Package ‘RFdr’

Type Package

Title RFdr: Jointly determining significance levels for primary and replication studies in two-stage GWASs

Version 1.0

Date 2016-06-24

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Description In two-stage GWASs, we consider the associations showing significance in both primary and replication studies as true findings. An important question under this two-stage setting is how do we determine the significance levels in both studies? Here, we propose a novel method to determine significance levels jointly. It finds the most powerful significance levels when controlling the false discovery rate (Fdr) in the two-stage study at a certain level.

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Description

In two-stage GWASs, we consider the associations showing significance in both primary and replication studies as true findings. An important question under this two-stage setting is how do we determine the significance levels in both studies? Here, we propose a novel method to determine significance levels jointly. It finds the most powerful significance levels when controlling the false discovery rate (Fdr) in the two-stage study at a certain level.

Details
In genome-wide association studies (GWASs), we normally discover associations between genetic variants and diseases/traits through the primary study, and validate findings through the replication study. We consider the associations showing significance in both studies as true findings. An important question under this two-stage setting is how do we determine the significance levels in both studies? In traditional methods, we determine significance levels of the primary and replication studies separately. We argue that this separate determination strategy will reduce the power in the overall two-stage study. Here, we propose a novel method to determine significance levels jointly. It finds the most powerful significance levels when controlling the false discovery rate (Fdr) in the two-stage study at a certain level.

The principal component of RFdr package is RFdrControl.

1. To jointly determine significance levels, you need obtain summary statistics of each genotyped SNPs in both the primary and replication studies. We have put a example summary statistics (smryStats1 and smryStats2) in the package. You can use `data(smryStats1)` and `data(smryStats2)` to load the example data. You can also obtain the ground-truth parameters (allele frequencies, odds ratios) of the example data using `data(param)`.

2. You can use RFdrControl to determine significance levels.

   ```r
   RFdrControl(I1, I2, z1, z2, initThld=c(0,0), K=2, q=0.05, beta=length(z1)/5, plot=T, output=T, dir=output)
   ```

   Details about the function can be seen using `help(RFdrControl)`.

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References

Jiang, W, and Yu, W. Jointly determining significance levels for primary and replication studies by controlling the false discovery rate in two-stage genome-wide association studies. Submitted.

See Also

`RFdrControl`, `snpEMM`

Examples

```r
alpha<-5e-3
q<-5e-4

data(smryStats1) #Summary Stats in the primary study
data(smryStats2) #Summary Stats in the replication study

z1<-smryStats1$Z #Z-values
z2<-smryStats2$Z
```
RFdrControl

Determining significance levels in two-stage GWASs

Description

RFdrControl is a novel method to determine significance levels in two-stage GWASs. The method finds the most powerful significance levels when controlling the false discovery rate (Fdr) in the two-stage study at a certain level. snpEMM is a built-in function to infer the parameters in the Gaussian Mixture Model. It is a variant of EM-algorithm.

Usage

RFdrControl(I1, I2, z1, z2, initThld = c(0, 0), K = 2, q = 0.05, 
  beta0 = length(z1)/5, plot = T, output = T, dir = "output")

snpEMM(I1, I2, z1, z2, K=2, maxIter=1000, tol=1e-4, beta0=length(z1)/5, info=TRUE)

Arguments

I1 The SNP index in the primary study
I2 The SNP index in the replication study
z1 z value vector in the primary study
z2 z value vector in the replication study
initThld A two-value vector. The determined critical values satisfy $z_{alpha/2} >= initThld[1]$ and $z_{alpha2/2} >= initThld[2]$
K The components number of the z values in associated SNPs.
q The Fdr controlling level.
beta0 The penalty term for $pi_0$. We add Dirichlet(beta0, 0) prior to proportions (pi0, Pi).
plot A logical number indicating whether to plot the identified associations in the z-value plane.
output, info A logical number indicating whether the results should be printed out.
dir The directory to save the results when output=T
maxIter The maximum number of iterations.
tol The relative error tolerance.

m<-length(z1) #SNP number

Thld1<-qnorm(1-alpha/2) #The critical value in the primary study
I1<-1:m
I2<-1:m[abs(z1)>=Thld1] #The index of Genotyped SNPs in the replication study

#The most powerful significance levels when Fdr<=q in the two-stage study
result<-RFdrControl(I1, I2, z1, z2[I2], initThld=c(Thld1, 0), q=q, dir=".")
alpha1<-result$pvalThld1 #Determined significance level in the primary study
alpha2<-result$pvalThld2 #Determined significance level in the replication study
Details

These functions are the implementation of the joint method to determine significance levels by controlling the Fdr in two-stage GWASs. We assume the z-value vector follow the (K+1)-component Gaussian Mixture Model:

\[ Z \sim \pi_0 N(0, I) + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_{1k} N(0, I + \Sigma_k). \]

snpEMM is a built-in function to infer the parameters in the Gaussian Mixture Model using a variant of EM-algorithm.

RFdrControl is the main function to determine significance levels. snpEMM is called in RFdrControl.

Value

RFdrControl returns the following LIST:

- **rejected**: The indexes of the rejected null hypotheses.
- **BayesPower**: The Bayesian power of the two-stage study with determined significance levels.
- **Pi1**: The vector including the inferred proportion of each associated component.
- **Sigma**: A K-objects list. Each object is the inferred covariance matrix of standardized effect size vector in the corresponding associated component.
- **zvalThld1**: The determined critical value in the primary study.
- **zvalThld2**: The determined critical value in the replication study.
- **pvalThld1**: The determined significance level in the primary study.
- **pvalThld2**: The determined significance level in the replication study.

snpEMM returns the inferred parameters and the iteration status. The returned value is a LIST:

- **pi0**: The inferred proportion of true null hypotheses.
- **Pi1**: The vector including the inferred proportion of each associated component.
- **Sigma**: A K-objects list. Each object is the inferred covariance matrix of standardized effect size vector in the corresponding associated component.
- **h0**: The vector including the probability of being true null hypothesis for each SNP.
- **h**: A K-vector list. Each vector includes the probability of being component k (1<=k<=K) for each SNP.
- **iter**: The iteration number.
- **Qval**: The expected negative log-likelihood.

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References

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See Also

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m<-length(z1) #SNP number

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alpha1<-result$pvalThld1 #Determined significance level in the primary study
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```
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