

# Package ‘TreeBH’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Error Control for Tree-Structured Hypotheses

**Version** 1.0

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**Description** This package implements a multiple testing procedure which addresses the challenge of controlling error rates at multiple levels of resolution. We frame this problem as the selection of hypotheses which are organized in a tree structure. The procedure controls relevant error rates (in particular, the selective FDR in each level of the tree) given certain assumptions on the dependence among the hypotheses.

**Depends** qvalue ( $\geq 2.0.0$ )

**License** LGPL

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TreeBH-package

*Error Control for Tree-Structured Hypotheses*

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## Description

This package implements a multiple testing procedure which addresses the challenge of controlling error rates at multiple levels of resolution. We frame this problem as the selection of hypotheses which are organized in a tree structure. The procedure controls relevant error rates (in particular, the selective FDR in each level of the tree) given certain assumptions on the dependence among the hypotheses. For code designed specifically for error control in the context of single and multi-tissue eQTL analysis, see the [TreeQTL](#) package.

## Details

Package: TreeBH  
 Type: Package  
 Version: 1.0  
 Date: 2013-03-02  
 License: LGPL

## Author(s)

Christine B. Peterson

Maintainer: Christine B. Peterson <cbpeterson@gmail.com>

## References

Marina Bogomolov\*, Christine B. Peterson\*, Yoav Benjamini, and Chiara Sabatti (2021). **Hypotheses on a tree: new error rates and testing strategies**. *Biometrika*. 108(3): 575-590. \*Authors contributed equally.

## Examples

```
# This example follows the simulation set-up in Section 5.2 of Bogomolov et al. (2021)
# [https://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/asaa086] and Section 6.2 of Barber and Ramdas (2017)
# [http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/rssb.12218]. Specifically, there are a total of 100 x 100
# hypotheses, with the non-null hypotheses (true signals) arranged into 2 blocks of size
# 15 x 15 with 15 additional non-null hypotheses along the diagonal.

# Set up matrix with 0 for true null hypotheses and 1 for non-nulls
truth <- matrix(0, nrow = 100, ncol = 100)
truth[1:15, 1:15] <- 1
truth[16:30, 16:30] <- 1
for (i in 31:45) {
  truth[i, i] <- 1
}

# Generate p-values following known structure
mu <- truth * 3
X <- mu + matrix(rnorm(100 * 100), nrow = 100, ncol = 100)
pval_table <- 1 - pnorm(X)

# Define a three-level hierarchy, with hypotheses grouped
# 1. By row
# 2. In blocks of size 15 (with a final block of size 10) within each row
# 3. Individually within each block
level1_grouping <- as.vector(matrix(rep(1:100, 100), ncol = 100, byrow = FALSE))
level2_grouping <- as.vector(matrix(c(rep(1, 15), rep(2, 15), rep(3, 15),
                                     rep(4, 15), rep(5, 15), rep(6, 15),
                                     rep(7, 10)), ncol = 100, nrow = 100, byrow = TRUE) +
                                t(matrix(0:99 * 7, ncol = 100, nrow = 100, byrow = TRUE)))
level3_grouping <- 1:10000
groups <- cbind(level1_grouping, level2_grouping, level3_grouping)
```

```
# Apply TreeBH procedure, targeting a selective FDR of 0.2 in each level
target_level <- 0.2
treeBH_results <- get_TreeBH_selections(pvals = as.vector(pval_table),
                                       groups = groups,
                                       q = rep(target_level, 3))
```

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`get_fisher_p`*Compute Fisher p-value given a list of p-values*

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**Description**

Compute Fisher p-value given a list of p-values, assuming that NAs do not count toward the total number of tests

**Usage**

```
get_fisher_p(pvals)
```

**Arguments**

`pvals`                      Vector of p-values (which may include NAs)

**Value**

Value of the Fisher p-value

**Author(s)**

Christine B. Peterson

**References**

Fisher, R.A. (1925). *Statistical Methods for Research Workers*.

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`get_simes_p`*Compute Simes p-value given a list of p-values*

---

**Description**

Compute Simes p-value given a list of p-values, assuming that NAs do not count toward the total number of tests

**Usage**

```
get_simes_p(pvals)
```

**Arguments**

`pvals`                      Vector of p-values (which may include NAs)

**Value**

Value of the Simes p-value

**Author(s)**

Christine B. Peterson

**References**

R. J. Simes (1986). An improved Bonferroni procedure for multiple tests of significance. *Biometrika*. **73**(3): 751–754.

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get\_TreeBH\_selections *Performs multi-level hierarchical selection*

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**Description**

This function identifies hypotheses of interest, where the hypotheses are organized within a hierarchical tree structure. Given p-values for the leaf nodes and a definition of the tree structure, this procedure identifies selected hypotheses, controlling the targeted selective false discovery rate at each level in the tree.

**Usage**

```
get_TreeBH_selections(pvals, groups, q, test = "simes")
```

**Arguments**

pvals	Vector of N p-values (some of which may be NA) corresponding to the individual hypotheses in the most granular level of the tree
groups	Matrix defining how hypotheses are grouped within each level of the tree. Specifically, an $N \times L$ matrix where if hypothesis n belongs to the kth group in level l, groups[n, l] should be set to k. The final column should just be 1:N since the most granular grouping is by individual hypothesis
q	Vector of L error rates (e.g. 0.05) to be targeted for each level in the tree
test	Vector of L-1 combination methods to obtain level l-1 p-values from level l p-values. Options are "simes" and "fisher". Default is "simes" at each level.

**Value**

$N \times L$  binary matrix. This matrix matches up with the input argument groups. If the kth group in level l was selected, the first matrix element corresponding to this group will be set to 1 to indicate the group was selected. The remaining entries will be 0s.

**Author(s)**

Christine B. Peterson

## References

Marina Bogomolov\*, Christine B. Peterson\*, Yoav Benjamini, and Chiara Sabatti (2021). **Hy-**  
**potheses on a tree: new error rates and testing strategies**. *Biometrika*. 108(3): 575-590. \*Authors  
contributed equally.

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