# Package 'pvac'

December 11, 2024

Type Package

Title PCA-based gene filtering for Affymetrix arrays
Version 1.55.0
<b>Date</b> 2010-12-30
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<b>Description</b> The package contains the function for filtering genes by the proportion of variation accounted for by the first principal component (PVAC).
License LGPL (>= 2.0)
Imports affy (>= 1.20.0), stats, Biobase
<b>Depends</b> R (>= $2.8.0$ )
Suggests phapply, affydata, ALLMLL, genefilter
LazyLoad yes
biocViews Microarray, OneChannel, QualityControl
git_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/pvac
git_branch devel
git_last_commit 372aad1
git_last_commit_date 2024-10-29
Repository Bioconductor 3.21
Date/Publication 2024-12-10
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pvacFilter	Filter genes by the proportion of variation accounted for by the first principal component (PVAC)

### **Description**

Compute the PVAC scores, derive a filtering threshold value, and return the names of probesets that have passed the filter

### Usage

```
pvacFilter(abatch, pct=0.99)
```

#### **Arguments**

abatch an instance of AffyBatch from the function call ReadAffy

pct the percentile value of the emperical distribution of PVAC scores of a set of

"non-expressed" genes. Used to select the filtering threshold. The default value

is 0.99.

#### **Details**

This function implements a new filtering method for Affymetrix GeneChips, based on principal component analysis (PCA) on the probe-level expression data. Given that all the probes in a probeset are designed to target one or a common cluster of transcripts, the measurements of probes in a probeset should be correlated. The degree of concordance of gene expression among probes can be approximated by the proportion of variation accounted by the first principal component (PVAC). Using a wholly defined spike-in dataset, we have shown that filtering by PVAC provides increased sensitivity in detecting truly differentially expressed genes while controlling the false discoveries. The filtering threshold value is chosen from the PVAC score distribution in a set of "non-expressed" gene (those with absent calls in all samples).

#### Value

A list with the following components,

aset Names of the probesets that have passed the filter

nullset Names of the presumably "non-expressed" probesets (those with absent calls

across all the study samples)

pvac A named vector containing the PVAC scores of all probesets

cutoff The PVAC cutoff value. The maximum is set to 0.5 (which corresponds to 50%

of the total variation in a probeset)

## Author(s)

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# Examples

```
if ( require(affydata) ) {
  data(Dilution)
  res = pvacFilter(Dilution)
  res$aset[1:5] # 5 probesets that have passed the filter
}
```

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