# Package ‘ICEbox’

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**Type** Package  
**Title** Individual Conditional Expectation Plot Toolbox  
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**Description** Implements Individual Conditional Expectation (ICE) plots, a tool for visualizing the model estimated by any supervised learning algorithm. ICE plots refine Friedman's partial dependence plot by graphing the functional relationship between the predicted response and a covariate of interest for individual observations. Specifically, ICE plots highlight the variation in the fitted values across the range of a covariate of interest, suggesting where and to what extent they may exist.  
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**NeedsCompilation** no  
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## R topics documented:

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clusterICE  

*Clustering of ICE and d-ICE curves by kmeans.*

**Description**

Clustering if ICE and d-ICE curves by kmeans. All curves are centered to have mean 0 and then kmeans is applied to the curves with the specified number of clusters.

**Usage**

```
clusterICE(ice_obj, nClusters, plot = TRUE, plot_margin = 0.05,
           colorvec, plot_pdp = FALSE, x_quantile = FALSE,
           avg_lwd = 3, centered = FALSE,
           plot_legend = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `ice_obj` Object of class `ice` or `dice` to cluster.
- `nClusters` Number of clusters to find.
- `plot` If `TRUE`, plots the clusters.
- `plot_margin` Extra margin to pass to `ylim` as a fraction of the range of cluster centers.
- `colorvec` Optional vector of colors to use for each cluster.
- `plot_pdp` If `TRUE`, the PDP (`ice` object) or d-PDP (`dice` object) is plotted with a dotted black line and highlighted in yellow.
- `x_quantile` If `TRUE`, the plot is drawn with the x-axis taken to be `quantile(gridpts)`. If `FALSE`, the predictor’s original scale is used.
- `avg_lwd` Average line width to use when plotting the cluster means. Line width is proportional to the cluster’s size.
- `centered` If `TRUE`, all cluster means are shifted to be to be 0 at the minimum value of the predictor. If `FALSE`, the original cluster means are used.
- `plot_legend` If `TRUE` a legend mapping line colors to the proportion of the data in each cluster is added to the plot.
- `...` Additional arguments for plotting.

**Value**

The output of the `kmeans` call (a list of class `kmeans`).

**See Also**

`ice`, `dice`
Examples

```r
## Not run:
require(ICEbox)
require(randomForest)
require(MASS) #has Boston Housing data, Pima
data(Boston) #Boston Housing data
X = Boston
y = X$medv
X$medv = NULL

## build a RF:
bh_rf = randomForest(X, y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "age":
bh.ice = ice(object = bh_rf, X = X, y = y, predictor = "age",
frac_to_build = .1)

## cluster the curves into 2 groups.
clusterICE(bh.ice, nclusters = 2, plot_legend = TRUE)

## cluster the curves into 3 groups, start all at 0.
clusterICE(bh.ice, nclusters = 3, plot_legend = TRUE, center = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

dice

*Creates an object of class* dice.

**Description**

Estimates the partial derivative function for each curve in an ice object. See Goldstein et al (2013) for further details.

**Usage**

dice(ice_obj, DerivEstimator)

**Arguments**

- **ice_obj**
  - Object of class ice. This function generates partial derivative estimates for each row in ice_obj$ice_curves.

- **DerivEstimator**
  - Optional function with a single argument `y`. Returns the estimated partial derivative of a function sampled at the points (ice_obj$gridpts, y). If omitted, the default (a) smooths (ice_obj$gridpts, y) using supsmu and then (b) uses the D1tr function ("discrete first derivative using simple difference ratios") found in the sfsmisc package to estimate the derivative.
Value

A list of class `dice` with the following elements. Most are passed directly through from `ice_object` and exist to enable various plotting facilities.

- **d_ice_curves**: Matrix of dimension `nrow(Xice)` by `length(gridpts)`. Each row corresponds to an observation’s d-ICE curve, estimated at the values of `predictor` in `gridpts`.
- **xj**: The actual values of `predictor` observed in the data in the order of `Xice`.
- **actual_deriv**: Vector of length `nrow(Xice)` containing the estimated partial derivatives at the value of the `predictor` actually found in `Xice`.
- **sd_deriv**: Vector of length `length(gridpts)` with the cross-observation sd of partial derivative estimates. For instance `sd_deriv[1]` equals `sd(d_ice_curves[,1])`.
- **logodds**: Passed from `ice_object`. If `TRUE`, `d_ice_curves` are estimated derivatives of the centered log-odds.
- **gridpts**: Passed from `ice_object`.
- **predictor**: Passed from `ice_object`.
- **xlab**: Passed from `ice_object`.
- **nominal_axis**: Passed from `ice_object`.
- **range_y**: Passed from `ice_object`.
- **Xice**: Passed from `ice_object`.
- **dpdp**: The estimated partial derivative of the PDP.

References


See Also

plot.dice, print.dice, summary.dice

Examples

```r
## Not run:
# same examples as for 'ice', but now create a derivative estimate as well.
require(ICEbox)
require(randomForest)
require(MASS) #has Boston Housing data, Pima

####### regression example
data(Boston) #Boston Housing data
X = Boston
y = X$medv
```
X$medv = NULL

## build a RF:
bhd_rf_mod = randomForest(X, y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "age":
bhd.ice = ice(object = bhd_rf_mod, X = X, y = y, predictor = "age", frac_to_build = .1)

# make a dice object:
bhd.dice = dice(bhd.ice)

#### classification example
data(Pima.te)  #Pima Indians diabetes classification
y = Pima.te$type
X = Pima.te
X$type = NULL

## build a RF:
pima_rf = randomForest(x = X, y = y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "skin":
# For classification we plot the centered log-odds. If we pass a predict
# function that returns fitted probabilities, setting logodds = TRUE instructs
# the function to set each ice curve to the centered log-odds of the fitted
# probability.
pima.ice = ice(object = pima_rf, X = X, predictor = "skin", logodds = TRUE,
               predictfcn = function(object, newdata){
                   predict(object, newdata, type = "prob")[, 2]
               })

# make a dice object:
pima.dice = dice(pima.ice)

## End(Not run)

---

**ice**

*Creates an object of class ice.*

**Description**

Creates an ice object with individual conditional expectation curves for the passed model object, X matrix, predictor, and response. See Goldstein et al (2013) for further details.

**Usage**

```
ice(object, X, y, predictor, predictfcn, verbose = TRUE, frac_to_build = 1,
     indices_to_build = NULL, num_grid_pts, logodds = FALSE, probit = FALSE, ...)
```
Arguments

**object** The fitted model to estimate ICE curves for.

**x** The design matrix we wish to estimate ICE curves for. Rows are observations, columns are predictors. Typically this is taken to be object’s training data, but this is not strictly necessary.

**y** Optional vector of the response values object was trained on. It is used to compute y-axis ranges that are useful for plotting. If not passed, the range of predicted values is used and a warning is printed.

**predictor** The column number or variable name in x of the predictor of interest, \((x_S = X[:, j])\).

**predictfcn** Optional function that accepts two arguments, object and newdata, and returns an N vector of object’s predicted response for data newdata. If this argument is not passed, the procedure attempts to find a generic predict function corresponding to class(object).

**verbose** If TRUE, prints messages about the procedure’s progress.

**frac_to_build** Number between 0 and 1, with 1 as default. For large x matrices or fitted models that are slow to make predictions, specifying frac_to_build less than 1 will choose a subset of the observations to build curves for. The subset is chosen such that the remaining observations’ values of predictor are evenly spaced throughout the quantiles of the full \(x_{[:, predictor]}\) vector.

**indices_to_build** Vector of indices, \(\subset \{1, \ldots, nrow(X)\}\) specifying which observations to build ICE curves for. As this is an alternative to setting frac_to_build, both cannot be specified.

**num_grid_pts** Optional number of values in the range of predictor at which to estimate each curve. If missing, the curves are estimated at each unique value of predictor in the X observations we estimate ICE curves for.

**logodds** If TRUE, for classification creates PDPs by plotting the centered log-odds implied by the fitted probabilities. We assume that the generic or passed predict function returns probabilities, and so the flag tells us to transform these to centered logits after the predictions are generated. Note: probit cannot be TRUE.

**probit** If TRUE, for classification creates PDPs by plotting the probit implied by the fitted probabilities. We assume that the generic or passed predict function returns probabilities, and so the flag tells us to transform these to probits after the predictions are generated. Note: logodds cannot be TRUE.

... Other arguments to be passed to object’s generic predict function.

Value

A list of class ice with the following elements.

**gridpts** Sorted values of predictor at which each curve is estimated. Duplicates are removed – by definition, elements of gridpts are unique.

**ice_curves** Matrix of dimension nrow(X) by length(gridpts). Each row corresponds to an observation’s ICE curve, estimated at the values of predictor in gridpts.
xj
The actual values of predictor observed in the data in the order of Xice.

actual_predictions
Vector of length nrow(X) containing the model’s predictions at the actual value
of the predictors in the order of Xice.

xlab
String with the predictor name corresponding to predictor. If predictor is a
column number, xlab is set to colnames(X)[, predictor].

nominal_axis
If TRUE, length(gridpts) is 5 or fewer; otherwise FALSE. When TRUE the plot
function treats the x-axis as if x is nominal.

range_y
If y was passed, the range of the response. Otherwise it defaults to be
max(ice_curves) - min(ice_curves) and a message is printed to the console.

sd_y
If y was passed, the standard deviation of the response. Otherwise it is defaults
to sd(actual_predictions) and a message is printed to the console.

Xice
A matrix containing the subset of X for which ICE curves are estimated. Observa-
tions are ordered to be increasing in predictor. This ordering is the same one
as in ice_curves, xj and actual_predictions, meaning for all these objects
the i-th element refers to the same observation in X.

pdp
A vector of size length(gridpts) which is a numerical approximation to the
partial dependence function (PDP) corresponding to the estimated ICE curves.
See Goldstein et al (2013) for a discussion of how the PDP is a form of post-
processing. See Friedman (2001) for a description of PDPs.

predictor
Same as the argument, see argument description.

logodds
Same as the argument, see argument description.

indices_to_build
Same as the argument, see argument description.

frac_to_build
Same as the argument, see argument description.

predictfcn
Same as the argument, see argument description.

References

Goldstein, A., Kapelner, A., Bleich, J., and Pitkin, E., Peeking Inside the Black Box: Visualizing
Statistical Learning With Plots of Individual Conditional Expectation. (2014) Journal of Computa-
tional and Graphical Statistics, in press

See Also
plot.ice, print.ice, summary.ice

Examples

## Not run:
require(ICEbox)
require(randomForest)
require(MASS) #has Boston Housing data, Pima
##### regression example

data(Boston) # Boston Housing data
X = Boston
y = X$medv
X$medv = NULL

## build a RF:
bhd_rf_mod = randomForest(X, y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "age":
bhd.ice = ice(object = bhd_rf_mod, X = X, y = y, predictor = "age", frac_to_build = .1)

##### classification example

data(Pima.te) # Pima Indians diabetes classification
y = Pima.te$type
X = Pima.te
X$type = NULL

## build a RF:
pima_rf_mod = randomForest(x = X, y = y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "skin":
# For classification we plot the centered log-odds. If we pass a predict
# function that returns fitted probabilities, setting logodds = TRUE instructs
# the function to set each ice curve to the centered log-odds of the fitted
# probability.
pima.ice = ice(object = pima_rf_mod, X = X, predictor = "skin", logodds = TRUE,
  predictfcn = function(object, newdata){
    predict(object, newdata, type = "prob")[, 2]
  }
)

## End(Not run)

---

**plot.dice**

*Create a plot of a dice object.*

**Description**

Plotting of dice objects.

**Usage**

```r

## S3 method for class 'dice'
plot(x, plot_margin = 0.05, frac_to_plot = 1,
     plot_sd = TRUE, plot_orig_pts_deriv = TRUE, pts_preds_size = 1.5,
     colorvec, color_by = NULL, x_quantile = FALSE, plot_dpdp = TRUE,
     rug_quantile = seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1), ...)
```

Arguments

- **x**  
  Object of class dice to plot.
- **plot_margin**  
  Extra margin to pass to ylim as a fraction of the range of x$d_ice_curves$.
- **frac_to_plot**  
  If frac_to_plot is less than 1, randomly plot frac_to_plot fraction of the curves in x$d_ice_curves$.
- **plot_sd**  
  If TRUE, plot the cross-observation sd of partial derivatives below the derivative plots.
- **plot_orig_pts_deriv**  
  If TRUE, marks each curve at the location of the derivative estimate at the location of predictor actually occurring in the data. If FALSE no mark is drawn.
- **pts_preds_size**  
  Size of points to make if plot_orig_pts_deriv is TRUE.
- **colorvec**  
  Optional vector of colors to use for each curve.
- **color_by**  
  Optional variable name (or column number) in xice to color curves by. If the color_by variable has 10 or fewer unique values, a discrete set of colors is used for each value and a legend is printed and returned. If there are more values, curves are colored from light to dark corresponding to low to high values of the variable specified by color_by.
- **x_quantile**  
  If TRUE, the plot is drawn with the x-axis taken to be quantile(gridpts). If FALSE, the predictor's original scale is used.
- **plot_dpdp**  
  If TRUE, the estimated derivative of the PDP is plotted and highlighted in yellow.
- **rug_quantile**  
  If not null, tick marks are drawn on the x-axis corresponding to the vector of quantiles specified by this parameter. Forced to NULL when x_quantile is set to TRUE.
- **...**  
  Additional plotting arguments.

Value

A list with the following elements.

- **plot_points_indices**  
  Row numbers of Xice of those observations presented in the plot.
- **legend_text**  
  If the color_by argument was used, a legend describing the map between the color_by predictor and curve colors.

See Also

dice

Examples

```r
## Not run:
require(ICEbox)
require(randomForest)
require(MASS) #has Boston Housing data, Pima

data(Boston) #Boston Housing data
```
X = Boston
y = X$medv
X$medv = NULL

## build a RF:
bhd_rf_mod = randomForest(X, y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "age":
bhd.ice = ice(object = bhd_rf_mod, X = X, y = y, predictor = "age", frac_to_build = .1)

# estimate derivatives, then plot.
bhd.dice = dice(bhd.ice)
plot(bhd.dice)

## End(Not run)

---

### Description

Plotting of ice objects.

### Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'ice'
plot(x, plot_margin = 0.05, frac_to_plot = 1,
     plot_points_indices = NULL, plot_orig_pts_preds = TRUE,
     pts_preds_size = 1.5, colorvec, color_by = NULL,
     x_quantile = FALSE, plot_pdp = TRUE,
     centered = FALSE, prop_range_y = TRUE,
     rug_quantile = seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.1),
     centered_percentile = 0,
     point_labels = NULL, point_labels_size = NULL,
     prop_type,...)
```

### Arguments

- **x**
  - Object of class ice to plot.
- **plot_margin**
  - Extra margin to pass to ylim as a fraction of the range of x$ice_curves.
- **frac_to_plot**
  - If frac_to_plot is less than 1, randomly plot frac_to_plot fraction of the curves in x$ice_curves.
- **plot_points_indices**
  - If not NULL, this plots only the indices of interest. If not NULL, frac_to_plot must be 1 otherwise an error is thrown. Default is NULL.
- **plot_orig_pts_preds**
  - If TRUE, marks each curve at the location of the observation’s actual fitted value. If FALSE, no mark is drawn.
plot.ice

pts_preds_size  Size of points to make if plot_origin_pts_preds is TRUE.
colorvec  Optional vector of colors to use for each curve.
color_by  Optional variable name in Xice, column number in Xice, or data vector of the correct length to color curves by. If the color_by variable has 10 or fewer unique values, a discrete set of colors is used for each value and a legend is printed and returned. If there are more values, curves are colored from light to dark corresponding to low to high values of the variable specified by color_by.
x_quantile  If TRUE, the plot is drawn with the x-axis taken to be quantile(gridpts). If FALSE, the predictor’s original scale is used.
plot_pdp  If TRUE, the PDP is plotted and highlighted in yellow.
centered  If TRUE, all curves are re-centered to be 0 at the quantile given by centered_percentile. See Goldstein et al (2013) for details and examples. If FALSE, the original ice_curves are plotted.
prop_range_y  When TRUE and centered=TRUE as well, the range of the right vertical axis displays the centered values as a fraction of the sd of the fitted values on actual observations if prop_type is missing or set to "sd". If prop_type is set to "range", the right axis displays the centered values as a fraction of the range of the fitted values over the actual observations.
centered_percentile  The percentile of predictor for which all ice_curves are "pinched together" and set to be 0. Default is .01.
point_labels  If not NULL, labels to plot next to each point. Default is NULL.
point_labels_size  If not NULL, size of labels to plot next to each point. Default is NULL which means it’s the size of pts_preds_size.
rug_quantile  If not NULL, tick marks are drawn on the x-axis corresponding to the vector of quantiles specified by this parameter. Forced to NULL when x_quantile is set to TRUE.
prop_type  Scaling factor for the right vertical axis in centered plots if prop_range_y is TRUE. Can be one of "sd" (default) or "range". Ignored if centered and prop_range_y are not both TRUE.

Value

A list with the following elements.

plot_points_indices  Row numbers of Xice of those observations presented in the plot.
legend_text  If the color_by argument was used, a legend describing the map between the color_by predictor and curve colors.

See Also

ice
## Examples

```r
## Not run:
require(ICEbox)
require(randomForest)
require(MASS) # has Boston Housing data, Pima
data(Boston) # Boston Housing data
X = Boston
y = X$medv
X$medv = NULL

## build a RF:
bhd_rf_mod = randomForest(X, y)

## Create an 'ice' object for the predictor "age":
bhd.ice = ice(object = bhd_rf_mod, X = X, y = y, predictor = "age",
              frac_to_build = .1)

## plot
plot(bhd.ice, x_quantile = TRUE, plot_pdp = TRUE, frac_to_plot = 1)

## centered plot
plot(bhd.ice, x_quantile = TRUE, plot_pdp = TRUE, frac_to_plot = 1,
     centered = TRUE)

## color the curves by high and low values of 'rm'.
# First create an indicator variable which is 1 if the number of
# rooms is greater than the median:
median_rm = median(X$rm)
bhd.ice$ice$1_rm = ifelse(bhd.ice$ice$rm > median_rm, 1, 0)

plot(bhd.ice, frac_to_plot = 1, centered = TRUE, prop_range_y = TRUE,
     x_quantile = T, plot_orig_pts_preds = T, color_by = "1_rm")
bhd.ice = ice(object = bhd_rf_mod, X = X, y = y, predictor = "age",
              frac_to_build = 1)
plot(bhd.ice, frac_to_plot = 1, centered = TRUE, prop_range_y = TRUE,
     x_quantile = T, plot_orig_pts_preds = T, color_by = y)

## End(Not run)
```

---

### print.dice

**Print method for dice objects.**

#### Description

Prints a summary of a dice object.

#### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dice'
print(x, ...)
```
print.ice

Arguments

x       Object of class dice.
...

print.ice       Print method for ice objects.

Description

Prints a summary of an ice object.

Usage

## S3 method for class 'ice'
print(x, ...)

Arguments

x       Object of class ice.
...

summary.dice       Summary function for dice objects.

Description

Alias of print method.

Usage

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

Arguments

object       Object of class dice.
...

...       Ignored for now.
summary.ice  Summary function for ice objects.

Description

Alias of print method.

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'ice'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

- `object`  Object of class ice.
- `...`  Ignored for now.

WhiteWine  Data concerning white wine.

Description

The WhiteWine data frame has 4898 rows and 12 columns and concerns white wines from a region in Portugal. The response variable, quality, is a wine quality metric, taken to be the median preference score of three blind tasters on a scale of 1-10. The 11 covariates are physicochemical metrics of wine quality such as citric acid content, sulphates, etc.

Usage

WhiteWine

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