1. Keywords were selected as "expression, liver, tumor", and dataset[1] belongs to species: mus musculus shown in **Figure 1** was chosen from NCBI-GEO.

Cirrhosis is malfunctioning of the liver tissue due to long-term (unknown) damage, and the factors behind this which predisposes Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) has not clearly shown, yet[1]. Pathogen-free C57BL/6 mice with transgenic expression of Platelet-Derived -Growth Factor-c (PDGFc-Tg) inducing mice were used (control: Wild Type mice), which shares similar microenvironmental conditions with HCC, and mouse is a good model to study this disease mimicking the human version. In this study, researchers tried to find out the mechanism behind HCC in PDGFc-Tg mice.

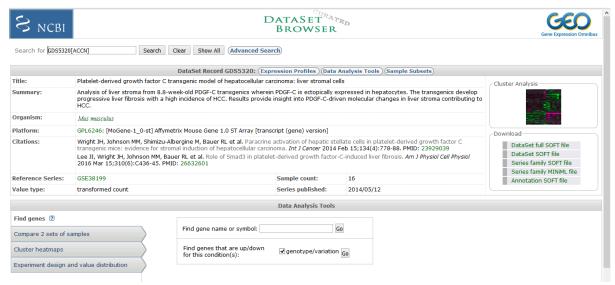


Figure 1: Detailed information about the dataset which was used for GEO2R analysis.

My hypothesis is, if this is the case, I expect similar genes, and so pathways to be affected in human HCC by using DEGs of RNA-seq based results in human, which are more trustful than microarray (by using cBioPortal TCGA datasets [3]), and test those affected pathways based on DEGs on Panther/GO[4]. I will check human-mouse disease relationships at Mouse Genome Informatics (mouseDB)[2]. In addition, as a next step, it would be great to see similarity of related miRNAs (on miRnet tool[5]), because Feed Forward Loop (FFLs)-like trio structures of Transcription Factors (TFs), miRNAs and joint target genes might be used for therapeutic options (if available)(**Supp Figure 1**[7])[6].

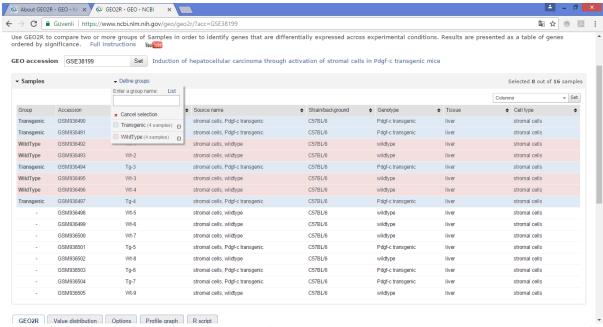


Figure 2: Groups for DEG analysis were defined based on wt and transgenic mice on GEO2R (4 for each).

DEGs Analysis was done on GEO2R with accession number GSE38199 (#reference series, Figure 1). 4 wild-type and 4 inductions of HCC by stromal cells of pdgf-transgenic mice were compared to figure out differentially expressed upregulated/downregulated genes (Figure 2). GEO2R uses limma or GEOquery packages from Bioconductor (R) for this purpose. It is available under the "R script" tab on GEO2R. By changing options, it enables researchers to set p-value options, log-transformation and annotation platform for genes. Because it was optimal for my study, default settings were used (Figure 3). In fact, under the GEO2R section, "select columns" options have changed, to see GO processes, GO processes was selected as one of the columns available under GEO2R menu.

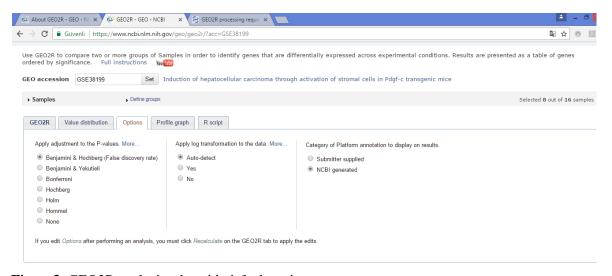


Figure3: GEO2R analysis tabs with default options.

GEO2R Top 250 Analysis gave us the adjusted P-value (based on False Discovery Rate/BH), p-value, t-statistic based on two different samples (in our case, wt vs. tg), log-odds (B), logFC (log-2-fold change between two groups), and t test for all pairwise comparisons for two groups (F), which was useful to test significance of your hypothesis result (shown in **Figure 4**). It is also available DEG analysis results for all the genes by clicking the "save all results" option. In addition, under the "Value Distribution" menu, it enables to see value distribution across different samples (selected wt and tg) (**Figure 5, left**). For my samples, it has almost no change (median-level) across wt and tg mice for

sample-wise distribution. However, it is possible to see the expression differences of specific gene across/in between (selected) samples (**Figure 5, right**).

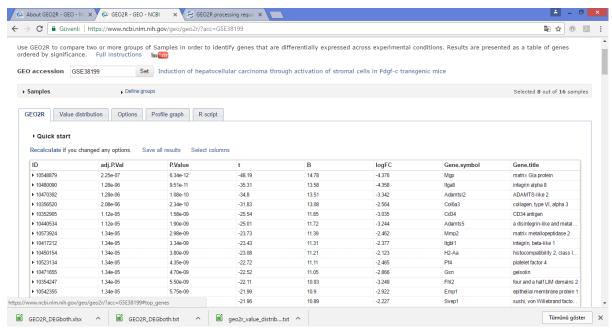


Figure 4: GEO2R Top 250 Analysis result (based on limma package).

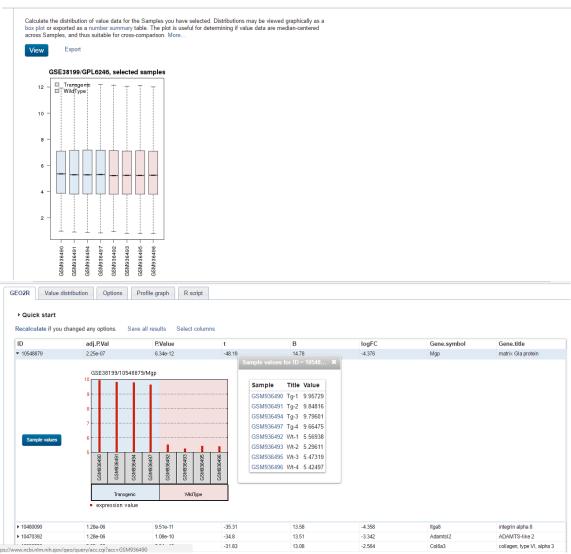


Figure 5: Value distribution across selected samples (left), and for specific genes (right).

In addition to GEO2R, GEO page also provides some statistical approaches and clustering options for the data available for that accession number (**Supplementary Figure 2,3,4**).

Based on log-2-fold change and adjusted p-values, top 200 and down 200 genes are selected and recorded in an excel file (available in final.zip). Then, these values are sorted, and genes without gene symbols and adjusted p-value>0.05 for both down and up regulated genes are hidden on the excel files (up and down regulated gene files are available, separately in final.zip). Then remaining genes with gene symbols were uploaded to Panther/GO (**Supplementary Figure 5**).

- 2) a1)GO/Panther upload: See the pathways, processes related to DEGs for mice and human
- a2) cBioPortal to compare expression profile human-liver disease relationship of selected genes (based on MGI genes filter applied for immune system & liver) with each other based on gene symbols
- a3) Mouse Gene Informatics tool will help me to find interactions of disease between human and mice, and confirm the pathways once more
 - b) will be kept in the excel files and will be explained in the summary part

GO/Panther provided most related affected pathways of DEGs, which are shown in **Supplementary Figure 8**): mostly the immune system and integration mechanism of a cell were affected. Mouse Genome Informatics database will give the mouse-human disease connections based on the genes (DEGs from GEO2R) uploaded into the database, and most of them are related to immune system, homeostasis of the body, which might be related to liver at the end(**Figure 6 and Supplementary Figure 6**). I have also checked the mouse strains used for specific research purposes in Mouse Tumor

Biology Database of this site, and I saw that (C57BL/6 x C3H)F1 is the strain for liver neoplasm (data was not shown). QTLs are also available for different cancer types in this site, which may be helpful for further studies. Genes from this connection was uploaded to cBioPortal user-defined list for selected datasets to see mutation and expression profile of them in human HCC (Supplementary Figure 7). Expression profile itself may not be explanatory enough, so mutation profile is also important. high mutation rate and copy number alteration was found, especially for liver(TCGA) dataset, showing both expression change and mutation on these genes on human liver cancer as well (bookmark: http://bit.ly/2rIXZy3). Some of the genes showed significant co-occurrence.

Transgenic mice showed the signs of human-HCC, but further experiments are required to test this. Data was a little bit old, I recommend RNA-seq analysis result and other improved DEGs tests to see the differentiation more clear.

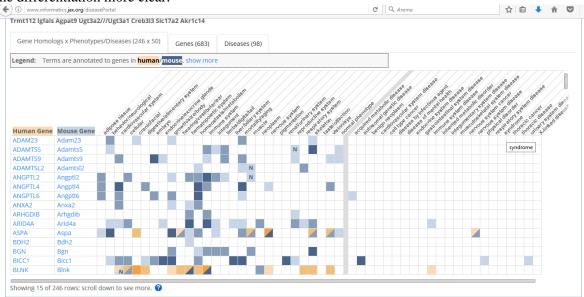
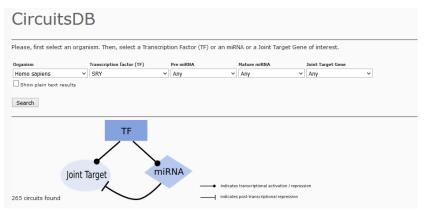
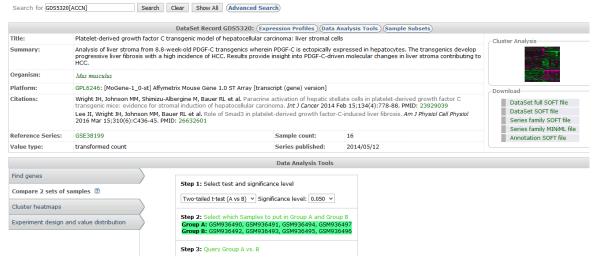


Figure 6: Mouse Genome Informatics database results for human-mouse disease connection. Most of the connections are to the immune system.

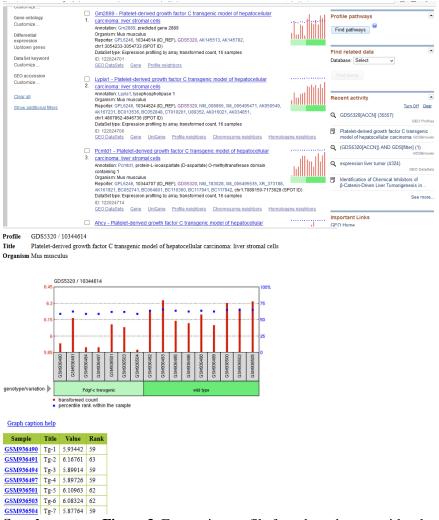
Supplementary Figures



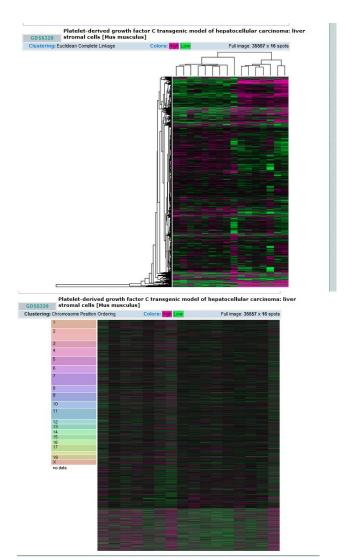
Supplementary Figure 1: General FFL structure [7].



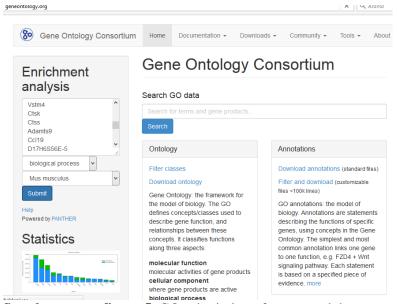
Supplementary Figure 2: Options at GEO page for the selected datasets.



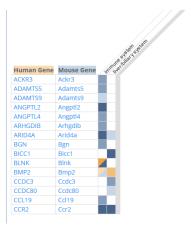
Supplementary Figure 3: Expression profile for selected genes with selected statistical approach (two-tailed t-test for this case) across samples at GEO.



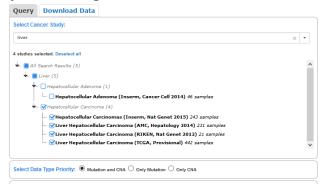
Supplementary Figure 4: Hierarchical clustering heatmap (left) and heatmap based on chromosomal location of the genes (right). k-means clustering option is also available.



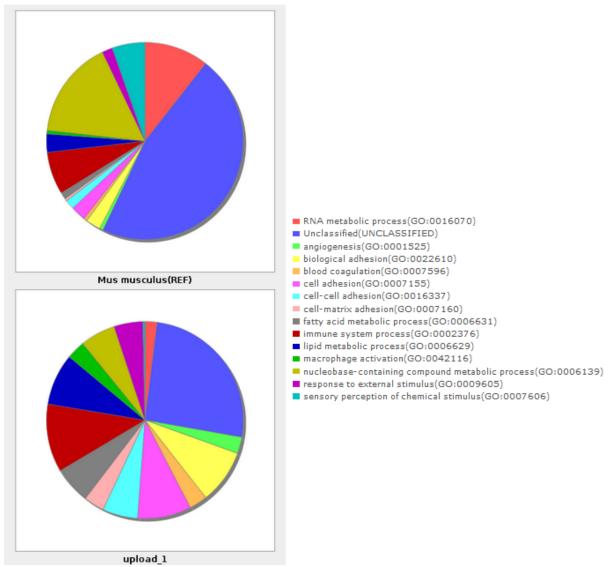
Supplementary figure 5: GO submission of top up and down regulated genes (<0.05 p-value)



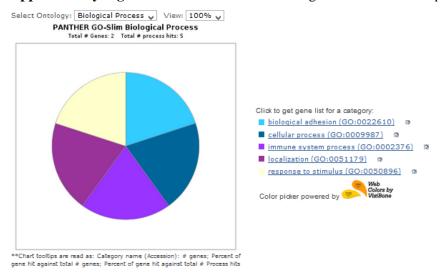
Supplementary Figure 6: MGI human-mouse disease connection results after applying liver-immune system related genes.



Supplementary Figure 7: Datasets which were chosen from cBioPortal. p53 signaling related genes were checked.



Supplementary Figure 8: Panther-Go-Slim Biological Processes Multiple Pie Chart based on DEGs.



Supplementary Figure 9: Significance for co-occurance of CCDC3 and CLEC4G were the highest in cBioPortal. Figure shows the biological processes related to these two genes. Some of them did not show any hit on the Panther Biological Processes(data was not shown).

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