# Package 'MethodOpt'

July 21, 2025

**Title** Advanced Method Optimization for Spectra-Generating Sampling and Analysis Instrumentation

Version 1.0.0

**Description** A graphical user interface to apply an advanced method optimization algorithm to various sampling and analysis instruments. This includes generating experimental designs, uploading and viewing data, and performing various analyses to determine the optimal method. Details of the techniques used in this package are published in Gamble, Granger, & Mannion (2024) <doi:10.1021/acs.analchem.3c05763>.

```
Depends magrittr (>= 2.0.3)

License GPL (>= 3)

Imports shiny (>= 1.7.5.1), shinyFeedback (>= 0.4.0), shinyalert (>= 3.0.0), htmltools (>= 0.5.8.1), FrF2 (>= 2.3.3), DT (>= 0.30), ggplot2 (>= 3.4.4), stats (>= 4.3.2), dplyr (>= 1.1.3), shinyjs (>= 2.1.0), tibble (>= 3.2.1), glue (>= 1.6.2), rlang (>= 1.1.2), DoE.wrapper (>= 0.12), gtools (>= 3.9.5), zip (>= 2.3.0), zoo (>= 1.8.12), purrr (>= 1.0.2), shinyBS (>= 0.61.1)
```

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anovaben

Computes ANOVA test

# **Description**

Runs an ANOVA test for any variables that were selected by the user.

# Usage

```
anovaben(objectives, data, ffd, obj_results, alpha)
```

# **Arguments**

objectives User selected objectives.

data Peak information (all times, heights, etc.).

ffd Fractional factorial design

obj\_results Calculated objectives.

alpha Alpha value.

# Value

list containing the results of ANOVA on the data from the FFD (including p-values and which parameters are significant), the suggested changes to add a level for a BBD, suggested values for the BBD, row indices for the results, and the data frame of the FFD with objective results included

area 3

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Computes areas of peaks

# **Description**

Computes the areas beneath the specified maxima.

# Usage

```
area(data, hts, tms)
```

# **Arguments**

data dataframe of time versus intensity.

hts heights of peaks in chronological order.

tms time locations of peaks in chronological order.

#### Value

area for each peak

blc

Baseline correction

# Description

Generates the baseline of the spectra, interpolates between points, and subtracts from the intensity to generate corrected baseline.

# Usage

```
blc(frame, noise = 10^5, subtract = NULL)
```

# Arguments

frame data frame of time versus intensity.

noise strength of the baseline subtraction.

subtract how much intensity to initially subtract.

#### Value

data frame of of data that has been baseline corrected

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gauss

Generate a Gaussian fit

#### **Description**

Generate a Gaussian fit with given parameters.

#### Usage

```
gauss(a, b, c, t)
```

# **Arguments**

a amplitute.b phase shift.

c standard deviation. t time at which to fit.

#### Value

value of Gaussian function

MethodOpt

Method optimization GUI

# Description

```
'MethodOpt()' runs the GUI.
```

# Usage

MethodOpt()

#### **Details**

No arguments are needed to initiate the GUI. 'MethodOpt()' is split into three main tabs.

# Value

No return value, opens and runs the GUI

#### Fractional factorial design

The first step in method optimization is to build an experimental design. Hence, the first tab of the GUI is dedicated to designing a fractional factorial experimental design. Parameters are input with their corresponding low and high values. Pressing "Generate FFD" will yield the experimental design. The user will run experiments according to each method.

opt 5

#### **ANOVA**

The second step in method optimization is to run an ANOVA test. This is carried out under the "Analysis" tab. Raw experimental screening data is uploaded, and the spectra can be viewed. In subtabs, the spectra peaks must be identified (either by an uploaded retention time file or by a built-in identification algorithm), objectives must be selected, and the initial experimental design must be uploaded; then the ANOVA test may be run. Statistically significant parameters are indicated.

# Box-Behnken design

The third step is to generate a three-level Box-Behnken experimental design with the significant parameters. Low, middle, and high values are input with their corresponding parameters. The design can be generated by pressing "Generate BBD."

# **Optimization**

The final step is to run the optimization with the results of the Box-Behnken design. Similarly to the second step, raw data is uploaded in the "Analysis" tab. Spectra peaks must be identified, objectives must be selected, and the experimental design must be uploaded; then the optimal values can be calculated.

#### **Examples**

```
# Please see the vignette for the MethodOpt package for a full example of how # to use the GUI launched by MethodOpt::MethodOpt().
```

opt

Optimization algorithm

#### **Description**

Calculate the optimal parameter values for given objectives.

#### Usage

```
opt(objectives, bbd, results, lim_fac, valid_range_data)
```

#### **Arguments**

objectives objectives input by user.

bbd Box-Behnken design.

results objective results.

lim\_fac limiting factors.

valid\_range\_data

ranges of validity corresponding to the limiting factors.

6 peaks

#### Value

a list containing the parameters which cannot be set to the unbounded solution, the maximum value of the objectives, and the unbounded parameter solutions

peaks

Peak searching algorithm without retention times

# **Description**

Returns the maxima, the times they occur at, the index location of the maxima, and the next viable peaks with times after the first 'keep'.

#### Usage

```
peaks(
   data,
   begin_search = NULL,
   end_search = NULL,
   keep = 11,
   precision = 15,
   factor = 10,
   bl_noise = 0
)
```

## **Arguments**

data time versus intensity dataframe.

begin\_search time at which to start the search for the peaks.

end\_search time at which to stop the search for the peaks.

keep a whole number indicating how many peaks to search for and return.

precision an integer indicating the size of the window for searching for local maxima.

factor constant of proportionality indicating the cutoff peak height (i.e., peaks greater

than 'factor' times height are not returned as viable peaks).

bl\_noise constant level at which response should be considered as noise.

#### Value

list containing spectra maxima, the times they occur at, the index location of the maxima, and the the same info for the next viable peaks with times after the first 'keep'.

peaks\_rts 7

peaks\_rts

peak calculations with retention times

# **Description**

Locate the maxima of the peaks corresponding to the retention times.

#### Usage

```
peaks_rts(raw_data, retention_times, rt_index, bl_noise = 0)
```

# **Arguments**

raw\_data time versus intensity dataframe.

retention\_times

retention time file.

rt\_index which method to evaluate for.

bl\_noise constant level at which response should be considered as noise.

#### Value

list containing the peaks' heights, times where they occur, the full data TIC, full time index, and the peaks' widths

widths

Calculate widths

# **Description**

Calculate the widths (standard deviation) for each identified peak.

# Usage

```
widths(data, hts, tms)
```

# **Arguments**

data time versus intensity dataframe.

hts heights of peaks. tms times of peaks.

# Value

width for each peak

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