

# Package ‘rqt’

April 4, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** rqt: utilities for gene-level meta-analysis

**Version** 1.33.0

**Description** Despite the recent advances of modern GWAS methods, it still remains an important problem of addressing calculation an effect size and corresponding p-value for the whole gene rather than for single variant. The R- package rqt offers gene-level GWAS meta-analysis. For more information, see: ``Gene-set association tests for next-generation sequencing data" by Lee et al (2016), *Bioinformatics*, 32(17), i611-i619, <[doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btw429](https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btw429)>.

**URL** <https://github.com/izhbannikov/rqt>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/izhbannikov/rqt/issues>

**License** GPL

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Suggests** BiocStyle, knitr, rmarkdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** stats,Matrix,ropls,methods,car,RUnit,metap,CompQuadForm,glmnet,utils,pls

**Depends** R (>= 3.4), SummarizedExperiment

**Encoding** UTF-8

**biocViews** GenomeWideAssociation, Regression, Survival, PrincipalComponent, StatisticalMethod, Sequencing

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/rqt>

**git\_branch** devel

**git\_last\_commit** 4366457

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2024-10-29

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.21

**Date/Publication** 2025-04-03

**Author** Ilya Zhbannikov [aut, cre],  
 Konstantin Arbeev [aut],  
 Anatoliy Yashin [aut]

**Maintainer** Ilya Zhbannikov <ilya.zhbannikov@duke.edu>

## Contents

build.null.model . . . . .	2
covariates . . . . .	3
geneTest . . . . .	3
geneTestMeta . . . . .	5
geneTestOne . . . . .	7
genotype . . . . .	8
get.a . . . . .	8
get.reg.family . . . . .	9
phenotype . . . . .	9
preprocess . . . . .	10
preprocessLASSO . . . . .	11
preprocessPCA . . . . .	11
preprocessPLS . . . . .	12
preprocessRidge . . . . .	13
results . . . . .	13
ridge_se . . . . .	14
rqt . . . . .	14
rqt-class . . . . .	15
rqt-general . . . . .	16
simple.multvar.reg . . . . .	16
vcov_ridge . . . . .	17
<b>Index</b>	<b>18</b>

---

build.null.model	<i>Applies linear of logistic regression to the data.</i>
------------------	---

---

### Description

Applies linear of logistic regression to the data.

### Usage

```
build.null.model(y, x, reg.family = "binomial", verbose = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

y	A vector with values of dependent variable (outcome).
x	A data.frame of covariates.
reg.family	A regression family. Can be either "binomial" or "gaussian."
verbose	Indicates verbosing output. Default: FALSE.

**Value**

A list of two: "S" - a dataframe with predictors and "fit" - an object returned by "glm" function.

---

covariates	<i>This function performs an access to covariates</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

An accessor to covariates

**Usage**

```
covariates(obj)

## S4 method for signature 'rqt'
covariates(obj)
```

**Arguments**

obj                    An object of rqt class.

**Value**

covariates returns the covariates

**Examples**

```
data <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/test.bin1.dat",
package="rqt"), header=TRUE))
pheno <- data[,1]
geno <- data[, 2:dim(data)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj <- rqt(pheno=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)
covariates(obj)
```

---

geneTest	<i>This function performs a gene-level test based on combined effect sizes.</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

This function performs a gene-level test based on combined effect sizes.

geneTest This function performs a gene-level test based on combined effect sizes.

**Usage**

```
geneTest(obj, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'rqt'
geneTest(
  obj,
  perm = 0,
  STT = 0.2,
  weight = FALSE,
  cumvar.threshold = 75,
  out.type = "D",
  method = "pca",
  scaleData = FALSE,
  asym.pval = FALSE,
  penalty = 0.001,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

obj	Object of class rqt
...	Additional parameters to pass to the function
perm	Integer indicating the number of permutations to compute p-values. Default: 0.
STT	Numeric indicating soft truncation threshold (STT) to convert to gamma parameter (must be $\leq 0.4$ ). Needed for an optimal parameter $a$ in Gamma-distribution. Default: 0.2. See, for example, Fridley, et al 2013: "Soft truncation thresholding for gene set analysis of RNA-seq data: Application to a vaccine study".
weight	Logical value. Indicates using weights (see Lee et al 2016). Default: FALSE.
cumvar.threshold	Numeric value indicating the explained variance threshold for PCA-like methods. Default: 75
out.type	Character, indicating a type of phenotype. Possible values: D (dichotomous or binary), C (continuous or quantitative).
method	Method used to reduce multicollinearity and account for LD. Default: pca. Another methods available: lasso, ridge, pls.
scaleData	A logic parameter (TRUE/FALSE) indicating scaling of the genotype dataset.
asym.pval	Indicates Monte Carlo approximation for p-values. Default: FALSE.
penalty	A value of penalty parameter for LASSO/ridge regression. Default: 0.001
verbose	Indicates verbosing output. Default: FALSE.

**Value**

Updated rqt object with result slot  
Object of class rqt

**Examples**

```

data <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/test.bin1.dat",
package="rqt"), header=TRUE))
pheno <- data[,1]
geno <- data[, 2:dim(data)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj <- rqt(pheno=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)
res <- geneTest(obj, method="pca", out.type = "D")
print(res)

```

---

geneTestMeta	<i>This function performs a gene-level meta-analysis based on combined effect sizes.</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

This function performs a gene-level meta-analysis based on combined effect sizes.

This function performs a gene-level meta-analysis based on combined effect sizes.

**Usage**

```

geneTestMeta(objects, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'list'
geneTestMeta(
  objects,
  perm = 0,
  STT = 0.2,
  weight = FALSE,
  cumvar.threshold = 75,
  out.type = "D",
  method = "pca",
  scaleData = FALSE,
  asym.pval = FALSE,
  comb.test = "wilkinson",
  penalty = 0.001,
  verbose = FALSE
)

```

**Arguments**

objects	List of objects of class rqt
...	Additional parameters to pass to the function
perm	Integer indicating the number of permutations to compute p-values. Default: 0.

STT	Numeric indicating soft truncation threshold (STT) to convert to gamma parameter (must be $\leq 0.4$ ). Needed for an optimal parameter $a$ in Gamma-distribution. Default: 0.2. See, for example, Fridley, et al 2013: "Soft truncation thresholding for gene set analysis of RNA-seq data: Application to a vaccine study".
weight	Logical value. Indicates using weights (see Lee et al 2016). Default: FALSE.
cumvar.threshold	Numeric value indicating the explained variance threshold for PCA-like methods. Default: 75
out.type	Character, indicating a type of phenotype. Possible values: D (dichotomous or binary), C (continuous or quantitative).
method	Method used to reduce multicollinearity and account for LD. Default: pca. Other methods available: lasso, ridge, pls.
scaleData	A logic parameter (TRUE/FALSE) indicating scaling of the genotype dataset.
asym.pval	Indicates Monte Carlo approximation for p-values. Default: FALSE.
comb.test	Statistical test for combining p-values.
penalty	Value of penalty parameter for LASSO/ridge regression. Default: 0.001
verbose	Indicates verbosing output. Default: FALSE.

### Value

A list of two: (i) final.pvalue - a final p-value across all studies; (ii) pvalueList - p-values for each study;

A list of two: (i) final.pvalue - a final p-value across all studies; (ii) pvalueList - p-values for each study;

### Examples

```
data1 <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/phengen2.dat",
                                         package="rqt"), skip=1))

pheno <- data1[,1]
geno <- data1[, 2:dim(data1)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj1 <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)

data2 <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/phengen3.dat",
                                         package="rqt"), skip=1))

pheno <- data2[,1]
geno <- data2[, 2:dim(data2)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj2 <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)

data3 <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/phengen.dat",
                                         package="rqt"), skip=1))

pheno <- data3[,1]
geno <- data3[, 2:dim(data3)[2]]
```

```

colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj3 <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)

res.meta <- geneTestMeta(list(obj1, obj2, obj3))
print(res.meta)

```

---

geneTestOne

*get.reg.family*


---

## Description

get.reg.family

## Usage

```

geneTestOne(
  phenotype,
  genotype,
  covariates,
  STT = 0.2,
  weight = FALSE,
  cumvar.threshold = 75,
  method = "pca",
  out.type = "D",
  scaleData = FALSE,
  penalty = 0.001,
  verbose = FALSE
)

```

## Arguments

phenotype	phenotype
genotype	genotype
covariates	covariates
STT	STT
weight	weight
cumvar.threshold	cumvar.threshold
method	method
out.type	out.type
scaleData	scaleData
penalty	penalty
verbose	verbose

**Value**

rslt

---

genotype	<i>This function performs an access to genotype.</i>
----------	--

---

**Description**

A genotype accessor

**Usage**

```
genotype(obj)

## S4 method for signature 'rqt'
genotype(obj)
```

**Arguments**

obj            An object of rqt class.

**Value**

genotype returns the genotype

**Examples**

```
data <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/test.bin1.dat",
package="rqt"), header=TRUE))
pheno <- data[,1]
geno <- data[, 2:dim(data)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)
genotype(obj)
```

---

get.a	<i>Get a given STT</i>
-------	------------------------

---

**Description**

Get a given STT

**Usage**

```
get.a(L, STT = 0.2)
```



**Arguments**

L	TODO
STT	Numeric indicating soft truncation threshold (STT) to convert to gamma parameter (must be <= 0.4).

**Value**

a number from gamma distribution

---

get.reg.family	<i>get.reg.family</i>
----------------	-----------------------

---

**Description**

get.reg.family

**Usage**

get.reg.family(out.type = "D")

**Arguments**

out.type	out.type
----------	----------

**Value**

reg.family

---

phenotype	<i>This function performs an access to phenotype</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

A phenotype accessor

**Usage**

```
phenotype(obj)

## S4 method for signature 'rqt'
phenotype(obj)
```

**Arguments**

obj	An object of rqt class.
-----	-------------------------

**Value**

phenotype returns the phenotype

**Examples**

```
data <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/test.bin1.dat",
package="rqt"), header=TRUE))
pheno <- data[,1]
geno <- data[, 2:dim(data)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)
phenotype(obj)
```

---

preprocess	<i>Preprocess input data with Principal Component Analysis method (PCA)</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

Preprocess input data with Principal Component Analysis method (PCA)

**Usage**

```
preprocess(
  data,
  pheno = NULL,
  method = "pca",
  reg.family = "binomial",
  scaleData = FALSE,
  cumvar.threshold = 75,
  out.type = "D",
  penalty = 0.001,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

data	An input matrix with values of independent variables (predictors).
pheno	A phenotype - column-vector, needed for LASSO/ridge and NULL by default.
method	A dimensionality reduction method. Default: pca.
reg.family	A regression family. Default: "binomial".
scaleData	A logical variable, indicates whether or not scaling should be performed. Default: FALSE.
cumvar.threshold	A threshold value for explained variance. Default: 75

out.type            An output (phenotype) type. Default: "D"  
 penalty            Value of penalty parameter for LASSO/ridge regression. Default: 0.001  
 verbose            Indicates verbosing output. Default: FALSE.

**Value**

A list of one: "S" - a data frame of predictor values.

---

*preprocessLASSO*            *preprocessLASSO*

---

**Description**

*preprocessLASSO*

**Usage**

*preprocessLASSO*(data, pheno, reg.family, penalty = 0.001)

**Arguments**

data            data  
 pheno            pheno data  
 reg.family       reg.family  
 penalty          penalty Default: FALSE.

**Value**

list(S, fit, model)

---

*preprocessPCA*            *preprocessPCA*

---

**Description**

*preprocessPCA*

**Usage**

*preprocessPCA*(data, scaleData, cumvar.threshold, verbose)

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	data
<code>scaleData</code>	scaled data
<code>cumvar.threshold</code>	<code>cumvar.threshold</code>
<code>verbose</code>	Indicates verbosing output Default: FALSE.

**Value**

`list(S, indices, model)`.

---

<code>preprocessPLS</code>	<i>preprocessPLS</i>
----------------------------	----------------------

---

**Description**

`preprocessPLS`

**Usage**

```
preprocessPLS(data, pheno, scaleData, cumvar.threshold, out.type)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	data
<code>pheno</code>	pheno data
<code>scaleData</code>	<code>scaleData</code>
<code>cumvar.threshold</code>	<code>cumvar.threshold</code>
<code>out.type</code>	<code>out.type</code> Default: FALSE.

**Value**

`list(S, Y, model)`

---

```
preprocessRidge      preprocessLASSO
```

---

**Description**

preprocessLASSO

**Usage**

```
preprocessRidge(data, pheno, reg.family, penalty = 0.001)
```

**Arguments**

data	data
pheno	pheno data
reg.family	reg.family
penalty	penalty Default: FALSE.

**Value**

list(S, fit, model)

---

```
results      This function performs an access to covariates
```

---

**Description**

An accessor to results

**Usage**

```
results(obj)

## S4 method for signature 'rqt'
results(obj)
```

**Arguments**

obj	An object of rqt class.
-----	-------------------------

**Value**

results returns the results

**Examples**

```

data <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/test.bin1.dat",
package="rqt"), header=TRUE))
pheno <- data[,1]
geno <- data[, 2:dim(data)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)
res <- geneTest(obj, method="pca", out.type = "D")
results(res)

```

---

**ridge\_se***Importing required packages and functions*

---

**Description**

Importing required packages and functions

**Usage**

```
ridge_se(xs, y, yhat, my_mod, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

xs	Genotype matrix
y	Phenotype
yhat	Ridge/LASSO regression object
my_mod	Ridge/LASSO regression object
verbose	Indicates verbosing output, Default: FALSE.

**Value**

list(vcov, se). vcov: variance-covariance matrix; se: standard deviation

---

**rqt***The rqt class constructor*

---

**Description**

This function generates rqt class objects

**Usage**

```
rqt(phenotype = NULL, genotype = NULL, covariates = NULL, results = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

phenotype	Phenotype (a vector of length N, where N - number of individuals).
genotype	Genotype - an object of class SummarizedExperiment. Should contain one assay (matrix, N by M where N - number of individuals, M - number of genetic variants).
covariates	Covariates, a data frame N by K where N - number of individuals, K - number of covariates
results	A list of two: test statistics: (Q1, Q2, Q3), p-values: (p1.Q1, p2.Q2, p3.Q3)

**Value**

Object of class rqt

**Examples**

```
data <- data.matrix(read.table(system.file("extdata/test.bin1.dat",
package="rqt"), header=TRUE))
pheno <- data[,1]
geno <- data[, 2:dim(data)[2]]
colnames(geno) <- paste(seq(1, dim(geno)[2]))
geno.obj <- SummarizedExperiment(geno)
obj <- rqt(phenotype=pheno, genotype=geno.obj)
print(obj)
```

---

rqt-class

*The rqt class*


---

**Description**

This class stores parameters and results of the rtq algorithms

**Value**

None

**Slots**

**phenotype:** Phenotype (a vector of length N, where N - number of individuals).  
**genotype:** Genotype - an object of class SummarizedExperiment. Should contain one assay (matrix, N by M where N - number of individuals, M - number of genetic variants).  
**covariates:** data frame N by K where N - number of individuals, K - number of covariates)  
**results:** A list of two: test statistics (Q1, Q2, Q3), p-values (p1.Q1, p2.Q2, p3.Q3)

---

 rqt-general

*General functions of rqt such as accessors and printing.*


---

**Description**

Common methods for class rqt. This document lists a series of basic methods for the class rqt

**Details**

Common methods for class rqt

**Value**

None

---

 simple.multivar.reg

*Applies linear of logistic regression to the data.*


---

**Description**

Applies linear of logistic regression to the data.

**Usage**

```
simple.multivar.reg(null.model, Z, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

null.model	A fitted null model
Z	A genotype matrix
verbose	Indicates verbosing output. Default: FALSE.

**Value**

A list of two: "S" - a dataframe with predictors and "fit" - an object returned by "glm" function.



---

vcov_ridge	<i>vcov_ridge: returns variance-covariance matrix and standard deviation for ridge/LASSO regression object</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

vcov\_ridge: returns variance-covariance matrix and standard deviation for ridge/LASSO regression object

**Usage**

```
vcov_ridge(x, y, rmod, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	Genotype matrix
y	Phenotype
rmod	Ridge/LASSO regression object
verbose	Indicates verbosing output, Default: FALSE.

**Value**

list(vcov, se). vcov: variance-covariance matrix; se: standard deviation

# Index

`build.null.model`, 2

`covariates`, 3  
`covariates`, `rqt-method (covariates)`, 3

`geneTest`, 3  
`geneTest`, `rqt-method (geneTest)`, 3  
`geneTestMeta`, 5  
`geneTestMeta`, `list-method (geneTestMeta)`, 5  
`geneTestOne`, 7  
`genotype`, 8  
`genotype`, `rqt-method (genotype)`, 8  
`get.a`, 8  
`get.reg.family`, 9

`phenotype`, 9  
`phenotype`, `rqt-method (phenotype)`, 9  
`preprocess`, 10  
`preprocessLASSO`, 11  
`preprocessPCA`, 11  
`preprocessPLS`, 12  
`preprocessRidge`, 13  
`print.rqt (rqt-general)`, 16

`results`, 13  
`results`, `rqt-method (results)`, 13  
`ridge_se`, 14  
`rqt`, 14  
`rqt-class`, 15  
`rqt-general`, 16

`show.rqt (rqt-general)`, 16  
`simple.multivar.reg`, 16  
`summary.rqt (rqt-general)`, 16

`vcov_ridge`, 17