

Package ‘RoBMA’

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Title Robust Bayesian Meta-Analyses

Version 1.1.1

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Description A framework for estimating ensembles of meta-analytic models (assuming either presence or absence of the effect, heterogeneity, and publication bias) and using Bayesian model averaging to combine them. The ensembles use Bayes factors to test for the presence or absence of the individual components (e.g., effect vs. no effect) and model-averages parameter estimates based on posterior model probabilities (Maier, Bartoš & Wagenmakers, 2020, <doi:10.31234/osf.io/u4cns>). The user can define a wide range of non-informative or informative priors for the effect size, heterogeneity, and weight functions. The package provides convenient functions for summary, visualizations, and fit diagnostics.

URL <https://fbartos.github.io/RoBMA/>

BugReports <https://github.com/FBartos/RoBMA/issues>

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

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RdMacros Rdpack

LinkingTo BH

VignetteBuilder knitr

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R topics documented:

Anderson2010	2
check_setup	3
diagnostics	4
is.RoBMA	6
plot.RoBMA	6
plot.RoBMA.prior	8
print.RoBMA	9
print.RoBMA.prior	10
print.summary.RoBMA	11
prior	11
RoBMA	13
summary.RoBMA	18
update.RoBMA	19
weightdt	23

Index 25

Anderson2010 *27 experimental studies from from Anderson et al. (2010) that meet the best practice criteria*

Description

The dataset contains correlational coefficients, sample sizes, and labels for 27 experimental studies focusing on the effect of violent videogames on aggressive behavior. The full original data can be found at <https://github.com/Joe-Hilgard/Anderson-meta>.

Usage

Anderson2010

Format

A data.frame with 3 columns and 23 observations.

References

Anderson CA, Shibuya A, Ihori N, Swing EL, Bushman BJ, Sakamoto A, Rothstein HR, Saleem M (2010). "Violent video game effects on aggression, empathy, and prosocial behavior in Eastern and Western countries: A meta-analytic review." *Psychological bulletin*, **136**(2), 151. Publisher: American Psychological Association.

 check_setup

Prints summary of "RoBMA" ensemble implied by the specified priors

Description

check_setup prints summary of "RoBMA" ensemble implied by the specified prior distributions. It is useful for checking the ensemble configuration prior to fitting all of the models.

Usage

```
check_setup(
  priors_mu = prior(distribution = "normal", parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = 1)),
  priors_tau = prior(distribution = "invgamma", parameters = list(shape = 1, scale =
    0.15)),
  priors_omega = list(prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters = list(alpha = c(1,
    1), steps = c(0.05)), prior_odds = 1/2), prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters
    = list(alpha = c(1, 1, 1), steps = c(0.05, 0.1)), prior_odds = 1/2)),
  priors_mu_null = prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0)),
  priors_tau_null = prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0)),
  priors_omega_null = prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 1)),
  models = FALSE,
  silent = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| priors_mu | list of prior distributions for the mu parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis. Defaults to <code>prior(distribution = "normal", parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = 1))</code> . |
| priors_tau | list of prior distributions for the tau parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis. Defaults to <code>prior(distribution = "invgamma", parameters = list(shape = 1, scale = .15))</code> . |
| priors_omega | list of prior weight functions for the omega parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis. Defaults to <code>list(prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters = list(alpha = c(1, 1), steps = c(.05)), prior_odds = 1/2), prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters = list(alpha = c(1, 1, 1), steps = c(.05, .10)), prior_odds = 1/2))</code> . |
| priors_mu_null | list of prior distributions for the mu parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 0 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>). |
| priors_tau_null | list of prior distributions for the tau parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 0 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>). |

priors_omega_null	list of prior weight functions for the omega parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 1 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>).
models	should the models' details be printed.
silent	do not print the results.

See Also

[RoBMA\(\)](#), [prior\(\)](#)

diagnostics	<i>Checks a fitted RoBMA object</i>
-------------	-------------------------------------

Description

`diagnostics` creates visual checks of individual models convergence. Numerical overview of individual models can be obtained by `summary(object, type = "models", diagnostics = TRUE)`, or even more detailed information by `summary(object, type = "individual")`.

Usage

```
diagnostics(
  fit,
  parameter,
  type,
  plot_type = "base",
  show_figures = if (parameter == "omega") -1 else NULL,
  show_models = NULL,
  par_transform = TRUE,
  lags = 30,
  title = is.null(show_models) | length(show_models) > 1,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

fit	a fitted RoBMA object
parameter	a parameter to be plotted. Either "mu", "tau", "theta", or "omega".
type	what type of model check should be plotted. Options are "chains" for the chains trace plots, "autocorrelation" for autocorrelation of the chains, and "densities" for the overlaying densities of the individual chains.
plot_type	whether to use a base plot "base" or ggplot2 "ggplot2" for plotting. The later requires ggplot2 package to be installed.

<code>show_figures</code>	which figures should be returned in case of multiple plots are generated. Useful when parameter = "omega" when a plot for each parameter would be generated. Can be also used for parameter = "theta" to obtain only a specific subset of thetas. Set to NULL to show all parameters (default for parameter = "theta").
<code>show_models</code>	diagnostics for which models should be produced. Defaults to NULL that shows diagnostics to all models.
<code>par_transform</code>	whether the figures should be produced for the <code>par_transform</code> parameters. Defaults to TRUE.
<code>lags</code>	number of lags to be shown for type = "autocorrelation". Defaults to 30.
<code>title</code>	whether the model number should be displayed in title. Defaults to TRUE when more than one model is selected.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to be passed to <code>par</code> if <code>plot_type = "base"</code> .

Details

The visualization functions are based on `stan_plot` function and its color schemes.

See Also

`RoBMA()`, `summary.RoBMA()`

Examples

```
## Not run:
# using the example data from Anderson et al. 2010 and fitting the default model
# (note that the model can take a while to fit)
fit <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels)

### ggplot2 version of all of the plots can be obtained by adding 'model_type = "ggplot"
# diagnostics function allows to visualize diagnostics of a fitted RoBMA object, for example,
# the trace plot for the mean parameter in each model model
diagnostics(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "chain")

# in order to show the trace plot only for the 11th model, add show_models parameter
diagnostics(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "chain", show_models = 11)

# furthermore, the autocorrelations
diagnostics(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "autocorrelation")

# and overlying densities for each plot can also be visualize
diagnostics(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "densities")

## End(Not run)
```

is.RoBMA	<i>Reports whether x is a RoBMA object</i>
----------	--

Description

Reports whether x is a RoBMA object

Usage

```
is.RoBMA(x)
```

Arguments

x	an object to test
---	-------------------

plot.RoBMA	<i>Plots a fitted RoBMA object</i>
------------	------------------------------------

Description

plot.RoBMA allows to visualize different "RoBMA" object parameters in various ways. See type for the different model types.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'RoBMA'
plot(
  x,
  parameter,
  type = "averaged",
  plot_type = "base",
  mean = TRUE,
  median = FALSE,
  CI = 0.95,
  prior = FALSE,
  order = NULL,
  digits_estimates = 2,
  show_figures = if (parameter == "omega" & (weights | any(type %in% "individual")))
    -1,
  weights = FALSE,
  rescale_x = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	a fitted RoBMA object
parameter	a parameter to be plotted. Either "mu", "tau", "theta", or "omega". A bivariate plot for model-averaged estimates of "mu" and "tau" can be obtained by <code>c("mu", "tau")</code> if <code>type = "averaged"</code> . In addition, a forest plot with the original estimates can be obtained by "forest" or added to the theta estimates by <code>c("theta", "forest")</code> .
type	what type of estimates should be plotted. Options are "averaged" for the model-averaged estimates, "conditional" for the conditional estimates, or "individual" for the individual models estimates. The options <code>c("individual", "conditional")</code> can be supplied together to show only conditional individual models.
plot_type	whether to use a base plot "base" or ggplot2 "ggplot2" for plotting. The later requires ggplot2 package to be installed.
mean	whether the mean should be plotted.
median	whether the median should be plotted.
CI	width of the confidence intervals.
prior	add prior density to the plot. Only available for <code>type = "averaged"</code> or <code>type = "conditional"</code> . Defaults to FALSE.
order	either (1) ordering of the studies for <code>parameter = "theta"</code> or <code>parameter = "forest"</code> . Defaults to NULL - ordering as supplied to the fitting function. However, studies can be ordered either "ascending" or "descending" by effect size, or by "alphabetical" by labels. Or (2) ordering models for <code>type = "individual"</code> . The default orders models according to their number. However, models can be ordered either "ascending" or "descending" by posterior model probability <code>c("ascending", "prob")</code> , or marginal likelihood <code>c("descending", "marglik")</code> by marginal likelihood.
digits_estimates	number of decimals to be displayed for <code>parameter = "theta"</code> , <code>parameter = "forest"</code> , and <code>type = "individual"</code> plot.
show_figures	which figures should be returned in the case when multiple plots are generated. Useful when <code>parameter = "omega"</code> , <code>type = "individual"</code> which generates a figure for each weights cut-off. Defaults to -1 which omits the first weight. Set to NULL to show all figures or to <code>c(1, 3)</code> to show only the first and third one.
weights	whether the weights or weight function should be returned. Only applicable when <code>parameter = "omega"</code> . Defaults to FALSE - the weight function is plotted.
rescale_x	whether the x-axis should be rescaled in order to make the x-ticks equally spaced. Available only for the weightfunction plot. Defaults to FALSE.
...	additional arguments to be passed to <code>par</code> if <code>plot_type = "base"</code> . Especially useful for <code>parameter == "theta"</code> , <code>parameter == "forest"</code> or <code>type = "individual"</code> where automatic margins might cut out parts of the labels.

See Also

[RoBMA\(\)](#)

Examples

```

## Not run:
# using the example data from Anderson et al. 2010 and fitting the default model
# (note that the model can take a while to fit)
fit <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels)

### ggplot2 version of all of the plots can be obtained by adding 'model_type = "ggplot"
# plot function allows to visualize the results of a fitted RoBMA object, for example,
# the model-averaged mean parameter estimate
plot(fit, parameter = "mu")

# or show both the prior and posterior distribution
plot(fit, parameter = "mu", prior = TRUE)

# conditional plots might be obtained by specifying
plot(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "conditional")

# plotting function also allows to visualize the weight function
# (or individual weights by adding 'weights = TRUE')
plot(fit, parameter = "omega")

# or the forest plot (the estimated study effects can be shown by setting 'parameter = "theta"')
plot(fit, parameter = "forest")

# it is also possible to compare the individual model estimates
# and order them by the posterior probability
plot(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "individual", order = "prob")

## End(Not run)

```

`plot.RoBMA.prior` *Plots a RoBMA.prior object*

Description

Plots a `RoBMA.prior` object

Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'RoBMA.prior'
plot(
  x,
  plot_type = "base",
  effect_size = NULL,
  mu_transform = NULL,
  show_figures = -1,
  weights = FALSE,
  par_name = "mu",

```

```

    samples = 1e+06,
    points = 1000,
    ...
)

```

Arguments

x	a RoBMA prior
plot_type	whether to use a base plot "base" or ggplot2 "ggplot2" for plotting. The later requires ggplot2 package to be installed.
effect_size	type of effect size which is supposed to be plotted. Only relevant if the mu parameter needs to be transformed ("r" for correlation coefficients or "OR" for odds ratios).
mu_transform	whether and how should the prior distribution be transformed. If the prior distribution is constructed for effect sizes supplied as correlations, the prior for mu parameter is not defined on the correlation scale directly, but transformed into it. Only possible if the effect_size == "r" or effect_size == "OR" and par_name = "mu". Defaults to NULL. Other options are "cohens_d", "fishers_z", and "log_OR".
show_figures	which figures should be returned in case of multiple plots are generated. Useful when priors for the omega parameter are plotted and weights = TRUE.
weights	whether the weights or weight function should be returned. Only applicable for priors on the omega parameter. Defaults to FALSE - the weight function is plotted.
par_name	a type of parameter for which the prior is specified. Only relevant if the prior corresponds to a mu parameter that needs to be transformed.
samples	how many samples should be drawn for the density plot (applies only for the weight functions, other prior distributions are plotted using the pdf). Defaults to 10000.
points	how many points should be used for drawing the density plot. Defaults to 1000.
...	additional arguments

See Also

[prior\(\)](#)

print.RoBMA

Prints a fitted RoBMA object

Description

Prints a fitted RoBMA object

Usage

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

Arguments

x a fitted RoBMA object.
... additional arguments.

See Also

[RoBMA\(\)](#)

`print.RoBMA.prior` *Prints a RoBMA.prior object*

Description

Prints a `RoBMA.prior` object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'RoBMA.prior'  
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x a RoBMA prior
... additional arguments
silent to silently return the print message.
plot to return [bquote](#) formatted prior name for plotting.
digits_estimates number of decimals to be displayed for printed parameters.

See Also

[prior\(\)](#)

print.summary.RoBMA *Prints summary object for RoBMA method*

Description

Prints summary object for RoBMA method

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'RoBMA'
print.summary(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x a summary of a RoBMA object
 ... additional arguments

See Also

[RoBMA\(\)](#)

prior *Creates a RoBMA prior*

Description

prior creates a prior distribution for fitting a RoBMA model. The prior can be visualized by a plot function.

Usage

```
prior(
  distribution,
  parameters,
  truncation = list(lower = -Inf, upper = Inf),
  prior_odds = 1
)
```

Arguments

distribution name of the prior distribution. The possible options are
 "point" for a point density characterized by a location parameter.
 "normal" for a normal distribution characterized by a mean and sd parameters.

	"cauchy" for a Cauchy distribution characterized by a location and scale parameters. Internally converted into a generalized t-distribution with $df = 1$.
	"t" for a generalized t-distribution characterized by a location, scale, and df parameters.
	"gamma" for a gamma distribution characterized by either shape and rate, or shape and scale parameters. The later is internally converted to the shape and rate parametrization
	"invgamma" for an inverse-gamma distribution characterized by a shape and scale parameters. The JAGS part uses a $1/\text{gamma}$ distribution with a shape and rate parameter.
	"two.sided" for a two-sided weight function characterized by a vector steps and vector alpha parameters. The alpha parameter determines an alpha parameter of Dirichlet distribution which cumulative sum is used for the weights omega.
	"one.sided" for a one-sided weight function characterized by either a vector steps and vector alpha parameter, leading to a monotonic one-sided function, or by a vector steps, vector alpha1, and vector alpha2 parameters leading non-monotonic one-sided weight function. The alpha / alpha1 and alpha2 parameters determine an alpha parameter of Dirichlet distribution which cumulative sum is used for the weights omega.
	"uniform" for a uniform distribution defined on a range from a to b
parameters	list of appropriate parameters for a given distribution.
truncation	list with two elements, lower and upper, that define the lower and upper truncation of the distribution. Defaults to <code>list(lower = -Inf, upper = Inf)</code> . The lower truncation point is automatically set to 0 if it is specified outside of the support of distributions defined only for positive numbers.
prior_odds	prior odds associated with a given distribution. <code>RoBMA()</code> creates models corresponding to all combinations of prior distributions for each of the model parameters (mu, tau, omega), and sets the model priors odds to the product of its prior distributions.

See Also

[plot.RoBMA.prior\(\)](#), [Normal](#), [Cauchy](#), [LocationScaleT](#), [GammaDist](#), [InvGamma](#).

Examples

```
# create a standart normal prior distribution
p1 <- prior(distribution = "normal", parameters = list(mean = 1, sd = 1))

# create a half-normal standart normal prior distribution
p2 <- prior(distribution = "normal", parameters = list(mean = 1, sd = 1),
truncation = list(lower = 0, upper = Inf))

# or a prior for one-sided weight function
p3 <- prior("one-sided", parameters = list(steps = c(.05, .10), alpha = c(1, 1, 1)))
```

```
# the prior distribution can be visualized using the plot function
# (see ?plot.prior.RoBMA for all options)
plot(p1)
```

RoBMA

Estimate a Robust Bayesian Meta-Analysis

Description

RoBMA is used to estimate a Robust Bayesian Meta-Analysis. Either t-statistics (t) and sample sizes of the original studies (n or n1 and n2), or effect sizes (d) and standard errors (se) can be used to estimate the model.

Usage

```
RoBMA(
  t = NULL,
  d = NULL,
  r = NULL,
  y = NULL,
  OR = NULL,
  se = NULL,
  n = NULL,
  n1 = NULL,
  n2 = NULL,
  lCI = NULL,
  uCI = NULL,
  test_type = "two.sample",
  study_names = NULL,
  mu_transform = if (!is.null(r)) "cohens_d" else if (!is.null(OR)) "log_OR" else NULL,
  effect_direction = "positive",
  priors_mu = prior(distribution = "normal", parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = 1)),
  priors_tau = prior(distribution = "invgamma", parameters = list(shape = 1, scale =
    0.15)),
  priors_omega = list(prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters = list(alpha = c(1,
    1), steps = c(0.05)), prior_odds = 1/2), prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters
    = list(alpha = c(1, 1, 1), steps = c(0.05, 0.1)), prior_odds = 1/2)),
  priors_mu_null = prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0)),
  priors_tau_null = prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0)),
  priors_omega_null = prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 1)),
  chains = 3,
  iter = 10000,
  burnin = 5000,
  thin = 1,
  parallel = FALSE,
```

```

control = NULL,
save = "all",
seed = NULL
)

```

Arguments

t	a vector of t-statistics.
d	a vector of effect sizes measured as Cohen's d.
r	a vector of effect sizes measured as correlations.
y	a vector of unspecified effect sizes.
OR	a vector of odds ratios.
se	a vector of standard errors of the effect sizes.
n	a vector of overall sample sizes.
n1	a vector of sample sizes for the first group.
n2	a vector of sample sizes for the second group.
lCI	a vector of lower bounds of confidence intervals.
uCI	a vector of upper bounds of confidence intervals.
test_type	a type of test used in the original studies. Options are "two.sample" (default) and "one.sample". Only available if d is supplied.
study_names	an optional argument with the names of the studies.
mu_transform	transformation to be applied to the supplied effect sizes before fitting the individual models. Only available if correlations or odds ratios are supplied as input. Defaults to "cohens_d" for correlations (another options is "fishers_z") and "log_OR" for odds ratios (another options is "cohens_d"). Note that priors are specified on the transformed scale and estimates are transformed back (apart from tau).
effect_direction	the expected direction of the effect. The one-sided selection sets the weights omega to 1 to significant results in the expted direction. Defaults to "positive" (another oprion is "negative").
priors_mu	list of prior distributions for the mu parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis. Defaults to <code>prior(distribution = "normal", parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = 1))</code> .
priors_tau	list of prior distributions for the tau parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis. Defaults to <code>prior(distribution = "invgamma", parameters = list(shape = 1, scale = .15))</code> .
priors_omega	list of prior weight functions for the omega parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis. Defaults to <code>list(prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters = list(alpha = c(1, 1), steps = c(.05)), prior_odds = 1/2), prior(distribution = "two.sided", parameters = list(alpha = c(1, 1, 1), steps = c(.05, .10)), prior_odds = 1/2))</code> .

priors_mu_null	list of prior distributions for the mu parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 0 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>).
priors_tau_null	list of prior distributions for the tau parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 0 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>).
priors_omega_null	list of prior weight functions for the omega parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 1 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>).
chains	a number of chains of the MCMC algorithm.
iter	a number of sampling iterations of the MCMC algorithm. Defaults to 10000, with a minimum of 4000.
burnin	a number of burnin iterations of the MCMC algorithm. Defaults to 5000.
thin	a thinning of the chains of the MCMC algorithm. Defaults to 1.
parallel	whether the individual models should be fitted in parallel. Defaults to FALSE. The cores argument within the control list will overwrite the setting if specified to a number higher than 1.
control	a list of additional arguments for the MCMC algorithm. Possible options are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> autofit Whether the models should be refitted until convergence. Defaults to FALSE max_error The target MCMC error for the autofit function. The argument is passed to raftery.diag as 'r'. Defaults to .01. max_rhat The target Rhat error for the autofit function. The argument is passed to add.summary as 'prf.target'. Defaults to 1.05. max_time A string specifying the maximum fitting time in case of autofit. Defaults to Inf. Can be specified as a number and a unit (Acceptable units include 'seconds', 'minutes', 'hours', 'days', 'weeks', or the first letter(s) of each), i.e. "1hr". adapt A number of iterations used for MCMC adaptation. Defaults to 1000. bridge_max_iter Maximum number of iterations for the bridge_sampler function. Defaults to 10000 allow_max_error Maximum allowed MCMC error for a model to be taken into consideration. The model will be removed from the ensemble if it fails to achieve the set MCMC error. Defaults to NULL - no model will be removed based on MCMC error. allow_max_rhat Maximum allowed Rhat for a model to be taken into consideration. Model will be removed from the ensemble if it fails to achieve the set Rhat. Defaults to NULL - no model will be removed based on Rhat. allow_min_ESS Minimum allowed ESS for a model to be taken into consideration. Model will be removed from the ensemble if it fails to achieve the set ESS. Defaults to NULL - no model will be removed based on ESS. allow_inc_theta Whether the diagnostics for theta should be included into model removal decision. Defaults to NULL - only 'mu', 'tau', and 'omega' estimates will be taken into account.

	balance_prob Whether the prior probability of the removed model should be redistributed to other models with the same type if possible (crossing of effect / heterogeneity / publication bias). Defaults to TRUE.
	silent Whether all fitting messages should be suppressed. Defaults to FALSE. Ideal for getting rid of the "full precision may not have been achieved in pntfinal'" warning that cannot be suppressed in any other way.
	boost Whether the likelihood functions implemented using the boost C++ library should be used as the first option. The higher precision of boost allows to estimate models in difficult cases. Defaults to FALSE. The R distributions are used as default and boost is used only if they fail. Warning: the estimation using boost takes about twice as long.
	cores Number of cores to be used for parallel computation. If <code>parallel == TRUE</code> , the default number is equal to number of cores - 1, and 1 (no parallel processing otherwise).
save	whether all models posterior distributions should be kept after obtaining a model-averaged result. Defaults to "all" which does not remove anything. Set to "min" to significantly reduce the size of final object, however, some model diagnostics <code>check()</code> will not be available.
seed	a seed to be set before model fitting, marginal likelihood computation, and posterior mixing for exact results reproducibility. Defaults to NULL - no seed is set.

Details

The default settings with either t-statistics / Cohen's d effect sizes and sample sizes / standard errors correspond to the ensemble proposed by (Maier et al. 2020). The vignette("CustomEnsembles") and vignette("ReproducingBMA") vignettes describe how to use `RoBMA()` to fit custom meta-analytic ensembles (see `prior()` for more information about prior distributions). To get help with the error and warning messages, see vignette("WarningsAndErrors").

The `RoBMA` function first generates models from a combination of the provided priors for each of the model parameters. Then, the individual models are fitted using `autorun.jags` function. A marginal likelihood is computed using `bridge_sampler` function. The individual models are then combined into an ensemble using the posterior model probabilities.

Generic `summary.RoBMA()`, `print.RoBMA()`, and `plot.RoBMA()` functions are provided to facilitate manipulation with the ensemble. A visual check of the individual model diagnostics can be obtained using the `diagnostics()` function. The fitted model can be further updated or modified by `update.RoBMA()` function.

Value

`RoBMA` returns an object of class "RoBMA".

References

Maier M, Bartoň F, Wagenmakers E (2020). "Robust Bayesian Meta-Analysis: Addressing Publication Bias with Model-Averaging." preprint at <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/u4cns>.

See Also

[summary.RoBMA\(\)](#), [update.RoBMA\(\)](#), [prior\(\)](#), [check_setup\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
# using the example data from Anderson et al. 2010 and fitting the default model
# (note that the model can take a while to fit)
fit <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels)

# in order to speed up the process, we can reduce the default number of chains, iteration,
# and disable the autofit functionality (see ?RoBMA for all possible settings)
fit_faster <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels,
chains = 2, iter = 5000, control = list(autofit = FALSE))

# RoBMA function allows to use different prior specifications
# for example, change the prior for tau to be half normal and specify one-sided selection only
# on significant p-values (see '?prior' for all options regarding prior distributions)
fit1 <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels,
priors_tau = prior("normal",
parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = 1),
truncation = list(lower = 0, upper = Inf)),
priors_omega = prior("one-sided",
parameters = list(cuts = c(.05), alpha = c(1, 1))))

# the priors for the null models can be modified or even omitted in a similar manner,
# allowing to test different (non-null-null) hypotheses
fit2 <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels,
priors_mu_null = prior("normal",
parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = .1),
truncation = list(lower = -0.1, upper = 0.1)))

# an already fitted RoBMA model can be further updated or modified by using the update function
# for example, the prior model probabilities can be changed after the fitting by
# (but see '?update.RoBMA' for other possibilities including refitting or adding more models)
fit3 <- update(fit2, prior_odds = c(10,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1))

# we can get a quick overview of the model coefficients just by printing the model
fit

# a more detailed overview using the summary function (see '?summary.RoBMA' for all options)
summary(fit)

# results of the models can be visualized using the plot function (see ?plot.RoBMA for all options)
# for example, the model-averaged mean estimate
plot(fit, parameter = "mu")

# diagnostics for the individual parameters in individual models can be obtained using diagnostics
# function (see 'diagnostics' for all options)
diagnostics(fit, parameter = "mu", type = "chains")

## End(Not run)
```

summary.RoBMA	<i>Summarize fitted RoBMA object</i>
---------------	--------------------------------------

Description

summary.RoBMA creates a numerical summary of the RoBMA object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'RoBMA'
summary(
  object,
  type = if (diagnostics) "models" else "ensemble",
  conditional = FALSE,
  diagnostics = FALSE,
  include_theta = FALSE,
  probs = c(0.025, 0.975),
  logBF = FALSE,
  BF01 = FALSE,
  digits_estimates = 3,
  digits_BF = 3,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

object	a fitted RoBMA object.
type	whether to show the overall RoBMA results ("ensemble"), an overview of the individual models ("models"), or detailed summary for the individual models ("individual").
conditional	show the conditional estimates (assuming that the alternative is true). Defaults to FALSE. Only available for type == "conditional".
diagnostics	show the maximum R-hat and minimum ESS for the main parameters in each of the models. Only available for type = "ensemble".
include_theta	whether the estimated random effects should be included either in the summaries.
probs	quantiles of the posterior samples to be displayed. Defaults to c(.025, .50, .975)
logBF	show log of the BFs. Defaults to FALSE.
BF01	show BF in support of the null hypotheses. Defaults to FALSE.
digits_estimates	a number of decimals for rounding the estimates. Defaults to 3.
digits_BF	a number of decimals for rounding the BFs. Defaults to 3.
...	additional arguments

Value

summary of a RoBMA object

Note

See [diagnostics\(\)](#) for visual convergence checks of the individual models.

See Also

[RoBMA\(\)](#) [diagnostics\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
# using the example data from Anderson et al. 2010 and fitting the default model
# (note that the model can take a while to fit)
fit <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels)

# summary can provide many details about the model
summary(fit)

# note that the summary function contains additional arguments
# that allow to obtain a specific output, i.e., the conditional estimates
# (assuming that the non-null models are true) can be obtained
summary(fit, conditional = TRUE)

# overview of the models and their prior and posterior probability, marginal likelihood,
# and inclusion Bayes factor:
summary(fit, type = "models")

# and the model diagnostics overview, containing maximum R-hat and minimum ESS across parameters
# but see '?diagnostics' for diagnostics plots for individual model parameters
summary(fit, type = "models", diagnostics = TRUE)

# summary of individual models and their parameters can be further obtained by
summary(fit, type = "individual")

## End(Not run)
```

update.RoBMA

Updates a fitted RoBMA object

Description

update.RoBMA can be used to

1. add an additional model to an existing "RoBMA" object by specifying either a null or alternative prior for each parameter and the prior odds of the model (prior_odds), see the vignette("CustomEnsembles") vignette,

2. change the prior odds of fitted models by specifying a vector `prior_odds` of the same length as the fitted models,
3. refitting models that failed to converge with updated settings of control parameters,
4. or changing the convergence criteria and recalculating the ensemble results by specifying new control argument and setting `refit_failed == FALSE`.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'RoBMA'
update(
  object,
  refit_failed = TRUE,
  prior_mu = NULL,
  prior_tau = NULL,
  prior_omega = NULL,
  prior_odds = NULL,
  prior_mu_null = NULL,
  prior_tau_null = NULL,
  prior_omega_null = NULL,
  study_names = NULL,
  control = NULL,
  chains = NULL,
  iter = NULL,
  burnin = NULL,
  thin = NULL,
  parallel = NULL,
  seed = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>object</code>	a fitted RoBMA object.
<code>refit_failed</code>	whether failed models should be refitted. Relevant only if new priors or <code>prior_odds</code> are not supplied. Defaults to TRUE.
<code>prior_mu</code>	a prior distribution for the μ parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis.
<code>prior_tau</code>	a prior distribution for the τ parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis.
<code>prior_omega</code>	a prior weight function for the ω parameter that will be treated as belonging to the alternative hypothesis.
<code>prior_odds</code>	either a single value specifying prior model odds of a newly specified model using priors argument, or a vector of the same length as already fitted models to update their prior odds.
<code>prior_mu_null</code>	list of prior distribution for the μ parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis. Defaults to point distribution with location at 0 (<code>prior(distribution = "point", parameters = list(location = 0))</code>).

prior_tau_null	a prior distribution for the tau parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis.
prior_omega_null	a prior weight function for the omega parameter that will be treated as belonging to the null hypothesis.
study_names	an optional argument with the names of the studies.
control	<p>a list of additional arguments for the MCMC algorithm. Possible options are:</p> <p>autofit Whether the models should be refitted until convergence. Defaults to FALSE</p> <p>max_error The target MCMC error for the autofit function. The argument is passed to raftery.diag as 'r'. Defaults to .01.</p> <p>max_rhat The target Rhat error for the autofit function. The argument is passed to add.summary as 'psrf.target'. Defaults to 1.05.</p> <p>max_time A string specifying the maximum fitting time in case of autofit. Defaults to Inf. Can be specified as a number and a unit (Acceptable units include 'seconds', 'minutes', 'hours', 'days', 'weeks', or the first letter(s) of each), i.e. "1hr".</p> <p>adapt A number of iterations used for MCMC adaptation. Defaults to 1000.</p> <p>bridge_max_iter Maximum number of iterations for the bridge_sampler function. Defaults to 10000</p> <p>allow_max_error Maximum allowed MCMC error for a model to be taken into consideration. The model will be removed from the ensemble if it fails to achieve the set MCMC error. Defaults to NULL - no model will be removed based on MCMC error.</p> <p>allow_max_rhat Maximum allowed Rhat for a model to be taken into consideration. Model will be removed from the ensemble if it fails to achieve the set Rhat. Defaults to NULL - no model will be removed based on Rhat.</p> <p>allow_min_ESS Minimum allowed ESS for a model to be taken into consideration. Model will be removed from the ensemble if it fails to achieve the set ESS. Defaults to NULL - no model will be removed based on ESS.</p> <p>allow_inc_theta Whether the diagnostics for theta should be included into model removal decision. Defaults to NULL - only 'mu', 'tau', and 'omega' estimates will be taken into account.</p> <p>balance_prob Whether the prior probability of the removed model should be redistributed to other models with the same type if possible (crossing of effect / heterogeneity / publication bias). Defaults to TRUE.</p> <p>silent Whether all fitting messages should be suppressed. Defaults to FALSE. Ideal for getting rid of the "full precision may not have been achieved in pntfinal" warning that cannot be suppressed in any other way.</p> <p>boost Whether the likelihood functions implemented using the boost C++ library should be used as the first option. The higher precision of boost allows to estimate models in difficult cases. Defaults to FALSE. The R distributions are used as default and boost is used only if they fail. Warning: the estimation using boost takes about twice as long.</p> <p>cores Number of cores to be used for parallel computation. If parallel == TRUE, the default number is equal to number of cores - 1, and 1 (no parallel processing otherwise).</p>

chains	a number of chains of the MCMC algorithm.
iter	a number of sampling iterations of the MCMC algorithm. Defaults to 10000, with a minimum of 4000.
burnin	a number of burnin iterations of the MCMC algorithm. Defaults to 5000.
thin	a thinning of the chains of the MCMC algorithm. Defaults to 1.
parallel	whether the individual models should be fitted in parallel. Defaults to FALSE. The cores argument within the control list will overwrite the setting if specified to a number higher than 1.
seed	a seed to be set before model fitting, marginal likelihood computation, and posterior mixing for exact results reproducibility. Defaults to NULL - no seed is set.
...	additional arguments.

Details

See [RoBMA\(\)](#) for more details.

Value

RoBMA returns an object of class "RoBMA".

See Also

[RoBMA\(\)](#), [summary.RoBMA\(\)](#), [prior\(\)](#), [check_setup\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
# using the example data from Anderson et al. 2010 and fitting the default model
# (note that the model can take a while to fit)
fit <- RoBMA(r = Anderson2010$r, n = Anderson2010$n, study_names = Anderson2010$labels)

# the update function allows us to change the prior model probability of each model
fit1 <- update(fit, prior_odds = c(10,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1))

# add an additional model with different priors specification (see '?prior' for more information)
fit2 <- update(fit,
  priors_mu_null = prior("point", parameters = list(location = 0)),
  priors_tau = prior("normal",
    parameters = list(mean = 0, sd = 1),
    truncation = list(lower = 0, upper = Inf)),
  priors_omega = prior("one-sided",
    parameters = list(cuts = c(.05), alpha = c(1, 1))))

# change the model convergence criteria to mark models with ESS lower than 2000 as non-convergent
fit3 <- update(fit, control = list(allow_min_ESS = 2000))

# and refit them failed models with increased number of burnin iterations
fit4 <- update(fit3, burnin = 10000)
```

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

weightedt

Weighted t distribution

Description

Density, distribution function, quantile function and random generation for the weighted t distribution with df degrees of freedom, non-centrality parameter ncp , steps $steps$ (or critical t-values $crit_t$), and weights $omega$.

Usage

```
dwt(  
  x,  
  df,  
  ncp,  
  steps = if (!is.null(crit_t)) NULL,  
  omega,  
  crit_t = if (!is.null(steps)) NULL,  
  type = "two.sided",  
  log = FALSE  
)
```

```
pwt(  
  q,  
  df,  
  ncp,  
  steps = if (!is.null(crit_t)) NULL,  
  omega,  
  crit_t = if (!is.null(steps)) NULL,  
  type = "two.sided",  
  lower.tail = TRUE,  
  log.p = FALSE  
)
```

```
qwt(  
  p,  
  df,  
  ncp,  
  steps = if (!is.null(crit_t)) NULL,  
  omega,  
  crit_t = if (!is.null(steps)) NULL,  
  type = "two.sided",  
  lower.tail = TRUE,  
  log.p = FALSE  
)
```

```

)

rwt(
  n,
  df,
  ncp,
  steps = if (!is.null(crit_t)) NULL,
  omega,
  crit_t = if (!is.null(steps)) NULL,
  type = "two.sided"
)

```

Arguments

<code>x, q</code>	vector of quantiles.
<code>df</code>	degrees of freedom (> 0 , maybe non-integer). <code>df = Inf</code> is allowed.
<code>ncp</code>	non-centrality parameter delta.
<code>steps</code>	vector of steps for the weight function.
<code>omega</code>	vector of weights defining the probability of observing a t-statistics between each of the two steps.
<code>crit_t</code>	vector of t-values defining steps (if steps are not supplied).
<code>type</code>	type of weight function (defaults to "two.sided").
<code>log, log.p</code>	logical; if TRUE, probabilities <code>p</code> are given as $\log(p)$.
<code>lower.tail</code>	logical; if TRUE (default), probabilities are $P[X \leq x]$, otherwise, $P[X \geq x]$.
<code>p</code>	vector of probabilities.
<code>n</code>	number of observations. If $\text{length}(n) > 1$, the length is taken to be the number required.

Details

The `df`, `ncp`, `steps`, `omega` can be supplied as a vectors (`df`, `ncp`) or matrices (`steps`, `omega`) with `length / number of rows` equal to `x/q / p`. Otherwise, they are recycled to the length of the result.

The functions quickly lose precision in the tails since they depend on sums of distribution functions of t distribution `stats::pt`. In cases where the density of t distribution cannot be computed by `stats::dt`, the implementation switches to `DPQ::dnt`.

See Also

[Normal](#), [dnt](#)

Index

* datasets

Anderson2010, 2

add.summary, 15, 21
Anderson2010, 2
autorun.jags, 16

bquote, 10
bridge_sampler, 15, 16, 21

Cauchy, 12
check(), 16
check_setup, 3
check_setup(), 17, 22
class, 16, 22

diagnostics, 4
diagnostics(), 16, 19
dnt, 24
DPQ::dnt, 24
dwt (weightedt), 23

GammaDist, 12

InvGamma, 12
is.RoBMA, 6

LocationScaleT, 12

Normal, 12, 24

par, 5, 7
plot.RoBMA, 6
plot.RoBMA(), 16
plot.RoBMA.prior, 8
plot.RoBMA.prior(), 12
print.RoBMA, 9
print.RoBMA(), 16
print.RoBMA.prior, 10
print.summary.RoBMA, 11
prior, 11

prior(), 4, 9, 10, 16, 17, 22
pwt (weightedt), 23

qwt (weightedt), 23

raftery.diag, 15, 21
RoBMA, 13
RoBMA(), 4, 5, 7, 10–12, 16, 19, 22
rwt (weightedt), 23

stan_plot, 5
stats::dt, 24
stats::pt, 24
summary.RoBMA, 18
summary.RoBMA(), 5, 16, 17, 22

update.RoBMA, 19
update.RoBMA(), 16, 17

weightedt, 23