

HowTo BGX

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1 Introduction

This vignette describes how to use *bgx*, a C++ implementation of a Bayesian hierarchical integrated approach to the modelling and analysis of Affymetrix GeneChip arrays. The model and methodology is described in Hein et al, 2005.

There are two ways to run *bgx*: (1) through R and (2) as a standalone binary. Both ways make use of probe level GeneChip data, which you must obtain as GeneChip CEL files.

2 Reading in the CEL files

When you load *bgx*, several required packages from the Bioconductor¹ project are automatically loaded.

```
> library(bgx)
```

The *affy* package allows you to read CEL files into an `AffyBatch` object. This can be achieved by changing your working directory to wherever the CEL files are stored and executing:

```
> aData <- ReadAffy()
```

This will read in the CEL files in alphabetical order and save the data in the `aData` object. Alternatively, you can specify the specific files you would like to read in by adding their paths to the argument list, for example:

```
> aData <- ReadAffy("CEL/choe/chipC-rep1.CEL", "CEL/choe/chipS-rep2.CEL")
```

¹<http://bioconductor.org>

3 Running BGX through R

A basic execution of the program can be performed by simply passing an `AffyBatch` object as a single parameter to the `bgx` function and saving the result in an `ExpressionSet` object. The result will hold array-specific gene expression values and their corresponding standard errors in `assayData(eset)$exprs` and `assayData(eset)$se.exprs` respectively.

```
> eset <- bgx(aData)
```

A more elaborate scenario would involve splitting the arrays into a number of conditions using the `samplesets` argument²; specifying which genes to analyse with the `genes` argument; specifying whether to take into account probe affinity with `probeAff`; setting the number of burn-in and post burn-in runs with the `burnin` and `iter` arguments respectively; setting the set of parameters to save with the `output` argument³; and specifying where to save the runs with `rundir`. Execute `help(bgx)` in R for a full explanation of all the parameters.

As an example, let us analyse the `Dilution` data set and save the results in the current working directory ("."):

```
> library(affydata)
> library(hgu95av2cdf)
> data(Dilution)
> eset <- bgx(Dilution, samplesets = c(2, 2), probeAff = FALSE,
+   burnin = 2048, iter = 8192, genes = c(12500:12599), output = "all")
```

The `eset` object will contain gene expression information for each gene under each condition (not necessarily each array). You may obtain the gene expression measure using the `exprs` function. For instance:

```
> exprs(eset)[10:40, ]

              condition 1 condition 2
947_at         6.54870      6.24685
948_s_at        4.88448      4.50453
949_s_at        4.83464      4.59238
950_at         4.54531      4.29197
951_at         2.98845      2.58530
952_at         2.60626      1.89240
```

²Note that if your `AffyBatch` object contains information on the experimental design in the `phenoData` slot, you do not need to use the `samplesets` argument.

³`output` can be set to either "minimal", "trace" or "all". See the documentation for an explanation of what these levels mean

953_g_at	5.31042	4.89333
954_s_at	6.40030	6.06977
955_at	6.62752	6.34671
956_at	6.99861	6.70692
957_at	4.69390	4.34245
958_s_at	5.55759	5.19415
959_at	1.99939	1.66466
960_g_at	5.23385	4.94223
961_at	1.84130	1.62690
962_at	1.60305	1.55421
963_at	4.69636	4.18588
964_at	4.30356	4.07966
965_at	2.27711	1.33576
966_at	4.45459	4.06127
967_g_at	4.86522	4.59589
968_i_at	3.66416	3.57689
969_s_at	4.79956	4.55295
970_r_at	6.28942	6.17328
971_s_at	2.84888	2.46289
973_at	4.32935	4.10866
974_at	1.87040	2.29331
975_at	4.38042	4.08503
976_s_at	3.86166	3.11784
977_s_at	4.93245	4.56452
978_at	2.68011	2.59216

Run `help(ExpressionSet)` in R for more information.

Note that `samplesets` should be set to an array specifying the number of replicates in each condition. If set to (3,2), `bgx` will treat the first three arrays read into R as replicates under condition 1 and the next two as replicates under condition 2. You should make sure that all condition 1 files are read in first and all condition 2 files are read in second by `ReadAffy()`. You may check the order of the samples in your `AffyBatch` object by using the `sampleNames` function:

```
> sampleNames(Dilution)
[1] "20A" "20B" "10A" "10B"
```

4 Running BGX as a standalone binary

Occasionally it may be useful to run `bgx` as a standalone binary from the command line⁴. In this case, you should use the `standalone.bgx` function instead of the `bgx` function. It takes the same arguments as `bgx`, with the addition of `dirname`, which should specify where you would like to save the input files required by the standalone binary.

```
aData <- ReadAffy() # Read in 6 arrays across two conditions
                # in alphabetical order
standalone.bgx(aData, samplesets=c(3,3), genes=c(1:650,1000:1200),
               burnin=16384, iter=65536, output="minimal",
               dirname="input-choe3replicates")
```

Once you have saved the input files, you should locate the binary, make sure it is executable⁵, and pass the path to the newly created `infile.txt` file as a single argument. For example:

```
./bgx ../input-choe3replicates/infile.txt
```

5 Detailed analysis of the output

If you wish to analyse the output in detail, you should first read the output into a list as follows:

```
> bgxOutput <- readOutput.bgx("run.1")
```

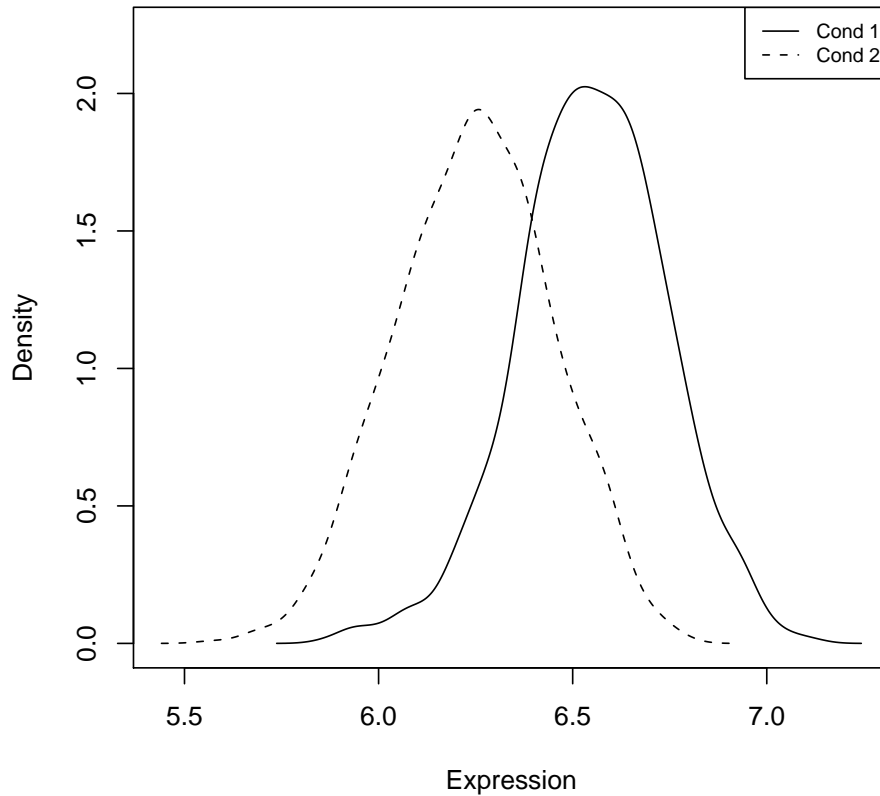
You may then pass the `bgxOutput` object to any of several analysis functions. For instance, to view the gene expression distributions under the various conditions for gene 10, you could do:

```
> plotExpressionDensity(bgxOutput, gene = 10)
```

⁴You can compile it by tweaking `'src/Makefile.standalone'` to your specifications and running `'make -f Makefile.standalone'` from the `'src'` directory.

⁵Under Unix-like environments, you can type `chmod +x bgx` at the command prompt to do this.

Densities of mu for gene 947_at



In order to get a list of ranked differential expression values, you could do:

```
> rankedGeneList <- rankByDE(bgxOutput)
> print(rankedGeneList[1:25, ])
```

	Position	DiffExpression
956_at	19	35.857720
941_at	4	34.057708
AFFX-HSAC07/X00351_5_at	83	33.431479
955_at	18	32.120215
AFFX-HUMGAPDH/M33197_5_at	90	30.094049
954_s_at	17	29.230007
947_at	10	28.072969
AFFX-HUMGAPDH/M33197_M_at	92	26.088639
AFFX-HSAC07/X00351_M_at	85	22.047845
946_at	9	19.112386
AFFX-HUMGAPDH/M33197_3_at	88	17.709673
AFFX-hum_alu_at	87	16.605758

AFFX-BioDn-3_at	70	16.509066
953_g_at	16	16.160847
958_s_at	21	15.866340
AFFX-HUMISGF3A/M97935_3_at	94	14.627333
AFFX-HUMISGF3A/M97935_MB_at	97	13.385993
977_s_at	39	12.298497
982_at	44	12.020658
993_at	54	10.692664
948_s_at	11	10.648885
969_s_at	32	10.233128
AFFX-HSAC07/X00351_3_at	81	10.186931
960_g_at	23	10.179841
957_at	20	9.017495

Run `help(analysis.bgx)` for more detailed usage instructions on the analysis functions.