

# Generalized estimating equation modeling on correlated microbiome sequencing data with longitudinal measures

Emily Palmer

Journal Club, Oregon State University

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# Overview

## Introduction

## Correlation structure

- Taxonomic structure of OTUs

- Modelling correlations from repeated measures

- Integrative Correlation Matrix

## Microbiome Taxonomic Longitudinal Correlation model

- GEE framework

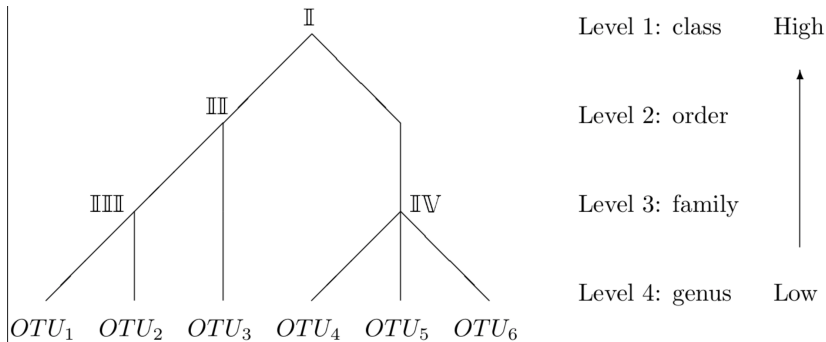
# Introduction

- ▶ Estimate correlations between multiple OTUs
- ▶ Incorporate correlations into models with longitudinal OTU measures
- ▶ Estimate predictors effects and OTU measures
- ▶ Two-part Microbiome Taxonomic Longitudinal Correlation (MLTC) model

# Notation and Definitions

- ▶  $N$  OTUs
- ▶  $I$  levels:
  - ▶ 1st taxonomic level is the level at which all observed  $N$  OTUs belong to the same taxon but not at one level lower
- ▶  $M_i$ : number of taxa at level  $i$  ( $M_1 = 1, M_I = N$ )
- ▶  $t_{m_i,i}$ : taxon at level  $i$
- ▶  $n_{m_i,i}$ : number of OTUs belonging to taxon  $t_{m_i,i}$

# Example



# Correlation matrix of taxonomic structure - Assumptions

- ▶ Assume that OTUs that belong to the same taxa at some higher level have some correlation
- ▶ From taxonomic structure, all OTUs will belong to same taxa at highest level, so there are  $\binom{N}{2}$  possible correlations - infeasible to model
- ▶ Clusters of OTUs (otus belonging to the same taxa)
- ▶ Assume that two pairs of OTUs have the same correlation if the first common taxa of both pairs are identical  
If  $\mathcal{P}^*$  and  $\mathcal{P}^\dagger$  are two pairs of OTUs, with correlation  $\rho^*$  and  $\rho^\dagger$ .  $t_{m_i^*, i^*}$  is first common taxa of  $\mathcal{P}^*$   $t_{m_i^\dagger, i^\dagger}$  is first common taxa of  $\mathcal{P}^\dagger$

$$\rho^* = \rho^\dagger \leftrightarrow t_{m_i^*, i^*} = t_{m_i^\dagger, i^\dagger}$$

# Finding the taxonomic structure matrix

- ▶ The taxonomic structure matrix
- ▶ Go through algorithm...

# Correlations of longitudinal data

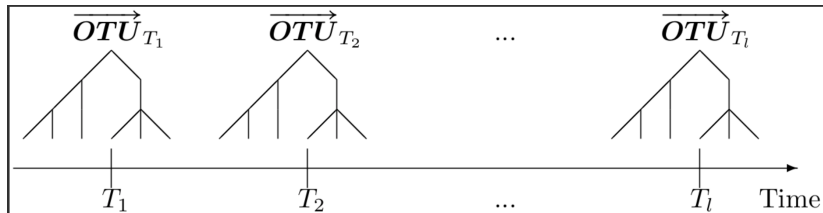
Types of correlations between pairs of time points

- ▶ Exchangable
  - ▶ Assumes all correlations are equal to each other
- ▶ Toeplitz
  - ▶ Assumes time points with equal temporal distance have equal correlation
- ▶ Unstructured
  - ▶ Assumes each pair has a different correlations
  - ▶ Most complicated structure for correlation parameter estimation

Correlation structure matrix for the the same individual is denoted  $\Omega_T$



# Example



# Multiple Columns

Example for 3 timepoints  
**Exchangable structure**

	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_3$
$T_1$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{i}$
$T_2$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$
$T_3$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$

**Toeplitz structure**

	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_3$
$T_1$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{ii}$
$T_2$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$
$T_3$	$\mathfrak{ii}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$

## Combining longitudinal and sample correlation

When both longitudinal and sample correlations exist, the repeated measure correlation matrix is all combinations of time points and repeated samples

	$(T_1, S_1)$	$(T_2, S_1)$	$(T_3, S_1)$	$(T_1, S_2)$	$(T_2, S_2)$	$(T_3, S_2)$
$(T_1, S_1)$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{ii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$
$(T_2, S_1)$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{ii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$
$(T_3, S_1)$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{ii}$
$(T_1, S_2)$	$\mathfrak{ii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{i}$
$(T_2, S_2)$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{ii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$	$\mathfrak{i}$
$(T_3, S_2)$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{iii}$	$\mathfrak{ii}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathfrak{i}$	$\mathbb{D}$

# Integrative Correlation Matrix

$$\mathbf{\Omega}(\Gamma_{ab}) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{(\Gamma_{ab}, \Omega_{11})} & \cdots & \rho_{(\Gamma_{ab}, \Omega_{1L})} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \rho_{(\Gamma_{ab}, \Omega_{L1})} & \cdots & \rho_{(\Gamma_{ab}, \Omega_{LL})} \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{\Omega}^{11} & \cdots & \mathbf{\Omega}^{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{\Omega}^{N1} & \cdots & \mathbf{\Omega}^{NN} \end{pmatrix}$$

Dimension of

$$\mathbf{R} = (N \times L) \times (N \times L)$$

Diagonals of  $\mathbf{R} = \rho(\mathbb{D}, \mathbb{D})$  are 1,  
off-diagonals need to be  
estimated

# Introduction to MTLC:

## MTLC:

- ▶ Estimate predictor effects
- ▶ Estimate correlation coefficients between OTUs, longitudinal measures and other repeated measures
- ▶ Perform hypothesis testing of predictor effects

# Generalized estimating equation framework

- ▶  $y_k$  independent clusters  $k = 1, \dots, K$
- ▶  $J_k$  cluster length for cluster  $y_k = (y_{k1}, \dots, y_{kJ_k})$
- ▶  $\mathbf{x}_{kj}$  the vector of covariates with length  $p$
- ▶  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_k = (\mu_{k1}, \dots, \mu_{kJ_k})$
- ▶ Each observation  $y_{kj}$

$$g(\mu_{kj}) = \mathbf{x}_{kj}'\boldsymbol{\beta}$$

- ▶ Conditional variance of  $y_{kj}$

$$\text{Var}(y_{kj}|\mathbf{x}_{kj}) = v(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{kj}\phi)$$

$v$  is the variance function depending on the distribution of  $y_{kj}$ ,  
 $\phi$  is dispersion parameter

- ▶ Estimate  $\beta$  by solving the generalized estimating equation

$$U(\beta) = \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{D}'_k \mathbf{V}_k^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_k - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) = 0$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{D}_k = \frac{d\boldsymbol{\mu}_k}{d\beta}$ ,  $\mathbf{V}_k = \mathbf{A}_k^{1/2} \mathbf{R}_k(\boldsymbol{\rho}) \mathbf{A}_k^{1/2}$ ,
- ▶  $\mathbf{A}_k = \text{diag}(\mu_{k1}\phi, \dots, \mu_{kJ_k}\phi)$   $\boldsymbol{\rho}$  collection of all correlation coefficients in  $\mathbf{R}_k$
- ▶  $\phi, \boldsymbol{\rho}$  also need to be estimated

$$\hat{\phi} = \frac{1}{\sum_{k=1}^K J_k - p} \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^{J_k} e_{kj}^2$$

where  $e_{kj}$  is the pearson residual

- ▶  $\hat{\rho}$  is estimated as a function of  $\phi$  and  $e_{kj}$ , depending on the correlation structure  $R$

# Hypothesis testing

In GEE theory,  $\hat{\beta}$  is asymptotically normally distributed with mean  $\beta$  and variance



# Citation

An example of the `\cite` command to cite within the presentation:

This statement requires citation [Smith, 2012].

# References



John Smith (2012)

Title of the publication

*Journal Name* 12(3), 45 – 678.