

Bioconductor's DEDS package

Yuanyuan Xiao¹ and Yee Hwa Yang²

May 2, 2019

Departments of ¹Biopharmaceutical Sciences and ²Medicine
University of California, San Francisco
yxiao@itsa.ucsf.edu
jean@biostat.ucsf.edu

Contents

1	Overview	1
2	Case study 1: Affymetrix Spike-in Experiment	2
2.1	Data	2
2.2	The <code>deds.stat.linkC</code> and <code>deds.stat</code> functions	3
2.3	The plotting functions <code>pairs.DEDS</code> and <code>hist.deds</code>	4
3	Case study 2: ApoA1 Experiment	4
3.1	Data	5
3.2	Application of the <code>deds.stat.linkC</code> function	5
4	Statistical functions	7
4.1	The <code>comp.t</code> and other related functions	7
4.2	The <code>comp.stat</code> function	7

1 Overview

This document provides a tutorial for the DEDS package for assessment of differential expression (DE) in microarray data.

Introduction to DEDS. There are numerous statistics in the microarray literature that rank genes in evidence of DE, to name a few, fold change (FC), t statistic, SAM (Tusher et al. (2001)). selecting a best statistic or ordering statistics in terms of merit has been problematic. No characterizations of microarray data that indicate desirability of a specific choice exist and, likewise, no comparisons across a sufficiently wide range of benchmark datasets have been undertaken. To avoid making fairly arbitrary choices when deciding which ranking statistic to use and to borrow strength across related measures, we apply a novel ranking scheme that assesses DE via distance synthesis

(DEDS) of different related measures. Further details on the packages are given in Yang et al (2004).

Functionalities in DEDS. The DEDS package implements the DEDS procedure and several common statistics, such as, FC , t statistics, SAM, F statistics, B statistics (Lönstedt and Speed (2001)) and moderated F and t statistics (Smyth et al. (2003)), for the analysis of DE in microarrays.

Case study. We demonstrate the functionality of the DEDS package using two microarray experiments: Affymetrix spike-in (Irizarry et al. (2003)) and ApoA1 (Dudoit et al. (2002b)).

Related packages in Bioconductor. The Bioconductor packages `marrayClasses`, `marrayInput` and `marrayNorm` provide functions for reading and normalizing spotted microarray data. The package `affy` provides functions for reading and normalizing Affymetrix microarray data.

Help files. As with any R package, detailed information on functions, classes and methods can be obtained in the help files. For instance, to view the help file for the function `comp.FC` in a browser, use `help.start()` followed by `?comp.FC`.

2 Case study 1: Affymetrix Spike-in Experiment

We demonstrate the functionality of this package using gene expression data from the Affymetrix spike-in experiment. To load the dataset, use `data(affySpikeIn)`, and to view a description of the experiments and data, type `?affySpikeIn`.

```
> library(DEDS)
> data(affySpikeIn)
```

2.1 Data

The spike-in experiment represents a portion of the data used by Affymetrix to develop their MAS 5.0 preprocessing algorithm. The whole dataset features 14 human genes spiked-in at a series of 14 known concentrations ($0, 2^{-2}, 2^{-1}, \dots, 2^{10}$ pM) according to a Latin square design among 12612 null genes. Each “row” of the Latin square (given spike-in gene at a given concentration) was replicated (typically 3 times, two rows 12 times, 59 arrays in total for the whole dataset). Further details are available at http://www.affymetrix.com/analysis/download_center2.affx. Here we showcase a portion of this dataset that presents a two-group comparison problem with 12 replicates in each group. Therefore, `affySpikeIn` contains the gene expression data for the 24 samples and 12,626 genes retained after RMA probe level summaries. The dataset includes

- `affySpikeIn`: a $12,626 \times 24$ matrix of expression levels;
- `affySpikeIn.gnames`: a vector of gene identifiers of length 12,626;
- `affySpikeIn.L`: a vector of class labels (0 for class 1, 1 for class 2).
- `spikegene`: a vector that shows that location and identities of the 14 spiked genes.

We apply `deds.stat.linkC` on the `affySpikeIn` dataset using 400 permutations and evaluating the q values for the top 100 genes. Here, as a default, DEDS synthesizes t statistics, FC and SAM. The information of the top 20 genes can be printed out using the function `topgenes`; note that the rankings of genes by DEDS balance among the three measures it synthesizes, t statistics, FC and SAM.

```
> deds.affy <- deds.stat.linkC(affySpikeIn, affySpikeIn.L, B=400, nsig=100)
> topgenes(deds.affy, number=20, genelist=affySpikeIn.gnames)
```

	Name	geneOrder	DEDS	t	fc	sam
1	684_at	12244	0.00000000	171.858505	7.2235484	82.349174
2	36085_at	6134	0.00000000	-19.250088	-0.7648563	-8.954151
3	36202_at	6253	0.00000000	-15.757862	-0.8603835	-8.579226
4	33818_at	3845	0.00000000	-16.560453	-0.6846256	-7.866766
5	1091_at	102	0.00000000	-19.858982	-0.4745293	-6.819760
6	36311_at	6363	0.00000000	-14.013592	-0.6919303	-7.278708
7	546_at	12106	0.00000000	-10.181562	-0.8456221	-6.568405
8	1024_at	28	0.00000000	-11.241181	-0.6650023	-6.342763
9	40322_at	10414	0.00000000	-12.258781	-0.5484858	-6.065384
10	38734_at	8810	0.00000000	-10.129580	-0.5154920	-5.337663
11	32660_at	2675	0.00000000	-13.974358	-0.3281164	-4.743865
12	1552_i_at	609	0.00000000	-6.499473	-0.6759853	-4.515819
13	36889_at	6946	0.00000000	-8.767055	-0.5016880	-4.874979
14	38254_at	8325	0.03703704	8.293945	0.3783841	4.144027
15	37777_at	7843	0.03703704	-8.696619	-0.2633858	-3.466853
16	39058_at	9137	0.03703704	-7.176071	-0.2977104	-3.415163
17	1032_at	37	0.03703704	4.684491	0.4109406	3.080278
18	AFFX-YELO21w/URA3_at	12625	0.03703704	-2.130391	-0.6669140	-1.859075
19	1708_at	780	0.03703704	-5.415472	-0.3216362	-3.060909
20	407_at	10795	0.03703704	-6.421535	-0.2044849	-2.637487

2.3 The plotting functions `pairs.DEDS` and `hist.deds`

We next illustrate the usage of the function `pairs.DEDS`, which is a S3 method for `pairs`. It displays a scatter matrix plot for individual statistics that DEDS synthesizes and highlights the top genes according to a user specified threshold (`thresh`); see also `?pairs.DEDS`. Plots on the diagonal panels are QQ-plots as the default, but can be set as `■histogram■`, `■boxplot■`, `■density■` or `■none■`. To display only qq-plots, the function `qqnorm.DEDS` can be use.

```
> pairs(deds.affy, subset=c(2:12626), thresh=0.01, legend=F)
> qqnorm(deds.affy, subset=c(2:12626), thresh=0.01)
```

3 Case study 2: ApoA1 Experiment

The next example we demonstrate is a set of cDNA microarray data from a study of a mouse model with very low HDL cholesterol levels described in Dudoit et al. (2002b). To load the dataset, use

`data(ApoA1)`, and to view a description of the experiments and data, type `?ApoA1`.

```
> data(ApoA1)
```

3.1 Data

The goal of the ApoA1 experiment to identify DE genes in apolipoprotein A1 (apo A1) knock-out mice. The treatment group consists of eight knock-out mice and the control group consists of eight normal mice. The dataset includes

- ApoA1: a $6,384 \times 16$ matrix of expression levels;
- ApoA1.L: a vector of class labels (0 for the control group, 1 for the treatment group);

```
> dim(ApoA1)
```

```
[1] 6384 16
```

```
> ApoA1.L
```

```
[1] 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
```

3.2 Application of the `deds.stat.linkC` function

We apply `deds.stat.linkC` on the ApoA1 dataset using 400 permutations and evaluating the adjusted p . Here, as a default, DEBS synthesizes t statistics, FC and SAM.

```
> deds.ApoA1 <- deds.stat.linkC(ApoA1, ApoA1.L, B=400, adj="adjp" )
```

```
> sum(deds.ApoA1$p<=0.01)
```

```
[1] 6
```

```
> sum(deds.ApoA1$p<=0.05)
```

```
[1] 9
```

```
> topgenes(deds.ApoA1, number=9)
```

	geneOrder	DEBS	t	fc	sam
1	2149	0.0000	16.500626	3.2440281	8.674891
2	540	0.0000	8.784189	2.9692008	5.761274
3	5356	0.0000	9.256464	1.7848039	4.821542
4	1739	0.0025	9.789542	0.9976147	3.572326
5	2537	0.0100	7.842692	0.9840616	3.249543
6	4139	0.0100	7.880206	0.9779046	3.243980
7	2	0.0225	-6.656223	-0.8907498	-2.862510
8	4941	0.0375	5.909812	0.9214721	2.764874
9	1204	0.0450	-5.156277	-0.9961325	-2.688297

```
> pairs(deds.ApoA1, legend=F)
```

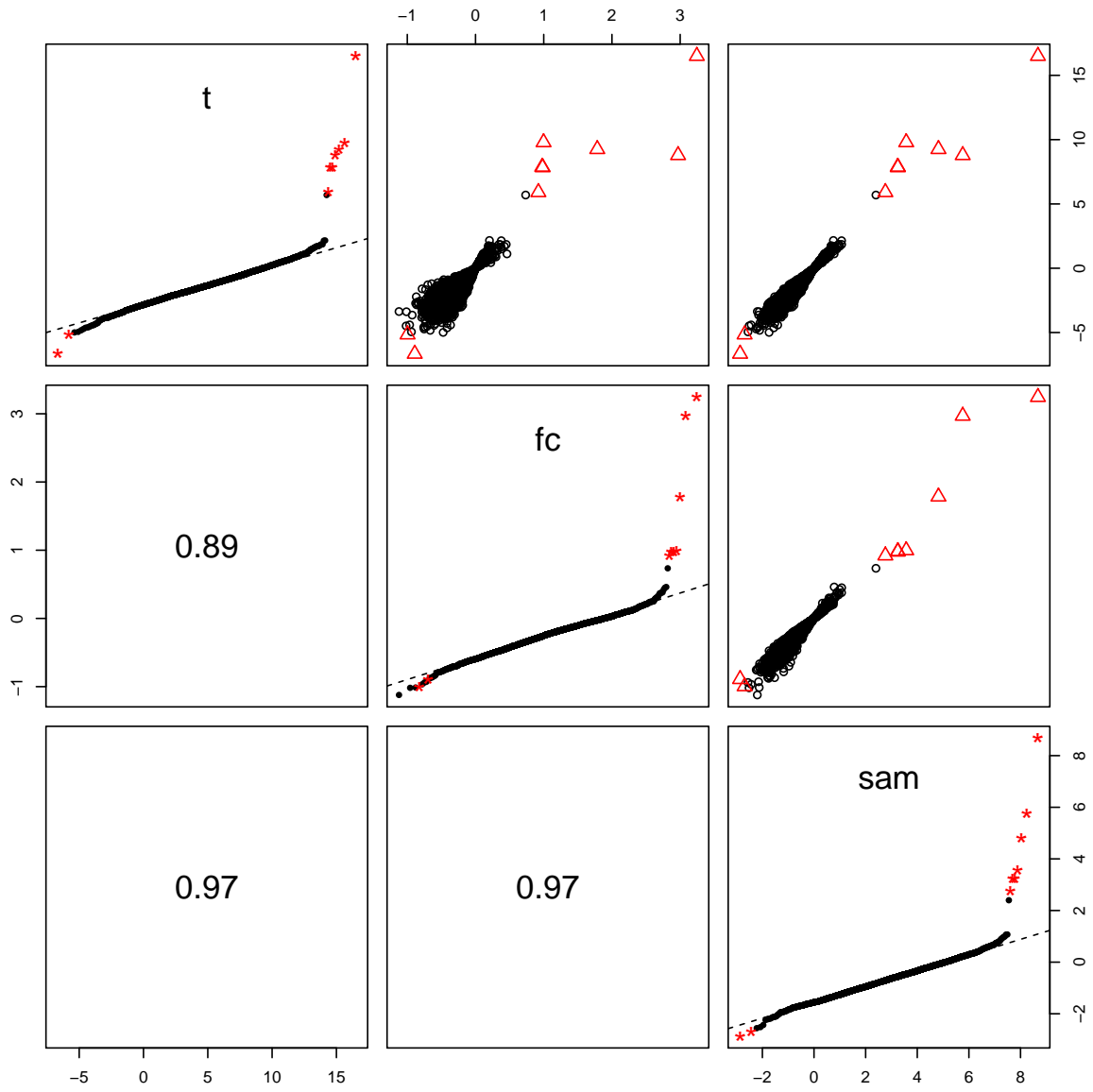


Figure 1: Pairs plots for the ApoA1 data

4 Statistical functions

4.1 The `comp.t` and other related functions

The DEBS package provides the following functions, `comp.FC`, `comp.t`, `comp.SAM`, `comp.F`, `comp.B`, `comp.modt` and `comp.modF` for the computation of FC , t -statistics, SAM, F statistics, B statistics, moderated t - and F - statistics respectively.

There are two steps in applying the above functions to obtain corresponding statistics:

1. Create the statistic function.
2. Apply the function to the microarray expression matrix.

We illustrate the usage with `comp.t` and other functions follow the same rules. The function `comp.t` has three arguments (see also `?comp.t`):

- L:** A vector of integers corresponding to observation (column) class labels. For k classes, the labels must be integers between 0 and $k - 1$.
- mu:** A number indicating the true value of the mean (or difference in means if two sample statistics are calculated; default set at 0).
- var.equal:** a logical variable indicating whether to treat the two variances as being equal.

`comp.t` returns a function of one argument with bindings for `L`, `mu` and `var.equal`. This function accepts a microarray data matrix as its single argument, when evaluated, computes t statistic for each row of the matrix.

```
> t <- comp.t(L=affySpikeIn.L)
> t.affy <- t(affySpikeIn)
```

4.2 The `comp.stat` function

A simple wrapper function `comp.stat` is provided for users interested in applying a standard set of statistical measures using default parameters. The most important arguments for `comp.stat` are elaborated below:

- X:** A matrix, with rows correspond to genes and columns to mRNA samples.
- L:** A vector of integers corresponding to observation (column) class labels. For k classes, the labels must be integers between 0 and $k - 1$.

test: A character string specifying the statistic to be applied.

- t**■ – t statistics;
- fc**■ – FC ;
- sam**■ – SAM statistics;
- F**■ – F statistics;
- modt**■ – moderated t statistics;
- modF**■ – moderated F statistics;
- B**■ – B statistics;

To compute t statistics on the `affySpikeIn` data, instead of using `comp.t`, the users can also use `comp.stat` by specifying the `test` as `"t"`. However, `comp.stat` computes t statistics assuming unequal variance (if it is a two-sample comparison); if the user desires to use an equal variance option, the function `comp.t` has to be applied instead.

```
> t.affy <- comp.stat(affySpikeIn, affySpikeIn.L, test='t')
```

References

- Benjamini, Y. and Hochberg, Y. (1995). Controlling the false discovery rate: a practical and powerful approach to multiple testing. *J. R. Statist. Soc. B*, 57:289–300.
- Dudoit, S., Shaffer, J. P., and Boldrick, J. C. (2002a). Multiple hypothesis testing in microarray experiments. Submitted.
- Dudoit, S., Yang, Y. H., Callow, M. J., and Speed, T. P. (2002b). Statistical methods for identifying differentially expressed genes in replicated cDNA microarray experiments. *Statistica Sinica*, 12(1):111–139.
- Irizarry, R. A., Bolstad, B. M., Collin, F., Cope, L., Hobbs, B., and Speed, T. P. (2003). Summaries of affymetrix genechip probe level data. *Nucleic Acids Research*, 31:e15.
- Lönnstedt, I. and Speed, T. P. (2001). Replicated microarray data. *Statistica Sinica*, 12(1):31–46.
- Smyth, G., Ritchie, M., Wettenhall, J., and Thorne, N. (2003). Linear models for microarray data. R package, <http://lib.stat.cmu.edu/R/CRAN/>.
- Tusher, V. G., Tibshirani, R., and Chu, G. (2001). Significance analysis of microarrays applied to transcriptional responses to ionizing radiation. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 98:5116–5121.
- Yang, Y. H., Xiao, Y., and Segal, M. (2004). Identifying differentially expressed genes from microarray experiments via statistic synthesis. *Manuscript in preparation*.