

GRAPHS FOR INCONSISTENCY

in Network Meta-Analysis

Forest plot with inconsistency factors estimated by the loop-specific approach for inconsistency

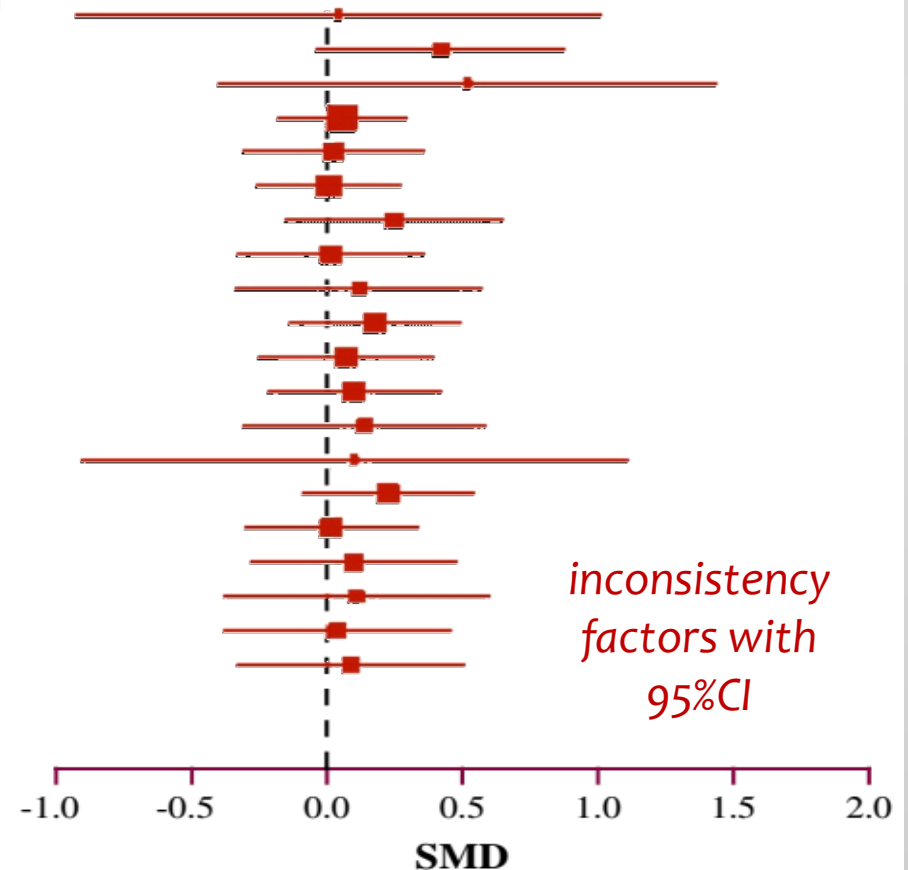
[Example in Salanti et al. 2009]

Evaluation of incoherence in closed loops

Estimates with 95% confidence intervals

Closed loops

NGV
NGR
NRV
PTG
PTV
PTR
TGV
TGR
TRV
PGV
PGR
PRV
GRV
NGRV
PTGV
PTGR
PTRV
TGRV
PGRV
PTGRV



‘Net-heat plot’: a plot showing the contribution of the direct estimates to the network estimates and the change in inconsistency when detaching one comparison from the network

[Example in Krahn et al. 2013]

possible important sources of inconsistency

detached comparisons

decrease in inconsistency after detaching a comparison

observed comparisons in the network

increase in inconsistency after detaching a comparison

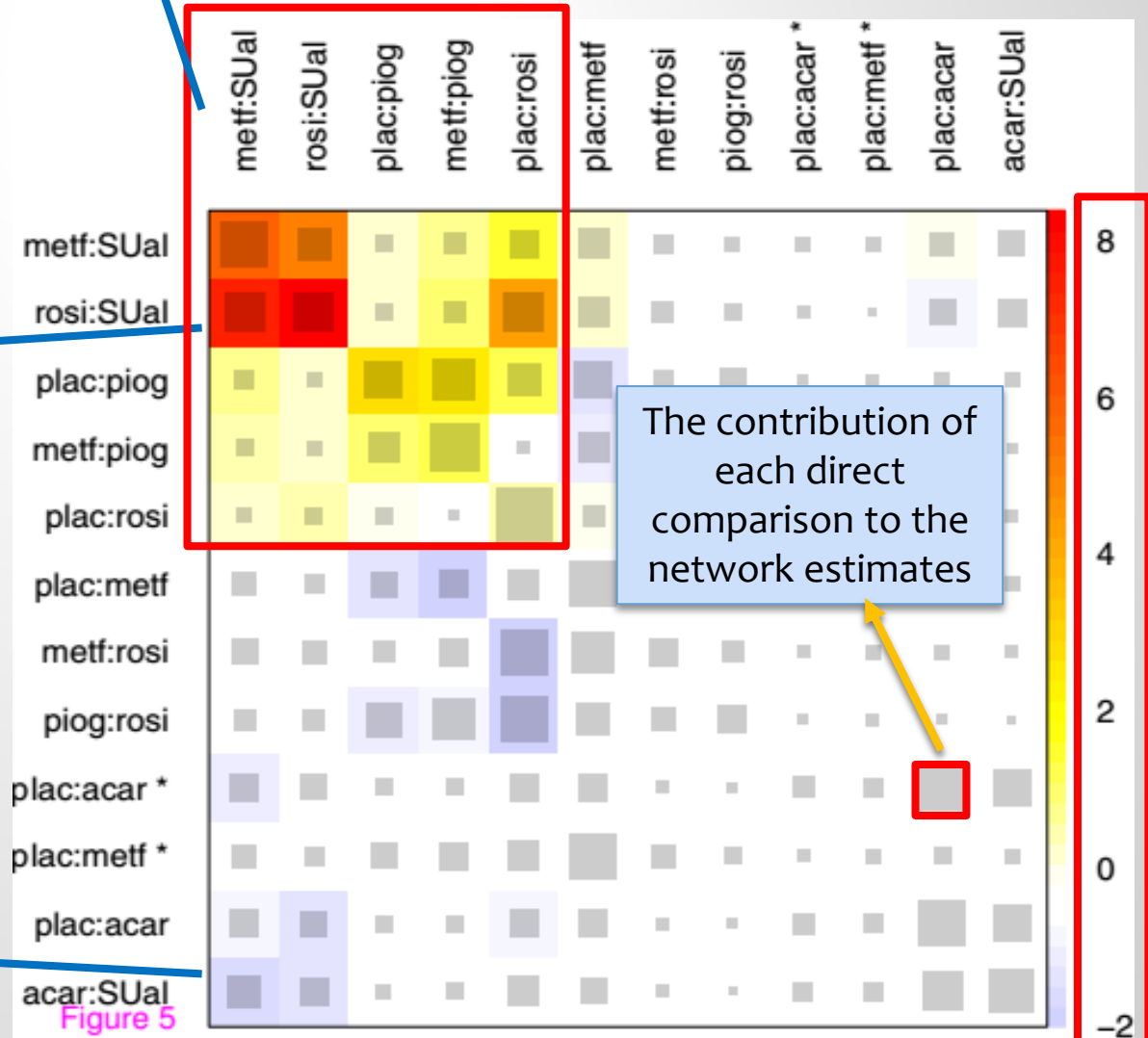
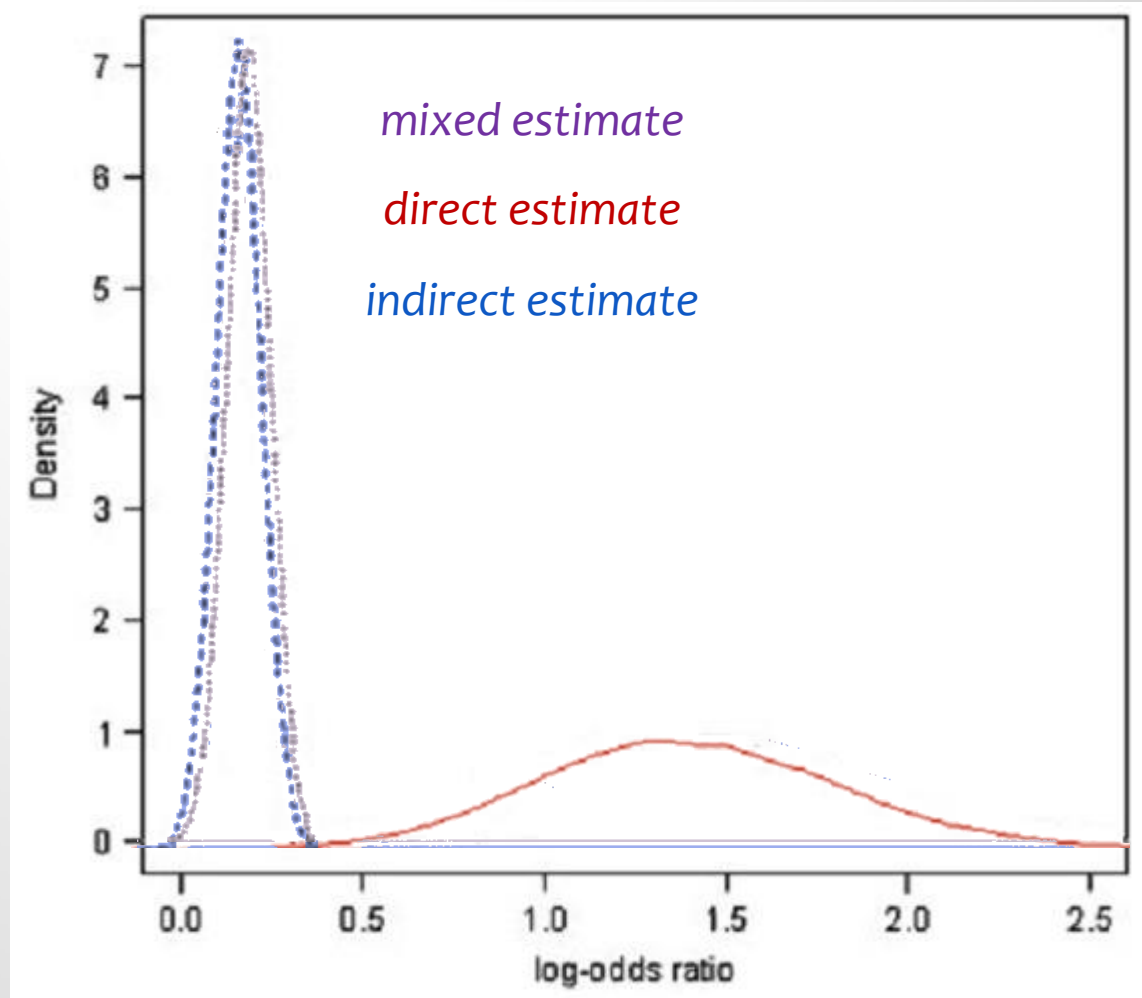


Figure 5

Density plot comparing the posterior densities of the treatment effect for a specific comparison between network, direct and indirect estimates

[Example in Dias et al. 2010]



REFERENCES

- Salanti G, Marinho V, Higgins JP: A case study of multiple-treatments meta-analysis demonstrates that covariates should be considered. *J Clin Epidemiol* 2009, 62: 857-864.
- Krahn U, Binder H, König J: A graphical tool for locating inconsistency in network meta-analyses. *BMC Med Res Methodol* 2013, 13: 35.
- Dias S, Welton NJ, Caldwell DM, Ades AE: Checking consistency in mixed treatment comparison meta-analysis. *Stat Med* 2010, 29: 932-944.