

# Package ‘ABCanalysis’

May 6, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Computed ABC Analysis

**Version** 1.2.1

**Date** 2017-03-13

**Author** Michael Thrun, Jorn Lotsch, Alfred Ultsch

**Maintainer** Florian Lerch <lerch@mathematik.uni-marburg.de>

**Description** For a given data set, the package provides a novel method of computing precise limits to acquire subsets which are easily interpreted. Closely related to the Lorenz curve, the ABC curve visualizes the data by graphically representing the cumulative distribution function. Based on an ABC analysis the algorithm calculates, with the help of the ABC curve, the optimal limits by exploiting the mathematical properties pertaining to distribution of analyzed items. The data containing positive values is divided into three disjoint subsets A, B and C, with subset A comprising very profitable values, i.e. largest data values (“the important few”), subset B comprising values where the yield equals to the effort required to obtain it, and the subset C comprising of non-profitable values, i.e., the smallest data sets (“the trivial many”). Package is based on “Computed ABC Analysis for rational Selection of most Informative Variables in multivariate Data”, PLoS One. Ultsch. A., Lotsch J. (2015) <[DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0129767](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0129767)>.

**Imports** plotrix

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**License** GPL-3

**LazyLoad** yes

**URL** <https://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik/software-en>

**Encoding** UTF-8

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2017-03-13 14:31:38

## Contents

ABCanalysis-package . . . . .	2
ABCanalysis . . . . .	3
ABCanalysis4curve . . . . .	4
ABCanalysisPlot . . . . .	5
ABCcleanData . . . . .	7
ABCcurve . . . . .	7
ABCplot . . . . .	8
ABCRemoveSmallYields . . . . .	9
calculatedABCanalysis . . . . .	10
Gini4ABC . . . . .	12
GiniIndex . . . . .	12
SwissInhabitants . . . . .	13
<b>Index</b>	<b>14</b>

---

ABCanalysis-package     *Computed ABC analysis*

---

## Description

Computed ABC Analysis allows the optimal calculation of three disjoint subsets A,B,C in data sets containing positive values:

subset A containing few most profitable values, i.e. largest data values ("the important few"), subset B containing data, where the profit gain equals effort required to obtain this gain, and the subset C of non-profitable values, i.e. the smallest data sets ("the trivial many").

This package calculates the three subsets A, B and C by means of an algorithm based on statistically valid definitions of thresholds for the three sets A,B and C.

## Note

Check out our new Umatrix package for visualisation and clustering of high-dimensional data on our Webpage.

## Author(s)

Michael Thrun, Jorn Lotsch, Alfred Ultsch

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

<mthrun@mathematik.uni-marburg.de>

## References

Ultsch. A ., Lotsch J.: Computed ABC Analysis for Rational Selection of Most Informative Variables in Multivariate Data, PloS one, Vol. 10(6), pp. e0129767. doi 10.1371/journal.pone.0129767, 2015.

**Examples**

```

data("SwissInhabitants")
abc=ABCAnalysis(SwissInhabitants,PlotIt=TRUE)
SetA=SwissInhabitants[abc$Aind]
SetB=SwissInhabitants[abc$Bind]
SetC=SwissInhabitants[abc$Cind]

```

---

ABCAnalysis	<i>Computed ABC analysis: calculates a division of the data in 3 classes A, B and C</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

divide the Data in 3 classes A, B and C such that

A=Data[Aind] : with low effort much yield

B=Data[Bind] : yield and effort are about equal

C=Data[Cind] : with much effort low yield

**Usage**

```
ABCAnalysis(Data,ABCcurvedata,PlotIt=FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

Data	vector(1:n) describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable, if matrix or dataframe then first column will be used.
ABCcurvedata	only for internal usage, list from <a href="#">ABCcurve</a>
PlotIt	default(FALSE), if variable is used, a plot is made, set with arbitrary value

**Details**

Pareto point: Minimum distance to (0,1) = minimal unrealized potential

BreakEven Point:  $B_x$  is the x value of the point, where the slope of ABCcurve equals one.

For further description to p in variable `AlimitIndInInterpolation` see [ABCcurve](#)

**Value**

Output is of type list which parts are described in the following

Aind	vector [1:j], A==Data(Aind) : with little effort much Yield
Bind	vector [1:l], B==Data(Bind) : effort and Yield are balanced
Cind	(vector [1:m], C==Data(Cind) : much effort for little Yield
ABexchanged	Boolean, TRUE if Point A is the Break Even and point B is the Pareto Point, FALSE otherwise

A  $c(A_x, A_y)$ , Pareto point or BreakEven Point indicated by ABexchanged  
 B  $c(B_x, B_y)$ , Pareto point or BreakEven Point indicated by ABexchanged  
 C Submarginal point: minimum distance to  $[B_x, 1]$   
 smallestAData Boundary AB, defined by point A or B with ABexchanged  
 smallestBData Boundary BC, defined by point C  
 AlimitIndInInterpolation  
 index of AB Boundary in  $[p, ABC]$ , the interpolation of the ABC plot  
 BlimitIndInInterpolation  
 index of BC Boundary in  $[p, ABC]$ , the interpolation of the ABC plot

**Author(s)**

Michael Thrun

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

**References**

Ultsch. A., Lotsch J.: Computed ABC Analysis for Rational Selection of Most Informative Variables in Multivariate Data, PloS one, Vol. 10(6), pp. e0129767. doi 10.1371/journal.pone.0129767, 2015.

**See Also**

[ABCplot](#)

**Examples**

```
data("SwissInhabitants")
abc=ABCanalysis(SwissInhabitants,PlotIt=TRUE)
A=abc$Aind
B=abc$Bind
C=abc$Cind
Agroup=SwissInhabitants[A]
Bgroup=SwissInhabitants[B]
Cgroup=SwissInhabitants[C]
```

---

ABCanalysis4curve      *calculate ABC Analysis from a given curve.*

---

**Description**

calculate points A B C of the ABC Analysis from a given curve.

**Arguments**

$p[1:m]$       a vector of values specifying where interpolation took place  
 $ABC[1:m]$       given values of the curve at positions from p

**Value**

BreakEvenPunktIndex = BreakEvenPunktIndex, ParetoPunktIndex = ParetoPunktIndex, SubmarginalPunktIndex = SubmarginalPunktIndex, ABx = Effort[AB], ABy = Yield[AB], BCx = Effort[BC], BCy = Yield[BC], Bx = Effort[B], By = Yield[B])

BreakEvenPunktIndex

Index of breakeven point

ParetoPunktIndex

Index of pareto point

SubmarginalPunktIndex

Index of submarginal point

ABx

Position of AB point on x axis

ABy

Position of AB point on y axis

BCx

Position of BC point on x axis

BCy

Position of BC point on y axis

Bx

Position of the unused point (breakeven or pareto) on the x axis

By

Position of the unused point (breakeven or pareto) on the y axis

**Author(s)**

Florian Lerch

---

ABCanalysisPlot

*Displays ABC plot with ABCanalysis*

---

**Description**

Displays ABC Curve : cumulative percentage of largest Data (effort) vs cumulative percentage of sum of largest data (yield) with set limits generated by an calculated ABCanalysis.

**Usage**

```
ABCanalysisPlot(Data, LineType = 0, LineWidth = 3,
  ShowUniform = TRUE, title, limits = TRUE, MarkPoints = TRUE,
  ABCcurvedata, ResetPlotDefaults=TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

Data	vector[1:n] describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable
LineType	integer, optional, for plot default: LineType=0 for solid line; for other line codes see documentation about pch
LineWidth	integer, optional, width of Line, see lwd in <a href="#">par</a>
ShowUniform	boolean, optional, the ABC curve of the uniform distribution is shown in plot if TRUE (default)

title	string, optional, see parameter main in <a href="#">plot</a>
limits	boolean, = TRUE, lines of division in A, B and C are drawn, default = FALSE
MarkPoints	boolean, optional, default= TRUE, Mark the three points of interest
ABCcurvedata	optional, see <a href="#">ABCcurve</a>
ResetPlotDefaults	optional, default =TRUE. If ResetPlotDefaults=FALSE, multiple plots in one window possible, but no resetting of plot to default parameters.

**Value**

object is a list of items with

ABC	Output of <a href="#">ABCplot</a>
ABCanalysis	Output of <a href="#">ABCanalysis</a>

**Note**

The Break Even point is always marked with a green star.

The diagonal from (0,1) to (1,0) is the equilibrium, where effort equals yield.

**Author(s)**

Michael Thrun

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

**See Also**

[ABCanalysis](#)

**Examples**

```
## Standard Example
data("SwissInhabitants")
abc=ABCanalysisPlot(SwissInhabitants)
## Multiple plots in one Window:
m=runif(4,100,200)
s=runif(4,1,10)
Data=sapply(1:4,FUN=function(x,m,s) rnorm(1000,m,s),m,s)
# windows() #screen devices should not be used in examples etc
par(mfrow=c(2,2))
for (i in 1:4)
{
ABCanalysisPlot(Data[,i],ResetPlotDefaults=FALSE)
}
```

---

ABCcleanData	<i>Data cleaning for ABC analysis</i>
--------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Only the first column of Data is used, anything not being a positive numerical value is set to zero

**Usage**

```
ABCcleanData(Data)
```

**Arguments**

Data                    vector[1:n] describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable

**Details**

Data < 0 are set to zero, non-numeric values (NA, NaN, etc.) in Data are set to zero strings and chars are set to zero infinite numbers are set to max(Data)

**Value**

Output is of type list which's parts are described in the following

CleanedData	vector [1:m], columnvector containing Data >= 0 and zeros for all NA, NaN and negative values in Data(1:n)
Data2CleanInd	vector [1:k], Index such that CleanedData = nantozero(Data(Data2CleanInd))
RemovedInd	vector [1:l], Index such that Data(RemovedInd) is the data that has been removed if RemoveSmallYields == 1

**Author(s)**

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

Michael Thrun

---

ABCcurve	<i>calculates ABC Curve</i>
----------	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

Calculates cumulative percentage of largest data (effort) and cumulative percentages of sum of largest Data (yield) with spline interpolation (second order, piecewise) of values in-between.

**Usage**

```
ABCcurve(Data, p)
```

**Arguments**

Data	vector[1:n] describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable
p	optional, an vector of values specifying where interpolation takes place, created by <code>seq</code> of package base

**Value**

Output is of type list which parts are described in the following

Curve	A list with Effort:vector [1:k], cumulative population in percent Yield: vector [1:k], cumulative high data in percent
CleanedData	vector [1:m], columnvector containing Data $\geq$ 0 and zeros for all NA, NaN and negative values in Data(1:n)
Slope	A list with p: X-values for spline interpolation, default: p = (0:0.01:1) dABC: first deviation of the functio ABC(p)=Effort(Yield)

**Author(s)**

Michael Thrun

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

**References**

Ultsch. A ., Lotsch J.: Computed ABC Analysis for Rational Selection of Most Informative Variables in Multivariate Data, PloS one, Vol. 10(6), pp. e0129767. doi 10.1371/journal.pone.0129767, 2015.

---

ABCplot

*displays an ABC Curve as an alternative to an Lorenz curve*

---

**Description**

Plots cumulative percentage of largest data (effort) vs. cumulative percentage of sum of largest data (yield)

**Usage**

```
ABCplot(Data, LineType = 0, LineWidth = 3, ShowUniform = TRUE,
         title, ABCcurvedata,defaultAxes = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

Data	vector[1:n], describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable
LineType	for plot default: LineType=0 for a line, other line codes see documentation about pch in <a href="#">par</a>
LineWidth	integer, width of Line, see lwd in <a href="#">par</a>
ShowUniform	bool, =TRUE: the ABC curve of the uniform distribution is shown in plot
title	string, optional, see parameter main in <a href="#">plot</a>
ABCcurvedata	optional, see <a href="#">ABCcurve</a>
defaultAxes	optional, boolean, see parameter axes in <a href="#">plot</a>

**Value**

Output is of type list which parts are described in the following

ABCx	vector [1:k], cumulative population in percent
ABCy	vector [1:k], cumulative high Data in percent

**Note**

The diagonal from (1,0) to (0,1) is the Equilibrium, where effort equals yield

**Author(s)**

Michael Thrun

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

**Examples**

```
data("SwissInhabitants")
vec=ABCplot(SwissInhabitants)
```

---

ABCRemoveSmallYields *Extended Data cleaning for ABC analysis*

---

**Description**

Only the first column of Data is used, anything not being positive numerical value is set to zero

**Usage**

```
ABCRemoveSmallYields(Data, CumSumSmallestPercentage)
```

**Arguments**

Data                    vector[1:n] describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable  
 CumSumSmallestPercentage  
                           (default =0.5),the smallest data up to a cumulated sum of less than CumSumSmallestPercentage

**Details**

Data <0 are set to zero, non-numeric values (NA,NaN,etc.) in Data are set to zero strings and chars are set to zero infinite numbers are set to max(Data) the smallest data up to a cumulated sum of less than CumSumSmallestPercentage of the total sum (yield) is removed

**Value**

Output is of type list which's parts are described in the following

SubstantialData                    columnvector containing Data>=0 and zeros for all NaN and negative values in Data(1:n)  
 Data2CleanInd                    Index such that SubstantialData = nantozero(Data(Data2SubstantialInd))  
 RemovedInd                        Data(RemovedInd) is the data that has been removed

**Author(s)**

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

Michael Thrun

---

calculatedABCanalysis    *Computed ABC analysis: calculates a division of the data in 3 classes A, B and C*

---

**Description**

divide the Data in 3 classes A, B and C such that  
 A=Data[Aind] : with low effort much yield  
 B=Data[Bind] : yield and effort are about equal  
 C=Data[Cind] : with much effort low yield

**Usage**

calculatedABCanalysis(Data)

**Arguments**

Data                    vector(1:n) describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable, if matrix or dataframe then first column will be used.

**Details**

Pareto point: Minimum distance to (0,1) = minimal unrealized potential

BreakEven Point: B\_x is the x value of the point, where the slope of ABCcurve equals one.

For further description to p in variable AlimitIndInInterpolation see [ABCcurve](#)

**Value**

Output is of type list which parts are described in the following

Aind	vector [1:j], A==Data(Aind) : with little effort much Yield
Bind	vector [1:l], B==Data(Bind) : effort and Yield are balanced
Cind	(vector [1:m], C==Data(Cind) : much effort for little Yield
smallestAData	Boundary AB, defined by point A or B with ABexchanged
smallestBData	Boundary BC, defined by point C

**Author(s)**

Michael Thrun

<http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb12/datenbionik>

**References**

Ultsch. A ., Lotsch J.: Computed ABC Analysis for Rational Selection of Most Informative Variables in Multivariate Data, PloS one, Vol. 10(6), pp. e0129767. doi 10.1371/journal.pone.0129767, 2015.

**See Also**

[ABCanalysis](#)

**Examples**

```
data("SwissInhabitants")
abc=calculatedABCanalysis(SwissInhabitants)
A=abc$Aind
B=abc$Bind
C=abc$Cind
Agroup=SwissInhabitants[A]
Bgroup=SwissInhabitants[B]
Cgroup=SwissInhabitants[C]
```

---

 Gini4ABC

*Gini index*


---

**Description**

Gini index for an ABC curve

**Usage**

Gini4ABC(p, ABC)

**Arguments**

p                    vector [1:k], cumulative population in percent  
 ABC                 vector [1:k], cumulative high data in percent

**Value**

Gini gini index i.e. the integral over  $ABC(p) / 0.5 * 100$   
 given in percent i.e in [0..100]

**Author(s)**

FL?MT?

---

GiniIndex

*Gini-Index*


---

**Description**

calculation of the Gini-Index from Data

**Usage**

GiniIndex(Data,p)

**Arguments**

Data                vector[1:n] describes an array of data: n cases in rows of one variable  
 p                    optional, an vector of values specifying where interpolation takes place, created  
 by [seq](#) of package base

**Details**

uses ABCcurve and Gini4ABC

**Value**

Gini	gini index i.e. the integral over Area *200 -100 given in percent i.e in [0..100]
p	vector [1:k], cumulative population in percent
ABC	vector [1:k], cumulative high data in percent
CleanedData	vector [1:m], columnvector containing Data>=0 and zeros for all NA, NaN and negative values in Data(1:n)

**Author(s)**

Michael Thrun

---

SwissInhabitants      *SwissInhabitants in 1900*

---

**Description**

Number of inhabitants in the 2896 villages of Switzerland in the year 1900.

**Usage**

```
data("SwissInhabitants")
```

**Details**

This data set consists of the number of inhabitants in the 2896 communes, i.e. cities and villages, in the year 1900. The individual count is the total number of persons living in the particular commune. The data set is unordered for anonymity reasons. The data set has been used as part of a larger data set to identify patterns of concentration in Switzerland (see reference).

**Source**

Schuler, M., Ullmann, D. Eidgenössische Volkszählung: Bevölkerungsentwicklung der Gemeinden, Bundesamt für Statistik, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, 2002

**References**

Behnisch, M., Ultsch, A.: Population Patterns in Switzerland 1850-2000, in: Gaul, W. et al (Eds), Advances in Data Analysis, Data Handling and Business Intelligence, Springer, Heidelberg, pp. 163-173, 2010.

**Examples**

```
data(SwissInhabitants)
## maybe str(SwissInhabitants) ; plot(SwissInhabitants) ...
```

# Index

- \* **ABC analysis**
    - ABCanalysis, 3
    - ABCanalysisPlot, 5
    - ABCplot, 8
    - calculatedABCanalysis, 10
  - \* **ABC curve**
    - ABCcurve, 7
  - \* **ABCanalysis**
    - ABCanalysis, 3
    - ABCanalysisPlot, 5
    - calculatedABCanalysis, 10
  - \* **ABCcurve**
    - ABCcurve, 7
  - \* **ABC**
    - ABCanalysis, 3
    - ABCplot, 8
    - calculatedABCanalysis, 10
  - \* **Computed ABC analysis**
    - calculatedABCanalysis, 10
  - \* **Lorenz curve**
    - ABCanalysis, 3
    - ABCcurve, 7
    - ABCplot, 8
    - calculatedABCanalysis, 10
  - \* **Lorenz**
    - ABCanalysis, 3
    - ABCcurve, 7
    - ABCplot, 8
    - calculatedABCanalysis, 10
  - \*
    - datasets,SwissInhabitants,SwissInhabitants1900**
      - SwissInhabitants, 13
  - \* **package**
    - ABCanalysis-package, 2
- ABCanalyse (ABCanalysis-package), 2  
ABCanalysis, 3, 6, 11  
ABCanalysis-package, 2  
ABCanalysis4curve, 4  
ABCanalysisPlot, 5  
ABCcleanData, 7  
ABCcurve, 3, 6, 7, 9, 11  
ABCplot, 4, 6, 8  
ABCRemoveSmallYields, 9  
calculatedABCanalysis, 10  
dbt.ABC (ABCanalysis-package), 2  
dbt.ABCanalyse (ABCanalysis-package), 2  
dbt.ABCanalysis (ABCanalysis-package), 2  
Gini4ABC, 12  
GiniIndex, 12  
par, 5, 9  
plot, 6, 9  
seq, 8, 12  
SwissInhabitants, 13  
SwissInhabitants1900  
(SwissInhabitants), 13