

Package ‘confintROB’

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Type Package

Title Confidence Intervals for Robust and Classical Linear Mixed Model Estimators

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Description The main function calculates confidence intervals (CI) for Mixed Models, utilizing both classical estimators from the `lmer()` function in the ‘lme4’ package and robust estimators from the `rlmer()` function in the ‘robustlmm’ package, as well as the `varComprob()` function in the ‘robustvarComp’ package. Three methods are available: the classical Wald method, the wild bootstrap, and the parametric bootstrap. Bootstrap methods offer flexibility in obtaining lower and upper bounds through percentile or BCa methods. More details are given in Mason, F., Cantoni, E., & Ghisletta, P. (2021) <[doi:10.5964/meth.6607](https://doi.org/10.5964/meth.6607)> and Mason, F., Cantoni, E., & Ghisletta, P. (2024) <[doi:10.1037/met0000643](https://doi.org/10.1037/met0000643)>.

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RoxygenNote 7.3.3

NeedsCompilation no

Depends R (>= 3.5.0)

Imports foreach, lme4, MASS, mvtnorm, tidyR, methods

Suggests robustlmm (>= 3.1-1), robustvarComp (>= 0.1-7), lmerTest (>= 3.1-3), testthat (>= 3.0.0), xtable, ggplot2, parallel, doParallel

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confintROB	<i>Confidence Intervals for Robust and Classical Linear Mixed Model Estimators.</i>
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Description

Confidence Intervals (CIs) based on parametric and semi-parametric bootstrap (and Wald-type) for robust and classical Linear Mixed Models estimators.

Usage

```
confintROB(
  object,
  parm,
  level = 0.95,
  method = c("boot", "BCa", "Wald"),
  nsim = 5000,
  boot.type = c("wild", "parametric"),
  clusterID,
  verify.saved = NULL,
  .export = NULL,
  varComprob.data,
  varComprob.random,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

object	an object of class <code>lmerMod</code> , <code>rlmerMod</code> or <code>varComprob</code>
parm	parameters for which intervals are sought. Specified by an integer vector of positions (see example) or a character vector of parameter names. Fixed effects parameters are ordered according their appearance in the formula. For the order of variance components, see argument <code>order</code> of the <code>varCorr</code> function from package <code>lme4</code> . By default, the CIs of all the parameters of the model are computed.
level	confidence level in $]0; 1[$
method	type of CIs: "Wald", "boot", "BCa"
nsim	number of bootstrap samples, positive integer
boot.type	type of bootstrap: "wild" or "parametric"

clusterID	text variable indicating the clustering variable. This is only required for method "BCa" or for boot.type "wild" for <code>varComprob</code> objects. This vector is used to identify the level of the "cluster" to which these resampling methods should be applied and is not included in the <code>varComprob</code> objects.
verify.saved	optional result returned by an earlier call to <code>confintROB</code> with identical parameters. Useful to speed up repeated manuscript rendering.
.export	passed on to <code>foreach</code>
varComprob.data	a data frame object used to fit the original model. This is only required for the <code>varComprob</code> objects
varComprob.random	text variable describing the random effect structure as it would be written with <code>lmer</code> from <code>lme4</code> . This is only required for the <code>varComprob</code> objects
...	additional arguments passed on to <code>lmer</code> (if applicable)

Details

Implements the classical Wald-type CI, the parametric and the wild bootstrap (Modugno & Giannerini, 2013) for linear mixed models estimated with the robust estimators in `rlmer` (Koller, 2016; Koller & Stahel, 2022) and `varComprob` (Agostinelli & Yohai, 2016) and the classical estimators in `lmer` (Bates et al., 2013). For bootstrap methods, percentile, Bias-Corrected, and accelerated (BCa) versions are available. All these versions are tested in Mason, Cantoni & Ghisletta (2021, 2024).

`confintROB` computes 5 types of CIs based on arguments `method` and `boot.type`.

`method`:

- "Wald": CIs computation is based on standard error estimates
- "boot": CIs are computed using the respective percentile of estimates obtained on bootstrap sample(s) based on the confidence level
- "BCa": based on the Jackknife method, the Bias-Corrected and accelerated parameters are computed on the original sample to correct estimates obtained from the bootstrap sample(s)

`boot.type` (for methods "boot" and "BCa"):

- "parametric": the classical parametric bootstrap scheme is used to create bootstrap sample(s)
- "wild": the semi-parametric bootstrap scheme is used to create bootstrap sample(s)

Value

a numeric table (matrix with column and row names) of CIs.

References

- Agostinelli, C., & Yohai, V. J. (2016). Composite robust estimators for linear mixed models. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 111 (516), 1764-1774. doi:10.1080/01621459.2015.1115358
- Bates, D., Machler, M., Bolker, B., & Walker, S. (2015). Fitting linear mixed-effects models using `lme4`. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 67 (1), 1-48. doi: 10.18637/jss.v067.i01
- Koller, M. (2016). `robustlmm`: An R package for robust estimation of linear mixed-effects models. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 75 (6), 1-24. doi: 10.18637/jss.v075.i06

- Koller, M., & Stahel, W. A. (2022). Robust estimation of general linear mixed effects models. In P. M. Yi & P. K. Nordhausen (Eds.), Robust and multivariate statistical methods. Springer Nature Switzerland AG.
- Mason, F., Cantoni, E., & Ghisletta, P. (2021). Parametric and semi-parametric bootstrap-based confidence intervals for robust linear mixed models. *Methodology*, 17 (4), 271-295. doi: 10.5964/meth.6607
- Mason, F., Cantoni, E., & Ghisletta, P. (2024). Linear mixed models and latent growth curve models for group comparison studies contaminated by outliers. *Psychological methods*. doi: 10.1037/met0000643
- Modugno, L., & Giannerini, S. (2013). The wild bootstrap for multilevel models. *Communications in Statistics - Theory and Methods*, 44 (22), 4812-4825. doi: 10.1080/03610926.2013.80280

See Also

[lmer](#) [rlmer](#) [varComprob](#)

Examples

```
if (require(robustlmm)) {
  model.RSE <- rlmer(Reaction ~ 1 + Days + (Days|Subject),
                      data = sleepstudy)
  CI.RSE <- confintROB(model.RSE, level = .95, boot.type = "wild",
                        parm = c(1,2), # indicates that only CIs
                        # for the intercept and Days are asked.
                        nsim = 10) # small nsim for speed, in practice use, e.g., 5000
  print(CI.RSE)
}
```

medication

The medication data set

Description

Often used for didactic purposes (Singer & Willett, 2003), and originally discussed in Tomarken, Shelton, Elkins, and Anderson (1997). During seven days, three times a day (from time = 0 to time = 6.667), a sample of n = 64 adults (identified by the variable id) were randomly assigned to either a treatment group (treat=1) or a control group (treat=0) and were required to report their mood (pos).

Usage

`data(medication)`

Format

‘medication’ a data.frame with 5 columns and 1242 rows:

obs row number

id participant number

treat treatment assignment, 1= treatment; 0= control
time time from 0 to 6.667, with increments of 0.333
pos the positive mood score

References

Tomarken, A. J., Shelton, R. C., Elkins, L., & Anderson, T. (1997). Sleep deprivation and anti-depressant medication: unique effects on positive and negative affect. In American Psychological Society Meeting, Washington, DC.

Examples

```
data(medication)
str(medication)

# Fit mixed-effects model with lme4
library(lme4)
model.ML <- lmer(pos ~ treat * time + (time | id), data = medication,
                   REML = FALSE)
summary(model.ML)

# Fit robust mixed-effects model with robustlmm
library(robustlmm)
model.RSE <- rlmer(pos ~ treat * time + (time | id), data = medication,
                     method = "DAStau")
compare(model.ML, model.RSE)

# Compute confidence intervals
set.seed(1)
ci <- confintROB(model.RSE, boot.type = "wild", nsim = 100)
ci
```

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