Package 'MatchThem'

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Title Matching and Weighting Multiply Imputed Datasets

Description Provides the necessary tools for the pre-processing techniques of matching and weighting multiply imputed datasets to control for effects of confounders and to reduce the degree of dependence on certain modeling assumptions in studying the causal associations between an exposure and an outcome. This package includes functions to perform matching within and across the multiply imputed datasets using several matching methods, to estimate weights of units in the imputed datasets using several weighting methods, to calculate the causal effect estimate in each matched or weighted dataset using parametric or nonparametric statistical models, and to pool the obtained estimates from these models according to Rubin's rules (please see <htps://github.com/FarhadPishgar/MatchThem> for details).

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Suggests Amelia, cobalt, R.rsp

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BugReports https://github.com/FarhadPishgar/MatchThem/issues

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complete

Extracts Imputed Datasets

Description

complete() function extracts data from an object of the mimids or wimids class.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mimids'
complete(data, n = 1, include = FALSE, mild = FALSE, all = TRUE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'wimids'
complete(data, n = 1, include = FALSE, mild = FALSE, all = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

data	This argument specifies an object of the mimids or wimids class.
n	This argument specifies the imputed dataset number, intended to extract its data, or an action. The input must be a positive integer or a keyword. The keywords include "all" (produces a mild object of the imputed datasets), "long" (produces a dataset with imputed datasets stacked vertically), and "broad" (produces a dataset with imputed datasets stacked horizontally). The default is 1.
include	This argument specifies whether the original data with the missing values should be included. The input must be a logical value. The default is FALSE.
mild	This argument specifies whether the return value should be an object of mild class. Please note that setting mild = TRUE overrides n keywords "long", "broad", and "repeated". The default is FALSE.

complete

all	This argument specifies whether to include observations with a zero estimated
	weight. The default is TRUE.
	Additional arguments to be passed to the function.

Details

The datasets within the mimids or wimids class objects are extracted.

Value

This function returns the imputed dataset within mimids or wimids class objects.

Author(s)

Extracted from the mice package written by Stef van Buuren et al. with changes

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

mimids

wimids

Examples

is.mimids

Description

is.mimids() function checks whether class of objects is mimids or not.

Usage

```
is.mimids(object)
```

Arguments

object This

This argument specifies the object that should be checked to see if is of the mimids class or not.

Details

The class of objects is checked to be of the mimids.

Value

This function returns a logical value indicating whether object is of the mimids class.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

See Also

matchthem

mimids

Examples

#Loading libraries library(mice) library(MatchThem)

#Loading the dataset
data(dataset)

```
#Matching the multiply imputed datasets
matched.datasets <- matchthem(OSP ~ AGE + SEX + BMI + RAC + SMK, imputed.datasets,</pre>
```

is.mimipo

```
approach = 'within', method = 'nearest')
```

```
#Checking the 'matched.datasets' object
is.mimids(matched.datasets)
is(matched.datasets)
```

is.mimipo

Checks for the mimipo Class

Description

is.mimipo() function checks whether class of objects is mimipo or not.

Usage

```
is.mimipo(object)
```

Arguments

object	This argument specifies the object that should be checked to see if is of the
	mimipo class or not.

Details

The class of objects is checked to be of the mimipo.

Value

This function returns a logical value indicating whether object is of the mimipo class.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

See Also

pool

mimipo

is.mimira

Description

is.mimira() function checks whether class of objects is mimira or not.

Usage

```
is.mimira(object)
```

Arguments

object This ar

This argument specifies the object that should be checked to see if is of the mimira class or not.

Details

The class of objects is checked to be of the mimira.

Value

This function returns a logical value indicating whether object is of the mimira class.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

See Also

with

mimira

Examples

#Loading libraries library(mice) library(MatchThem) library(survey)

#Loading the dataset
data(osteoarthritis)

#Estimating weights of observations in the multiply imputed datasets

is.wimids

is.wimids

Checks for the wimids Class

Description

is.wimids() function checks whether class of objects is wimids or not.

Usage

```
is.wimids(object)
```

Arguments

object	This argument	specifies th	e object	that	should	be	checked	to	see	if	is	of	the
	wimids class or	not.											

Details

The class of objects is checked to be of the wimids.

Value

This function returns a logical value indicating whether object is of the wimids class.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

See Also

weightthem wimids

Examples

matchthem

Matches Multiply Imputed Datasets

Description

matchthem() function enables parametric models for causal inference to work better by selecting matched subsets of the control and treated subgroups of imputed datasets of a mids or amelia class object.

Usage

```
matchthem(
   formula,
   datasets,
   approach = "within",
   method = "nearest",
   distance = "logit",
   distance.options = list(),
   discard = "none",
   reestimate = FALSE,
   ...
```

```
)
```

Arguments

formula

This argument takes the usual syntax of R formula, $z \sim x1 + x2$, where z is a binary exposure indicator and x1 and x2 are the potential confounders. Both

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	the exposure indicator and the potential confounders must be contained in the imputed datasets, which is specified as datasets (see below). All of the usual R syntax for formula works. For example, $x1:x2$ represents the first order interaction term between $x1$ and $x2$ and $I(x1^2)$ represents the square term of $x1$. See help(formula) for details.
datasets	This argument specifies the datasets containing the exposure indicator and the potential confounders called in the formula. This argument must be an object of the mids or amelia class, which is typically produced by a previous call to mice() or mice.mids() functions from the mice package or to amelia() function from the Amelia package (the Amelia package is designed to impute missing data in a single cross-sectional dataset or in a time-series dataset, currently, the MatchThem package only supports the former datasets).
approach	This argument specifies a matching approach. Currently, "within" (calculat- ing distance measures within each imputed dataset and matching observations based on them) and "across" (calculating distance measures within each im- puted dataset, averaging distance measure for each observation across imputed datasets, and matching based on the averaged measures) approaches are avail- able. The default is "within" which has been shown to produce unbiased re- sults.
method	This argument specifies a matching method. Currently, "nearest" (nearest neighbor matching), "exact" (exact matching), "full" (full matching), "genetic" (genetic matching), "subclass" (subclassication), "cem" (coarsened exact matching), and "optimal" (optimal matching) methods are available (only the "nearest", "full", "subclass", and "optimal" matching methods are compatible with the "across" approach). The default is "nearest". Note that within each of these matching methods, MatchThem offers a variety of options.
distance	This argument specifies the method that should be used to estimate the distance measure (the "mahalanobis" method for distance measure is not compatible with the "across" approach). The default is logistic regression, "logit". A variety of other methods are available (please see the MatchIt package reference manual <htps: cran.r-project.org="" package="MatchIt"> for more details).</htps:>
distance.optio	ns
	This optional argument specifies the arguments that are passed to the model for estimating the distance measure. The input to this argument should be a list.
discard	This argument specifies whether to discard observations that fall outside some measure of support of the distance score before matching and not allow them to be used at all in the matching procedure. Note that discarding observations may change the quantity of interest being estimated. The current options are "none" (discarding no observations before matching), "both" (discarding all observa- tions, both the control and treated observations, that are outside the support of the distance measure), "control" (discarding only control observations outside the support of the distance measure of the treated observations), and "treat" (discarding only treated observations outside the support of the distance measure of the control observations). The default is "none".
reestimate	This argument specifies whether the model for estimating the distance measure should be reestimated after observations are discarded. The input must be a logical value. The default is FALSE.

• • •

Additional arguments to be passed to the matching method (please see the **MatchIt** package reference manual https://cran.r-project.org/package=MatchIt for more details).

Details

The matching is done using the matchthem($z \sim x1, ...$) command, where z is the exposure indicator and x1 represents the potential confounder to be used in the matching model. There are a number of matching options. The default syntax is matchthem(formula,datasets,approach = "within",method = "nearest",distance = "logit",...). Summaries of the results can be seen graphically using plot() or numerically using summary() functions. The print() function also prints out the output.

Value

This function returns an object of the mimids (matched multiply imputed datasets) class, that includes matched subsets of the imputed datasets primarily passed to the function by the datasets argument.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar and Noah Greifer

References

Daniel Ho, Kosuke Imai, Gary King, and Elizabeth Stuart (2007). Matching as Nonparametric Preprocessing for Reducing Model Dependence in Parametric Causal Inference. *Political Analysis*, 15(3): 199-236. http://gking.harvard.edu/files/abs/matchp-abs.shtml

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

Gary King, James Honaker, Anne Joseph, and Kenneth Scheve (2001). Analyzing Incomplete Political Science Data: An Alternative Algorithm for Multiple Imputation. *American Political Science Review*, 95: 49–69. http://j.mp/200rtGs

See Also

mimids with pool

Examples

#Loading libraries library(mice) library(MatchThem)

#Loading the dataset
data(osteoarthritis)

mimids

mimids

```
Matched Multiply Imputed Datasets
```

Description

mimids object contains data of matched multiply imputed datasets. mimids objects are generated by calls to matchthem().

Details

mimids objects has methods for the print(), summary(), plot(), and merge() functions (please see **MatchIt** package reference manual for details).

Note

The **MatchThem** package does not use the S4 class definitions and instead relies on the S3 list equivalents.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

matchthem

mimipo

Description

mimipo object contains data of multiply imputed pooled outcome. mimipo objects are generated by calls to pool().

Details

mimipo objects has methods for the print() and summary() functions (please see **mice** package reference manual for details).

Note

The **MatchThem** package does not use the S4 class definitions and instead relies on the S3 list equivalents.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

pool

mimira

Multiply Imputed Repeated Analyses

Description

mimira object contains data of multiply imputed repeated analyses. mimira objects are generated by calls to with().

Details

mimira objects has methods for the print() and summary() functions (please see **mice** package reference manual for details).

osteoarthritis

Note

The **MatchThem** package does not use the S4 class definitions and instead relies on the S3 list equivalents.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

with

osteoarthritis

Data of 2,585 Participants in the OAI Project

Description

osteoarthritis includes demographic data of 2,585 units (individuals) with or at risk of knee osteoarthritis. The recorded data has missing values in body mass index (BMI, a quantitative variable), race (RAC, a categorical qualitative variable), smoking status (SMK, a binary qualitative variable), osteoporosis status at baseline (OSP, a binary qualitative variable), and knee osteoarthritis status at follow-up (KOA, a binary qualitative variable).

Usage

osteoarthritis

Format

This dataset contains 2,585 rows and 7 columns. Each row presents data of an unit (individual) and each column presents data of a characteristics of that individual. The columns are:

- AGE Age of each unit (individual);
- SEX Gender of each unit (individual), coded as 0 (female) and 1 (male);
- BMI Estimated body mass index of each unit (individual);
- **RAC** Race of each unit (individual), coded as 0 (other), 1 (caucasian), 2 (african american), and 3 (asian);
- SMK The smoking status of each unit, coded as 0 (non-smoker) and 1 (smoker);
- **OSP** Osteoporosis status of each unit (individual) at baseline, coded as 0 (negative) and 1 (positive); and
- **KOA** Knee osteoarthritis status of each unit (individual) in the follow-up, coded as 0 (at risk) and 1 (diagnosed).

Source

The information presented in the osteoarthritis dataset is based on the publicly available data of the Osteoarthritis Initiative (OAI) project (see https://nda.nih.gov/oai/ for details), with changes.

pool

Pools Estimates by Rubin's Rules

Description

pool() function pools estimates from n repeated data analyses. The typical sequence of steps to do a matching procedure on the imputed datasets are:

- Impute the missing values by the mice() function (from the mice package) or the amelia() function (from the Amelia package), resulting in a multiple imputed dataset (an object of the mids or amelia class);
- 2. Match each imputed dataset using a matching model by the matchthem() function, resulting in an object of the mimids class;
- 3. Check the extent of balance of covariates across the matched datasets;
- 4. Fit the statistical model of interest on each matched dataset by the with() function, resulting in an object of the mimira class; and
- 5. Pool the estimates from each model into a single set of estimates and standard errors, resulting in an object of the mimipo class.

Usage

pool(object, dfcom = NULL)

Arguments

object	This argument specifies an object of the mimira class (produced by a previous call to with() function).
dfcom	This argument specifies a positive number representing the degrees of freedom in the data analysis. The default is NULL, which means to extract this information from the fitted model with the lowest number of observations or the first fitted model (when that fails the warning The function cannot extract the dfcom from the datasets, hence, large sample is assumed. is printed and the pa- rameter is set to 999999).

Details

pool() function averages the estimates of the model and computes the total variance over the repeated analyses by Rubin's rules.

Value

This function returns an object of the mimipo class.

weightthem

Author(s)

Extracted from the mice package written by Stef van Buuren et al. with changes

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

with

Examples

```
#Loading libraries
library(mice)
library(MatchThem)
#Loading the dataset
data(osteoarthritis)
#Multiply imputing the missing values
"logreg", "logreg", "logreg"))
#Matching the multiply imputed datasets
matched.datasets <- matchthem(OSP ~ AGE + SEX + BMI + RAC + SMK, imputed.datasets,</pre>
                            approach = 'within', method = 'nearest')
#Analyzing the matched datasets
models <- with(data = matched.datasets,</pre>
              exp = glm(KOA ~ OSP, family = binomial))
#Pooling results obtained from analysing the datasets
results <- pool(models)</pre>
```

weightthem

Weights Multiply Imputed Datasets

Description

weightthem() function enables parametric models for causal inference to work better by estimating weights of the control and treated units in each imputed dataset of a mids or amelia class object.

Usage

```
weightthem(
  formula,
  datasets,
  approach = "within",
  method = "ps",
  estimand = "ATE",
  ...
)
```

Arguments

formula	This argument takes the usual syntax of R formula, $z \sim x1 + x2$, where z is a binary exposure indicator and x1 and x2 are the potential confounders. Both the exposure indicator and the potential confounders must be contained in the imputed datasets, which is specified as datasets (see below). All of the usual R syntax for formula works. For example, x1:x2 represents the first order interaction term between x1 and x2 and I(x1^2) represents the square term of x1. See help(formula) for details.
datasets	This argument specifies the datasets containing the exposure indicator and the potential confounders called in the formula. This argument must be an object of the mids or amelia class, which is typically produced by a previous call to mice() or mice.mids() functions from the mice package or to amelia() function from the Amelia package (the Amelia package is designed to impute missing data in a single cross-sectional dataset or in a time-series dataset, currently, the MatchThem package only supports the former datasets).
approach	This argument specifies a matching approach. Currently, "within" (calculat- ing distance measures within each imputed dataset and weighting observations based on them) and "across" (calculating distance measures within each im- puted dataset, averaging distance measure for each observation across imputed datasets, and weighting based on the averaged measures) approaches are avail- able. The default is "within" which has been shown to produce unbiased re- sults.
method	This argument specifies the method that should be used to estimate weights. Currently, "ps" (propensity score weighting using generalized linear models), "gbm" (propensity score weighting using generalized boosted modeling), "cbps" (covariate balancing propensity score weighting), "npcbps" (non-parametric covariate balancing propensity score weighting), "ebal" (entropy balancing), "ebcw" (empirical balancing calibration weighting), "optweight" (optimization- based weighting), "super" (propensity score weighting using SuperLearner), and "user-defined" (weighting using a user-defined weighting function) are available (only the "ps", "gbm", "cbps", and "super" weighting methods are compatible with the "across" approach). The default is "ps". Note that within each of these weighting methods, MatchThem offers a variety of options.
estimand	This argument specifies the desired estimand. For binary and multinomial treat- ments, can be "ATE", "ATT", "ATC", and, for some weighting methods, "ATO" or

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"ATM". The default is "ATE". Please see the WeightIt package reference manual https://cran.r-project.org/package=WeightIt> for more details.
 Additional arguments to be passed to the weighting method (please see the WeightIt package reference manual https://cran.r-project.org/package=WeightIt>

Details

The weighting is done using the weightthem($z \sim x1, ...$) command, where z is the exposure indicator and x1 represents the potential confunders to be used in the weighting model. The default syntax is weightthem(formula, datasets, approach = "within", method = "ps", estimand = "ATE", ...). Summaries of the results can be seen numerically using summary() function. The print() function also prints out the output.

Value

This function returns an object of the wimids (weighted multiply imputed datasets) class, that includes weights of observations of the imputed datasets (listed as the weights variables in each) primarily passed to the function by the datasets argument.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar and Noah Greifer

for more details).

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

wimids with pool

Examples

#Loading libraries library(mice) library(MatchThem)

#Loading the dataset
data(osteoarthritis)

wimids

Weighted Multiply Imputed Datasets

Description

wimids object contains data of weighted multiply imputed datasets. The wimids object is generated by calls to the weightthem().

Details

wimids objects has methods for the print(), summary(), and merge() functions (please see **WeightIt** package reference manual for details).

Note

The **MatchThem** package does not use the S4 class definitions and instead relies on the S3 list equivalents.

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

weightthem

Description

with() function performs a statistical computation on the n imputed datasets of the mimids or wimids objects. The typical sequence of steps to do a matching or weighting procedure on the imputed datasets are:

- Impute the missing values by the mice() function (from the mice package) or the amelia() function (from the Amelia package), resulting in a multiple imputed dataset (an object of the mids or amelia class);
- 2. Match or weight imputed datasets using a matching or weighting model by the matchthem() or weightthem() function, resulting in an object of the mimids or wimids class;
- 3. Check the extent of balance of covariates across the datasets;
- 4. Fit the statistical model of interest on each dataset by the with() function, resulting in an object of the mimira class; and
- 5. Pool the estimates from each model into a single set of estimates and standard errors, resulting in an object of the mimipo class.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mimids'
with(data, expr, ...)
## S3 method for class 'wimids'
with(data, expr, ...)
```

Arguments

data	This argument specifies an object of the mimids or wimids class, typically pro- duced by a previous call to the matchthem() or weightthem().
expr	This argument specifies an expression of the usual syntax of R formula (it also accepts expressions from survey package, like svyglm(), please note that you shouldn't include the weights = weights argument, see the package vignette for details).
	Additional arguments to be passed to expr.

Details

with() performs a computation on the imputed datasets.

Value

This function returns an object of the mimira class.

with

Author(s)

Farhad Pishgar

References

Stef van Buuren and Karin Groothuis-Oudshoorn (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 45(3): 1-67. https://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

See Also

matchthem

weightthem

Examples

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