

# Package ‘piar’

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**Title** Price Index Aggregation

**Version** 0.7.0

**Description** Most price indexes are made with a two-step procedure, where period-over-period elemental indexes are first calculated for a collection of elemental aggregates at each point in time, and then aggregated according to a price index aggregation structure. These indexes can then be chained together to form a time series that gives the evolution of prices with respect to a fixed base period. This package contains a collections of functions that revolve around this work flow, making it easy to build standard price indexes, and implement the methods described by Balk (2008, ISBN:978-1-107-40496-0), von der Lippe (2001, ISBN:3-8246-0638-0), and the CPI manual (2020, ISBN:978-1-51354-298-0) for bilateral price indexes.

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---

aggregate.piar\_index *Aggregate elemental price indexes*

---

**Description**

Aggregate elemental price indexes with a price index aggregation structure.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'chainable_piar_index'
aggregate(x, piar, ..., na.rm = FALSE, contrib = TRUE, r = 1)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'direct_piar_index'
aggregate(x, piar, ..., na.rm = FALSE, contrib = TRUE, r = 1)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	A price index, usually made by <code>elemental_index()</code> .
<code>pias</code>	A price index aggregation structure or something that can be coerced into one. This can be made with <code>aggregation_structure()</code> .
<code>...</code>	Not currently used.
<code>na.rm</code>	Should missing values be removed? By default, missing values are not removed. Setting <code>na.rm = TRUE</code> is equivalent to overall mean imputation.
<code>contrib</code>	Aggregate percent-change contributions in <code>x</code> (if any)?
<code>r</code>	Order of the generalized mean to aggregate index values. 0 for a geometric index (the default for making elemental indexes), 1 for an arithmetic index (the default for aggregating elemental indexes and averaging indexes over subperiods), or -1 for a harmonic index (usually for a Paasche index). Other values are possible; see <code>gpindex::generalized_mean()</code> for details.

## Details

The `aggregate()` method loops over each time period in `x` and

1. aggregates the elemental indexes with `gpindex::generalized_mean(r)` for each level of `pias`;
2. aggregates percent-change contributions for each level of `pias` (if there are any and `contrib = TRUE`);
3. price updates the weights in `pias` with `gpindex::factor_weights(r)` (only for period-over-period elemental indexes).

The result is a collection of aggregated period-over-period indexes that can be chained together to get a fixed-base index when `x` are period-over-period elemental indexes. Otherwise, when `x` are fixed-base elemental indexes, the result is a collection of aggregated fixed-base (direct) indexes.

By default, missing elemental indexes will propagate when aggregating the index. Missing elemental indexes can be due to both missingness of these values in `x`, and the presence of elemental aggregates in `pias` that are not part of `x`. Setting `na.rm = TRUE` ignores missing values, and is equivalent to parental (or overall mean) imputation. As an aggregated price index generally cannot have missing values (for otherwise it can't be chained over time and weights can't be price updated), any missing values for a level of `pias` are removed and recursively replaced by the value of its immediate parent.

In most cases aggregation is done with an arithmetic mean (the default), and this is detailed in chapter 8 (pp. 190–198) of the CPI manual (2020). Aggregating with a non-arithmetic mean follows the same steps, except that the elemental indexes are aggregated with a mean of a different order (e.g., harmonic for a Paasche index), and the method for price updating the weights is slightly different. Note that, because aggregation is done with a generalized mean, the resulting index is consistent-in-aggregation at each point in time.

Aggregating percent-change contributions uses the method in chapter 9 of the CPI manual (equations 9.26 and 9.28) when aggregating with an arithmetic mean. With a non-arithmetic mean, arithmetic weights are constructed using `gpindex::transmute_weights(r, 1)` in order to apply this method.

There may not be contributions for all prices relatives in an elemental aggregate if the elemental indexes are built from several sources (as with `merge()`). In this case the contribution for a price relative in the aggregated index will be correct, but the sum of all contributions will not equal the change in the value of the index. This can also happen when aggregating an already aggregated index in which missing index values have been imputed (i.e., when `na.rm = TRUE`).

### Value

An aggregate price index that inherits from `aggregate_piar_index` and the class of `x`.

### Note

For large indexes it can be much faster to turn the aggregation structure into an aggregation matrix with `as.matrix()`, then aggregate elemental indexes as a matrix operation when there are no missing values. See the examples for details.

### References

Balk, B. M. (2008). *Price and Quantity Index Numbers*. Cambridge University Press.  
 ILO, IMF, OECD, Eurostat, UN, and World Bank. (2020). *Consumer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice*. International Monetary Fund.

### See Also

Other index methods: `[.piar_index()`, `as.data.frame.piar_index()`, `chain()`, `contrib()`, `head.piar_index()`, `is.na.piar_index()`, `levels.piar_index()`, `mean.piar_index()`, `merge.piar_index()`, `split.piar_index()`, `stack.piar_index()`, `time.piar_index()`, `vcov.aggregate_piar_index()`

### Examples

```
prices <- data.frame(
  rel = 1:8,
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
  ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4)
)

# A two-level aggregation structure

pias <- aggregation_structure(
  list(c("top", "top", "top"), c("a", "b", "c")), 1:3
)

# Calculate Jevons elemental indexes

(elemental <- with(prices, elemental_index(rel, period, ea)))

# Aggregate (note the imputation for elemental index 'c')

(index <- aggregate(elemental, pias, na.rm = TRUE))

# Aggregation can equivalently be done as matrix multiplication
```

```
as.matrix(pias) %**% as.matrix(chain(index[letters[1:3]]))
```

---

aggregation\_structure *Make a price index aggregation structure*

---

## Description

Create a price index aggregation structure from a hierarchical classification and aggregation weights that can be used to aggregate elemental indexes.

## Usage

```
aggregation_structure(x, weights = NULL)
```

## Arguments

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| x       | A list of character vectors that give the codes/labels for each level of the classification, ordered so that moving down the list goes down the hierarchy. The last vector gives the elemental aggregates, which should have no duplicates. All vectors should be the same length, without NAs, and there should be no duplicates across different levels of x. |
| weights | A numeric vector of aggregation weights for the elemental aggregates (i.e., the last vector in x), or something that can be coerced into one. The default is to give each elemental aggregate the same weight.  |

## Value

A price index aggregation structure of class `piar_aggregation_structure`. This is a list-S3 class with the following components.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| child   | A nested list that gives the positions of the immediate children for each node in each level of the aggregation structure above the terminal nodes. |
| parent  | A list that gives the position of the immediate parent for each node of the aggregation structure below the initial nodes.                          |
| levels  | A list of character vectors that give the levels of x.  |
| weights | A named vector giving the weight for each elemental aggregate.  |

## Warning

The `aggregation_structure()` function does its best to check its arguments, but there should be no expectation that the result of `aggregation_structure()` will make any sense if x does not represent a nested hierarchy.

**See Also**

`aggregate()` to aggregate price indexes made with `elemental_index()`.  
`expand_classification()` to make x from a character representation of a hierarchical aggregation structure.  
`as_aggregation_structure()` to coerce tabular data into an aggregation structure.  
`as.data.frame()` and `as.matrix()` to coerce an aggregation structure into a tabular form.  
`weights()` to get the weights for an aggregation structure.  
`update()` for updating a price index aggregation structure with an aggregated index.

**Examples**

```
# A simple aggregation structure
#           1
#   |-----+-----|
#   11           12
# |-----|       |
# 111   112   121
# (1)   (3)   (4)

aggregation_weights <- data.frame(
  level1 = c("1", "1", "1"),
  level2 = c("11", "11", "12"),
  ea     = c("111", "112", "121"),
  weight = c(1, 3, 4)
)

aggregation_structure(
  aggregation_weights[1:3],
  weights = aggregation_weights[[4]]
)

# The aggregation structure can also be made by expanding the
# elemental aggregates

with(
  aggregation_weights,
  aggregation_structure(expand_classification(ea), weight)
)
```

---

```
as.data.frame.piar_index
```

*Coerce an index into a tabular form*

---

**Description**

Turn an index into a data frame or a matrix.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'  
as.data.frame(x, ..., stringsAsFactors = FALSE)  
  
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'  
as.matrix(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A price index, as made by, e.g., [elemental\\_index\(\)](#).  
...                    Not currently used.  
stringsAsFactors     See [as.data.frame\(\)](#).

**Value**

[as.data.frame\(\)](#) returns a data frame with three columns: period, level, and value.  
[as.matrix\(\)](#) returns a matrix with a row for each level and a column for each time period.

**See Also**

[as\\_index\(\)](#) to coerce a matrix/data frame of index values into an index object.

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
index <- as_index(matrix(1:6, 2))  
  
as.data.frame(index)  
as.matrix(index)
```

---

as.matrix.piar\_aggregation\_structure

*Coerce an aggregation structure into a tabular form*

---

**Description**

Coerce a price index aggregation structure into an aggregation matrix, or a data frame.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_aggregation_structure'
as.matrix(x, ..., sparse = FALSE)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_aggregation_structure'
as.data.frame(x, ..., stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

`x` A price index aggregation structure, as made by [aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#).

`...` Not currently used.

`sparse` Should the result be a sparse matrix from **Matrix**? This is faster for large aggregation structures. The default returns an ordinary dense matrix.

`stringsAsFactors` See [as.data.frame\(\)](#).

**Value**

`as.matrix()` represents an aggregation structure as a matrix, such that multiplying with a (column) vector of elemental indexes gives the aggregated index.

`as.data.frame()` takes an aggregation structure and returns a data frame that could have generated it, with columns `level1`, `level2`, ..., `ea`, and `weight`.

**See Also**

[as\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#) for coercing into an aggregation structure.

Other aggregation structure methods: [levels.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#), [update.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure](#), [weights.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
# A simple aggregation structure
#           1
#   |-----+-----|
#   11           12
# |----+----|   |
# 111   112   121
# (1)   (3)   (4)

aggregation_weights <- data.frame(
  level1 = c("1", "1", "1"),
  level2 = c("11", "11", "12"),
  ea     = c("111", "112", "121"),
  weight = c(1, 3, 4)
)

pias <- as_aggregation_structure(aggregation_weights)

as.matrix(pias)
```



```
all.equal(as.data.frame(pias), aggregation_weights)
```

---

```
as_aggregation_structure
```

*Coerce to an aggregation structure*

---

## Description

Coerce an object into an aggregation structure object.

## Usage

```
as_aggregation_structure(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
as_aggregation_structure(x, weights = NULL, ...)

## S3 method for class 'data.frame'
as_aggregation_structure(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'matrix'
as_aggregation_structure(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'aggregate_piar_index'
as_aggregation_structure(x, weights = NULL, ...)
```

## Arguments

x	An object to coerce into an aggregation structure.
...	Further arguments passed to or used by methods.
weights	A numeric vector of aggregation weights for the elemental aggregates. The default is to give each elemental aggregate the same weight.

## Details

The default method attempts to coerce x into a list prior to calling [aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#).

The data frame and matrix methods treat x as a table with a row for each elemental aggregate, a column of labels for each level in the aggregation structure, and a column of weights for the elemental aggregates.

The method for aggregate indexes reconstructs the aggregation structure used to generate the index (with optional weights).

## Value

A price index aggregation structure that inherits from [piar\\_aggregation\\_structure](#).

**See Also**

`as.matrix()` and `as.data.frame()` for coercing an aggregation structure into a tabular form.

**Examples**

```
# A simple aggregation structure
#           1
#   |-----+-----|
#   11           12
# |---+---|       |
# 111   112   121
# (1)   (3)   (4)

aggregation_weights <- data.frame(
  level1 = c("1", "1", "1"),
  level2 = c("11", "11", "12"),
  ea     = c("111", "112", "121"),
  weight = c(1, 3, 4)
)

pias <- aggregation_structure(
  aggregation_weights[1:3],
  weights = aggregation_weights[[4]]
)

all.equal(
  pias,
  as_aggregation_structure(aggregation_weights)
)

all.equal(
  pias,
  as_aggregation_structure(as.matrix(aggregation_weights))
)
```

---

as\_index

*Coerce to a price index*


---

**Description**

Coerce pre-computed index values into an index object.

**Usage**

```
as_index(x, ...)
```

## Default S3 method:

```
as_index(x, ..., chainable = TRUE)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'matrix'
as_index(x, ..., chainable = TRUE)

## S3 method for class 'data.frame'
as_index(x, cols = NULL, ..., chainable = TRUE)

## S3 method for class 'chainable_piar_index'
as_index(x, ..., chainable = TRUE)

## S3 method for class 'direct_piar_index'
as_index(x, ..., chainable = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x	An object to coerce into a price index.
...	Further arguments passed to or used by methods.
chainable	Are the index values in x period-over-period indexes, suitable for a chained calculation (the default)? This should be FALSE when x is a fixed-base (direct) index.
cols	Deprecated. A vector giving the positions/names of the period, level, and value columns in x. The default assumes that the first column contains time periods, the second contains levels, and the third contains index values.

### Details

Numeric matrices are coerced into an index object by treating each column as a separate time period, and each row as a separate level of the index (e.g., an elemental aggregate). Column names are used to denote time periods, and row names are used to denote levels (so they must be unique). This essentially reverses calling `as.matrix()` on an index object. If a dimension is unnamed, then it is given a sequential label from 1 to the size of that dimension. The default method coerces x to a matrix prior to using the matrix method.

The data frame method for `as_index()` is best understood as reversing the effect of `as.data.frame()` on an index object. It constructs a matrix by taking the levels of `x[[1]]` as columns and the levels of `x[[2]]` as rows (coercing to a factor if necessary). It then populates this matrix with the corresponding values in `x[[3]]`, and uses the matrix method for `as_index()`.

If x is a period-over-period index then it is returned unchanged when `chainable = TRUE` and chained otherwise. Similarly, if x is a fixed-base index then it is returned unchanged when `chainable = FALSE` and unchain otherwise.

### Value

`as_index()` returns a price index that inherits from `piar_index`. If `chainable = TRUE` then this is a period-over-period price index that also inherits from `chainable_piar_index`; otherwise, it is a fixed-base index that inherits from `direct_piar_index`.

### See Also

`as.matrix()` and `as.data.frame()` for coercing an index into a tabular form.

**Examples**

```
prices <- data.frame(
  rel = 1:8,
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
  ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4)
)

index <- with(prices, elemental_index(rel, period, ea))

all.equal(as_index(as.data.frame(index)), index)
all.equal(as_index(as.matrix(index)), index)
```

---

chain

*Chain and rebase a price index*


---

**Description**

Chain a period-over-period index by taking the cumulative product of its values to turn it into a fixed-base (direct) index.

Unchain a fixed-base index by dividing its values for successive periods to get a period-over-period index.

Rebase a fixed-base index by dividing its values with the value of the index in the new base period.

**Usage**

```
chain(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
chain(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'chainable_piar_index'
chain(x, link = rep(1, nlevels(x)), ...)

unchain(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
unchain(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'direct_piar_index'
unchain(x, ...)

rebase(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
rebase(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'direct_piar_index'
rebase(x, base = rep(1, nlevels(x)), ...)
```

### Arguments

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <a href="#">elemental_index()</a> .
...	Further arguments passed to or used by methods.
link	A numeric vector, or something that can coerced into one, of link values for each level in x. The default is a vector of 1s so that no linking is done.
base	A numeric vector, or something that can coerced into one, of base-period index values for each level in x. The default is a vector of 1s so that the base period remains the same.

### Details

The default methods attempt to coerce x into an index with [as\\_index\(\)](#) prior to chaining/unchaining/rebasing.

Chaining an index takes the cumulative product of the index values for each level; this is roughly the same as `t(apply(as.matrix(x), 1, cumprod)) * link`. Unchaining does the opposite, so these are inverse operations. Note that unchaining a period-over-period index does nothing, as does chaining a fixed-base index.

Rebasing a fixed-base index divides the values for each level of this index by the corresponding values for each level in the new base period. It's roughly the same as `as.matrix(x) / base`. Like unchaining, rebasing a period-over-period index does nothing.

Percent-change contributions are removed when chaining/unchaining/rebasing an index, as it's not usually possible to update them correctly.

### Value

`chain()` and `rebase()` return a fixed-base index that inherits from [direct\\_piar\\_index](#).

`unchain()` returns a period-over-period index that inherits from [chainable\\_piar\\_index](#).

### See Also

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
index <- as_index(matrix(1:9, 3))

# Make period 0 the fixed base period

chain(index)

# Chaining and unchaining reverse each other

all.equal(index, unchain(chain(index)))
```

```
# Change the base period to period 2 (note the
# loss of information for period 0)

index <- chain(index)
rebase(index, index[, 2])
```

---

 contrib

*Extract percent-change contributions*


---

### Description

Extract a matrix of percent-change contributions from a price index.

### Usage

```
contrib(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
contrib(x, level = levels(x)[1L], period = time(x), ..., pad = 0)
```

### Arguments

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <a href="#">elemental_index()</a> .
...	Further arguments passed to or used by methods.
level	The level of an index for which percent-change contributions are desired, defaulting to the first level (usually the top-level for an aggregate index).
period	The time periods for which percent-change contributions are desired, defaulting to all time periods.
pad	A numeric value to pad contributions so that they fit into a rectangular array when products differ over time. The default is 0.

### Value

A matrix of percent-change contributions with a column for each period and a row for each product (sorted) for which there are contributions in level. Contributions are padded with pad to fit into a rectangular array when products differ over time.

### See Also

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```

prices <- data.frame(
  rel = 1:8,
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
  ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4)
)

index <- with(
  prices,
  elemental_index(rel, period, ea, contrib = TRUE)
)

pias <- aggregation_structure(
  list(c("top", "top", "top"), c("a", "b", "c")), 1:3
)

index <- aggregate(index, pias, na.rm = TRUE)

# Percent-change contributions for the top-level index
contrib(index)

# Calculate EA contributions for the chained index

library(gpindex)

arithmetic_contributions(
  as.matrix(chain(index))[c("a", "b", "c"), 2],
  weights(pias)
)

```

---

 elemental\_index

*Make elemental price indexes*


---

**Description**

Compute period-over-period (chainable) or fixed-base (direct) elemental price indexes, with optional percent-change contributions.

**Usage**

```

elemental_index(x, ...)

## Default S3 method:
elemental_index(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'numeric'
elemental_index(

```

```

x,
period = gl(1, length(x)),
ea = gl(1, length(x)),
weights = NULL,
...,
chainable = TRUE,
na.rm = FALSE,
contrib = FALSE,
r = 0
)

```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	Period-over-period or fixed-base price relatives. Currently there is only a method for numeric vectors; these can be made with <a href="#">price_relative()</a> .
<code>...</code>	Further arguments passed to or used by methods.
<code>period</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the time period associated with each price relative in <code>x</code> . The ordering of time periods follows of the levels of <code>period</code> , to agree with <a href="#">cut()</a> . The default assumes that all price relatives belong to one time period.
<code>ea</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the elemental aggregate associated with each price relative in <code>x</code> . The default assumes that all price relatives belong to one elemental aggregate.
<code>weights</code>	A numeric vector of weights for the price relatives in <code>x</code> , or something that can be coerced into one. The default is equal weights.
<code>chainable</code>	Are the price relatives in <code>x</code> period-over-period relatives that are suitable for a chained calculation (the default)? This should be <code>FALSE</code> when <code>x</code> contains fixed-base relatives.
<code>na.rm</code>	Should missing values be removed? By default, missing values are not removed. Setting <code>na.rm = TRUE</code> is equivalent to overall mean imputation.
<code>contrib</code>	Should percent-change contributions be calculated? The default does not calculate contributions.
<code>r</code>	Order of the generalized mean to aggregate price relatives. 0 for a geometric index (the default for making elemental indexes), 1 for an arithmetic index (the default for aggregating elemental indexes and averaging indexes over subperiods), or -1 for a harmonic index (usually for a Paasche index). Other values are possible; see <a href="#">gpindex::generalized_mean()</a> for details.

### Details

When supplied with a numeric vector, `elemental_index()` is a simple wrapper that applies [gpindex::generalized\\_mean\(\)](#) and [gpindex::contributions\(r\)](#) (if `contrib = TRUE`) to `x` and `weights` grouped by `ea` and `period`. That is, for every combination of elemental aggregate and time period, `elemental_index()` calculates an index based on a generalized mean of order `r` and, optionally, percent-change contributions. The default (`r = 0` and no weights) makes Jevons elemental indexes. See chapter 8 (pp. 175–190) of the CPI manual (2020) for more detail about making elemental indexes, and chapter 5 of Balk (2008).



The default method simply coerces `x` to a numeric vector prior to calling the method above.

Names for `x` are used as product names when calculating percent-change contributions. Product names should be unique within each time period, and, if not, are passed to `make.unique()` with a warning. If `x` has no names then elements of `x` are given sequential names within each elemental aggregate.

The interpretation of the index depends on how the price relatives in `x` are made. If these are period-over-period relatives, then the result is a collection of period-over-period (chainable) elemental indexes; if these are fixed-base relatives, then the result is a collection of fixed-base (direct) elemental indexes. For the latter, `chainable` should be set to `FALSE` so that no subsequent methods assume that a chained calculation should be used.

By default, missing price relatives in `x` will propagate throughout the index calculation. Ignoring missing values with `na.rm = TRUE` is the same as overall mean (parental) imputation, and needs to be explicitly set in the call to `elemental_index()`. Explicit imputation of missing relatives, and especially imputation of missing prices, should be done prior to calling `elemental_index()`.

Indexes based on nested generalized means, like the Fisher index (and superlative quadratic mean indexes more generally), can be calculated by supplying the appropriate weights with `gpindex::nested_transmute()`; see the example below. It is important to note that there are several ways to make these weights, and this affects how percent-change contributions are calculated.

## Value

A price index that inherits from `piar_index`. If `chainable = TRUE` then this is a period-over-period index that also inherits from `chainable_piar_index`; otherwise, it is a fixed-based index that inherits from `direct_piar_index`.

## References

Balk, B. M. (2008). *Price and Quantity Index Numbers*. Cambridge University Press.

ILO, IMF, OECD, Eurostat, UN, and World Bank. (2020). *Consumer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice*. International Monetary Fund.

## See Also

`price_relative()` for making price relatives for the same products over time, and `carry_forward()` and `shadow_price()` for imputation of missing prices.

`as_index()` to turn pre-computed (elemental) index values into an index object.

`chain()` for chaining period-over-period indexes, and `rebase()` for rebasing an index.

`aggregate()` to aggregate elemental indexes according to an aggregation structure.

`as.matrix()` and `as.data.frame()` for coercing an index into a tabular form.

## Examples

```
library(gpindex)

prices <- data.frame(
  rel = 1:8,
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
```

```

    ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4)
  )

# Calculate Jevons elemental indexes

with(prices, elemental_index(rel, period, ea))

# Same as using lm() or tapply()

exp(coef(lm(log(rel) ~ ea:factor(period) - 1, prices)))

with(
  prices,
  t(tapply(rel, list(period, ea), geometric_mean, na.rm = TRUE))
)

# A general function to calculate weights to turn the geometric
# mean of the arithmetic and harmonic mean (i.e., Fisher mean)
# into an arithmetic mean

fw <- grouped(nested_transmute(0, c(1, -1), 1))

# Calculate a CSWD index (same as the Jevons in this example)
# as an arithmetic index by using the appropriate weights

with(
  prices,
  elemental_index(
    rel, period, ea,
    fw(rel, group = interaction(period, ea)),
    r = 1
  )
)

```

---

expand\_classification *Expand a hierarchical classification*

---

### Description

Expand a character representation of a hierarchical classification to make a price index aggregation structure.

### Usage

```
expand_classification(x, width = 1L)
```

**Arguments**

x	A character vector, or something that can be coerced into one, of codes/labels for a specific level in a classification (e.g., 5-digit COICOP, 5-digit NAICS, 4-digit SIC).
width	An integer vector that gives the width of each digit in x. A single value is recycled to span the longest element in x. This cannot contain NAs. The default assumes each digit has a width of 1, as in the NAICS, NAPCS, and SIC classifications.

**Value**

A list with a entry for each level in x giving the "digits" that represent each level in the hierarchy.

**See Also**

[aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#) to make a price-index aggregation structure.

**Examples**

```
# A simple classification structure
#           1
#   |-----+-----|
#   11           12
# |----+----|   |
# 111      112   121

expand_classification(c("111", "112", "121"))

# Expanding more complex classifications
# ... if last 'digit' is either TA or TS

expand_classification(
  c("111TA", "112TA", "121TS"),
  width = c(1, 1, 1, 2)
)

# ... if first 'digit' is either 11 or 12

expand_classification(c("111", "112", "121"), width = c(2, 1))

# ...if there are delimiters in the classification (like COICOP)

expand_classification(c("01.1.1", "01.1.2", "01.2.1"), width = 2)
```

---

head.piar\_index      *Return the first/last parts of an index*

---

### Description

Extract the first/last parts of an index as if it were a matrix.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'  
head(x, n = 6L, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'  
tail(x, n = 6L, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    A price index, as made by, e.g., [elemental\\_index\(\)](#).  
n                    See [head\(\)/tail\(\)](#). The default takes the first/last 6 levels of x.  
...                  Not currently used.

### Value

A price index that inherits from [chainable\\_piar\\_index](#) if x is a period-over-period index, or [direct\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#) if x is a fixed-base index.

### See Also

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
index <- as_index(matrix(1:9, 3))  
  
head(index, 1)  
  
tail(index, 1)
```

---

impute_prices	<i>Impute missing prices</i>
---------------	------------------------------

---

## Description

Impute missing prices using the carry forward or shadow price method.

## Usage

```
shadow_price(
  x,
  period,
  product,
  ea,
  pias = NULL,
  weights = NULL,
  r1 = 0,
  r2 = 1
)

carry_forward(x, period, product)

carry_backwards(x, period, product)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	A numeric vector of prices, or something that can be coerced into one.
<code>period</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the time period associated with each price in <code>x</code> . The ordering of time periods follows of the levels of <code>period</code> , to agree with <code>cut()</code> .
<code>product</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the product associated with each price in <code>x</code> .
<code>ea</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the elemental aggregate associated with each price in <code>x</code> .
<code>pias</code>	A price index aggregation structure, or something that can be coerced into one, as made with <code>aggregation_structure()</code> . The default imputes from elemental indexes only (i.e., not recursively).
<code>weights</code>	A numeric vector of weights for the prices in <code>x</code> (i.e., product weights), or something that can be coerced into one. The default is to give each price equal weight.
<code>r1</code>	Order of the generalized-mean price index used to calculate the elemental price indexes: 0 for a geometric index (the default), 1 for an arithmetic index, or -1 for a harmonic index. Other values are possible; see <code>gpindex::generalized_mean()</code> for details.

`r2` Order of the generalized-mean price index used to aggregate the elemental price indexes: 0 for a geometric index, 1 for an arithmetic index (the default), or -1 for a harmonic index. Other values are possible; see `gpindex::generalized_mean()` for details.

### Details

The carry forward method replaces a missing price for a product by the price for the same product in the previous period. It tends to push an index value towards 1, and is usually avoided; see paragraph 6.61 in the CPI manual (2020). The carry backwards method does the opposite, but this is rarely used in practice.

The shadow price method recursively imputes a missing price by the value of the price for the same product in the previous period multiplied by the value of the period-over-period elemental index for the elemental aggregate to which that product belongs. This requires computing and aggregating an index (according to `pias`, unless `pias` is not supplied) for each period, and so these imputations can take a while. The index values used to do the imputations are not returned because the index needs to be recalculated to get correct percent-change contributions.

Shadow price imputation is referred to as self-correcting overall mean imputation in chapter 6 of the CPI manual (2020). It is identical to simply excluding missing price relatives in the index calculation, except in the period that a missing product returns. For this reason care is needed when using this method. It is sensitive to the assumption that a product does not change over time, and in some cases it is safer to simply omit the missing price relatives instead of imputing the missing prices.

### Value

A copy of `x` with missing values replaced (where possible).

### References

ILO, IMF, OECD, Eurostat, UN, and World Bank. (2020). *Consumer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice*. International Monetary Fund.

### See Also

`price_relative()` for making price relatives for the same products over time.

### Examples

```
prices <- data.frame(
  price = c(1:7, NA),
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
  product = 1:4,
  ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4)
)

with(prices, carry_forward(price, period, product))

with(prices, shadow_price(price, period, product, ea))
```

---

is.na.piar_index	<i>Missing values in a price index</i>
------------------	--

---

### Description

Identify missing values in a price index.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'  
is.na(x)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'  
anyNA(x, recursive = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <a href="#">elemental_index()</a> .
recursive	Check if x also has missing percent-change contributions. By default only index values are checked for missingness.

### Value

`is.na()` returns a logical matrix, with a row for each level of x and a columns for each time period, that indicates which index values are missing.

`anyNA()` returns TRUE if any index values are missing, or percent-change contributions (if `recursive = TRUE`).

### See Also

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
index <- as_index(matrix(c(1, 2, 3, NA, 5, NA), 2))  
  
anyNA(index)  
is.na(index)  
  
# Carry forward imputation  
  
index[is.na(index)] <- 1  
index
```

is\_aggregation\_structure

*Test if an object is an aggregation structure*

---

**Description**

Test if an object is a price index aggregation structure.

**Usage**

is\_aggregation\_structure(x)

**Arguments**

x                    An object to test.

**Value**

Returns TRUE if x inherits from [piar\\_aggregation\\_structure](#).

---

is\_index

*Test if an object is a price index*

---

**Description**

Test if an object is a index object, or a subclass of an index object.

**Usage**

is\_index(x)

is\_aggregate\_index(x)

is\_chainable\_index(x)

is\_direct\_index(x)

**Arguments**

x                    An object to test.

**Value**

is\_index() returns TRUE if x inherits from [piar\\_index](#).

is\_chainable\_index() returns TRUE if x inherits from [chainable\\_piar\\_index](#).

is\_direct\_index() returns TRUE if x inherits from [direct\\_piar\\_index](#).

is\_aggregate\_index() returns TRUE if x inherits from [aggregate\\_piar\\_index](#).



---

levels.piar\_aggregation\_structure  
*Get the levels for an aggregation structure*

---

**Description**

Get the hierarchical list of levels for an aggregation structure. It is an error to try and replace these values.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_aggregation_structure'
levels(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    A price index aggregation structure, as made by [aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#).

**Value**

A list of character vectors giving the levels for each position in the aggregation structure.

**See Also**

Other aggregation structure methods: [as.matrix.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#), [update.piar\\_aggregation\\_struct](#), [weights.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#)

---

levels.piar\_index        *Get the levels for a price index*

---

**Description**

Methods to get and set the levels for a price index.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
levels(x)

## S3 replacement method for class 'piar_index'
levels(x) <- value
```

**Arguments**

x                    A price index, as made by, e.g., [elemental\\_index\(\)](#).  
value                A character vector, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the replacement levels for x.

**Value**

levels() returns a character vector with the levels for a price index.

The replacement method returns a copy of x with the levels in value.

It's not generally possible to change the levels of an aggregate price index, and in this case replacing the levels does not return an aggregate index.

**See Also**

Other index methods: [[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)]

---

mean.piar_index	<i>Aggregate a price index over subperiods</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

Aggregate an index over subperiods by taking the (usually arithmetic) mean of index values over consecutive windows of subperiods.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
mean(x, weights = NULL, ..., window = 3L, na.rm = FALSE, contrib = TRUE, r = 1)
```

**Arguments**

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <a href="#">elemental_index()</a> .
weights	A numeric vector of weights for the index values in x, or something that can be coerced into one. The default is equal weights. It is usually easiest to specify these weights as a matrix with a row for each index value in x and a column for each time period.
...	Not currently used.
window	A positive integer giving the size of the window used to average index values across subperiods. The default (3) turns a monthly index into into a quarterly one. Non-integers are truncated towards 0.
na.rm	Should missing values be removed? By default, missing values are not removed. Setting na.rm = TRUE is equivalent to overall mean imputation.
contrib	Aggregate percent-change contributions in x (if any)?
r	Order of the generalized mean to aggregate index values. 0 for a geometric index (the default for making elemental indexes), 1 for an arithmetic index (the default for aggregating elemental indexes and averaging indexes over subperiods), or -1 for a harmonic index (usually for a Paasche index). Other values are possible; see <a href="#">gpindex::generalized_mean()</a> for details.

**Details**

The `mean()` method constructs a set of non-overlapping windows of length `window`, starting in the first period of the index, and takes the mean of each index value in these windows for each level of the index. The last window is discarded if it is incomplete (with a warning), so that index values are always averaged over window periods. The names for the first time period in each window form the new names for the aggregated time periods.

Percent-change contributions are aggregated if `contrib = TRUE` by treating each product-subperiod pair as a unique product, then following the same approach as `aggregate()`. The number of the subperiod is appended to product names to make them unique across subperiods.

An optional vector of weights can be specified when aggregating index values over subperiods, which is often useful when aggregating a Paasche index; see section 4.3 of Balk (2008) for details.

**Value**

A price index with the same class as `x`. If `x` is an aggregate index and `r` is different than that used to aggregate `x`, then the result is not an aggregate index (as it is no longer consistent in aggregation).

**References**

Balk, B. M. (2008). *Price and Quantity Index Numbers*. Cambridge University Press.

**See Also**

Other index methods: `[.piar_index()`, `aggregate.piar_index()`, `as.data.frame.piar_index()`, `chain()`, `contrib()`, `head.piar_index()`, `is.na.piar_index()`, `levels.piar_index()`, `merge.piar_index()`, `split.piar_index()`, `stack.piar_index()`, `time.piar_index()`, `vcov.aggregate_piar_index()`

**Examples**

```
index <- as_index(matrix(c(1:12, 12:1), 2, byrow = TRUE))
mean(index)
```

---

```
merge.piar_index
```

```
Merge price indexes
```

---

**Description**

Combine two price indexes with common time periods, merging together the index values and percent-change contributions for each time period.

This is useful for building up an index when different elemental aggregates come from different sources of data, or use different index-number formulas.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
merge(x, y, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <code>elemental_index()</code> .
y	A price index, or something that can be coerced into one. If x is a period-over-period index then y is coerced into a chainable index; otherwise, y is coerced into a direct index.
...	Not currently used.

**Value**

A price index that inherits from `chainable_piar_index` if x is a period-over-period index, or `direct_piar_index` if x is a fixed-base index. It is not generally possible to merge aggregated indexes, as this would change the aggregation structure, so merging does not return an aggregated index.

**See Also**

Other index methods: `[.piar_index()`, `aggregate.piar_index()`, `as.data.frame.piar_index()`, `chain()`, `contrib()`, `head.piar_index()`, `is.na.piar_index()`, `levels.piar_index()`, `mean.piar_index()`, `split.piar_index()`, `stack.piar_index()`, `time.piar_index()`, `vcov.aggregate_piar_index()`

**Examples**

```
index1 <- as_index(matrix(1:6, 2))

index2 <- index1
levels(index2) <- 3:4

merge(index1, index2)
```

---

piar\_index

*Price index objects*

---

**Description**

There are several classes to represent price indexes.

- All indexes inherit from the `piar_index` virtual class.
- Period-over-period indexes that can be chained over time inherit from `chainable_piar_index`.
- Fixed-base indexes inherit from `direct_piar_index`.
- Aggregate price indexes that are the result of aggregating elemental indexes with an aggregation structure further inherit from `aggregate_piar_index`.

**Details**

The `piar_index` object is a list-S3 class with the following components:

**index** A list with an entry for each period in `time` that gives a vector of index values for each level in `levels`.

**contrib** A list with an entry for each period in `time`, which itself contains a list with an entry for each level in `levels` with a named vector that gives the additive contribution for each price relative.

**levels** A character vector giving the levels of the index.

**time** A character vector giving the time periods for the index.

The `chainable_piar_index` and `direct_piar_index` subclasses have the same structure as the `piar_index` class, but differ in the methods used to manipulate the indexes.

The `aggregate_piar_index` class further subclasses either `chainable_piar_index` or `direct_piar_index`, and adds the following components:

**r** The order of the generalized mean used to aggregated the index (usually 1).

**pias** A list containing the `child`, `parent`, and `levels` components of the aggregation structured used to aggregate the index.

---

price\_data

*Price data*

---

**Description**

Sample price and weight data for both a match sample and fixed sample type index.

---

price\_relative

*Calculate period-over-period price relatives*

---

**Description**

Construct period-over-period price relatives from information on prices and products over time.

**Usage**

```
price_relative(x, period, product)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A numeric vector of prices.
<code>period</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, that gives the corresponding time period for each element in <code>x</code> . The ordering of time periods follows the levels of <code>period</code> to agree with <code>cut()</code> .
<code>product</code>	A factor, or something that can be coerced into one, that gives the corresponding product identifier for each element in <code>x</code> .

**Value**

A numeric vector of price relatives, with product as names.

**See Also**

`gpindex::back_period()` to get only the back price.  
`gpindex::base_period()` for making fixed-base price relatives.  
`carry_forward()` and `shadow_price()` to impute missing prices.  
`gpindex::outliers` for methods to identify outliers with price relatives.

**Examples**

```
price_relative(1:6, rep(1:2, each = 3), rep(letters[1:3], 2))
```

---

split.piar_index	<i>Split an index into groups</i>
------------------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Split an index into groups of indexes according to a factor, along either the levels or time periods of the index.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
split(x, f, drop = FALSE, ..., margin = c("levels", "time"))

## S3 replacement method for class 'piar_index'
split(x, f, drop = FALSE, ..., margin = c("levels", "time")) <- value
```

**Arguments**

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <code>elemental_index()</code> .
f	A factor or list of factors to group elements of x.
drop	Should levels that do not occur in f be dropped? By default all levels are kept.
...	Further arguments passed to <code>split.default()</code> .
margin	Either 'levels' to split over the levels of x (the default), or 'time' to split over the time periods of x.
value	A list of values compatible with the splitting of x, recycled if necessary.

**Value**

`split()` returns a list of index objects for each level in f. The replacement method replaces these values with the corresponding element of value.

**See Also**

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
index <- as_index(matrix(1:6, 2))

split(index, 1:2)

split(index, c(1, 1, 2), margin = "time")
```

---

stack.piar_index	<i>Stack price indexes</i>
------------------	----------------------------

---

**Description**

`stack()` combines two price indexes with common levels, stacking index values and percent-change contributions for one index after the other.

`unstack()` breaks up a price index into a list of indexes for each time period.

These methods can be used in a map-reduce to make an index with multiple aggregation structures (like a Paasche index).

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
stack(x, y, ...)

## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
unstack(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A price index, as made by, e.g., <a href="#">elemental_index()</a> .
<code>y</code>	A price index, or something that can be coerced into one. If <code>x</code> is a period-over-period index then <code>y</code> is coerced into a chainable index; otherwise, <code>y</code> is coerced into a direct index.
<code>...</code>	Not currently used.

**Value**

A price index that inherits from [chainable\\_piar\\_index](#) if `x` is a period-over-period index, or [direct\\_piar\\_index](#) if `x` is a fixed-base index. If both `x` and `y` are aggregate indexes then the result will also inherit from [aggregate\\_piar\\_index](#).

`unstack()` returns a list of price indexes with the same class as `x`.

**Note**

It may be necessary to use `rebase()` prior to stacking fixed-based price indexes to ensure they have the same base period.

**See Also**

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
index1 <- as_index(matrix(1:6, 2))

index2 <- index1
time(index2) <- 4:6

stack(index1, index2)

# Unstack does the reverse

all.equal(
  c(unstack(index1), unstack(index2)),
  unstack(stack(index1, index2))
)
```

---

summary.piar\_index      *Summarize a price index*

---

**Description**

Summarize an index as a matrix of index values (i.e., the five-number summary for each period). If there are percent-change contributions, then these are also summarized as a matrix.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
summary(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

`object`            A price index, as made by, e.g., [elemental\\_index\(\)](#).  
`...`              Additional arguments passed to [summary.matrix\(\)](#).

**Value**

A list of five-number summaries.



**Note**

This function is still experimental and may change in the future.

**Examples**

```
prices <- data.frame(
  rel = 1:8,
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
  ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4),
  contrib = TRUE
)

elemental <- with(prices, elemental_index(rel, period, ea))

summary(elemental)
```

---

time.piar_index	<i>Get the time periods for a price index</i>
-----------------	---

---

**Description**

Methods to get and set the time periods for a price index.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
time(x, ...)

time(x) <- value

## S3 replacement method for class 'piar_index'
time(x) <- value

## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
start(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
end(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	A price index, as made by, e.g., <code>elemental_index()</code> .
...	Not currently used.
value	A character vector, or something that can be coerced into one, giving the replacement time periods for x.

**Value**

time() return a character vector with the time periods for a price index. start() and end() return the first and last time period.

The replacement method returns a copy of x with the time periods in value.

**See Also**

Other index methods: [.piar\_index(), aggregate.piar\_index(), as.data.frame.piar\_index(), chain(), contrib(), head.piar\_index(), is.na.piar\_index(), levels.piar\_index(), mean.piar\_index(), merge.piar\_index(), split.piar\_index(), stack.piar\_index(), vcov.aggregate\_piar\_index()

---

update.piar\_aggregation\_structure

*Update an aggregation structure*

---

**Description**

Price update the weights in a price index aggregation structure.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_aggregation_structure'
update(object, index, period = end(index), ..., r = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

object	A price index aggregation structure, as made by <a href="#">aggregation_structure()</a> .
index	A price index, or something that can be coerced into one. Usually an aggregate price index as made by <a href="#">aggregate()</a> .
period	The time period used to price update the weights. The default uses the last period in index.
...	Not currently used.
r	Order of the generalized mean to update the weights. The default uses the order used to aggregate index if it's an aggregate index; otherwise, the default is 1 for an arithmetic index.

**Value**

A copy of object with price-updated weights using the index values in index.

**See Also**

[aggregate\(\)](#) to make an aggregated price index.

Other aggregation structure methods: [as.matrix.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_aggregation\\_struct](#), [weights.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```

# A simple aggregation structure
#           1
#   |-----+-----|
#   11           12
# |---+---|   |
# 111   112   121
# (1)   (3)   (4)

aggregation_weights <- data.frame(
  level1 = c("1", "1", "1"),
  level2 = c("11", "11", "12"),
  ea      = c("111", "112", "121"),
  weight  = c(1, 3, 4)
)

pias <- as_aggregation_structure(aggregation_weights)

index <- as_index(
  matrix(1:9, 3, dimnames = list(c("111", "112", "121"), NULL))
)

weights(pias, ea_only = FALSE)

weights(update(pias, index), ea_only = FALSE)

```

---

vcov.aggregate\_piar\_index

*Bootstrap variance for a price index with replicate weights*


---

**Description**

Estimate the sampling variance for an aggregate price index when using a sample of elemental aggregates.

**Usage**

```

## S3 method for class 'aggregate_piar_index'
vcov(object, repweights, ..., mse = TRUE, sparse = FALSE)

```

**Arguments**

object	An aggregate price index, as made by <code>aggregate()</code> .
repweights	A matrix, or something that can be coerced into one, of bootstrap replicate weights with a row for each elemental aggregate and a column for each replicate.
...	Not currently used.

mse	Should variance be centered off the value of the index in object (the default), or the mean of the replicates?
sparse	Use sparse matrices from <b>Matrix</b> when aggregating the index. Faster for indexes with large aggregation structures. The default uses regular dense matrices.

### Details

This function is a simple wrapper that reaggregates the elemental indexes in object using the bootstrap replicate weights in `repweights` to get a collection of aggregate indexes from which the variance is calculated.

This approach is usually applicable when elemental aggregates are sampled with a stratified design that follows the aggregation structure, so that there is no correlation between the index values for different levels of the index. It ignores any variation from the elemental indexes (which often use judgmental sampling), and ultimately depends on the method of generating replicate weights. (Chapters 3 and 4 of Selvanathan and Rao (1994), especially section 4.7, provide analytic variance estimators for some common price indexes that are applicable with simple random sampling.)

Note that any missing elemental indexes need to be explicitly imputed prior to using this method, otherwise they will propagate throughout the variance calculation.

### Value

A matrix of variances with a row for each upper-level index and a column for each time period.

### Source

The `vcov()` method was influenced by a SAS routine by Justin Francis that was first ported to R by Ambuj Dewan, and subsequently rewritten by Steve Martin.

### References

Selvanathan, E. A., and Rao, D. S. P. (1994). *Index Numbers: A Stochastic Approach*. MacMillan.

### See Also

The `sps_repweights()` function in the **sps** package to generate replicates weights when elemental aggregates are sampled using sequential Poisson sampling.

Other index methods: [\[.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [aggregate.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
prices <- data.frame(
  rel = 1:8,
  period = rep(1:2, each = 4),
  ea = rep(letters[1:2], 4)
)

# A two-level aggregation structure
```

```

pias <- aggregation_structure(
  list(c("top", "top", "top"), c("a", "b", "c")), 1:3
)

repweights <- matrix(c(0, 2, 3, 1, 2, 4, 2, 3, 3), 3)

# Calculate Jevons elemental indexes

elemental <- with(prices, elemental_index(rel, period, ea))

# Aggregate

index <- aggregate(elemental, pias, na.rm = TRUE)

# Calculate variance

vcov(index, repweights)

```

---

weights.piar\_aggregation\_structure

*Get the weights for an aggregation structure*


---

### Description

Get and set the weights for a price index aggregation structure.

### Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'piar_aggregation_structure'
weights(object, ..., ea_only = TRUE, na.rm = FALSE)

weights(object) <- value

## S3 replacement method for class 'piar_aggregation_structure'
weights(object) <- value

```

### Arguments

object	A price index aggregation structure, as made by <a href="#">aggregation_structure()</a> .
...	Not currently used.
ea_only	Should weights be returned for only the elemental aggregates (the default)? Setting to FALSE gives the weights for the entire aggregation structure.
na.rm	Should missing values be removed when aggregating the weights (i.e., when ea_only = FALSE)? By default, missing values are not removed.
value	A numeric vector of weights for the elemental aggregates of object.

**Value**

`weights()` returns a named vector of weights for the elemental aggregates. The replacement method replaces these values without changing the aggregation structure. If `ea_only = FALSE` then the return value is a list with a named vector of weights for each level in the aggregation structure.

**See Also**

Other aggregation structure methods: [as.matrix.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#), [update.piar\\_aggregation\\_structure\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
# A simple aggregation structure
#           1
#   |-----+-----|
#   11         12
# |-----| |
# 111     112     121
# (1)     (3)     (4)

aggregation_weights <- data.frame(
  level1 = c("1", "1", "1"),
  level2 = c("11", "11", "12"),
  ea     = c("111", "112", "121"),
  weight = c(1, 3, 4)
)

pias <- as_aggregation_structure(aggregation_weights)

# Extract the weights
weights(pias)

# ... or update them
weights(pias) <- 1:3
weights(pias)
```

[.piar\_index

*Extract and replace index values***Description**

Methods to extract and replace index values like a matrix.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'piar_index'
x[i, j, ...]

## S3 replacement method for class 'piar_index'
x[i, j, ...] <- value
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A price index, as made by, e.g., <a href="#">elemental_index()</a> .
<code>i, j</code>	Indices for the levels and time periods of a price index. See details.
<code>...</code>	Not currently used.
<code>value</code>	A numeric vector or price index. See details.

**Details**

The extraction method treats `x` like a matrix of index values with (named) rows for each level and columns for each time period in `x`. Unlike a matrix, dimensions are never dropped as subscripting `x` always returns an index object. This means that subscripting with a matrix is not possible, and only a "submatrix" can be extracted. As `x` is not an atomic vector, subscripting with a single index like `x[1]` extracts all time periods for that level.

The replacement method similarly treat `x` like a matrix. If `value` is an index object with the same number of time periods as `x[i, j]` and it inherits from the same class as `x`, then the index values and percent-change contributions of `x[i, j]` are replaced with those for the corresponding levels of `value`. If `value` is not an index, then it is coerced to a numeric vector and behaves the same as replacing values in a matrix. Note that replacing the values of an index will remove the corresponding percent-change contributions (if any). Unlike extraction, it is possible to replace `value` in `x` using a logical matrix or a two-column matrix of indices.

Subscripting an aggregate index cannot generally preserve the aggregation structure if any levels are removed or rearranged, and in this case the resulting index is *not* an aggregate index. Similarly, replacing the values for an aggregate index generally breaks consistency in aggregation, and therefore the result is *not* an aggregate index.

**Value**

A price index that inherits from [chainable\\_piar\\_index](#) if `x` is a period-over-period index, or [direct\\_piar\\_index](#) if `x` is a fixed-base index. If `x` inherits from [aggregate\\_piar\\_index](#) then `[` returns an aggregate index if the levels are unchanged.

**See Also**

Other index methods: [aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#), [as.data.frame.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [chain\(\)](#), [contrib\(\)](#), [head.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [is.na.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [levels.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [mean.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [merge.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [split.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [stack.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [time.piar\\_index\(\)](#), [vcov.aggregate\\_piar\\_index\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
index <- as_index(matrix(1:6, 2))  
  
index["1", ]  
  
index[, 2]  
  
index[1, ] <- 1 # can be useful for doing specific imputations  
  
index
```



# Index

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