# Package 'ASSIGN'

July 7, 2025

Type Package

git\_last\_commit\_date 2025-04-15

```
Title Adaptive Signature Selection and InteGratioN (ASSIGN)
Version 1.45.0
Date 2014-10-30
Author Ying Shen, Andrea H. Bild, W. Evan Johnson, and Mumtehena Rahman
Maintainer Ying Shen <yshen3@bu.edu>, W. Evan Johnson <wej@bu.edu>,
     David Jenkins <dfj@bu.edu>, Mumtehena Rahman <moom.rahman@utah.edu>
Depends R (>= 3.4)
Description ASSIGN is a computational tool to evaluate the pathway
      deregulation/activation status in individual patient samples.
      ASSIGN employs a flexible Bayesian factor analysis approach
      that adapts predetermined pathway signatures derived either
      from knowledge-based literature or from perturbation
      experiments to the cell-/tissue-specific pathway signatures.
      The deregulation/activation level of each context-specific
      pathway is quantified to a score, which represents the extent
      to which a patient sample encompasses the pathway
     deregulation/activation signature.
License MIT + file LICENSE
Encoding UTF-8
LazyData true
Imports gplots, graphics, grDevices, msm, Rlab, stats, sva, utils,
     ggplot2, yaml
biocViews Software, GeneExpression, Pathways, Bayesian
Suggests testthat, BiocStyle, lintr, knitr, rmarkdown
RoxygenNote 7.1.0
VignetteBuilder knitr
URL https://compbiomed.github.io/ASSIGN/
BugReports https://github.com/compbiomed/ASSIGN/issues
git_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/ASSIGN
git_branch devel
git_last_commit 5a7c417
```

2 assign.convergence

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.22 **Date/Publication** 2025-07-07

# **Contents**

Index		24
	trainingData1	23
	testData1	23
	runassignGFRN	21
	pcaplot	21
	optimizeGFRN	19
	merge_drop	18
	gfrn_geneList	18
	geneList1	18
	gather_assign_results	17
	excludegenes	17
	ComBat.step2	16
	assign.wrapper	13
	assign.summary	
	assign.preprocess	9
	assign.output	8
	assign.mcmc	5
	assign.cv.output	4
	assign.convergence	- 2

assign.convergence

Check the convergence of the MCMC chain

# Description

The assign.convergence checks the convergence of the MCMC chain of the model parameters generated by the Gibbs sampling algorithm.

```
assign.convergence(
  test,
  burn_in = 0,
  iter = 2000,
  parameter = c("B", "S", "Delta", "beta", "kappa", "gamma", "sigma"),
  whichGene,
  whichSample,
  whichPath
)
```

assign.convergence 3

# **Arguments**

test	The list object returned from the assign.mcmc function. The list components are the MCMC chains of the B, S, Delta, beta, gamma, and sigma.
burn_in	The number of burn-in iterations. These iterations are discarded when computing the posterior means of the model parameters. The default is 0.
iter	The number of total iterations. The default is 2000.
parameter	A character string indicating which model parameter is to be checked for convergence. This must be one of "B", "S", "Delta", "beta", "kappa", "gamma", and "sigma".
whichGene	A numerical value indicating which gene is to be checked for convergence. The value has to be in the range between 1 and G.
whichSample	A numerical value indicating which test sample is to be checked for convergence. The value has to be in the range between 1 and N.
whichPath	A numerical value indicating which pathway is to be checked for convergence.

#### **Details**

To compute the convergence of the gth gene in B, set whichGene=g, whichSample=NA, whichPath=NA.

The value has to be in the range between 1 and K.

To compute the convergence of the gth gene in the kth pathway within the signature matrix (S), set whichGene=g, whichSample=NA, whichPath=NA.

To compute the convergence of the kth pathway in the jth test sample within the pathway activation matrix (A), set whichGene=NA, whichSample=n, whichPath=k.

# Value

The assign.convergence function returns the a vector of the estimated values from each Gibbs sampling iteration of the model parameter to be checked, and a trace plot of this parameter.

# Author(s)

Ying Shen

# **Examples**

4 assign.cv.output

assign.cv.output

Cross validation output

### **Description**

The assign.cv.output function outputs the summary results and plots for the cross validation done on the training dataset.

# Usage

```
assign.cv.output(
 processed.data,
 mcmc.pos.mean.trainingData,
  trainingData,
  trainingLabel,
  adaptive_B = FALSE,
  adaptive_S = FALSE,
 mixture_beta = TRUE,
 outputDir
)
```

### **Arguments**

processed.data The list object returned from the assign.preprocess function.

mcmc.pos.mean.trainingData

The list object returned from the assign.mcmc function. Notice that for cross validation, the Y argument in the assign.mcmc function should be set as the training dataset.

trainingData

The genomic measure matrix of training samples (i.g., gene expression matrix). The dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number. The default is

NULL.

trainingLabel

The list linking the index of each training sample to a specific group it belongs

adaptive\_B

Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the baseline/background (B) of genomic measures for the test samples. The default is FALSE.

adaptive\_S

Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the signatures (S) of genomic measures

for the test samples. The default is FALSE.

mixture\_beta

Logicals. If TRUE, elements of the pathway activation matrix are modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture distribution. The default is TRUE.

outputDir

The path to the directory to save the output files. The path needs to be quoted in

double quotation marks.

### **Details**

The assign.cv.output function is suggested to run after the assign.preprocess, assign.mcmc and assign.summary function. For the cross validation, The Y argument in the assign.mcmc function is the output value "trainingData\_sub" from the assign.preprocess function.

assign.mcmc 5

### Value

The assign.cv.output returns one .csv file containing one/multiple pathway activity for each individual training samples, scatter plots of pathway activity for each individual pathway in all the training samples, and heatmap plots for the gene expression signatures for each individual pathways.

# Author(s)

Ying Shen

### **Examples**

assign.mcmc

The Gibbs sampling algorithm to approximate the joint distribution of the model parameters

# **Description**

The assign.mcmc function uses a Bayesian sparse factor analysis model to estimate the adaptive baseline/background, adaptive pathway signature, and pathway activation status of individual test (disease) samples.

```
assign.mcmc(
 Υ,
 Bg,
 Χ,
 Delta_prior_p,
  iter = 2000,
  adaptive_B = TRUE,
 adaptive_S = FALSE,
 mixture_beta = TRUE,
  sigma_sZero = 0.01,
  sigma_sNonZero = 1,
 p_{beta} = 0.01,
  sigma_bZero = 0.01,
  sigma_bNonZero = 1,
  alpha_tau = 1,
 beta_tau = 0.01,
 Bg_zeroPrior = TRUE,
  S_zeroPrior = FALSE,
 ECM = FALSE,
  progress_bar = TRUE
```

6 assign.mcmc

#### **Arguments**

Υ The G x J matrix of genomic measures (i.g., gene expression) of test samples. Y is the testData\_sub variable returned from the data.process function. Genes/probes present in at least one pathway signature are retained. The G x 1 vector of genomic measures of the baseline/background (B). Bg is Bg the B\_vector variable returned from the data.process function. Bg is the starting value of baseline/background level in the MCMC chain. Χ The G x K matrix of genomic measures of the signature. X is the S\_matrix variable returned from the data process function. X is the starting value of pathway signatures in the MCMC chain. The G x K matrix of prior probability of a gene being "significant" in its as-Delta\_prior\_p sociated pathway. Delta\_prior\_p is the Pi\_matrix variable returned from the data.process function. iter The number of iterations in the MCMC. The default is 2000. adaptive\_B Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the baseline/background (B) of genomic measures for the test samples. The default is TRUE. Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the signatures (S) of genomic measures adaptive\_S for the test samples. The default is FALSE. Logicals. If TRUE, elements of the pathway activation matrix are modeled by a mixture\_beta spike-and-slab mixture distribution. The default is TRUE. Each element of the signature matrix (S) is modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture sigma\_sZero distribution. Sigma\_sZero is the variance of the spike normal distribution. The default is 0.01. sigma\_sNonZero Each element of the signature matrix (S) is modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture distribution. Sigma sNonZero is the variance of the slab normal distribution. The default is 1. p\_beta is the prior probability of a pathway being activated in individual test p\_beta samples. The default is 0.01. sigma\_bZero Each element of the pathway activation matrix (A) is modeled by a spike-andslab mixture distribution. sigma\_bZero is the variance of the spike normal distribution. The default is 0.01. sigma\_bNonZero Each element of the pathway activation matrix (A) is modeled by a spike-andslab mixture distribution. sigma bNonZero is the variance of the slab normal distribution. The default is 1. The shape parameter of the precision (inverse of the variance) of a gene. The alpha\_tau default is 1. beta\_tau The rate parameter of the precision (inverse of the variance) of a gene. The default is 0.01. Logicals. If TRUE, the prior distribution of baseline/background level follows a Bg\_zeroPrior normal distribution with mean zero. The default is TRUE. Logicals. If TRUE, the prior distribution of signature follows a normal distribu-S\_zeroPrior tion with mean zero. The default is TRUE. **ECM** Logicals. If TRUE, ECM algorithm, rather than Gibbs sampling, is applied to approximate the model parameters. The default is FALSE. Display a progress bar for MCMC. Default is TRUE. progress\_bar

assign.mcmc 7

#### **Details**

The assign.mcmc function can be set as following major modes. The combination of logical values of adaptive\_B, adaptive\_S and mixture\_beta can form different modes.

Mode A: adaptive\_B = FALSE, adaptive\_S = FALSE, mixture\_beta = FALSE. This is a regression mode without adaptation of baseline/background, signature, and no shrinkage of the pathway activation level.

Mode B: adaptive\_B = TRUE, adaptive\_S = FALSE, mixture\_beta = FALSE. This is a regression mode with adaptation of baseline/background, but without signature, and with no shrinkage of the pathway activation level.

Mode C: adaptive\_B = TRUE, adaptive\_S = FALSE, mixture\_beta = TRUE. This is a regression mode with adaptation of baseline/background, but without signature, and with shrinkage of the pathway activation level when it is not significantly activated.

Mode D: adaptive\_B = TRUE, adaptive\_S = TRUE, mixture\_beta = TRUE. This is a Bayesian factor analysis mode with adaptation of baseline/background, adaptation signature, and with shrinkage of the pathway activation level.

#### Value

beta_mcmc	The iter x K x J array of the pathway activation level estimated in every iteration of MCMC.
tau2_mcmc	The iter x G matrix of the precision of genes estimated in every iteration of MCMC
gamma_mcmc	The iter x K x J array of probability of pathway being activated estimated in every iteration of MCMC.
kappa_mcmc	The iter x K x J array of pathway activation level (adjusted beta scaling between 0 and 1) estimated in every iteration of MCMC.)
S_mcmc	The iter x G x K array of signature estimated in every iteration of MCMC.
Delta_mcmc	The iter x G x K array of binary indicator of a gene being significant estimated in every iteration of MCMC.

### Author(s)

Ying Shen

### **Examples**

8 assign.output

Prediction/validation output for test data

# **Description**

The assign output function outputs the summary results and plots for prediction/validation for the test dataset.

### Usage

```
assign.output(
  processed.data,
  mcmc.pos.mean.testData,
  trainingData,
  testData,
  trainingLabel,
  testLabel,
  geneList,
  adaptive_B = TRUE,
  adaptive_S = FALSE,
  mixture_beta = TRUE,
  outputDir
)
```

### **Arguments**

processed.data The list object returned from the assign.preprocess function.

mcmc.pos.mean.testData

trainingData

testData

The list object returned from the assign.mcmc function. Notice that for prediction/validation in the test dataset, the Y argument in the assign.mcmc function should be set as the test dataset.

The genomic measure matrix of test samples (i.g., gene expression matrix). The

The genomic measure matrix of training samples (i.g., gene expression matrix).

The dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number.

dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number.

The list linking the index of each training sample to a specific group it belongs trainingLabel

The vector of the phenotypes/labels of the test samples. testLabel

geneList The list that collects the signature genes of one/multiple pathways. Every com-

ponent of this list contains the signature genes associated with one pathway.

Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the baseline/background (B) of genomic adaptive\_B

measures for the test samples. The default is TRUE.

adaptive\_S Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the signatures (S) of genomic measures

for the test samples. The default is FALSE.

Logicals. If TRUE, elements of the pathway activation matrix are modeled by a mixture\_beta

spike-and-slab mixture distribution. The default is TRUE.

outputDir The path to the directory to save the output files. The path needs to be quoted in

double quotation marks.

assign.preprocess 9

#### **Details**

The assign.output function is suggested to run after the assign.preprocess, assign.mcmc and assign.summary functions. For the prediction/validation in the test dataset, The Y argument in the assign.mcmc function is the output value "testData\_sub" from the assign.preprocess function.

#### Value

The assign output returns one .csv file containing one/multiple pathway activity for each individual test samples, scatter plots of pathway activity for each individual pathway in all the test samples, and heatmap plots for the gene expression of the prior signature and posterior signatures (if adaptive\_S equals TRUE) of each individual pathway in the test samples.

#### Author(s)

Ying Shen

### **Examples**

assign.preprocess

Input data preprocessing

# **Description**

The assign.preprocess function is used to perform quality control on the user-provided input data and generate starting values and/or prior values for the model parameters. The assign.preprocess function is optional. For users who already have the correct format for the input of the assign function, they can skip this step and go directly to the assign.mcmc function.

```
assign.preprocess(
  trainingData = NULL,
  testData,
  anchorGenes = NULL,
  excludeGenes = NULL,
  trainingLabel,
  geneList = NULL,
  n_sigGene = NA,
  theta0 = 0.05,
  theta1 = 0.9,
  pctUp = 0.5,
  geneselect_iter = 500,
  geneselect_burn_in = 100,
  progress_bar = TRUE
)
```

10 assign.preprocess

### **Arguments**

trainingData The genomic measure matrix of training samples (i.g., gene expression matrix). The dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number. The default is NULL. testData The genomic measure matrix of test samples (i.g., gene expression matrix). The dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number. anchorGenes A list of genes that will be included in the signature even if they are not chosen during gene selection. excludeGenes A list of genes that will be excluded from the signature even if they are chosen during gene selection. The list linking the index of each training sample to a specific group it belongs trainingLabel to. See details and examples for more information. geneList The list that collects the signature genes of one/multiple pathways. Every component of this list contains the signature genes associated with one pathway. The default is NULL. The vector of the signature genes to be identified for one pathway. n\_sigGene n\_sigGene needs to be specified when geneList is set NULL. The default is NA. See examples for more information. theta0 The prior probability for a gene to be significant, given that the gene is NOT defined as "significant" in the signature gene lists provided by the user. The default is 0.05. The prior probability for a gene to be significant, given that the gene is defined theta1 as "significant" in the signature gene lists provided by the user. The default is 0.9. By default, ASSIGN bayesian gene selection chooses the signature genes with pctUp an equal fraction of genes that increase with pathway activity and genes that decrease with pathway activity. Use the pctUp parameter to modify this fraction. Set pctUP to NULL to select the most significant genes, regardless of direction. The default is 0.5 geneselect\_iter The number of iterations for bayesian gene selection. The default is 500. geneselect\_burn\_in The number of burn-in iterations for bayesian gene selection. The default is 100 Display a progress bar for gene selection. Default is TRUE. progress\_bar

# **Details**

The assign.preprocess is applied to perform quality control on the user-provided genomic data and meta data, re-format the data in a way that can be used in the following analysis, and generate starting/prior values for the pathway signature matrix. The output values of the assign.preprocess function will be used as input values for the assign.mcmc function.

For training data with 1 control group and 3 experimental groups (10 samples/group; all 3 experimental groups share 1 control group), the trainingLabel can be specified as: trainingLabel <-list(control = list(expr1=1:10, expr2=1:10, expr3=1:10), expr1 = 11:20, expr2 = 21:30, expr3 = 31:40)

For training data with 3 control groups and 3 experimental groups (10 samples/group; Each experimental group has its corresponding control group), the trainingLabel can be specified as: trainingLabel <- list(control = list(expr1=1:10, expr2=21:30, expr3=41:50), expr1 = 11:20, expr2 = 31:40, expr3 = 51:60)

assign.summary 11

It is highly recommended that the user use the same experiment name when specifying control indices and experimental indices.

#### Value

trainingData\_sub

The G x N matrix of G genomic measures (i.g., gene expression) of N training samples. Genes/probes present in at least one pathway signature are retained. Only returned when the training dataset is available.

Only returned when the training dataset is available.

 $\label{eq:testData_sub} \textbf{The } G \ x \ N \ \text{matrix of } G \ \text{genomic measures (i.g., gene expression) of } N \ \text{test sam-}$ 

ples. Genes/probes present in at least one pathway signature are retained.

The G x 1 vector of genomic measures of the baseline/background. Each ele-

B\_vector The G x 1 vector of genomic measures of the baseline/background. Each element of the B\_vector is calculated as the mean of the genomic measures of the

control samples in training data.

 $S_{\text{matrix}}$  The G x K matrix of genomic measures of the signature. Each column of the

 $S_{\rm matrix}$  represents a pathway. Each element of the  $S_{\rm matrix}$  is calculated as the mean of genomic measures of the experimental samples minus the mean of

the control samples in the training data.

Delta\_matrix The G x K matrix of binary indicators. Each column of the Delta\_matrix repre-

sents a pathway. The elements in Delta\_matrix are binary (0, insignificant gene;

1, significant gene).

Pi\_matrix The G x K matrix of probability p of a Bernoulli distribution. Each column

of the Pi\_matrix represents a pathway. Each element in the Pi\_matrix is the

probability of a gene to be significant in its associated pathway.

diffGeneList 
The list that collects the signature genes of one/multiple pathways generated

from the training samples or from the user provided gene list. Every component

of this list contains the signature genes associated with one pathway.

#### Author(s)

Ying Shen

# **Examples**

assign.summary Summary of the model parameters estimated by the Gibbs sampling algorithm

### **Description**

The assign.summary function computes the posterior mean of the model parameters estimated in every iteration during the Gibbs sampling.

12 assign.summary

### Usage

```
assign.summary(
  test,
  burn_in = 1000,
  iter = 2000,
  adaptive_B = TRUE,
  adaptive_S = FALSE,
  mixture_beta = TRUE)
```

# **Arguments**

test	The list object returned from the assign.mcmc function. The list components are the MCMC chains of the B, S, Delta, beta, gamma, and sigma.
burn_in	The number of burn-in iterations. These iterations are discarded when computing the posterior means of the model parameters. The default is 1000.
iter	The number of total iterations. The default is 2000.
adaptive_B	Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the baseline/background (B) of genomic measures for the test samples. The default is TRUE.
adaptive_S	Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the signatures (S) of genomic measures for the test samples. The default is FALSE.
mixture_beta	Logicals. If TRUE, elements of the pathway activation matrix are modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture distribution. The default is TRUE.

# **Details**

The assign.summary function is suggested to run after the assign.convergence function, which is used to check the convergence of the MCMC chain. If the MCMC chain does not converge to a stationary phase, more iterations are required in the assign.mcmc function. The number of burn-in iterations is usually set to be half of the number of total iterations, meaning that the first half of the MCMC chain is discarded when computing the posterior means.

# Value

beta_pos	The N x K matrix of the posterior mean of the pathway activation level in test samples (transposed matrix A). Columns:K pathways; rows: N test samples
sigma_pos	The G x 1 vector of the posterior mean of the variance of gene.
kappa_pos	The N x K matrix of posterior mean of pathway activation level in test samples (transposed matrix A) (adjusted beta_pos scaling between 0 and 1). Columns:K pathways; rows: N test samples
gamma_pos	The N x K matrix of the posterior probability of pathways being activated in test samples.
S_pos	The G x K matrix of the posterior mean of pathway signature genes.
Delta_pos	The G x K matrix of the posterior probability of genes being significant in the associated pathways.

# Author(s)

Ying Shen

assign.wrapper 13

### **Examples**

```
data(trainingData1)
data(testData1)
data(geneList1)
trainingLabel1 <- list(control = list(bcat=1:10, e2f3=1:10, myc=1:10,</pre>
                                       ras=1:10, src=1:10),
                        bcat = 11:19, e2f3 = 20:28, myc= 29:38,
                        ras = 39:48, src = 49:55)
processed.data <- assign.preprocess(trainingData=trainingData1,</pre>
testData=testData1, trainingLabel=trainingLabel1, geneList=geneList1)
mcmc.chain <- assign.mcmc(Y=processed.data$testData_sub,</pre>
                           Bg = processed.data$B_vector,
                           X=processed.data$S_matrix,
                           Delta_prior_p = processed.data$Pi_matrix,
                           iter = 20, adaptive_B=TRUE, adaptive_S=FALSE,
                           mixture_beta=TRUE)
mcmc.pos.mean <- assign.summary(test=mcmc.chain, burn_in=10, iter=20,</pre>
                                 adaptive_B=TRUE, adaptive_S=FALSE,
                                 mixture_beta = TRUE)
```

assign.wrapper

ASSIGN All-in-one function

# **Description**

The assign.wrapper function integrates the assign.preprocess, assign.mcmc, assign.summary, assign.output, assign.cv.output functions into one wrapper function.

```
assign.wrapper(
  trainingData = NULL,
  testData.
  trainingLabel,
  testLabel = NULL,
 geneList = NULL,
 anchorGenes = NULL,
 excludeGenes = NULL,
 n_sigGene = NA,
  adaptive_B = TRUE,
 adaptive_S = FALSE,
 mixture_beta = TRUE,
 outputDir,
 p_{beta} = 0.01,
  theta0 = 0.05,
  theta1 = 0.9,
  iter = 2000,
 burn_in = 1000,
  sigma_sZero = 0.01,
  sigma_sNonZero = 1,
```

14 assign.wrapper

```
S_zeroPrior = FALSE,
pctUp = 0.5,
geneselect_iter = 500,
geneselect_burn_in = 100,
outputSignature_convergence = FALSE,
ECM = FALSE,
progress_bar = TRUE,
override_S_matrix = NULL
)
```

# Arguments

iter

guments	
trainingData	The genomic measure matrix of training samples (i.g., gene expression matrix). The dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number. The default is NULL.
testData	The genomic measure matrix of test samples (i.g., gene expression matrix). The dimension of this matrix is probe number x sample number.
trainingLabel	The list linking the index of each training sample to a specific group it belongs to. See examples for more information.
testLabel	The vector of the phenotypes/labels of the test samples. The default is NULL.
geneList	The list that collects the signature genes of one/multiple pathways. Every component of this list contains the signature genes associated with one pathway. The default is NULL.
anchorGenes	A list of genes that will be included in the signature even if they are not chosen during gene selection.
excludeGenes	A list of genes that will be excluded from the signature even if they are chosen during gene selection.
n_sigGene	The vector of the signature genes to be identified for one pathway. n_sigGene needs to be specified when geneList is set NULL. The default is NA. See examples for more information.
adaptive_B	Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the baseline/background (B) of genomic measures for the test samples. The default is TRUE.
adaptive_S	Logicals. If TRUE, the model adapts the signatures (S) of genomic measures for the test samples. The default is FALSE.
mixture_beta	Logicals. If TRUE, elements of the pathway activation matrix are modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture distribution. The default is TRUE.
outputDir	The path to the directory to save the output files. The path needs to be quoted in double quotation marks.
p_beta	<code>p_beta</code> is the prior probability of a pathway being activated in individual test samples. The default is $0.01$ .
theta0	The prior probability for a gene to be significant, given that the gene is NOT defined as "significant" in the signature gene lists provided by the user. The default is 0.05.
theta1	The prior probability for a gene to be significant, given that the gene is defined as "significant" in the signature gene lists provided by the user. The default is 0.9.

The number of iterations in the MCMC. The default is 2000.

assign.wrapper 15

burn\_in The number of burn-in iterations. These iterations are discarded when computing the posterior means of the model parameters. The default is 1000.

sigma\_sZero Each element of the signature matrix (S) is modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture

distribution. Sigma\_sZero is the variance of the spike normal distribution. The

default is 0.01.

sigma\_sNonZero Each element of the signature matrix (S) is modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture

distribution. Sigma\_sNonZero is the variance of the slab normal distribution.

The default is 1.

S\_zeroPrior Logicals. If TRUE, the prior distribution of signature follows a normal distribu-

tion with mean zero. The default is TRUE.

pctUp By default, ASSIGN bayesian gene selection chooses the signature genes with

an equal fraction of genes that increase with pathway activity and genes that decrease with pathway activity. Use the pctUp parameter to modify this fraction. Set pctUP to NULL to select the most significant genes, regardless of direction.

The default is 0.5

geneselect\_iter

The number of iterations for bayesian gene selection. The default is 500.

geneselect\_burn\_in

The number of burn-in iterations for bayesian gene selection. The default is 100

outputSignature\_convergence

Create a pdf of the MCMC chain. The default is FALSE.

ECM Logicals. If TRUE, ECM algorithm, rather than Gibbs sampling, is applied to

approximate the model parameters. The default is FALSE.

progress\_bar Display a progress bar for MCMC and gene selection. Default is TRUE.

override\_S\_matrix

Replace the S\_matrix created by assign.preprocess with the matrix provided in override\_S\_matrix. This can be used to indicate the expected directions of genes

in a signature if training data is not provided.

# **Details**

The assign.wrapper function is an all-in-one function which outputs the necessary results for basic users. For users who need more intermediate results for model diagnosis, it is better to run the assign.preprocess, assign.mcmc, assign.convergence, assign.summary functions separately and extract the output values from the returned list objects of those functions.

### Value

The assign.wrapper returns one/multiple pathway activity for each individual training sample and test sample, scatter plots of pathway activity for each individual pathway in the training and test data, heatmap plots for gene expression signatures for each individual pathway, heatmap plots for the gene expression of the prior and posterior signatures (if adaptive\_S equals TRUE) of each individual pathway in the test data

### Author(s)

Ying Shen and W. Evan Johnson

16 ComBat.step2

#### **Examples**

ComBat.step2

Perform the second step of ComBat

### **Description**

The first ComBat step (on the signatures only) has already been performed. This step performs batch correction on the test data, using reference batch ComBat, to prepare the test data for ASSIGN analysis.

# Usage

```
ComBat.step2(
  testData,
  pcaPlots = FALSE,
  combat_train = NULL,
  plots_to_console = FALSE
)
```

### **Arguments**

testData The input test data to batch correct

pcaPlots a logical value indicating whether or not the function should create PCA plots.

The default is FALSE.

combat\_train the ComBat training data data frame. If you do not have this, the function will

attempt to download it from the internet. Please contact the developers if you

have any issues with access to the file.

plots\_to\_console

By default this function will write PDF versions of the plots. Set this to TRUE to send the plots to the command line. The default is FALSE.

# Details

This function downloads the training data from the internet, so an internet connection is necessary

excludegenes 17

### Value

A list of data.frames is returned, including control (GFP) and signature data, as well as the batch corrected test data. This data can go directly into the runassign.single and runassign.multi functions, or subsetted to go directly into ASSIGN.

excludegenes

Exclude Gene List

# Description

Overexpression signatures may contain genes that are consistently differentially expressed. This list was compiled based on the GFRN gene list. These genes appear in at least 60

### **Format**

character vector of commonly differentially expressed genes

# Source

Bild et al.

# **Description**

Gather the ASSIGN results in a specific directory

# Usage

```
gather_assign_results(path = ".")
```

# **Arguments**

path

The path to the directory containing ASSIGN results. The default is the current working directory.

### Value

A data frame of ASSIGN predictions from each run in the directory

18 merge\_drop

geneList1

Pathway signature gene sets

# **Description**

Signature genes for 5 oncogenic pathways.

### **Format**

List with 5 components representing each pathway. 200 signature genes are selected for each pathway.

### **Source**

Bild et al. (2006) Oncogenic pathway signatures in human cancers as a guide to targeted therapies. Nature, 439, 353-357.

gfrn\_geneList

Pathway Signature Gene Lists

# **Description**

Pathway signature gene lists have been optimized based on correlations of pathway activity data and protein data. The gene lists can be used to avoid the bayesian gene selection step of ASSIGN, which will decrease the amount of time it takes to run ASSIGN.

### **Format**

List of gene lists for akt, bad, egfr, her2, igf1r, krasgv, krasqh, and raf

# Source

Bild et al.

merge\_drop

Combine two data frames

# **Description**

Combine two data frames

```
merge\_drop(x, y, by = 0, ...)
```

optimizeGFRN 19

### **Arguments**

x The first data frame to be coerced to one.
y The second data frame to be coerced to one.
by specifications of the columns used for merging. The default is by row names
... arguments to be passed to or from methods.

### Value

The returned data frame is the combination of x and y, with the rownames properly assigned.

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
merged.df <- merge_drop(df1,df2)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

optimizeGFRN

Optimize GFRN gene lists lengths

### **Description**

This function runs ASSIGN pathway prediction on gene list lengths from 5 to 500 to find the optimum gene list length for the GFRN pathways by correlating the ASSIGN predictions to a matrix of correlation data that you provide. This function takes a long time to run because you are running ASSIGN many times on many pathways, so I recommend parallelizing by pathway or running the ASSIGN predictions first (long and parallelizable) and then running the correlation step (quick) separately.

# Usage

```
optimizeGFRN(
  indata,
  correlation,
  correlationList,
  run = c("akt", "bad", "egfr", "her2", "igf1r", "krasgv", "krasqh", "raf"),
  run_ASSIGN_only = FALSE,
  correlation_only = FALSE,
  keep_optimized_only = FALSE,
  pathway_lengths = c(seq(5, 20, 5), seq(25, 275, 25), seq(300, 500, 50)),
  iter = 1e+05,
  burn_in = 50000
)
```

# Arguments

indata The list of data frames from ComBat.step2

correlation A matrix of data to correlate ASSIGN predictions to. The number of rows should

be the same and in the same order as indata

20 optimizeGFRN

correlationList

A list that shows which columns of correlation should be used for each pathway. See below for more details

run

specifies the pathways to predict. The default list will cause all eight pathways to be run in serial. Specify a pathway ("akt", "bad", "egfr", etc.) or list of pathways to run those pathways only.

run\_ASSIGN\_only

a logical value indicating if you want to run the ASSIGN predictions only. Use this to parallelize ASSIGN runs across a compute cluster or across compute threads

correlation\_only

a logical value indicating if you want to run the correlation step only. The function will find the ASSIGN runs in the cwd and optimize them based on the correlation data matrix.

keep\_optimized\_only

a logical value indicating if you want to keep all of the ASSIGN run results, or only the runs that provided the optimum ASSIGN correlations. This will delete all directories in the current working directory that match the pattern "\_gene\_list". The default is FALSE

pathway\_lengths

The gene list lengths that should be run. The default is the 20 pathway lengths that were used in the paper, but this list can be customized to which pathway lengths you are willing to accept

iter

The number of iterations in the MCMC.

burn\_in

The number of burn-in iterations. These iterations are discarded when computing the posterior means of the model parameters.

### Value

ASSIGN runs are output to the current working directory. This function returns the correlation data and the optimized gene lists that you can use with runssign GFRN to try these lists on other data.

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
testData <- read.table(paste0("https://drive.google.com/uc?authuser=0",
                                "&id=1mJICN4z_aCeh4JuPzNfm8GR_lkJ0hWFr",
                                "&export=download"),
                        sep='\t', row.names=1, header=1)
corData <- read.table(paste0("https://drive.google.com/uc?authuser=0",</pre>
                               "&id=1MDWVP2jBsAAcMNcNFKE74vYl-orpo7WH",
                               "&export=download"),
                       sep='\t', row.names=1, header=1)
corData$negAkt <- -1 * corData$Akt</pre>
corData$negPDK1 <- -1 * corData$PDK1</pre>
corData$negPDK1p241 <- -1 * corData$PDK1p241</pre>
corList <- list(akt=c("Akt","PDK1","PDK1p241"),</pre>
                bad=c("negAkt","negPDK1","negPDK1p241"),
                 egfr=c("EGFR","EGFRp1068"),
                her2=c("HER2","HER2p1248"),
                 igf1r=c("IGFR1","PDK1","PDK1p241"),
                krasgv=c("EGFR","EGFRp1068"),
```

pcaplot 21

pcaplot

Display a PCA Plot of the Data

# Description

Display a PCA Plot of the Data

### Usage

```
pcaplot(mat, sub, center = TRUE, scale = TRUE, plottitle = "PCA")
```

# **Arguments**

mat	The data frame on which to perform pca.
sub	The number of samples in this batch, from left to right in the data frame
center	a logical value indicating whether the variables should be shifted to be zero centered. The default is $\ensuremath{TRUE}$
scale	a logical value indicating whether the variables should be scaled to have unit variance before the analysis takes place. The default is TRUE
plottitle	The title to display above your PCA plot. The default is "PCA".

# Value

A PCA plot is displayed

runassignGFRN Run optimized single pathway ASSIGN			
	runassignGFRN	Run optimized single pathway ASSIGN	

# Description

This function runs eight ASSIGN runs based on the pathway optimizations from the paper. You can run all eight pathways in serial, or call this function and specify the run parameter to run a specific pathway. Some ASSIGN parameters can be customized using this function. The default values were used in the analysis for the paper.

22 runassignGFRN

#### Usage

```
runassignGFRN(
  indata,
  run = c("akt", "bad", "egfr", "her2", "igf1r", "krasgv", "raf"),
  optimized_geneList = NULL,
  use_seed = 1234,
  sigma_sZero = 0.05,
  sigma_sNonZero = 0.5,
  S_zeroPrior = FALSE,
  iter = 1e+05,
  burn_in = 50000,
  exclude_common_genes = FALSE,
  adaptive_S = TRUE,
  ECM = FALSE
)
```

### **Arguments**

indata The list of data frames from ComBat.step2

run specifies the pathways to predict. The default list will cause all eight pathways to

be run in serial. Specify a pathway ("akt", "bad", "egfr", etc.) or list of pathways

to run those pathways only.

optimized\_geneList

a list of custom optimized gene lists for the gfrn pathways either created manu-

ally or output by optimizeGFRN

use\_seed Set the seed before running ASSIGN. This will make the result consistent be-

tween runs. The default is 1234. Set use\_seed as FALSE to not set a seed.

sigma\_sZero Each element of the signature matrix (S) is modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture

distribution. Sigma\_sZero is the variance of the spike normal distribution. The

default is 0.05.

sigma\_sNonZero Each element of the signature matrix (S) is modeled by a spike-and-slab mixture

distribution. Sigma\_sNonZero is the variance of the slab normal distribution.

The default is 0.5.

S\_zeroPrior Logicals. If TRUE, the prior distribution of signature follows a normal distribu-

tion with mean zero. The default is FALSE.

iter The number of iterations in the MCMC. The default is 100000.

burn\_in The number of burn-in iterations. These iterations are discarded when comput-

ing the posterior means of the model parameters. The default is 50000.

exclude\_common\_genes

 $Remove\ commonly\ differentially\ expressed\ genes\ for\ overexpression\ signatures.$ 

The default is FALSE.

adaptive\_S Logical. If TRUE, the model adapts the signatures (S) of genomic measures for

the test samples. The default for GFRN analysis is TRUE.

ECM Logicals. If TRUE, ECM algorithm, rather than Gibbs sampling, is applied to

approximate the model parameters. The default is FALSE.

# Value

Data is output to the current working directory in a results directory.

testData1 23

### **Examples**

testData1

Gene expression profiling from cancer patients (test dataset)

# Description

Gene expression datasets for 111 lung cancer patient samples, including 53 cases of lung adenocarcinoma and 58 cases of lung squamous carcinoma.

#### **Format**

Data frame with 1000 genes/probes (rows) and 111 samples (columns)

#### Source

Bild et al. (2006) Oncogenic pathway signatures in human cancers as a guide to targeted therapies. Nature, 439, 353-357.

trainingData1

Gene expression profiling from cell line perturbation experiments (training dataset)

# Description

Gene expression datasets for 5 oncogenic pathway perturbation experiments, including B-Catenin, E2F3, MYC, RAS, and SRC pathways.

### **Format**

Data frame with 1000 genes/probes (rows) and 55 samples (columns)

### **Source**

Bild et al. (2006) Oncogenic pathway signatures in human cancers as a guide to targeted therapies. Nature, 439, 353-357.

# **Index**

```
* datasets
    excludegenes, 17
    geneList1, 18
    gfrn_geneList, 18
    testData1, 23
    {\tt trainingData1}, {\tt 23}
{\tt assign.cv.output,4}
assign.mcmc, 5
assign.output, 8
{\it assign.preprocess}, 9
{\it assign.summary}, 11
assign.wrapper, 13
ComBat.step2, 16
excludegenes, 17
gather\_assign\_results, 17
geneList1, 18
gfrn\_geneList, 18
merge\_drop, 18
optimizeGFRN, 19
pcaplot, 21
runassignGFRN, 21
testData1, 23
trainingData1, 23
```