

# Package ‘DESeq2’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Differential gene expression analysis based on the negative binomial distribution

**Version** 1.8.2

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**Description** Estimate variance-mean dependence in count data from high-throughput sequencing assays and test for differential expression based on a model using the negative binomial distribution.

**License** LGPL (>= 3)

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** BiocGenerics (>= 0.7.5), Biobase, BiocParallel, genefilter, methods, locfit, geneplotter, ggplot2, Hmisc

**Depends** S4Vectors, IRanges, GenomicRanges, Rcpp (>= 0.10.1), RcppArmadillo (>= 0.3.4.4)

**Suggests** testthat, gplots, knitr, RColorBrewer, BiocStyle, airway, pasilla (>= 0.2.10), DESeq, vsn

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

**biocViews** Sequencing, ChIPSeq, RNASeq, SAGE, DifferentialExpression, GeneExpression

**NeedsCompilation** yes

## R topics documented:

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DESeq2-package

*DESeq2 package for differential analysis of count data*


---

## Description

The main functions for differential analysis are [DESeq](#) and [results](#). See the examples at [DESeq](#) for basic analysis steps. Two transformations offered for count data are the "regularized logarithm", [rlog](#), and [varianceStabilizingTransformation](#). For more detailed information on usage, see the package vignette, by typing `vignette("DESeq2")`, or the workflow linked to on the first page of the vignette.

## Author(s)

Michael Love, Wolfgang Huber, Simon Anders

## References

DESeq2 reference:

Michael I Love, Wolfgang Huber, Simon Anders: Moderated estimation of fold change and dispersion for RNA-seq data with DESeq2. *Genome Biology* 2014, 15:550. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s13059-014-0550-8>

DESeq reference:

Simon Anders, Wolfgang Huber: Differential expression analysis for sequence count data. *Genome Biology* 2010, 11:106. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/gb-2010-11-10-r106>

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coef

*Extract a matrix of model coefficients/standard errors*

---

## Description

**Note:** results tables with log2 fold change, p-values, adjusted p-values, etc. for each gene are best generated using the `results` function. The `coef` function is designed for advanced users who wish to inspect all model coefficients at once.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'DESeqDataSet'
coef(object, SE = FALSE, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>object</code>	a <code>DESeqDataSet</code> returned by <code>DESeq</code> , <code>nbinomWaldTest</code> , or <code>nbinomLRT</code> .
<code>SE</code>	whether to give the standard errors instead of coefficients. defaults to <code>FALSE</code> so that the coefficients are given.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments

## Details

Estimated model coefficients or estimated standard errors are provided in a matrix form, number of genes by number of parameters, on the log2 scale. The columns correspond to columns of the model matrix for final GLM fitting, i.e., `attr(dds, "modelMatrix")`.

## Author(s)

Michael Love

## Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=4)
dds <- DESeq(dds)
coef(dds)[1,]
coef(dds, SE=TRUE)[1,]
```

---

collapseReplicates	<i>Collapse technical replicates in a SummarizedExperiment or DESeqDataSet</i>
--------------------	--

---

### Description

Collapses the columns in object by summing within levels of a grouping factor groupby. The purpose of this function is to sum up read counts from technical replicates to create an object with a single column of read counts for each sample. Optionally renames the columns of returned object with the levels of the grouping factor. Note: this function is written very simply and can be easily altered to produce other behavior by examining the source code.

### Usage

```
collapseReplicates(object, groupby, run, renameCols = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

object	A SummarizedExperiment or DESeqDataSet
groupby	a grouping factor, as long as the columns of object
run	optional, the names of each unique column in object. if provided, a new column runsCollapsed will be added to the colData which pastes together the names of run
renameCols	whether to rename the columns of the returned object using the levels of the grouping factor

### Value

the object with as many columns as levels in groupby. This object has assay/count data which is summed from the various columns which are grouped together, and the colData is subset using the first column for each group in groupby.

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=12)

# make data with two technical replicates for three samples
dds$sample <- factor(sample(paste0("sample", rep(1:9, c(2,1,1,2,1,1,2,1,1))))))
dds$run <- paste0("run", 1:12)

ddsColl <- collapseReplicates(dds, dds$sample, dds$run)

# examine the colData and column names of the collapsed data
colData(ddsColl)
colnames(ddsColl)

# check that the sum of the counts for "sample1" is the same
# as the counts in the "sample1" column in ddsColl
```

```
matchFirstLevel <- dds$sample == levels(dds$sample)[1]
stopifnot(all(rowSums(counts(dds[,matchFirstLevel])) == counts(ddsColl[,1])))
```

---

counts *Accessors for the 'counts' slot of a DESeqDataSet object.*

---

## Description

The counts slot holds the count data as a matrix of non-negative integer count values, one row for each observational unit (gene or the like), and one column for each sample.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
counts(object, normalized = FALSE,
        replaced = FALSE)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'DESeqDataSet,matrix'
counts(object) <- value
```

## Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet object.
normalized	logical indicating whether or not to divide the counts by the size factors or normalization factors before returning (normalization factors always preempt size factors)
replaced	after a DESeq call, this argument will return the counts with outliers replaced instead of the original counts, and optionally normalized. The replaced counts are stored by DESeq in <code>assays(object)[['replaceCounts']]</code> .
value	an integer matrix

## Author(s)

Simon Anders

## See Also

[sizeFactors](#), [normalizationFactors](#)

## Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=4)
head(counts(dds))

dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds) # run this or DESeq() first
head(counts(dds, normalized=TRUE))
```

---

DESeq	<i>Differential expression analysis based on the Negative Binomial (a.k.a. Gamma-Poisson) distribution</i>
-------	--

---

## Description

This function performs a default analysis through the steps:

1. estimation of size factors: [estimateSizeFactors](#)
2. estimation of dispersion: [estimateDispersions](#)
3. Negative Binomial GLM fitting and Wald statistics: [nbinomWaldTest](#)

For complete details on each step, see the manual pages of the respective functions. After the DESeq function returns a DESeqDataSet object, results tables (log2 fold changes and p-values) can be generated using the [results](#) function. See the manual page for [results](#) for information on independent filtering and p-value adjustment for multiple test correction.

## Usage

```
DESeq(object, test = c("Wald", "LRT"), fitType = c("parametric", "local",
  "mean"), betaPrior, full = design(object), reduced, quiet = FALSE,
  minReplicatesForReplace = 7, modelMatrixType, parallel = FALSE,
  BPPARAM = bpparam())
```

## Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet object, see the constructor functions <a href="#">DESeqDataSet</a> , <a href="#">DESeqDataSetFromMatrix</a> , <a href="#">DESeqDataSetFromHTSeqCount</a> .
test	either "Wald" or "LRT", which will then use either Wald significance tests (defined by <a href="#">nbinomWaldTest</a> ), or the likelihood ratio test on the difference in deviance between a full and reduced model formula (defined by <a href="#">nbinomLRT</a> )
fitType	either "parametric", "local", or "mean" for the type of fitting of dispersions to the mean intensity. See <a href="#">estimateDispersions</a> for description.
betaPrior	whether or not to put a zero-mean normal prior on the non-intercept coefficients. See <a href="#">nbinomWaldTest</a> for description of the calculation of the beta prior. By default, the beta prior is used only for the Wald test, but can also be specified for the likelihood ratio test.
full	for test="LRT", the full model formula, which is restricted to the formula in <code>design(object)</code> . alternatively, it can be a model matrix constructed by the user. advanced use: specifying a model matrix for full and test="Wald" is possible if betaPrior=FALSE
reduced	for test="LRT", a reduced formula to compare against, i.e., the full formula with the term(s) of interest removed. alternatively, it can be a model matrix constructed by the user
quiet	whether to print messages at each step

<code>minReplicatesForReplace</code>	the minimum number of replicates required in order to use <a href="#">replaceOutliers</a> on a sample. If there are samples with so many replicates, the model will be refit after these replacing outliers, flagged by Cook's distance. Set to Inf in order to never replace outliers.
<code>modelMatrixType</code>	either "standard" or "expanded", which describe how the model matrix, X of the GLM formula is formed. "standard" is as created by <code>model.matrix</code> using the design formula. "expanded" includes an indicator variable for each level of factors in addition to an intercept. for more information see the Description of <a href="#">nbinomWaldTest</a> . <code>betaPrior</code> must be set to TRUE in order for expanded model matrices to be fit.
<code>parallel</code>	if FALSE, no parallelization. if TRUE, parallel execution using <code>BiocParallel</code> , see next argument <code>BPPARAM</code>
<code>BPPARAM</code>	an optional parameter object passed internally to <a href="#">bplapply</a> when <code>parallel=TRUE</code> . If not specified, the parameters last registered with <a href="#">register</a> will be used.

## Details

The differential expression analysis uses a generalized linear model of the form:

$$K_{ij} \sim \text{NB}(\mu_{ij}, \alpha_i)$$

$$\mu_{ij} = s_j q_{ij}$$

$$\log_2(q_{ij}) = x_j \beta_i$$

where counts  $K_{ij}$  for gene  $i$ , sample  $j$  are modeled using a Negative Binomial distribution with fitted mean  $\mu_{ij}$  and a gene-specific dispersion parameter  $\alpha_i$ . The fitted mean is composed of a sample-specific size factor  $s_j$  and a parameter  $q_{ij}$  proportional to the expected true concentration of fragments for sample  $j$ . The coefficients  $\beta_i$  give the log<sub>2</sub> fold changes for gene  $i$  for each column of the model matrix  $X$ . The sample-specific size factors can be replaced by gene-specific normalization factors for each sample using [normalizationFactors](#).

For details on the fitting of the log<sub>2</sub> fold changes and calculation of p-values, see [nbinomWaldTest](#) if using `test="Wald"`, or [nbinomLRT](#) if using `test="LRT"`.

Experiments without replicates do not allow for estimation of the dispersion of counts around the expected value for each group, which is critical for differential expression analysis. If an experimental design is supplied which does not contain the necessary degrees of freedom for differential analysis, DESeq will provide a message to the user and follow the strategy outlined in Anders and Huber (2010) under the section 'Working without replicates', wherein all the samples are considered as replicates of a single group for the estimation of dispersion. As noted in the reference above: "Some overestimation of the variance may be expected, which will make that approach conservative." Furthermore, "while one may not want to draw strong conclusions from such an analysis, it may still be useful for exploration and hypothesis generation."

The argument `minReplicatesForReplace` is used to decide which samples are eligible for automatic replacement in the case of extreme Cook's distance. By default, DESeq will replace outliers if the Cook's distance is large for a sample which has 7 or more replicates (including itself). This replacement is performed by the [replaceOutliers](#) function. This default behavior helps to prevent

filtering genes based on Cook's distance when there are many degrees of freedom. See [results](#) for more information about filtering using Cook's distance, and the 'Dealing with outliers' section of the vignette. Unlike the behavior of [replaceOutliers](#), here original counts are kept in the matrix returned by [counts](#), original Cook's distances are kept in `assays(dds)[["cooks"]]`, and the replacement counts used for fitting are kept in `assays(object)[["replaceCounts"]]`.

Note that if a log2 fold change prior is used (`betaPrior=TRUE`) then expanded model matrices will be used in fitting. These are described in [nbinomWaldTest](#) and in the vignette. The contrast argument of [results](#) should be used for generating results tables.

### Value

a [DESeqDataSet](#) object with results stored as metadata columns. These results should be accessed by calling the [results](#) function. By default this will return the log2 fold changes and p-values for the last variable in the design formula. See [results](#) for how to access results for other variables.

### Author(s)

Michael Love

### References

DESeq2 reference:

Michael I Love, Wolfgang Huber, Simon Anders: Moderated estimation of fold change and dispersion for RNA-seq data with DESeq2. *Genome Biology* 2014, 15:550. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s13059-014-0550-8>

DESeq reference:

Simon Anders, Wolfgang Huber: Differential expression analysis for sequence count data. *Genome Biology* 2010, 11:106. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/gb-2010-11-10-r106>

### See Also

[nbinomWaldTest](#), [nbinomLRT](#)

### Examples

```
# see vignette for suggestions on generating
# count tables from RNA-Seq data
cnts <- matrix(rnbinom(n=1000, mu=100, size=1/0.5), ncol=10)
cond <- factor(rep(1:2, each=5))

# object construction
dds <- DESeqDataSetFromMatrix(cnts, DataFrame(cond), ~ cond)

# standard analysis
dds <- DESeq(dds)
res <- results(dds)

# an alternate analysis: likelihood ratio test
ddsLRT <- DESeq(dds, test="LRT", reduced=~ 1)
resLRT <- results(ddsLRT)
```



---

DESeqDataSet-class      *DESeqDataSet object and constructors*


---

## Description

The DESeqDataSet is a subclass of SummarizedExperiment, used to store the input values, intermediate calculations and results of an analysis of differential expression. The DESeqDataSet class enforces non-negative integer values in the "counts" matrix stored as the first element in the assay list. In addition, a formula which specifies the design of the experiment must be provided. The constructor functions create a DESeqDataSet object from various types of input: a SummarizedExperiment, a matrix, or count files generated by the python package HTSeq. See the vignette for examples of construction from all three input types.

## Usage

```
DESeqDataSet(se, design, ignoreRank = FALSE)
```

```
DESeqDataSetFromMatrix(countData, colData, design, tidy = FALSE,
  ignoreRank = FALSE, ...)
```

```
DESeqDataSetFromHTSeqCount(sampleTable, directory = "", design,
  ignoreRank = FALSE, ...)
```

## Arguments

se	a SummarizedExperiment with at least one column in colData, and the counts as the first element in the assays list, which will be renamed "counts". A SummarizedExperiment object can be generated by the function summarizeOverlaps in the GenomicRanges package.
design	a formula which expresses how the counts for each gene depend on the variables in colData. Many R formula are valid, including designs with multiple variables, e.g., ~ group + condition, and designs with interactions, e.g., ~ genotype + treatment + genotype:treatment. See <a href="#">results</a> for a variety of designs and how to extract results tables. By default, the functions in this package will use the last variable in the formula for building results tables and plotting.
ignoreRank	use of this argument is reserved for DEXSeq developers only. Users will immediately encounter an error upon trying to estimate dispersion using a design with a model matrix which is not full rank.
countData	for matrix input: a matrix of non-negative integers
colData	for matrix input: a DataFrame or data.frame with at least a single column. Rows of colData correspond to columns of countData
tidy	for matrix input: whether the first column of countData is the rownames for the count matrix

... arguments provided to SummarizedExperiment including rowRanges and exptData. Note that for Bioconductor 3.1, rowRanges must be a GRanges or GRangesList, with potential metadata columns as a DataFrame accessed and stored with mcols. If a user wants to store metadata columns about the rows of the countData, but does not have GRanges or GRangesList information, first construct the DESeqDataSet without rowRanges and then add the DataFrame with mcols(dds).

sampleTable for htseq-count: a data.frame with three or more columns. Each row describes one sample. The first column is the sample name, the second column the file name of the count file generated by htseq-count, and the remaining columns are sample metadata which will be stored in colData

directory for htseq-count: the directory relative to which the filenames are specified

**Value**

A DESeqDataSet object.

**References**

See <http://www-huber.embl.de/users/anders/HTSeq> for htseq-count

**Examples**

```
countData <- matrix(1:100, ncol=4)
condition <- factor(c("A", "A", "B", "B"))
dds <- DESeqDataSetFromMatrix(countData, DataFrame(condition), ~ condition)
```

---

DESeqResults-class     *DESeqResults object and constructor*

---

**Description**

This constructor function would not typically be used by "end users". This simple class extends the DataFrame class of the IRanges package to allow other packages to write methods for results objects from the DESeq2 package. It is used by [results](#) to wrap up the results table.

**Usage**

```
DESeqResults(DataFrame)
```

**Arguments**

DataFrame     a DataFrame of results, standard column names are: baseMean, log2FoldChange, lfcSE, stat, pvalue, padj.

**Value**

a DESeqResults object

---

DESeqTransform-class    *DESeqTransform object and constructor*

---

### Description

This constructor function would not typically be used by "end users". This simple class extends the SummarizedExperiment class of the GenomicRanges package. It is used by [rlog](#) and [varianceStabilizingTransformation](#) to wrap up the results into a class for downstream methods, such as [plotPCA](#).

### Usage

```
DESeqTransform(SummarizedExperiment)
```

### Arguments

```
SummarizedExperiment
  a SummarizedExperiment
```

### Value

a DESeqTransform object

---

design                            *Accessors for the 'design' slot of a DESeqDataSet object.*

---

### Description

The design holds the R formula which expresses how the counts depend on the variables in colData. See [DESeqDataSet](#) for details.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
design(object)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'DESeqDataSet,formula'
design(object) <- value
```

### Arguments

```
object                    a DESeqDataSet object
value                    a formula used for estimating dispersion and fitting Negative Binomial GLMs
```

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=4)
design(dds) <- formula(~ 1)
```

---

dispersionFunction      *Accessors for the 'dispersionFunction' slot of a DESeqDataSet object.*

---

### Description

The dispersion function is calculated by [estimateDispersions](#) and used by [varianceStabilizingTransformation](#). Parametric dispersion fits store the coefficients of the fit as attributes in this slot.

### Usage

```
dispersionFunction(object, ...)  
  
dispersionFunction(object, ...) <- value  
  
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'  
dispersionFunction(object)  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'DESeqDataSet,`function`'  
dispersionFunction(object,  
  estimateVar = TRUE) <- value
```

### Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet object.
...	additional arguments
value	a function
estimateVar	whether to estimate the variance of dispersion residuals. setting to FALSE is needed, e.g. within estimateDispersionsMAP when called on a subset of the full dataset in parallel execution.

### Details

Setting this will also overwrite `mcols(object)$dispFit` and the estimate the variance of dispersion residuals, see `estimateVar` below.

### See Also

[estimateDispersions](#)

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=4)  
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)  
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)  
dispersionFunction(dds)
```

---

dispersions	<i>Accessor functions for the dispersion estimates in a DESeqDataSet object.</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

The dispersions for each row of the DESeqDataSet. Generally, these are set by [estimateDispersions](#).

**Usage**

```
dispersions(object, ...)

dispersions(object, ...) <- value

## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
dispersions(object)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'DESeqDataSet,numeric'
dispersions(object) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet object.
...	additional arguments
value	the dispersions to use for the Negative Binomial modeling

**Author(s)**

Simon Anders

**See Also**

[estimateDispersions](#)

---

estimateBetaPriorVar	<i>Steps for estimating the beta prior variance</i>
----------------------	---

---

**Description**

These lower-level functions are called within [DESeq](#) or [nbinomWaldTest](#). End users should use those higher-level function instead. For advanced users to use this function, first run [estimateMLEForBetaPriorVar](#) and then run [estimateBetaPriorVar](#).

**Usage**

```
estimateBetaPriorVar(object, betaPriorMethod = c("weighted", "quantile"),
  upperQuantile = 0.05)

estimateMLEForBetaPriorVar(object, maxit = 100, useOptim = TRUE,
  useQR = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet
betaPriorMethod	the method for calculating the beta prior variance, either "quantile" or "weighted": "quantile" matches a normal distribution using the upper quantile of the finite MLE betas. "weighted" matches a normal distribution using the upper quantile, but weighting by the variance of the MLE betas.
upperQuantile	the upper quantile to be used for the "quantile" or "weighted" method of beta prior variance estimation
maxit	as defined in link{nbinomWaldTest}
useOptim	as defined in link{nbinomWaldTest}
useQR	as defined in link{nbinomWaldTest}

**Value**

for estimateMLEForBetaPriorVar, a DESeqDataSet, with the necessary information stored in order to calculate the prior variance. for estimateBetaPriorVar, the vector of variances for the prior on the betas in the [DESeq](#) GLM

---

estimateDispersions     *Estimate the dispersions for a DESeqDataSet*

---

**Description**

This function obtains dispersion estimates for Negative Binomial distributed data.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
estimateDispersions(object, fitType = c("parametric",
  "local", "mean"), maxit = 100, quiet = FALSE, modelMatrix = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet
fitType	either "parametric", "local", or "mean" for the type of fitting of dispersions to the mean intensity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>parametric - fit a dispersion-mean relation of the form: <math display="block">dispersion = asymptDisp + extraPois/mean</math> via a robust gamma-family GLM. The coefficients <code>asymptDisp</code> and <code>extraPois</code> are given in the attribute coefficients of the <code>dispersionFunction</code> of the object. </li> <li>local - use the <code>locfit</code> package to fit a local regression of log dispersions over log base mean (normal scale means and dispersions are input and output for <code>dispersionFunction</code>). The points are weighted by normalized mean count in the local regression. </li> <li>mean - use the mean of gene-wise dispersion estimates. </li> </ul>
maxit	control parameter: maximum number of iterations to allow for convergence
quiet	whether to print messages at each step
modelMatrix	an optional matrix which will be used for fitting the expected counts. by default, the model matrix is constructed from <code>design(object)</code>

**Details**

Typically the function is called with the idiom:

```
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)
```

The fitting proceeds as follows: for each gene, an estimate of the dispersion is found which maximizes the Cox Reid-adjusted profile likelihood (the methods of Cox Reid-adjusted profile likelihood maximization for estimation of dispersion in RNA-Seq data were developed by McCarthy, et al. (2012), first implemented in the `edgeR` package in 2010); a trend line capturing the dispersion-mean relationship is fit to the maximum likelihood estimates; a normal prior is determined for the log dispersion estimates centered on the predicted value from the trended fit with variance equal to the difference between the observed variance of the log dispersion estimates and the expected sampling variance; finally maximum a posteriori dispersion estimates are returned. This final dispersion parameter is used in subsequent tests. The final dispersion estimates can be accessed from an object using `dispersions`. The fitted dispersion-mean relationship is also used in `varianceStabilizingTransformation`. All of the intermediate values (gene-wise dispersion estimates, fitted dispersion estimates from the trended fit, etc.) are stored in `mcols(dds)`, with information about these columns in `mcols(mcols(dds))`.

The log normal prior on the dispersion parameter has been proposed by Wu, et al. (2012) and is also implemented in the `DSS` package.

In `DESeq2`, the dispersion estimation procedure described above replaces the different methods of dispersion from the previous version of the `DESeq` package.

`estimateDispersions` checks for the case of an analysis with as many samples as the number of coefficients to fit, and will temporarily substitute a design formula  $\sim 1$  for the purposes of dispersion estimation. This treats the samples as replicates for the purpose of dispersion estimation.

As mentioned in the DESeq paper: "While one may not want to draw strong conclusions from such an analysis, it may still be useful for exploration and hypothesis generation."

The lower-level functions called by estimateDispersions are: [estimateDispersionsGeneEst](#), [estimateDispersionsFit](#), and [estimateDispersionsMAP](#).

## Value

The DESeqDataSet passed as parameters, with the dispersion information filled in as metadata columns, accessible via `mcols`, or the final dispersions accessible via [dispersions](#).

## References

- Simon Anders, Wolfgang Huber: Differential expression analysis for sequence count data. *Genome Biology* 11 (2010) R106, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/gb-2010-11-10-r106>
- McCarthy, DJ, Chen, Y, Smyth, GK: Differential expression analysis of multifactor RNA-Seq experiments with respect to biological variation. *Nucleic Acids Research* 40 (2012), 4288-4297, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/nar/gks042>
- Wu, H., Wang, C. & Wu, Z. A new shrinkage estimator for dispersion improves differential expression detection in RNA-seq data. *Biostatistics* (2012). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/biostatistics/kxs033>

## Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)
head(dispersions(dds))
```

---

estimateDispersionsGeneEst

*Low-level functions to fit dispersion estimates*

---

## Description

Normal users should instead use [estimateDispersions](#). These low-level functions are called by [estimateDispersions](#), but are exported and documented for non-standard usage. For instance, it is possible to replace fitted values with a custom fit and continue with the maximum a posteriori dispersion estimation, as demonstrated in the examples below.

## Usage

```
estimateDispersionsGeneEst(object, minDisp = 1e-08, kappa_0 = 1,
  dispTol = 1e-06, maxit = 100, quiet = FALSE, modelMatrix = NULL,
  niter = 1)
```

```
estimateDispersionsFit(object, fitType = c("parametric", "local", "mean"),
  minDisp = 1e-08, quiet = FALSE)
```



```
estimateDispersionsMAP(object, outlierSD = 2, dispPriorVar, minDisp = 1e-08,
  kappa_0 = 1, dispTol = 1e-06, maxit = 100, modelMatrix = NULL,
  quiet = FALSE)
```

```
estimateDispersionsPriorVar(object, minDisp = 1e-08, modelMatrix = NULL)
```

### Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet
minDisp	small value for the minimum dispersion, to allow for calculations in log scale, one order of magnitude above this value is used as a test for inclusion in mean-dispersion fitting
kappa_0	control parameter used in setting the initial proposal in backtracking search, higher kappa_0 results in larger steps
dispTol	control parameter to test for convergence of log dispersion, stop when increase in log posterior is less than dispTol
maxit	control parameter: maximum number of iterations to allow for convergence
quiet	whether to print messages at each step
modelMatrix	for advanced use only, a substitute model matrix for gene-wise and MAP dispersion estimation
niter	number of times to iterate between estimation of means and estimation of dispersion
fitType	either "parametric", "local", or "mean" for the type of fitting of dispersions to the mean intensity. See <a href="#">estimateDispersions</a> for description.
outlierSD	the number of standard deviations of log gene-wise estimates above the prior mean (fitted value), above which dispersion estimates will be labelled outliers. Outliers will keep their original value and not be shrunk using the prior.
dispPriorVar	the variance of the normal prior on the log dispersions. If not supplied, this is calculated as the difference between the mean squared residuals of gene-wise estimates to the fitted dispersion and the expected sampling variance of the log dispersion

### Value

a DESeqDataSet with gene-wise, fitted, or final MAP dispersion estimates in the metadata columns of the object.

estimateDispersionsPriorVar is called inside of estimateDispersionsMAP and stores the dispersion prior variance as an attribute of dispersionFunction(dds), which can be manually provided to estimateDispersionsMAP for parallel execution.

### See Also

[estimateDispersions](#)

**Examples**

```

dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersionsGeneEst(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersionsFit(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersionsMAP(dds)
plotDispEsts(dds)

# after having run estimateDispersionsFit()
# the dispersion prior variance over all genes
# can be obtained like so:

dispPriorVar <- estimateDispersionsPriorVar(dds)

```

---

estimateSizeFactors     *Estimate the size factors for a DESeqDataSet*

---

**Description**

This function estimates the size factors using the "median ratio method" described by Equation 5 in Anders and Huber (2010). The estimated size factors can be accessed using [sizeFactors](#). Alternative library size estimators can also be supplied using [sizeFactors](#).

**Usage**

```

## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
estimateSizeFactors(object, type = c("ratio",
  "iterate"), locfunc = stats::median, geoMeans, controlGenes, normMatrix)

```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet
type	either "ratio" or "iterate". "ratio" uses the standard median ratio method introduced in DESeq. The size factor is the median ratio of the sample over a pseudosample: for each gene, the geometric mean of all samples. "iterate" offers an alternative estimator, which can be used even when all genes contain a sample with a zero. This estimator iterates between estimating the dispersion with a design of ~1, and finding a size factor vector by numerically optimizing the likelihood of the ~1 model.
locfunc	a function to compute a location for a sample. By default, the median is used. However, especially for low counts, the <a href="#">shorth</a> function from the <a href="#">genefilter</a> package may give better results.
geoMeans	by default this is not provided and the geometric means of the counts are calculated within the function. A vector of geometric means from another count matrix can be provided for a "frozen" size factor calculation
controlGenes	optional, numeric or logical index vector specifying those genes to use for size factor estimation (e.g. housekeeping or spike-in genes)

`normMatrix` optional, a matrix of normalization factors which do not control for library size (e.g. average transcript length of genes for each sample). Providing `normMatrix` will estimate size factors on the count matrix divided by `normMatrix` and store the product of the size factors and `normMatrix` as `normalizationFactors`.

## Details

Typically, the function is called with the idiom:

```
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
```

See [DESeq](#) for a description of the use of size factors in the GLM. One should call this function after [DESeqDataSet](#) unless size factors are manually specified with `sizeFactors`. Alternatively, gene-specific normalization factors for each sample can be provided using `normalizationFactors` which will always preempt `sizeFactors` in calculations.

Internally, the function calls `estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix`, which provides more details on the calculation.

## Value

The `DESeqDataSet` passed as parameters, with the size factors filled in.

## Author(s)

Simon Anders

## References

Reference for the median ratio method:

Simon Anders, Wolfgang Huber: Differential expression analysis for sequence count data. *Genome Biology* 2010, 11:106. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/gb-2010-11-10-r106>

## See Also

[estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix](#)

## Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(n=1000, m=4)
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
sizeFactors(dds)

dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds, controlGenes=1:200)

m <- matrix(runif(1000 * 4, .5, 1.5), ncol=4)
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds, normMatrix=m)
normalizationFactors(dds)[1:3,]

geoMeans <- exp(rowMeans(log(counts(dds))))
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds, geoMeans=geoMeans)
sizeFactors(dds)
```

---

`estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix`*Low-level function to estimate size factors with robust regression.*

---

**Description**

Given a matrix or data frame of count data, this function estimates the size factors as follows: Each column is divided by the geometric means of the rows. The median (or, if requested, another location estimator) of these ratios (skipping the genes with a geometric mean of zero) is used as the size factor for this column. Typically, one will not call this function directly, but use [estimateSizeFactors](#).

**Usage**

```
estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix(counts, locfunc = stats::median, geoMeans,
                             controlGenes)
```

**Arguments**

<code>counts</code>	a matrix or data frame of counts, i.e., non-negative integer values
<code>locfunc</code>	a function to compute a location for a sample. By default, the median is used. However, especially for low counts, the <a href="#">shorth</a> function from <code>genefilter</code> may give better results.
<code>geoMeans</code>	by default this is not provided, and the geometric means of the counts are calculated within the function. A vector of geometric means from another count matrix can be provided for a "frozen" size factor calculation
<code>controlGenes</code>	optional, numeric or logical index vector specifying those genes to use for size factor estimation (e.g. housekeeping or spike-in genes)

**Value**

a vector with the estimates size factors, one element per column

**Author(s)**

Simon Anders

**See Also**

[estimateSizeFactors](#)

**Examples**

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix(counts(dds))
geoMeans <- exp(rowMeans(log(counts(dds))))
estimateSizeFactorsForMatrix(counts(dds), geoMeans=geoMeans)
```

---

fpm	<i>FPKM: fragments per kilobase per million mapped fragments</i>
-----	--

---

## Description

The following function returns fragment counts normalized per kilobase of feature length per million mapped fragments (by default using a robust estimate of the library size, as in [estimateSizeFactors](#)).

## Usage

```
fpm(object, robust = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet
robust	whether to use size factors to normalize rather than taking the column sums of the raw counts, using the <a href="#">fpm</a> function.

## Details

The length of the features (e.g. genes) is calculated one of two ways: if there is a matrix named "avgTxLength" in `assays(dds)`, this will take precedence in the length normalization. Otherwise, feature length is calculated from the `rowRanges` of the `dds` object, if a column `basepairs` is not present in `mcols(dds)`. The calculated length is the number of basepairs in the union of all `GRanges` assigned to a given row of object, e.g., the union of all basepairs of exons of a given gene.

Note that, when the read/fragment counting has inter-feature dependencies, a strict normalization would not incorporate the basepairs of a feature which overlap another feature. This inter-feature dependence is not taken into consideration in the internal union basepair calculation.

## Value

a matrix which is normalized per kilobase of the union of basepairs in the `GRangesList` or `GRanges` of the `mcols(object)`, and per million of mapped fragments, either using the robust median ratio method (`robust=TRUE`, default) or using raw counts (`robust=FALSE`). Defining a column `mcols(object)$basepairs` takes precedence over internal calculation of the kilobases for each row.

## See Also

[fpm](#)

## Examples

```
# create a matrix with 1 million counts for the
# 2nd and 3rd column, the 1st and 4th have
# half and double the counts, respectively.
m <- matrix(1e6 * rep(c(.125, .25, .25, .5), each=4),
            ncol=4, dimnames=list(1:4,1:4))
mode(m) <- "integer"
```

```
se <- SummarizedExperiment(m, colData=DataFrame(sample=1:4))
dds <- DESeqDataSet(se, ~ 1)

# create 4 GRanges with lengths: 1, 1, 2, 2.5 Kb
gr1 <- GRanges("chr1", IRanges(1,1000))
gr2 <- GRanges("chr1", IRanges(c(1,501),c(500,1000)))
gr3 <- GRanges("chr1", IRanges(c(1,1001),c(1000,2000)))
gr4 <- GRanges("chr1", IRanges(c(1,1001,2001),c(500,3000,3000)))
rowRanges(dds) <- GRangesList(gr1,gr2,gr3,gr4)

# the raw counts
counts(dds)

# the FPKM values
fpkm(dds)

# held constant per 1 million fragments
counts(dds) <- counts(dds) * 2L
round(fpkm(dds))
```

---

fpm

*FPM: fragments per million mapped fragments*

---

## Description

Calculates either a robust version (default) or the traditional matrix of fragments/counts per million mapped fragments (FPM/CPM). Note: this function is written very simply and can be easily altered to produce other behavior by examining the source code.

## Usage

```
fpm(object, robust = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet
robust	whether to use size factors to normalize rather than taking the column sums of the raw counts.

## Value

a matrix which is normalized per million of mapped fragments, either using the robust median ratio method (robust=TRUE, default) or using raw counts (robust=FALSE).

## See Also

[fpkm](#)

**Examples**

```
# generate a dataset with size factors: .5, 1, 1, 2
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m = 4, n = 1000,
                               interceptMean=log2(1e3),
                               interceptSD=0,
                               sizeFactors=c(.5,1,1,2),
                               dispMeanRel=function(x) .01)

counts(dds)[11:15,] <- 2e5L

head(fpm(dds), 3)
head(fpm(dds, robust=FALSE), 3)

# the column sums of the robust version
# are not equal to 1e6, but the
# column sums of the non-robust version
# are equal to 1e6 by definition

colSums(fpm(dds))/1e6
colSums(fpm(dds, robust=FALSE))/1e6

# the total sum is equal for both methods

sum(fpm(dds))
sum(fpm(dds, robust=FALSE))
```

---

```
makeExampleDESeqDataSet
```

*Make a simulated DESeqDataSet*

---

**Description**

Constructs a simulated dataset of Negative Binomial data from two conditions. By default, there are no fold changes between the two conditions, but this can be adjusted with the betaSD argument.

**Usage**

```
makeExampleDESeqDataSet(n = 1000, m = 12, betaSD = 0, interceptMean = 4,
                        interceptSD = 2, dispMeanRel = function(x) 4/x + 0.1,
                        sizeFactors = rep(1, m))
```

**Arguments**

n	number of rows
m	number of columns
betaSD	the standard deviation for non-intercept betas, i.e. $\beta \sim N(0, \text{betaSD})$
interceptMean	the mean of the intercept betas (log2 scale)

interceptSD	the standard deviation of the intercept betas (log2 scale)
dispMeanRel	a function specifying the relationship of the dispersions on $2^{\text{trueIntercept}}$
sizeFactors	multiplicative factors for each sample

### Value

a [DESeqDataSet](#) with true dispersion, intercept and beta values in the metadata columns. Note that the true betas are provided on the log2 scale.

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
dds
```

---

nbinomLRT	<i>Likelihood ratio test (chi-squared test) for GLMs</i>
-----------	--

---

### Description

This function tests for significance of change in deviance between a full and reduced model which are provided as formula. Fitting uses previously calculated [sizeFactors](#) (or [normalizationFactors](#)) and dispersion estimates.

### Usage

```
nbinomLRT(object, full = design(object), reduced, betaPrior = FALSE,
  betaPriorVar, modelMatrixType = "standard", maxit = 100,
  useOptim = TRUE, quiet = FALSE, useQR = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

object	a <a href="#">DESeqDataSet</a>
full	the full model formula, this should be the formula in <code>design(object)</code> . alternatively, can be a matrix
reduced	a reduced formula to compare against, e.g. the full model with a term or terms of interest removed. alternatively, can be a matrix
betaPrior	whether or not to put a zero-mean normal prior on the non-intercept coefficients While the beta prior is used typically, for the Wald test, it can also be specified for the likelihood ratio test. For more details on the calculation, see <a href="#">nbinomWaldTest</a> .
betaPriorVar	a vector with length equal to the number of model terms including the intercept. which if missing is estimated from the rows which do not have any zeros



modelMatrixType	either "standard" or "expanded", which describe how the model matrix, X of the formula in <a href="#">DESeq</a> , is formed. "standard" is as created by <code>model.matrix</code> using the design formula. "expanded" includes an indicator variable for each level of factors in addition to an intercept, in order to ensure that the log <sub>2</sub> fold changes are independent of the choice of reference level. <code>betaPrior</code> must be set to TRUE in order for expanded model matrices to be fit.
maxit	the maximum number of iterations to allow for convergence of the coefficient vector
useOptim	whether to use the native optim function on rows which do not converge within maxit
quiet	whether to print messages at each step
useQR	whether to use the QR decomposition on the design matrix X while fitting the GLM

### Details

The difference in deviance is compared to a chi-squared distribution with  $df = (\text{reduced residual degrees of freedom} - \text{full residual degrees of freedom})$ . This function is comparable to the `nbinomGLMTest` of the previous version of DESeq and an alternative to the default `nbinomWaldTest`.

### Value

a `DESeqDataSet` with new results columns accessible with the `results` function. The coefficients and standard errors are reported on a log<sub>2</sub> scale.

### See Also

[DESeq](#), [nbinomWaldTest](#)

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)
dds <- nbinomLRT(dds, reduced = ~ 1)
res <- results(dds)
```

---

nbinomWaldTest	<i>Wald test for the GLM coefficients</i>
----------------	---

---

### Description

This function tests for significance of coefficients in a Negative Binomial GLM, using previously calculated `sizeFactors` (or `normalizationFactors`) and dispersion estimates. See [DESeq](#) for the GLM formula.

**Usage**

```
nbinomWaldTest(object, betaPrior = TRUE, betaPriorVar, modelMatrix = NULL,
  modelMatrixType, maxit = 100, useOptim = TRUE, quiet = FALSE,
  useT = FALSE, df, useQR = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet
betaPrior	whether or not to put a zero-mean normal prior on the non-intercept coefficients
betaPriorVar	a vector with length equal to the number of model terms including the intercept. betaPriorVar gives the variance of the prior on the sample betas on the log2 scale. if missing (default) this is estimated from the data
modelMatrix	an optional matrix, typically this is set to NULL and created within the function. only can be supplied if betaPrior=FALSE
modelMatrixType	either "standard" or "expanded", which describe how the model matrix, X of the formula in <a href="#">DESeq</a> , is formed. "standard" is as created by <code>model.matrix</code> using the design formula. "expanded" includes an indicator variable for each level of factors in addition to an intercept. betaPrior must be set to TRUE in order for expanded model matrices to be fit.
maxit	the maximum number of iterations to allow for convergence of the coefficient vector
useOptim	whether to use the native optim function on rows which do not converge within maxit
quiet	whether to print messages at each step
useT	whether to use a t-distribution as a null distribution, for significance testing of the Wald statistics. If FALSE, a standard normal null distribution is used.
df	the degrees of freedom for the t-distribution
useQR	whether to use the QR decomposition on the design matrix X while fitting the GLM

**Details**

The fitting proceeds as follows: standard maximum likelihood estimates for GLM coefficients (synonymous with "beta", "log2 fold change", "effect size") are calculated. A zero-centered Normal prior distribution is assumed for the coefficients other than the intercept. The variance of the prior distribution for each non-intercept coefficient is calculated using the observed distribution of the maximum likelihood coefficients. The final coefficients are then maximum a posteriori estimates using this prior (Tikhonov/ridge regularization). See below for details on the prior variance and the Methods section of the DESeq2 manuscript for more detail. The use of a prior has little effect on genes with high counts and helps to moderate the large spread in coefficients for genes with low counts. For calculating Wald test p-values, the coefficients are scaled by their standard errors and then compared to a standard Normal distribution.

The prior variance is calculated by matching the 0.05 upper quantile of the observed MLE coefficients to a zero-centered Normal distribution. In a change since the publication of the paper, the

weighted upper quantile is calculated using the `wtd.quantile` function from the `Hmisc` package. The weights are the inverse of the expected variance of log counts, so the inverse of  $1/\bar{\mu} + \alpha_{tr}$  using the mean of normalized counts and the trended dispersion fit. The weighting ensures that noisy estimates of log fold changes from small count genes do not overly influence the calculation of the prior variance. The final prior variance for a factor level is the average of the estimated prior variance over all contrasts of all levels of the factor.

When a log2 fold change prior is used (`betaPrior=TRUE`), then `nbinomWaldTest` will by default use expanded model matrices, as described in the `modelMatrixType` argument, unless this argument is used to override the default behavior or unless the design contains 2 level factors and an interaction term. This ensures that log2 fold changes will be independent of the choice of reference level. In this case, the beta prior variance for each factor is calculated as the average of the mean squared maximum likelihood estimates for each level and every possible contrast. The `results` function without any arguments will automatically perform a contrast of the last level of the last variable in the design formula over the first level. The contrast argument of the `results` function can be used to generate other comparisons.

When interaction terms are present, the prior on log fold changes will only be used for the interaction terms (non-interaction log fold changes receive a wide prior variance of 1000).

The Wald test can be replaced with the `nbinomLRT` for an alternative test of significance.

### Value

a `DESeqDataSet` with results columns accessible with the `results` function. The coefficients and standard errors are reported on a log2 scale.

### See Also

[DESeq](#), [nbinomLRT](#)

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)
dds <- nbinomWaldTest(dds)
res <- results(dds)
```

---

`normalizationFactors` *Accessor functions for the normalization factors in a `DESeqDataSet` object.*

---

### Description

Gene-specific normalization factors for each sample can be provided as a matrix, which will preempt `sizeFactors`. In some experiments, counts for each sample have varying dependence on covariates, e.g. on GC-content for sequencing data run on different days, and in this case it makes sense to provide gene-specific factors for each sample rather than a single size factor.

**Usage**

```
normalizationFactors(object, ...)

normalizationFactors(object, ...) <- value

## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
normalizationFactors(object)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'DESeqDataSet,matrix'
normalizationFactors(object) <- value
```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet object.
...	additional arguments
value	the matrix of normalization factors

**Details**

Normalization factors alter the model of [DESeq](#) in the following way, for counts  $K_{ij}$  and normalization factors  $NF_{ij}$  for gene  $i$  and sample  $j$ :

$$K_{ij} \sim \text{NB}(\mu_{ij}, \alpha_i)$$

$$\mu_{ij} = NF_{ij}q_{ij}$$

**Note**

Normalization factors are on the scale of the counts (similar to [sizeFactors](#)) and unlike offsets, which are typically on the scale of the predictors (in this case, log counts). Normalization factors should include library size normalization. They should have row-wise geometric mean near 1, as is the case with size factors, such that the mean of normalized counts is close to the mean of unnormalized counts. See example code below.

**Examples**

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(n=100, m=4)

normFactors <- matrix(runif(nrow(dds)*ncol(dds),0.5,1.5),
                      ncol=ncol(dds),nrow=nrow(dds),
                      dimnames=list(1:nrow(dds),1:ncol(dds)))

# the normalization factors matrix should not have 0's in it
# it should have geometric mean near 1 for each row
normFactors <- normFactors / exp(rowMeans(log(normFactors)))
normalizationFactors(dds) <- normFactors

dds <- DESeq(dds)
```

---

plotCounts	<i>Plot of normalized counts for a single gene on log scale</i>
------------	---

---

### Description

Note: normalized counts plus a pseudocount of 0.5 are shown.

### Usage

```
plotCounts(dds, gene, intgroup = "condition", normalized = TRUE,  
           transform = FALSE, main, xlab = "group", returnData = FALSE,  
           replaced = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

dds	a DESeqDataSet
gene	a character, specifying the name of the gene to plot
intgroup	interesting groups: a character vector of names in colData(x) to use for grouping
normalized	whether the counts should be normalized by size factor (default is TRUE)
transform	whether to present log <sub>2</sub> counts (TRUE) or to present the counts on the log scale (FALSE, default)
main	as in 'plot'
xlab	as in 'plot'
returnData	should the function only return the data.frame of counts and covariates for custom plotting (default is FALSE)
replaced	use the outlier-replaced counts if they exist
...	arguments passed to plot

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()  
plotCounts(dds, "gene1")
```

---

`plotDispEsts`*Plot dispersion estimates*

---

**Description**

A simple helper function that plots the per-gene dispersion estimates together with the fitted mean-dispersion relationship.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'  
plotDispEsts(object, ymin, genecol = "black",  
             fitcol = "red", finalcol = "dodgerblue", legend = TRUE, xlab, ylab,  
             log = "xy", cex = 0.45, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	a DESeqDataSet, with dispersions estimated
<code>ymin</code>	the lower bound for points on the plot, points beyond this are drawn as triangles at <code>ymin</code>
<code>genecol</code>	the color for gene-wise dispersion estimates
<code>fitcol</code>	the color of the fitted estimates
<code>finalcol</code>	the color of the final estimates used for testing
<code>legend</code>	logical, whether to draw a legend
<code>xlab</code>	<code>xlab</code>
<code>ylab</code>	<code>ylab</code>
<code>log</code>	<code>log</code>
<code>cex</code>	<code>cex</code>
<code>...</code>	further arguments to plot

**Author(s)**

Simon Anders

**Examples**

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()  
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)  
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)  
plotDispEsts(dds)
```

---

`plotMA`*MA-plot from base means and log fold changes*

---

### Description

A simple helper function that makes a so-called "MA-plot", i.e. a scatter plot of log<sub>2</sub> fold changes (on the y-axis) versus the mean of normalized counts (on the x-axis).

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'
plotMA(object, alpha = 0.1, main = "", ylim, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'DESeqResults'
plotMA(object, alpha = 0.1, main = "", ylim, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>object</code>	a <code>DESeqResults</code> object produced by <code>results</code> ; or a <code>DESeqDataSet</code> processed by <code>DESeq</code> , or the individual functions <code>nbinomWaldTest</code> or <code>nbinomLRT</code>
<code>alpha</code>	the significance level for thresholding adjusted p-values
<code>main</code>	optional title for the plot
<code>ylim</code>	optional y limits
<code>...</code>	further arguments passed to <code>plotMA</code> if <code>object</code> is <code>DESeqResults</code> or to <code>results</code> if <code>object</code> is <code>DESeqDataSet</code>

### Details

This function is essentially two lines of code: building a `data.frame` and passing this to the `plotMA` method for `data.frame` from the `geneploater` package. The code of this function can be seen with: `getMethod("plotMA", "DESeqDataSet")` If users wish to modify the graphical parameters of the plot, it is recommended to build the `data.frame` in the same manner and call `plotMA`.

### Author(s)

Michael Love

### Examples

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet()
dds <- DESeq(dds)
plotMA(dds)
res <- results(dds)
plotMA(res)
```

---

`plotPCA`*Sample PCA plot for transformed data*

---

**Description**

This plot helps to check for batch effects and the like.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqTransform'  
plotPCA(object, intgroup = "condition",  
        ntop = 500, returnData = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	a <code>DESeqTransform</code> object, with data in <code>assay(x)</code> , produced for example by either <code>rlog</code> or <code>varianceStabilizingTransformation</code> .
<code>intgroup</code>	interesting groups: a character vector of names in <code>colData(x)</code> to use for grouping
<code>ntop</code>	number of top genes to use for principal components, selected by highest row variance
<code>returnData</code>	should the function only return the data.frame of PC1 and PC2 with <code>intgroup</code> covariates for custom plotting (default is <code>FALSE</code> )

**Value**

An object created by `ggplot`, which can be assigned and further customized.

**Note**

See the vignette for an example of variance stabilization and PCA plots. Note that the source code of `plotPCA` is very simple and commented. It can be found with comments by typing `DESeq2:::plotPCA.DESeqTransform`. (The version at `getMethod("plotPCA", "DESeqTransform")` will not show comments.) Users should find it easy to customize this function.

**Author(s)**

Wolfgang Huber

**Examples**

```
# using rlog transformed data:  
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(betaSD=1)  
rld <- rlog(dds)  
plotPCA(rld)  
  
# also possible to perform custom transformation:
```



```

dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
# shifted log of normalized counts
se <- SummarizedExperiment(log2(counts(dds, normalized=TRUE) + 1),
                           colData=colData(dds))
# the call to DESeqTransform() is needed to
# trigger our plotPCA method.
plotPCA( DESeqTransform( se ) )

```

---

plotSparsity

*Sparsity plot*


---

### Description

A simple plot of the concentration of counts in a single sample over the sum of counts per gene. Not technically the same as "sparsity", but this plot is useful diagnostic for datasets which might not fit a negative binomial assumption: genes with many zeros and individual very large counts are difficult to model with the negative binomial distribution.

### Usage

```
plotSparsity(x, normalized = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	a matrix or DESeqDataSet
normalized	whether to normalize the counts from a DESeqDataSet
...	passed to plot

### Examples

```

dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(n=1000,m=4,dispMeanRel=function(x) .5)
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
plotSparsity(dds)

```

---

replaceOutliers

*Replace outliers with trimmed mean*


---

### Description

Note that this function is called within [DESeq](#), so is not necessary to call on top of a DESeq call. See the `minReplicatesForReplace` argument documented in `link{DESeq}`.

## Usage

```
replaceOutliers(object, trim = 0.2, cooksCutoff, minReplicates = 7,  
  whichSamples)
```

```
replaceOutliersWithTrimmedMean(object, trim = 0.2, cooksCutoff,  
  minReplicates = 7, whichSamples)
```

## Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet object, which has already been processed by either DESeq, nbinomWaldTest or nbinomLRT, and therefore contains a matrix contained in <code>assays(dds)[["cooks"]]</code> . These are the Cook's distances which will be used to define outlier counts.
trim	the fraction (0 to 0.5) of observations to be trimmed from each end of the normalized counts for a gene before the mean is computed
cooksCutoff	the threshold for defining an outlier to be replaced. Defaults to the .99 quantile of the $F(p, m - p)$ distribution, where $p$ is the number of parameters and $m$ is the number of samples.
minReplicates	the minimum number of replicate samples necessary to consider a sample eligible for replacement (including itself). Outlier counts will not be replaced if the sample is in a cell which has less than <code>minReplicates</code> replicates.
whichSamples	optional, a numeric or logical index to specify which samples should have outliers replaced. if missing, this is determined using <code>minReplicates</code> .

## Details

This function replaces outlier counts flagged by extreme Cook's distances, as calculated by [DESeq](#), [nbinomWaldTest](#) or [nbinomLRT](#), with values predicted by the trimmed mean over all samples (and adjusted by size factor or normalization factor). This function replaces the counts in the matrix returned by `counts(dds)` and the Cook's distances in `assays(dds)[["cooks"]]`. Original counts are preserved in `assays(dds)[["originalCounts"]]`.

The [DESeq](#) function calculates a diagnostic measure called Cook's distance for every gene and every sample. The [results](#) function then sets the p-values to NA for genes which contain an outlying count as defined by a Cook's distance above a threshold. With many degrees of freedom, i.e. many more samples than number of parameters to be estimated— it might be undesirable to remove entire genes from the analysis just because their data include a single count outlier. An alternate strategy is to replace the outlier counts with the trimmed mean over all samples, adjusted by the size factor or normalization factor for that sample. The following simple function performs this replacement for the user, for samples which have at least `minReplicates` number of replicates (including that sample). For more information on Cook's distance, please see the two sections of the vignette: 'Dealing with count outliers' and 'Count outlier detection'.

## Value

a DESeqDataSet with replaced counts in the slot returned by `counts` and the original counts preserved in `assays(dds)[["originalCounts"]]`

**See Also**[DESeq](#)


---

results	<i>Extract results from a DESeq analysis</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

results extracts a result table from a DESeq analysis giving base means across samples, log2 fold changes, standard errors, test statistics, p-values and adjusted p-values; resultsNames returns the names of the estimated effects (coefficients) of the model; removeResults returns a DESeqDataSet object with results columns removed.

**Usage**

```
results(object, contrast, name, lfcThreshold = 0,
  altHypothesis = c("greaterAbs", "lessAbs", "greater", "less"),
  listValues = c(1, -1), cooksCutoff, independentFiltering = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.1, filter, theta, pAdjustMethod = "BH",
  format = c("DataFrame", "GRanges", "GRangesList"), test, addMLE = FALSE,
  tidy = FALSE, parallel = FALSE, BPPARAM = bpparam())
```

```
resultsNames(object)
```

```
removeResults(object)
```

**Arguments**

**object** a DESeqDataSet, on which one of the following functions has already been called: [DESeq](#), [nbinomWaldTest](#), or [nbinomLRT](#)

**contrast** this argument specifies what comparison to extract from the object to build a results table. one of either:

- a character vector with exactly three elements: the name of a factor in the design formula, the name of the numerator level for the fold change, and the name of the denominator level for the fold change (simplest case)
- a list of 2 character vectors: the names of the fold changes for the numerator, and the names of the fold changes for the denominator. these names should be elements of resultsNames(object). if the list is length 1, a second element is added which is the empty character vector, character(). (more general case, can be to combine interaction terms and main effects)
- a numeric contrast vector with one element for each element in resultsNames(object) (most general case)

If specified, the name argument is ignored.

name	the name of the individual effect (coefficient) for building a results table. Use this argument rather than <code>contrast</code> for continuous variables, individual effects or for individual interaction terms. The value provided to name must be an element of <code>resultsNames(object)</code> .
lfcThreshold	a non-negative value, which specifies the test which should be applied to the log <sub>2</sub> fold changes. The standard is a test that the log <sub>2</sub> fold changes are not equal to zero. However, log <sub>2</sub> fold changes greater or less than <code>lfcThreshold</code> can also be tested. Specify the alternative hypothesis using the <code>altHypothesis</code> argument. If <code>lfcThreshold</code> is specified, the results are Wald tests, and LRT p-values will be overwritten.
altHypothesis	character which specifies the alternative hypothesis, i.e. those values of log <sub>2</sub> fold change which the user is interested in finding. The complement of this set of values is the null hypothesis which will be tested. If the log <sub>2</sub> fold change specified by name or by contrast is written as $\beta$ , then the possible values for <code>altHypothesis</code> represent the following alternate hypotheses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• greaterAbs: <math> \beta  &gt; \text{lfcThreshold}</math>, and p-values are two-tailed</li> <li>• lessAbs: <math> \beta  &lt; \text{lfcThreshold}</math>, NOTE: this requires that <code>betaPrior=FALSE</code> has been specified in the previous <code>DESeq</code> call. p-values are the maximum of the upper and lower tests.</li> <li>• greater: <math>\beta &gt; \text{lfcThreshold}</math></li> <li>• less: <math>\beta &lt; -\text{lfcThreshold}</math></li> </ul>
listValues	only used if a list is provided to <code>contrast</code> : a numeric of length two: the log <sub>2</sub> fold changes in the list are multiplied by these values. the first number should be positive and the second negative. by default this is <code>c(1, -1)</code>
cooksCutoff	threshold on Cook's distance, such that if one or more samples for a row have a distance higher, the p-value for the row is set to NA. The default cutoff is the .99 quantile of the F(p, m-p) distribution, where p is the number of coefficients being fitted and m is the number of samples. Set to <code>Inf</code> or <code>FALSE</code> to disable the resetting of p-values to NA. Note: this test excludes the Cook's distance of samples belonging to experimental groups with only 2 samples.
independentFiltering	logical, whether independent filtering should be applied automatically
alpha	the significance cutoff used for optimizing the independent filtering (by default 0.1). If the adjusted p-value cutoff (FDR) will be a value other than 0.1, alpha should be set to that value.
filter	the vector of filter statistics over which the independent filtering will be optimized. By default the mean of normalized counts is used.
theta	the quantiles at which to assess the number of rejections from independent filtering
pAdjustMethod	the method to use for adjusting p-values, see <code>?p.adjust</code>
format	character, either <code>"DataFrame"</code> , <code>"GRanges"</code> , or <code>"GRangesList"</code> , whether the results should be printed as a <code>DESeqResults</code> <code>DataFrame</code> , or if the results <code>DataFrame</code> should be attached as metadata columns to the <code>GRanges</code> or <code>GRangesList</code> <code>rowRanges</code> of the <code>DESeqDataSet</code> . If the <code>rowRanges</code> is a <code>GRangesList</code> , and <code>GRanges</code> is requested, the range of each gene will be returned

test	this is typically automatically detected internally. the one exception is after nbinomLRT has been run, test="Wald" will generate Wald statistics and Wald test p-values.
addMLE	whether the "unshrunk" maximum likelihood estimates (MLE) of log2 fold change should be added as a column to the results table (default is FALSE). only applicable when a beta prior was used during the model fitting. only implemented for 'contrast' for three element character vectors or 'name' for interactions.
tidy	whether to output the results table with rownames as a first column 'row'. the table will also be coerced to data.frame
parallel	if FALSE, no parallelization. if TRUE, parallel execution using BiocParallel, see next argument BPPARAM
BPPARAM	an optional parameter object passed internally to bplapply when parallel=TRUE. If not specified, the parameters last registered with register will be used.

## Details

The results table when printed will provide the information about the comparison, e.g. "log2 fold change (MAP): condition treated vs untreated", meaning that the estimates are of  $\log_2(\text{treated} / \text{untreated})$ , as would be returned by `contrast=c("condition", "treated", "untreated")`. Multiple results can be returned for analyses beyond a simple two group comparison, so `results` takes arguments `contrast` and `name` to help the user pick out the comparisons of interest for printing a results table. The use of the `contrast` argument is recommended for exact specification of the levels which should be compared and their order.

If `results` is run without specifying `contrast` or `name`, it will return the comparison of the last level of the last variable in the design formula over the first level of this variable. For example, for a simple two-group comparison, this would return the log2 fold changes of the second group over the first group (the reference level). Please see examples below and in the vignette.

The argument `contrast` can be used to generate results tables for any comparison of interest, for example, the log2 fold change between two levels of a factor, and its usage is described below. It can also accomodate more complicated numeric comparisons. The test statistic used for a contrast is:

$$c^t \beta / \sqrt{c^t \Sigma c}$$

The argument `name` can be used to generate results tables for individual effects, which must be individual elements of `resultsNames(object)`. These individual effects could represent continuous covariates, effects for individual levels, or individual interaction effects.

Information on the comparison which was used to build the results table, and the statistical test which was used for p-values (Wald test or likelihood ratio test) is stored within the object returned by `results`. This information is in the metadata columns of the results table, which is accessible by calling `mcols` on the `DESeqResults` object returned by `results`.

On p-values:

By default, independent filtering is performed to select a set of genes for multiple test correction which will optimize the number of adjusted p-values less than a given critical value `alpha` (by default 0.1). The adjusted p-values for the genes which do not pass the filter threshold are set to NA.

By default, the mean of normalized counts is used to perform this filtering, though other statistics can be provided. Several arguments from the `filtered_p` function of `genefilter` are provided here to control or turn off the independent filtering behavior.

By default, `results` assigns a p-value of NA to genes containing count outliers, as identified using Cook's distance. See the `cooksCutoff` argument for control of this behavior. Cook's distances for each sample are accessible as a matrix "cooks" stored in the `assays()` list. This measure is useful for identifying rows where the observed counts might not fit to a Negative Binomial distribution.

For analyses using the likelihood ratio test (using `nbinomLRT`), the p-values are determined solely by the difference in deviance between the full and reduced model formula. A log<sub>2</sub> fold change is included, which can be controlled using the `name` argument, or by default this will be the estimated coefficient for the last element of `resultsNames(object)`.

## Value

For `results`: a `DESeqResults` object, which is a simple subclass of `DataFrame`. This object contains the results columns: `baseMean`, `log2FoldChange`, `lfcSE`, `stat`, `pvalue` and `padj`, and also includes metadata columns of variable information. The `lfcSE` gives the standard error of the `log2FoldChange`. For the Wald test, `stat` is the Wald statistic: the `log2FoldChange` divided by `lfcSE`, which is compared to a standard Normal distribution to generate a two-tailed `pvalue`. For the likelihood ratio test (LRT), `stat` is the difference in deviance between the reduced model and the full model, which is compared to a chi-squared distribution to generate a `pvalue`.

For `resultsNames`: the names of the columns available as results, usually a combination of the variable name and a level

For `removeResults`: the original `DESeqDataSet` with results metadata columns removed

## References

Richard Bourgon, Robert Gentleman, Wolfgang Huber: Independent filtering increases detection power for high-throughput experiments. PNAS (2010), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1073/pnas.0914005107>

## See Also

[DESeq](#)

## Examples

```
## Example 1: simple two-group comparison

dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=4)
dds <- DESeq(dds)
res <- results(dds)
res[ order(res$padj), ]

## Example 2: two conditions, two sets, with interaction term

dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(n=100,m=12)
dds$set <- factor(rep(rep(c("X","Y"),each=3),2))
design(dds) <- ~ set + condition + set:condition
dds <- DESeq(dds)
```

```

resultsNames(dds)
# the main condition effect (for set X)
results(dds, contrast=c("condition","B","A"))
# the main set effect (for condition A)
results(dds, contrast=c("set","Y","X"))
# the interaction term (is the condition effect *different* across set?)
results(dds, name="setY.conditionB")
# the condition effect in set Y (add the interaction to the main effect)
results(dds, contrast=list(c("condition_B_vs_A","setY.conditionB")))

## Example 3: two conditions, three sets

# using interaction terms

dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(n=100,m=18)
dds$set <- factor(rep(rep(c("X","Y","Z"),each=3),2))
design(dds) <- ~ set + condition + set:condition
dds <- DESeq(dds)
resultsNames(dds)

# the main effect for condition (for all sets)
results(dds, contrast=c("condition","B","A"))
# which is equivalent to
results(dds, contrast=list("conditionB","conditionA"))

# the interaction term for condition in set Z
# (does set Z have *different* condition effect than the main effect?)
results(dds, contrast=list("setZ.conditionB","setZ.conditionA"))

# the condition effect in set Z
# (the interaction effect added to the main effect)
results(dds, contrast=list(
  c("conditionB","setZ.conditionB"),
  c("conditionA","setZ.conditionA")))

# the set Z effect compared to the average of set X and Y
# here we use 'listValues' to multiply the effect sizes for
# set X and set Y by -1/2
results(dds, contrast=list("setZ",c("setX","setY")), listValues=c(1,-1/2))

# using a grouping variable.

# this is a useful construction when users just want to compare
# specific groups which are combinations of variables

dds$group <- factor(paste0(dds$set, dds$condition))
design(dds) <- ~ group
dds <- DESeq(dds)
resultsNames(dds)

# the condition B vs A effect for set Z
results(dds, contrast=c("group","ZB","ZA"))

```

rlog

*Apply a 'regularized log' transformation***Description**

This function transforms the count data to the log2 scale in a way which minimizes differences between samples for rows with small counts, and which normalizes with respect to library size. The rlog transformation produces a similar variance stabilizing effect as [varianceStabilizingTransformation](#), though rlog is more robust in the case when the size factors vary widely. The transformation is useful when checking for outliers or as input for machine learning techniques such as clustering or linear discriminant analysis. rlog takes as input a [DESeqDataSet](#) and returns a [SummarizedExperiment](#) object.

**Usage**

```
rlog(object, blind = TRUE, fast = FALSE, intercept, betaPriorVar, B,
      fitType = "parametric")
```

```
rlogTransformation(object, blind = TRUE, fast = FALSE, intercept,
                    betaPriorVar, B, fitType = "parametric")
```

**Arguments**

object	a DESeqDataSet, or matrix of counts
blind	logical, whether to blind the transformation to the experimental design. blind=TRUE should be used for comparing samples in a manner unbiased by prior information on samples, for example to perform sample QA (quality assurance). blind=FALSE should be used for transforming data for downstream analysis, where the full use of the design information should be made. blind=FALSE will skip re-estimation of the dispersion trend, if this has already been calculated. If many of genes have large differences in counts due to the experimental design, it is important to set blind=FALSE for downstream analysis.
fast	if TRUE, an alternative rlog-like transformation is made, wherein an optimal amount of linear shrinkage of sample-wise log fold changes is calculated for each gene. 'Optimal' is defined by maximizing the same posterior as in the standard rlog transformation.
intercept	by default, this is not provided and calculated automatically. if provided, this should be a vector as long as the number of rows of object, which is log2 of the mean normalized counts from a previous dataset. this will enforce the intercept for the GLM, allowing for a "frozen" rlog transformation based on a previous dataset.
betaPriorVar	a single value, the variance of the prior on the sample betas, which if missing is estimated from the data
B	for the fast method only. by default, this is not provided and calculated automatically. if provided, this should be a vector as long as the number of rows



	of object. this is the amount of shrinkage from 0 to 1 for each row, and takes precedence over internal calculation of B using betaPriorVar.
fitType	in case dispersions have not yet been estimated for object, this parameter is passed on to <code>estimateDispersions</code> (options described there).

## Details

Note that neither rlog transformation nor the VST are used by the differential expression estimation in `DESeq`, which always occurs on the raw count data, through generalized linear modeling which incorporates knowledge of the variance-mean dependence. The rlog transformation and VST are offered as separate functionality which can be used for visualization, clustering or other machine learning tasks. See the transformation section of the vignette for more details.

The transformation does not require that one has already estimated size factors and dispersions.

The regularization is on the log fold changes of the count for each sample over an intercept, for each gene. As nearby count values for low counts genes are almost as likely as the observed count, the rlog shrinkage is greater for low counts. For high counts, the rlog shrinkage has a much weaker effect. The fitted dispersions are used rather than the MAP dispersions (so similar to the `varianceStabilizingTransformation`).

The prior variance for the shrinkage of log fold changes is calculated as follows: a matrix is constructed of the logarithm of the counts plus a pseudocount of 0.5, the log of the row means is then subtracted, leaving an estimate of the log fold changes per sample over the fitted value using only an intercept. The prior variance is then calculated by matching the upper quantiles of the observed log fold change estimates with an upper quantile of the normal distribution. A GLM fit is then calculated using this prior. It is also possible to supply the variance of the prior. See the vignette for an example of the use and a comparison with `varianceStabilizingTransformation`.

The transformed values,  $rlog(K)$ , are equal to  $rlog(K_{ij}) = \log_2(q_{ij}) = \beta_{i0} + \beta_{ij}$ , with formula terms defined in `DESeq`.

The parameters of the rlog transformation from a previous dataset can be frozen and reapplied to new samples. See the 'Data quality assessment' section of the vignette for strategies to see if new samples are sufficiently similar to previous datasets. The frozen rlog is accomplished by saving the dispersion function, beta prior variance and the intercept from a previous dataset, and running rlog with 'blind' set to FALSE (see example below).

## Value

a `DESeqTransform` if a `DESeqDataSet` was provided, or a matrix if a count matrix was provided as input. Note that for `DESeqTransform` output, the matrix of transformed values is stored in `assay(rld)`. To avoid returning matrices with NA values, in the case of a row of all zeros, the rlog transformation returns zeros (essentially adding a pseudocount of 1 only to these rows).

## References

Reference for regularized logarithm (rlog):

Michael I Love, Wolfgang Huber, Simon Anders: Moderated estimation of fold change and dispersion for RNA-seq data with DESeq2. *Genome Biology* 2014, 15:550. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s13059-014-0550-8>

**See Also**

[plotPCA](#), [varianceStabilizingTransformation](#)

**Examples**

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=6,betaSD=1)
rld <- rlog(dds)
dists <- dist(t(assay(rld)))
plot(hclust(dists))

# run the rlog transformation on one dataset
design(dds) <- ~ 1
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)
rld <- rlog(dds, blind=FALSE)

# apply the parameters to a new sample

ddsNew <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=1)
mcols(ddsNew)$dispFit <- mcols(dds)$dispFit
betaPriorVar <- attr(rld,"betaPriorVar")
intercept <- mcols(rld)$rlogIntercept
rldNew <- rlog(ddsNew, blind=FALSE,
              intercept=intercept,
              betaPriorVar=betaPriorVar)
```

---

show

*Show method for DESeqResults objects*

---

**Description**

Prints out the information from the metadata columns of the results object regarding the log2 fold changes and p-values, then shows the DataFrame using the standard method.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqResults'
show(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            a DESeqResults object

**Author(s)**

Michael Love

---

sizeFactors	<i>Accessor functions for the 'sizeFactors' information in a DESeqDataSet object.</i>
-------------	---

---

### Description

The sizeFactors vector assigns to each column of the count matrix a value, the size factor, such that count values in the columns can be brought to a common scale by dividing by the corresponding size factor (as performed by `counts(dds, normalized=TRUE)`). See [DESeq](#) for a description of the use of size factors. If gene-specific normalization is desired for each sample, use [normalizationFactors](#).

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'DESeqDataSet'  
sizeFactors(object)  
  
## S4 replacement method for signature 'DESeqDataSet,numeric'  
sizeFactors(object) <- value
```

### Arguments

object	a DESeqDataSet object.
value	a numeric vector, one size factor for each column in the count data.

### Author(s)

Simon Anders

### See Also

[estimateSizeFactors](#)

---

summary	<i>Summarize DESeq results</i>
---------	--------------------------------

---

### Description

Print a summary of the results from a DESeq analysis.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'DESeqResults'  
summary(object, alpha=.1, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	a <code>DESeqResults</code> object
alpha	the adjusted p-value cutoff
...	additional arguments

**Author(s)**

Michael Love

**Examples**

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=4)
dds <- DESeq(dds)
res <- results(dds)
summary(res)
```

---

varianceStabilizingTransformation

*Apply a variance stabilizing transformation (VST) to the count data*

---

**Description**

This function calculates a variance stabilizing transformation (VST) from the fitted dispersion-mean relation(s) and then transforms the count data (normalized by division by the size factors or normalization factors), yielding a matrix of values which are now approximately homoskedastic (having constant variance along the range of mean values). The transformation also normalizes with respect to library size. The `rlog` is less sensitive to size factors, which can be an issue when size factors vary widely. These transformations are useful when checking for outliers or as input for machine learning techniques such as clustering or linear discriminant analysis.

**Usage**

```
varianceStabilizingTransformation(object, blind = TRUE,
  fitType = "parametric")

getVarianceStabilizedData(object)
```

**Arguments**

object	a <code>DESeqDataSet</code> or matrix of counts
blind	logical, whether to blind the transformation to the experimental design. <code>blind=TRUE</code> should be used for comparing samples in an manner unbiased by prior information on samples, for example to perform sample QA (quality assurance). <code>blind=FALSE</code> should be used for transforming data for downstream analysis, where the full use of the design information should be made. <code>blind=FALSE</code> will skip re-estimation of the dispersion trend, if this has already been calculated. If many of genes have large differences in counts due to the experimental design, it is important to set <code>blind=FALSE</code> for downstream analysis.

`fitType` in case dispersions have not yet been estimated for object, this parameter is passed on to `estimateDispersions` (options described there).

## Details

For each sample (i.e., column of counts (`dds`)), the full variance function is calculated from the raw variance (by scaling according to the size factor and adding the shot noise). We recommend a blind estimation of the variance function, i.e., one ignoring conditions. This is performed by default, and can be modified using the `'blind'` argument.

Note that neither `rlog` transformation nor the VST are used by the differential expression estimation in `DESeq`, which always occurs on the raw count data, through generalized linear modeling which incorporates knowledge of the variance-mean dependence. The `rlog` transformation and VST are offered as separate functionality which can be used for visualization, clustering or other machine learning tasks. See the transformation section of the vignette for more details.

The transformation does not require that one has already estimated size factors and dispersions.

A typical workflow is shown in Section *Variance stabilizing transformation* in the package vignette.

If `estimateDispersions` was called with:

`fitType="parametric"`, a closed-form expression for the variance stabilizing transformation is used on the normalized count data. The expression can be found in the file `'vst.pdf'` which is distributed with the vignette.

`fitType="local"`, the reciprocal of the square root of the variance of the normalized counts, as derived from the dispersion fit, is then numerically integrated, and the integral (approximated by a spline function) is evaluated for each count value in the column, yielding a transformed value.

`fitType="mean"`, a VST is applied for Negative Binomial distributed counts, `'k'`, with a fixed dispersion, `'a'`:  $(2 \operatorname{asinh}(\sqrt{a k}) - \log(a) - \log(4)) / \log(2)$ .

In all cases, the transformation is scaled such that for large counts, it becomes asymptotically (for large values) equal to the logarithm to base 2 of normalized counts.

The variance stabilizing transformation from a previous dataset can be frozen and reapplied to new samples. See the `'Data quality assessment'` section of the vignette for strategies to see if new samples are sufficiently similar to previous datasets. The frozen VST is accomplished by saving the dispersion function accessible with `dispersionFunction`, assigning this to the `DESeqDataSet` with the new samples, and running `varianceStabilizingTransformation` with `'blind'` set to `FALSE` (see example below). Then the dispersion function from the previous dataset will be used to transform the new sample(s).

Limitations: In order to preserve normalization, the same transformation has to be used for all samples. This results in the variance stabilization to be only approximate. The more the size factors differ, the more residual dependence of the variance on the mean will be found in the transformed data. `rlog` is a transformation which can perform better in these cases. As shown in the vignette, the function `meanSdPlot` from the package `vsn` can be used to see whether this is a problem.

## Value

`varianceStabilizingTransformation` returns a `DESeqTransform` if a `DESeqDataSet` was provided, or returns a matrix if a count matrix was provided. Note that for `DESeqTransform` output, the matrix of transformed values is stored in `assay(vsd)`. `getVarianceStabilizedData` also returns a matrix.

**Author(s)**

Simon Anders

**References**

Reference for the variance stabilizing transformation for counts with a dispersion trend:

Simon Anders, Wolfgang Huber: Differential expression analysis for sequence count data. *Genome Biology* 2010, 11:106. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/gb-2010-11-10-r106>

**See Also**

[plotPCA](#), [rlog](#)

**Examples**

```
dds <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=6)
vsd <- varianceStabilizingTransformation(dds)
dists <- dist(t(assay(vsd)))
plot(hclust(dists))

# learn the dispersion function of a dataset
design(dds) <- ~ 1
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)
dds <- estimateDispersions(dds)

# use the previous dispersion function for a new sample
ddsNew <- makeExampleDESeqDataSet(m=1)
ddsNew <- estimateSizeFactors(ddsNew)
dispersionFunction(ddsNew) <- dispersionFunction(dds)
vsdNew <- varianceStabilizingTransformation(ddsNew, blind=FALSE)
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