

# Package ‘fluxweb’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Estimate Energy Fluxes in Food Webs

**Version** 2.0.1

## Description

Compute energy fluxes in trophic networks, from resources to their consumers, and can be applied to systems ranging from simple two-species interactions to highly complex food webs. It implements the approach described in Gauzens et al. (2017) <doi:10.1101/229450> to calculate energy fluxes, which are also used to calculate equilibrium stability.

**License** GPL (>= 2.0)

**Depends** stats

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create.jacob	<i>Compute the Jacobian matrix</i>
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**Description**

Compute the Jacobian matrix

**Usage**

```
create.jacob(  
  val.mat,  
  biomasses,  
  efficiencies,  
  metabolic.types,  
  ef.level = "prey"  
)
```

**Arguments**

val.mat	A matrix describing fluxes between species (usually a result of <a href="#">fluxing</a> function).
biomasses	A vector of species biomasses.
efficiencies	A vector or an array of conversion efficiencies of species in the adjacency matrix.
metabolic.types	A vector containing information on species type ("detritus", "plant" or "animal")
ef.level	Set to "prey" if efficiencies are defined by prey, "pred" if they are a property of the predator, link.specific if they depend on both consumer and resource identity.

**Value**

A matrix representing the Jacobian matrix of the dynamical system associated with the fluxes from the [fluxing](#) function.

**Author(s)**

Benoit Gauzens, <benoit.gauzens@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
# First compute species per unit biomass metabolic rates:  
losses = 0.15 * groups.level$bodymasses^(-0.25)  
  
val.mat = fluxing(groups.level$mat,  
                  groups.level$biomasses,
```

```

        losses,
        groups.level$efficiencies,
        bioms.pref = TRUE,
        ef.level = "prey")

# define metabolic types

met.types = rep("animal", nrow(val.mat))
met.types[groups.level$efficiencies == 0.545] = "plant"
met.types[groups.level$efficiencies == 0.158] = "detritus"

create.jacob(val.mat,
             groups.level$biomasses,
             groups.level$efficiencies,
             met.types,
             ef.level = "prey")

```

fluxing

*generate fluxes*

## Description

Creates a valuated graph adjacency matrix from its binary version.

## Usage

```

fluxing(
  mat,
  biomasses = NULL,
  losses,
  efficiencies,
  bioms.prefs = TRUE,
  bioms.losses = TRUE,
  ef.level = "prey"
)

```

## Arguments

mat	Network adjacency matrix describing interactions among species. Interactions can be either binary or weighted.
biomasses	Vector of species biomasses.
losses	A vector or an array of species energy losses (excluding consumption).
efficiencies	A vector or an array of conversion efficiencies of species in the adjacency matrix. These values describe the proportion of consumed energy that is converted to biomass of the consumer.

bioms.prefs	Logical - if TRUE, consumer preferences are scaled according to species biomasses.
bioms.losses	Logical - if TRUE, losses are scaled with species biomasses.
ef.level	Set to "prey" if efficiencies are defined by prey, "pred" if they are a property of the predator.

### Details

This function computes fluxes in food webs based on an equilibrium hypothesis: for each species, sum of ingoing fluxes (gains from predation) balances the sum of outgoing fluxes. Outgoing fluxes are defined by consumption and the losses argument. Usually losses relate to species metabolic rates and/or natural death rates. For each species  $i$ , sum of ingoing fluxes  $F_i$  is computed as:

$$F_i = \frac{1}{e_i} (L_i + \sum_j W_{ij} F_j) \quad \text{if } \text{ef.level} == \text{"pred"}$$

$$F_i = \frac{L_i + \sum_j W_{ij} F_j}{\sum_j W_{ji} e_j} \quad \text{if } \text{ef.level} == \text{"pred"}$$

W set the matrix of preferences estimated from `mat`, according to `bioms.prefs`.  $L$  is the vector depicting sum of losses (scaled or not by biomasses, accordingly to `bioms.losses`) and  $e$  is the vector of species efficiencies.

- `mat`: Either a binary or a valuated matrix can be used. A non zero value for `mat[i,j]` means that species  $i$  is consumed by species  $j$ . Matrix entries would assess predator preferences on its prey, thus providing a binary matrix assumes no preferences.
- `losses`: Express species energetic losses not related to consumption. Usually metabolic or death rates. When an array is provided, losses associated to each species correspond to line sums.
- `efficiencies`: Determines how efficient species are to convert energy (see `ef.level` for more details). Providing an array will assume values depending on both prey and predator identity.
- `bioms.pref`: If TRUE, preferences  $W_{ij}$  of predator  $j$  on prey  $i$  are scaled accordingly to species biomass using the following formula:

$$W_{i,j} = \frac{\text{mat}[i,j] * \text{biomasses}[i]}{\sum_k \text{mat}[i,k] * \text{biomasses}[k]}$$

If FALSE, a normalisation on column values is performed.

- `bioms.losses`: Set to true, function will assume that losses are defined per biomass unit. Thus, total losses will be thereafter multiplied by biomass values for each species.
- `ef.level`: If "prey" (resp "pred"), the total amount of energy that can be metabolized from a trophic link will be determined by prey (resp predator) identity. "link.specific" assumes that efficiencies are defined for each trophic interaction and implies `efficiencies` parameter to be a matrix.

### Value

Returns an adjacency matrix where entries are the computed energy fluxes between consumer species and their respective resources.

**Author(s)**

Benoit gauzens, <benoit.gauzens@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
# first compute species per unit biomass metabolic rates using the metabolic theory:
losses = 0.1 * species.level$bodymasses^(-0.25)

# call of the function:
fluxing(species.level$mat,
        species.level$biomasses,
        losses,
        species.level$efficiencies,
        bioms.pref = TRUE,
        ef.level = "prey")
```

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groups.level	<i>Aggregated version of the Food web of a soil network ecosystem and species general information (species.level).</i>
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**Description**

This dataset contains the matrix describing trophic interactions between trophic groups of a soil food-web (Digel et al. 2014, Oikos) as well as some ecological information on these groups: biomasses, body masses and species composition.

**Format**

a list of 5 elements:

**mat** the network adjacency matrix

**biomasses** groups total biomasses (g)

**bodymasses** group mean bodymasses of species (g)

**efficiencies** group species mean assimilation efficiencies

**species.tgs** groups' species composition

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sensitivity	<i>sensitivity analysis</i>
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### Description

Assesses how sensitive the results from argument function are to variability of input parameter through coefficient of variation.

### Usage

```
sensitivity(fun.name, param.name, var, n, full.output = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>fun.name</code>	Function to analyse.
<code>param.name</code>	Parameter from ... on which variation is applied.
<code>var</code>	Define the interval of uncertainty for the uniform law around $x$ as $[x - x*var, x + x*var]$ .
<code>n</code>	Number of replicates.
<code>full.output</code>	Logical, if TRUE all of $n$ estimations of <code>fun.name</code> are returned. Only their mean otherwise.
<code>...</code>	Arguments to be passed to <code>fun.name</code> . Argument names must exactly match those of <code>fun.name</code> .

### Details

At each replicate, a coefficient of variation is computed (relative to results obtained from `fun.name` without random variation). if `full.output` is FALSE (default) a list of two objects of the same type as the one produced by `fun.name` is returned, first element contains the mean coefficient of variation in comparison to non randomised inputs among all the replicates, second element contains the standard deviation of these coefficients of variation. If `full.output` is TRUE, a list of size  $n$  with of objects containing the coefficients of variation is returned.

Argument for ... should be passed with their names.

### Value

a list of two elements of the same type as `param.name`: first element contains the mean coefficient of variation in comparison to non randomised inputs among all the replicates, second element contains the standard deviation of these coefficient of variation

## Examples

```
# first compute species per unit biomass metabolic rates using the metabolic theory:
losses = 0.1 * species.level$bodymasses^(-0.25)

res = sensitivity(fluxing, "mat", 0.1, 5, full.output = TRUE,
                 mat = species.level$mat,
                 biomasses = species.level$biomasses,
                 losses = losses,
                 efficiencies = species.level$efficiencies)
res = sensitivity(fluxing, "efficiencies", 0.01, 50,
                 mat = species.level$mat,
                 biomasses = species.level$biomasses,
                 losses = losses,
                 efficiencies = species.level$efficiencies)

# growth rates of basal species
growth.rates = rep(NA, dim(species.level$mat)[1])
growth.rates[colSums(species.level$mat) == 0] = 0.5

val.mat = fluxing(species.level$mat, species.level$biomasses, losses, species.level$efficiencies)
```

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simple.case

*Food web of a soil network ecosystem and species general information.*


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## Description

This dataset correspond to the food web of a microcosm assembled from the Chesapeake Bay estuary (Lefcheck and Duffy 2010, Ecology)

## Format

a list of 4 elements:

**mat** the network adjacency matrix

**met.rate** metabolic rates of species (J.h<sup>-1</sup>)

**biomasses** species biomasses (g)

**efficiencies** species assimilation efficiencies

**names** species names

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species.level	<i>Food web of a soil network ecosystem and species general information.</i>
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### Description

This dataset contains the matrix describing trophic interactions from a deutsch soil food-web (Digel et al. 2014, Oikos) as well as some ecological information on species: biomasses, body masses and species names.

### Format

a list of 5 elements:

**mat** the network adjacency matrix

**biomasses** species biomasses (g)

**bodymasses** species bodymasses (g)

**efficiencies** species assimilation efficiencies

**names** species names

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stability.value	<i>Estimates network stability</i>
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### Description

Computes resilience of the system through Jacobian matrix eigenvalues.

### Usage

```
stability.value(
  val.mat,
  biomasses,
  efficiencies,
  metabolic.types,
  ef.level = "prey",
  full.output = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

val.mat	A matrix describing fluxes between species (usually a result of <a href="#">fluxing</a> function).
biomasses	A vector of species biomasses.



efficiencies	A vector or an array of conversion efficiencies of species in the adjacency matrix. These values describe the proportion of consumed energy that is converted to biomass of the consumer.
metabolic.types	A vector containing information on species type ("detritus", "plant" or "animal")
ef.level	Set to "prey" if efficiencies are defined by prey, "pred" if they are a property of the predator.
full.output	Logical, if TRUE function return supplementary informations.

### Details

- **efficiencies**: Determines how efficient species are to convert energy (see **ef.level** for more details). Providing an array will assume values depending on both prey and predator identity.
- **ef.level**: If "prey" (resp "pred"), the total amount of energy that can be metabolized from a trophic link will be determined by prey (resp pred) identity. "link.specific" assumes that efficiencies are defined for each trophic interaction and implies efficiencies parameter to be a matrix
- **full.output**: If TRUE, function result is a list of eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the Jacobian matrix.

### Value

Maximum eigenvalue of the Jacobian matrix of a Lotka Voltera like system of equations. If **full.output**, Jacobian eigenvalues and eigenvectors are returned.

### Author(s)

Benoit Gauzens, <benoit.gauzens@gmail.com>

### Examples

```
losses = 0.15 * groups.level$bodymasses^(-0.25)
# define metabolic types:
met.types = rep('animal', length(losses))
met.types[groups.level$efficiencies == 0.545] = 'plant'

val.mat = fluxing(groups.level$mat,
                  groups.level$biomasses,
                  losses,
                  groups.level$efficiencies,
                  bioms.pref = TRUE,
                  ef.level = "pred")

stability.value(val.mat,
               groups.level$biomasses,
               groups.level$efficiencies,
               metabolic.types = met.types,
               ef.level = "pred")
```

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