Analysis I: Getting Started with Cytometry Data Science (90 min)

Starting Poll: https://www.menti.com/ Poll Code: 5033 7474

## Analysis I: Getting Started with Cytometry Data Science



Becht et al. 2018



Course slides & webapps on CytoLab: https://cytolab.github.io/



Jonathan Irish

Associate Professor Cell & Developmental Biology Vanderbilt University

jonathan.irish@vanderbilt.edu



#### Cass Mayeda

Web Applications Research Assistant Vanderbilt University

cass.mayeda@vanderbilt.edu



Josef Spidlen

Senior Director R&D BD Biosciences

josef.spidlen@bd.com



Nicolas Loof

Senior Application Scientist Multi-omics Specialist BD Biosciences

nicolas.loof@bd.com

Thinking Multidimensionally for Single Cell Cytometry

## We'll Start with the Single Cell Biology Webapp at CytoLab

# Introduction to **Cytometry**

Looking for a crashcourse in cytometry data analysis? You've come to the right place. Below you'll find a series of tutorial applications designed to introduce cytometry data analysis fundamentals for first-time users (or experienced scientists looking to brush up!).



Why Single Cell Biology?

Explore a comparison with western

blots

VISIT

1.	Gate	Human
2.	Reduce Dimensions	t-SNE
3.	Cluster	FlowSOM

#### Cytometry Workflows

Steps in data analysis pipelines

COMING SOON



#### Scaling Matters

How to prepare your data

COMING SOON
-------------

Webapp: https://cytolab.shinyapps.io/SCBIO/

## Single Cell Biology Asks: Which Cell, How Much?

Imagine Western Blot results for 2 proteins across 5 signaling conditions...



## Single Cell Biology Asks: Which Cell, How Much?



Could this level of signaling protein per cell match the Western?



Webapp: https://cytolab.shinyapps.io/SCBIO/

## Single Cell Biology Asks: Which Cell, How Much?



#### What about this level of signaling?



Webapp: https://cytolab.shinyapps.io/SCBIO/

## Are Any of The Columns Different at the Sample Level?

Based on the simulated western blot above, and assuming different potential exposure times, select all of the following that could represent measurements of signal at the cell level.



Submit answers

## Another Advantage of Single Cell Biology Is Multidimensionality



## Sums Can Be Shifted By Small Populations



## Medians May Overlook Small Subsets



## Averages Are Impacted By Small Populations (Like Sums)



## The 95<sup>th</sup> Percentile Tracks the Leading Edge of a Distribution



## 1D Histograms Emphasize Shifts in Each Measured Feature



## Use Different Analysis Tools to Test Data Science Hypotheses



Example Hypothesis: In ½ Stim A, the small subset of cells that is at 1000 for Signaling is the subset of cells that is at 1000 Cell Type marker.

## Access the Data & View Across Analysis Platforms (CSV as Text Table, FCS File in Cytometry Software, Code in R)

#### Try for yourself

If you'd like to try plotting this dataset yourself, it's available to download below. If you don't know where or how to start, there is also an R markdown document you can use as a jumping off point for generating figures from this web page.

Lownload CSV

📩 Download FCS

🛓 Download R code

# <sup>6</sup>Cyborg Learning<sup>2</sup>: Humans & Machines Working Together

### Machine Learning Is a Key Skillset for Biologists (And the Tools Are Rapidly Evolving)



Typical workflow and goal: learn & label <u>cytotypes</u> (cell identities), reveal and assess unexpected & abnormal cells Need: human reference data (more examples) with annotations

#### Which Parts Are Machines Good At?

Analy	rsis step	Traditional	Additional methods§	Method here	
Dete cellection	1) Panel design	Human expert	-	-	
Data collection	2) Data collection	Human expert	-	-	
Data propossing	3) Cell event parsing	Instrument software	Bead normalization and event parsing [31]	-	
Data processing	4) Scale transformation	Human expert	Logicle [36]	-	
5) Live single cell Distinguishing gating Biaxial g initial populations 6) Focal population human gating		Biaxial gating + human expert	No event restriction, AutoGate [48]	viSNE + human expert (Figure 1) <sup>†</sup>	
	7) Select features	Human expert	Statistical threshold [40]	Human expert <sup>†</sup>	
	8) Reduce dimensions or transform data	N/A	Heat plots [49], SPADE [12], t-SNE [50], viSNE [9], ISOMAP [23], LLE [25], PCA in R/flowCore [51]	SPADE <sup>†</sup> , viSNE	
Revealing cell subsets	9) Identify clusters of cells	Human expert	SPADE, k-medians, R/flowCore, flowSOM [52], Misty Mountain [13], JCM [26], Citrus [14], ACCSENSE [53], DensVM [24], AutoGate	SPADE (Figure 2) <sup>†</sup> , viSNE + human expert (Figure 1)	
	10) Cluster refinement	Human expert	Citrus, DensVM, R/flowCore	-	
	11) Feature comparison	Select biaxial single cell views	viSNE, SPADE, Heatmaps [34, 40], Histogram overlays [34, 40], Violin or box and whiskers plots [51]	Heatmaps (Figure 3A) <sup>†</sup> , viSNE (Figure 1C), SPADE (Figure 2C)	
Characterizing cell subsets	12) Model populations	N/A	JCM, PCA	-	
	13) Learn cell identity	Human expert	-	Human expert <sup>†</sup> (Figure 1B, Figure 2B, and Figure 3B)	
	14) Statistical testing	Prism, Excel	R/flowCore	-	

A major gap in the field is in true <u>learning</u> of cell identity

#### Traditional Gating Overlooks Many Cells in Primary Samples



Not manually gated 
 CD4 T cells
 CD8 T cells
 CD20<sup>+</sup> B cells
 CD20<sup>-</sup> B cells
 CD11b<sup>-</sup> monocytes
 NK cells

viSNE enables visualization of high dimensional single-cell data and reveals phenotypic heterogeneity of leukemia

El-ad David Amir<sup>1</sup>, Kara L Davis<sup>2,3</sup>, Michelle D Tadmor<sup>1,3</sup>, Erin F Simonds<sup>2,3</sup>, Jacob H Levine<sup>1,3</sup>, Sean C Bendall<sup>2,3</sup>, Daniel K Shenfeld<sup>1,3</sup>, Smita Krishnaswamy<sup>1</sup>, Garry P Nolan<sup>2,4</sup> & Dana Peer<sup>1,4</sup>

In all cases, the viSNE gate included cells that were not classified by the expert manually gated biaxial plots; these cells are labeled in gray in the viSNE map. Examination of the marker expression of these cells reveals that they are typically just beyond the threshold of one marker, but the viSNE classification is strongly supported based on the expression of all other markers. For example, in **Figure 1d**, wherein cells are colored for CD11b marker expression, the cells in the gated region express the canonical monocyte marker CD33 (**Supplementary Fig. 1b**). However, only 47% of these cells were classified as monocytes by the manual gating (**Fig. 1b**).



## High-dimensional analysis of the murine myeloid cell system

Burkhard Becher<sup>1,4,5</sup>, Andreas Schlitzer<sup>1,5</sup>, Jinmiao Chen<sup>1,5</sup>, Florian Mair<sup>2</sup>, Hermi R Sumatoh<sup>1</sup>, Karen Wei Weng Teng<sup>1</sup>, Donovan Low<sup>1</sup>, Christiane Ruedl<sup>3</sup>, Paola Riccardi-Castagnoli<sup>1</sup>, Michael Poidinger<sup>1</sup>, Melanie Greter<sup>2</sup>, Florent Ginhoux<sup>1</sup> & Evan W Newell<sup>1</sup>

Notably, whereas traditional biased gating strategies allowed for identification of only 54.7  $\pm$  2.6% (mean  $\pm$  s.e.m., n = 3 mice) of lung myeloid cells (different DC subsets, macrophages, monocytes, neutrophils), the automatic, computational approach identified nearly 100% of the cells (96.6  $\pm$  1.0% (mean  $\pm$  s.e.m., n = 3 mice) accounted for by 14 predominant clusters).

nature biotechnology 2013

immunology

2014





#### Amir et al., *Nature Biotechnology* 2013; Becher et al., *Nature Immunology* 2014

#### We Now Make Billions of Multi-D Single Cell Measurements => Need for Machine Learning Tools & Human Readable Views



Bendall et al., concept plot of 35 features plotted pairwise, 2011

But first: what is <u>data science</u>?

## Irish lab view of data science:

## Systematically varying analytical elements in order to test a hypothesis

(Varied analytical elements might be different data types, data sub-samples, different initial assumptions, contrasting analytical tools, input parameters, etc.)

It's relatively new that datasets are robust enough to enable mining & exploration.

## **Rumsfeldian Data Science**

Known knowns: What do you know about your system?

Known unknowns: What do you know remains to be learned?

Unknown unknowns: What don't you know you don't know?

Donald Rumsfeld (Feb 12, 2002): Reports that say that something hasn't happened are always interesting to me, because as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns – the ones we don't know we don't know. And if one looks throughout the history of our country and other free countries, it is the latter category that tend to be the difficult ones.

## Socratic Data Science

Known knowns: What do you know about your system?

Known unknowns: What do you know remains to be learned?

Unknown unknowns: What don't you know you don't know?

Unknown knowns: What don't you know, but think you do? i.e. Which 'priors' are incorrect?

If you fear incorrect priors, unsupervised analysis may be able to help.

Socrates according to Plato's *Apology*: I am wiser than this man, for neither of us appears to know anything great and good; but he fancies he knows something, although he knows nothing; whereas I, as I do not know anything, do not fancy I do. In this trifling particular, then, I appear to be wiser than he, because I do not fancy I know what I do not know.

#### Define Your System At the Start of Planning a Study

#### 1) Elements, the studied units of the system.

- ► Patients, cells, images, pixels, transcripts, genomes, peptides.
- ► We will envision elements as "rows" in a spreadsheet.
- 2) Features, the things measured for each element.
  - Clinical outcomes, phospho-proteins, pixel density, nucleotides.
  - ► We will envision features as "columns" in a spreadsheet.
  - ► Feature selection may rely on hypotheses, rules, or prior knowledge.

#### 3) Scales, the type & range of the measurements for each feature.

- ► Categorical, linear, log & base, arcsinh & cofactor.
- ▶ -150 to 262,144; 1 to 10,000; 0 to 50; 1 to 100; 0 to 1; NR, PR, CR.
- Will largely explore the data without units until we create reports.

#### 4) Prior knowledge, the things assumed to be known for the system.

- Organization of elements (groups, order, etc.), feature relationships.
- Supervised analysis explicitly uses prior knowledge.
- Unsupervised analysis looks for patterns without prior knowledge.

## There Are Many Ways to Analyze Modern Datasets



Saeys Y, Van Gassen S, and Lambrecht BN, Nature Reviews Immunology 2016

## ISAC FlowRepository: Share Annotated Cytometry Data Provides a Quantitative Reference & Can Reproduce An Analysis





- Initially sponsored by ISAC and Wallace H Coulter Foundation
- Maintained through volunteer efforts; use required for Cytometry A journal
- +1,000 users in the last year (+36%), >3500 total
- >100 users uploading and annotating data per month
- +922 experiments in just last year (+40%);
   >3000 total; downloads have doubled.
- Total data volume: ~4.0 TB in >1,380 public data sets

## Over to Nicholas Loof...

Identifying Cell Populations (MEM, RAPID, and Statistical Tools) MEM summarizes a population's special features and is used in workflows "at the end" (in place of box and whisker plots or heatmaps)

[ So MEM complements tools from other steps, including t-SNE, SPADE, Citrus, FlowSOM, SCAFFOLD, Phenograph ]

## Human Bone Marrow Hematopoiesis & "Famous" Cell Identity Markers



Despite advances, no computational tools learn & label cell identity, a human must "stare and compare" using expert knowledge

Diggins et al., Methods 2015

Populations are often labeled by metaphors of function ("cancer stem cells", "central memory T cells") or incomplete labels based on a few features (e.g. "PD-1+ CD8 T cells").

We need an unbiased way to label & identify cells (regardless of how they are found)

## Enrichment Tracks Feature Exclusivity In a Subset

A, B, C, and D are 4 cell types within the same sample and they are each 25% of the sample. If I were to offer to pay you based on the <u>purity of a sort based only on protein X</u>, which population would you want to isolate? I'll pay you \$1 per correct cell & take away \$1 for each incorrect cell and \$1 for each cell you miss.



## Enrichment Tracks Feature Exclusivity In a Subset

A, B, C, and D are 4 subsets where Protein X was measured. In which subset is Protein X most distinct? (Which would be easiest to gate?)



Expression of Protein X

#### Median (50%) and Interquartile Range (25%-75%) Represent Key Features of Distributions



Core idea in MEM: given two protein distributions with equal medians, a smaller interquartile range (IQR) indicates greater <u>enrichment</u>

Not captured by median & IQR are other elements of shape (skewness, symmetry, # peaks, outliers, etc.)

## MEM Quantifies Relative Enrichment By Combining Magnitude & Interquartile Range

$$MEM = |MAG_{test} - MAG_{ref}| + \frac{IQR_{ref}}{IQR_{test}} - 1$$



Linear transformation to -10 to +10 (d20 scale, cause that's how we roll)

If  $MAG_{test} - MAG_{ref} < 0$ , MEM = -MEM



MEM label (CD19<sup>+</sup> cells)

- ▲ HLADR<sup>+10</sup> CD20<sup>+9</sup> CD19<sup>+7</sup> IgM<sup>+5</sup> C CD45RA<sup>+3</sup> CXCR4<sup>+2</sup> CD47<sup>+2</sup> CD33
- ▼CD7<sup>-2</sup>





Diggins et al., Nature Methods 2017

# Quiz Time: What Are These Cell Subsets & What Is This Tissue?

#### Stem cells (HSCs)

▲ CD34+6 CD33+4 CD15+3 CD38+3 MHCII+3 CXCR4+2 ▼ CD44-5 CD45-5 CD7-3 0.07%

#### Progenitors

 ▲ MHCII+10 CD33+7 CD38+5 CD123+3 CD117+3 CD19+2 CD34+2 CD13+2 CD14+2 CXCR4+2
 ▼ CD45-3 CD15-2
 0.002%

#### Early myeloid cells

▲ MHCII+9 CD33+8 CD38+5 CD4+3 CD15+2 CD14+2 ▼ CD45-2 CD7-2 0.02%

#### Monocytes

▲ CD33+10 CD14+8 CD11b+7 MHCII+5 CD4+4 CD11c+4 CD38+4 CD13+3

▼ CXCR4-2 CD47-2 10.57%

#### Natural killer cells

▲ CD16+9 CD7+6 CD38+5 CD56+4 CD161+4 CD45RA+3 CD8+2 CD11b+2 CD47+2 5.27%

#### CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells

▲ CD8+8 CD7+5 CD3+3 CD45RA+3 CXCR4+2 9.25%

#### CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells

▲ CD4+7 CD7+5 CD3+5 CD47+2 CD45RA+2 8.12%

#### B cells

 ▲ MHCII+10 CD20+9 CD19+7 IgM+5 CD34+3 CD45RA+3 CXCR4+2 CD47+2 CD33+2
 ▼ CD7-2 2.44%

Data from healthy human bone marrow, Bendall et al., *Science* 2011 Diggins et al., *Nature Methods* 2017 Marker Enrichment Modeling Automatically Labels Cell Types in Human Bone Marrow Using -10 to +10 Enrichment Values



Diggins et al., Nature Methods 2017 Data from Bendall et al., Science 2011 MEM labels created automatically based on protein enrichment

## **Tools for Automated Cell Discovery & Characterization**





Cancer Immunology Research 2019







Diggins et al., PMC5330853

- MEM: machine labeling & identification of cell type clusters
- Enabled comparison across single cell platforms
- E.g., memory CD4+ T cells, 10-point enrichment scale:

ICOS+8 CD38+8 CD4+7 CD45R0+6 CD3+5 Ki-67+4

#### Greenplate et al., PMC6318034

- Set of tools for longitudinal single cell tumor immunology.
- Revealed abnormal immune cells in multiple tumor types.
- Includes datasets (AML, melanoma) used by T-REX
- Greenplate+ vs. COVID-19 (Science 2020 PMC7263500)

Leelatian, Sinnaeve et al., PMC7340505

- RAPID: probabilistic clinical outcomes on t-SNE & UMAP
- Reveals associations with extreme clinical outcomes
- Revealed JAK + AKT cooperation in glioblastoma cells

#### Barone, Paul, Muehling et al., PMC8370768

T-REX

RAPID

MEM

- T-REX: compares a pair of samples (e.g. pre- and post-)
- · Revealed rhinovirus-specific cells based on rapid expansion
- Revealed identity of memory T cells in SARS-CoV-2 vaccine response (*bioRxiv* preprint PMC8328055)

### Considering a Recent Algorithm: RAPID is Designed for Unsupervised Analysis of Survival



Leelatian, Sinnaeve et al., *eLife 2020* 

#### Statistical & Biological Validation Should Be Designed In & Will Be Essential During Peer Review



#### Leelatian, Sinnaeve et al., *eLife 2020*

The Importance of Scales (time permitting)

Before we get to 'dessert', some math 'veggies':

Scales matter: poorly or variably scaled data can destroy an analysis, most issues arise near zero

(pre-processing & normalization can also be critical)

# Have you ever noticed two peaks <u>within</u> a cell subset that is biologically 100% <u>negative</u> for a marker?



Results from <u>bad scaling</u> (poor transformation) and it can be an issue for computational analysis.

Scaling is important in both mass and fluorescence cytometry.

#### Scaling Matters for Measuring Distance (Compensation Beads)



arcsinh(x) with cofactor c = 
$$\ln\left(\frac{x}{c} + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{x}{c}\right)^2}\right)$$

For fluorescence flow cytometry data: a biexponential or arcsinh transformation corrects the scale near zero.

Since computational analysis techniques compare distance similarly to what a person does when looking at a plot, poorly scaled data can lead to identification of artificial populations near zero (see C and D) if data are not appropriately transformed prior to analysis.

More information: https://my.vanderbilt.edu/irishlab/protocols/scales-and-transformation/ FlowJo webpage on scales & transformation

#### Scaling Matters for Measuring Distance (Fluorescence Flow)



#### Inappropriate Scaling Can Lead to False Population Discovery



### New Technology Reveals & Characterizes New Cells

Date	Approach	Dimen Per Ce	sions (D) II & Speed	
1665*	Light microscopy	Low	Low	
1908**	Light microscopy	Low	Low	
1946	Scanning EM	Low	Low	
1989	Flow cytometry identification	Low	1K cells/s	
2001	Flow cytometry subsetting	4D	2 – 50K cell/s	CD14 10 <sup>2</sup> 10 <sup>1</sup> 10 <sup>2</sup> 10 <sup>3</sup> 10 <sup>1</sup> 10 <sup>2</sup> 10 <sup>3</sup>
2011	Mass cytometry + SPADE	32D	500 cell/s	CD14 CD14 CD14 CD14 CD16 CD16 CD11b
2014	Mass cytometry + t-SNE / viSNE	38D	500 cell/s	SNE2
(now)	Flow or Imaging MC + UMAP, FlowSOM, MEM	50D	500 cell/s	▲CD206 <sup>+3</sup> CD33 <sup>+2</sup> CD32 <sup>+2</sup> ▼CD163 <sup>-4</sup> CD86 <sup>-4</sup> HLA-DR <sup>-3</sup> MerTK <sup>-2</sup> CD14 <sup>-2</sup> S100A9 <sup>-2</sup> t-SNE1

\* Robert Hooke describes 'cells' in *Micrographia: or Some Physiological Descriptions of Miniature Bodies Made by Magnifying Glasses* 

\*\* Élie Metchnikoff characterizes mononuclear phagocytes: Lectures on the Comparative Pathology of Inflammation, Pasteur Institute in 1891, Nobel Prize in 1908 w/ Ehrlich.

Adapted from Roussel et al., *Human Innate Immunity* 2016

8) MDSC\_b (40%)

#### Different Data Types May Need Different Scale Types or Cofactors (Measuring Antibodies by AbSeq scRNA-seq vs. Fluorescence Flow)



Mair et al., Cell Reports 2020