

Mutual exclusivity: drivers, pathways, and beyond

Teresa Przytycka
NIH / NLM / NCBI

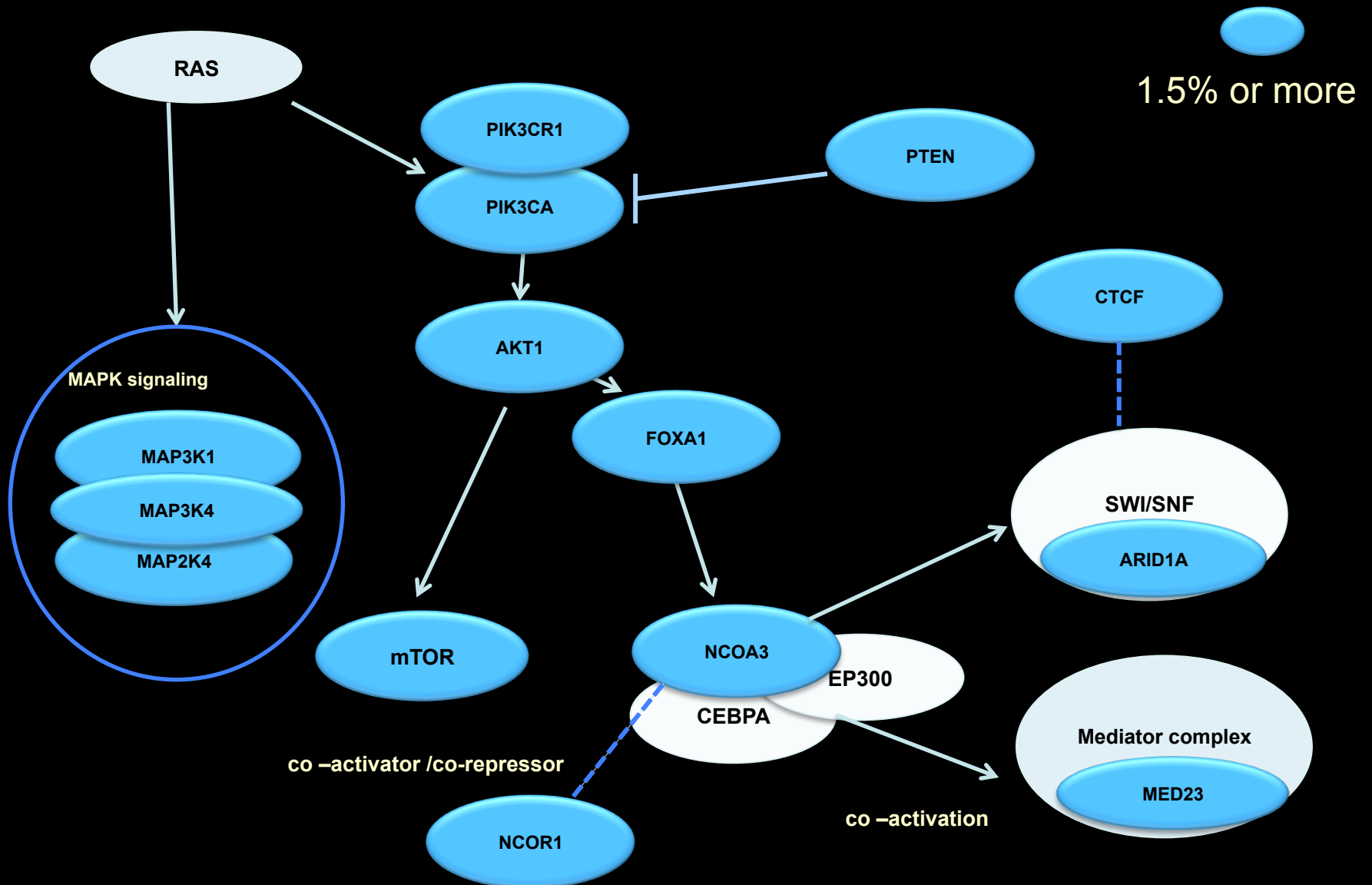


Cancer drivers, passengers, supporting actors, witnesses

- **Driver mutations /alterations**– mutations contributing to cancer progression
- **Passenger mutations** – neutral mutations accumulating during cancer progression
- Challenges in detecting driver mutations:
 - **Heterogeneity** - phenotypically similar cancer cases might be caused by different sets of driver mutations
 - **Rare drivers**
- **Best supporting actors** (Igor's talk)
- **Witnesses** (this talk)

Cancer driving pathways

examples of BRCA mutated genes in their pathway context



Mutual exclusivity of cancer drivers

Thomas et al 2007
Ciriello, et al., 2012;
Vandin, et al., 2012;
Szczurek et.al , 2014, 2015
Leiserson, et al., Vandin et al. 2013,2014,2015;
Kim et al. 2015
Constantinescu et al. 2015

patients

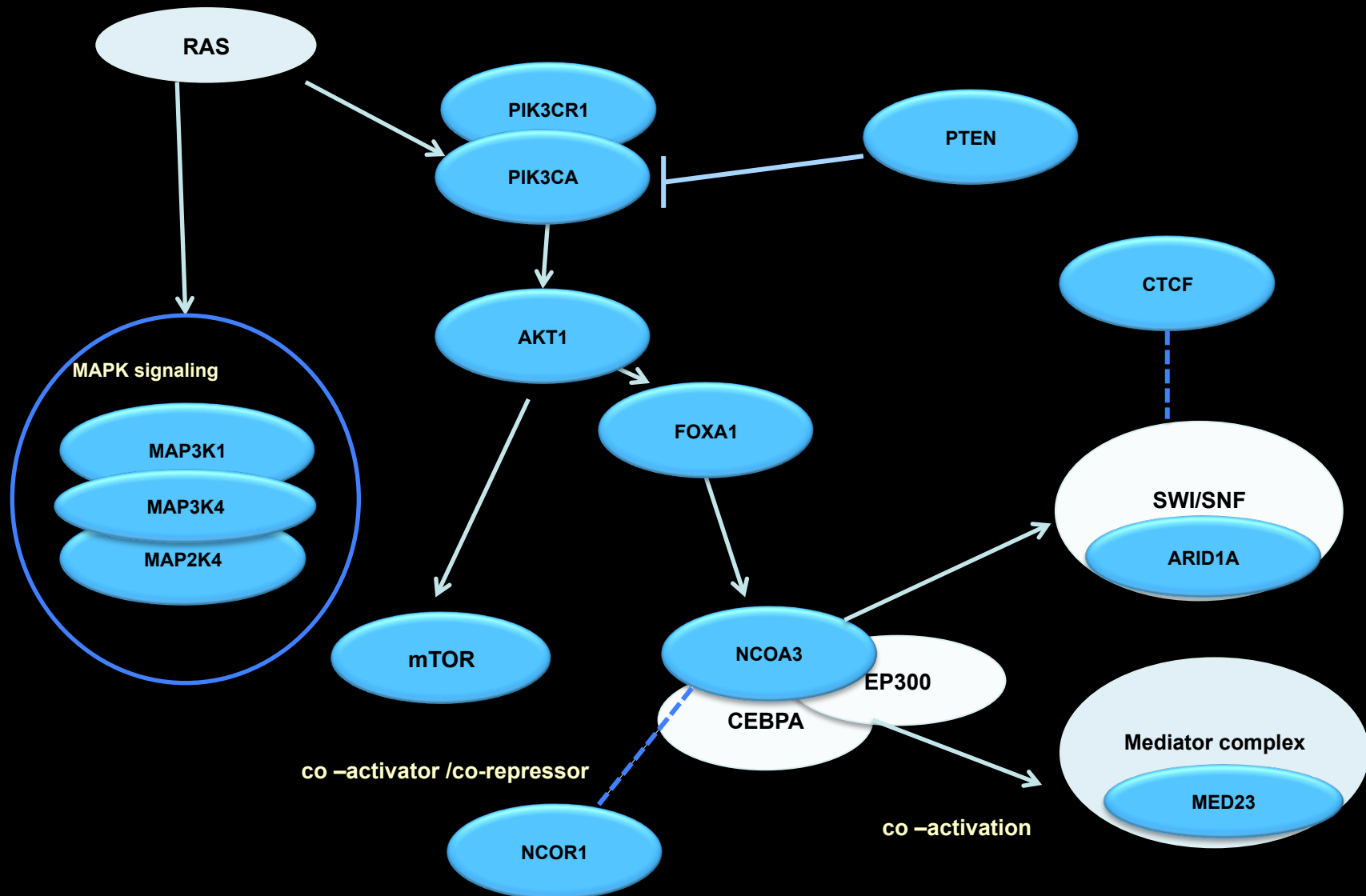
mutations in gene 1

Mutations in gene 2

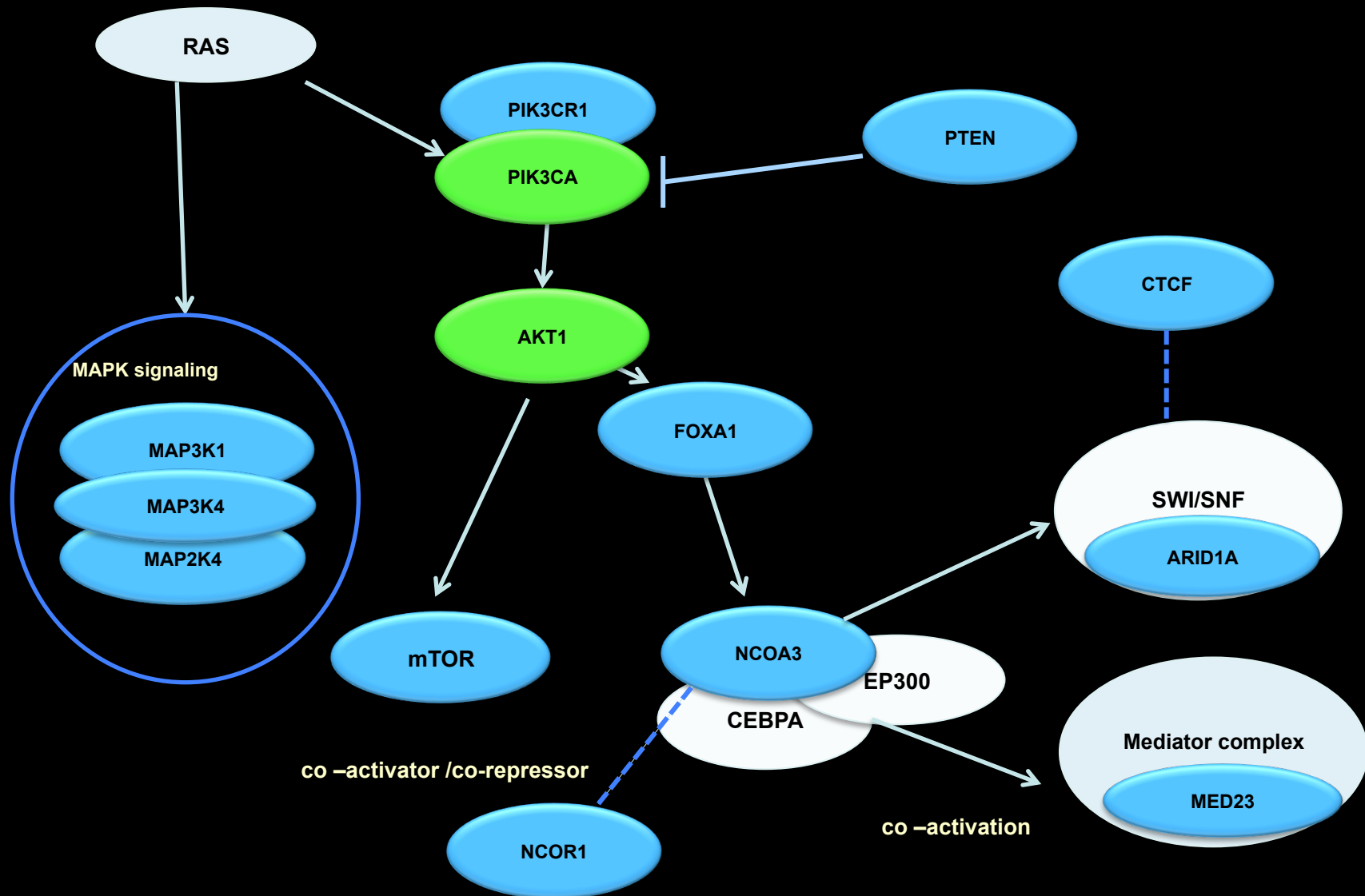
Explanations

- Two drivers dysregulating the same pathway
- Each of the drivers corresponds to of a unique cancer type or subtype
- Negative genetic interactions between drivers

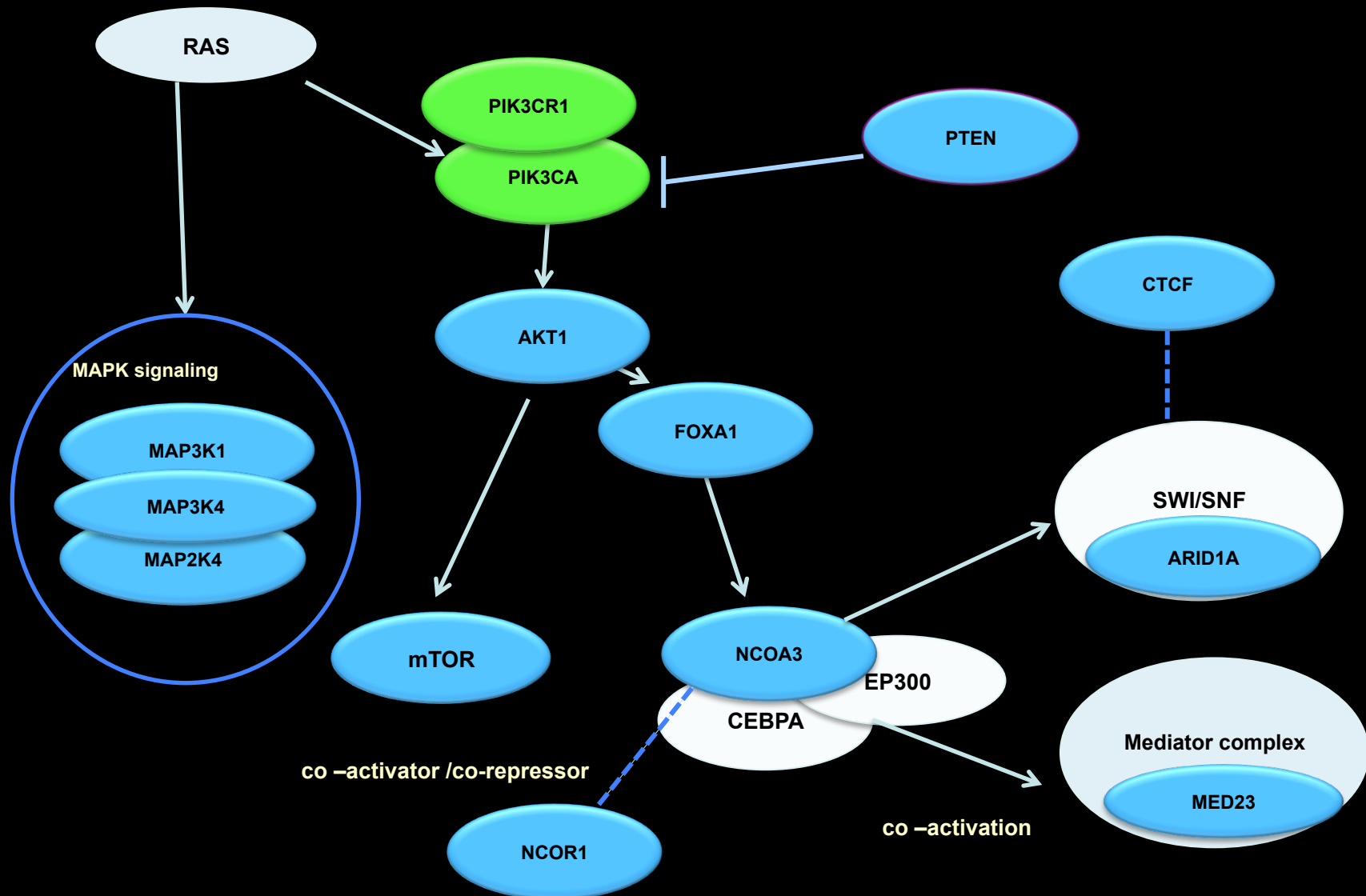
Mutually exclusive pairs often share pathways



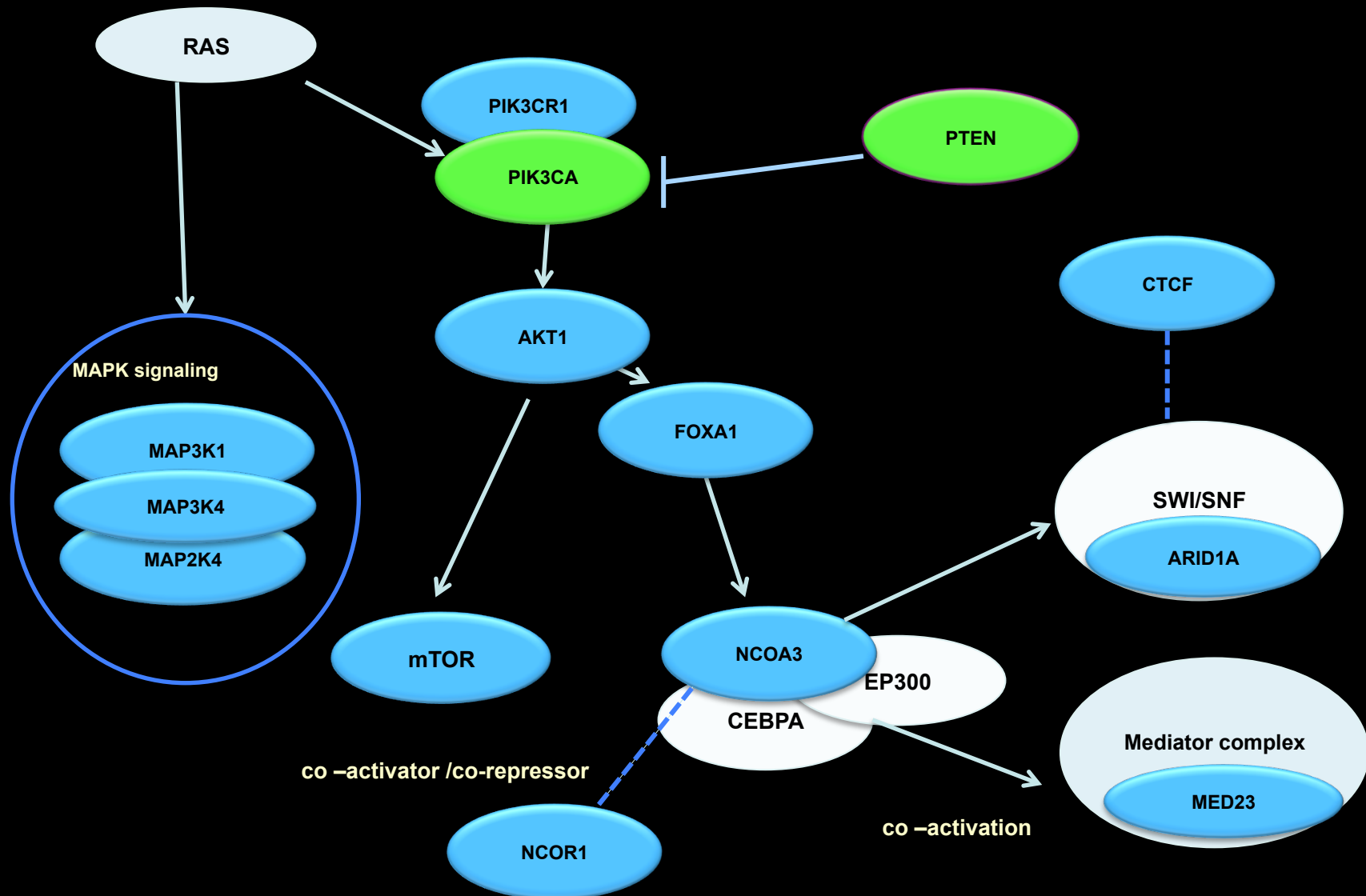
Mutually exclusive pairs often share pathways



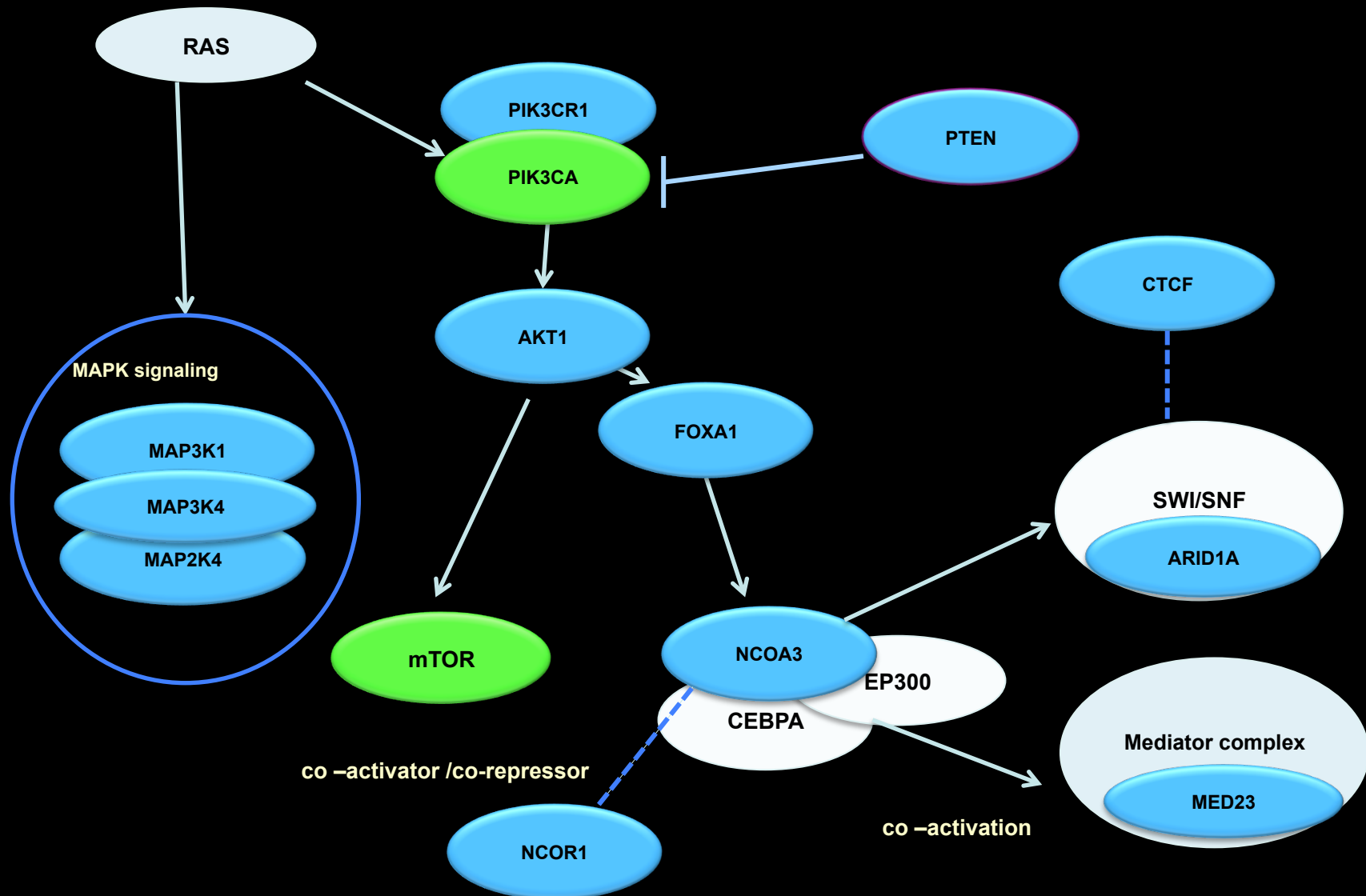
Mutually exclusive pairs often share pathways



Mutually exclusive pairs often share pathways

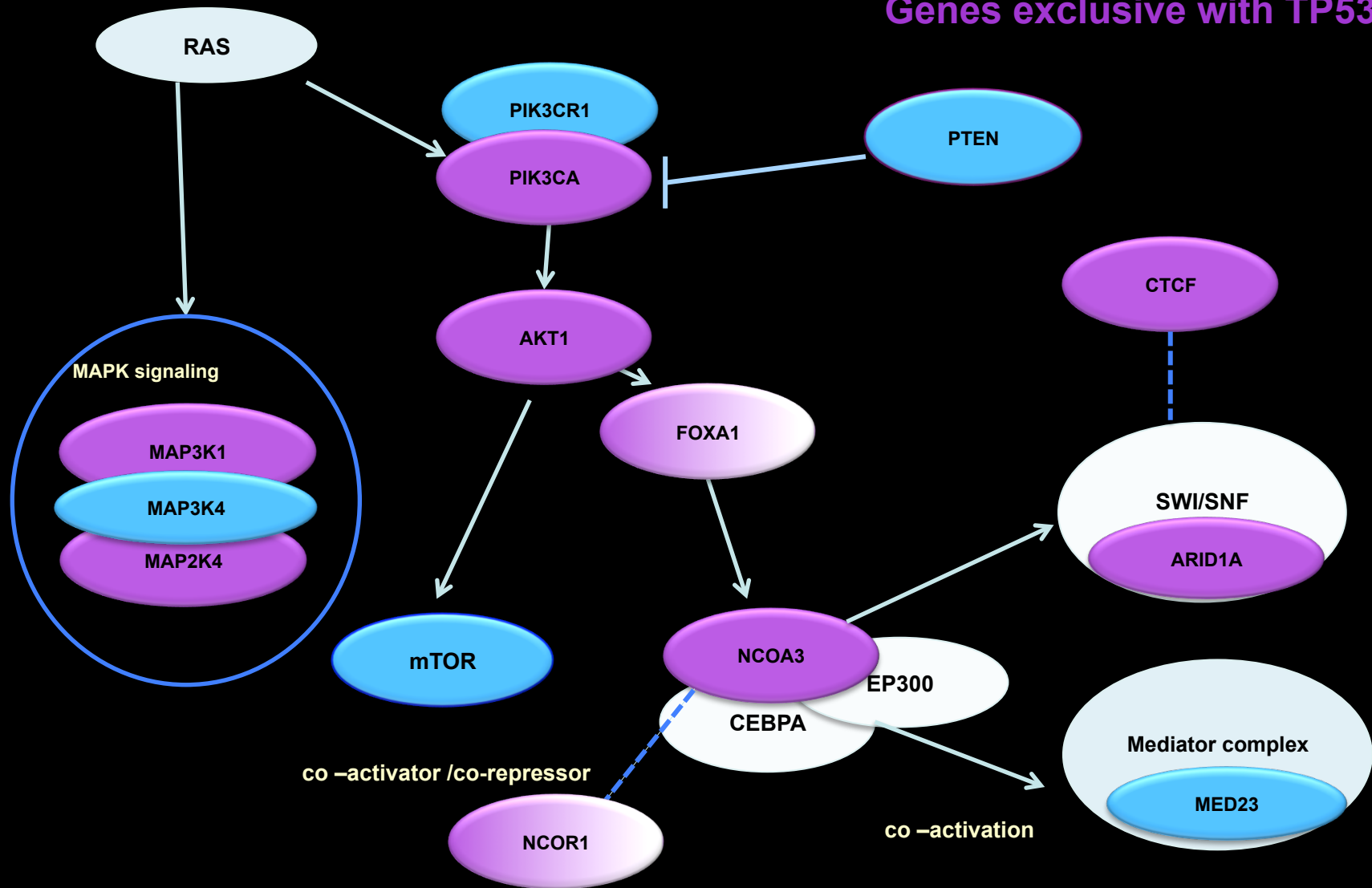


Mutually exclusive pairs often share pathways



Mutual exclusivity relation with a gene “outside” the pathway

Genes exclusive with TP53



Kim et al. 2016

Introducing a classification of mutual exclusivity

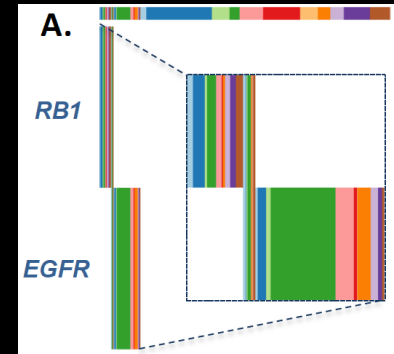
Motivation – distinguishing ME between drivers that:

- Result in a similar phenotype (**WITHIN_ME**)
- Occur across multiple cancer types (**ACROSS_ME**)
- Between type specific drivers (**BETWEEN_ME**)

Mutual exclusivity classes in PanCancer context

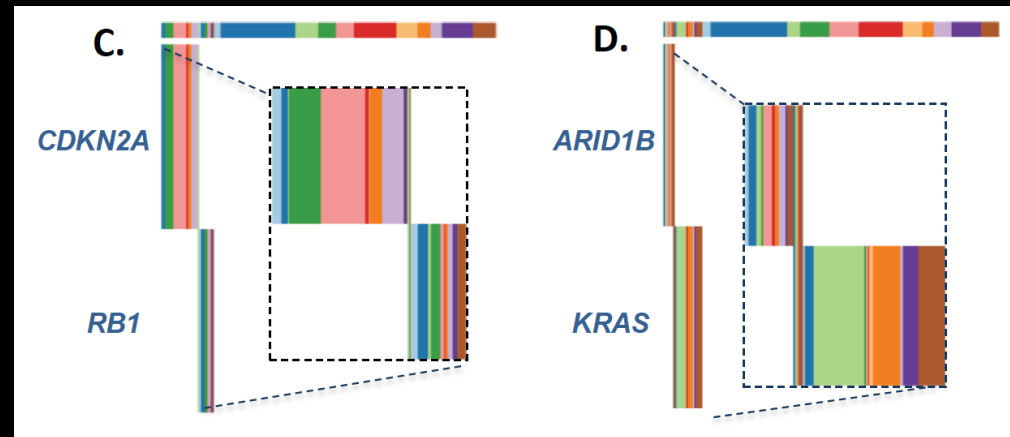
- Within tissue exclusivity
WITHIN_ME

Traditional permutation test



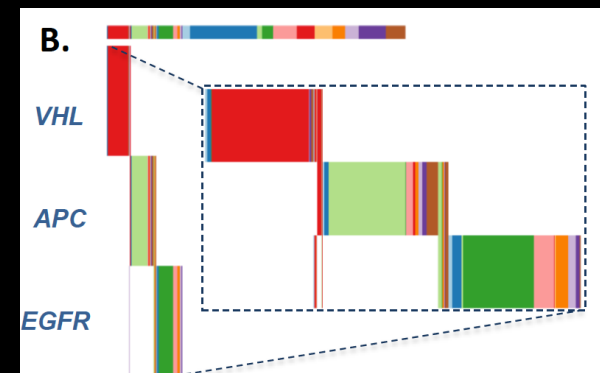
- Across tissues exclusivity
ACROSS_ME

Type-restricted permutation test



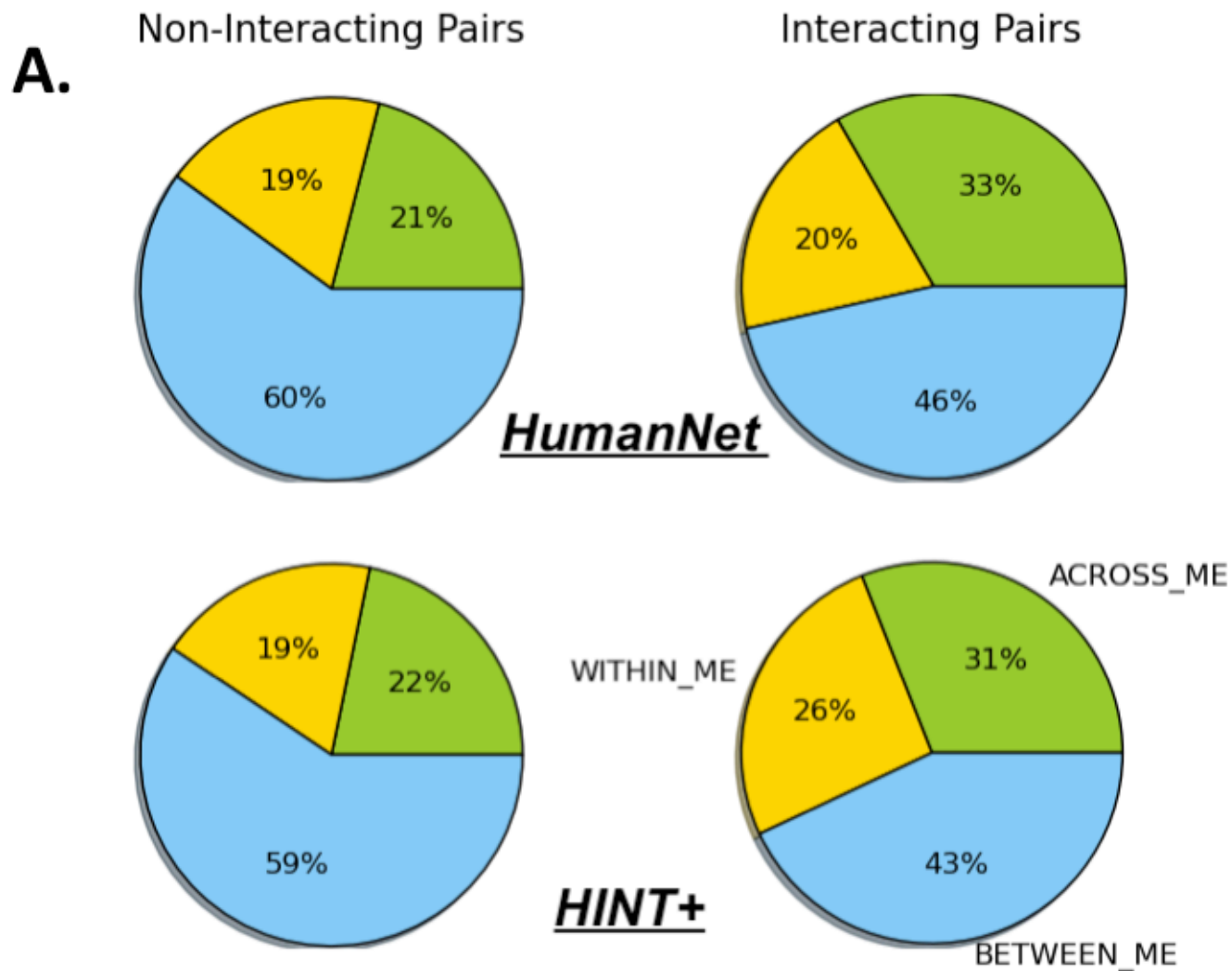
- Between tissues exclusivity
BETWEEN_ME

Traditional, type-oblivious permutation test



Kim et al. ISMB /Bioinformatics 2015

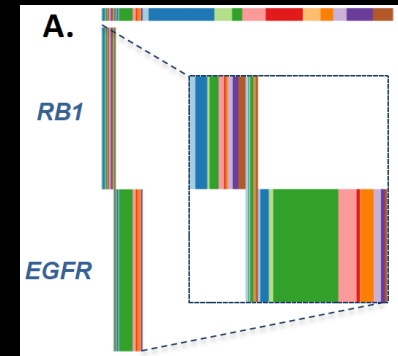
WITHIN and ACRPSS ME is biased towards pathway edges



Finding cross-cancer dysregulated modules by combining interaction and ACROSS_ME

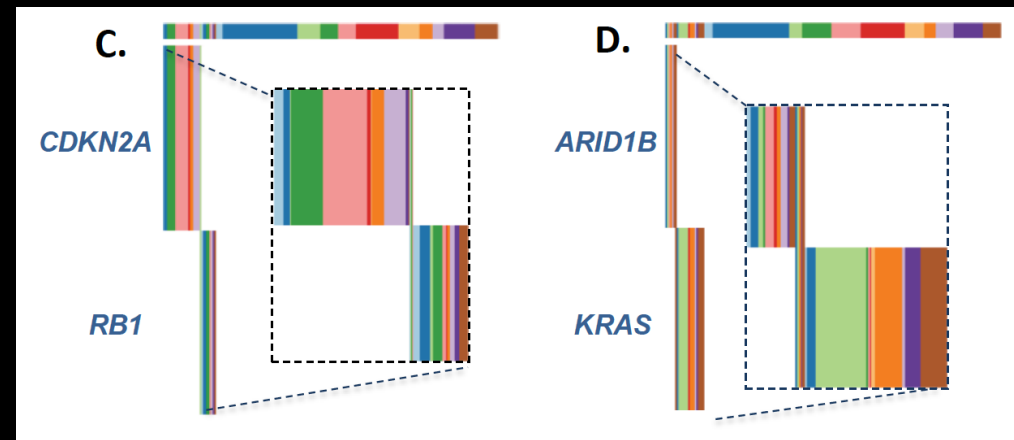
- Within tissue exclusivity
WITHIN_ME

Traditional permutation test



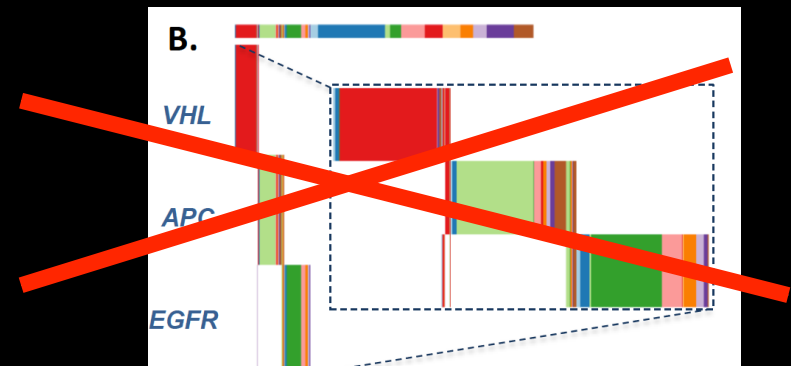
- Across tissues exclusivity
ACROSS_ME

Type-restricted permutation test



- Between tissues exclusivity
BETWEEN_ME

Type-oblivious permutation test



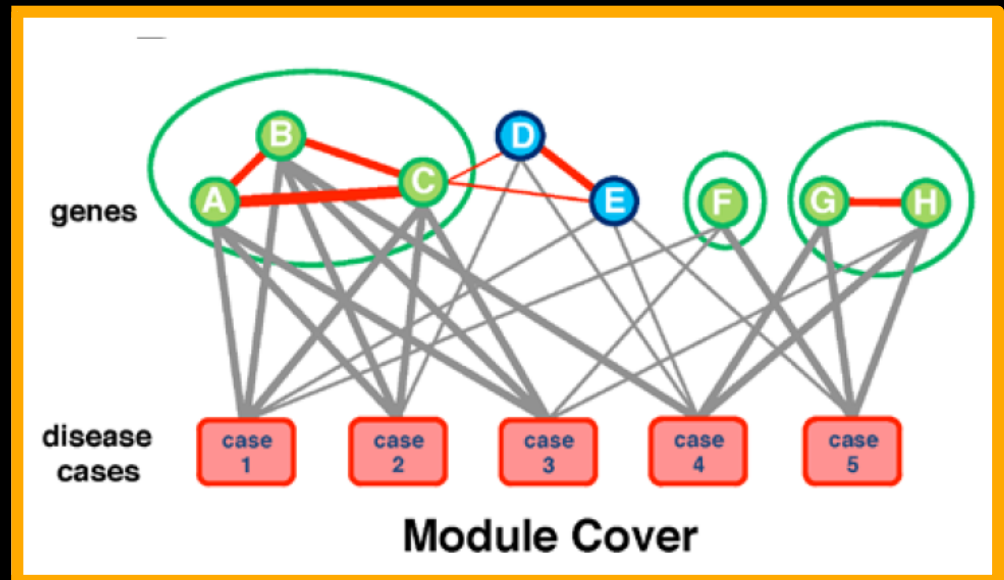
Finding PanCancer dysregulated pathway - ME Module Cover Approach

Optimization problem:

Find smallest cost set of modules so that each disease case is covered at least k times

Cost is a function of:

- ↓ distance in the network of genes in same module
- ↓ Mutual exclusivity
- ↓ Score of covering edge
- ↑ unit cost per module

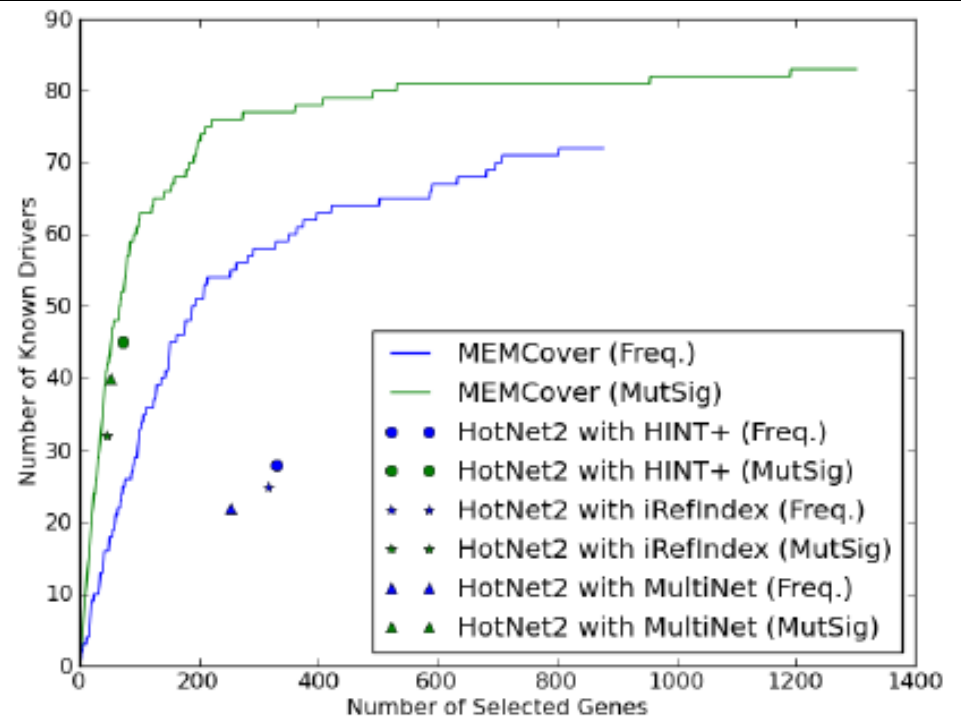
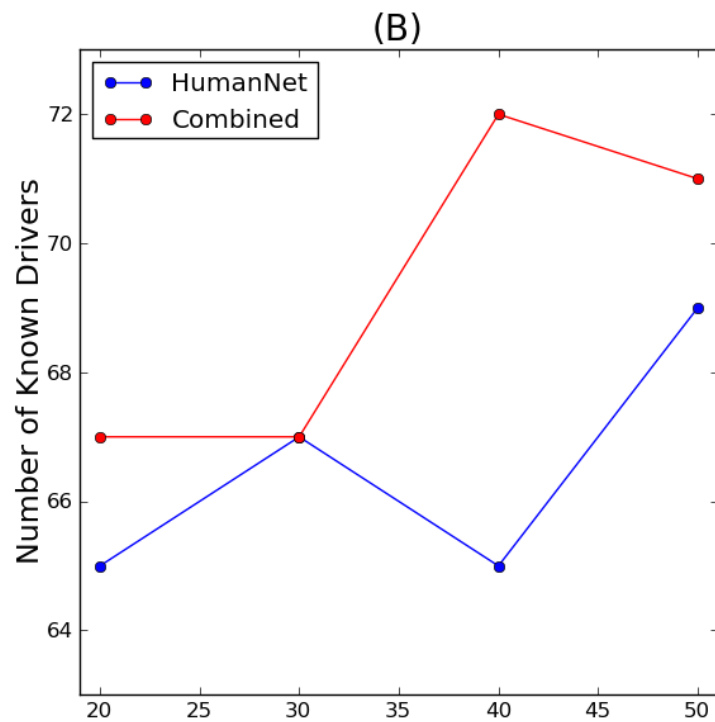


Does putting together ACROSS ME and interaction data actually help

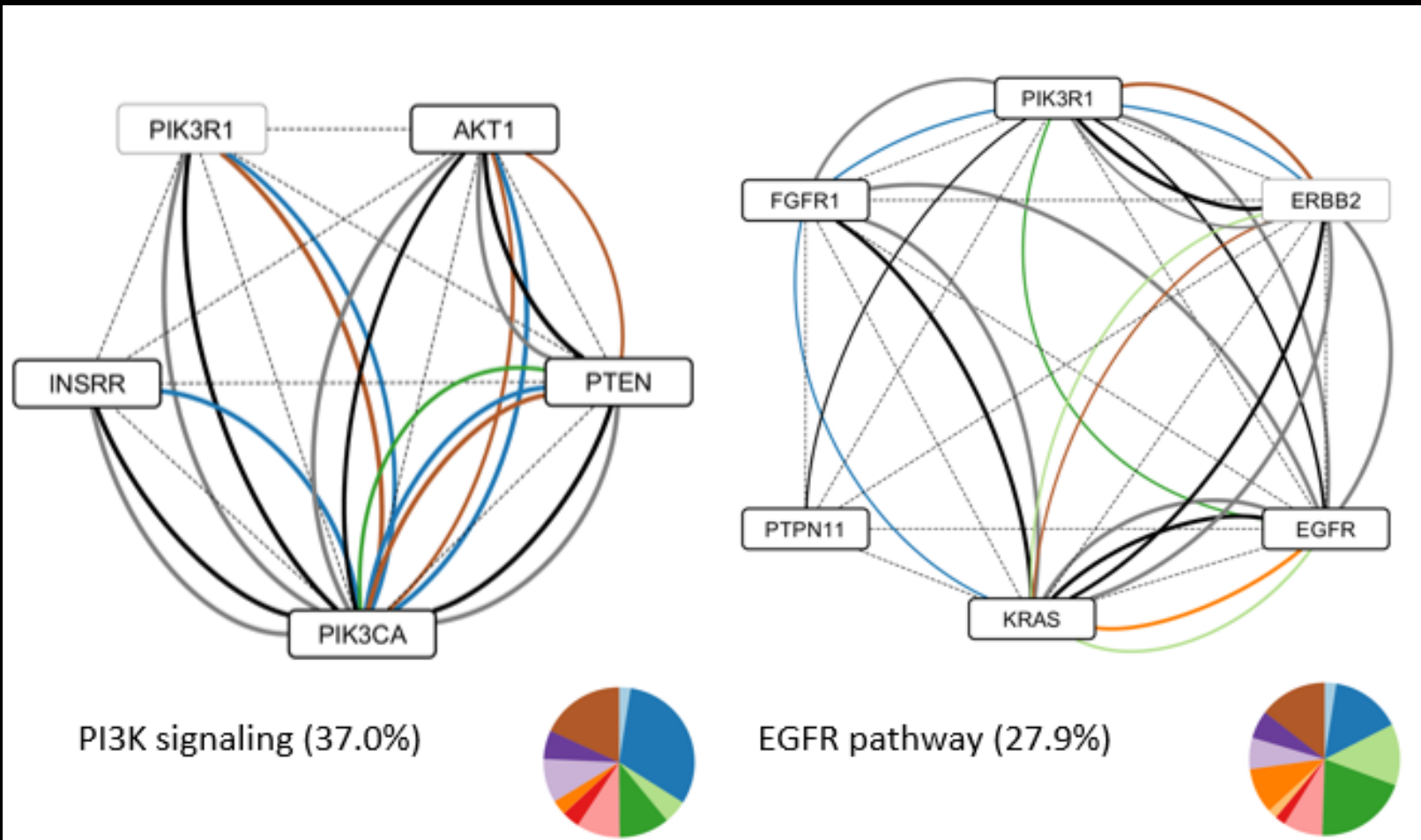
MEMCover we find more cancer drivers

Compared to Module Cover

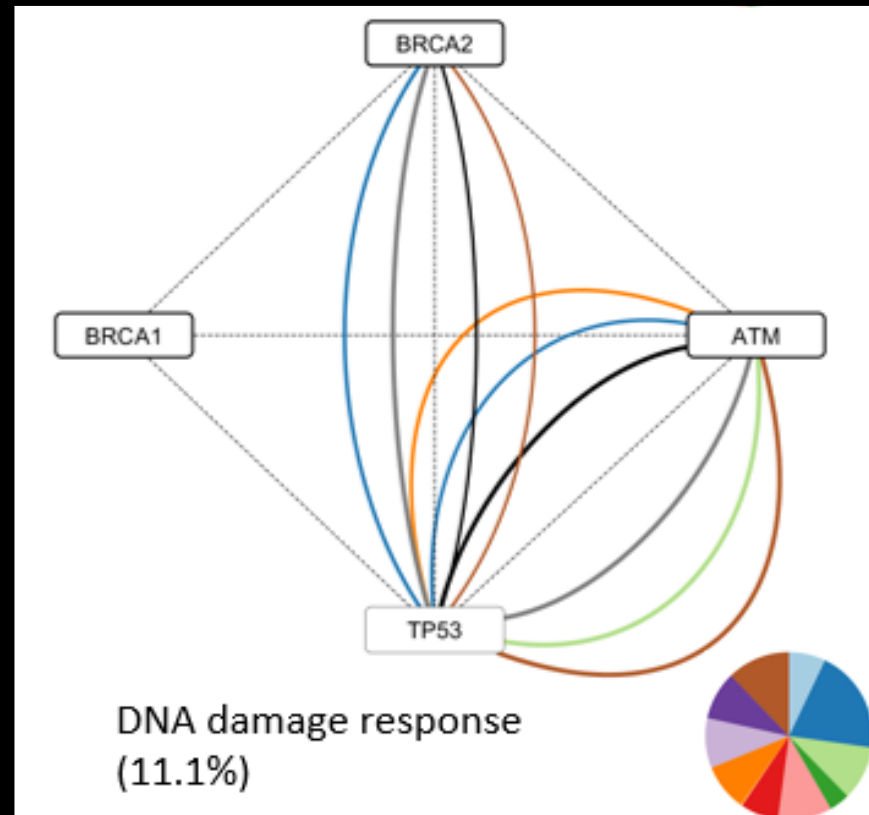
Compared to HotNet2



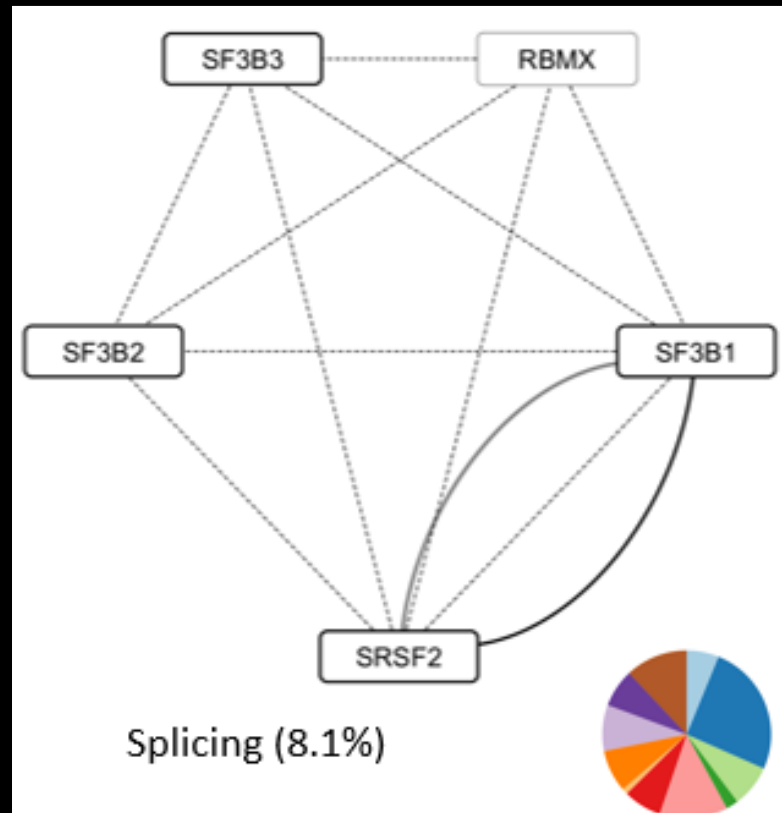
Robust mutual exclusivity within some modules



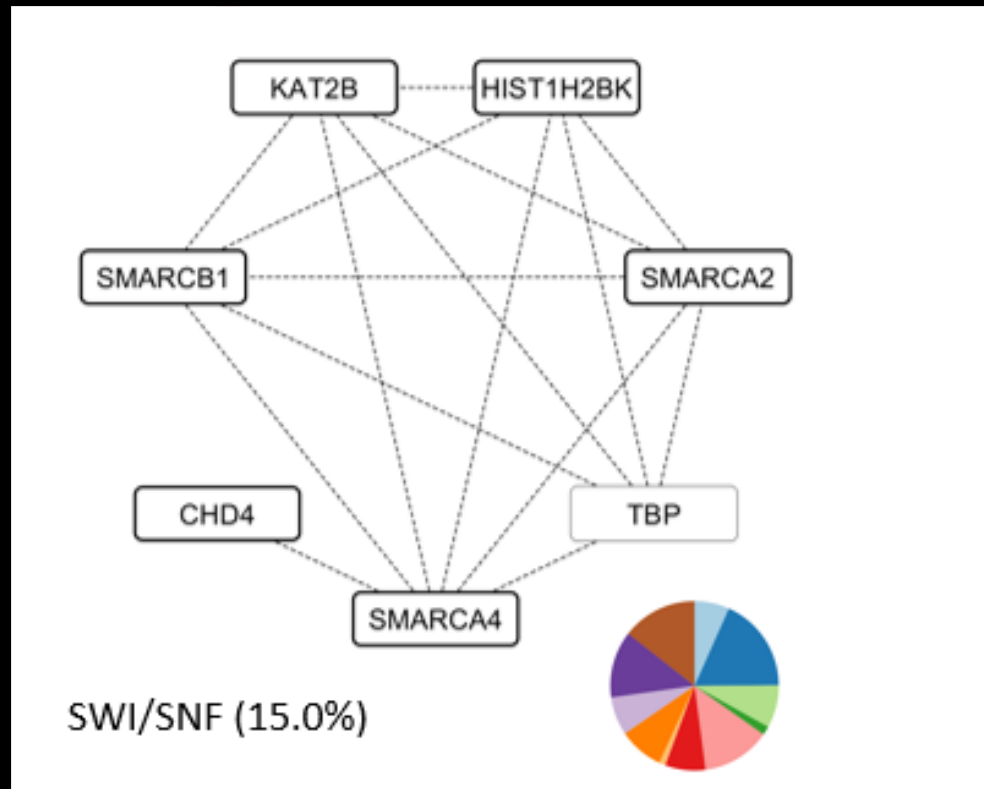
Hub-like ME within some modules



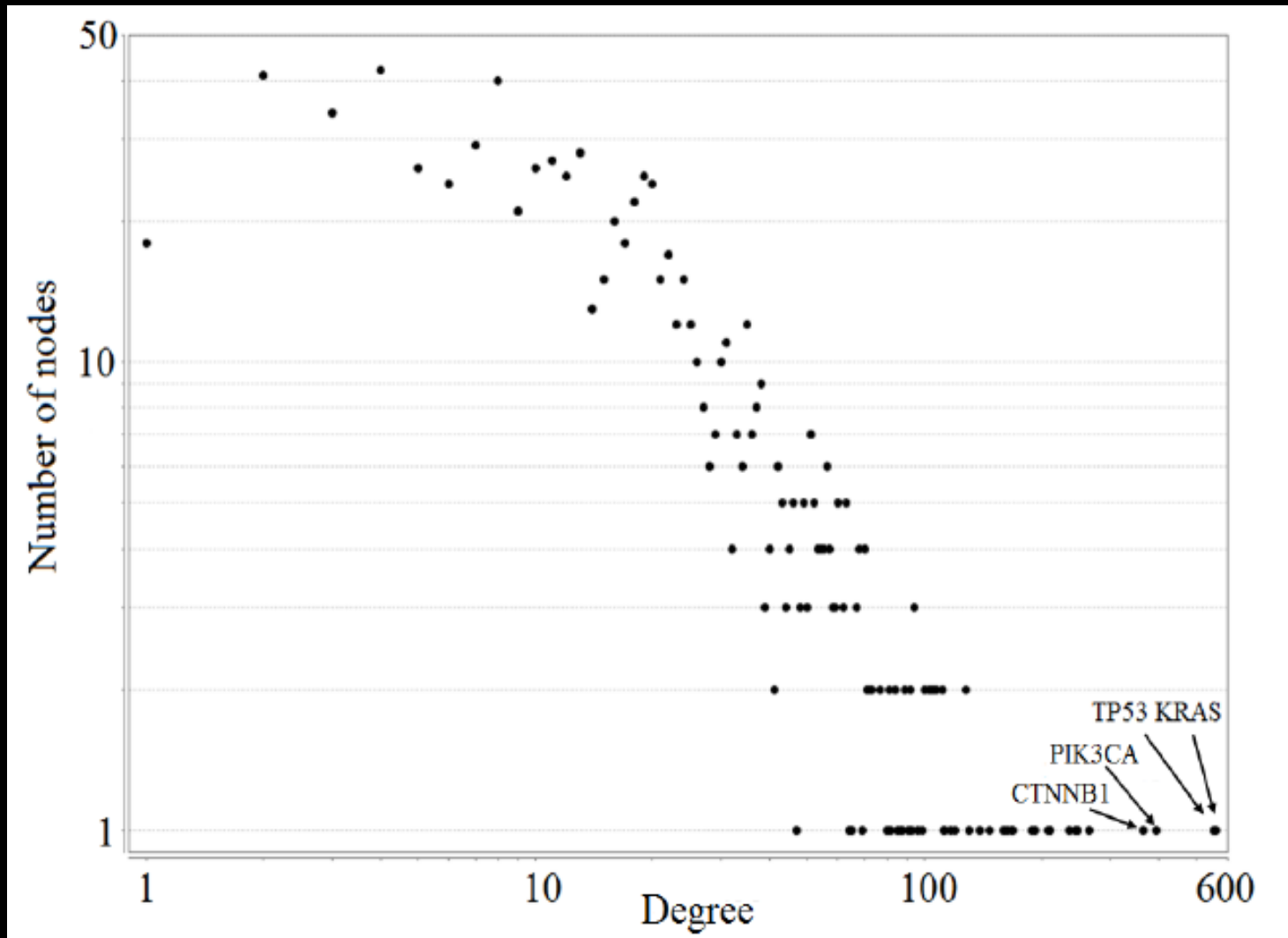
Splicing



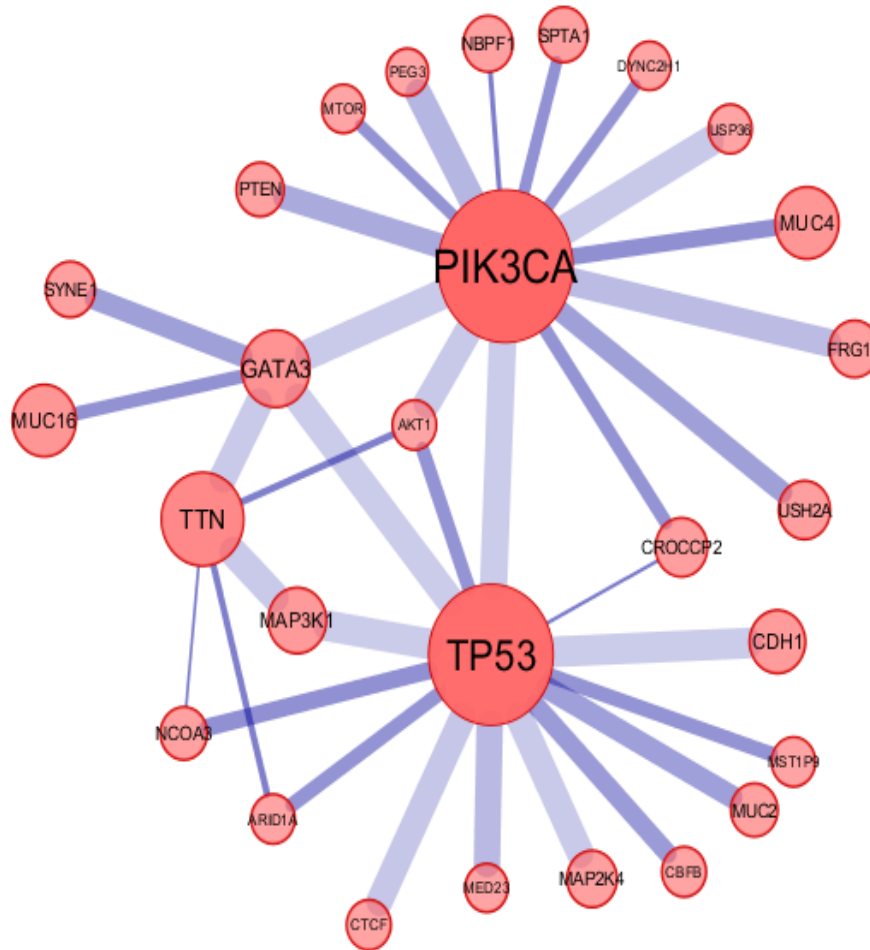
No ME within some modules



Mutual Exclusivity Hubs

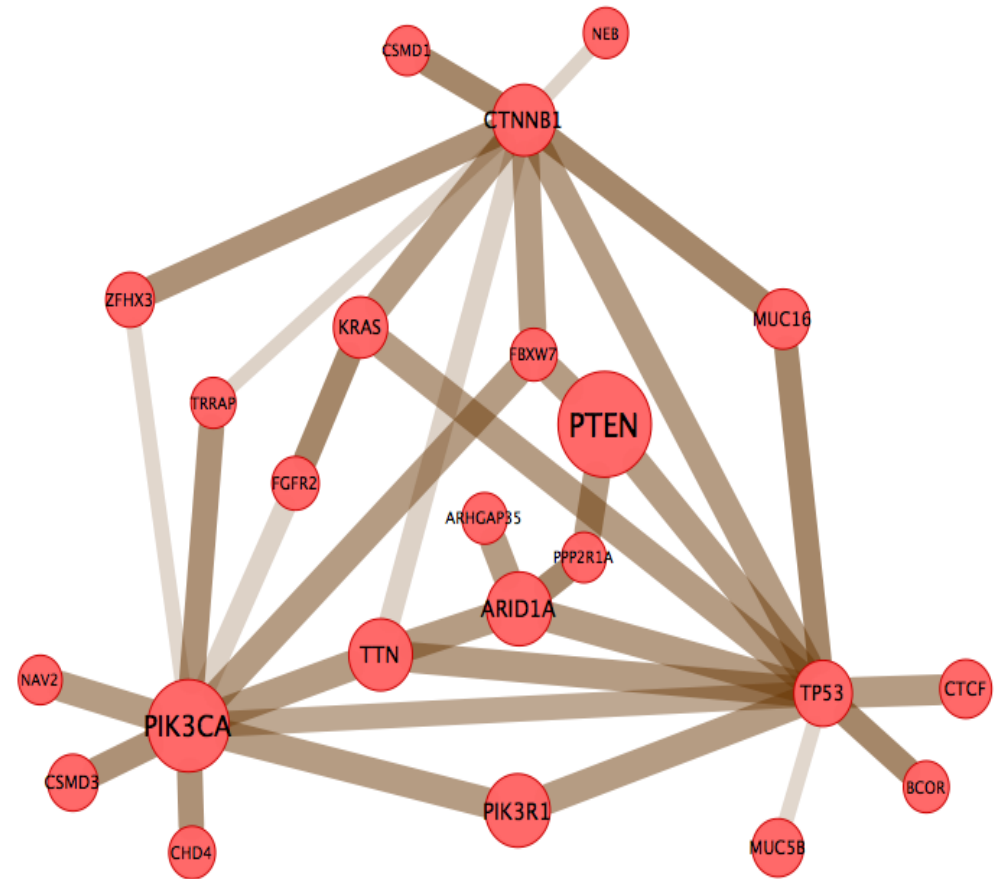


Beyond cancer drivers



BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

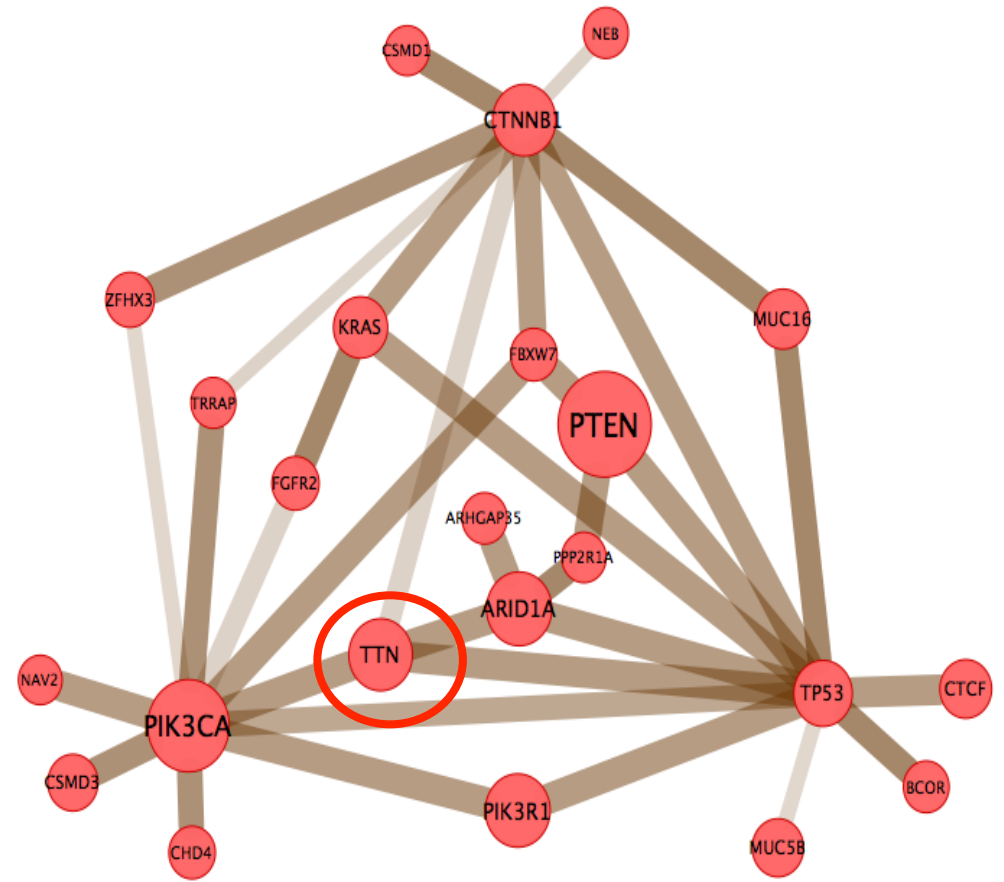
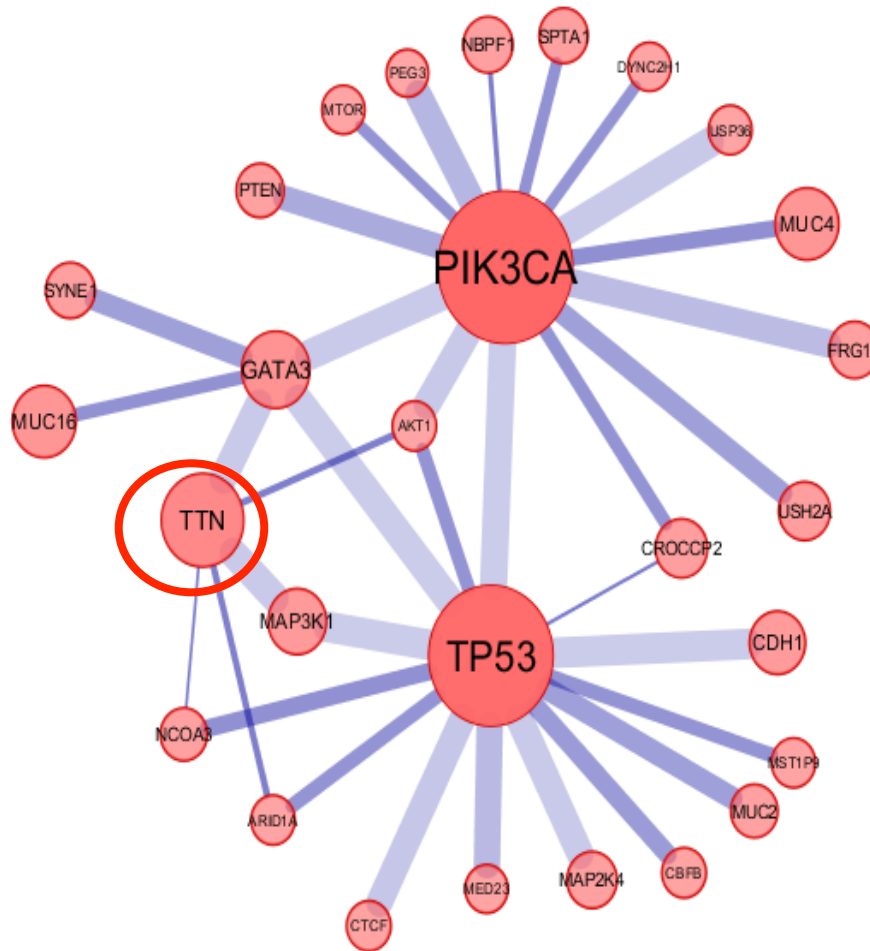
(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)



UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

TTN – presumed passenger - no known role in cancer

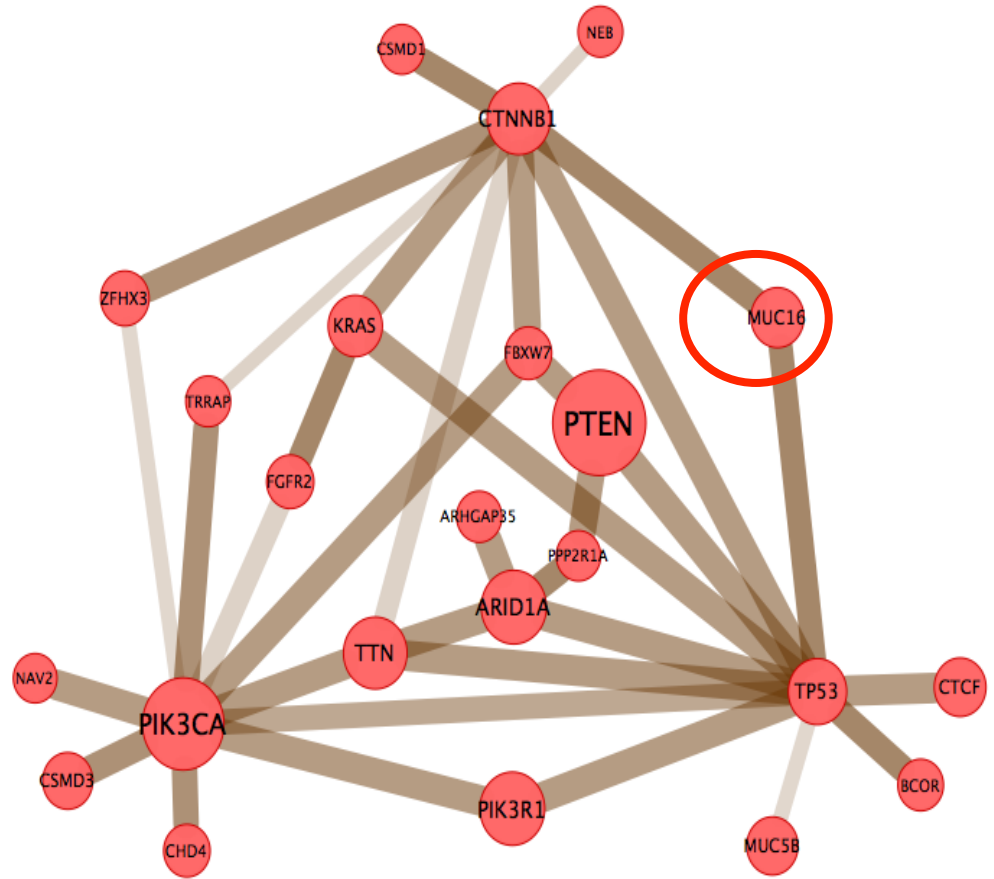
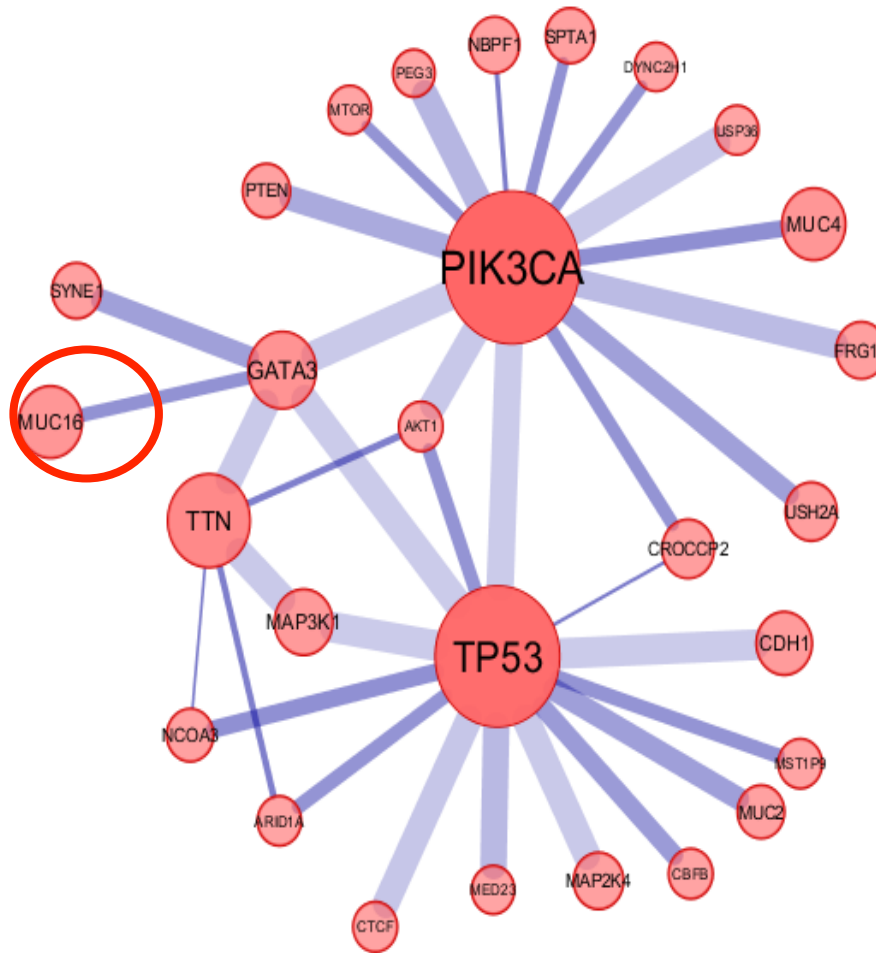


BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

Presumed to be passenger mutations gene has a role in cancer

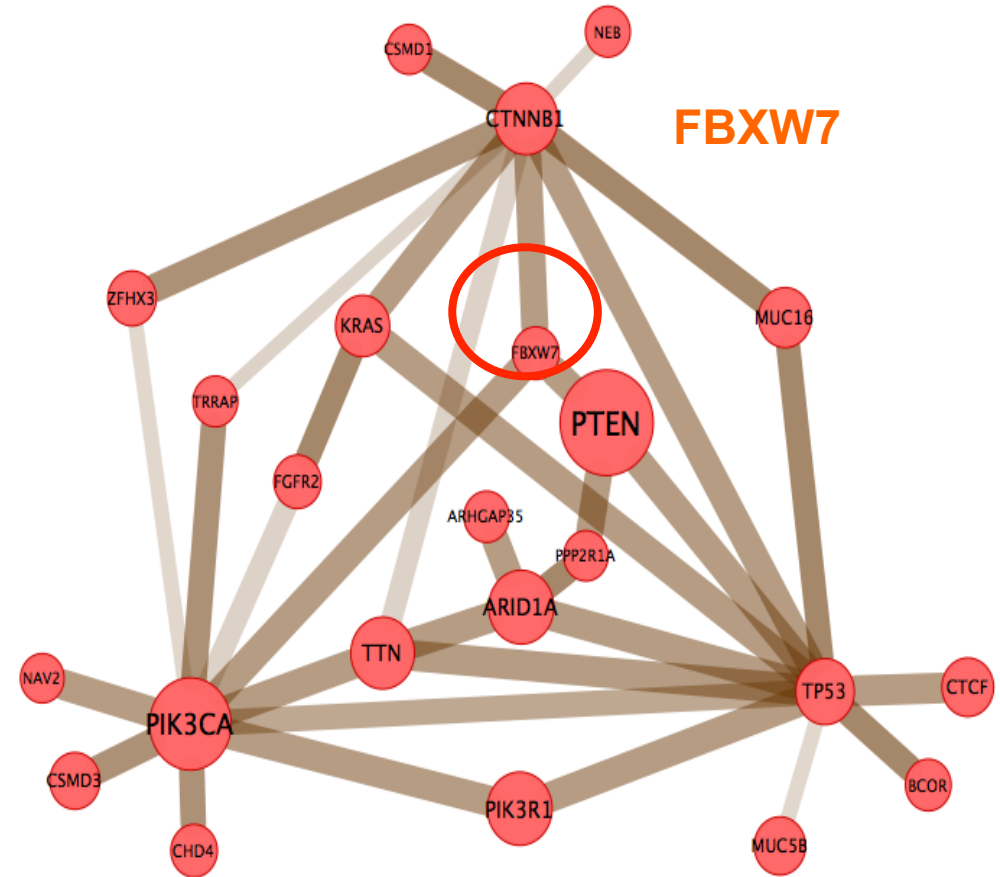
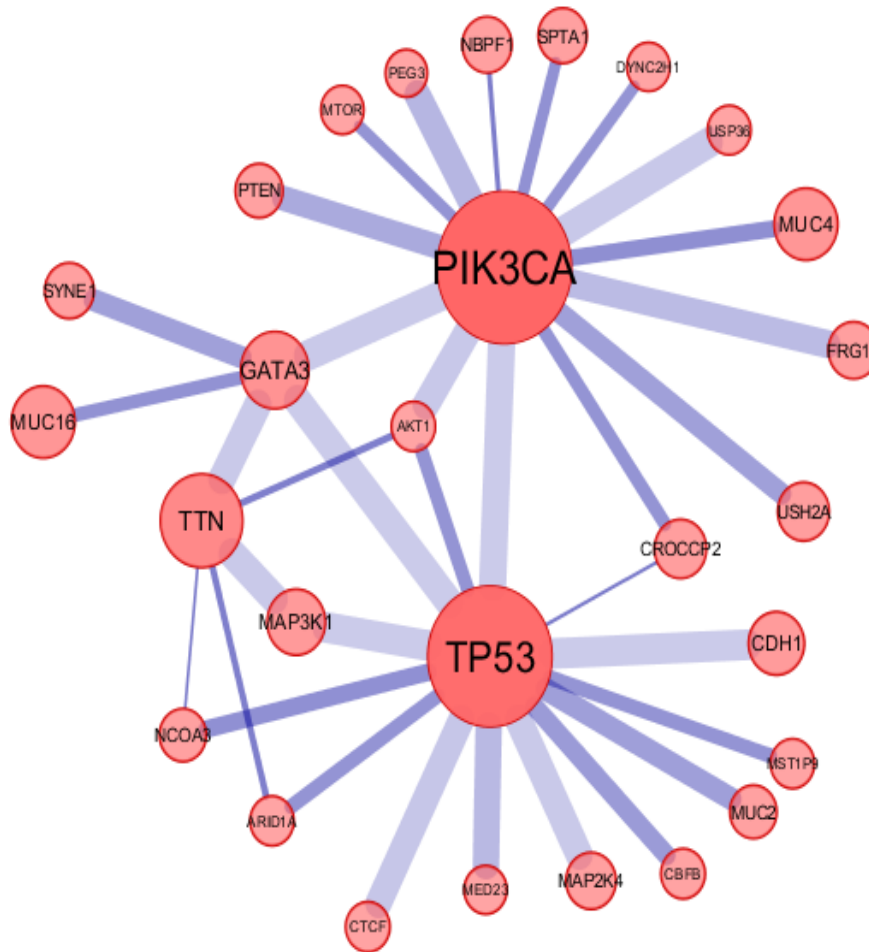


BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

FBXW7 – tumor suppressor but can harbor passenger mutations



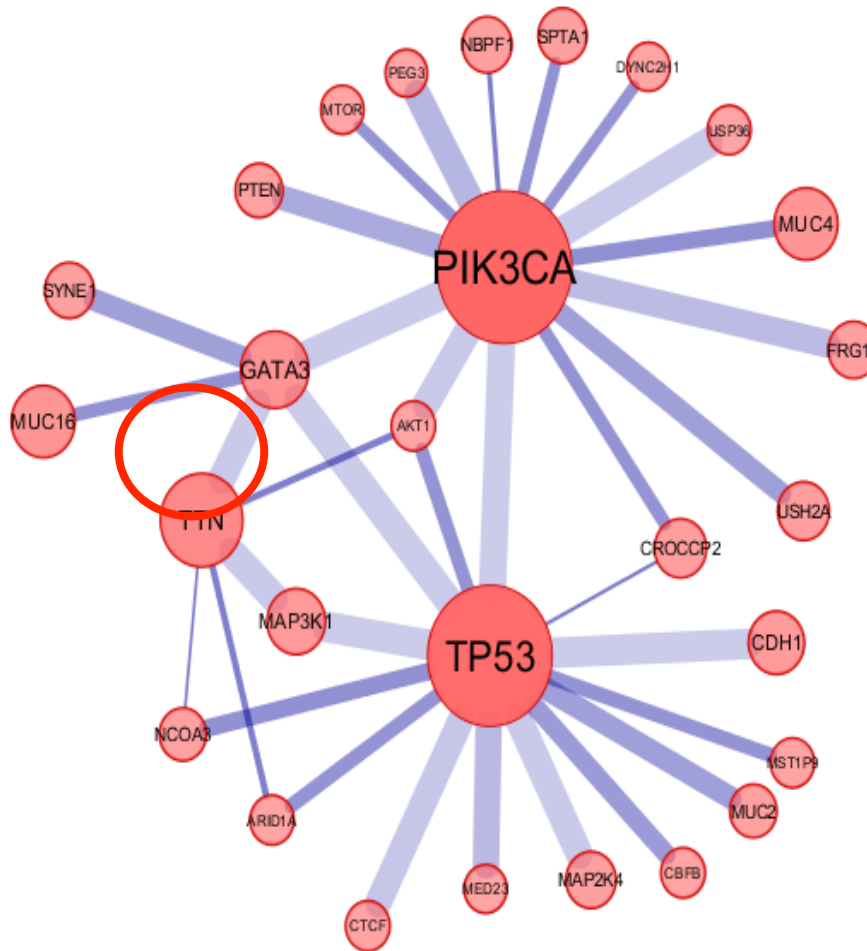
BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

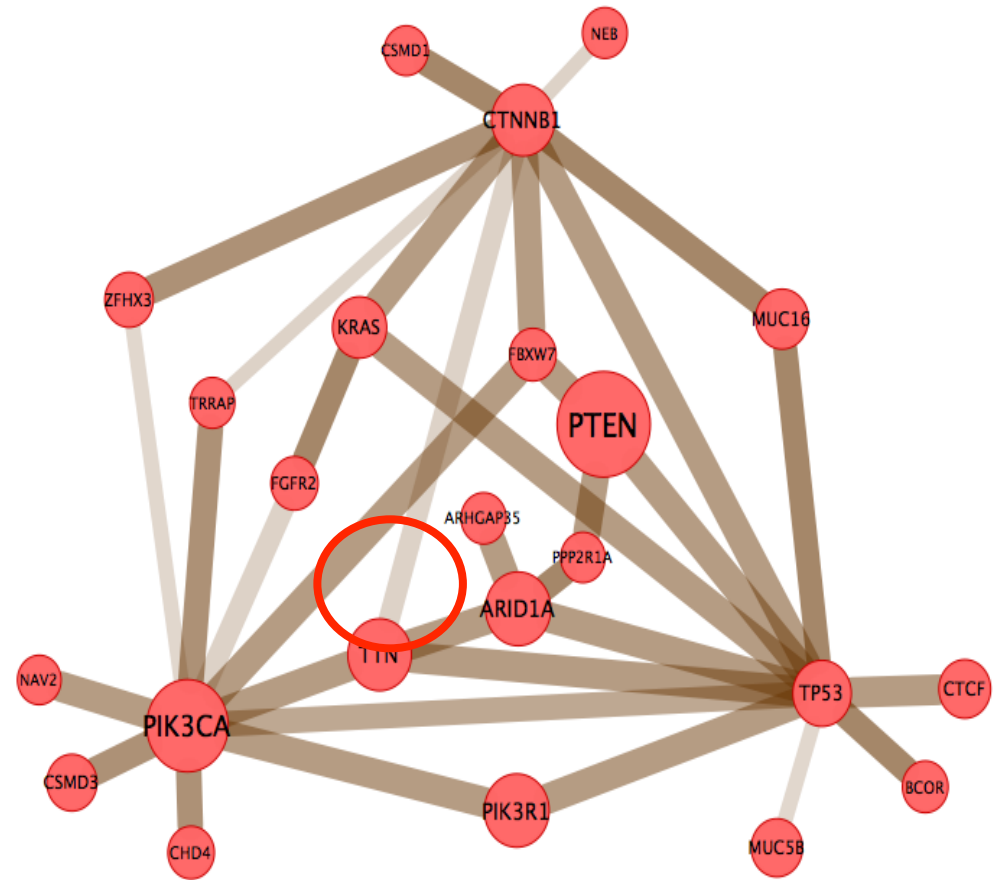
Kim et al. submitted

If TTN is a passenger that what is the train it is ridding on?



BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

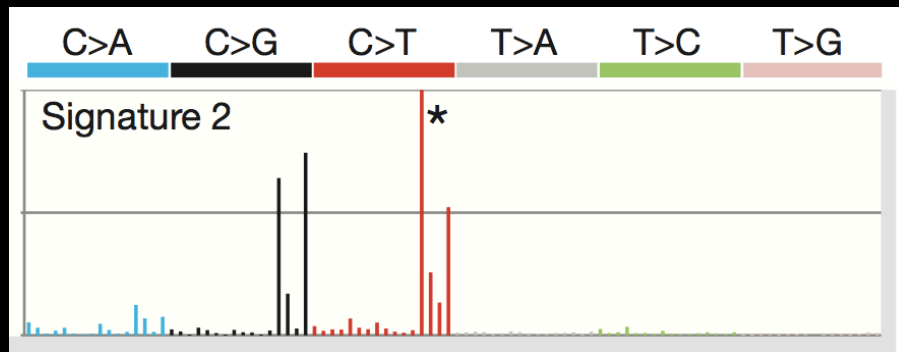


UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

Kim et al. submitted

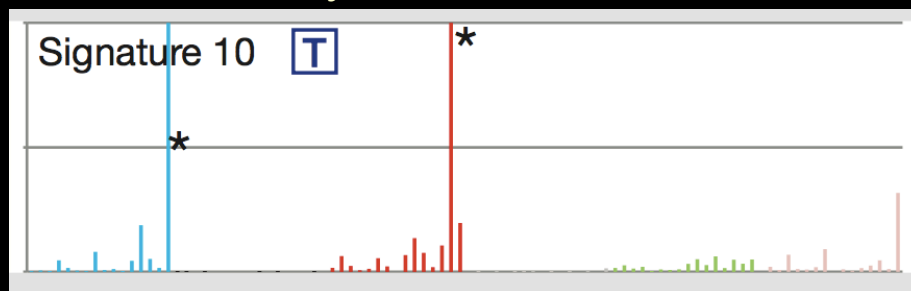
TTN carries APOBEC signature in BRCA and Pol ϵ signature in UCEC

From Alexandrov et al, Nature 2013



Consistent with TTN spectrum in BRCA

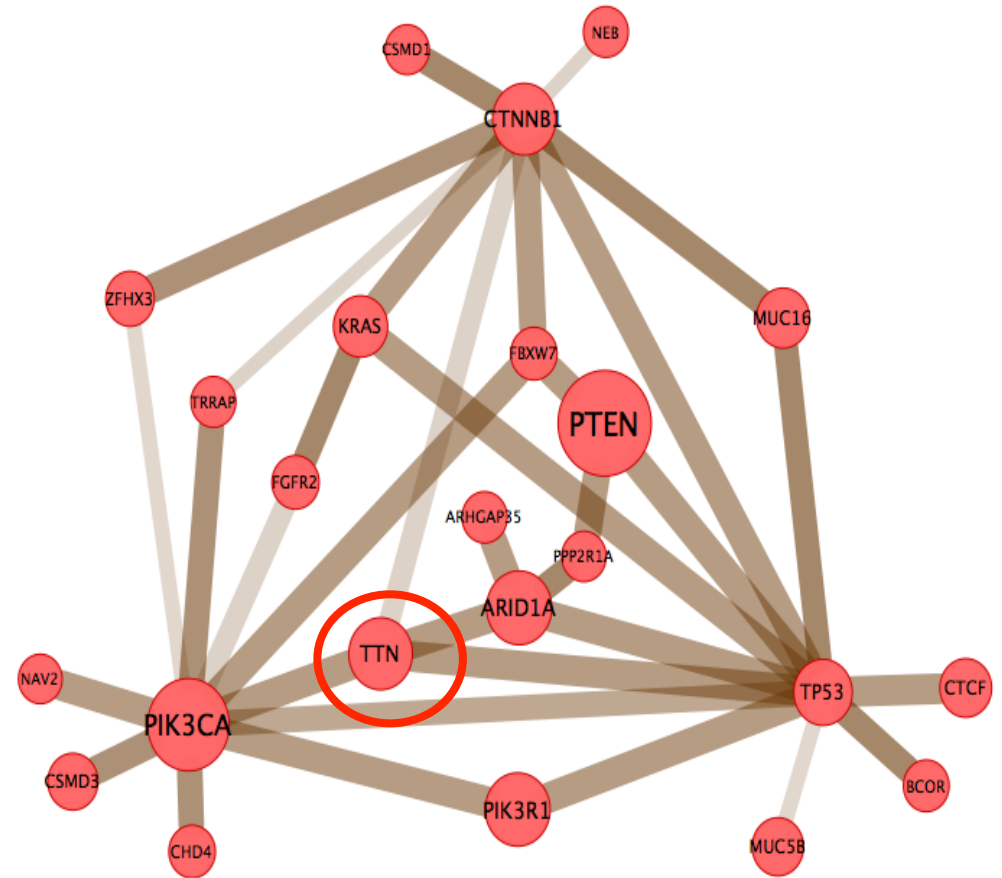
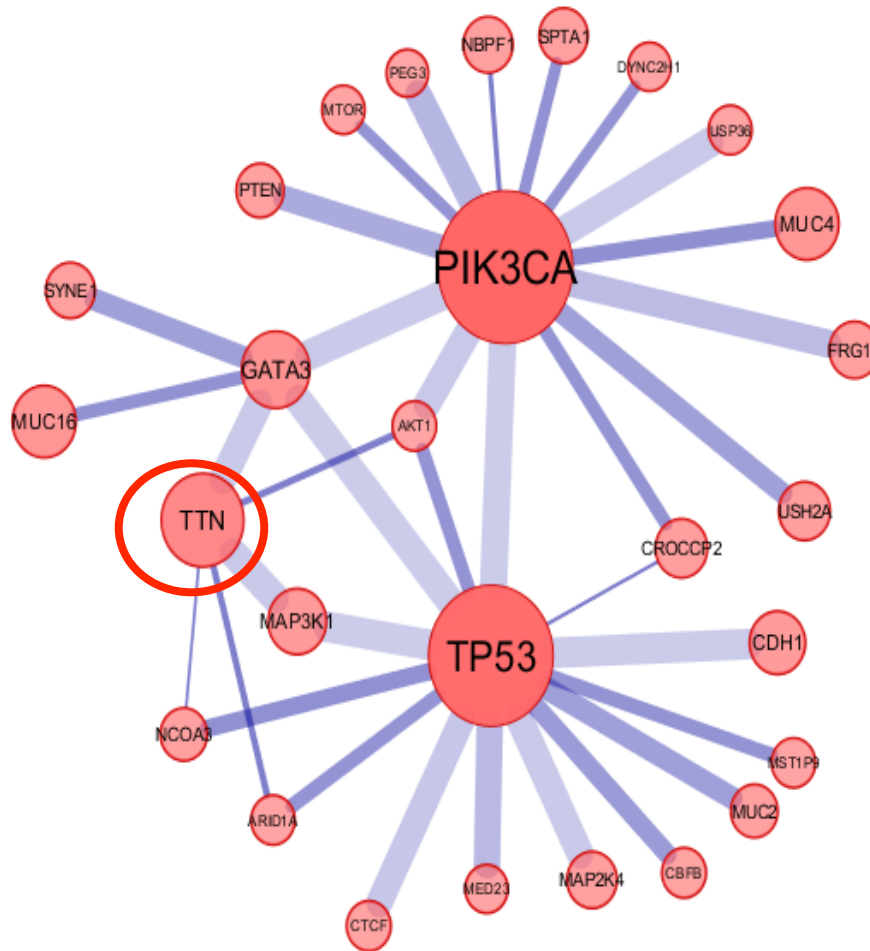
APOBEC cytidine deaminase mutational spectrum



Consistent with TTN spectrum in UCEC

Pol II ϵ mutation mutational spectrum

TTN and TP53 have common neighbors in BRACE



BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

Can APOBEC cause TP53 mutations?

Burns *et al.*

TP53, TTN concurrence

(p-value < 0.0002, hypergeometric test).

Can APOBEC cause TP53 mutations?

Burns *et al.*

TP53, TTN concurrence

(p-value < 0.0002, hypergeometric test).

TP53, TTN concurrence after correcting for patients mutation frequency

p-value > 0.29

Can APOBEC cause TP53 mutations?

Burns *et al.*

TP53, TTN concurrence
(p-value < 0.0002, hypergeometric test).

**TP53, TTN concurrence
after correcting for
patients mutation
frequency**
p-value > 0.29

Immune response



APOBEC



TP53



TTN

True for all TP53 mutations in BRCA?

NO

Immune response



APOBEC

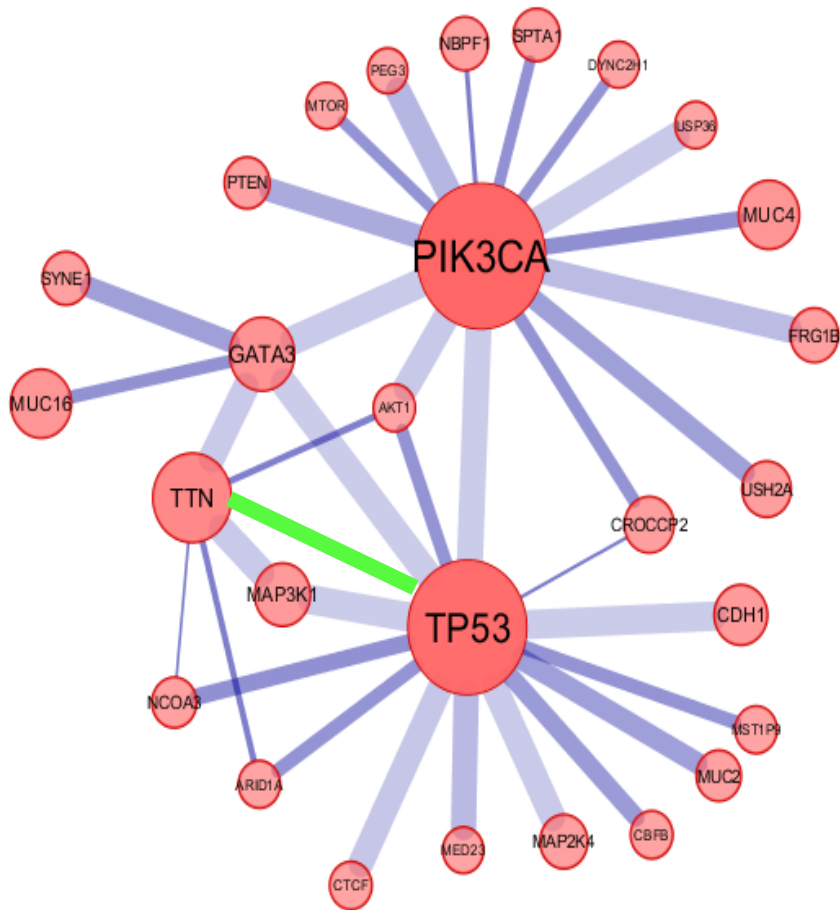


TP53



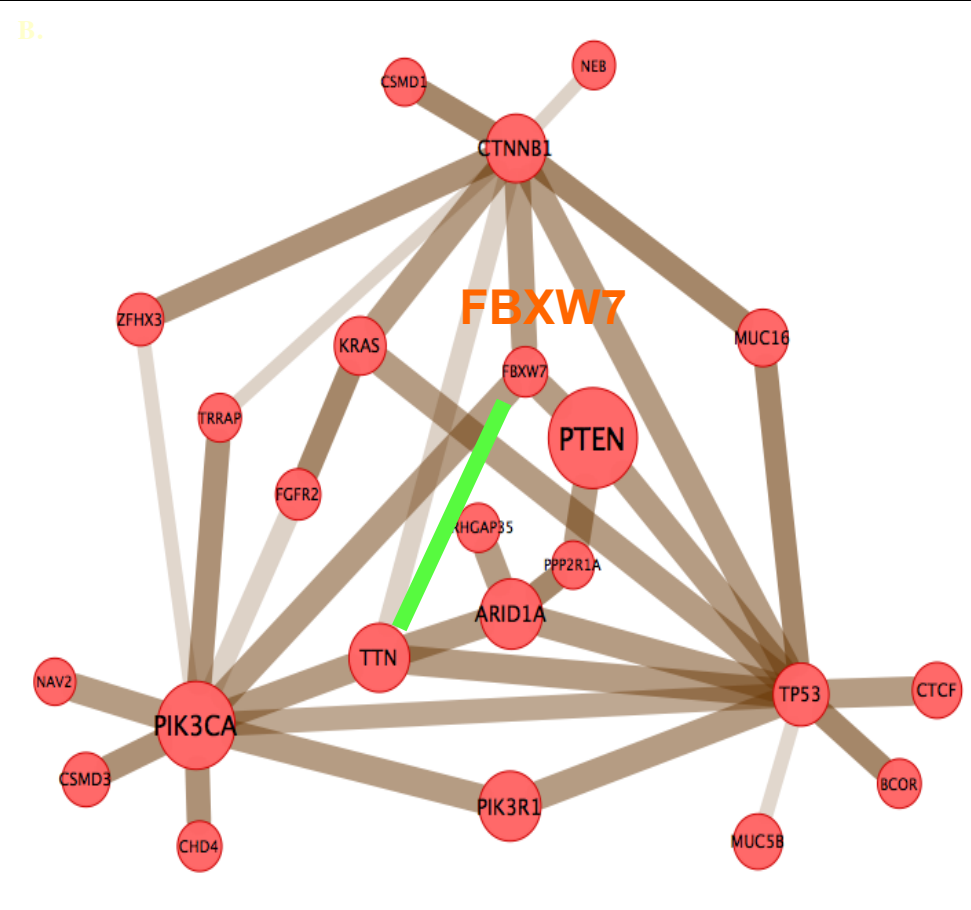
TTN

Co-occurrences - a causal relation or same underlying cause?



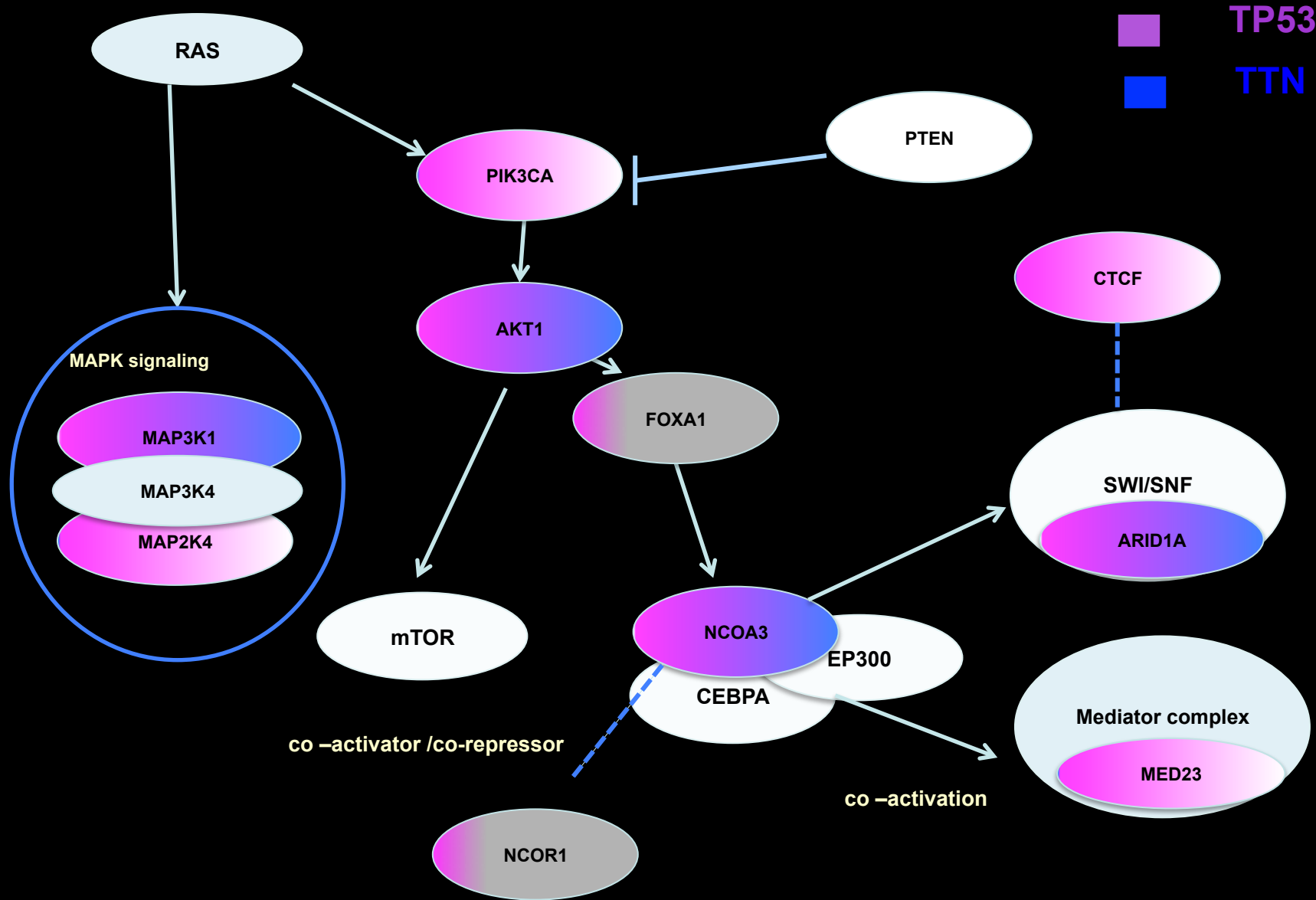
BRCA (FDR 0.0125)

(computed with our new method WeSME; width p-value; color shade FDR)

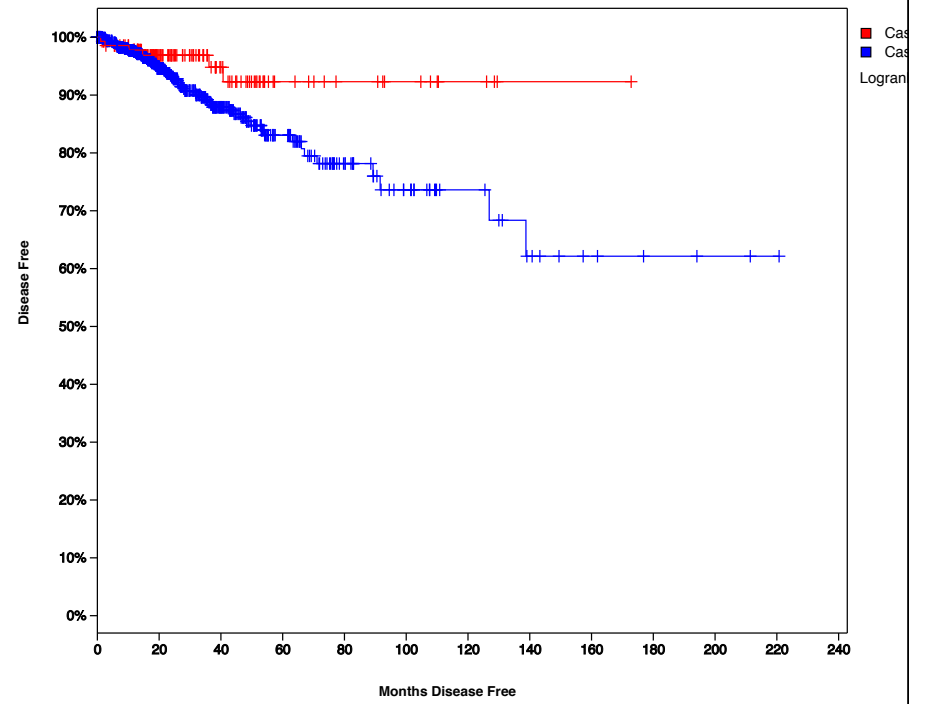
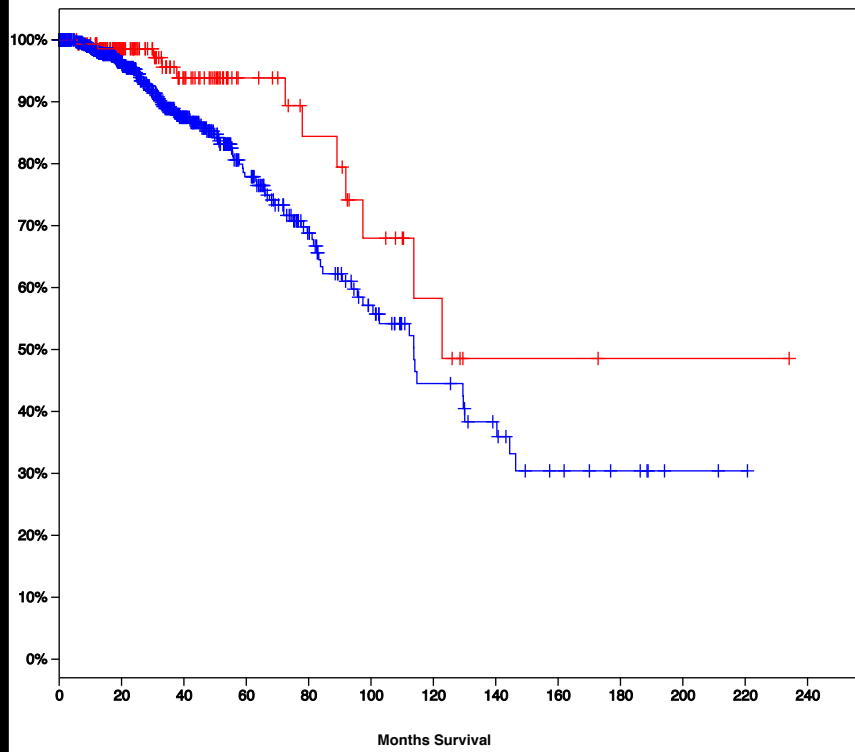


UCEC (FDR 0.0025)

TTN and TP53 share exclusivity partners



Genes ME with TTN are predictors of better survival



Summary

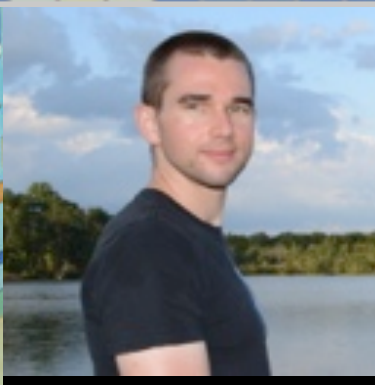
- *Introduction of mutual exclusivity classes and their relation to interaction network*
- *Combining ME with interaction network improves identification of PanCancer dysregulated modules*
- *Mutual exclusivity and co-occurrence of passenger mutations can provide important insights into mutagenesis of cancer*

AlgoCSB

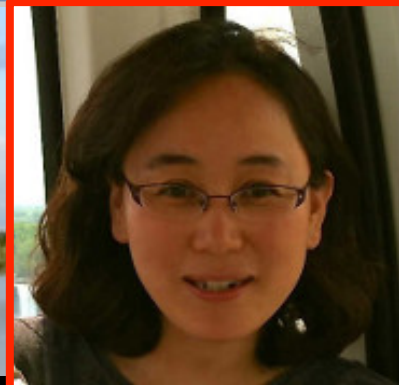
Algorithmic Methods in Computational and Systems Biology



Phung Dao



Jan Hoinka



YooAh Kim



Damian Wojtowicz



Yijie Wang



DongYeon Cho
(alumnae)



Sanna Madan
Pooleville HS