Package ‘vsn’

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Title Variance stabilization and calibration for microarray data

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Description The package implements a method for normalising microarray intensities, and works for single- and multiple-color arrays. It can also be used for data from other technologies, as long as they have similar format. The method uses a robust variant of the maximum-likelihood estimator for an additive-multiplicative error model and affine calibration. The model incorporates data calibration step (a.k.a. normalization), a model for the dependence of the variance on the mean intensity and a variance stabilizing data transformation. Differences between transformed intensities are analogous to `normalized log-ratios`. However, in contrast to the latter, their variance is independent of the mean, and they are usually more sensitive and specific in detecting differential transcription.


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URL http://www.r-project.org, http://www.ebi.ac.uk/huber

biocViews Microarray, OneChannel, TwoChannel, Preprocessing

VignetteBuilder knitr
vsn-package

          methods.predict.R  RGList_to_NChannelSet.R  meanSdPlot-methods.R

NeedsCompilation  yes

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vsn-package  vsn

Description
vsn

Details

The main function of the package is vsn2. Interesting for its applications are also predict and the
wrapper function justvsn.

vsn2 can be applied to objects of class ExpressionSet, NChannelSet, AffyBatch (from the affy
package) and RGList (from the limma package), matrix and vector. It returns an object of class
vsn, which contains the results of fitting the vsn model to the data.

The most common use case is that you will want to construct a new data object with the vsn-
normalized data whose class is the same as that of the input data and which preserves the metadata.
This can be achieved by

fit = vsn2(x, ...)

nx = predict(fit, newdata=x)

To simplify this, there exists also a simple wrapper justvsn.
**justvsn**  

*Wrapper functions for vsn*

**Description**  

`justvsn` is equivalent to calling

```r
fit = vsn2(x, ...)  
 nx = predict(fit, newdata=x, useDataInFit = TRUE)
```

`vsnrma` is a wrapper around `vsn2` and `rma`.

**Usage**  

```r
justvsn(x, ...)  
vsnrma(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**  

- `x` For `justvsn`, any kind of object for which `vsn2` methods exist. For `vsnrma`, an `AffyBatch`.  
- `...` Further arguments that get passed on to `vsn2`.

**Details**  

`vsnrma` does probe-wise background correction and between-array normalization by calling `vsn2` on the perfect match (PM) values only. Probeset summaries are calculated with the medianpolish algorithm of `rma`.

**Value**  

`justvsn` returns the vsn-normalised intensities in an object generally of the same class as its first argument (see the man page of `predict` for details). It preserves the metadata.  

`vsnrma` returns an `ExpressionSet`.

**Author(s)**  

Wolfgang Huber

**See Also**  

- `vsn2`
kidney

Intensity data for 1 cDNA slide with two adjacent tissue samples from a nephrectomy (kidney)

Description

Intensity data for 1 cDNA slide with two adjacent tissue samples from a nephrectomy (kidney)

Usage

data(kidney)

Format

kidney is an ExpressionSet containing the data from one cDNA chip. The 8704x2 matrix exprs(kidney) contains the spot intensities for the red (635 nm) and green color channels (532 nm) respectively. For each spot, a background estimate from a surrounding region was subtracted.

Details

The chip was produced in 2001 by Holger Sueltmann at the Division of Molecular Genome Analysis at the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg.

References


See Also

vsn
Examples

```r
data(kidney)
plot(exprs(kidney), pch=".", log="xy")
abline(a=0,b=1,col="blue")
```

logLik-methods  

*Calculate the log likelihood and its gradient for the vsn model*

Description

logLik calculates the log likelihood and its gradient for the vsn model. plotVsnLogLik makes a false color plot for a 2D section of the likelihood landscape.

Usage

```r
## S4 method for signature 'vsnInput'
logLik(object, p, mu = numeric(0), sigsq=as.numeric(NA), calib="affine")

plotVsnLogLik(object, 
  p, 
  whichp = 1:2, 
  expand = 1, 
  ngrid = 31L, 
  fun = logLik, 
  main = "log likelihood", 
  ...)
```

Arguments

- `object`: A `vsnInput` object.
- `p`: For plotVsnLogLik, a vector or a 3D array with the point in parameter space around which to plot the likelihood. For logLik, a matrix whose columns are the set of parameters at which the likelihoods are to be evaluated.
- `mu`: Numeric vector of length 0 or `nrow(object)`. If the length is 0, there is no reference and `sigsq` must be `NA` (the default value). See `vsn2`.
- `sigsq`: Numeric scalar.
- `calib`: as in `vsn2`.
- `whichp`: Numeric vector of length 2, with the indices of those two parameters in `p` along which the section is to be taken.
- `expand`: Numeric vector of length 1 or 2 with expansion factors for the plot range. The range is auto-calculated using a heuristic, but manual adjustment can be useful; see example.
- `ngrid`: Integer scalar, the grid size.
- `fun`: Function to use for log-likelihood calculation. This parameter is exposed only for testing purposes.
- `main`: This parameter is passed on to `levelplot`.
- `...`: Arguments that get passed on to `fun`, use this for `mu`, `sigsq`, `calib`. 

}
Details

\texttt{logLik} is an R interface to the likelihood computations in \texttt{vsn} (which are done in C).

Value

For \texttt{logLik}, a numeric matrix of size \texttt{nrow(p)+1} by \texttt{ncol(p)}. Its columns correspond to the columns of \texttt{p}. Its first row are the likelihood values, its rows 2...\texttt{nrow(p)+1} contain the gradients. If \texttt{mu} and \texttt{sigsq} are specified, the ordinary negative log likelihood is calculated using these parameters as given. If they are not specified, the profile negative log likelihood is calculated.

For \texttt{plotVsnLogLik}, a dataframe with the 2D grid coordinates and log likelihood values.

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

See Also

\texttt{vsn2}

Examples

\begin{verbatim}
data("kidney")

v = new("vsnInput", x=exprs(kidney),
    pstart=as.numeric(NA), dim=c(1, ncol(kidney), 2)))

fit = vsn2(kidney)
print(coef(fit))

p = sapply(seq(-1, 1, length=31), function(f) coef(fit)+c(0,0,f,0))

ll = logLik(v, p)

plot(p[3,], ll[1,], type="l", xlab=expression(b[1]), ylab=expression(-log(L)))
abline(v=coef(fit)[3], col="red")

plotVsnLogLik(v, coef(fit), whichp=c(1,3), expand=0.2)
\end{verbatim}

\begin{verbatim}

\texttt{lymphoma} Intensity data for 8 cDNA slides with CLL and DLBL samples from the Alizadeh et al. paper in Nature 2000
\end{verbatim}

Description

8 cDNA chips from Alizadeh lymphoma paper

Usage

\begin{verbatim}
data(lymphoma)
\end{verbatim}
meanSdPlot

Format

lymphoma is an ExpressionSet containing the data from 8 chips from the lymphoma data set by Alizadeh et al. (see references). Each chip represents two samples: on color channel 1 (CH1, Cy3, green) the common reference sample, and on color channel 2 (CH2, Cy5, red) the various disease samples. See pData(lymphoma). The 9216x16 matrix exprs(lymphoma) contains the background-subtracted spot intensities (CH1I-CH1B and CH2I-CH2B, respectively).

Details

The chip intensity files were downloaded from the Stanford microarray database. Starting from the link below, this was done by following the links Published Data -> Alizadeh AA, et al. (2000) Nature 403(6769):503-11 -> Data in SMD -> Display Data, and selecting the following 8 slides:

lc7b019
lc7b047
lc7b048
lc7b056
lc7b057
lc7b058
lc7b069
lc7b070

Then, the script makedata.R from the scripts subdirectory of this package was run to generate the R data object.

Source

http://genome-www5.stanford.edu/MicroArray/SMD

References


See Also

vsn

Examples

data(lymphoma)
lymphoma
pData(lymphoma)

meanSdPlot

Plot row standard deviations versus row means

Description

Methods for objects of classes matrix, ExpressionSet, vsn and MAList to plot row standard deviations versus row means.
meanSdPlot

Usage

meanSdPlot(x,
   ranks = TRUE,
   xlab = ifelse(ranks, "rank(mean)", "mean"),
   ylab = "sd",
   pch,
   plot = TRUE,
   bins = 50,
   ...)
Examples

data("kidney")
log.na <- function(x) log(ifelse(x>0, x, NA))

exprs(kidney) <- log.na(exprs(kidney))
msd <- meanSdPlot(kidney)

## The `ggplot` object is returned in list element `gg`, here is an example of how to modify the plot
library("ggplot2")
msd$gg + ggtitle("Hello world") + scale_fill_gradient(low = "yellow", high = "darkred") + scale_y_continuous

## Try this out with not log-transformed data, vsn2-transformed data, the lymphoma data, your data ...

normalize.AffyBatch.vsn

Wrapper for vsn to be used as a normalization method with expresso

Description

Wrapper for vsn2 to be used as a normalization method with the expresso function of the package affy. The expresso function is deprecated, consider using justvsn instead. The normalize.AffyBatch.vsn can still be useful on its own, as it provides some additional control of the normalization process (fitting on subsets, alternate transform parameters).

Usage

normalize.AffyBatch.vsn(
  abatch, reference,
  strata = NULL,
  subsample = if (nrow(exprs(abatch))>30000L) 30000L else 0L,
  subset,
  log2scale = TRUE,
  log2asymp=FALSE,
  ...
)

Arguments

abatch An object of type AffyBatch.
reference Optional, a `vsn` object from a previous fit. If this argument is specified, the data in `x` are normalized "towards" an existing set of reference arrays whose parameters are stored in the object `reference`. If this argument is not specified, then the data in `x` are normalized "among themselves". See vsn2 for details.
strata The 'strata' functionality is not supported, the parameter is ignored.
subsample Is passed on to vsn2.
subset This allows the specification of a subset of expression measurements to be used for the vsn fit. The transformation with the parameters of this fit is then, however, applied to the whole dataset. This is useful for excluding expression measurements that are known to be differentially expressed or control probes that may not match the vsn model, thus avoiding that they influence the normalization process. This operates at the level of probesets, not probes. Both 'subset' and 'subsample' can be used together.
log2scale If TRUE, this will perform a global affine transform on the data to put them on a similar scale as the original non-transformed data. Many users prefer this. Fold-change estimates are not affected by this transform. In some situations, however, it may be helpful to turn this off, e.g., when comparing independently normalized subsets of the data.

log2asymp If TRUE, this will perform a global affine transform on the data to make the generalized log (asinh) transform be asymptotically identical to a log base 2 transform. Some people find this helpful. Only one of 'log2scale' or 'log2asymp' can be set to TRUE. Fold-change estimates are not affected by this transform.

Further parameters for vsn2.

Details

Please refer to the Details and References sections of the man page for vsn2 for more details about this method.

Important note: after calling vsn2, the function normalize.AffyBatch.vsn exponentiates the data (base 2). This is done in order to make the behavior of this function similar to the other normalization methods in affy. That packages uses the convention of taking the logarithm to base in subsequent analysis steps (e.g. in medpolish).

Value

An object of class AffyBatch. The vsn object returned, which can be used as reference for subsequent fits, is provided by description(abatch)$preprocessing$vsnReference.

Author(s)

D. P. Kreil http://bioinf.boku.ac.at/, Wolfgang Huber

See Also

vsn2

Examples

## Please see vignette.
sagmbSimulateData

Arguments

- **n**: Numeric. Number of probes (rows).
- **d**: Numeric. Number of arrays (columns).
- **de**: Numeric. Fraction of differentially expressed genes.
- **up**: Numeric. Fraction of up-regulated genes among the differentially expressed genes.
- **nrstrata**: Numeric. Number of probe strata.
- **miss**: Numeric. Fraction of data points that is randomly sampled and set to NA.
- **log2scale**: Logical. If TRUE, glog on base 2 is used, if FALSE, (the default), then base e.
- **h1**: Matrix. Calibrated and transformed data, according, e.g., to vsn.
- **sim**: List. The output of a previous call to sagmbSimulateData, see Value.

Details

Please see the vignette.

Value

For sagmbSimulateData, a list with four components: hy, an n x d matrix with the true (=simulated) calibrated, transformed data; y, an n x d matrix with the simulated uncalibrated raw data - this is intended to be fed into vsn; is.de, a logical vector of length n, specifying which probes are simulated to be differentially expressed. strata, a factor of length n.

For sagmbSimulateData, a number: the root mean squared difference between true and estimated transformed data.

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

References


See Also

vsn

Examples

```
sim <- sagmbSimulateData(nrstrata=4)
y <- vsn2(sim$y, strata=sim$strata)
res <- sagmbAssess(exprs(y), sim)
res
```
scalingFactorTransformation

The transformation that is applied to the scaling parameter of the vsn model

Description

The transformation that is applied to the scaling parameter of the vsn model

Usage

scalingFactorTransformation(b)

Arguments

b Real vector.

Value

A real vector of same length as b, with transformation f applied (see vignette Likelihood Calculations for vsn).

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

Examples

b = seq(-3, 2, length=20)
fb = scalingFactorTransformation(b)
if(interactive())
  plot(b, fb, type="b", pch=16)

vsn

Class to contain result of a vsn fit

Description

Class to contain result of a vsn fit

Creating Objects

new("vsn") vsn2(x) with x being an ExpressionSet.
Slots

coefficients: A 3D array of size (number of strata) x (number of columns of the data matrix) x 2. It contains the fitted normalization parameters (see vignette).

strata: A factor of length 0 or n. If its length is n, then its levels correspond to different normalization strata (see vignette).

mu: A numeric vector of length n with the fitted parameters \( \hat{\mu}_k \), for \( k = 1, ..., n \).

sigsq: A numeric scalar, \( \hat{\sigma}^2 \).

hx: A numeric matrix with 0 or n rows. If the number of rows is n, then hx contains the transformed data matrix.

lbfgsb: An integer scalar containing the return code from the L-BFGS-B optimizer.

hoffset: Numeric scalar, the overall offset c - see manual page of vsn2.

calib: Character of length 1, see manual page of vsn2.

Methods

subset Subsetting

dim Get dimensions of data matrix.

nrow Get number of rows of data matrix.

ncol Get number of columns of data matrix.

show Print a summary of the object

exprs Accessor to slot hx.

coefficients Accessors to slot coefficients.

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

See Also

vsn2

Examples

data("kidney")
v = vsn2(kidney)
show(v)
dim(v)
v[1:10, ]
vsn.old

Variance stabilization and calibration for microarray data.

Description

Robust estimation of variance-stabilizing and calibrating transformations for microarray data. This function has been superseded by `vsn2`. The function `vsn` remains in the package for backward compatibility only, and will be defunct at the next release. For new projects, please use `vsn2`.

Usage

```r
vsn(intensities, lts.quantile = 0.5, verbose = interactive(), niter = 10, cvg.check = NULL, describe.preprocessing = TRUE, subsample, pstart, strata)
```

Arguments

- **intensities**: An object that contains intensity values from a microarray experiment. The intensities are assumed to be the raw scanner data, summarized over the spots by an image analysis program, and possibly "background subtracted". The intensities must not be logarithmically or otherwise transformed, and not thresholded or "floored". NAs are not accepted. See details.
- **lts.quantile**: Numeric. The quantile that is used for the resistant least trimmed sum of squares regression. Allowed values are between 0.5 and 1. A value of 1 corresponds to ordinary least sum of squares regression.
- **verbose**: Logical. If TRUE, some messages are printed.
- **niter**: Integer. The number of iterations to be used in the least trimmed sum of squares regression.
- **cvg.check**: List. If non-NULL, this allows finer control of the iterative least trimmed sum of squares regression. See details.
- **pstart**: Array. If not missing, user can specify start values for the iterative parameter estimation algorithm. See `vsnh` for details.
- **describe.preprocessing**: Logical. If TRUE, calibration and transformation parameters, plus some other information are stored in the `preprocessing` slot of the returned object. See details.
- **subsample**: Integer. If specified, the model parameters are estimated from a subsample of the data only, the transformation is then applied to all data. This can be useful for performance reasons.
- **strata**: Integer vector. Its length must be the same as `nrow(intensities)`. This parameter allows for the calibration and error model parameters to be stratified within each array, e.g to take into account probe sequence properties, print-tip or plate effects. If `strata` is not specified, one pair of parameters is fitted for every sample
(i.e. for every column of intensities). If strata is specified, a pair of parameters is fitted for every stratum within every sample. The strata are coded for by the different integer values. The integer vector strata can be obtained from a factor fac through as.integer(fac), from a character vector str through as.integer(factor(fac)).

Details

Overview: The function calibrates for sample-to-sample variations through shifting and scaling, and transforms the intensities to a scale where the variance is approximately independent of the mean intensity. The variance stabilizing transformation is equivalent to the natural logarithm in the high-intensity range, and to a linear transformation in the low-intensity range. In an intermediate range, the arsinh function interpolates smoothly between the two. For details on the transformation, please see the help page for vsnh. The parameters are estimated through a robust variant of maximum likelihood. This assumes that for the majority of genes the expression levels are not much different across the samples, i.e., that only a minority of genes (less than a fraction 1-lts.quantile) is differentially expressed.

Even if most genes on an array are differentially expressed, it may still be possible to use the estimator: if a set of non-differentially expressed genes is known, e.g. because they are external controls or reliable 'house-keeping genes', the transformation parameters can be fitted with vsn from the data of these genes, then the transformation can be applied to all data with vsnh.

Format: The format of the matrix of intensities is as follows: for the two-color printed array technology, each row corresponds to one spot, and the columns to the different arrays and wavelengths (usually red and green, but could be any number). For example, if there are 10 arrays, the matrix would have 20 columns, columns 1...10 containing the green intensities, and 11...20 the red ones. In fact, the ordering of the columns does not matter to vsn, but it is your responsibility to keep track of it for subsequent analyses. For one-color arrays, each row corresponds to a probe, and each column to an array.

Performance: This function is slow. That is due to the nested iteration loops of the numerical optimization of the likelihood function and the heuristic that identifies the non-outlying data points in the least trimmed squares regression. For large arrays with many tens of thousands of probes, you may want to consider random subsetting: that is, only use a subset of the e.g. 10-20,000 rows of the data matrix intensities to fit the parameters, then apply the transformation to all the data, using vsnh. An example for this can be seen in the function normalize.AffyBatch.vsn, whose code you can inspect by typing normalize.AffyBatch.vsn on the R command line.

Iteration control: By default, if cvg.check is NULL, the function will run the fixed number niter of iterations in the least trimmed sum of squares regression. More fine-grained control can be obtained by passing a list with elements eps and n. If the maximum change between transformed data values is smaller than eps for n subsequent iterations, then the iteration terminates.

Estimated transformation parameters: If describe.preprocessing is TRUE, the transformation parameters are returned in the preprocessing slot of the experimentData slot of the resulting ExpressionSet object, in the form of a list with three elements

- vsnParams: the parameter array (see vsnh for details)
- vsnParamsIter: an array with dimensions c(dim(vsnParams, niter)) that contains the parameter trajectory during the iterative fit process (see also vsnPlotPar).
- vsnTrimSelection: a logical vector that for each row of the intensities matrix reports whether it was below (TRUE) or above (FALSE) the trimming threshold.

If intensities has class ExpressionSet, and its experimentData slot has class MIAME, then this list is appended to any existing entries in the preprocessing slot. Otherwise, the experimentData object and its preprocessing slot are created.
Value
An object of class `ExpressionSet`. Differences between the columns of the transformed intensities are "generalized log-ratios", which are shrinkage estimators of the natural logarithm of the fold change. For the transformation parameters, please see the Details.

Author(s)
Wolfgang Huber

References
Variance stabilization applied to microarray data calibration and to the quantification of differential expression, Wolfgang Huber, Anja von Heydebreck, Holger Sueltmann, Annemarie Pousta, Martin Vingron; Bioinformatics (2002) 18 Suppl.1 S96-S104.


See Also
`vsnh`, `vsnPlotPar`, `ExpressionSet-class`, `MIAME-class`, `normalize.AffyBatch.vsn`

Examples
```r
data(kidney)
log.na = function(x) log(ifelse(x>0, x, NA))
plot(log.na(exprs(kidney)), pch=".", main="log-log")

vsnkid = vsn(kidney)  ## transform and calibrate
plot(exprs(vsnkid), pch=".", main="h-h")
meanSdPlot(vsnkid)
## this should always hold true
params = preproc(description(vsnkid))$vsnParams
stopifnot(all(vsnh(exprs(kidney), params) == exprs(vsnkid)))
```

vsn2

Fit the vsn model

Description
vsn2 fits the vsn model to the data in `x` and returns a vsn object with the fit parameters and the transformed data matrix. The data are, typically, feature intensity readings from a microarray, but this function may also be useful for other kinds of intensity data that obey an additive-multiplicative error model. To obtain an object of the same class as `x`, containing the normalised data and the same metadata as `x`, use

```r
fit = vsn2(x, ...)
nx = predict(fit, newdata=x)
```

or the wrapper `justvsn`. Please see the vignette `Introduction to vsn`. 
Usage

vsnMatrix(x,
  reference,
  strata,
  lts.quantile = 0.9,
  subsample = 0L,
  verbose = interactive(),
  returnData = TRUE,
  calib = "affine",
  pstart,
  minDataPointsPerStratum = 42L,
  optimpar,
  defaultpar = list(factr=5e7, pgtol=2e-4, maxit=60000L,
  trace=0L, cvg.niter=7L, cvg.eps=0))

## S4 method for signature 'ExpressionSet'
vsn2(x, reference, strata, ...)  

## S4 method for signature 'AffyBatch'
vsn2(x, reference, strata, subsample, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'NChannelSet'
vsn2(x, reference, strata, backgroundsubtract=FALSE,
    foreground=c("R", "G"), background=c("Rb", "Gb"), ...)

## S4 method for signature 'RGList'
vsn2(x, reference, strata, ...)

Arguments

x An object containing the data to which the model is fitted.

reference Optional, a vsn object from a previous fit. If this argument is specified, the
data in x are normalized "towards" an existing set of reference arrays whose
parameters are stored in the object reference. If this argument is not specified,
then the data in x are normalized "among themselves". See Details for a more
precise explanation.

strata Optional, a factor or integer whose length is nrow(x). It can be used for
stratified normalization (i.e. separate offsets a and factors b for each level of
strata). If missing, all rows of x are assumed to come from one stratum. If
strata is an integer, its values must cover the range 1, ..., n, where n is the
number of strata.

lts.quantile Numeric of length 1. The quantile that is used for the resistant least trimmed
sum of squares regression. Allowed values are between 0.5 and 1. A value of 1
corresponds to ordinary least sum of squares regression.

subsample Integer of length 1. If its value is greater than 0, the model parameters are esti-
mated from a subsample of the data of size subsample only, yet the fitted trans-
formation is then applied to all data. For large datasets, this can substantially
reduce the CPU time and memory consumption at a negligible loss of precision.
Note that the AffyBatch method of vsn2 sets a value of 30000 for this parameter
if it is missing from the function call - which is different from the behaviour
of the other methods.
backgroundsubtract
Logical of length 1: should local background estimates be subtracted before fitting vsn?

foreground, background
Aligned character vectors of the same length, naming the channels of \( x \) that should be used as foreground and background values.

verbose
Logical. If TRUE, some messages are printed.

returnData
Logical. If TRUE, the transformed data are returned in a slot of the resulting vsn object. Setting this option to FALSE allows saving memory if the data are not needed.

calib
Character of length 1. Allowed values are affine and none. The default, affine, corresponds to the behaviour in package versions <= 3.9, and to what is described in references [1] and [2]. The option none is an experimental new feature, in which no affine calibration is performed and only two global variance stabilisation transformation parameters \( a \) and \( b \) are fitted. This functionality might be useful in conjunction with other calibration methods, such as quantile normalisation - see the vignette Introduction to vsn.

pstart
Optional, a three-dimensional numeric array that specifies start values for the iterative parameter estimation algorithm. If not specified, the function tries to guess useful start values. The first dimension corresponds to the levels of strata, the second dimension to the columns of \( x \) and the third dimension must be 2, corresponding to offsets and factors.

minDataPointsPerStratum
The minimum number of data points per stratum. Normally there is no need for the user to change this; refer to the vignette for further documentation.

optimpar
Optional, a list with parameters for the likelihood optimisation algorithm. Default parameters are taken from defaultpar. See details.

defaultpar
The default parameters for the likelihood optimisation algorithm. Values in optimpar take precedence over those in defaultpar. The purpose of this argument is to expose the default values in this manual page - it is not intended to be changed, please use optimpar for that.

... Arguments that get passed on to vsnMatrix.

Value
An object of class vsn.

Note on overall scale and location of the glog transformation
The data are returned on a glog scale to base 2. More precisely, the transformed data are subject to the transformation \( glog_2(f(b) \cdot x + a) + c \), where the function \( glog_2(u) = log_2(u + \sqrt{u^2 + 1}) \) is called the generalised logarithm, the offset \( a \) and the scaling parameter \( b \) are the fitted model parameters (see references), and \( f(x) = \exp(x) \) is a parameter transformation that allows ensuring positivity of the factor in front of \( x \) while using an unconstrained optimisation over \( b \) [4]. The overall offset \( c \) is computed from the \( b \)'s such that for large \( x \) the transformation approximately corresponds to the \( \log_2 \) function. This is done separately for each stratum, but with the same value across arrays. More precisely, if the element \( b[s, i] \) of the array \( b \) is the scaling parameter for the \( s \)-th stratum and the \( i \)-th array, then \( c[s] \) is computed as \( \log_2(2 \cdot f(\text{mean}(b[s, i]))) \). The offset \( c \) is inconsequential for all differential expression calculations, but many users like to see the data in a range that they are familiar with.
Specific behaviour of the different methods

vsn2 methods exist for ExpressionSet, NChannelSet, AffyBatch (from the affy package), RGList (from the limma package), matrix and numeric. If x is an NChannelSet, then vsn2 is applied to the matrix that is obtained by horizontally concatenating the color channels. Optionally, available background estimates can be subtracted before. If x is an RGList, it is converted into an NChannelSet using a copy of Martin Morgan’s code for RGList to NChannelSet coercion, then the NChannelSet method is called.

Standalone versus reference normalisation

If the reference argument is not specified, then the model parameters $\mu_k$ and $\sigma$ are fit from the data in x. This is the mode of operation described in [1] and that was the only option in versions 1.X of this package. If reference is specified, the model parameters $\mu_k$ and $\sigma$ are taken from it. This allows for ‘incremental’ normalization [4].

Convergence of the iterative likelihood optimisation

L-BFGS-B uses three termination criteria:

1. $(f_k - f_{k+1}) / \max(|f_k|, |f_{k+1}|, 1) \leq \text{factr} \times \text{epsmch}$ where epsmch is the machine precision.
2. $|\text{gradient}| < \text{pgtol}$
3. $\text{iterations} > \text{maxit}$

These are set by the elements factr, pgtol and maxit of optimpar. The remaining elements are

- trace An integer between 0 and 6, indicating the verbosity level of L-BFGS-B, higher values create more output.
- cvg.niter The number of iterations to be used in the least trimmed sum of squares regression.
- cvg.eps Numeric. A convergence threshold for the least trimmed sum of squares regression.

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

References


See Also

justvsn, predict
Examples

data("kidney")

fit = vsn2(kidney)       ## fit
nkid = predict(fit, newdata=kidney)   ## apply fit

plot(exprs(nkid), pch=".")
abline(a=0, b=1, col="red")

vsn2trsf  Apply the vsn transformation to data

Description

Apply the vsn transformation to data.

Usage

## S4 method for signature 'vsn'
predict(object, newdata, strata=object@strata, log2scale=TRUE, useDataInFit=FALSE)

Arguments

object  An object of class vsn that contains transformation parameters and strata information, typically this is the result of a previous call to vsn2.

newdata  Object of class ExpressionSet, NChannelSet, AffyBatch (from the affy package), RGList (from the limma package), matrix or numeric, with the data to which the fit is to be applied to.

strata  Optional, a factor or integer that aligns with the rows of newdata; see the strata argument of vsn2.

log2scale  If TRUE, the data are returned on the glog scale to base 2, and an overall offset c is added (see Value section of the vsn2 manual page). If FALSE, the data are returned on the glog scale to base e, and no offset is added.

useDataInFit  If TRUE, then no transformation is attempted and the data stored in object is transferred appropriately into resulting object, which otherwise preserves the class and metadata of newdata. This option exists to increase performance in constructs like

\[
\text{fit} = \text{vsn2}(x, \ldots)
\]

\[
\text{nx} = \text{predict(fit, newdata} = x)
\]

and is used, for example, in the justvsn function.

Value

An object typically of the same class as newdata. There are two exceptions: if newdata is an RGList, the return value is an NChannelSet, and if newdata is numeric, the return value is a matrix with 1 column.
vsnh

Author(s)
Wolfgang Huber

Examples
data("kidney")

## nb: for random subsampling, the 'subsample' argument of vsn
## provides an easier way to do this
fit = vsn2(kidney[sample(nrow(kidney), 500), ])
kn = predict(fit, newdata=exprs(kidney))

vsnh

A function that transforms a matrix of microarray intensities.

Description
A function that transforms a matrix of microarray intensities. This function works in conjunction with vsn. vsnh and vsn have been superseded by vsn2 and the predict method for vsn objects. The functions vsn and vsnh remain in the package for backward compatibility only, and will be defunct at the next release. For new projects, please use vsn2 and predict.

Usage
vsnh(y, p, strata)

Arguments
y
A numeric matrix containing intensity values from an array experiment. It may contain NA values.

p
An array with the transformation parameters. If strata is specified, it must be a 3d array, dim(p)[1] must be greater than or equal to the maximum of strata, dim(p)[2] must be ncol(y), and dim(p)[3] must be 2. If strata is missing, then the first dimension may be omitted. NA values are not allowed. See Details.

strata
Integer vector of length nrow(y). See vsn for details.

Details
The transformation is:
vsnh(y, p, s)[k, i] = asinh( p[s[k], i, 1] + p[s[k], i, 2] * y[k, i] ) - log(2*p[s[1], 1, 2])
where k=1:nrow(y) counts over the probes, i=1:ncol(y) counts over the samples, p[s[k], i, 1] is the calibration offset for stratum s[k] in sample i, p[s[k], i, 2] is the calibration factor for stratum s[k] in sample i, and s[k] is the stratum of the the k-th probe.

The constant offset - log(2*p[s[1], 1, 2]) is there to make sure that for large y, vsnh(y) for the first stratum on the first chip is approximately the same as log(y). This has no effect on the generalized log-ratios (glog-ratios), which are differences between transformed intensities, but some users are more comfortable with the absolute values that are obtained this way, since they are more comparable to the log scale.
vsnInput

Value

A numeric matrix of the same size as y, with the transformed data.

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

References

Variance stabilization applied to microarray data calibration and to the quantification of differential expression, Wolfgang Huber, Anja von Heydebreck, Holger Sultmann, Annemarie Poustka, Martin Vingron; Bioinformatics (2002) 18 Suppl.1 S96-S104.


See Also

vsn

Examples

data(kidney)
y = exprs(kidney)
p = array(c(-0.2, -0.1, 0.1, 0.2, 0.0026, 0.0028, 0.0030, 0.0032), dim=c(2,2,2))
strata = sample(1:2, nrow(y), replace=TRUE)
res1 = vsnh(exprs(kidney), p, strata)
res2 = asinh(p[strata,,1] + p[strata,,2] * y) - log(2*p[strata,1,2])
stopifnot(max(abs(res1 - res2)) < 1e-10)

vsnInput

Class to contain input data and parameters for vsn functions

Description

Class to contain input data and parameters for vsn functions

Creating Objects

new("vsnInput")

Slots

x: A numeric matrix with the input data.

reference: An object of vsn, typically this would have been obtained from a previous fit to a set of reference arrays (data).

strata: A factor of length 0 or n. If its length is n, then its levels correspond to different normalization strata (see vsn2).
ordered: Logical scalar; are the rows reordered so that the strata are contiguous.

lts.quantile: Numeric scalar, see \texttt{vsn2}.

subsample: Integer scalar, see \texttt{vsn2}.

verbose: Logical scalar, see \texttt{vsn2}.

calib Character of length 1, see manual page of \texttt{vsn2}.

pstart: A 3D array of size (number of strata) \times (number of columns of the data matrix) \times 2. It contains the start parameters.

optimpar: List with parameters for the numerical optimiser L-BFGS-B; see the manual page of \texttt{vsn2}.

Methods

[] Subset
dim Get dimensions of data matrix.
nrow Get number of rows of data matrix.
ncol Get number of columns of data matrix.
show Print a summary of the object

Author(s)
Wolfgang Huber

See Also
\texttt{vsn2}

\begin{verbatim}
vsnPlotPar \quad Plot trajectories of calibration and transformation parameters for a vsn fit

Description

This function is provided for backward compatibility with older versions of `vsn` only, and will be defunct at the next release.

Usage

\texttt{vsnPlotPar(x, what, xlab="iter", ylab=what, ...)}

Arguments

\begin{itemize}
\item \textbf{x} \hspace{1cm} An object of class \texttt{ExpressionSet-class} which has been created by the function \texttt{vsn}.
\item \textbf{what} \hspace{1cm} Character, should either be "factors" or "offsets".
\item \textbf{xlab} \hspace{1cm} Character, label for the x-axis.
\item \textbf{ylab} \hspace{1cm} Character, label for the y-axis.
\item \ldots \hspace{1cm} Further arguments that get passed to plot.default.
\end{itemize}
Details

The plot that is created by this function may help in assessing whether the parameter estimation in \texttt{vsn} was sufficiently converged.

Value

The function is called for its side effect, creating a plot on the active graphics device.

Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber

See Also

\texttt{vsn}

Examples

```r
## see example for vsn
```
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