# Package: gconsensus (via r-universe)

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Title Consensus Value Constructor

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Description An implementation of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) generalized consensus estimators used to assign the reference value in a key comparison exercise. This can also be applied to any interlaboratory study. Given a set of different sources, primary laboratories or measurement methods this package provides an evaluation of the variance components according to the selected statistical method for consensus building. It also implements the comparison among different consensus builders and evaluates the participating method or sources against the consensus reference value. Based on a diverse set of references, DerSimonian-Laird (1986) <a href="doi:10.1016/0197-2456(86)90046-2">doi:10.1016/0197-2456(86)90046-2</a>, for a complete list of references look at the reference section in the package documentation.

**Depends** R (>= 3.4), graphics (>= 3.4), stats (>= 3.4), MASS (>= 7.0), utils (>= 3.4), rjags (>= 4-8), coda (>= 0.13)

**License** GPL (>= 3)

**Encoding UTF-8** 

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# **Description**

An implementation of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) generalized consensus estimators used to assign the reference value in a key comparison exercise. This can also be applied to any interlaboratory study. Given a set of different sources, primary laboratories or measurement methods this package provides an evaluation of the variance components according to the selected statistical method for consensus building. It also implements the comparison among different consensus builders and evaluates the participating method or sources against the consensus reference value. Based on a diverse set of references, DerSimonian-Laird (1986) <doi:10.1016/0197-2456(86)90046-2>, for a complete list of references look at the reference section in the package documentation. Partially based on the results published in Control clinical trials (1985). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/0197-2456(86)90046-2">https://doi.org/10.1016/0197-2456(86)90046-2</a>> For a complete list of references see the reference section.

#### **Details**

## The DESCRIPTION file:

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Description: An implementation of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) generalized consensus

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Depends: R (>= 3.4), graphics (>= 3.4), stats (>= 3.4), MASS (>= 7.0), utils (>= 3.4), rjags (>= 4-8), coda (>= 0.1)

License: GPL (>=3)
Encoding: UTF-8
NeedsCompilation: no

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# Author(s)

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## See Also

gconsensus

#### **Examples**

```
ilab <- list(
  data = data.frame(
    participant = c("BAM", "IRMM", "LGC", "NARL", "NIST", "NMIJ", "NRC"),
    code = paste0("p", c(1:7)),
    method = rep(1, 7),
    value = c(10.21, 10.9, 10.94, 10.58, 10.81, 9.62, 10.8),
    unit = rep("\\micro \\kilogram/\\kilogram", 7),
    expandedUnc = c(0.381, 0.250, 0.130, 0.410, 0.445, 0.196, 0.093),
    n = rep(1, 7),
    coverageFactor = rep(2, 7),
    coverageProbability = rep(0.95, 7),

method.type = rep("p", 7),
    included = rep(1, 7)),
symbol = rep(1, 7),</pre>
```

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```
symbol. Fillcolor = rep(1, 7),
 comments = rep("", 7),
 info = list(variable = c("Software", "Institute", "Exercise", "Author", "Date",
      "Measurand", "Units"),
   value = c("consensus", "BIPM", "CCQM-K25", "Michele Schantz & Stephen Wise",
      "12-12-2003", "PCB 105", "\\micro \\kilogram/\\kilogram"))
)
aConsensus <- gconsensus(ilab,
 method = "DL1",
 config = list(
               signif.digits = 2,
      display.order = "location",
      display.orientation = "horizontal",
      display.shownames = TRUE,
      tab.size = 12,
      alpha = 0.05,
               expansion.factor.type = "small.sample",
      tau = mad(ilab$data$value),
               unreliable.uncertainties = FALSE,
               MC_samples = 1e5,
               MC\_seed = 12345,
               MC_use.HKSJ.adjustment = TRUE,
      MC_interval.type = "symmetric",
      MC_use.parallel.computing = FALSE,
         filename = "hb_consensus_model.txt"
)
print(aConsensus)
```

comparison.gconsensus Obtains a set of generalized consensus estimates by different statistical methods for comparison purposes.

# **Description**

Obtains a set of generalized consensus estimates.

# Usage

```
comparison.gconsensus(x, methods, build.model = NULL, get.samples = NULL)
```

## Arguments

consensus object, containing the definition of the participants' information.
 wector of strings, containing the statistical methods to be used in obtaining the consensus values.

doe.gconsensus

build.model function, NULL by default, the current function to build a JAGS measurand

model.

get.samples function, NULL by default, the current function to obtain CORA samples out of

the JAGS model.

#### Details

The default function requires the default parameters (x, ...), the next version will replace the formal parameters with the default signature.

## Value

fit a data.frame object, consensus value estimates by the specified methods

geonsensus the current estimated geonsensus as provided in the x parameter

total.included.participants

a numeric, the current number of included participating sources

#### Author(s)

Hugo Gasca-Aragon

Maintainer: Hugo Gasca-Aragon <a href="mailto:hugo\_gasca\_aragon@hotmail.com">hotmail.com</a>

#### See Also

```
gconsensus, print.comparison, plot.comparison
```

doe.gconsensus	Obtains the unilateral degrees of equivalence out of a generalized con-
	sensus object.

## **Description**

Obtains the unilateral degrees of equivalence from a generalized consensus object.

## Usage

```
doe.gconsensus(x)
```

# **Arguments**

x A generalized consensus object

# Details

The unilateral degrees of equivalence are obtained from the participants data and the estimated generalized consensus value described in the geonsensus value.

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#### Value

A doe object containing the unilateral degrees of equivalence.

fit a data frame with the source code, source lab name, value, expanded uncertainty,

unit, coverage factor, probability coverage and tau.

geonsensus the generalized consensus object the evaluation is based on.

## Author(s)

Hugo Gasca-Aragon

Maintainer: Hugo Gasca-Aragon < hugo\_gasca\_aragon@hotmail.com>

#### See Also

```
gconsensus, print.doe, plot.doe
```

gconsensus

Generalized Consensus Contructor

## **Description**

Compute a set of estimates for the generalized consensus value from a set of sources.

# Usage

```
gconsensus(ilab, method = "mean",
build.model = NULL, get.samples = NULL,
config = list(alpha = 0.05,
    expansion.factor.type = "naive",
    tau = mad(ilab$data$value),
    unreliable.uncertainties = FALSE,
    MC_samples = 1e5,
    MC_burn_in = 1000,
    MC_seed = NA,
    MC_use.HKSJ.adjustment = FALSE,
    filename = "hb_consensus_model.txt"))
```

# Arguments

ilab object, containing the definition of the participating source/experts/laboratories.

method string, the current statistical method for estimating the consensus value. The

list of current valid methods is: mean [15], grand.mean [15], median [15], h15 for Huber estimator [15], MCM.mean for Monte Carlo mean, MCM.median for Monte Carlo median, GD1 for the original Graybill-Deal estimator [1], GD2 for the modified Graybill-Deal estimator as described by Sinha [13], GD3 for the modified Graybill-Deal estimator as described by Zhang [14], GD4 for the

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modified Graybill-Deal estimator as described by Zhang [14], DL1 for original DerSimonian-Laid estimator [2], DL2 for the modified DerSimonian-Laird estimator as described by Horn-Horn-Duncan [3], PM for original Paul-Mandel estimator [5], MPM for the modified Paul-Mandel estimator [6], VRMLE for Vangel-Rukhin MLE [7, 8, 9, 10, 11], BOB for the type B on Bias estimator [4], SE for the Schieller-Eberhardt [12], MCM.LP for linear pool, HB for Hierarchical Bayesian

build.model a function (NULL by default) to build a JAGS model

get.samples a function (NULL by dafault) to obtain the CODA samples based on the JAGS

model

config list, contains the configuration options used in the computational process. The

complete list of options is: alpha for the significance level, default value = 0.05, expansion.factor.type for the type of coverage factor to be used: "naive" which use a coverage factor=2, "large sample" which uses a normal quantile, "small sample" which uses a t quantile, tau initial estimate of between source

uncertainty, by default it takes the mad of the reported values, unreliable.uncertainties an indicator for unreliables uncertainties, if TRUE then adjustment is used [15], MC\_samples the number of cycles used in the simple Monte Carlo simulation, MC\_burn\_in the number of initial cycles to be drop from Monte Carlo simulation. The Bayesian algorithm becomes stationary but in the begining it can be noisy, this is fixed by dropping the initial samples. MC\_seed the seed used to initializing the random number generator in the Monte Carlo simulation, MC\_use.HKSJ.adjustment a flag indicating if small sample adjustments are required [16], filename a string containing the name of the file for commu-

nication with JAGS package.

## **Details**

The consensus estimation will vary with the specified method. Display can be customized by using the options mechanism. Available options are: display.signif.digits an integer representing the number of significant digits to be obtained in the adaptative approach of the Monte Carlo simulation, display.order a string ("name", "code", "location", "dispersion") representing the order to be used for displaying the uncertainty contribution, display.shownames a boolean, if true source names are used otherwise source codes are used, display.tab.size an integer representing the column width used in formating data tables, display.orientation a string ("horizontal", "vertical"), plot orientation. display.expandedUncertainty a boolean, plot standard uncertainties or expanded uncertainties.

## Value

fit a data.frame with the value, expanded uncertainty, unit, expansion factor, prob-

ability coverage and tau, the between effect uncertainty.

method statistical method used to estimate the consensus value.

subset the subset of included values in the consensus value estimation.

ilab the current participants' information.

config the current configuration options provided for the consensus value estimation

process.

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exercise the exercise the consensus belongs to.

measurand the measurand the consensus belongs to.

# Author(s)

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## See Also

doe.gconsensus, print.gconsensus, plot.gconsensus

plot.comparison

Plot a geonsensus comparison object

# **Description**

Shows the confidence intervals associated with the different geonsensus values specified in the comparison.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'comparison'
plot(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

x gconsensus comparison object, containing the estimates for a set of gconsensus value.

... any additional graphical parameter.

#### **Details**

The plot contains the confidence intervals associated with the set of geonsensus values under comparison. Formating options of the plot: display.order a string, this is used to order the data source, valid values are: "location" for sorting based on the repoted means, "dispersion" for sorting based on reported variances, any other value for sorting based on typing order. Default value is "location". display.shownames a logical, if true then the participants names are used to identify the ploted values, otherwise the code value is used instead. Default value is FALSE. display.orientation a string, this is used to build the plot vertically or horizontally, valid values are: "horizontal" otherwise vertical is assumed, default value is "horizontal". display.expandedUncertainty a logical, if true then expanded uncertainty is used for plots, otherwise standard uncertainty is used. Default value is

## Value

```
a plot object
```

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## Author(s)

Hugo Gasca-Aragon

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## See Also

```
comparison.gconsensus, print.comparison, plot
```

plot.doe

Plot a "degrees of equivalence" object

# **Description**

Plots a char showing the confidence interval for the unilateral degrees of equivalence associated to each participating laboratory.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'doe' plot(x, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

x A doe object

... Any additional graphical parameter

# Details

Plot a unilateral degree of equivalence (doe) object. Formating options of the plot: display.order a string, this is used to order the data source, valid values are: "location" for sorting based on the repoted means, "dispersion" for sorting based on reported variances, any other value for sorting based on typing order. Default value is "location". display.shownames a logical, if true then the participants names are used to identify the ploted values, otherwise the code value is used instead. Default value is FALSE. display.orientation a string, this is used to build the plot vertically or horizontally, valid values are: "horizontal" otherwise vertical is assumed, default value is "horizontal". display.expandedUncertainty a logical, if true then expanded uncertainty is used for plots, otherwise standard uncertainty is used. Default value is FALSE.

#### Value

A plot of the doe object using the options displor.order and display.shownames, showing the confidence interval for the unilateral degree of equivalence attached to each participant.

# Author(s)

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## See Also

doe.gconsensus, plot, print.doe

plot.gconsensus

Plot a gconsensus object

## Description

Shows the probability distribution of the estimated geonsensus value.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gconsensus' plot(x, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

x gconsensus object, containing the estimated gconsensus value by the specified

statistical method.

... any additional graphical parameter

#### **Details**

The plot shows the confidence interval for each of the participants' values, the consensus value and its confidence interval, on the right side the probability distribution associated with the consensus value is showed and a normal distribution with the same expected value and variace. Formating options of the plot: display.order a string, this is used to order the data source, valid values are: "location" for sorting based on the repoted means, "dispersion" for sorting based on reported variances, any other value for sorting based on typing order. Default value is "location". display.shownames a logical, if true then the participants names are used to identify the ploted values, otherwise the code value is used instead. Default value is FALSE. display.orientation a string, this is used to build the plot vertically or horizontally, valid values are: "horizontal" otherwise vertical is assumed, default value is "horizontal". display.length.out a numeric, this represents the number of points to build the mixture distribution, default value = 101. display.expandedUncertainty a logical, if true then expanded uncertainty is used for plots, otherwise standard uncertainty is used. Default value is FALSE.

## Value

a plot object.

# Author(s)

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#### See Also

```
gconsensus, print.gconsensus, plot
```

print.doe

print.comparison

Prints a Comparison Object.

# Description

Prints the consensus comparison object. One line for each selected gconsensus method.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'comparison' print(x, ...)
```

# Arguments

- x comparison, object to be described.
- ... any additional parameters.

#### Value

A displayed text containing a summary of the selected geonsensus methods.

# Author(s)

```
Hugo Gasca-Aragon
```

Maintainer: Hugo Gasca-Aragon <a href="mailto:hugo\_gasca\_aragon@hotmail.com">hugo\_gasca\_aragon@hotmail.com</a>

## See Also

```
comparison.gconsensus, plot.comparison, toString.comparison
```

print.doe

Prints a Doe Object.

# **Description**

Prints a doe (unilateral degrees of equivalence) object.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'doe' print(x, ...)
```

# Arguments

x doe, object to be described.

... any additional parameters.

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# Value

A displayed text containg a detailed description of the object.

#### Author(s)

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## See Also

```
gconsensus, doe.gconsensus, toString.doe
```

print.gconsensus

Prints a gconsensus object

# Description

Prints a gconsensus object

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gconsensus' print(x, ...)
```

# Arguments

x a gconsensus object... any additional parameter

# **Details**

option digits is used.

## Value

A displayed text containing a detailed description of the object.

# Author(s)

Hugo Gasca-Aragon

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## See Also

```
gconsensus, plot.gconsensus, toString.gconsensus
```

toString.doe

toString.comparison

Builds a detailed description string of the comparison object.

# **Description**

This function converts a geonsensus comparison object into a string. The returned value contains a verbatim description of the object. This function is used to display the result of comparing several geonsensus values.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'comparison'
toString(x, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

x comparison, object to be described.

... any additional parameters.

## Value

string, it contains a verbatim description of the comparison object.

# Author(s)

Hugo Gasca-Aragon

Maintainer: Hugo Gasca-Aragon <a href="mailto:hugo\_gasca\_aragon@hotmail.com">hotmail.com</a>

# See Also

```
comparison.gconsensus, print.comparison
```

toString.doe

Builds a detailed description string of the doe object.

# Description

This function converts a unilateral degrees of equivalence object into a string. The returned value contains a verbatim description of the object. This function is used to display the result of estimating the unilateral degrees of equivalence.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'doe'
toString(x, ...)
```

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# **Arguments**

x doe, object to be described.... any additional parameters.

#### Value

string, it contains a verbatim description of the unilateral degrees of equivalence object.

# Author(s)

```
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```

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#### See Also

```
doe.gconsensus, print.doe
```

toString.gconsensus

Builds a detailed description string of the geonsenus object.

# Description

This function converts a geonsensus object into a string. The returned value contains a verbatim description of the object. This function is used to display the result of estimating the geonsensus value.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gconsensus'
toString(x, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

x gconsensus, object to be described.

... any additional parameters.

## Value

string, it contains a verbatim description of the geonsensus object.

## Author(s)

Hugo Gasca-Aragon

Maintainer: Hugo Gasca-Aragon <a href="mailto:hugo\_gasca\_aragon@hotmail.com">hotmail.com</a>

#### See Also

```
gconsensus, print.gconsensus
```

16 vr.mle

vr.mle	Finds the maximum likelihood estimate solution described by Vangel-
	Rukhin for the one way random effects model.

# Description

This function finds the mle solution to the one way random effects model.

# Usage

```
vr.mle(xi, si2, ni, labi=c(1:length(xi)),
  max.iter=1000, tol=.Machine$double.eps^0.5,
  init.mu=mean(xi), init.sigma2=var(xi),
  trace=FALSE, alpha=0.05)
```

# Arguments

xi	numeric vector, represents the mean values.
si2	numeric vector, represents the variances associated with a single measurement.
ni	integer vector, represents the number of observations associated with the reported mean values.
labi	vector, containing the associated labels of the participanting laboratories, source of the reported values (mean, variances, number of observations)
max.iter	integer, maximum number of iterations allowed.
tol	numeric, relative tolerance.
init.mu	numeric, initial consensus value.
init.sigma2	numeric, initial between variance.
trace	logic, indicates if traceable information must be shown during the execution.
alpha	numeric, significance level.

# Value

mu	estimated consensus value by the method of maximum likelihood
u.mu	standard uncertainty estimation attached to the consensus value
kp	estimated expansion factor for the specified configuration options

# Author(s)

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See also gconsensus

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