# Package 'ssPATHS'

July 26, 2025

Type Package

Title ssPATHS: Single Sample PATHway Score
Version 1.23.0
Author Natalie R. Davidson
Maintainer Natalie R. Davidson <natalie.davidson@inf.ethz.ch></natalie.davidson@inf.ethz.ch>
<b>Description</b> This package generates pathway scores from expression data for single samples after training on a reference cohort. The score is generated by taking the expression of a gene set (pathway) from a reference cohort and performing linear discriminant analysis to distinguish samples in the cohort that have the pathway augmented and not. The separating hyperplane is then used to score new samples.
License MIT + file LICENSE
Encoding UTF-8
LazyData true
Imports ROCR, dml, MESS
Suggests ggplot2, testthat (>= 2.1.0)
Depends SummarizedExperiment
RoxygenNote 6.1.1
<b>biocViews</b> Software, GeneExpression, BiomedicalInformatics, RNASeq, Pathways, Transcriptomics, DimensionReduction, Classification
git_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/ssPATHS
git_branch devel
git_last_commit f295083
git_last_commit_date 2025-04-15
Repository Bioconductor 3.22
Date/Publication 2025-07-25
Contents
expected_score_output  gene_weights_reference  get_classification_accuracy  get_gene_weights

**10** 

get_hypoxia_genes	5
get_new_samp_score	5
new_samp_df	3
tcga_expr_df	3

expected\_score\_output Gene Expression Values for PDAC Cancer Cell Lines exposed to Hypoxia

# **Description**

Gene Expression Values for PDAC Cancer Cell Lines exposed to Hypoxia

# Usage

Index

```
data(expected_score_output)
```

#### **Format**

A data frame with columns:

sample\_id String. The name of the sample. Samples with "hyp" or "norm" in the sample id are cell lines that were exposed to hypoxic or normoxic conditions respectively. Samples with "ctrl" or "noHIF" were samples that were able to produce a HIF-mediated hypoxic response or not, respectively.

pathway\_score Float. The estimated hypoxia score for this sample.

#### **Source**

Derived Data

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
   expected_score_output
## End(Not run)
```

gene\_weights\_reference

Gene Expression Values for PDAC Cancer Cell Lines exposed to Hypoxia

# **Description**

Gene Expression Values for PDAC Cancer Cell Lines exposed to Hypoxia

#### Usage

```
data(gene_weights_reference)
```

#### **Format**

A data frame with columns:

```
gene_weight Float. Gene weighting learned from reference data.gene_id String. The ensembl id of the gene.
```

# **Source**

Derived data

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
  gene_weights_reference
## End(Not run)
```

```
get_classification_accuracy
```

Get Classification Accuracy

# Description

Get the AUC-ROC, AUC-PR, and ROC/PR curves for plotting.

# Usage

```
get_classification_accuracy(sample_scores, positive_val)
```

# **Arguments**

sample\_scores This is a data.frame containing the sample id, score, and true label Y. This object

is returned by the method get\_gene\_weights.

positive\_val This is the value that will denote a true positive. It must be one of the two values

in the Y column in sample\_scores.

#### Value

This returns a list of performance metrics

auc\_pr Area under the PR-curve auc\_roc Area under the ROC-curve

perf\_pr ROCR object for plotting the PR-curve perf\_roc ROCR object for plotting the ROC-curve

# Author(s)

Natalie R. Davidson

4 get\_gene\_weights

#### **Examples**

```
data(tcga_expr_df)
# transform from data.frame to SummarizedExperiment
tcga_se <- SummarizedExperiment(t(tcga_expr_df[ , -(1:4)]),</pre>
                                  colData=tcga_expr_df[ , 2:4])
colnames(tcga_se) <- tcga_expr_df$tcga_id</pre>
colData(tcga_se)$sample_id <- tcga_expr_df$tcga_id</pre>
hypoxia_gene_ids <- get_hypoxia_genes()</pre>
hypoxia_gene_ids <- intersect(hypoxia_gene_ids, rownames(tcga_se))</pre>
colData(tcga\_se)Y <- ifelse(colData(tcga\_se)$is_normal, 0, 1)
# now we can get the gene weightings
res <- get_gene_weights(tcga_se, hypoxia_gene_ids, unidirectional=TRUE)</pre>
sample_scores <- res[[2]]</pre>
# check how well we did
training_res <- get_classification_accuracy(sample_scores, positive_val=1)</pre>
print(training_res[[2]])
plot(training_res[[3]], col="orange", ylim=c(0, 1))
legend(0.1, 0.8, c(training\_res\$auc\_pr, "\n"), border="white", cex=1.7,
        box.col = "white")
plot(training_res[[4]], col="blue", ylim=c(0, 1))
legend(0.1,0.8,c(training_res$auc_roc,"\n"),border="white",cex=1.7,
        box.col = "white")
```

get\_gene\_weights

Get Gene Weights from Reference Data

## **Description**

This method performs linear discriminant analysis on a reference dataset using a pre-defined set of genes related to a pathway of interest.

#### Usage

```
get_gene_weights(expression_se, gene_ids, unidirectional)
```

## **Arguments**

expression\_se

This is an SummarizedExperiment object of the reference samples. Rows are genes and columns are samples. The colData component must contain a sample\_id column. Within this method, there is a normalization step where each sample is scaled across all genes in the SummarizedExperiment assay. For this to be stable and consistent, we recommend that the assay contain at least 500 genes that are consistently expressed across all samples in addition to the genes in the pathway of interest.

get\_gene\_weights 5

gene\_ids This is a vector of strings, where each element is a gene\_id in the pathway of

interest. The gene\_ids must be present in rownames(expression\_se).

unidirectional This is a boolean, default=TRUE. Most genesets are unidirectional, meaning that most genes are either increasing or decreasing together. If this is set to TRUE, then the learned weights will be clipped such that the dominant directionality is

kept, and the other gene weights are set to zero.

#### Value

A list containing the gene weights and estimated scores of the reference samples.

proj\_vector\_df A dataframe containing the gene weights and gene ids
dca\_proj A dataframe containing the sample scores and sample ids.

#### Author(s)

Natalie R. Davidson

#### References

Steven C.H. Hoi, W. Liu, M.R. Lyu and W.Y. Ma (2006). Learning Distance Metrics with Contextual Constraints for Image Retrieval. Proceedings IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR2006).

#### **Examples**

get\_new\_samp\_score

get\_hypoxia\_genes

Get Ensembl ids of hypoxia related genes.

#### **Description**

Returns a vector of Ensembl ids of hypoxia related genes.

# Usage

```
get_hypoxia_genes()
```

#### Value

Vector of ensembl ids.

#### Author(s)

Natalie R. Davidson

# **Examples**

get\_new\_samp\_score

Get a pathway score for an unseen sample

# **Description**

Using the gene weights learned from the reference cohort, we apply the weightings to new samples to estimate their pathway activity.

# Usage

```
get_new_samp_score(gene_weights, expression_se, gene_ids, run_normalization = TRUE)
```

get\_new\_samp\_score 7

#### **Arguments**

gene\_weights

This is a data.frame containing gene ids and gene weights, output by get\_gene\_weights. The gene ids must be in the column ids of expression\_matr.

expression\_se

This is an SummarizedExperiment object of the reference samples. Rows are genes and columns are samples. The colData component must contain columns Y and sample\_id. The former indicates whether this is a positive or negative sample and the latter is the unique sample id. Within this method, there is a normalization step where each sample is scaled across all genes in the SummarizedExperiment assay. For this to be stable and consistent, we recommend that the assay contain at least 500 genes that are consistently expressed across all samples in addition to the genes in the pathway of interest.

gene\_ids

This is a vector of strings, where each element is a gene\_id in the pathway of interest. The gene\_ids must be present in rownames(expression\_se).

run\_normalization

Boolean value. If TRUE, the data will be log-transformed, centered and scaled. This is recommended since this is done to the reference set when learning the gene weights.

#### Value

A data frame containing the sample id, sample score, and associated Y value if it was included in expression\_se.

## Author(s)

Natalie R. Davidson

## **Examples**

```
data(tcga_expr_df)
# transform from data.frame to SummarizedExperiment
tcga_se <- SummarizedExperiment(t(tcga_expr_df[ , -(1:4)]),</pre>
                                  colData=tcga_expr_df[ , 2:4])
colnames(tcga_se) <- tcga_expr_df$tcga_id</pre>
colData(tcga_se)$sample_id <- tcga_expr_df$tcga_id</pre>
# get the genes of interest, here hypoxia genes
hypoxia_gene_ids <- get_hypoxia_genes()</pre>
hypoxia_gene_ids <- intersect(hypoxia_gene_ids, rownames(tcga_se))</pre>
# label the samples for classification
colData(tcga_se)$Y <- ifelse(colData(tcga_se)$is_normal, 0, 1)</pre>
# now we can get the gene weightings
res <- get_gene_weights(tcga_se, hypoxia_gene_ids, unidirectional=TRUE)</pre>
gene_weights <- res[[1]]</pre>
sample_scores <- res[[2]]</pre>
# get the new data so we can apply our score to it
data(new_samp_df)
new_samp_se <- SummarizedExperiment(t(new_samp_df[ , -(1)]),</pre>
                                       colData=new_samp_df[ , 1, drop=FALSE])
colnames(colData(new_samp_se)) <- "sample_id"</pre>
```

8 tcga\_expr\_df

```
new_score_df_calculated <- get_new_samp_score(gene_weights, new_samp_se)</pre>
```

new\_samp\_df

Gene Expression Values for PDAC Cancer Cell Lines exposed to Hypoxia

# **Description**

A data frame with columns:

sample\_id String. The name of the sample. Samples with "hyp" or "norm" in the sample id are cell lines that were exposed to hypoxic or normoxic conditions respectively. Samples with "ctrl" or "noHIF" were samples that were able to produce a HIF-mediated hypoxic response or not, respectively.

ENSG0000074410 Int. Gene expression value for this gene.

# Usage

```
data(new_samp_df)
```

## **Format**

An object of class data. frame with 12 rows and 27 columns.

## **Source**

Generated by Philipp Markolin, files will be uploaded on GEO

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
  new_samp_df
## End(Not run)
```

tcga\_expr\_df

Gene Expression Values for PDAC Cancer Cell Lines exposed to Hypoxia

#### **Description**

A data frame with columns:

**tcga\_id** String. TCGA aliquot barcode **study** String. TCGA study abbreviation

is\_normal Boolean. TRUE if sample is adjacent normal, FALSE if tumor.

libsize\_75percent Float. Library size as estimated by the 75th quartile.

ENSG0000070831 String. Library size normalized gene expression value for this gene.

tcga\_expr\_df

# Usage

```
data(tcga_expr_df)
```

## **Format**

An object of class data. frame with 9461 rows and 54 columns.

#### Source

This data is generated by the TCGA Research Network: https://www.cancer.gov/tcga and downloaded from the NCI Genomic Data Commons.

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
  tcga_expr_df
## End(Not run)
```

# **Index**

```
* datasets
    expected_score_output, 2
    gene_weights_reference, 2
    new_samp_df, 8
    tcga_expr_df, 8

expected_score_output, 2

gene_weights_reference, 2
get_classification_accuracy, 3
get_gene_weights, 4
get_hypoxia_genes, 6
get_new_samp_score, 6

new_samp_df, 8

tcga_expr_df, 8
```