Localizing and Classifying Adaptive Targets with Trend Filtered Regression

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Abstract

Identifying genomic locations of natural selection from sequence data is an ongoing challenge in population genetics. Current methods utilizing information combined from several summary statistics typically assume no correlation of summary statistics regardless of the genomic location from which they are calculated. However, due to linkage disequilibrium, summary statistics calculated at nearby genomic positions are highly correlated. We introduce an approach termed Trendsetter that accounts for the similarity of statistics calculated from adjacent genomic regions through trend filtering, while reducing the effects of multicollinearity through regularization. Our penalized regression framework has high power to detect sweeps, is capable of classifying sweep regions as either hard or soft, and can be applied to other selection scenarios as well. We find that Trendsetter is robust to both extensive missing data and strong background selection, and has comparable power to similar current approaches. Moreover, the model learned by Trendsetter can be viewed as a set of curves modeling the spatial distribution of summary statistics in the genome. Application to human genomic data revealed positively selected regions previously discovered such as LCT in Europeans and EDAR in East Asians. We also identified a number of novel candidates and show that populations with greater relatedness share more sweep signals.

Key words: machine learning, adaptation, selection, trend filtering.

Introduction

Positive selection is one of the evolutionary processes through which populations adapt to their environments, and identifying positively selected genomic regions can help us uncover the differences in genes and consequently phenotypes that differentiate populations from one another. Differentiating between diverse types of selective sweeps due to positive selection (Hermisson et al., 2017), such as hard sweeps, which result from a beneficial allele on a single genomic background rising in frequency, and soft sweeps, which occur when a beneficial allele on multiple genomic backgrounds rises in frequency, can also provide us with insights into evolutionary processes. However, identification of adaptive regions is a nontrivial task, as signatures of adaptation are often muddled by demographic events. For instance, both population bottlenecks and selective sweeps can lead to similar decreases in genetic diversity (Wall et al., 2002; Stajich and Hahn, 2005; Jensen et al., 2005). Developments in our understanding of evolutionary mechanisms and their individual importance have led to increasingly complex models (e.g., Nielsen et al., 2005), as well as numerous tests for statistical differentiation between genomic regions undergoing natural selection and neutrality (Vitti et al., 2013).

Several methods have recently been developed that incorporate information from multiple summary statistics to locate positively selected genomic regions (Lin et al., 2011; Ronen et al., 2013; Pybus et al., 2015; Sheehan and Song, 2016; Schrider and Kern, 2016b; Kern and Schrider, 2018; Sugden et al., 2018). Most existing supervised learning approaches for detecting sweeps use combinations of summary statistics calculated in genomic windows of simulated chromosomes to train classifiers using methods such as support vector machines, random forests, neural networks, and boosting. Differing mechanisms have been employed to handle issues such as missing data and demographic obstruction of selection signatures. For example, the approach taken by Sheehan and Song (2016) attempts to jointly infer demographic and adaptive history. However, this framework requires a tremendous amount of training data, making its application computationally challenging. Schrider and Kern (2016b) use a method of normalizing summary statistics that lessens the impact of demographic events on selection footprints. In both of these approaches, genomic regions missing percentages of data above a certain threshold are not included during analysis, leading to sizable regions labeled as “unclassifiable.”

Current approaches (e.g., Sheehan and Song, 2016; Schrider and Kern, 2016b) attempt to capture the spatial footprint of adaptation by computing summary statistics at adjacent genomic windows. However, such methods do not explicitly account for the autocorrelation expected due to similarity...
because of physical proximity of these statistics. Regions that have experienced recent selective sweeps due to positive sele-
ction exhibit wide stretches of linkage disequilibrium (LD; Kim
and Stephan, 2002; Sabeti, Reich, et al., 2002; Kim and
Nielsen, 2004), as recombination has not had sufficient time to
erode the signal. Therefore, directly accounting for correla-
tions of summary statistics computed at adjacent genomic
regions should be important, and may lead to improvements
in the ability to localize adaptive events.

In this article, we introduce a multinomial regression
method termed Trendsetter that directly models the genomic
spatial distribution of summary statistics. We employ trend
filtering within a multinomial regression framework to penal-
ize the differences between predictors, constraining them so
that they are similar to adjacent values. We explore how
penalizing differences in predictors for statistics between
one or more adjacent genomic regions transforms the regres-
sion model and affects classification. We further compare the
performance of Trendsetter to leading single-population clas-
sification approaches (Lin et al., 2011; Schrider and Kern,
2016b; Kern and Schrider, 2018) developed or modified to
differentiate among hard sweeps, soft sweeps, and neutrality.
Finally, we apply Trendsetter to whole-genome data from
worldwide human populations (The 1000 Genomes Project
Consortium, 2015), to study the global distribution of sweeps
in recent human history.

Materials and Methods

In this section, we formalize the multinomial regression with
trend-filtering approach employed by our classifier Trendsetter.
We discuss choice of summary statistics used as features for the classifier, training and implementation of the classifier, and calibration of class probabilities. We then
describe simulation settings and associated parameters to test
the performance of Trendsetter, as well as its robustness to
diverse demographic scenarios, confounding effects of back-
ground selection, and missing data. We finalize by discussing
the application of Trendsetter to empirical data from global
human populations.

Multinomial Regression with Trend Filtering

Trend filtering has enjoyed great attention in a number of
fields, including economics (e.g., Hodrick and Prescott, 1997),
finance (e.g., Tsay, 2005), and medicine (e.g., Greenland
and Longnecker, 1992). The essential idea behind this approach is
to fit a nonparametric curve to time-series or spatially vary-
ing data, in which consecutive data points are highly corre-
lated. Specifically, in the case we consider here, we can
imagine that our data points are summary statistics calcu-
lated at adjacent SNPs, which are correlated due to LD. We
would expect that the spatial distribution of statistics calcu-
lated at these data points should behave like a curve under
models of natural selection, in which some statistics are in-
creased or decreased near a site under selection as portrayed
in figure 1.

Here, we plan to perform multinomial regression, account-
ing for correlations among observations of a particular statis-
tic across neighboring genomic regions through trend
filtering. We consider our response to come from $K$ classes,
and we wish to classify a particular focal SNP as coming from
one of the $K$ classes. For example, to classify focal SNPs as
undergoing neutrality, hard sweeps, or soft sweeps, we would
set $K = 3$. To accomplish this task, we will assume that we
have observations on $m$ summary statistics, with each statistic
computed at the focal SNP, and $D$ data points upstream and
$D$ downstream of the focal SNP. These $D$ data points can
either be contiguous or be specified more sparsely across
the data set, which is how we have chosen the set of data
points in this article. Therefore, for each summary statistic,
we will have $p = 2D + 1$ observations of the statistic to cap-
ture its spatial distribution. We choose to use the spatial distri-
bution of a statistic at SNPs rather than at fixed physical dis-
tances (e.g., Chen et al., 2010; Schrider and Kern, 2016b), as it
may enhance robustness to missing data when not explicitly
accounted for in the training of the classifier.

Suppose we have training data from $n$ simulated replicates.
Let the true class for simulated replicate $i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, be
ty. Suppose that the observed value of summary statistic $s$ at
data point $j$ in replicate $i$ is denoted by $x_{i,s,j}$. For observation $i$, denote
the probability of observing class $y_i$ given data $x_i$ by
$\Pr[y_i|x_i]$, where $x_i$ is a vector of length $m \times p$ and has
transpose

$$x_i^T = [x_{i,1,1}, x_{i,1,2}, \ldots, x_{i,1,p}, x_{i,2,1}, x_{i,2,2}, \ldots, x_{i,2,p}, \ldots, x_{i,m,1}, x_{i,m,2}, \ldots, x_{i,m,p}]$$

Let $\beta_{k,s,j}$ denote the coefficient for class $k$, $k = 1, 2, \ldots, K$, for
summary statistic $s$, $s = 1, 2, \ldots, m$, at point $j$, $j = 1, 2, \ldots, p$. For class $k$, let $\beta_k$ be a vector of length $m \times p$ that has transpose

$$\beta_k^T = [\beta_{k,1,1}, \beta_{k,1,2}, \ldots, \beta_{k,1,p}, \beta_{k,2,1}, \beta_{k,2,2}, \ldots, \beta_{k,p}, \ldots, \beta_{k,m,1}, \beta_{k,m,2}, \ldots, \beta_{k,m,p}]$$

Define the matrix $B$ containing $m \times p$ rows and $K$ columns by

$$B = [\beta_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_K]$$

Let $\beta_{k,0}$, $k = 1, 2, \ldots, K$, denote the intercept for class $k$, and let $\beta_0$ be a vector of length $K$ containing these intercept
terms with transpose

$$\beta_0^T = [\beta_{1,0}, \beta_{2,0}, \ldots, \beta_{K,0}]$$

To learn a model that is capable of predicting class $y$ from
observed data $x$, we need to provide a collection of observed
data point tuples $\{(y_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ that represent example training
inputs $x_i$ and outputs $y_i$ of the model. We then want
to learn a model that relates an observed input $x$ to an output $y$
given model parameters $\{\beta_0, B\}$. We therefore wish to com-
pute the conditional probability (Hastie et al., 2009)

$$\Pr[y_i = k | x_i, \beta_0, B] = \frac{e^{\beta_{k,0} + \sum_{s=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^p x_{i,s,j} \beta_{k,s,j}}}{\sum_{k=1}^K e^{\sum_{s=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^p x_{i,s,j} \beta_{k,s,j}}}$$

of observing that the output $y_i$ of example $i$ was class $k$
given the input $x_i$ and model parameters. Given this con-
ditional probability, the log likelihood of the model
parameters \( \{\beta_0, B\} \) given the collection of observed data point tuples \( \{(y_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n \) is

\[
\log L(\beta_0, B; \{(y_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K \log P[y_i|x_i, \beta_0, B] 1_{\{y_i=k\}}
= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K (\beta_{k,0} + x_i^T \beta_k) 1_{\{y_i=k\}}
- \log \left( \sum_{k=1}^K e^{\beta_{k,0} + x_i^T \beta_k} \right)
= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \sum_{k=1}^K (\beta_{k,0} + \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^m p_{k,s} x_{i,sj}) 1_{\{y_i=k\}}
- \log \left( \sum_{k=1}^K e^{\beta_{k,0} + \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^m p_{k,s} x_{i,sj}} \right) \right],
\]

where \( 1_{\{y_i=k\}} \), \( k = 1, 2, \ldots, K \), is an indicator random variable that takes the value 1 if \( y_i = k \) and 0 otherwise.

We seek to find the set of coefficients \( \{\beta_0, B\} \) that maximize the log likelihood function with a penalty term that we denote \( \text{PEN}_{y,d}(B) \), which places a penalty on the coefficients \( B \). Denoting the pair of tuning parameters \( \lambda_1 \geq 0 \) and \( \lambda_2 \geq 0 \), we therefore obtain parameters that maximize a penalized log likelihood function (Hastie et al., 2009) as

\[
(\hat{\beta}_0, \hat{B}, \hat{\lambda}_1, \hat{\lambda}_2) = \argmax_{\beta_0, B, \lambda_1, \lambda_2} \left[ \log L(\beta_0, B; \{(y_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^n) - \lambda_1 \text{PEN}_{y,0}(B) - \lambda_2 \text{PEN}_{y,d}(B) \right],
\]

for \( \gamma \geq 1 \) and \( d \) a nonnegative integer. When \( d = 0, 1, \) or \( 2 \), the penalty respectively reduces to

\[
\text{PEN}_{y,0}(B) = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^m |p_{k,s} - 1|^\gamma
\]

\[
\text{PEN}_{y,1}(B) = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^m |p_{k,s} - 1 - p_{k,s}|^\gamma
\]

\[
\text{PEN}_{y,2}(B) = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^m |p_{k,s} - 2 p_{k,s} - 1 + 1|^\gamma,
\]

which represent summations across classes and summary statistics for finite difference analogs to the zeroth, first, and second derivatives of functions defined by summary statistic \( s \) from class \( k \). That is, the component of the penalty \( \beta_{k,s,j+1} - \beta_{k,s,j} \) in the second equation \( (d = 1) \) represents an approximation to the first derivative of the function defined by statistic \( s \) at data point \( j \) for class \( k \), whereas the component of the penalty \( \beta_{k,s,j+1} - 2 \beta_{k,s,j} + \beta_{k,s,j+2} \) in the third equation \( (d = 2) \) represents an approximation to the second derivative of the function defined by statistic \( s \) at data point \( j+1 \) for class \( k \). In general, \( \sum_{h=0}^d (-1)^{d-h} \binom{d}{h} \beta_{k,s,j+h} \) represents a finite difference approximation to the \( d \)th derivative of the
function defined by statistic $s$ for class $k$ at data point $j$. Letting $\gamma = 1$ gives the $\ell_1$ penalty commonly employed in lasso, and setting $\gamma = 2$ gives the $\ell_2$ penalty commonly used in ridge regression frameworks (Hastie et al., 2009).

In this article, we consider the situation in which $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 1$, permitting simultaneous regularization and feature selection. The first penalty term $\text{PEN}_{1,0}(B)$ associated with tuning parameter $\lambda_1$ is identical to the one used by lasso (Hastie et al., 2009). This penalty ensures that the values of regression coefficients for summary statistics that are highly correlated with other selected (important) summary statistics will be reduced to zero, thus reducing the effects of multicollinearity. In contrast, the second penalty term deals with the autocorrelation of summary statistics, or how each summary statistic is correlated across physical space. For the second penalty term $\text{PEN}_{1,2}(B)$ associated with tuning parameter $\lambda_2$, we consider values of $d = 1$ and $d = 2$. The scenario with $d = 1$ approximates a function with a step or piecewise-constant function and is termed constant trend filtering, whereas $d = 2$ approximates a function with a piecewise-linear function and is termed linear trend filtering (Kim et al., 2009; Hawkins and Maboudou-Tchao, 2013; Tibshirani, 2014; Wang et al., 2016). Using $d = 2$ measures the curvature of the function for statistic $s$ at data point $j + 1$. The entire penalty $\text{PEN}_{1,2}(B)$ therefore represents the total curvature across all summary statistics, and assesses the ruggedness of the set of curves. By penalizing in this manner, we are imposing a smoothness on the spatial distribution of the summary statistics. The combination of this trend penalty with that of the lasso penalty $\text{PEN}_{1,0}(B)$ has a similar effect to a group lasso (Ming and Yi, 2006) penalty, in which the inclusion or exclusion of all values of a summary statistic is decided rather than the inclusion or exclusion of each feature separately. Other trend penalties focusing on lower- and higher-order derivatives have been considered in the literature (Tibshirani, 2014; Wang et al., 2016).

Choosing Summary Statistics

The choices of summary statistics are critical when designing a regression approach for isolating signals of natural selection. First, summary statistics that interrogate different aspects of genetic variation are important. For example, statistics such as the mean pairwise sequence difference $\bar{\pi}$ (Tajima, 1983) can be used to evaluate skews in the site frequency spectrum. LD statistics, such as the squared correlation coefficient $r^2$ (Hill and Robertson, 1968) between a pair of SNPs can be used to evaluate speed of decay of SNP correlation with distance from a focal SNP. Furthermore, summaries of haplotypic variation, such as the number of distinct haplotypes $N_{\text{hap}}$, and expected haplotype homozygosity $H_1$ (Garud et al., 2015) can be used to evaluate skews in the distribution of haplotypes as a function of distance from a focal SNP. Second, summary statistics that should be relatively robust to the confounding effects of background selection, such as haplotype-based statistics (Enard et al., 2014), should be considered, as background selection has been demonstrated to be a ubiquitous force in a number of diverse lineages (e.g., McVicker et al., 2009; Comeron, 2014).

In this article, we focus on a set of $m = 6$ summary statistics: mean pairwise sequence difference $\bar{\pi}$ (Tajima, 1983), the squared correlation coefficient $r^2$ (Hill and Robertson, 1968) of a SNP and the focal SNP, the number of distinct haplotypes $N_{\text{hap}}$, and the $H_1$, $H_2$, and $H_3/H_1$ statistics of Garud et al. (2015). The latter three statistics were chosen as they have been demonstrated to exhibit high power to detect both hard and soft sweeps, as well as the ability to collectively distinguish between hard and soft sweeps.

It is important to note that it is possible to extend our approach to unphased genotypes, by using unphased-genotype analogs of the haplotype-based statistics. That is, following Harris et al. (2018), we can substitute the number of distinct haplotypes $N_{\text{hap}}$ with the number of distinct multilocus genotypes $N_{\text{gen}}$, replace $H_1$, $H_2$, and $H_2/H_1$ respectively with $G_1$, $G_{123}$, and $G_2/G_1$ (Harris et al., 2018), and use $HR^2$ (Sabatti and Risch, 2002) as a surrogate for $r^2$. Because the multilocus genotype analogs $G_1$, $G_{123}$, and $G_2/G_1$ have been demonstrated to retain similar detection and classification abilities as $H_1$, $H_2$, and $H_2/H_1$ (Harris et al., 2018), they should be suitable substitutions. Making these summary statistic substitutions permits application of Trendsetter to data from organisms that cannot be phased, as well as for studies in which it is important to avoid phasing errors (see Discussion).

Training the Classifier

We computed the value of a summary statistic at each of the $2D + 1$ data points centered on a focal SNP, as described in the Multinomial Regression with Trend Filtering subsection. In this article, we use $D = 100$, so that each summary statistic yields 201 data points. Summary statistics were calculated in 11-SNP windows comprising five SNPs directly upstream and five SNPs directly downstream of each of the 201 data points (supplementary fig. S1, Supplementary Material online). Specifically, $N_{\text{hap}}$, $H_1$, $H_2$, and $H_2/H_1$ for a given data point were based on the haplotypic variation defined by the 11-SNP window surrounding (and including) the data point. The mean pairwise sequence difference $\bar{\pi}$ for a given data point was computed as the mean across all 11 SNPs in the window surrounding (and including) the data point. The squared correlation coefficient $r^2$ for a given data point was computed as the mean $r^2$ for all 11 SNPs in the window with the focal SNP within the set of $2D + 1$ data points. Computing $r^2$ in such a way permitted the method to evaluate the speed at which LD decays from a focal data point (putative site under selection). Adjacent SNPs will be highly correlated, and we have a trade-off between the number of data points to learn the function for the summary statistic through trend filtering and the running time due to increased numbers of features. To accomplish this, we chose to compute summary statistics centered on data points at every fifth SNP, so that we still capture the genomic signal across a wide spatial distribution, while also having adjacent data points that are highly correlated. Such an approach permits us to examine the spatial variation of a summary statistic spanning a total of $10(D + 1)$ SNPs, while only using $2D + 1$ data points. As a consequence of how we compute summary statistics at each data point,
values at neighboring data points will be based on data from a partially overlapping set of SNPs, and will therefore be correlated by construction. For a sample of size 100 haplotypes, in a population with diploid effective size $N = 10^4$ (Takahata, 1993) and per-site per-generation mutation rate $\mu = 1.25 \times 10^{-8}$ (Scally and Durbin, 2012), setting the 10$(D + 1) = 1,010$ SNPs (segregating sites) equal to its neutral expectation (Ewens, 1974) gives the expected length of a neutrally evolving region with this many SNPs to be $10(D + 1) / 4N\mu = 390$ kb. In regions that have undergone recent strong selective sweeps, much of the genetic variation would have been lost, and so the genomic region with the same number of SNPs would be considerably wider.

To train a classifier under a given demographic model, we used the coalescent simulator discoal (Schrider and Kern, 2016a) to generate $10^3$ neutral, $10^3$ hard sweep, and $10^3$ used the coalescent simulator discoal (Schrider and Kern, 2016a) to generate $10^3$ neutral, $10^3$ hard sweep, and $10^3$ soft sweep scenarios to use as training data, and computed the $2D + 1$ values for each of the six summary statistics using the set of SNPs closest to the center of the simulated region. All simulations assumed a uniform per-site per-generation mutation rate of $\mu = 1.25 \times 10^{-8}$ (Scally and Durbin, 2012) and a uniform per-site per-generation recombination rate of $r = 10^{-8}$ (Payseur and Nachman, 2000) across sequences of length $L = 1.1$ Mb. For all selection simulations, beneficial mutations were introduced at the center of the simulated region with per-generation selection coefficient $s$ drawn uniformly at random on a log scale over the interval $[0.005, 0.5]$. Moreover for soft sweeps on standing variation, the starting frequency of the beneficial allele was drawn uniformly at random over the interval $[0.01, 0.10]$. For all selective sweep simulations, the time at which the adaptive allele reached fixation was drawn uniformly at random between zero and 1, 200 generations in the past. Note that because discoal conditions on the time at which a sweep completes, given a specified selection coefficient, the time at which the sweep initiated is already some function of these parameters. Therefore, sweeps associated with small selection coefficients tend to initiate farther in the past than those with larger selection coefficients. Moreover, because discoal allows the specification of both sweep strength and sweep completion time, selected alleles with very small selection coefficients will still not be lost, but will instead have been introduced distantly in the past. We expect that selection on such weakly beneficial alleles would be difficult to identify with sweep detection methods like Trendsetter.

As is common for regularized regression models (Hastie et al., 2009; Simon and Tibshirani, 2012), values for summary statistics at data point $j$ were standardized so that they had mean zero and standard deviation one across the set of $3 \times 10^3$ simulated training replicates. We then used equation (1) to estimate the coefficients from these data points using 10-fold cross-validation (Hastie et al., 2009) with balanced training samples from each class. We subsequently applied Trendsetter to simulated and empirical data to classify focal SNPs, where we standardized each summary statistic in the test and empirical data sets using the standardization parameters we applied for the respective training sets.

Implementation
The optimization problem in equation (1) is convex, but is nontrivial as it contains two different components—one that is smooth (i.e., the log likelihood function) and the other that is nonsmooth (i.e., the penalty function). Liu et al. (2010) developed an efficient algorithm for solving this problem, and we adapted this framework for our purposes. Specifically, we augmented the approach of Liu et al. (2010) to add linear trend filtering, which requires solving a pentadiagonal rather than tridiagonal system of linear equations as was used by the original constant trend filtering implementation. More generally, for a given value of the derivative $d$, this linear system amounts to inverting a symmetric banded Toeplitz matrix with bandwidth $d$. To ensure that the optimization is computationally feasible in reasonable time, we employed the PTRANS-1 algorithm (Liu et al., 2010) for solving general pentadiagonal linear systems, which requires only $O(n)$ operations for a matrix of size $n \times n$ (where $n = p - 2 = 2D - 1$ in our scenario for linear trend filtering), and therefore has complexity $O(D)$ for $D$ data points spanning either side of the focal SNP.

Calibrating Class Probabilities
Our model, similar to others (e.g., Lin et al., 2011; Schrider and Kern, 2016b; Sugden et al., 2018), not only assigns class labels, but also provides a probability for each of the $K$ classes. A properly calibrated classifier should be one in which the probability of observing a given class is the actual fraction of times that the classifier chooses this class. This calibration ensures that the assigned probability for each class can be interpreted as the empirical proportion of simulations at each threshold.

To examine whether Trendsetter yielded properly calibrated probabilities, we plot a set of reliability curves for each trained classifier. To calibrate classifier probabilities, it is possible to employ Platt scaling (Platt, 1999) applied to the output probabilities of a classifier. Specifically, an extra set of training data must be set aside to train a multinomial logistic model using the probabilities output from Trendsetter as the independent variables, and the true class as the dependent variable (Naeini, 2017). To calibrate our classifiers, we use 1,000 examples from each class, for a total training set of 3,000. Because we expect the majority of polymorphisms in some species (e.g., humans) to be classified as neutral, it may in some cases be useful to calibrate a classifier with this assumption in mind, as increasing the number of neutral examples may be necessary to achieve proper calibration (Sugden et al., 2018).

Simulations to Examine Trendsetter Performance
We examined a number of simulation settings to better understand the ability of Trendsetter to detect and classify sweeps, as well as its robustness to common confounding factors. Specifically, we considered differences in demographic history inspired by population size fluctuations inferred from human genomic data (Terhorst et al., 2017), the influence of soft shoulders (Schrider et al., 2015), background selection due to long-term purifying selection (McVicker et al., 2009;
Demographic History

We considered a constant-size demographic history with effective size of $N = 10^4$ diploid individuals (see Training the Classifier), as well as models incorporating population size change that are inspired by parameters inferred from human history (Terhorst et al., 2017)—with models that incorporate recent population expansions that occurred in populations of sub-Saharan African ancestry (e.g., LWK and YRI), and models with strong recent population bottlenecks that occurred in populations of non-African ancestry (e.g., GIH, TSI, CEU, CHB, and JPT). We used these piecewise constant demographic histories inferred by Terhorst et al. (2017) to train our models. We chose to use the models of Terhorst et al. (2017) instead of those from Tennessen et al. (2012), because in addition to allele frequency information used by Tennessen et al. (2012), Terhorst et al. (2017) also incorporated patterns of LD to infer demographic histories, thereby potentially making their inferred models more accurate (Beichman et al., 2017)—though linked selection may bias inferences of demographic history from whole-genome methods that incorporate LD, and so masking such regions, as can be done within the Terhorst et al. (2017) framework, may be important. We used 200 time points and corresponding effective population sizes throughout human history for each of our seven populations of interest, which included African (YRI and LWK), European (CEU and TSI), South Asian (GIH), and East Asian (CHB and JPT) groups (see Application to Empirical Data). We utilized these data points as 200 intervals describing the growths and declines of these populations as inputs to discoal along with a range of selection strengths $s \in [0.005, 0.5]$ for hard and soft sweeps. The per-site per-generation mutation and recombination rates used for simulating all Terhorst et al. (2017) demographic histories are $\mu = 1.25 \times 10^{-8}$ and $r = 10^{-8}$, respectively. In simulations with hard and soft sweeps, we ensure the beneficial allele fixes between 1,200 generations ago and the present, with fixation time drawn uniformly at random over this time period.

Linked-Sweep Classes

Previous work has shown that when classifying genomic regions with window-based methods, it may be possible to misclassify genomic regions near a hard sweep as soft sweeps via a phenomenon termed “soft shoulders” (Schrider et al., 2015; Schrider and Kern, 2016b). To test whether Trendsetter is affected by soft shoulders, we simulated linked-sweep regions by moving the location of a beneficial mutation away from the center in steps of 100 kb, in both the upstream and downstream directions. We do this for both hard sweeps and soft sweeps. To form the training set for the linked-sweep classes, we combine 100 simulations from each of the 10 sets of sweep simulations with selected sites distant from the test site.

Background Selection

To evaluate the robustness of Trendsetter to regions evolving under background selection, we first followed the protocol described in Schrider and Kern (2017). We employed the forward-time simulator SLiM 2 (Haller and Messer, 2017) to generate $10^3$ simulated replicates for sequences of length 1.1 Mb, where the number, lengths, spatial distribution, and distribution of fitness effects of functional elements across the simulated region matched random regions from the human genome. Specifically, we sampled a 1.1-Mb region of the human genome uniformly at random, and determined the sites within that region that are either included in the phastCons database (Siepel et al., 2005) or found within an exon in the GENCODE database (Harrow et al., 2012). In simulations, sites falling within these regions were determined to be undergoing purifying selection, with 25% of mutations occurring in these sites being neutral and 75% having a selection coefficient drawn from a gamma distribution with mean $-0.0294$ as described by Boyko et al. (2008). Along with this empirically based background selection scenario, we wanted to investigate a potentially more extreme setting with a single genic element located at the center of a large genomic region, in which strongly deleterious alleles arise continually within this genic element. We also used SLiM 2 to generate $10^3$ simulated replicates for sequences of length 1.1 Mb, where a central 11-kb “gene” evolved under purifying selection. Specifically, this central genic region was composed of 5′ and 3′ untranslated regions (UTRs) that flank a set of 10 exons, which were separated by introns as in Cheng et al. (2017). We set the lengths of these UTRs, exons, and introns to be based on their means in the human genome (Mignone et al., 2002; Sakharkar et al., 2004), such that the lengths of each intron, exon, 5′ UTR, and 3′ UTR were 1,000, 100, 200, and 800 nucleotides, respectively. We simulated differences in proportions of deleterious mutations arising in each of these genic elements, by simulating 75%, 50%, and 10% of mutations arising in exons, UTRs, and introns as deleterious, respectively, and deleterious mutations having a strong selective disadvantage of $s = -0.1$ per generation. Finally, as a third background selection scenario, we also considered the exact setting as this second central genic element scenario, but with the recombination rate decreased to 100-fold lower in the 11-kb genic region relative to the surrounding neutral regions. This scenario permitted us to examine whether Trendsetter was robust to strongly deleterious mutations arising in regions of elevated LD. We then tested whether this set of three background selection settings would be falsely classified as a sweep by Trendsetter trained using simulations of the constant-size demographic history discussed in the Training the Classifier section.

Missing Data

Due to a number of technical issues, large segments of missing data are scattered throughout the genome (Lander, 2011). Filtering such segments can lead to a large fraction of the genome that cannot be classified (Sheehan and Song, 2016; Schrider and Kern, 2016b), unless it is properly accounted for.
within the training data set, as missing data can masquerade as footprints of lost diversity, mimicking patterns expected from selective sweeps. **Trendsetter** computes summary statistics at data points rather than as averages over physical regions, potentially enabling it to be robust to falsely attributing regions with missing data as candidate sweeps. The rationale is that missing data would cause data points to be farther in terms of both physical and genetic distance than if there was no missing data, thereby making data points close to the focal SNP less correlated than expected under selection models. Such an approach should be conservative, likely leading to classifications of sweeps as neutral and not misclassifying neutral regions as sweeps. To evaluate robustness to missing data, we masked SNPs in the testing data set, amounting to 30% of the total number of SNPs in each simulation and approximately 30% of the total length of the chromosome. We did this by removing 10 genomic chunks each with size equaling 3% of the total number of simulated SNPs, with a starting position for each missing chunk chosen uniformly at random from the set of SNPs, provided the chunk did not overlap with previously missing chunks. Removing SNPs in this fashion simulates missing data that would be filtered due to genomic regions with poor alignability or mappability (Mallick et al., 2009).

**Effect of Sample Sizes on Classification Rates**

The number of individuals sequenced can differ in projects depending on sample availability and funding resources for sequencing. Larger sample sizes are expected to yield better estimates of summary statistics, and therefore more accurate interrogations of genomic diversity. To explore how sample size affects classification accuracy, we tested the ability of **Trendsetter** to correctly classify hard sweeps, soft sweeps, and neutral regions as a function of sample size, choosing sample sizes of 100, 25, and 10 diploid individuals for a set of selection strengths $s \in [0.005, 0.5]$ ranging from moderate to strong.

**Selection Strengths and Classification Rates**

The strength of selection has an impact on the speed at which a selected allele increases in frequency toward fixation, and thus the amount of time for mutation and recombination to erode the signature. Specifically, the size of the genomic footprint $L_{\text{footprint}}$ can be approximated by the equation $L_{\text{footprint}} = s / (2 \ln(4Ns))$, where $s$ is the per-generation selection coefficient, $r$ is the per-site per-generation recombination rate, and $N$ is the diploid effective population size (Gillespie, 2004; Hermisson and Pennings, 2005; Garud et al., 2015). Here, the footprint is positively correlated with the strength of selection, whereas it is negatively correlated with the rate of recombination. To test the effects that different selection strengths have on overall classification rates, we simulated hard and soft sweeps with selection coefficients chosen from two nonoverlapping intervals: strong selection with $s \in [0.05, 0.5]$ and moderate selection with $s \in [0.005, 0.05]$. We conducted simulations under a constant-size demographic model using discoal as described in the Training the Classifier section.

**Application to Empirical Data**

We used phased haplotypes from variant calls of the 1000 Genomes Project (The 1000 Genomes Project Consortium, 2015). Specifically, we analyzed genomes from the sub-Saharan African Yoruban (YRI) population, Gujarati Indian from Houston, Texas, USA (GIH), Han Chinese in Beijing, China (CHB), Japanese in Tokyo, Japan (JPT), Luhya in Webuye, Kenya (LWK), Toscani in Italy (TSI), and Utah Residents with European Ancestry (CEU). We first filtered regions with poor mappability and alignability as in Huber et al. (2016). Specifically, we segmented each chromosome into 100-kb nonoverlapping regions, and filtered SNPs in regions with a mean CRG100 score (Derrien et al., 2012) less than 0.9. Because sweeps tend to affect large genomic regions, filtering in this manner will remove large regions with poor average quality, decreasing the likelihood that **Trendsetter** would be misled by genetic variation in unreliable genomic regions. After masking these regions, we computed summary statistics in an identical manner as for the simulated data sets. However, for each chromosome, we classify every fifth SNP, beginning from the 505th SNP as the focal SNP, using information from $D = 100$ data points (spanning 505 SNPs) upstream and $D = 100$ data points (spanning 505 SNPs) downstream of the focal SNP. It is important to note that each focal SNP classified by **Trendsetter** should not be viewed as the site or exact location of the beneficial mutation, but rather should be considered as a proxy for the location. If the focal SNP is close enough to the location of the adaptive variant, then we would expect the genetic variation surrounding the focal SNP to look similar to the diversity around the adaptive site. Therefore, using summary statistics that compute a single value at a given SNP (e.g., iHS or XP-EHH; see Discussion) may enhance the ability of **Trendsetter** to only classify polymorphisms that are close to the true adaptive site as a sweep.

When training **Trendsetter** for application to empirical data, our treatment differed from when we evaluated **Trendsetter**’s performance on simulated data in two ways. First, because human recombination rate varies across the genome, we accounted for recombination rate variation by following Schirider and Kern (2017) and drawing the recombination rate for a particular training simulation from an exponential distribution with mean $10^{-8}$ and truncated at three times the mean. Second, because we have introduced another variable into our training simulations (namely recombination rate), we chose to increase the number of independent training simulations by 5-fold, leading to 5,000 neutral, 5,000 hard sweep, and 5,000 soft sweep replicates.

**Comparison to Other Methods**

A number of powerful approaches have recently emerged to localize and classify sweeps from genomic data. We compare the classification ability of **Trendsetter** to the binary classifier evolBoosting (Lin et al., 2011), as well as the multiclass approaches of S/HIC (Schirider and Kern, 2016b) and diploS/HIC (Kern and Schirider, 2018). Following Schirider and Kern (2016b), to compare binary to multiclass classifiers, we expanded evolBoosting to greater than two classes by...
training a classifier to differentiate between sweeps (combined hard and soft) and neutrality, and training another classifier to differentiate between hard and soft sweeps. This procedure is analogous to how Lin et al. (2011) differentiated among sweeps, population bottlenecks, and a constant-size demographic history in the article that introduced evolBoosting. Moreover, to enable direct comparison of S/HIC and diploS/HIC to Trendsetter, we employed three-class versions of S/HIC and diploS/HIC approaches, whereas their native states include five classes. We later expand Trendsetter to five classes to permit direct comparison with the default states of S/HIC and diploS/HIC. In addition to direct comparison across methods, we also evaluated detection capabilities and robustness to confounding factors when Trendsetter operates on the expanded set of summary statistics used by S/HIC. Specifically, S/HIC uses 10 summary statistics: Tajima’s $D$ (Tajima, 1983), the maximum value of $\omega$ (Kim and Nielsen, 2004), Tajima’s $\hat{\pi}$ (Tajima, 1983), $H_1$ (Garud et al., 2015), $H_{12}$ (Garud et al., 2015), number of haplotypes $N_{haps}$, $Z_{ms}$ (Kelly, 1997), Fay and Wu’s $H$ (Fay and Wu, 2000), and Watterson’s $\theta_W$ (Watterson, 1975) calculated in each of 11 contiguous windows. Because Trendsetter uses many more data points for summary statistics to capture their spatial distribution across the genome, we computed each of the 10 summary statistics in each of 110 contiguous windows, where each window was 1/10th the size of the window used by S/HIC, thereby requiring Trendsetter to operate on the same data.

We tested the classification rates for both the constant ($d = 1$) and linear ($d = 2$) trend penalties employed by Trendsetter. Moreover, because S/HIC was developed to classify genomic regions as either neutral, a sweep, or linked to a sweep, we also included linked-hard and linked-soft classes to examine whether they enhance the robustness of Trendsetter to soft shoulders (Schirder et al., 2015; Schirder and Kern, 2016b). Finally, we compared Trendsetter to diploS/HIC (Kern and Schirder, 2018), a recently developed approach that utilizes deep neural networks and image analysis to learn the spatial distribution of summary statistics nearby a sweep region—similar in concept to accounting for the spatial orientation of summary statistics that gives Trendsetter its power. Similarly to testing with S/HIC-specific statistics, we tested Trendsetter using the statistics specified by diploS/HIC in 110 contiguous windows. This feature vector includes statistics measuring the variance, skewness, and kurtosis of the distribution of multilocus genotype distances.

**Results**

To examine the power and robustness of Trendsetter, we evaluate its performance under common settings that would typically be encountered in empirical data. Specifically, we test the ability of Trendsetter to correctly classify simulated sweeps of differing selection strengths, scenarios that include extensive missing data, and settings of realistic population size changes. We compare the accuracy and robustness of Trendsetter to other powerful methods designed to localize sweeps in single populations such as evolBoosting (Lin et al., 2011), S/HIC (Schirder and Kern, 2016b), and diploS/HIC (Kern and Schirder, 2018), and exclude complementary approaches developed to isolate sweep signals using data from multiple populations (e.g., SWIF(r); Sugden et al., 2018).

**Detecting and Classifying Selective Sweeps**

We trained Trendsetter with a linear ($d = 2$) trend filter penalty on data simulated under a constant-size demographic model as described in the Materials and Methods section. We obtained optimal values for $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ through 10-fold cross-validation. We first examined whether probability calibration was required for Trendsetter, and the reliability curves in supplementary figure S2, Supplementary Material online, suggest that no further calibration is needed. Based on this trained classifier, we are able to correctly classify 81.9% of hard, 97.1% of neutral, and 78.3% of soft sweep scenarios (fig. 2). Of the misclassified soft sweeps scenarios, 15.5% are classified as hard sweeps, and 6.2% are classified as neutral. We compared the performance of Trendsetter against several existing classification methods, where each method was modified to a three-class classification system (Lin et al., 2011; Schirder and Kern, 2016b; Kern and Schirder, 2018). Note that the native state of evolBoosting is two classes, whereas S/HIC and diploS/HIC employ five classes by default. We will examine classification ability of Trendsetter with five classes later in this subsection, allowing for it to be directly compared with the native states of S/HIC and diploS/HIC. From these simulated scenarios, all methods had comparable ability to detect and classify sweeps and to differentiate between hard and soft sweeps (figs. 2 and 3 and supplementary fig. S3, Supplementary Material online).

By examining the values of the regression coefficients for each summary statistic, we can identify the relative importance of each statistic as well as the spatial distribution modeled. Specifically, summary statistics will tend to be more important when their regression coefficients are of larger magnitudes than other statistics. Moreover, the spatial distribution of the regression coefficients for a particular summary statistic calculated for a specific class should yield a curve, with summaries important for detecting sweeps likely exhibiting a sharp increase in magnitude near the site (central single nucleotide polymorphism [SNP]) under selection (see schematic in fig. 1). These sharp peaks are the result of the combination of lasso and trend filter penalties that Trendsetter employs when fitting a regression model. If the value of a regression coefficient is reduced to zero, neighboring regression coefficients are also more likely to be zero. In contrast, the values of regression coefficients in regions of importance will be constrained by the higher values of neighboring coefficients. Figure 4 depicts the regression coefficients for $H_{12}$ and the number of haplotypes $N_{haps}$ under both constant ($d = 1$) and linear ($d = 2$) trend filter penalties as a function of the class and SNP position, with Trendsetter trained on a range of selection strengths $s \in [0.005, 0.5]$. We can see that number of haplotypes is clearly a less important statistic, with regression coefficients exhibiting low magnitudes at the peaks. The likely reason for this lack of importance is that, conditional on the number of SNPs, the
number of distinct haplotypes will likely be narrowly constrained. In contrast, $H_{12}$ played a large role in distinguishing between sweeps and neutrality, with its peak reaching the greatest magnitude, likely due to sweeps skewing the distribution of haplotype frequencies and thereby having a large influence on the $H_{12}$ statistic. We also notice that some regression coefficients (such as $H_1$ in supplementary fig. S4, Supplementary Material online) tend to increase in...
magnitude toward the beginning or end of the analyzed region. This phenomenon may be due to the value of the coefficient only being constrained from a single direction, rather than both directions. We explore whether these upticks or downticks in regression coefficients at the ends of the analyzed region affect the accuracy of Trendsetter in the Discussion section.

In a similar manner to fitting a linear \( d = 2 \) trend penalty, we trained Trendsetter with a constant \( d = 1 \) trend penalty that resulted in similar classification performance as when we trained under the linear penalty (figs. 2 and 3). This overall similarity in classification rates between constant \( d = 1 \) and linear \( d = 2 \) trend filtering is reflected in their similar distributions (fig. 4), with comparable relative importance levels, magnitudes, and spatial distributions of regression coefficients. Interestingly, the linear penalty is better at localizing the SNP closest to the site of selection relative to the constant penalty, based on the regression coefficients for \( H_{12} \) (fig. 4). Because of their similarity in performance, our discussion will be based on linear trend filtering \( d = 2 \), unless otherwise specified.

We expect a disparity in the power of Trendsetter to detect sweeps resulting from different selection strengths \( s \). The selection strength of test simulation sets strongly influences its hard sweep classification rates (supplementary fig. S5, Supplementary Material online), in that simulations of strong hard sweeps are classified correctly more often than moderate hard sweeps. Further, from the curves displayed in supplementary figure S6, Supplementary Material online, we find that Trendsetter exhibits equal power in differentiating between neutrality and soft sweeps, regardless of the selection strength. This pattern is also reflected in supplementary figure S6.

**Fig. 4.** Spatial distributions of regression coefficients \( (\beta) \) in neutral, hard sweep, and soft sweep scenarios for summary statistics \( H_{12} \) and number of distinct haplotypes \( N_{\text{haps}} \) for Trendsetter applied with constant \( (d = 1) \) and linear \( (d = 2) \) trend penalties. Trendsetter was trained on simulations with selection strength \( s \in [0.005, 0.5] \) sampled uniformly at random on a log scale. Note that the distributions of regression coefficients for both summary statistics are plotted on the same scale, thereby making the distribution of \( N_{\text{haps}} \) difficult to decipher as its magnitude is small relative to \( H_{12} \).
S5, Supplementary Material online, which indicates that selection strength does not lead to substantial differences in misclassification rates of soft sweeps for the selection strengths that we have considered—though Trendsetter as well as other approaches would likely have little ability to detect and classify soft sweeps from sufficiently weak selected alleles.

In contrast to the models we have considered so far, both S/HIC and diploS/HIC include two other classes in their native states, so that in addition to classes representing neutrality, hard sweeps, and soft sweeps, there are also classes representing regions that are linked (or nearby) to hard sweeps and linked to soft sweeps. The motivation for including these classes was to increase robustness of these methods to soft shoulders (Schrider et al., 2015; Schrider and Kern, 2016b; Kern and Schrider, 2018). We observe a slight increase in the misclassification of linked-hard regions as soft sweeps (supplementary fig. S7, Supplementary Material online) when we test simulations containing linked sweeps using Trendsetter trained to differentiate among three classes (neutrality, hard sweeps, and soft sweeps). We next chose to test whether incorporating additional (linked-hard and linked-soft) classes will increase Trendsetter’s robustness to soft shoulders. Under this five-class model, the spatial distributions of regression coefficients for linked-sweep regions are modeled distinctly from sweep regions (supplementary fig. S8, Supplementary Material online). Although Trendsetter’s ability to distinguish between hard sweeps and linked-hard regions is limited, we show that our misclassification of linked-hard regions as soft sweeps is not dramatically different from that of S/HIC (supplementary figs. S9–S11, Supplementary Material online). Because S/HIC and diploS/HIC were designed to include linked-sweep classes, we test whether including these classes alters their classification rates under confounding factors in the Missing Data subsection of the Results section.

**Influence of Population History**

Populations tend not to maintain constant sizes, with sizes instead fluctuating over time (Graci et al., 2015; Osborne et al., 2016; Sherry, 2018). For example, it is widely accepted that global human populations have undergone different recent demographic events, such as more rapid expansions and more extreme bottlenecks in European and Asian populations when compared with Africans (Gravel et al., 2011; Tennessen et al., 2012). However, population size changes alter local genomic diversity, and can mimic signatures of selective sweeps (Galtier et al., 2000; Stajich and Hahn, 2005). It is therefore important to assess the effects of population size change on method performance.

We trained and tested Trendsetter on data simulated under realistic demographic models with recent population bottlenecks and expansions that are consistent with genetic variation observed in empirical human data. In particular, we generated simulation and training data from inferred human demographic parameters (Terhorst et al., 2017, see Materials and Methods). In general, Trendsetter performs well when trained and tested on realistic demographic histories (fig. 5). Simulations of African populations (LWK and YRI) showed the lowest rates of misclassification (fig. 5), likely due to their larger effective sizes and therefore greater neutral haplotypic diversity (Tenesa et al., 2007). Overall, the classification rates of simulations using Trendsetter with constant ($d = 1$) trend filtering (supplementary fig. S12, Supplementary Material online) are virtually identical to those under linear ($d = 2$) trend filtering (fig. 5). Additionally, classification rates appear to be
correlated with effective population size (supplementary fig. S13, Supplementary Material online), with larger effective sizes such as in Africans leading to a greater percentage of correctly classified simulations.

Though all classifiers performed well under diverse models of population size change, demographic misspecification (i.e., testing on a population history that is different from the one that was used to train the classifier) leads to high misclassification rates if the training and test demographic histories are highly different (supplementary fig. S14, Supplementary Material online). We chose to compare classification rates with demographic misspecifications for populations with similar (e.g., CHB vs. GIH) and different (e.g., LWK vs. CEU) histories. For all methods tested, when demographic histories of populations are similar, classification rates are not dramatically affected. However, when training on a history without a bottleneck (LWK) and testing on one with a bottleneck (CEU), Trendsetter (as well as evolBoosting) classified neutral regions as soft sweeps, whereas S/HIC and diploS/HIC classified soft sweeps as hard. Interestingly, by training Trendsetter with a combination of simulations conducted under specifications for several diverse demographic histories, we are able to improve classification rates for all test populations when demographic history is misspecified (supplementary fig. S15, Supplementary Material online), and a similar performance rescue would be expected for evolBoosting, S/HIC, and diploS/HIC. As illustrated in this experiment, increasing the range of simulation parameters to reflect a more general demographic history may be desirable when training classifiers in populations for which the demographic history is not well studied.

Effect of Sample Size
Though under ideal scenarios there will be sufficient resources for studies to produce large quantities of high-quality sequence data, this is not always the case. Instead, studies may often have access only to data sets with relatively small sample sizes. The sample sizes of simulated data used to train Trendsetter should match that of the empirical data set in a particular study. In our simulation examples, we evaluated the performance of Trendsetter on a modest sample size of 50 diploid individuals. Here, we explore whether an increase or decrease in the sample size would substantially affect classification rates of Trendsetter, and find that the sample size does not have a great effect on classification rates. In particular, for situations in which we have half the sample size of 25 diploids (supplementary fig. S16, Supplementary Material online), correct classification of hard sweep, soft sweep, and neutral scenarios was almost identical to samples of 50 diploids (fig. 2), with a slight decrease in the correct classification of hard sweeps. When we instead use a small sample of ten diploid individuals, Trendsetter shows a slight decrease in correct classification rates for all classes, although it is not a dramatic difference from a sample ten times larger (supplementary fig. S16, Supplementary Material online).

Differences in sample sizes may have more of an effect on classification rates when sampled populations have gone through recent expansions or bottlenecks as experienced by human populations. For our original analysis we sampled 50 diploid individuals from each population. To test the effect of sample size on the classification rates for a population known to have gone through a strong bottleneck (CEU) as well as no bottleneck (LWK), we trained and tested models with 100 and 25 diploid individuals for LWK and CEU demographic histories (Terhorst et al., 2017). We find that there is no appreciable difference in the classification rates between sample sizes (fig. 5 and supplementary fig. S17, Supplementary Material online).

Common Confounding Factors
Removal of low-quality genomic regions is necessary when scanning empirical genomic data for selective sweeps. Depending on the stringency of filtering, this process can lead to large fractions of the genome as unclassifiable to avoid biasing scans of selection (e.g., Kelley et al., 2006; Schrider and Kern, 2016b). However, it would instead be ideal if such regions could still be robustly classified despite large percentages of missing sites. We therefore chose to investigate the robustness of Trendsetter to excessive levels of missing segregating sites (see Materials and Methods). Substantial missing data in the test data sets did not significantly alter the Trendsetter classification rates, whereas evolBoosting, S/HIC, and diploS/HIC incorrectly classified a large percentage of simulations, including neutral simulations as hard or soft sweeps (fig. 6 and supplementary fig. S18, Supplementary Material online). Though we observed that missing data increased the misclassification rate of soft sweeps with Trendsetter, these soft sweep simulations tend to be classified as neutral regions (supplementary fig. S18, Supplementary Material online). Therefore, Trendsetter is more conservative than other comparable approaches under settings with large amounts of missing data without explicitly accounting for the distribution of missing data. The inclusion of linked-sweep classes in the model leads to most hard sweep, soft sweep, and neutral simulations with missing data to be misclassified as either linked hard or linked soft (supplementary figs. S19–S21, Supplementary Material online). It should be noted that a linked-sweep classification is regarded as neutral and inclusion of linked classes leads to an increase in the performance of the method. Importantly, however, S/HIC and diploS/HIC trained with linked-sweep classes misclassify neutral simulations with missing data as soft sweeps 23.7% and 18.5% of the time, respectively (supplementary fig. S19, Supplementary Material online).

The sensitivity of evolBoosting, S/HIC, and diploS/HIC is due to their reliance on summary statistics computed over large physical distances, and certain summaries, such as Tajima’s D or the number of distinct haplotypes, may be heavily affected by missing genomic regions. It should be noted that because we randomly removed chunks of data from simulated replicates, it is possible that data were by chance not removed from the center of simulations under neutral scenarios due to their large number of segregating sites relative to sweep settings. To address this potential issue, we randomly removed 30% of the SNPs within the central 1,010 SNPs for each neutral replicate simulation and applied
**Trendsetter** to the central 1,010 SNPs after filtering, thereby mimicking the application of **Trendsetter** in a genomic region with extensive missing data. We find that **Trendsetter** retains its high robustness even under this scenario (supplementary fig. S22, Supplementary Material online).

However, as indicated by Kern and Schrider (2018), it is also possible to train classifiers with simulations that model the distribution of missing data to account for this confounding factor. To test this idea, we trained **Trendsetter**, evolBoosting, S/HIC, and diploS/HIC on simulations with substantial missing data (i.e., 30% of segregating sites missing as described in the Materials and Methods section). Accounting for the distribution of missing data when training the classifiers rescued the accuracy of all methods under this scenario, and also led to a slight boost in the overall classification rates for **Trendsetter** (fig. 6 and supplementary fig. S23, Supplementary Material online).

In addition to missing data, background selection is a ubiquitous factor (e.g., McVicker et al., 2009; Comeron, 2014) that can leave similar genomic signatures as selective sweeps (Charlesworth, 2013; Nicolaisen and Desai, 2013), and which has been demonstrated to mislead sweep-detection approaches (e.g., Huber et al., 2016). We examined two different scenarios of background selection—one in which a single centrally located 11-kb protein-coding gene with strongly deleterious alleles arising continuously is flanked by noncoding genomic regions (denoted **Central gene BGS**), and another in which potentially functional genomic regions are scattered throughout a 1.1-Mb genomic region, with the spatial distribution and distribution of fitness effects of deleterious alleles inspired by their respective distributions in humans (denoted **Empirical-Based BGS**) as described in the Materials and Methods section.

**Trendsetter**, S/HIC, and diploS/HIC are relatively robust to both forms of background selection (fig. 7 and supplementary fig. S24, Supplementary Material online), with **Trendsetter** demonstrating slightly better performance than S/HIC and diploS/HIC as it almost always classifies background selection as neutral. In contrast, S/HIC and diploS/HIC sometimes classify regions of background selection as soft sweeps, and evolBoosting almost always classifies background selection as a soft sweep. It is important to note that S/HIC and diploS/HIC likely classify some background selection simulations as soft sweeps because we have not included the two linked-sweep classes that they generally employ. The inclusion of such classes would probably lead to such regions being classified as a linked sweep, which should be regarded as neutral. Moreover, the poor performance of evolBoosting is due to Tajima’s D being the feature of greatest importance for all windows in the trained classifier, which can be misled by background selection as it can generate distortions in the site frequency spectrum that are similar to sweeps (Charlesworth, 2013; Nicolaisen and Desai, 2013).

We also examined a modification to the **Central gene BGS** scenario, by decreasing the recombination rate in the centrally located 11-kb genic region by 100-fold (denoted **Central gene BGS with low recombination**), which is meant to simulate a massive reduction in haplotypic diversity within the central genic region as strongly deleterious mutations arise in the region. We find that classification rates for all methods decrease by only a few percentage points under this scenario (supplementary fig. S24, Supplementary Material online). This
set of background selection simulations demonstrates that Trendsetter, S/HIC, and diploS/HIC are robust to typical as well as strong background selection, and robustness of all methods could likely be improved by including an additional class for background selection (Schrider and Kern, 2016b).

Another potential confounding factor is the fluctuation of recombination rate across the genome, as recombination rate changes can influence haplotypic diversity and therefore impact sweep detection. To examine the influence of this factor on sweep detection and classification, we simulated genomic regions with lower ($r = 5 \times 10^{-8}$) and higher ($r = 5 \times 10^{-6}$) recombination rates compared with the recombination rate ($r = 10^{-8}$) used to simulate the training data. We find that both increasing and decreasing recombination rates leads to high misclassification rates (supplementary fig. S25, Supplementary Material online). In general, regions of lower recombination typically lead to an increase in the rate of misclassifying soft sweeps as hard sweeps across all compared methods. In contrast, higher recombination rate regions lead to an increase in rates of misclassifying hard sweeps as soft sweeps across all methods. Moreover, Trendsetter and evolBoosting also have an elevated rate of misclassifying soft sweeps as neutral regions. These results suggest that accounting for recombination rate variation when training a classifier is highly important, as not considering a range of recombination rates could lead to misclassification of the types of identified sweeps.

**Application to Empirical Data**

Global human populations have encountered a number of diverse environments in their past, likely leading to various adaptive pressures experienced across populations (Sabeti, Schaffner, et al., 2006; Hancock et al., 2008). For this reason, we sought to identify genomic regions that are likely candidates for recent selective sweeps in different populations. Because our results on recombination rate changes on simulated data indicated that Trendsetter is not robust to recombination rate variation when it is not directly accounted for in the training step, we simulated training replicates in which recombination rates were drawn from an exponential distribution with mean $10^{-8}$ and truncated at three times the mean as in Schrider and Kern (2017). We also show that classifiers are reasonably well calibrated for demographic histories of all populations that we consider in our empirical analysis after training with recombination rate variation (supplementary fig. S26, Supplementary Material online).

Classification of populations from the 1000 Genomes Project (The 1000 Genomes Project Consortium, 2015) showed in general that recent hard sweeps are relatively rare, as has been previously demonstrated in humans and other species (e.g., Garud et al., 2015; Schrider and Kern, 2017). For our empirical scan we classify every fifth autosomal SNP, beginning from the center SNP in the 101th window (505th SNP) as described in the Application to Empirical Data subsection of the Materials and Methods section. We compute the fraction of autosomes classified as a certain class as the fraction of classified SNPs belonging to that class. Between 0.00% and 1.83% of each chromosome was classified as a hard sweep, and between 4.61 and 12.95% was classified as soft when we trained Trendsetter using demographic parameters inferred by Terhorst et al. (2017) (supplementary tables S1–S3, Supplementary Material online). Trendsetter also detected
genes previously identified as hard sweeps, such as EDAR in CHB (Bryk et al., 2008). Supplementary figure S27, Supplementary Material online, shows the probability of a hard sweep under Trendsetter across the region on chromosome 2 surrounding EDAR in the seven global populations considered, and displays a clear peak under the selected gene EDAR in the East Asian (CHB and JPT) populations. By examining the values of the summary statistics calculated in the region containing EDAR for the Han Chinese (CHB) population (supplementary fig. S27, Supplementary Material online), we see that there are clear decreases in the values of \( H_1 \) number of haplotypes \( N_{hap} \), and \( H_2/H_1 \), as well as increases in the values of \( H_1 \) and \( H_{12} \), providing support for the strong hard-sweep classification in this region (supplementary fig. S27, Supplementary Material online). We also find that the LCT gene, which is classified as a soft sweep in the CEU population, shows similar patterns of summary statistics in the region of selection (supplementary fig. S28, Supplementary Material online). Although the region surrounding LCT has been previously classified as a hard sweep (Peter et al., 2012), a more recent study by Schrider and Kern (2016b) also classifies the region surrounding LCT as soft. Moreover, we identify as soft sweeps many genes previously hypothesized to be under positive selection, such as TRPV6 (supplementary fig. S29, Supplementary Material online), PPARG, and EPHB6 (Akiny et al., 2004). TRPV6 was also discovered by Peter et al. (2012), but was not classified as either hard or soft.

Supplementary figure S29, Supplementary Material online, shows the probability of a hard sweep under Trendsetter across the region on chromosome 2 surrounding EDAR in the seven global populations considered, and displays a clear peak under the selected gene EDAR in the East Asian (CHB and JPT) populations. By examining the values of the summary statistics calculated in the region containing EDAR for the Han Chinese (CHB) population (supplementary fig. S27, Supplementary Material online), we see that there are clear decreases in the values of \( H_1 \) number of haplotypes \( N_{hap} \), and \( H_2/H_1 \), as well as increases in the values of \( H_1 \) and \( H_{12} \), providing support for the strong hard-sweep classification in this region (supplementary fig. S27, Supplementary Material online). We also find that the LCT gene, which is classified as a soft sweep in the CEU population, shows similar patterns of summary statistics in the region of selection (supplementary fig. S28, Supplementary Material online). Although the region surrounding LCT has been previously classified as a hard sweep (Peter et al., 2012), a more recent study by Schrider and Kern (2016b) also classifies the region surrounding LCT as soft. Moreover, we identify as soft sweeps many genes previously hypothesized to be under positive selection, such as TRPV6 (supplementary fig. S29, Supplementary Material online), PPARG, and EPHB6 (Akiny et al., 2004). TRPV6 was also discovered by Peter et al. (2012), but was not classified as either hard or soft.

We also uncover a number of novel candidate sweeps. For many genes classified as positively selected in a population, these genes are also classified as under positive selection in other human populations. Among these are cancer-related genes, such as BRCA1 and FBXW7. BRCA1 was classified as a soft sweep in East Asian (CHB and JPT), South Asian (GIH), and European (CEU and TSI) populations (supplementary fig. S30, Supplementary Material online). The distribution of summary statistic values used to classify this region also display expected sweep patterns (supplementary fig. S30, Supplementary Material online). Moreover, FBXW7, a tumor suppressor gene in which mutations are associated with colorectal, ovarian, and liver cancers (Jardim et al., 2014), was classified as a soft sweep in six (LWK, GIH, TSI, CEU, CHB, and JPT) out of the seven populations that we evaluated (supplementary fig. S31, Supplementary Material online). Interestingly, Schrider and Kern (2017) also reported that a large number of genes they determined to be influenced by a sweep have been associated with cancer. Furthermore, there exists prior evidence of positive selection acting on cancer-related genes, such as BRCA1 (Lou et al., 2014), which may help explain the high percentage of cancer-related genes flagged as candidate sweep targets by Trendsetter.

In addition to signals over specific genes, we observe in general that regions classified as a sweep tend to be shared across populations. Specifically, we find that genomic regions classified as either hard or soft sweeps tend to be classified as the same sweep class in other populations. To quantify this observation, we measure the extent to which sweeps signals in one population are also found in other populations. In particular, we computed the fraction of nonoverlapping 10-kb genomic segments classified as a soft (hard) sweep in a given population that are also classified as a soft (hard) sweep in another population. We find that populations share more soft sweeps with populations from the same geographic region than with populations from other regions (fig. 8), most likely resulting from shared ancestry rather than convergent evolution. The African populations (LWK and YRI) form a cluster of shared sweeps as do the East Asian (CHB and JPT) and separately, European (TSI and CEU) populations. European populations also form a sharing cluster with the South Asian population GIH. Although the proportions are much higher when quantifying shared hard sweeps (supplementary fig. S32, Supplementary Material online), the patterns of sweep sharing are similar to that of soft sweeps (fig. 8) and mimic the sharing of haplotypes across globally distributed human populations observed by Conrad et al. (2006).

**Discussion**

In this article, we demonstrated the ability of Trendsetter to localize and classify selective sweeps from the spatial distribution of summary statistics in the genome. In its current form, Trendsetter uses information from six different summary statistics to differentiate among three classes—neutrality, hard sweeps, and soft sweeps. Based on this formulation of Trendsetter, we found that it is resistant to common issues such as missing genomic segments (fig. 6 and supplementary fig. S18, Supplementary Material online) and background selection (fig. 7 and supplementary fig. S24, Supplementary Material online). This robustness to such confounding factors is likely due to its reliance on haplotype-based statistics such as \( H_1 \), \( H_{12} \), and \( H_2/H_1 \) (Garud et al., 2015), to its use of SNP-based windows for calculating summary statistics, and to the use of the spatial distribution of
each summary statistic. Other approaches that rely on statistics that emphasize the number of segregating sites or the site frequency spectrum, such as Watterson’s \( \theta_W \) or Tajima’s \( D \), in a window may have higher power to detect sweeps, but also exhibit higher misclassification error rates, leading to regions harboring extensive missing data or undergoing background selection to be mistaken as candidate sweep regions (figs. 6 and 7 and supplementary fig. S18, Supplementary Material online). However, as we demonstrated in supplementary figure S23, Supplementary Material online, this lack of robustness to, for example, missing data may be remedied by training models with simulations including missing data.

Flexibility in the choice of summary statistics allows Trendsetter as well as other complementary approaches (Lin et al., 2011; Schrider and Kern, 2016b; Kern and Schrider, 2018) to be easily applied to a number of settings, and for this reason, particular choices of summary statistics for other approaches may also lead to greater robustness to confounding factors but with likely power trade-offs. Trendsetter’s ability to correctly classify sweeps and distinguish sweeps from neutrality increases when we trained a model with S/HIC and diploS/HIC-specific statistics calculated in 110 contiguous windows each of length 10 kb (supplementary fig. S33, Supplementary Material online). We chose this large number of windows so that we could learn the spatial distribution of each summary statistic. However, if we normalize each statistic across the set of windows it is calculated as in S/HIC and diploS/HIC; Schrider and Kern, 2016b; Kern and Schrider, 2018), misclassification between hard and soft sweeps increases (supplementary fig. S33, Supplementary Material online, right column).

The types of summary statistics employed by Trendsetter contribute to the reason for its robustness to missing data. We tested whether training Trendsetter with the complementary sets of summary statistics as used by S/HIC or diploS/HIC would affect Trendsetter’s classification rates under missing data. In contrast to the patterns displayed by S/HIC (supplementary fig. S18, Supplementary Material online), we observed a larger percentage of misclassifications toward soft sweeps rather than toward hard sweeps, when we use nonnormalized versions of S/HIC-specific statistics (supplementary fig. S34, Supplementary Material online). If we chose to instead normalize statistics, then misclassification to hard sweep increases (supplementary fig. S34, Supplementary Material online). Moreover, these latter results mirror those observed for S/HIC (supplementary fig. S18, Supplementary Material online), which uses the identical normalization procedure for summary statistics computed across a genomic region. Similarly, we observe that simulations with missing data tend to be misclassified as hard when Trendsetter employs normalized versions of diploS/HIC statistics (supplementary fig. S34, Supplementary Material online), computed in an analogous manner with 110 contiguous windows each of length 10 kb.

As in supplementary figure S23, Supplementary Material online, using the set of S/HIC and diploS/HIC statistics combined with training under missing data would likely lead to a powerful classifier that is also robust to missing data. Interestingly, when we also trained and tested Trendsetter using diploS/HIC-specific summary statistics with demographic misspecifications as described in the Influence of Population History section, we found that when Trendsetter is trained and tested with normalized diploS/HIC-specific statistics (supplementary fig. S35, Supplementary Material online), we recapitulate the classification patterns of diploS/HIC trained and tested under demographic misspecification (supplementary fig. S14, Supplementary Material online). Therefore, the choice of the set of summary statistics may have a large influence on the behavior of a sweep classifier, regardless of the diverse set of approaches (e.g., random forests, neural networks, or regularized regression) employed to model the data.

We also tested the classification rates of Trendsetter when operating on S/HIC- and diploS/HIC-specific statistics for \( K = 5 \) classes, representing neutral, hard sweep, soft sweep, linked to hard sweep, and linked to soft sweep scenarios, used by those methods, calculated in 110 contiguous 10-kb-long windows. Trendsetter using Trendsetter-specific statistics (supplementary figs. S9–S11, Supplementary Material online) exhibited comparable performance to Trendsetter using diploS/HIC- and S/HIC-specific statistics (supplementary fig. S36, Supplementary Material online). Testing the classification of simulations with missing data we find that most neutral simulations missing data are classified as linked to a soft sweep (supplementary fig. S37, Supplementary Material online), though there is also a large misclassification rate toward soft sweeps. We also examined the magnitude and spatial distribution of regression coefficients for Trendsetter using diploS/HIC-specific statistics to evaluate feature importance (supplementary fig. S38, Supplementary Material online). Based on the magnitudes of the regression coefficients, we find that Fay and Wu’s \( H \) and Watterson’s \( \theta_W \) are the most informative, whereas Tajima’s \( D \) is among the least informative. Moreover, the peaks of the curves modeling each summary statistic tend to be narrow, and identify the location of the polymorphism closest to the selected site from the sweep classes. Importantly, we computed these summary statistics across data encompassing entire 1.1-Mb genomic regions when compared with the SNP-based summary statistics that we employed earlier where we used information across only 1,010 SNPs. The SNP-based method of calculating statistics often used information from less than one-third of the 1.1-Mb genomic region.

Unphased multilocus genotype data are more widely available than phased haplotype data, as it can be difficult to phase genotypes for a number of study systems (Browning and Browning, 2011). Although it is possible and common to infer haplotypes from genotype data, this process is not error free (Browning and Browning, 2011), and these errors may have deleterious effects on downstream efforts to localize selective sweeps. However, it should still be possible to uncover and classify sweep regions without phased haplotypes (e.g., Harris et al., 2018; Kern and Schrider, 2018). Substituting haplotype-based summary statistics with their unphased multilocus
genotype analogs (see Materials and Methods), we find that Trendsetter can still differentiate well among hard sweeps, soft sweeps, and neutrality (supplementary fig. S39, Supplementary Material online, six summary statistics). By examining the spatial distributions of regression coefficients for each summary statistic (supplementary fig. S40, Supplementary Material online), we find that the inferred model relied heavily on the number of multilocus genotypes to make predictions, with the other summary statistics providing marginal information conditional on the number of multilocus genotypes. For settings in which phased haplotypes cannot be obtained, a hybrid approach of incorporating some additional summary statistics computed by diploS/HIC (e.g., measures of the distribution, such as variance, skewness, and kurtosis of differences between pairs of individuals) in SNP-based rather than physical distance-based windows may aid classification. Incorporating these statistics slightly increases the overall accuracy (supplementary fig. S39, Supplementary Material online; nine summary statistics) and shows similar feature importance patterns as when Trendsetter is trained without these statistics (supplementary fig. S41, Supplementary Material online).

In some scenarios (e.g., for \( H_1 \) in supplementary fig. S4, Supplementary Material online), the distribution of regression coefficients for particular summary statistics exhibited sudden increases or decreases in magnitude near edges of their genomic range. This phenomenon may be due to the fact that the coefficients at the ends of this range are only constrained from one side by Trendsetter, whereas coefficients near the center are constrained on both sides. To verify that these changes in magnitude at the edges do not affect the classification rates of Trendsetter, we discarded five coefficients (and associated summary statistic values) at each end to make predictions after the model was trained, thereby removing these potential artifacts. We tested the model whose coefficients are depicted in supplementary figure S4, Supplementary Material online, without the first 5 and last 5 predictors for all summary statistics, and find that there is virtually no difference in classification rates from when they are included in the model (compare fig. 2 and supplementary fig. S42, Supplementary Material online).

Our experiments show no extensive difference in classification rates when we apply a constant \((d = 1)\) versus linear \((d = 2)\) trend filter penalty for differentiating among hard sweeps, soft sweeps, and neutrality (supplementary figs. S38 and S43–S45, Supplementary Material online). However, it is possible that for differentiating between other selection settings, such as in scenarios of adaptive introgression (Racimo et al., 2017) or in distinguishing between partial sweeps and recent balancing selection, the application of a linear rather than constant trend filter penalty will create a meaningful difference between classification rates. Regardless of the form of the trend filter penalty, we have shown that Trendsetter is flexible and has comparably high power to a number of previously published statistical learning approaches for single populations. Moreover, the model learned by Trendsetter is a set of curves modeling summaries of genetic variation, and it is therefore easy to visualize the broad spatial distribution of summary statistic importance by construction.

Implementing Trendsetter as we have generally considered in this article with the six summary statistics \( r^2, \hat{\pi}, N_{\text{nsl}}, H_1, H_{10}, \) and \( H_1/H_{10} \) calculated in 201 overlapping windows is unable to identify the beneficial polymorphism. Scans across simulations of hard sweeps under a constant-size demographic history with the beneficial mutation arising in the center of a 1.1-Mb region pinpoint the mean physical distance of the classified polymorphism with highest sweep probability to be 2,093 bases away from the center, with the largest physical distance of 331 kb. The ability to localize adaptive regions in empirical data would also likely be affected by additional factors, such as nonequilibrium demographic history, recombination rate fluctuation, and missing data. However, incorporation of summary statistics such as iHS (Voight et al., 2006) and \( nS_1 \) (Ferrer-Admetlla et al., 2014) may more precisely localize the SNP under selection. These statistics, although haplotype based, provide a value at every SNP and are by construction not window based, in contrast to the haplotype-based statistics employed in this article. Moreover, incorporating information from an additional population (e.g., Sugden et al., 2018) would also allow us to apply powerful cross-population haplotype-based statistics such as XP-EHH (Sabeti, Varilley, et al., 2007) that are also based on population differentiation, and that compute a single value at each SNP. We note that large numbers of summary statistics may be provided to the model with our incorporation of a lasso penalty to help alleviate issues with over-fitting (Tibshirani, 1996).

Finally, we show how Trendsetter can easily use any summary statistics specified by the user, which allows Trendsetter to be adaptable to a variety of selection scenarios users may be interested in. A Python script implementing Trendsetter as well as probabilities of neutral, hard sweep, and soft sweep classes for polymorphisms classified in our empirical scans can be downloaded at http://www.personal.psu.edu/mxd60/trendsetter.html.

Supplementary Material

Supplementary data are available at Molecular Biology and Evolution online.

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