Summary For Clustering

- Many different methods exist for finding groups and patterns in data (including some I haven't mentioned).
- Many different parameters can be used in those methods.
- Caution should be exercised in interpreting the results.

Comparing Different Clustering Methods

Which technique is right?

- Hierarchical clustering?
 - Single, Average, Complete, Centroid linkage, etc.?
- Self Organizing Maps
- K-means clustering
- Other algorithms?

What is a 'cluster'?

- And how do we know if it's any good, or if one technique for producing clusters is better than another?
- Rather than think simply of clustering, think of all these methods as capable of producing groups of genes:





Now what?

- Try many methods, and demand they each produce the same number of groups of genes.
- Is there a metric that says which did best for a given number of groups?
- Can we come up with a metric for the best number of groups?

What do we think that coexpression means?

• Our general assumption is guilt by association:

i.e. genes with similar expression patterns are more likely to participate in the same biological process.

• Therefore, we can exploit the Gene Ontology to assess our clusters:

How do we measure how 'good' the annotation is?

- Use a score that measures how coherent the level of annotation is compared to what would be expected from random clusters.
 - see Gibbons and Roth (2002). *Genome Research* **12**, 1574-1581.
 - Developed system, such that the higher the score, the better the annotation fit the clustering.



Figure 2. Four data sets clustered using *k*-means, hierarchical, and selforganized map algorithms. The horizontal axis shows the number of clusters desired, and the vertical axis shows *z*-scores. Data sets are (*a*) Cho, (*b*) CJRR, (*c*) Gasch, and (*d*) Spellman.

Characterization of clusters

- Now we have groups of genes that best fit their annotation, find the best annotation(s) that fits those groups.
- Calculate P-values for each GO term's association to a cluster, and choose those that are most significant.

Using the Gene Ontology to assess clusters

- Many microarray analyses result in a list of interesting genes
- Typically biologists can make up a story about any random list
- So, look at all GO annotations for the genes in a list, and see if the number of annotations for any GO node is significant

The Categories of GO (The Gene Ontology)

Biological Process = goal or objective (Why) (e.g. DNA replication, Cell Cycle Control, Cell adhesion) *Molecular Function* = elemental activity/task (What) (e.g. Transcription factor, polymerase, protein kinase) *Cellular Component* = location or complex (Where) (e.g. pre-replication complex, kinetochore, membrane) Each Category is a structured, controlled vocabulary

Parent-Child Relationships



A child is a subset of a parent's elements

The cell component term *Nucleus* has 5 children

Determining P-values for GO annotation for a list of genes

We can calculate the probability of having *x* of *n* genes having an annotation to a GO node, given that in the genome, *M* of *N* genes have that annotation, using the *hypergeometric distribution*, as:

$$p = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} M \\ x \end{pmatrix} N - M}{\begin{pmatrix} n - x \end{pmatrix}}$$

Determining GO significance

To calculate a P-value, we calculate the probability of having *at least x* of *n* annotations:

P-value =
$$1 - \sum_{i=0}^{x-1} \frac{\binom{M}{N-M}}{\binom{N-i}{i}}$$

Then do multiple hypothesis correction on the p-values

Methionine Cluster



YPL250C MET11 YER042W YLR302C YPL274W MET28 YGL184C **L061W** MET1 0.074C.062C 14 H' ET16 ETA F1() ΗĽ **ECM17** YNL276C MUP1 **MET17** MET6

GO Annotations

- sulfur metabolic process : 2.43e-19 (12/18 vs 66/6608)
- methionine metabolic process : 1.40e-14 (10/18 vs 24/6608)



Recommended reading : Clustering

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Recommended reading for Cluster Validation / Analysis

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