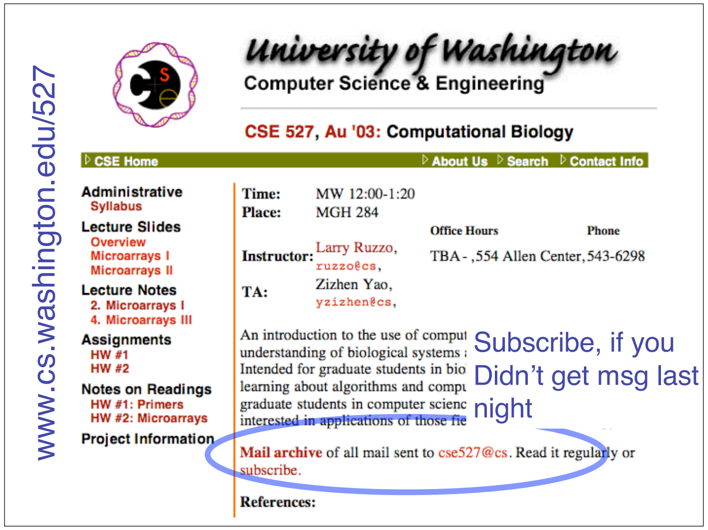


Clustering Expression Data

- Why cluster gene expression data?
  - Tissue classification
  - Find biologically related genes
  - First step in inferring regulatory networks
  - Look for common promoter elements
  - Hypothesis generation
  - One of the tools of choice for expression analysis

Clustering Expression Data

- What has been done?
  - Hierarchical average-link [Eisen et al. 98]
  - Self Organizing Maps (SOM) [Tamayo et al. 99]
  - CAST [Ben-Dor et al. 99]
  - Support Vector Machines (SVM) [Grundy et al. 00]
  - etc., etc., etc.
- Why so many methods?
  - Clustering is NP-hard, even with simple objectives, data
  - Hard problem: high dimensionality, noise, …
  - ∴ many heuristic, local search, & approximation algorithms
  - No clear winner

Clustering Algorithms

- **Partitional**
  - CAST (Ben-Dor et al. 1999)
  - k-means, variously initialized (Hartigan 1975)
- **Hierarchical**
  - single-link
  - average-link
  - complete-link
- **Random** (as a control)
  - Randomly assign genes to clusters
- Others

The following slides largely from
http://staff.washington.edu/kayee/research.html
Errors are mine.

Clustering 101

Ka Yee Yeung
Center for Expression Arrays
University of Washington

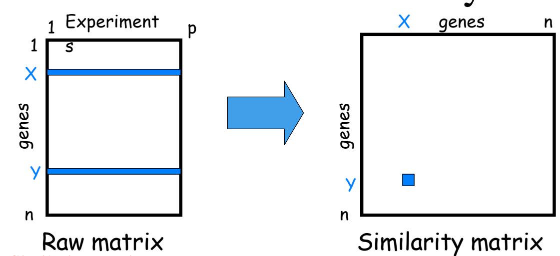
Overview

- What is clustering?
- Similarity/distance metrics
- Hierarchical clustering algorithms
  - Made popular by Stanford, ie. [Eisen *et al.* 1998]
- K-means
  - Made popular by many groups, eg. [Tavazoie *et al.* 1999]
- Self-organizing map (SOM)
  - Made popular by Whitehead, ie. [Tamayo *et al.* 1999]

What is clustering?

- Group *similar* objects together
- Objects in the same cluster (group) are more similar to each other than objects in different clusters
- Data exploratory tool

How to define similarity?



- Similarity metric:
  - A measure of *pairwise* similarity or dissimilarity
  - Examples:
    - Correlation coefficient
    - Euclidean distance

Similarity metrics

- Euclidean distance

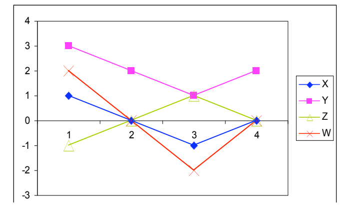
$$\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{p}(X[j]-Y[j])^2}$$

- Correlation coefficient

$$\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{p}(X[j]-\overline{X})(Y[j]-\overline{Y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{p}(X[j]-\overline{X})^2\sum_{j=1}^{p}(Y[j]-\overline{Y})^2}}, \quad where\ \overline{X}=\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{p}X[j]}{p}$$

Example

X	1	0	-1	0
Y	3	2	1	2
Z	-1	0	1	0
W	2	0	-2	0



Correlation (X,Y) = 1 Distance (X,Y) = 4

Correlation (X,Z) = -1 Distance (X,Z) = 2.83

Correlation (X,W) = 1 Distance (X,W) = 1.41

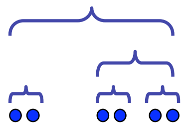
Lessons from the example

- Correlation – direction only
- Euclidean distance – magnitude & direction
- Min # attributes (experiments) to compute pairwise similarity
  - >= 2 attributes for Euclidean distance
  - >= 3 attributes for correlation
- Array data is noisy ➔ need many experiments to robustly estimate pairwise similarity

Clustering algorithms

- Inputs:
  - Raw data matrix or similarity matrix
  - Number of clusters or some other parameters
- Many different classifications of clustering algorithms:
  - Hierarchical vs partitional
  - Heuristic-based vs model-based
  - Soft vs hard

Hierarchical Clustering [Hartigan 1975]

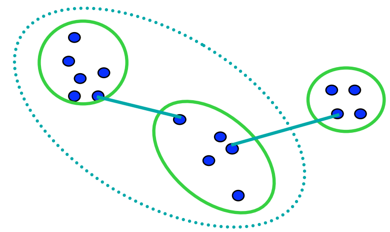


dendrogram

- Agglomerative (bottom-up)
- Algorithm:
  - Initialize: each item a cluster
  - Iterate:
    - select two most similar clusters
    - merge them
  - Halt: when required number of clusters is reached

Hierarchical: Single Link

- cluster similarity = similarity of two most similar members



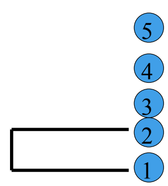
- Potentially long and skinny clusters

+ Fast

Example: single link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccccc}1&2&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \left[\begin{array}{ccccc}0&&&&\\2&0&&&\\6&3&0&&\\10&9&7&0&\\9&8&5&4&0\end{array}\right]\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{cccc}(1,2)&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}0&&&\\3&0&&\\9&7&0&\\8&5&4&0\end{array}\right]\end{array}$$

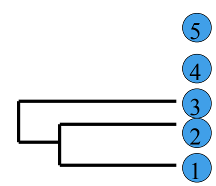
$$d_{(1,2),3} = \min\{ d_{1,3}, d_{2,3}\} = \min\{ 6,3\} = 3$$
$$d_{(1,2),4} = \min\{ d_{1,4}, d_{2,4}\} = \min\{ 10,9\} = 9$$
$$d_{(1,2),5} = \min\{ d_{1,5}, d_{2,5}\} = \min\{ 9,8\} = 8$$



Example: single link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccccc}1&2&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \left[\begin{array}{ccccc}0&&&&\\2&0&&&\\6&3&0&&\\10&9&7&0&\\9&8&5&4&0\end{array}\right]\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{cccc}(1,2)&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}0&&&\\3&0&&\\9&7&0&\\8&5&4&0\end{array}\right]\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccc}(1,2,3)&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2,3)\\4\\5\end{array} & \left[\begin{array}{ccc}0&&\\7&0&\\5&4&0\end{array}\right]\end{array}$$

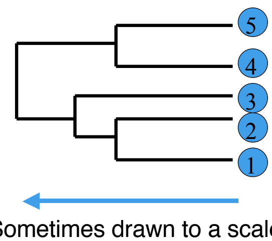
$$d_{(1,2,3),4} = \min\{ d_{(1,2),4}, d_{3,4}\} = \min\{ 9,7\} = 7$$
$$d_{(1,2,3),5} = \min\{ d_{(1,2),5}, d_{3,5}\} = \min\{ 8,5\} = 5$$



Example: single link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccccc}1&2&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&&&\\2&0&&&\\6&3&0&&\\10&9&7&0&\\9&8&5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{cccc}(1,2)&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&&\\3&0&&\\9&7&0&\\8&5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccc}(1,2,3)&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2,3)\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&\\7&0&\\5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array}$$

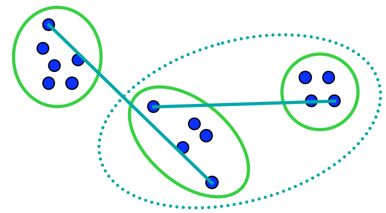
$$d_{(1,2,3),(4,5)} = \min\{d_{(1,2,3),4}, d_{(1,2,3),5}\} = 5$$



Sometimes drawn to a scale

Hierarchical: Complete Link

- cluster similarity = similarity of two least similar members



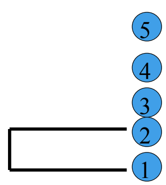
+ tight clusters

- slow

Example: complete link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccccc}1&2&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&&&\\2&0&&&\\6&3&0&&\\10&9&7&0&\\9&8&5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{cccc}(1,2)&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&&\\6&0&&\\10&7&0&\\9&5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array}$$

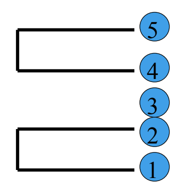
$$d_{(1,2),3} = \max\{d_{1,3}, d_{2,3}\} = \max\{6,3\} = 6$$
$$d_{(1,2),4} = \max\{d_{1,4}, d_{2,4}\} = \max\{10,9\} = 10$$
$$d_{(1,2),5} = \max\{d_{1,5}, d_{2,5}\} = \max\{9,8\} = 9$$



Example: complete link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccccc}1&2&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&&&\\2&0&&&\\6&3&0&&\\10&9&7&0&\\9&8&5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{cccc}(1,2)&3&4&5\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&&\\6&0&&\\10&7&0&\\9&5&4&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{ccc}(1,2)&3&(4,5)\end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c}(1,2)\\3\\(4,5)\end{array} & \begin{bmatrix}0&&\\6&0&\\10&7&0\end{bmatrix}\end{array}$$

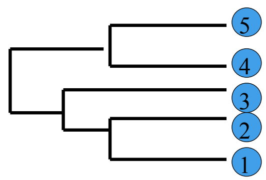
$$d_{(1,2),(4,5)} = \max\{d_{(1,2),4}, d_{(1,2),5}\} = \max\{10,9\} = 10$$
$$d_{3,(4,5)} = \max\{d_{3,4}, d_{3,5}\} = \max\{7,5\} = 7$$



Example: complete link

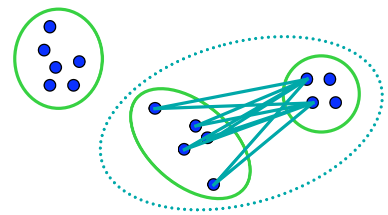
$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & & & \\ 2 & 0 & & & \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}(1,2) & 3 & 4 & 5\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & & \\ 6 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 5 & 4 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}(1,2) & 3 & (4,5)\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}(1,2)\\3\\(4,5)\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & \\ 6 & 0 & \\ 10 & 7 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array}$$

$$d_{(1,2,3),(4,5)} = \max\{d_{(1,2),(4,5)}, d_{3,(4,5)}\} = 10$$



Hierarchical: Average Link

- cluster similarity = average similarity of all pairs



+ tight clusters

- slow

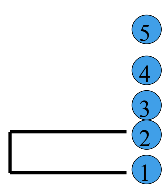
Example: average link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & & & \\ 2 & 0 & & & \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}(1,2) & 3 & 4 & 5\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & & \\ 4.5 & 0 & & \\ 9.5 & 7 & 0 & \\ 8.5 & 5 & 4 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array}$$

$$d_{(1,2),3} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{1,3} + d_{2,3}) = \frac{6+3}{2} = 4.5$$

$$d_{(1,2),4} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{1,4} + d_{2,4}) = \frac{10+9}{2} = 9.5$$

$$d_{(1,2),5} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{1,5} + d_{2,5}) = \frac{9+8}{2} = 8.5$$

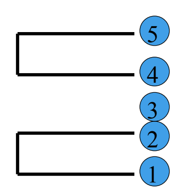


Example: average link

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & & & \\ 2 & 0 & & & \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}(1,2) & 3 & 4 & 5\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}(1,2)\\3\\4\\5\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & & \\ 4.5 & 0 & & \\ 9.5 & 7 & 0 & \\ 8.5 & 5 & 4 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{matrix}(1,2) & 3 & (4,5)\end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix}(1,2)\\3\\(4,5)\end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix}0 & & \\ 4.5 & 0 & \\ 9 & 6 & 0\end{bmatrix}\end{array}$$

$$d_{(1,2),(4,5)} = \frac{1}{4}(d_{1,4} + d_{1,5} + d_{2,4} + d_{2,5}) = 9$$

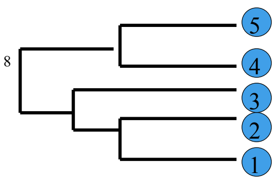
$$d_{3,(4,5)} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{3,4} + d_{3,5}) = 6$$



Example: average link

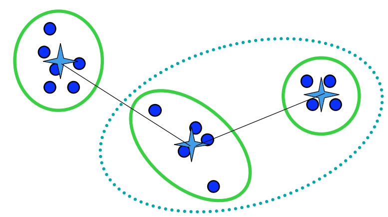
$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & & & & \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & & & \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 4 & 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 5 & 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0 \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c|cccc} & (1,2) & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline (1,2) & 0 & & & \\ 3 & 4.5 & 0 & & \\ 4 & 9.5 & 7 & 0 & \\ 5 & 8.5 & 5 & 4 & 0 \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c|ccc} & (1,2) & 3 & (4,5) \\ \hline (1,2) & 0 & & \\ 3 & 4.5 & 0 & \\ (4,5) & 9 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$d_{(1,2,3)(4,5)} = \frac{1}{6}(d_{1,4} + d_{1,5} + d_{2,4} + d_{2,5} + d_{3,4} + d_{3,5}) = 8$$



Hierarchical: Centroid Link

- cluster centroid = average of all points
- cluster similarity = distance between centroids

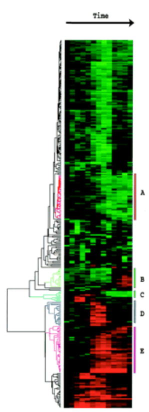


In Expression literature, often called "Average link"

+ faster

- discards shape

Software: TreeView [Eisen et al. 1998]



- Fig 1 in Eisen's PNAS 99 paper
- Time course of serum stimulation of primary human fibrolasts
- cDNA arrays with approx 8600 spots
- Similar to average-link
- Free download at: http://rana.lbl.gov/EisenSoftware.htm

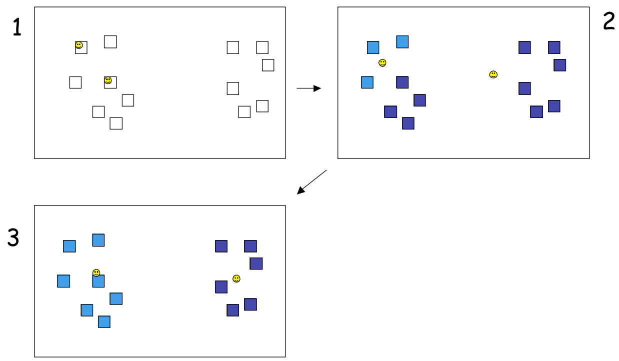
- **Another Good Package: TMEV**
  - http://www.tigr.org/software/tm4/

Hierarchical divisive clustering algorithms

- Top down
  - Start with all the objects in one cluster
  - Successively split into smaller clusters
- Tend to be less efficient than agglomerative
- Resolver implemented a deterministic annealing approach from [Alon et al. 1999]

Partitional: K-Means

[MacQueen 1965]



Details of k-means

- Iterate until converge:
  - Assign each data point to the closest centroid
  - Compute new centroid

Objective function:

Minimize

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k}\sum_{x\in C_i}\left(x - Centroid(C_i)\right)^2$$

Properties of k-means

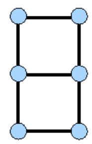
- Fast
- Proved to converge to *local* optimum
- In practice, converge quickly
- Tend to produce spherical, equal-sized clusters
- Related to the model-based approach

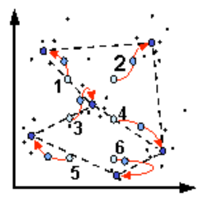
Self-organizing maps (SOM)

[Kohonen 1995]

- Basic idea:
  - map high dimensional data onto a 2D grid of nodes
  - Neighboring nodes are more similar than points far away

SOM





- Grid (geometry of nodes)
- Input vectors that are close to each other mapped to the same or neighboring nodes

Properties of SOM

- Partial structure
- Easy visualization
- Tons of parameters to tune
- Sensitive to parameters

Summary

- Definition of clustering
- Pairwise similarity:
  - Correlation
  - Euclidean distance
- Clustering algorithms:
  - Hierarchical (single-link, complete-link, average-link)
  - K-means
  - SOM
- Different clustering algorithms ➔ different clusters

Which clustering algorithm should I use?

- Good question 🙂
- No definite answer: on-going research
- Feel free to read my thesis:

  http://staff.washington.edu/kayee/research

General Suggestions

- Avoid single-link
- Try:
  - K-means
  - Average-link/ complete-link
- If you are interested in capturing “patterns” of expression, use correlation instead of Euclidean distance
- Visualization of data
  - Eisen-gram
  - Dendrogram
  - PCA, MDS etc

Misc Notes

- Greedy algorithms. Can get trapped in local minima. Can be sensitive to addition of new points, order of points,…

+ simple, intuitive algorithms, reasonably fast, ok on simple data, no obvious preconception about structure

- no model of structure; biases unclear