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Description


Details

In multistage tests different groups of items (modules) are presented to persons depending on their response behavior to previous item groups. Multistage testing is thus a simple form of adaptive testing. If data is collected on the basis of such a multistage design and the items are estimated using the Conditional Maximum Likelihood (CML) method, Glas (1989) <doi:10.3102/10769986013001045> has shown, that the item parameters are biased. Zwitser and Maris (2015) <doi:10.1007/s11336-013-9369-6> showed in their work, that taking the applied multistage design in consideration and including it in the estimation of the item parameters, the estimation of item parameters is not biased using the CML method. Their proposed solution is implemented in our package. MST designs with a probabilistic instead of a deterministic routing rule (see, e.g. Chen, Yamamoto, & von Davier, 2014 <doi:10.1201/b16858>) are not estimated with this method, therefore the proposed soloution is again modified by Steinfeld and Robitzsch (2021) <doi:10.31234/osf.io/ew27f> which is also integrated into this package.

An application example can be found in the vignette by using the following command in the R console vignette("introduction_to_tmt")
Author(s)

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References

See Also

Useful links:

- [https://jansteinfeld.github.io/tmt/](https://jansteinfeld.github.io/tmt/)
- [https://github.com/jansteinfeld/tmt](https://github.com/jansteinfeld/tmt)
- Report bugs at [https://github.com/jansteinfeld/tmt/issues](https://github.com/jansteinfeld/tmt/issues)

Examples

```r
tmt:::tmt_ascii()
```

```
## _ _
## | |_| _ __ ___ | |_
## | __| |
#`/quotesingle.Var 
#`
## | |_| | | | | | |_
## \
```

### tmt_gmc

Function for the Graphical Model Check

**Description**

This function performs a so-called graphical model check on the basis of the previously performed Likelihood Ratio Test [tmt::tmt_lrttest()]. The estimated item parameters of the two groups are plotted against each other. There is the possibility in this function to highlight items, to be excluded items from the plot, and to produce confidence-ellipses if desired.

**Usage**

```r
tmt_gmc(  
  object,  
  title = "graphical model check",  
  xaxis = NULL,  
  yaxis = NULL,  
  lim = NULL,  
  ellipse = FALSE,  
  drop = NULL,  
  alpha = 0.05,  
  legendtitle = "split criteria",  
  info = NULL  
)
```

**Arguments**

- `object` object of the function [tmt::tmt_lrttest()]
- `title` of the plot
tmt_lrtest

xaxis description of the x-axis
yaxis description of the y-axis
lim of the plot
ellipse should confidence-ellipse be plotted
drop which items should be excluded from the plot
alpha which alpha should be used for the ellipse
legendtitle Title of the Legend
info vector with further information for the Plot with names of submitted items

Author(s)
Jan Steinfeld

Examples

#############################################################################
# Example of Graphical Model Check
#############################################################################
items <- seq(-3,3,length.out = 16)
names(items) <- paste0("i",1:16)
persons = 500
dat <- tmt:::sim.rm(theta = persons, b = items, seed = 1234)
dat.rm <- tmt_rm(dat)
dat.lrt <- tmt_lrtest(dat.rm, split = "median")

info <- rep(c("group_a","group_b"),each = 8)
names(info) <- paste0("i",1:16)
drop <- c("i1","i18")

#library(ggplot2)
plot <- tmt_gmc(object = dat.lrt,
   ellipse = TRUE,
   info = info,
   drop = drop,
   title = "graphical model check",
   alpha = 0.05,
   legendtitle = "split criteria")

Computation of Andersen’s Likelihood-Ratio Test

Description

This function applies the Likelihood Ratio Test of Andersen. Note that all persons with raw score equal to "median" are assigned to the lower group in cases of a median split. It is also allowed to split after "mean" or submit any dichotomous vector as split criteria.
Usage

tmt_lrtest(object, split = "median", cores = NULL, se = TRUE, ...)

Arguments

object it is necessary to submit an object of the function mst or nmst
split default is the split criteria "median" of the raw score, optional are "mean" or any
dichotomous vector
cores submit integer of cores you would like to apply
se logical: if true, the standard error is estimated
... further arguments for the tmt_rm function

Value

List with following entries

data_orig Submitted data frame with item responses
betapars_subgroup List of item parameters (difficulty) for each subgroup
se.beta_subgroup List of standard errors of the estimated item parameters
model Used model ((mst) for Rasch model with multistage design)
LRvalue LR-value
df Degrees of freedoms for the test statistic
pvalue P-value of the likelihood ratio test
loglik_subgroup Log-likelihoods for the subgroups
split_subgroup List of split vector for each subgroup
call Submitted arguments for the function (matched call)
fitobj List of objects from subgroup estimation

Author(s)

Jan Steinfeld

References


See Also

tmt_rm
Examples

```r
# example for tmt_lrtest
# Example Rasch model and Likelihood Ratio Test
dat <- tmt:::sim.rm(theta = 100, b = 10, seed = 1111)
dat.rm <- tmt_rm(dat = dat)
dat.lrt <- tmt_lrtest(dat.rm)
summary(dat.lrt)
```

### Description

This function translates the specified multistage design for different purposes and functions used in this package. It is possible to apply this function on deterministic as well as probabilistic multistage designs with either sequential or cumulative routing. A detailed instruction of the application can be found in the package vignette.

### Usage

```r
tmt_mstdesign(
    mstdesign,
    options = c("design", "simulation", "modules", "items")
)
```

### Arguments

- `mstdesign`: definition of desired multistage design
- `options`: vector of required output. `'modules'` = Matrix with the classification of modules and items. `'simulation'` = list of all stages. `'design'` = matrix of all branches. `'items'` vector of all items.

### Value

List with following entries
- `modules`: Matrix which contains each module with its corresponding items
- `simulation`: List of the multistage design. Each element within the list contains a matrix for each stage
- `design`: Matrix of all possible branches
- `items`: Vector of item names

### Author(s)

Jan Steinfeld
Examples

# example for tmt_mstdesign
## Not run:

# Example-1

# define branches
b1 := B4(0,2) + B2(0,2) + B1(0,5)
b2 := B4(0,2) + B2(3,5) + B3(0,5)
b3 := B4(3,5) + B5(0,2) + B3(0,5)
b4 := B4(3,5) + B5(3,5) + B6(0,5)

# for simulation purposes
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "simulation")$simulation

# summary of the submitted design
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "design")$design

# matrix of all modules with the containing items
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "modules")$modules

# vector of all items
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "items")$items

# list of all four elements
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = c("design", "simulation", "modules", "items"))

## End(Not run)

# Example-2

# define branches
b1 := B4(0,2) + B2(0,2) + B1(0,5)
b2 := B4(0,2) + B2(3,5) + B3(0,5)
b3 := B4(3,5) + B5(0,2) + B3(0,5)
b4 := B4(3,5) + B5(3,5) + B6(0,5)

# for simulation purposes
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "simulation")$simulation

# summary of the submitted design
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "design")$design

# matrix of all modules with the containing items
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "modules")$modules

# vector of all items
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = "items")$items

# list of all four elements
# tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign, options = c("design", "simulation", "modules", "items"))
# define branches
b1 := B4(0,2) + B2(0,2) + B1
b2 := B4(0,2) + B2(3,5) + B3
b3 := B4(3,5) + B5(0,2) + B3
b4 := B4(3,5) + B5(3,5) + B6

designelements <- tmt_mstdesign(mstdesign,
   options = c("design", "simulation", "modules", "items"))

---

**tmt_msttemplate**  
*Function to create a template for the multistage design used in tmt*

### Description

This function creates a template for the definition of multistage designs as required by the estimation function (in multistage design cases). The defines multistage design is then handed over to the function `tmt_mstdesign`. Essentially, these are the modules, rules and path sections. In the formula-based notation, it is also possible to state additional conditions (constraints) that can be found in the data and are reflected in the multistage design.

### Usage

```r
# create simple template
formula = "start(start) += S1(B1,B2,B3) += S2(B4,B5,B6,B7)"
```

### Arguments

- **formula**  
  formula for the desired template of a multistage design. If formula is left empty, a matrix as MST design template is generated.
- **full**  
  logical if the modules and rules sections should also be created
- **eval**  
  logical should the text input be evaluated (e.g. 3:6 = c(3, 4, 5, 6))

### Author(s)

Jan Steinfeld

### Examples

```r
# create simple template
formula = "start(start) += S1(B1,B2,B3) += S2(B4,B5,B6,B7)"
tmt_msttemplate(formula, full = TRUE, eval = TRUE)
tmt_msttemplate(formula, full = TRUE, eval = FALSE)
```

---

# create complex template

```r
formulas <- c("start(start) += S1(B1,B2,B3) += S2(B4,B5,B6,B7)"
"b1 := B4(0,2) + B2(0,2) + B1"
"b2 := B4(0,2) + B2(3,5) + B3"
"b3 := B4(3,5) + B5(0,2) + B3"
"b4 := B4(3,5) + B5(3,5) + B6"
")
tmt_msttemplate(formulas, full = TRUE, eval = TRUE)
tmt_msttemplate(formulas, full = TRUE, eval = FALSE)
```
formula = "nativ(no,yes) ~ education(low,medium,heigh) ~
    CBM(3:6) += S1(B1,B2,B3) += S2(B4,B5,B6,B7)"
tmt_msttemplate(formula, full = TRUE, eval = TRUE)
tmt_msttemplate(formula, full = TRUE, eval = FALSE)

# create template for the input as matrix
# tmt_msttemplate()

tmt_rm  Estimation (CML) of the Rasch model with or without multistage designs.

Description
The tmt_rm function estimates the Rasch model. If the data are collected based on a multistage
design (see Zwitser and Maris, 2015) the specific multistage design mstdesign has to be submitted.

Usage

tmt_rm(
  dat,
  mstdesign = NULL,
  weights = NULL,
  start = NULL,
  sum0 = TRUE,
  se = TRUE,
  optimization = "nlminb",
  ...
)

Arguments

dat  a matrix of dichotomous (0/1) data or a list of the function tmt_designsim
mstdesign Model for the multistage design, if CML estimation without multistage designs
          is required, than leave the default value
weights is optional for the weights of cases
start  Vector of start values. If no vector is provided, the start values will be automatic
generated
sum0   logical: If the item parameters should be normed to 'sum = 0' as recommended
        by Glas (2016, p. 208). Otherwise sum0=FALSE
se      logical: should the standard error should be estimated?
optimization character: Per default 'nlminb' is used but 'optim' is also supported.
...  optional further arguments for optim and nlminb use control = list() with argu-
        ments.
Details

According to Glas (1988) <doi:10.3102/10769986013001045> CML estimation of item parameters is biased if the data is collected in multistage designs and this design is not considered. Zwitser and Maris (2015) <doi:10.1007/s11336-013-9369-6> propose to use an additional design matrix to fragment the elementary symmetric function. Their approach is implemented in this package. MST designs with a probabilistic instead of a deterministic routing rule (see, e.g. Chen, Yamamoto, & von Davier, 2014 <doi:10.1201/b16858>) are not estimated with this method, therefore the proposed solution is again modified by Steinfeld and Robitzsch (2021) <doi:10.31234/osf.io/ew27f> which is also integrated into this package.

Value

List with following entries

- `betapar`: Estimated item difficulty parameters (if sum0=FALSE, than the first item is set to 0)
- `se.beta`: Standard errors of the estimated item parameters
- `loglik`: Conditional log-likelihood of the model
- `df`: Number of estimated parameters
- `N`: Number of Persons
- `I`: Number of items
- `data_orig`: Submitted data frame with item responses
- `data`: Used data frame with item responses
- `desmat`: Design matrix
- `convergence`: Convergence criterion
- `iterations`: Number of iterations
- `hessian`: Hessian-Matrix
- `model`: Used model ((mst) for Rasch model with multistage design)
- `call`: Submitted arguments for the function (matched call)
- `designelements`: If the multistage version is requested, the preprocessed design is returned, otherwise NULL
- `mstdesign`: If the multistage version is requested, the submitted design is returned, otherwise NULL

Author(s)

Jan Steinfeld

References


See Also
tmt_lrtest

Examples

```r
# example for tmt_rm
# Example-1 simple Rasch model
dat <- tmt:::sim.rm(theta = 100, b = 10, seed = 1111)
dat.rm <- tmt_rm(dat = dat)
summary(dat.rm)
```
```r
# Example-1 for multistage-design
mstdesign <- "
M1 <- c(i1, i2, i3, i4, i5)
M2 <- c(i6, i7, i8, i9, i10)
M3 <- c(i11, i12, i13, i14, i15)
```

```r
# define path
p1 := M2(0,2) + M1
p2 := M2(3,5) + M3
"
items <- seq(-1,1,length.out = 15)
names(items) <- paste0("i",1:15)
persons = 1000

dat <- tmt_sim(mstdesign = mstdesign, 
               items = items, persons = persons)
dat.rm <- tmt_rm(dat = dat, mstdesign = mstdesign)
summary(dat.rm)

## Not run:
############################################################################
# Example-2 simple Rasch model
############################################################################
# also using "paste" is possible
mstdesign <- "
M1 =~ paste0("i",1:5)
M2 =~ paste0("i",6:10)
M3 =~ paste0("i",11:15)
M4 =~ paste0("i",16:20)
M5 =~ paste0("i",21:25)
M6 =~ paste0("i",26:30)
# define path
p1 := M4(0,2) + M2(0,2) + M1
p2 := M4(0,2) + M2(3,5) + M3
p3 := M4(3,5) + M5(0,2) + M3
p4 := M4(3,5) + M5(3,5) + M6
" 
items <- seq(-1,1,length.out = 30)
names(items) <- paste0("i",1:30)
persons = 1000

dat <- tmt_sim(mstdesign = mstdesign, 
               items = items, persons = persons)
dat.rm <- tmt_rm(dat = dat, mstdesign = mstdesign)
summary(dat.rm)

############################################################################
# Example-3 for cumulative multistage-design
############################################################################
# also using 'paste' is possible
mstdesign <- "
M1 =~ paste0('i',21:30)
M2 =~ paste0('i',21:30)
M3 =~ paste0('i',1:10)
M4 =~ paste0('i',31:40)"
\begin{verbatim}
M5 <- paste0('i',41:50)
M6 <- paste0('i',51:60)

# define path
p1 := M1(0, 5) += M2( 0,10) += M3
p2 := M1(0, 5) += M2(11,15) += M4
p3 := M1(6,10) += M5( 6,15) += M4
p4 := M1(6,10) += M5(16,20) += M6

items <- seq(-1,1,length.out = 60)
names(items) <- paste0("i",1:60)
persons = 1000
dat <- tmt_sim(mstdesign = mstdesign,
               items = items, persons = persons)
dat.rm <- tmt_rm(dat = dat, mstdesign = mstdesign)
summary(dat.rm)

## End(Not run)
\end{verbatim}

\begin{description}
\item[tmt_sim] Function for the Simulation of Multistage-Designs
\end{description}

\textbf{Description}

This function simulates data according to the specified and submitted multistage design. The persons are drawn from a standard normal distribution if the amount of persons are specified. As an additional argument, a seed can also be set. If requested, it is also possible to submit a vector or list of person parameters to specify different person distributions.

\textbf{Usage}

\begin{verbatim}
tmt_sim(
    mstdesign = NULL,
    items = NULL,
    persons = NULL,
    preconditions = NULL,
    ...
)
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Arguments}

\begin{itemize}
\item[mstdesign] definition of desired multistage design
\item[items] vector of difficulty parameters for each items
\item[persons] amount of persons per starting module
\item[preconditions] definition of preconditions can optionally be specified. In the case of probabilistic routing preconditions such as a pre-test, which are taken into account in the MST design. For the specification the correlation with the true person parameter
\end{itemize}
have to be specified. The submitted correlation is adjusted in the function according to Demirtas and Yavuz (2015; <doi:10.1080/10543406.2014.920868>)

It is also possible to submit your own vector with integers for the preconditions.

...  

further optional arguments like setting a seed

### Value

List with following entries

- `data` Matrix with item responses
- `data_mst` Data frame with item responses and additional a vector of used modules per person
- `persons` Generated and used person parameters
- `mstdesign` Submitted multistage design

### Author(s)

Jan Steinfeld

### References


### Examples

```r
# translate multistage model 1
mstdesign <- "
M1 =~ c(i1, i2, i3, i4, i5)
M2 =~ c(i6, i7, i8, i9, i10)
M3 =~ c(i11, i12, i13, i14, i15)
#
# define branches
p1 := M2(0,2) + M1
p2 := M2(3,5) + M3
items <- seq(-3,3,length.out = 15)
names(items) <- paste0("i", seq(items))
data_1 <- tmt_sim(mstdesign = mstdesign,
items = items,
persons = 500,
seed = 1111)
```

```r
# translate multistage model 2
mstdesign <- "
```
M1 =~ c(i1, i2, i3, i4, i5)
M2 =~ c(i6, i7, i8, i9, i10)
M3 =~ c(i11, i12, i13, i14, i15)
M4 =~ c(i16, i17, i18, i19, i20)
M5 =~ c(i21, i22, i23, i24, i25)
M6 =~ c(i26, i27, i28, i29, i30)

# define branches
p1 := M4(0,2) + M2(0,2) + M1
p2 := M4(0,2) + M2(3,5) + M3
p3 := M4(3,5) + M5(0,2) + M3
p4 := M4(3,5) + M5(3,5) + M6

items <- seq(-3,3,length.out = 30)
names(items) <- paste0("i", seq(items))

data_2 <- tmt_sim(mstdesign = mstdesign,
          items = items,
          persons = 500,
          seed = 1111)
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