

# Package ‘iterpc’

July 22, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Efficient Iterator for Permutations and Combinations

**Version** 0.4.2

**Date** 2020-01-08

**Author** Randy Lai [aut, cre]

**Maintainer** Randy Lai <randy.cs.lai@gmail.com>

**Description** Iterator for generating permutations and combinations. They can be either drawn with or without replacement, or with distinct/ non-distinct items (multiset). The generated sequences are in lexicographical order (dictionary order). The algorithms to generate permutations and combinations are memory efficient. These iterative algorithms enable users to process all sequences without putting all results in the memory at the same time. The algorithms are written in C/C++ for faster performance. Note: 'iterpc' is no longer being maintained. Users are recommended to switch to 'arrangements'.

**URL** <https://randy3k.github.io/iterpc>

**License** GPL-2

**Depends** R (>= 3.0.0)

**Imports** iterators, gmp (>= 0.5-12), arrangements (>= 1.0.0)

**Suggests** foreach, testthat, knitr, rmarkdown

**ByteCompile** yes

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2020-01-10 12:30:02 UTC

## Contents

getall . . . . .	2
getcurrent . . . . .	2

getlength . . . . .	3
getnext . . . . .	3
iterpc . . . . .	4
iter_wrapper . . . . .	5
multichoose . . . . .	6
nc_multiset . . . . .	6
np_multiset . . . . .	7

<b>Index</b>	<b>8</b>
--------------	----------

---

getall	<i>Get all permutations/combinations for a iterator</i>
--------	---

---

### Description

Get all permutations/combinations for a iterator

### Usage

getall(I)

### Arguments

I                    a permutation/combination iterator

### Value

next permutation/combination sequence for the iterator I

---

getcurrent	<i>Get the current element of a iterator</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

Get the current element of a iterator

### Usage

getcurrent(I)

### Arguments

I                    a permutation/combination iterator

### Value

current element of a iterator

---

getlength	<i>Get the length for a iterator</i>
-----------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Get the length for a iterator

**Usage**

```
getlength(I, bigz = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

I	a permutations/combinations iterator
bigz	use gmp's Big Integer

**Value**

an integer

---

getnext	<i>Get the next permutation(s)/combination(s) for a iterator</i>
---------	--

---

**Description**

Get the next permutation(s)/combination(s) for a iterator

**Usage**

```
getnext(I, d = 1, drop = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

I	a permutation/combination iterator
d	number of permutation(s)/combination(s) wanted, default to 1
drop	if d is 1, drop simplify to vector if possible, default to TRUE.

**Value**

next d permutation(s)/combination(s) sequence for the iterator I

---

iterpc

*Efficient Iterator for Permutations and Combinations*


---

### Description

Efficient Iterator for Permutations and Combinations

Initialize a iterator for permutations or combinations

### Usage

```
iterpc(n, r = NULL, labels = NULL, ordered = FALSE,
       replace = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

n	the length of the input sequence or a vector of frequencies for a multiset.
r	the length of the output sequence. If missing, equals to sum(n).
labels	if missing, natural numbers are used unless n is a table object. In that case, the names of n are used.
ordered	TRUE corresponds to permutation and FALSE corresponds to combinations.
replace	with/without replacement. Default is FALSE.

### Value

a permutation/combination iterator

### Examples

```
#1) all combinations of drawing 2 items from {1, 2, 3}
I <- iterpc(5, 2)
getall(I)

#2) continuing 1), get combination by combination
I <- iterpc(5, 2)
getnext(I) # return 1,2
getnext(I) # return 1,3
getnext(I, 2) # return next 2 results

#3) 3) all permutations of {1, 2, 3} and use of labels
I <- iterpc(3, labels=c("a", "b", "c"), ordered=TRUE)
getall(I)

#4) permutations of multiset and
I <- iterpc(c(2, 1, 1), labels=c("a", "b", "c"), ordered=TRUE)
getall(I)

#5) combinations with replacement and the use of table as input
```

```
x <- c("a","a","b","c")
I <- iterpc(table(x), 3, replace=TRUE)
getall(I)
```

---

iter\_wrapper

*Wrap iterpc objects by iterators::iter*

---

### Description

Wrap iterpc objects by iterators::iter

### Usage

```
iter_wrapper(I, d = 1)
```

### Arguments

I                    the iterpc object  
d                    number of permutation(s)/combination(s) wanted in each iteration, default to 1

### Value

a iter object compatible with iterators package

### Examples

```
library(iterators)
I <- iterpc(5, 2)
it <- iter_wrapper(I)
nextElem(it)
nextElem(it)

library(foreach)
I <- iterpc(5, 2)
it <- iter_wrapper(I)
foreach(x=it, .combine=c) %do% { sum(x) }
```

---

multichoose	<i>Calculate multinomial coefficient</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

This function calculates the multinomial coefficient

$$\frac{(\sum n_j)!}{\prod n_j!}$$

where  $n_j$ 's are the number of multiplicities in the multiset.

**Usage**

```
multichoose(n, bigz = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

n	a vector of group sizes
bigz	use gmp's Big Integer

**Value**

multinomial coefficient

**Examples**

```
# (3+1+1)! / (3! 1! 1!) = 20
multichoose(c(3,1,1))
```

---

nc_multiset	<i>Calculate the number of r-combinations of a multiset</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

Calculate the number of r-combinations of a multiset

**Usage**

```
nc_multiset(f, r, bigz = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

f	the frequencies of the multiset
r	the number of object drawn from the multiset
bigz	use gmp's Big Integer

**Value**

the number of combinations (Big Integer from gmp)

**Examples**

```
x <- c("a","a","b")
# possible combinations of size 2 are "aa" and "ab".
nc_multiset(table(x), 2) # <- 2
```

---

np\_multiset

*Calculate the number of r-permutations of a multiset*

---

**Description**

Calculate the number of r-permutations of a multiset

**Usage**

```
np_multiset(f, r, bigz = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

f	the frequencies of the multiset
r	the number of object drawn from the multiset
bigz	use gmp's Big Integer

**Value**

the number of r-permutations (Big Integer from gmp)

**Examples**

```
x = c("a","a","b")
# possible permutations of size 2 are "aa", "ab" and "ba".
np_multiset(table(x), 2) # = 3
```

# Index

[getall](#), [2](#)

[getcurrent](#), [2](#)

[getlength](#), [3](#)

[getnext](#), [3](#)

[iter\\_wrapper](#), [5](#)

[iterpc](#), [4](#)

[iterpc-package \(iterpc\)](#), [4](#)

[multichoose](#), [6](#)

[nc\\_multiset](#), [6](#)

[np\\_multiset](#), [7](#)