

# Package ‘rsamplr’

September 11, 2025

**Title** Sampling Algorithms and Spatially Balanced Sampling

**Version** 0.1.1

**Description** Fast tools for unequal probability sampling in multi-dimensional spaces, implemented in Rust for high performance. The package offers a wide range of methods, including Sampford (Sampford, 1967, <[doi:10.1093/biomet/54.3-4.499](https://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/54.3-4.499)>) and correlated Poisson sampling (Bondeson and Thorburn, 2008, <[doi:10.1111/j.1467-9469.2008.00596.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9469.2008.00596.x)>), pivotal sampling (Deville and Tillé, 1998, <[doi:10.1093/biomet/91.4.893](https://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/91.4.893)>), and balanced sampling such as the cube method (Deville and Tillé, 2004, <[doi:10.1093/biomet/91.4.893](https://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/91.4.893)>) to ensure auxiliary totals are respected. Spatially balanced approaches, including the local pivotal method (Grafström et al., 2012, <[doi:10.1111/j.1541-0420.2011.01699.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1541-0420.2011.01699.x)>), spatially correlated Poisson sampling (Grafström, 2012, <[doi:10.1016/j.jspi.2011.07.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jspi.2011.07.003)>), and locally correlated Poisson sampling (Prentius, 2024, <[doi:10.1002/env.2832](https://doi.org/10.1002/env.2832)>), provide efficient designs when the target variable is linked to auxiliary information.

**URL** <https://www.envisim.se/>, <https://github.com/envisim/rust-samplr/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/envisim/rust-samplr/issues>

**License** AGPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Language** en-GB

**Depends** R (>= 4.2)

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**SystemRequirements** Cargo (Rust's package manager), rustc >= 1.75.0

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Author** Wilmer Prentius [aut, cre] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3561-290X>>), Anton Grafström [ctb] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4345-4024>>), Authors of the dependent Rust crates [aut] (see inst/AUTHORS file)

**Maintainer** Wilmer Prentius <[wilmer.prentius@slu.se](mailto:wilmer.prentius@slu.se)>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2025-09-11 09:20:02 UTC

## Contents

Balanced sampling . . . . .	2
Doubly balanced sampling . . . . .	3
local_mean_variance . . . . .	5
pips_from_vector . . . . .	6
sample_to_indicator . . . . .	7
Spatial balance measure . . . . .	8
Spatially balanced sampling . . . . .	9
Unequal probability sampling . . . . .	12

<b>Index</b>	<b>15</b>
--------------	-----------

---

Balanced sampling	<i>Balanced sampling</i>
-------------------	--------------------------

---

## Description

Selects balanced samples with prescribed inclusion probabilities from finite populations.

## Usage

```
cube(probabilities, balance_mat, ...)
```

```
cube_stratified(probabilities, balance_mat, strata, ...)
```

## Arguments

probabilities	A vector of inclusion probabilities.
balance_mat	A matrix of balancing covariates.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">.sampling_defaults</a>
eps	A small value used when comparing floats.
strata	An integer vector with stratum numbers for each unit.

## Details

For the cube method, a fixed sized sample is obtained if the first column of `balance_mat` is the inclusion probabilities. For `cube_stratified`, the inclusion probabilities are inserted automatically.

## Value

A vector of sample indices.

## Functions

- `cube()`: The cube method
- `cube_stratified()`: The stratified cube method

## References

- Deville, J. C. and Tillé, Y. (2004). Efficient balanced sampling: the cube method. *Biometrika*, 91(4), 893-912.
- Chauvet, G. and Tillé, Y. (2006). A fast algorithm for balanced sampling. *Computational Statistics*, 21(1), 53-62.
- Chauvet, G. (2009). Stratified balanced sampling. *Survey Methodology*, 35, 115-119.

## Examples

```
set.seed(12345);
N = 1000;
n = 100;
prob = rep(n/N, N);
xb = matrix(c(prob, runif(N * 2)), ncol = 3);
strata = c(rep(1L, 100), rep(2L, 200), rep(3L, 300), rep(4L, 400));

s = cube(prob, xb);
plot(xb[, 2], xb[, 3], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = cube_stratified(prob, xb[, -1], strata);
plot(xb[, 2], xb[, 3], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

# Respects inclusion probabilities
set.seed(12345);
prob = c(0.2, 0.25, 0.35, 0.4, 0.5, 0.5, 0.55, 0.65, 0.7, 0.9);
N = length(prob);
xb = matrix(c(prob, runif(N * 2)), ncol = 3);

ep = rep(0L, N);
r = 10000L;

for (i in seq_len(r)) {
  s = cube(prob, xb);
  ep[s] = ep[s] + 1L;
}

print(ep / r - prob);
```

---

Doubly balanced sampling

*Doubly balanced sampling*

---

## Description

Selects doubly balanced samples with prescribed inclusion probabilities from finite populations.

**Usage**

```
local_cube(probabilities, spread_mat, balance_mat, ...)
```

```
local_cube_stratified(probabilities, spread_mat, balance_mat, strata, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>probabilities</code>	A vector of inclusion probabilities.
<code>spread_mat</code>	A matrix of spreading covariates.
<code>balance_mat</code>	A matrix of balancing covariates.
<code>...</code>	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">.sampling_defaults</a>
<code>eps</code>	A small value used when comparing floats.
<code>bucket_size</code>	The maximum size of the k-d-tree nodes. A higher value gives a slower k-d-tree, but is faster to create and takes up less memory.
<code>strata</code>	An integer vector with stratum numbers for each unit.

**Details**

For the `local_cube` method, a fixed sized sample is obtained if the first column of `balance_mat` is the inclusion probabilities. For `local_cube_stratified`, the inclusion probabilities are inserted automatically.

**Value**

A vector of sample indices.

**Functions**

- `local_cube()`: The local cube method
- `local_cube_stratified()`: The stratified local cube method

**References**

- Deville, J. C. and Tillé, Y. (2004). Efficient balanced sampling: the cube method. *Biometrika*, 91(4), 893-912.
- Chauvet, G. and Tillé, Y. (2006). A fast algorithm for balanced sampling. *Computational Statistics*, 21(1), 53-62.
- Chauvet, G. (2009). Stratified balanced sampling. *Survey Methodology*, 35, 115-119.
- Grafström, A. and Tillé, Y. (2013). Doubly balanced spatial sampling with spreading and restitution of auxiliary totals. *Environmetrics*, 24(2), 120-131

**Examples**

```

set.seed(12345);
N = 1000;
n = 100;
prob = rep(n/N, N);
xb = matrix(c(prob, runif(N * 2)), ncol = 3);
xs = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);
strata = c(rep(1L, 100), rep(2L, 200), rep(3L, 300), rep(4L, 400));

s = local_cube(prob, xs, xb);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = local_cube_stratified(prob, xs, xb[, -1], strata);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

# Respects inclusion probabilities
set.seed(12345);
prob = c(0.2, 0.25, 0.35, 0.4, 0.5, 0.5, 0.55, 0.65, 0.7, 0.9);
N = length(prob);
xb = matrix(c(prob, runif(N * 2)), ncol = 3);
xs = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);

ep = rep(0L, N);
r = 10000L;

for (i in seq_len(r)) {
  s = local_cube(prob, xs, xb);
  ep[s] = ep[s] + 1L;
}

print(ep / r - prob);

```

---

local_mean_variance	<i>Variance estimator for spatially balanced samples</i>
---------------------	--

---

**Description**

Variance estimator of HT estimator of population total.

**Usage**

```
local_mean_variance(values, probabilities, spread_mat, neighbours = 4L)
```

**Arguments**

values                      A vector of values of the variable of interest.

probabilities    A vector of inclusion probabilities.  
 spread\_mat      A matrix of spreading covariates.  
 neighbours      The number of neighbours to construct the means around.

### Value

A vector of sample indices.

### References

Grafström, A., & Schelin, L. (2014). How to select representative samples. *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, 41(2), 277-290.

### Examples

```
set.seed(12345);
N = 1000;
n = 100;
prob = rep(n/N, N);
xs = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);
y = runif(N);

s = lpm_2(prob, xs);
local_mean_variance(y[s], prob[s], xs[s, ], 4);

# Compare SRS, empirical
r = 1000L;
v = matrix(0.0, r, 3L);

for (i in seq_len(r)) {
  s = lpm_2(prob, xs);
  v[i, 1] = local_mean_variance(y[s], prob[s], xs[s, ], 4);
  v[i, 2] = N^2 * sd(y[s]) / n;
  v[i, 3] = sum(y[s] / prob[s]);
}

# Local mean variance, SRS variance, MSE
print(c(mean(v[, 1]), mean(v[, 2]), mean((v[, 3] - sum(y))^2)));
```

---

pips\_from\_vector

*Inclusion probabilities proportional-to-size*

---

### Description

Computes the first-order inclusion probabilities from a vector of positive numbers, for an inclusion probabilities proportional-to-size design.

**Usage**

```
pips_from_vector(values, sample_size)
```

**Arguments**

values            A vector of positive numbers  
sample\_size      The wanted sample size

**Value**

A vector of inclusion probabilities proportional-to-size.

**Examples**

```
set.seed(12345);
N = 1000;
n = 100;
x = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);
prob = pips_from_vector(x[, 1], n);
s = lpm_2(prob, x);
plot(x[, 1], x[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));
```

---

sample\_to\_indicator      *Transform a sample vector into an inclusion indicator vector*

---

**Description**

Transform a sample vector into an inclusion indicator vector

**Usage**

```
sample_to_indicator(sample, population_size)
```

**Arguments**

sample            A vector of sample indices.  
population\_size   The total size of the population.

**Value**

An inclusion indicator vector, i.e. a population\_size-sized vector of 0/1.

**Examples**

```
s = c(1, 2, 10);
si = sample_to_indicator(s, 10);
```

---

Spatial balance measure

*Spatial balance measure*

---

## Description

Calculates the spatial balance of a sample.

## Usage

```
spatial_balance_local(sample, probabilities, spread_mat)
```

```
spatial_balance_voronoi(sample, probabilities, spread_mat)
```

```
balance_deviation(sample, probabilities, spread_mat)
```

## Arguments

sample	A vector of sample indices.
probabilities	A vector of inclusion probabilities.
spread_mat	A matrix of spreading covariates.

## Value

the measure, or in case of `balance_deviation`, the vector of deviations.

## Functions

- `spatial_balance_local()`: Local spatial balance
- `spatial_balance_voronoi()`: Voronoi spatial balance
- `balance_deviation()`: Balance deviation

## References

Stevens Jr, D. L., & Olsen, A. R. (2004). Spatially balanced sampling of natural resources. *Journal of the American statistical Association*, 99(465), 262-278.

Grafström, A., Lundström, N.L.P. & Schelin, L. (2012). Spatially balanced sampling through the Pivotal method. *Biometrics* 68(2), 514-520.

Prentius, W., & Grafström, A. (2024). How to find the best sampling design: A new measure of spatial balance. *Environmetrics*, 35(7), e2878.



**Examples**

```

set.seed(12345);
N = 500;
n = 70;
prob = rep(n / N, N);
xs = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);

s = lpm_2(prob, xs);
spatial_balance_voronoi(s, prob, xs);
spatial_balance_local(s, prob, xs);
balance_deviation(s, prob, xs);

# Compare SRS
r = 1000L;
sb_v = matrix(0.0, r, 2L);
sb_l = matrix(0.0, r, 2L);
bal = matrix(0.0, r, 2L * ncol(xs));

for (i in seq_len(r)) {
  s1 = lpm_2(prob, xs);
  s2 = sample(N, n);
  sb_v[i, ] = c(
    spatial_balance_voronoi(s1, prob, xs),
    spatial_balance_voronoi(s2, prob, xs)
  );
  sb_l[i, ] = c(
    spatial_balance_local(s1, prob, xs),
    spatial_balance_local(s2, prob, xs)
  );
  bal[i, ] = c(
    balance_deviation(s1, prob, xs),
    balance_deviation(s2, prob, xs)
  );
}

# Spatial balance measure (voronoi), LPM vs SRS
print(colMeans(sb_v));
# Spatial balance measure (local), LPM vs SRS
print(colMeans(sb_l));
# Abs. balance deviation, LPM vs SRS
print(colMeans(abs(bal)));

```

**Description**

Selects spatially balanced samples with prescribed inclusion probabilities from finite populations.

**Usage**

```
lpm_1(probabilities, spread_mat, ...)
lpm_1s(probabilities, spread_mat, ...)
lpm_2(probabilities, spread_mat, ...)
scps(probabilities, spread_mat, ...)
lcps(probabilities, spread_mat, ...)
lpm_2_hierarchical(probabilities, spread_mat, sizes, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>probabilities</code>	A vector of inclusion probabilities.
<code>spread_mat</code>	A matrix of spreading covariates.
<code>...</code>	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">.sampling_defaults</a>
<code>eps</code>	A small value used when comparing floats.
<code>bucket_size</code>	The maximum size of the k-d-tree nodes. A higher value gives a slower k-d-tree, but is faster to create and takes up less memory.
<code>sizes</code>	A vector of integers containing the sizes of the subsamples.

**Details**

`lpm_2_hierarchical` selects an initial sample using the LPM2 algorithm, and then splits this sample into subsamples of given sizes, using successive, hierarchical selection with LPM2. When using `lpm_2_hierarchical`, the inclusion probabilities must sum to an integer, and the sizes vector (the subsamples) must sum to the same integer.

**Value**

A vector of sample indices, or in the case of hierarchical sampling, a matrix where the first column contains sample indices and the second column contains subsample indices (groups).

**Functions**

- `lpm_1()`: Local pivotal method 1
- `lpm_1s()`: Local pivotal method 1s
- `lpm_2()`: Local pivotal method 2
- `scps()`: Spatially correlated Poisson sampling
- `lcps()`: Locally correlated Poisson sampling
- `lpm_2_hierarchical()`: Hierarchical Local pivotal method 2

## References

- Deville, J.-C., & Tillé, Y. (1998). Unequal probability sampling without replacement through a splitting method. *Biometrika* 85, 89-101.
- Grafström, A. (2012). Spatially correlated Poisson sampling. *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 142(1), 139-147.
- Grafström, A., Lundström, N.L.P. & Schelin, L. (2012). Spatially balanced sampling through the Pivotal method. *Biometrics* 68(2), 514-520.
- Lisic, J. J., & Cruze, N. B. (2016, June). Local pivotal methods for large surveys. In *Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Establishment Surveys*.
- Prentius, W. (2024). Locally correlated Poisson sampling. *Environmetrics*, 35(2), e2832.

## Examples

```
set.seed(12345);
N = 1000;
n = 100;
prob = rep(n/N, N);
xs = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);
sizes = c(10L, 20L, 30L, 40L);

s = lpm_1(prob, xs);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = lpm_1s(prob, xs);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = lpm_2(prob, xs);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = scps(prob, xs);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = lpm_2_hierarchical(prob, xs, sizes);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = lcps(prob, xs); # May have a long execution time
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

# Respects inclusion probabilities
set.seed(12345);
prob = c(0.2, 0.25, 0.35, 0.4, 0.5, 0.5, 0.55, 0.65, 0.7, 0.9);
N = length(prob);
xs = matrix(c(prob, runif(N * 2)), ncol = 3);

ep = rep(0L, N);
r = 10000L;

for (i in seq_len(r)) {
  s = lpm_2(prob, xs);
```

```

    ep[s] = ep[s] + 1L;
}

print(ep / r - prob);

```

---

Unequal probability sampling

*Unequal probability sampling*

---

## Description

Selects samples with prescribed inclusion probabilities from finite populations.

## Usage

```

rpm(probabilities, ...)

spm(probabilities, ...)

cps(probabilities, ...)

poisson(probabilities, ...)

conditional_poisson(probabilities, sample_size, ...)

systematic(probabilities, ...)

systematic_random_order(probabilities, ...)

brewer(probabilities, ...)

pareto(probabilities, ...)

sampford(probabilities, ...)

```

## Arguments

<code>probabilities</code>	A vector of inclusion probabilities.
<code>...</code>	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">.sampling_defaults</a>
<code>eps</code>	A small value used when comparing floats.
<code>max_iter</code>	The maximum number of iterations used in iterative algorithms.
<code>sample_size</code>	The wanted sample size

## Details

`sampford` and `conditional_poisson` may return an error if a solution is not found within `max_iter`.

**Value**

A vector of sample indices.

**Functions**

- `rpm()`: Random pivotal method
- `spm()`: Sequential pivotal method
- `cps()`: Correlated Poisson sampling
- `poisson()`: Poisson sampling
- `conditional_poisson()`: Conditional Poisson sampling
- `systematic()`: Systematic sampling
- `systematic_random_order()`: Systematic sampling with random order
- `brewer()`: Brewer sampling
- `pareto()`: Pareto sampling
- `sampford()`: Sampford sampling

**References**

- Bondesson, L., & Thorburn, D. (2008). A list sequential sampling method suitable for real-time sampling. *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, 35(3), 466-483.
- Brewer, K. E. (1975). A Simple Procedure for Sampling pi-ps wor. *Australian Journal of Statistics*, 17(3), 166-172.
- Chauvet, G. (2012). On a characterization of ordered pivotal sampling. *Bernoulli*, 18(4), 1320-1340.
- Deville, J.-C., & Tillé, Y. (1998). Unequal probability sampling without replacement through a splitting method. *Biometrika* 85, 89-101.
- Grafström, A. (2009). Non-rejective implementations of the Sampford sampling design. *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 139(6), 2111-2114.
- Rosén, B. (1997). On sampling with probability proportional to size. *Journal of statistical planning and inference*, 62(2), 159-191.
- Sampford, M. R. (1967). On sampling without replacement with unequal probabilities of selection. *Biometrika*, 54(3-4), 499-513.

**Examples**

```
set.seed(12345);
N = 1000;
n = 100;
prob = rep(n/N, N);
xs = matrix(runif(N * 2), ncol = 2);

s = rpm(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = spm(prob);
```

```

plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = cps(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = poisson(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = brewer(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = pareto(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = systematic(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

s = systematic_random_order(prob);
plot(xs[, 1], xs[, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, N), 19, 1));

# Conditional poisson and sampford are not guaranteed to find a solution
prob2 = rep(0.5, 10L);
s = conditional_poisson(prob2, 5L, max_iter = 10000L);
plot(xs[1:10, 1], xs[1:10, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, 10L), 19, 1));

s = sampford(prob2, max_iter = 10000L);
plot(xs[1:10, 1], xs[1:10, 2], pch = ifelse(sample_to_indicator(s, 10L), 19, 1));

# Respects inclusion probabilities
set.seed(12345);
prob = c(0.2, 0.25, 0.35, 0.4, 0.5, 0.5, 0.55, 0.65, 0.7, 0.9);
N = length(prob);

ep = rep(0L, N);
r = 10000L;

for (i in seq_len(r)) {
  s = poisson(prob);
  ep[s] = ep[s] + 1L;
}

print(ep / r - prob);

```

# Index

.sampling\_defaults, [2](#), [4](#), [10](#), [12](#)

balance\_deviation (Spatial balance measure), [8](#)

Balanced sampling, [2](#)

brewer (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

conditional\_poisson (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

cps (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

cube (Balanced sampling), [2](#)

cube\_stratified (Balanced sampling), [2](#)

Doubly balanced sampling, [3](#)

lcps (Spatially balanced sampling), [9](#)

local\_cube (Doubly balanced sampling), [3](#)

local\_cube\_stratified (Doubly balanced sampling), [3](#)

local\_mean\_variance, [5](#)

lpm\_1 (Spatially balanced sampling), [9](#)

lpm\_1s (Spatially balanced sampling), [9](#)

lpm\_2 (Spatially balanced sampling), [9](#)

lpm\_2\_hierarchical (Spatially balanced sampling), [9](#)

pareto (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

pips\_from\_vector, [6](#)

poisson (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

rpm (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

sampford (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

sample\_to\_indicator, [7](#)

scps (Spatially balanced sampling), [9](#)

Spatial balance measure, [8](#)

spatial\_balance\_local (Spatial balance measure), [8](#)

spatial\_balance\_voronoi (Spatial balance measure), [8](#)

Spatially balanced sampling, [9](#)

spm (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

systematic (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

systematic\_random\_order (Unequal probability sampling), [12](#)

Unequal probability sampling, [12](#)