Biological networks in Alzheimer's disease

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Why networks?



Literature-based connections surround classic AD targets, studied for 30 years.

There are few connections among molecules with novel AD findings.

Why networks?



EPHA3

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There are few connections among molecules with novel AD findings.

Data-driven connections can be found for ADrelated molecules that are more recently of

Why networks?



What does coexpression provide?

Several mechanisms generate coexpression networks



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Summarizing RNAseq into molecular systems

24 of 47 (~50%) modules are enriched for biological function (0.05 FDR)

module id	# genes	# enriched functions	Representative function
9	243	112	Regulation of transcription
10	138	10	RNA processing
14	347	93	Mitochondrial part/function
16	352	137	Neuronal/Synapse part
23	251	18	Neuronal/Synapse part
106	489	19	Mitochondrial part/function
107	416	72	Membrane proteins/Neuronal System
109	390	71	Cell cycle damage response/Insulin signaling pathway/Proteasome
110	348	6	Cytoskeleton/protein motor (astrocytes)
111	244	70	Transcription
112	64	59	Cell membrane/Signaling peptide
113	313	307	Metabolism of protein
114	276	17	Immune response (NFKB pathway)
115	232	503	Immune response (IFN response)
116	224	432	Immune response (microglia)
117	409	134	Protein folding/unfolded protein response
118	405	140	Transcription/Protein metabolism/Immune
119	317	58	Transcription
121	403	42	Acetylation/Nucleic binding
123	317	153	Mitochondrial function
126	356	243	Mitochondrial function
187	30	10	Synaptic transmission



What are the associations of gene expression and AD phenotypes?













How do we prune out extra links?



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Testing network predictions



Preliminary IPSC Results



Correlations with Cognition

Preliminary IPSC Results



Conclusion: Overall similarity in the disease associations for wide range of molecular systems, in IPSC data

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Conclusion: Regulatory structure within many modules is similar in IPSC

Summary of approach to "imaging-omics"



Input phenotypes: Cognitive phenotypes Disease phenotypes

Genetic variants

Examples:

Loneliness **Micro Infarcts** Peripheral expression TREM2 levels

SLC6A4 variants

Brain-phenotype comparison:

Where in the brain do phenotypes and MRI covary?



Results:

Regions associated with given phenotype



i.e. voxels covarying with gene expression

Summary of approach to "imaging-omics"



Brain-phenotype comparison:

Where in the brain do phenotypes and MRI covary?



Individual brain scans

Results:

Regions associated with given phenotype



i.e. voxels covarying with gene expression

Summary of approach to "imaging-expression"

Using the ROSMAP cohort...

- 1. We summarize gene expression/methylation into molecular systems
- 2. Then we relate the activity of molecular systems to brain regions

Molecular system A

Molecular systems are measured in DLPFC, then we map them onto global brain structures



Summary of approach to "imaging-expression"

Using the ROSMAP cohort...

- We summarize gene expression/methylation into molecular systems 1.
- Then we relate the activity of molecular systems to brain regions 2.
- Repeat for each molecular system 3.



Molecular systems are measured in DLPFC, then we map them onto global brain structures

Mapping coexpressed communities to MRI voxels



myelination synaptic transmission nuclear processes transcriptional regulation



Expression of molecular systems (measured in DLPFC) are related to R2 imaging features across the brain

Regions mapping to each molecular system are spatially coherent

Tracts associated with MRI correlates of coexpression



Tracts associated with MRI correlates of coexpression



Region B RightRostralMiddleFrontal RightLateralOrbitoFrontal RightRostralMiddleFrontal RightSuperiorFrontal RightInsula RightLateralOrbitoFrontal RightMedialOrbitoFrontal RightRostralMiddleFrontal

Trait associations of MRI-associated gene clusters





Mapping anterior caudate modules

Yellow: ECM (weak) Blue: Microglia Red: Mitochondria Green: Synaptic fx





Mapping posterior cingulate modules

Indigo: RNA / m109 Green - unknown Fusia" response to unfolder protein



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Human Cell Modeling @ Rush Yanling Wang MD PhD

A different kind of Alzheimer's lab Testing 100% computational predictions

Yanling Wang, MD PhD

Shinya Tasaki, Ph<mark>D</mark>

2013