

Package ‘FDRestimation’

May 7, 2026

Version 1.0.1

Date 2022-03-21

Title Estimate, Plot, and Summarize False Discovery Rates

Author Megan Murray [aut, cre],
Jeffrey Blume [aut]

Maintainer Megan Murray <megan.c.hollister@vanderbilt.edu>

Depends R (>= 3.4.0)

Imports stats, utils, graphics, Rdpack

Description The user can directly compute and display false discovery rates from inputted p-values or z-scores under a variety of assumptions. `p.fdr()` computes FDRs, adjusted p-values and decision reject vectors from inputted p-values or z-values. `get.pi0()` estimates the proportion of data that are truly null. `plot.p.fdr()` plots the FDRs, adjusted p-values, and the raw p-values points against their rejection threshold lines.

License MIT + file LICENSE

URL <doi:10.12688/f1000research.52999.2>

LazyData false

RoxygenNote 7.1.2

Encoding UTF-8

RdMacros Rdpack

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2022-04-01 16:30:02 UTC

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| <code>get.pi0</code> | 2 |
| <code>p.fdr</code> | 4 |
| <code>plot.p.fdr</code> | 7 |
| <code>print.summary.p.fdr</code> | 9 |
| <code>summary.p.fdr</code> | 10 |

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Index | 13 |
|--------------|-----------|

get.pi0

pi0 Estimation

Description

This function estimates the null proportion of data or pi0 value.

Usage

```
get.pi0(
  pvalues,
  set.pi0 = 1,
  zvalues = "two.sided",
  estim.method = "last.hist",
  threshold = 0.05,
  default.odds = 1,
  hist.breaks = "scott",
  na.rm = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------------|---|
| pvalues | A numeric vector of raw p-values. |
| set.pi0 | A numeric value to specify a known or assumed pi0 value in the interval $[0, 1]$. Defaults to 1. Which means the assumption is that all inputted raw p-values come from the null distribution. |
| zvalues | A numeric vector of z-values to be used in pi0 estimation or a string with options "two.sided", "greater" or "less". Defaults to "two.sided". |
| estim.method | A string used to determine which method is used to estimate the pi0 value. Defaults to "last.hist". |
| threshold | A numeric value in the interval $[0, 1]$ used in a multiple comparison hypothesis tests to determine significance from the null. Defaults to 0.05. |
| default.odds | A numeric value determining the ratio of π_1/π_0 used in the computation of lower bound FDR. Defaults to 1. |
| hist.breaks | A numeric or string variable representing how many breaks in the pi0 estimation histogram methods. Defaults to "scott". |
| na.rm | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value indicating whether NA's should be removed from the inputted raw p-value vector before further computation. Defaults to TRUE. |

Details

We run into errors or warnings when pvalues, zvalues, threshold or default.odds are not inputted correctly.

Value

An estimated null proportion:

pi0 A numeric value representing the proportion of the given data that come from the null distribution. A value in the interval $[\ 0, 1]$.

References

- Romain Francois (2014). *bibtex: bibtex parser*. R package version 0.4.0.
- R Core Team (2016). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, <https://www.R-project.org/>.
- Storey JD, Tibshirani R (2003). “Statistical significance for genomewide studies.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, **100**(16), 9440–9445.
- Meinshausen N, Rice J, others (2006). “Estimating the proportion of false null hypotheses among a large number of independently tested hypotheses.” *The Annals of Statistics*, **34**(1), 373–393.
- Jiang H, Doerge RW (2008). “Estimating the proportion of true null hypotheses for multiple comparisons.” *Cancer informatics*, **6**, 117693510800600001.
- Nettleton D, Hwang JG, Caldo RA, Wise RP (2006). “Estimating the number of true null hypotheses from a histogram of p values.” *Journal of agricultural, biological, and environmental statistics*, **11**(3), 337.
- Pounds S, Morris SW (2003). “Estimating the occurrence of false positives and false negatives in microarray studies by approximating and partitioning the empirical distribution of p-values.” *Bioinformatics*, **19**(10), 1236–1242.
- Murray MH, Blume JD (2020). “False Discovery Rate Computation: Illustrations and Modifications.” 2010.04680.

See Also

[plot.p.fdr](#), [p.fdr](#), [summary.p.fdr](#)

Examples

```
# Example 1
pi0 = 0.8
pi1 = 1-pi0
n = 10000
n.0 = ceiling(n*pi0)
n.1 = n-n.0

sim.data = c(rnorm(n.1,3,1),rnorm(n.0,0,1))
sim.data.p = 2*pnorm(-abs(sim.data))

get.pi0(sim.data.p, estim.method = "last.hist")
get.pi0(sim.data.p, estim.method = "storey")
get.pi0(sim.data.p, estim.method = "set.pi0")
```

p.fdr

*FDR Computation***Description**

This function computes FDRs and Method Adjusted p-values.

Usage

```
p.fdr(
  pvalues = NA,
  zvalues = "two.sided",
  threshold = 0.05,
  adjust.method = "BH",
  BY.corr = "positive",
  just.fdr = FALSE,
  default.odds = 1,
  estim.method = "set.pi0",
  set.pi0 = 1,
  hist.breaks = "scott",
  ties.method = "random",
  sort.results = FALSE,
  na.rm = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------|---|
| pvalues | A numeric vector of raw p-values. |
| zvalues | A numeric vector of z-values to be used in pi0 estimation or a string with options "two.sided", "greater" or "less". Defaults to "two.sided". |
| threshold | A numeric value in the interval $[0, 1]$ used in a multiple comparison hypothesis tests to determine significance from the null. Defaults to 0.05. |
| adjust.method | A string used to identify the p-value and false discovery rate adjustment method. Defaults to BH. Options are BH, BY, codeBon, Holm, Hoch, and Sidak. |
| BY.corr | A string of either "positive" or "negative" to determine which correlation is used in the BY method. Defaults to positive. |
| just.fdr | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value which output only the FDR vector instead of the list output. Defaults to FALSE. |
| default.odds | A numeric value determining the ratio of π_1/π_0 used in the computation of one FDR. Defaults to 1. |
| estim.method | A string used to determine which method is used to estimate the null proportion or pi0 value. Defaults to set.pi0. |
| set.pi0 | A numeric value to specify a known or assumed pi0 value in the interval $[0, 1]$. Defaults to 1. Which means the assumption is that all inputted raw p-values come from the null distribution. |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| hist.breaks | A numeric or string variable representing how many breaks are used in the π_0 estimation histogram methods. Defaults to "scott". |
| ties.method | A string a character string specifying how ties are treated. Options are "first", "last", "average", "min", "max", or "random". Defaults to "random". |
| sort.results | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value which sorts the output in either increasing or non-increasing order dependent on the FDR vector. Defaults to FALSE. |
| na.rm | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value indicating whether NA's should be removed from the inputted raw p-value vector before further computation. Defaults to TRUE. |

Details

We run into errors or warnings when pvalues, zvalues, threshold, set.pi0, BY.corr, or default.odds are not inputted correctly.

Value

A list containing the following components:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| fdrs | A numeric vector of method adjusted FDRs. |
| Results Matrix | A numeric matrix of method adjusted FDRs, method adjusted p-values, and raw p-values. |
| Reject Vector | A vector containing Reject.H0 and/or FTR.H0 based off of the threshold value and hypothesis test on the adjusted p-values. |
| π_0 | A numeric value for the π_0 value used in the computations. |
| threshold | A numeric value for the threshold value used in the hypothesis tests. |
| Adjustment Method | The string with the method name used in computation(needed for the plot.fdr function). |

References

- Romain Francois (2014). *bibtex: bibtex parser*. R package version 0.4.0.
- R Core Team (2016). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, <https://www.R-project.org/>.
- Efron B (2013). *Large-Scale Inference: Empirical Bayes Methods for Estimation, Testing, and Prediction*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9780511761362.
- Benjamini Y, Hochberg Y (1995). "Controlling the False Discovery Rate: A Practical and Powerful Approach to Multiple Testing." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, **57**(1), 289–300.
- Shaffer JP (1995). "Multiple Hypothesis Testing." *Annual review of psychology*, **46**(1), 561–584.
- Storey JD, Tibshirani R (2003). "Statistical significance for genomewide studies." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, **100**(16), 9440–9445.
- Benjamini Y, Yekutieli D (2001). "The control of the false discovery rate in multiple testing under dependency." *Annals of statistics*, 1165–1188.

- Meinshausen N, Rice J, others (2006). “Estimating the proportion of false null hypotheses among a large number of independently tested hypotheses.” *The Annals of Statistics*, **34**(1), 373–393.
- Jiang H, Doerge RW (2008). “Estimating the proportion of true null hypotheses for multiple comparisons.” *Cancer informatics*, **6**, 117693510800600001.
- Nettleton D, Hwang JG, Caldo RA, Wise RP (2006). “Estimating the number of true null hypotheses from a histogram of p values.” *Journal of agricultural, biological, and environmental statistics*, **11**(3), 337.
- Pounds S, Morris SW (2003). “Estimating the occurrence of false positives and false negatives in microarray studies by approximating and partitioning the empirical distribution of p-values.” *Bioinformatics*, **19**(10), 1236–1242.
- Holm S (1979). “A simple sequentially rejective multiple test procedure.” *Scandinavian journal of statistics*, 65–70.
- Bonferroni C (1936). “Teoria statistica delle classi e calcolo delle probabilita.” *Pubblicazioni del R Istituto Superiore di Scienze Economiche e Commerciali di Firenze*, **8**, 3–62.
- Hochberg Y (1988). “A sharper Bonferroni procedure for multiple tests of significance.” *Biometrika*, **75**(4), 800–802.
- Šidák Z (1967). “Rectangular confidence regions for the means of multivariate normal distributions.” *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, **62**(318), 626–633.
- Murray MH, Blume JD (2020). “False Discovery Rate Computation: Illustrations and Modifications.” 2010.04680.

See Also

[plot.p.fdr](#), [summary.p.fdr](#), [get.pi0](#)

Examples

```
# Example 1
pi0 = 0.8
pi1 = 1-pi0
n = 10000
n.0 = ceiling(n*pi0)
n.1 = n-n.0

sim.data = c(rnorm(n.1,3,1),rnorm(n.0,0,1))
sim.data.p = 2*pnorm(-abs(sim.data))

fdr.output = p.fdr(pvalues=sim.data.p, adjust.method="BH")

fdr.output$fdrs
fdr.output$pi0

# Example 2

sim.data.p = output = c(runif(800),runif(200, min=0, max=0.01))
fdr.output = p.fdr(pvalues=sim.data.p, adjust.method="Holm", sort.results = TRUE)

fdr.output$`Results Matrix`
```

plot.p.fdr

*FDR plotting***Description**

This function creates a plot using a `x` (`p.fdr.object`).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'p.fdr'
plot(
  x,
  raw.pvalues = TRUE,
  adj.pvalues = TRUE,
  sig.line = TRUE,
  adj.sig.line = TRUE,
  threshold = NA,
  x.axis = "Rank",
  xlim = NA,
  ylim = c(0, 1),
  zvalues = "two.sided",
  legend.where = NA,
  legend.on = TRUE,
  main = NA,
  pch.adj.p = 17,
  pch.raw.p = 20,
  pch.adj.fdr = 20,
  col = c("dodgerblue", "firebrick2", "black"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <code>x</code> | A <code>p.fdr</code> object that contains the list of output. |
| <code>raw.pvalues</code> | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value to indicate whether or not to plot the raw p-value points. Defaults to TRUE. |
| <code>adj.pvalues</code> | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value to indicate whether or not to plot the adjusted p-value points. Defaults to TRUE. |
| <code>sig.line</code> | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value to indicate whether or not to plot the raw p-value significance line. Defaults to TRUE. |
| <code>adj.sig.line</code> | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value to indicate whether or not to plot the adjusted significance threshold. Defaults to TRUE. |
| <code>threshold</code> | A numeric value to determine the threshold at which we plot significance. Defaults to value used in the <code>p.fdr.object</code> . |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| x.axis | A string variable to indicate what to plot on the x-axis. Can either be "Rank" or "Zvalues". Defaults to "Rank". |
| xlim | A numeric interval for x-axis limits. |
| ylim | A numeric interval for y-axis limits. Defaults to c(0,1). |
| zvalues | A numeric vector of z-values to be used in pi0 estimation or a string with options "two.sided", "greater" or "less". Defaults to "two.sided". |
| legend.where | A string "bottomright", "bottomleft", "topleft", "topright". Defaults to "topleft" if x.axis="Rank" and "topright" if x.axis="Zvalues". |
| legend.on | A Boolean TRUE or FALSE value to indicate whether or not to print the legend. |
| main | A string variable for the title of the plot. |
| pch.adj.p | A plotting "character", or symbol to use for the adjusted p-value points. This can either be a single character or an integer code for one of a set of graphics symbols. Defaults to 17. |
| pch.raw.p | A plotting "character", or symbol to use for the raw p-value points. This can either be a single character or an integer code for one of a set of graphics symbols. Defaults to 20. |
| pch.adj.fdr | A plotting "character", or symbol to use for the adjusted FDR points. This can either be a single character or an integer code for one of a set of graphics symbols. Defaults to 20. |
| col | A vector of colors for the points and lines in the plot. If the input has 1 value all points and lines will be that same color. If the input has length of 3 then col.adj.fdr will be the first value, col.adj.p will be the second, and col.raw.p is the third. Defaults to c("dodgerblue", "firebrick2", "black"). |
| ... | Graphical parameters. Any argument that can be passed to image.plot and to base plot, such as axes=FALSE, main='title', ylab='latitude' |

Details

We run into errors or warnings when zvalues or col are inputted incorrectly.

References

- Romain Francois (2014). *bibtex: bibtex parser*. R package version 0.4.0.
- R Core Team (2016). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, <https://www.R-project.org/>.
- Benjamini Y, Hochberg Y (1995). "Controlling the False Discovery Rate: A Practical and Powerful Approach to Multiple Testing." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, **57**(1), 289–300.
- Benjamini Y, Yekutieli D (2001). "The control of the false discovery rate in multiple testing under dependency." *Annals of statistics*, 1165–1188.
- Holm S (1979). "A simple sequentially rejective multiple test procedure." *Scandinavian journal of statistics*, 65–70.
- Hochberg Y (1988). "A sharper Bonferroni procedure for multiple tests of significance." *Biometrika*, **75**(4), 800–802.

Šidák Z (1967). “Rectangular confidence regions for the means of multivariate normal distributions.” *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, **62**(318), 626–633.

Bonferroni C (1936). “Teoria statistica delle classi e calcolo delle probabilita.” *Pubblicazioni del R Istituto Superiore di Scienze Economiche e Commerciali di Firenze*, **8**, 3–62.

Murray MH, Blume JD (2020). “False Discovery Rate Computation: Illustrations and Modifications.” 2010.04680.

See Also

[summary.p.fdr](#), [p.fdr](#), [get.pi0](#)

Examples

```
# Example 1

sim.data.p = c(runif(80),runif(20, min=0, max=0.01))
fdr.output = p.fdr(pvalues=sim.data.p)

plot(fdr.output)
plot(fdr.output, x.axis="Zvalues")
```

`print.summary.p.fdr` *Print the summary of p.fdr.object*

Description

This function prints the summary a p.fdr.object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.p.fdr'
print(x, digits = 3, ...)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| <code>x</code> | A list of output from the summary.p.fdr function. |
| <code>digits</code> | A numeric value for the number of desired digits in the summary output. Defaults to 3. |
| <code>...</code> | Further arguments passed to or from other methods. |

Details

We run into errors or warnings when

References

Romain Francois (2014). *bibtex: bibtex parser*. R package version 0.4.0.

R Core Team (2016). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, <https://www.R-project.org/>.

Murray MH, Blume JD (2020). "False Discovery Rate Computation: Illustrations and Modifications." 2010.04680.

See Also

[plot.p.fdr](#), [p.fdr](#), [get.pi0](#)

Examples

```
# Example 1
pi0 = 0.8
pi1 = 1-pi0
n = 10
n.0 = ceiling(n*pi0)
n.1 = n-n.0

sim.data = c(rnorm(n.1,5,1),rnorm(n.0,0,1))
sim.data.p = 2*pnorm(-abs(sim.data))

fdr.output = p.fdr(pvalues=sim.data.p, adjust.method="BH")

summary(fdr.output)
```

summary.p.fdr

Summary of p.fdr.object

Description

This function summarizes a p.fdr object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'p.fdr'
summary(object, digits = 5, ...)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|--|
| object | A list of output from the p.fdr function. |
| digits | A numeric value for the number of desired digits in the summary output. Defaults to 3. |
| ... | Additional arguments affecting the summary produced. |

Details

We run into errors or warnings when

Value

A list containing the following components:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Range | The range on the false discovery rates. |
| Significant Findings | The number of significant findings. Found using the adjusted p-values and the given threshold. This is also the number of times we decide to reject the null hypothesis that the data is generated from a standard normal distribution. |
| Inconclusive Findings | The number of inconclusive findings. Found using the adjusted p-values and the given threshold. This is also the number of times we fail to reject the null hypothesis that the data is generated from a standard normal distribution. |
| Assumed/Estimated π_0 | the assumed or estimated π_0 value depending on how the p.fdr function was run. |
| Number of Tests | The total number of multiple comparison tests completed. |
| Adjustment Method | The adjustment method used in the p.fdr function. |

References

- Romain Francois (2014). *bibtex: bibtex parser*. R package version 0.4.0.
- R Core Team (2016). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, <https://www.R-project.org/>.
- Murray MH, Blume JD (2020). "False Discovery Rate Computation: Illustrations and Modifications." 2010.04680.

See Also

[plot.p.fdr](#), [p.fdr](#), [get.pi0](#)

Examples

```
# Example 1
pi0 = 0.8
pi1 = 1-pi0
n = 10
n.0 = ceiling(n*pi0)
n.1 = n-n.0

sim.data = c(rnorm(n.1,5,1),rnorm(n.0,0,1))
sim.data.p = 2*pnorm(-abs(sim.data))

fdr.output = p.fdr(pvalues=sim.data.p, adjust.method="BH")
```

```
summary(fdr.output)
```

Index

- * **FDR adjusted p-values null proportion**

- get.pi0, 2

- p.fdr, 4

- * **FDR**

- get.pi0, 2

- p.fdr, 4

- plot.p.fdr, 7

- print.summary.p.fdr, 9

- summary.p.fdr, 10

- * **p-values**

- get.pi0, 2

- p.fdr, 4

- plot.p.fdr, 7

- print.summary.p.fdr, 9

- * **plot FDR adjusted p-values**

- plot.p.fdr, 7

- * **plot**

- plot.p.fdr, 7

- * **summary FDR adjusted p-values null proportion**

- print.summary.p.fdr, 9

- * **summary FDR adjusted p-values**

- summary.p.fdr, 10

- * **summary**

- print.summary.p.fdr, 9

- summary.p.fdr, 10

get.pi0, 2, 6, 9–11

p.fdr, 3, 4, 9–11

plot.p.fdr, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11

print.summary.p.fdr, 9

summary.p.fdr, 3, 6, 9, 10