Package ‘BACCT’

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Type  Package
Title  Bayesian Augmented Control for Clinical Trials
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Description  Implements the Bayesian Augmented Control (BAC, a.k.a. Bayesian historical data borrowing) method under clinical trial setting by calling 'Just Another Gibbs Sampler' ('JAGS') software. In addition, the 'BACCT' package evaluates user-specified decision rules by computing the type-I error/power, or probability of correct go/no-go decision at interim look. The evaluation can be presented numerically or graphically. Users need to have 'JAGS' 4.0.0 or newer installed due to a compatibility issue with 'rjags' package. Currently, the package implements the BAC method for binary outcome only. Support for continuous and survival endpoints will be added in future releases. We would like to thank AbbVie's Statistical Innovation group and Clinical Statistics group for their support in developing the 'BACCT' package.

Depends  R (>= 2.10)
Imports  rjags, ggplot2, reshape2
License  GPL (>= 3)
LazyData  TRUE
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NeedsCompilation  no
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### Description

Implements the Bayesian Augmented Control (BAC, a.k.a. Bayesian historical data borrowing) method under clinical trial setting by calling 'Just Another Gibbs Sampler' ('JAGS') software. In addition, the 'BACCT' package evaluates user-specified decision rules by computing the type-I error/power, or probability of correct go/no-go decision at interim look. The evaluation can be presented numerically or graphically. Users need to have 'JAGS' 4.0.0 or newer installed due to a compatibility issue with 'rjags' package. Currently, the package implements the BAC method for binary outcome only. Support for continuous and survival endpoints will be added in future releases. We would like to thank AbbVie’s Statistical Innovation group and Clinical Statistics group for their support in developing the 'BACCT' package.

### Details


### References


### Examples

```r
## Not run:
library(BACCT)

#Specify historical data
yh = c(11,305,52);nh = c(45,874,120)

#Specify subjects
n1 = 20;n2 = 30

#Implement BAC and wait patiently
post = BAC_binom(yh=yh,nh=nh,n1=n1,n2=n2,n.chain=5,
                   criterion.type="diff",sim.mode="express")

#Evaluate the decision
rule1 = decision_eval(object=post,decision.rule=c(0.05,0.05),
                      control.range=seq(0.3,0.5,0.01),es=c(0,0.1,0.15),csv.name="rule1.csv")

#Plot the decision evaluation
(fig1 = plot(rule1))
#Continue polishing the figure
#Add data points
fig1 + geom_point(size=4)
```
BAC_binom

Bayesian Augmented Control for Binary Responses

Description

Calling JAGS to implement BAC for binary responses

Usage

BAC_binom(yh, nh, n1, n2, y1.range = 0:n1, y2.range = 0:n2, n.chain = 5, tau.alpha = 0.001, tau.beta = 0.001, prior.type = "nonmixture", criterion.type = c("diff", "prob"), prob.threshold, sim.mode = c("full", "express"))

Arguments

- **yh, nh**: Vector of the numbers of events (subjects) in the historical trial(s). Must be of equal length.
- **n1, n2**: Number of subjects in the control or treatment arm of the current trial.
- **y1.range, y2.range**: Number of events in control or treatment arm of the current trial. See "Details".
- **n.chain**: Controls the number of posterior samples. Each chain contains 20,000 samples.
- **tau.alpha, tau.beta**: Hyperparameters of the inverse gamma distribution controlling the extent of borrowing.
- **prior.type**: Type of prior on control groups. Currently, only the inverse-gamma prior is implemented.
- **criterion.type**: Type of posterior quantities to be monitored. See "Details."
- **prob.threshold**: For criterion.type="prob" only. See "Details."
- **sim.mode**: Simulation duration reduces greatly in "express" mode, if treatment and control arms are independent. See "Details."
Details

There are two types of posterior quantities for criterion.type argument. With "diff" option, the quantity computed is \( p_T - p_C \); with "prob," such quantity is \( p\left( p_T - p_C > \Delta \right) \), where \( \Delta \) is specified by prob.threshold argument.

By default, y1.range and y2.range cover all possible outcomes and should be left unspecified in most cases. However, when \( n_1 \) and/or \( n_2 \) is fairly large, it is acceptable to use a reduced range that covers the outcomes that are most likely (e.g., within 95% CI) to be observed. This may help shorten the time to run MCMC.

Another way that can greatly shorten the MCMC running time is to specify "express" mode in sim.mode argument. Express mode reduces the number of simulations from \( \text{length}(y1\text{.range})\times\text{length}(y2\text{.range}) \) to \( \text{length}(y1\text{.range}) + \text{length}(y2\text{.range}) \). Express mode is proper when the treatment arm rate is independent of control arm rate.

Value

An object of class "BAC".

Author(s)

Hongtao Zhang

Examples

```r
## Not run: library(BACCT) #borrow from 3 historical trials# yh = c(11,300,52); nh = c(45,877,128) #specify current trial sample sizes# n1 = 20; n2 = 30

#Difference criterion type in full simulation mode# obj1 = BAC_binom(yh=yh,nh=nh,n1=n1,n2=n2,n.chain=5, criterion.type="diff",sim.mode="full")

#Probability criterion type in express simulation mode# obj2 = BAC_binom(yh=yh,nh=nh,n1=n1,n2=n2,n.chain=5, criterion.type="prob",prob.threshold=0.1,sim.mode="express")

#S3 method for class "BAC" summary(obj1)

## End(Not run)
```
decision_eval

**Description**

Applies a decision rule to a "BAC" class object and provides rule evaluation

**Usage**

```
decision_eval(object, decision.rule, control.range, es, csv.name = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

- `object` An object of class "BAC".
- `decision.rule` A vector of c(a,b) specifying the thresholds for claiming significance (or probabilities of making correct go/no-go decisions at interim look). See "Details".
- `control.range` A vector of control rates at which the decision rule is evaluated.
- `es` A vector of treatment arm effect sizes, compared to control arm.
- `csv.name` If a name is specified, the output data set is exported in CSV format.

**Details**

The decision rules specified in c(a,b) may be in the context of either interim or final analysis. At the interim, a "go" decision is made if the criterion in the "BAC" object exceeds b and a "no go" decision if such criterion is below a. Otherwise, the decision falls in the gray zone.

For the final analysis, the decision rule should satisfy a=b. Significance is claimed if the criterion in the "BAC" object exceeds a. Specifying an a larger than b will lead to an error.

For interim analysis, specified decision rule is evaluated by the probability of making a correct go or no go decision. For final analysis, power or type-I error is computed.

Negative es values are allowed if a lower rate is desirable.

**Value**

An object of class "BACdecision".

**Author(s)**

Hongtao Zhang
Examples

```r
## Not run:
# borrow from 3 historical trials#
yh = c(11,300,52); nh = c(45,877,128)
# specify current trial sample sizes#
n1 = 20; n2 = 30
obj = BAC_binom(yh=yh, nh=nh, n1=n1, n2=n2, n.chain=5,
criterion.type="prob", prob.threshold=0.1, sim.mode="express")

rule = decision_eval(obj, decision.rule=c(0.05, 0.15),
                     control.range=seq(0.3, 0.5, 0.01), es=c(0,0.1,0.2),
                     csv.name="result.csv")

# S3 method for class "BACdecision"
plot(rule, interim=T)

## End(Not run)
```

heatmap_decision

Heatmap for Decision Rules

Description

Visualizing a decision rule for binary endpoint using heatmap plots

Usage

`heatmap_decision(object, decision.rule, y1.display = NA, y2.display = NA)`

Arguments

- **object**: An object of "BAC" class.
- **decision.rule**: A vector of \(c(a, b)\) specifying the decision rule. See help for `decision_eval` function.
- **y1.display, y2.display**: A subset of control/treatment number of events to be displayed.

Author(s)

Hongtao Zhang

Examples

```r
## Not run:
# borrow from 3 historical trials#
yh = c(11,300,52); nh = c(45,877,128)
# specify current trial sample sizes#
n1 = 20; n2 = 30
obj = BAC_binom(yh=yh, nh=nh, n1=n1, n2=n2, n.chain=5,
criterion.type="prob", prob.threshold=0.1, sim.mode="express")

rule = decision_eval(obj, decision.rule=c(0.05, 0.15),
                     control.range=seq(0.3, 0.5, 0.01), es=c(0,0.1,0.2),
                     csv.name="result.csv")

# S3 method for class "BACdecision"
plot(rule, interim=T)

## End(Not run)
```
criterion.type="prob", prob.threshold=0.1, sim.mode="express")

# generate full heatmap
heatmap_decision(obj, decision.rule=c(0.05, 0.15))

# generate partial heatmap
heatmap_decision(obj, decision.rule=c(0.05, 0.15), y1.display=5:15, y2.display=10:25)

## End (Not run)

---

**plot.BACdecision**

*Generateing Plot(s) Used for Decision Rule Evaluation*

### Description

plot method for class "BACdecision"

### Usage

## S3 method for class 'BACdecision'
plot(x, es.null = 0, es.null.side, interim = F, ...)

### Arguments

- **x**
  - An object of "BACdecision" class.
- **es.null**
  - Effect size under the null hypothesis. Default is 0.
- **es.null.side**
  - "=" is the only option now.
- **interim**
  - Logical indicator of interim analysis (versus final analysis). Figures will differ in legends and titles.
- **...**
  - Argument to be passed to or from other methods

### Details

If interim=F, only one power/type I error figure will be generated. Otherwise, two figures will be generated corresponding to "No Go" and "Go" decisions respectively.

### Value

An object of "ggplot" class. Certain further edits are still allowed, such as changing title and adding reference lines.

### Author(s)

Hongtao Zhang
summary.BAC

Summarizing BAC

Description

summary method for class "BAC"

Usage

## S3 method for class 'BAC'
summary(object, ...)

Arguments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>argument</th>
<th>description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>object</td>
<td>An object of class &quot;BAC&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td>Argument to be passed to or from other methods</td>
</tr>
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Author(s)

Hongtao Zhang
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