

A practical experiment of using *speaq* package

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1 Introduction

We introduce a novel suite of informatics tools for the quantitative analysis of NMR metabolomic profile data. The core of the processing cascade is a novel peak alignment algorithm, called hierarchical Cluster-based Peak Alignment (CluPA).

The algorithm aligns a target spectrum to the reference spectrum in a top-down fashion by building a hierarchical cluster tree from peak lists of reference and target spectra and then dividing the spectra into smaller segments based on the most distant clusters of the tree. To reduce the computational time to estimate the spectral misalignment, the method makes use of Fast Fourier Transformation (FFT) cross-correlation. Since the method returns a high-quality alignment, we can propose a simple methodology to study the variability of the NMR spectra. For each aligned NMR data point the ratio of the between-group and within-group sum of squares (BW-ratio) is calculated to quantify the difference in variability between and within predefined groups of NMR spectra. This differential analysis is related to the calculation of the F-statistic or a one-way ANOVA, but without distributional assumptions. Statistical inference based on the BW-ratio is achieved by bootstrapping the null distribution from the experimental data.

We are going to introduce step-by-step how *speaq* works for a specific dataset, includes

- automatically do alignment
- allow user intervening into the process
- compute BW ratios
- visualize results

For this experiment, we used a simulated NMR dataset generated by function *makeSimulatedData* of the *speaq* package. However, similar results in the publication[1] could be reproduced with the wine data set achievable from software *icoshift* (ver 1.1.1) at <http://www.models.life.ku.dk/icoshift>.

If user wants to run the codes in the peak detection section, MassSpecWavelet package from Bioconductor needs to be installed in advance.

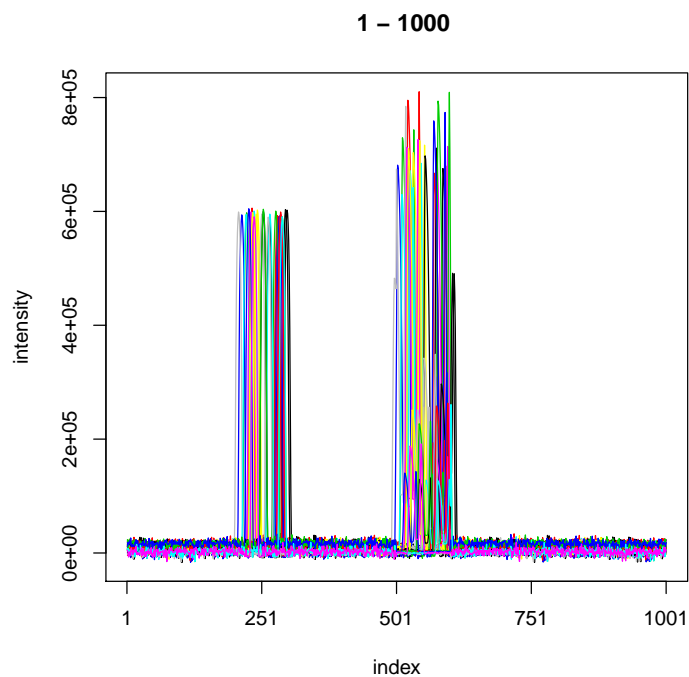
2 Data input

We randomly generate an NMR spectral dataset of two different groups (15 spectra for each group). Each spectrum has two peaks slightly shifted cross over spectra. More details are presented in the function *makeSimulatedData*.

```
> library(speaq)
> #Generate a simulated NMR data set for this experiment
> res=makeSimulatedData();
> X=res$data;
> groupLabel=res$label;
```

Now, we draw a spectral plot to observe the dataset before alignment.

```
> drawSpec(X);
```



3 Peak detection

This section makes use of MassSpecWavelet package to detect peak lists of the dataset.

```
> cat("\n detect peaks....");
```

```

detect peaks....

> startTime <- proc.time();
> peakList <- detectSpecPeaks(X,
+   nDivRange = c(128),
+   scales = seq(1, 16, 2),
+   baselineThresh = 50000,
+   SNR.Th = -1,
+   verbose=FALSE
+ );
> endTime <- proc.time();
> cat("Peak detection time:",(endTime[3]-startTime[3])/60," minutes");

Peak detection time: 0.02485  minutes

```

4 Reference finding

Now we are going to find the reference for other spectra align to.

```

> cat("\n Find the spectrum reference...")

Find the spectrum reference...

> resFindRef<- findRef(peakList);
> refInd <- resFindRef$refInd;
> cat("\n Order of spectrum for reference  \n");

Order of spectrum for reference

> for (i in 1:length(resFindRef$orderSpec))
+ {
+   cat(paste(i, ":",resFindRef$orderSpec[i],sep=""), " ");
+   if (i %% 10 == 0) cat("\n")
+ }

1:24  2:25  3:27  4:9  5:21  6:16  7:7  8:23  9:19  10:18
11:5  12:30  13:12  14:10  15:15  16:20  17:2  18:6  19:22  20:26
21:14  22:11  23:29  24:28  25:3  26:13  27:17  28:1  29:4  30:8

> cat("\n The reference is: ", refInd);

The reference is:  24

>

```

5 Spectral alignment

This section uses hierarchical Cluster-based Peak Alignment [1] to align spectra together. In general, we do alignment for the whole spectra using *dohCluster* function.

```
> # Set maxShift
> maxShift = 50;
> Y <- dohCluster(X,
+                 peakList = peakList,
+                 refInd = refInd,
+                 maxShift = maxShift,
+                 acceptLostPeak = TRUE, verbose=FALSE);
>
```

In some cases, if users just want to align in specific segments or prefer to use different parameter settings for different segments. *speaq* allows users to do that by intervene into the process. To do that, users need to create a segment information matrix in advance. Table 1 is an example.

Table 1: Example of information file to customize spectral alignment to segments

begin	end	forAlign	ref	maxShift
100	200	0	0	0
450	680	1	0	50

Each row contains the following information corresponding to the columns:

- begin: the starting point of the segment.
- end: the end point of the segment.
- forAlign: the segment is aligned (1) or not (0).
- ref: the index of the reference spectrum. If 0, the algorithm will select the reference found by the reference finding step.
- maxShift: the maximum number of points of a shift to left/right.

It is worth to note that only segments with forAlign=1 (column 3) will be taken into account for spectral alignment.

Now, simply run *dohClusterCustommedSegments* with the input from the information file.

```
> segmentInfoMat=matrix(data=c(100,200,0,0,0,
+                             450,680,1,0,50),nrow=2,ncol=5,byrow=TRUE
+                       )
> colnames(segmentInfoMat)=c("begin","end","forAlign","ref","maxShift")
> segmentInfoMat
```

```

      begin end forAlign ref maxShift
[1,]   100 200         0  0         0
[2,]   450 680         1  0        50

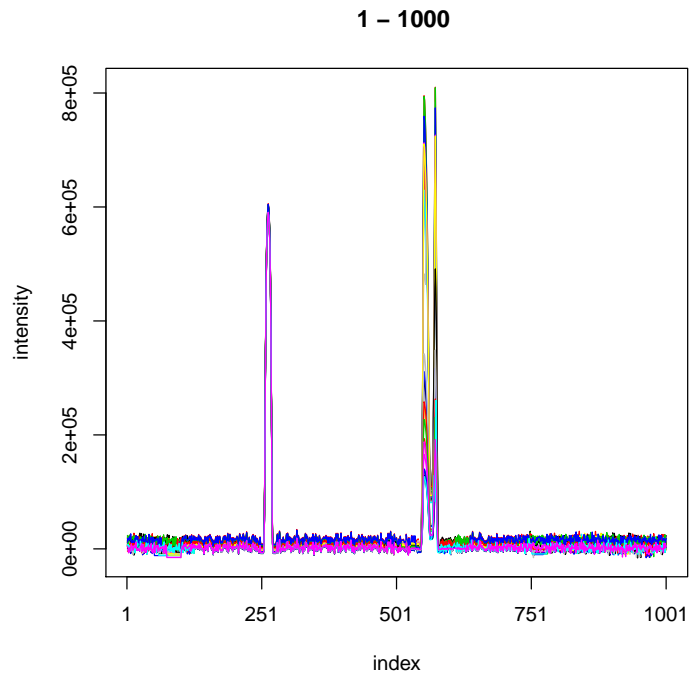
> Yc <- dohClusterCustommedSegments(X,
+                                   peakList = peakList,
+                                   refInd = refInd,
+                                   maxShift = maxShift,
+                                   acceptLostPeak = TRUE,
+                                   segmentInfoMat = segmentInfoMat,
+                                   minSegSize = 128,
+                                   verbose=FALSE)
>

```

6 Spectral plots

We could draw a segment to see the performance of the alignment.

```
> drawSpec(Y);
```

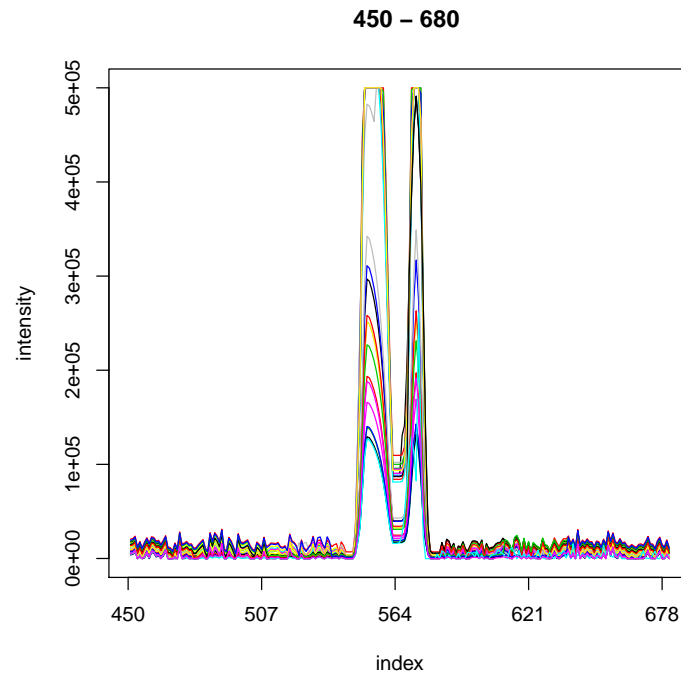


We could limit the heights of spectra to easily check the alignment performance.

```

> drawSpec(Y,
+         startP=450,
+         endP=680,
+         highBound = 5e+5,
+         lowBound = -100);

```

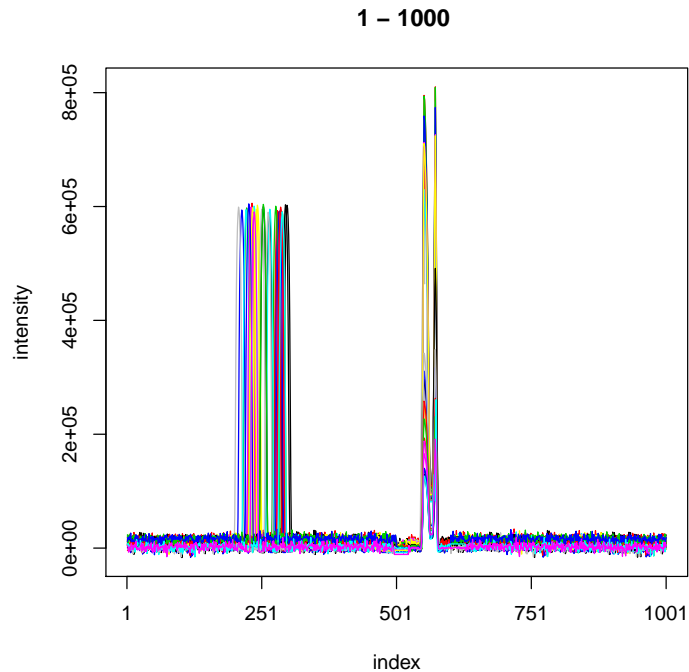


We achieved similar results with Yc but the region of the first peak was not aligned because the segment information just allows align the region 450-680.

```

> drawSpec(Yc);

```



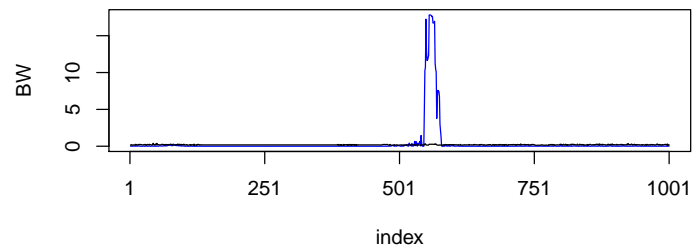
7 Quantitative analysis

This section presents the quantitative analysis for wine data that was used in our paper [1]. To save time, we just do permutation 100 times to create null distribution.

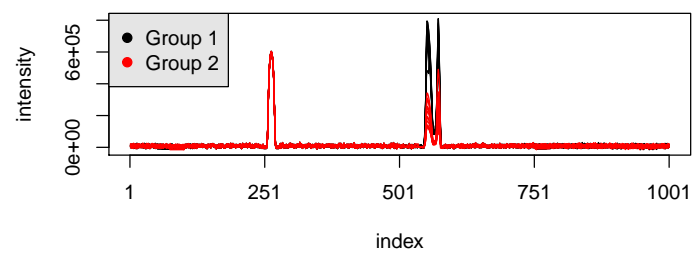
```
> N = 100;
> alpha = 0.05;
> # find the BW-statistic
> BW = BWR(Y, groupLabel);
> # create sampled H0 and export to file
> H0 = createNullSampling(Y, groupLabel, N = N, verbose=FALSE)
> #compute percentile of alpha
> perc = double(ncol(Y));
> alpha_corr = alpha/sum(returnLocalMaxima(Y[2,])$pkMax>50000);
> for (i in 1 : length(perc)){
+   perc[i] = quantile(H0[,i], 1-alpha_corr, type = 3);
+ }
```

Now, some figures are plotting. Read the publication to understand more about these figures.

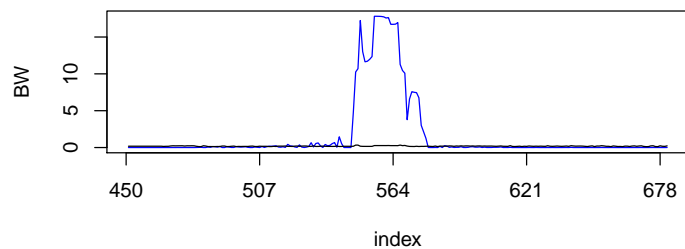
```
> drawBW(BW, perc, Y, groupLabel = groupLabel)
```



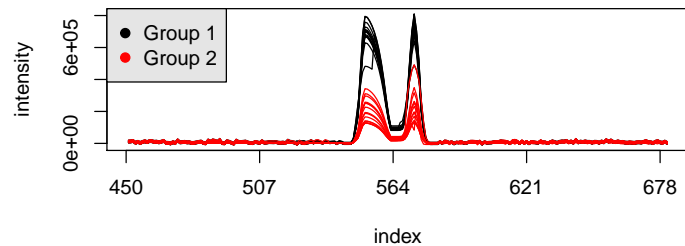
1 – 1000



```
> drawBW(BW, perc, Y ,startP=450, endP=680, groupLabel = groupLabel)
```

450 – 680



8 References

1. Vu TN, Valkenborg D, Smets K, Verwaest KA, Dommissie R, Lemie're F, Verschoren A, Goethals B, Laukens K. (2011) An integrated workflow for robust alignment and simplified quantitative analysis of NMR spectrometry data. BMC Bioinformatics. 2011 Oct 20;12:405.