

Package ‘spARI’

December 2, 2025

Type Package

Title Spatially Aware Adjusted Rand Index for Evaluating Spatial
Transcriptomics Clustering

Version 1.0.0

Description The R package used in the manuscript ``Spatially Aware Adjusted Rand
Index for Evaluating Spatial Transcriptomics Clustering".

License GPL (>= 2)

Encoding UTF-8

Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

Imports Rcpp, stats, Matrix, SpatialExperiment, SummarizedExperiment,
BiocParallel (>= 1.0)

LinkingTo Rcpp

LazyData false

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

VignetteBuilder knitr

Suggests FNN, knitr, rmarkdown, BiocStyle, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

Config/testthat/edition 3

biocViews Clustering, DataImport, GeneExpression, Transcriptomics,
Spatial, Software

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

git_branch RELEASE_3_22

git_last_commit 4a3384b

git_last_commit_date 2025-10-29

Repository Bioconductor 3.22

Date/Publication 2025-12-01

Author Yinqiao Yan [aut, cre],
Xiangnan Feng [aut, fnd],
Xiangyu Luo [aut, fnd]

Maintainer Yinqiao Yan <yinqiaoyan@bjut.edu.cn>

Contents

generate_gs_pairs_int	2
generate_sg_pairs_int	2
perm_test	3
spARI	4
spARI_example_data	6

Index	7
--------------	----------

generate_gs_pairs_int *Generate object pairs (gs pairs)*

Description

This function identifies all object pairs that belong to the same group in the reference partition but different clusters in the clustering partition

Arguments

c_labels An integer vector of clustering labels.
r_labels An integer vector of reference labels.

Value

An integer matrix with two columns, where each row is a pair of object indices.

Examples

```
c_labels <- c(1,1,2,2,2,3,3)
r_labels <- c(1,1,1,2,2,3,1)
generate_gs_pairs_int(c_labels, r_labels)
```

generate_sg_pairs_int *Generate object pairs (sg pairs)*

Description

This function identifies all object pairs that belong to the same cluster in the clustering partition but different groups in the reference partition

Arguments

c_labels An integer vector of clustering labels.
r_labels An integer vector of reference labels.

Value

An integer matrix with two columns, where each row is a pair of object indices.

Examples

```
c_labels <- c(1,1,2,2,2,3,3)
r_labels <- c(1,1,1,2,2,3,1)
generate_sg_pairs_int(c_labels, r_labels)
```

perm_test

The function perm_test is the main function to carry out the hypothesis test procedure proposed in the paper.

Description

The function perm_test is the main function to carry out the hypothesis test procedure proposed in the paper.

Usage

```
perm_test(
  r_labels,
  c_labels,
  coords = NULL,
  dist_mat = NULL,
  f_func_input = NULL,
  h_func_input = NULL,
  alpha_val = 0.8,
  use_parallel = TRUE,
  replicate_times = 100,
  random_seed = 42,
  spe = NULL
)
```

Arguments

r_labels	Annotated labels of all spots/cells. Can be numeric vector or character vector.
c_labels	Estimated labels obtained by a certain spatial clustering method.
coords	Spatial coordinates (2 columns). 1st column: first dimension coordinate. 2nd column: second dimension coordinate. Default is NULL.
dist_mat	Distance matrix provided by users. If both coords and dist_mat are provided, we will directly use the distance matrix. Default is NULL. Please notice that if dist_mat is sparse, the weight function for object pairs without recorded distances degenerates to the setting used in the classical Rand index.
f_func_input	R function; function f provided by users.
h_func_input	R function; function h provided by users.
alpha_val	Parameter in the default functions f and h, which belongs to the open interval (0, 1) to keep a positive gap between the maximal weight of the disagreement pair and the weight one of the agreement pair. Default is 0.8.
use_parallel	Logical; if TRUE, use parallel code to permute the two partitions. Default is TRUE.

replicate_times	Number of permutations for both the reference and clustering partitions. Default is 100.
random_seed	Random seed for reproducibility. Default is 42.
spe	SpatialExperiment object; stores various components of spatial transcriptomics data, including spatialCoords: A matrix containing the spatial coordinates; colData\$cell_type: Annotated cell type labels for each spot or cell; colData\$cluster: Clustering labels for each spot or cell. Default is NULL.

Value

spARI returns an R numeric including the following information.

spARI_obs	numeric, the observed spARI value calculated by r_labels and c_labels
p_value	numeric, the p-value of the hypothesis testing

Examples

```
library(spARI)
data(spARI_example_data)
true_labels = spARI_example_data$true_labels
c1_labels = spARI_example_data$c1_labels
c2_labels = spARI_example_data$c2_labels
coords = spARI_example_data$coords
test_res1 = perm_test(r_labels=true_labels, c_labels=c1_labels, coords=coords,
                      use_parallel=FALSE)
test_res2 = perm_test(r_labels=true_labels, c_labels=c2_labels, coords=coords,
                      use_parallel=FALSE)
```

spARI	<i>The function spARI is the main function to calculate spRI and spARI values proposed in the paper.</i>
-------	--

Description

The function spARI is the main function to calculate spRI and spARI values proposed in the paper.

Usage

```
spARI(
  r_labels,
  c_labels,
  coords = NULL,
  dist_mat = NULL,
  f_func_input = NULL,
  h_func_input = NULL,
  alpha_val = 0.8,
  spe = NULL
)
```

Arguments

<code>r_labels</code>	Annotated labels of all spots/cells. Can be numeric vector or character vector.
<code>c_labels</code>	Estimated labels obtained by a certain spatial clustering method.
<code>coords</code>	Spatial coordinates (2 columns). 1st column: first dimension coordinate. 2nd column: second dimension coordinate. Default is NULL.
<code>dist_mat</code>	Distance matrix provided by users. If both <code>coords</code> and <code>dist_mat</code> are provided, we will directly use the distance matrix. Default is NULL. Please notice that if <code>dist_mat</code> is sparse, the weight function for object pairs without recorded distances degenerates to the setting used in the classical Rand index.
<code>f_func_input</code>	R function; function <code>f</code> provided by users.
<code>h_func_input</code>	R function; function <code>h</code> provided by users.
<code>alpha_val</code>	Parameter in the default functions <code>f</code> and <code>h</code> , which belongs to the open interval (0, 1) to keep a positive gap between the maximal weight of the disagreement pair and the weight one of the agreement pair. Default is 0.8.
<code>spe</code>	SpatialExperiment object; stores various components of spatial transcriptomics data, including <code>spatialCoords</code> : A matrix containing the spatial coordinates; <code>colData\$cell_type</code> : Annotated cell type labels for each spot or cell; <code>colData\$cluster</code> : Clustering labels for each spot or cell. Default is NULL.

Value

spARI returns an R numeric including the following information.

<code>spRI_value</code>	numeric, the spRI value calculated by <code>r_labels</code> and <code>c_labels</code>
<code>spARI_value</code>	numeric, the spARI value calculated by <code>r_labels</code> and <code>c_labels</code>

Examples

```
library(spARI)
### --- Import example data --- ###
# (1) true_labels: ground truth of 160 spots (input as r_labels)
# (2) c1_labels: one partition results of these spots (input as c_labels)
# (3) c2_labels: another partition results of these spots (input as c_labels)
# (4) coords: spatial coordinates of these spots (2 columns)
data(spARI_example_data)
true_labels = spARI_example_data$true_labels
c1_labels = spARI_example_data$c1_labels
c2_labels = spARI_example_data$c2_labels
coords = spARI_example_data$coords
### --- Compute spRI and spARI --- ###
res1 = spARI(r_labels=true_labels, c_labels=c1_labels, coords=coords)
res2 = spARI(r_labels=true_labels, c_labels=c2_labels, coords=coords)
cat(paste0("1st: spRI=", round(res1[1], 3), ", spARI=", round(res1[2], 3), "\n"))
cat(paste0("2nd: spRI=", round(res2[1], 3), ", spARI=", round(res2[2], 3), "\n"))
```

spARI_example_data	<i>Example data for spARI</i>
--------------------	-------------------------------

Description

This dataset includes simulated spatial clustering results for demonstration purposes. It contains the following objects:

- **true_labels**: Ground-truth labels of 160 spots.
- **c1_labels**: First clustering result to compare.
- **c2_labels**: Second clustering result to compare.
- **coords**: Spatial coordinates (matrix with 2 columns).

Usage

```
data(spARI_example_data)
```

Format

An environment containing 4 objects:

true_labels Numeric or factor vector of length 160.

c1_labels Numeric or factor vector of length 160.

c2_labels Numeric or factor vector of length 160.

coords Numeric matrix of size 160x2.

Index

* **datasets**

spARI_example_data, [6](#)

generate_gs_pairs_int, [2](#)

generate_sg_pairs_int, [2](#)

perm_test, [3](#)

spARI, [4](#)

spARI_example_data, [6](#)