opticut: likelihood based optimal partitioning for indicator species analysis

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Introduction

Identifying and monitoring indicator species has long been considered a cost-effective way of tracking environmental change or the status of the biota. Examples include the characterization of vegetation types (Chytry et al. 2002), degradation of ecosystems (McGeoch & Chown 1988), or signalling cryptic or rare species (Halme et al. 2009). Throughout these examples, a key attribute of indicator species (also referred to as character or differential species) is that they have strong associations with the environmental variables that they are supposed to indicate.

Approaches to quantify the degree of environmental associations for species (indicator value) traditionally falls into three major types of approaches:

1. contingency table based measures (De Caceres & Legendre 2009);
2. analysis of variance (ANOVA; Wildi & Feldmeyer-Christe 2013); and
3. the widely used non-parametric IndVal method (Dufrene & Legendre 1997).

While the different approaches have strong appeal and applications, they do not always meet the challenges presented by ecological data.

Ecological data come in different forms: binary, ordinal, count, abundance, or presence only data. Some of these data types are suitable for a particular approach, while some formats need 'tweaking'. For example, binarizing abundance or count data for contingency tables leads to information loss. ANOVA, on the other hand, implies normality and homoscedastic errors, which might not always be satisfied by 0/1, ordinal, skewed, or percent cover data. Finally, randomization test for the IndVal approach requires count data, which renders hypothesis testing difficult if not impossible for continuous or ordinal data.

Another staple of observation field studies is the presence of modifying or confounding variables, or the presence of systematic biases (variable sampling effort, imperfect detectability, sample selection bias). Ignoring these effects can lead to erroneous indicator species analysis (Zettler et al. 2013). Controlling for these effects can improve the assessment of species-environment relationships, thus lead to better evaluation of indicator species.

To address these limitations, Kemencei et al. (2014) proposed a model-based indicator species analysis that accounted for the effects of modifying variables, and non-independence in the data due to paired sampling design. This model-based approach has been generalized and made available in the opticut R extension package. The opticut package offers computationally efficient and extensible algorithms for finding indicator species, tools for exploring and visualizing the results, and quantifying uncertainties. This manual showcases the functionality of the package.

Install

The opticut R package can be installed from the Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN) as:

```r
install.packages("opticut")
```

Install development version from GitHub:

```r
library(devtools)
install_github("psolymos/opticut")
```

User visible changes in the package are listed in the NEWS file.

Report a problem

Use the issue tracker to report a problem.

License

GPL-2

Loading the package

To get started, open R and load tha **opticut** package as:

```r
library(opticut)
```

```
## Loading required package: pbapply
```

```
## opticut 0.0-9     2016-10-30
```

Partitioning for single species

Optimal partitioning (optimal cut, or in short: opticut) is found for each species independent of each other. We make observations (y_i) of possibly multiple species at $i = 1, ..., n$ sites. Now let us consider a discrete site descriptor (g_i) with K levels or strata $(K > 2)$. This stratification might come from remotely sensed or other geospatial information, field measurements, or from multivariate clustering. We can use g_i to create $m = 1, ..., M$ possible binary partitions based on coding one or more levels as 1s and the rest with 0s. We denote any such possible partition as $z^{(m)}$. The total number of binary partitions is $M = 2^{K-1} - 1$, not counting cases when 0s or 1s are completely missing (which is the null model). The opticut method, as opposed to for example IndVal method is invariant to the coding of 0s and 1s in $z^{(m)}$. This

means that complementary cases, such as $z^{(m)}$ and $1 - z^{(m)}$, are treated as interchangeable. The opticut package provides utility functions to create and check binary partitions from multi-level vectors (`kComb`, `allComb`, `checkComb`).

Manipulating partitions

Finding all combinations does not require a model or observed responses. It only takes a classification vector with $K > 1$ strata. The `kComb` function returns a 'contrast' matrix corresponding to all possible binary partitions of the factor with K levels:

```
kComb(k = 2)
```

```
##      [,1]
## [1,]    1
## [2,]    0
```

```
kComb(k = 3)
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]    1    0    0
## [2,]    0    1    0
## [3,]    0    0    1
```

```
kComb(k = 4)
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7]
## [1,]    1    0    0    0    1    1    1
## [2,]    0    1    0    0    1    0    0
## [3,]    0    0    1    0    0    1    0
## [4,]    0    0    0    1    0    0    1
```

`allComb` takes a classification vector with at least 2 levels and returns a model matrix with binary partitions. `checkComb` checks if combinations are unique and non-complementary (misfits are returned as attributes):

```
(f <- rep(LETTERS[1:4], each=2))
```

```
## [1] "A" "A" "B" "B" "C" "C" "D" "D"
```

```
(mc <- allComb(f, collapse = "_"))
```

```
##   A B C D A_B A_C A_D
## A 1 0 0 0   1   1   1
## A 1 0 0 0   1   1   1
## B 0 1 0 0   1   0   0
## B 0 1 0 0   1   0   0
## C 0 0 1 0   0   1   0
## C 0 0 1 0   0   1   0
```

```
## D 0 0 0 1   0   0   1
## D 0 0 0 1   0   0   1
## attr(,"collapse")
## [1] "_"
## attr(,"comb")
## [1] "all"
```

```r
checkComb(mc)
```

```
## [1] TRUE
## attr(,"comp")
##      i j
## attr(,"same")
##      i j
```

```r
mc2 <- cbind(z = 1 - mc[,1], mc[,c(1:ncol(mc), 1)])
colnames(mc2) <- 1:ncol(mc2)
mc2
```

```
##   1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
## A 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1
## A 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 1
## B 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0
## B 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0
## C 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0
## C 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0
## D 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0
## D 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0
```

```r
checkComb(mc2)
```

```
## [1] FALSE
## attr(,"comp")
##      i j
## [1,] 1 2
## [2,] 1 9
## attr(,"same")
##      i j
## [1,] 9 2
```

Choosing a parametric model

A suitable parametric (or semi-parametric) model can be chosen to describe the relationship between the observations for a single species and the site descriptors. The choice of the parametric model depends on the nature of the observations and the goals of the study. The systematic component of the model (also called the linear predictor), $f(\mu_i) = \beta_0^{(m)} +$

$\beta_1^{(m)} z_i^{(m)} + \sum_{j=1}^{p} \alpha_j^{(m)} x_{ij}$ x_ij, is linked to the random component of the model through the link function f. The expected value is given by the inverse link function: $E[Y_i] = \mu_i = f^{-1}(\beta_0^{(m)} + \beta_1^{(m)} z_i^{(m)} + \sum_{j=1}^{p} \alpha_j^{(m)} x_{ij})$. Expected values can then be estimated for each partition. The symbol x_{ij} denotes other site descriptors ($j = 1, ..., p$; number of predictors besides g_i) that can take discrete or continuous values. These variables might describe variation in the observations not fully explained by the partitions, e.g. due to spatially uneven distribution, differences in sampling effort, or environmental variables interfering with the observation process.

We can estimate the parameters in the linear predictor (and possibly other "nuisance"" factors such as variance components in mixed effects models) and calculate expected values. The probability density function for the model $P(Y_i = y_i \mid z_i^{(m)}, x_{ij}, \theta)$ is used to find the maximum likelihood estimates (MLE) of the model parameters $\hat{\theta}^{(m)} = (\hat{\beta}_0^{(m)}, \hat{\beta}_1^{(m)}, \hat{\alpha}_1^{(m)}, \ldots, \hat{\alpha}_p^{(m)})$ that jointly maximize the log-likelihood function. The log-likelihood function evaluated at the MLE is $l(\hat{\theta}^{(m)}; y)$.

The opticut package has several built-in distributions that can be specified though the `dist` argument. Currently available distributions:

- `"gaussian"`: real valued continuous observations, e.g. biomass;
- `"poisson"`: Poisson count data;
- `"binomial"`: presence-absence type data;
- `"negbin"`: overdispersed Negative Binomial count data;
- `"beta"`: continuous response in the unit interval, e.g. percent cover;
- `"zip"`, `"zip2"`: zero-inflated Poisson counts (partitioning in count model: `"zip"`, or in zero model: `"zip2"`);
- `"zinb"`, `"zinb2"`: zero-inflated Negative Binomial counts (partitioning in count model: `"zinb"`, or in zero model: `"zinb2"`);
- `"ordered"`: response measured on ordinal scale, e.g. ordinal vegetation cover (only available for single species because ordinal levels often do not match actoss different species thus leading to different intercept terms);
- `"rsf"`, `"rspf"`: presence-only data using resource selection and resource selection probability functions (only available for single species because used distribution is unique for all species thus multiple species cannot be combined in a single input matrix).

Other distributions can be specified by user-defined functions as explained later in the manual.

All combinations

Fitting the model to all the M candidate binary partitions leads to a set of log-likelihood values. One can compare the log-likelihood values $l(\hat{\theta}^{(m)}; y))$ to the log-likelihood value based on the null model $l(\hat{\theta}^{(0)}; y)$. We define the null model the same way as the other M models but without the binary partition: $\beta_1^{(m)} = 0$. The log of the likelihood ratio between the M candidate models and the null model can be calculated as $l(\hat{\theta}^{(m)}; y) - l(\hat{\theta}^{(0)}; y))$.

The best-supported model m' and the corresponding binary partition $z^{(m')}$ is the model with the highest log-likelihood ratio value $l(\hat{\theta}^{(m')}; y)$. Model weights are calculated as $w_m = exp\{l(\hat{\theta}^{(m)}; y) - l(\hat{\theta}^{(m')}; y)\} / \sum_{m=1}^{M} exp\{l(\hat{\theta}^{(m)}; y) - l(\hat{\theta}^{(m')}; y)\}$. These weights sum to 1 and indicate asymptotic probabilities of finding the same best partition when the sampling is replicated. The concentration of asymptotic probabilities among the models can be expressed through the Simpson index $H = \sum_{m=1}^{M} w_m^2$. High values of H indicate high concentration of the model weights for one or few model out of the total number of models compared (Kemencei et al. 2014).

The opticut package provides the `opticut1` function to fit a chosen parametric model to a set of binary partitions and the summary returns the model output for each candidate partition with log likelihood ratios and model weights.

```
## stratification
g <- c(1,1,1,1, 2,2,2,2, 3,3,3,3)
## abundance
y <- c(0,0,3,0, 2,3,0,5, 5,6,3,4)
mods <- opticut1(Y = y, Z = allComb(g), dist = "gaussian")
mods
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
## I = 0.8932; w = 0.5742; H = 0.4926; logL_null = -25.93
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##    assoc     I   mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## 3     ++ 0.8932 1.625 4.50 3.233 0.5742
## 1     -- 0.8798 3.500 0.75 2.879 0.4031
## 3 binary splits (1 model not shown)
```

Not all the models are printed, only the ones where the log likelihood ratio (`logLR`) value is ≥ 2 by default. We can change this by explicitly defining the `cut` argument in the `print` method (or by setting the `cut` global option via `ocoptions`, as explained later):

```
print(mods, cut = -Inf)
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
## I = 0.8932; w = 0.5742; H = 0.4926; logL_null = -25.93
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##    assoc      I   mu0  mu1    logLR       w
## 3     ++ 0.89319 1.625 4.50 3.232629 0.57415
## 1     -- 0.87983 3.500 0.75 2.878892 0.40309
## 2      - 0.06242 2.625 2.50 0.004726 0.02276
## 3 binary splits
```

Model support across the partitions can be visualized by the model weight plot (`wplot`):

```r
wplot(mods, cut = -Inf)
```
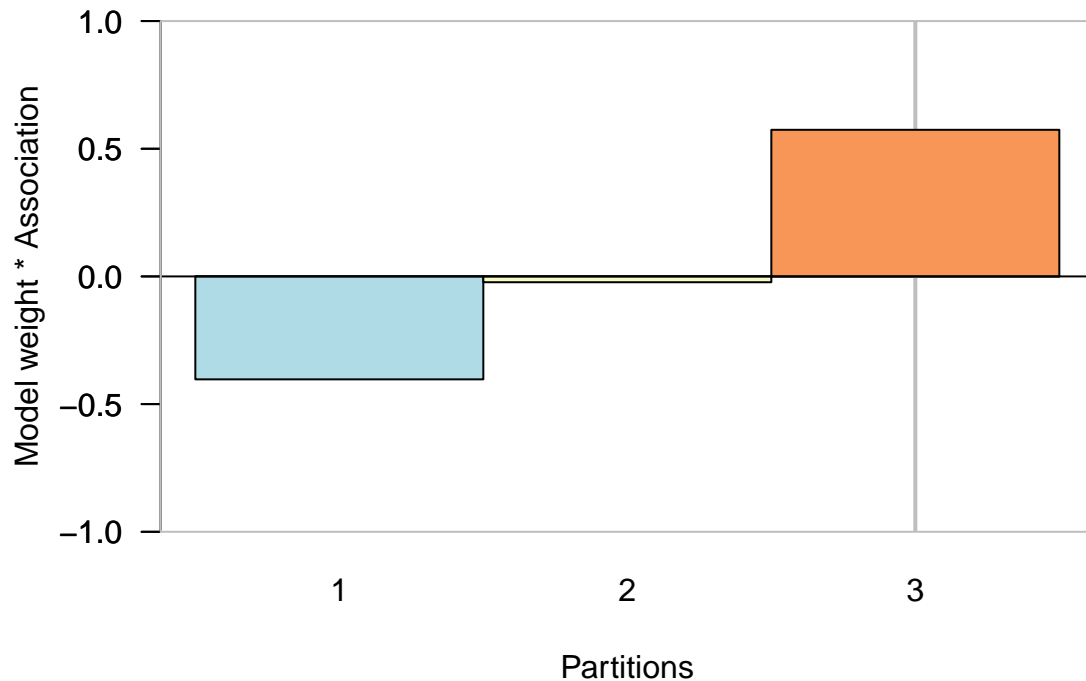

The `opticut` function can take matrices or a model formula as its input, and repeats the procedure done by opticut1 for multiple species in a community matrix. The summary shows the best-supported model for each species. It is the preferred way of specifying the model for single species as well. Single species results are part of the `$species` element of the output object:

```r
(oc <- opticut(y, strata = g, comb = "all", dist = "gaussian"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
##
## Call:
## opticut.default(Y = y, strata = g, dist = "gaussian", comb = "all")
##
## 1 species, 3 binary splits
```

```r
summary(oc)
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
##
## Call:
## opticut.default(Y = y, strata = g, dist = "gaussian", comb = "all")
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##      split assoc      I   mu0 mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1     3     ++ 0.8932 1.625 4.5 3.233 0.5742
## 3 binary splits
```

```
oc$species
```

```
## $`Sp 1`
## Univariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
## I = 0.8932; w = 0.5742; H = 0.4926; logL_null = -25.93
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##   assoc      I   mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## 3    ++ 0.8932 1.625 4.50 3.233 0.5742
## 1    -- 0.8798 3.500 0.75 2.879 0.4031
## 3 binary splits (1 model not shown)
```

The use of the `opticut1` function is generally discouraged: some of the internal checks are not guaranteed to flag issues when the formula-to-model-matrix translation is side-stepped (this is what is happening when the modifier variables are supplied as `X` argument in `opticut1`). Use the `opticut` with a single species instead, as shown above.
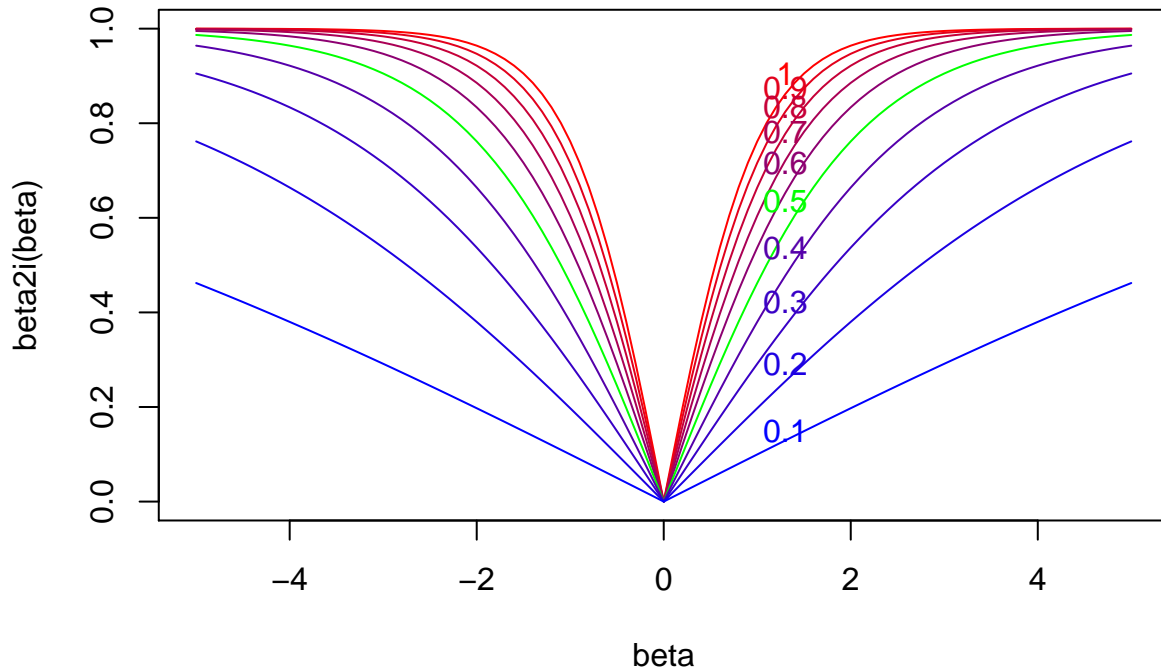
Indicator value

Once a model is fit a to a given binary partition, we can quantify the indicator value for the species. The indicator value denoted by $I^{(m)}$ describes the contrast between the two subset of the data represented by the binary partition $z^{(m)}$. We define indicator value as a scaled version of the $\beta_1^{(m)}$ coefficient estimate: $I^{(m)} = \mid tanh(c\beta_1^{(m)}) \mid$, where $c = 0.5$. The hyperbolic tangent function is used as an inverse Fisher transformation to scale real valued coefficients into the [-1,1] range. The absolute value then results in a [0, 1] range for the indicator value.

The c is a scaling constant that modifies the shape of the function. We chose 0.5 as the default value that allows the indicator value to change more gradually according to our experience with real-world data sets. The $c = 0.5$ setting is also identical to an inverse logistic function transformed into the [-1, 1] range.

The `beta2i` function is used internally to calculate the indicator value. Here we show the effect of the scaling constant c on the shape of the function, the default $c = 0.5$ is in green:

```
beta <- seq(-5, 5, 0.1)
Col <- occolors(c("red", "blue"))(10)
Col[6] <- "#00FF00"
plot(beta, beta2i(beta), type = "n")
s <- seq(1, 0.1, -0.1)
for (i in 1:10) {
    lines(beta, beta2i(beta, scale = s[i]), col = Col[i])
    text(1.5 - 0.2, beta2i(1.5, scale = s[i]), s[i], col = Col[i])
}
```

An alternative way to define the indicator value would be taking the relative difference between the expected values for the 0 and 1 stratum in $z^{(m)}$. This, however, depends on the response scale and the baseline values chosen for possible modifying effects.

Our definition of indicator value is on the linear predictor scale and is more readily compared across species without respect to their relative abundance and values of other modifying factors. Note however, that the meaning of the indicator value might be quite different for studies using different parametric models: it is a difference in the Gaussian case, multiplier in log-linear models, change in log-odds in logistic or ordinal regression. The indicator value given a binary partition is returned by the model summaries, and used in visualization:

```
plot(oc)
```
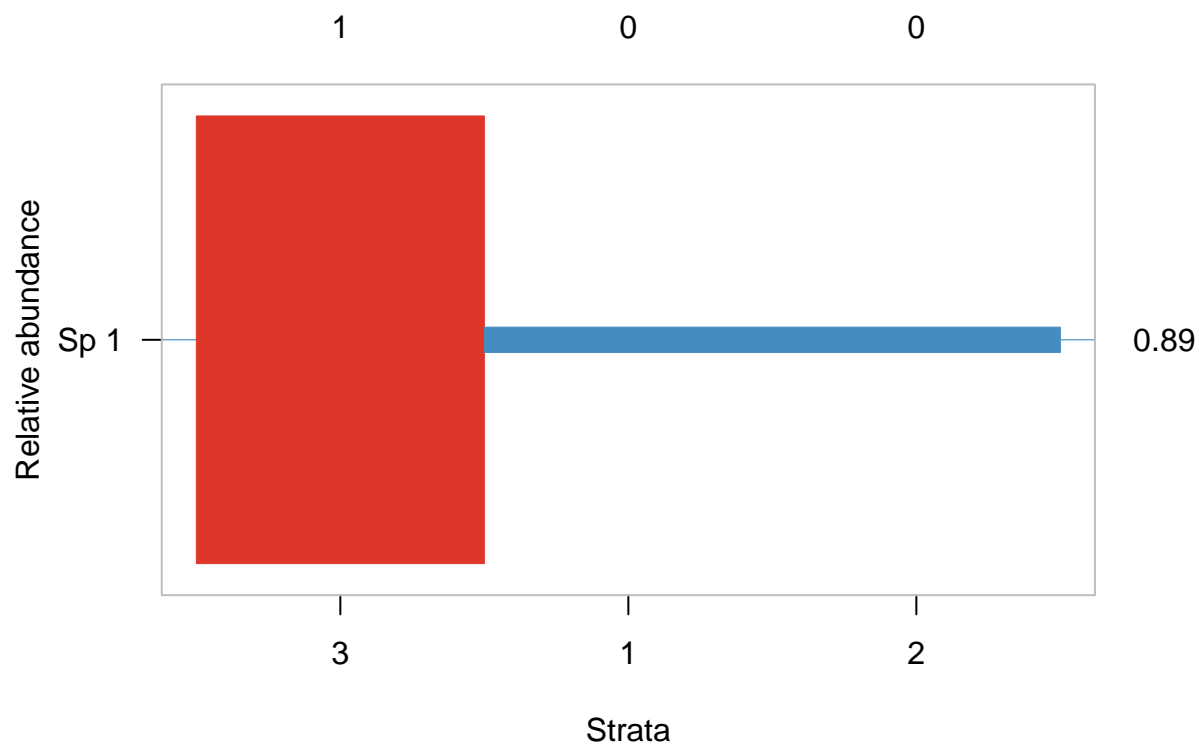
Use the `ocoptions` function to change the default `scale` (c) setting.

User defined combinations

It is possible to

```
comb <- cbind(
    A = c(rep(1, 4), rep(0, 8)),
    B = c(rep(0, 4), rep(1, 4), rep(0, 4)))
comb
```

```
##       A B
##  [1,] 1 0
##  [2,] 1 0
##  [3,] 1 0
##  [4,] 1 0
##  [5,] 0 1
##  [6,] 0 1
##  [7,] 0 1
##  [8,] 0 1
##  [9,] 0 0
## [10,] 0 0
## [11,] 0 0
## [12,] 0 0
```

```
print(opticut1(Y = y, Z = comb, dist = "gaussian"), cut = -Inf)

## Univariate opticut results, comb = NA, dist = gaussian
## I = 0.8798; w = 0.9466; H = 0.8988; logL_null = -25.93
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##   assoc      I   mu0  mu1    logLR       w
## A     -- 0.87983 3.500 0.75 2.878892 0.94655
## B      - 0.06242 2.625 2.50 0.004726 0.05345
## 2 binary splits
```

If the user happen to define complementary partitions, an error message is thrown:

```
comb <- cbind(comb, 1-comb)
colnames(comb) <- LETTERS[1:4]
comb
```

```
##       A B C D
## [1,] 1 0 0 1
## [2,] 1 0 0 1
## [3,] 1 0 0 1
## [4,] 1 0 0 1
## [5,] 0 1 1 0
## [6,] 0 1 1 0
## [7,] 0 1 1 0
## [8,] 0 1 1 0
## [9,] 0 0 1 1
## [10,] 0 0 1 1
## [11,] 0 0 1 1
## [12,] 0 0 1 1
```

```
try(opticut1(Y = y, Z = comb, dist = "gaussian"))
checkComb(comb)
```

```
## [1] FALSE
## attr(,"comp")
##      i j
## [1,] 1 3
## [2,] 2 4
## attr(,"same")
##      i j
```

The global option `check_comb` can be set to override this default behaviour, although there is no real point in duplicating reparametrized but otherwised identical models:

```
op <- ocoptions(check_comb = FALSE, cut = -Inf)
opticut1(Y = y, Z = comb, dist = "gaussian")
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = NA, dist = gaussian
## I = 0.8798; w = 0.4733; H = 0.4494; logL_null = -25.93
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##   assoc      I   mu0   mu1    logLR        w
## A     -- 0.87983 3.500 0.750 2.878892 0.47328
## C     ++ 0.87983 0.750 3.500 2.878892 0.47328
## B      - 0.06242 2.625 2.500 0.004726 0.02672
## D      + 0.06242 2.500 2.625 0.004726 0.02672
## 4 binary splits
```

```r
ocoptions(op)
```

Rank based combinations

The IndVal method requires the algorithm to evaluate $2^K - 1$ binary partitions. Our opticut approach is parametrization invariant with respect to coding the levels in the binary partitions (it affects the intercept term but not the contrast or the log likelihood ratio). This effectively halves the number of partitions we need to compare ($2^{K-1} - 1$, comb = "all" in opticut). Still, the number of partitions increases according to powers of 2. Here we propose an approach that increases linearly with K. This algorithm is based on sorting all the K partitions in g according to increasing order of the linear predictor estimates for K coefficients (as opposed to estimating 2 coefficients for a binary partition). The logic follows from the fact that the optimal binary partitioning tries to find the best split in terms of likelihood ratio with lower estimates on one side, and higher estimates on the other side of the split. As a consequence, we only need to try $K - 1$ binary partitions to find the optimal $z^{(m')}$. This algorithm is implemented in the rankComb function that is called by opticut with the argument comb = "rank".

The function `rankComb` evaluates a model with a K-level factor and returns a corresponding partitioning matrix. Attibutes hold the estimates for the K levels:

```r
rankComb(Y = y, Z = as.factor(g), dist = "gaussian", collapse = "_")
```

```
##   3 2_3
## 1 0   0
## 1 0   0
## 1 0   0
## 1 0   0
## 2 0   1
## 2 0   1
## 2 0   1
## 2 0   1
## 3 1   1
## 3 1   1
```

```
## 3 1    1
## 3 1    1
## attr(,"est")
##    1    2    3
## 0.75 2.50 4.50
## attr(,"collapse")
## [1] "_"
## attr(,"comb")
## [1] "rank"
```

The `collapse` argument can be important to make partitions more distinguishable. The global option is " " that can be modified via the `ocoptions` function. It can cause problems when the the `collapse` character is part of the factor levels used for g. The `fix_levels` function comes handy for fixing these levels. The function replaces the `collapse` character to something else:

```
getOption("ocoptions")$collapse
```

```
## [1] " "
```

```
fix_levels(as.factor(c("A b", "C d")), sep=":")
```

```
## [1] A:b C:d
## Levels: A:b C:d
```

```
fix_levels(as.factor(c("A b", "C d")), sep="")
```

```
## [1] Ab Cd
## Levels: Ab Cd
```

There is an overhead of fitting the model to calculate the ranking first. But computing efficiencies can be still high compared to all partitions. As a consequence of the ranking process, we do not have summaries for all the possible binary partitions, only for the top candidates. Moreover, the partitions produced for each species might not be identical. Therefore the model weights (w) and Simpson index (H) have different interpretation and cannot be that easily compared across species, unless the model weights are highly concentrated for the top models. In this case, the sum of weights for the missing models becomes negligible. Another consequence of the ranking process is that $\beta_1^{(m)}$ estimates are always positive. In the case of comparing all the partitions, the full set of partitions is fixed for all species, and some respond positively while others respond negatively to the same binary variable in terms of the $\beta_1^{(m)}$ values. Thus it is required to store the sign of the relationship as part of the summary.

The `comb = "rank"` is the defult setting in `opticut`. It is clear that the 2 approaches lead to identical best partitions. Only the model weights (w) are different:

```
summary(opticut(y, strata = g, comb = "all", dist = "gaussian"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
##
```

```
## Call:
## opticut.default(Y = y, strata = g, dist = "gaussian", comb = "all")
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##       split assoc     I    mu0 mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1      3     ++ 0.8932 1.625 4.5 3.233 0.5742
## 3 binary splits
```

```r
summary(opticut(y, strata = g, comb = "rank", dist = "gaussian"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = gaussian
##
## Call:
## opticut.default(Y = y, strata = g, dist = "gaussian", comb = "rank")
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##       split assoc     I    mu0 mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1      3     ++ 0.8932 1.625 4.5 3.233 0.5875
## 2 binary splits
```

Partitioning for multiple species

The `opticut` function can take matrices or a model formula as its input, and repeats the procedure done by `opticut1` for multiple species in a community matrix. The summary shows the best-supported model for each species, in this case based on a Poisson count model (`dist = "poisson"`). The `plot` method uses the indicator value (`I` in the summary) to represent the contrast between the two strata of the best supported binary partition:

```r
## stratification
g <-    c(1,1,1,1, 2,2,2,2, 3,3,3,3)

## community matrix
y <- cbind(
    Sp1=c(4,6,3,5, 5,6,3,4, 4,1,3,2),
    Sp2=c(0,0,0,0, 1,0,0,1, 4,2,3,4),
    Sp3=c(0,0,3,0, 2,3,0,5, 5,6,3,4))

oc <- opticut(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson", comb = "all")
summary(oc)
```
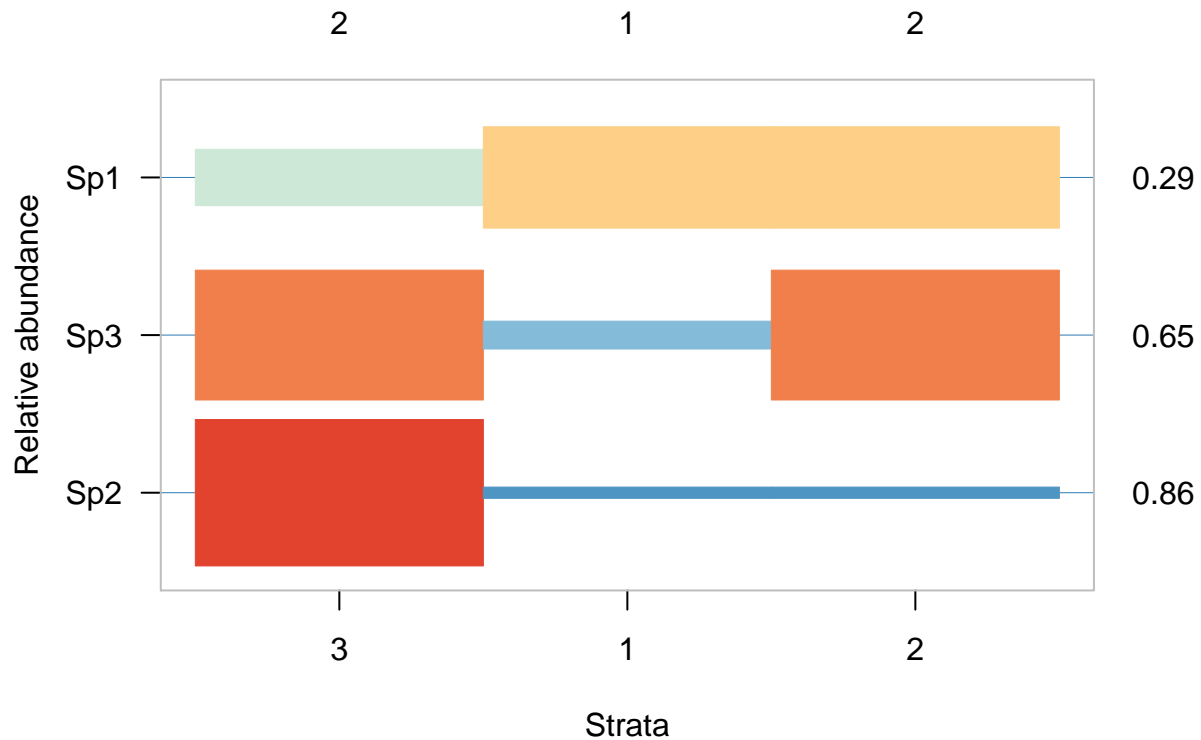
```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = poisson
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson",
##     comb = "all")
```
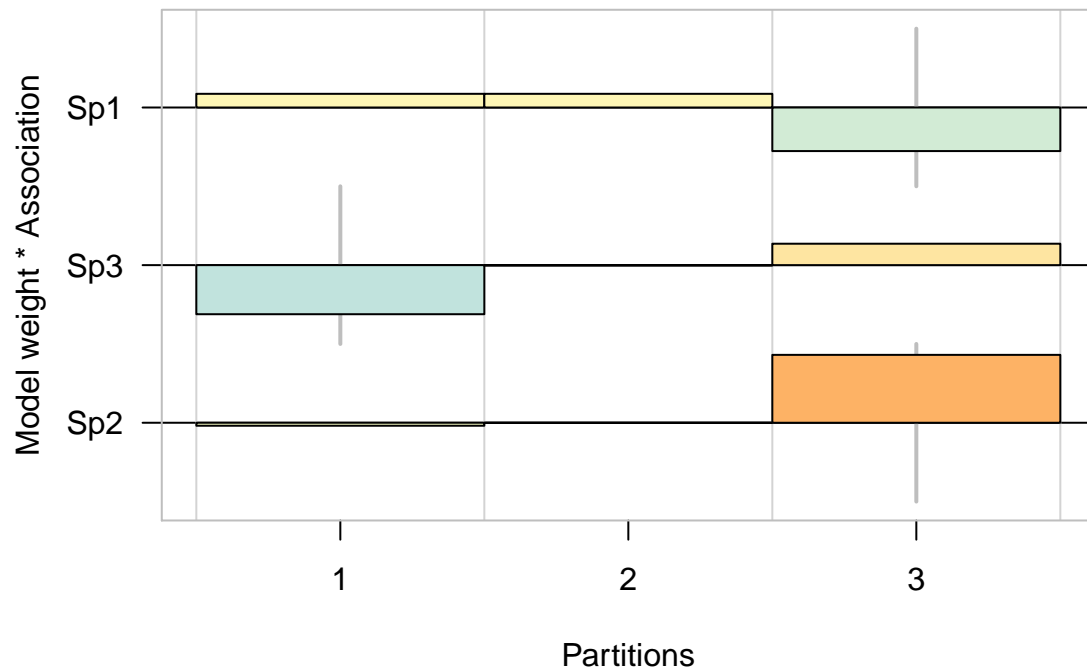
```
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##     split assoc     I   mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## Sp3     1    -- 0.6471 3.50 0.75 4.793 0.6922
## Sp2     3   +++ 0.8571 0.25 3.25 9.203 0.9573
## 3 binary splits
## 1 species not shown
```

```
plot(oc, cut = -Inf)
```


Model support across the partitions can be visualized by the model weight plot (`wplot`).

```
wplot(oc, cut = -Inf)
```

Note that the `wplot` uses 'splits' (binary partitions) whereas `plot` uses the K levels. Therefore, `wplot` does not work for multiple species when `comb = "rank"`. In this case the splits can be different across the species, whereas `comb = "all"` uses the same pre-defined partitions across all species.

The `bestmodel` method returns the best-supported model for further model diagnostics and prediction, the `getMLE` prints out the estimated coefficients and the variance-covariance matrix:

```
mods <- bestmodel(oc)
mods
```

```
## $Sp1
##
## Call:  stats::glm(formula = Y ~ . - 1, family = Family, data = XX)
##
## Coefficients:
##       V1        Z1
##   1.5041   -0.5878
##
## Degrees of Freedom: 12 Total (i.e. Null);  10 Residual
## Null Deviance:        63.01
## Residual Deviance: 4.39   AIC: 46.05
##
## $Sp2
##
## Call:  stats::glm(formula = Y ~ . - 1, family = Family, data = XX)
##
```

```
## Coefficients:
##      V1       Z1
## -1.386    2.565
##
## Degrees of Freedom: 12 Total (i.e. Null);   10 Residual
## Null Deviance:       25.54
## Residual Deviance: 6.445      AIC: 26.58
##
## $Sp3
##
## Call:  stats::glm(formula = Y ~ . - 1, family = Family, data = XX)
##
## Coefficients:
##      V1       Z1
##   1.253   -1.540
##
## Degrees of Freedom: 12 Total (i.e. Null);   10 Residual
## Null Deviance:       49.33
## Residual Deviance: 18.9  AIC: 48.37
```

```
## explore further
str(predict(mods[[1]]))
```

```
##  Named num [1:12] 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 ...
##  - attr(*, "names")= chr [1:12] "1" "2" "3" "4" ...
```

```
confint(mods[[1]])
```

```
## Waiting for profiling to be done...
```

```
##        2.5 %     97.5 %
## V1   1.158610 1.81387284
## Z1 -1.343213 0.07397014
```

```
## MLE and variance-covariance matrix (species 1)
getMLE(oc, which = 1)
```

```
## $coef
##         V1           Z1
##   1.5040774 -0.5877867
##
## $vcov
##               V1            Z1
## V1   0.02777777 -0.02777777
## Z1 -0.02777777  0.12777667
##
## $dist
```

```
## [1] "poisson"
```

The `bestpart` method returns the binary partition for the best-supported model:

```
bestpart(oc)
```

```
##   Sp1 Sp2 Sp3
## 1   0   0   1
## 1   0   0   1
## 1   0   0   1
## 1   0   0   1
## 2   0   0   0
## 2   0   0   0
## 2   0   0   0
## 2   0   0   0
## 3   1   1   0
## 3   1   1   0
## 3   1   1   0
## 3   1   1   0
```

Compare the `"all"` and `"rank"` based combinations: same best partitions putting aside complementaryity

```
op <- ocoptions(cut = -Inf)
summary(opticut(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson", comb = "all"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = poisson
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson",
##     comb = "all")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##     split assoc      I   mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## Sp1     3       - 0.2857 4.50 2.50 1.498 0.6144
## Sp3     1      -- 0.6471 3.50 0.75 4.793 0.6922
## Sp2     3     +++ 0.8571 0.25 3.25 9.203 0.9573
## 3 binary splits
```

```
summary(opticut(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson", comb = "rank"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = poisson
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson",
##     comb = "rank")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
```

```
##      split assoc    I  mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## Sp1   1 2     + 0.2857 2.50 4.50 1.498 0.7611
## Sp3   2 3    ++ 0.6471 0.75 3.50 4.793 0.6962
## Sp2     3   +++ 0.8571 0.25 3.25 9.203 0.9577
## 2 binary splits
```

```
ocoptions(op)
```

Quantifying uncertainty

Uncertainty in the estimated coefficients and uncertainty in the derived indicator value for the best-supported model ($I^{(m')}$) is quantified based on the estimate of the Hessian matrix assuming asymptotic normality of the MLE. The distribution of $I^{(m')}$ in this case is based on parametric bootstrap. This approach (`type = "asymp"` in `uncertainty`) is suitable when asymptotic normality assumption is reasonable, i.e. sample size is large. For small sample situations, a parametric bootstrap algorithm is implemented (`type = "boot"`) to estimate uncertainty in $I^{(m')}$. The summary contains lower and upper confidence limits (for a given error rate) representing the asymptotic or bootstrap distribution (based on B number of iterations) given the fixed partition for the best model, $z^{(m')}$.

The output is summarized, the `$uncertainty` component contains individual species results:

```
g <-     c(1,1,1,1, 2,2,2,2, 3,3,3,3)

y <- cbind(
    Sp1=c(4,6,3,5, 5,6,3,4, 4,1,3,2),
    Sp2=c(0,0,0,0, 1,0,0,1, 4,2,3,4),
    Sp3=c(0,0,3,0, 2,3,0,5, 5,6,3,4))

oc <- opticut(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson")

uc <- uncertainty(oc, type = "asymp", B = 999)
summary(uc)
```

```
## Multivariate opticut uncertainty results
## type = asymp, B = 999, level = 0.95
##
##      split R     I  Lower  Upper
## Sp1   1 2 1 0.2819 0.01939 0.5711
## Sp3   2 3 1 0.6137 0.13861 0.8751
## Sp2     3 1 0.8206 0.49500 0.9671
```

```
uc$uncertainty
```

```
## $Sp1
```

```
## Univariate opticut uncertainty results, type = asymp, B = 999
##
##   best           I                    mu0                    mu1
## 1 2:1000   Min.   :0.0003652   Min.   :0.6812   Min.   :2.751
##              1st Qu.:0.1817633   1st Qu.:2.0476   1st Qu.:4.016
##              Median :0.2797402   Median :2.4859   Median :4.496
##              Mean   :0.2819110   Mean   :2.6344   Mean   :4.548
##              3rd Qu.:0.3828112   3rd Qu.:3.1178   3rd Qu.:5.054
##              Max.   :0.7082967   Max.   :6.8500   Max.   :7.696
##
## $Sp2
## Univariate opticut uncertainty results, type = asymp, B = 999
##
##   best           I                    mu0                    mu1
## 3:1000   Min.   :0.0131   Min.   :0.02948   Min.   :1.163
##            1st Qu.:0.7666   1st Qu.:0.15683   1st Qu.:2.647
##            Median :0.8541   Median :0.25216   Median :3.231
##            Mean   :0.8206   Mean   :0.32527   Mean   :3.363
##            3rd Qu.:0.9106   3rd Qu.:0.40191   3rd Qu.:3.918
##            Max.   :0.9863   Max.   :3.08860   Max.   :8.056
##
## $Sp3
## Univariate opticut uncertainty results, type = asymp, B = 999
##
##   best           I                    mu0                    mu1
## 2 3:1000   Min.   :0.002793   Min.   :0.1215   Min.   :1.894
##              1st Qu.:0.504062   1st Qu.:0.4951   1st Qu.:3.062
##              Median :0.648501   Median :0.7549   Median :3.468
##              Mean   :0.613656   Mean   :0.8928   Mean   :3.545
##              3rd Qu.:0.753523   3rd Qu.:1.1035   3rd Qu.:3.938
##              Max.   :0.930370   Max.   :4.6949   Max.   :6.793
```

The bootstrap can be difficult for small sample sizes, strata can go completely missing:

```r
try(uc <- uncertainty(oc, type = "boot", B = 99))
```

A general requirement for the bootstrap approach (`"boot"` and `"multi"`) is that the bootstrap samples contain observations from each stratum. We recommend having at least 5 observations per strata. Possible problems with missing partitions in small data sets can be remedied by supplying pre-defined indices for resampling, for example, based on jackknife (leave-one-out) approach. The resampling scheme can be customized for such needs. Use the `check_strata` function:

```r
B <- sapply(1:length(g), function(i) which((1:length(g)) != i))
check_strata(oc, B) # check representation
```

```
##  [1] TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE
```

```
## attr(,"nx")
## [1] 3
## attr(,"nmat")
##   [1] 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
```

```
summary(uncertainty(oc, type = "boot", B = B))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut uncertainty results
## type = boot, B = 12, level = 0.95
##
##     split R      I  Lower  Upper
## Sp1   1 2 1 0.2866 0.2167 0.3644
## Sp3   2 3 1 0.6523 0.5556 0.9053
## Sp2     3 1 0.8572 0.8384 0.9158
```

The reliability of the best partition can also be assessed using the setting `type = "multi"` (as in *multi*ple models). In this case, the model partitions are re-evaluated for each bootstrap sample. Model uncertainty is assessed as the number of times a partition is supported out of the B bootstrap runs. The reliability (R) metric in the summary is the proportion for the most frequently supported partition. The corresponding indicator value and confidence interval is conditional on this most commonly supported partition.

```
summary(uncertainty(oc, type = "multi", B = B))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut uncertainty results
## type = multi, B = 12, level = 0.95
##
##     split      R      I  Lower  Upper
## Sp1   1 2 1.0000 0.2866 0.2167 0.3644
## Sp3   2 3 0.6923 0.6872 0.6174 0.9368
## Sp2     3 1.0000 0.8572 0.8384 0.9158
```

Distributions

For most distributions, we will use the `dolina` data set that is part of the **opticut** package. It is a comprehensive and micro-scale land snail data set from 16 dolines of the Aggtelek Karst Area, Hungary. Data set containing land snail counts as described in Kemecei et al. 2014.

```
data(dolina)
## stratum as ordinal
dolina$samp$stratum <- as.integer(dolina$samp$stratum)
## filter species to speed up things a bit
Y <- dolina$xtab[,colSums(dolina$xtab > 0) >= 20]
```

Gaussian

```
dol <- opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="gaussian")
summary(dol)
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = gaussian
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data = dolina$samp,
##      strata = dolina$samp$mhab, dist = "gaussian")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##        split assoc    I       mu0    mu1  logLR       w
## dper DW RO    +++ 0.5988   3.03383 4.4165  9.238 0.6600
## bbip DW RO    +++ 0.4028   0.11875 0.9727 26.906 0.5892
## vidi DW RO    +++ 0.3552   0.64966 1.3925 10.360 0.9866
## hobv DW RO    +++ 0.3297  -0.07760 0.6074 23.017 0.6582
## ppyg LI RO     ++ 0.8822   4.47006 7.2414  4.533 0.8833
## mbor    DW    +++ 0.3662  -0.17269 0.5952 25.555 1.0000
## clam    DW     ++ 0.1078   0.12200 0.3385  5.527 0.8665
## ctri    RO    +++ 0.8063  -0.37944 1.8531  9.223 0.9954
## apur    RO    +++ 0.5912   1.82422 3.1831  9.096 0.9754
## amin    RO    +++ 0.4560   2.17491 3.1595  9.546 0.5919
## tuni    RO    +++ 0.3683   1.01426 1.7872 21.063 1.0000
## ffau    RO    +++ 0.3480   0.02962 0.7560 30.899 1.0000
## estr    RO    +++ 0.2462   0.23962 0.7423 21.892 1.0000
## pinc    RO    +++ 0.1836   0.26944 0.6409 20.890 0.9924
## pvic    RO     ++ 0.1431   0.36807 0.6562  7.107 0.7323
## iiso    RO    +++ 0.1274   0.06840 0.3245 25.005 1.0000
## cort    TL    +++ 0.1321  -0.03773 0.2280 21.583 0.9921
## bcan    TL    +++ 0.1086   0.11177 0.3298 12.425 0.9988
## 3 binary splits
## 1 species not shown
```

```
## vertical plot orientation
plot(dol, horizontal=FALSE, pos=1, upper=0.8)
```
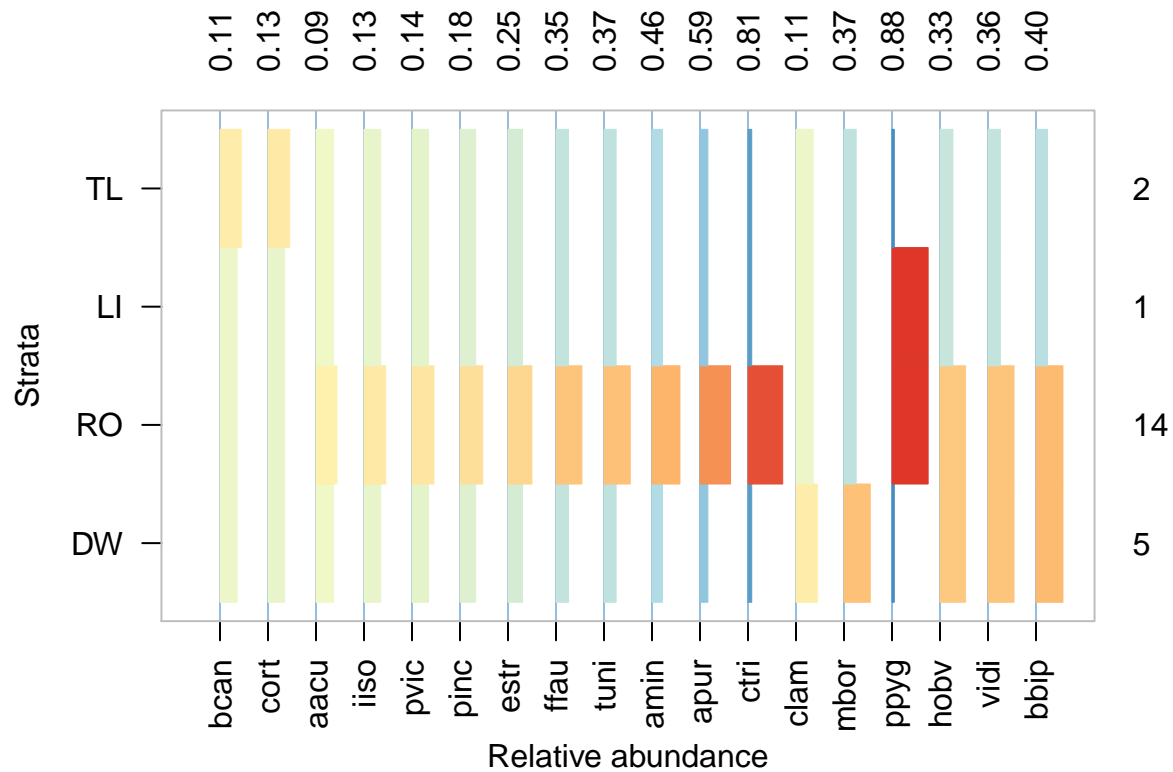
Poisson and Negative Binomial

```
dol <- opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="poisson")
summary(dol)
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = poisson
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data = dolina$samp,
##      strata = dolina$samp$mhab, dist = "poisson")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##       split assoc      I       mu0      mu1   logLR       w
## hobv DW RO    +++ 0.9083 0.0384393  0.80014  75.633 1.0000
## bbip DW RO    +++ 0.6986 0.1843710  1.03897  63.376 1.0000
## vidi DW RO    +++ 0.4955 0.7994519  2.36967  38.141 1.0000
## dper DW RO    +++ 0.4029 4.5082800 10.59304  54.686 0.8816
## ppyg LI RO    +++ 0.3758 3.0963391  6.82425 100.632 1.0000
## amin LI RO    +++ 0.2884 2.1715347  3.93142  22.048 0.7260
## cort TL RO    +++ 0.8506 0.0212887  0.26361  22.532 0.4901
## mbor    DW    +++ 0.9489 0.0004436  0.01693  80.850 1.0000
```

```
## clam    DW    ++ 0.4461 0.1125752  0.29391    7.122 0.6114
## iiso    RO   +++ 0.8545 0.0504103  0.64254   21.695 1.0000
## ffau    RO   +++ 0.7557 0.1043986  0.75035   49.352 1.0000
## estr    RO   +++ 0.7050 0.1853057  1.07085   29.952 1.0000
## ctri    RO   +++ 0.6495 0.2931486  1.37962  124.868 1.0000
## pinc    RO   +++ 0.6476 0.2513583  1.17509   19.970 0.8020
## tuni    RO   +++ 0.6418 2.3448978 10.74959   42.793 1.0000
## apur    RO   +++ 0.4897 2.6442605  7.72006   53.488 1.0000
## pvic    RO   +++ 0.4150 0.4325312  1.04624    9.007 0.6502
## aacu    RO    ++ 0.2821 0.6989512  1.24819    3.741 0.4915
## bcan    TL   +++ 0.7292 0.1594665  1.01806   15.246 0.9958
## 3 binary splits
```

```
## horizontal plot orientation
plot(dol)
```
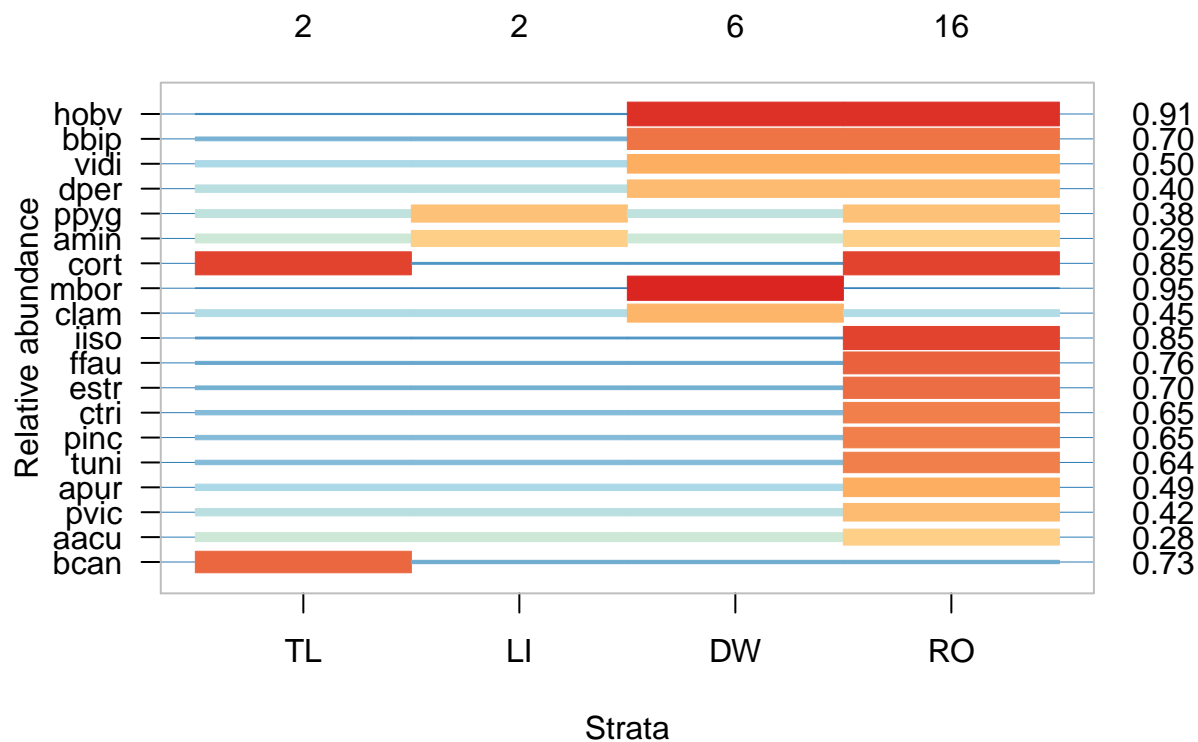

Because `opticut` uses the `stats::glm` function to fit the Poisson model, it accepts other arguments, e.g. offsets. Let's subset the `dolina` data set for the litter sampling method (`"Q"`). Pool the abundances in each of the 16 dolines by microhabitat types. By doing this, we make sampling effort uneven. Litter microhabitat was sampled along a North-South transect (7 locations), whereas the other three strata (rock, live trees, dead wood) were sampled at 3 random locations in each dolina.

```
DQ <- dolina$samp[dolina$samp$method == "Q",]
DQ$dol_mhab <- paste0(DQ$dolina, "_", DQ$mhab)
head(DQ)
```

```
##       sample dolina microhab mhab method   aspect stratum lmoist lthick
## 10A1Q   10A1     10   litter   LI      Q southern       4    1.0    2.0
## 10A2Q   10A2     10   litter   LI      Q southern       3    1.0    2.5
## 10A3Q   10A3     10   litter   LI      Q southern       2    1.0    3.0
## 10A4Q   10A4     10   litter   LI      Q     flat       1    1.5    0.5
## 10A5Q   10A5     10   litter   LI      Q northern       2    1.0    1.5
## 10A6Q   10A6     10   litter   LI      Q northern       3    1.0    3.0
##       dol_mhab
## 10A1Q    10_LI
## 10A2Q    10_LI
## 10A3Q    10_LI
## 10A4Q    10_LI
## 10A5Q    10_LI
## 10A6Q    10_LI
```

```r
YQ <- dolina$xtab[dolina$samp$method == "Q",]
YQ <- YQ[,colSums(YQ > 0) >= 20]
YQ <- mefa4::groupSums(YQ, 1, DQ$dol_mhab)
DQ <- mefa4::nonDuplicated(DQ, dol_mhab, TRUE)
```

Let's compare the results of ignoring sampling effort differences with a casewhen we use sampling effort as offset. Offsets are defined as `log(7)` or `log(3)` representing the sampling volume differences (more debris searched leads to more smails found). Using offsets results in less species that is associated with litter:

```r
op <- ocoptions(collapse="_", sort=FALSE, cut=-Inf)
dol0 <- opticut(YQ, strata=DQ$mhab, dist="poisson")
off <- ifelse(DQ$mhab == "LI", log(7), log(3))
dol1 <- opticut(YQ, strata=DQ$mhab, dist="poisson", offset=off)
table(wo_offset=summary(dol0)$summary$split,
    with_offset=summary(dol1)$summary$split)
```

```
##           with_offset
## wo_offset DW_RO LI_RO RO TL_RO
##     DW_RO     1     0  0     0
##     LI_RO     0     1  1     1
##     RO        1     0  9     0
```

```r
ocoptions(op)
opar <- par(mfrow=c(1,2))
plot(dol0, show_I=FALSE, show_S=FALSE)
plot(dol1, show_I=FALSE, show_S=FALSE)
```

26
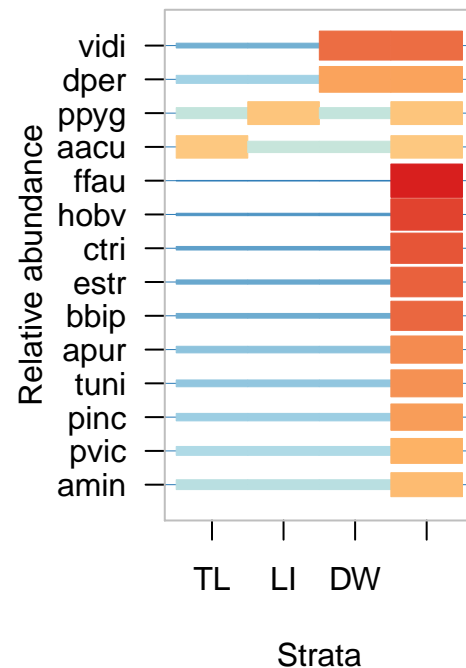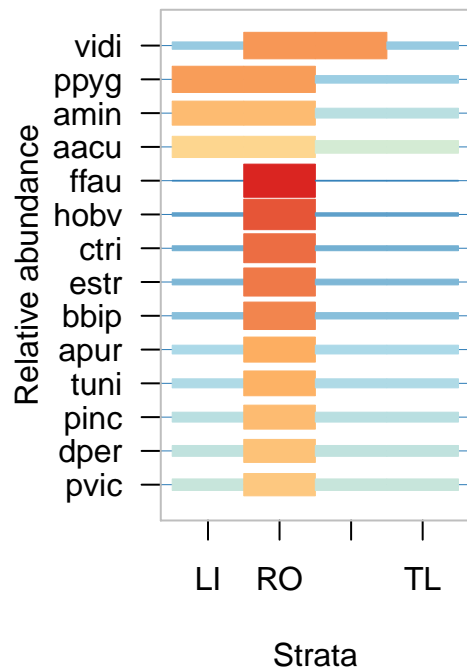
```r
par(opar)
```

The Negative Binomial model can be quite picky, as it gives an error somewhere in the middle of the process:

```r
try(dol <- opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="negbin"))
```

```
## Warning: step size truncated due to divergence
```

Changing the `try_error` global option will allow the process to go on after catching the error:

```r
op <- ocoptions(try_error = TRUE)
dol <- opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="negbin")
```

```
## Warning: step size truncated due to divergence
```

```
## Warning in opticut.default(Y = Y, X = X, strata = strata, dist = dist, comb
## = comb, : Bad news: opticut failed for 1 out of 19 species.
```

```r
dol$failed
```

```
## [1] "mbor"
```

```r
ocoptions(op)
```

It failed for the `"mbor"` (*Macrogastra borealis*) species, which is now excluded from the output.

Zero-inflated distributions

The Zero-inflated Negative Binomial implementation in the **pscl** package seems more robust, no error messages. We use the `dist = "zinb2"` option so that we test for optimal partitioning in the zero-inflation (ZI) component. Using a mixture distribution can be important if 0s can occur no only as a result of the ZI component, but due to low abundance in the count distribution (Poisson or Negative Binomial). Differentiating among these different types of zeros is not possible by binarizing the data and using logistic regression.

In the case of `"zip2"` and `"zinb2"` distributions, the coefficients refer to the probability of non-zero, so that positive and negative effects are properly identified (as opposed to `"zip"` and `"zinb"` where the ZI coefficients refer to probability of zero):

```
dol <- opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="zinb2")
plot(dol)
```
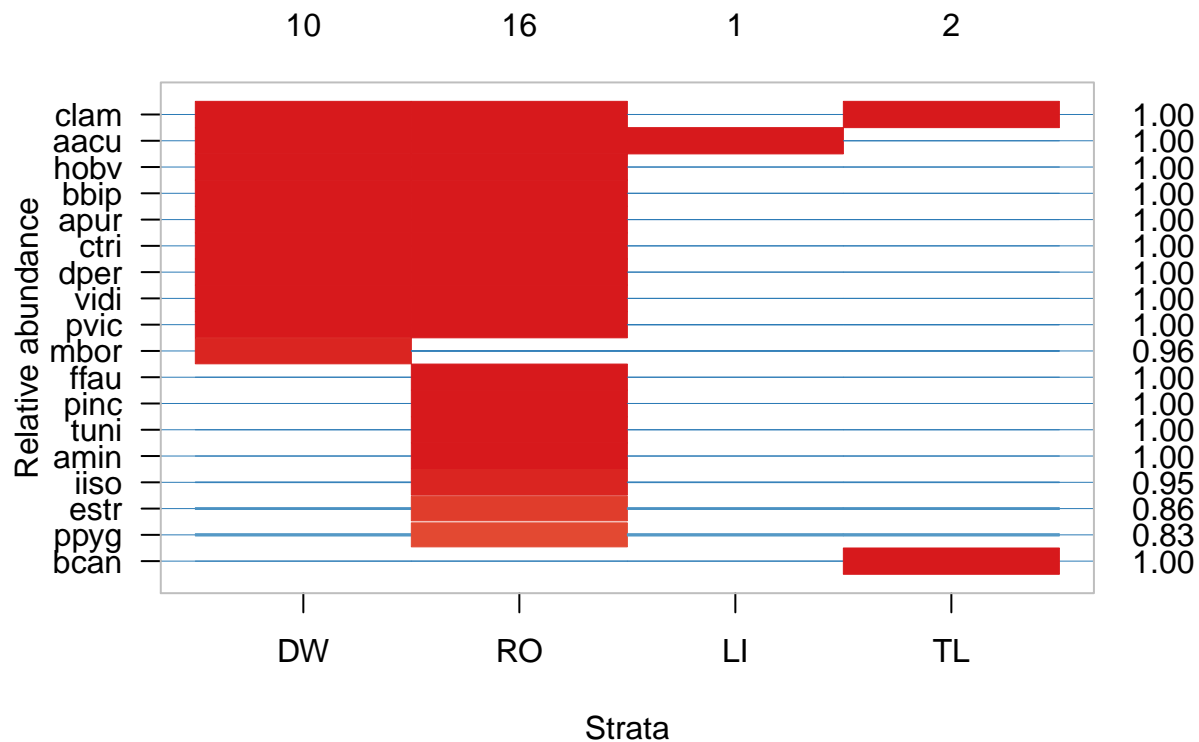

Binomial, Beta distribution and ordinal data

Stratigraphy example using Beta distribution:

```
library(rioja)
```

```
## This is rioja 0.9-9
```

```
data(aber)
strat.plot(aber$spec, aber$ages$Depth, scale.percent=TRUE, y.rev=TRUE)
```
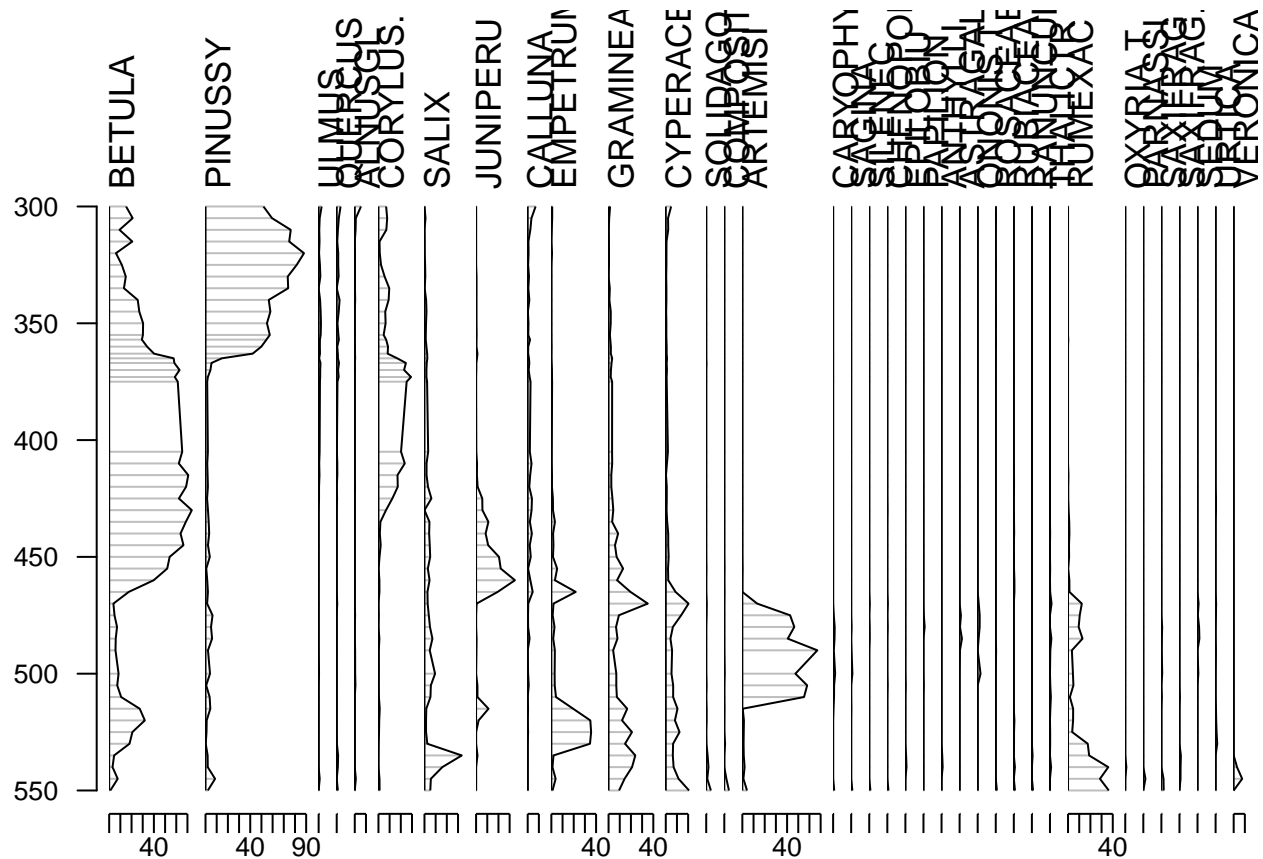


```
z <- as.factor(cut(aber$ages$Depth, 5))
ab <- as.matrix(aber$spec) / 100
ab[ab == 0] <- 0.0001
ab <- ab[,apply(ab, 2, max) > 0.05]

a <- opticut(ab, strata=z, comb="rank", dist="beta")
summary(a)
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = beta
##
## Call:
## opticut.default(Y = ab, strata = z, dist = "beta", comb = "rank")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##                                           split assoc      I      mu0
## SALIX     (350,400] (400,450] (450,500] (500,550]   +++ 0.5335 0.014015
## CORYLUS.            (300,350] (350,400] (400,450]   +++ 0.6883 0.019366
## CALLUNA            (300,350] (350,400] (400,450]   +++ 0.5802 0.005234
## BETULA                       (350,400] (400,450]   +++ 0.7576 0.153662
```

```
## RUMEXAC                              (450,500] (500,550]  +++ 0.7376 0.015648
## CYPERACE                             (450,500] (500,550]  +++ 0.6909 0.015826
## GRAMINEA                             (450,500] (500,550]  +++ 0.6798 0.028003
## EMPETRUM                             (450,500] (500,550]  +++ 0.6048 0.020863
## ARTEMISI                             (450,500] (500,550]   ++ 0.5586 0.046111
## PINUSSY                                       (300,350]  +++ 0.9142 0.083196
## ALNUSGL                                       (300,350]   ++ 0.3289 0.002089
## JUNIPERU                                      (400,450]   ++ 0.4933 0.025317
##               mu1  logLR      w
## SALIX    0.044639  8.393 0.5344
## CORYLUS. 0.096616 17.133 0.9940
## CALLUNA  0.019421 12.719 0.5430
## BETULA   0.568254 27.575 1.0000
## RUMEXAC  0.095248 15.892 0.9888
## CYPERACE 0.080857 24.351 1.0000
## GRAMINEA 0.131311 21.569 0.9914
## EMPETRUM 0.079641 10.171 0.6500
## ARTEMISI 0.145790  7.025 0.9708
## PINUSSY  0.669499 26.667 1.0000
## ALNUSGL  0.004128  2.081 0.4201
## JUNIPERU 0.071110  4.017 0.6459
## 4 binary splits
## 1 species not shown
```
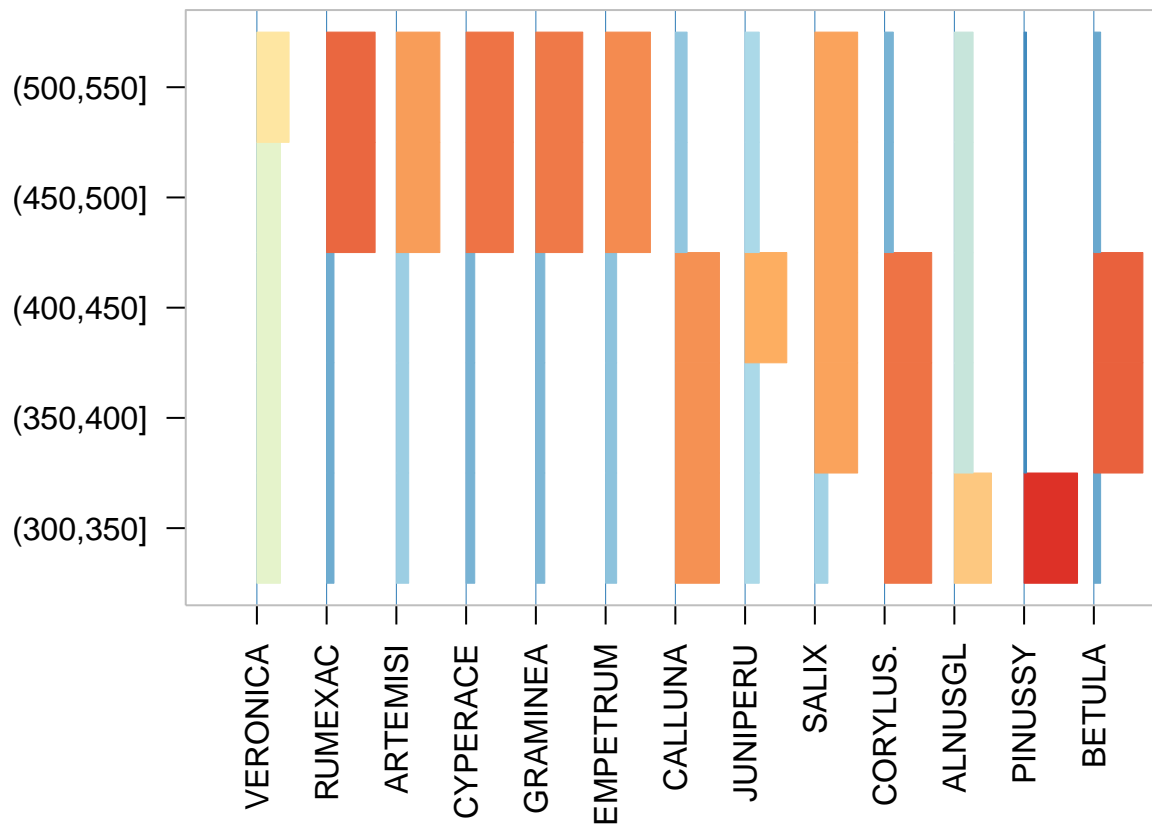
```r
plot(a, sort=FALSE, horizontal=FALSE, pos=1, upper=0.8,
    show_I=FALSE, show_S=FALSE, mar=c(6,6,1,1), xlab="", ylab="")
```

```
bp <- bestpart(a)
opar <- par(mfrow=c(3,4), mar=c(2,2,1,1))
for (i in 1:12) {
    plot(ab[,i], aber$ages$Depth, type="l", ann=FALSE)
    segments(x0=rep(0, nrow(ab)), y0=aber$ages$Depth, x1=ab[,i],
        col=ifelse(bp[,i] > 0, 2, 1))
    title(main=colnames(ab)[i])
}
```
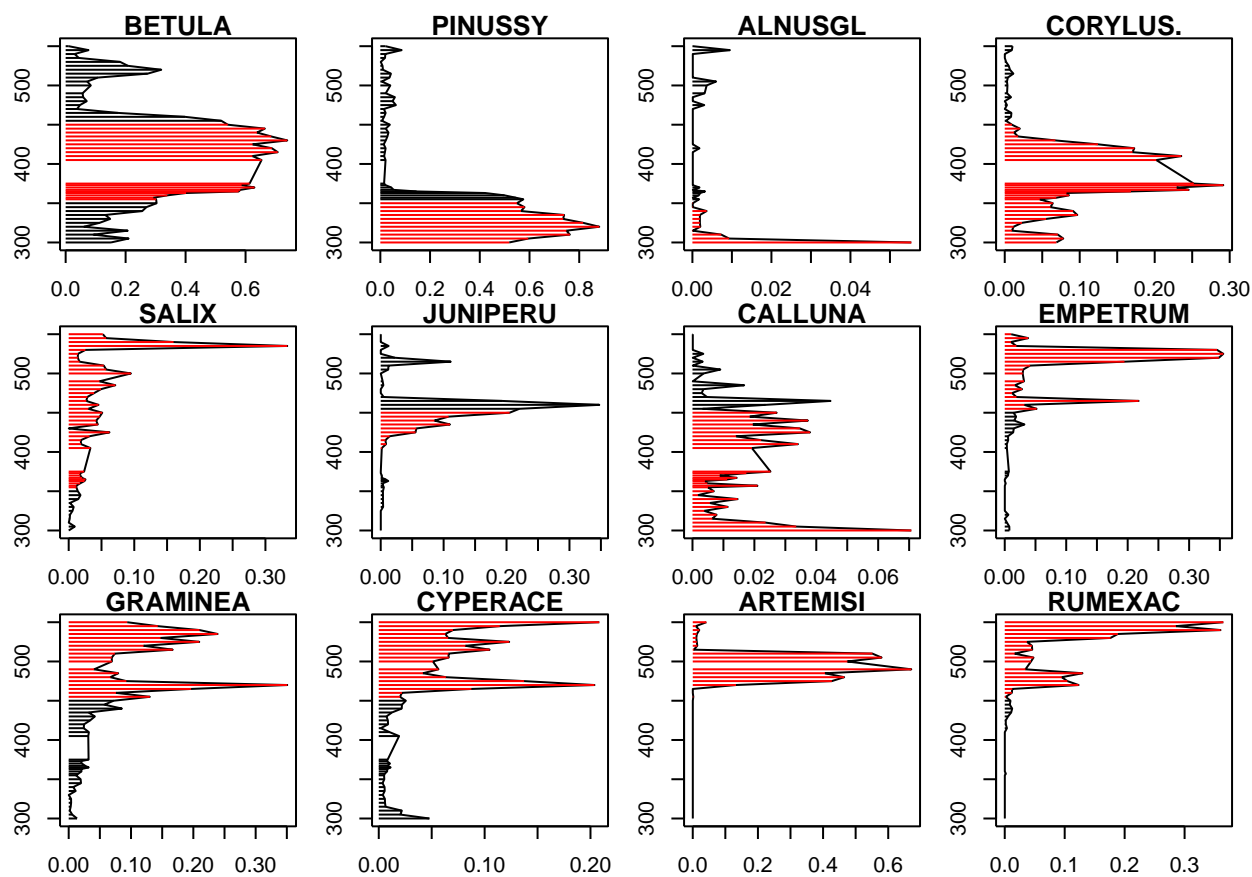
```
par(opar)
```

```
op <- ocoptions(try_error=TRUE)
library(optpart)

data(shoshsite)
data(shoshveg)

elev <- cut(shoshsite$elevation, breaks=c(0, 7200, 8000, 9000, 20000))
levels(elev) <- c("low","mid1","mid2", "high")

sveg <- as.matrix(shoshveg)
sveg[sveg > 0] <- 1
o <- opticut(sveg ~ 1, strata=elev, dist="binomial")
plot(o, sort=1)



sveg <- as.matrix(shoshveg)
sveg <- sveg[,colSums(sveg>0) >= 50]
table(sveg)
sveg[sveg==0] <- 0.001
sveg[sveg==0.1] <- 0.01
```

```r
sveg[sveg==0.5] <- 0.05
sveg[sveg==1] <- 0.15
sveg[sveg==2] <- 0.25
sveg[sveg==3] <- 0.35
sveg[sveg==4] <- 0.45
sveg[sveg==5] <- 0.55
sveg[sveg==6] <- 0.65
sveg[sveg==7] <- 0.75
sveg[sveg==8] <- 0.8
table(sveg)
o2 <- opticut(sveg ~ 1, strata=elev, dist="beta")
plot(o2, sort=1)

## ZI-Beta
zi_beta_fun <- function(Y, X, linkinv, ...) {
    kx <- ncol(X)
    id1 <- Y > 0
    id0 <- !id1
    nll_ZIB_ML <- function(parms) {
        mu <- plogis(X %*% parms[1:kx])
        gamma <- exp(parms[kx + 1]) # precision
        phi <- plogis(parms[kx+2])
        alpha <- mu * gamma
        beta <- (1 - mu) * gamma
        loglik0 <- log(phi)
        loglik1 <- log(1 - phi) + suppressWarnings(dbeta(Y,
            alpha, beta, log = TRUE))
        loglik <- sum(loglik0[id0]) + sum(loglik1[id1])
        if (!is.finite(loglik) || is.na(loglik))
            loglik <- -.Machine$double.xmax^(1/3)
        -loglik
    }
    Yv <- Y
    Yv[Y <= 0.001] <- 0.001
    ini <- c(coef(betareg::betareg(Yv ~ .-1, data=X)), zi=-5)
    X <- as.matrix(X)
    res <- optim(ini, nll_ZIB_ML, ...)
    list(coef=res$par,
        logLik=-res$value,
        linkinv=binomial("logit")$linkinv)
}
sveg <- as.matrix(shoshveg)
sveg <- sveg[,colSums(sveg>0) >= 50]
table(sveg)
```

```r
#sveg[sveg==0] <- 0.001
sveg[sveg==0.1] <- 0.01
sveg[sveg==0.5] <- 0.05
sveg[sveg==1] <- 0.15
sveg[sveg==2] <- 0.25
sveg[sveg==3] <- 0.35
sveg[sveg==4] <- 0.45
sveg[sveg==5] <- 0.55
sveg[sveg==6] <- 0.65
sveg[sveg==7] <- 0.75
sveg[sveg==8] <- 0.8
table(sveg)

o2 <- opticut(sveg ~ 1, strata=elev, dist=zi_beta_fun)
plot(o2, sort=1)

y <- as.matrix(varespec / 100)
range(y[y>0])
y <- y[,apply(y, 2, max) > 0.05]
zi_beta_fun(y[,3], data.frame(matrix(1, nrow(y), 1)))
opticut1(y[,1], matrix(1, nrow(y), 1), varechem$grazing, dist=zi_beta_fun)

sveg2 <- as.matrix(shoshveg)
sveg2[sveg2 > 0] <- 1
sveg2 <- sveg2[,colnames(sveg)]
o3 <- opticut(sveg2 ~ 1, strata=elev, dist="binomial")
plot(o3, sort=1)

sveg2 <- as.matrix(shoshveg)
sveg2[sveg2 > 0] <- 1
sveg2 <- sveg2[,colnames(sveg)]

Y <- shoshveg$ASTMIS
table(Y)
o4 <- opticut(Y ~ 1, strata=elev, dist="ordered")
o4$species

## check for modifier variable
ocoptions(op)
```

Presence-only (use-availability) data

```
library(ResourceSelection)
data(goats)
slp <- cut(goats$SLOPE,c(-1, 20, 30, 40, 50, 90))
table(slp, goats$STATUS)
o <- opticut(STATUS ~ ELEVATION, data=goats, strata=slp, dist="rsf")
o <- opticut(goats$STATUS, strata=slp, dist="rsf")
o$species
plot(o, sort=FALSE)
```

Mixed-effects models (LMM, GLMM)

Here is an example using mixed models and the package **lme4**:

```
library(lme4)
```

```
## Loading required package: Matrix
```

```
set.seed(1234)
n <- 200
x0 <- sample(1:4, n, TRUE)
x1 <- ifelse(x0 %in% 1:2, 1, 0)
x2 <- rnorm(n, 0.5, 1)
ee <- rnorm(n/5)
g <- rep(1:5, each=n/5)
lam1 <- exp(0.5 + 0.5*x1 + -0.2*x2 + ee[g])
Y1 <- rpois(n, lam1)

X <- model.matrix(~x2)
Z <- allComb(x0)

lmefun <- function(Y, X, linkinv, gr, ...) {
    X <- as.matrix(X)
    m <- glmer(Y ~ X-1 + (1|gr), family=poisson("log"), ...)
    list(coef=fixef(m),
        logLik=logLik(m),
        linkinv=family(m)$linkinv)
}
lmefun(Y1, X, gr=g)
```

```
## $coef
## X(Intercept)          Xx2
##    0.6880337    -0.1899153
```

```
##
## $logLik
## 'log Lik.' -345.1799 (df=3)
##
## $linkinv
## function (eta)
## pmax(exp(eta), .Machine$double.eps)
## <environment: namespace:stats>
```

```
opticut1(Y1, X, Z, dist=lmefun, gr=g)
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = lmefun
## I = 0.2518; w = 0.9985; H = 0.997; logL_null = -345.2
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##      assoc      I    mu0   mu1   logLR         w
## 1 2   +++ 0.2518 1.480 2.476 13.582 0.9984969
## 1        ++ 0.2120 1.745 2.683  6.864 0.0012072
## 4        -- 0.1792 2.168 1.509  4.739 0.0001441
## 3        -- 0.1805 2.134 1.482  4.620 0.0001279
## 2        ++ 0.1242 1.858 2.386  2.813 0.0000210
## 7 binary splits (2 models not shown)
```

Generalized additive models (GAM)

```
library(mgcv)
```

```
## Loading required package: nlme
```

```
##
## Attaching package: 'nlme'
```

```
## The following object is masked from 'package:lme4':
##
##      lmList
```

```
## This is mgcv 1.8-15. For overview type 'help("mgcv-package")'.
```

```
library(detect)
```

```
## Loading required package: Formula
```

```
## Loading required package: stats4
```

```
## detect 0.4-0      2016-03-02
```

```
data(oven)
oven$veg <- factor(NA, c("agr","open","decid","conif", "mix"))
```

```
oven$veg[oven$pforest < 0.5] <- "open"
oven$veg[oven$pagri > 0.5 & oven$pforest < 0.5] <- "agr"
oven$veg[oven$pforest >= 0.5] <- "mix"
oven$veg[oven$pforest >= 0.5 & oven$pdecid >= 0.8] <- "decid"
oven$veg[oven$pforest >= 0.5 & oven$pdecid < 0.2] <- "conif"
table(oven$veg, useNA="always")
```

```
##
##    agr  open decid conif   mix  <NA>
##    530    33    78    30   220     0
```

```
oven$xlat <- scale(oven$lat)
oven$xlong <- scale(oven$long)
gamfun <- function(Y, X, linkinv, Data, ...) {
    X <- as.matrix(X)
    m <- mgcv::gam(Y ~ X-1 + s(xlat) + s(xlong), Data, ...)
    list(coef=coef(m),
        logLik=logLik(m),
        linkinv=family(m)$linkinv)
}
x <- ifelse(oven$veg=="agr",1,0)
X <- model.matrix(~x)
gamfun(oven$count, X, Data=oven, family=poisson)
```

```
## $coef
## X(Intercept)             Xx    s(xlat).1    s(xlat).2    s(xlat).3
## -0.306661304 -1.382449156 -0.555089095 -0.890381109  0.306380012
##    s(xlat).4    s(xlat).5    s(xlat).6    s(xlat).7    s(xlat).8
##  1.122776013  0.132117780 -0.052077672  0.036702449 -3.041886993
##    s(xlat).9   s(xlong).1   s(xlong).2   s(xlong).3   s(xlong).4
##  0.955525315 -1.090347031  1.922368963 -0.004724731 -0.428722334
##   s(xlong).5   s(xlong).6   s(xlong).7   s(xlong).8   s(xlong).9
##  0.369410432  0.241421901 -0.228281375 -0.857581486  0.995878919
##
## $logLik
## 'log Lik.' -730.8404 (df=16.34444)
##
## $linkinv
## function (eta)
## pmax(exp(eta), .Machine$double.eps)
## <environment: namespace:stats>
```

```
print(opticut1(oven$count, X=X[,1,drop=FALSE], oven$veg, dist=gamfun,
    Data=oven, family=poisson), cut=-Inf)
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = gamfun
```

```
## I = 0.5988; w = 0.9985; H = 0.997; logL_null = -777.7
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##                        assoc      I    mu0    mu1  logLR         w
## open decid conif mix    +++ 0.5988 0.1847 0.7359 46.906 9.985e-01
## decid conif mix         +++ 0.5801 0.2049 0.7712 40.373 1.451e-03
## decid mix               +++ 0.5211 0.2298 0.7298 37.182 5.973e-05
## decid                    ++ 0.2455 0.3462 0.5714  6.942 4.396e-18
## 4 binary splits
```
```r
o <- opticut(count ~ 1, oven, strata=veg, dist=gamfun, Data=oven, family=poisson)
summary(o)
```
```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = gamfun
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = count ~ 1, data = oven, strata = veg,
##     dist = gamfun, Data = oven, family = poisson)
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##                      split assoc      I    mu0    mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1 open decid conif mix    +++ 0.5988 0.1847 0.7359 46.91 0.9985
## 4 binary splits
```
```r
o <- opticut(count ~ 1, oven, strata=veg, dist="poisson")
summary(o)
```
```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = poisson
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = count ~ 1, data = oven, strata = veg,
##     dist = "poisson")
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##                      split assoc      I    mu0    mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1 open decid conif mix    +++ 0.6903 0.1868 1.019 142.7 0.9998
## 4 binary splits
```
```r
oven$pa <- ifelse(oven$count > 0, 1, 0)
o <- opticut(pa ~ 1, oven, strata=veg, dist=gamfun, Data=oven, family=binomial)
summary(o)
```
```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = gamfun
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = pa ~ 1, data = oven, strata = veg,
##     dist = gamfun, Data = oven, family = binomial)
```

```
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##                         split assoc       I    mu0     mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1 open decid conif mix    +++ 0.6982 0.1421 0.4824 28.84 0.919
## 4 binary splits
```

```
o <- opticut(pa ~ 1, oven, strata=veg, dist="binomial")
summary(o)
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = binomial
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = pa ~ 1, data = oven, strata = veg,
##       dist = "binomial")
##
## Best supported model with logLR >= 2:
##                         split assoc       I    mu0     mu1 logLR      w
## Sp 1 open decid conif mix    +++ 0.7582 0.1377 0.5374 82.37 0.6569
## 4 binary splits
```

N-mixture models

A single-visit based N-mixture is an example where detection error is estimated. Let us compare results based on naive GLM and N-mixture:

```
library(detect)
set.seed(2345)
n <- 500
x0 <- sample(1:4, n, TRUE)
x1 <- ifelse(x0 %in% 1:2, 1, 0)
x2 <- rnorm(n, 0.5, 1)
x3 <- runif(n, 0, 1)
lam <- exp(0.5 + 1*x1 + -0.2*x2)
p <- plogis(2 + -2*x3)
Y <- rpois(n, lam*p)

X <- model.matrix(~x2)

op <- par(mfrow=c(1,2))
boxplot((lam*p) ~ x0, ylab="lam*p", xlab="x0")
boxplot(lam ~ x0, ylab="lam", xlab="x0")
```

lam*p

lam

x0

x0
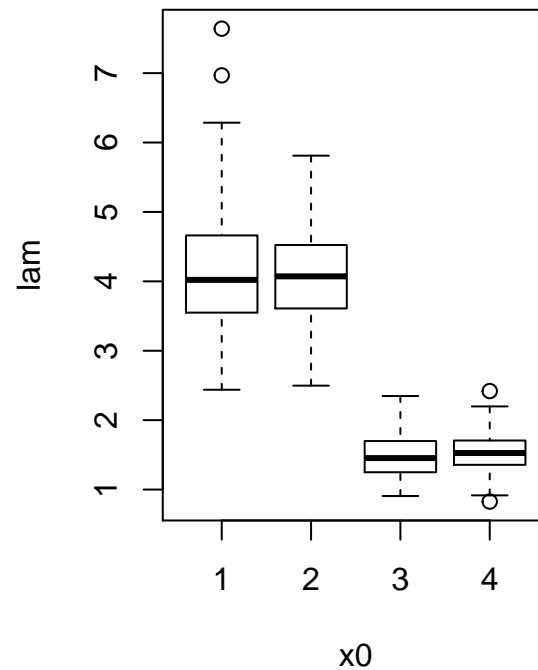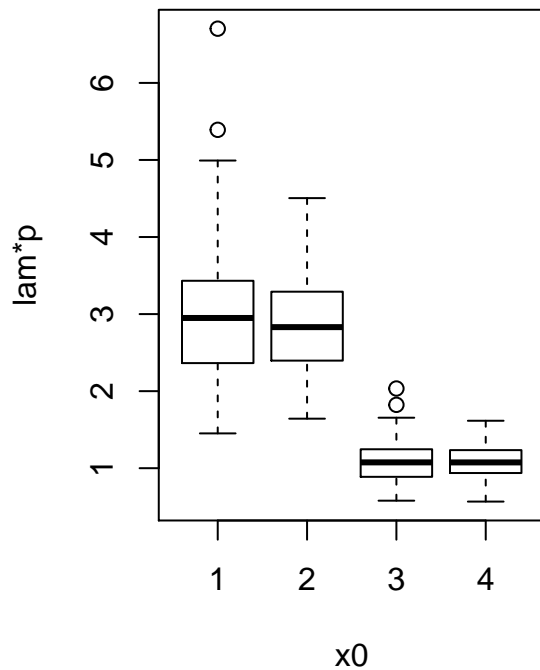
```r
par(op)

svfun <- function(Y, X, linkinv, ...) {
    X <- as.matrix(X)
    m <- svabu(Y ~ X-1 | x3, ...)
    list(coef=coef(m, "sta"),
        logLik=logLik(m),
        linkinv=poisson()$linkinv)
}
svfun(Y, X)
```

```
## $coef
## X(Intercept)          Xx2
##    1.6746855   -0.2458261
##
## $logLik
## 'log Lik.' -884.583 (df=5)
##
## $linkinv
## function (eta)
## pmax(exp(eta), .Machine$double.eps)
## <environment: namespace:stats>
```

```r
## naive GLM
print(opticut1(Y, X, as.factor(x0), dist="poisson"), cut=-Inf)
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = poisson
## I = 0.474; w = 1; H = 1; logL_null = -930
```

```
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##       assoc       I    mu0   mu1   logLR        w
## 1 2      +++ 0.4740 1.139 3.193 115.16 1.000e+00
## 1 2 4    +++ 0.4082 1.078 2.566  52.38 5.383e-28
## 2        +++ 0.2842 1.808 3.243  38.04 3.211e-34
## 3 binary splits
```

```
## N-mixture
print(opticut1(Y, X, as.factor(x0), dist=svfun), cut=-Inf)
```

```
## Univariate opticut results, comb = rank, dist = svfun
## I = 0.4873; w = 1; H = 0.9999; logL_null = -884.6
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= -Inf:
##       assoc       I    mu0   mu1   logLR        w
## 1 2      +++ 0.4873 2.409 6.989 26.239 1.000e+00
## 1 2 3    +++ 0.4303 1.936 4.859 15.787 2.888e-05
## 2         ++ 0.2475 4.142 6.866  3.284 1.073e-10
## 3 binary splits
```

Package options

High performance computing

```
data(dolina)
dolina$samp$stratum <- as.integer(dolina$samp$stratum)
Y <- ifelse(dolina$xtab > 0, 1, 0)
dol <- opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="binomial")

## parallel computing comparisons
library(parallel)
cl <- makeCluster(2)

## sequential, all combinations (2^(K-1) - 1)
system.time(opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="binomial", comb="all", cl=NULL))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   1.731   0.046   1.781
```

```
## sequential, rank based combinations (K - 1)
system.time(opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
```

```
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="binomial", comb="rank", cl=NULL))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   1.110   0.008   1.121
```

```
## parallel, all combinations (2^(K-1) - 1)
system.time(opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="binomial", comb="all", cl=cl))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   0.010   0.002   1.939
```

```
## parallel, rank based combinations (K - 1)
system.time(opticut(Y ~ stratum + lmoist + method, data=dolina$samp,
    strata=dolina$samp$mhab, dist="binomial", comb="rank", cl=cl))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   0.009   0.002   0.725
```

```
## compare timings for uncertainty calculations
system.time(uncertainty(dol, type="asymp", B=999))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   0.693   0.002   0.695
```

```
system.time(uncertainty(dol, type="asymp", B=999, cl=cl))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   0.027   0.004   0.442
```

```
system.time(uncertainty(dol, type="boot", B=4))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   2.211   0.033   2.249
```

```
system.time(uncertainty(dol, type="boot", B=4, cl=cl))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   0.022   0.002   1.412
```

```
system.time(uncertainty(dol, type="multi", B=4))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   6.194   0.039   6.243
```

```
system.time(uncertainty(dol, type="multi", B=4, cl=cl))
```

```
##    user  system elapsed
##   0.022   0.002   3.753
```

```
stopCluster(cl)
```

Global options

The `ocoptions` function provides a convenient way of handling options related to the **opticut** package. The function takes arguments in `<tag> = <value>` form, or a list of tagged values. The tags must come from the parameters described below. When parameters are set by `ocoptions`, their former values are returned in an invisible named list. Such a list can be passed as an argument to `ocoptions` to restore the parameter values. Tags are the following:

- `collapse`: character value to be used when merging factor levels, the default is `" "`.
- `cut`: log likelihood ratio value, model/species with lower values are excluded from summaries and plots, the default is `2`.
- `sort`: logical value indicating if species/partitions should be meaningfully sorted, the default is `TRUE`. It can take numeric value when only species (1) or partitions (2) are to be sorted (`1:2` is equivalent to `TRUE`, wile any other numeric value is equivalent to `FALSE`).
- `theme`: the color theme to be used based on `occolors`, the default is `"br"`.
- `check_comb`: check the design matrices for complementary partitions using `checkComb`, the default is `TRUE`.
- `try_error`: if `opticut` should `try` to exclude species where the models failed (`TRUE`), the default is to stop when an error is encountered (`FALSE`).
- `scale`: the scaling factor used to calculate indicator value (`I`) based on the estimated coefficient (b): `I = abs(tanh(b*scale))`, the default is `0.5`.

```
## simple example from Legendre 2013
## Indicator Species: Computation, in
## Encyclopedia of Biodiversity, Volume 4
## http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-384719-5.00430-5
gr <- as.factor(paste0("X", rep(1:5, each=5)))
spp <- cbind(Species1=rep(c(4,6,5,3,2), each=5),
    Species2=c(rep(c(8,4,6), each=5), 4,4,2, rep(0,7)),
    Species3=rep(c(18,2,0,0,0), each=5))
rownames(spp) <- gr

## current settings
str(ocoptions()) # these give identical answers
```

```
## List of 7
##  $ collapse  : chr " "
##  $ cut       : num 2
##  $ sort      : logi TRUE
##  $ theme     : chr "br"
##  $ check_comb: logi TRUE
```

```
##  $ try_error : logi FALSE
##  $ scale     : num 0.5
```

```
str(getOption("ocoptions"))
```

```
## List of 7
##  $ collapse  : chr " "
##  $ cut       : num 2
##  $ sort      : logi TRUE
##  $ theme     : chr "br"
##  $ check_comb: logi TRUE
##  $ try_error : logi FALSE
##  $ scale     : num 0.5
```

```
summary(ocall <- opticut(spp ~ 1, strata=gr, dist="gaussian", comb="all"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
##
## Call:
## opticut.formula(formula = spp ~ 1, strata = gr, dist = "gaussian",
##     comb = "all")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##          split assoc      I mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## Species2 X1 X3   +++ 0.9866 2.0  7.0 14.82 0.4995
## Species1 X2 X3   +++ 0.8483 3.0  5.5 17.33 0.4999
## Species3    X1   +++ 1.0000 0.5 18.0 55.19 1.0000
## 15 binary splits
```

```
## resetting pboptions and checking new settings
ocop <- ocoptions(collapse="+", sort=FALSE)
str(ocoptions())
```

```
## List of 7
##  $ collapse  : chr "+"
##  $ cut       : num 2
##  $ sort      : logi FALSE
##  $ theme     : chr "br"
##  $ check_comb: logi TRUE
##  $ try_error : logi FALSE
##  $ scale     : num 0.5
```

```
## running again with new settings
summary(ocall <- opticut(spp ~ 1, strata=gr, dist="gaussian", comb="all"))
```

```
## Multivariate opticut results, comb = all, dist = gaussian
##
## Call:
```

```
## opticut.formula(formula = spp ~ 1, strata = gr, dist = "gaussian",
##     comb = "all")
##
## Best supported models with logLR >= 2:
##          split assoc      I mu0  mu1 logLR      w
## Species1 X2+X3   +++ 0.8483 3.0  5.5 17.33 0.4999
## Species2 X1+X3   +++ 0.9866 2.0  7.0 14.82 0.4995
## Species3    X1   +++ 1.0000 0.5 18.0 55.19 1.0000
## 15 binary splits
```

```
## resetting original
ocoptions(ocop)
str(ocoptions())
```

```
## List of 7
##  $ collapse   : chr " "
##  $ cut        : num 2
##  $ sort       : logi TRUE
##  $ theme      : chr "br"
##  $ check_comb: logi TRUE
##  $ try_error  : logi FALSE
##  $ scale      : num 0.5
```

Color themes

The **opticut** package uses color themes for plotting and provides a convenient way of setting color palettes via the `occolors` function. The function takes a single `theme` argument and returns a function as in `colorRampPalette`.

The `theme` argument can be a character value, character vector, or a function used to interpolate the colors. The built-in values are `"br"` (blue-red divergent palette, colorblind safe), `"gr"` (green-red divergent palette), `"bw"` (black and white). Hexadecimal values for the built-in palettes are taken from http://colorbrewer2.org.

```
plot(1:100, rep(2, 100), pch = 15,
    ylim = c(0, 21), axes = FALSE, ann = FALSE,
    col = occolors()(100)) # default 'bg'
text(50, 1, "theme = 'br'")
points(1:100, rep(5, 100), pch = 15,
    col=occolors("gr")(100))
text(50, 4, "theme = 'gr'")
points(1:100, rep(8, 100), pch = 15,
    col=occolors("bw")(100))
text(50, 7, "theme = 'bw'")
points(1:100, rep(11, 100), pch = 15,
```

```
    col=occolors(terrain.colors)(100))
text(50, 10, "theme = terrain.colors")
points(1:100, rep(14, 100), pch = 15,
    col=occolors(c("purple", "pink", "orange"))(100))
text(50, 13, "theme = c('purple', 'pink', 'orange')")
points(1:100, rep(17, 100), pch = 15,
    col=occolors(c("#a6611a", "#ffffbf", "#018571"))(100))
text(50, 16, "theme = c('#a6611a', '#ffffbf', '#018571')")
points(1:100, rep(20, 100), pch = 15,
    col=occolors(c("#7b3294", "#ffffbf", "#008837"))(100))
text(50, 19, "theme = c('#7b3294', '#ffffbf', '#008837')")
```

theme = c('#7b3294', '#ffffbf', '#008837')

theme = c('#a6611a', '#ffffbf', '#018571')

theme = c('purple', 'pink', 'orange')

theme = terrain.colors

theme = 'bw'

theme = 'gr'

theme = 'br'
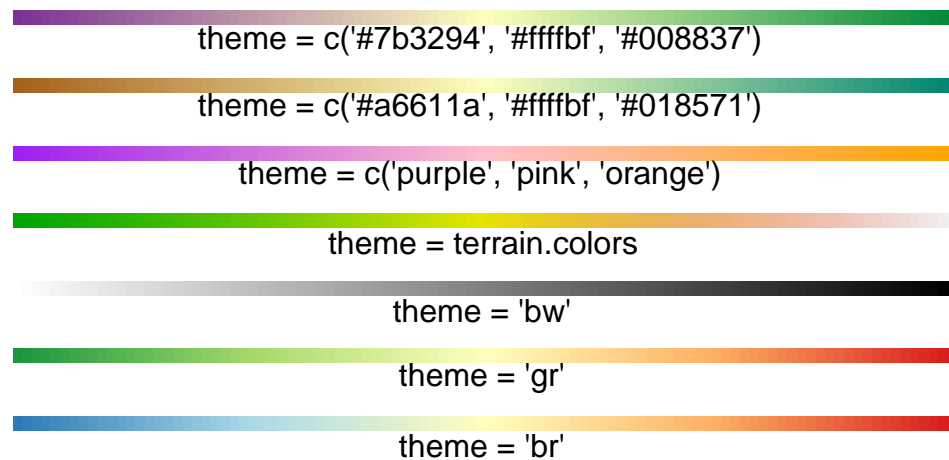
Progress bar

The expected completion time of extensive calculations and the progress is shown by the progress bar via the **pbapply** package. Default options with **opticut** are:

```
str(pboptions())
```

```
## List of 10
##  $ type     : chr "none"
##  $ char     : chr "[=-]"
##  $ txt.width: num 50
##  $ gui.width: num 300
##  $ style    : num 6
##  $ initial  : num 0
##  $ title    : chr "R progress bar"
##  $ label    : chr ""
##  $ nout     : int 100
##  $ min_time : num 2
```

See ?pboptions for a description of these options. Use pboptions(type = "none") to turn

off the probress bar in interactive R sessions. The progress bar is automatically turned off during non-interactive sessions.

Dynamic documents

opticut object summaries come with an `as.data.frame` method that can be used to turn the summary into a data frame, which is what for example the `kable` function from **knitr** package expects. This way, formatting the output isw much facilitated, and the user does not have to dig into the structure of the summary object.

The GitHub repository has a minimal Rmarkdown example do demonstrate how to format **opticut** objects for best effects: Rmd source, knitted PDF.

```r
library(knitr)

y <- cbind(
    Sp1=c(4,6,3,5, 5,6,3,4, 4,1,3,2),
    Sp2=c(0,0,0,0, 1,0,0,1, 4,2,3,4),
    Sp3=c(0,0,3,0, 2,3,0,5, 5,6,3,4))
g <-    c(1,1,1,1, 2,2,2,2, 3,3,3,3)
oc <- opticut(formula = y ~ 1, strata = g, dist = "poisson")
uc <- uncertainty(oc, type = "asymp", B = 999)

print(kable(as.data.frame(oc), digits=3))
```

```
##
##
##        split   assoc        I      mu0     mu1    logLR        w
## ----   ------  ------   ------   -----   -----   ------   ------
## Sp3    2 3      ++       0.647    0.75    3.50    4.793    0.696
## Sp2    3        +++      0.857    0.25    3.25    9.203    0.958
```

```r
print(kable(oc$species[[1]][,c(1,2,4,5,8,9,10)], digits=3))
```

```
##
##
##         assoc        I   mu0    mu1       logL    logLR        w
## ----    ------   ------  ----   ----   --------   ------   ------
## 1            1    0.125   3.5    4.5    -22.185    0.339    0.239
## 1 2          1    0.286   2.5    4.5    -21.026    1.498    0.761
```

```r
print(kable(as.data.frame(uc), digits=3))
```

```
##
##
##        split     R        I   Lower    Upper
```

```
## ----  ------  ---  ------  ------  ------
## Sp1   1 2       1   0.277   0.024   0.564
## Sp3   2 3       1   0.622   0.204   0.880
## Sp2   3         1   0.824   0.496   0.962
```

The `kable` output is rendered as nice tables (without the `print` part):

```
kable(as.data.frame(oc), digits=3)
```

	split	assoc	I	mu0	mu1	logLR	w
Sp3	2 3	++	0.647	0.75	3.50	4.793	0.696
Sp2	3	+++	0.857	0.25	3.25	9.203	0.958

```
kable(oc$species[[1]][,c(1,2,4,5,8,9,10)], digits=3)
```

	assoc	I	mu0	mu1	logL	logLR	w
1	1	0.125	3.5	4.5	-22.185	0.339	0.239
1 2	1	0.286	2.5	4.5	-21.026	1.498	0.761

```
kable(as.data.frame(uc), digits=3)
```

	split	R	I	Lower	Upper
Sp1	1 2	1	0.277	0.024	0.564
Sp3	2 3	1	0.622	0.204	0.880
Sp2	3	1	0.824	0.496	0.962

Summary

The likelihood-based optimal partitioning framework implemented in the opticut R package provides a compelling alternative to other available R packages (**indicspecies**, De Caceres & Legendre 2009; **labdsv** and **optpart**, Roberts 2016a, 2016b; **vegan**, Oksanen et al. 2016), especially when the type of data or the presence of modifying effects call for an alternative approach.

The package comes with many parametric models included for binary, count, abundance, percent cover, ordinal, and presence-only data, and the approach can be extended to more complex situations, such as mixed models, additive models. The opticut package leverages other R packages (**MASS**, Venables & Ripley 2002; **betareg**, Cribari-Neto & Zeileis 2010; **pscl**, Zeileis et al. 2008; **ResourceSelection**, Lele et al. 2016) for fitting parametric models. The approach can be extended to linear and generalized linear mixed models (LMM, GLMM; see Kemencei et al. 2014), generalized additive models, N-mixture models.

Computing times are shortened by the application of efficient algorithms and through high performance computing options. The **opticut** package provides progress bars with estimated remaining time for long-running evaluations (through the **pbapply** package, Solymos & Zawadzki 2016), natively supports several parallel back-ends (multicore machines, computing clusters, forking; through the **parallel** package, R Core Team 2016) to speed calculations up, and provides options and methods for dynamic report generation (coercion methods and color themes). Functions in the package can be customized and extended to meet the needs under a wide range of real-world situations.

Please cite the **opticut** package in scholarly publications as:

Peter Solymos and Ermias T. Azeria (2016). opticut: Likelihood Based Optimal Partitioning for Indicator Species Analysis. R package version . https://github.com/psolymos/opticut

Use `citation("opticut")` for an up-to-date citation.

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