# Package: semidist (via r-universe)

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Type Package

Title Measure Dependence Between Categorical and Continuous Variables

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**Description** Semi-distance and mean-variance (MV) index are proposed to measure the dependence between a categorical random variable and a continuous variable. Test of independence and feature screening for classification problems can be implemented via the two dependence measures. For the details of the methods, see Zhong et al. (2023) <doi:10.1080/01621459.2023.2284988>; Cui and Zhong (2019) <doi:10.1016/j.csda.2019.05.004>; Cui, Li and Zhong (2015) <doi:10.1080/01621459.2014.920256>.

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## **Description**

Implement the mutual information independence test (MINT) (Berrett and Samworth, 2019), but with some modification in estimating the mutual information (MI) between a categorical random variable and a continuous variable. The modification is based on the idea of Ross (2014).

MINTsemiperm() implements the permutation independence test via mutual information, but the parameter k should be pre-specified.

MINTsemiauto() automatically selects an appropriate k based on a data-driven procedure, and conducts MINTsemiperm() with the k chosen.

# Usage

```
MINTsemiperm(X, y, k, B = 1000)

MINTsemiauto(X, y, kmax, B1 = 1000, B2 = 1000)
```

## **Arguments**

X	Data of multivariate continuous variables, which should be an $n$ -by- $p$ matrix, or, a vector of length $n$ (for univariate variable).
У	Data of categorical variables, which should be a factor of length $n$ .
k	Number of nearest neighbor. See References for details.
B, B1, B2	Number of permutations to use. Defaults to 1000.
kmax	Maximum k in the automatic search for optimal k.

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### Value

A list with class "indtest" containing the following components

- method: name of the test;
- name\_data: names of the X and y;
- n: sample size of the data;
- num\_perm: number of replications in permutation test;
- stat: test statistic;
- pvalue: computed p-value.

For MINTsemiauto(), the list also contains

- kmax: maximum k in the automatic search for optimal k;
- kopt: optimal k chosen.

#### References

- 1. Berrett, Thomas B., and Richard J. Samworth. "Nonparametric independence testing via mutual information." *Biometrika* 106, no. 3 (2019): 547-566.
- 2. Ross, Brian C. "Mutual information between discrete and continuous data sets." *PloS one* 9, no. 2 (2014): e87357.

## **Examples**

```
X <- mtcars[, c("mpg", "disp", "drat", "wt")]
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])

MINTsemiperm(X, y, 5)
MINTsemiauto(X, y, kmax = 32)</pre>
```

mν

Mean Variance (MV) statistics

### **Description**

Compute the statistics of mean variance (MV) index, which can measure the dependence between a univariate continuous variable and a categorical variable. See Cui, Li and Zhong (2015); Cui and Zhong (2019) for details.

## Usage

```
mv(x, y, return_mat = FALSE)
```

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## **Arguments**

n.
n

y Data of categorical variables, which should be a factor of length n.

return\_mat A boolean. If FALSE (the default), only the calculated statistic is returned. If

TRUE, also return the matrix of the indicator for  $x \le x_i$ , which is useful for the

permutation test.

#### Value

The value of the corresponding sample statistic.

If the argument return\_mat of mv() is set as TRUE, a list with elements

- mv: the MV index statistic;
- mat\_x: the matrices of the distances of the indicator for  $x \le x_i$ ;

will be returned.

### See Also

- mv\_test() for implementing independence test via MV index;
- mv\_sis() for implementing feature screening via MV index.

```
x <- mtcars[, "mpg"]
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])
print(mv(x, y))

# Man-made independent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 5; prob <- rep(1/R, R)
x <- rnorm(n)
y <- factor(sample(1:R, size = n, replace = TRUE, prob = prob), levels = 1:R)
print(mv(x, y))

# Man-made functionally dependent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 3
x <- rep(0, n)
x[1:10] <- 0.3; x[11:20] <- 0.2; x[21:30] <- -0.1
y <- factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
print(mv(x, y))</pre>
```

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mv_s	S1S

Feature screening via MV Index

# Description

Implement the feature screening for the classification problem via MV index.

## Usage

```
mv_sis(X, y, d = NULL, parallel = FALSE)
```

## **Arguments**

Χ	Data of multivariate covariates, which should be an $n$ -by- $p$ matrix.
у	Data of categorical response, which should be a factor of length $n$ .
d	An integer specifying how many features should be kept after screening. Defaults to NULL. If NULL, then it will be set as $[n/log(n)]$ , where $[x]$ denotes the integer part of x.
parallel	A boolean indicating whether to calculate parallelly via furrr::future_map. Defaults to FALSE.

## Value

A list of the objects about the implemented feature screening:

- measurement: sample MV index calculated for each single covariate;
- selected: indicies or names (if avaiable as colnames of X) of covariates that are selected after feature screening;
- ordering: order of the calculated measurements of each single covariate. The first one is the largest, and the last is the smallest.

```
X <- mtcars[, c("mpg", "disp", "hp", "drat", "wt", "qsec")]
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])
mv_sis(X, y, d = 4)</pre>
```

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mv\_test

MV independence test

## **Description**

Implement the MV independence test via permutation test, or via the asymptotic approximation

### Usage

```
mv_test(x, y, test_type = "perm", num_perm = 10000)
```

### **Arguments**

 ${\sf x}$  Data of univariate continuous variables, which should be a vector of length n.

y Data of categorical variables, which should be a factor of length n.

test\_type Type of the test:

• "perm" (the default): Implement the test via permutation test;

• "asym": Implement the test via the asymptotic approximation.

See the Reference for details.

num\_perm The number of replications in permutation test.

### Value

A list with class "indtest" containing the following components

- method: name of the test;
- name\_data: names of the x and y;
- n: sample size of the data;
- num\_perm: number of replications in permutation test;
- stat: test statistic;
- pvalue: computed p-value. (Notice: asymptotic test cannot return a p-value, but only the critical values crit\_vals for 90%, 95% and 99% confidence levels.)

```
x <- mtcars[, "mpg"]
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])
test <- mv_test(x, y)
print(test)
test_asym <- mv_test(x, y, test_type = "asym")
print(test_asym)

# Man-made independent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 5; prob <- rep(1/R, R)
x <- rnorm(n)</pre>
```

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```
y <- factor(sample(1:R, size = n, replace = TRUE, prob = prob), levels = 1:R)
test <- mv_test(x, y)
print(test)
test_asym <- mv_test(x, y, test_type = "asym")
print(test_asym)

# Man-made functionally dependent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 3
x <- rep(0, n)
x[1:10] <- 0.3; x[11:20] <- 0.2; x[21:30] <- -0.1
y <- factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
test <- mv_test(x, y)
print(test)
test_asym <- mv_test(x, y, test_type = "asym")
print(test_asym)</pre>
```

print.indtest

Print Method for Independence Tests Between Categorical and Continuous Variables

## **Description**

Printing object of class "indtest", by simple print method.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'indtest'
print(x, digits = getOption("digits"), ...)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x "indtest" class object.digits minimal number of significant digits.... further arguments passed to or from other methods.
```

#### Value

None

```
# Man-made functionally dependent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 3
x <- rep(0, n)
x[1:10] <- 0.3; x[11:20] <- 0.2; x[21:30] <- -0.1
y <- factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
test <- mv_test(x, y)
print(test)</pre>
```

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```
test_asym <- mv_test(x, y, test_type = "asym")
print(test_asym)</pre>
```

sdcov

Semi-distance covariance and correlation statistics

## Description

Compute the statistics (or sample estimates) of semi-distance covariance and correlation. The semi-distance correlation is a standardized version of semi-distance covariance, and it can measure the dependence between a *multivariate* continuous variable and a categorical variable. See Details for the definition of semi-distance covariance and semi-distance correlation.

## Usage

```
sdcov(X, y, type = "V", return_mat = FALSE)
sdcor(X, y)
```

## **Arguments**

 ${\sf X}$  Data of multivariate continuous variables, which should be an n-by-p matrix, or,

a vector of length n (for univariate variable).

y Data of categorical variables, which should be a factor of length n.

type Type of statistic: "V" (the default) or "U". See Details.

return\_mat A boolean. If FALSE (the default), only the calculated statistic is returned. If

TRUE, also return the matrix of the distances of X and the divergences of y,

which is useful for the permutation test.

## **Details**

For  $X \in \mathbb{R}^p$  and  $Y \in \{1, 2, \dots, R\}$ , the (population-level) semi-distance covariance is defined as

$$\operatorname{SDcov}(\boldsymbol{X}, Y) = \operatorname{E}\left[\|\boldsymbol{X} - \widetilde{\boldsymbol{X}}\| \left(1 - \sum_{r=1}^{R} I(Y = r, \widetilde{Y} = r)/p_r\right)\right],$$

where  $p_r = P(Y = r)$  and  $(\widetilde{\boldsymbol{X}}, \widetilde{Y})$  is an iid copy of  $(\boldsymbol{X}, Y)$ . The (population-level) semi-distance correlation is defined as

$$\mathrm{SDcor}(\boldsymbol{X}, Y) = \frac{\mathrm{SDcov}(\boldsymbol{X}, Y)}{\mathrm{dvar}(\boldsymbol{X})\sqrt{R-1}},$$

where dvar(X) is the distance variance (Szekely, Rizzo, and Bakirov 2007) of X.

With n observations  $\{(X_i, Y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ , sdcov() and sdcor() can compute the sample estimates for the semi-distance covariance and correlation.

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If type = "V", the semi-distance covariance statistic is computed as a V-statistic, which takes a very similar form as the energy-based statistic with double centering, and is always non-negative. Specifically,

$$SDcov_n(X, y) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n A_{kl} B_{kl},$$

where

$$A_{kl} = a_{kl} - \bar{a}_{k.} - \bar{a}_{.l} + \bar{a}_{..}$$

is the double centering (Szekely, Rizzo, and Bakirov 2007) of  $a_{kl} = \|\boldsymbol{X}_k - \boldsymbol{X}_l\|$ , and

$$B_{kl} = 1 - \sum_{r=1}^{R} I(Y_k = r)I(Y_l = r)/\hat{p}_r$$

with  $\hat{p}_r = n_r/n = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n I(Y_i = r)$ . The semi-distance correlation statistic is

$$SDcor_n(\boldsymbol{X}, y) = \frac{SDcov_n(\boldsymbol{X}, y)}{dvar_n(\boldsymbol{X})\sqrt{R-1}},$$

where  $dvar_n(X)$  is the V-statistic of distance variance of X.

If type = "U", then the semi-distance covariance statistic is computed as an "estimated U-statistic", which is utilized in the independence test statistic and is not necessarily non-negative. Specifically,

$$\widetilde{\mathrm{SDcov}}_n(\boldsymbol{X}, y) = \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i \neq j} \|\boldsymbol{X}_i - \boldsymbol{X}_j\| \left( 1 - \sum_{r=1}^R I(Y_i = r) I(Y_j = r) / \tilde{p}_r \right),$$

where  $\tilde{p}_r = (n_r - 1)/(n-1) = (n-1)^{-1}(\sum_{i=1}^n I(Y_i = r) - 1)$ . Note that the test statistic of the semi-distance independence test is

$$T_n = n \cdot \widetilde{\mathrm{SDcov}}_n(\boldsymbol{X}, y).$$

#### Value

The value of the corresponding sample statistic.

If the argument return\_mat of sdcov() is set as TRUE, a list with elements

- sdcov: the semi-distance covariance statistic;
- mat\_x, mat\_y: the matrices of the distances of X and the divergences of y, respectively;

will be returned.

### See Also

- sd\_test() for implementing independence test via semi-distance covariance;
- sd\_sis() for implementing groupwise feature screening via semi-distance correlation.

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### **Examples**

```
X <- mtcars[, c("mpg", "disp", "drat", "wt")]</pre>
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])</pre>
print(sdcov(X, y))
print(sdcor(X, y))
# Man-made independent data --------
n \leftarrow 30; R \leftarrow 5; p \leftarrow 3; prob \leftarrow rep(1/R, R)
X <- matrix(rnorm(n*p), n, p)</pre>
y <- factor(sample(1:R, size = n, replace = TRUE, prob = prob), levels = 1:R)
print(sdcov(X, y))
print(sdcor(X, y))
# Man-made functionally dependent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 3; p <- 3
X \leftarrow matrix(0, n, p)
X[1:10, 1] \leftarrow 1; X[11:20, 2] \leftarrow 1; X[21:30, 3] \leftarrow 1
y \leftarrow factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
print(sdcov(X, y))
print(sdcor(X, y))
```

 $sd_sis$ 

Feature screening via semi-distance correlation

## Description

Implement the (grouped) feature screening for the classification problem via semi-distance correlation.

### Usage

```
sd_sis(X, y, group_info = NULL, d = NULL, parallel = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

X Data of multivariate covariates, which should be an n-by-p matrix.

y Data of categorical response, which should be a factor of length n.

group\_info

A list specifying the group information, with elements being sets of indicies of covariates in a same group. For example, list(c(1, 2, 3), c(4, 5)) specifies that covariates 1, 2, 3 are in a group and covariates 4, 5 are in another group.

Defaults to NULL. If NULL, then it will be set as list(1, 2, ..., p), that is, treat each single covariate as a group.

If X has colnames, then the colnames can be used to specified the group\_info. For example, list(c("a", "b"), c("c", "d")).

The names of the list can help recognize the group. For example, list(grp\_ab = c("a", "b"), grp\_cd = c("c", "d")). If names of the list are not specified, c("Grp 1", "Grp 2", ..., "Grp J") will be applied.

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An integer specifying at least how many (single) features should be kept after screening. For example, if group\_info = list(c(1, 2), c(3, 4)) and d = 3, then all features 1, 2, 3, 4 must be selected since it should guarantee at least 3 features are kept.

Defaults to NULL. If NULL, then it will be set as [n/log(n)], where [x] denotes the integer part of x.

parallel A boolean indicating whether to calculate parallelly via furrr::future\_map. Defaults to FALSE.

#### Value

A list of the objects about the implemented feature screening:

- group\_info: group information;
- measurement: sample semi-distance correlations calculated for the groups specified in group\_info;
- selected: indicies/names of (single) covariates that are selected after feature screening;
- ordering: order of the calculated measurements of the groups specified in group\_info. The first one is the largest, and the last is the smallest.

#### See Also

sdcor() for calculating the sample semi-distance correlation.

### **Examples**

```
X <- mtcars[, c("mpg", "disp", "hp", "drat", "wt", "qsec")]
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])

sd_sis(X, y, d = 4)

# Suppose we have prior information for the group structure as
# ("mpg", "drat"), ("disp", "hp") and ("wt", "qsec")
group_info <- list(
    mpg_drat = c("mpg", "drat"),
    disp_hp = c("disp", "hp"),
    wt_qsec = c("wt", "qsec")
)
sd_sis(X, y, group_info, d = 4)</pre>
```

sd\_test

Semi-distance independence test

#### **Description**

Implement the semi-distance independence test via permutation test, or via the asymptotic approximation when the dimensionality of continuous variables p is high.

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## Usage

sd\_test(X, y, test\_type = "perm", num\_perm = 10000)

#### **Arguments**

X Data of multivariate continuous variables, which should be an n-by-p matrix, or,

a vector of length n (for univariate variable).

y Data of categorical variables, which should be a factor of length n.

test\_type Type of the test:

• "perm" (the default): Implement the test via permutation test;

• "asym": Implement the test via the asymptotic approximation when the dimension of continuous variables p is high.

See the Reference for details.

num\_perm The number of replications in permutation test. Defaults to 10000. See Details

and Reference.

#### **Details**

The semi-distance independence test statistic is

$$T_n = n \cdot \widetilde{\mathrm{SDcov}}_n(X, y),$$

where the  $\widetilde{\mathrm{SDcov}}_n(X,y)$  can be computed by  $\mathrm{sdcov}(X,y,\mathsf{type}="U").$ 

For the permutation test (test\_type = "perm"), totally K replications of permutation will be conducted, and the argument num\_perm specifies the K here. The p-value of permutation test is computed by

p-value = 
$$(\sum_{k=1}^{K} I(T_n^{*(k)} \ge T_n) + 1)/(K+1),$$

where  $T_n$  is the semi-distance test statistic and  $T_n^{*(k)}$  is the test statistic with k-th permutation sample.

When the dimension of the continuous variables is high, the asymptotic approximation approach can be applied (test\_type = "asym"), which is computationally faster since no permutation is needed.

### Value

A list with class "indtest" containing the following components

• method: name of the test;

• name\_data: names of the X and y;

• n: sample size of the data;

test\_type: type of the test;

• num\_perm: number of replications in permutation test, if test\_type = "perm";

• stat: test statistic;

• pvalue: computed p-value.

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#### See Also

sdcov() for computing the statistic of semi-distance covariance.

```
X <- mtcars[, c("mpg", "disp", "drat", "wt")]</pre>
y <- factor(mtcars[, "am"])</pre>
test <- sd_test(X, y)</pre>
print(test)
# Man-made independent data ------
n \leftarrow 30; R \leftarrow 5; p \leftarrow 3; prob \leftarrow rep(1/R, R)
X <- matrix(rnorm(n*p), n, p)</pre>
y <- factor(sample(1:R, size = n, replace = TRUE, prob = prob), levels = 1:R)
test <- sd_test(X, y)</pre>
print(test)
# Man-made functionally dependent data -----
n <- 30; R <- 3; p <- 3
X <- matrix(0, n, p)</pre>
X[1:10, 1] \leftarrow 1; X[11:20, 2] \leftarrow 1; X[21:30, 3] \leftarrow 1
y \leftarrow factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
test <- sd_test(X, y)</pre>
print(test)
#' Man-made high-dimensionally independent data -----
n \leftarrow 30; R \leftarrow 3; p \leftarrow 100
X \leftarrow matrix(rnorm(n*p), n, p)
y \leftarrow factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
test <- sd_test(X, y)</pre>
print(test)
test <- sd_test(X, y, test_type = "asym")</pre>
print(test)
# Man-made high-dimensionally dependent data ------
n <- 30; R <- 3; p <- 100
X \leftarrow matrix(0, n, p)
X[1:10, 1] \leftarrow 1; X[11:20, 2] \leftarrow 1; X[21:30, 3] \leftarrow 1
y \leftarrow factor(rep(1:3, each = 10))
test <- sd_test(X, y)</pre>
print(test)
test <- sd_test(X, y, test_type = "asym")</pre>
print(test)
```

tr\_estimate

## **Description**

Categorical data with n observations and R levels can typically be represented as two forms in R: a factor with length n, or an n by K indicator matrix with elements being 0 or 1. This function is to switch the form of a categorical object from one to the another.

## Usage

```
switch_cat_repr(obj)
```

# **Arguments**

obj

an object representing categorical data, either a factor or an indicator matrix with each row representing an observation.

### Value

categorical object in the another form.

tr\_estimate

Estimate the trace of the covariance matrix and its square

# Description

For a design matrix X, estimate the trace of its covariance matrix  $\Sigma = \text{cov}(X)$ , and the square of covariance matrix  $\Sigma^2$ .

## Usage

```
tr_estimate(X)
```

# Arguments

Χ

The design matrix.

## Value

A list with elements:

- tr\_S: estimate for trace of  $\Sigma$ ;
- tr\_S2: estimate for trace of  $\Sigma^2$ .

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