

Package ‘adverSCarial’

September 2, 2025

Title adverSCarial, generate and analyze the vulnerability of
scRNA-seq classifier to adversarial attacks

Version 1.7.1

Description

adverSCarial is an R Package designed for generating and analyzing the vulnerability of scRNA-seq classifiers to adversarial attacks. The package is versatile and provides a format for integrating any type of classifier. It offers functions for studying and generating two types of attacks, single gene attack and max change attack. The single-gene attack involves making a small modification to the input to alter the classification. The max-change attack involves making a large modification to the input without changing its classification. The CGD attack is based on an estimated gradient descent against adversarial attacks. The package provides a comprehensive solution for evaluating the robustness of scRNA-seq classifiers against adversarial attacks.

License MIT + file LICENSE

Encoding UTF-8

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

biocViews Software, SingleCell, Transcriptomics, Classification

Suggests knitr, RUnit, BiocGenerics, TENxPBMCDData, CHETAH, stringr,
LoomExperiment

Imports gtools, S4Vectors, methods, DelayedArray

VignetteBuilder knitr

git_url <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/adverSCarial>

git_branch devel

git_last_commit f22c09f

git_last_commit_date 2025-07-15

Repository Bioconductor 3.22

Date/Publication 2025-09-02

Author Ghislain FIEVET [aut, cre] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0337-7327>>),
Sébastien HERGALANT [aut] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8456-7992>>)

Maintainer Ghislain FIEVET <ghislain.fievet@gmail.com>

Contents

advCGD	2
advChar-class	4
advGridMinChange	4
advList-class	6
advMaxChange	7
advModifications	9
advRandWalkMinChange	11
advSingleGene	13
getSignGenes	15
matrixFromSCE	16
maxChangeOverview	17
MClassifier	19
predictWithNewValue	20
sceConvertToHGNC	21
singleGeneOverview	22
Index	25

advCGD

Implementation of the IDG4C algorithm.

Description

Implementation of the IDG4C algorithm.

Usage

```
advCGD(
  expr,
  clusters,
  target,
  classifier,
  genes = NULL,
  exclNewTargets = NULL,
  newTarget = NULL,
  alpha = 0.1,
  epsilon = 0,
  slot = NULL,
  stopAtSwitch = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

<code>expr</code>	a matrix, a data.frame or a Seurat object
<code>clusters</code>	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
<code>target</code>	the name of the cluster to modify
<code>classifier</code>	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: <code>classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score)</code> score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix <code>expr</code> contains RNA expression values, the vector <code>clusters</code> consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in <code>expr</code>, and <code>target</code> is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
<code>genes</code>	the character vector of genes to study
<code>exclNewTargets</code>	the character vector of cell types to exclude as new target
<code>newTarget</code>	the name of the new cell type cell type target, this will be the new prediction cell type after the attack
<code>alpha</code>	the alpha parameter of the IDG4C algorithm
<code>epsilon</code>	the epsilon parameter of the IDG4C algorithm
<code>slot</code>	the slot to modify in case of Seurat object
<code>stopAtSwitch</code>	logical, set to TRUE to stop the attack when the new target set to FALSE to continue the attack until all genes are tested
<code>verbose</code>	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

this function is an implementation of the IDG4C algorithm which permits to generate adversarial attacks on a classifier on a given cluster. The attack is done by modifying the expression of the genes by gradient descent after having inferred if by the finite difference method. Two parameters `alpha` and `epsilon` are used to control the step size of the modifications.

Value

a list containing the modified expression matrix, the list of modified genes, the summary of the attack by gene, the summary of the attack, the new cell types predictions and the original cell types predictions

Examples

```
MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  typePredictions <- as.data.frame(matrix(nrow=nrow(expr), ncol=length(unique(clusters))))
  colnames(typePredictions) <- unique(clusters)
  typePredictions[unique(clusters)[1]] <- c(1,0,0,0)
  typePredictions[unique(clusters)[2]] <- c(0,1,1,1)
  rownames(typePredictions) <- 1:4

  list(prediction="T cell", odd=1,
        typePredictions=t(typePredictions),
        cellTypes=c("B cell","T cell","T cell","T cell"))
}
rna_expression <- data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
```

```

CD8B=c(2,2,3,3))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "T cell", "T cell", "T cell")

advCGD(rna_expression, clusters_id, "T cell",
       MyClassifier, genes=genes, verbose=TRUE)

```

advChar-class

adverSCarial class

Description

advChar is a class used to store the output values of the advMaxChange function. The result can be a vector of few thousands genes, so a specific *show* method is associated to this class to avoid overflowing the R scripts outputs.

Value

A advChar object

Examples

```

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}

genes <- paste0("gene_", 1:10000)
rna_expression <- data.frame(lapply(genes, function(x) numeric(0)))
rna_expression <- rbind(rna_expression, rep(1, 10000))
rna_expression <- rbind(rna_expression, rep(2, 10000))
colnames(rna_expression) <- genes
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "T cell")

max_change_genes <- advMaxChange(rna_expression, clusters_id,
  "T cell", MyClassifier, advMethod="perc99")

max_change_genes

```

advGridMinChange

Grid search of min change adversarial attack. Tries each combination on a cluster, given a list of genes and a list of modifications.

Description

Grid search of min change adversarial attack. Tries each combination on a cluster, given a list of genes and a list of modifications.

Usage

```
advGridMinChange(
  exprs,
  clusters,
  target,
  classifier,
  genes,
  modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")),
  returnFirstFound = FALSE,
  argForClassif = "data.frame",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  verbose = FALSE,
  iamsure = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

<code>exprs</code>	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default matrix and data.frame are converted to DelayedMatrix for memory performance, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
<code>clusters</code>	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
<code>target</code>	the name of the cluster to modify
<code>classifier</code>	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: <code>classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score)</code> score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix <code>expr</code> contains RNA expression values, the vector <code>clusters</code> consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in <code>expr</code>, and <code>target</code> is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
<code>genes</code>	the character vector of genes to study
<code>modifications</code>	the list of the modifications to study
<code>returnFirstFound</code>	set to TRUE to return result when a the first misclassification is found
<code>argForClassif</code>	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
<code>argForModif</code>	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which needs less memory but is slower.
<code>verbose</code>	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode
<code>iamsure</code>	logical, prevents from expansive calculations when genes list is too long, set to TRUE to run anyway.

Details

This function aims to find the shortest combination of genes allowing to make a min change attack. It will test every possible combination for a given gene list. This function can take a long time to run, and we recommend to use the random walk search `advRandWalkMinChange` function instead for lists above 10 genes.

You can specify a list of modifications as so, each item of the list should be 1 or 2 length size. The 1 length vector must contain the prerecorded modifications, 'perc1' or 'perc99'. The 2 length vector must have as first item:

- 'fixed', in this case the second item should be the value to be replaced by.
- 'full_row_fct', 'target_row_fct', 'target_matrix_fct' or 'full_matrix_fct'. In this case the second item should be a function. Let's say we want to analysis the susceptibility to min change attack for 3 modifications: "perc1", the modification of each value of the cluster by 1000, and a custom modification stored inside a function myFct. Then the 'modification' parameter should be: `my_modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("fixed", 1000), c("full_matrix_fct", myFct))`

Value

DataFrame results of the classification of all the grid combinations

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

advGridMinChange(rna_expression, clusters_id, "T cell",
  MyClassifier, genes=genes,
  modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")))

myModif = function(x, y){
  return(sample(1:10,1))
}

my_modifications = list(c("perc1"),
  c("fixed", 1000),
  c("full_matrix_fct", myModif))
advGridMinChange(rna_expression, clusters_id, "T cell",
  MyClassifier, genes=genes, modifications = my_modifications)
```

advList-class

adverSCarial class

Description

advList is a class used to store the output values of the advSingleGene function. The result can be a list of few thousands genes:cell_type key/values, so a specific *show* method is associated to this class to avoid overflowing the R scripts outputs.

Value

A advList object

Examples

```
MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("B cell", 0.9)
}
rna_expression <- data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell","B cell","T cell","T cell")

adv_min_change <- advSingleGene(rna_expression, clusters_id,
  "T cell", MyClassifier, advMethod="perc99")

adv_min_change
```

advMaxChange	<i>Find a max change adversarial attack. It finds the longer list of genes you can modify on a cluster without changing its classification.</i>
--------------	---

Description

Find a max change adversarial attack. It finds the longer list of genes you can modify on a cluster without changing its classification.

Usage

```
advMaxChange(
  exprs,
  clusters,
  target,
  classifier,
  exclGenes = c(),
  genes = c(),
  advMethod = "perc99",
  advFixedValue = 3,
  advFct = NULL,
  maxSplitSize = 1,
  argForClassif = "data.frame",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  slot = NULL,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default, these are converted to a data.frame to increase speed performance during modifications. However, this conversion can consume a significant amount of memory, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
clusters	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong

target	the name of the cluster to modify
classifier	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: <code>classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score)</code> score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix <code>expr</code> contains RNA expression values, the vector <code>clusters</code> consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in <code>expr</code>, and <code>target</code> is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
exclGenes	a list of genes to exclude from the analysis
genes	a list of genes in case you want to limit the attack on a subset of genes
advMethod	the name of the method to use
advFixedValue	the numeric value to use in case of <code>advMethod=fixed</code>
advFct	the function to use in case <code>advMethod</code> belongs to the following list: <code>full_row_fct</code> , <code>target_row_fct</code> , <code>target_matrix_fct</code> , <code>full_matrix_fct</code>
maxSplitSize	max size of dichotomic slices.
argForClassif	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
argForModif	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which needs less memory but is slower.
verbose	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

This function aims to get the largest part of the genes that can be modified without altering the classification, considering a given modification. You can refer to the 'advModifications' function documentation to more details on how to define a modification. The search is made by a dichotomic process, on a recursive function. At each iteration the function splits the genes in two groups. It proceeds to the modification of the RNA gene value of the first group, makes its classification. Then three possible scenarios:

- the classification is the same as the target cluster. We concat the genes list to the previous one, make the classification, and it still gives same classification. Then we return the genes list.
- the classification is the same as the target cluster. We concat the genes list to the previous one, make the classification, and it gives a different classification. This happens often, you can modify the gene A with a classification of T cell, or modify the gene B with a classification of T cell, but modifying A and B returns another classification. In this case we split the genes list in two and try again.
- the classification is not the same as the target cluster. In this case we split the genes list in two and try again. The iteration process stops when the length of the genes list is lower than the value of the 'maxSplitSize' argument. So you should set it to 1 to have the maximum number of genes for the max change attack. This function is used by the 'overMaxChange' function with a default argument value of 100 to increase speed, and still returns significant results.

Value

a character vector of genes you can modify on a cluster without modifying its classification

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

advMaxChange(rna_expression, clusters_id,
  "T cell", MyClassifier, advMethod="perc99")
```

advModifications	<i>Returns a modified RNA expression DelayedMatrix, or a modified SingleCellExperiment, for a given cluster, for a given modification.</i>
------------------	--

Description

Returns a modified RNA expression DelayedMatrix, or a modified SingleCellExperiment, for a given cluster, for a given modification.

Usage

```
advModifications(
  exprs,
  genes,
  clusters,
  target,
  advMethod = "perc99",
  advFixedValue = 3,
  advFct = NULL,
  argForClassif = "DelayedMatrix",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  slot = NULL,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default, these are converted to a data.frame to increase speed performance during modifications. However, this conversion can consume a significant amount of memory, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
genes	the character vector of genes to modify
clusters	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
target	the name of the cluster to modify
advMethod	the name of the method to use

advFixedValue	the numeric value to use in case of advMethod=fixed
advFct	the function to use in case advMethod belongs to the following list: full_row_fct, target_row_fct, target_matrix_fct, full_matrix_fct
argForClassif	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'DelayedMatrix' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'data.frame'.
argForModif	type of matrix during for the modification, 'DelayedMatrix' by default. Can be 'data.frame', which is faster, but need more memory.
verbose	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

The motivation for this function is to standardize the modifications we want to study in the attacks. We give as argument a DelayedMatrix of the RNA expression, the gene and the target cells we want to modify. Then we have three arguments allowing to specify what modification we want to apply on these cells. The advMethod contains, a specific prerecorded modification or an indication on how to use the other two arguments. The prerecorded modifications available for the advMethod argument are:

- 'perc1', replace the value by the whole matrix 1 percentile value of the gene. It is as if we biologically switched off the gene.
- 'perc99', replace the value by the whole matrix 99 percentile value of the gene. It is as if we biologically switched on the gene to the maximum.
- 'random', replace the value by from a uniform distribution between min and max of the gene on the dataset
- 'positive_aberrant' replace value by 10,000 times the max value of the gene on the dataset
- 'negative_aberrant' replace value by -10,000 times the max value of the gene on the dataset
- 'decile+X', shifts the gene value by + X deciles.
- 'decile-X', shifts the gene value by - X deciles. The value of the advMethod argument can also be 'fixed', in this case the modification would be to replace the value of the gene of the wanted cells by the value of the argument 'advFixedValue'. This can be useful to test aberrant values like negative integer, absurdly high values of character values. The value of the advMethod argument can also be 'full_row_fct', 'target_row_fct', 'target_matrix_fct' or 'full_matrix_fct'. They are used when we want to use a custom modification function, with the 'advFct' argument:
- 'full_row_fct' indicate that the 'advFct' function takes the whole gene values as input.
- 'target_row_fct' indicate that the 'advFct' function takes target cells gene values as input.
- 'full_matrix_fct' indicate that the 'advFct' function takes the whole gene expression values as input.
- 'target_matrix_fct' indicate that the 'advFct' function takes target cells all genes values as input.

Value

the matrix or a data.frame exprs modified on asked genes with the specified modification

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
    CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell","B cell","T cell","T cell")

advModifications(rna_expression, genes, clusters_id,
    "T cell", advMethod="perc99")
```

advRandWalkMinChange *Random walk search of min change adversarial attack.*

Description

Random walk search of min change adversarial attack.

Usage

```
advRandWalkMinChange(
  exprs,
  clusters,
  target,
  classifier,
  genes,
  modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")),
  firstBatch = 100,
  walkLength = 100,
  stepChangeRatio = 0.2,
  whileMaxCount = 10000,
  changeType = "any",
  argForClassif = "data.frame",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default matrix and data.frame are converted to DelayedMatrix for memory performance, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
clusters	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
target	the name of the cluster to modify
classifier	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score) score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix expr contains RNA expression values,

	the vector <code>clusters</code> consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in <code>expr</code> , and <code>target</code> is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
<code>genes</code>	the character vector of genes to study
<code>modifications</code>	the list of the modifications to study
<code>firstBatch</code>	the maximum number of try in step 1
<code>walkLength</code>	the maximum number of try in step 2
<code>stepChangeRatio</code>	ratio of parameters change in new walk step
<code>whileMaxCount</code>	the maximum number of try when looking for new combination of parameters
<code>changeType</code>	any consider each misclassification, <code>not_na</code> consider each misclassification but NA.
<code>argForClassif</code>	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
<code>argForModif</code>	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which needs less memory but is slower.
<code>verbose</code>	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

The parameter search by grid can take a long time, this function aims to make a parameter search faster. We have a function, `advSingleGene`, looking for one gene attacks. The `advRandWalkMinChange` function aims to find a multiple genes attack, with the fewer genes possible. At first the user have to provide a list of genes to test, for example by running differential statistics between two cell clusters. The user should also provide a list of modifications to test, to define as so - each item of the list should be 1 or 2 length size. The 1 length vector must contain the prerecorded modifications, 'perc1' or 'perc99'. The 2 length vector must have as first item:

- 'fixed', in this case the second item should be the value to be replaced by.
- 'full_row_fct', 'target_row_fct', 'target_matrix_fct' or 'full_matrix_fct'. In this case the second item should be a function. Let's say we want to analysis the susceptibility to min change attack for 3 modifications: "perc1", the modification of each value of the cluster by 1000, and a custom modification stored inside a function `myFct`. Then the 'modification' parameter should be: `my_modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("fixed", 1000), c("full_matrix_fct", myFct))`

Then the function will try to find the best combination of these genes and modifications to make the min change attack. Step 1 is to find a seed by trying random combinations of genes and modifications on a cluster until the classification is altered. Step 2 is to perform a random walk search to reduce the number of genes needed to change the classification. The

Value

DataFrame results of the classification of all the grid combinations

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}
```

```

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
                                         CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

advRandWalkMinChange(rna_expression, clusters_id, "T cell",
MyClassifier, genes=genes,
modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")))

# Stop at first attack discovery, without going into the walk
# parameter search.
advRandWalkMinChange(rna_expression, clusters_id, "T cell",
MyClassifier, genes=genes,
modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")), walkLength=0)

myModif = function(x, y){
  return(sample(1:10,1))
}

my_modifications = list(c("perc1"),
                        c("fixed", 1000),
                        c("full_matrix_fct", myModif))
advRandWalkMinChange(rna_expression, clusters_id, "T cell",
MyClassifier, genes=genes, modifications = my_modifications)

```

advSingleGene	<i>Find a one gene min change adversarial attack list. A one gene min change adversarial attack refers to the modification of a single gene within a cluster, leading to a change in its classification. The function returns a list of genes/new classification.</i>
---------------	---

Description

Find a one gene min change adversarial attack list. A one gene min change adversarial attack refers to the modification of a single gene within a cluster, leading to a change in its classification. The function returns a list of genes/new classification.

Usage

```

advSingleGene(
  exprs,
  clusters,
  target,
  classifier,
  exclGenes = c(),
  genes = c(),
  advMethod = "perc99",
  advFixedValue = 3,
  advFct = NULL,
  firstDichot = 100,
  maxSplitSize = 1,
  returnFirstFound = FALSE,
  changeType = "any",

```

```

    argForClassif = "data.frame",
    argForModif = "data.frame",
    slot = NULL,
    verbose = FALSE
  )

```

Arguments

<code>exprs</code>	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default, these are converted to a data.frame to increase speed performance during modifications. However, this conversion can consume a significant amount of memory, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
<code>clusters</code>	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
<code>target</code>	the name of the cluster to modify
<code>classifier</code>	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: <code>classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score)</code> score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix <code>expr</code> contains RNA expression values, the vector <code>clusters</code> consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in <code>expr</code> , and <code>target</code> is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
<code>exclGenes</code>	a character vector of genes to exclude from the analysis
<code>genes</code>	a character vector of genes in case you want to limit the attack on a subset of genes
<code>advMethod</code>	the name of the method to use
<code>advFixedValue</code>	the numeric value to use in case of <code>advMethod=fixed</code>
<code>advFct</code>	the function to use in case <code>advMethod</code> belongs to the following list: <code>full_row_fct</code> , <code>target_row_fct</code> , <code>target_matrix_fct</code> , <code>full_matrix_fct</code>
<code>firstDichot</code>	the initial number of slices before the dichotomic search
<code>maxSplitSize</code>	max size of dichotomic slices
<code>returnFirstFound</code>	set to TRUE to return result when a the first misclassification is found
<code>changeType</code>	any consider each misclassification, <code>not_na</code> consider each misclassification but NA.
<code>argForClassif</code>	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
<code>argForModif</code>	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which needs less memory but is slower.
<code>verbose</code>	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

This function aims to get all genes that when modified individually can lead to a misclassification. You can refer to the 'advModifications' function documentation to more details on how to define a modification. The function is made as a two step parameter search. The first step is to split the genes in 'firstDichot' sets, 100 by default. Then each set is studied by a dichotomic process in a recursive

function. The aim of starting by a high value of sets, instead of starting directly by the dichotomic research is to avoid the following scenario: we modify 5000 genes, the modification of one gene compensates the modification of another. The classification remains unchanged, whereas there is a one gene classification modifying inside the 5000. The dichotomic process runs as follow. The function receives a list of genes, make the modification of the whole list and make the classification. Three scenarios possible:

- the classification remains the same as the target cluster. The function returns, and the dichotomic process continues.
- the classification is changed. There is only one gene in the list, the function returns the gene and the new classification.
- the classification is changed. There is more than one gene in the list, the genes list is split in two, and the dichotomic process continues.

Value

a list of genes/new classification tuples

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("B cell", 0.9)
}

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

advSingleGene(rna_expression, clusters_id,
  "T cell", MyClassifier, advMethod="perc99")
```

getSignGenes

The function getSignGenes orders the genes by maximizing the significance of the gene to differentiate the clusters and ensures that they represent at most the variations across all possible pairs of clusters.

Description

The function getSignGenes orders the genes by maximizing the significance of the gene to differentiate the clusters and ensures that they represent at most the variations across all possible pairs of clusters.

Usage

```
getSignGenes(expr, clusters, method = "wilcox", verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

<code>expr</code>	A matrix of gene expression data. Rows are cells and columns are genes.
<code>clusters</code>	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
<code>method</code>	the statistical test to use. Either "wilcox" for the Wilcoxon rank sum test or "ttest" for the t-test. Default is "wilcox".
<code>verbose</code>	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

The function `getSignGenes` orders the genes by maximizing the significance of the gene to differentiate the clusters and ensures that they represent at most the variations across all possible pairs of clusters.

Examples

```
rna_expression <- data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
                             CD8B=c(2,2,3,3))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "T cell", "T cell", "T cell")

getSignGenes(rna_expression, clusters_id, method="wilcox", verbose=TRUE)
```

<code>matrixFromSCE</code>	<i>Returns the RNA expression matrix from a SingleCellExperiment with unique hgnc gene names in columns</i>
----------------------------	---

Description

Returns the RNA expression matrix from a `SingleCellExperiment` with unique hgnc gene names in columns

Usage

```
matrixFromSCE(sce)
```

Arguments

<code>sce</code>	<code>SingleCellExperiment</code> object to convert
------------------	---

Details

This function retrieves from a `SingleCellExperiment` object the raw RNA expression value corresponding to the hgnc genes. The resulting matrix can then be used with `adverSC` packages.

Value

the RNA expression matrix from a `SingleCellExperiment` with unique hgnc gene names in columns

Examples

```
library(TENxPBMCData)

pbmc <- TENxPBMCData(dataset = "pbmc3k")
mat_rna <- matrixFromSCE(pbmc)
```

maxChangeOverview	<i>Gives an overview of the susceptibility to max change attacks, for each cell type, for a given list of modifications.</i>
-------------------	--

Description

Gives an overview of the susceptibility to max change attacks, for each cell type, for a given list of modifications.

Usage

```
maxChangeOverview(
  exprs,
  clusters,
  classifier,
  exclGenes = c(),
  genes = c(),
  modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")),
  advMethod = "perc99",
  advFixedValue = 3,
  advFct = NULL,
  maxSplitSize = 100,
  argForClassif = "data.frame",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default, these are converted to a data.frame to increase speed performance during modifications. However, this conversion can consume a significant amount of memory, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
clusters	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
classifier	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score) score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix expr contains RNA expression values, the vector clusters consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in expr, and target is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.

<code>exclGenes</code>	a character vector of genes to exclude from the analysis
<code>genes</code>	a character vector of genes in case you want to limit the analysis on a subset of genes
<code>modifications</code>	the list of the modifications to study
<code>advMethod</code>	the name of the method to use
<code>advFixedValue</code>	the numeric value to use in case of <code>advMethod=fixed</code>
<code>advFct</code>	the function to use in case <code>advMethod</code> belongs to the following list: <code>full_row_fct</code> , <code>target_row_fct</code> , <code>target_matrix_fct</code> , <code>full_matrix_fct</code>
<code>maxSplitSize</code>	max size of dichotomic slices.
<code>argForClassif</code>	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
<code>argForModif</code>	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which needs less memory but is slower.
<code>verbose</code>	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

Running the `advMaxChange` function for each cell type to see which ones are more vulnerable can take a long time. The aim of the `maxChangeOverview` function is to make this process faster. It uses a default value of 100 for the 'maxSplitSize' parameter. So, the dichotomic process of the `advMaxChange` function stops as soon as the fold length is lower than 100. You can have more accurate results with `maxSplitSize=1`, but it will take longer. This function aims also to run the `advMaxChange` for several given modifications. You can specify a list of modifications as so - each item of the list should be 1 or 2 length size. The 1 length vector must contain the prerecorded modifications, 'perc1' or 'perc99'. The 2 length vector must have as first item:

- 'fixed', in this case the second item should be the value to be replaced by.
- 'full_row_fct', 'target_row_fct', 'target_matrix_fct' or 'full_matrix_fct'. In this case the second item should be a function. Let's say we want to analysis the susceptibility to max change attack for 3 modifications: "perc1", the modification of each value of the cluster by 1000, and a custom modification stored inside a function `myFct`. Then the 'modification' parameter should be: `my_modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("fixed", 1000), c("full_matrix_fct", myFct))`

The function returns a dataframe with the number of genes of the max change attack for each modification in columns, for each cell type in rows.

Value

a `DataFrame` storing the number of possible max change attacks for each cell type and each modification.

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
```

```

clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

maxChangeOverview(rna_expression, clusters_id,
MyClassifier, modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")))

myModif = function(x, y){
  return(sample(1:10,1))
}

my_modifications = list(c("perc1"),
                        c("fixed", 1000),
                        c("full_matrix_fct", myModif))
maxChangeOverview(rna_expression, clusters_id,
MyClassifier, modifications = my_modifications)

```

MClassifier

*Example cell type classifier for pbmc clustered datasets.***Description**

Example cell type classifier for pbmc clustered datasets.

Usage

```
MClassifier(exprs, clusters, target)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame.
clusters	vector of clusters to which each cell belongs
target	name of the cell cluster to classify

Details

This classifier aims at testing the adverSCaral package of real pbmc data. It is a simple marker based classifier. It looks at the average value of a few genes inside a cluster, and returns the associated cell type. Markers were found by differential expressions.

Value

a vector with the classification, and the odd

Examples

```

library(TENxPBMCData)

pbmc <- TENxPBMCData(dataset = "pbmc3k")
mat_rna <- matrixFromSCE(pbmc)
cell_types <- system.file("extdata",
  "pbmc3k_cell_types.tsv",
  package = "adverSCaral"
)

```

```
cell_types <- read.table(cell_types, sep = "\t")$cell_type

MClassifier(mat_rna, cell_types, "DC")
```

predictWithNewValue	<i>Returns a classification and an odd value from a RNA expression DelayedMatrix or a SingleCellExperiment object, for given genes, for a given cluster, for a given modification.</i>
---------------------	--

Description

Returns a classification and an odd value from a RNA expression DelayedMatrix or a SingleCellExperiment object, for given genes, for a given cluster, for a given modification.

Usage

```
predictWithNewValue(
  exprs,
  genes,
  clusters,
  target,
  classifier,
  advMethod = "perc99",
  advFixedValue = 3,
  advFct = NULL,
  argForClassif = "data.frame",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  slot = NULL,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame.
genes	the character vector of genes to modify
clusters	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
target	the name of the cluster to modify
classifier	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification c("cell type", score) score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix expr contains RNA expression values, the vector clusters consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in expr, and target is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
advMethod	the name of the method to use
advFixedValue	the numeric value to use in case of advMethod=fixed

advFct	the function to use in case advMethod belongs to the following list: full_row_fct, target_row_fct, target_matrix_fct, full_matrix_fct
argForClassif	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
argForModif	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which is slower, but need less memory.
verbose	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

This function aims to concatenate the following actions:

- modify the RNA gene expression
- classify the result This is a widely used function in the other functions of the package.

Value

a vector of the classification, and the associated odd

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0),
  CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

predictWithNewValue(rna_expression, genes, clusters_id,
  "T cell", MyClassifier, advMethod="perc99")
```

sceConvertToHGNC	<i>Returns a SingleCellExperiment object keeping unique HGNC gene</i>
------------------	---

Description

Returns a SingleCellExperiment object keeping unique HGNC gene

Usage

```
sceConvertToHGNC(sce)
```

Arguments

sce	SingleCellExperiment object to convert
-----	--

Details

Sometimes classifiers need HGNC instead of ensemble genes to run. This function allows to make the conversion.

Value

the SingleCellExperiment object keeping unique HGNC gene

Examples

```
library(TENxPBMCDData)

pbmc <- TENxPBMCDData(dataset = "pbmc3k")
hgnc_pbmc <- sceConvertToHGNC(pbmc)
```

singleGeneOverview	<i>Gives an overview of the susceptibility to single gene attacks, for each cell type, for a given list of modifications.</i>
--------------------	---

Description

Gives an overview of the susceptibility to single gene attacks, for each cell type, for a given list of modifications.

Usage

```
singleGeneOverview(
  exprs,
  clusters,
  classifier,
  exclGenes = c(),
  genes = c(),
  modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")),
  advMethod = "perc99",
  advFixedValue = 3,
  advFct = NULL,
  firstDichot = 100,
  maxSplitSize = 100,
  changeType = "any",
  argForClassif = "data.frame",
  argForModif = "data.frame",
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

exprs	DelayedMatrix of numeric RNA expression, cells are rows and genes are columns - or a SingleCellExperiment object, a matrix or a data.frame. By default, these are converted to a data.frame to increase speed performance during modifications. However, this conversion can consume a significant amount of memory, see 'argForModif' argument for options.
-------	--

clusters	a character vector of the clusters to which the cells belong
classifier	a classifier in the suitable format. A classifier function should be formatted as follow: <code>classifier = function(expr, clusters, target) # Making the classification</code> <code>c("cell type", score)</code> score should be numeric between 0 and 1, 1 being the highest confidence into the cell type classification. The matrix <code>expr</code> contains RNA expression values, the vector <code>clusters</code> consists of the cluster IDs for each cell in <code>expr</code> , and <code>target</code> is the ID of the cluster for which we want to have a classification. The function returns a vector with the classification result, and a score.
exclGenes	a character vector of genes to exclude from the analysis
genes	a character vector of genes in case you want to limit the analysis on a subset of genes
modifications	the list of the modifications to study
advMethod	the name of the method to use
advFixedValue	the numeric value to use in case of <code>advMethod=fixed</code>
advFct	the function to use in case <code>advMethod</code> belongs to the following list: <code>full_row_fct</code> , <code>target_row_fct</code> , <code>target_matrix_fct</code> , <code>full_matrix_fct</code>
firstDichot	the initial number of slices before the dichotomic search
maxSplitSize	max size of dichotomic slices.
changeType	any consider each misclassification, <code>not_na</code> consider each misclassification but NA.
argForClassif	the type of the first argument to feed to the classifier function. 'data.frame' by default, can be 'SingleCellExperiment' or 'DelayedMatrix'.
argForModif	type of matrix during for the modification, 'data.frame' by default. Can be 'DelayedMatrix', which needs less memory but is slower.
verbose	logical, set to TRUE to activate verbose mode

Details

Running the `advSingleGene` function for each cell type to see which ones are more vulnerable can take a long time. The aim of the `singleGeneOverview` function is to make this process faster. It uses a default value of 100 for the 'maxSplitSize' parameter. So, the dichotomic process of the `advSingleGene` function stops as soon as the fold length is lower than 100. You can have more accurate results with `maxSplitSize=1`, but it will take longer. This function aims also to run the `advSingleGene` for several given modifications. You can specify a list of modifications as so - each item of the list should be 1 or 2 length size. The 1 length vector must contain the prerecorded modifications, 'perc1' or 'perc99'. The 2 length vector must have as first item:

- 'fixed', in this case the second item should be the value to be replaced by.
- 'full_row_fct', 'target_row_fct', 'target_matrix_fct' or 'full_matrix_fct'. In this case the second item should be a function. Let's say we want to analysis the susceptibility to single gene attack for 3 modifications: "perc1", the modification of each value of the cluster by 1000, and a custom modification stored inside a function `myFct`. Then the 'modification' parameter should be: `my_modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("fixed", 1000), c("full_matrix_fct", myFct))`

The function returns a dataframe with the number of genes of the max change attack for each modification in columns, for each cell type in rows.

Value

a DataFrame storing the number of possible single gene attacks each cell type and each modification.

Examples

```
library(DelayedArray)

MyClassifier <- function(expr, clusters, target) {
  c("T cell", 0.9)
}

rna_expression <- DelayedArray(data.frame(CD4=c(0,0,0,0), CD8A=c(1,1,1,1),
  CD8B=c(2,2,3,3)))
genes <- c("CD4", "CD8A")
clusters_id <- c("B cell", "B cell", "T cell", "T cell")

singleGeneOverview(rna_expression, clusters_id,
MyClassifier, modifications = list(c("perc1"), c("perc99")))

myModif = function(x, y){
  return(sample(1:10,1))
}

my_modifications = list(c("perc1"),
  c("fixed", 1000),
  c("full_matrix_fct", myModif))
singleGeneOverview(rna_expression, clusters_id,
MyClassifier, modifications = my_modifications)
```

Index

advCGD, [2](#)
advChar (advChar-class), [4](#)
advChar-class, [4](#)
advGridMinChange, [4](#)
advList (advList-class), [6](#)
advList-class, [6](#)
advMaxChange, [7](#)
advModifications, [9](#)
advRandWalkMinChange, [11](#)
advSingleGene, [13](#)

getSignGenes, [15](#)

matrixFromSCE, [16](#)
maxChangeOverview, [17](#)
MClassifier, [19](#)

predictWithNewValue, [20](#)

sceConvertToHGNC, [21](#)
singleGeneOverview, [22](#)