Package 'inequality'

May 8, 2026

Title Inequality Measurement, Decomposition, and Poverty Analysis

Version 0.1.0

Description Tools for measuring income and wealth inequality. Computes the Gini coefficient with bootstrap or asymptotic confidence intervals following Davidson (2009) <doi:10.1016/j.jeconom.2008.09.011>, the extended S-Gini family, Theil T and L indices (generalised entropy family), the Atkinson index, the Kolm absolute inequality index, Palma ratio, Hoover index, percentile ratios, and Lorenz curves. Supports between-within group decomposition following Bourguignon (1979) <doi:10.2307/1914138>, income share tabulation, concentration indices for health inequality with Erreygers (2009) correction, Kakwani tax progressivity and Reynolds-Smolensky redistribution indices, Foster-Greer-Thorbecke poverty measures including the Sen index, growth incidence curves following Ravallion and Chen (2003) <doi:10.1016/S0165-1765(02)00205-7>, and Wolfson polarisation. All functions accept optional survey weights and work with data from any source.

Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

License MIT + file LICENSE

Encoding UTF-8

Language en-US

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Imports cli (>= 3.6.0), grDevices, graphics, stats

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0)

Config/testthat/edition 3

URL https://github.com/charlescoverdale/inequality

BugReports https://github.com/charlescoverdale/inequality/issues

NeedsCompilation no

Author Charles Coverdale [aut, cre]

Maintainer Charles Coverdale <charlesfcoverdale@gmail.com>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2026-04-20 18:50:02 UTC

Contents

`iq_atkinson` *Atkinson index*

Description

Computes the Atkinson inequality index, which incorporates an explicit normative judgement about inequality aversion through the parameter epsilon. Higher epsilon gives more weight to transfers at the bottom of the distribution.

Usage

```
iq_atkinson(x, weights = NULL, epsilon = 0.5, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (strictly positive).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`epsilon`	Numeric. Inequality aversion parameter (> 0). Default `0.5`. Common values: 0.5 (moderate), 1.0 (high), 2.0 (very high aversion).
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class "iq_atkinson" with elements:

value Numeric. The Atkinson index (0 to 1).

epsilon Numeric. The inequality aversion parameter used.

ede Numeric. The equally distributed equivalent income.

mean_income Numeric. The mean income.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Atkinson, A. B. (1970). "On the Measurement of Inequality." *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2(3), 244–263.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")

# Moderate inequality aversion
iq_atkinson(d$income, epsilon = 0.5)

# High inequality aversion
iq_atkinson(d$income, epsilon = 1)

# Very high inequality aversion
iq_atkinson(d$income, epsilon = 2)
```

---

iq_compare *Compare inequality measures*

Description

Computes all major inequality indices on the same data and returns a summary table for easy comparison.

Usage

```
iq_compare(x, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE, ci = FALSE, R = 1000L)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector of incomes (strictly positive for Theil and Atkinson; non-negative for Gini, Palma, Hoover).
weights	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
na.rm	Logical. Remove NA values? Default FALSE.
ci	Logical. Compute bootstrap CIs for the Gini? Default FALSE.
R	Integer. Number of bootstrap replicates. Default 1000.

Value

An S3 object of class "iq_comparison" with elements:

table data.frame with columns measure and value.

gini_ci List with lower and upper (or NULL).

n Integer. Number of observations.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_compare(d$income)
```

---

iq_concentration *Concentration index*

Description

Computes the concentration index, which measures inequality in a health (or other) variable across the income distribution. Unlike the Gini coefficient, the ranking variable and the outcome variable are different.

Usage

```
iq_concentration(
  x,
  rank,
  weights = NULL,
  correction = c("none", "erreygers"),
  bounds = c(0, 1),
  na.rm = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector of outcome values (e.g. health expenditure).
rank	Numeric vector of ranking values (e.g. income). Must be the same length as x.
weights	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
correction	Character. "none" (default) for the standard index, or "erreygers" for the Erreygers (2009) correction for bounded variables.
bounds	Numeric vector of length 2 giving the lower and upper bounds of x. Required when correction = "erreygers". Default c(0, 1) (suitable for binary or proportion variables).
na.rm	Logical. Remove NA values? Default FALSE.

Details

A positive value indicates the outcome is concentrated among the better-off; a negative value indicates concentration among the worse-off.

For bounded variables (e.g. binary health indicators), the standard concentration index has bounds that depend on the mean. Use `correction = "erreygers"` for the Erreygers (2009) corrected index, which has fixed bounds of -1 to 1 regardless of the mean.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_concentration"` with elements:

value Numeric. The concentration index.

correction Character. The correction applied.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Wagstaff, A., Paci, P. and van Doorslaer, E. (1991). "On the Measurement of Inequalities in Health." *Social Science and Medicine*, 33(5), 545–557.

Erreygers, G. (2009). "Correcting the Concentration Index." *Journal of Health Economics*, 28(2), 504–515.

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
income <- rlnorm(200, 10, 0.8)
health_exp <- income * 0.05 + rnorm(200, 500, 100)
iq_concentration(health_exp, rank = income)

# Binary outcome with Erreygers correction
sick <- as.numeric(income < median(income)) + rbinom(200, 1, 0.1)
sick <- pmin(sick, 1)
iq_concentration(sick, rank = income, correction = "erreygers")
```

`iq_decompose` *Between-within group decomposition*

Description

Decomposes a generalised entropy index into a between-group component (inequality due to differences in group means) and a within-group component (inequality within each group). The decomposition is exact: between + within = total.

Usage

```
iq_decompose(x, group, weights = NULL, index = "T", na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector of incomes (strictly positive).
group	Factor or character vector identifying group membership.
weights	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
index	Character or numeric. "T" for Theil T (GE(1)), "L" for mean log deviation (GE(0)), or a numeric alpha. Default "T".
na.rm	Logical. Remove NA values? Default FALSE.

Value

An S3 object of class "iq_decomposition" with elements:

total Numeric. The total GE index.

between Numeric. The between-group component.

within Numeric. The within-group component.

groups data.frame with columns group, n, mean_income, pop_share, income_share, within_ge.

index_name Character. Name of the index used.

References

Bourguignon, F. (1979). "Decomposable Income Inequality Measures." *Econometrica*, 47(4), 901–920.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("grouped")
iq_decompose(d$income, d$group)
```

---

iq_gini *Gini coefficient*

Description

Computes the Gini coefficient of a distribution, with optional survey weights and confidence intervals (bootstrap or asymptotic).

Usage

```
iq_gini(
  x,
  weights = NULL,
  na.rm = FALSE,
  ci = FALSE,
  method = c("bootstrap", "asymptotic"),
  R = 1000L,
  level = 0.95
)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector of incomes or values (non-negative).
weights	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
na.rm	Logical. Remove NA values? Default FALSE.
ci	Logical. Compute confidence intervals? Default FALSE.
method	Character. CI method: "bootstrap" (default) or "asymptotic" (jackknife-based, faster for large samples).
R	Integer. Number of bootstrap replicates (ignored for asymptotic). Default 1000.
level	Numeric. Confidence level. Default 0.95.

Details

The Gini coefficient ranges from 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (perfect inequality). It equals twice the area between the Lorenz curve and the 45-degree line.

Value

An S3 object of class "iq_gini" with elements:

gini Numeric. The Gini coefficient.

n Integer. Number of observations.

se Numeric or NULL. Standard error (asymptotic method only).

ci_lower Numeric or NULL. Lower bound of the CI.

ci_upper Numeric or NULL. Upper bound of the CI.

level Numeric or NULL. Confidence level.

method Character or NULL. CI method used.

References

Gini, C. (1912). "Variabilita e mutabilita." Reprinted in *Memorie di metodologica statistica* (Ed. Pizetti E, Salvemini, T). Rome: Libreria Eredi Virgilio Veschi.

Davidson, R. (2009). "Reliable Inference for the Gini Index." *Journal of Econometrics*, 150(1), 30–40.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_gini(d$income)

# Bootstrap CIs
iq_gini(d$income, ci = TRUE, R = 500)

# Asymptotic CIs (faster for large samples)
iq_gini(d$income, ci = TRUE, method = "asymptotic")

# Perfect equality
iq_gini(rep(100, 50))
```

`iq_growth_incidence` *Growth incidence curve*

Description

Computes the growth incidence curve (GIC), showing the annualised or total growth rate at each quantile of the distribution between two time periods.

Usage

```
iq_growth_incidence(
  x_t0,
  x_t1,
  weights_t0 = NULL,
  weights_t1 = NULL,
  n_quantiles = 20L,
  na.rm = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

`x_t0`	Numeric vector of incomes in period 0.
`x_t1`	Numeric vector of incomes in period 1. Must be the same length as `x_t0`.
`weights_t0`	Optional weights for period 0.
`weights_t1`	Optional weights for period 1.
`n_quantiles`	Integer. Number of quantile bins. Default `20` (ventiles).
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Details

If the GIC is upward-sloping, the rich grew faster and inequality increased. If downward-sloping, growth was pro-poor.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_growth_incidence"` with elements:

gic data.frame with columns `quantile` (midpoint), `growth` (proportional growth rate at that quantile).

mean_growth Numeric. Mean growth across all quantiles.

median_growth Numeric. Median growth rate.

n_quantiles Integer.

References

Ravallion, M. and Chen, S. (2003). "Measuring Pro-Poor Growth." *Economics Letters*, 78(1), 93–99.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("panel")
gic <- iq_growth_incidence(d$income_t0, d$income_t1)
plot(gic)
```

`iq_hoover` *Hoover index (Robin Hood index)*

Description

Computes the Hoover index, also known as the Robin Hood index or the Schutz coefficient. It equals the maximum proportion of total income that would need to be redistributed to achieve perfect equality, or equivalently, half the mean absolute deviation divided by the mean.

Usage

```
iq_hoover(x, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_hoover"` with elements:

value Numeric. The Hoover index (0 to 1).

n Integer. Number of observations.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_hoover(d$income)

# Perfect equality
iq_hoover(rep(100, 50))
```

`iq_kakwani` *Kakwani progressivity index*

Description

Measures the progressivity of a tax or transfer system. A positive value indicates progressivity (the rich pay a larger share than their income share); a negative value indicates regressivity. Zero means proportional.

Usage

```
iq_kakwani(pre_tax, tax, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`pre_tax`	Numeric vector of pre-tax incomes (non-negative).
`tax`	Numeric vector of tax payments (same length as `pre_tax`). Positive values are taxes paid; negative values are transfers received.
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Details

The Kakwani index equals the concentration coefficient of the tax minus the pre-tax Gini coefficient: K = C_T - G_pre.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_kakwani"` with elements:

kakwani Numeric. The Kakwani index (-1 to 1).

gini_pre Numeric. The pre-tax Gini coefficient.

concentration_tax Numeric. The concentration coefficient of taxes.

reynolds_smolensky Numeric. The Reynolds-Smolensky index (pre-tax Gini minus post-tax Gini).

gini_post Numeric. The post-tax Gini coefficient.

avg_tax_rate Numeric. Average effective tax rate.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Kakwani, N. C. (1977). "Measurement of Tax Progressivity: An International Comparison." *The Economic Journal*, 87(345), 71–80.

Reynolds, M. and Smolensky, E. (1977). *Public Expenditures, Taxes, and the Distribution of Income*. New York: Academic Press.

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
pre <- iq_sample_data("income")$income
# Progressive tax: higher rate for higher incomes
tax <- pre * (0.10 + 0.15 * (pre / max(pre)))
iq_kakwani(pre, tax)
```

`iq_kolm` *Kolm index (absolute inequality)*

Description

Computes the Kolm index, the only standard inequality measure that is translation-invariant (absolute). Adding the same amount to every income leaves the index unchanged. All other indices in this package are scale-invariant (relative): multiplying every income by the same factor leaves them unchanged.

Usage

```
iq_kolm(x, weights = NULL, alpha = 1, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes.
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`alpha`	Numeric. Inequality aversion parameter (> 0). Default `1`.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Details

Higher alpha gives more weight to inequality at the bottom of the distribution. The index is always non-negative and equals zero only under perfect equality.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_kolm"` with elements:

value Numeric. The Kolm index.

alpha Numeric. The inequality aversion parameter used.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Kolm, S.-C. (1976). "Unequal Inequalities II." *Journal of Economic Theory*, 13(1), 82–111.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_kolm(d$income, alpha = 1)

# Higher aversion to inequality at the bottom
iq_kolm(d$income, alpha = 2)
```

`iq_lorenz` *Lorenz curve*

Description

Computes the Lorenz curve: the cumulative share of income held by the cumulative share of the population, ordered from poorest to richest. The result can be plotted with `plot()`.

Usage

```
iq_lorenz(x, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_lorenz"` with elements:

curve data.frame with columns `cum_pop` and `cum_income` (both 0 to 1). Starts at (0, 0) and ends at (1, 1).

gini Numeric. The Gini coefficient (twice the area between the curve and the diagonal).

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Lorenz, M. O. (1905). "Methods of Measuring the Concentration of Wealth." *Publications of the American Statistical Association*, 9(70), 209–219.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
lc <- iq_lorenz(d$income)
plot(lc)
```

`iq_palma` *Palma ratio*

Description

Computes the Palma ratio: the share of total income received by the top 10 percent divided by the share received by the bottom 40 percent.

Usage

```
iq_palma(x, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Details

The Palma ratio is motivated by Palma's (2011) observation that the "middle" 50 percent (deciles 5–9) tends to capture a remarkably stable share of income across countries, so inequality is driven by what happens at the tails. A Palma ratio of 1 means the top 10 percent and bottom 40 percent receive equal shares.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_palma"` with elements:

palma Numeric. The Palma ratio.

top10_share Numeric. Share of income held by the top 10 percent.

bottom40_share Numeric. Share of income held by the bottom 40 percent.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Palma, J. G. (2011). "Homogeneous Middles vs. Heterogeneous Tails, and the End of the 'Inverted-U': It's All About the Share of the Rich." *Development and Change*, 42(1), 87–153.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_palma(d$income)

# Equal distribution: Palma = 0.25/0.40 = 0.625
iq_palma(rep(100, 100))
```

`iq_percentile_ratio` *Percentile ratio*

Description

Computes the ratio of two percentiles of the distribution. Common choices include P90/P10 (interdecile ratio), P80/P20, and P50/P10.

Usage

```
iq_percentile_ratio(x, weights = NULL, upper = 90, lower = 10, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes.
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`upper`	Numeric. Upper percentile (0 to 100). Default `90`.
`lower`	Numeric. Lower percentile (0 to 100). Default `10`.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_percentile_ratio"` with elements:

ratio Numeric. The percentile ratio.

upper_value Numeric. The value at the upper percentile.

lower_value Numeric. The value at the lower percentile.

upper Numeric. The upper percentile used.

lower Numeric. The lower percentile used.

n Integer. Number of observations.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")

# P90/P10 (interdecile ratio)
iq_percentile_ratio(d$income)

# P80/P20
iq_percentile_ratio(d$income, upper = 80, lower = 20)
```

`iq_polarisation` *Polarisation index*

Description

Computes the Wolfson bipolarisation index, which measures the extent to which a distribution is bimodal (clustering at the tails) rather than unimodal. Higher values indicate more polarisation.

Usage

```
iq_polarisation(x, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_polarisation"` with elements:

wolfson Numeric. The Wolfson polarisation index.

gini Numeric. The Gini coefficient.

median Numeric. The weighted median income.

mean Numeric. The weighted mean income.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Wolfson, M. C. (1994). "When Inequalities Diverge." *American Economic Review*, 84(2), 353–358.

Foster, J. E. and Wolfson, M. C. (2010). "Polarization and the Decline of the Middle Class: Canada and the US." *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 8(2), 247–273.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_polarisation(d$income)
```

`iq_poverty` *Poverty measures*

Description

Computes the Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) family of poverty measures, plus the Sen index and the Watts index. All measures require a poverty line.

Usage

```
iq_poverty(x, line, weights = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`line`	Numeric. The poverty line. Required.
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_poverty"` with elements:

headcount Numeric. FGT(0): proportion below the poverty line.

gap Numeric. FGT(1): average normalised gap.

severity Numeric. FGT(2): average squared normalised gap.

sen Numeric. Sen index: headcount * (gap among poor + Gini among poor * (1 - gap among poor)).

watts Numeric. Watts index: mean of log(line/x) among the poor.

line Numeric. The poverty line used.

n Integer. Number of observations.

n_poor Integer. Number of observations below the line.

References

Foster, J., Greer, J. and Thorbecke, E. (1984). "A Class of Decomposable Poverty Measures." *Econometrica*, 52(3), 761–766.

Sen, A. (1976). "Poverty: An Ordinal Approach to Measurement." *Econometrica*, 44(2), 219–231.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
# Poverty line at the 20th percentile
p20 <- quantile(d$income, 0.20)
iq_poverty(d$income, line = p20)
```

`iq_sample_data` *Generate sample inequality data*

Description

Creates synthetic data for testing and demonstrating inequalitykit functions. Three types are available: individual incomes, a two-period panel for growth incidence analysis, and grouped incomes for decomposition.

Usage

```
iq_sample_data(type = c("income", "panel", "grouped"))
```

Arguments

`type`	Character. One of `"income"`, `"panel"`, or `"grouped"`.

Value

A data.frame.

`"income"` 1000 rows with columns `income` and `weight`. Drawn from a lognormal distribution (mean log 10.5, sd log 0.8), producing realistic income-like data centred around 40,000.

`"panel"` 1000 rows with columns `income_t0`, `income_t1`, `weight`. Two periods with heterogeneous growth (bottom grows slower than top, mimicking rising inequality).

`"grouped"` 1000 rows with columns `income`, `group`, `weight`. Three groups (A, B, C) with different mean incomes for between/within decomposition.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
head(d)

panel <- iq_sample_data("panel")
head(panel)

grouped <- iq_sample_data("grouped")
head(grouped)
```

`iq_sgini` *S-Gini (extended Gini family)*

Description

Computes the S-Gini coefficient, a one-parameter generalisation of the Gini that allows the user to specify how much weight to give different parts of the distribution. The standard Gini is the special case `delta = 2`.

Usage

```
iq_sgini(x, weights = NULL, delta = 2, na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`delta`	Numeric. Inequality aversion parameter (> 1). Default 2 (standard Gini).
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Details

Lower delta (approaching 1) gives equal weight everywhere; higher delta gives more weight to the bottom of the distribution. The standard Gini (delta = 2) weights by rank position. Delta = 3 or 4 places even more emphasis on the poorest.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_sgini"` with elements:

value Numeric. The S-Gini coefficient.

delta Numeric. The inequality aversion parameter used.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Donaldson, D. and Weymark, J. A. (1980). "A Single-Parameter Generalization of the Gini Indices of Inequality." *Journal of Economic Theory*, 22(1), 67–86.

Yitzhaki, S. (1983). "On an Extension of the Gini Inequality Index." *International Economic Review*, 24(3), 617–628.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")

# Standard Gini (delta = 2)
iq_sgini(d$income, delta = 2)

# More weight on the bottom of the distribution
iq_sgini(d$income, delta = 3)
```

`iq_shares` *Income shares by quantile*

Description

Computes the share of total income held by each segment of the distribution. Default segments: bottom 50%, middle 40%, top 10%, and top 1%.

Usage

```
iq_shares(x, weights = NULL, breaks = c(0.5, 0.9, 0.99, 1), na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (non-negative).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`breaks`	Numeric vector of cumulative population thresholds defining the segments. Default `c(0.50, 0.90, 0.99, 1.00)`.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_shares"` with elements:

shares data.frame with columns `segment`, `pop_share`, `income_share`.

n Integer. Number of observations.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")
iq_shares(d$income)

# Custom breaks: quintiles
iq_shares(d$income, breaks = c(0.20, 0.40, 0.60, 0.80, 1.00))
```

`iq_theil` *Theil index and generalised entropy measures*

Description

Computes the Theil T index (GE(1)), Theil L / mean log deviation (GE(0)), or a generalised entropy index GE(alpha) for any non-negative alpha.

Usage

```
iq_theil(x, weights = NULL, index = "T", na.rm = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	Numeric vector of incomes (strictly positive).
`weights`	Optional numeric vector of survey weights.
`index`	Character or numeric. `"T"` for Theil T (GE(1)), `"L"` for mean log deviation (GE(0)), or a numeric value for GE(alpha). Default `"T"`.
`na.rm`	Logical. Remove `NA` values? Default `FALSE`.

Details

Generalised entropy indices are the only class of inequality measures that are both decomposable by population subgroups and satisfy the transfer principle. Higher values indicate more inequality.

Value

An S3 object of class `"iq_theil"` with elements:

value Numeric. The index value.

alpha Numeric. The alpha parameter used.

index_name Character. Human-readable name of the index.

n Integer. Number of observations.

References

Theil, H. (1967). *Economics and Information Theory*. Amsterdam: North-Holland.

Cowell, F. A. (2011). *Measuring Inequality*. 3rd edition. Oxford University Press.

Shorrocks, A. F. (1980). "The Class of Additively Decomposable Inequality Measures." *Econometrica*, 48(3), 613–625.

Examples

```
d <- iq_sample_data("income")

# Theil T (GE(1))
iq_theil(d$income, index = "T")

# Mean log deviation (GE(0))
iq_theil(d$income, index = "L")

# GE(2): half the squared coefficient of variation
iq_theil(d$income, index = 2)
```

Index