

Package ‘LTRCtrees’

April 1, 2025

Type Package

Title Survival Trees to Fit Left-Truncated and Right-Censored and Interval-Censored Survival Data

Version 1.1.2

Description Recursive partition algorithms designed for fitting survival trees with left-truncated and right-censored (LTRC) data, as well as interval-censored data.
The LTRC trees can also be used to fit survival trees with time-varying covariates.

Imports partykit (\geq 1.2.0), rpart, survival, inum, icenReg

Suggests Formula, rpart.plot, knitr, rmarkdown, interval, IcenS

Depends R (\geq 3.2.0)

License GPL-3

VignetteBuilder knitr, rmarkdown

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

Author Wei Fu [aut],
Jeffrey Simonoff [aut],
Wenbo Jing [aut, cre]

Maintainer Wenbo Jing <wj2093@stern.nyu.edu>

Date/Publication 2025-04-01 16:50:10 UTC

Contents

.logrank_trafo2	2
extree_data	2
ICTree	3
LTRCART	4
LTRCIT	7
Pred.rpart	9

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

<code>.logrank_trafo2</code>	<i>Logrank transformation function for LTRC data</i>
------------------------------	--

Description

`.logrank_trafo` transforms `Surv(time1, time2, event)` objects into logrank scores, which will be used later in the tree algorithm. It is not designed to be used by users, not for internal used of LTRCIT function.

Usage

```
.logrank_trafo2(x2)
```

Arguments

`x2` A vector `Surv` (`Surv(time1, time2, event)`) objects

Value

Logrank scores of LTRC objects

<code>extree_data</code>	<i>Copy the <code>partykit::extree_data</code> function from <code>partykit</code> to avoid dependency issue</i>
--------------------------	--

Description

`extree_data` imports `partykit::extree_data` function

Usage

```
extree_data(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  na.action = stats::na.pass,
  weights,
  offset,
  cluster,
  strata,
  scores = NULL,
  yx = c("none", "matrix"),
  ytype = c("vector", "data.frame", "matrix"),
  nmax = c(yx = Inf, z = Inf),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

formula	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
data	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
subset	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
na.action	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
weights	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
offset	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
cluster	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
strata	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
scores	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
yx	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
ytype	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
nmax	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage
...	Same as the one in extree_data , check extree_data for usage

Value

check [extree_data](#) for the return value

 ICtree

Fit a survival tree for interval-censored survival data

Description

Recursive partition for interval-censored survival data in a conditional inference framework.

Usage

```
ICtree(Formula, data, Control = partykit::ctree_control())
```

Arguments

Formula	A formula object, with the response be a Surv object, with form <code>Surv(time1, time2, type="interval2")</code>
data	A data frame contains the variables named in Formula.
Control	A list of control parameters, see ctree_control

Details

ICtree returns a [party](#) object. This function extends the conditional inference survival tree algorithm in [ctree](#) to fit interval-censored survival data. This function itself not longer requires the interval package, but running the example below requires the interval package (for bcos data), which in turn requires the Icen package, which is not available on CRAN. To install the Icen package, enter the following commands

```
source("https://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")
biocLite("Icen")
```

Value

An object of class [party](#).

References

Fu, W. and Simonoff, J.S. (2017). Survival trees for Interval Censored Survival data. *Statistics in medicine* 36 (30), 4831-4842

Examples

```
library(Icen)
library(interval)
library(LTRCtrees)
data(bcos)

## Fit ICtree survival tree
## make sure to attach survival package (by library(survival) ) before using Surv function
Ctree <- ICtree(Surv(left,right,type="interval2")~treatment, data = bcos)

## Plot the fitted tree
plot(Ctree)
```

LTRCART

Fit a relative risk survival tree for LTRC data

Description

LTRCART returns an [rpart](#) object. This function extends the survival tree algorithm in [rpart](#) to fit left-truncated and right censored (LTRC) data.

Usage

```
LTRCART(
  formula,
  data,
  weights = NULL,
```

```

subset = NULL,
no.SE = 0,
control = rpart::rpart.control(cp = 0.001)
)

```

Arguments

formula	A formula object specifies the regression function, with the response be a Surv object, with form <code>Surv(time1, time2, event)</code>
data	An optional data frame which contains the variables named in the formula.
weights	Optional case weights, same as in rpart
subset	Optional expression saying that only a subset of the rows of the data should be used in the fit, same as in rpart
no.SE	Number of standard errors used in pruning, with default value 0.
control	A list of control values used to control the rpart algorithm, with default <code>cp = 0.001</code> . See rpart.control for details.

Value

An object of class `rpart`. See [rpart.object](#).

References

Fu, W. and Simonoff, J.S. (2017). Survival trees for left-truncated and right-censored data, with application to time-varying covariate data. *Biostatistics* 18 (2), 352-369.

Examples

```

## The Assay of serum free light chain data in survival package
## Adjust data & clean data
library(survival)
library(LTRCtrees)
Data <- flchain
Data <- Data[!is.na(Data$creatinine),]
Data$End <- Data$age + Data$futime/365
DATA <- Data[Data$End > Data$age,]
names(DATA)[6] <- "FLC"

## Setup training set and test set
Train = DATA[1:500,]
Test = DATA[1000:1020,]

## Fit LTRCART survival tree
## make sure to attach survival package (by library(survival) ) before using Surv function
LTRCART.obj <- LTRCART(Surv(age, End, death) ~ sex + FLC + creatinine, Train)

## Putting Surv(End, death) in formula would result an error message
## since LTRCART is expecting Surv(time1, time2, event)

## Plot the fitted tree

```

```

library(rpart.plot)
rpart.plot(LTRCART.obj)

## Plot as partykit::party object
library(partykit)
plot(as.party(LTRCART.obj))

## Plot as partykit::party object with survival curves on terminal nodes
LTRCART.obj.party <- as.party(LTRCART.obj)
LTRCART.obj.party$fitted[["(response)"]]<- Surv(Train$age, Train$End, Train$death)
plot(LTRCART.obj.party)

## Predict relative risk on test set
LTRCART.pred <- predict(LTRCART.obj, newdata = Test)

#####
##### Survival tree with time-varying covariates #####
#####
## The pbcseq dataset of survival package
library(survival)
## Create the start-stop-event triplet needed for coxph and LTRC trees
first <- with(pbcseq, c(TRUE, diff(id) !=0)) #first id for each subject
last <- c(first[-1], TRUE) #last id
time1 <- with(pbcseq, ifelse(first, 0, day))
time2 <- with(pbcseq, ifelse(last, futime, c(day[-1], 0)))
event <- with(pbcseq, ifelse(last, status, 0))
event <- 1*(event==2)

pbcseq$time1 <- time1
pbcseq$time2 <- time2
pbcseq$event <- event
## Fit the Cox model and LTRCART tree with time-varying covariates
fit.cox <- coxph(Surv(time1, time2, event) ~ age + sex + log(bili), pbcseq)
LTRCART.fit <- LTRCART(Surv(time1, time2, event) ~ age + sex + log(bili), pbcseq)
rpart.plot(LTRCART.fit)

### transform the wide format data into long format data using tmerge function
### from survival function
## Stanford Heart Transplant data
jasa$subject <- 1:nrow(jasa)

tdata <- with(jasa, data.frame(subject = subject,
                             futime= pmax(.5, fu.date - accept.dt),
                             txtime= ifelse(tx.date== fu.date,
                                             (tx.date -accept.dt) -.5,
                                             (tx.date - accept.dt)),
                             fustat = fustat))

sdata <- tmerge(jasa, tdata, id=subject,death = event(futime, fustat),
               trt = tdc(txtime), options= list(idname="subject"))

```

```

sdata$age <- sdata$age - 48

sdata$year <- as.numeric(sdata$accept.dt - as.Date("1967-10-01"))/365.25

Cox.fit <- coxph(Surv(tstart, tstop, death) ~ age+ surgery, data= sdata)
LTRCART.fit <- LTRCART(Surv(tstart, tstop, death) ~ age + transplant, data = sdata)
rpart.plot(LTRCART.fit)

```

LTRCIT

Fit a conditional inference survival tree for LTRC data

Description

LTRCIT returns a [party](#) object. This function extends the conditional inference survival tree algorithm in [ctree](#) to fit left-truncated and right censored (LTRC) data.

Usage

```
LTRCIT(Formula, data, Control = partykit::ctree_control())
```

Arguments

Formula	A formula object, with the response be a Surv object, with form <code>Surv(time1, time2, event)</code>
data	A data frame contains the variables named in formula.
Control	A list of control parameters, see ctree_control

Value

An object of class [party](#).

References

Fu, W. and Simonoff, J.S.(2017). Survival trees for left-truncated and right-censored data, with application to time-varying covariate data. *Biostatistics* 18 (2), 352-369.

Examples

```

## The Assay of serum free light chain data in survival package
## Adjust data & clean data
library(survival)
library(LTRCtrees)
Data <- flchain
Data <- Data[!is.na(Data$creatinine),]
Data$End <- Data$age + Data$futime/365
DATA <- Data[Data$End > Data$age,]
names(DATA)[6] <- "FLC"

```



```

                                fustat = fustat))

sdata <- tmerge(jasa, tdata, id=subject, death = event(futime, fustat),
               trt = tdc(txttime), options= list(idname="subject"))

sdata$age <- sdata$age - 48

sdata$year <- as.numeric(sdata$accept.dt - as.Date("1967-10-01"))/365.25

Cox.fit <- coxph(Surv(tstart, tstop, death) ~ age+ surgery, data= sdata)
LTRCIT.fit <- LTRCIT(Surv(tstart, tstop, death) ~ age + transplant, data = sdata)
plot(LTRCIT.fit)

```

 Pred.rpart

Prediction function for [rpart](#) object

Description

The output of LTRCART is an [rpart](#) object, and as a result the usual [predict](#) function on such an object returns the predicted relative risk on the test set. `Pred.rpart` returns the predicted Kaplan-Meier curves and median survival times on the test set, which in some circumstances might be desirable in practice. Note that this function can be applied to any [rpart](#) survival tree object, not just one produced by LTRCART

Usage

```
Pred.rpart(formula, train, test)
```

Arguments

<code>formula</code>	A formula used to fit the survival tree. The response is a Surv object. If it has the form <code>Surv(time1, time2, event)</code> , then LTRCART is called internally; if response has the form <code>Surv(time, event)</code> , then the rpart is called internally.
<code>train</code>	Training set
<code>test</code>	Test set

Value

A list of predicted KM curves and median survival times.

Examples

```

## The Assay of serum free light chain data in survival package
## Adjust data & clean data
library(survival)
library(LTRCtrees)
Data <- flchain

```

```
Data <- Data[!is.na(Data$creatinine),]
Data$End <- Data$age + Data$futime/365
DATA <- Data[Data$End > Data$age,]
names(DATA)[6] <- "FLC"

## Setup training set and test set
Train = DATA[1:500,]
Test = DATA[1000:1020,]

## Predict median survival time and Kaplan Meier survival curve
## on test data using Pred.rpart
LTRCART.pred <- Pred.rpart(Surv(age, End, death) ~ sex + FLC + creatinine, Train, Test)
LTRCART.pred$KMcurves ## list of predicted KM curves
LTRCART.pred$Medians ## vector of predicted median survival time
```

Index

.logrank_trafo2, 2

ctree, 4, 7

ctree_control, 3, 7

extree_data, 2, 3

ICtree, 3

LTRCART, 4

LTRCIT, 7

party, 4, 7

Pred.rpart, 9

predict, 9

rpart, 4, 5, 9

rpart.control, 5

rpart.object, 5, 9

Surv, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9