relsurv Various functions for regression in relative survival. By Maja Pohar.

resper Two accept-and-reject algorithms to sample from permutations. By Johannes Hüsing.

rstream Unified object oriented interface for multiple independent streams of random numbers from different sources. By Josef Leydold.

rwt Performing digital signal processing. By P. Roebuck, based on MATLAB extension by Rice University's DSP group.

seqinr Exploratory data analysis and data visualization for biological sequence (DNA and protein) data. By Delphine Charif and Jean Lobry.

spectrino Spectra organizer, visualization and data extraction from within R. By Teodor Krastev.

stepwise A stepwise approach to identifying recombination breakpoints in a sequence alignment. By Jinko Graham, Brad McNeney, and Francoise Seillier-Moiseiwitsch, R interface by Sigal Blay.

survBayes Fits a proportional hazards model to time to event data by a Bayesian approach. Right and interval censored data and a log-normal frailty term can be fitted. By Volkmar Henschel, Christiane Heiss, Ulrich Mansmann.

tdist Computes the distribution of a linear combination of independent Student's t-variables (with small degrees of freedom, dff $\leq$ 100) and/or standard Normal Z random variables. By Viktor Witkovsky and Alexander Savin.

tweedie Maximum likelihood computations for Tweedie families. By Peter Dunn.

uroot Unit root tests (KPSS, ADF, CH and HEGY) and graphics for seasonal time series. By Javier López-de-Lacalle & Ignacio Díaz-Emparanza.

vabayelMix Performs inference of a gaussian mixture model within a bayesian framework using an optimal separable approximation to the posterior density. The optimal posterior approximation is obtained using a variational approach. By Andrew Teschendorff.

verification Contains utilities for verification of discrete and probabilistic forecasts. By the NCAR Research Application Program.

zicounts Fits classical and zero-inflated count data regression model as well as censored count data regression. By S M Mwalili.

Other changes

- Packages **CoCoAn**, **gpls**, and **multiv** were moved from the main CRAN section to the Archive.

- Package **Dopt** was moved from the Devel section of CRAN to the Archive.

- Package **multidim** had to be removed from CRAN.

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Events

Chambers Workshop

A workshop entitled "40 Years of Statistical Computing and Beyond" was held at Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, NJ, U.S.A. on April 29, 2005 to mark the occasion of John Chambers' retirement from the Labs but not from active research. He is continuing his record of innovation by becoming the first Emeritus Member of Technical Staff in the history of Bell Labs.

R is an implementation of the S language and John is the originator and principal designer of S. Without John's work on S there never would have been an R. His patient responding to questions during early development of R was crucial to its success and, since 2000, he has been a member of the R Development Core Team.

The history and development of the S language and of its implementation in R were featured in many of the presentations at the workshop, especially in those by Rick Becker and Allan Wilks. Naturally, the highlight of the day was John's presentation in which he first looked back on his 40 years of involvement in statistical computing and the development of languages for programming with data and then gave some tantalizing glimpses into the future. The agenda for the workshop can be seen at http://stat.bell-labs.com.

DSC 2005

DSC 2005 – Directions in Statistical Computing – will be held from the evening of August 12 through August 15, in Seattle, Washington. This conference follows on from the successful DSC 1999, 2001, and 2003 conferences at the Vienna University of Technology.

The workshop will focus on, but is not limited to, open source statistical computing.

We are inviting abstracts for contributed presentations on issues related to the development of statistical computing and graphics environments. Abstracts should be sent to dsc2005@u.washington.edu, by May 15 and questions to tlumley@u.washington.edu. More information is available at http://depts.washington.edu/dsc2005/ and online registration will soon open at that website.

Bioconductor User Conference

The 2005 Bioconductor User Conference will be hosted at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle on August 16 and 17, following the DSC. The two day meeting will consist of morning lectures and afternoon laboratories. Scheduled speakers include: Michael Boutros, Eric Schadt, Sridhar Ramaswamy, Rafael Irizarry, and Robert Gentleman. The conference web site can be found at http://www.bioconductor.org/meeting05. For more details contact biocworkshop@fhcrc.org.