Package 'msqrob2'

July 7, 2025

Title Robust statistical inference for quantitative LC-MS proteomics

Version 1.16.0

Description

msqrob2 provides a robust linear mixed model framework for assessing differential abundance in
MS-based Quantitative proteomics experiments. Our workflows can start from raw peptide intensities or
summarised protein expression values. The model parameter estimates can be stabilized by ridge regression,
empirical Bayes variance estimation and robust M-estimation. msqrob2's hurde workflow can handle missing
data without having to rely on hard-to-verify imputation assumptions, and, outcompetes state-of-the-art
methods with and without imputation for both high and low missingness. It builds on QFeature infrastructure
for quantitative mass spectrometry data to store the model results together with the raw data and preprocessed
data.

Depends R (>= 4.1), QFeatures (>= 1.1.2)

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MSnbase, matrixStats, MsCoreUtils, covr

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'msqrob-utils.R' 'StatModel-methods.R'
'hypothesisTest-methods.R' 'msqrob-methods.R'
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Description

Methods for StatModel class

getContrast(object, L) to calculate contrasts of the model parameters

varContrast(object, L) to calculate the variance-covariance matrix of the contrasts

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getContrast(object, L)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
varContrast(object, L)
```

Arguments

object   A list with elements of the class StatModel that are estimated using the msqrob function

L   contrast numeric matrix specifying one or more contrasts of the linear model coefficients to be tested equal to zero. The rownames of the matrix should be equal to the names of parameters of the model.

Value

A matrix with the calculated contrasts or variance-covariance matrix of contrasts

Examples

```
data(pe)
# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit msqrob model
pe <- msqrob(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)

# Define contrast
getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]])
# Define contrast for log2 fold change between condition c and condition b:
L <- makeContrast("conditionc - conditionb=0", c("conditionb", "conditionc"))

getContrast(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]], L)
varContrast(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]], L)
```

---

getModel,StatModel-method

Accessor functions for StatModel class

Description

Accessor functions for StatModel class

getModel(object) to get model

getFitMethod(object) to get the parameter estimation method

getCoef(object) to get the parameter estimates of the mean model

getDF(object) to get the residual degrees of freedom of the model

getVar(object) to get the residual variance of the model

getSigma(object) to get the residual standard deviation of the model

getDfPosterior(object) to get the degrees of freedom of the empirical Bayes variance estimator

getVarPosterior(object) to get the empirical Bayes variance

getSigmaPosterior(object) to get the empirical Bayes standard deviation

getVcovUnscaled(object) to get the unscaled variance covariance matrix of the model parameters

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getModel(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getFitMethod(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getCoef(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getDfPosterior(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getVarPosterior(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getSigmaPosterior(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getDF(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getVar(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getSigma(object)

## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
getVcovUnscaled(object)
```

Arguments

object   StatModel object

Value

The requested parameter of the StatModel object

Examples

```
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit msqrob model
pe <- msqrob(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)
getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]])
getModel(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]])
getFitMethod(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]])
# Similar for the remaining accessors
```

---

hypothesisTest,SummarizedExperiment-method
Parameter estimates, standard errors and statistical inference on differential expression analysis

---

Description

Summary table of the estimates for differential expression of features

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SummarizedExperiment'
hypothesisTest(
  object,
  contrast,
  adjust.method = "BH",
  modelColumn = "msqrobModels",
  resultsColumnNamePrefix = "",
  overwrite = FALSE
```

```
  )

  ## S4 method for signature 'SummarizedExperiment'
  hypothesisTestHurdle(
    object,
    contrast,
    adjust.method = "BH",
    modelColumn = "msqrobHurdle",
    resultsColumnNamePrefix = "hurdle_",
    overwrite = FALSE
  )

  ## S4 method for signature 'QFeatures'
  hypothesisTest(
    object,
    i,
    contrast,
    adjust.method = "BH",
    modelColumn = "msqrobModels",
    resultsColumnNamePrefix = "",
    overwrite = FALSE
  )

  ## S4 method for signature 'QFeatures'
  hypothesisTestHurdle(
    object,
    i,
    contrast,
    adjust.method = "BH",
    modelColumn = "msqrobHurdle",
    resultsColumnNamePrefix = "hurdle_",
    overwrite = FALSE
  )
```

Arguments

object   SummarizedExperiment or QFeatures instance

contrast   numeric matrix specifying one or more contrasts of the linear model coefficients
                to be tested equal to zero. If multiple contrasts are given (multiple columns)
                then results will be returned for each contrast. The rownames of the matrix
                should be equal to the names of parameters of the model that are involved in the
                contrast. The column names of the matrix will be used to construct names to
                store the results in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment or of the assay of
                the QFeatures object. The contrast matrix can be made using the makeContrast
                function.

adjust.method   character specifying the method to adjust the p-values for multiple testing.
                Options, in increasing conservatism, include '"none"', '"BH"', '"BY"' and '"holm"'.
                See 'p.adjust' for the complete list of options. Default is "BH" the Benjamini-

	Hochberg method to controle the False Discovery Rate (FDR).
modelColumn	`character` to indicate the variable name that was used to store the msqrob models in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment instance or of the assay of the QFeatures instance. Default is "msqrobModels" when the `hypothesisTest` function is used and "msqrobHurdle" for `hypothesisTestHurdle`.
resultsColumnNamePrefix	
	`character` to indicate the the prefix for the variable name that will be used to store test results in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment instance or of the assay of the QFeatures instance. Default is "" so that the variable name with the results will be the column name of the column in the contrast matrix L. If L is a matrix with multiple columns, multiple results columns will be made, one for each contrast. If L is a matrix with a single column which has no column names and if resultsColumnNamePrefix="" the results will be stored in the column with name msqrobResults. For hypothesisTestHurdle the default prefix is "hurdle_". If L is a matrix with one column and has no column names and if resultsColumnNamePrefix="hurdle_" the results will be stored in the column with name hurdleResults.
overwrite	`boolean(1)` to indicate if the column in the rowData has to be overwritten if the modelColumnName already exists. Default is FALSE.
i	`character` or `integer` to specify the element of the `QFeatures` that contains the log expression intensities that will be modelled.

Value

A SummarizedExperiment or a `QFeatures` instance augmented with the test results.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit msqrob model
pe <- msqrob(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)

# Define contrast
getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]])
# Assess log2 fold change between condition c and condition b
L <- makeContrast(
```

```
    "conditionc - conditionb=0",
    c("conditionb", "conditionc")
)

# example SummarizedExperiment instance
se <- pe[["protein"]]
se <- hypothesisTest(se, L)
head(rowData(se)$"conditionc - conditionb", 10)
# Volcano plot
plot(-log10(pval) ~ logFC,
    rowData(se)$"conditionc - conditionb",
    col = (adjPval < 0.05) + 1
)

# Example for QFeatures instance
# Assess log2 fold change between condition b and condition a (reference class),
# condition c and condition a, and, condition c and condition b.
L <- makeContrast(
    c(
        "conditionb=0",
        "conditionc=0",
        "conditionc - conditionb=0"
    ),
    c("conditionb", "conditionc")
)
pe <- hypothesisTest(pe, i = "protein", L)
head(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$"conditionb", 10)
# Volcano plots
par(mfrow = c(1, 3))
plot(-log10(pval) ~ logFC,
    rowData(pe[["protein"]])$"conditionb",
    col = (adjPval < 0.05) + 1,
    main = "log2 FC b-a"
)
plot(-log10(pval) ~ logFC,
    rowData(pe[["protein"]])$"conditionc",
    col = (adjPval < 0.05) + 1,
    main = "log2 FC c-a"
)
plot(-log10(pval) ~ logFC,
    rowData(pe[["protein"]])$"conditionc - conditionb",
    col = (adjPval < 0.05) + 1,
    main = "log2 FC c-b"
)

# Hurdle method
pe <- msqrobHurdle(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)
pe <- hypothesisTestHurdle(pe, i = "protein", L)
head(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$"hurdle_conditionb", 10)
```

---

makeContrast   *Make contrast matrix*

Description

Construct the contrast matrix corresponding to specified contrasts of a set of parameters.

Usage

```
makeContrast(contrasts, parameterNames)
```

Arguments

contrasts   character vector specifying contrasts, i.e. the linear combination of the model-parameters that equals to zero.

parameterNames character vector specifying the model parameters that are involved in the contrasts, e.g if we model data of three conditions using a factor condition with three levels a, b and c then our model will have 3 mean parameters named (Intercept), conditionb and conditionc. Hence the log2 fold change between b and a is conditionb. Under the null hypothesis the log2 fold change equals 0. Which is to be encoded as "conditionb=0". If we would like to test for log2 fold change between condition c and b we assess if the log2 fold change conditionc-conditionb equals 0, encoded as "condtionb-conditionc=0".

Value

A numeric contrast matrix with rownames that equal the model parameters that are involved in the contrasts

Examples

```
makeContrast(c("conditionb = 0"),
    parameterNames = c(
        "(Intercept)",
        "conditionb",
        "conditionc"
    )
)
makeContrast(c("conditionc=0"),
    parameterNames = c("conditionc")
)
makeContrast(c(
    "conditionb=0",
    "conditionc=0",
    "conditionc-conditionb=0"
),
parameterNames = c(
    "conditionb",
    "conditionc"
)
)
```

---

msqrob,SummarizedExperiment-method

Methods to fit msqrob models with ridge regression and/or random effects using lme4

Description

Parameter estimation of msqrob models for QFeatures and SummarizedExperiment instance.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SummarizedExperiment'
msqrob(
  object,
  formula,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobModels",
  overwrite = FALSE,
  robust = TRUE,
  ridge = FALSE,
  maxitRob = 1,
  tol = 1e-06,
  doQR = TRUE,
  lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))
)

## S4 method for signature 'QFeatures'
msqrob(
  object,
  i,
  formula,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobModels",
  overwrite = FALSE,
  robust = TRUE,
  ridge = FALSE,
  maxitRob = 1,
  tol = 1e-06,
  doQR = TRUE,
  lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))
)
```

Arguments

object   SummarizedExperiment or QFeatures instance

formula   Model formula. The model is built based on the covariates in the data object.

modelColumnName

> `character` to indicate the variable name that is used to store the msqrob models in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment instance or of the assay of the QFeatures instance. Default is "msqrobModels".

overwrite

> `boolean(1)` to indicate if the column in the rowData has to be overwritten if the modelColumnName already exists. Default is FALSE.

robust

> `boolean(1)` to indicate if robust regression is performed to account for outliers. Default is `TRUE`. If `FALSE` an OLS fit is performed.

ridge

> `boolean(1)` to indicate if ridge regression is performed. Default is `FALSE`. If `TRUE` the fixed effects are estimated via penalized regression and shrunken to zero.

maxitRob

> `numeric(1)` indicating the maximum iterations in the IRWLS algorithm used in the M-estimation step of the robust regression.

tol

> `numeric(1)` indicating the tolerance for declaring convergence of the M-estimation loop.

doQR

> `boolean(1)` to indicate if QR decomposition is used when adopting ridge regression. Default is TRUE. If FALSE the predictors of the fixed effects are not transformed, and the degree of shrinkage can depend on the encoding.

lmerArgs

> a list (of correct class, resulting from 'lmerControl()' containing control parameters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the 'lmerControl' documentation of the lme4 package for more details. Default is `list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))`

i

> `character` or `integer` to specify the element of the `QFeatures` that contains the log expression intensities that will be modelled.

Value

A SummarizedExperiment or a `QFeatures` instance with the models.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit MSqrob model using robust linear regression upon summarization of
```

```
# peptide intensities into protein expression values.
# For summarized SummarizedExperiment
se <- pe[["protein"]]
se
colData(se) <- colData(pe)
se <- msqrob(se, formula = ~condition, modelColumnName = "rlm")
getCoef(rowData(se)$rlm[[1]])

# For features object
pe <- msqrob(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition, modelColumnName = "rlm")
# with ridge regression (slower)
pe <- msqrob(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition, ridge = TRUE, modelColumnName = "ridge")

# compare for human protein (no DE)==> large shrinkage to zero
cbind(getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$rlm[[1]]), getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$ridge[[1]]))

# compare for ecoli protein (DE)==> almost no shrinkage to zero
cbind(
    getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$rlm[["P00956"]]),
    getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$ridge[["P00956"]])
)
```

---

msqrobAggregate,SummarizedExperiment-method

Method to fit msqrob models with robust regression and/or ridge re-
gression and/or random effects It models multiple features simultane-
ously, e.g. multiple peptides from the same protein.

Description

Parameter estimation of msqrob models for QFeaturesinstance. The method aggregates features
within the model e.g. from peptides to proteins. It provides fold change estimates and their associ-
ated uncertainty at the aggregated level (e.g. protein level) while correcting for the peptide species
that are observed in each sample. It also addresses the correlation in the data, e.g. the peptide data
for the same protein in a sample are correlate because they originate from the same protein pool.
The method however does not return aggregated expression values for each sample. For visualisa-
tion purposes aggregated expression values are provide by the aggregateFeatures function from
the QFeatures Package

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SummarizedExperiment'
msqrobAggregate(
  object,
  formula,
  fcol,
  aggregateFun = MsCoreUtils::robustSummary,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobModels",
  robust = TRUE,
```

```
    ridge = FALSE,
    maxitRob = 1,
    tol = 1e-06,
    doQR = TRUE,
    lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))
)

## S4 method for signature 'QFeatures'
msqrobAggregate(
  object,
  formula,
  i,
  fcol,
  name = "msqrobAggregate",
  aggregateFun = MsCoreUtils::robustSummary,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobModels",
  robust = TRUE,
  ridge = FALSE,
  maxitRob = 1,
  tol = 1e-06,
  doQR = TRUE,
  lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))
)
```

Arguments

object	QFeatures instance
formula	Model formula. The model is built based on the covariates in the data object.
fcol	The feature variable of assay 'i' defining how to summarise the features.
aggregateFun	A function used for quantitative feature aggregation. Details can be found in the documentation of the aggregateFeatures of the QFeatures package.
modelColumnName	
	character to indicate the variable name that is used to store the msqrob models in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment instance or of the assay of the QFeatures instance. Default is "msqrobModels".
robust	boolean(1) to indicate if robust regression is performed to account for outliers. Default is TRUE. If FALSE an OLS fit is performed.
ridge	boolean(1) to indicate if ridge regression is performed. Default is FALSE. If TRUE the fixed effects are estimated via penalized regression and shrunken to zero.
maxitRob	numeric(1) indicating the maximum iterations in the IRWLS algorithm used in the M-estimation step of the robust regression.
tol	numeric(1) indicating the tolerance for declaring convergence of the M-estimation loop.
doQR	boolean(1) to indicate if QR decomposition is used when adopting ridge regression. Default is TRUE. If FALSE the predictors of the fixed effects are not transformed, and the degree of shrinkage can depend on the encoding.

lmerArgs   a list (of correct class, resulting from 'lmerControl()' containing control param-
eters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed
through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the 'lmerControl' documentation of the
lme4 package for more details. Default is `list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs`
`= FALSE))`

i   `character` or `integer` to specify the element of the `QFeatures` that contains
the log expression intensities that will be modelled.

name   A 'character(1)' naming the new assay. Default is 'newAssay'. Note that the
function will fail if there's already an assay with 'name'.

Value

A 'QFeatures' object with an additional assay.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Fit MSqrob model using robust ridge regression starting from peptide intensities
# The fold changes are calculated at the protein level while correcting for
# the different peptide species in each sample and the correlation between
# peptide intensities of peptides of the same protein in the same sample.
colData(pe)$samples <- rownames(colData(pe))
pe <- msqrobAggregate(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins",
    formula = ~condition + (1|samples) + (1|Sequence),
    ridge = TRUE)
getCoef(rowData(pe[["msqrobAggregate"]])$msqrobModels[["P00956"]])

## Same but on a SummarizedExperiment object
se <- getWithColData(pe, "peptide")
se <- msqrobAggregate(se, fcol = "Proteins",
                      formula = ~condition + (1|samples) + (1|Sequence),
                      ridge = TRUE)
getCoef(rowData(se)$msqrobModels[["P00956"]])
```

---

msqrobGlm *Function to fit msqrob models to peptide counts using glm*

Description

Low-level function for parameter estimation with msqrob by modeling peptide counts using quasi-binomial glm

Usage

```
msqrobGlm(y, npep, formula, data, priorCount = 0.1, binomialBound = TRUE)
```

Arguments

y	A `matrix` with the peptide counts. The features are along the rows and samples along the columns.
npep	A vector with number of peptides per protein. It has as length the number of rows of y. The counts are equal or larger than the largest peptide count in y.
formula	Model formula. The model is built based on the covariates in the data object.
data	A `DataFrame` with information on the design. It has the same number of rows as the number of columns (samples) of y.
priorCount	A 'numeric(1)', which is a prior count to be added to the observations to shrink the estimated log-fold-changes towards zero.
binomialBound	logical, if 'TRUE' then the quasibinomial variance estimator will be never smaller than 1 (no underdispersion).

Value

A list of objects of the `StatModel` class.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")
pe
```

```
# Fit MSqrob model using robust regression with the MASS rlm function
models <- msqrobGlm(
    aggcounts(pe[["protein"]]),
    rowData(pe[["protein"]])[[".n"]],
    ~condition,
    colData(pe)
)
getCoef(models[[1]])
```

---

msqrobHurdle,SummarizedExperiment-method
                         Function to fit msqrob hurdle models

---

Description

Fitting a hurdle msqrob model with an intensity component for assessing differential abundance
and an count component that is modeling peptide counts using quasibinomial glm for differential
detection of the number of features that were not missing and used for aggregation

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SummarizedExperiment'
msqrobHurdle(
  object,
  formula,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobHurdle",
  overwrite = FALSE,
  robust = TRUE,
  ridge = FALSE,
  maxitRob = 1,
  tol = 1e-06,
  doQR = TRUE,
  lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE)),
  priorCount = 0.1,
  binomialBound = TRUE
)

## S4 method for signature 'QFeatures'
msqrobHurdle(
  object,
  i,
  formula,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobHurdle",
  overwrite = FALSE,
  robust = TRUE,
  ridge = FALSE,
  maxitRob = 1,
```

```
    tol = 1e-06,
    doQR = TRUE,
    lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE)),
    priorCount = 0.1,
    binomialBound = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

object	SummarizedExperiment or QFeatures instance with an assay that is generated with the `aggreateFeatures` function from the QFeatures package
formula	Model formula. Both model components are built based on the covariates in the data object.
modelColumnName	
	character to indicate the variable name that is used to store the msqrob models in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment instance or of the assay of the QFeatures instance. Default is "msqrobHurdle".
overwrite	boolean(1) to indicate if the column in the rowData has to be overwritten if the modelColumnName already exists. Default is FALSE.
robust	boolean(1) to indicate if robust regression is performed to account for outliers when fitting the intensity component of the hurdle model. Default is TRUE. If FALSE an OLS fit is performed.
ridge	boolean(1) to indicate if ridge regression is performed. Default is FALSE. If TRUE the fixed effects of the intensity component of the hurdle model are estimated via penalized regression and shrunken to zero.
maxitRob	numeric(1) indicating the maximum iterations in the IRWLS algorithm used in the M-estimation step of the robust regression for fitting the intensity component of the hurdle model.
tol	numeric(1) indicating the tolerance for declaring convergence of the M-estimation loop of the intensity component of the hurdle model.
doQR	boolean(1) to indicate if QR decomposition is used when adopting ridge regression for the intensity component of the model. Default is TRUE. If FALSE the predictors of the fixed effects are not transformed, and the degree of shrinkage can depend on the encoding.
lmerArgs	a list (of correct class, resulting from 'lmerControl()' containing control parameters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the 'lmerControl' documentation of the lme4 package for more details. Default is list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))
priorCount	A 'numeric(1)', which is a prior count to be added to the observations to shrink the estimated odds ratios of the count component towards zero. Default is 0.1.
binomialBound	logical, if 'TRUE' then the quasibinomial variance estimator will be never smaller than 1 (no underdispersion). Default is TRUE.
i	character or integer to specify the element of the QFeatures that contains the log expression intensities that will be modelled.

Value

SummarizedExperiment or QFeatures instance

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities to protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit Hurdle MSqrob model
# For summarized SummarizedExperiment
se <- pe[["protein"]]
se
colData(se) <- colData(pe)
se <- msqrobHurdle(se, formula = ~condition)
getCoef(rowData(se)$msqrobHurdleIntensity[[1]])
getCoef(rowData(se)$msqrobHurdleCount[[1]])

# For features object
pe <- msqrobHurdle(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)
getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobHurdleIntensity[[1]])
getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobHurdleCount[[1]])
```

---

msqrobLm   *Function to fit msqrob models using lm and rlm*

Description

Low-level function for parameter estimation with msqrob using the ordinary least squares or robust regression base on the MASS::rlm function.

Usage

```
msqrobLm(y, formula, data, robust = TRUE, maxitRob = 5)
```

Arguments

y	A `matrix` with the quantified feature intensities. The features are along the rows and samples along the columns.
formula	Model formula. The model is built based on the covariates in the data object.
data	A `DataFrame` with information on the design. It has the same number of rows as the number of columns (samples) of y.
robust	`boolean(1)` to indicate if robust regression is performed to account for outliers. Default is `TRUE`. If `FALSE` an OLS fit is performed.
maxitRob	`numeric(1)` indicating the maximum iterations in the IRWLS algorithm used in the M-estimation step of the robust regression.

Value

A list of objects of the `StatModel` class.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement, Oliver M. Crook

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")
pe

# Fit MSqrob model using robust regression with the MASS rlm function
models <- msqrobLm(assay(pe[["protein"]]), ~condition, colData(pe))
#' getCoef(models[[1]])
```

---

msqrobLmer	*Function to fit msqrob models with ridge regression and/or random effects using lme4*

Description

Low-level function for parameter estimation with msqrob using the robust ridge regression. The models can be fitted for each feature (e.g. summarised protein expression values) or multiple features belonging to the same accession can be modelled simultaneously e.g. peptide-based models where all peptide intensities for the same protein are modelled simultaneously. The fold changes and uncertainty estimates are then calculated at the protein level while correcting for peptide species and within sample correlation.

Usage

```
msqrobLmer(
  y,
  formula,
  data,
  rowdata = NULL,
  tol = 1e-06,
  robust = TRUE,
  ridge = FALSE,
  maxitRob = 1,
  doQR = TRUE,
  featureGroups = NULL,
  lmerArgs = list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))
)
```

Arguments

y	A `matrix` with the quantified feature intensities. The features are along the rows and samples along the columns.
formula	Model formula. The model is built based on the covariates in the data object.
data	A `DataFrame` with information on the design. It has the same number of rows as the number of columns (samples) of y.
rowdata	A `DataFrame` with the rowData information of the SummarizedExperiment. It has the same number of rows as the number of rows (features) of y.
tol	`numeric(1)` indicating the tolerance for declaring convergence of the M-estimation loop.
robust	`boolean(1)` to indicate if robust regression is performed to account for outliers. Default is `TRUE`. If `FALSE` an OLS fit is performed.
ridge	`boolean(1)` to indicate if ridge regression is performed. Default is `FALSE`. If `TRUE` the fixed effects are estimated via penalized regression and shrunken to zero.
maxitRob	`numeric(1)` indicating the maximum iterations in the IRWLS algorithm used in the M-estimation step of the robust regression.
doQR	`boolean(1)` to indicate if QR decomposition is used when adopting ridge regression. Default is `TRUE`. If `FALSE` the predictors of the fixed effects are not transformed, and the degree of shrinkage can depend on the encoding.
featureGroups	vector of type `character` or vector of type `factor` indicating how to aggregate the features. Is only used when multiple features are used to build the model, e.g. when starting from peptide data and modelling the fold change at the protein level. The default is `NULL`
lmerArgs	a list (of correct class, resulting from 'lmerControl()' containing control parameters, including the nonlinear optimizer to be used and parameters to be passed through to the nonlinear optimizer, see the 'lmerControl' documentation of the lme4 package for more details. Default is `list(control = lmerControl(calc.derivs = FALSE))`

Value

A list of objects of the `StatModel` class.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement, Oliver M. Crook

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit MSqrob model using robust ridge regression upon summarization of
# peptide intensities into protein expression values
modelsRidge <- msqrobLmer(assay(pe[["protein"]]), ~condition, data = colData(pe),
                          ridge = TRUE)
getCoef(modelsRidge[[1]])

# Fit MSqrob model using robust ridge regression starting from peptide intensities
# The fold changes are calculated at the protein level while correcting for
# the different peptide species in each sample and the correlation between
# peptide intensities of peptides of the same protein in the same sample.
# Add the samples variable to colData
colData(pe)$samples <- rownames(colData(pe))
modelsPepBased <- msqrobLmer(assay(pe[["peptide"]]),
    formula = ~condition + (1|samples) + (1|Sequence), data = colData(pe),
  rowdata = rowData(pe[["peptide"]]), featureGroups = rowData(pe[["peptide"]])$Proteins,
    ridge = TRUE)
getCoef(modelsPepBased[[1]])
```

`msqrobQB,SummarizedExperiment-method`
Function to fit msqrob models to peptide counts using glm

Description

Low-level function for parameter estimation with msqrob by modeling peptide counts using quasi-binomial glm

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SummarizedExperiment'
msqrobQB(
  object,
  formula,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobQbModels",
  overwrite = FALSE,
  priorCount = 0.1,
  binomialBound = TRUE
)

## S4 method for signature 'QFeatures'
msqrobQB(
  object,
  i,
  formula,
  modelColumnName = "msqrobQbModels",
  overwrite = FALSE,
  priorCount = 0.1,
  binomialBound = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

`object`	`SummarizedExperiment` or `QFeatures` instance
`formula`	Model formula. The model is built based on the covariates in the data object.
`modelColumnName`	
	`character` to indicate the variable name that is used to store the msqrob models in the rowData of the SummarizedExperiment instance or of the assay of the QFeatures instance. Default is "msqrobModels".
`overwrite`	`boolean(1)` to indicate if the column in the rowData has to be overwritten if the modelColumnName already exists. Default is FALSE.
`priorCount`	A 'numeric(1)', which is a prior count to be added to the observations to shrink the estimated log-fold-changes towards zero. Default is 0.1.
`binomialBound`	logical, if 'TRUE' then the quasibinomial variance estimator will be never smaller than 1 (no underdispersion). Default is TRUE.
`i`	`character` or `integer` to specify the element of the `QFeatures` that contains the log expression intensities that will be modelled.

Value

SummarizedExperiment or QFeatures instance

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
# Load example data
# The data are a Feature object with containing
# a SummarizedExperiment named "peptide" with MaxQuant peptide intensities
# The data are a subset of spike-in the human-ecoli study
# The variable condition in the colData of the Feature object
# contains information on the spike in condition a-e (from low to high)
data(pe)

# Aggregate by counting how many peptide we observe for each protein
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit MSqrob model to peptide counts using a quasi-binomial model
# For summarized SummarizedExperiment
se <- pe[["protein"]]
se
colData(se) <- colData(pe)
se <- msqrobQB(se, formula = ~condition)
getCoef(rowData(se)$msqrobQbModels[[1]])

# For features object
pe <- msqrobQB(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)
```

---

pe	*Example data for 100 proteins*

Description

Subset of peptides from 100 proteins from a quantitative mass spectrometry based proteomics dataset (PRIDE identifier: PXD003881 Shen et al. (2018)). E. Coli lysates were spiked at five different concentrations (3%, 4.5%, 6%, 7.5% and 9%wt/wt) in a stable human background (4 repl. per treatment). The twenty resulting samples were run on an Orbitrap Fusion mass spectrometer. Raw data files were processed with MaxQuant (version 1.6.1.0, Cox and Mann (2008)) using default search settings unless otherwise noted. Spectra were searched against the UniProtKB/SwissProt human and E. Coli reference proteome databases (07/06/2018), concatenated with the default Maxquant contaminant database. Carbamidomethylation of Cystein was set as a fixed modification, and oxidation of Methionine and acetylation of the protein amino-terminus were allowed as variable modifications. In silico cleavage was set to use trypsin/P, allowing two miscleavages. Match between runs was also enabled using default settings. The resulting peptide-to-spectrum matches (PSMs) were filtered by MaxQuant at 1% FDR.

Usage

```
data(pe)
```

Format

Feature set with an instance "peptide":

assay contains the raw peptide intensities

rowData contains a variable "Proteins" with the protein accession and an variable ecoli to indicate if the protein is a spikin.

colData contains a factor condition indicating the spike-in condition

Examples

```
data(pe)
head(colData(pe))
head(rowData(pe))
head(assay(pe))
```

---

smallestUniqueGroups   *Smallest unique protein groups*

Description

For a given vector of protein group names, outputs the names of those protein groups for which none of its member proteins is present in a smaller protein group.

Usage

```
smallestUniqueGroups(proteins, split = ";")
```

Arguments

proteins	A vector of characters or factors containing single proteins and/or protein groups (i.e. proteins separated by a separator symbol).
split	The character string that is used to separate the indivudual protein names in each protein group.

Value

A character vector containing the names of the protein groups for which none of its proteins is present in a smaller protein group.

Examples

```
data(pe)
smallestUniqueGroups(rowData(pe[["peptide"]])$Proteins)
```

StatModel-class   *The StatModel class for msqrob*

Description

The `StatModel` class contains a statistical model as applied on a feature.

Models are created by the dedicated user-level functions (`msqrob()`, `mqrobAggregate()`) or manually, using the `StatModel()` constructor. In the former case, each quantitative feature is assigned its statistical model and the models are stored as a variable in a `DataFrame` object, as illustred in the example below.

Function for constructing a new `StatModel` object.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'StatModel'
show(object)

StatModel(
  type = "fitError",
  params = list(),
  varPosterior = NA_real_,
  dfPosterior = NA_real_
)
```

Arguments

object	StatModel object
type	default set to fit-error, can be a "lm", "rlm" (robust lm with M estimation), "lmer" (when mixed models or ridge regression is adopted), "quasibinomial" (when peptide counts are fitted)
params	A list containing the parameters of the fitted model
varPosterior	Numeric, posterior variance, default is NA
dfPosterior	Numeric, posterior degrees of freedom, default is NA

Value

A StatModel object

Slots

type character(1) defining type of the used model. Default is `"fitError"`, i.e. a error model. Other include `"lm"`, `"rlm"`, ...

params A `list()` containing information of the used model.

varPosterior numeric() of posterior variance.

dfPosterior numeric() of posterior degrees of freedom.

Author(s)

Oliver M. Crook, Laurent Gatto, Lieven Clement

Examples

```
## A fully specified dummy model
myModel <- StatModel(
    type = "rlm",
    params = list(x = 3, y = 7, b = 4),
    varPosterior = c(0.1, 0.2, 0.3),
    dfPosterior = c(6, 7, 8)
)
myModel


## A collection of models stored as a variable in a DataFrame
mod1 <- StatModel(type = "rlm")
mod2 <- StatModel(type = "lm")
df <- DataFrame(x = 1:2)
df$mods <- c(mod1, mod2)
df
# TODO
```

---

 topFeatures   *Toplist of DE proteins, peptides or features*

Description

Summary table of the differentially expressed Features

Usage

```
topFeatures(models, contrast, adjust.method = "BH", sort = TRUE, alpha = 1)
```

Arguments

models	A list with elements of the class StatModel that are estimated using the msqrob function
contrast	numeric (matrix)vector specifying one contrast of the linear model coefficients to be tested equal to zero. The (row)names of the vector should be equal to the names of parameters of the model.
adjust.method	character specifying the method to adjust the p-values for multiple testing. Options, in increasing conservatism, include '"none"', '"BH"', '"BY"' and '"holm"'. See 'p.adjust' for the complete list of options. Default is "BH" the Benjamini-Hochberg method to controle the False Discovery Rate (FDR).
sort	boolean(1) to indicate if the features have to be sorted according to statistical significance.

alpha   numeric specifying the cutoff value for adjusted p-values. Only features with
                      lower p-values are listed.

Value

A dataframe with log2 fold changes (logFC), standard errors (se), degrees of freedom of the test (df),
t-test statistic (t), p-values (pval) and adjusted pvalues (adjPval) using the specified adjust.method
in the p.adjust function of the stats package.

Author(s)

Lieven Clement

Examples

```
data(pe)

# Aggregate peptide intensities in protein expression values
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe, i = "peptide", fcol = "Proteins", name = "protein")

# Fit msqrob model
pe <- msqrob(pe, i = "protein", formula = ~condition)

# Define contrast
getCoef(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[[1]])

# Assess log2 fold change between condition c and condition b:
L <- makeContrast("conditionc - conditionb=0", c("conditionb", "conditionc"))
topDeProteins <- topFeatures(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels, L)
```

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