BST227 - Homework 1

Due: Monday, October 30

Introduction

You've recently discovered that there are in fact two types of cholesterol—both good (HDL) and bad (LDL). You are worried that you may have a genetic predisposition to having high levels of bad cholesterol and decide to investigate what genes may be associated with bad cholesterol. Here, we'll do a basic exploration of the data before investigating the specific genetic effects in subsequent lectures.

Problem 1

Access the LDL summary statistics from the GLGC Consortium's genome-wide association study. Visualize the summary statistics both as a Manhattan Plot and as a Q-Q plot. What chromosome(s) appear to have genome-wide significant hits?

Hint: use the qqman package in R to visualize the data, which can be accessed through LDHub.

Problem 2

As part of the GLGC Consortium, the group analyzed data for a different SNP array, the Metabochip. Visualize the summary statistics both as a Manhattan Plot and as a Q-Q plot. What chromosome(s) appear to have genome-wide significant hits?

Hint: use the Metabochip summary statistics can be found on the same page as the GWAS summary statistics

Problem 3

Compute the measure of systematic inflation (λ_{GC}) associated with the summary statistics in Problem 1 and Problem 2. For which SNP array are the summary statistics more inflated?

 $\mathit{Hint:}\ \lambda_{GC} = \mathrm{median}(\chi^2) \ / \ \mathtt{0.4549364} \ \mathit{where the last number comes from} \ \mathtt{qchisq(0.5,1)}$