

Package ‘zcurve’

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Title An Implementation of Z-Curves

Version 2.4.3

Maintainer František Bartoš <f.bartos96@gmail.com>

Description An implementation of z-curves - a method for estimating expected discovery and replicability rates on the bases of test-statistics of published studies. The package provides functions for fitting the density, EM, and censored EM version (Bartoš & Schimmack, 2022, <[doi:10.15626/MP.2021.2720](https://doi.org/10.15626/MP.2021.2720)>; Schimmack & Bartoš, 2023, <[doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0290084](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0290084)>), as well as the original density z-curve (Brunner & Schimmack, 2020, <[doi:10.15626/MP.2018.874](https://doi.org/10.15626/MP.2018.874)>). Furthermore, the package provides summarizing and plotting functions for the fitted z-curve objects. See the aforementioned articles for more information about the z-curves, expected discovery and replicability rates, validation studies, and limitations.

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LinkingTo Rcpp

Suggests parallel, spelling, testthat, vdiff

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URL <https://fbartos.github.io/zcurve/>

BugReports <https://github.com/FBartos/zcurve/issues>

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Author František Bartoš [aut, cre],
Ulrich Schimmack [aut]

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control_density	<i>Control settings for the z-curve 2.0 density algorithm</i>
-----------------	---

Description

All settings are passed to the density fitting algorithm. All unspecified settings are set to the default value. Setting model = "KD2" sets all settings to the default value irrespective of any other setting and fits z-curve as describe in Bartoš and Schimmack (2022). In order to fit the z-curve 1.0 density algorithm, set model = "KD1" and go to [control_density_v1](#)

Arguments

version	Which version of z-curve should be fitted. Defaults to 2 = z-curve 2.0. Set to 1 in order to fit the original version of z-curve. For its settings page go to control_density_v1 .
model	A type of model to be fitted, defaults to "KD2" (another possibility is "KD1" for the original z-curve 1.0, see control_density_v1 for its settings)
sig_level	An alpha level of the test statistics, defaults to .05
a	A beginning of fitting interval, defaults to qnorm(sig_level/2, lower.tail = F)
b	An end of fitting interval, defaults to 6
mu	Means of the components, defaults to seq(0, 6, 1)

sigma	A standard deviation of the components, "Don't touch this" \- Ulrich Schimmack, defaults to 1
theta_min	Lower limits for weights, defaults to <code>rep(0, length(mu))</code>
theta_max	Upper limits for weights, defaults to <code>rep(1, length(mu))</code>
max_iter	A maximum number of iterations for the nlminb optimization for fitting mixture model, defaults to 150
max_eval	A maximum number of evaluation for the nlminb optimization for fitting mixture model, defaults to 1000
criterion	A criterion to terminate nlminb optimization, defaults to $1e-03$
bw	A bandwidth of the kernel density estimation, defaults to .10
aug	Augment truncated kernel density, defaults to TRUE
aug.bw	A bandwidth of the augmentation, defaults to .20
n.bars	A resolution of density function, defaults to 512
density_dbc	Use bckden to estimate a truncated kernel density, defaults to FALSE, in which case density is used
compute_FDR	Whether to compute FDR, leads to noticeable increase in computation, defaults to FALSE
criterion_FDR	A criterion for estimating the maximum FDR, defaults to .02
criterion_FDR_dbc	A criterion for estimating the maximum FDR using the bckden function, defaults to .01
precision_FDR	A maximum FDR precision, defaults to .05

References

Bartoš F, Schimmack U (2022). "Z-curve 2.0: Estimating replication rates and discovery rates." *Meta-Psychology*, **6**. doi:10.15626/MP.2021.2720.

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#), [control_density_v1](#), [control_EM](#)

Examples

```
# to decrease the criterion and increase the number of iterations
ctrl <- list(
  max_iter = 300,
  criterion = 1e-4
)
## Not run: zcurve(OSC.z, method = "density", control = ctrl)
```

control_density_v1	<i>Control settings for the original z-curve density algorithm</i>
--------------------	--

Description

All settings are passed to the density fitting algorithm. All unspecified settings are set to the default value. Setting `model = "KD1"` sets all settings to the default value irrespective of any other setting and fits z-curve as described in Brunner and Schimmack (2020).

Arguments

version	Set to 1 to fit the original version of z-curve. Defaults to 2 = the updated version of z-curve. For its settings page go to control_density .
model	A type of model to be fitted, defaults to "KD1" (the only possibility)
sig_level	An alpha level of the test statistics, defaults to .05
a	A beginning of fitting interval, defaults to <code>qnorm(sig_level/2, lower.tail = F)</code>
b	An end of fitting interval, defaults to 6
K	Number of mixture components, defaults to 3
max_iter	A maximum number of iterations for the nlminb optimization for fitting mixture model, defaults to 150
max_eval	A maximum number of evaluation for the nlminb optimization for fitting mixture model, defaults to 300
criterion	A criterion to terminate nlminb optimization, defaults to 1e-10
bw	A bandwidth of the kernel density estimation, defaults to "nrd0"

References

Brunner J, Schimmack U (2020). "Estimating population mean power under conditions of heterogeneity and selection for significance." *Meta-Psychology*, **4**. doi:10.15626/MP.2018.874.

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#), [control_density](#), [control_EM](#)

Examples

```
# to increase the number of iterations
ctrl <- list(
  version = 1,
  max_iter = 300
)
## Not run: zcurve(OSC.z, method = "density", control = ctrl)
```

control_EM	<i>Control settings for the zcurve EM algorithm</i>
------------	---

Description

All these settings are passed to the Expectation Maximization fitting algorithm. All unspecified settings are set to the default value. Setting `model = "EM"` sets all settings to the default value irrespective of any other setting and fits z-curve as described in Bartoš and Schimmack (2022)

Arguments

<code>model</code>	A type of model to be fitted, defaults to "EM" for a z-curve with 7 z-scores centered components.
<code>sig_level</code>	An alpha level of the test statistics, defaults to .05
<code>a</code>	A beginning of fitting interval, defaults to <code>qnorm(sig_level/2, lower.tail = F)</code>
<code>b</code>	An end of fitting interval, defaults to 5
<code>mu</code>	Means of the components, defaults to <code>0:6</code>
<code>sigma</code>	A standard deviation of the components, defaults to <code>rep(1, length(mu))</code>
<code>theta_alpha</code>	A vector of alpha parameters of a Dirichlet distribution for generating random starting values for the weights, defaults to <code>rep(.5, length(mu))</code>
<code>theta_max</code>	Upper limits for weights, defaults to <code>rep(1, length(mu))</code>
<code>criterion</code>	A criterion to terminate the EM algorithm, defaults to <code>1e-6</code>
<code>criterion_start</code>	A criterion to terminate the starting phase of the EM algorithm, defaults to <code>1e-3</code>
<code>criterion_boot</code>	A criterion to terminate the bootstrapping phase of the EM algorithm, defaults to <code>1e-5</code>
<code>max_iter</code>	A maximum number of iterations of the EM algorithm (not including the starting iterations) defaults to <code>10000</code>
<code>max_iter_start</code>	A maximum number of iterations for the starting phase of EM algorithm, defaults to <code>100</code>
<code>max_iter_boot</code>	A maximum number of iterations for the booting phase of EM algorithm, defaults to <code>100</code>
<code>fit_reps</code>	A number of starting fits to get the initial position for the EM algorithm, defaults to <code>100</code>

References

Bartoš F, Schimmack U (2022). "Z-curve 2.0: Estimating replication rates and discovery rates." *Meta-Psychology*, **6**. doi:[10.15626/MP.2021.2720](https://doi.org/10.15626/MP.2021.2720).

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#), [control_density](#)

Examples

```
# to increase the number of starting fits
# and change the means of the mixture components

ctrl <- list(
  fit_reps = 50,
  mu = c(0, 1.5, 3, 4.5, 6)
)
## Not run: zcurve(OSC.z, method = "EM", control = ctrl)
```

<code>head.zcurve_data</code>	<i>Prints first few rows of a z-curve data object</i>
-------------------------------	---

Description

Prints first few rows of a z-curve data object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'zcurve_data'
head(x, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	z-curve data object
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments

See Also

[zcurve_data\(\)](#)

<code>is.zcurve</code>	<i>Reports whether x is a zcurve object</i>
------------------------	---

Description

Reports whether x is a zcurve object

Usage

```
is.zcurve(x)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	an object to test
----------------	-------------------

OSC.z	<i>Z-scores from subset of original studies featured in OSC 2015 reproducibility project</i>
-------	--

Description

The dataset contains z-scores from subset of original studies featured in psychology reproducibility project (Collaboration and others 2015). Only z-scores from studies with unambiguous original outcomes are supplied (eliminating 7 studies with marginally significant results). The real replication rate for those studies is 35/90 (the whole project reports 36/97).

Usage

OSC.z

Format

A vector with 90 observations

References

Collaboration OS, others (2015). “Estimating the reproducibility of psychological science.” *Science*, **349**(6251). doi:[10.1126/science.aac4716](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aac4716).

plot.zcurve	<i>Plot fitted z-curve object</i>
-------------	-----------------------------------

Description

Plot fitted z-curve object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'zcurve'
plot(
  x,
  annotation = FALSE,
  CI = FALSE,
  extrapolate = FALSE,
  plot_type = "base",
  y.anno = c(0.95, 0.88, 0.78, 0.71, 0.61, 0.53, 0.43, 0.35),
  x.anno = 0.6,
  cex.anno = 1,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	Fitted z-curve object
annotation	Add annotation to the plot. Defaults to FALSE.
CI	Plot confidence intervals for the estimated z-curve. Defaults to FALSE.
extrapolate	Scale the chart to the extrapolated area. Defaults to FALSE.
plot_type	Type of plot to be produced. Defaults to "base" for the base plotting function. An alternative is "ggplot" for a ggplot2.
y.anno	A vector of length 8 specifying the y-positions of the individual annotation lines relative to the figure's height. Defaults to c(.95, .88, .78, .71, .61, .53, .43, .35)
x.anno	A number specifying the x-position of the block of annotations relative to the figure's width.
cex.anno	A number specifying the size of the annotation text.
...	Additional arguments including main, xlab, ylab, xlim, ylim, cex.axis, cex.lab

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
# simulate some z-statistics and fit a z-curve
z <- abs(rnorm(300,3))
m.EM <- zcurve(z, method = "EM", bootstrap = 100)

# plot the z-curve
plot(m.EM)

# add annotation text and model fit CI
plot(m.EM, annotation = TRUE, CI = TRUE)

# change the location of the annotation to the left
plot(m.EM, annotation = TRUE, CI = TRUE, x_text = 0)

## End(Not run)
```

power_to_z

Compute z-score corresponding to a power

Description

A function for computing z-scores of two-sided tests corresponding to power for a given significance level α (or corresponding cut-off z-statistic a).

Usage

```
power_to_z(
  power,
  alpha = 0.05,
  a = stats::qnorm(alpha/2, lower.tail = FALSE),
  two.sided = TRUE,
  nleqslv_control = list(xtol = 1e-15, maxit = 300, stepmax = 0.5)
)
```

Arguments

power	A vector of powers
alpha	Level of significance alpha
a	Or, alternatively a z-score corresponding to alpha
two.sided	Whether directionality of the effect size should be taken into account.
nleqslv_control	A named list of control parameters passed to the nleqslv function used for solving the inverse of z_to_power function.

Examples

```
# z-scores corresponding to the (aproximate) power of components of EM2
power_to_z(c(0.05, 0.20, 0.40, 0.60, 0.80, 0.974, 0.999), alpha = .05)
```

```
print.estimates.zcurve
```

Prints estimates from z-curve object

Description

Prints estimates from z-curve object

Usage

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

Arguments

x	Estimate of a z-curve object
...	Additional arguments

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#)

print.summary.zcurve	<i>Prints summary object for z-curve method</i>
----------------------	---

Description

Prints summary object for z-curve method

Usage

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

Arguments

x	Summary of a z-curve object
...	Additional arguments

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#)

print.zcurve	<i>Prints a fitted z-curve object</i>
--------------	---------------------------------------

Description

Prints a fitted z-curve object

Usage

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

Arguments

x	Fitted z-curve object
...	Additional arguments

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#)

print.zcurve_data	<i>Prints a z-curve data object</i>
-------------------	-------------------------------------

Description

Prints a z-curve data object

Usage

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

Arguments

x	z-curve data object
...	Additional arguments

See Also

[zcurve_data\(\)](#)

summary.zcurve	<i>Summarize fitted z-curve object</i>
----------------	--

Description

Summarize fitted z-curve object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'zcurve'
summary(
  object,
  type = "results",
  all = FALSE,
  ERR.adj = 0.03,
  EDR.adj = 0.05,
  round.coef = 3,
  conf.level = 0.95,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

object	A fitted z-curve object.
type	Whether the results "results" or the mixture mode parameters "parameters" should be returned. Defaults to "results".
all	Whether additional results, such as file drawer ration, expected and missing number of studies, and Soric FDR be returned. Defaults to FALSE
ERR.adj	Confidence intervals adjustment for ERR. Defaults to .03 as proposed by Bartos & Schimmack (in preparation).
EDR.adj	Confidence intervals adjustment for EDR. Defaults to .05 as proposed by Bartos & Schimmack (in preparation).
round.coef	To how many decimals should the coefficient be rounded. Defaults to 3.
conf.level	Confidence level for the confidence intervals. Note that the ERR.adj and EDR.adj arguments were calibrated for a 95% CI and might not be appropriate for other confidence levels.
...	Additional arguments

Value

Summary of a z-curve object

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#)

zcurve

Fit a z-curve

Description

zcurve is used to fit z-curve models. The function takes input of z-statistics or two-sided p-values and returns object of class "zcurve" that can be further interrogated by summary and plot function. It default to EM model, but different version of z-curves can be specified using the method and control arguments. See 'Examples' and 'Details' for more information.

Usage

```
zcurve(
  z,
  z.lb,
  z.ub,
  p,
  p.lb,
  p.ub,
  data,
  method = "EM",
```

```

bootstrap = 1000,
parallel = FALSE,
control = NULL
)

```

Arguments

<code>z</code>	a vector of z-scores.
<code>z.lb</code>	a vector with start of censoring intervals of censored z-scores.
<code>z.ub</code>	a vector with end of censoring intervals of censored z-scores.
<code>p</code>	a vector of two-sided p-values, internally transformed to z-scores.
<code>p.lb</code>	a vector with start of censoring intervals of censored two-sided p-values.
<code>p.ub</code>	a vector with end of censoring intervals of censored two-sided p-values.
<code>data</code>	an object created with <code>zcurve_data()</code> function.
<code>method</code>	the method to be used for fitting. Possible options are Expectation Maximization "EM" and density "density", defaults to "EM".
<code>bootstrap</code>	the number of bootstraps for estimating CI. To skip bootstrap specify FALSE.
<code>parallel</code>	whether the bootstrap should be performed in parallel. Defaults to FALSE. The implementation is not completely stable and might cause a connection error.
<code>control</code>	additional options for the fitting algorithm more details in control EM or control density .

Details

The function returns the EM method by default and changing `method = "density"` gives the KD2 version of z-curve as outlined in Bartoš and Schimmack (2022). For the original z-curve (Brunner and Schimmack 2020), referred to as KD1, specify `'control = "density", control = list(model = "KD1")'`. Specifying the lower and upper bounds of z-scores or p-values will fit the censored version of z-curve described in (Schimmack and Bartoš 2023).

Value

The fitted z-curve object

References

Bartoš F, Schimmack U (2022). "Z-curve 2.0: Estimating replication rates and discovery rates." *Meta-Psychology*, **6**. doi:10.15626/MP.2021.2720.

Brunner J, Schimmack U (2020). "Estimating population mean power under conditions of heterogeneity and selection for significance." *Meta-Psychology*, **4**. doi:10.15626/MP.2018.874.

Schimmack U, Bartoš F (2023). "Estimating the false discovery risk of (randomized) clinical trials in medical journals based on published p-values." *PLoS ONE*, **18**(8), e0290084. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0290084.

See Also

[summary.zcurve\(\)](#), [plot.zcurve\(\)](#), [control_EM](#), [control_density](#)

Examples

```
# load data from OSC 2015 reproducibility project
OSC.z

# fit an EM z-curve (with disabled bootstrap due to examples times limits)
m.EM <- zcurve(OSC.z, method = "EM", bootstrap = FALSE)
# a version with 1000 bootstrapped samples would look like:
m.EM <- zcurve(OSC.z, method = "EM", bootstrap = 1000)

# or KD2 z-curve (use larger bootstrap for real inference)
m.D <- zcurve(OSC.z, method = "density", bootstrap = FALSE)

# inspect the results
summary(m.EM)
summary(m.D)
# see '?summary.zcurve' for more output options

# plot the results
plot(m.EM)
plot(m.D)
# see '?plot.zcurve' for more plotting options

# to specify more options, set the control arguments
# ei. increase the maximum number of iterations and change alpha level
ctr1 <- list(
  "max_iter" = 9999,
  "alpha"    = .10
)
## Not run: m1.EM <- zcurve(OSC.z, method = "EM", bootstrap = FALSE, control = ctr1)
# see '?control_EM' and '?control_density' for more information about different
# z-curves specifications
```

zcurve.estimateds

z-curve estimateds

Description

The following functions extract estimates from the z-curve object.

Usage

```
ERR(object, round.coef = 3)
```

```
EDR(object, round.coef = 3)
```

```
ODR(object, round.coef = 3)

Soric(object, round.coef = 3)

file_drawer_ration(object, round.coef = 3)

expected_n(object, round.coef = 0)

missing_n(object, round.coef = 0)

significant_n(object)

included_n(object)
```

Arguments

object	the z-curve object
round.coef	rounding for the printed values

Details

Technically, ODR, significant n, and included n are not z-curve estimates but they are grouped in this category for convenience.

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#)

zcurve_clustered	<i>Fit a z-curve to clustered data</i>
------------------	--

Description

zcurve_clustered is used to fit z-curve models to clustered data. The function requires a data object created with the [zcurve_data\(\)](#) function as the input (where id denotes clusters). Two different methods that account for clustering are implemented via the EM model: "w" for down weighting the likelihood of the test statistics proportionately to the number of repetitions in the clusters, and "b" for a nested bootstrap where only a single study from each bootstrap is selected for model fitting.

Usage

```
zcurve_clustered(
  data,
  method = "b",
  bootstrap = 1000,
  parallel = FALSE,
  control = NULL
)
```

Arguments

data	an object created with zcurve_data() function.
method	the method to be used for fitting. Possible options are down weighting "w" and nested bootstrap "b". Defaults to "w".
bootstrap	the number of bootstraps for estimating CI. To skip bootstrap specify FALSE.
parallel	whether the bootstrap should be performed in parallel. Defaults to FALSE. The implementation is not completely stable and might cause a connection error.
control	additional options for the fitting algorithm more details in control EM .

Value

The fitted z-curve object

References

There are no references for Rd macro \insertAllCites on this help page.

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#), [summary.zcurve\(\)](#), [plot.zcurve\(\)](#), [control_EM](#), [control_density](#)

zcurve_data	<i>Prepare data for z-curve</i>
-------------	---------------------------------

Description

zcurve_data is used to prepare data for the [zcurve\(\)](#) function. The function transform strings containing reported test statistics "z", "t", "f", "chi", "p" into two-sided p-values. Test statistics reported as inequalities are as considered to be censored as well as test statistics reported with low accuracy (i.e., rounded to too few decimals). See details for more information.

Usage

```
zcurve_data(data, id = NULL, rounded = TRUE, stat_precise = 2, p_precise = 3)
```

Arguments

data	a vector strings containing the test statistics.
id	a vector identifying observations from the same cluster.
rounded	an optional argument specifying whether de-rounding should be applied. Defaults to FALSE to treat all input as exact values or a numeric vector with values specifying precision of the input. The other option, TRUE, automatically extracts the number of decimals from input and treats the input as censored if it does not surpass the stat_precise and the p_precise thresholds.
stat_precise	an integer specifying the numerical precision of "z", "t", "f" statistics treated as exact values.
p_precise	an integer specifying the numerical precision of p-values treated as exact values.

Details

By default, the function extract the type of test statistic:

"F(df1, df2)=x" F-statistic with df1 and df2 degrees of freedom,

"chi(df)=x" Chi-square statistic with df degrees of freedom,

"t(df)=x" for t-statistic with df degrees of freedom,

"z=x" for z-statistic,

"p=x" for p-value.

The input is not case sensitive and automatically removes empty spaces. Furthermore, inequalities (" $<$ " and " $>$ ") can be used to denote censoring. I.e., that the p-value is lower than "x" or that the test statistic is larger than "x" respectively. The automatic de-rounding procedure (if rounded = TRUE) treats p-values with less decimal places than specified in p_precise or test statistics with less decimal places than specified in stat_precise as censored on an interval that could result in a given rounded value. I.e., a "p = 0.03" input would be de-rounded as a p-value lower than 0.035 but larger than 0.025.

Value

An object of type "zcurve_data".

See Also

[zcurve\(\)](#), [print.zcurve_data\(\)](#), [head.zcurve_data\(\)](#)

Examples

```
# Specify a character vector containing the test statistics
data <- c("z = 2.1", "t(34) = 2.21", "p < 0.03", "F(2,23) > 10", "p = 0.003")

# Obtain the z-curve data object
data <- zcurve_data(data)

# inspect the resulting object
data
```

zcurve_options	<i>Options for the zcurve package</i>
----------------	---------------------------------------

Description

A placeholder object and functions for the zcurve package. (adapted from the runjags R package).

Usage

```
zcurve.options(...)
```

```
zcurve.get_option(name)
```

Arguments

- ... named option(s) to change - for a list of available options, see details below.
- name the name of the option to get the current value of - for a list of available options, see details below.

Value

The current value of all available zcurve options (after applying any changes specified) is returned invisibly as a named list.

z_to_power	<i>Compute power corresponding to z-scores</i>
------------	--

Description

A function for computing power of two-sided tests corresponding to z-scores for a given significance level. alpha (or corresponding cut-off z-score a)

Usage

```
z_to_power(  
  z,  
  alpha = 0.05,  
  a = stats::qnorm(alpha/2, lower.tail = FALSE),  
  two.sided = TRUE  
)
```

Arguments

- z A vector of z-scores
- alpha Level of significance alpha
- a Or, alternatively a z-score corresponding to alpha
- two.sided Whether directionality of the effect size should be taken into account.

Examples

```
# mean powers corresponding to the mean components of KD2  
z_to_power(0:6, alpha = .05)
```

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