Machine learning for patient stratification from genomic data

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- Patients with VS without relapse in 5 years
- *n* (=19) patients >> *p* (=2) markers



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Real data: *n* << *p*

• Gene expression



Somatic mutations



- $n = 10^2 \sim 10^4$ (patients)
- $p = 10^4 \sim 10^7$ (genes, mutations, copy number, ...)
- Data of various nature (continuous, discrete, structured, ...)
- Data of variable quality (technical/batch variations, noise, ...)

Consequence: limited accuracy

Breast cancer prognosis competition, n = 2000 (Bilal et al., 2013)



- C: 16 standard clinical data (age, tumor size, ...)
- M: 80k molecular features (gene expression, DNA copy number)

Consequence: unstable biomarker selection

Gene expression profiling predicts clinical outcome of breast cancer

Laura J. van 't Veer'+, Hongyue Dai+;, Manc J. van de Vilver'+, Yudong D. He!, Augustinus A. M. Hart', Mao Mao:, Hans L. Peterse', Karin van der Kooy', Matthew J. Marton?, Anko T. Witteveen', George J. Schreiber', Ron M. Kerkhoven', Chris Roberts?, Peter S. Linslev: René Bernad's & Stophen H. Friend:

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70 genes (Nature, 2002)

Gene-expression profiles to predict distant metastasis of lymph-node-negative primary breast cancer

Yixin Wang, Jan G M Klijn, Yi Zhang, Anieta M Sieuwerts, Maxime P Look, Fei Yang, Dmitri Talantov, Mieke Timmermans, Marion E Meijer-van Gelder, Jack Yu, Tim Jatkoe, Els M J J Berns, David Atkins, John A Foekens

76 genes (Lancet, 2005)

3 genes in common

van 't Veer et al. (2002); Wang et al. (2005)

Some research directions

• Regularize and incorporate prior knowledge



Find a better representation











Typical problem



- *n* samples (patients), *p* features (genes)
- $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ gene expression profile of each patient
- $Y \in \mathcal{Y}^n$ survival information of each patient
- Fit a linear model for a sample $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$:

$$f(x) = \beta^\top x = \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i x_i$$

 Standard methods (least squares or logistic regression) won't work because n < p

Regularized linear models



In high dimension, estimate β by solving

$$\min_{\beta\in\mathbb{R}^p} R(Y,X\beta) + \lambda J(\beta),$$

where

- *R*(*Y*, *X*β) is an empirical risk to measures the fit to the training data
- $J(\beta)$ is a penalty to control the complexity of the model
- $\lambda > 0$ is a regularization parameter

$$\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{\rho}} R(Y, X\beta) + \lambda J(\beta)$$

where

- Lasso: $J(\beta) = \|\beta\|_1$ for gene selection.
- Ridge: $J(\beta) = \|\beta\|_2^2$ to address $n \gg m$.
- Elastic net: $J(\beta) = \alpha \|\beta\|_2^2 + (1 \alpha)\|\beta\|_1$



Which regularization is the best?

- Feature selection (lasso, t-tests, ...) is popular, it leads to a limited set of genes that form a molecular signatures
- Ridge is less interpretable but often leads to better performance...
 e.g., breast cancer prognosis (n = 286):



Adding prior knowledge: network-based regularizations



- G = (V, E) a graph of genes (PPI, metabolic, signaling, regulatory network...)
- Prior knowledge:
 - β should be "smooth" on the graph?
 - Selected genes should be connected?

Examples of network-based regularizations



$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\beta) = \sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2 \quad (\text{Rapaport et al., 2007})$$

$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\beta) = a \|\beta\|_1 + (1 - a) \sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2 \quad (\text{Li and Li, 2008})$$

$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\beta) = \sup_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^p : \forall i \sim j} \alpha_i^2 + \alpha_j^2 \leq 1 \quad (\text{Jacob et al., 2009})$$

$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\beta) = a \|\beta\|_1 + (1 - a) \sum_{i \sim j} |\beta_i - \beta_j| \quad (\text{Hoefling, 2010})$$

Gene selection with the graph lasso



$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\beta) = \sup_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{p} : \forall i \sim j, \|\alpha_{i}^{2} + \alpha_{i}^{2}\| \leq 1} \alpha^{\top} \beta$$



Jacob et al. (2009)

BC prognosis: Lasso signature (accuracy 0.61)



Jacob et al. (2009)

BC prognosis: Graph Lasso signature (accuracy 0.64)



Jacob et al. (2009)

Smoothness regularization and Fourier transform

 "Connected genes have similar weights" (Rapaport et al., 2007; Li and Li, 2008)

$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(\beta) = \sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2$$

No feature selection

• Reinterpretation in the Fourier domain (Rapaport et al., 2007):

$$\sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i \hat{\beta}_i^2$$

where

- $\hat{\beta}_i$ is the *i*-th Fourier coefficient of β
- λ_i is the *i*-th frequency

• " β has little energy at high frequency" and is therefore smooth on the graph

Smoothness regularization and Fourier transform

 "Connected genes have similar weights" (Rapaport et al., 2007; Li and Li, 2008)

$$J_{\mathcal{G}}(eta) = \sum_{i \sim j} (eta_i - eta_j)^2$$

- No feature selection
- Reinterpretation in the Fourier domain (Rapaport et al., 2007):

$$\sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i \hat{\beta}_i^2$$

where

- $\hat{\beta}_i$ is the *i*-th Fourier coefficient of β
- λ_i is the *i*-th frequency
- "β has little energy at high frequency" and is therefore smooth on the graph

• Eigenvectors *U* of the graph Laplacian matrix form the Fourier basis:

$$\hat{\beta} = \boldsymbol{U}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

Eigenvalues Λ = (0 = λ₁ ≤ ... ≤ λ_p) represent the "frequencies" of the Fourier basis









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Lambda = 0.76



lambda = 0.12



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Lambda = 0.83



lambda = 0.47



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Eigenvalues Λ = (0 = λ₁ ≤ ... ≤ λ_p) represent the "frequencies" of the Fourier basis





lambda = 1



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Eigenvalues Λ = (0 = λ₁ ≤ ... ≤ λ_p) represent the "frequencies" of the Fourier basis

Lambda = 2.2



lambda = 1.7



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Eigenvalues Λ = (0 = λ₁ ≤ ... ≤ λ_p) represent the "frequencies" of the Fourier basis

Lambda = 2.8



lambda = 2.3



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lambda = 3



• Eigenvectors *U* of the graph Laplacian matrix form the Fourier basis:

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Eigenvalues Λ = (0 = λ₁ ≤ ... ≤ λ_p) represent the "frequencies" of the Fourier basis

Lambda = 4.2



lambda = 3.5



• Eigenvectors *U* of the graph Laplacian matrix form the Fourier basis:

$$\hat{\beta} = \boldsymbol{U}^{\!\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

Eigenvalues Λ = (0 = λ₁ ≤ ... ≤ λ_p) represent the "frequencies" of the Fourier basis





lambda = 3.9



Smoothness in the Fourier domain: extensions

• Rapaport et al. (2007) extends

$$\sum_{i \sim j} (\beta_i - \beta_j)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i \hat{\beta}_i^2$$

to



for $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$ non-decreasing.

• Example: $\phi(\lambda) = \exp(-\gamma\lambda)$ linked to the diffusion kernel on the graph.

Classifiers







Back to the data


From raw data to X



- Between-sample variability: batch effect, drift over time, ...
- Typical pre-processing: Quantile normalization per sample



- Fix a target quantile $f \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- Transform $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$ to $\Phi_f(x)$ such that:
 - The ranking of entries in x and $\Phi_f(x)$ are the same
 - The distribution of entries in $\Phi_f(x)$ follows *f*
- See also: images (Gonzalez and Woods, 2008), MRI scans (Shinohara et al., 2014), speech (Hilger and Ney, 2006)

How to choose a "good" target distribution?



From QN to supervised QN (Le Morvan and Vert, 2017)

Standard approaches: learn model after QN preprocessing:

- Fix f arbitrarily (typically, mean empirical quantile function)
- **2** QN all samples to get $\Phi_f(x_1), \ldots, \Phi_f(x_n)$
- Learn a model on normalized data, e.g.:

$$\min_{w,b} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell_i \left(w^{\top} \Phi_f(x_i) + b \right) + \lambda \Omega(w) \right\}$$



SUQUAN: jointly learn *f* and the model:

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{w},\boldsymbol{b},\boldsymbol{f}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell_i \left(\boldsymbol{w}^\top \Phi_{\boldsymbol{f}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i) + \boldsymbol{b} \right) + \lambda \Omega(\boldsymbol{w}) + \gamma \Omega_2(\boldsymbol{f}) \right\}$$

Computing $\Phi_f(x)$



For $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$ let

$$[\Pi_x]_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_j \text{ has rank } i, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

 $\Phi_f(x) = \Pi_x f$

Linear SUQAN as rank-1 matrix regression

Linear SUQUAN therefore solves

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{w},\boldsymbol{b},\boldsymbol{f}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell_{i} \left(\boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \Phi_{\boldsymbol{f}}(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}) + \boldsymbol{b} \right) + \lambda \Omega(\boldsymbol{w}) + \gamma \Omega_{2}(\boldsymbol{f}) \right\}$$
$$= \min_{\boldsymbol{w},\boldsymbol{b},\boldsymbol{f}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell \left(\boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \Pi_{\boldsymbol{x}_{i}} \boldsymbol{f} + \boldsymbol{b} \right) + \lambda \Omega(\boldsymbol{w}) + \gamma \Omega_{2}(\boldsymbol{f}) \right\}$$
$$= \min_{\boldsymbol{w},\boldsymbol{b},\boldsymbol{f}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell \left(< \boldsymbol{w} \boldsymbol{f}^{\top}, \Pi_{\boldsymbol{x}_{i}} >_{\text{Frobenius}} + \boldsymbol{b} \right) + \lambda \Omega(\boldsymbol{w}) + \gamma \Omega_{2}(\boldsymbol{f}) \right\}$$

- A particular linear model to estimate a rank-1 matrix $M = wf^{\top}$
- Each sample $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is represented by the matrix $\Pi_x \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$
- Non-convex
- Alternative optimization of f and w is easy

Results: gene expression data

	LOGISTIC REGRESSION							SUQUAN		
	RAW	RMA	CAUCHY	EXP.	UNIF.	GAUS.	MEDIAN	SVD	BND	SPAV
GSE1456	65.94	68.73	59.56	68.86	68.72	69.00	69.06	57.60	71.44	69.60
GSE2034	74.52	75.42	61.91	74.53	75.22	76.45	74.92	52.61	70.50	76.11
GSE2990	57.01	60.43	54.72	61.25	56.25	58.66	59.72	52.51	59.22	59.94
GSE4922	58.52	58.86	55.24	58.81	55.66	60.01	59.18	52.39	61.82	61.41
AVERAGE	64.00	65.86	57.86	65.86	63.96	66.03	65.72	53.78	65.75	66.77



Estimated quantile function: iteration=0



Estimated quantile function: iteration=1



-

Estimated quantile function: iteration=2



Remark: embedding \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{S}_n

- Remark: each sample x ∈ ℝ^ρ was represented by the permutation of genes σ ∈ S_ρ
- Many other possibilities when we decide to embed data to the symmetric group S_n



Somatic mutations in cancer



Large-scale efforts to collect somatic mutations

- 3,378 samples with survival information from 8 cancer types
- downloaded from the TCGA / cBioPortal portals.



Cancer type	Patients	Genes
LUAD (Lung adenocarcinoma)	430	20 596
SKCM (Skin cutaneous melanoma)	307	17 463
GBM (Glioblastoma multiforme)	265	14 750
BRCA (Breast invasive carcinoma)	945	16 806
KIRC (Kidney renal clear cell carcinoma)	411	10 609
HNSC (Head and Neck squamous cell carcinoma)	388	17 022
LUSC (Lung squamous cell carcinoma)	169	13 590
OV (Ovarian serous cystadenocarcinoma)	363	10 195

Patient stratification (unsupervised) from raw mutation profiles



Ø Desired behaviour:



Observed behaviour:

 Non-Negative matrix factorisation (NMF)



Patients share very few mutated genes!

Survival prediction from raw mutation profiles

- Each patient is a binary vector: each gene is mutated (1) or not (2)
- Silent mutations are removed
- Survival model estimated with sparse survival SVM
- Results on 5-fold cross-validation repeated 4 times







Can we replace

 $x \in \{0, 1\}^p$ with *p* very large, very sparse

by a representation with more information shared between samples

$$\Phi(x) \in \mathcal{H}$$

that would allow better supervised and unsupervised classification?

NetNorm Overview (Le Morvan et al., 2017)

Take

$$\mathcal{H} = \left\{ x \in \{0,1\}^p \, : \, \sum_{i=1}^p x_i = K
ight\}$$



and use a gene network to transform x to $\phi(x) \in \mathcal{H}$ by adding/removing mutations



Gene-gene interaction network

NetNorm detail (k=4)

Add mutations for patients with few (less than K) mutations



Remove mutations for patients for many (more than K) mutations



In practice, K is a free parameter optimized on the training set, typically a few 100's.

Related work (Hofree et al., 2013)

Network-based stratification of tumor mutations

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d Network-based stratification



Results: unsupervised classification



Results: survival prediction



Use Pathway Commons as gene network. NSQN = Network Smoothing / Quantile Normalization (Hofree et al., 2013)

QN matters...

Both NetNorm and NSQN transforms follow a 2-step a approach:

Smooth the raw data onto the gene network (NS)

Quantile normalize the smoothed profile (QN)





- Learning from genomic data is challenging
- Regularization is needed in high dimension
- A good representation is worth a thousand learning algorithms
- Subtle interplay between biology and math/CS
- Impact on the final quality/performance of the model
- Recent trend: learn the representation

Thanks







Inserm

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NetNorM and NSQN benefit from biological information in the gene network

Comparison with 10 randomly permuted networks:



Selected genes represent "true" or "proxy" mutations



Genes selected in at least 50% of the cross-validated sparse SVM model

Proxy mutations encode both total number of mutations and local mutational burden



Adding good old clinical factors



Combination by averaging predictions

QN after network smoothing



Sorted genes

Another representation



$$\Phi_{i,j}(x) = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if } x_i \leq x_j \,, \ 0 & ext{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Geometry of the embedding



For any two permutations $\sigma, \sigma' \in \mathbb{S}_n$:

Inner product

$$\Phi(\sigma)^{\top}\Phi(\sigma') = \sum_{1 \le i \ne j \le n} \mathbb{1}_{\sigma(i) < \sigma(j)} \mathbb{1}_{\sigma'(i) < \sigma'(j)} = n_c(\sigma, \sigma')$$

 n_c = number of concordant pairs

Distance

$$\|\Phi(\sigma) - \Phi(\sigma')\|^2 = \sum_{1 \le i,j \le n} (\mathbb{1}_{\sigma(i) < \sigma(j)} - \mathbb{1}_{\sigma'(i) < \sigma'(j)})^2 = 2n_d(\sigma, \sigma')$$

 n_d = number of discordant pairs

Kendall and Mallows kernels (Jiao and Vert, 2017)

• The Kendall kernel is

$$K_{\tau}(\sigma,\sigma') = n_{c}(\sigma,\sigma')$$



• The Mallows kernel is

$$\forall \lambda \geq \mathbf{0} \quad \mathbf{K}^{\lambda}_{\mathbf{M}}(\sigma, \sigma') = \mathbf{e}^{-\lambda \mathbf{n}_{\mathbf{d}}(\sigma, \sigma')}$$

Theorem (Jiao and Vert, 2015, 2017)

The Kendall and Mallows kernels are positive definite.

Theorem (Knight, 1966)

These two kernels for permutations can be evaluated in $O(n \log n)$ time.

Kernel trick useful with few samples in large dimensions



Cayley graph of S_4

- Kondor and Barbarosa (2010) proposed the diffusion kernel on the Cayley graph of the symmetric group generated by adjacent transpositions.
- Computationally intensive (*O*(*n*^{2*n*}))
- Mallows kernel is written as

$$K_{M}^{\lambda}(\sigma,\sigma')=\boldsymbol{e}^{-\lambda n_{d}(\sigma,\sigma')},$$

where $n_d(\sigma, \sigma')$ is the shortest path distance on the Cayley graph.

• It can be computed in $O(n \log n)$
Applications



Average performance on 10 microarray classification problems (Jiao and Vert, 2017).