

Choosing the Best Method for Gene Expression log- log Linear Models Using Multiple CART Trees

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Microarray and RNA-Seq techniques are used to infer genes showing differential expressions on treatment conditions through the analysis of log-log linear models for the expression with treatment compared with control condition. Due to costs and technical limitations usually the experiments present small-sized samples and high contamination; therefore, choosing the estimation method for coefficients of such models becomes a challenge [1]. Herein, we simulate microarray and RNA-Seq experiments and analyze a log-log linear model with contaminations at both conditions, varying key features: the sample size n , contamination type (*light-tailed* or *heavy-tailed*), contamination proportion p , and error variance σ^2 . For each features configuration we computed the accuracy at each method among least absolute deviations (l_1), ordinary least squares (l_2), and Huber M-Estimators (HM). Using this information, we built a machine learning that, based on classification CART trees [2], automatically decides the best method depending on simple questions. Restricted to light tails, l_2 leads if n is small and σ^2 low, while l_1 leads if σ^2 is moderate and p high, and for p low and σ^2 moderate HM leads. In case of heavy tails, HM leads if p is moderate. Simulation results on method decisions agree with theoretical analysis [3], adding more information for non-extreme conditions, and show good sensitivity and specificity in true experiments.

References

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