Package 'tergmLite'

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Title Fast Simulation of Simple Temporal Exponential Random Graph Models

Description Provides functions for the computationally efficient simulation of dynamic networks estimated with the statistical framework of temporal exponential random graph models, implemented in the 'tergm' package.

Depends R (>= 3.2.0)

License GPL-3

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`tergmLite-package` *Fast Simulation of Simple Temporal Exponential Random Graph Models*

Description

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LazyLoad:	yes

Details

The statistical framework of temporal exponential random graph models (TERGMs) provides a rigorous, flexible approach to estimating generative models for dynamic networks and simulating from them for the purposes of modeling infectious disease transmission dynamics. TERGMs are used within the `EpiModel` software package to do just that. While estimation of these models is relatively fast, the resimulation of them using the tools of the `tergm` package is computationally burdensome, requiring hours to days to iteratively resimulate networks with co-evolving demographic and epidemiological dynamics. The primary reason for the computational burden is the use of the `network` class of object (designed within the package of the same name); these objects have tremendous flexibility in the types of networks they represent but at the expense of object size. Continually reading and writing larger-than-necessary data objects has the effect of slowing the iterative dynamic simulations.

The `tergmLite` package reduces that computational burden by representing networks less flexibly, but much more efficiently. For epidemic models, the only types of networks that we typically estimate and simulate from are undirected, binary edge networks with no missing data (as it is simulated). Furthermore, the network history (edges or node attributes) does not need to be stored for research-level applications in which summary epidemiological statistics (e.g., disease prevalence, incidence, and variations on those) at the population-level are the standard output metrics for

epidemic models. Therefore, the network may be stored as a cross-sectional edgelist, which is a two-column matrix of current edges between one node (in column one) and another node (in column two). Attributes of the edges that are called within ERGMs may be stored separately in vector format, as they are in EpiModel. With this approach, the simulation time is sped up by a factor of 25-50 fold, depending on the specific research application.

---

add_vertices *Fast Version of network::add.vertices for Edgelist-formated Network*

Description

This function performs a simple operation of updating the edgelist attribute n that tracks the total network size implicit in an edgelist representation of the network.

Usage

```
add_vertices(el, nv)
```

Arguments

el	A two-column matrix of current edges (edgelist) with an attribute variable n containing the total current network size.
nv	A integer equal to the number of nodes to add to the network size at the given time step.

Details

This function is used in EpiModel modules to add vertices (nodes) to the edgelist object to account for entries into the population (e.g., births and in-migration)

Value

Returns the updated the attribute containing the population size on the edgelist, el, based on the number of new vertices specified to be added in nv.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")
nw <- network_initialize(100)
formation <- ~edges
target.stats <- 50
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 20)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)
```

```
# networkLite representation after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)

# Check current network size
attributes(dat$el[[1]])$n

# Add 10 vertices
dat$el[[1]] <- add_vertices(dat$el[[1]], 10)

# Check new network size
attributes(dat$el[[1]])$n

## End(Not run)
```

`delete_vertices` *Fast Version of network::delete.vertices for Edgelist-formated Network*

Description

Given a current two-column matrix of edges and a vector of IDs to delete from the matrix, this function first removes any rows of the edgelist in which the IDs are present and then permutes downward the index of IDs on the edgelist that were numerically larger than the IDs deleted.

Usage

```
delete_vertices(el, vid)
```

Arguments

`el`	A two-column matrix of current edges (edgelist) with an attribute variable `n` containing the total current network size.
`vid`	A vector of IDs to delete from the edgelist.

Details

This function is used in `EpiModel` modules to remove vertices (nodes) from the edgelist object to account for exits from the population (e.g., deaths and out-migration)

Value

Returns a updated edgelist object, `el`, with the edges of deleted vertices removed from the edgelist and the ID numbers of the remaining edges permuted downward.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")
set.seed(12345)
nw <- network_initialize(100)
formation <- ~edges
target.stats <- 50
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 20)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)

# Set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(123456)

# networkLite representation structure after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)

# Current edges
head(dat$el[[1]], 20)

# Remove nodes 1 and 2
nodes.to.delete <- 1:2
dat$el[[1]] <- delete_vertices(dat$el[[1]], nodes.to.delete)

# Newly permuted edges
head(dat$el[[1]], 20)

## End(Not run)
```

`ergm_prep` *Prepare Network and ERGM Objects for tergmLite*

Description

Converts network object, formation and dissolution formulas, formation and dissolution coefficients, and control settings to a thin list format for ERGM resimulation.

Usage

```
ergm_prep(
  nw,
  formation,
  coef,
  constraints,
```

```
  control = ergm::control.simulate.ergm()
)
```

Arguments

nw	An object of class network.
formation	Right-hand sided formation formula.
coef	Vector of coefficients associated with the formation formula
constraints	Constraints for the formation model (only bd) constraints currently supported.
control	Control settings passed to ergm::control.simulate.ergm.

Details

This is an internal function used within init_tergmLite. It is not exported from the package but it is documented here to demonstrate the internal inputs for init_tergmLite.

Value

Returns a list class object with two elements:

- model.form: Model coefficients and data elements.
- MHproposal: Model constraint data elements.

---

get_vertex_attribute *Get Vertex Attribute on Network Object*

Description

Gets a vertex attribute from an object of class network, wrapping the related function in the network package.

Usage

```
get_vertex_attribute(x, attrname)
```

Arguments

x	An object of class network.
attrname	The name of the attribute to get.

Details

This function is used in EpiModel workflows to set vertex attributes on an initialized empty network object (with network_initialize.

Value

Returns an object of class network.

Examples

```
nw <- network_initialize(100)
nw <- set_vertex_attribute(nw, "age", runif(100, 15, 65))
get_vertex_attribute(nw, "age")
```

---

init_tergmLite *Initializes EpiModel netsim Object for tergmLite Simulation*

Description

Initializes EpiModel netsim Object for tergmLite Simulation

Usage

```
init_tergmLite(dat)
```

Arguments

dat	A list object containing a networkDynamic object and other initialization information passed from netsim.

Details

This function is typically used within the initialization modules of EpiModel to establish the necessary networkLite infrastructure needed for tergmLite network resimulation. Specifically, this function converts (and then removes) the network class objects into an edgelist only format and prepares the ERGM structural information for simulation. The example below demonstrates the specific information returned.

Value

Returns the list object dat and adds two elements to the objects: el is an edgelist representation of the network; and p is a list object that contains all the relevant structural information for ERGM/TERGM simulation. The function also removes the network class object on the dat object, stored under nw because it is no longer needed.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")
nw <- network_initialize(100)
formation <- ~edges
target.stats <- 50
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 20)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)

# networkLite representation after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)
str(dat, max.level = 1)

# networkLite representation used by tergmLite
str(dat$p, max.level = 3)

# Elements removed are nw (network class object)
# Elements added are el (edgelist representation of network)...
dat$el

# ... and p (contains all relevant ERGM structural information for simulation)
str(dat$p, max.level = 3)

## End(Not run)
```

`networkLite` *networkLite Constructor Utility*

Description

Constructor function for a networkLite object.

Usage

```
networkLite(el, attr)
```

Arguments

`el`	an edgelist-formatted network representation, including network attributes.
`attr`	a list of named vertex attributes for the network represented by `el`.

Details

This function takes an edge list `el` with network attributes attached, and a list of vertex attributes `attr`, and returns a networkLite object, which is a list with named fields `el`, `attr`, and `gal`, with each of the first two corresponding to the argument of the same name, and `gal` being the list of network attributes (copied from `attributes(el)`) for compatibility with some `network` accessors. Missing attributes `directed`, `bipartite`, `loops`, `hyper`, and `multiple` are defaulted to `FALSE`. The network size attribute `n` must not be missing.

This new data structure is then used within the `updateModelTermInputs` function for updating the structural information on the network used for ERGM simulation.

Value

A networkLite object with edge list `el`, vertex attributes `attr`, and network attributes `gal`.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")
nw <- network_initialize(100)
formation <- ~edges
target.stats <- 50
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 20)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)

# networkLite representation after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)

# Conversion to networkLite class format
nwl <- networkLite(dat$el[[1]], dat$attr)
nwl

## End(Not run)
```

---

networkLitemethods *networkLite Methods*

Description

S3 methods for networkLite class, for generics defined in network package.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'networkLite'
as.network(nw, ...)

## S3 method for class 'networkLite'
get.vertex.attribute(x, attrname, ...)

## S3 method for class 'networkLite'
list.vertex.attributes(x)
```

Arguments

nw	a networkLite object.
...	any additional arguments.
x	a networkLite object.
attrname	the name of a vertex attribute in x.

Details

Allows use of networkLite objects in ergm_model.

---

network_initialize *Initialize Network Object*

Description

Initialize an undirected network object for use in EpiModel workflows.

Usage

```
network_initialize(
  n,
  directed = FALSE,
  hyper = FALSE,
  loops = FALSE,
  multiple = FALSE,
  bipartite = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

n	Network size.
directed	logical; should edges be interpreted as directed?
hyper	logical; are hyperedges allowed?
loops	logical; should loops be allowed?

multiple	logical; are multiplex edges allowed?
bipartite	count; should the network be interpreted as bipartite? If present (i.e., non-NULL) it is the count of the number of actors in the first mode of the bipartite network. In this case, the overall number of vertices is equal to the number of 'actors' (first mode) plus the number of 'events' (second mode), with the vertex.ids of all actors preceeding all events. The edges are then interpreted as nondirected.

Details

This function is used in EpiModel workflows to initialize an empty network object with the directed network attribute hard set to FALSE.

Value

Returns an object of class network.

Examples

```
nw <- network_initialize(100)
nw
```

---

set_vertex_attribute *Set Vertex Attribute on Network Object*

Description

Set a vertex attribute on an object of class network, wrapping the related function in the network package.

Usage

```
set_vertex_attribute(x, attrname, value, v)
```

Arguments

x	An object of class network.
attrname	The name of the attribute to set.
value	A vector of values of the attribute to be set.
v	IDs for the vertices whose attributes are to be altered.

Details

This function is used in EpiModel workflows to set vertex attributes on an initialized empty network object (with network_initialize.

Value

Returns an object of class network.

Examples

```
nw <- network_initialize(100)
nw <- set_vertex_attribute(nw, "age", runif(100, 15, 65))
nw
```

---

simulate_ergm *Fast Version of ergm::simulate.ergm for Edgelist-formatted Network*

Description

Resimulates a networkLite object given thin network data structure, edgelist, and ERGM model coefficients.

Usage

```
simulate_ergm(p, el, coef)
```

Arguments

p	A list of network-related nodal covariates and related terms that is produced with ergm_prep.
el	A two-column matrix of current edges (edgelist) with an attribute variable n containing the total current network size.
coef	Vector of coefficients associated with the formation formula.

Details

This function is used within the network resimulation module in EpiModel to update cross-sectional ERGMs based on the model coefficients and current network structure. If network structure (e.g., number of nodes) or nodal attributes has changed since the last simulation, this network resimulation should be run only after updateModelTermInputs.

Value

Returns an updated network edgelist object, typically stored on the master dat list object, based on the model simulation.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")

# Set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(1234)

nw <- network_initialize(100)
nw <- set_vertex_attribute(nw, "group", rep(1:2, each = 50))
formation <- ~edges + nodefactor("group")
target.stats <- c(15, 10)
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 1)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3, inf.prob.g2 = 0.1)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10, i.num.g2 = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)

# Full network structure after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)
str(dat, max.level = 1)

# Current network structure
dat$el[[1]]

# New network structure (all edges are new)
dat$el[[1]] <- simulate_ergm(p = dat$p[[1]],
                             el = dat$el[[1]],
                             coef = dat$nwparam[[1]]$coef.form)
dat$el[[1]]

## End(Not run)
```

---

simulate_network *Fast Version of tergm::simulate.network for networkLite Object*

Description

Resimulates a networkLite object given thin network data structure, edgelist, and STERGM model coefficients.

Usage

```
simulate_network(p, el, coef.form, coef.diss, save.changes = FALSE)
```

Arguments

p	A list of network-related nodal covariates and related terms that is produced with stergm_prep.
el	A two-column matrix of current edges (edgelist) with an attribute variable n containing the total current network size.
coef.form	Vector of coefficients associated with the formation formula.
coef.diss	Vector of coefficients associated with the dissolution formula.
save.changes	Logical, if TRUE, saves a matrix of changed edges as an attribute of the output edgelist matrix.

Details

This function is used within the network resimulation module in EpiModel to update temporal ERGMs based on the model coefficients and current network structure. If network structure (e.g., number of nodes) or nodal attributes has changed since the last simulation, this network resimulation should be run only after updateModelTermInputs.

Value

Returns an updated network edgelist object, typically stored on the master dat list object, based on the model simulation. If save.changes is TRUE, also returns a list of new edges and disolved edges with the resimulation.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")

# Set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(1234)

nw <- network_initialize(100)
nw <- set_vertex_attribute(nw, "group", rep(1:2, each = 50))
formation <- ~edges + nodefactor("group")
target.stats <- c(15, 10)
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 20)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3, inf.prob.g2 = 0.25)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10, i.num.g2 = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)

# Full network structure after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)
str(dat, max.level = 1)

# Current network structure
dat$el[[1]]
```

```
# New network structure
dat$el[[1]] <- simulate_network(p = dat$p[[1]],
                                el = dat$el[[1]],
                                coef.form = dat$nwparam[[1]]$coef.form,
                                coef.diss = dat$nwparam[[1]]$coef.diss$coef.adj,
                                save.changes = TRUE)
dat$el[[1]]

# Specific changes listed under changes list
#    (new edges: to = 1; dissolved edges: to = 0):
attributes(dat$el[[1]])$changes

## End(Not run)
```

---

stergm_prep *Prepare Network and STERGM Objects for tergmLite*

Description

Converts network object, formation and dissolution formulas, formation and dissolution coefficients, and control settings to a thin list format for STERGM resimulation.

Usage

```
stergm_prep(
  nw,
  formation,
  dissolution,
  coef.form,
  coef.diss,
  constraints,
  control = control.simulate.network()
)
```

Arguments

nw	An object of class network.
formation	Right-hand sided formation formula.
dissolution	Right-hand sided dissolution formula.
coef.form	Vector of coefficients associated with the formation formula.
coef.diss	Vector of coefficients associated with the dissolution formula.
constraints	Constraints for the formation model (only bd) constraints currently supported.
control	Control settings passed to tergm::control.simulate.network.

Details

This is an internal function used within `init_tergmLite`. It is not exported from the package but it is documented here to demonstrate the internal inputs for `init_tergmLite`.

Value

Returns a list class object with four elements:

- `model.form`: Formation model coefficients and data elements.
- `model.diss`: Dissolution model coefficients and data elements.
- `MHproposal.form`: Formation model constraint data elements.
- `MHproposal.diss`: Dissolution model constraint data elements.

`updateModelTermInputs` *Methods for Computing and Updating ERGM/STERGM Term Inputs*

Description

Function to appropriately update model inputs based on ERGM model terms when using networkLite representation.

Usage

```
updateModelTermInputs(dat, network = 1)
```

Arguments

`dat`	EpiModel dat object tracking simulation state
`network`	Numberic number of network location for multi-network simulations.

Details

Calls `ergm_model` to update model inputs based on potential exogenous changes to network structure (e.g., number of nodes) or nodal attributes used within ERGM model (see example below). This function is typically used within `EpiModel` module for network resimulation, immediately prior to calling `simulate_network` or `simulate_ergm`.

Implemented terms are:

- `edges`
- `nodematch`
- `nodefactor`
- `concurrent` (including heterogenous by attribute)
- `degree` (including heterogenous by attribute)
- `degrange`

- absdiff
- absdiffby (in the EpiModel package)
- nodecov
- nodemix
- absdiffnodemix (in the EpiModel package)
- triangle
- gwesp(fixed=TRUE)

All other ERGM terms will return errors.

Value

Returns an updated dat object with the network list structure inputs used by simulate_network or simulate_ergm with changes to network size or nodal covariates.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library("EpiModel")

# Set seed for reproducibility
set.seed(1234)

nw <- network_initialize(100)
nw <- set_vertex_attribute(nw, "group", rep(1:2, each = 50))
formation <- ~edges + nodefactor("group")
target.stats <- c(15, 10)
coef.diss <- dissolution_coefs(dissolution = ~offset(edges), duration = 1)
x <- netest(nw, formation, target.stats, coef.diss, verbose = FALSE)

param <- param.net(inf.prob = 0.3, inf.prob.g2 = 0.1)
init <- init.net(i.num = 10, i.num.g2 = 10)
control <- control.net(type = "SI", nsteps = 100, nsims = 5, tergmLite = TRUE)

# Full network structure after initialization
dat <- crosscheck.net(x, param, init, control)
dat <- initialize.net(x, param, init, control)
str(dat, max.level = 1)

# Examine the network list structure for nodefactor term
dat$p[[1]]$model.form$terms[[2]]

# inputs vector corresponds to group attribute stored here
dat$attr$group

# As example of what could happen in EpiModel: randomly reshuffle group
#   attribute values of 100 nodes
dat$attr$group <- sample(dat$attr$group)
dat$attr$group
```

```
# Update network list structure
dat <- updateModelTermInputs(dat)

# Check that network list structure for nodefactor term has been updated
dat$p[[1]]$model.form$terms[[2]]

## End(Not run)
```

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