

Package ‘SimDesign’

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Title Structure for Organizing Monte Carlo Simulation Designs

Version 2.0.1

Description Provides tools to help safely and efficiently organize Monte Carlo simulations in R. The package controls the structure and back-end of Monte Carlo simulations by utilizing a general generate-analyse-summarise strategy. The functions provided control common simulation issues such as re-simulating non-convergent results, support parallel back-end and MPI distributed computations, save and restore temporary files, aggregate results across independent nodes, and provide native support for debugging. For a pedagogical introduction to the package refer to Sigal and Chalmers (2016) <doi:10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953>.

VignetteBuilder knitr

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License GPL (>= 2)

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| | |
|-------------|---|
| add_missing | <i>Add missing values to a vector given a MCAR, MAR, or MNAR scheme</i> |
|-------------|---|

Description

Given an input vector, replace elements of this vector with missing values according to some scheme. Default method replaces input values with a MCAR scheme (where on average 10% of the values will be replaced with NAs). MAR and MNAR are supported by replacing the default FUN argument.

Usage

```
add_missing(y, fun = function(y, rate = 0.1, ...) rep(rate, length(y)), ...)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----|---|
| y | an input vector that should contain missing data in the form of NA's |
| fun | a user defined function indicating the missing data mechanism for each element in y. Function must return a vector of probability values with the length equal to the length of y. Each value in the returned vector indicates the probability that the respective element in y will be replaced with NA. Function must contain the argument y, representing the input vector, however any number of additional arguments can be included |
| ... | additional arguments to be passed to FUN |

Details

Given an input vector y, and other relevant variables inside (X) and outside (Z) the data-set, the three types of missingness are:

MCAR Missing completely at random (MCAR). This is realized by randomly sampling the values of the input vector (y) irrespective of the possible values in X and Z. Therefore missing values are randomly sampled and do not depend on any data characteristics and are truly random

MAR Missing at random (MAR). This is realized when values in the dataset (X) predict the missing data mechanism in y; conceptually this is equivalent to $P(y = NA|X)$. This requires the user to define a custom missing data function

MNAR Missing not at random (MNAR). This is similar to MAR except that the missing mechanism comes from the value of y itself or from variables outside the working dataset; conceptually this is equivalent to $P(y = NA|X, Z, y)$. This requires the user to define a custom missing data function

Value

the input vector y with the sampled NA values (according to the FUN scheme)

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:

set.seed(1)
y <- rnorm(1000)

## 10% missing rate with default FUN
head(ymiss <- add_missing(y), 10)

## 50% missing with default FUN
head(ymiss <- add_missing(y, rate = .5), 10)

## missing values only when female and low
X <- data.frame(group = sample(c('male', 'female'), 1000, replace=TRUE),
                level = sample(c('high', 'low'), 1000, replace=TRUE))
head(X)

fun <- function(y, X, ...){
  p <- rep(0, length(y))
  p[X$group == 'female' & X$level == 'low'] <- .2
  p
}

ymiss <- add_missing(y, X, fun=fun)
tail(cbind(ymiss, X), 10)

## missingness as a function of elements in X (i.e., a type of MAR)
fun <- function(y, X){
  # missingness with a logistic regression approach
  df <- data.frame(y, X)
  mm <- model.matrix(y ~ group + level, df)
  cfs <- c(-5, 2, 3) #intercept, group, and level coeffs
  z <- cfs %*% t(mm)
  plogis(z)
}

ymiss <- add_missing(y, X, fun=fun)
tail(cbind(ymiss, X), 10)

## missing values when y elements are large (i.e., a type of MNAR)
fun <- function(y) ifelse(abs(y) > 1, .4, 0)
ymiss <- add_missing(y, fun=fun)
tail(cbind(y, ymiss), 10)
```

```
## End(Not run)
```

aggregate_simulations *Collapse separate simulation files into a single result*

Description

This function grabs all .rds files in the working directory and aggregates them into a single data.frame object or combines all the saved results directories and combines them into one. This is generally useful when results are run piecewise on one node or run independently across different nodes/computers which are not on the same network.

Usage

```
aggregate_simulations(  
  files = NULL,  
  dirs = NULL,  
  results_dirname = "SimDesign_aggregate_results"  
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| files | a character vector containing the names of the simulation files. If NULL, all files in the working directory ending in .rds will be used |
| dirs | a character vector containing the names of the save_results directories to be aggregated. A new folder will be created and placed in the results_dirname output folder |
| results_dirname | the new directory to place the aggregated results files |

Value

if files is used the function returns a data.frame with the (weighted) average of the simulation results. Otherwise, if dirs is used, the function returns NULL

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also[runSimulation](#)**Examples**

```
## Not run:

setwd('my_working_directory')

## run simulations to save the .rds files (or move them to the working directory)
# runSimulation(..., filename='file1')
# runSimulation(..., filename='file2')

final <- aggregate_simulations()
saveRDS(final, 'my_final_simulation.rds')

# aggregate saved results
# runSimulation(..., save_results = TRUE, save_details = list(save_results_dirname = 'dir1'))
# runSimulation(..., save_results = TRUE, save_details = list(save_results_dirname = 'dir2'))

# place new saved results in 'SimDesign_results/' directory by default
aggregate_simulations(dirs = c('dir1', 'dir2'))

## End(Not run)
```

*Analyse**Compute estimates and statistics*

Description

Compute all relevant test statistics, parameter estimates, detection rates, and so on. This is the computational heavy lifting portion of the Monte Carlo simulation. If a suitable [Generate](#) function was not supplied then this function can be used to generate and analyse the Monte Carlo data (though in general this setup is not recommended for larger simulations).

Usage

```
Analyse(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------|---|
| condition | a single row from the design input (as a <code>data.frame</code>), indicating the simulation conditions |
| dat | the <code>dat</code> object returned from the Generate function (usually a <code>data.frame</code> , <code>matrix</code> , <code>vector</code> , or <code>list</code>) |
| fixed_objects | object passed down from runSimulation |

Details

In some cases, it may be easier to change the output to a named `list` containing different parameter configurations (e.g., when determining RMSE values for a large set of population parameters).

The use of `try` functions is generally not required in this function because `Analyse` is internally wrapped in a `try` call. Therefore, if a function stops early then this will cause the function to halt internally, the message which triggered the `stop` will be recorded, and `Generate` will be called again to obtain a different dataset. That said, it may be useful for users to throw their own `stop` commands if the data should be re-drawn for other reasons (e.g., an estimated model terminated correctly but the maximum number of iterations were reached).

Value

returns a named numeric vector or `data.frame` with the values of interest (e.g., p-values, effects sizes, etc), or a `list` containing values of interest (e.g., separate matrix and vector of parameter estimates corresponding to elements in parameters). If a `data.frame` is returned with more than 1 row then these objects will be wrapped into suitable `list` objects

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

`stop`

Examples

```
## Not run:

analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){

  # require packages/define functions if needed, or better yet index with the :: operator
  require(stats)
  mygreatfunction <- function(x) print('Do some stuff')

  #wrap computational statistics in try() statements to control estimation problems
  welch <- t.test(DV ~ group, dat)
  ind <- stats::t.test(DV ~ group, dat, var.equal=TRUE)

  # In this function the p values for the t-tests are returned,
  # and make sure to name each element, for future reference
  ret <- c(welch = welch$p.value,
           independent = ind$p.value)

  return(ret)
}

## End(Not run)
```

Attach

Attach the simulation conditions for easier reference

Description

This function accepts the condition object used to indicate the design conditions and makes the variable names available in the environment from which it is called. This is useful primarily as a convenience function when you prefer to call the variable names in condition directly rather than indexing with `condition$sample_size` or `with(condition, sample_size)`, for example.

Usage

```
Attach(condition, check = TRUE, attach_listone = TRUE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <code>condition</code> | a <code>data.frame</code> or <code>tibble</code> containing the condition names |
| <code>check</code> | logical; check to see if the function will accidentally replace previously defined variables with the same names as in condition? Default is TRUE, which will avoid this error |
| <code>attach_listone</code> | logical; if the element to be assign is a list of length one then assign the first element of this list with the associated name. This generally avoids adding an often unnecessary list 1 index, such as <code>name <- list[[1L]]</code> |

Details

The behavior of this function is very similar to [attach](#), however it is environment specific, and therefore only remains defined in a given function rather than in the Global Environment. Hence, this function is much safer to use than the [attach](#), which incidentally should never be used in your code.

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[runSimulation](#), [Generate](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

# does not use Attach()
Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  N1 <- condition$sample_sizes_group1
  N2 <- condition$sample_sizes_group2
  sd <- condition$standard_deviations

  group1 <- rnorm(N1)
  group2 <- rnorm(N2, sd=sd)
  dat <- data.frame(group = c(rep('g1', N1), rep('g2', N2)),
                    DV = c(group1, group2))
  dat
}

# similar to above, but using the Attach() function instead of indexing
Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  Attach(condition)
  N1 <- sample_sizes_group1
  N2 <- sample_sizes_group2
  sd <- standard_deviations

  group1 <- rnorm(N1)
  group2 <- rnorm(N2, sd=sd)
  dat <- data.frame(group = c(rep('g1', N1), rep('g2', N2)),
                    DV = c(group1, group2))
  dat
}

## End(Not run)
```

BF_sim

Example simulation from Brown and Forsythe (1974)

Description

Example results from the Brown and Forsythe (1974) article on robust estimators for variance ratio tests. Statistical tests are organized by columns and the unique design conditions are organized by rows. See [BF_sim_alternative](#) for an alternative form of the same simulation. Code for this simulation is available of the wiki (<https://github.com/philchalmers/SimDesign/wiki>).

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Brown, M. B. and Forsythe, A. B. (1974). Robust tests for the equality of variances. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 69(346), 364–367.

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:
data(BF_sim)
head(BF_sim)

#Type I errors
subset(BF_sim, var_ratio == 1)

## End(Not run)
```

BF_sim_alternative *(Alternative) Example simulation from Brown and Forsythe (1974)*

Description

Example results from the Brown and Forsythe (1974) article on robust estimators for variance ratio tests. Statistical tests and distributions are organized by columns and the unique design conditions are organized by rows. See [BF_sim](#) for an alternative form of the same simulation where distributions are also included in the rows. Code for this simulation is available on the wiki (<https://github.com/philchalmers/SimDesign/wiki>).

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Brown, M. B. and Forsythe, A. B. (1974). Robust tests for the equality of variances. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 69(346), 364–367.

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:
data(BF_sim_alternative)
head(BF_sim_alternative)

#' #Type I errors
```

```
subset(BF_sim_alternative, var_ratio == 1)

## End(Not run)
```

bias

Compute (relative/standardized) bias summary statistic

Description

Computes the (relative) bias of a sample estimate from the parameter value. Accepts estimate and parameter values, as well as estimate values which are in deviation form. If relative bias is requested the estimate and parameter inputs are both required.

Usage

```
bias(
  estimate,
  parameter = NULL,
  type = "bias",
  abs = FALSE,
  percent = FALSE,
  unname = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|--|
| estimate | a numeric vector or matrix/data.frame of parameter estimates. If a vector, the length is equal to the number of replications. If a matrix/data.frame, the number of rows must equal the number of replications |
| parameter | a numeric scalar/vector indicating the fixed parameters. If a single value is supplied and estimate is a matrix/data.frame then the value will be recycled for each column; otherwise, each element will be associated with each respective column in the estimate input. If NULL then it will be assumed that the estimate input is in a deviation form (therefore mean(estimate)) will be returned) |
| type | type of bias statistic to return. Default ('bias') computes the standard bias (average difference between sample and population), 'relative' computes the relative bias statistic (i.e., divide the bias by the value in parameter; note that multiplying this by 100 gives the "percent bias" measure), 'abs_relative' computes the relative bias but the absolute values of the parameters are used in the denominator rather than the (potentially) signed input values, and 'standardized' computes the standardized bias estimate (standard bias divided by the standard deviation of the sample estimates) |
| abs | logical; find the absolute bias between the parameters and estimates? This effectively just applies the abs transformation to the returned result. Default is FALSE |
| percent | logical; change returned result to percentage by multiplying by 100? Default is FALSE |
| unname | logical; apply unname to the results to remove any variable names? |

Value

returns a numeric vector indicating the overall (relative/standardized) bias in the estimates

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[RMSE](#)

Examples

```
pop <- 2
samp <- rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5)
bias(samp, pop)
bias(samp, pop, type = 'relative')
bias(samp, pop, type = 'standardized')

dev <- samp - pop
bias(dev)

# equivalent here
bias(mean(samp), pop)

# matrix input
mat <- cbind(M1=rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5), M2 = rnorm(100, 2, sd = 1))
bias(mat, parameter = 2)
bias(mat, parameter = 2, type = 'relative')
bias(mat, parameter = 2, type = 'standardized')

# different parameter associated with each column
mat <- cbind(M1=rnorm(1000, 2, sd = 0.25), M2 = rnorm(1000, 3, sd = .25))
bias(mat, parameter = c(2,3))

# same, but with data.frame
df <- data.frame(M1=rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5), M2 = rnorm(100, 2, sd = 1))
bias(df, parameter = c(2,2))

# parameters of the same size
parameters <- 1:10
estimates <- parameters + rnorm(10)
bias(estimates, parameters)

# relative difference dividing by the magnitude of parameters
bias(estimates, parameters, type = 'abs_relative')
```

```
# relative bias as a percentage
bias(estimates, parameters, type = 'abs_relative', percent = TRUE)
```

| | |
|--------------|--|
| boot_predict | <i>Compute prediction estimates for the replication size using bootstrap MSE estimates</i> |
|--------------|--|

Description

This function computes bootstrap mean-square error estimates to approximate the sampling behavior of the meta-statistics in SimDesign's summarise functions. A single design condition is supplied, and a simulation with $\max(Rstar)$ replications is performed whereby the generate-analyse results are collected. After obtaining these replication values, the replications are further drawn from (with replacement) using the differing sizes in Rstar to approximate the bootstrap MSE behavior given different replication sizes. Finally, given these bootstrap estimates linear regression models are fitted using the predictor term $one_sqrtR = 1 / \sqrt{Rstar}$ to allow extrapolation to replication sizes not observed in Rstar. For more information about the method and subsequent bootstrap MSE plots, refer to Koehler, Brown, and Haneuse (2009).

Usage

```
boot_predict(
  condition,
  generate,
  analyse,
  summarise,
  fixed_objects = NULL,
  ...,
  Rstar = seq(100, 500, by = 100),
  boot_draws = 1000
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------|--|
| condition | a data.frame consisting of one row from the original design input object used within runSimulation |
| generate | see runSimulation |
| analyse | see runSimulation |
| summarise | see runSimulation |
| fixed_objects | see runSimulation |
| ... | additional arguments to be passed to runSimulation |
| Rstar | a vector containing the size of the bootstrap subsets to obtain. Default investigates the vector [100, 200, 300, 400, 500] to compute the respective MSE terms |
| boot_draws | number of bootstrap replications to draw. Default is 1000 |

Value

returns a list of linear model objects (via `lm`) for each meta-statistics returned by the `summarise()` function

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Koehler, E., Brown, E., & Haneuse, S. J.-P. A. (2009). On the Assessment of Monte Carlo Error in Simulation-Based Statistical Analyses. *The American Statistician*, 63, 155-162.

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
set.seed(4321)
Design <- createDesign(sigma = c(1, 2))

#-----

Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL) {
  dat <- rnorm(100, 0, condition$sigma)
  dat
}

Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL) {
  CIs <- t.test(dat)$conf.int
  names(CIs) <- c('lower', 'upper')
  ret <- c(mean = mean(dat), CIs)
  ret
}

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL) {
  ret <- c(mu_bias = bias(results[,1], 0),
          mu_coverage = ECR(results[,2:3], parameter = 0))
  ret
}

## Not run:
# boot_predict supports only one condition at a time
out <- boot_predict(condition=Design[1L, , drop=FALSE],
  generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
out # list of fitted linear model(s)

# extract first meta-statistic
mu_bias <- out$mu_bias

dat <- model.frame(mu_bias)
```

```

print(dat)

# original R metric plot
R <- 1 / dat$one_sqrtR^2
plot(R, dat$MSE, type = 'b', ylab = 'MSE', main = "Replications by MSE")

plot(MSE ~ one_sqrtR, dat, main = "Bootstrap prediction plot", xlim = c(0, max(one_sqrtR)),
      ylim = c(0, max(MSE)), ylab = 'MSE', xlab = expression(1/sqrt(R)))
beta <- coef(mu_bias)
abline(a = 0, b = beta, lty = 2, col='red')

# what is the replication value when x-axis = .02? What's its associated expected MSE?
1 / .02^2 # number of replications
predict(mu_bias, data.frame(one_sqrtR = .02)) # y-axis value

# approximately how many replications to obtain MSE = .001?
(beta / .001)^2

## End(Not run)

```

createDesign

Create the simulation Design object

Description

Create a partially or fully-crossed data object reflecting the unique simulation design conditions. Each row of the returned object represents a unique simulation condition, and each column represents the named factor variables under study.

Usage

```
createDesign(..., subset, tibble = TRUE, stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'Design'
print(x, list2char = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------------|--|
| ... | comma separated list of named input objects representing the simulation factors to completely cross. Note that these arguments are passed to expand.grid to perform the complete crossings |
| subset | (optional) a logical vector indicating elements or rows to keep to create a partially crossed simulation design |
| tibble | logical; return a tibble object instead of a data.frame? Default is TRUE |
| stringsAsFactors | logical; should character variable inputs be coerced to factors when building a data.frame? Default is FALSE |

x object returned by `createDesign`

list2char logical; for tibble object re-evaluate list elements as character vectors for better printing of the levels? Note that this does not change the original classes of the object, just how they are printed. Default is TRUE

Value

a tibble or data.frame containing the simulation experiment conditions to be evaluated in `runSimulation`

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:

# modified example from runSimulation()

Design <- createDesign(N = c(10, 20),
                      SD = c(1, 2))

Design

# remove N=10, SD=2 row from initial definition
Design <- createDesign(N = c(10, 20),
                      SD = c(1, 2),
                      subset = !(N == 10 & SD == 2))

Design

# example with list inputs
Design <- createDesign(N = c(10, 20),
                      SD = c(1, 2),
                      combo = list(c(0,0), c(0,0,1)))
Design # notice levels printed (not typical for tibble)
print(Design, list2char = FALSE) # standard tibble output

Design <- createDesign(N = c(10, 20),
                      SD = c(1, 2),
                      combo = list(c(0,0), c(0,0,1)),
                      combo2 = list(c(5,10,5), c(6,7)))

Design
print(Design, list2char = FALSE) # standard tibble output

## End(Not run)
```


ECR

*Compute empirical coverage rates***Description**

Computes the detection rate for determining empirical coverage rates given a set of estimated confidence intervals. Note that using `1 - ECR(CIs, parameter)` will provide the empirical detection rate. Also supports computing the average width of the CIs, which may be useful when comparing the efficiency of CI estimators.

Usage

```
ECR(
  CIs,
  parameter,
  tails = FALSE,
  CI_width = FALSE,
  names = NULL,
  unname = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| <code>CIs</code> | a numeric vector or matrix of confidence interval values for a given parameter value, where the first element/column indicates the lower confidence interval and the second element/column the upper confidence interval. If a vector of length 2 is passed instead then the returned value will be either a 1 or 0 to indicate whether the parameter value was or was not within the interval, respectively. Otherwise, the input must be a matrix with an even number of columns |
| <code>parameter</code> | a numeric scalar indicating the fixed parameter value. Alternative, a numeric vector object with length equal to the number of rows as <code>CIs</code> (use to compare sets of parameters at once) |
| <code>tails</code> | logical; when <code>TRUE</code> returns a vector of length 2 to indicate the proportion of times the parameter was lower or higher than the supplied interval, respectively. This is mainly only useful when the coverage region is not expected to be symmetric, and therefore is generally not required. Note that <code>1 - sum(ECR(CIs, parameter, tails=TRUE)) == ECR(CIs, parameter)</code> |
| <code>CI_width</code> | logical; rather than returning the overall coverage rate, return the average width of the CIs instead? Useful when comparing the efficiency of different CI estimators |
| <code>names</code> | an optional character vector used to name the returned object. Generally useful when more than one CI estimate is investigated at once |
| <code>unname</code> | logical; apply <code>unname</code> to the results to remove any variable names? |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[EDR](#)

Examples

```

CIs <- matrix(NA, 100, 2)
for(i in 1:100){
  dat <- rnorm(100)
  CIs[i,] <- t.test(dat)$conf.int
}

ECR(CIs, 0)
ECR(CIs, 0, tails = TRUE)

# single vector input
CI <- c(-1, 1)
ECR(CI, 0)
ECR(CI, 2)
ECR(CI, 2, tails = TRUE)

# parameters of the same size as CI
parameters <- 1:10
CIs <- cbind(parameters - runif(10), parameters + runif(10))
parameters <- parameters + rnorm(10)
ECR(CIs, parameters)

# average width of CIs
ECR(CIs, parameters, CI_width=TRUE)

# ECR() for multiple CI estimates in the same object
parameter <- 10
CIs <- data.frame(lowerCI_1=parameter - runif(10),
                  upperCI_1=parameter + runif(10),
                  lowerCI_2=parameter - 2*runif(10),
                  upperCI_2=parameter + 2*runif(10))

head(CIs)
ECR(CIs, parameter)
ECR(CIs, parameter, tails=TRUE)
ECR(CIs, parameter, CI_width=TRUE)

# often a good idea to provide names for the output
ECR(CIs, parameter, names = c('this', 'that'))
ECR(CIs, parameter, CI_width=TRUE, names = c('this', 'that'))
ECR(CIs, parameter, tails=TRUE, names = c('this', 'that'))

```

EDR*Compute the empirical detection rate for Type I errors and Power*

Description

Computes the detection rate for determining empirical Type I error and power rates using information from p-values.

Usage

```
EDR(p, alpha = 0.05, unname = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| <code>p</code> | a numeric vector or matrix/data.frame of p-values from the desired statistical estimator. If a matrix, each statistic must be organized by column, where the number of rows is equal to the number of replications |
| <code>alpha</code> | the nominal detection rate to be studied (typical values are .10, .05, and .01). Default is .05 |
| <code>unname</code> | logical; apply <code>unname</code> to the results to remove any variable names? |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[ECR](#)

Examples

```
rates <- numeric(100)
for(i in 1:100){
  dat <- rnorm(100)
  rates[i] <- t.test(dat)$p.value
}

EDR(rates)
EDR(rates, alpha = .01)

# multiple rates at once
rates <- cbind(runif(1000), runif(1000))
```

EDR(rates)

Generate

Generate data

Description

Generate data from a single row in the design input (see [runSimulation](#)). R contains numerous approaches to generate data, some of which are contained in the base package, as well as in SimDesign (e.g., [rmgh](#), [rValeMaurelli](#), [rHeadrick](#)). However the majority can be found in external packages. See CRAN's list of possible distributions here: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/view=Distributions>. Note that this function technically can be omitted if the data generation is provided in the [Analyse](#) step, though in general this is not recommended.

Usage

```
Generate(condition, fixed_objects = NULL)
```

Arguments

`condition` a single row from the design input (as a `data.frame`), indicating the simulation conditions

`fixed_objects` object passed down from [runSimulation](#)

Details

The use of [try](#) functions is generally not required in this function because `Generate` is internally wrapped in a [try](#) call. Therefore, if a function stops early then this will cause the function to halt internally, the message which triggered the [stop](#) will be recorded, and `Generate` will be called again to obtain a different dataset. That said, it may be useful for users to throw their own [stop](#) commands if the data should be re-drawn for other reasons (e.g., an estimated model terminated correctly but the maximum number of iterations were reached).

Value

returns a single object containing the data to be analyzed (usually a vector, matrix, or `data.frame`), or list

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[add_missing](#), [Attach](#), [rmgh](#), [rValeMaurelli](#), [rHeadrick](#)

Examples

```

## Not run:

generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  N1 <- condition$sample_sizes_group1
  N2 <- condition$sample_sizes_group2
  sd <- condition$standard_deviations

  group1 <- rnorm(N1)
  group2 <- rnorm(N2, sd=sd)
  dat <- data.frame(group = c(rep('g1', N1), rep('g2', N2)),
                    DV = c(group1, group2))
  # just a silly example of a simulated parameter
  pars <- list(random_number = rnorm(1))

  list(dat=dat, parameters=pars)
}

# similar to above, but using the Attach() function instead of indexing
generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  Attach(condition)
  N1 <- sample_sizes_group1
  N2 <- sample_sizes_group2
  sd <- standard_deviations

  group1 <- rnorm(N1)
  group2 <- rnorm(N2, sd=sd)
  dat <- data.frame(group = c(rep('g1', N1), rep('g2', N2)),
                    DV = c(group1, group2))
  dat
}

generate2 <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  mu <- sample(c(-1,0,1), 1)
  dat <- rnorm(100, mu)
  dat      #return simple vector (discard mu information)
}

generate3 <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  mu <- sample(c(-1,0,1), 1)
  dat <- data.frame(DV = rnorm(100, mu))
  dat
}

## End(Not run)

```

Description

Computes the average/cumulative deviation given two continuous functions and an optional function representing the probability density function. Only one-dimensional integration is supported.

Usage

```
IRMSE(
  estimate,
  parameter,
  fn,
  density = function(theta, ...) 1,
  lower = -Inf,
  upper = Inf,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|--|
| estimate | a vector of parameter estimates |
| parameter | a vector of population parameters |
| fn | a continuous function where the first argument is to be integrated and the second argument is a vector of parameters or parameter estimates. This function represents a implied continuous function which uses the sample estimates or population parameters |
| density | (optional) a density function used to marginalize (i.e., average), where the first argument is to be integrated, and must be of the form <code>density(theta, ...)</code> or <code>density(theta, param1, param2)</code> , where <code>param1</code> is a placeholder name for the hyper-parameters associated with the probability density function. If omitted then the cumulative different between the respective functions will be computed instead |
| lower | lower bound to begin numerical integration from |
| upper | upper bound to finish numerical integration to |
| ... | additional parameters to pass to <code>fneest</code> , <code>fnparam</code> , <code>density</code> , and <code>integrate</code> , |

Details

The integrated root mean-square error (IRMSE) is of the form

$$IRMSE(\theta) = \sqrt{\int [f(\theta, \hat{\psi}) - f(\theta, \psi)]^2 g(\theta, \dots)}$$

where $g(\theta, \dots)$ is the density function used to marginalize the continuous sample ($f(\theta, \hat{\psi})$) and population ($f(\theta, \psi)$) functions.

Value

returns a single numeric term indicating the average/cumulative deviation given the supplied continuous functions

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[RMSE](#)

Examples

```
# logistic regression function with one slope and intercept
fn <- function(theta, param) 1 / (1 + exp(-(param[1] + param[2] * theta)))

# sample and population sets
est <- c(-0.4951, 1.1253)
pop <- c(-0.5, 1)

theta <- seq(-10,10,length.out=1000)
plot(theta, fn(theta, pop), type = 'l', col='red', ylim = c(0,1))
lines(theta, fn(theta, est), col='blue', lty=2)

# cumulative result (i.e., standard integral)
IRMSE(est, pop, fn)

# integrated RMSE result by marginalizing over a N(0,1) distribution
den <- function(theta, mean, sd) dnorm(theta, mean=mean, sd=sd)

IRMSE(est, pop, fn, den, mean=0, sd=1)

# this specification is equivalent to the above
den2 <- function(theta, ...) dnorm(theta, ...)

IRMSE(est, pop, fn, den2, mean=0, sd=1)
```

MAE

Compute the mean absolute error

Description

Computes the average absolute deviation of a sample estimate from the parameter value. Accepts estimate and parameter values, as well as estimate values which are in deviation form.

Usage

```
MAE(estimate, parameter = NULL, type = "MAE", percent = FALSE, unname = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|---|
| estimate | a numeric vector or <code>matrix/data.frame</code> of parameter estimates. If a vector, the length is equal to the number of replications. If a <code>matrix/data.frame</code> the number of rows must equal the number of replications |
| parameter | a numeric scalar/vector indicating the fixed parameter values. If a single value is supplied and <code>estimate</code> is a <code>matrix/data.frame</code> then the value will be recycled for each column; otherwise, each element will be associated with each respective column in the <code>estimate</code> input. If <code>NULL</code> , then it will be assumed that the <code>estimate</code> input is in a deviation form (therefore <code>mean(abs(estimate))</code> will be returned) |
| type | type of deviation to compute. Can be 'MAE' (default) for the mean absolute error, 'NMSE' for the normalized MAE ($MAE / (\max(\text{estimate}) - \min(\text{estimate}))$), or 'SMSE' for the standardized MAE ($MAE / \text{sd}(\text{estimate})$) |
| percent | logical; change returned result to percentage by multiplying by 100? Default is <code>FALSE</code> |
| unname | logical; apply <code>unname</code> to the results to remove any variable names? |

Value

returns a numeric vector indicating the overall mean absolute error in the estimates

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

RMSE

Examples

```
pop <- 1
samp <- rnorm(100, 1, sd = 0.5)
MAE(samp, pop)

dev <- samp - pop
MAE(dev)
MAE(samp, pop, type = 'NMAE')
MAE(samp, pop, type = 'SMAE')
```



```

# matrix input
mat <- cbind(M1=rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5), M2 = rnorm(100, 2, sd = 1))
MAE(mat, parameter = 2)

# same, but with data.frame
df <- data.frame(M1=rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5), M2 = rnorm(100, 2, sd = 1))
MAE(df, parameter = c(2,2))

# parameters of the same size
parameters <- 1:10
estimates <- parameters + rnorm(10)
MAE(estimates, parameters)

```

| | |
|-------|--|
| MSRSE | <i>Compute the relative performance behavior of collections of standard errors</i> |
|-------|--|

Description

The mean-square relative standard error (MSRSE) compares standard error estimates to the standard deviation of the respective parameter estimates. Values close to 1 indicate that the behavior of the standard errors closely matched the sampling variability of the parameter estimates.

Usage

```
MSRSE(SE, SD, percent = FALSE, unname = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| SE | a numeric scalar/vector indicating the average standard errors across the replications, or a matrix of collected standard error estimates themselves to be used to compute the average standard errors. Each column/element in this input corresponds to the column/element in SD |
| SD | a numeric scalar/vector indicating the standard deviation across the replications, or a matrix of collected parameter estimates themselves to be used to compute the standard deviations. Each column/element in this input corresponds to the column/element in SE |
| percent | logical; change returned result to percentage by multiplying by 100? Default is FALSE |
| unname | logical; apply unname to the results to remove any variable names? |


```
results
```

```
quiet
```

Suppress function messages and Concatenate and Print (cat)

Description

This function is used to suppress information printed from external functions that make internal use of `link{message}` and `cat`, which provide information in interactive R sessions. For simulations, the session is not interactive, and therefore this type of output should be suppressed. For similar behavior for suppressing warning messages see `suppressWarnings`, though use this function carefully as some warnings can be meaningful and unexpected.

Usage

```
quiet(..., messages = FALSE, cat = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| <code>...</code> | the functional expression to be evaluated |
| <code>messages</code> | logical; suppress all messages? |
| <code>cat</code> | logical; suppress all concatenate and print calls from <code>cat</code> ? |

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
myfun <- function(x){
  message('This function is rather chatty')
  cat("It even prints in different output forms!\n")
  message('And even at different...')
  cat("...times!\n")
  x
}

out <- myfun(1)
out

# tell the function to shhhh
out <- quiet(myfun(1))
out
```

RAB*Compute the relative absolute bias of multiple estimators*

Description

Computes the relative absolute bias given the bias estimates for multiple estimators.

Usage

```
RAB(x, percent = FALSE, unname = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| x | a numeric vector of bias estimates (see bias), where the first element will be used as the reference |
| percent | logical; change returned result to percentage by multiplying by 100? Default is FALSE |
| unname | logical; apply unname to the results to remove any variable names? |

Value

returns a vector of absolute bias ratios indicating the relative bias effects compared to the first estimator. Values less than 1 indicate better bias estimates than the first estimator, while values greater than 1 indicate worse bias than the first estimator

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
pop <- 1
samp1 <- rnorm(5000, 1)
bias1 <- bias(samp1, pop)
samp2 <- rnorm(5000, 1)
bias2 <- bias(samp2, pop)

RAB(c(bias1, bias2))
RAB(c(bias1, bias2), percent = TRUE) # as a percentage
```

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| rbind.SimDesign | <i>Combine two separate SimDesign objects by row</i> |
|-----------------|--|

Description

This function combines two Monte Carlo simulations executed by SimDesign's `runSimulation` function which, for all intents and purposes, could have been executed in a single run. This situation arises when a simulation has been completed, however the Design object was later modified to include more levels in the defined simulation factors. Rather than re-executing the previously completed simulation combinations, only the new combinations need to be evaluated into a different object and then `rbind` together to create the complete object combinations.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SimDesign'  
rbind(...)
```

Arguments

... two or more SimDesign objects that should be combined by rows

Value

same object that is returned by `runSimulation`

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:  
  
# modified example from runSimulation()  
  
Design <- createDesign(N = c(10, 20),  
                      SD = c(1, 2))  
  
Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){  
  dat <- with(condition, rnorm(N, 10, sd=SD))  
  dat  
}  
  
Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
```

```

    ret <- mean(dat) # mean of the sample data vector
    ret
  }

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  ret <- c(mu=mean(results), SE=sd(results)) # mean and SD summary of the sample means
  ret
}

Final1 <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000,
                      generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
Final1

###
# later decide that N = 30 should have also been investigated. Rather than
# running the following object ...
newDesign <- createDesign(N = c(10, 20, 30),
                        SD = c(1, 2))

# ... only the new subset levels are executed to save time
subDesign <- subset(newDesign, N == 30)
subDesign

Final2 <- runSimulation(design=subDesign, replications=1000,
                      generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
Final2

# glue results together by row into one object as though the complete 'Design'
# object were run all at once
Final <- rbind(Final1, Final2)
Final

summary(Final)

## End(Not run)

```

RD

Compute the relative difference

Description

Computes the relative difference statistic of the form $(\text{est} - \text{pop}) / \text{pop}$, which is equivalent to the form $\text{est}/\text{pop} - 1$. If matrices are supplied then an equivalent matrix variant will be used of the form $(\text{est} - \text{pop}) * \text{solve}(\text{pop})$. Values closer to 0 indicate better relative parameter recovery. Note that for single variable inputs this is equivalent to `bias(..., type = 'relative')`.

Usage

```
RD(est, pop, as.vector = TRUE, unname = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|--|
| est | a numeric vector or matrix containing the parameter estimates |
| pop | a numeric vector or matrix containing the true parameter values. Must be of the same dimensions as est |
| as.vector | logical; always wrap the result in a <code>as.vector</code> function before returning? |
| unname | logical; apply <code>unname</code> to the results to remove any variable names? |

Value

returns a vector or matrix depending on the inputs and whether `as.vector` was used

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
# vector
pop <- seq(1, 100, length.out=9)
est1 <- pop + rnorm(9, 0, .2)
(rds <- RD(est1, pop))
summary(rds)

# matrix
pop <- matrix(c(1:8, 10), 3, 3)
est2 <- pop + rnorm(9, 0, .2)
RD(est2, pop, as.vector = FALSE)
(rds <- RD(est2, pop))
summary(rds)
```

RE

Compute the relative efficiency of multiple estimators

Description

Computes the relative efficiency given the RMSE (default) or MSE values for multiple estimators.

Usage

```
RE(x, MSE = FALSE, percent = FALSE, unname = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| x | a numeric vector of root mean square error values (see RMSE), where the first element will be used as the reference. Otherwise, the object could contain MSE values if the flag <code>MSE = TRUE</code> is also included |
| MSE | logical; are the input value mean squared errors instead of root mean square errors? |
| percent | logical; change returned result to percentage by multiplying by 100? Default is FALSE |
| unname | logical; apply unname to the results to remove any variable names? |

Value

returns a vector of variance ratios indicating the relative efficiency compared to the first estimator. Values less than 1 indicate better efficiency than the first estimator, while values greater than 1 indicate worse efficiency than the first estimator

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
pop <- 1
samp1 <- rnorm(100, 1, sd = 0.5)
RMSE1 <- RMSE(samp1, pop)
samp2 <- rnorm(100, 1, sd = 1)
RMSE2 <- RMSE(samp2, pop)

RE(c(RMSE1, RMSE2))
RE(c(RMSE1, RMSE2), percent = TRUE) # as a percentage

# using MSE instead
mse <- c(RMSE1, RMSE2)^2
RE(mse, MSE = TRUE)
```

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| rejectionSampling | <i>Rejection sampling (i.e., accept-reject method) to draw samples from difficult probability density functions</i> |
|-------------------|---|

Description

This function supports the rejection sampling (i.e., accept-reject) approach to drawing values from seemingly difficult, and potentially non-normed, probability density functions by sampling values from a more manageable proxy distribution. This function is optimized to work efficiently when the defined functions are vectorized; otherwise, the accept-reject algorithm will loop over candidate sample-draws in isolation.

Usage

```
rejectionSampling(n, df, dg, rg, M = NULL, returnM = FALSE, vectorized = TRUE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------|--|
| n | number of samples to draw |
| df | the desired (potentially un-normed) probability density function to draw samples from. Must be in the form of a function with a single input corresponding to the values sampled from rg |
| dg | the proxy (potentially un-normed) probability density function to draw samples from in lieu of drawing samples from df. The support for this density function should be the same as df (i.e., when $df(x) > 0$ then $dg(x) > 0$). Must be in the form of a function with a single input corresponding to the values sampled from rg |
| rg | the proxy random number generation function, associated with dg, used to draw samples from in lieu of drawing samples from df. Must be in the form of a function with a single input corresponding to the number of values to draw, while the output can either be a vector or a matrix (if a matrix, each independent observation must be stored in a unique row) |
| M | the upper-bound of the ratio of probability density functions to help minimize the number of discarded draws. By default, M is computed internally by finding the maximum of the ratio $df(x) / dg(x)$ within the range [0,1]. When both df and dg are true probability density functions (i.e., integrate to 1) then the acceptance probability is equal to $1/M$ |
| returnM | logical; return the value of M located from the internal optimization results? |
| vectorized | logical; have the input function been vectorized (i.e., do they support a vector of input values rather than only a single sample)? This can be disabled, however it's recommended to redefine the input functions to be vectorized instead since these are more efficient when n is large or $1/M$ is small |

Details

The accept-reject algorithm is a flexible approach to obtaining i.i.d.'s from a difficult to sample from probability density function (pdf) where either the transformation method fails or inverse of the cumulative distribution function is too difficult to manage. The algorithm does so by sampling from a more "well-behaved" proxy distribution (with identical support, up to some proportionality constant M), and accepts the draws if they are likely within the proposed pdf. Hence, the closer the shape of $dg(x)$ is to the desired $df(x)$, the more likely the draws are to be accepted; otherwise, many iterations of the accept-reject algorithm may be required, which decreases the computational efficiency.

Value

returns a vector or matrix of draws (corresponding to the output class from `rg`) from the desired `df`

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:

# Generate  $X \sim \text{beta}(a,b)$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are  $a = 2.7$  and  $b = 6.3$ ,
# and the support is  $Y \sim \text{Unif}(0,1)$ 
df <- function(x) dbeta(x, shape1 = 2.7, shape2 = 6.3)
dg <- function(x) dunif(x, min = 0, max = 1)
rg <- function(n) runif(n, min = 0, max = 1)

dat <- rejectionSampling(10000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg)
hist(dat, 100)
hist(rbeta(10000, 2.7, 6.3), 100) # compare

# when  $df$  and  $dg$  both integrate to 1, acceptance probability =  $1/M$ 
rejectionSampling(df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg, returnM=TRUE)

# user supplied  $M$ . Here,  $M = 4$ , indicating 25% acceptance rate
dat2 <- rejectionSampling(10000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg, M=4)
hist(dat2, 100)

# generate using better support function (here,  $Y \sim \text{beta}(2,6)$ )
dg <- function(x) dbeta(x, shape1 = 2, shape2 = 6)
rg <- function(n) rbeta(n, shape1 = 2, shape2 = 6)
rejectionSampling(10000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg, returnM=TRUE) # more efficient
dat <- rejectionSampling(10000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg)
hist(dat, 100)
```

```

#-----
# sample from wonky (and non-normed) pdf, like below
df <- function(x){
  ret <- numeric(length(x))
  ret[x <= .5] <- dnorm(x[x <= .5])
  ret[x > .5] <- dnorm(x[x > .5]) + dchisq(x[x > .5], df = 2)
  ret
}
y <- seq(-5,5, length.out = 1000)
plot(y, df(y), type = 'l', main = "pdf to sample")

# choose dg/rg functions that have support within the range [-inf, inf]
rg <- function(n) rnorm(n, sd=2)
dg <- function(x) dnorm(x, sd=2)
dat <- rejectionSampling(10000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg)
hist(dat, 100, prob=TRUE)
lines(density(dat), col = 'red')

# same as above, but df not vectorized (much slower)
df2 <- function(x){
  ret <- if(x <= .5) dnorm(x)
  else if(x > .5) dnorm(x) + dchisq(x, df = 2)
  ret
}
system.time(dat2 <-
  rejectionSampling(100000, df=df2, dg=dg, rg=rg, vectorized=FALSE))
system.time(dat <-
  rejectionSampling(100000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg))

#-----
# multivariate distribution
df <- function(x) prod(c(dnorm(x[1]) + dchisq(x[1], df = 5),
  dnorm(x[2], -1, 2)))
rg <- function(n) c(rnorm(n, sd=3), rnorm(n, sd=3))
dg <- function(x) prod(c(dnorm(x[1], sd=3), dnorm(x[1], sd=3)))

dat <- rejectionSampling(5000, df=df, dg=dg, rg=rg, M=10)
hist(dat[,1], 30)
hist(dat[,2], 30)
plot(dat)

## End(Not run)

```

Description

When `runSimulation()` uses the option `save_results = TRUE` the R replication results from the Generate-Analyse functions are stored to the hard drive. As such, additional summarise components may be required at a later time, whereby the respective `.rds` files must be read back into R to be summarised. This function performs the reading of these files, application of a provided summarise function, and final collection of the respective results.

Usage

```
reSummarise(
  summarise,
  dir = NULL,
  files = NULL,
  fixed_objects = NULL,
  bootSE = FALSE,
  boot_draws = 1000L
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| <code>summarise</code> | a summarise function to apply to the read-in files. See runSimulation for details |
| <code>dir</code> | directory pointing to the <code>.rds</code> files to be read-in that were saved from <code>runSimulation(..., save_results = TRUE)</code> . If NULL, it is assumed the current working directory contains the <code>.rds</code> files |
| <code>files</code> | (optional) names of files to read-in. If NULL all files located within <code>dir</code> will be used |
| <code>fixed_objects</code> | (optional) see runSimulation for details |
| <code>bootSE</code> | logical; perform a non-parametric bootstrap to compute bootstrap standard error estimates for the respective meta-statistics computed by the Summarise function? See runSimulation for details |
| <code>boot_draws</code> | number of non-parametric bootstrap draws to sample for the summarise function after the generate-analyse replications are collected. Default is 1000 |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:

Design <- data.frame(N = c(10, 20, 30))
```

```

Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  dat <- with(condition, rnorm(N, 10, 5)) # distributed N(10, 5)
  dat
}

Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
  ret <- mean(dat) # mean of the sample data vector
  ret
}

\dontrun{
# run the simulation
runSimulation(design=Design, replications=50,
              generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse,
              summarise=NA, save_results=TRUE,
              save_details = list(save_results_dirname='simresults'))

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  ret <- c(mu=mean(results), SE=sd(results))
  ret
}

SimClean('SimDesign-results.rds')

res <- reSummarise(Summarise, dir = 'simresults/')
res

Summarise2 <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  mean(results)
}

res2 <- reSummarise(Summarise2, dir = 'simresults/')
res2

SimClean('simresults/')
}

## End(Not run)

```

Description

Generate multivariate non-normal distributions using the fifth-order polynomial method described by Headrick (2002).

Usage

```
rHeadrick(
  n,
  mean = rep(0, nrow(sigma)),
  sigma = diag(length(mean)),
  skew = rep(0, nrow(sigma)),
  kurt = rep(0, nrow(sigma)),
  gam3 = NaN,
  gam4 = NaN,
  return_coefs = FALSE,
  coefs = NULL,
  control = list(seed = NULL, trace = FALSE, max.ntry = 15, obj.tol = 1e-10, n.valid.sol
    = 1)
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------------|---|
| n | number of samples to draw |
| mean | a vector of k elements for the mean of the variables |
| sigma | desired k x k covariance matrix between bivariate non-normal variables |
| skew | a vector of k elements for the skewness of the variables |
| kurt | a vector of k elements for the kurtosis of the variables |
| gam3 | (optional) explicitly supply the gamma 3 value? Default computes this internally |
| gam4 | (optional) explicitly supply the gamma 4 value? Default computes this internally |
| return_coefs | logical; return the estimated coefficients only? See below regarding why this is useful. |
| coefs | (optional) supply previously estimated coefficients? This is useful when there must be multiple data sets drawn and will avoid repetitive computations. Must be the object returned after passing return_coefs = TRUE |
| control | a list of control parameters when locating the polynomial coefficients |

Details

This function is primarily a wrapper for the code written by Oscar L. Olvera Astivia (last edited Feb 26, 2015) with some modifications (e.g., better starting values for the Newton optimizer, passing previously saved coefs, etc).

Author(s)

Oscar L. Olvera Astivia and Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Headrick, T. C. (2002). Fast fifth-order polynomial transforms for generating univariate and multivariate nonnormal distributions. *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 40, 685-711.

Olvera Astivia, O. L., & Zumbo, B. D. (2015). A Cautionary Note on the Use of the Vale and Maurelli Method to Generate Multivariate, Nonnormal Data for Simulation Purposes. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 75, 541-567.

Examples

```
## Not run:
set.seed(1)

N <- 200
mean <- c(rep(0,4))
Sigma <- matrix(.49, 4, 4)
diag(Sigma) <- 1
skewness <- c(rep(1,4))
kurtosis <- c(rep(2,4))

nonnormal <- rHeadrick(N, mean, Sigma, skewness, kurtosis)
# cor(nonnormal)
# psych::describe(nonnormal)

#-----
# compute the coefficients, then supply them back to the function to avoid
# extra computations

cfs <- rHeadrick(N, mean, Sigma, skewness, kurtosis, return_coefs = TRUE)
cfs

# compare
system.time(nonnormal <- rHeadrick(N, mean, Sigma, skewness, kurtosis))
system.time(nonnormal <- rHeadrick(N, mean, Sigma, skewness, kurtosis,
                                   coefs=cfs))

## End(Not run)
```

rint

Generate integer values within specified range

Description

Efficiently generate positive and negative integer values with (default) or without replacement. This function is mainly a wrapper to the [sample.int](#) function (which itself is much more efficient integer sampler than the more general [sample](#)), however is intended to work with both positive and negative integer ranges since `sample.int` only returns positive integer values that must begin at 1L.

Usage

```
rint(n, min, max, replace = TRUE, prob = NULL)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|--|
| n | number of samples to draw |
| min | lower limit of the distribution. Must be finite |
| max | upper limit of the distribution. Must be finite |
| replace | should sampling be with replacement? |
| prob | a vector of probability weights for obtaining the elements of the vector being sampled |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
set.seed(1)

# sample 1000 integer values within 20 to 100
x <- rint(1000, min = 20, max = 100)
summary(x)

# sample 1000 integer values within 100 to 10 billion
x <- rint(1000, min = 100, max = 1e8)
summary(x)

# compare speed to sample()
system.time(x <- rint(1000, min = 100, max = 1e8))
system.time(x2 <- sample(100:1e8, 1000, replace = TRUE))

# sample 1000 integer values within -20 to 20
x <- rint(1000, min = -20, max = 20)
summary(x)
```

`rinvWishart`*Generate data with the inverse Wishart distribution*

Description

Function generates data in the form of symmetric matrices from the inverse Wishart distribution given a covariance matrix and degrees of freedom.

Usage

```
rinvWishart(n = 1, df, sigma)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| <code>n</code> | number of matrix observations to generate. By default <code>n = 1</code> , which returns a single symmetric matrix. If <code>n > 1</code> then a list of <code>n</code> symmetric matrices are returned instead |
| <code>df</code> | degrees of freedom |
| <code>sigma</code> | positive definite covariance matrix |

Value

a numeric matrix with columns equal to `ncol(sigma)` when `n = 1`, or a list of `n` matrices with the same properties

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[runSimulation](#)

Examples

```
# random inverse Wishart matrix given variances [3,6], covariance 2, and df=15
sigma <- matrix(c(3,2,2,6), 2, 2)
x <- rinvWishart(sigma = sigma, df = 15)
x

# list of matrices
x <- rinvWishart(20, sigma = sigma, df = 15)
```

x

 rmgh

Generate data with the multivariate g-and-h distribution

Description

Generate non-normal distributions using the multivariate g-and-h distribution. Can be used to generate several different classes of univariate and multivariate distributions.

Usage

```
rmgh(n, g, h, mean = rep(0, length(g)), sigma = diag(length(mean)))
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--|
| n | number of samples to draw |
| g | the g parameter(s) which control the skew of a distribution in terms of both direction and magnitude |
| h | the h parameter(s) which control the tail weight or elongation of a distribution and is positively related with kurtosis |
| mean | a vector of k elements for the mean of the variables |
| sigma | desired k x k covariance matrix between bivariate non-normal variables |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
set.seed(1)

# univariate
norm <- rmgh(10000, 1e-5, 0)
hist(norm)

skew <- rmgh(10000, 1/2, 0)
hist(skew)

neg_skew_platykurtic <- rmgh(10000, -1, -1/2)
hist(neg_skew_platykurtic)
```

```
# multivariate
sigma <- matrix(c(2,1,1,4), 2)
mean <- c(-1, 1)
twovar <- rmgh(10000, c(-1/2, 1/2), c(0,0),
  mean=mean, sigma=sigma)
hist(twovar[,1])
hist(twovar[,2])
plot(twovar)
```

RMSE

Compute the (normalized) root mean square error

Description

Computes the average deviation (root mean square error; also known as the root mean square deviation) of a sample estimate from the parameter value. Accepts estimate and parameter values, as well as estimate values which are in deviation form.

Usage

```
RMSE(
  estimate,
  parameter = NULL,
  type = "RMSE",
  MSE = FALSE,
  percent = FALSE,
  unname = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-----------|---|
| estimate | a numeric vector or matrix/data.frame of parameter estimates. If a vector, the length is equal to the number of replications. If a matrix/data.frame, the number of rows must equal the number of replications |
| parameter | a numeric scalar/vector indicating the fixed parameter values. If a single value is supplied and estimate is a matrix/data.frame then the value will be recycled for each column; otherwise, each element will be associated with each respective column in the estimate input. If NULL then it will be assumed that the estimate input is in a deviation form (therefore $\sqrt{\text{mean}(\text{estimate}^2)}$ will be returned) |
| type | type of deviation to compute. Can be 'RMSE' (default) for the root mean square-error, 'NRMSE' for the normalized RMSE ($\text{RMSE} / (\max(\text{estimate}) - \min(\text{estimate}))$), 'SRMSE' for the standardized RMSE ($\text{RMSE} / \text{sd}(\text{estimate})$), 'CV' for the coefficient of variation, or 'RMSLE' for the root mean-square log-error |

| | |
|---------|---|
| MSE | logical; return the mean square error equivalent of the results instead of the root mean-square error (in other words, the result is squared)? Default is FALSE |
| percent | logical; change returned result to percentage by multiplying by 100? Default is FALSE |
| unname | logical; apply unname to the results to remove any variable names? |

Value

returns a numeric vector indicating the overall average deviation in the estimates

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[bias](#)

MAE

Examples

```
pop <- 1
samp <- rnorm(100, 1, sd = 0.5)
RMSE(samp, pop)

dev <- samp - pop
RMSE(dev)

RMSE(samp, pop, type = 'NRMSE')
RMSE(dev, type = 'NRMSE')
RMSE(dev, pop, type = 'SRMSE')
RMSE(samp, pop, type = 'CV')
RMSE(samp, pop, type = 'RMSLE')

# percentage reported
RMSE(samp, pop, type = 'NRMSE')
RMSE(samp, pop, type = 'NRMSE', percent = TRUE)

# matrix input
mat <- cbind(M1=rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5), M2 = rnorm(100, 2, sd = 1))
RMSE(mat, parameter = 2)
RMSE(mat, parameter = c(2, 3))

# different parameter associated with each column
mat <- cbind(M1=rnorm(1000, 2, sd = 0.25), M2 = rnorm(1000, 3, sd = .25))
```

```
RMSE(mat, parameter = c(2,3))

# same, but with data.frame
df <- data.frame(M1=rnorm(100, 2, sd = 0.5), M2 = rnorm(100, 2, sd = 1))
RMSE(df, parameter = c(2,2))

# parameters of the same size
parameters <- 1:10
estimates <- parameters + rnorm(10)
RMSE(estimates, parameters)
```

| | |
|---------|---|
| rmvnorm | <i>Generate data with the multivariate normal (i.e., Gaussian) distribution</i> |
|---------|---|

Description

Function generates data from the multivariate normal distribution given some mean vector and/or covariance matrix.

Usage

```
rmvnorm(n, mean = rep(0, nrow(sigma)), sigma = diag(length(mean)))
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--|
| n | number of observations to generate |
| mean | mean vector, default is rep(0, length = ncol(sigma)) |
| sigma | positive definite covariance matrix, default is diag(length(mean)) |

Value

a numeric matrix with columns equal to length(mean)

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[runSimulation](#)

Examples

```
# random normal values with mean [5, 10] and variances [3,6], and covariance 2
sigma <- matrix(c(3,2,2,6), 2, 2)
mu <- c(5,10)
x <- rmvnorm(1000, mean = mu, sigma = sigma)
head(x)
summary(x)
plot(x[,1], x[,2])
```

 rmvt

Generate data with the multivariate t distribution

Description

Function generates data from the multivariate t distribution given a covariance matrix, non-centrality parameter (or mode), and degrees of freedom.

Usage

```
rmvt(n, sigma, df, delta = rep(0, nrow(sigma)), Kshirsagar = FALSE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------|--|
| n | number of observations to generate |
| sigma | positive definite covariance matrix |
| df | degrees of freedom. $df = 0$ and $df = \text{Inf}$ corresponds to the multivariate normal distribution |
| delta | the vector of non-centrality parameters of length n which specifies the either the modes (default) or non-centrality parameters |
| Kshirsagar | logical; triggers whether to generate data with non-centrality parameters or to adjust the simulated data to the mode of the distribution. The default uses the mode |

Value

a numeric matrix with columns equal to `ncol(sigma)`

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also[runSimulation](#)**Examples**

```
# random t values given variances [3,6], covariance 2, and df = 15
sigma <- matrix(c(3,2,2,6), 2, 2)
x <- rmvt(1000, sigma = sigma, df = 15)
head(x)
summary(x)
plot(x[,1], x[,2])
```

rtruncate

*Generate a random set of values within a truncated range***Description**

Function generates data given a supplied random number generating function that are constructed to fall within a particular range. Sampled values outside this range are discarded and re-sampled until the desired criteria has been met.

Usage

```
rtruncate(n, rfun, range, ..., redraws = 100L)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|--|
| n | number of observations to generate. This should be the first argument passed to rfun |
| rfun | a function to generate random values. Function can return a numeric/integer vector or matrix, and additional arguments required for this function are passed through the argument ... |
| range | a numeric vector of length two, where the first element indicates the lower bound and the second the upper bound. When values are generated outside these two bounds then data are redrawn until the bounded criteria is met. When the output of rfun is a matrix then this input can be specified as a matrix with two rows, where each the first row corresponds to the lower bound and the second row the upper bound for each generated column in the output |
| ... | additional arguments to be passed to rfun |
| redraws | the maximum number of redraws to take before terminating the iterative sequence. This is in place as a safety in case the range is too small given the random number generator, causing too many consecutive rejections. Default is 100 |

Details

In simulations it is often useful to draw numbers from truncated distributions rather than across the full theoretical range. For instance, sampling parameters within the range [-4,4] from a normal distribution. The `rtruncate` function has been designed to accept any sampling function, where the first argument is the number of values to sample, and will draw values iteratively until the number of values within the specified bound are obtained. In situations where it is unlikely for the bounds to be located (e.g., sampling from a normal distribution where all values are within [-10,-6]) then the sampling scheme will throw an error if too many re-sampling executions are required (default will stop if more than 100 calls to `rfunc` are required).

Value

either a numeric vector or matrix, where all values are within the desired range

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[runSimulation](#)

Examples

```
# n = 1000 truncated normal vector between [-2,3]
vec <- rtruncate(1000, rnorm, c(-2,3))
summary(vec)

# truncated correlated multivariate normal between [-1,4]
mat <- rtruncate(1000, rmvnorm, c(-1,4),
  sigma = matrix(c(2,1,1,1),2))
summary(mat)

# truncated correlated multivariate normal between [-1,4] for the
# first column and [0,3] for the second column
mat <- rtruncate(1000, rmvnorm, cbind(c(-1,4), c(0,3)),
  sigma = matrix(c(2,1,1,1),2))
summary(mat)

# truncated chi-square with df = 4 between [2,6]
vec <- rtruncate(1000, rchisq, c(2,6), df = 4)
summary(vec)
```

| | |
|---------------|---|
| runSimulation | <i>Run a Monte Carlo simulation given a data.frame of conditions and simulation functions</i> |
|---------------|---|

Description

This function runs a Monte Carlo simulation study given a set of predefined simulation functions, design conditions, and number of replications. Results can be saved as temporary files in case of interruptions and may be restored by re-running `runSimulation`, provided that the respective temp file can be found in the working directory. `runSimulation` supports parallel and cluster computing, global and local debugging, error handling (including fail-safe stopping when functions fail too often, even across nodes), provides bootstrap estimates of the sampling variability (optional), and tracking of error and warning messages. For convenience, all functions available in the R workspace are exported across all computational nodes so that they are more easily accessible (however, other R objects are not, and therefore must be passed to the `fixed_objects` input to become available across nodes). For a didactic presentation of the package refer to Sigal and Chalmers (2016; doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)), and see the associated wiki on Github (<https://github.com/philchalmers/SimDesign/wiki>) for other tutorial material, examples, and applications of `SimDesign` to real-world simulations.

Usage

```
runSimulation(  
  design,  
  replications,  
  generate,  
  analyse,  
  summarise,  
  fixed_objects = NULL,  
  packages = NULL,  
  bootSE = FALSE,  
  boot_draws = 1000L,  
  filename = "SimDesign-results",  
  seed = rint(nrow(design), min = 1L, max = 2147483647L),  
  save = FALSE,  
  save_results = FALSE,  
  store_results = FALSE,  
  warnings_as_errors = FALSE,  
  save_seeds = FALSE,  
  load_seed = NULL,  
  parallel = FALSE,  
  ncores = parallel::detectCores(),  
  cl = NULL,  
  MPI = FALSE,  
  max_errors = 50L,  
  save_details = list(),  
  debug = "none",
```

```

progress = TRUE,
allow_na = FALSE,
allow_nan = FALSE,
stop_on_fatal = FALSE,
edit = "none",
verbose = TRUE
)

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

## S3 method for class 'SimDesign'
print(x, list2char = TRUE, ...)

```

Arguments

| | |
|--------------|---|
| design | a tibble or data.frame object containing the Monte Carlo simulation conditions to be studied, where each row represents a unique condition and each column a factor to be varied. Note that if a tibble is supplied this object will be coerced to a data.frame internally. See createDesign for the standard approach to create this simulation design object |
| replications | number of replication to perform per condition (i.e., each row in design). Must be greater than 0 |
| generate | user-defined data and parameter generating function. See Generate for details. Note that this argument may be omitted by the user if they wish to generate the data with the analyse step, but for real-world simulations this is generally not recommended |
| analyse | user-defined computation function which acts on the data generated from Generate (or, if generate was omitted, both generates and analyses the simulated data). See Analyse for details |
| summarise | optional (but highly recommended) user-defined summary function from Summarise to be used after all the replications have completed within each design condition. Omitting this function will return a list of data.frames (or a single data.frame, if only one row in design is supplied) or, for more general objects (such as lists), a list containing the results returned from Analyse . Alternatively, the value NA can be passed to let the generate-analyse-summarise process to run as usual, where the summarise components are instead included only as a placeholder. Omitting this input is only recommended for didactic purposes because it leaves out a large amount of information (e.g., try-errors, warning messages, saving files, etc), can witness memory related issues, and generally is not as flexible internally. If users do not wish to supply a summarise function then it is recommended to pass the values NA to indicate this function is deliberately omitted, but that the <code>save_results</code> option should be used to save the results during the simulation. This provides a more RAM friendly alternative to storing all the Generate-Analyse results in the working environment, where the Analysis results can be summarised at a later time |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| fixed_objects | (optional) an object (usually a named list) containing additional user-defined objects that should remain fixed across conditions. This is useful when including long fixed vectors/matrices of population parameters, data that should be used across all conditions and replications (e.g., including a fixed design matrix for linear regression), or simply control constant global elements such as sample size |
| packages | a character vector of external packages to be used during the simulation (e.g., <code>c('MASS', 'extraDistr', 'simsem')</code>). Use this input when <code>parallel = TRUE</code> or <code>MPI = TRUE</code> to use non-standard functions from additional packages, otherwise the functions must be made available by using explicit <code>library</code> or <code>require</code> calls within the provided simulation functions. Alternatively, functions can be called explicitly without attaching the package with the <code>::</code> operator (e.g., <code>extraDistr::rgumbel()</code>) |
| bootSE | logical; perform a non-parametric bootstrap to compute bootstrap standard error estimates for the respective meta-statistics computed by the Summarise function? When TRUE, bootstrap samples for each row in Design will be obtained after the generate-analyse steps have obtained the simulation results to be summarised so that standard errors for each statistic can be computed. To compute large-sample confidence intervals given the bootstrap SE estimates see <code>SimBoot</code> . This option is useful to approximate how accurate the resulting meta-statistic estimates were, particularly if the number of replications was relatively low (e.g., less than 5000). If users prefer to obtain alternative bootstrap estimates then consider passing <code>save_results = TRUE</code> , reading the generate-analyse data into R via <code>SimResults</code> , and performing the bootstrap manually with function found in the external boot package |
| boot_draws | number of non-parametric bootstrap draws to sample for the summarise function after the generate-analyse replications are collected. Default is 1000 |
| filename | (optional) the name of the .rds file to save the final simulation results to when <code>save = TRUE</code> . If the same file name already exists in the working directory at the time of saving then a new file will be generated instead and a warning will be thrown. This helps to avoid accidentally overwriting existing files. Default is 'SimDesign-results' |
| seed | a vector of integers to be used for reproducibility. The length of the vector must be equal to the number of rows in design. This argument calls <code>set.seed</code> or <code>clusterSetRNGStream</code> for each condition, respectively, but will not be run when <code>MPI = TRUE</code> . Default randomly generates seeds within the range 1 to 2147483647 for each condition. |
| save | logical; save the simulation state and final results to the hard-drive? This is useful for simulations which require an extended amount of time. When TRUE, a temp file will be created in the working directory which allows the simulation state to be saved and recovered (in case of power outages, crashes, etc). As well, triggering this flag will save any fatal .Random.seed states when conditions unexpectedly crash (where each seed is stored row-wise in an external .rds file), which provides a much easier mechanism to debug the issue (see <code>load_seed</code> for details). Additionally, to recover your simulation at the last known location simply re-run the code you used to initially define the simulation and the external file will |

- automatically be detected and read-in. Upon completion, the final results will be saved to the working directory, and the temp file will be removed. Default is FALSE
- save_results** logical; save the results returned from [Analyse](#) to external `.rds` files located in the defined `save_results_dirname` directory/folder? Use this if you would like to keep track of the individual parameters returned from the analyses. Each saved object will contain a list of three elements containing the condition (row from design), results (as a `list` or `matrix`), and try-errors. When TRUE, a temp file will be used to track the simulation state (in case of power outages, crashes, etc). When TRUE, temporary files will also be saved to the working directory (in the same way as when `save = TRUE`). See [SimResults](#) for an example of how to read these `.rds` files back into R after the simulation is complete. Default is FALSE.
- WARNING: saving results to your hard-drive can fill up space very quickly for larger simulations. Be sure to test this option using a smaller number of replications before the full Monte Carlo simulation is performed. See also [reSummarise](#) for applying summarise functions from saved simulation results
- store_results** logical; store the complete tables of simulation results in the returned object? This is FALSE by default to help avoid RAM issues (see `save_results` as a more suitable alternative). To extract these results pass the returned object to `SimExtract(..., what = 'results')`, which will return a named list of all the simulation results for each condition
- warnings_as_errors** logical; treat warning messages as errors during the simulation? Default is FALSE, therefore warnings are only collected and not used to restart the data generation step
- save_seeds** logical; save the `.Random.seed` states prior to performing each replication into plain text files located in the defined `save_seeds_dirname` directory/folder? Use this if you would like to keep track of the simulation state within each replication and design condition. Primarily, this is useful for completely replicating any cell in the simulation if need be, especially when tracking down hard-to-find errors and bugs. As well, see the `load_seed` input to load a given `.Random.seed` to exactly replicate the generated data and analysis state (mostly useful for debugging). When TRUE, temporary files will also be saved to the working directory (in the same way as when `save = TRUE`). Default is FALSE
- Note, however, that this option is not typically necessary since the `.Random.seed` states for simulation replications that threw errors during the execution are automatically stored within the final simulation object, and can be extracted and investigated using [SimExtract](#). Hence, this option is only of interest when *all* of the replications must be reproducible, otherwise the defaults to `runSimulation` are likely sufficient for most simulation studies.
- load_seed** a character object indicating which file to load from when the `.Random.seeds` have been saved (after a call with `save_seeds = TRUE`), or an integer vector indicating the actual `.Random.seed` values. E.g., `load_seed = 'design-row-2/seed-1'` will load the first seed in the second row of the design input, or explicitly passing the 626 long elements from `.Random.seed` (see [SimExtract](#) to extract the seeds associated explicitly with errors during the simulation, where each column

represents a unique seed). If the input is a character vector then it is important NOT to modify the design input object, otherwise the path may not point to the correct saved location, while if the input is an integer vector then it WILL be important to modify the design input in order to load this exact seed for the corresponding design row. Default is NULL

| | |
|--------------|--|
| parallel | logical; use parallel processing from the parallel package over each unique condition? |
| ncores | number of cores to be used in parallel execution. Default uses all available |
| cl | cluster object defined by <code>makeCluster</code> used to run code in parallel. If NULL and <code>parallel = TRUE</code> , a local cluster object will be defined which selects the maximum number cores available and will be stop the cluster when the simulation is complete. Note that supplying a <code>cl</code> object will automatically set the <code>parallel</code> argument to TRUE |
| MPI | logical; use the <code>foreach</code> package in a form usable by MPI to run simulation in parallel on a cluster? Default is FALSE |
| max_errors | the simulation will terminate when more than this number of consecutive errors are thrown in any given condition. The purpose of this is to indicate that something fatally problematic is likely going wrong in the generate-analyse phases and should be inspected. Default is 50 |
| save_details | a list pertaining to information regarding how and where files should be saved when the <code>save</code> or <code>save_results</code> flags are triggered. |
| | <code>safe</code> logical; trigger whether safe-saving should be performed. When TRUE files will never be overwritten accidentally, and where appropriate the program will either stop or generate new files with unique names. Default is TRUE |
| | <code>compname</code> name of the computer running the simulation. Normally this doesn't need to be modified, but in the event that a manual node breaks down while running a simulation the results from the temp files may be resumed on another computer by changing the name of the node to match the broken computer. Default is the result of evaluating <code>uname(Sys.info()['nodename'])</code> |
| | <code>out_rootdir</code> root directory to save all files to. Default uses the current working directory |
| | <code>tmpfilename</code> the name of the temporary <code>.rds</code> file when any of the save flags are used. This file will be read-in if it is in the working directory and the simulation will continue at the last point this file was saved (useful in case of power outages or broken nodes). Finally, this file will be deleted when the simulation is complete. Default is the system name (<code>compname</code>) appended to <code>'SIMDESIGN-TEMPFILE_'</code> |
| | <code>save_results_dirname</code> a string indicating the name of the folder to save result objects to when <code>save_results = TRUE</code> . If a directory/folder does not exist in the current working directory then a unique one will be created automatically. Default is <code>'SimDesign-results_'</code> with the associated <code>compname</code> appended |
| | <code>save_seeds_dirname</code> a string indicating the name of the folder to save <code>.Random.seed</code> objects to when <code>save_seeds = TRUE</code> . If a directory/folder does not exist in |

the current working directory then one will be created automatically. Default is 'SimDesign-seeds_' with the associated compname appended

| | |
|---------------|---|
| debug | a string indicating where to initiate a <code>browser()</code> call for editing and debugging. General options are 'none' (default; no debugging), 'error', which starts the debugger when any error in the code is detected in one of three generate-analyse-summarise functions, and 'all', which debugs all the user defined functions regardless of whether an error was thrown or not. Specific options include: 'generate' to debug the data simulation function, 'analyse' to debug the computational function, and 'summarise' to debug the aggregation function. Alternatively, users may place <code>browser</code> calls within the respective functions for debugging at specific lines, which is useful when debugging based on conditional evaluations (e.g., <code>if(this == 'problem') browser()</code>). Note that parallel computation flags will automatically be disabled when a <code>browser()</code> is detected |
| progress | logical; display a progress bar for each simulation condition? This is useful when simulations conditions take a long time to run. Uses the <code>pbapply</code> package to display the progress. Default is FALSE |
| allow_na | logical; should NAs be allowed in the analyse step as a valid result from the simulation analysis? Default is FALSE |
| allow_nan | logical; should NaNs be allowed in the analyse step as a valid result from the simulation analysis? Default is FALSE |
| stop_on_fatal | logical; should the simulation be terminated immediately when the maximum number of consecutive errors (<code>max_errors</code>) is reached? If FALSE, the simulation will continue as though errors did not occur, however a column <code>FATAL_TERMINATION</code> will be included in the resulting object indicating the final error message observed, and NA placeholders will be placed in all other row-elements. Default is FALSE |
| edit | this argument has been deprecated. Please use <code>debug</code> instead |
| verbose | logical; print messages to the R console? Default is TRUE |
| object | SimDesign object returned from <code>runSimulation</code> |
| ... | additional arguments |
| x | SimDesign object returned from <code>runSimulation</code> |
| list2char | logical; for tibble object re-evaluate list elements as character vectors for better printing of the levels? Note that this does not change the original classes of the object, just how they are printed. Default is TRUE |

Details

The strategy for organizing the Monte Carlo simulation work-flow is to

- 1) Define a suitable Design object (a tibble or data.frame) containing fixed conditional information about the Monte Carlo simulations. This is often expedited by using the `createDesign` function, and if necessary the argument `subset` can be used to remove redundant or non-applicable rows

- 2) Define the three step functions to generate the data ([Generate](#); see also <https://CRAN.R-project.org/view=Distributions> for a list of distributions in R), analyse the generated data by computing the respective parameter estimates, detection rates, etc ([Analyse](#)), and finally summarise the results across the total number of replications ([Summarise](#)).
- 3) Pass the above objects to the runSimulation function, and declare the number of replications to perform with the replications input. This function will accept a design data.frame object and will return a suitable data.frame object with the simulation results
- 4) Analyze the output from runSimulation, possibly using ANOVA techniques ([SimAnova](#)) and generating suitable plots and tables

Expressing the above more succinctly, the functions to be called have the following form, with the exact inputs listed

```
Design <- createDesign(...)
Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL) {...}
Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL) {...}
Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL) {...}
res <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications, generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
```

The condition object above represents a single row from the design object, indicating a unique Monte Carlo simulation condition. The condition object also contains two additional elements to help track the simulation's state: an ID variable, indicating the respective row number in the design object, and a REPLICATION element indicating the replication iteration number. Mainly, these are included to help with debugging, where users can easily locate the *r*th replication (e.g., REPLICATION == 500) within the *j*th row in the simulation design (e.g., ID == 2). The REPLICATION input is also useful when temporarily saving files to the hard-drive when calling external command line utilities (see examples on the wiki).

For a skeleton version of the work-flow, which is often useful when initially defining a simulation, use [SimFunctions](#). This function will write template simulation code to one/two files so that modifying the required functions and objects can begin immediately with minimal error. This means that you can focus on your Monte Carlo simulation immediately rather than worrying about the administrative code-work required to organize the simulation work-flow.

Additional information for each condition are also contained in the object returned by runSimulation: REPLICATIONS to indicate the number of Monte Carlo replications, SIM_TIME to indicate how long (in seconds) it took to complete all the Monte Carlo replications for each respective design condition, COMPLETED to indicate the date in which the given simulation condition completed, SEED for the integer values in the seed argument, and, if applicable, ERRORS and WARNINGS which contain counts for the number of error or warning messages that were caught (if no errors/warnings were observed these columns will be omitted). Note that to extract the specific error and warnings messages see [SimExtract](#). Finally, if bootSE = TRUE was included then the final right-most columns will contain the labels BOOT_SE. followed by the name of the associated meta-statistic defined in summarise().

Additional examples, presentation files, and tutorials can be found on the package wiki located at <https://github.com/philchalmers/SimDesign/wiki>.

Value

a tibble from the dplyr package (also of class 'SimDesign') with the original design conditions in the left-most columns, simulation results and ERROR/WARNING's (if applicable) in the middle columns, and additional information (such as REPLICATIONS, SIM_TIME, COMPLETED, and SEED) in the right-most columns.

Saving data, results, seeds, and the simulation state

To conserve RAM, temporary objects (such as data generated across conditions and replications) are discarded; however, these can be saved to the hard-disk by passing the appropriate flags. For longer simulations it is recommended to use `save = TRUE` to temporarily save the simulation state, and to use the `save_results` flag to write the analysis results to the hard-disk.

The use of the `save_seeds` option can be evoked to save R's `.Random.seed` state to allow for complete reproducibility of each replication within each condition. These individual `.Random.seed` terms can then be read in with the `load_seed` input to reproduce the exact simulation state at any given replication. Most often though, `save_seeds` is less useful since problematic seeds are automatically stored in the final simulation object to allow for easier replicability of potentially problematic errors. Finally, providing a vector of seeds is also possible to ensure that each simulation condition is completely reproducible under the single/multi-core method selected.

The `load_seed` input will also accept an integer vector corresponding to the exact `.Random.seed` state. This is helpful because `SimDesign` also tracks these seeds for simulation conditions that threw errors, where these values can be extracted via `SimExtract(..., what='error_seeds')` function. The column names indicate the respective design row (first number), the order in which the errors were thrown (second number), and finally the error message string (coerced to a proper data.frame column name). After this data.frame object is extracted, individual columns can be passed to `load_seed` to replicate the exact error issue that appeared (note that the design object must be indexed manually to ensure that the correct design conditions is paired with this exact `.Random.seed` state).

Finally, when the Monte Carlo simulation is complete it is recommended to write the results to a hard-drive for safe keeping, particularly with the `save` and `filename` arguments provided (for reasons that are more obvious in the parallel computation descriptions below). Using the `filename` argument (along with `save = TRUE`) supplied is much safer than using something like `saveRDS` directly because files will never accidentally be overwritten, and instead a new file name will be created when a conflict arises; this type of safety is prevalent in many aspects of the package and helps to avoid many unrecoverable (yet surprisingly common) mistakes.

Resuming temporary results

In the event of a computer crash, power outage, etc, if `save = TRUE` was used then the original code used to execute `runSimulation()` need only be re-run to resume the simulation. The saved temp file will be read into the function automatically, and the simulation will continue one the condition where it left off before the simulation state was terminated.

A note on parallel computing

When running simulations in parallel (either with `parallel = TRUE` or `MPI = TRUE`) R objects defined in the global environment will generally *not* be visible across nodes. Hence, you may see errors such as `Error: object 'something' not found` if you try to use an object that is defined in

the workspace but is not passed to runSimulation. To avoid this type of error, simply pass additional objects to the fixed_objects input (usually it's convenient to supply a named list of these objects). Fortunately, however, *custom functions defined in the global environment are exported across nodes automatically*. This makes it convenient when writing code because custom functions will always be available across nodes if they are visible in the R workspace. As well, note the packages input to declare packages which must be loaded via library() in order to make specific non-standard R functions available across nodes.

Author(s)

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References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[SimFunctions](#), [createDesign](#), [Generate](#), [Analyse](#), [Summarise](#), [SimExtract](#), [reSummarise](#), [SimClean](#), [SimAnova](#), [SimResults](#), [SimBoot](#), [aggregate_simulations](#), [Attach](#), [SimShiny](#)

Examples

```
#-----
# Example 1: Sampling distribution of mean

# This example demonstrate some of the simpler uses of SimDesign,
# particularly for classroom settings. The only factor varied in this simulation
# is sample size.

# skeleton functions to be saved and edited
SimFunctions()

#### Step 1 --- Define your conditions under study and create design data.frame

Design <- data.frame(N = c(10, 20, 30))

#~~~~~
#### Step 2 --- Define generate, analyse, and summarise functions

# help(Generate)
Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  dat <- with(condition, rnorm(N, 10, 5)) # distributed N(10, 5)
  dat
}

# help(Analyse)
Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
  ret <- mean(dat) # mean of the sample data vector
  ret
}
```

```

}

# help(Summarise)
Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  ret <- c(mu=mean(results), SE=sd(results)) # mean and SD summary of the sample means
  ret
}

#-----
#### Step 3 --- Collect results by looping over the rows in design

# run the simulation
Final <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000,
                      generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
Final

# reproduce exact simulation
Final_rep <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000, seed=Final$SEED,
                          generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
Final_rep

#-----
#### Extras
# compare SEs estimates to the true SEs from the formula sigma/sqrt(N)
5 / sqrt(Design$N)

# To store the results from the analyse function either
# a) omit a definition of of summarise(), or
# b) pass save_results = TRUE to runSimulation() and read the results in with SimResults()

# e.g., the a) approach
res <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000,
                    generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse)
str(res)
head(res[[1]])

# or b) approach
Final <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000, save_results=TRUE,
                      generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
res <- SimResults(Final)
str(res)
head(res[[1]]$results)

# remove the saved results from the hard-drive if you no longer want them
SimClean(results = TRUE)

#-----
# Example 2: t-test and Welch test when varying sample size, group sizes, and SDs

```

```

# skeleton functions to be saved and edited
SimFunctions()

## Not run:
# in real-world simulations it's often better/easier to save
# these functions directly to your hard-drive with
SimFunctions('my-simulation')

## End(Not run)

#### Step 1 --- Define your conditions under study and create design data.frame

Design <- createDesign(sample_size = c(30, 60, 90, 120),
                      group_size_ratio = c(1, 4, 8),
                      standard_deviation_ratio = c(.5, 1, 2))

Design

#~~~~~
#### Step 2 --- Define generate, analyse, and summarise functions

Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  N <- condition$sample_size # alternatively, could use Attach() to make objects available
  grs <- condition$group_size_ratio
  sd <- condition$standard_deviation_ratio
  if(grs < 1){
    N2 <- N / (1/grs + 1)
    N1 <- N - N2
  } else {
    N1 <- N / (grs + 1)
    N2 <- N - N1
  }
  group1 <- rnorm(N1)
  group2 <- rnorm(N2, sd=sd)
  dat <- data.frame(group = c(rep('g1', N1), rep('g2', N2)), DV = c(group1, group2))
  dat
}

Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
  welch <- t.test(DV ~ group, dat)
  ind <- t.test(DV ~ group, dat, var.equal=TRUE)

  # In this function the p values for the t-tests are returned,
  # and make sure to name each element, for future reference
  ret <- c(welch = welch$p.value, independent = ind$p.value)
  ret
}

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  #find results of interest here (e.g., alpha < .1, .05, .01)
  ret <- EDR(results, alpha = .05)
  ret
}

```

```

#~~~~~
#### Step 3 --- Collect results by looping over the rows in design

# first, test to see if it works
res <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=5, store_results=TRUE,
                    generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
res

## Not run:
# complete run with 1000 replications per condition
res <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000, parallel=TRUE,
                    generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
res
View(res)

## save final results to a file upon completion (not run)
runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000, parallel=TRUE, save=TRUE, filename = 'mysim',
              generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)

## Debug the generate function. See ?browser for help on debugging
##   Type help to see available commands (e.g., n, c, where, ...),
##   ls() to see what has been defined, and type Q to quit the debugger
runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000,
              generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise,
              parallel=TRUE, debug='generate')

## Alternatively, place a browser() within the desired function line to
##   jump to a specific location
Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  #find results of interest here (e.g., alpha < .1, .05, .01)
  browser()
  ret <- EDR(results[,nms], alpha = .05)
  ret
}

runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000,
              generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise,
              parallel=TRUE)

## EXTRA: To run the simulation on a MPI cluster, use the following setup on each node (not run)
# library(doMPI)
# cl <- startMPIcluster()
# registerDoMPI(cl)
# Final <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000, MPI=TRUE, save=TRUE,
#                       generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
# saveRDS(Final, 'mysim.rds')

```

```

# closeCluster(cl)
# mpi.quit()

## Similarly, run simulation on a network linked via ssh
## (two way ssh key-paired connection must be possible between master and slave nodes)
##
## define IP addresses, including primary IP
# primary <- '192.168.2.20'
# IPs <- list(
#   list(host=primary, user='phil', ncore=8),
#   list(host='192.168.2.17', user='phil', ncore=8)
# )
# spec <- lapply(IPs, function(IP)
#   rep(list(list(host=IP$host, user=IP$user)), IP$ncore))
# spec <- unlist(spec, recursive=FALSE)
#
# cl <- parallel::makeCluster(type='PSOCK', master=primary, spec=spec)
# res <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=1000, parallel = TRUE, save=TRUE,
#   generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise, cl=cl)

#~~~~~
##### Post-analysis: Analyze the results via functions like lm() or SimAnova(), and create
##### tables(dplyr) or plots (ggplot2) to help visualize the results.
##### This is where you get to be a data analyst!

library(dplyr)
res %>% summarise(mean(welch), mean(independent))
res %>% group_by(standard_deviation_ratio, group_size_ratio) %>%
  summarise(mean(welch), mean(independent))

# quick ANOVA analysis method with all two-way interactions
SimAnova( ~ (sample_size + group_size_ratio + standard_deviation_ratio)^2, res,
  rates = TRUE)

# or more specific ANOVAs
SimAnova(independent ~ (group_size_ratio + standard_deviation_ratio)^2,
  res, rates = TRUE)

# make some plots
library(ggplot2)
library(tidyr)
dd <- res %>%
  select(group_size_ratio, standard_deviation_ratio, welch, independent) %>%
  pivot_longer(cols=c('welch', 'independent'), names_to = 'stats')
dd

ggplot(dd, aes(factor(group_size_ratio), value)) + geom_boxplot() +
  geom_abline(intercept=0.05, slope=0, col = 'red') +
  geom_abline(intercept=0.075, slope=0, col = 'red', linetype='dotted') +
  geom_abline(intercept=0.025, slope=0, col = 'red', linetype='dotted') +
  facet_wrap(~stats)

```

```

ggplot(dd, aes(factor(group_size_ratio), value, fill = factor(standard_deviation_ratio))) +
  geom_boxplot() + geom_abline(intercept=0.05, slope=0, col = 'red') +
  geom_abline(intercept=0.075, slope=0, col = 'red', linetype='dotted') +
  geom_abline(intercept=0.025, slope=0, col = 'red', linetype='dotted') +
  facet_grid(stats~standard_deviation_ratio) +
  theme(legend.position = 'none')

## End(Not run)

```

rValeMaurelli

Generate non-normal data with Vale & Maurelli's (1983) method

Description

Generate multivariate non-normal distributions using the third-order polynomial method described by Vale & Maurelli (1983). If only a single variable is generated then this function is equivalent to the method described by Fleishman (1978).

Usage

```

rValeMaurelli(
  n,
  mean = rep(0, nrow(sigma)),
  sigma = diag(length(mean)),
  skew = rep(0, nrow(sigma)),
  kurt = rep(0, nrow(sigma))
)

```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--|
| n | number of samples to draw |
| mean | a vector of k elements for the mean of the variables |
| sigma | desired k x k covariance matrix between bivariate non-normal variables |
| skew | a vector of k elements for the skewness of the variables |
| kurt | a vector of k elements for the kurtosis of the variables |

Author(s)

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References

- Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)
- Fleishman, A. I. (1978). A method for simulating non-normal distributions. *Psychometrika*, 43, 521-532.
- Vale, C. & Maurelli, V. (1983). Simulating multivariate nonnormal distributions. *Psychometrika*, 48(3), 465-471.

Examples

```
set.seed(1)

# univariate with skew
nonnormal <- rValeMaurelli(10000, mean=10, sigma=5, skew=1, kurt=3)
# psych::describe(nonnormal)

# multivariate with skew and kurtosis
n <- 10000
r12 <- .4
r13 <- .9
r23 <- .1
cor <- matrix(c(1,r12,r13,r12,1,r23,r13,r23,1),3,3)
sk <- c(1.5,1.5,0.5)
ku <- c(3.75,3.5,0.5)

nonnormal <- rValeMaurelli(n, sigma=cor, skew=sk, kurt=ku)
# cor(nonnormal)
# psych::describe(nonnormal)
```

Serlin2000

Empirical detection robustness method suggested by Serlin (2000)

Description

Hypothesis test to determine whether an observed empirical detection rate, coupled with a given robustness interval, statistically differs from the population value. Uses the methods described by Serlin (2000) as well to generate critical values (similar to confidence intervals, but define a fixed window of robustness). Critical values may be computed without performing the simulation experiment (hence, can be obtained a priori).

Usage

```
Serlin2000(p, alpha, delta, R, CI = 0.95)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|---|
| p | (optional) a vector containing the empirical detection rate(s) to be tested. Omitting this input will compute only the CV1 and CV2 values, while including this input will perform a one-sided hypothesis test for robustness |
| alpha | Type I error rate (e.g., often set to .05) |
| delta | (optional) symmetric robustness interval around alpha (e.g., a value of .01 when alpha = .05 would test the robustness window .04-.06) |
| R | number of replications used in the simulation |
| CI | confidence interval for alpha as a proportion. Default of 0.95 indicates a 95% interval |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

- Serlin, R. C. (2000). Testing for Robustness in Monte Carlo Studies. *Psychological Methods*, 5, 230-240.
- Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
# Cochran's criteria at alpha = .05 (i.e., 0.5 +- .01), assuming N = 2000
Serlin2000(p = .051, alpha = .05, delta = .01, R = 2000)

# Bradley's liberal criteria given p = .06 and .076, assuming N = 1000
Serlin2000(p = .060, alpha = .05, delta = .025, R = 1000)
Serlin2000(p = .076, alpha = .05, delta = .025, R = 1000)

# multiple p-values
Serlin2000(p = c(.05, .06, .07), alpha = .05, delta = .025, R = 1000)

# CV values computed before simulation performed
Serlin2000(alpha = .05, R = 2500)
```


Description

Given the results from a simulation with `runSimulation` form an ANOVA table (without p-values) with effect sizes based on the eta-squared statistic. These results provide approximate indications of observable simulation effects, therefore these ANOVA-based results are generally useful as exploratory rather than inferential tools.

Usage

```
SimAnova(formula, dat, subset = NULL, rates = TRUE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| <code>formula</code> | an R formula generally of a form suitable for <code>lm</code> or <code>aov</code> . However, if the dependent variable (left side of the equation) is omitted then all the dependent variables in the simulation will be used and the result will return a list of analyses |
| <code>dat</code> | an object returned from <code>runSimulation</code> of class 'SimDesign' |
| <code>subset</code> | an optional argument to be passed to <code>subset</code> with the same name. Used to subset the results object while preserving the associated attributes |
| <code>rates</code> | logical; does the dependent variable consist of rates (e.g., returned from <code>ECR</code> or <code>EDR</code>)? Default is <code>TRUE</code> , which will use the logit of the DV to help stabilize the proportion-based summary statistics when computing the parameters and effect sizes |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
data(BF_sim)

# all results (not usually good to mix Power and Type I results together)
SimAnova(alpha.05.F ~ (groups_equal + distribution)^2, BF_sim)

# only use anova for Type I error conditions
SimAnova(alpha.05.F ~ (groups_equal + distribution)^2, BF_sim, subset = var_ratio == 1)

# run all DVs at once using the same formula
SimAnova(~ groups_equal * distribution, BF_sim, subset = var_ratio == 1)
```

| | |
|---------|---|
| SimBoot | <i>Function to present bootstrap standard errors estimates for Monte Carlo simulation meta-statistics</i> |
|---------|---|

Description

This function generates bootstrap confidence intervals for the meta-statistics called within the summarise function with `runSimulation` that included the argument `bootSE = TRUE`.

Usage

```
SimBoot(results, CI = 0.99)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| results | object returned from <code>runSimulation</code> where <code>bootSE = TRUE</code> was used |
| CI | desired confidence interval level for each meta-statistic using the bootstrap SE estimate. Default is .99, which constructs a 99% confidence interval |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:
#SimFunctions()

Design <- data.frame(N = c(10, 20, 30))

Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  dat <- with(condition, rnorm(N, 10, 5)) # distributed N(10, 5)
  dat
}

Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
  CIs <- t.test(dat)$conf.int # t-based CIs
  xbar <- mean(dat) # mean of the sample data vector
  ret <- c(mean=xbar, lowerCI=CIs[1], upperCI=CIs[2])
  ret
}

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
```

```

    ret <- c(mu=mean(results[,1]), SE=sd(results[,1]), # mean and SD summary of the sample means
            coverage=ECR(results[,2:3], parameter = 10))
    ret
  }

res <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=250, bootSE=TRUE,
                    generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)

res
SimBoot(res)

# larger R
res2 <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=2500, bootSE=TRUE,
                     generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)

# point estimates more accurate, smaller BOOT_SE terms
res2
SimBoot(res2) # more reasonable CI range

## End(Not run)

```

 SimClean

Removes/cleans files and folders that have been saved

Description

This function is mainly used in pilot studies where results and datasets have been temporarily saved by `runSimulation` but should be removed before beginning the full Monte Carlo simulation (e.g., remove files and folders which contained bugs/biased results).

Usage

```

SimClean(
  ...,
  dirs = NULL,
  generate_data = FALSE,
  results = FALSE,
  seeds = FALSE,
  temp = FALSE,
  save_details = list()
)

```

Arguments

... one or more character objects indicating which files to remove. Used to remove .rds files which were saved with `saveRDS` or when using the save and filename inputs to `runSimulation`

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| <code>dirs</code> | a character vector indicating which directories to remove |
| <code>generate_data</code> | logical; remove the . rds data-set files saved when passing <code>save_generate_data = TRUE?</code> |
| <code>results</code> | logical; remove the . rds results files saved when passing <code>save_results = TRUE?</code> |
| <code>seeds</code> | logical; remove the seed files saved when passing <code>save_seeds = TRUE?</code> |
| <code>temp</code> | logical; remove the temporary file saved when passing <code>save = TRUE?</code> |
| <code>save_details</code> | a list pertaining to information about how and where files were saved (see the corresponding list in runSimulation) |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[runSimulation](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

# remove file called 'results.rds'
SimClean('results.rds')

# remove default temp file
SimClean(temp = TRUE)

# remove default saved-data directory
SimClean(generate_data = TRUE)

# remove customized saved-results directory called 'mydir'
SimClean(results = TRUE, save_details = list(save_results_dirname = 'mydir'))

## End(Not run)
```

SimDesign

Structure for Organizing Monte Carlo Simulation Designs

Description

Structure for Organizing Monte Carlo Simulation Designs

Details

Provides tools to help organize Monte Carlo simulations in R. The package controls the structure and back-end of Monte Carlo simulations by utilizing a general generate-analyse-summarise strategy. The functions provided control common simulation issues such as re-simulating non-convergent results, support parallel back-end and MPI distributed computations, save and restore temporary files, aggregate results across independent nodes, and provide native support for debugging. The primary function for organizing the simulations is `runSimulation`. For a didactic presentation of the package refer to Sigal and Chalmers (2016; doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)), and see the associated wiki on Github (<https://github.com/philchalmers/SimDesign/wiki>) for other tutorial material, examples, and applications of SimDesign to real-world simulations.

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

SimExtract

Function to extract extra information from SimDesign objects

Description

Function used to extract any error or warnings messages, the seeds associated with any error messages, and any analysis results that were stored in the final simulation object.

Usage

```
SimExtract(object, what)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|---|
| object | object returned from <code>runSimulation</code> |
| what | character indicating what information to extract. Possible inputs include 'errors' to return a tibble object containing counts of any error messages, 'warnings' to return a data.frame object containing counts of any warning messages, 'error_seeds' to extract the associated .Random.seed values associated with the ERROR messages, and 'results' to extract the simulation results if the option <code>store_results</code> was passed to <code>runSimulation</code> |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:

Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  int <- sample(1:10, 1)
  if(int > 5) warning('GENERATE WARNING: int greater than 5')
  if(int == 1) stop('GENERATE WARNING: integer is 1')
  rnorm(5)
}

Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
  int <- sample(1:10, 1)
  if(int > 5) warning('ANALYSE WARNING: int greater than 5')
  if(int == 1) stop('ANALYSE WARNING: int is 1')
  c(ret = 1)
}

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL) {
  mean(results)
}

res <- runSimulation(replications = 100, seed=1234, verbose=FALSE,
                    generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)

res

SimExtract(res, what = 'errors')
SimExtract(res, what = 'warnings')
seeds <- SimExtract(res, what = 'error_seeds')
seeds[,1:3]

# replicate a specific error for debugging (type Q to exit debugger)
```

```
res <- runSimulation(replications = 100, load_seed=seeds[,1], debug='analyse',
                    generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)
```

```
## End(Not run)
```

SimFunctions

Skeleton functions for simulations

Description

This function prints skeleton versions of the required SimDesign functions to run simulations, complete with the correct inputs, class of outputs, and optional comments to help with the initial definitions. Use this at the start of your Monte Carlo simulation study. The recommended approach is to save the template to the hard-drive by passing a suitable file name. However, for larger simulations, as well as when using the RStudio, two separate files will often be easier for debugging/sourcing the simulation code (achieved by passing `singlefile = FALSE`). For a didactic presentation of the package refer to Sigal and Chalmers (2016; doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)), and see the associated wiki on Github (<https://github.com/philchalmers/SimDesign/wiki>) for other tutorial material, examples, and applications of SimDesign to real-world simulations.

Usage

```
SimFunctions(  
  filename = NULL,  
  dir = getwd(),  
  comments = FALSE,  
  singlefile = TRUE,  
  summarise = TRUE,  
  generate = TRUE,  
  openFiles = TRUE  
)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| <code>filename</code> | a character vector indicating whether the output should be saved to two respective files containing the simulation design and the functional components, respectively. Using this option is generally the recommended approach when beginning to write a Monte Carlo simulation |
| <code>dir</code> | the directory to write the files to. Default is the working directory |
| <code>comments</code> | logical; include helpful comments? Default is FALSE |
| <code>singlefile</code> | logical; when <code>filename</code> is included, put output in one files? When FALSE the output is saved to two separate files containing the functions and design definitions. The two-file format often makes organization and debugging slightly easier, especially for larger Monte Carlo simulations. Default is TRUE |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| summarise | include summarise function? Default is TRUE |
| generate | include generate function? Default is TRUE |
| openFiles | logical; after files have been generated, open them in your text editor (e.g., if Rstudio is running the scripts will open in a new tab)? |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
SimFunctions()
SimFunctions(comments = TRUE) #with helpful comments

## Not run:

# write output to two files (recommended for larger MCSs)
SimFunctions('mysim', singlefile = FALSE)

# write output files to a single file with comments
SimFunctions('mysim', comments = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

SimResults

Function to read in saved simulation results

Description

If `runSimulation` was passed the flag `save_results = TRUE` then the row results corresponding to the design object will be stored to a suitable sub-directory as individual `.rds` files. While users could use `readRDS` directly to read these files in themselves, this convenience function will read the desired rows in automatically given the returned object from the simulation. Can be used to read in 1 or more `.rds` files at once (if more than 1 file is read in then the result will be stored in a list).

Usage

```
SimResults(results, which, wd = getwd())
```


Arguments

| | |
|---------|---|
| results | object returned from <code>runSimulation</code> where <code>save_results = TRUE</code> was used |
| which | a numeric vector indicating which rows should be read in. If missing, all rows will be read in |
| wd | working directory; default is found with <code>getwd</code> . |

Value

the returned result is either a nested list (when `length(which) > 1`) or a single list (when `length(which) == 1`) containing the simulation results. Each read-in result refers to a list of 4 elements:

`condition` the associate row (ID) and conditions from the respective design object

`results` the object with returned from the `analyse` function, potentially simplified into a matrix or `data.frame`

`errors` a table containing the message and number of errors that caused the generate-analyse steps to be rerun. These should be inspected carefully as they could indicate validity issues with the simulation that should be noted

`warnings` a table containing the message and number of non-fatal warnings which arose from the analyse step. These should be inspected carefully as they could indicate validity issues with the simulation that should be noted

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

Examples

```
## Not run:

results <- runSimulation(..., save_results = TRUE)

# row 1 results
row1 <- SimResults(results, 1)

# rows 1:5, stored in a named list
rows_1to5 <- SimResults(results, 1:5)

# all results
rows_all <- SimResults(results)

## End(Not run)
```

Description

This function generates suitable stand-alone code from the shiny package to create simple web-interfaces for performing single condition Monte Carlo simulations. The template generated is relatively minimalistic, but allows the user to quickly and easily edit the saved files to customize the associated shiny elements as they see fit.

Usage

```
SimShiny(filename = NULL, dir = getwd(), design, ...)
```

Arguments

| | |
|----------|--|
| filename | an optional name of a text file to save the server and UI components (e.g., 'mysimGUI.R'). If omitted, the code will be printed to the R console instead |
| dir | the directory to write the files to. Default is the working directory |
| design | design object from runSimulation |
| ... | arguments to be passed to runSimulation . Note that the design object is not used directly, and instead provides options to be selected in the GUI |

Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[runSimulation](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

Design <- createDesign(sample_size = c(30, 60, 90, 120),
                      group_size_ratio = c(1, 4, 8),
                      standard_deviation_ratio = c(.5, 1, 2))

Generate <- function(condition, fixed_objects = NULL){
  N <- condition$sample_size
  grs <- condition$group_size_ratio
  sd <- condition$standard_deviation_ratio
```

```

    if(gr < 1){
      N2 <- N / (1/gr + 1)
      N1 <- N - N2
    } else {
      N1 <- N / (gr + 1)
      N2 <- N - N1
    }
    group1 <- rnorm(N1)
    group2 <- rnorm(N2, sd=sd)
    dat <- data.frame(group = c(rep('g1', N1), rep('g2', N2)), DV = c(group1, group2))
    dat
  }
}

Analyse <- function(condition, dat, fixed_objects = NULL){
  welch <- t.test(DV ~ group, dat)
  ind <- t.test(DV ~ group, dat, var.equal=TRUE)

  # In this function the p values for the t-tests are returned,
  # and make sure to name each element, for future reference
  ret <- c(welch = welch$p.value, independent = ind$p.value)
  ret
}

Summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){
  #find results of interest here (e.g., alpha < .1, .05, .01)
  ret <- EDR(results, alpha = .05)
  ret
}

# test that it works
# Final <- runSimulation(design=Design, replications=5,
#                       generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse, summarise=Summarise)

# print code to console
SimShiny(design=Design, generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse,
         summarise=Summarise, verbose=FALSE)

# save shiny code to file
SimShiny('app.R', design=Design, generate=Generate, analyse=Analyse,
         summarise=Summarise, verbose=FALSE)

# run the application
shiny::runApp()
shiny::runApp(launch.browser = TRUE) # in web-browser

## End(Not run)

```

Description

This collapses the simulation results within each condition to composite estimates such as RMSE, bias, Type I error rates, coverage rates, etc. See the See Also section below for useful functions to be used within Summarise.

Usage

```
Summarise(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------------|--|
| condition | a single row from the design input from runSimulation (as a data.frame), indicating the simulation conditions |
| results | a data.frame (if Analyse returned a named numeric vector of any length), a vector (if Analyse returned a single unnamed numeric value), or a list (if Analyse returned a list or multi-rowed data.frame) containing the analysis results from Analyse , where each cell is stored in a unique row/list element |
| fixed_objects | object passed down from runSimulation |

Value

must return a named numeric vector or data.frame with the desired meta-simulation results

References

Sigal, M. J., & Chalmers, R. P. (2016). Play it again: Teaching statistics with Monte Carlo simulation. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 24(3), 136-156. doi: [10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953](https://doi.org/10.1080/10691898.2016.1246953)

See Also

[bias](#), [RMSE](#), [RE](#), [EDR](#), [ECR](#), [MAE](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

summarise <- function(condition, results, fixed_objects = NULL){

  #find results of interest here (alpha < .1, .05, .01)
  lessthan.05 <- EDR(results, alpha = .05)

  # return the results that will be appended to the design input
  ret <- c(lessthan.05=lessthan.05)
  ret
}

## End(Not run)
```

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