Multiplicative Decomposition of Time- and Dose-Dependent Gene Expression Changes

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1 Introduction

Time- and dose-dependent change in gene expression profiles of ligand-stimulated cancer cells is promising source of information to unwire a relationship between biological activities of the molecules and disease states [1]. In this study, we employed a multiplicative model [2] to decompose the time and dose effects, instead of the ordinary additive effect model in the analysis of variance (ANOVA). We tried to pick-up genes which are directly regulated by growth hormone stimulation. Human breast cancer cells were stimulated with four different dose levels of growth hormone (0.1, 0.5, 1 and 10 nM; K = 4), and expression values of genes (I = 22277) were obtained using Affymetrix human genome arrays for designated time points (5, 10, 15, 30, 45, 60 and 90 min; J = 7). Control was set as the one without growth hormone-treatment. This work is supported in part by Grant KAKENHI-17700276 from MEXT of Japan.

2 Methods

2.1 Multiplicative Decomposition Model

Let X_{ijk} be the expression value of gene *i* at time point *j* and dose level *k* for i = 1, ..., I, j = 0, 1, ..., J, and k = 1, ..., K. For each gene *i*, we consider a multiplicative model of the two-way table of gene expression changes

$$\log_2(X_{ijk}) - \log_2(X_{i0k}) = A_{ij} \times B_{ik} + E_{ijk},$$

where (A_{i1}, \ldots, A_{iJ}) is the time-course pattern and (B_{i1}, \ldots, B_{iK}) is the dose-response pattern of gene i. A_{ij} and B_{ik} are estimated by minimizing the squared sum of the error term E_{ijk} with the constraint that $\sum_{j=1}^{J} A_{ij}^2/J = 1$, or equivalently via the singular value decomposition. The signs of A_{i1}, \ldots, A_{iJ} are carefully chosen so that they are approximately proportional to the averaged time-course pattern of gene i.



Figure 1: Score Y_i (circle) with confidence interval (triangles). 198 out of 22277 genes are selected.



Figure 3: Biplot of time-course pattern (A_{ij}) .



Figure 2: Hierarchical clustering of time-course pattern (A_{ij}) for the selected genes.



Figure 4: Biplot of dose-response pattern (B_{ik}) .

2.2 Gene Selection and Classification

The averaged response of gene *i* at dose level *k* is B_{ik} . We employ the mean absolute value $Y_i = \sum_{k=1}^{K} |B_{ik}|/K$ as a score statistic of gene *i* for selection. The confidence interval of Y_i is computed by the bootstrap residual method. In Fig. 1, genes with Y_i being significantly larger than a specified threshold value $\log_2(3)$, i.e., three-fold change, are selected.

Genes are classified by A_{ij} for finding genes with similar time-course pattern (Fig. 2). The expression patterns are visualized using the biplot of the principal component analysis (PCA) in Fig. 3 (Arrows indicate expression changes at the time points and typical gene expression profiles are inserted). On the other hand, genes can also be classified by B_{ik} for finding genes with similar dose-response pattern in Fig. 4 (Arrows indicate expression changes at the hormone dose levels, whereas the time-course pattern is completely ignored).

References

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