

# Package ‘PAST’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Pathway Association Study Tool (PAST)

**Version** 1.6.0

**Description** PAST takes GWAS output and assigns SNPs to genes, uses those genes to find pathways associated with the genes, and plots pathways based on significance. Implements methods for reading GWAS input data, finding genes associated with SNPs, calculating enrichment score and significance of pathways, and plotting pathways.

**License** GPL (>=3) + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Depends** R (>= 4.0)

**Imports** stats, utils, dplyr, rlang, iterators, parallel, foreach,  
doParallel, qvalue, rtracklayer, ggplot2, GenomicRanges,  
S4Vectors

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.0

**URL** <https://github.com/IGBB/past>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/IGBB/past/issues>

**biocViews** Pathways, GeneSetEnrichment

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

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**Author** Thrash Adam [cre, aut],  
DeOrnellis Mason [aut]

**Maintainer** Thrash Adam <thrash@igbb.msstate.edu>

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assign_chunk	<i>Assign SNPs in a chunk to genes</i>
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**Description**

Assign SNPs in a chunk to genes

**Usage**

```
assign_chunk(gff, chunk, window)
```

**Arguments**

gff	The GFF data for the chromosome being parsed
chunk	The dataframe containing SNP data
window	The search window around the SNPs

**Value**

tagSNPs labeled with gene names

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assign_SNPs_to_genes	<i>Assign SNPs to genes</i>
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**Description**

Assign SNPs to genes

**Usage**

```
assign_SNPs_to_genes(  
  gwas_data,  
  LD,  
  gff_file,  
  filter_type,  
  window,  
  r_squared_cutoff,  
  num_cores  
)
```

**Arguments**

gwas_data	Merged association and effects data from merge_data()
LD	Linkage disequilibrium data from parse_LD()
gff_file	The path to a GFF file
window	The search window for genes around the SNP
r_squared_cutoff	The R <sup>2</sup> value used to determine SNP significance
num_cores	The number of cores to use in parallelizing PAST

**Value**

A dataframe of genes from the SNP data

**Examples**

```
example("load_GWAS_data")
example("load_LD")
demo_genes_file = system.file("extdata", "genes.gff",
  package = "PAST", mustWork = TRUE)
filter_type = c("gene")
genes <- assign_SNPs_to_genes(gwas_data, LD, demo_genes_file, filter_type, 1000, 0.8, 2)
```

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determine_linkage	<i>Determine Linkage</i>
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**Description**

Determine Linkage

**Usage**

```
determine_linkage(chunk, r_squared_cutoff)
```

**Arguments**

chunk	A chunk of data to be processed
r_squared_cutoff	The R <sup>2</sup> value to check against

**Value**

Either the first unlinked SNP or a set of linked SNPs

find\_pathway\_significance  
*Find Pathway Significance*

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## Description

Find Pathway Significance

## Usage

```
find_pathway_significance(  
  genes,  
  pathways_file,  
  gene_number_cutoff = 5,  
  mode,  
  sample_size = 1000,  
  num_cores  
)
```

## Arguments

genes	Genes from assign_SNPs_to_genes()
pathways_file	A file containing the pathway IDs, their names, and the genes in the pathway
gene_number_cutoff	A cut-off for the minimum number of genes in a pathway
mode	increasing/decreasing
sample_size	How many times to sample the effects data during random sampling
num_cores	The number of cores to use in parallelizing PAST

## Value

Rugplots data

## Examples

```
example("assign_SNPs_to_genes")  
demo_pathways_file = system.file("extdata", "pathways.txt.xz",  
  package = "PAST", mustWork = TRUE)  
rugplots_data <- find_pathway_significance(genes, demo_pathways_file, 5,  
  "increasing", 1000, 2)
```

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`find_representative_SNP`

*Find representative SNP for a chunk of SNPs*

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**Description**

Find representative SNP for a chunk of SNPs

**Usage**

`find_representative_SNP(chunk, r_squared_cutoff)`

**Arguments**

`chunk`                    A chunk of data to parse

`r_squared_cutoff`  
                              The R<sup>2</sup> value to check against when counting SNPs

**Value**

A single SNP representing the whole chunk

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`find_representative_SNP_gene_pairing`

*Find the SNP-gene assignment that represents SNPs assigned to a gene*

---

**Description**

Find the SNP-gene assignment that represents SNPs assigned to a gene

**Usage**

`find_representative_SNP_gene_pairing(chunk)`

**Arguments**

`chunk`                    A chunk of gene assignments

**Value**

A single SNP-gene assignment representing all SNPs assigned to the same gene to a gene

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load_GWAS_data	<i>Load GWAS data</i>
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### Description

Load GWAS data

### Usage

```
load_GWAS_data(
  association_file,
  effects_file,
  association_columns = c("Trait", "Marker", "Locus", "Site", "p", "marker_R2"),
  effects_columns = c("Trait", "Marker", "Locus", "Site", "Effect")
)
```

### Arguments

association\_file      The association file

effects\_file      The effects file

association\_columns      The names of the columns in your association data for Trait, Marker, Chromosome, Site, F, p, and marker\_Rsquared

effects\_columns      The names of the columns in your effects data for Trait, Marker, Chromosome, Site, and effect

### Value

The association data and the effects data merged into a dataframe with one row for each SNP

### Examples

```
demo_association_file = system.file("extdata", "association.txt.xz",
  package = "PAST", mustWork = TRUE)
demo_effects_file = system.file("extdata", "effects.txt.xz",
  package = "PAST", mustWork = TRUE)
gwas_data <- load_GWAS_data(demo_association_file, demo_effects_file)
```

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load_LD	<i>Load Linkage Disequilibrium</i>
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### Description

Load Linkage Disequilibrium

**Usage**

```
load_LD(
  LD_file,
  LD_columns = c("Locus1", "Position1", "Site1", "Position2", "Site2", "Dist_bp",
                "R.2")
)
```

**Arguments**

LD_file	The file containing linkage disequilibrium data
LD_columns	The names of the columns in your linkage disequilibrium data for the chromosome of the first SNP, the position of the first SNP, the site of the first SNP, the chromosome of the second SNP, the position of the second SNP, the site of the second SNP, the distance between the two SNPs, and the R.2

**Value**

The linkage disequilibrium data in a list containing dataframes for each chromosome.

**Examples**

```
demo_LD_file = system.file("extdata","LD.txt.xz",
  package = "PAST", mustWork = TRUE)
LD <- load_LD(demo_LD_file)
```

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plot\_pathways

*Plot Rugplots for Selected Pathways*


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**Description**

Plot Rugplots for Selected Pathways

**Usage**

```
plot_pathways(
  rugplots_data,
  filter_type,
  filter_parameter,
  mode,
  output_directory
)
```

**Arguments**

rugplots_data	The data to be plotted (returned from find_pathway_significance())
filter_type	The parameter to be used for filtering
filter_parameter	The cut-off value of the filtering parameter
mode	The mode used to create the data (increasing/decreasing)
output_directory	An existing directory to save results in

**Value**

Does not return a value

**Examples**

```
example("find_pathway_significance")  
plot_pathways(rugplots_data, "pvalue", "0.03", "decreasing", tempdir())
```



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