

# Using the DCGL\_2.0 Package

Jing Yang<sup>1,2</sup>, Bao-Hong Liu<sup>2</sup> and Hui Yu<sup>2</sup>

March 27, 2013

<sup>1</sup>School of Biotechnology, East China University of Science and Technology. Shanghai 200237, P.R. China.

<sup>2</sup>Shanghai Center for Bioinformation Technology. Shanghai 201203, P.R. China.

yangjing@scbbit.org and bhliu@scbbit.org

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Getting started</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Methods</b>	<b>3</b>
3.1	Gene Filtration . . . . .	3
3.2	Link filtration . . . . .	3
3.2.1	Filtering gene links according to the correlation threshold . . . . .	4
3.2.2	Filtering gene links according to the max correlation value . . . . .	4
3.2.3	Filtering gene links according to the q-values of correlation values . . . . .	4
3.3	Differential CoExpression Analysis . . . . .	4
3.3.1	DCp for identifying DCGs . . . . .	4
3.3.2	DCe for identifying DCGs and DCLs . . . . .	5
3.3.3	WGCNA, ASC and LRC for identifying DCGs . . . . .	5
3.3.4	Summarizing DCGs and DCLs . . . . .	5
3.4	Differential Regulation Analysis . . . . .	5
3.4.1	Sorting out potential DRGs and DRLs . . . . .	5
3.4.2	Visualizing differential coexpression and regulation relationship . . . . .	6
3.4.3	Ranking Regulators . . . . .	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Dataset</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1	Gene filter . . . . .	7
5.2	DCp: Identify DCGs . . . . .	8
5.3	DCe: Identify DCGs and DCLs . . . . .	9
5.4	DCsum: Summarizing DCGs and DCLs . . . . .	10

5.5	DRsort: Sorting out potential DRGs and DRLs . . . . .	11
5.6	DRplot: Visualizing differential coexpression and regulation relationship . .	13
5.7	DRrank: Ranking regulators . . . . .	13

## 1 Introduction

This document gives instructions on how to use the functions in the package *DCGL\_2.0* which is an advanced and upgraded version of *DCGL\_1.0*. *DCGL\_2.0* contains four modules which are Gene filtration module, Link filtration module, Differential CoExpression Analysis (DCEA) module and Differential Regulation Analysis (DRA) module. In Gene filtration module, there are `expressionBasedfilter` and `varianceBasedfilter` functions to filter genes on expression microarray data. In Link filtration module, there are `rLinkfilter`, `percentLinkfilter` and `qLinkfilter` functions to filter gene coexpression links in coexpression networks. `DCp`, `DCe`, `WGCNA`, `LRC` and `ASC` functions were implemented in DCEA module for extracting differentially coexpressed genes (DCGs) and differentially coexpressed links (DCLs). The final step of DCEA module is `DCsum` to determine DCGs and DCLs which come from multiple DCEA methods. In DRA module, there are `DRsort`, `DRplot` and `DRrank` functions to identify differentially regulated genes (DRGs) and differentially regulated links (DRLs) and to present some relevant information according to regulation knowledge. Figure 1 shows the overall design of *DCGL\_2.0*.

The major input of *DCGL\_2.0* are two expression data matrices from two contrastive conditions, where the rows and columns correspond to genes and microarrays respectively. TF-to-target regulation knowledge, which was wrapped in the package, is another required input dataset.

The *DCGL\_2.0* package employs R library *igraph*, *limma*, *org.Hs.eg.db*, which must be installed in advance.

## 2 Getting started

Prior to using *DCGL\_2.0*, users should download the installation file of *DCGL\_2.0* to their local computer, and install *DCGL\_2.0* as a package of their R computing environment. For Linux users, they should type ‘R CMD INSTALL DCGL\_2.0.tar.gz’ in the shell (suppose the installation file ‘DCGL\_2.0.tar.gz’ is in the current working directory); for windows users, they should go to the R menu ‘Packages’ and click the ‘Install package(s) from local zip files’ and then locate the local file ‘DCGL\_2.0.zip’. If the package is installed successfully, a file folder named ‘DCGL’ should appear beneath the folder ‘library’ in the R installation directory.

To load the *DCGL\_2.0* package, type `library(DCGL)`.

## 3 Methods

*DCGL\_2.0* provides the pre-existing facilities for gene filtering, link filtering and DCGs/DCLs identification of *DCGL\_1.0*, as well as newly added functions for DCGs/DCLs summarization, DRGs/DRLs identification, networks visualization, and regulators ranking.

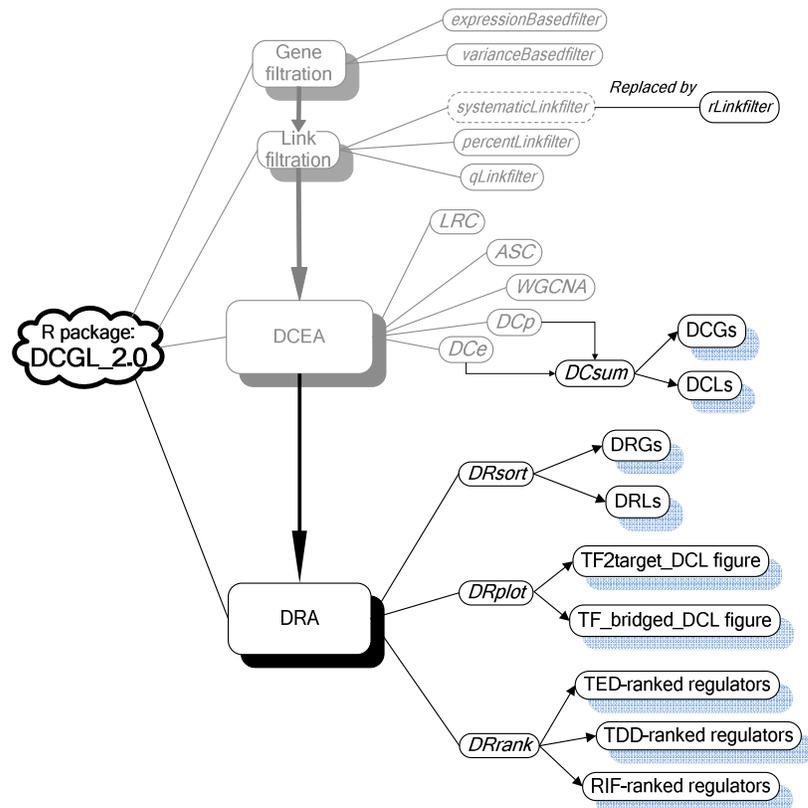


Figure 1: Overall design of DCGL\_2.0. Functions implemented in both DCGL\_1.0 and DCGL\_2.0 are represented in light gray. DCEA: Differential CoExpression Analysis; DRA: Differential Regulation Analysis.

### 3.1 Gene Filtration

If there are too many genes in the expression dataset, one can filter out some genes using the `expressionBasedfilter` or `varianceBasedfilter` or both of them. `expressionBasedfilter` filters out a half genes that have their Between-Experiment Mean Expression Signal (BEMES) lower than the median BEMES of all genes (Prieto and etal.,2008). `varianceBasedfilter` is an approximate test of the hypothesis that gene has the same variance as the median variance (Simon and Lam,2006). The variance of the log-values for each gene is compared to the median of all the variances. The *quantity*

$$quantity = (n - 1) * var_i / var_m$$

for each gene is compared to a percentile of a chi-square distribution (with a degree of freedom of  $n - 1$ ,  $n$  being the number of arrays) to filter out those genes not significantly more variable than the median gene.

### 3.2 Link filtration

For all DCEA methods but WGCNA, a link filtering step is necessary to build up two gene coexpression networks for the two contrastive conditions. The two gene coexpression networks have identical linking structures but different edge weights (coexpression values). The input to link filtering methods always include two separate gene expression matrices for the two conditions, and the output mainly comprises two data vectors, each coming from a half of the symmetrical gene-versus-gene coexpression matrices. One can imagine that, in the intermediate coexpression matrices, retained links have non-zero values while discarded links are denoted with zero values.

Three stand-alone functions are implemented for link filtering, which are the correlation value threshold (`rLinkfilter`), the correlation-value fraction based link filtering (`percentLinkfilter`), and the q-value based link filtering (`qLinkfilter`). However, these link filtering functions are seldom called as independent functions; instead, they are wrapped in the DCEA functions `DCp`, `DCE`, `ASC`, `LRC`, and can be tuned with the ‘link.method’ and ‘cutoff’ parameters.

#### 3.2.1 Filtering gene links according to the correlation threshold

As an argument to the ‘link.method’ parameter, `rLinkfilter` is abbreviated to ‘rth’. Each gene link is associated with two correlation values (one out of condition A and the other out of condition B); if either of the two correlation values is greater than the given correlation threshold (‘cutoff’), the gene link is retained.

#### 3.2.2 Filtering gene links according to the max correlation value

As an argument to the ‘link.method’ parameter, `percentLinkfilter` is abbreviated to ‘percent’. Each gene link is associated with two correlation values (one out of condition A and the other out of condition B) and thus a vector of ‘maximum absolute values’ for all correlation value pairs is decided. Then these ‘maximum absolute values’ are sorted in decreasing order. At last, a fraction (‘cutoff’) of gene pairs with the highest max correlation values will be retained.

### 3.2.3 Filtering gene links according to the q-values of correlation values

As an argument to the ‘link.method’ parameter, `qLinkfilter` is abbreviated to ‘qth’. For each of the two experimental conditions, the coexpression values are associated with the corresponding p-values (student T-test of the zero nature of a Pearson Correlation Coefficient (PCC)), and these p-values are sorted and transformed to q-values (false discovery rates). In this way, each gene link is associated with a pair of q-value, and those links with at least one q-value lower than the threshold (‘cutoff’) are retained.

## 3.3 Differential CoExpression Analysis

DCEA module contains five DCEA methods. `DCp` and `DCE`(Yu and etal.,2011)(Liu and etal.,2010) proposed by us, and `WGCNA`, `ASC`, and `LRC` were proposed by other inventors. All the methods are aimed to extract DCGs/DCLs through analysing the change in. All methods must be preceded by a link filtering step, which can be tuned with the the ‘link.method’ and ‘cutoff’ parameters. After the link filtering, coexpression pairs with `rth`/percent/`qth` of coexpression values in either of two conditions higher/higher/lower than the cutoff are retained.

### 3.3.1 DCp for identifying DCGs

`DCp` works on the filtered set of gene coexpression value pairs, where each pair is made up with two coexpression values calculated under two different conditions separately. The subset of coexpression value pairs associated with a particular gene, in two groups for the two conditions separately, can be written as two vectors  $X$  and  $Y$  ( $n$  is coexpression neighbors for a gene).

$$X = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{in})$$

$$Y = (y_{i1}, y_{i2}, \dots, y_{in})$$

Then a length-normalized Euclidean distance is used for measuring differential coexpression (dC) of this gene.

$$dC_n(i) = \sqrt{\frac{(x_{i1} - y_{i1})^2 + (x_{i2} - y_{i2})^2 + \dots + (x_{in} - y_{in})^2}{n}}$$

To evaluate whether a gene has significant dC, we perform a permutation test, in which we randomly permute the disease and normal conditions of the samples, calculate new PCCs, filter gene pairs based on the new PCCs, and calculate new dC statistics. The sample permutation is repeated  $N$  times, and a large number of permutation dC statistics form an empirical null distribution. The p-value for each gene can then be estimated.

### 3.3.2 DCE for identifying DCGs and DCLs

`DCE` is based on the ‘Limit Fold Change’ (LFC) model, a robust statistical method originally proposed for selecting differentially expressed genes(DEGs) from microarray data (Mutch and etal.,2002).

First, the correlation pairs are divided into three parts according to the pairing of signs of coexpression values and the multitude of coexpression values: pairs with same signs

( $N_1$ ), pairs with different signs ( $N_2$ ) and pairs with differently-signed high coexpression values ( $N_3$ ). The "high coexpression values" are deemed based on the same correlation value threshold as in the qLinkfilter function. The first two parts are processed with the 'LFC' model separately to yield two subsets of DCLs ( $K_1, K_2$ ), while the third part ( $N_3$ ) adds to the set of DCLs directly. So a total of  $K=N_3+K_1+K_2$  DCLs are determined from a total of  $N$  gene links. For a gene ( $g_i$ ), the total number of links ( $n_i$ ) and DCLs in particular ( $k_i$ ) associated with it are counted, and the Binomial Probability model is used to estimate the significance of the gene being a DCG.

$$P(g_i) = \sum_{x=k_i}^{n_i} C_{n_i}^x \left(\frac{K}{N}\right)^x \left(1 - \frac{K}{N}\right)^{n_i-x}$$

### 3.3.3 WGCNA, ASC and LRC for identifying DCGs

WGCNA (Fuller and etal.,2007; van Nas and etal.,2009), ASC (Choi and etal.,2005) and LRC (Reverter and etal.,2005) are other methods for measuring genes' differential coexpression. For more details please consult (Yu and etal.,2011; Liu and etal.,2010).

### 3.3.4 Summarizing DCGs and DCLs

DCsum, short for Differentially Coexpression Summarization, summarizes 1) a set of DCGs, which is an intersection of DCp and DCE results; and 2) a set of DCLs which by definition must be connected with the DCGs. As a result, DCsum combines results from different coexpression analysis methods.

## 3.4 Differential Regulation Analysis

### 3.4.1 Sorting out potential DRGs and DRLs

DRsort, the first function of DRA module, is aimed to sift DCGs and DCLs according to regulation knowledge.

If a DCG is a TF, it is intuitively speculated that its related differential coexpression may be attributed to the change of its regulation relationships with its targets. So this type of DCGs are termed Differential Regulation Genes (DRGs). Besides if the upstream TFs of a DCG is identified, that DCG is possibly a differentially regulated target of an implicated regulator, and so such DCGs are also kept in the set of DRGs.

If a DCL happens to be a TF-to-target relation, we highlight this DCL because it is the direct attribution to differential regulation. This type of DCLs are termed 'TF2target\_DCL'. On the other hand, if there are one or more common TFs regulating the two genes of a DCL, we also give priority to this DCL because the change in the expression correlation of the two genes could be attributed to the disruption of their co-regulation by the common TFs. This type of DCLs are termed 'TF\_bridged\_DCLs'. TF2target\_DCL and TF\_bridged\_DCL, therefore, together form the set of Differentially Regulated Links(DRLs).

### 3.4.2 Visualizing differential coexpression and regulation relationship

We built a function `DRplot` to display combined information of DCGs/DCLs and DRGs/DRLs. `DRplot` generates two figures which are 1): TF2target\_DCL-centered network and 2): TF\_bridged\_DCL-centered network. In both networks, we rely on different node shapes differentiate TFs and non-TFs (square for TFs, circle for non-TFs), different node colors to categorize genes (red for DCGs, plum for non-DCGs, gray for TFs which are not tested in expression microarray data), and different edge types to express different relations of gene pairs (solid for DCLs, dashed for non-DCLs; edges with arrow indicate TF-to-target relations).

### 3.4.3 Ranking Regulators

`DRrank` is implemented for ranking potential TFs in terms of their relevance to the phenotypic change or biophysical process of interest. It contains three methods: RIF (Reverter and etal.,2010), TED, and TDD. The latter two methods were proposed by us firstly in this package.

TED, short for ‘Target Enrichment Density’, employs Binomial Probability model to quantify the enrichment of a TF’s targets in the DCG set, and as such to evaluate which regulators are more likely to be subject-relevant or even causal. Suppose we sift  $K$  DCGs from expression profile which contains  $N$  genes. If  $TF_i$  has  $T_i$  targets in regulation knowledge, there should be  $T_i * K/N$  DCGs appeared in  $TF_i$  targets list randomly. Actually, it is found that  $T_I$  DCGs are included in  $TF_i$ ’s targets list. The larger  $T_I$  than  $T_i * K/N$  is, the more targets of  $TF_i$  enriched, the more likely  $TF_i$  is a relevant or causative regulator. Following is TED formula.

$$TED(TF_i) = \sum_{x=T_I}^{T_i} C_x^{T_i} \left(\frac{K}{N}\right)^x \left(1 - \frac{K}{N}\right)^{T_i-x}$$

TDD, short for ‘Targets’ DCL Density’, uses Clustering Coefficient to quantify the density of DCLs among a regulator’s targets, and so to judge the importance of a TF. Suppose that  $TF_i$  has  $n$  targets, and that there are  $k$  DCLs among these targets. A larger  $k$  means more DCLs are bridged by the common  $TF_i$ . We intuitively assume that, if a TF bridged more TF\_bridged\_DCL it is of more importance (even if the regulator is not a DCG). Based on this hypothesis, we employ Clustering Coefficient formula to calculate TDD as follow:

$$TDD(TF_i) = ClusteringCoefficient(TF_i) = \frac{k}{\frac{n*(n-1)}{2}}$$

Of note even though no expression data is available for a TF, its TED and TDD could still be calculated only if the expression level of its targets are measured. This is an advantage of TED and TDD over RIF.

RIF method, short for ‘Regulator Impact Factor’, assesses the change of regulation-accountable expression value of Differentially Expressed Genes(DEGs) and correlation co-

efficient between DEGs and TFs (Reverter and etal.,2010).

$$RIF(TF_i) = \frac{1}{n_{de}} \sum_{j=1}^{j=n_{de}} [(e1_j * r1_{ij})^2 - (e2_j * r2_{ij})^2]$$

where  $n_{de}$  means the number of DEGs,  $e1$  ( $e2$ ) means the expression value of  $DEG_j$  in condition 1 (condition 2),  $r1_{ij}$  ( $r2_{ij}$ ) means the correlation of  $TF_i$  and  $DEG_j$  in condition 1 (condition 2).

## 4 Dataset

*DCGL2.0* includes six datasets: `exprs`, `tf`, `tf2target`, `exprs_design`, `intgenelist`. `exprs`, contains 1000 genes and 63 samples, is a sub-dataset from a real microarray data (GSE17967) from GEO (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>). `exprs_design`, required by `DRrank`, elucidates the experiment design of the `exprs`. `tf` and `tf2target`, regulation information obtained through processing relevant data (`TFbsConFactors.txt` and `TFbsConsSites.txt`) from UCSC hg18, contain 215 human Transcription Factors (TFs) and 214607 TF-to-target relationships. `intgenelist` data is sample set of user-interested genes, and are required by `DRplot` to plot sub-networks.

## 5 Example

The following examples are based on the test dataset `exprs`.

### 5.1 Gene filter

One can filter genes by `expressionBasedfilter` or `varianceBasedfilter`, keep subset.

```
> library(DCGL)
> data(exprs)
> dim(exprs)
```

```
[1] 1000 63
```

```
> exprs.filter.1 <- expressionBasedfilter(exprs)
> dim(exprs.filter.1)
```

```
[1] 500 63
```

```
> exprs.filter.2 <- varianceBasedfilter(exprs, 0.05)
> dim(exprs.filter.2)
```

```
[1] 374 63
```

## 5.2 DCp: Identify DCGs

```
> library(DCGL)
> data(exprs)
> exprs[1:3, 1:3]
```

```
      Sample1 Sample2 Sample3
AACs  5.267744 5.225570 5.202380
FSTL1  8.629291 8.797554 8.353277
ELM02  6.096321 6.180715 5.824657
```

In the sample gene expression data matrix `exprs`, it was designed to study gene expression in cirrhotic tissues with (N=16) and without (N=47) HCC. So we firstly divide `exprs` into two parts corresponding to condition 1 (`exprs.1`) and condition 2 (`exprs.2`) respectively.

```
> exprs.1 <- exprs[, 1:16]
> exprs.2 <- exprs[, 17:63]
> DCp.res <- DCp(exprs.1, exprs.2,
+   r.method = c("pearson", "spearman")[1],
+   link.method = c("qth", "rth", "percent")[1],
+   cutoff = 0.25,
+   N = 0,
+   N.type = c("pooled", "gene_by_gene")[1],
+   q.method = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "fdr")[1])
> DCp.res[1:3, ]
```

```
      dC links p.value q.value
AACs  0.2955923  394      NA      NA
FSTL1 0.3255206  584      NA      NA
ELM02 0.2687325  642      NA      NA
```

```
> DCp.res.N <- DCp(exprs.1, exprs.2,
+   r.method = c("pearson", "spearman")[1],
+   link.method = c("qth", "rth", "percent")[1],
+   cutoff = 0.25,
+   N = 100,
+   N.type = c("pooled", "gene_by_gene")[1],
+   q.method = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "fdr")[1])
```

```
10 %
20 %
30 %
40 %
50 %
60 %
70 %
80 %
```

```
90 %
100 %
```

```
> DCp.res.N[1:3, ]
```

```

          dC links p.value  q.value
AACs    0.2955923   394   0.875 0.9988584
FSTL1   0.3255206   584   0.708 0.9985896
ELM02   0.2687325   642   0.965 0.9989648
```

Link filter methods (`rLinkfilter`, `percentLinkfilter` and `qLinkfilter`) are wrapped in `DCp` with available parameter 'link.method'. Correlation coefficient methods are also given an option by 'r.method'. So is 'q.method' for adjusting p value.

Parameter 'N.type' is used for choosing the permutation type. If 'N.type' is set to 'pooled', that means pooling all the dC together to form a null distribution of dC and estimate corresponding statistical significance (p-value) against null statistics. If 'N.type' is set to 'gene\_by\_gene', that means calculating p-value of a gene only against this gene's null distribution of dC.

The 'DCp.res' is a matrix of all genes with 'dC' column, 'link' column (degree in coexpression networks), 'p.value' column and 'q.value' column. If we set N=0, no permutation has been done, and in this case the 'p.value' and 'q.value' are <NA>.

### 5.3 DCE: Identify DCGs and DCLs

As shown in the example of `DCp`, 'link.method', 'r.method' and 'q.method' are parameters for choosing link-filtration method, correlation-calculating method, and q-value calculating method.

```

> DCE.res <- DCE(exprs.1, exprs.2,
+   link.method = c("qth", "rth", "percent")[1],
+   cutoff = 0.25,
+   r.method = c("pearson", "spearman")[1],
+   q.method = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "fdr")[1],
+   nbins = 20, p = 0.1, figname = c("LFC.s.jpeg", "LFC.d.jpeg"))
> DCE.res$DCGs[1:3, ]
```

```

      All.links DC.links DCL_same DCL_diff DCL_switch      p      q
CXCL13      411      206      93      101      12 8.433654e-90 8.433654e-87
RPS21       718      250      68      125      57 9.130849e-68 4.565425e-65
METTL5       702      224      54      113      57 2.083395e-53 6.944650e-51
```

'DCE.res' contains two components, one is `DCE.res$DCGs` and the other is `DCE.res$DCLs`.

`DCE.res$DCGs` is a matrix which includes seven columns: 'All.links' (degree of genes in whole coexpression network), 'DC.links' (degree of genes after `Linkfilter`), 'DCL\_same' (the count of same signed correlation coefficient of two conditions in 'DC.links'), 'DCL\_diff' (the count different signed correlation coefficient of two conditions in 'DC.links'), 'DCL\_switch' (the count switched opposites correlation coefficient of two conditions in 'DC.links'), 'p' (p.value) and 'q' (q.value).

```
> DCe.res$DCLs[1:3, ]
```

	Gene.1	Gene.2	cor.1	cor.2	type	cor.diff
C9orf45, AACS	C9orf45	AACS	-0.679430350	-0.1120171	same signed	0.5674132
ABCD4, AACS	ABCD4	AACS	-0.046094800	-0.3431368	same signed	0.2970420
KIAA1661, AACS	KIAA1661	AACS	0.008438316	0.3069050	same signed	0.2984666

DCe.res\$DCLs is a matrix which covers links ('Gene.1' and 'Gene.2), correlation coefficient ('cor.1', 'cor.2' in two conditions), type ('same signed', 'diff signed' or 'switched opposites') and 'cor.diff' (the absolute value of 'cor.1' minus 'cor.2'). If the user need to narrow down DCGs or DCLs, the may consider setting lower 'cutoff' (in 'qth' or 'percent') or higher coexpression correlation coefficient 'cutoff' (in 'rth') or giving a stricter outlier fraction (p value).

## 5.4 DCsum: Summarizing DCGs and DCLs

We implemented DCsum to summarize DCGs and DCLs from 'DCp.res' and 'DCe.res'.

```
> DCsum.res <- DCsum(DCp.res, DCe.res,
+   DCpcutoff = 0.25,
+   DCEcutoff = 0.25)
> DCsum.res$DCGs[1:3, ]
```

	DCG	dC	All.links.DCp	DCp.p	DCp.q	All.links.DCe	DC.links	DCL.same
1	A4GNT	0.5308694	356	NA	NA	356	90	41
2	ADAM23	0.5242025	312	NA	NA	312	71	35
3	ADAM29	0.4779226	596	NA	NA	596	102	56
	DCL.diff	DCL.switch	DCe.p	DCe.q				
1	38	11	2.493160e-15	1.325344e-13				
2	25	11	3.347260e-10	9.297944e-09				
3	38	8	6.845184e-07	1.037149e-05				

```
> DCsum.res$DCLs[1:3, ]
```

	Gene.1	Gene.2	cor.1	cor.2	type	cor.diff
ADAM23; GMPPA	ADAM23	GMPPA	-0.5719228	-0.02508201	same signed	0.5468408
ADAM23; CEP350	ADAM23	CEP350	0.6860120	-0.22261784	diff signed	0.9086298
ADAM23; SOD2	ADAM23	SOD2	0.5292947	-0.33945089	diff signed	0.8687456
DCG						
ADAM23; GMPPA	ADAM23					
ADAM23; CEP350	ADAM23					
ADAM23; SOD2	ADAM23					

## 5.5 DRsort: Sorting out potential DRGs and DRLs

DRsort recommends TF-to-target regulation information which downloaded from UC-SC to identify whether DCGs are TFs or not. If a DCG happened to encode a TF, this DCG is considered to be a DRG. Specially for DCLs DRsort sorts out DCLs to two types, TF2target\_DCL and TF\_bridged\_DCL. Both of them are considered to be DRLs.

```
> data(tf2target)
> DRsort.res <- DRsort(DCsum.res$DCGs, DCsum.res$DCLs, tf2target, exprs)

> DRsort.res$DRGs[1:3, ]

      DCG                               Upstream_TFofDCG
1  A4GNT                               CDC5L
2  ADAM23 NF-1;STAT1;PAX3;BRIP1;...;CUX1;MRPL36;DAND5;BACH1;ER-alpha
3  ADAM29                               NA
  DCGisTF      dC DCp.p All.links.DCe DC.links DCL.same DCL.diff
1  FALSE 0.5308694    NA      356      90      41      38
2  FALSE 0.5242025    NA      312      71      35      25
3  FALSE 0.4779226    NA      596     102      56      38
  DCL.switch
1      11
2      11
3       8

> DRsort.res$DRLs[1:3, ]

      pairID                               common.TF internal.TF
1  ABHD5; CDC25B          CREB1; deltaCREB          <NA>
2  ABHD5; USP6NL          Egr-1; EGR1          <NA>
3  ABR; AGPAT1 FOS; FOSB; JUN; JUNB; JUND; MIF-1; PLAU; SPZ1          <NA>
  Gene.1 Gene.2      cor.1      cor.2      type cor.diff DCG
1  ABHD5 CDC25B  0.5788734 -0.30345618 switched opposites 0.8823296 CDC25B
2  ABHD5 USP6NL -0.4089767  0.46839285      diff signed 0.8773695 USP6NL
3  ABR  AGPAT1 -0.8306742 -0.05507074      same signed 0.7756035 AGPAT1

> DRsort.res$DCGs[1:3, ]

      DCG                               Upstream_TFofDCG
1  A4GNT                               CDC5L
2  ADAM23 SP1;NF1;Pax-5;CUX1;MRPL36;DAND5;BACH1;ER-alpha
3  ADAM29                               NA
  DCGisTF      dC DCp.p All.links.DCe DC.links DCL.same DCL.diff
1  FALSE 0.5308694    NA      356      90      41      38
2  FALSE 0.5242025    NA      312      71      35      25
3  FALSE 0.4779226    NA      596     102      56      38
  DCL.switch
```

```

1      11
2      11
3       8

> DRsort.res$DCLs[1:3, ]

      pairID                                common.TF internal.TF
1 ABHD5; CDC25B                          CREB1; deltaCREB      <NA>
2 ABHD5; USP6NL                            Egr-1; EGR1          <NA>
3  ABR; AGPAT1 FOS; FOSB; JUN; JUNB; JUND; MIF-1; PLAU; SPZ1  <NA>
  Gene.1 Gene.2      cor.1      cor.2      type cor.diff  DCG
1  ABHD5 CDC25B  0.5788734 -0.30345618 switched opposites 0.8823296 CDC25B
2  ABHD5 USP6NL -0.4089767  0.46839285      diff signed 0.8773695 USP6NL
3   ABR  AGPAT1 -0.8306742 -0.05507074      same signed 0.7756035 AGPAT1

> dim(DRsort.res$DRGs)

[1] 207  10

> dim(DRsort.res$DCGs)

[1] 207  10

> dim(DRsort.res$DRLs)

[1] 4317  10

> dim(DRsort.res$DCLs)

[1] 14059  10

```

DRGs, DRLs, DCG2TF, TF\_bridged\_DCL, DCGs and DCLs, six components comprise 'DRsort.res'. 'Upstream\_TFofDCG' and 'DCGisTF' columns were added to the list of `DRsort.res$DRGs` to display the differential regulated genes. 'common.TF' and 'internal.TF' columns were added to the list of `DRsort.res$DRLs` to identify two type of differential regulated links. Lists of `DRsort.res$DCGs` and `DRsort.res$DCLs` contain all the genes and links came out from DCEA, and were annotated regulation information whenever available. And more details were displayed in `DRsort.res$DCG2TF` and `DRsort.res$TF_bridged_DCL` for the ease of follow-up investigation.

## 5.6 DRplot: Visualizing differential coexpression and regulation relationship

`DRplot` plots TF2target\_DCL-centered (Figure 2) and TF\_bridged\_DCL-centered (Figure 3) networks depending on *igraph*.

```

> DRplot.res <- DRplot(DRsort.res,
+   type = c("both", "TF2target_DCL", "TF_bridged_DCL")[1],
+   intgenelist = NULL,
+   vsize=5, asize=0.25, lcex=0.3, ewidth=1,
+   figname = c("TF2target_DCL.pdf", "TF_bridged_DCL.pdf"))

```

The graph of TF2target\_DCL.pdf has been completed and saved in your working directory. The graph of TF\_bridged\_DCL.pdf has been completed and saved in your working directory.

```

> data(intgenelist)
> DRplot.res <- DRplot(DRsort.res,
+   type = c("both", "TF2target_DCL", "TF_bridged_DCL")[3],
+   intgenelist = intgenelist,
+   vsize=5, asize=0.25, lcex=0.3, ewidth=1,
+   figname = c("TF2target_DCL.pdf", "TF_bridged_DCL_int.pdf"))

```

The graph of TF\_bridged\_DCL\_int.pdf has been completed and saved in your working directory.

If ‘type’ is set to ‘TF2target\_DCL’ or ‘TF\_bridged\_DCL’, DRplot only plots corresponding network. If ‘type’ is set to ‘both’, two networks will be plotted. However, total information of DCGs/DCLs and DRGs/DRLs are not always needed. DRplot gives ‘intgenelist’ parameter for user to delimit a sub-network. The value of ‘intgenelist’ is a group of interesting gene symbols.

## 5.7 DRrank: Ranking regulators

DRrank implements three approaches to form a potential rank to show which regulators are more relevant to a phenotypic change or biophysical process in these conditions of expression profiles.

```

> data(tf)
> data(tf2target)
> data(exprs_design)
> DRrank.res <- DRrank(exprs, exprs.1, exprs.2, tf, tf2target,
+   exprs_design, p.value=0.05, DRsort.res)
> DRrank.res[1:3,]

```

	TF	TED_score	TED_rank	TDD_score	TDD_rank	RIF_score	RIF_rank
129	NKX2-5	3.822698	1	0.4931034	16	NA	NA
52	FOXD3	3.557994	2	0.4789474	18	NA	NA
58	FOXO1	3.531307	3	0.3568627	51	2.261597	7

## References

[Reverter and etal.,2010] Reverter, A., Hudson, N.J., Nagaraj, S.H., Perez-Enciso, M. and Dalrymple, B.P. (2010) Regulatory impact factors: unraveling the transcriptional regulation of complex traits from expression data. *Bioinformatics*,26, 896-904.

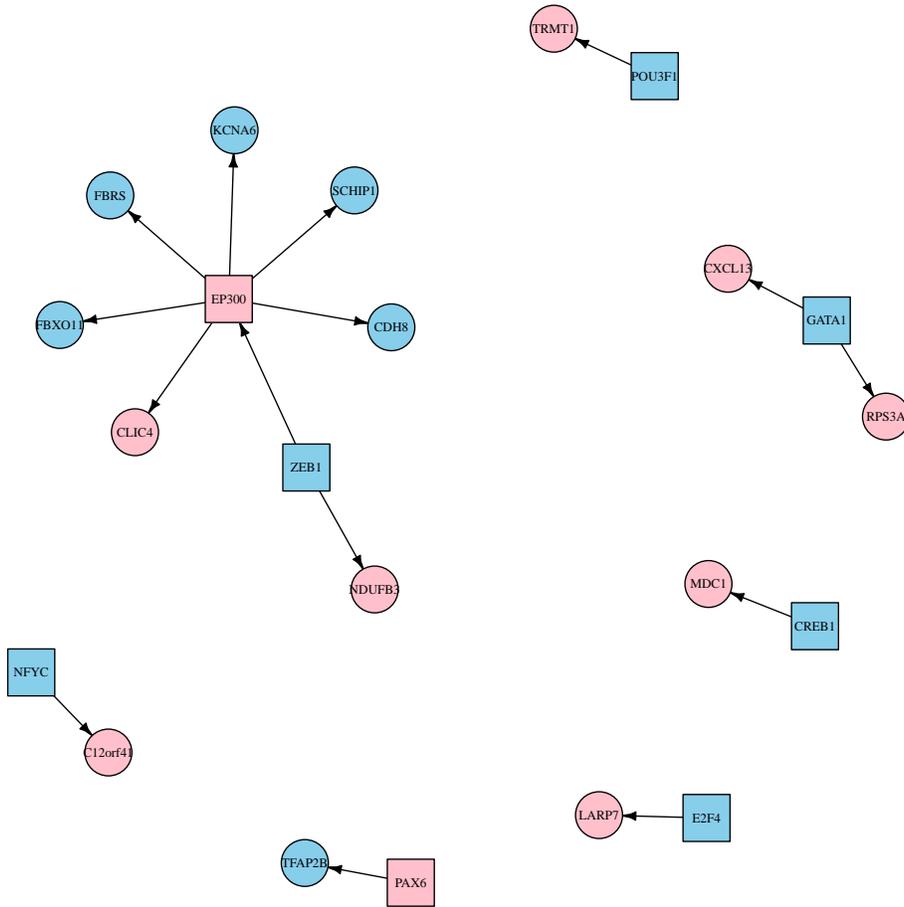


Figure 2: Visualization of TF2target\_DCL-centered network. Node represents gene, with red indicating DCGs, plum indicating non-DCGs, square indicating TFs, and circle indicating non-TFs. Edge represents gene interaction, with solid line indicating DCLs, and arrow line indicating TF-to-target relations.

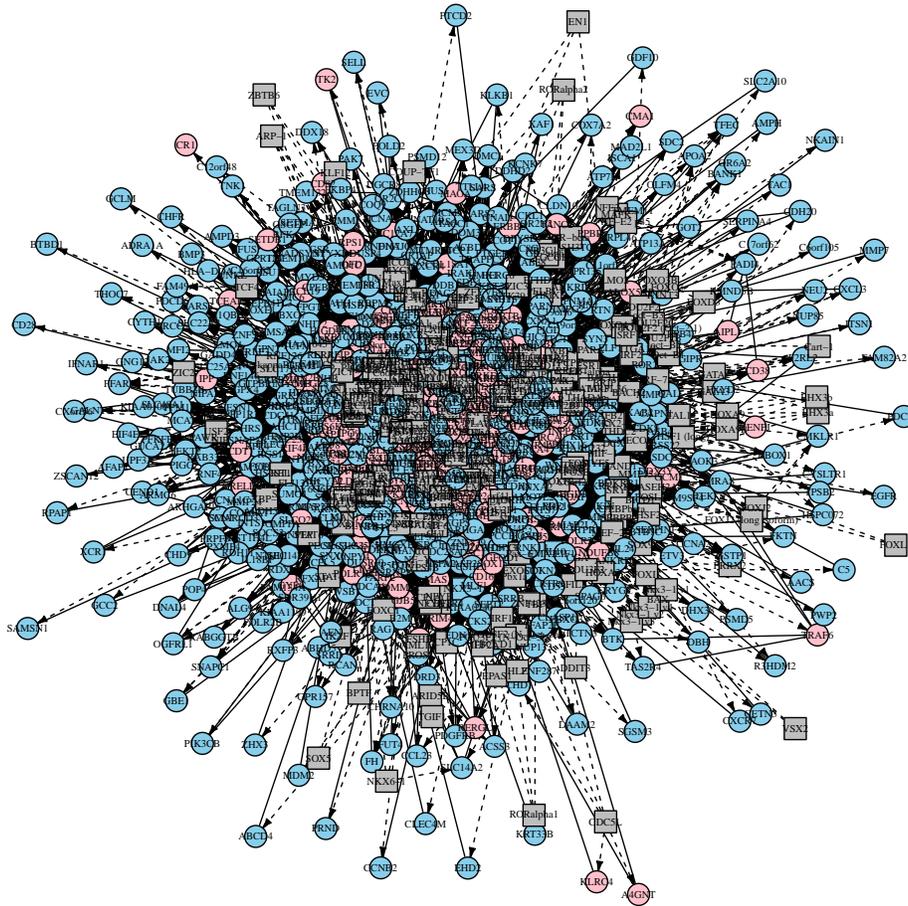


Figure 3: Visualization of TF\_bridged\_DCL-centered network. Node represents gene, with red indicating DCGs, plum indicating non-DCGs, gray indicating genes without mentioned in expression microarray data, square indicating TFs, circle indicating non-TFs. Edge represents gene interaction, with solid line indicating DCLs, dashed line indicating non-DCLs, arrow line indicating TF-to-target relations.

- [Prieto and etal.,2008] Prieto, C., Risueno, A., Fontanillo, C. and De las Rivas, J. (2008) Human gene coexpression landscape: confident network derived from tissue transcriptomic profiles. *PLoS One*,3, e3911.
- [Simon and Lam,2006] Simon, R. and Lam, A. (2006) BRB Array Tools Users Guide. Technical Reports. *Biometric Research Branch, National Cancer Institute*
- [http://linus.nci.nih.gov/~brb/download\\_full\\_new.html](http://linus.nci.nih.gov/~brb/download_full_new.html)
- [Mutch and etal.,2002] Mutch, D. M.,Berger, A.,Mansourian, R.,Rytz, A.,Roberts, M. A. (2002) The limit fold change model: a practical approach for selecting differentially expressed genes from microarray data. *BMC Bioinformatics*, 3, 17.
- [Fuller and etal.,2007] Fuller, T.F., Ghazalpour, A., Aten, J.E., Drake, T.A., Lusic, A.J. and Horvath, S.(2007) Weighted gene coexpression network analysis strategies applied to mouse weight. *Mamm Genome*,18, 463-472.
- [van Nas and etal.,2009] van Nas, A., Guhathakurta, D., Wang, S.S., Yehya, N., Horvath, S., Zhang, B., Ingram-Drake, L., Chaudhuri, G., Schadt, E.E., Drake, T.A., Arnold, A.P. and Lusic, A.J. (2009) Elucidating the role of gonadal hormones in sexually dimorphic gene coexpression networks. *Endocrinology*,150, 1235-1249.
- [Choi and etal.,2005] Choi, J.K., Yu, U., Yoo, O.J. and Kim, S. (2005) Differential coexpression analysis using microarray data and its application to human cancer. *Bioinformatics*, 21, 4348-4355.
- [Reverter and etal.,2005] Reverter, A., Ingham, A., Lehnert, S.A., Tan, S.H., Wang, Y., Ratnakumar, A. and Dalrymple, B.P. (2006) Simultaneous identification of differential gene expression and connectivity in inflammation, adipogenesis and cancer. *Bioinformatics*, 22, 2396-2404.
- [Yu and etal.,2011] Yu, H., Liu, B.H., Ye, Z.Q., Li, C., Li, Y.X., Li, Y.Y. (2011) Link-based quantitative methods to identify differentially coexpressed genes and gene pairs. *BMC Bioinformatics*, 12, 315
- [Liu and etal.,2010] Liu, B.H., Yu, H., Tu, K., Li, C., Li, Y.X., Li, Y.Y. (2010) DCGL: an R package for identifying differentially coexpressed genes and links from gene expression microarray data. *Bioinformatics*, 26, 2637-8
- [Reverter and etal.,2010] Reverter, A., Hudson, N. J., Nagaraj, S. H., Perez-Enciso, M., Dalrymple, B. P., (2010) Regulatory impact factors: unraveling the transcriptional regulation of complex traits from expression data *Bioinformatics*, 26, 896-904
- [Csardi and etal.,2006] Gabor, C., Tamas, N. (2006) The igraph software package for complex network research *InterJournal, Complex Systems*, 1695
- [Elo and etal.,2007] L. L., Elo, H. Jarvenpaa, M., Oresic, R.Lahesmaa and T. Aittokallio. (2007) Systematic construction of gene coexpression networks with applications to human T helper cell differentiation process *Bioinformatics*, 23(16), 2096-103