Package 'rstantools'

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```
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     across 'Stan'-based R packages, and vignettes with recommendations for
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```

2 rstantools-package

R topics documented:

rstantools-package
bayes_R2
log_lik
loo-prediction
posterior_epred
posterior_interval
posterior_linpred
posterior_predict
predictive_error
predictive_interval
prior_summary
rstantools_load_code
rstan_config
rstan_create_package
use_rstan

rstantools-package

Tools for Developing R Packages Interfacing with Stan

Description

Index

Stan Development Team

The **rstantools** package provides various tools for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan (https://mc-stan.org), including functions to set up the required package structure, S3 generic methods to unify function naming across Stan-based R packages, and vignettes with guidelines for developers. To get started building a package see rstan_create_package().

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bayes_R2 3

See Also

• Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

• After reading the guidelines for developers, if you have trouble setting up your package let us know on the the Stan Forums or at the **rstantools** GitHub issue tracker.

Useful links:

```
https://mc-stan.org/rstantools/https://discourse.mc-stan.org/
```

• Report bugs at https://github.com/stan-dev/rstantools/issues

bayes_R2

Generic function and default method for Bayesian R-squared

Description

Generic function and default method for Bayesian version of R-squared for regression models. A generic for LOO-adjusted R-squared is also provided. See the bayes_R2.stanreg() method in the rstanarm package for an example of defining a method.

Usage

```
bayes_R2(object, ...)
## Default S3 method:
bayes_R2(object, y, ...)
loo_R2(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The object to use.
• • •	Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the rstanarm package for examples.
У	For the default method, a vector of y values the same length as the number of columns in the matrix used as object.

Value

bayes_R2() and loo_R2() methods should return a vector of length equal to the posterior sample size.

The default bayes_R2() method just takes object to be a matrix of y-hat values (one column per observation, one row per posterior draw) and y to be a vector with length equal to ncol(object).

4 log_lik

References

Andrew Gelman, Ben Goodrich, Jonah Gabry, and Aki Vehtari (2018). R-squared for Bayesian regression models. *The American Statistician*, to appear. DOI: 10.1080/00031305.2018.1549100. (Preprint, Notebook)

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

log_lik

Generic function for pointwise log-likelihood

Description

We define a new function log_lik() rather than a stats::logLik() method because (in addition to the conceptual difference) the documentation for logLik() states that the return value will be a single number, whereas log_lik() returns a matrix. See the log_lik.stanreg() method in the **rstanarm** package for an example of defining a method.

Usage

```
log_lik(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

... Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for examples.

Value

 $log_lik()$ methods should return a S by N matrix, where S is the size of the posterior sample (the number of draws from the posterior distribution) and N is the number of data points.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

loo-prediction 5

Examples

```
# See help("log_lik", package = "rstanarm")
```

loo-prediction

Generic functions for LOO predictions

Description

See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for examples.

Usage

```
loo_linpred(object, ...)
loo_predict(object, ...)
loo_predictive_interval(object, ...)
loo_pit(object, ...)
## Default S3 method:
loo_pit(object, y, lw, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The object to use.
• • •	Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the rstanarm package for examples.
У	For the default method of loo_pit(), a vector of y values the same length as the number of columns in the matrix used as object.
lw	For the default method of loo_pit(), a matrix of log-weights of the same length as the number of columns in the matrix used as object.

Value

loo_predict(), loo_linpred(), and loo_pit() (probability integral transform) methods should return a vector with length equal to the number of observations in the data. loo_predictive_interval() methods should return a two-column matrix formatted in the same way as for predictive_interval().

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

6 posterior_interval

posterior_epred	Generic function for accessing the posterior distribution of the conditional expectation

Description

Extract the posterior draws of the conditional expectation. See the **rstanarm** package for an example.

Usage

```
posterior_epred(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for examples.

Value

posterior_epred() methods should return a D by N matrix, where D is the number of draws from the posterior distribution distribution and N is the number of data points.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

posterior_interval	Generic function and default method for posterior uncertainty intervals
--------------------	---

Description

These intervals are often referred to as credible intervals, but we use the term uncertainty intervals to highlight the fact that wider intervals correspond to greater uncertainty. See posterior_interval.stanreg() in the **rstanarm** package for an example.

posterior_interval 7

Usage

```
posterior_interval(object, ...)
## Default S3 method:
posterior_interval(object, prob = 0.9, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The object to use.
	Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the rstanarm package for examples.
prob	A number $p \in (0,1)$ indicating the desired probability mass to include in the intervals.

Value

posterior_interval() methods should return a matrix with two columns and as many rows as model parameters (or a subset of parameters specified by the user). For a given value of prob, p, the columns correspond to the lower and upper 100p\ have the names $100\alpha/2$ \ $\alpha = 1 - p$. For example, if prob=0.9 is specified (a 90\ "95\", respectively.

The default method just takes object to be a matrix (one column per parameter) and computes quantiles, with prob defaulting to 0.9.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

```
# Default method takes a numeric matrix (of posterior draws)
draws <- matrix(rnorm(100 * 5), 100, 5) # fake draws
colnames(draws) <- paste0("theta_", 1:5)
posterior_interval(draws)
# Also see help("posterior_interval", package = "rstanarm")</pre>
```

8 posterior_linpred

posterior_linpred Generic function for accessing the posterior distribution of the linear predictor

Description

Extract the posterior draws of the linear predictor, possibly transformed by the inverse-link function. See posterior_linpred.stanreg() in the rstanarm package for an example.

Usage

```
posterior_linpred(object, transform = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

transform Should the linear predictor be transformed using the inverse-link function? The

default is FALSE, in which case the untransformed linear predictor is returned.

.. Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for

examples.

Value

posterior_linpred() methods should return a D by N matrix, where D is the number of draws from the posterior distribution distribution and N is the number of data points.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

```
# See help("posterior_linpred", package = "rstanarm")
```

posterior_predict 9

posterior_predict

Generic function for drawing from the posterior predictive distribution

Description

Draw from the posterior predictive distribution of the outcome. See posterior_predict.stanreg() in the rstanarm package for an example.

Usage

```
posterior_predict(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

... Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for examples.

Value

posterior_predict() methods should return a D by N matrix, where D is the number of draws from the posterior predictive distribution and N is the number of data points being predicted per draw.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

```
# See help("posterior_predict", package = "rstanarm")
```

10 predictive_error

predictive_error

Generic function and default method for predictive errors

Description

Generic function and default method for computing predictive errors $y-y^{rep}$ (in-sample, for observed y) or $y-\tilde{y}$ (out-of-sample, for new or held-out y). See predictive_error.stanreg() in the **rstanarm** package for an example.

Usage

```
predictive_error(object, ...)
## Default S3 method:
predictive_error(object, y, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

... Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for examples.

y

For the default method, a vector of y values the same length as the number of columns in the matrix used as object.

Value

predictive_error() methods should return a D by N matrix, where D is the number of draws from the posterior predictive distribution and N is the number of data points being predicted per draw.

The default method just takes object to be a matrix and y to be a vector.

See Also

- The rstanarm package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

```
# default method
y <- rnorm(10)
ypred <- matrix(rnorm(500), 50, 10)
pred_errors <- predictive_error(ypred, y)
dim(pred_errors)
head(pred_errors)</pre>
```

predictive_interval 11

```
# Also see help("predictive_error", package = "rstanarm")
```

predictive_interval

Generic function for predictive intervals

Description

See predictive_interval.stanreg() in the rstanarm package for an example.

Usage

```
predictive_interval(object, ...)
## Default S3 method:
predictive_interval(object, prob = 0.9, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

... Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for

examples.

prob A number $p \in (0,1)$ indicating the desired probability mass to include in the

intervals.

Value

predictive_interval() methods should return a matrix with two columns and as many rows as data points being predicted. For a given value of prob, p, the columns correspond to the lower and upper $100p \setminus 100(1-\alpha/2) \setminus prob=0.9$ is specified (a 90\ would be "5%" and "95%", respectively.

The default method just takes object to be a matrix and computes quantiles, with prob defaulting to 0.9.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

12 prior_summary

Examples

```
# Default method takes a numeric matrix (of draws from posterior
# predictive distribution)
ytilde <- matrix(rnorm(100 * 5, sd = 2), 100, 5) # fake draws
predictive_interval(ytilde, prob = 0.8)
# Also see help("predictive_interval", package = "rstanarm")</pre>
```

prior_summary

Generic function for extracting information about prior distributions

Description

See prior_summary.stanreg() in the rstanarm package for an example.

Usage

```
prior_summary(object, ...)
## Default S3 method:
prior_summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object The object to use.

... Arguments passed to methods. See the methods in the **rstanarm** package for examples.

Value

prior_summary() methods should return an object containing information about the prior distribution(s) used for the given model. The structure of this object will depend on the method.

The default method just returns object\$prior.info, which is NULL if there is no 'prior.info' element.

See Also

- The **rstanarm** package (mc-stan.org/rstanarm) for example methods (CRAN, GitHub).
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.

```
# See help("prior_summary", package = "rstanarm")
```

rstantools_load_code 13

Description

Adapted from the sourceDir function defined by example(source).

Usage

```
rstantools_load_code(path, trace = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

path Path to directory containing code to load
trace Whether to print file names as they are loaded
... Additional arguments passed to source

Value

NULL

rstan_config

Configure system files for compiling Stan source code

Description

Creates or update package-specific system files to compile .stan model files found in inst/stan.

Usage

```
rstan_config(pkgdir = ".")
```

Arguments

pkgdir

Path to package root folder.

Details

The Stan source files for the package should be stored in:

- inst/stan for .stan files containing instructions to build a stanmodel object.
- inst/stan/any_subfolder for files to be included via the #include "/my_subfolder/mylib.stan" directive.
- inst/stan/any_subfolder for a license.stan file.
- inst/include for the stan_meta_header.hpp file, to be used for directly interacting with the Stan C++ libraries.

Value

Invisibly, whether or not any files were added/removed/modified by the function.

Create a new R package with compiled Stan programs rstan_create_package

Description

The rstan_create_package() function helps get you started developing a new R package that interfaces with Stan via the rstan package. First the basic package structure is set up via usethis::create_package(). Then several adjustments are made so the package can include Stan programs that can be built into binary versions (i.e., pre-compiled Stan C++ code).

The **Details** section below describes the process and the **See Also** section provides links to recommendations for developers and a step-by-step walk-through.

As of version 2.0.0 of **rstantools** the rstan_package_skeleton() function is defunct and only rstan_create_package() is supported.

Usage

```
rstan_create_package(
  path,
  fields = NULL,
  rstudio = TRUE,
  open = TRUE,
  stan_files = character(),
  roxygen = TRUE,
  travis = FALSE,
 license = TRUE,
  auto_config = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

path The path to the new package to be created (terminating in the package name).

fields, rstudio, open

Same as usethis::create_package(). See the documentation for that function, especially the note in the **Description** section about the side effect of

changing the active project.

stan_files A character vector with paths to . stan files to include in the package.

roxygen Should **roxygen2** be used for documentation? Defaults to TRUE. If so, a file

R/{pkgname}-package.R is added to the package with roxygen tags for the required import lines. See the Note section below for advice specific to the

latest versions of roxygen2.

rstan_create_package 15

travis	Should a .travis.yml file be added to the package directory? This argument is now deprecated. We recommend using GitHub Actions to set up automated testings for your package. See https://github.com/r-lib/actions for useful templates.
license	Logical or character; whether or not to paste the contents of a license.stan file at the top of all Stan code, or path to such a file. If TRUE (the default) adds the GPL (>= 3) license (see Details).
auto_config	Whether to automatically configure Stan functionality whenever the package gets installed (see Details). Defaults to TRUE.

Details

This function first creates a regular R package using usethis::create_package(), then adds the infrastructure required to compile and export stanmodel objects. In the package root directory, the user's Stan source code is located in:

```
inst/
  |_stan/
  | _include/
  |
  |_include/
```

All .stan files containing instructions to build a stanmodel object must be placed in inst/stan. Other .stan files go in any stan/subdirectory, to be invoked by Stan's #include mechanism, e.g.,

```
#include "include/mylib.stan"
#include "data/preprocess.stan"
```

See **rstanarm** for many examples.

The folder inst/include is for all user C++ files associated with the Stan programs. In this folder, the only file to directly interact with the Stan C++ library is stan_meta_header.hpp; all other #include directives must be channeled through here.

The final step of the package creation is to invoke rstan_config(), which creates the following files for interfacing with Stan objects from R:

- src contains the stan_ModelName{.cc/.hpp} pairs associated with all ModelName.stan files in inst/stan which define stanmodel objects.
- src/Makevars[.win] which link to the StanHeaders and Boost (BH) libraries.
- R/stanmodels.R loads the C++ modules containing the stanmodel class definitions, and assigns an R instance of each stanmodel object to a stanmodels list (with names corresponding to the names of the Stan files).

When auto_config = TRUE, a configure[.win] file is added to the package, calling rstan_config() whenever the package is installed. Consequently, the package must list rstantools in the DESCRIPTION Imports field for this mechanism to work. Setting auto_config = FALSE removes the package's dependency on rstantools, but the package then must be manually configured by running rstan_config() whenever stanmodel files in inst/stan are added, removed, or modified.

In order to enable Stan functionality, **rstantools** copies some files to your package. Since these files are licensed as GPL= 3, the same license applies to your package should you choose to distribute it.

16 use_rstan

Even if you don't use **rstantools** to createyour package, it is likely that you will be linking to **Rcpp** to export the Stan C++ stanmodel objects to R. Since **Rcpp** is released under GPL >= 2, the same license would apply to your package upon distribution.

Authors willing to license their Stan programs of general interest under the GPL are invited to contribute their . stan files and supporting R code to the **rstanarm** package.

Using the pre-compiled Stan programs in your package

The stanmodel objects corresponding to the Stan programs included with your package are stored in a list called stanmodels. To run one of the Stan programs from within an R function in your package just pass the appropriate element of the stanmodels list to one of the **rstan** functions for model fitting (e.g., sampling()). For example, for a Stan program "foo.stan" you would use rstan::sampling(stanmodels\$foo, ...).

Note

For **devtools** users, because of changes in the latest versions of **roxygen2** it may be necessary to run pkgbuild::compile_dll() once before devtools::document() will work.

See Also

- use_rstan() for adding Stan functionality to an existing R package and rstan_config() for updating an existing package when its Stan files are changed.
- The **rstanarm** package **repository** on GitHub.
- Guidelines and recommendations for developers of R packages interfacing with Stan and a demonstration getting a simple package working can be found in the vignettes included with **rstantools** and at mc-stan.org/rstantools/articles.
- After reading the guidelines for developers, if you have trouble setting up your package let us know on the the Stan Forums or at the **rstantools** GitHub issue tracker.

use_rstan

Add Stan infrastructure to an existing package

Description

Add Stan infrastructure to an existing R package. To create a *new* package containing Stan programs use rstan_create_package() instead.

Usage

```
use_rstan(pkgdir = ".", license = TRUE, auto_config = TRUE)
```

use_rstan 17

Arguments

pkgdir Path to package root folder.

license Logical or character; whether or not to paste the contents of a license.stan

file at the top of all Stan code, or path to such a file. If TRUE (the default) adds

the GPL (>= 3) license (see **Details**).

auto_config Whether to automatically configure Stan functionality whenever the package

gets installed (see Details). Defaults to TRUE.

Details

Prepares a package to compile and use Stan code by performing the following steps:

1. Create inst/stan folder where all .stan files defining Stan models should be stored.

- 2. Create inst/stan/include where optional license.stan file is stored.
- Create inst/include/stan_meta_header.hpp to include optional header files used by Stan code.
- 4. Create src folder (if it doesn't exist) to contain the Stan C++ code.
- 5. Create R folder (if it doesn't exist) to contain wrapper code to expose Stan C++ classes to R.
- 6. Update DESCRIPTION file to contain all needed dependencies to compile Stan C++ code.
- 7. If NAMESPACE file is generic (i.e., created by rstan_create_package()), append import(Rcpp, methods), importFrom(rstan, sampling), importFrom(rstantools, rstan_config), importFrom(RcppParalle RcppParallelLibs), and useDynLib directives. If NAMESPACE is not generic, display message telling user what to add to NAMESPACE for themselves.

When auto_config = TRUE, a configure[.win] file is added to the package, calling rstan_config() whenever the package is installed. Consequently, the package must list rstantools in the DESCRIPTION Imports field for this mechanism to work. Setting auto_config = FALSE removes the package's dependency on rstantools, but the package then must be manually configured by running rstan_config() whenever stanmodel files in inst/stan are added, removed, or modified.

Value

Invisibly, TRUE or FALSE indicating whether or not any files or folders where created or modified.

Using the pre-compiled Stan programs in your package

The stanmodel objects corresponding to the Stan programs included with your package are stored in a list called stanmodels. To run one of the Stan programs from within an R function in your package just pass the appropriate element of the stanmodels list to one of the **rstan** functions for model fitting (e.g., sampling()). For example, for a Stan program "foo.stan" you would use rstan::sampling(stanmodels\$foo, ...).

Index

```
bayes_R2, 3
log_lik, 4
loo-prediction, 5
loo_linpred(loo-prediction), 5
loo_pit (loo-prediction), 5
loo_predict (loo-prediction), 5
loo_predictive_interval
        (loo-prediction), 5
loo_R2 (bayes_R2), 3
posterior_epred, 6
posterior\_interval, 6
posterior_linpred, 8
posterior_predict, 9
predictive_error, 10
predictive_interval, 11
predictive_interval(), 5
prior_summary, 12
Rcpp, 16
rstan_config, 13
rstan_config(), 15–17
rstan_create_package, 14
rstan_create_package(), 2, 16, 17
rstan_package_skeleton
        (rstan_create_package), 14
rstantools, 15, 16
rstantools (rstantools-package), 2
rstantools-package, 2
rstantools_load_code, 13
source, 13
stats::logLik(),4
use_rstan, 16
use_rstan(), 16
usethis::create_package(), 14
```