

# Package ‘GSAgm’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Gene Set Analysis using the Gamma Method

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**Description** GSAgm is an R package that completes a self-contained gene set analysis (GSA) for RNA-seq and SNP data using the Gamma Method.

**License** GPL-2

**Depends** survival, edgeR

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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GSAgm-package

*GSAgm package*

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**Description**

This package runs gene set analyses on SNP and RNA data. See individual functions for details.

**Details**

Package: GSAgm  
Type: Package  
Version: 1.0  
Date: 2013-12-04  
License: GPL-2

**Author(s)**

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**References**

1. Biernacka JM, Jenkins GD, Wang L, et al. Use of the gamma method for self-contained gene-set analysis of SNP data. *Eur J Hum Genet* 2012;20(5):565-71.
2. Fridley BL, Jenkins GD, Grill DE, et al. Soft truncation thresholding for gene set analysis of RNA-seq data: application to a vaccine study. *Sci Rep* 2013;3:2898.
3. Robinson MD, McCarthy DJ, Smyth GK. edgeR: a Bioconductor package for differential expression analysis of digital gene expression data. *Bioinformatics* 2010;26(1):139-40.
4. Zaykin DV, Zhivotovsky LA, Czika W, et al. Combining p-values in large-scale genomics experiments. *Pharm Stat* 2007;6(3):217-26.
5. Fridley, B.L., and Biernacka, J.M. (2011). Gene set analysis of SNP data: benefits, challenges, and future directions. *Eur J Hum Genet* 19, 837-843.

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gene\_example*Gene example data*

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**Description**

Dummy genes to test data with.

**Usage**

```
data(gene_example)
```

**Format**

The format is: int [1:15, 1] 111 111 111 222 222 222 222 222 333 333 ... - attr(\*, "dimnames")=List of 2 ..\$ : NULL ..\$ : chr "x"

**Examples**

```
data(gene_example)
```

---

PCgamma

*PC gamma*


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**Description**

For GSA of SNP data, the following two-step procedure is implemented (see Biernacka et al[1] for more details on the method). Step 1: Principal components analysis for SNPs within a gene is completed with the components needed to explain 80 percent of the variation retained. Using these components, a gene-level association test is completed to determine the association of the gene with the phenotype. Step 2: The gene-level p values for genes within a given gene set are combined using the Gamma Method, a variation of Fisher's Method, to determine the association of the gene set with the phenotype. The GSA function for SNP data allow quantitative, binary and time-to-event phenotypes (i.e., linear models, logistic models, Cox proportional hazard models).

**Usage**

```
PCgamma(formula,data,snprefix="snp",gene,PCpctVar = 80,
gammaShape = 1, STT=NULL, pheno.type = c("case.control", "quantitative", "survival"),
perm = T, n.perm = 1000, seed = 12212012)
```

**Arguments**

formula	formula for model, include phenotype and covars. SNPs will be added by function
data	All data including matrix of genetic markers, each marker represented by the dosage of some allele, could also be CNV, treated as continuous and covariates
snprefix	prefix for SNP variable, defaults to "snp"
gene	vector designating the gene each marker belongs to, must be in same order as SNPs
PCpctVar	numeric indicating the percent of variation (in percent) in the genetic markers that is to be explained by PCs
gammaShape	numeric indicating the gamma shape parameter to be used for p-value summarization

STT	numeric indicating soft truncation threshold to be used, will calculate gamma parameter (must be $\leq 0.4$ )
pheno.type	type of phenotype, case-control results in logistic regression, quantitative results in OLS, and survival results in cox model
perm	boolean indicating whether permutation p-value are to be used for the gamma summary method
n.perm	numeric indicating number of permutations to be used
seed	numeric to set RNG for reproducibility

### Value

This functions returns a list.

gamma.pvalue	Gamma P value
perm.pvalue	Gamma permutation p value, if specified. Else NA
gene.info	Info for each gene

### Examples

```
###Case Control (logistic) example
data(testdata)
data(gene_example)
PCgamma(pheno~strata(study)+age,
        data=testdata, gene=gene_example, pheno.type="case.control",
        STT = 0.2, gammaShape = NULL,
        perm=FALSE, n.perm = 10, seed = 12212012)

##Here is a survival example
set.seed(1234)
time_example <- rnorm(150, m=50, sd=10)
event_example <- rbinom(150, 1, 0.3)
testdata <- cbind(testdata, time_example, event_example)

PCgamma(Surv(time_example, event_example)~strata(study)+age,
        data=testdata, gene=gene_example, pheno.type="survival",
        STT = 0.2, gammaShape = NULL,
        perm=FALSE, n.perm = 10, seed = 12212012)
```

**Description**

For GSA of RNA-seq data, the following procedure, similar to the analysis of SNP data, is implemented (see Fridley et al[2] for more details on the method). Step 1: Association of gene expression data from RNA-seq (count data) is assessed for differential expression between two groups using edgeR[3]. Step 2: P-values from the association analysis within edgeR for genes within a given gene set are combined using the Gamma Method to determine the association of the gene set with the phenotype. Currently, the RNA-seq GSA allows only a binary phenotype (i.e. treatment, control).

**Usage**

```
RNAgamma(formula, data, rnaprefix="ENSG", gammaShape=1, STT=NULL,
          pheno.type=c("case.control"), tagwise=F, perm=T, n.perm=1000, seed=12212012)
```

**Arguments**

formula	formula in R format: phenotype~cov1+cov2
data	data frame containing phenotype, covars, and RNA stuff
rnaprefix	RNA data prefix, defaults to ENSG ensembl genes
gammaShape	numeric indicating the gamma shape parameter to be used for p-value summarization
STT	numeric indicating soft truncation threshold to be used, will calculate gamma parameter (must be <= 0.4)
pheno.type	type of phenotype, case-control results in logistic regression, quantitative results in OLS, and survival results in cox model
tagwise	TRUE or FALSE for estimating tagwise dispersion values by an empirical Bayes method based on weighted conditional maximum likelihood. Defaults to maximizing the negative binomial conditional common likelihood for the common dispersion across all tags.
perm	boolean indicating whether permutation p-value are to be used for the gamma summary method
n.perm	numeric indicating number of permutations to be used
seed	numeric to set RNG for reproducibility

**Examples**

```
data(testdata)
data(rnaseq_counts)
testdata <- cbind(testdata, rnaseq_counts)
RNAgamma(pheno~strata(study)+age, data=testdata, rnaprefix="rnaseqcount",
          pheno.type=c("case.control"), tagwise=FALSE, perm=TRUE, n.perm=5)

##No covars, no permutation
RNAgamma(pheno~., data=testdata, rnaprefix="rnaseqcount",
          pheno.type=c("case.control"), tagwise=FALSE, perm=FALSE)
```

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rnaseq_counts	<i>RNA Seq Test data</i>
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**Description**

RNA test data for example

**Usage**

```
data(rnaseq_counts)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 150 observations on the following 15 variables.

rnaseqcount1 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount2 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount3 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount4 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount5 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount6 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount7 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount8 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount9 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount10 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount11 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount12 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount13 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount14 a numeric vector

rnaseqcount15 a numeric vector

**Examples**

```
data(rnaseq_counts)
## maybe str(rnaseq_counts) ; plot(rnaseq_counts) ...
```

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STTtoShapeParameter     *Soft Truncation Threshold*

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### Description

In using the Gamma Method[4], a soft truncation threshold (STT) must be specified (that is, shape parameter for gamma distribution). For combining p values using Fisher's method, set STT to  $1/e$ . Based on simulation studies, we have found that STT between 0.10 and 0.20 achieve optimal power for a variety of situations. Empirical p values for the gene set association are determined via permutations.

This function is called by the `pcgamma` one.

### Usage

```
STTtoShapeParameter(STT)
```

### Arguments

STT                    numeric indicating soft truncation threshold (STT) to convert to gamma parameter (must be  $\leq 0.4$ )

### Examples

```
STTtoShapeParameter(0.2)
```

---

testdata                    *Test data*

---

### Description

A dummy dataset for testing these functions. It contains two covariates (age and study), SNP data, and phenotype (coded 0/1).

### Usage

```
data(testdata)
```

### Format

A data frame with 150 observations on the following 18 variables.

age a numeric vector

study a factor with levels AAA BBB CCC

snp1 a numeric vector

snp2 a numeric vector

snp3 a numeric vector  
snp4 a numeric vector  
snp5 a numeric vector  
snp6 a numeric vector  
snp7 a numeric vector  
snp8 a numeric vector  
snp9 a numeric vector  
snp10 a numeric vector  
snp11 a numeric vector  
snp12 a numeric vector  
snp13 a numeric vector  
snp14 a numeric vector  
snp15 a numeric vector  
pheno a numeric vector

**Examples**

```
data(testdata)  
## maybe str(testdata) ; plot(testdata) ...
```



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