ECMPride

A FLEXIBLE AND SCALABLE TOOL DEVELOPED FOR PREDICTING EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX PROTEINS

USER MANUAL FOR

ECMPride

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Content

Chapter 1. Software Overview

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

Chapter 2. Installation

This chapter explains how to download and install ECMPride 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 ECMPride, because ECMPride is currently running from the command line by calling Rscript.exe. When there are several versions of R installed in a user's computer, ECMPride 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.
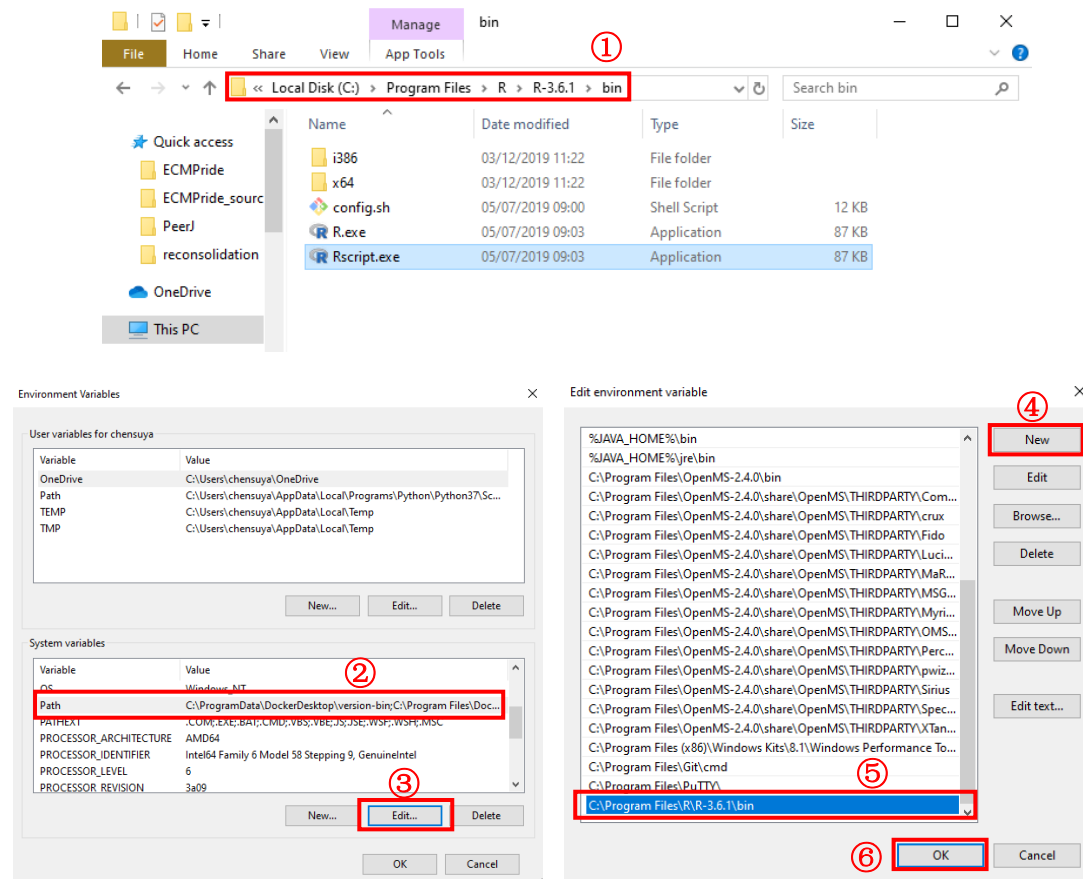

Fig. 1. The illustration of adding the RScript.exe path into system environment variable.

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, ECMPride 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 ECMPride.

2.3. Download and UnZip ECMPride

ECMPride can be freely downloaded from https://github.com/Binghui-Liu/ECMPride.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 "ECMPride.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:\ECMPride\ECMPride_source_code\ ECMPride.R) as path_1 (Fig. 2.)
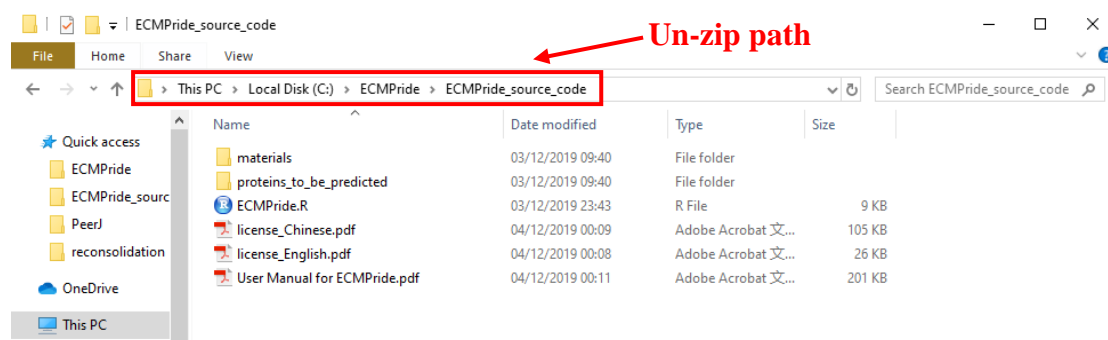
Fig. 2. The illustration of configuring the runtime environment.

Chapter 3. Begin To Predict

3.1. Format requirements for input data

a) The input data for ECMPride is the UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted. Therefore, you need to convert the IDs of proteins that need be analyzed by ECMPride to UniProt IDs (The UniProt website provides multiple types of ID conversion services: https://www.uniprot.org/uploadlists/);

b) Write UniProt IDs of proteins into a CSV (*.csv) file. We present a sample CSV (*.csv) file under the proteinsToBePredicted folder in the ECMPride 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) Record the local path of the CSV (*.csv) file with UniProt IDs (The path in my computer is: C:\ECMPride\ECMPride_source_code\proteins_to_be_predicted\ proteins_to_be_predicted.csv) as path_2.

3.2. Run ECMPride 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 ECMPride.R, which is the main file for program running, and path_2 is the local path of input file. Press enter and ECMPride begins to predict proteins to be predicted.
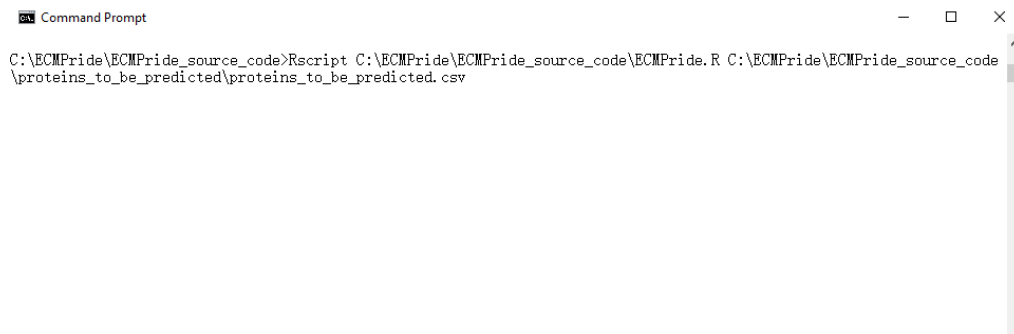

Fig. 3. The illustration of the commands entered on the command line

3.3. Command line output and result files

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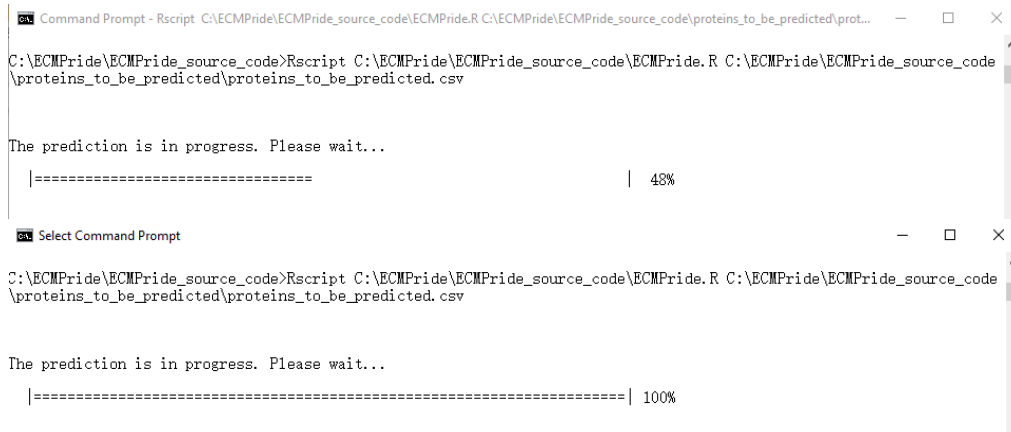
Fig. 4. The progress bar that shows the progress of a program

b) Prediction results. When all proteins to be analyzed 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.
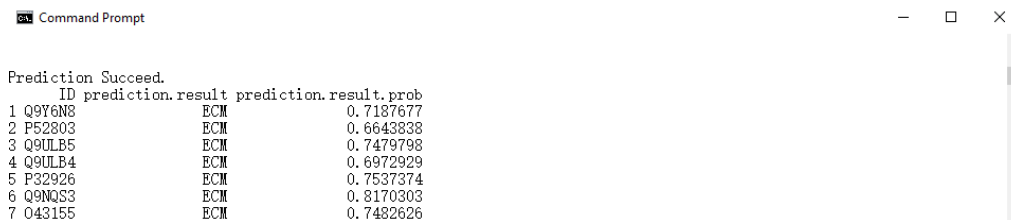

Fig. 5. Display successful predicted protein IDs and their predicted results

The prediction result displayed on the command line contains three columns of data: UniProt IDs of proteins to be predicted, the prediction result (ECM or non-ECM), and 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 the

probability calculated by ECMPride of this protein being a ECM or a non-ECM is 85% and 15%, respectively; 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.
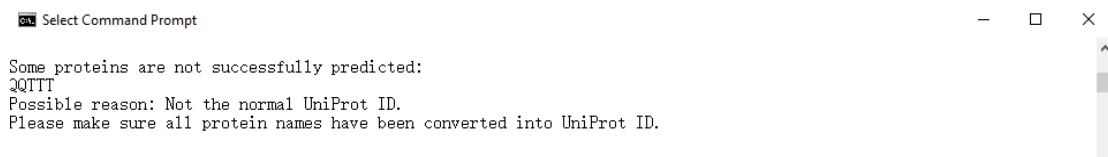

Fig. 6. Display unsuccessfully predicted protein IDs and suggest possible causes

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.

Fig .7. Prompt where to save the results file

Chapter 4. Support Services

4.1. Contact

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

4.2. Copyright

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