Mining the Largest Quasi-clique in Human Protein Interactome

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Outline of the presentation

- Motivation
- Related works
- Proposed methodology
- Results & discussion

Motivation

Protein interactome

- Total number of proteins in *Homo* Sapiens is in the order of 10⁵, whereas the interactome size is as low as 0.0002%
 [1]
- Protein-protein interaction networks are scale-free [2]
- Mining protein-protein interaction networks for prediction of functions

Quasi-complete graph [3]

• A γ -quasi-complete graph ($\gamma = 0.25$)



- A graph G = (V, E) of degree at least *r* is γ -quasi-complete for $\gamma \le r/(|V|-1)$.
- An acyclic graph G = (V, E) of order at least 2 is $(|V|-1)^{-1}$ quasi-complete.

Maximum quasi-clique problem in protein-protein interaction network

Definition 1 (γ -quasi-clique): In a graph G = (V, E), a subset of vertices $V' \in V$ forms a γ -quasi-clique ($0 < \gamma \leq 1$) if the subgraph induced by V', $G_{V'}$, is a γ -quasi-complete graph.

Problem Statement(MQP) Given a protein-protein interaction network N = (P, I) and the parameter γ , locate a γ -quasi-clique, N' = (P', I') ($N' \subseteq N$), that has the maximum cardinality and $\frac{\min_{p_i \in P'} degree(p_i)}{|P'|-1} \ge \gamma$.

Related works

Finding quasi-cliques for classifying molecular sequences [4]

- Definition of a quasi-clique based on individual degrees
- The problem addressed was to cover all the vertices in a graph with a minimum number of quasi-cliques
- Greedy approximation algorithm with $O(n^3)$ average time complexity
- No approximating factor

Finding quasi-cliques in very large graphs with GRASP [5]

- Definition of a quasi-clique based on total number of edges
- Neither find out the complete set of quasi-cliques nor the largest one
- Greedy randomized adaptive search algorithm

Finding cross-graph quasi-cliques with Crochet [3]

- Definition of a quasi-clique based on individual degrees
- Joint mining of different types of networks for exploring quasi-cliques
- Time complexity of this algorithm linearly grows with the number of quasi-cliques

Finding cross-graph quasi-cliques with Crochet⁺ [6]

- Improvement of Crochet
- Definition of a quasi-clique based on individual degrees
- Joint mining of different types of networks for exploring quasi-cliques
- Time complexity of this algorithm linearly grows with the number of quasi-cliques

Finding maximal quasi-cliques [7]

- Definition of a quasi-clique based on total number of edges and individual degrees
- Time complexity of this algorithm linearly grows with the number of maximal quasi-cliques

Proposed methodology

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Precursory details

- Inspired from a dynamic local search algorithm (DLS-MC) used for finding the maximum clique [8]
- Exploits the heuristics that a vertex with degree k cannot be in a γ -quasi-clique of size N if $k < \gamma . (N-1)$.
- Guided by the scale-free property

The proposed algorithm

Input: A PPIN N = (P, I) and the parameter γ **Output:** The largest quasi-clique N[~] with respect to γ **Algorithmic Steps:**

 $N \sim M$

while Number of iterations is not sufficient do

if $\Gamma(N^{\sim}) < \gamma$ then

Select a minimum degree protein p_i by breaking the tie arbitrarily Remove the protein p_i and all the interactions connected to it from N[~]

else

Identify the set of proteins P' which have the maximum connectivity with the proteins in N[~] and its degree is supported by the heuristics Select a protein p_i from the set P' by breaking the tie arbitrarily Attach the protein p_i and all the interactions provided between p_i and the current network N[~] to expand the network N[~]

end if

end while

Results & discussion

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Features of the interaction network

- Resource: Human Protein Reference Database (HPRD) [1]
- # Proteins: 25,661
- *#* Interactions: 37,107
- Clustering coefficient: ~1.13E-4

Power-law degree distribution [2]



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Stepwise analytical details

- Initial pruning selected 5648 proteins with 35021 interactions therein
- The parameter $\gamma = 0.7$
- Number of iterations = 10,000
- Proteins selected in the largest quasi-clique = 15

The largest 0.7-quasi-clique module



Analysis of functions

| Protein Name (Entrez Gene ID) | Molecular Class, Molecular Function and Biological Process |
|--|--|
| Grb2 (2885) | Adapter molecule Receptor signaling complex scaffold activity Signal transduction, Regulation of cell cycle |
| EGF receptor (1956) | Receptor tyrosine kinase Transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| Insulin receptor (3643) | Receptor tyrosine kinase Transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| Janus kinase 2 (3717) | Tyrosine kinase Protein-tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| CRK (1398) | Adapter molecule Receptor signaling complex scaffold activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| CBL (867) | Ubiquitin proteasome system protein Ubiquitin-specific protease activity Signal transduction, Cell communication, Protein metabolism |
| Phosphatidylinositol 3 kinase regulatory subunit, alpha (5295) | Adapter molecule Receptor signaling complex scaffold activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |

Analysis of functions (contd...)

| Protein Name (Entrez Gene ID) | Molecular Class, Molecular Function and Biological Process |
|---|---|
| PDGF receptor, beta (5159) | Receptor tyrosine kinase Transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| Protein tyrosine phosphatase, non-receptor type 11 (5781) | Tyrosine phosphatase Protein tyrosine phosphatase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| Protein tyrosine phosphatase, non-receptor type 6 (5777) | Tyrosine phosphatase Protein tyrosine phosphatase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| c-Src (6714) | Tyrosine kinase Protein-tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction |
| SHC (6464) transforming protein 1 | Adapter molecule Protein binding Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| FAK (5747) | Tyrosine kinase Protein-tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction, Cell communication |
| PTK2B protein tyrosine kinase 2 beta (2185) | Tyrosine kinase Protein-tyrosine kinase activity Signal transduction |
| STAT5B (6777) | Transcription factor Transcription factor activity Regulation of nucleobase, nucleoside, nucleotide and nucleic acid metabolism |

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Future directions

- Integration of protein networks obtained from multiple sources
- Deriving stringent upper bounds for the algorithm
- Improvement with more efficient adaptive heuristics
- Rational drug design by targeting significant hub proteins in the network

Major references

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Thank you