Stan Functions Reference

Version 2.20

Stan Development Team

Contents

Overview viii

Built-In Functions 1		
1.	Void 1	Functions 2
	1.1	Print Statement 2
	1.2	Reject Statement 2
2.	Intege	er-Valued Basic Functions 4
	2.1	Integer-Valued Arithmetic Operators 4
	2.2	Absolute Functions 6
	2.3	Bound Functions 6
3.	Real-V	Valued Basic Functions 7
	3.1	Vectorization of Real-Valued Functions 7
	3.2	Mathematical Constants 9
	3.3	Special Values 9
	3.4	Log Probability Function 9
	3.5	Logical Functions 10
	3.6	Real-Valued Arithmetic Operators 13
	3.7	Step-like Functions 14
	3.8	Power and Logarithm Functions 16
	3.9	Trigonometric Functions 17
	3.10	Hyperbolic Trigonometric Functions 17
	3.11	Link Functions 18
	3.12	Probability-Related Functions 18
	3.13	Combinatorial Functions 19
	3.14	Composed Functions 23
4.	Array	Operations 25
	4.1	Reductions 25
	4.2	Array Size and Dimension Function 27

4.3	Array Broadcasting 28			
4.4	Array Concatenation 29			
4.5	Sorting functions 30			
Matrix	Matrix Operations 32			
5.1	Integer-Valued Matrix Size Functions 32			
5.2	Matrix Arithmetic Operators 32			
5.3	Transposition Operator 36			
5.4	Elementwise Functions 36			
5.5	Dot Products and Specialized Products 36			
5.6	Reductions 39			
5.7	Broadcast Functions 40			
5.8	Diagonal Matrix Functions 41			
5.9	Slicing and Blocking Functions 42			
5.10	Matrix Concatenation 43			
5.11	Special Matrix Functions 45			
5.12	Covariance Functions 46			
5.13	Linear Algebra Functions and Solvers 46			
5.14	Sort Functions 51			
Sparse	e Matrix Operations 53			
6.1	Compressed Row Storage 53			
6.2	Conversion Functions 54			
6.3	Sparse Matrix Arithmetic 54			
Mixed Operations 56				
Comp	ound Arithmetic and Assignment 59			
8.1	Compound Addition and Assignment 59			
8.2	Compound Subtraction and Assignment 60			
8.3	Compound Multiplication and Assignment 60			
8.4	Compound Division and Assignment 61			
8.5	Compound Elementwise Multiplication and Assignment 61			
8.6	Compound Elementwise Division and Assignment 61			
Higho	r-Order Functions 62			

5.

6.

7. 8.

	9.1	Algebraic Equation Solver 62			
	9.2	Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) Solvers 64			
	9.3	1D Integrator 67			
	9.4	Higher-Order Map 69			
Disc	Discrete Distributions 71				
10.	Conve	Conventions for Probability Functions 72			
	10.1	Suffix Marks Type of Function 72			
	10.2	Argument Order and the Vertical Bar 72			
	10.3	Sampling Notation 72			
	10.4	Finite Inputs 73			
	10.5	Boundary Conditions 73			
	10.6	Pseudorandom Number Generators 73			
	10.7	Cumulative Distribution Functions 73			
	10.8	Vectorization 74			
11.	Binary	Distributions 78			
	11.1	Bernoulli Distribution 78			
	11.2	Bernoulli Distribution, Logit Parameterization 78			
	11.3	Bernoulli-Logit Generalised Linear Model (Logistic Regression) 79			
12.	Bound	ed Discrete Distributions 81			
	12.1	Binomial Distribution 81			
	12.2	Binomial Distribution, Logit Parameterization 82			
	12.3	Beta-Binomial Distribution 83			
	12.4	Hypergeometric Distribution 84			
	12.5	Categorical Distribution 84			
	12.6	Ordered Logistic Distribution 85			
	12.7	Ordered Probit Distribution 86			
13.	Unbou	nded Discrete Distributions 87			
	13.1	Negative Binomial Distribution 87			
	13.2	Negative Binomial Distribution (alternative parameterization) 88			
	13.3	Negative Binomial Distribution (log alternative parameterization) 89			
	13.4	Negative-Binomial-2-Log Generalised Linear Model (Negative Binomial Re-			
	g	ression) 90			

	13.5	Poisson Distribution 90		
	13.6	Poisson Distribution, Log Parameterization 91		
	13.7	Poisson-Log Generalised Linear Model (Poisson Regression) 92		
14.	Multiv	ariate Discrete Distributions 93		
	14.1	Multinomial Distribution 93		
Continuous Distributions 94				
15.	Unbou	nded Continuous Distributions 95		
	15.1	Normal Distribution 95		
	15.2	Normal-Id Generalised Linear Model (Linear Regression) 96		
	15.3	Exponentially Modified Normal Distribution 97		
	15.4	Skew Normal Distribution 98		
	15.5	Student-T Distribution 99		
	15.6	Cauchy Distribution 100		
	15.7	Double Exponential (Laplace) Distribution 100		
	15.8	Logistic Distribution 102		
	15.9	Gumbel Distribution 102		
16.	Positiv	ve Continuous Distributions 104		
	16.1	Lognormal Distribution 104		
	16.2	Chi-Square Distribution 105		
	16.3	Inverse Chi-Square Distribution 105		
	16.4	Scaled Inverse Chi-Square Distribution 106		
	16.5	Exponential Distribution 107		
	16.6	Gamma Distribution 108		
	16.7	Inverse Gamma Distribution 108		
	16.8	Weibull Distribution 109		
	16.9	Frechet Distribution 110		
17.	Non-no	egative Continuous Distributions 112		
	17.1	Rayleigh Distribution 112		
	17.2	Wiener First Passage Time Distribution 112		
18.	Positiv	ve Lower-Bounded Probabilities 114		
	18.1	Pareto Distribution 114		

	18.2	Pareto Type 2 Distribution 115	
19.	Contir	Continuous Distributions on [0, 1] 116	
	19.1	Beta Distribution 116	
	19.2	Beta Proportion Distribution 117	
20.	Circul	ar Distributions 118	
	20.1	Von Mises Distribution 118	
21.	Bound	led Continuous Probabilities 120	
	21.1	Uniform Distribution 120	
22.		butions over Unbounded Vectors 121	
	22.1	Multivariate Normal Distribution 121	
	22.2	Multivariate Normal Distribution, Precision Parameterization 122	
	22.3	Multivariate Normal Distribution, Cholesky Parameterization 123	
	22.4	Multivariate Gaussian Process Distribution 124	
	22.5	Multivariate Gaussian Process Distribution, Cholesky parameterization 124	
	22.6	Multivariate Student-T Distribution 125	
	22.7	Gaussian Dynamic Linear Models 126	
23.	Simple	ex Distributions 128	
	23.1	Dirichlet Distribution 128	
24.	Correl	orrelation Matrix Distributions 130	
	24.1	LKJ Correlation Distribution 130	
	24.2	Cholesky LKJ Correlation Distribution 131	
25.	Covariance Matrix Distributions 133		
	25.1	Wishart Distribution 133	
	25.2	Inverse Wishart Distribution 133	
App	endix	135	
26.	Mathe	matical Functions 136	
	26.1	Beta 136	
	26.2	Incomplete Beta 136	
	26.3	Gamma 136	
	26.4	Digamma 136	
	20.4	Diguinin 100	

References 137

Index 139

Overview

About

This is the reference for the functions defined in the Stan math library and available in the Stan programming language.

The Stan project comprises a domain-specific language for probabilistic programming, a differentiable mathematics and probability library, algorithms for Bayesian posterior inference and posterior analysis, along with interfaces and analysis tools in all of the popular data analysis languages.

Interfaces and Platforms

Stan runs under Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux.

Stan uses a domain-specific programming language that is portable across data anlsysi languages. Stan has interfaces for R, Python, Julia, MATLAB, Mathematica, Stata, and the command line, as well as an alternative language interface in Scala. See the web site (link below) for links and getting started instructions.

Web Site

The official resource for all things related to Stan is the web site:

https://mc-stan.org

The web site links to all of the packages comprising Stan for both users and developers. This is the place to get started with Stan. Find the interface in the language you want to use and follow the download, installation, and getting started instructions.

GitHub Organization

Stan's source code and much of the developer process is hosted on GitHub. Stan's organization is:

https://github.com

Each package has its own repository within the stan-dev organization. The web site is also hosted and managed through GitHub. This is the place to peruse the source

code, request features, and report bugs. Much of the ongoing design discussion is hosted on the GitHub Wiki.

Forums

Stan hosts message boards for discussing all things related to Stan.

https://discourse.mc-stan.org

This is the place to ask questions about Stan, including modeling, programming, and installation.

Licensing

· Computer code: BSD 3-clause license

The core C++ code underlying Stan, including the math library, language, and inference algorithms, is licensed under the BSD 3-clause licensed as detailed in each repository and on the web site along with the distribution links.

· Logo: Stan logo usage guidelines

Acknowledgements

The Stan project could not exist without the generous grant funding of many grant agencies to the participants in the project. For more details of direct funding for the project, see the web site and project pages of the Stan developers.

The Stan project could also not exist without the generous contributions of its users in reporting and in many cases fixing bugs in the code and its documentation. We used to try to list all of those who contributed patches and bug reports for the manual here, but when that number passed into the hundreds, it became too difficult to manage reliably. Instead, we will defer to GitHub (link above), where all contributions to the project are made and tracked.

Finally, we should all thank the Stan developers, without whom this project could not exist. We used to try and list the developers here, but like the bug reporters, once the list grew into the dozens, it became difficult to track. Instead, we will defer to the Stan web page and GitHub itself for a list of core developers and all developer contributions respectively.

Built-In Functions

1. Void Functions

Stan does not technically support functions that do not return values. It does support two types of statements that look like functions, one for printing and one for rejecting outputs. Documentation on these functions is included here for completeness. The special keyword void is used for the return type of void functions, because they behave like variadic functions with void return type, even though they are special kinds of statements.

Although print and reject appear to have the syntax of functions, they are actually special kinds of statements with slightly different form and behavior than other functions. First, they are the constructs that allow a variable number of arguments. Second, they are the the only constructs to accept string literals (e.g., "hello world") as arguments. Third, they have no effect on the log density function and operate solely through side effects.

1.1. Print Statement

Printing has no effect on the model's log probability function. Its sole purpose is the side effect (i.e., an effect not represented in a return value) of arguments being printed to whatever the standard output stream is connected to (e.g., the terminal in command-line Stan or the R console in RStan).

Print the values denoted by the arguments x1 through xN on the output message stream. There are no spaces between items in the print, but a line feed (LF; Unicode U+000A; C++ literal ' $\{n\}$ ') is inserted at the end of the printed line. The types T1 through TN can be any of Stan's built-in numerical types or double quoted strings of ASCII characters.

1.2. Reject Statement

The reject statement has the same syntax as the print statement, accepting an arbitrary number of arguments of any type (including string literals). The effect of executing a reject statement is to throw an exception internally that terminates the current iteration with a rejection (the behavior of which will depend on the algorithmic context in which it occurs).

void reject(T1 x1,..., TN xN)

Reject the current iteration and print the values denoted by the arguments x1 through xN on the output message stream. There are no spaces between items in the print,

3

but a line feed (LF; Unicode U+000A; C++ literal ' $\{n\}$ ') is inserted at the end of the printed line. The types T1 through TN can be any of Stan's built-in numerical types or double quoted strings of ASCII characters.

2. Integer-Valued Basic Functions

This chapter describes Stan's built-in function that take various types of arguments and return results of type integer.

2.1. Integer-Valued Arithmetic Operators

Stan's arithmetic is based on standard double-precision C++ integer and floating-point arithmetic. If the arguments to an arithmetic operator are both integers, as in 2 + 2, integer arithmetic is used. If one argument is an integer and the other a floating-point value, as in 2.0 + 2 and 2 + 2.0, then the integer is promoted to a floating point value and floating-point arithmetic is used.

Integer arithmetic behaves slightly differently than floating point arithmetic. The first difference is how overflow is treated. If the sum or product of two integers overflows the maximum integer representable, the result is an undesirable wraparound behavior at the bit level. If the integers were first promoted to real numbers, they would not overflow a floating-point representation. There are no extra checks in Stan to flag overflows, so it is up to the user to make sure it does not occur.

Secondly, because the set of integers is not closed under division and there is no special infinite value for integers, integer division implicitly rounds the result. If both arguments are positive, the result is rounded down. For example, 1 / 2 evaluates to 0 + 3 evaluates to 1 + 3.

If one of the integer arguments to division is negative, the latest C++ specification (C++11), requires rounding toward zero. This would have 1 / 2 and -1 / 2 evaluate to 0, -7 / 2 evaluate to -3, and 7 / 2 evaluate to 3. Before the C++11 specification, the behavior was platform dependent, allowing rounding up or down. All compilers recent enough to be able to deal with Stan's templating should follow the C++11 specification, but it may be worth testing if you are not sure and plan to use integer division with negative values.

Unlike floating point division, where 1.0 / 0.0 produces the special positive infinite value, integer division by zero, as in 1 / 0, has undefined behavior in the C++ standard. For example, the clang++ compiler on Mac OS X returns 3764, whereas the g++ compiler throws an exception and aborts the program with a warning. As with overflow, it is up to the user to make sure integer divide-by-zero does not occur.

Binary Infix Operators

Operators are described using the C++ syntax. For instance, the binary operator of addition, written X + Y, would have the Stan signature int operator+(int,int) indicating it takes two real arguments and returns a real value. As noted previously, the value of integer division is platform-dependent when rounding is platform dependent before C++11; the descriptions below provide the C++11 definition.

int operator+(int x, int y)

The sum of the addends x and y

operator+
$$(x, y) = (x + y)$$

int operator-(int x, int y)

The difference between the minuend x and subtrahend y

operator-
$$(x, y) = (x - y)$$

int operator*(int x, int y)

The product of the factors x and y

$$operator^*(x, y) = (x \times y)$$

int operator/(int x, int y)

The integer quotient of the dividend x and divisor y

operator/
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} \lfloor x/y \rfloor & \text{if } x/y \ge 0 \\ -\lfloor \text{floor}(-x/y) \rfloor & \text{if } x/y < 0. \end{cases}$$

int operator%(int x, int y)

x modulo y, which is the positive remainder after dividing x by y. If both x and y are non-negative, so is the result; otherwise, the sign of the result is platform dependent.

operator
$$%(x, y) = x \mod y = x - y * \lfloor x/y \rfloor$$

Unary Prefix Operators

int operator-(int x)

The negation of the subtrahend x [operator-(x) = -x

int operator+(int x)

This is a no-op.

operator+
$$(x) = x$$

2.2. Absolute Functions

Rabs(Tx)

absolute value of x

int int_step(int x)

int int_step(real x)

Return the step function of x as an integer,

$$int_step(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x \le 0 \text{ or } x \text{ is } NaN \end{cases}$$

Warning: int_step(0) and int_step(NaN) return 0 whereas step(0) and step(NaN) return 1.

See the warning in section step functions about the dangers of step functions applied to anything other than data.

2.3. Bound Functions

int min(int x, int y)

Return the minimum of x and y.

$$\min(x, y) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x < y \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

int max(int x, int y)

Return the maximum of x and y.

$$\max(x, y) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > y \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

3. Real-Valued Basic Functions

This chapter describes built-in functions that take zero or more real or integer arguments and return real values.

3.1. Vectorization of Real-Valued Functions

Although listed in this chapter, many of Stan's built-in functions are vectorized so that they may be applied to any argument type. The vectorized form of these functions is not any faster than writing an explicit loop that iterates over the elements applying the function—it's just easier to read and write and less error prone.

Unary Function Vectorization

Many of Stan's unary functions can be applied to any argument type. For example, the exponential function, exp, can be applied to real arguments or arrays of real arguments. Other than for integer arguments, the result type is the same as the argument type, including dimensionality and size. Integer arguments are first promoted to real values, but the result will still have the same dimensionality and size as the argument.

Real and real array arguments

When applied to a simple real value, the result is a real value. When applied to arrays, vectorized functions like exp() are defined elementwise. For example,

```
// declare some variables for arguments
real x0;
real x1[5];
real x2[4, 7];
...
// declare some variables for results
real y0;
real y1[5];
real y2[4, 7];
...
// calculate and assign results
y0 = exp(x0);
y1 = exp(x1);
y2 = exp(x2);
```

When exp is applied to an array, it applies elementwise. For example, the statement

```
above,
y2 = exp(x2);
produces the same result for y2 as the explicit loop
for (i in 1:4)
  for (j in 1:7)
    y2[i, j] = exp(x2[i, j]);
```

Vector and matrix arguments

Vectorized functions also apply elementwise to vectors and matrices. For example,

```
vector[5] xv;
row_vector[7] xrv;
matrix[10, 20] xm;

vector[5] yv;
row_vector[7] yrv;
matrix[10, 20] ym;

yv = exp(xv);
yrv = exp(xrv);
ym = exp(xrv);
ym = exp(xm);

Arrays of vectors and matrices work the same way. For example,
matrix[17, 93] u[12];
matrix[17, 93] z[12];

z = exp(u);
```

After this has been executed, z[i, j, k] will be equal to exp(u[i, j, k]).

Integer and integer array arguments

Integer arguments are promoted to real values in vectorized unary functions. Thus if n is of type int, exp(n) is of type real. Arrays work the same way, so that if n2 is a one dimensional array of integers, then exp(n2) will be a one-dimensional array of reals with the same number of elements as n2. For example,

```
int n1[23];
```

```
real z1[23];
z1 = exp(n1);
```

It would be illegal to try to assign exp(n1) to an array of integers; the return type is a real array.

3.2. Mathematical Constants

Constants are represented as functions with no arguments and must be called as such. For instance, the mathematical constant π must be written in a Stan program as pi().

real **pi**()

 π , the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter

real **e**()

e, the base of the natural logarithm

real sqrt2()

The square root of 2

real log2()

The natural logarithm of 2

real **log10**()

The natural logarithm of 10

3.3. Special Values

real not_a_number()

Not-a-number, a special non-finite real value returned to signal an error

```
real positive_infinity()
```

Positive infinity, a special non-finite real value larger than all finite numbers

```
real negative_infinity()
```

Negative infinity, a special non-finite real value smaller than all finite numbers

real machine_precision()

The smallest number x such that $(x+1) \neq 1$ in floating-point arithmetic on the current hardware platform

3.4. Log Probability Function

The basic purpose of a Stan program is to compute a log probability function and its derivatives. The log probability function in a Stan model outputs the log density on the unconstrained scale. A log probability accumulator starts at zero and is then incremented in various ways by a Stan program. The variables are first transformed from unconstrained to constrained, and the log Jacobian determinant added to the

log probability accumulator. Then the model block is executed on the constrained parameters, with each sampling statement (~) and log probability increment statement (increment_log_prob) adding to the accumulator. At the end of the model block execution, the value of the log probability accumulator is the log probability value returned by the Stan program.

Stan provides a special built-in function target() that takes no arguments and returns the current value of the log probability accumulator. This function is primarily useful for debugging purposes, where for instance, it may be used with a print statement to display the log probability accumulator at various stages of execution to see where it becomes ill defined.

real target()

Return the current value of the log probability accumulator.

real get_lp()

Return the current value of the log probability accumulator; **deprecated**; - use target() instead.

Both target and the deprecated get_lp act like other functions ending in _lp, meaning that they may only may only be used in the model block.

3.5. Logical Functions

Like C++, BUGS, and R, Stan uses 0 to encode false, and 1 to encode true. Stan supports the usual boolean comparison operations and boolean operators. These all have the same syntax and precedence as in C++; for the full list of operators and precedences, see the reference manual.

Comparison Operators

All comparison operators return boolean values, either 0 or 1. Each operator has two signatures, one for integer comparisons and one for floating-point comparisons. Comparing an integer and real value is carried out by first promoting the integer value.

int operator<(real x, real y)</pre>

Return 1 if x is less than y and 0 otherwise.

operator<
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x < y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

¹This function used to be called get_lp(), but that name has been deprecated; using it will print a warning. The function get_lp() will be removed in a future release.

int operator<=(int x, int y)</pre>

int operator<=(real x, real y)</pre>

Return 1 if x is less than or equal y and 0 otherwise.

operator<=
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \le y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

int operator>(int x, int y)

int operator>(real x, real y)

Return 1 if x is greater than y and 0 otherwise.

operator> =
$$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

int operator>=(int x, int y)

int operator>=(real x, real y)

Return 1 if x is greater than or equal to y and 0 otherwise.

operator>=
$$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \ge y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

int operator==(int x, int y)

int operator==(real x, real y)

Return 1 if x is equal to y and 0 otherwise.

operator==
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

int operator!=(int x, int y)

int operator!=(real x, real y)

Return 1 if x is not equal to y and 0 otherwise.

operator!=
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \neq y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Boolean Operators

Boolean operators return either 0 for false or 1 for true. Inputs may be any real or integer values, with non-zero values being treated as true and zero values treated as false. These operators have the usual precedences, with negation (not) binding the most tightly, conjunction the next and disjunction the weakest; all of the operators bind more tightly than the comparisons. Thus an expression such as !a && b is interpreted as (!a) && b, and $a < b \mid \mid c >= d$ && $e \mid = f$ as $(a < b) \mid \mid$ ((($c \mid = d$))).

int operator!(int x)

int operator!(real x)

Return 1 if x is zero and 0 otherwise.

operator!(
$$x$$
) =
$$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

int operator&&(int x, int y)

int operator&&(real x, real y)

Return 1 if x is unequal to 0 and y is unequal to 0.

operator&&
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \text{ and } y \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

int operator||(int x, int y)

int operator||(real x, real y)

Return 1 if x is unequal to 0 or y is unequal to 0.

operator||
$$(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \neq 0 \text{ or } y \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Boolean Operator Short Circuiting

Like in C++, the boolean operators && and || and are implemented to short circuit directly to a return value after evaluating the first argument if it is sufficient to resolve the result. In evaluating a || b, if a evaluates to a value other than zero, the expression returns the value 1 without evaluating the expression b. Similarly, evaluating a && b first evaluates a, and if the result is zero, returns 0 without evaluating b.

Logical Functions

The logical functions introduce conditional behavior functionally and are primarily provided for compatibility with BUGS and JAGS.

real step(real x)

Return 1 if x is positive and 0 otherwise.

$$step(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Warning: int_step(0) and int_step(NaN) return 0 whereas step(0) and step(NaN) return 1.

The step function is often used in BUGS to perform conditional operations. For instance, step(a-b) evaluates to 1 if a is greater than b and evaluates to 0 otherwise. step is a step-like functions; see the warning in section step functions applied to expressions dependent on parameters.

int is_inf(real x)

Return 1 if x is infinite (positive or negative) and 0 otherwise.

int is_nan(real x)

Return 1 if x is NaN and 0 otherwise.

Care must be taken because both of these indicator functions are step-like and thus can cause discontinuities in gradients when applied to parameters; see section step-like functions for details.

3.6. Real-Valued Arithmetic Operators

The arithmetic operators are presented using C++ notation. For instance operator+(x,y) refers to the binary addition operator and operator-(x) to the unary negation operator. In Stan programs, these are written using the usual infix and prefix notations as x + y and -x, respectively.

Binary Infix Operators

real operator+(real x, real y)

Return the sum of x and y.

$$(x + y) = \text{operator} + (x, y) = x + y$$

real operator-(real x, real y)

Return the difference between x and y.

$$(x - y) = \text{operator-}(x, y) = x - y$$

real operator*(real x, real y)

Return the product of x and y.

$$(x * y) = operator^*(x, y) = xy$$

real operator/(real x, real y)

Return the quotient of x and y.

$$(x/y) = \text{operator}/(x, y) = \frac{x}{y}$$

real operator^(real x, real y)

Return x raised to the power of y.

$$(x^{\wedge}y) = \operatorname{operator}^{\wedge}(x, y) = x^{y}$$

Unary Prefix Operators

real **operator**-(real x)

Return the negation of the subtrahend x.

operator-
$$(x) = (-x)$$

real operator+(real x)

Return the value of x.

$$operator+(x) = x$$

3.7. Step-like Functions

Warning: These functions can seriously hinder sampling and optimization efficiency for gradient-based methods (e.g., NUTS, HMC, BFGS) if applied to parameters (including transformed parameters and local variables in the transformed parameters or model block). The problem is that they break gradients due to discontinuities coupled with zero gradients elsewhere. They do not hinder sampling when used in the data, transformed data, or generated quantities blocks.

Absolute Value Functions

R fabs(T x)

absolute value of x

real fdim(real x, real y)

Return the positive difference between x and y, which is x - y if x is greater than y and y0 otherwise; see warning above.

$$fdim(x, y) = \begin{cases} x - y & \text{if } x \ge y \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

15

Bounds Functions

real fmin(real x, real y)

Return the minimum of x and y; see warning above.

$$fmin(x, y) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \le y \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real fmax(real x, real y)

Return the maximum of x and y; see warning above.

$$fmax(x, y) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \ge y \\ y & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Arithmetic Functions

real **fmod**(real x, real y)

Return the real value remainder after dividing x by y; see warning above.

$$fmod(x, y) = x - \left| \frac{x}{y} \right| y$$

The operator $\lfloor u \rfloor$ is the floor operation; see below.

Rounding Functions

Warning: Rounding functions convert real values to integers. Because the output is an integer, any gradient information resulting from functions applied to the integer is not passed to the real value it was derived from. With MCMC sampling using HMC or NUTS, the MCMC acceptance procedure will correct for any error due to poor gradient calculations, but the result is likely to be reduced acceptance probabilities and less efficient sampling.

The rounding functions cannot be used as indices to arrays because they return real values. Stan may introduce integer-valued versions of these in the future, but as of now, there is no good workaround.

R floor(T x)

floor of x, which is the largest integer less than or equal to x, converted to a real value; see warning at start of section step-like functions

R ceil(T x)

ceiling of x, which is the smallest integer greater than or equal to x, converted to a real value; see warning at start of section step-like functions

R round(T x)

nearest integer to x, converted to a real value; see warning at start of section step-like functions

R trunc(T x)

integer nearest to but no larger in magnitude than x, converted to a double value; see warning at start of section step-like functions

3.8. Power and Logarithm Functions

 $R \operatorname{sqrt}(T x)$

square root of x

R **cbrt**(T x)

cube root of x

R square(T x)

square of x

 $R \exp(T x)$

natural exponential of x

R exp2(T x)

base-2 exponential of x

 $R \log(T x)$

natural logarithm of x

 $R \log 2(T x)$

base-2 logarithm of x

 $R \log 10(T x)$

base-10 logarithm of x

real pow(real x, real y)

Return x raised to the power of y.

$$pow(x, y) = x^y$$

R inv(T x)

inverse of x

R inv_sqrt(T x)

inverse of the square root of x

R $inv_square(T x)$

inverse of the square of x

3.9. Trigonometric Functions

real hypot(real x, real y)

Return the length of the hypotenuse of a right triangle with sides of length x and y.

$$\mathrm{hypot}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} & \text{if } x,y \ge 0 \\ \mathrm{NaN} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

 $R \cos(T x)$

cosine of the angle x (in radians)

R sin(T x)

sine of the angle x (in radians)

R tan(T x)

tangent of the angle x (in radians)

R acos(T x)

principal arc (inverse) cosine (in radians) of x

Rasin(Tx)

principal arc (inverse) sine (in radians) of x

R atan(T x)

principal arc (inverse) tangent (in radians) of x, with values from $-\pi$ to π

real atan2 (real y, real x)

Return the principal arc (inverse) tangent (in radians) of y divided by x,

$$\operatorname{atan2}(y, x) = \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

3.10. Hyperbolic Trigonometric Functions

 $R \cosh(T x)$

hyperbolic cosine of x (in radians)

R sinh(T x)

hyperbolic sine of x (in radians)

R tanh(T x)

hyperbolic tangent of x (in radians)

 $R \operatorname{acosh}(T x)$

inverse hyperbolic cosine (in radians)

Rasinh(Tx)

inverse hyperbolic cosine (in radians)

R atanh(T x)

inverse hyperbolic tangent (in radians) of x

3.11. Link Functions

The following functions are commonly used as link functions in generalized linear models. The function Φ is also commonly used as a link function (see section probability-related functions).

R logit(T x)

log odds, or logit, function applied to x

R inv_logit(T x)

logistic sigmoid function applied to x

$R inv_cloglog(T x)$

inverse of the complementary log-log function applied to x

3.12. Probability-Related Functions

Normal Cumulative Distribution Functions

The error function erf is related to the standard normal cumulative distribution function Φ by scaling. See section normal distribution for the general normal cumulative distribution function (and its complement).

Rerf(Tx)

error function, also known as the Gauss error function, of x

Rerfc(T x)

complementary error function of x

R **Phi**(T x)

standard normal cumulative distribution function of x

R inv_Phi(T x)

standard normal inverse cumulative distribution function of p, otherwise known as the quantile function

$R Phi_approx(T x)$

fast approximation of the unit (may replace Phi for probit regression with maximum absolute error of 0.00014, see (Bowling et al. 2009) for details)

19

Other Probability-Related Functions

real binary_log_loss(int y, real y_hat)

Return the log loss function for for predicting $\hat{y} \in [0,1]$ for boolean outcome $y \in \{0,1\}$.

binary_log_loss(
$$y, \hat{y}$$
) =
$$\begin{cases} -\log \hat{y} & \text{if } y = 0 \\ -\log(1-\hat{y}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real owens_t(real h, real a)

Return the Owen's T function for the probability of the event X > h and 0 < Y < aX where X and Y are independent standard normal random variables.

owens_t(h, a) =
$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^a \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{2}h^2(1+x^2))}{1+x^2} dx$$

3.13. Combinatorial Functions

real inc_beta(real alpha, real beta, real x)

Return the regularized incomplete beta function up to x applied to alpha and beta. See section appendix for a definition.

real **lbeta**(real alpha, real beta)

Return the natural logarithm of the beta function applied to alpha and beta. The beta function, $B(\alpha, \beta)$, computes the normalizing constant for the beta distribution, and is defined for $\alpha > 0$ and $\beta > 0$.

$$lbeta(\alpha, \beta) = log \Gamma(a) + log \Gamma(b) - log \Gamma(a + b)$$

See section appendix for definition of $B(\alpha, \beta)$.

R tgamma(T x)

gamma function applied to x. The gamma function is the generalization of the factorial function to continuous variables, defined so that $\Gamma(n+1) = n!$. See for a full definition of $\Gamma(x)$. The function is defined for positive numbers and non-integral negative numbers,

$R \mathbf{1} \mathbf{gamma}(T x)$

natural logarithm of the gamma function applied to x,

$R \operatorname{digamma}(T x)$

digamma function applied to x. The digamma function is the derivative of the natural logarithm of the Gamma function. The function is defined for positive numbers and non-integral negative numbers

R trigamma(T x)

trigamma function applied to x. The trigamma function is the second derivative of the natural logarithm of the Gamma function

real lmgamma(int n, real x)

Return the natural logarithm of the multivariate gamma function Γ_n with n dimensions applied to x.

$$\operatorname{lmgamma}(n,x) = \begin{cases} \frac{n(n-1)}{4} \log \pi + \sum_{j=1}^{n} \log \Gamma\left(x + \frac{1-j}{2}\right) & \text{if } x \notin \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0\} \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real gamma_p(real a, real z)

Return the normalized lower incomplete gamma function of a and z defined for positive a and nonnegative z.

$$\operatorname{gamma_p}(a,z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^z t^{a-1} e^{-t} dt & \text{if } a > 0, z \ge 0 \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real gamma_q(real a, real z)

Return the normalized upper incomplete gamma function of a and z defined for positive a and nonnegative z.

$$\operatorname{gamma_q}(a,z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_z^{\infty} t^{a-1} e^{-t} dt & \text{if } a > 0, z \ge 0 \\ \text{error} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real binomial_coefficient_log(real x, real y)

Warning: This function is deprecated and should be replaced with 1choose. Return the natural logarithm of the binomial coefficient of x and y. For non-negative integer inputs, the binomial coefficient function is written as $\binom{x}{y}$ and pronounced "x choose y." This function generalizes to real numbers using the gamma function. For $0 \le y \le x$,

binomial_coefficient_log(
$$x$$
, y) = log $\Gamma(x+1)$ – log $\Gamma(y+1)$ – log $\Gamma(x-y+1)$.

int choose(int x, int y)

Return the binomial coefficient of x and y. For non-negative integer inputs, the binomial coefficient function is written as $\binom{x}{y}$ and pronounced "x choose y." In its the antilog of the 1choose function but returns an integer rather than a real number with no non-zero decimal places. For $0 \le y \le x$, the binomial coefficient function can be defined via the factorial function

$$choose(x, y) = \frac{x!}{(y!)(x-y)!}.$$

21

real bessel_first_kind(int v, real x)

Return the Bessel function of the first kind with order v applied to x.

bessel_first_kind(
$$v, x$$
) = $J_v(x)$,

where

$$J_{\nu}(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^{\nu} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{4}x^2\right)^k}{k! \Gamma(\nu+k+1)}$$

real bessel_second_kind(int v, real x)

Return the Bessel function of the second kind with order v applied to x defined for positive x and v. For x, v > 0,

$$bessel_second_kind(\nu, x) = \begin{cases} Y_{\nu}(x) & \text{if } x > 0 \\ error & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where

$$Y_{\nu}(x) = \frac{J_{\nu}(x)\cos(\nu\pi) - J_{-\nu}(x)}{\sin(\nu\pi)}$$

real modified_bessel_first_kind(int v, real z)

Return the modified Bessel function of the first kind with order v applied to z defined for all z and v.

modified_bessel_first_kind(
$$v$$
, z) = $I_v(z)$

where

$$I_{\nu}(z) = \left(\frac{1}{2}z\right)^{\nu} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{4}z^{2}\right)^{k}}{k!\Gamma(\nu+k+1)}$$

real modified_bessel_second_kind(int v, real z)

Return the modified Bessel function of the second kind with order v applied to z defined for positive z and v.

$$\label{eq:modified_bessel_second_kind} \text{modified_bessel_second_kind}(\nu, z) = \begin{cases} K_{\nu}(z) & \text{if } z > 0 \\ \text{error} & \text{if } z \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

where

$$K_{\nu}(z) = \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{I_{-\nu}(z) - I_{\nu}(z)}{\sin(\nu \pi)}$$

real falling_factorial(real x, real n)

Return the falling factorial of x with power n defined for positive x and real n.

$$falling_factorial(x, n) = \begin{cases} (x)_n & \text{if } x > 0\\ \text{error} & \text{if } x \le 0 \end{cases}$$

where

$$(x)_n = \frac{\Gamma(x+1)}{\Gamma(x-n+1)}$$

real lchoose(real x, real y)

Return the natural logarithm of the generalized binomial coefficient of x and y. For non-negative integer inputs, the binomial coefficient function is written as $\binom{x}{y}$ and pronounced "x choose y." This function generalizes to real numbers using the gamma function. For $0 \le y \le x$,

binomial_coefficient_log(x, y) = log $\Gamma(x + 1)$ - log $\Gamma(y + 1)$ - log $\Gamma(x - y + 1)$.

real log_falling_factorial(real x, real n)

Return the log of the falling factorial of x with power n defined for positive x and real n.

$$\log_{\text{falling_factorial}}(x, n) = \begin{cases} \log(x)_n & \text{if } x > 0\\ \text{error} & \text{if } x \le 0 \end{cases}$$

real rising_factorial(real x, real n)

Return the rising factorial of x with power n defined for positive x and real n.

$$rising_factorial(x, n) = \begin{cases} x^{(n)} & \text{if } x > 0 \\ error & \text{if } x \le 0 \end{cases}$$

where

$$\chi^{(n)} = \frac{\Gamma(\chi + n)}{\Gamma(\chi)}$$

real log_rising_factorial(real x, real n)

Return the log of the rising factorial of x with power n defined for positive x and real n.

$$\log_{\text{rising_factorial}}(x, n) = \begin{cases} \log x^{(n)} & \text{if } x > 0\\ \text{error} & \text{if } x \le 0 \end{cases}$$

23

3.14. Composed Functions

The functions in this section are equivalent in theory to combinations of other functions. In practice, they are implemented to be more efficient and more numerically stable than defining them directly using more basic Stan functions.

R expm1(T x)

natural exponential of x minus 1

real fma(real x, real y, real z)

Return z plus the result of x multiplied by y.

$$fma(x, y, z) = (x \times y) + z$$

real multiply_log(real x, real y)

Warning: This function is deprecated and should be replaced with lmultiply. Return the product of x and the natural logarithm of y.

$$\text{multiply_log}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y = 0 \\ x \log y & \text{if } x, y \neq 0 \\ \text{NaN} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real lmultiply(real x, real y)

Return the product of x and the natural logarithm of y.

$$lmultiply(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y = 0\\ x \log y & \text{if } x, y \neq 0\\ NaN & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$R \log 1p(T x)$

natural logarithm of 1 plus x

$R \log 1m(T x)$

natural logarithm of 1 minus x

$R \log p_exp(T x)$

natural logarithm of one plus the natural exponentiation of x

$R \log lm_exp(T x)$

logarithm of one minus the natural exponentiation of x

Return the natural logarithm of the difference of the natural exponentiation of \boldsymbol{x} and

the natural exponentiation of y.

$$\log_{-}\text{diff}_{-}\exp(x, y) = \begin{cases} \log(\exp(x) - \exp(y)) & \text{if } x > y \\ \text{NaN} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

real log_mix(real theta, real lp1, real lp2)

Return the log mixture of the log densities lp1 and lp2 with mixing proportion theta, defined by

$$\begin{split} \log_{-}\min(\theta, \lambda_1, \lambda_2) &= \log(\theta \exp(\lambda_1) + (1 - \theta) \exp(\lambda_2)) \\ &= \log_{-}\sup(\log(\theta) + \lambda_1, \log(1 - \theta) + \lambda_2). \end{split}$$

real log_sum_exp(real x, real y)

Return the natural logarithm of the sum of the natural exponentiation of x and the natural exponentiation of y.

$$\log_{-}\text{sum}_{-}\text{exp}(x, y) = \log(\exp(x) + \exp(y))$$

R log_inv_logit(T x)

natural logarithm of the inverse logit function of x

R log1m_inv_logit(T x)

natural logarithm of 1 minus the inverse logit function of x

4. Array Operations

4.1. Reductions

The following operations take arrays as input and produce single output values. The boundary values for size 0 arrays are the unit with respect to the combination operation (min, max, sum, or product).

Minimum and Maximum

real min(real[] x)

The minimum value in x, or $+\infty$ if x is size 0.

int min(int[] x)

The minimum value in x, or error if x is size 0.

real max(real[] x)

The maximum value in x, or $-\infty$ if x is size 0.

int max(int[] x)

The maximum value in x, or error if x is size 0.

Sum, Product, and Log Sum of Exp

int sum(int[] x)

The sum of the elements in x, defined for x of size N by

$$\operatorname{sum}(x) = \begin{cases} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_n & \text{if } N > 0\\ 0 & \text{if } N = 0 \end{cases}$$

real sum(real[] x)

The sum of the elements in x; see definition above.

real prod(real[] x)

The product of the elements in x, or 1 if x is size 0.

real prod(int[] x)

The product of the elements in x,

$$\operatorname{product}(x) = \begin{cases} \prod_{n=1}^{N} x_n & \text{if } N > 0\\ 1 & \text{if } N = 0 \end{cases}$$

real log_sum_exp(real[] x)

The natural logarithm of the sum of the exponentials of the elements in x, or $-\infty$ if the array is empty.

Sample Mean, Variance, and Standard Deviation

The sample mean, variance, and standard deviation are calculated in the usual way. For i.i.d. draws from a distribution of finite mean, the sample mean is an unbiased estimate of the mean of the distribution. Similarly, for i.i.d. draws from a distribution of finite variance, the sample variance is an unbiased estimate of the variance.¹ The sample deviation is defined as the square root of the sample deviation, but is not unbiased.

real mean(real[] x)

The sample mean of the elements in x. For an array x of size N > 0,

$$\operatorname{mean}(x) = \bar{x} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_n.$$

It is an error to the call the mean function with an array of size 0.

real variance(real[] x)

The sample variance of the elements in x. For N > 0,

variance(x) =
$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{n=1}^{N} (x_n - \bar{x})^2 & \text{if } N > 1\\ 0 & \text{if } N = 1 \end{cases}$$

It is an error to call the variance function with an array of size 0.

real sd(real[] x)

The sample standard deviation of elements in x.

$$sd(x) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{variance(x)} & \text{if } N > 1\\ 0 & \text{if } N = 0 \end{cases}$$

It is an error to call the sd function with an array of size 0.

Euclidean Distance and Squared Distance

real distance(vector x, vector y)

The Euclidean distance between x and y, defined by

distance
$$(x, y) = \sqrt{\sum_{n=1}^{N} (x_n - y_n)^2}$$

 $^{^1}$ Dividing by N rather than (N-1) produces a maximum likelihood estimate of variance, which is biased to underestimate variance.

where N is the size of x and y. It is an error to call distance with arguments of unequal size.

```
real distance(vector x, row_vector y)
The Euclidean distance between x and y
real distance(row_vector x, vector y)
The Euclidean distance between x and y
real distance(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The Euclidean distance between x and y
real squared_distance(vector x, vector y)
```

The squared Euclidean distance between x and y, defined by

squared_distance(
$$x, y$$
) = distance(x, y)² = $\sum_{n=1}^{N} (x_n - y_n)^2$,

where N is the size of x and y. It is an error to call squared_distance with arguments of unequal size.

```
real squared_distance(vector x, row_vector [] y)
The squared Euclidean distance between x and y
real squared_distance(row_vector x, vector [] y)
The squared Euclidean distance between x and y
real squared_distance(row_vector x, row_vector[] y)
```

The Euclidean distance between x and y

4.2. Array Size and Dimension Function

The size of an array or matrix can be obtained using the dims() function. The dims() function is defined to take an argument consisting of any variable with up to 8 array dimensions (and up to 2 additional matrix dimensions) and returns an array of integers with the dimensions. For example, if two variables are declared as follows,

```
real x[7,8,9];
matrix[8,9] y[7];
```

then calling dims(x) or dims(y) returns an integer array of size 3 containing the elements 7, 8, and 9 in that order.

The size() function extracts the number of elements in an array. This is just the top-level elements, so if the array is declared as

```
real a[M,N];
```

the size of a is M.

The function num_elements, on the other hand, measures all of the elements, so that the array a above has $M \times N$ elements.

The specialized functions rows() and cols() should be used to extract the dimensions of vectors and matrices.

```
int[] dims(T x)
```

Return an integer array containing the dimensions of x; the type of the argument T can be any Stan type with up to 8 array dimensions.

```
int num_elements(T[] x)
```

Return the total number of elements in the array x including all elements in contained arrays, vectors, and matrices. T can be any array type. For example, if x is of type real[4,3] then $num_elements(x)$ is 12, and if y is declared as matrix[3,4] y[5], then size(y) evaluates to 60.

```
int size(T[] x)
```

Return the number of elements in the array x; the type of the array T can be any type, but the size is just the size of the top level array, not the total number of elements contained. For example, if x is of type real[4,3] then size(x) is 4.

4.3. Array Broadcasting

The following operations create arrays by repeating elements to fill an array of a specified size. These operations work for all input types T, including reals, integers, vectors, row vectors, matrices, or arrays.

```
T[] rep_array(T x, int n)
```

Return the n array with every entry assigned to x.

```
T[,] rep_array(T x, int m, int n)
```

Return the m by n array with every entry assigned to x.

```
T[,] rep_array(T x, int k, int m, int n)
```

Return the k by m by n array with every entry assigned to x.

For example, rep_array(1.0,5) produces a real array (type real[]) of size 5 with all values set to 1.0. On the other hand, rep_array(1,5) produces an integer array (type int[]) of size 5 with all values set to 1. This distinction is important because it is not possible to assign an integer array to a real array. For example, the following example contrasts legal with illegal array creation and assignment

```
real y[5];
int x[5];
```

If the value being repeated v is a vector (i.e., T is vector), then rep_array(v,27) is a size 27 array consisting of 27 copies of the vector v.

```
vector[5] v;
vector[5] a[3];
a = rep_array(v,3); // fill a with copies of v
a[2,4] = 9.0; // v[4], a[1,4], a[2,4] unchanged
```

If the type T of x is itself an array type, then the result will be an array with one, two, or three added dimensions, depending on which of the rep_array functions is called. For instance, consider the following legal code snippet.

```
real a[5,6];
real b[3,4,5,6];

b = rep_array(a,3,4); // make (3 x 4) copies of a
b[1,1,1,1] = 27.9; // a[1,1] unchanged
```

After the assignment to b, the value for b[j,k,m,n] is equal to a[m,n] where it is defined, for j in 1:3, k in 1:4, m in 1:5, and n in 1:6.

4.4. Array Concatenation

```
T append_array(T x, T y)
```

Return the concatenation of two arrays in the order of the arguments. T must be an N-dimensional array of any Stan type (with a maximum N of 7). All dimensions but the first must match.

For example, the following code appends two three dimensional arrays of matrices together. Note that all dimensions except the first match. Any mismatches will cause an error to be thrown.

```
matrix[4, 6] x1[2, 1, 7];
```

```
matrix[4, 6] x2[3, 1, 7];
matrix[4, 6] x3[5, 1, 7];

x3 = append_array(x1, x2);
```

4.5. Sorting functions

Sorting can be used to sort values or the indices of those values in either ascending or descending order. For example, if v is declared as a real array of size 3, with values

$$v = (1, -10.3, 20.987),$$

then the various sort routines produce

$$sort_asc(v) = (-10.3, 1, 20.987)$$

 $sort_desc(v) = (20.987, 1, -10.3)$
 $sort_indices_asc(v) = (2, 1, 3)$
 $sort_indices_desc(v) = (3, 1, 2)$

```
real[] sort_asc(real[] v)
```

Sort the elements of v in ascending order

```
int[] sort_asc(int[] v)
```

Sort the elements of v in ascending order

```
real[] sort_desc(real[] v)
```

Sort the elements of v in descending order

```
int[] sort_desc(int[] v)
```

Sort the elements of v in descending order

```
int[] sort_indices_asc(real[] v)
```

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in ascending order.

```
int[] sort_indices_asc(int[] v)
```

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in ascending order.

```
int[] sort_indices_desc(real[] v)
```

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in descending order.

31

```
int[] sort_indices_desc(int[] v)
```

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in descending order.

```
int rank(real[] v, int s)
```

Number of components of v less than v[s]

int rank(int[] v, int s)

Number of components of v less than v[s]

5. Matrix Operations

5.1. Integer-Valued Matrix Size Functions

int num_elements(vector x)

The total number of elements in the vector x (same as function rows)

int num_elements(row_vector x)

The total number of elements in the vector x (same as function cols)

int num_elements(matrix x)

The total number of elements in the matrix x. For example, if x is a 5×3 matrix, then num_elements(x) is 15

int rows(vector x)

The number of rows in the vector x

int rows(row_vector x)

The number of rows in the row vector x, namely 1

int rows(matrix x)

The number of rows in the matrix x

int cols(vector x)

The number of columns in the vector x, namely 1

int cols(row_vector x)

The number of columns in the row vector x

int cols(matrix x)

The number of columns in the matrix x

5.2. Matrix Arithmetic Operators

Stan supports the basic matrix operations using infix, prefix and postfix operations. This section lists the operations supported by Stan along with their argument and result types.

Negation Prefix Operators

vector operator-(vector x)

The negation of the vector x.

row_vector operator-(row_vector x)

The negation of the row vector x.

```
matrix operator-(matrix x)
The negation of the matrix x.
Infix Matrix Operators
vector operator+(vector x, vector y)
The sum of the vectors x and y.
row_vector operator+(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The sum of the row vectors x and y.
matrix operator+(matrix x, matrix y)
The sum of the matrices x and v
vector operator-(vector x, vector y)
The difference between the vectors x and y.
row_vector operator-(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The difference between the row vectors x and v
matrix operator-(matrix x, matrix y)
The difference between the matrices x and y
vector operator*(real x, vector y)
The product of the scalar x and vector y
row_vector operator*(real x, row_vector y)
The product of the scalar x and the row vector y
matrix operator*(real x, matrix y)
The product of the scalar x and the matrix y
vector operator*(vector x, real y)
The product of the scalar v and vector x
matrix operator*(vector x, row_vector y)
The product of the vector x and row vector y
row_vector operator*(row_vector x, real y)
The product of the scalar y and row vector x
real operator*(row_vector x, vector y)
The product of the row vector x and vector y
row_vector operator*(row_vector x, matrix y)
The product of the row vector x and matrix y
```

```
matrix operator*(matrix x, real y)
The product of the scalar v and matrix x
vector operator*(matrix x, vector y)
The product of the matrix x and vector y
matrix operator*(matrix x, matrix y)
The product of the matrices x and y
Broadcast Infix Operators
vector operator+(vector x, real y)
The result of adding y to every entry in the vector x
vector operator+(real x, vector y)
The result of adding x to every entry in the vector y
row_vector operator+(row_vector x, real y)
The result of adding y to every entry in the row vector x
row_vector operator+(real x, row_vector y)
The result of adding x to every entry in the row vector y
matrix operator+(matrix x, real y)
The result of adding y to every entry in the matrix x
matrix operator+(real x, matrix y)
The result of adding x to every entry in the matrix y
vector operator-(vector x, real y)
The result of subtracting y from every entry in the vector x
vector operator-(real x, vector y)
The result of adding x to every entry in the negation of the vector y
row_vector operator-(row_vector x, real y)
The result of subtracting y from every entry in the row vector x
row_vector operator-(real x, row_vector y)
The result of adding x to every entry in the negation of the row vector y
matrix operator-(matrix x, real y)
The result of subtracting y from every entry in the matrix x
matrix operator-(real x, matrix y)
The result of adding x to every entry in negation of the matrix y
```

```
vector operator/(vector x, real y)
The result of dividing each entry in the vector x by y
row_vector operator/(row_vector x, real y)
The result of dividing each entry in the row vector x by y
matrix operator/(matrix x, real y)
The result of dividing each entry in the matrix x by y
Elementwise Arithmetic Operations
vector operator.*(vector x, vector y)
The elementwise product of y and x
row_vector operator.*(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The elementwise product of y and x
matrix operator.*(matrix x, matrix y)
The elementwise product of y and x
vector operator./(vector x, vector y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
vector operator./(vector x, real y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
vector operator./(real x, vector y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
row_vector operator./(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
row_vector operator./(row_vector x, real y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
row_vector operator./(real x, row_vector y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
matrix operator./(matrix x, matrix y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
matrix operator./(matrix x, real y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
matrix operator./(real x, matrix y)
The elementwise quotient of y and x
```

5.3. Transposition Operator

Matrix transposition is represented using a postfix operator.

```
matrix operator'(matrix x)
The transpose of the matrix x, written as x'
row_vector operator'(vector x)
The transpose of the vector x, written as x'
vector operator'(row_vector x)
```

The transpose of the row vector x, written as x'

5.4. Elementwise Functions

Elementwise functions apply a function to each element of a vector or matrix, returning a result of the same shape as the argument. There are many functions that are vectorized in addition to the ad hoc cases listed in this section; see section function vectorization or the general cases.

5.5. Dot Products and Specialized Products

```
real dot_product(vector x, vector y)
The dot product of x and y
real dot_product(vector x, row_vector y)
The dot product of x and y
real dot_product(row_vector x, vector y)
The dot product of x and y
real dot_product(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The dot product of x and y
row_vector columns_dot_product(vector x, vector y)
The dot product of the columns of x and y
row_vector columns_dot_product(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The dot product of the columns of x and y
row_vector columns_dot_product(matrix x, matrix y)
The dot product of the columns of x and y
vector rows_dot_product(vector x, vector y)
The dot product of the rows of x and y
vector rows_dot_product(row_vector x, row_vector y)
The dot product of the rows of x and y
```

vector rows_dot_product(matrix x, matrix y)

The dot product of the rows of x and y

real dot_self(vector x)

The dot product of the vector x with itself

real dot_self(row_vector x)

The dot product of the row vector x with itself

 $\label{eq:convector} \textit{row_vector}\; \boldsymbol{columns_dot_self}(\textit{vector}\;\; x)$

The dot product of the columns of x with themselves

row_vector columns_dot_self(row_vector x)

The dot product of the columns of x with themselves

row_vector columns_dot_self(matrix x)

The dot product of the columns of x with themselves

vector rows_dot_self(vector x)

The dot product of the rows of x with themselves

vector rows_dot_self(row_vector x)

The dot product of the rows of x with themselves

vector rows_dot_self(matrix x)

The dot product of the rows of x with themselves

Specialized Products

matrix tcrossprod(matrix x)

The product of x postmultiplied by its own transpose, similar to the tcrossprod(x) function in R. The result is a symmetric matrix xx^{T} .

matrix crossprod(matrix x)

The product of x premultiplied by its own transpose, similar to the crossprod(x) function in R. The result is a symmetric matrix $x^T x$.

The following functions all provide shorthand forms for common expressions, which are also much more efficient.

matrix quad_form(matrix A, matrix B)

The quadratic form, i.e., B' * A * B.

real quad_form(matrix A, vector B)

The quadratic form, i.e., B' * A * B.

matrix quad_form_diag(matrix m, vector v)

The quadratic form using the column vector v as a diagonal matrix, i.e.,

 $diag_matrix(v) * m * diag_matrix(v)$.

matrix quad_form_diag(matrix m, row_vector rv)

The quadratic form using the row vector rv as a diagonal matrix, i.e., diag_matrix(rv) * m * diag_matrix(rv).

matrix quad_form_sym(matrix A, matrix B)

Similarly to quad_form, gives B' * A * B, but additionally checks if A is symmetric and ensures that the result is also symmetric.

real quad_form_sym(matrix A, vector B)

Similarly to quad_form, gives B' * A * B, but additionally checks if A is symmetric and ensures that the result is also symmetric.

real trace_quad_form(matrix A, matrix B)

The trace of the quadratic form, i.e., trace(B' * A * B).

real trace_gen_quad_form(matrix D, matrix A, matrix B)

The trace of a generalized quadratic form, i.e., trace(D * B' * A * B).

matrix multiply_lower_tri_self_transpose(matrix x)

The product of the lower triangular portion of x (including the diagonal) times its own transpose; that is, if L is a matrix of the same dimensions as x with L(m,n) equal to x(m,n) for $n \le m$ and L(m,n) equal to 0 if n > m, the result is the symmetric matrix LL^{\top} . This is a specialization of tcrossprod(x) for lower-triangular matrices. The input matrix does not need to be square.

matrix diag_pre_multiply(vector v, matrix m)

Return the product of the diagonal matrix formed from the vector v and the matrix m, i.e., diag_matrix(v) * m.

matrix diag_pre_multiply(row_vector rv, matrix m)

Return the product of the diagonal matrix formed from the vector rv and the matrix m, i.e., $diag_matrix(rv) * m$.

matrix diag_post_multiply(matrix m, vector v)

Return the product of the matrix m and the diagonal matrix formed from the vector v, i.e., $m * diag_{matrix}(v)$.

matrix diag_post_multiply(matrix m, row_vector rv)

Return the product of the matrix m and the diagonal matrix formed from the the row vector rv, i.e., m * diag_matrix(rv).

5.6. REDUCTIONS 39

5.6. Reductions

Log Sum of Exponents

real log_sum_exp(vector x)

The natural logarithm of the sum of the exponentials of the elements in x

real log_sum_exp(row_vector x)

The natural logarithm of the sum of the exponentials of the elements in x

real log_sum_exp(matrix x)

The natural logarithm of the sum of the exponentials of the elements in x

Minimum and Maximum

real min(vector x)

The minimum value in x, or $+\infty$ if x is empty

real min(row_vector x)

The minimum value in x, or $+\infty$ if x is empty

real min(matrix x)

The minimum value in x, or $+\infty$ if x is empty

real max(vector x)

The maximum value in x, or $-\infty$ if x is empty

real max(row_vector x)

The maximum value in x, or $-\infty$ if x is empty

real max(matrix x)

The maximum value in x, or $-\infty$ if x is empty

Sums and Products

real sum(vector x)

The sum of the values in x, or 0 if x is empty

real sum(row_vector x)

The sum of the values in x, or 0 if x is empty

real sum(matrix x)

The sum of the values in x, or 0 if x is empty

real prod(vector x)

The product of the values in x, or 1 if x is empty

real prod(row_vector x)

The product of the values in x, or 1 if x is empty

real prod(matrix x)

The product of the values in x, or 1 if x is empty

Sample Moments

Full definitions are provided for sample moments in section array reductions.

real mean(vector x)

The sample mean of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

real mean(row_vector x)

The sample mean of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

real mean(matrix x)

The sample mean of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

real variance(vector x)

The sample variance of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

real variance(row_vector x)

The sample variance of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

real variance(matrix x)

The sample variance of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

real sd(vector x)

The sample standard deviation of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

```
real sd(row_vector x)
```

The sample standard deviation of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

```
real sd(matrix x)
```

The sample standard deviation of the values in x; see section array reductions for details.

5.7. Broadcast Functions

The following broadcast functions allow vectors, row vectors and matrices to be created by copying a single element into all of their cells. Matrices may also be created by stacking copies of row vectors vertically or stacking copies of column vectors horizontally.

```
vector rep_vector(real x, int m)
```

Return the size m (column) vector consisting of copies of x.

```
row_vector rep_row_vector(real x, int n)
```

Return the size n row vector consisting of copies of x.

```
matrix rep_matrix(real x, int m, int n)
```

Return the m by n matrix consisting of copies of x.

```
matrix rep_matrix(vector v, int n)
```

Return the m by n matrix consisting of n copies of the (column) vector v of size m.

```
matrix rep_matrix(row_vector rv, int m)
```

Return the m by n matrix consisting of m copies of the row vector rv of size n.

Unlike the situation with array broadcasting (see section array broadcasting), where there is a distinction between integer and real arguments, the following two statements produce the same result for vector broadcasting; row vector and matrix broadcasting behave similarly.

```
vector[3] x;
x = rep_vector(1, 3);
x = rep_vector(1.0, 3);
```

There are no integer vector or matrix types, so integer values are automatically promoted.

5.8. Diagonal Matrix Functions

```
vector diagonal(matrix x)
```

The diagonal of the matrix x

```
matrix diag_matrix(vector x)
```

The diagonal matrix with diagonal x

Although the diag_matrix function is available, it is unlikely to ever show up in an efficient Stan program. For example, rather than converting a diagonal to a full matrix for use as a covariance matrix,

```
y ~ multi_normal(mu, diag_matrix(square(sigma)));
```

it is much more efficient to just use a univariate normal, which produces the same density,

```
y ~ normal(mu, sigma);
```

Rather than writing $m * diag_matrix(v)$ where m is a matrix and v is a vector, it is much more efficient to write $diag_post_multiply(m, v)$ (and similarly for premultiplication). By the same token, it is better to use $quad_form_diag(m, v)$ rather than $quad_form(m, diag_matrix(v))$.

5.9. Slicing and Blocking Functions

Stan provides several functions for generating slices or blocks or diagonal entries for matrices.

Columns and Rows

vector col(matrix x, int n)

The n-th column of matrix x

row_vector row(matrix x, int m)

The m-th row of matrix x

The row function is special in that it may be used as an Ivalue in an assignment statement (i.e., something to which a value may be assigned). The row function is also special in that the indexing notation x[m] is just an alternative way of writing row(x,m). The col function may **not**, be used as an Ivalue, nor is there an indexing based shorthand for it.

Block Operations

Matrix Slicing Operations

Block operations may be used to extract a sub-block of a matrix.

```
matrix block(matrix x, int i, int j, int n_rows, int n_cols)
```

Return the submatrix of x that starts at row i and column j and extends n_rows rows and n_cols columns.

The sub-row and sub-column operations may be used to extract a slice of row or column from a matrix

```
vector sub_col(matrix x, int i, int j, int n_rows)
```

Return the sub-column of x that starts at row i and column j and extends n_rows rows and 1 column.

```
row_vector sub_row(matrix x, int i, int j, int n_cols)
```

Return the sub-row of x that starts at row i and column j and extends 1 row and n_cols columns.

Vector and Array Slicing Operations

The head operation extracts the first n elements of a vector and the tail operation the last. The segment operation extracts an arbitrary subvector.

```
vector head(vector v, int n)
```

Return the vector consisting of the first n elements of v.

row_vector head(row_vector rv, int n)

Return the row vector consisting of the first n elements of rv.

T[] head(T[] sv, int n)

Return the array consisting of the first n elements of sv; applies to up to threedimensional arrays containing any type of elements T.

```
vector tail(vector v, int n)
```

Return the vector consisting of the last n elements of v.

```
row_vector tail(row_vector rv, int n)
```

Return the row vector consisting of the last n elements of rv.

```
T[] tail(T[] sv, int n)
```

Return the array consisting of the last n elements of sv; applies to up to threedimensional arrays containing any type of elements T.

```
vector segment(vector v, int i, int n)
```

Return the vector consisting of the n elements of v starting at i; i.e., elements i through through i + n - 1.

```
row_vector segment(row_vector rv, int i, int n)
```

Return the row vector consisting of the n elements of rv starting at i; i.e., elements i through through i+n-1.

```
T[] segment(T[] sv, int i, int n)
```

Return the array consisting of the n elements of sv starting at i; i.e., elements i through through i + n - 1. Applies to up to three-dimensional arrays containing any type of elements T.

5.10. Matrix Concatenation

Stan's matrix concatenation operations append_col and append_row are like the operations cbind and rbind in R.

Horizontal concatenation

```
matrix append_col(matrix x, matrix y)
```

Combine matrices x and y by columns. The matrices must have the same number of rows.

```
matrix append_col(matrix x, vector y)
```

Combine matrix x and vector y by columns. The matrix and the vector must have the same number of rows.

matrix append_col(vector x, matrix y)

Combine vector **x** and matrix **y** by columns. The vector and the matrix must have the same number of rows.

```
matrix append_col(vector x, vector y)
```

Combine vectors x and y by columns. The vectors must have the same number of rows.

```
row_vector append_col(row_vector x, row_vector y)
```

Combine row vectors x and y of any size into another row vector.

```
row_vector append_col(real x, row_vector y)
```

Append x to the front of y, returning another row vector.

```
row_vector append_col(row_vector x, real y)
```

Append y to the end of x, returning another row vector.

Vertical concatenation

```
matrix append_row(matrix x, matrix y)
```

Combine matrices x and y by rows. The matrices must have the same number of columns.

```
matrix append_row(matrix x, row_vector y)
```

Combine matrix x and row vector y by rows. The matrix and the row vector must have the same number of columns.

```
matrix append_row(row_vector x, matrix y)
```

Combine row vector x and matrix y by rows. The row vector and the matrix must have the same number of columns.

```
matrix append_row(row_vector x, row_vector y)
```

Combine row vectors x and y by row. The row vectors must have the same number of columns.

```
vector append_row(vector x, vector y)
```

Concatenate vectors x and y of any size into another vector.

```
vector append_row(real x, vector y)
```

Append x to the top of y, returning another vector.

```
vector append_row(vector x, real y)
```

Append y to the bottom of x, returning another vector.

5.11. Special Matrix Functions

Softmax

The softmax function maps¹ $y \in \mathbb{R}^K$ to the *K*-simplex by

$$\operatorname{softmax}(y) = \frac{\exp(y)}{\sum_{k=1}^{K} \exp(y_k)},$$

where $\exp(y)$ is the componentwise exponentiation of y. Softmax is usually calculated on the log scale,

$$\log \operatorname{softmax}(y) = y - \log \sum_{k=1}^{K} \exp(y_k)$$
$$= y - \log_{-\infty} \sup_{k=1} \exp(y).$$

where the vector y minus the scalar $\log_{-}\text{sum_exp}(y)$ subtracts the scalar from each component of y.

Stan provides the following functions for softmax and its log.

vector softmax(vector x)

The softmax of x

vector log_softmax(vector x)

The natural logarithm of the softmax of x

Cumulative Sums

The cumulative sum of a sequence x_1, \ldots, x_N is the sequence y_1, \ldots, y_N , where

$$y_n = \sum_{m=1}^n x_m.$$

real[] cumulative_sum(real[] x)

The cumulative sum of x

vector cumulative_sum(vector v)

The cumulative sum of v

row_vector cumulative_sum(row_vector rv)

The cumulative sum of rv

¹The softmax function is so called because in the limit as $y_n \to \infty$ with y_m for $m \ne n$ held constant, the result tends toward the "one-hot" vector θ with $\theta_n = 1$ and $\theta_m = 0$ for $m \ne n$, thus providing a "soft" version of the maximum function.

5.12. Covariance Functions

Exponentiated quadratic covariance function

The exponentiated quadratic kernel defines the covariance between $f(x_i)$ and $f(x_j)$ where $f: \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}$ as a function of the squared Euclidian distance between $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$ and $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$:

$$cov(f(x_i), f(x_j)) = k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha^2 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\rho^2} \sum_{d=1}^{D} (x_{i,d} - x_{j,d})^2\right)$$

with α and ρ constrained to be positive.

There are two variants of the exponentiated quadratic covariance function in Stan. One builds a covariance matrix, $K \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ for x_1, \ldots, x_N , where $K_{i,j} = k(x_i, x_j)$, which is necessarily symmetric and positive semidefinite by construction. There is a second variant of the exponentiated quadratic covariance function that builds a $K \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$ covariance matrix for x_1, \ldots, x_N and x_1', \ldots, x_M' , where $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$ and $x_i' \in \mathbb{R}^D$ and $K_{i,j} = k(x_i, x_j')$.

matrix **cov_exp_quad**(row_vectors x, real alpha, real rho) The covariance matrix with an exponentiated quadratic kernel of x.

matrix **cov_exp_quad**(vectors x, real alpha, real rho)
The covariance matrix with an exponentiated quadratic kernel of x.

matrix **cov_exp_quad**(real[] x, real alpha, real rho)
The covariance matrix with an exponentiated quadratic kernel of x.

matrix cov_exp_quad(row_vectors x1, row_vectors x2, real alpha, real
rho)

The covariance matrix with an exponentiated quadratic kernel of x1 and x2.

matrix $cov_exp_quad(vectors x1, vectors x2, real alpha, real rho)$ The covariance matrix with an exponentiated quadratic kernel of x1 and x2.

matrix $cov_exp_quad(real[] x1, real[] x2, real alpha, real rho)$ The covariance matrix with an exponentiated quadratic kernel of x1 and x2.

5.13. Linear Algebra Functions and Solvers

Matrix Division Operators and Functions

In general, it is much more efficient and also more arithmetically stable to use matrix division than to multiply by an inverse. There are specialized forms for lower triangular matrices and for symmetric, positive-definite matrices.

Matrix division operators

row_vector operator/(row_vector b, matrix A)

The right division of b by A; equivalently b * inverse(A)

matrix operator/(matrix B, matrix A)

The right division of B by A; equivalently B * inverse(A)

vector operator\(matrix A, vector b)

matrix operator\(matrix A, matrix B)

Lower-triangular matrix division functions

There are four division functions which use lower triangular views of a matrix. The lower triangular view of a matrix tri(A) is used in the definitions and defined by

$$tri(A)[m, n] = \begin{cases} A[m, n] & \text{if } m \ge n, \text{ and} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

When a lower triangular view of a matrix is used, the elements above the diagonal are ignored.

vector mdivide_left_tri_low(matrix A, vector b)

The left division of b by a lower-triangular view of A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form inverse(tri(A)) * b, where tri(A) is the lower-triangular portion of A with the above-diagonal entries set to zero.

matrix mdivide_left_tri_low(matrix A, matrix B)

The left division of B by a triangular view of A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form inverse(tri(A)) * B, where tri(A) is the lower-triangular portion of A with the above-diagonal entries set to zero.

row_vector mdivide_right_tri_low(row_vector b, matrix A)

The right division of b by a triangular view of A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form b * inverse(tri(A)), where tri(A) is the lower-triangular portion of A with the above-diagonal entries set to zero.

matrix mdivide_right_tri_low(matrix B, matrix A)

The right division of B by a triangular view of A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form B * inverse(tri(A)), where tri(A) is the lower-triangular portion of A with the above-diagonal entries set to zero.

Symmetric positive-definite matrix division functions

There are four division functions which are specialized for efficiency and stability for symmetric positive-definite matrix dividends. If the matrix dividend argument is not symmetric and positive definite, these will reject and print warnings.

matrix mdivide_left_spd(matrix A, vector b)

The left division of b by the symmetric, positive-definite matrix A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form inverse(A) * b.

vector mdivide_left_spd(matrix A, matrix B)

The left division of B by the symmetric, positive-definite matrix A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form inverse(A) * B.

row_vector mdivide_right_spd(row_vector b, matrix A)

The right division of b by the symmetric, positive-definite matrix A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form b * inverse(A).

matrix mdivide_right_spd(matrix B, matrix A)

The right division of B by the symmetric, positive-definite matrix A; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient and stable form B * inverse(A).

Matrix Exponential

The exponential of the matrix *A* is formally defined by the convergent power series:

$$e^A = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^n}{n!}$$

matrix matrix_exp(matrix A)

The matrix exponential of A

matrix matrix_exp_multiply(matrix A, matrix B)

The multiplication of matrix exponential of A and matrix B; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient form $matrix_exp(t * A) * B$.

matrix scale_matrix_exp_multiply(real t, matrix A, matrix B)

The multiplication of matrix exponential of tA and matrix B; algebraically equivalent to the less efficient form $matrix_exp(t * A) * B$.

Linear Algebra Functions

Trace

real trace(matrix A)

The trace of A, or 0 if A is empty; A is not required to be diagonal

Determinants

real determinant(matrix A)

The determinant of A

real log_determinant(matrix A)

The log of the absolute value of the determinant of A

Inverses

It is almost never a good idea to use matrix inverses directly because they are both inefficient and arithmetically unstable compared to the alternatives. Rather than inverting a matrix m and post-multiplying by a vector or matrix a, as in inverse(m) * a, it is better to code this using matrix division, as in $m \setminus a$. The pre-multiplication case is similar, with b * inverse(m) being more efficiently coded as as b / m. There are also useful special cases for triangular and symmetric, positive-definite matrices that use more efficient solvers.

Warning: The function inv(m) is the elementwise inverse function, which returns 1 / m[i, j] for each element.

matrix inverse(matrix A)

The inverse of A

matrix inverse_spd(matrix A)

The inverse of A where A is symmetric, positive definite. This version is faster and more arithmetically stable when the input is symmetric and positive definite.

Eigendecomposition

vector eigenvalues_sym(matrix A)

The vector of eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix A in ascending order

matrix eigenvectors_sym(matrix A)

The matrix with the (column) eigenvectors of symmetric matrix A in the same order as returned by the function eigenvalues_sym

Because multiplying an eigenvector by -1 results in an eigenvector, eigenvectors returned by a decomposition are only identified up to a sign change. In order to compare the eigenvectors produced by Stan's eigendecomposition to others, signs may need to be normalized in some way, such as by fixing the sign of a component, or doing comparisons allowing a multiplication by -1.

The condition number of a symmetric matrix is defined to be the ratio of the largest

eigenvalue to the smallest eigenvalue. Large condition numbers lead to difficulty in numerical algorithms such as computing inverses, and thus known as "ill conditioned." The ratio can even be infinite in the case of singular matrices (i.e., those with eigenvalues of 0).

QR Decomposition

matrix qr_thin_Q(matrix A)

The orthogonal matrix in the thin QR decomposition of A, which implies that the resulting matrix has the same dimensions as A

matrix qr_thin_R(matrix A)

The upper triangular matrix in the thin QR decomposition of A, which implies that the resulting matrix is square with the same number of columns as A

matrix qr_Q(matrix A)

The orthogonal matrix in the fat QR decomposition of A, which implies that the resulting matrix is square with the same number of rows as A

matrix qr_R(matrix A)

The upper trapezoidal matrix in the fat QR decomposition of A, which implies that the resulting matrix will be rectangular with the same dimensions as A

The thin QR decomposition is always preferable because it will consume much less memory when the input matrix is large than will the fat QR decomposition. Both versions of the decomposition represent the input matrix as

$$A = OR$$
.

Multiplying a column of an orthogonal matrix by -1 still results in an orthogonal matrix, and you can multiply the corresponding row of the upper trapezoidal matrix by -1 without changing the product. Thus, Stan adopts the normalization that the diagonal elements of the upper trapezoidal matrix are strictly positive and the columns of the orthogonal matrix are reflected if necessary. Also, these QR decomposition algorithms do not utilize pivoting and thus may be numerically unstable on input matrices that have less than full rank.

Cholesky Decomposition

Every symmetric, positive-definite matrix (such as a correlation or covariance matrix) has a Cholesky decomposition. If Σ is a symmetric, positive-definite matrix, its Cholesky decomposition is the lower-triangular vector L such that

$$\Sigma = LL^{\top}$$
.

51

matrix cholesky_decompose(matrix A)

The lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the symmetric positive-definite matrix A

Singular Value Decomposition

Stan only provides functions for the singular values, not for the singular vectors involved in a singular value decomposition (SVD).

vector singular_values(matrix A)

The singular values of A in descending order

5.14. Sort Functions

see section sorting functions for examples of how the functions work.

vector sort_asc(vector v)

Sort the elements of v in ascending order

row_vector sort_asc(row_vector v)

Sort the elements of v in ascending order

vector sort_desc(vector v)

Sort the elements of v in descending order

row_vector sort_desc(row_vector v)

Sort the elements of v in descending order

int[] sort_indices_asc(vector v)

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in ascending order.

int[] sort_indices_asc(row_vector v)

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in ascending order.

int[] sort_indices_desc(vector v)

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in descending order.

int[] sort_indices_desc(row_vector v)

Return an array of indices between 1 and the size of v, sorted to index v in descending order.

int rank(vector v, int s)

Number of components of v less than v[s]

int rank(row_vector v, int s)
Number of components of v less than v[s]

6. Sparse Matrix Operations

For sparse matrices, for which many elements are zero, it is more efficient to use specialized representations to save memory and speed up matrix arithmetic (including derivative calculations). Given Stan's implementation, there is substantial space (memory) savings by using sparse matrices. Because of the ease of optimizing dense matrix operations, speed improvements only arise at 90% or even greater sparsity; below that level, dense matrices are faster but use more memory.

Because of this speedup and space savings, it may even be useful to read in a dense matrix and convert it to a sparse matrix before multiplying it by a vector. This chapter covers a very specific form of sparsity consisting of a sparse matrix multiplied by a dense vector.

6.1. Compressed Row Storage

Sparse matrices are represented in Stan using compressed row storage (CSR). For example, the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 27 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 52 \\ 81 & 0 & 95 & 33 \end{bmatrix}$$

is translated into a vector of the non-zero real values, read by row from the matrix A,

$$w(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 19 & 27 & 52 & 81 & 95 & 33 \end{bmatrix}^\mathsf{T},$$

an array of integer column indices for the values,

$$v(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix},$$

and an array of integer indices indicating where in w(A) a given row's values start,

$$u(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 & 4 & 7 \end{bmatrix},$$

with a padded value at the end to guarantee that

$$u(A)[n+1] - u(A)[n]$$

is the number of non-zero elements in row n of the matrix (here 2, 0, 1, and 3). Note that because the second row has no non-zero elements both the second and third

elements of u(A) correspond to the third element of w(A), which is 52. The values (w(A), v(A), u(A)) are sufficient to reconstruct A.

The values are structured so that there is a real value and integer column index for each non-zero entry in the array, plus one integer for each row of the matrix, plus one for padding. There is also underlying storage for internal container pointers and sizes. The total memory usage is roughly 12K + M bytes plus a small constant overhead, which is often considerably fewer bytes than the $M \times N$ required to store a dense matrix. Even more importantly, zero values do not introduce derivatives under multiplication or addition, so many storage and evaluation steps are saved when sparse matrices are multiplied.

6.2. Conversion Functions

Conversion functions between dense and sparse matrices are provided.

Dense to Sparse Conversion

Converting a dense matrix m to a sparse representation produces a vector w and two integer arrays, u and v.

```
vector csr_extract_w(matrix a)
```

Return non-zero values in matrix a; see section compressed row storage.

```
int[] csr_extract_v(matrix a)
```

Return column indices for values in csr_extract_w(a); see compressed row storage.

```
int[] csr_extract_u(matrix a)
```

Return array of row starting indices for entries in csr_extract_w(a) followed by the size of csr_extract_w(a) plus one; see section compressed row storage.

Sparse to Dense Conversion

To convert a sparse matrix representation to a dense matrix, there is a single function.

matrix **csr_to_dense_matrix**(int m, int n, vector w, int[] v, int[] u) Return dense $m \times n$ matrix with non-zero matrix entries w, column indices v, and row starting indices u; the vector w and arrays v and u must all be the same size, and the arrays v and u must have index values bounded by m and n. see section compressed row storage for more details.

6.3. Sparse Matrix Arithmetic

Sparse Matrix Multiplication

The only supported operation is the multiplication of a sparse matrix A and a dense vector b to produce a dense vector A b. Multiplying a dense row vector b and a sparse

55

matrix *A* can be coded using transposition as

$$bA = (A^{\mathsf{T}} b^{\mathsf{T}})^{\mathsf{T}}$$

but care must be taken to represent A^{T} rather than A as a sparse matrix.

vector csr_matrix_times_vector(int m, int n, vector w, int[] v, int[]
u, vector b)

Multiply the $m \times n$ matrix represented by values w, column indices v, and row start indices u by the vector b; see compressed row storage.

7. Mixed Operations

These functions perform conversions between Stan containers matrix, vector, row vector and arrays.

matrix to_matrix(matrix m)

Return the matrix m itself.

matrix to_matrix(vector v)

Convert the column vector v to a size(v) by 1 matrix.

matrix to_matrix(row_vector v)

Convert the row vector v to a 1 by size(v) matrix.

matrix to_matrix(matrix m, int m, int n)

Convert a matrix m to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in column-major order.

matrix to_matrix(vector v, int m, int n)

Convert a vector v to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in column-major order.

matrix to_matrix(row_vector v, int m, int n)

Convert a row_vector a to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in column-major order.

matrix to_matrix(matrix m, int m, int n, int col_major)

Convert a matrix m to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in row-major order if col_major equals 0 (otherwise, they get filled in column-major order).

matrix to_matrix(vector v, int m, int n, int col_major)

Convert a vector v to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in row-major order if col_major equals 0 (otherwise, they get filled in column-major order).

matrix to_matrix(row_vector v, int m, int n, int col_major)

Convert a row_vector a to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in row-major order if col_major equals 0 (otherwise, they get filled in column-major order).

matrix to_matrix(real[] a, int m, int n)

Convert a one-dimensional array a to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in column-major order.

```
matrix to_matrix(int[] a, int m, int n)
```

Convert a one-dimensional array a to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in column-major order.

```
matrix to_matrix(real[] a, int m, int n, int col_major)
```

Convert a one-dimensional array a to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in row-major order if col_major equals 0 (otherwise, they get filled in column-major order).

```
matrix to_matrix(int[] a, int m, int n, int col_major)
```

Convert a one-dimensional array a to a matrix with m rows and n columns filled in row-major order if col_major equals 0 (otherwise, they get filled in column-major order).

```
matrix to_matrix(real[,] a)
```

Convert the two dimensional array a to a matrix with the same dimensions and indexing order.

```
matrix to_matrix(int[,] a)
```

Convert the two dimensional array a to a matrix with the same dimensions and indexing order. If any of the dimensions of a are zero, the result will be a 0×0 matrix.

```
vector to_vector(matrix m)
```

Convert the matrix m to a column vector in column-major order.

```
vector to_vector(vector v)
```

Return the column vector v itself.

```
vector to_vector(row_vector v)
```

Convert the row vector v to a column vector.

```
vector to_vector(real[] a)
```

Convert the one-dimensional array a to a column vector.

```
vector to_vector(int[] a)
```

Convert the one-dimensional integer array a to a column vector.

```
row_vector to_row_vector(matrix m)
```

Convert the matrix m to a row vector in column-major order.

```
row_vector to_row_vector(vector v)
```

Convert the column vector v to a row vector.

```
row_vector to_row_vector(row_vector v)
```

Return the row vector v itself.

```
row_vector to_row_vector(real[] a)
```

Convert the one-dimensional array a to a row vector.

```
row_vector to_row_vector(int[] a)
```

Convert the one-dimensional array a to a row vector.

```
real[,] to_array_2d(matrix m)
```

Convert the matrix m to a two dimensional array with the same dimensions and indexing order.

```
real[] to_array_ld(vector v)
```

Convert the column vector v to a one-dimensional array.

```
real[] to_array_ld(row_vector v)
```

Convert the row vector v to a one-dimensional array.

```
real[] to_array_ld(matrix m)
```

Convert the matrix m to a one-dimensional array in column-major order.

```
real[] to_array_ld(real[...] a)
```

Convert the array a (of any dimension up to 10) to a one-dimensional array in row-major order.

```
int[] to_array_ld(int[...] a)
```

Convert the array a (of any dimension up to 10) to a one-dimensional array in row-major order.

8. Compound Arithmetic and Assignment

Compound arithmetic and assignment statements combine an arithmetic operation and assignment,

```
x = x op y;
replacing them with the compound form
x op= y;
For example, x = x + 1 may be replaced with x += 1.
```

The signatures of the supported compound arithmetic and assignment operations are as follows.

8.1. Compound Addition and Assignment

```
void operator+=(int x, int y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(real x, real y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(vector x, real y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(row_vector x, real y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(matrix x, real y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(vector x, vector y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(row_vector x, row_vector y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
void operator+=(matrix x, matrix y)
x += y is equivalent to x = x + y.
```

8.2. Compound Subtraction and Assignment

```
void operator = (int x, int y)
x -= y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator = (real x, real y)
x \rightarrow y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator-=(vector x, real y)
x -= y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator-=(row_vector x, real y)
x \rightarrow y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator = (matrix x, real y)
x -= y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator == (vector x, vector y)
x \rightarrow y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator-=(row_vector x, row_vector y)
x \rightarrow y is equivalent to x = x - y.
void operator = (matrix x, matrix y)
x \rightarrow y is equivalent to x = x - y.
      Compound Multiplication and Assignment
void operator*=(int x, int y)
x *= y is equivalent to x = x * y.
void operator*=(real x, real y)
x *= y is equivalent to x = x * y.
void operator*=(vector x, real y)
x *= y is equivalent to x = x * y.
void operator*=(row_vector x, real y)
x \neq y is equivalent to x = x \neq y.
void operator*=(matrix x, real y)
x *= y is equivalent to x = x * y.
void operator*=(row_vector x, matrix y)
x \neq y is equivalent to x = x \neq y.
void operator*=(matrix x, matrix y)
x \neq y is equivalent to x = x \neq y.
```

8.4. Compound Division and Assignment

```
void operator/=(int x, int y)
x /= y is equivalent to x = x / y.
void operator/=(real x, real y)
x /= y is equivalent to x = x / y.
void operator/=(vector x, real y)
x /= y is equivalent to x = x / y.
void operator/=(row_vector x, real y)
x /= y is equivalent to x = x / y.
void operator/=(matrix x, real y)
x /= y is equivalent to x = x / y.
```

8.5. Compound Elementwise Multiplication and Assignment

```
void operator.*=(vector x, vector y)
x .*= y is equivalent to x = x .* y.
void operator.*=(row_vector x, row_vector y)
x .*= y is equivalent to x = x .* y.
void operator.*=(matrix x, matrix y)
x .*= y is equivalent to x = x .* y.
```

8.6. Compound Elementwise Division and Assignment

```
void operator./=(vector x, vector y)
x ./= y is equivalent to x = x ./ y.
void operator./=(row_vector x, row_vector y)
x ./= y is equivalent to x = x ./ y.
void operator./=(matrix x, matrix y)
x ./= y is equivalent to x = x ./ y.
void operator./=(vector x, real y)
x ./= y is equivalent to x = x ./ y.
void operator./=(row_vector x, real y)
x ./= y is equivalent to x = x ./ y.
void operator./=(matrix x, real y)
x ./= y is equivalent to x = x ./ y.
```

9. Higher-Order Functions

Stan provides a few higher-order functions that act on other functions. In all cases, the function arguments to the higher-order functions are defined as functions within the Stan language and passed by name to the higher-order functions.

9.1. Algebraic Equation Solver

Stan provides a built-in algebraic equation solver. Although it looks like other function applications, the algebraic solver is special in two ways.

First, the algebraic solver is a higher-order function, i.e. it takes another function as one of its arguments. The only other functions in Stan which share this feature are the ordinary differential equation solvers (see section Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) Solvers). Ordinary Stan functions do not allow functions as arguments.

Second, some of the arguments of the algebraic solvers are restricted to data only expressions. These expressions must not contain variables other than those declared in the data or transformed data blocks. Ordinary Stan functions place no restriction on the origin of variables in their argument expressions.

Specifying an Algebraic Equation as a Function

An algebraic system is specified as an ordinary function in Stan within the function block. The algebraic system function must have this signature:

The algebraic system function should return the value of the algebraic function which goes to 0, when we plug in the solution to the algebraic system.

The argument of this function are:

- \cdot *y*, the unknowns we wish to solve for
- \cdot theta, parameter values used to evaluate the algebraic system
- · x_r , data values used to evaluate the algebraic system
- · x_i , integer data used to evaluate the algebraic system

The algebraic system function separates parameter values, *theta*, from data values, x_r , for efficiency in computing the gradients of the algebraic system.

Call to the Algebraic Solver

vector algebra_solver(function algebra_system, vector y_guess, vector
theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i)

Solves the algebraic system, given an initial guess, using the Powell hybrid algorithm.

vector **algebra_solver**(function algebra_system, vector y_guess, vector theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i, real rel_tol, real f_tol, int max_steps)

Solves the algebraic system, given an initial guess, using the Powell hybrid algorithm with additional control parameters for the solver.

Arguments to the Algebraic Solver

The arguments to the algebraic solver are as follows:

- algebra_system: function literal referring to a function specifying the system of algebraic equations with signature (vector, vector, real[], int[]):vector. The arguments represent
- (1) unknowns, (2) parameters, (3) real data, and (4) integer data, and the return value contains the value of the algebraic function, which goes to 0 when we plug in the solution to the algebraic system,
 - · *y_guess*: initial guess for the solution, type vector,
 - · theta: parameters only, type vector,
 - · x_r : real data only, type real[], and
 - · x_i : integer data only, type int[].

For more fine-grained control of the algebraic solver, these parameters can also be provided:

- · rel_tol: relative tolerance for the algebraic solver, type real, data only,
- function_tol: function tolerance for the algebraic solver, type real, data only,
- max_num_steps: maximum number of steps to take in the algebraic solver, type int, data only.

Return value

The return value for the algebraic solver is an object of type vector, with values which, when plugged in as y make the algebraic function go to 0.

Sizes and parallel arrays

Certain sizes have to be consistent. The initial guess, return value of the solver, and return value of the algebraic function must all be the same size.

The parameters, real data, and integer data will be passed from the solver directly to the system function.

Algorithmic details

The algebraic solver uses the Powell hybrid method (Powell 1970), which in turn uses first-order derivatives. The Stan code builds on the implementation of the hybrid solver in the unsupported module for nonlinear optimization problems of the Eigen library (Guennebaud, Jacob, and others 2010). This solver is in turn based on the algorithm developed for the package MINPACK-1 (Jorge J. More 1980).

The Jacobian of the solution with respect to auxiliary parameters is computed using the implicit function theorem. Intermediate Jacobians (of the the algebraic function's output with respect to the unknowns y and with respect to the auxiliary parameters theta) are computed using Stan's automatic differentiation.

9.2. Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) Solvers

Stan provides built-in ordinary differential equation (ODE) solvers. Although they look like function applications, the ODE solvers are special in two ways.

First, the first argument to each of the solvers is a function specifying the ODE system as an argument, like PKBugs (Lunn et al. 1999). Ordinary Stan functions do not allow functions as arguments.

Second, some of the arguments to the ODE solvers are restricted to data only expressions. These expressions must not contain variables other than those declared in the data or transformed data blocks. Ordinary Stan functions place no restriction on the origin of variables in their argument expressions.

Specifying an Ordinary Differential Equation as a Function

A system of ODEs is specified as an ordinary function in Stan within the functions block. The ODE system function must have this function signature:

The ODE system function should return the derivative of the state with respect to time at the time provided. The length of the returned real array must match the length of the state input into the function.

The arguments to this function are:

- · time, the time to evaluate the ODE system
- · *state*, the state of the ODE system at the time specified
- · theta, parameter values used to evaluate the ODE system
- · x_r , data values used to evaluate the ODE system
- · x_i , integer data values used to evaluate the ODE system.

The ODE system function separates parameter values, *theta*, from data values, x_r , for efficiency in computing the gradients of the ODE.

Non-Stiff Solver

```
real[, ] integrate_ode_rk45(function ode, real[] initial_state, real initial_time, real[] times, real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i) Solves the ODE system for the times provided using the Runge Kutta Dopri algorithm with the implementation from Boost.
```

```
real[ , ] integrate_ode_rk45(function ode, real[] initial_state, real
initial_time, real[] times, real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i,
real rel_tol, real abs_tol, int max_num_steps)
```

Solves the ODE system for the times provided using the Runge Kutta Dopri algorithm with the implementation from Boost with additional control parameters for the solver.

```
real[, ] integrate_ode(function ode, real[] initial_state, real initial_time, real[] times, real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i) Deprecated. Solves the ODE system for the times provided with a non-stiff solver. This calls the Runge Kutta Dopri algorithm.
```

Stiff Solver

```
real[] integrate_ode_bdf(function ode, real[] initial_state, real initial_time, real[] times, real[] theta, data real[] x_r, data int[] x_i)
```

Solves the ODE system for the times provided using the backward differentiation formula (BDF) method with the implementation from CVODES.

```
real[] integrate_ode_bdf(function ode, real[] initial_state, real initial_time, real[] times, real[] theta, data real[] x_r, data int[] x_i, data real rel_tol, data real abs_tol, dta int max_num_steps)
```

Solves the ODE system for the times provided using the backward differentiation

formula (BDF) method with the implementation from CVODES with additional control parameters for the CVODES solver.

Arguments to the ODE solvers

The arguments to the ODE solvers in both the stiff and non-stiff cases are as follows.

• *ode*: function literal referring to a function specifying the system of differential equations with signature described in ode functions:

```
(real, real[], real[], data real[], data int[]):real[]
```

The arguments represent (1) time, (2) system state, (3) parameters, (4) real data, and (5) integer data, and the return value contains the derivatives with respect to time of the state,

- · *initial_state*: initial state, type real[],
- · *initial_time*: initial time, type int or real,
- times: solution times, type real[],
- theta: parameters, type real[],
- · data x_r : real data, type real [], data only, and
- · data x_i : integer data, type int[], data only.

For more fine-grained control of the ODE solvers, these parameters can also be provided:

- · data *rel_tol*: relative tolerance for the ODE solver, type real, data only,
- \cdot data *abs_to1*: absolute tolerance for the ODE solver, type real, data only, and
- data max_num_steps: maximum number of steps to take in the ODE solver, type int, data only.

Return values

The return value for the ODE solvers is an array of type real[,], with values consisting of solutions at the specified times.

Sizes and parallel arrays

The sizes must match, and in particular, the following groups are of the same size:

67

- state variables passed into the system function, derivatives returned by the system function, initial state passed into the solver, and rows of the return value of the solver,
- · solution times and number of rows of the return value of the solver,
- parameters, real data and integer data passed to the solver will be passed to the system function

9.3. 1D Integrator

Stan provides a built-in mechanism to perform 1D integration of a function via quadrature methods.

It operates similarly to the algebraic solver and the ordinary differential equations solver in that it allows as an argument a function.

Like both of those utilities, some of the arguments are limited to data only expressions. These expressions must not contain variables other than those declared in the data or transformed data blocks.

Specifying an Integrand as a Function

Performing a 1D integration requires the integrand to be specified somehow. This is done by defining a function in the Stan functions block with the special signature:

The function should return the value of the integrand evaluated at the point x.

The argument of this function are:

- $\cdot x$, the independent variable being integrated over
- *xc*, a high precision version of the distance from x to the nearest endpoint in a definite integral (for more into see section Precision Loss).
- · theta, parameter values used to evaluate the integral
- · x_r , data values used to evaluate the integral
- · x_i , integer data used to evaluate the integral

Like algebraic solver and the differential equations solver, the 1D integrator separates parameter values, theta, from data values, x_r.

Call to the 1D Integrator

```
vector integrate_1d (function integrand, real a, real b, real[]
theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i)
```

Integrates the integrand from a to b.

vector integrate_ld (function integrand, real a, real b, real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[] x_i, real relative_tolerance)
Integrates the integrand from a to b with the given relative tolerance.

Arguments to the 1D Integrator

The arguments to the 1D integrator are as follows:

- integrand: function literal referring to a function specifying the integrand with signature (real, real[], real[], int[]):real The arguments represent
 - (1) where integrand is evaluated,
 - (2) distance from evaluation point to integration limit for definite integrals,
 - (3) parameters,
 - (4) real data
 - (5) integer data, and the return value is the integrand evaluated at the given point,
- a: left limit of integration, may be negative infinity, type real,
- *b*: right limit of integration, may be positive infinity, type real,
- theta: parameters only, type real[],
- · x_r : real data only, type real[],
- · x_i : integer data only, type int[].

A relative_tolerance argument can also be provided for more control over the algorithm:

 relative_tolerance: relative tolerance for the 1d integrator, type real, data only.

Return value

The return value for the 1D integrator is a real, the value of the integral.

Zero-crossing integrals

For numeric stability, integrals on the (possibly infinite) interval (a, b) that cross zero are split into two integrals, one from (a, 0) and one from (0, b). Each integral is separately integrated to the given relative_tolerance.

Precision loss near limits of integration in definite integrals

When integrating certain definite integrals, there can be significant precision loss in evaluating the integrand near the endpoints. This has to do with the breakdown in precision of double precision floating point values when adding or subtracting a small number from a number much larger than it in magnitude (for instance, 1.0 - x). xc (as passed to the integrand) is a high-precision version of the distance between x and the definite integral endpoints and can be used to address this issue. More information (and an example where this is useful) is given in the User's Guide. For zero crossing integrals, xc will be a high precision version of the distance to the endpoints of the two smaller integrals. For any integral with an endpoint at negative infinity or positive infinity, xc is set to NaN.

Algorithmic details

Internally the 1D integrator uses the double-exponential methods in the Boost 1D quadrature library. Boost in turn makes use of quadrature methods developed in (Takahasi and Mori 1974), (Mori 1978), (Bailey, Jeyabalan, and Li 2005), and (Tanaka et al. 2009).

The gradients of the integral are computed in accordance with the Leibniz integral rule. Gradients of the integrand are computed internally with Stan's automatic differentiation.

9.4. Higher-Order Map

Stan provides a higher-order map function. This allows map-reduce functionality to be coded in Stan as described in the user's guide.

Specifying the Mapped Function

The function being mapped must have a signature identical to that of the function f in the following declaration.

The map function returns the sequence of results for the particular shard being evaluated. The arguments to the mapped function are:

- · phi, the sequence of parameters shared across shards
- · theta, the sequence of parameters specific to this shard
- · *x_r*, sequence of real-valued data
- x_i, sequence of integer data

All input for the mapped function must be packed into these sequences and all output from the mapped function must be packed into a single vector. The vector of output from each mapped function is concatenated into the final result.

Rectangular Map

The rectangular map function operates on rectangular (not ragged) data structures, with parallel data structures for job-specific parameters, job-specific real data, and job-specific integer data.

vector map_rect(F f, vector phi, vector[] theta, data real[,] x_r,
data int[,] x_i)

Return the concatenation of the results of applying the function f, of type (vector, vector, real[], int[]):vector elementwise, i.e., $f(phi, theta[n], x_r[n], x_i[n])$ for each n in 1:N, where N is the size of the parallel arrays of job-specific/local parameters theta, real data x_r , and integer data x_r . The shared/global parameters phi are passed to each invocation of f.

Discrete Distributions

10. Conventions for Probability Functions

Functions associated with distributions are set up to follow the same naming conventions for both built-in distributions and for user-defined distributions.

10.1. Suffix Marks Type of Function

The suffix is determined by the type of function according to the following table.

function	outcome	suffix
log probability mass function	discrete	 _1pmf
log probability density function	continuous	_lpdf
log cumulative distribution function	any	_lcdf
log complementary cumulative distribution function	any	_1ccdf
random number generator	any	_rng

For example, normal_lpdf is the log of the normal probability density function (pdf) and bernoulli_lpmf is the log of the bernoulli probability mass function (pmf). The log of the corresponding cumulative distribution functions (cdf) use the same suffix, normal_lcdf and bernoulli_lcdf.

10.2. Argument Order and the Vertical Bar

Each probability function has a specific outcome value and a number of parameters. Following conditional probability notation, probability density and mass functions use a vertical bar to separate the outcome from the parameters of the distribution. For example, normal_lpdf(y | mu, sigma) returns the value of mathematical formula logNormal($y \mid \mu, \sigma$). Cumulative distribution functions separate the outcome from the parameters in the same way (e.g., normal_lcdf(y_low | mu, sigma)

10.3. Sampling Notation

The notation

```
y ~ normal(mu, sigma);
```

provides the same (proportional) contribution to the model log density as the explicit target density increment,

```
target += normal_lpdf(y | mu, sigma);
```

10.4. FINITE INPUTS 73

In both cases, the effect is to add terms to the target log density. The only difference is that the example with the sampling (~) notation drops all additive constants in the log density; the constants are not necessary for any of Stan's sampling, approximation, or optimization algorithms.

10.4. Finite Inputs

All of the distribution functions are configured to throw exceptions (effectively rejecting samples or optimization steps) when they are supplied with non-finite arguments. The two cases of non-finite arguments are the infinite values and not-a-number value—these are standard in floating-point arithmetic.

10.5. Boundary Conditions

Many distributions are defined with support or constraints on parameters forming an open interval. For example, the normal density function accepts a scale parameter $\sigma > 0$. If $\sigma = 0$, the probability function will throw an exception.

This is true even for (complementary) cumulative distribution functions, which will throw exceptions when given input that is out of the support.

10.6. Pseudorandom Number Generators

For most of the probability functions, there is a matching pseudorandom number generator (PRNG) with the suffix <code>_rng</code>. For example, the function <code>normal_rng(real, real)</code> accepts two real arguments, an unconstrained location μ and positive scale $\sigma > 0$, and returns an unconstrained pseudorandom value drawn from Normal(μ, σ). There are also vectorized forms of random number generators which return more than one random variate at a time.

Restricted to Transformed Data and Generated Ouantities

Unlike regular functions, the PRNG functions may only be used in the transformed data or generated quantities block.

Limited Vectorization

Unlike the probability functions, only some of the PRNG functions are vectorized.

10.7. Cumulative Distribution Functions

For most of the univariate probability functions, there is a corresponding cumulative distribution function, log cumulative distribution function, and log complementary cumulative distribution function.

For a univariate random variable Y with probability function $p_Y(y \mid \theta)$, the cumulative distribution function (CDF) F_Y is defined by

$$F_Y(y) = \Pr[Y < y] = \int_{-\infty}^{y} p(y \mid \theta) \, dy.$$

The complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF) is defined as

$$\Pr[Y \ge y] = 1 - F_Y(y).$$

The reason to use CCDFs instead of CDFs in floating-point arithmetic is that it is possible to represent numbers very close to 0 (the closest you can get is roughly 10^{-300}), but not numbers very close to 1 (the closest you can get is roughly $1 - 10^{-15}$).

In Stan, there is a cumulative distribution function for each probability function. For instance, normal_cdf(y, mu, sigma) is defined by

$$\int_{-\infty}^{y} \text{Normal}(y \mid \mu, \sigma) \, dy.$$

There are also log forms of the CDF and CCDF for most univariate distributions. For example, $normal_lcdf(y \mid mu, sigma)$ is defined by

$$\log \left(\int_{-\infty}^{y} \text{Normal}(y \mid \mu, \sigma) \, dy \right)$$

and normal_lccdf(y | mu, sigma) is defined by

$$\log\left(1-\int_{-\infty}^{y}\operatorname{Normal}(y\mid\mu,\sigma)\;\mathrm{d}y\right).$$

10.8. Vectorization

Stan's univariate log probability functions, including the log density functions, log mass functions, log CDFs, and log CCDFs, all support vectorized function application, with results defined to be the sum of the elementwise application of the function. Some of the PRNG functions support vectorization, see section vectorized PRNG functions for more details.

In all cases, matrix operations are at least as fast and usually faster than loops and vectorized log probability functions are faster than their equivalent form defined with loops. This isn't because loops are slow in Stan, but because more efficient automatic differentiation can be used. The efficiency comes from the fact that a vectorized log probability function only introduces one new node into the expression graph, thus reducing the number of virtual function calls required to compute gradients in C++, as well as from allowing caching of repeated computations.

Stan also overloads the multivariate normal distribution, including the Cholesky-factor form, allowing arrays of row vectors or vectors for the variate and location parameter. This is a huge savings in speed because the work required to solve the linear system for the covariance matrix is only done once.

Stan also overloads some scalar functions, such as log and exp, to apply to vectors (arrays) and return vectors (arrays). These vectorizations are defined elementwise and unlike the probability functions, provide only minimal efficiency speedups over repeated application and assignment in a loop.

Vectorized Function Signatures

Vectorized Scalar Arguments

The normal probability function is specified with the signature

```
normal_lpdf(reals | reals, reals);
```

The pseudotype reals is used to indicate that an argument position may be vectorized. Argument positions declared as reals may be filled with a real, a one-dimensional array, a vector, or a row-vector. If there is more than one array or vector argument, their types can be anything but their size must match. For instance, it is legal to use normal_lpdf(row_vector | vector, real) as long as the vector and row vector have the same size.

Vectorized Vector and Row Vector Arguments

The multivariate normal distribution accepting vector or array of vector arguments is written as

```
multi_normal_lpdf(vectors | vectors, matrix);
```

These arguments may be row vectors, column vectors, or arrays of row vectors or column vectors.

Vectorized Integer Arguments

The pseudotype ints is used for vectorized integer arguments. Where it appears either an integer or array of integers may be used.

Evaluating Vectorized Log Probability Functions

The result of a vectorized log probability function is equivalent to the sum of the evaluations on each element. Any non-vector argument, namely real or int, is repeated. For instance, if y is a vector of size N, mu is a vector of size N, and sigma is a scalar, then

```
11 = normal_lpdf(y | mu, sigma);
```

is just a more efficient way to write

```
11 = 0;
```

With the same arguments, the vectorized sampling statement

```
y ~ normal(mu, sigma);
```

has the same effect on the total log probability as

```
for (n in 1:N)
y[n] ~ normal(mu[n], sigma);
```

Evaluating Vectorized PRNG Functions

Some PRNG functions accept sequences as well as scalars as arguments. Such functions are indicated by argument pseudotypes reals or ints. In cases of sequence arguments, the output will also be a sequence. For example, the following is allowed in the generated quantities block.

```
vector[3] mu = ...;
real x[3] = normal_rng(mu, 3);
```

Argument types

In the case of PRNG functions, arguments marked ints may be integers or integer arrays, whereas arguments marked reals may be integers or reals, integer or real arrays, vectors, or row vectors.

pseudotype	allowable PRNG arguments
ints	int, int[]
reals	<pre>int, int[], real, real[], vector, row_vector</pre>

Dimension matching

In general, if there are multiple non-scalar arguments, they must all have the same dimensions, but need not have the same type. For example, the normal_rng function may be called with one vector argument and one real array argument as long as they have the same number of elements.

```
vector[3] mu = ...;
real sigma[3] = ...;
real x[3] = normal_rng(mu, sigma);
```

Return type

The result of a vectorized PRNG function depends on the size of the arguments and the distribution's support. If all arguments are scalars, then the return type is a scalar. For a continuous distribution, if there are any non-scalar arguments, the return type is a real array (real[]) matching the size of any of the non-scalar arguments, as all non-scalar arguments must have matching size. Discrete distributions return ints and continuous distributions return reals, each of appropriate size. The symbol R denotes such a return type.

11. Binary Distributions

Binary probability distributions have support on $\{0,1\}$, where 1 represents the value true and 0 the value false.

11.1. Bernoulli Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $\theta \in [0, 1]$, then for $y \in \{0, 1\}$,

Bernoulli
$$(y \mid \theta) = \begin{cases} \theta & \text{if } y = 1, \text{ and } \\ 1 - \theta & \text{if } y = 0. \end{cases}$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ bernoulli(theta)

Increment target log probability density with bernoulli_lpmf(y | theta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real bernoulli_lpmf(ints y | reals theta)

The log Bernoulli probability mass of y given chance of success theta

real bernoulli_cdf(ints y, reals theta)

The Bernoulli cumulative distribution function of y given chance of success theta

real bernoulli_lcdf(ints y | reals theta)

The log of the Bernoulli cumulative distribution function of y given chance of success theta

real bernoulli_lccdf(ints y | reals theta)

The log of the Bernoulli complementary cumulative distribution function of y given chance of success theta

R **bernoulli_rng**(reals theta)

Generate a Bernoulli variate with chance of success theta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

11.2. Bernoulli Distribution, Logit Parameterization

Stan also supplies a direct parameterization in terms of a logit-transformed chance-ofsuccess parameter. This parameterization is more numerically stable if the chanceof-success parameter is on the logit scale, as with the linear predictor in a logistic regression.

Probability Mass Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, then for $y \in \{0, 1\}$,

$$\operatorname{BernoulliLogit}(y \mid \alpha) = \operatorname{Bernoulli}(y \mid \operatorname{logit}^{-1}(\alpha)) = \begin{cases} \operatorname{logit}^{-1}(\alpha) & \text{if } y = 1, \text{ and} \\ 1 - \operatorname{logit}^{-1}(\alpha) & \text{if } y = 0. \end{cases}$$

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with bernoulli_logit_lpmf(y | alpha) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real bernoulli_logit_lpmf(ints y | reals alpha)

The log Bernoulli probability mass of y given chance of success inv_logit(alpha)

R bernoulli_logit_rng(reals alpha)

Generate a Bernoulli variate with chance of success $logit^{-1}(\alpha)$; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

11.3. Bernoulli-Logit Generalised Linear Model (Logistic Regression)

Stan also supplies a single primitive for a Generalised Linear Model with Bernoulli likelihood and logit link function, i.e. a primitive for a logistic regression. This should provide a more efficient implementation of logistic regression than a manually written regression in terms of a Bernoulli likelihood and matrix multiplication.

Probability Mass Function

If
$$x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot m}$$
, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^m$, then for $y \in \{0, 1\}^n$,

BernoulliLogitGLM
$$(y \mid x, \alpha, \beta) = \prod_{1 \le i \le n} \text{Bernoulli}(y_i \mid \text{logit}^{-1}(\alpha_i + x_i \cdot \beta))$$

$$= \prod_{1 \le i \le n} \begin{cases} \text{logit}^{-1}(\alpha_i + \sum_{1 \le j \le m} x_{ij} \cdot \beta_j) & \text{if } y_i = 1, \text{ and} \\ 1 - \text{logit}^{-1}(\alpha_i + \sum_{1 \le j \le m} x_{ij} \cdot \beta_j) & \text{if } y_i = 0. \end{cases}$$

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with bernoulli_logit_glm_lpmf($y \mid x$, alpha, beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real bernoulli_logit_glm_lpmf(int[] y | matrix x, real alpha, vector beta)

The log Bernoulli probability mass of y given chance of success inv_logit(alpha+x*beta), where a constant intercept alpha is used for all observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

real **bernoulli_logit_glm_lpmf**(int[] y | matrix x, vector alpha, vector beta)

The log Bernoulli probability mass of y given chance of success inv_logit(alpha+x*beta), where an intercept alpha is used that is allowed to vary with the different observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and alpha and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

12. Bounded Discrete Distributions

Bounded discrete probability functions have support on $\{0,...,N\}$ for some upper bound N.

12.1. Binomial Distribution

Probability Mass Function

Suppose $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\theta \in [0,1]$, and $n \in \{0,\ldots,N\}$.

Binomial
$$(n \mid N, \theta) = \binom{N}{n} \theta^n (1 - \theta)^{N-n}$$
.

Log Probability Mass Function

$$\log \operatorname{Binomial}(n \mid N, \theta) = \log \Gamma(N+1) - \log \Gamma(n+1) - \log \Gamma(N-n+1) + n \log \theta + (N-n) \log (1-\theta),$$

Gradient of Log Probability Mass Function

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log \text{Binomial}(n \mid N, \theta) = \frac{n}{\theta} - \frac{N - n}{1 - \theta}$$

Sampling Statement

n ~ binomial(N, theta)

Increment target log probability density with binomial_lpmf(n | N, theta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real binomial_lpmf(ints n | ints N, reals theta)

The log binomial probability mass of n successes in N trials given chance of success theta

real binomial_cdf(ints n, ints N, reals theta)

The binomial cumulative distribution function of n successes in N trials given chance of success theta

real binomial_lcdf(ints n | ints N, reals theta)

The log of the binomial cumulative distribution function of n successes in N trials given chance of success theta

real binomial_lccdf(ints n | ints N, reals theta)

The log of the binomial complementary cumulative distribution function of n successes in N trials given chance of success theta

R binomial_rng(ints N, reals theta)

Generate a binomial variate with N trials and chance of success theta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

12.2. Binomial Distribution, Logit Parameterization

Stan also provides a version of the binomial probability mass function distribution with the chance of success parameterized on the unconstrained logistic scale.

Probability Mass Function

Suppose $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, and $n \in \{0, ..., N\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BinomialLogit}(n \mid N, \alpha) &= & \text{Binomial}(n \mid N, \text{logit}^{-1}(\alpha)) \\ &= & \binom{N}{n} \left(\text{logit}^{-1}(\alpha) \right)^n \left(1 - \text{logit}^{-1}(\alpha) \right)^{N-n}. \end{aligned}$$

Log Probability Mass Function

$$\begin{split} \log \operatorname{BinomialLogit}(n \mid N, \alpha) &= \log \Gamma(N+1) - \log \Gamma(n+1) - \log \Gamma(N-n+1) \\ &+ n \log \operatorname{logit}^{-1}(\alpha) + (N-n) \log \left(1 - \operatorname{logit}^{-1}(\alpha)\right), \end{split}$$

Gradient of Log Probability Mass Function

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \log \text{BinomialLogit}(n \mid N, \alpha) = \frac{n}{\log \text{it}^{-1}(-\alpha)} - \frac{N - n}{\log \text{it}^{-1}(\alpha)}$$

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with binomial_logit_lpmf(n | N, alpha) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real binomial_logit_lpmf(ints n | ints N, reals alpha)

The log binomial probability mass of n successes in N trials given logit-scaled chance of success alpha

12.3. Beta-Binomial Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $N \in \mathbb{N}$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$, and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $n \in \{0, ..., N\}$,

BetaBinomial
$$(n \mid N, \alpha, \beta) = \binom{N}{n} \frac{B(n + \alpha, N - n + \beta)}{B(\alpha, \beta)},$$

where the beta function B(u, v) is defined for $u \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$ by

$$B(u,v) = \frac{\Gamma(u) \Gamma(v)}{\Gamma(u+v)}.$$

Sampling Statement

n ~ beta_binomial(N, alpha, beta)

Increment target log probability density with $beta_binomial_lpmf(n | N, alpha, beta)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real **beta_binomial_lpmf**(ints n | ints N, reals alpha, reals beta)
The log beta-binomial probability mass of n successes in N trials given prior success count (plus one) of alpha and prior failure count (plus one) of beta

real **beta_binomial_cdf**(ints n, ints N, reals alpha, reals beta)
The beta-binomial cumulative distribution function of n successes in N trials given prior success count (plus one) of alpha and prior failure count (plus one) of beta

real **beta_binomial_lcdf**(ints n | ints N, reals alpha, reals beta)
The log of the beta-binomial cumulative distribution function of n successes in N trials given prior success count (plus one) of alpha and prior failure count (plus one) of beta

real **beta_binomial_lccdf**(ints n | ints N, reals alpha, reals beta) The log of the beta-binomial complementary cumulative distribution function of n successes in N trials given prior success count (plus one) of alpha and prior failure count (plus one) of beta

R beta_binomial_rng(ints N, reals alpha, reals beta)

Generate a beta-binomial variate with N trials, prior success count (plus one) of alpha, and prior failure count (plus one) of beta; may only be used in generated quantities

block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

12.4. Hypergeometric Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $a \in \mathbb{N}$, $b \in \mathbb{N}$, and $N \in \{0, \dots, a+b\}$, then for $n \in \{\max(0, N-b), \dots, \min(a, N)\}$,

$$\text{Hypergeometric}(n\mid N,a,b) = \frac{\binom{a}{n}\binom{b}{N-n}}{\binom{a+b}{N}}.$$

Sampling Statement

n ~ hypergeometric(N, a, b)

Increment target log probability density with hypergeometric_lpmf($n \mid N$, a, b) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real hypergeometric_lpmf(int n ~ | ~ int N, int a, int b)

The log hypergeometric probability mass of n successes in N trials given total success count of a and total failure count of b

int hypergeometric_rng(int N, int a, int2 b)

Generate a hypergeometric variate with N trials, total success count of a, and total failure count of b; may only be used in generated quantities block

12.5. Categorical Distribution

Probability Mass Functions

If $N \in \mathbb{N}$, N > 0, and if $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^N$ forms an N-simplex (i.e., has nonnegative entries summing to one), then for $y \in \{1, ..., N\}$,

Categorical(
$$y \mid \theta$$
) = θ_y .

In addition, Stan provides a log-odds scaled categorical distribution,

$$\mathsf{CategoricalLogit}(y \mid \beta) = \mathsf{Categorical}(y \mid \mathsf{softmax}(\beta)).$$

See section softmax for the definition of the softmax function.

Sampling Statement

y ~ categorical(theta)

Increment target log probability density with $categorical_lpmf(y | theta)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Sampling Statement

y ~ categorical_logit(beta)

Increment target log probability density with categorical_logit_lpmf(y | beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

All of the categorical distributions are vectorized so that the outcome y can be a single integer (type int) or an array of integers (type int[]).

real categorical_lpmf(ints y | vector theta)

The log categorical probability mass function with outcome(s) y in 1:N given N-vector of outcome probabilities theta. The parameter theta must have non-negative entries that sum to one, but it need not be a variable declared as a simplex.

real categorical_logit_lpmf(ints y | vector beta)

The log categorical probability mass function with outcome(s) y in 1:N given log-odds of outcomes beta.

int categorical_rng(vector theta)

Generate a categorical variate with N-simplex distribution parameter theta; may only be used in generated quantities block

int categorical_logit_rng(vector beta)

Generate a categorical variate with outcome in range 1:N from log-odds vector beta; may only be used in generated quantities block

12.6. Ordered Logistic Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$ with K > 2, $c \in \mathbb{R}^{K-1}$ such that $c_k < c_{k+1}$ for $k \in \{1, ..., K-2\}$, and $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$, then for $k \in \{1, ..., K\}$,

$$\text{OrderedLogistic}(k \mid \eta, c) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 - \text{logit}^{-1}(\eta - c_1) & \text{if } k = 1, \\ \text{logit}^{-1}(\eta - c_{k-1}) - \text{logit}^{-1}(\eta - c_k) & \text{if } 1 < k < K, \text{and} \\ \text{logit}^{-1}(\eta - c_{K-1}) - 0 & \text{if } k = K. \end{array} \right.$$

The k=K case is written with the redundant subtraction of zero to illustrate the parallelism of the cases; the k=1 and k=K edge cases can be subsumed into the general definition by setting $c_0=-\infty$ and $c_K=+\infty$ with $\operatorname{logit}^{-1}(-\infty)=0$ and $\operatorname{logit}^{-1}(\infty)=1$.

Sampling Statement

k ~ ordered_logistic(eta, c)

Increment target log probability density with ordered_logistic_lpmf(k | eta, c) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real ordered_logistic_lpmf(ints k | vector eta, vectors c)

The log ordered logistic probability mass of k given linear predictors eta, and cutpoints c.

int ordered_logistic_rng(real eta, vector c)

Generate an ordered logistic variate with linear predictor eta and cutpoints c; may only be used in generated quantities block

12.7. Ordered Probit Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$ with K > 2, $c \in \mathbb{R}^{K-1}$ such that $c_k < c_{k+1}$ for $k \in \{1, ..., K-2\}$, and $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$, then for $k \in \{1, ..., K\}$,

$$\mathrm{OrderedProbit}(k \mid \eta, c) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 - \Phi(\eta - c_1) & \text{if } k = 1, \\ \Phi(\eta - c_{k-1}) - \Phi(\eta - c_k) & \text{if } 1 < k < K, \text{and} \\ \Phi(\eta - c_{K-1}) - 0 & \text{if } k = K. \end{array} \right.$$

The k=K case is written with the redundant subtraction of zero to illustrate the parallelism of the cases; the k=1 and k=K edge cases can be subsumed into the general definition by setting $c_0=-\infty$ and $c_K=+\infty$ with $\Phi(-\infty)=0$ and $\Phi(\infty)=1$.

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with ordered_probit_1pmf(k | eta, c) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real ordered_probit_lpmf(ints k | vector eta, vectors c)

The log ordered probit probability mass of k given linear predictors eta, and cutpoints c.

int ordered_probit_rng(real eta, vector c)

Generate an ordered probit variate with linear predictor eta and cutpoints c; may only be used in generated quantities block

13. Unbounded Discrete Distributions

The unbounded discrete distributions have support over the natural numbers (i.e., the non-negative integers).

13.1. Negative Binomial Distribution

For the negative binomial distribution Stan uses the parameterization described in Gelman et al. (2013). For alternative parameterizations, see section negative binomial glm.

Probability Mass Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $\gamma \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\text{NegBinomial}(y \mid \alpha, \beta) = \begin{pmatrix} y + \alpha - 1 \\ \alpha - 1 \end{pmatrix} \left(\frac{\beta}{\beta + 1} \right)^{\alpha} \left(\frac{1}{\beta + 1} \right)^{y}.$$

The mean and variance of a random variable $y \sim \text{NegBinomial}(\alpha, \beta)$ are given by

$$\mathbb{E}[y] = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$$
 and $Var[Y] = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}(\beta + 1)$.

Sampling Statement

n ~ neg_binomial(alpha, beta)

Increment target log probability density with neg_binomial_lpmf(n | alpha, beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real neg_binomial_lpmf(ints n | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log negative binomial probability mass of n given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

real neg_binomial_cdf(ints n, reals alpha, reals beta)

The negative binomial cumulative distribution function of n given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

real neg_binomial_lcdf(ints n | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the negative binomial cumulative distribution function of n given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

real neg_binomial_lccdf(ints n | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the negative binomial complementary cumulative distribution function of n given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

R neg_binomial_rng(reals alpha, reals beta)

Generate a negative binomial variate with shape alpha and inverse scale beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. alpha / beta must be less than 2^{29} . For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized function signatures.

13.2. Negative Binomial Distribution (alternative parameterization)

Stan also provides an alternative parameterization of the negative binomial distribution directly using a mean (i.e., location) parameter and a parameter that controls overdispersion relative to the square of the mean. Section combinatorial functions, below, provides a second alternative parameterization directly in terms of the log mean.

Probability Mass Function

The first parameterization is for $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\phi \in \mathbb{R}^+$, which for $y \in \mathbb{N}$ is defined as

NegBinomial2
$$(y \mid \mu, \phi) = \begin{pmatrix} y + \phi - 1 \\ y \end{pmatrix} \left(\frac{\mu}{\mu + \phi} \right)^y \left(\frac{\phi}{\mu + \phi} \right)^{\phi}$$
.

The mean and variance of a random variable $y \sim \text{NegBinomial2}(y \mid \mu, \phi)$ are

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mu$$
 and $\operatorname{Var}[Y] = \mu + \frac{\mu^2}{\phi}$.

Recall that $Poisson(\mu)$ has variance μ , so $\mu^2/\phi > 0$ is the additional variance of the negative binomial above that of the Poisson with mean μ . So the inverse of parameter ϕ controls the overdispersion, scaled by the square of the mean, μ^2 .

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with neg_binomial_2_lpmf(y | mu, phi) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real neg_binomial_2_lpmf(ints y | reals mu, reals phi)

The negative binomial probability mass of n given location mu and precision phi.

real neg_binomial_2_cdf(ints n, reals mu, reals phi)

The negative binomial cumulative distribution function of n given location mu and precision phi.

real neg_binomial_2_lcdf(ints n | reals mu, reals phi)

The log of the negative binomial cumulative distribution function of n given location mu and precision phi.

real neg_binomial_2_lccdf(ints n | reals mu, reals phi)

The log of the negative binomial complementary cumulative distribution function of n given location mu and precision phi.

R neg_binomial_2_rng(reals mu, reals phi)

Generate a negative binomial variate with location mu and precision phi; may only be used in generated quantities block. mu must be less than 2²⁹. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized function signatures.

13.3. Negative Binomial Distribution (log alternative parameterization)

Related to the parameterization in section negative binomial, alternative parameterization, the following parameterization uses a log mean parameter $\eta = \log(\mu)$, defined for $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\phi \in \mathbb{R}^+$, so that for $y \in \mathbb{N}$,

```
NegBinomial2Log(y \mid \eta, \phi) = NegBinomial2(y \mid \exp(\eta), \phi).
```

This alternative may be used for sampling, as a function, and for random number generation, but as of yet, there are no CDFs implemented for it.

Sampling Statement

```
y ~ neg_binomial_2_log(eta, phi)
```

Increment target log probability density with neg_binomial_2_log_lpmf(y | eta, phi) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

```
real neg_binomial_2_log_lpmf(ints y | reals eta, reals phi)
```

The log negative binomial probability mass of n given log-location eta and inverse overdispersion control phi. This is especially useful for log-linear negative binomial regressions.

R neg_binomial_2_log_rng(reals eta, reals phi)

Generate a negative binomial variate with log-location eta and inverse overdispersion control phi; may only be used in generated quantities block. eta must be less than 29 log 2. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized function signatures.

13.4. Negative-Binomial-2-Log Generalised Linear Model (Negative Binomial Regression)

Stan also supplies a single primitive for a Generalised Linear Model with negative binomial likelihood and log link function, i.e. a primitive for a negative binomial regression. This should provide a more efficient implementation of negative binomial regression than a manually written regression in terms of a negative binomial likelihood and matrix multiplication.

Probability Mass Function

If $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot m}$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\phi \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{N}^n$,

NegBinomial2LogGLM($y \mid x, \alpha, \beta, \phi$) = $\prod_{1 \le i \le n}$ NegBinomial2($y_i \mid \exp(\alpha_i + x_i \cdot \beta), \phi$).

Sampling Statement

 $y \sim neg_binomial_2_log_glm(x, alpha, beta, phi)$

Increment target log probability density with $neg_binomial_2_log_glm_lpmf(y | x, alpha, beta, phi)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real neg_binomial_2_log_glm_lpmf(int[] y | matrix x, real alpha,
vector beta, real phi)

The log negative binomial probability mass of y given log-location alpha+x*beta and inverse overdispersion control phi, where a constant intercept alpha and phi is used for all observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

real neg_binomial_2_log_glm_lpmf(int[] y | matrix x, vector alpha,
vector beta, real phi)

The log negative binomial probability mass of y given log-location alpha+x*beta and inverse overdispersion control phi, where a constant phi is used for all observations and an intercept alpha is used that is allowed to vary with the different observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and alpha and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

13.5. Poisson Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

Poisson
$$(n|\lambda) = \frac{1}{n!} \lambda^n \exp(-\lambda).$$

Sampling Statement

n ~ poisson(lambda)

Increment target log probability density with poisson_lpmf(n | lambda) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real poisson_lpmf(ints n | reals lambda)

The log Poisson probability mass of n given rate lambda

real poisson_cdf(ints n, reals lambda)

The Poisson cumulative distribution function of n given rate lambda

real poisson_lcdf(ints n | reals lambda)

The log of the Poisson cumulative distribution function of n given rate lambda

real poisson_lccdf(ints n | reals lambda)

The log of the Poisson complementary cumulative distribution function of n given rate lambda

R poisson_rng(reals lambda)

Generate a Poisson variate with rate lambda; may only be used in generated quantities block. lambda must be less than 2^{30} . For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized function signatures.

13.6. Poisson Distribution, Log Parameterization

Stan also provides a parameterization of the Poisson using the log rate $\alpha = \log \lambda$ as a parameter. This is useful for log-linear Poisson regressions so that the predictor does not need to be exponentiated and passed into the standard Poisson probability function.

Probability Mass Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, then for $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

PoissonLog
$$(n|\alpha) = \frac{1}{n!} \exp(n\alpha - \exp(\alpha))$$
.

Sampling Statement

n ~ poisson_log(alpha)

Increment target log probability density with poisson_log_lpmf(n | alpha) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real poisson_log_lpmf(ints n | reals alpha)

The log Poisson probability mass of n given log rate alpha

R poisson_log_rng(reals alpha)

Generate a Poisson variate with log rate alpha; may only be used in generated quantities block. alpha must be less than $30 \log 2$. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized function signatures.

13.7. Poisson-Log Generalised Linear Model (Poisson Regression)

Stan also supplies a single primitive for a Generalised Linear Model with poisson likelihood and log link function, i.e. a primitive for a poisson regression. This should provide a more efficient implementation of poisson regression than a manually written regression in terms of a poisson likelihood and matrix multiplication.

Probability Mass Function

If $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot m}$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^m$, then for $y \in \mathbb{N}^n$,

PoisonLogGLM(
$$y|x, \alpha, \beta$$
) = $\prod_{1 \le i \le n}$ Poisson($y_i | \exp(\alpha_i + x_i \cdot \beta)$).

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with $poisson_log_glm_lpmf(y | x, alpha, beta)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real poisson_log_glm_lpmf(int[] y | matrix x, real alpha, vector
beta)

The log poisson probability mass of y given log-rate alpha+x*beta, where a constant intercept alpha is used for all observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

real poisson_log_glm_lpmf(int[] y | matrix x, vector alpha, vector beta)

The log poisson probability mass of y given log-rate alpha+x*beta, where an intercept alpha is used that is allowed to vary with the different observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

14. Multivariate Discrete Distributions

The multivariate discrete distributions are over multiple integer values, which are expressed in Stan as arrays.

14.1. Multinomial Distribution

Probability Mass Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $N \in \mathbb{N}$, and $\theta \in K$ -simplex, then for $y \in \mathbb{N}^K$ such that $\sum_{k=1}^K y_k = N$,

Multinomial
$$(y|\theta) = \binom{N}{y_1, \dots, y_K} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{y_k},$$

where the multinomial coefficient is defined by

$$\binom{N}{y_1,\ldots,y_k} = \frac{N!}{\prod_{k=1}^K y_k!}.$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ multinomial(theta)

Increment target log probability density with multinomial_lpmf(y | theta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real multinomial_lpmf(int[] y | vector theta)

The log multinomial probability mass function with outcome array y of size K given the K-simplex distribution parameter theta and (implicit) total count N = sum(y)

int[] multinomial_rng(vector theta, int N)

Generate a multinomial variate with simplex distribution parameter theta and total count N; may only be used in generated quantities block

Continuous Distributions

15. Unbounded Continuous Distributions

The unbounded univariate continuous probability distributions have support on all real numbers.

15.1. Normal Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

Normal
$$(y|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ normal(mu, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with normal_lpdf(y | mu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real normal_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the normal density of y given location mu and scale sigma

real normal_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma)

The cumulative normal distribution of y given location mu and scale sigma; normal_cdf will underflow to 0 for $\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}$ below -37.5 and overflow to 1 for $\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}$ above 8.25; the function Phi_approx is more robust in the tails, but must be scaled and translated for anything other than a standard normal.

real normal_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the cumulative normal distribution of y given location mu and scale sigma; normal_lcdf will underflow to $-\infty$ for $\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}$ below -37.5 and overflow to 0 for $\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}$ above 8.25; see above for discussion of Phi_approx as an alternative.

real normal_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the complementary cumulative normal distribution of y given location mu and scale sigma; normal_lccdf will overflow to 0 for $\frac{\gamma-\mu}{\sigma}$ below -37.5 and underflow to $-\infty$ for $\frac{\gamma-\mu}{\sigma}$ above 8.25; see above for discussion of Phi_approx as an alternative.

R normal_rng(reals mu, reals sigma)

Generate a normal variate with location mu and scale sigma; may only be used in

generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

Standard Normal Distribution

The standard normal distribution is so-called because its parameters are the units for their respective operations—the location (mean) is zero and the scale (standard deviation) one. The standard normal is parameter free and the unit parameters allow considerable simplification of the expression for the density.

StdNormal(y) = Normal(y | 0,1) =
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(\frac{-y^2}{2}\right)$$
.

Up to a proportion on the log scale, where Stan computes,

$$\log \text{Normal}(y \mid 0, 1) = \frac{-y^2}{2} + \text{const.}$$

With no logarithm, no subtraction, and no division by a parameter, the standard normal log density is much more efficient to compute than the normal log density with constant location 0 and scale 1.

Stan Functions

Only the log probabilty density function is available for the standard normal distribution; for other functions, use the normal_versions with parameters $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$.

The standard normal (location zero, scale one) log probability density of y.

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with std_normal_lpdf(y) dropping constant additive terms.

15.2. Normal-Id Generalised Linear Model (Linear Regression)

Stan also supplies a single primitive for a Generalised Linear Model with normal likelihood and identity link function, i.e. a primitive for a linear regression. This should provide a more efficient implementation of linear regression than a manually written regression in terms of a normal likelihood and matrix multiplication.

Probability Distribution Function

If
$$x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot m}$$
, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

NormalIdGLM
$$(y|x, \alpha, \beta, \sigma) = \prod_{1 \le i \le n} \text{Normal}(y_i | \alpha_i + x_i \cdot \beta, \sigma).$$

Sampling Statement

 $y \sim normal_id_glm(x, alpha, beta, sigma)$

Increment target log probability density with $normal_id_glm_lpdf(y | x, alpha, beta, sigma)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real normal_id_glm_lpdf(vector y | matrix x, real alpha, vector beta,
real sigma)

The log normal probability density of y given location alpha+x*beta and scale sigma, where a constant intercept alpha and sigma is used for all observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

real **normal_id_glm_lpdf**(vector y | matrix x, vector alpha, vector beta, real sigma)

The log normal probability density of y given location alpha+x*beta and scale sigma, where a constant sigma is used for all observations and an intercept alpha is used that is allowed to vary with the different observations. The number of rows of the independent variable matrix x needs to match the length of the dependent variable vector y and the number of columns of x needs to match the length of the weight vector beta.

15.3. Exponentially Modified Normal Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$, $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\operatorname{ExpModNormal}(y|\mu,\sigma,\lambda) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \exp\left(\frac{\lambda}{2} \left(2\mu + \lambda \sigma^2 - 2y\right)\right) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{\mu + \lambda \sigma^2 - y}{\sqrt{2}\sigma}\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ exp_mod_normal(mu, sigma, lambda)

Increment target log probability density with exp_mod_normal_lpdf(y | mu, sigma, lambda) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real **exp_mod_normal_lpdf**(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma, reals lambda)

The log of the exponentially modified normal density of y given location mu, scale sigma, and shape lambda

real **exp_mod_normal_cdf**(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma, reals lambda) The exponentially modified normal cumulative distribution function of y given location mu, scale sigma, and shape lambda

real **exp_mod_normal_lcdf**(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma, reals lambda)

The log of the exponentially modified normal cumulative distribution function of y given location mu, scale sigma, and shape lambda

real exp_mod_normal_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma, reals
lambda)

The log of the exponentially modified normal complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu, scale sigma, and shape lambda

R exp_mod_normal_rng(reals mu, reals sigma, reals lambda)

Generate a exponentially modified normal variate with location mu, scale sigma, and shape lambda; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

15.4. Skew Normal Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$, $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^+$, and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, then for $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$,

SkewNormal
$$(y \mid \xi, \omega, \alpha) = \frac{1}{\omega\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{y-\xi}{\omega}\right)^2\right) \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\alpha\left(\frac{y-\xi}{\omega\sqrt{2}}\right)\right)\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ **skew_normal**(xi, omega, alpha)

Increment target log probability density with $skew_normal_1pdf(y | xi, omega, alpha)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real $skew_normal_lpdf$ (reals y | reals xi, reals omega, reals alpha) The log of the skew normal density of y given location xi, scale omega, and shape alpha

real **skew_normal_cdf**(reals y, reals xi, reals omega, reals alpha) The skew normal distribution function of y given location xi, scale omega, and shape alpha

real $skew_normal_lcdf(reals\ y\ |\ reals\ xi,\ reals\ omega,\ reals\ alpha)$ The log of the skew normal cumulative distribution function of y given location xi, scale omega, and shape alpha

real **skew_normal_lccdf**(reals y | reals xi, reals omega, reals alpha) The log of the skew normal complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location xi, scale omega, and shape alpha

R **skew_normal_rng**(reals xi, reals omega, real alpha)

Generate a skew normal variate with location xi, scale omega, and shape alpha; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

15.5. Student-T Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$, and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\mathrm{StudentT}(y|\nu,\mu,\sigma) = \frac{\Gamma\left((\nu+1)/2\right)}{\Gamma(\nu/2)} \ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu\pi} \ \sigma} \ \left(1 + \frac{1}{\nu} \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right)^{-(\nu+1)/2}.$$

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with student_t_lpdf(y | nu, mu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real student_t_lpdf(reals y | reals nu, reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the Student-*t* density of y given degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale sigma

real student_t_cdf(reals y, reals nu, reals mu, reals sigma)

The Student-*t* cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale sigma

real student_t_lcdf(reals y | reals nu, reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the Student-*t* cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale sigma

real student_t_lccdf(reals y | reals nu, reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the Student-*t* complementary cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale sigma

R **student_t_rng**(reals nu, reals mu, reals sigma)

Generate a Student-*t* variate with degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

15.6. Cauchy Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$,

Cauchy
$$(y|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\pi\sigma} \frac{1}{1 + ((y-\mu)/\sigma)^2}$$
.

Sampling Statement

y ~ cauchy(mu, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with cauchy_lpdf(y | mu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real cauchy_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the Cauchy density of y given location mu and scale sigma

real cauchy_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma)

The Cauchy cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real cauchy_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the Cauchy cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real cauchy_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the Cauchy complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

R cauchy_rng(reals mu, reals sigma)

Generate a Cauchy variate with location mu and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

15.7. Double Exponential (Laplace) Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

DoubleExponential
$$(y|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{2\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{|y-\mu|}{\sigma}\right)$$
.

Note that the double exponential distribution is parameterized in terms of the scale, in contrast to the exponential distribution (see section exponential distribution), which is parameterized in terms of inverse scale.

The double-exponential distribution can be defined as a compound exponential-normal distribution. Specifically, if

$$\alpha \sim \mathsf{Exponential}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right)$$

and

$$\beta \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \alpha)$$
,

then

$$\beta \sim \text{DoubleExponential}(\mu, \lambda)$$
.

This may be used to code a non-centered parameterization by taking

$$\beta^{\text{raw}} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

and defining

$$\beta = \mu + \alpha \beta^{\text{raw}}$$
.

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with double_exponential_lpdf(y | mu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real double_exponential_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the double exponential density of y given location mu and scale sigma

real double_exponential_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma)

The double exponential cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real double_exponential_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the double exponential cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real double_exponential_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the double exponential complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

R double_exponential_rng(reals mu, reals sigma)

Generate a double exponential variate with location mu and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

15.8. Logistic Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

Logistic
$$(y|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right) \left(1 + \exp\left(-\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right)\right)^{-2}$$
.

Sampling Statement

y ~ logistic(mu, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with logistic_lpdf(y | mu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real logistic_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the logistic density of y given location mu and scale sigma

real logistic_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma)

The logistic cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real logistic_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the logistic cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real logistic_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the logistic complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

R logistic_rng(reals mu, reals sigma)

Generate a logistic variate with location mu and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

15.9. Gumbel Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\operatorname{Gumbel}(y|\mu,\beta) = \frac{1}{\beta} \, \exp\left(-\frac{y-\mu}{\beta} - \exp\left(-\frac{y-\mu}{\beta}\right)\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ **gumbel**(mu, beta)

Increment target log probability density with $gumbel_1pdf(y \mid mu, beta)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real gumbel_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals beta)

The log of the gumbel density of y given location mu and scale beta

real gumbel_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals beta)

The gumbel cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale beta

real gumbel_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals beta)

The log of the gumbel cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale beta

real gumbel_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals beta)

The log of the gumbel complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale beta

R gumbel_rng(reals mu, reals beta)

Generate a gumbel variate with location mu and scale beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16. Positive Continuous Distributions

The positive continuous probability functions have support on the positive real numbers.

16.1. Lognormal Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

$$\operatorname{LogNormal}(y|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \ \sigma} \frac{1}{y} \ \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\log y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)^2\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ lognormal(mu, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with lognormal_lpdf(y | mu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real lognormal_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the lognormal density of y given location mu and scale sigma

real lognormal_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma)

The cumulative lognormal distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real lognormal_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the lognormal cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

real lognormal_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals sigma)

The log of the lognormal complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu and scale sigma

R lognormal_rng(reals mu, reals beta)

Generate a lognormal variate with location mu and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.2. Chi-Square Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

ChiSquare
$$(y|v) = \frac{2^{-v/2}}{\Gamma(v/2)} y^{v/2-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}y\right)$$
.

Sampling Statement

y ~ chi_square(nu)

Increment target log probability density with chi_square_lpdf(y | nu) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real chi_square_lpdf(reals y | reals nu)

The log of the Chi-square density of y given degrees of freedom nu

real chi_square_cdf(reals y, reals nu)

The Chi-square cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu

real chi_square_lcdf(reals y | reals nu)

The log of the Chi-square cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu

real chi_square_lccdf(reals y | reals nu)

The log of the complementary Chi-square cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu

R chi_square_rng(reals nu)

Generate a Chi-square variate with degrees of freedom nu; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.3. Inverse Chi-Square Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

$$InvChiSquare(y \mid \nu) = \frac{2^{-\nu/2}}{\Gamma(\nu/2)} y^{-\nu/2-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{y}\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ **inv_chi_square**(nu)

Increment target log probability density with inv_chi_square_lpdf(y | nu) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real inv_chi_square_lpdf(reals y | reals nu)

The log of the inverse Chi-square density of y given degrees of freedom nu

real inv_chi_square_cdf(reals y, reals nu)

The inverse Chi-squared cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu

real inv_chi_square_lcdf(reals y | reals nu)

The log of the inverse Chi-squared cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu

real inv_chi_square_lccdf(reals y | reals nu)

The log of the inverse Chi-squared complementary cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu

R inv_chi_square_rng(reals nu)

Generate an inverse Chi-squared variate with degrees of freedom nu; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.4. Scaled Inverse Chi-Square Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

ScaledInvChiSquare
$$(y|\nu,\sigma) = \frac{(\nu/2)^{\nu/2}}{\Gamma(\nu/2)} \sigma^{\nu} y^{-(\nu/2+1)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\nu\sigma^2\frac{1}{\nu}\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ scaled_inv_chi_square(nu, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with scaled_inv_chi_square_lpdf(y | nu, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real scaled_inv_chi_square_lpdf(reals y | reals nu, reals sigma)

The log of the scaled inverse Chi-square density of y given degrees of freedom nu and scale sigma

real scaled_inv_chi_square_cdf(reals y, reals nu, reals sigma)

The scaled inverse Chi-square cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu and scale sigma

real scaled_inv_chi_square_lcdf(reals y | reals nu, reals sigma)

The log of the scaled inverse Chi-square cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu and scale sigma

real scaled_inv_chi_square_lccdf(reals y | reals nu, reals sigma)

The log of the scaled inverse Chi-square complementary cumulative distribution function of y given degrees of freedom nu and scale sigma

R scaled_inv_chi_square_rng(reals nu, reals sigma)

Generate a scaled inverse Chi-squared variate with degrees of freedom nu and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.5. Exponential Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

Exponential($y|\beta$) = $\beta \exp(-\beta y)$.

Sampling Statement

y ~ exponential(beta)

Increment target log probability density with exponential_lpdf(y | beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real exponential_lpdf(reals y | reals beta)

The log of the exponential density of y given inverse scale beta

real exponential_cdf(reals y, reals beta)

The exponential cumulative distribution function of y given inverse scale beta

real exponential_lcdf(reals y | reals beta)

The log of the exponential cumulative distribution function of y given inverse scale beta

real exponential_lccdf(reals y | reals beta)

The log of the exponential complementary cumulative distribution function of y given inverse scale beta

R exponential_rng(reals beta)

Generate an exponential variate with inverse scale beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.6. Gamma Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

$$Gamma(y|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta y).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ gamma(alpha, beta)

Increment target log probability density with gamma_lpdf(y | alpha, beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real gamma_lpdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the gamma density of y given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

real gamma_cdf(reals y, reals alpha, reals beta)

The cumulative gamma distribution function of y given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

real gamma_lcdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the cumulative gamma distribution function of y given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

real gamma_lccdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the complementary cumulative gamma distribution function of y given shape alpha and inverse scale beta

R gamma_rng(reals alpha, reals beta)

Generate a gamma variate with shape alpha and inverse scale beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.7. Inverse Gamma Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

$$\operatorname{InvGamma}(y|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\beta^{\alpha}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \ y^{-(\alpha+1)} \ \exp\left(-\beta \, \frac{1}{y}\right).$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ inv_gamma(alpha, beta)

Increment target log probability density with inv_gamma_lpdf(y | alpha, beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real inv_gamma_lpdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the inverse gamma density of y given shape alpha and scale beta

real inv_gamma_cdf(reals y, reals alpha, reals beta)

The inverse gamma cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale beta

real inv_gamma_lcdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the inverse gamma cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale beta

real inv_gamma_lccdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the inverse gamma complementary cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale beta

R inv_gamma_rng(reals alpha, reals beta)

Generate an inverse gamma variate with shape alpha and scale beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.8. Weibull Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in [0, \infty)$,

Weibull
$$(y|\alpha,\sigma) = \frac{\alpha}{\sigma} \left(\frac{y}{\sigma}\right)^{\alpha-1} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{y}{\sigma}\right)^{\alpha}\right).$$

Note that if $Y \propto \text{Weibull}(\alpha, \sigma)$, then $Y^{-1} \propto \text{Frechet}(\alpha, \sigma^{-1})$.

Sampling Statement

y ~weibull(alpha, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with weibull_lpdf(y | alpha, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real weibull_lpdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals sigma)

The log of the Weibull density of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

real weibull_cdf(reals y, reals alpha, reals sigma)

The Weibull cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

real weibull_lcdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals sigma)

The log of the Weibull cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

real weibull_lccdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals sigma)

The log of the Weibull complementary cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

R weibull_rng(reals alpha, reals sigma)

Generate a weibull variate with shape alpha and scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

16.9. Frechet Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$,

Frechet
$$(y|\alpha,\sigma) = \frac{\alpha}{\sigma} \left(\frac{y}{\sigma}\right)^{-\alpha-1} \exp\left(-\left(\frac{y}{\sigma}\right)^{-\alpha}\right).$$

Note that if $Y \propto \operatorname{Frechet}(\alpha, \sigma)$, then $Y^{-1} \propto \operatorname{Weibull}(\alpha, \sigma^{-1})$.

Sampling Statement

y ~ frechet(alpha, sigma)

Increment target log probability density with frechet_lpdf(y | alpha, sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real frechet_lpdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals sigma)

The log of the Frechet density of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

real frechet_cdf(reals y, reals alpha, reals sigma)

The Frechet cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

real frechet_lcdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals sigma)

The log of the Frechet cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

real frechet_lccdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals sigma)

The log of the Frechet complementary cumulative distribution function of y given shape alpha and scale sigma

R frechet_rng(reals alpha, reals sigma)

Generate an Frechet variate with shape alpha and scale sigma; may only be used in

generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

17. Non-negative Continuous Distributions

The non-negative continuous probability functions have support on the non-negative real numbers.

17.1. Rayleigh Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $\gamma \in [0, \infty)$,

Rayleigh(
$$y|\sigma$$
) = $\frac{y}{\sigma^2} \exp(-y^2/2\sigma^2)$.

Sampling Statement

y ~ rayleigh(sigma)

Increment target log probability density with $rayleigh_lpdf(y \mid sigma)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real rayleigh_lpdf(reals y | reals sigma)

The log of the Rayleigh density of y given scale sigma

real rayleigh_cdf(real y, real sigma)

The Rayleigh cumulative distribution of y given scale sigma

real rayleigh_lcdf(real y | real sigma)

The log of the Rayleigh cumulative distribution of y given scale sigma

real rayleigh_lccdf(real y | real sigma)

The log of the Rayleigh complementary cumulative distribution of y given scale sigma

R rayleigh_rng(reals sigma)

Generate a Rayleigh variate with scale sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

17.2. Wiener First Passage Time Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $\tau \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $\beta \in [0,1]$ and $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$, then for $\gamma > \tau$,

$$\text{Wiener}(y|\alpha,\tau,\beta,\delta) = \frac{\alpha^3}{(y-\tau)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\delta\alpha\beta - \frac{\delta^2(y-\tau)}{2}\right) \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} (2k+\beta)\phi\left(\frac{2k\alpha+\beta}{\sqrt{y-\tau}}\right)$$

where $\phi(x)$ denotes the standard normal density function; see (Feller 1968), (Navarro and Fuss 2009).

Sampling Statement

y ~wiener(alpha, tau, beta, delta)

Increment target log probability density with wiener_lpdf(y | alpha, tau, beta, delta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real wiener_lpdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals tau, reals beta, reals
delta)

The log of the Wiener first passage time density of y given boundary separation alpha, non-decision time tau, a-priori bias beta and drift rate delta

Boundaries

Stan returns the first passage time of the accumulation process over the upper boundary only. To get the result for the lower boundary, use

wiener(
$$y | \alpha, \tau, 1 - \beta, -\delta$$
)

For more details, see the appendix of Vandekerckhove and Wabersich (2014).

18. Positive Lower-Bounded Probabilities

The positive lower-bounded probabilities have support on real values above some positive minimum value.

18.1. Pareto Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $y_{\min} \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ with $y \ge y_{\min}$,

Pareto(
$$y|y_{\min}, \alpha$$
) = $\frac{\alpha y_{\min}^{\alpha}}{y^{\alpha+1}}$.

Sampling Statement

y ~ pareto(y_min, alpha)

Increment target log probability density with pareto_lpdf(y | y_min, alpha) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real pareto_lpdf(reals y | reals y_min, reals alpha)

The log of the Pareto density of y given positive minimum value y_min and shape alpha

real pareto_cdf(reals y, reals y_min, reals alpha)

The Pareto cumulative distribution function of y given positive minimum value y_min and shape alpha

real pareto_lcdf(reals y | reals y_min, reals alpha)

The log of the Pareto cumulative distribution function of y given positive minimum value y_min and shape alpha

real pareto_lccdf(reals y | reals y_min, reals alpha)

The log of the Pareto complementary cumulative distribution function of y given positive minimum value y_min and shape alpha

R pareto_rng(reals y_min, reals alpha)

Generate a Pareto variate with positive minimum value y_min and shape alpha; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

18.2. Pareto Type 2 Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$, and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \ge \mu$,

Pareto_Type_2(
$$y|\mu, \lambda, \alpha$$
) = $\frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \left(1 + \frac{y - \mu}{\lambda}\right)^{-(\alpha + 1)}$.

Note that the Lomax distribution is a Pareto Type 2 distribution with $\mu = 0$.

Sampling Statement

y ~ pareto_type_2(mu, lambda, alpha)

Increment target log probability density with pareto_type_2_lpdf(y | mu, lambda, alpha) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real pareto_type_2_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals lambda, reals
alpha)

The log of the Pareto Type 2 density of y given location mu, scale lambda, and shape alpha

real pareto_type_2_cdf(reals y, reals mu, reals lambda, reals alpha) The Pareto Type 2 cumulative distribution function of y given location mu, scale lambda, and shape alpha

real pareto_type_2_lcdf(reals y | reals mu, reals lambda, reals alpha)

The log of the Pareto Type 2 cumulative distribution function of y given location mu, scale lambda, and shape alpha

real pareto_type_2_lccdf(reals y | reals mu, reals lambda, reals alpha)

The log of the Pareto Type 2 complementary cumulative distribution function of y given location mu, scale lambda, and shape alpha

R pareto_type_2_rng(reals mu, reals lambda, reals alpha)

Generate a Pareto Type 2 variate with location mu, scale lambda, and shape alpha; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

19. Continuous Distributions on [0, 1]

The continuous distributions with outcomes in the interval [0, 1] are used to characterized bounded quantities, including probabilities.

19.1. Beta Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $\theta \in (0,1)$,

Beta
$$(\theta | \alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} \theta^{\alpha - 1} (1 - \theta)^{\beta - 1},$$

where the beta function B() is as defined in section combinatorial functions.

Warning: If $\theta = 0$ or $\theta = 1$, then the probability is 0 and the log probability is $-\infty$. Similarly, the distribution requires strictly positive parameters, $\alpha, \beta > 0$.

Sampling Statement

theta ~ beta(alpha, beta)

Increment target log probability density with beta_lpdf(theta | alpha, beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real beta_lpdf(reals theta | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the beta density of theta in [0, 1] given positive prior successes (plus one) alpha and prior failures (plus one) beta

real beta_cdf(reals theta, reals alpha, reals beta)

The beta cumulative distribution function of theta in [0,1] given positive prior successes (plus one) alpha and prior failures (plus one) beta

real beta_lcdf(reals theta | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the beta cumulative distribution function of theta in [0,1] given positive prior successes (plus one) alpha and prior failures (plus one) beta

real beta_lccdf(reals theta | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the beta complementary cumulative distribution function of theta in [0, 1] given positive prior successes (plus one) alpha and prior failures (plus one) beta

R beta_rng(reals alpha, reals beta)

Generate a beta variate with positive prior successes (plus one) alpha and prior failures

(plus one) beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

19.2. Beta Proportion Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in (0,1)$ and $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $\theta \in (0,1)$,

Beta_Proportion
$$(\theta | \mu, \kappa) = \frac{1}{B(\mu \kappa, (1 - \mu) \kappa)} \theta^{\mu \kappa - 1} (1 - \theta)^{(1 - \mu) \kappa - 1},$$

where the beta function B() is as defined in section combinatorial functions.

Warning: If $\theta = 0$ or $\theta = 1$, then the probability is 0 and the log probability is $-\infty$. Similarly, the distribution requires $\mu \in (0,1)$ and strictly positive parameter, $\kappa > 0$.

Sampling Statement

theta ~ beta_proportion(mu, kappa)

Increment target log probability density with beta_proportion_lpdf(theta | mu, kappa) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real $beta_proportion_lpdf$ (reals theta | reals mu, reals kappa) The log of the beta_proportion density of theta in (0,1) given mean mu and precision kappa

real $beta_proportion_lcdf(reals\ theta\ |\ reals\ mu,\ reals\ kappa)$ The log of the beta_proportion cumulative distribution function of theta in (0,1) given mean mu and precision kappa

real **beta_proportion_lccdf**(reals theta \mid reals mu, reals kappa) The log of the beta_proportion complementary cumulative distribution function of theta in (0,1) given mean mu and precision kappa

R beta_proportion_rng(reals mu, reals kappa)

Generate a beta_proportion variate with mean mu and precision kappa; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

20. Circular Distributions

Circular distributions are defined for finite values y in any interval of length 2π .

20.1. Von Mises Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}$,

VonMises
$$(y|\mu, \kappa) = \frac{\exp(\kappa \cos(y - \mu))}{2\pi I_0(\kappa)}$$
.

In order for this density to properly normalize, y must be restricted to some interval $(c, c + 2\pi)$ of length 2π , because

$$\int_{c}^{c+2\pi} \text{VonMises}(y|\mu,\kappa)dy = 1.$$

Similarly, if μ is a parameter, it will typically be restricted to the same range as y.

A von Mises distribution with its 2π interval of support centered around its location μ will have a single mode at μ ; for example, restricting y to $(-\pi,\pi)$ and taking $\mu=0$ leads to a single local optimum at the model μ . If the location μ is not in the center of the support, the density is circularly translated and there will be a second local maximum at the boundary furthest from the mode. Ideally, the parameterization and support will be set up so that the bulk of the probability mass is in a continuous interval around the mean μ .

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with von_mises_lpdf(y | mu, kappa) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

R von_mises_lpdf(reals y | reals mu, reals kappa)

The log of the von mises density of y given location mu and scale kappa. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized function signatures.

R von_mises_rng(reals mu, reals kappa)

Generate a Von Mises variate with location mu and scale kappa (i.e. returns values in the interval $[(\mu \mod 2\pi) - \pi, (\mu \mod 2\pi) + \pi]$); may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

Numerical Stability

Evaluating the Von Mises distribution for $\kappa > 100$ is numerically unstable in the current implementation. Nathanael I.

Lichti suggested the following workaround on the Stan users group, based on the fact that as $\kappa \to \infty$,

VonMises
$$(y|\mu,\kappa) \rightarrow \text{Normal}(\mu,\sqrt{1/\kappa})$$
.

The workaround is to replace y ~ von_mises(mu, kappa) with

```
if (kappa < 100)
  y ~ von_mises(mu, kappa);
else
  y ~ normal(mu, sqrt(1 / kappa));</pre>
```

21. Bounded Continuous Probabilities

The bounded continuous probabilities have support on a finite interval of real numbers.

21.1. Uniform Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\beta \in (\alpha, \infty)$, then for $y \in [\alpha, \beta]$,

$$\mathrm{Uniform}(y|\alpha,\beta) = \frac{1}{\beta - \alpha}.$$

Sampling Statement

y ~ uniform(alpha, beta)

Increment target log probability density with uniform_lpdf(y | alpha, beta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real uniform_lpdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the uniform density of y given lower bound alpha and upper bound beta

real uniform_cdf(reals y, reals alpha, reals beta)

The uniform cumulative distribution function of y given lower bound alpha and upper bound beta

real uniform_lcdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the uniform cumulative distribution function of y given lower bound alpha and upper bound beta

real uniform_lccdf(reals y | reals alpha, reals beta)

The log of the uniform complementary cumulative distribution function of y given lower bound alpha and upper bound beta

Runiform_rng(reals alpha, reals beta)

Generate a uniform variate with lower bound alpha and upper bound beta; may only be used in generated quantities block. For a description of argument and return types, see section vectorized PRNG functions.

22. Distributions over Unbounded Vectors

The unbounded vector probability distributions have support on all of \mathbb{R}^K for some fixed K.

22.1. Multivariate Normal Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^K$, and $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ is symmetric and positive definite, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^K$,

$$\text{MultiNormal}(y|\mu,\Sigma) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{K/2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(y-\mu)^{\top} \Sigma^{-1} (y-\mu)\right),$$

where $|\Sigma|$ is the absolute determinant of Σ .

Sampling Statement

y ~ multi_normal(mu, Sigma)

Increment target log probability density with multi_normal_lpdf(y | mu, Sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

The multivariate normal probability function is overloaded to allow the variate vector y and location vector μ to be vectors or row vectors (or to mix the two types). The density function is also vectorized, so it allows arrays of row vectors or vectors as arguments; see section vectorized function signatures for a description of vectorization.

real multi_normal_lpdf(vectors y | vectors mu, matrix Sigma)
The log of the multivariate normal density of vector(s) y given location vector(s) mu and covariance matrix Sigma

real multi_normal_lpdf(vectors y | row_vectors mu, matrix Sigma)
The log of the multivariate normal density of vector(s) y given location row vector(s) mu and covariance matrix Sigma

real multi_normal_lpdf(row_vectors y | vectors mu, matrix Sigma)
The log of the multivariate normal density of row vector(s) y given location vector(s)
mu and covariance matrix Sigma

real multi_normal_lpdf(row_vectors y | row_vectors mu, matrix Sigma) The log of the multivariate normal density of row vector(s) y given location row vector(s) mu and covariance matrix Sigma

Although there is a direct multi-normal RNG function, if more than one result is required, it's much more efficient to Cholesky factor the covariance matrix and call multi_normal_cholesky_rng; see section multi-variate normal, cholesky parameterization.

vector multi_normal_rng(vector mu, matrix Sigma)

Generate a multivariate normal variate with location mu and covariance matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

vector multi_normal_rng(row_vector mu, matrix Sigma)

Generate a multivariate normal variate with location mu and covariance matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

vectors multi_normal_rng(vectors mu, matrix Sigma)

Generate an array of multivariate normal variates with locations mu and covariance matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

vectors multi_normal_rng(row_vectors mu, matrix Sigma)

Generate an array of multivariate normal variates with locations mu and covariance matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

22.2. Multivariate Normal Distribution, Precision Parameterization Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^K$, and $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ is symmetric and positive definite, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^K$, MultiNormalPrecision $(y|\mu,\Omega) = \text{MultiNormal}(y|\mu,\Omega^{-1})$

Sampling Statement

```
y ~ multi_normal_prec(mu, Omega)
```

Increment target log probability density with multi_normal_prec_lpdf(y | mu,
Omega) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real multi_normal_prec_lpdf(vectors y | vectors mu, matrix Omega) The log of the multivariate normal density of vector(s) y given location vector(s) mu and positive definite precision matrix Omega

real multi_normal_prec_lpdf(vectors y | row_vectors mu, matrix Omega) The log of the multivariate normal density of vector(s) y given location row vector(s) mu and positive definite precision matrix Omega

real multi_normal_prec_lpdf(row_vectors y | vectors mu, matrix Omega) The log of the multivariate normal density of row vector(s) y given location vector(s) mu and positive definite precision matrix Omega

real multi_normal_prec_lpdf(row_vectors y | row_vectors mu, matrix Omega)

The log of the multivariate normal density of row vector(s) y given location row vector(s) mu and positive definite precision matrix Omega

22.3. Multivariate Normal Distribution, Cholesky Parameterization Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^K$, and $L \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ is lower triangular and such that LL^{\top} is positive definite, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^K$,

MultiNormalCholesky $(y|\mu, L) = MultiNormal(y|\mu, LL^{\top}).$

If L is lower triangular and LL^{top} is a $K \times K$ positive definite matrix, then $L_{k,k}$ must be strictly positive for $k \in 1:K$. If an L is provided that is not the Cholesky factor of a positive-definite matrix, the probability functions will raise errors.

Sampling Statement

y ~ multi_normal_cholesky(mu, L)

Increment target log probability density with multi_normal_cholesky_lpdf(y | mu, L) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real multi_normal_cholesky_lpdf(vectors y | vectors mu, matrix L) The log of the multivariate normal density of vector(s) y given location vector(s) mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L

real $multi_normal_cholesky_lpdf(vectors\ y\ |\ row_vectors\ mu$, matrix L) The log of the multivariate normal density of vector(s) y given location row vector(s) mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L

real multi_normal_cholesky_lpdf(row_vectors y | vectors mu, matrix L) The log of the multivariate normal density of row vector(s) y given location vector(s) mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L

real multi_normal_cholesky_lpdf(row_vectors y | row_vectors mu,
matrix L)

The log of the multivariate normal density of row vector(s) y given location row vector(s) mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L

vector multi_normal_cholesky_rng(vector mu, matrix L)

Generate a multivariate normal variate with location mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L; may only be used in generated quantities block

vector multi_normal_cholesky_rng(row_vector mu, matrix L)

Generate a multivariate normal variate with location mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L; may only be used in generated quantities block

vectors multi_normal_cholesky_rng(vectors mu, matrix L)

Generate an array of multivariate normal variates with locations mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L; may only be used in generated quantities block

vectors multi_normal_cholesky_rng(row_vectors mu, matrix L)

Generate an array of multivariate normal variates with locations mu and lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the covariance matrix L; may only be used in generated quantities block

22.4. Multivariate Gaussian Process Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $K, N \in \mathbb{N}$, $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ is symmetric, positive definite kernel matrix and $w \in \mathbb{R}^K$ is a vector of positive inverse scales, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times N}$,

$$\text{MultiGP}(y|\Sigma, w) = \prod_{i=1}^{K} \text{MultiNormal}(y_i|0, w_i^{-1}\Sigma),$$

where y_i is the ith row of y. This is used to efficiently handle Gaussian Processes with multi-variate outputs where only the output dimensions share a kernel function but vary based on their scale. Note that this function does not take into account the mean prediction.

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with multi_gp_lpdf(y | Sigma, w) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real multi_gp_lpdf(matrix y | matrix Sigma, vector w)

The log of the multivariate GP density of matrix y given kernel matrix Sigma and inverses scales w

22.5. Multivariate Gaussian Process Distribution, Cholesky parameterization

Probability Density Function

If $K, N \in \mathbb{N}$, $L \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ is lower triangular and such that LL^{\top} is positive definite kernel matrix (implying $L_{n,n} > 0$ for $n \in 1:N$), and $w \in \mathbb{R}^K$ is a vector of positive inverse

scales, then for $y \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times N}$,

$$\text{MultiGPCholesky}(y \mid L, w) = \prod_{i=1}^{K} \text{MultiNormal}(y_i | 0, w_i^{-1} L L^{\top}),$$

where y_i is the ith row of y. This is used to efficiently handle Gaussian Processes with multi-variate outputs where only the output dimensions share a kernel function but vary based on their scale. If the model allows parameterization in terms of Cholesky factor of the kernel matrix, this distribution is also more efficient than MultiGP(). Note that this function does not take into account the mean prediction.

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with $multi_gp_cholesky_lpdf(y | L, w)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real multi_gp_cholesky_lpdf(matrix y | matrix L, vector w)

The log of the multivariate GP density of matrix y given lower-triangular Cholesky factor of the kernel matrix L and inverses scales w

22.6. Multivariate Student-T Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^K$, and $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ is symmetric and positive definite, then for $\nu \in \mathbb{R}^K$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{MultiStudentT}(y \mid v, \, \mu, \, \Sigma) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^{K/2}} \, \, \frac{1}{v^{K/2}} \, \frac{\Gamma((v + K)/2)}{\Gamma(v/2)} \, \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\Sigma|}} \, \left(1 + \frac{1}{v} \, \left(y - \mu \right)^\top \, \Sigma^{-1} \, \left(y - \mu \right) \right)^{-(v + K)/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with multi_student_t_lpdf(y | nu, mu, Sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real multi_student_t_lpdf(vectors y | real nu, vectors mu, matrix Sigma)

The log of the multivariate Student-*t* density of vector(s) y given degrees of freedom nu, location vector(s) mu, and scale matrix Sigma

real multi_student_t_lpdf(vectors y | real nu, row_vectors mu, matrix
Sigma)

The log of the multivariate Student-*t* density of vector(s) y given degrees of freedom nu, location row vector(s) mu, and scale matrix Sigma

real multi_student_t_lpdf(row_vectors y | real nu, vectors mu, matrix
Sigma)

The log of the multivariate Student-*t* density of row vector(s) y given degrees of freedom nu, location vector(s) mu, and scale matrix Sigma

real multi_student_t_lpdf(row_vectors y | real nu, row_vectors mu,
matrix Sigma)

The log of the multivariate Student-*t* density of row vector(s) y given degrees of freedom nu, location row vector(s) mu, and scale matrix Sigma

vector multi_student_t_rng(real nu, vector mu, matrix Sigma)

Generate a multivariate Student-*t* variate with degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

vector multi_student_t_rng(real nu, row_vector mu, matrix Sigma)
Generate a multivariate Student-t variate with degrees of freedom nu, location mu, and scale matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

vectors multi_student_t_rng(real nu, vectors mu, matrix Sigma)
Generate an array of multivariate Student-t variates with degrees of freedom nu, locations mu, and scale matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

vectors **multi_student_t_rng**(real nu, row_vectors mu, matrix Sigma) Generate an array of multivariate Student-*t* variates with degrees of freedom nu, locations mu, and scale matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

22.7. Gaussian Dynamic Linear Models

A Gaussian Dynamic Linear model is defined as follows, For $t \in 1, ..., T$,

$$y_t \sim N(F'\theta_t, V)$$

 $\theta_t \sim N(G\theta_{t-1}, W)$
 $\theta_0 \sim N(m_0, C_0)$

where y is $n \times T$ matrix where rows are variables and columns are observations. These functions calculate the log-likelihood of the observations marginalizing over the latent states ($p(y|F,G,V,W,m_0,C_0)$). This log-likelihood is a system that is calculated using the Kalman Filter. If V is diagonal, then a more efficient algorithm which sequentially processes observations and avoids a matrix inversions can be used (Durbin and Koopman 2001, sec. 6.4).

Sampling Statement

```
y ~ gaussian_dlm_obs(F, G, V, W, m0, C0)
```

Increment target log probability density with gaussian_dlm_obs_lpdf(y | F, G, V, W, m0, C0) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

The following two functions differ in the type of their V, the first taking a full observation covariance matrix V and the second a vector V representing the diagonal of the observation covariance matrix. The sampling statement defined in the previous section works with either type of observation V.

real gaussian_dlm_obs_lpdf(matrix y | matrix F, matrix G, matrix V,
matrix W, vector m0, matrix C0)

The log of the density of the Gaussian Dynamic Linear model with observation matrix y in which rows are variables and columns are observations, design matrix F, transition matrix G, observation covariance matrix V, system covariance matrix W, and the initial state is distributed normal with mean m0 and covariance CO.

real gaussian_dlm_obs_lpdf(matrix y | matrix F, matrix G, vector V,
matrix W, vector m0, matrix C0)

The log of the density of the Gaussian Dynamic Linear model with observation matrix y in which rows are variables and columns are observations, design matrix F, transition matrix G, observation covariance matrix with diagonal V, system covariance matrix W, and the initial state is distributed normal with mean m0 and covariance C0.

23. Simplex Distributions

The simplex probabilities have support on the unit *K*-simplex for a specified *K*. A *K*-dimensional vector θ is a unit *K*-simplex if $\theta_k \ge 0$ for $k \in \{1, ..., K\}$ and $\sum_{k=1}^K \theta_k = 1$.

23.1. Dirichlet Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\alpha \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^K$, then for $\theta \in K$ -simplex,

$$Dirichlet(\theta|\alpha) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \alpha_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(\alpha_k)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{\alpha_k - 1}.$$

Warning: If any of the components of θ satisfies $\theta_i = 0$ or $\theta_i = 1$, then the probability is 0 and the log probability is $-\infty$. Similarly, the distribution requires strictly positive parameters, with $\alpha_i > 0$ for each i.

Meaning of Dirichlet Parameters

A symmetric Dirichlet prior is $[\alpha, ..., \alpha]^{\mathsf{T}}$. To code this in Stan,

```
data {
  int<lower = 1> K;
  real<lower = 0> alpha;
}
generated quantities {
  vector[K] theta = dirichlet_rng(rep_vector(alpha, K));
}
```

Taking K = 10, here are the first five draws for $\alpha = 0.001$. For $\alpha = 1$, the distribution is uniform over simplexes.

```
1) 0.17 0.05 0.07 0.17 0.03 0.13 0.03 0.03 0.27 0.05
2) 0.08 0.02 0.12 0.07 0.52 0.01 0.07 0.04 0.01 0.06
3) 0.02 0.03 0.22 0.29 0.17 0.10 0.09 0.00 0.05 0.03
4) 0.04 0.03 0.21 0.13 0.04 0.01 0.10 0.04 0.22 0.18
5) 0.11 0.22 0.02 0.01 0.06 0.18 0.33 0.04 0.01 0.01
```

That does not mean it's uniform over the marginal probabilities of each element. As the size of the simplex grows, the marginal draws become more and more concentrated below (not around) 1/K. When one component of the simplex is large, the others

must all be relatively small to compensate. For example, in a uniform distribution on 10-simplexes, the probability that a component is greater than the mean of 1/10 is only 39%. Most of the posterior marginal probability mass for each component is in the interval (0,0.1).

When the α value is small, the draws gravitate to the corners of the simplex. Here are the first five draws for $\alpha = 0.001$.

- 1) 3e-203 0e+00 2e-298 9e-106 1e+000 0e+00 0e+000 1e-047 0e+00 4e-279
- 2) 1e+000 0e+00 5e-279 2e-014 1e-275 0e+00 3e-285 9e-147 0e+00 0e+000
- 3) 1e-308 0e+00 1e-213 0e+000 0e+000 8e-75 0e+000 1e+000 4e-58 7e-112
- 4) 6e-166 5e-65 3e-068 3e-147 0e+000 1e+00 3e-249 0e+000 0e+00 0e+000
- 5) 2e-091 0e+00 0e+000 0e+000 1e-060 0e+00 4e-312 1e+000 0e+00 0e+000

Each row denotes a draw. Each draw has a single value that rounds to one and other values that are very close to zero or rounded down to zero.

As α increases, the draws become increasingly uniform. For $\alpha = 1000$,

Sampling Statement

theta ~ dirichlet(alpha)

Increment target log probability density with dirichlet_lpdf(theta | alpha) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real dirichlet_lpdf(vector theta | vector alpha)

The log of the Dirichlet density for simplex theta given prior counts (plus one) alpha

vector dirichlet_rng(vector alpha)

Generate a Dirichlet variate with prior counts (plus one) alpha; may only be used in generated quantities block

24. Correlation Matrix Distributions

The correlation matrix distributions have support on the (Cholesky factors of) correlation matrices. A Cholesky factor L for a $K \times K$ correlation matrix Σ of dimension K has rows of unit length so that the diagonal of LL^{\top} is the unit K-vector. Even though models are usually conceptualized in terms of correlation matrices, it is better to operationalize them in terms of their Cholesky factors. If you are interested in the posterior distribution of the correlations, you can recover them in the generated quantities block via

```
generated quantities {
  corr_matrix[K] Sigma;
  Sigma = multiply_lower_tri_self_transpose(L);
}
```

24.1. LKJ Correlation Distribution

Probability Density Function

For $\eta > 0$, if Σ a positive-definite, symmetric matrix with unit diagonal (i.e., a correlation matrix), then

$$LkjCorr(\Sigma|\eta) \propto det(\Sigma)^{(\eta-1)}$$
.

The expectation is the identity matrix for any positive value of the shape parameter η , which can be interpreted like the shape parameter of a symmetric beta distribution:

- · if $\eta = 1$, then the density is uniform over correlation matrices of order K;
- if $\eta > 1$, the identity matrix is the modal correlation matrix, with a sharper peak in the density at the identity matrix for larger η ; and
- · for $0 < \eta < 1$, the density has a trough at the identity matrix.
- · if η were an unknown parameter, the Jeffreys prior is proportional to $\sqrt{2\sum_{k=1}^{K-1}\left(\psi_1\left(\eta+\frac{K-k-1}{2}\right)-2\psi_1\left(2\eta+K-k-1\right)\right)}$, where $\psi_1()$ is the trigamma function

See (Lewandowski, Kurowicka, and Joe 2009) for definitions. However, it is much better computationally to work directly with the Cholesky factor of Σ , so this distribution should never be explicitly used in practice.

Sampling Statement

Increment target log probability density with $lkj_corr_lpdf(y \mid eta)$ dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

The log of the LKJ density for the correlation matrix y given nonnegative shape eta. The only reason to use this density function is if you want the code to run slower and consume more memory with more risk of numerical errors. Use its Cholesky factor as described in the next section.

matrix lkj_corr_rng(int K, real eta)

Generate a LKJ random correlation matrix of order K with shape eta; may only be used in generated quantities block

24.2. Cholesky LKJ Correlation Distribution

Stan provides an implicit parameterization of the LKJ correlation matrix density in terms of its Cholesky factor, which you should use rather than the explicit parameterization in the previous section. For example, if L is a Cholesky factor of a correlation matrix, then

Because Stan requires models to have support on all valid constrained parameters, L will almost always¹ be a parameter declared with the type of a Cholesky factor for a correlation matrix; for example,

parameters { cholesky_factor_corr[K] L; # rather than corr_matrix[K] S

Probability Density Function

For $\eta > 0$, if L is a $K \times K$ lower-triangular Cholesky factor of a symmetric positive-definite matrix with unit diagonal (i.e., a correlation matrix), then

$$\text{LkjCholesky}(L|\eta) \propto |J| \det(LL^{\top})^{(\eta-1)} = \prod_{k=2}^{K} L_{kk}^{K-k+2\eta-2}.$$

See the previous section for details on interpreting the shape parameter η . Note that even if $\eta=1$, it is still essential to evaluate the density function because the density of L is not constant, regardless of the value of η , even though the density of LL^{\top} is constant iff $\eta=1$.

¹It is possible to build up a valid L within Stan, but that would then require Jacobian adjustments to imply the intended posterior.

A lower triangular L is a Cholesky factor for a correlation matrix if and only if $L_{k,k} > 0$ for $k \in 1:K$ and each row L_k has unit Euclidean length.

Sampling Statement

L ~ lkj_corr_cholesky(eta)

Increment target log probability density with lkj_corr_cholesky_lpdf(L | eta) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

```
real lkj_corr_cholesky_lpdf(matrix L | real eta)
```

The log of the LKJ density for the lower-triangular Cholesky factor L of a correlation matrix given shape eta.

```
matrix lkj_corr_cholesky_rng(int K, real eta)
```

Generate a random Cholesky factor of a correlation matrix of order K that is distributed LKJ with shape eta; may only be used in generated quantities block

25. Covariance Matrix Distributions

The covariance matrix distributions have support on symmetric, positive-definite $K \times K$ matrices.

25.1. Wishart Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $v \in (K - 1, \infty)$, and $S \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ is symmetric and positive definite, then for symmetric and positive-definite $W \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$,

$$\text{Wishart}(W|\nu,S) = \frac{1}{2^{\nu K/2}} \; \frac{1}{\Gamma_{K}\left(\frac{\nu}{2}\right)} \; |S|^{-\nu/2} \; |W|^{(\nu-K-1)/2} \; \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \; \text{tr}\left(S^{-1}W\right)\right),$$

where tr() is the matrix trace function, and Γ_K () is the multivariate Gamma function,

$$\Gamma_K(x) = \frac{1}{\pi^{K(K-1)/4}} \prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma\left(x + \frac{1-k}{2}\right).$$

Sampling Statement

W ~ wishart(nu, Sigma)

Increment target log probability density with wishart_lpdf(W | nu, Sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real wishart_lpdf(matrix W | real nu, matrix Sigma)

The log of the Wishart density for symmetric and positive-definite matrix W given degrees of freedom nu and symmetric and positive-definite scale matrix Sigma

matrix wishart_rng(real nu, matrix Sigma)

Generate a Wishart variate with degrees of freedom nu and symmetric and positivedefinite scale matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

25.2. Inverse Wishart Distribution

Probability Density Function

If $K \in \mathbb{N}$, $\nu \in (K - 1, \infty)$, and $S \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$ is symmetric and positive definite, then for symmetric and positive-definite $W \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$,

$$\text{InvWishart}(W|\nu,S) = \frac{1}{2^{\nu K/2}} \frac{1}{\Gamma_K\left(\frac{\nu}{2}\right)} |S|^{\nu/2} |W|^{-(\nu+K+1)/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr}(SW^{-1})\right).$$

Sampling Statement

W ~ inv_wishart(nu, Sigma)

Increment target log probability density with inv_wishart_1pdf(W | nu, Sigma) dropping constant additive terms.

Stan Functions

real inv_wishart_lpdf(matrix W | real nu, matrix Sigma)

The log of the inverse Wishart density for symmetric and positive-definite matrix W given degrees of freedom nu and symmetric and positive-definite scale matrix Sigma

matrix inv_wishart_rng(real nu, matrix Sigma)

Generate an inverse Wishart variate with degrees of freedom nu and symmetric and positive-definite scale matrix Sigma; may only be used in generated quantities block

Appendix

26. Mathematical Functions

This appendix provides the definition of several mathematical functions used throughout the manual.

26.1. Beta

The beta function, $B(\alpha, \beta)$, computes the normalizing constant for the beta distribution, and is defined for a > 0 and b > 0 by

$$B(a,b) = \int_0^1 u^{a-1} (1-u)^{b-1} du = \frac{\Gamma(a) \Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}.$$

26.2. Incomplete Beta

The incomplete beta function, B(x; a, b), is defined for $x \in [0, 1]$ and $a, b \ge 0$ such that $a + b \ne 0$ by

$$B(x; a,b) = \int_0^x u^{a-1} (1-u)^{b-1} du,$$
 '<

where B(a,b) is the beta function defined in appendix. If x=1, the incomplete beta function reduces to the beta function, B(1;a,b)=B(a,b).

The regularized incomplete beta function divides the incomplete beta function by the beta function,

$$I_X(a,b) = \frac{B(x; a,b)}{B(a,b)}.$$

26.3. Gamma

The gamma function, $\Gamma(x)$, is the generalization of the factorial function to continuous variables, defined so that for positive integers n,

$$\Gamma(n+1)=n!$$

Generalizing to all positive numbers and non-integer negative numbers,

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty u^{x-1} \exp(-u) \, n du.$$

26.4. Digamma

The digamma function Ψ is the derivative of the log Γ function,

$$\Psi(u) \ = \ \frac{d}{du} \log \Gamma(u) \ = \ \frac{1}{\Gamma(u)} \ \frac{d}{du} \Gamma(u).$$

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Index

abs	(T x): R, 18
(T x): R, 6	bernoulli
acos	sampling statement, 78
(T x): R, 17	bernoulli_cdf
acosh	(ints y, reals theta): real,78
(T x): R, 17	bernoulli_lccdf
algebra_solver	(ints y reals theta): real,78
(function algebra_system, vector	bernoulli_lcdf
<pre>y_guess, vector theta, real[]</pre>	(ints y reals theta): real,78
x_r, int[] x_i): vector, 63	bernoulli_logit
(function algebra_system, vector	sampling statement, 79
<pre>y_guess, vector theta, real[]</pre>	bernoulli_logit_glm
<pre>x_r, int[] x_i, real rel_tol,</pre>	sampling statement, 79
real f_tol, int max_steps):	bernoulli_logit_glm_lpmf
vector, 63	(int[] y matrix x, real alpha,
append_array	vector beta): real,80
(T x, T y): T,29	(int[] y matrix x, vector alpha,
append_col	vector beta): real,80
(matrix x, matrix y): matrix,43	bernoulli_logit_lpmf
(matrix x, vector y): matrix,43	(ints y reals alpha): real,79
<pre>(real x, row_vector y): row_vector,</pre>	bernoulli_logit_rng
44	(reals alpha): R,79
<pre>(row_vector x, real y): row_vector,</pre>	bernoulli_lpmf
. 44	(ints y reals theta): real,78
(row_vector x, row_vector y):	bernoulli_rng
row_vector, 44	(reals theta): R,78
(vector x, matrix y): matrix, 43	bessel_first_kind
(vector x, vector y): matrix,44	(int v, real x): real,21
append_row	bessel_second_kind
(matrix x, matrix y): matrix, 44	(int v, real x): real,21
(matrix x, row_vector y): matrix, 44	beta
(real x, vector y): vector, 44	sampling statement, 116
<pre>(row_vector x, matrix y): matrix,44 (row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>	beta_binomial sampling statement, 83
matrix, 44	beta_binomial_cdf
(vector x, real y): vector, 44	(ints n, ints N, reals alpha, reals
(vector x, vector y): vector, 44	beta): real, 83
asin	beta_binomial_lccdf
(T x): R, 17	(ints n ints N, reals alpha, reals
asinh	beta): real, 83
(T x): R, 17	beta_binomial_lcdf
atan	(ints n ints N, reals alpha, reals
(T x): R, 17	beta): real, 83
atan2	beta_binomial_lpmf
(real y, real x): real,17	(ints n ints N, reals alpha, reals
atanh	beta): real, 83
	,

beta_binomial_rng	binomial_logit_lpmf
(ints N, reals alpha, reals beta):	(ints n ints N, reals alpha):
R, 83	real, 83
beta_cdf	binomial_rng
(reals theta, reals alpha, reals	(ints N, reals theta): R,82
beta): real, 116	block
beta_lccdf	(matrix x, int i, int j, int n_rows,
(reals theta reals alpha, reals	int n_cols): matrix,42
beta): real,116	categorical
beta_lcdf	sampling statement, 84
(reals theta reals alpha, reals	categorical_logit
beta): real, 116	sampling statement, 85
beta_1pdf	categorical_logit_lpmf
(reals theta reals alpha, reals	(ints y vector beta): real, 85
beta): real, 116	categorical_logit_rng
beta_proportion	(vector beta): int, 85
sampling statement, 117	categorical_lpmf
beta_proportion_lccdf	(ints y vector theta): real, 85
(reals theta reals mu, reals	categorical_rng
kappa): real, 117	(vector theta): int,85
beta_proportion_lcdf	cauchy
(reals theta reals mu, reals	sampling statement, 100
kappa): real, 117	cauchy_cdf
beta_proportion_lpdf	(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma):
(reals theta reals mu, reals	real, 100
kappa): real, 117	cauchy_lccdf
beta_proportion_rng	(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):
(reals mu, reals kappa): R,117	real, 100
beta_rng	cauchy_1cdf
_	(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):
(reals alpha, reals beta): R, 116	
binary_log_loss	real, 100
(int y, real y_hat): real, 19	cauchy_lpdf
binomia_cdf	(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):
(ints n, ints N, reals theta): real,	real, 100
81 binomia_lccdf	<pre>cauchy_rng (reals mu, reals sigma): R,100</pre>
(ints n ints N, reals theta):	cbrt CT v.) . R 16
real, 82	(T x): R, 16
binomia_lcdf	ceil
(ints n ints N, reals theta):	(T x): R, 15
real, 81	chi_square
binomia_lpmf	sampling statement, 105
(ints n ints N, reals theta):	chi_square_cdf
real, 81	(reals y, reals nu): real, 105
binomial	chi_square_lccdf
sampling statement, 81	(reals y reals nu): real, 105
binomial_coefficient_log	chi_square_lcdf
(real x, real y): real, 20	(reals y reals nu): real, 105
binomial_logit	chi_square_lpdf
sampling statement, 82	(reals y reals nu): real,105

chi_square_rng	csr_to_dense_matrix
(reals nu): R, 105	(int m, int n, vector w, int[] v,
cholesky_decompose	int[] u): matrix,54
(matrix A): matrix, 51	cumulative_sum
choose	(real[] x): real[], 45
(int x, int y): int,20	<pre>(row_vector rv): row_vector, 45</pre>
col	(vector v): vector, 45
(matrix x, int n): vector,42	determinant
cols	(matrix A): real,49
(matrix x): int,32	diag_matrix
<pre>(row_vector x): int, 32</pre>	(vector x): matrix,41
(vector x): int, 32	diag_post_multiply
columns_dot_product	(matrix m, row_vector rv): matrix,38
<pre>(matrix x, matrix y): row_vector, 36</pre>	(matrix m, vector v): matrix,38
<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>	diag_pre_multiply
row_vector,36	(row_vector rv, matrix m): matrix,38
<pre>(vector x, vector y): row_vector, 36</pre>	(vector v, matrix m): matrix,38
columns_dot_self	diagonal
<pre>(matrix x): row_vector, 37</pre>	(matrix x): vector, 41
<pre>(row_vector x): row_vector, 37</pre>	digamma
<pre>(vector x): row_vector, 37</pre>	(T x): R, 19
cos	dims
(T x): R, 17	(T x): int[],28
cosh	dirichlet
(T x): R, 17	sampling statement, 129
cov_exp_quad	dirichlet_rng
(real[] x, real alpha, real rho):	(vector alpha): vector, 129
matrix, 46	distance
<pre>(real[] x1, real[] x2, real alpha,</pre>	<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y): real,</pre>
real rho): matrix,46	27
(row_vectors x, real alpha, real	<pre>(row_vector x, vector y): real, 27</pre>
rho): matrix, 46	(vector x, row_vector y): real, 27
<pre>(row_vectors x1, row_vectors x2,</pre>	(vector x, vector y): real, 26
real alpha, real rho): matrix,	dot_product
46	<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y): real,</pre>
(vectors x, real alpha, real rho):	36
matrix, 46	<pre>(row_vector x, vector y): real, 36</pre>
(vectors x1, vectors x2, real alpha,	(vector x, row_vector y): real, 36
real rho): matrix, 46	(vector x, vector y): real, 36
crossprod	dot_self
(matrix x): matrix, 37	(row_vector x): real, 37
csr_extract_u	(vector x): real, 37
(matrix a): int[], 54	double_exponential
csr_extract_v	sampling statement, 101
(matrix a): int[], 54	double_exponential_cdf
csr_extract_w	(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma):
(matrix a): vector, 54	real, 101
csr_matrix_times_vector	double_exponential_lccdf
(int m, int n, vector w, int[] v,	(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):
int[] u, vector b): vector,55	real, 101

double_exponential_lcdf	(real x, real n): real,21
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	fdim
real, 101	(real x, real y): real,14
double_exponential_lpdf	floor
<pre>(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):</pre>	(T x): R, 15
real, 101	fma
double_exponential_rng	(real x, real y, real z): real, 23
(reals mu, reals sigma): R,101	fmax
e	(real x, real y): real,15
(): real, 9	fmin
eigenvalues_sym	(real x, real y): real,15
(matrix A): vector, 49	fmod
eigenvectors_sym	(real x, real y): real,15
(matrix A): matrix, 49	frechet
erf	sampling statement, 110
	frechet_cdf
(T x): R, 18	
erfc (T). P. 10	(reals y, reals alpha, reals sigma):
(T x): R, 18	real, 110
exp	frechet_lccdf
(T x): R, 16	(reals y reals alpha, reals
exp2	sigma): real,110
(T x): R, 16	frechet_1cdf
exp_mod_normal	(reals y reals alpha, reals
sampling statement, 97	sigma): real,110
exp_mod_normal_cdf	frechet_1pdf
(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma,	(reals y reals alpha, reals
reals lambda): real,97	sigma): real,110
exp_mod_normal_lccdf	frechet_rng
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma,	(reals alpha, reals sigma): R,110
reals lambda): real,98	gamma
exp_mod_normal_rng	sampling statement, 108
(reals mu, reals sigma, reals	gamma_cdf
lambda): R,98	(reals y, reals alpha, reals beta):
expm1	real, 108
(T x): R, 23	gamma_lccdf
exponential	(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):
sampling statement, 107	real, 108
exponential_cdf	gamma_lcdf
(reals y, reals beta): real, 107	(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):
exponential_lccdf	real, 108
(reals y reals beta): real, 107	gamma_1pdf
exponential_lcdf	(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):
(reals y reals beta): real, 107	real, 108
exponential_lpdf	gamma_p
	•
• • •	(real a, real z): real,20
exponential_rng	<pre>gamma_q (real a, real z): real,20</pre>
(reals beta): R, 107	
fabs	gamma_rng
(T x): R, 14	(reals alpha, reals beta): R,108
falling_factorial	gaussian_dlm_obs

N	
sampling statement, 127	vector, 68
gaussian_dlm_obs_lpdf	integrate_ode
(matrix y matrix F, matrix G,	(function ode, real[] initial_state,
matrix V, matrix W, vector m0,	real initial_time, real[] times,
matrix CO): real, 127	real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[]
(matrix y matrix F, matrix G,	x_i): real[,],65
vector V, matrix W, vector m0,	integrate_ode_bdf
matrix CO): real,127	(function ode, real[] initial_state,
get_lp	real initial_time, real[] times,
(): real, 10	real[] theta, data real[] x_r,
gumbel sampling statement, 102	<pre>data int[] x_i): real[],65 (function ode, real[] initial_state,</pre>
gumbel_cdf	real initial_time, real[] times,
(reals y, reals mu, reals beta):	real[] theta, data real[] x_r,
real, 103	data int[] x_i, data real
gumbel_lccdf	rel_tol, data real abs_tol,
(reals y reals mu, reals beta):	dta int max_num_steps): real[],
real, 103	65
gumbel_lcdf	integrate_ode_rk45
(reals y reals mu, reals beta):	(function ode, real[] initial_state,
real, 103	real initial_time, real[] times,
gumbel_lpdf	real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[]
(reals y reals mu, reals beta):	x_i): real[,],65
real, 103	(function ode, real[] initial_state,
gumbel_rng	real initial_time, real[] times,
(reals mu, reals beta): R,103	real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[]
head	x_i, real rel_tol, real abs_tol,
(T[] sv, int n): T[],43	<pre>int max_num_steps): real[,],</pre>
<pre>(row_vector rv, int n): row_vector,</pre>	65
42	inv
(vector v, int n): vector, 42	(T x): R, 16
hypergeometric	inv_chi_square
sampling statement, 84	sampling statement, 105
hypergeometric_rng	inv_chi_square_cdf
(int N, int a, int2 b): int, 84	(reals y, reals nu): real,106
hypot	inv_chi_square_lccdf
(real x, real y): real, 17	(reals y reals nu): real, 106
inc_beta	inv_chi_square_lcdf
(real alpha, real beta, real x):	(reals y reals nu): real, 106
real, 19	inv_chi_square_lpdf
int_step	(reals y reals nu): real,106
(int x): int, 6	inv_chi_square_rng
<pre>(real x): int, 6 integrate_1d</pre>	(reals nu): R, 106 inv_cloglog
-	
<pre>(function integrand, real a, real b,</pre>	(T x): R, 18 inv_gamma
x_i): vector, 67	sampling statement, 109
(function integrand, real a, real b,	inv_gamma_cdf
real[] theta, real[] x_r, int[]	(reals y, reals alpha, reals beta):
x_i, real relative_tolerance):	real, 109
x_i, rear refactive_colorance).	1 641, 100

inv_gamma_lccdf	lkj_corr_rng
<pre>(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):</pre>	(int K, real eta): matrix,131
real, 109	lmgamma
inv_gamma_lcdf	(int n, real x): real,20
<pre>(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):</pre>	lmultiply
real, 109	(real x, real y): real,23
inv_gamma_lpdf	log
<pre>(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):</pre>	(T x): R, 16
real, 109	log10
inv_gamma_rng	(): real,9
(reals alpha, reals beta): R,109	(T x): R, 16
inv_logit	log1m
(T x): R, 18	(T x): R, 23
inv_phi	log1m_exp
(T x): R, 18	(T x): R, 23
inv_sqrt	log1m_inv_logit
(T x): R, 16	(T x): R, 24
inv_square	log1p
(T x): R, 16	(T x): R, 23
inv_wishart	log1p_exp
sampling statement, 134	(T x): R, 23
inv_wishart_lpdf	log2
(matrix W real nu, matrix Sigma):	(): real, 9
real, 134	(T x): R, 16
inv_wishart_rng	log_determinant
(real nu, matrix Sigma): matrix,134	(matrix A): real, 49
inverse	log_diff_exp
(matrix A): matrix, 49	(real x, real y): real,23
inverse_spd	log_falling_factorial
(matrix A): matrix, 49	(real x, real n): real,22
is_inf	log_inv_logit
(real x): int,13 is_nan	(T x): R, 24 log_mix
(real x): int, 13	(real theta, real lp1, real lp2):
lbeta	real, 24
(real alpha, real beta): real,19	log_rising_factorial
1choose	(real x, real n): real, 22
(real x, real y): real,22	log_softmax
Igamma	(vector x): vector, 45
(T x): R, 19	log_sum_exp
lkj_corr	(matrix x): real,39
sampling statement, 131	(real x, real y): real,24
lkj_corr_cholesky	(real[] x): real, 25
sampling statement, 132	(row_vector x): real,39
lkj_corr_cholesky_lpdf	(vector x): real, 39
(matrix L real eta): real, 132	logistic
lkj_corr_cholesky_rng	sampling statement, 102
(int K, real eta): matrix, 132	logistic_cdf
lkj_corr_lpdf	(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma):
(matrix y real eta): real,131	real, 102

logistic_lccdf	(matrix A, matrix B): matrix,47
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	(matrix A, vector b): vector, 47
real, 102	mdivide_right_spd
logistic_lcdf	(matrix B, matrix A): matrix,48
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	<pre>(row_vector b, matrix A): row_vector</pre>
real, 102	48
logistic_lpdf	mdivide_right_tri_low
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	(matrix B, matrix A): matrix, 47
real, 102	(row_vector b, matrix A): row_vector
logistic_rng	47
(reals mu, reals sigma): R,102	mean
logit	(matrix x): real,40
(T x): R, 18	(real[] x): real, 26
lognormal	(row_vector x): real, 40
sampling statement, 104	(vector x): real, 40
lognormal_cdf	min
_	
(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma):	(int x, int y): int, 6
real, 104	(int[] x): int, 25
lognormal_lccdf	(matrix x): real,39
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	(real[] x): real, 25
real, 104	(row_vector x): real, 39
lognormal_lcdf	(vector x): real, 39
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	modified_bessel_first_kind
real, 104	(int v, real z): real,21
lognormal_lpdf	modified_bessel_second_kind
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	(int v, real z): real,21
real, 104	multi_gp
lognormal_rng	sampling statement, 124
(reals mu, reals beta): R,104	multi_gp_cholesky
machine_precision	sampling statement, 125
(): real,9	multi_gp_cholesky_lpdf
map_rect	(matrix y matrix L, vector w):
<pre>(F f, vector phi, vector[] theta,</pre>	real, 125
data real[,] x_r, data int[,]	multi_gp_lpdf
x_i): vector,70	(matrix y matrix Sigma, vector w):
matrix_exp	real, 124
(matrix A): matrix,48	multi_normal
matrix_exp_multiply	sampling statement, 121
(matrix A, matrix B): matrix,48	multi_normal_cholesky
max	sampling statement, 123
(int x, int y): int, 6	multi_normal_cholesky_lpdf
(int[] x): int,25	(row_vectors y row_vectors mu,
(matrix x): real, 39	matrix L): real,123
(real[] x): real, 25	(row_vectors y vectors mu, matrix
(row_vector x): real,39	L): real, 123
(vector x): real, 39	(vectors y row_vectors mu, matrix
mdivide_left_spd	L): real, 123
(matrix A, matrix B): vector, 48	<pre>(vectors y vectors mu, matrix L):</pre>
(matrix A, vector b): matrix, 48	real, 123
mdivide_left_tri_low	multi_normal_cholesky_rng

(row_vector mu, matrix L): vector, 123	Sigma): vectors, 126
<pre>(row_vectors mu, matrix L): vectors,</pre>	(real nu, vector mu, matrix Sigma):
124	vector, 126
(vector mu, matrix L): vector, 123	(real nu, vectors mu, matrix Sigma):
(vectors mu, matrix L): vectors, 124	vectors, 126
multi_normal_lpdf	multinomial
<pre>(row_vectors y row_vectors mu,</pre>	sampling statement, 93
matrix Sigma): real,121	multinomial_lpmf
<pre>(row_vectors y vectors mu, matrix</pre>	<pre>(int[] y vector theta): real,93</pre>
Sigma): real,121	multinomial_rng
<pre>(vectors y row_vectors mu, matrix</pre>	(vector theta, int N): int[],93
Sigma): real,121	multiply_log
(vectors y vectors mu, matrix	(real x, real y): real,23
Sigma): real,121	multiply_lower_tri_self_transpose
multi_normal_prec	(matrix x): matrix,38
sampling statement, 122	neg_binomial
multi_normal_prec_lpdf	sampling statement, 87
<pre>(row_vectors y row_vectors mu,</pre>	neg_binomial_2
matrix Omega): real,122	sampling statement, 88
<pre>(row_vectors y vectors mu, matrix</pre>	neg_binomial_2_cdf
Omega): real, 122	(ints n, reals mu, reals phi): real,
(vectors y row_vectors mu, matrix	88
Omega): real, 122	neg_binomial_2_lccdf
(vectors y vectors mu, matrix	<pre>(ints n reals mu, reals phi):</pre>
Omega): real,122	real, 89
multi_normal_rng	neg_binomial_2_lcdf
(row_vector mu, matrix Sigma):	(ints n reals mu, reals phi):
vector, 122	real, 88
(row_vectors mu, matrix Sigma):	neg_binomial_2_log
vectors, 122	sampling statement, 89
(vector mu, matrix Sigma): vector,	neg_binomial_2_log_glm
122	sampling statement, 90
(vectors mu, matrix Sigma): vectors,	neg_binomial_2_log_glm_lpmf
122	(int[] y matrix x, real alpha,
multi_student_t	vector beta, real phi): real,90
sampling statement, 125	<pre>(int[] y matrix x, vector alpha,</pre>
multi_student_t_lpdf	vector beta, real phi): real,90
<pre>(row_vectors y real nu,</pre>	neg_binomial_2_log_lpmf
row_vectors mu, matrix Sigma):	(ints y reals eta, reals phi):
real, 126	real, 89
<pre>(row_vectors y real nu, vectors</pre>	neg_binomial_2_log_rng
mu, matrix Sigma): real,126	(reals eta, reals phi): R,89
(vectors y real nu, row_vectors	neg_binomial_2_lpmf
mu, matrix Sigma): real,125	(ints y reals mu, reals phi):
(vectors y real nu, vectors mu,	real, 88
matrix Sigma): real,125	neg_binomial_2_rng
multi_student_t_rng	(reals mu, reals phi): R,89
(real nu, row_vector mu, matrix	neg_binomial_cdf
Sigma): vector, 126	(ints n, reals alpha, reals beta):
(real nu, row_vectors mu, matrix	real, 87

neg_binomial_lccdf	(real x): real,14
(ints n reals alpha, reals beta):	(real x, matrix y): matrix,34
real, 87	(real x, real y): real,13
neg_binomial_lcdf	<pre>(real x, row_vector y): row_vector,</pre>
(ints n reals alpha, reals beta):	34
real, 87	(real x, vector y): vector, 34
neg_binomial_lpmf	<pre>(row_vector x, real y): row_vector,</pre>
(ints n reals alpha, reals beta):	34
real, 87	<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>
neg_binomial_rng	row_vector, 33
(reals alpha, reals beta): R,88	(vector x, real y): vector, 34
negative_infinity	(vector x, vector y): vector, 33
(): real, 9	operator_compound_add
normal	(int x, int y): void, 59
sampling statement, 95	(matrix x, matrix y): void, 59
normal_cdf	(matrix x, real y): void, 59
(reals y, reals mu, reals sigma):	(real x, real y): void, 59
real, 95	(row_vector x, real y): void, 59
normal_id_glm	(row_vector x, row_vector y): void,
sampling statement, 97	59
normal_id_glm_lpdf	(vector x, real y): void,59
(vector y matrix x, real alpha,	(vector x, vector y): void, 59
vector beta, real sigma): real,	operator_compound_divide
97	(int x, int y): void, 61
	(matrix x, real y): void, 61
<pre>(vector y matrix x, vector alpha,</pre>	(real x, real y): void, 61
97	(row_vector x, real y): void, 61
normal_lccdf	(vector x, real y): void, 61
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	operator_compound_elt_divide
real, 95	(matrix x, matrix y): void, 61
normal_lcdf	(matrix x, matrix y): void, 61
	(row_vector x, real y): void, 61
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma): real,95	(row_vector x, rear y): void, or (row_vector x, row_vector y): void,
•	61
normal_lpdf	
(reals y reals mu, reals sigma):	(vector x, real y): void, 61
real, 95	(vector x, vector y): void, 61
normal_rng	operator_compound_elt_multiply
(reals mu, reals sigma): R,95	(matrix x, matrix y): void, 61
not_a_number	(row_vector x, row_vector y): void,
(): real, 9	61
num_elements	(vector x, vector y): void, 61
(T[] x): int, 28	operator_compound_multiply
(matrix x): int, 32	(int x, int y): void, 60
(row_vector x): int,32	(matrix x, matrix y): void, 60
(vector x): int,32	(matrix x, real y): void,60
operator_add	(real x, real y): void, 60
(int x): int,5	(row_vector x, matrix y): void, 60
(int x, int y): int,5	(row_vector x, real y): void,60
(matrix x, matrix y): matrix,33	(vector x, real y): void,60
(matrix x. real v): matrix.34	operator compound subtract

(int x, int y): void, 60	(int x, int y): int,11
(matrix x, matrix y): void,60	(real x, real y): int,11
(matrix x, real y): void,60	operator_logical_less_than
(real x, real y): void,60	(int x, int y): int, 10
(row_vector x, real y): void,60	(real x, real y): int,10
<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y): void,</pre>	operator_logical_less_than_equal
60	(int x, int y): int,11
(vector x, real y): void, 60	(real x, real y): int,11
(vector x, vector y): void, 60	operator_logical_not_equal
operator_divide	(int x, int y): int, 11
(int x, int y): int, 5	(real x, real y): int,11
(matrix B, matrix A): matrix,47	operator_logical_or
(matrix x, real y): matrix,35	(int x, int y): int,12
(real x, real y): real,14	(real x, real y): int,12
<pre>(row_vector b, matrix A): row_vector,</pre>	operator_mod
47	(int x, int y): int, 5
<pre>(row_vector x, real y): row_vector,</pre>	operator_multiply
35	(int x, int y): int,5
(vector x, real y): vector, 34	(matrix x, matrix y): matrix,34
operator_elt_divide	(matrix x, real y): matrix,33
(matrix x, matrix y): matrix,35	(matrix x, vector y): vector, 34
(matrix x, real y): matrix,35	(real x, matrix y): matrix,33
(real x, matrix y): matrix,35	(real x, real y): real, 14
<pre>(real x, row_vector y): row_vector,</pre>	<pre>(real x, row_vector y): row_vector,</pre>
35	33
(real x, vector y): vector, 35	<pre>(real x, vector y): vector, 33</pre>
<pre>(row_vector x, real y): row_vector,</pre>	<pre>(row_vector x, matrix y):</pre>
35	row_vector, 33
<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>	<pre>(row_vector x, real y): row_vector,</pre>
row_vector, 35	33
(vector x, real y): vector, 35	<pre>(row_vector x, vector y): real, 33</pre>
(vector x, vector y): vector, 35	(vector x, real y): vector, 33
operator_elt_multiply	<pre>(vector x, row_vector y): matrix, 33</pre>
(matrix x, matrix y): matrix, 35	operator_negation
<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>	(int x): int, 12
row_vector, 35	(real x): int, 12
(vector x, vector y): vector, 35	operator_pow
operator_left_div	(real x, real y): real,14
(matrix A, matrix B): matrix,47	operator_subtract
(matrix A, vector b): vector, 47	(int x): int,5
operator_logial_equal	(int x, int y): int,5
(int x, int y): int,11	(matrix x): matrix,32
(real x, real y): int,11	(matrix x, matrix y): matrix,33
operator_logical_and	(matrix x, real y): matrix,34
(int x, int y): int, 12	(real x): real, 14
(real x, real y): int, 12	(real x, matrix y): matrix,34
operator_logical_greater_than	(real x, real y): real, 13
(int x, int y): int,11	<pre>(real x, row_vector y): row_vector,</pre>
(real x, real y): int,11	34
operator_logical_greater_than_equal	(real x, vector y): vector, 34

<pre>(row_vector x): row_vector, 32</pre>	(reals y reals mu, reals lambda,
<pre>(row_vector x, real y): row_vector,</pre>	reals alpha): real,115
34	pareto_type_2_1cdf
<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>	(reals y reals mu, reals lambda,
row_vector, 33	reals alpha): real,115
<pre>(vector x): vector, 32</pre>	pareto_type_2_1pdf
(vector x, real y): vector, 34	(reals y reals mu, reals lambda,
<pre>(vector x, vector y): vector, 33</pre>	reals alpha): real,115
operator_transpose	pareto_type_2_rng
(matrix x): matrix,36	(reals mu, reals lambda, reals
<pre>(row_vector x): vector, 36</pre>	alpha): R,115
<pre>(vector x): row_vector, 36</pre>	phi
ordered_logistic	(T x): R, 18
sampling statement, 86	phi_approx
ordered_logistic_lpmf	(T x): R, 18
(ints k ∣ vector eta, vectors c):	pi
real,86	(): real,9
ordered_logistic_rng	poisson
(real eta, vector c): int,86	sampling statement, 91
ordered_probit	poisson_cdf
sampling statement, 86	(ints n, reals lambda): real,91
ordered_probit_1pmf	poisson_lccdf
(ints k∣ vector eta, vectors c):	(ints n reals lambda): real,91
real,86	poisson_lcdf
ordered_probit_rng	(ints n reals lambda): real,91
(real eta, vector c): int,86	poisson_log
owens_t	sampling statement, 91
(real h, real a): real,19	poisson_log_glm
pareto	sampling statement, 92
sampling statement, 114	poisson_log_glm_lpmf
pareto_cdf	<pre>(int[] y matrix x, real alpha,</pre>
(reals y, reals y_min, reals alpha):	vector beta): real,92
real, 114	<pre>(int[] y matrix x, vector alpha,</pre>
pareto_lccdf	vector beta): real,92
(reals y reals y_min, reals	poisson_log_lpmf
alpha): real,114	(ints n reals alpha): real,91
pareto_lcdf	poisson_log_rng
(reals y reals y_min, reals	(reals alpha): R,91
alpha): real,114	poisson_rng
pareto_lpdf	(reals lambda): R,91
(reals y reals y_min, reals	positive_infinity
alpha): real,114	(): real,9
pareto_rng	pow
(reals y_min, reals alpha): R,114	(real x, real y): real,16
pareto_type_2	print
sampling statement, 115	(T1 x1,, TN xN): void, 2
pareto_type_2_cdf	prod
(reals y, reals mu, reals lambda,	(int[] x): real,25
reals alpha): real,115	(matrix x): real,39
pareto type 2 lccdf	(real[] x): real.25

<pre>(row_vector x): real, 39</pre>	rising_factorial
(vector x): real, 39	(real x, real n): real,22
qr_q	round
(matrix A): matrix, 50	(T x): R, 15
qr_r	row
(matrix A): matrix, 50	<pre>(matrix x, int m): row_vector, 42</pre>
qr_thin_q	rows
(matrix A): matrix, 50	(matrix x): int,32
qr_thin_r	<pre>(row_vector x): int, 32</pre>
(matrix A): matrix, 50	(vector x): int, 32
quad_form	rows_dot_product
(matrix A, matrix B): matrix, 37	(matrix x, matrix y): vector, 36
(matrix A, vector B): real, 37	<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector y):</pre>
quad_form_diag	vector, 36
(matrix m, row_vector rv): matrix, 38	(vector x, vector y): vector, 36
(matrix m, vector v): matrix, 37	rows_dot_self
quad_form_sym	(matrix x): vector, 37
(matrix A, matrix B): matrix, 38	(row_vector x): vector, 37
(matrix A, vector B): real, 38	(vector x): vector, 37
rank	scale_matrix_exp_multiply
(int[] v, int s): int,31	(real t, matrix A, matrix B): matrix,
(real[] v, int s): int,31	48
(row_vector v, int s): int,51	scaled_inv_chi_square
(vector v, int s): int, 51	sampling statement, 106
rayleigh	scaled_inv_chi_square_cdf
sampling statement, 112	(reals y, reals nu, reals sigma):
rayleigh_cdf	real, 106
(real y, real sigma): real,112	scaled_inv_chi_square_lccdf
rayleigh_lccdf	(reals y reals nu, reals sigma):
(real y real sigma): real,112	real, 107
rayleigh_lcdf	scaled_inv_chi_square_lcdf
(real y real sigma): real,112	(reals y reals nu, reals sigma):
rayleigh_lpdf	real, 106
(reals y reals sigma): real,112	scaled_inv_chi_square_lpdf
rayleigh_rng	(reals y reals nu, reals sigma):
(reals sigma): R,112	real, 106
reject	scaled_inv_chi_square_rng
(T1 x1,, TN xN): void, 2	(reals nu, reals sigma): R,107
rep_array	sd
(T x, int k, int m, int n): $T[,], 28$	(matrix x): real,40
(T x, int m, int n): T[,], 28	(real[] x): real, 26
(T x, int n): T[],28	(row_vector x): real, 40
rep_matrix	(vector x): real, 40
(real x, int m, int n): matrix,41	segment
(row_vector rv, int m): matrix,41	(T[] sv, int i, int n): $T[], 43$
(vector v, int n): matrix,41	<pre>(row_vector rv, int i, int n):</pre>
rep_row_vector	row_vector,43
<pre>(real x, int n): row_vector, 40</pre>	(vector v, int i, int n): vector, 43
rep_vector	sin
(real x. int m): vector.40	(T x): R.17

singular_values	(T x): R, 16
(matrix A): vector, 51	squared_distance
sinh	<pre>(row_vector x, row_vector[] y):</pre>
(T x): R, 17	real, 27
size	<pre>(row_vector x, vector [] y): real, 2</pre>
(T[] x): int, 28	<pre>(vector x, row_vector [] y): real, 2</pre>
skew_normal	(vector x, vector y): real,27
sampling statement, 98	std_normal
skew_normal_cdf	sampling statement, 96
(reals y, reals xi, reals omega,	std_normal_lpdf
reals alpha): real,98	(reals y): real,96
skew_normal_lccdf	step
(reals y reals xi, reals omega,	(real x): real,13
reals alpha): real,98	student_t
skew_normal_lcdf	sampling statement, 99
(reals y reals xi, reals omega,	student_t_cdf
reals alpha): real,98	(reals y, reals nu, reals mu, reals
skew_normal_lpdf	sigma): real,99
(reals y reals xi, reals omega,	student_t_lccdf
reals alpha): real, 98	(reals y reals nu, reals mu, reals
skew_normal_rng	sigma): real, 99
(reals xi, reals omega, real alpha):	student_t_lcdf
R, 99	(reals y reals nu, reals mu, reals
softmax	sigma): real, 99
(vector x): vector, 45	student_t_lpdf
sort_asc	(reals y reals nu, reals mu, reals
(int[] v): int[], 30	sigma): real, 99
(real[] v): real[],30	student_t_rng
(row_vector v): row_vector, 51	(reals nu, reals mu, reals sigma):
(vector v): vector, 51	R, 99
sort_desc	sub_col
(int[] v): int[],30	(matrix x, int i, int j, int
(real[] v): real[],30	n_rows): vector, 42
(row_vector v): row_vector, 51	sub_row
(vector v): vector, 51	(matrix x, int i, int j, int
sort_indices_asc	n_cols): row_vector, 42
(int[] v): int[], 30	Sum
(real[] v): int[], 30	(int[] x): int,25
(row_vector v): int[],51	(matrix x): real, 39
(vector v): int[],51	(real[] x): real, 25
sort_indices_desc	(row_vector x): real, 39
(int[] v): int[], 30	(vector x): real, 39
(real[] v): int[],30	tail
(row_vector v): int[],51	(T[] sv, int n): T[], 43
(vector v): int[],51	<pre>(row_vector rv, int n): row_vector, 43</pre>
sqrt	10
(T x): R, 16	(vector v, int n): vector, 43
sqrt2	tan
(): real,9	(T x): R, 17
Sunare	Lauri

(T x): R, 17	(matrix A): real,48
target	trace_gen_quad_form
(): real, 10	(matrix D, matrix A, matrix B): real,
tcrossprod	38
(matrix x): matrix,37	trace_quad_form
tgamma	(matrix A, matrix B): real,38
(T x): R, 19	trigamma
to_array_1d	(T x): R, 19
(int[] a): int[],58	trunc
(matrix m): real[],58	(T x): R, 16
(real[] a): real[],58	uniform
<pre>(row_vector v): real[],58</pre>	sampling statement, 120
(vector v): real[],58	uniform_cdf
to_array_2d	(reals y, reals alpha, reals beta):
(matrix m): real[,],58	real, 120
to_matrix	uniform_lccdf
(int[,] a): matrix,57	<pre>(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):</pre>
(int[] a, int m, int n): matrix,56	real, 120
(int[] a, int m, int n, int	uniform_lcdf
col_major): matrix,57	<pre>(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):</pre>
(matrix m): matrix,56	real, 120
(matrix m, int m, int n): matrix,56	uniform_lpdf
(matrix m, int m, int n, int	(reals y reals alpha, reals beta):
col_major): matrix,56	real, 120
(real[,] a): matrix,57	uniform_rng
(real[] a, int m, int n): matrix,56	(reals alpha, reals beta): R,120
<pre>(real[] a, int m, int n, int</pre>	variance
col_major): matrix,57	(matrix x): real,40
(row_vector v): matrix,56	(real[] x): real,26
<pre>(row_vector v, int m, int n):</pre>	<pre>(row_vector x): real, 40</pre>
matrix,56	(vector x): real, 40
(row_vector v, int m, int n, int	von_mises
col_major): matrix,56	sampling statement, 118
(vector v): matrix,56	von_mises_lpdf
(vector v, int m, int n): matrix, 56	(reals y reals mu, reals kappa):
(vector v, int m, int n, int	R, 118
col_major): matrix,56	von_mises_rng
to_row_vector	(reals mu, reals kappa): R,118
<pre>(int[] a): row_vector, 58</pre>	weibull
(matrix m): row_vector,57	sampling statement, 109
<pre>(real[] a): row_vector, 57</pre>	weibull_cdf
<pre>(row_vector v): row_vector,57</pre>	(reals y, reals alpha, reals sigma):
<pre>(vector v): row_vector, 57</pre>	real, 109
to_vector	weibull_lccdf
(int[] a): vector, 57	(reals y reals alpha, reals
(matrix m): vector, 57	sigma): real,110
(real[] a): vector, 57	weibull_lcdf
<pre>(row_vector v): vector, 57</pre>	(reals y reals alpha, reals
(vector v): vector, 57	sigma): real,109
trace	weibull_lpdf

```
(reals y | reals alpha, reals
          sigma): real, 109
weibull_rng
     (reals alpha, reals sigma): R,110
wiener
     sampling statement, 113
wiener_lpdf
     (reals y | reals alpha, reals tau,
          reals beta, reals delta): real,
          113
wishart
     sampling statement, 133
wishart_lpdf
     (matrix W | real nu, matrix Sigma):
          real, 133
wishart_rng
     (real nu, matrix Sigma): matrix, 133
```