

# Package ‘listdtr’

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**Type** Package

**Title** List-Based Rules for Dynamic Treatment Regimes

**Version** 1.1

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**Description**

Construction of list-based rules, i.e. a list of if-then clauses, to estimate the optimal dynamic treatment regime. Details can be found at Zhang et al (2018) <doi:10.1080/01621459.2017.1345743>.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Depends** ggplot2, grid

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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listdtr-package

*List-Based Rules for Dynamic Treatment Regimes***Description**

Construction of list-based rules, i.e. a list of if-then clauses, to estimate the optimal dynamic treatment regime. Details can be found at Zhang et al (2018) <doi:10.1080/01621459.2017.1345743>.

**Details**

The DESCRIPTION file:

```
Package:      listdtr
Type:         Package
Title:        List-Based Rules for Dynamic Treatment Regimes
Version:      1.1
Date:         2021-03-04
Author:       Yichi Zhang
Maintainer:   Yichi Zhang <yzhang52@ncsu.edu>
Description:  Construction of list-based rules, i.e. a list of if-then clauses, to estimate the optimal dynamic treatment regime.
License:      GPL (>=2)
Depends:      ggplot2, grid
```

Index of help topics:

build.rule	Low-level Functions for Handling List-based Rules
krr	Kernel Ridge Regression
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listdtr-package	List-Based Rules for Dynamic Treatment Regimes
plot.listdtr	Representation of List-based Regimes in Diagrams
predict.krr	Prediction for Kernel Ridge Regression
predict.listdtr	Treatment Recommendation Dictated by List-based Optimal Dynamic Treatment Regime
print.listdtr	Representation of List-based Regimes in Words

Main function is `listdtr`. Useful functions include `build.rule`, `krr`.

**Author(s)**

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**References**

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.01472>

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 build.rule

*Low-level Functions for Handling List-based Rules*


---

**Description**

Build, apply and visualize list-based rules directly using features and losses.

**Usage**

```
build.rule(x, y,
           maxlen = 10L, zeta = 0.1 * mean(y), eta = 0.05 * sum(y))
```

```
build.rule.cv(x, y,
              kfolds = 5L, fold = NULL,
              maxlen = 10L, zeta.choices = NULL, eta.choices = NULL,
              cv.only = FALSE)
```

```
apply.rule(object, xnew, what = c("label", "index"))
```

```
show.rule(object, digits = 3L)
```

```
verbalize.rule(object, digits = 3L)
```

```
draw.rule(object, digits = 3L, filepath = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	A matrix of features.
y	A matrix of losses; $y[i, j]$ gives the loss if the $i$ -th observation receives the $j$ -th treatment.
maxlen	A scalar for the maximum length of the list.
zeta	A scalar for tuning parameter zeta. Larger zeta tends to construct condition that covers more observations in each if-then clause.
eta	A scalar for tuning parameter eta. Larger eta tends to construct condition that uses less features in each if-then clause.
kfolds	A scalar for the number of folds for cross validation.
fold	An integer vector consisting of fold membership.
zeta.choices	A numeric vector for possible values of zeta in cross validation.
eta.choices	A numeric vector for possible values of eta in cross validation.
cv.only	A boolean scalar. If true, only cross validated losses are computed. Otherwise, the list built using the optimal zeta and eta is also computed.

object	Return value of build.rule, or build.rule.cv with cv.only = FALSE.
xnew	A matrix of features for prediction.
what	A scalar that determines the form in which the recommended treatment is represented.
digits	A scalar for the number of decimal digits to show.
filepath	A character scalar, if not null, that gives the location that the diagram will save to.

### Details

See the reference if interested in the algorithm.

### Value

build.rule returns a list.

build.rule.cv returns a list as well as cross validated losses.

apply.rule returns a vector of recommended actions.

show.rule prints the rule in words and returns it invisibly.

verbalize.rule returns a data.frame that contains conditions and actions separately for each if-then clause.

draw.rule returns a ggplot2 object that contains the diagram.

### Note

Use these functions only when it is really necessary.

### References

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.01472>

### See Also

[listdtr](#)

### Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(200 * 10), 200, 10)
y <- cbind(
  a1 = as.double(x[, 1] < 0) + rnorm(200, 0, 0.1),
  a2 = as.double(x[, 2] > 0) + rnorm(200, 0, 0.1))
y[y < 0] <- 0

obj <- build.rule(x, y)
show.rule(obj)
draw.rule(obj)

xnew <- matrix(rnorm(1000 * 10), 1000, 10)
ynew <- apply.rule(obj, xnew)
table(factor(xnew[, 1] < 0) : factor(xnew[, 2] < 0), ynew)
```

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**krr** *Kernel Ridge Regression*

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**Description**

Fit kernel ridge regression, i.e. reproducing kernel Hilbert space regression.

**Usage**

```
krr(x, y, group = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	a matrix of predictors.
y	a vector of response.
group	an optional vector of the same length as y which specifies the group membership. The regression model is fitted separately for each group of observations but with the same scaling factors as well as penalty amount. If omitted, a single group is assumed.

**Details**

krr minimizes the sum of squared loss plus a penalty term on the squared norm of the regression function. Gaussian kernel is used. Tuning parameters are chosen by minimizing the leave-one-out cross validated mean squared error. See the mathematical formulation in the reference.

**Value**

An object of class krr.

**References**

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.01472>

**See Also**

[predict.krr](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(200 * 10), 200, 10)
y <- x[, 1] + x[, 2] ^ 2 + x[, 3] * x[, 4] + rnorm(200)
obj <- krr(x, y)

xnew <- matrix(rnorm(1000 * 10), 1000, 10)
ynew <- predict(obj, xnew)

ytrue <- xnew[, 1] + xnew[, 2] ^ 2 + xnew[, 3] * xnew[, 4]
mean((ynew - ytrue) ^ 2) # MSE
```

listdtr

*Estimation of List-based Optimal Dynamic Treatment Regime***Description**

Estimate the optimal dynamic treatment regime / individualized treatment rule, in the form of decision list, namely, a sequence of if-then clauses.

**Usage**

```
listdtr(y, a, x, stage.x,
        seed = NULL, kfolds = 5L, fold = NULL,
        maxlen = 10L, zeta.choices = NULL, eta.choices = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

y	a matrix of immediate outcomes, of size n.obs by n.stage, where n.obs is the number of observations and n.stage is the number of stages. Assume larger outcomes are more favorable.
a	a matrix of treatments/interventions actually received at each stage, of size n.obs by n.stage.
x	a matrix of features (such as demographics, biomarkers, confounders), of size n.obs by n.feature, where n.feature is the number of features measured at any of the stages.
stage.x	a vector of length n.feature, with values in 1, ..., n.stage that gives the stage at which each feature is measured.
seed	seed for random number generator to obtain fold. Omitted if fold is not null.
kfolds	number of folds to perform cross validation.
fold	a vector of length n.obs that specifies fold membership for each observation.
maxlen	maximum length of the decision list in each stage. Should be a scalar.
zeta.choices	Choices for the tuning parameter zeta. Larger value of zeta tends to construct a condition that covers more observations in each if-then clause. Should be null or a numeric vector.
eta.choices	Choices for the tuning parameter eta. Larger value of eta tends to construct a condition that uses less features in each if-then clause. Should be null or a numeric vector.

**Details**

The algorithm is quite complicated. See the reference if interested.

**Value**

An object of class listdtr.

**References**

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1606.01472>

**See Also**

[predict.listdtr](#), [print.listdtr](#), [plot.listdtr](#), [build.rule.cv](#)

**Examples**

```
# an example for one-stage study
x <- matrix(rnorm(500), 100, 5)
stage.x <- rep(1, 5)
a <- rbinom(100, 1, 0.5)
y <- a * x[, 1] + rnorm(100, 0, 0.1)
dtr <- listdtr(y, a, x, stage.x)

dtr          # display the regime in words
plot(dtr)    # display the regime in diagrams
yrec <- predict(dtr, x, 1)
yopt <- ifelse(x[, 1] > 0, 1, 0)
table(yrec, yopt) # discrepancy between recommended and optimal

# an example for two-stage study
x <- matrix(rnorm(500), 100, 5)
stage.x <- c(1, 1, 1, 2, 2)
a1 <- rbinom(100, 1, 0.5)
a2 <- rbinom(100, 1, 0.5)
y1 <- rep(0, 100)
y2 <- 9 * a1 * sin(x[, 1] * pi / 8) - 2 * a2 * x[, 4] + rnorm(100)
dtr <- listdtr(cbind(y1, y2), cbind(a1, a2), x, stage.x)

dtr          # display the regime in words
plot(dtr)    # display the regime in diagrams
yrec <- predict(dtr, x, 1)
yopt <- ifelse(x[, 1] > 0, 1, 0)
table(yrec, yopt) # discrepancy between recommended and optimal
```

---

plot.listdtr

*Representation of List-based Regimes in Diagrams*


---

**Description**

Describe the given regime in diagrams and plot them.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'listdtr'
plot(x, stages = NULL, digits = 3L, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	an object of class <code>listdtr</code> .
stages	an integer scalar / vector that specifies the stage(s) of interest. Default to all stages.
digits	number of decimal digits to show.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

**Value**

Return object invisibly.

**See Also**

[listdtr](#), [draw.rule](#)

**Examples**

```
# see examples for listdtr
```

---

predict.krr

*Prediction for Kernel Ridge Regression*

---

**Description**

Predict response given predictors, based on a `krr` object.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'krr'  
predict(object, xnew, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class <code>krr</code> , usually the return value of function <code>krr</code>
xnew	a matrix of predictors.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

**Value**

A vector of predicted response.

**See Also**

[krr](#)

**Examples**

```
# see examples for krr
```



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predict.listdtr	<i>Treatment Recommendation Dictated by List-based Optimal Dynamic Treatment Regime</i>
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---

**Description**

Provide treatment recommendation at a given stage using the features, based on a given listdtr object.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'listdtr'  
predict(object, xnew, stage, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class listdtr, usually the return value of function listdtr.
xnew	a matrix of features.
stage	an integer that specifies the stage.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

**Value**

A factor vector that gives the estimated optimal treatment for the features presented in each row of xnew. The length is the same as the number of rows in xnew. The levels are the unique values of treatments actually received at that stage.

**See Also**

[listdtr](#), [apply.rule](#)

**Examples**

```
# see examples for listdtr
```

---

print.listdtr	<i>Representation of List-based Regimes in Words</i>
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---

**Description**

Describe the given regime in words and print them.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'listdtr'  
print(x, stages = NULL, digits = 3L, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	an object of class <code>listdtr</code> .
<code>stages</code>	an integer scalar / vector that specifies the stage(s) of interest. Default to all stages.
<code>digits</code>	number of decimal digits to show.
<code>...</code>	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

**Value**

Return object invisibly.

**See Also**

[listdtr](#), [show.rule](#)

**Examples**

```
# see examples for listdtr
```

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