

Package ‘loop’

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Type Package

Title loop decomposition of weighted directed graphs for life cycle analysis, providing flexible network plotting methods, and analyzing food chain properties in ecology

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Description The program can perform loop analysis and plot network structure (especially for food webs), including minimum spanning tree, loop decomposition of weighted directed graphs, and other network properties which may be related to food chain properties in ecology.

License GPL-2

LazyLoad yes

Depends grid, MASS

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loop-package	<i>an R package for analyzing and plotting directed networks</i>
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Description

The package can (1) perform loop analysis (van Groenendael et al., 1994) in demographic analysis in ecology, which employed the decomposition algorithm of directed weighted graphs persented in Su and Wang (2007); (2) find food web patterns, including longest food chain, largest-weighted food chain, enumeration of all food chains linked to the proposed species in the food network; (3) plot directed/undirected network structure using flexible methods; (4) other statistics, like minimum spanning tree etc. Next version will include more statistics on food web structure

Details

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LazyLoad:	yes

Author(s)

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References

van Groenendael J, de Kroon H, Kalisz S, Tuljapurkar S (1994) Loop analysis: evaluating life history pathways in population projection matrices. *Ecology*, 75, 2410-2415.

Sun L, Wang M (2007) An algorithm for a decomposition of weighted digraphs: with applications to life cycle analysis in Ecology. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, 54, 199-226.

Wang HY, Huang Q, Li CZ, Zhu BZ (2010) Graph algorithms and Matlab applications. BUAA Press, Beijing.

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

Examples

```
gemat=matrix(c(13,26,0,11,18,15,15,0,2),nrow=3,ncol=3)
gemat=matrix(c(13,26,0,12,18,15,15,0,2),nrow=3,ncol=3)
#search out all loops
decomp(gemat)
#make plots
mat<-matrix(c(1,2,1,3,2,4,3,5,4,5,6,7,8,9,1,9,9,8),nrow=9,ncol=2)
w<-c(3,10,30,50,20,22,9,15,33)
mat<-cbind(mat,w)
gplot(mat)
```

conversion

this function convert graph matrix form into graph edge form

Description

graph matrix form is a square matrix in which each element $a(ij)$ denotes the weight of a direction from a row entry (row i) to a column entry (column j)

Usage

```
conversion(gemat)
```

Arguments

gemat the square graph matrix

Details

each element must be larger (a weighted link) or equal to zero (no link)

Value

graph edge matrix with first column meaning the starting points, the second column denoting the ending points, the last column denotes the weights for the links.

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Sun L, Wang M (2007) An algorithm for a decomposition of weighted digraphs: with applications to life cycle analysis in Ecology. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, 54, 199-226.

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[decomp](#), [gplot](#), [loop.forward](#), [loop.random](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(13,26,0,11,18,15,15,0,2),nrow=3,ncol=3)
conversion(gemat=mat)
```

decomp	<i>decompose the weighted graph into directional single connected graphs and a non-connected graph</i>
--------	--

Description

It will return all connected graphs, and a unconnected graph

Usage

```
decomp(gemat)
```

Arguments

gemat the square graph matrix

Value

return all single connected directed graphs and a final non-decomposable graph

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

van Groenendael J, de Kroon H, Kalisz S, Tuljapurkar S (1994) Loop analysis: evaluating life history pathways in population projection matrices. *Ecology*, 75, 2410-2415.

Sun L, Wang M (2007) An algorithm for a decomposition of weighted digraphs: with applications to life cycle analysis in Ecology. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, 54, 199-226.

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[gplot](#), [fplot](#), [fplot.foodweb](#), [loop.forward](#), [loop.random](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(13,26,0,12,18,15,15,0,2),nrow=3,ncol=3)
#search out all loops
decomp(gemat=mat)
```

find.ranks	<i>make food trophic ranks for all the species in the matrix for fplot.foodweb function</i>
------------	---

Description

it will return trophic ranks of species in the food webs

Usage

```
find.ranks(gemat, converted = TRUE)
```

Arguments

gemat	gemat is a square matrix
converted	if TRUE, resultant trophic ranks of species will be converted to a list, which is the input format for <code>fplot.foodweb()</code> function; if FALSE, resultant trophic ranks of species are present in a vector default is TRUE

Value

it will return a list (`converted=TRUE`), each list represent one trophic rank, the elements of which are the species being classified into the rank. it can also return a vector (`converted=FALSE`), each element denote the rank of the species.

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[fplot.foodweb](#)

Examples

```
gemat<-matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
ranks<-find.ranks(gemat)
fplot.foodweb(gemat=gemat,ranks=ranks,addlabels=TRUE,bg="white",pch=21,pcex=4,lcol=2,weighted=FALSE)
```

fplot *Another way to plot network structure based on similar vertex will be grouped together, while dissimilar nodes/vertex will depart from each others.*

Description

The method for separating the nodes in the two-dimensional spaces is the non-dimensional scaling technique, which can take the similarity matrices of the nodes as the input and generate the positions of the nodes in the space.

Usage

```
fplot(gemat,type="both",metric="jaccard",addlabels=FALSE,scaled=TRUE,weighted=TRUE,pch=20,bg=1,pcex=
```

Arguments

gemat	standard graph square matrix
type	if type="both", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward/outward links for each pair of nodes. if type="in", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward links for each pair of nodes. if type="out", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the outward links for each pair of nodes.
metric	node similarity methods, currently supporting two basic similarity indices: "jaccard" and "sorensen".
addlabels	if you want to label each node/vertex, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE
scaled	if you want to the links showing relative weights, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE links with larger weights will have thicker line width, vice versa.
weighted	if TRUE, the links/edges will be weighted based on the cell value present in the matrix of gemat, different edges then will have different line widths for representing them. Otherwise, all edges have the same line width. Default is TRUE
pch	this pch is for nodes/vertex
bg	bg is for nodes/vertex filled background colors, will function when pch=21:25.
pcex	pcex is for nodes/vertex size
pcol	pcol is for nodes/vertex color
lty	lty is the line style for the links
lcol	lcol is the line color for the links
tfont	tfont is the font size for the labels of the nodes
tcol	tcol is the color for the labels of the nodes

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[fplot.foodweb](#), [groupplot.foodweb](#), [gplot](#), [gplot1](#), [groupplot](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
fplot(gemat=mat) #other parameters are set in default
```

fplot.foodweb	<i>a special group graph plot function for food web-style hierarchical structure</i>
---------------	--

Description

vertex/nodes/species are arranged in a form of vertical hierarchy, given the species' food rank positions listed in the parameter "ranks". This method thus does not to calculate node similarity based on inward/outward link similarity.

Usage

```
fplot.foodweb(gemat,ranks,addlabels=FALSE,scaled=TRUE,weighted=TRUE,pch=20,bg=1,pcex=3,pcol=4,lty=1)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
ranks	must be a list, each list element represented the species in that given rank (list number order), for example list[[1]] means all the species in food web hierarchy rank 1, and so on...
addlabels	if you want to label each node/vertex, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE
scaled	if you want to the links showing relative weights, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE links with larger weights will have thicker line width, vice versa.
weighted	if TRUE, the links/edges will be weighted based on the cell value present in the matrix of gemat, different edges then will have different line widths for representing them. Otherwise, all edges have the same line width. Default is TRUE
pch	this pch is for nodes/vertex
bg	bg is for nodes/vertex filled background colors, will function when pch=21:25.

pce	pce is for nodes/vertex size
pcol	pcol is for nodes/vertex color
lty	lty is the line style for the links
lcol	lcol is the line color for the links
tfont	tfont is the font size for the labels of the nodes
tcol	tcol is the color for the labels of the nodes

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[fplot](#), [groupplot.foodweb](#), [fplot](#), [groupplot](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
rlist<-list(c1=c(1,2),c2=c(3,4),c3=5)
#other parameters are set in default
fplot.foodweb(gemat=mat,ranks=rlist)
#change some parameters
fplot.foodweb(gemat=mat,ranks=rlist,lcol=3,pch=21,
bg="white",addlabels=TRUE,tfont=5)
```

gplot

make a plot for directional graph from edge matrix graph form

Description

can change the link line style and color, can add arrows at the ending points, this function requires an edge matrix form of graphs, compared to another similar function 'gplot1'.

Usage

```
gplot(egemat,arrow=TRUE,lty=1,col=8,weighted=TRUE)
```


Arguments

edgemat	graph edge matrix form, without confusion, 'loop' package will have two types for the graph storage: square matrix form (argument is 'gemat') and edge matrix form (argument is 'edgemat').
arrow	default is TRUE , denoting arrows should be added in the plot
lty	line style for each graph link
col	line color for each graph link
weighted	if TRUE, the links/edges will be weighted based on the value present in the 3rd column of edgemat, different edges then will have different line widths for representing them. Otherwise, all edges have the same line width. Default is TRUE

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[decomp](#), [loop.forward](#), [loop.random](#), [gplot1](#), [fplot](#), [groupplot](#)

Examples

```
#make plots
mat<-matrix(c(1,2,1,3,2,4,3,5,4,5,6,7,8,9,1,9,9,8),nrow=9,ncol=2)
w<-c(3,10,30,50,20,22,9,15,33)
mat<-cbind(mat,w)
gplot(edgemat=mat)
```

gplot1

plot directed graphs directly from square graph matrix

Description

don't need to convert square graph matrix into edge form compared to the function "gplot"

Usage

```
gplot1(gemat,arrow=TRUE,lty=1,col=8,weighted=TRUE)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
arrow	add arrows or not, from the starting node to the ending node, default is TRUE.
lty	line style for the links/edges, default is 1.
col	color for the links/edges, default is 8 (grey).
weighted	if TRUE, the links/edges will be weighted based on the cell value present in the matrix of gemat, different edges then will have different line widths for representing them. Otherwise, all edges have the same line width. Default is TRUE

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[gplot](#), [fplot](#), [groupplot](#),

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
gplot1(gemat=mat) #other parameters are set in default
```

groupplot

A group way to plot network structure based on similar vertex will be grouped together, while dissimilar nodes/vertex will depart from each others.

Description

This function is for plotting different graphs into a same map with different colors, line styles and so on. The method for separating the nodes in the two-dimensional spaces is the non-dimensional scaling technique, which can take the similarity matrices of the nodes as the input and generate the positions of the nodes in the space.

Usage

```
groupplot(gemat, groups, type = "both", metric = "jaccard", addlabels = FALSE, scaled = TRUE, pch = 20
```

Arguments

gemat	standard graph square matrix
groups	must be a list, each list element has the species that belong to a same group.
type	if type="both", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward/outward links for each pair of nodes. if type="in", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward links for each pair of nodes. if type="out", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the outward links for each pair of nodes.
metric	node similarity methods, currently supporting two basic similarity indices: "jaccard" and "sorensen".
addlabels	if you want to label each node/vertex, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE
scaled	if you want to the links showing relative weights, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE links with larger weights will have thicker line width, vice versa.
pch	this pch is for nodes/vertex
bg	bg is for nodes/vertex filled background colors, will function when pch=21:25.
pcex	pcex is for nodes/vertex size
pcol	pcol is for nodes/vertex color
lty	lty is the line style for the links
lcol	lcol is the line color for the links
tfont	tfont is the font size for the labels of the nodes
tcol	tcol is the color for the labels of the nodes

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[fplot.foodweb](#), [groupplot.foodweb](#), [gplot](#), [gplot1](#),

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
glist<-list(c1=c(1:5),c2=c(1,3),c3=c(3,4,5))
pch=c(21,21,21) #length of the parameter vector should be identical to the number of species groups
bg=c(1,2,3)
lcol=c(8,2,4)
groupplot(gemat=mat,groups=glist,pch=pch,lcol=lcol,bg=bg) #other parameters are set in default
```

groupplot.foodweb	<i>a special group graph plot function for food web-style hierarchical structure</i>
-------------------	--

Description

vertex/nodes/species are arranged in a form of vertical hierarchy, given the species' food rank positions listed in the parameter "ranks". "groups" are a list for each list element showing a group of species. They should be defined based on the user's choices. This method thus does not calculate node similarity based on inward/outward link similarity.

Usage

```
groupplot.foodweb(gemat, ranks, groups, addlabels = FALSE, scaled = TRUE, pch = 20, bg = 1, pcex = 3, p
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
ranks	a list for each list member showing the species in that rank (list number). for example list[[1]] means all the species in food web hierarchy rank 1, and so on...
groups	a list of species groups. Can be overlapped among the list elements. But should be defined by the users.
addlabels	if you want to label each node/vertex, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE
scaled	if you want to the links showing relative weights, set it's status as TRUE; default is FALSE links with larger weights will have thicker line width, vice versa.
pch	this pch is for nodes/vertex
bg	bg is for nodes/vertex filled background colors, will function when pch=21:25.
pcex	pcex is for nodes/vertex size
pcol	pcol is for nodes/vertex color
lty	lty is the line style for the links
lcol	lcol is the line color for the links
tfont	tfont is the font size for the labels of the nodes
tcol	tcol is the color for the labels of the nodes

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[fplot.foodweb](#), [gplot](#), [gplot1](#), [fplot](#), [grouplot](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
rlist<-list(c1=c(1,2),c2=c(3,4),c3=5)
glist<-list(c1=c(1:5),c2=c(1,2,3),c3=c(2,4,5))
grouplot.foodweb(gemat=mat,ranks=rlist,groups=glist) #other parameters are set in default
#when not setting other parameters, the grouplot result is identical to fplot
#because the function found that the parameters (especially the colors) are not set
#another example that can separate the groups
rlist<-list(c1=c(1,2),c2=c(3,4),c3=5)
glist<-list(c1=c(1:5),c2=c(1,3),c3=c(3,4,5))
pch=c(20,22,24) #length of the parameter vector should be identical to the number of species groups
lcol=c(8,2,4)
grouplot.foodweb(gemat=mat,ranks=rlist,groups=glist,pch=pch,lcol=lcol) #other parameters are set in default
```

largest.weight	<i>find out the food chain with largest weights among all food chains that are linked to a given species</i>
----------------	--

Description

a food chain with largest weights mean that the summation of weights for each link of the chain is the largest. Note: the longest food chain (with largest number of nodes) does not necessarily have the largest weight.

Usage

```
largest.weight(gemat, sp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
sp	the node that is evaluated.

Value

return all candidate pathways and related weights

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[shortest.chain](#), [longest.chain](#), [smallest.weight](#), [lclw](#)

Examples

```
#mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
#search for species 3
#largest.weight(mat,3)
```

lclw	<i>find the largest weight food chain among the candidate longest food chains for a given node (species)</i>
------	--

Description

Sometimes for a given species, it has many food chains that are equal in chain lengths and all are longest. This function thus will find out the one with largest weight.

Usage

```
lclw(gemat, sp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
sp	the node/species you want to search

Value

return the pathways and corresponding weights in a list

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[shortest.chain](#), [largest.weight](#), [smallest.weight](#), [longest.chain](#)

Examples

```
#mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
#search for species 3
#lclw(gemat=mat,sp=3)
#longest chain isn't necessary to have largest weights
#largest.weight(gemat=mat,sp=3)
#longest.chain(gemat=mat,sp=3)
```

longest.chain	<i>find out the food chain with longest length among all food chains that are linked to a given species</i>
---------------	---

Description

Sometimes the longest chain is not unique, thus will return all candidates with longest length

Usage

```
longest.chain(gemat, sp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
sp	the node/species you want to search

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[shortest.chain](#), [largest.weight](#), [smallest.weight](#), [lclw](#)

Examples

```
#mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
#search for species 3
#lclw(gemat=mat,sp=3)
#longest chain isn't necessary to have largest weights
#largest.weight(gemat=mat,sp=3)
#longest.chain(gemat=mat,sp=3)
```

loop.forward	<i>forward method to decompose the weighted graph into single connected graphs</i>
--------------	--

Description

At each step, only choose the first one of all candidate nodes when finding next node in the process of making a single connected graph. This is an internal function.

Usage

```
loop.forward(gemat)
```

Arguments

gemat square graph matrix form

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

van Groenendael J, de Kroon H, Kalisz S, Tuljapurkar S (1994) Loop analysis: evaluating life history pathways in population projection matrices. *Ecology*, 75, 2410-2415.

Sun L, Wang M (2007) An algorithm for a decomposition of weighted digraphs: with applications to life cycle analysis in *Ecology*. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, 54, 199-226.

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[decomp](#), [gplot](#), [loop.random](#)

loop.random	<i>a random method to decompose the weighted graph into single connected graphs</i>
-------------	---

Description

At each step, a random one of all candidate nodes was chosen when finding next node in the process of making a single connected graph. This method can allow us to obtain different decomposition results possibly. In contrast, the method used in 'loop.forward' function will always return only one possibility of decomposition. This algorithm is the one employed in the function 'decomp'. Next version will use function 'uniquepaths' to get all possible decompositions at the same time.

Usage

```
loop.random(gemat)
```

Arguments

gemat square graph matrix

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

van Groenendael J, de Kroon H, Kalisz S, Tuljapurkar S (1994) Loop analysis: evaluating life history pathways in population projection matrices. *Ecology*, 75, 2410-2415.

Sun L, Wang M (2007) An algorithm for a decomposition of weighted digraphs: with applications to life cycle analysis in *Ecology*. *Journal of Mathematical Biology*, 54, 199-226.

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[decomp](#), [gplot](#), [gplot1](#), [loop.forward](#)

mst.primm

Primm's algorithm to search minimum spanning tree

Description

Each time search two nodes with lowest weights in an iterative manner

Usage

```
mst.primm(gemat)
```

Arguments

gemat standard graph square matrix

Value

return a matrix in edge form, the first column is the starting node, the second column is the ending node

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

Wang HY, Huang Q, Li CZ,Zhu BZ (2010) Graph algorithms and Matlab applications. BUAA Press, Beijing.

See Also

[groupplot](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
mst.primm(mat)
```

nmds.ordination	<i>perform non-dimensional scaling of the nodes by employing the function 'isoMDS' from package 'MASS'</i>
-----------------	--

Description

this is to get the coordinates of each node/vertex in the two-diemsional spaces, which are used in plotting functions, including "fplot" and "groupplot".

Usage

```
nmds.ordination(gemat, type = "both", metric = "jaccard")
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
type	if type="both", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward/outward links for each pair of nodes. if type="in", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward links for each pair of nodes. if type="out", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the outward links for each pair of nodes.
metric	node similarity methods, currently supporting two basic similarity indices: "jaccard" and "sorensen".

Value

coord	coordinates of each node in the space
names	names for the nodes

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[fplot](#), [grouplot](#), [node.similarity](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
nmds.ordination(gemat=mat)
```

node.similarity	<i>calculate pair similarity of nodes based on the nodes' similarity which have links with the focused pair of nodes</i>
-----------------	--

Description

The pair similarity of nodes is defined as the exterior nodes shared by both focused nodes (i.e., there must be links between the focused nodes and the exterior nodes)

Usage

```
node.similarity(gemat, type = "both", metric = "jaccard")
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
type	if type="both", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward/outward links for each pair of nodes. if type="in", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the inward links for each pair of nodes. if type="out", the node similarity is calculated based on the the vertex similarity from the outward links for each pair of nodes.
metric	node similarity methods, currently supporting two basic similarity indices: "jaccard" and "sorensen".

Value

will return a symmetric similarity matrices

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[nmds.ordination](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,0,0,4,3,8,0,1,0,7,0,1,0,0,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
#compare the differences for each type of links
node.similarity(gemat=mat,type="in")
node.similarity(gemat=mat,type="out")
node.similarity(gemat=mat,type="both")
```

pathways

enumerate all food chains that are linked to a given species/node

Description

the food chains can allow circles/loop. This function will return all possible food chains, and some duplicated chains are generated as well. If you want to get unique food chains, try the function 'uniquepaths'

Usage

```
pathways(gemat, bsp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
bsp	the species/node you want to search. If input is a vector, then the function will return the food chains for each element species in the vector. Please note that all pathways/chains are started with the focused vertex/node/species, ended by a circle/loop; or upto the top of the network without a circle/loop.

Value

return a list showing all food chains by presenting each node in that chain. Also, the weights for each link will be returned as well.

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[uniquepaths](#), [loop.forward](#), [loop.random](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
pathways(mat,bsp=2)
#a vector of species
pathways(mat,bsp=c(1,3,5))
```

rank.nodes

rank nodes based on the inward links/outward links/both links

Description

rank each node in the graph based on their connection status with other nodes, the standard is the inward/outward link numbers.

Usage

```
rank.nodes(gemat, type = "both")
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
type	if type="both", the function will rank the nodes based on total link number, by counting both inward and outward links for each node; if type="in", the function will rank the nodes based on inward link number for each node; if type="out", the function will rank the nodes based on outward link number for each node;

Value

return the sorted node vector in decreasing form with names showing the nodes, while the vector elements are the link numbers.

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[node.similarity](#), [nmds.ordination](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
rank.nodes(gemat=mat,type="in")
rank.nodes(gemat=mat,type="out")
rank.nodes(gemat=mat,type="both")
```

shortest.chain	<i>find out the food chain with shortest length among all food chains that are linked to a given species</i>
----------------	--

Description

not including self-loop (i.e., the node itself as a chain)

Usage

```
shortest.chain(gemat, sp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
sp	the node/species you want to search

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[longest.chain](#), [largest.weight](#), [smallest.weight](#), [lclw](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
shortest.chain(gemat=mat,sp=4)
```

smallest.weight	<i>find out the food chain with shortest weight among all food chains that are linked to a given species</i>
-----------------	--

Description

not including self-loop (i.e., the node itself as a chain)

Usage

```
smallest.weight(gemat, sp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
sp	the node/species you want to search

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[shortest.chain](#), [largest.weight](#), [longest.chain](#), [lclw](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
shortest.chain(gemat=mat,sp=4)
```

uniquepaths	<i>enumerate all unique food chains that are linked to a given species/node</i>
-------------	---

Description

the food chains can allow circles/loop. This function will return all unique food chains that involved the focused species as a node, and the duplicated chains are deleted. It is recommended to use rather than the function 'pathways'.

Usage

```
uniquepaths(gemat, sp)
```

Arguments

gemat	standard square graph matrix
sp	the species you want to search.

Value

return a list showing all food chains by presenting each node in that chain. Also, the weights for each link will be returned as well.

Author(s)

Youhua Chen <haydi@126.com>

References

Chen Y (2012) loop: an R package for performing decomposition of weighted directed graphs, food web analysis and flexible network plotting. Submitted.

See Also

[pathways](#)

Examples

```
mat=matrix(c(0,5,3,7,0,5,0,8,0,4,3,8,0,1,6,7,0,1,0,2,0,4,6,2,0),5,5)
uniquepaths(mat,sp=2)
```


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