including AutoSOME, can be benchmarked with the `-b` option as long as the data item labels in the input file correspond to numerical cluster labels starting with 1 (1,2,...,No. clusters  $n$ ).

### Examples using fictitious gene expression data set ‘yeast.txt’

- 1) Perform co-expression clustering using log2 scaling, unit variance and median-centering of rows normalization, 100 ensemble runs, p-value threshold of 0.05, launch GUI to display results, and write files to “C:\output”.

```
java -Xmx1600m -Xms1600m -jar autosome_v120109.jar yeast.txt -N -j1 -e100 -p.05 -v -DC:\output
```

- 2) Perform transcriptome clustering using unit variance, Uncentered correlation, 100 ensemble runs, launch GUI to display results, and write files to “C:\output”.

```
java -Xmx1600m -Xms1600m -jar autosome_v120109.jar yeast.txt -n1 -Q3 -e100 -v -DC:\output
```

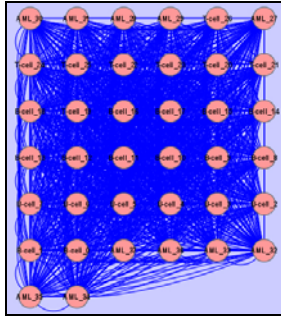
- 3) Perform transcriptome clustering using unit variance, Pearson’s correlation to build the distance matrix, K-means with 5 clusters, 20 ensemble iterations, and launch GUI to display results.

```
java -Xmx1600m -Xms1600m -jar autosome_v120109.jar yeast.txt -n1 -Q2 -K -k5 -e20 -v
```

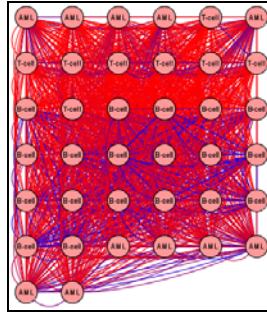
## All Command Line Parameters

Parameter	Description (Default)
<b>-t[integer]</b>	set number of threads (available CPUs)
<b>-e[integer]</b>	set number of runs to merge into ensemble (10)
<b>-p[0-1]</b>	set p-value threshold for minimum spanning tree clustering (0.1)
<b>-D[directory]</b>	set output directory (same directory as input file)
<b>-C</b>	read in column headers from first row of input file (auto-detect otherwise)
<b>-v</b>	launch cluster viewer (false)
<b>-v2</b>	display previous clustering results: input=clustering output text file (false)
<b>-n[integer]</b>	normalize input by unit variance '-n1', to log2 '-n0' or into range [0,X] '-nX' (false)
<b>-j[1,2,3]</b>	1=perform median center normalization on all rows;2=columns;3=rows and columns
<b>-u[1,2,3]</b>	1=perform sum of squares=1 normalization on all rows;2=columns;3=rows and columns
<b>-N</b>	normalize input to log2 with unit variance (false)
<b>-#</b>	apply unit variance normalization to distance matrix (false)
<b>-w</b>	read in PCL-formatted input file (false)
<b>-W</b>	read in Gene Expression Omnibus Series Matrix-formatted input file (false)
<b>-Q</b>	transform columns from input into Euclidean distance matrix (false)
<b>-Q[2,3]</b>	distance matrix metric; 2 = Pearson's, 3 = Uncentered Correlation (Euclidean)
<b>-h[1,2,3,4]</b>	fill missing values; 1=means of rows;2=medians of rows;3=means of columns;4=medians of columns (means of rows)
<b>-b</b>	do benchmarking: 'F-measure, Precision, Recall, NMI, corrected Rand Index',[data items must be labeled: 1,2,3,...,total number of clusters] (false)
<b>-c[integer]</b>	set number of Monte Carlo simulations for MST clustering (10)
<b>-g[integer]</b>	set x of SOM grid xy, where y=x (square root of input size*2)
<b>-M[integer]</b>	set maximum x/y grid of SOM (30)
<b>-m[integer]</b>	set minimum x/y grid of SOM (5)
<b>-P</b>	set SOM distance metric to Pearson Correlation (Euclidean)
<b>-P2</b>	set SOM distance metric to Uncentered Correlation (Euclidean)
<b>-s</b>	set SOM topology to square (circle)
<b>-i[integer]</b>	set number of SOM iterations (1000)
<b>-x[integer]</b>	set SOM error surface exponent (3)
<b>-r[power of 2]</b>	set density-equalizing cartogram resolution (64)
<b>-E</b>	disable Density-Equalizing Cartogram (false)
<b>-S</b>	invoke Sammon Mapping instead of SOM (false)
<b>-S[integer]</b>	set number of Sammon Mapping iterations (100)
<b>-k[integer]</b>	specify number of clusters in data set (false)
<b>-K</b>	invoke K-Means Clustering; requires option -k (false)
<b>-A</b>	invoke Agglomerative Clustering; requires option -k (false)
<b>-A[method]</b>	1=Single, 2=Complete, 3=Average, 4=Ward's (4)
<b>-V</b>	print verbose output (false)

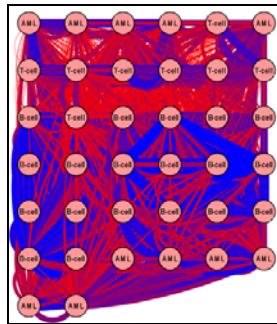




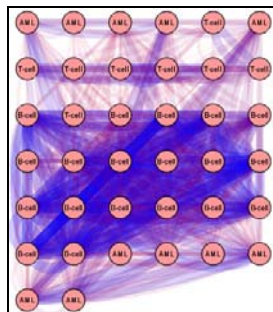
- e. Go to File>Import>Attribute from Table (Text/MS Excel)...
- f. Go to 'Select File(s)' and locate AutoSOME output file (5) containing all nodes and attributes (see 'Files written to disk' in Output above).
- g. Select 'Import'.
- h. Change global properties of the network:
  - i. In the Control Panel, select the VizMapper™ tab.
  - ii. Click in the 'Defaults' window (shows a source and target pair with a blue background). A new window will appear.
  - iii. Select the 'Global' tab in the bottom right.
  - iv. Change the background color to white.
  - v. Go back to the 'Node' tab and change the NODE\_BORDER\_COLOR property to black and increase the 'NODE\_LINE\_WIDTH' to 2.
  - vi. Select 'Apply'
- i. Using the VizMapper™ tab:
- j. Next to 'Node Label', click 'ID' and select 'Column 3'. All nodes should now be relabeled according to the original data labels. Minimize the 'Node Label' property by selecting the minus icon.
- k. Under 'Unused Properties' find 'Edge Color' and double-click it.
  - i. Select 'Column 3' as a value.
  - ii. Then, select 'Continuous Mapper' for 'Mapping Type'.
  - iii. Click on the black-to-white gradient next to 'Graphical View' to launch a Gradient Editor.
  - iv. There are two fixed triangles, one on each end, and two adjustable triangles. Double-click the two leftmost triangles and set their colors to pure red (255,0,0). Double-click the two rightmost triangles and set their colors to pure blue (0,0,255). Drag the leftmost adjustable triangle all the way to the left and likewise drag the rightmost triangle to the right until it stops.



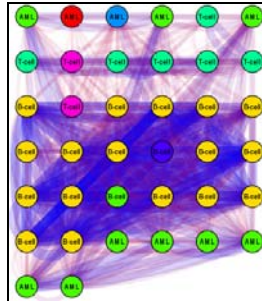
- l. Find 'Edge Line Width' under 'Unused Properties' and double-click it.
  - i. Select 'Column 3' as a value.
  - ii. Then, select 'Continuous Mapper' for 'Mapping Type'.
  - iii. Click on the graph next to the 'Graphical View' property to launch the 'Continuous Editor'.
  - iv. Adjust the minimum and maximum values denoted by red squares (double-click on squares for precision, otherwise slide squares up or down). For example, set minimum to 0.5 and maximum to 20. Then, exit 'Continuous Editor'.



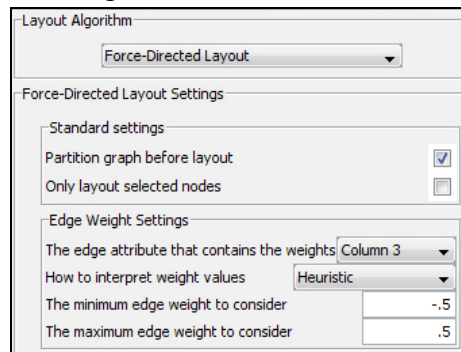
- m. Find 'Edge Opacity' under 'Unused Properties' and double-click it.
  - i. Select 'Column 3' as a value.
  - ii. Then, select 'Continuous Mapper' for 'Mapping Type'.
  - iii. Click on the graph next to the 'Graphical View' property to launch the 'Continuous Editor'.
  - iv. Adjust the minimum and maximum values denoted by red squares (double-click on squares for precision, otherwise slide squares up or down). For example, set minimum to 0.5 and maximum to 60. Then, exit 'Continuous Editor'.



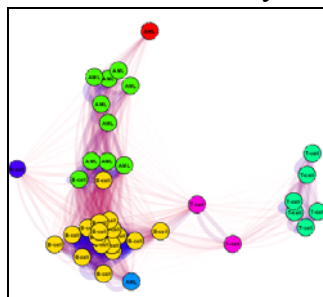
- n. Finally, find 'Node Color' under 'Unused Properties' and double-click it.
  - i. Select 'Column 2' as a value.
  - ii. Then, select 'Discrete Mapping' for 'Mapping Type'.
  - iii. Right click on 'Discrete Mapping' and go to 'Generate Discrete Values' > 'Rainbow 1'. All nodes are now colored according to cluster labels. Adjust colors as necessary.



- o. Go to 'Layout' in the main menu and select 'Settings'
  - i. Choose 'Force-Directed Layout' for 'Layout Algorithm'
  - ii. Under 'Edge Weight Settings', set 'The minimum edge weight to consider' to -0.5, and set 'The maximum edge weight to consider' to 0.5. Further, select Column 3 from 'The edge attribute that contains the weights'.



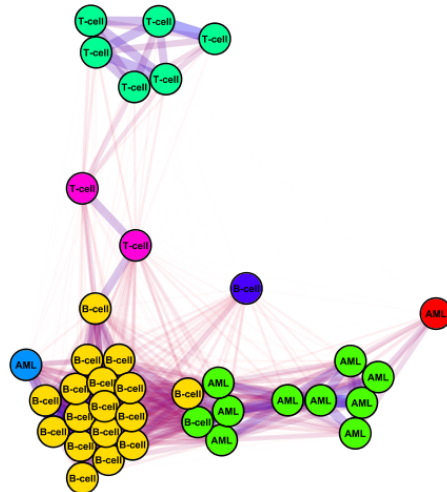
- iii. Press 'Execute Layout' to run the layout algorithm.



- iv. Although the network topology is generally preserved, different runs of the layout algorithm can yield slightly different results in terms of network rotation and local node placement. To increase the repulsion between neighboring nodes (for evenly spaced nodes within a cluster), increase 'Default Node Mass' under 'Algorithm settings'.

Another layout algorithm that can yield comparable results is the 'Edge-weighted Spring Embedded' algorithm. Before executing the layout, make sure the 'Edge Weight Settings' are adjusted as in (ii) above. This layout algorithm can yield more evenly spaced nodes, but is less stable than 'Force-Directed Layout'. Run a few times.

- v. Notice that all edges are slightly curved. To straighten edges, save and reopen the Cytoscape file.
- vi. At this point, make any desirable fine-grained changes to the 'Edge Color', 'Edge Line Width' and 'Edge Opacity' parameters to emphasize the fuzziness in the network.
- p. To export the final network, go to 'File'>'Export'>'Network View as Graphics...'
- q. Then, select file format and save image!



- r. To expedite this process for next time, start with your saved network. All visualization parameters will still be specified. Then, simply input your edge and node files and perform the layout. Note that for the Node Color property, it is important to assign colors again using the process given in step (n).



## References

- 1) D'haeseleer P: **How does gene expression clustering work?** *Nature Biotechnology* 2005, **23(12)**:1499-1501.
- 2) Eisen MB, Spellman PT, Brown PO, Botstein D: **Cluster analysis and display of genome-wide expression patterns.** *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 1998, **95(25)**:14863-14868.
- 3) Newman AM and Cooper JB: **AutoSOME: a clustering method for identifying gene expression modules without prior knowledge of cluster number.** *BMC Bioinformatics* 2010, **11**:117.
- 4) Saldanha A: **Java Treeview—extensible visualization of microarray data.** *Bioinformatics* 2004, **20(17)**:3246-3248.
- 5) Shannon P, Markiel A, Ozier O, Baliga NS, Wang JT, Ramage D, Amin N, Schwikowski B, Ideker T: **Cytoscape: A Software Environment for Integrated Models of Biomolecular Interaction Networks.** *Genome Research* 2003, **13**:2498-2504.