

# Package ‘weightedZdiff’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Calculation of z-Differences

**Version** 0.1.0

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**Description**

Calculates z-differences (O.Kuss (2013) <[doi:10.1016/j.jclinepi.2013.06.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2013.06.001)>) for each variable scale (continuous, binary, ordinal and nominal) with or without weights (e.g. generated by propensity score methods).

**License** GPL-2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.0

**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**NeedsCompilation** no

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## R topics documented:

testdata	2
zdifference	3
zdifference_binary	4
zdifference_coefvar	5
zdifference_continuous	6
zdifference_nominal	7
zdifference_ordinal	8
zdifference_var	9

<b>Index</b>	<b>11</b>
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testdata	<i>Medical data of 5735 patients.</i>
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### Description

This dataset contains medical data of 5735 patients diamonds.

### Usage

testdata

### Format

A data frame with 5735 rows and 12 variables:

**age** patients age

**ARF** something

**female** is patient female (1) or not (0)

**sepsis** Sepsis Diagnosis

**CHF** Congestive Heart Failure

**Cirr** Cirrhosis

**colcan** Colon Cancer

**Coma** Coma

**lungcan** Lung cancer

**MOSF** Malignancy

**treatment** RHC (Swan-Ganz catheter)

**meanbp1** Mean blood pressure ...

### Source

<http://biostat.mc.vanderbilt.edu/wiki/pub/Main/DataSets/rhc.html>

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zdifference	<i>zdifference for dataset</i>
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### Description

The function calculates the z-differences for each variable in a dataset or each column in a matrix (depends on the format of your data). Furthermore the sum of the squared z-differences is calculated. The variables are set into classes continuous, binary and nominal automatically by the following algorithm. If the variable has only 2 different values its treated as binary. If the variable has more then 9 observations or the class of the variable is factor its treated as nominal and otherwise continuous. The user can specify the type of every variable by hand.

### Usage

```
zdifference(dataset,ref,weights=NULL,standard_weights=FALSE,na.rm=TRUE,
binary_variable=NULL,ordinal_variable=NULL,continuous_variable=NULL,nominal_variable=NULL,
r=2,var.est=FALSE,coefvar.est=FALSE,grad=1)
```

### Arguments

<code>dataset</code>	An object of class <code>data.frame</code> or <code>matrix</code> , which contains the variables for which the zDifferences should be calculated and the reference variable in columns.
<code>ref</code>	The name of the reference variable, name must be in datasets' names.
<code>weights</code>	The name of the variable containing the weights for each observation, name must be in datasets' names.
<code>standard_weights</code>	Should the unweighted z-differences be calculated or not.
<code>na.rm</code>	Should NAs be removed or not. If NAs exists in dataset and <code>na.rm=FALSE</code> then an error will occur.
<code>binary_variable</code>	optional: Names of binomial variables.
<code>ordinal_variable</code>	optional: Names of ordinal variables.
<code>continuous_variable</code>	optional: Names of continuous variables.
<code>nominal_variable</code>	optional: Names of nominal variables.
<code>r</code>	Number of digits to round the result.
<code>var.est</code>	Should the weighted z-Difference for the variances of continuous variables be reported (TRUE) or not (FALSE)
<code>coefvar.est</code>	Should the coefficient of variation for continuous variables be reported (TRUE) or not (FALSE)
<code>grad</code>	The Moments for which to calculate the weighted z-Difference for continuous variables. <code>grad=2</code> means the first and second moments are calculated.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

**References**

For standard z-difference (unweighted) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23972521/>

**Examples**

```
data(testdata)
#new dataset
zdifference(testdata,"treatment",grad=2,continuous_variable=c("age","meanbp1"),
binary_variable=c("CHF","Cirr","colcan","Coma","lungcan","MOSF","sepsis","female","ARF"))
#generate iptw weights
p<-glm(treatment~.,data=testdata,family="binomial")$fitted.values
testdata$weights<-ifelse(testdata$treatment==0,1/(1-p),1/p)
zdifference(testdata,"treatment",weights="weights",grad=2,
continuous_variable=c("age","meanbp1"),binary_variable=c("CHF","Cirr",
"colcan","Coma","lungcan","MOSF","sepsis","female","ARF"),standard_weights=TRUE)
```

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zdifference\_binary      *z-difference for binary variables*

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**Description**

The function calculates the binary weighted z-Difference for a binary reference variable (ref) and a binary variable (x)

**Usage**

```
zdifference_binary(x,ref,w=NULL,na.rm=TRUE,r)
```

**Arguments**

x	The binary variable for which the weighted z-Difference should be calculated.
ref	The binary reference variable as a vector.
w	The weights to calculate the weighted binary z-Difference
na.rm	Should NAs be removed or not. If NAs exists in dataset and na.rm=FALSE then an error will occur.
r	digits to round the returned value, default is 2

**Value**

The function returns the calculated z-Difference as a numeric value.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

## References

For standard z-difference (unweighted) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23972521/>

## Examples

```
#generate the data. The weights are taken from uniform #distribution and the
#values of x are generated from a bernoulli distribution with
#success rate 0.3. The reference variable
#is chosen from a bernoulli distribution with success rate 0.8.
ref<-sample(0:1,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.8))
erg<-unlist(lapply(1:1000,function(z){
  w<-runif(1000)
  x<-rbinom(1000,1,0.3)
  zdifference_binary(x,ref,w)
}))
hist(erg,breaks=50,main="z-difference for continuous data")
plot(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),quantile(erg,seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),
type="l",lwd=3,xlab=c("quantile"),ylab=c("x-value"))
points(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),qnorm(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),col="red",type="l",lwd=3,lty=2)
legend("topleft",legend=c("N(0,1) distribution","sample distribution"),lty=c(2,1),
lwd=c(3,3),col=c("red","black"),cex=1.3)
```

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zdifference_coefvar	<i>z-difference for the coefficient of variation for normal distributed variables.</i>
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## Description

The function calculates the coefficient of variation z-Difference for a binary reference variable (ref) and an ordinal variable (x)

## Usage

```
zdifference_coefvar(x,ref,na.rm=TRUE,r=2)
```

## Arguments

x	The variable for which the z-Difference should be calculated.
ref	The binary reference variable as a vector.
na.rm	Should NAs be removed or not. If NAs exists in dataset and na.rm=FALSE then an error will occur.
r	digits to round the returned value, default is 2

## Value

The function returns the calculated z-Difference as a numeric value.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

**References**<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23972521/>**Examples**

```
#generate the data.
#variable x has 5 different status with probability of
#being in status i is given by:0.1,0.2,0.3,0.3,0.1. #The reference variable
#is chosen from a bernoulli distribution with success #rate 0.8.
ref<-sample(0:1,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.8))
erg<-unlist(lapply(1:1000,function(z){
  w<-runif(1000)
  x<-rnorm(1000,25)
  zdifference_coefvar(x,ref)
}))
hist(erg,breaks=50,main="z-difference for continuous data")
plot(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),quantile(erg,seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),
type="l",lwd=3,xlab=c("quantile"),ylab=c("x-value"))
points(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),qnorm(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),col="red",type="l",lwd=3,lty=2)
legend("topleft",legend=c("N(0,1) distribution","sample distribution"),lty=c(2,1),
lwd=c(3,3),col=c("red","black"),cex=1.3)
```

---

zdifference\_continuous

*z-difference for continuous variables.*


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**Description**

The function calculates the continuous weighted z-Difference for a binary reference variable (ref) and a continuous variable (x)

**Usage**

```
zdifference_continuous(x, ref, w=NULL, na.rm = TRUE, r = 2)
```

**Arguments**

x	The continuous variable for which the weighted z-Difference should be calculated.
ref	The binary reference variable as a vector.
w	The weights to calculate the weighted continuous z-Difference
na.rm	Should NAs be removed or not. If NAs exists in dataset and na.rm=FALSE then an error will occur.
r	digits to round the returned value, default is 2

**Value**

The function returns the calculated z-Difference as a numeric value.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

**References**

For standard z-difference (unweighted) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23972521/>

**Examples**

```
#generate the data. The weights are taken from uniform distribution and the
#values of x are normal distributed with mean 45 and variance 9. The reference variable
#is chose from a bernoulli distribution with success rate 0.8.
ref<-sample(0:1,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.8))
erg<-unlist(lapply(1:1000,function(z){
  w<-runif(1000)
  x<-rnorm(1000,45,9)
  zdifference_continuous(x,ref,w)
}))
hist(erg,breaks=50,main="z-difference for continuous data")
plot(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),quantile(erg,seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),type="l",
lwd=3,xlab=c("quantile"),ylab=c("x-value"))
points(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),qnorm(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),col="red",type="l",lwd=2,lty="dashed")
```

---

zdifference\_nominal    *z-difference for nominal variables.*

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**Description**

The function calculates the nominal weighted z-Difference for a binary reference variable (ref) and a nominal variable (x)

**Usage**

```
zdifference_nominal(x,ref,w=NULL,na.rm=TRUE,norma=TRUE,r=2)
```

**Arguments**

x	The continuous variable for which the weighted z-Difference should be calculated.
ref	The binary reference variable as a vector.
w	The weights to calculate the weighted continuous z-Difference
na.rm	Should NAs be removed or not. If NAs exists in dataset and na.rm=FALSE then an error will occur.

norma	If norma = TRUE the weighted z-Difference has a standard Gaussian distribution. If norma = FALSE the resulting distribution is chi squared with #status - 1 as degree of freedom.
r	digits to round the returned value, default is 2

**Value**

The function returns the calculated z-Difference as a numeric value.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

**Examples**

```
#generate data. The weights are taken from uniform distribution and the
#values of x are generated from a multinomial distribution with success
#rate (0.2,0.2,0.3,0.15,0.15) for the five different status.The reference
#variable is chosen from a bernoulli distribution with success rate 0.8.
ref<-sample(1:0,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.8))
erg<-unlist(lapply(1:1000,function(z){
  w<-runif(1000)
  x<-sample(0:4,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.2,0.3,0.15,0.15))
  zdifference_nominal(x,ref,w,norma=TRUE)
}))
hist(erg,breaks=50,main="z-difference for nominal data")
plot(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),quantile(erg,seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),type="l",lwd=3)
points(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),qnorm(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),col="red",type="l",lwd=2,lty="dashed")
```

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zdifference\_ordinal    *weighted z-difference for ordinal variables*

---

**Description**

The function calculates the ordinal weighted z-Difference for a binary reference variable (ref) and an ordinal variable (x)

**Usage**

```
zdifference_ordinal(x,ref,w=NULL,na.rm=TRUE,r=10)
```

**Arguments**

x	The ordinal variable for which the weighted z-Difference should be calculated.
ref	The binary reference variable as a vector.
w	The weights to calculate the weighted ordinal z-Difference
r	digits to round the returned value, default is 2
na.rm	



**Value**

The function returns the calculated z-Difference as a numeric value.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

**References**

For standard z-difference (unweighted) <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23972521/>

**Examples**

```
#generate the data. The weights are taken from uniform distribution and the
#variable x has 5 different status with probability of being in status i is
#given by:0.1,0.2,0.3,0.3,0.1. The reference variable
#is chosen from a bernoulli distribution with success rate 0.8.
ref<-sample(0:1,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.8))
erg<-unlist(lapply(1:1000,function(z){
  w<-runif(1000)
  x<-sample(1:5,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.1,0.2,0.3,0.3,0.1))
  zdifference_ordinal(x,ref,w)
}))
hist(erg,breaks=50,main="z-difference for continuous data")
plot(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),quantile(erg,seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),type="l",
lwd=3,xlab=c("quantile"),ylab=c("x-value"))
points(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),qnorm(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),col="red",type="l",lwd=3,lty=2)
legend("topleft",legend=c("N(0,1) distribution","sample distribution"),lty=c(2,1),
lwd=c(3,3),col=c("red","black"),cex=1.3)
```

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zdifference\_var

*z-difference for variance of continuous variable*


---

**Description**

The function calculates the weighted z-Difference for a continuous variable (x) with binary reference variable (ref) a

**Usage**

```
zdifference_var(x,ref,w=NULL,na.rm=TRUE,r)
```

**Arguments**

x	The continuous variable for which the weighted z-Difference should be calculated.
ref	The binary reference variable as a vector.
w	The weights to calculate the weighted binary z-Difference

na.rm	Should NAs be removed or not. If NAs exists in dataset and na.rm=FALSE then an error will occur.
r	digits to round the returned value, default is 2

**Value**

The function returns the calculated z-Difference as a numeric value.

**Author(s)**

Tim Filla

**Examples**

```
#generate the data. The weights are taken from uniform distribution and the
#values of x are generated from a bernoulli distribution with success rate 0.3.
#The reference variable is chosen from a bernoulli distribution with success rate 0.8.
ref<-sample(0:1,1000,replace=TRUE,prob=c(0.2,0.8))
erg<-unlist(lapply(1:1000,function(z){
  w<-runif(1000)
  x<-rnorm(1000,1,0.3)
  zdifference_var(x,ref,w)
}))
hist(erg,breaks=50,main="z-difference for continuous data")
plot(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),quantile(erg,seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),type="l",
lwd=3,xlab=c("quantile"),ylab=c("x-value"))
points(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01),qnorm(seq(0.005,0.97,0.01)),col="red",type="l",lwd=3,lty=2)
legend("topleft",legend=c("N(0,1) distribution","sample distribution"),lty=c(2,1),
lwd=c(3,3),col=c("red","black"),cex=1.3)
```

# Index

\* **datasets**

testdata, [2](#)

testdata, [2](#)

zdifference, [3](#)

zdifference\_binary, [4](#)

zdifference\_coefvar, [5](#)

zdifference\_continuous, [6](#)

zdifference\_nominal, [7](#)

zdifference\_ordinal, [8](#)

zdifference\_var, [9](#)