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Abstract

Batch effects are one of the major source of technical variations in high throughput studies such as omics profiling. It has been well established that batch effects can be caused by different experimental platforms, laboratory conditions, different sources of samples and personnel differences. These differences can confound the outcomes of interest and lead to spurious results. A critical input for batch correction algorithms are the knowledge of batch factors, which in many cases are unknown or inaccurate. Hence, the primary motivation of our paper is to detect hidden batch factors that can be used in standard techniques to accurately capture the relationship between expression and other modeled variables of interest. Here, we present *DASC*, a novel algorithm that is based on convex clustering and semi-NMF for the detection of unknown batch effects.

Package version: DASC 0.99.3

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1 Getting started

DASC is an R package distributed as part of the Bioconductor project. To install the package, start R and enter:

source("http://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")
biocLite("DASC")

2 Introduction

DASC is used for identifying batches and classifying samples into different batches in a high dimensional gene expression dataset. The batch information can be further used as a covariate in conjunction with other variables of interest among standard bioinformatics analysis like differential expression analysis.

2.1 Citation info

If you use *DASC* for your analysis, please cite it as here below. To cite package 'DASC' in publications use:

```
@Manual{,
    title = {DASC: Detecting hidden batch factors through data adaptive
        adjustment for biological effects.},
    author = {Haidong Yi, Ayush T. Raman, Han Zhang, Genevera I. Allen and
        Zhandong Liu},
    year = {2017},
    note = {R package version 0.1.0},
}
```

3 Quick Example

4 Setting up the data

The first step in using DASC package is to properly format the data. For example, in case of gene expression data, it should be a matrix with features (genes, transcripts) in the rows and samples in the columns. DASC then requires the information for the variable of interest to model the gene expression data effectively. Variable of interest could be a genotype or treatment information.

4.1 Stanford RNA-Seq Dataset

Below is an example of Stanford gene expression dataset (Chen et. al. PNAS, 2015; Gilad et. al. F1000 Research, 2015). It is a filtered raw counts dataset which was published by Gilad et al. F1000 Research. 30% of genes with the lowest expression & mitochondrial genes were removed (Gilad et al.F1000 Research).

```
## libraries
set.seed(99999)
library(DESeq2)
library(ggplot2)
library(pcaExplorer)

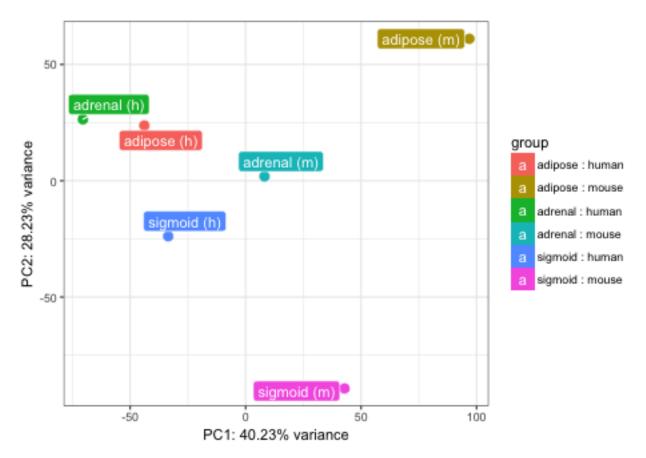
## dataset
rawCounts <- stanfordData$rawCounts
metadata <- stanfordData$metadata</pre>
```

```
## Using a smaller dataset
idx <- which(metadata$tissue %in% c("adipose", "adrenal", "sigmoid"))</pre>
rawCounts <- rawCounts[,idx]</pre>
metadata <- metadata[idx,]</pre>
head(rawCounts)
##
          adipose (h) adrenal (h) sigmoid (h) adipose (m) adrenal (m)
## STAG2
           1430
                             4707
                                        4392
                                                      3223
                                                                  8235
## STAG1
                              2362
                                          1687
                                                      2750
                                                                  2732
                 835
## GOSR2
                 142
                             891
                                          97
                                                      1599
                                                                  1430
## C1orf43
                1856
                             9591
                                          2611
                                                     706
                                                                  498
                             4
## ART5
                  1
                                          0
                                                       0
                                                                     0
## ART1
                   0
                               0
                                             0
                                                        0
                                                                     1
         sigmoid (m)
##
## STAG2
           10435
## STAG1
                2833
## GOSR2
                 887
## C1orf43
                  753
## ART5
                  0
                    0
## ART1
head(metadata)
                   setname
                                           seqBatch species tissue
## adipose (h) adipose (h) D87PMJN1:253:D2GUAACXX:8 human adipose
## adrenal (h) adrenal (h) D87PMJN1:253:D2GUAACXX:8 human adrenal
## sigmoid (h) sigmoid (h) D87PMJN1:253:D2GUAACXX:8 human sigmoid ## adipose (m) adipose (m) D4LHBFN1:276:C2HKJACXX:4 mouse adipose
## adrenal (m) adrenal (m) D4LHBFN1:276:C2HKJACXX:4 mouse adrenal
## sigmoid (m) sigmoid (m) D4LHBFN1:276:C2HKJACXX:4 mouse sigmoid
```

5 Batch detection using PCA Analysis

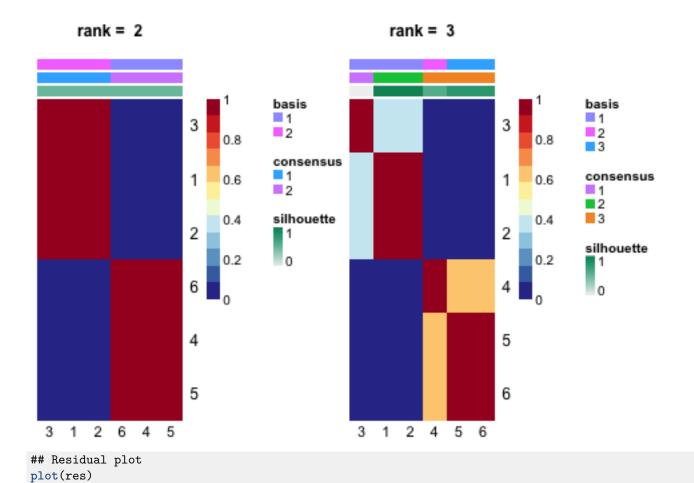
```
## Normalizing the dataset using DESeq2
dds <- DESeqDataSetFromMatrix(rawCounts, metadata, design = ~ species+tissue)
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dat <- counts(dds, normalized = TRUE)
lognormalizedCounts <- log2(dat + 1)

## PCA plot using
rld.dds <- rlog(dds)
pcaplot(rld.dds, intgroup=c("tissue", "species"), ntop=1000, pcX=1, pcY=2)</pre>
```

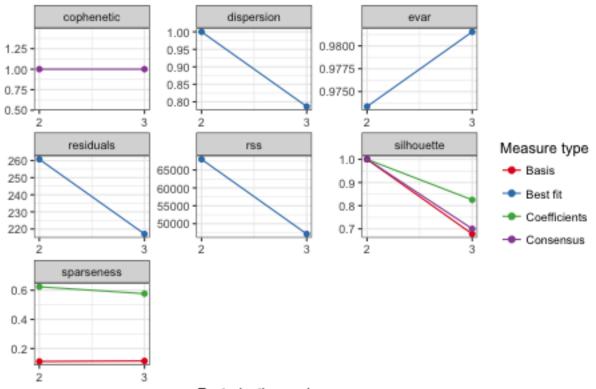


In the PCA plot, PC1 shows the differences between the species. PC2 shows the differences between the species i.e. samples clustering based on tissues.

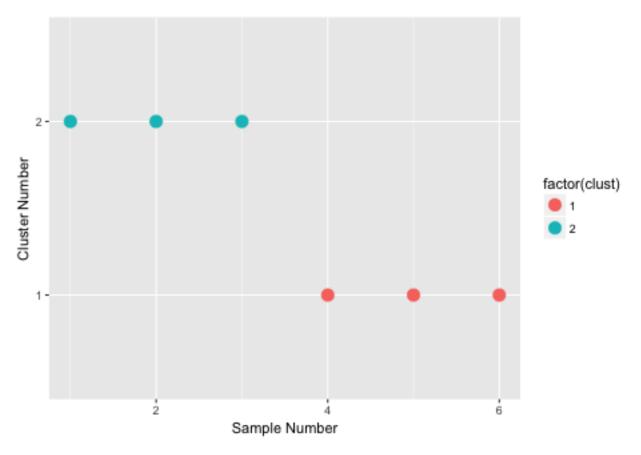
6 Batch detection using DASC



NMF rank survey



Factorization rank



Based on the above plots, we observe that the dataset has 2 batches. This can further be compared with the sequencing platform or metadata\$seqBatch. The results suggest that differences in platform led to batch effects. Batch number can be used as another covariate, when differential expression analyses using DESeq2,edgeR or limma are performed.

7 Session Info

```
sessionInfo()
## R version 3.3.3 (2017-03-06)
## Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin13.4.0 (64-bit)
## Running under: macOS Sierra 10.12.4
##
## locale:
## [1] en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8/C/en_US.UTF-8/en_US.UTF-8
##
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats4
                 parallel stats
                                     graphics grDevices utils
                                                                    datasets
## [8] methods
                 base
##
## other attached packages:
    [1] RColorBrewer_1.1-2
##
                                   pcaExplorer_2.0.0
##
   [3] ggplot2_2.2.1
                                   DESeq2_1.14.1
##
    [5] SummarizedExperiment_1.4.0 GenomicRanges_1.26.4
##
   [7] GenomeInfoDb_1.10.3
                                   IRanges_2.8.2
  [9] S4Vectors_0.12.2
                                   doParallel_1.0.10
```

```
## [11] iterators 1.0.8
                                   foreach 1.4.3
## [13] DASC_0.99.3
                                   cvxclustr_1.1.1
## [15] igraph 1.0.1
                                   Matrix 1.2-8
## [17] NMF 0.20.6
                                   cluster 2.0.6
## [19] rngtools 1.2.4
                                   pkgmaker 0.22
## [21] registry_0.3
                                   Biobase_2.34.0
## [23] BiocGenerics_0.20.0
                                   BiocStyle_2.3.30
##
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
## [1] Category_2.40.0
                               bitops_1.0-6
                                                       matrixStats_0.51.0
## [4] threejs_0.2.2
                               rprojroot_1.2
                                                       tools_3.3.3
## [7] backports_1.0.5
                               R6_2.2.0
                                                       DT_0.2
## [10] rpart_4.1-10
                               Hmisc_4.0-2
                                                       DBI_0.6
## [13] lazyeval_0.2.0
                               colorspace_1.3-2
                                                       nnet_7.3-12
## [16] gridExtra_2.2.1
                               compiler_3.3.3
                                                       graph_1.52.0
## [19] htmlTable 1.9
                               SparseM 1.76
                                                       labeling 0.3
## [22] d3heatmap_0.6.1.1
                               topGO_2.26.0
                                                       scales_0.4.1
## [25] checkmate 1.8.2
                               genefilter_1.56.0
                                                       RBGL_1.50.0
## [28] stringr_1.2.0
                               digest_0.6.12
                                                       shinyBS_0.61
## [31] foreign_0.8-67
                               rmarkdown_1.4
                                                       AnnotationForge_1.16.1
## [34] XVector 0.14.1
                               base64enc_0.1-3
                                                       htmltools 0.3.5
## [37] limma 3.30.13
                               htmlwidgets 0.8
                                                       RSQLite_1.1-2
## [40] shiny_1.0.0
                               GOstats_2.40.0
                                                       jsonlite_1.3
                                                       RCurl_1.95-4.8
## [43] BiocParallel_1.8.1
                               acepack_1.4.1
## [46] magrittr_1.5
                               GO.db_3.4.0
                                                       Formula_1.2-1
## [49] Rcpp_0.12.10
                               munsell_0.4.3
                                                       stringi_1.1.3
## [52] yaml_2.1.14
                               zlibbioc_1.20.0
                                                       plyr_1.8.4
## [55] grid_3.3.3
                               ggrepel_0.6.5
                                                       shinydashboard_0.5.3
## [58] lattice_0.20-35
                               splines_3.3.3
                                                       annotate_1.52.1
## [61] locfit_1.5-9.1
                               knitr_1.15.1
                                                       geneplotter_1.52.0
## [64] reshape2_1.4.2
                               codetools_0.2-15
                                                       biomaRt_2.30.0
## [67] XML_3.98-1.6
                               evaluate_0.10
                                                       latticeExtra_0.6-28
## [70] data.table 1.10.4
                               png 0.1-7
                                                       httpuv 1.3.3
## [73] tidyr_0.6.1
                               gtable_0.2.0
                                                       assertthat_0.1
## [76] gridBase 0.4-7
                               mime 0.5
                                                       xtable_1.8-2
## [79] survival_2.41-2
                               tibble_1.2-13
                                                       pheatmap_1.0.8
## [82] AnnotationDbi_1.36.2
                               memoise_1.0.0
                                                       GSEABase_1.36.0
## [85] shinyAce_0.2.1
```