Documentation for EMALAM

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1 Introduction and Overview

To estimated the ancestry of individuals, we can use the Admixture Model and a maximum likelihood estimator. We proved that this estimator is usually not unique. EMALAM calculates some other maximum likelihood estimators (MLEs). The user determines which other estimators EMALAM calculates.

Here, we provide an explanation how to use the software EMALAM. Briefly, this software has as an input the estimated IAs and the estimated allele frequencies. To estimate them, we could e.g. use STRUCTURE [5]. Additionally, EMALAM requires some additional information from the reader that is specified in section 3. The output are MLEs, i.e. estimated individuals ancestries (IAs) and estimated allele frequencies. The user defines which MLEs EMALAM calculates, e.g. the MLEs with the maximal admixture.

First, we explain how EMALAM works. Then, we describe the decisions the user has to make to use EMALAM and the input of EMALAM. Finally, we describe the interpretation of the output and a possibility to depict the results.

2 Explanation how EMALAM works

We use `scipy.minimze` to minimize our objective function under some constraints. To explain the method, we need some notation. This is an often considered problem, see e.g. [4, 2, 3]. Here, we solved this problem with a new method, EMALAM.

We write $\sigma(\hat{q})$ for all permutations of the matrix $\hat{q}$ and $\sigma(\hat{q})_k$ for the kth permutation of

this matrix. For example, let $\hat{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, i.e. $N = 2, K = 3$. Then,

$$\sigma(\hat{q})_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & 0.5 & 0.3 \\ 0.9 & 0 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sigma(\hat{q})_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & 0.3 & 0.5 \\ 0.9 & 0.1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sigma(\hat{q})_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.3 & 0.2 & 0.5 \\ 0.1 & 0.9 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sigma(\hat{q})_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.3 & 0.5 & 0.2 \\ 0.1 & 0 & 0.9 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sigma(\hat{q})_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 & 0.3 \\ 0 & 0.9 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\sigma(\hat{q})_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 & 0.3 & 0.2 \\ 0 & 0.1 & 0.9 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Additionally, the matrix $S_K(a)$ is defined as in the corresponding paper. The a emphasizes that this matrix depends on the parameters $a = (a_\ell)_{\ell=1,\dots,2(K-1)}$. We define the matrix A and the vector b so that $Aa \leq b$ make sure that the estimated IAs are between 0 and 1 and that they sum up to one, i.e. $\sum_{k=1}^{K} \hat{q}_{i,k} = 1, \hat{q}_{i,k} \in [0,1]$. Here, the vector a contains the same parameters as the matrix $S_K(a)$, but with an other format.

EMALAM minimizes or maximizes a function $f_{obj}(a)$, that the user chooses (see 3), with respect to a and the constraints

$C1$ $Aa \leq b$

$C2$ $S_K^{-1}(a)\hat{p} \in [0,1]^{K \times J \times M}$

$C3$ $\sum_{j=1}^{J} \left(S_K^{-1}(a)\hat{p}\right)_{k,j,m} = 1$ for $J \geq 3$.

$C4$ $|\hat{q}S_K - \hat{q}| \leq |\hat{q}S_K(a) - \sigma(\hat{q})_k| \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, K.$

Here, condition C1 makes sure that we can interpret $\hat{q}S_K(a)$ as the IAs, i.e.

$$\hat{q}S_K(a) \geq 0, \sum_{k=1}^{K} \left(\hat{q}_{i,\cdot}S_K(a)\right)_k = 1.$$

Additionally, the conditions C2 and C3 make sure that the estimated allele frequencies are between 0 and 1($S_K^{-1}(a)\hat{p} \in [0,1]^{K \times J \times M}$) and that it holds $\sum_{j=1}^{J} p_{k,j,m} = 1$. Condition C4 is optional and consequences that the output of EMALAM does not belong to label switching, if we consider the most similar IAs. However, please note that the running of EMALAM with condition C4 takes much longer than without C4. Hence, we recommend to use C4 only for small number of individuals and small number of markers.

3 Application Decisions for the User

information⟩ There are two different decisions that the user can make: The choice for the function that should be maximized and the choice for the measure of similarity to take label switching into account. We explain the choice concerning the function that should be maximized first.

3.1 Choice of the Target Function

Researchers can choose five different objective functions $f_{obj}(a)$. We discuss them in more detail now.

(I) Maximize and minimize the estimated IA for individual *ind* in the input data of the estimated IAs in every population (`poss = "P1"` in the code). In this case the user also has to specify the index of the individual. Here, we define

$$f_{obj}(a) = \tilde{q}_{ind,k}.$$

We minimize and maximize every the estimated ancestry of every population for this individual *ind*.

(II) Maximize the admixture of the estimated IAs (`poss = "P2"` in the code), i.e. we maximize the entropy

$$f_{obj}(a) = -\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{k=1}^{K} \tilde{q}_{i,k} \ln(\tilde{q}_{i,k}).$$

(III) Minimize the admixture of the estimated IAs (`poss = "P3"` in the code). We minimize the entropy. This consequences the minimal admixture.

(IV) Maximize the ancestries for a specific population $k_{specific}$ (`poss = "P4"` in the code), i.e. we minimize

$$f_{obj}(a) = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} \tilde{q}_{i,k_{specific}}.$$

(V) Minimize the ancestries for a specific population $k_{specific}$ (`poss = "P5"` in the code). Specifically, we minimize

$$f_{obj}(a) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \tilde{q}_{i,k_{specific}}.$$

To summarize, we can apply EMALAM to single individuals or to whole populations as described above to find the most extreme optima.

3.2 Choice of the Definition for Label Switching

Additionally, EMALAM can take label switching into account. Therefore, there are different possibilities to define the similarity of the different MLEs. Here, we use the euclidean norm. This means that we choose the labels for the populations in order to minimize the euclidean norm between the different estimators for the IA. Let us consider a simple example for this.

Let $\hat{q}_{1,1} = 0.4, \hat{q}_{1,2} = 0.6, \hat{p}_{1,1,1} = 0.9, \hat{p}_{2,1,1} = 0.2$ be the output of STRUCTURE for $K = 2, M = 1, N = 1$ (Figure 1). Furthermore, we have the output $\tilde{q}_{1,2} = 0.7, \tilde{q}_{1,1} = 0.3, \tilde{p}_{1,1,1} = 0.6, \tilde{p}_{2,1,1} = 0.2$ for an other run of STRUCTURE. Now, we consider two possibilities to depict these opportunities, i.e to avoid label switching:

(i) Minimize the differences between the allele frequencies (second column in Figure 1).

(ii) Minimize the differences between the IAs (first column in Figure 1).

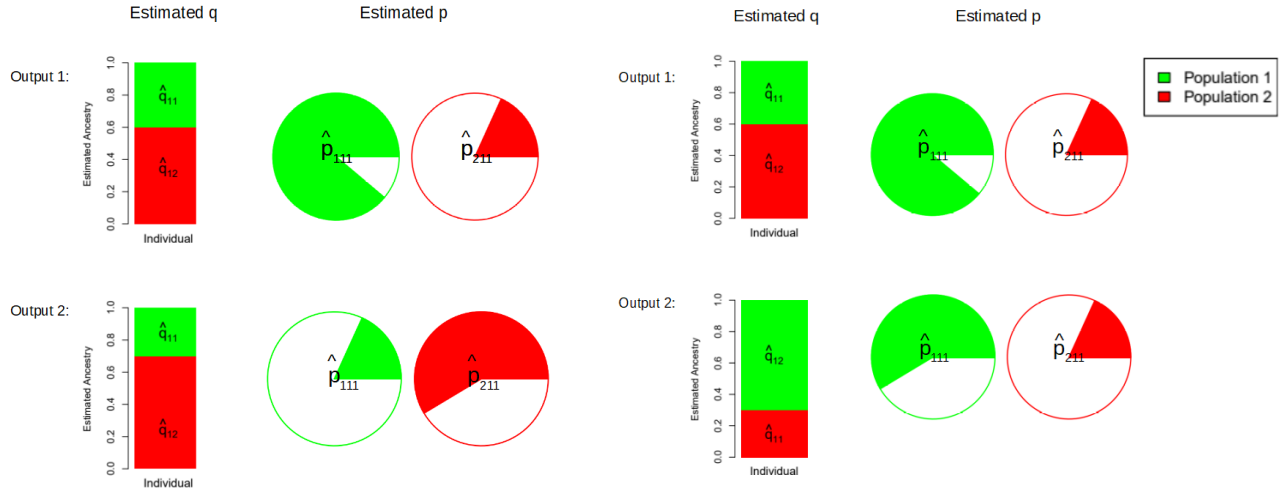

Figure 1: Example Label Switching

⟨ls2⟩ EMALAM uses possibility (ii). Specifically, EMALAM uses the assignment of population labels to the estimated IAs and allele frequencies with the smallest euclidean norm between the estimated IAs for the $K!$ different possibilities.

However, it is easy to change this in the function `constraint4` or otherwise, apply pong to take label switching into account.

4 Input of EMALAM

There is some information that the user has to provide to use EMALAM. These information are

(i) `file_path_q`: Estimated IAs. We provide an example for the input file, called q_CEU_IBS_TSI_K2. Specifically, for the estimated IAs, the file has to contain N rows and K columns. The rows represent the individuals and the columns represent the populations. The required format can e.g. be created by applying the code in `Extract_q_p.R`

(ii) `file_path_p`: Estimated allele frequencies. The input file has K columns and the number of columns depend on M and J_m. For marker m, we only exclude $J_m - 1$ estimated allele frequencies from the data. The reason for this is that we know the allele frequencies for the other alleles as $\sum_{j=1}^{J} p_{k,j,m} = 1$ has to hold. The example file for this is called p_CEU_IBS_TSI_K2. The required format can e.g. be created by applying the code in `Extract_q_p.R` to the output of STRUCTURE for $J = 2$. For J arbitrary, they can be extracted with the code `Extract_P_J_arbitrary.R`. Please note that we can exclude the allele frequencies that are the same in every population from the input for EMALAM. Our code does this, if the allele 0 has either the frequency 0 or 1.

(iii) `simi`: Either 1 (takes label switching into account) or 0 (does not take label switching into account, i.e. we have to apply a software as e.g. pong [1] to the output of EMALAM afterwards). The details are described in condition C4. If `simi` = 1, C4 is an additional constraint of the minimization problem. However, this is only recommended for small number of individuals and markers since the run time is very long for `simi` = 1.

(iv) `file_path_pJ`: The sum of the estimated allele frequencies per marker. For marker with more than two alleles, we also calculate the sum of the allele frequencies. The file p_CEU_IBS_TSI_K2_J contains an example for this. We describe the details below.

(v) `poss`: Definition of the function $f_{opt}(a)$, i.e. of the most extreme values as described above. Here, the user chooses between (I), (II), (III), (IV) or (V). Alternatively, you can also define the function by yourself.

(vi) `names`: The names of the output file (including the directory where they should be saved). The first entry is the name for the ancestries and the second entry stands for the allele frequencies. If the user chooses `poss = "P1"`, then the output is $2K$ different files, named `names[j]_i`, i = 1, ..., 2K, j = 0,1.

(vii) $k_{specific}$: Population that is considered in P4 or P5.

(viii) n_{trial}: The number of different initial values for `scipy.minimize` that are used. The default value is 10. It might occur in rare cases that the function `scipy.minimize` does not convergence to an optimal point. In this case, please try other initial values.

Let us consider (iv) in more detail. For just bi-allelic marker, we do not need this input. Otherwise, the Input format is a .txt file with K columns. It can be created by applying `Extract_P_J_arbitrary.R` to the output of STRUCTURE. Let us consider an example: The

estimated allele frequencies in STRUCTURE are

$Locus1:$
$2alleles$
0.0% missing data
1(0.244)0.2080.103
0(0.756)0.7920.897
$Locus2:$
$3alleles$
0.0% missing data
1(0.7)0.8320.650
0(0.267)0.1680.350
2(0.023)0.030 0.036.

Then, the output would be

$$0.168 + 0.030 \quad 0.350 + 0.036$$

Table 1: Example Input for EMALAM

5 Interpretation of the Output

We also provide an example output. The files are called
q_K2_P1_0.txt (for the IAs),
p_K2_P1_0.txt (for the allele frequencies),
and have the same format as the input. Additionally, the likelihood is also the same as the one for the input estimators. However, this output is the most extreme one in the sense that the user chose. Please note that there might occur slightly negative values or values that are slightly bigger than 1. To avoid this, the user can choose an other threshold for $\tilde{q}, \tilde{p}$, e.g. $\tilde{q} \in [0.001, 0.999]$.

6 Depiction of the Results

You can use the code Create_Figures.py to depict the different estimated IAs. On the x-axis, you have the individuals and on the y-axis, you have the estimated IAs. Figure 2 is an example for the depiction of the results.

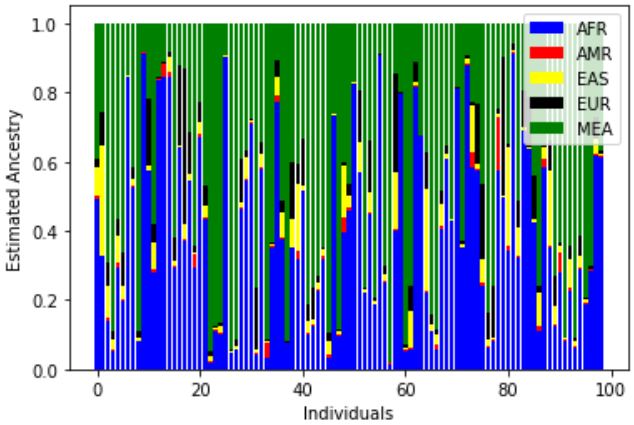

Figure 2: Example Depiction of the estimated IAs

⟨Fig:ex⟩

The list

$$data = [[0.326, 0.004, 0.318, 0.097, 0.254],$$
$$[0.14, 0.008, 0.094, 0.065, 0.693],$$
$$[0.053, 0.004, 0.027, 0.027, 0.889],$$
$$[0.296, 0.01, 0.078, 0.05, 0.567]]$$

is an example for the input of this code. However, we present an other example with more individuals in Figure 2.

References

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