

# Package ‘meta’

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**Title** General Package for Meta-Analysis

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**Depends** R (>= 2.9.1)

**Imports** grid, metafor (>= 1.9-9), lme4

**Suggests** numDeriv, BiasedUrn

**URL** <https://github.com/guido-s/meta> <http://meta-analysis-with-r.org>

**Description** User-friendly general package providing standard methods for meta-analysis and supporting Schwarzer, Carpenter, and Rucker <DOI:10.1007/978-3-319-21416-0>, “Meta-Analysis with R” (2015):

- fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis;
- several plots (forest, funnel, Galbraith / radial, L’Abbe, Baujat, bubble);
- statistical tests and trim-and-fill method to evaluate bias in meta-analysis;
- import data from ‘RevMan 5’;
- prediction interval, Hartung-Knapp and Paule-Mandel method for random effects model;
- cumulative meta-analysis and leave-one-out meta-analysis;
- meta-regression;
- generalised linear mixed models;
- produce forest plot summarising several (subgroup) meta-analyses.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

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**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Guido Schwarzer [cre, aut] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6214-9087>>)

**Maintainer** Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

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## Description

R package **meta** is a user-friendly general package providing standard methods for meta-analysis and supporting Schwarzer et al. (2015), <http://meta-analysis-with-r.org/>.

## Details

R package **meta** (Schwarzer, 2007) provides the following statistical methods for meta-analysis.

1. Fixed effect and random effects model:
  - Meta-analysis of continuous outcome data ([metacont](#))
  - Meta-analysis of binary outcome data ([metabin](#))
  - Meta-analysis of incidence rates ([metainc](#))
  - Generic inverse variance meta-analysis ([metagen](#))
  - Meta-analysis of single correlations ([metacor](#))
  - Meta-analysis of single means ([metamean](#))
  - Meta-analysis of single proportions ([metaprop](#))
  - Meta-analysis of single incidence rates ([metarate](#))
2. Several plots for meta-analysis:
  - Forest plot ([forest](#))
  - Funnel plot ([funnel](#))
  - Galbraith plot / radial plot ([radial](#))
  - L'Abbe plot for meta-analysis with binary outcome data ([labbe](#))
  - Baujat plot to explore heterogeneity in meta-analysis ([baujat](#))
  - Bubble plot to display the result of a meta-regression ([bubble](#))
3. Statistical tests for funnel plot asymmetry ([metabias](#)) and trim-and-fill method ([trimfill](#)) to evaluate bias in meta-analysis
4. Import data from 'RevMan 5' ([read.rm5](#)); see also [metacr](#) to conduct meta-analysis for a single comparison and outcome from a Cochrane review
5. Prediction interval, Hartung-Knapp and Paule-Mandel method for random effects model (see arguments `prediction`, `hakn`, and `method.tau`, respectively, in meta-analysis functions listed under *1. Fixed effect and random effects model*)
6. Cumulative meta-analysis ([metacum](#)) and leave-one-out meta-analysis ([metainf](#))
7. Meta-regression ([metareg](#)); if R package **metafor** is installed
8. Generalised linear mixed models ([metabin](#), [metainc](#), [metaprop](#), and [metarate](#)); if R packages **metafor**, **lme4**, **numDeriv**, and **BiasedUrn** are installed

The following more advanced statistical methods are provided by add-on R packages:

- Frequentist methods for network meta-analysis (R package **netmeta**)

- Advanced methods to model and adjust for bias in meta-analysis (R package **metasens**)

Results of several meta-analyses can be combined with **metabind**. This is, for example, useful to generate a forest plot with results of subgroup analyses.

See **settings.meta** to learn how to print and specify default meta-analysis methods used during your R session. For example, the function can be used to specify general settings:

- `settings.meta("revman5")`
- `settings.meta("jama")`

The first command can be used to reproduce meta-analyses from Cochrane reviews conducted with *Review Manager 5* (RevMan 5, <http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>) and specifies to use a RevMan 5 layout in forest plots. The second command can be used to generate forest plots following instructions for authors of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (<http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/pages/instructions-for-authors>).

In addition, **settings.meta** can be used to change individual settings. For example, the following R command specifies the use of the Hartung-Knapp and Paule-Mandel methods, and the printing of prediction intervals in the current R session for any meta-analysis generated after execution of this command:

- `settings.meta(hakn=TRUE, method.tau="PM", prediction=TRUE)`

Type `help(package = "meta")` for a listing of R functions and datasets available in **meta**.

Schwarzer (2007) is the preferred citation in publications for **meta**. Type `citation("meta")` for a BibTeX entry of this publication.

To report problems and bugs

- type `bug.report(package = "meta")` if you do not use RStudio,
- send an email to Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)> if you use RStudio.

The development version of **meta** is available on GitHub <https://github.com/guido-s/meta>.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

### References

Schwarzer G (2007): meta: An R package for meta-analysis. *R News*, 7, 40–5

Schwarzer G, Carpenter JR and Rucker G (2015): *Meta-Analysis with R (Use-R!)*. Springer International Publishing, Switzerland

---

amlodipine                      *Amlodipine for Work Capacity*

---

### Description

Meta-analysis on the effect of amlodipine on work capacity.

This meta-analysis is used as a data example in Hartung and Knapp (2001).

### Usage

amlodipine

### Format

A data frame with the following columns:

<i>study</i>	study label
<i>n.amlo</i>	number of observations in amlodipine group
<i>mean.amlo</i>	estimated mean in amlodipine group
<i>var.amlo</i>	variance in amlodipine group
<i>n.plac</i>	number of observations in placebo group
<i>mean.plac</i>	estimated mean in placebo group
<i>var.plac</i>	variance in placebo group

### Source

Hartung J & Knapp G (2001): On tests of the overall treatment effect in meta-analysis with normally distributed responses. *Statistics in Medicine*, **20**, 1771–82

### See Also

[metacont](#)

### Examples

```
data(amlodipine)

m <- metacont(n.amlo, mean.amlo, sqrt(var.amlo),
             n.plac, mean.plac, sqrt(var.plac),
             data = amlodipine, studlab = study)

s1 <- summary(m)
s2 <- summary(update(m, hakn = TRUE))

vars <- c("TE", "lower", "upper")

# Same results for mean difference as in Table III in Hartung and
# Knapp (2001)
#
```

```

res.md <- rbind(data.frame(s1$fixed)[vars],
               data.frame(s1$random)[vars],
               data.frame(s2$random)[vars])
#
res.md <- round(res.md, 5)
#
row.names(res.md) <- c("FE", "RE", "RE (HaKn)")
names(res.md) <- c("Absolute difference", "CI lower", "CI upper")
#
res.md

```

---

as.data.frame.meta      *Additional functions for objects of class meta*

---

### Description

The `as.data.frame` method returns a data frame containing information on individual studies, e.g., estimated treatment effect and its standard error.

### Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'meta'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE,
             ...)

```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>meta</code> .
<code>row.names</code>	<code>NULL</code> or a character vector giving the row names for the data frame.
<code>optional</code>	logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , setting row names and converting column names (to syntactic names) is optional.
<code>...</code>	other arguments

### Value

A data frame is returned by the function `as.data.frame`.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

### See Also

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [forest.meta](#)

**Examples**

```

data(Fleiss93cont)
#
# Generate additional variable with grouping information
#
Fleiss93cont$group <- c(1, 2, 1, 1, 2)
#
# Do meta-analysis without grouping information
#
m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c, study,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD")
#
# Update meta-analysis object and do subgroup analyses
#
summary(update(m1, byvar = group))

# Same result using metacont function directly
#
m2 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c, study,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD", byvar = group)
summary(m2)

# Compare printout of the following two commands
#
as.data.frame(m1)
m1$data

```

---

baujat

*Baujat plot to explore heterogeneity in meta-analysis*


---

**Description**

Draw a Baujat plot to explore heterogeneity in meta-analysis.

**Usage**

```

baujat(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'meta'
baujat(x, yscale = 1, xlim, ylim,
       xlab = "Contribution to overall heterogeneity",
       ylab = "Influence on overall result", pch = 21, cex = 1,
       col = "black", bg = "darkgray", studlab = TRUE,
       cex.studlab = 0.8, xmin = 0, ymin = 0, pos = 2, offset = 0.5,
       grid = TRUE, col.grid = "lightgray", lty.grid = "dotted",
       lwd.grid = par("lwd"), pty = "s", ...)

```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>meta</code> .
<code>...</code>	Graphical arguments as in <code>par</code> may also be passed as arguments.
<code>yscale</code>	Scaling factor for values on y-axis.
<code>xlim</code>	The x limits (min,max) of the plot.
<code>ylim</code>	The y limits (min,max) of the plot.
<code>xlab</code>	A label for the x-axis.
<code>ylab</code>	A label for the y-axis.
<code>pch</code>	The plotting symbol used for individual studies.
<code>cex</code>	The magnification to be used for plotting symbol.
<code>col</code>	A vector with colour of plotting symbols.
<code>bg</code>	A vector with background colour of plotting symbols (only used if <code>pch</code> in 21 : 25).
<code>studlab</code>	A logical indicating whether study labels should be printed in the graph. A vector with study labels can also be provided (must be of same length as <code>x\$TE</code> then).
<code>cex.studlab</code>	The magnification for study labels.
<code>xmin</code>	A numeric specifying minimal value to print study labels (on x-axis).
<code>ymin</code>	A numeric specifying minimal value to print study labels (on y-axis).
<code>pos</code>	A position specifier for study labels (see <a href="#">text</a> ).
<code>offset</code>	Offset for study labels (see <a href="#">text</a> ).
<code>grid</code>	A logical indicating whether a grid is printed in the plot.
<code>col.grid</code>	Colour for grid lines.
<code>lty.grid</code>	The line type for grid lines.
<code>lwd.grid</code>	The line width for grid lines.
<code>pty</code>	A character specifying type of plot region (see <a href="#">par</a> ).

**Details**

Baujat et al. (2002) introduced a scatter plot to explore heterogeneity in meta-analysis. On the x-axis the contribution of each study to the overall heterogeneity statistic (see list object `Q` of the meta-analysis object `x`) is plotted. On the y-axis the standardised difference of the overall treatment effect with and without each study is plotted; this quantity describes the influence of each study on the overall treatment effect.

Internally, the `metainf` function is used to calculate the values on the y-axis.

**Value**

A `data.frame` with the following variables:

<code>x</code>	Coordinate on x-axis (contribution to heterogeneity statistic)
<code>y</code>	Coordinate on y-axis (influence on overall treatment effect)



**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

Baujat B, Mahé C, Pignon JP, Hill C (2002): A graphical method for exploring heterogeneity in meta-analyses: Application to a meta-analysis of 65 trials. *Statistics in Medicine*, **30**, 2641–52

**See Also**

[metagen](#), [metainf](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Olkin95)

m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c, data = Olkin95,
              studlab = author, sm = "OR", method = "I")

# Generate Baujat plot
baujat(m1)

# Do not print study labels if the x-value is smaller than 4 and
# the y-value is smaller than 1
baujat(m1, yscale = 10, xmin = 4, ymin = 1)

# Change position of study labels
baujat(m1, yscale = 10, xmin = 4, ymin = 1,
       pos = 1, xlim = c(0, 6.5))

# Generate Baujat plot and assign x- and y- coordinates to R object
# b1
b1 <- baujat(m1)

# Calculate overall heterogeneity statistic
sum(b1$x)
m1$Q
```

---

bubble

*Bubble plot to display the result of a meta-regression*

---

**Description**

Draw a bubble plot to display the result of a meta-regression.

**Usage**

```

bubble(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'metareg'
bubble(x, xlim, ylim, xlab, ylab, cex, min.cex = 0.5,
       max.cex = 5, pch = 21, col = "black", bg = "darkgray", lty = 1,
       lwd = 1, col.line = "black", studlab = FALSE, cex.studlab = 0.8,
       pos = 2, offset = 0.5, regline = TRUE, axes = TRUE, box = TRUE,
       ...)

```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class metareg.
...	Graphical arguments as in par may also be passed as arguments.
xlim	The x limits (min,max) of the plot.
ylim	The y limits (min,max) of the plot.
xlab	A label for the x-axis.
ylab	A label for the y-axis.
cex	The magnification to be used for plotting symbols.
min.cex	Minimal magnification for plotting symbols.
max.cex	Maximal magnification for plotting symbols.
pch	The plotting symbol used for individual studies.
col	A vector with colour of plotting symbols.
bg	A vector with background colour of plotting symbols (only used if pch in 21 : 25).
lty	The line type for the meta-regression line.
lwd	The line width for the meta-regression line.
col.line	Colour for the meta-regression line.
studlab	A logical indicating whether study labels should be printed in the graph. A vector with study labels can also be provided (must be of same length as the numer of studies in the meta-analysis then).
cex.studlab	The magnification for study labels.
pos	A position specifier for study labels (see <a href="#">text</a> ).
offset	Offset for study labels (see <a href="#">text</a> ).
regline	A logical indicating whether a regression line should be added to the bubble plot.
axes	A logical indicating whether axes should be printed.
box	A logical indicating whether a box should be printed.

## Details

A bubble plot can be used to display the result of a meta-regression. It is a scatter plot with the treatment effect for each study on the y-axis and the covariate used in the meta-regression on the x-axis. Typically, the size of the plotting symbol is inversely proportional to the variance of the estimated treatment effect (Thompson & Higgins, 2002).

Argument `cex` specifies the plotting size for each individual study. If this argument is missing the weights from the meta-regression model will be used (which typically is a random effects model). Use `weight="fixed"` in order to utilise weights from a fixed effect model to define the size of the plotted symbols (even for a random effects meta-regression). If a vector with individual study weights is provided, the length of this vector must be of the same length as the number of studies.

Arguments `min.cex` and `max.cex` can be used to define the size of the smallest and largest plotting symbol. The plotting size of the most precise study is set to `max.cex` whereas the plotting size of all studies with a plotting size smaller than `min.cex` will be set to `min.cex`.

For a meta-regression with more than one covariate. Only a scatter plot of the first covariate in the regression model is shown. In this case the effect of the first covariate adjusted for other covariates in the meta-regression model is shown.

For a factor or categorial covariate separate bubble plots for each group compared to the baseline group are plotted.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## References

Thompson SG, Higgins JP (2002): How should meta-regression analyses be undertaken and interpreted? *Statistics in Medicine*, **21**, 1559–73

## See Also

[metagen](#), [metainf](#)

## Examples

```
data(Fleiss93cont)

# Add some (fictitious) grouping variables:
Fleiss93cont$age <- c(55, 65, 52, 65, 58)
Fleiss93cont$region <- c("Europe", "Europe", "Asia", "Asia", "Europe")

m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "MD")

mr1 <- metareg(m1, region)
mr1

bubble(mr1)
bubble(mr1, lwd = 2, col.line = "blue")
```

```

mr2 <- metareg(m1, age)
mr2

bubble(mr2, lwd = 2, col.line = "blue", xlim = c(50, 70))
bubble(mr2, lwd = 2, col.line = "blue", xlim = c(50, 70), cex = "fixed")

# Do not print regression line
#
bubble(mr2, lwd = 2, col.line = "blue", xlim = c(50, 70), regline = FALSE)

```

---

ci	<i>Calculation of confidence intervals (based on normal approximation or t-distribution)</i>
----	--

---

### Description

Calculation of confidence intervals; based on normal approximation or t-distribution.

### Usage

```
ci(TE, seTE, level = 0.95, df = NULL, null.effect = 0)
```

### Arguments

TE	Estimated treatment effect.
seTE	Standard error of treatment estimate.
level	The confidence level required.
df	Degrees of freedom (for confidence intervals based on t-distribution).
null.effect	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.

### Value

List with components

TE	Estimated treatment effect
seTE	Standard error of treatment estimate
lower	Lower confidence limits
upper	Upper confidence limits
z	Test statistic (either z-score or t-score)
p	P-value of test with null hypothesis $TE=0$
level	The confidence level required
df	Degrees of freedom (t-distribution)

**Note**

This function is primarily called from other functions of the library `meta`, e.g. `forest.meta`, `summary.meta`.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**Examples**

```
data.frame(ci(170, 10))
data.frame(ci(170, 10, 0.99))
data.frame(ci(1.959964, 1))
data.frame(ci(2.2621571628, 1, df = 9))
```

---

cisapride

*Cisapride in Non-Ulcer Dispepsia*

---

**Description**

Meta-analysis on cisapride in non-ulcer dispepsia.

This meta-analysis is used as a data example in Hartung and Knapp (2001).

**Usage**

```
cisapride
```

**Format**

A data frame with the following columns:

<i>study</i>	study label
<i>event.cisa</i>	number of events in cisapride group
<i>n.cisa</i>	number of observations in cisapride group
<i>event.plac</i>	number of events in placebo group
<i>n.plac</i>	number of observations in placebo group

**Source**

Hartung J & Knapp G (2001): A refined method for the meta-analysis of controlled clinical trials with binary outcome. *Statistics in Medicine*, **20**, 3875–89

**See Also**

[metabin](#)

**Examples**

```

data(cisapride)

m.or <- metabin(event.cisa, n.cisa, event.plac, n.plac,
               data = cisapride, sm = "OR", method = "Inverse",
               studlab = study, addincr = TRUE)

s1 <- summary(update(m.or, sm = "RR"))
s2 <- summary(update(m.or, sm = "RR", hakn = TRUE))
#
s3 <- summary(m.or)
s4 <- summary(update(m.or, hakn = TRUE))

vars <- c("TE", "lower", "upper")

# Results for log risk ratio - see Table VII in Hartung and Knapp (2001)
#
res.rr <- rbind(data.frame(s1$fixed)[vars],
               data.frame(s1$random)[vars],
               data.frame(s2$random)[vars])
#
row.names(res.rr) <- c("FE", "RE", "RE (HaKn)")
names(res.rr) <- c("Log risk ratio", "CI lower", "CI upper")
#
res.rr

# Results for log odds ratio (Table VII in Hartung and Knapp 2001)
#
res.or <- rbind(data.frame(s3$fixed)[vars],
               data.frame(s3$random)[vars],
               data.frame(s4$random)[vars])
#
row.names(res.or) <- c("FE", "RE", "RE (HaKn)")
names(res.or) <- c("Log odds ratio", "CI lower", "CI upper")
#
res.or

```

---

Fleiss93

*Aspirin after Myocardial Infarction*


---

**Description**

Meta-analysis on aspirin in preventing death after myocardial infarction.

Data example in Fleiss (1993) for meta-analysis with binary outcomes.

**Usage**

```
Fleiss93
```

**Format**

A data frame with the following columns:

<b><i>study</i></b>	study label
<b><i>year</i></b>	year of publication
<b><i>event.e</i></b>	number of deaths in aspirin group
<b><i>n.e</i></b>	number of observations in aspirin group
<b><i>event.c</i></b>	number of deaths in placebo group
<b><i>n.c</i></b>	number of observations in placebo group

**Source**

Fleiss JL (1993): The statistical basis of meta-analysis. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*, **2**, 121–45

**Examples**

```
data(Fleiss93)
metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
        data = Fleiss93,
        studlab = paste(study, year),
        sm = "OR", comb.random = FALSE)
```

---

Fleiss93cont

*Mental Health Treatment*

---

**Description**

Meta-analysis on the Effect of Mental Health Treatment on Medical Utilisation.

Data example in Fleiss (1993) for meta-analysis with continuous outcomes.

**Usage**

```
Fleiss93cont
```

**Format**

A data frame with the following columns:

<b><i>study</i></b>	study label
<b><i>year</i></b>	year of publication
<b><i>n.e</i></b>	number of observations in psychotherapy group
<b><i>mean.e</i></b>	estimated mean in psychotherapy group
<b><i>sd.e</i></b>	standard deviation in psychotherapy group
<b><i>n.c</i></b>	number of observations in control group
<b><i>mean.c</i></b>	estimated mean in control group
<b><i>sd.c</i></b>	standard deviation in control group

**Source**

Fleiss JL (1993): The statistical basis of meta-analysis. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*, **2**, 121–45

**See Also**

[Fleiss93](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Fleiss93cont)
metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e,
         n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
         data = Fleiss93cont,
         studlab = paste(study, year),
         comb.random = FALSE)
```

---

forest

*Forest plot to display the result of a meta-analysis*

---

**Description**

Draws a forest plot in the active graphics window (using grid graphics system).

**Usage**

```
forest(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'metabind'
forest(x, leftcols, leftlabs, rightcols = c("effect",
      "ci"), rightlabs, overall = FALSE, subgroup = FALSE,
      overall.hetstat = FALSE, lab.NA = "", digits = gs("digits.forest"),
      digits.se = gs("digits.se"), digits.zval = gs("digits.zval"),
      digits.pval = max(gs("digits.pval") - 2, 2),
      digits.pval.Q = max(gs("digits.pval.Q") - 2, 2),
      digits.Q = gs("digits.Q"), digits.tau2 = gs("digits.tau2"),
      digits.I2 = max(gs("digits.I2") - 1, 0),
      scientific.pval = gs("scientific.pval"), big.mark = gs("big.mark"),
      smlab, ...)

## S3 method for class 'meta'
forest(x, sortvar, studlab = TRUE,
      layout = gs("layout"), comb.fixed = x$comb.fixed,
      comb.random = x$comb.random, overall = TRUE, text.fixed = NULL,
      text.random = NULL, lty.fixed = 2, lty.random = 3,
      col.fixed = "black", col.random = "black",
      prediction = x$prediction, text.predict = NULL, subgroup = TRUE,
```



```

print.subgroup.labels = TRUE, bylab = x$bylab,
print.byvar = x$print.byvar, byseparator = x$byseparator,
text.fixed.w = text.fixed, text.random.w = text.random,
bysort = FALSE, pooled.totals = comb.fixed | comb.random,
pooled.events = FALSE, pooled.times = FALSE, study.results = TRUE,
xlab = "", xlab.pos, smlab = NULL, smlab.pos, xlim = "symmetric",
allstudies = TRUE, weight.study, weight.subgroup, pscale = x$pscale,
irscale = x$irscale, irunit = x$irunit, ref = ifelse(backtransf &
is.relative.effect(x$sm), 1, 0), leftcols = NULL, rightcols = NULL,
leftlabs = NULL, rightlabs = NULL, lab.e = x$label.e,
lab.c = x$label.c, lab.e.attach.to.col = NULL,
lab.c.attach.to.col = NULL, label.right = x$label.right,
label.left = x$label.left, bottom.lr = TRUE, lab.NA = ".",
lab.NA.effect = "", lab.NA.weight = "--", lwd = 1, at = NULL,
label = TRUE, type.study = "square", type.fixed = "diamond",
type.random = type.fixed, type.subgroup = ifelse(study.results,
"diamond", "square"), type.subgroup.fixed = type.subgroup,
type.subgroup.random = type.subgroup, col.study = "black",
col.square = "gray", col.square.lines = col.square,
col.inside = "white", col.diamond = "gray",
col.diamond.fixed = col.diamond, col.diamond.random = col.diamond,
col.diamond.lines = "black",
col.diamond.lines.fixed = col.diamond.lines,
col.diamond.lines.random = col.diamond.lines,
col.inside.fixed = col.inside, col.inside.random = col.inside,
col.predict = "red", col.predict.lines = "black",
col.by = "darkgray", col.label.right = "black",
col.label.left = "black", hetstat = print.I2 | print.tau2 | print.Q |
print.pval.Q | print.Rb, overall.hetstat = overall & hetstat,
hetlab = "Heterogeneity: ", resid.hetstat = overall & hetstat,
resid.hetlab = "Residual heterogeneity: ", print.I2 = comb.fixed |
comb.random, print.I2.ci = FALSE, print.tau2 = comb.fixed |
comb.random, print.Q = FALSE, print.pval.Q = comb.fixed |
comb.random, print.Rb = FALSE, print.Rb.ci = FALSE,
text.subgroup.nohet = "not applicable",
test.overall = gs("test.overall"), test.overall.fixed = comb.fixed &
overall & test.overall, test.overall.random = comb.random & overall &
test.overall, label.test.overall.fixed, label.test.overall.random,
print.zval = TRUE, test.subgroup, test.subgroup.fixed,
test.subgroup.random, print.Q.subgroup = TRUE,
label.test.subgroup.fixed, label.test.subgroup.random,
test.effect.subgroup, test.effect.subgroup.fixed,
test.effect.subgroup.random, label.test.effect.subgroup.fixed,
label.test.effect.subgroup.random, fontsize = 12,
fs.heading = fontsize, fs.fixed, fs.random, fs.predict,
fs.fixed.labels, fs.random.labels, fs.predict.labels,
fs.study = fontsize, fs.study.labels = fs.study, fs.hetstat,
fs.test.overall, fs.test.subgroup, fs.test.effect.subgroup,

```

```

fs.axis = fontsize, fs.smlab = fontsize, fs.xlab = fontsize,
fs.lr = fontsize, ff.heading = "bold", ff.fixed, ff.random,
ff.predict, ff.fixed.labels, ff.random.labels, ff.predict.labels,
ff.study = "plain", ff.study.labels = ff.study, ff.hetstat,
ff.test.overall, ff.test.subgroup, ff.test.effect.subgroup,
ff.axis = "plain", ff.smlab = "bold", ff.xlab = "plain",
ff.lr = "plain", squaresize = 0.8/spacing, plotwidth = if (layout
!= "JAMA") "6cm" else "8cm", colgap = "2mm", colgap.left = colgap,
colgap.right = colgap, colgap.studlab = colgap.left,
colgap.forest = colgap, colgap.forest.left = colgap.forest,
colgap.forest.right = colgap.forest, calcwidth.pooled = TRUE,
calcwidth.fixed = calcwidth.pooled,
calcwidth.random = calcwidth.pooled, calcwidth.predict = FALSE,
calcwidth.hetstat = FALSE, calcwidth.tests = FALSE,
calcwidth.subgroup = FALSE, just = if (layout != "JAMA") "right" else
"left", just.studlab = "left", just.addcols = "center",
just.addcols.left = just.addcols, just.addcols.right = just.addcols,
spacing = 1, addrow, addrow.overall, addrow.subgroups, new = TRUE,
backtransf = x$backtransf, digits = gs("digits.forest"),
digits.se = gs("digits.se"), digits.zval = gs("digits.zval"),
digits.pval = max(gs("digits.pval") - 2, 2),
digits.pval.Q = max(gs("digits.pval.Q") - 2, 2),
digits.Q = gs("digits.Q"), digits.tau2 = gs("digits.tau2"),
digits.I2 = max(gs("digits.I2") - 1, 0),
digits.weight = gs("digits.weight"), digits.mean = digits,
digits.sd = digits.se, digits.cor = digits, digits.time = digits,
digits.addcols = digits, digits.addcols.right = digits.addcols,
digits.addcols.left = digits.addcols,
scientific.pval = gs("scientific.pval"), big.mark = gs("big.mark"),
zero.pval = if (layout != "JAMA") TRUE else FALSE, col.i = col.study,
weight = weight.study, ...)

```

### Arguments

x	An object of class meta or metabind.
...	Additional graphical arguments.
leftcols	A character vector specifying (additional) columns to be plotted on the left side of the forest plot or a logical value (see Details).
leftlabs	A character vector specifying labels for (additional) columns on left side of the forest plot (see Details).
rightcols	A character vector specifying (additional) columns to be plotted on the right side of the forest plot or a logical value (see Details).
rightlabs	A character vector specifying labels for (additional) columns on right side of the forest plot (see Details).
overall	A logical indicating whether overall summaries should be plotted. This argument is useful in a meta-analysis with subgroups if summaries should only be plotted on group level.

subgroup	A logical indicating whether subgroup results should be shown in forest plot. This argument is useful in a meta-analysis with subgroups if summaries should not be plotted on group level.
overall.hetstat	A logical value indicating whether to print heterogeneity measures for overall treatment comparisons. This argument is useful in a meta-analysis with subgroups if heterogeneity statistics should only be printed on subgroup level.
lab.NA	A character string to label missing values.
digits	Minimal number of significant digits for treatment effects, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.se	Minimal number of significant digits for standard errors, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.zval	Minimal number of significant digits for z- or t-statistic for test of overall effect, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.pval	Minimal number of significant digits for p-value of overall treatment effect, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.pval.Q	Minimal number of significant digits for p-value of heterogeneity test, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.Q	Minimal number of significant digits for heterogeneity statistic Q, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.tau2	Minimal number of significant digits for between-study variance, see <code>print.default</code> .
digits.I2	Minimal number of significant digits for I-squared statistic, see <code>print.default</code> .
scientific.pval	A logical specifying whether p-values should be printed in scientific notation, e.g., 1.2345e-01 instead of 0.12345.
big.mark	A character used as thousands separator.
smlab	A label for the summary measurex (printed at top of figure).
sortvar	An optional vector used to sort the individual studies (must be of same length as <code>x\$TE</code> ).
studlab	A logical indicating whether study labels should be printed in the graph. A vector with study labels can also be provided (must be of same length as <code>x\$TE</code> then).
layout	A character string specifying the layout of the forest plot (see Details).
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether fixed effect estimate should be plotted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether random effects estimate should be plotted.
text.fixed	A character string used in the plot to label the pooled fixed effect estimate.
text.random	A character string used in the plot to label the pooled random effects estimate.
lty.fixed	Line type (pooled fixed effect estimate).
lty.random	Line type (pooled random effects estimate).
col.fixed	Line colour (pooled fixed effect estimate).
col.random	Line colour (pooled random effects estimate).
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
text.predict	A character string used in the plot to label the prediction interval.
print.subgroup.labels	A logical indicating whether subgroup label should be printed.

<code>bylab</code>	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
<code>print.byvar</code>	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
<code>byseparator</code>	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
<code>text.fixed.w</code>	A character string to label the pooled fixed effect estimate within subgroups, or a character vector of same length as number of subgroups with corresponding labels.
<code>text.random.w</code>	A character string to label the pooled random effect estimate within subgroups, or a character vector of same length as number of subgroups with corresponding labels.
<code>bysort</code>	A logical indicating whether groups should be ordered alphabetically.
<code>pooled.totals</code>	A logical indicating whether total number of observations should be given in the figure.
<code>pooled.events</code>	A logical indicating whether total number of events should be given in the figure.
<code>pooled.times</code>	A logical indicating whether total person time at risk should be given in the figure.
<code>study.results</code>	A logical indicating whether results for individual studies should be shown in the figure (useful to only plot subgroup results).
<code>xlab</code>	A label for the x-axis.
<code>xlab.pos</code>	A numeric specifying the center of the label on the x-axis.
<code>smlab.pos</code>	A numeric specifying the center of the label for the summary measure.
<code>xlim</code>	The x limits (min,max) of the plot, or the character "s" to produce symmetric forest plots.
<code>allstudies</code>	A logical indicating whether studies with inestimable treatment effects should be plotted.
<code>weight.study</code>	A character string indicating weighting used to determine size of squares or diamonds (argument <code>type.study</code> ) to plot individual study results. One of missing, "same", "fixed", or "random", can be abbreviated. Plot symbols have the same size for all studies or represent study weights from fixed effect or random effects model.
<code>weight.subgroup</code>	A character string indicating weighting used to determine size of squares or diamonds (argument <code>type.subgroup</code> ) to plot subgroup results. One of missing, "same", or "weight", can be abbreviated. Plot symbols have the same size for all subgroup results or represent subgroup weights from fixed effect or random effects model.
<code>pscale</code>	A numeric giving scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities or risk differences, i.e. if argument <code>sm</code> is equal to "PLOGIT", "PLN", "PRAW", "PAS", "PFT", or "RD".
<code>irscale</code>	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single incidence rates or incidence rate differences, i.e. if argument <code>sm</code> is equal to "IR", "IRLN", "IRS", "IRFT", or "IRD".

<code>irunit</code>	A character specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g., person-years.
<code>ref</code>	A numerical giving the reference value to be plotted as a line in the forest plot. No reference line is plotted if argument <code>ref</code> is equal to NA.
<code>lab.e</code>	Label to be used for experimental group in table heading.
<code>lab.c</code>	Label to be used for control group in table heading.
<code>lab.e.attach.to.col</code>	A character specifying the column name where label <code>lab.e</code> should be attached to in table heading.
<code>lab.c.attach.to.col</code>	A character specifying the column name where label <code>lab.c</code> should be attached to in table heading.
<code>label.right</code>	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
<code>label.left</code>	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
<code>bottom.lr</code>	A logical indicating whether labels on right and left side should be printed at bottom or top of forest plot.
<code>lab.NA.effect</code>	A character string to label missing values in individual treatment estimates and confidence intervals.
<code>lab.NA.weight</code>	A character string to label missing weights.
<code>lwd</code>	The line width, see <a href="#">par</a> .
<code>at</code>	The points at which tick-marks are to be drawn, see <a href="#">grid.xaxis</a> .
<code>label</code>	A logical value indicating whether to draw the labels on the tick marks, or an expression or character vector which specify the labels to use. See <a href="#">grid.xaxis</a> .
<code>type.study</code>	A character string or vector specifying how to plot treatment effects and confidence intervals for individual studies (see Details).
<code>type.fixed</code>	A character string specifying how to plot treatment effect and confidence interval for fixed effect meta-analysis (see Details).
<code>type.random</code>	A character string specifying how to plot treatment effect and confidence interval for random effects meta-analysis (see Details).
<code>type.subgroup</code>	A character string specifying how to plot treatment effect and confidence interval for subgroup results (see Details).
<code>type.subgroup.fixed</code>	A character string specifying how to plot treatment effect and confidence interval for subgroup results (fixed effect model).
<code>type.subgroup.random</code>	A character string specifying how to plot treatment effect and confidence interval for subgroup results (random effects model).
<code>col.study</code>	The colour for individual study results and confidence limits.
<code>col.square</code>	The colour for squares reflecting study's weight in the meta-analysis.
<code>col.square.lines</code>	The colour for the outer lines of squares reflecting study's weight in the meta-analysis.

<code>col.inside</code>	The colour for individual study results and confidence limits if confidence limits are completely within squares.
<code>col.diamond</code>	The colour of diamonds representing the results for fixed effect and random effects models.
<code>col.diamond.fixed</code>	The colour of diamonds for fixed effect estimates.
<code>col.diamond.random</code>	The colour of diamonds for random effects estimates.
<code>col.diamond.lines</code>	The colour of the outer lines of diamonds representing the results for fixed effect and random effects models.
<code>col.diamond.lines.fixed</code>	The colour of the outer lines of diamond for fixed effect estimate.
<code>col.diamond.lines.random</code>	The colour of the outer lines of diamond for random effects estimate.
<code>col.inside.fixed</code>	The colour for result of fixed effect meta-analysis if confidence limit lies completely within square.
<code>col.inside.random</code>	The colour for result of random effects meta-analysis if confidence limit lies completely within square.
<code>col.predict</code>	Background colour of prediction interval.
<code>col.predict.lines</code>	Colour of outer lines of prediction interval.
<code>col.by</code>	The colour to print information on subgroups.
<code>col.label.right</code>	The colour for label on right side of null effect.
<code>col.label.left</code>	The colour for label on left side of null effect.
<code>hetstat</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results for heterogeneity measures at all.
<code>hetlab</code>	Label printed in front of results for heterogeneity measures.
<code>resid.hetstat</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print measures of residual heterogeneity in a meta-analysis with subgroups.
<code>resid.hetlab</code>	Label printed in front of results for residual heterogeneity measures.
<code>print.I2</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the value of the I-squared statistic.
<code>print.I2.ci</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the confidence interval of the I-squared statistic.
<code>print.tau2</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the value of the between-study variance tau-squared.
<code>print.Q</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the value of the heterogeneity statistic Q.
<code>print.pval.Q</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the p-value of the heterogeneity statistic Q.

<code>print.Rb</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the value of the I-squared statistic.
<code>print.Rb.ci</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the confidence interval of the I-squared statistic.
<code>text.subgroup.noHet</code>	A logical value or character string which is printed to indicate subgroups with less than two studies contributing to meta-analysis (and thus without heterogeneity). If FALSE, heterogeneity statistics are printed (with NAs).
<code>test.overall</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for overall effect.
<code>test.overall.fixed</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for overall effect (based on fixed effect model).
<code>test.overall.random</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for overall effect (based on random effects model).
<code>label.test.overall.fixed</code>	Label printed in front of results of test for overall effect (based on fixed effect model).
<code>label.test.overall.random</code>	Label printed in front of results of test for overall effect (based on random effects model).
<code>print.zval</code>	A logical value indicating whether z-value for test of treatment effect should be printed.
<code>test.subgroup</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for subgroup differences.
<code>test.subgroup.fixed</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for subgroup differences (based on fixed effect model).
<code>test.subgroup.random</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for subgroup differences (based on random effects model).
<code>print.Q.subgroup</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print the value of the heterogeneity statistic Q (test for subgroup differences).
<code>label.test.subgroup.fixed</code>	Label printed in front of results of test for subgroup differences (based on fixed effect model).
<code>label.test.subgroup.random</code>	Label printed in front of results of test for subgroup differences (based on random effects model).
<code>test.effect.subgroup</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for effect in subgroups.
<code>test.effect.subgroup.fixed</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for effect in subgroups (based on fixed effect model).

<code>test.effect.subgroup.random</code>	A logical value indicating whether to print results of test for effect in subgroups (based on random effects model).
<code>label.test.effect.subgroup.fixed</code>	Label printed in front of results of test for effect in subgroups (based on fixed effect model).
<code>label.test.effect.subgroup.random</code>	Label printed in front of results of test for effect in subgroups (based on random effects model).
<code>fontsize</code>	The size of text (in points), see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.heading</code>	The size of text for column headings, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.fixed</code>	The size of text for results of fixed effect model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.random</code>	The size of text for results of random effects model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.predict</code>	The size of text for results of prediction interval, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.fixed.labels</code>	The size of text for label of fixed effect model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.random.labels</code>	The size of text for label of random effects model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.predict.labels</code>	The size of text for label of prediction interval, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.study</code>	The size of text for results of individual studies, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.study.labels</code>	The size of text for labels of individual studies, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.hetstat</code>	The size of text for heterogeneity measures, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.test.overall</code>	The size of text of test for overall effect, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.test.subgroup</code>	The size of text of test of subgroup differences, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.test.effect.subgroup</code>	The size of text of test of effect in subgroups, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.axis</code>	The size of text on x-axis, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.smlab</code>	The size of text of label for summary measure, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.xlab</code>	The size of text of label on x-axis, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>fs.lr</code>	The size of text of label on left and right side of forest plot, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.heading</code>	The fontface for column headings, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.fixed</code>	The fontface of text for results of fixed effect model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.random</code>	The fontface of text for results of random effects model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.predict</code>	The fontface of text for results of prediction interval, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.fixed.labels</code>	The fontface of text for label of fixed effect model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.random.labels</code>	The fontface of text for label of random effects model, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .



<code>ff.predict.labels</code>	The fontface of text for label of prediction interval, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.study</code>	The fontface of text for results of individual studies, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.study.labels</code>	The fontface of text for labels of individual studies, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.hetstat</code>	The fontface of text for heterogeneity measures, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.test.overall</code>	The fontface of text of test for overall effect, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.test.subgroup</code>	The fontface of text for test of subgroup differences, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.test.effect.subgroup</code>	The fontface of text for test of effect in subgroups, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.axis</code>	The fontface of text on x-axis, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.smlab</code>	The fontface of text of label for summary measure, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.xlab</code>	The fontface of text of label on x-axis, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>ff.lr</code>	The fontface of text of label on left and right side of forest plot, see <a href="#">gpar</a> .
<code>squaresize</code>	A numeric used to increase or decrease the size of squares in the forest plot.
<code>plotwidth</code>	Either a character string, e.g., "8cm", "60mm", or "3inch", or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying width of the forest plot.
<code>colgap</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between columns printed on left and right side of forest plot.
<code>colgap.left</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between columns printed on left side of forest plot.
<code>colgap.right</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between columns printed on right side of forest plot.
<code>colgap.studlab</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between column with study labels and subsequent column.
<code>colgap.forest</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between column adjacent to forest plot and the forest plot.
<code>colgap.forest.left</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between column on the left side of forest plot and the forest plot.
<code>colgap.forest.right</code>	Either a character string or a <a href="#">unit</a> object specifying gap between column on the right side of forest plot and the forest plot.
<code>calwidth.pooled</code>	A logical indicating whether text for fixed effect and random effects model should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.
<code>calwidth.fixed</code>	A logical indicating whether text given in arguments <code>text.fixed</code> and <code>text.fixed.w</code> should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.
<code>calwidth.random</code>	A logical indicating whether text given in arguments <code>text.random</code> and <code>text.random.w</code> should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.

<code>calwidth.predict</code>	A logical indicating whether text given in argument <code>text.predict</code> should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.
<code>calwidth.hetstat</code>	A logical indicating whether text for heterogeneity statistics should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.
<code>calwidth.tests</code>	A logical indicating whether text for tests of overall effect or subgroup differences should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.
<code>calwidth.subgroup</code>	A logical indicating whether text with subgroup labels should be considered to calculate width of the column with study labels.
<code>just</code>	Justification of text in all columns but columns with study labels and additional variables (possible values: "left", "right", "center").
<code>just.studlab</code>	Justification of text for study labels (possible values: "left", "right", "center").
<code>just.addcols</code>	Justification of text for additional columns (possible values: "left", "right", "center").
<code>just.addcols.left</code>	Justification of text for additional columns on left side of forest plot (possible values: "left", "right", "center"). Can be of same length as number of additional columns on left side of forest plot.
<code>just.addcols.right</code>	Justification of text for additional columns on right side of forest plot (possible values: "left", "right", "center"). Can be of same length as number of additional columns on right side of forest plot.
<code>spacing</code>	A numeric determining line spacing in a forest plot.
<code>addrow</code>	A logical value indicating whether an empty row is printed above and below study results.
<code>addrow.overall</code>	A logical value indicating whether an empty row is printed above overall meta-analysis results.
<code>addrow.subgroups</code>	A logical value indicating whether an empty row is printed between results for subgroups.
<code>new</code>	A logical value indicating whether a new figure should be printed in an existing graphics window.
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in forest plots. If <code>backtransf = TRUE</code> , results for <code>sm = "OR"</code> are presented as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for <code>sm = "ZCOR"</code> are presented as correlations rather than Fisher's z transformed correlations, for example.
<code>digits.weight</code>	Minimal number of significant digits for weights, see <code>print.default</code> .
<code>digits.mean</code>	Minimal number of significant digits for means; only applies to <code>metacont</code> objects.
<code>digits.sd</code>	Minimal number of significant digits for standard deviations; only applies to <code>metacont</code> objects.

<code>digits.cor</code>	Minimal number of significant digits for correlations; only applies to <code>metacor</code> objects.
<code>digits.time</code>	Minimal number of significant digits for times; only applies to <code>metainc</code> and <code>metarate</code> objects.
<code>digits.addcols</code>	A vector or scalar with minimal number of significant digits for additional columns.
<code>digits.addcols.right</code>	A vector or scalar with minimal number of significant digits for additional columns on right side of forest plot.
<code>digits.addcols.left</code>	A vector or scalar with minimal number of significant digits for additional columns on left side of forest plot.
<code>zero.pval</code>	A logical specifying whether p-values should be printed with a leading zero.
<code>col.i</code>	Deprecated argument (replaced by <code>col.study</code> ).
<code>weight</code>	Deprecated argument (replaced by <code>weight.study</code> ).

## Details

A forest plot, also called confidence interval plot, is drawn in the active graphics window. The forest function is based on the grid graphics system. In order to print the forest plot, (i) resize the graphics window, (ii) either use `dev.copy2eps` or `dev.copy2pdf`.

By default, treatment estimates and confidence intervals are plotted in the following way:

- For an individual study, a square with treatment estimate in the center and confidence interval as line extending either side of the square (`type.study = "square"`)
- For meta-analysis results, a diamond with treatment estimate in the center and right and left side corresponding to lower and upper confidence limits (`type.fixed = "diamond"`, `type.random = "diamond"`, and `type.subgroup = "diamond"`)

In a forest plot, size of the squares typically reflects the precision of individual treatment estimates based either on the fixed effect (`weight.study = "fixed"`) or random effects meta-analysis (`weight.study = "random"`). Information from meta-analysis object `x` is utilised if argument `weight.study` is missing. Weights from the fixed effect model are used if argument `x$comb.fixed` is TRUE; weights from the random effects model are used if argument `x$comb.random` is TRUE and `x$comb.fixed` is FALSE. The same square sizes are used if `weight.study = "same"`.

Arguments `text.fixed`, `text.random`, and `text.predict` can be used to change the label to identify overall results (fixed effect and random effects model as well as prediction interval). By default the following text is printed:

- "Fixed effect model" (argument `text.fixed`)
- "Random effects model" (`text.random`)
- "Prediction interval" (`text.predict`)

If confidence interval levels are different for individual studies, meta-analysis, and prediction interval (arguments `level`, `level.comb`, `level.predict` in meta-analysis functions, e.g., `metabin`), additional information is printed, e.g., "(99%-CI)" for a 99% confidence interval in the meta-analysis.

The following arguments can be used to print results for various statistical tests:

Argument	Statistical test
test.overall.fixed	Test for overall effect (fixed effect model)
test.overall.random	Test for overall effect (random effects model)
test.effect.subgroup.fixed	Test for effect in subgroup (FE model)
test.effect.subgroup.random	Test for effect in subgroup (RE model)
test.subgroup.fixed	Test for subgroup differences (FE model)
test.subgroup.random	Test for subgroup differences (RE model)

By default, these arguments are FALSE. R function `settings.meta` can be used to change this default for the entire R session. For example, use the following command to always print results of tests for an overall effect: `settings.meta(test.overall = TRUE)`

The arguments `leftcols` and `rightcols` can be used to specify columns which are plotted on the left and right side of the forest plot, respectively. If argument `rightcols` is FALSE, no columns will be plotted on the right side. By default, i.e. if arguments `leftcols` and `rightcols` are NULL and `layout = "meta"`, the following *columns* will be printed *on the right side of the forest plot*:

Meta-analysis results	Value of argument <code>rightcols</code>
No summary	<code>c("effect", "ci")</code>
Only fixed effect model	<code>c("effect", "ci", "w.fixed")</code>
Only random effects model	<code>c("effect", "ci", "w.random")</code>
Both models	<code>c("effect", "ci", "w.fixed", "w.random")</code>

By default, estimated treatment effect and corresponding confidence interval will be printed. Depending on arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`, weights of the fixed effect and/or random effects model will be given too. For an object of class `metacum` or `metainf` only the estimated treatment effect with confidence interval are plotted.

Depending on the class of the meta-analysis object (which is defined by the R function used to generate the object) a different set of *columns* is printed *on the left side of the forest plot*:

Function	Value of argument <code>leftcols</code>
<code>metabin</code>	<code>c("studlab", "event.e", "n.e", "event.c", "n.c")</code>
<code>metacont</code>	<code>c("studlab", "n.e", "mean.e", "sd.e", "n.c", "mean.c", "sd.c")</code>
<code>metacor</code>	<code>c("studlab", "n")</code>
<code>metagen</code>	<code>c("studlab", "TE", "seTE")</code>
<code>metainc</code>	<code>c("studlab", "event.e", "time.e", "event.c", "time.c")</code>
<code>metaprop</code>	<code>c("studlab", "event", "n")</code>
<code>metarate</code>	<code>c("studlab", "event", "time")</code>
<code>metacum</code>	<code>"studlab"</code>
<code>metainf</code>	<code>"studlab"</code>

The arguments `leftlabs` and `rightlabs` can be used to specify column headings which are plotted on left and right side of the forest plot, respectively. For certain columns predefined labels exist. If the arguments `leftlabs` and `rightlabs` are NULL, the following default labels will be used:

Column:	<code>studlab</code>	<code>TE</code>	<code>seTE</code>	<code>n.e</code>	<code>n.c</code>	<code>n</code>
Label:	"Study"	"TE"	"seTE"	"Total"	"Total"	"Total"

<b>Column:</b>	event.e	event.c	event	mean.e	mean.c
<b>Label:</b>	"Events"	"Events"	"Events"	"Mean"	"Mean"
<b>Column:</b>	sd.e	sd.c	time.e	time.c	effect
<b>Label:</b>	"SD"	"SD"	"Time"	"Time"	x\$sm
<b>Column:</b>	ci	effect.ci	w.fixed	w.random	
<b>Label:</b>	x\$level"%-CI"	effect+ci	"W(fixed)"	"W(random)"	

For additional columns, the column name will be used as a label. It is possible to only provide labels for new columns (see Examples). Otherwise the length of `leftlabs` and `rightlabs` must be the same as the number of printed columns, respectively. The value NA can be used to specify columns which should use default labels (see Examples).

If argument `layout = "RevMan5"` (and arguments `leftcols` and `rightcols` are NULL), the layout for forest plots used for Cochrane reviews (which are generated with Review Manager 5, <http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>) is reproduced:

1. All columns are printed on the left side of the forest plot (see arguments `leftcols` and `rightcols`)
2. Tests for overall effect and subgroup differences are printed (`test.overall`, `test.effect.subgroup`, `test.subgroup`)
3. Diamonds representing meta-analysis results are printed in black (`diamond.fixed`, `diamond.random`)
4. Color of squares depends on the meta-analysis object (`col.square`, `col.square.lines`)
5. Information on effect measure and meta-analysis method is printed above the forest plot (`sm1ab`)
6. Label "Study or Subgroup" is printed for meta-analysis with subgroups (`leftlabs`)

If argument `layout = "JAMA"` (and arguments `leftcols` and `rightcols` are NULL), instructions for authors of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, see <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/pages/instructions-for-authors>, are taken into account:

1. Graph labels on right and left side are printed in bold font at top of forest plot (see arguments `bottom.lr` and `ff.lr`)
2. Information on effect measure and level of confidence interval is printed at bottom of forest plot (`x1ab`)
3. Tests for overall effect are printed (`test.overall`)
4. Diamonds representing meta-analysis results are printed in lightblue (`diamond.fixed`, `diamond.random`)
5. Squares representing individual study results are printed in darkblue (`col.square`, `col.square.lines`)
6. Between-study variance  $\tau^2$  is not printed
7. Empty rows are omitted (`addrow`)
8. Label "Source" is printed instead of "Study" (`leftlabs`)

The following changes are conducted if argument `layout = "subgroup"` (and arguments `leftcols` and `rightcols` are NULL) and a subgroup analysis was conducted:

1. Individual study results are omitted (see argument `study.results`)

2. Total number of observations is not printed (`pooled.totals`)
3. Label "Subgroup" is printed instead of "Study" (`leftlabs`)

If arguments `lab.e` and `lab.c` are NULL, "Experimental" and "Control" are used as labels for experimental and control group, respectively.

Argument `pscale` can be used to rescale single proportions or risk differences, e.g., `pscale = 1000` means that proportions are expressed as events per 1000 observations. This is useful in situations with (very) low event probabilities.

Argument `irscale` can be used to rescale single rates or rate differences, e.g., `irscale = 1000` means that rates are expressed as events per 1000 time units, e.g., person-years. This is useful in situations with (very) low rates. Argument `irunit` can be used to specify the time unit used in individual studies (default: "person-years"). This information is printed in summaries and forest plots if argument `irscale` is not equal to 1.

A prediction interval for treatment effect of a new study (Higgins et al., 2009) is given in the forest plot if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are TRUE. For graphical presentation of prediction intervals the approach by Guddat et al. (2012) is used.

Note, in R package **meta**, version 3.0-0 the following arguments have been removed from R function `forest.meta`: `byvar`, `level`, `level.comb`, `level.predict`. This functionality is now provided by R function `update.meta` (or directly in R functions, e.g., `metabin`, `metacont`, `metagen`, `metacor`, and `metaprop`).

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

### References

Guddat C, Grouven U, Bender R, Skipka G (2012): A note on the graphical presentation of prediction intervals in random-effects meta-analyses. *Systematic Reviews*, **1**, 34

Higgins JPT, Thompson SG, Spiegelhalter DJ (2009): A re-evaluation of random-effects meta-analysis. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A*, **172**, 137-59

### See Also

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [metabind](#), [settings.meta](#)

### Examples

```
data(0lkin95)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = 0lkin95, subset = c(41, 47, 51, 59),
              sm = "RR", method = "I",
              studlab = paste(author, year))

## Not run:
# Do standard (symmetric) forest plot
#
forest(m1)
```

```
## End(Not run)

# Layout of forest plot similar to Review Manager 5
# (see http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5)
#
# Furthermore, add labels on both sides of forest plot and
# prediction interval
#
forest(m1, layout = "RevMan5", comb.fixed = FALSE,
      label.right = "Favours control", col.label.right = "red",
      label.left = "Favours experimental", col.label.left = "green",
      prediction = TRUE)

## Not run:
# Sort studies by decreasing treatment effect within year subgroups
#
m2 <- update(m1, byvar = ifelse(year < 1987,
                              "Before 1987", "1987 and later"),
            print.byvar = FALSE)
forest(m2, sortvar = -TE, comb.random = FALSE)

# Forest plot specifying argument xlim
#
forest(m1, xlim = c(0.01, 10))

# Print results of test for overall effect
#
forest(m1, test.overall.fixed = TRUE, test.overall.random = TRUE)

# Forest plot with 'classic' layout used in R package meta,
# version < 1.6-0
#
forest(m1, col.square = "black", hetstat = FALSE)

# Change set of columns printed on left side of forest plot
#
forest(m1, comb.random = FALSE, leftcols = "studlab")

# Do not print columns on right side of forest plot
#
forest(m1, rightcols = FALSE)

# Change study label to "Author"
#
forest(m1, comb.random = FALSE, leftlabs = c("Author", NA, NA, NA, NA))

# Just give effect estimate and 95% confidence interval on right
# side of forest plot (in one column)
#
forest(m1, rightcols = c("effect.ci"))
```

```

# Just give effect estimate and 95% confidence interval on right
# side of forest plot
#
forest(m1, rightcols = c("effect", "ci"))

# 1. Change order of columns on left side
# 2. Attach labels to columns 'event.e' and 'event.c' instead of
#    columns 'n.e' and 'n.c'
#
forest(m1,
       leftcols = c("studlab", "n.e", "event.e", "n.c", "event.c"),
       lab.e.attach.to.col = "event.e",
       lab.c.attach.to.col = "event.c")

# Specify column labels only for newly created variables 'year' and
# 'author' (which are part of dataset Olkin95)
#
forest(m1,
       leftcols = c("studlab", "event.e", "n.e", "event.c", "n.c",
                   "author", "year"),
       leftlabs = c("Author", "Year of Publ"))

# Center text in all columns
#
forest(m1,
       leftcols = c("studlab", "event.e", "n.e", "event.c", "n.c",
                   "author", "year"),
       leftlabs = c("Author", "Year of Publ"), hetstat = FALSE,
       just = "center", just.addcols = "center", just.studlab = "center")

# Same result
#
forest(m1,
       leftcols = c("studlab", "event.e", "n.e", "event.c", "n.c",
                   "author", "year"),
       leftlabs = c("Author", "Year of Publ"), hetstat = FALSE,
       just = "c", just.addcols = "c", just.studlab = "c")

# Change some fontsizes and fontfaces
#
forest(m1,
       fs.study = 10, ff.study = "italic",
       fs.study.label = 11, ff.study.label = "bold",
       fs.axis = 5, ff.axis = "italic",
       ff.smlab = "bold.italic",
       ff.fixed = "plain", ff.hetstat = "plain")

# Change some colours
#
forest(m1,
       col.diamond = "green", col.diamond.lines = "red",
       col.study = c("green", "blue", "red", "orange"),
       col.square = "pink", col.square.lines = "black")

```



```
# Sort by weight in fixed effect model
#
forest(m1, sortvar = 1 / w.fixed, comb.random = FALSE)

# Sort by decreasing weight in fixed effect model
#
forest(m1, sortvar = -1 / w.fixed, comb.random = FALSE)

# Sort by size of treatment effect
#
forest(m1, sortvar = TE, comb.random = FALSE)

# Sort by size of treatment effect
#
forest(m1, sortvar = -TE, comb.random = FALSE)

# Sort by decreasing year of publication
#
forest(m1, sortvar = -year, comb.random = FALSE)

# Print results of test for subgroup differences (random effects
# model)
#
forest(m2,
      sortvar = -TE, comb.fixed = FALSE,
      test.subgroup.random = TRUE)

# Print only subgroup results
#
forest(m2, layout = "subgroup")

# Print only subgroup results (and consider text for heterogeneity
# measures in width of subgroup column)
#
forest(m2, layout = "subgroup", calcwidth.hetstat = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

funnel

*Funnel plot*

---

### **Description**

Draw a funnel plot which can be used to assess small study effects in meta-analysis. A contour-enhanced funnel plot can also be produced to assess causes of funnel plot asymmetry.

**Usage**

```

funnel(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
funnel(x, y, xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL, xlab = NULL,
  ylab = NULL, comb.fixed = FALSE, comb.random = FALSE,
  axes = TRUE, pch = 21, text = NULL, cex = 1, lty.fixed = 2,
  lty.random = 9, lwd = 1, lwd.fixed = lwd, lwd.random = lwd,
  col = "black", bg = "darkgray", col.fixed = "black",
  col.random = "black", log = "", yaxis = "se", sm = "",
  contour.levels = NULL, col.contour, ref = ifelse(backtransf &
  is.relative.effect(sm), 1, 0), level = NULL, studlab = FALSE,
  cex.studlab = 0.8, pos.studlab = 2, backtransf = TRUE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'meta'
funnel(x, xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL, xlab = NULL,
  ylab = NULL, comb.fixed = x$comb.fixed,
  comb.random = x$comb.random, axes = TRUE, pch = if (!inherits(x,
  "trimfill")) 21 else ifelse(x$trimfill, 1, 21), text = NULL, cex = 1,
  lty.fixed = 2, lty.random = 9, lwd = 1, lwd.fixed = lwd,
  lwd.random = lwd, col = "black", bg = "darkgray",
  col.fixed = "black", col.random = "black", log = "",
  yaxis = "se", contour.levels = NULL, col.contour,
  ref = ifelse(backtransf & is.relative.effect(x$sm), 1, 0),
  level = x$level, studlab = FALSE, cex.studlab = 0.8,
  pos.studlab = 2, ref.triangle = FALSE, lty.ref = 1,
  lwd.ref = lwd, col.ref = "black", lty.ref.triangle = 5,
  backtransf = x$backtransf, ...)

```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class meta, or estimated treatment effect in individual studies.
...	Graphical arguments as in par may also be passed as arguments.
y	Standard error of estimated treatment effect.
xlim	The x limits (min,max) of the plot.
ylim	The y limits (min,max) of the plot.
xlab	A label for the x-axis.
ylab	A label for the y-axis.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether the pooled fixed effect estimate should be plotted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether the pooled random effects estimate should be plotted.
axes	A logical indicating whether axes should be drawn on the plot.
pch	The plotting symbol used for individual studies.
text	A character vector specifying the text to be used instead of plotting symbol.
cex	The magnification to be used for plotting symbol.

<code>lty.fixed</code>	Line type (pooled fixed effect estimate).
<code>lty.random</code>	Line type (pooled random effects estimate).
<code>lwd</code>	The line width for confidence intervals (if <code>level</code> is not NULL).
<code>lwd.fixed</code>	The line width for fixed effect estimate (if <code>comb.fixed</code> is not NULL).
<code>lwd.random</code>	The line width for random effects estimate (if <code>comb.random</code> is not NULL).
<code>col</code>	A vector with colour of plotting symbols.
<code>bg</code>	A vector with background colour of plotting symbols (only used if <code>pch</code> in 21:25).
<code>col.fixed</code>	Color of line representing fixed effect estimate.
<code>col.random</code>	Color of line representing random effects estimate.
<code>log</code>	A character string which contains "x" if the x-axis is to be logarithmic, "y" if the y-axis is to be logarithmic and "xy" or "yx" if both axes are to be logarithmic (applies only to function <code>funnel</code> ).
<code>yaxis</code>	A character string indicating which type of weights are to be used. Either "se", "invvar", "invse", or "size" (applies only to function <code>funnel</code> ).
<code>sm</code>	A character string indicating underlying summary measure, e.g., "RD", "RR", "OR", "ASD", "HR", "MD", "SMD", or "ROM" (applies only to function <code>funnel</code> ).
<code>contour.levels</code>	A numeric vector specifying contour levels to produce contour-enhanced funnel plot.
<code>col.contour</code>	Colour of contours.
<code>ref</code>	Reference value (null effect) used to produce contour-enhanced funnel plot.
<code>level</code>	The confidence level utilised in the plot. For the funnel plot, confidence limits are not drawn if <code>yaxis="size"</code> .
<code>studlab</code>	A logical indicating whether study labels should be printed in the graph. A vector with study labels can also be provided (must be of same length as <code>x\$TE</code> then).
<code>cex.studlab</code>	Size of study labels, see argument <code>cex</code> in <a href="#">text</a> .
<code>pos.studlab</code>	Position of study labels, see argument <code>pos</code> in <a href="#">text</a> .
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating whether results for relative summary measures (argument <code>sm</code> equal to "OR", "RR", "HR", or "IRR") should be back transformed in funnel plots. If <code>backtransf=TRUE</code> , results for <code>sm="OR"</code> are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios, for example.
<code>ref.triangle</code>	A logical indicating whether reference value (null effect) should be printed.
<code>lty.ref</code>	Line type (reference value).
<code>lwd.ref</code>	The line width for the reference value and corresponding confidence intervals (if <code>ref.triangle</code> is TRUE and <code>level</code> is not NULL).
<code>col.ref</code>	Color of line representing reference value.
<code>lty.ref.triangle</code>	Line type (confidence intervals of reference value).

## Details

A funnel plot (Light & Pillemer, 1984) is drawn in the active graphics window. If `comb.fixed` is `TRUE`, the pooled estimate of the fixed effect model is plotted. If `level` is not `NULL`, the corresponding confidence limits are drawn.

In the funnel plot, if `yaxis` is `"se"`, the standard error of the treatment estimates is plotted on the y-axis which is likely to be the best choice (Sterne & Egger, 2001). Other possible choices for `yaxis` are `"invvar"` (inverse of the variance), `"invse"` (inverse of the standard error), and `"size"` (study size).

For `yaxis!="size"`, contour-enhanced funnel plots can be produced (Peters et al., 2008) by specifying the contour levels (argument `contour.levels`). By default (argument `col.contour` missing), suitable gray levels will be used to distinguish the contours. Different colours can be chosen by argument `col.contour`.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>, Petra Graham <pgraham@efs.mq.edu.au>

## References

Light RJ & Pillemer DB (1984): *Summing Up. The Science of Reviewing Research*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press

Peters JL, Sutton AJ, Jones DR, Abrams KR, Rushton L (2008): Contour-enhanced meta-analysis funnel plots help distinguish publication bias from other causes of asymmetry. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, **61**, 991–6

Sterne JAC & Egger M (2001): Funnel plots for detecting bias in meta-analysis: Guidelines on choice of axis. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, **54**, 1046–55

## See Also

[metabias](#), [metabin](#), [metagen](#), [radial](#)

## Examples

```
data(Olkin95)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95, subset = c(41, 47, 51, 59),
              studlab = paste(author, year),
              sm = "RR", method = "I")

oldpar <- par(mfrow = c(2, 2))

# Standard funnel plot
#
funnel(m1)
# Same result as code above:
funnel(m1$TE, m1$seTE, sm = "RR",
       comb.fixed = TRUE, level = 0.95)

# Funnel plot with confidence intervals, fixed effect estimate and
```

```

# contours
#
cc <- funnel(m1, comb.fixed = TRUE,
             level = 0.95, contour = c(0.9, 0.95, 0.99))$col.contour
legend(0.05, 0.05,
       c("0.1 > p > 0.05", "0.05 > p > 0.01", "< 0.01"), fill = cc)

# Contour-enhanced funnel plot with user-chosen colours
#
funnel(m1, comb.fixed = TRUE,
       level = 0.95, contour = c(0.9, 0.95, 0.99),
       col.contour = c("darkgreen", "green", "lightgreen"),
       lwd = 2, cex = 2, pch = 16, studlab = TRUE, cex.studlab = 1.25)
legend(0.05, 0.05,
       c("0.1 > p > 0.05", "0.05 > p > 0.01", "< 0.01"),
       fill = c("darkgreen", "green", "lightgreen"))

par(oldpar)

```

---

 gs

*Get default for a meta-analysis setting.*


---

## Description

Get default for a meta-analysis setting in R package **meta**.

## Usage

```
gs(x)
```

## Arguments

x                    A character string holding a settings name.

## Details

This function can be used to get the default for a meta-analysis setting defined using [settings.meta](#).

This function is primarily used to define default settings in meta-analysis functions, e.g., [metabin](#) or [metacont](#). A list of all arguments with current settings is printed using the command `settings.meta("print")`.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## See Also

[settings.meta](#)

**Examples**

```
# Get default setting for Hartung-Knapp method
#
gs("hakn")

# Get default setting for summary measure in metabin()
#
gs("smbin")
```

---

labbe

*L'Abbé plot for meta-analysis with binary outcomes*


---

**Description**

Draw a L'Abbé plot for meta-analysis with binary outcomes.

**Usage**

```
labbe(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
labbe(x, y, xlim, ylim, xlab = NULL, ylab = NULL,
      TE.fixed = NULL, TE.random = NULL, comb.fixed = !is.null(TE.fixed),
      comb.random = !is.null(TE.random), backtransf = TRUE, axes = TRUE,
      pch = 21, text = NULL, cex = 1, col = "black",
      bg = "lightgray", lwd = 1, lwd.fixed = lwd, lwd.random = lwd,
      lty.fixed = 2, lty.random = 9, col.fixed = col, col.random = col,
      nulleffect = TRUE, lwd.nulleffect = lwd,
      col.nulleffect = "lightgray", sm = "", weight, studlab = FALSE,
      cex.studlab = 0.8, label.e = NULL, label.c = NULL, ...)

## S3 method for class 'metabin'
labbe(x, xlim, ylim, xlab = NULL, ylab = NULL,
      TE.fixed = x$TE.fixed, TE.random = x$TE.random,
      comb.fixed = x$comb.fixed, comb.random = x$comb.random,
      backtransf = x$backtransf, axes = TRUE, pch = 21, text = NULL,
      cex = 1, col = "black", bg = "lightgray", lwd = 1,
      lwd.fixed = lwd, lwd.random = lwd, lty.fixed = 2, lty.random = 9,
      col.fixed = col, col.random = col, nulleffect = TRUE,
      lwd.nulleffect = lwd, col.nulleffect = "lightgray", sm = x$sm,
      weight, studlab = FALSE, cex.studlab = 0.8, label.e = x$label.e,
      label.c = x$label.c, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>metabin</code> . Alternatively, the x coordinates of points of the L'Abbé plot.
<code>...</code>	Graphical arguments as in <code>par</code> may also be passed as arguments.
<code>y</code>	The y coordinates of the L'Abbé plot, if argument <code>x</code> is not an object of class <code>metabin</code> .
<code>xlim</code>	The x limits (min, max) of the plot.
<code>ylim</code>	The y limits (min, max) of the plot.
<code>xlab</code>	A label for the x-axis.
<code>ylab</code>	A label for the y-axis.
<code>TE.fixed</code>	A numeric or vector specifying combined fixed effect estimate(s).
<code>TE.random</code>	A numeric or vector specifying combined random effects estimate(s).
<code>comb.fixed</code>	A logical indicating whether the pooled fixed effect estimate should be plotted.
<code>comb.random</code>	A logical indicating whether the pooled random effects estimate should be plotted.
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating which values should be printed on x- and y-axis (see Details).
<code>axes</code>	A logical indicating whether axes should be drawn on the plot.
<code>pch</code>	The plotting symbol used for individual studies.
<code>text</code>	A character vector specifying the text to be used instead of plotting symbol.
<code>cex</code>	The magnification to be used for plotting symbol.
<code>col</code>	A vector with colour of plotting symbols.
<code>bg</code>	A vector with background colour of plotting symbols (only used if <code>pch</code> in 21 : 25).
<code>lwd</code>	The line width.
<code>lwd.fixed</code>	The line width(s) for fixed effect estimate(s) (if <code>comb.fixed</code> is not <code>NULL</code> or <code>FALSE</code> ).
<code>lwd.random</code>	The line width(s) for random effects estimate(s) (if <code>comb.random</code> is not <code>NULL</code> or <code>FALSE</code> ).
<code>lty.fixed</code>	Line type(s) for fixed effect estimate(s).
<code>lty.random</code>	Line type(s) for random effects estimate(s).
<code>col.fixed</code>	Color of line(s) for fixed effect estimate(s).
<code>col.random</code>	Color of line(s) for random effects estimate(s).
<code>nulleffect</code>	A logical indicating whether line for null effect should be added to the plot..
<code>lwd.nulleffect</code>	Width of line for null effect.
<code>col.nulleffect</code>	Color of line for null effect.
<code>sm</code>	A character string indicating underlying summary measure, i.e., "RD", "RR", "OR", or "ASD".

<code>weight</code>	Either a numeric vector specifying relative sizes of plotting symbols or a character string indicating which type of plotting symbols is to be used for individual treatment estimates. One of missing (see Details), "same", "fixed", or "random", can be abbreviated. Plot symbols have the same size for all studies or represent study weights from fixed effect or random effects model.
<code>studlab</code>	A logical indicating whether study labels should be printed in the graph. A vector with study labels can also be provided (must be of same length as <code>x\$event</code> then).
<code>cex.studlab</code>	Size of study labels.
<code>label.e</code>	Label for experimental group.
<code>label.c</code>	Label for control group.

### Details

A L'Abbé plot is a scatter plot with the risk in the control group on the x-axis and the risk in the experimental group on the y-axis (L'Abbé et al., 1987). It can be used to evaluate heterogeneity in meta-analysis. Furthermore, this plot can aid to choose a summary measure (odds ratio, risk ratio, risk difference) that will result in more consistent results (Jiménez et al., 1997; Deeks, 2002).

If argument `backtransf` is TRUE (default), event probabilities will be printed on x- and y-axis. Otherwise, transformed event probabilities will be printed as defined by the summary measure, i.e., log odds of probabilities for odds ratio as summary measure (`sm = "OR"`), log probabilities for `sm = "RR"`, and arcsine-transformed probabilities for `sm = "ASD"`.

If `comb.fixed` is TRUE, the pooled estimate of the fixed effect model is plotted as a line. If `comb.random` is TRUE, the pooled estimate of the random effects model is plotted as a line.

Information from object `x` is utilised if argument `weight` is missing. Weights from the fixed effect model are used (`weight = "fixed"`) if argument `x$comb.fixed` is TRUE; weights from the random effects model are used (`weight = "random"`) if argument `x$comb.random` is TRUE and `x$comb.fixed` is FALSE.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

### References

- Deeks JJ (2002): Issues in the selection of a summary statistic for meta-analysis of clinical trials with binary outcomes. *Statistics in Medicine*, **21**, 1575–600
- Jiménez FJ, Guallar E, Martín-Moreno JM (1997): A graphical display useful for meta-analysis. *European Journal of Public Health*, **1**, 101–5
- L'Abbé KA, Detsky AS, O'Rourke K (1987): Meta-analysis in clinical research. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, **107**, 224–33

### See Also

[metabin](#)



**Examples**

```
data(Olkin95)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95,
              studlab = paste(author, year),
              sm = "RR", method = "I")

# L'Abbe plot for risk ratio
#
labbe(m1)

# L'Abbe plot for odds ratio
#
labbe(m1, sm = "OR")
# same plot
labbe(update(m1, sm = "OR"))

# L'Abbe plot for risk difference
#
labbe(m1, sm = "RD")

# L'Abbe plot on log odds scale
#
labbe(m1, sm = "OR", backtransf = FALSE)

# L'Abbe plot for odds ratio with coloured lines for various
# treatment effects (defined as log odds ratios)
#
mycols <- c("blue", "yellow", "green", "red",
            "green", "yellow", "blue")
labbe(m1, sm = "OR",
      comb.random = FALSE,
      TE.fixed = log(c(1 / 10, 1 / 5, 1 / 2,
                      1, 2, 5, 10)),
      col.fixed = mycols, lwd.fixed = 2)

# L'Abbe plot on log odds scale with coloured lines for various
# treatment effects (defined as log odds ratios)
#
labbe(m1, sm = "OR",
      comb.random = FALSE,
      TE.fixed = log(c(1 / 10, 1 / 5, 1 / 2,
                      1, 2, 5, 10)),
      col.fixed = mycols, lwd.fixed = 2,
      backtransf = FALSE)
```

**Description**

Test for funnel plot asymmetry, based on rank correlation or linear regression method.

**Usage**

```
metabias(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
metabias(x, seTE, method.bias = "linreg",
         plotit = FALSE, correct = FALSE, k.min = 10, ...)

## S3 method for class 'meta'
metabias(x, method.bias = x$method.bias, plotit = FALSE,
         correct = FALSE, k.min = 10, ...)

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

**Arguments**

x	An object of class meta or estimated treatment effect in individual studies.
...	Additional arguments (ignored at the moment).
seTE	Standard error of estimated treatment effect (mandatory if x not of class meta).
method.bias	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", "mm", "count", "score", or "peters", can be abbreviated.
plotit	A logical indicating whether a plot should be produced for method.bias "rank", "linreg", "mm", or "score".
correct	A logical indicating whether a continuity corrected statistic is used for rank correlation methods "rank" and "count".
k.min	Minimum number of studies to perform test for funnel plot asymmetry.

**Details**

Functions to conduct rank correlation or linear regression tests for funnel plot asymmetry.

Following recommendations by Sterne et al. (2011), by default, a test for funnel plot asymmetry is only conducted if the number of studies is ten or larger (argument `k.min = 10`). This behaviour can be changed by setting a smaller value for argument `k.min`. Note, the minimum number of studies is three.

If argument `method.bias` is "rank", the test statistic is based on the rank correlation between standardised treatment estimates and variance estimates of estimated treatment effects; Kendall's tau is used as correlation measure (Begg & Mazumdar, 1994). The test statistic follows a standard normal distribution. By default (if `correct` is FALSE), no continuity correction is utilised (Kendall & Gibbons, 1990).

If argument `method.bias` is "linreg", the test statistic is based on a weighted linear regression of the treatment effect on its standard error (Egger et al., 1997). The test statistic follows a t distribution with number of studies - 2 degrees of freedom.

If argument `method.bias` is "mm", the test statistic is based on a weighted linear regression of the treatment effect on its standard error using the method of moments estimator for the additive between-study variance component (method 3a in Thompson, Sharp, 1999). The test statistic follows a t distribution with `number of studies - 2` degrees of freedom.

If argument `method.bias` is "peters", the test statistic is based on a weighted linear regression of the treatment effect on the inverse of the total sample size using the variance of the average event rate as weights (Peters et al., 2006). The test statistic follows a t distribution with `number of studies - 2` degrees of freedom. This test is available for meta-analyses comparing two binary outcomes or combining single proportions, i.e. generated with functions `metabin` and `metaprop`.

The following tests for funnel plot asymmetry are only available for meta-analyses comparing two binary outcomes, i.e. meta-analyses generated with the `metabin` function.

If argument `method.bias` is "count", the test statistic is based on the rank correlation between a standardised cell frequency and the inverse of the variance of the cell frequency; Kendall's tau is used as correlation measure (Schwarzer et al., 2007). The test statistic follows a standard normal distribution. By default (if `correct` is FALSE), no continuity correction is utilised (Kendall & Gibbons, 1990).

If argument `method.bias` is "score", the test statistic is based on a weighted linear regression utilising efficient score and score variance (Harbord et al., 2006, 2009). The test statistic follows a t distribution with `number of studies - 2` degrees of freedom.

In order to calculate an arcsine test for funnel plot asymmetry (Rücker et al., 2008), one has to use the `metabin` function with argument `sm = "ASD"` as input to the `metabias` command. The three arcsine tests described in Rücker et al. (2008) can be calculated by setting `method.bias` to "rank", "linreg" and "mm", respectively.

If argument `method.bias` is missing, the Harbord test (`method.bias = "score"`) is used for the odds ratio as effect measure and the Egger test (`method.bias = "linreg"`) for other effect measures (Sterne et al., 2011).

No test for funnel plot asymmetry is conducted in meta-analyses with subgroups.

## Value

A list with class `htest` containing the following components if a test for funnel plot asymmetry is conducted:

<code>estimate</code>	The estimated degree of funnel plot asymmetry, with name "ks" or "bias" corresponding to the method employed, i.e., rank correlation or regression method.
<code>statistic</code>	The value of the test statistic.
<code>parameters</code>	The degrees of freedom of the test statistic in the case that it follows a t distribution.
<code>p.value</code>	The p-value for the test.
<code>alternative</code>	A character string describing the alternative hypothesis.
<code>method</code>	A character string indicating what type of test was used.
<code>data.name</code>	A character string giving the names of the data.
<code>title</code>	Title of Cochrane review.
<code>complab</code>	Comparison label.

outclab            Outcome label.  
 version            Version of R package **meta** used to create object.

Or a list with the following elements if test is not conducted due to the number of studies:

k                    Number of studies in meta-analysis.  
 k.min              Minimum number of studies to perform test for funnel plot asymmetry.  
 version            Version of R package **meta** used to create object.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

### References

- Begg CB & Mazumdar M (1994): Operating characteristics of a rank correlation test for publication bias. *Biometrics*, **50**, 1088–101
- Egger M, Smith GD, Schneider M & Minder C (1997): Bias in meta-analysis detected by a simple, graphical test. *British Medical Journal*, **315**, 629–34
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- Kendall M & Gibbons JD (1990): *Rank Correlation Methods*. London: Edward Arnold
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- Rücker G, Schwarzer G, Carpenter JR (2008): Arcsine test for publication bias in meta-analyses with binary outcomes. *Statistics in Medicine*, **27**, 746–63
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- Sterne, JAC et al. (2011): Recommendations for examining and interpreting funnel plot asymmetry in meta-analyses of randomised controlled trials. *BMJ (Clinical research ed.)*, **343**, 1
- Thompson SG & Sharp, SJ (1999): Explaining heterogeneity in meta-analysis: a comparison of methods, *Statistics in Medicine*, **18**, 2693–708

### See Also

[funnel](#), [funnel.meta](#), [metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#)

### Examples

```
data(0lkin95)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = 0lkin95, subset = 1:10,
              sm = "RR", method = "I")

metabias(m1)
```

```

metabias(m1, plotit = TRUE)

metabias(m1, method.bias = "rank")
metabias(m1, method.bias = "rank", correct = TRUE)

metabias(m1, method.bias = "count")
metabias(m1, method.bias = "linreg")$p.value

# Arcsine test (based on linear regression)
#
m1.as <- update(m1, sm = "ASD")
metabias(m1.as)
# Same result (using function metabias.default)
metabias(m1.as$TE, m1.as$seTE)

# No test for funnel plot asymmetry calculated
#
m2 <- update(m1, subset = 1:5)
metabias(m2)

m3 <- update(m1, subset = 1:2)
metabias(m3)

# Test for funnel plot asymmetry calculated (use of argument k.min)
#
metabias(m2, k.min = 5)

```

---

metabias.rm5

*Cochrane review: Test for funnel plot asymmetry*


---

## Description

Conduct a test for funnel plot asymmetry for all outcomes in a Cochrane review

## Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'rm5'
metabias(x, comp.no, outcome.no, method.bias = "linreg",
         method.bias.binary = method.bias, method.bias.or = "score",
         k.min = 10, ...)

```

## Arguments

x	An object of class rm5.
comp.no	Comparison number.
outcome.no	Outcome number.

method.bias	A character string indicating which test for small-study effects is to be used for all outcomes. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
method.bias.binary	A character string indicating which test is to be used for binary outcomes. Either "rank", "linreg", "mm", "count", "score", or "peters", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
method.bias.or	A character string indicating which test is to be used for binary outcomes with odds ratio as summary measure. Either "rank", "linreg", "mm", "count", "score", or "peters", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
k.min	Minimum number of studies to perform test for small-study effects.
...	Additional arguments (ignored at the moment)

## Details

This function can be used to conduct a test for funnel plot asymmetry for all or selected meta-analyses in a Cochrane Review.

Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) is the current software used for preparing and maintaining Cochrane Reviews (<http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>). In RevMan 5, subgroup analyses can be defined and data from a Cochrane review can be imported to R using the function `read.rm5`.

The R function `metacr` is called internally.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

## References

Higgins, J.P.T and S. Green (2011): *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 [Updated March 2011]*. The Cochrane Library: <http://www.cochrane-handbook.org>

## See Also

[metabias](#), [metacr](#), [read.rm5](#), [summary.rm5](#)

## Examples

```
# Locate export data file "Fleiss93_CR.csv" in sub-directory of
# package "meta"
#
filename <- system.file("extdata", "Fleiss93_CR.csv", package = "meta")
Fleiss93_CR <- read.rm5(filename)

# Print results for all tests of small-study effects
#
metabias(Fleiss93_CR, k.min = 5)

# Print result of test of small-study effects for second outcome in
```

```
# first comparison
#
metabias(Fleiss93_CR, comp.no = 1, outcome.no = 2, k.min = 5)
```

metabin

*Meta-analysis of binary outcome data*

## Description

Calculation of fixed effect and random effects estimates (risk ratio, odds ratio, risk difference, or arcsine difference) for meta-analyses with binary outcome data. Mantel-Haenszel, inverse variance, Peto method, and generalised linear mixed model (GLMM) are available for pooling. For GLMMs, the `rma.glmm` function from R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is called internally.

## Usage

```
metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c, studlab, data = NULL,
        subset = NULL, exclude = NULL, method = ifelse(tau.common,
        "Inverse", gs("method")), sm = ifelse(!is.na(charmatch(tolower(method),
        c("peto", "glmm"), nomatch = NA)), "OR", gs("smbin")),
        incr = gs("incr"), allincr = gs("allincr"),
        addincr = gs("addincr"), allstudies = gs("allstudies"),
        MH.exact = gs("MH.exact"), RR.cochrane = gs("RR.cochrane"),
        model.glmm = "UM.FS", level = gs("level"),
        level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
        comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hagn = gs("hagn"),
        method.tau = ifelse(!is.na(charmatch(tolower(method), "glmm", nomatch =
        NA)), "ML", gs("method.tau")), tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL,
        tau.common = gs("tau.common"), prediction = gs("prediction"),
        level.predict = gs("level.predict"), method.bias = ifelse(sm == "OR",
        "score", gs("method.bias")), backtransf = gs("backtransf"),
        pscale = 1, title = gs("title"), complab = gs("complab"),
        outclab = "", label.e = gs("label.e"), label.c = gs("label.c"),
        label.left = gs("label.left"), label.right = gs("label.right"),
        byvar, bylab, print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"),
        byseparator = gs("byseparator"), print.CMH = gs("print.CMH"),
        keepdata = gs("keepdata"), warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>event.e</code>	Number of events in experimental group.
<code>n.e</code>	Number of observations in experimental group.
<code>event.c</code>	Number of events in control group.
<code>n.c</code>	Number of observations in control group.
<code>studlab</code>	An optional vector with study labels.

data	An optional data frame containing the study information, i.e., event.e, n.e, event.c, and n.c.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
method	A character string indicating which method is to be used for pooling of studies. One of "Inverse", "MH", "Peto", or "GLMM", can be abbreviated.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("RR", "OR", "RD", or "ASD") is to be used for pooling of studies, see Details.
incr	Could be either a numerical value which is added to each cell frequency for studies with a zero cell count or the character string "TACC" which stands for treatment arm continuity correction, see Details.
allincr	A logical indicating if incr is added to each cell frequency of all studies if at least one study has a zero cell count. If FALSE (default), incr is added only to each cell frequency of studies with a zero cell count.
addincr	A logical indicating if incr is added to each cell frequency of all studies irrespective of zero cell counts.
allstudies	A logical indicating if studies with zero or all events in both groups are to be included in the meta-analysis (applies only if sm is equal to "RR" or "OR").
MH.exact	A logical indicating if incr is not to be added to all cell frequencies for studies with a zero cell count to calculate the pooled estimate based on the Mantel-Haenszel method.
RR.cochrane	A logical indicating if 2*incr instead of 1*incr is to be added to n.e and n.c in the calculation of the risk ratio (i.e., sm="RR") for studies with a zero cell. This is used in RevMan 5, the Cochrane Collaboration's program for preparing and maintaining Cochrane reviews.
model.glmm	A character string indicating which GLMM should be used. One of "UM.FS", "UM.RS", "CM.EL", and "CM.AL", see Details.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.



<code>level.predict</code>	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
<code>method.bias</code>	A character string indicating which test for funnel plot asymmetry is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", "mm", "count", "score", or "peters", can be abbreviated. See function <code>metabias</code>
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating whether results for odds ratio ( <code>sm="OR"</code> ) and risk ratio ( <code>sm="RR"</code> ) should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If TRUE (default), results will be presented as odds ratios and risk ratios; otherwise log odds ratios and log risk ratios will be shown.
<code>pscale</code>	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of risk differences.
<code>title</code>	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
<code>complab</code>	Comparison label.
<code>outclab</code>	Outcome label.
<code>label.e</code>	Label for experimental group.
<code>label.c</code>	Label for control group.
<code>label.left</code>	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
<code>label.right</code>	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
<code>byvar</code>	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as <code>event.e</code> ).
<code>bylab</code>	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
<code>print.byvar</code>	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
<code>byseparator</code>	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
<code>print.CMH</code>	A logical indicating whether result of the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test for overall effect should be printed.
<code>keepdata</code>	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
<code>warn</code>	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if <code>incr</code> is added to studies with zero cell frequencies).
<code>control</code>	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <code>rma.uni</code> or <code>rma.glmm</code> , respectively.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments passed on to <code>rma.glmm</code> function.

## Details

Treatment estimates and standard errors are calculated for each study. The following measures of treatment effect are available:

- Risk ratio (`sm = "RR"`)
- Odds ratio (`sm = "OR"`)
- Risk difference (`sm = "RD"`)
- Arcsine difference (`sm = "ASD"`)

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class "meta" even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

By default, both fixed effect and random effects models are considered (see arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`). If method is "MH" (default), the Mantel-Haenszel method is used to calculate the fixed effect estimate; if method is "Inverse", inverse variance weighting is used for pooling; if method is "Peto", the Peto method is used for pooling. For the Peto method, Peto's log odds ratio, i.e.  $(O - E) / V$  and its standard error  $\sqrt{1 / V}$  with  $O - E$  and  $V$  denoting "Observed minus Expected" and "V", are utilised in the random effects model. Accordingly, results of a random effects model using `sm = "Peto"` can be (slightly) different to results from a random effects model using `sm = "MH"` or `sm = "Inverse"`.

A distinctive and frequently overlooked advantage of binary endpoints is that individual patient data (IPD) can be extracted from a two-by-two table. Accordingly, statistical methods for IPD, i.e., logistic regression and generalised linear mixed models, can be utilised in a meta-analysis of binary outcomes (Stijnen et al., 2010; Simmonds et al., 2016). These methods are available (argument `method = "GLMM"`) for the odds ratio as summary measure by calling the `rma.glmm` function from R package **metafor** internally. As a technical note, a warning "Cannot invert Hessian for saturated model" is printed using R package **metafor**, version 2.0-0. This warning can be safely ignored as the inverted Hessian is only used in the calculation of a Wald-type test of heterogeneity which is not printed due to the estimation problem.

Four different GLMMs are available for meta-analysis with binary outcomes using argument `model.glmm` (which corresponds to argument `model` in the `rma.glmm` function):

- Logistic regression model with fixed study effects (default)  
(`model.glmm = "UM.FS"`, i.e., **U**nconditional **M**odel - **F**ixed **S**tudy effects)
- Mixed-effects logistic regression model with random study effects  
(`model.glmm = "UM.RS"`, i.e., **U**nconditional **M**odel - **R**andom **S**tudy effects)
- Generalised linear mixed model (conditional Hypergeometric-Normal)  
(`model.glmm = "CM.EL"`, i.e., **C**onditional **M**odel - **E**xact **L**ikelihood)
- Generalised linear mixed model (conditional Binomial-Normal)  
(`model.glmm = "CM.AL"`, i.e., **C**onditional **M**odel - **A**pproximate **L**ikelihood)

Details on these four GLMMs as well as additional arguments which can be provided using argument `'...{}'` in **metabin** are described in `rma.glmm` where you can also find information on the iterative algorithms used for estimation. Note, regardless of which value is used for argument `model.glmm`, results for two different GLMMs are calculated: fixed effect model (with fixed treatment effect) and random effects model (with random treatment effects).

For studies with a zero cell count, by default, 0.5 is added to all cell frequencies of these studies; if `incr` is "TACC" a treatment arm continuity correction is used instead (Sweeting et al., 2004; Diamond et al., 2007). For odds ratio and risk ratio, treatment estimates and standard errors are

only calculated for studies with zero or all events in both groups if `allstudies` is `TRUE`. This continuity correction is used both to calculate individual study results with confidence limits and to conduct meta-analysis based on the inverse variance method. For Peto method and GLMMs no continuity correction is used. For the Mantel-Haenszel method, by default (if `MH.exact` is `FALSE`), `incr` is added to all cell frequencies of a study with a zero cell count in the calculation of the pooled risk ratio or odds ratio as well as the estimation of the variance of the pooled risk difference, risk ratio or odds ratio. This approach is also used in other software, e.g. RevMan 5 and the Stata procedure `metan`. According to Fleiss (in Cooper & Hedges, 1994), there is no need to add 0.5 to a cell frequency of zero to calculate the Mantel-Haenszel estimate and he advocates the exact method (`MH.exact = TRUE`). Note, estimates based on exact Mantel-Haenszel method or GLMM are not defined if the number of events is zero in all studies either in the experimental or control group.

Argument `byvar` can be used to conduct subgroup analysis for all methods but GLMMs. Instead use the `metareg` function for GLMMs which can also be used for continuous covariates.

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are `TRUE`.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing `metabin` object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2001) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn = TRUE`. For GLMMs, a method similar to Knapp and Hartung (2003) is implemented, see description of argument `tdist` in `rma.glmm`.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau = "DL"`. The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau = "PM"`. Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison@lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "REML"`)
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "ML"`)
- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau = "HS"`)
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau = "SJ"`)
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau = "HE"`)
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau = "EB"`)

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

## Value

An object of class `c("metabin", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

```
event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c, studlab, exclude,
      As defined above.
sm, method, incr, allincr, addincr,
      As defined above.
```

allstudies, MH.exact, RR.cochrane, model.glmm, warn,	As defined above.
level, level.comb, comb.fixed, comb.random,	As defined above.
hakn, method.tau, tau.preset, TE.tau, method.bias,	As defined above.
tau.common, title, complab, outclab,	As defined above.
label.e, label.c, label.left, label.right,	As defined above.
byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator	As defined above.
TE, seTE	Estimated treatment effect and standard error of individual studies.
lower, upper	Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.
zval, pval	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.
w.fixed, w.random	Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).
TE.fixed, seTE.fixed	Estimated overall treatment effect, e.g., log risk ratio or risk difference, and standard error (fixed effect model).
lower.fixed, upper.fixed	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).
zval.fixed, pval.fixed	z-value and p-value for test of overall treatment effect (fixed effect model).
TE.random, seTE.random	Estimated overall treatment effect, e.g., log risk ratio or risk difference, and standard error (random effects model).
lower.random, upper.random	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).
zval.random, pval.random	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall treatment effect (random effects model).
prediction, level.predict	As defined above.
seTE.predict	Standard error utilised for prediction interval.
lower.predict, upper.predict	Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.
k	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
Q	Heterogeneity statistic Q.
df.Q	Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.
pval.Q	P-value of heterogeneity test.
Q.LRT	Heterogeneity statistic for likelihood-ratio test (only if method = "GLMM").
df.Q.LRT	Degrees of freedom for likelihood-ratio test

pval.Q.LRT	P-value of likelihood-ratio test.
tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
se.tau	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.
C	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
Q.CMH	Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test statistic for overall effect.
df.Q.CMH	Degrees of freedom for Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test statistic.
pval.Q.CMH	P-value of Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test.
incr.e, incr.c	Increment added to cells in the experimental and control group, respectively.
sparse	Logical flag indicating if any study included in meta-analysis has any zero cell frequencies.
doublezeros	Logical flag indicating if any study has zero cell frequencies in both treatment groups.
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn = TRUE).
k.MH	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis using Mantel-Haenszel method.
bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.harmonic.mean.w	Harmonic mean of number of observations in subgroups (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation) - if byvar is not missing.

event.e.w	Number of events in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.e.w	Number of observations in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
event.c.w	Number of events in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.c.w	Number of observations in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).
df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limits for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limit for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.

keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata = TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata = TRUE).
.glmm.fixed	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (fixed effect model).
.glmm.random	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (random effects model).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.
version.metafor	Version of R package <b>metafor</b> used for GLMMs.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

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### See Also

[update.meta](#), [forest](#), [funnel](#), [metabias](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [metareg](#), [print.meta](#)

### Examples

```
# Calculate odds ratio and confidence interval for a single study
#
metabin(10, 20, 15, 20, sm = "OR")

# Different results (due to handling of studies with double zeros)
#
metabin(0, 10, 0, 10, sm = "OR")
metabin(0, 10, 0, 10, sm = "OR", allstudies = TRUE)

# Use subset of Olkin (1995) to conduct meta-analysis based on
# inverse variance method (with risk ratio as summary measure)
#
data(Olkin95)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95, subset = c(41, 47, 51, 59),
              method = "Inverse")
summary(m1)

# Use different subset of Olkin (1995)
#
m2 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95, subset = year < 1970,
              method = "Inverse", studlab = author)
summary(m2)
forest(m2)

# Meta-analysis with odds ratio as summary measure
#
m3 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95, subset = year < 1970,
              sm = "OR", method = "Inverse", studlab = author)
# Same meta-analysis result using 'update.meta' function
m3 <- update(m2, sm = "OR")
summary(m3)

# Meta-analysis based on Mantel-Haenszel method (with odds ratio as
# summary measure)
```



```

#
m4 <- update(m3, method = "MH")
summary(m4)

# Meta-analysis based on Peto method (only available for odds ratio
# as summary measure)
#
m5 <- update(m3, method = "Peto")
summary(m5)

## Not run:
# Meta-analysis using generalised linear mixed models (only if R
# packages 'metafor' and 'lme4' are available)
#
if (suppressMessages(require(metafor, quietly = TRUE, warn = FALSE)) &
    require(lme4, quietly = TRUE)) {

# Logistic regression model with (k = 4) fixed study effects
# (default: model.glmm = "UM.FS")
#
m6 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95, subset = year < 1970,
              method = "GLMM")

# Same results:
m6 <- update(m2, method = "GLMM")
summary(m6)

# Mixed-effects logistic regression model with random study effects
# (warning message printed due to argument 'nAGQ')
#
m7 <- update(m6, model.glmm = "UM.RS")
#
# Use additional argument 'nAGQ' for internal call of 'rma.glmm'
# function
#
m7 <- update(m6, model.glmm = "UM.RS", nAGQ = 1)
summary(m7)

# Generalised linear mixed model (conditional
# Hypergeometric-Normal) (R package 'BiasedUrn' must be available)
#
if (require(BiasedUrn, quietly = TRUE)) {
  m8 <- update(m6, model.glmm = "CM.EL")
  summary(m8)
}

# Generalised linear mixed model (conditional Binomial-Normal)
#
m9 <- update(m6, model.glmm = "CM.AL")
summary(m9)

# Logistic regression model with (k = 70) fixed study effects
# (about 18 seconds with Intel Core i7-3667U, 2.0GHz)

```

```

#
m10 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
               data = Olkin95, method = "GLMM")
summary(m10)

# Mixed-effects logistic regression model with random study effects
# - about 50 seconds with Intel Core i7-3667U, 2.0GHz
# - several warning messages, e.g. "failure to converge, ..."
#
summary(update(m10, model.glmm = "UM.RS"))

# Conditional Hypergeometric-Normal GLMM
# - long computation time (about 12 minutes with Intel Core
#   i7-3667U, 2.0GHz)
# - estimation problems for this very large dataset:
#   * warning that Choleski factorization of Hessian failed
#   * confidence interval for treatment effect smaller in random
#     effects model compared to fixed effect model
#
if (require(BiasedUrn, quietly = TRUE)) {
  system.time(m11 <- update(m10, model.glmm = "CM.EL"))
  summary(m11)
}

# Generalised linear mixed model (conditional Binomial-Normal)
# (less than 1 second with Intel Core i7-3667U, 2.0GHz)
#
summary(update(m10, model.glmm = "CM.AL"))
}

## End(Not run)

```

---

metabin

*Combine meta-analysis objects*


---

## Description

This function can be used to combine meta-analysis objects and is, for example, useful to generate a forest plot with results of subgroup analyses.

## Usage

```
metabin(..., name, pooled, backtransf, outclab)
```

## Arguments

...	Any number of meta-analysis objects (see Details).
name	An optional character vector providing descriptive names for the meta-analysis objects.

pooled	A character string indicating whether results of a fixed effect or random effects model should be considered. Either "fixed" or "random", can be abbreviated.
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If backtransf=TRUE (default), results for sm="OR" are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios, for example.
outclab	Outcome label for all meta-analysis objects.

### Details

This function can be used to combine meta-analysis objects and is, for example, useful to generate a forest plot with results of subgroup analyses.

### Value

An object of class `c("metabind", "meta")` with corresponding print, summary, and forest functions. See [metagen](#) for more information on list elements.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

### See Also

[metagen](#), [forest.metabind](#)

### Examples

```
data(Fleiss93cont)

# Add some (fictitious) grouping variables:
#
Fleiss93cont$age <- c(55, 65, 55, 65, 55)
Fleiss93cont$region <- c("Europe", "Europe", "Asia", "Asia", "Europe")

m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "MD")

# Conduct two subgroup analyses
#
mu1 <- update(m1, byvar = age, bylab = "Age group")
mu2 <- update(m1, byvar = region, bylab = "Region")

# Combine subgroup meta-analyses and show forest plot with subgroup
# results
#
mb1 <- metabind(mu1, mu2)
mb1
forest(mb1)
```

---

 metacont

*Meta-analysis of continuous outcome data*


---

## Description

Calculation of fixed and random effects estimates for meta-analyses with continuous outcome data; inverse variance weighting is used for pooling.

## Usage

```
metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c, studlab, data = NULL,
  subset = NULL, exclude = NULL, sm = gs("smcont"),
  pooledvar = gs("pooledvar"), method.smd = gs("method.smd"),
  sd.glass = gs("sd.glass"), exact.smd = gs("exact.smd"),
  level = gs("level"), level.comb = gs("level.comb"),
  comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"), comb.random = gs("comb.random"),
  hakn = gs("hakn"), method.tau = gs("method.tau"),
  tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL, tau.common = gs("tau.common"),
  prediction = gs("prediction"), level.predict = gs("level.predict"),
  method.bias = gs("method.bias"), backtransf = gs("backtransf"),
  title = gs("title"), complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "",
  label.e = gs("label.e"), label.c = gs("label.c"),
  label.left = gs("label.left"), label.right = gs("label.right"),
  byvar, bylab, print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"),
  byseparator = gs("byseparator"), keepdata = gs("keepdata"),
  warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL)
```

## Arguments

n.e	Number of observations in experimental group.
mean.e	Estimated mean in experimental group.
sd.e	Standard deviation in experimental group.
n.c	Number of observations in control group.
mean.c	Estimated mean in control group.
sd.c	Standard deviation in control group.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("MD", "SMD", or "ROM") is to be used for pooling of studies.
pooledvar	A logical indicating if a pooled variance should be used for the mean difference (sm="MD").

method.smd	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the standardised mean difference (sm="SMD"). Either "Hedges" for Hedges' g (default), "Cohen" for Cohen's d, or "Glass" for Glass' delta, can be abbreviated.
sd.glass	A character string indicating which standard deviation is used in the denominator for Glass' method to estimate the standardised mean difference. Either "control" using the standard deviation in the control group (sd.c) or "experimental" using the standard deviation in the experimental group (sd.e), can be abbreviated.
exact.smd	A logical indicating whether exact formulae should be used in estimation of the standardised mean difference and its standard error (see Details).
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
method.bias	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results for ratio of means (sm="ROM") should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If TRUE (default), results will be presented as ratio of means; otherwise log ratio of means will be shown.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
label.e	Label for experimental group.
label.c	Label for control group.
label.left	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
label.right	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
byvar	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as n.e).
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.

<code>print.byvar</code>	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
<code>byseparator</code>	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
<code>keepdata</code>	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
<code>warn</code>	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if studies are excluded from meta-analysis due to zero standard deviations).
<code>control</code>	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <code>rma.uni</code> .

## Details

Calculation of fixed and random effects estimates for meta-analyses with continuous outcome data; inverse variance weighting is used for pooling.

Three different types of summary measures are available for continuous outcomes:

- mean difference (argument `sm = "MD"`)
- standardised mean difference (`sm = "SMD"`)
- ratio of means (`sm = "ROM"`)

Meta-analysis of ratio of means – also called response ratios – is described in Hedges et al. (1999) and Friedrich et al. (2008).

For the standardised mean difference three methods are implemented:

- Hedges' g (default, `method.smd = "Hedges"`) - see Hedges (1981)
- Cohen's d (`method.smd = "Cohen"`) - see Cohen (1988)
- Glass' delta (`method.smd = "Glass"`) - see Glass (1976)

Hedges (1981) calculated the exact bias in Cohen's d which is a ratio of gamma distributions with the degrees of freedom, i.e. total sample size minus two, as argument. By default (argument `exact.smd = FALSE`), an accurate approximation of this bias provided in Hedges (1981) is utilised for Hedges' g as well as its standard error; these approximations are also used in RevMan 5. Following Borenstein et al. (2009) these approximations are not used in the estimation of Cohen's d. White and Thomas (2005) argued that approximations are unnecessary with modern software and accordingly promote to use the exact formulae; this is possible using argument `exact.smd = TRUE`. For Hedges' g the exact formulae are used to calculate the standardised mean difference as well as the standard error; for Cohen's d the exact formula is only used to calculate the standard error. In typical applications (with sample sizes above 10), the differences between using the exact formulae and the approximation will be minimal.

For Glass' delta, by default (argument `sd.glass = "control"`), the standard deviation in the control group (`sd.c`) is used in the denominator of the standard mean difference. The standard deviation in the experimental group (`sd.e`) can be used by specifying `sd.glass = "experimental"`.

Calculations are conducted on the log scale for ratio of means (`sm = "ROM"`). Accordingly, list elements `TE`, `TE.fixed`, and `TE.random` contain the logarithm of ratio of means. In printouts and plots these values are back transformed if argument `backtransf = TRUE`.

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class "meta" even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

The function `metagen` is called internally to calculate individual and overall treatment estimates and standard errors.

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are TRUE.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing `metacont` object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2003) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn = TRUE`.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau = "DL"`. The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau = "PM"`. Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison@lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "REML"`)
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "ML"`)
- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau = "HS"`)
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau = "SJ"`)
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau = "HE"`)
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau = "EB"`)

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

## Value

An object of class `c("metacont", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

```
n.e, mean.e, sd.e,
      As defined above.
n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
      As defined above.
studlab, exclude, sm, level, level.comb,
      As defined above.
comb.fixed, comb.random,
      As defined above.
```

pooledvar, method.smd, sd.glass,  
     As defined above.  
 hakn, method.tau, tau.preset, TE.tau, method.bias,  
     As defined above.  
 tau.common, title, complab, outclab,  
     As defined above.  
 label.e, label.c, label.left, label.right,  
     As defined above.  
 byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator  
     As defined above.  
  
 TE, seTE      Estimated treatment effect and standard error of individual studies.  
 lower, upper    Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.  
 zval, pval      z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.  
 w.fixed, w.random  
     Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).  
 TE.fixed, seTE.fixed  
     Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (fixed effect model).  
 lower.fixed, upper.fixed  
     Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).  
 zval.fixed, pval.fixed  
     z-value and p-value for test of overall treatment effect (fixed effect model).  
 TE.random, seTE.random  
     Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (random effects model).  
 lower.random, upper.random  
     Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).  
 zval.random, pval.random  
     z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall treatment effect  
     (random effects model).  
 prediction, level.predict  
     As defined above.  
 seTE.predict    Standard error utilised for prediction interval.  
 lower.predict, upper.predict  
     Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.  
  
 k              Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.  
 Q              Heterogeneity statistic Q.  
 df.Q           Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.  
 pval.Q         P-value of heterogeneity test.  
 tau             Square-root of between-study variance.  
 se.tau         Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.  
 C              Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across sub-  
                 groups.  
 df.hakn        Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only  
                 if hakn = TRUE).



method	Pooling method: "Inverse".
bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.e.w	Number of observations in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.c.w	Number of observations in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).
df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.

Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limit for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata = TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata = TRUE).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

### References

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- Review Manager (RevMan)* [Computer program]. Version 5.3. Copenhagen: The Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration, 2014
- Viechtbauer W (2010): Conducting Meta-Analyses in R with the Metafor Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, **36**, 1–48
- White IR, Thomas J (2005): Standardized mean differences in individually-randomized and cluster-randomized trials, with applications to meta-analysis. *Clinical Trials*, **2**, 141–51

### See Also

[update.meta](#), [metabin](#), [metagen](#)

### Examples

```
data(Fleiss93cont)

# Meta-analysis with Hedges' g as effect measure
#
m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
               data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD")
m1
forest(m1)

# Use Cohen's d instead of Hedges' g as effect measure
#
update(m1, method.smd = "Cohen")

# Use Glass' delta instead of Hedges' g as effect measure
#
update(m1, method.smd = "Glass")

# Use Glass' delta based on the standard deviation in the experimental group
#
update(m1, method.smd = "Glass", sd.glass = "experimental")
```

```

# Calculate Hedges' g based on exact formulae
#
update(m1, exact.smd = TRUE)

data(amlodipine)
m2 <- metacont(n.amlo, mean.amlo, sqrt(var.amlo),
              n.plac, mean.plac, sqrt(var.plac),
              data = amlodipine, studlab = study)
summary(m2)

# Use pooled variance
#
summary(update(m2, pooledvar = TRUE))

# Meta-analysis of response ratios (Hedges et al., 1999)
#
data(woodyplants)
m3 <- metacont(n.elev, mean.elev, sd.elev,
              n.amb, mean.amb, sd.amb,
              data = woodyplants, sm = "ROM")
summary(m3)
summary(m3, backtransf = FALSE)

```

---

metacor

---

*Meta-analysis of correlations*


---

## Description

Calculation of fixed and random effects estimates for meta-analyses with correlations; inverse variance weighting is used for pooling.

## Usage

```

metacor(cor, n, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL, exclude = NULL,
        sm = gs("smcor"), level = gs("level"),
        level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
        comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hakn = gs("hakn"),
        method.tau = gs("method.tau"), tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL,
        tau.common = gs("tau.common"), prediction = gs("prediction"),
        level.predict = gs("level.predict"), null.effect = 0,
        method.bias = gs("method.bias"), backtransf = gs("backtransf"),
        title = gs("title"), complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "", byvar,
        bylab, print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"),
        byseparator = gs("byseparator"), keepdata = gs("keepdata"),
        control = NULL)

```

**Arguments**

cor	Correlation.
n	Number of observations.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information, i.e., cor and n.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("ZCOR" or "COR") is to be used for pooling of studies.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall effect used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
null.effect	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.
method.bias	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results for Fisher's z transformed correlations (sm = "ZCOR") should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If TRUE (default), results will be presented as correlations; otherwise Fisher's z transformed correlations will be shown.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
byvar	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as event.e).
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
print.byvar	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.

byseparator	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
keepdata	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
control	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <code>rma.uni</code> .

## Details

Fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis of correlations based either on Fisher's z transformation of correlations (`sm = "ZCOR"`) or direct combination of correlations (`sm = "COR"`) (see Cooper et al., p264-5 and p273-4).

Only few statisticians would advocate the use of untransformed correlations unless sample sizes are very large (see Cooper et al., p265). The artificial example given below shows that the smallest study gets the largest weight if correlations are combined directly because the correlation is closest to 1.

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class "meta" even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

A prediction interval for the correlation in a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are `TRUE`.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing `metacor` object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2003) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn = TRUE`.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau = "DL"`. The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau = "PM"`. Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison at lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "REML"`)
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "ML"`)
- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau = "HS"`)
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau = "SJ"`)
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau = "HE"`)
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau = "EB"`)

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

**Value**

An object of class `c("metacor", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

`cor`, `n`, `studlab`, `exclude`,  
     As defined above.

`sm`, `level`, `level.comb`,  
     As defined above.

`comb.fixed`, `comb.random`,  
     As defined above.

`hakn`, `method.tau`, `tau.preset`, `TE.tau`, `null.effect`,  
     As defined above.

`method.bias`, `tau.common`, `title`, `complab`, `outclab`,  
     As defined above.

`byvar`, `bylab`, `print.byvar`, `byseparator`  
     As defined above.

`TE`, `seTE`      Either Fisher's z transformation of correlations (`sm = "ZCOR"`) or correlations (`sm="COR"`) for individual studies.

`lower`, `upper`    Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.

`zval`, `pval`      z-value and p-value for test of effect in individual studies.

`w.fixed`, `w.random`  
     Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).

`TE.fixed`, `seTE.fixed`  
     Estimated overall effect (Fisher's z transformation of correlation or correlation) and standard error (fixed effect model).

`lower.fixed`, `upper.fixed`  
     Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).

`zval.fixed`, `pval.fixed`  
     z-value and p-value for test of overall effect (fixed effect model).

`TE.random`, `seTE.random`  
     Estimated overall effect (Fisher's z transformation of correlation or correlation) and standard error (random effects model).

`lower.random`, `upper.random`  
     Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).

`zval.random`, `pval.random`  
     z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall effect (random effects model).

`prediction`, `level.predict`  
     As defined above.

`seTE.predict`    Standard error utilised for prediction interval.

`lower.predict`, `upper.predict`  
     Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.

`k`                Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.

`Q`                Heterogeneity statistic Q.

df.Q	Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.
pval.Q	P-value of heterogeneity test.
tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
se.tau	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.
C	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn = TRUE).
method	Pooling method: "Inverse".
bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w	Estimated effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.e.w	Number of observations in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.c.w	Number of observations in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).



df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limits for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limit for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata = TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata = TRUE).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## References

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- Viechtbauer W (2010): Conducting Meta-Analyses in R with the Metafor Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, **36**, 1–48

## See Also

[update.meta](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [print.meta](#)

## Examples

```
m1 <- metacor(c(0.85, 0.7, 0.95), c(20, 40, 10))

# Print correlations (back transformed from Fisher's z
# transformation)
#
m1

# Print Fisher's z transformed correlations
#
print(m1, backtransf = FALSE)

# Forest plot with back transformed correlations
#
forest(m1)

# Forest plot with Fisher's z transformed correlations
#
forest(m1, backtransf = FALSE)

m2 <- update(m1, sm = "cor")
m2

# Identical forest plots (as back transformation is the identity
# transformation)
# forest(m2)
# forest(m2, backtransf = FALSE)
```

metacr

*Meta-analysis of outcome data from Cochrane review***Description**

Wrapper function to perform meta-analysis for a single outcome of a Cochrane Intervention review.

**Usage**

```
metacr(x, comp.no = 1, outcome.no = 1, method, sm,
       level = gs("level"), level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed,
       comb.random, hakn = FALSE, method.tau = "DL", tau.common = FALSE,
       prediction = gs("prediction"), level.predict = gs("level.predict"),
       swap.events, logscale, backtransf = gs("backtransf"), title, complab,
       outclab, keepdata = gs("keepdata"), warn = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class <code>rm5</code> created by R function <code>read.rm5</code> .
comp.no	Comparison number.
outcome.no	Outcome number.
method	A character string indicating which method is to be used for pooling of studies. One of "Inverse", "MH", or "Peto", can be abbreviated.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("RR", "OR", "RD", "ASD", "HR", "MD", or "SMD", or "ROM") is to be used for pooling of studies.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
swap.events	A logical indicating whether events and non-events should be interchanged.
logscale	A logical indicating whether effect estimates are entered on log-scale.

backtransf	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If backtransf=TRUE (default), results for sm="OR" are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for sm="ZCOR" are printed as correlations rather than Fisher's z transformed correlations, for example.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
keepdata	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
warn	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if incr is added to studies with zero cell frequencies).

## Details

Cochrane Intervention reviews are based on the comparison of two interventions. Each Cochrane Intervention review can have a variable number of comparisons. For each comparison, a variable number of outcomes can be define. For each outcome, a seperate meta-analysis is conducted. Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) is the current software used for preparing and maintaining Cochrane Reviews (<http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>).

This wrapper function can be used to perform meta-analysis for a single outcome of a Cochrane Intervention review. Internally, R functions metabin, metacont, and metagen are called - depending on the definition of the outcome in RevMan 5.

Note, it is recommended to choose the RevMan 5 settings before executing metacr, i.e.,

```
settings.meta("revman5")
```

## Value

An object of class "meta" and "metabin", "metacont", or "metagen" depending on outcome type utilised in Cochrane Intervention review for selected outcome.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## References

*Review Manager (RevMan)* [Computer program]. Version 5.3. Copenhagen: The Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration, 2014

## See Also

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [read.rm5](#), [settings.meta](#)

**Examples**

```

# Locate export data file "Fleiss93_CR.csv"
# in sub-directory of package "meta"
#
filename <- system.file("extdata", "Fleiss93_CR.csv", package = "meta")
#
Fleiss93_CR <- read.rm5(filename)

# Choose RevMan 5 settings and store old settings
#
oldset <- settings.meta("revman5")

# Same result as R command example(Fleiss93)
#
metacr(Fleiss93_CR)

# Same result as R command example(Fleiss93cont)
#
metacr(Fleiss93_CR, 1, 2)
forest(metacr(Fleiss93_CR, 1, 2))

# Change summary measure to RR
#
m1 <- metacr(Fleiss93_CR)
update(m1, sm="RR")

# Use old settings
#
settings.meta(oldset)

```

---

metacum

*Cumulative meta-analysis*


---

**Description**

Performs a cumulative meta-analysis.

**Usage**

```
metacum(x, pooled, sortvar)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class meta.
pooled	A character string indicating whether a fixed effect or random effects model is used for pooling. Either missing (see Details), "fixed", or "random", can be abbreviated.
sortvar	An optional vector used to sort the individual studies (must be of same length as x\$TE).

## Details

A cumulative meta-analysis is performed. Studies are included sequentially as defined by `sortvar`. Information from object `x` is utilised if argument `pooled` is missing. A fixed effect model is assumed (`pooled = "fixed"`) if argument `x$comb.fixed` is TRUE; a random effects model is assumed (`pooled = "random"`) if argument `x$comb.random` is TRUE and `x$comb.fixed` is FALSE.

## Value

An object of class `c("metacum", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

<code>TE</code> , <code>seTE</code>	Estimated treatment effect and standard error of pooled estimate in cumulative meta-analyses.
<code>lower</code> , <code>upper</code>	Lower and upper confidence interval limits.
<code>studlab</code>	Study label describing addition of studies.
<code>p.value</code>	P-value for test of overall effect.
<code>w</code>	Sum of weights from fixed effect or random effects model.
<code>I2</code>	Heterogeneity statistic I <sup>2</sup> .
<code>Rb</code>	Heterogeneity statistic R <sub>b</sub> .
<code>tau</code>	Square-root of between-study variance.
<code>df.hakn</code>	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if <code>hakn = TRUE</code> ).
<code>sm</code>	Summary measure.
<code>method</code>	Method used for pooling.
<code>k</code>	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
<code>pooled</code>	As defined above.
<code>comb.fixed</code>	A logical indicating whether analysis is based on fixed effect model.
<code>comb.random</code>	A logical indicating whether analysis is based on random effects model.
<code>TE.fixed</code> , <code>seTE.fixed</code>	Value is NA.
<code>TE.random</code> , <code>seTE.random</code>	Value is NA.
<code>Q</code>	Value is NA.
<code>level.comb</code>	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
<code>hakn</code>	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
<code>method.tau</code>	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
<code>tau.preset</code>	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
<code>TE.tau</code>	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
<code>n.harmonic.mean</code>	Harmonic mean of number of observations (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation).
<code>version</code>	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

Cooper H & Hedges LV (1994): *The Handbook of Research Synthesis*. Newbury Park, CA: Russell Sage Foundation

**See Also**

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [print.meta](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Fleiss93)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Fleiss93, studlab = study,
              sm = "RR", method = "I")
m1
metacum(m1)
metacum(m1, pooled = "random")

forest(metacum(m1))
forest(metacum(m1, pooled = "random"))

metacum(m1, sortvar = study)
metacum(m1, sortvar = 7:1)

m2 <- update(m1, title = "Fleiss93 meta-analysis",
             backtransf = FALSE)
metacum(m2)

data(Fleiss93cont)
m3 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD")
metacum(m3)
```

**Description**

Fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis based on estimates (e.g. log hazard ratios) and their standard errors. The inverse variance method is used for pooling.

**Usage**

```
metagen(TE, seTE, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL,
  exclude = NULL, sm = "", level = gs("level"),
  level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
  comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hakn = gs("hakn"),
  method.tau = gs("method.tau"), tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL,
  tau.common = gs("tau.common"), prediction = gs("prediction"),
  level.predict = gs("level.predict"), null.effect = 0,
  method.bias = gs("method.bias"), n.e = NULL, n.c = NULL, pval, df,
  lower, upper, level.ci = 0.95, median, q1, q3, min, max, approx.TE,
  approx.seTE, backtransf = gs("backtransf"), pscale = 1,
  irscale = 1, irunit = "person-years", title = gs("title"),
  complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "", label.e = gs("label.e"),
  label.c = gs("label.c"), label.left = gs("label.left"),
  label.right = gs("label.right"), byvar, bylab,
  print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"), byseparator = gs("byseparator"),
  keepdata = gs("keepdata"), warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

TE	Estimate of treatment effect, e.g., log hazard ratio or risk difference.
seTE	Standard error of treatment estimate.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
sm	A character string indicating underlying summary measure, e.g., "RD", "RR", "OR", "ASD", "HR", "MD", "SMD", or "ROM".
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.



<code>level.predict</code>	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
<code>null.effect</code>	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.
<code>method.bias</code>	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
<code>n.e</code>	Number of observations in experimental group.
<code>n.c</code>	Number of observations in control group.
<code>pval</code>	P-value (used to estimate the standard error).
<code>df</code>	Degrees of freedom (used in test or to construct confidence interval).
<code>lower</code>	Lower limit of confidence interval (used to estimate the standard error).
<code>upper</code>	Upper limit of confidence interval (used to estimate the standard error).
<code>level.ci</code>	Level of confidence interval.
<code>median</code>	Median (used to estimate the treatment effect and standard error).
<code>q1</code>	First quartile (used to estimate the treatment effect and standard error).
<code>q3</code>	Third quartile (used to estimate the treatment effect and standard error).
<code>min</code>	Minimum (used to estimate the treatment effect and standard error).
<code>max</code>	Maximum (used to estimate the treatment effect and standard error).
<code>approx.TE</code>	Approximation method to estimate treatment estimate (see Details).
<code>approx.seTE</code>	Approximation method to estimate standard error (see Details).
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If <code>backtransf = TRUE</code> (default), results for <code>sm = "OR"</code> are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for <code>sm = "ZCOR"</code> are printed as correlations rather than Fisher's z transformed correlations, for example.
<code>pscale</code>	A numeric giving scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities or risk differences, i.e. if argument <code>sm</code> is equal to "PLOGIT", "PLN", "PRAW", "PAS", "PFT", or "RD".
<code>irscale</code>	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single incidence rates or incidence rate differences, i.e. if argument <code>sm</code> is equal to "IR", "IRLN", "IRS", "IRFT", or "IRD".
<code>irunit</code>	A character specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.
<code>title</code>	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
<code>complab</code>	Comparison label.
<code>outclab</code>	Outcome label.
<code>label.e</code>	Label for experimental group.
<code>label.c</code>	Label for control group.
<code>label.left</code>	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
<code>label.right</code>	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
<code>byvar</code>	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as TE).
<code>bylab</code>	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.

<code>print.byvar</code>	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
<code>byseparator</code>	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
<code>keepdata</code>	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
<code>warn</code>	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if studies are excluded from meta-analysis due to zero standard errors).
<code>control</code>	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <code>rma.uni</code> .

## Details

This function provides the *generic inverse variance method* for meta-analysis which requires treatment estimates and their standard errors (Borenstein et al., 2010). The method is useful, e.g., for pooling of survival data (using log hazard ratio and standard errors as input). Arguments `TE` and `seTE` can be used to provide treatment estimates and standard errors directly. However, it is possible to derive these quantities from other information.

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (see assignments with `gs` under **Usage**). These defaults can be changed using `settings.meta`.

Furthermore, R function `update.meta` can be used to rerun a meta-analysis with different settings.

### Approximate treatment estimates:

Missing treatment estimates can be derived from

1. confidence limits provided by arguments `lower` and `upper`;
2. median, interquartile range and range (arguments `median`, `q1`, `q3`, `min`, and `max`);
3. median and interquartile range (arguments `median`, `q1` and `q3`);
4. median and range (arguments `median`, `min` and `max`).

For confidence limits, the treatment estimate is defined as the center of the confidence interval (on the log scale for relative effect measures like the odds ratio or hazard ratio). For median, interquartile range and range, equation (10) in Wan et al. (2014) is used to approximate the treatment effect (i.e., mean). Similarly, equations (14) and (2) in Wan et al. (2014) are used if median and interquartile range or range, respectively, are provided.

By default, missing treatment estimates are replaced successively using these method, e.g., confidence limits are utilised before interquartile ranges. Argument `approx.TE` can be used to overwrite this default for each individual study:

- Use treatment estimate directly (entry "" in argument `approx.TE`);
- confidence limits ("`ci`" in argument `approx.TE`);
- median, interquartile range and range ("`iqr.range`");
- median and interquartile range ("`iqr`");
- median and range ("`range`").

### Approximate standard errors:

Missing standard errors can be derived from

1. p-value provided by arguments `pval` and (optional) `df`;

2. confidence limits (arguments lower, upper, and (optional) df);
3. sample size, median, interquartile range and range (arguments n.e and / or n.c, median, q1, q3, min, and max);
4. sample size, median and interquartile range (arguments n.e and / or n.c, median, q1 and q3);
5. sample size, median and range (arguments n.e and / or n.c, median, min and max).

For p-values and confidence limits, calculations are either based on the standard normal or  $t$  distribution if argument `df` is provided. Furthermore, argument `level.ci` can be used to provide the level of the confidence interval. For median, interquartile range and range, depending on the sample size, equation (12) or (13) in Wan et al. (2014) is used to approximate the standard error. Similarly, equations (15) / (16) and (7) / (9) in Wan et al. (2014) are used if median and interquartile range or range, respectively, are provided. The sample size of individual studies must be provided with arguments `n.e` and / or `n.c`. The total sample size is calculated as `n.e + n.c` if both arguments are provided.

By default, missing standard errors are replaced successively using these method, e.g., p-value before confidence limits before interquartile range and range. Argument `approx.seTE` can be used to overwrite this default for each individual study:

- Use standard error directly (entry "" in argument `approx.seTE`);
- p-value ("`pval`" in argument `approx.seTE`);
- confidence limits ("`ci`");
- median, interquartile range and range ("`iqr.range`");
- median and interquartile range ("`iqr`");
- median and range ("`range`").

#### Estimation of between-study variance:

The following methods are available to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$ .

Argument	Method
<code>method.tau = "DL"</code>	DerSimonian-Laird estimator (DerSimonian and Laird, 1986)
<code>method.tau = "PM"</code>	Paule-Mandel estimator (Paule and Mandel, 1982)
<code>method.tau = "REML"</code>	Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (Viechtbauer, 2005)
<code>method.tau = "ML"</code>	Maximum-likelihood estimator (Viechtbauer, 2005)
<code>method.tau = "HS"</code>	Hunter-Schmidt estimator (Hunter and Schmidt, 2015)
<code>method.tau = "SJ"</code>	Sidik-Jonkman estimator (Sidik and Jonkman, 2005)
<code>method.tau = "HE"</code>	Hedges estimator (Hedges and Olkin, 1985)
<code>method.tau = "EB"</code>	Empirical Bayes estimator (Morris, 1983)

Historically, the DerSimonian-Laird method was the de facto standard to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  and is still the default in many software packages including Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) and R package **meta**. However, its role has been challenged and especially the Paule-Mandel and REML estimators have been recommended (Veroniki et al., 2016). Accordingly, the following R command can be used to use the Paule-Mandel estimator in all meta-analyses of the R session: `settings.meta(method.tau = "PM")`

The DerSimonian-Laird and Paule-Mandel estimators are implemented in R package **meta**. The other estimators are available if R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed by internally calling R function `rma.uni`.

**Hartung-Knapp method:**

Hartung and Knapp (2001a,b) proposed an alternative method for random effects meta-analysis based on a refined variance estimator for the treatment estimate. Simulation studies (Hartung and Knapp, 2001a,b; IntHout et al., 2014; Langen et al., 2018) show improved coverage probabilities compared to the classic random effects method. However, in rare settings with very homogeneous treatment estimates, the Hartung-Knapp method can be anti-conservative (Wiksten et al., 2016). The Hartung-Knapp method is used if argument `hakn = TRUE`.

**Prediction interval:**

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study (Higgins et al., 2009) is calculated if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are `TRUE`. Note, the definition of prediction intervals varies in the literature. This function implements equation (12) of Higgins et al., (2009) which proposed a  $t$  distribution with  $K-2$  degrees of freedom where  $K$  corresponds to the number of studies in the meta-analysis.

**Presentation of meta-analysis results:**

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class "meta" even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. For example, functions `print.meta` and `forest.meta` will not show results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

Argument `pscale` can be used to rescale single proportions or risk differences, e.g. `pscale = 1000` means that proportions are expressed as events per 1000 observations. This is useful in situations with (very) low event probabilities.

Argument `irscale` can be used to rescale single rates or rate differences, e.g. `irscale = 1000` means that rates are expressed as events per 1000 time units, e.g. person-years. This is useful in situations with (very) low rates. Argument `irunit` can be used to specify the time unit used in individual studies (default: "person-years"). This information is printed in summaries and forest plots if argument `irscale` is not equal to 1.

Default settings for `comb.fixed`, `comb.random`, `pscale`, `irscale`, `irunit` and several other arguments can be set for the whole R session using `settings.meta`.

**Value**

An object of class `c("metagen", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

`TE`, `seTE`, `studlab`, `exclude`, `n.e`, `n.c`

As defined above.

`sm`, `level`, `level.comb`,

As defined above.

`comb.fixed`, `comb.random`,

As defined above.

`hakn`, `method.tau`, `tau.preset`, `TE.tau`, `method.bias`,

As defined above.

`tau.common`, `title`, `complab`, `outclab`,

As defined above.

label.e, label.c, label.left, label.right,	As defined above.
byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator, warn	As defined above.
lower, upper	Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.
zval, pval	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.
w.fixed, w.random	Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).
TE.fixed, seTE.fixed	Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (fixed effect model).
lower.fixed, upper.fixed	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).
zval.fixed, pval.fixed	z-value and p-value for test of overall treatment effect (fixed effect model).
TE.random, seTE.random	Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (random effects model).
lower.random, upper.random	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).
zval.random, pval.random	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall treatment effect (random effects model).
prediction, level.predict	As defined above.
seTE.predict	Standard error utilised for prediction interval.
lower.predict, upper.predict	Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.
null.effect	As defined above.
k	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
Q	Heterogeneity statistic.
df.Q	Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.
pval.Q	P-value of heterogeneity test.
tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
se.tau	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.
C	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
method	Pooling method: "Inverse".
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn = TRUE).
bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.

lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.harmonic.mean.w	Harmonic mean of number of observations in subgroups (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation) - if byvar is not missing.
n.e.w	Number of observations in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.c.w	Number of observations in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).
df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.

df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata = TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata = TRUE).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

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### See Also

[update.meta](#), [metabin](#), [metacont](#), [print.meta](#), [settings.meta](#)

### Examples

```
data(Fleiss93)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Fleiss93, sm = "RR", method = "I")
m1
# Identical results by using the generic inverse variance method
metagen(m1$TE, m1$seTE, sm = "RR")
#
forest(metagen(m1$TE, m1$seTE, sm = "RR"))
```



```

# Meta-analysis with prespecified between-study variance
#
summary(metagen(m1$TE, m1$seTE, sm = "RR", tau.preset = sqrt(0.1)))

# Meta-analysis of survival data:
#
logHR <- log(c(0.95, 1.5))
selogHR <- c(0.25, 0.35)
metagen(logHR, selogHR, sm = "HR")

# Paule-Mandel method to estimate between-study variance for data
# from Paule & Mandel (1982)
#
average <- c(27.044, 26.022, 26.340, 26.787, 26.796)
variance <- c(0.003, 0.076, 0.464, 0.003, 0.014)
#
summary(metagen(average, sqrt(variance), sm = "MD", method.tau = "PM"))

# Conduct meta-analysis using hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals
#
# Data from Steurer et al. (2006), Analysis 1.1 Overall survival
# https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD004270.pub2/abstract
#
study <- c("FCG on CLL 1996", "Leporrier 2001", "Rai 2000", "Robak 2000")
HR <- c(0.55, 0.92, 0.79, 1.18)
lower.HR <- c(0.28, 0.79, 0.59, 0.64)
upper.HR <- c(1.09, 1.08, 1.05, 2.17)
#
# Input must be log hazard ratios, not hazard ratios
#
metagen(log(HR), lower = log(lower.HR), upper = log(upper.HR),
        studlab = study, sm = "HR")

```

---

metainc

---

*Meta-analysis of incidence rates*


---

## Description

Calculation of fixed effect and random effects estimates (incidence rate ratio or incidence rate difference) for meta-analyses with event counts. Mantel-Haenszel, Cochran, inverse variance method, and generalised linear mixed model (GLMM) are available for pooling. For GLMMs, the [rma.glmm](#) function from R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is called internally.

**Usage**

```
metainc(event.e, time.e, event.c, time.c, studlab, data = NULL,
        subset = NULL, exclude = NULL, method = "MH", sm = gs("sminc"),
        incr = gs("incr"), allincr = gs("allincr"),
        addincr = gs("addincr"), model.glmm = "UM.FS", level = gs("level"),
        level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
        comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hakn = gs("hakn"),
        method.tau = ifelse(!is.na(charmatch(tolower(method), "glmm", nomatch =
        NA)), "ML", gs("method.tau")), tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL,
        tau.common = gs("tau.common"), prediction = gs("prediction"),
        level.predict = gs("level.predict"), method.bias = gs("method.bias"),
        n.e = NULL, n.c = NULL, backtransf = gs("backtransf"),
        irscale = 1, irunit = "person-years", title = gs("title"),
        complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "", label.e = gs("label.e"),
        label.c = gs("label.c"), label.left = gs("label.left"),
        label.right = gs("label.right"), byvar, bylab,
        print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"), byseparator = gs("byseparator"),
        keepdata = gs("keepdata"), warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

event.e	Number of events in experimental group.
time.e	Person time at risk in experimental group.
event.c	Number of events in control group.
time.c	Person time at risk in control group.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information, i.e., event.e, time.e, event.c, and time.c.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
method	A character string indicating which method is to be used for pooling of studies. One of "MH", "Inverse", "Cochran", or "GLMM" can be abbreviated.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("IRR" or "IRD") is to be used for pooling of studies, see Details.
incr	A numerical value which is added to each cell frequency for studies with a zero cell count, see Details.
allincr	A logical indicating if incr is added to each cell frequency of all studies if at least one study has a zero cell count. If FALSE (default), incr is added only to each cell frequency of studies with a zero cell count.
addincr	A logical indicating if incr is added to each cell frequency of all studies irrespective of zero cell counts.
model.glmm	A character string indicating which GLMM should be used. One of "UM.FS", "UM.RS", and "CM.EL", see Details.

level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
method.bias	A character string indicating which test for funnel plot asymmetry is to be used. Either "linreg" or "rank", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
n.e	Number of observations in experimental group (optional).
n.c	Number of observations in control group (optional).
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results for incidence rate ratio (sm = "IRR") should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If TRUE (default), results will be presented as incidence rate ratios; otherwise log incidence rate ratios will be shown.
irscale	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of incidence rate differences.
irunit	A character string specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
label.e	Label for experimental group.
label.c	Label for control group.
label.left	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
label.right	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
byvar	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as event.e).
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
print.byvar	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
byseparator	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.

keepdata	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
warn	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if <code>incr</code> is added to studies with zero cell frequencies).
control	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <code>rma.uni</code> or <code>rma.glmm</code> , respectively.
...	Additional arguments passed on to <code>rma.glmm</code> function.

## Details

Treatment estimates and standard errors are calculated for each study. The following measures of treatment effect are available:

- Incidence Rate Ratio (`sm = "IRR"`)
- Incidence Rate Difference (`sm = "IRD"`)

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class `"meta"` even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

By default, both fixed effect and random effects models are considered (see arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`). If `method` is `"MH"` (default), the Mantel-Haenszel method is used to calculate the fixed effect estimate (Greenland & Robbins, 1985); if `method` is `"Inverse"`, inverse variance weighting is used for pooling; if `method` is `"Cochran"`, the Cochran method is used for pooling (Bayne-Jones, 1964, Chapter 8).

A distinctive and frequently overlooked advantage of incidence rates is that individual patient data (IPD) can be extracted from count data. Accordingly, statistical methods for IPD, i.e., generalised linear mixed models, can be utilised in a meta-analysis of incidence rate ratios (Stijnen et al., 2010). These methods are available (argument `method = "GLMM"`) by calling the `rma.glmm` function from R package **metafor** internally. As a technical note, a warning "Cannot invert Hessian for saturated model" is printed using R package **metafor**, version 2.0-0. This warning can be safely ignored as the inverted Hessian is only used in the calculation of a Wald-type test of heterogeneity which is not printed due to the estimation problem.

Three different GLMMs are available for meta-analysis of incidence rate ratios using argument `model.glmm` (which corresponds to argument `model` in the `rma.glmm` function):

- Poisson regression model with fixed study effects (default)  
(`model.glmm = "UM.FS"`, i.e., **U**nconditional **M**odel - **F**ixed **S**tudy effects)
- Mixed-effects Poisson regression model with random study effects  
(`model.glmm = "UM.RS"`, i.e., **U**nconditional **M**odel - **R**andom **S**tudy effects)
- Generalised linear mixed model (conditional Poisson-Normal)  
(`model.glmm = "CM.EL"`, i.e., **C**onditional **M**odel - **E**xact **L**ikelihood)

Details on these three GLMMs as well as additional arguments which can be provided using argument `'...{}'` in `metainc` are described in `rma.glmm` where you can also find information on the iterative algorithms used for estimation. Note, regardless of which value is used for argument `model.glmm`, results for two different GLMMs are calculated: fixed effect model (with fixed treatment effect) and random effects model (with random treatment effects).

For studies with a zero cell count, by default, 0.5 is added to all cell frequencies of these studies (argument `incr`). This continuity correction is used both to calculate individual study results with confidence limits and to conduct meta-analysis based on the inverse variance method. For Mantel-Haenszel method, Cochran method, and GLMMs, nothing is added to zero cell counts. Accordingly, estimates for these methods are not defined if the number of events is zero in all studies either in the experimental or control group.

Argument `byvar` can be used to conduct subgroup analysis for all methods but GLMMs. Instead use the `metareg` function for GLMMs which can also be used for continuous covariates.

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are TRUE.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing `metainc` object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2003) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn = TRUE`.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau = "DL"`. The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau = "PM"`. Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison at lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "REML"`)
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "ML"`)
- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau = "HS"`)
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau = "SJ"`)
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau = "HE"`)
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau = "EB"`)

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

## Value

An object of class `c("metainc", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

`event.e`, `time.e`, `event.c`, `time.c`, `studlab`, `exclude`,

As defined above.

`sm`, `method`, `incr`, `allincr`, `addincr`, `model.glmm`, `warn`,

As defined above.

level, level.comb, comb.fixed, comb.random,	
	As defined above.
hakn, method.tau, tau.preset, TE.tau, method.bias,	
	As defined above.
tau.common, title, complab, outclab,	
	As defined above.
label.e, label.c, label.left, label.right,	
	As defined above.
byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator	
	As defined above.
TE, seTE	Estimated treatment effect and standard error of individual studies.
lower, upper	Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.
zval, pval	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.
w.fixed, w.random	
	Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).
TE.fixed, seTE.fixed	
	Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (fixed effect model).
lower.fixed, upper.fixed	
	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).
zval.fixed, pval.fixed	
	z-value and p-value for test of overall treatment effect (fixed effect model).
TE.random, seTE.random	
	Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (random effects model).
lower.random, upper.random	
	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).
zval.random, pval.random	
	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall treatment effect (random effects model).
prediction, level.predict	
	As defined above.
seTE.predict	Standard error utilised for prediction interval.
lower.predict, upper.predict	
	Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.
k	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
Q	Heterogeneity statistic Q.
df.Q	Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.
pval.Q	P-value of heterogeneity test.
Q.LRT	Heterogeneity statistic for likelihood-ratio test (only if method = "GLMM").
df.Q.LRT	Degrees of freedom for likelihood-ratio test
pval.Q.LRT	P-value of likelihood-ratio test.
tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
se.tau	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.

C	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
sparse	Logical flag indicating if any study included in meta-analysis has any zero cell frequencies.
incr.event	Increment added to number of events.
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn = TRUE).
k.MH	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis using Mantel-Haenszel method.
bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.harmonic.mean.w	Harmonic mean of number of observations in subgroups (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation) - if byvar is not missing.
event.e.w	Number of events in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
time.e.w	Total person time in subgroups (experimental group) - if byvar is not missing.
n.e.w	Number of observations in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
event.c.w	Number of events in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
time.c.w	Total person time in subgroups (control group) - if byvar is not missing.
n.c.w	Number of observations in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.

<code>k.all.w</code>	Number of all studies in subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>Q.w.fixed</code>	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>Q.w.random</code>	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing (only calculated if argument <code>tau.common</code> is TRUE).
<code>df.Q.w</code>	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>pval.Q.w.fixed</code>	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>pval.Q.w.random</code>	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>Q.b.fixed</code>	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>Q.b.random</code>	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>df.Q.b</code>	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>pval.Q.b.fixed</code>	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>pval.Q.b.random</code>	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>tau.w</code>	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>C.w</code>	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>H.w</code>	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>lower.H.w, upper.H.w</code>	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>I2.w</code>	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w</code>	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>keepdata</code>	As defined above.
<code>data</code>	Original data (set) used in function call (if <code>keepdata = TRUE</code> ).
<code>subset</code>	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if <code>keepdata = TRUE</code> ).
<code>.glmm.fixed</code>	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (fixed effect model).
<code>.glmm.random</code>	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (random effects model).
<code>call</code>	Function call.
<code>version</code>	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.
<code>version.metafor</code>	Version of R package <b>metafor</b> used for GLMMs.



**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

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- Hartung J & Knapp G (2001): A refined method for the meta-analysis of controlled clinical trials with binary outcome. *Statistics in Medicine*, **20**, 3875–89
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- Paule RC & Mandel J (1982): Consensus values and weighting factors. *Journal of Research of the National Bureau of Standards*, **87**, 377–85
- Stijnen T, Hamza TH, Ozdemir P (2010): Random effects meta-analysis of event outcome in the framework of the generalized linear mixed model with applications in sparse data. *Statistics in Medicine*, **29**, 3046–67
- Viechtbauer W (2010): Conducting Meta-Analyses in R with the Metafor Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, **36**, 1–48

**See Also**

[metabin](#), [update.meta](#), [print.meta](#)

**Examples**

```
data(smoking)
m1 <- metainc(d.smokers, py.smokers, d.nonsmokers, py.nonsmokers,
             data = smoking, studlab = study)
print(m1, digits = 2)

m2 <- update(m1, method = "Cochran")
print(m2, digits = 2)

data(lungcancer)
m3 <- metainc(d.smokers, py.smokers,
             d.nonsmokers, py.nonsmokers,
             data = lungcancer, studlab = study)
print(m3, digits = 2)
```

```

# Redo Cochran meta-analysis with inflated standard errors
#
# All cause mortality
#
TEa <- log((smoking$d.smokers/smoking$py.smokers) /
           (smoking$d.nonsmokers/smoking$py.nonsmokers))
seTEa <- sqrt(1 / smoking$d.smokers + 1 / smoking$d.nonsmokers +
             2.5 / smoking$d.nonsmokers)
metagen(TEa, seTEa, sm = "IRR", studlab = smoking$study)

# Lung cancer mortality
#
TEl <- log((lungcancer$d.smokers/lungcancer$py.smokers) /
           (lungcancer$d.nonsmokers/lungcancer$py.nonsmokers))
seTEl <- sqrt(1 / lungcancer$d.smokers + 1 / lungcancer$d.nonsmokers +
             2.25 / lungcancer$d.nonsmokers)
metagen(TEl, seTEl, sm = "IRR", studlab = lungcancer$study)

## Not run:
# Meta-analysis using generalised linear mixed models
# (only if R packages 'metafor' and 'lme4' are available)

# Poisson regression model (fixed study effects)
#
m4 <- metainc(d.smokers, py.smokers, d.nonsmokers, py.nonsmokers,
             data = smoking, studlab = study, method = "GLMM")
m4

# Mixed-effects Poisson regression model (random study effects)
#
update(m4, model.glmm = "UM.RS", nAGQ = 1)
#
# Generalised linear mixed model (conditional Poisson-Normal)
#
update(m4, model.glmm = "CM.EL")

## End(Not run)

```

---

metainf

*Influence analysis in meta-analysis using leave-one-out method*


---

### Description

Performs an influence analysis. Pooled estimates are calculated omitting one study at a time.

### Usage

```
metainf(x, pooled, sortvar)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class meta.
pooled	A character string indicating whether a fixed effect or random effects model is used for pooling. Either missing (see Details), "fixed" or "random", can be abbreviated.
sortvar	An optional vector used to sort the individual studies (must be of same length as x\$TE).

**Details**

Performs a influence analysis; pooled estimates are calculated omitting one study at a time. Studies are sorted according to sortvar.

Information from object x is utilised if argument pooled is missing. A fixed effect model is assumed (pooled="fixed") if argument x\$comb.fixed is TRUE; a random effects model is assumed (pooled="random") if argument x\$comb.random is TRUE and x\$comb.fixed is FALSE.

**Value**

An object of class c("metainf", "meta") with corresponding print, and forest functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

TE, seTE	Estimated treatment effect and standard error of pooled estimate in influence analysis.
lower, upper	Lower and upper confidence interval limits.
studlab	Study label describing omission of studies.
p.value	P-value for test of overall effect.
w	Sum of weights from fixed effect or random effects model.
I2	Heterogeneity statistic I2.
Rb	Heterogeneity statistic Rb.
tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn = TRUE).
sm	Summary measure.
method	Method used for pooling.
k	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
pooled	As defined above.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether analysis is based on fixed effect model.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether analysis is based on random effects model.
TE.fixed, seTE.fixed	Value is NA.
TE.random, seTE.random	Value is NA.
Q	Value is NA.

level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
n.harmonic.mean	Harmonic mean of number of observations (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation).
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

Cooper H & Hedges LV (1994): *The Handbook of Research Synthesis*. Newbury Park, CA: Russell Sage Foundation

**See Also**

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [print.meta](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Fleiss93)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Fleiss93, studlab = study,
              sm = "RR", method = "I")

m1
metainf(m1)
metainf(m1, pooled = "random")

forest(metainf(m1))
forest(metainf(m1), layout = "revman5")
forest(metainf(m1, pooled = "random"))

metainf(m1, sortvar = study)
metainf(m1, sortvar = 7:1)

m2 <- update(m1, title = "Fleiss93 meta-analysis",
             backtransf = FALSE)
metainf(m2)

data(Fleiss93cont)
m3 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD")
metainf(m3)
```

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metamean	<i>Meta-analysis of single means</i>
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### Description

Calculation of an overall mean from studies reporting a single mean using the inverse varinace method for pooling; inverse variance weighting is used for pooling.

### Usage

```
metamean(n, mean, sd, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL,
  exclude = NULL, sm = gs("smmean"), level = gs("level"),
  level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
  comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hakn = gs("hakn"),
  method.tau = gs("method.tau"), tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL,
  tau.common = gs("tau.common"), prediction = gs("prediction"),
  level.predict = gs("level.predict"), null.effect = NA,
  method.bias = gs("method.bias"), backtransf = gs("backtransf"),
  title = gs("title"), complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "", byvar,
  bylab, print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"),
  byseparator = gs("byseparator"), keepdata = gs("keepdata"),
  warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL)
```

### Arguments

n	Number of observations.
mean	Estimated mean.
sd	Standard deviation.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("MRAW" or "MLN") is to be used for pooling of studies.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.

method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
null.effect	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.
method.bias	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in printouts and plots for <code>sm = "MLN"</code> . If TRUE (default), results will be presented as means; otherwise logarithm of means will be shown.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
byvar	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as n).
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
print.byvar	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
byseparator	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
keepdata	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
warn	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if studies are excluded from meta-analysis due to zero standard deviations).
control	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <a href="#">rma.uni</a> .

## Details

Fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis of single means to calculate an overall mean; inverse variance weighting is used for pooling. The following transformations of means are implemented to calculate an overall mean:

- Raw, i.e. untransformed, means (`sm = "MRAW"`, default)
- Log transformed means (`sm = "MLN"`)

Note, you should use R function [metacont](#) to compare means of pairwise comparisons instead of using `metamean` for each treatment arm separately which will break randomisation in randomised controlled trials.

Calculations are conducted on the log scale if `sm = "ROM"`. Accordingly, list elements `TE`, `TE.fixed`, and `TE.random` contain the logarithm of means. In printouts and plots these values are back transformed if argument `backtransf = TRUE`.

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class "meta" even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

The function `metagen` is called internally to calculate individual and overall treatment estimates and standard errors.

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are `TRUE`.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing metamean object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2001) / Knapp and Hartung (2003) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn = TRUE`.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau = "DL"`. The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau = "PM"`. Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison@lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "REML"`)
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "ML"`)
- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau = "HS"`)
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau = "SJ"`)
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau = "HE"`)
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau = "EB"`)

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

## Value

An object of class `c("metamean", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

```
n, mean, sd,      As defined above.
studlab, exclude, sm, level, level.comb,
                  As defined above.
comb.fixed, comb.random,
                  As defined above.
```

hakn, method.tau, tau.preset, TE.tau, method.bias,  
     As defined above.  
 tau.common, title, complab, outclab,  
     As defined above.  
 byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator, warn  
     As defined above.  
 TE, seTE      Estimated effect (mean or log mean) and standard error of individual studies.  
 lower, upper    Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.  
 zval, pval      z-value and p-value for test of overall effect for individual studies.  
 w.fixed, w.random  
     Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).  
 TE.fixed, seTE.fixed  
     Estimated overall effect (mean or log mean) and standard error (fixed effect  
     model).  
 lower.fixed, upper.fixed  
     Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).  
 zval.fixed, pval.fixed  
     z-value and p-value for test of overall effect (fixed effect model).  
 TE.random, seTE.random  
     Estimated overall effect (mean or log mean) and standard error (random effects  
     model).  
 lower.random, upper.random  
     Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).  
 zval.random, pval.random  
     z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall effect (random  
     effects model).  
 prediction, level.predict  
     As defined above.  
 seTE.predict    Standard error utilised for prediction interval.  
 lower.predict, upper.predict  
     Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.  
 k              Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.  
 Q              Heterogeneity statistic.  
 tau             Square-root of between-study variance.  
 se.tau         Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.  
 C              Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across sub-  
     groups.  
 method         Pooling method: "Inverse".  
 df.hakn        Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only  
     if hakn = TRUE).  
 bylevs         Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.  
 TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w  
     Estimated effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar  
     is not missing.



lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.e.w	Number of observations in experimental group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.c.w	Number of observations in control group in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).
df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.

pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limits for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limits for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata = TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata = TRUE).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

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- Hartung J & Knapp G (2001): On tests of the overall treatment effect in meta-analysis with normally distributed responses. *Statistics in Medicine*, **20**, 1771–82
- Higgins JPT, Thompson SG, Spiegelhalter DJ (2009): A re-evaluation of random-effects meta-analysis. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A*, **172**, 137–59
- Knapp G & Hartung J (2003): Improved tests for a random effects meta-regression with a single covariate. *Statistics in Medicine*, **22**, 2693–710
- Paule RC & Mandel J (1982): Consensus values and weighting factors. *Journal of Research of the National Bureau of Standards*, **87**, 377–85
- Viechtbauer W (2010): Conducting Meta-Analyses in R with the Metafor Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, **36**, 1–48

**See Also**

[update.meta](#), [metamean](#), [metagen](#)

## Examples

```

m1 <- metamean(rep(100, 3), 1:3, rep(1, 3))
m1

m2 <- update(m1, sm = "MLN")
m2

# With test for overall mean equal to 2
#
update(m1, null.effect = 2)
update(m2, null.effect = 2)

# Print results without back-transformation
#
update(m1, backtransf = FALSE)
update(m2, backtransf = FALSE)
update(m1, null.effect = 2, backtransf = FALSE)
update(m2, null.effect = 2, backtransf = FALSE)

```

---

metaprop

*Meta-analysis of single proportions*


---

## Description

Calculation of an overall proportion from studies reporting a single proportion. Inverse variance method and generalised linear mixed model (GLMM) are available for pooling. For GLMMs, the [rma.glm](#) function from R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is called internally.

## Usage

```

metaprop(event, n, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL,
  exclude = NULL, method, sm = gs("smprop"), incr = gs("incr"),
  allincr = gs("allincr"), addincr = gs("addincr"),
  method.ci = gs("method.ci"), level = gs("level"),
  level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
  comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hakn = gs("hakn"), method.tau,
  tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL, tau.common = gs("tau.common"),
  prediction = gs("prediction"), level.predict = gs("level.predict"),
  null.effect = NA, method.bias = gs("method.bias"),
  backtransf = gs("backtransf"), pscale = 1, title = gs("title"),
  complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "", byvar, bylab,
  print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"), byseparator = gs("byseparator"),
  keepdata = gs("keepdata"), warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL, ...)

```

**Arguments**

event	Number of events.
n	Number of observations.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information, i.e., event and n.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
method	A character string indicating which method is to be used for pooling of studies. One of "Inverse" and "GLMM", can be abbreviated.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("PFT", "PAS", "PRAW", "PLN", or "PLOGIT") is to be used for pooling of studies, see Details.
incr	A numeric which is added to event number and sample size of studies with zero or all events, i.e., studies with an event probability of either 0 or 1.
allincr	A logical indicating if incr is considered for all studies if at least one study has either zero or all events. If FALSE (default), incr is considered only in studies with zero or all events.
addincr	A logical indicating if incr is used for all studies irrespective of number of events.
method.ci	A character string indicating which method is used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies, see Details.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ , see Details.
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
null.effect	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.
method.bias	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a> .
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results for transformed proportions (argument sm != "PRAW") should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If TRUE (default), results will be presented as proportions; otherwise transformed proportions will be shown. See Details for presentation of confidence intervals.

pscale	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
byvar	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as event).
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
print.byvar	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
byseparator	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
keepdata	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
warn	A logical indicating whether the addition of incr to studies with zero or all events should result in a warning.
control	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <code>rma.uni</code> or <code>rma.glmm</code> , respectively.
...	Additional arguments passed on to <code>rma.glmm</code> function.

## Details

This function provides methods for fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis of single proportions to calculate an overall proportion. Note, you should use R function `metabin` to compare proportions of pairwise comparisons instead of using `metaprop` for each treatment arm separately which will break randomisation in randomised controlled trials.

The following transformations of proportions are implemented to calculate an overall proportion:

- Logit transformation (`sm = "PLOGIT"`, default)
- Log transformation (`sm = "PLN"`)
- Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation (`sm = "PFT"`)
- Arcsine transformation (`sm = "PAS"`)
- Raw, i.e. untransformed, proportions (`sm = "PRAW"`)

Classic meta-analysis (Borenstein et al., 2010) utilises the transformed proportions and corresponding standard errors in the generic inverse variance method. A distinctive and frequently overlooked advantage of binary data is that individual patient data can be extracted. Accordingly, a generalised linear mixed model (GLMM) - more specific, a random intercept logistic regression model - can be utilised for the meta-analysis of proportions (Stijnen et al., 2010). This method - implicitly using the logit transformation - is available (argument `method = "GLMM"`) by calling the `rma.glmm` function from R package **metafor** internally. As a technical note, a warning "Cannot invert Hessian for saturated model" is printed using R package **metafor**, version 2.0-0. This warning can be safely ignored as the inverted Hessian is only used in the calculation of a Wald-type test of heterogeneity which is not printed due to the estimation problem.

For the logit transformation, a random intercept logistic regression model is used by default, i.e., argument `method = "GLMM"`. The classic meta-analysis model based on the inverse variance method can be used instead by setting argument `method` equal to `"Inverse"`.

Contradictory recommendations on the use of transformations of proportions have been published in the literature. For example, Barendregt et al. (2013) recommend the use of the Freeman-Tukey double arcsine transformation instead of the logit transformation whereas Warton & Hui (2011) strongly advise to use generalised linear mixed models with the logit transformation instead of the arcsine transformation. Schwarzer et al. (2019) describe seriously misleading results in a meta-analysis with very different sample sizes due to problems with the back-transformation of the Freeman-Tukey transformation which requires a single sample size. Accordingly, Schwarzer et al. (2019) also recommend to use GLMMs for the meta-analysis of single proportions, however, admit that individual study weights are not available with this method. Meta-analysts which require individual study weights should consider the arcsine or logit transformation.

In order to prevent misleading conclusions for the Freeman-Tukey double arcsine transformation, sensitivity analyses using other transformations or using a range of sample sizes should be conducted (Schwarzer et al., 2019).

Various methods are available to calculate confidence intervals for individual study results (see Agresti & Coull 1998 and Newcombe 1988):

- Clopper-Pearson interval also called 'exact' binomial interval (`method.ci = "CP"`, default)
- Wilson Score interval (`method.ci = "WS"`)
- Wilson Score interval with continuity correction (`method.ci = "WSCC"`)
- Agresti-Coull interval (`method.ci = "AC"`)
- Simple approximation interval (`method.ci = "SA"`)
- Simple approximation interval with continuity correction (`method.ci = "SACC"`)
- Normal approximation interval based on summary measure, i.e. defined by argument `sm` (`method.ci = "NAsm"`)

Note, with exception of the normal approximation based on the summary measure, i.e. `method.ci = "NAsm"`, the same confidence interval is calculated for individual studies for any summary measure (argument `sm`) as only number of events and observations are used in the calculation disregarding the chosen summary measure. Results will be presented for transformed proportions if argument `backtransf = FALSE` in the `print.meta`, `print.summary.meta`, or `forest.meta` function. In this case, argument `method.ci = "NAsm"` is used, i.e. confidence intervals based on the normal approximation based on the summary measure.

Argument `pscale` can be used to rescale proportions, e.g. `pscale = 1000` means that proportions are expressed as events per 1000 observations. This is useful in situations with (very) low event probabilities.

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class `"meta"` even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package `meta` will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

If the summary measure is equal to "PRAW", "PLN", or "PLOGIT", a continuity correction is applied if any study has either zero or all events, i.e., an event probability of either 0 or 1. By default, 0.5 is used as continuity correction (argument `incr`). This continuity correction is used both to calculate individual study results with confidence limits and to conduct meta-analysis based on the inverse variance method. For GLMMs no continuity correction is used.

Argument `byvar` can be used to conduct subgroup analysis for all methods but GLMMs. Instead use the `metareg` function for GLMMs which can also be used for continuous covariates.

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are TRUE.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing `metaprop` object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2003) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn` = TRUE.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau` = "DL". The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau` = "PM". Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison at lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau` = "REML")
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau` = "ML")
- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau` = "HS")
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau` = "SJ")
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau` = "HE")
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau` = "EB")

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

## Value

An object of class `c("metaprop", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

```
event, n, studlab, exclude,
      As defined above.
sm, incr, allincr, addincr, method.ci,
      As defined above.
level, level.comb,
      As defined above.
comb.fixed, comb.random,
      As defined above.
hakn, method.tau, tau.preset, TE.tau, null.hypothesis,
      As defined above.
method.bias, tau.common, title, complab, outclab,
      As defined above.
```

byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator, warn	As defined above.
TE, seTE	Estimated (un)transformed proportion and its standard error for individual studies.
lower, upper	Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.
zval, pval	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.
w.fixed, w.random	Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).
TE.fixed, seTE.fixed	Estimated overall (un)transformed proportion and standard error (fixed effect model).
lower.fixed, upper.fixed	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).
zval.fixed, pval.fixed	z-value and p-value for test of overall effect (fixed effect model).
TE.random, seTE.random	Estimated overall (un)transformed proportion and standard error (random effects model).
lower.random, upper.random	Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).
zval.random, pval.random	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall effect (random effects model).
prediction, level.predict	As defined above.
seTE.predict	Standard error utilised for prediction interval.
lower.predict, upper.predict	Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.
k	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
Q	Heterogeneity statistic Q.
df.Q	Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.
pval.Q	P-value of heterogeneity test.
Q.LRT	Heterogeneity statistic for likelihood-ratio test (only if method = "GLMM").
df.Q.LRT	Degrees of freedom for likelihood-ratio test
pval.Q.LRT	P-value of likelihood-ratio test.
tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
se.tau	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.
C	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
method	A character string indicating method used for pooling: "Inverse"
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn=TRUE).



bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
TE.random.w, seTE.random.w	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
lower.random.w, upper.random.w	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
zval.random.w, pval.random.w	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn=TRUE.
n.harmonic.mean.w	Harmonic mean of number of observations in subgroups (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation) - if byvar is not missing.
event.w	Number of events in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.w	Number of observations in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).
df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.

Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
incr.event	Increment added to number of events.
keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata=TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata=TRUE).
.glmm.fixed	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (fixed effect model).
.glmm.random	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (random effects model).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.
version.metafor	Version of R package <b>metafor</b> used for GLMMs.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

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### See Also

[update.meta](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [print.meta](#)

### Examples

```
# Meta-analysis using generalised linear mixed models
#
metaprop(4:1, 10 * 1:4)

# Apply various classic meta-analysis methods to estimate
# proportions
#
m1 <- metaprop(4:1, 10 * 1:4, method = "Inverse")
m2 <- update(m1, sm = "PAS")
```

```

m3 <- update(m1, sm = "PRAW")
m4 <- update(m1, sm = "PLN")
m5 <- update(m1, sm = "PFT")
#
m1
m2
m3
m4
m5
#
forest(m1)
## Not run:
forest(m2)
forest(m3)
forest(m3, pscale = 100)
forest(m4)
forest(m5)

## End(Not run)

# Do not back transform results, e.g. print logit transformed
# proportions if sm = "PLOGIT" and store old settings
#
oldset <- settings.meta(backtransf = FALSE)
#
m6 <- metaprop(4:1, c(10, 20, 30, 40), method = "Inverse")
m7 <- update(m6, sm = "PAS")
m8 <- update(m6, sm = "PRAW")
m9 <- update(m6, sm = "PLN")
m10 <- update(m6, sm = "PFT")
#
forest(m6)
## Not run:
forest(m7)
forest(m8)
forest(m8, pscale = 100)
forest(m9)
forest(m10)

## End(Not run)

# Use old settings
#
settings.meta(oldset)

# Examples with zero events
#
m1 <- metaprop(c(0, 0, 10, 10), rep(100, 4), method = "Inverse")
m2 <- metaprop(c(0, 0, 10, 10), rep(100, 4), incr = 0.1, method = "Inverse")
#
summary(m1)
summary(m2)
#

```

```

## Not run:
forest(m1)
forest(m2)

## End(Not run)

# Example from Miller (1978):
#
death <- c(3, 6, 10, 1)
animals <- c(11, 17, 21, 6)
#
m3 <- metaprop(death, animals, sm = "PFT")
forest(m3)

# Data examples from Newcombe (1998)
# - apply various methods to estimate confidence intervals for
#   individual studies
#
event <- c(81, 15, 0, 1)
n <- c(263, 148, 20, 29)
#
m1 <- metaprop(event, n, method.ci = "SA", method = "Inverse")
m2 <- update(m1, method.ci = "SACC")
m3 <- update(m1, method.ci = "WS")
m4 <- update(m1, method.ci = "WSCC")
m5 <- update(m1, method.ci = "CP")
#
lower <- round(rbind(NA, m1$lower, m2$lower, NA, m3$lower,
                    m4$lower, NA, m5$lower), 4)
upper <- round(rbind(NA, m1$upper, m2$upper, NA, m3$upper,
                    m4$upper, NA, m5$upper), 4)
#
tab1 <- data.frame(
  scen1 = meta::formatCI(lower[, 1], upper[, 1]),
  scen2 = meta::formatCI(lower[, 2], upper[, 2]),
  scen3 = meta::formatCI(lower[, 3], upper[, 3]),
  scen4 = meta::formatCI(lower[, 4], upper[, 4]),
  stringsAsFactors = FALSE
)
names(tab1) <- c("r=81, n=263", "r=15, n=148",
               "r=0, n=20", "r=1, n=29")
row.names(tab1) <- c("Simple", "- SA", "- SACC",
                  "Score", "- WS", "- WSCC",
                  "Binomial", "- CP")
tab1[is.na(tab1)] <- ""
# Newcombe (1998), Table I, methods 1-5:
tab1

# Same confidence interval, i.e. unaffected by choice of summary
# measure
#
print(metaprop(event, n, method.ci = "WS", method = "Inverse"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PLN", method.ci = "WS"), ma = FALSE)

```

```

print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PFT", method.ci = "WS"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PAS", method.ci = "WS"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PRAW", method.ci = "WS"), ma = FALSE)

# Different confidence intervals as argument sm = "NAsm"
#
print(metaprop(event, n, method.ci = "NAsm", method = "Inverse"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PLN", method.ci = "NAsm"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PFT", method.ci = "NAsm"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PAS", method.ci = "NAsm"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PRAW", method.ci = "NAsm"), ma = FALSE)

# Different confidence intervals as argument backtransf = FALSE.
# Accordingly, method.ci = "NAsm" used internally.
#
print(metaprop(event, n, method.ci = "WS", method = "Inverse"),
      ma = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PLN", method.ci = "WS"),
      ma = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PFT", method.ci = "WS"),
      ma = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PAS", method.ci = "WS"),
      ma = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PRAW", method.ci = "WS"),
      ma = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)

# Same results (printed on original and log scale, respectively)
#
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PLN", method.ci = "NAsm"), ma = FALSE)
print(metaprop(event, n, sm = "PLN"), ma = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)
# Results for first study (on log scale)
round(log(c(0.3079848, 0.2569522, 0.3691529)), 4)

# Print results as events per 1000 observations
#
print(metaprop(6:8, c(100, 1200, 1000), method = "Inverse"),
      pscale = 1000, digits = 1)

```

---

metarate

---

*Meta-analysis of single incidence rates*


---

## Description

Calculation of an overall incidence rate from studies reporting a single incidence rate. Inverse variance method and generalised linear mixed model (GLMM) are available for pooling. For GLMMs, the `rma.glmm` function from R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is called internally.

**Usage**

```
metarate(event, time, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL,
  exclude = NULL, method = "Inverse", sm = gs("smrate"),
  incr = gs("incr"), allincr = gs("allincr"),
  addincr = gs("addincr"), level = gs("level"),
  level.comb = gs("level.comb"), comb.fixed = gs("comb.fixed"),
  comb.random = gs("comb.random"), hakn = gs("hakn"),
  method.tau = ifelse(!is.na(charmatch(tolower(method), "glmm", nomatch =
  NA)), "ML", gs("method.tau")), tau.preset = NULL, TE.tau = NULL,
  tau.common = gs("tau.common"), prediction = gs("prediction"),
  level.predict = gs("level.predict"), null.effect = NA,
  method.bias = gs("method.bias"), backtransf = gs("backtransf"),
  irscale = 1, irunit = "person-years", title = gs("title"),
  complab = gs("complab"), outclab = "", byvar, bylab,
  print.byvar = gs("print.byvar"), byseparator = gs("byseparator"),
  keepdata = gs("keepdata"), warn = gs("warn"), control = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

event	Number of events.
time	Person time at risk.
studlab	An optional vector with study labels.
data	An optional data frame containing the study information, i.e., event and time.
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
method	A character string indicating which method is to be used for pooling of studies. One of "Inverse" and "GLMM", can be abbreviated.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure ("IR", "IRLN", "IRS", or "IRFT") is to be used for pooling of studies, see Details.
incr	A numeric which is added to the event number of studies with zero events, i.e., studies with an incidence rate of 0.
allincr	A logical indicating if incr is considered for all studies if at least one study has zero events. If FALSE (default), incr is considered only in studies with zero events.
addincr	A logical indicating if incr is used for all studies irrespective of number of events.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.

<code>method.tau</code>	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ , see Details.
<code>tau.preset</code>	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
<code>TE.tau</code>	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
<code>tau.common</code>	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
<code>prediction</code>	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
<code>level.predict</code>	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
<code>null.effect</code>	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.
<code>method.bias</code>	A character string indicating which test is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", or "mm", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a> .
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating whether results for transformed rates (argument <code>sm != "IR"</code> ) should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If TRUE (default), results will be presented as incidence rates; otherwise transformed rates will be shown.
<code>irscale</code>	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of rates.
<code>irunit</code>	A character string specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.
<code>title</code>	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
<code>complab</code>	Comparison label.
<code>outclab</code>	Outcome label.
<code>byvar</code>	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as event).
<code>bylab</code>	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
<code>print.byvar</code>	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
<code>byseparator</code>	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
<code>keepdata</code>	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
<code>warn</code>	A logical indicating whether the addition of <code>incr</code> to studies with zero events should result in a warning.
<code>control</code>	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <a href="#">rma.uni</a> or <a href="#">rma.glmm</a> , respectively.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments passed on to <a href="#">rma.glmm</a> function.

## Details

Fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis of single incidence rates to calculate an overall rate. The following transformations of incidence rates are implemented to calculate an overall rate:

- Log transformation (`sm = "IRLN"`, default)
- Square root transformation (`sm = "IRS"`)
- Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation (`sm = "IRFT"`)



- No transformation (sm = "IR")

Note, you should use R function `metainc` to compare incidence rates of pairwise comparisons instead of using `metarate` for each treatment arm separately which will break randomisation in randomised controlled trials.

Argument `irscale` can be used to rescale rates, e.g. `irscale = 1000` means that rates are expressed as events per 1000 time units, e.g. person-years. This is useful in situations with (very) low rates. Argument `irunit` can be used to specify the time unit used in individual studies (default: "person-years"). This information is printed in summaries and forest plots if argument `irscale` is not equal to 1.

For several arguments defaults settings are utilised (assignments using `gs` function). These defaults can be changed using the `settings.meta` function.

Internally, both fixed effect and random effects models are calculated regardless of values chosen for arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. Accordingly, the estimate for the random effects model can be extracted from component `TE.random` of an object of class "meta" even if argument `comb.random = FALSE`. However, all functions in R package **meta** will adequately consider the values for `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`. E.g. function `print.meta` will not print results for the random effects model if `comb.random = FALSE`.

A random intercept Poisson regression model can be utilised for the meta-analysis of incidence rates (Stijnen et al., 2010). This method is available (argument `method = "GLMM"`) by calling the `rma.glmm` function from R package **metafor** internally. As a technical note, a warning "Cannot invert Hessian for saturated model" is printed using R package **metafor**, version 2.0-0. This warning can be safely ignored as the inverted Hessian is only used in the calculation of a Wald-type test of heterogeneity which is not printed due to the estimation problem.

If the summary measure is equal to "IR" or "IRLN", a continuity correction is applied if any study has zero events, i.e., an incidence rate of 0. By default, 0.5 is used as continuity correction (argument `incr`). This continuity correction is used both to calculate individual study results with confidence limits and to conduct meta-analysis based on the inverse variance method. For Freeman-Tukey and square root transformation and GLMMs no continuity correction is used.

Argument `byvar` can be used to conduct subgroup analysis for all methods but GLMMs. Instead use the `metareg` function for GLMMs which can also be used for continuous covariates.

A prediction interval for the treatment effect of a new study is calculated (Higgins et al., 2009) if arguments `prediction` and `comb.random` are TRUE.

R function `update.meta` can be used to redo the meta-analysis of an existing `metarate` object by only specifying arguments which should be changed.

For the random effects, the method by Hartung and Knapp (2003) is used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals if argument `hakn = TRUE`.

The DerSimonian-Laird estimate (1986) is used in the random effects model if `method.tau = "DL"`. The iterative Paule-Mandel method (1982) to estimate the between-study variance is used if argument `method.tau = "PM"`. Internally, R function `paulemandel` is called which is based on R function `mpaule.default` from R package **metRology** from S.L.R. Ellison <s.ellison at lgc.co.uk>.

If R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010) is installed, the following methods to estimate the between-study variance  $\tau^2$  (argument `method.tau`) are also available:

- Restricted maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "REML"`)
- Maximum-likelihood estimator (`method.tau = "ML"`)

- Hunter-Schmidt estimator (`method.tau = "HS"`)
- Sidik-Jonkman estimator (`method.tau = "SJ"`)
- Hedges estimator (`method.tau = "HE"`)
- Empirical Bayes estimator (`method.tau = "EB"`)

For these methods the R function `rma.uni` of R package **metafor** is called internally. See help page of R function `rma.uni` for more details on these methods to estimate between-study variance.

### Value

An object of class `c("metarate", "meta")` with corresponding `print`, `summary`, and `forest` functions. The object is a list containing the following components:

```

event, n, studlab, exclude,
      As defined above.
sm, incr, allincr, addincr, method.ci,
      As defined above.
level, level.comb,
      As defined above.
comb.fixed, comb.random,
      As defined above.
hakn, method.tau, tau.preset, TE.tau, null.effect,
      As defined above.
method.bias, tau.common, title, complab, outclab,
      As defined above.
byvar, bylab, print.byvar, byseparator, warn
      As defined above.
TE, seTE      Estimated (un)transformed incidence rate and its standard error for individual
               studies.
lower, upper  Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.
zval, pval    z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.
w.fixed, w.random
               Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).
TE.fixed, seTE.fixed
               Estimated overall (un)transformed incidence rate and standard error (fixed effect
               model).
lower.fixed, upper.fixed
               Lower and upper confidence interval limits (fixed effect model).
zval.fixed, pval.fixed
               z-value and p-value for test of overall effect (fixed effect model).
TE.random, seTE.random
               Estimated overall (un)transformed incidence rate and standard error (random
               effects model).
lower.random, upper.random
               Lower and upper confidence interval limits (random effects model).

```

<code>zval.random, pval.random</code>	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of overall effect (random effects model).
<code>prediction, level.predict</code>	As defined above.
<code>seTE.predict</code>	Standard error utilised for prediction interval.
<code>lower.predict, upper.predict</code>	Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.
<code>k</code>	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
<code>Q</code>	Heterogeneity statistic Q.
<code>df.Q</code>	Degrees of freedom for heterogeneity statistic.
<code>pval.Q</code>	P-value of heterogeneity test.
<code>Q.LRT</code>	Heterogeneity statistic for likelihood-ratio test (only if <code>method = "GLMM"</code> ).
<code>df.Q.LRT</code>	Degrees of freedom for likelihood-ratio test
<code>pval.Q.LRT</code>	P-value of likelihood-ratio test.
<code>tau</code>	Square-root of between-study variance.
<code>se.tau</code>	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.
<code>C</code>	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
<code>method</code>	A character string indicating method used for pooling: "Inverse"
<code>df.hakn</code>	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if <code>hakn = TRUE</code> ).
<code>bylevs</code>	Levels of grouping variable - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>TE.fixed.w, seTE.fixed.w</code>	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>lower.fixed.w, upper.fixed.w</code>	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>zval.fixed.w, pval.fixed.w</code>	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (fixed effect model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>TE.random.w, seTE.random.w</code>	Estimated treatment effect and standard error in subgroups (random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>lower.random.w, upper.random.w</code>	Lower and upper confidence interval limits in subgroups (random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.
<code>zval.random.w, pval.random.w</code>	z-value or t-value and corresponding p-value for test of treatment effect in subgroups (random effects model) - if <code>byvar</code> is not missing.

w.fixed.w, w.random.w	Weight of subgroups (in fixed and random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.hakn.w	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method in subgroups - if byvar is not missing and hakn = TRUE.
n.harmonic.mean.w	Harmonic mean of number of observations in subgroups (for back transformation of Freeman-Tukey Double arcsine transformation) - if byvar is not missing.
event.w	Number of events in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
n.w	Number of observations in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
k.all.w	Number of all studies in subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.fixed	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w.random	Overall within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing (only calculated if argument tau.common is TRUE).
df.Q.w	Degrees of freedom for test of overall within subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.fixed	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.w.random	P-value of within subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Overall between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
df.Q.b	Degrees of freedom for test of overall between subgroups heterogeneity - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.fixed	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
pval.Q.b.random	P-value of between subgroups heterogeneity statistic Q (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.H.w, upper.H.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.

I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
lower.I2.w, upper.I2.w	Lower and upper confidence limti for heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
incr.event	Increment added to number of events.
keepdata	As defined above.
data	Original data (set) used in function call (if keepdata = TRUE).
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis (if keepdata = TRUE).
.glmm.fixed	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (fixed effect model).
.glmm.random	GLMM object generated by call of <code>rma.glmm</code> function (random effects model).
call	Function call.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.
version.metafor	Version of R package <b>metafor</b> used for GLMMs.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

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- Viechtbauer W (2010): Conducting Meta-Analyses in R with the Metafor Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, **36**, 1–48

### See Also

[update.meta](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [print.meta](#)

## Examples

```
# Apply various meta-analysis methods to estimate incidence rates
#
m1 <- metarate(4:1, c(10, 20, 30, 40))
m2 <- update(m1, sm = "IR")
m3 <- update(m1, sm = "IRS")
m4 <- update(m1, sm = "IRFT")
#
m1
m2
m3
m4
#
forest(m1)
forest(m1, irscale = 100)
forest(m1, irscale = 100, irunit = "person-days")
forest(m1, backtransf = FALSE)
## Not run:
forest(m2)
forest(m3)
forest(m4)

## End(Not run)

m5 <- metarate(40:37, c(100, 200, 300, 400), sm = "IRFT")
m5
```

---

metareg

*Meta-regression*

---

## Description

Meta-regression for objects of class `meta`. This is a wrapper function for the R function `rma.uni` in the R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010).

## Usage

```
metareg(x, formula, method.tau = x$method.tau, hakn = x$hakn,
  level.comb = x$level.comb, intercept = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>meta</code> .
<code>formula</code>	Either a character string or a formula object.
<code>method.tau</code>	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared. Either "FE", "DL", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.

hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for parameter estimates in the meta-regression model.
intercept	A logical indicating whether an intercept should be included in the meta-regression model.
...	Additional arguments passed to R function <a href="#">rma.uni</a> .

### Details

This R function is a wrapper function for R function [rma.uni](#) in the R package **metafor** (Viechtbauer 2010), i.e., function `metareg` can only be used if R package **metafor** is installed.

Note, results are not back-transformed in printouts of meta-analyses using summary measures with transformations, e.g., log risk ratios are printed instead of the risk ratio if argument `sm = "RR"` and logit transformed proportions are printed if argument `sm = "PLOGIT"`.

Argument `'...'` can be used to pass additional arguments to R function [rma.uni](#). For example, argument `control` to provide a list of control values for the iterative estimation algorithm. See help page of R function [rma.uni](#) for more details.

### Value

An object of class `c("metareg", "rma.uni", "rma")`. Please look at the help page of R function [rma.uni](#) for more details on the output from this function.

In addition, a list `.meta` is added to the output containing the following components:

<code>x</code> , <code>formula</code> , <code>method.tau</code> , <code>hakn</code> , <code>level.comb</code> , <code>intercept</code>	As defined above.
<code>dots</code>	Information provided in argument <code>'...'</code> .
<code>call</code>	Function call.
<code>version</code>	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.
<code>version.metafor</code>	Version of R package <b>metafor</b> used to create object.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

### References

Viechtbauer W (2010): Conducting Meta-Analyses in R with the Metafor Package. *Journal of Statistical Software*, **36**, 1–48

### See Also

[bubble](#), [summary.meta](#), [metagen](#)

**Examples**

```

data(Fleiss93cont)
# Add some (fictitious) grouping variables:
Fleiss93cont$age <- c(55, 65, 55, 65, 55)
Fleiss93cont$region <- c("Europe", "Europe", "Asia", "Asia", "Europe")

m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "MD")

## Not run:
# Warnings due to wrong ordering of arguments (order has changed
# with version 3.0-0 of R package meta)
#
metareg(~ region, m1)
metareg(~ region, data = m1)

# Warning as no information on covariate is available
#
metareg(m1)

## End(Not run)

# Do meta-regression for covariate region
#
mu2 <- update(m1, byvar = region, tau.common = TRUE, comb.fixed = FALSE)
metareg(mu2)

# Same result for
# - tau-squared
# - test of heterogeneity
# - test for subgroup differences
# (as argument 'tau.common' was used to create mu2)
#
mu2
metareg(mu2, intercept = FALSE)
metareg(m1, region)

# Different result for
# - tau-squared
# - test of heterogeneity
# - test for subgroup differences
# (as argument 'tau.common' is - by default - FALSE)
#
mu1 <- update(m1, byvar = region)
mu1

# Generate bubble plot
#
bubble(metareg(mu2))

# Do meta-regression with two covariates
#
metareg(mu1, region + age)

```



```

# Do same meta-regressions using formula notation
#
metareg(m1, ~ region)
metareg(mu1, ~ region + age)

# Do meta-regression using REML method and print intermediate
# results for iterative estimation algorithm; furthermore print
# results with three digits.
#
metareg(mu1, region, method.tau = "REML",
        control = list(verbose = TRUE), digits = 3)

# Use Hartung-Knapp method
#
mu3 <- update(mu2, hakn = TRUE)
mu3
metareg(mu3, intercept = FALSE)

```

---

Olkin95

---

*Thrombolytic Therapy after Acute Myocardial Infarction*


---

### Description

Meta-analysis on Thrombolytic Therapy after Acute Myocardial Infarction

### Usage

Olkin95

### Format

A data frame with the following columns:

<i>author</i>	first author
<i>year</i>	year of publication
<i>event.e</i>	number of events in experimental group
<i>n.e</i>	number of observations in experimental group
<i>event.c</i>	number of events in control group
<i>n.c</i>	number of observations in control group

### Source

Olkin I (1995): Statistical and theoretical considerations in meta-analysis. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, **48**, 133–46

**Examples**

```
data(01kin95)
summary(metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c, data = 01kin95))
```

---

or2smd

*Conversion from log odds ratio to standardised mean difference*


---

**Description**

Conversion from log odds ratio to standardised mean difference using method by Hasselblad & Hedges (1995) or Cox (1970).

**Usage**

```
or2smd(lnOR, seLnOR, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL,
       exclude = NULL, method = "HH", ...)
```

**Arguments**

lnOR	Log odds ratio(s) or meta-analysis object.
seLnOR	Standard error(s) of log odds ratio(s) (ignored if argument lnOR is a meta-analysis object).
studlab	An optional vector with study labels (ignored if argument lnOR is a meta-analysis object).
data	An optional data frame containing the study information (ignored if argument lnOR is a meta-analysis object).
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used (ignored if argument lnOR is a meta-analysis object).
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots (ignored if argument lnOR is a meta-analysis object).
method	A character string indicating which method is used to convert log odds ratios to standardised mean differences. Either "HH" or "CS", can be abbreviated.
...	Additional arguments passed on to <a href="#">metagen</a> (ignored if argument lnOR is a meta-analysis object).

**Details**

This function implements the following methods for the conversion from log odds ratios to standardised mean difference:

- Hasselblad & Hedges (1995) assuming logistic distributions (method == "HH")
- Cox (1970) and Cox & Snell (1989) assuming normal distributions (method == "CS")

Internally, `metagen` is used to conduct a meta-analysis with the standardised mean difference as summary measure.

Argument `lnOR` can be either a vector of log odds ratios or a meta-analysis object created with `metabin` or `metagen` and the odds ratio as summary measure.

Argument `selnOR` is mandatory if argument `lnOR` is a vector and ignored otherwise. Additional arguments in `...` are only passed on to `metagen` if argument `lnOR` is a vector.

### Value

An object of class "meta" and "metagen"; see `metagen`.

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

### References

Borenstein M, Hedges LV, Higgins JPT, Rothstein HR (2009): *Introduction to Meta-Analysis*. Chichester: Wiley

Cox DR (1970): *Analysis of Binary Data*. London: Chapman and Hall / CRC

Cox DR, Snell EJ (1989): *Analysis of Binary Data* (2nd edition). London: Chapman and Hall / CRC

Hasselblad V, Hedges LV (1995): Meta-analysis of screening and diagnostic tests. *Psychological Bulletin*, **117**, 167–78

### See Also

`smd2or`, `metabin`, `metagen`, `metacont`

### Examples

```
# Example from Borenstein et al. (2009), Chapter 7
#
mb <- or2smd(0.9069, sqrt(0.0676))
# TE = standardised mean difference (SMD); seTE = standard error of SMD
data.frame(SMD = round(mb$TE, 4), varSMD = round(mb$seTE^2, 4))

# Use dataset from Fleiss (1993)
#
data(Fleiss93)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Fleiss93,
              studlab = paste(study, year),
              sm = "OR", comb.random = FALSE)
or2smd(m1)
```

---

 print.meta

---

*Print meta-analysis results*


---

### Description

Print method for objects of class meta.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'meta'
print(x, sortvar, comb.fixed = x$comb.fixed,
      comb.random = x$comb.random, prediction = x$prediction,
      details = FALSE, ma = TRUE, backtransf = x$backtransf,
      pscale = x$pscale, irscale = x$irscale, irunit = x$irunit,
      digits = gs("digits"), digits.se = gs("digits.se"),
      digits.tau2 = gs("digits.tau2"), digits.I2 = gs("digits.I2"),
      digits.prop = gs("digits.prop"), digits.weight = gs("digits.weight"),
      big.mark = gs("big.mark"), warn.backtransf = FALSE, ...)

cilayout(bracket = "[", separator = "; ")
```

### Arguments

x	An object of class meta
sortvar	An optional vector used to sort the individual studies (must be of same length as x\$TE).
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
details	A logical indicating whether further details of individual studies should be printed.
ma	A logical indicating whether the summary results of the meta-analysis should be printed.
backtransf	A logical indicating whether printed results should be back transformed. If backtransf = TRUE, results for sm = "OR" are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for sm = "ZCOR" are printed as correlations rather than Fisher's z transformed correlations, for example.
pscale	A numeric giving scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities or risk differences, i.e. if argument sm is equal to "PLOGIT", "PLN", "PRAW", "PAS", "PFT", or "RD".
irscale	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single incidence rates or incidence rate differences, i.e. if argument sm is equal to "IR", "IRLN", "IRS", "IRFT", or "IRD".
irunit	A character specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.

digits	Minimal number of significant digits, see print.default.
digits.se	Minimal number of significant digits for standard deviations and standard errors, see print.default.
digits.tau2	Minimal number of significant digits for between-study variance, see print.default.
digits.I2	Minimal number of significant digits for I-squared and Rb statistic, see print.default.
digits.prop	Minimal number of significant digits for proportions, see print.default.
digits.weight	Minimal number of significant digits for weights, see print.default.
big.mark	A character used as thousands separator.
warn.backtransf	A logical indicating whether a warning should be printed if backtransformed proportions and rates are below 0 and backtransformed proportions are above 1.
...	Additional arguments (passed on to print.summary.meta called internally).
bracket	A character with bracket symbol to print lower confidence interval: "[", "(", "{", "".
separator	A character string with information on separator between lower and upper confidence interval.

## Details

R function cilayout can be utilised to change the layout to print confidence intervals (both in printout from print.meta and print.summary.meta function as well as in forest plots). The default layout is "[lower; upper]". Another popular layout is "(lower - upper)" which is used throughout an R session by using R command cilayout("( ", " - ").

Argument pscale can be used to rescale single proportions or risk differences, e.g. pscale = 1000 means that proportions are expressed as events per 1000 observations. This is useful in situations with (very) low event probabilities.

Argument irscale can be used to rescale single rates or rate differences, e.g. irscale = 1000 means that rates are expressed as events per 1000 time units, e.g. person-years. This is useful in situations with (very) low rates. Argument irunit can be used to specify the time unit used in individual studies (default: "person-years"). This information is printed in summaries and forest plots if argument irscale is not equal to 1.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## References

- Cooper H & Hedges LV (1994), *The Handbook of Research Synthesis*. Newbury Park, CA: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Crippa A, Khudyakov P, Wang M, Orsini N, Spiegelman D (2016), A new measure of between-studies heterogeneity in meta-analysis. *Statistics in Medicine*, **35**, 3661–75.
- Higgins JPT & Thompson SG (2002), Quantifying heterogeneity in a meta-analysis. *Statistics in Medicine*, **21**, 1539–58.

**See Also**

[summary.meta](#), [update.meta](#), [metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Fleiss93cont)
m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD",
              studlab = paste(study, year))

m1

print(m1, digits = 2)

## Not run:
# Use unicode characters to print tau^2 and I^2
print(m1, text.tau2 = "\u03c4\u00b2", text.I2 = "I\u00b2")

## End(Not run)
```

---

radial

*Radial plot*

---

**Description**

Draw a radial plot (also called Galbraith plot) which can be used to assess bias in meta-analysis.

**Usage**

```
radial(x, ...)
```

```
## Default S3 method:
radial(x, y, xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL,
       xlab = "Inverse of standard error",
       ylab = "Standardised treatment effect (z-score)", comb.fixed = TRUE,
       axes = TRUE, pch = 1, text = NULL, cex = 1, col = NULL,
       level = NULL, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'meta'
radial(x, xlim = NULL, ylim = NULL,
       xlab = "Inverse of standard error",
       ylab = "Standardised treatment effect (z-score)", comb.fixed = TRUE,
       axes = TRUE, pch = 1, text = NULL, cex = 1, col = NULL,
       level = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>meta</code> , or estimated treatment effect in individual studies.
<code>...</code>	Graphical arguments as in <code>par</code> may also be passed as arguments.
<code>y</code>	Standard error of estimated treatment effect.
<code>xlim</code>	The x limits (min, max) of the plot.
<code>ylim</code>	The y limits (min, max) of the plot.
<code>xlab</code>	A label for the x-axis.
<code>ylab</code>	A label for the y-axis.
<code>comb.fixed</code>	A logical indicating whether the pooled fixed effect estimate should be plotted.
<code>axes</code>	A logical indicating whether axes should be drawn on the plot.
<code>pch</code>	The plotting symbol used for individual studies.
<code>text</code>	A character vector specifying the text to be used instead of plotting symbol.
<code>cex</code>	The magnification to be used for plotting symbol.
<code>col</code>	A vector with colour of plotting symbols.
<code>level</code>	The confidence level utilised in the plot.

**Details**

A radial plot (Galbraith 1988a,b), also called Galbraith plot, is drawn in the active graphics window. If `comb.fixed` is TRUE, the pooled estimate of the fixed effect model is plotted. If `level` is not NULL, the corresponding confidence limits are drawn.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

- Galbraith RF (1988a): Graphical display of estimates having differing standard errors. *Technometrics*, **30**, 271–81
- Galbraith RF (1988b): A note on graphical presentation of estimated odds ratios from several clinical trials. *Statistics in Medicine*, **7**, 889–94

**See Also**

[metabias](#), [metabin](#), [metagen](#), [funnel](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Olkin95)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
              data = Olkin95, subset = c(41, 47, 51, 59),
              studlab = paste(author, year),
              sm = "RR", method = "I")
```

```
# Radial plot
#
radial(m1, level = 0.95)
```

---

read.mtv	<i>Import RevMan 4 data files (.mtv)</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

Reads a file created with RevMan 4 and creates a data frame from it.

### Usage

```
read.mtv(file)
```

### Arguments

file                   The name of a file to read data values from.

### Details

Reads a file created with RevMan 4 (Menu: "File" - "Export" - "Analysis data file...") and creates a data frame from it.

### Value

A data frame containing the following components:

comp.no	Comparison number.
outcome.no	Outcome number.
group.no	Group number.
studlab	Study label.
year	Year of publication.
event.e	Number of events in experimental group.
n.e	Number of observations in experimental group.
event.c	Number of events in control group.
n.c	Number of observations in control group.
mean.e	Estimated mean in experimental group.
sd.e	Standard deviation in experimental group.
mean.c	Estimated mean in control group.
sd.c	Standard deviation in control group.
O.E	Observed minus expected (IPD analysis).
V	Variance of O.E (IPD analysis).



order	Ordering of studies.
conceal	Concealment of treatment allocation.
grplab	Group label.
type	Type of outcome. D = dichotomous, C = continuous, P = IPD.
outclab	Outcome label.
graph.exp	Graph label for experimental group.
graph.cont	Graph label for control group.
label.exp	Label for experimental group.
label.cont	Label for control group.
complab	Comparison label.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

*Review Manager (RevMan)* [Computer program]. Version 4.2. Copenhagen: The Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration, 2003

**See Also**

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#)

**Examples**

```
# Locate MTV-data file "FLEISS93.MTV" in sub-directory of R package
# meta
#
filename <- system.file("extdata/Fleiss93.MTV", package = "meta")
fleiss93.cc <- read.mtv(filename)

# Same result as R Command example(Fleiss93):
#
metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c,
        data = fleiss93.cc, subset = type == "D",
        studlab = paste(studlab, year))

# Same result: example(Fleiss93cont)
#
metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
         data = fleiss93.cc, subset = type == "C",
         studlab = paste(studlab, year))
```

---

read.rm5	<i>Import RevMan 5 data files (.csv)</i>
----------	--

---

### Description

Reads data file from Cochrane Intervention review created with RevMan 5 and creates a data frame from it.

### Usage

```
read.rm5(file, sep = ",", quote = "\"", title,
         numbers.in.labels = TRUE)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'rm5'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

file	The name of a file to read data values from.
sep	The field separator character. Values on each line of the file are separated by this character. The comma is the default field separator character in RevMan 5.
quote	The set of quoting characters. In RevMan 5 a "\"" is the default quoting character.
title	Title of Cochrane review.
numbers.in.labels	A logical indicating whether comparison number and outcome number should be printed at the beginning of the comparison (argument complab) and outcome label (argument outclab); this is the default in RevMan 5.
x	An object of class rm5
...	Additional arguments (passed on to print.data.frame).

### Details

Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) is the current software used for preparing and maintaining Cochrane Reviews (<http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>). RevMan 5 includes the ability to write Systematic reviews of interventions, Diagnostic test accuracy reviews, Methodology reviews and Overviews of reviews.

This function provides the ability to read a data file from a Cochrane Intervention review created with RevMan 5; a data frame is created from it. Cochrane Intervention reviews are based on the comparison of two interventions.

In order to generate a data analysis file in RevMan 5 use the following Menu points: "File" - "Export" - "Data and analyses". It is mandatory to include the following fields in the exported data file by selecting them with the mouse cursor in the Export Analysis Data Wizard: (i) Comparison Number, (ii) Outcome Number, (iii) Subgroup Number. When these fields are not selected a corresponding error message will be printed in R. It is recommended to include all fields in the

exported data file except for the last field "Risk of bias tables". For example, in order to redo the meta-analysis in R for the RevMan 5 data type "O-E and Variance" the fields "O-E" and "Variance" have to be selected in the Export Analysis Data Wizard. If the last field "Risk of bias tables" is selected the import in R fails with an error message "line X did not have Y elements".

By default in RevMan 5, the name of the exported data file is the title of the Cochrane Review. Accordingly, information on the title is extracted from the name of the exported data file (argument: file) if argument title is missing (default).

Each respective meta-analysis for arguments event.e.pooled – df.pooled is defined by values for "comp.no" and "outcome.no", and "grp.no".

## Value

A data frame containing the following components:

comp.no	Comparison number.
outcome.no	Outcome number.
group.no	Group number.
studlab	Study label.
year	Year of publication.
event.e	Number of events in experimental group.
n.e	Number of observations in experimental group.
event.c	Number of events in control group.
n.c	Number of observations in control group.
mean.e	Estimated mean in experimental group.
sd.e	Standard deviation in experimental group.
mean.c	Estimated mean in control group.
sd.c	Standard deviation in control group.
O.E	Observed minus expected (IPD analysis).
V	Variance of O.E (IPD analysis).
TE, seTE	Estimated treatment effect and standard error of individual studies.
lower, upper	Lower and upper limit of 95% confidence interval for treatment effect in individual studies.
weight	Weight of individual studies (according to meta-analytical method used in respective meta-analysis - see below for details).
order	Ordering of studies.
grplab	Group label.
type	Type of outcome. D = dichotomous, C = continuous, P = IPD.
method	A character string indicating which method has been used for pooling of studies. One of "Inverse", "MH", or "Peto".
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure has been used for pooling of studies.

model	A character string indicating which meta-analytical model has been used (either "Fixed" or "Random").
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether fixed effect meta-analysis has been used in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
comb.random	A logical indicating whether random effects meta-analysis has been used in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
outclab	Outcome label.
k	Total number of studies combined in respective meta-analysis).
event.e.pooled	Number of events in experimental group in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
n.e.pooled	Number of observations in experimental group in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
event.c.pooled	Number of events in control group in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
n.c.pooled	Number of observations in control group in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
TE.pooled	Estimated treatment effect in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
lower, upper	Lower and upper limit of 95% confidence interval for treatment effect in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
weight.pooled	Total weight in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
Z.pooled	Z-score for test of overall treatment effect in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
pval.pooled	P-value for test of overall treatment effect in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
Q	Heterogeneity statistic Q in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
pval.Q	P-value of heterogeneity statistic Q in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
I2	Heterogeneity statistic I2 in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
tau2	Between-study variance (moment estimator of DerSimonian-Laird) in respective meta-analysis.
Q.w	Heterogeneity statistic Q within groups in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
pval.Q.w	P-value of heterogeneity statistic Q within groups in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within groups in respective meta-analysis (see below for details).
label.e	Label for experimental group.
label.c	Label for control group.
label.left	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
label.right	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
RR.cochrane	A logical indicating if 2*incr instead of 1*incr is to be added to n.e and n.c in the calculation of the risk ratio (i.e., sm = "RR") for studies with a zero cell. This is used in RevMan 5.
complab	Comparison label.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

*Review Manager (RevMan)* [Computer program]. Version 5.3. Copenhagen: The Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration, 2014

**See Also**

[summary.rm5](#), [metabias.rm5](#), [metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [metacr](#)

**Examples**

```
# Locate export data file "Fleiss93_CR.csv"
# in sub-directory of package "meta"
#
filename <- system.file("extdata", "Fleiss93_CR.csv", package = "meta")
Fleiss93_CR <- read.rm5(filename)

# Same result as R command example(Fleiss93):
#
metacr(Fleiss93_CR)

# Same result as R command example(Fleiss93cont):
#
metacr(Fleiss93_CR, 1, 2)
```

---

settings.meta

*Print and change default settings to conduct and print or plot meta-analyses in R package **meta**.*

---

**Description**

Print and change default settings to conduct and print or plot meta-analyses in R package **meta**. The following general settings are available: *Review Manager 5, Journal of the American Medical Association*.

**Usage**

```
settings.meta(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Arguments to change default settings.

## Details

This function can be used to define defaults for several arguments (i.e., assignments using `gs`) of the following R functions: `metabin`, `metacont`, `metacor`, `metacr`, `metagen`, `metainc`, `metaprop`, `metarate`

Furthermore, some of these settings are considered to print meta-analysis results using `print.meta` and `print.summary.meta`, and to produce forest plots using `forest.meta`.

The function can be used to either change individual settings (see Examples) or use one of the following general settings:

- `settings.meta("revman5")`
- `settings.meta("jama")`

The first command can be used to reproduce meta-analyses from Cochrane reviews conducted with *Review Manager 5* (RevMan 5, <http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>) and specifies to use a RevMan 5 layout in forest plots. The second command can be used to generate forest plots following instructions for authors of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (<http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/pages/instructions-for-authors>).

RevMan 5 settings, in detail:

Argument	Value	Comment
<code>hakn</code>	FALSE	method not available in RevMan 5
<code>method.tau</code>	"DL"	only available method in RevMan 5
<code>tau.common</code>	FALSE	common between-study variance in subgroups
<code>MH.exact</code>	FALSE	exact Mantel-Haenszel method
<code>RR.cochrane</code>	TRUE	calculation of risk ratios
<code>layout</code>	"RevMan5"	layout for forest plots
<code>test.overall</code>	TRUE	print information on test of overall effect
<code>digits.I2</code>	0	number of digits for I-squared measure
<code>digits.tau2</code>	0	number of digits for tau-squared
<code>CIBracket,</code> <code>CIseparator</code>	"[" ", "	print confidence intervals as "[. , .]"

JAMA settings:

Argument	Value	Comment
<code>layout</code>	"JAMA"	layout for forest plots
<code>test.overall</code>	TRUE	print information on test of overall effect
<code>digits.I2</code>	0	number of digits for I-squared measure
<code>CIBracket,</code> <code>CIseparator</code>	"("" "-"	print confidence intervals as "(. -.)"

A list of all arguments with current settings is printed using the command `settings.meta("print")`.

In order to reset all settings of R package **meta** the command `settings.meta("reset")` can be used.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**See Also**

[gs](#), [forest.meta](#)

**Examples**

```
# Get listing of current settings
#
settings.meta("print")

# Meta-analyses using default settings
#
metabin(10, 20, 15, 20)
metaprop(4, 20)
metabin(10, 20, 15, 20, sm = "RD")
metaprop(4, 20, sm = "PLN")

# Change summary measure for R functions metabin and metaprop
# and store old settings
#
oldset <- settings.meta(smbin = "RD", smprop = "PLN")
#
metabin(10, 20, 15, 20)
metaprop(4, 20)

# Use old settings
#
settings.meta(oldset)

# Change level used to calculate confidence intervals
# (99%-CI for studies, 99.9%-CI for pooled effects)
#
metagen(1:3, 2:4 / 10, sm = "MD")
settings.meta(level = 0.99, level.comb = 0.999)
metagen(1:3, 2:4 / 10, sm = "MD")

# Always print a prediction interval
#
settings.meta(prediction = TRUE)
metagen(1:3, 2:4 / 10, sm = "MD")
metagen(4:6, 4:2 / 10, sm = "MD")

# Try to set unknown argument results in a warning
#
try(settings.meta(unknownarg = TRUE))

# Reset to default settings of R package meta
#
settings.meta("reset")
```

```

metabin(10, 20, 15, 20)
metaprop(4, 20)
metagen(1:3, 2:4 / 10, sm = "MD")

# Do not back transform results (e.g. print log odds ratios instead
# of odds ratios, print transformed correlations / proportions
# instead of correlations / proportions)
#
settings.meta(backtransf = FALSE)
metabin(10, 20, 15, 20)
metaprop(4, 20)
metacor(c(0.85, 0.7, 0.95), c(20, 40, 10))

# Forest plot using RevMan 5 style
#
settings.meta("revman5")
forest(metagen(1:3, 2:4 / 10, sm = "MD", comb.fixed = FALSE),
       label.left = "Favours A", label.right = "Favours B",
       colgap.studlab = "2cm",
       colgap.forest.left = "0.2cm")

# Forest plot using JAMA style
#
settings.meta("jama")
forest(metagen(1:3, 2:4 / 10, sm = "MD", comb.fixed = FALSE),
       label.left = "Favours A", label.right = "Favours B",
       colgap.studlab = "2cm",
       colgap.forest.left = "0.2cm")

# Use slightly different layout for confidence intervals
# (especially useful if upper confidence limit can be negative)
#
settings.meta(CIseparator = " - ")
forest(metagen(-(1:3), 2:4 / 10, sm="MD", comb.fixed=FALSE),
       label.left="Favours A", label.right="Favours B",
       colgap.studlab = "2cm",
       colgap.forest.left = "0.2cm")

# Use old settings
#
settings.meta(oldset)

```

---

smd2or

---

*Conversion from standardised mean difference to log odds ratio*


---

### Description

Conversion from standardised mean difference to log odds ratio using method by Hasselblad & Hedges (1995) or Cox (1970).



**Usage**

```
smd2or(smd, se.smd, studlab, data = NULL, subset = NULL,
       exclude = NULL, method = "HH", backtransf = gs("backtransf"), ...)
```

**Arguments**

smd	Standardised mean difference(s) (SMD) or meta-analysis object.
se.smd	Standard error(s) of SMD (ignored if argument <code>smd</code> is a meta-analysis object).
studlab	An optional vector with study labels (ignored if argument <code>smd</code> is a meta-analysis object).
data	An optional data frame containing the study information (ignored if argument <code>smd</code> is a meta-analysis object).
subset	An optional vector specifying a subset of studies to be used (ignored if argument <code>smd</code> is a meta-analysis object).
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots (ignored if argument <code>smd</code> is a meta-analysis object).
method	A character string indicating which method is used to convert SMDs to log odds ratios. Either "HH" or "CS", can be abbreviated.
backtransf	A logical indicating whether odds ratios (if TRUE) or log odds ratios (if FALSE) should be shown in printouts and plots.
...	Additional arguments passed on to <a href="#">metagen</a> (ignored if argument <code>smd</code> is a meta-analysis object).

**Details**

This function implements the following methods for the conversion from standardised mean difference to log odds ratio:

- Hasselblad & Hedges (1995) assuming logistic distributions (`method == "HH"`)
- Cox (1970) and Cox & Snell (1989) assuming normal distributions (`method == "CS"`)

Internally, [metagen](#) is used to conduct a meta-analysis with the odds ratio as summary measure.

Argument `smd` can be either a vector of standardised mean differences or a meta-analysis object created with [metacont](#) or [metagen](#) and the standardised mean difference as summary measure.

Argument `se.smd` is mandatory if argument `smd` is a vector and ignored otherwise. Additional arguments in `...` are only passed on to [metagen](#) if argument `smd` is a vector.

**Value**

An object of class "meta" and "metagen"; see [metagen](#).

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## References

- Borenstein M, Hedges LV, Higgins JPT, Rothstein HR (2009): *Introduction to Meta-Analysis*. Chichester: Wiley
- Cox DR (1970): *Analysis of Binary Data*. London: Chapman and Hall / CRC
- Cox DR, Snell EJ (1989): *Analysis of Binary Data* (2nd edition). London: Chapman and Hall / CRC
- Hasselblad V, Hedges LV (1995): Meta-analysis of screening and diagnostic tests. *Psychological Bulletin*, **117**, 167–78

## See Also

[or2smd](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#), [metabin](#)

## Examples

```
# Example from Borenstein et al. (2009), Chapter 7
#
mb <- smd2or(0.5, sqrt(0.0205), backtransf = FALSE)
# TE = log odds ratio; seTE = standard error of log odds ratio
data.frame(lnOR = round(mb$TE, 4), varlnOR = round(mb$seTE^2, 4))

# Use dataset from Fleiss (1993)
#
data(Fleiss93cont)
m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c, study,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD")
smd2or(m1)
```

---

smoking

*Smoking example*

---

## Description

Meta-analyses on the effect of smoking on mortality risk.

## Usage

smoking

## Format

A data frame with the following columns:

<i>study</i>	study label
<i>participants</i>	total number of participants
<i>d.smokers</i>	number of deaths in smokers' group

*py.smokers* person years at risk in smokers' group  
*d.nonsmokers* number of deaths in non-smokers' group  
*py.nonsmokers* person years at risk in non-smokers' group

## Details

Data have been reconstructed based on the famous Smoking and Health Report to the Surgeon General (Bayne-Jones S et al., 1964). Data sets can be used to evaluate the risk of smoking on overall mortality and lung-cancer deaths, respectively. The person time is attributed such that the rate ratios are equal to the reported mortality ratios implicitly assuming that the data have arisen from a homogeneous age group; more detailed information by age is not available from the report. Note, the group of "non-smokers" actually consists of all participants except those who are smokers of cigarettes only. Information on real non-smokers is not available from the published Smoking and Health Report.

## Source

Bayne-Jones S et al. (1964): Smoking and Health: Report of the Advisory Committee to the Surgeon General of the United States. U-23 Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Public Health Service Publication No. 1103. <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/ps/retrieve/ResourceMetadata/NNBBMQ>

## See Also

[metainc](#)

## Examples

```
data(smoking)

m1 <- metainc(d.smokers, py.smokers,
             d.nonsmokers, py.nonsmokers,
             data = smoking, studlab = study)
print(m1, digits = 2)

data(lungcancer)

m2 <- metainc(d.smokers, py.smokers,
             d.nonsmokers, py.nonsmokers,
             data = lungcancer, studlab = study)
print(m2, digits = 2)
```

---

summary.meta

*Summary of meta-analysis results*

---

## Description

Summary method for objects of class meta.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'meta'
summary(object, comb.fixed = object$comb.fixed,
  comb.random = object$comb.random, prediction = object$prediction,
  backtransf = object$backtransf, pscale = object$pscale,
  irscale = object$irscale, irunit = object$irunit,
  bylab = object$bylab, print.byvar = object$print.byvar,
  byseparator = object$byseparator, bystud = FALSE,
  print.CMH = object$print.CMH, warn = object$warn, ...)

## S3 method for class 'summary.meta'
print(x, comb.fixed = x$comb.fixed,
  comb.random = x$comb.random, prediction = x$prediction,
  print.byvar = x$print.byvar, byseparator = x$byseparator,
  print.CMH = x$print.CMH, header = TRUE, backtransf = x$backtransf,
  pscale = x$pscale, irscale = x$irscale, irunit = x$irunit,
  bylab.nchar = 35, digits = gs("digits"),
  digits.zval = gs("digits.zval"), digits.pval = max(gs("digits.pval"),
  2), digits.pval.Q = max(gs("digits.pval.Q"), 2),
  digits.Q = gs("digits.Q"), digits.tau2 = gs("digits.tau2"),
  digits.H = gs("digits.H"), digits.I2 = gs("digits.I2"),
  scientific.pval = gs("scientific.pval"), big.mark = gs("big.mark"),
  print.I2 = gs("print.I2"), print.H = gs("print.H"),
  print.Rb = gs("print.Rb"), text.tau2 = gs("text.tau2"),
  text.I2 = gs("text.I2"), text.Rb = gs("text.Rb"),
  warn.backtransf = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class meta.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
backtransf	A logical indicating whether printed results should be back transformed. If backtransf=TRUE, results for sm="OR" are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for sm="ZCOR" are printed as correlations rather than Fisher's z transformed correlations, for example.
pscale	A numeric giving scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities or risk differences, i.e. if argument sm is equal to "PLOGIT", "PLN", "PRAW", "PAS", "PFT", or "RD".
irscale	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single incidence rates or incidence rate differences, i.e. if argument sm is equal to "IR", "IRLN", "IRS", "IRFT", or "IRD".
irunit	A character specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.

print.byvar	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
byseparator	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
bystud	A logical indicating whether results of individual studies should be printed by grouping variable.
print.CMH	A logical indicating whether result of the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test for overall effect should be printed.
warn	A logical indicating whether the use of summary.meta in connection with metacum or metainf should result in a warning.
...	Additional arguments (ignored).
x	An object of class summary.meta.
header	A logical indicating whether information on title of meta-analysis, comparison and outcome should be printed at the beginning of the printout.
bylab.nchar	A numeric specifying the number of characters to print from label for the grouping variable.
digits	Minimal number of significant digits, see print.default.
digits.zval	Minimal number of significant digits for z- or t-value, see print.default.
digits.pval	Minimal number of significant digits for p-value of overall treatment effect, see print.default.
digits.pval.Q	Minimal number of significant digits for p-value of heterogeneity test, see print.default.
digits.Q	Minimal number of significant digits for heterogeneity statistic Q, see print.default.
digits.tau2	Minimal number of significant digits for between-study variance, see print.default.
digits.H	Minimal number of significant digits for H statistic, see print.default.
digits.I2	Minimal number of significant digits for I-squared and Rb statistic, see print.default.
scientific.pval	A logical specifying whether p-values should be printed in scientific notation, e.g., 1.2345e-01 instead of 0.12345.
big.mark	A character used as thousands separator.
print.I2	A logical specifying whether heterogeneity statistic I <sup>2</sup> should be printed.
print.H	A logical specifying whether heterogeneity statistic H should be printed.
print.Rb	A logical specifying whether heterogeneity statistic Rb should be printed.
text.tau2	Text printed to identify between-study variance tau <sup>2</sup> .
text.I2	Text printed to identify heterogeneity statistic I <sup>2</sup> .
text.Rb	Text printed to identify heterogeneity statistic Rb.
warn.backtransf	A logical indicating whether a warning should be printed if backtransformed proportions and rates are below 0 and backtransformed proportions are above 1.

## Details

Note, in R package **meta**, version 3.0-0 some arguments have been removed from R functions `summary.meta` (arguments: `byvar`, `level`, `level.comb`, `level.prediction`) and `print.summary.meta` (arguments: `level`, `level.comb`, `level.prediction`). This functionality is now provided by R function `update.meta` (or directly in meta-analysis functions, e.g., `metabin`, `metacont`, `metagen`, `metacor`, and `metaprop`).

Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) is the current software used for preparing and maintaining Cochrane Reviews (<http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>). In RevMan 5, subgroup analyses can be defined and data from a Cochrane review can be imported to R using the function `read.rm5`. If a meta-analysis is then conducted using function `metacr`, information on subgroups is available in R (components `byvar`, `bylab`, and `print.byvar`, `byvar` in an object of class "meta"). Accordingly, by using function `metacr` there is no need to define subgroups in order to redo the statistical analysis conducted in the Cochrane review.

Note, for an object of type `metaprop`, starting with version 3.7-0 of `meta`, list elements `TE`, `lower` and `upper` in element `study` correspond to transformed proportions and confidence limits (regardless whether exact confidence limits are calculated; argument `ciexact=TRUE` in `metaprop` function). Accordingly, the following results are based on the same transformation defined by argument `sm`: list elements `TE`, `lower` and `upper` in elements `study`, `fixed`, `random`, `within.fixed` and `within.random`.

R function `cilayout` can be utilised to change the layout to print confidence intervals (both in printout from `print.meta` and `print.summary.meta` function as well as in forest plots). The default layout is "[lower; upper]". Another popular layout is "(lower - upper)" which is used throughout an R session by using R command `cilayout("(" , " - ")`.

Argument `pscale` can be used to rescale single proportions or risk differences, e.g. `pscale=1000` means that proportions are expressed as events per 1000 observations. This is useful in situations with (very) low event probabilities.

Argument `irscale` can be used to rescale single rates or rate differences, e.g. `irscale=1000` means that rates are expressed as events per 1000 time units, e.g. person-years. This is useful in situations with (very) low rates. Argument `irunit` can be used to specify the time unit used in individual studies (default: "person-years"). This information is printed in summaries and forest plots if argument `irscale` is not equal to 1.

## Value

A list is returned by the function `summary.meta` with the following elements:

<code>study</code>	Results for individual studies (a list with elements <code>TE</code> , <code>seTE</code> , <code>lower</code> , <code>upper</code> , <code>z</code> , <code>p</code> , <code>level</code> , <code>df</code> ).
<code>fixed</code>	Results for fixed effect model (a list with elements <code>TE</code> , <code>seTE</code> , <code>lower</code> , <code>upper</code> , <code>z</code> , <code>p</code> , <code>level</code> , <code>df</code> ).
<code>#</code>	
<code>random</code>	Results for random effects model (a list with elements <code>TE</code> , <code>seTE</code> , <code>lower</code> , <code>upper</code> , <code>z</code> , <code>p</code> , <code>level</code> , <code>df</code> ).
<code>k</code>	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
<code>Q</code>	Heterogeneity statistic Q.

tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
se.tau	Standard error of square-root of between-study variance.
C	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
H	Heterogeneity statistic H (a list with elements TE, lower, upper).
I2	Heterogeneity statistic I2 (a list with elements TE, lower, upper), see Higgins & Thompson (2002).
Rb	Heterogeneity statistic Rb (a list with elements TE, lower, upper), see Crippa et al. (2016).
#	
k.all	Total number of studies.
Q.CMH	Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test statistic for overall effect.
sm	A character string indicating underlying summary measure.
method	A character string with the pooling method.
call	Function call.
ci.lab	Label for confidence interval.
hakn	A logical indicating whether method by Hartung and Knapp was used.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance tau-squared.
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared is assumed to be the same across subgroups.
within.fixed	Result for fixed effect model within groups (a list with elements TE, seTE, lower, upper, z, p, level, df, harmonic.mean) - if byvar is not missing.
within.random	Result for random effects model within groups (a list with elements TE, seTE, lower, upper, z, p, level, df, harmonic.mean) - if byvar is not missing.
k.w	Number of studies combined within groups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.w	Heterogeneity statistic Q within groups - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.fixed	Heterogeneity statistic Q between groups (based on fixed effect model) - if byvar is not missing.
Q.b.random	Heterogeneity statistic Q between groups (based on random effects model) - if byvar is not missing.
tau.w	Square-root of between-study variance within subgroups - if byvar is not missing.
C.w	Scaling factor utilised internally to calculate common tau-squared across subgroups.
H.w	Heterogeneity statistic H within subgroups (a list with elements TE, lower, upper) - if byvar is not missing.
I2.w	Heterogeneity statistic I2 within subgroups (a list with elements TE, lower, upper) - if byvar is not missing.

Rb.w	Heterogeneity statistic Rb within subgroups (a list with elements TE, lower, upper) - if byvar is not missing.
H.resid	Statistic H for residual heterogeneity (a list with elements TE, lower, upper) - if byvar is not missing.
I2.resid	Statistic I2 for residual heterogeneity (a list with elements TE, lower, upper) - if byvar is not missing.
bylevs	Levels of grouping variable - if byvar is not missing.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
data	Original data (set) used to create meta object.
subset	Information on subset of original data used in meta-analysis.
prediction, level.predict	As defined above.
comb.fixed, comb.random, print.CMH	As defined above.
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

**References**

- Cooper H & Hedges LV (1994): *The Handbook of Research Synthesis*. Newbury Park, CA: Russell Sage Foundation
- Crippa A, Khudyakov P, Wang M, Orsini N, Spiegelman D (2016): A new measure of between-studies heterogeneity in meta-analysis. *Statistics in Medicine*, **35**, 3661–75
- Higgins JPT & Thompson SG (2002): Quantifying heterogeneity in a meta-analysis. *Statistics in Medicine*, **21**, 1539–58

**See Also**

[update.meta](#), [metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Fleiss93cont)
m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD",
              studlab = paste(study, year))
summary(m1)

summary(update(m1, byvar = c(1, 2, 1, 1, 2), bylab = "group"))
forest(update(m1, byvar = c(1, 2, 1, 1, 2), bylab = "group"))
```



```
## Not run:
# Use unicode characters to print tau^2 and I^2
print(summary(m1), text.tau2 = "\u03c4\u00b2", text.I2 = "I\u00b2")

## End(Not run)
```

---

summary.rm5

*Cochrane review: Summary of meta-analyses*


---

## Description

Calculate and print a summary of all meta-analyses in a Cochrane review.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'rm5'
summary(object, comp.no, outcome.no, ...)

## S3 method for class 'summary.rm5'
print(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	An object of class rm5.
comp.no	Comparison number.
outcome.no	Outcome number.
...	Additional arguments (passed on to metacr).
x	An object of class summary.rm5.

## Details

This function can be used to redo all or selected meta-analyses of a Cochrane Review.

Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) is the current software used for preparing and maintaining Cochrane Reviews (<http://community.cochrane.org/tools/review-production-tools/revman-5>). In RevMan 5, subgroup analyses can be defined and data from a Cochrane review can be imported to R using the function `read.rm5`.

The R function `metacr` is called internally.

## Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

## References

Higgins, J.P.T and S. Green (2011): *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.1.0 [Updated March 2011]*. The Cochrane Library: <http://www.cochrane-handbook.org>

**See Also**

[summary.meta](#), [metacr](#), [read.rm5](#), [metabias.rm5](#)

**Examples**

```
# Locate export data file "Fleiss93_CR.csv"
# in sub-directory of package "meta"
#
filename <- system.file("extdata", "Fleiss93_CR.csv", package = "meta")
Fleiss93_CR <- read.rm5(filename)

# Print summary results for all meta-analysis
#
summary(Fleiss93_CR)

# Print summary results only for second outcome of first comparison
#
summary(Fleiss93_CR, comp.no = 1, outcome.no = 2)
```

---

trimfill

*Trim-and-fill method to adjust for bias in meta-analysis*


---

**Description**

Trim-and-fill method for estimating and adjusting for the number and outcomes of missing studies in a meta-analysis.

**Usage**

```
trimfill(x, ...)
```

## Default S3 method:

```
trimfill(x, seTE, left = NULL, ma.fixed = TRUE,
  type = "L", n.iter.max = 50, sm = "", studlab = NULL,
  level = 0.95, level.comb = level, comb.fixed = FALSE,
  comb.random = TRUE, hakn = FALSE, method.tau = "DL",
  prediction = FALSE, level.predict = level, backtransf = TRUE,
  pscale = 1, irscale = 1, irunit = "person-years", silent = TRUE,
  ...)
```

## S3 method for class 'meta'

```
trimfill(x, left = NULL, ma.fixed = TRUE, type = "L",
  n.iter.max = 50, level = x$level, level.comb = x$level.comb,
  comb.fixed = FALSE, comb.random = TRUE, hakn = x$hakn,
  method.tau = x$method.tau, prediction = x$prediction,
  level.predict = x$level.predict, backtransf = x$backtransf,
  pscale = x$pscale, irscale = x$irscale, irunit = x$irunit,
  silent = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	An object of class <code>meta</code> , or estimated treatment effect in individual studies.
<code>...</code>	other arguments
<code>seTE</code>	Standard error of estimated treatment effect.
<code>left</code>	A logical indicating whether studies are supposed to be missing on the left or right side of the funnel plot. If <code>NULL</code> , the linear regression test for funnel plot symmetry (i.e., function <code>metabias(..., method="linreg")</code> ) is used to determine whether studies are missing on the left or right side.
<code>ma.fixed</code>	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect or random effects model is used to estimate the number of missing studies.
<code>type</code>	A character indicating which method is used to estimate the number of missing studies. Either "L" or "R".
<code>n.iter.max</code>	Maximum number of iterations to estimate number of missing studies.
<code>sm</code>	An optional character string indicating underlying summary measure, e.g., "RD", "RR", "OR", "ASD", "HR", "MD", "SMD", or "ROM"; ignored if <code>x</code> is of class <code>meta</code> .
<code>studlab</code>	An optional vector with study labels; ignored if <code>x</code> is of class <code>meta</code> .
<code>level</code>	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies. If existing, <code>x\$level</code> is used as value for <code>level</code> ; otherwise 0.95 is used.
<code>level.comb</code>	The level used to calculate confidence interval for the pooled estimate. If existing, <code>x\$level.comb</code> is used as value for <code>level.comb</code> ; otherwise 0.95 is used.
<code>comb.fixed</code>	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
<code>comb.random</code>	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
<code>hakn</code>	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
<code>method.tau</code>	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated.
<code>prediction</code>	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
<code>level.predict</code>	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
<code>backtransf</code>	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If <code>backtransf=TRUE</code> , results for <code>sm="OR"</code> are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for <code>sm="ZCOR"</code> are printed as correlations rather than Fisher's $z$ transformed correlations, for example.
<code>pscale</code>	A numeric giving scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities or risk differences, i.e. if argument <code>sm</code> is equal to "PLOGIT", "PLN", "PRAW", "PAS", "PFT", or "RD".
<code>irscale</code>	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single incidence rates or incidence rate differences, i.e. if argument <code>sm</code> is equal to "IR", "IRLN", "IRS", "IRFT", or "IRD".
<code>irunit</code>	A character specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.
<code>silent</code>	A logical indicating whether basic information on iterations shown.

## Details

The trim-and-fill method (Duval, Tweedie 2000a, 2000b) can be used for estimating and adjusting for the number and outcomes of missing studies in a meta-analysis. The method relies on scrutiny of one side of a funnel plot for asymmetry assumed due to publication bias.

Three different methods have been proposed originally to estimate the number of missing studies. Two of these methods (L- and R-estimator) have been shown to perform better in simulations, and are available in this R function (argument `type`).

A fixed effect or random effects model can be used to estimate the number of missing studies (argument `ma.fixed`). Furthermore, a fixed effect and/or random effects model can be used to summaries study results (arguments `comb.fixed` and `comb.random`). Simulation results (Peters et al. 2007) indicate that the fixed-random model, i.e. using a fixed effect model to estimate the number of missing studies and a random effects model to summaries results, (i) performs better than the fixed-fixed model, and (ii) performs no worse than and marginally better in certain situations than the random-random model. Accordingly, the fixed-random model is the default.

An empirical comparison of the trim-and-fill method and the Copas selection model (Schwarzer et al. 2010) indicates that the trim-and-fill method leads to excessively conservative inference in practice. The Copas selection model is available in R package **metasens**.

The function `metagen` is called internally.

## Value

An object of class `c("metagen", "meta", "trimfill")`. The object is a list containing the following components:

<code>studlab</code> , <code>sm</code> , <code>left</code> , <code>ma.fixed</code> , <code>type</code> , <code>n.iter.max</code>	As defined above.
<code>level</code> , <code>level.comb</code> , <code>level.predict</code>	As defined above.
<code>comb.fixed</code> , <code>comb.random</code> , <code>prediction</code> , <code>hakn</code> , <code>method.tau</code>	As defined above.
<code>TE</code> , <code>seTE</code>	Estimated treatment effect and standard error of individual studies.
<code>lower</code> , <code>upper</code>	Lower and upper confidence interval limits for individual studies.
<code>zval</code> , <code>pval</code>	z-value and p-value for test of treatment effect for individual studies.
<code>w.fixed</code> , <code>w.random</code>	Weight of individual studies (in fixed and random effects model).
<code>TE.fixed</code> , <code>seTE.fixed</code>	Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (fixed effect model).
<code>TE.random</code> , <code>seTE.random</code>	Estimated overall treatment effect and standard error (random effects model).
<code>seTE.predict</code>	Standard error utilised for prediction interval.
<code>lower.predict</code> , <code>upper.predict</code>	Lower and upper limits of prediction interval.
<code>k</code>	Number of studies combined in meta-analysis.
<code>Q</code>	Heterogeneity statistic Q.

tau	Square-root of between-study variance.
method	Pooling method: "Inverse".
call	Function call.
n.iter	Actual number of iterations to estimate number of missing studies.
trimfill	A logical vector indicating studies that have been added by trim-and-fill method.
df.hakn	Degrees of freedom for test of treatment effect for Hartung-Knapp method (only if hakn=TRUE).
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
label.e	Label for experimental group.
label.c	Label for control group.
label.left	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
label.right	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
k0	Number of studies added by trim-and-fill.
n.e	Number of observations in experimental group (only for object x of class metabin or metacont).
n.c	Number of observations in control group (only for object x of class metabin or metacont).
event.e	Number of events in experimental group (only for object x of class metabin).
event.c	Number of events in control group (only for object x of class metabin).
mean.e	Estimated mean in experimental group (only for object x of class metacont).
sd.e	Standard deviation in experimental group (only for object x of class metacont).
mean.c	Estimated mean in control group (only for object x of class metacont).
sd.c	Standard deviation in control group (only for object x of class metacont).
n	Number of observations (only for object x of class metaprop).
event	Number of events (only for object x of class metaprop).
cor	Correlation (only for object x of class metacor).
class.x	Main class of object x (e.g. 'metabin' or 'metacont').
version	Version of R package <b>meta</b> used to create object.

**Author(s)**

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

## References

Duval S & Tweedie R (2000a): A nonparametric "Trim and Fill" method of accounting for publication bias in meta-analysis. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, **95**, 89–98

Duval S & Tweedie R (2000b): Trim and Fill: A simple funnel-plot-based method of testing and adjusting for publication bias in meta-analysis. *Biometrics*, **56**, 455–63

Peters JL, Sutton AJ, Jones DR, Abrams KR, Rushton L (2007): Performance of the trim and fill method in the presence of publication bias and between-study heterogeneity. *Statistics in Medicine*, **10**, 4544–62

Schwarzer G, Carpenter J, Rücker G (2010): Empirical evaluation suggests Copas selection model preferable to trim-and-fill method for selection bias in meta-analysis *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, **63**, 282–8

## See Also

[metagen](#), [metabias](#), [funnel](#)

## Examples

```
data(Fleiss93)
m1 <- metabin(event.e, n.e, event.c, n.c, data = Fleiss93, sm = "OR")
tf1 <- trimfill(m1)
summary(tf1)
funnel(tf1)
funnel(tf1, pch = ifelse(tf1$trimfill, 1, 16),
       level = 0.9, comb.random = FALSE)
#
# Use log odds ratios on x-axis
#
funnel(tf1, backtransf = FALSE)
funnel(tf1, pch = ifelse(tf1$trimfill, 1, 16),
       level = 0.9, comb.random = FALSE, backtransf = FALSE)

trimfill(m1$TE, m1$seTE, sm = m1$sm)
```

---

update.meta

*Update a meta-analysis object*

---

## Description

Update an existing meta-analysis object.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'meta'
update(object, data = object$data,
  subset = object$subset, studlab = object$data$.studlab,
  exclude = object$data$.exclude, method = object$method,
  sm = object$sm, incr, allincr = object$allincr,
  addincr = object$addincr, allstudies = object$allstudies,
  MH.exact = object$MH.exact, RR.cochrane = object$RR.cochrane,
  model.glmm = object$model.glmm, level = object$level,
  level.comb = object$level.comb, comb.fixed = object$comb.fixed,
  comb.random = object$comb.random, hakn = object$hakn,
  method.tau = object$method.tau, tau.preset = object$tau.preset,
  TE.tau = object$TE.tau, tau.common = object$tau.common,
  prediction = object$prediction, level.predict = object$level.predict,
  null.effect = object$null.effect, method.bias = object$method.bias,
  backtransf = object$backtransf, pscale = object$pscale,
  irscale = object$irscale, irunit = object$irunit,
  title = object$title, complab = object$complab,
  outclab = object$outclab, label.e = object$label.e,
  label.c = object$label.c, label.left = object$label.left,
  label.right = object$label.right, n.e = object$n.e,
  n.c = object$n.c, pooledvar = object$pooledvar,
  method.smd = object$method.smd, sd.glass = object$sd.glass,
  exact.smd = object$exact.smd, method.ci = object$method.ci,
  byvar = object$byvar, bylab = object$bylab,
  print.byvar = object$print.byvar, byseparator = object$byseparator,
  print.CMH = object$print.CMH, keepdata = TRUE, left = object$left,
  ma.fixed = object$ma.fixed, type = object$type,
  n.iter.max = object$n.iter.max, warn = object$warn,
  control = object$control, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class meta.
data	Dataset.
subset	Subset.
studlab	Study label.
exclude	An optional vector specifying studies to exclude from meta-analysis, however, to include in printouts and forest plots.
method	A character string indicating which method is to be used for pooling of studies; see <a href="#">metabin</a> and <a href="#">metainc</a> function for admissible values.
sm	A character string indicating which summary measure is used for pooling.
incr	Either a numerical value or vector which can be added to each cell frequency for studies with a zero cell count or the character string "TA" which stands for treatment arm continuity correction.

allincr	A logical indicating if incr is added to each cell frequency of all studies if at least one study has a zero cell count. If FALSE (default), incr is added only to each cell frequency of studies with a zero cell count.
addincr	A logical indicating if incr is added to each cell frequency of all studies irrespective of zero cell counts.
allstudies	A logical indicating if studies with zero or all events in both groups are to be included in the meta-analysis (applies only if sm is equal to "RR" or "OR").
MH.exact	A logical indicating if incr is not to be added to all cell frequencies for studies with a zero cell count to calculate the pooled estimate based on the Mantel-Haenszel method.
RR.cochrane	A logical indicating if 2*incr instead of 1*incr is to be added to n.e and n.c in the calculation of the risk ratio (i.e., sm = "RR") for studies with a zero cell. This is used in RevMan 5, the Cochrane Collaboration's program for preparing and maintaining Cochrane reviews.
model.glmm	A character string indicating which GLMM model should be used.
level	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies.
level.comb	The level used to calculate confidence intervals for pooled estimates.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect meta-analysis should be conducted.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether a random effects meta-analysis should be conducted.
hakn	A logical indicating whether the method by Hartung and Knapp should be used to adjust test statistics and confidence intervals.
method.tau	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . Either "DL", "PM", "REML", "ML", "HS", "SJ", "HE", or "EB", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metagen</a> .
tau.preset	Prespecified value for the square-root of the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
TE.tau	Overall treatment effect used to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ .
tau.common	A logical indicating whether tau-squared should be the same across subgroups.
prediction	A logical indicating whether a prediction interval should be printed.
level.predict	The level used to calculate prediction interval for a new study.
null.effect	A numeric value specifying the effect under the null hypothesis.
method.bias	A character string indicating which test for funnel plot asymmetry is to be used. Either "rank", "linreg", "mm", "count", "score", or "peters", can be abbreviated. See function <a href="#">metabias</a>
backtransf	A logical indicating whether results should be back transformed in printouts and plots. If backtransf = TRUE, results for sm = "OR" are printed as odds ratios rather than log odds ratios and results for sm = "ZCOR" are printed as correlations rather than Fisher's z transformed correlations, for example.
pscale	A numeric giving scaling factor for printing of single event probabilities or risk differences, i.e. if argument sm is equal to "PLOGIT", "PLN", "PRAW", "PAS", "PFT", or "RD".



irscale	A numeric defining a scaling factor for printing of single incidence rates or incidence rate differences, i.e. if argument sm is equal to "IR", "IRLN", "IRS", "IRFT", or "IRD".
irunit	A character specifying the time unit used to calculate rates, e.g. person-years.
title	Title of meta-analysis / systematic review.
complab	Comparison label.
outclab	Outcome label.
label.e	Label for experimental group.
label.c	Label for control group.
label.left	Graph label on left side of forest plot.
label.right	Graph label on right side of forest plot.
n.e	Number of observations in experimental group. (only for metagen object)
n.c	Number of observations in control group. (only for metagen object)
pooledvar	A logical indicating if a pooled variance should be used for the mean difference (only for metacont object with sm = "MD").
method.smd	A character string indicating which method is used to estimate the standardised mean difference (only for metacont object with sm = "SMD"). Either "Hedges" for Hedges' g (default), "Cohen" for Cohen's d, or "Glass" for Glass' delta, can be abbreviated.
sd.glass	A character string indicating which standard deviation is used in the denominator for Glass' method to estimate the standardised mean difference (only for metacont object with sm = "SMD"). Either "control" using the standard deviation in the control group (sd.c) or "experimental" using the standard deviation in the experimental group (sd.e), can be abbreviated.
exact.smd	A logical indicating whether exact formulae should be used in estimation of the standardised mean difference and its standard error.
method.ci	A character string indicating which method is used to calculate confidence intervals for individual studies. Either "CP", "WS", "WSCC", "AC", "SA", "SACC", or "NASM", can be abbreviated. See function <code>metaprop</code> .
byvar	An optional vector containing grouping information (must be of same length as event.e).
bylab	A character string with a label for the grouping variable.
print.byvar	A logical indicating whether the name of the grouping variable should be printed in front of the group labels.
byseparator	A character string defining the separator between label and levels of grouping variable.
print.CMH	A logical indicating whether result of the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test for overall effect should be printed.
keepdata	A logical indicating whether original data (set) should be kept in meta object.
left	A logical indicating whether studies are supposed to be missing on the left or right side of the funnel plot. If NULL, the linear regression test for funnel plot symmetry (i.e., function <code>metabias(..., method = "linreg")</code> ) is used to determine whether studies are missing on the left or right side.

ma.fixed	A logical indicating whether a fixed effect or random effects model is used to estimate the number of missing studies.
type	A character indicating which method is used to estimate the number of missing studies. Either "L" or "R".
n.iter.max	Maximum number of iterations to estimate number of missing studies.
warn	A logical indicating whether warnings should be printed (e.g., if incr is added to studies with zero cell frequencies).
control	An optional list to control the iterative process to estimate the between-study variance $\tau^2$ . This argument is passed on to <a href="#">rma.uni</a> or <a href="#">rma.glmm</a> , respectively.
...	Additional arguments (ignored at the moment).

### Details

Wrapper function to update an existing meta-analysis object which was created with R function [metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metacor](#), [metagen](#), [metainc](#), [metamean](#), [metaprop](#), or [metarate](#). More details on function arguments are available in help files of respective R functions

This function can also be used for objects of class 'trimfill', 'metacum', and 'metainf'.

### Value

An object of class "meta" and "metabin", "metacont", "metacor", "metainc", "metagen", "metamean", "metaprop", or "metarate".

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <[sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de)>

### See Also

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metacor](#), [metagen](#), [metainc](#), [metamean](#), [metaprop](#), [metarate](#)

### Examples

```
data(Fleiss93cont)
m1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c,
              data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD", studlab = study)
m1

# Change summary measure (from 'SMD' to 'MD')
#
update(m1, sm = "MD")

# Restrict analysis to subset of studies
#
update(m1, subset = 1:2)

# Use different levels for confidence intervals
#
```

```
m2 <- update(m1, level = 0.66, level.comb = 0.99)
print(m2, digits = 2)
forest(m2)
```

---

weights.meta

*Calculate absolute and percentage weights for meta-analysis*


---

### Description

This function returns a data frame containing information on absolute and percentage weights of individual studies contributing to fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'meta'
weights(object, comb.fixed = object$comb.fixed,
        comb.random = object$comb.random, ...)
```

### Arguments

object	An object of class meta.
comb.fixed	A logical indicating whether absolute and percentage weights from the fixed effect model should be calculated.
comb.random	A logical indicating whether absolute and percentage weights from the random effects model should be calculated.
...	Additional arguments (ignored at the moment).

### Value

A data frame with the following variables is returned:

Variable	Definition	Condition
w.fixed	absolute weights in fixed effect model	(if comb.fixed = TRUE)
p.fixed	percentage weights in fixed effect model	(if comb.fixed = TRUE)
w.random	absolute weights in random effects model	(if comb.random = TRUE)
p.random	percentage weights in random effects model	(if comb.random = TRUE)

### Author(s)

Guido Schwarzer <sc@imbi.uni-freiburg.de>

### See Also

[metabin](#), [metacont](#), [metagen](#)

**Examples**

```

data(Fleiss93cont)
# Do meta-analysis (fixed effect and random effects model)
#
meta1 <- metacont(n.e, mean.e, sd.e, n.c, mean.c, sd.c, study,
                 data = Fleiss93cont, sm = "SMD")

# Print weights for fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis
#
weights(meta1)

# Do meta-analysis (only random effects model)
#
meta2 <- update(meta1, comb.fixed = FALSE)

# Print weights for random effects meta-analysis
#
weights(meta2)

# Print weights for fixed effect and random effects meta-analysis
#
weights(meta2, comb.fixed = TRUE)

```

---

woodyplants

*Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> and total biomass of woody plants*


---

**Description**

Meta-analysis on effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on total biomass of woody plants

This dataset has been used as an example in Hedges et al. (1999) to describe methods for the meta-analysis of response ratios. The complete dataset with 102 observations and 26 variables is available online as a supplement. Here only a subset of 10 variables is provided and used in the examples.

**Usage**

```
woodyplants
```

**Format**

A data frame with the following columns:

<i>obsno</i>	observation number
<i>papno</i>	database paper number
<i>treat</i>	treatment code
<i>level</i>	treatment level
<i>n.elev</i>	number of observations in experimental group (elevated CO <sub>2</sub> -level)

***mean.elev*** estimated mean in experimental group  
***sd.elev*** standard deviation in experimental group  
***n.amb*** number of observations in control group (ambient CO<sub>2</sub>-level)  
***mean.amb*** estimated mean in control group  
***sd.amb*** standard deviation in control group

### Source

Website <http://www.esapubs.org/archive/ecol/E080/008/>

### References

Hedges LV, Gurevitch J, Curtis PS (1999): The meta-analysis of response ratios in experimental ecology. *Ecology*, **80**, 1150–6

### Examples

```

data(woodyplants)

# Meta-analysis of response ratios (Hedges et al., 1999)
#
m1 <- metacont(n.elev, mean.elev, sd.elev,
              n.amb, mean.amb, sd.amb,
              data = woodyplants, sm = "ROM",
              studlab = paste(obsno, papno, sep = " / "))
summary(m1, prediction = TRUE)

# Meta-analysis for plants grown with low soil fertility treatment
#
m2 <- update(m1, subset = (treat == "fert" & level == "low"))
summary(m2, prediction = TRUE)

# Meta-analysis for plants grown under low light conditions
#
m3 <- update(m1, subset = (treat == "light" & level == "low"))
summary(m3, prediction = TRUE)

```

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