Use Case 5: Methylation of some regions discriminate tissue type better than others

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 from 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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Use Case 5: Methylation of some regions discriminate tissue type better than others

This use case is similar to Use Cases 1 & 2 but with different annotation tracks with different regions of interest (ROIs) to illustrate how some ROIs produce better clustering.

Background: Recent methylomic analyses of various tissues indicate that differential methylation across low CpG-content promoters (LCPs) is associated with tissue-specific gene expression in somatic cells. Based on this observation, Davies et al sought to compare high CpG-content promoters (HCPs) with LCPs across brain regions and blood as a first step in understanding how such regions may impact gene regulatory networks.

Results: LCPs appear to be a major location for tissue-specific DNA methylation signatures across regions in brain and in blood. Hierarchical clustering of both HCP and LCP DNA methylation can distinguish between tissues, although the Euclidean distance between tissues is much larger in the case of LCPs. Principle component analysis of MeDIP-Seq data shows a much stronger classification based upon LCP methylation.

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

Methylation of Low-CpG Promoters (LCP) vs. High-CpG Promoters (HCP)

Methylation of LCPs conveys more information about tissue type than methylation of HCPs.



Some features discriminate tissue type better than others (cont'd)



The following slides walk you through the process of generating the clustering results displayed in the previous slide (from Davies et al).

This will be similar to Use Cases 1 & 2 but with the comparison over different features (annotation tracks with different regions of interest - ROIs), and observing that some features produce better clustering in the heatmap.

You should have already created a Project and Database in earlier use cases, to you will not need to do that again. The results of this analysis will be part of the same Project and be deposited in the same Database.

The next step is to select the samples that to analyze.

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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Genboree is built & maintained by the Bioinformatics F	Research Laboratory



Bioinformatics Research Laboratory		Š		Grid Viewer: Tracks from Brain
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Steps 6-9 are repeated here, but with the same set of tracks given a different name ("UseCase5_Brain_B"). The same set of tracks is being compared to itself for illustration purposes.				
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Please note: The green rectangles just indicate a certain level of access, and are not important for completing the use case (i.e. they can be ignored).



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Note the "Epigenome" menu turns green when "Input Data" and "Output Targets" are properly populated. Tools that turn green are active, and can operate on the tracks or files that reside in "Input Data"

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

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

Use_Case_01_GU	Use_Case_05_GU
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Tool Settings

Compute Similarity Matrix (heatmap)

Tool Overview



X

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You will see the message above upon successful submission of a job. Click OK. You will then receive an email alerting you to the status of your job.

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

```
Hello Genboree User,
Your Compute Similarity Matrix (heatmap) job completed successfully.
 Job Summary:
  JobID

    wbJob-epigenomicsHeatmap-RCtGwF-3060

  Analysis Name - UC5_EpigenomeExpHeatmap2013-03-01-09:52:41
 Inputs:
 1. Entitylist - UseCase5_Brain_A
 2. Entitylist - UseCase5_Brain_B
  3. Trk
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 Outputs:
            - GenboreeUser database
  1. Db
 2. Prj
             - Use_Case_05_GU
 Settings:
                 - UC5 EpigenomeExpHeatmap2013-03-01-09:52:41
  analysisName
  color
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  dendograms
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  key
             - TRUE
  keySize
             - 0.75
  normalization - quant
 removeNoDataRegions - true
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- The Genboree Team
Result File Location in the Genboree Workbench:
 http://genboree.org/java-bin/project.jsp?projectName=Use Case 05 GU
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The Genboree Project Page



Genboree clusters mimic Davies et al. clustering

