DNA Methylation QC and Analyses—A Story of Invariance

April 11, 2023 NIA Biomarker Network Meeting Colter Mitchell





DNA Methylation









Methylation of Changes with Exposure/Time





Yellow=same, Green & Red =hyper or hypomethylated

Morgan et al 1999 Nat Genet 23: 314-318; Fraga et al 2005 PNAS 102 (30): 10604-10609

450k





http://www.illumina.com/content/dam/illumina-marketing/documents/products/datasheets/humanmethylationepic-data-sheet-1070-2015-008.pdf

http://www.illumina.com/content/dam/illumina-marketing/documents/products/product_information_sheets/product_info_hm450.pdf

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Genome coverage, EPIC



Moran S, Arribas C, Esteller M. 2016. Validation of a DNA methylation microarray for 850,000 CpG sites of the human genome enriched in enhancer sequences. Epigenomics

Epigenetic Methods



Number of Probes by Mean Methylation



Distribution of probe variation

Decile frequency Y9



Reliability by probe mean



are highly consistent variant and low reliability

probes rarely overlap



Methylation of Changes with Exposure/Time





- Future of Families and Child Wellbeing
- 2,020 children between at ages 9 and 15
- 450K and EPIC
- Plated together—no longitudinal batch effect



Change over time



Probe changes

- 2/3 < 0.006
- 78.2% < 0.01
- 21.8% >0.01
- 4.9%>0.03
- 0.2%>0.05



How is change distributed?





Epigenome Wide Longitudinal Change

Traits-matching probes

Aging-1,859 BMI-334 Puberty-209 Smoking-352 Preterm birth- 176 Asthma-152



Chromosome



Discussion

- Most Illumnia DNAm probes (450K, EPIC, EPIC 2) are invariant in human immune cells
- Studies need to include many duplicates to determine reliability of variant probes
- Include in a QC step
- These need to be reported more consistently
- Likely may not overlap with other studies
- Most probes are likely invariant over time
- Many probes may not change more than measurement error
- Less than 5% of probes change more than 3%
- Longitudinal Change probes may be a good avenue for future focus
- Dealing with longitudinal batch effects is a major focus this year



Reliabilities of Scores

Reliabilities of Clocks (age regressed out)



■FFCW-450K
SFFCW-EPIC
HRS



Duplicate Study DNA Methylation

- Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing
 - Current n=2,020 at age 9 and 15 using Illumina 450K (n=780) and EPIC (n=1,240)
 - Age 9 and age 15 plated together
 - Duplicates n=54 (450K) and n=164 (EPIC)
- HRS
 - Current n=4,018 all EPIC
 - Duplicates n=39





Decile frequency Y9



NHW Y9 Beta



Duplicate Analyses

- 54 duplicates (same person at same age)-split by age
 - 29 Black, 13 White, 12 Hispanic
 - 29 Female, 25 male
 - 27 >INR of 1.5
- Reliability is higher for extremes-0.992 for all groups
- Reliability of middle is lower (average is 0.96):
 - 0.98 for Hispanic
 - 0.97 for white & female
 - 0.96 for black and male
- 25% of all probes change more than measurement error







Probe Absolute CV (using M-values)



nt of Variation

Reliability by CV



0.150 < cv < 0.200



Reliability by CV



Reliability by CV







Reliability CV



FFCW Methylation Data

Beta distributions by ancestry for Y9

Non-Hispanic White





0.6

0.8

1.0

0.4

0

0.0

0.2

How is DNA Methylation change distributed?









Filtered to only probes with ICC > 0.7, nprobe=76332, abs(cv) > 0.30

Distribution of probe mean methylation



M-value

Longitudinal Change in Probes by Race/Ethnicity Filtered to only probes with ICC > 0.7, nprobe=76332, abs(cv) > 0.30

