

# Package ‘rNeighborQTL’

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**Title** Interval Mapping for Quantitative Trait Loci Underlying Neighbor Effects

**Version** 1.1.1

**Description** To enable quantitative trait loci mapping of neighbor effects, this package extends a single-marker regression to interval mapping. The theoretical background of the method is described in Sato et al. (2020) <doi:10.1101/2020.05.20.089474>.

**License** GPL-3

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calc_neiprob	<i>Calculating a set of neighbor QTL effects from conditional genotype probabilities</i>
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## Description

A function to calculate self QTL effects for all individuals, with given deviation coefficients and conditional genotype probabilities.

## Usage

```
calc_neiprob(
  genoprobs,
  a2,
  d2,
  contrasts = NULL,
  smap,
  scale,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  d2sq0 = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qtl::calc.genoprob()</code> .
a2	A numeric scalar indicating additive deviation.
d2	A numeric scalar indicating dominance deviation.
contrasts	A vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as <code>c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE)</code> = AA, AB, BB.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial positions along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
scale	A numeric scalar indicating the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects.

grouping	An integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be used when smap contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.
d2sq0	An option to make AB/AB interaction effects zero.

**Value**

A numeric matrix containing individuals x marker elements for neighbor QTL effects.

**Author(s)**

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

 calc\_pve

---

*Calculating phenotypic variation explained by neighbor effects*


---

**Description**

A function to calculate the proportion or ratio of phenotypic variation explained (PVE or RVE) by neighbor effects for a series of neighbor distance (s\_seq) using mixed models.

**Usage**

```
calc_pve(
  genoprobs,
  pheno,
  smap,
  s_seq,
  addcovar = NULL,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  response = c("quantitative", "binary"),
  fig = TRUE,
  contrasts = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qt1::calc.genoprob()</code> .
pheno	A vector of individual phenotypes.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial positions along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
s_seq	A numeric vector including a set of the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects. A scalar is also allowed.
addcovar	An optional matrix including additional non-genetic covariates. It contains no. of individuals x no. of covariates.

grouping	An optional integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be used when smap contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.
response	An optional argument to select trait types. The "quantitative" or "binary" applies the "lmm.aireml()" or "logistic.mm.aireml()" for a mixed model, respectively.
fig	TRUE/FALSE to add a figure of Delta PVE or not.
contrasts	An optional vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE) = AA, AB, BB. If NULL, it is compiled from genoprobs automatically.

### Details

This function calls linear or logistic mixed models via the *gaston* package (Perdry & Dandine-Roulland 2020). If "quantitative" is selected, `Var_self` or `Var_nei` in the output is given by the proportion of phenotypic variation explained (PVE) by neighbor effects as  $PVE_{nei} = \sigma_2^2 / (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \sigma_e^2)$ . If "binary" is selected, `Var_self` or `Var_nei` is given by the ratio of phenotypic variation explained (RVE) by neighbor effects as  $RVE_{nei} = \sigma_2^2 / \sigma_1^2$  and p-values are not available. This is because a logistic mixed model `logistic.mm.aireml()` called via the *gaston* package does not provide  $\sigma_e^2$  and log-likelihood (see Chen et al. 2016 for the theory).

### Value

A matrix containing the maximum neighbor distance, phenotypic variation explained by neighbor effects, and p-value by a likelihood ratio test.

- `scale` Maximum neighbor distance given as an argument
- `Var_self` Proportion or ratio of phenotypic variation explained (PVE or RVE) by self-genotype effects for linear or logistic mixed models, respectively
- `Var_nei` Proportion or ratio of phenotypic variation explained (PVE or RVE) by neighbor effects for linear or logistic mixed models, respectively
- `p-value` p-value by a likelihood ratio test between models with or without neighbor effects. Self effects are tested when the scale is zero

### Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

### References

- Perdry H, Dandine-Roulland C (2019) *gaston*: Genetic Data Handling (QC, GRM, LD, PCA) & Linear Mixed Models. R package version 1.5.5. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=gaston>
- Chen H, Wang C, Conomos M. et al. (2016) Control for population structure and relatedness for binary traits in genetic association studies via logistic mixed models. *The American Journal of Human Genetics* 98: 653-666.

**Examples**

```

set.seed(1234)
test_map <- qtl::sim.map(len=rep(20,5),n.mar=3,include.x=FALSE)
test_cross <- qtl::sim.cross(test_map,n.ind=50)
test_smap <- cbind(runif(50,1,100),runif(50,1,100))
test_genoprobs <- qtl::calc.genoprob(test_cross,step=2)
s_seq <- quantile(dist(test_smap),c(0.1*(1:10)))

test_pve <- calc_pve(genoprobs=test_genoprobs,
                    pheno=test_cross$pheno$phenotype,
                    smap=test_smap, s_seq=s_seq,
                    )

```

---

decompose\_genoprobs     *Decomposition of conditional genotype probabilities*

---

**Description**

A function to decompose qtl's object of conditional genotype probabilities.

**Usage**

```
decompose_genoprobs(genoprobs, contrasts = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qtl::calc.genoprob()</code> .
contrasts	A vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as <code>c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE)</code> = AA, AB, BB.

**Value**

A list of three numeric matrices for genotype probabilities AA, AB, and BB. Each contains elements of individuals x markers.

- AA Homozygote AA probabilities.
- AB Heterozygote AB probabilities for. NA if inbred lines
- BB Homozygote BB probabilities. NA if backcross lines

**Author(s)**

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

eff\_neighbor                      *Estimation of self and neighbor QTL effects across a genome*

---

### Description

A function to estimate additive and dominance deviation for self and neighbor QTL effects by a simple regression.

### Usage

```
eff_neighbor(
  genoprobs,
  pheno,
  smap,
  scale,
  addcovar = NULL,
  addQTL = NULL,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  response = c("quantitative", "binary"),
  fig = TRUE,
  contrasts = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qtl::calc.genoprob()</code> .
pheno	A vector of individual phenotypes.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial position along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
scale	A numeric scalar indicating the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects.
addcovar	An optional matrix including additional non-genetic covariates. It contains no. of individuals x no. of covariates.
addQTL	An optional vector containing marker names that are considered covariates. Namely, this option allows composite interval mapping (Jansen 1993).
grouping	An optional integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be used when smap contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.
response	An optional argument to select trait types. The "quantitative" or "binary" calls the "gaussian" or "binomial" family in <code>glm()</code> , respectively.
fig	TRUE/FALSE to plot the effects or not.
contrasts	An optional vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as <code>c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE) = AA, AB, BB</code> . If NULL, it is compiled from <code>genoprobs</code> automatically.

## Details

Similar to Haley-Knott regression (Haley & Knott 1992), the additive and dominance deviations are approximated by a regression of trait values on conditional genotype probabilities. The self QTL effects  $a_1$  and  $d_1$  are estimated in the same way as the `qtl` package performs the Haley-Knott regression. If `contrasts = c(TRUE, TRUE, TRUE)`, neighbor QTL effects  $a_1$  and  $d_1$  are estimated using a quadratic regression; otherwise, the additive neighbor effects are estimated using a linear regression. See also Sato, Takeda & Nagano (2020) for the rationale behind the approximation.

## Value

A matrix of estimated additive and dominance deviation for self and neighbor effects, with the chromosome numbers and positions. The row names correspond to marker names.

- `chr` Chromosome number
- `pos` Marker position
- `a1` Additive deviation for self effects
- `d1` Dominance deviation for self effects
- `a2` Additive deviation for neighbor effects
- `d2` Dominance deviation for neighbor effects

## Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<[sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp](mailto:sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp)>)

## References

- Haley CS, Knott SA (1992) A simple regression method for mapping quantitative trait loci in line crosses using flanking markers. *Heredity* 69:315-324.
- Jansen RC (1993) Interval mapping of multiple quantitative trait loci. *Genetics* 135:205-211.
- Sato Y, Takeda K, Nagano AJ (2020) Neighbor QTL: an interval mapping method for quantitative trait loci underlying neighbor effects. *bioRxiv* <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.05.20.089474>

## Examples

```
set.seed(1234)
test_map <- qtl::sim.map(len=rep(20,5),n.mar=3,include.x=FALSE)
test_cross <- qtl::sim.cross(test_map,n.ind=50)
test_smap <- cbind(runif(50,1,100),runif(50,1,100))
test_genoprob <- qtl::calc.genoprob(test_cross,step=2)

test_eff <- eff_neighbor(genoprob=test_genoprob,
                        pheno=test_cross$pheno$phenotype,
                        smap=test_smap, scale=20, fig=TRUE
                        )
```

---

genoprobs2selfprobs     *Calculating a set of self QTL effects from conditional genotype probabilities*

---

### Description

A function to reshape qt1's object of conditional genotype probabilities, and to calculate self QTL effects for all individuals with given deviation coefficients and conditional genotype probabilities.

### Usage

```
genoprobs2selfprobs(genoprobs, a1, d1, contrasts = NULL)
```

### Arguments

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from qt1::calc.genoprob().
a1	A numeric scalar indicating additive deviation.
d1	A numeric scalar indicating dominance deviation.
contrasts	A vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE) = AA, AB, BB.

### Value

A numeric matrix containing individuals x marker elements for self QTL effects.

### Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

get\_markers     *Reshaping marker information*

---

### Description

A function to get marker information from a genetic map including observed and pseudo markers

### Usage

```
get_markers(genoprobs)
```

### Arguments

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from qt1::calc.genoprob().
-----------	--



**Value**

A matrix showing the chromosome numbers (the first column) and positions (the second column) for all markers (row names).

**Author(s)**

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

int\_neighbor

*Testing marker-by-marker epistasis in neighbor QTL effects*


---

**Description**

A function to test interaction terms between one focal marker and the other markers across a genome.

**Usage**

```
int_neighbor(
  genoprobs,
  pheno,
  smap,
  scale,
  addcovar = NULL,
  addQTL,
  intQTL,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  response = c("quantitative", "binary"),
  contrasts = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qt1::calc.genoprob()</code> .
pheno	A vector of individual phenotypes.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial positions along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
scale	A numeric scalar indicating the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects.
addcovar	An optional matrix including additional non-genetic covariates. It contains no. of individuals x no. of covariates.
addQTL	A vector containing marker names that are considered covariates. This argument is necessary for <code>int_neighbor()</code> , and must match the marker names of <code>gmap</code> .
intQTL	A name of a focal marker to be tested for its epistasis with the other markers in neighbor effects. The marker name must be included by <code>addQTL</code> .



---

logLik_glm.fit	<i>Calculating log-likelihood in generalized linear models</i>
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---

**Description**

An utility function to extract log-likelihood based on AIC of glm.fit()

**Usage**

```
logLik_glm.fit(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Arguments to be passed to glm.fit().

**Value**

Log-likelihood

---

min_dist	<i>Calculating the minimum distance</i>
----------	---

---

**Description**

A function to calculate a Euclidian distance including at least one neighbor for all individuals.

**Usage**

```
min_dist(smap, grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)))
```

**Arguments**

smap	A matrix showing a spatial map. The first and second column include spatial points along a x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
grouping	A integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be useful when a "smap" contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.

**Value**

Return a scalar of the minimum Euclidian distance that allows all individuals to have at least one neighbor.

**Author(s)**

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

neiprob                      *Calculating neighbor QTL effects*

---

### Description

A function to calculate neighbor QTL effects between two individuals, with given deviation coefficients and conditional genotype probabilities.

### Usage

```
neiprob(i, j, a2, d2, AA, AB, BB, d2sq0 = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

i	ID of a target individual.
j	ID of an interacting neighbor.
a2	A numeric scalar indicating additive deviation.
d2	A numeric scalar indicating dominance deviation.
AA	An individual x marker matrix of conditional probabilities for AA genotype.
AB	An individual x marker matrix of conditional probabilities for AB genotype. Input NA if heterozygotes are absent.
BB	An individual x marker matrix of conditional probabilities for BB genotype. Input NA for backcross lines.
d2sq0	An option to make AB/AB interaction effects zero.

### Value

A numeric vector containing each marker effect for individual i.

### Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

perm\_neighbor                      *Permutation tests for neighbor effects with a QTL model*

---

### Description

A function to calculate a genome-wide LOD threshold using permutation tests for self or neighbor effects.

**Usage**

```
perm_neighbor(
  genoprobs,
  pheno,
  smap,
  scale,
  addcovar = NULL,
  addQTL = NULL,
  intQTL = NULL,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  response = c("quantitative", "binary"),
  type = c("neighbor", "self", "int"),
  times = 99,
  p_val = 0.05,
  n_core = 1L,
  contrasts = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qtl::calc.genoprob()</code> .
pheno	A vector of individual phenotypes.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial positions along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
scale	A numeric scalar indicating the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects.
addcovar	An optional matrix including additional non-genetic covariates. It contains no. of individuals x no. of covariates.
addQTL	An optional vector containing marker names that are considered covariates. Namely, this option allows composite interval mapping (Jansen 1993).
intQTL	An option when using <code>int_neighbor()</code> . A name of a focal marker to be tested for its epistasis with the other markers in neighbor effects. The marker name must be included by <code>addQTL</code> .
grouping	An optional integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be used when <code>smap</code> contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.
response	An optional argument to select trait types. The "quantitative" or "binary" calls the "gaussian" or "binomial" family in <code>glm()</code> , respectively.
type	Select "self", "neighbor", or "int" to perform permutation tests for self effects, neighbor effects, or neighbor epistasis, respectively.
times	No. of permutation iterations. Default at 99 times
p_val	A vector indicating upper quantiles for permutation LOD scores
n_core	No. of cores for a parallel computation. This does not work for Windows OS. Default is a single-core computation.

**contrasts** An optional vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE) = AA, AB, BB. If NULL, it is compiled from genoprobs automatically.

### Value

LOD thresholds at given quantiles by p-val

### Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

### See Also

[plot\\_nei](#) [scan\\_neighbor](#) [int\\_neighbor](#)

### Examples

```
set.seed(1234)
test_map <- qtl::sim.map(len=rep(20,5),n.mar=3,include.x=FALSE)
test_cross <- qtl::sim.cross(test_map,n.ind=50)
test_smap <- cbind(runif(50,1,100),runif(50,1,100))
test_genoprobs <- qtl::calc.genoprob(test_cross,step=2)

test_perm <- perm_neighbor(genoprobs=test_genoprobs,
                           pheno=test_cross$pheno$phenotype,
                           smap=test_smap,scale=20,
                           times=3, p_val=c(1.0,0.5)
                           )
```

---

plot\_eff

*Plot self and neighbor QTL effects across a genome*

---

### Description

Plot estimated additive and dominance deviation for self or neighbor effects across a genome

### Usage

```
plot_eff(res, type = c("neighbor", "self"))
```

### Arguments

**res** Output results of `eff_neighbor()`.

**type** An option to select "self" or "neighbor" effects to be shown. Default is "neighbor".

**Author(s)**

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

**See Also**

[eff\\_neighbor](#)

---

plot\_nei

*Plot LOD score for self or neighbor QTL effects*

---

**Description**

Plot LOD curves for a genome scan of self and neighbor QTL effects.

**Usage**

```
plot_nei(res, type = c("neighbor", "self", "int"), chr = NULL, th = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

res	Output results of scan_neighbor().
type	Plot "self", "neighbor" or "int" effects. Default is "neighbor" effects.
chr	An optional vector to select chromosome numbers to be plotted. If NULL, shown are all chromosomes.
th	Add genome-wide threshold by user-defined vectors or Bonferroni correction. Default is no thresholds added.
...	Arguments to be passed to plot().

**Details**

For the type argument, "int" can be selected to draw the results of int\_neighbor(). In this case, the res object and type must match, otherwise it returns an error message.

**Author(s)**

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

**See Also**

[scan\\_neighbor](#) [int\\_neighbor](#) [perm\\_neighbor](#)

scan\_neighbor

*Genome scan for neighbor effects with a QTL model***Description**

Genome scan using a QTL model for self and neighbor effects, with possible allowance for additional covariates and non-normal traits. Theoretical background is described in Sato, Takeda & Nagano (2020).

**Usage**

```
scan_neighbor(
  genoprobs,
  pheno,
  smap,
  scale,
  addcovar = NULL,
  addQTL = NULL,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  response = c("quantitative", "binary"),
  contrasts = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qtl::calc.genoprob()</code> .
pheno	A vector of individual phenotypes.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial positions along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
scale	A numeric scalar indicating the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects.
addcovar	An optional matrix including additional non-genetic covariates. It contains no. of individuals x no. of covariates.
addQTL	An optional vector containing marker names that are considered covariates. Namely, this option allows composite interval mapping (Jansen 1993).
grouping	An optional integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be used when smap contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.
response	An optional argument to select trait types. The "quantitative" or "binary" calls the "gaussian" or "binomial" family in <code>glm()</code> , respectively.
contrasts	An optional vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as <code>c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE) = AA, AB, BB</code> . If NULL, it is compiled from genoprobs automatically.



## Details

This function calculates LOD score after the additive and dominance deviation are estimated using `eff_neighbor()`. As it adopts a stepwise testing from self to neighbor effects, `LOD_self` are the same as standard QTL mapping. Note that the results return 0 LOD scores for covariate markers when using `addQTL` option.

## Value

A matrix of LOD scores for self and neighbor effects, with the chromosome numbers and positions. The row names correspond to marker names.

- `chr` Chromosome number
- `pos` Marker position
- `LOD_self` LOD score for self effects
- `LOD_nei` LOD score for neighbor effects

## Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

## References

- Jansen RC (1993) Interval mapping of multiple quantitative trait loci. *Genetics* 135:205-211.
- Sato Y, Takeda K, Nagano AJ (2020) Neighbor QTL: an interval mapping method for quantitative trait loci underlying neighbor effects. *bioRxiv* <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.05.20.089474>

## See Also

[eff\\_neighbor](#)

## Examples

```
set.seed(1234)
test_map <- qtl::sim.map(len=rep(20,5),n.mar=3,include.x=FALSE)
test_cross <- qtl::sim.cross(test_map,n.ind=50)
test_smap <- cbind(runif(50,1,100),runif(50,1,100))
test_genoprobs <- qtl::calc.genoprob(test_cross,step=2)

test_scan <- scan_neighbor(genoprobs=test_genoprobs,
                          pheno=test_cross$pheno$phenotype,
                          smap=test_smap, scale=20
                          )

plot_nei(test_scan)
```

---

selfprob                      *Calculating self QTL effects*

---

### Description

A function to calculate self QTL effects for an individual, with given deviation coefficients and conditional genotype probabilities.

### Usage

```
selfprob(i, a1, d1, AA, AB, BB)
```

### Arguments

i	ID of a target individual.
a1	A numeric scalar indicating additive deviation.
d1	A numeric scalar indicating dominance deviation.
AA	An individual x marker matrix of conditional probabilities for AA genotype.
AB	An individual x marker matrix of conditional probabilities for AB genotype. Input NA if heterozygotes are absent.
BB	An individual x marker matrix of conditional probabilities for BB genotype. Input NA for backcross lines.

### Value

A numeric vector containing each marker effect for individual i.

### Author(s)

Yasuhiro Sato (<sato.yasuhiro.36c@kyoto-u.jp>)

---

sim\_nei\_qtl                      *Phenotype simulation for neighbor QTL effects*

---

### Description

A function to simulate neighbor effects with given QTL effects, distance scale, and causal markers.

**Usage**

```
sim_nei_qtl(
  genoprobs,
  a2,
  d2,
  smap,
  scale,
  grouping = rep(1, nrow(smap)),
  n_QTL = 1,
  contrasts = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

genoprobs	Conditional genotype probabilities as taken from <code>qtl::calc.genoprob()</code> .
a2	A numeric scalar indicating additive deviation.
d2	A numeric scalar indicating dominance deviation.
smap	A matrix showing a spatial map for individuals. The first and second column include spatial positions along an x-axis and y-axis, respectively.
scale	A numeric scalar indicating the maximum spatial distance between a focal individual and neighbors to define neighbor effects.
grouping	An integer vector assigning each individual to a group. This argument can be used when <code>smap</code> contains different experimental replicates. Default setting means that all individuals are belong to a single group.
n_QTL	A positive integer indicating the number of causal markers.
contrasts	An optional vector composed of three TRUE/FALSE values, which represents the presence/absence of specific genotypes as <code>c(TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE, TRUE/FALSE) = AA, AB, BB</code> . If NULL, it is compiled from <code>genoprobs</code> automatically.

**Details**

Major genetic effects, `a2` and `d2`, are allocated to causal loci randomly selected by `n_QTL`, while minor polygenic effects (i.e., 1% of `a2`) are allocated to the other loci.

**Value**

A numeric matrix containing individuals x marker elements for neighbor QTL effects.

- `true_scale` True distance scale of simulated neighbor effects
- `true_marker` The name(s) of causal markers
- `nei_y` Simulated neighbor effects standardized to have zero mean and one variance

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**Examples**

```
set.seed(1234)
test_map <- qtl::sim.map(len=rep(20,5),n.mar=3,include.x=FALSE)
test_cross <- qtl::sim.cross(test_map,n.ind=50)
test_smap <- cbind(runif(50,1,100),runif(50,1,100))
test_genoprobs <- qtl::calc.genoprob(test_cross,step=2)

nei_eff <- sim_nei_qtl(genoprobs=test_genoprobs, a2=0.5, d2=0.5,
                      smap=test_smap,
                      scale=20, n_QTL=1)

test_scan <- scan_neighbor(genoprobs=test_genoprobs,
                          pheno=nei_eff$nei_y,
                          smap=test_smap, scale=20
                          )

plot_nei(test_scan)
```

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