

Package ‘spatialTIME’

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Title Spatial Analysis of Vectra Immunofluorescent Data

Version 1.3.3-3

Description Visualization and analysis of Vectra Immunofluorescent data. Options for calculating both the univariate and bivariate Ripley's K are included. Calculations are performed using a permutation-based approach presented by Wilson et al. <[doi:10.1101/2021.04.27.21256104](https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.04.27.21256104)>.

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bi_NN_G	<i>Bivariate Nearest Neighbor Based Measures of Spatial Clustering for IF data</i>
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Description

This function computes the nearest neighbor distribution for a particular marker relative to another marker for the observed and permuted point processes.

Usage

```
bi_NN_G(
  mif,
  mnames,
  r_range = seq(0, 100, 50),
  num_permutations = 50,
  edge_correction = "rs",
  keep_perm_dis = FALSE,
  exhaustive = TRUE,
  workers = 1,
  overwrite = FALSE,
  xloc = NULL,
  yloc = NULL
)
```

Arguments

mif	An MIF object
mnames	Character vector of marker names to estimate degree of nearest neighbor distribution
r_range	Numeric vector of potential r values this range must include 0. Note that the range selected is very different than count based measures. See details.

num_permutations	Numeric value indicating the number of permutations used. Default is 50.
edge_correction	Character value indicating the type of edge correction to use. Options include "rs" or "hans".
keep_perm_dis	Logical value determining whether or not to keep the full distribution of permuted G values
exhaustive	Logical. If TRUE then markers must be a vector and spatial measures will be computed all pairs of unique markers. If FALSE then markers must be a data.frame with the desired combinations.
workers	Integer value for the number of workers to spawn
overwrite	Logical value determining if you want the results to replace the current output (TRUE) or be to be appended (FALSE).
xloc	a string corresponding to the x coordinates. If null the average of XMin and XMax will be used
yloc	a string corresponding to the y coordinates. If null the average of YMin and YMax will be used

Value

Returns a data frame

anchor	Marker for which the distances are measured from
counted	Marker for which the distances are measured to
Theoretical CSR	Expected value assuming complete spatial randomness
Permuted CSR	Average observed G for the permuted point process
Observed	Observed value for the observed point process
Degree of Clustering Permuted	Degree of spatial clustering where the reference is the permuted estimate of CSR
Degree of Clustering Theoretical	Degree of spatial clustering where the reference is the theoretical estimate of CSR

Examples

```
#' #Create mif object
library(dplyr)
x <- create_mif(clinical_data = example_clinical %>%
mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
sample_data = example_summary %>%
mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
spatial_list = example_spatial,
patient_id = "deidentified_id",
sample_id = "deidentified_sample")

#Nearest Neighbor distribution for the colocalization of CD3+CD8+ positive
```

```
#cells and CD3+FOXP3+ positive cells where CD3+FOXP3+ is the reference cell
#type at neighborhood size of 10,20,...,100 (zero must be included in the
#input).
```

```
x <- bi_NN_G(mif = x, mnames = c("CD3..CD8.", "CD3..FOXP3."),
num_permutations = 1, edge_correction = 'rs', r = seq(0,100,10),
keep_perm_dis = FALSE, workers = 1, exhaustive = TRUE)
```

bi_ripleys_k

Bivariate Ripley's K

Description

Bivariate Ripley's K function within spatialTIME, 'bi_ripleys_k' is a function that takes in a 'mIF' object, along with some parameters like marker names of interest and range of radii in which to assess bivariate clustering or colocalization. In 1.3.3.3 we have introduced the ability to forgo the need for permutations with the implementation of the exact CSR estimate. This is both faster and being the exact CSR, produces an exact degree of clustering in the spatial files.

Due to the availability of whole slide images (WSI), there's a possibility users will be running bivariate Ripley's K on samples that have millions of cells. When doing this, keep in mind that a nearest neighbor matrix with *n* cell is *n* by *n* in size and therefore easily consumes high performance compute levels of RAM. To combat this, we have implemented a tiling method that performs counts for small chunks of the distance matrix at a time before finally calculating the bivariate Ripley's K value on the total counts. When doing this there are now 2 import parameters to keep in mind. The 'big' parameter is the size of the tile to use. We have found 1000 to be a good number that allows for high number of cores while maintaining low RAM usage. The other important parameter when working with WSI is nlarge which is the fall over for switching to no edge correction. The spatstat.explore::Kest univariate Ripley's K uses a default of 3000 but we have defaulted to 1000 to keep compute minimized as edge correction uses large amounts of RAM over 'none'.

Usage

```
bi_ripleys_k(
  mif,
  mnames,
  r_range = 0:100,
  edge_correction = "translation",
  num_permutations = 50,
  permute = FALSE,
  keep_permutation_distribution = FALSE,
  overwrite = TRUE,
  workers = 6,
  big = 1000,
  nlarge = 1000,
  xloc = NULL,
  yloc = NULL
)
```

Arguments

mif	mIF object with spatial data frames, clinical, and per-sample summary information
mnames	vector of column names for phenotypes or data frame of marker combinations
r_range	vector range of radii to calculate co-localization *K*
edge_correction	character edge_correction method, one of "translation", "border", "or none"
num_permutations	integer number of permutations to estimate CSR
permute	whether or not to use permutations to estimate CSR (TRUE) or to calculate exact CSR (FALSE)
keep_permutation_distribution	boolean as to whether to summarise permutations to mean
overwrite	boolean as to whether to replace existing bivariate_Count if exists
workers	integer number of CPU workers to use
big	integer used as the threshold for subsetting large samples, default is 1000 either *i* or *j*
nlarge	number of cells in either *i* or *j* to flip to no edge correction - at small (relative to whole spatial region) *r* values differences in results between correction methods is negligible so running a few samples is recommended. Perhaps compute outweighs small differences in correction methods.
xloc	the x and y positions that correspond to cells. If left as NULL, XMin, XMax, YMin, and YMax must be present in the spatial files
yloc	the x and y positions that correspond to cells. If left as NULL, XMin, XMax, YMin, and YMax must be present in the spatial files

Value

mif object with bivariate Ripley's K calculated

Examples

```
x <- spatialTIME::create_mif(clinical_data = spatialTIME::example_clinical %>%
  dplyr::mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  sample_data = spatialTIME::example_summary %>%
  dplyr::mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  spatial_list = spatialTIME::example_spatial,
  patient_id = "deidentified_id",
  sample_id = "deidentified_sample")
mnames_good <- c("CD3..Opal.570..Positive", "CD8..Opal.520..Positive",
  "FOXP3..Opal.620..Positive", "PDL1..Opal.540..Positive",
  "PD1..Opal.650..Positive", "CD3..CD8.", "CD3..FOXP3.")
x2 = bi_ripleys_k(mif = x, mnames = mnames_good[1:2],
  r_range = 0:100, edge_correction = "none", permute = FALSE,
  num_permutations = 50, keep_permutation_distribution = FALSE,
  workers = 1, big = 1000)
```

 create_mif

Create Multiplex Immunoflourescent object

Description

Creates an MIF object for use in spatialIF functions

Usage

```
create_mif(
  clinical_data,
  sample_data,
  spatial_list = NULL,
  patient_id = "patient_id",
  sample_id = "image_tag"
)
```

Arguments

clinical_data	A data frame containing patient level data with one row per participant.
sample_data	A data frame containing sample level data with one row per sample. Should at a minimum contain a 2 columns: one for sample names and one for the corresponding patient name.
spatial_list	A named list of data frames with the spatial data from each sample making up each individual data frame
patient_id	A character string indicating the column name for patient id in sample and clinical data frames.
sample_id	A character string indicating the column name for sample id in the sample data frame

Value

Returns a custom MIF

clinical	Data frame of clinical data
sample	Data frame of sample data
spatial	Named list of spatial data
derived	List of data derived using the MIF object
patient_id	The column name for sample id in the sample data frame with the clinical data
sample_id	The column name for sample id in the sample data frame to merge with the spatial data

Examples

```
#Create mif object
library(dplyr)
x <- create_mif(clinical_data = example_clinical %>%
  mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  sample_data = example_summary %>%
  mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  spatial_list = example_spatial,
  patient_id = "deidentified_id",
  sample_id = "deidentified_sample")
```

example_clinical	<i>Clinical variables of 229 patients</i>
------------------	---

Description

A tibble with clinical characteristics for 229 patients

Usage

```
example_clinical
```

Format

A tibble with 229 rows and 6 variables

age age at diagnosis

race self-identified race

sex patient biological sex

status disease status

deidentified_sample sample identifier

deidentified_id patient identifier

example_spatial	<i>Example list of 5 spatial TMA data</i>
-----------------	---

Description

A list containing 5 spatial data frames

Usage

```
example_spatial
```

Format

A list of 5 data frames:

- TMA_\[3,B\].tiff
- TMA_\[6,F\].tiff
- TMA_\[7,B\].tiff
- TMA_\[9,K\].tiff
- TMA_\[8,U\].tiff

<code>example_summary</code>	<i>Marker summaries of 229 samples</i>
------------------------------	--

Description

A dataset containing summaries of 25 markers and 229 samples

Usage

```
example_summary
```

Format

A tibble with 229 rows and 29 variables:

deidentified_id patient-level id
deidentified_sample sample-level id ...

<code>merge_mifs</code>	<i>Merge several MIF objects together</i>
-------------------------	---

Description

This function merges MIF objects that were run separately so they can be used as a single MIF. MIF objects don't **need** but **should** have the same column names in the summary file and clinical data file. The MIF objects ****DO**** need to have the same `patient_id` and `sample_id`.

Usage

```
merge_mifs(mifs = NULL, check.names = T)
```

Arguments

<code>mifs</code>	A list of MIF objects to merge together
<code>check.names</code>	whether to check names of spatial files and summary entries

Value

Returns a new MIF object list

clinical_data	clinical information from all
sample	cell level summary data from all
spatial	contains all spatial files from all MIFs
derived	appended derived variables
patient_id	patient_id from the first MIF - this is why it is important to have the same patient_id for all MIFs
sample_id	sample_id from the first MIF - also important for all MIFs to have the same sample_id

Examples

```
#merge several MIF objects
library(dplyr)
x <- create_mif(clinical_data = example_clinical %>%
  mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  sample_data = example_summary %>%
  mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  spatial_list = example_spatial,
  patient_id = "deidentified_id",
  sample_id = "deidentified_sample")
x <- merge_mifs(mifs = list(x, x), check.names = FALSE)
```

Description

For a given cell type, this function computes proportion of cells that have nearest neighbor less than r for the observed and permuted point processes.

Usage

```
NN_G(
  mif,
  mnames,
  r_range = seq(0, 100, 50),
  num_permutations = 50,
  edge_correction = "rs",
  keep_perm_dis = FALSE,
  workers = 1,
  overwrite = FALSE,
  xloc = NULL,
  yloc = NULL
)
```

Arguments

<code>mif</code>	An MIF object
<code>mnames</code>	Character vector of marker names to estimate degree of nearest neighbor distribution
<code>r_range</code>	Numeric vector of potential r values this range must include 0.
<code>num_permutations</code>	Numeric value indicating the number of permutations used. Default is 50.
<code>edge_correction</code>	Character value indicating the type of edge correction to use. Options include "rs" or "hans".
<code>keep_perm_dis</code>	Logical value determining whether or not to keep the full distribution of permuted G values
<code>workers</code>	Integer value for the number of workers to spawn
<code>overwrite</code>	Logical value determining if you want the results to replace the current output (TRUE) or be to be appended (FALSE).
<code>xloc</code>	a string corresponding to the x coordinates. If null the average of XMin and XMax will be used
<code>yloc</code>	a string corresponding to the y coordinates. If null the average of YMin and YMax will be used

Value

Returns a data.frame	
Theoretical CSR	Expected value assuming complete spatial randomness
Permuted CSR	Average observed G for the permuted point process
Observed	Observed value for the observed point process
Degree of Clustering Permuted	Degree of spatial clustering where the reference is the permuted estimate of CSR
Degree of Clustering Theoretical	Degree of spatial clustering where the reference is the theoretical estimate of CSR

Examples

```
#Create mif object
library(dplyr)
x <- create_mif(clinical_data = example_clinical %>%
mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
sample_data = example_summary %>%
mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
spatial_list = example_spatial,
patient_id = "deidentified_id",
sample_id = "deidentified_sample")
```

```

# Define the set of markers to study
markers <- c("CD3..Opal.570..Positive", "CD8..Opal.520..Positive",
"FOXP3..Opal.620..Positive", "CD3..CD8.", "CD3..FOXP3.")

# Nearest Neighbor distribution for all markers with a neighborhood size
# of 10,20,...,100 (zero must be included in the input).

x <- NN_G(mif = x, mnames = markers[1:2], num_permutations = 1,
edge_correction = 'rs', r = seq(0,100,10),
keep_perm_dis = FALSE, workers = 1)

```

plot_immunoflo

Generate plot of TMA point process

Description

This function generates plot of point process in rectangular or circular window.

Usage

```

plot_immunoflo(
  mif,
  plot_title,
  mnames,
  mcolors = NULL,
  cell_type = NULL,
  filename = NULL,
  path = NULL
)

```

Arguments

mif	MIF object created using create_MIF().
plot_title	Character string or vector of character strings of variable name(s) to serve as plot title(s).
mnames	Character vector containing marker names.
mcolors	Character vector of color names to display markers in the plot.
cell_type	Character vector of cell type
filename	Character string of file name to store plots. Plots are generated as single .pdf file.
path	Different path than file name or to use in conjunction with filename ???

Value

mif object and the ggplot objects can be viewed from the derived slot of the mif object

Examples

```
#Create mif object
library(dplyr)
x <- create_mif(clinical_data = example_clinical %>%
mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
sample_data = example_summary %>%
mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
spatial_list = example_spatial,
patient_id = "deidentified_id",
sample_id = "deidentified_sample")

mnames_good <- c("CD3..Opal.570..Positive", "CD8..Opal.520..Positive",
"FOXP3..Opal.620..Positive", "PDL1..Opal.540..Positive",
"PD1..Opal.650..Positive", "CD3..CD8.", "CD3..FOXP3.")

x <- plot_immunoflo(x, plot_title = "deidentified_sample", mnames = mnames_good,
cell_type = "Classifier.Label")

x[["derived"]][["spatial_plots"]][[4]]
```

ripleys_k

Calculate Ripley's K

Description

ripleys_k() calculates the empirical Ripley's K measurement for the cell types specified by mnames in the mIF object. This is very useful when exploring the spatial clustering of single cell types on TMA cores or ROI spots following processing with a program such as HALO for cell phenotyping.

In the 'ripleys_k' function, there is the ability to perform permutations in order to assess whether the clustering of a cell type is significant, or the ability to derive the exact CSR and forgo permutations for much faster sample processing. Permutations can be helpful if the significance of clustering wants to be identified - run 1000 permutations and if observed is outside 95-percentile then significant clustering. We, however, recommend using the exact CSR estimate due to speed.

Some things to be aware of when computing the exact Ripley's K estimate, if your spatial file is greater than the 'big' size, the edge correction will be converted to 'none' in order to save on resources and compute time. Due to the introduction of Whole Slide Imaging (WSI), this can easily be well over 1,000,000 cells, and calculating edge correction for these spatial files will not succeed when attempting to force an edge correction on it.

Usage

```
ripleys_k(
  mif,
  mnames,
  r_range = seq(0, 100, 1),
  num_permutations = 50,
  edge_correction = "translation",
```

```

method = "K",
permute = FALSE,
keep_permutation_distribution = FALSE,
workers = 1,
overwrite = FALSE,
xloc = NULL,
yloc = NULL,
big = 10000
)

```

Arguments

mif	object of class ‘mif’ created with ‘create_mif’
mnames	cell phenotype markers to calculate Ripley’s K for
r_range	radius range (including 0)
num_permutations	number of permutations to use to estimate CSR. If ‘keep_perm_dis’ is set to FALSE, this will be ignored
edge_correction	edge correction method to pass to ‘Kest’. can take one of "translation", "isotropic", "none"
method	not used currently
permute	whether to use CSR estimate or use permutations to determine CSR
keep_permutation_distribution	whether to find mean of permutation distribution or each permutation calculation
workers	number of cores to use for calculations
overwrite	whether to overwrite the ‘univariate_Count’ slot within ‘mif\$derived’
xloc	the location of the center of cells. If left ‘NULL’, ‘XMin’, ‘XMax’, ‘YMin’, and ‘YMax’ must be present.
yloc	the location of the center of cells. If left ‘NULL’, ‘XMin’, ‘XMax’, ‘YMin’, and ‘YMax’ must be present.
big	the number of cells at which to flip from an edge correction method other than ‘none’ to ‘none’ due to size

Value

object of class ‘mif’

Examples

```

x <- spatialTIME::create_mif(clinical_data =spatialTIME::example_clinical %>%
  dplyr::mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  sample_data = spatialTIME::example_summary %>%
  dplyr::mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  spatial_list = spatialTIME::example_spatial,
  patient_id = "deidentified_id",

```

```

  sample_id = "deidentified_sample")
mnames = x$spatial[[1]] %>%
  colnames() %>%
  grep("Pos|CD", ., value =TRUE) %>%
  grep("Cyto|Nucle", ., value =TRUE, invert =TRUE)
x2 = ripleys_k(mif = x,
  mnames = mnames[1],
  r_range = seq(0, 100, 1),
  num_permutations = 100,
  edge_correction = "translation",
  method = "K",
  permute = FALSE,
  keep_permutation_distribution =FALSE,
  workers = 1,
  overwrite =TRUE)

```

subset_mif

Subset mif object on cellular level

Description

This function allows to subset the mif object into compartments. For instance a mif object includes all cells and the desired analysis is based on only the tumor or stroma compartment then this function will subset the spatial list to just the cells in the desired compartment

Usage

```
subset_mif(mif, classifier, level, markers)
```

Arguments

mif	An MIF object
classifier	Column name for spatial dataframe to subset
level	Determines which level of the classifier to keep.
markers	vector of

Value

mif object where the spatial list only as the cell that are the specified level.

Examples

```

#' #Create mif object
library(dplyr)
x <- create_mif(clinical_data = example_clinical %>%
  mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),
  sample_data = example_summary %>%
  mutate(deidentified_id = as.character(deidentified_id)),

```

```
spatial_list = example_spatial,  
patient_id = "deidentified_id",  
sample_id = "deidentified_sample")  
  
markers = c("CD3..Opal.570..Positive", "CD8..Opal.520..Positive",  
"FOXP3..Opal.620..Positive", "PDL1..Opal.540..Positive",  
"PD1..Opal.650..Positive", "CD3..CD8.", "CD3..FOXP3.")  
  
mif_tumor = subset_mif(mif = x, classifier = 'Classifier.Label',  
level = 'Tumor', markers = markers)
```

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