Package ‘dexus’

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Type Package

Title DEXUS - Identifying Differential Expression in RNA-Seq Studies with Unknown Conditions or without Replicates

Description DEXUS identifies differentially expressed genes in RNA-Seq data under all possible study designs such as studies without replicates, without sample groups, and with unknown conditions. DEXUS works also for known conditions, for example for RNA-Seq data with two or multiple conditions. RNA-Seq read count data can be provided both by the S4 class Count Data Set and by read count matrices. Differentially expressed transcripts can be visualized by heatmaps, in which unknown conditions, replicates, and samples groups are also indicated. This software is fast since the core algorithm is written in C. For very large data sets, a parallel version of DEXUS is provided in this package. DEXUS is a statistical model that is selected in a Bayesian framework by an EM algorithm. DEXUS does not need replicates to detect differentially expressed transcripts, since the replicates (or conditions) are estimated by the EM method for each transcript. The method provides an informative/non-informative value to extract differentially expressed transcripts at a desired significance level or power.

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Depends R (>= 2.15), methods, BiocGenerics

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Collate 'AllClasses.R' 'AllGenerics.R' 'binomTest.R' 'normalization.R' 'dexus.R' 'getSizeNB.R' 'functions.R' 'plot-methods.R' 'show-methods.R' 'methodsAccess.R' 'dexss.R'

biocViews Sequencing, RNASeq, GeneExpression, DifferentialExpression, CellBiology, Classification, QualityControl

NeedsCompilation yes
\textbf{R topics documented:}

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\textbf{Description}

These generic functions return the slots of an RNA-Seq analysis performed by DEXUS. The results of DEXUS are stored as an instance of \texttt{DEXUSResult-class}.

\textbf{Arguments}

- \texttt{object} \\
  An instance of "DEXUSResult".

\textbf{Value}

The accessor functions return the matrices or vectors contained in the corresponding slot of the "DEXUSResult".

\textbf{Author(s)}

Guenter Klambauer \texttt{<klambauer@bioinf.jku.at>} and Thomas Unterthiner \texttt{<unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>}

\textbf{Examples}

\begin{verbatim}
data(dexus) result <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:20,1:10]) transcriptNames(result) sampleNames(result) inputData(result) normalizedData(result) sizeFactors(result) INIValues(result)
\end{verbatim}
countsBottomly

RNA-Seq data of two mice strains.

Description

The two common mice strains C57BL/6J (B6) and DBA/2J (D2) were used for comparing gene expression measures of RNA-Seq and microarrays.

Usage

countsBottomly

Format

A data matrix of 36229 rows (genes) and 21 columns (samples).

Source

http://bowtie-bio.sourceforge.net/recount/

References


countsGilad

RNA-Seq data of humans, chimpanzees and rhesus macaques.

Description

Liver RNA samples of three males and three females from each of the species human, chimpanzee and rhesus macaques were sequenced.

Usage

countsGilad
countsMontgomery

Format
A data matrix of 20689 rows (genes) and 18 columns (samples).

Source

References

countsLi

RNA-Seq data of the developmental zones of maize leaves.

Description
RNA-sequencing was performed on different locations of the maize plant leaf.

Usage
countsLi

Format
A data matrix of 110185 rows (genes) and 12 columns (samples).

Source

References

countsMontgomery

RNA-Seq data of 60 European HapMap individuals.

Description
The RNA of lymphoblastoid cell lines of 60 HapMap individuals was sequenced in order to study eQTLs.

Usage
countsMontgomery
**countsPickrell**

**Format**

A data matrix of 12984 rows (genes) and 60 columns (samples).

**Source**

http://bowtie-bio.sourceforge.net/recount/

**References**


---

**countsPickrell**

*RNA-Seq data of 69 Nigerian HapMap individuals.*

**Description**

The RNA of lymphoblastoid cell lines of 69 HapMap individuals was sequenced in order to study eQTLs.

**Usage**

countsPickrell

**Format**

A data matrix of 12984 rows (genes) and 69 columns (samples).

**Source**

http://bowtie-bio.sourceforge.net/recount/

**References**

**Description**

Performs the DEXSS algorithm for detection of differentially expressed genes in RNA-seq data for a semi-supervised setting, i.e. that the condition of some samples is known, and for some samples the condition is unknown.

**Usage**

```r
dexss(X, nclasses = 2, G = 1, alphaInit, cyc = 20,
labels, normalization = "RLE", kmeansIter = 10,
ignoreIfAllCountsSmaller = 1, theta = 2.5, minMu = 0.5,
rmax = 13, initialization = "kmeans",
multiclassPhiPoolingFunction = NULL, quiet = FALSE,
resultObject = "S4")
```

**Arguments**

- **X**
  either a vector of counts or a raw data matrix, where columns are interpreted as samples and rows as genomic regions. An instance of "countDataSet" is also accepted.

- **nclasses**
  The number of conditions, i.e. mixture components. (Default = 2)

- **G**
  The weight of the prior distribution of the mixture weights. Not used in the supervised case. (Default = 1).

- **cyc**
  Positive integer that sets the number of cycles of the EM algorithm. (Default = 20).

- **alphaInit**
  The initial estimates of the condition sizes, i.e., mixture weights. Not used in the supervised case. (Default = c(0.5,0.5)).

- **labels**
  The labels for the classes, will be coerced into an integer. For this semi-supervised version the known labels/conditions must be coded as integers starting with 1. The samples with the label 1 will be considered as being in the "major condition". For the samples with unknown labels/conditions an "NA" must be set.

- **normalization**
  method used for normalizing the reads. "RLE" is the method used by (Anders and Huber, 2010), "upperquartile" is the Upper-Quartile method by (Bullard et al., 2010), and none deactivates normalization. (Default = "RLE").

- **kmeansIter**
  number of times the K-Means algorithm is run. (Default = 10).

- **ignoreIfAllCountsSmaller**
  Ignores transcript for which all read counts are smaller than this value. These transcripts are considered as "not expressed" (Default = 1).

- **theta**
  The weight of the prior on the size parameter or inverse dispersion parameter. Theta is adjusted to each transcript by dividing by the mean read count of the transcript. The higher theta, the lower r and the higher the overdispersion will be. (Default = 2.5).

- **minMu**
  Minimal mean for all negative binomial distributions. (Default = 0.5).
dexss

rmax  Maximal value for the size parameter. The inverse of this parameter is the lower bound on the dispersion. In analogy to (Anders and Huber, 2010) we use 13 as default. (Default = 13).

initialization  Method used to find the initial clusters. Dexus can either use the quantiles of the readcounts of each gene or run k-means on the counts. (Default = "kmeans").

multiclassPhiPoolingFunction  In "multiClass" mode the dispersion is either estimated across all classes at once (NULL), or separately for each condition, i.e., class. The size parameters or dispersion per class are then joined to one estimate by the mean ("mean"), minimum ("min") or maximum ("max"). In our investigations estimation across all classes at once performed best. (Default = NULL).

quiet  Logical that indicates whether dexus should report the steps of the algorithm. Supresses messages from the program if set to TRUE. (Default = FALSE).

resultObject  Type of the result object; can either be a list ("list") or an instance of "DEXUS-Result" ("S4"). (Default="S4").

Details

The read count \( x \) is explained by a finite mixture of negative binomials:

\[
p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i \text{NB}(x; \mu_i, r_i),
\]

where \( \alpha_i \) is the weight of the mixture component, \( \text{NB} \) is the negative binomial with mean parameter \( \mu_i \) and size parameter \( r_i \). The parameters are selected by an EM algorithm in a Bayesian framework.

Each component in the mixture model corresponds to one condition.

- If the groups, conditions, replicate status, or labels are unknown, DEXUS tries to estimate these conditions. For each transcript DEXUS tries to explain the read counts by one negative binomial distribution. If this is possible, the transcript is explained by one condition and therefore it is not differentially expressed. If more than one negative binomial distribution is needed to explain the read counts of a transcript, this transcript indicates that it is differentially expressed. Evidence for differential expression is strong if a large amount of samples participate in each condition and the mean expression values are well separated. Both of these criteria are measured by the informative/non-informative (I/NI) call.

- If there are more than two groups given by the vector \( \text{labels} \), DEXUS uses a generalized linear model to explain the data in analogy to (McCarthy, 2012).

- If there are two groups given by the vector \( \text{labels} \), DEXUS uses the exact test for count data to test between the sample groups, as implemented by (Anders and Huber, 2010) in the package "DESeq".

Value

"list" or "DEXUSResult". A list containing the results and the parameters of the algorithm or an instance of "DEXUSResult".

Author(s)

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>
References


Examples

data(dexus)
labels1 <- substr(colnames(countsBottomly),1,2)
labels2 <- c()
labels2[which(labels1=="D2")]<-1
labels2[which(labels1=="B6")]<-2
labels2[c(3,7,8,10,12,15)]<-NA
res <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:100,],labels=labels2,nclasses=2,G=0)

---

**dexus**

*Detection of Differential Expression in an Unsupervised Setting*

**Description**

Performs the DEXUS algorithm for detection of differentially expressed genes in RNA-seq data for a) unknown conditions, b) multiple known conditions, and c) two known conditions.

**Usage**

dexus(X, nclasses = 2, alphaInit, G = 1, cyc = 20,
labels = NULL, normalization = "RLE", kmeansIter = 10,
ignoreIfAllCountsSmaller = 1, theta = 2.5, minMu = 0.5,
rmax = 13, initialization = "kmeans",
multiclassPhiPoolingFunction = NULL, quiet = FALSE,
resultObject = "S4")

**Arguments**

- **X**: either a vector of counts or a raw data matrix, where columns are interpreted as samples and rows as genomic regions. An instance of "countDataSet" is also accepted.
- **nclasses**: The number of conditions, i.e. mixture components. (Default = 2)
- **alphaInit**: The initial estimates of the condition sizes, i.e., mixture weights. Not used in the supervised case. (Default = c(0.5,0.5)).
- **G**: The weight of the prior distribution of the mixture weights. Not used in the supervised case. (Default = 1).
- **cyc**: Positive integer that sets the number of cycles of the EM algorithm. (Default = 20).
labels labels for the classes, will be coerced into a factor by \texttt{as.factor}. Can either be a factor, character or integer. If this vector is given, supervised detection is used. If this vector is set to NULL the unsupervised detection is performed. (Default=NULL).

normalization method used for normalizing the reads. "RLE" is the method used by (Anders and Huber, 2010), "upperquartile" is the Upper-Quartile method by (Bullard et al., 2010), and none deactivates normalization. (Default = "RLE").

kmeansIter number of times the K-Means algorithm is run. (Default = 10).

ignoreIfAllCountsSmaller Ignores transcript for which all read counts are smaller than this value. These transcripts are considered as "not expressed" (Default = 1).

theta The weight of the prior on the size parameter or inverse dispersion parameter. Theta is adjusted to each transcript by dividing by the mean read count of the transcript. The higher theta, the lower r and the higher the overdispersion will be. (Default = 2.5).

minMu Minimal mean for all negative binomial distributions. (Default = 0.5).

rmax Maximal value for the size parameter. The inverse of this parameter is the lower bound on the dispersion. In analogy to (Anders and Huber, 2010) we use 13 as default. (Default = 13).

initialization Method used to find the initial clusters. Dexus can either use the quantiles of the readcounts of each gene or run k-means on the counts. (Default = "kmeans").

multiclassPhiPoolingFunction In "multiClass" mode the dispersion is either estimated across all classes at once (NULL), or separately for each condition, i.e., class. The size parameters or dispersion per class are then joined to one estimate by the mean ("mean"), minimum ("min") or maximum ("max"). In our investigations estimation across all classes at once performed best. (Default = NULL).

quiet Logical that indicates whether dexus should report the steps of the algorithm. Supresses messages from the program if set to TRUE. (Default = FALSE).

resultObject Type of the result object; can either be a list ("list") or an instance of "DEXUS-Result" ("S4"). (Default="S4").

Details

The read count $x$ is explained by a finite mixture of negative binomials:

$$ p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i \, \text{NB}(x; \mu_i, r_i), $$

where $\alpha_i$ is the weight of the mixture component, \text{NB} is the negative binomial with mean parameter $\mu_i$ and size parameter $r_i$. The parameters are selected by an EM algorithm in a Bayesinan framework. Each component in the mixture model corresponds to one condition.

- If the groups, conditions, replicate status, or labels are unknown, DEXUS tries to estimate these conditions. For each transcript DEXUS tries to explain the read counts by one negative binomial distribution. If this is possible, the transcript is explained by one condition and therefore it is not differentially expressed. If more than one negative binomial distribution is needed to explain the read counts of a transcript, this transcript indicates that it is differentially expressed. Evidence for differential expression is strong if a large amount of samples participate in each condition and the mean expression values are well separated. Both of these criteria are measured by the informative/non-informative (INI) call.
• If there are more than two groups given by the vector labels, DEXUS uses a generalized linear model to explain the data in analogy to (McCarthy, 2012).

• If there are two groups given by the vector labels, DEXUS uses the exact test for count data to test between the sample groups, as implemented by (Anders and Huber, 2010) in the package "DESeq".

Value

"list" or "DEXUSResult". A list containing the results and the parameters of the algorithm or an instance of "DEXUSResult".

Author(s)

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

References


Examples

data(dexus)
result <- dexus(countsMontgomery[1:10, ])

dexus.parallel

A parallel version of DEXUS.

Description

Speeds up DEXUS by using multiple processors. Uses the parallel package to parallelize a DEXUS call.

Usage

dexus.parallel(X, ncores = 2, normalization = "RLE",
ignoreIfAllCountsSmaller = 1, resultObject = "S4", ...)

Arguments

X Either a vector of counts or a raw data matrix, where columns are interpreted as samples and rows as genomic regions.
ncores The number of cores (CPUs) that will be used by the parallelization.
normalization Normalization method to be used. (Default="RLE")
ignoreIfAllCountsSmaller  
A transcript is considered as not expressed if all counts are smaller than the given value. (Default=1)

resultObject  
Type of the result object; can either be a list ("list") or an instance of "DEXUS-Result" ("S4"). (Default="S4").

...  
Other options to be passed to dexus()

Value  
"list"

Author(s)  
Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

Examples  

data(dexus)
result <- dexus.parallel(countsPickrell[1:10, ], ncores=1)

---

**Description**

This class contains the result of an RNA-Seq data analysis. The class contains the transcript names together with the parameters per condition, i.e., overdispersion and mean. Further it contains informative/non-informative values or p-values.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("DEXUSResult", ...)`.

**Slots**

- **transcriptNames**: The names of the transcripts, genes, exons, or regions of interest.
- **sampleNames**: The sample names as they were given in the input matrix.
- **inputData**: The original read count matrix.
- **normalizedData**: The normalized read count matrix.
- **sizeFactors**: The size factors that were calculated for the normalization. This is the factor that scales each column or sample.
- **INIValues**: An informative/non-informative value for each sample that measures the evidence for differential expression.
- **INIThreshold**: The threshold for the I/NI values. Transcript with I/NI values above the threshold will be considered as differentially expressed.
- **INICalls**: A binary value for each transcript indicating whether it is differentially expressed.
- **pvals**: In case of two known conditions or multiple known conditions it is possible to calculate a p-value for each transcript. This value is given in this slot.
responsibilities A matrix of the size of the input matrix. It indicates the condition for each sample and transcript. The condition named "1" is the major condition. All other conditions are minor conditions. In case of supervised (two known conditions or multiple known conditions) analyses this clustering matrix will be the same for all transcripts.

posteriorProbs An array of the dimension of transcripts times samples times conditions. It gives the probability that a certain read count x was generated under a condition.

logFC The log foldchanges between the conditions. The reference is always condition "1".

conditionSizes The ratio of samples belonging to that condition. These are the $\alpha_i$ values of the model.

sizeParameters The size parameter estimates for each condition. These are the $r_i$ values of the model.

means The mean of each condition. The $\mu_i$ values of the model.

dispersions The dispersion estimates for each condition. The inverse size parameters.

params The input parameters of the DEXUS algorithm.

Methods

[ Subsetting of a DEXUSResult.

as.data.frame Converts the result object into a data frame.

conditionSizes Returns the condition sizes or $\alpha_i$ parameters of the model.

dispersions Returns the dispersion, i.e. the inverse size parameters, of the model.

INI I/NI filtering of the result object.

INIcalls Returns a logical value indication whether this transcript is differentially expressed or not.

INIThreshold Returns the thresholds for the I/NI values.

INIThreshold<- Sets the I/NI threshold. I/NI calls will be changed accordingly.

INIvalues Returns the I/NI values.

inputData Returns the input read counts.

logFC Returns the log foldchange with respect to the first condition.

means Returns the mean per condition.

normalizedData Returns the normalized data.

params Returns a list of input parameters of DEXUS.

plot Plots a heatmap of the read counts of the top genes.

posteriorProbs Returns an array of posterior probabilities.

pvals Returns the p-values per transcript in supervised mode.

responsibilities Returns the clustering vector.

sampleNames Returns the sample names.

show Displays a data frame of results.

sizeFactors Returns the size factors used for normalization.

sizeParameters Returns the size parameters, i.e. the $r_i$ values of the model.

sort Sorts the result object by I/NI values or p-values.

transcriptNames Returns the transcript names.
get\text{SizeNB}

**Author(s)**
Guenter Klambauer

**Examples**

```
showClass("DEXUSResult")
```

---

**get\text{SizeNB}**

*Maximum-likelihood and maximum-a-posteriori estimators for the negative binomial distribution.*

**Description**

Estimates the size parameter of a negative binomial distribution from given data.

**Usage**

```
get\text{SizeNB}(x, \text{maxCyc} = 1000, \text{eta} = 0, \text{rmax} = \text{Inf},
\text{method} = \text{"bisection"})
```

**Arguments**

- **x**
  The input data. Must be a numeric vector.

- **maxCyc**
  The maximum number of cycles of the numeric procedure to find the estimator. (Default = 1000).

- **eta**
  The weight of the exponential prior. The higher eta, the lower the estimate for the size parameter. Setting eta = 0 means that the prior is not used and, therefore, the maximum-likelihood estimator is calculated. (Default = 0).

- **rmax**
  Upper bound on the size parameter. This corresponds to a truncated exponential prior. If not used there is a non-zero probability that the estimator for the size parameter is \(\infty\). (Default = Inf).

- **method**
  The procedure used to solve the equation

  \[
  \sum_{k=1}^{N} \psi(x_i + r) - N\psi(r) + N \log \left( \frac{r}{r + 1/N \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i} \right) - \eta = 0
  \]

  for \(r\).
  
  This can either be "bisection" or "regula falsi". (Default="bisection").

**Details**

Depending on the parameters you can either obtain the **Maximum-likelihood estimator** or the **maximum-a-posteriori estimator** using an exponential prior.

- **maximum-likelihood estimator** \(\text{eta} = 0\)
- **maximum-a-posteriori estimator** \(\text{eta} > 0\)

By setting the variable \(r\text{max}\) to a positive value one can enforce an upper bound on the parameter.
The inverse of the size parameter is the overdispersion parameter.

Value

"numeric" An estimate of the size parameter of the negative binomial distribution. The overdispersion parameter is the inverse of the size parameter of a negative binomial distribution.

Author(s)

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

Examples

```r
x <- rnbinom(mu=50, size=5, n=10)
getSizeNB(x)
```

Description

This function filters the result object for informative transcripts. Transcripts with an I/NI value below the given threshold are filtered out.

Arguments

- `object` An instance of "DEXUSResult".
- `threshold` A numeric determining the threshold for the I/NI values.

Value

An instance of "DEXUSResult".

Author(s)

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

Examples

```r
data(dexus)
res <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:100, ])
INI(res)
```
**INIThreshold<-**

*Set the I/NI threshold.*

**Description**

This generic function sets the threshold of the I/NI value. Transcripts with I/NI values above the I/NI threshold are considered as differentially expressed. The results of DEXUS are stored as an instance of `DEXUSResult-class`.

**Arguments**

- **object**: An instance of "DEXUSResult".
- **value**: A numeric to be used for thresholding the I/NI values.

**Value**

INIThreshold<- returns an instance of "DEXUSResult".

**Author(s)**

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

**Examples**

```r
data(dexus)
result <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:20,1:10])
INIThreshold(result) <- 0.1
```

---

**normalizeData**

*Normalization of RNA-Seq count data.*

**Description**

Normalizes RNA-seq count data using previously published approaches. Each samples’ read counts are corrected by a normalizing factor. The options are "RLE" by (Anders and Huber, 2010), and "upperquartile" by (Bullard et al., 2010).

**Usage**

```r
normalizeData(X, normalization)
```

**Arguments**

- **X**: data a raw data matrix, where’ columns are interpreted as samples and rows as genomic regions.
- **normalization**: method used for normalizing the reads. RLE is the method used by (Anders and Huber, 2010), upperquartile is the Upper-Quartile method from (Bullard et al., 2010), and none deactivates normalization. (Default = "RLE").
Value

"list" A list containing the normalized data (in its "X" component) as well as the size-factors used for the normalization ("sizeFactors").

Author(s)

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

References


Examples

data(dexus)

r <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:100, ])

plot(r)

plot

Visualization of a result of the DEXUS algorithm.

Description

Plots a heatmap of the log read counts of the top ranked genes or of selected genes.

Arguments

x An instance of "CNVDetectionResult"
idx The indices or the transcript names of the transcripts that should be visualized as heatmap.
cexSamples Size of the column labels, i.e. the samples.
cexGenes Size of the row labels, i.e. the transcripts.
newColNames renames the samples.
type Mark the samples, that do not belong to the major class by crosses ("crosses"), or boxes ("boxes").

Value

Generates a heatmap of the expression values of the top-ranked transcripts.

Author(s)

Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

Examples

data(dexus)

r <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:100, ])
plot(r)
sort

Sorting a DEXUS result.

Description
This function sorts the result object by I/NI values or p-values such that the transcripts with the highest I/NI value or the lowest p-value are ranked first.

Arguments
- object: An instance of "DEXUSResult".

Value
An instance of "DEXUSResult".

Author(s)
Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>

Examples
```r
data(dexus)
res <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:100, ])
sort(res)
```

[']

Subsetting a "DEXUSResult".

Description
Information about specific transcripts can be accessed in the "DEXUSResult" object by using the standard brackets "[idx]" for subsetting. Either transcript names or transcript indices can be used.

Arguments
- x: "DEXUSResult"
- i: Either a numeric vector of indices or a character vector containing the transcript names.

Value
An instance of "DEXUSResult".

Author(s)
Guenter Klambauer <klambauer@bioinf.jku.at> and Thomas Unterthiner <unterthiner@bioinf.jku.at>
Examples

data(dexus)
res <- dexus(countsBottomly[1:100, ])
res["ENSMUSG00000000486"]
res[50:55]
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