

Package ‘LBE’

May 2, 2026

Type Package

Title Estimation of the false discovery rate

Version 1.81.0

Date 2024-05-08

Author Cyril Dalmasso

Maintainer Cyril Dalmasso <cyril.dalmasso@univ-evry.fr>

Description LBE is an efficient procedure for estimating the proportion of true null hypotheses, the false discovery rate (and so the q-values) in the framework of estimating procedures based on the marginal distribution of the p-values without assumption for the alternative hypothesis.

Depends stats

Imports graphics, stats, utils

License GPL-2

Suggests qvalue

biocViews MultipleComparison

git_url <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/LBE>

git_branch devel

git_last_commit 7155b88

git_last_commit_date 2026-04-28

Repository Bioconductor 3.24

Date/Publication 2026-05-01

Contents

LBE-package	2
golub.pval	2
hedenfalk.pval	3
LBE	4
LBEa	6
LBEplot	7
LBEsummary	8
LBEwrite	9

Index	10
--------------	-----------

LBE-package	<i>Estimation of the proportion of true null hypotheses, the false discovery rate and the q-values.</i>
-------------	---

Description

The package LBE allows estimating the proportion of true null hypotheses and the false discovery rate.

Details

Package: LBE
Type: Package
Version: 1.13.2
Date: 2007-1-10
License: GPL-2

Author(s)

Cyril Dalmasso Maintainer: Cyril Dalmasso <dalmasso@vjf.inserm.fr>

References

Dalmasso C, Broet P, Moreau T (2005): A simple procedure for estimating the false discovery rate. *Bioinformatics*, 21: 660 - 668.

Storey JD and Tibshirani R. (2003). Statistical significance for genome-wide studies. *Proc Natl Acad Sci*, 100, 9440-9445.

See Also

LBE is an alternative method to the one proposed by Storey and Tibshirani (2003) for estimating the q-values, this latter method being implemented in the package [qvalue](#).

golub.pval	<i>p-values corresponding to the gene expression data from Golub et al. (1999).</i>
------------	---

Description

The aim of the study of Golub et al. *Golub* was to identify differentially expressed genes between acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). The samples were assayed using Affymetrix Hgu6800 chips and the data on the expression of 7129 genes are available in the Bioconductor package `golubEsets`. The p-values provided here were calculated from a two-sample t-test analysis. The variance-stabilizing method included in the `vs` package was applied for normalizing the data.

Usage

```
data(golub.pval)
```

Format

The format is: num [1:3051] 0.0170 0.2552 0.9130 0.7867 0.2431 ...

References

Golub TR, Slonim DK, Tamayo P, Huard C, Gaasenbeek M, Mesirov JP, Coller H, Loh ML, Downing JR, Caligiuri MA, Bloomfield CD, Lander ES (1999). Molecular classification of cancer: class discovery and class prediction by gene expression monitoring. *Science*, 15, 286(5439), 531-7.

hedenfalk.pval	<i>p-values corresponding to the gene expression data from Hedenfalk et al. (2001).</i>
----------------	---

Description

The aim of the study of Hedenfalk et al. (2001) was to examine breast-cancer tissues from patients with BRCA1-BRCA2 related cancer and cases of sporadic breast cancer to determine global gene expression patterns in the different classes of tumours. Here, we focus on the comparison of BRCA1 and BRCA2. The p-values provided here are the same as those provided with the package qvalue. They were obtained from a two-sample t-test analysis on a subset of 3,170 genes, as described in Storey and Tibshirani (2003).

Usage

```
data(hedenfalk.pval)
```

Format

The format is: num [1:3170] 0.0121 0.0750 0.9949 0.0418 0.8458 ...

References

Hedenfalk I, Duggan D, Chen Y, Radmacher M, Bittner M, Simon R, Meltzer P, Guterson B, Esteller M, Kallioniemi OP et al. (2001) Gene-expression profiles in hereditary breast cancer. *N Engl J Med*, 22, 539-548.

Storey JD and Tibshirani R. (2003). Statistical significance for genome-wide studies. *Proc Natl Acad Sci*, 100, 9440-9445.

LBE

*Estimation of the false discovery rate.***Description**

LBE is an efficient procedure for estimating the proportion of true null hypotheses, the false discovery rate and the q-values.

Usage

```
LBE(pval, a = NA, l = 0.05, ci.level = 0.95, qvalues = TRUE, plot.type = "main", FDR.level = 0.05, n.s
```

Arguments

pval	Numerical vector of p-values (only necessary input).
a	Real value used in $[-\ln(1 - pi)]^a$ (see details). If a == NA (default), then the value of a is automatically calculated as the greatest value such that the upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation of the estimator of pi0 is smaller than the threshold l. If $a \geq 1$, the value of a is used in $[-\ln(1 - pi)]^a$ (see details). If $a < 1$, the identity function is used for transforming the p-values.
l	Threshold for the upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation (only used if a == NA).
ci.level	Level for the confidence interval of pi0.
qvalues	Logical value for estimating the qvalues and the FDR. If qvalues = FALSE, only the proportion pi0 of true null hypotheses is estimated.
plot.type	If plot.type = "none", no graphic is displayed. If plot.type = "main", the estimated q-values versus the p-values are plotted together with the histogram of the p-values. If plot.type = "multiple", several graphics are displayed: 1. The histogram of the p-values 2. The estimated q-values versus the p-values 3. The number of significant tests versus each qvalue cutoff 4. The number of expected false positives versus the number of significant tests.
FDR.level	Level at which to control the FDR (only used if n.significant == NA).
n.significant	If specified, the FDR is estimated for the rejection region defined by the "n.significant" smallest p-values.

Details

The procedure LBE is based on the expectation of a particular transformation of the p-values leading to a straightforward estimation of the key quantity pi0 that is the proportion of true null hypotheses:

$$pi0(a) = \{(1/m) * \sum_{i=1}^m [-\ln(1 - pi)]^a\} / \Gamma(a + 1), \text{ where } a \text{ belongs to the interval } [1; inf).$$

Value

A list containing:

call Function call.

FDR	Level at which to control the FDR (if n.significant == NA) or estimated FDR (if n.significant != NA).
pi0	Estimated value of pi0, the proportion of true null hypotheses.
pi0.ci	Confidence interval for pi0.
ci.level	Level for the confidence interval of pi0.
a	Value used in $[-\ln(1 - pi)]^a$ (see details).
l	Upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation for pi0.
qvalues	Vector of the estimated q-values.
pvalues	Vector of the original p-values.
significant	Indicator of whether the null hypothesis is rejected.
n.significant	Number of rejected null hypotheses.

Note

LBE is an alternative method to the one proposed by Storey and Tibshirani (2003) for estimating the q-values, this latter method being implemented in the package `qvalue`.

Author(s)

Cyril Dalmasso

References

Dalmasso C, Broet P, Moreau T (2005). A simple procedure for estimating the false discovery rate. *Bioinformatics*. *Bioinformatics*, 21: 660 - 668.

Storey JD and Tibshirani R. (2003). Statistical significance for genome-wide studies. *Proc Natl Acad Sci*, 100, 9440-9445.

See Also

[LBEplot](#), [LBEsummary](#), [LBEwrite](#), [LBEa](#)

Examples

```
## start
data(hedenfalk.pval)
res=LBE(hedenfalk.pval)
data(golub.pval)
res=LBE(golub.pval)
## end
```

LBEa

*Optimal setting for the parameter a***Description**

The LBEa function is called by the main function LBE for choosing the greatest value of a such that the upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation is less than a threshold l. A plot illustrating the relation between a and l for a fixed number of tested hypotheses can also be displayed.

Usage

```
LBEa(m, l = 0.05, fig = TRUE, a.rng = NA)
```

Arguments

m	Total number of tested hypotheses.
l	Threshold for the upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation (default value is 0.05).
fig	Logical value for plotting the standard deviation versus a.
a.rng	Range of values of a to consider. If a.rng == NA, a.rng is set such that the standard deviation is less than 0.5.

Details

The procedure LBE is based on the expectation of a particular transformation of the p-values leading to a straightforward estimation of the key quantity π_0 that is the proportion of true null hypotheses:

$$\pi_0(a) = (1/m) * \sum_{i=1}^m [-\ln(1 - p_i)]^a / \Gamma(a + 1)$$

where a belongs to the interval $[1; inf)$. As there is a balance between bias (decreasing as a increase) and variance (increasing as a increase), for a specified number m of tested hypotheses, we have proposed to choose the greatest value of a such that the upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation of the estimator of π_0 is smaller than the threshold l. The function LBEa allows to plot the standard deviation versus a in order to help for the choice of the threshold l (for a specific number m of tested hypotheses).

Value

a	Greatest value of a such that the the upper bound of the asymptotic standard deviation of the estimator of π_0 is smaller than the threshold l.
---	---

Author(s)

Cyril Dalmasso

References

Dalmasso C, Broet P, Moreau T (2005). A simple procedure for estimating the false discovery rate. *Bioinformatics*. *Bioinformatics*, 21: 660 - 668.

See Also

[LBE](#), [LBEplot](#), [LBEsummary](#), [LBEwrite](#)

Examples

```
## start
data(hedenfalk.pval)
m <- length(hedenfalk.pval)
LBEa(m, l = 0.05)
## end
```

LBEplot

Graphical display of LBE objects.

Description

Graphical display of LBE objects.

Usage

```
LBEplot(LBEobj, rng = c(0, 0.1), plot.type = c("multiple", "main"), legend = TRUE)
```

Arguments

LBEobj	LBE object.
rng	Range of q-values to consider.
plot.type	If plot.type == "main", The estimated q-values versus the p-values are plotted together with the histogram of the p-values. If plot.type == "multiple" (default value), several graphics are displayed.
legend	Logical value for displaying the legend on the plot (when plot.type == "main").

Details

If plot.type == "multiple", the following graphics are displayed: 1. The histogram of the p-values. 2. The estimated q-values versus the p-values. 3. The number of significant tests versus each qvalue cutoff. 4. The number of expected false positives versus the number of significant tests.

Note

The function LBEplot is analogous to the function qplot from the package qvalue.

Author(s)

Cyril Dalmasso

See Also

[LBE](#), [LBEsummary](#), [LBEwrite](#), [LBEa](#)

Examples

```
## start
data(hedenfalk.pval)
res=LBE(hedenfalk.pval,plot.type="none")
LBEplot(res)
LBEplot(res,plot.type="main")
LBEplot(res,plot.type="main",legend=FALSE)
## end
```

LBEsummary

Display LBE object

Description

Display summary information for an LBE object.

Usage

```
LBEsummary(LBEobj, cuts = c(1e-04, 0.001, 0.01, 0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 1), digits = getOption("digits"),
```

Arguments

LBEobj	LBE object.
cuts	Vector of significance value to use for table.
digits	Significant digits to display.
...	Any other arguments.

Details

LBEsummary shows the original call, estimated proportion of true null hypotheses, confidence interval for the proportion of true null hypotheses and a table comparing the number of significant calls for the p-values and for the estimated q-values using a set of cutoffs given by the argument cuts.

Value

Invisibly returns the original object.

Note

The function LBEsummary is analogous to the function qsummary from the package qvalue.

Author(s)

Cyril Dalmasso

See Also

[LBE](#), [LBEplot](#), [LBEwrite](#), [LBEa](#)

Examples

```
## start
data(hedenfalk.pval)
res<-LBE(hedenfalk.pval)
print(res)
LBEsummary(res)
## end
```

LBEwrite*Write the results of an LBE object to a file.*

Description

Write the results of an LBE object to a file.

Usage

```
LBEwrite(LBEobj, filename = "LBE-results.txt")
```

Arguments

LBEobj	LBE object
filename	Output filename (optional)

Details

The output file lists the estimate of π_0 , which is the proportion of true null hypotheses. It also lists each p-value and corresponding q-value, one per line. If an FDR significance level was specified in the call to `qvalue`, the significance level is printed below the estimate of π_0 , and an indicator of significance is included as a third column for each p-value and q-value.

Note

The function `LBEwrite` is analogous to the function `qwrite` from the package `qvalue`.

Author(s)

Cyril Dalmasso

See Also

[LBE](#), [LBEplot](#), [LBEsummary](#), [LBEa](#)

Examples

```
## start
data(hedenfalk.pval)
res<-LBE(hedenfalk.pval)
LBEwrite(res, filename="myresults.txt")
## end
```

Index

* datasets

golub.pval, 2
hedenfalk.pval, 3

* htest

LBE, 4
LBEplot, 7
LBEsummary, 8
LBEwrite, 9

* misc

LBEa, 6

* package

LBE-package, 2

golub.pval, 2

hedenfalk.pval, 3

LBE, 4, 7–9

LBE-package, 2

LBEa, 5, 6, 7–9

LBEplot, 5, 7, 7, 8, 9

LBEsummary, 5, 7, 8, 9

LBEwrite, 5, 7, 8, 9

qvalue, 2