Differences to earlier versions of twilight

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1 Changes in version 1.1.0

The computation of p-values in twilight.pval changed from gene-wise to pooled p-values. For the computation of a gene-wise p-value for gene i, only the permutation scores of gene i are taken into account. For pooled p-values, all permutation scores of all genes are taken as null distribution. This change has several advantages: First, gene-wise p-values were not monotonically increasing with scores because each gene had its own null distribution. Thus, two genes with almost equal scores might get quite different p-values. Now, the null distribution is the same for all genes, that is the union set of all permutation scores. Second, pooled p-values are less granular than genewise p-values. Gene-wise p-values are computed from B permutation scores whereas pooled p-values are computed from B permutation scores.

These two important features gave rise to further changes: The ordering of the result table is now more intuitive because the most significant genes on top have the highest scores, the lowest p- and q-values and are candidates (if there are any). In addition, the default value of the number of permutations B is lowered to 1000 permutations. Computation of pooled p-values is slower than for gene-wise p-values. On the other hand, changing to pooled p-values increases the number of values in the null distribution by the factor of number of genes. Hence, even with less permutations, the number of null values is larger than before.

We integrated Pearson and Spearman correlation coefficients into twilight.pval. Each gene is correlated to an numerical input vector. Expected scores are computed from random permutations of the input vector.

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The result table contains an additional index column with genes indices which comes in handy for sorting back to original ordering.

All output matrices of the permutation functions twilight.combi, twilight.permute.pair and twilight.permute.unpair have the original labeling vector as first row. This is also the case if balanced permutations are wanted, although the input vector is not balanced. Hence, the permutation matrix within twilight.pval now includes the original labeling even for balanced permutations implying that the smallest possible p-value is 1/(number of permutations).

2 Changes in version 1.0.3

A print.twilight function was added which produces a short information about the contents stored in the twilight object.

3 Changes in version 1.0.2

The which argument of the plot command changed from plot1 style to more intuitive labels like scores or fdr.