# Package 'IHW'

May 14, 2025

Title Independent Hypothesis Weighting

**Version** 1.36.0

Description Independent hypothesis weighting (IHW) is a multiple testing procedure that increases power compared to the method of Benjamini and Hochberg by assigning data-driven weights to each hypothesis. The input to IHW is a two-column table of p-values and covariates. The covariate can be any continuous-valued or categorical variable that is thought to be informative on the statistical properties of each hypothesis test, while it is independent of the p-value under the null hypothesis.

**Depends** R (>= 3.3.0)

License Artistic-2.0

LazyData true

Imports methods, slam, lpsymphony, fdrtool, BiocGenerics

**Suggests** ggplot2, dplyr, gridExtra, scales, DESeq2, airway, testthat, Matrix, BiocStyle, knitr, rmarkdown, devtools

VignetteBuilder knitr

biocViews ImmunoOncology, MultipleComparison, RNASeq

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

git\_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/IHW

git\_branch RELEASE\_3\_21

git\_last\_commit f5eb824

git\_last\_commit\_date 2025-04-15

Repository Bioconductor 3.21

Date/Publication 2025-05-14

**Author** Nikos Ignatiadis [aut, cre], Wolfgang Huber [aut]

Maintainer Nikos Ignatiadis <nikos.ignatiadis 01@gmail.com>

2 get\_bh\_threshold

# **Contents**

	get_bh_threshold
	groups_by_filter
	ihw.default
	ihw.DESeqResults
	ihwResult-class
	plot,ihwResult-method
Index	12

 ${\tt get\_bh\_threshold} \qquad {\tt \it Data-driven\ threshold\ of\ Benjamini\ Hochberg\ Procedure}$ 

# **Description**

Given pvalues and a nominal significance level alpha, this function returns the rejection threshold of the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure, i.e. a value t\_BH such that p-values with P\_i <= t\_BH get rejected by the procedure.

# Usage

```
get_bh_threshold(pvals, alpha, mtests = length(pvals))
```

# **Arguments**

pvals	Numeric, vector of p-values
alpha	Numeric in [0,1], significance level of the multiple testing procedure
mtests	Integer, total number of hypothesis tests; only set this (to non-default) when you know what you are doing!

# Value

A numeric in [0,1], threshold of the BH procedure

# Examples

```
pvalues <- c(runif(1000), rbeta(1000,0.5,7)) # generate some p-values adj_pvalues <- p.adjust(pvalues, method="BH") # calculate adjusted p-values t_BH <- get_bh_threshold(pvalues, 0.1) #get rejection threshold at alpha=0.1 all((pvalues <= t_BH) == (adj_pvalues <= 0.1)) #equivalence of two formulations
```

groups\_by\_filter 3

groups_by_filter	Stratify hypotheses based on increasing value of the covariate	

# Description

Hypotheses are stratified into nbins different strata of (approximately) equal size based on increasing value of the covariate

# Usage

```
groups_by_filter(covariate, nbins, ties.method = "random", seed = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

covariate	Numeric vector of ordinal covariates based on which the stratification will be done.
nbins	Integer, number of groups/strata into which p-values will be split based on covariate.
ties.method	Character specifying how ties are treated, see rank function.
seed	Integer, specifies random seed to be used when ties.method=="random".

#### Value

A factor with nbins different levels, each entry corresponds to the stratum the i-th hypothesis was assigned to.

# **Examples**

```
covariates <- runif(100)
groups <- groups_by_filter(covariates,10)
table(groups)</pre>
```

ihw. default ihw: Main function for Independent Hypothesis Weighting

# **Description**

Given a vector of p-values, a vector of covariates which are independent of the p-values under the null hypothesis and a nominal significance level alpha, IHW learns multiple testing weights and then applies the weighted Benjamini Hochberg (or Bonferroni) procedure.

4 ihw.default

#### Usage

```
## Default S3 method:
ihw(
  pvalues,
  covariates,
  alpha,
  covariate_type = "ordinal",
  nbins = "auto".
 m_groups = NULL,
  folds = NULL,
  quiet = TRUE,
  nfolds = 5L,
  nfolds_internal = 5L,
  nsplits_internal = 1L,
  lambdas = "auto",
  seed = 1L,
  distrib_estimator = "grenander",
  lp_solver = "lpsymphony",
  adjustment_type = "BH",
  null_proportion = FALSE,
  null_proportion_level = 0.5,
  return_internal = FALSE,
)
## S3 method for class 'formula'
ihw(formula, data = parent.frame(), ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

pvalues Numeric vector of unadjusted p-values.

covariates Vector which contains the one-dimensional covariates (independent under the

H0 of the p-value) for each test. Can be numeric or a factor. (If numeric it will

be converted into factor by binning.)

alpha Numeric, sets the nominal level for FDR control.

covariate\_type "ordinal" or "nominal" (i.e. whether covariates can be sorted in increasing order

or not)

nbins Integer, number of groups into which p-values will be split based on covariate.

Use "auto" for automatic selection of the number of bins. Only applicable when

covariates is not a factor.

m\_groups Integer vector of length equal to the number of levels of the covariates (only to be specified when the latter is a factor/categorical). Each entry corresponds to

the number of hypotheses to be tested in each group (stratum). This argument needs to be given when the complete vector of p-values is not available, but only p-values below a given threshold, for example because of memory reasons. See the vignette for additional details and an example of how this principle can be

applied with numerical covariates.

ihw.default 5

folds Integer vector or NULL. Pre-specify assignment of hypotheses into folds. quiet Boolean, if False a lot of messages are printed during the fitting stages.

nfolds Number of folds into which the p-values will be split for the pre-validation pro-

cedure

nfolds\_internal

Within each fold, a second (nested) layer of cross-validation can be conducted to choose a good regularization parameter. This parameter controls the number of nested folds.

nsplits\_internal

Integer, how many times to repeat the nfolds\_internal splitting. Can lead to better regularization parameter selection but makes ihw a lot slower.

lambdas Numeric vector which defines the grid of possible regularization parameters.

Use "auto" for automatic selection.

seed Integer or NULL. Split of hypotheses into folds is done randomly. To have the

output of the function be reproducible, the seed of the random number generator is set to this value at the start of the function. Use NULL if you don't want to

set the seed.

distrib\_estimator

Character ("grenander" or "ECDF"). Only use this if you know what you are doing. ECDF with nfolds > 1 or lp\_solver == "lpsymphony" will in general be

excessively slow, except for very small problems.

lp\_solver Character ("lpsymphony" or "gurobi"). Internally, IHW solves a sequence of

linear programs, which can be solved with either of these solvers.

adjustment\_type

Character ("BH" or "bonferroni") depending on whether you want to control

FDR or FWER.

null\_proportion

Boolean, if True (default is False), a modified version of Storey's estimator is used within each bin to estimate the proportion of null hypotheses.

null\_proportion\_level

Numeric, threshold for Storey's pi0 estimation procedure, defaults to 0.5

return\_internal

Returns a lower level representation of the output (only useful for debugging

purposes).

... Arguments passed to internal functions.

formula, specified in the form pvalue~covariate (only 1D covariate supported)

data.frame from which the variables in formula should be taken

# Value

A ihwResult object.

#### See Also

ihwResult, plot, ihwResult-method, ihw.DESeqResults

6 ihw.DESeqResults

#### **Examples**

ihw.DESeqResults

ihw.DESeqResults: IHW method dispatching on DESeqResults objects

#### **Description**

ihw.DESeqResults: IHW method dispatching on DESeqResults objects

#### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'DESeqResults'
ihw(deseq_res, filter = "baseMean", alpha = 0.1, adjustment_type = "BH", ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

deseq\_res "DESeqResults" object

Filter Vector of length equal to number of rows of deseq\_res object. This is used for the covariates in the call to ihw. Can also be a character, in which case deseq\_res[[filter]] is used as the covariate

alpha Numeric, sets the nominal level for FDR control.

adjustment\_type

Character ("BH" or "bonferroni") depending on whether you want to control FDR or FWER.

Other optional keyword arguments passed to ihw.

#### Value

A "DESeqResults" object, which includes weights and adjusted p-values returned by IHW. In addition, includes a metadata slot with an "ihwResult" object.

#### See Also

ihw, ihwResult

# **Examples**

```
## Not run:
   library("DESeq2")
   library("airway")
   data("airway")
   dds <- DESeqDataSet(se = airway, design = ~ cell + dex)
   dds <- DESeq(dds)
   deseq_res <- results(dds)
   deseq_res <- ihw(deseq_res, alpha=0.1)
   #equivalent: deseq_res2 <- results(dds, filterFun = ihw)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

ihwResult-class

An S4 class to represent the ihw output.

# **Description**

An S4 class to represent the ihw output.

#### Usage

```
adj_pvalues(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
adj_pvalues(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
weights(object, levels_only = FALSE)
thresholds(object, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
thresholds(object, levels_only = FALSE)
pvalues(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
pvalues(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
weighted_pvalues(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
weighted_pvalues(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
covariates(object)
covariate_type(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
covariate_type(object)
groups_factor(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
groups_factor(object)
nfolds(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
nfolds(object)
nbins(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
nbins(object)
alpha(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
alpha(object)
rejections(object, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
rejections(object)
rejected_hypotheses(object, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
rejected_hypotheses(object)
regularization_term(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
regularization_term(object)
m_groups(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
m_groups(object)
```

```
as.data.frame_ihwResult(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
nrow(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
show(object)
```

#### **Arguments**

object, x A ihwResult object as returned by a call to ihw(...)

levels\_only Logical, if FALSE, return a vector of weights (thresholds) with one weight

(threshold) for each hypothesis, otherwise return a nfolds x nbins matrix of

weights (thresholds)

... Parameters passed in to individual methods

row.names, optional

See ?base::as.data.frame for a description of these arguments.

#### Value

The different methods applied to an ihwResult object can return the following:

- 1) A vector of length equal to the number of hypotheses tested (e.g. the adjusted p-value or the weight of each hypothesis).
- 2) A matrix of dimension equal to nfolds x nbins (e.g. the weight of each stratum, fold combination, set by specifying levels\_only=TRUE).
- 3) A vector of length 1 (usually a parameter of the ihwResult object such as nfolds or the total number of rejections).
- 4) A data frame (as data frame) or just console output (show) for the extended Base generics.

See section below for the individual methods.

# Methods (by generic)

• adj\_pvalues: Extract adjusted pvalues

• weights: Extract weights

• thresholds: Calculate ihw thresholds

• pvalues: Extract pvalues

• weighted\_pvalues: Extract weighted pvalues

• covariates: Extract covariates

• covariate\_type: Extract type of covariate ("ordinal" or "nominal")

• groups\_factor: Extract factor of stratification (grouping) variable

- nfolds: Extract number of folds
- nbins: Extract number of bins
- alpha: Extract nominal significance (alpha) level
- rejections: Total number of rejected hypotheses by ihw procedure
- rejected\_hypotheses: Get a boolean vector of the rejected hypotheses
- regularization\_term: Extract vector of regularization parameters used for each stratum
- m\_groups: Extract total number of hypotheses within each stratum
- as.data.frame: Coerce ihwResult to data frame
- nrow: Return number of p-values
- show: Convenience method to show ihwResult object

#### Slots

df A data.frame that collects the input data, including the vector of p values and the covariate, the group assignment, as well as outputs (weighted p-values, adjusted p-values)

weights A (nbins X nfolds) matrix of the weight assigned to each stratum

alpha Numeric, the nominal significance level at which the FDR is to be controlled

nbins Integer, number of distinct levels into which the hypotheses were stratified

nfolds Integer, number of folds for pre-validation procedure

regularization\_term Numeric vector, the final value of the regularization parameter within each fold

m\_groups Integer vector, number of hypotheses tested in each stratum

penalty Character, "uniform deviation" or "total variation"

covariate\_type Character, "ordinal" or "nominal"

adjustment\_type Character, "BH" or "bonferroni"

reg\_path\_information A data.frame, information about the whole regularization path. (Currently not used, thus empty)

solver\_information A list, solver specific output, e.g. were all subproblems solved to optimality? (Currently empty list)

#### See Also

ihw, plot, ihw Result-method

#### **Examples**

```
save.seed <- .Random.seed; set.seed(1)
X <- runif(n = 20000, min = 0.5, max = 4.5)  # Covariate
# Is the null hypothesis (mean=0) true or false ?
H <- rbinom(n = length(X), size = 1, prob = 0.1)
Z <- rnorm(n = length(X), mean = H * X)  # Z-score
.Random.seed <- save.seed

pvalue <- 1 - pnorm(Z)  # pvalue</pre>
```

plot,ihwResult-method 11

```
ihw_res <- ihw(pvalue, covariates = X, alpha = 0.1)
rejections(ihw_res)
colnames(as.data.frame(ihw_res))</pre>
```

```
plot, ihwResult-method Plot functions for IHW
```

# **Description**

See the vignette for usage examples.

#### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'ihwResult'
plot(
    x,
    x_axis = c(weights = "group", decisionboundary = "covariate")[what],
    what = "weights",
    scale = covariate_type(x)
)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x Object of class ihwResult

x_axis Character: "group" or "covariate". Default is "group" if "what" is "weights", and "covariate" if "what" is "decisionboundary".

what Character: "weights" or "decisionboundary"

scale Character: "ordinal" or "nominal"
```

# Value

A ggplot2 object.

# Examples

# **Index**

<pre>adj_pvalues(ihwResult-class), 7</pre>	nfolds,ihwResult-method
adj_pvalues,ihwResult-method	(ihwResult-class), 7
(ihwResult-class), 7	nrow,ihwResult-method
alpha(ihwResult-class), 7	(ihwResult-class), 7
alpha,ihwResult-method	
(ihwResult-class), 7	plot,ihwResult-method,11
as.data.frame,ihwResult-method	<pre>pvalues(ihwResult-class), 7</pre>
(ihwResult-class), 7	<pre>pvalues,ihwResult-method</pre>
as.data.frame_ihwResult	(ihwResult-class), 7
(ihwResult-class), 7	
,	rank, 3
<pre>covariate_type (ihwResult-class), 7</pre>	$regularization\_term(ihwResult-class), 7$
covariate_type,ihwResult-method	regularization_term,ihwResult-method
(ihwResult-class), 7	(ihwResult-class), 7
covariates (ihwResult-class), 7	${\tt rejected\_hypotheses}~({\tt ihwResult-class}), {\tt 7}$
covariates, ihwResult-method	rejected_hypotheses,ihwResult-method
(ihwResult-class), 7	(ihwResult-class), 7
(	rejections (ihwResult-class), $7$
formula, 5	rejections,ihwResult-method
,	(ihwResult-class), 7
get_bh_threshold, 2	
groups_by_filter, 3	show,ihwResult-method
<pre>groups_factor (ihwResult-class), 7</pre>	(ihwResult-class), 7
groups_factor,ihwResult-method	thresholds (ihwResult-class), 7
(ihwResult-class), 7	thresholds, ihwResult-method
	(ihwResult-class), 7
ihw(ihw.default), 3	(INWRESUIT-CIASS), /
ihw.default,3	<pre>weighted_pvalues(ihwResult-class),7</pre>
ihw.DESeqResults, 6	weighted_pvalues,ihwResult-method
ihwResult (ihwResult-class), 7	(ihwResult-class), 7
ihwResult-class, 7	weights,ihwResult-method
	(ihwResult-class), 7
<pre>m_groups(ihwResult-class),7</pre>	(Illintedate etado), /
m_groups,ihwResult-method	
(ihwResult-class), 7	
nbins(ihwResult-class),7	
nbins,ihwResult-method	
(ihwResult-class), 7	
nfolds (ihwResult-class) 7	