## Some contributions of machine learning to bioinformatics

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## Outline

(9) Including prior knowledge in classification and regression
(2) Virtual screening and chemogenomics
(3) Inference on biological networks
4. Conclusion

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## Motivation



## Goal

- Design a classifier to automatically assign a class to future samples from their expression profile
- Interpret biologically the differences between the classes


## Difficulty

- Large dimension
- Few samples


## Linear classifiers

## The model

- Each sample is represented by a vector $x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{p}\right)$
- Goal: estimate a linear function:

$$
f_{\beta}(x)=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \beta_{i} x_{i}+\beta_{0}
$$

- Interpretability: the weight $\beta_{i}$ quantifies the influence of feature $i$ (but...)


## Linear classifiers

## Training the model

$$
f_{\beta}(x)=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \beta_{i} x_{i}+\beta_{0}
$$

- Minimize an empirical risk on the training samples:

$$
\min _{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{p+1}} R_{e m p}(\beta)=\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} l\left(f_{\beta}\left(x_{i}\right), y_{i}\right)
$$

- ... subject to some constraint on $\beta$, e.g.:

$$
\Omega(\beta) \leq C .
$$

## Example : Norm Constraints

## The approach

A common method in statistics to learn with few samples in high dimension is to constrain the Euclidean norm of $\beta$

$$
\Omega_{\text {ridge }}(\beta)=\|\beta\|_{2}^{2}=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \beta_{i}^{2}
$$

(ridge regression, support vector machines...)

## Pros

- Good performance in classification


## Cons

- Limited interpretation (small weights)
- No prior biological knowledge


## Example : Feature Selection

## The approach

Constrain most weights to be 0, i.e., select a few genes (<100) whose expression are sufficient for classification.

- Greedy feature selection (T-tests, ...)
- Contrain the norm of $\beta$ : LASSO penalty $\left(\|\beta\|_{1}=\sum_{i=1}^{p}\left|\beta_{i}\right|\right)$, elastic net penalty $\left(\|\beta\|_{1}+\|\beta\|_{2}\right), \ldots$ )


## Pros

- Good performance in classification
- Biomarker selection
- Interpretability


## Cons

- The gene selection process is usually not robust
- No use of prior biological knowledge


## Incorporating prior knowledge

## The idea

- If we have a specific prior knowledge about the "correct" weights, it can be included in $\Omega$ in the contraint:

Minimize $\boldsymbol{R}_{\text {emp }}(\beta)$ subject to $\Omega(\beta) \leq C$.

- If we design a convex function $\Omega$, then the algorithm boils down to a convex optimization problem (usually easy to solve).
- Similar to priors in Bayesian statistics


## Example: CGH array classification

## The problem

- Comparative genomic hybridization (CGH) data measure the DNA copy number along the genome
- Very useful, in particular in cancer research
- Can we classify CGH arrays for diagnosis or prognosis purpose?
- Prior knowledge: we expect $\beta$ to be sparse, and piecewise constant along the genome



## Example: CGH array classification

## A solution (Rapaport et al., 2008)

$$
\Omega_{\text {fusedlasso }}(\beta)=\sum_{i}\left|\beta_{i}\right|+\sum_{i \sim j}\left|\beta_{i}-\beta_{j}\right| .
$$

- Good performance on diagnosis for bladder cancer, and prognosis for melanoma.
- More interpretable classifiers




## Example: finding discriminant modules in gene networks

## The problem

- Classification of gene expression: too many genes
- A gene network is given (PPI, metabolic, regulatory, signaling, co-expression...)
- We expect that "clusters of genes" (modules) in the network contribute similarly to the classification


## Two solutions (Rapaport et a., 2007, 2008)

## Example: finding discriminant modules in gene networks

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Two solutions (Rapaport et al., 2007, 2008)

$$
\Omega_{\text {spectral }}(\beta)=\sum_{i \sim j}\left(\beta_{i}-\beta_{j}\right)^{2}
$$

$$
\Omega_{\text {graphfusion }}(\beta)=\sum_{i \sim j}\left|\beta_{i}-\beta_{j}\right|+\sum_{i}\left|\beta_{i}\right| .
$$

## Example: finding discriminant modules in gene networks



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## Ligand-Based Virtual Screening and QSAR



NCI AIDS screen results (from http://cactus.nci.nih.gov).

## Classical approaches

## Two steps

(1) Map each molecule to a vector of fixed dimension using molecular descriptors

- Global properties of the molecules (mass, logP...)
- 2D and 3D descriptors (substructures, fragments, ....)
(2) Apply an algorithm for regression or pattern recognition.
- PLS, ANN, ...

Example: 2D structural keys


## Which descriptors?



## Difficulties

- Many descriptors are needed to characterize various features (in particular for 2D and 3D descriptors)
- But too many descriptors are harmful for memory storage, computation speed, statistical estimation


## Kernels

## Definition

- Let $\Phi(x)=\left(\Phi_{1}(x), \ldots, \Phi_{p}(x)\right)$ be a vector representation of the molecule $x$
- The kernel between two molecules is defined by:

$$
K\left(x, x^{\prime}\right)=\Phi(x)^{\top} \Phi\left(x^{\prime}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \Phi_{i}(x) \Phi_{i}\left(x^{\prime}\right)
$$



## Example: 2D fragment kernel



- $\phi_{d}(x)$ is the vector of counts of all fragments of length $d$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \phi_{1}(x)=(\#(\mathrm{C}), \#(0), \#(\mathrm{~N}), \ldots)^{\top} \\
& \phi_{2}(x)=(\#(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}), \#(\mathrm{C}=0), \#(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}), \ldots)^{\top} \quad \text { etc... }
\end{aligned}
$$

- The 2D fragment kernel is defined, for $\lambda<1$, by

$$
K_{\text {fragment }}\left(x, x^{\prime}\right)=\sum_{d=1}^{\infty} r(\lambda) \phi_{d}(x)^{\top} \phi_{d}\left(x^{\prime}\right) .
$$

## Example: 2D fragment kernel



## In practice

- $K_{\text {fragment }}$ can be computed efficiently (geometric kernel, random walk kernel...) although the feature space has infinite dimension.
- Increasing the specificity of atom labels improves performance
- Selecting only "non-tottering" fragments can be done efficiently and improves performance.


## Example: 2D subtree kernel



## 2D Subtree vs fragment kernels (Mahé and V, 2007)



Screening of inhibitors for 60 cancer cell lines (from Mahé and V., 2008)

## Example: 3D pharmacophore kernel (Mahé et al., 2005)



$$
K(x, y)=\sum_{p_{x} \in \mathcal{P}(x)} \sum_{p_{y} \in \mathcal{P}(y)} \exp \left(-\gamma d\left(p_{x}, p_{y}\right)\right) .
$$

## Results (accuracy)

| Kernel | BZR | COX | DHFR | ER |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2D (Tanimoto) | 71.2 | 63.0 | 76.9 | 77.1 |
| 3D fingerprint | 75.4 | 67.0 | 76.9 | 78.6 |
| 3D not discretized | $\mathbf{7 6 . 4}$ | $\mathbf{6 9 . 8}$ | $\mathbf{8 1 . 9}$ | $\mathbf{7 9 . 8}$ |

## Chemogenomics

## The problem

- Similar targets bind similar ligands
- Instead of focusing on each target individually, can we screen the biological space (target families) vs the chemical space (ligands)?
- Mathematically, learn $f$ (target, ligand $) \in\{$ bind, notbind $\}$



## Chemogenomics with SVM

## Tensor product SVM

- Take the kernel:

$$
K\left((t, I),\left(t^{\prime}, I^{\prime}\right)\right)=K_{t}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right) K_{l}\left(I, I^{\prime}\right)
$$

- Equivalently, represent a pair $(t, I)$ by the vector $\phi_{t}(t) \otimes \phi_{l}(I)$
- Allows to use any kernel for proteins $K_{t}$ with any kernel for small molecules $K_{I}$
- When $K_{t}$ is the Dirac kernel, we recover the classical paradigm: each target is treated independently from the others.
- Otherwise, information is shared across targets. The more similar the targets, the more they share information.


## Example: MHC-I epitope prediction across different alleles

## The approach (Jacob and V., 2007)

- take a kernel to compare different MHC-I alleles (e.g., based on the amino-acids in the paptide recognition pocket)
- take a kernel to compare different epitopes (9-mer peptides)
- Combine them to learn the $f$ (allele, epitope) function
- State-of-the-art performance
- Available at http://cbio.ensmp.fr/kiss



## Generalization: collaborative filtering with attributes

- General problem: learn $f(x, y)$ with a kernel $K_{x}$ for $x$ and a kernel $K_{y}$ for $y$.
- SVM with a tensor product kernel $K_{x} \otimes K_{y}$ is a particular case of something more general: estimating an operator with a spectral regularization.
- Other spectral regularization are possible (e.g., trace norm) and lead to efficient algorithms
- More details in Abernethy et al. (2008).



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## Biological networks



## Our goal



## Data

- Gene expression,
- Gene sequence,
- Protein localization, ...


## Graph

- Protein-protein interactions,
- Metabolic pathways,
- Signaling pathways, ...


## More precisely

## "De novo" inference

- Given data about individual genes and proteins
- Infer the edges between genes and proteins
"Supervised" inference
- Given data about individual genes and proteins
- and given some known interactions
- infer unknown interactions


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## "Supervised" inference

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- and given some known interactions
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## Main messages

(1) Most methods developed so far are "de novo" (e.g., co-expression, Bayesian networks, mutual information nets, dynamical systems...)
(2) However most real-world application fit the "supervised" framework
(3) Solving the "supervised" problem is much easier (and more efficient) than the "de novo" problem. It requires less hypothesis.

## De novo methods

## Typical strategies

- Fit a dynamical system to time series (e.g., PDE, boolean networks, state-space models)
- Detect statistical conditional indenpence or dependency (Bayesian netwok, mutual information networks, co-expression)


## Pros

- Excellent approach if the model is correct and enough data are available
- Interpretability of the model
- Inclusion of prior knowledge


## Cons

- Specific to particular data and networks
- Needs a correct mode!!
- Difficult integration of heterogeneous data
- Often needs a lot of data and long computation time


## Supervised methods

## Motivation

In actual applications,

- we know in advance parts of the network to be inferred
- the problem is to add/remove nodes and edges using genomic data as side information



## Supervised method

- Given genomic data and the currently known network...
- Infer missing edges between current nodes and additional nodes.


## Supervised approach by Metric learning

## Idea

- The direct similarity-based method fails because the distance metric used might not be adapted to the inference of the targeted protein network.
- Solution: use the known subnetwork to refine the distance measure, before applying the similarity-based method
- Examples: kernels CCA (Yamanishi et al. 2004), kernel metric learning (V and Yamanishi, 2005)


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## Supervised inference by pattern recognition

## Formulation and basic issue

- A pair can be connected (1) or not connected (-1)
- From the known subgraph we can extract examples of connected and non-connected pairs
- However the genomic data characterize individual proteins; we need to work with pairs of proteins instead!



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Known graph

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## Tensor product SVM (Ben-Hur and Noble, 2006)

- Intuition: a pair $(A, B)$ is similar to a pair $(C, D)$ if:
- $A$ is similar to $C$ and $B$ is similar to $D$, or...
- $A$ is similar to $D$ and $B$ is similar to $C$
- Formally, define a similarity between pairs from a similarity between individuals by
- If $K$ is a positive definite kernel for individuals then $K_{\text {TPPK }}$ is a p.d. kernel for pairs which can be used by SVM
- This amounts to representing a pair $(a, b)$ by the symmetrized tensor product:


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$$
K_{T P P K}((a, b),(c, d))=K(a, c) K(b, d)+K(a, d) K(b, c)
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$$
(a, b) \rightarrow(a \otimes b) \oplus(b \otimes a)
$$

## Metric learning pairwise SVM (V. et al, 2007)

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- $A-B$ is similar to $D-C$.
- Formally, define a similarity between pairs from a similarity between individuals by
- If $K$ is a positive definite kernel for individuals then $K_{\text {MLPK }}$ is a p.d. kernel for pairs which can be used by SVM
- This amounts to representing a pair $(a, b)$ by the symmetrized difference:

$$
(a, b) \rightarrow(a-b)^{\otimes 2}
$$

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$$
K_{M L P K}((a, b),(c, d))=(K(a, c)+K(b, d)-K(a, c)-K(b, d))^{2}
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## Supervised inference with local models

## The idea (Bleakley et al., 2007)

- Motivation: define specific models for each target node to discriminate between its neighbors and the others
- Treat each node independently from the other. Then combine predictions for ranking candidate edges.



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## Results: protein-protein interaction (yeast)



(from Bleakley et al., 2007)

## Results: metabolic gene network (yeast)


(from Bleakley et al., 2007)

## Results: regulatory network (E. coli)




| Method | Recall at 60\% | Recall at 80\% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| SIRENE | $\mathbf{4 4 . 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 7 . 6 \%}$ |
| CLR | $7.5 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ |
| Relevance networks | $4.7 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ |
| ARACNe | $1 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| Bayesian network | $1 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

SIRENE = Supervised Inference of REgulatory NEtworks (Mordelet and V., 2008)

## Results: predicted regulatory network (E. coli)



Prediction at 60\% precision, restricted to transcription factors (from Mordelet and V., 2008).

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## What we saw

- Modern machine learning methods for regression / classification lend themselves well to the integration of prior knowledge in the penalization / regularization function, in particular for feature selection / grouping. Applications in array CGH classification, siRNA design, microarray classification with gene networks
- Kernel methods (eg SVM) allow to manipulate complex objects (eg molecules, biological sequences) as soon as kernels can be defined and computed. Applications in virtual screening, QSAR, chemogenomics.
- Inference of biological networks can be formulated as a supervised problem if the graph is partly known, and powerful methods can be applied. Application in PPI, metabolic and regulatory networks inference.


## People I need to thank

## Including prior knowledge in penalization

Franck Rapaport, Emmanuel Barillot, Andrei Zynoviev, Christian Lajaunie, Yves Vandenbrouck, Nicolas Foveau...

Virtual screening, kernels etc..<br>Pierre Mahé, Laurent Jacob, Liva Ralaivola, Véronique Stoven, Brice Hoffman, Martial Hue, Francis Bach, Jacob Abernethy, Theos Evgeniou...

## Network inference

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