

CRI Center

Seungchan Kim, Ph.D.

Chief Scientist and Executive Professor
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Director, CCSB

Who I am

- Ph.D. trained at TAMU EE, 2001
- Post-doctoral trainee at NIH, 2001 2003
- Faculty at TGen, 2003 2016
- Faculty at ASU, 2004 2011
- Chief Scientist and Executive Professor, ECE Director, CCSB@PVAMU, 2017 - current



Computational Systems Biology

Computational

Modeling and analysis
Machine learning / Data science
Big data

Systems

Holistic, systems view Modeling of biological systems & processes

Biology

Developmental biology
Neuroscience
Cancer
Agriculture



So, exactly what does CSB do?





Identification of Distinct Basal and Luminal Subtypes of Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer with Different Sensitivities to Frontline Chemotherapy

Woonyoung Choi,¹ Sima Porten,¹ Seungchan Kim,⁶ Daniel Willis,¹ Elizabeth R. Plimack,⁷ Jean Hoffman-Censits,⁸ Beat Roth,¹ Tiewei Cheng,^{1,5} Mai Tran,^{1,5} I-Ling Lee,¹ Jonathan Melquist,¹ Jolanta Bondaruk,³ Tadeusz Majewski,³ Shizhen Zhang,³ Shanna Pretzsch,¹ Keith Baggerly,⁴ Arlene Siefker-Radtke,² Bogdan Czerniak,³ Colin P.N. Dinney,¹ and David J. McConkey^{1,5,*}

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SUMMARY

Muscle-invasive bladder cancers (MIBCs) are biologically heterogeneous and have widely variable clinical outcomes and responses to conventional chemotherapy. We discovered three molecular subtypes of MIBC that resembled established molecular subtypes of breast cancer. Basal MIBCs shared biomarkers with basal breast cancers and were characterized by p63 activation, squamous differentiation, and more



¹Department of Urology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 77030, USA

²Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 77030, USA

³Department of Pathology, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 77030, USA

⁴Department of Bioinformatics, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX 77030, USA

⁵The University of Texas-Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) at Houston, Houston, TX 77030, USA

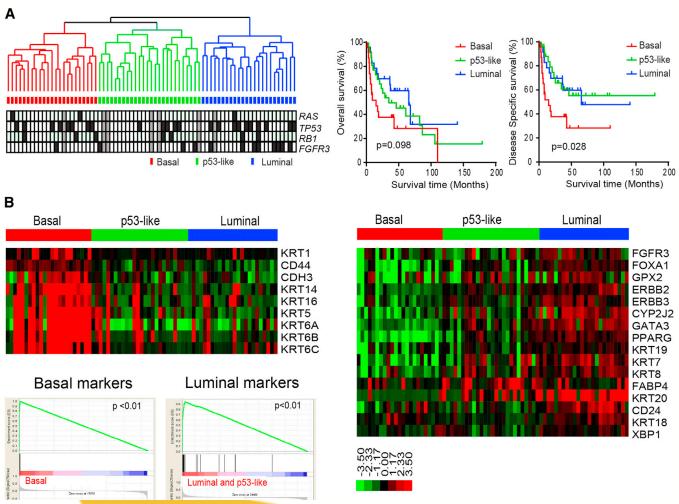
⁶Computational Biology Division, Translational Genomics Research Institute, 445N, Fifth Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004, USA

⁷Department of Medical Oncology, Fox Chase Cancer Center, 333 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-2497, USA

⁸Department of Medical Oncology, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, 1025 Walnut Street, Suite 700, Philadelphia, PA 19107, USA

^{*}Correspondence: dmcconke@mdanderson.org

Gene expression signatures for Bladder cancer subtypes





EDDY: a novel statistical gene set test method to detect differential genetic dependencies

Sungwon Jung and Seungchan Kim*

Integrated Cancer Genomics Division, Biocomputing Unit, Translational Genomics Research Institute, 445 North 5th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004, USA

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ABSTRACT

Identifying differential features between conditions is a popular approach to understanding molecular features and their mechanisms underlying a biological process of particular interest. Although many tests for identifying differential expression of gene or gene sets have been proposed, there was limited success in developing methods for differential interactions of genes between conditions because of its computational complexity. We present a method for Evaluation of Dependency Differentiality (EDDY), which is a statistical test for differential dependencies of a set of genes between two conditions. Unlike previous methods focused offferential expression of individual gene-gene interactions,

INTRODUCTION

Since the emergence of high-throughput genomic profiling techniques, numerous statistical methods gained high popularity in biomedical studies to assess diverse features in biological samples. One of such statistical approaches is identifying variables with differential patterns between different conditions, where genomic entities (such as genes or proteins) are often modeled as target variables. Such methods can vary based on the definition of differentiality or what a target feature of comparison is, but the general idea is comparing probability distributions of a target feature across given conditions.

The simplest case of identifying differentiality is differential expression of a single gene, where each gene is independently tested for differential expression. There have been many studies with this approach of independent tests for individual genes. For comprehensive reviews of

DIFFERENTIAL PATHWAY DEPENDENCY DISCOVERY ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG RESPONSE ACROSS CANCER CELL LINES *

GIL SPEYER, DIVYA MAHENDRA † , HAI J. TRAN † , JEFF KIEFER

The Translational Genomics Research Institute
Phoenix, AZ 85004, U.S.A.
Email: gspeyer@tgen.org, mahendradivya@gmail.com, hitran@brown.edu, įkiefer@tgen.org

STUART L. SCHREIBER. PAUL A. CLEMONS

Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT Cambridge MA 02142, U.S.A. Email: stuart_schreiber@harvard.edu, pclemons@broadinstitute.org

HARSHIL DHRUV, MICHAEL BERENS, SEUNGCHAN KIM

The Translational Genomics Research Institute
Phoenix, AZ 85004, U.S.A.
Email: hdhruv@tgen.org, mberens@tgen.org, skim@tgen.org

The effort to personalize treatment plans for cancer patients involves the identification of drug treatments that can effectively target the disease while minimizing the likelihood of adverse reactions. In this study, the gene-expression profile of 810 cancer cell lines and their response data to 368 small molecules from the Cancer Therapeutics Research Portal (CTRP) are analyzed to identify pathways with significant rewiring between genes, or differential gene

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KNOWLEDGE-ASSISTED APPROACH TO IDENTIFY PATHWAYS WITH DIFFERENTIAL DEPENDENCIES*

GIL SPEYER. JEFF KIEFER

Integrated Cancer Genomics Division, The Translational Genomics Research Institute
Phoenix, AZ 85004, U.S.A.
Email: gspeyer@tgen.org, jkiefer@tgen.org

HARSHIL DHRUV, MICHAEL BERENS

Cancer Cell Biology Division, The Translational Genomics Research Institute Phoenix, AZ 85004, U.S.A. Email: hdhruv@tgen.org, mberens@tgen.org

SEUNGCHAN KIM

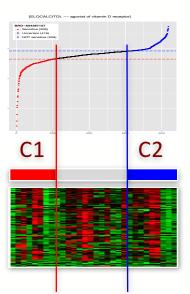
Integrated Cancer Genomics Division, The Translational Genomics Research Institute
Phoenix, AZ 85004, U.S.A.
Email: skim@tgen.org

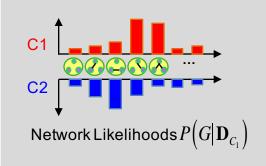
We have previously developed a statistical method to identify gene sets enriched with condition-specific genetic dependencies. The method constructs gene dependency networks from bootstrapped samples in one condition and computes the divergence

EDDY-CTRP Analysis Pipeline

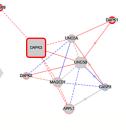


Known gene-gene Interactions

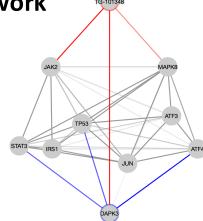


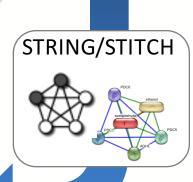


Pathway	DB	# genes	p-val	Rewiring
FIBRINOLYSIS	В	12	0.0062	0.56
IL4	В	11	0.0074	0.67
DCC MEDIATED ATTRACTIVE SIGNALING	R	13	0.0086	0.66
GRANULOCYTES	В	14	0.0093	0.53
P130CAS LINKAGE TO MAPK SIGNALING FOR INTEGRINS	R	15	0.0101	0.61
DSCAM INTERACTIONS	R	11	0.0105	0.6
TRAF3 DEPENDENT IRF ACTIVATION	R	14	0.0169	0.73
CARM1	В	13	0.0173	0.68
SPRY REGULATION OF FGF SIGNALING	R	14	0.0183	0.56
THE NLRP3 INFLAMMASOME	R	12	0.0185	0.72



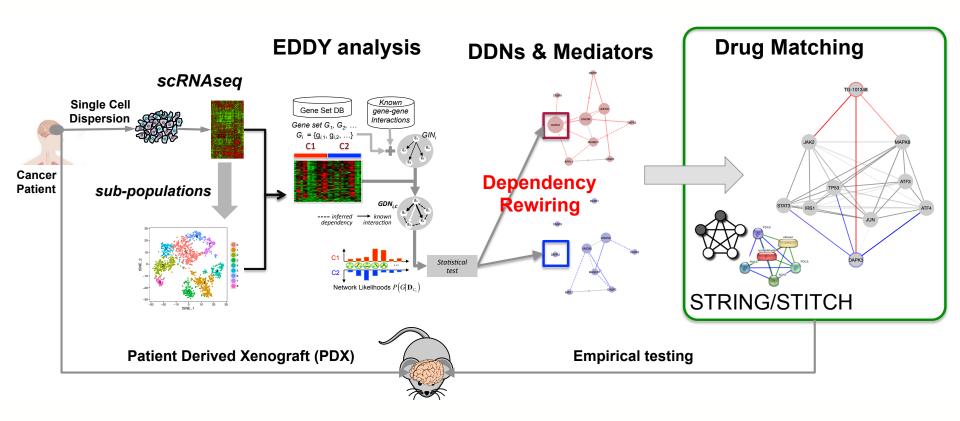
Evidence Network







Fighting Cancer, Cell by Cell



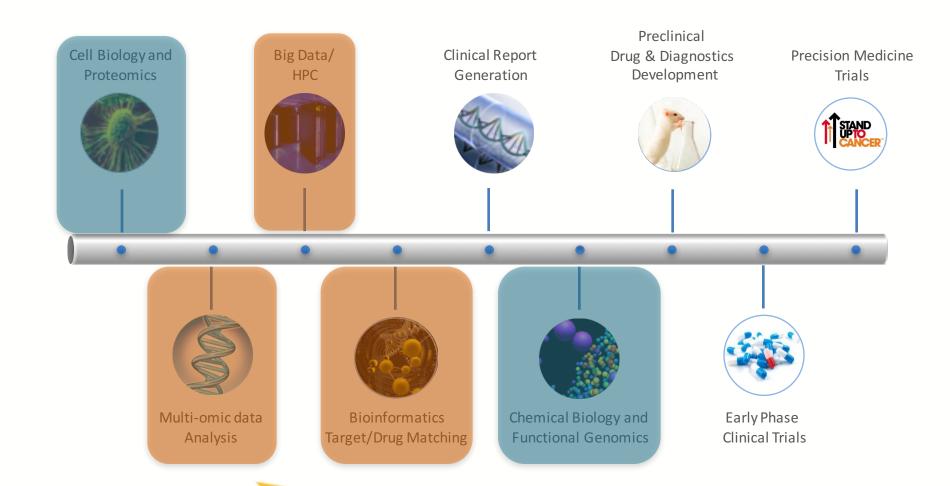


Fighting Cancer, Cell by Cell





Precision Medicine Pipeline





- Why PVAMU
 - Chancellor's Research Initiative provides resource
 - PI: Dr. Lijun Qian (ECE) for the proposal
 - Director: Dr. Seungchan Kim (ECE)
 - College of Engineering leads the initiative
 - Its proximity to Texas Medical Center provides numerous potential collaborators



- Dry lab + Wet lab within the center
 - Wet lab is critical for validation of novel hypothesis generated by computational analysis

- Leading edge research
 - Recruit top-notch scientists and engineers
 - Train graduate students
 - Develop collaboration



CCSB @ PVAMU under Construction



Training Future Computational Biologists

 Bioinformatics concentration for undergraduate and graduate students

- Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU)
- Bioinformatics / Computational Biology training for graduate students

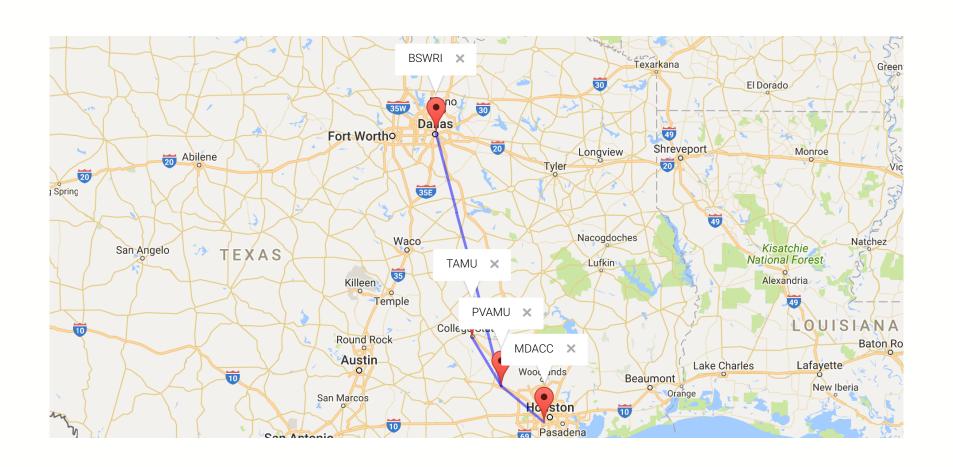


Developing Collaboration

- Local
 - Texas Medical Center (Baylor, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center)
 - Texas A&M University
- State-Wide
 - Baylor, Scott & White Research Institute (Dallas)
- Nation-wide
 - TGen
 - USC
 - NIH/NCI
 - U. Pittsburgh

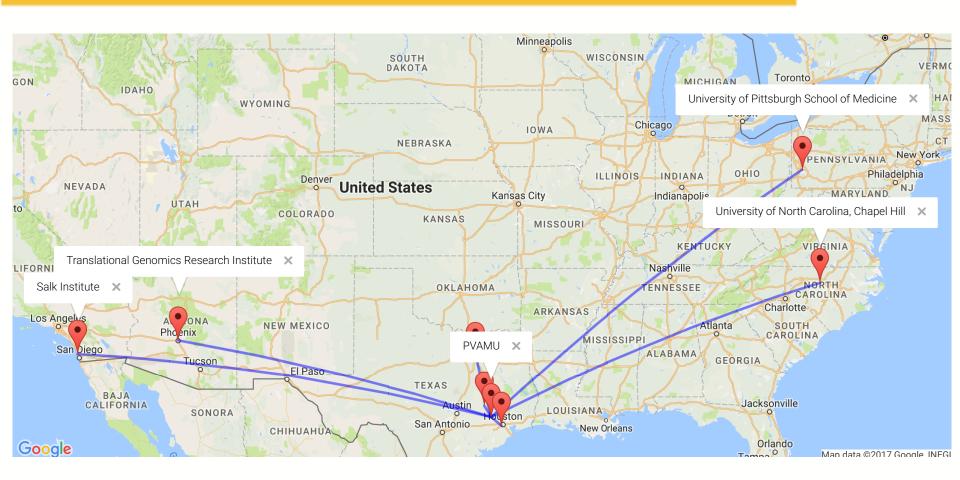


CCSB @ PVAMU Collaboration (State-wide)





CCSB @ PVAMU Collaboration (Nation-wide)





• Questions?

