A Principal Curve Approach to Three-Dimensional Chromatin Configuration Reconstruction

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Importance of 3D Conformation

- Gene regulation:
 - co-localization of co-expressed genes into transcription factories
 - positioning of distal control elements
- Translocations / gene fusions:
 - 20% of human cancer morbidity
 - 3D structure "probably pivotal"

Observing / Inferring 3D Structure

- Challenging at even modest resolutions:
 - genomes are highly condensed
 - genomes are dynamic, variable
 - traditional assays are low throughput and low resolution (FISH coarse)
- Recently devised suite of Chromatin
 Conformation Capture techniques has

3C / 4C / 5C / Hi-C / TCC



Performed using large $- \sim 10^6$ – cell populations

Output: Contact / Interaction Maps



Also *inter*-chromosomal maps. Resolution determined by binning.

From Contacts to 3D Structure

- Objective: given contact matrix *C*, obtain a 3D structure (or an ensemble thereof) the between-loci pairwise distances of which recapitulate corresponding contact counts.
- Many reconstruction algorithms advanced.
- Despite assumptions, uncertainties added value derives from inferring 3D architecture:
 - In part derives from super-posing genome attributes on the reconstruction.

3D *P. falciparum* : **Overlaid Expression**

3D S. cerevisiae : **Overlaid ChIP-Seq**







swi6_minbeads25_box18	
3 regions from 3 chromosomes	

chrll:	251 kB – 252 kB	(3 beads)
chrVIII:	114 kB - 124 kB	(21 beads)
chrXIII:	259 kB – 270 kB	(21 beads)

Can demonstrate expressiontelomere distance gradient. But what about detecting focal regions : 3D hotspots ?



GLO1 glyoxylase (methylglyoxal MG)

Optimization / Consensus Methods

- Generally utilize two steps:
 - convert *C* into a distance matrix *D* that captures expected pairwise distances
 - differing assumptions; $D \propto C^{-\alpha}$; $\alpha > 0$
 - sometimes interplay with second step
 - learn / estimate 3D structure from D
 - multi-dimensional scaling (MDS) criteria
 - weights, non-metric, constraints, ...
 - algorithms include SA, IPO, SDE, MM...

Distances to 3D Structure

 Minimize objective function that places (as much as possible) interacting loci at their expected distance apart (MDS):

$$\min_{\{x_i, x_j \in \mathbb{R}^3\}} \sum_{\{i, j \mid D_{ij} < \infty\}} \omega_{ij} \cdot (\|x_i - x_j\| - D_{ij})^2$$

- Penalty: $\tau \sum_{\{i,j \mid D_{ij} = \infty\}} \|x_i x_j\|^2$
 - Non-interacting loci cannot be too close

Constraints and Contiguity

- Many biological constraints can be imposed:
 - Yeast: centromere clustering, 1um sphere.
- Constraints are difficult to specify; cell-type, resolution specific; increase compute burden.
- Malaria: adjacent 10kb loci within 91nm; Yeast: adjacent 10kb loci > 30nm.
 - Indirect way of imposing contiguity.
- Here we directly prescribe that the solution, per chromosome, is a 1D smooth curve.

Principal Curves



Principal Curve Metric Scaling

Goal: 1D curve f in \mathbb{R}^3 with inner products between n points on f approximating $C_{n \times n}$.

 $f(\lambda)$: vector fn with 3 components; λ 1D index. Genomic coordinates

Want coordinate functions to be smooth wrt λ so we represent each using a spline basis:

$$f_{ij}(\lambda) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} h_{ik}(\lambda) \theta_{kj}, \ j = 1, 2, 3; \ i = 1, \dots, n$$

where K is the number of knots ~ spline df.

$F = H\Theta$ where Θ is $K \times 3$ matrix of coefficients.

WLOG assume H is orthonormal.

Metric scaling problem: $\min_{\Theta} \|C - H\Theta\Theta^T H^T\|_F^2$.

This is equivalent to $\min_{\Theta} \|H^T C H - \Theta \Theta^T\|_F^2$

which is solved by eigen-decomposition of $H^T C H$.



IMR90 // Chromosome 20 //100kb // Primary Series



Df = 10 R-squared = 0.69



Determining Degrees-of-Freedom



Model Complexity

Determining Degrees-of-Freedom



Broken-line / segmented regression: knot / elbow identification

Assessing Reconstruction Accuracy

- Challenging in view of absence of gold standards
 - reproducibility assessment based on replicates from differing RE digests
- Use of FISH: compare inter-probe distances
 - exceedingly limited due to probe sparsity
- Multiplexed FISH affords new possibilities

Standard FISH: 1Mb Resolution



Park, Lin *Biometrics* (2016)

Standard FISH: 1Mb Resolution



FISH, PRAM, PAM, ShRec3D

Multiplex FISH: 100kb Resolution



Multiplex FISH Assessments

- Crucial is existence of numerous replicates
 - provides natural referent distribution of (R)MSD distances
 - necessary in absence of thresholds (as per protein folding) or theoretic models
- For IMR90 cells have 111, 120, and 151 replicates for chromosomes 20, 21 and 22.
- Here evaluate 3D reconstruction obtained via PCMS algorithm using IMR90 Hi-C data.



multiplex FISH Procrustes MSD

chr21 // 50kb

Primary series / Elbow df

chr21 // 50kb



Alternate algorithm — HSA: primary, replicate, combined

Future Work

- Degrees-of-freedom via cross-validation.
- Alternate bases (e.g. wavelets) or partitioning methods to capture hierarchical chromatin organization.
- Alternate transformations of *C*.
- Single-cell Hi-C.

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