Vignette Title

Aleksandra Dąbrowska, Alicja Gosiewska 2017-05-04

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Package (Abstract?)

It is considered that the result of increased methylation is decreased gene expression. While, recent studies suggest that the relationship between methylation and expression is more complex than was previously thought. The package ... provides methods to test for differential expression and methylation by use of the negative binonial distribution and t-test. Additionally package ... allows to visualize results in a simple way.

Standard Workflow

In this vignette we will work with the data sets containing information about gene expression and methylation for patients with breast cancer. We will analyze differences in methylation and expression for patients with different subtypes of BRCA cancer.

Function test diff

The main function of the package is test_diff. It allows to find differences between genes methylation or expression, taking into account additional information about samples.

Methylation

Methylation is a process by which methyl groups are added to the DNA molecule. It can change the activity of a DNA without changing the sequence. DNA methylation typically acts to repress gene transcription. But there exist situations in which adding the methyl groups intensify it. DNA methylation is associated with a lots of key processes including genomic imprinting, repression of transposable elements, aging and carcinogenesis. In our work we want to bind methylation process and carcinogenesis.

BRCA_methylation_chr17 data set

In this section, we will work with the methylation level data from TCGA database. Package contains BRCA_methylation_chr17 dataset. BRCA_methylation_chr17 contains information about methylation of CpG islands located on 17th chromosome for patienst with breast cancer. Rows of this data set correspond to patients, more precisely, to samples taken from patients. First column SUBTYPEcorresponds to a subtype of BRCA cancer, next columns correspond to CpG islands. Values inside the table indicate the methylation level of CpG island for specified sample.

```
library(MetExpR)
```

##

```
head(BRCA methylation chr17)[1:5,1:4]
```

Data preparation

In this analysis we would like to find genes with different methylation level. At first we need to use function map to gene, which generates new data frame with CpG islands mapped to genes.

```
BRCA_methylation_chr17_gen <- map_to_gene(BRCA_methylation_chr17[,-1])
head(BRCA_methylation_chr17_gen)[1:5,1:4]
```

```
## TCGA-A2-A04P-01A-11D-A032-05 0.7120650 0.8819490 0.02501599 0.6276399
## TCGA-A2-A04T-01A-21D-A032-05 0.6010397 0.7739978 0.02501599 0.6276399
```

Function test_diff allows us to test for differences between the base means for two or more conditions.

In this case we have two conditions, connected with subtypes of breast cancer.

Before we go to the testing, we need to define condition values for each sample. We would like to test for differences between LumA subtype and other subtypes of breast cancer, so we create vector, which each element corresponds to a sample. Our division into this two group relies on numbers of occurences of each subtype. The LumA subtype is the most common, in case of breast cancer.

```
condition <- ifelse(BRCA_methylation_chr17$SUBTYPE=="LumA","LumA", "other")
head(condition,8)</pre>
```

```
## [1] "LumA" "LumA" "other" "other" "other" "LumA" "other"
```

T-test

One of the most used tools for testing differences between values is t-test. The null hypothesis we have consider, is that means in two groups are equal. To use it in test_diff function, we set value of parameter test on "ttest".

```
test.mety <- test_diff(BRCA_methylation_chr17_gen, condition, test="ttest")</pre>
```

As a result we obtain a data frame with columns corresponds to: id of gene, mean, logarithm of fold change, p-value for t-test, adjusted p-value (BH method). For more information about customizing this function see the help page for test_diff.

head(test.mety)

```
##
                id
                        mean
                               log2.fold
                                                 pval
## ICAM2
             ICAM2 0.3330801 -0.15151320 3.754116e-17 3.063359e-14
## RILP
              RILP 0.3341447 -0.05073691 2.575168e-13 1.050668e-10
## PIPOX
             PIPOX 0.3647812 0.11505558 5.360053e-12 1.196885e-09
## TNFSF12 TNFSF12 0.2485025 -0.13412855 5.867083e-12 1.196885e-09
## CD7
               CD7 0.8127112 0.09822690 1.641919e-11 2.679612e-09
## KSR1
              KSR1 0.5549808 0.19973400 2.054467e-11 2.794075e-09
```

Expression

Gene expression is the process by which information from a gene is used in the synthesis of proteins. The process of gene expression is used by all known life.

BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17 data set

In this section we will use data set BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17, which contains information about gene expression. This data set contains per-gene read counts computed for genes from 17th chromosome for 100 patients with breast cancer. Rows of this data set correspond to samples taken from patients. First column SUBTYPEcorresponds to a subtype of BRCA cancer, next columns correspond to genes.

```
BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17[1:5,1:5]
```

```
##
                                 SUBTYPE AANAT AARSD1 AATF AATK
                                                  2354 2870
## TCGA-A1-A0SB-01A-11R-A144-07
                                              9
                                  Normal
                                                             317
## TCGA-A1-AOSD-O1A-11R-A115-07
                                    LumA
                                              2
                                                  1846 5656
                                                             312
## TCGA-A1-A0SE-01A-11R-A084-07
                                                  3391 9522
                                                             736
                                    LumA
                                             11
## TCGA-A1-A0SF-01A-11R-A144-07
                                    LumA
                                              0
                                                  2169 4625
                                                             169
## TCGA-A1-A0SG-01A-11R-A144-07
                                    LumA
                                              1
                                                  2273 3473
                                                               92
```

Negative binomial test

Negative binomial test, which uses negative binomial distribution is an another tool for finding differencial expression between our conditions.

As in the t-test we also need a description of the samples, which we keep in a vector, whose elements correspond to different gorups.

In our example we will test for differential expression between groups with LumA breast cancer subtype and other subtypes of that cancer. Again we will use vector conditions, which consist of two values corresponds to subtype of breast cancer: LumA and other.

```
condition<-ifelse(BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17$SUBTYPE=="LumA","LumA","other")
head(condition,8)</pre>
```

```
## [1] "other" "LumA" "LumA" "LumA" "LumA" "LumA" "other" "LumA"
```

For using negative binomial test, in function test_diff we set value "nbinom2" for parameter test. (negative binomial test from DESeq2 package)

```
test.expr <- test_diff(BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17[,-1], condition, test="nbinom2")</pre>
```

```
## converting counts to integer mode
## estimating size factors
## estimating dispersions
## gene-wise dispersion estimates
## mean-dispersion relationship
## final dispersion estimates
## fitting model and testing
## -- replacing outliers and refitting for 71 genes
## -- DESeq argument 'minReplicatesForReplace' = 7
## -- original counts are preserved in counts(dds)
## estimating dispersions
## fitting model and testing
As a result we obtain the following data frame:
head(test.expr)
##
             id
                       mean
                              log2.fold
                                             pval
                                                       padj
          AANAT
## AANAT
                   ## AARSD1 AARSD1 2779.448414 -0.07435954 0.45027777 0.5590183
## AATF
           AATF 6750.269650 0.13308688 0.18597163 0.2781953
## AATK
           AATK 352.805108 0.02308606 0.92313513 0.9531664
          ABCA5 1933.257431 -0.07034249 0.73314806 0.8079895
## ABCA5
```

Visualization

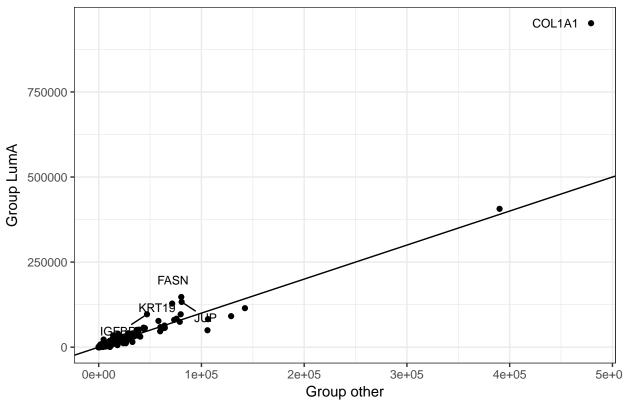
em_plot

ABCA6

```
em_plot(BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17[,-1], condition, names=5)
```

ABCA6 689.547294 -0.44685708 0.08266088 0.1429916



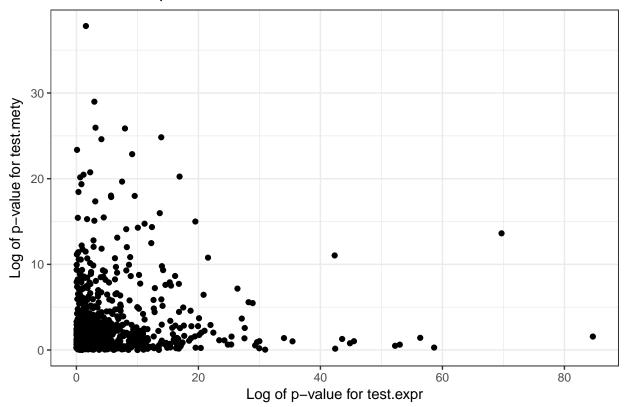


log-log p-value

Firstly, we want to visualise the p-values for expression and methylation from negative binomial test and t-test respectively.

p_values_plot(test.expr, test.mety)

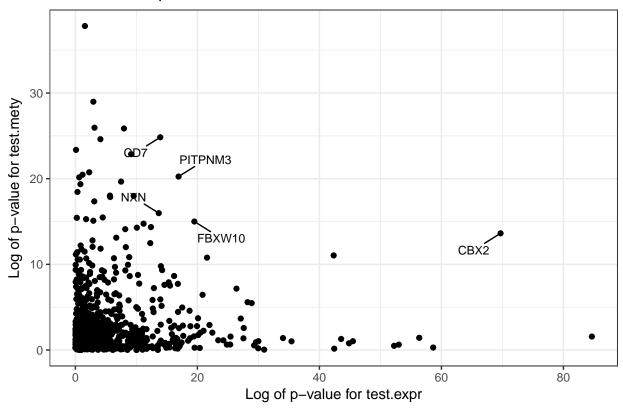
P-values comparison



Additionally, names parameter allows to mark genes with sum of p-values for methylation and expression, lower than given value. Value of parameter names defines, number of genes to label.

p_values_plot(test.expr, test.mety, names = 5)

P-values comparison

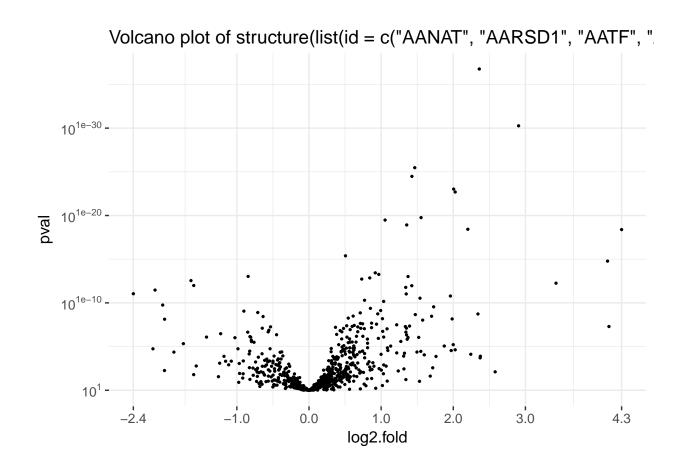


To read more about p_values_plot (e.g other ways to labeling genes) see help page for that function.

Volcano plot

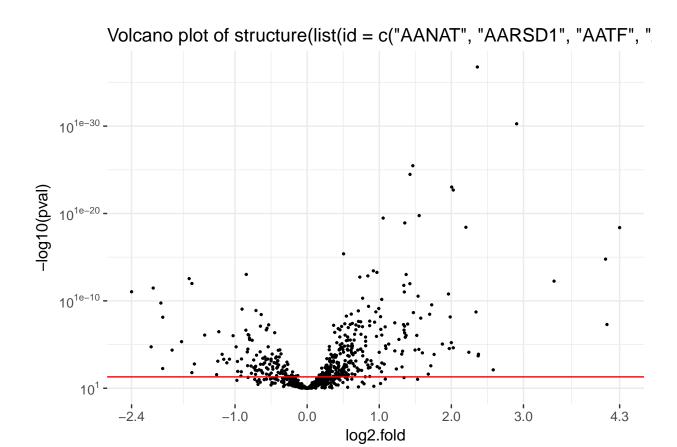
For identify changes in our data sets we use a volcano plot - some type of scatter-plot. It plots logarithm of p-value versus logarithm of fold-change on the y and x axes, respectively.

volcano_plot(test.expr)

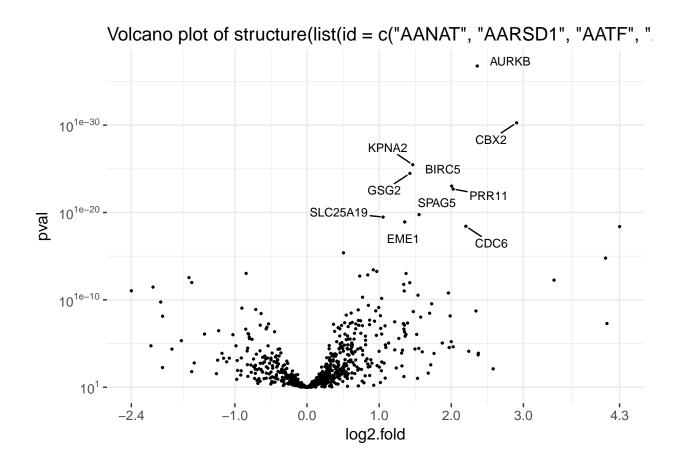


Function volcano_plot has parameters that allow to better analyze the results: line and names. The line parameter allows to set the horizontal line on plot on selected value. The names parameter signs choosen number of genes with the lowest p-value.

volcano_plot(test.expr, line = 0.05)



volcano_plot(test.expr, names = 10)



Methylation and expression for one gene.

In the end we want to present the distribution of methylation and expression for choosen genes.

Function CpG_mean computes methylation means of CpG islands for choosen gene. In this case: "BRCA1"

```
BRCA1_gene <- CpG_mean(BRCA_methylation_chr17, "BRCA1")
BRCA1_gene</pre>
```

```
##
               Name
                     MapInfo Symbol CPG_ISLAND CPG_ISLAND_LOCATIONS
## 4712
         cg04658354 38530970
                              BRCA1
                                           TRUE 17:38530194-38531162
## 6961
         cg06973652 38532148
                              BRCA1
                                          TRUE 17:38531525-38532730
         cg07054526 38526034
                              BRCA1
                                          TRUE 17:38525979-38526990
## 7047
         cg08993267 38530848
                              BRCA1
                                          TRUE 17:38530194-38531162
## 8929
## 11917 cg11964474 38532181
                                          TRUE 17:38531525-38532730
                              BRCA1
## 19075 cg19088651 38530739
                              BRCA1
                                          TRUE 17:38530194-38531162
## 19527 cg19531713 38530585
                              BRCA1
                                          TRUE 17:38530194-38531162
##
               mean
## 4712 0.05802403
## 6961
        0.83772148
## 7047
        0.93138624
## 8929 0.06280625
## 11917 0.79200965
## 19075 0.11090400
## 19527 0.10361921
```

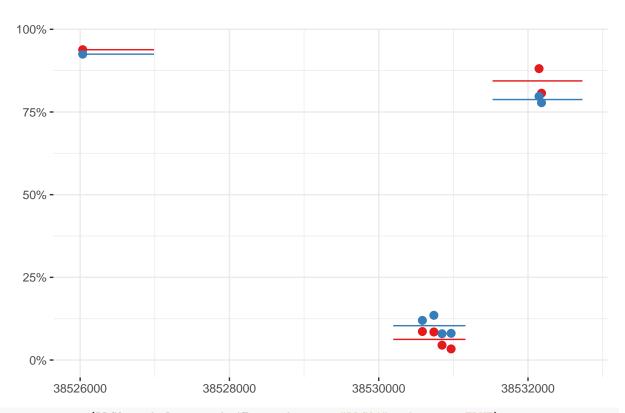
Methylation and expression in groups.

Two subtype groups of cancer in one plot.

```
condition <- ifelse(BRCA_methylation_chr17$SUBTYPE=="LumA","LumA", "other")
genereg_vs_met(BRCA_methylation_chr17, condition, "BRCA1")</pre>
```

- ## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
- ## 'select()' returned 1:many mapping between keys and columns

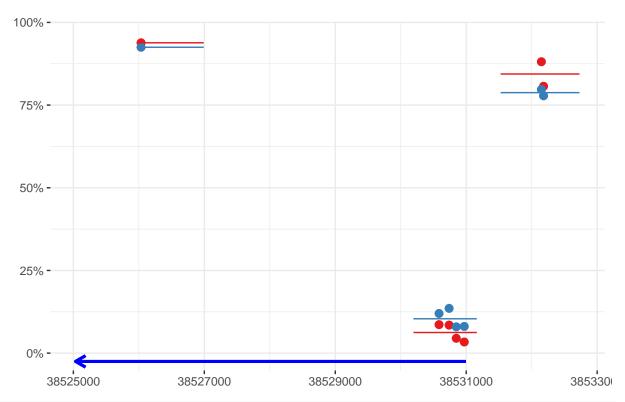




```
genereg_vs_met(BRCA_methylation_chr17, condition, "BRCA1", show_gen=TRUE)
```

```
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
## 'select()' returned 1:many mapping between keys and columns
```

condition ← LumA ← other



visual(condition.e, condition.m, BRCA_methylation_chr17[,-1],BRCA_mRNAseq_chr17[,-1], "BRCA1", test.exp

