

# Package ‘npwbs’

May 9, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Nonparametric Multiple Change Point Detection Using Wild Binary Segmentation

**Version** 0.3.0

**Description** Implements a procedure for detecting multiple location-scale change points in a sequence of univariate observations, as described in Ross (2026) “Nonparametric Detection of Multiple Location-Scale Change Points via Wild Binary Segmentation” <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2107.01742](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2107.01742)>. The method combines Wild Binary Segmentation with a rank-based statistic and provides calibrated thresholds for controlling the probability of incorrectly detecting a change point in a homogeneous sequence.

**Depends** R (>= 3.6.0)

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2026-05-02 18:30:02 UTC

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detectChanges	<i>Nonparametric detection of multiple change points using Wild Binary Segmentation</i>
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**Description**

Returns the estimated number and locations of the change points in a sequence of univariate observations. For full details of how this procedure works, please see G. J. Ross (2021) - "Non-parametric Detection of Multiple Location-Scale Change Points via Wild Binary Segmentation" at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.01742>

**Usage**

```
detectChanges(y, alpha=0.05, prune=TRUE, M=10000, d=2, displayOutput=FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

y	The sequence to test for change points
alpha	Required Type I error (i.e. false positive) rate. Can be set to either 0.05 or 0.01
prune	Whether to prune potential excess change points via post-processing. Most likely should be left as TRUE.
M	Number of subsequences to sample during WBS and pruning. The built-in thresholds are calibrated for $M = 10000$ , so other values are not supported by the packaged calibration.
d	Minimum number of observations between change points. The built-in thresholds currently support only $d = 2$ .
displayOutput	If TRUE then will print some information while searching for change points

**Details**

The built-in thresholds are precomputed for the Lepage statistic using  $d = 2$ ,  $M = 10000$ , and  $\alpha$  in  $\{0.05, 0.01\}$ . Thresholds are calibrated up to segment length  $n = 10000$ . For  $n > 10000$ , the implementation uses the  $n = 10000$  threshold and issues a warning. For  $n > 1000$ , the built-in thresholds use a smooth tail approximation fitted to additional Monte Carlo calibration points.

If  $\text{prune} = \text{TRUE}$ , a post-processing pruning step retests merged neighbouring segments and removes changepoints that are no longer supported.

**Value**

A vector containing the detected changepoint locations. A returned value  $k$  denotes a split between observations  $k$  and  $k + 1$ , i.e. the change occurs after observation  $k$ .

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**Examples**

```
set.seed(100)
y <- c(rnorm(30,0,1), rnorm(30,3,1), rnorm(30,0,1), rnorm(30,0,3))
detectChanges(y)
```

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