# **Massive Data Analysis**

# Introduction

**Department of Bioinformatics and Genomics,** (BIG) Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), and Functional genomics node, (INB), Valencia, Spain.

> http://www.gepas.org. http://www.babelomics.org











## The Bioinformatics and Genomics Department at the Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), Valencia, Spain, and...





# Evolution of the percentages of published papers on microarrays



Source Pubmed. Query: date[Entrez Date] AND country[Affiliation]AND microarray[Title/Abstract]

## Evolution of the percentages of published papers on microarrays in Europe 350 300 250 200 150 100 50 0 Portuga <sup>2000</sup>2001<sub>2002</sub>2003<sub>2004</sub>2005<sub>2006</sub>2007<sub>2008</sub> Greece Polonia

Source Pubmed. Query: date[Entrez Date] AND country[Affiliation]AND microarray[Title/Abstract]

## Microarray publications



## Trends in publications



**Source Pubmed. Query:** "high-throughput sequencing"[Title/Abstract] OR "next generation sequencing"[Title/Abstract] OR "rna seq"[Title/Abstract]) AND year[Publication Date]

## Some numbers

451 papers cite GEPAS (215 are SOTA cites)632 papers cite Babelomics (442 are FatiGO cites)(source ISI Web of Knowledge, May 2010)

More than 150,000 experiments analysed during the last year.

More than 1000 experiments per day.



# Tools for gene expression analysis





# Tools for functional profiling





## Structure of the course

Theoretical

## Hands-on **GEPAS**



# Background

# The road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom

(William Blake, 28 November 1757 – 12 August 1827) poet, painter, and printmaker)



The introduction and popularisation of high-throughput techniques has drastically changed the way in which biological problems **can** be addressed and hypotheses **can** be tested.

But not necessarily the way in which we really address or test them...

## Where do we come from? The pre-genomics paradigm



Reduccionistic approach to link causes (genome) to effects (phenotype) through actions (function)





That undergo posttranslational modifications, somatic recombination... 100K-500K proteins



...that account for function if...

Each protein has an average of 8 interactions

in cooperation with other proteins...

Holistic approach. Causes and effects remain essentially the same. The concept of function has changed



#### Bioinformatics tools for pre-genomic sequence data analysis Phylogenetic tree



## Post-genomic vision

### EMBL database growth (March 2009)



# Genome scale data and a note of caution on associations, correlations or patterns discovered:

Genome-wide technologies allows us to produce vast amounts of data. But... dealing with many data (omic data) increase the occurrence of spurious associations due to chance Hypothesis → Experiment → test Is gene A involved in process B? Experiment → (sometimes) test → Hypothesis Is there any gene (or set of genes) involved in any process?

Sure, but... Is it real? (many hypotheses are rejected while this one is accepted *a posteriori*: numerology)

The test is dependent on the hypothesis and not vice versa



# Gene expression profiling. Historic perspective

Differences at phenotype level are the visible cause of differences at molecular level which, in many cases, can be detected by measuring the levels of gene expression. The same holds for different experiments, treatments, strains, etc.



• Classification of phenotypes / experiments. Can I distinguish among classes (either known or unknown), values of variables, etc. using molecular gene expression data? (sensitivity)

• Selection of differentially expressed genes among the phenotypes / experiments. Did I select the relevant genes, all the relevant genes and nothing but the relevant genes? (specificity)

• Biological roles the genes are carrying out in the cell. What general biological roles are really represented in the set of relevant genes? (interpretation)

# Microarrays arrive to an acceptable level of reproducibility



Produced with support from

#### The MicroArray Quality Control Consortium



nature biotechnology

# The MicroArray Quality Control (MAQC) project shows inter- and intraplatform reproducibility of gene expression measurements

ARTICIES

MAQC Consortium\*

Over the last decade, the introduction of microarray technology has had a profound impact on gene expression research. The publication of studies with dissimilar or altogether contradictory results, obtained using different microarray platforms to analyze identical RNA samples, has raised concerns about the reliability of this technology. The MicroArray Quality Control (MAQC) project was initiated to address these concerns, as well as other performance and data analysis issues. Expression data on four titration pools from two distinct reference RNA samples were generated at multiple test sites using a variety of microarray-based and alternative technology platforms. Here we describe the experimental design and probe mapping efforts behind the MAQC project. We show intraplatform consistency across test sites as well as a high level of interplatform concordance in terms of genes identified as differentially expressed. This study provides a resource that represents an important first step toward establishing a framework for the use of microarrays in clinical and regulatory settings.

# FDA approves the first predictor based on microarrays

EDA Clears Breast Cancer Specific Molecular Prognostic Test - Microsoft Internet Explorer proporcionado por CNIO					
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	FDA Home Page   Search FDA Site   FDA A-Z Index   Contact FDA				
	FDA News				
	FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE P07-13 February 6, 2007	Media Inquiries: Karen Riley, 301-827-6242 Consumer Inquiries: 888-INFO-FDA			
	FDA Clears Breast Cancer Specific Molecular Prognostic Test				
	The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) today cleared for marketing a test that determines the likelihood of breast cancer returning within five to 10 years after a woman's initial cancer. It is the first cleared molecular test that profiles genetic activity.				
	The MammaPrint test uses the latest in molecular technology to predict whether existing cancer will metastasize (spread to other parts of a patient's body). The test relies on microarray analysis, a powerful tool for simultaneously studying the patterns of behavior of large numbers of genes in biological specimens.				
	The recurrence of cancer is partly dependent on the activation and suppression of certain genes located in the tumor. Prognostic tests like the MammaPrint can measure the activity of these genes, and thus help physicians understand their patients' odds of the cancer spreading.				
	MammaPrint was developed by Agendia, a laboratory located in Amsterdam, Netherlands, where the product has been on the market since 2005.				
	"Clearance of the MammaPrint test marks a step forward in the initiative to bring molecular-based medicine into current practice," said Andrew C. von Eschenbach, M.D., Commissioner of Food and Drugs. "MammaPrint results will provide patients and physicians with more information about the prospects for the outcome of the disease. This information will support treatment decisions.				
	Agendia compared the genetic profiles of a large number of women suffering from breast cancer and identified a set of 70 genes whose activity confers information about the likelihood of tumor recurrence. The MammaPrint test measures the level of activity of each of these genes in a sample of a woman's surgically removed breast cancer tumor, then uses a specific formula, known as an algorithm, to produce a score that determines whether the patient is deemed low risk or high risk for spread of the cancer to another site. The result may help a doctor in planning appropriate follow-up for a patient when used with other clinical information and laboratory tests.				
	The MammaPrint is the first cleared in vitro diagnostic multivariate index assay (IVDMIA) device. Several months ago, FDA issued a draft guidance document concerning the need for these complex molecular tests to meet pre-market review and post-market device requirements even when the tests are developed and used by a single laboratory. Although FDA regulates diagnostic tests sold to laboratories, hospitals and physicians, it uses discretion when regulating tests developed and performed by single laboratories.				
	On February 8, FDA will hold a public meeting to discuss its draft guidance document describing its regulatory approach to this type of test.				
2	"There have been rapid advances in microarrays and other pioneering diagnostics, and a correspon	nding increase in the use and impact of the	se complex tests. This		
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# DNA microarrays: the paradigm of a post-genomic technique





Combined data in software

High density oligonucleotide array

Glass



### One color

## Primary analysis

•Transform images corresponding to hybridization intensities into numbers

•Convert all the numbers to a common scale that makes them comparable across experiments.

## Transforming images into numbers



#### **Two-color**

Test sample labeled red (**Cy5**) Reference sample labeled green (**Cy3**) Red : gene overexpressed in test sample Green : gene underexpressed in test sample **Yellow** - equally expressed **red/green** - ratio of expression

#### One color

**Intensity** of a gene using the probes

#### Affymetrix

**Intensity** of a gene using the probes PM and in MM

Scanners generate a graphic file.

Software analyzes the file: GenePix Pro (by Axon Instruments, Inc.) or Imagene (By Biodiscovery, Inc.) There are free systems too: TIGR Spotfinder, ScanAlyze, etc



Before (left) and after (right) normalisation. A) BoxPlots, B) BoxPlots of subarrays and C) MA plots (ratio versus intensity)

(a) After normalization by average (b) after print-tip lowess normalization (c) after normalisation taking into account spatial effects

# Normalisation

There are many sources of error that can affect and seriously bias the interpretation of the results. Differences in the efficiency of labelling, the hybridisation, local effects, etc.

Normalisation is a necessary step before proceeding with the analysis



## Secondary analysis

Once the measurements are in a common, comparable scale the results can be studied. Diferent studies can be made that include class discovery, classification, gene selection, etc.

# The data

Different classes of experimental conditions, e.g. Cancer types, tissues, drug treatments, time survival, etc.

Expression profile of all the genes for a experimental condition (array)

Expression profile of a gene across the experimental conditions

### **Characteristics of the data:**

• We NEVER deal with individual arrays, we deal with collections of arrays obtained for a given experimental design

 Most of the genes are not informative with respect to the trait we are studying (account for unrelated physiological conditions, etc.)

 Number of variables (genes) is several orders of magnitude larger than the number of experiments

• Low signal to noise ratio

Genes

A

B

Experimental conditions

(from tens up to no more than a few houndreds)

(thousands)

## Studies must be hypothesis driven.

What is our aim? Class discovery? sample classification? gene selection? ...



## Unsupervised problem: class discovery

Our interest is in discovering clusters of items (genes or experiments) which we do not know beforehand

Can we find groups of experiments with similar gene expression profiles? • What genes co-express? • How many different expression patterns do we have? **Co-expressing** genes... • What do they have in common? Etc.

Unsupervised clustering methods: Method + distance: produce groups of items based on its <u>global</u> similarity



# An unsupervised problem: clustering of genes.



- Gene clusters are previously unknown
- Distance function
- Cluster gene expression patterns based uniquely on their similarities.
- Results are subjected to further interpretation (if possible)

# Clustering of experiments: The rationale

If enough genes have their expression levels altered in the different experiments, we might be able of finding these classes by comparing gene expression profiles.

## Distinctive gene expression patterns in human mammary epithelial cells and breast cancers

Overview of the combined *in vitro* and breast tissue specimen cluster diagram. A scaled-down representation of the 1,247-gene cluster diagram The black bars show the positions of the clusters discussed in the text: (A) proliferation-associated, (B) IFNregulated, (C) B lymphocytes, and (D) stromal cells.



Perou et al., PNAS 96 (1999)

# Clustering of experiments: The problems

Any gene (regardless its relevance for the classification) has the same weight in the comparison.

If relevant genes are not in overwhelming majority we will find:

Noise

and/or

### irrelevant trends





Supervised problems: Class prediction and gene selection, based on gene expression profiles Information on classes (defined on criteria external to the gene expression measurements) is used.



Experimental conditions

(from tens up to no more than a few houndreds)

Genes

(thousands)

#### Problems:

How can classes A, B, C... be distinguished based on the corresponding profiles of gene expression?

How a continuous phenotypic trait (resistance to drugs, survival, etc.) can be predicted?

### And

Which genes among the thousands analysed are relevant for the classification? Class prediction

Gene selection

## Studies must be hypothesis driven.

## gene selection

Can we find groups of experiments with similar gene expression profiles?

#### Different classes...

Molecular classification of samples

Co-expressing genes...



## Gene selection.

The simplest way: univariant gene-by-gene. Other multivariant approaches can be used

## •One class

Limma

## •Two classes

T-test Limma Fold-change

## Multiclass

Anova Limma

### • Continuous variable (e.g. level of a metabolite)

Pearson Spearmam Regression

## Survival

Cox model

## Time Course


## A simple problem: gene selection for class discrimination thebest - [04/10/2003 18:57:43 GHT] ~15,000 genes Case(10)/control(10)

1.000000

-2.4

Å

+2.

Genes differentially expressed among classes (t-test ), with pvalue < 0.05

## Sorry... the data was a collection of random numbers labelled for two classes

thebest - [04/10/2003 18:57:43 GMT]



3992

1248

3992

1248

So... Why do we find good p-values?

unadj.p	adj p	FDR indep	FDR dep	obs stat
0.00019998	0.152685	0.49995	_ 1	5.47044
0.00019998	0.746225	0.49995	1	4.49902
0.0009999	0.983002	0.861025	1	4.01726
0.00149985	0.986401	0.861025	1	3.99374
0.00129987	0.9959	0.861025	1	3.86046
0.00169983	0.9996	0.861025	1	3.7251
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0.00279972	1	0.861025	1	3.22175
0.00429957	1	0.8888	1	3.19595
	-	0 0000	-	2 10545
0.0039996	1	0.8888	1	3.19547
0.0039996	1	0.8888	1	3.19547 3.12957
0.0039996 0.0069993 0.00849915	1 1 1	0.8888 0.8888 0.8888	1	3.19547 3.12957 3.0987

### On the problem of multiple testing

Take one coin, flip it 10 times. Got 10 heads? Use it for betting



$$P = 1 - (1 - 0.5^{10})^{1000} = 0.62$$

It is not the same getting 10 heads with **my** coin than getting 10 heads in **one among** 1000 coins

Will you still use this coin for betting?

### Studies must be hypothesis driven. sample classification



Context: personalized medicine and what is the future

Big challenge for the pharma industry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Driven by academy and regulatory authorities

Relies or pharmacogenomic tests that properly stratifies patients

In the years coming, new tests based on different "omics" methodologies will open new avenues for new personalized drugs and treatments

## FDA approves the first predictor based on microarrays

FDA Clears Brea	st Cancer Specific Molecular Prognostic Test - Microsoft Internet Explorer proporcionado por	CNIO			
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	FDA News			_	
	FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE P07-13 February 6, 2007	Media Inquiries: Karen Riley, 301-827-6242 Consumer Inquiries: 888-INFO-FDA			
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2	"There have been rapid advances in microarrays and other pioneering diagnostics, and a correspond	ing increase in the use and impact of thes	se complex tests. This		
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#### The MicroArray Quality Control (MAQC) Project: An FDA-Led Effort Toward Personalized Medicine

#### MAQC Website: http://edkb.fda.gov/MAQC/ MAQC-II Objective:

Reaching consensus on the "best practices" (Data Analysis Protocol, DAP) in developing and validating microarray-based predictive models (classifiers) for clinical and preclinical applications.

A international consortium of 36 data analysis teams submitted prediction results from 18,202 models for 6 datasets to the MAQC-II



#### Most probably X belongs to class B

Algorithms: DLDA, KNN, SVM, random forests, PAM, etc.

### **Cross-validation**

The efficiency of a classifier can be estimated through a process of cross-validation.

Typical are threefold, ten-fold and leave-one-out (LOO), in case of few samples for the training



# Predictor of clinical outcome in breast cancer



Genes are arranged to their correlation eith the pronostic groups

Pronostic classifier with optimal accuracy

*van't Veer et al., Nature, 2002* 



Functional profiling

Analysis

Links







#### http://www.geneontology.org

- The objective of GO is to provide controlled vocabularies for the description of the molecular function, biological process and cellular component of gene products.
- These terms are to be used as attributes of gene products by collaborating databases, facilitating uniform queries across them.
- The controlled vocabularies of terms are structured



### **Two-steps functional interpretation**

Genes are selected based on their experimental values and...

Enrichment in functional terms is tested (FatiGO, GoMiner, etc.)





### Testing two GO terms (remember, we have to test thousands)



biosynthesis, but not with sporulation.

### GO terms found in sets of 50 genes

GO	Definition	p-value	Adjusted p-value
GO:0006790	sulfur metabolism	0.0595683	1
GO:0042592	homeostasis	0.0157944	0.300094
GO:0016265	death	0.116317	1
GO:0050874	organismal physiological process	0.151987	1
GO:0008152	metabolism	0.129865	1
GO:0019058	viral infectious cycle	0.016503	0.181353
GO:0019059	initiation of viral infection	0.0123062	0.459417
GO:0009056	catabolism	0.0276032	1
GO:0006766	vitamin metabolism	0.00875837	0.604328
GO:0007155	cell adhesion	0.122953	1

Each row corresponds to a random selection of 50 genes from the *E. coli* genome, compared with respect to the rest of the genome.

GO terms in blue (p-value < 0.05 in individual test) have assymetrical distributions by chance (see adjusted p-values).

#### How to test significant differences in the distribution of biological tems between groups of genes? FatiGO: GO-driven data analysis

Provides a statistical framework able to deal with multiple-testing hipothesis

		Tools for Gene Expression I	Inalysis - Microsoft Internet Explorer	
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Dirección 🕘 http://www.geneon	tology.org/		ermineJ is a tool for the analysis of gene sets (user defined or those defined by GO terms) in expression	^
Links 💩 Ensembl Genome Browse	er 👸 NCBI HomePage 👩 Google Scholar 👸 Bioinformatics - Manuscript Central [TM] 👸 MailSite Express 💦 🔋	Vd	data. The software is designed to be used by biologists with little or no informatics background. A comman	nd-
Name and Annual	Gene Ontology	_	line interface is available for users who wish to script the use of ermine]. Several different methods for scoring gene sets are implemented, with a focus on methods that don't rely on simple "over-representation measures.	ר"
Open menus			FatiGO	
Home	Gene Ontology Home	_	Bioinformatics Department at the Centro de Investigacion Principe Felipe (Spain)	-
Ontologies	5,		[PubMed abstract]	
Annotations	The Gene Optology project provides a controlled vocabulary to describe		FatiGO assigns representative functional information (under-represented or over-represented Gene	
Database	product attributes in any organism. Read more		Ontology terms) to a given set of genes. Statistical significance is obtained using multiple-testing correction	n. 👘
Mappings to GO	product attributes in any organism. Read more		FatiGO has been designed for functional annotation in the context of DNA microarray data analysis, and is	
Leaching Resources		_	linked to the Gene Expression Pattern Analysis Suite. FatiGO uses gene IDs from the major genomic and	
GO Tools	Popular Links		proteomic databases (GeneBank, UniProt, Unigene, Ensembl. etc.), FatiGO can also be used for functional	
Documentation	Search the Gene Ontology Database		annotation of any type of large-scale experiment.	
About GO				_
GO Editor Guides	GOI		FuncAssociate	
Site Man	⊙gene o protein name ○GO term or ID			2
Site map	This search uses the browser Aprico. Browse the Gene Ontology using AmiGO.		Roth Computational Biology Laboratory, Harvard Medical School [PubMed abstract]	
	CO website		FuncAssociate is a web-based tool that accepts as input a list of genes, and returns a list of GO attributes	
	do website		that are over- (or under-) represented among the genes in the input list. Only those over- (or under-)	
	• GO downloads: including ontology files, annotations and the GO database		representations that are statistically significant, after correcting for multiple hypotheses testing, are	
	Tools for using GO		reported. Currently 10 organisms are supported. In addition to the input list of genes, users may specify a	0
۲			whether this list should be regarded as ordered or unordered; b) the universe of genes to be considered b	ý 🗸
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Al-Shahrour et al., 2004 Bioinformatics (3rd most cited paper in computing sciences. Source: ISI Web of knowledge.) Al-Shahrour et al., 2005 Bioinformatics. Al-Shahrour et al., 2005 NAR Al-Shahrour et al., 2006 NAR. Al-Shahrour et al., 2007 BMC Bioinformatics Al-Shahrour et al., 2007 NAR

## Compilation of tools for functional interpretation of sets of genes

ΤοοΙ	Statistical model	Correction for multiple experiments	Functional labels	Site (web-based applications)	Reference
Babelomics	Fisher's exact test, t-test, Kolmogorov-Smirnov	FDR, q-value	GO, KEGG, protein domains, swissprot keywords, Transfac motifs, CisRed motifs, chromosomal location, tissues, bioentities (text-mining)	http://www.babelomics.org	(Al-Shahrour et al., 2006; Al-Shahrour et al., 2005)
BayGO	hypergeometric	bayesian	GO		(Vencio et al., 2006)
DAVID / EASEonline	Fisher's exact test	Bonferroni	GO, pathways, diseases, protein domains, interactions	http://david.abcc.ncifcrf.gov/	(Dennis et al., 2003; Hosack et al., 2003)
FatiGO+	Fisher's exact test	step-down minP, FDR	GO, KEGG, protein domains, swissprot keywords, Transfac motifs, CisRed motifs, chromosomal location, tissues	http://www.fatigo.org	(Al-Shahrour et al., 2004)
FuncSpec	hypergeometric	Bonferroni	GO, phenotypes, protein interactions, etc. (only for yeast)	http://funspec.med.utoronto.ca/	(Robinson et al., 2002)
GeneMerge	hypergeometric	Bonferroni	GO, KEGG, chromosomal location, other.	http://genemerge.bioteam.net/	(Castillo-Davis & Hartl, 2003)
GO:TermFinder	hypergeometric	Bonferroni	GO		(Boyle et al., 2004)
GoMiner	Fisher's exact test	FDR	GO		(Zeeberg et al., 2003; Zeeberg et al., 2005)
GOstat	X2 Fisher's exact test	FDR, Holm	GO	http://gostat.wehi.edu.au/	(Beissbarth & Speed, 2004)
GoSurfer	X2	q-value	GO		(Zhong et al., 2004)
GOToolBox	hypergeometric, binomial, Fisher's exact test	Bonferroni	GO	http://crfb.univ-mrs.fr/GOToolBox/index.php	(Martin et al., 2004)
Ontology Traverser	hypergeometric	FDR	GO	http://franklin.imgen.bcm.tmc.edu/rho- old/services/OntologyTraverser/	(Young et al., 2005)
Onto-Tools	X2, binomial, hypergeometric Fisher's exact test	Sidak, Holm, Bonferroni, FDR	GO, KEGG	http://vortex.cs.wayne.edu/projects.htm	(Draghici et al., 2003; Khatri et al., 2005)
<u> </u>					
FuncAssociate	Fisher's exact test		GO	http://ilama.med.harvard.edu/cgi/func/funcassociate	(Berriz et al., 2003)
GUIM	hypergeometric			nttp://bioinfo.vanderbilt.edu/gotm/	(Znang et al., 2004)
CLENCH	Hypergeometric, X2, binomial		GO (only for A. thaliana)		(Shan & Fedoroff, 2004)



Understanding why genes differ in their expression between two different conditions

Limphomas from mature lymphocytes (LB) and precursor T-lymphocyte (PTL).

Genes differentially expressed, selected among the ~7000 genes in the CNIO oncochip

Genes differentially expressed among both groups were mainly related to immune response (activated in mature lymphocytes)

*Martinez et al., Clinical Cancer Research.* **10**: 4971-4982.

#### Biological processes shown by the genes differentially expressed among PTL-LB

Total number of initial genes:	
Total number of genes no repeated:	
Total number of Cluster IDs retired - their currents Cluster IDs	
Total number of genes no repeated with current Cluster IDs:	
Total number of genes no repeated with GO at level 3 and biological_process:	
Total number of genes no repeated with GO but NOT at level 3 and ontology	
Total number of genes no repeated without GO annotated:	

#### Gene Ontology Term

response to external stimulus

response to stress

signal transduction

cell motility

resistance to pathogenic bacteria

viral replication

cell death

regulation of gene expression, epigenetic



#### **Obvious?** NO

**Cluster Query** 

162

129

7 - 23

145

88

**Cluster Reference** 

4764

4731

449 - 1627

5909

2610

- 1) You now know that there are no other covariables (e.g. age, sex, etc)
- 2) If you do not have previously a strong biological hypothesis, now you have an explanation

0.1806 0.9940 1

0.1702 0.9912 1

1

1

## Weaknesses of the two-steps, functional enrichment approach

Low sensitivity of conventional gene selection methods

8 with impaired tolerance (**IGT**) + 18 with type 2 diabetes mellitus (**DM2**)

Α

#### В

17 with normal tolerance to glucose (**NTG**)



Instability of molecular signatures. Variable selection with microarray data can lead to many solutions that are equally good from the point of view of prediction rates, but that share few common genes (Ein-Dor 2006 PNAS)

Platform comparison. There are still some concerns with the crossplatform coherence of results. Paradoxically, despite the fact that gene-by-gene results are not always the same, the biological themes emerging from the different platforms are increasingly consistent (Bammler 2005 Nat Methods)

(Mootha et al., 2003)

## Functional enrichment approach reproduces pre-genomics paradigms



Context and cooperation between genes is ignored

# So, what is wrong with what we are doing?

We seek for the functions activated/deactivated in our experiment

To find them we firstly seek for genes activated/deactivated one at a time (independently)

Then we look among them for enrichment in functions (cooperative activities) using a second test that consider functions independent.

Therefore... is all wrong with this. The test we conduct is implicitly answering a question different to the one we want to ask.

# So, what is wrong with what we are doing? (II)

The testing strategy we are conducting is implicitly answering a question different to the one we want to ask.

### The true proxies of function

Are we asking the proper questions?

Why do we think in terms of genes?

What are the real bricks that account for the cellular behaviour and for the phenotype or the response to stimulus represented in our experiment? The genes or other higher level units?



## What is the entity that accounts for functionality at the cell level?

Experiment



The wise but blindfolded men could not agree on a description of the elephant's phenotype Blindfolded men (dots in the array) are the reporters of the individual parts (genes), but the reaction (function altered) is carried out by the elephant (functional module, e.g. pathway)

Therefore, why not to observe the elephant?

### Functional genomics. Historic perspective and future

Differences at phenotype level are the visible cause of differences at molecular level which, in many cases, can be detected by measuring the levels of gene expression. The same holds for different experiments, treatments, strains, etc.





- Classification of phenotypes / experiments. Sensitivity
- Selection of differentially expressed genes Specificity
- Biological roles the genes are carrying out in the cell. Interpretation
- Reformulating the questions. Are we asking the proper questions? What are the real bricks that account for the cellular behaviour and for the phenotype or the response to environmental stimuli? The genes or other higher level units?

## Cooperative activity of genes can be detected and related to a macroscopic observation



**Ranking**: A list of genes is ranked by their differential expression between two experimental conditions **A** and **B** (using fold change, a t-test, etc.)

**Distribution of GO**: Rows GO1, GO2 and GO3 represent the position of the genes belonging to three different GO terms across the ranking.

The first GO term is completely uncorrelated with the arrangement, while GOs **2** and **3** are clearly associated to high expression in the experimental conditions **B** and **A**, respectively.

Note that genes can be multi-functional

## A previous step of gene selection causes loss of information and makes the test insensitive



If a threshold based on the experimental values is applied, and the resulting selection of genes compared for over-abundance of a functional term, this migh not be found.

#### Classes expressed as blocks in A and B

Very few genes selected to arrive to a significant conclussion on GOs 1 and 2

## A previous step of gene selection causes loss of information and makes the test insensitive



The main problem is that the two-steps approach cannot distinguish between these two different cases.

We put both sides of the partition into two bags and destroy the structure of the data.

	up	down
GO	3	9
no GO	0	25

Same contingency table for GO<sub>1</sub> and GO<sub>2</sub>!!



FatiScan, a segmentation test, provides an easy approach to directly testing functional terms



E.g., term GO<sub>2</sub>, partition p<sub>1</sub>

	up	down
GO	4	6
no GO	2	30

GOs can be directly tested by a segmentation test. A series of partitions of the list are performed (**p1**, **p2**, **p3**...) and the GO terms for each functional class in the upper part are compared to the corresponding ones in the lower part by a Fisher test. Asymmetrical distributions of terms towards the extremes of the list will produce significant values of the test.

Finally, p-values are adjusted by FDR

#### Al-Shahrour et al., 2005 Bioinformatics

### Obtaining significant results



# Case study: functional differences in a class comparison experiment

8 with impaired tolerance (**IGT**) + 18 with type 2 diabetes mellitus (**DM2**)

Α

В

17 with normal tolerance to glucose (**NTG**)

(Mootha et al., 2003)

No one single gene shows significant differential expression upon the application of a t-test

				Repository		
		Healthy vs diabetic	Functional class	GO	KEGG	Swissprot keyword
			Oxidative phosphorylation	Х	Х	
			ATP synthesis		Х	
			Ribosome		Х	
IIII.			Ubiquinone			Х
			Ribosomal protein			Х
FatiSc	an		Ribonucleoprotein			Х
$\rightarrow$		Up-	Mitochondrion	Х		Х
•		regulated	Transit peptide			Х
			Nucleotide biosynthesis	Х		
			NADH dehidrogenase (ubiquinone) activity	х		
			Nuclease activity	Х		
		Dow- regulated	Insulin signalling pathway		х	

Nevertheless, many pathways, and functional blocks are significantly activated/deactivated
## Beyond discrete variables: Survival data

Microarrays 34 samples from tumours of hypopharyngeal cancer (GEO GDS1070)

Gene GEPAS selection

Cox Proportional-Hazards model to study how the expression of each gene across patients is related to their survival

Since FatiScan depends only on a list of ordered genes, and not on the original experimental values, it can be applied to different experimental designs



#### Comparison of gene set methods at a glance

		Repository				Method			
Healthy vs diabetic	Functional class	GO	KEGG	Swissprot keyword	Defined in GSEA	FatiScan	GSEA	PAGE	Tian et al.
Up- regulated	Oxidative phosphorylation	+	+		+	yes	yes	yes	yes
	ATP synthesis		+			yes	-	-	-
	Ribosome		+			yes	-	-	-
	Ubiquinone			+		yes	-	-	-
	Ribosomal protein			+		yes	-	-	-
	Ribonucleoprotein			+		yes	-	-	-
	Mitochondrion	+		+	+	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Transit peptide			+		yes	-	-	-
	Nucleotide biosynthesis	+			+	yes	yes	yes	yes
	NADH dehidrogenase (ubiquinone) activity	+				yes	-	-	-
	Nuclease activity	+				yes	-	-	-
Dow- regulated	Insulin signalling pathway		+			yes	-	-	-

Terms from distinc repositories, reported by different methods in the diabetes dataset (Mootha et al., 2003)

### Still one more problem... are functional modules defining real co-expression classes?

Not a naïve and trivial question.

Functional enrichment methods and gene set analysis methods rely on the assumption that the modules tested do **coexpress** 

There are tens of thousands GO terms and hundreds of KEGG pathways



Montaner et al 2009 BMC Genomics



Coherence index: (1-p-value)\*100. CI > 95% means internal co-expression significantly higher than random co-expression

Montaner et al 2009 BMC Genomics

#### Weighting gene module membership by co-expression

	Unweighted test			Weighted	test	
KEGG pathway	statistic	p-value	adjusted p-value	statistic	p-value	Adjusted p-value
Caprolactam degradation	2.741	0.059	0.289	3.124	0.003	0.034
Cell cycle	2.588	0	0	2.711	0	0
Maturity onset diabetes of the young	2.517	0.075	0.289	2.734	0.008	0.034
RNA polymerase	2.497	0.077	0.289	2.657	0.009	0.034
One carbon pool by folate	2.497	0.077	0.289	2.766	0.007	0.034
Urea cycle and metabolism of amino groups	2.497	0.077	0.289	2.674	0.009	0.034
Heparan sulfate biosynthesis	2.478	0.078	0.289	2.818	0.006	0.034
Alanine and aspartate metabolism	2.386	0.087	0.289	2.497	0.012	0.04
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	2.386	0.087	0.289	2.91	0.005	0.034
beta-Alanine metabolism	2.318	0.094	0.289	2.668	0.009	0.034
Basal transcription factors	2.125	0.116	0.298	2.431	0.014	0.04
Benzoate degradation via CoA ligation	2.072	0.123	0.298	2.468	0.013	0.04
Limonene and pinene degradation	1.986	0.135	0.298	2.306	0.018	0.048

Very simple weight schema: W=2 if correlation is positive W=0.5 if negative W=1 if not in the class



#### Montaner et al 2009 BMC Genomics

#### Future directions



Testing hierarchies is better Functions and pathways are correlated. Testing models will increase our sensitivity

# Pathways are not categorical variables

In general (systems) biology is behind. Our questions must be inspired directly by biology Protein-protein interaction networks

# Evaluation of the cooperative behaviour of a list of genes

Shortest pathways between all pairs of nodes in the list. The minimum connection network (MCN)



#### Network parameters



#### **Evaluation of the Minimum Connection Network (MCN)**

**Parameters to evaluate:** connectivity, centrality, clustering coeficient, components

Distribution of the parameterrs' values versus distribution in random MCNs (compared through Kolmogorov-Smirnov tests)

List1: 38 [46-79]

List1: 8

List1: 41

List1: 56



Number of components [95% confidence interval]: Number of components with more than 1 node: Number of Bicomponents: Articulation points:

## Significant connections



## Babelomics

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Babelomics 4	-				
home   help   contact BABELONICSA gene expression and functional profiling analysis suite					
Upload data Preprocessing Expression Genomic Functional analysis Utilities					
We are proud to announce a new version of Babelomics. This is completly reengineered version of Babelomics 3 that includes all the GEPAS functionality and many more new features. You can still use the old version at: <u>http://babelomics3.bioinfo.cipf.es</u>					
Overview       V       Job list         Babelomics is an integrative platform for the analysis of transcriptomics, proteomics and genomic data with advanced functional profiling. This new version of Babelomics integrates primary (normalization, calls, etc.) and secondary (signatures, predictors, associations, TDTs, clustering, etc.) analysis tools within an environment that allows relating genomic data and/or interpreting them by means of different functional enrichment or gene set methods. Such interpretation is made not only using functional definitions (GO, KEGG, Biocarta, etc.) but also regulatory information (from Transfac, Jaspar, etc.) and other levels of regulation such as miRNA-mediated interference, protein-protein interactions, text-mining module definitions and the possibility of productione data prove excitations through the Bit2/2CO existence.					
Babelomics has been extensively re-engineered and now it includes the use of web services and Web 2.0 technology features, a new user interface with persistent sessions and a new extended database of gene identifiers. Babelomics is available at <a href="http://babelomics4.bioinfo.cipf.es">http://babelomics4.bioinfo.cipf.es</a> In this release GEPAS and Babelomics have integrated into a unique web application with many new features and improvements: <ul> <li>Data input: import and quality control for the most common microarray formats</li> <li>Hormalization and base calling: for the most common expression, tiling and SNP microarrays (Affymetrix and Agilent).</li> <li>Transcriptomics: diverse analysis options that include well established as well as novel algorithms for normalization, gene selection, class prediction, clustering and time-series analysis.</li> </ul>	V				
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Since May 1st, Babelomics 4.0

#### Some numbers

451 papers cite GEPAS (215 are SOTA cites)632 papers cite Babelomics (442 are FatiGO cites)(source ISI Web of Knowledge, May 2010)

More than 150,000 experiments analysed during the last year.

More than 1000 experiments per day.



#### Tools for gene expression analysis





#### Tools for functional profiling





#### Other tools (non-commertial)

To cover more specific analysis requirements

Bioconductor: http://www.bioconductor.org

BRB tools: http://linus.nci.nih.gov/BRB-ArrayTools.html

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SD

ait net oP

TM4 (MeV): http://www.tm4.org/mev.html

#### What is next?

nature

Vol 456 6 November 2008 doi:10.1038/nature07485

#### ARTICLES

## **DNA** sequencing of a cytogenetically normal acute myeloid leukaemia genome

Timothy J. Ley<sup>1,2,3,4\*</sup>, Elaine R. Mardis<sup>2,3\*</sup>, Li Ding<sup>2,3</sup>, Bob Fulton<sup>3</sup>, Michael D. McLellan<sup>3</sup>, Ken Chen<sup>3</sup>, David Dooling<sup>3</sup>, Brian H. Dunford-Shore<sup>3</sup>, Sean McGrath<sup>3</sup>, Matthew Hickenbotham<sup>3</sup>, Lisa Cook<sup>3</sup>, Rachel Abbott<sup>3</sup>, David E. Larson<sup>3</sup>, Dan C. Koboldt<sup>3</sup>, Craig Pohl<sup>3</sup>, Scott Smith<sup>3</sup>, Amy Hawkins<sup>3</sup>, Scott Abbott<sup>3</sup>, Devin Locke<sup>3</sup>, LaDeana W. Hillier<sup>3,8</sup>, Tracie Miner<sup>3</sup>, Lucinda Fulton<sup>3</sup>, Vincent Magrini<sup>2,3</sup>, Todd Wylie<sup>3</sup>, Jarret Glasscock<sup>3</sup>, Joshua Conyers<sup>3</sup>, Nathan Sander<sup>3</sup>, Xiaoqi Shi<sup>3</sup>, John R. Osborne<sup>3</sup>, Patrick Minx<sup>3</sup>, David Gordon<sup>8</sup>, Asif Chinwalla<sup>3</sup>, Yu Zhao<sup>1</sup>, Rhonda E. Ries<sup>1</sup>, Jacqueline E. Payton<sup>5</sup>, Peter Westervelt<sup>1,4</sup>, Michael H. Tomasson<sup>1,4</sup>, Mark Wa 1000 Genomes - Home - Model Fredox Jennifer Ivanovich<sup>4,7</sup>, Sharon Heath<sup>1,4</sup>, William D. Shannon<sup>1,4</sup>, Rakesh Nagarajan<sup>4,5</sup>, Matthew Daniel C. Link<sup>1,4</sup>, Timothy A. Graubert<sup>1,4</sup>, John F. DiPersio<sup>1,4</sup> & Richard K. Wilson<sup>2,3,4</sup>



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#### Next generation technology is here



# Some of the most common applications of NGS

RNA-seq Transcriptomics: Quantitative Descriptive (alternative splicing) miRNA

Resequencing: Mutation calling Profiling

*De novo* sequencing

Chip-seq Protein-DNA interactions Active transcription factor binding sites Copy number variation

Metagenomics Metatranscriptomics

#### Pipeline general of analysis



#### SOCIAL: MDA group in Linked-in Babelomics group in Facebook



#### The Bioinformatics and Genomics Department at the Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), Valencia, Spain, and...

Joaquín Dopazo Eva Alloza Leonardo Arbiza Fátima Al-Shahrour Davide Bau Emidio Capriotti Jose Carbonell Ana Conesa Adriana Cucchi Hernán Dopazo Pablo Escobar Francisco García Stefan Goetz Martina Marbà Marc Martí Ignacio Medina Pablo Minguez David Montaner Marina Naval Luis Pulido Javier Santoyo Patricia Sebastian François Serra Sonia Tarazona Joaquín Tárraga



...the INB, National Institute of Bioinformatics (Functional Genomics Node) and the CIBERER Network of Centers for Rare Diseases

