

# Package ‘CohortMethod’

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**Type** Package

**Title** New-user cohort method with large scale propensity and outcome models

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**Description** CohortMethod is an R package for performing new-user cohort studies in an observational database in the OMOP Common Data Model. It extracts the necessary data from a database in OMOP Common Data Model format, and uses a large set of covariates for both the propensity and outcome model, including for example all drugs, diagnoses, procedures, as well as age, comorbidity indexes, etc. Large scale regularized regression is used to fit the propensity and outcome models. Functions are included for trimming, stratifying and matching on propensity scores, as well as diagnostic functions, such as propensity score distribution plots and plots showing covariate balance before and after matching and/or trimming. Supported outcome models are (conditional) logistic regression, (conditional) Poisson regression, and (stratified) Cox regression.

**License** Apache License 2.0

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Depends** R (>= 3.2.2),  
DatabaseConnector (>= 1.11.4),  
Cyclops (>= 1.2.0),  
FeatureExtraction (>= 2.0.0)

**Imports** methods,  
ggplot2,  
gridExtra,  
grid,  
ff,  
ffbase (>= 0.12.3),  
plyr,  
Rcpp (>= 0.11.2),  
RJDBC,  
SqlRender (>= 1.1.1),  
survival,  
OhdsiRTools (>= 1.5.1)

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checkCmInstallation	Check is CohortMethod and its dependencies are correctly installed
---------------------	--

Description

Check is CohortMethod and its dependencies are correctly installed

Usage

checkCmInstallation(connectionDetails)

Arguments

connectionDetails  
An R object of type  
connectionDetails created using the function createConnectionDetails in  
the DatabaseConnector package.

Details

This function checks whether CohortMethod and its dependencies are correctly installed. This will check the database connectivity, large scale regression engine (Cyclops), and large data object handling (ff).

CohortMethod	CohortMethod
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Description

CohortMethod

---

```
cohortMethodDataSimulationProfile
```

*A simulation profile*

---

### Description

A simulation profile

### Usage

```
data(cohortMethodDataSimulationProfile)
```

---

```
computeCovariateBalance
```

*Compute covariate balance before and after matching and trimming*

---

### Description

For every covariate, prevalence in treatment and comparator groups before and after matching/trimming are computed. When variable ratio matching was used the balance score will be corrected according to the method described in Austin et al (2008).

### Usage

```
computeCovariateBalance(population, cohortMethodData)
```

### Arguments

population	A data frame containing the people that are remaining after matching and/or trimming.
cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.

### Details

The population data frame should have at least the following columns:

rowId	(integer)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group

### Value

Returns a data frame describing the covariate balance before and after matching/trimming.

### References

Austin, P.C. (2008) Assessing balance in measured baseline covariates when using many-to-one matching on the propensity-score. *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety*, 17: 1218-1225.

---

computeMdr*Compute the minimum detectable relative risk*

---

## Description

Compute the minimum detectable relative risk

## Usage

```
computeMdr(population, alpha = 0.05, power = 0.8, twoSided = TRUE,  
            modelType = "cox")
```

## Arguments

population	A data frame describing the study population as created using the <a href="#">createStudyPopulation</a> function. This should at least have these columns: subjectId, treatment, outcomeCount, timeAtRisk.
alpha	Type I error.
power	1 - beta, where beta is the type II error.
twoSided	Consider a two-sided test?
modelType	The type of outcome model that will be used. Possible values are "logistic", "poisson", or "cox". Currently only "cox" is supported.

## Details

Compute the minimum detectable relative risk (MDRR) and expected standard error (SE) for a given study population, using the actual observed sample size and number of outcomes. Currently, only computations for Cox models are implemented. For Cox model, the computations by Schoenfeld (1983) is used.

## Value

A data frame with the MDRR and some counts.

## References

Schoenfeld DA (1983) Sample-size formula for the proportional-hazards regression model, *Biometrics*, 39(3), 499-503

---

computePsAuc	<i>Compute the area under the ROC curve</i>
--------------	---

---

### Description

computePsAuc computes the area under the ROC curve of the propensity score

### Usage

```
computePsAuc(data, confidenceIntervals = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

data	A data frame with at least the two columns described below
confidenceIntervals	Compute 95 percent confidence intervals (computationally expensive for large data sets)

### Details

The data frame should have a least the following two columns:

treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

### Value

A data frame holding the AUC and its 95 percent confidence interval

### Examples

```
treatment <- rep(0:1, each = 100)
propensityScore <- c(rnorm(100, mean = 0.4, sd = 0.25), rnorm(100, mean = 0.6, sd = 0.25))
data <- data.frame(treatment = treatment, propensityScore = propensityScore)
data <- data[data$propensityScore > 0 & data$propensityScore < 1, ]
computePsAuc(data)
```

---

constructEras	<i>Build eras</i>
---------------	-------------------

---

### Description

Constructs eras (continuous periods of exposure or disease).

## Usage

```
constructEras(connectionDetails, sourceDatabaseSchema,
  sourceTable = "drug_exposure",
  targetDatabaseSchema = sourceDatabaseSchema, targetTable = "drug_era",
  createTargetTable = FALSE, cdmDatabaseSchema = sourceDatabaseSchema,
  gracePeriod = 30, rollUp = TRUE, rollUpConceptClassId = "Ingredient",
  rollUpVocabularyId = "RxNorm", cdmVersion = "5")
```

## Arguments

**connectionDetails**

An R object of type `connectionDetails` created using the function `createConnectionDetails` in the `DatabaseConnector` package.

**sourceDatabaseSchema**

The name of the database schema that contains the source table. Requires read permissions to this database. On SQL Server, this should specify both the database and the schema, so for example `'cdm_instance.dbo'`.

**sourceTable** The name of the source table.

**targetDatabaseSchema**

The name of the database schema that contains the target table. Requires write permissions to this database. On SQL Server, this should specify both the database and the schema, so for example `'cdm_instance.dbo'`.

**targetTable** The name of the target table.

**createTargetTable**

Should the target table be created? If not, the data is inserted in an existing table.

**cdmDatabaseSchema**

Only needed when rolling up concepts to ancestors: The name of the database schema that contains the vocabulary files. Requires read permissions to this database. On SQL Server, this should specify both the database and the schema, so for example `'cdm_instance.dbo'`.

**gracePeriod** The number of days allowed between periods for them to still be considered part of the same era.

**rollUp** Should concepts be rolled up to their ancestors?

**rollUpConceptClassId**

The identifier of the concept class to which concepts should be rolled up.

**rollUpVocabularyId**

The identifier of the vocabulary to which concepts should be rolled up.

**cdmVersion** The version of the CDM that is being used.

## Details

This function creates eras from source data. For example, one could use this function to create drug eras based on drug exposures. The function allows drugs to be rolled up to ingredients, and prescriptions to the same ingredient that overlap in time are merged into a single ingredient. Note that stockpiling is not assumed to take place (ie. overlap is discarded), but a grace period can be specified allowing for a small gap between prescriptions when merging. The user can specify the source and target table. These tables are assumed to have the same structure as the cohort table in the Common Data Model (CDM), except when the table names are `'drug_exposure'` or `'condition_occurrence'` for the source table, or `'drug_era'` or `'condition_era'` for the target table, in which case the tables are assumed to have the structure defined for those tables in the CDM.

If both the source and target table specify a field for type\_concept\_id, the era construction will partition by the type\_concept\_id, in other words periods with different type\_concept\_ids will be treated independently.

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# Constructing drug eras in CDM v4:
constructEras(connectionDetails,
              sourceDatabaseSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema,
              sourceTable = "drug_exposure",
              targetTable = "drug_era",
              createTargetTable = FALSE,
              gracePeriod = 30,
              rollUpVocabularyId = 8,
              rollUpConceptClassId = "Ingredient",
              cdmVersion = "4")

# Constructing drug eras in CDM v5:
constructEras(connectionDetails,
              sourceDatabaseSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema,
              sourceTable = "drug_exposure",
              targetTable = "drug_era",
              createTargetTable = FALSE,
              gracePeriod = 30,
              rollUpVocabularyId = "RxNorm",
              rollUpConceptClassId = "Ingredient",
              cdmVersion = "5")

## End(Not run)
```

---

createCmAnalysis

*Create a CohortMethod analysis specification*

---

## Description

Create a CohortMethod analysis specification

## Usage

```
createCmAnalysis(analysisId = 1, description = "", targetType = NULL,
                 comparatorType = NULL, getDbCohortMethodDataArgs, createStudyPopArgs,
                 createPs = FALSE, createPsArgs = NULL, trimByPs = FALSE,
                 trimByPsArgs = NULL, trimByPsToEquipoise = FALSE,
                 trimByPsToEquipoiseArgs = NULL, matchOnPs = FALSE, matchOnPsArgs = NULL,
                 matchOnPsAndCovariates = FALSE, matchOnPsAndCovariatesArgs = NULL,
                 stratifyByPs = FALSE, stratifyByPsArgs = NULL,
                 stratifyByPsAndCovariates = FALSE, stratifyByPsAndCovariatesArgs = NULL,
                 computeCovariateBalance = FALSE, fitOutcomeModel = FALSE,
                 fitOutcomeModelArgs = NULL)
```



**Arguments**

analysisId	An integer that will be used later to refer to this specific set of analysis choices.
description	A short description of the analysis.
targetType	If more than one target is provided for each drugComparatorOutcome, this field should be used to select the specific target to use in this analysis.
comparatorType	If more than one comparator is provided for each drugComparatorOutcome, this field should be used to select the specific comparator to use in this analysis.
getDbCohortMethodDataArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">getDbCohortMethodData</a> function.
createStudyPopArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">createStudyPopulation</a> function.
createPs	Should the <a href="#">createPs</a> function be used in this analysis?
createPsArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">createPs</a> function.
trimByPs	Should the <a href="#">trimByPs</a> function be used in this analysis?
trimByPsArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">trimByPs</a> function.
trimByPsToEquipoise	Should the <a href="#">trimByPsToEquipoise</a> function be used in this analysis?
trimByPsToEquipoiseArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">trimByPsToEquipoise</a> function.
matchOnPs	Should the <a href="#">matchOnPs</a> function be used in this analysis?
matchOnPsArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">matchOnPs</a> function.
matchOnPsAndCovariates	Should the <a href="#">matchOnPsAndCovariates</a> function be used in this analysis?
matchOnPsAndCovariatesArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">matchOnPsAndCovariates</a> function.
stratifyByPs	Should the <a href="#">stratifyByPs</a> function be used in this analysis?
stratifyByPsArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">stratifyByPs</a> function.
stratifyByPsAndCovariates	Should the <a href="#">stratifyByPsAndCovariates</a> function be used in this analysis?
stratifyByPsAndCovariatesArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">stratifyByPsAndCovariates</a> function.
computeCovariateBalance	Should the <a href="#">computeCovariateBalance</a> function be used in this analysis?
fitOutcomeModel	Should the <a href="#">fitOutcomeModel</a> function be used in this analysis?
fitOutcomeModelArgs	An object representing the arguments to be used when calling the <a href="#">fitOutcomeModel</a> function.

## Details

Create a set of analysis choices, to be used with the `runCmAnalyses` function.

---

```
createCohortMethodDataSimulationProfile
```

*Create simulation profile*

---

## Description

`createCohortMethodDataSimulationProfile` creates a profile based on the provided cohort-MethodData object, which can be used to generate simulated data that has similar characteristics.

## Usage

```
createCohortMethodDataSimulationProfile(cohortMethodData)
```

## Arguments

`cohortMethodData`  
An object of type `cohortMethodData` as generated using `getDbCohortMethodData`.

## Details

The output of this function is an object that can be used by the `simulateCohortMethodData` function to generate a `cohortMethodData` object.

## Value

An object of type `cohortDataSimulationProfile`.

---

```
createCreatePsArgs
```

*Create a parameter object for the function createPs*

---

## Description

Create a parameter object for the function `createPs`

## Usage

```
createCreatePsArgs(excludeCovariateIds = c(), includeCovariateIds = c(),
  maxCohortSizeForFitting = 250000, errorOnHighCorrelation = TRUE,
  stopOnError = TRUE, prior = createPrior("laplace", exclude = c()),
  useCrossValidation = TRUE), control = createControl(noiseLevel = "silent",
  cvType = "auto", tolerance = 2e-07, cvRepetitions = 10, startingVariance =
  0.01))
```

**Arguments**

excludeCovariateIds	Exclude these covariates from the propensity model.
includeCovariateIds	Include only these covariates in the propensity model.
maxCohortSizeForFitting	If the target or comparator cohort are larger than this number, they will be down-sampled before fitting the propensity model. The model will be used to compute propensity scores for all subjects. The purpose of the sampling is to gain speed. Setting this number to 0 means no downsampling will be applied.
errorOnHighCorrelation	If true, the function will test each covariate for correlation with the treatment assignment. If any covariate has an unusually high correlation (either positive or negative), this will throw an error.
stopOnError	If an error occurs, should the function stop? Else, the two cohorts will be assumed to be perfectly separable.
prior	The prior used to fit the model. See createPrior for details.
control	The control object used to control the cross-validation used to determine the hyperparameters of the prior (if applicable). See createControl for details.

**Details**

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

```
createCreateStudyPopulationArgs
```

*Create a parameter object for the function createStudyPopulation*

---

**Description**

Create a parameter object for the function createStudyPopulation

**Usage**

```
createCreateStudyPopulationArgs(firstExposureOnly = FALSE,
  restrictToCommonPeriod = FALSE, washoutPeriod = 0,
  removeDuplicateSubjects = FALSE, removeSubjectsWithPriorOutcome = TRUE,
  priorOutcomeLookback = 99999, minDaysAtRisk = 1, riskWindowStart = 0,
  addExposureDaysToStart = FALSE, riskWindowEnd = 0,
  addExposureDaysToEnd = TRUE, censorAtNewRiskWindow = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

firstExposureOnly	Should only the first exposure per subject be included? Note that this is typically done in the createStudyPopulation function,
restrictToCommonPeriod	Restrict the analysis to the period when both treatments are observed?

washoutPeriod	The minimum required continuous observation time prior to index date for a person to be included in the cohort.
removeDuplicateSubjects	Remove subjects that are in both the treated and comparator cohort? See details for allowed values.
removeSubjectsWithPriorOutcome	Remove subjects that have the outcome prior to the risk window start?
priorOutcomeLookback	How many days should we look back when identifying prior outcomes?
minDaysAtRisk	The minimum required number of days at risk.
riskWindowStart	The start of the risk window (in days) relative to the index date (+ days of exposure if the addExposureDaysToStart parameter is specified).
addExposureDaysToStart	Add the length of exposure the start of the risk window?
riskWindowEnd	The end of the risk window (in days) relative to the index date (+ days of exposure if the addExposureDaysToEnd parameter is specified).
addExposureDaysToEnd	Add the length of exposure the risk window?
censorAtNewRiskWindow	If a subject is in multiple cohorts, should time-at-risk be censored when the new time-at-risk starts to prevent overlap?

## Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

```
createDrugComparatorOutcomes
```

*Create drug-comparator-outcomes combinations.*

---

## Description

Create drug-comparator-outcomes combinations.

## Usage

```
createDrugComparatorOutcomes(targetId, comparatorId, outcomeIds,
  excludedCovariateConceptIds = c(), includedCovariateConceptIds = c())
```

## Arguments

targetId	A concept ID identifying the target drug in the exposure table. If multiple strategies for picking the target will be tested in the analysis, a named list of numbers can be provided instead. In the analysis, the name of the number to be used can be specified using the #' targetType parameter in the <a href="#">createCmAnalysis</a> function.
----------	--

comparatorId	A concept ID indentifying the comparator drug in the exposure table. If multiple strategies for picking the comparator will be tested in the analysis, a named list of numbers can be provided instead. In the analysis, the name of the number to be used can be specified using the #' comparatorType parameter in the <a href="#">createCmAnalysis</a> function.
outcomeIds	A vector of concept IDs indentifying the outcome(s) in the outcome table.
excludedCovariateConceptIds	A list of concept IDs that cannot be used to construct covariates. This argument is to be used only for exclusion concepts that are specific to the drug-comparator combination.
includedCovariateConceptIds	A list of concept IDs that must be used to construct covariates. This argument is to be used only for inclusion concepts that are specific to the drug-comparator combination.

## Details

Create a set of hypotheses of interest, to be used with the [runCmAnalyses](#) function.

---

createFitOutcomeModelArgs

*Create a parameter object for the function fitOutcomeModel*

---

## Description

Create a parameter object for the function fitOutcomeModel

## Usage

```
createFitOutcomeModelArgs(modelType = "logistic", stratified = TRUE,
  useCovariates = TRUE, inversePsWeighting = FALSE,
  excludeCovariateIds = c(), includeCovariateIds = c(),
  prior = createPrior("laplace", useCrossValidation = TRUE),
  control = createControl(cvType = "auto", startingVariance = 0.01, tolerance
    = 2e-07, cvRepetitions = 10, noiseLevel = "quiet"))
```

## Arguments

modelType	The type of outcome model that will be used. Possible values are "logistic", "poisson", or "cox".
stratified	Should the regression be conditioned on the strata defined in the population object (e.g. by matching or stratifying on propensity scores)?
useCovariates	Whether to use the covariate matrix in the cohortMethodData object in the outcome model.
inversePsWeighting	Use inverse probability of treatment weighting?
excludeCovariateIds	Exclude these covariates from the outcome model.
includeCovariateIds	Include only these covariates in the outcome model.

prior	The prior used to fit the model. See createPrior for details.
control	The control object used to control the cross-validation used to determine the hyperparameters of the prior (if applicable). See createControl for details.

## Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

```
createGetDbCohortMethodDataArgs
```

*Create a parameter object for the function getDbCohortMethodData*

---

## Description

Create a parameter object for the function getDbCohortMethodData

## Usage

```
createGetDbCohortMethodDataArgs(studyStartDate = "", studyEndDate = "",
  excludeDrugsFromCovariates = TRUE, firstExposureOnly = FALSE,
  removeDuplicateSubjects = FALSE, restrictToCommonPeriod = FALSE,
  washoutPeriod = 0, maxCohortSize = 0, covariateSettings)
```

## Arguments

studyStartDate	A calendar date specifying the minimum date that a cohort index date can appear. Date format is 'yyyymmdd'.
studyEndDate	A calendar date specifying the maximum date that a cohort index date can appear. Date format is 'yyyymmdd'. Important: the study end date is also used to truncate risk windows, meaning no outcomes beyond the study end date will be considered.
excludeDrugsFromCovariates	Should the target and comparator drugs (and their descendant concepts) be excluded from the covariates? Note that this will work if the drugs are actually drug concept IDs (and not cohort IDs).
firstExposureOnly	Should only the first exposure per subject be included? Note that this is typically done in the createStudyPopulation function, but can already be done here for efficiency reasons.
removeDuplicateSubjects	Remove subjects that are in both the treated and comparator cohort? See details for allowed values. Note that this is typically done in the createStudyPopulation function, but can already be done here for efficiency reasons.
restrictToCommonPeriod	Restrict the analysis to the period when both treatments are observed?
washoutPeriod	The minimum required continuous observation time prior to index date for a person to be included in the cohort. Note that this is typically done in the createStudyPopulation function, but can already be done here for efficiency reasons.
maxCohortSize	If either the target or the comparator cohort is larger than this number it will be sampled to this size. maxCohortSize = 0 indicates no maximum size.

covariateSettings

An object of type covariateSettings as created using the createCovariateSettings function in the FeatureExtraction package.

## Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

createMatchOnPsAndCovariatesArgs

*Create a parameter object for the function matchOnPsAndCovariates*

---

## Description

Create a parameter object for the function matchOnPsAndCovariates

## Usage

```
createMatchOnPsAndCovariatesArgs(caliper = 0.2,
  caliperScale = "standardized logit", maxRatio = 1, covariateIds)
```

## Arguments

caliper	The caliper for matching. A caliper is the distance which is acceptable for any match. Observations which are outside of the caliper are dropped. A caliper of 0 means no caliper is used.
caliperScale	The scale on which the caliper is defined. Three scales are supported: caliperScale = 'propensity score', caliperScale = 'standardized', or caliperScale = 'standardized logit'. On the standardized scale, the caliper is interpreted in standard deviations of the propensity score distribution. 'standardized logit' is similar, except that the propensity score is transformed to the logit scale because the PS is more likely to be normally distributed on that scale (Austin, 2011).
maxRatio	The maximum number of persons in the comparator arm to be matched to each person in the treatment arm. A maxRatio of 0 means no maximum: all comparators will be assigned to a treated person.
covariateIds	One or more covariate IDs in the cohortMethodData object on which subjects should be also matched.

## Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

createMatchOnPsArgs	Create a parameter object for the function matchOnPs
---------------------	--

---

### Description

Create a parameter object for the function matchOnPs

### Usage

```
createMatchOnPsArgs(caliper = 0.2, caliperScale = "standardized logit",
  maxRatio = 1, stratificationColumns = c())
```

### Arguments

caliper	The caliper for matching. A caliper is the distance which is acceptable for any match. Observations which are outside of the caliper are dropped. A caliper of 0 means no caliper is used.
caliperScale	The scale on which the caliper is defined. Three scales are supported: caliperScale = 'propensity score', caliperScale = 'standardized', or caliperScale = 'standardized logit'. On the standardized scale, the caliper is interpreted in standard deviations of the propensity score distribution. 'standardized logit' is similar, except that the propensity score is transformed to the logit scale because the PS is more likely to be normally distributed on that scale (Austin, 2011).
maxRatio	The maximum number of persons in the comparator arm to be matched to each person in the treatment arm. A maxRatio of 0 means no maximum: all comparators will be assigned to a treated person.
stratificationColumns	Names or numbers of one or more columns in the data frame on which subjects should be stratified prior to matching. No persons will be matched with persons outside of the strata identified by the values in these columns.

### Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

createPs	Create propensity scores
----------	--------------------------

---

### Description

createPs creates propensity scores using a regularized logistic regression.

### Usage

```
createPs(cohortMethodData, population, excludeCovariateIds = c(),
  includeCovariateIds = c(), maxCohortSizeForFitting = 250000,
  errorOnHighCorrelation = TRUE, stopOnError = TRUE,
  prior = createPrior("laplace", exclude = c(0), useCrossValidation = TRUE),
  control = createControl(noiseLevel = "silent", cvType = "auto", tolerance =
    2e-07, cvRepetitions = 10, startingVariance = 0.01))
```



**Arguments**

cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.
population	A data frame describing the population. This should at least have a 'rowId' column corresponding to the rowId column in the cohortMethodData covariates object and a 'treatment' column. If population is not specified, the full population in the cohortMethodData will be used.
excludeCovariateIds	Exclude these covariates from the propensity model.
includeCovariateIds	Include only these covariates in the propensity model.
maxCohortSizeForFitting	If the target or comparator cohort are larger than this number, they will be down-sampled before fitting the propensity model. The model will be used to compute propensity scores for all subjects. The purpose of the sampling is to gain speed. Setting this number to 0 means no downsampling will be applied.
errorOnHighCorrelation	If true, the function will test each covariate for correlation with the treatment assignment. If any covariate has an unusually high correlation (either positive or negative), this will throw an error.
stopOnError	If an error occurs, should the function stop? Else, the two cohorts will be assumed to be perfectly separable.
prior	The prior used to fit the model. See <a href="#">createPrior</a> for details.
control	The control object used to control the cross-validation used to determine the hyperparameters of the prior (if applicable). See <a href="#">createControl</a> for details.

**Details**

createPs creates propensity scores using a regularized logistic regression.

**Examples**

```
data(cohortMethodDataSimulationProfile)
cohortMethodData <- simulateCohortMethodData(cohortMethodDataSimulationProfile, n = 1000)
ps <- createPs(cohortMethodData)
```

---

createStratifyByPsAndCovariatesArgs

*Create a parameter object for the function stratifyByPsAndCovariates*

---

**Description**

Create a parameter object for the function stratifyByPsAndCovariates

**Usage**

```
createStratifyByPsAndCovariatesArgs(numberOfStrata = 5,
  baseSelection = "all", covariateIds)
```

**Arguments**

numberOfStrata	Into how many strata should the propensity score be divided? The boundaries of the strata are automatically defined to contain equal numbers of treated persons.
baseSelection	What is the base selection of subjects where the strata bounds are to be determined? Strata are defined as equally-sized strata inside this selection. Possible values are "all", "target", and "comparator".
covariateIds	One or more covariate IDs in the cohortMethodData object on which subjects should also be stratified.

**Details**

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

```
createStratifyByPsArgs
```

*Create a parameter object for the function stratifyByPs*

---

**Description**

Create a parameter object for the function stratifyByPs

**Usage**

```
createStratifyByPsArgs(numberOfStrata = 5, stratificationColumns = c(),
  baseSelection = "all")
```

**Arguments**

numberOfStrata	How many strata? The boundaries of the strata are automatically defined to contain equal numbers of treated persons.
stratificationColumns	Names of one or more columns in the data data.frame on which subjects should also be stratified in addition to stratification on propensity score.
baseSelection	What is the base selection of subjects where the strata bounds are to be determined? Strata are defined as equally-sized strata inside this selection. Possible values are "all", "target", and "comparator".

**Details**

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

createStudyPopulation *Create a study population*

---

## Description

Create a study population

## Usage

```
createStudyPopulation(cohortMethodData, population = NULL, outcomeId,
  firstExposureOnly = FALSE, restrictToCommonPeriod = FALSE,
  washoutPeriod = 0, removeDuplicateSubjects = FALSE,
  removeSubjectsWithPriorOutcome = TRUE, priorOutcomeLookback = 99999,
  minDaysAtRisk = 1, riskWindowStart = 0, addExposureDaysToStart = FALSE,
  riskWindowEnd = 0, addExposureDaysToEnd = TRUE,
  censorAtNewRiskWindow = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.
population	If specified, this population will be used as the starting point instead of the cohorts in the cohortMethodData object.
outcomeId	The ID of the outcome. If not specified, no outcome-specific transformations will be performed.
firstExposureOnly	Should only the first exposure per subject be included? Note that this is typically done in the createStudyPopulation function,
restrictToCommonPeriod	Restrict the analysis to the period when both treatments are observed?
washoutPeriod	The minimum required continuous observation time prior to index date for a person to be included in the cohort.
removeDuplicateSubjects	Remove subjects that are in both the treated and comparator cohort? See details for allowed values.
removeSubjectsWithPriorOutcome	Remove subjects that have the outcome prior to the risk window start?
priorOutcomeLookback	How many days should we look back when identifying prior outcomes?
minDaysAtRisk	The minimum required number of days at risk.
riskWindowStart	The start of the risk window (in days) relative to the index date (+ days of exposure if the addExposureDaysToStart parameter is specified).
addExposureDaysToStart	Add the length of exposure the start of the risk window?
riskWindowEnd	The end of the risk window (in days) relative to the index data (+ days of exposure if the addExposureDaysToEnd parameter is specified).

addExposureDaysToEnd

Add the length of exposure the risk window?

censorAtNewRiskWindow

If a subject is in multiple cohorts, should time-at-risk be censored when the new time-at-risk starts to prevent overlap?

## Details

Create a study population by enforcing certain inclusion and exclusion criteria, defining a risk window, and determining which outcomes fall inside the risk window.

The removeduplicateSubjects argument can have one of the following values:

**"keep all"** Do not remove subjects that appear in both target and comparator cohort

**"keep first"** When a subjects appear in both target and comparator cohort, only keep whichever cohort is first in time.

**"remove all"** Remove subjects that appear in both target and comparator cohort completely from the analysis."

## Value

A data frame specifying the study population. This data frame will have the following columns:

**rowId** A unique identifier for an exposure

**subjectId** The person ID of the subject

**cohortStartdate** The index date

**outcomeCount** The number of outcomes observed during the risk window

**timeAtRisk** The number of days in the risk window

**survivalTime** The number of days until either the outcome or the end of the risk window

---

createTrimByPsArgs	Create a parameter object for the function trimByPs
--------------------	---

---

## Description

Create a parameter object for the function trimByPs

## Usage

```
createTrimByPsArgs(trimFraction = 0.05)
```

## Arguments

**trimFraction** This fraction will be removed from each treatment group. In the treatmentgroup, persons with the highest propensity scores will be removed, in thecomparator group person with the lowest scores will be removed.

## Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

```
createTrimByPsToEquipoiseArgs
```

*Create a parameter object for the function trimByPsToEquipoise*

---

### Description

Create a parameter object for the function trimByPsToEquipoise

### Usage

```
createTrimByPsToEquipoiseArgs(bounds = c(0.25, 0.75))
```

### Arguments

bounds                      The upper and lower bound on the preference score for keeping persons

### Details

Create an object defining the parameter values.

---

```
drawAttritionDiagram    Draw the attrition diagram
```

---

### Description

drawAttritionDiagram draws the attrition diagram, showing how many people were excluded from the study population, and for what reasons.

### Usage

```
drawAttritionDiagram(object, treatmentLabel = "Treated",  
  comparatorLabel = "Comparator", fileName = NULL)
```

### Arguments

object                      Either an object of type cohortMethodData, a population object generated by functions like createStudyPopulation, or an object of type outcomeModel.

treatmentLabel    A label to us for the treated cohort.

comparatorLabel

A label to us for the comparator cohort.

fileName                      Name of the file where the plot should be saved, for example 'plot.png'. See the function ggsave in the ggplot2 package for supported file formats.

### Value

A ggplot object. Use the [ggsave](#) function to save to file in a different format.

---

fitOutcomeModel	Create an outcome model, and compute the relative risk
-----------------	--

---

## Description

fitOutcomeModel creates an outcome model, and computes the relative risk

## Usage

```
fitOutcomeModel(population, cohortMethodData, modelType = "logistic",
  stratified = TRUE, useCovariates = TRUE, inversePsWeighting = FALSE,
  excludeCovariateIds = c(), includeCovariateIds = c(),
  prior = createPrior("laplace", useCrossValidation = TRUE),
  control = createControl(cvType = "auto", startingVariance = 0.01, tolerance
    = 2e-07, cvRepetitions = 10, noiseLevel = "quiet"))
```

## Arguments

population	A population object generated by createStudyPopulation, potentially filtered by other functions.
cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.
modelType	The type of outcome model that will be used. Possible values are "logistic", "poisson", or "cox".
stratified	Should the regression be conditioned on the strata defined in the population object (e.g. by matching or stratifying on propensity scores)?
useCovariates	Whether to use the covariate matrix in the cohortMethodData object in the outcome model.
inversePsWeighting	Use inverse probability of treatment weighting?
excludeCovariateIds	Exclude these covariates from the outcome model.
includeCovariateIds	Include only these covariates in the outcome model.
prior	The prior used to fit the model. See <a href="#">createPrior</a> for details.
control	The control object used to control the cross-validation used to determine the hyperparameters of the prior (if applicable). See <a href="#">createControl</a> for details.

## Value

An object of class outcomeModel. Generic function summary, coef, and confint are available.

---

getAttritionTable	<i>Get the attrition table for a population</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

Get the attrition table for a population

**Usage**

```
getAttritionTable(object)
```

**Arguments**

object	Either an object of type cohortMethodData, a population object generated by functions like createStudyPopulation, or an object of type outcomeModel.
--------	--

**Value**

A data frame specifying the number of people and exposures in the population after specific steps of filtering.

---

getDbCohortMethodData	<i>Get the cohort data from the server</i>
-----------------------	--

---

**Description**

This function executes a large set of SQL statements against the database in OMOP CDM format to extract the data needed to perform the analysis.

**Usage**

```
getDbCohortMethodData(connectionDetails, cdmDatabaseSchema,
  oracleTempSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema, targetId, comparatorId, outcomeIds,
  studyStartDate = "", studyEndDate = "",
  exposureDatabaseSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema, exposureTable = "drug_era",
  outcomeDatabaseSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema,
  outcomeTable = "condition_occurrence", cdmVersion = "5",
  excludeDrugsFromCovariates = TRUE, firstExposureOnly = FALSE,
  removeDuplicateSubjects = FALSE, restrictToCommonPeriod = FALSE,
  washoutPeriod = 0, maxCohortSize = 0, covariateSettings)
```

**Arguments**

connectionDetails	An R object of type connectionDetails created using the function createConnectionDetails in the DatabaseConnector package.
-------------------	--

<code>cdmDatabaseSchema</code>	The name of the database schema that contains the OMOP CDM instance. Requires read permissions to this database. On SQL Server, this should specify both the database and the schema, so for example 'cdm_instance.dbo'.
<code>oracleTempSchema</code>	For Oracle only: the name of the database schema where you want all temporary tables to be managed. Requires create/insert permissions to this database.
<code>targetId</code>	A unique identifier to define the target cohort. If <code>exposureTable = DRUG_ERA</code> , <code>targetId</code> is a <code>CONCEPT_ID</code> and all descendant concepts within that <code>CONCEPT_ID</code> will be used to define the cohort. If <code>exposureTable &lt;&gt; DRUG_ERA</code> , <code>targetId</code> is used to select the <code>cohort_concept_id</code> in the cohort-like table.
<code>comparatorId</code>	A unique identifier to define the comparator cohort. If <code>exposureTable = DRUG_ERA</code> , <code>comparatorId</code> is a <code>CONCEPT_ID</code> and all descendant concepts within that <code>CONCEPT_ID</code> will be used to define the cohort. If <code>exposureTable &lt;&gt; DRUG_ERA</code> , <code>comparatorId</code> is used to select the <code>cohort_concept_id</code> in the cohort-like table.
<code>outcomeIds</code>	A list of <code>cohort_definition_ids</code> used to define outcomes.
<code>studyStartDate</code>	A calendar date specifying the minimum date that a cohort index date can appear. Date format is 'yyyymmdd'.
<code>studyEndDate</code>	A calendar date specifying the maximum date that a cohort index date can appear. Date format is 'yyyymmdd'. Important: the study end data is also used to truncate risk windows, meaning no outcomes beyond the study end date will be considered.
<code>exposureDatabaseSchema</code>	The name of the database schema that is the location where the exposure data used to define the exposure cohorts is available. If <code>exposureTable = DRUG_ERA</code> , <code>exposureDatabaseSchema</code> is not used by assumed to be <code>cdmSchema</code> . Requires read permissions to this database.
<code>exposureTable</code>	The tablename that contains the exposure cohorts. If <code>exposureTable &lt;&gt; DRUG_ERA</code> , then expectation is <code>exposureTable</code> has format of COHORT table: <code>cohort_concept_id</code> , <code>SUBJECT_ID</code> , <code>COHORT_START_DATE</code> , <code>COHORT_END_DATE</code> .
<code>outcomeDatabaseSchema</code>	The name of the database schema that is the location where the data used to define the outcome cohorts is available. If <code>exposureTable = CONDITION_ERA</code> , <code>exposureDatabaseSchema</code> is not used by assumed to be <code>cdmSchema</code> . Requires read permissions to this database.
<code>outcomeTable</code>	The tablename that contains the outcome cohorts. If <code>outcomeTable &lt;&gt; CONDITION_OCCURRENCE</code> , then expectation is <code>outcomeTable</code> has format of COHORT table: <code>COHORT_DEFINITION_ID</code> , <code>SUBJECT_ID</code> , <code>COHORT_START_DATE</code> , <code>COHORT_END_DATE</code> .
<code>cdmVersion</code>	Define the OMOP CDM version used: currently support "4" and "5".
<code>excludeDrugsFromCovariates</code>	Should the target and comparator drugs (and their descendant concepts) be excluded from the covariates? Note that this will work if the drugs are actually drug concept IDs (and not cohort IDs).
<code>firstExposureOnly</code>	Should only the first exposure per subject be included? Note that this is typically done in the <code>createStudyPopulation</code> function, but can already be done here for efficiency reasons.



<code>removeDuplicateSubjects</code>	Remove subjects that are in both the treated and comparator cohort? See details for allowed values. Note that this is typically done in the <code>createStudyPopulation</code> function, but can already be done here for efficiency reasons.
<code>restrictToCommonPeriod</code>	Restrict the analysis to the period when both treatments are observed?
<code>washoutPeriod</code>	The minimum required continuous observation time prior to index date for a person to be included in the cohort. Note that this is typically done in the <code>createStudyPopulation</code> function, but can already be done here for efficiency reasons.
<code>maxCohortSize</code>	If either the target or the comparator cohort is larger than this number it will be sampled to this size. <code>maxCohortSize = 0</code> indicates no maximum size.
<code>covariateSettings</code>	An object of type <code>covariateSettings</code> as created using the <code>createCovariateSettings</code> function in the <code>FeatureExtraction</code> package.

## Details

Based on the arguments, the treatment and comparator cohorts are retrieved, as well as outcomes occurring in exposed subjects. The treatment and comparator cohorts can be identified using the `drug_era` table, or through user-defined cohorts in a cohort table either inside the CDM instance or in a separate schema. Similarly, outcomes are identified using the `condition_era` table or through user-defined cohorts in a cohort table either inside the CDM instance or in a separate schema. Covariates are automatically extracted from the appropriate tables within the CDM. Important: The target and comparator drug must not be included in the covariates, including any descendant concepts. If the `targetId` and `comparatorId` arguments represent real concept IDs, you can set the `excludeDrugsFromCovariates` argument to `TRUE` and automatically the drugs and their descendants will be excluded from the covariates. However, if the `targetId` and `comparatorId` arguments do not represent concept IDs, you will need to manually add the drugs and descendants to the `excludedCovariateConceptIds` of the `covariateSettings` argument.

The `removeDuplicateSubjects` argument can have one of the following values:

- "keep all"** Do not remove subjects that appear in both target and comparator cohort
- "keep first"** When a subjects appear in both target and comparator cohort, only keep whichever cohort is first in time.
- "remove all"** Remove subjects that appear in both target and comparator cohort completely from the analysis."

## Value

Returns an object of type `cohortMethodData`, containing information on the cohorts, their outcomes, and baseline covariates. Information about multiple outcomes can be captured at once for efficiency reasons. This object is a list with the following components:

- outcomes** A data frame listing the outcomes per person, including the time to event, and the outcome id. Outcomes are not yet filtered based on risk window, since this is done at a later stage.
- cohorts** A data frame listing the persons in each cohort, listing their exposure status as well as the time to the end of the observation period and time to the end of the cohort (usually the end of the exposure era).
- covariates** An `ffdf` object listing the baseline covariates per person in the two cohorts. This is done using a sparse representation: covariates with a value of 0 are omitted to save space.

**covariateRef** An ffdi object describing the covariates that have been extracted.

**metaData** A list of objects with information on how the cohortMethodData object was constructed.

The generic print() and summary() functions have been implemented for this object.

---

```
getFollowUpDistribution
```

*Get the distribution of follow-up time*

---

### Description

Get the distribution of follow-up time

### Usage

```
getFollowUpDistribution(population, quantiles = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1))
```

### Arguments

population	A data frame describing the study population as created using the <a href="#">createStudyPopulation</a> function. This should at least have these columns: treatment, timeAtRisk.
quantiles	The quantiles of the population to compute minimum follow-up time for.

### Details

Get the distribution of follow-up time as quantiles. Follow-up time is defined as time-at-risk, so not censored at the outcome.

### Value

A data frame with per treatment group at each quantile the amount of follow-up time available.

---

```
getOutcomeModel
```

*Get the outcome model*

---

### Description

getOutcomeModel shows the full outcome model, so showing the betas of all variables included in the outcome model, not just the treatment variable.

### Usage

```
getOutcomeModel(outcomeModel, cohortMethodData)
```

### Arguments

outcomeModel	An object of type outcomeModel as generated using the createOutcomeModel function.
cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.

**Details**

Shows the coefficients and names of the covariates with non-zero coefficients.

**Examples**

```
# todo
```

---

getPsModel	<i>Get the propensity model</i>
------------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

getPsModel shows the propensity score model

**Usage**

```
getPsModel(propensityScore, cohortMethodData)
```

**Arguments**

propensityScore

The propensity scores as generated using the createPs function.

cohortMethodData

An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.

**Details**

Shows the coefficients and names of the covariates with non-zero coefficients.

**Examples**

```
# todo
```

---

grepCovariateNames	<i>Extract covariate names</i>
--------------------	--------------------------------

---

**Description**

Extracts covariate names using a regular-expression.

**Usage**

```
grepCovariateNames(pattern, object)
```

**Arguments**

pattern

A regular expression with which to name covariate names

object

An R object of type cohortMethodData or covariateData.

## Details

This function extracts covariate names that match a regular-expression for a cohortMethodData or covariateData object.

## Value

Returns a data.frame containing information about covariates that match a regular expression. This data.frame has the following columns:

**covariateId** Numerical identifier for use in model fitting using these covariates

**covariateName** Text identifier

**analysisId** Analysis identifier

**conceptId** OMOP common data model concept identifier, or 0

---

insertDbPopulation	<i>Insert a population into a database</i>
--------------------	--

---

## Description

Insert a population into a database

## Usage

```
insertDbPopulation(population, cohortIds = c(1, 0), connectionDetails,
  cohortDatabaseSchema, cohortTable = "cohort", createTable = FALSE,
  dropTableIfExists = TRUE, cdmVersion = "5")
```

## Arguments

population	Either an object of type cohortMethodData or a population object generated by functions like createStudyPopulation.
cohortIds	The IDs to be used for the treated and comparator cohort, respectively.
connectionDetails	An R object of type connectionDetails created using the function createConnectionDetails in the DatabaseConnector package.
cohortDatabaseSchema	The name of the database schema where the data will be written. Requires write permissions to this database. On SQL Server, this should specify both the database and the schema, so for example 'cdm_instance.dbo'.
cohortTable	The name of the table in the database schema where the data will be written.
createTable	Should a new table be created? If not, the data will be inserted into an existing table.
dropTableIfExists	If createTable = TRUE and the table already exists it will be overwritten.
cdmVersion	Define the OMOP CDM version used: currently support "4" and "5".

## Details

Inserts a population table into a database. The table in the database will have the same structure as the 'cohort' table in the Common Data Model.

---

loadCmAnalysisList	<i>Load a list of cmAnalysis from file</i>
--------------------	--

---

**Description**

Load a list of objects of type cmAnalysis from file. The file is in JSON format.

**Usage**

```
loadCmAnalysisList(file)
```

**Arguments**

file	The name of the file
------	----------------------

**Value**

A list of objects of type cmAnalysis.

---

loadCohortMethodData	<i>Load the cohort data from a folder</i>
----------------------	---

---

**Description**

loadCohortMethodData loads an object of type cohortMethodData from a folder in the file system.

**Usage**

```
loadCohortMethodData(file, readOnly = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

file	The name of the folder containing the data.
readOnly	If true, the data is opened read only.

**Details**

The data will be written to a set of files in the folder specified by the user.

**Value**

An object of class cohortMethodData.

**Examples**

```
# todo
```

---

```
loadDrugComparatorOutcomesList
```

*Load a list of drugComparatorOutcomes from file*

---

### Description

Load a list of objects of type drugComparatorOutcomes from file. The file is in JSON format.

### Usage

```
loadDrugComparatorOutcomesList(file)
```

### Arguments

file	The name of the file
------	----------------------

### Value

A list of objects of type drugComparatorOutcome.

---

```
matchOnPs
```

*Match persons by propensity score*

---

### Description

matchOnPs uses the provided propensity scores to match treated to comparator persons.

### Usage

```
matchOnPs(population, caliper = 0.2, caliperScale = "standardized logit",
  maxRatio = 1, stratificationColumns = c())
```

### Arguments

population	A data frame with the three columns described below.
caliper	The caliper for matching. A caliper is the distance which is acceptable for any match. Observations which are outside of the caliper are dropped. A caliper of 0 means no caliper is used.
caliperScale	The scale on which the caliper is defined. Three scales are supported: caliperScale = 'propensity score', caliperScale = 'standardized', or caliperScale = 'standardized logit'. On the standardized scale, the caliper is interpreted in standard deviations of the propensity score distribution. 'standardized logit' is similar, except that the propensity score is transformed to the logit scale because the PS is more likely to be normally distributed on that scale (Austin, 2011).
maxRatio	The maximum number of persons in the comparator arm to be matched to each person in the treatment arm. A maxRatio of 0 means no maximum: all comparators will be assigned to a treated person.

**stratificationColumns**

Names or numbers of one or more columns in the data data.frame on which subjects should be stratified prior to matching. No persons will be matched with persons outside of the strata identified by the values in these columns.

**Details**

The data frame should have at least the following three columns:

rowId	(numeric)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

This function implements the greedy variable-ratio matching algorithm described in Rassen et al (2012).

The default caliper (0.2 on the standardized logit scale) is the one recommended by Austin (2011).

**Value**

Returns a data frame with the same columns as the input data plus one extra column: stratumId. Any rows that could not be matched are removed

**References**

Rassen JA, Shelat AA, Myers J, Glynn RJ, Rothman KJ, Schneeweiss S. (2012) One-to-many propensity score matching in cohort studies, *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety*, May, 21 Suppl 2:69-80.

Austin, PC. (2011) Optimal caliper widths for propensity-score matching when estimating differences in means and differences in proportions in observational studies, *Pharmaceutical statistics*, March, 10(2):150-161.

**Examples**

```
rowId <- 1:5
treatment <- c(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)
propensityScore <- c(0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.4, 1)
age_group <- c(1, 1, 1, 1, 1)
data <- data.frame(rowId = rowId,
                   treatment = treatment,
                   propensityScore = propensityScore,
                   age_group = age_group)
result <- matchOnPs(data, caliper = 0, maxRatio = 1, stratificationColumns = "age_group")
```

## Description

matchOnPsAndCovariates uses the provided propensity scores and a set of covariates to match treated to comparator persons.

## Usage

```
matchOnPsAndCovariates(population, caliper = 0.2,
  caliperScale = "standardized logit", maxRatio = 1, cohortMethodData,
  covariateIds)
```

## Arguments

population	A data frame with the three columns described below.
caliper	The caliper for matching. A caliper is the distance which is acceptable for any match. Observations which are outside of the caliper are dropped. A caliper of 0 means no caliper is used.
caliperScale	The scale on which the caliper is defined. Three scales are supported: caliperScale = 'propensity score', caliperScale = 'standardized', or caliperScale = 'standardized logit'. On the standardized scale, the caliper is interpreted in standard deviations of the propensity score distribution. 'standardized logit' is similar, except that the propensity score is transformed to the logit scale because the PS is more likely to be normally distributed on that scale (Austin, 2011).
maxRatio	The maximum number of persons in the comparator arm to be matched to each person in the treatment arm. A maxRatio of 0 means no maximum: all comparators will be assigned to a treated person.
cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.
covariateIds	One or more covariate IDs in the cohortMethodData object on which subjects should be also matched.

## Details

The data frame should have at least the following three columns:

rowId	(numeric)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

This function implements the greedy variable-ratio matching algorithm described in Rassen et al (2012).

The default caliper (0.2 on the standardized logit scale) is the one recommended by Austin (2011).

## Value

Returns a data frame with the same columns as the input data plus one extra column: stratumId. Any rows that could not be matched are removed



## References

Rassen JA, Shelat AA, Myers J, Glynn RJ, Rothman KJ, Schneeweiss S. (2012) One-to-many propensity score matching in cohort studies, *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety*, May, 21 Suppl 2:69-80.

Austin, PC. (2011) Optimal caliper widths for propensity-score matching when estimating differences in means and differences in proportions in observational studies, *Pharmaceutical statistics*, March, 10(2):150-161.

## Examples

```
# todo
```

---

```
plotCovariateBalanceOfTopVariables
      Plot variables with largest imbalance
```

---

## Description

Create a plot showing those variables having the largest imbalance before matching, and those variables having the largest imbalance after matching. Requires running `computeCovariateBalance` first.

## Usage

```
plotCovariateBalanceOfTopVariables(balance, n = 20, maxNameWidth = 100,
  fileName = NULL, beforeLabel = "before matching",
  afterLabel = "after matching")
```

## Arguments

<code>balance</code>	A data frame created by the <code>computeCovariateBalance</code> function.
<code>n</code>	Count of variates to plot.
<code>maxNameWidth</code>	Covariate names longer than this number of characters are truncated to create a nicer plot.
<code>fileName</code>	Name of the file where the plot should be saved, for example 'plot.png'. See the function <code>ggsave</code> in the <code>ggplot2</code> package for supported file formats.
<code>beforeLabel</code>	Label for identifying data before matching / stratification / trimming.
<code>afterLabel</code>	Label for identifying data after matching / stratification / trimming.

## Value

A ggplot object. Use the [ggsave](#) function to save to file in a different format.

---

```
plotCovariateBalanceScatterPlot
```

*Create a scatterplot of the covariate balance*

---

### Description

Create a scatterplot of the covariate balance, showing all variables with balance before and after matching on the x and y axis respectively. Requires running `computeCovariateBalance` first.

### Usage

```
plotCovariateBalanceScatterPlot(balance, absolute = TRUE, threshold = 0,
  fileName = NULL, beforeLabel = "Before matching",
  afterLabel = "After matching")
```

### Arguments

<code>balance</code>	A data frame created by the <code>computeCovariateBalance</code> function.
<code>absolute</code>	Should the absolute value of the difference be used?
<code>threshold</code>	Show a threshold value for after matching standardized difference.
<code>fileName</code>	Name of the file where the plot should be saved, for example 'plot.png'. See the function <code>ggsave</code> in the <code>ggplot2</code> package for supported file formats.
<code>beforeLabel</code>	Label for the x-axis.
<code>afterLabel</code>	Label for the y-axis.

### Value

A ggplot object. Use the [ggsave](#) function to save to file in a different format.

---

```
plotFollowUpDistribution
```

*Plot the distribution of follow-up time*

---

### Description

Plot the distribution of follow-up time

### Usage

```
plotFollowUpDistribution(population, targetLabel = "Target",
  comparatorLabel = "Comparator", yScale = "percent", logYScale = FALSE,
  dataCutoff = 0.95, title = "Follow-up distribution", fileName = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

population	A data frame describing the study population as created using the <a href="#">createStudyPopulation</a> function. This should at least have these columns: treatment, timeAtRisk.
targetLabel	A label to us for the target cohort.
comparatorLabel	A label to us for the comparator cohort.
yScale	Should be either 'percent' or 'count'.
logYScale	Should the Y axis be on the log scale?
dataCutoff	Fraction of the data (number censored) after which the graph will not be shown.
title	The main title of the plot.
fileName	Name of the file where the plot should be saved, for example 'plot.png'. See the function ggsave in the ggplot2 package for supported file formats.

**Details**

Plot the distribution of follow-up time, stratified by treatment group. Follow-up time is defined as time-at-risk, so not censored at the outcome.

**Value**

A ggplot object. Use the [ggsave](#) function to save to file in a different format.

---

plotKaplanMeier	<i>Plot the Kaplan-Meier curve</i>
-----------------	------------------------------------

---

**Description**

plotKaplanMeier creates the Kaplan-Meier survival plot. Based (partially) on recommendations in Pocock et al (2002).

**Usage**

```
plotKaplanMeier(population, censorMarks = FALSE, confidenceIntervals = TRUE,
  includeZero = FALSE, dataTable = TRUE, dataCutoff = 0.9,
  treatmentLabel = "Treated", comparatorLabel = "Comparator", title,
  fileName = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

population	A population object generated by createStudyPopulation, potentially filtered by other functions.
censorMarks	Whether or not to include censor marks in the plot.
confidenceIntervals	Plot 95 percent confidence intervals? Default is TRUE, as recommended by Pocock et al.
includeZero	Should the y axis include zero, or only go down to the lowest observed survival? The default is FALSE, as recommended by Pocock et al.

dataTable	Should the numbers at risk be shown in a table? Default is TRUE, as recommended by Pocock et al.
dataCutoff	Fraction of the data (number censored) after which the graph will not be shown. The default is 90 percent as recommended by Pocock et al.
treatmentLabel	A label to us for the treated cohort.
comparatorLabel	A label to us for the comparator cohort.
title	The main title of the plot.
fileName	Name of the file where the plot should be saved, for example 'plot.png'. See the function ggsave in the ggplot2 package for supported file formats.

### Value

A ggplot object. Use the [ggsave](#) function to save to file in a different format.

### References

Pocock SJ, Clayton TC, Altman DG. (2002) Survival plots of time-to-event outcomes in clinical trials: good practice and pitfalls, Lancet, 359:1686-89.

---

plotPs	<i>Plot the propensity score distribution</i>
--------	---

---

### Description

plotPs shows the propensity (or preference) score distribution

### Usage

```
plotPs(data, unfilteredData = NULL, scale = "preference",
       type = "density", binWidth = 0.05, treatmentLabel = "Treated",
       comparatorLabel = "Comparator", fileName = NULL)
```

### Arguments

data	A data frame with at least the two columns described below
unfilteredData	To be used when computing preference scores on data from which subjects have already been removed, e.g. through trimming and/or matching. This data frame should have the same structure as data.
scale	The scale of the graph. Two scales are supported: scale = 'propensity' or scale = 'preference'. The preference score scale is defined by Walker et al (2013).
type	Type of plot. Two possible values: type = 'density' or type = 'histogram'
binWidth	For histograms, the width of the bins
treatmentLabel	A label to us for the treated cohort.
comparatorLabel	A label to us for the comparator cohort.
fileName	Name of the file where the plot should be saved, for example 'plot.png'. See the function ggsave in the ggplot2 package for supported file formats.

## Details

The data frame should have at least the following two columns:

treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

## Value

A ggplot object. Use the [ggsave](#) function to save to file in a different format.

## References

Walker AM, Patrick AR, Lauer MS, Hornbrook MC, Marin MG, Platt R, Roger VL, Stang P, and Schneeweiss S. (2013) A tool for assessing the feasibility of comparative effectiveness research, *Comparative Effective Research*, 3, 11-20

## Examples

```
treatment <- rep(0:1, each = 100)
propensityScore <- c(rnorm(100, mean = 0.4, sd = 0.25), rnorm(100, mean = 0.6, sd = 0.25))
data <- data.frame(treatment = treatment, propensityScore = propensityScore)
data <- data[data$propensityScore > 0 & data$propensityScore < 1, ]
plotPs(data)
```

---

runCmAnalyses	<i>Run a list of analyses</i>
---------------	-------------------------------

---

## Description

Run a list of analyses

## Usage

```
runCmAnalyses(connectionDetails, cdmDatabaseSchema,
  oracleTempSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema,
  exposureDatabaseSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema, exposureTable = "drug_era",
  outcomeDatabaseSchema = cdmDatabaseSchema,
  outcomeTable = "condition_occurrence", cdmVersion = 5,
  outputFolder = "./CohortMethodOutput", cmAnalysisList,
  drugComparatorOutcomesList, refitPsForEveryOutcome = FALSE,
  getDbCohortMethodDataThreads = 1, createPsThreads = 1, psCvThreads = 1,
  createStudyPopThreads = 1, trimMatchStratifyThreads = 1,
  computeCovarBalThreads = 1, fitOutcomeModelThreads = 1,
  outcomeCvThreads = 1, outcomeIdsOfInterest)
```

## Arguments

### connectionDetails

An R object of type `connectionDetails` created using the function `createConnectionDetails` in the `DatabaseConnector` package.

### cdmDatabaseSchema

The name of the database schema that contains the OMOP CDM instance. Requires read permissions to this database. On SQL Server, this should specify both the database and the schema, so for example `'cdm_instance.dbo'`.

### oracleTempSchema

For Oracle only: the name of the database schema where you want all temporary tables to be managed. Requires create/insert permissions to this database.

### exposureDatabaseSchema

The name of the database schema that is the location where the exposure data used to define the exposure cohorts is available. If `exposureTable = DRUG_ERA`, `exposureDatabaseSchema` is not used by assumed to be `cdmSchema`. Requires read permissions to this database.

### exposureTable

The tablename that contains the exposure cohorts. If `exposureTable <> DRUG_ERA`, then expectation is `exposureTable` has format of COHORT table: `COHORT_DEFINITION_ID, SUBJECT_ID, COHORT_START_DATE, COHORT_END_DATE`.

### outcomeDatabaseSchema

The name of the database schema that is the location where the data used to define the outcome cohorts is available. If `exposureTable = CONDITION_ERA`, `exposureDatabaseSchema` is not used by assumed to be `cdmSchema`. Requires read permissions to this database.

### outcomeTable

The tablename that contains the outcome cohorts. If `outcomeTable <> CONDITION_OCCURRENCE`, then expectation is `outcomeTable` has format of COHORT table: `COHORT_DEFINITION_ID, SUBJECT_ID, COHORT_START_DATE, COHORT_END_DATE`.

### cdmVersion

Define the OMOP CDM version used: currently support "4" and "5".

### outputFolder

Name of the folder where all the outputs will written to.

### cmAnalysisList

A list of objects of type `cmAnalysis` as created using the [createCmAnalysis](#) function.

### drugComparatorOutcomesList

A list of objects of type `drugComparatorOutcomes` as created using the [createDrugComparatorOutcomes](#) function.

### refitPsForEveryOutcome

Should the propensity model be fitted for every outcome (i.e. after people who already had the outcome are removed)? If false, a single propensity model will be fitted, and people who had the outcome previously will be removed afterwards.

### getDbCohortMethodDataThreads

The number of parallel threads to use for building the cohortMethod data objects.

### createPsThreads

The number of parallel threads to use for fitting the propensity models.

### psCvThreads

The number of parallel threads to use for the cross-validation when estimating the hyperparameter for the propensity model. Note that the total number of CV threads at one time could be `'createPsThreads * psCvThreads'`.

### createStudyPopThreads

The number of parallel threads to use for creating the study population.

trimMatchStratifyThreads	The number of parallel threads to use for trimming, matching and stratifying.
computeCovarBalThreads	The number of parallel threads to use for computing the covariate balance.
fitOutcomeModelThreads	The number of parallel threads to use for fitting the outcome models.
outcomeCvThreads	The number of parallel threads to use for the cross- validation when estimating the hyperparameter for the outcome model. Note that the total number of CV threads at one time could be 'fitOutcomeModelThreads * outcomeCvThreads'.
outcomeIdsOfInterest	If provided, creation of non-essential files will be skipped for all other outcome IDs. This could be helpful to speed up analyses with many controls.

## Details

Run a list of analyses for the drug-comparator-outcomes of interest. This function will run all specified analyses against all hypotheses of interest, meaning that the total number of outcome models is 'length(cmAnalysisList) \* length(drugComparatorOutcomesList)' (if all analyses specify an outcome model should be fitted). When you provide several analyses it will determine whether any of the analyses have anything in common, and will take advantage of this fact. For example, if we specify several analyses that only differ in the way the outcome model is fitted, then this function will extract the data and fit the propensity model only once, and re-use this in all the analysis.

## Value

A data frame with the following columns:

analysisId	The unique identifier for a set of analysis choices.
targetId	The ID of the target drug.
comparatorId	The ID of the comparator group.
excludedCovariateConceptIds	The ID(s) of concepts that cannot be used to construct covariates.
includedCovariateConceptIds	The ID(s) of concepts that should be used to construct covariates.
outcomeId	The ID of the outcome
cohortMethodDataFolder	The ID of the outcome.
sharedPsFile	The name of the file containing the propensity scores of the shared propensity model. This model is used to create the outcome-specific propensity scores by removing people with prior outcomes.
studyPopFile	The name of the file containing the study population (prior and trimming, matching, or stratification on the PS).
psFile	The name of file containing the propensity scores for a specific outcomes (ie after people with prior outcomes have been removed).
strataFile	The name of the file containing the identifiers of the population after any trimming, matching or stratifying, including their strata.
covariateBalanceFile	The name of the file containing the covariate balance (ie. the output of the computeCovariateBalance function.
outcomeModelFile	The name of the file containing the outcome model.

---

saveCmAnalysisList	<i>Save a list of cmAnalysis to file</i>
--------------------	--

---

**Description**

Write a list of objects of type cmAnalysis to file. The file is in JSON format.

**Usage**

```
saveCmAnalysisList(cmAnalysisList, file)
```

**Arguments**

cmAnalysisList	The cmAnalysis list to be written to file
file	The name of the file where the results will be written

---

saveCohortMethodData	<i>Save the cohort data to folder</i>
----------------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

saveCohortMethodData saves an object of type cohortMethodData to folder.

**Usage**

```
saveCohortMethodData(cohortMethodData, file)
```

**Arguments**

cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.
file	The name of the folder where the data will be written. The folder should not yet exist.

**Details**

The data will be written to a set of files in the folder specified by the user.

---

saveDrugComparatorOutcomesList	<i>Save a list of drugComparatorOutcome to file</i>
--------------------------------	---

---

**Description**

Write a list of objects of type drugComparatorOutcomes to file. The file is in JSON format.

**Usage**

```
saveDrugComparatorOutcomesList(drugComparatorOutcomesList, file)
```

**Arguments**

drugComparatorOutcomesList	The drugComparatorOutcomes list to be written to file
file	The name of the file where the results will be written



---

```
simulateCohortMethodData
```

*Generate simulated data*

---

### Description

simulateCohortMethodData creates a cohortMethodData object with simulated data.

### Usage

```
simulateCohortMethodData(profile, n = 10000)
```

### Arguments

profile	An object of type cohortMethodDataSimulationProfile as generated using the createCohortMethodDataSimulationProfile function.
n	The size of the population to be generated.

### Details

This function generates simulated data that is in many ways similar to the original data on which the simulation profile is based. The contains same outcome, comparator, and outcome concept IDs, and the covariates and their 1st order statistics should be comparable.

### Value

An object of type cohortMethodData.

---

```
stratifyByPs
```

*Stratify persons by propensity score*

---

### Description

stratifyByPs uses the provided propensity scores to stratify persons. Additional stratification variables for stratifications can also be used.

### Usage

```
stratifyByPs(population, numberOfStrata = 5, stratificationColumns = c(),
  baseSelection = "all")
```

**Arguments**

population	A data frame with the three columns described below
numberOfStrata	How many strata? The boundaries of the strata are automatically defined to contain equal numbers of treated persons.
stratificationColumns	Names of one or more columns in the data data.frame on which subjects should also be stratified in addition to stratification on propensity score.
baseSelection	What is the base selection of subjects where the strata bounds are to be determined? Strata are defined as equally-sized strata inside this selection. Possible values are "all", "target", and "comparator".

**Details**

The data frame should have the following three columns:

rowId	(numeric)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

**Value**

Returns a data frame with the same columns as the input data plus one extra column: stratumId.

**Examples**

```
rowId <- 1:200
treatment <- rep(0:1, each = 100)
propensityScore <- c(runif(100, min = 0, max = 1), runif(100, min = 0, max = 1))
data <- data.frame(rowId = rowId, treatment = treatment, propensityScore = propensityScore)
result <- stratifyByPs(data, 5)
```

---

stratifyByPsAndCovariates

*Stratify persons by propensity score and other covariates*

---

**Description**

stratifyByPsAndCovariates uses the provided propensity scores and covariatesto stratify persons.

**Usage**

```
stratifyByPsAndCovariates(population, numberOfStrata = 5,
  baseSelection = "all", cohortMethodData, covariateIds)
```

**Arguments**

population	A data frame with the three columns described below
numberOfStrata	Into how many strata should the propensity score be divided? The boundaries of the strata are automatically defined to contain equal numbers of treated persons.
baseSelection	What is the base selection of subjects where the strata bounds are to be determined? Strata are defined as equally-sized strata inside this selection. Possible values are "all", "target", and "comparator".
cohortMethodData	An object of type cohortMethodData as generated using getDbCohortMethodData.
covariateIds	One or more covariate IDs in the cohortMethodData object on which subjects should also be stratified.

**Details**

The data frame should have the following three columns:

rowId	(integer)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

**Value**

Returns a data frame with the same columns as the input population plus one extra column: stratumId.

**Examples**

```
# todo
```

---

summarizeAnalyses	<i>Create a summary report of the analyses</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Create a summary report of the analyses

**Usage**

```
summarizeAnalyses(referenceTable)
```

**Arguments**

referenceTable A data.frame as created by the [runCmAnalyses](#) function.

**Value**

A data frame with the following columns:

analysisId	The unique identifier for a set of analysis choices.
targetId	The ID of the target drug.
comparatorId	The ID of the comparator group.
indicationConceptIds	The ID(s) of indications in which to nest to study.
outcomeId	The ID of the outcome.
rr	The estimated effect size.
ci95lb	The lower bound of the 95 percent confidence interval.
ci95ub	The upper bound of the 95 percent confidence interval.
treated	The number of subjects in the treated group (after any trimming and matching).
comparator	The number of subjects in the comparator group (after any trimming and matching).
eventsTreated	The number of outcomes in the treated group (after any trimming and matching).
eventsComparator	The number of outcomes in the comparator group (after any trimming and matching).
logRr	The log of the estimated relative risk.
seLogRr	The standard error of the log of the estimated relative risk.

---

trimByPs

*Trim persons by propensity score*


---

## Description

trimByPs uses the provided propensity scores to trim subjects with extreme scores.

## Usage

```
trimByPs(population, trimFraction = 0.05)
```

## Arguments

population	A data frame with the three columns described below
trimFraction	This fraction will be removed from each treatment group. In the treatment group, persons with the highest propensity scores will be removed, in the comparator group person with the lowest scores will be removed.

## Details

The data frame should have the following three columns:

rowId	(numeric)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

## Value

Returns a data frame with the same three columns as the input.

**Examples**

```
rowId <- 1:2000
treatment <- rep(0:1, each = 1000)
propensityScore <- c(runif(1000, min = 0, max = 1), runif(1000, min = 0, max = 1))
data <- data.frame(rowId = rowId, treatment = treatment, propensityScore = propensityScore)
result <- trimByPs(data, 0.05)
```

---

trimByPsToEquipoise	<i>Keep only persons in clinical equipoise</i>
---------------------	--

---

**Description**

trimByPsToEquipoise uses the preference score to trim subjects that are not in clinical equipoise

**Usage**

```
trimByPsToEquipoise(population, bounds = c(0.25, 0.75))
```

**Arguments**

population	A data frame with at least the three columns described below
bounds	The upper and lower bound on the preference score for keeping persons

**Details**

The data frame should have the following three columns:

rowId	(numeric)	A unique identifier for each row (e.g. the person ID)
treatment	(integer)	Column indicating whether the person is in the treated (1) or comparator (0) group
propensityScore	(numeric)	Propensity score

**Value**

Returns a data frame with the same three columns as the input.

**References**

Walker AM, Patrick AR, Lauer MS, Hornbrook MC, Marin MG, Platt R, Roger VL, Stang P, and Schneeweiss S. (2013) A tool for assessing the feasibility of comparative effectiveness research, *Comparative Effective Research*, 3, 11-20

**Examples**

```
rowId <- 1:2000
treatment <- rep(0:1, each = 1000)
propensityScore <- c(runif(1000, min = 0, max = 1), runif(1000, min = 0, max = 1))
data <- data.frame(rowId = rowId, treatment = treatment, propensityScore = propensityScore)
result <- trimByPsToEquipoise(data)
```

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