

# Package ‘RandMeta’

July 21, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Efficient Numerical Algorithm for Exact Inference in Meta Analysis

**Version** 0.1.0

**Date** 2017-4-17

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**Description** A novel numerical algorithm that provides functionality for estimating the exact 95% confidence interval of the location parameter in the random effects model, and is much faster than the naive method. Works best when the number of studies is between 6-20.

**License** GPL-2

**LazyData** TRUE

**RoxygenNote** 6.0.1

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2017-04-25 05:47:44 UTC

## Contents

random.meta . . . . .	2
<b>Index</b>	<b>4</b>

random.meta

*Exact Inference for Meta Analysis With Random Effects Model***Description**

Computes the point estimator for the center ( $\theta$ ), the  $p$  value for testing if the center is zero, and the 95% confidence interval in a random effects model meta analysis. When the number of studies is moderate or small ( $\leq 20$ ), the exact inference results are based on the exact computation. When the number of studies is big ( $> 20$ ), the exact inference results are based on Monte-Carlo simulation.

**Usage**

```
random.meta(y, v, type="DL", B=500, N=10000, Bstep=5, plot.meta=T)
```

**Arguments**

<code>y</code>	A vector of the respective estimators of the study-specific effect from each study. Length should be the same as the number of studies.
<code>v</code>	A vector with the variance of each estimator in <code>y</code> . Length should be the same as the number of studies.
<code>type</code>	The test method to be used for constructing the CI, choosing from "DL", "wang", "median" and "wilcox". The default is "DL".
<code>B</code>	The number of grids used to construct the 95% CI. The default value is 500.
<code>N</code>	The number of simulations in the Monte-Carlo simulation. The default value is 10000.
<code>Bstep</code>	The number of steps used in searching the endpoint of the 95% CI. The default value is 5, which the user does not need to adjust. A larger value may slow down computation.
<code>plot.meta</code>	The logic value for generating the forest plot of the meta analysis. The default value is "TRUE".

**Details**

The inference results are "exact" if  $K \leq 20$  and based on Monte-Carlo simulation if  $K > 20$ .

**Value**

<code>theta</code>	The point estimator for the center
<code>pvalue</code>	The $p$ value for testing if the center is zero
<code>ci95</code>	The 95% CI for the center

**Author(s)**

Lu Tian and Grace Deng

## References

Sifan Liu, Lu Tian, Steve Lee and Min-ge Xie (2016) Exact inference on meta-analysis with generalized fixed-effects and random-effects models. Tech Report.\

Yan Wang and Lu Tian (2017) An efficient numerical algorithm for exact inference in meta analysis. Tech Report.

## Examples

```
##### Generate the data for a meta analysis with 8 studies #####
set.seed(100)
K=8
tau=2
v=rchisq(K, 3)
y=rnorm(K)*sqrt(v+tau)+1

##### Exact inference using the DL method #####
fit=random.meta(y, v, type="DL")
fit

##### Exact inference using the Wilcoxon method #####
fit=random.meta(y, v, type="wilcox")
fit
```

# Index

- \* **Exact Inference**  
random.meta, 2
  - \* **Meta Analysis**  
random.meta, 2
  - \* **Random Effect**  
random.meta, 2
- random.meta, 2