

ECMPride

A FLEXIBLE AND
SCALABLE TOOL
DEVELOPED FOR
PREDICTING
EXTRACELLULAR
MATRIX PROTEINS

USER MANUAL FOR ECMPride

Author: Mr. Binghui Liu

Address: State Key Laboratory of
Proteomics, Beijing Proteome Research
Center, Beijing 102206, China

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Chapter 1. Software Overview

ECMPride is a flexible and scalable tool developed for predicting extracellular matrix (ECM) proteins. ECMPrise can directly perform ECM prediction by taking UniProt IDs in CSV (*.csv) file format as input. The core of ECMPrise was written in [R 3.6.1 language](#) on the [RStudio 1.1.442](#) under Windows System. The function in ECMPrise are based on [R statistical environment](#).

Chapter 2. Installation

This chapter explains how to download and install ECMPrise on the user's computer.

2.1. Requirement

2.1.1 Hardware requirements

- a) 2.0 GHz CPU minimum
- b) 2 GB RAM minimum

2.1.2 Software requirements

- a) Supported operating system (OS) versions (32-bit or 64-bit)
 - Windows 7
 - Windows 10
- b) [R 3.6.1](#) or higher (for Windows) from R project

2.2. Configuration of R Environment

2.2.1 Setting system environment variable

After installing R, users must add the path of RScript.exe into the system environment variable before using ECMPrise, because ECMPrise is currently running from the command line by calling Rscript.exe. When there are several versions of R installed in a user's computer, ECMPrise will call the Rscript.exe whose path is added into the system environment variable. The method for setting system environment variable can be found

at <https://www.computerhope.com/issues/ch000549.htm>.

By default, Rscript.exe is in the path of “C:\Program Files\R\R-3.6.1\bin”. Then, this path should be added into the system environment variable. See Fig. 1. for details.

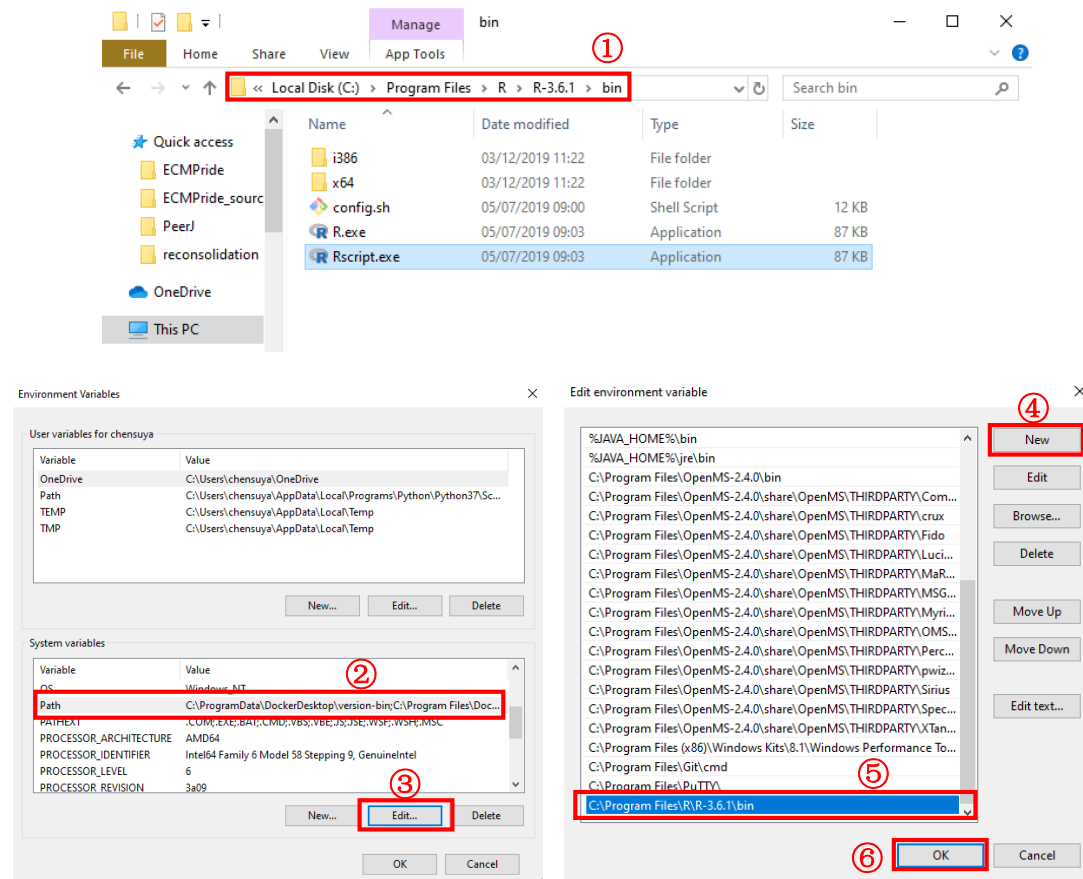


Fig. 1. The illustration of adding the RScript.exe path into system environment variable.

2.2.2 Installing R packages

The required R packages and their installation commands are listed below:

1. `install.packages("randomForest")`
2. `install.packages("plyr")`
3. `install.packages("dplyr")`
4. `install.packages("xlsx")`

```
5. install.packages("mRMRe")  
6. install.packages("caret")  
7. install.packages("parallel")
```

You should install these R packages by R 3.6.1 (not R 3.5.3 or the older version) ahead of time. In fact, ECMPrise will install these R packages itself the first time it runs, but this approach may face some unknown errors. Therefore, we recommend users to install these R packages before running ECMPrise.

2.3. Download and UnZip ECMPrise

ECMPrise can be freely downloaded from <https://github.com/Binghui-Liu/ECMPrise.git>. Un-compress the zip package (or 7z) into a specified local folder.

In the file folder after decompression, you can find an R file "ECMPrise.R", which is the main file for program running and you should record the local path of this file (The path in my computer is: C:\ECMPrise\ECMPrise_source_code\ECMPrise.R) as path_1 (Fig. 2.)

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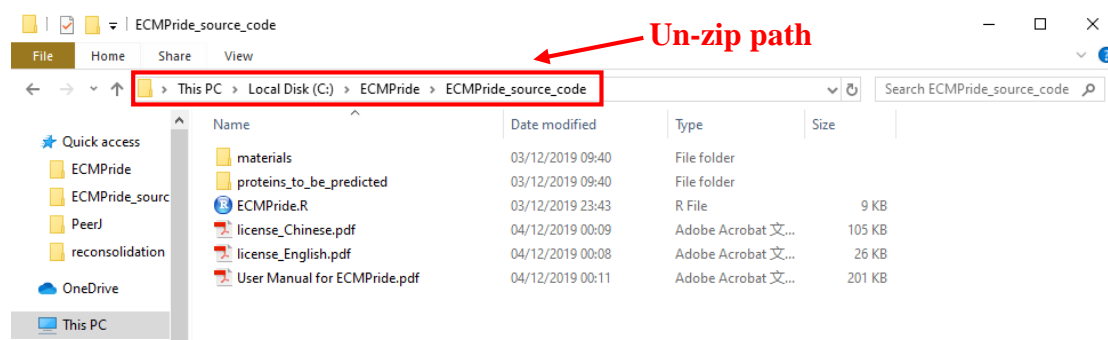


Fig. 2. The illustration of configuring the runtime environment

Chapter 3. Begin To Predict

3.1. Format requirements for input data

- a) The input data for ECMPrize is the UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted. Therefore, you need to unify the characterization of proteins to be predicted as UniProt IDs (The UniProt website provides multiple types of ID conversion services: <https://www.uniprot.org/uploadlists/>);
- b) You need to write UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted to a CSV (*.csv) file. We present a sample CSV (*.csv) file under the proteinsToBePredicted folder in the ECMPrize archive (proteinsToBePredicted.csv): The file consists of N rows and 1 column, the first row is titled "UniProtID", and the second through the N-th row is UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted, one for each row.
- c) After you enter UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted into the CSV (*.csv) file according to the above requirements, record the local path of this file (The path in my computer is: C:\ECMPrize\ECMPrize_source_code\proteins_to_be_predicted\proteins_to_be_predicted.csv) as path_2.

3.2. Run ECMPrize from the command line

- a) Open the command line (An easy way to do this: press Win + R at the same time, then type "cmd" and press enter to open the command line)

- b) As shown in Fig. 3., enter <Rscript path_1 path_2> on the command line (< > contains the input: Rscript+ space + path_1+ space + path_2). Path_1 is the local path of ECMPrize.R, which is the main file for program running, and path_2 is the local path of input file. Press enter and ECMPrize begins to predict proteins to be predicted.

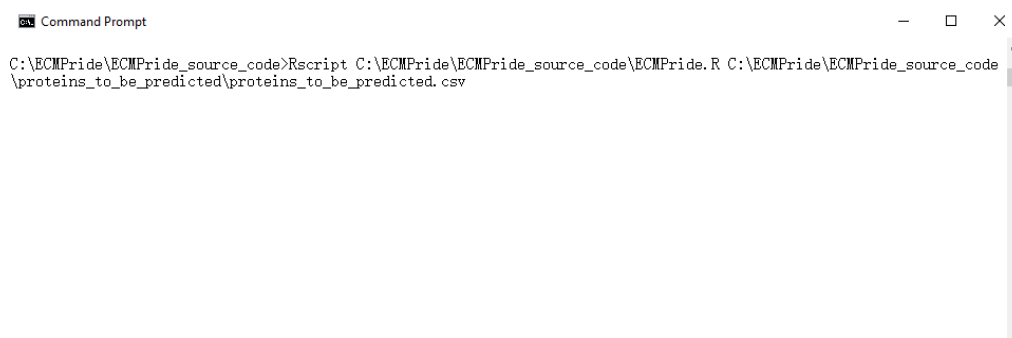


Fig. 3. The illustration of the commands entered on the command line

3.3. Command line output and result files

- a) Showing the progress of the program. A progress bar appears in the center of the screen to indicate the progress of the program. When the progress bar is loaded to 100%, the program is predicted to complete (Fig. 4.).

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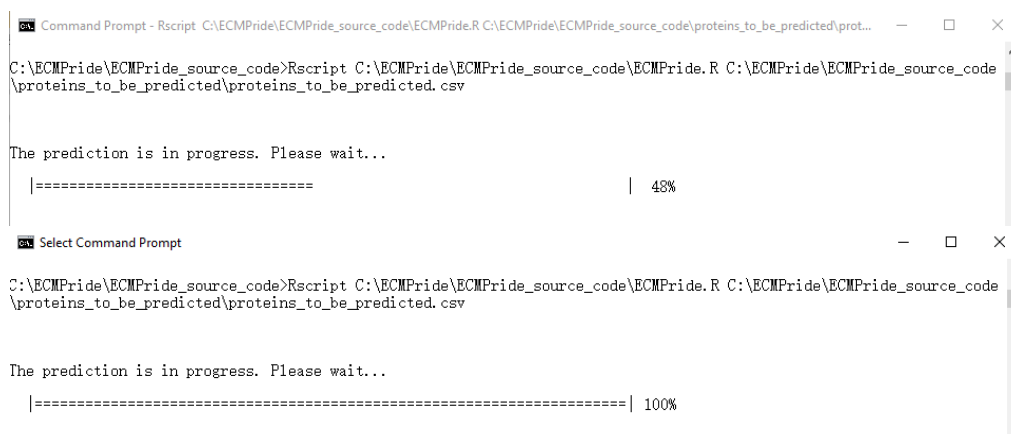


Fig. 4. The progress bar that shows the progress of a program

- b) Description of prediction results. If all proteins to be predicted are successfully predicted, the command line will prompt "Prediction Succeed.", and simple prediction results of all proteins to be predicted will be displayed on the command line, as shown in Fig. 5.

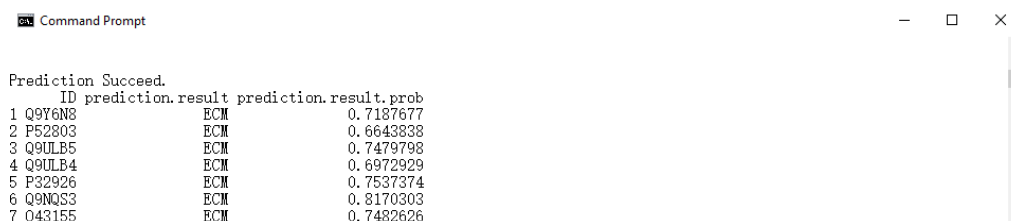


Fig. 5. Display successful predicted protein IDs and their predicted results

The prediction result displayed on the command line contains three columns of data: the first column contains UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted, the second column contains the prediction result (ECM or non-ECM), and the third column contains the probability of the second column. The sum of the probabilities of each protein being predicted to be ECM or non-ECM is 1. If the predicted result of a

protein is ECM and the probability value is 0.85, it means that ECMPrize thinks that the protein has an 85% probability of being ECM and a 15% probability of being non-ECM, so the protein is more likely to be ECM in general. It is worth noting that if there are too many proteins to predict, the command line will only show partial results, and the full results will be saved in the results file.

If Some of proteins to be predicted are not successfully predicted, the command line prompts "Some proteins are not successfully predicted:", and then displays the IDs of all the proteins that are not successfully predicted on the command line with the possible reasons, as shown in Fig. 6.

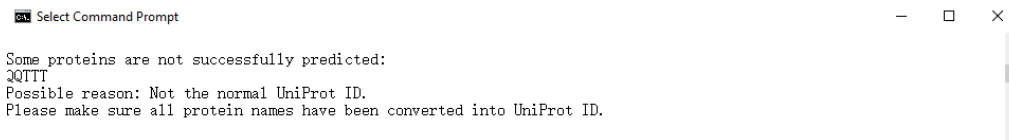


Fig. 6. Display unsuccessfully predicted protein IDs and suggest possible causes

- c) Prompt for the location of the result file. All successfully predicted proteins and their complete predicted results (including annotations of proteins to be predicted) will be saved in a CSV (*.csv) result file in the same path as the input file, and the program will eventually prompt for the address of the file, as shown in Fig. 7.

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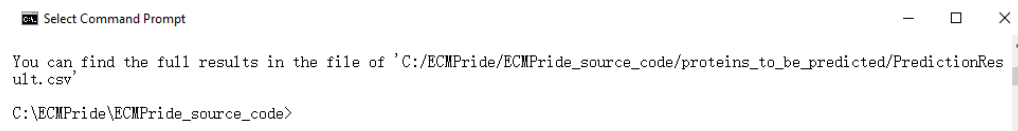


Fig .7. Prompt where to save the results file

Chapter 4. Support Services

4.1. Contact

For any questions involving ECMPrize, please contact Mr. Binghui Liu (Email: l_binghui@163.com).

4.2. Copyright

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