

Package ‘echelon’

March 21, 2025

Title The Echelon Analysis and the Detection of Spatial Clusters using Echelon Scan Method

Version 0.3.1

Description Functions for the echelon analysis proposed by Myers et al. (1997) <[doi:10.1023/A:1018518327329](https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1018518327329)>, and the detection of spatial clusters using echelon scan method proposed by Kurihara (2003) <[doi:10.20551/jscswabun.15.2_171](https://doi.org/10.20551/jscswabun.15.2_171)>.

License GPL-3

Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

Suggests sf, spData

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

LinkingTo Rcpp

Imports Rcpp

NeedsCompilation yes

Author Fumio Ishioka [aut, cre]

Maintainer Fumio Ishioka <fishioka@okayama-u.ac.jp>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-03-21 03:50:01 UTC

Contents

echebin	2
echelon	4
echepoi	6
Index	9

echebin

Echelon spatial scan statistic based on Binomial model

Description

The echebin function detects spatial clusters using the echelon spatial scan statistic with a Binomial model.

Usage

```
echebin(echelon.obj, cas, ctl, K = length(cas)/2, Kmin = 1, n.sim = 99,
        cluster.type = "high", cluster.legend.pos = "bottomleft",
        dendrogram = TRUE, cluster.info = FALSE, coo = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

echelon.obj	An object of class echelon. For details, see echelon .
cas	A numeric (integer) vector of case counts. NA values are not allowed.
ctl	A numeric (integer) vector of control counts. NA values are not allowed.
K	Maximum cluster size. If $K \geq 1$ (integer), the cluster size is limited to K regions. If $0 < K < 1$, the cluster size is limited to $K * 100\%$ of the total population.
Kmin	Minimum cluster size.
n.sim	The number of Monte Carlo replications used for significance testing of detected clusters. If set to 0, significance is not assessed.
cluster.type	A character string specifying the cluster type. If "high", the detected clusters have high rates (hotspot). If "low", the detected clusters have low rates (coldspot).
cluster.legend.pos	The location of the legend on the dendrogram. (See legend for details.)
dendrogram	Logical. If TRUE, draws an echelon dendrogram with the detected clusters.
cluster.info	Logical. If TRUE, returns detailed results of the detected clusters.
coo	An array of (x, y) coordinates for the region centroids to plot a cluster map.
...	Related to dendrogram drawing. (See the help for echelon)

Value

clusters	Each detected cluster.
scanned.regions	A region list of all scanning processes.
simulated.LLR	Monte Carlo samples of the log-likelihood ratio.

Note

The function `echebin` requires either `cas` or `ctl`.

Population is defined as the sum of `cas` and `ctl`.

Typical values of `n.sim` are 99, 999, 9999, ...

Author(s)

Fumio Ishioka

References

[1] Kulldorff M, Nagarwalla N. (1995). Spatial disease clusters: Detection and inference. *Statistics in Medicine*, **14**, 799–810.

[2] Kulldorff M. (1997). A spatial scan statistic. *Communications in Statistics: Theory and Methods*, **26**, 1481–1496.

See Also

[echelon](#) for the echelon analysis.

[echepoi](#) for cluster detection based on echelons using Poisson model.

Examples

```
##Hotspot detection for non-white birth of North Carolina using echelon scan

#Non-white birth from 1974 to 1984 (case data)
library(spData)
data("nc.sids")
nwb <- nc.sids$NWBIR74 + nc.sids$NWBIR79

#White birth from 1974 to 1984 (control data)
wb <- (nc.sids$BIR74 - nc.sids$NWBIR74) + (nc.sids$BIR79 - nc.sids$NWBIR79)

#Hotspot detection based on Binomial model
nwb.echelon <- echelon(x = nwb/wb, nb = ncCR85.nb, name = row.names(nc.sids))
echebin(nwb.echelon, cas = nwb, ctl = wb, K = 20,
  main = "Hgih rate clusters", ens = FALSE)
text(nwb.echelon$coord, labels = nwb.echelon$regions.name,
  adj = -0.1, cex = 0.7)

#Detected clusters and neighbors map
#XY coordinates of each polygon centroid point
NC.coo <- cbind(nc.sids$lon, nc.sids$lat)
echebin(nwb.echelon, cas = nwb, ctl = wb, K = 20,
  coo = NC.coo, dendrogram = FALSE)

##Detected clusters map
#Here is an example using the sf class "sf"
nwb.clusters <- echebin(nwb.echelon, cas = nwb,
```

```

    ct1 = wb, K = 20, dendrogram = FALSE)
MLC <- nwb.clusters$clusters[[1]]
Secondary <- nwb.clusters$clusters[[2]]
cluster.col <- rep(0, times=length(nwb))
cluster.col[MLC$regionsID] <- 2
cluster.col[Secondary$regionsID] <- 3

library(sf)
nc <- st_read(system.file("shape/nc.shp", package = "sf"))
plot(nc$geometry, col = cluster.col,
     main = "Detected high rate clusters")
text(st_coordinates(st_centroid(st_geometry(nc))),
     labels = nc$CRESS_ID, cex = 0.75)
legend("bottomleft",
     c(paste("1- p-value:", MLC$p),
       paste("2- p-value:", Secondary$p)),
     text.col = c(2,3))

```

 echelon

Echelon analysis for spatial data

Description

The echelon function divides the study area into structural entities, called '*echelons*', based on neighbor information and draws a dendrogram.

Usage

```

echelon(x, nb, dendrogram = TRUE, name = NULL,
        main = NULL, ylab = NULL, yaxes = TRUE, ylim = NULL,
        xaxes = FALSE, xdper = c(0, 1), dmai = NULL,
        col = 1, lwd = 1, symbols = 4, cex.symbols = 1, col.symbols = 4,
        ens = TRUE, adj.ens = 1, cex.ens = 0.8, col.ens = 1,
        profiles = FALSE, nb.check = TRUE)

```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	A numeric vector containing data values.
<code>nb</code>	Neighbor information data: an object of class <code>nb</code> or a weights matrix.
<code>name</code>	Region names. if <code>NULL</code> , it is assigned <code>seq_along(x)</code> .
<code>dendrogram</code>	Logical. if <code>TRUE</code> , draws an echelon dendrogram.
<code>main</code>	Related to dendrogram drawing. The main title for the dendrogram.
<code>ylab</code>	Related to dendrogram drawing. The title for the y-axis.
<code>yaxes</code>	Related to dendrogram drawing. Logical. if <code>TRUE</code> , draws the y-axis.
<code>ylim</code>	Related to dendrogram drawing. If not specified, the y-axis scale is set to <code>c(min, max)</code> .

xaxes	Related to dendrogram drawing. Logical. if TRUE, draws the x-axis.
xdper	Related to dendrogram drawing. The percentage of the x-axis to display, specified in $[0, 1]$.
dmai	Related to dendrogram drawing. A numeric vector of the form $c(\text{bottom}, \text{left}, \text{top}, \text{right})$ specifying margin sizes in inches. Default is $c(0.4, 0.8, 0.3, 0.01)$.
col	Related to dendrogram drawing. The line color of the dendrogram.
lwd	Related to dendrogram drawing. The line width of the dendrogram.
symbols	Related to dendrogram drawing. An integer specifying a symbol or a single character. If integer, it corresponds to <code>pch</code> in <code>par</code> .
cex.symbols	Related to dendrogram drawing. A magnification factor for the plotting symbols.
col.symbols	Related to dendrogram drawing. The color for the plotting symbols.
ens	Related to dendrogram drawing. Logical. if TRUE, draw the labels of echelon numbers.
adj.ens	Related to dendrogram drawing. Adjusts the position of echelon number labels (see <code>text</code> for 'adj').
cex.ens	Related to dendrogram drawing. A magnification factor for the echelon number labels.
col.ens	Related to dendrogram drawing. The color for the echelon number labels.
profiles	Logical. If TRUE, returns the echelon profiles result (see [2] for details).
nb.check	Logical. if TRUE, checks for errors in the neighbor information data.

Value

The echelon function returns an object of class echelon, which contains the following components:

Table	A summary of each echelon.
Echelons	The regions that make up each echelon.

Note

Any NA values in `x` are replaced with the minimum value of `x`.

The functions `Sf::st_read` and `spdep::poly2nb` are helpful for creating the object specified in the `nb` argument.

Author(s)

Fumio Ishioka

References

- [1] Myers, W.L., Patil, G.P. and Joly, K. (1997). Echelon approach to areas of concern in synoptic regional monitoring. *Environmental and Ecological Statistics*, **4**, 131–152.
- [2] Kurihara, K., Myers, W.L. and Patil, G.P. (2000) Echelon analysis of the relationship between population and land cover patter based on remote sensing data. *Community ecology*, **1**, 103–122.

See Also

[echepoi](#) and [echebin](#) for cluster detection based on echelons.

Examples

```
##Echelon analysis for one-dimensional data with 25 regions
#A weights matrix
one.nb <- matrix(0,25,25)
one.nb[1,2] <- 1
for(i in 2:24) one.nb[i,c(i-1,i+1)] <- c(1,1)
one.nb[25,24] <- 1

#25 random values
one.dat <- runif(25) * 10

#Echelon analysis
echelon(x = one.dat, nb = one.nb)

##Echelon analysis for SIDS data for North Carolina
#Mortality rate per 1,000 live births from 1974 to 1984
library(spData)
data("nc.sids")
SIDS.cas <- nc.sids$SID74 + nc.sids$SID79
SIDS.pop <- nc.sids$BIR74 + nc.sids$BIR79
SIDS.rate <- SIDS.cas * 1000 / SIDS.pop

#Echelon analysis
SIDS.echelon <- echelon(x = SIDS.rate, nb = ncCR85.nb, name = row.names(nc.sids),
  symbols = 12, cex.symbols = 1.5, ens = FALSE)
text(SIDS.echelon$coord, labels = SIDS.echelon$regions.name,
  adj = -0.1, cex = 0.7)

#Echelon Profiles
echelon(x = SIDS.rate, nb = ncCR85.nb, profiles = TRUE)
```

echepoi

Echelon spatial scan statistic based on Poisson model

Description

The `echepoi` function detects spatial clusters using the echelon spatial scan statistic with a Poisson model.

Usage

```
echepoi(echelon.obj, cas, pop = NULL, ex = NULL, K = length(cas)/2, Kmin = 1, n.sim = 99,
  cluster.type = "high", cluster.legend.pos = "bottomleft",
  dendrogram = TRUE, cluster.info = FALSE, coo = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>echelon.obj</code>	An object of class <code>echelon</code> . For details, see echelon .
<code>cas</code>	A numeric (integer) vector of case counts. NA values are not allowed.
<code>pop</code>	A numeric (integer) vector for population. NA values are not allowed.
<code>ex</code>	A numeric vector for expected case counts. NA values are not allowed.
<code>K</code>	Maximum cluster size. If $K \geq 1$ (integer), the cluster size is limited to K regions. If $0 < K < 1$, the cluster size is limited to $K * 100\%$ of the total population.
<code>Kmin</code>	Minimum cluster size.
<code>n.sim</code>	The number of Monte Carlo replications used for significance testing of detected clusters. If set to 0, significance is not assessed.
<code>cluster.type</code>	A character string specifying the cluster type. If "high", the detected clusters have high rates (hotspot). If "low", the detected clusters have low rates (coldspot).
<code>cluster.legend.pos</code>	The location of the legend on the dendrogram. (See legend for details.)
<code>dendrogram</code>	Logical. If TRUE, draws an echelon dendrogram with the detected clusters.
<code>cluster.info</code>	Logical. If TRUE, returns detailed results of the detected clusters.
<code>coo</code>	An array of (x, y) coordinates for the region centroids to plot a cluster map.
<code>...</code>	Related to dendrogram drawing. (See the help for echelon)

Value

<code>clusters</code>	Each detected cluster.
<code>scanned.regions</code>	A region list of all scanning processes.
<code>simulated.LLR</code>	Monte Carlo samples of the log-likelihood ratio.

Note

The function `echepoi` requires either `pop` or `ex`.
 Typical values of `n.sim` are 99, 999, 9999, ...

Author(s)

Fumio Ishioka

References

- [1] Kulldorff M. (1997). A spatial scan statistic. *Communications in Statistics: Theory and Methods*, **26**, 1481–1496.
- [2] Ishioka F, Kawahara J, Mizuta M, Minato S, and Kurihara K. (2019) Evaluation of hotspot cluster detection using spatial scan statistic based on exact counting. *Japanese Journal of Statistics and Data Science*, **2**, 241–262.

See Also

[echelon](#) for the echelon analysis.

[echebin](#) for cluster detection based on echelons using Binomial model.

Examples

```
##Hotspot detection for SIDS data of North Carolina using echelon scan

#Mortality rate per 1,000 live births from 1974 to 1984
library(spData)
data("nc.sids")
SIDS.cas <- nc.sids$SID74 + nc.sids$SID79
SIDS.pop <- nc.sids$BIR74 + nc.sids$BIR79
SIDS.rate <- SIDS.cas * 1000 / SIDS.pop

#Hotspot detection based on Poisson model
SIDS.echelon <- echelon(x = SIDS.rate, nb = ncCR85.nb, name = row.names(nc.sids))
echepoi(SIDS.echelon, cas = SIDS.cas, pop = SIDS.pop, K = 20,
  main = "Hgh rate clusters", ens = FALSE)
text(SIDS.echelon$coord, labels = SIDS.echelon$regions.name,
  adj = -0.1, cex = 0.7)

#Detected clusters and neighbors map
#XY coordinates of each polygon centroid point
NC.coo <- cbind(nc.sids$lon, nc.sids$lat)
echepoi(SIDS.echelon, cas = SIDS.cas, pop = SIDS.pop, K = 20,
  coo = NC.coo, dendrogram = FALSE)

##Detected clusters map
#Here is an example using the sf class "sf"
SIDS.clusters <- echepoi(SIDS.echelon, cas = SIDS.cas,
  pop = SIDS.pop, K = 20, dendrogram = FALSE)
MLC <- SIDS.clusters$clusters[[1]]
Secondary <- SIDS.clusters$clusters[[2]]
cluster.col <- rep(0, times=length(SIDS.rate))
cluster.col[MLC$regionsID] <- 2
cluster.col[Secondary$regionsID] <- 3

library(sf)
nc <- st_read(system.file("shape/nc.shp", package = "sf"))
plot(nc$geometry, col = cluster.col,
  main = "Detected high rate clusters")
text(st_coordinates(st_centroid(st_geometry(nc))),
  labels = nc$CRESS_ID, cex = 0.75)
legend("bottomleft",
  c(paste("1- p-value:", MLC$p),
  paste("2- p-value:", Secondary$p)),
  text.col = c(2,3))
```


Index

* **echelon analysis**

 echebin, 2
 echelon, 4
 echepoi, 6

* **spatial cluster deteciotsn**

 echebin, 2
 echelon, 4
 echepoi, 6

* **spatial scan statistic**

 echebin, 2
 echelon, 4
 echepoi, 6

echebin, 2, 6, 8

echelon, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8

echepoi, 3, 6, 6

legend, 2, 7

par, 5

pch, 5

text, 5