Package ‘iarm’

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R topics documented:

  iarm-package ................................................................. 2
  amts ................................................................. 3
  boot_fit .............................................................. 4
  clr_tests .............................................................. 4
  desc2 ................................................................. 5
  ICCplot ................................................................. 6
  item_obsexp .............................................................. 8
  item_restscore ............................................................. 9
Description

Tools to assess model fit and identify misfitting items for Rasch models (RM) and partial credit models (PCM). Included are item fit statistics, item-restscore association, conditional likelihood ratio tests, assessment of measurement error, estimates of the reliability and test targeting.

Item Fit statistics

Item fit statistics are used to assess whether individual items fit the Rasch model. Outfit and infit mean squares are well-known and much used statistics. They summarize standardized response residuals comparing observed responses to items to the expected responses. To avoid bias expected responses are calculated under the conditional distribution of responses given the total score. Parametric bootstrapping is used to assess the significance of misfitting items. The item restscore gamma coefficient is used to assess differential item discrimination.

Conditional likelihood ratio tests (CLR)

The conditional likelihood ratio test of Andersen is an overall test of fit of data to the model. The test compares conditional maximum likelihood estimates of item parameters in different subgroups to the estimates for the complete sample of persons. Subgroups are defined by outcomes of the total score (test of homogeneity) or by outcomes of an exogenous variable (test of no differential item functioning, DIF).

References

Description

A dataset containing the responses of 197 persons to the ten questions of the Abbreviated Mental Test Score (AMTS). The AMTS is used to identify patients with dementia. One point is given for each correct answer, a score of 6 or less suggests that the patient has some mental impairment.

Format

A data frame with 197 rows and 13 variables.

- **id**: id number of the patient.
- **agegrp**: a factor with levels 16-65, 66-75, 76-85, 86+ for the age of the patient.
- **sex**: a factor with levels male, female of the patient.
- **age**: age of patient, with 1 if the respondent knows his/her own age and 0 otherwise.
- **time**: time (nearest hour), with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **address**: address, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **name**: name of hospital (or area of town if at home), with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **year**: current year, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **dob**: date of birth of patient, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **month**: month, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **firstww**: date of first world war, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **monarch**: name of monarch, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.
- **countbac**: count backwards 20-1, with 1 if correct and 0 otherwise.

References


Examples

data(amts)
str(amts)
boot_fit  Computes Bootstrapping P Values for Outfit and Infit Statistics

Description
Computes Bootstrapping P Values for Outfit and Infit Statistics

Usage
boot_fit(
  object,
  B,
  p.adj = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "none")
)

Arguments
- object: an object of class "Rm" (output of RM or PCM) or class "pcmodel"
- B: Number of replications.

Value
object of class bootfit with outfit and infit statistics and corresponding p values.

clr_tests  Conditional Likelihood Ratio Tests (CLR)

Description
The conditional likelihood ratio tests compare item parameters in low and high score groups for an overall test of homogeneity, and in groups defined by the levels of exogenous factors for tests of no differential item functioning (DIF).

Usage
clr_tests(dat.items, dat.exo = NULL, model = c("RM", "PCM"))

Arguments
- dat.items: A data frame with the responses to the items.
- dat.exo: A single factor or a data frame consisting of one or more exogenous factor variables.
- model: If model="RM" a Rasch model will be fitted, if model="PCM" a partial credit model for polytomous items is used.
Value

matrix with test statistics, df and p values.

Author(s)

Marianne Mueller

References


Examples

```r
# CLR overall test and test of no DIF for agegrp and sex
clr_tests(amts[,4:13],amts[,2:3])
```

---

**Description**

A dataset containing the responses of 799 patients (indication group psychiatry, otolaryngology, cardiology, neurology) to the short form DESC-II with 10 items. There are 5 response categories from 0 = never to 4 = always. A higher score is supposed to mean a higher depression.

**Format**

A data frame with 799 rows and 14 variables.

- **code** id number of the patient
- **group** a factor with levels psychiatry, otolaryngology, cardiology, neurology for the indication group of the patient.
- **gender** a factor with levels female, male of the patient.
- **agegroup** a factor with levels 18-34, 35-49, 50-59, 60-87 for the age of the patient.
- **DESC_2_1** feeling not to be needed
- **DESC_2_2** loss of interest in other people
- **DESC_2_3** disheartened
- **DESC_2_4** no pleasure doing things
- **DESC_2_5** feeling to be no good
- **DESC_2_6** uninspired
- **DESC_2_7** pessimistic
- **DESC_2_8** discouraged
- **DESC_2_9** withdrawal
- **DESC_2_10** thinking of taking one’s life
References


Examples

data(desc2)
str(desc2)

### ICCplot

**Item Characteristic Curves**

**Description**

Plots Item Characteristic Curves for dichotomous and polytomous items. The plot can display observed scores as total scores (method="score") or as average scores within adjacent class intervals (method="cut"). Class intervals can be useful when the sample size is not large enough to contain an adequate number of respondents with the same total score for each possible total score. The function includes the option to plot observed scores according to values of an exogenous variable to evaluate differential item functioning (dif="yes").

**Usage**

```r
ICCplot(
  data,
  itemnumber,
  pallete = "Paired",
  xticks = 1,
  yticks = 0.5,
  thetain = -6,
  thetaend = 6,
  method = "score",
  grid = "yes",
  cinumber = 6,
  itemdescrip = "",
  axis.rumm = "yes",
  dif = "no",
  difvar = NA,
  diflabels = c("Group1", "Group 2", "Group 3", "Group 4", "Group5"),
  difstats = "yes",
  title = "Item Characteristic Curve",
  icclabel = "yes",
  xaxistitle = "Theta",
  yaxistitle = "Item Score"
)
```
Arguments

data An object of class "data.frame" containing the items (include all items present in the model). The variables need to be numeric.

itemnumber A numeric vector indicating the columns of the data (the items) which ICCs are going to be plotted. Maximum of four items per plot.

pallete An object of class "character". Choose a pre-made color pallete from package RColorBrewer. Only available for dif="no".

xticks A numeric scalar. Specify x-axis tick values.

yticks A numeric scalar. Specify y-axis tick values.

thetain A numeric scalar. Specify minimum theta values for person parameters.

thetaend A numeric scalar. Specify maximum theta values for person parameters.

method The method for displaying observed scores. Choose "score" to plot total scores. Choose "cut" to plot class intervals.

grid Chooses whether the background grid should be displayed. Options are "yes" or "no".

cinumber A numeric scalar. The number of adjacent class intervals in which participants will be divided. Notice that the number of class intervals cannot be higher than the number of total scores.

itemdescrip A character vector indicating the description of the plotted items. Maximum of four descriptions (one description per item plotted).

axis.rumm Configures whether the plot should display the entire trait range or solely the trait range close to the observed scores (similar to private software RUMM2030). Options are "yes" or "no".

dif Configures whether the observed scores will be plotted according to values of an exogenous variable to evaluate differential item function. Options are "yes" or "no".

difvar Chooses the variable which will be used to evaluate differential item functioning. Only necessary when dif="yes".

diflabels A character vector indicating the labels to values of the variable chosen to evaluate differential item functioning. Only necessary when dif="yes".

difstats Displays the partial gamma coefficient to indicate the magnitude of differential item functioning. Options are "yes" or "no". Only necessary when dif="yes".

title A character vector. The title of the plot.

icclabel Displays the labels of Expected Item Score and Observed Item Score. Options are "yes" or "no".

xaxistitle A character vector. The x-axis title.

yaxistitle A character vector. The y-axis title.

Author(s)

Pedro Henrique Ribeiro Santiago <pedro.ribeirosantiago@adelaide.edu.au>, Marianne Mueller
Examples

```r
## Not run: # Creates a plot for Item 1 using total scores
ICCplot(desc2[,5:13], itemnumber=1, method="score", itemdescr="Item 1")

# Creates a plot for Item 1 using 8 class intervals
ICCplot(desc2[,5:13], itemnumber=1, method="cut", cinumber=8, itemdescr="Item 1")

# Creates a plot for Item 1 using 8 class intervals without RUMM style axis
ICCplot(desc2[,5:13], itemnumber=1, method="cut", cinumber=8, itemdescr="Item 1", axis.rumm="no")

# Creates a plot for Item 3 using 8 class intervals and evaluating DIF according to gender
ICCplot(desc2[,5:13], itemnumber=3, method="cut", cinumber=8, itemdescr="Item 3", dif="yes", difvar=desc2$gender, diflabels=c("Men", "Women")

# Creates a plot with three items using 5 class intervals and evaluating DIF according to gender
ICCplot(desc2[,5:13], itemnumber=1:3, method="cut", cinumber=5, itemdescr=c("Item 1","Item 2","Item 3"), dif="yes"

difvar=desc2$gender, diflabels=c("Men", "Women")

## End(Not run)
```

---

**item_obsexp**

*Observed and Expected Item Mean Scores*

**Description**

Homogeneity of item responses in the low and high score groups is analyzed by looking at observed and expected item mean scores together with standardized residuals. If the Andersen’s CLR test has shown some evidence against homogeneity, this comparison can indicate which items might be responsible.

**Usage**

```r
item_obsexp(object)
```

**Arguments**

- **object**
  - An object of class "Rm", a fitted Rasch model or partial credit model using the functions RM or PCM in package eRm, or an object of class "pcmodel", a fitted partial credit model using the function pcmodel in package psychotools.

**Value**

- list with observed and expected mean scores together with standardized residuals for the two score groups.

**Author(s)**

Marianne Mueller
Examples

```r
rm.mod <- RM(amts[,4:13])
item_obsexp(rm.mod)
## Not run:
pc.mod <- PCM(desc2[,5:14])
item_obsexp(pc.mod)
## End(Not run)
```

---

**Description**

The observed Gamma coefficient between the score of a single item and the total score of the remaining items is compared with the corresponding expected Gamma coefficient under the Rasch model.

**Usage**

```r
item_restscore(
  object,
  p.adj = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "none")
)
```

**Arguments**

- `object`: An object of class "Rm", a fitted Rasch model or partial credit model using the functions RM or PCM in package eRm, or an object of class "pcmodel", a fitted partial credit model using the function pcmodel in package psychotools.

**Value**

A matrix containing:

- **observed**: observed gamma coefficients
- **expected**: expected gamma coefficients
- **se**: standard errors
- **pvalue**: p values (under normal distribution assumption)
- **padj**: adjusted p values if selected
- **sig**: significance stars: 0 " *** " 0.001 " ** " 0.01 " * " 0.05 ". " 0.1 " " 1

**Author(s)**

Marianne Mueller
References


Examples

```r
rm.mod <- RM(amts[,4:13])
item_restscore(rm.mod)
```

---

### Description

The item target is the value of the person parameter where item information is maximized.

### Usage

```r
item_target(obj)
```

### Arguments

- **obj**: An object of class "eRm" (but not "dRm"), a fitted partial credit model using the function PCM in package eRm or of class "pcmodel" (from package psychotools).

### Value

- vector with item targets.

### Author(s)

- Marianne Mueller

### Examples

```r
## Not run:
pc.mod <- PCM(desc2[, 5:14])
item_target(pc.mod)
## End(Not run)
```
out_infit

**Item Outfit and Infit Statistics**

**Description**

To avoid bias observed item responses are compared to expected responses under the conditional distribution of responses given the total score. This leads to standardized residuals which can be summarized to outfit and infit statistics in the usual way.

**Usage**

```r
out_infit(
  object,
  se = TRUE,
  p.adj = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "none")
)
```

**Arguments**

- `object`: An object of class "Rm", a fitted Rasch model or partial credit model using the functions RM or PCM in package eRm, or an object of class "pcmodel", a fitted partial credit model using the function pcmodel in package psychotools.
- `se`: If TRUE the standard errors will be included.

**Details**

The fit statistics and their standard errors are calculated as described in Christensen et al. P values are based on the normal distribution of the standardized fit statistics.

**Value**

an object of class outfit containing:

- `outfit`: outfit statistics
- `outfit.se`: standard errors of outfit statistics
- `out.pvalue`: p values of outfit statistics
- `out.pvalue.adj`: adjusted p values of outfit statistics if selected
- `infit`: infit statistics
- `infit.se`: standard errors of infit statistics
- `in.pvalue`: p values of infit statistics
- `in.pvalue.adj`: adjusted p values of infit statistics if selected
- `padj`: adjustment method
partgam

Author(s)

Marianne Mueller

References


Examples

```r
rm.mod <- RM(amts[,4:13])
out_infit(rm.mod)
```

---

**partgam**  
*Conditional and Partial Gamma Coefficients*

Description

Calculates conditional and partial Gamma coefficients for x and y given z with confidence intervals.

Usage

```r
partgam(x, y, z, conf.level = 0.95)
```

Arguments

- `x, y, z`: Three numeric vectors or factors.
- `conf.level`: Confidence level for the returned confidence interval.

Value

data frame with estimates, standard errors and confidence interval limits.

Author(s)

Marianne Mueller

References


See Also

partgam_DIF, partgam_LD
Description

Items should function in the same way for all subgroups of persons. An item shows differential item functioning (DIF) if there is a significant association between the item score and an exogenous variable, controlling for the scale score. Partial Gamma coefficients are used as test statistics.

Usage

```r
partgam_DIF(
  dat.items,
  dat.exo,
  p.adj = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "none")
)
```

Arguments

- `dat.items`: A data frame with the responses to the items.
- `dat.exo`: A single grouping factor or a data frame consisting of several exogenous factor variables.

Value

data frame with Gamma coefficients, standard errors, p values, adjusted p values if an adjustment method has been chosen, and confidence limits for every pair of an item and an exogenous variable.

Author(s)

Marianne Mueller

References


See Also

`partgam_LD`

Examples

```r
partgam_DIF(amos[,4:13],amos[,2:3])
```
Partial Gamma to detect Local Dependence (LD)

Description
Rasch models assume locally independent items. There should be no substantial correlation left between two items once the underlying factor has been taken into account. Partial Gamma coefficients between pairs of items controlled for the rest score can be used to assess this requirement. The rest score is calculated as the score without the second item.

Usage
```
partgam_LD(
  dat.items,
  p.adj = c("BH", "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BY", "none")
)
```

Arguments
- `dat.items`: A data frame with the responses to the items.

Details
Because it matters which of the two items of a pair is subtracted from the total score to give the rest score, calculations are done for each pair in both ways. Results are stored in two different data frames.

Value
- list of two data frames with Gamma coefficients, standard errors, p values, adjusted p values if an adjustment method has been chosen, and confidence limits for every pair of items.

Author(s)
Marianne Mueller

References

See Also
`partgam_DIF`
Examples

partgam_LD(ants[,4:13])

Description

Computes Person estimates with maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) and weighted likelihood estimation (WLE) for raw scores 0 to m.

Usage

person_estimates(object, properties = F, allperson = F)

Arguments

object
An object of class "Rm", a fitted Rasch model or partial credit model using the functions RM or PCM in package eRm, or an object of class "raschmodel" or "pcmodel", a fitted Rasch model or partial credit model using the functions raschmodel or pcmodel in package psychotools.

properties
If TRUE additional properties of the estimates are given (see below).

allperson
If TRUE person estimates (MLE and WLE) for all persons in the data set are delivered.

Value

If properties = False a matrix containing:

- **Raw score**: raw score
- **MLE**: MLE of person parameters
- **WLE**: WLE of person parameters

If properties = TRUE a list with two components, one for MLE and the other for WLE. Each component contains:

- **Raw score**: raw score
- **MLE or WLE**: person estimates
- **SEM**: standard error of measurement
- **Bias**: bias
- **RMSE**: root mean square error
- **Score.SEM**: score sem

Author(s)

Marianne Mueller
References


Examples

```r
rm.mod <- RM(amts[,4:13])
person_estimates(rm.mod)
```

---

**print.bootfit**

Print Method for the Output of boot_fit

**Description**

Print Method for the Output of boot_fit

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'bootfit'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `x` object of class bootfit.
- `...` arguments passed to other functions.

---

**print.outfit**

Print Method for the Output of out_infit

**Description**

Print Method for the Output of out_infit

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'outfit'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `x` object of class outfit.
- `...` arguments passed to other functions.
score_groups

Generate two Score Groups

Description

Creates a grouping variable which divides the sample in two groups (high and low scorers) of roughly equal size, without taking into account persons with extreme scores.

Usage

score_groups(dat.items, label = FALSE)

Arguments

dat.items A data frame with the responses to the items.
label If TRUE the levels of the group factor are named according to the split used, if FALSE (default) the group factor has levels 1 and 2.

Details

The score groups are used for tests of item homogeneity.

Value

Score group variable, a factor with two levels.

test_prop

Properties of the Test

Description

Information summarizing measurement quality of the test and test targeting.

Usage

test_prop(object)

Arguments

object An object of class "Rm", a fitted Rasch model or partial credit model using the functions RM or PCM in package eRm, or an object of class "pcmodel", a fitted partial credit model using the function pcmodel in package psychotools.
Value

a list containing:

Separation reliability
the person separation reliability as calculated in package eRm for objects of class "Rm".

Test difficulty
person value with an expected score equal to half of the maximum score.

Test target
person value where test information is maximized.

Test information
maximal value of the test information

Author(s)

Marianne Mueller

References


Examples

rm.mod <- RM(amts[,4:13])
test_prop(rm.mod)
Index

* datasets
  amts, 3
  desc2, 5
  amts, 3
  boot_fit, 4
  clr_tests, 4
  desc2, 5
  iarm (iarm-package), 2
  iarm-package, 2
  ICCplot, 6
  item_obsexp, 8
  item_restscore, 9
  item_target, 10
  out_infit, 11
  p.adjust, 4, 9, 11, 13, 14
  partgam, 12
  partgam_DIF, 12, 13, 14
  partgam_LD, 12, 13, 14
  person_estimates, 15
  print.bootfit, 16
  print.outfit, 16
  score_groups, 17
  test_prop, 17