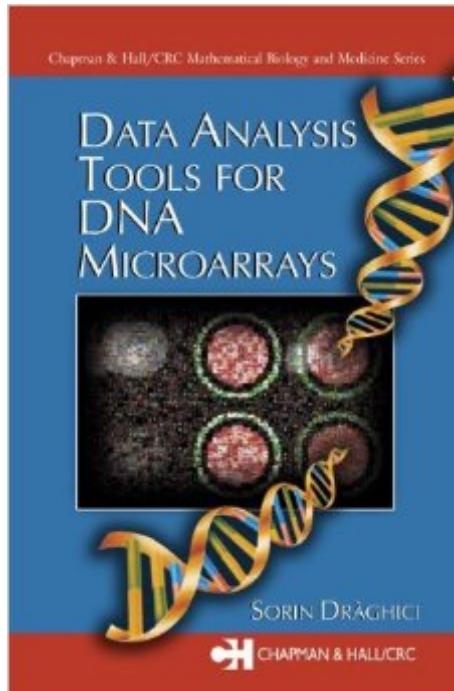


The book was found

Data Analysis Tools For DNA Microarrays



Synopsis

Technology today allows the collection of biological information at an unprecedented level of detail and in increasingly vast quantities. To reap real knowledge from the mountains of data produced, however, requires interdisciplinary skills-a background not only in biology but also in computer science and the tools and techniques of data analysis. To help meet the challenges of DNA research, *Data Analysis Tools for DNA Microarrays* builds the foundation in the statistics and data analysis tools needed by biologists and provides the overview of microarrays needed by computer scientists. It first presents the basics of microarray technology and more importantly, the specific problems the technology poses from the data analysis perspective. It then introduces the fundamentals of statistics and the details of the techniques most commonly used to analyze microarray data. The final chapter focuses on commercial applications with sections exploring various software packages from BioDiscovery, Insightful, SAS, and Spotfire. The book is richly illustrated with more than 230 figures in full color and comes with a CD-ROM containing full-feature trial versions of software for image analysis (ImaGene, BioDiscovery Inc.) and data analysis (GeneSight, BioDiscovery Inc. and S-Plus Array Analyzer, Insightful Inc.). Written in simple language and illustrated in full color, *Data Analysis Tools for DNA Microarrays* lowers the communication barrier between life scientists and analytical scientists. It prepares those charged with analyzing microarray data to make informed choices about the techniques to use in a given situation and contribute to further advances in the field.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The targeted audience of this book is biologists who are eager to get an understanding of the analysis tools they use for microarrays. The book does an excellent job addressing this tier of audience. The book has plenty of examples. Almost all the examples, whether fake or real, are microarray-related. Whenever needed, figures or charts are provided to illustrate ideas. A few chapters that introduce basic statistical concepts provide solved problems and exercises. All these efforts are worthwhile making difficult statistical concepts easy to understand in the context of microarrays and making the book especially valuable for biologists who do not have strong background in statistics. This book has an emphasis on major statistical aspects of microarray data analysis. There are 17 chapters in this book. About 8 of them are directly related to statistics. Especially, there is one whole chapter devoted to multiple hypothesis testing, one chapter for ANOVA, and one chapter for experimental design. The above subjects are presented in a thorough, yet easy-to-follow style. Statistical issues are often not well addressed in published papers using microarrays. This book on microarray data analysis does an excellent job emphasizing this aspect. The title of the book indicates "data analysis". However, since this is not a clearly defined term, you should be aware that the book only deals with "the bare minimum" of data analysis. That is routines, such as normalization, transformation, statistical testing, and clustering, that have to be carried out each and every time. Exploratory data visualizing and data mining algorithms are not covered thoroughly in this book. For example, principal component analysis (PCA) is presented as a subsection of a chapter.

I have entered the area of microarray data analysis three years ago, having an engineering/machine learning background which includes good knowledge of statistics. After reading many journal papers about particular algorithms for microarray data analysis, I felt the need to read a book so that I could get the big picture of the field. At the beginning I was skeptical about reading Draghici's book because it was recommended to me as "excellent" by a biologist. I was pretty sure that given my background I will get bored of it quickly. My intuition failed me in this case because after reading it, I found it too as being far from ordinary, and answering my needs as well. The book is an easy-to-follow introduction to the area of microarray data analysis covering areas from image analysis and preprocessing, to differential expression, clustering, and high level analysis such as ontological analysis. The book is particularly useful in underlying common pitfalls with microarray

data. Examples include failing to correct for multiple testing in microarray experiments and the misuse or overuse of the clustering algorithms. Abounding examples and clear illustration are given to support every single aspect treated in the text. In my opinion, graduate level students in biology, bioinformatics and statistics can greatly benefit from the lecture of this book. Another positive aspect is the fact that, with the exception of one chapter about the available commercial software, this book was written by just one author. This gives a continuity of ideas and a consistency of notations and terms throughout the entire book.

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