

# Package ‘snQTL’

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**Title** Spectral Network Quantitative Trait Loci (snQTL) Analysis

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as.tensor	<i>Tensor Conversion</i>
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## Description

Create a [Tensor-class](#) object from an array, matrix, or vector.

## Usage

```
as.tensor(x, drop = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

x	an instance of array, matrix, or vector
drop	whether or not modes of 1 should be dropped

## Value

a [Tensor-class](#) object

## Examples

```
#From vector
vec <- runif(100); vecT <- as.tensor(vec); vecT
#From matrix
mat <- matrix(runif(1000),nrow=100,ncol=10)
matT <- as.tensor(mat); matT
#From array
indices <- c(10,20,30,40)
arr <- array(runif(prod(indices)), dim = indices)
arrT <- as.tensor(arr); arrT
```

---

BinarySearch	<i>Search soft threshold</i>
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**Description**

A binary search to find proper soft threshold  $\lambda_{mv}$  such that

$$sv = \text{soft}(argv, \lambda_{mv}) / \|\text{soft}(argv, \lambda_{mv})\|_2, \|sv\|_1 = \text{sumabsv}$$

**Usage**

```
BinarySearch(argv, sumabsv, maxiter = 150)
```

**Arguments**

argv	the vector to be soft thresholded
sumabsv	upperbound of the L <sub>1</sub> norm of sv
maxiter	max iteration to perform binary search

**Value**

the proper threshold level  $\lambda_{mv}$ .

**See Also**

`symmPMD()`.

---

cs_unfold-methods	<i>Tensor Column Space Unfolding</i>
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---

**Description**

Tensor Column Space Unfolding

**Usage**

```
cs_unfold(tnsr, m)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'Tensor'
cs_unfold(tnsr, m = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

tnsr	Tensor instance
m	mode to be unfolded on

**Details**

```
cs_unfold(tnsr,m=NULL)
```

---

```
diffnet_to_snQTL_stats
```

*Test statistics for snQTL*

---

**Description**

Generate snQTL test statistics from a given list of differential networks. This function takes a list of differential networks, the choice of test statistics, and other computational tuning parameters as inputs. Outputs include the calculated statistics, recall of the choice, and the decomposition components associated with the statistics.

**Usage**

```
diffnet_to_snQTL_stats(
  diffnet_list,
  method = c("sum", "sum_square", "max", "tensor"),
  rho = 1000,
  sumabs = 0.2,
  niter = 20,
  trace = FALSE,
  tensor_iter = 20,
  tensor_tol = 10^(-3),
  tensor_seed = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

diffnet_list	list, a list of p-by-p differential networks
method	character, the choice of test statistics; see "details"
rho	number, a large positive constant adding to the diagonal elements to ensure positive definiteness in symmetric matrix spectral decomposition
sumabs	number, the number specify the sparsity level in the matrix/tensor eigenvector; sumabs takes value between $1/\sqrt{p}$ and 1, where $p$ is the dimension; $\text{sumabs} \times \sqrt{p}$ is the upperbound of the L1 norm of the leading matrix/tensor eigenvector (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )
niter	integer, the number of iterations to use in the PMD algorithm (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )
trace	logic variable, whether to trace the progress of PMD algorithm (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )
tensor_iter	integer, the maximal number of iteration in SSTD algorithm (see <code>max_iter</code> in <code>SSTD()</code> )
tensor_tol	number, a small positive constant for error difference to indicate the SSTD convergence (see <code>tol</code> in <code>SSTD()</code> )
tensor_seed	number, the seed to generate random initialization for SSTD algorithm

## Details

The list `diffnet_list` records the pairwise differential networks  $D_{AB}, D_{AH}, D_{BH}$ . This package provides four options for test statistics:

1. `sum`, the sum of sparse leading matrix eigenvalues (sLMEs) of all pairwise differential networks:

$$Stat_{sum} = \lambda(D_{AB}) + \lambda(D_{AH}) + \lambda(D_{BH}),$$

where  $\lambda$  refers to the sLME operation with given sparsity level set up by `sumabs`.

2. `sum_square`, the sum of squared sLMEs:

$$Stat_{sumsquare} = \lambda^2(D_{AB}) + \lambda^2(D_{AH}) + \lambda^2(D_{BH}).$$

3. `max`, the maximal of sLMEs:

$$Stat_{max} = \max(\lambda(D_{AB}), \lambda(D_{AH}), \lambda(D_{BH})).$$

4. `tensor`, the sparse leading tensor eigenvalue (sLTE) of the differential tensor:

$$Stat_{tensor} = \Lambda(\mathcal{D}),$$

where  $\Lambda$  refers to the sLTE operation with given sparsity level set up by `sumabs`, and  $\mathcal{D}$  is the differential tensor composed by stacking three pairwise differential networks.

The sparse symmetric matrix decomposition is implemented by `symmPMD()` with parameters `rho`, `sumabs`, `niter`, `trace`. The sparse symmetric tensor decomposition is implemented by `SSTD()`. Since `symmPMD()` is used in `SSTD()`, parameters for `symmPMD()` are used for `SSTD()`. While parameters `tensor_iter`, `tensor_tol`, `tensor_seed` should be uniquely defined for tensor method.

## Value

a list containing the following:

<code>method</code>	character, recall of the choice of test statistics
<code>stats</code>	number, the calculated test statistics with given network list and choices
<code>decomp_result</code>	list, if <code>method = c("sum", "sum_square", "max")</code> , the matrix decomposition components for all pairwise differential networks are recorded; if <code>method = "tensor"</code> , the tensor decomposition components for the differential tensor are recorded

## References

Hu, J., Weber, J. N., Fuess, L. E., Steinel, N. C., Bolnick, D. I., & Wang, M. (2025). A spectral framework to map QTLs affecting joint differential networks of gene co-expression. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 21(4), e1012953.

---

dim-methods

*Mode Getter for Tensor*

---

### Description

Return the vector of modes from a tensor

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'Tensor'  
dim(x)
```

### Arguments

x                    the Tensor instance

### Details

dim(x)

### Value

an integer vector of the modes associated with x

### Examples

```
tnsr <- rand_tensor()  
dim(tnsr)
```

---

fold

*General Folding of Matrix*

---

### Description

General folding of a matrix into a Tensor. This is designed to be the inverse function to [unfold-methods](#), with the same ordering of the indices. This amounts to following: if we were to unfold a Tensor using a set of `row_idx` and `col_idx`, then we can fold the resulting matrix back into the original Tensor using the same `row_idx` and `col_idx`.

### Usage

```
fold(mat, row_idx = NULL, col_idx = NULL, modes = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

mat	matrix to be folded into a Tensor
row_idx	the indices of the modes that are mapped onto the row space
col_idx	the indices of the modes that are mapped onto the column space
modes	the modes of the output Tensor

**Details**

This function uses `aperm` as the primary workhorse.

**Value**

Tensor object with modes given by `modes`

**References**

T. Kolda, B. Bader, "Tensor decomposition and applications". SIAM Applied Mathematics and Applications 2009, Vol. 51, No. 3 (September 2009), pp. 455-500. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25662308>.

**See Also**

[unfold-methods](#)

**Examples**

```
tnsr <- new('Tensor', 3L, c(3L, 4L, 5L), data = runif(60))
matT3 <- unfold(tnsr, row_idx = 2, col_idx = c(3, 1))
identical(fold(matT3, row_idx = 2, col_idx = c(3, 1), modes = c(3, 4, 5)), tnsr)
```

---

get\_diffnet\_from\_exp *The differential matrix*

---

**Description**

Given observations from two populations X and Y, compute the differential matrix

$$D = N(Y) - N(X)$$

where  $N()$  is the covariance matrix, or the weighted adjacency matrices defined as

$$N_{ij} = |\text{corr}(i, j)|^{\text{beta}}$$

for some constant  $\text{beta} > 0$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq p$ . Let  $N$  represent the regular correlation matrix when  $\text{beta} = 0$ , and covariance matrix when  $\text{beta} < 0$ .

**Usage**

```
get_diffnet_from_exp(X, Y, adj.beta = -1, trans = FALSE, location = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

X	n1-by-p matrix for samples from the first population. Rows are samples/observations, while columns are the features.
Y	n2-by-p matrix for samples from the second population. Rows are samples/observations, while columns are the features.
adj.beta	Power to transform correlation matrices to weighted adjacency matrices by $N_{ij} =  r_{ij} ^{\text{adj.beta}}$ where $r_{ij}$ represents the Pearson's correlation. When adj.beta=0, the correlation matrix is used. When adj.beta<0, the covariance matrix is used. The default value is adj.beta=-1.
trans	logic variable, whether to only consider the trans-correlation (between genes from two different chromosomes or regions); see "details"
location	vector, the (chromosome) locations for items

**Value**

The p-by-p differential matrix  $D = N(Y) - N(X)$ .

---

```
get_diffnet_list_from_exp
```

*Get the list of differential matrix from a list of expression data*

---

**Description**

Given a list of expression data,  $X_1, \dots, X_K$ , compute the list of differential matrix

$$D^{(k,l)} = N(X_l) - N(X_k), k < l,$$

where  $N()$  is the covariance matrix, or the weighted adjacency matrices defined as

$$N_{ij} = |\text{corr}(i, j)|^{\text{beta}}$$

for some constant  $\text{beta} > 0$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq p$ . Let  $N$  represent the regular correlation matrix when  $\text{beta}=0$ , and covariance matrix when  $\text{beta}<0$ . In total, we will have  $K*(K-1)/2$  pairwise differential networks in the list.

If  $\text{trans} = \text{TRUE}$ , we let  $N_{ij} = 0$  if  $i, j$  are from the same region based on `location`. Under gene co-expression context, trans-correlation usually refer to the correlation between two genes  $i, j$  from two chromosomes.

**Usage**

```
get_diffnet_list_from_exp(
  exp_list,
  adj.beta = -1,
  trans = FALSE,
  location = NULL
)
```



**Arguments**

exp_list	a list of nk-by-p matrices from the K populations. Rows are samples/observations, while columns are the features.
adj.beta	Power to transform correlation matrices to weighted adjacency matrices by $N_{ij} =  r_{ij} ^{\text{adj.beta}}$ where $r_{ij}$ represents the Pearson's correlation. When adj.beta=0, the correlation matrix is used. When adj.beta<0, the covariance matrix is used. The default value is adj.beta=-1.
trans	logic variable, whether to only consider the trans-correlation (between genes from two different chromosomes or regions)
location	vector, the (chromosome) locations for items

**Value**

A list of p-by-p differential matrix  $D^{(k,l)}$ ,  $k < l$ .

---

kronecker_list	<i>List Kronecker Product</i>
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---

**Description**

Returns the Kronecker product from a list of matrices or vectors. Commonly used for n-mode products and various Tensor decompositions.

**Usage**

```
kronecker_list(L)
```

**Arguments**

L list of matrices or vectors

**Value**

matrix that is the Kronecker product

**Examples**

```
smalllize <- list('mat1' = matrix(runif(12),ncol=4),
  'mat2' = matrix(runif(12),ncol=4),
  'mat3' = matrix(runif(12),ncol=4))
dim(kronecker_list(smalllize))
```

---

l2n	<i>L2 norm for vector</i>
-----	---------------------------

---

**Description**

L2 norm for vector

**Usage**

l2n(vec)

**Arguments**

vec                    a numeric vector

**Value**

the L2 norm of vec.

---

Ops-methods	<i>Conformable elementwise operators for Tensor</i>
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---

**Description**

Conformable elementwise operators for Tensor

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'Tensor, Tensor'
Ops(e1, e2)
```

**Arguments**

e1                    left-hand object  
e2                    right-hand object

**Examples**

```
tnsr <- rand_tensor(c(3,4,5))
tnsr2 <- rand_tensor(c(3,4,5))
tnsrsum <- tnsr + tnsr2
tnsrdiff <- tnsr - tnsr2
tnsrelemprod <- tnsr * tnsr2
tnsrelemquot <- tnsr / tnsr2
for (i in 1:3L){
  for (j in 1:4L){
```

```
for (k in 1:5L){
  stopifnot(tnsrsum@data[i,j,k]==tnsr@data[i,j,k]+tnsr2@data[i,j,k])
  stopifnot(tnsrdiff@data[i,j,k]==(tnsr@data[i,j,k]-tnsr2@data[i,j,k]))
  stopifnot(tnsrelemprod@data[i,j,k]==tnsr@data[i,j,k]*tnsr2@data[i,j,k])
  stopifnot(tnsrelemquot@data[i,j,k]==tnsr@data[i,j,k]/tnsr2@data[i,j,k])
}
}
```

---

rand\_tensor

*Tensor with Random Entries*

---

## Description

Generate a Tensor with specified modes with iid normal(0,1) entries.

## Usage

```
rand_tensor(modes = c(3, 4, 5), drop = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

modes	the modes of the output Tensor
drop	whether or not modes equal to 1 should be dropped

## Value

a Tensor object with modes given by modes

## Note

Default rand\_tensor() generates a 3-Tensor with modes c(3, 4, 5).

## Examples

```
rand_tensor()
rand_tensor(c(4, 4, 4))
rand_tensor(c(10, 2, 1), TRUE)
```

---

rs_unfold-methods	<i>Tensor Row Space Unfolding</i>
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---

**Description**

Tensor Row Space Unfolding

**Usage**

```
rs_unfold(tnsr, m)

## S4 method for signature 'Tensor'
rs_unfold(tnsr, m = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

tnsr	Tensor instance
m	mode to be unfolded on

**Details**

```
rs_unfold(tnsr, m=NULL)
```

---

single_exp_to_snQTL_stats
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*Generate one single snQTL test statistics from expression data*

---

**Description**

Generate one single snQTL test statistics from a given list of expression data. This function takes a list of expression data, the choice of test statistics, the choice to permute or not, the choice of considering trans-correlation or not, and other computational tuning parameters as inputs. Outputs include the calculated statistics, recall of the choices, and the decomposition components associated with the statistics.

**Usage**

```
single_exp_to_snQTL_stats(
  seed = NULL,
  permute = FALSE,
  exp_list,
  method = c("sum", "sum_square", "max", "tensor"),
  rho = 1000,
  sumabs = 0.2,
  niter = 20,
```

```

    trace = FALSE,
    adj.beta = -1,
    tensor_iter = 20,
    tensor_tol = 10^(-3),
    trans = FALSE,
    location = NULL
)

```

### Arguments

seed	number, the random seed to shuffle the expression data if permute = TRUE and for SSTD() initialization if method = "tensor"
permute	logic variable, whether to shuffle the samples in expression data; see "details"
exp_list	list, a list of expression data from samples with different genotypes; see "details"
method	character, the choice of test statistics (see net_to_stats())
rho	number, a large positive constant adding to the diagonal elements to ensure positive definiteness in symmetric matrix spectral decomposition
sumabs	number, the number specify the sparsity level in the matrix/tensor eigenvector; sumabs takes value between $1/\sqrt{p}$ and 1, where $p$ is the dimension; $\text{sumabs} * \sqrt{p}$ is the upperbound of the L1 norm of the leading matrix/tensor eigenvector (see symmPMD())
niter	integer, the number of iterations to use in the PMD algorithm (see symmPMD())
trace	logic variable, whether to trace the progress of PMD algorithm (see symmPMD())
adj.beta	number, the power transformation to the correlation matrices (see getDiffMatrix()); particularly, when adj.beta=0, the correlation matrix is used, when adj.beta<0, the covariance matrix is used.
tensor_iter	integer, the maximal number of iteration in SSTD algorithm (see max_iter in SSTD())
tensor_tol	number, a small positive constant for error difference to indicate the SSTD convergence (see tol in SSTD())
trans	logic variable, whether to only consider the trans-correlation (between genes from two different chromosomes or regions); see "details"
location	vector, the (chromosome) locations for genes if trans = TRUE

### Details

In `exp_list`, the dimensions for data matrices are  $n_1$ -by- $p$ ,  $n_2$ -by- $p$ , and  $n_3$ -by- $p$ , respectively. The expression data is usually normalized. We use expression data to generate the Pearson's correlation co-expression networks.

If `permute = TRUE`, we shuffle the samples in three expression matrices while keeping the same dimensions. The test statistics from randomly shuffled data are considered as the statistics from null distribution.

If `trans = TRUE`, we only consider the trans-correlation between the genes from two different chromosomes or regions in co-expression networks. The entries in correlation matrices  $N_{ij} = 0$  if gene  $i$  and gene  $j$  are from the same chromosome or region.

**Value**

a list containing the following:

method	character, recall of the choice of test statistics
permute	logic variable, recall of the choice of permutation
stats	number, the calculated test statistics with given expression list and choices
decomp_result	list, if method = c("sum", "sum_square", "max"), the matrix decomposition components for all pairwise differential networks are recorded; if method = "tensor", the tensor decomposition components for the differential tensor are recorded

**References**

Hu, J., Weber, J. N., Fuess, L. E., Steinel, N. C., Bolnick, D. I., & Wang, M. (2025). A spectral framework to map QTLs affecting joint differential networks of gene co-expression. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 21(4), e1012953.

---

sLME

*Calculate of sLME for matrices*


---

**Description**

Calculate the sLME given a matrix  $D$ . For any symmetric matrix  $D$ , sLME test statistic is defined as

$$\max_s \text{Eig}(D), \text{sEig}(-D)$$

where  $\text{sEig}()$  is the sparse leading eigenvalue, defined as

$$\max_v v^T A v$$

subject to  $\|v\|_2 \leq 1, \|v\|_1 \leq s$ .

**Usage**

```
sLME(Dmat, rho = 1000, sumabs.seq = 0.2, niter = 20, trace = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

Dmat	p-by-p numeric matrix, the differential matrix
rho	a large positive constant such that $D + \text{diag}(\text{rep}(\text{rho}, p))$ and $-D + \text{diag}(\text{rep}(\text{rho}, p))$ are positive definite.
sumabs.seq	a numeric vector specifying the sequence of sparsity parameters, each between $1/\sqrt{p}$ and 1. Each $\text{sumabs} * \sqrt{p}$ is the upperbound of the L <sub>1</sub> norm of leading sparse eigenvector $v$ .
niter	the number of iterations to use in the PMD algorithm (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )
trace	whether to trace the progress of PMD algorithm (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )

**Value**

A list containing the following components:

sumabs.seq	the sequence of sparsity parameters
rho	a positive constant to augment the diagonal of the differential matrix such that $D + rho * I$ becomes positive definite.
stats	a numeric vector of test statistics when using different sparsity parameters (corresponding to sumabs.seq).
sign	a vector of signs when using different sparsity parameters (corresponding to sumabs.seq). Sign is "pos" if the test statistic is given by sEig(D), and "neg" if is given by sEig(-D), where sEig denotes the sparse leading eigenvalue.
v	the sequence of sparse leading eigenvectors, each row corresponds to one sparsity parameter given by sumabs.seq.
leverage	the leverage score for genes (defined as $v^2$ element-wise) using different sparsity parameters. Each row corresponds to one sparsity parameter given by sumabs.seq.

**References**

Zhu, Lingxue, et al. "Testing high-dimensional covariance matrices, with application to detecting schizophrenia risk genes." *The annals of applied statistics* 11.3 (2017): 1810.

---

snQTL\_test\_corrnet      *Spectral network quantitative trait loci (snQTL) test*

---

**Description**

Spectral framework to detect network QTLs affecting the co-expression networks. This is the main function for snQTL test.

Given a list of expression data matrices from samples with different genotypes, we test whether there are significant difference among three co-expression networks. Statistically, we consider the hypothesis testing task:

$$H_0 : N_A = N_B = N_H,$$

where  $A, B, H$  refer to different genotypes,  $N$  refers to the adjacency matrices corresponding to the co-expression network.

We provide four options for the test statistics, composed by sparse matrix/tensor eigenvalues. We perform permutation test to obtain the empirical p-values for the hypothesis testing.

NOTE: This function is also applicable for generalized cases to compare multiple ( $K > 3$ ) biological networks. Instead of separating the samples by genotypes, people can separate the samples into  $K$  groups based on other interested metrics, e.g., locations, treatments. The generalized hypothesis testing problem becomes

$$H_0 : N_1 = \dots = N_K,$$

where  $N_k$  refers to the correlation-based network corresponding to the group  $k$ . For consistency, we stick with the original genotype-based setting in this help document. See details and examples for the generalization on the Github manual <https://github.com/Marchhu36/snQTL>.

**Usage**

```
snQTL_test_corrnet(
  exp_list,
  method = c("sum", "sum_square", "max", "tensor"),
  npermute = 100,
  seeds = 1:100,
  stats_seed = NULL,
  rho = 1000,
  sumabs = 0.2,
  niter = 20,
  trace = FALSE,
  adj.beta = -1,
  tensor_iter = 20,
  tensor_tol = 10-3,
  trans = FALSE,
  location = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

exp_list	list, a list of expression data from samples with different genotypes; the dimensions for data matrices are n1-by-p, n2-by-p, and n3-by-p, respectively; see "details"
method	character, the choice of test statistics; see "details"
npermute	number, the number of permutations to obtain empirical p-values
seeds	vector, the random seeds for permutation; length of the vector is equal to the npermute
stats_seed	number, the random seed for test statistics calculation with non-permuted data
rho	number, a large positive constant adding to the diagonal elements to ensure positive definiteness in symmetric matrix spectral decomposition
sumabs	number, the number specify the sparsity level in the matrix/tensor eigenvector; sumabs takes value between $1/\sqrt{p}$ and 1, where $p$ is the dimension; $\text{sumabs} \times \sqrt{p}$ is the upperbound of the L1 norm of the leading matrix/tensor eigenvector (see symmPMD())
niter	integer, the number of iterations to use in the PMD algorithm (see symmPMD())
trace	logic variable, whether to trace the progress of PMD algorithm (see symmPMD())
adj.beta	number, the power transformation to the correlation matrices (see getDiffMatrix()); particularly, when adj.beta=0, the correlation matrix is used, when adj.beta<0, the covariance matrix is used.
tensor_iter	integer, the maximal number of iteration in SSTD algorithm (see max_iter in SSTD())
tensor_tol	number, a small positive constant for error difference to indicate the SSTD convergence (see tol in SSTD())
trans	logic variable, whether to only consider the trans-correlation (between genes from two different chromosomes or regions); see "details"
location	vector, the (chromosome) locations for genes if trans = TRUE



## Details

In `exp_list`, the data matrices are usually ordered with marker's genotypes AA, BB, and AB. The expression data is usually normalized. We use expression data to generate the Pearson's correlation co-expression networks.

Given the list of co-expression networks, we generate pairwise differential networks

$$D_{AB} = N_A - N_B, D_{AH} = N_H - N_A, D_{BH} = N_H - N_B.$$

We use pairwise differential networks to generate the snQTL test statistics.

We provide four options of test statistics with different choices of method:

1. `sum`, the sum of sparse leading matrix eigenvalues (sLMEs) of all pairwise differential networks:

$$Stat_{sum} = \lambda(D_{AB}) + \lambda(D_{AH}) + \lambda(D_{BH}),$$

where  $\lambda$  refers to the sLME operation with given sparsity level set up by `sumabs`.

2. `sum_square`, the sum of squared sLMEs:

$$Stat_{sum.square} = \lambda^2(D_{AB}) + \lambda^2(D_{AH}) + \lambda^2(D_{BH}).$$

3. `max`, the maximal of sLMEs:

$$Stat_{max} = \max(\lambda(D_{AB}), \lambda(D_{AH}), \lambda(D_{BH})).$$

4. `tensor`, the sparse leading tensor eigenvalue (sLTE) of the differential tensor:

$$Stat_{tensor} = \Lambda(\mathcal{D}),$$

where  $\Lambda$  refers to the sLTE operation with given sparsity level set up by `sumabs`, and  $\mathcal{D}$  is the differential tensor composed by stacking three pairwise differential networks.

Additionally, if `trans = TRUE`, we only consider the trans-correlation between the genes from two different chromosomes or regions in co-expression networks. The entries in correlation matrices  $N_{ij} = 0$  if gene *i* and gene *j* are from the same chromosome or region. The gene location information is required if `trans = TRUE`.

## Value

a list containing the following:

<code>method</code>	character, recall of the choice of test statistics
<code>res_original</code>	list, test result for non-permuted data, including the recall of method choices, test statistics, and decomposition components
<code>res_permute</code>	list, test results for each permuted data, including the recall of method choices, test statistics, and decomposition components
<code>emp_p_value</code>	number, the empirical p-value from permutation test

## References

Hu, J., Weber, J. N., Fuess, L. E., Steinel, N. C., Bolnick, D. I., & Wang, M. (2025). A spectral framework to map QTLs affecting joint differential networks of gene co-expression. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 21(4), e1012953.

## Examples

```
### artificial example
n1 = 50
n2 = 60
n3 = 100

p = 200

location = c(rep(1,20), rep(2, 50), rep(3, 100), rep(4, 30))

## expression data from null
set.seed(0416) # random seeds for example data
exp1 = matrix(rnorm(n1*p, mean = 0, sd = 1), nrow = n1)
exp2 = matrix(rnorm(n2*p, mean = 0, sd = 1), nrow = n2)
exp3 = matrix(rnorm(n3*p, mean = 0, sd = 1), nrow = n3)

exp_list = list(exp1, exp2, exp3)

result = snQTL_test_corrnet(exp_list = exp_list, method = 'tensor',
                           npermute = 30, seeds = 1:30, stats_seed = 0416,
                           trans = TRUE, location = location)

result$emp_p_value
```

---

soft

*Soft threshold*

---

## Description

Soft threshold

## Usage

```
soft(x, d)
```

## Arguments

x	a numeric vector
d	the soft threshold level

## Value

the vector after soft thresholding x at level d.

**See Also**

symmPMD().

---

solvePMD

*Solving symmetric Penalized Matrix Decomposition*

---

**Description**

An iterative algorithm that solves the Sparse Principal Component Analysis problem: given a positive definite matrix  $A$ :

$$\max_v v^T A v$$

subject to

$$\|v\|_2 \leq 1, \|v\|_1 \leq s$$

The solution  $v$  is the sparse leading eigenvector, and the corresponding objective  $v^T A v$  is the sparse leading eigenvalue.

**Usage**

```
solvePMD(x, sumabsv, v, niter = 50, trace = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	p-by-p matrix, symmetric and positive definite
<code>sumabsv</code>	the upperbound of the $L_1$ norm of $v$ , controlling the sparsity of solution. Must be between 1 and $\sqrt{p}$ .
<code>v</code>	the starting value of the algorithm.
<code>niter</code>	number of iterations to perform the iterative optimizations
<code>trace</code>	whether to print tracing info during optimization

**Value**

A list containing the following components:

<code>v</code>	the sparse leading eigenvector $v$
<code>d</code>	the sparse leading eigenvalue $d = v^T A v$
<code>v.init</code>	the initial value of $v$

**See Also**

symmPMD().

SSTD\_R1

*Sparse Symmetric Tensor Decomposition (SSTD)***Description**

SSTD solves the rank-1 approximation to the a p-by-p-by-q sparse symmetric tensor  $\mathcal{D}$ :

$$\min_{\Lambda, v, u} \|\mathcal{D} - \Lambda v \circ v \circ u\|_F^2$$

subject to

$$\Lambda > 0, v \in R^p, u \in R^q, \|v\|_2 = \|u\|_2 = 1, \|v\|_0 \leq R$$

The solution  $\Lambda$  is the sparse leading tensor eigenvalue (sLTE),  $v$  is the sparse leading tensor eigenvector, and  $u$  is the loading vector.

The Symmetric Penalized Matrix Decomposition `symmPMD()` is used in the iterative algorithm.

**Usage**

```
SSTD_R1(
  T_obs,
  u_ini,
  v_ini,
  max_iter = 20,
  sumabs = 0.5,
  niter = 20,
  rho = 1000,
  tol = 10-3,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>T_obs</code>	array, a p-by-p-by-q tensor; each p-by-p layer in <code>T_obs</code> should be symmetric
<code>u_ini</code>	vector, with length q; the random initialization for loading vector
<code>v_ini</code>	vector, with length p; the random initialization for tensor eigenvector
<code>max_iter</code>	integer, the maximal iteration number
<code>sumabs</code>	number, the number specify the sparsity level in the matrix/tensor eigenvector; <code>sumabs</code> takes value between $1/\sqrt{p}$ and 1, where $p$ is the dimension; <code>sumabs*sqrt(p)</code> is the upperbound of the L1 norm of the leading matrix/tensor eigenvector (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )
<code>niter</code>	integer, the number of iterations to use in the PMD algorithm (see <code>symmPMD()</code> )
<code>rho</code>	number, a large positive constant adding to the diagonal elements to ensure positive definiteness in symmetric matrix spectral decomposition
<code>tol</code>	number, the tolerance threshold for SSTD convergence; if the error difference between two iterations is smaller than <code>tol</code> , then we stop the iteration and consider the algorithm converges
<code>verbose</code>	logic variable, whether to print the progress during permutation tests

**Value**

a list containing the following:

u_hat	vector, with length q; the estimated loading vector
v_hat	vector, with length p; the estimated tensor eigenvector
gamma_hat	number, the estimated sLTE $\Lambda$

**References**

Hu, J., Weber, J. N., Fuess, L. E., Steinel, N. C., Bolnick, D. I., & Wang, M. (2025). A spectral framework to map QTLs affecting joint differential networks of gene co-expression. *PLOS Computational Biology*, 21(4), e1012953.

Sun, W. W., Lu, J., Liu, H., & Cheng, G. (2017). "Provable sparse tensor decomposition." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B: Statistical Methodology*, 79(3), 899-916.

**See Also**

symmPMD()

---

symmPMD	<i>Symmetric Penalized Matrix Decomposition.</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

This function solves for the Sparse Principal Component Analysis given a positive definite matrix A:

$$\max_v v^T A v$$

subject to

$$\|v\|_2 \leq 1, \|v\|_1 \leq s$$

The solution v is the sparse leading eigenvector, and the corresponding objective  $v^T A v$  is the sparse leading engenvalue.

The algorithm uses an iterative procedure similar to the R Package "PMA", but speeds up the computation using the extra constraint that the decomposition is symmetric.

**Usage**

```
symmPMD(x, sumabs = 0.3, niter = 50, v = NULL, trace = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

x	p-by-p matrix, symmetric and positive definite
sumabs	sumabs* $\sqrt{p}$ is the upperbound of the L <sub>1</sub> norm of v, controlling the sparsity of solution. Must be between $1/\sqrt{p}$ and 1.
niter	number of iterations to perform the iterative optimizations
v	the starting value of the algorithm, either a pre-calculated first singular vector of x, or NULL.
trace	whether to print tracing info during optimization

**Value**

A list containing the following components:

<code>v</code>	the sparse leading eigenvector $v$
<code>d</code>	the sparse leading eigenvalue $d = v^T A v$
<code>sumabs</code>	$\text{sumabs} * \text{sqrt}(p)$ is the upperbound of the $L_1$ norm of $v$

**References**

Zhu, Lingxue, et al. "Testing high-dimensional covariance matrices, with application to detecting schizophrenia risk genes." *The annals of applied statistics* 11.3 (2017): 1810.

Witten, Tibshirani and Hastie (2009), "A penalized matrix decomposition, with applications to sparse principal components and canonical correlation analysis", *Biostatistics* 10(3):515-534.

---

Tensor-class

*S4 Class for a Tensor*

---

**Description**

An S4 class for a tensor with arbitrary number of modes. The Tensor class extends the base "array" class to include additional tensor manipulation (folding, unfolding, reshaping, subsetting) as well as a formal class definition that enables more explicit tensor algebra.

**Slots**

**num\_modes** number of modes (integer)  
**modes** vector of modes (integer), aka sizes/extents/dimensions  
**data** actual data of the tensor, which can be 'array' or 'vector'

**Note**

All of the decompositions and regression models in this package require a Tensor input.

**Author(s)**

James Li <jamesyili@gmail.com>

**References**

James Li, Jacob Bien, Martin T. Wells (2018). rTensor: An R Package for Multidimensional Array (Tensor) Unfolding, Multiplication, and Decomposition. *Journal of Statistical Software*, Vol. 87, No. 10, 1-31. URL: <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v087/i10/>.

**See Also**

[as.tensor](#)

---

**ttl** *Tensor Times List*

---

**Description**

Contracted (m-Mode) product between a Tensor of arbitrary number of modes and a list of matrices. The result is folded back into Tensor.

**Usage**

```
ttl(tnsr, list_mat, ms = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>tnsr</code>	Tensor object with K modes
<code>list_mat</code>	a list of matrices
<code>ms</code>	a vector of modes to contract on (order should match the order of <code>list_mat</code> )

**Details**

Performs `ttm` repeated for a single Tensor and a list of matrices on multiple modes. For instance, suppose we want to do multiply a Tensor object `tnsr` with three matrices `mat1`, `mat2`, `mat3` on modes 1, 2, and 3. We could do `ttm(ttm(ttm(tnsr,mat1,1),mat2,2),3)`, or we could do `ttl(tnsr,list(mat1,mat2,mat3),c(1,2,3))`. The order of the matrices in the list should obviously match the order of the modes. This is a common operation for various Tensor decompositions such as CP and Tucker. For the math on the m-Mode Product, see Kolda and Bader (2009).

**Value**

Tensor object with K modes

**Note**

The returned Tensor does not drop any modes equal to 1.

**References**

T. Kolda, B. Bader, "Tensor decomposition and applications". SIAM Applied Mathematics and Applications 2009, Vol. 51, No. 3 (September 2009), pp. 455-500. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25662308>

**See Also**

[ttm](#)

**Examples**

```
tnsr <- new('Tensor', 3L, c(3L, 4L, 5L), data = runif(60))
lizt <- list('mat1' = matrix(runif(30), ncol = 3),
            'mat2' = matrix(runif(40), ncol = 4),
            'mat3' = matrix(runif(50), ncol = 5))
ttl(tnsr, lizt, ms = c(1, 2, 3))
```

ttm

*Tensor Matrix Product (m-Mode Product)***Description**

Contracted (m-Mode) product between a Tensor of arbitrary number of modes and a matrix. The result is folded back into Tensor.

**Usage**

```
ttm(tnsr, mat, m = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

tnsr	Tensor object with K modes
mat	input matrix with same number columns as the mth mode of tnsr
m	the mode to contract on

**Details**

By definition, the number of columns in mat must match the mth mode of tnsr. For the math on the m-Mode Product, see Kolda and Bader (2009).

**Value**

a Tensor object with K modes

**Note**

The mth mode of tnsr must match the number of columns in mat. By default, the returned Tensor does not drop any modes equal to 1.

**References**

T. Kolda, B. Bader, "Tensor decomposition and applications". SIAM Applied Mathematics and Applications 2009, Vol. 51, No. 3 (September 2009), pp. 455-500. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25662308>

**See Also**

[ttl](#)



**Examples**

```
tnsr <- new('Tensor',3L,c(3L,4L,5L),data=runif(60))
mat <- matrix(runif(50),ncol=5)
ttm(tnsr,mat,m=3)
```

---

unfold-methods

*Tensor Unfolding*

---

**Description**

Unfolds the tensor into a matrix, with the modes in `rs` onto the rows and modes in `cs` onto the columns. Note that `c(rs,cs)` must have the same elements (order doesn't matter) as `x@modes`. Within the rows and columns, the order of the unfolding is determined by the order of the modes. This convention is consistent with Kolda and Bader (2009).

**Usage**

```
unfold(tnsr, row_idx, col_idx)
```

**Arguments**

<code>tnsr</code>	the Tensor instance
<code>row_idx</code>	the indices of the modes to map onto the row space
<code>col_idx</code>	the indices of the modes to map onto the column space

**Details**

```
unfold(tnsr,row_idx=NULL,col_idx=NULL)
```

**Value**

matrix with `prod(row_idx)` rows and `prod(col_idx)` columns

**References**

T. Kolda, B. Bader, "Tensor decomposition and applications". SIAM Applied Mathematics and Applications 2009, Vol. 51, No. 3 (September 2009), pp. 455-500. URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25662308>.

**Examples**

```
tnsr <- rand_tensor()
matT3<-unfold(tnsr,row_idx=2,col_idx=c(3,1))
```

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