Assessing the limits of restraint-based 3D Genomics

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http://marciuslab.org
http://3DGenomes.org
http://cnag.crg.cat





Hybrid Methods

Experiments



Computation

Structure determination by satisfaction of spatial restraints

http://www.integrativemodeling.org



Biomolecular structure determination 2D-NOESY data



Chromosome structure determination 3C-based data



http://3DGenomes.org



Are these models correct?







Fraser (2009) Genome Biology Ferraiuolo (2010) Nucleic Acids Research



Kalhor (2011) Nature Biotechnology Tjong (2012) Genome Research



Umbarger (2011) Molecular Cell

Duan (2010) Nature

Baù (2011) Nature Structural & Molecular Biology

100 nm

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Assessing the limits of restraint-based 3D modeling of genomes and genomic domains

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ABSTRACT

Restraint-based modeling of genomes has been recently explored with the advent of Chromosome Conformation Capture (3C-based) experiments. We previously developed a reconstruction method to resolve the 3D architecture of both prokaryotic and eukaryotic genomes using 3C-based data. These models were congruent with fluorescent imaging validation. However, the limits of such methods have not systematically been assessed. Here we propose the first evaluation of a mean-field restraint-based reconstruction of genomes by considering diverse chromosome architectures and different levels of data noise and structural variability. The results show that: first, current scoring functions for 3D reconstruction correlate with the accuracy of the models: second, reconstructed models are robust to noise but sensitive to structural variability; third, the local structure organization of genomes, such as Topologically Associating Domains, results in more accurate models; fourth, to a certain extent, the models capture the intrinsic structural variability in the input matrices and fifth, the accuracy of the models can be a priori predicted by analyzing the properties of the interaction matrices. In summary, our work provides a systematic analysis of the limitations of a meanfield restrain-based method, which could be taken into consideration in further development of methods as well as their applications.

INTRODUCTION

expression regulation and replication (1-6). The advent of the so-called Chromosome Conformation Capture (3C) as-says (7), which allowed identifying chromatin-looping interactions between pairs of loci, helped deciphering some of the key elements organizing the genomes. High-throughput derivations of genome-wide 3C-based assays were established with Hi-C technologies (8) for an unbiased identification of chromatin interactions. The resulting genome interaction matrices from Hi-C experiments have been extensively used for computationally analyzing the organization of genomes and genomic domains (5). In particular, a sig-nificant number of new approaches for modeling the 3D organization of genomes have recently flourished (9-14). The main goal of such approaches is to provide an accurate 3D representation of the bi-dimensional interaction matrices, which can then be more easily explored to extract biolog-ical insights. One type of methods for building 3D models from interaction matrices relies on the existence of a limited number of conformational states in the cell. Such methods are regarded as mean-field approaches and are able to capture, to a certain degree, the structural variability around these mean structures (15).

We recently developed a mean-field method for modeling 3D structures of genomes and genomic domains based on 3C interaction data (9). Our approach, called TADbit, was developed around the Integrative Modeling Platform (IMP, http://integrativemodeing.org), a general framework for restraint-based modeling of 3D bio-molecular structures (16). Briefly, our method uses chromatin interaction frequencies derived from experiments as a proxy of spatial proximity between the ligation products of the 3C libraries. Two fragments of DNA that interact with high frequency are dynamically placed close in space in our models while two fragments that do not interact as often will be kept apart. Our method has been successfully applied to model the structures of genomes and genomic domains in eukaryote and prokaryote organisms (17–19). In all of our studies, the final models were partially validated by assessing their

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Recent studies of the three-dimensional (3D) conforma-

tion of genomes are revealing insights into the organization and the regulation of biological processes, such as gene

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Trussart, et al. (2015). Nucleic Acids Research.

Junier (2012) Nucleic Acids Research



We need toy models...



by Ivan Junier

We need toy models...





























Reconstructing toy models...



TADs & higher-res are "good"



Noise is "OK"



Structural variability is "NOT OK"



Can we predict the accuracy of the models?



Skewness "side effect"



Can we predict the accuracy of the models?

MMP = -0.0002 * Size + 0.0335 * SK - 0.0229 * KU + 0.0069 * SEV + 0.8126



TADs & higher-res are "good"

all your \$\$ in sequencing

Noise is "OK"

no need to worry much

Structural variability is "NOT OK"

homogenize your cell population!

We can differentiate between noise and SV We can predict the accuracy of the models

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