# **Exploration of Prognostic Markers and Therapeutic Targets in Lung Cancer**

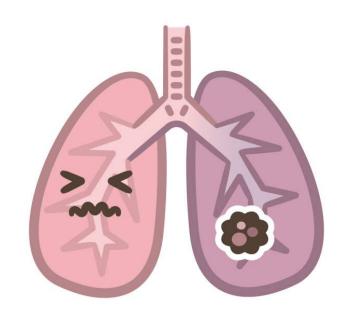
Nathan Wong, Tyler Kwok, Julian Han

## Why Lung Cancer?

Lung cancer is one of the deadliest diseases in the world

- Multiple subtypes
  - NSCLC and SCLC, specifically lung adenocarcinoma (LUAD)

 Critical challenge in therapy - LUAD remains asymptomatic in early stages, leading to late diagnoses



## **Project Questions**

- Is there an overlap between gene expression profiles of patients with early-stage LUAD versus invasive LUAD, can it reveal markers of LUAD progression?
- What can we gather from genes unique to invasive LUAD?

### **Method - Find Overlapping Genes**

- GSE10799
- 16 lung adenocarcinoma samples

> Clin Cancer Res. 2009 Mar 1;15(5):1566-74. doi: 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-08-2188. Epub 2009 Feb 10.

## Genomic profiles associated with early micrometastasis in lung cancer: relevance of 4q deletion

Michaela Wrage <sup>1</sup>, Salla Ruosaari, Paul P Eijk, Jussuf T Kaifi, Jaakko Hollmén, Emre F Yekebas, Jakob R Izbicki, Ruud H Brakenhoff, Thomas Streichert, Sabine Riethdorf, Markus Glatzel, Bauke Ylstra, Klaus Pantel, Harriet Wikman

- GSE118370
- 6 invasive lung adenocarcinoma samples

> BMB Rep. 2018 Dec;51(12):648-653. doi: 10.5483/BMBRep.2018.51.12.205.

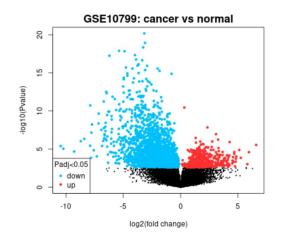
## SPINK1 promotes cell growth and metastasis of lung adenocarcinoma and acts as a novel prognostic biomarker

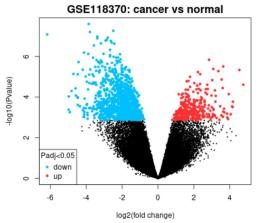
Liyun Xu  $^1$ , Changchang Lu  $^1$ , Yanyan Huang  $^1$ , Jihang Zhou  $^1$ , Xincheng Wang  $^1$ , Chaowu Liu  $^2$ , Jun Chen  $^2$ , Hanbo Le  $^2$ 

#### **Method - Find Overlapping Genes**

Ran differential expression against normal samples using GEO2R (DESeq2)

Filtered genes based on logFC > 1 and padj < 0.01, then found overlapping genes



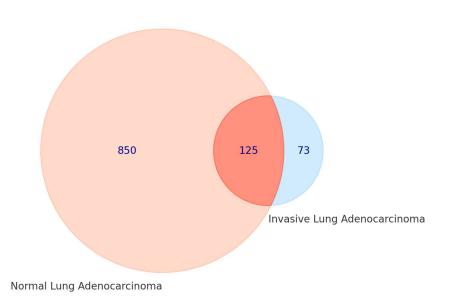


### **Method - Find Overlapping Genes**

975 filtered genes in early lung cancer dataset

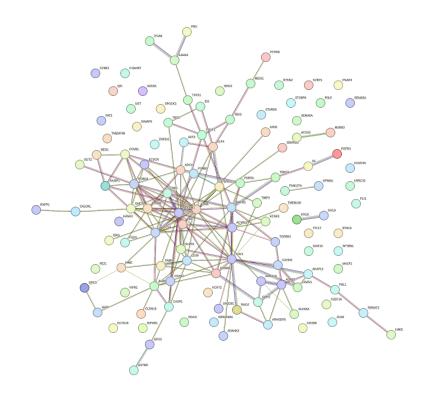
 198 filtered genes in invasive lung cancer dataset

Found **125** overlapping genes, and 73 genes unique to metastatic lung cancer



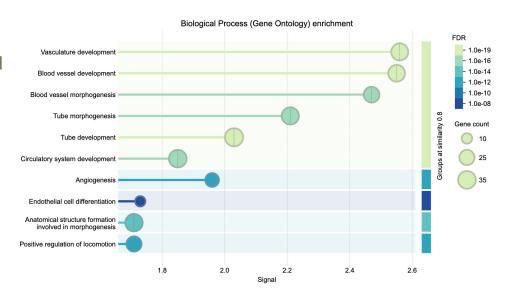
## **Analysis 1 - Step 1: Functional Enrichment - STRING**

- PPI enrichment value: <1e-16
- Biological Processes:
  - Vasculature development, blood vessel development, blood vessel morphogenesis
- Molecular function:
  - Protein binding
- Cellular Component:
  - Intrinsic component of plasma membrane, plasma membrane, cell periphery
- KEGG Pathways:
  - cGMP-PKG signalling, regulation of lipolysis in adipocytes



#### **Analysis 1 - Step 1: Functional Enrichment - STRING**

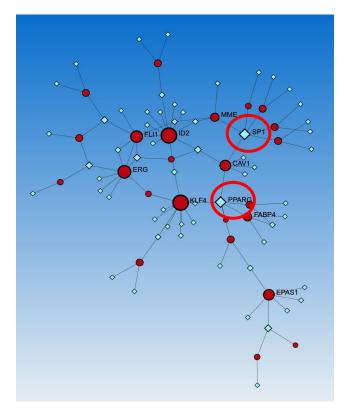
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## **Analysis 1 - Step 2: Regulatory Network Analysis**

- Using NetworkAnalyst
  - Find transcription factors that regulate the overlapping genes based on the TRRUST database

- Found 2 specific transcription factors of interest
  - **PPAR gamma** 6 genes
  - **SP1** 6 genes



## **Analysis 1 - Step 2: Regulatory Network Analysis**

 Traceback to DE results, all genes regulated by PPAR gamma are downregulated

 Most likely inactivation of PPAR gamma in both early and late stage LUAD

- In this analysis, evidence for SP1 activation/inactivation is lacking

#### PPARγ Modulators in Lung Cancer: Molecular Mechanisms, Clinical Prospects, and Challenges

by Jiyun Zhang 1,2,3 ☑, Miru Tang 2,\* ☑ and Jinsai Shang 1,2,\* ☑ [0]

- School of Basic Medical Sciences, Guangzhou Laboratory, Guangzhou Medical University, Guangzhou 511436, China
- <sup>2</sup> Guangzhou National Laboratory, Guangzhou 510005, China
- <sup>3</sup> School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou 510006, China
- Authors to whom correspondence should be addressed.

Biomolecules 2024, 14(2), 190; https://doi.org/10.3390/biom14020190

### **Analysis 2 - Drug Interaction Analysis**

# List of Approved Drugs with Duplicates

Total number of drugs in dataset: 728

Number of approved drugs: 365

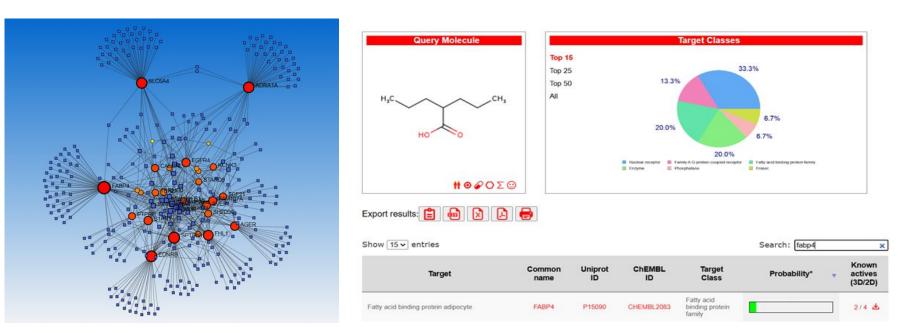
Number of approved drugs with duplicates: 68

- DISULFIRAM: 3 occurrences - used to treat chronic alcoholism

- PSEUDOEPHEDRINE: 3 occurrences - used to treat nasal and sinus congestion from common cold and allergies.

- All others: 2 occurrences each

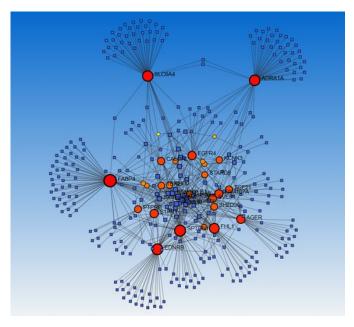
### **Analysis 2 - Chemical-Gene Interaction Analysis**

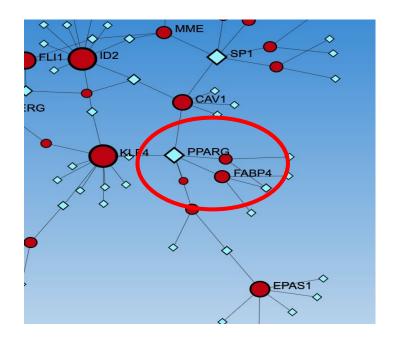


Valproic Acid - 16 genes

SMILES: CCCC(CCC)C(=O)O

#### **Analysis 2 - Chemical-Gene Interaction Analysis**





Valproic Acid - 16 genes

### **Analysis 2 - FABP4 expression in LUAD**

Therapeutic Implications of FABP4 in Cancer: An Emerging Target to Tackle Cancer



Naihui Sun<sup>1</sup>



Xing Zhao<sup>2</sup>\*

Elevated expression of FABP3 and FABP4 cooperatively correlates with poor prognosis in nonsmall cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

```
Zhiyuan Tang <sup>1</sup>, Qin Shen <sup>1</sup>, Hao Xie <sup>2</sup>, Xiaoyu Zhou <sup>1</sup>, Jun Li <sup>1</sup>, Jian Feng <sup>1</sup>, Hua Liu <sup>1</sup>, Wei Wang <sup>3</sup>, Shu Zhang <sup>3</sup>, Songshi Ni <sup>1</sup>

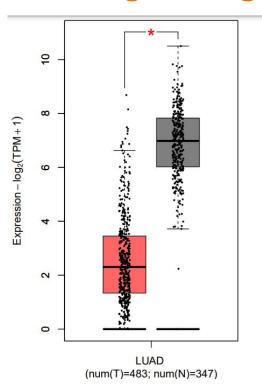
Affiliations + expand

PMID: 27323829 PMCID: PMC5216795 DOI: 10.18632/oncotarget.10086
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Department of Anesthesiology, The First Affiliated Hospital of China Medical University, Shenyang, China

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Department of Pediatrics. The First Affiliated Hospital of China Medical University, Shenyang, China

#### **Interesting findings**



#### Inhibition of oncogenic Src induces FABP4mediated lipolysis *via* PPAR<sub>Y</sub> activation exerting cancer growth suppression

## Novel FABP4<sup>+</sup>C1q<sup>+</sup> macrophages enhance antitumor immunity and associated with response to neoadjuvant pembrolizumab and chemotherapy in NSCLC via AMPK/JAK/STAT axis

 $\underline{\text{Dong Zhang, }}\underline{\text{Min Wang, }}\underline{\text{Gen Liu, }}\underline{\text{Xin Li, Wenwen Yu, }}\underline{\text{Zhenzhen Hui, }}\underline{\text{Xiubao Ren}}^{\boxtimes 2}\underline{\text{ \& Qian Sun}}^{\boxtimes 2}$ 

Cell Death & Disease 15, Article number: 717 (2024) | Cite this article

1275 Accesses 9 Altmetric Metrics

#### Diagnostic, Prognostic, and Immunological Roles of FABP4 in Pancancer: A Bioinformatics Analysis

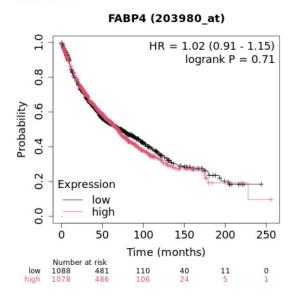
Jing Yang, Xiaojing Liu, Yueqin Shao, Hong Zhou, Lijun Pang 🔀 Wei Zhu 🔀

First published: 08 December 2022 | https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/3764914 | Citations: 2

Academic Editor: Chung-Min Liao

#### **Interesting findings**

P value: 0.7063



Kaplan-Meier(KM) plotter

#### Inhibition of oncogenic Src induces FABP4mediated lipolysis *via* PPARγ activation exerting cancer growth suppression

Tuyen N.M. Hua acd, Min-Kyu Kim acd, Vu T.A. Vo acd, Jong-Whan Choia, Jang Hyun Choih, Hyun-Won Kima, Seung-Kuy Chabcdefg, Kyu-Sang Parkbcdef, Yangsik Jeongacdefg A

Novel FABP4<sup>+</sup>C1q<sup>+</sup> macrophages enhance antitumor immunity and associated with response to neoadjuvant pembrolizumab and chemotherapy in NSCLC via AMPK/JAK/STAT axis

Dong Zhang, Min Wang, Gen Liu, Xin Li, Wenwen Yu, Zhenzhen Hui, Xiubao Ren ☑ & Qian Sun ☑

Cell Death & Disease

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#### **Further Analysis**



## Hidden pharmacological activities of valproic acid: A new insight

 $\frac{\text{Dhirendra Singh }^{a}, \text{ Sumeet Gupta }^{a} \overset{\triangle}{\bowtie}, \frac{\boxtimes}{\text{Inderjeet Verma }^{a}, \text{ Mohamed A. Morsy }^{b c},}{\text{Anroop B. Nair }^{b}, \text{ Al-Shaimaa F. Ahmed }^{d}}$ 

## Anti-tumor effects of valproate zinc complexes on a lung cancer cell line

Emanuelle Fraga da Silva <sup>a</sup>, Paulo Roberto dos Santos <sup>b</sup>, Krist Helen Antunes <sup>a</sup>,

Caroline Marinho Franceschina <sup>a</sup>, Deise Nascimento de Freitas <sup>a</sup>, Priscila Konrad <sup>a</sup>,

Rafael Fernandes Zanin <sup>c</sup>, Pablo Machado <sup>d</sup>, Sidnei Moura <sup>b</sup>, Ana Paula Duarte de Souza <sup>a</sup>  $\nearrow$   $\boxtimes$ 

Chaumara se

#### **Question:**

Does valproic acid also affect FABP4 expression by inhibiting Histone deacetylases (HDACs)?

### Analysis 3 – Digging into non-overlapping genes

Why Different?

What is the reason of invasive behavior?



## **Analysis 3 – Functional Enrichment**

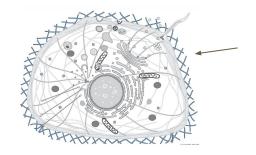
Functional Enrichment(GSEA)



LAMA3, LAMA4, TNXB...

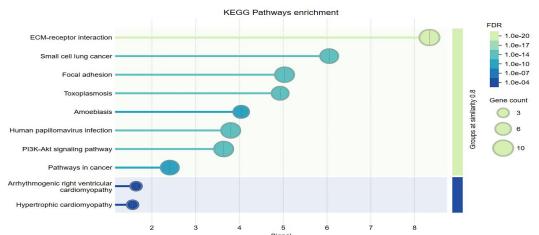


Extracellular Matrix(ECM)



ECM is a network of proteins and carbohydrates that provides structural support and regulates cell behavior in tissues. It plays key roles in cell adhesion, migration, and signaling, essential for development, repair, and homeostasis.





LAMA3, LAMA4 encodes the laminin family of secreted molecules

TNXB encodes a member of the tenascin family of extracellular matrix glycoproteins.

They are Up-Regulated!

## Analysis 3 – Digging into non-overlapping genes

Some Evidences...

Review

#### Extracellular matrix functions in lung cancer

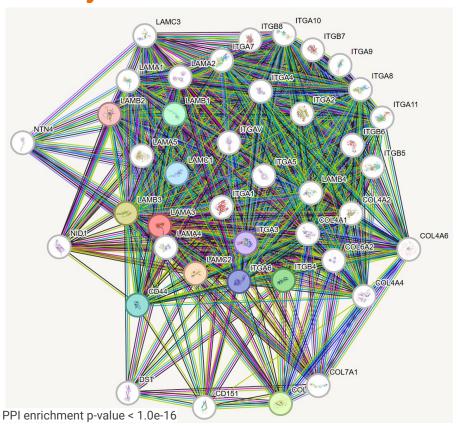
#### Expression of Invasion-Related Extracellular Matrix Molecules in Human Glioblastoma Versus Intracerebral Lung Adenocarcinoma Metastasis

I. Varga<sup>1</sup>, G. Hutóczki<sup>2</sup>, M. Petrás<sup>3</sup>, B. Scholtz<sup>4</sup>, E. Mikó<sup>4</sup>, A. Kenyeres<sup>5</sup>, J. Tóth<sup>6</sup>, G. Zahuczky<sup>4</sup>, L. Bognár<sup>2</sup>, Z. Hanzély<sup>7</sup>, A. Klekner<sup>2</sup>

- <sup>1</sup>Kenezy Hospital, Debrecen, Department of Pulmonology, Debrecen, Hungary
- <sup>2</sup>University of Debrecen, Department of Neurosurgery, Debrecen, Hungary
- <sup>3</sup>Medical and Health Science Center, University of Debrecen, Biophysics and Cell Biology, Debrecen, Hungary
- Medical and Health Science Center, University of Debrecen, Biophysics and Cell Biology, Debrecen, Hungary University of Debrecen, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Debrecen, Hungary
- SUniversity of Debrecen, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Debrecen, Hungary
  Suniversity of Debrecen, Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Debrecen, Hungary
- <sup>6</sup>University of Debrecen, Department of Oncology, Debrecen, Hungary
- <sup>7</sup>National Institute of Neurosurgery, Department of Pathology, Budapest, Hungary

- Laminin is a key Glycoprotein in the basement membrane of the ECM.
- Functions: Laminin is thought to mediate the attachment, migration and organization of cells into tissues during embryonic development by interacting with other extracellular matrix components
- In an invasive behavior: Laminin interacts with integrins, which send signals that help cancer cells detach from the ECM, move through tissues (invasion), and become more aggressive.

## **Analysis 3 – Protein-Protein interactions**



#### nature reviews cancer

nature > nature reviews cancer > review articles > article

About the journal >

Review Article | Published: 01 February 2002

#### Role of integrins in cell invasion and migration

John D. Hood & David A. Cheresh

Explore content >

Nature Reviews Cancer 2, 91–100 (2002) | Cite this article

14k Accesses | 1458 Citations | 9 Altmetric | Metrics

Integrins are heterodimeric transmembrane receptors that mediate cell-cell, cell-extracellular matrix (ECM), and cell-protein interactions, playing critical roles in cell adhesion, migration, signaling.

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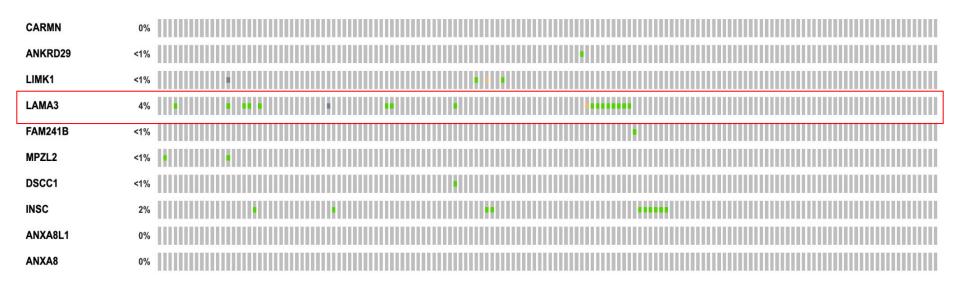
#### **Integrins Pairs**

**ITGA3:ITGB1**  $\rightarrow$  Binds laminin and collagen, involved in cancer cell invasion.

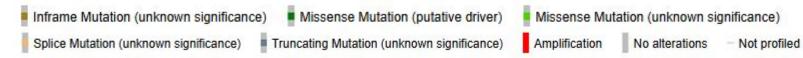
**ITGA6:ITGB4** → Key for epithelial cell adhesion via laminin in hemidesmosomes.

## **Analysis 3 – Pan-Cancer Analysis**

Combined Study (747 samples)



#### Genetic Alteration



### **Analysis 3 - Conclusion**

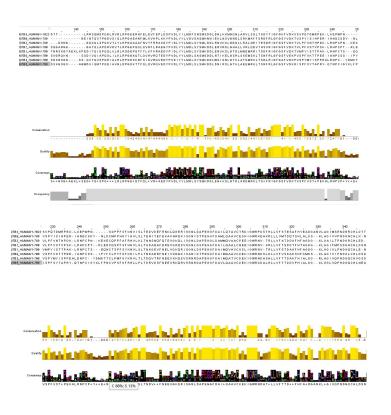
 Genes like LAMA3 and LAMA4, which encoding Laminin family, are enriched in ECM-related pathway.

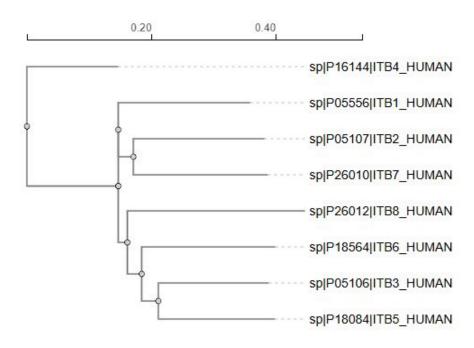
 Laminins interact with integrins to facilitate cell detachment and migration, contributing to the invasive behavior of metastatic LUAD.

 The identified gene signature, especially LAMA3, is not limited to LUAD but is also significant in other metastatic cancers, highlighting its potential as a pan-cancer biomarker.

## **Thank You!**

## Analysis 3 – MSA





#### **Analysis 3 – Protein Structure Prediction**

#### ColabFold AlphaFold2 NoteBook

- 1. Input the amino acid sequence
- 2. Generate MSAs using tools like HMMer to identify homologous sequences and evolutionary relationships
- 3. Predict inter-residue distances and angles using a deep learning neural network
- 4. Refine these predictions iteratively to produce a final 3D protein structure with confidence scores (pLDDT) to assess reliability.
- 5. Download results.

- Beginner-friendly
- FAST
- Reduced Computational Requirements

