

# Package ‘ANF’

January 29, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Affinity Network Fusion for Complex Patient Clustering

**Version** 1.32.0

**Author** Tianle Ma, Aidong Zhang

**Maintainer** Tianle Ma <tianlema@buffalo.edu>

**Description** This package is used for complex patient clustering by integrating multi-omic data through affinity network fusion.

**License** GPL-3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Imports** igraph, Biobase, survival, MASS, stats, RColorBrewer

**Suggests** ExperimentHub, SNFtool, knitr, rmarkdown, testthat

**biocViews** Clustering, GraphAndNetwork, Network

**RoxygenNote** 6.0.1

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

**git\_branch** RELEASE\_3\_22

**git\_last\_commit** 58724a9

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2025-10-29

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.22

**Date/Publication** 2026-01-29

## Contents

affinity_matrix	2
ANF	2
eval_clu	3
kNN_graph	4
pod	5
spectral_clustering	6

## Index

7

---

<code>affinity_matrix</code>	<i>Generate a symmetric affinity matrix based on a distance matrix using 'local' Gaussian kernel</i>
------------------------------	--

---

### Description

Generate a symmetric affinity matrix based on a distance matrix using 'local' Gaussian kernel

### Usage

```
affinity_matrix(D, k, alpha = 1/6, beta = 1/6)
```

### Arguments

<code>D</code>	distance matrix (need to be a square and non-negative matrix)
<code>k</code>	the number of k-nearest neighbors
<code>alpha</code>	coefficient for local diameters. Default value: 1/6. This default value should work for most cases.
<code>beta</code>	coefficient for pair-wise distance. Default value: 1/6. This default value should work for most cases.

### Value

an affinity matrix

### Examples

```
D = matrix(runif(400), nrow=20)
A = affinity_matrix(D, 5)
```

---

<code>ANF</code>	<i>Fuse affinity networks (i.e., matrices) through one-step or two-step random walk</i>
------------------	---

---

### Description

Fuse affinity networks (i.e., matrices) through one-step or two-step random walk

### Usage

```
ANF(Wall, K = 20, weight = NULL, type = c("two-step", "one-step"),
alpha = c(1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0), verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

Wall	a list of affinity matrices of the same shape.
K	the number of k nearest neighbors for function kNN_graph
weight	a list of non-negative real numbers (which will be normalized internally so that it sums to 1) that one-to-one correspond to the affinity matrices included in 'Wall'. If not set, internally uniform weights are assigned to all affinity matrices in 'Wall'.
type	choose one of the two options: perform "one-step" random walk, or "two-step" random walk on the list of affinity matrices in 'Wall' to generate a fused affinity matrix. Default: "two-step" random walk
alpha	a list of eight non-negative real numbers (which will be normalized internally to make it sums to 1). Only used when "two-step" (default value of 'type') random walk is used. 'alpha' is the weights for eight terms in the "two-step" random walk formula (check research paper for more explanations about the terms). Default value: (1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0), i.e., only use the first two terms (since they are most effective in practice).
verbose	logical(1); if true, print some information

**Value**

a fused transition matrix (representing a fused network)

**Examples**

```
D1 = matrix(runif(400), nrow=20)
W1 = affinity_matrix(D1, 5)
D2 = matrix(runif(400), nrow=20)
W2 = affinity_matrix(D2, 5)
W = ANF(list(W1, W2), K=10)
```

eval\_clu

*Evaluate clustering result***Description**

Evaluate clustering result

**Usage**

```
eval_clu(true_class, w = NULL, d = NULL, k = 10, num_clu = NULL,
surv = NULL, type_L = c("rw", "sym", "unnormalized"), verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

true_class	A named vector of true class labels
w	affinity matrix
d	distance matrix if w is NULL, calculate w using d
k	an integer, default 10; if w is null, w = affinity_matrix(d, k); otherwise unused.

num_clu	an integer; number of clusters; if NULL, set num_clu to be the number of classes using true_class
surv	a data.frame with at least two columns: time (days_to_death or days_to_last_follow_up), and censored (logical(1))
type_L	(parameter passed to spectral_clustering: 'type') choose one of three versions of graph Laplacian: "unnormalized": unnormalized graph Laplacian matrix ( $L = D - W$ ); "rw": normalization closely related to random walk ( $L = I - D^{-1} * W$ ); (default choice) "sym": normalized symmetric matrix ( $L = I - D^{-0.5} * W * D^{-0.5}$ ) For more information: <a href="https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~aarti/Class/10701/readings/Luxburg06.pdf">https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~aarti/Class/10701/readings/Luxburg06.pdf</a>
verbose	logical(1); if true, print some information

### Value

a named list of size 3: "w": affinity matrix used for spectral\_clustering; "clu.res": a named vector of calculated "NMI" (normalized mutual information), "ARI" (Adjusted Rand Index), and "-log10(p)" of log rank test of survival distributions of patient clusters; "labels": a numeric vector as class labels

### Examples

```
library(MASS)
true.class = rep(c(1,2), each=100)
feature.mat1 = mvrnorm(100, rep(0, 20), diag(runif(20,0.2,2)))
feature.mat2 = mvrnorm(100, rep(0.5, 20), diag(runif(20,0.2,2)))
feature1 = rbind(feature.mat1, feature.mat2)
d = dist(feature1)
d = as.matrix(d)
A = affinity_matrix(d, 10)
res = eval_clu(true_class=true.class, w=A)
```

### kNN\_graph

*Calculate k-nearest-neighbor graph from affinity matrix and normalize it as transition matrix*

### Description

Calculate k-nearest-neighbor graph from affinity matrix and normalize it as transition matrix

### Usage

```
kNN_graph(W, K)
```

### Arguments

W	affinity matrix (its elements are non-negative real numbers)
K	the number of k nearest neighbors

### Value

a transition matrix of the same shape as W

**Examples**

```
D = matrix(runif(400),20)
W = affinity_matrix(D, 5)
S = kNN_graph(W, 5)
```

---

pod*Finding optimal discrete solutions for spectral clustering*

---

**Description**

Finding optimal discrete solutions for spectral clustering

**Usage**

```
pod(Y, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

Y	a matrix with N rows and K columns, with N being the number of objects (e.g., patients), K being the number of clusters. The K columns of 'Y' should correspond to the first k eigenvectors of graph Laplacian matrix (of affinity matrix) corresponding to the k smallest eigenvalues
verbose	logical(1); if true, print some information

**Value**

class assignment matrix with the same shape as Y (i.e., N x K). Each row contains all zeros except one 1. For instance, if  $X_{ij} = 1$ , then object (eg, patient) i belongs to cluster j.

**References**

Stella, X. Yu, and Jianbo Shi. "Multiclass spectral clustering." ICCV. IEEE, 2003.

**Examples**

```
D = matrix(runif(400),20)
A = affinity_matrix(D, 5)
d = rowSums(A)
L = diag(d) - A
# `NL` is graph Laplacian of affinity matrix `A`
NL = diag(1/d) %*% L
e = eigen(NL)
# Here we select eigenvectors corresponding to three smallest eigenvalues
Y = Re(e$vectors[,-1:-17])
X = pod(Y)
```

---

 spectral\_clustering    *spectral\_clustering*


---

## Description

`spectral_clustering`

## Usage

```
spectral_clustering(A, k, type = c("rw", "sym", "unnormalized"),
  verbose = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

A	affinity matrix
k	the number of clusters
type	choose one of three versions of graph Laplacian: "unnormalized": unnormalized graph Laplacian matrix ( $L = D - W$ ); "rw": normalization closely related to random walk ( $L = I - D^{-1} * W$ ); (default choice) "sym": normalized symmetric matrix ( $L = I - D^{-0.5} * W * D^{-0.5}$ ) For more information: <a href="https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~aarti/Class/10711/2014fa/Notes/Graph%20Laplacians.pdf">https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~aarti/Class/10711/2014fa/Notes/Graph%20Laplacians.pdf</a>
verbose	logical(1); if true, print user-friendly information

## Value

a numeric vector as class labels

## Examples

```
D = matrix(runif(400), nrow = 20)
A = affinity_matrix(D, 5)
labels = spectral_clustering(A, k=2)
```

# Index

affinity\_matrix, 2  
ANF, 2  
eval\_clu, 3  
kNN\_graph, 4  
pod, 5  
spectral\_clustering, 6