**Tutorial for the FastST software**

1. **Introduction**

FastST is a microbial source tracking tool which makes fast inference for the relative contributions of source environments to sink microbiomes.

1. **Preparation**

Before running the script, you need to

1. make sure R packages "npreg" and "gtools" have been installed. If not, please run the following lines in R:

install.packages("npreg")

install.packages("gtools")

1. make sure "FastST" is the current working directory. If not, please modify the following line using your home directory and run it in R:

setwd("C:/Users/username/Documents/Work/FastST")

1. make sure environment variables are correctly set, e.g., for windows “C:\Program Files\R\R-4.5.1\bin” is included.
2. If you are running our tools in Linux or Mac, please change the permission for the standalone files running “chmod +x standalone\_file” command, for example :  
   chmod +x ./Code/FastSt  
   chmod +x ./Code/Demo\_GenData  
   chmod +x ./Code/Demo\_EstProp
3. Code description

All code, including R scripts and standalone commands, are listed in the following table:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| For demonstration | For simulation | For real data analysis |
| Demo.R  Demo\_GenData  Demo\_EstProp | Simu\_Scen1a.R  Simu\_Scen1b.R  Simu\_Scen2.R | Real.R  FastSt |

--Demo.R: R script for demonstrating a simple example of generating sink/source data and estimating proportions of source contribution.

--Demo\_GenData: standalone command for demonstrating the data generation procedure.

--Demo\_EstProp: standalone command for demonstrating the proportion estimation procedure.

--Simu\_Scen1a.R: R script for Scenario 1a (proportion estimation) with fully simulated microbiome data.

--Simu\_Scen1b.R: R script for Scenario 1b (directionality inference) with fully simulated microbiome data.

--Simu\_Scen2.R: R script for Scenario 2 with semi-synthetic data generated from the Knights et al. dataset.

study.

--Real.R: R script for real data analysis based on the Knights et al. dataset.

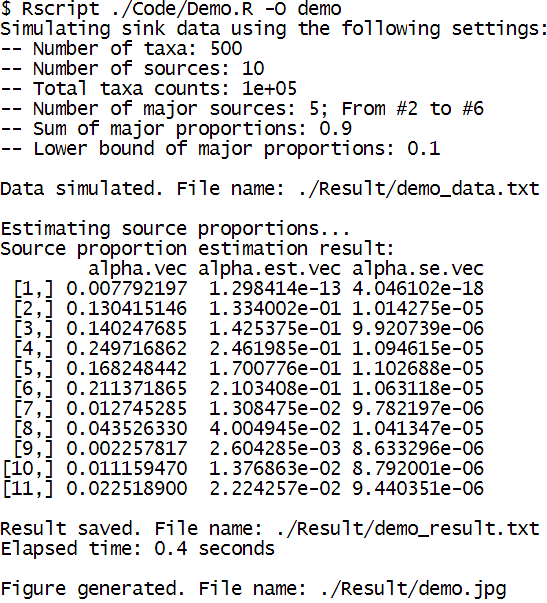
--FastSt: standalone command for analyzing user specified data.

Note: Users may simply run “**FastST userdata.txt**” to analyze their own microbiome data. The file “userdata.txt” contains an N by K matrix where the 1st column is the observed sink counts on N taxa, and the rest columns are the counts of the observed K sources.

After running FastST, a “Result” directory will be created in the current working directory, containing the output file “**./Result /results.txt**”. In this file, the first column represents the estimated proportions computed by FastST, and the second column shows the standard errors. The first row corresponds to the unknown source.

1. **Demonstration.**

The demo code contains two parts: generating sink data and estimating source proportions. It can be executed in two different modes:

1. as one R script, please run "./Code/Demo\_FastST.R". For example, in RStudio terminal pane (first, you will need to set correct environment variables in the Shell for the Rscript command),

Below is the generated figure “demo.jpg”

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For more help, please see

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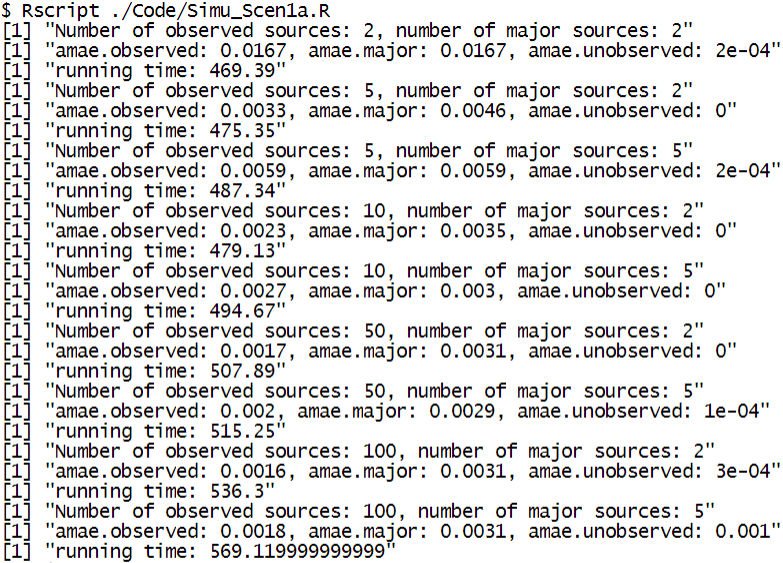
1. as two standalone commands which allow the specification of input arguments, please run the following commands in RStudio terminal pane:

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| After running Demo\_GenData, “./Result/demo\_data.txt”,   will be created, where the first column represents the   sink and the rest column represent the sources. |
|  |

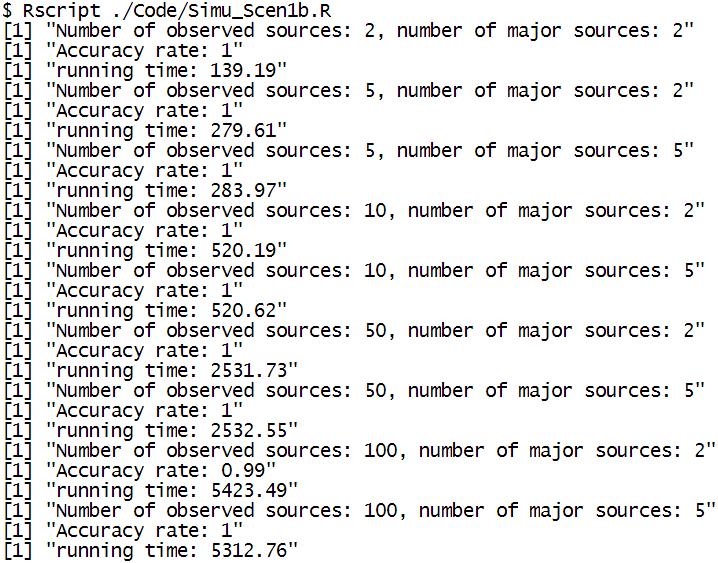
1. Simulation.

The simulation study contains three parts:

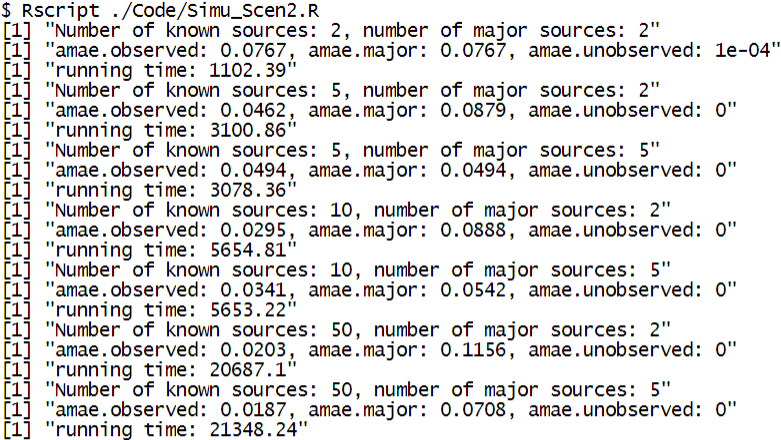
1. Scenario 1a (proportion estimation) with fully simulated microbiome data, please run the following commands in RStudio terminal pane:



1. Scenario 1b (directionality inference) with fully simulated microbiome data, please run the following commands in RStudio terminal pane:



1. Scenario 2 with semi-synthetic data generated from the Knights et al. dataset, please run the following commands in RStudio terminal pane:



1. Real data analysis using the Knights et al. dataset. Please run the following commands in RStudio terminal pane:

