Use Case 1: Genomewide patterns of methylation can distinguish between blood, cerebellum, and cortex

Epigenome Informatics Workshop Bioinformatics Research Laboratory

BCM Baylor College of Medicine

The data for this use case was kindly provided by Dr. Jonathan Mill (King's College London, UK), and is taken the following reference:

"Functional annotation of the human brain methylome across brain and blood". Matthew Davies¹, Manuela Volta¹, Abhishek Dixit¹, Simon Lovestone¹, Cristian Coarfa², R. Alan Harris², Aleksandar Milosavljevic², Claire Troakes¹, Safa Al-Sarraj¹, Richard Dobson¹, Leonard C. Schalkwyk¹, Jonathan Mill^{1*} Genome Biology, 12:R43, 2012

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Summary of Davies et al Manuscript

Davies et al: "Functional annotation of the human brain methylome across brain and blood".

Background: Dynamic changes in the epigenome play a critical role in establishing and maintaining cellular phenotype during differentiation. However, little is known about normal methylomic differences between functionally distinct areas of the brain. It was therefore of interest to examine intra- and inter-individual variation across multiple regions of the brain. The authors also sought to examine how methylomic differences in the brain correspond to methylation patterns observed in easily accessible peripheral tissues such as blood.

Results: Distinct tissue-specific patterns of DNA methylation were identified, with significant tissue-specific differentially methylated regions observed.

Promoter DNA Methylation in the Human Genome

Source of ROIs found in "Class: Regulation" in the Data Selector

- Enriched methylated DNA from human primary fibroblasts using methylated DNA immunoprecipitation (MeDIP) + microarray detection
- 15,609 promoters evaluated in primary somatic and germline cells
- HCPs (high-CpG promoters) contain 500 bp region with CpG ratio above 0.75 and GC content >55%
- LCP (low-CpG promoters) do not contain a 500 bp region with a CpG ratio above 0.48
- ICP (intermediate CpG promoters) are neither HCPs or LCPs. ICP class contains many "subthreshold" CpG islands, meaning small CpG islands (<500 bp), moderate CpG richness and/or GC content <55%

Weber et al, "Distribution, silencing potential and evolutionary impact of promoter DNA methylation in the human genome" *Nature Genetics*, 39 (4), April 2007

Use Case 1: Genomewide patterns of methylation can distinguish between blood, cerebellum, and cortex

Canonical genic DNA methylation profiles do not differ across tissue types (i.e. similar at transcription start site, across the gene body, and 3' end). Davies et al asked if there was more differential methylation genomewide, and if so, could it be used to classify tissue types?



MEDIPS-processed signal averaged over 500bp windows genome-wide

Signals compared: MeDIP-seq

Features compared: Low CpG promoters

Genboree clustering mimics Davies et al. clustering



Prior to starting Use Case 1, you should have created a project and database in your Group.

Instructions for creating a Genboree group, project and database are contained in the Genboree Workbench.

Instructions for:Menu:Creating a Group:System/Network \rightarrow GroupCreating a Database:Data \rightarrow DatabasesCreating a Project:Data \rightarrow Project

Instructions are also available in the Genboree Commons FAQ.

"GenboreeUser_group" is used as a generic placeholder name for any Genboree user group name: GenboreeUser is **you**.

Similarly, "GenboreeUser_database" is used as placeholder name for your database name. Therefore, as you go through the use cases, any place you see "GenboreeUser_group" or "GenboreeUser_database", you will actually be interacting with your group and database.

Step 1. Drag the "Brain" database into the "Input Data". This will cause the "Visualizaton" menu to turn green, meaning a tool(s) within that menu is active. A tool is active when "Input Data" and "Output Targets" have been populated with the appropriate data/tracks/files/databases required for that tool to operate.

-Click 'Visualization' and then 'View Track Grid'

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Steps 6-10 are repeated here, but with the ("UseCase1_B"). The same set of tracks i illustration purposes.	e same set of tracks are given a different name is being used here to compute a similarity matrix for
Subsequent use cases will perform more	meaningful biological comparisons.
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System/Network Data QC and Pre-processing Genome Welcome to the Genboree Workbench! [Ge	Step 18. <u>Populate "Output Targets"</u> In "Data Selector" expand ("double click") on your user group -Expand "Databases" -Drag your database (i.e."GenboreeUser_database") to "Output Tar- -Expand "Projects" -Drag your project ("Use_Case_01_GU" is example) to "Output Tar	gets"
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▶	Output Targets	

Note the "Epigenome" menu turns green when "Input Data" and "Output Targets" are properly populated.

Step 19. Click on "Epigenome" -Click on "Compute Similarity Matrix (heatmap)"

You will see a "Tool Settings" dialogue box appear (next slide).



Epigenome -

Metagenome -

Visualization •

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Step 20. Check that the "Input Files Directory" and "Output Database" and "Project" are correct (based on what you named them). Use the default parameters to begin with, and experiment with changing the parameters in subsequent jobs.

A default "Analysis Name" is generated by Genboree. It is recommended that all text and the time stamp be kept, and that you append some unique text to the beginning to help you distinguish different jobs run from the same tool.

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You will receive an email with the following message when your job is finished:

Hello Genboree User,		
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The Genboree Project Page



Genboree clusters mimic Davies et al. clustering

