Package 'coMethDMR'

November 12, 2026

Title Accurate identification of co-methylated and differentially methylated regions in epigenome-wide association studies

Version 1.17.0

Description coMethDMR identifies genomic regions associated with continuous phenotypes by optimally leverages covariations among CpGs within predefined genomic regions. Instead of testing all CpGs within a genomic region, coMethDMR carries out an additional step that selects co-methylated sub-regions first without using any outcome information. Next, coMethDMR tests association between methylation within the sub-region and continuous phenotype using a random coefficient mixed effects model, which models both variations between CpG sites within the region and differential methylation simultaneously.

Depends R (>= 4.1)

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData false

RoxygenNote 7.1.2

Imports AnnotationHub, BiocParallel, bumphunter, ExperimentHub, GenomicRanges, IRanges, lmerTest, methods, stats, utils

Suggests BiocStyle, corrplot, knitr, rmarkdown, testthat, IlluminaHumanMethylation450kanno.ilmn12.hg19, IlluminaHumanMethylationEPICanno.ilm10b4.hg19

biocViews DNAMethylation, Epigenetics, MethylationArray, DifferentialMethylation, GenomeWideAssociation

VignetteBuilder knitr

BugReports https://github.com/TransBioInfoLab/coMethDMR/issues

URL https://github.com/TransBioInfoLab/coMethDMR

git_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/coMethDMR

git_branch devel

git_last_commit 908a588

git_last_commit_date 2026-04-28

Repository Bioconductor 3.24

Date/Publication 2026-11-12

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Contents

AnnotateResults . . . 2
betaMatrix_ex1 . . . 4
betaMatrix_ex2 . . . 4
betaMatrix_ex3 . . . 5
betaMatrix_ex4 . . . 5
betasChr22_df . . . 6
CloseBySingleRegion . . . 6
CoMethAllRegions . . . 7
coMethDMR_setup . . . 9
CoMethSingleRegion . . . 9
CpGsInfoAllRegions . . . 11
CpGsInfoOneRegion . . . 12
CreateOutputDF . . . 14
CreateParallelWorkers . . . 15
CreateRdrop . . . 15
FindComethylatedRegions . . . 16
GetCpGsInRegion . . . 17
GetResiduals . . . 18
ImportSesameData . . . 19
lmmTest . . . 19
lmmTestAllRegions . . . 21
MarkComethylatedCpGs . . . 23
MarkMissing . . . 25
NameRegion . . . 26
OrderCpGsByLocation . . . 27
pheno_df . . . 28
RegionsToRanges . . . 28
SplitCpGDFbyRegion . . . 29
WriteCloseByAllRegions . . . 30

Index **32**

`AnnotateResults` *Annotate* `coMethDMR` *Pipeline Results*

Description

Given a data frame with regions in the genome, add gene symbols, UCSC reference gene accession, UCSC reference gene group and relation to CpG island.

Usage

```
AnnotateResults(lmmRes_df, arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"), nCores_int = 1L, ...)
```

Arguments

lmmRes_df	A data frame returned by lmmTestAllRegions. This data frame must contain the following columns: • chrom : the chromosome the region is on, e.g. "chr22" • start : the region start point • end : the region end point
arrayType	Type of array: 450k or EPIC
nCores_int	Number of computing cores to be used when executing code in parallel. Defaults to 1 (serial computing).
...	Dots for additional arguments passed to the cluster constructor. See CreateParallelWorkers for more information.

Details

The region types include "NSHORE", "NSHELF", "SSHORE", "SSHELF", "TSS1500", "TSS200", "UTR5", "EXON1", "GENEBODY", "UTR3", and "ISLAND".

Value

A data frame with

- the location of the genomic region's chromosome (chrom), start (start), and end (end);
- UCSC annotation information (UCSC_RefGene_Group, UCSC_RefGene_Accession, and UCSC_RefGene_Name); and
- a list of all of the probes in that region (probes).

Examples

```
lmmResults_df <- data.frame(
  chrom = c("chr22", "chr22", "chr22", "chr22", "chr22"),
  start = c("39377790", "50987294", "19746156", "42470063", "43817258"),
  end   = c("39377930", "50987527", "19746368", "42470223", "43817384"),
  regionType = c("TSS1500", "EXON1", "ISLAND", "TSS200", "ISLAND"),
  stringsAsFactors = FALSE
)

AnnotateResults(
  lmmRes_df = lmmResults_df,
  arrayType = "450k"
)
```

betaMatrix_ex1 *Alzheimer's Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) Methylation Data*

Description

Subset of an Alzheimer's Disease methylation data set, with beta values for measured CpGs methylation levels.

Usage

```
data("betaMatrix_ex1")
```

Format

A data frame containing beta values for 4 CpGs in one CpG islands for 110 subjects. Each column is a CpG, each row is a sample.

Source

GEO accession: GSE59685

betaMatrix_ex2 *Alzheimer's Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) Methylation Data*

Description

Subset of an Alzheimer's Disease methylation data set, with beta values for measured CpGs methylation levels.

Usage

```
data("betaMatrix_ex2")
```

Format

A data frame containing beta values for 4 CpGs in one CpG islands for 110 subjects. Each column is a CpG, each row is a sample.

Source

GEO accession: GSE59685

betaMatrix_ex3 *Alzheimer's Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) Methylation Data*

Description

Subset of an Alzheimer's Disease methylation data set, with beta values for measured CpGs methylation levels.

Usage

```
data("betaMatrix_ex3")
```

Format

A data frame containing beta values for 6 CpGs in one CpG islands for 110 subjects. Each column is a CpG, each row is a sample.

Source

GEO accession: GSE59685

betaMatrix_ex4 *Alzheimer's Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) Methylation Data*

Description

Subset of an Alzheimer's Disease methylation data set, with beta values for measured CpGs methylation levels.

Usage

```
data("betaMatrix_ex4")
```

Format

A data frame containing beta values for 52 CpGs in one CpG islands for 110 subjects. Each column is a CpG, each row is a sample.

Source

GEO accession: GSE59685

betasChr22_df *Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) Methylation Data from Alzheimer's Disease subjects*

Description

Subset of an Alzheimer's methylation dataset, with beta values for CpGs.

Usage

```
data("betasChr22_df")
```

Format

A data frame containing beta values for 8552 CpGs in Chr22 for a subset of 20 subjects.

Source

GEO accession: GSE59685

CloseBySingleRegion *Extract clusters of CpGs located closely in a genomic region.*

Description

Extract clusters of CpGs located closely in a genomic region.

Usage

```
CloseBySingleRegion(
  CpGs_char,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL,
  maxGap = 200,
  minCpGs = 3
)
```

Arguments

CpGs_char	a list of CpG IDs
genome	Human genome of reference hg19 or hg38
arrayType	Type of array, 450k or EPIC
manifest_gr	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by ExperimentHub or by ImportSesameData). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the genome and arrayType arguments.
maxGap	an integer, genomic locations within maxGap from each other are placed into the same cluster
minCpGs	an integer, minimum number of CpGs for the resulting CpG cluster

Details

Note that this function depends only on CpG locations, and not on any methylation data. The algorithm is based on the clusterMaker function in the bumphunter R package. Each cluster is essentially a group of CpG locations such that two consecutive locations in the cluster are separated by less than maxGap.

Value

a list, each item in the list is a character vector of CpG IDs located closely (i.e. in the same cluster)

Examples

```
CpGs_char <- c(
  "cg02505293", "cg03618257", "cg04421269", "cg17885402", "cg19890033",
  "cg20566587", "cg27505880"
)

cluster_ls <- CloseBySingleRegion(
  CpGs_char,
  genome = "hg19",
  arrayType = "450k",
  maxGap = 100,
  minCpGs = 3
)
```

CoMethAllRegions *Extract contiguous co-methylated genomic regions from a list of pre-defined genomic regions*

Description

Extract contiguous co-methylated genomic regions from a list of pre-defined genomic regions

Usage

```
CoMethAllRegions(
  dnam,
  betaToM = FALSE,
  method = c("pearson", "spearman"),
  rDropThresh_num = 0.4,
  minCpGs = 3,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  CpGs_ls,
  file = NULL,
  returnAllCpGs = FALSE,
  output = c("CpGs", "dataframe"),
  nCores_int = 1L,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

dnam	matrix (or data frame) of beta values, with row names = CpG IDs, column names = sample IDs. This is typically genome-wide methylation beta values.
betaToM	indicates if converting methylation beta values to mvalues
method	method for computing correlation, can be "spearman" or "pearson"
rDropThresh_num	threshold for min correlation between a cpg with sum of the rest of the CpGs
minCpGs	minimum number of CpGs to be considered a "region". Only regions with more than minCpGs will be returned.
genome	Human genome of reference hg19 or hg38
arrayType	Type of array, can be "450k" or "EPIC"
CpGs_ls	list where each item is a character vector of CpGs IDs. This should be CpG probes located closely on the array.
file	an RDS file with clusters of CpG locations (i.e. CpGs located closely to each other on the genome). This file can be generated by the WriteCloseByAllRegions function.
returnAllCpGs	When there is not a contiguous comethylated region in the inputting pre-defined region, returnAllCpGs = TRUE indicates outputting all the CpGs in the input regions (regardless of statistical significance), while returnAllCpGs = FALSE indicates not returning any CpGs not contained in comethylated clusters. Defaults to FALSE, and we provide this option for debugging purposes only.
output	a character vector of CpGs or a dataframe of CpGs along with rDrop info
nCores_int	Number of computing cores to be used when executing code in parallel. Defaults to 1 (serial computing).
...	Dots for additional arguments passed to the cluster constructor. See CreateParallelWorkers for more information.

Details

There are two ways to input genomic regions for this function: (1) use CpGs_ls argument, or (2) use file argument. Examples of these files are in /inst/extdata/ folder of the package.

Value

When output = "dataframe" is selected, returns a list of data frames, each with CpG (CpG name), Chr (chromosome number), MAPINFO (genomic position), r_drop (correlation between the CpG with rest of the CpGs), keep (indicator for co-methylated CpG), keep_contiguous (index for contiguous comethylated subregions).

When output = "CpGs" is selected, returns a list, each item is a list of CpGs in the contiguous co-methylated subregion.

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)


CpGisland_ls <- readRDS(
  system.file(
    "extdata",
```

```
    "CpGislandsChr22_ex.rds",
    package = 'coMethDMR',
    mustWork = TRUE
  )
)

coMeth_ls <- CoMethAllRegions (
  dnam = betasChr22_df,
  betaToM = TRUE,
  method = "pearson",
  CpGs_ls = CpGisland_ls,
  arrayType = "450k",
  returnAllCpGs = FALSE,
  output = "CpGs"
)
```

`coMethDMR_setup` *Cache sesameData at Package Load*

Description

Check if the user has both the HM540 and EPIC manifests in their cache. The contents of the cache are checked via a call to the `ExperimentHub` function. If not all data components are available in the cache for these two platforms, we `query` the necessary data to save them to the cache for later use.

Arguments

`libname`	path to package library
`pkgname`	package name

Details

arguments are unused

`CoMethSingleRegion` *Wrapper function to find contiguous and comethyalted sub-regions within a pre-defined genomic region*

Description

Wrapper function to find contiguous and comethyalted sub-regions within a pre-defined genomic region

Usage

```
CoMethSingleRegion(
  CpGs_char,
  dnam,
  betaToM = TRUE,
  rDropThresh_num = 0.4,
  method = c("pearson", "spearman"),
  minCpGs = 3,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL,
  returnAllCpGs = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

CpGs_char	vector of CpGs in the inputting pre-defined genomic region.
dnam	matrix (or data frame) of beta values, with row names = CpG ids, column names = sample ids. This should include the CpGs in CpGs_char, as well as additional CpGs.
betaToM	indicates if converting methylation beta values mvalues
rDropThresh_num	threshold for min correlation between a cpg with sum of the rest of the CpGs
method	method for computing correlation, can be "pearson" or "spearman"
minCpGs	minimum number of CpGs to be considered a "region". Only regions with more than minCpGs will be returned.
genome	Human genome of reference hg19 or hg38
arrayType	Type of array, can be "450k" or "EPIC"
manifest_gr	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by ExperimentHub or by ImportSesameData). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the genome and arrayType arguments.
returnAllCpGs	When there is not a contiguous comethylated region in the inputing pre-defined region, returnAllCpGs = 1 indicates outputting all the CpGs in the input region, while returnAllCpGs = 0 indicates not returning any CpG.

Value

A list with two components:

- Contiguous_Regions : a data frame with CpG (CpG ID), Chr (chromosome number), MAPINFO (genomic position), r_drop (correlation between the CpG with rest of the CpGs), keep (indicator for co-methylated CpG), keep_contiguous (index for contiguous comethylated subregion)
- CpGs_subregions : lists of CpGs in each contiguous co-methylated subregion

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)

CpGsChr22_char <- c(
```

```
  "cg02953382", "cg12419862", "cg24565820", "cg04234412", "cg04824771",
  "cg09033563", "cg10150615", "cg18538332", "cg20007245", "cg23131131",
  "cg25703541"
)
CoMethSingleRegion(
  CpGs_char = CpGsChr22_char,
  dnam = betasChr22_df
)

data(betaMatrix_ex3)
CpGsEx3_char <- c(
  "cg14221598", "cg02433884", "cg07372974", "cg13419809", "cg26856676",
  "cg25246745"
)
CoMethSingleRegion(
  CpGs_char = CpGsEx3_char,
  dnam = t(betaMatrix_ex3),
  returnAllCpGs = TRUE
)
```

`CpGsInfoAllRegions` *Test Associations Between Regions and Phenotype*

Description

Test associations of individual CpGs in multiple genomic regions with a continuous phenotype

Usage

```
CpGsInfoAllRegions(
  AllRegionNames_char,
  allRegions_gr = NULL,
  betas_df,
  pheno_df,
  contPheno_char,
  covariates_char,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC")
)
```

Arguments

`AllRegionNames_char`	vector of character strings with location info for all the genomic regions. Each region should be specified in this format: `"chrxx:xxxxxx-xxxxxx"`
`allRegions_gr`	An object of class `GRanges` with location information for the regions. If this argument is NULL, then the regions in `AllRegionNames_char` are used. If this argument is not NULL, then `region_gr` will overwrite any supplied ranges in `AllRegionNames_char`.
`betas_df`	data frame of beta values for all genomic regions, with row names = CpG IDs amd column names = sample IDs

pheno_df	a data frame with phenotype and covariate variables, with variable "Sample" for sample IDs.
contPheno_char	character string of the continuous phenotype to be tested against methylation values
covariates_char	character vector of covariate variables names
genome	human genome of reference hg19 (default) or hg38
arrayType	Type of array, can be "450k" or "EPIC"

Value

a data frame with locations of the genomic region (Region), CpG ID (cpg), chromosome (chr), position (pos), results for testing association of methylation in individual CpGs with the continuous phenotype (slopeEstimate, slopePval), UCSC_RefGene_Name, UCSC_RefGene_Accession, and UCSC_RefGene_Group

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)
data(pheno_df)
AllRegionNames_char <- c(
  "chr22:18267969-18268249",
  "chr22:18531243-18531447"
)

CpGsInfoAllRegions(
  AllRegionNames_char,
  betas_df = betasChr22_df,
  pheno_df = pheno_df,
  contPheno_char = "stage",
  covariates_char = c("age.brain", "sex")
)
```

CpGsInfoOneRegion *Test Associations Between a Region and Phenotype*

Description

Test associations of individual CpGs in a genomic region with a continuous phenotype

Usage

```
CpGsInfoOneRegion(
  regionName_char,
  region_gr = NULL,
  betas_df,
  pheno_df,
  contPheno_char,
  covariates_char = NULL,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL
)
```

Arguments

regionName_char	character string of location information for a genomic region, specified in the format of "chrxx:xxxxxx-xxxxxx"
region_gr	An object of class GRanges with location information for one region. If this argument is NULL, then the region in regionName_char is used.
betas_df	data frame of beta values with row names = CpG IDs, column names = sample IDs
pheno_df	a data frame with phenotype and covariate variables, with variable "Sample" for sample IDs.
contPheno_char	character string of the continuous phenotype to be tested against methylation values
covariates_char	character vector of covariate variables names
genome	human genome of reference hg19 (default) or hg38
arrayType	Type of array, can be "450k" or "EPIC"
manifest_gr	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by ExperimentHub or by ImportSesameData). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the genome and arrayType arguments.

Details

This function implements linear models that test association between methylation values in a genomic region with a continuous phenotype. Note that methylation M values are used as regression outcomes in these models. The model for each CpG is:

`methylation M value ~ contPheno_char + covariates_char`

Value

a data frame with location of the genomic region (Region), CpG ID (cpg), chromosome (chr), position (pos), results for testing association of methylation in individual CpGs with continuous phenotype (slopeEstimate, slopePval) and annotations for the region.

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)
data(pheno_df)
myRegion_gr <- RegionsToRanges("chr22:18267969-18268249")

CpGsInfoOneRegion(
  region_gr = myRegion_gr,
  betas_df = betasChr22_df,
  pheno_df = pheno_df,
  contPheno_char = "stage",
  covariates_char = c("age.brain", "sex"),
  arrayType = "450k"
)
```

CreateOutputDF *Create Output Dataframe*

Description

Create Output Dataframe

Usage

```
CreateOutputDF(
  keepCpGs_df,
  keepContiguousCpGs_df,
  CpGsOrdered_df,
  returnAllCpGs = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

keepCpGs_df	a data frame with CpG = CpG name, keep = indicator for co-methylated CpGs, and r_drop = correlation between the CpG with rest of the CpGs
keepContiguousCpGs_df	a data frame with ProbeID = CpG name and Subregion = contiguous comethylated subregion number
CpGsOrdered_df	a data frame of CpG location with chr = chromosome number, pos = genomic position, and cpg = CpG name
returnAllCpGs	indicates if outputting all the CpGs in the region when there is not a contiguous comethylated region or only the CpGs in the contiguous comethylated regions

Value

a data frame with CpG = CpG name, Chr = chromosome number, MAPINFO = genomic position, r_drop = correlation between the CpG with rest of the CpGs, keep = indicator for co-methylated CpG, and keep_contiguous = contiguous comethylated subregion number

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)
CpGsChr22_char <- c(
  "cg02953382", "cg12419862", "cg24565820", "cg04234412", "cg04824771",
  "cg09033563", "cg10150615", "cg18538332", "cg20007245", "cg23131131",
  "cg25703541"
)

CpGsOrdered_df <- OrderCpGsByLocation(
   CpGsChr22_char, arrayType="450k", output = "dataframe"
)
betaCluster_mat <- t(betasChr22_df[CpGsOrdered_df$cpg, ])
keepCpGs_df <- MarkComethylatedCpGs(betaCluster_mat = betaCluster_mat)
keepContiguousCpGs_df <- FindComethylatedRegions(CpGs_df = keepCpGs_df)
CreateOutputDF(keepCpGs_df, keepContiguousCpGs_df, CpGsOrdered_df)
```

CreateParallelWorkers *Create a Parallel Computing Cluster*

Description

This function is an operating-system agnostic wrapper for the SnowParam and MulticoreParam constructor functions.

Usage

```
CreateParallelWorkers(nCores, ...)
```

Arguments

nCores	The number of computing cores to make available for coMethDMR computation
...	Additional arguments passed to the cluster constructors.

Details

This function checks the operating system and then creates a cluster of workers using the SnowParam function for Windows machines and the MulticoreParam function for non-Windows machines.

Value

A parameter class for use in parallel evaluation

Examples

```
workers_cl <- CreateParallelWorkers(nCores = 4)
```

CreateRdrop *Computes leave-one-out correlations (rDrop) for each CpG*

Description

Computes leave-one-out correlations (rDrop) for each CpG

Usage

```
CreateRdrop(data, method = c("pearson", "spearman"), use = "complete.obs")
```

Arguments

data	a dataframe with rownames = sample IDs, column names = CpG IDs.
method	method for computing correlation, can be "pearson" or "spearman", and is passed to the cor function.
use	method for handling missing values when calculating the correlation. Defaults to "complete.obs" because the option "pairwise.complete.obs" only works for Pearson correlation.

Details

An outlier CpG in a genomic region will typically have low correlation with the rest of the CpGs in a genomic region. On the other hand, in a cluster of co-methylated CpGs, we expect each CpG to have high correlation with the rest of the CpGs. The `r.drop` statistic is used to identify these co-methylated CpGs here.

Value

A data frame with the following columns:

- `CpG` : CpG ID
- `r_drop` : The correlation between each CpG with the sum of the rest of the CpGs

Examples

```
data(betaMatrix_ex1)

CreateRdrop(data = betaMatrix_ex1, method = "pearson")
```

FindComethylatedRegions

Find Contiguous Co-Methylated Regions

Description

Find contiguous comethylated regions based on output file from function `MarkComethylatedCpGs`

Usage

```
FindComethylatedRegions(CpGs_df, minCpGs_int = 3)
```

Arguments

`CpGs_df`	an output dataframe from function `MarkComethylatedCpGs`, with variables: `CpG`, `keep`, `ind`, `r_drop`. See details in documentation for `MarkComethylatedCpGs`.
`minCpGs_int`	an integer indicating the minimum number of CpGs for output genomic regions

Value

A data frame with variables `ProbeID` and `Subregion` (index for each output contiguous comethylated region)

Examples

```
data(betaMatrix_ex4)

CpGs_df <- MarkComethylatedCpGs(betaCluster_mat = betaMatrix_ex4)

FindComethylatedRegions(CpGs_df)
```

GetCpGsInRegion *Extract probe IDs for CpGs located in a genomic region*

Description

Extract probe IDs for CpGs located in a genomic region

Usage

```
GetCpGsInRegion(
  regionName_char,
  region_gr = NULL,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL,
  ignoreStrand = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

regionName_char	character string with location information for one region in the format "chrxx:xxxxxx-xxxxxx"
region_gr	An object of class GRanges with location information for one region. If this argument is NULL, then the region in regionName_char is used.
genome	human genome of reference hg19 (default) or hg38
arrayType	Type of array, 450k or EPIC
manifest_gr	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by ExperimentHub or by ImportSesameData). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the genome and arrayType arguments.
ignoreStrand	Whether strand can be ignored, default is TRUE

Value

vector of CpG probe IDs mapped to the genomic region

Examples

```
myRegion_gr <- RegionsToRanges("chr22:18267969-18268249")

GetCpGsInRegion(
  region_gr = myRegion_gr,
  genome = "hg19",
  arrayType = "450k",
  ignoreStrand = TRUE
)
```

`GetResiduals` *Get Linear Model Residuals*

Description

Remove covariate effects from methylayion values by fitting probe-specific linear models

Usage

```
GetResiduals(
  dnam,
  betaToM = TRUE,
  epsilon = 1e-08,
  pheno_df,
  covariates_char,
  nCores_int = 1L,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`dnam`	data frame or matrix of methylation values with row names = CpG IDs and column names = sample IDs. This is often the genome-wide array data.
`betaToM`	indicates if methylation beta values (ranging from [0, 1]) should be converted to M values (ranging from (-Inf, Inf)). Note that if beta values are the input to `dnam`, then `betaToM` should be set to `TRUE`, otherwise `FALSE`.
`epsilon`	When transforming beta values to M values, what should be done to values exactly equal to 0 or 1? The M value transformation would yield `-Inf` or `Inf` which causes issues in the statistical model. We thus replace all values exactly equal to 0 with 0 + `epsilon`, and we replace all values exactly equal to 1 with 1 - `epsilon`. Defaults to `epsilon = 1e-08`.
`pheno_df`	a data frame with phenotype and covariates, with variable `Sample` indicating sample IDs.
`covariates_char`	character vector for names of the covariate variables
`nCores_int`	Number of computing cores to be used when executing code in parallel. Defaults to 1 (serial computing).
`...`	Dots for additional arguments passed to the cluster constructor. See `CreateParallelWorkers` for more information.

Details

This function fits an ordinary linear model predicting methylation values for each probe from the specified covariates. This process will be useful in scenarios where methylation values in a region or at an individual probe are known *a priori* to have differential methylation independent of the disease or condition of interest.

Value

output a matrix of residual values in the same dimension as `dnam`

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)

data(pheno_df)

GetResiduals(
  dnam = betasChr22_df[1:10, 1:10],
  betaToM = TRUE,
  pheno_df = pheno_df,
  covariates_char = c("age.brain", "sex", "slide")
)
```

`ImportSesameData` *Import Illumina manifests (sesameData versions)*

Description

Load either the HM540 and EPIC manifests into working memory

Usage

```
ImportSesameData(manifest_char)
```

Arguments

`manifest_char`	Which manifest should be loaded? Currently, this package has been tested to work with 450k and EPIC arrays for HG19 and HG38.

Details

This function assumes that the .onLoad() function has executed properly and (therefore) that the necessary data sets are in the cache.

Examples

```
hm450k_gr <- ImportSesameData("HM450.hg19.manifest")
head(hm450k_gr)
```

`lmmTest` *Fit mixed model to methylation values in one genomic region*

Description

Fit mixed model to methylation values in one genomic region

Usage

```
lmmTest(
  betaOne_df,
  pheno_df,
  contPheno_char,
  covariates_char,
  modelType = c("randCoef", "simple"),
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL,
  ignoreStrand = TRUE,
  outLogFile = NULL
)
```

Arguments

betaOne_df	matrix of beta values for one genomic region, with row names = CpG IDs and column names = sample IDs
pheno_df	a data frame with phenotype and covariates, with variable Sample indicating sample IDs.
contPheno_char	character string of the main effect (a continuous phenotype) to be tested for association with methylation values in the region
covariates_char	character vector for names of the covariate variables
modelType	type of mixed model: can be randCoef for random coefficient mixed model or simple for simple linear mixed model.
genome	Human genome of reference: hg19 or hg38
arrayType	Type of array: "450k" or "EPIC"
manifest_gr	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by ExperimentHub or by ImportSesameData). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the genome and arrayType arguments.
ignoreStrand	Whether strand can be ignored, default is TRUE
outLogFile	Name of log file for messages of mixed model analysis

Details

This function implements a mixed model to test association between methylation M values in a genomic region with a continuous phenotype. In our simulation studies, we found both models shown below are conservative, so p-values are estimated from normal distributions instead of Student's *t* distributions.

When modelType = "randCoef", the model is:

M ~ contPheno_char + covariates_char + (1|Sample) + (contPheno_char|CpG).

The last term specifies random intercept and slope for each CpG. When modelType = "simple", the model is

M ~ contPheno_char + covariates_char + (1|Sample).

Value

A dataframe with one row for association result of one region and the following columns: `Estimate`, `StdErr`, and `pvalue` showing the association of methylation values in the genomic region tested with the continuous phenotype supplied in `contPheno_char`

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)

CpGsChr22_char <- c(
  "cg02953382", "cg12419862", "cg24565820", "cg04234412", "cg04824771",
  "cg09033563", "cg10150615", "cg18538332", "cg20007245", "cg23131131",
  "cg25703541"
)

coMethCpGs <- CoMethSingleRegion(CpGsChr22_char, betasChr22_df)

# test only the first co-methylated region
coMethBeta_df <- betasChr22_df[coMethCpGs$CpGsSubregions[[1]], ]

data(pheno_df)

res <- lmmTest(
  betaOne_df = coMethBeta_df,
  pheno_df,
  contPheno_char = "stage",
  covariates_char = c("age.brain", "sex"),
  modelType = "randCoef",
  arrayType = "450k",
  ignoreStrand = TRUE
)
```

---

lmmTestAllRegions *Linear Mixed Models by Region*

Description

Fit mixed model to test association between a continuous phenotype and methylation values in a list of genomic regions

Usage

```
lmmTestAllRegions(
  betas,
  region_ls,
  pheno_df,
  contPheno_char,
  covariates_char,
  modelType = c("randCoef", "simple"),
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  ignoreStrand = TRUE,
```

```
  outFile = NULL,
  outLogFile = NULL,
  nCores_int = 1L,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

betas	data frame or matrix of beta values for all genomic regions, with row names = CpG IDs and column names = sample IDs. This is often the genome-wide array data.
region_ls	a list of genomic regions; each item is a vector of CpG IDs within a genomic region. The co-methylated regions can be obtained by function CoMethAllRegions.
pheno_df	a data frame with phenotype and covariates, with variable Sample indicating sample IDs.
contPheno_char	character string of the main effect (a continuous phenotype) to be tested for association with methylation values in each region
covariates_char	character vector for names of the covariate variables
modelType	type of mixed model; can be randCoef for random coefficient mixed model or simple for simple linear mixed model.
genome	Human genome of reference: hg19 or hg38
arrayType	Type of array: "450k" or "EPIC"
ignoreStrand	Whether strand can be ignored, default is TRUE
outFile	output .csv file with the results for the mixed model analysis
outLogFile	log file for mixed models analysis messages
nCores_int	Number of computing cores to be used when executing code in parallel. Defaults to 1 (serial computing).
...	Dots for additional arguments passed to the cluster constructor. See CreateParallelWorkers for more information.

Details

This function implements a mixed model to test association between methylation M values in a genomic region with a continuous phenotype. In our simulation studies, we found both models shown below are conservative, so p-values are estimated from normal distributions instead of Student's *t* distributions.

When modelType = "randCoef", the model is:

M ~ contPheno_char + covariates_char + (1|Sample) + (contPheno_char|CpG).

The last term specifies random intercept and slope for each CpG. When modelType = "simple", the model is

M ~ contPheno_char + covariates_char + (1|Sample).

For the results of mixed models, note that if the mixed model failed to converge, p-value for mixed model is set to 1. Also, if the mixed model is singular, at least one of the estimated variance components for intercepts or slopes random effects is 0, because there isn't enough variability in the data to estimate the random effects. In this case, the mixed model reduces to a fixed effects model. The p-values for these regions are still valid.

Value

If `outFile` is `NULL`, this function returns a data frame as described below. If `outFile` is specified, this function writes a data frame in .csv format with the following information to the disk: location of the genomic region (`chrom`, `start`, `end`), number of CpGs (`nCpGs`), `Estimate`, Standard error (`StdErr`) of the test statistic, p-value and False Discovery Rate (FDR) for association between methylation values in each genomic region with phenotype (`pValue`).

If `outLogFile` is specified, this function also writes a .txt file that includes messages for mixed model fitting to the disk.

Examples

```
data(betasChr22_df)
data(pheno_df)

CpGisland_ls <- readRDS(
  system.file(
    "extdata",
    "CpGislandsChr22_ex.rds",
    package = 'coMethDMR',
    mustWork = TRUE
  )
)

coMeth_ls <- CoMethAllRegions(
  dnam = betasChr22_df,
  betaToM = TRUE,
  CpGs_ls = CpGisland_ls,
  arrayType = "450k",
  rDropThresh_num = 0.4,
  returnAllCpGs = FALSE
)


results_df <- lmmTestAllRegions(
  betas = betasChr22_df,
  region_ls = coMeth_ls,
  pheno_df = pheno_df,
  contPheno_char = "stage",
  covariates_char = "age.brain",
  modelType = "randCoef",
  arrayType = "450k",
  ignoreStrand = TRUE,
  # generates a log file in the current directory
  # outLogFile = paste0("lmmLog_", Sys.Date(), ".txt")
)
```

`MarkComethylatedCpGs` *Mark CpGs in contiguous and co-methylated region*

Description

Mark CpGs in contiguous and co-methylated region

Usage

```
MarkComethylatedCpGs(
  betaCluster_mat,
  betaToM = TRUE,
  epsilon = 1e-08,
  rDropThresh_num = 0.4,
  method = c("pearson", "spearman"),
  use = "complete.obs"
)
```

Arguments

betaCluster_mat	matrix of beta values, with rownames = sample ids and column names = CpG ids. Note that the CpGs need to be ordered by their genomic positions, this can be accomplished by the `OrderCpGbyLocation` function.
betaToM	indicates if beta values should be converted to M values before computing correlations. Defaults to TRUE.
epsilon	When transforming beta values to M values, what should be done to values exactly equal to 0 or 1? The M value transformation would yield `-Inf` or `Inf` which causes issues in the statistical model. We thus replace all values exactly equal to 0 with 0 + `epsilon`, and we replace all values exactly equal to 1 with 1 - `epsilon`. Defaults to `epsilon = 1e-08`.
rDropThresh_num	threshold for minimum correlation between a cpg with the rest of the CpGs. Defaults to 0.4.
method	correlation method; can be "pearson" or "spearman"
use	method for handling missing values when calculating the correlation. Defaults to `"complete.obs"` because the option `"pairwise.complete.obs"` only works for Pearson correlation.

Details

An outlier CpG in a genomic region will typically have low correlation with the rest of the CpGs in a genomic region. On the other hand, in a cluster of co-methylated CpGs, we expect each CpG to have high correlation with the rest of the CpGs. The `r.drop` statistic is used to identify these co-methylated CpGs here.

Value

A data frame with the following columns:

- `CpG` : CpG ID
- `keep` : The CpGs with `keep = 1` belong to the contiguous and co-methylated region
- `ind` : Index for the CpGs
- `r_drop` : The correlation between each CpG with the sum of the rest of the CpGs

Examples

```
data(betaMatrix_ex1)

MarkComethylatedCpGs(
  betaCluster_mat = betaMatrix_ex1,
  betaToM = FALSE,
  method = "pearson"
)
```

`MarkMissing` *Return Column and Row Names of Samples and Probes under the Missingness Theshold*

Description

Return Column and Row Names of Samples and Probes under the Missingness Theshold

Usage

```
MarkMissing(dnaM_df, sampMissing_p = 0.5, probeMissing_p = 0.25)
```

Arguments

`dnaM_df`	A data frame of DNA methylation values. Samples are columns. Row names are probe IDs.
`sampMissing_p`	The maximum proportion of missingness allowed in a sample. Defaults to 50%.
`probeMissing_p`	The maximum proportion of missingness allowed in a probe. Defaults to 25%.

Details

Before calculating the missing proportion of samples, probes with missingness greater than the threshold are dropped first.

Value

A list of four entries:

- `dropSamples`: the column names of samples with more than `sampMissing_p` percent missing values
- `keepSamples`: the column names of samples with less than or equal to `sampMissing_p` percent missing values
- `dropProbes`: the row names of probes with more than `probeMissing_p` percent missing values
- `keepProbes`: the row names of probes with less than or equal to `probeMissing_p` percent missing values

Examples

```
###  Setup  ###
values_num <- c(
  0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1,
  0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1,  NA,
  0.1, 0.1, 0.1, 0.1,  NA,
  0.1, 0.1, 0.1,  NA,  NA,
  0.1, 0.1, 0.1,  NA,  NA,
  0.1, 0.1,  NA,  NA,  NA,
  0.1, 0.1,  NA,  NA,  NA,
  0.1,  NA,  NA,  NA,  NA,
   NA,  NA,  NA,  NA,  NA
)
values_mat <- matrix(values_num, nrow = 9, ncol = 5, byrow = TRUE)
rownames(values_mat) <- paste0("probe_0", 1:9)
colnames(values_mat) <- paste0("sample_0", 1:5)
values_df <- as.data.frame(values_mat)


###  Simple Calculations  ###
MarkMissing(values_df)
MarkMissing(values_df, probeMissing_p = 0.5)
MarkMissing(values_df, sampMissing_p = 0.25)


###  Using the Output  ###
mark_ls <- MarkMissing(values_df, probeMissing_p = 0.5)
valuesPurged_df <- values_df[ mark_ls$keepProbes, mark_ls$keepSamples ]
valuesPurged_df
```

`NameRegion` *Name a region with several CpGs based on its genomic location*

Description

Name a region with several CpGs based on its genomic location

Usage

```
NameRegion(CpGsOrdered_df)
```

Arguments

`CpGsOrdered_df`	dataframe with columns for Probe IDs as character (cpg), chromosome number as character (chr), and genomic location as integer (pos)

Value

genome location of the CpGs formatted as `"chrxx:xxxxxx-xxxxxx"`

Examples

```
# Consider four probe IDs:
CpGs_char <- c("cg04677227", "cg07146435", "cg11632906", "cg20214853")

# After querying these four probes against an EPIC array via the
#   OrderCpGsByLocation() function, we get the following data frame:
CpGsOrdered_df <- data.frame(
  chr = c("chr10", "chr10", "chr10", "chr10"),
  pos = c(100028236L, 100028320L, 100028468L, 100028499L),
  cpg = c("cg20214853", "cg04677227", "cg11632906", "cg07146435"),
  stringsAsFactors = FALSE
)

# Now, we can name the region that contains these four probes:
NameRegion(CpGsOrdered_df)
```

OrderCpGsByLocation *Order CpGs by genomic location*

Description

Order CpGs by genomic location

Usage

```
OrderCpGsByLocation(
  CpGs_char,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL,
  ignoreStrand = TRUE,
  output = c("vector", "dataframe")
)
```

Arguments

CpGs_char	vector of CpGs
genome	Human genome of reference: hg19 or hg38
arrayType	Type of array: 450k or EPIC
manifest_gr	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by ExperimentHub or by ImportSesameData). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the genome and arrayType arguments.
ignoreStrand	Whether strand can be ignored, default is TRUE
output	vector of CpGs or dataframe with CpGs, CHR, MAPINFO

Value

vector of CpGs ordered by location or dataframe with CpGs ordered by location (cpg), chromosome (chr), position (pos)

Examples

```
CpGs_char <- c("cg04677227", "cg07146435", "cg11632906", "cg20214853")
OrderCpGsByLocation(
  CpGs_char,
  genome = "hg19",
  arrayType = "450k",
  ignoreStrand = TRUE,
  output = "dataframe"
)
```

---

pheno_df *Example phenotype data file from Prefrontal Cortex (PFC) Methylation Data of Alzheimer's Disease subjects*

Description

Subset of phenotype information for Alzheimer's methylation dataset.

Usage

```
data("pheno_df")
```

Format

A data frame containing variables for Braak stage (stage), subject.id, Batch (slide), Sex, Sample, age of brain sample (age.brain)

Source

GEO accession: GSE59685

RegionsToRanges *Convert genomic regions in a data frame to GRanges format*

Description

Convert genomic regions in a data frame to GRanges format

Usage

```
RegionsToRanges(regionName_char)
```

Arguments

`regionName_char` a character vector of regions in the format `"chrxx:xxxxxx-xxxxxx"`

Value

genomic regions in GRanges format

Examples

```
regions <- c("chr22:19709548-19709755", "chr2:241721922-241722113")
RegionsToRanges(regions)
```

`SplitCpGDFbyRegion` *Split CpG dataframe by Subregion*

Description

Split a dataframe of CpGs and comethylated subregions to a list of CpGs in each subregion

Usage

```
SplitCpGDFbyRegion(
  CpGsSubregions_df,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  manifest_gr = NULL,
  returnAllCpGs = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

`CpGsSubregions_df`	data frame with CpG and subregion number
`genome`	Human genome of reference: hg19 or hg38
`arrayType`	Type of array: 450k or EPIC
`manifest_gr`	A GRanges object with the genome manifest (as returned by `ExperimentHub` or by `ImportSesameData`). This function by default ignores this argument in favour of the `genome` and `arrayType` arguments.
`returnAllCpGs`	indicates if outputting all the CpGs in the region when there is not a contiguous comethylated region or only the CpGs in the contiguous comethylated regions

Value

a list of comethylated subregions CpGs for a pre-defined region

Examples

```
data(betaMatrix_ex4)
CpGs_df <- MarkComethylatedCpGs(betaCluster_mat = betaMatrix_ex4)
CpGsSubregions_df <- FindComethylatedRegions(CpGs_df)

SplitCpGDFbyRegion(
  CpGsSubregions_df,
  genome = "hg19",
  arrayType = "450k"
)
```

`WriteCloseByAllRegions` *Extract clusters of CpG probes located closely*

Description

Extract clusters of CpG probes located closely

Usage

```
WriteCloseByAllRegions(
  fileName,
  regions,
  genome = c("hg19", "hg38"),
  arrayType = c("450k", "EPIC"),
  ignoreStrand = TRUE,
  maxGap = 200,
  minCpGs = 3,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`fileName`	Name of the RDS file where the output genomic regions will be saved.
`regions`	GRanges of input genomic regions
`genome`	Human genome of reference: hg19 or hg38
`arrayType`	Type of array: "450k" or "EPIC"
`ignoreStrand`	Whether strand can be ignored, default is TRUE
`maxGap`	an integer, genomic locations within maxGap from each other are placed into the same cluster
`minCpGs`	an integer, minimum number of CpGs for each resulting region
`...`	Dots for internal arguments. Currently unused.

Details

For `maxGap = 200` and `minCpGs = 3`, we have already calculated the clusters of CpGs. They are saved in folder `/inst/extdata/`.

Value

Nothing. Instead, file with the genomic regions containing CpGs located closely within each inputting pre-defined genomic region will be written to the disk

Examples

```
regions <- GenomicRanges::GRanges(
  seqnames = c("chr4", "chr6", "chr16", "chr16", "chr22", "chr19"),
  ranges = c(
    "174202697-174203520", "28226203-28227482", "89572934-89574634",
    "67232460-67234167", "38244199-38245362", "39402823-39403373"
```

```
  )
)

# Uncomment out the example code below:
# WriteCloseByAllRegions(
#   regions = regions,
#   arrayType = "EPIC",
#   maxGap = 50,
#   minCpGs = 3,
#   fileName = "closeByRegions.rds"
# )
```

Index

∗ **datasets**
betaMatrix_ex1, 4
betaMatrix_ex2, 4
betaMatrix_ex3, 5
betaMatrix_ex4, 5
betasChr22_df, 6
pheno_df, 28
∗ **internal**
coMethDMR_setup, 9
CreateOutputDF, 14
SplitCpGDFbyRegion, 29

AnnotateResults, 2

betaMatrix_ex1, 4
betaMatrix_ex2, 4
betaMatrix_ex3, 5
betaMatrix_ex4, 5
betasChr22_df, 6

CloseBySingleRegion, 6
clusterMaker, *7*
CoMethAllRegions, 7, *22*
coMethDMR_setup, 9
CoMethSingleRegion, 9
cor, *15*
CpGsInfoAllRegions, 11
CpGsInfoOneRegion, 12
CreateOutputDF, 14
CreateParallelWorkers, *3*, *8*, 15, *18*, *22*
CreateRdrop, 15

ExperimentHub, *6*, *10*, *13*, *17*, *20*, *27*, *29*

FindComethylatedRegions, 16

GetCpGsInRegion, 17
GetResiduals, 18
GRanges, *11*, *13*, *17*

ImportSesameData, *6*, *10*, *13*, *17*, 19, *20*, *27*, *29*

lmmTest, 19
lmmTestAllRegions, *3*, 21

MarkComethylatedCpGs, *16*, 23
MarkMissing, 25
MulticoreParam, *15*

NameRegion, 26

OrderCpGsByLocation, 27

pheno_df, 28

query, *9*

RegionsToRanges, 28

SnowParam, *15*
SplitCpGDFbyRegion, 29

WriteCloseByAllRegions, *8*, 30