

# Package ‘contfrac’

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**Title** Continued Fractions

**Version** 1.1-12

**Author** Robin K. S. Hankin

**Description** Various utilities for evaluating continued fractions.

**Maintainer** Robin K. S. Hankin <hankin.robin@gmail.com>

**License** GPL-2

**URL** <https://github.com/RobinHankin/contfrac.git>

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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as_cf	<i>Approximates a real number in continued fraction form</i>
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### Description

Approximates a real number in continued fraction form using a standard simple algorithm

### Usage

```
as_cf(x, n = 10)
```

**Arguments**

x                    real number to be approximated in continued fraction form  
n                    Number of partial denominators to evaluate; see Notes

**Note**

Has difficulties with rational values as expected

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**See Also**

[CF,convergents](#)

**Examples**

```
phi <- (sqrt(5)+1)/2
as_cf(phi,50) # loses it after about 38 iterations ... not bad ...

as_cf(pi) # looks about right
as_cf(exp(1),20)

f <- function(x){CF(as_cf(x,30),TRUE) - x}

x <- runif(40)
plot(sapply(x,f))
```

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CF

*Continued fraction convergents*

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**Description**

Returns continued fraction convergent using the modified Lenz's algorithm; function CF() deals with continued fractions and GCF() deals with generalized continued fractions.

**Usage**

```
CF(a, finite = FALSE, tol=0)
GCF(a,b, b0=0, finite = FALSE, tol=0)
```

**Arguments**

a,b	In function CF(), the elements of a are the partial denominators; in GCF() the elements of a are the partial numerators and the elements of b the partial denominators
finite	Boolean, with default FALSE meaning to iterate Lenz's algorithm until convergence (a warning is given if the sequence has not converged); and TRUE meaning to evaluate the finite continued fraction
b0	In function GCF(), floor of the continued fraction
tol	tolerance, with default 0 silently replaced with <code>.Machine\$double.eps</code>

**Details**

Function CF() treats the first element of its argument as the integer part of the convergent.

Function CF() is a wrapper for GCF(); it includes special dispensation for infinite values (in which case the value of the appropriate finite CF is returned).

The implementation is in C; the real and complex cases are treated separately in the interests of efficiency.

The algorithm terminates when the convergence criterion is achieved irrespective of the value of finite.

**Author(s)**

Robin K. S. Hankin

**References**

- W. H. Press, B. P. Flannery, S. A. Teukolsky, and W. T. Vetterling 1992. *Numerical recipes 3rd edition: the art of scientific computing*. Cambridge University Press; section 5.2 "Evaluation of continued fractions"
- W. J. Lenz 1976. Generating Bessel functions in Mie scattering calculations using continued fractions. *Applied Optics*, 15(3):668-671

**See Also**

[convergents](#)

**Examples**

```
phi <- (sqrt(5)+1)/2
phi_cf <- CF(rep(1,100)) # phi = [1;1,1,1,1,1,...]
phi - phi_cf # should be small

# The tan function:
"tan_cf" <- function(z,n=20){
  GCF(c(z, rep(-z^2,n-1)), seq(from=1,by=2, len=n))
}
```

```

z <- 1+1i
tan(z) - tan_cf(z) # should be small

# approximate real numbers with continued fraction:
as_cf(pi)

as_cf(exp(1),25) # OK up to element 21 (which should be 14)

# Some convergents of pi:
jj <- convergents(c(3,7,15,1,292))
jj$A / jj$B - pi

# An identity of Euler's:
jj <- GCF(a=seq(from=2,by=2,len=30), b=seq(from=3,by=2,len=30), b0=1)
jj - 1/(exp(0.5)-1) # should be small

```

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convergents

*Partial convergents of continued fractions*


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## Description

Partial convergents of continued fractions or generalized continued fractions

## Usage

```

convergents(a)
gconvergents(a,b, b0 = 0)

```

## Arguments

a, b	In function <code>convergents()</code> , the elements of a are the partial denominators (the first element of a is the integer part of the continued fraction). In <code>gconvergents()</code> the elements of a are the partial numerators and the elements of b the partial denominators
b0	The floor of the fraction

## Details

Function `convergents()` returns partial convergents of the continued fraction

$$a_0 + \frac{1}{a_1 + \frac{1}{a_2 + \frac{1}{a_3 + \frac{1}{a_4 + \frac{1}{a_5 + \ddots}}}}}$$

where  $a = a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  (note the off-by-one issue).

Function `gconvergents()` returns partial convergents of the continued fraction

$$b_0 + \frac{a_1}{b_1 + \frac{a_2}{b_2 + \frac{a_3}{b_3 + \frac{a_4}{b_4 + \frac{a_5}{b_5 + \ddots}}}}}$$

where  $\mathbf{a} = a_1, a_2, \dots$

### Value

Returns a list of two elements, A for the numerators and B for the denominators

### Note

This classical algorithm generates very large partial numerators and denominators. To evaluate limits, use functions `CF()` or `GCF()`.

### Author(s)

Robin K. S. Hankin

### References

W. H. Press, B. P. Flannery, S. A. Teukolsky, and W. T. Vetterling 1992. *Numerical recipes 3rd edition: the art of scientific computing*. Cambridge University Press; section 5.2 “Evaluation of continued fractions”

### See Also

[CF](#)

### Examples

```
# Successive approximations to pi:

jj <- convergents(c(3,7,15,1,292))
jj$A/jj$B - pi    # should get smaller

convergents(rep(1,10))
```

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