

## tcplfit2-vignette

```
library(tcplfit2)
```

### Getting started with tcplfit2

The package *tcplfit2* contains the core concentration-response functionality of the package *tcpl* (The ToxCast Pipeline) built to process all of the ToxCast high-throughput screen (HTS) data at the US EPA. Much of the rest of the code in *tcpl* is used to do data processing, normalization, and database storage. We wanted to reuse the core concentration-response code for other projects, and add extensions to it, which was the origin of the current package *tcplfit2*. The main set of extensions was to include all of the concentration-response models that are contained in the program BMDExpress. These include exposntail and power functions in addition to the original Hill, gain-loss and constant models. Additionally, we wanted to include BMD (Benchmark Dose Modeling) outputs, which is simply defining a Benchmark Response (BMR) level and setting the BMD to the concentration where the curve crosses the BMR level. One final addition was to let the hitcall value be a continuous number ranging from 0 to 1. This vignette describes the basic functionality of this package with two simple examples.

### Example 1 - Running a single concentration-response calculation

All calculations use the function `concRespCore` which has several key inputs. The first set are put into a named list called 'row':

- `conc` - a vector of concentrations (not log concentrations)
- `resp` - a vector of responses, of the same length as `conc`. Note that replicates are allowed, i.e. there can be multiple pairs of `conc` and `resp` with the same concentration value.
- `cutoff` - this is the value that the response must exceed before a curve can be called a hit. For ToxCast, this is usually some multiple (typically 3) of the median absolute deviation (BMAD) around baseline for the lowest two concentrations. The user is free to make other choices
- `bmed` - this is the median of the baseline, and will usually be set to zero. If not, the entire response series will be shifted by this amount.
- `onesd` - This is one standard deviation of the noise around the baseline. The BMR value = `onesd*1.349`.

The list `row` can also have other optional elements which will be included in the output. These can be, for instance, the name of the chemical (or other identifiers) or the name of the assay being modeled. Two other parameters might be used. The first is a boolean `conthits`. If `TRUE` (the default, and recommended usage), the hitcall returned will be a continuous value between 0 and 1. The other is `do.plot`. If this is set to `TRUE` (default is

FALSE), a plot of the curve will be generated. The user can also select only a subset of the models to be run. The example below has all of the possible ones included. the model `cnst` always needs to be included. For some applications, we exclude the `gnls` model.

To run a simple example, use the following code ...

```
conc <- list(.03,.1,.3,1,3,10,30,100)
resp <- list(0,.2,.1,.4,.7,.9,.6, 1.2)
row <- list(conc = conc, resp = resp, bmed = 0, cutoff = 1, onesd = .5)
res <- concRespCore(row, fitmodels = c("cnst", "hill", "gnls", "poly1",
"poly2", "pow", "exp2", "exp3",
                                     "exp4", "exp5"), conthits = T,
do.plot=T)
res$summary
```

The output of this run will be a list with two elements. The first (`summary`) is a data frame with one row, summarizing the results for the winning model. The second (`all.models`) is a list giving detailed results for all of the models that were run.

## Example 2: Running a series of concentration-response models for a single assay

The input data for this example is taken from one of the Tox21 HTS assays, for estrogen receptor (ER) agonist activity. The data is from the `mc3` table in the database `invitrodb`, which is the backend for *tcpl*. This example will run 6 chemicals out of the 100 that are included in the data set, and will create plots for these. The plotting routine `concRespPlot` is somewhat generic, and we anticipate that users will make their own version of this. To run this example, use the following code ...

```
# read in the data
file <- "data/mc3.RData"
load(file=file)
print(dim(mc3))

# set up a 3 x 2 grid for the plots
par(mfrow=c(3,2), mar=c(4,4,2,2))

# determine the background variation
temp <- mc3[mc3$logc <= -2, "resp"]
bmad <- mad(temp)
onesd <- sd(temp)
cutoff <- 3*bmad

# select six samples. Note that there may be more than one sample processed
for a given chemical
spid.list <- unique(mc3$spid)
spid.list <- spid.list[1:6]

for(spid in spid.list) {
```

```

# select the data for just this sample
temp <- mc3[is.element(mc3$spid,spid),]

# The data file has stored concentration in log10 form, so fix that
conc <- 10**temp$logc
resp <- temp$resp

# pull out all of the chemical identifiers and the name of the assay
dtxsid <- temp[1,"dtxsid"]
casrn <- temp[1,"casrn"]
name <- temp[1,"name"]
assay <- temp[1,"assay"]

# create the row object
row <- list(conc = conc, resp = resp, bmed = 0, cutoff = cutoff, onesd =
onesd, assay=assay,dtxsid=dtxsid,casrn=casrn,name=name)

# run the concentration-response modeling for a single sample
res <- concRespCore(row,fitmodels = c("cnst", "hill", "gnls", "poly1",
"poly2", "pow", "exp2", "exp3",
                                "exp4", "exp5"),conthits = T, aicc
= F,bidirectional=F)

# plot the results
concRespPlot(res$summary,ymin=-10,ymax=100)
}

```

One would typically save the summary rows in a data frame and export these for further analysis. You could remove the plotting function from the current loop and have a loop that read from the overall results data frame and only plot selected results (e.g. those with significant responses).