

# Package ‘diceR’

June 19, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Diverse Cluster Ensemble in R

**Version** 3.1.0

**Description** Performs cluster analysis using an ensemble clustering framework, Chiu & Talhouk (2018) <[doi:10.1186/s12859-017-1996-y](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12859-017-1996-y)>. Results from a diverse set of algorithms are pooled together using methods such as majority voting, K-Modes, LinkCluE, and CSPA. There are options to compare cluster assignments across algorithms using internal and external indices, visualizations such as heatmaps, and significance testing for the existence of clusters.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**URL** <https://github.com/AlineTalhouk/diceR/>,  
<https://alinetalhouk.github.io/diceR/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/AlineTalhouk/diceR/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 4.1)

**Imports** abind, assertthat, class, clue, clusterCrit, clValid, dplyr (>= 0.7.5), ggplot2, grDevices, infotheo, klaR, magrittr, mclust, methods, pheatmap, purrr (>= 0.2.3), RankAggreg, Rcpp, stringr, tidyr, yardstick

**Suggests** apcluster, blockcluster, cluster, covr, dbscan, e1071, kernlab, knitr, kohonen, NMF, pander, poLCA, progress, RColorBrewer, rlang, rmarkdown, Rtsne, sigclust, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**LinkingTo** Rcpp

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Author** Derek Chiu [aut, cre],  
Aline Talhouk [aut],  
Johnson Liu [ctb, com]  
**Maintainer** Derek Chiu <dchiu@bccrc.ca>  
**Repository** CRAN  
**Date/Publication** 2025-06-19 19:50:02 UTC

Contents

compactness . . . . .	2
consensus_cluster . . . . .	3
consensus_combine . . . . .	6
consensus_evaluate . . . . .	7
consensus_matrix . . . . .	9
CSPA . . . . .	10
dice . . . . .	11
external_validity . . . . .	14
graphs . . . . .	15
hgsc . . . . .	17
impute_knn . . . . .	17
impute_missing . . . . .	18
k_modes . . . . .	19
LCA . . . . .	21
LCE . . . . .	22
majority_voting . . . . .	23
min_fnorm . . . . .	24
PAC . . . . .	25
pcn . . . . .	26
prepare_data . . . . .	27
relabel_class . . . . .	28
sigclust . . . . .	29
similarity . . . . .	30
<b>Index</b>	<b>32</b>

---

compactness	<i>Compactness Measure</i>
-------------	----------------------------

---

Description

Compute the compactness validity index for a clustering result.

Usage

compactness(data, labels)

**Arguments**

data                a dataset with rows as observations, columns as variables  
labels              a vector of cluster labels from a clustering result

**Details**

This index is agnostic to any reference clustering results, calculating cluster performance on the basis of compactness and separability. Smaller values indicate a better clustering structure.

**Value**

the compactness score

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**References**

MATLAB function valid\_compactness by Simon Garrett in LinkCluE

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)
E <- matrix(rep(sample(1:4, 1000, replace = TRUE)), nrow = 100, byrow =
             FALSE)
set.seed(1)
dat <- as.data.frame(matrix(runif(1000, -10, 10), nrow = 100, byrow = FALSE))
compactness(dat, E[, 1])
```

---

consensus_cluster	<i>Consensus clustering</i>
-------------------	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

Runs consensus clustering across subsamples of the data, clustering algorithms, and cluster sizes.

**Usage**

```
consensus_cluster(
  data,
  nk = 2:4,
  p.item = 0.8,
  reps = 1000,
  algorithms = NULL,
  nmf.method = c("brunet", "lee"),
  hc.method = "average",
  xdim = NULL,
```

```

ydim = NULL,
rlen = 200,
alpha = c(0.05, 0.01),
minPts = 5,
distance = "euclidean",
abs = TRUE,
prep.data = c("none", "full", "sampled"),
scale = TRUE,
type = c("conventional", "robust", "tsne"),
min.var = 1,
progress = TRUE,
seed.nmf = 123456,
seed.data = 1,
file.name = NULL,
time.saved = FALSE
)

```

### Arguments

data	data matrix with rows as samples and columns as variables
nk	number of clusters (k) requested; can specify a single integer or a range of integers to compute multiple k
p.item	proportion of items to be used in subsampling within an algorithm
reps	number of subsamples
algorithms	vector of clustering algorithms for performing consensus clustering. Must be any number of the following: "nmf", "hc", "diana", "km", "pam", "ap", "sc", "gmm", "block", "som", "cmeans", "hdbscan". A custom clustering algorithm can be used.
nmf.method	specify NMF-based algorithms to run. By default the "brunet" and "lee" algorithms are called. See <a href="#">NMf::nmf()</a> for details.
hc.method	agglomeration method for hierarchical clustering. The "average" method is used by default. See <a href="#">stats::hclust()</a> for details.
xdim	x dimension of the SOM grid
ydim	y dimension of the SOM grid
rlen	the number of times the complete data set will be presented to the SOM network.
alpha	SOM learning rate, a vector of two numbers indicating the amount of change. Default is to decline linearly from 0.05 to 0.01 over rlen updates. Not used for the batch algorithm.
minPts	minimum size of clusters for HDBSCAN. Default is 5.
distance	a vector of distance functions. Defaults to "euclidean". Other options are given in <a href="#">stats::dist()</a> . A custom distance function can be used.
abs	only used for distance = c("spearman", "pearson"). If TRUE, the absolute value is first applied to the distance before subtracting from 1, e.g., we use 1 -  SCD  instead of 1 - SCD for the spearman correlation distance.
prep.data	Prepare the data on the "full" dataset, the "sampled" dataset, or "none" (default).

<code>scale</code>	logical; should the data be centered and scaled?
<code>type</code>	if we use "conventional" measures (default), then the mean and standard deviation are used for centering and scaling, respectively. If "robust" measures are specified, the median and median absolute deviation (MAD) are used. Alternatively, we can apply "tsne" for dimension reduction.
<code>min.var</code>	minimum variability measure threshold used to filter the feature space for only highly variable features. Only features with a minimum variability measure across all samples greater than <code>min.var</code> will be used. If <code>type = "conventional"</code> , the standard deviation is the measure used, and if <code>type = "robust"</code> , the MAD is the measure used.
<code>progress</code>	logical; should a progress bar be displayed?
<code>seed.nmf</code>	random seed to use for NMF-based algorithms
<code>seed.data</code>	seed to use to ensure each algorithm operates on the same set of subsamples
<code>file.name</code>	if not NULL, the returned array will be saved at each iteration as well as at the end of the function call to an rds object with <code>file.name</code> as the file name.
<code>time.saved</code>	logical; if TRUE, the date saved is appended to <code>file.name</code> . Only applicable when <code>file.name</code> is not NULL.

## Details

See examples for how to use custom algorithms and distance functions. The default clustering algorithms provided are:

- "nmf": Nonnegative Matrix Factorization (using Kullback-Leibler Divergence or Euclidean distance; See Note for specifications.)
- "hc": Hierarchical Clustering
- "diana": DIvisive ANAlysis Clustering
- "km": K-Means Clustering
- "pam": Partition Around Medoids
- "ap": Affinity Propagation
- "sc": Spectral Clustering using Radial-Basis kernel function
- "gmm": Gaussian Mixture Model using Bayesian Information Criterion on EM algorithm
- "block": Biclustering using a latent block model
- "som": Self-Organizing Map (SOM) with Hierarchical Clustering
- "cmeans": Fuzzy C-Means Clustering
- "hdbscan": Hierarchical Density-based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise (HDB-SCAN)

The progress bar increments on every unit of reps.

**Value**

An array of dimension `nrow(x)` by `reps` by `length(algorithms)` by `length(nk)`. Each cube of the array represents a different `k`. Each slice of a cube is a matrix showing consensus clustering results for algorithms. The matrices have a row for each sample, and a column for each subsample. Each entry represents a class membership.

When "hdbscan" is part of `algorithms`, we do not include its clustering array in the consensus result. Instead, we report two summary statistics as attributes: the proportion of outliers and the number of clusters.

**Note**

The `nmf.method` options are "brunet" (Kullback-Leibler Divergence) and "lee" (Euclidean distance). When "hdbscan" is chosen as an algorithm to use, its results are excluded from the rest of the consensus clusters. This is because there is no guarantee that the cluster assignment will have every sample clustered; more often than not there will be noise points or outliers. In addition, the number of distinct clusters may not even be equal to `nk`.

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu, Aline Talhouk

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]

# Custom distance function
manh <- function(x) {
  stats::dist(x, method = "manhattan")
}

# Custom clustering algorithm
agnes <- function(d, k) {
  return(as.integer(stats::cutree(cluster::agnes(d, diss = TRUE), k)))
}

assign("agnes", agnes, 1)

cc <- consensus_cluster(dat, reps = 6, algorithms = c("pam", "agnes"),
  distance = c("euclidean", "manh"), progress = FALSE)
str(cc)
```

---

consensus\_combine

*Combine algorithms*

---

**Description**

Combines results for multiple objects from `consensus_cluster()` and outputs either the consensus matrices or consensus classes for all algorithms.

**Usage**

```
consensus_combine(..., element = c("matrix", "class"))
```

**Arguments**

...	any number of objects outputted from <a href="#">consensus_cluster()</a>
element	either "matrix" or "class" to extract the consensus matrix or consensus class, respectively.

**Details**

This function is useful for collecting summaries because the original results from `consensus_cluster` were combined to a single object. For example, setting `element = "class"` returns a matrix of consensus cluster assignments, which can be visualized as a consensus matrix heatmap.

**Value**

`consensus_combine` returns either a list of all consensus matrices or a data frame showing all the consensus classes

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**Examples**

```
# Consensus clustering for multiple algorithms
set.seed(911)
x <- matrix(rnorm(500), ncol = 10)
CC1 <- consensus_cluster(x, nk = 3:4, reps = 10, algorithms = "ap",
  progress = FALSE)
CC2 <- consensus_cluster(x, nk = 3:4, reps = 10, algorithms = "km",
  progress = FALSE)

# Combine and return either matrices or classes
y1 <- consensus_combine(CC1, CC2, element = "matrix")
str(y1)
y2 <- consensus_combine(CC1, CC2, element = "class")
str(y2)
```

---

consensus_evaluate	<i>Evaluate, trim, and reweigh algorithms</i>
--------------------	---

---

**Description**

Evaluates algorithms on internal/external validation indices. Poor performing algorithms can be trimmed from the ensemble. The remaining algorithms can be given weights before use in consensus functions.

**Usage**

```
consensus_evaluate(
  data,
  ...,
  cons.cl = NULL,
  ref.cl = NULL,
  k.method = NULL,
  plot = FALSE,
  trim = FALSE,
  reweigh = FALSE,
  n = 5,
  lower = 0,
  upper = 1
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	data matrix with rows as samples and columns as variables
<code>...</code>	any number of objects outputted from <a href="#">consensus_cluster()</a>
<code>cons.cl</code>	matrix of cluster assignments from consensus functions such as <code>kmodes</code> and <code>majority_voting</code>
<code>ref.cl</code>	reference class
<code>k.method</code>	determines the method to choose <code>k</code> when no reference class is given. If <code>ref.cl</code> is not <code>NULL</code> , this is the number of distinct classes in the reference; otherwise the chosen <code>k</code> is determined by the one giving the largest mean PAC across algorithms. Alternatively, specifying an integer will override the best chosen <code>k</code> , and specifying "all" will produce consensus results for all <code>k</code> values ("all" is implicitly used when there is only one <code>k</code> ).
<code>plot</code>	logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , <code>graph_all</code> is called
<code>trim</code>	logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , algorithms that score low on internal indices will be trimmed out
<code>reweigh</code>	logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , after trimming out poor performing algorithms, each algorithm is reweighed depending on its internal indices.
<code>n</code>	an integer specifying the top <code>n</code> algorithms to keep after trimming off the poor performing ones using Rank Aggregation. If the total number of algorithms is less than <code>n</code> no trimming is done.
<code>lower</code>	the lower bound that determines what is ambiguous
<code>upper</code>	the upper bound that determines what is ambiguous

**Details**

This function always returns internal indices. If `ref.cl` is not `NULL`, external indices are additionally shown. Relevant graphical displays are also outputted. Algorithms are ranked across internal indices using Rank Aggregation. Only the top `n` algorithms are kept, the rest are trimmed.



**Value**

consensus\_evaluate returns a list with the following elements

- k: if ref.cl is not NULL, this is the number of distinct classes in the reference; otherwise the chosen k is determined by the one giving the largest mean PAC across algorithms
- pac: a data frame showing the PAC for each combination of algorithm and cluster size
- ii: a list of data frames for all k showing internal evaluation indices
- ei: a data frame showing external evaluation indices for k
- trim.obj: A list with 4 elements
  - alg.keep: algorithms kept
  - alg.remove: algorithms removed
  - rank.matrix: a matrix of ranked algorithms for every internal evaluation index
  - top.list: final order of ranked algorithms
  - E.new: A new version of a consensus\_cluster data object

**Examples**

```
# Consensus clustering for multiple algorithms
set.seed(911)
x <- matrix(rnorm(500), ncol = 10)
CC <- consensus_cluster(x, nk = 3:4, reps = 10, algorithms = c("ap", "km"),
  progress = FALSE)

# Evaluate algorithms on internal/external indices and trim algorithms:
# remove those ranking low on internal indices
set.seed(1)
ref.cl <- sample(1:4, 50, replace = TRUE)
z <- consensus_evaluate(x, CC, ref.cl = ref.cl, n = 1, trim = TRUE)
str(z, max.level = 2)
```

---

consensus_matrix	<i>Consensus matrix</i>
------------------	-------------------------

---

**Description**

Returns the (weighted) consensus matrix given a data matrix

**Usage**

```
consensus_matrix(data, weights = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

data	data matrix has rows as samples, columns as replicates
weights	a vector of weights for each algorithm used in meta-consensus clustering. Must have length(weights) equal to ncol(data).

**Details**

Given a vector of cluster assignments, we first calculate the connectivity matrix and indicator matrix. A connectivity matrix has a 1 if both samples are in the same cluster, and 0 otherwise. An indicator matrix has a 1 if both samples were selected to be used in a subsample of a consensus clustering algorithm, and 0 otherwise. Summation of connectivity matrices and indicator matrices is performed over different subsamples of the data. The consensus matrix is calculated by dividing the aggregated connectivity matrices by the aggregated indicator matrices.

If a meta-consensus matrix is desired, where consensus classes of different clustering algorithms are aggregated, we can construct a weighted meta-consensus matrix using weights.

**Value**

a consensus matrix

**Note**

When consensus is calculated over bootstrap samples, not every sample is used in each replication. Thus, there will be scenarios where two samples are never chosen together in any bootstrap samples. This typically happens when the number of replications is small. The coordinate in the consensus matrix for such pairs of samples is NaN from a 0 / 0 computation. These entries are coerced to 0.

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**Examples**

```
set.seed(2)
x <- replicate(100, rbinom(100, 4, 0.2))
w <- rexp(100)
w <- w / sum(w)
cm1 <- consensus_matrix(x)
cm2 <- consensus_matrix(x, weights = w)
```

---

CSPA

---

*Cluster-based Similarity Partitioning Algorithm (CSPA)*


---

**Description**

Performs hierarchical clustering on a stack of consensus matrices to obtain consensus class labels.

**Usage**

```
CSPA(E, k)
```

**Arguments**

E is an array of clustering results.  
 k number of clusters

**Value**

cluster assignments for the consensus class

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**References**

Strehl, A., & Ghosh, J. (2002). Cluster ensembles—a knowledge reuse framework for combining multiple partitions. *Journal of machine learning research*, 3(Dec), 583-617.

**See Also**

Other consensus functions: [LCA\(\)](#), [LCE\(\)](#), [k\\_modes\(\)](#), [majority\\_voting\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
x <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 4, reps = 4, algorithms = c("hc", "diana"),
  progress = FALSE)
CSPA(x, k = 4)
```

---

 dice

---

*Diverse Clustering Ensemble*


---

**Description**

Runs consensus clustering across subsamples, algorithms, and number of clusters (k).

**Usage**

```
dice(
  data,
  nk,
  p.item = 0.8,
  reps = 10,
  algorithms = NULL,
  k.method = NULL,
  nmf.method = c("brunet", "lee"),
  hc.method = "average",
  distance = "euclidean",
```

```

cons.funs = c("kmodes", "majority", "CSPA", "LCE", "LCA"),
sim.mat = c("cts", "srs", "asrs"),
prep.data = c("none", "full", "sampled"),
min.var = 1,
seed = 1,
seed.data = 1,
trim = FALSE,
reweigh = FALSE,
n = 5,
evaluate = TRUE,
plot = FALSE,
ref.cl = NULL,
progress = TRUE,
verbose = TRUE
)

```

## Arguments

<code>data</code>	data matrix with rows as samples and columns as variables
<code>nk</code>	number of clusters (k) requested; can specify a single integer or a range of integers to compute multiple k
<code>p.item</code>	proportion of items to be used in subsampling within an algorithm
<code>reps</code>	number of subsamples
<code>algorithms</code>	vector of clustering algorithms for performing consensus clustering. Must be any number of the following: "nmf", "hc", "diana", "km", "pam", "ap", "sc", "gmm", "block", "som", "cmeans", "hdbscan". A custom clustering algorithm can be used.
<code>k.method</code>	determines the method to choose k when no reference class is given. If <code>ref.cl</code> is not NULL, this is the number of distinct classes in the reference; otherwise the chosen k is determined by the one giving the largest mean PAC across algorithms. Alternatively, specifying an integer will override the best chosen k, and specifying "all" will produce consensus results for all k values ("all" is implicitly used when there is only one k).
<code>nmf.method</code>	specify NMF-based algorithms to run. By default the "brunet" and "lee" algorithms are called. See <a href="#">NMF::nmf()</a> for details.
<code>hc.method</code>	agglomeration method for hierarchical clustering. The the "average" method is used by default. See <a href="#">stats::hclust()</a> for details.
<code>distance</code>	a vector of distance functions. Defaults to "euclidean". Other options are given in <a href="#">stats::dist()</a> . A custom distance function can be used.
<code>cons.funs</code>	consensus functions to use. Current options are "kmodes" (k-modes), "majority" (majority voting), "CSPA" (Cluster-based Similarity Partitioning Algorithm), "LCE" (linkage clustering ensemble), "LCA" (latent class analysis)
<code>sim.mat</code>	similarity matrix; choices are "cts", "srs", "asrs".
<code>prep.data</code>	Prepare the data on the "full" dataset, the "sampled" dataset, or "none" (default).

<code>min.var</code>	minimum variability measure threshold used to filter the feature space for only highly variable features. Only features with a minimum variability measure across all samples greater than <code>min.var</code> will be used. If <code>type = "conventional"</code> , the standard deviation is the measure used, and if <code>type = "robust"</code> , the MAD is the measure used.
<code>seed</code>	random seed for knn imputation reproducibility
<code>seed.data</code>	seed to use to ensure each algorithm operates on the same set of subsamples
<code>trim</code>	logical; if TRUE, algorithms that score low on internal indices will be trimmed out
<code>reweigh</code>	logical; if TRUE, after trimming out poor performing algorithms, each algorithm is reweighed depending on its internal indices.
<code>n</code>	an integer specifying the top n algorithms to keep after trimming off the poor performing ones using Rank Aggregation. If the total number of algorithms is less than n no trimming is done.
<code>evaluate</code>	logical; if TRUE (default), validity indices are returned. Internal validity indices are always computed. If <code>ref.cl</code> is not NULL, then external validity indices will also be computed.
<code>plot</code>	logical; if TRUE, <code>graph_all</code> is called and a summary evaluation heatmap of ranked algorithms vs. internal validity indices is plotted as well.
<code>ref.cl</code>	reference class
<code>progress</code>	logical; should a progress bar be displayed?
<code>verbose</code>	logical; if TRUE, console will print out messages for major tasks in the consensus clustering

## Details

There are three ways to handle the input data before clustering via argument `prep.data`. The default is to use the raw data as-is ("none"). Or, we can enact `prepare_data()` on the full dataset ("full"), or the bootstrap sampled datasets ("sampled").

## Value

A list with the following elements

<code>E</code>	raw clustering ensemble object
<code>Eknn</code>	clustering ensemble object with knn imputation used on <code>E</code>
<code>Ecomp</code>	flattened ensemble object with remaining missing entries imputed by majority voting
<code>clusters</code>	final clustering assignment from the diverse clustering ensemble method
<code>indices</code>	if <code>evaluate = TRUE</code> , shows cluster evaluation indices; otherwise NULL

## Author(s)

Aline Talhouk, Derek Chiu

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
ref.cl <- strsplit(rownames(dat), "_") |>
  purrr::map_chr(2) |>
  factor() |>
  as.integer()
dice.obj <- dice(dat, nk = 4, reps = 5, algorithms = "hc", cons.funs =
  "kmodes", ref.cl = ref.cl, progress = FALSE, verbose = FALSE)
str(dice.obj, max.level = 2)
```

---

external_validity	<i>External validity indices</i>
-------------------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

External validity indices compare a predicted clustering result with a reference class or gold standard.

**Usage**

```
ev_nmi(pred.lab, ref.lab, method = "emp")

ev_confmat(pred.lab, ref.lab)
```

**Arguments**

pred.lab	predicted labels generated by classifier
ref.lab	reference labels for the observations
method	method of computing the entropy. Can be any one of "emp", "mm", "shrink", or "sg".

**Details**

ev\_nmi calculates the normalized mutual information

ev\_confmat calculates a variety of statistics associated with confusion matrices. Accuracy, Cohen's kappa, and Matthews correlation coefficient have direct multiclass definitions, whereas all other metrics use macro-averaging.

**Value**

ev\_nmi returns the normalized mutual information.

ev\_confmat returns a tibble of the following summary statistics using `yardstick::summary.conf_mat()`:

- accuracy: Accuracy
- kap: Cohen's kappa

- sens: Sensitivity
- spec: Specificity
- ppv: Positive predictive value
- npv: Negative predictive value
- mcc: Matthews correlation coefficient
- j\_index: Youden's J statistic
- bal\_accuracy: Balanced accuracy
- detection\_prevalence: Detection prevalence
- precision: alias for ppv
- recall: alias for sens
- f\_meas: F Measure

**Note**

ev\_nmi is adapted from [infotheo::mutinformation\(\)](#)

**Author(s)**

Johnson Liu, Derek Chiu

**References**

Strehl A, Ghosh J. Cluster ensembles: a knowledge reuse framework for combining multiple partitions. J. Mach. Learn. Res. 2002;3:583-617.

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)
E <- matrix(rep(sample(1:4, 1000, replace = TRUE)), nrow = 100, byrow =
              FALSE)
x <- sample(1:4, 100, replace = TRUE)
y <- sample(1:4, 100, replace = TRUE)
ev_nmi(x, y)
ev_confmat(x, y)
```

**Description**

Graph cumulative distribution function (CDF) graphs, relative change in area under CDF curves, heatmaps, and cluster assignment tracking plots.

**Usage**

```
graph_cdf(mat)

graph_delta_area(mat)

graph_heatmap(mat, main = NULL)

graph_tracking(cl)

graph_all(x)
```

**Arguments**

<code>mat</code>	same as <code>x</code> , or a list of consensus matrices computed from <code>x</code> for faster results
<code>main</code>	heatmap title. If <code>NULL</code> (default), the titles will be taken from names in <code>mat</code>
<code>cl</code>	same as <code>x</code> , or a matrix of consensus classes computed from <code>x</code> for faster results
<code>x</code>	an object from <code>consensus_cluster()</code>

**Details**

`graph_cdf` plots the CDF for consensus matrices from different algorithms. `graph_delta_area` calculates the relative change in area under CDF curve between algorithms. `graph_heatmap` generates consensus matrix heatmaps for each algorithm in `x`. `graph_tracking` tracks how cluster assignments change between algorithms. `graph_all` is a wrapper that runs all graphing functions.

**Value**

Various plots from `graph_*{}` functions. All plots are generated using `ggplot`, except for `graph_heatmap`, which uses `NMF::aheatmap()`. Colours used in `graph_heatmap` and `graph_tracking` utilize `RColorBrewer::brewer.pal()` palettes.

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**References**

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4954507/calculate-the-area-under-a-curve>

**Examples**

```
# Consensus clustering for 3 algorithms
library(ggplot2)
set.seed(911)
x <- matrix(rnorm(80), ncol = 10)
CC1 <- consensus_cluster(x, nk = 2:4, reps = 3,
  algorithms = c("hc", "pam", "km"), progress = FALSE)

# Plot CDF
```



```

p <- graph_cdf(CC1)

# Change y label and add colours
p + labs(y = "Probability") + stat_ecdf(aes(colour = k)) +
  scale_color_brewer(palette = "Set2")

# Delta Area
p <- graph_delta_area(CC1)

# Heatmaps with column side colours corresponding to clusters
CC2 <- consensus_cluster(x, nk = 3, reps = 3, algorithms = "hc", progress =
FALSE)
graph_heatmap(CC2)

# Track how cluster assignments change between algorithms
p <- graph_tracking(CC1)

```

hgsc

*Gene expression data for High Grade Serous Carcinoma from TCGA***Description**

There are 489 samples measured on 321 genes. Sample IDs are in the row names and gene names are in the column names. This data set is used for clustering HGSC into subtypes with prognostic significance. The cluster assignments obtained by TCGA are indicated by the last six characters of each row name in hgsc: MES.C1, IMM.C2, DIF.C4, and PRO.C5

**Usage**

hgsc

**Format**

A data frame with 489 rows and 321 columns.

impute\_knn

*K-Nearest Neighbours imputation***Description**

The non-missing cases indicate the training set, and missing cases indicate the test set.

**Usage**

```
impute_knn(x, data, seed = 123456)
```

**Arguments**

x	clustering object
data	data matrix
seed	random seed for knn imputation reproducibility

**Value**

An object with (potentially not all) missing values imputed with K-Nearest Neighbours.

**Note**

We consider 5 nearest neighbours and the minimum vote for definite decision is 3.

**Author(s)**

Aline Talhouk

**See Also**

Other imputation functions: [impute\\_missing\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
x <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 4, reps = 4, algorithms = c("km", "hc",
"diana"), progress = FALSE)
x <- apply(x, 2:4, impute_knn, data = dat, seed = 1)
```

---

impute_missing	<i>Impute missing values</i>
----------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

Impute missing values from bootstrapped subsampling

**Usage**

```
impute_missing(E, data, nk)
```

**Arguments**

E	4D array of clusterings from consensus_cluster. The number of rows is equal to the number of cases to be clustered, number of columns is equal to the clusterings obtained by different resamplings of the data, the third dimension are the different algorithms and the fourth dimension are cluster sizes.
data	data matrix with samples as rows and genes/features as columns
nk	cluster size to extract data for (single value)

**Details**

The default output from `consensus_cluster` will undoubtedly contain NA entries because each replicate chooses a random subset (with replacement) of all samples. Missing values should first be imputed using `impute_knn()`. Not all missing values are guaranteed to be imputed by KNN. See `class::knn()` for details. Thus, any remaining missing values are imputed using majority voting.

**Value**

If flattened matrix consists of more than one repetition, i.e. it isn't a column vector, then the function returns a matrix of clusterings with complete cases imputed using majority voting, and relabelled, for chosen k.

**Author(s)**

Aline Talhouk

**See Also**

Other imputation functions: `impute_knn()`

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
E <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 3:4, reps = 10, algorithms = c("hc", "km",
"sc"), progress = FALSE)
sum(is.na(E))
E_imputed <- impute_missing(E, dat, 4)
sum(is.na(E_imputed))
```

---

k\_modes

*K-modes*


---

**Description**

Combine clustering results using K-modes.

**Usage**

```
k_modes(E, is.relabelled = TRUE, seed = 1)
```

**Arguments**

E	a matrix of clusterings with number of rows equal to the number of cases to be clustered, number of columns equal to the clustering obtained by different resampling of the data, and the third dimension are the different algorithms. Matrix may already be two-dimensional.
is.relabelled	logical; if FALSE the data will be relabelled using the first clustering as the reference.
seed	random seed for reproducibility

**Details**

Combine clustering results generated using different algorithms and different data perturbations by k-modes. This method is the categorical data analog of k-means clustering. Complete cases are needed: i.e. no NAs. If the matrix contains NAs those are imputed by majority voting (after class relabeling).

**Value**

a vector of cluster assignments based on k-modes

**Author(s)**

Aline Talhouk

**References**

Luo, H., Kong, F., & Li, Y. (2006, August). Combining multiple clusterings via k-modes algorithm. In International Conference on Advanced Data Mining and Applications (pp. 308-315). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.

**See Also**

Other consensus functions: [CSPA\(\)](#), [LCA\(\)](#), [LCE\(\)](#), [majority\\_voting\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
cc <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 4, reps = 6, algorithms = "pam", progress =
FALSE)
table(k_modes(cc[, , 1, 1, drop = FALSE], is.relabelled = FALSE))
```

**Description**

Combine clustering results using latent class analysis.

**Usage**

```
LCA(E, is.relabelled = TRUE, seed = 1)
```

**Arguments**

E	a matrix of clusterings with number of rows equal to the number of cases to be clustered, number of columns equal to the clustering obtained by different resampling of the data, and the third dimension are the different algorithms. Matrix may already be two-dimensional.
is.relabelled	logical; if FALSE the data will be relabelled using the first clustering as the reference.
seed	random seed for reproducibility

**Value**

a vector of cluster assignments based on LCA

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**See Also**

Other consensus functions: [CSPA\(\)](#), [LCE\(\)](#), [k\\_modes\(\)](#), [majority\\_voting\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
cc <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 4, reps = 6, algorithms = "pam", progress =
FALSE)
table(LCA(cc[, , 1, 1, drop = FALSE], is.relabelled = FALSE))
```

LCE

*Linkage Clustering Ensemble***Description**

Generate a cluster assignment from a CTS, SRS, or ASRS similarity matrix.

**Usage**

```
LCE(E, k, dc = 0.8, R = 10, sim.mat = c("cts", "srs", "asrs"))
```

**Arguments**

E	is an array of clustering results. An error is thrown if there are missing values. <a href="#">impute_missing()</a> can be used beforehand.
k	requested number of clusters
dc	decay constant for CTS, SRS, or ASRS matrix
R	number of repetitions for SRS matrix
sim.mat	similarity matrix; choices are "cts", "srs", "asrs".

**Value**

a vector containing the cluster assignment from either the CTS, SRS, or ASRS similarity matrices

**Author(s)**

Johnson Liu

**See Also**

Other consensus functions: [CSPA\(\)](#), [LCA\(\)](#), [k\\_modes\(\)](#), [majority\\_voting\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
x <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 4, reps = 4, algorithms = c("km", "hc"),
progress = FALSE)
## Not run:
LCE(E = x, k = 4, sim.mat = "asrs")

## End(Not run)

x <- apply(x, 2:4, impute_knn, data = dat, seed = 1)
x_imputed <- impute_missing(x, dat, nk = 4)
LCE(E = x_imputed, k = 4, sim.mat = "cts")
```

---

majority_voting	<i>Majority voting</i>
-----------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

Combine clustering results using majority voting.

**Usage**

```
majority_voting(E, is.relabelled = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

E	a matrix of clusterings with number of rows equal to the number of cases to be clustered, number of columns equal to the clustering obtained by different resampling of the data, and the third dimension are the different algorithms. Matrix may already be two-dimensional.
is.relabelled	logical; if FALSE the data will be relabelled using the first clustering as the reference.

**Details**

Combine clustering results generated using different algorithms and different data perturbations by majority voting. The class of a sample is the cluster label which was selected most often across algorithms and subsamples.

**Value**

a vector of cluster assignments based on majority voting

**Author(s)**

Aline Talhouk

**See Also**

Other consensus functions: [CSPA\(\)](#), [LCA\(\)](#), [LCE\(\)](#), [k\\_modes\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
cc <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = 4, reps = 6, algorithms = "pam", progress = FALSE)
table(majority_voting(cc[, , 1, 1, drop = FALSE], is.relabelled = FALSE))
```

---

`min_fnorm`*Minimize Frobenius norm for between two matrices*

---

**Description**

Finds a permutation of a matrix such that its Frobenius norm with another matrix is minimized.

**Usage**

```
min_fnorm(A, B = diag(nrow(A)))
```

**Arguments**

A	data matrix we want to permute
B	matrix whose distance with the permuted A we want to minimize. By default, $B \leftarrow \text{diag}(\text{nrow}(A))$ , so the permutation maximizes the trace of A.

**Details**

Finds the permutation P of A such that  $\|PA - B\|$  is minimum in Frobenius norm. Uses the linear-sum assignment problem (LSAP) solver in the package `clue`. The default B is the identity matrix of same dimension, so that the permutation of A maximizes its trace. This procedure is useful for constructing a confusion matrix when we don't know the true class labels of a predicted class and want to compare to a reference class.

**Value**

Permuted matrix such that it is the permutation of A closest to B

**Author(s)**

Ravi Varadhan: <https://stat.ethz.ch/pipermail/r-help/2010-April/236664.html>

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)
A <- matrix(sample(1:25, size = 25, rep = FALSE), 5, 5)
min_fnorm(A)
```



---

PAC

*Proportion of Ambiguous Clustering*

---

### Description

Given a consensus matrix, returns the proportion of ambiguous clusters (PAC). This is a robust way to assess clustering performance.

### Usage

```
PAC(cm, lower = 0, upper = 1)
```

### Arguments

cm	consensus matrix. Should be symmetric and values between 0 and 1.
lower	the lower bound that determines what is ambiguous
upper	the upper bound that determines what is ambiguous

### Details

Since a consensus matrix is symmetric, we only look at its lower (or upper) triangular matrix. The proportion of entries strictly between lower and upper is the PAC. In a perfect clustering, the consensus matrix would consist of only 0s and 1s, and the PAC assessed on the (0, 1) interval would have a perfect score of 0. Using a (0.1, 0.9) interval for defining ambiguity is common as well.

The PAC is not, strictly speaking, an internal validity index. Originally used to choose the optimal number of clusters, here we use it to assess cluster stability. However, PAC is still agnostic any gold standard clustering result so we use it like an internal validity index.

### Value

the PAC is a score used in clustering performance. The lower it is the better, because we want minimal ambiguity amongst the consensus.

### Author(s)

Derek Chiu

### References

Senbabaoglu, Y., Michailidis, G., & Li, J. Z. (2014). Critical limitations of consensus clustering in class discovery. Scientific reports, 4.

### Examples

```
set.seed(1)
x <- replicate(100, rbinom(100, 4, 0.2))
y <- consensus_matrix(x)
PAC(y, lower = 0.05, upper = 0.95)
```

---

pcn	<i>Simulate and select null distributions on empirical gene-gene correlations</i>
-----	---

---

## Description

Using a principal component constructed from the sample space, we simulate null distributions with univariate Normal distributions using `pcn_simulate`. Then a subset of these distributions is chosen using `pcn_select`.

## Usage

```
pcn_simulate(data, n.sim = 50)

pcn_select(data.sim, cl, type = c("rep", "range"), int = 5)
```

## Arguments

<code>data</code>	data matrix with rows as samples, columns as features
<code>n.sim</code>	The number of simulated datasets to simulate
<code>data.sim</code>	an object from <code>pcn_simulate</code>
<code>cl</code>	vector of cluster memberships
<code>type</code>	select either the representative dataset ("rep") or a range of datasets ("range")
<code>int</code>	every <code>int</code> data sets from median-ranked <code>data.sim</code> are taken. Defaults to 5.

## Value

`pcn_simulate` returns a list of length `n.sim`. Each element is a simulated matrix using this "Principal Component Normal" (pcn) procedure.

`pcn_select` returns a list with elements

- `ranks`: When `type = "range"`, ranks of each extracted dataset shown
- `ind`: index of representative simulation
- `dat`: simulation data representation of all in `pcNormal`

## Author(s)

Derek Chiu

## Examples

```
set.seed(9)
A <- matrix(rnorm(300), nrow = 20)
pc.dat <- pcn_simulate(A, n.sim = 50)
cl <- sample(1:4, 20, replace = TRUE)
pc.select <- pcn_select(pc.dat, cl, "rep")
```

---

`prepare_data`*Prepare data for consensus clustering*

---

**Description**

Perform feature selection or dimension reduction to remove noise variables.

**Usage**

```
prepare_data(  
  data,  
  scale = TRUE,  
  type = c("conventional", "robust", "tsne"),  
  min.var = 1  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	data matrix with rows as samples and columns as variables
<code>scale</code>	logical; should the data be centered and scaled?
<code>type</code>	if we use "conventional" measures (default), then the mean and standard deviation are used for centering and scaling, respectively. If "robust" measures are specified, the median and median absolute deviation (MAD) are used. Alternatively, we can apply "tsne" for dimension reduction.
<code>min.var</code>	minimum variability measure threshold used to filter the feature space for only highly variable features. Only features with a minimum variability measure across all samples greater than <code>min.var</code> will be used. If <code>type = "conventional"</code> , the standard deviation is the measure used, and if <code>type = "robust"</code> , the MAD is the measure used.

**Details**

We can apply a basic filtering method of feature selection that removes variables with low signal and (optionally) scales before consensus clustering. Or, we can use t-SNE dimension reduction to transform the data to just two variables. This lower-dimensional embedding allows algorithms such as hierarchical clustering to achieve greater performance.

**Value**

dataset prepared for usage in `consensus_cluster`

**Author(s)**

Derek Chiu

**Examples**

```
set.seed(2)
x <- replicate(10, rnorm(100))
x.prep <- prepare_data(x)
dim(x)
dim(x.prep)
```

---

relabel_class	<i>Relabel classes to a standard</i>
---------------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Relabel clustering categories to match to a standard by minimizing the Frobenius norm between the two labels.

**Usage**

```
relabel_class(pred.cl, ref.cl)
```

**Arguments**

pred.cl	vector of predicted cluster assignments
ref.cl	vector of reference labels to match to

**Value**

A vector of relabeled cluster assignments

**Author(s)**

Aline Talhouk

**Examples**

```
set.seed(2)
pred <- sample(1:4, 100, replace = TRUE)
true <- sample(1:4, 100, replace = TRUE)
relabel_class(pred, true)
```

---

sigclustSignificant Testing of Clustering Results

---

## Description

Uses the SigClust K-Means algorithm to assess significance of clustering results.

## Usage

```
sigclust(x, k, nsim, nrep = 1, labflag = 0, label = 0, icovest = 2)
```

## Arguments

x	data matrix, samples are rows and features are columns
k	cluster size to test against
nsim	number of simulations
nrep	See <a href="#">sigclust::sigclust()</a> for details.
labflag	See <a href="#">sigclust::sigclust()</a> for details.
label	true class label. See <a href="#">sigclust::sigclust()</a> for details.
icovest	type of covariance matrix estimation

## Details

This function is a wrapper for the original [sigclust::sigclust\(\)](#), except that an additional parameter k allows testing against any number of clusters. In addition, the default type of covariance estimation is also different.

## Value

An object of class sigclust. See [sigclust::sigclust\(\)](#) for details.

## Author(s)

Hanwen Huang: <hanwenh@email.unc.edu>; Yufeng Liu: <yfliu@email.unc.edu>; J. S. Marron: <marron@email.unc.edu>

## References

Liu, Yufeng, Hayes, David Neil, Nobel, Andrew and Marron, J. S, 2008, *Statistical Significance of Clustering for High-Dimension, Low-Sample Size Data*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association* **103**(483) 1281–1293.

**Examples**

```

data(hgsc)
dat <- hgsc[1:100, 1:50]
nk <- 4
cc <- consensus_cluster(dat, nk = nk, reps = 5, algorithms = "pam",
progress = FALSE)
cl.mat <- consensus_combine(cc, element = "class")
lab <- cl.mat$`4`[, 1]
set.seed(1)
str(sigclust(x = dat, k = nk, nsim = 50, labflag = 1, label = lab))

```

---

similarity

---

*Similarity Matrices*


---

**Description**

cts computes the connected triple based similarity matrix, srs computes the simrank based similarity matrix, and asrs computes the approximated simrank based similarity matrix.

**Usage**

```
cts(E, dc)
```

```
srs(E, dc, R)
```

```
asrs(E, dc)
```

**Arguments**

E	an N by M matrix of cluster ensembles
dc	decay factor, ranges from 0 to 1 inclusive
R	number of iterations for srs

**Value**

an N by N CTS, SRS, or ASRS matrix

**Author(s)**

Johnson Liu, Derek Chiu

**References**

MATLAB functions cts, srs, asrs in package LinkCluE by Simon Garrett

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)
E <- matrix(rep(sample(1:4, 800, replace = TRUE)), nrow = 100)
CTS <- cts(E = E, dc = 0.8)
SRS <- srs(E = E, dc = 0.8, R = 3)
ASRS <- asrs(E = E, dc = 0.8)
purrr::walk(list(CTS, SRS, ASRS), str)
```

# Index

## \* consensus functions

CSPA, 10  
k\_modes, 19  
LCA, 21  
LCE, 22  
majority\_voting, 23

## \* datasets

hgsc, 17

## \* imputation functions

impute\_knn, 17  
impute\_missing, 18

asrs (similarity), 30

class::knn(), 19  
compactness, 2  
consensus\_cluster, 3  
consensus\_cluster(), 7, 8, 16  
consensus\_combine, 6  
consensus\_evaluate, 7  
consensus\_matrix, 9  
CSPA, 10, 20–23  
cts (similarity), 30

dice, 11

ev\_confmat (external\_validity), 14  
ev\_nmi (external\_validity), 14  
external\_validity, 14

graph\_all (graphs), 15  
graph\_cdf (graphs), 15  
graph\_delta\_area (graphs), 15  
graph\_heatmap (graphs), 15  
graph\_tracking (graphs), 15  
graphs, 15

hgsc, 17

impute\_knn, 17, 19  
impute\_knn(), 19

impute\_missing, 18, 18  
impute\_missing(), 22  
infotheo::mutinformation(), 15

k\_modes, 11, 19, 21–23

LCA, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23  
LCE, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23

majority\_voting, 11, 20–22, 23  
min\_fnorm, 24

NMF::aheatmap(), 16  
NMF::nmf(), 4, 12

PAC, 25  
pcn, 26  
pcn\_select (pcn), 26  
pcn\_simulate (pcn), 26  
prepare\_data, 27  
prepare\_data(), 13

RColorBrewer::brewer.pal(), 16  
relabel\_class, 28

sigclust, 29  
sigclust::sigclust(), 29  
similarity, 30  
srs (similarity), 30  
stats::dist(), 4, 12  
stats::hclust(), 4, 12  
  
yardstick::summary.conf\_mat(), 14