# Package 'sensemakr'

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**Description** Implements a suite of sensitivity analysis tools

that extends the traditional omitted variable bias framework and makes it easier to understand the impact of omitted variables in regression models, as discussed in Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), ``Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology) <doi:10.1111/rssb.12348>.

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License GPL-3

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### **Description**

The sensemakr package implements a suite of sensitivity analysis tools that makes it easier to understand the impact of omitted variables in linear regression models, as discussed in Cinelli and Hazlett (2020).

#### **Details**

The main function of the package is sensemakr, which computes the most common sensitivity analysis results. After running sensemakr you may directly use the plot and print methods in the returned object.

You may also use the other sensitivity functions of the package directly, such as the functions for sensitivity plots (ovb\_contour\_plot, ovb\_extreme\_plot) the functions for computing bias-adjusted estimates and t-values (adjusted\_estimate, adjusted\_t), the functions for computing the robustness value and partial R2 (robustness\_value, partial\_r2), or the functions for bounding the strength of unobserved confounders (ovb\_bounds), among others.

More information can be found on the help documentation, vignettes and related papers.

### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

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#### **Examples**

```
# loads dataset
data("darfur")
# runs regression model
model <- lm(peacefactor ~ directlyharmed + age + farmer_dar + herder_dar +</pre>
              pastvoted + hhsize_darfur + female + village, data = darfur)
# runs sensemakr for sensitivity analysis
sensitivity <- sensemakr(model, treatment = "directlyharmed",</pre>
                         benchmark_covariates = "female",
                         kd = 1:3)
# short description of results
sensitivity
# long description of results
summary(sensitivity)
# plot bias contour of point estimate
plot(sensitivity)
# plot bias contour of t-value
plot(sensitivity, sensitivity.of = "t-value")
# plot extreme scenario
plot(sensitivity, type = "extreme")
# latex code for sensitivity table
ovb_minimal_reporting(sensitivity)
# data.frame with sensitivity statistics
sensitivity$sensitivity_stats
# data.frame with bounds on the strengh of confounders
sensitivity$bounds
### Using sensitivity functions directly ###
\# robustness value of directly harmed q = 1 (reduce estimate to zero)
robustness_value(model, covariates = "directlyharmed")
# robustness value of directly harmed q = 1/2 (reduce estimate in half)
robustness_value(model, covariates = "directlyharmed", q = 1/2)
# robustness value of directly harmed q = 1/2, alpha = 0.05
robustness_value(model, covariates = "directlyharmed", q = 1/2, alpha = 0.05)
# partial R2 of directly harmed with peacefactor
partial_r2(model, covariates = "directlyharmed")
# partial R2 of female with peacefactor
```

```
partial_r2(model, covariates = "female")
# data.frame with sensitivity statistics
sensitivity_stats(model, treatment = "directlyharmed")
# bounds on the strength of confounders using female and age
ovb_bounds(model,
           treatment = "directlyharmed",
           benchmark_covariates = c("female", "age"),
           kd = 1:3)
# adjusted estimate given hypothetical strength of confounder
adjusted_estimate(model, treatment = "directlyharmed", r2dz.x = 0.1, r2yz.dx = 0.1)
# adjusted t-value given hypothetical strength of confounder
adjusted_t(model, treatment = "directlyharmed", r2dz.x = 0.1, r2yz.dx = 0.1)
# bias contour plot directly from lm model
ovb_contour_plot(model,
                 treatment = "directlyharmed",
                 benchmark_covariates = "female",
                 kd = 1:3)
# extreme scenario plot directly from lm model
ovb_extreme_plot(model,
                 treatment = "directlyharmed",
                 benchmark_covariates = "female",
                 kd = 1:3, lim = 0.05)
```

### **Description**

Convenience function to add bounds on a sensitivity contour plot created with ovb\_contour\_plot.

#### Usage

```
add_bound_to_contour(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
add_bound_to_contour(
  model,
  benchmark_covariates,
  kd = 1,
  ky = kd,
  bound_label = NULL,
  treatment = plot.env$treatment,
  reduce = plot.env$reduce,
```

add\_bound\_to\_contour

```
sensitivity.of = plot.env$sensitivity.of,
  label.text = TRUE,
  cex.label.text = 0.7,
  label.bump.x = plot.env$\lim * (1/15),
  label.bump.y = plot.env\lim.y * (1/15),
  round = 2,
)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
add_bound_to_contour(
  r2dz.x,
  r2yz.dx,
  bound_value = NULL,
  bound_label = NULL,
  label.text = TRUE,
  cex.label.text = 0.7,
  label.bump.x = plot.env$\lim * (1/15),
  label.bump.y = plot.env\lim y * (1/15),
  round = 2,
)
```

#### **Arguments**

arguments passed to other methods.

mode1 An 1m object with the outcome regression.

benchmark\_covariates

The user has two options: (i) character vector of the names of covariates that will be used to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. Each variable will be considered separately; (ii) a named list with character vector names of covariates that will be used, as a group, to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. The names of the list will be used for the benchmark labels. Note: for factor variables with more than two levels, you need to provide the name of each level as encoded in the 1m model (the columns of model.matrix).

kd

numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is related to the treatment in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. Default value is 1 (confounder is as strong as benchmark covariate).

numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is related to the outcome in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. Default value is the same as kd.

bound\_label

label to bounds provided manually in r2dz.x and r2yz.dx.

treatment

A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model.

reduce

Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated coefficient? Default is TRUE.

ky

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sensitivity.of should the contour plot show adjusted estimates ("estimate") or adjusted tvalues ("t-value")? label.text should label texts be plotted? Default is TRUE. cex.label.text size of the label text. label.bump.x bump on the x coordinate of label text. bump on the y coordinate of label text. label.bump.y integer indicating the number of decimal places to be used for rounding. round r2dz.x Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with treatment D, given covariates X. Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with outcome Y, given cor2yz.dx variates X and treatment D. bound\_value value to be printed in label bound.

#### Value

The function adds bounds in an existing contour plot and returns 'NULL'.

#### **Examples**

adjusted\_estimate

Bias-adjusted estimates, standard-errors and t-values

### Description

These functions compute bias adjusted estimates (adjusted\_estimate), standard-errors (adjusted\_se) and t-values (adjusted\_t), given a hypothetical strength of the confounder in the partial R2 parameterization.

The functions work either with an 1m object, or directly passing in numerical inputs, such as the current coefficient estimate, standard error and degrees of freedom.

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### Usage

```
adjusted_estimate(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
adjusted_estimate(model, treatment, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, reduce = TRUE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
adjusted_estimate(estimate, se, dof, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, reduce = TRUE, ...)
adjusted_se(...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
adjusted_se(se, dof, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, ...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
adjusted_se(model, treatment, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, ...)
adjusted_t(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
adjusted_t(model, treatment, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, reduce = TRUE, h0 = 0, ...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
adjusted_t(estimate, se, dof, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, reduce = TRUE, h0 = 0, ...)
adjusted_partial_r2(...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
adjusted_partial_r2(
  estimate,
  se,
  dof,
  r2dz.x,
 r2yz.dx,
  reduce = TRUE,
 h0 = 0,
)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
adjusted_partial_r2(
 model,
  treatment,
  r2dz.x,
  r2yz.dx,
  reduce = TRUE,
  h0 = 0,
  . . .
```

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```
bias(...)

## S3 method for class 'numeric'
bias(se, dof, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, ...)

## S3 method for class 'lm'
bias(model, treatment, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, ...)

relative_bias(...)

## S3 method for class 'lm'
relative_bias(model, treatment, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, ...)

## S3 method for class 'numeric'
relative_bias(estimate, se, dof, r2dz.x, r2yz.dx, ...)

rel_bias(r.est, est)
```

### Arguments

•••	Arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m model with the outcome regression or a numeric vector with the coefficient estimate.
model	An 1m object with the outcome regression.
treatment	A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model.
r2dz.x	Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with treatment D, given covariates X.
r2yz.dx	Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with outcome Y, given covariates X and treatment D.
reduce	Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated coefficient? Default is TRUE.
estimate	Coefficient estimate.
se	Standard error of the coefficient estimate.
dof	Residual degrees of freedom of the regression.
h0	Null hypothesis for computation of the t-value. Default is zero.
r.est	restricted estimate. A numerical vector.
est	unrestricted estimate. A numerical vector.

#### Value

Numeric vector with bias, adjusted estimate, standard error, or t-value.

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#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

#### **Examples**

```
# loads data
data("darfur")
# fits model
model <- lm(peacefactor ~ directlyharmed + age +
                          farmer_dar + herder_dar +
                           pastvoted + hhsize_darfur +
                           female + village, data = darfur)
# computes adjusted estimate for confounder with r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05
adjusted_estimate(model, treatment = "directlyharmed", r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05)
# computes adjusted SE for confounder with r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05
adjusted_se(model, treatment = "directlyharmed", r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05)
# computes adjusted t-value for confounder with r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05
adjusted_t(model, treatment = "directlyharmed", r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05)
# Alternatively, pass in numerical values directly.
adjusted_estimate(estimate = 0.09731582, se = 0.02325654,
                  dof = 783, r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05)
adjusted_se(estimate = 0.09731582, se = 0.02325654,
            dof = 783, r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05)
adjusted_t(estimate = 0.09731582, se = 0.02325654,
           dof = 783, r2dz.x = 0.05, r2yz.dx = 0.05)
```

colombia

Data from the 2016 referendum for peace with the FARC in Colombia.

### **Description**

Data on support for the 2016 referendum for peace with the FARC in Colombia, as discussed in Hazlett and Parente (2020). The main "treatment" variables are santos2014, which indicates the share of town population voting in support of Santos in the 2014 Presidential election, and fat\_2011to2015\_gtd, which indicates the number of fatalities due to FARC violence between 2011 and 2015, again at the town level. The main outcome of interest is yes\_vote, the proportion (0-100) at the town-level voting in support of the peace referendum. The question of interest in Hazlett and Parente (2020) is what can be said about the causal effect of either violence (fatalities) or of political affiliation with Santos, recognizing that analyses of either cannot likely rule out all confounding.

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#### Usage

colombia

#### **Format**

A data frame with 1123 rows and 16 columns.

**department** Name for the provincial level unit, called departments or departmentos, of which there are 32 in the country.

dept\_code Short code for the department

town Name for the town, which is the smallest electoral unit available and is the unit of analysis.

town\_code Code for the town.

total\_eligible Total eligible voters in the town

yes\_vote Proportion (out of 100) voting in favor of the peace deal.

santos10 Proportion (out of 100) voting for Santos in 2010 presidential election.

santos14 Proportion (out of 100) voting for Santos in the 2014 presidential election.

gdppc The town-level GDP per capita.

pop13 Town-level population in 2013.

elev Town's mean elevation.

**fat\_all** Sum of all known fatalities due to FARC violence in the town (from Global Terrorism Database, GTD).

fat\_2001to2005\_gtd Sum of fatalities due to FARC in the town in 2001 to 2005 (from GTD).

fat\_2006to2010\_gtd Sum of fatalities due to FARC in the town in 2006 to 2010 (from GTD).

fat\_2011to2015\_gtd Sum of fatalities due to FARC in the town in 2011 to 2015 (from GTD).

fat\_2010to2013 Sum of fatalities due to FARC in the town in 2010 to 2013 (from GTD).

#### References

Hazlett, C., and Parente, F. (2020). "Who supports peace with the FARC? A sensitivity-based approach under imperfect identification"

#### **Examples**

```
# loads data
data(colombia)

#------
# Violence Models
#------
### Model 1 (bivariate)
model1 <- lm(yes_vote ~ fat_2001to2005_gtd, data = colombia)

### Model 2 (more controls, and lagged violence.)
model2 <- lm(yes_vote ~ fat_2001to2005_gtd + fat_2006to2010_gtd +</pre>
```

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```
fat_2011to2015_gtd + total_eligible + santos10 + gdppc ,
             data = colombia)
### Sensitivity analysis - Model 2, for effect of most recent violence.
sense.model2 <- sensemakr(model2,</pre>
                           treatment = "fat_2011to2015_gtd",
                          benchmark = "santos10",
### contour plot point estimate
plot(sense.model2)
### contour plot t-value
plot(sense.model2, sensitivity.of = "t-value")
# Political Affiliation Model
### Model 3: santos2014 as measure of political support for Santos, with control variables.
model3 <- lm(yes_vote ~ santos14 + fat_2010to2013 + elev + gdppc + pop13,</pre>
              data = colombia)
### Sensitivity analysis - Model 3
sense.model3 <- sensemakr(model3, treatment = "santos14",</pre>
                           benchmark = c("gdppc","elev"),
summary(sense.model3)
### contour plot point estimate
plot(sense.model3, lim = .9)
### contour plot t-value
plot(sense.model3, sensitivity.of = "t-value", lim = 0.9)
```

darfur

Data from survey of Darfurian refugees in eastern Chad.

#### Description

Data on attitudes of Darfurian refugees in eastern Chad. The main "treatment" variable is directlyharmed, which indicates that the individual was physically injured during attacks on villages in Darfur, largely between 2003 and 2004. The main outcome of interest is peacefactor, a measure of propeace attitudes.

Key covariates include herder\_dar (whether they were a herder in Darfur), farmer\_dar (whether they were a farmer in Darfur), age, female (indicator for female), and past\_voted (whether they report having voted in an earlier election, prior to the conflict).

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### Usage

darfur

#### **Format**

A data frame with 1276 rows and 14 columns.

wouldvote If elections were held in Darfur in the future, would you vote? (0/1)

**peacefactor** A measure of pro-peace attitudes, from a factor analysis of several questions. Rescaled such that 0 is minimally pro-peace and 1 is maximally pro-peace.

peace\_formerenemies Would you be willing to make peace with your former enemies? (0/1)

**peace\_jjindiv** Would you be willing to make peace with Janjweed individuals who carried out violence? (0/1)

**peace\_jjtribes** Would you be willing to make peace with the tribes that were part of the Janjaweed? (0/1)

**gos\_soldier\_execute** Should Government of Sudan soldiers who perpetrated attacks on civilians be executed? (0/1)

**directlyharmed** A binary variable indicating whether the respondent was personally physically injured during attacks on villages in Darfur largely between 2003-2004. 529 respondents report being personally injured, while 747 do not report being injured.

age Age of respondent in whole integer years. Ages in the data range from 18 to 100.

**farmer\_dar** The respondent was a farmer in Darfur (0/1). 1,051 respondents were farmers, 225 were not.

**herder\_dar** The respondent was a herder in Darfur (0/1). 190 respondents were farmers, 1,086 were not.

**pastvoted** The respondent reported having voted in a previous election before the conflict (0/1). 821 respondents reported having voted in a previous election, 455 reported not having voted in a previous election.

**hhsize\_darfur** Household size while in Darfur.

**village** Factor variable indicating village of respondent. 486 unique villages are accounted for in the data.

**female** The respondent identifies as female (0/1). 582 respondents are female-identified, 694 are not.

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

Hazlett, Chad. (2019) "Angry or Weary? How Violence Impacts Attitudes toward Peace among Darfurian Refugees." Journal of Conflict Resolution: 0022002719879217.

group\_partial\_r2

group_	Dai	гтат	1 4

Partial R2 of groups of covariates in a linear regression model

### **Description**

This function computes the partial R2 of a group of covariates in a linear regression model.

### Usage

```
group_partial_r2(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
group_partial_r2(model, covariates, ...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
group_partial_r2(F.stats, p, dof, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

... arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m object

with the regression model or a numeric vector with the F-statistics for the group

of covariates.

model an 1m object with the regression model

covariates model covariates for which their grouped partial R2 will be computed.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \hbox{F.statis} & \hbox{F-statistics for the group of covariates.} \\ \hbox{p} & \hbox{number of parameters in the model.} \end{array}$ 

dof residual degrees of freedom of the model.

#### Value

A numeric vector with the computed partial R2.

#### **Examples**

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Helper function for extracting model statistics

### Description

This is an internal function used for extracting the necessary statistics from the models.

### Usage

```
model_helper(model, covariates = NULL, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

model model to extract statistics from

covariates model covariates from which statistics will be extracted.

... arguments passed to other methods.

ovb\_bounds

Bounds on the strength of unobserved confounders using observed covariates

### **Description**

Bounds on the strength of unobserved confounders using observed covariates, as in Cinelli and Hazlett (2020). The main generic function is ovb\_bounds, which can compute both the bounds on the strength of confounding as well as the adjusted estimates, standard errors, t-values and confidence intervals.

Other functions that compute only the bounds on the strength of confounding are also provided. These functions may be useful when computing benchmarks for using only summary statistics from papers you see in print.

### Usage

```
ovb_bounds(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
ovb_bounds(
  model,
  treatment,
  benchmark_covariates = NULL,
  kd = 1,
  ky = kd,
  reduce = TRUE,
  bound = c("partial r2", "partial r2 no D", "total r2"),
  adjusted_estimates = TRUE,
```

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```
alpha = 0.05,
 h0 = 0,
)
ovb_partial_r2_bound(...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
ovb_partial_r2_bound(
  r2dxj.x,
  r2yxj.dx,
  kd = 1,
  ky = kd,
 bound_label = "manual",
)
```

#### **Arguments**

arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m model with the outcome regression, or a formula describing the model along with the data. frame containing the variables of the model.

model

An 1m object with the outcome regression.

treatment A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model. benchmark\_covariates

> The user has two options: (i) character vector of the names of covariates that will be used to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. Each variable will be considered separately; (ii) a named list with character vector names of covariates that will be used, as a group, to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. The names of the list will be used for the benchmark labels. Note: for factor variables with more than two levels, you need to provide the name of each level as encoded in the 1m model (the columns of model.matrix).

kd

numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is related to the treatment in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. Default value is 1 (confounder is as strong as benchmark covariate).

ky

numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is related to the outcome in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. Default value is the same as kd.

reduce

Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated coefficient? Default is TRUE.

bound

type of bounding procedure. Currently only "partial r2" is implemented. adjusted\_estimates

should the bounder also compute the adjusted estimates? Default is TRUE.

alpha

significance level for computing the adjusted confidence intervals. Default is 0.05.

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h0	Null hypothesis for computation of the t-value. Default is zero.
r2dxj.x	partial R2 of covariate $Xj$ with the treatment D (after partialling out the effect of the remaining covariates $X$ , excluding $Xj$ ).
r2yxj.dx	partial R2 of covariate $Xj$ with the outcome $Y$ (after partialling out the effect of the remaining covariates $X$ , excluding $Xj$ ).
bound_label	label to bounds provided manually in r2dz.x and r2yz.dx.

#### Details

Currently it implements only the bounds based on partial R2. Other bounds will be implemented soon.

#### Value

The function ovb\_bounds returns a data.frame with the bounds on the strength of the unobserved confounder as well with the adjusted point estimates, standard errors and t-values (optional, controlled by argument adjusted\_estimates = TRUE).

The function 'ovb\_partial\_r2\_bound()' returns only data.frame with the bounds on the strength of the unobserved confounder. Adjusted estimates, standard errors and t-values (among other quantities) need to be computed manually by the user using those bounds with the functions adjusted\_estimate, adjusted\_se and adjusted\_t.

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

### **Examples**

```
# Use the t statistic of female in the outcome regression
# to compute the partial R2 of female with the outcome.
r2yxj.dx \leftarrow partial_r2(t_statistic = -9.789, dof = 783)
# Use the t-value of female in the *treatment* regression
# to compute the partial R2 of female with the treatment
r2dxj.x \leftarrow partial_r2(t_statistic = -2.680, dof = 783)
# Compute manually bounds on the strength of confounders 1, 2, or 3
# times as strong as female
bounds <- ovb_partial_r2_bound(r2dxj.x = r2dxj.x,</pre>
                               r2yxj.dx = r2yxj.dx,
                               kd = 1:3,
                               ky = 1:3,
                               bound_label = paste(1:3, "x", "female"))
# Compute manually adjusted estimates
bound.values <- adjusted_estimate(estimate = 0.0973,</pre>
                                  se = 0.0232,
                                  dof = 783,
                                  r2dz.x = bounds r2dz.x
                                  r2yz.dx = bounds r2yz.dx
# Plot contours and bounds
ovb_contour_plot(estimate = 0.0973,
                se = 0.0232,
                dof = 783)
add_bound_to_contour(bounds, bound_value = bound.values)
```

ovb\_contour\_plot

Contour plots of omitted variable bias

#### **Description**

Contour plots of omitted variable bias for sensitivity analysis. The main inputs are an 1m model, the treatment variable and the covariates used for benchmarking the strength of unobserved confounding.

The horizontal axis of the plot shows hypothetical values of the partial R2 of the unobserved confounder(s) with the treatment. The vertical axis shows hypothetical values of the partial R2 of the unobserved confounder(s) with the outcome. The contour levels represent the adjusted estimates (or t-values) of the treatment effect. The reference points are the bounds on the partial R2 of the unobserved confounder if it were k times "as strong" as the observed covariate used for benchmarking (see arguments kd and ky). The dotted red line show the chosen critical threshold (for instance, zero): confounders with such strength (or stronger) are sufficient to invalidate the research conclusions. All results are exact for single confounders and conservative for multiple/nonlinear confounders.

See Cinelli and Hazlett (2020) for details.

### Usage

```
ovb_contour_plot(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
ovb_contour_plot(
 model,
  treatment,
  benchmark_covariates = NULL,
  kd = 1,
  ky = kd,
  r2dz.x = NULL,
  r2yz.dx = r2dz.x,
  bound_label = "manual",
  sensitivity.of = c("estimate", "t-value"),
  reduce = TRUE,
  estimate.threshold = 0,
  t.threshold = 2,
  nlevels = 10,
  col.contour = "grey40",
  col.thr.line = "red",
  label.text = TRUE,
  cex.label.text = 0.7,
  round = 3,
)
## S3 method for class 'formula'
ovb_contour_plot(
  formula,
  data,
  treatment,
  benchmark_covariates = NULL,
  kd = 1,
  ky = kd,
  r2dz.x = NULL,
  r2yz.dx = r2dz.x,
  bound_label = NULL,
  sensitivity.of = c("estimate", "t-value"),
  reduce = TRUE,
  estimate.threshold = 0,
  t.threshold = 2,
  nlevels = 10,
  col.contour = "grey40",
  col.thr.line = "red",
  label.text = TRUE,
  cex.label.text = 0.7,
  round = 3,
  . . .
```

```
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
ovb_contour_plot(
  estimate,
  se,
  dof,
  r2dz.x = NULL
  r2yz.dx = r2dz.x
 bound_label = rep("manual", length(r2dz.x)),
  sensitivity.of = c("estimate", "t-value"),
  reduce = TRUE,
  estimate.threshold = 0,
  t.threshold = 2,
  lim = NULL,
  lim.y = NULL,
  nlevels = 10,
  col.contour = "black",
  col.thr.line = "red",
  label.text = TRUE,
  cex.label.text = 0.7,
  label.bump.x = NULL,
  label.bump.y = NULL,
  xlab = NULL,
 ylab = NULL,
  cex.lab = 0.8,
  cex.axis = 0.8,
  cex.main = 1,
  asp = lim/lim.y,
  list.par = list(mar = c(4, 4, 1, 1), pty = "s"),
  round = 3,
)
```

### Arguments

. . .

arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m model with the outcome regression, a formula describing the model along with the data.frame containing the variables of the model, or a numeric vector with the coefficient estimate.

model

An 1m object with the outcome regression.

treatment A cha benchmark\_covariates

A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model. iates

The user has two options: (i) character vector of the names of covariates that will be used to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. Each variable will be considered separately; (ii) a named list with character vector names of covariates that will be used, *as a group*, to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. The names of the list will be used for

the benchmark labels. Note: for factor variables with more than two levels, you need to provide the name of each level as encoded in the 1m model (the columns

of model.matrix).

kd numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is re-

lated to the treatment in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. De-

fault value is 1 (confounder is as strong as benchmark covariate).

ky numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is re-

lated to the outcome in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. De-

fault value is the same as kd.

r2dz.x Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with treatment D, given

covariates X.

r2yz.dx Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with outcome Y, given co-

variates X and treatment D.

bound\_label label to bounds provided manually in r2dz.x and r2yz.dx.

sensitivity.of should the contour plot show adjusted estimates ("estimate") or adjusted t-

values ("t-value")?

reduce Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated

coefficient? Default is TRUE.

estimate.threshold

critical threshold for the point estimate.

t.threshold critical threshold for the t-value.

nlevels number of levels for the contour plot.

col. contour color of contour lines.

col.thr.line color of threshold contour line.

label.text should label texts be plotted? Default is TRUE.

cex.label.text size of the label text.

round number of digits to show in contours and bound values

formula an object of the class formula: a symbolic description of the model to be fitted.

data needed only when you pass a formula as first parameter. An object of the

class data. frame containing the variables used in the analysis.

estimate Coefficient estimate.

se Standard error of the coefficient estimate.

dof Residual degrees of freedom of the regression.

lim sets limit for x-axis. If 'NULL', limits are computed automatically.lim.y sets limit for y-axis. If 'NULL', limits are computed automatically.

label.bump.xbump on the x coordinate of label text.label.bump.ybump on the y coordinate of label text.

xlab label of x axis. If 'NULL', default label is used.
ylab label of y axis. If 'NULL', default label is used.

cex.lab The magnification to be used for x and y labels relative to the current setting of

cex.

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cex.axis	The magnification to be used for axis annotation relative to the current setting of cex.
cex.main	The magnification to be used for main titles relative to the current setting of cex.
asp	the y/x aspect ratio. Default is 1.
list.par	arguments to be passed to par. It needs to be a named list.

#### Value

The function returns invisibly the data used for the contour plot (contour grid and bounds).

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

### **Examples**

ovb\_extreme\_plot

Extreme scenarios plots of omitted variable bias

#### **Description**

Extreme scenario plots of omitted variable bias for sensitivity analysis. The main inputs are an 1m model, the treatment variable and the covariates used for benchmarking the strength of unobserved confounding.

The horizontal axis shows the partial R2 of the unobserved confounder(s) with the treatment. The vertical axis shows the adjusted treatment effect estimate. The partial R2 of the confounder with the outcome is represented by *different curves* for each scenario, as given by the parameter r2yz.dx. The red marks on horizontal axis are bounds on the partial R2 of the unobserved confounder kd times as strong as the covariates used for benchmarking. The dotted red line represent the threshold for the effect estimate deemed to be problematic (for instance, zero).

See Cinelli and Hazlett (2020) for details.

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### Usage

```
ovb_extreme_plot(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
ovb_extreme_plot(
 model,
  treatment,
  benchmark_covariates = NULL,
  kd = 1,
  r2yz.dx = c(1, 0.75, 0.5),
  r2dz.x = NULL,
  reduce = TRUE,
  threshold = 0,
  \lim = \min(c(r2dz.x + 0.1, 0.5)),
  legend = TRUE,
  cex.legend = 0.65,
 legend.bty = "n",
)
## S3 method for class 'formula'
ovb_extreme_plot(
  formula,
  data,
  treatment,
  benchmark_covariates = NULL,
  kd = 1,
  r2yz.dx = c(1, 0.75, 0.5),
  r2dz.x = NULL,
  reduce = TRUE,
  threshold = 0,
  \lim = \min(c(r2dz.x + 0.1, 0.5)),
  legend = TRUE,
  cex.legend = 0.65,
  legend.bty = "n",
)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
ovb_extreme_plot(
  estimate,
  se,
  dof,
  r2dz.x = NULL,
  r2yz.dx = c(1, 0.75, 0.5),
  reduce = TRUE,
  threshold = 0,
  \lim = \min(c(r2dz.x + 0.1, 0.5)),
```

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```
legend = TRUE,
legend.title = NULL,
cex.legend = 0.65,
legend.bty = "n",
xlab = NULL,
ylab = NULL,
cex.lab = 0.7,
cex.axis = 0.7,
list.par = list(oma = c(1, 1, 1, 1)),
...
)
```

#### **Arguments**

. . .

arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m model with the outcome regression, a formula describing the model along with the data.frame containing the variables of the model, or a numeric vector with the coefficient estimate.

model

An 1m object with the outcome regression.

treatment

A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model.

benchmark\_covariates

The user has two options: (i) character vector of the names of covariates that will be used to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. Each variable will be considered separately; (ii) a named list with character vector names of covariates that will be used, as a group, to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. The names of the list will be used for the benchmark labels. Note: for factor variables with more than two levels, you need to provide the name of each level as encoded in the lm model (the columns of model.matrix).

kd

numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is related to the treatment in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. Default value is 1 (confounder is as strong as benchmark covariate).

r2yz.dx

Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with outcome Y, given co-

variates X and treatment D.

r2dz.x

Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with treatment D, given

covariates X.

reduce

Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated coefficient? Default is TRUE.

threshold estir

d estimate threshold.

lim sets limit for x-axis. If 'NULL', limits are computed automatically.

legend should legend be plotted? Default is TRUE.

cex.legend size of the text for the legend.

legend.bty legend box. See bty argument of par.

formula an object of the class formula: a symbolic description of the model to be fitted.

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data	data needed only when you pass a formula as first parameter. An object of the class data.frame containing the variables used in the analysis.
estimate	Coefficient estimate.
se	Standard error of the coefficient estimate.
dof	Residual degrees of freedom of the regression.
legend.title	the legend title. If NULL, then default legend is used.
xlab	label of x axis. If 'NULL', default label is used.
ylab	label of y axis. If 'NULL', default label is used.
cex.lab	The magnification to be used for x and y labels relative to the current setting of cex.
cex.axis	The magnification to be used for axis annotation relative to the current setting of cex.
list.par	arguments to be passed to par. It needs to be a named list.

#### Value

The function returns invisibly the data used for the extreme plot.

### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

### **Examples**

partial\_r2 25

### **Description**

These functions computes the partial R2 and the partial (Cohen's) f2 for a linear regression model. The partial R2 describes how much of the residual variance of the outcome (after partialing out the other covariates) a covariate explains.

The partial R2 can be used as an extreme-scenario sensitivity analysis to omitted variables. Considering an unobserved confounder that explains 100% of the residual variance of the outcome, the partial R2 describes how strongly associated with the treatment this unobserved confounder would need to be in order to explain away the estimated effect. For details see Cinelli and Hazlett (2020).

The partial (Cohen's) f2 is a common measure of effect size (a transformation of the partial R2) that can also be used directly for sensitivity analysis using a bias factor table.

The function partial\_r2 computes the partial R2. The function partial\_f2 computes the partial f2 and the function partial\_f the partial f. They can take as input an lm object or you may pass directly t-value and degrees of freedom.

For partial R2 of groups of covariates, check group\_partial\_r2.

### Usage

```
partial_r2(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
partial_r2(model, covariates = NULL, ...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
partial_r2(t_statistic, dof, ...)

partial_f2(...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
partial_f2(t_statistic, dof, ...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
partial_f2(model, covariates = NULL, ...)
partial_f(...)
```

#### **Arguments**

	arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m object with the regression model or a numeric vector with the t-value of the coefficient estimate
model	an 1m object with the regression model

covariates model covariates for which the partial R2 will be computed. Default is to com-

pute the partial R2 of all covariates.

t\_statistic numeric vector with the t-value of the coefficient estimates

dof residual degrees of freedom of the regression

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#### Value

A numeric vector with the computed partial R2, f2, or f.

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

### **Examples**

plot.sensemakr

Sensitivity analysis plots for sensemakr

### Description

This function provides the contour and extreme scenario sensitivity plots of the sensitivity analysis results obtained with the function sensemakr. They are basically dispatchers to the core plot functions ovb\_contour\_plot and ovb\_extreme\_plot.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sensemakr'
plot(x, type = c("contour", "extreme"), ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x an object of class sensemakr.

type type of sensitivity plot. It can be "contour", for contour plots of omitted variable bias as in ovb\_contour\_plot; or, "extreme" for extreme scenarios plots

of omitted variable bias as in ovb\_extreme\_plot.

print.sensemakr 27

arguments passed to the plot functions. Check arguments in ovb\_contour\_plot and ovb\_extreme\_plot.

print.sensemakr

Sensitivity analysis print and summary methods for sensemakr

### **Description**

The print and summary methods provide verbal descriptions of the sensitivity analysis results obtained with the function sensemakr. The function ovb\_minimal\_reporting provides latex or html code for a minimal sensitivity analysis reporting, as suggested in Cinelli and Hazlett (2020).

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sensemakr'
print(x, digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 2L), ...)

## S3 method for class 'sensemakr'
summary(object, digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 3L), ...)

ovb_minimal_reporting(
    x,
    digits = 3,
    verbose = TRUE,
    format = c("latex", "html", "pure_html"),
    ...
)
```

### **Arguments**

X	an object of class sensemakr.
digits	minimal number of significant digits.
	arguments passed to other methods.
object	an object of class sensemakr.
verbose	if 'TRUE', the function prints the LaTeX code with cat
format	code format to print, either latex or html. The default html version has some mathematical content that requires mathjax or equivalent library to parse. If you need only html, use the option "pure_html".

### Value

The function ovb\_minimal\_reporting returns the LaTeX/HTML code invisibly in character form and also prints with cat the LaTeX code. To suppress automatic printing, set verbose = FALSE.

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#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

#### **Examples**

resid\_maker

Creates orthogonal residuals

### **Description**

This function is an auxiliary function for simulation purposes. It creates a vector of n standard normal random variables, residualizes this vector against a matrix of covariates C, then standardizes the vector again.

### Usage

```
resid_maker(n, C)
```

### **Arguments**

n sample size.

C a numeric matrix with n rows and p columns.

### Value

The function returns a numeric vector orthogonal to C.

robustness\_value 29

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Computes the robustness value

#### **Description**

This function computes the robustness value of a regression coefficient.

The robustness value describes the minimum strength of association (parameterized in terms of partial R2) that omitted variables would need to have both with the treatment and with the outcome to change the estimated coefficient by a certain amount (for instance, to bring it down to zero).

For instance, a robustness value of 1% means that an unobserved confounder that explain 1% of the residual variance of the outcome and 1% of the residual variance of the treatment is strong enough to explain away the estimated effect. Whereas a robustness value of 90% means that any unobserved confounder that explain less than 90% of the residual variance of both the outcome and the treatment assignment cannot fully account for the observed effect. You may also compute robustness value taking into account sampling uncertainty. See details in Cinelli and Hazlett (2020).

The function robustness\_value can take as input an lm object or you may directly pass the t-value and degrees of freedom.

### Usage

```
robustness_value(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
robustness_value(model, covariates = NULL, q = 1, alpha = 1, ...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
robustness_value(t_statistic, dof, q = 1, alpha = 1, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

•••	arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m model with the regression model or a numeric vector with the t-value of the coefficient estimate
model	an 1m object with the regression model.
covariates	model covariates for which the robustness value will be computed. Default is to compute the robustness value of all covariates.
q	percent change of the effect estimate that would be deemed problematic. Default is 1, which means a reduction of 100% of the current effect estimate (bring estimate to zero). It has to be greater than zero.
alpha	significance level.
t_statistic	numeric vector with the t-value of the coefficient estimates

dof residual degrees of freedom of the regression

#### Value

The function returns a numerical vector with the robustness value. The arguments q and alpha are saved as attributes of the vector for reference.

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

### **Examples**

sensemakr

Sensitivity analysis to unobserved confounders

#### **Description**

This function performs sensitivity analysis to omitted variables as discussed in Cinelli and Hazlett (2020). It returns an object of class sensemakr with several pre-computed sensitivity statistics for reporting. After running sensemakr you may directly use the plot, print and summary methods in the returned object.

#### Usage

```
sensemakr(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
sensemakr(
```

```
model,
  treatment,
 benchmark_covariates = NULL,
 kd = 1,
 ky = kd,
 q = 1,
 alpha = 0.05,
 r2dz.x = NULL,
 r2yz.dx = r2dz.x,
 bound_label = "Manual Bound",
  reduce = TRUE,
)
## S3 method for class 'formula'
sensemakr(
  formula,
 data,
  treatment,
 benchmark_covariates = NULL,
 kd = 1,
 ky = kd,
 q = 1,
 alpha = 0.05,
 r2dz.x = NULL,
 r2yz.dx = r2dz.x,
 bound_label = "",
 reduce = TRUE,
)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
sensemakr(
 estimate,
  se,
 dof,
  treatment = "D",
 q = 1,
  alpha = 0.05,
  r2dz.x = NULL,
 r2yz.dx = r2dz.x,
 bound_label = "manual_bound",
  r2dxj.x = NULL,
  r2yxj.dx = r2dxj.x,
  benchmark_covariates = "manual_benchmark",
  kd = 1,
 ky = kd,
  reduce = TRUE,
```

)

### **Arguments**

arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m model with the outcome regression, or a formula describing the model along with the

data. frame containing the variables of the model.

model An 1m object with the outcome regression.

treatment A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model.

benchmark\_covariates

The user has two options: (i) character vector of the names of covariates that will be used to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. Each variable will be considered separately; (ii) a named list with character vector names of covariates that will be used, as a group, to bound the plausible strength of the unobserved confounders. The names of the list will be used for the benchmark labels. Note: for factor variables with more than two levels, you need to provide the name of each level as encoded in the lm model (the columns of model.matrix).

kd numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is re-

lated to the treatment in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. De-

fault value is 1 (confounder is as strong as benchmark covariate).

ky numeric vector. Parameterizes how many times stronger the confounder is re-

lated to the outcome in comparison to the observed benchmark covariate. De-

fault value is the same as kd.

q percent change of the effect estimate that would be deemed problematic. Default

is 1, which means a reduction of 100% of the current effect estimate (bring

estimate to zero). It has to be greater than zero.

alpha significance level.

r2dz.x Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with treatment D, given

covariates X.

r2yz.dx Hypothetical partial R2 of unobserved confounder Z with outcome Y, given co-

variates X and treatment D.

bound\_label label to bounds provided manually in r2dz.x and r2yz.dx.

reduce Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated

coefficient? Default is TRUE.

formula an object of the class formula: a symbolic description of the model to be fitted.

data data needed only when you pass a formula as first parameter. An object of the

class data. frame containing the variables used in the analysis.

estimate Coefficient estimate.

se Standard error of the coefficient estimate.

dof Residual degrees of freedom of the regression.

r2dxj.x partial R2 of covariate Xj with the treatment D (after partialling out the effect of

the remaining covariates X, excluding Xi).

r2yxj.dx partial R2 of covariate Xj with the outcome Y (after partialling out the effect of

the remaining covariates X, excluding Xj).

#### Value

An object of class sensemakr, containing:

info A data. frame with the general information of the analysis, including the formula used, the name of the treatment variable, parameter values such as q, alpha, and whether the bias is assumed to reduce the current estimate.

sensitivity\_stats A data.frame with the sensitivity statistics for the treatment variable, as computed by the function sensitivity\_stats.

bounds A data. frame with bounds on the strength of confounding according to some benchmark covariates, as computed by the function ovb\_bounds.

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

#### See Also

The function sensemakr is a convenience function. You may use the other sensitivity functions of the package directly, such as the functions for sensitivity plots (ovb\_contour\_plot, ovb\_extreme\_plot) the functions for computing bias-adjusted estimates and t-values (adjusted\_estimate, adjusted\_t), the functions for computing the robustness value and partial R2 (robustness\_value, partial\_r2), or the functions for bounding the strength of unobserved confounders (ovb\_bounds), among others.

### **Examples**

```
# loads dataset
data("darfur")
# runs regression model
model <- lm(peacefactor ~ directlyharmed + age + farmer_dar + herder_dar +</pre>
                          pastvoted + hhsize_darfur + female + village, data = darfur)
# runs sensemakr for sensitivity analysis
sensitivity <- sensemakr(model, treatment = "directlyharmed",</pre>
                                benchmark_covariates = "female",
                                kd = 1:3)
# short description of results
sensitivity
# long description of results
summary(sensitivity)
# plot bias contour of point estimate
plot(sensitivity)
# plot bias contour of t-value
plot(sensitivity, sensitivity.of = "t-value")
# plot extreme scenario
```

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```
plot(sensitivity, type = "extreme")
# latex code for sensitivity table
ovb_minimal_reporting(sensitivity)
```

sensitivity\_stats

Sensitivity statistics for regression coefficients

#### **Description**

Convenience function that computes the robustness\_value, partial\_r2 and partial\_f2 of the coefficient of interest.

### Usage

```
sensitivity_stats(...)
## S3 method for class 'lm'
sensitivity_stats(model, treatment, q = 1, alpha = 0.05, reduce = TRUE, ...)
## S3 method for class 'numeric'
sensitivity_stats(
    estimate,
    se,
    dof,
    treatment = "treatment",
    q = 1,
    alpha = 0.05,
    reduce = TRUE,
    ...
)
```

### **Arguments**

 Arguments passed to other methods. First argument should either be an 1m
model with the outcome regression or a numeric vector with the coefficient es-

timate.

model An 1m object with the outcome regression.

treatment A character vector with the name of the treatment variable of the model.

q percent change of the effect estimate that would be deemed problematic. Default

is 1, which means a reduction of 100% of the current effect estimate (bring

estimate to zero). It has to be greater than zero.

alpha significance level.

reduce Should the bias adjustment reduce or increase the absolute value of the estimated

coefficient? Default is TRUE.

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estimate Coefficient estimate.

se Standard error of the coefficient estimate.

dof Residual degrees of freedom of the regression.

#### Value

A data. frame containing the following quantities:

treatment a character with the name of the treatment variable

estimate a numeric vector with the estimated effect of the treatment

se a numeric vector with the estimated standard error of the treatment effect

**t\_statistics** a numeric vector with the t-value of the treatment

**r2yd.x** a numeric vector with the partial R2 of the treatment and the outcome, see details in partial\_r2

rv\_q a numeric vector with the robustness value of the treatment, see details in robustness\_value

**rv\_qa** a numeric vector with the robustness value of the treatment considering statistical significance, see details in robustness\_value

**f2yd.x** a numeric vector with the partial (Cohen's) f2 of the treatment with the outcome, see details in partial\_f2

dof a numeric vector with the degrees of freedom of the model

#### References

Cinelli, C. and Hazlett, C. (2020), "Making Sense of Sensitivity: Extending Omitted Variable Bias." Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B (Statistical Methodology).

#### **Examples**

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