

intcomp:
Benchmarking pipeline for integrative cancer gene
prioritization algorithms based on gene expression
and copy number data

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November 21, 2011

1 Introduction

Various algorithms have been suggested to discover cancer-associated genes and chromosomal regions based on integrative analysis of genome-wide gene expression and DNA copy number profiling data. However, quantitative comparison of these models has been missing. The *intcomp* R package provides a benchmarking pipeline for quantitative comparisons of the alternative methods.

This vignette is aimed to provide installation instructions, examples and algorithmic details of the *intcomp* benchmarking pipeline used in [1]. Each algorithm is used to prioritize the gene list, and the resulting order is compared to golden standard lists of known cancer genes on simulated and real data sets. For details, see [1].

2 Installation

2.1 Installing the intcomp benchmarking pipeline

To install this package directly within R type:

```
> install.packages("intcomp", type = "source", repos = "http://R-Forge.R-project.org",  
+ dependencies = TRUE)
```

In case of error messages, see below.

2.2 Dependencies

You may need to install dependencies before the *intcomp* package can be installed. The benchmarking pipeline depends on various external R packages. Install the dependencies from within R:

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```
> source("http://www.bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")
> biocLite(c("biomaRt", "DNAcopy", "DRI", "edira", "hgu133ahsentrezg.db",
+          "intCNGEan", "org.Hs.eg.db", "PMA", "SIM", "PREDA", "CGHcall",
+          "CNAmet"))
```

You may need to install the following packages manually: curl library¹ and the R packages XML², RCurl³, edira⁴, intCNGEan⁵, org.Hs.eg.db⁶, PREDA/SODEGIR⁷, and CNAmet⁸.

3 Using the benchmarking pipeline

The minimal input data for the `test.geneorder.pipeline` banchmarking function includes (i) gene expression data (`ge`), (ii) gene copy number data (`cn.raw` / `cn.seg` / `cn.call` / `cghCall`), (iii) a golden standard list of known cancer genes (`cancerGenes`), and (iv) the list of methods to compare (`mehods`). For practical examples, see below.

The gene expression and copy number data sets are lists containing *data* and *info* fields; the probes in gene expression and gene copy number need to be matched; *data* is a data matrix with gene expression (`GE$data`) or gene copy number (`CN$data`) data; *info* field is a data frame containing additional information about genes: *loc* indicates the genomic location of the probes in base pairs (numeric); *chr* and *arm* are factors indicating the chromosome and chromosomal arm of the probe, respectively. The user can provide the copy number data as raw (`cn.raw`), segmented (`cn.seg`) or called (`cn.call`) version. Certain methods require specific versions of the copy number. For instance, the CNAmet requires called copy number data. The intCNGEan algorithm requires copy number as a `cghCall` object from the *CGHcall* R package. It is advisable to provide all four versions - `cn.raw`, `cn.seg`, `cn.call` and `cghCall` - in the input to the `test.geneorder.pipeline` function when possible. The `cn.raw`, `cn.seg` and `cn.call` should follow the `data + info` format explained above, and the `cghCall` contains the raw, segmented and called data in the `cghCall` format. Finally, if multiple versions of copy number data are available, the user can specify (through the `cn.default` argument) which version is coupled with gene expression data unless otherwise specified by particular methods. By default, the associations between gene expression and segmented copy number data (`ge + cn.seg`) are investigated.

4 Benchmarking examples

The package contains a copy of the publicly available cancer data sets from [12] and [13] ('Hyman' and 'Pollack' data sets) and two simulated data sets from previous publications [10, 5] ('Ferrari' and 'Schaefer' data sets). For details, see

¹<http://curl.haxx.se/download.html>

²<http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/XML/index.html>

³<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>

⁴<http://www.statistik.tu-dortmund.de/~schaefer/>

⁵<http://www.few.vu.nl/~wvanwie/software/intCNGEan/intCNGEan.html>

⁶<http://www.bioconductor.org/packages/release/data/annotation/html/org.Hs.eg.db.html>

⁷<http://www.bioconductor.org/packages/devel/bioc/html/PREDA.html>

⁸<http://csbi.ltdk.helsinki.fi/CNAmet/>

[1] Showcases running the benchmarking pipeline on each data set are described below.

4.1 Hyman et al. (2002)

The Hyman et al. (2002) [12] breast cancer data set⁹, and a golden standard list of known breast cancer genes from The Breast Cancer Gene Database [14] provide the first example data set for benchmarking the comparison algorithms. The cancer gene list was downloaded¹⁰ and stored to the `tgdb` object. The gene symbols are converted into Entrez Gene IDs, the probes are matched between gene expression and copy number data, as detailed in the `read.hyman` function, and the known breast cancer genes from the TGDB golden standard list present in the `ge/cn` data are selected. Further details are detailed in the `read.hyman` and the `get.brca.genes` functions.

For Hyman, the original non-segmented data set from the publication is used (`cn.seg = cn.raw`) in the experiments (except with `intCNGEan` and `CNAmet` that require segmented and called data, respectively). To run the `intcomp` benchmarking pipeline on Hyman data set, use

```
> methods <- c("CNAmet", "edira")
> library(intcomp)
> data(hyman)
> library("org.Hs.eg.db")
> symbol2entrezid <- as.list(org.Hs.egALIAS2EG)
> hyman <- read.hyman(cdna, cgh, genenames, xx = symbol2entrezid)
> data(tgdb)
> cancerGenes <- get.brca.genes(rownames(hyman$ge$data), symbol2entrezid,
+   tgdb)
> res.hyman <- test.geneorder.pipeline(ge = hyman$ge, cn.raw = hyman$cn.raw,
+   cghCall = hyman$cghCall, cancerGenes = cancerGenes, methods = methods,
+   cn.default = "raw", references = "none")
> auc.ordered <- sort(unlist(res.hyman$auc))
```

4.2 Pollack et al. (2002)

The Pollack et al. (2002) [13] data set¹¹ is also used in combination with the golden standard list from the TGDB (See Hyman data set). The gene identifiers in the Pollack data are converted into Entrez Gene IDs. To run the benchmarking tests on Pollack data set, use

```
> methods <- c("CNAmet", "edira")
> library(intcomp)
> data(pollack)
> pollack <- read.pollack(dat = CopyNoGeneDataset4719, clone2geneid = clone2geneid)
> library("org.Hs.eg.db")
```

⁹HymancdnaDataA.tab, HymancghDataA.tab and HymanAcc.mat obtained from <http://www.ece.ucsb.edu/pubs/ieee/index.shtml> accessed June 2, 2010.

¹⁰http://www.tumor-gene.org/cgi-bin/TGDB/tgdb_by_name.cgi accessed 5.6.2010; 'tgdb_by_name.cgi.html' and 'tgdb.txt'

¹¹<http://www.pnas.org/content/suppl/2002/09/23/162471999.DC1/4719CopyNoGeneDatasetLegend.html> accessed June 2, 2010.

```

> data(tgdb)
> cancerGenes <- get.brca.genes(rownames(pollack$ge$data), as.list(org.Hs.egALIAS2EG),
+   tgdb)
> res.pollack <- test.geneorder.pipeline(ge = pollack$ge, cn.raw = pollack$cn.raw,
+   cghCall = pollack$cghCall, cancerGenes = cancerGenes, methods = methods,
+   cn.default = "raw", references = "none")
> auc.ordered <- sort(unlist(res.pollack$auc))

```

4.3 Ferrari data set (2009)

The first simulated data set, where the exact ground truth is known, is provided by the simulation approach given in [10]:

```

> library(intcomp)
> ferrari <- test.simulation(GE, CN, method = "ferrari")
> res.ferrari <- test.geneorder.pipeline(ge = ferrari$ge, cn.raw = ferrari$cn.raw,
+   cn.seg = ferrari$cn.seg, cn.call = ferrari$cn.call, cghCall = ferrari$cn.cghCall,
+   cancerGenes = ferrari$cancerGenes, methods = methods)
> auc.ordered <- sort(unlist(res.ferrari$auc))

```

4.4 Schaefer data set (2009)

The second simulated data set is provided by the simulation approach given in [5] with added flexibility. The quantile grid to be simulated can be defined by the user, as well as the mixing weight, the number of different variances to be considered and the call probabilities.

```

> methods <- c("CNAmet", "edira")
> library(intcomp)
> library(ediraAMLdata)
> data(AMLdata, package = "ediraAMLdata")
> schaefer <- test.simulation(GE, CN, method = "schaefer")
> res.schaefer <- test.geneorder.pipeline(ge = schaefer$ge, cn.raw = schaefer$cn.raw,
+   cghCall = schaefer$cn.cghCall, cancerGenes = schaefer$cancerGenes,
+   methods = methods, callprobs = schaefer$callprobs, cn.default = "raw")
> auc.ordered <- sort(unlist(res.schaefer$auc))

```

5 Comparison methods

The following implementations included in the *intcomp* benchmarking pipeline: *CNAmet* [2, 3], variants of *DRI* [4], *edira* [5], *intCNGEan* [6], *Ortiz-Estevez* [7], *pint* [8], variants of *SIM* [11], *PMA* [9], *PREDASODEGIR* [10, 15]. The list of available methods in the pipeline is retrieved with:

```

> library(intcomp)
> list.methods()

```

[1]	"edira"	"DRI.cp"	"DRI.cs"	"DRI.ct"	"SIM.full"
[6]	"SIM.window"	"CNAmet"	"intcngean"	"PMA.raw"	"pint"
[11]	"OrtizEstevez"	"PREDASODEGIR"			

6 Benchmarking results

The prioritized cancer gene list provided by each method is compared to the golden standard list of known cancer genes; the result contains running times of the algorithms and the AUC values from ROC analysis. The AUC values provide quantitative estimates of model performance in cancer gene detection and provide the basis for the comparisons as reported in [1].

6.1 Version details

The following package versions were used to produce this vignette:

```
> sessionInfo()
```

```
R version 2.13.2 (2011-09-30)
```

```
Platform: x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu (64-bit)
```

```
locale:
```

```
[1] LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8      LC_NUMERIC=C
[3] LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8      LC_COLLATE=en_US.UTF-8
[5] LC_MONETARY=C            LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8
[7] LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8     LC_NAME=C
[9] LC_ADDRESS=C            LC_TELEPHONE=C
[11] LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8 LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
```

```
attached base packages:
```

```
[1] compiler stats      graphics grDevices utils      datasets methods
[8] base
```

```
other attached packages:
```

```
[1] intcomp_0.3.27      intCNGEan_0.53      PREDA_0.99.3
[4] annotate_1.30.1      multtest_2.8.0      lokern_1.1-2
[7] sfsmisc_1.0-16      ediraAMLdata_1.0.4  CNAmets_1.1
[10] CGHcall_2.12.0      CGHbase_1.10.0      marray_1.30.0
[13] limma_3.8.3         SIM_1.20.0          quantreg_4.71
[16] SparseM_0.89        PMA_1.0.8           plyr_1.6
[19] pint_1.5.34         dmt_0.8.06          MASS_7.3-14
[22] Matrix_1.0-0        lattice_0.19-33     mvtnorm_0.9-9991
[25] org.Hs.eg.db_2.5.0  RSQLite_0.10.0      DBI_0.2-5
[28] AnnotationDbi_1.14.1 edira_1.1.3         DRI_1.1
[31] cghFLasso_0.2-1     impute_1.26.0       DNACopy_1.26.0
[34] biomaRt_2.8.1       affy_1.30.0         Biobase_2.12.1
```

```
loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
```

```
[1] affyio_1.20.0      globaltest_5.6.1    grid_2.13.2
[4] preprocessCore_1.14.0 quantsmooth_1.18.0  RCurl_1.6-10
[7] splines_2.13.2     survival_2.36-9     tools_2.13.2
[10] XML_3.4-3          xtable_1.5-6
```

Acknowledgements

This work has been supported by EuGESMA COST Action BM0801: European Genetic and Epigenetic Study on AML and MDS. We would also like to thank Francesco Ferrari for providing simulated data for the study.

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