Copy number estimation and genotype calling with crlmm

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Abstract

This vignette estimates copy number for HapMap samples on the Affymetrix 6.0 platform. See [1] for the working paper.

1 Simple usage

CRLMM supports the following platforms:

Preprocess and genotype. In the following code chunk, we provide the complete path to the Affymetrix CEL files, assign a path to store the normalized intensities and genotype data, and define a 'batch' variable. The batch variable will later be useful when we estimate copy number. We typically use the 96 well chemistry plate or the scan date of the array as a surrogate for batch. Adjusting by date or chemistry plate can be helpful for limiting the influence of batch effects.

The preprocessing steps for copy number estimation includes quantile normalization of the polymorphic and nonpolymorphic markers and a summarization step whereby the quantile normalized intentities are summarized for each locus. As the markers at polymorphic loci on the Affymetrix 6.0 platform are identical, we summarize the intensities by the median. For the nonpolymorphic markers, no summarization step is performs. Next, the crlmm package provides a genotype call and a confidence score at each polymorphic locus. Unless the dataset is small (e.g., fewer than 50 samples), we suggest installing and loading the R package ff. The function genotype checks to see whether the ff is loaded. If loaded, the normalized intensities and genotype are stored as ff objects on disk. Otherwise, the genotypes and normalized intensities are stored in matrices. A word of caution: the genotype function requires a potentially large amount of RAM even

when the R package ff is loaded. Users with large datasets may want to skip this part. For the 180 HapMap samples processed in this vignette, the genotype function required 25MB RAM. The next two code chunks should be submitted as batch jobs.

A more memory efficient approach to preprocessing and genotyping is implemented in the R function genotype2. The arguments to this function are similar to genotype but requires explicit loading of the R package ff prior to calling the function. The functions ocProbesets and ocSamples can be used to manage how many probesets and samples are to be loaded into memory and processed. Using the default settings, the following code required 1.9Mb RAM to process 180 CEL files.

The objects returned by the genotype and genotype2 differ in size as the former returns an object with matrices in the assay data slot, whereas the latter return an object with pointers to files on disk. The functions open and close can be used to open and close the connections stored in the assay data of the cnSet2 object, respectively. Subsetting the ff object pulls the data from disk into memory. As subsetting operations pull the data from disk to memory, these operations must be performed with care. In particular, subsetting the cnSet2 will subset each assay data element and this can be slow. The preferred approach would be to extract the assay data element that is needed, and then subset this function object as illustrated below for the genotype calls.

```
> class(calls(cnSet))
[1] "matrix"
> dims(cnSet)
         alleleA alleleB
                               CA
                                      call callProbability
                                                                 CB
Features 1852406 1852406 1852406 1852406
                                                   1852406 1852406
Samples
              50
                       50
                               50
                                        50
                                                        50
                                                                 50
> class(calls(cnSet2))
[1] "ff_matrix" "ff_array" "ff"
> dims(cnSet2)
```

```
alleleA alleleB
                               CA
                                     call callProbability
Features 1852406 1852406 1852406 1852406
                                                   1852406 1852406
Samples
             180
                      180
                              180
                                      180
                                                       180
                                                               180
> print(object.size(cnSet), units = "Mb")
134.3 Mb
> print(object.size(cnSet2), units = "Mb")
134.3 Mb
> if (FALSE) {
     replicate(5, system.time(gt1 <- calls(cnSet)[, 1:50])[[1]])
     open(calls(cnSet2))
     replicate(5, system.time(gt2 <- calls(cnSet2)[, 1:50])[[1]])</pre>
> gt1 <- calls(cnSet)[, 1:50]
> gt2 <- calls(cnSet2)[, 1:50]
> all.equal(gt1, gt2)
[1] "Mean relative difference: 0.5603154"
```

With ff objects the additional I/O time required for extracting data is substantial and will increase for larger datasets. Patience is required.

Note that for the Affymetrix 6.0 platform the assay data elements each have a row dimension corresponding to the total number of polymorphic and nonpolymorphic markers interrogated by the Affymetrix 6.0 platform. A consequence of keeping the rows of the assay data elements the same for all of the statistical summaries is that the matrix used to store genotype calls is larger than necessary. Also, note the additional overhead of some operations when using ff objects. For instance, the posterior probabilities for the CRLMM genotype calls are represented as integers. The accessor snpCallProbability can be used to access these confidence scores. When stored as matrices, converting the integer representation back to the probability scale is straightforward as shown below. However, for the ff objects we must first bring the data into memory. To bring all the scores into memory, one could use the function [,] but this could be slow and require a lot of RAM depending on the size of the dataset. Instead, we suggest pulling only the needed rows and columns from memory. In the following example, we convert the integer scores to probabilities for the CEPH samples. As genotype confidence scores are not applicable to the nonpolymorphic markers, we extract only the polymorphic markers using the isSnp function. We observe a slight difference in the posterior probabilities. The difference arises because cnSet2 was processed with a larger number of samples - for some SNPs a larger sample size can improve the genotype calling algorithm as the AA, AB, and BB clusters are better defined.

Next, we obtain locus-level estimates of copy number by fitting a linear model to each SNP. A variable named 'batch' must be indicated in the protocolData of the cnSet object. As the inverse variance of the within-genotype normalized intensities are used as weights in the linear model (and hence the design matrix in the regression changes for each SNP), the time is linear with the number of markers on the array. Copy number estimation at nonpolymorphic markers and polymorphic markers with unobserved genotypes is more difficult. We refer the interested reader to the technical report [1]. Again, we peform the copy number estimation using the matrix version and the ff version in parallel and encourage users with large datasets to explore the latter. As with the preprocessing and genotyping, the following code should be submitted as part of the batch job as it is too slow for interactive analysis.

```
> tryCatch(print(paste("Time for matrix version:", time1)),
        error = function(e) print("timing for CN estimation not available"))
> tryCatch(print(paste("Time for ff version:", time2)),
        error = function(e) print("timing for CN estimation not available"))
> rm(cnSet2)
> gc()
```

2 Accessors

For the remainder of this vignette, we illustrate accessors and visualizations using the sample object provided in the crlmm package.

```
> data(sample.CNSetLM)
> x <- sample.CNSetLM</pre>
```

2.1 Quantile-normalized intensities

Accessors for the quantile normalized intensities for the A allele at polymorphic loci:

```
> snp.index <- which(isSnp(x))
> np.index <- which(!isSnp(x))
> a <- (A(x))[snp.index, ]
> dim(a)
[1] 1139 180
```

The extra set of parentheses surrounding A(cnSet2) above is added to emphasize the appropriate order of operations. Subsetting the entire x object in the following code should be avoided for large datasets.

```
> a \leftarrow A(x[snp.index, ])
```

The quantile-normalized intensities for nonpolymorphic loci are obtained by:

```
> npIntensities <- (A(x))[np.index, ]</pre>
```

Quantile normalized intensities for the B allele at polymorphic loci:

```
> b.snps \leftarrow (B(x))[snp.index,]
   Note that NAs are recorded in the 'B' assay data element for nonpolymorphic loci:
> all(is.na((B(x))[np.index, ]))
[1] TRUE
                                       (Mb)
                    (Mb) gc trigger
                                             max used
            used
                                                       222.3
                            4679654
Ncells
         3136339
                  167.5
                                     250.0
                                              4161220
Vcells 505836258 3859.3 997894336 7613.4 997581943 7611.0
SnpSet: Genotype calls and confidence scores Genotype calls:
> genotypes <- (snpCall(x))[snp.index, ]</pre>
Confidence scores of the genotype calls:
> genotypeConf <- integerScoreToProbability(snpCallProbability(x)[snp.index[1:10],
CopyNumberSet: allele-specific copy number Allele-specific copy number at polymorphic loci:
> ca <- CA(x[snp.index, ])/100
   Total copy number at nonpolymorphic loci:
> cn.nonpolymorphic <- CA(x[np.index, ])/100</pre>
   Total copy number at both polymorphic and nonpolymorphic loci:
> cn <- copyNumber(x)</pre>
> apply(cn, 2, median, na.rm = TRUE)
  [1] 199.0 199.0 211.0 202.0 195.0 205.0 202.0 204.0 199.0 205.0
 [11] 196.0 197.0 198.0 206.0 206.0 207.0 201.0 204.0 207.0 207.0
 [21] 208.0 202.0 199.0 206.0 197.0 205.0 205.0 214.0 201.0 198.0
 [31] 202.0 207.0 201.0 207.0 201.0 203.0 199.0 208.0 195.0 203.0
 [41] 199.0 199.0 199.0 202.0 199.0 211.0 197.0 203.0 198.0 202.0
 [51] 197.0 202.0 199.0 207.0 208.0 204.0 200.0 204.0 197.0 201.0
 [61] 199.0 200.0 200.0 206.0 206.0 198.0 200.0 208.0 197.0 202.0
 [71] 197.0 203.0 203.0 206.0 203.0 204.0 202.0 200.0 200.0 200.0
 [81] 197.0 200.0 206.0 202.0 202.0 205.0 200.0 200.0 204.0 200.0
 [91] 205.0 197.0 199.0 204.0 213.0 197.0 204.0 209.0 200.0 202.0
[101] 206.0 204.0 206.0 218.0 199.0 200.0 202.0 203.0 202.0 204.0
[111] 203.0 197.0 207.0 208.0 197.0 201.0 205.0 200.0 202.0 206.0
[121] 196.0 203.0 203.0 202.0 199.0 203.0 203.0 198.0 195.0 201.0
[131] 198.0 207.0 202.0 200.0 207.0 202.0 201.0 201.0 202.0 199.0
[141] 202.0 196.0 202.0 202.0 203.0 204.0 202.0 201.0 208.0 204.0
[151] 199.0 204.0 205.0 208.0 205.0 204.0 208.0 204.0 202.0 202.0
[161] 199.0 199.0 204.0 202.0 201.0 203.0 203.0 202.0 203.0 201.0
[171] 199.0 200.5 206.0 206.0 198.0 197.0 206.0 193.0 204.5 197.0
```

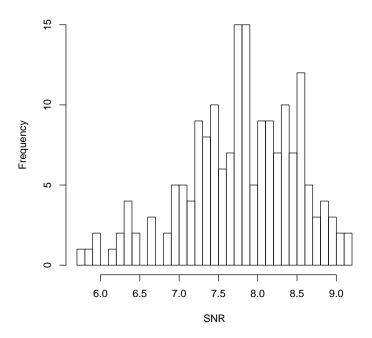


Figure 1: Signal to noise ratios for the HapMap samples.

2.2 Other accessors

Information on physical position and chromosome can be accessed as follows:

```
> xx <- position(x)
> yy <- chromosome(x)</pre>
```

Parameters from the linear model used to estimate copy number are stored in the slot 1M.

> names(1M(x))

[1] 2119

```
[1] "tau2A" "tau2B" "sig2A" "sig2B" "nuA"
[6] "nuB" "phiA" "phiB" "phiPrimeA" "phiPrimeB"
[11] "corrAB" "corrBB" "corrAA"

> dim(lM(x)[[1]])
```

3 Suggested visualizations

2

SNR. A histogram of the signal to noise ratio for the HapMap samples:

```
> hist(x$SNR, xlab = "SNR", main = "", breaks = 25)
```

NA06985_GW6_C.CEL, CHR: 1

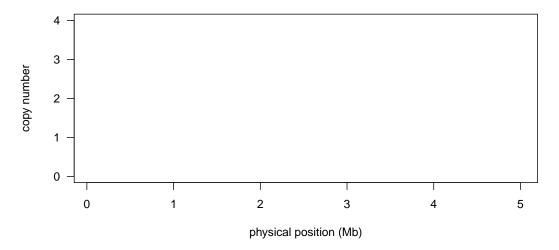


Figure 2: Total copy number (y-axis) for chromosome 1 plotted against physical position (x-axis) for one sample. Estimates at nonpolymorphic loci are plotted in light blue.

One sample at a time: locus-level estimates Figure 2 plots physical position (horizontal axis) versus copy number (vertical axis) for the first sample. There is less information to estimate copy number at nonpolymorphic loci; improvements to the univariate prediction regions at nonpolymorphic loci are a future area of research.

One SNP at a time Scatterplots of the A and B allele intensities (log-scale) can be useful for assessing the biallelic genotype calls. This section of the vignette is currently under development.

```
> i <- snp.index[1]
> plot(i, x, copynumber = 2)
```

4 Session information

> toLatex(sessionInfo())

- R version 2.11.0 Patched (2010-05-20 r52056), x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
- Locale: LC_CTYPE=en_US.iso885915, LC_NUMERIC=C, LC_TIME=en_US.iso885915, LC_COLLATE=en_US.iso885915, LC_MONETARY=C, LC_MESSAGES=en_US.iso885915, LC_PAPER=en_US.iso885915, LC_NAME=C, LC_ADDRESS=C, LC_TELEPHONE=C, LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.iso885915, LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
- Base packages: base, datasets, graphics, grDevices, methods, stats, tools, utils
- Other packages: Biobase 2.8.0, bit 1.1-4, crlmm 1.6.0, ff 2.1-4, oligoClasses 1.10.0
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): affyio 1.16.0, annotate 1.26.0, AnnotationDbi 1.10.1, Biostrings 2.16.0, DBI 0.2-5, ellipse 0.3-5, genefilter 1.30.0, IRanges 1.6.2, mvtnorm 0.9-9, preprocessCore 1.10.0, RSQLite 0.9-0, splines 2.11.0, survival 2.35-8, xtable 1.5-6

References

References

[1] Robert B Scharpf, Ingo Ruczinski, Benilton Carvalho, Betty Doan, Aravinda Chakravarti, and Rafael Irizarry. A multilevel model to address batch effects in copy number estimation using snp arrays. May 2009.