# Package 'dexter'

June 15, 2020

Type Package
Title Data Management and Analysis of Tests
Version 1.0.8
Author Gunter Maris, Timo Bechger, Jesse Koops, Ivailo Partchev
Maintainer Jesse Koops < jesse.koops@cito.nl>
<b>Description</b> A system for the management, assessment, and psychometric analysis of data from educational and psychological tests.
License GPL-3
<pre>URL http://dexterities.netlify.com</pre>
<pre>BugReports https://github.com/jessekps/dexter/issues</pre>
Encoding UTF-8
LazyData yes
<b>Depends</b> R (>= 3.4)
<b>Imports</b> RSQLite (>= 2.1), DBI (>= 1.0.0), MASS (>= 7.3), tidyr (>= 0.8.3), rlang (>= 0.4.0), dplyr (>= 0.8.3), Rcpp (>= 1.0.1), graphics, grDevices, methods, utils
LinkingTo Rcpp, RcppArmadillo (>= 0.9.3)
RoxygenNote 7.1.0
Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, latticeExtra, testthat, ggplot2, Cairo
VignetteBuilder knitr
NeedsCompilation yes
Repository CRAN
<b>Date/Publication</b> 2020-06-15 10:30:02 UTC
R topics documented:
dexter-package

Index

	47
verbAggrRules	46
verbAggrProperties	45
verbAggrData	45
touch_rules	44
tia_tables	43
start_new_project_from_oplm	42
start_new_project	41
standards_db	40
standards_3dc	38
r_score_IM	38
read_oplm_par	37
ratedDataRules	37
ratedDataProperties	37
ratedData	36
profile_plot	35
profiles	34
probability_to_pass	33
plot.rim	32
plot.prms	31
plot.p2pass	30
plot.DIF_stats	29
plausible_values	27
plausible_scores	26
open_project	26
keys_to_rules	25
information	24
individual_differences	23
get_variables	22
get_testscores	22
get_rules	21
get_resp_data	20
get_responses	19
get_persons	18
get_items	18
get_design	17
get_booklets	17
fit_inter	16
fit_enorm	14
fit_domains	13
distractor_plot	12
design_info	10
coef.prms	10
coef.p2pass	9 10
close_project	9
add_person_properties	8
add_item_properties	7
add itam muonautics	7

dexter-package 3

dexter-package

Dexter: data analyses for educational and psychological tests.

## **Description**

Dexter provides a comprehensive solution for managing and analyzing educational test data.

#### **Details**

The main features are:

- project databases providing a structure for storing data about persons, items, responses and booklets.
- methods to assess data quality using Classical test theory and plots.
- CML calibration of the extended nominal response model and interaction model.

To learn more about dexter, start with the vignettes: 'browseVignettes(package="dexter")'

#### See Also

Useful links:

- http://dexterities.netlify.com
- Report bugs at https://github.com/jessekps/dexter/issues

ability

Estimate abilities

# Description

Computes estimates of ability for persons or booklets

# Usage

```
ability(
  dataSrc,
  parms,
  predicate = NULL,
  method = c("MLE", "EAP", "WLE"),
  prior = c("normal", "Jeffreys"),
  use_draw = NULL,
  npv = 500,
  mu = 0,
  sigma = 4,
  standard_errors = FALSE,
```

4 ability

```
merge_within_persons = FALSE
)

ability_tables(
  parms,
  design = NULL,
  method = c("MLE", "EAP", "WLE"),
  prior = c("normal", "Jeffreys"),
  use_draw = NULL,
  npv = 500,
  mu = 0,
  sigma = 4,
  standard_errors = TRUE
)
```

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

parms object produced by fit\_enorm or a data.frame with columns item\_id, item\_score

and, depending on parametrization, a column named either beta/delta, eta or b

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

method Maximum Likelihood (MLE), Expected A posteriori (EAP) or Weighted Like-

lihood (WLE)

prior If an EAP estimate is produced one can choose a normal prior or Jeffreys prior;

i.e., a prior proportional to the square root of test information.

use\_draw When parms is Bayesian, use\_draw is the index of the posterior sample of the

item parameters that will be used for generating plausible values. If use\_draw=NULL,

a posterior mean is used. If outside range, the last iteration will be used.

npv Number of plausible values sampled to calculate EAP with normal prior

mu Mean of the normal prior

sigma Standard deviation of the normal prior

standard\_errors

If true standard-errors are produced

merge\_within\_persons

for persons who were administered multiple booklets, whether to provide just

one ability value (TRUE) or one per booklet(FALSE)

design A data.frame with columns item\_id and optionally booklet\_id. If the column

booklet\_id is not included, the score transformation table will be based on all items found in the design. If design is NULL and parms is an enorm fit object the score transformation table will be computed based on the test design that

was used to fit the items.

#### **Details**

MLE estimates of ability will produce an NA for the minimum (=0) or the maximum score on a booklet. If this is undesirable, we advise to use EAP with Jeffreys prior.

add\_booklet 5

#### Value

**ability** a data.frame with columns: booklet\_id, person\_id, booklet\_score, theta and optionally se (standard error)

**ability\_tables** a data.frame with columns: booklet\_id, booklet\_score, theta and optionally se (standard error)

## **Examples**

add\_booklet

Add response data to a project

#### **Description**

Add item response data in long or wide format

#### Usage

```
add_booklet(db, x, booklet_id, auto_add_unknown_rules = FALSE)
add_response_data(
   db,
   data,
   auto_add_unknown_rules = FALSE,
   missing_value = "NA"
)
```

6 add\_booklet

#### **Arguments**

db a connection to a dexter database, i.e. the output of start\_new\_project or open\_project

x A data frame containing the responses and, optionally, person\_properties. The

data.frame should have one row per respondent and the column names should correspond to the item\_id's in the rules or the names of the person\_properties.

See details.

booklet\_id A (short) string identifying the test form (booklet)

auto\_add\_unknown\_rules

If FALSE (the default), an error will be generated if one or more responses do not appear in the scoring rules. If TRUE, unknown responses will be assumed

to have a score of 0.

data response data in normalized (long) format. Must contain columns person\_id,

booklet\_id, item\_id and response and optionally item\_position (useful if

your data contains new booklets, see details)

missing\_value value to use for responses in missing rows in your data, see details

#### **Details**

It is a common practice to keep response data in tables where each row contains the responses from a single person. add\_booklet is provided to input data in that form, one booklet at a time.

If the dataframe x contains a variable named person\_id this variable will be used to identify unique persons. It is assumed that a single person will only make a single booklet once, otherwise an error will be generated.

If a person\_id is not supplied, dexter will generate unique person\_id's for each row of data.

Any column whose name has an exact match in the scoring rules inputted with function start\_new\_project will be treated as an item; any column whose name has an exact match in the person\_properties will be treated as a person property. If a name matches both a person\_property and an item, the item takes precedence. Columns other than items, person properties and person\_id will be ignored.

add\_response\_data can be used to add data that is already 'normalized'. This function takes a data.frame in long format with columns person\_id, booklet\_id, item\_id and response such as can usually be found in databases for example. The first time a new booklet is encountered, the design (i.e. which items are contained in each booklet at each position) is derived from data. In this case it is useful if you specify an extra column named item\_position, otherwise dexter will generate the item\_positions automatically in some way that may not reflect your actual design (of course, if the item positions in your tests are randomized, that is not a problem).

If there are missing rows (e.g. there are only 9 rows for a person-booklet where the booklet should contain 10 items) missing\_value will be used for the omitted responses. This can lead to an error in case missing\_value is not defined in your rules and auto\_add\_unknown\_rules is set to FALSE (the default). Please also note that the booklet\_design for any specific booklet is derived from the distinct combination of booklet\_id and item\_id in data the first time that booklet is encountered. If subsequent calls to add\_response\_data contain data with more/different items for this same booklet, this will cause an error.

Note that responses are always treated as strings (in both functions), and NA values are transformed to the string "NA".

add\_item\_properties 7

#### Value

A list with information about the recent import.

#### **Examples**

add\_item\_properties

Add item properties to a project

# Description

Add, change or define item properties in a dexter project

## Usage

```
add_item_properties(db, item_properties = NULL, default_values = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

db a connection to a dexter database, e.g. the output of start\_new\_project or open\_project

item\_properties

A data frame containing a column item\_id (matching item\_id's already defined in the project) and 1 or more other columns with item properties (e.g. item\_type, publicat)

subject)

default\_values a list where the names are item\_properties and the values are defaults. The

defaults will be used wherever the item property is unknown.

## **Details**

When entering response data in the form of a rectangular person x item table, it is easy to provide person properties but practically impossible to provide item properties. This function provides a possibility to do so.

Note that is is not possible to add new items with this function, use touch\_rules if you want to add new items to your project.

#### Value

nothing

#### See Also

fit\_domains, profile\_plot for possible uses of item\_properties

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run: \donttest{
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, "verbAggression.db")
head(verbAggrProperties)
add_item_properties(db, verbAggrProperties)
get_items(db)

close_project(db)
}
## End(Not run)
```

add\_person\_properties Add person properties to a project

# **Description**

Add, change or define person properties in a dexter project. Person properties defined here will also be automatically imported with add\_booklet

#### **Usage**

```
add_person_properties(db, person_properties = NULL, default_values = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

A data frame containing a column person\_id and 1 or more other columns with person properties (e.g. education\_type, birthdate)

default\_values a list where the names are person\_properties and the values are defaults. The defaults will be used wherever the person property is unknown.

## **Details**

Due to limitations in the sqlite database backend that we use, the default values for a person property can only be defined once for each person\_property

#### Value

nothing

close\_project 9

close\_project

Close a project

## **Description**

This is just an alias for DBI::dbDisconnect(db), included for completeness

## Usage

```
close_project(db)
```

## **Arguments**

db

connection to a dexter database

coef.p2pass

extract equating information

## **Description**

extract equating information

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'p2pass'
coef(object, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

object an p2pass object, generated by probability\_to\_pass ... further arguments are currently ignored

## Value

A data.frame with columns:

```
booklet_id id of the target booklet
score_new score on the target booklet
probability_to_pass probability to pass on the reference test given score_new
true_positive percentages that correctly passes
sensitivity The proportion of positives that are correctly identified as such
specificity The proportion of negatives that are correctly identified as such
proportion proportion in sample with score_new
```

10 design\_info

coef	. n	rms

extract enorm item parameters

## **Description**

extract enorm item parameters

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'prms'
coef(object, hpd = 0.95, what = c("items", "var", "posterior"), ...)
```

# Arguments

object	an enorm parameters object, generated by the function fit_enorm
hpd	width of Bayesian highest posterior density interval around mean_beta, value must be between 0 and 1, default is $0.95$
what	which coefficients to return. Defaults to 'items' (the item parameters). Can also be 'var' for the variance-covariance matrix (CML only) or 'posterior' for all draws of the item parameters (Bayes only)
	further arguments to coef are ignored

## Value

Depends on the calibration method and the value of 'what'. For 'items'#'

CML a data.frame with columns: item\_id, item\_score, beta, SE\_beta

Bayes a data.frame with columns: item\_id, item\_score, mean\_beta, SD\_beta, <hpd\_b\_left>, <hpd\_b\_right>

The posterior distribution and variance covariance matrix are returned as matrices.

the design	Information about the design
------------	------------------------------

## **Description**

This function is useful to inspect incomplete designs

## Usage

```
design_info(dataSrc, predicate = NULL)
```

DIF 11

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

#### Value

a list with the following components

design a data.frame with columns booklet\_id, item\_id, item\_position, n\_persons

connected\_booklets a data.frame with columns booklet\_id, group; booklets with the same 'group' are connected to each other.

connected TRUE/FALSE indicating whether the design is connected or not

**testlets** a data.frame with columns item\_id and testlet; items within the same testlet always occur together in a booklet

adj\_matrix list of two adjacency matrices: \*weighted\_by\_items\* and \*weighted\_by\_persons\*;
These matrices can be useful in visually inspecting the design using a package like \*igraph\*

DIF

Exploratory test for Differential Item Functioning

## **Description**

Exploratory test for Differential Item Functioning

## Usage

```
DIF(dataSrc, person_property, predicate = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database or a data.frame with columns: person\_id,

item\_id, item\_score

person\_property

Defines groups of persons to calculate DIF

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

#### **Details**

Tests for equality of relative item/category difficulties across groups. Supplements the confirmatory approach of the profile plot.

12 distractor\_plot

## Value

An object of class DIF\_stats holding statistics for overall-DIF and a matrix of statistics for DIF in the relative position of item-category parameters in the beta-parameterization where they represent locations on the ability scale where adjacent categories are equally likely. If there is DIF, the function 'plot' can be used to produce an image of the pairwise DIF statistics.

#### References

Bechger, T. M. and Maris, G (2015); A Statistical Test for Differential Item Pair Functioning. Psychometrika. Vol. 80, no. 2, 317-340.

#### See Also

A plot of the result is produced by the function plot.DIF\_stats

# Examples

```
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, ":memory:", person_properties=list(gender='unknown'))
add_booklet(db, verbAggrData, "agg")
dd = DIF(db,person_property="gender")
print(dd)
plot(dd)
str(dd)
close_project(db)
```

distractor\_plot

Distractor plot

#### **Description**

Produce a diagnostic distractor plot for an item

# Usage

```
distractor_plot(
  dataSrc,
  item_id,
  predicate = NULL,
  legend = TRUE,
  curtains = 10,
  adjust = 1,
  col = NULL,
  ...
)
```

fit\_domains 13

# Arguments

dataSrc	a connection to a dexter database or a data.frame with columns: person_id, item_id, response, item_score and optionally booklet_id
item_id	The ID of the item to plot. A separate plot will be produced for each booklet that contains the item, or an error message if the item_id is not known. Each plot contains a non-parametric regression of each possible response on the total score.
predicate	An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used
legend	logical, whether to include the legend. default is TRUE
curtains	100*the tail probability of the sum scores to be shaded. Default is 10. Set to 0 to have no curtains shown at all.
adjust	factor to adjust the smoothing bandwidth respective to the default value
col	vector of colors to use for plotting
	further arguments to plot.

#### **Details**

Customization of title and subtitle can be done by using the arguments main and sub. These arguments can contain references to the variables item\_id, booklet\_id, item\_position(if available), pvalue, rit and rir. References are made by prefixing these variables with a dollar sign. Variable names may be postfixed with a sprintf style format string, e.g. distractor\_plot(db,main='item: \$item\_id',sub='Item rest correlation: \$rir:.2f')

## Value

Silently, a data.frame of response categories and colors used. Potentially useful if you want to customize the legend or print it separately

fit_domains Estimate the Rasch and the Interaction model per domain
---

#### **Description**

Estimate the parameters of the Rasch model and the Interaction model

# Usage

```
fit_domains(dataSrc, item_property, predicate = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database or a data.frame with columns: person\_id,

item\_id, item\_score

item\_property The item property defining the domains (subtests)

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

14 fit\_enorm

# **Details**

We have generalised the interaction model for items having more than two (potentially, a largish number) of response categories. This function represents scores on subtests as super-items and analyses these as normal items.

#### Value

An object of class imp holding results for the Rasch model and the interaction model.

#### See Also

```
plot.rim, fit_inter, add_item_properties
```

## **Examples**

```
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, ":memory:")
add_booklet(db, verbAggrData, "agg")
add_item_properties(db, verbAggrProperties)
mSit = fit_domains(db, item_property= "situation")
plot(mSit)
close_project(db)
```

 $\verb|fit_enorm|$ 

Fit the extended nominal response model

## Description

Fits an Extended NOminal Response Model (ENORM) using conditional maximum likelihood (CML) or a Gibbs sampler for Bayesian estimation.

## Usage

```
fit_enorm(
  dataSrc,
  predicate = NULL,
  fixed_params = NULL,
  method = c("CML", "Bayes"),
  nIterations = 1000,
  merge_within_persons = FALSE
)
```

fit\_enorm 15

# **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

fixed\_params Optionally, a prms object from a previous analysis or a data.frame with param-

eters, see details.

method If CML, the estimation method will be Conditional Maximum Likelihood; oth-

erwise, a Gibbs sampler will be used to produce a sample from the posterior

nIterations Number of Gibbs samples when estimation method is Bayes. The maximum

number of iterations when using CML.

merge\_within\_persons

whether to merge different booklets administered to the same person, enabling

linking over persons as well as booklets.

#### **Details**

To support some flexibility in fixing parameters, fixed\_params can be a dexter prms object of a data.frame. If a data.frame, it should contain the columns item\_id, item\_score and a difficulty parameter. Three types of parameters are supported:

delta/beta thresholds between subsequent item categories

eta item-category parameters

**b** exp(-eta)

Each type corresponds to a different parametrization of the model.

## Value

An object of type prms. The prms object can be cast to a data.frame of item parameters using function 'coef' or used directly as input for other Dexter functions.

## References

Maris, G., Bechger, T.M. and San-Martin, E. (2015) A Gibbs sampler for the (extended) marginal Rasch model. Psychometrika. 2015; 80(4): 859-879.

#### See Also

functions that accept a prms object as input: ability, plausible\_values, plot.prms, and plausible\_scores

16 fit\_inter

fit\_inter

Estimate the Interaction and the Rasch model

## Description

Estimate the parameters of the Interaction model and the Rasch model

#### Usage

```
fit_inter(dataSrc, predicate = NULL)
```

## Arguments

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

#### **Details**

Unlike the Rasch model, the interaction model cannot be computed concurrently for a whole design of test forms. This function therefore fits the Rasch model and the interaction model on complete data. This typically consist of responses to items in one booklet but can also consist of the intersection (common items) in two or more booklets. If the intersection is empty (no common items for all persons), the function will exit with an error message.

## Value

An object of class rim holding results for the Rasch model and the interaction model.

## See Also

```
plot.rim, fit_domains
```

# **Examples**

```
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, ":memory:")
add_booklet(db, verbAggrData, "agg")

m = fit_inter(db, booklet_id=='agg')
plot(m, "S1DoScold", show.observed=TRUE)

close_project(db)
```

get\_booklets 17

		-
get	hook'	lets

Booklets entered in a project

# Description

Retrieve information about the booklets entered in the db so far

# Usage

```
get_booklets(db)
```

# Arguments

db

a connection to a dexter database, i.e. the output of  ${\sf start\_new\_project}$  or  ${\sf open\_project}$ 

#### Value

A data frame with columns: booklet\_id, n\_persons and n\_items.

get\_design

Test design

## **Description**

Retrieve all items that have been entered in the db so far by booklet and position in the booklet

#### Usage

```
get_design(
  dataSrc,
  format = c("long", "wide"),
  rows = c("booklet_id", "item_id", "item_position"),
  columns = c("item_id", "booklet_id", "item_position"),
  fill = NA
)
```

## **Arguments**

dataSrc a dexter database or any object form which a design can be inferred

format return format, see below

rows variable that defines the rows, ignored if format='long' columns variable that defines the columns, ignored if format='long'

fill If set, missing values will be replaced with this value, ignored if format='long'

18 get\_persons

## Value

A data.frame with the design. The contents depend on the rows, columns and format parameters if format is 'long' a data.frame with columns: booklet\_id, item\_id, item\_position (if available) if format is 'wide' a data.frame with the rows defined by the rows parameter and the columns by the columns parameter, with the remaining variable (i.e. item\_id, booklet\_id or item\_position) making up the cells

get\_items

Items in a project

## **Description**

Retrieve all items that have been entered in the db so far together with the item properties

## Usage

```
get_items(db)
```

## **Arguments**

db

a connection to a dexter database, e.g. the output of  $start_new_project$  or  $open_project$ 

#### Value

A data frame with column item\_id and a column for each item property

get\_persons

Persons in a project

#### **Description**

Retrieve all persons/respondents that have been entered in the db so far together with their properties

# Usage

```
get_persons(db)
```

#### **Arguments**

db

a connection to a dexter database, e.g. the output of start\_new\_project or open\_project

#### Value

A data frame with columns person\_id and columns for each person\_property

get\_responses 19

get_responses	Selecting data
gc t_i caponaca	Detecting and

## **Description**

Extract data from a dexter database

## Usage

```
get_responses(
  dataSrc,
  predicate = NULL,
  columns = c("person_id", "item_id", "item_score")
)
```

# **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate an expression to select data on

columns the columns you wish to select, can include any column in the project, see:

get\_variables

#### **Details**

Many functions in Dexter accept a data source and a predicate. Predicates are extremely flexible but they have a few limitations because they work on the individual response level. It is therefore not possible for example, to remove complete person cases from an analysis based on responses to a single item by using just a predicate expression.

For such cases, Dexter supports selecting the data and manipulating it before passing it back to a Dexter function or possibly doing something else with it. The following example will hopefully clarify this.

#### Value

a data.frame of responses

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
# goal: fit the extended nominal response model using only persons
# without any missing responses
library(dplyr)
# the following would not work since it will omit only the missing
# responses, not the persons; which is not what we want in this case
```

20 get\_resp\_data

get\_resp\_data

Functions for developers

# Description

These functions are meant for people who want to develop their own models based on the data management structure of dexter. Very little input checking is performed, the benefit is some extra speed over using 'get\_responses'. Regular users are advised not to use these functions as incorrect use can easily crash your R-session or lead to unexpected results.

#### Usage

```
get_resp_data(
  dataSrc,
  qtpredicate = NULL,
  extra_columns = NULL,
  summarised = FALSE,
  env = NULL,
  protect_x = TRUE,
  retain_person_id = TRUE,
  merge_within_persons = FALSE,
  parms_check = NULL
)

get_resp_matrix(dataSrc, qtpredicate = NULL, env = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc data.frame, integer matrix, dexter database or 'dx\_resp\_data' object

qtpredicate quoted predicate

extra\_columns to be returned in addition to person\_id, booklet\_id, item\_score, item\_id

summarised if TRUE, no item scores are returned, just sumscores

get\_rules 21

environment for evaluation of qtpredicate, defaults to caller environment

protect\_x best set TRUE (default)

retain\_person\_id

whether to retain the original person\_id levels or just use arbitrary integers

merge\_within\_persons

merge different booklets for the same person together

parms\_check data.frame of item\_id, item\_score to check for coverage of data

#### Value

get\_resp\_data returns a list with class 'dx\_resp\_data' with elements

**x** when summarised is FALSE, a tibble(person\_id, booklet\_id, item\_id, item\_score, booklet\_score [, extra\_columns>]), sorted in such a way that all rows pertaining to the same person-booklet are together

when summarised is TRUE, a tibble(person\_id, booklet\_id, booklet\_score [, extra\_columns])

design tibble(booklet\_id, item\_id), sorted

**get\_resp\_matrix** returns a matrix of item scores as commonly used in other IRT packages, facilitating easy connection of your own package to the data management capabilities of dexter

get\_rules

Get scoring rules

## **Description**

Retrieve the scoring rules currently present in the dexter project db

#### Usage

```
get_rules(db)
```

#### **Arguments**

db

a connection to a Dexter database

#### Value

data.frame of scoring rules containing columns: item\_id, response, item\_score

22 get\_variables

get\_testscores

Provide test scores

## **Description**

Supplies the sum of item scores for each person selected.

## Usage

```
get_testscores(dataSrc, predicate = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate An optional expression to filter data, if NULL all data is used

#### Value

A tibble with columns person\_id, item\_id, booklet\_score

get\_variables

Variables that are defined in the project

## **Description**

Inspect the variables defined in your dexter project and their datatypes

## Usage

```
get_variables(db)
```

## **Arguments**

db

a dexter project database

#### **Details**

The variables in Dexter consist of the item properties and person properties you specified and a number of reserved variables that are automatically defined like response and booklet\_id.

Variables in Dexter are most useful when used in predicate expressions. A number of functions can take a dataSrc argument and an optional predicate. Predicates are a concise and flexible way to filter data for the different psychometric functions in Dexter.

The variables can also be used to retrieve data in get\_responses

individual\_differences 23

#### Value

a data.frame with name and type of the variables defined in your dexter project

```
individual_differences
```

Test individual differences

#### **Description**

Test individual differences

#### Usage

```
individual_differences(dataSrc, predicate = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data are used.

#### **Details**

This function uses a score distribution to test whether there are individual differences in ability. First, it estimates ability based on the score distribution. Then, the observed distribution is compared to the one expected from the single estimated ability. The data are typically from one booklet but can also consist of the intersection (i.e., the common items) of two or more booklets. If the intersection is empty (i.e., no common items for all persons), the function will exit with an error message.

## Value

An object of type tind. Printing the object will show test results. Plotting it will produce a plot of expected and observed score frequencies. The former under the hypothesis that there are no individual differences.

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, "verbAggression.db")
add_booklet(db, verbAggrData, "agg")
dd = individual_differences(db)
print(dd)
plot(dd)
close_project(db)
## End(Not run)
```

24 information

formation Functions of theta

## **Description**

returns information function, expected score function, score distribution, or score simulation function for a single item, an arbitrary group of items or all items

## Usage

```
information(parms, items = NULL, booklet_id = NULL, which.draw = NULL)
expected_score(parms, items = NULL, booklet_id = NULL, which.draw = NULL)
r_score(parms, items = NULL, booklet_id = NULL, which.draw = NULL)
p_score(parms, items = NULL, booklet_id = NULL, which.draw = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

parms	object produced by fit_enorm or a data.frame with columns item_id, item_score and, depending on parametrization, a column named either beta/delta, eta or b
items	vector of one or more item_id's. If NULL and booklet_id is also NULL, all items in parms are used
booklet_id	id of a single booklet (e.g. the test information function), if items is not NULL this is ignored
which.draw	the number of the random draw (only applicable if calibration method was Bayes). If NULL, the mean beta parameter will be used

#### Value

Each function returns a new function which accepts a vector of theta's. These return the following values:

**information** an equal length vector with the information estimate at each value of theta.

expected\_score an equal length vector with the expected score at each value of theta

- **r\_score** a matrix with length(theta) rows and one column for each item containing simulated scores based on theta. To obtain test scores, use rowSums on this matrix
- **p\_score** a matrix with length(theta) rows and one column for each possible sumscore containing the probability of the score given theta

keys\_to\_rules 25

#### **Examples**

```
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules,':memory:')
add_booklet(db,verbAggrData, "agg")
p = fit_enorm(db)
# plot information function for single item
ifun = information(p, "S1DoScold")
plot(ifun,from=-4,to=4)
# compare test information function to the population ability distribution
ifun = information(p, booklet="agg")
pv = plausible_values(db,p)
op = par(no.readonly=TRUE)
par(mar = c(5,4,2,4))
plot(ifun,from=-4,to=4, xlab='theta', ylab='test information')
par(new=TRUE)
plot(density(pv$PV1), col='green', axes=FALSE, xlab=NA, ylab=NA, main=NA)
axis(side=4)
mtext(side = 4, line = 2.5, 'population density (green)')
par(op)
close_project(db)
```

keys\_to\_rules

Derive scoring rules from keys

## **Description**

For multiple choice items that will be scored as 0/1, derive the scoring rules from the keys to the correct responses

#### Usage

```
keys_to_rules(keys, include_NA_rule = FALSE)
```

## **Arguments**

```
keys A data frame containing columns item_id, noptions, and key See details. include_NA_rule
```

whether to add an option 'NA' (which is scored 0) to each item

26 plausible\_scores

#### **Details**

This function might be useful in setting up the scoring rules when all items are multiple-choice and scored as 0/1.

The input data frame must contain the exact id of each item, the number of options, and the key. If the keys are all integers, it will be assumed that responses are coded as 1 through noptions. If they are all letters, it is assumed that responses are coded as A,B,C,... All other cases result in an error.

#### Value

A data frame that can be used as input to start\_new\_project

open\_project

Open an existing project

## **Description**

Opens a database created by function start\_new\_project

#### Usage

```
open_project(db_name = "dexter.db")
```

## **Arguments**

db\_name

The name of the database to be opened.

## Value

a database connection object

plausible\_scores

Generate plausible test scores

## Description

Generate plausible i.e., posterior predictive sumscores on a set of items. A typical use of this function is to generate plausible scores on a complete item bank when data is collected using an incomplete design

plausible\_values 27

## Usage

```
plausible_scores(
  dataSrc,
  parms = NULL,
  predicate = NULL,
  items = NULL,
  covariates = NULL,
  keep.observed = TRUE,
  nPS = 1,
  merge_within_persons = FALSE
)
```

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

parms An object returned by function fit\_enorm and containing parameter estimates.

If parms is given the function provides plausible scores conditional on the item parameters. These are considered known. If parms is NULL, Bayesian parameters

are calculated from the datasrc

predicate an expression to filter data. If missing, the function will use all data in dataSrc

items vector of item\_id's, this specifies the itemset to generate the testscores for. If

items is NULL all items occurring in dataSrc are used.

covariates name or a vector of names of the variables to group the population, used to

update the prior. A covariate must be a discrete person covariate (e.g. not a float) that indicates nominal categories, e.g. gender or school If dataSrc is a

data.frame, it must contain the covariate.

keep. observed If responses to one or more of the items have been observed, the user can choose

to keep these observations or generate new ones.

nPS Number of plausible testscores to generate per person.

merge\_within\_persons

If a person took multiple booklets, this indicates whether plausible scores are

generated per person (TRUE) or per booklet (FALSE)

#### Value

A data.frame with columns booklet\_id, person\_id, booklet\_score and nPS plausible scores named PS1...PSn.

plausible\_values

Draw plausible values

## **Description**

Draws plausible values based on test scores

28 plausible\_values

#### Usage

```
plausible_values(
  dataSrc,
  parms = NULL,
  predicate = NULL,
  covariates = NULL,
  nPV = 1,
  use_draw = NULL,
  prior.dist = c("normal", "mixture"),
  merge_within_persons = FALSE
)
```

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

parms An object returned by function fit\_enorm containing parameter estimates. If

parms are provided, item parameters are considered known. If parms = NULL, plausible values are marginalized over the posterior distribution of the item pa-

rameters and uncertainty of the item parameters is taken into account.

predicate an expression to filter data. If missing, the function will use all data in dataSrc

covariates name or a vector of names of the variables to group the populations used to

improve the prior. A covariate must be a discrete person property (e.g. not a float) that indicates nominal categories, e.g. gender or school. If dataSrc is a

data.frame, it must contain the covariate.

nPV Number of plausible values to draw per person.

use\_draw When the ENORM was fitted with a Gibbs sampler, this specifies the use of a

particular sample of item parameters used to generate the plausible value(s). If NULL, the posterior means are used. If outside range, the last iteration will be

used.

prior.dist use a normal prior or a mixture of two normals recognised automatically),

merge\_within\_persons

If a person took multiple booklets, this indicates whether plausible values are

generated per person (TRUE) or per booklet (FALSE)

## Value

A data.frame with columns booklet\_id, person\_id, booklet\_score and nPV plausible values named PV1...PVn.

#### References

Marsman, M., Maris, G., Bechger, T. M., and Glas, C.A.C. (2016) What can we learn from plausible values? Psychometrika. 2016; 81: 274-289. See also the vignette.

plot.DIF\_stats 29

#### **Examples**

```
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, ":memory:",
   person_properties=list(gender="<unknown>"))
add_booklet(db, verbAggrData, "agg")
add_item_properties(db, verbAggrProperties)
f=fit_enorm(db)
pv_M=plausible_values(db,f,(mode=="Do")&(gender=="Male"))
pv_F=plausible_values(db, f, (mode=="Do")&(gender=="Female"))
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
plot(ecdf(pv_M$PV1),
   main="Do: males versus females", xlab="Ability", col="red")
lines(ecdf(pv_F$PV1), col="green")
legend(-2.2,0.9, c("female", "male"),
   lty=1, col=c('green', 'red'), bty='n', cex=.75)
pv_M=plausible_values(db,f,(mode=="Want")&(gender=="Male"))
pv_F=plausible_values(db,f,(mode=="Want")&(gender=="Female"))
plot(ecdf(pv_M$PV1),
   main="Want: males versus females", xlab=" Ability", col="red")
lines(ecdf(pv_F$PV1),col="green")
legend(-2.2,0.9, c("female", "male"),
   lty=1, col=c('green', 'red'), bty='n', cex=.75)
close_project(db)
```

plot.DIF\_stats

plot method for pairwise DIF statistics

## Description

plot method for pairwise DIF statistics

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'DIF_stats'
plot(x, items = NULL, itemsX = items, itemsY = items, alpha = 0.05, ...)
```

## Arguments

X	object produced by DIF
items	character vector of item id's for a subset of the plot. Useful if you have many items. If NULL all items are plotted.
itemsX	character vector of item id's for the X axis

30 plot.p2pass

```
itemsY character vector of item id's for the Y axis
alpha significance level used to color the plot (two sided)
... further arguments to plot
```

#### **Details**

Plotting produces an image of the matrix of pairwise DIF statistics. The statistics are standard normal deviates and colored to distinguish significant from non-significant values. If there is no DIF, a proportion alpha will be significant be change.

plot.p2pass

A plot method for probability\_to\_pass

# Description

Plot equating information from probability\_to\_pass

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'p2pass'
plot(
    x,
    what = c("all", "equating", "sens/spec", "roc"),
    booklet_id = NULL,
    ...
)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x An object produced by function probability_to_pass
what information to plot, 'equating', 'sens/spec', 'roc, or 'all'
booklet_id vector of booklet_id's to plot, if NULL all booklets are plotted
... Any additional plotting parameters; e.g., cex = 0.7.
```

plot.prms 31

plot.prms

Plot for the extended nominal Response model

### **Description**

The plot shows 'fit' by comparing the expected score based on the model (grey line) with the average scores based on the data (black line with dots) for groups of students with similar estimated ability.

## Usage

```
## $3 method for class 'prms'
plot(
    x,
    item_id = NULL,
    dataSrc = NULL,
    predicate = NULL,
    nbins = 5,
    ci = 0.95,
    ...
)
```

## **Arguments**

x object produced by fit\_enorm

item\_id which item to plot, if NULL, one plot for each item is made

dataSrc data source, see details

predicate an expression to subset data in dataSrc

nbins number of ability groups

ci confidence interval for the error bars, between 0 and 1. Use 0 to suppress the error bars. Default = 0.95 for a 95% confidence interval

... further arguments to plot

## **Details**

The standard plot shows the fit against the sample on which the parameters were fitted. If dataSrc is provided, the fit is shown against the observed data in dataSrc. This may be useful for plotting the fit in different subgroups as a visual test for item level DIF. The confidence intervals denote the uncertainty about the predicted pvalues within the ability groups for the sample size in dataSrc (if not NULL) or the original data on which the model was fit.

#### Value

Silently, a data.frame with observed an expected values.

32 plot.rim

plot.rim

A plot method for the interaction model

# Description

Plot the item-total regressions fit by the interaction (or Rasch) model

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'rim'
plot(
    x,
    items = NULL,
    summate = TRUE,
    overlay = FALSE,
    curtains = 10,
    show.observed = TRUE,
    ...
)
```

## **Arguments**

X	An object produced by function fit_inter
items	The items to plot (item_id's). If NULL, all items will be plotted
summate	If FALSE, regressions for polytomous items will be shown for each response option separately; default is TRUE.
overlay	If TRUE and more than one item is specified, there will be two plots, one for the Rasch model and the other for the interaction model, with all items overlayed; otherwise, one plot for each item with the two models overlayed. Ignored if summate is FALSE. Default is FALSE
curtains	100*the tail probability of the sum scores to be shaded. Default is 10. Set to 0 to have no curtains shown at all.
show.observed	If TRUE, the observed proportion correct at each sum score will be shown as dots. Default is FALSE.
	Any additional plotting parameters.

# **Details**

Customization of title and subtitle can be done by using the arguments main and sub. These arguments can contain references to the variables item\_id (if overlay=FALSE) or model (if overlay=TRUE) by prefixing them with a dollar sign, e.g. plot(m, main='item: \$item\_id')

33 probability\_to\_pass

probability_to_pass	The probability to pass on a reference test given a score on a new
	booklet

# Description

Given response data that form a connected design, compute the probability to pass on the reference set conditional on each score on one or more target tests.

# Usage

```
probability_to_pass(
  dataSrc,
  parms,
  ref_items,
  pass_fail,
 predicate = NULL,
  target_booklets = NULL,
  nIterations = 1000
)
```

# **Arguments**

dataSrc	a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: person_id, item_id, item_score
parms	parameters returned from fit_enorm. If uncertainty about parameter estimation should be included in the computations, use 'method='Bayes' and nIterations equal or larger than nIterations in probability_to_pass
ref_items	vector with id's of items in the reference set, they must all occur in dataSrc
pass_fail	pass-fail score on the reference set, the lowest score with which one passes
predicate	An optional expression to subset data in dataSrc, if NULL all data is used
target_booklets	S
	The target test booklet(s) A data frame with columns booklet id (if multiple

The target test booklet(s). A data.frame with columns booklet\_id (if multiple booklets) and item\_id, if NULL (default) this will be derived from the dataSrc and the probability to pass will be computed for each test score for each booklet in your data.

The function uses an Markov-Chain Monte-Carlo method to calculate the probnIterations

ability to pass and this is the number of Monte-Carlo samples used.

## **Details**

Note that this function is computationally intensive and can take some time to run, especially when computing the probability to pass for multiple target booklets. Further technical details can be found in a vignette.

34 profiles

#### Value

An object of type p2pass. Use coef() to extract the probability to pass for each booklet and score. Use plot() to plot the probabilities, sensitivity and specificity or a ROC-curve.

#### See Also

The function used to plot the results: plot.p2pass

profiles

Profile analysis

#### **Description**

Expected and observed domain scores, conditional on the test score, per person or test score. Domains are specified as categories of items using item\_properties.

#### Usage

```
profiles(
  dataSrc,
  parms,
  item_property,
  predicate = NULL,
  merge_within_persons = FALSE
)
profile_tables(parms, domains, item_property, design = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database or a data.frame with columns: person\_id,

item\_id, item\_score, an arbitrarily named column containing an item property

and optionally booklet\_id

parms An object returned by fit\_enorm

item\_property the name of the item property used to define the domains. If dataSrc is a dexter

db then the item\_property must match a known item property. If datasrc is a data.frame, item\_property must be equal to one of its column names. For

profile\_tables item\_property must match a column name in domains.

predicate An optional expression to subset data in dataSrc, if NULL all data is used

merge\_within\_persons

whether to merge different booklets administered to the same person.

domains data.frame with column item\_id and a column with name equal to item\_property

design data.frame with columns item\_id and optionally booklet\_id

profile\_plot 35

#### **Details**

When using a unidimensional IRT Model like the extended nominal response model in dexter (see: fit\_enorm), the model is as a rule to simple to catch all the relevant dimensions in a test. Nevertheless, a simple model is quite useful in practice. Profile analysis can complement the model in this case by indicating how a test-taker, conditional on her/his test score, performs on a number of pre-specified domains, e.g. in case of a mathematics test the domains could be numbers, algebra and geometry or in case of a digital test the domains could be animated versus non-animated items. This can be done by comparing the achieved score on a domain with the expected score, given the test score.

#### Value

```
profiles a data.frame with columns person_id, booklet_id, booklet_score, <item_property>, domain_score, expected_domain_score
```

profile\_tables a data.frame with columns booklet\_id, booklet\_score, <item\_property>, expected\_domain\_score

#### References

Verhelst, N. D. (2012). Profile analysis: a closer look at the PISA 2000 reading data. Scandinavian Journal of Educational Research, 56 (3), 315-332.

profile\_plot

Profile plot

#### **Description**

Profile plot

## Usage

```
profile_plot(
  dataSrc,
  item_property,
  covariate,
  predicate = NULL,
  model = c("IM", "RM"),
  x = NULL,
  col = NULL,
  ...
)
```

#### **Arguments**

dataSrc

a connection to a dexter database or a data.frame with columns: person\_id, item\_id, item\_score and the item\_property and the covariate of interest.

item\_property

The name of the item property defining the domains. The item property should

have exactly two distinct values in your data

36 ratedData

covariate	name of the person property used to create the groups. There will be one line for each distinct value.
predicate	An optional expression to filter data, if NULL all data is used
model	"IM" (default) or "RM" where "IM" is the interaction model and "RM" the Rasch model. The interaction model is the default as it fits the data better or at least as good as the Rasch model.
Х	Which value of the item_property to draw on the x axis, if NULL, one is chosen automatically
col	vector of colors to use for plotting
	further arguments to plot

#### **Details**

Profile plots can be used to investigate whether two (or more) groups of respondents attain the same test score in the same way. The user must provide a (meaningful) classification of the items in two non-overlapping subsets such that the test score is the sum of the scores on the subsets. The plot shows the probabilities to obtain any combinations of subset scores with thin gray lines indicating the combinations that give the same test score. The thick lines connect the most likely combination for each test score in each group. When applied to educational test data, the plots can be used to detect differences in the relative difficulty of (sets of) items for respondents that belong to different groups and are matched on the test score. This provides a content-driven way to investigate differential item functioning.

#### **Examples**

ratedData Rated data

# **Description**

A data set with rated data. A number of student performances are rated twice on several aspects by independent judges. The ratings are binary and have been summed following the theory discussed by Maris and Bechger (2006, Handbook of Statistics). Data are a small subset of data collected on the State Exam Dutch as a second language for Speaking.

#### **Format**

A data set with 75 rows and 15 columns.

ratedDataProperties 37

	74
ratedDataProperties	Item prop

Item properties in the rated data

## **Description**

A data set of item properties related to the rated data. These are the aspects: IH = content, WZ = word choice and phrasing, and WK = vocabulary.

#### **Format**

A data set with 14 rows and 2 columns: item\_id and aspect

ratedDataRules

Scoring rules for the rated data

## **Description**

A set of (trivial) scoring rules for the rated data set

#### **Format**

A data set with 42 rows and 3 columns (item\_id, response, item\_score).

read\_oplm\_par

Read item parameters from oplm PAR or CML files

## **Description**

Read item parameters from oplm PAR or CML files

#### Usage

```
read_oplm_par(par_path)
```

# **Arguments**

par\_path

path to a file in the (binary) OPLM PAR format or the human readable CML format

## **Details**

It is occasionally useful to calibrate new items on an existing scale. This function offers the possibility to read parameters from the proprietary oplm format so that they can be used to fix a new calibration in Dexter on an existing scale of items that were calibrated in oplm.

38 standards\_3dc

## Value

depends on the input. For .PAR files a tibble with columns: item\_id, item\_score, beta, nbr, for .CML files also several statistics columns that are outputted by OPLM as part of the calibration.

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
\donttest{
par = read_oplm_par('/parameters.PAR')
f = fit_enorm(db, fixed_params=par)
}
## End(Not run)
```

r\_score\_IM

Simulation from the interaction model

## **Description**

Simulate item scores conditional on test scores using the interaction model

#### Usage

```
r_score_IM(m, scores)
```

## **Arguments**

m an object produced by function fit\_inter

scores vector of test scores

## Value

a matrix with item scores, one column per item and one row per test score. Row order equal to scores

standards\_3dc

Standard setting

# **Description**

Set performance standards on one or more test forms using the data driven direct consensus (3DC) method

standards\_3dc 39

#### Usage

```
standards_3dc(parms, design)
## S3 method for class 'sts_par'
coef(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'sts_par'
plot(x, booklet_id = NULL, ...)
```

# Arguments

parms	parameters object returned from fit_enorm
design	a data.frame with columns 'cluster_id', 'item_id' and optionally 'booklet_id'
object	an object containing parameters for the 3DC standard setting procedure
	ignored Optionally you can include a column 'booklet_id' to specify multiple test forms for standard setting and/or columns 'cluster_nbr' and 'item_nbr' to specify ordering of clusters and items in the forms and application.
х	an object containing parameters for the 3DC standard setting procedure
booklet_id	which test form to plot

#### **Details**

The data driven direct consensus (3DC) method of standard setting was invented by Gunter Maris and described in Keuning et. al. (2017). To easily apply this procedure, we advise to use the free digital 3DC application. This application can be downloaded from the Cito website, see the 3DC application download page. If you want to apply the 3DC method using paper forms instead, you can use the function plot3DC to generate the forms from the 3DC database.

Although the 3DC method is used as explained in Keuning et. al., the method we use for computing the forms is a simple maximum likelihood scaling from an IRT model, described in Moe and Verhelst (2017)

# Value

```
an object of type 'sts_par'
```

#### References

Keuning J., Straat J.H., Feskens R.C.W. (2017) The Data-Driven Direct Consensus (3DC) Procedure: A New Approach to Standard Setting. In: Blomeke S., Gustafsson JE. (eds) Standard Setting in Education. Methodology of Educational Measurement and Assessment. Springer, Cham

Moe E., Verhelst N. (2017) Setting Standards for Multistage Tests of Norwegian for Adult Immigrants In: Blomeke S., Gustafsson JE. (eds) Standard Setting in Education. Methodology of Educational Measurement and Assessment. Springer, Cham

## See Also

how to make a database for the 3DC standard setting application: standards\_db

40 standards\_db

## **Examples**

```
library(dplyr)
db = start_new_project(verbAggrRules, ":memory:")
add_booklet(db, verbAggrData, "agg")
add_item_properties(db, verbAggrProperties)

design = get_items(db) %>%
    rename(cluster_id='behavior')

f = fit_enorm(db)

sts_par = standards_3dc(f, design)

plot(sts_par)

# db_sts = standards_db(sts_par,'test.db',c('mildly aggressive','dangerously aggressive'))
```

standards\_db

Export a standard setting database for use by the free 3DC application

## **Description**

This function creates an export (an sqlite database file) which can be used by the 3DC application. This is a free application with which a standard setting session can be facilitated through a LAN network using the Chrome browser. The 3DC application can be downloaded from 3DC application download page

## Usage

```
standards_db(
  par.sts,
  file_name,
  standards,
  population = NULL,
  group_leader = "admin"
)
```

#### **Arguments**

par.sts an object containing parameters for the 3DC standard setting procedure pro-

duced by standards\_3dc

file\_name name of the exported database file

standards vector of 1 or more standards. In case there are multiple test forms and they

should use different performance standards, a list of such vectors. The names of

this list should correspond to the names of the testforms

start\_new\_project 41

population optional, a data.frame with three columns: 'booklet\_id', 'booklet\_score', 'n' (where

n is a count)

group\_leader login name of the group leader. The login password will always be 'admin' but

can be changed in the 3DC application

start\_new\_project Start a new project

## **Description**

Imports a complete set of scoring rules and starts a new project (data base)

## Usage

```
start_new_project(rules, db_name = "dexter.db", person_properties = NULL)
```

## Arguments

rules A data frame with columns item\_id, response, and item\_score. The order is

not important but spelling is. Any other columns will be ignored.

db\_name A connection to an existing sqlite database or a string specifying a filename for

a new sqlite database to be created. If this name does not contain a path, the file will be created in the work directory. Any existing file with the same name will be overwritten. For an in-memory database you can use the string ":memory:".

person\_properties

An optional list of person properties. Names should correspond to person\_properties intended to be used in the project. Values are used as default (missing) values. The datatype will also be inferred from the values. Known person\_properties will be automatically imported when adding response data with add\_booklet.

## **Details**

This package only works with closed items (e.g. likert, MC or possibly short answer) it does not score any open items. The first step to creating a project is to import an exhaustive list of all items and all admissible responses, along with the score that any of the latter will be given. Responses may be integers or strings but they will always be treated as strings. Scores must be integers, and the minimum score for an item must be 0. When inputting data, all responses not specified in the rules can optionally be treated as missing and ultimately scored 0, but it is good style to include the missing responses in the list. NA values will be treated as the string "NA".

#### Value

a database connection object.

#### **Examples**

## **Description**

Creates a dexter project database and fills it with response data based on a .dat and .scr file

# Usage

```
start_new_project_from_oplm(
  dbname,
  scr_path,
  dat_path,
  booklet_position = NULL,
  responses_start = NULL,
  response_length = 1,
  person_id = NULL,
  missing_character = c(" ", "9"),
  use_discrim = FALSE,
  format = "compressed"
)
```

## **Arguments**

```
dbname filename/path of new dexter project database (will be overwritten if already exists)

scr_path path to the .scr file

dat_path path to the .dat file

booklet_position vector of start and end of booklet position in the dat file, e.g. c(1,4), all positions are counted from 1, start and end are both inclusive. If NULL, this is read from the scr file.

responses_start start position of responses in the .dat file. If NULL, this is read from the scr file.

response_length length of individual responses, default=1
```

tia\_tables 43

person\_id optionally, a vector of start and end position of person\_id in the .dat file. If

NULL, person id's will be auto-generated.

missing\_character

vector of character(s) used to indicate missing in .dat file, default is to use both

a space and a 9 as missing characters.

use\_discrim if TRUE, the scores for the responses will be multiplied by the discrimination

parameters of the items

format not used, at the moment only the compressed format is supported.

# **Details**

start\_new\_project\_from\_oplm builds a complete dexter database from a .dat and .scr file in the proprietary oplm format. Three custom variables are added to the database: booklet\_on\_off, item\_local\_on\_off, item\_global\_on\_off. These are taken from the .scr file and can be used in predicates in the various dexter functions.

Booklet\_position and responses\_start are usually inferred from the scr file but since they are sometimes misspecified in the scr file they can be overridden. Response\_length is not inferred from the scr file since anything other than 1 is most often a mistake.

#### Value

a database connection object.

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run: \donttest{
db = start_new_project_from_oplm('test.db',
    'path_to_scr_file', 'path_to_dat_file',
    booklet_position=c(1,3), responses_start=101,
    person_id=c(50,62))

prms = fit_enorm(db,
    item_global_on_off==1 & item_local_on_off==1 & booklet_on_off==1)
}

## End(Not run)
```

tia\_tables

Simple test-item analysis

## Description

Show simple Classical Test Analysis statistics at item and test level

44 touch\_rules

#### Usage

```
tia_tables(
  dataSrc,
  predicate = NULL,
  type = c("raw", "averaged", "compared"),
  max_scores = c("observed", "theoretical")
)
```

#### Arguments

dataSrc a connection to a dexter database, a matrix, or a data.frame with columns: per-

son\_id, item\_id, item\_score

predicate An optional expression to subset data, if NULL all data is used

type How to present the item level statistics: raw for each test booklet separately,

averaged averaged over the test booklet in which the item is included, with the number of persons as weights, or compared, in which case the pvalues, correlations with the sum score (rit), and correlations with the rest score (rit) are shown

in separate tables and compared across booklets

max\_scores use the observed maximum item score or the theoretical maximum items score

according to the scoring rules in the database to compute pvalues and maximum

scores

#### Value

A list containing:

testStats a data.frame of statistics at test level

itemStats a data.frame (or list if type='compared') of statistics at item level

touch\_rules Add or modify scoring rules

## **Description**

Having to alter or add a scoring rule is occasionally necessary, e.g. in case of a key error. This function offers the possibility to do so and also allows you to add new items to your project

#### Usage

```
touch_rules(db, rules)
```

# **Arguments**

db a connection to a dexter project database

rules A data frame with columns item\_id, response, and item\_score. The order is

not important but spelling is. Any other columns will be ignored. See details

verbAggrData 45

#### **Details**

The rules should contain all rules that you want to change or add. This means that in case of a key error in a single multiple choice question, you typically have to change two rules.

#### Value

If the scoring rules pass a sanity check, a small summary of changes is printed and nothing is returned Otherwise this function returns a data frame listing the problems found, with 4 columns: item\_id: id of the problematic item less\_than\_two\_scores: if TRUE, the item has only one distinct score duplicated\_responses: if TRUE, the item contains two or more identical response categories min\_score\_not\_zero: if TRUE, the minimum score of the item was not 0

## **Examples**

```
## Not run: \donttest{
# given that in your dexter project there is an mc item with id 'itm_01',
# which currently has key 'A' but you want to change it to 'C'.

new_rules = data.frame(item_id='itm_01', response=c('A','C'), item_score=c(0,1))
touch_rules(db, new_rules)
}
## End(Not run)
```

verbAggrData

Verbal aggression data

## **Description**

A data set of self-reported verbal behaviour in different frustrating situations (Vansteelandt, 2000)

#### **Format**

A data set with 316 rows and 26 columns.

verbAggrProperties

Item properties in the verbal aggression data

## **Description**

A data set of item properties related to the verbal aggression data

#### **Format**

A data set with 24 rows and 5 columns.

46 verbAggrRules

verbAggrRules

Scoring rules for the verbal aggression data

# Description

A set of (trivial) scoring rules for the verbal aggression data set

# **Format**

A data set with 72 rows and 3 columns (item\_id, response, item\_score).

# **Index**

*Topic datasets	get_variables, 19,22
ratedData, 36	individual difference 22
ratedDataProperties, 37	<pre>individual_differences, 23 information, 24</pre>
ratedDataRules, 37	information, 24
verbAggrData, 45 verbAggrProperties, 45	keys_to_rules, 25
verbAggrRules, 46	open_project, 26
ability, 3, 15	p_score (information), 24
ability_tables (ability), 3	plausible_scores, 15, 26
add_booklet, 5, 8, 41	plausible_values, 15, 27
add_item_properties, 7, 14	plot.DIF_stats, 12, 29
add_person_properties, 8	plot.p2pass, 30, 34
<pre>add_response_data(add_booklet), 5</pre>	plot.prms, <i>15</i> , 31
close_project, 9	plot.rim, <i>14</i> , <i>16</i> , 32
coef.p2pass, 9	<pre>plot.sts_par(standards_3dc), 38</pre>
coef.prms, 10	probability_to_pass, 9, 30, 33
coef.sts_par(standards_3dc), 38	profile_plot, 8, 35
000: 1000_pa: (00a:1aa: a0_0a0); 00	<pre>profile_tables (profiles), 34</pre>
design_info, 10	profiles, 34
dexter (dexter-package), 3	
dexter-package, 3	r_score (information), 24
DIF, 11, 29	r_score_IM, 38
distractor_plot, 12	ratedData, 36
	ratedDataProperties, 37
expected_score (information), 24	ratedDataRules, 37
0.40	read_oplm_par, 37
fit_domains, 8, 13, 16	atandanda 2da 29 40
fit_enorm, 4, 10, 14, 24, 34, 35	standards_3dc, 38, 40
fit_inter, <i>14</i> , 16	standards_db, 39, 40
get_booklets, 17	start_new_project, 41
get_bookiets, 17 get_design, 17	start_new_project_from_oplm, 42
get_uesign, 17 get_items, 18	tia_tables, 43
get_persons, 18	touch_rules, 7, 44
get_resp_data, 20	touch_rules, /, ++
	verbAggrData, 45
<pre>get_resp_matrix (get_resp_data), 20 get_responses, 19, 22</pre>	verbAggrProperties, 45
get_rules, 21	verbAggrRules, 46
get_testscores, 22	
get_testscores, 22	