

# Package ‘volesti’

September 4, 2018

**Type** Package

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Title** Volume approximation using VolEsti and CV algorithms.

**Description** Package provides C++ code and a Rcpp interface for volume approximation. The main function takes as input a H-polytope or a V-polytope and apply VolEsti or CV algorithm.

**Maintainer** Fisikopoulos Vissarion <vissarion.fysikopoulos@oracle.com>, Chalkis Apostolos <tolis.chal@gmail.com>

**Version** 1.0

**Date** 2018-08-08

**BugReports** [https://github.com/vissarion/volume\\_approximation/issues](https://github.com/vissarion/volume_approximation/issues)

**SystemRequirements** C++11

**Depends** Rcpp (>= 0.12.17), RcppEigen, lpSolveAPI, BH

**Imports** Rcpp (>= 0.12.17)

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppEigen, BH

**RoxygenNote** 6.0.1

**Author** Fisikopoulos Vissarion [cph, cre, aut],  
Chalkis Apostolos [cph, ctb, aut] (Contribution and development, as  
part of Google Summer of Code 2018 program)

## R topics documented:

CheBall . . . . .	2
demoRounding . . . . .	3
demoSampling . . . . .	3
demoVolume . . . . .	4
ExactZonoVol . . . . .	5
GenCross . . . . .	5
GenCube . . . . .	6
GenProdSimplex . . . . .	7
GenSimplex . . . . .	7

GenSkinnyCube . . . . .	8
GenZonotope . . . . .	9
ineToMatrix . . . . .	9
modifyMat . . . . .	10
rand_rotate . . . . .	10
round_polytope . . . . .	11
sample_points . . . . .	13
volume . . . . .	14
<b>Index</b>	<b>17</b>

---

CheBall	<i>Compute the Chebychev ball of a H-polytope.</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

For a H-polytope described by a  $m \times d$  matrix  $A$  and a  $d$ -dimensional vector  $b$ , s.t.:  $Ax \leq b$ , this function computes the largest inscribed ball of that polytope by solving the corresponding linear program.

**Usage**

CheBall(A, b)

**Arguments**

- A                    the matrix of the H-polytope.
- b                    The  $d$ -dimensional vector  $b$  that contains the constants of the facets.

**Value**

A  $d+1$ -dimensional vector that contains the chebychev ball. The first  $d$  coordinates corresponds to the center and the last one to the radius of the chebychev ball.

**Examples**

```
#compute the Chebychev ball of a 2d unit simplex
A = matrix(c(-1,0,0,-1,1,1), ncol=2, nrow=3, byrow=TRUE)
b = c(0,0,1)
ball_vec = CheBall(A,b)
```

---

demoRounding	<i>Run rounding and rotating tests.</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

Choose volume algorithm between CoolingGaussian and SequenceOfBalls and run rounding tests for some skinny cubes. In the first test we apply a random rotation as well before the rounding. For we run 10 experiments for SequenceOfBalls and 20 for CoolingGaussian.

**Usage**

```
demoRounding(algo)
```

**Arguments**

CG	The string "CG" to choose CoolingGaussian algorithm
SOB	The string "SOB" to choose SequenceOfBalls algorithm

**Value**

Print the computed volume and print a failure message if the error is larger than the expected.

**Examples**

```
#run tests for volesti algorithm
demoRounding("volesti")

#run tests for CV algorithm
demoRounding("CV")
```

---

demoSampling	<i>Run some sampling experiments.</i>
--------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Use uniform or spherical gaussian to sample from some convex H-polytopes, i.e. cubes, simplices, skinny cubes, cross polytopes, birkhoff polytopes. We use the default values, i.e. *walklength* =  $\lfloor 10 + \text{dimension}/10 \rfloor$ ,  $N = 100$ , Cordinate Directions HnR, *variance* = 1.

**Usage**

```
demoSampling(distribution)
```

**Arguments**

uniform	The string "uniform" to choose uniform as the target distribution.
gaussian	The string "gaussian" to choose spherical gaussian as the target distribution.

**Value**

Print the computed volumes and the error. If the test fails a message is printed.

**Examples**

```
#choose uniform distribution
demoSampling("uniform")
#choose spherical gaussian distribution
demoSampling("gaussian")
```

---

demoVolume

---

*Run some volume approximation experiments.*


---

**Description**

Run SequenceOfBalls or CoolingGaussian algorithm to approximate the volume of some cubes, simplices, skinny\_cubes, cross polytopes, birkhoff polytopes. We run 10 experiments for SequenceOfBalls and 20 for CoolingGaussian, for each polytope and we consider the mean as the computed volume. We demand  $error = 0.1$ . For all the other parameters use the default values for both algorithms.

**Usage**

```
demoVolume(algo)
```

**Arguments**

CG	The string "CG" to choose CoolingGaussian algorithm.
SOB	The string "SOB" to choose SequenceOfBalls algorithm.

**Value**

Print the computed volumes and the error. If the test fails a message is printed.

**Examples**

```
#test SequenceOfBalls
demoVolume("SOB")
#test CoolingGaussian
demoVolume("CG")
```

---

ExactZonoVol	<i>Compute the exact volume of a zonotope.</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

Given the  $d \times m$  matrix that contains the  $m$  segments that define the  $d$ -dimensional zonotope, this function computes the sum of the determinants of all the  $d \times d$  submatrices.

**Usage**

```
ExactZonoVol(Matrix)
```

**Arguments**

Matrix	The $d \times m$ matrix that contains the segments that define the zonotope.
--------	--

**Value**

The exact volume of the zonotope

**Examples**

```
# compute the exact volume of a 5-dimensional zonotope defined as the Minkowski sum of 10 segments
zonotope = GenZonotope(5, 10)
vol = ExactZonoVol(zonotope)
```

---

GenCross	<i>Generator function for cross polytopes.</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

This function can be used to generate a  $d$ -dimensional cross polytope in H or V representation.

**Usage**

```
GenCross(DimGen, repr)
```

**Arguments**

Dimension	The dimension of the cross polytope.
representation	A string to declare the representation. It has to be H for H-representation or V for V-representation.

**Value**

A cross polytope in H or V-representation. For an H polytope the return value is a list with two elements: the "matrix" containing a  $2^d \times d$  matrix A and the "vector" containing a  $2^d$ -dimensional vector b, s.t.  $Ax \leq b$ . When the V-representation is chosen the return value is a  $2d \times d$  matrix that contains the vertices row-wise.

**Examples**

```
# generate a 10-dimensional cross polytope in H-representation
PolyList = GenCross(10, 'H')

# generate a 15-dimension cross polytope in V-representation
PolyList = GenCross(15, 'V')
```

---

GenCube

---

*Generator function for hypercubes.*


---

**Description**

This function can be used to generate a d-dimensional Hypercube  $[-1, 1]^d$  in H or V representation.

**Usage**

```
GenCube(DimGen, repr)
```

**Arguments**

Dimension	The dimension of the hypercube
representation	A string to declare the representation. It has to be H for H-representation or V for V-representation.

**Value**

A hypercube in H or V-representation. For an H polytope the return value is a list with two elements: the "matrix" containing a  $2d \times d$  matrix A and the "vector" containing a  $2d$ -dimensional vector b, s.t.  $Ax \leq b$ . When the V-representation is chosen the return value is a  $2^d \times d$  matrix that contains the vertices row-wise.

**Examples**

```
# generate a 10-dimensional hypercube in H-representation
PolyList = GenCube(10, 'H')

# generate a 15-dimension hypercube in V-representation
PolyList = GenCube(15, 'V')
```

---

GenProdSimplex	<i>Generator function for product of simplices.</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

This function can be used to generate a  $2d$ -dimensional polytope that is defined as the product of two  $d$ -dimensional unit simplices.

**Usage**

```
GenProdSimplex(DimGen, repr = "H")
```

**Arguments**

Dimension	The dimension of the simplex.
-----------	-------------------------------

**Value**

A polytope defined as the product of two unit simplices in H-representation. The return value is a list with two elements: the "matrix" containing a  $2d + 1 \times 2d$  matrix  $A$  and the "vector" containing a  $2d+1$ -dimensional vector  $b$ , s.t.  $Ax \leq b$ .

**Examples**

```
# generate a product of two 5-dimensional simplices.
PolyList = GenProdSimplex(5)
```

---

GenSimplex	<i>Generator function for simplices.</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

This function can be used to generate a  $d$ -dimensional unit simplex in H or V representation.

**Usage**

```
GenSimplex(DimGen, repr)
```

**Arguments**

Dimension	The dimension of the simplex.
representation	A string to declare the representation. It has to be H for H-representation or V for V-representation.

**Value**

A simplex in H or V-representation. For an H polytope the return value is a list with two elements: the "matrix" containing a  $d + 1 \times d$  matrix A and the "vector" containing a  $d+1$ -dimensional vector b, s.t.  $Ax \leq b$ . When the V-representation is chosen the return value is a  $d + 1 \times d$  matrix that contains the vertices row-wise.

**Examples**

```
# generate a 10-dimensional simplex in H-representation
PolyList = GenSimplex(10, 'H')

# generate a 20-dimensional simplex in V-representation
PolyList = GenSimplex(20, 'V')
```

---

GenSkinnyCube

---

*Generator function for skinny hypercubes.*


---

**Description**

This function can be used to generate a d-dimensional skinny hypercube.

**Usage**

```
GenSkinnyCube(DimGen, repr = "H")
```

**Arguments**

Dimension      The dimension of the skinny hypercube.

**Value**

A d-dimensional skinny hypercube in H-representation. The return value is a list with two elements: the "matrix" containing a  $2d \times d$  matrix A and the "vector" containing a  $2d$ -dimensional vector b, s.t.  $Ax \leq b$ .

**Examples**

```
# generate a 10-dimensional skinny hypercube.
PolyList = GenSkinnyCube(10)
```



---

GenZonotope	<i>Generator function for zonotopes.</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

This function can be used to generate a  $d$ -dimensional zonotope described by the Minkowski sum of  $m$  segments. We consider the  $e_1, \dots, e_d$  generators and  $m$ - $d$  random generators. Then we shift the zonotope in order to contain the origin as the center of symmetry. It might needs rounding before the volume computation.

**Usage**

```
GenZonotope(DimGen, NumGen)
```

**Arguments**

NumGen	The number of segments that generate the zonotope.
Dimension	The dimension of the cross polytope.

**Value**

A  $m \times d$  matrix that contains the  $m$   $d$ -dimensional segments.

**Examples**

```
# generate a 10-dimensional zonotope defined by the Minkowski sum of 20 segments
zonotope = GenZonotope(10, 20)
```

---

ineToMatrix	<i>function to get a ine file and returns a numerical matrix A.</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

This function takes an ine file as a string (using `read.csv()`) and returns a numerical matrix  $A$  in ine format for function `volume` (see *volume* function examples).

**Usage**

```
ineToMatrix(P)
```

**Arguments**

P	It is in format, <code>read.csv('path/to/file.ine')</code> . The ine file describes a H-polytope.
---	---

**Value**

The numerical matrix in ine format.

**Examples**

```
#give the path to cube40.ine
A = ineToMatrix(read.csv('path/to/data/cube40.ine'))
```

---

modifyMat	<i>Takes a numerical matrix in ine format and returns the matrix A and the vector b.</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

This function can be used to extract from a numerical matrix in ine format (see example), that describes a H-polytope, the  $m \times d$  matrix A and the d-dimensional vector b, s.t.:  $Ax \leq b$ .

**Usage**

```
modifyMat(A)
```

**Arguments**

A                      The numerical matrix in ine format (see example) of the H-polytope.

**Value**

A list that contains elements "matrix" and "vector", i.e. the numerical  $m \times d$  matrix A and the numerical d-dimensional vector b, defining H-polytope P, s.t.:  $Ax \leq b$ . For V polytopes the element "vector" is useless in practice.

**Examples**

```
# a 2d unit simplex in H-representation using numerical matrix in ine format
A = matrix(c(3,3,0,0,-1,0,0,0,-1,1,1,1), ncol=3, nrow=4, byrow=TRUE)
list_of_matrix_and_vector = modifyMat(A)
```

---

rand_rotate	<i>Apply a random rotation to a convex H or V-polytope.</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

Given a convex H or V polytope as input and then a random rotation is applied to the polytope.

**Usage**

```
rand_rotate(Inputs)
```

**Arguments**

<code>list("argument"=value)</code>	A list that includes elements that describe the convex polytope given as input.
<code>path</code>	The path to an ine or ext file that describes the H or V polytope respectively. If path is given then "matrix" and "vector" inputs are not needed.
<code>matrix</code>	The matrix of the H polytope or the matrix that contains all the vertices of a V polytope row-wise. If the matrix is in ine file, for H-polytopes only (see examples), then the "vector" input is not needed.
<code>vector</code>	Only for H-polytopes. The d-dimensional vector b that contains the constants of the facets.
<code>Vpoly</code>	A boolean parameter, has to be true when a V-polytope is given as input. Default value is false.
<code>verbose</code>	Optional. A boolean parameter for printing. Default is false.

**Value**

A H or V-polytope which is a random rotation of the polytope that is given as an input. The output for a H-polytope is a list that contains elements "matrix" and "vector". For a V-polytope the output is a  $k \times d$  matrix that contains the  $k$  vertices of the V polytope row-wise.

**Examples**

```
#rotate a H-polytope (2d unit simplex)
A = matrix(c(-1,0,0,-1,1,1), ncol=2, nrow=3, byrow=TRUE)
b = c(0,0,1)
listHpoly = rand_rotate(list("matrix"=A, "vector"=b))

#rotate a V-polytope (3d cube)
V = matrix(c(-1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,-1,1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,1,-1,1,1,1,1,-1,-1), ncol=3, nrow=8, byrow=TRUE)
matVpoly = rand_rotate(list("matrix"=V, "Vpoly"=TRUE))
```

---

round_polytope	<i>Apply rounding to a convex H or V-polytope.</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

Given a convex H or V polytope as input this function computes a rounding based on minimum volume enclosing ellipsoid to a pointset.

**Usage**

```
round_polytope(Inputs)
```

**Arguments**

<code>list("argument"=value)</code>	A list that includes parameters for the rounding.
<code>path</code>	The path to an ine or ext file that describes the H or V polytope respectively. If path is given then "matrix" and "vector" inputs are not needed.
<code>matrix</code>	The matrix of the H polytope or the matrix that contains all the vertices of a V polytope row-wise. If the matrix is in ine file, for H-polytopes only (see examples), then the "vector" input is not needed.
<code>vector</code>	Only for H-polytopes. The d-dimensional vector b that contains the constants of the facets.
<code>Vpoly</code>	A boolean parameter, has to be true when a V-polytope is given as input. Default value is false.
<code>walk_length</code>	Optional. The number of the steps for the random walk, default is $\lfloor 10 + d/10 \rfloor$ .
<code>ball_walk</code>	Optional. Boolean parameter to use ball walk, only for CV algorithm. Default value is false.
<code>delta</code>	Optional. The radius for the ball walk.
<code>coordinate</code>	Optional. A boolean parameter for the hit-and-run. True for Coordinate Directions HnR, false for Random Directions HnR. Default value is true.
<code>verbose</code>	Optional. A boolean parameter for printing. Default is false.

**Value**

For both H and V-polytopes is a list that contains elements to describe the rounded polytope, i.e. "matrix" and "vector" for H-polytopes and just "matrix" for V-polytopes, containing the vertices row-wise. For both representations the list contains elements "round\_value" which is the determinant of the square matrix of the linear transformation and "minmaxRatio" which is the ratio between the minimum and the maximum axe of the computed ellipsoid, for the rounded body.

**Examples**

```
#rotate a H-polytope (2d unit simplex)
A = matrix(c(-1,0,0,-1,1,1), ncol=2, nrow=3, byrow=TRUE)
b = c(0,0,1)
listHpoly = round_polytope(list("matrix"=A, "vector"=b))

#rotate a V-polytope (3d cube) using Random Directions HnR
V = matrix(c(-1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,-1,1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,1,-1,1,-1,1,1,1,-1,-1), ncol=3, nrow=8, byrow=TRUE)
matVpoly = round_polytope(list("matrix"=V, "Vpoly"=TRUE, "coordinate"=FALSE))
```

---

sample_points	<i>Sample points from a convex Polytope</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

Sample  $N$  points from a H or a V-polytope with uniform or spherical gaussian target distribution.

**Usage**

```
sample_points(Inputs)
```

**Arguments**

list("argument"=value)	A list that includes parameters for the chosen target distribution and the random walk algorithm.
path	The path to an ine or ext file that describes the H or V polytope respectively. If path is given then "matrix" and "vector" inputs are not needed.
matrix	The matrix $A$ of a H-polytope or the matrix $V$ that contains all the vertices of a V polytope row-wise. If it is in ine format, only for H-polytopes, then the input "vector" is not needed.
vector	Only for H-polytopes. The $d$ -dimensional vector $b$ that contains the constants of the facets.
walk_length	Optional. The number of the steps for the random walk, default is $\lfloor 10 + d/10 \rfloor$ .
internal_point	Optional. A $d$ -dimensional vector that contains an internal point of the polytope.
gaussian	Optional. A boolean parameter to sample with gaussian target distribution. Default value is false.
variance	Optional. The variance for the spherical gaussian. Default value is 1.
N	The number of points that the function is going to sample from the convex polytope. Default value is 100.
ball_walk	Optional. Boolean parameter to use ball walk for the sampling. Default value is false.
delta	Optional. The radius for the ball walk.
verbose	Optional. A boolean parameter for printing. Default is false.
Vpoly	A boolean parameter, has to be true when a V-polytope is given as input. Default value is false.
coordinate	Optional. A boolean parameter for the hit-and-run. True for Coordinate Directions HnR, false for Random Directions HnR. Default value is true.

**Value**

A  $d \times N$  matrix that contains, column-wise, the sampled points from the convex polytope.

## Examples

```
#uniform distribution from a 3d cube described by a set of vertices
V = matrix(c(-1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,-1,1,1,-1,-1,1,1,-1,1,-1,1,1,1,-1,-1), ncol=3, nrow=8, byrow=TRUE)
points = sample_points(list("matrix"=V, "Vpoly"=TRUE, "N"=1000))

#gaussian distribution from a 2d unit simplex in H-representation with variance = 2
A = matrix(c(-1,0,0,-1,1,1), ncol=2, nrow=3, byrow=TRUE)
b = c(0,0,1)
points = sample_points(list("matrix"=A, "vector"=b, "gaussian"=TRUE, "variance"=2))
```

---

volume	<i>The main R function for volume approximation of a convex H or V Polytope</i>
--------	---

---

## Description

For the volume approximation can be used two algorithms. Either volesti or CV. A H-polytope with  $m$  facets is described by a  $m \times d$  matrix  $A$  and a  $d$ -dimensional vector  $b$ , s.t.:  $Ax \leq b$ . A V-polytope is described as a set of  $d$ -dimensional points.

## Usage

```
volume(Inputs)
```

## Arguments

list("argument"=value)	A list that includes parameters for the chosen algorithm.
path	The path to an ine or ext file that describes the H or V polytope respectively. If path is given then "matrix" and "vector" inputs are not needed.
matrix	The matrix of the H polytope or the matrix that contains all the vertices or the segments of a V-polytope or a zonotope respectively row-wise. If the matrix is in ine file, for H-polytopes only (see examples), then the "vector" input is not needed.
vector	Only for H-polytopes. The $d$ -dimensional vector $b$ that contains the constants of the facets.
walk_length	Optional. The number of the steps for the random walk, default is $\lfloor 10 + d/10 \rfloor$ .
error	Optional. Declare the goal for the approximation error. Default is 1 for volesti and 0.2 for CV.
Chebychev	Optional. A $d+1$ vector that contains the chebychev center. The first $d$ coordinates corresponds to the center and the last one to the radius of the chebychev ball.
CV	Optional. A boolean parameter to use CV algorithm. Default value is false.
win_len	Optional. The size of the window for the ratios' approximation in CV algorithm. Default value is $4 \text{ dimension}^2 + 500$ .

C	Optional. a constant for the lower bound of $variance/mean^2$ in schedule annealing.
N	optional. The number of points we sample in each step of schedule annealing in CV algorithm. Default value is $500C + dimension^2/2$ .
ratio	Optional. parameter of schedule annealing, larger ratio means larger steps in schedule annealing. Default value is $1 - 1/dimension$ .
frac	Optional. the fraction of the total error to spend in the first gaussian. Default value is 0.1.
ball_walk	Optional. Boolean parameter to use ball walk, only for CV algorithm. Default value is false.
delta	Optional. The radius for the ball walk.
verbose	Optional. A boolean parameter for printing. Default is false.
Vpoly	A boolean parameter, has to be true when a V-polytope is given as input. Default value is false.
Zonotope	A boolean parameter, has to be true when a zonotope is given as input. Default value is false.
coordinate	Optional. A boolean parameter for the hit-and-run. True for Coordinate Directions HnR, false for Random Directions HnR. Default value is true.
rounding	Optional. A boolean parameter to activate the rounding option. Default value is false.

## Value

The approximation of the volume of a convex H or V polytope.

## References

- I.Z.Emiris and V. Fisikopoulos, "Practical polytope volume approximation," ACM Trans. Math. Soft., 2014.,*
- B. Cousins and S. Vempala, "A practical volume algorithm," Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg and The Mathematical Programming Society, 2015.*

## Examples

```
# calling volesti algorithm for a H-polytope (2d unit simplex)
A = matrix(c(-1,0,0,-1,1,1), ncol=2, nrow=3, byrow=TRUE)
b = c(0,0,1)
vol = volume(list("matrix"=A, "vector"=b))

# calling CV algorithm for a V-polytope (3d cube)
V = matrix(c(-1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,-1,1,1,-1,-1,-1,1,1,-1,1,1,1,1,-1,-1), ncol=3, nrow=8, byrow=TRUE)
vol = volume(list("matrix"=V, "CV"=TRUE, "Vpoly"=TRUE))

# a 2d unit simplex in H-representation using ine format matrix, calling volesti algorithm
A = matrix(c(3,3,0,0,-1,0,0,0,-1,1,1,1), ncol=3, nrow=4, byrow=TRUE)
vol = volume(list("matrix"=A))
```

```
# calling Gaussian-Cooling algorithm for a 5-dimensional zonotope defined as the Minkowski sum of 10 segments
zonotope = GenZonotope(5, 10)
vol = volume(list("matrix"=zonotope, "Zonotope"=TRUE, "rounding"=TRUE, "CV"=TRUE))
```



# Index

CheBall, [2](#)

demoRounding, [3](#)

demoSampling, [3](#)

demoVolume, [4](#)

ExactZonoVol, [5](#)

GenCross, [5](#)

GenCube, [6](#)

GenProdSimplex, [7](#)

GenSimplex, [7](#)

GenSkinnyCube, [8](#)

GenZonotope, [9](#)

ineToMatrix, [9](#)

modifyMat, [10](#)

rand\_rotate, [10](#)

round\_polytope, [11](#)

sample\_points, [13](#)

volume, [14](#)