AlphaCryo4D v0.1.0d Tutorial

To demonstrate the usage of the current version of AlphaCryo4D, the following example of procedure is explained. The inputs of AlphaCryo4D are cryo-EM particles with the parameters of CTF and alignments. The results of AlphaCryo4D are energy landscape and the corresponding 3D classes. In this tutorial, particle images of substrate-translocating 26S proteasome (only three 3D volumes are utilized to demo the deep manifold learning due to the computational cost), which the user can replace with his/her own cryo-EM data, are processed to exploit intermediate conformations and to compute the energy landscape, as described in the following reference:

Zhaolong Wu, Enbo Chen, Shuwen Zhang, Yinping Ma, Congcong Liu, Chang-Cheng Yin, Youdong Mao. Visualizing conformational space of functional biomolecular complexes by deep manifold learning. bioRxiv preprint doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.08.09.455739.

1. Bootstrapping of 3D volumes

First, split the star file of 200,000 proteasome particles into 2 batches, with each batch having 100,000 particles. Data with Low SNR should contains more particles per batch for bootstrapping.

```
cd Bootstrap
python ../../Bootstrap/randsf.py --star initial.star --number 100000
```

This step splits the overall star file ‘initial.star’ into star files started with ‘batch’. For each batch, do a M-fold particle shuffling. Here we apply M = 3 to the star file ‘batch1.star’. The smaller the dataset is, the larger value of M should be set.

```
python ../../Bootstrap/bootstrap.py --star batch1.star --fold 3
```

Then we get 4 star files started with ‘union’ after shuffling of ‘batch1.star’. For each ‘union’ star file, the bootstrapped 3D volumes via 3D classification are produced in Relion. Note that we put the 3D volumes (only three for demo) and corresponding star files into the folder ‘maps/’ and ‘stars/’ respectively under the current path as well as the common reference density map ‘maps/refs/ref.mrc’, so the 4th and 10th line of script ‘fit.sh’ should be modified to this path. And EMAN2 is called in ‘fit.sh’.

```
. fit.sh
```

Then we prepare all bootstrapped 3D volumes in the folder ‘maps_aligned/’ for the subsequent process.

python ../../Bootstrap/bigdata.py --folder maps_aligned/ --std True

Or the preprocessing of low-pass filtering (5 Å is recommended) can be conducted instead of standardization. This step saves all 3D volumes into ‘rdata.npy’ and ‘rdata_3d.npy’, with their order recorded in ‘data.log’. Three typical 3D bootstrapped density maps of proteasome are shown below. The user can check his/her own bootstrapped 3D volumes in this step.

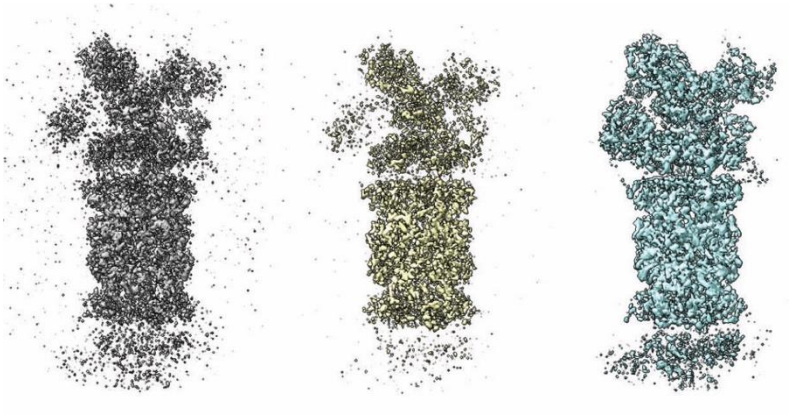

Fig. 1. Typical bootstrapped 3D volumes.

2. Feature extraction by 3D autoencoder

To meet the need of 3D Autoencoder, the dataset of 3D volumes is preprocessed into ‘data_dl.npy’ at this step.

cd ../DeepFeature
python ../../DeepFeature/run_prepare.py --data ../Bootstrap/rdata_3d.npy

When training the network, we can define the parameters such as the batch size and GPUs according to our requirement. Note that the batch size has to be an integral multiple of the number of GPUs.

python ../../DeepFeature/run_resnet.py --batchsize 2 --validationsize 2 -r 0.001 --data data_dl.npy --gpu 0,1

After training, we can get the best model ‘checkpoint/check.h5’, the final model ‘model/final_model.h5’ and the file ‘train_process.npz’ recording the training loss of each epoch. Then we apply the best model ‘checkpoint/check.h5’ to obtain the feature of the dataset of 3D volumes.

python ../../DeepFeature/run_predict.py --data data_dl.npy --batchsize 3

By these processes, the output of 3D Autoencoder is saved in the default path ‘result/feature.npy’.

3. Energy landscape by manifold learning

To prepare the input data to the energy landscape, the 3D volumes and their feature maps are preprocessed into ‘input.npy’ at first.

cd ../ManifoldLandscape
python ../../ManifoldLandscape/tsne_prepare.py --data ../Bootstrap/rdata.npy --feature ../DeepFeature/result/feature.npy

Then t-SNE is used to plot the low-dimension mapping of 3D volumes with a random seed we set. In many cases, the default values of perplexity and maximum number of iterations in t-SNE work well, but can be empirically tuned to improve the results if desired.

python ../../ManifoldLandscape/tsne_rd.py --input input.npy -s 0 --perplexity 30.0 --niter 1000

This step generates the file ‘output.npy’ of low-dimension mapping and corresponding plot ‘tsne.png’. And the particle number of each 3D volume is calculated. Note that the 11th of the script ‘enumerate.sh’ should refer to the folder of 3D volumes’ star files ‘../Bootstrap/stars/’.

. enumerate.sh

This script gives the particle number file ‘num.txt’. Based on the low-dimensional mapping and the particle number of 3D volumes, we can estimate the energy landscape using the Boltzmann relationship. Moreover, the minimum-energy path (MEP) can be found on the landscape using the String method by defining the starting point, the end point, the step size, etc. Here we use the landscape of all 1,000 volumes (‘output_big.npy’ and ‘num_big.txt’) to demonstrate the application of the String method.

python ../../ManifoldLandscape/string_method.py --landscape output_big.npy --number num_big.txt --range 160 --start -50 100 --end -80 -30 --stepsize 0.1 --interpolate cubic --kcenters 7

After this step, we can calculate the energy landscape ‘el.pdf’ and the clustering centers ‘centers_k.npy’ along the MEP. In this example, we plot the energy landscape of substrate-bound 26S proteasome. Moreover, an MEP corresponding to substrate translocation initiation is also marked on the

landscape (lemon line).

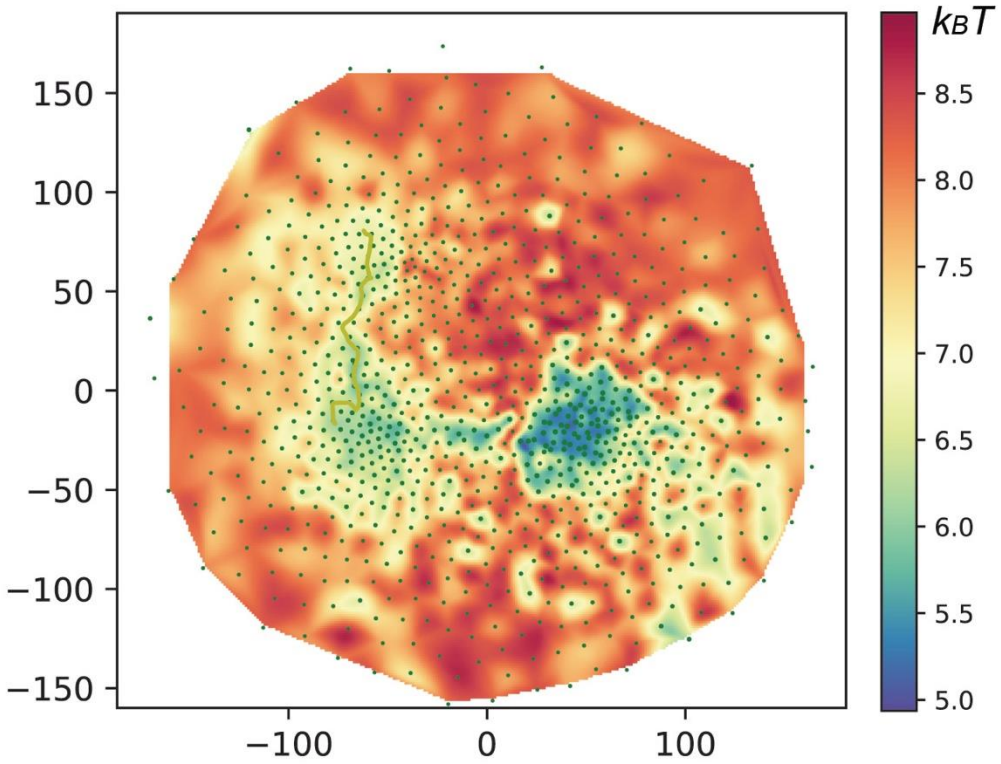

Fig. 2. Energy landscape of 26S proteasome during substrate translocation

4. Particle voting based on energy

At this step, the clusters are prepared according to the centers and radii of the voting boundary on the energy landscape. Alternatively, we can just define the clusters manually if the landscape is simple enough, skipping minimum-energy path plotting.

cd ../ParticleVoting
python ../../ParticleVoting/clustering.py --points ../ManifoldLandscape/output_big.npy --centers ../ManifoldLandscape/centers_k.npy --radius 30

Then for each cluster, the particle star files are linked to their folder respectively. Here also we use a small cluster ‘c1_small’ containing the previously mentioned three data points for particle voting. Note that the 14th of the script ‘vote_prepare.sh’ should also refer to the folder of 3D volumes’ star files ‘../Bootstrap/stars/’.

cd c1
. vote_prepare.sh c1_small

Before voting on particles, the header of these particle star files are extracted to ‘head.star’.

python ../../../ParticleVoting/gethead.py --star u123_b1_c1.star

Lastly, we need to run the voting script ‘post_and_f.sh’ to obtain the voted particles for high resolution refinement. Note that the voting threshold (M/2 is recommended) can be defined in the 2nd line, and enlarging this threshold may increase the classification accuracy and decrease the particle number of each class. The star file ‘post_and.star’ is what we need.

. post_and_f.sh