

# Package ‘AWFisher’

October 8, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** An R package for fast computing for adaptively weighted fisher's method

**Version** 1.22.0

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**Author** Zhiguang Huo

**Maintainer** Zhiguang Huo <zhuo@ufl.edu>

**biocViews** StatisticalMethod, Software

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Description** Implementation of the adaptively weighted fisher's method, including fast p-value computing, variability index, and meta-pattern.

**License** GPL-3

**Depends** R (>= 3.6)

**Imports** edgeR, limma, stats

**BugReports** <https://github.com/Caleb-Huo/AWFisher/issues>

**Suggests** knitr, tightClust

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1

**NeedsCompilation** no

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/AWFisher>

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|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| AWFisher_pvalue | <i>AWFisher</i> |
|-----------------|-----------------|

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Description

R package for fast computing for adaptively weighted fisher’s method

Usage

AWFisher\_pvalue(p.values)

Arguments

|          |                                                                                                                                |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| p.values | Input G by K p-value matrix. Each row represent a gene and each column represent a study. Note that K has to be >=2 and <=100. |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Details

fast computing for adaptively weighted fisher’s method

Value

A list consisting of AWFisher pvalues and AWweight.

|         |                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| pvalues | AWFisher pvalues.                                                                                                                                   |
| weights | G by K binary weight matrix W. \$W_gk = 1\$ represents for gene \$g\$, study \$k\$ contributes to the meta-analysis result. \$W_gk = 0\$ otherwise. |

Author(s)

Zhiguang Huo

**Examples**

```

K <- 40
G <- 10000
p.values = matrix(rbeta(K*G, 1,1), ncol=K)
res = AWFisher_pvalue(p.values)
hist(res$pvalues, breaks=40)
table(rowSums(res$weights))
pvalues=res$pvalues[order(res$pvalues)]
plot(-log10((1:NROW(pvalues))/(1+NROW(pvalues))),
      -log10(pvalues),xlab='theoretical quantile', ylab='observed quantile')
lines(c(0,100), c(0,100), col=2)

```

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biomarkerCategorization

*biomarker categorization*


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**Description**

biomarker categorization

**Usage**

```

biomarkerCategorization(studies, afunction, B = 10, DEindex = NULL,
  fdr = NULL, silence = FALSE)

```

**Arguments**

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| studies   | a list of K studies. Each element (kth study) of the list is another list consisting gene expression matrix and label information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| afunction | A function for DE analysis. Options can be function_limma or function_edgeR. Default option is function_limma. However, use could define their own function. The input of afunction should be list(data, label) which is consistent with one element of the studies list/argument. The return of afunction should be list(pvalue=apvalue, effectSize=aeffectsize) |
| B         | number of permutation should be used. B=1000 is suggested.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DEindex   | If NULL, BH method will be applied to p-values and FDR 0.05 will be used. User could specify a logical vector as DEindex.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| fdr       | Default is 0.05. The co-membership matrix calculation will base on genes with this specified fdr.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| silence   | If TRUE, will print out the bootstrapping procedure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Details**

biomarker categorization via bootstrap AW weight.

**Value**

A list consisting of biomarker categorization result.

|               |                                                |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------|
| variability   | Varibility index for all genes                 |
| dissimilarity | Dissimilarity matrix of genes of DEindex==TRUE |
| DEindex       | DEindex for Dissimilarity                      |

**Author(s)**

Zhiguang Huo

**Examples**

```

N0 = 10
G <- 1000
GDEp <- 50
GDEn <- 50
K = 4

studies <- NULL
set.seed(15213)
for(k in seq_len(K)){
  astudy <- matrix(rnorm(N0*2*G),nrow=G,ncol=N0*2)
  ControlLabel <- seq_len(N0)
  caseLabel <- (N0 + 1):(2*N0)

  astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] + 2
  astudy[1:GDEp + GDEn,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp + GDEn,caseLabel] - 2

  alabel = c(rep(0,length(ControlLabel)),rep(1,length(caseLabel)))

  studies[[k]] <- list(data=astudy, label=alabel)
}

result <- biomarkerCategorization(studies,function_limma,B=100,DEindex=NULL)
sum(result$DEindex)
head(result$variability)
print(result$dissimilarity[1:4,1:4])

```

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data\_mouseMetabolism    *Mouse metabolism microarray data*

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**Description**

The purpose of the multi-tissue mouse metabolism transcriptomic data is to study how the gene expression changes with respect to the energy deficiency using mouse models. Very long-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase (VLCAD) deficiency was found to be associated with energy metabolism

disorder in children. Two genotypes of the mouse model - wild type (VLCAD +/+) and VLCAD-deficient (VLCAD -/-) - were studied for three types of tissues (brown fat, liver, heart) with 3 to 4 mice in each genotype group. The sample size information is available in the table below. A total of 6,883 genes are available in this example dataset.

**Usage**

```
data_mouseMetabolism
```

**Format**

A list of data.frame with 6,883 genes (rows) and 3 - 4 mouse samples in each genotype group (columns).

**brown** data for the brown fat tissue

**heart** data for the heart tissue

**liver** data for the liver tissue

**Source**

[https://projecteuclid.org/download/pdfview\\_1/euclid.aoas/1310562214](https://projecteuclid.org/download/pdfview_1/euclid.aoas/1310562214)

**Examples**

```
data(data_mouseMetabolism)
```

---

|                |                                         |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| function_edgeR | <i>use edgeR function to get pvalue</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

use edgeR function to get pvalue

**Usage**

```
function_edgeR(astudy)
```

**Arguments**

astudy                    A list contains a data matrix and a vector of group label

**Details**

use edgeR function to get pvalue

**Value**

A list of pvalue and effect size

**Author(s)**

Zhiguang Huo

**Examples**

```

N0 = 10
G <- 1000
GDEp <- 50
GDEn <- 50

set.seed(15213)

astudy <- matrix(rpois(N0*2*G,10),nrow=G,ncol=N0*2)
ControlLabel <- 1:N0
caseLabel <- (N0 + 1):(2*N0)

astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] + 2
astudy[1:GDEp + GDEn,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] - 2

alabel <- c(rep(0,length(ControlLabel)),rep(1,length(caseLabel)))
Study <- list(data=astudy, label=alabel)

result <- function_edgeR(Study)
fdr <- p.adjust(result$pvalue)
sum(fdr<=0.05)

```

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function\_limma

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use limma function to get pvalue

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**Description**

use limma function to get pvalue

**Usage**

```
function_limma(astudy)
```

**Arguments**

astudy                    A list contains a data matrix and a vector of group label

**Details**

use limma function to get pvalue

**Value**

A list of pvalue and effect size

**Author(s)**

Zhiguang Huo

**Examples**

```

N0 = 10
G <- 1000
GDEp <- 50
GDEn <- 50

set.seed(15213)

astudy <- matrix(rnorm(N0*2*G),nrow=G,ncol=N0*2)
ControlLabel <- 1:N0
caseLabel <- (N0 + 1):(2*N0)

astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] + 2
astudy[1:GDEp + GDEn,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] - 2

alabel <- c(rep(0,length(ControlLabel)),rep(1,length(caseLabel)))
Study <- list(data=astudy, label=alabel)

result <- function_limma(Study)
fdr <- p.adjust(result$pvalue)
sum(fdr<=0.05)

```

variabilityIndex

*Variability Index***Description**

Variability Index

**Usage**

```
variabilityIndex(studies, afunction, B = 10, silence = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| studies   | a list of K studies. Each element (kth study) of the list is another list consisting gene expression matrix and label information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| afunction | A function for DE analysis. Options can be function_limma or function_edgeR. Default option is function_limma. However, use could define their own function. The input of afunction should be list(data, label) which is consistent with one element of the studies list/argument. The return of afunction should be list(pvalue=apvalue, effectSize=aeffectsize) |
| B         | number of permutation should be used. B=1000 is suggested.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| silence   | If TRUE, will print out the bootstrapping procedure.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Details**

Variability Index via bootstrap AW weight.

**Value**

A list consisting of biomarker categorization result.

variability      Variability index for all genes

**Author(s)**

Zhiguang Huo

**Examples**

```

N0 = 10
G <- 1000
GDEp <- 50
GDEn <- 50
K = 4

studies <- NULL
set.seed(15213)
for(k in 1:K){
  astudy <- matrix(rnorm(N0*2*G),nrow=G,ncol=N0*2)
  ControlLabel <- 1:N0
  caseLabel <- (N0 + 1):(2*N0)

  astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp,caseLabel] + 2
  astudy[1:GDEp + GDEn,caseLabel] <- astudy[1:GDEp + GDEn,caseLabel] - 2

  alabel = c(rep(0,length(ControlLabel)),rep(1,length(caseLabel)))

  studies[[k]] <- list(data=astudy, label=alabel)
}

result <- variabilityIndex(studies,function_limma,B=100)
head(result)

```

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