

# Package ‘EBarrays’

January 22, 2026

**Version** 2.74.0  
**Date** 2007/09/20  
**Title** Unified Approach for Simultaneous Gene Clustering and  
Differential Expression Identification  
**Author** Ming Yuan, Michael Newton, Deepayan Sarkar and Christina Kendzierski  
**Maintainer** Ming Yuan <myuan@isye.gatech.edu>  
**Description** EBarrays provides tools for the analysis of replicated/unreplicated microarray data.  
**Depends** R (>= 1.8.0), Biobase, lattice, methods  
**Imports** Biobase, cluster, graphics, grDevices, lattice, methods, stats  
**License** GPL (>= 2)  
**biocViews** Clustering, DifferentialExpression  
**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/EBarrays>  
**git\_branch** RELEASE\_3\_22  
**git\_last\_commit** 6b0ecd3  
**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2025-10-29  
**Repository** Bioconductor 3.22  
**Date/Publication** 2026-01-22

## Contents

crit.fun . . . . .	2
EBarrays-internal . . . . .	3
ebarraysFamily-class . . . . .	3
ebplots . . . . .	5
emfit . . . . .	7
gould . . . . .	8
postprob . . . . .	9
utilities . . . . .	10
<b>Index</b>	<b>12</b>

crit.fun

*Find posterior probability threshold to control FDR***Description**

Find posterior probability threshold to control FDR

**Usage**

```
crit.fun(x, cc)
```

**Arguments**

**x** x is one minus the posterior probabilities of being in a specific DE pattern. If there is only one DE pattern, then x is the posterior probabilities of being EE.

**cc** cc is FDR to be controlled. For example, to control FDR at 0.05, set cc=0.05.

**Value**

crit.fun returns a threshold so that if used in identifying genes in a specific DE pattern, FDR can be controlled at cc. Those genes with posterior probability of being in that specific DE pattern greater than this threshold are claimed to be in that specific DE pattern.

**Author(s)**

Ming Yuan, Ping Wang, Deepayan sarkar, Michael Newton, and Christina Kendzierski

**References**

Newton, M.A., Noueiry, A., Sarkar, D., and Ahlquist, P. (2004). Detecting differential gene expression with a semiparametric hierarchical mixture model. *Biostatistics* **5**, 155-176.

**Examples**

```
data(gould)
pattern <- ebPatterns(c("1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0",
                        "1,2,2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0"))
gg.em.out <- emfit(gould, family = "GG", hypotheses = pattern, num.iter = 10)
gg.post.out <- postprob(gg.em.out, gould)$pattern
gg.crit <- crit.fun(gg.post.out[,1],0.05)
# number of DE genes
sum(gg.post.out[,2] > gg.crit)

pattern4 <- ebPatterns(c("1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1",
                        "1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2",
                        "1,2,2,1,1,1,1,1,2,2",
                        "1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2,2"))
gg4.em.out <- emfit(gould, family = "GG", pattern4, num.iter = 10)
gg4.post.out <- postprob(gg4.em.out, gould)$pattern
gg4.crit <- crit.fun(1-gg4.post.out[,2], 0.05)
# number of genes in pattern 2, a DE pattern
sum(gg4.post.out[,2] > gg4.crit)
```

---

EBarrays-internal	<i>Internal EBarrays Functions</i>
-------------------	------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Internal EBarrays functions.

**Note**

These are not to be called by the user (or in some cases are just waiting for proper documentation to be written).

---

ebarraysFamily-class	<i>Class of Families to be used in the EBarrays package</i>
----------------------	---

---

**Description**

Objects used as family in the `emfit` function.

The package contains three functions that create such objects for the three most commonly used families, Gamma-Gamma, Lognormal-Normal and Lognormal-Normal with modified variances. Users may create their own families as well.

**Usage**

```
eb.createFamilyGG()
eb.createFamilyLNN()
eb.createFamilyLNNMV()
```

**Details**

The `emfit` function can potentially fit models corresponding to several different Bayesian conjugate families. This is specified as the `family` argument, which ultimately has to be an object of formal class “ebarraysFamily” with some specific slots that determine the behavior of the ‘family’.

For users who are content to use the predefined GG, LNN and LNNMV models, no further details than that given in the documentation for `emfit` are necessary. If you wish to create your own families, read on.

**Value**

Objects of class “ebarraysFamily” for the three predefined families Gamma-Gamma , Lognormal-Normal and Lognormal-Normal with modified variances.

**Objects from the Class**

Objects of class “ebarraysFamily” can be created by calls of the form `new("ebarraysFamily", ...)`. Predefined objects corresponding to the GG, LNN and LNNMV models can be created by `eb.createFamilyGG()` , `eb.createFamilyLNN()` and `eb.createFamilyLNNMV()`. The same effect is achieved by coercing from the strings “GG”, “LNN” and “LNNMV” by `as("GG", "ebarraysFamily")`, `as("LNN", "ebarraysFamily")` and `as("LNNMV", "ebarraysFamily")`.

## Slots

An object of class “ebarraysFamily” extends the class “character” (representing a short hand name for the class) and should have the following slots (for more details see the source code):

**description:** A not too long character string describing the family

**link:** function that maps user-visible parameters to the parametrization that would be used in the optimization step (e.g.  $\log(\sigma^2)$  for LNN). This allows the user to think in terms of familiar parametrization that may not necessarily be the best when optimizing w.r.t. those parameters.

**invlink:** inverse of the link function

**thetaInit:** function of a single argument data (matrix containing raw expression values), that calculates and returns as a numeric vector initial estimates of the parameters (in the parametrization used for optimization)

**f0:** function taking arguments theta and a list called args. f0 calculates the negative log likelihood at the given parameter value theta (again, in the parametrization used for optimization). This is called from `emfit`. When called, only genes with positive intensities across all samples are used.

**f0.pp:** f0.pp is essentially the same as f0 except the terms common to the numerator and denominator when calculating posterior odds may be removed. It is called from `postprob`.

**f0.arglist:** function that takes arguments data, patterns (of class “ebarraysPatterns”) and groupid (for LNNMV family only) and returns a list with two components, `common.args` and `pattern.args`. `common.args` is a list of arguments to f0 that don’t change from one pattern to another, whereas `pattern.args[[i]][[j]]` is a similar list of arguments, but specific to the columns in `pattern[[i]][[j]]`. Eventually, the two components will be combined for each pattern and used as the args argument to f0.

**logDensity:** function of two arguments x (data vector, containing log expressions) and theta (parameters in user-visible parametrization). Returns log marginal density of the natural log of intensity for the corresponding theoretical model. Used in `plotMarginal`

**lower.bound:** vector of lower bounds for the argument theta of f0. Used in `optim`

**upper.bound:** vector of upper bounds for the argument theta of f0.

## Author(s)

Ming Yuan, Ping Wang, Deepayan Sarkar, Michael Newton, and Christina Kendzierski

## References

- Newton, M.A., Kendzierski, C.M., Richmond, C.S., Blattner, F.R. (2001). On differential variability of expression ratios: Improving statistical inference about gene expression changes from microarray data. *Journal of Computational Biology* 8:37-52.
- Kendzierski, C.M., Newton, M.A., Lan, H., Gould, M.N. (2003). On parametric empirical Bayes methods for comparing multiple groups using replicated gene expression profiles. *Statistics in Medicine* 22:3899-3914.
- Newton, M.A. and Kendzierski, C.M. Parametric Empirical Bayes Methods for Microarrays in The analysis of gene expression data: methods and software. Eds. G. Parmigiani, E.S. Garrett, R. Irizarry and S.L. Zeger, New York: Springer Verlag, 2003.
- Newton, M.A., Noueiry, A., Sarkar, D., and Ahlquist, P. (2004). Detecting differential gene expression with a semiparametric hierarchical mixture model. *Biostatistics* 5: 155-176.
- Yuan, M. and Kendzierski, C. (2006). A unified approach for simultaneous gene clustering and differential expression identification. *Biometrics* 62(4): 1089-1098.

**See Also**

[emfit](#), [optim](#), [plotMarginal](#)

**Examples**

```
show(eb.createFamilyGG())
show(eb.createFamilyLNN())
show(eb.createFamilyLNNMV())
```

---

ebplots

---

*Various plotting routines in the EBarrays package*


---

**Description**

Various plotting routines, used for diagnostic purposes

**Usage**

```
checkCCV(data, useRank = FALSE, f = 1/2)
checkModel(data, fit, model = c("gamma", "lognormal", "lnnmv"),
            number = 9, nb = 10, cluster = 1, groupid = NULL)
checkVarsQQ(data, groupid, ...)
checkVarsMar(data, groupid, xlab, ylab, ...)
plotMarginal(fit, data, kernel = "rect", n = 100,
             bw = "nrd0", adjust = 1, xlab, ylab,...)
plotCluster(fit, data, cond = NULL, ncolors = 123, sep=TRUE,
            transform=NULL)

## S3 method for class 'ebarraysEMfit'
plot(x, data, plottype="cluster", ...)
```

**Arguments**

data	data, as a “matrix” or “ExpressionSet”
useRank	logical. If TRUE, ranks of means and c.v.-s are used in the scatterplot
f	passed on to <a href="#">lowess</a>
fit, x	object of class “ebarraysEMfit”, typically produced by a call to <a href="#">emfit</a>
model	which theoretical model use for Q-Q plot. Partial string matching is allowed
number	number of bins for checking model assumption.
nb	number of data rows included in each bin for checking model assumption
cluster	check model assumption for data in that cluster
groupid	an integer vector indicating which group each sample belongs to. groupid for samples not included in the analysis should be 0.
kernel, n, bw, adjust	passed on to <a href="#">density</a>
cond	a vector specifying the condition for each replicate
ncolors	different number of colors in the plot

xlab, ylab	labels for x-axis and y-axis
sep	whether or not to draw horizontal lines between clusters
transform	a function to transform the original data in plotting
plottype	a character string specifying the type of the plot. Available options are "cluster" and "marginal". The default plottype "cluster" employs function 'plotCluster' whereas the "marginal" plottype uses function 'plotMarginal'.
...	extra arguments are passed to the qqmath, histogram and xyplot call used to produce the final result

### Details

checkCCV checks the constant coefficient of variation assumption made in the GG and LNN models. checkModel generates QQ plots for subsets of (log) intensities in a small window. They are used to check the Log-Normal assumption on observation component of the LNN and LNNMV models and the Gamma assumption on observation component of the GG model. checkVarsQQ generates QQ plot for gene specific sample variances. It is used to check the assumption of a scaled inverse chi-square prior on gene specific variances, made in the LNNMV model. checkVarsMar is another diagnostic tool to check this assumption. The density histogram of gene specific sample variances and the density of the scaled inverse chi-square distribution with parameters estimated from data will be plotted. checkMarginal generates predictive marginal distribution from fitted model and compares with estimated marginal (kernel) density of data. Available for the GG and LNN models only. plotCluster generate heatmap for gene expression data with clusters

### Value

checkModel, checkVarsQQ and checkVarsMar return an object of class "trellis", using function in the Lattice package. Note that in certain situations, these may need to be explicitly 'print'-ed to have any effect.

### Author(s)

Ming Yuan, Ping Wang, Deepayan Sarkar, Michael Newton, and Christina Kendzierski

### References

- Newton, M.A., Kendzierski, C.M., Richmond, C.S., Blattner, F.R. (2001). On differential variability of expression ratios: Improving statistical inference about gene expression changes from microarray data. *Journal of Computational Biology* 8:37-52.
- Kendzierski, C.M., Newton, M.A., Lan, H., Gould, M.N. (2003). On parametric empirical Bayes methods for comparing multiple groups using replicated gene expression profiles. *Statistics in Medicine* 22:3899-3914.
- Newton, M.A. and Kendzierski, C.M. Parametric Empirical Bayes Methods for Microarrays in The analysis of gene expression data: methods and software. Eds. G. Parmigiani, E.S. Garrett, R. Irizarry and S.L. Zeger, New York: Springer Verlag, 2003.
- Newton, M.A., Noueiry, A., Sarkar, D., and Ahlquist, P. (2004). Detecting differential gene expression with a semiparametric hierarchical mixture model. *Biostatistics* 5: 155-176.
- Yuan, M. and Kendzierski, C. (2006). A unified approach for simultaneous gene clustering and differential expression identification. *Biometrics* 62(4): 1089-1098.

### See Also

[emfit](#), [lowess](#)

---

emfit

---

*Implements EM algorithm for gene expression mixture model*


---

## Description

Implements the EM algorithm for gene expression mixture model

## Usage

```
emfit(data,
      family,
      hypotheses,
      ...)
```

## Arguments

data	a matrix
family	an object of class “ebarraysFamily” or a character string which can be coerced to one. Currently, only the characters "GG" and "LNN", and "LNNMV" are valid. For LNNMV, a groupid is required. See below. Other families can be supplied by constructing them explicitly.
hypotheses	an object of class “ebarraysPatterns” representing the hypotheses of interest. Such patterns can be generated by the function <a href="#">ebPatterns</a>
...	other arguments. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>cluster</b> if type=1, cluster is a vector specifying the fixed cluster membership for each gene; if type=2, cluster specifies the number of clusters to be fitted</li> <li><b>type</b> if type=1, the cluster membership is fixed as input cluster; if type=2, fit the data with a fixed number of clusters</li> <li><b>criterion</b> only used when type=2 and cluster contains more than one integers. All numbers of clusters provided in cluster will be fitted and the one that minimizes criterion will be returned. Possible values now are "BIC", "AIC" and "HQ"</li> <li><b>cluster.init</b> only used when type=2. Specify the initial clustering membership.</li> <li><b>num.iter</b> number of EM iterations</li> <li><b>verbose</b> logical or numeric (0,1,2) indicating desired level of information printed for the user</li> <li><b>optim.control</b> list passed unchanged to <a href="#">optim</a> for finer control</li> <li><b>groupid</b> an integer vector indicating which group each sample belongs to, required in the “LNNMV” model. It does not depend on “hypotheses”.</li> </ul>

## Details

There are many optional arguments. So a call might look more like this:

```
emfit(data, family, hypotheses, cluster, type=2, criterion="BIC", cluster.init = NULL, num.iter = 20, verbose = getOption("verbose"), optim.control = list(), ...)
```

**Value**

an object of class “`ebarraysEMfit`”, that can be summarized by `show()` and used to generate posterior probabilities using `postprob`

**Author(s)**

Ming Yuan, Ping Wang, Deepayan Sarkar, Michael Newton, and Christina Kendzierski

**References**

- Newton, M.A., Kendzierski, C.M., Richmond, C.S., Blattner, F.R. (2001). On differential variability of expression ratios: Improving statistical inference about gene expression changes from microarray data. *Journal of Computational Biology* 8:37-52.
- Kendzierski, C.M., Newton, M.A., Lan, H., Gould, M.N. (2003). On parametric empirical Bayes methods for comparing multiple groups using replicated gene expression profiles. *Statistics in Medicine* 22:3899-3914.
- Newton, M.A. and Kendzierski, C.M. Parametric Empirical Bayes Methods for Microarrays in The analysis of gene expression data: methods and software. Eds. G. Parmigiani, E.S. Garrett, R. Irizarry and S.L. Zeger, New York: Springer Verlag, 2003.
- Newton, M.A., Noueiry, A., Sarkar, D., and Ahlquist, P. (2004). Detecting differential gene expression with a semiparametric hierarchical mixture model. *Biostatistics* 5: 155-176.
- Yuan, M. and Kendzierski, C. (2006). A unified approach for simultaneous gene clustering and differential expression identification. *Biometrics* 62(4): 1089-1098.

**See Also**

`ebPatterns`, `ebarraysFamily-class`

**Examples**

```
data(sample.ExpressionSet) ## from Biobase
eset <- exprs(sample.ExpressionSet)
patterns <- ebPatterns(c("1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1",
                        "1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2"))
gg.fit <- emfit(data = eset, family = "GG", hypotheses = patterns, verbose = TRUE)
show(gg.fit)
```

---

gould

*A dataset of class matrix*

---

**Description**

This dataset is part of a dataset from a study of gene expression patterns of mammary epithelial cells in a rat model of breast cancer, consisting of 5000 genes in 4 biological conditions; 10 arrays total.

**Usage**

```
data(gould)
```



**Format**

The data are originally from Affymetrix chips, subsequently processed by dChip and then exported to R for analysis.

**Source**

Dr. M.N. Gould's laboratory in UW-Madison

**Examples**

```
data(gould)
```

---

postprob	<i>Calculates posterior probabilities for expression patterns</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

Takes the output from emfit and calculates the posterior probability of each of the hypotheses, for each gene.

**Usage**

```
postprob(fit, data, ...)
```

**Arguments**

fit	output from <a href="#">emfit</a>
data	a numeric matrix or an object of class "ExpressionSet" containing the data, typically the same one used in the <code>emfit</code> fit supplied below.
...	other arguments, ignored

**Value**

An object of class "ebarraysPostProb". Slot `joint` is an three dimensional array of probabilities. Each element gives the posterior probability that a gene belongs to certain cluster and have certain pattern. `cluster` is a matrix of probabilities with number of rows given by the number of genes in data and as many columns as the number of clusters for the fit. `pattern` is a matrix of probabilities with number of rows given by the number of genes in data and as many columns as the number of patterns for the fit. It additionally contains a slot 'hypotheses' containing these hypotheses.

**Author(s)**

Ming Yuan, Ping Wang, Deepayan Sarkar, Michael Newton, and Christina Kendzioriski

## References

- Newton, M.A., Kendzierski, C.M., Richmond, C.S., Blattner, F.R. (2001). On differential variability of expression ratios: Improving statistical inference about gene expression changes from microarray data. *Journal of Computational Biology* 8:37-52.
- Kendzierski, C.M., Newton, M.A., Lan, H., Gould, M.N. (2003). On parametric empirical Bayes methods for comparing multiple groups using replicated gene expression profiles. *Statistics in Medicine* 22:3899-3914.
- Newton, M.A. and Kendzierski, C.M. Parametric Empirical Bayes Methods for Microarrays in The analysis of gene expression data: methods and software. Eds. G. Parmigiani, E.S. Garrett, R. Irizarry and S.L. Zeger, New York: Springer Verlag, 2003.
- Newton, M.A., Noueiry, A., Sarkar, D., and Ahlquist, P. (2004). Detecting differential gene expression with a semiparametric hierarchical mixture model. *Biostatistics* 5: 155-176.
- Yuan, M. and Kendzierski, C. (2006). A unified approach for simultaneous gene clustering and differential expression identification. *Biometrics* 62(4): 1089-1098.

## See Also

[emfit](#)

## Examples

```
data(sample.ExpressionSet) ## from Biobase
eset <- exprs(sample.ExpressionSet)
patterns <- ebPatterns(c("1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1",
                        "1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2"))
gg.fit <- emfit(data = eset, family = "GG", hypotheses = patterns, verbose = TRUE)
prob <- postprob(gg.fit,eset)
```

---

utilities

*Utility functions for the EBarrays package*

---

## Description

Utility functions for the EBarrays package

## Usage

```
ebPatterns(x, ordered=FALSE)
```

## Arguments

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| x       | x can be a character vector (of length > 2) (see example), or an arbitrary connection which should provide patterns, one line for each pattern. If x is a character vector of length 1, it is assumed to be the name of a file (since there's no point in a patterns object with only one pattern) which is then opened and treated as a connection. |
| ordered | logical variable specifying whether the pattern is ordered or not  |

## Details

ebPatterns creates objects that represent a collection of hypotheses to be used by emfit.



# Index

- \* **datasets**
  - gould, 8
- \* **internal**
  - EBarrays-internal, 3
- \* **models**
  - ebarraysFamily-class, 3
  - ebplots, 5
  - emfit, 7
  - postprob, 9
  - utilities, 10
- checkCCV (ebplots), 5
- checkModel (ebplots), 5
- checkVarsMar (ebplots), 5
- checkVarsQQ (ebplots), 5
- coerce, character, ebarraysFamily-method (ebarraysFamily-class), 3
- crit.fun, 2
- density, 5
- eb.createFamilyGG (ebarraysFamily-class), 3
- eb.createFamilyLNN (ebarraysFamily-class), 3
- eb.createFamilyLNNMV (ebarraysFamily-class), 3
- EBarrays-internal, 3
- ebarraysEMfit-class (emfit), 7
- ebarraysFamily-class, 3
- ebarraysPatterns-class (utilities), 10
- ebarraysPostProb-class (postprob), 9
- ebPatterns, 7, 8
- ebPatterns (utilities), 10
- ebplots, 5
- emfit, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9–11
- emfit, ExpressionSet, character, ebarraysPatterns-method (emfit), 7
- emfit, ExpressionSet, ebarraysFamily, ebarraysPatterns-method (emfit), 7
- emfit, matrix, character, ebarraysPatterns-method (emfit), 7
- emfit, matrix, ebarraysFamily, ebarraysPatterns-method (emfit), 7
- emfit0 (EBarrays-internal), 3
- emfit1 (EBarrays-internal), 3
- emfit2 (EBarrays-internal), 3
- emfit3 (EBarrays-internal), 3
- emfitmv (EBarrays-internal), 3
- gould, 8
- lowess, 5, 6
- optim, 5, 7
- plot.ebarraysEMfit (ebplots), 5
- plotCluster (ebplots), 5
- plotMarginal, 5
- plotMarginal (ebplots), 5
- postprob, 8, 9
- postprob, ebarraysEMfit, ExpressionSet-method (postprob), 9
- postprob, ebarraysEMfit, matrix-method (postprob), 9
- show, ebarraysEMfit-method (emfit), 7
- show, ebarraysFamily-method (ebarraysFamily-class), 3
- show, ebarraysPatterns-method (utilities), 10
- show, ebarraysPostProb-method (postprob), 9
- utilities, 10