

Package ‘FastCUB’

May 7, 2026

Title Fast Estimation of CUB Models via Louis' Identity

Version 0.0.4

Description For ordinal rating data, consider the accelerated EM algorithm to estimate and test models within the family of CUB models (where CUB stands for Combination of a discrete Uniform and a shifted Binomial distributions). The procedure is built upon Louis' identity for the observed information matrix. Best-subset variable selection is then implemented since it becomes more feasible from the computational point of view.

Depends R (>= 2.15.2)

License GPL-2 | GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

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LazyData true

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NeedsCompilation no

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Author Rosaria Simone [aut, cre]

Maintainer Rosaria Simone <rosaria.simone@unina.it>

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bestcub	<i>Best-subset variable selection for CUB models via fast EM algorithm</i>
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Description

Perform a best-subset search for CUB models on the basis of the BIC index, by combining all possible covariates' specification for feeling and for uncertainty parameters

Usage

```
bestcub(ordinal,m,Y,W,toler=1e-4,maxiter=200,iterc=5,alpha=0.05,mix=FALSE,
tolmix=1e+2,fmix=NULL,invgen=TRUE)
```

Arguments

ordinal	Vector of ordinal responses
m	Number of ordinal categories
Y	Matrix of selected covariates for the uncertainty parameter
W	Matrix of selected covariates for the feeling parameter
toler	Fixed error tolerance for final estimates
maxiter	Maximum number of iterations allowed for running the optimization algorithm
iterc	Iteration from which the acceleration strategy starts
alpha	Significant level for Wald test
mix	Logical: should a first preliminary standard EM be run at toler equal to tolmix? (default is FALSE)

tolmix	Error tolerance for first preliminary EM (if mix=TRUE).
fmix	Fraction of iteration needed for first preliminary EM (if mix=TRUE). Default is null.
invgen	Logical: should the recursive formula for the inverse of the information matrix be considered? (Default is TRUE)

Value

A list containing the following results:

vsel	List of all estimated models (with the accelerated EM)
bestW	Names of covariates for feeling in the best model with all significant effect
bestY	Names of covariates for feeling in the best model with all significant effect
param	ML estimates of the best model
se	Estimated standard errors for the best model
bic	BIC index of the best (significant) model
mattime	Matrix of computational time for each of the estimated model
matiter	Matrix of number of iterations occurred for each of the estimated model

See Also

[fastCUB](#)

BIC.fastCUB

S3 BIC method for class "fastCUB"

Description

S3 BIC method for objects of class [fastCUB](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'fastCUB'
BIC(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class "fastCUB"
...	Other arguments

Value

BIC index for the fitted model.

See Also

[logLik](#), [fastCUB](#)

`bitcsi`*Shifted Binomial probabilities of ordinal responses*

Description

Compute the shifted Binomial probabilities of ordinal responses.

Usage

```
bitcsi(m, ordinal, csi)
```

Arguments

<code>m</code>	Number of ordinal categories
<code>ordinal</code>	Vector of ordinal responses
<code>csi</code>	Feeling parameter of the shifted Binomial distribution

Value

A vector of the same length as `ordinal`, where each entry is the shifted Binomial probability of the corresponding observation.

References

Piccolo D. (2003). On the moments of a mixture of uniform and shifted binomial random variables, *Quaderni di Statistica*, **5**, 85–104

See Also

[probcub00](#), [probcubp0](#), [probcub0q](#)

Examples

```
data(univer)
m<-7
csi<-0.7
ordinal<-univer$informat
pr<-bitcsi(m,ordinal,csi)
```

`bitgama`*Shifted Binomial distribution with covariates*

Description

Return the shifted Binomial probabilities of ordinal responses where the feeling component is explained by covariates via a logistic link.

Usage

```
bitgama(m, ordinal, W, gama)
```

Arguments

<code>m</code>	Number of ordinal categories
<code>ordinal</code>	Vector of ordinal responses
<code>W</code>	Matrix of covariates for the feeling component
<code>gama</code>	Vector of parameters for the feeling component, with length equal to $\text{NCOL}(W)+1$ to account for an intercept term (first entry of <code>gama</code>)

Value

A vector of the same length as `ordinal`, where each entry is the shifted Binomial probability for the corresponding observation and feeling value.

See Also

[logis](#), [probcub0q](#), [probcubpq](#)

Examples

```
n<-100
m<-7
W<-sample(c(0,1),n,replace=TRUE)
gama<-c(0.2,-0.2)
csivett<-logis(W,gama)
ordinal<-rbinom(n,m-1,csivett)+1
pr<-bitgama(m,ordinal,W,gama)
```

coef.fastCUB	<i>S3 Method: coef for class "fastCUB"</i>
--------------	--

Description

S3 method: coef for objects of class [fastCUB](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'fastCUB'
coef(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class fastCUB
...	Other arguments

Details

Returns estimated values of coefficients of the fitted model

Value

ML estimates of parameters of the fitted CUB model.

See Also

[fastCUB](#), [summary](#)

cormat	<i>Correlation matrix for estimated model</i>
--------	---

Description

Compute parameter correlation matrix for estimated model as returned by an object of class "fastCUB".

Usage

```
cormat(object,digits=options()$digits)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class "fastCUB"
digits	Number of significant digits to be printed. Default is options()\$digits

Value

Parameters correlation matrix for fitted fastCUB models.

See Also

fastCUB, vcov

dissim	<i>Normalized dissimilarity measure</i>
--------	---

Description

Compute the normalized dissimilarity measure between observed relative frequencies and estimated (theoretical) probabilities of a discrete distribution.

Usage

```
dissim(proba,probb)
```

Arguments

proba	Vector of observed relative frequencies
probb	Vector of estimated (theoretical) probabilities

Value

Numeric value of the dissimilarity index, assessing the distance to a perfect fit.

Examples

```
proba<-c(0.01,0.03,0.08,0.07,0.27,0.37,0.17)
probb<-c(0.04,0.04,0.05,0.10,0.21,0.32,0.24)
dissim(proba,probb)
```

fastCUB

Main function for fast estimation CUB models

Description

Main function to estimate and validate a CUB model for explaining uncertainty and feeling for given ratings, with or without covariates, on the basis of Louis' identity for the information matrix and the derived accelerated estimation.

Usage

```
fastCUB(Formula, data, ...)
```

Arguments

Formula	Object of class Formula, with two matrix for the right-hand side for uncertainty and feeling covariates.
data	Data frame from which model matrices and response variables are taken.
...	Additional arguments to be passed for the specification of the model, including covariates matrices Y, W, X for #' for uncertainty, feeling and shelter, respectively.

Details

This is the main function for CUB models, which calls for the corresponding functions whenever covariates are specified. It performs maximum likelihood estimation via the E-M algorithm for CUB models and extensions based on the Louis' identity for the observed information matrix.

Value

An object of the class "fastCUB": returns a list containing the following results:

estimates	Maximum likelihood estimates of parameters
loglik	Log-likelihood function at the final estimates
varmat	Variance-covariance matrix of final estimates
niter	Number of executed iterations
BIC	BIC index for the estimated model

See Also

[probcub00](#), [probcubp0](#), [probcub0q](#), [probcubpq](#),

fastCUB_package	<i>fastCUB package</i>
-----------------	------------------------

Description

The package implements Louis' identity for CUB models for rating data, to retrieve the observed information matrix within the EM algorithm. On this basis, an accelerated estimation procedure is derived and best-subset variable selection is implemented.

Details

Package:	fastCUB
Type:	Package
Version:	0.0.1
Date:	2019-03-05
License:	GPL-2 GPL-3

Author(s)

Rosaria Simone

References

Simone R. (2021). An accelerated EM algorithm for mixture models with uncertainty for rating data, *Computational Statistics*, **36**, 691-714

Louis T.A. (1982). Finding the Observed Information Matrix when Using the EM Algorithm, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*, **44**, 226–233

fitted.fastCUB	<i>S3 method "fitted" for class "fastCUB"</i>
----------------	---

Description

S3 method fitted for objects of class `fastCUB`.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'fastCUB'
fitted(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class fastCUB
...	Other arguments

Details

Returns the fitted probability distribution for GEM models with no covariates. If only one dichotomous covariate is included in the model to explain some components, it returns the fitted probability distribution for each profile.

See Also

[fastCUB](#)

inibest

Preliminary estimators for CUB models without covariates

Description

Compute preliminary parameter estimates of a CUB model without covariates for given ordinal responses. These preliminary estimators are used within the package code to start the E-M algorithm.

Usage

```
inibest(m, freq)
```

Arguments

m	Number of ordinal categories
freq	Vector of the absolute frequencies of given ordinal responses

Value

A vector (π, ξ) of the initial parameter estimates for a CUB model without covariates, given the absolute frequency distribution of ordinal responses

References

Iannario M. (2009). A comparison of preliminary estimators in a class of ordinal data models, *Statistica & Applicazioni*, **VII**, 25–44

Iannario M. (2012). Preliminary estimators for a mixture model of ordinal data, *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification*, **6**, 163–184

See Also

[inibestgama](#)

Examples

```
m<-9
freq<-c(10,24,28,36,50,43,23,12,5)
estim<-inibest(m,freq)
pai<-estim[1]
csi<-estim[2]
```

inibestgama	<i>Preliminary parameter estimates of a CUB model with covariates for feeling</i>
-------------	---

Description

Compute preliminary parameter estimates for the feeling component of a CUB model fitted to ordinal responses. These estimates are set as initial values for parameters to start the E-M algorithm.

Usage

```
inibestgama(m,ordinal,W)
```

Arguments

m	Number of ordinal categories
ordinal	Vector of ordinal responses
W	Matrix of selected covariates for explaining the feeling component

Value

A vector of length equal to $NCOL(W)+1$, whose entries are the preliminary estimates of the parameters for the feeling component, including an intercept term as first entry.

References

Iannario M. (2008). Selecting feeling covariates in rating surveys, *Rivista di Statistica Applicata*, **20**, 103–116

Iannario M. (2009). A comparison of preliminary estimators in a class of ordinal data models, *Statistica & Applicazioni*, **VII**, 25–44

Iannario M. (2012). Preliminary estimators for a mixture model of ordinal data, *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification*, **6**, 163–184

See Also

[inibest](#)

Examples

```
data(univer)
m<-7; ordinal<-univer$global; cov<-univer$diploma
ini<-inibestgama(m,ordinal,W=cov)
```

`invmatgen`*Recursive computation of the inverse of a matrix*

Description

Compute the variance-covariance matrix of the incomplete score vector involved in Louis' identity for the observed information matrix

Usage

```
invmatgen(G,H,listE)
```

Arguments

G	Primary matrix for the sum decomposition of $G+H$
H	Secondary matrix for the sum decomposition of $G+H$
listE	Auxiliary matrices that sum up to H

Value

The inverse of matrix $G + H$ computed recursively thanks to matrices listed in listE

References

Miller K. (1981). On the inverse of the sum of matrices, *Mathematics Magazine*, **54**, 67–72

See Also

[fastCUB](#)

`logis`*The logistic transform*

Description

Create a matrix YY binding array Y with a vector of ones, placed as the first column of YY. It applies the logistic transform componentwise to the standard matrix multiplication between YY and param.

Usage

```
logis(Y,param)
```

Arguments

Y	A generic matrix or one dimensional array
param	Vector of coefficients, whose length is NCOL(Y) + 1 (to consider also an intercept term)

Value

Return a vector whose length is NROW(Y) and whose i-th component is the logistic function at the scalar product between the i-th row of YY and the vector param.

Examples

```
n<-50
Y<-sample(c(1,2,3),n,replace=TRUE)
param<-c(0.2,0.7)
logis(Y,param)
```

logLik.fastCUB	<i>logLik S3 Method for class "fastCUB"</i>
----------------	---

Description

S3 method: logLik() for objects of class "fastCUB".

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'fastCUB'
logLik(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class "fastCUB"
...	Other arguments

Value

Log-likelihood at the final ML estimates for parameters of the fitted fastCUB model.

See Also

[fastCUB](#)

makeplot	<i>Plot facilities for fastCUB objects</i>
----------	--

Description

Plot facilities for objects of class "fastCUB".

Usage

```
makeplot(object)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class "fastCUB"
--------	------------------------------

Details

Returns a plot comparing fitted probabilities and observed relative frequencies for GEM models without covariates. If only one explanatory dichotomous variable is included in the model for one or all components, then the function returns a plot comparing the distributions of the responses conditioned to the value of the covariate.

print.fastCUB	<i>S3 method: print for class "fastCUB"</i>
---------------	---

Description

S3 method print for objects of class `fastCUB`.

Usage

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

Arguments

x	An object of class <code>fastCUB</code>
...	Other arguments

Value

Brief summary results of the fitting procedure, including parameter estimates, their standard errors and the executed call.

`probbit`*Probability distribution of a shifted Binomial random variable*

Description

Return the shifted Binomial probability distribution.

Usage

```
probbit(m,csi)
```

Arguments

<code>m</code>	Number of ordinal categories
<code>csi</code>	Feeling parameter

Value

The vector of the probability distribution of a shifted Binomial model.

See Also

[bitcsi](#), [probcub00](#)

Examples

```
m<-7
csi<-0.7
pr<-probbit(m,csi)
plot(1:m,pr,type="h",main="Shifted Binomial probability distribution",xlab="Categories")
points(1:m,pr,pch=19)
```

`probcub00`*Probability distribution of a CUB model without covariates*

Description

Compute the probability distribution of a CUB model without covariates.

Usage

```
probcub00(m,pai,csi)
```

Arguments

<code>m</code>	Number of ordinal categories
<code>pai</code>	Uncertainty parameter
<code>csi</code>	Feeling parameter

Value

The vector of the probability distribution of a CUB model.

References

Piccolo D. (2003). On the moments of a mixture of uniform and shifted binomial random variables. *Quaderni di Statistica*, **5**, 85–104

See Also

[bitcsi](#), [probcub0q](#), [probcubp0](#), [probcubpq](#)

Examples

```
m<-9
pai<-0.3
csi<-0.8
pr<-probcub00(m,pai,csi)
plot(1:m,pr,type="h",main="CUB probability distribution",xlab="Ordinal categories")
points(1:m,pr,pch=19)
```

<code>probcub0q</code>	<i>Probability distribution of a CUB model with covariates for the feeling component</i>
------------------------	--

Description

Compute the probability distribution of a CUB model with covariates for the feeling component.

Usage

```
probcub0q(m,ordinal,W,pai,gama)
```

Arguments

<code>m</code>	Number of ordinal categories
<code>ordinal</code>	Vector of ordinal responses
<code>W</code>	Matrix of covariates for explaining the feeling component $NCOL(Y)+1$ to include an intercept term in the model (first entry)
<code>pai</code>	Uncertainty parameter
<code>gama</code>	Vector of parameters for the feeling component, whose length equals $NCOL(W)+1$ to include an intercept term in the model (first entry)

Value

A vector of the same length as `ordinal`, whose i -th component is the probability of the i -th observation according to a CUB distribution with the corresponding values of the covariates for the feeling component and coefficients specified in `gama`.

References

- Piccolo D. (2006). Observed Information Matrix for MUB Models, *Quaderni di Statistica*, **8**, 33–78
- Piccolo D. and D’Elia A. (2008). A new approach for modelling consumers’ preferences, *Food Quality and Preference*, **18**, 247–259
- Iannario M. and Piccolo D. (2012). CUB models: Statistical methods and empirical evidence, in: Kenett R. S. and Salini S. (eds.), *Modern Analysis of Customer Surveys: with applications using R*, J. Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 231–258

See Also

[bitgama](#), [probcub00](#), [probcubp0](#), [probcubpq](#)

Examples

```
data(relgoods)
m<-10
naord<-which(is.na(relgoods$Physician))
nacov<-which(is.na(relgoods$Gender))
na<-union(naord,nacov)
ordinal<-relgoods$Physician[-na]
W<-relgoods$Gender[-na]
pai<-0.44; gama<-c(-0.91,-0.7)
pr<-probcub0q(m,ordinal,W,pai,gama)
```

probcubp0

Probability distribution of a CUB model with covariates for the uncertainty component

Description

Compute the probability distribution of a CUB model with covariates for the uncertainty component.

Usage

```
probcubp0(m,ordinal,Y,bet,csi)
```

Arguments

m	Number of ordinal categories
ordinal	Vector of ordinal responses
Y	Matrix of covariates for explaining the uncertainty component
bet	Vector of parameters for the uncertainty component, whose length equals NCOL(Y) + 1 to include an intercept term in the model (first entry)
csi	Feeling parameter

Value

A vector of the same length as `ordinal`, whose *i*-th component is the probability of the *i*-th observation according to a CUB model with the corresponding values of the covariates for the uncertainty component and coefficients for the covariates specified in `bet`.

References

- Piccolo D. (2006). Observed Information Matrix for MUB Models, *Quaderni di Statistica*, **8**, 33–78
- Piccolo D. and D’Elia A. (2008). A new approach for modelling consumers’ preferences, *Food Quality and Preference*, **18**, 247–259
- Iannario M. and Piccolo D. (2012). CUB models: Statistical methods and empirical evidence, in: Kenett R. S. and Salini S. (eds.), *Modern Analysis of Customer Surveys: with applications using R*, J. Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 231–258

See Also

[bitgama](#), [probcub00](#), [probcubpq](#), [probcub0q](#)

Examples

```
data(relgoods)
m<-10
naord<-which(is.na(relgoods$Physician))
nacov<-which(is.na(relgoods$Gender))
na<-union(naord,nacov)
ordinal<-relgoods$Physician[-na]
Y<-relgoods$Gender[-na]
bet<-c(-0.81,0.93); csi<-0.20
probi<-probcubp0(m,ordinal,Y,bet,csi)
```

probcubpq	<i>Probability distribution of a CUB model with covariates for both feeling and uncertainty</i>
-----------	---

Description

Compute the probability distribution of a CUB model with covariates for both the feeling and the uncertainty components.

Usage

```
probcubpq(m,ordinal,Y,W,bet,gama)
```

Arguments

m	Number of ordinal categories
ordinal	Vector of ordinal responses
Y	Matrix of covariates for explaining the uncertainty component
W	Matrix of covariates for explaining the feeling component
bet	Vector of parameters for the uncertainty component, whose length equals $\text{NCOL}(Y) + 1$ to include an intercept term in the model (first entry)
gama	Vector of parameters for the feeling component, whose length equals $\text{NCOL}(W)+1$ to include an intercept term in the model (first entry)

Value

A vector of the same length as `ordinal`, whose i -th component is the probability of the i -th rating according to a CUB distribution with given covariates for both uncertainty and feeling, and specified coefficients vectors `bet` and `gama`, respectively.

References

- Piccolo D. (2006). Observed Information Matrix for MUB Models, *Quaderni di Statistica*, **8**, 33–78
- Piccolo D. and D’Elia A. (2008). A new approach for modelling consumers’ preferences, *Food Quality and Preference*, **18**, 247–259
- Iannario M. and Piccolo D. (2012). CUB models: Statistical methods and empirical evidence, in: Kenett R. S. and Salini S. (eds.), *Modern Analysis of Customer Surveys: with applications using R*, J. Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 231–258

See Also

[bitgama](#), [probcub00](#), [probcubp0](#), [probcub0q](#)

Examples

```

data(relgoods)
m<-10
naord<-which(is.na(relgoods$Physician))
nacov<-which(is.na(relgoods$Gender))
na<-union(naord,nacov)
ordinal<-relgoods$Physician[-na]
W<-Y<-relgoods$Gender[-na]
gama<-c(-0.91,-0.7); bet<-c(-0.81,0.93)
probi<-probcubppq(m,ordinal,Y,W,bet,gama)

```

relgoods

Relational goods and Leisure time dataset

Description

Dataset consists of the results of a survey aimed at measuring the evaluation of people living in the metropolitan area of Naples, Italy, with respect to of relational goods and leisure time collected in December 2014. Every participant was asked to assess on a 10 point ordinal scale his/her personal score for several relational goods (for instance, time dedicated to friends and family) and to leisure time. In addition, the survey asked respondents to self-evaluate their level of happiness by marking a sign along a horizontal line of 110 millimeters according to their feeling, with the left-most extremity standing for "extremely unhappy", and the right-most extremity corresponding to the status "extremely happy".

Usage

```
data(relgoods)
```

Format

The description of subjects' covariates is the following:

ID An identification number

Gender A factor with levels: 0 = man, 1 = woman

BirthMonth A variable indicating the month of birth of the respondent

BirthYear A variable indicating the year of birth of the respondent

Family A factor variable indicating the number of members of the family

Year.12 A factor with levels: 1 = if there is any child aged less than 12 in the family, 0 = otherwise

EducationDegree A factor with levels: 1 = compulsory school, 2 = high school diploma, 3 = Graduated-Bachelor degree, 4 = Graduated-Master degree, 5 = Post graduated

MaritalStatus A factor with levels: 1 = Unmarried, 2 = Married/Cohabitee, 3 = Separated/Divorced, 4 = Widower

Residence A factor with levels: 1 = City of Naples, 2 = District of Naples, 3 = Others Campania, 4 = Others Italia, 5 = Foreign countries

- Glasses A factor with levels: 1 = wearing glasses or contact lenses, 0 = otherwise
- RightHand A factor with levels: 1 = right-handed, 0 = left-handed
- Smoking A factor with levels: 1 = smoker, 0 = not smoker
- WalkAlone A factor with levels: 1 = usually walking alone, 0 = usually walking in company
- job A factor with levels: 1 = Not working, 2 = Retired, 3 = occasionally, 4 = fixed-term job, 5 = permanent job
- PlaySport A factor with levels: 1 = Not playing any sport, 2 = Yes, individual sport, 3 = Yes, team sport
- Pets A factor with levels: 1 = owning a pet, 0 = not owning any pet

1. Respondents were asked to evaluate the following items on a 10 point Likert scale, ranging from 1 = "never, at all" to 10 = "always, a lot":

- WalkOut How often the respondent goes out for a walk
- Parents How often respondent talks at least to one of his/her parents
- MeetRelatives How often respondent meets his/her relatives
- Association Frequency of involvement in volunteering or different kinds of associations/parties, etc
- RelFriends Quality of respondent's relationships with friends
- RelNeighbours Quality of the relationships with neighbors
- NeedHelp Easiness in asking help whenever in need
- Environment Level of comfort with the surrounding environment
- Safety Level of safety in the streets
- EndofMonth Family making ends meet
- MeetFriend Number of times the respondent met his/her friends during the month preceding the interview
- Physician Importance of the kindness/sympathy in the selection of respondent's physician
- Happiness Each respondent was asked to mark a sign on a 110mm horizontal line according to his/her feeling of happiness (left endpoint corresponding to completely unhappy, right-most endpoint corresponding to extremely happy)

2. The same respondents were asked to score the activities for leisure time listed below, according to their involvement/degree of amusement, on a 10 point Likert scale ranging from 1 = "At all, nothing, never" to 10 = "Totally, extremely important, always":

- Videogames
- Reading
- Cinema
- Drawing
- Shopping
- Writing
- Bicycle
- Tv
- StayWFriend Spending time with friends
- Groups Taking part to associations, meetings, etc.

Walking
 HandWork Hobby, gardening, sewing, etc.
 Internet
 Sport
 SocialNetwork
 Gym
 Quiz Crosswords, sudoku, etc.
 MusicInstr Playing a musical instrument
 GoAroundCar Hanging out by car
 Dog Walking out the dog
 GoOutEat Go to restaurants/pubs

Details

Period of data collection: December 2014
 Mode of collection: questionnaire
 Number of observations: 2459
 Number of subjects' covariates: 16
 Number of analyzed items: 34
 Warning: with a limited number of missing values

summary.fastCUB	<i>S3 method: summary for class "fastCUB"</i>
-----------------	---

Description

S3 method summary for objects of class `fastCUB`.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'fastCUB'
summary(object, correlation = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class <code>fastCUB</code>
correlation	Logical: should the estimated correlation matrix be returned? Default is FALSE
...	Other arguments

Value

Extended summary results of the fitting procedure, including parameter estimates, their standard errors and Wald statistics, maximized log-likelihood compared with that of the saturated model and of a Uniform sample. AIC, BIC and ICOMP indeces are also displayed for model selection. Execution time and number of executed iterations for the fitting procedure are also returned.

univer

*Evaluation of the Orientation Services 2002***Description**

A sample survey on students evaluation of the Orientation services was conducted across the 13 Faculties of University of Naples Federico II in five waves: participants were asked to express their ratings on a 7 point scale (1 = "very unsatisfied", 7 = "extremely satisfied"). Here dataset collected during 2002 is loaded.

Usage

```
data(univer)
```

Format

The description of subjects' covariates is:

Faculty A factor variable, with levels ranging from 1 to 13 indicating the coding for the different university faculties

Freqserv A factor with levels: 0 = for not regular users, 1 = for regular users

Age Variable indicating the age of the respondent in years

Gender A factor with levels: 0 = man, 1 = woman

Diploma A factor with levels: 1 = classic studies, 2 = scientific studies, 3 = linguistic, 4 = Professional, 5 = Technical/Accountancy, 6 = others

Residence A factor with levels: 1 = city NA, 2 = district NA, 3 = others

ChangeFa A factor with levels: 1 = changed faculty, 2 = not changed faculty

Analyzed ordinal variables (Likert ordinal scale): 1 = "extremely unsatisfied", 2 = "very unsatisfied", 3 = "unsatisfied", 4 = "indifferent", 5 = "satisfied", 6 = "very satisfied", 7 = "extremely satisfied"

Informat Level of satisfaction about the collected information

Willingn Level of satisfaction about the willingness of the staff

Officeho Judgment about the Office hours

Competen Judgement about the competence of the staff

Global Global satisfaction

Details

Period of data collection: 2002

Mode of collection: questionnaire

Number of observations: 2179

Number of subjects' covariates: 7

Number of analyzed items: 5

vcov.fastCUB	<i>S3 method vcov() for class "fastCUB"</i>
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Description

S3 method: vcov for objects of class [fastCUB](#).

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'fastCUB'  
vcov(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class fastCUB
...	Other arguments

Value

Variance-covariance matrix of the final ML estimates for parameters of the fitted CUB model. It is computed on the basis of Louis' identity within the EM algorithm.

See Also

[fastCUB](#)

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