

Package ‘HIMA’

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Type Package

Title High-Dimensional Mediation Analysis

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Description Allows to estimate and test high-dimensional mediation effects based on advanced mediator screening and penalized regression techniques. Methods used in the package refer to Zhang H, Zheng Y, Hou L, Zheng C, Liu L. Mediation Analysis for Survival Data with High-Dimensional Mediators. (2021) <[doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btab564](https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btab564)>.

License GPL-3

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URL <https://github.com/YinanZheng/HIMA/>

BugReports <https://github.com/YinanZheng/HIMA/issues/>

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HIMA-package	<i>High-Dimensional Mediation Analysis for 'Omic' Data</i>
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Description

HIMA is an R package for estimating and testing high-dimensional mediation effects in omic studies. HIMA can perform high-dimensional mediation analysis on a wide range of omic data types as potential mediators, including epigenetics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics using function `hima` and microbiome data (function `microHIMA`). HIMA can also handle survival data (function `survHIMA`).

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References

- Zhang H, Zheng Y, Zhang Z, Gao T, Joyce B, Yoon G, Zhang W, Schwartz J, Just A, Colicino E, Vokonas P, Zhao L, Lv J, Baccarelli A, Hou L, Liu L. Estimating and Testing High-dimensional Mediation Effects in Epigenetic Studies. *Bioinformatics*. 2016. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btw351. PMID: 27357171. PMCID: PMC5048064
- Zhang H, Zheng Y, Hou L, Zheng C, Liu L. Mediation Analysis for Survival Data with High-Dimensional Mediators. *Bioinformatics*. 2021. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btab564. PMID: 34343267. PMCID: PMC8570823

Description

hima is used to estimate and test high-dimensional mediation effects.

Usage

```
hima(
  X,
  Y,
  M,
  COV.XM = NULL,
  COV.MY = COV.XM,
  family = c("gaussian", "binomial"),
  screen.family = c("gaussian", "negbin"),
  penalty = c("MCP", "SCAD", "lasso"),
  topN = NULL,
  parallel = FALSE,
  ncore = 1,
  verbose = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

X	a vector of exposure.
Y	a vector of outcome. Can be either continuous or binary (0-1).
M	a data.frame or matrix of high-dimensional mediators. Rows represent samples, columns represent variables.
COV.XM	a data.frame or matrix of covariates dataset for testing the association $M \sim X$. Covariates specified here will not participate penalization. Default = NULL. If the covariates contain mixed data types, please make sure all categorical variables are properly formatted as factor type.
COV.MY	a data.frame or matrix of covariates dataset for testing the association $Y \sim M$. Covariates specified here will not participate penalization. If not specified, the same set of covariates for $M \sim X$ will be applied. Using different sets of covariates is allowed but this needs to be handled carefully.
family	either 'gaussian' or 'binomial', depending on the data type of outcome (Y). See ncvreg
screen.family	either 'gaussian' (default) or 'negbin' (i.e., negative binomial). This parameter is taking effect only when parameter family = 'binomial'. When family = 'binomial', the screening step is based on X (exposure, independent variable) and the omic mediator (dependent variable). This is useful when handling RNA sequencing count data as mediators.

penalty	the penalty to be applied to the model. Either 'MCP' (the default), 'SCAD', or 'lasso'. See ncvreg .
topN	an integer specifying the number of top markers from sure independent screening. Default = NULL. If NULL, topN will be either $\text{ceiling}(n/\log(n))$ if family = 'gaussian', or $\text{ceiling}(n/(2*\log(n)))$ if family = 'binomial', where n is the sample size. If the sample size is greater than topN (pre-specified or calculated), all mediators will be included in the test (i.e. low-dimensional scenario).
parallel	logical. Enable parallel computing feature? Default = TRUE.
ncore	number of cores to run parallel computing Valid when parallel == TRUE. By default max number of cores available in the machine will be utilized.
verbose	logical. Should the function be verbose? Default = FALSE.
...	other arguments passed to ncvreg .

Value

A data.frame containing mediation testing results of selected mediators.

- alpha: coefficient estimates of exposure (X) → mediators (M).
- beta: coefficient estimates of mediators (M) → outcome (Y) (adjusted for exposure).
- gamma: coefficient estimates of exposure (X) → outcome (Y) (total effect).
- alpha*beta: mediation effect.
- % total effect: $\text{alpha*beta} / \text{gamma}$. Percentage of the mediation effect out of the total effect.
- Bonferroni.p: statistical significance of the mediator (Bonferroni procedure).
- BH.FDR: statistical significance of the mediator (Benjamini-Hochberg procedure).

References

Zhang H, Zheng Y, Zhang Z, Gao T, Joyce B, Yoon G, Zhang W, Schwartz J, Just A, Colicino E, Vokonas P, Zhao L, Lv J, Baccarelli A, Hou L, Liu L. Estimating and Testing High-dimensional Mediation Effects in Epigenetic Studies. *Bioinformatics*. 2016. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btw351. PMID: 27357171. PMCID: PMC5048064

Examples

```
n <- 200 # sample size
p <- 200 # the dimension of covariates

# the regression coefficients alpha (exposure --> mediators)
alpha <- rep(0, p)

# the regression coefficients beta (mediators --> outcome)
beta1 <- rep(0, p) # for continuous outcome
beta2 <- rep(0, p) # for binary outcome

# the first four markers are true mediators
alpha[1:4] <- c(0.45,0.5,0.6,0.7)
beta1[1:4] <- c(0.55,0.6,0.65,0.7)
```

```

beta2[1:4] <- c(1.45,1.5,1.55,1.6)

# these are not true mediators
alpha[7:8] <- 0.5
beta1[5:6] <- 0.8
beta2[5:6] <- 1.7

# Generate simulation data
simdat_cont = simHIMA(n, p, alpha, beta1, seed=1029)
simdat_bin = simHIMA(n, p, alpha, beta2, binaryOutcome = TRUE, seed=1029)

# Run HIMA with MCP penalty by default
# When Y is continuous (default)
hima.fit <- hima(simdat_cont$X, simdat_cont$Y, simdat_cont$M, verbose = TRUE)
hima.fit

# When Y is binary (should specify family)
hima.logistic.fit <- hima(simdat_bin$X, simdat_bin$Y, simdat_bin$M,
family = "binomial", verbose = TRUE)
hima.logistic.fit

```

microHIMA

High-dimensional mediation analysis for compositional microbiome data

Description

microHIMA is used to estimate and test high-dimensional mediation effects for compositional microbiome data.

Usage

```
microHIMA(X, Y, OTU, COV = NULL, FDPcut = 0.05)
```

Arguments

X	a vector of exposure.
Y	a vector of outcome.
OTU	a data.frame or matrix of high-dimensional compositional OTUs (mediators). Rows represent samples, columns represent variables.
COV	a data.frame or matrix of adjusting covariates. Rows represent samples, columns represent microbiome variables. Can be NULL.
FDPcut	FDP (false discovery proportions) cutoff applied to define and select significant mediators. Default = 0.05.

Value

A data.frame containing mediation testing results of selected mediators ($FDP < FDP_{cut}$).

- ID: index of selected significant mediator.
- alpha: coefficient estimates of exposure (X) \rightarrow mediators (M).
- alpha_se: standard error for alpha.
- beta: coefficient estimates of mediators (M) \rightarrow outcome (Y) (adjusted for exposure).
- beta_se: standard error for beta
- p_FDP: false discovery proportions of selected significant mediator.

References

Zhang H, Chen J, Feng Y, Wang C, Li H, Liu L. Mediation effect selection in high-dimensional and compositional microbiome data. *Stat Med*. 2021. DOI: 10.1002/sim.8808. PMID: 33205470; PMCID: PMC7855955.

Zhang H, Chen J, Li Z, Liu L. Testing for mediation effect with application to human microbiome data. *Stat Biosci*. 2021. DOI: 10.1007/s12561-019-09253-3. PMID: 34093887; PMCID: PMC8177450.

Examples

```
## Generate simulated survival data
n <- 200 # Sample size
p <- 25 # Number of microbiome
Treatment = rbinom(n, 1, 0.2) # binary outcome

## Generate two covariates, one binary, one continuous
covariates = cbind(sample(c(1,0), n, replace = TRUE), rnorm(n))

## parameters
beta0 = as.numeric(matrix(0, 1, p))
betaT = rep(0, p)
betaT[c(1, 2, 3)] = c(1, 1.2, 1.5) # let the first three are non-zero
betaX = matrix(0, p, 2)

alpha0 = 0
alphaT = 1
alphaZ = alphaC = rep(0, p)
alphaZ[c(1, 2, 3)] = c(1.3, -0.7, -0.6) # let the first three are non-zero for response
alphaX = c(0.5, 0.5)

## Generate microbiome data
X = cbind(rep(1, n), covariates, Treatment) # n * (1 + q + p)
b = cbind(beta0, betaX, betaT) # p * (1 + q + p)
gamma.simu = exp(X %*% t(b)) # n * p
otu.com = t(apply(gamma.simu, 1, HIMA:::rdirichlet, n = 1)) # Dirichlet distribution

## Generate outcome data
X = cbind(rep(1, n), Treatment, covariates, log(otu.com), log(otu.com) * Treatment)
```

```

b = c(alpha0, alphaT, alphaX, alphaZ, alphaC)
outcome = c(b %*% t(X) + rnorm(n, mean = 0, sd = 1))
exposure = t(t(Treatment))

## Not run:
microHIMA.fit <- microHIMA(X = exposure, Y = outcome, OTU = otu.com, COV = covariates)
microHIMA.fit

## End(Not run)

```

simHIMA

Simulation Data Generator for High-dimensional Mediation Analysis

Description

simHIMA is used to generate simulation data for high-dimensional mediation analysis.

Usage

```
simHIMA(n, p, alpha, beta, binaryOutcome = FALSE, seed)
```

Arguments

n	an integer specifying sample size.
p	an integer specifying the dimension of mediators.
alpha	a numeric vector specifying the regression coefficients alpha (exposure → mediators).
beta	a numeric vector specifying the regression coefficients beta (mediators → outcome).
binaryOutcome	logical. Should the simulated outcome variable be binary?
seed	an integer specifying a seed for random number generation.

See Also

see [hima](#) to run HIMA.

Examples

```

n <- 200 # sample size
p <- 200 # the dimension of covariates

# the regression coefficients alpha (exposure --> mediators)
alpha <- rep(0, p)

# the regression coefficients beta (mediators --> outcome)
beta <- rep(0, p)

```

```
# the first four markers are true mediators.
alpha[1:4] <- c(0.45,0.5,0.55,0.6)
beta[1:4] <- c(0.5,0.45,0.4,0.35)

alpha[7:8] <- 0.5
beta[5:6] <- 0.5

# Generate simulation data
simdat = simHIMA(n, p, alpha, beta, seed=1029)
```

survHIMA

High-dimensional mediation analysis for survival data

Description

survHIMA is used to estimate and test high-dimensional mediation effects for survival data.

Usage

```
survHIMA(X, Z, M, OT, status, FDRcut = 0.05, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

X	a vector of exposure.
Z	a matrix of adjusting covariates. Rows represent samples, columns represent variables. Can be NULL.
M	a data.frame or matrix of high-dimensional mediators. Rows represent samples, columns represent mediator variables.
OT	a vector of observed failure times.
status	a vector of censoring indicator (status = 1: uncensored; status = 0: censored)
FDRcut	FDR cutoff applied to define and select significant mediators. Default = 0.05.
verbose	logical. Should the function be verbose? Default = FALSE.

Value

A data.frame containing mediation testing results of selected mediators (FDR < FDPcut).

- ID: index of selected significant mediator.
- alpha: coefficient estimates of exposure (X) → mediators (M).
- alpha_se: standard error for alpha.
- beta: coefficient estimates of mediators (M) → outcome (Y) (adjusted for exposure).
- beta_se: standard error for beta
- p.joint: joint p-value of selected significant mediator.

References

Zhang H, Zheng Y, Hou L, Zheng C, Liu L. Mediation Analysis for Survival Data with High-Dimensional Mediators. *Bioinformatics*. 2021. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btab564. PMID: 34343267. PMCID: PMC8570823

Examples

```
## Generate simulated survival data
set.seed(100)
n <- 300 # sample size
p <- 100 # the dimension of mediators
q <- 1 # the dimension of covariate(s)

sigma_e <- matrix(0.25, p, p)
diag(sigma_e) <- 1
sigma_e[1, 3] <- 0.8
sigma_e[3, 1] <- 0.8
sigma_e[2, 4] <- 0.8
sigma_e[4, 2] <- 0.8

##
beta <- matrix(0, 1, p)
beta[1:5] <- c(0.6, -0.5, 0.4, -0.3, 0.25)

##
alpha <- matrix(0, 1, p)
alpha[1:5] <- c(0.6, -0.5, 0.4, -0.3, 0.25)

##
gamma <- matrix(0.5, 1, q)
eta <- matrix(0.3, p, q)
r <- matrix(0.5, 1, 1)

##
X <- matrix(rnorm(n, mean = 0, sd = 2), n, 1) # expoure
Z <- matrix(rnorm(n * q, mean = 0, sd = 2), n, q) # covariates
mu <- matrix(0, p, 1)
e <- MASS::mvrnorm(n, mu, sigma_e) # the error terms

M <- X%*(alpha) + Z%*t(eta) + e
MZ <- cbind(M, Z, X)

beta_gamma <- cbind(beta, gamma, r)

## generate the failure time T
u <- runif(n, 0, 1)
T <- matrix(0, n, 1)
for (i in 1:n)
  T[i] <- -log(1 - u[i])*exp(-sum(beta_gamma*MZ[i,]))

## generate censoring time 0.45 censoring rate
C <- runif(n, min = 0, max = 150)
```

```
status <- as.integer(T < C)

## the observed failure time
OT <- apply(cbind(C,T), 1, min)

## Not run:
survHIMA.fit <- survHIMA(X, Z, M, OT, status)
survHIMA.fit

## End(Not run)
```

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