

Introduction to RBM package

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1 Overview

This document provides an introduction to the RBM package. The RBM package executes the resampling-based empirical Bayes approach using either permutation or bootstrap tests based on moderated t-statistics through the following steps.

- Firstly, the RBM package computes the moderated t-statistics based on the observed data set for each feature using the lmFit and eBayes function.
- Secondly, the original data are permuted or bootstrapped in a way that matches the null hypothesis to generate permuted or bootstrapped resamples, and the reference distribution is constructed using the resampled moderated t-statistics calculated from permutation or bootstrap resamples.
- Finally, the p-values from permutation or bootstrap tests are calculated based on the proportion of the permuted or bootstrapped moderated t-statistics that are as extreme as, or more extreme than, the observed moderated t-statistics.

Additional detailed information regarding resampling-based empirical Bayes approach can be found elsewhere (Li et al., 2013).

2 Getting started

The `RBM` package can be installed and loaded through the following R code.
Install the `RBM` package with:

```
> if (!requireNamespace("BiocManager", quietly=TRUE))
+   install.packages("BiocManager")
> BiocManager::install("RBM")
```

Load the `RBM` package with:

```
> library(RBM)
```

3 RBM_T and RBM_F functions

There are two functions in the `RBM` package: `RBM_T` and `RBM_F`. Both functions require input data in the matrix format with rows denoting features and columns denoting samples. `RBM_T` is used for two-group comparisons such as study designs with a treatment group and a control group. `RBM_F` can be used for more complex study designs such as more than two groups or time-course studies. Both functions need a vector for group notation, i.e., "1" denotes the treatment group and "0" denotes the control group. For the `RBM_F` function, a contrast vector need to be provided by users to perform pairwise comparisons between groups. For example, if the design has three groups (0, 1, 2), the `aContrast` parameter will be a vector such as ("X1-X0", "X2-X1", "X2-X0") to denote all pairwise comparisons. Users just need to add an extra "X" before the group labels to do the contrasts.

- Examples using the `RBM_T` function: `normdata` simulates a standardized gene expression data and `unifdata` simulates a methylation microarray data. The *p*-values from the `RBM_T` function could be further adjusted using the `p.adjust` function in the `stats` package through the Benjamini-Hochberg method.

```
> library(RBM)
> normdata <- matrix(rnorm(1000*6, 0, 1), 1000, 6)
> mydesign <- c(0,0,0,1,1,1)
> myresult <- RBM_T(normdata, mydesign, 100, 0.05)
> summary(myresult)

      Length Class  Mode
ordfit_t     1000 -none- numeric
ordfit_pvalue 1000 -none- numeric
ordfit_beta0  1000 -none- numeric
ordfit_beta1  1000 -none- numeric
permutation_p 1000 -none- numeric
bootstrap_p    1000 -none- numeric

> sum(myresult$permutation_p<=0.05)
```

```

[1] 18

> which(myresult$permutation_p<=0.05)

[1] 29 73 82 95 123 202 212 223 325 433 448 539 669 703 749 790 831 968

> sum(myresult$bootstrap_p<=0.05)

[1] 5

> which(myresult$bootstrap_p<=0.05)

[1] 233 336 575 792 818

> permutation_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult$permutation_p, "BH")
> sum(permutation_adjp<=0.05)

[1] 2

> bootstrap_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult$bootstrap_p, "BH")
> sum(bootstrap_adjp<=0.05)

[1] 0

> unifdata <- matrix(runif(1000*7, 0.10, 0.95), 1000, 7)
> mydesign2 <- c(0,0,0, 1,1,1,1)
> myresult2 <- RBM_T(unifdata,mydesign2,100,0.05)
> sum(myresult2$permutation_p<=0.05)

[1] 0

> sum(myresult2$bootstrap_p<=0.05)

[1] 9

> which(myresult2$bootstrap_p<=0.05)

[1] 43 424 554 594 630 674 683 723 841

> bootstrap2_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult2$bootstrap_p, "BH")
> sum(bootstrap2_adjp<=0.05)

[1] 0

```

- Examples using the `RBM_F` function: `normdata_F` simulates a standardized gene expression data and `unifdata_F` simulates a methylation microarray data. In both examples, we were interested in pairwise comparisons.

```

> normdata_F <- matrix(rnorm(1000*9,0,2), 1000, 9)
> mydesign_F <- c(0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2)
> aContrast <- c("X1-X0", "X2-X1", "X2-X0")
> myresult_F <- RBM_F(normdata_F, mydesign_F, aContrast, 100, 0.05)
> summary(myresult_F)

      Length Class  Mode
ordfit_t     3000 -none- numeric
ordfit_pvalue 3000 -none- numeric
ordfit_beta1 3000 -none- numeric
permutation_p 3000 -none- numeric
bootstrap_p   3000 -none- numeric

> sum(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 1]<=0.05)
[1] 69

> sum(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 2]<=0.05)
[1] 54

> sum(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 3]<=0.05)
[1] 67

> which(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 1]<=0.05)
[1]  29  53  81 120 136 151 155 164 173 176 188 199 228 237 242 255 260 272 273
[20] 279 305 309 314 321 328 334 365 374 379 388 411 434 450 455 457 471 486 515
[39] 552 563 570 573 583 609 612 622 657 699 704 706 708 713 716 760 767 800 818
[58] 822 838 872 932 952 956 959 969 976 983 984 999

> which(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 2]<=0.05)
[1]  29  81 114 120 144 151 188 199 228 237 238 255 272 273 279 305 309 314 321
[20] 328 334 365 374 386 388 411 434 455 457 486 515 570 582 609 622 657 704 706
[39] 716 760 767 803 822 838 864 932 949 952 959 969 976 983 984 999

> which(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 3]<=0.05)
[1]  29  31  53  81 120 136 173 176 188 191 199 228 237 242 255 260 272 273 279
[20] 283 286 302 305 314 321 328 334 361 365 374 379 388 411 434 455 471 486 515
[39] 521 552 563 570 573 582 583 612 622 657 672 704 706 708 716 760 767 800 818
[58] 822 872 932 952 956 959 969 976 983 999

> con1_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 1], "BH")
> sum(con1_adjp<=0.05/3)

```

```

[1] 13

> con2_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 2], "BH")
> sum(con2_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 1

> con3_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult_F$permutation_p[, 3], "BH")
> sum(con3_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 9

> which(con2_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 486

> which(con3_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 228 242 455 486 622 704 716 760 983

> unifdata_F <- matrix(runif(1000*18, 0.15, 0.98), 1000, 18)
> mydesign2_F <- c(rep(0, 6), rep(1, 6), rep(2, 6))
> aContrast <- c("X1-X0", "X2-X1", "X2-X0")
> myresult2_F <- RBM_F(unifdata_F, mydesign2_F, aContrast, 100, 0.05)
> summary(myresult2_F)

      Length Class  Mode
ordfit_t     3000 -none- numeric
ordfit_pvalue 3000 -none- numeric
ordfit_beta1 3000 -none- numeric
permutation_p 3000 -none- numeric
bootstrap_p   3000 -none- numeric

> sum(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 1]<=0.05)

[1] 41

> sum(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 2]<=0.05)

[1] 55

> sum(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 3]<=0.05)

[1] 54

> which(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 1]<=0.05)

```

```

[1]   8  28  40  69 140 177 199 254 257 283 297 301 387 437 439 462 466 522 581
[20] 597 649 650 666 682 684 690 753 777 780 783 789 792 797 815 826 850 881 892
[39] 895 932 990

> which(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 2]<=0.05)

[1]   3   8  28  30  40 117 124 140 162 177 199 204 254 257 301 328 387 402 423
[20] 424 437 462 466 469 522 580 637 643 650 651 659 666 675 682 684 690 729 763
[39] 765 772 777 780 783 789 792 797 824 826 835 850 881 895 932 965 984

> which(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 3]<=0.05)

[1]   8   28  40   51   69 114 140 159 177 199 206 254 257 297 301 328 384 387 402
[20] 437 462 466 469 510 522 597 637 643 647 649 651 659 662 666 675 682 684 690
[39] 763 765 772 777 780 783 789 792 826 835 850 881 895 965 984 990

> con21_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 1], "BH")
> sum(con21_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 7

> con22_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 2], "BH")
> sum(con22_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 5

> con23_adjp <- p.adjust(myresult2_F$bootstrap_p[, 3], "BH")
> sum(con23_adjp<=0.05/3)

[1] 9

```

4 Ovarian cancer methylation example using the RBM_T function

Two-group comparisons are the most common contrast in biological and biomedical field. The ovarian cancer methylation example is used to illustrate the application of `RBM_T` in identifying differentially methylated loci. The ovarian cancer methylation example is taken from the genome-wide DNA methylation profiling of United Kingdom Ovarian Cancer Population Study (UKOPS). This study used Illumina Infinium 27k Human DNA methylation Beadchip v1.2 to obtain DNA methylation profiles on over 27,000 CpGs in whole blood cells from 266 ovarian cancer women and 274 age-matched healthy controls. The data are downloaded from the NCBI GEO website with access number GSE19711. For illustration purpose, we chose the first 1000 loci in 8 randomly selected women with 4 ovarian cancer cases (pre-treatment) and 4 healthy controls. The following codes show the process of generating significant differential DNA methylation loci using the `RBM_T` function and presenting the results for further validation and investigations.

```
> system.file("data", package = "RBM")
```

```

[1] "/tmp/Rtmpsjdu7N/Rinst24436773d8bf7/RBM/data"

> data(ovarian_cancer_methylation)
> summary(ovarian_cancer_methylation)

      IlmnID        Beta      exmdata2[, 2]      exmdata3[, 2]
cg00000292: 1   Min. :0.01058   Min. :0.01187   Min. :0.009103
cg00002426: 1   1st Qu.:0.04111  1st Qu.:0.04407  1st Qu.:0.041543
cg00003994: 1   Median :0.08284  Median :0.09531  Median :0.087042
cg00005847: 1   Mean   :0.27397  Mean   :0.28872  Mean   :0.283729
cg00006414: 1   3rd Qu.:0.52135 3rd Qu.:0.59032 3rd Qu.:0.558575
cg00007981: 1   Max.   :0.97069  Max.   :0.96937  Max.   :0.970155
(Other)    :994          NA's   :4
exmdata4[, 2]      exmdata5[, 2]      exmdata6[, 2]      exmdata7[, 2]
Min.   :0.01019   Min.   :0.01108   Min.   :0.01937   Min.   :0.01278
1st Qu.:0.04092  1st Qu.:0.04059  1st Qu.:0.05060  1st Qu.:0.04260
Median :0.09042  Median :0.08527  Median :0.09502  Median :0.09362
Mean   :0.28508  Mean   :0.28482  Mean   :0.27348  Mean   :0.27563
3rd Qu.:0.57502  3rd Qu.:0.57300  3rd Qu.:0.52099  3rd Qu.:0.52240
Max.   :0.96658  Max.   :0.97516  Max.   :0.96681  Max.   :0.95974
NA's   :1

exmdata8[, 2]
Min.   :0.01357
1st Qu.:0.04387
Median :0.09282
Mean   :0.28679
3rd Qu.:0.57217
Max.   :0.96268

> ovarian_cancer_data <- ovarian_cancer_methylation[, -1]
> label <- c(1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0)
> diff_results <- RBM_T(aData=ovarian_cancer_data, vec_trt=label, repetition=100, alpha=0.05)
> summary(diff_results)

      Length Class  Mode
ordfit_t     1000  -none- numeric
ordfit_pvalue 1000  -none- numeric
ordfit_beta0  1000  -none- numeric
ordfit_beta1  1000  -none- numeric
permutation_p 1000  -none- numeric
bootstrap_p   1000  -none- numeric

> sum(diff_results$ordfit_pvalue<=0.05)

[1] 45

> sum(diff_results$permutation_p<=0.05)

```

```

[1] 59

> sum(diff_results$bootstrap_p<=0.05)

[1] NA

> ordfit_adjp <- p.adjust(diff_results$ordfit_pvalue, "BH")
> sum(ordfit_adjp<=0.05)

[1] 0

> perm_adjp <- p.adjust(diff_results$permutation_p, "BH")
> sum(perm_adjp<=0.05)

[1] 4

> boot_adjp <- p.adjust(diff_results$bootstrap_p, "BH")
> sum(boot_adjp<=0.05)

[1] NA

> diff_list_perm <- which(perm_adjp<=0.05)
> diff_list_boot <- which(boot_adjp<=0.05)
> sig_results_perm <- cbind(ovarian_cancer_methylation[, diff_results$ordfit_t], diff_results$ordfit_t)
> print(sig_results_perm)

    IlmnID      Beta exmdata2[, 2] exmdata3[, 2] exmdata4[, 2]
103 cg00094319 0.73784280     0.73532960     0.75574900     0.73830220
245 cg00224508 0.04479948     0.04972043     0.04152814     0.04189373
848 cg00826384 0.05721674     0.05612171     0.06644259     0.06358381
851 cg00830029 0.58362500     0.59397870     0.64739610     0.67269640
               exmdata5[, 2] exmdata6[, 2] exmdata7[, 2] exmdata8[, 2]
103      0.67349260     0.73510200     0.75715920     0.78981220
245      0.04208405     0.05284988     0.03775905     0.03955271
848      0.05230160     0.06119713     0.06542751     0.06240686
851      0.50820240     0.34657470     0.66276570     0.64634510
    diff_results$ordfit_t[diff_list_perm]
103                         -2.268711
245                         1.962457
848                         -2.314412
851                         -2.841244
    diff_results$permutation_p[diff_list_perm]
103                           0
245                           0
848                           0
851                           0

```

```
> sig_results_boot <- cbind(ovarian_cancer_methylation[, diff_list_boot, ], diff_results$ordfit_t[])
> print(sig_results_boot)

[1] IlmnID
[2] Beta
[3] exmdata2[, 2]
[4] exmdata3[, 2]
[5] exmdata4[, 2]
[6] exmdata5[, 2]
[7] exmdata6[, 2]
[8] exmdata7[, 2]
[9] exmdata8[, 2]
[10] diff_results$ordfit_t[, diff_list_boot]
[11] diff_results$bootstrap_p[, diff_list_boot]
<0 rows> (or 0-length row.names)
```