

Package ‘SimReg’

May 7, 2026

Type Package

Title Similarity Regression

Version 3.4

Date 2024-02-20

Encoding UTF-8

Author Daniel Greene

Maintainer Daniel Greene <dg333@cam.ac.uk>

Description Similarity regression, evaluating the probability of association between sets of ontological terms and binary response vector. A no-association model is compared with one in which the log odds of a true response is linked to the semantic similarity between terms and a latent characteristic ontological profile - 'Phenotype Similarity Regression for Identifying the Genetic Determinants of Rare Diseases', Greene et al 2016 <[doi:10.1016/j.ajhg.2016.01.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajhg.2016.01.008)>.

License GPL (>= 2)

Imports Rcpp (>= 0.11.1), ontologyIndex (>= 2.0), ontologySimilarity (>= 2.0), ontologyPlot

LinkingTo Rcpp

Depends R (>= 3.0.0)

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown

VignetteBuilder knitr

RoxygenNote 7.3.1

NeedsCompilation yes

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-02-21 04:00:02 UTC

Contents

SimReg-package	2
get_terms	3

get_term_marginals	3
log_BF	4
plot.sim_reg_summary	4
plot_term_marginals	5
posterior_prediction	5
print.sim_reg_output	6
print.sim_reg_summary	7
prob_association	7
sim_reg	8
summary.sim_reg_output	9
sum_log_probs	10
term_marginals	10

Index	11
--------------	-----------

SimReg-package	<i>Similarity Regression Functions</i>
----------------	--

Description

Functions for performing Bayesian similarity regression, and evaluating the probability of association between sets of ontological terms and binary response vector. A random model is compared with one in which the log odds of a true response is linked to the semantic similarity between terms and a latent characteristic ontological profile.

Details

Key functions include `sim_reg`, for similarity regression of binary response variable against an ontologically encoded predictor. An example application would be inferring the probability of association between the presence of a rare genetic variant conditional on an ontologically encoded phenotype.

Author(s)

Daniel Greene <dg333@cam.ac.uk>

Maintainer: Daniel Greene <dg333@cam.ac.uk>

References

D. Greene, NIHR BioResource, S. Richardson, E. Turro, 'Phenotype similarity regression for identifying the genetic determinants of rare diseases', *The American Journal of Human Genetics* 98, 1-10, March 3, 2016.

get_terms	<i>Get full set of terms to use in inference procedure based on similarity function arguments</i>
-----------	---

Description

Get full set of terms to use in inference procedure based on similarity function arguments

Usage

```
get_terms(args)
```

Arguments

args	Named list of named arguments which gets passed to ontological similarity function by <code>sim_reg</code> .
------	--

Value

Character vector of term IDs.

get_term_marginals	<i>Calculate marginal probability of terms inclusion in phi from sim_reg_out object</i>
--------------------	---

Description

Calculate marginal probability of terms inclusion in phi from `sim_reg_out` object

Usage

```
get_term_marginals(sim_reg_out)
```

Arguments

sim_reg_out	Object of class <code>sim_reg_output</code> .
-------------	---

Value

Numeric vector of probabilities, named by term ID.

log_BF	<i>Calculate log Bayes factor for similarity the model, gamma=1 and baseline model, gamma=0.</i>
--------	--

Description

Calculate log Bayes factor for similarity the model, gamma=1 and baseline model, gamma=0.

Usage

```
log_BF(x, ...)
```

```
## Default S3 method:
```

```
log_BF(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'sim_reg_output'
```

```
log_BF(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x	list of term sets or sim_reg_output object.
...	If x is a list term sets, other arguments to pass to sim_reg , otherwise this is not used.

Value

Numeric value.

plot.sim_reg_summary	<i>Plot summary of sim_reg_output object</i>
----------------------	--

Description

Plot summary of sim_reg_output object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sim_reg_summary'
```

```
plot(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'sim_reg_output'
```

```
plot(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x	Object of class sim_reg_summary.
...	Additional arguments to pass to plot_term_marginals .

plot_term_marginals *Create ontological plot of marginal probabilities of terms*

Description

Create ontological plot of marginal probabilities of terms

Usage

```
plot_term_marginals(  
  ontology,  
  term_marginals,  
  max_terms = 10,  
  min_probability = 0.01,  
  ...  
)
```

Arguments

ontology	ontology_index object.
term_marginals	Numeric vector of marginal probabilities of inclusion in ϕ for individual terms, named by the term IDs.
max_terms	Maximum number of terms to include in plot. Note that additional terms may be included when terms have the same marginal probability, and common ancestor terms are included.
min_probability	Threshold probability of inclusion in ϕ for triggering inclusion in plot.
...	Additional arguments to pass to onto_plot

posterior_prediction *Predicted probability of y given x conditional on association and given data.*

Description

Predicted probability of y given x conditional on association and given data.

Usage

```
posterior_prediction(  
  ontology,  
  x,  
  y,  
  sim_reg_out,
```

```

x_new = x,
information_content = get_term_info_content(ontology, x),
sim_params = list(ontology = ontology, information_content = information_content),
two_way = TRUE,
prediction_fn = NULL,
min_ratio = 0.001,
...
)

```

Arguments

ontology	ontology_index object.
x	list of character vectors of ontological terms.
y	logical response vector.
sim_reg_out	Object of class sim_reg_output.
x_new	New list of ontological term sets to perform prediction on. Defaults to x.
information_content	Numeric vector of information contents of terms named by term ID. Defaults to information content based on frequencies of annotation in x.
sim_params	List of arguments to pass to get_asym_sim_grid.
two_way	Boolean value determining whether to calculate semantic similarity 'in both directions' (i.e. compute s_x and s_phi or just s_phi).
prediction_fn	Function for computing predicted probabilities for y[i]=TRUE.
min_ratio	Threshold for fraction of posterior probability which sampled phi must hold in order to be included in sum.
...	Additional arguments to pass to prediction_fn.

Value

Vector of predicted probabilities corresponding to term sets in x_new.

`print.sim_reg_output` *Print sim_reg_output object*

Description

Print sim_reg_output object

Usage

```

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

```

Arguments

x	Object of class sim_reg_output.
...	Non-used arguments.

`print.sim_reg_summary` *Print sim_reg_summary object*

Description

Print `sim_reg_summary` object

Usage

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

Arguments

<code>x</code>	Object of class <code>sim_reg_summary</code> .
<code>...</code>	Non-used arguments.

`prob_association` *Calculate probability of association between y and x*

Description

Calculate probability of association between y and x

Usage

```
prob_association(..., prior = 0.05)
```

Arguments

<code>...</code>	Arguments to pass to <code>log_BF</code> .
<code>prior</code>	Numeric value determining prior probability that $\gamma=1$.

Value

Numeric value.

sim_reg

*Similarity regression***Description**

Performs Bayesian ‘similarity regression’ on given logical response vector y against list of ontological term sets x . It returns an object of class `sim_reg_output`. Of particular interest are the probability of an association, which can be calculated with `prob_association`, and the characteristic ontological profile ϕ , which can be visualised using the functions `plot_term_marginals`, and `term_marginals`). The results can be summarised with `summary`.

Usage

```
sim_reg(
  ontology,
  x,
  y,
  information_content = get_term_info_content(ontology, x),
  sim_params = list(ontology = ontology, information_content = information_content),
  using_terms = get_terms(sim_params),
  term_weights = rep(0, length(using_terms)),
  prior = discrete_gamma(using_terms),
  min_BF = -Inf,
  max_select = 2000L,
  max_phi_count = 200L,
  two_way = TRUE,
  selection_fn = fg_step_tab(N = length(y)),
  lik_method = NULL,
  lik_method_args = list(),
  gamma0_ml = bg_rate,
  min_ratio = 1e-04,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>ontology</code>	ontology_index object.
<code>x</code>	list of character vectors of ontological terms.
<code>y</code>	logical response vector.
<code>information_content</code>	Numeric vector of information contents of terms named by term ID. Defaults to information content based on frequencies of annotation in x .
<code>sim_params</code>	List of arguments to pass to <code>get_asym_sim_grid</code> .
<code>using_terms</code>	Character vector of term IDs giving the complete set of terms to include in the the ϕ parameter space.

term_weights	Numeric vector of prior weights for individual terms.
prior	Function for computing the unweighted prior probability of a phi value.
min_BF	Bayes factor threshold below which to terminate computation, enabling faster execution time at the expense of accuracy and precision.
max_select	Upper bound for number of phi values to sample.
max_phi_count	Upper bound for number of phi values to include in final likelihood sum.
two_way	Boolean value determining whether to calculate semantic similarity 'in both directions' (i.e. compute s_x and s_phi or just s_phi).
selection_fn	Function for selecting values of phi with high posterior mass.
lik_method	Function for calculating marginal likelihood conditional on values of phi.
lik_method_args	List of additional arguments to pass to lik_method.
gamma0_ml	Function for computing marginal likelihood of data under baseline model gamma=0.
min_ratio	Lower bound on ratio below which to discard phi values.
...	Additional arguments to pass to selection_fn.

```
summary.sim_reg_output
```

Get summary of sim_reg_output object

Description

Get summary of sim_reg_output object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sim_reg_output'
summary(object, prior = 0.05, ...)
```

Arguments

object	Object of class sim_reg_output.
prior	Prior probability of association.
...	Non-used arguments.

sum_log_probs	<i>Calculate sum of log probabilities on log scale without over/under-flow</i>
---------------	--

Description

Calculate sum of log probabilities on log scale without over/under-flow

Usage

```
sum_log_probs(log_probs)
```

Arguments

log_probs Numeric vector of probabilities on log scale.

Value

Numeric value on log scale.

term_marginals	<i>Calculate marginal probability of terms inclusion in phi</i>
----------------	---

Description

Calculate marginal probability of terms inclusion in phi

Usage

```
term_marginals(...)
```

Arguments

... Arguments to pass to [sim_reg](#).

Value

Numeric vector of probabilities, named by term ID.

Index

`get_term_marginals`, 3
`get_terms`, 3

`log_BF`, 4, 7

`plot.sim_reg_output`
 (`plot.sim_reg_summary`), 4
`plot.sim_reg_summary`, 4
`plot_term_marginals`, 4, 5, 8
`posterior_prediction`, 5
`print.sim_reg_output`, 6
`print.sim_reg_summary`, 7
`prob_association`, 7, 8

`sim_reg`, 4, 8, 10
`SimReg` (`SimReg-package`), 2
`SimReg-package`, 2
`sum_log_probs`, 10
`summary.sim_reg_output`, 9

`term_marginals`, 8, 10