Talks today

- Dr. Phil Green, Professor of Genome Sciences, University of Washington "Finishing the Gene-ome: Computationally Directed Gene Structure Verification in C. elegans" 1:30 in Health Sciences K-069
- Dr. Mark Chee , Vice President of Genomics, Illumina, Inc. "Accessing Genetic Information: Technology for Large Scale SNP Genotyping" 3:30 in Hitchcock Hall 132

DNA Microarray Overview

(Some slides from Dr. Holly Dressman, Duke University http://genome.genetics.duke.edu/STAT_talk_301.ppt)

Gene Expression: The "Central Dogma" $DNA \rightarrow RNA \rightarrow Protein$



Gene Expression

- Proteins do most of the work
- They're dynamically created/destroyed
- So are their mRNA blueprints
- Different mRNAs expressed at different times/places
- Knowing mRNA "expression levels" tells a lot about the state of the cell

Microarrays

A snapshot that captures the activity pattern of thousands of genes at once.!





Custom spotted arrays

Affymetrix GeneChip

Expression Microarrays

- Thousands to hundreds of thousands of spots per square inch
- Each holds millions of copies of a DNA sequence from one gene
- Take mRNA from cells, put it on array
- See where it sticks mRNA from gene x should stick to spot x

An Expression Array Experiment



An Example Application

- 72 leukemia patients
 - 47 ALL
 - 25 AML
- 1 chip per patient
- 7132 human genes per chip



Golub, et al., Science 286:531-537 (1999).

Key Issue: What's Different?

- What genes are behaving differently between ALL & AML (or other disease/normal states)?
- Potential uses:
 - Diagnosis
 - Prognosis
 - Insight into underlying biology/biologies
 - Treatment

A Classification Problem

- Given an array from a new patient: is it ALL or AML?
- Many possible approaches: LDA, logistic regression, NN, SVM, ...
- Problems:
 - Noise
 - Dimensionality

Other Applications

- Study gene function & regulation
 - Covarying ~~> coregulated?
 - Covarying ~~> common pathway?
- Refined categorization of diseases
 - E.g., "prostate cancer" is almost certainly not one disease. Are subtypes distinguishable at expression level?



Practical Applications of Microarrays

Gene Target Discovery

By allowing scientists to compare diseased cells with normal cells, arrays can be used to discover sets of genes that play key roles in diseases. Genes that are either overexpressed or underexpressed in the diseased cells often present excellent targets for therapeutic drugs.

Pharmacology and Toxicology

Arrays can provide a highly sensitive indicator of a drug's activity (pharmacology) and toxicity (toxicology) in cell culture or test animals. This information can then be used to screen or optimize drug candidates prior to launching costly clinical trials.

Diagnostics

Array technology can be used to diagnose clinical conditions by detecting gene expression patterns associated with disease states in either biopsy samples or peripheral blood cells.

Microarray Technologies

- Oligo Arrays
 - Affymetrix -
 - one color
 - Short oligos
 - match/mismatch
 - Agilent, inter alia
 - 2 color
 - Longer oligos
- Spotted cDNA arrays

GeneChip[®] Probe Array







GeneChip® Probe Arrays



How unique is a 20-mer?

- VERY CRUDE model: DNA is random—every position is equally likely to be A, C, G, or T, independent of every other
- Then probability of a random 20-mer is

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{20} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{40} = \left(\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10}\right)^4 = \left(\left(\frac{1}{1024}\right)\right)^4 \approx \left(10^{-3}\right)^4 = 10^{-12}$$

• So, a random 20-mer occurs in random humansized DNA sequence with probability about 3 x $10^9 \ge 10^{-12} = .003$

How Random is a Genome?

- G/C content can vary from ~40-60% across and within organisms ("isochores")
- Adjacent pairs not independent
- Adjacent triples not independent (esp. in genes)
- ...
- Many large-scale repeats, e.g.
 - similar genes, domains within genes
 - transposons & other junk
 - within primates, ~ 5% of all DNA is composed of (noisey) copies of a 300bp ALU sequence
- Nevertheless, crude model is useful guide









Uninduced Induced 40 separate hybridization events are involved in determining the presence or absence of a transcript 80 separate hybridization events are involved determining differential gene expression between two samples

Synthesis of Ordered Oligonucleotide Arrays



Spotted Microarray Process





GenePix Pro Features

• Auto Align



Before Auto Align



After Auto Align

GenePix Pro Features

•Feature Viewer



- P = pixel intensity
- F = feature intensity
- B = background intensity
- Rp = ratio of pixel intensities
- Rm = ratio of means
- mR = median of ratios
- rR = regression ratio



Spotted glass slide microarrays

Advantages

Low cost per array Custom gene selection Any species Competitive hybridization Open architecture

Disadvantages

Clone management Clone cost Quality control

Affymetrix GeneChip system

Advantages

Stream line production Large number of genes and ESTs/chip Several number of species

> Disadvantages System cost GeneChip cost Propietary system Limits on customizing



Micro Array Noise Sources

- Lot-to-lot variation (chips, reagents,...)
- Experiment-to-experiment variation
 - cell state, culture purity
 - sample preparation, hybridization conditions
- Spot-to-spot variation
 - unequal dye encorporation
 - dye nonlinearity/saturation
 - uneven spot sizes
 - self- & cross-hybridization
 - Image capture & processing (spot finding, quantization, sensors)
- •

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Challenges in analyzing Microarray Data

- Amount of DNA in spot is not consistent
- •Spot contamination
- ·cDNA may not be proportional to that in the tissue
- Low hybridization quality
- Measurement errors
- Spliced variants
- Outliers
- Data are high-dimensional "multi-variant"
- Biological signal may be subtle, complex, non linear, and buried in a cloud of noise
- Normalization
- •Comparison across multiple arrays, time points, tissues, treatments
- •How do you reveal biological relationships among genes?
- •How do you distinguish real effect from artifact?

Factors to consider in designing microarray experiments

Need to do lots of control experiments-validate method
Do replicate spotting, replicate chips, and reverse labeling for custom spotted chips

- Do pilot studies before doing "mega chip" experiments
- Don't design experiment without replication; nothing will be learned from a single failed experiment
- Design simple (one-two factor) experiments,
- i.e. treatment vs. untreatment
- Understand measurement errors
- In designing Databases; they are useful ONLY if quality of data is assured
- •Involve statistical colleagues in the design stages of your studies

The Microarray Biz. (circa 3/2001)

- Despite concerns above...
- "In early 1997, scientists never envisioned looking at more than 25 to 50 geneexpression levels simultaneously. Today everybody tells us that they want to look at the whole genome." -- T.Kreiner, Affymetrics
- 45% annual growth rate 1999-2000
- Est. \$1B by 2005 for diagnostics alone.