

Testing biological network motif significance with exponential random graph models

Additional file 1

Alex Stivala¹, Alessandro Lomi^{1,2}

¹Università della Svizzera italiana, Via Giuseppe Buffi 13, 6900 Lugano, Switzerland

²The University of Exeter Business School, Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4PU, United Kingdom

alexander.stivala@usi.ch

alessandro.lomi@usi.ch

Supplementary tables

Table S1: Parameter estimates for the Alon *E. coli* regulatory network, estimated using the “stepping” algorithm (Hummel et al, 2012) in the statnet ergm package (Handcock et al, 2008; Morris et al, 2008; Hunter et al, 2008; Handcock et al, 2016, 2021; Krivitsky et al, 2021). The decay parameter α for geometrically weighted dyad-wise shared partners (GWDSP) and geometrically weighted edge-wise shared partners (GWESP) OTP (“outgoing two path”, that is, transitive shared partner) is set to $\log(2.0)$, equivalent to the default value $\lambda = 2.0$ for AltTwoPaths and AltKTrianglesT in the EstimNetDirected software.

Effect	Model 1	Model 2
Edges	-3.113 (0.077)***	-3.025 (0.066)***
GW in-degree ($\alpha = 2$)	-3.954 (0.124)***	-3.818 (0.140)***
GW out-degree ($\alpha = 0$)	1.588 (0.184)***	1.578 (0.190)***
GWDSP OTP ($\alpha = 0.693$)	-0.493 (0.077)***	-0.502 (0.080)***
GWESP OTP ($\alpha = 0.693$)	2.378 (0.201)***	2.382 (0.193)***
Nodematch self		-0.271 (0.086)**
AIC	5445.00	5426.00
BIC	5495.00	5487.00

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$; · $p < 0.1$.

Table S2: Parameter estimates for the Alon yeast regulatory network, with the default $\lambda = 2$ for the “alternating” parameters.

Effect	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
Arc	-10.578 (-10.820,-10.335)	-10.080 (-10.331,-9.828)	-10.093 (-10.342,-9.844)
Sink	3.124 (-3.407,9.655)	3.039 (-3.644,9.721)	3.003 (-3.637,9.642)
Source	2.903 (-4.488,10.295)	1.601 (-6.715,9.917)	1.949 (-6.490,10.389)
Reciprocity	—	—	-10.800 (-26.307,4.707)
AltInStars	0.347 (-2.723,3.416)	0.427 (-2.804,3.658)	0.336 (-2.818,3.490)
AltOutStars	2.860 (-0.278,5.998)	2.585 (-0.515,5.685)	2.637 (-0.537,5.811)
AltTwoPathsT	—	-0.110 (-0.581,0.360)	-0.149 (-0.607,0.310)
AltKTrianglesT	1.227 (0.315,2.139)	1.706 (-0.773,4.185)	2.390 (0.011,4.770)

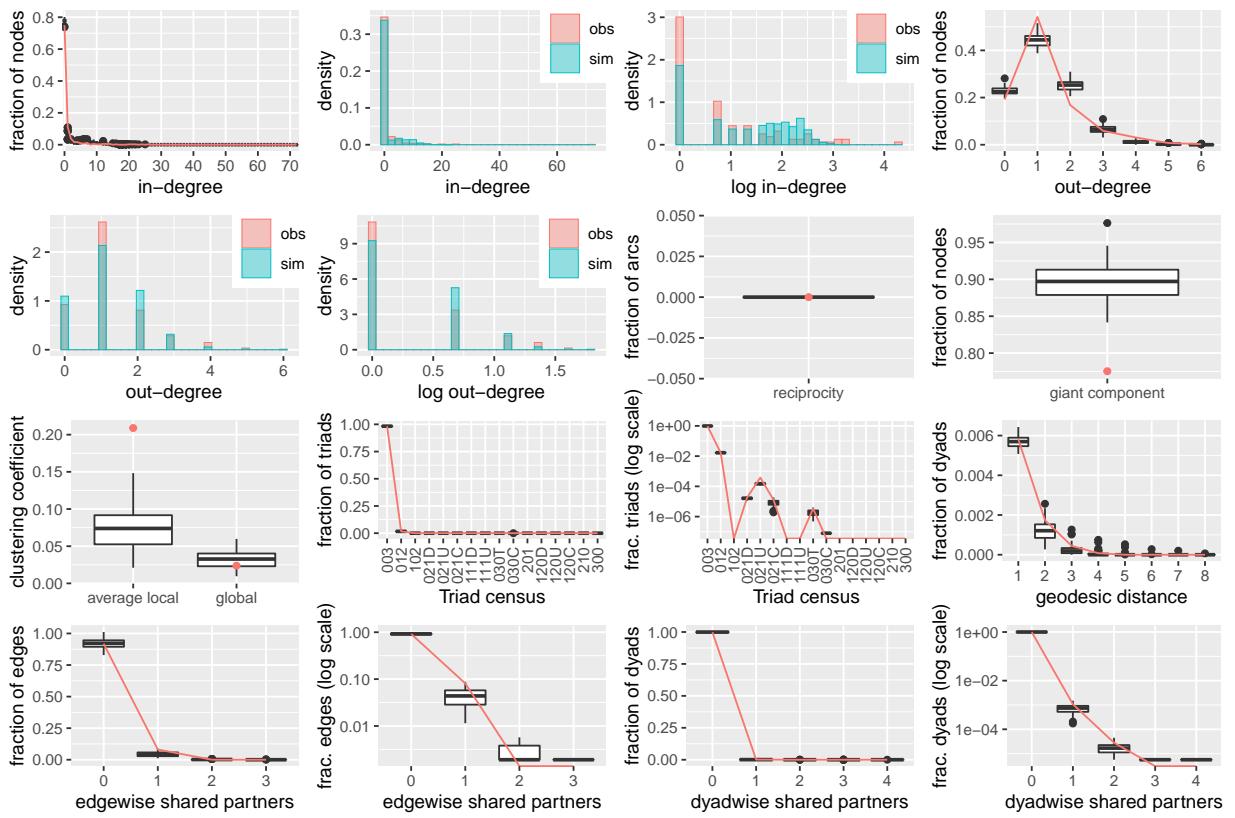
Parameter estimates that are statistically significant at the 95% level are shown in bold. Model 3 is included for illustration, even though it shows poor convergence with respect to the Reciprocity parameter (t-ratio magnitude is greater than 0.3)

Table S3: Parameter estimates for the Alon yeast regulatory network, with self-edges included. The decay parameters λ are set to the best value found by grid search in the network without self-edges, as described in the main text.

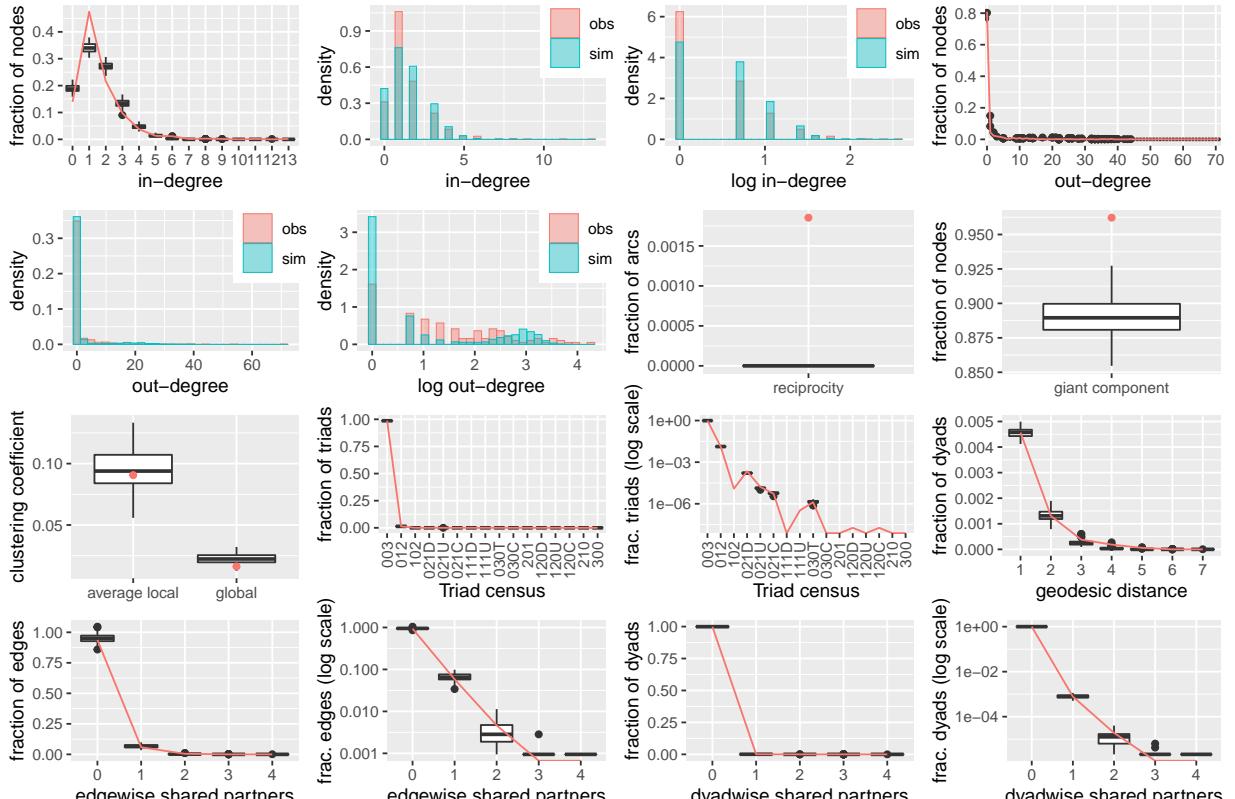
Effect	Model 1	Model 2
Arc	-7.430 (-7.606,-7.254)	-7.521 (-7.702,-7.340)
Loop	—	1.720 (-3.650,7.091)
AltInStars	-0.466 (-1.498,0.566)	-0.414 (-1.414,0.585)
AltOutStars ($\lambda = 4.5$)	1.000 (0.757,1.243)	1.005 (0.757,1.252)
AltTwoPathsT ($\lambda = 1.5$)	-0.304 (-0.675,0.068)	-0.294 (-0.672,0.084)
AltKTrianglesT ($\lambda = 1.5$)	1.884 (0.059,3.709)	1.868 (0.031,3.704)

Parameter estimates that are statistically significant at the 95% level are shown in bold.

Supplementary figures

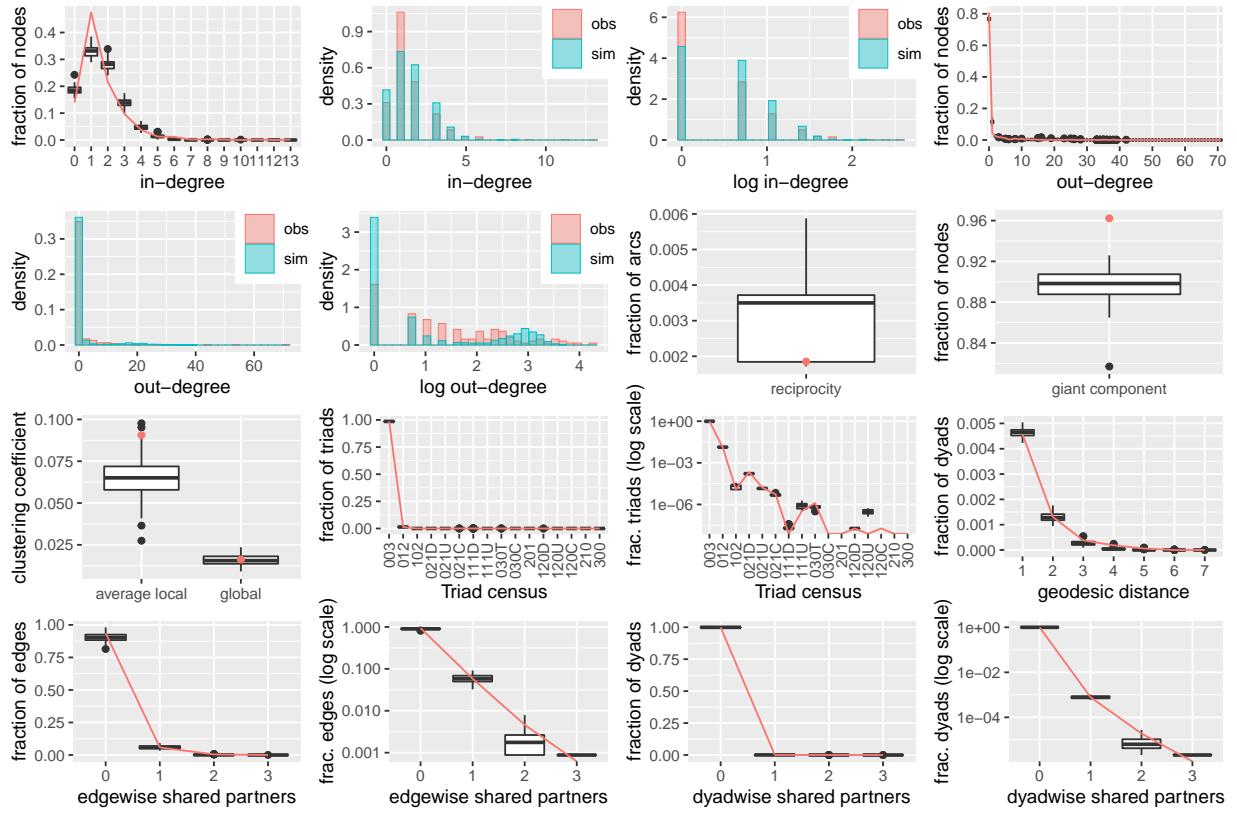


a

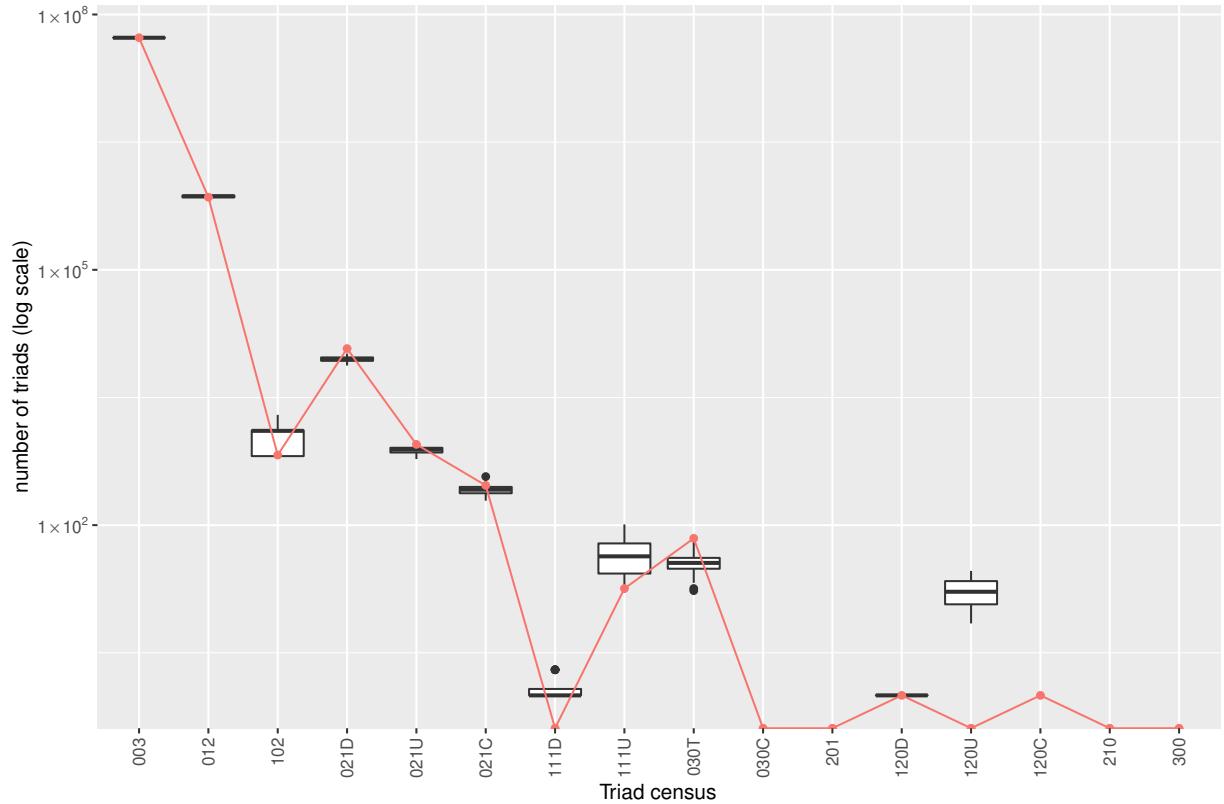


b

Figure S1: Goodness-of-fit plots for (a) the Alon *E. coli* regulatory network Model 1 (Table 6 in the main text), and (b) the Alon yeast regulatory network Model 1 (Table 7 in the main text). The observed network statistics are plotted in red with the statistics of 100 simulated networks plotted as black boxplots, and blue on the histograms.

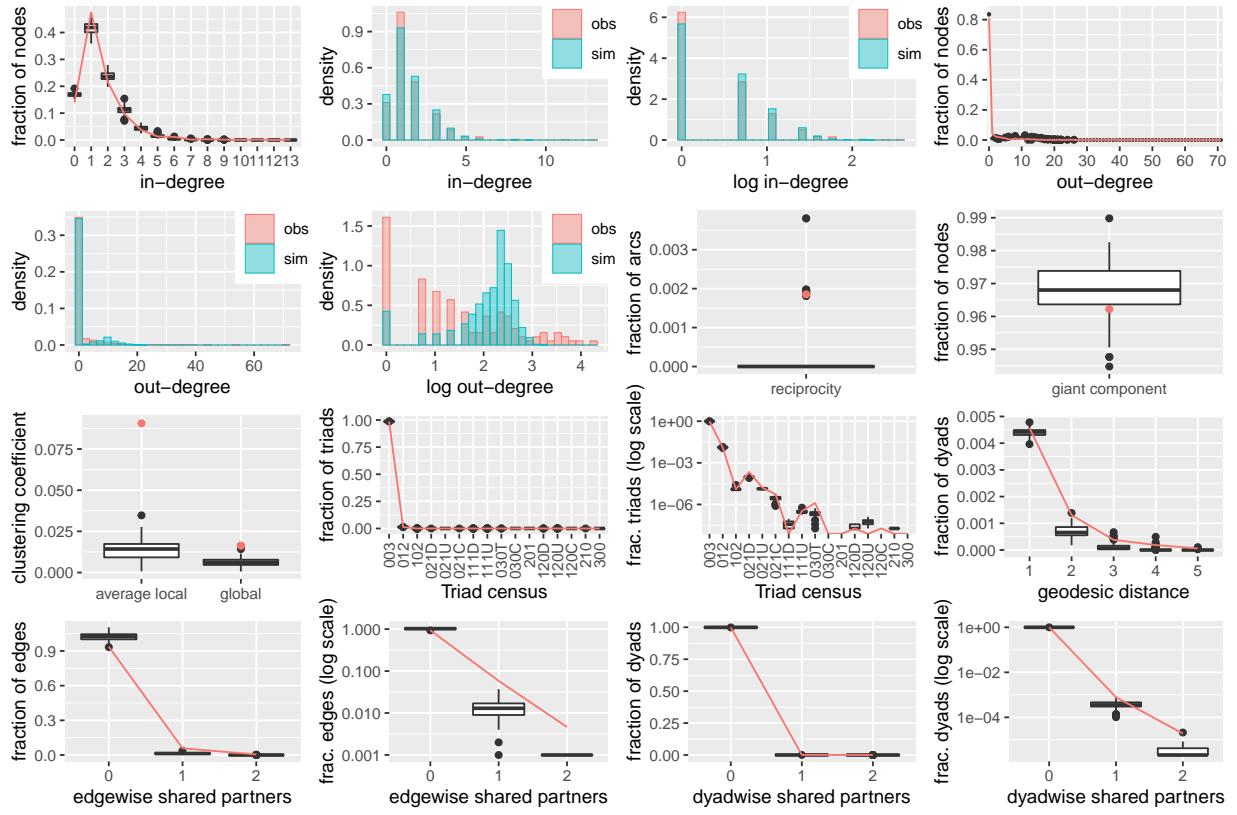


a

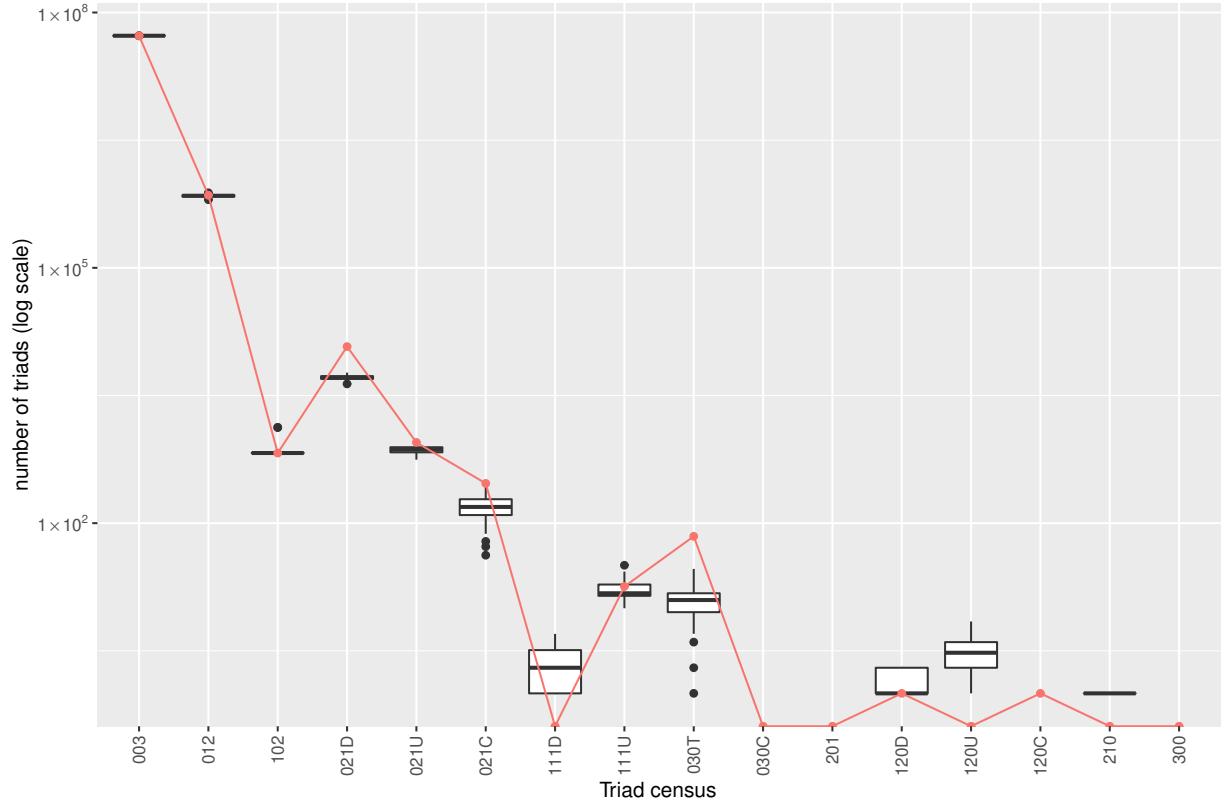


b

Figure S2: (a) Goodness-of-fit plots, and (b) triad census goodness-of-fit plot, for the Alon yeast regulatory network Model 2 (Table 7 in the main text). The observed network statistics are plotted in red with the statistics of 100 simulated networks plotted as black boxplots, and blue on the histograms.

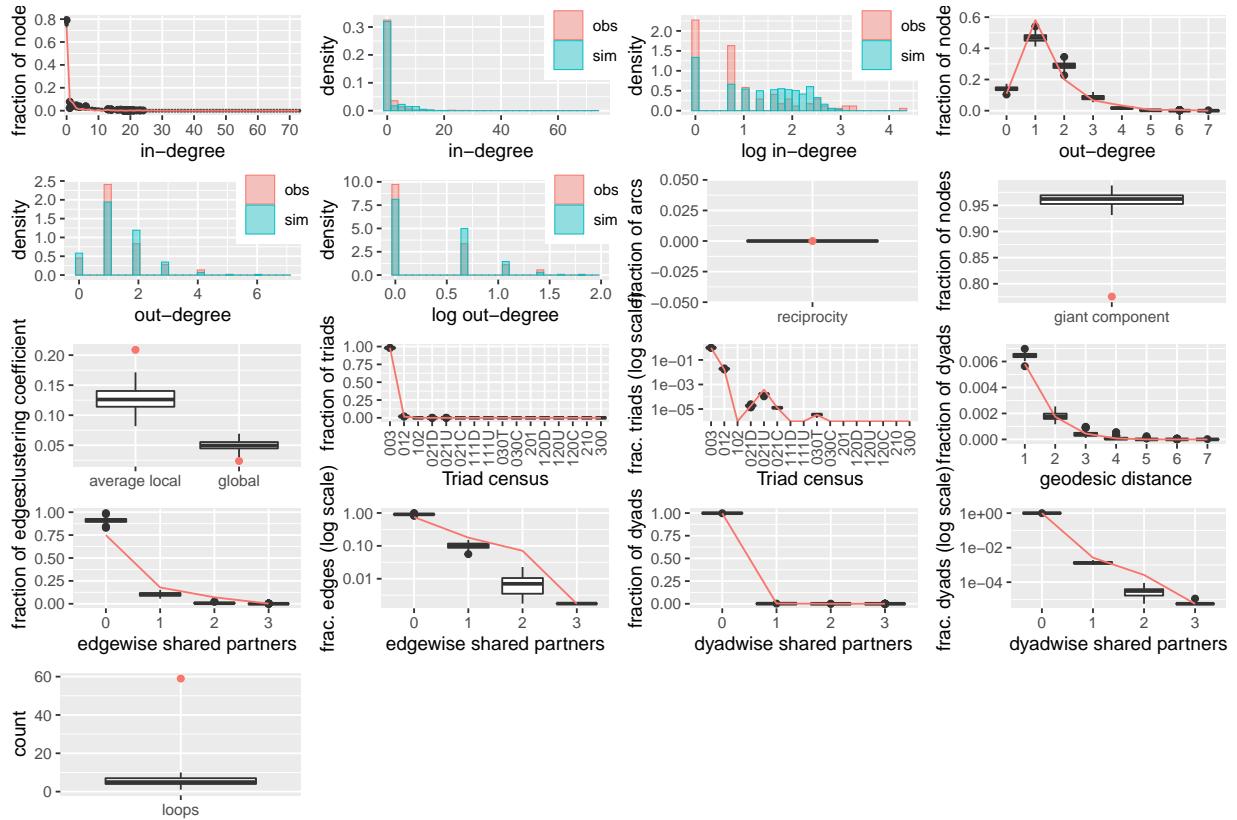


a

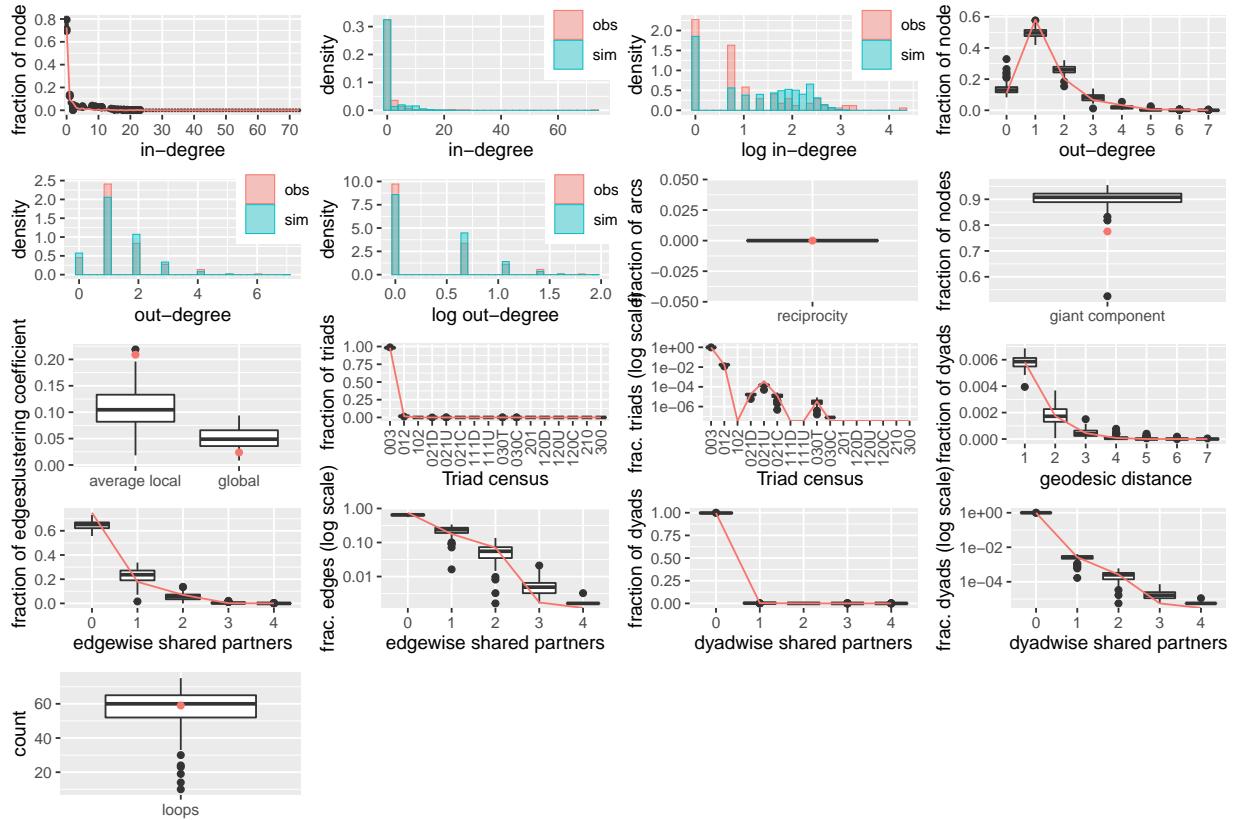


b

Figure S3: (a) Goodness-of-fit plots, and (b) triad census goodness-of-fit plot, for the Alon yeast regulatory network Model 2, with default decay parameter value $\lambda = 2.0$ (Table S2). The observed network statistics are plotted in red with the statistics of 100 simulated networks plotted as black boxplots, and blue on the histograms.

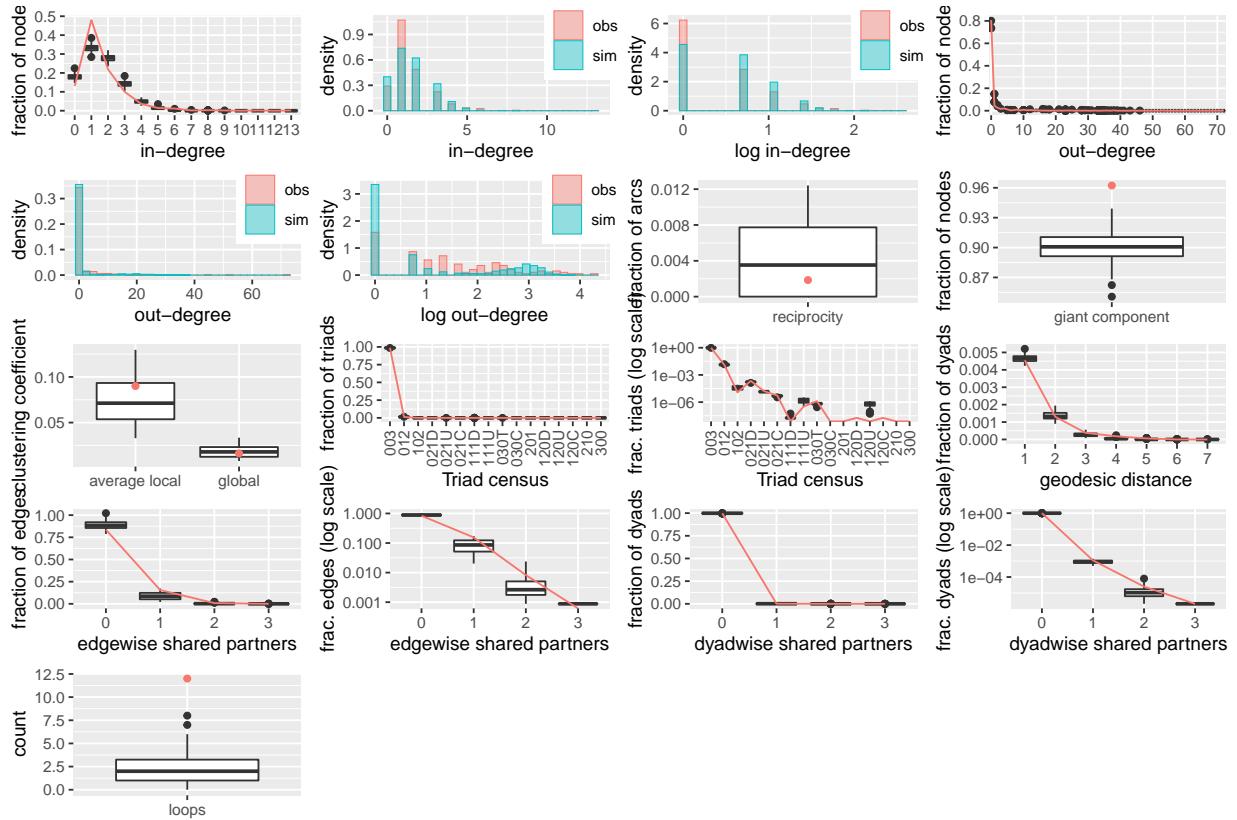


a

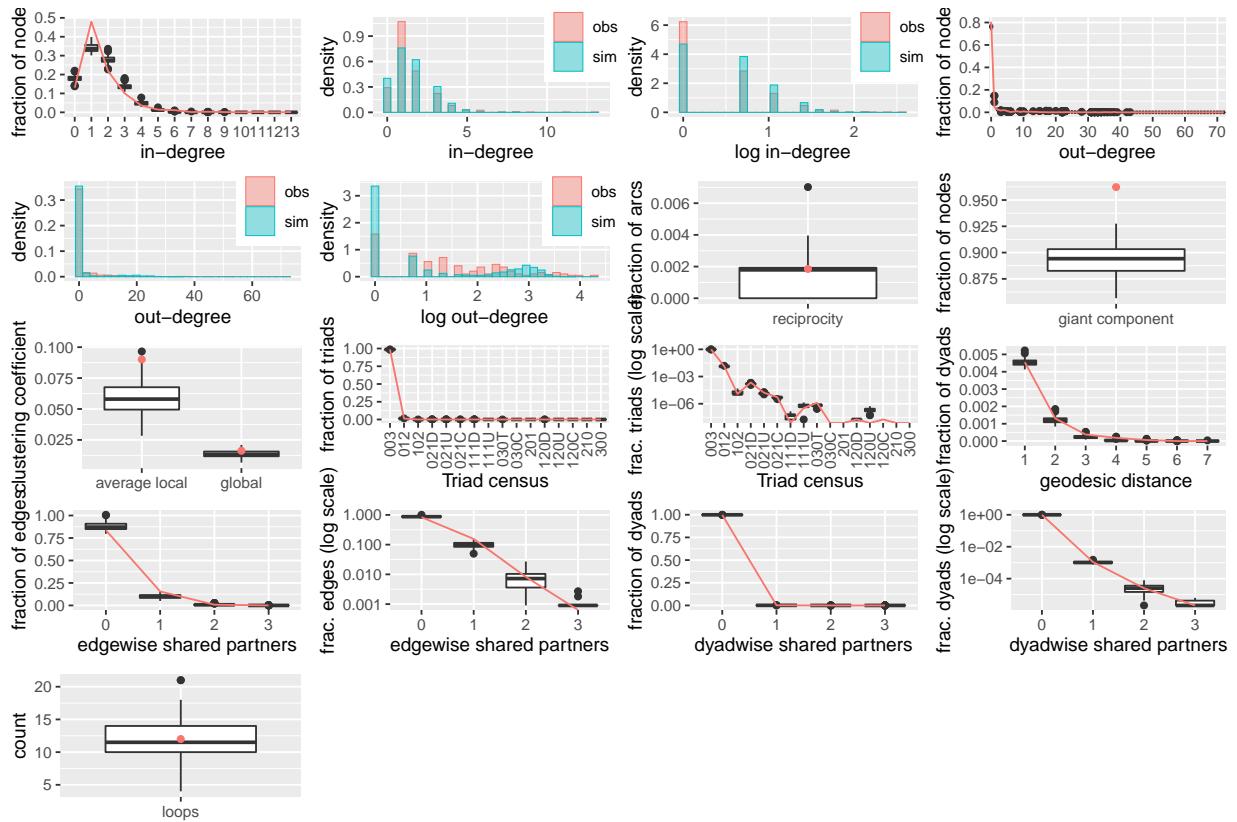


b

Figure S4: Goodness-of-fit plots for the Alon *E. coli* regulatory network with self-edges (Models 3 and 4 in Table 6 in main text). (a) Model 3, with no Loop parameter, and (b) Model 4, with the Loop parameter included.



a



b

Figure S5: Goodness-of-fit plots for the Alon yeast regulatory regulatory network models with self-edges (Table S3). (a) Model 1, with no Loop parameter, and (b) Model 2, with the Loop parameter included.

Goodness-of-fit diagnostics

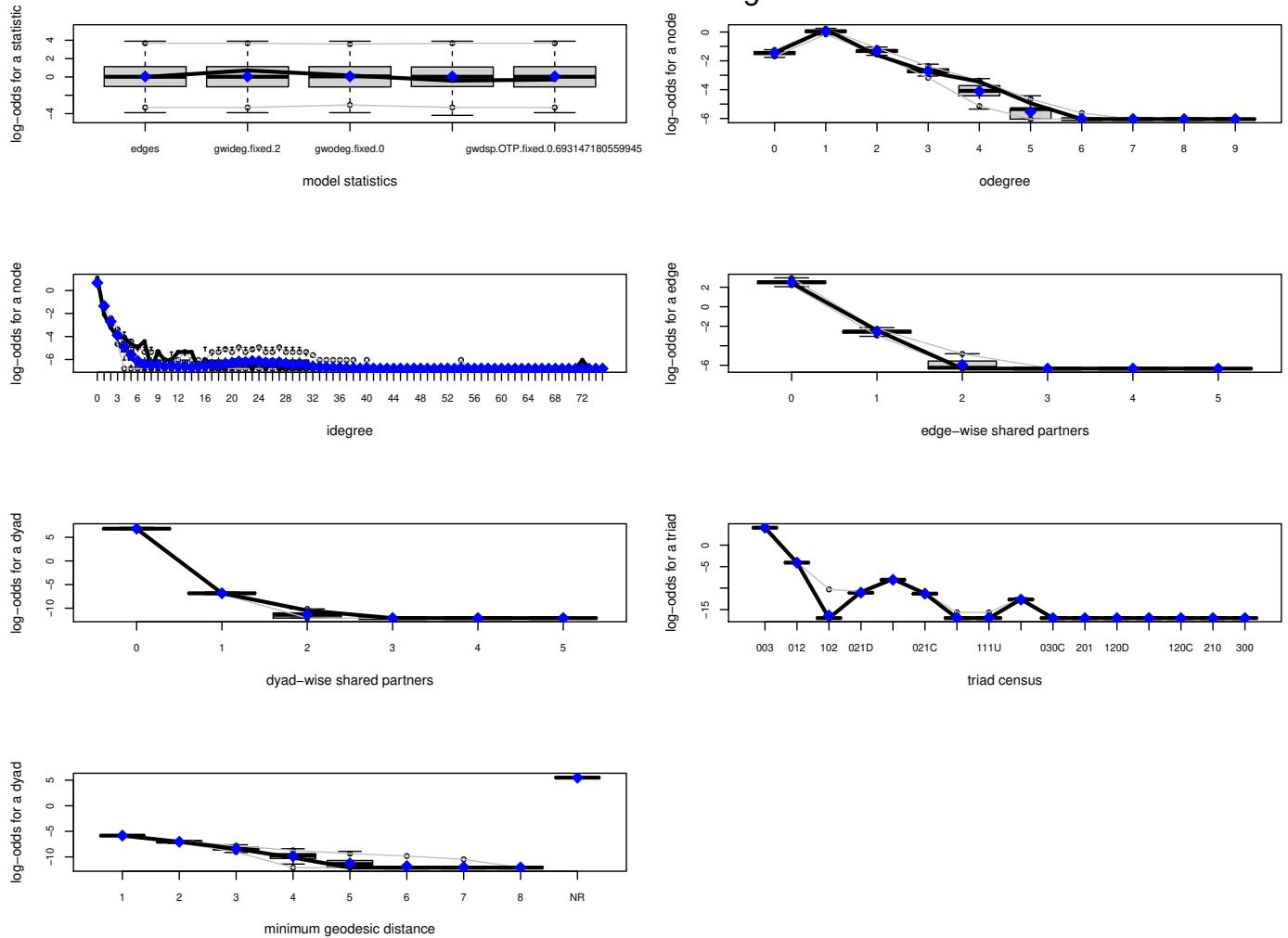


Figure S6: Statnet goodness-of-fit plots for the Alon *E. coli* regulatory network, Model 1 (Table S1).

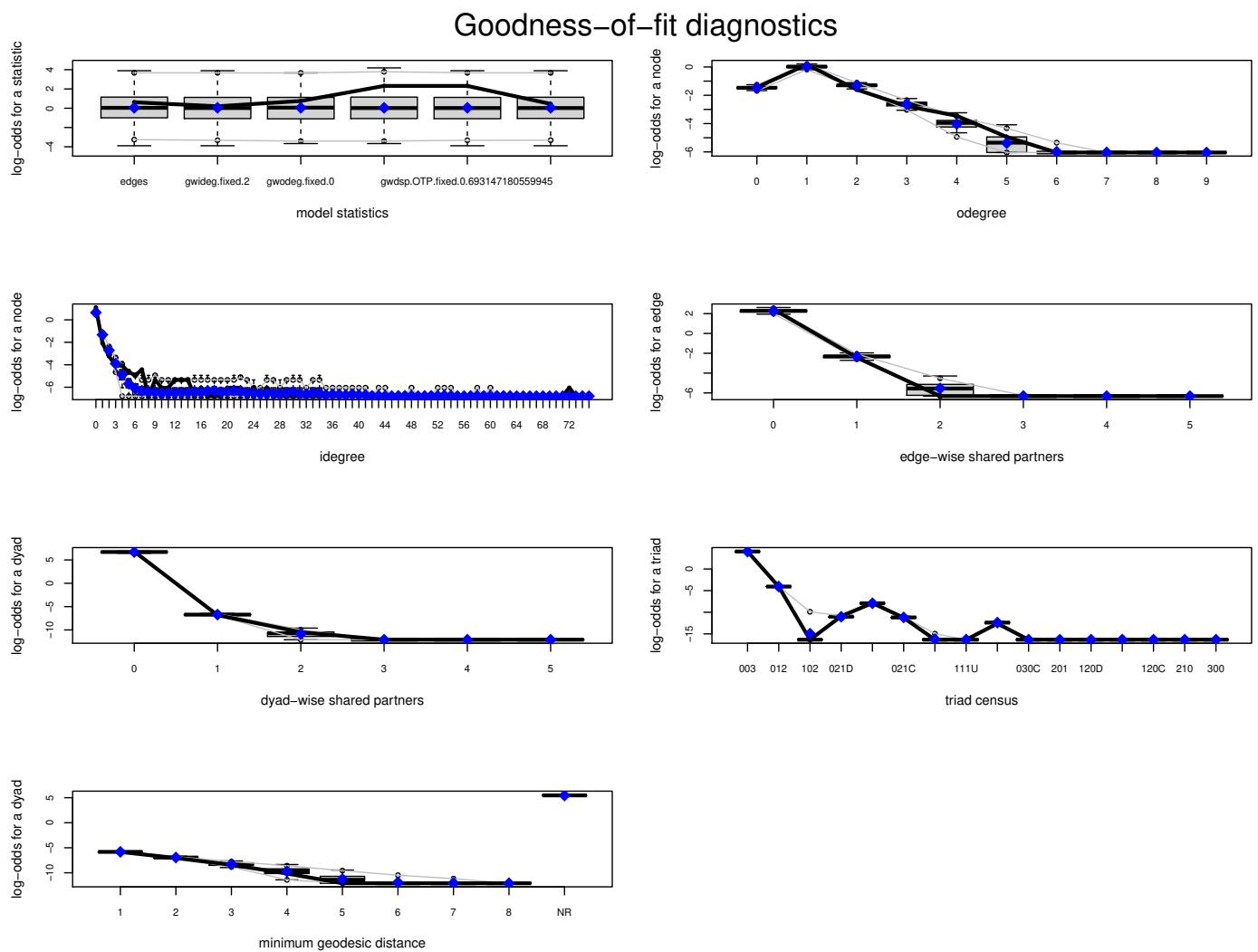


Figure S7: Statnet goodness-of-fit plots for the Alon *E. coli* regulatory network, Model 2 (Table S1).

References

- Handcock MS, Hunter DR, Butts CT, Goodreau SM, Morris, Martina (2008) statnet: Software tools for the representation, visualization, analysis and simulation of network data. *J Stat Softw* 24(1):1–11, URL <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v24/i01>
- Handcock MS, Hunter DR, Butts CT, Goodreau SM, Krivitsky PN, Bender-deMoll S, Morris M (2016) statnet: Software Tools for the Statistical Analysis of Network Data. The Statnet Project (<http://www.statnet.org>), URL CRAN.R-project.org/package=statnet, R package version 2016.9
- Handcock MS, Hunter DR, Butts CT, Goodreau SM, Krivitsky PN, Morris M (2021) ergm: Fit, Simulate and Diagnose Exponential-Family Models for Networks. The Statnet Project (<https://statnet.org>), URL <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=ergm>, R package version 4.1.2
- Hummel RM, Hunter DR, Handcock MS (2012) Improving simulation-based algorithms for fitting ERGMs. *J Comput Graph Stat* 21(4):920–939
- Hunter DR, Handcock MS, Butts CT, Goodreau SM, Morris M (2008) ergm: A package to fit, simulate and diagnose exponential-family models for networks. *J Stat Softw* 24(3):1–29, URL <https://www.jstatsoft.org/v024/i03>
- Krivitsky PN, Hunter DR, Morris M, Klumb C (2021) ergm 4.0: New features and improvements. arXiv preprint arXiv:210604997
- Morris M, Handcock M, Hunter D (2008) Specification of exponential-family random graph models: Terms and computational aspects. *J Stat Softw* 24(4):1–24, URL <https://www.jstatsoft.org/v024/i04>