

# Chapter 7

## Conclusion

### 7.1 Concluding Remarks

The enormous growth in biological data has paved way for the computer scientists to intervene in their analysis and infer useful information in this area of computational problems. The understanding of the association of the different phenotypic traits with that of genes or proteins is increasing day by day with the combined efforts of the biologists and computer scientists. However, there still lies a huge gap in associating the findings from the technological grounds with that from the biologists' point of view. I have used certain data mining techniques to propose solutions to few such computational problems that lie on the pathway from genes to proteins and finally their association with the phenotypic traits within an individual. I have used the Protein Protein Interaction data (PPI) and the gene expression data in my work.

The first part of my research deals with grouping proteins obtained from raw PPI data into clusters known as protein complexes. The obtained complexes need to be of high biological significance. This part of the work is then extended towards inferencing disease related information such as the topological association of disease genes with other genes in the network, their role in the network etc. Another work done in extension with the PPI data is the ranking of disease associated complexes. The second part of my research work deals with analyzing the expression changes occurring in genes as a disease progresses from one stage to another. This analysis is carried out based on the similarities that exist between genes in a cluster w.r.t. their status, i.e., to which stage of the disease they belong to. This work has also been extended towards identifying novel biomarkers which can be associated directly or indirectly with the disease under consideration. Now, I report my observations in

the analysis of PPI and gene expression data during the course of my PhD work.

- The first protein complex finding method, CNCM which is reported in Chapter 3 is capable of performing consistently well across a range of datasets with minimum parameter tuning. This is one of the most important requirement for any good complex finding method. The complexes obtained using this method have been shown to be of high biological significance w.r.t. the benchmark datasets.
- The next part of Chapter 3 discusses a method called DCRS which is based on the multi-objective optimization technique. It uses the preprocessed data obtained from CNCM as its initial population and gives a set of complexes of high biological relevance. This method has been validated over human PPI dataset.
- Chapter 4 reports a method called CSC for protein complex finding. This method uses a combination of both topological and biological property of the PPI network in order to detect quality complexes. It has been validated over both yeast and human PPI dataset. This work is extended towards identifying the association of Alzheimer's disease genes in complexes, their position w.r.t. other genes and also in determining the links which connects them with other genes of the network.
- A method called ComFiR is also reported in Chapter 4 for complex detection from PPI networks. It is based on a semi-supervised approach and uses information from benchmark complexes to extract further quality complexes. The results obtained by this method has been shown to perform better than all other existing methods in case of human PPI dataset. An effective ranking scheme has been introduced to rank the complexes. The ranking scheme has been shown for Alzheimer's Disease.
- Chapter 5 reports a gene module extraction technique based on the semantic similarity between genes. This method has been used over a two-stage breast cancer dataset. Novel biomarkers associated with the progression of the disease are identified. These biomarkers have been established from gene expression, pathway and literature sources.
- A subspace based gene-gene network construction and a module extraction technique has been proposed in Chapter 6. This method has been used over Parkinson's Disease dataset. Some interesting biomarkers associated with the

disease are reported in this work. These biomarkers have been established using literature sources. An analysis of the hub genes found in modules is also reported here. This analysis is based on a number of centrality measures.

## 7.2 Future Works

While dealing with the issues involved in PPI and gene expression data and its association with various physiological processes, a number of research directions were realized. These are as follows.

- PPI data and gene expression data were used substantially for analyzing the physiological characteristics of living organisms. Apart from these data, miRNA and RNA-Seq data can also be used for effectively analyzing the properties of genes and their respective roles.
- Proper use of biological properties of PPI network can lead to improved complex finding results.
- All the analysis done in this research work is based on unweighted networks, analyzing the proposed methods in terms of weighted networks may produce significant results.
- The subspace network construction technique proposed here is very time consuming. Using a parallel environment for such computation would ease the whole process.
- An integrated framework for protein complex finding and its validation is one of the immediate concerns in the area of PPI data analysis.
- A combination of a number of available biological data such as gene expression, PPI data, RNA-Seq data in addition to clinical data could be used for effective analysis of genes and their behavioral changes in case of diseases.

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## Publications based on the Thesis Work

1. **Sharma P.** Ahmed, H. A, Roy, S. and Bhattacharyya, D.K., “Detecting protein complexes using connectivity among nodes in a PPI Network” , *NetMAHIB, Springer* vol.4, no.1, pp 1-15, 2015.
2. **Sharma, P.**, and Bhattacharyya, D.K., “ DCRS- A multi-objective protein complex finding method”, accepted for publication in *International Conference on Computing and Communication Systems, I3CS-2016*
3. **Sharma P.** Bhattacharyya, D.K. and Kalita, J.K, “Centrality Analysis in PPI networks”, *International Conference on Accessibility to Digital World (ICADW)*, 2016
4. **Sharma P.** Bhattacharyya, D.K. and Kalita, J.K, “Detecting protein complexes based on a combination of topological and biological properties in protein-protein interaction network”, *Journal of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Elsevier*, , 2017 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jgeb.2017.11.005>.
5. **Sharma P.** Bhattacharyya, D.K. and Kalita, J.K, “Protein complex finding and ranking: An application to Alzheimers disease”, *Journal of BioSciences, Springer*, 2016 vol.42, pp-383-396, 2017.
6. **Sharma P.** Bhattacharyya, D.K. and Kalita, J.K, “Disease biomarker identification from gene network modules for metastasized breast cancer”, *Scientific Reports, Nature*, doi:10.1038/s41598-017-00996-x (2017).
7. **Sharma P.** Bhattacharyya, D.K. and Kalita, J.K, “Detecting Network Modules to support Biomarker Identification for Parkinson’s Disease”, [Under Review]