

# Package ‘akmedoids’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Akmedoids: 'Anchored kmedoids' for longitudinal data clustering

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**Author** Monsuru Adepeju [cre, aut], Samuel Langton [aut], Jon Bannister [aut]

**Maintainer** Monsuru Adepeju <monsuurg2010@gmail.com>

**Description** Advances a longitudinal clustering technique ('akmedoids') for grouping trajectories based on the similarities of their long-term trends and determines the optimal solution based on the Calinski-Harabatz criterion. Includes functions to extract descriptive statistics and generate a visualisation of the resulting groups. The package also include a number of other useful functions for exploring and manipulating longitudinal data prior to the clustering process.

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**License** GPL-2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Imports** kml, devtools, Hmisc, ggplot2, rgdal, base, utils, reshape2, later, Rdpack, longitudinalData

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1

**Suggests** knitr,  
rmarkdown,  
pander

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

## R topics documented:

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akmedoids.clust	<i>Anchored k-medoids clustering</i>
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## Description

Given a list of trajectories and a functional method, this function clusters the trajectories into a  $k$  number of groups. If a vector of two numbers is given, the function determines the best solution from those options based on the Calinski-Harabatz criterion.

## Usage

```
akmedoids.clust(traj, id_field = FALSE, method = "linear", k = c(3,6))
```

## Arguments

traj	[matrix (numeric)]: longitudinal data. Each row represents an individual trajectory (of observations). The columns show the observations at consecutive time steps.
id_field	[numeric or character] Whether the first column of the traj is a unique (id) field. Default: FALSE. If TRUE the function recognises the second column as the first time points.
method	[character] The parametric initialisation strategy. Currently, the only available method is a linear method, set as "linear". This uses the time-dependent linear regression lines and the resulting groups are order in the order on increasing slopes.
k	[integer or vector (numeric)] either an exact integer number of clusters, or a vector of length two specifying the minimum and maximum numbers of clusters to be examined from which the best solution will be determined. In either case, the minimum number of clusters is 3. The default is <code>c(3, 6)</code> . The best solution is determined using the Calinski-Harabatz criterion (Calinski T. & Harabasz J. 1974).

## Details

This function works by first approximating the trajectories based on the chosen parametric forms (e.g. linear), and then partitions the original trajectories based on the form groupings, in similar fashion to k-means clustering (Genolini et al. 2015). The key distinction of akmedoids compared with existing longitudinal approaches is that both the initial starting points as well as the subsequent cluster centers (as the iteration progresses) are based the selection of observations (medoids) as oppose to centroids.

## Value

The key output is a vector of cluster labels of length equal to the number of trajectories. Each label indicates the group membership of the corresponding trajectory in the traj object. In addition, a plot of the Calinski-Harabatz scores is shown if a vector of  $k$  is provided.

## References

1. Genolini, C. et al. (2015). kml and kml3d: R Packages to Cluster Longitudinal Data. Journal of Statistical Software, 65(4), 1-34. URL <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v65/i04/>.
2. Calinski T, Harabasz J (1974) A dendrite method for cluster analysis. Commun Stat 3:1-27.
3. Genolini, C. et al. (2016) Package 'longitudinalData'

**Examples**

```

traj <- traj
print(traj)
traj <- dataImputation(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = 2, replace_with = 1, fill_zeros = FALSE)
traj <- props(traj, id_field = TRUE)
print(traj)
output <- akmedoids.clust(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = "linear", k = c(3,6))
print(output) #type 'as.vector(output$optimSolution)'

```

alphaLabel

*Numerics ids to alphabetical ids***Description**

Function to transform a list of numeric ids to alphabetic ids

**Usage**

```
alphaLabel(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                      A vector of numeric ids

dataImputation

*Data imputation for longitudinal data***Description**

This function fills any missing entries (NA, Inf, null) in a matrix or dataframe, according to a specified method. By default, '0' is considered a value.

**Usage**

```
dataImputation(traj, id_field = FALSE, method = 2, replace_with = 1, fill_zeros = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

traj	[matrix (numeric)]: longitudinal data. Each row represents an individual trajectory (of observations). The columns show the observations at consecutive time points.
id_field	[numeric or character] Whether the first column of the traj is a unique (id) field. Default: FALSE. If TRUE the function recognises the second column as the first time step.
method	[an integer] indicating a method for calculating the missing values. Options are: '1': arithmetic method, and '2': regression method. The default is '1': arithmetic method

replace_with	[an integer from 1 to 6] indicating the technique, based on a specified method, for calculating the missing entries. '1': arithmetic method, replace_with options are: '1': Mean value of the corresp column; '2': Minimum value of corresp column; '3': Maximum value of corresp column; '4': Mean value of corresp row; '5': Minimum value of corresp row, or '6': Maximum value of corresp row. For '2': regression method: the available option for the replace_with is: '1': linear. The regression method fits a linear regression line to a trajectory with missing entry(s) and estimates the missing data values from the regression line. Note: only the missing data points derive their new values from the regression line while the rest of the data points retain their original values. The function terminates if there are trajectories with only one observation. The default is '1': Mean value of the corresp column
fill_zeros	[TRUE or FALSE] whether to consider zeros 0 as missing values when 2: regression method is used. The default is FALSE.

### Details

Given a matrix or data.frame with some missing values indicated by (NA, Inf, null), this function impute the missing value by using either an estimation from the corresponding rows or columns, or to use a regression method to estimate the missing values.

### Value

A data.frame with missing values (NA, Inf, null) imputed according to the a specified technique.

### Examples

```
traj <- traj
print(traj)
dataImputation(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = 1, replace_with = 1, fill_zeros = FALSE)
```

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outlierDetect

*Outlier detection and replacement*


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### Description

This function identifies outlier observations in the trajectories, and allows users to replace the observations or remove trajectories entirely.

### Usage

```
outlierDetect(traj, id_field = FALSE, method = 1, threshold = 0.95,
count = 1, replace_with = 1)
```

### Arguments

traj	[matrix (numeric)]: longitudinal data. Each row represents an individual trajectory (of observations). The columns show the observations at consecutive time points.
id_field	[numeric or character] Whether the first column of the traj is a unique (id) field. Default: FALSE. If TRUE the function recognises the second column as the first time step.

method	[integer (numeric)] indicating the method for identifying the outlier. Options are: '1': quantile method (default), and '2': manual method. The manual method requires a user-defined value.
threshold	[numeric] A cut-off value for outliers. If the method parameter is set as '1':quantile, the threshold should be a numeric vector of probability between $[0, 1]$ , whilst if the method is set as '2': manual, the threshold could be any numeric vector.
count	[integer (numeric)] indicating the number of observations (in a trajectory) that must exceed the threshold in order for the trajectory to be considered an outlier. Default is 1.
replace_with	[integer (numeric)] indicating the technique to use for calculating a replacement for an outlier observation. The remaining observations on the row or the column in which the outlier observation is located are used to calculate the replacement. The replacement options are: '1': Mean value of the column, '2': Mean value of the row and '3': remove the row (trajectory) completely from the data. Default value is the '1' option.

### Details

Given a matrix, this function identifies outliers that exceed the threshold and replaces the outliers with an estimate calculated using the other observations either the rows or the columns in which the outlier observation is located. Option is also provided to remove the trajectories (containing the outlier) from the data.

### Value

A dataframe with outlier observations replaced or removed.

### Examples

```
traj <- traj
traj <- dataImputation(traj, id_field=TRUE, method = 1, replace_with = 1)
traj <- props(traj, id_field=TRUE)#remove this later
outlierDetect(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = 1, threshold = 0.95,
count = 1, replace_with = 1)
outlierDetect(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = 2, threshold = 15,
count = 4, replace_with = 3)
```

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population	<i>sample population (denominator) data</i>
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### Description

Simulated denominator data with missing observation

### Usage

```
population
```

### Format

A matrix

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props	<i>Conversion of counts (or rates) to 'Proportion'</i>
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### Description

This function converts counts or rates to proportions.

### Usage

```
props(traj, id_field = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

traj	[matrix (numeric)]: longitudinal data. Each row represents an individual trajectory (of observations). The columns show the observations at consecutive time points.
id_field	[numeric or character] Whether the first column of the traj is a unique (id) field. Default: FALSE. If TRUE the function recognises the second column as the first time step.

### Details

Given a matrix of observations (counts or rates), this function converts each observation to a proportion equivalent to the sum of each column. In other words, each observation is divided by the sum of the column where it is located. , i.e.  $\text{prop} = [\text{a cell value}] / \text{sum}[\text{corresponding column}]$

### Value

A matrix of proportion measures

### Examples

```
traj <- traj
head(traj) #
traj <- dataImputation(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = 2, replace_with = 1,
  fill_zeros = FALSE) #filling the missing values
traj <- props(traj, id_field = TRUE)
print(traj)
```

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statPrint	<i>Descriptive (Change) statistics and plots</i>
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### Description

This function perform two tasks: (i) it generate the descriptive and change statistics of groups, particularly suited for the outputs form the [akmedoids.clust](#) function, and (ii) generates the plots of the groups (performances).

## Usage

```
statPrint(clustr, traj, id_field = TRUE, bandw = 0.25,
  type = "lines", y.scaling = "fixed")
```

## Arguments

clustr	[vector (character)] A vector of cluster membership (labels). For instance, the result extracted from the <a href="#">akmedoids.clust</a> function.
traj	[matrix (numeric)]: corresponding longitudinal data used to generate clustr (with rows corresponding to each label of clustr). For example, the first label of clustr is the group label of the first row of traj matrix, and so on.
id_field	[numeric or character] Whether the first column of the traj is a unique (id) field. Default: FALSE. If TRUE the function recognises the second column as the first time step.
bandw	[numeric] A small probability (quantile) value between [0,1] to partition the trajectories into three classes, i.e. lower, central, and the upper classes. The middle of the central class is defined by the average slope of all trajectories. The upper and the lower limits of the central class is determined by the value of bandw. Default value is 0.25, indicating that all slopes within 25th quantiles of the maximum slopes on both sides of the average slope are categorised as central class.
type	[character] plot type. Available options are: "lines" and "stacked".
y.scaling	[character] works only if type="lines". y.scaling set the vertical scales of the cluster panels. Options are: "fixed": uses uniform scale for all panels, "free": uses variable scales for panels.

## Details

Generates the descriptive and change statistics of the trajectory groupings. Given a vector of group membership (labels) and the corresponding data matrix (or data.frame) indexed in the same order, this function generates all the descriptive and change statistics of all the groups. The function can generate a line and an area stacked plot drawing from the functionalities of the ggplot2 library. For a more customised visualisation, we recommend that users deploy ggplot2 directly (Wickham H. (2016)).

## Value

A plot showing group membership or sizes (proportion) and statistics.

## References

Wickham H. (2016). *Elegant graphics for Data Analysis*. Springer-Verlag New York (2016)

## Examples

```
traj <- traj
print(traj)
traj <- dataImputation(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = 1, replace_with = 1,
  fill_zeros = FALSE)
print(traj)
traj <- props(traj, id_field = TRUE)
clustr <- akmedoids.clust(traj, id_field = TRUE, method = "linear", k = c(3,6))
```

```

clustr <- as.vector(clustr$optimSolution)
print(statPrint(clustr, traj, id_field=TRUE, type="lines", y.scaling="fixed"))
print(statPrint(clustr, traj, id_field=TRUE, bandw = 0.60, type="stacked"))

```

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traj	<i>Longitudinal dataset</i>
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### Description

Simulated longitudinal datasets with missing values (NA, Inf, null)

### Usage

traj

### Format

A matrix

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wSpaces	<i>Whitespaces removal</i>
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### Description

This function removes all the leading and the trailing whitespaces in data

### Usage

wSpaces(traj)

### Arguments

traj	[matrix (numeric)]: longitudinal data. Each row represents an individual trajectory (of observations). The columns show the observations at consecutive time points.
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### Details

Given a matrix suspected to contain whitespaces, this function removes all the whitespaces and returns a cleaned data. 'Whitespaces' are white characters often introduced into data during data entry, for instance by wrongly pressing the spacebar. For example, neither " A" nor "A " equates "A" because of the whitespaces that exist in them. They can also result from systematic errors in data recording devices.

### Value

A matrix with all whitespaces (if any) removed.

### References

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitespace\\_character](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitespace_character)



**Examples**

```
traj <- traj  
wSpaces(traj)
```

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