Counterfactual Confounder Adjustment for Single-cell Differential Expression Analysis

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Results

Cell type annotation



2,648 marker genes

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PsychENCODE's marker gene selection might be imperfect since some "marker" genes are shared by different cell types. However, it has enough discriminatory power. Using this initial dictionary of marker genes, we can start analyzing 10x data, which consist of these three files:

• Sparse count matrix:

AACCATGTCTGTACGA.1
AACCGCGTCCGCATAA.1
AACGTTGGTTCAGGCC.1
AACTGGTGTACCGGCT.1
AAGACCTAGTTAACGA.1
AAGGAGCAGCAATCTC.1
AAGGAGCTCTGCTGCT.1

```
## %%MatrixMarket matrix coordinate integer general
## 17926 70634 119696200
## 56 1 1
## 139 1 1
## 270 1 1
## 324 1 1
## 375 1 1
## 389 1 1
## 420 1 1
## 557 1 1

• Cell barcode list:
## AAACGGGAGATCCCGC.1
## AAATGCCTCCAATGGT.1
## AACCATGTCAGTGCAT.1
```

• Gene/feature list (these names should exist in the marker file):

F0538757.2

SAMD11

NOC2L

KLHL17

PLEKHN1

PERM1

HES4

ISG15

AGRN

RNF223



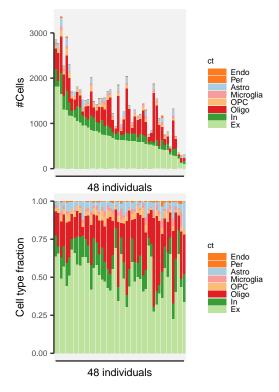
1726 genes present in snRNA-seq

0.4

0.6

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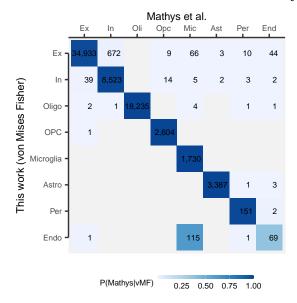
Basic statistics for cell type annotation



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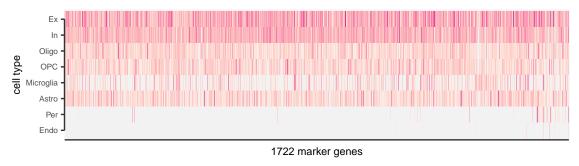
• 1,472 cells per individual: 50.9% (N=745 \pm 388) cells for Ex, 12.23% (N=179 \pm 103) cells for In, 3.54% (N= 54 ± 35) cells for OPC, 0.33% (N= 4 ± 5) cells for Endo, 25.22% (N=380 \pm 252) cells for Oligo, 2.61% (N= 36 ± 25) cells for Microglia, 4.95% (N= 71 ± 47) cells for Astro, 0.34% (N= 4 ± 4) cells for Per on average.

Correlation with the annotations of Mathys et al.



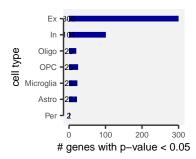
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Marker genes are associated with the AD phenotype



p-value+00 1e-01 1e-02 1e-03

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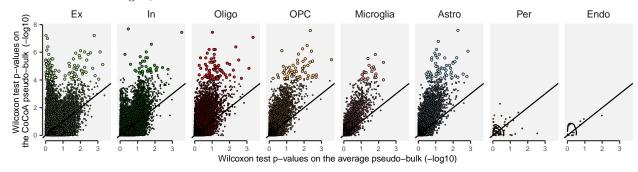


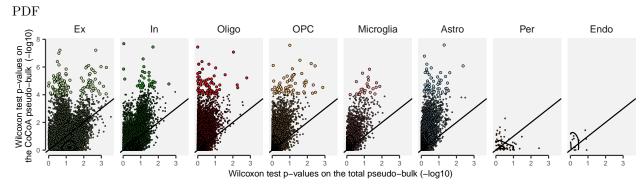
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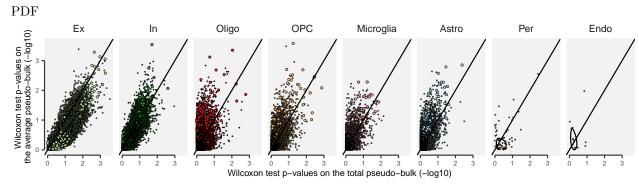
Differential expression analysis

CoCoA identified 377 genes are differentially-regulated between different AD conditions

• 377 genes (2.72%) consist of 123 found in Ex, 36 found in In, 86 found in Oligo, 58 found in OPC, 24 found in Microglia, 57 found in Astro







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p-value distribution

Why do we find more genes with CoCoA?

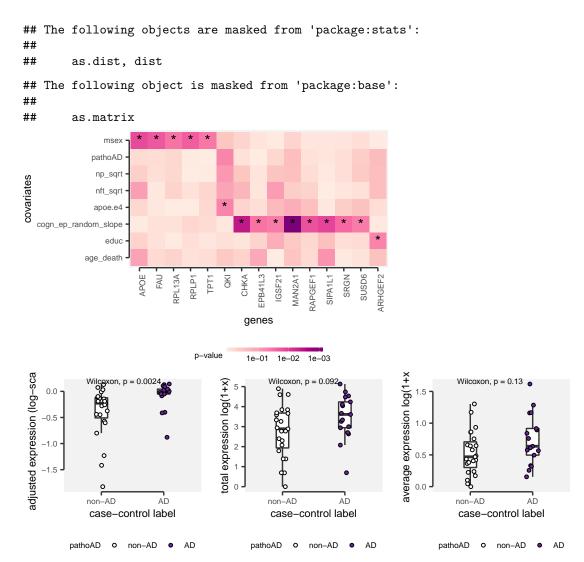
Take the examples of Microglia genes

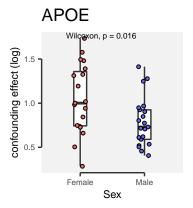
Loading required package: cba

Loading required package: proxy

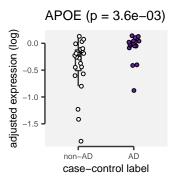
##

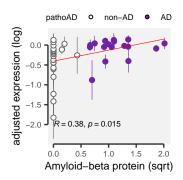
Attaching package: 'proxy'

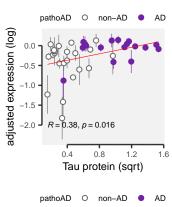




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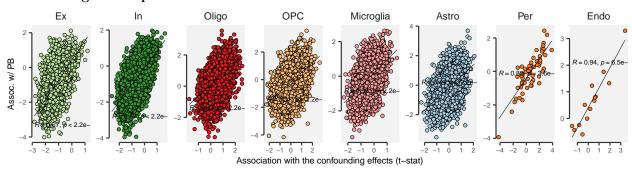






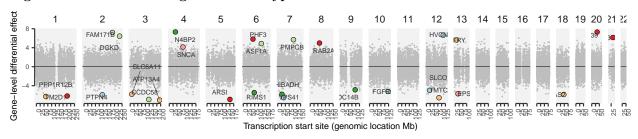
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Confounding effects prevalent...



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A genomic view combining all the cell types

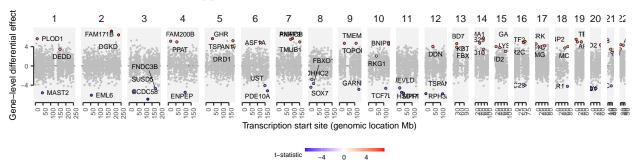


Combined genomic view

- PMPCB @ Ex
- ASF1A @ Ex
- CCDC58 @ Ex
- FAM171B @ Ex
- DGKD @ Ex
- CDC14B @ In
- N4BP2 @ In
- HIBADH @ In
- RIMS1 @ In
- TTC3 @ Oligo
- RBM39 @ Oligo
- RAB2A @ Oligo
- PHF3 @ Oligo
- ARSI @ Oligo
- PPP1R12B @ Oligo
- FRY @ OPC
- PIAS2 @ OPC
- SLC6A11 @ OPC
- TMTC2 @ OPC
- TM2D1 @ OPC
- ATP13A4 @ OPC
- EPSTI1 @ Microglia
- SNCA @ Microglia
- VPS41 @ Astro
- SLCO1C1 @ Astro
- FGFR2 @ Astro
- HVCN1 @ Astro

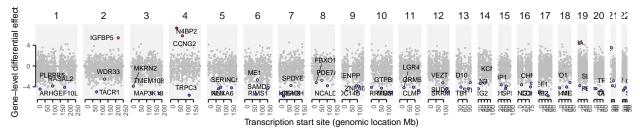
• PTPN4 @ Astro

Genomic views for each cell type



 $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{x}$

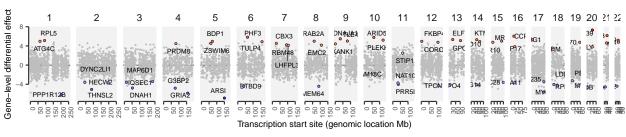
Ex top genes



t-statistic _5.0 -2.5 0.0 2.5 5.0

In

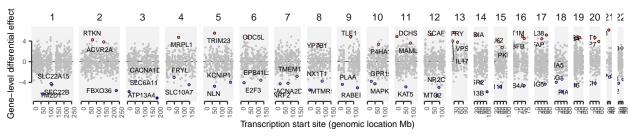
In top genes



t-statistic -4 0 4

Oligo

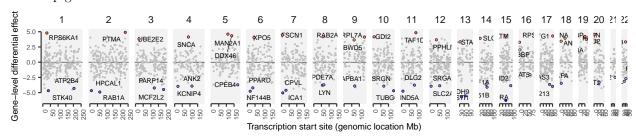
Oligo top genes



t-statistic _6 _3 0 3 6

OPC

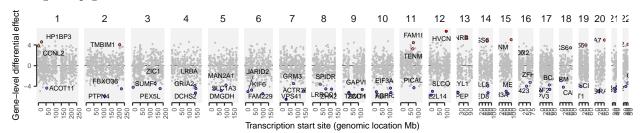
OPC top genes



t-statistic _5.0 _2.5 0.0 2.5

Microglia

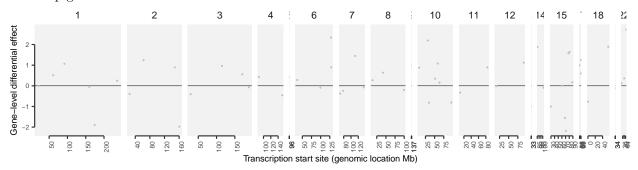
Microglia top genes



t-statistic _6 _3 0 3 6

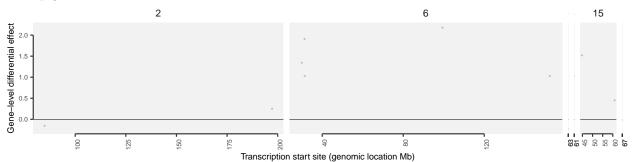
Astro

Astro top genes



Per

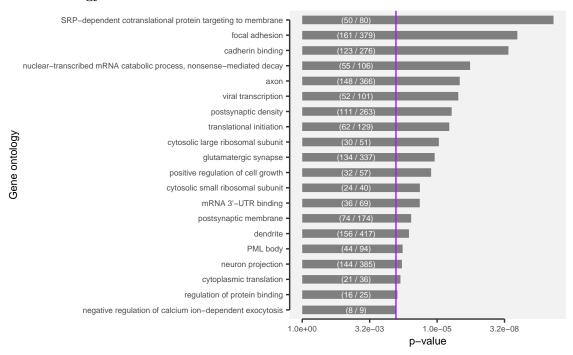
Per top genes



Endo

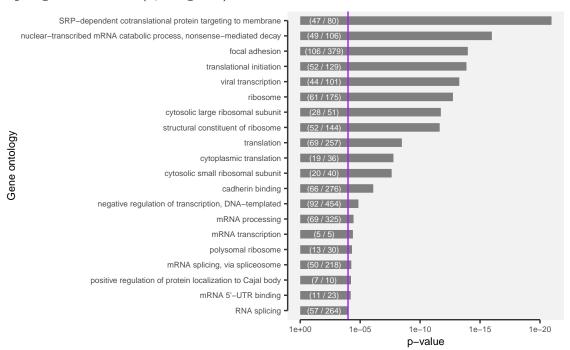
Endo top genes

Gene ontology enrichment

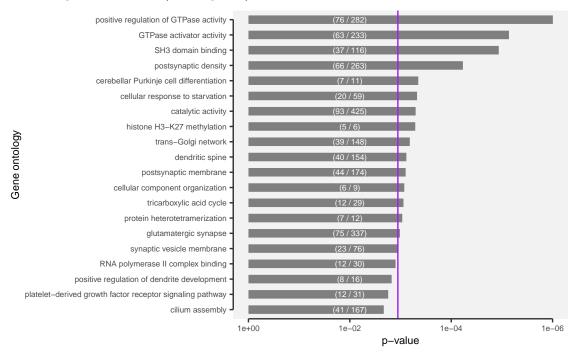


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Up-regulated DEGs (2,092 genes)

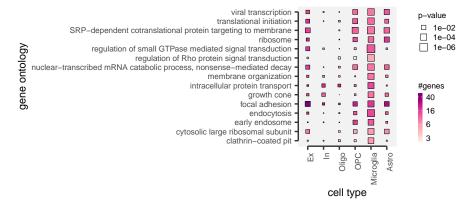


Down-regulated DEGs (2,317 genes)

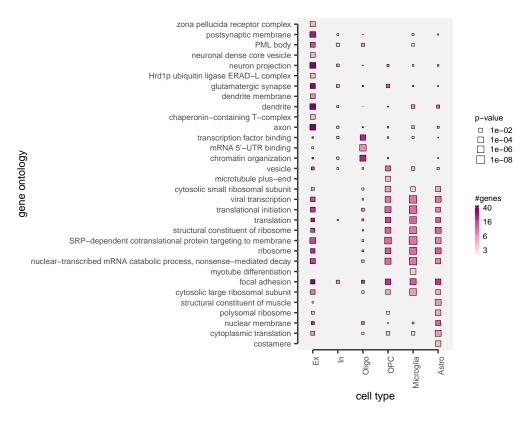


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GO enrichment for each cell type

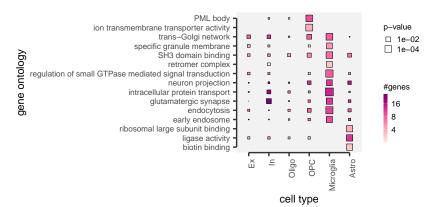


DEGs combined



DEGs up-regulated

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DEGs down-regulated