

S4 Classes for Distributions—a manual for packages "**distr**", "**distrEx**", "**distrMod**", "**distrSim**", "**distrTEst**", "**distrTeach**", version 2.2.3

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Abstract

"**distr**" is a package for R from version 1.8.1 onwards that is distributed under GPL-3. Its own current version is 2.2.3. The aim of this package is to provide a conceptual treatment of random variables (r.v.'s) by means of S4-classes. A mother class **Distribution** is introduced with slots for a parameter and for functions **r**, **d**, **p**, and **q** for simulation, respectively for evaluation of density / c.d.f. and quantile function of the corresponding distribution. All distributions of the "stats" package are implemented as subclasses of either **AbscontDistribution** or **DiscreteDistribution**, which

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themselves are again subclasses of `UnivariateDistribution`. By means of these classes, we may automatically generate new objects of these classes for the laws of r.v.'s under standard mathematical univariate transformations and under standard bivariate arithmetical operations acting on independent r.v.'s. Package "`distr`" in this setting works as basic package for further extensions. These start with package "`distrEx`", covering statistical functionals like expectation, variance and the median evaluated at distributions, as well as distances between distributions and basic support for multivariate and conditional distributions. Next, from version 2.0 on, comes package "`distrMod`" which uses these concepts to provide an object orientated competitor to `fitdistr` from package "`MASS`" in covering estimation in statistical models. Further on there are packages "`distrSim`" for the standardized treatment of simulations, also under contaminations and package "`distrTEst`" with classes and methods for evaluations of statistical procedures on such simulations. Finally, from version 2.0 on, there is package "`distrTeach`" to embody illustrations for basic stats courses using our distribution classes.

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Parts of this document appeared in an earlier and much shorter form in *R-News*, 6(2) as "S4 Classes for Distributions", c.f. [8], which in its published form refers to package versions 1.6, resp. 0.4-2. This present document takes into account the subsequent revisions and versions.

0 Motivation

R up to now contains powerful techniques for virtually any useful distribution using the suggestive naming convention `[prefix]<name>` as functions where `[prefix]` stands for `r`, `d`, `p`, or `q` and `<name>` is the name of the distribution.

There are limitations of this concept, however: You can only use distributions which are implemented in some library already or for which you yourself have provided an implementation. In many natural settings you want to formulate algorithms once for all distributions,

so you should be able to treat the actual distribution `<name>` as sort of a variable. You may of course paste together prefix and the value of `<name>` as a string and then use `eval(parse(....))`. This is neither very elegant nor flexible, however. Instead, we would rather like to implement the algorithm by passing an object of some distribution class as argument to the function. Even better though, we would use a generic function and let the S4-dispatching mechanism decide what to do at run-time. In particular, we would like to automatically generate the corresponding functions `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q` for the law of expressions like `X+3Y` for objects `X` and `Y` of class `Distribution`, or, more general, of a transformation of X, Y under a function $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ which is already realized as a function in R.

This is possible with package "distr". As an example, try

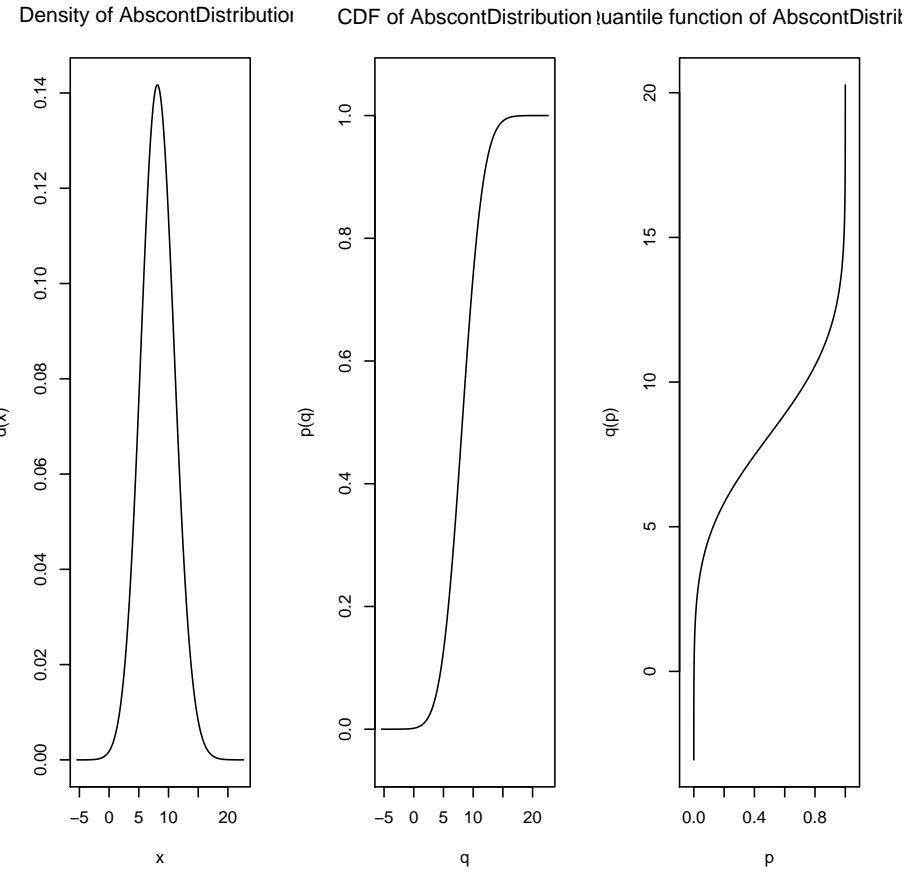
```
> require(distr)
> N <- Norm(mean = 2, sd = 1.3)
> P <- Pois(lambda = 1.2)
> Z <- 2*N + 3 + P
> Z

Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution

> plot(Z)
> p(Z)(0.4)
[1] 0.002415387

> q(Z)(0.3)
[1] 6.705068

> Zs <- r(Z)(50)
> Zs
[1] 4.556839 12.113723 11.519585 9.987588 10.147719 13.623069 10.543872
[8] 11.294780 4.046003 8.086381 8.847120 5.858423 9.415173 5.094126
[15] 6.167540 5.044053 6.103973 9.213768 8.395692 7.676696 12.591995
[22] 9.775619 8.921855 14.712868 8.915814 6.964179 10.055584 12.482820
[29] 7.843433 7.438113 13.319532 10.582446 6.914305 2.791598 9.350885
[36] 5.610373 12.976956 10.552590 8.529608 11.412747 6.247636 8.030860
[43] 5.363093 8.833427 9.949570 7.954320 6.659524 9.738003 6.560788
[50] 7.692428
```



Comment:

Let \mathbf{N} an object of class "`Norm`" with parameters `mean=2`, `sd=1.3` and let \mathbf{P} an object of class "`Pois`" with parameter `lambda=1.2`. Assigning to \mathbf{Z} the expression $2*\mathbf{N}+3+\mathbf{P}$, a new distribution object is generated —of class "`AbscontDistribution`" in our case— so that identifying \mathbf{N} , \mathbf{P} , \mathbf{Z} with random variables distributed according to \mathbf{N} , \mathbf{P} , \mathbf{Z} , $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{L}(2 * \mathbf{N} + 3 + \mathbf{P})$, and writing `p(Z)(0.4)` we get $P(Z \leq 0.4)$, `q(Z)(0.3)` the 30%-quantile of Z , and with `r(Z)(50)` we generate 50 pseudo random numbers distributed according to Z , while the `plot` command generates the above figure.

1 Concept

In developing our packages, we had the following principles in mind: We wanted to be open in our design so that our classes could easily be extended by any volunteer in the R community to provide more complex classes of distributions as multivariate distributions, times series distributions, conditional distributions. As an exercise, the reader is encour-

aged to implement extrem value distributions from the package "`evd`"¹. The largest effort will in fact be the documentation...

We also wanted to preserve naming and notation from R-"`stats`" as far as possible so that any programmer used to `S` could quickly use our package. Even more so, as the distributions already implemented to R are all well tested and programmed with skills we lack, we use the existing `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q`-functions wherever possible, only wrapping them by small code snippets to our class hierarchy.

Third we wanted to use a suggestive notation for our automatically generated methods `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q`, which we think is now largely achieved. All this should make intensive use of object orientation in order to be able to use inheritance and method overloading. Let us briefly explain why we decided to realize `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q` as part of our class definitions: Doing so, we place ourselves somewhere between pure object orientation where methods would be *slots* —in the language of the `S4`-concept, confer [2]— and the `S4` paradigm where methods “live their own life” apart from the classes, or, to `q`, which should be regarded use [1]’s terminology, we use COOP²-style for `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q` methods, and FOOP³ -style for “normal” methods.

The `S4`-paradigm with methods which are not attached to an object but rather behave differently according to the classes of their arguments is fine if there are particular user-written methods for only some few general distribution classes like `AbscontDistribution`, as in the case for `plot` or "+" (c.f. [5], Section 2.2). During a typical R session with "distr", however, there will be a lot of, mostly automatically generated objects of our distribution classes, each with its own `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q`; this even applies to intermediate expressions like `2*N`, `2*N+3` to eventually produce `Z` in the example in the motivation. Treating `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q` as generic functions, we would need to generate new classes for each expression `2*N`, `2*N+3`, `Z` and, correspondingly, particular `S4`-methods for `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q` for each of these new classes; apparently, this would produce overly many classes for an effective inheritance structure.

In providing arithmetics for distributions, we have to deviate a little from the paradigm of `S` as a functional language: For operators like "+", additional parameters controlling the precision of the results cannot be handily passed as arguments. For this purpose we provide global options which may be inspected and modified by `distrOptions`, `getOption`⁴ in complete analogy to `options`, `getOption`. Finally our concept as to parameters: Contrary to the standard R-functions like `rnorm` we only permit length 1 for parameters like `mean`, because we see the objects as implementations of univariate random variables, for which vector-valued parameters make no sense; rather one could gather several objects with pos-

¹a solution to this “homework” may be found in the sources to "distrEx"

²class-object-orientated programming, as e.g. in C++

³function-object-orientated programming, as in the `S4`-concept

⁴Upto version 0.4-4, we used a different mechanism to inspect/modify global options of "distrEx" (see section~5.2); corresponding functions `distrExOptions`, `getOption` for package "distrEx" are available from version 1.9 on.

sibly different parameters to a vector/list of distributions. Of course, the original functions `rnorm` etc. remain unchanged and still allow for vector-valued parameters. Kouros Owzar in an off-list mail raised the point, that in case of multiple parameters as in case of the normal or the Γ -distribution, it might be useful to be able to pass these multiple parameters in vectorized form to the generating function. We, too, think that this is a good idea, but have shifted this question to the new extension package "`distrMod`" which covers more general treatment of statistical models, see section~4.

2 Organization in classes

Loosely speaking we have three large groups of classes: distribution classes (in "`distr`"), simulation classes (in "`distrSim`") and an evaluation class (in "`distrTEst`"), where the latter two are to be considered only as tools which allow a unified treatment of simulations and evaluation of statistical estimation (perhaps also tests and predictions later) under varying simulation situations. Additionally, package "`distrEx`" provides classes for discrete multivariate distributions and for factorized, conditional distributions, as well as a bundle of functionals and distances (see below).

2.1 Distribution classes

The purpose of the classes derived from the class `Distribution` is to implement the concept of a r.v./distribution as such in R.

All classes derived from `Distribution` have a slot `param` for a parameter, a slot `img` for the range and the constitutive slots `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q`.

From version 1.9 on, up to arguments referring to a parameter of the distribution (like `mean` for the normal distribution), these function slots have the same arguments as those of package "`stats`", i.e.; for a distribution object `X` we may call these functions as

- `r(X)(n)` —except for objects of class `Hyper`, where there is a slot `n` already, so here the argument name to `r` is `nn`.
- `d(X)(x, log = FALSE)`
- `p(X)(q, lower.tail = TRUE, log.p = FALSE)`
- `q(X)(p, lower.tail = TRUE, log.p = FALSE)`

For the arguments of these function slots see e.g. `rnorm` from package "`stats`". Note that, as usual, slots `d`, `p`, and `q` are vectorized in their first argument, but are not on the subsequent ones. The idea is to gain higher precision for the upper tails or when multiplying probabilities.

2.1.1 Subclasses

To begin with, we have considered univariate distributions giving the S4-class `UnivariateDistribution`, and as typical subclasses, we have introduced classes for absolutely continuous and discrete distributions —`AbscontDistribution` and `DiscreteDistribution`.

The former, from version 1.9 on, has a slot `gaps` of class `OptionalMatrix`, i.e.; an object which may either be `NULL` or a `matrix`. This slot, if non-`NULL`, contains left and right endpoints of intervals where the density of the object is 0. This slot may be inspected by the accessor `gaps()` and modified by a corresponding replacement method. It may also be filled automatically by `setgaps(object, exactq = 6, ngrid = 50000)`, where upon evaluation of the `d`-slot on a grid of length `ngrid`, all regions in the range⁵ of the distribution where the density is smaller than $10^{-\text{exactq}}$ are set to gaps. Internally, we have helper functions `.consolidategaps` to merge adjacent intervals and `mergegaps` to merge `slots` of different objects. For saved objects from earlier versions, we provide the functions `isOldVersion` and `conv2NewVersion` to check whether the object was generated by an older version of this package and to convert such an object to the new format, respectively.

Class `DiscreteDistribution` has a slot `support`, a vector containing the support of the distribution, which is truncated to the lower/upper `TruncQuantile` in case of an infinite support. `TruncQuantile` is a global option of "distr" described in section^{~5}.

Also from version 1.9 on, class `DiscreteDistribution` has a subclass `LatticeDistribution` for supports consisting of⁶ an affine linear lattice of form $p + iw$ for $p \in \mathbb{R}$, $w \in \mathbb{R}$, $w \neq 0$ and $i = 0, 1, \dots, L$, $L \in \mathbb{N} \cup \infty$. This class gains a slot `lattice` of class `Lattice` (see below). The purpose of this class is mainly its use in DFT/FFT methods for convolution. Slot `lattice` may be inspected by the usual accessor function `lattice()`. As by inheritance, all subclasses of `LatticeDistribution` which prior to version 1.9 were direct subclasses of `DiscreteDistribution` gain a slot `lattice`, too, we provide again `isOldVersion` and `conv2NewVersion` methods to check whether the object was generated by an older version of this package and to convert such an object to the new format, respectively. Also note that internally, we suppress lattice points from the support where the probability is 0.

Objects of classes `LatticeDistribution` resp. `DiscreteDistribution`, and from version 2.0 on, also `AbscontDistribution`, may be generated using the generating functions `LatticeDistribution()` resp. `DiscreteDistribution()` resp. `AbscontDistribution()`; see also the corresponding help. E.g., to produce a discrete distribution with support $(1, 5, 7, 21)$ with corresponding probabilities $(0.1, 0.1, 0.6, 0.2)$ we may write

```
> D ← DiscreteDistribution(supp = c(1,5,7,21), prob = c(0.1,0.1,0.6,0.2))
```

⁵more precisely: between lower and upper `TruncQuantile`; `TruncQuantile` is a global option of "distr" described in section^{~5}

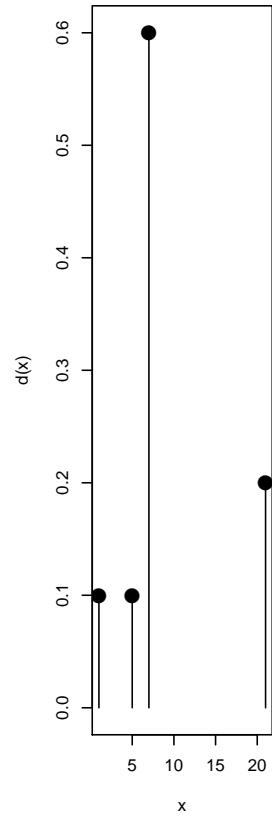
⁶or at least if filled with points carrying no mass have a representation as an affine linear lattice

```
> D
```

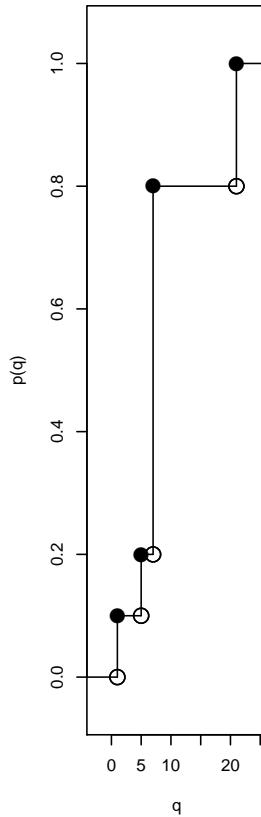
Distribution Object of Class: DiscreteDistribution

```
> plot(D)
```

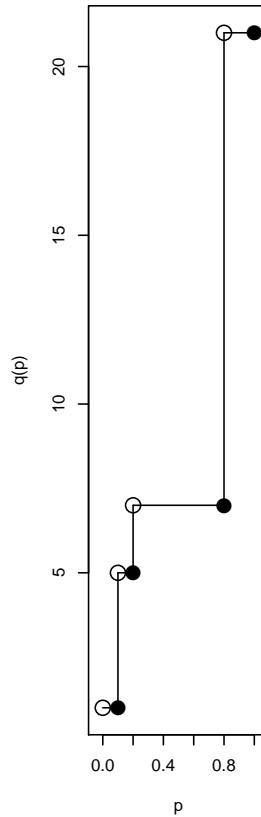
obability function of DiscreteDistr



CDF of DiscreteDistribution!uantile function of DiscreteDistr



Quantile function of DiscreteDistr

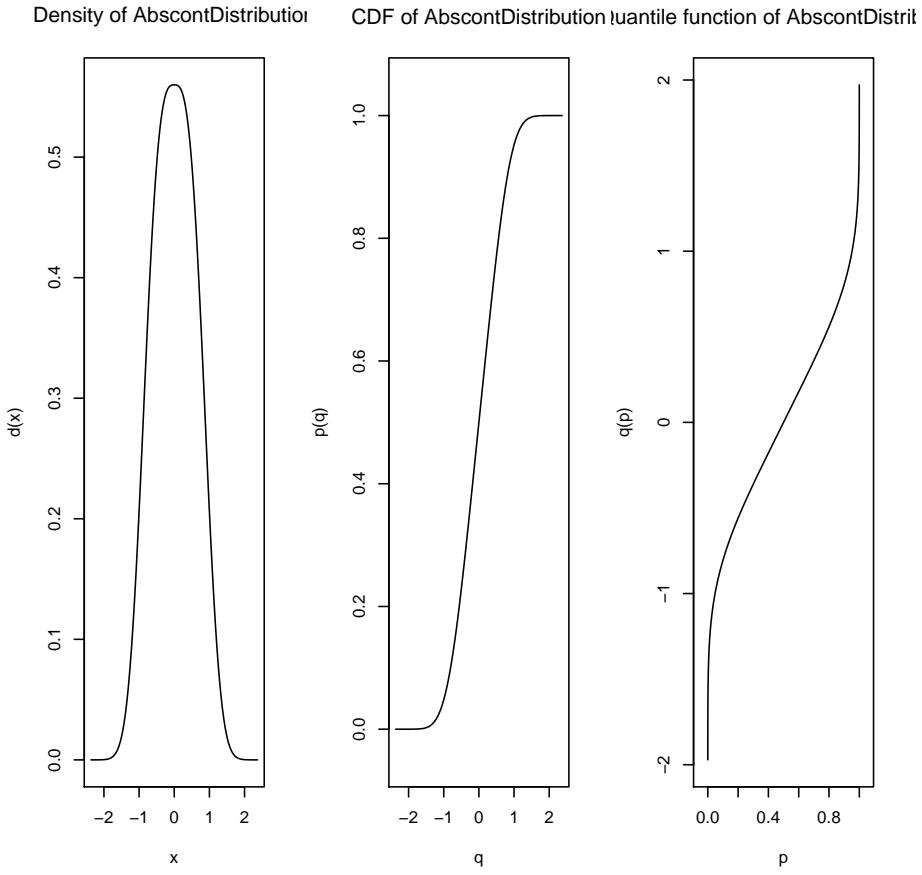


and to generate an absolutely continuos distribution with density proportional to $e^{-|x|^3}$, we write

```
> AC <- AbscontDistribution(d = function(x) exp(-abs(x)^3), withStand = TRUE)
> AC
```

Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution

```
> plot(AC)
```



As subclasses of these absolutely continuous and discrete classes, we have implemented all parametric families which already exist in the "stats" package of R in form of [prefix]<name> functions —by just providing wrappers to the original R-functions.

Schematically, the inheritance relations as well as the slots of the corresponding classes may be read off from Figure~1. Class `LatticeDistribution` and slot `gaps`, as well as additional classes `AffLinAbscontDistribution`, `AffLinDiscreteDistribution`, `AffLinLatticeDistribution` (c.f. section~3.2) are still lacking in this graphic so far, however, as well as the classes introduced in version 2.0.

The most powerful use of our package probably consists in operations to automatically generate new slots `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q` —induced by mathematical transformations. This is discussed in some detail in subsection~3.

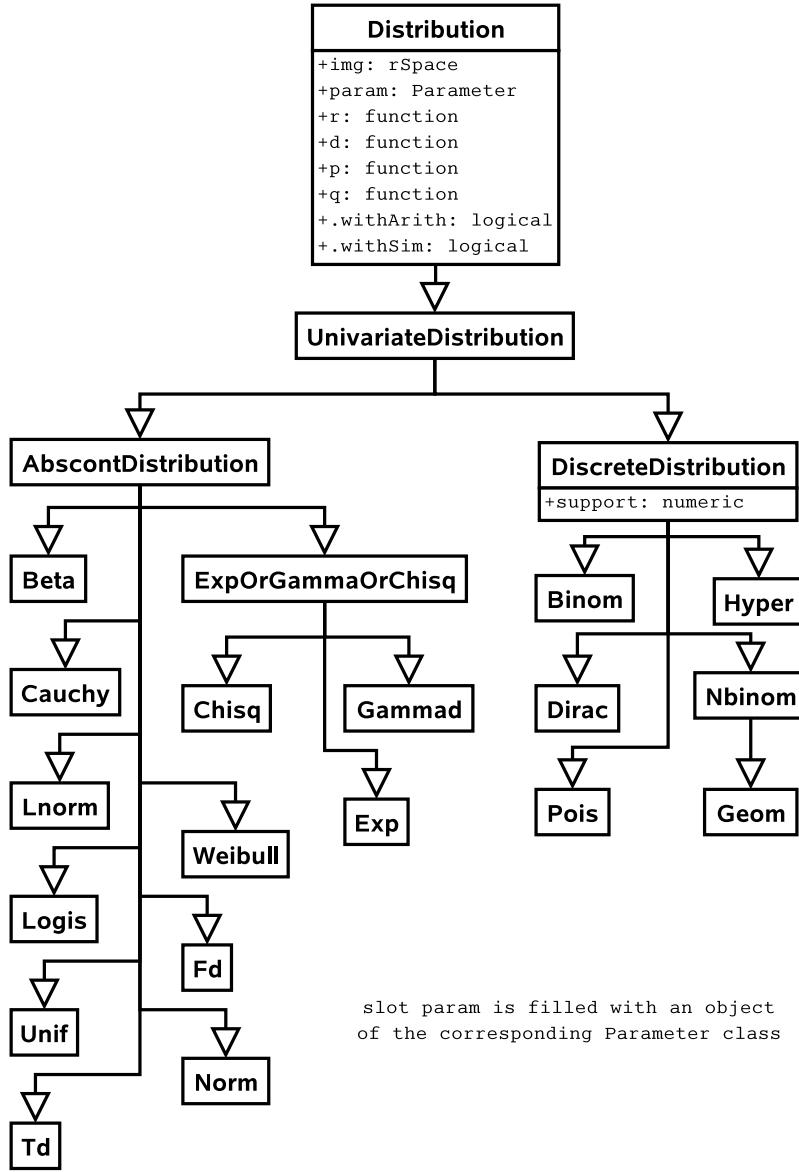


Figure 1: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `Distribution` where we do not repeat inherited slots

2.1.2 Classes for Mixture Distributions

Lists of distributions As a first step, we allow distributions to be gathered in lists, giving classes `DistrList` and `UnivarDistrList`, where in case of the latter, all elements must be univariate distributions. For these, the usual indexing operations with `[[.]]` are available. As we will use these lists to construct more general mixture distributions in some subsequent

versions, we have moved these routines to package "distr" from version 1.9 on.

Mixing distributions To be able to work with distributions which are neither purely absolutely continuous nor purely discrete, like e.g. the distribution of $\min(X, 1)$ for $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, from package version 2.0 on, we support mixtures of distributions. These are realized as subclasses of class `UnivariateDistribution`. To begin with, we introduce a class `UnivarMixingDistribution` as subclass of class `UnivariateDistribution` which additionally has two slots `MixCoeff` and `MixDistr`. While the former is a numeric vector taking up the mixture coefficients of the distribution, the latter is an object of class `UnivarDistrList` as described below, taking up the distributions of the mixture components; as usual, these slots have their respective accessor and replacement functions. Usually, this mixing distribution will neither have a Lebesgue density nor be purely discrete, having a counting density. So slot `d` as a rule will be empty. Objects of this class may be generated by the generating function `UnivarMixingDistribution()`, see also the corresponding help. In addition there is the function `flat.mix` to simplify such an object converting it to an object of class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`; confer subsection~3.3. Note that these mixing distributions may be recursive, i.e. components of slot `MixDistr` may again be of class `UnivarMixingDistribution`.

```
> library(distr)
> M1 <- UnivarMixingDistribution(Norm(), Pois(lambda=1), Norm(),
+       withSimplify = FALSE)
> M2 <- UnivarMixingDistribution(M1, Norm(), M1, Norm(), withSimplify = FALSE)
> M2
```

An object of class "UnivarMixingDistribution"

It consists of 4 components
Components:

[[1]] An object of class "UnivarMixingDistribution"
 :
 : It consists of 3 components
 : Components:
 : [[1]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
 : :mean: 0
 : :sd: 1
 : [[2]] Distribution Object of Class: Pois
 : :lambda: 1
 : [[3]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
 : :mean: 0
 : :sd: 1
 :
 : Weights:
 : 0.333000 :0.333000 :0.333000 :

```

[[2]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
:mean: 0
:sd: 1
[[3]] An object of class "UnivarMixingDistribution"
:
:It consists of 3 components
:Components:
:[1]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
:      :mean: 0
:      :sd: 1
:[2]] Distribution Object of Class: Pois
:      :lambda: 1
:[3]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
:      :mean: 0
:      :sd: 1
:
:Weights:
:0.333000      :0.333000      :0.333000      :

```

```

[[4]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
:mean: 0
:sd: 1
Weights:
0.250000 0.250000 0.250000 0.250000

```

Lebesgue Decomposed distributions As seen in the above example of $\min(X, 1)$, classes `DiscreteDistribution` and `Abscontdistribution` are not closed under arithmetic operations. To have such a closure, from version 2.0 on, we introduce class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, which realizes a Lebesgue decomposition of a univariate distribution into a discrete and an absolutely continuous distribution. Of course, we still cannot cover distributions having a non-trivial continuous but not absolutely continuous part like the Cantor distribution, but class `UnivarLebDecDistribution` provides a sufficiently general compromise. Class `UnivarLebDecDistribution` is a subclass of class `UnivarMixingDistribution`, where in addition we assume that both slots `MixCoeff` and `MixDistr` are of length 2, and that the first component of slot `MixDistr` is of class `AbscontDistribution` while the second is of class `DiscreteDistribution`. For this class there are particular accessors `acWeight`, `discreteWeight` for the respective weights and `acPart`, `discretePart` for the respective distributions. Again there is a generating function `UnivarMixingDistribution()`. In addition there is the function `flat.LCD` to simplify such an object converting it to an object of class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`; confer subsection~\ref{sec:Classes}. Classes `AbscontDistribution`, `DiscreteDistribution` and `UnivarLebDecDistribution` are

grouped to a virtual class (more specifically a class union) [AcDcLcDistribution](#).

Compound distributions From version 2.1 on, we also support compound distributions, i.e. the distributions D of form $D = \mathcal{L}(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i)$, $X_i \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} F$, a distribution on \mathbb{R} , and, independent of the X_i , $N \sim Q$ a distribution on \mathbb{N}_0 . These distributions are implemented as class [CompoundDistribution](#) which is a subclass of class [UnivarMixingDistribution](#); in addition this class has two slots, [NumbOfSummandsDistr](#), the distribution Q of the number of summands (or frequency distribution) and [SummandsDistr](#) the distribution F of the summands. Correspondingly, in package "distrEx" there are specialized expectation and variance methods.

2.1.3 Classes for multivariate distributions and for conditional distributions

In "distrEx", besides providing particular distribution classes for the Gumbel distribution (see [?Gumbel](#)) and the Pareto distribution (see [?Pareto](#)), we provide the following classes for handling multivariate distributions:

Multivariate distribution classes Multivariate distributions are much more complicated than univariate ones, which is why but a few exceptional ones have already been implemented to R in packages like "multnorm". In particular it is not so clear what a slot [q](#) should mean and, in higher dimensions slot [p](#), and possibly also slot [d](#) may become awkward. So, for multivariate distributions, realized as class [MultivariateDistribution](#), we only insist on slot [r](#), while the other functional slots may be left void.

The easiest case is the case of a discrete multivariate distribution with finite support which is implemented as class [DiscreteMVDistribution](#).

Conditional distribution classes Also arising in multivariate settings only are conditional distributions. In our approach, we realize factorized, conditional distributions where the (factorized) condition is in fact treated as an additional parameter to the distribution. The condition is realized as an object of class [Condition](#), which is a slot of corresponding classes [UnivariateCondDistribution](#). This latter is the mother class to classes [AbscontCondDistribution](#) and [DiscreteCondDistribution](#). The most important application of these classes so far is regression, where the distribution of the observation given the covariates is just realized as a [UnivariateCondDistribution](#).

2.1.4 Parameter classes

As most distributions come with a parameter which often is of own interest, we endow the corresponding slots of a distribution class with an own parameter class, which allows for some checking like "Is the parameter [lambda](#) of an exponential distribution non-negative?", "Is the parameter [size](#) of a binomial a positive integer?"

Consequently, we have a method `liesIn` that may answer such questions by a `TRUE/FALSE` statement. Schematically, the inheritance relations of class `Parameter` as well as the slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes may be read off in Figure 2 where we do not repeat inherited slots. The most important set to be used as parameter domain/sample space

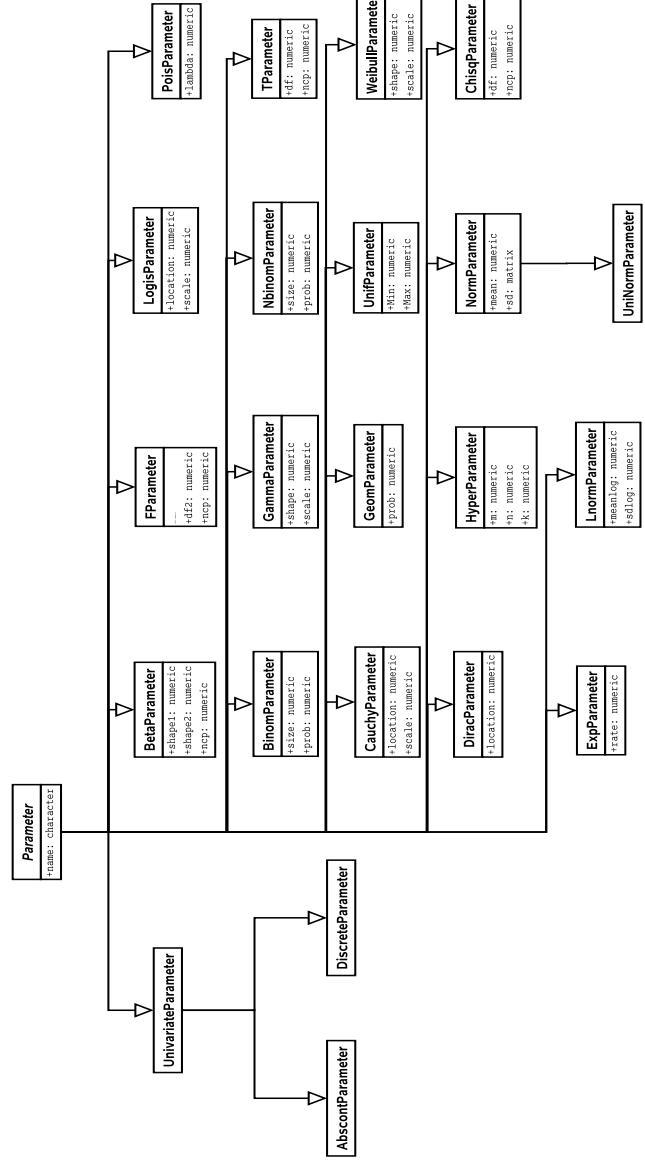


Figure 2: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `Parameter`

(`rSpace`) will be an Euclidean space. So `rSpace` and `EuclideanSpace` are also implemented as

classes, the structure of which may be read off in Figure~3.

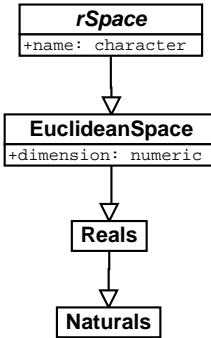


Figure 3: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `rSpace`

From version 1.9 on, we also have a subclass `Lattice`, which is still lacking in the preceding figure. It has slots `pivot` (of class "numeric"), `width` (of class "numeric" but tested against "`==0`") and `Length` (of class "numeric" but tested to be an integer "`>0`" or `Inf`). All slots may be inspected/modifed by the usual accessor/replacement functions.

2.2 Simulation classes

From version 1.6 on, the classes and methods of this subsection are available in package `"distrSim"`.

The aim of simulation classes is to gather all relevant information about a simulation in a correspondingly designed class. To this end we introduce the class `Dataclass` that serves as a common mother class for both "real" and simulated data. As derived classes we then have a simulation class where we also gather all information needed to reconstruct any particular simulation.

From version 1.8 of this package on, we have changed the format how data / simulations are stored: In order to be able to cope with multivariate, regression and (later) time series distributions, we have switched to the common array format `samplesize x obsDim x runs` where `obsDim` is the dimension of the observations. For saved objects from earlier versions, we provide the functions `isOldVersion` and `conv2NewVersion` to check whether the object was generated by an older version of this package and to convert such an object to the new format, respectively. For objects generated from version 1.8 on, you get the package version of package `"distrSim"`, under which they have been generated by a call to `getVersion()`.

Finally, coming from robust statistics we also consider situations where the majority of the

data stems from an ideal situation/distribution whereas a minority comes from a contaminating source. To be able to identify ideal and contaminating observations, we also store this information in an indicator variable.

As the actual values of the simulations only play a secondary role, and as the number of simulated variables can become very large, but still easily reproducible, it is not worth storing all simulated observations but rather only the information needed to reproduce the simulation. This can be done by `savedata`.

Schematically, the inheritance relations of class `Dataclass` as well as the slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes may be read off in Figure~4 where we do not repeat inherited slots. Also, analogously to package "distr", global options for the output by methods `plot` and

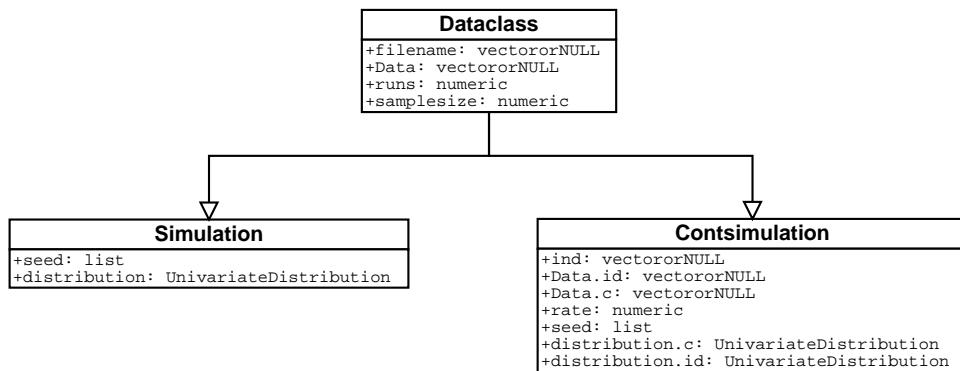


Figure 4: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `Dataclass`

`summary` are controlled by `distrSimoptions()` and `getdistrSimoptions()`

2.3 Evaluation class

From version 1.6 on, the class and methods of this subsection are available in package "distrTEst".

When investigating properties of a new procedure (e.g. an estimator) by means of simulations, one typically evaluates this procedure on a large set of simulation runs and gets a result for each run. These results are typically not available within seconds, so that it is worth storing them. To organize all relevant information about these results, we introduce a class `Evaluation` the slots of which is filled by method `evaluate` —see subsection~3.14. Schematically, the slots of this class may be read off in Figure~5. A corresponding `savedata` method saves the object of class `Evaluation` in two files in the R-working directory: one using the filename `<filename>` also stores the results; the other one, designed to be “hu-

Evaluation	
+name:	character
+filename:	character
+call.ev:	call
+result:	vectororNULL
+estimator:	OptionalFunction

Figure 5: Slots of class `Evaluation`

man readable”, comes as a comment file with filename `<filename>.comment` only stores the remaining information. The filename can be specified in the optional argument `fileN` to `savadata`; by default it is concatenated from the `filename` slot of the `Dataclass` object and `<estimatorname>`, which you may either pass as argument `estimatorName` or by default is taken as the R-name of the corresponding R-function specified in slot `estimator`.

From version 1.8 on, slot `result` in class `Evaluation` is of class `DataframeorNULL`, i.e.; may be either a data frame or NULL, and slot `call.ev` in class `Evaluation` is of class ”CallorNULL”, i.e.; may be either a call or NULL. Also, we want to gather `Evaluation` objects in a particular data structure `EvaluationList` (see below), so we have to be able to check whether all data sets in the gathered objects coincide. For this purpose, from this version on, class `Evaluation` has an additional slot `Data` of class `Dataclass`. In order not to burden the objects of this class too heavily with uninformative simulated data, in case of a slot `Data` of one of the simulation-type subclasses of `Dataclass`, this `Data` itself has an empty `Data`-slot.

2.4 EvaluationList class

The class and methods of this subsection are available in package "distrTEst".

In order to compare different procedures / estimators for the same problem, it is natural to gather several `Evaluation` objects with results of the same range (e.g. a parameter space) generated on the same data, i.e.; on the same `Dataclass` object. To this end, from version 1.8 on, we have introduced class `EvaluationList`. Schematically, the slots of this class may be read off in Figure~6. The common `Data` slot of the `Evaluation` objects in an `EvaluationList`

EvaluationList	
+name:	character
+Elist:	list

Figure 6: Slots of class `EvaluationList`

object may be accessed by the accessor method `Data`.

3 Methods

3.1 Arithmetics

We have made available quite general arithmetical operations to our distribution objects, generating new image distributions automatically. In this context some comments are due as to the interpretation of corresponding arithmetic expressions of distribution objects:

CAVEAT: These arithmetics operate on the corresponding r.v.'s and not on the distributions.

(For the latter, they only would make sense in restricted cases like convex combinations).

Martin Mächler pointed out that this might be confusing. So, this warning is also issued on attaching package "distr", and, by default, again whenever a `Distribution` object, produced by such arithmetics is shown or printed; this also applies to the last line in

```
> A1 <- Norm(); A2 <- Unif()
> A1 + A2
```

Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution

Warning message:
arithmetics on distributions are understood as operations on r.v.'s
see 'distrARITH()'; for switching off this warning see '?distroptions' in:
print(object)

This behaviour will soon be annoying so you may switch it off setting the global option `WarningArith` to `FALSE` (see section [^5](#)).

Function `distrARITH()` displays the following comment

```
#####
# On arithmetics operating on distributions in package "distr"
#####
```

Attention:

Special caution is due in the followin issues

```
%-----
% Interpretation of arithmetics
%-----
```

Arithmetics on distribution objects are understood as operations on corresponding random variables (r.v.'s) and `_not_` on distribution functions or densities;
e.g.

```
sin( Norm() + 3 * Norm() ) + 2
```

returns a distribution object representing the distribution of the r.v.

```
sin(X+3*Y)+2
```

where X and Y are r.v.'s i.i.d. $N(0,1)$.

```
%-----  
% Adjusting accuracy  
%-----
```

Binary operators like "+", "-" would loose their elegant calling $e1 + e2$ if they had to be called with an extra argument controlling their accuracy. Therefore, this accuracy is controlled by global options. These options are inspected and set by `distoptions()`, `getdistrOption()`, see `?distoptions`

```
%-----  
% Multiple instances in expressions and independence  
%-----
```

Special attention has to be paid to arithmetic expressions of distributions involving multiple instances of the same symbol:

```
/-> All arising instances of distribution objects in arithmetic  
expressions are assumed stochastically independent. <-/
```

As a consequence, whenever in an expression, the same symbol for an object occurs more than once, every instance means a new independent distribution.

So for a distribution object X, the expressions $X+X$ and $2*X$ are `_not_` equivalent.

The first means the convolution of distribution X with distribution X, i.e. the distribution of the r.v. $X_1 + X_2$, where X_1 and X_2 are identically distributed according to X.

In contrast to this, the second expression means the distribution of the r.v. $2 X_1 = X_1 + X_1$, where again X_1 is distributed according to X.

Hence always use $2*X$, when you want to realize the second case.

Similar caution is due for X^2 and $X*X$ and so on.

```
%-----
% Simulation based results varying from call to call
%-----

At several instances (in particular for non-monotone functions from group
Math like sin(), cos()) new distributions are generated by means of
RtoDPQ, RtoDPQ.d, RtoDPQ.LC. In these functions, slots d, p, q are
filled by simulating a large number of random variables, hence they are
stochastic estimates.
```

So don't be surprised if they will change from call to call.

3.2 Affine linear transformations

We have overloaded the operators "+", "-", "*", "/" such that affine linear transformations which involve only single univariate r.v.'s are available; i.e. expressions like $Y=(3*X+5)/4$ are permitted for an object X of class `AbscontDistribution` or `DiscreteDistribution` (or some subclass), giving again an object Y of class `AbscontDistribution` or `DiscreteDistribution` (in general). Here the corresponding transformations of the `d`, `p`, and `q`-functions are done analytically.

From version 1.9 on, we use subclasses `AffLinAbscontDistribution`, `AffLinDiscreteDistribution`, `AffLinLatticeDistribution` as classes of the return values to enhance accuracy of functionals like `E`, `var`, etc. in package "distrEx". These classes in addition to their counterparts without prefix "AffLin" have slots `a`, `b`, and `X0`, to capture the fact that an object of this class is distributed as $a * X_0 + b$. Also, we introduce a class union `AffLinDistribution` of classes `AffLinAbscontDistribution` and `AffLinDiscreteDistribution`. Consequently, the result Y of $Y \leftarrow a1 * X + b1$ for an object X of (a subclass of) class `AffLinDiscreteDistribution` (if $a \neq 0$) is of the same class as X but with slots $Y@a = a1 * X@a$, $Y@b = b1 + a1 * X@b$, $Y@X0 = X@X0$. In version 2.0, the same principle has been applied to introduce class `AffLinUnivarLebDecDistribution`. All `AffLin-xxx` distribution classes are grouped to a virtual class (more specifically a class union) `AffLinDistribution`.

3.3 Decompositions, Flattening and Other Simplifications

Decompositions: One of the issues when programming the distribution of the multiplication of independent random variables is that we have to treat positive and negative part (and, if nontrivial, point mass to 0) separately. To this end, from version 2.0 on, there are methods `decomposePM` to decompose a discrete, an absolutely continuous or a Lebesgue decomposed distribution into its respective parts.

```
> decomposePM(Norm())
```

```
$neg
```

```

$neg$D
Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution

$neg$w
[1] 0.5

$pos
$pos$D
Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution

$pos$w
[1] 0.5

>      decomposePM(Binom(2,0.3)-Binom(5,.4))

$neg
$neg$D
Distribution Object of Class: DiscreteDistribution

$neg$w
[1] 0.758944

$`0`
$`0`$D
Distribution Object of Class: Dirac
location: 0

$`0`$w
[1] 0.1780704

$pos
$pos$D
Distribution Object of Class: DiscreteDistribution

$pos$w
[1] 0.0629856

>      decomposePM(UnivarLebDecDistribution(Norm(),Binom(2,0.3)-Binom(5,.4),
+                      acWeight = 0.3))

$pos
$pos$D
An object of class "UnivarLebDecDistribution"

```

```
---- a Lebesgue decomposed distribution:
```

```
  Its discrete part (with weight 0.227000) is a  
Distribution Object of Class: DiscreteDistribution  
This part is accessible with 'discretePart()'.
```

```
  Its absolutely continuous part (with weight 0.773000) is a  
Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution  
This part is accessible with 'acPart()'.
```

```
$pos$w  
discreteWeight  
0.1940899
```

```
$neg  
$neg$D  
An object of class "UnivarLebDecDistribution"  
---- a Lebesgue decomposed distribution:
```

```
  Its discrete part (with weight 0.780000) is a  
Distribution Object of Class: DiscreteDistribution  
This part is accessible with 'discretePart()'.
```

```
  Its absolutely continuous part (with weight 0.220000) is a  
Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution  
This part is accessible with 'acPart()'.
```

```
$neg$w  
discreteWeight  
0.6812608
```

```
$`0`  
$`0`$D  
Distribution Object of Class: Dirac  
location: 0
```

```
$`0`$w  
discreteWeight  
0.1246493
```

Simplification by flattening: On the other hand, concatenating mathematical operations would easily yield quite complicated structures. A first thing to do is to look whether some components carry mass (approximately) 0. `simplifyD` uses this to cancel out such

components, and if possible return simpler types; see also the help to this function.

Also, sometimes one would like to let collapse a whole list of distributions (as in the `MixDistr` of a `UnivarMixingDistribution` object) into a simpler `UnivarLebDecDistribution`-class form. This is what is done in the the functions `flat.mix` and `flat.LCD`.

```
> D1 <- Norm()
> D2 <- Pois(1)
> D3 <- Binom(1,.4)
> D4 <- UnivarMixingDistribution(D1,D2,D3, mixCoeff = c(0.4,0.5,0.1),
+       withSimplify = FALSE)
> D <- UnivarMixingDistribution(D1,D4,D1,D2, mixCoeff = c(0.4,0.3,0.1,0.2),
+       withSimplify = FALSE)
> D
```

An object of class "UnivarMixingDistribution"

It consists of 4 components

Components:

```
[[1]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
  :mean: 0
  :sd: 1
```

[[2]] An object of class "UnivarMixingDistribution"

: It consists of 3 components

: Components:

```
: [[1]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm
  :      :mean: 0
  :      :sd: 1
: [[2]] Distribution Object of Class: Pois
  :      :lambda: 1
: [[3]] Distribution Object of Class: Binom
  :      :size: 1
  :      :prob: 0.4
```

: Weights:

```
:0.400000      :0.500000      :0.100000      :
```

[[3]] Distribution Object of Class: Norm

```
  :mean: 0
```

```
  :sd: 1
```

[[4]] Distribution Object of Class: Pois

```
  :lambda: 1
```

Weights:

```
0.400000 0.300000 0.100000 0.200000
```

```

> D0<- flat.mix(D)
> D0

An object of class "UnivarLebDecDistribution"
--- a Lebesgue decomposed distribution:

  Its discrete part (with weight 0.380000) is a
  Distribution Object of Class: DiscreteDistribution
  This part is accessible with 'discretePart(res$value)'.

  Its absolutely continuous part (with weight 0.620000) is a
  Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution
  This part is accessible with 'acPart(res$value)'.

```

Many arithmetic operations described in the subsequent sections do this simplification on their return value, according to the global option **SimplifyD**.

Simplification by collapsing: Dealing with discrete distributions, several arithmetic/mathematical operations tend to create new quite unequally spaced supports (mostly by joining supports of operands), often accumulating support points somewhere. In order to overcome this, from version 2.1 on, following a proposal by **Jacob van Etten**, whenever support points get closer to each other than prescribed in global option **DistrResolution** (see also section [^5](#)), and if in addition global option **DistrCollapse** is **TRUE**, we collapse these support point, using the median of the collapsed points as new support point, to which we attribute the cumulated probability mass. If in addition global option **DistrCollapse.Unique.Warn** is **TRUE** we issue a warning on collapsing occasions.

3.4 The group **math** of unary mathematical operations

Also the group **math** of unary mathematical operations is available for distribution classes; so expressions like **exp(sin(3*X+5)/4)** are permitted. The corresponding **r** method consists in simply performing the transformation to the simulated values of **X**. The corresponding (default-) **d**, **p** and **q**-functions are obtained by simulation, using the technique described in the following subsection.

By means of **substitute**, the bodies of the **r**, **d**, **p**, **q**-slots of distributions show the parameter values with which they were generated; in particular, convolutions and applications of the group **math** may be traced in the **r**-slot of a distribution object, compare
`r(sin(Norm()) + cos(Unif()) *3 + 2))`.

Initially, it might be irritating that the same “arithmetic” expression evaluated twice in a row gives two different results, compare

```

> A1 <- Norm(); A2 <- Unif()
> d(sin(A1 + A2))(0.1)

```

```
[1] 0.3721751
> d(sin(A1 + A2))(0.1)
[1] 0.3703512
> sin(A1 + A2)
```

Distribution Object of Class: AbscontDistribution

This is due to the fact, that all slots are filled starting from simulations. To explain this, a warning is issued by default, whenever a `Distribution` object, filled by such simulations is shown or printed; this also applies to the last line in the preceding code snippet. This behaviour may again be switched off by setting the global option `WarningSim` to `FALSE` (see section~5).

As they are frequently needed, from version 1.9 on, math operations `abs()`, `exp()`, and—if an R-version $\geq 2.6.0$ is used—also `log()` are implemented in an analytically exact form, i.e.; with exact expressions for slots `d`, `p`, and `q`.

3.5 Construction of `d`, `p`, and `q` from `r`

In order to facilitate automatic generation of new distributions, in particular those arising as image distributions under transformations of correspondingly distributed random variables, we provide ad hoc methods that should be overloaded by more exact ones wherever possible. As, at least in principle each of these slots is sufficient for the reconstruction of the other ones, we follow the following strategy:

<code>d</code>	<code>p</code>	<code>q</code>	<code>r</code>	reconstruction
+	+	+	+	no reconstruction necessary
+	+	+	-	<code>r</code> as <code>q(X)(runif(n))</code>
+	+	-	+	<code>q</code> by numerical inversion from <code>p</code>
+	+	-	-	<code>q</code> again from <code>p</code> and <code>r</code> again from slot <code>q</code>
+	-	+	+	<code>p</code> by numerical integration from <code>d</code>
+	-	+	-	<code>p</code> from <code>d</code> , and <code>r</code> from <code>q</code>
+	-	-	+	<code>p</code> from <code>d</code> , and <code>q</code> from <code>p</code>
+	-	-	-	<code>p</code> from <code>d</code> , <code>q</code> from <code>p</code> and <code>r</code> from <code>q</code>
-	+	+	+	<code>d</code> by numerical differentiation (with <code>D1ss</code> from package "sfsmisc" from <code>p</code>)
-	+	+	-	<code>d</code> from <code>p</code> , <code>r</code> from <code>q</code>
-	+	-	+	<code>d</code> , <code>q</code> from <code>p</code>
-	+	-	-	<code>d</code> , <code>q</code> from <code>p</code> , <code>r</code> from <code>q</code>
-	-	+	+	<code>p</code> by numerical inversion from <code>q</code> , <code>d</code> from <code>p</code>
-	-	+	-	<code>p</code> , <code>r</code> from <code>q</code> , <code>d</code> from <code>p</code>
-	-	-	+	use <code>RtoDPQ</code>
-	-	-	-	not allowed

More specifically, by means of the function `RtoDPQ` we first generate $10^{\text{RtoDPQ.e}}$ random numbers where `RtoDPQ.e` is a global option of this package and is discussed in section 5. A density estimator is evaluated along this sample, the distribution function is estimated by the empirical c.d.f. and, finally, the quantile function is produced by numerical inversion. Of course the result is rather crude as it relies on the law of large numbers only, but this way all transformations within the group `math` become available. If the input of the transformation is of class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, `RtoDPQ` is replaced by `RtoDPQ.LC`. In this case, replicated values are taken as belonging to the discrete part, for which the distribution is generated according to the corresponding frequencies with the generating function `DiscreteDistribution()`. With the remaining, non replicated values, the absolutely continuous part is reconstructed just as with `RtoDPQ`.

Where laws under transformations can easily be computed exactly —as for affine linear transformations— we replace this procedure by the exactly transformed `d`, `p`, `q`-methods.

3.6 Convolution

A convolution method for two independent r.v.'s is implemented by means of explicit calculations for discrete summands, and by means of DFT/FFT⁷ if one of the summands is absolutely continuous or (from version 1.9 on:) both are lattice distributed with a common lattice as support. This method automatically generates the law of the sum of two independent variables/distributions X and Y of any univariate distributions —or in S4-jargon: the addition operator "+" is overloaded for two objects of class `UnivariateDistribution` and corresponding subclasses.

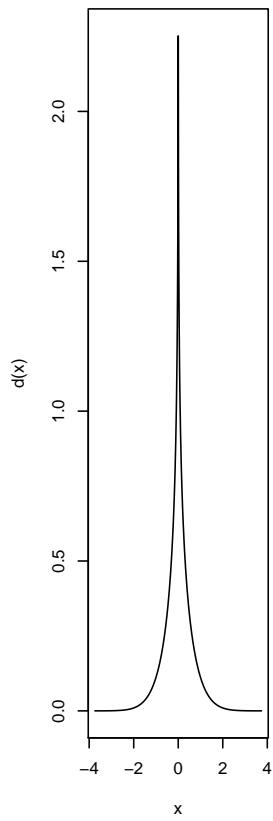
3.7 Further Binary Operators

Having implemented a class for Lebesgue decomposed distributions, we have been able to realize further binary operators, in particular we have exact analytical constructions for multiplication, division, exponentiation:

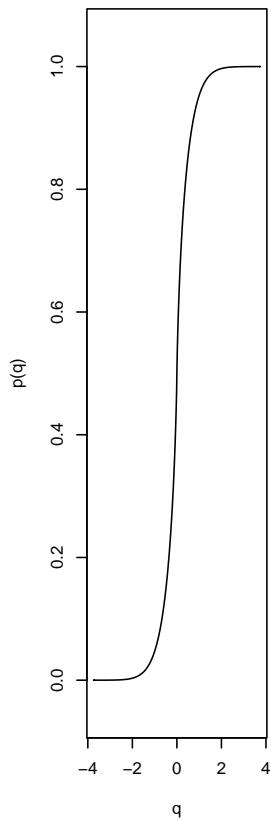
```
> A1 ← Norm(); A2 ← Unif()
> A1A2 ← A1*A2
> plot(A1A2)
```

⁷Details to be found in [5]

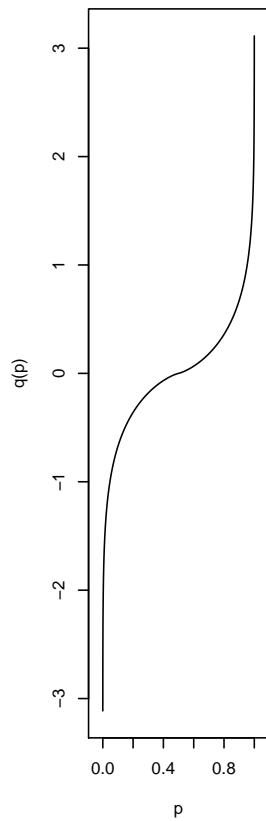
Density of AbscontDistribution



CDF of AbscontDistribution

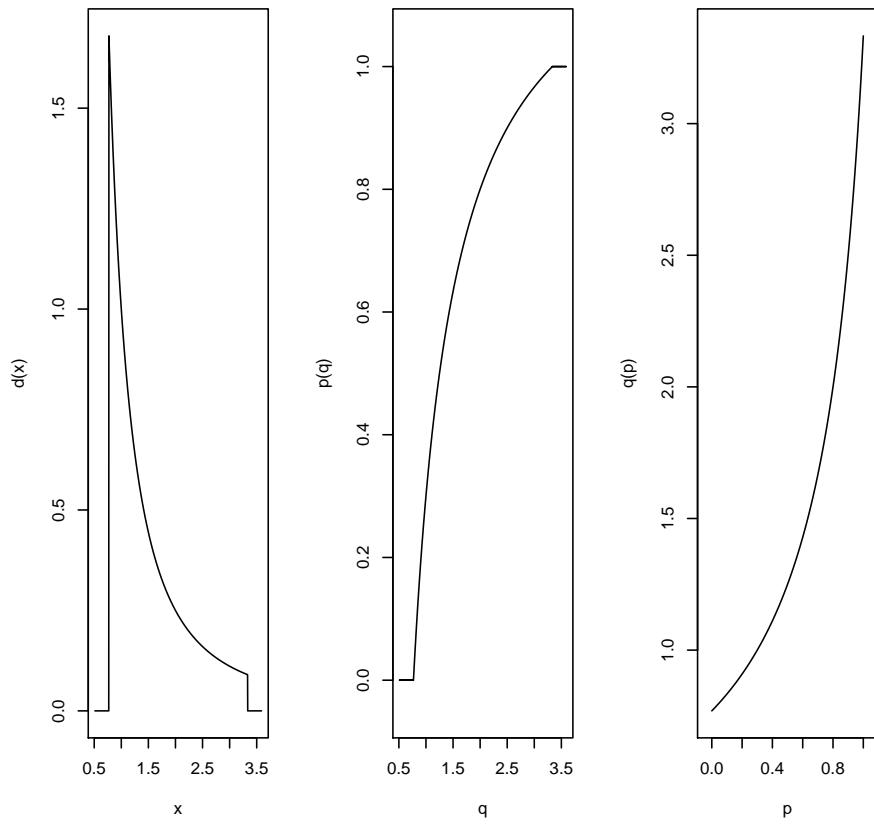


Quantile function of AbscontDistribution



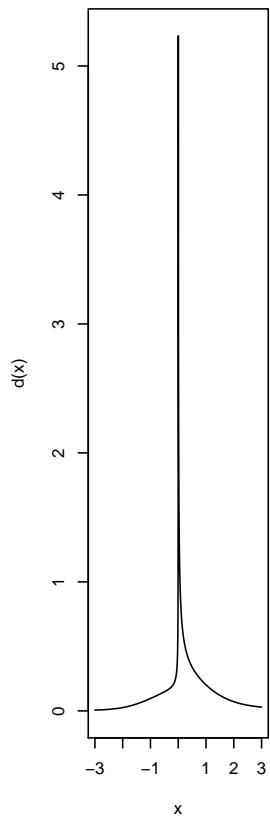
```
> A12 <- 1/(A2 + .3)
> plot(A12)
```

Density of AbscontDistribution CDF of AbscontDistribution Quantile function of AbscontDistribution

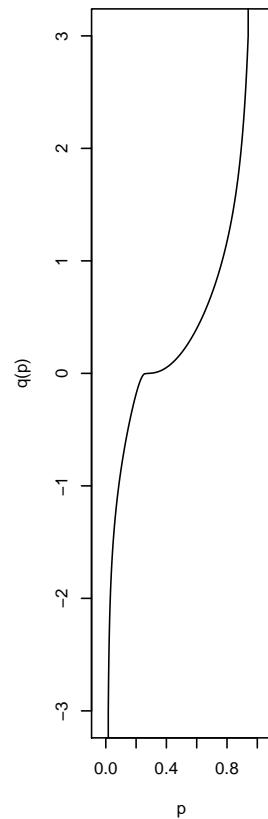
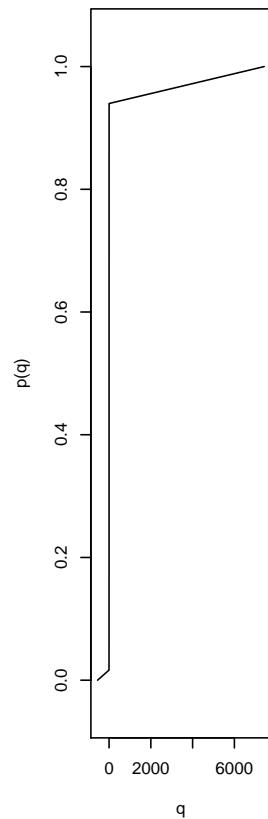


```
> B ← Binom(5, .2)+1
> A1B ← A1&B
> plot(A1B, xlim=c(-3,3))
```

Density of AbscontDistribution

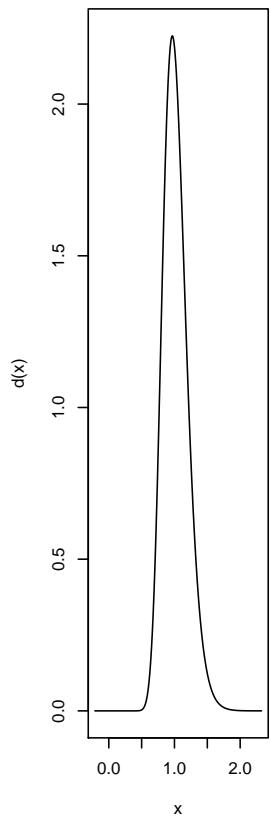


CDF of AbscontDistribution Quantile function of AbscontDistr

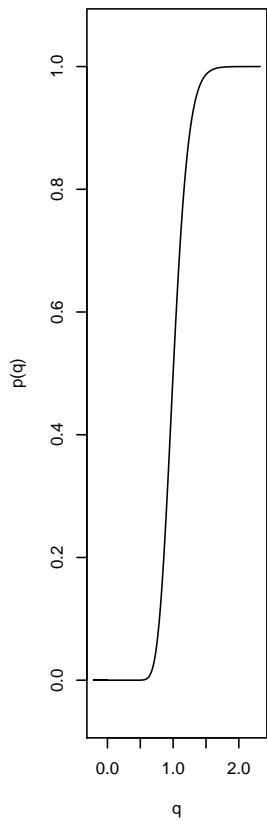


```
> plot(1.2^A1)
```

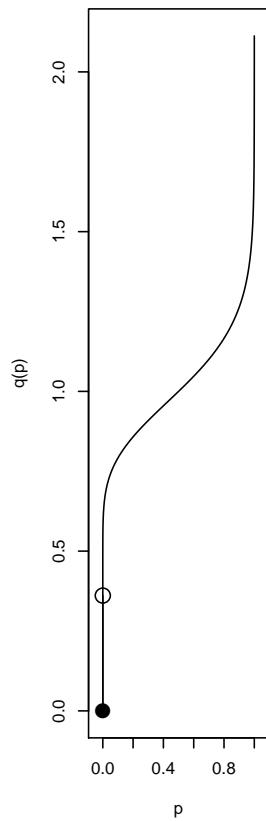
Density of AbscontDistribution



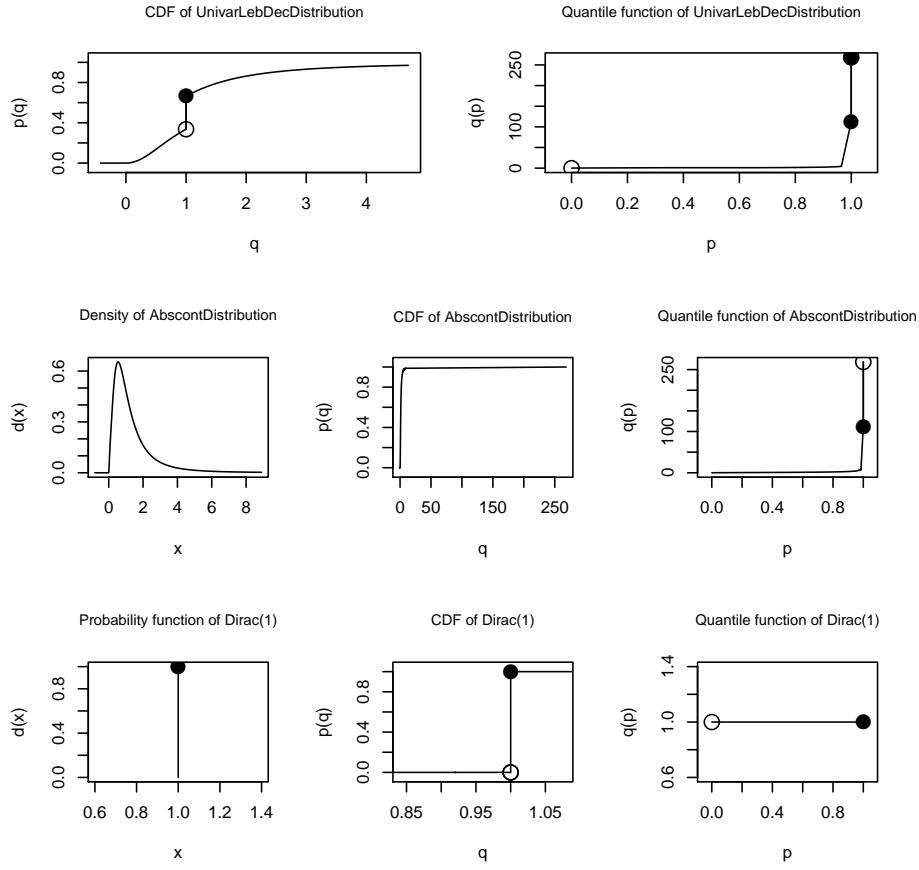
CDF of AbscontDistribution



Quantile function of AbscontDistribution



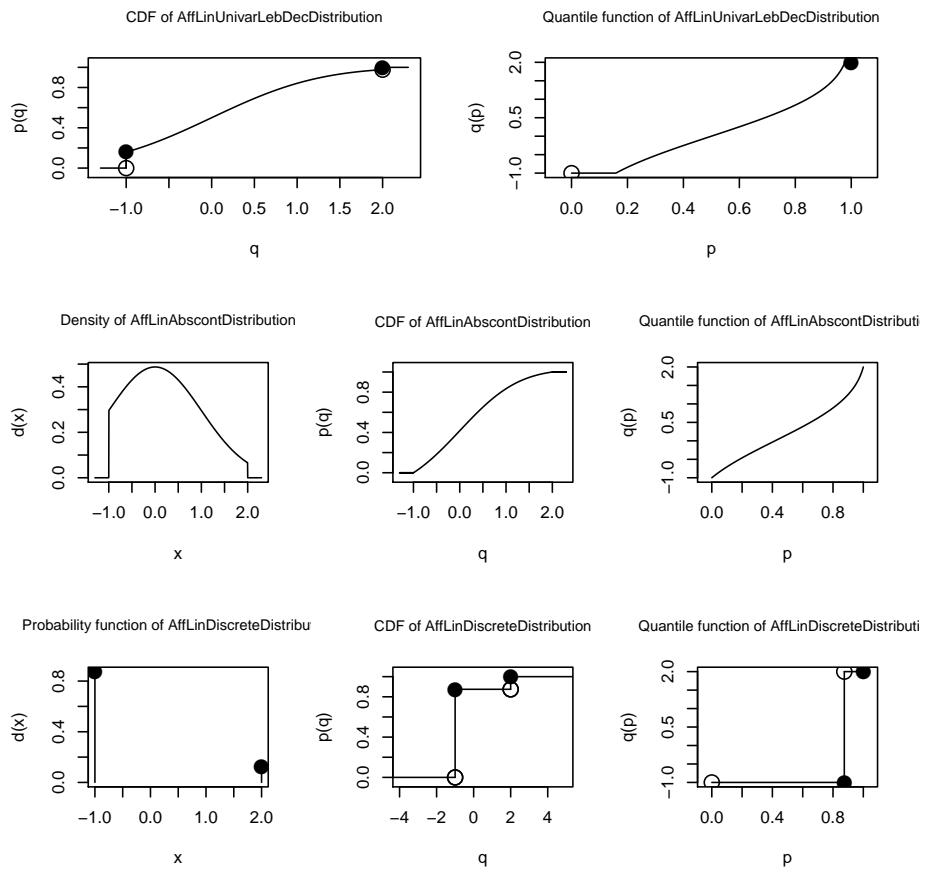
> `plot(B^A1)`



3.8 Truncation, Pairwise Minimum/Maximum, Huberization

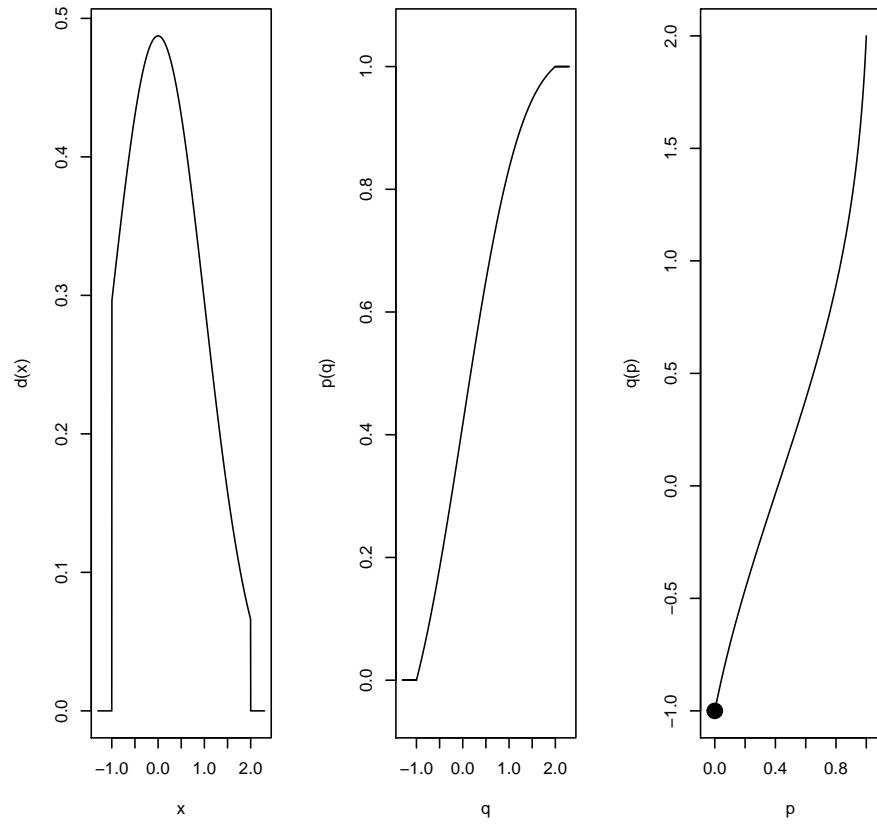
Up to version 2.0, we have had truncation, Huberization and minimum and maximum of random variables as illustrating demos; in particular the last three could not be realized in a completely satisfactory manour, as Lebesgue decomposed distributions had not been available before. Now these illustrations have moved into the package itself:

```
> H <- Huberize(Norm(), lower=-1, upper=2)
> plot(H)
```



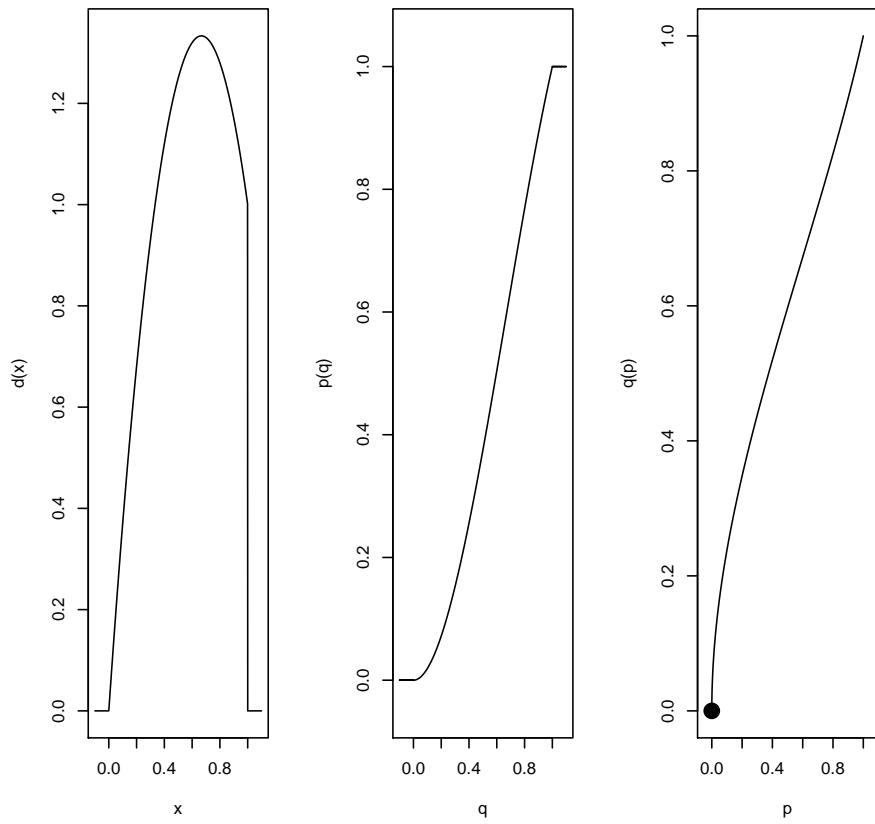
```
> T ← Truncate(Norm(), lower=-1, upper=2)
> plot(T)
```

Density of AbscontDistribution CDF of AbscontDistribution Quantile function of AbscontDistribution



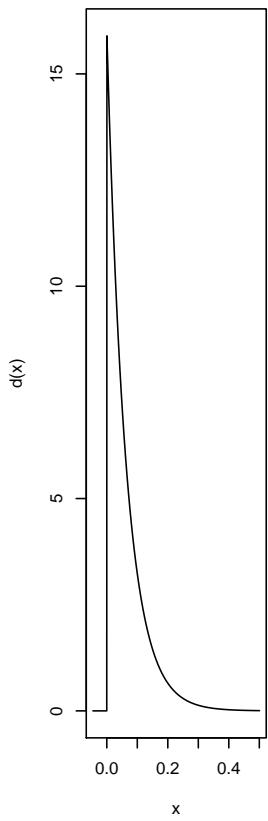
```
> M1 ← Maximum( Unif(0,1) , Minimum( Unif(0,1) , Unif(0,1)))
> plot(M1)
```

Density of AffLinAbscontDistribu CDF of AffLinAbscontDistributintile function of AffLinAbscontDis

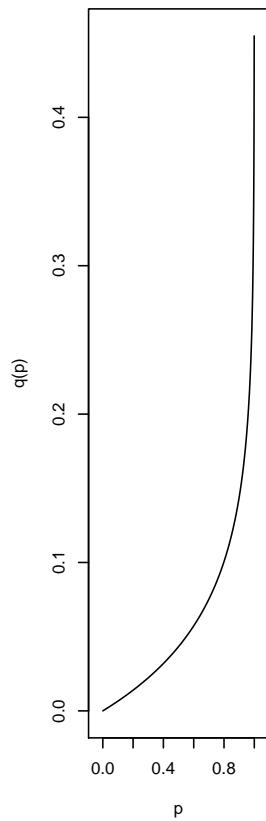
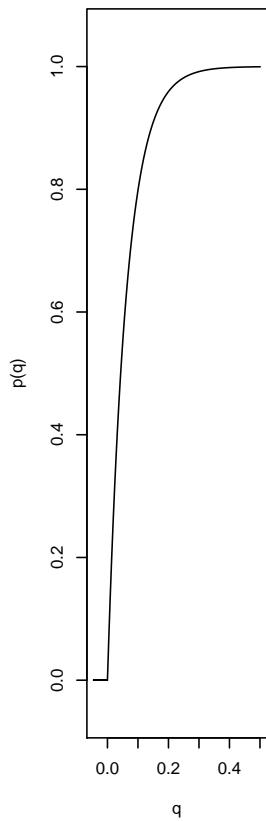


```
> M2 ← Minimum(Exp(4),4)
> plot(M2)
```

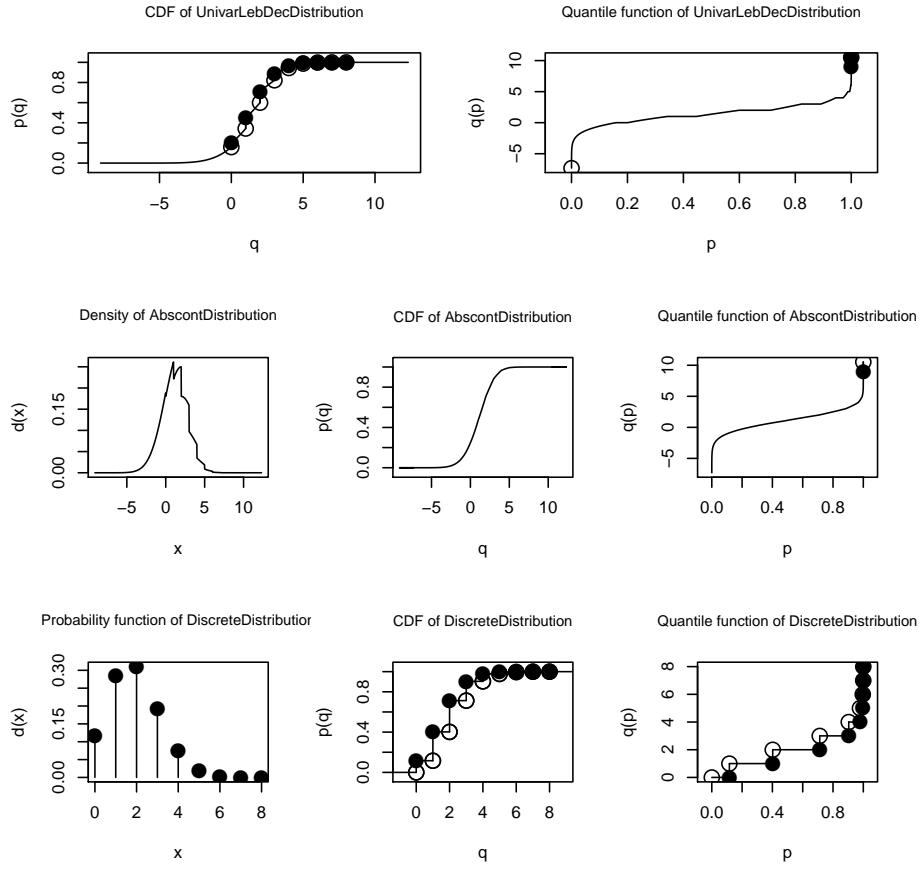
Density of AbscontDistribution



CDF of AbscontDistribution Quantile function of AbscontDistr



```
> M3 ← Minimum(Norm(2,2), Pois(3))
> plot(M3)
```



Enhanced accuracy by using log scales: Following an idea proposed by Peter Dalgaard on r-help, confer <https://stat.ethz.ch/pipermail/r-help/2008-September/174295.html> we use the `.log.p` argument to be able to simulate from the far out tails. To this end, from version 2.1, our distribution classes gain internal slots `.lowerExact` and `.logExact` which control whether the corresponding slot functions `p` and `q` use particular code for computing on the log-scale respectively whether they use explicit representations for upper quantiles (instead of computing $1 - \text{lowerQuantile}$). If a corresponding distribution object has slots `.lowerExact` and `.logExact` both `TRUE`, we may use this to produce accurate simulations, especially for respectively truncated distributions:

```
> N ← Norm()
> TN ← Truncate(N, 20, 22)
> r(TN)(20) ## simulation accurate although :
```

```
[1] 20.18190 20.09129 20.06288 20.02423 20.04142 20.00956 20.07262 20.00046
[9] 20.02980 20.01245 20.01586 20.00487 20.00453 20.09747 20.01602 20.03520
```

```
[17] 20.00740 20.10379 20.03575 20.04270
> p(N)(20, lower.tail = FALSE) ## prob that N ≥ 20
[1] 2.753624e-89
```

3.9 Additional helper functions

From version 1.9 on, there are methods `p.l` and `q.r` available for `DiscreteDistribution` objects for the left-continuous variant of the cdf, i.e.; $t \mapsto p.l(t) = P(X < t)$, and the right-continuous variant of the quantile function, i.e.;

$$s \mapsto q.r(s) = \sup\{t \mid P(\text{object} \leq t) \leq s\}$$

From version 2.1 on, `p.l` and `q.r`, are also available for class `AbscontDistribution` (where `q.r` takes care about correct treatment of gaps using helper function `modifyqgaps`), for class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, and for class `UnivarMixingDistribution`.

```
> B ← Binom(5,0.5)
> p(B)(3)
```

```
[1] 0.8125
```

```
> p.l(B)(3)
```

```
[1] 0.5
```

```
> q(B)(.5)
```

```
[1] 2
```

```
> q.r(B)(0.5)
```

```
[1] 3
```

Again from version 2.1 on, class `DiscreteDistribution` has a helper method `prob` which returns vector of probabilities for the support points. More precisely, the return value is a numeric vector named by the values of support points. This method is also available for objects of class `UnivarLebDecDistribution` where it returns a two-row matrix where the column names are the values of the support points, and the first row, named "`cond`", contains the probabilities of the discrete part (summing up to 1), while the second row, named "`abd`" contains the probabilities of discrete part multiplied with `discreteWeight`; hence these values are the absolute probabilities of the support points.

Again for objects of class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, we have methods `p.ac`, `d.ac`, `p.discrete`, `d.discrete` to give the density/probability and the cumulative distribution function of the

discrete and absolutely continuous (**ac**) part of the distribution. All these methods have an extra argument **CondOrAbs** with default value "**cond**", which if it does not partially match "**abs**", returns exactly slot **p** (resp. **d**) the respective a.c./ discrete part of the object; else the return value is weighted by the respective weight of the part, i.e. **acWeight/discreteWeight**.

```
> B0 ← as(Binom(5, 0.5), "DiscreteDistribution")
> ## coercion necessary:
> ## otherwise slot "prob" of B0 will be returned
> prob(B0)
```

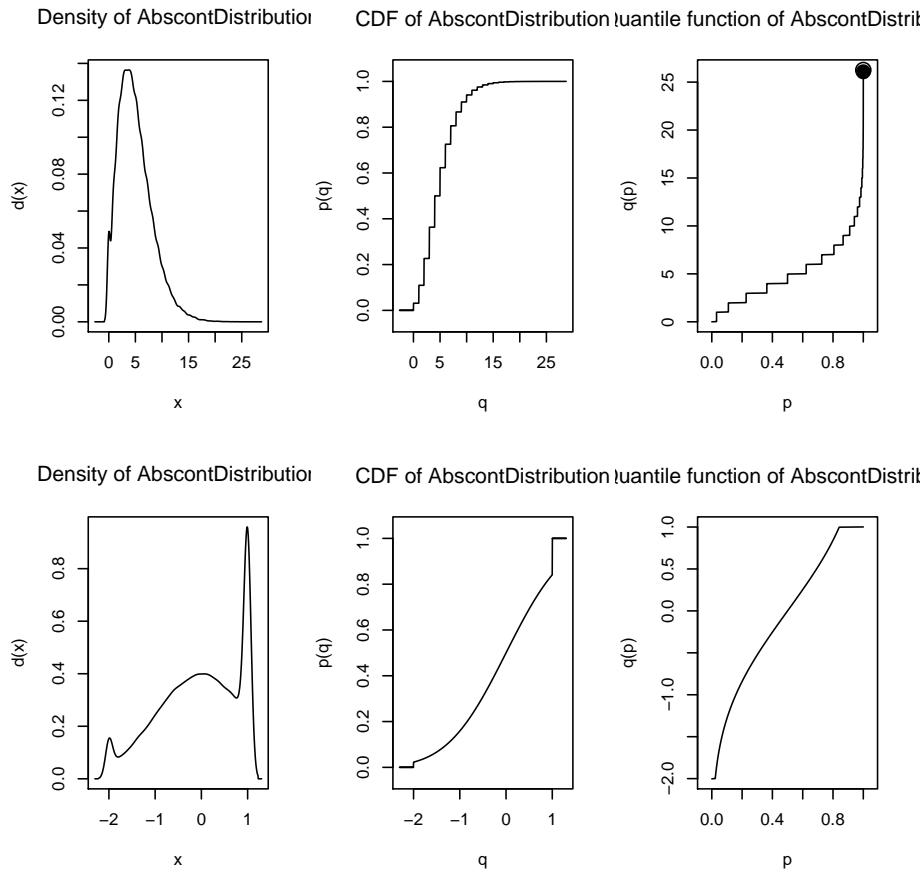
0	1	2	3	4	5
0.03125	0.15625	0.31250	0.31250	0.15625	0.03125

```
> HN ← Huberize(N, -2, 1)
> prob(HN)
```

-2	1
cond 0.12541045	0.8745895
abs 0.02275013	0.1586553

In order to convert arbitrary univariate distributions to **AbscontDistribution** from version 2.1 on, we have function **makeAbscontDistribution** which takes slot **p** and uses **AbscontDistribution()** to generate a corresponding smoothed version; to smear out mass points on the border of the support, these upper and lower bounds are somewhat enlarged. Note that in the result, slots **p** and **q** are not replaced but rather taken unchanged from the argument:

```
> par(mfrow=c(2,3))
> plot(makeAbscontDistribution(Nbinom(5, .5)), mfColRow=FALSE)
> plot(makeAbscontDistribution(HN), mfColRow=FALSE)
> par(mfrow=c(1,1))
```



Methods `getLow`, `setUp` available for classes `DiscreteDistribution`, `AbscontDistribution`, `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, and `UnivarMixingDistribution` return “numerical” end points of the respective supports: if these distributions have finite end points, these are returned, else a lower/upper `eps`-quantile is returned, where `ep`, by default, is set to global options `TruncQuantile`.

```
> getLow(Nbinom(5,0.5))
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
> setUp(Nbinom(5,0.5))
```

```
[1] 61
```

```
> getLow(Norm(5,0.5))
```

```
[1] 2.867555
```

```
> getUp(Norm(5,0.5))  
[1] 7.132445
```

3.10 Overloaded generic functions

Methods `print`, `plot`, `show` and `summary` have been overloaded for classes `Distribution`, `Dataclass`, `Simulation`, `ContSimulation`, as well as `Evaluation` and `EvaluationList` to produce “pretty” output. More specifically there are also particular `show` methods for classes `UnivarDistrList`, `UnivarMixingDistribution` and `UnivarLebDecDistribution`. `print`, `plot`, `show` and `summary` have additional, optional arguments for plotting subsets of the simulations / results: index vectors for the dimensions, the runs, the observations, and the evaluations may be passed using arguments `obs0`, `runs0`, `dims0`, `eval0`, confer
`help("<mthd>-methods", package=<pkg>)` where `<mthd>` stands for `plot`, `show`, `print`, or `plot`, and `<pkg>` stands for either "distrSim" or "distrTEst".

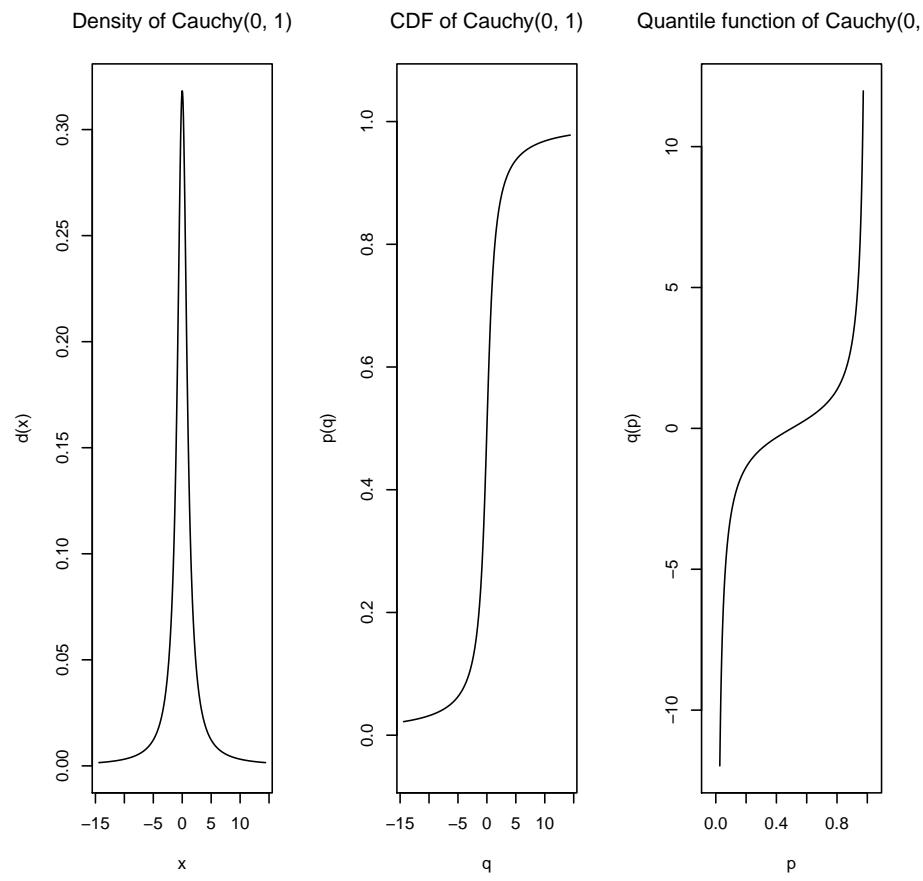
3.11 Plotting

3.11.1 Plotting for `Distribution` objects

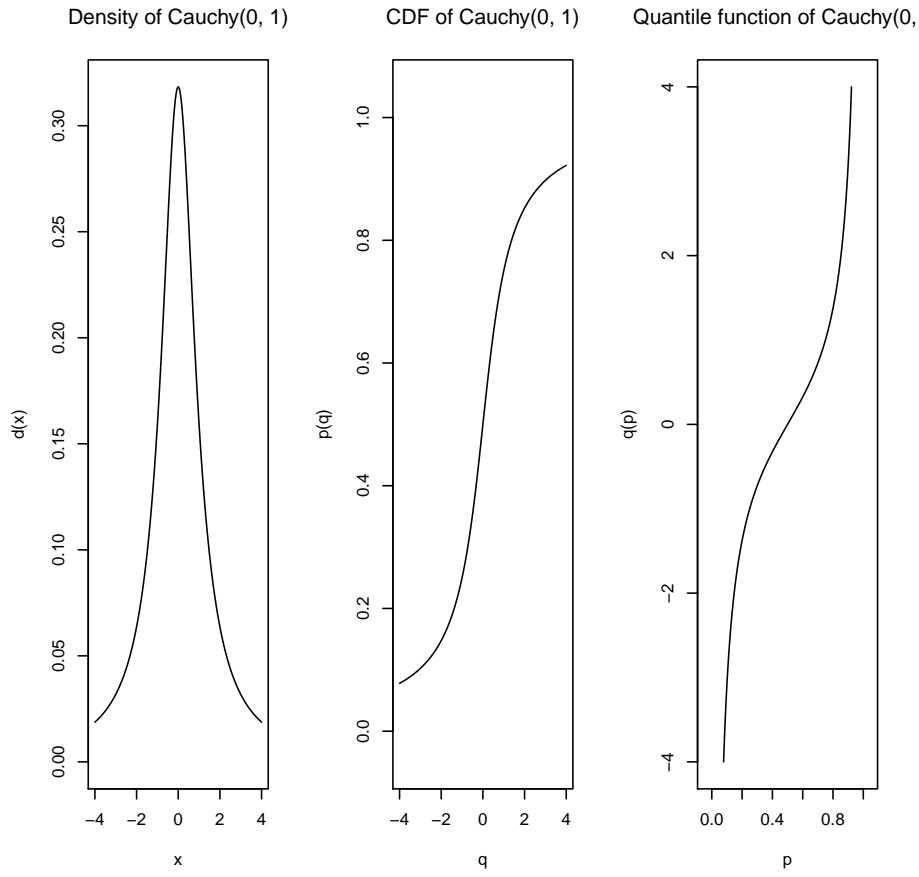
For an object of class `Distribution`, `plot` displays the density/probability function, the c.d.f. and the quantile function of a distribution. Note that all usual parameters of `plot` remain valid. For instance, you may increase the axis annotations and so on. `plot()` can also cope with `log`-arguments.

xlim argument: More importantly, you may also override the automatically chosen x -region by passing an `xlim` argument:

```
> plot(Cauchy())
```



```
> plot(Cauchy(), xlim=c(-4,4))
```



From version 2.1,

the automatic choice of the x-range of `plot` for distributions has been enhanced: just as for expectation (see subsection~3.17.1) we use both a quantile and a scale based approach to get sensible values. Also argument `ylim` can now be matrix-valued to use different limits for the various panels (`d`, `p`, `q`, or in case of `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, `p`, `q`, `d.ac`, `p.ac`, `q.ac`, `d.discrete`, `p.discrete`, `q.discrete`).

titles: Moreover you may control optional main, inner titles and subtitles with arguments `main` / `sub` / `inner`. To this end there are preset strings substituted in both expression and character vectors (where in the following `x` denotes the argument with which `plot()` was called)

%A deparsed argument `x`

%C class of argument `x`

%P comma-separated list of parameter values of slot `param` of argument `x`

%Q comma-separated list of parameter values of slot `param` of argument `x` in parenthesis unless this list is empty; then ""

%N comma-separated <name> = <value> - list of parameter values of slot `param` of argument `x`

%D time/date at which plot is/was generated

As usual you may control title sizes and colors with `cex.main` / `cex.inner` / `cex.sub` respectively with `col` / `col.main` / `col.inner` / `col.sub`. Additionally it may be helpful to control top and bottom margins with arguments `bmar`, `tmar`.

step-function features: We provide different default symbols for unattained [`pch.u`] / attained [`pch.a`] one-sided limits, which may be overridden by corresponding arguments `pch` / `pch.a` / `pch.u`.

For objects of class `AbscontDistribution`, you may set the number of grid points used by an `ngrid` argument; also the “quantile”-panel takes care of finite left/right endpoints of support and optionally tries to identify constancy region of the `p`-slot.

For objects of class `DiscreteDistributions`, we use `stepfun()` from package "base" as far as possible and (also for panel "q" for `AbscontDistributions`) consequently take over its arguments `do.points`, `verticals`, `col.points` / `col.vert` / `col.hor` and `cex.points`.

As examples consider the following plots: The standard plot for a discrete distribution is shown in Figure~7.

Omitting the point symbols at jump points (`do.points = FALSE`) and the corresponding vertical lines (`verticals = FALSE`) in the `p` and `q` panels gives Figure~8.

Instead we might use a somewhat enlarged (`cex.main = 1.6`) main title (`main = TRUE`) and omit the panel titles (`inner = FALSE`). To this end, we should increase the margin between main title and panels (by `tmar = 6`). This is shown in Figure~9.

Changing point sizes (`cex.points`) and line width (`lwd`), and using (default) panel titles (set `TRUE` by default) gives a somewhat different picture as in Figure~10.

Different colors for different plot elements can be used by arguments `col` (general), `col.points` (jump points), `col.sub` (sub-titles), `col.inner` (panel titles). In Figure~11, this is shown; the figure uses main (`main = TRUE`), inner (`TRUE` by default) and sub (`sub = TRUE`) titles, using the default titles respectively.

Changing plot size for marking the jump points by `cex.points = 1.2` and selecting symbols for left limits (by `pch.u = 20`) and right values (by `pch.a = 20`) at jump points is exemplified in Figure~12.

Using log-scale for both axes by `log = "xy"` and a reduced number of grid points for plotting by `ngrid = 200` is shown in Figure~13.

Changing line type by `lty = 3` and color by `col = "red"`, axis notation orientation by `las = 2` and the number of grid points used for plotting by `ngrid = 200` is shown in Figure~14.

```
> plot(Binom(size = 4, prob = 0.3))
```

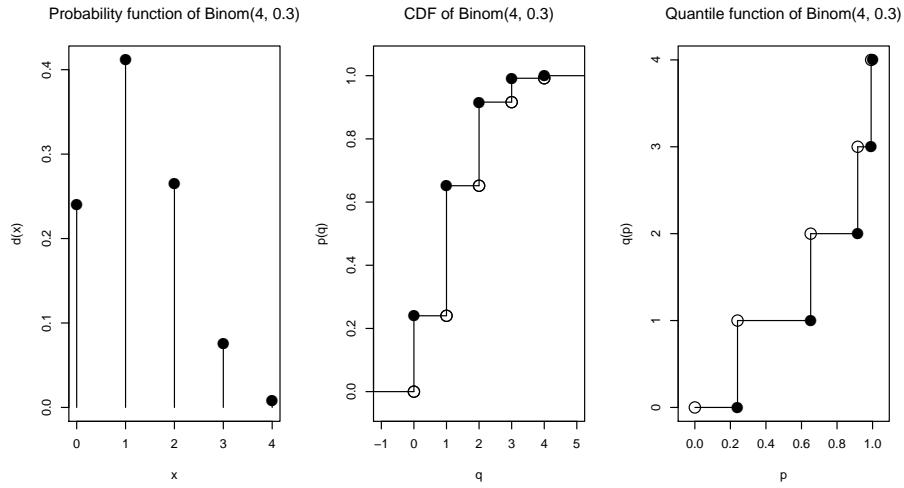


Figure 7: Standard plot for discrete distributions

```
> plot(Binom(size = 4, prob = 0.3), do.points = FALSE, verticals = FALSE)
```

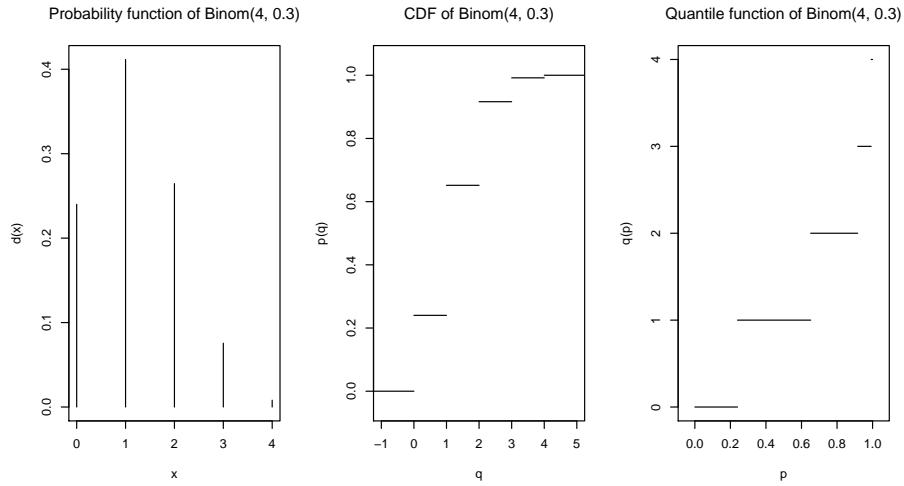


Figure 8: Plot for discrete distributions without extra symbols at jump points and vertical lines

```
> plot(Binom(size = 4, prob = 0.3), main = TRUE, inner = FALSE, cex.main = 1.6,
+       tmar = 6)
```

Distribution Plot for $\text{Binom}(\text{size} = 4, \text{prob} = 0.3)$

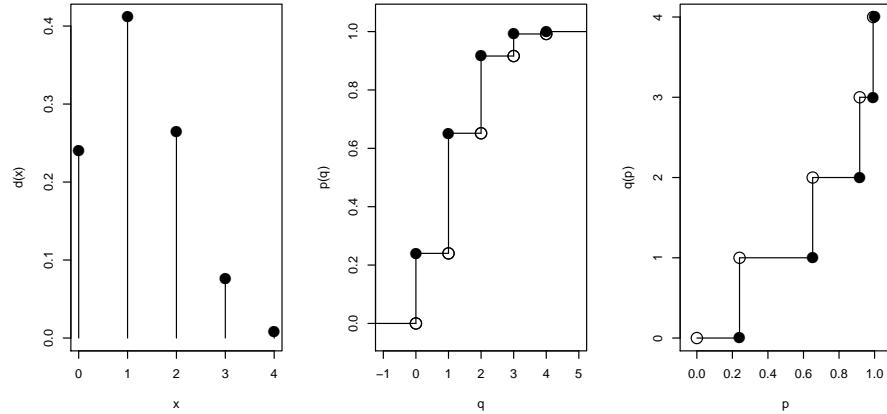


Figure 9: Plot for discrete distributions using a main title

```
> plot(Binom(size = 4, prob = 0.3), cex.points = 1.2, pch = 20, lwd = 2)
```

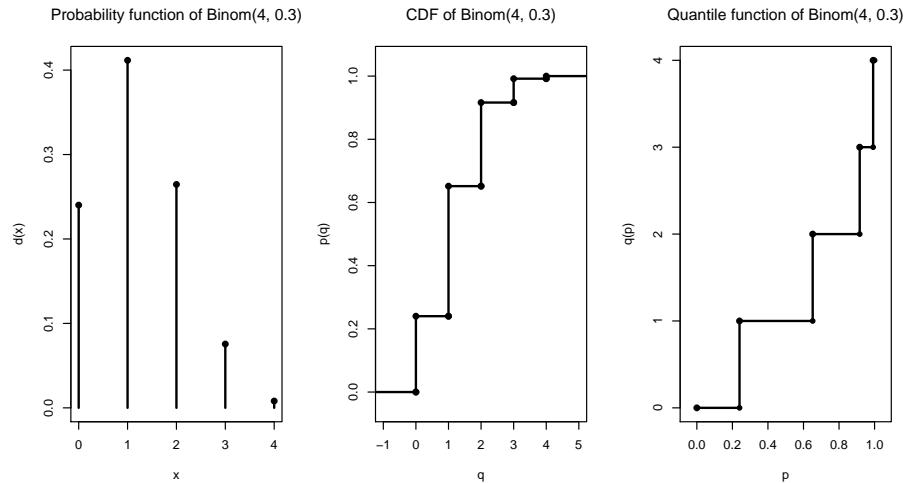


Figure 10: Plot for discrete distributions using panel titles and changed point sizes

```

> B <- Binom(size = 4, prob = 0.3)
> plot(B, col="red", col.points = "green", main = TRUE, col.main="blue",
+       col.sub = "orange", sub = TRUE, cex.sub = 0.6, col.inner = "brown")

```

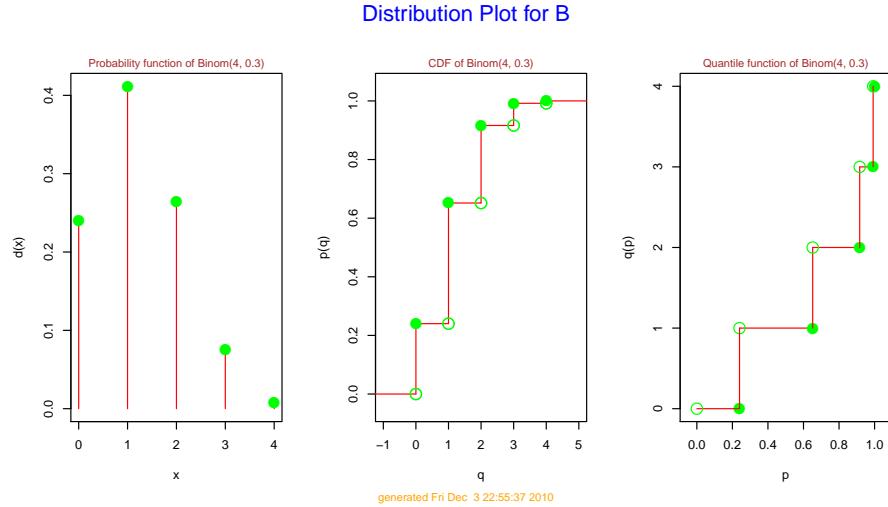


Figure 11: Plot for discrete distributions using main, panel and sub titles with changed colors

```
> plot(Nbinom(size = 4, prob = 0.3), cex.points = 1.2, pch.u = 20, pch.a = 10)
```

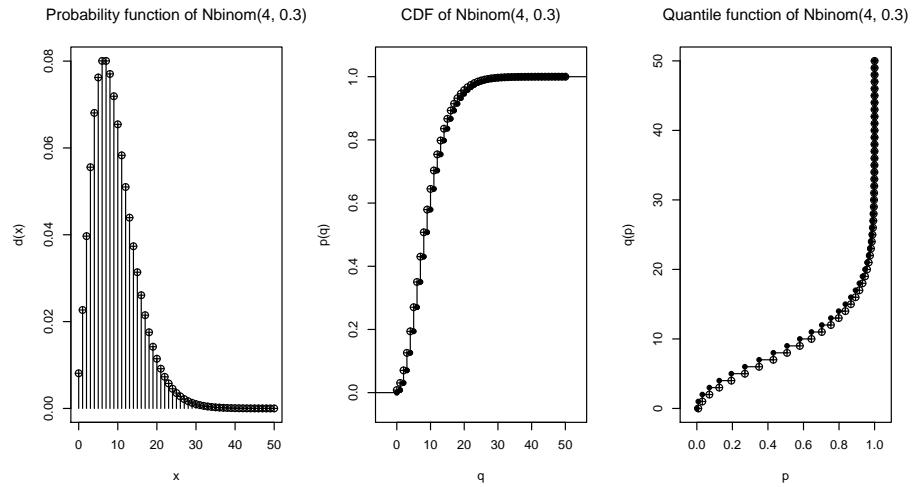


Figure 12: Plot for discrete distributions with different symbols for marking jump points

```
> plot(Chisq(), log = "xy", ngrid = 100)
```

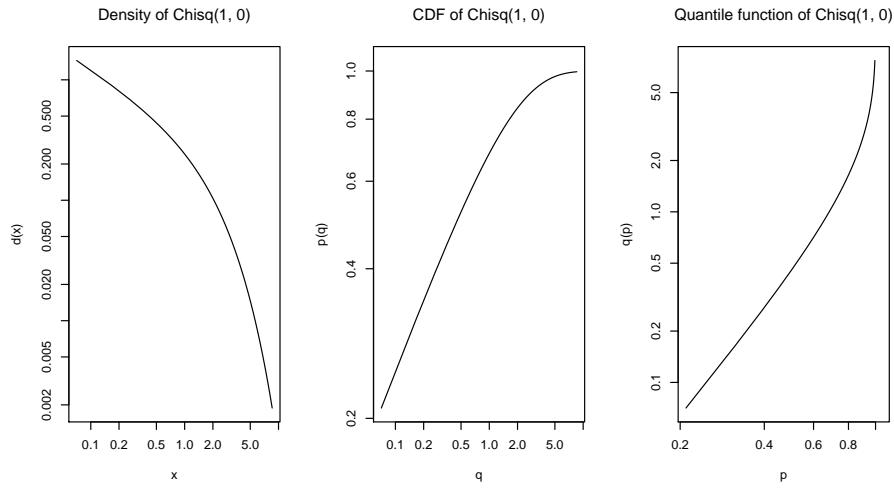


Figure 13: Plot for absolutely continuous distributions using log scales

```
> plot(Norm(), lwd=3, col = "red", ngrid = 200, lty = 3, las = 2)
```

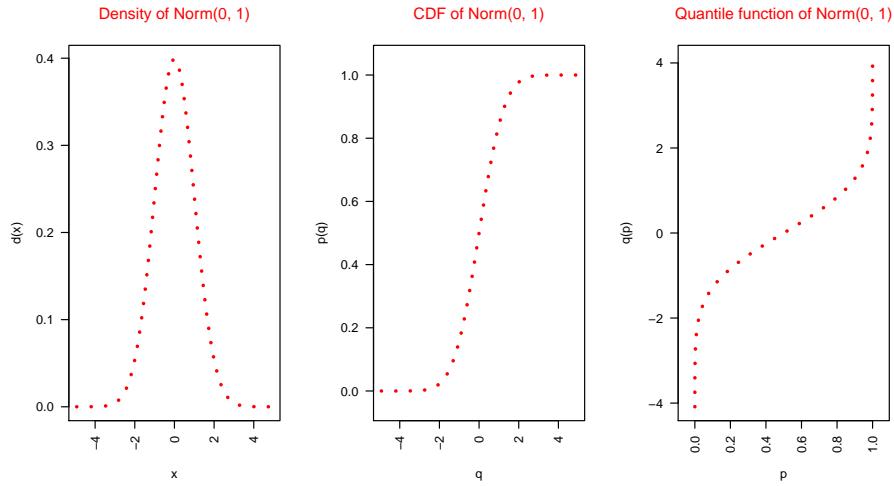


Figure 14: Plot for absolutely continuous distributions with different line type and reduced number of grid points

You may also use hook functions in distribution plots from version 2.0 on, which is especially useful for plotting grids in the background as shown in Figure~15; this plot also has non-default titles using preset strings substitutions (%N, %C, %P, %A, %D).

Special care is taken to correctly depict jumps in the quantile function / gaps in the support; from version 2.0 on you have function `setgaps()` to automatically such gaps, but in case of very small density values this may give some “false positives” as shown for the χ^2 distribution in Figure~16

From version 2.0 on, you may override the given panel configuration using argument `mfColRow=FALSE` —see Figure~17.

Following a suggestion by [Anthony Unwin](#), from version 2.1 you may also select the panels you like to plot, using argument `to.draw.arg`; the corresponding panels are named and may either be given by name or by number (the rank in drawing the default “complete” plot); for details see `?plot`. As example for this panel selection, see Figure~18.

3.11.2 Plotting for `Dataclass` objects

For objects of class `Dataclass` —or of a corresponding subclass— `plot` plots the sample against the run index and in case of `ContSimulation` the contaminating variables are highlighted by a different color. Additional arguments controlling the plot as in the default `plot` command may be passed, confer `help("plot-methods", package="distrSim")`.

3.11.3 Plotting for `Evaluation` objects

For an object of class `Evaluation`, `plot` yields a boxplot of the results of the evaluation. For an object of class `EvaluationList`, `plot` regroups the list according to the different columns/-coordinates of the result of the evaluation; for each such coordinate, a boxplot is generated, containing possibly several procedures, and, if evaluated at a `Contsimulation`, the plots are also grouped into evaluations on ideal and real data. As for the usual `boxplot` function you may pass additional “`plot`-type” arguments to this particular `plot` method, confer `help("plot-methods", package="distrTEst")`. In particular, the `plot`-arguments `main` and `ylim`, however, may also be transmitted coordinatewise, i.e.; a vector of the same length as the dimension of the result `resDim` (e.g. parameter dimension), respectively a $2 \times \text{resDim}$ matrix, or they may be transmitted globally, using the usual `S` recycling rules.

3.11.4 Plotting for `L2paramFamily` objects

In package "distrMod" we have an additional plotting method for class `L2paramFamily`; besides the underlying model distribution this also plots the coordinates of the L_2 -derivative (scores function). From version 2.1 on, this plot is as flexible as the one for `Distribution`. You can select the panels to be plotted by argument `to.draw.arg`, and may use (almost) all arguments generally available for `plot`. In particular, also you may use an argument `panel.first =grid()` to produce a grid behind the panel.

```

> plot(Norm(), panel.first = grid(), main = "my Distribution: %A",
+       inner = list(expression(paste(lambda, "-density of %C(%P)")), "CDF",
+                     "Pseudo-inverse with param's %N"),
+       sub = "this plot was correctly generated on %D",
+       cex.inner = 0.9, cex.sub = 0.8)

```

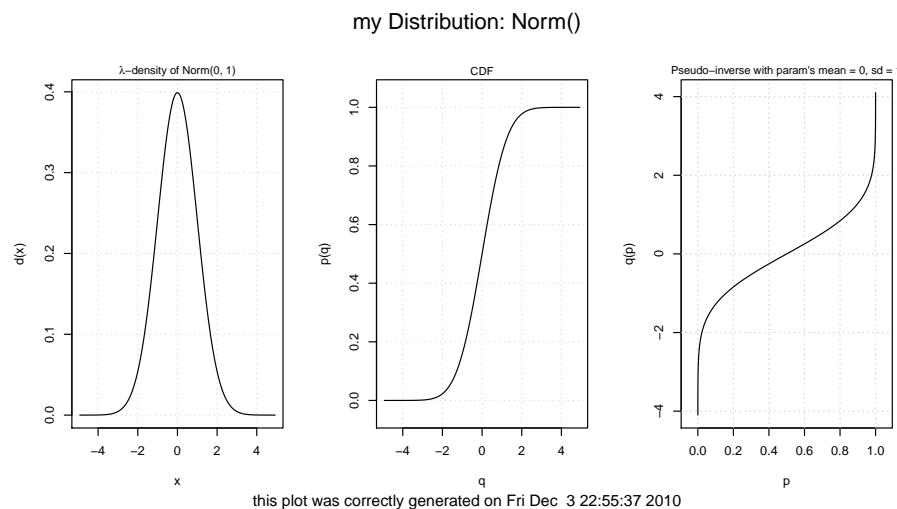


Figure 15: Plot for absolutely continuous distributions using non-standard titles and with a background grid

```

> Ch <- Chisq(); setgaps(Ch, exactq = 3)
> plot(Ch, cex = 1.2, pch.u = 20, pch.a = 10, col.points = "green",
+       col.vert = "red")

```

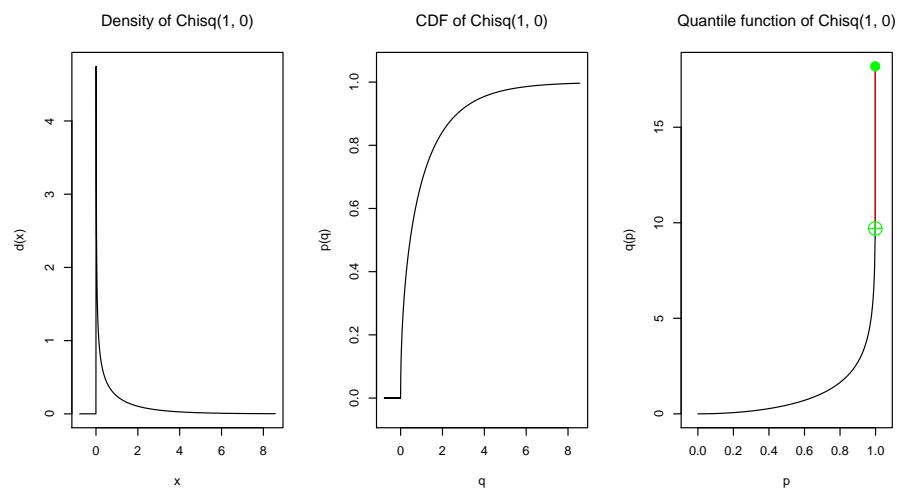


Figure 16: Plot for absolutely continuous distributions with automatic gap detection

```

> layout(matrix(c(1,3,2,3), nrow=2))
> plot(N, mfColRow = FALSE)

```

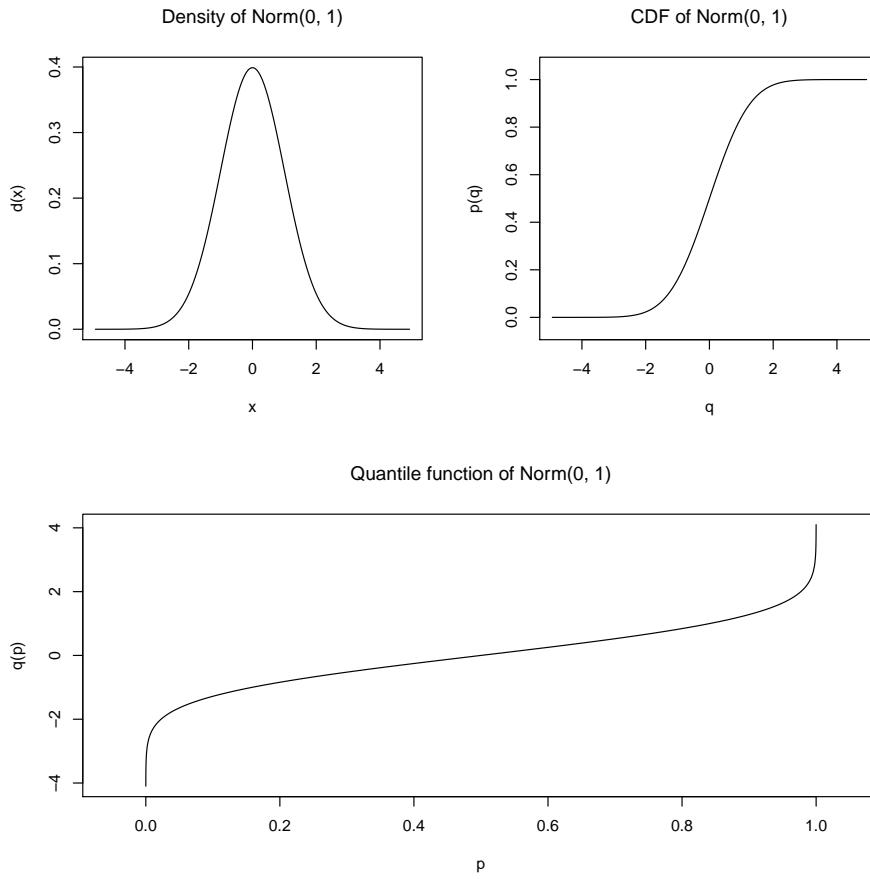


Figure 17: Plot for absolutely continuous distributions using non-standard panel configuration

```

> layout (matrix(c(rep(1,6),2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5,5,6,6,6),
+ nrow=3, byrow=TRUE))
> plot(HN, mfColRow = FALSE,
+       to.draw.arg=c("p","d.c","p.c","q.c","p.d","q.d"))

```

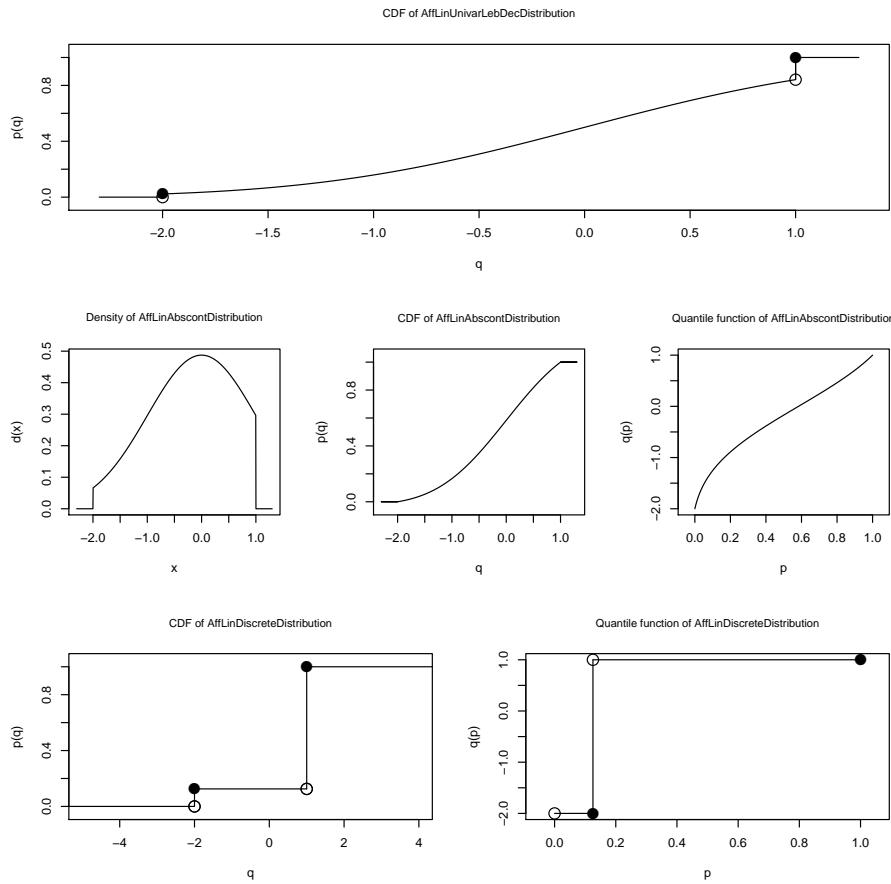


Figure 18: Plot for Lebesgue decomposed distributions with user-chosen selection of plotted panels

3.12 `liesInSupport`

For all discrete distribution classes, we have methods `liesInSupport` to check whether a given vector/ a matrix of points lies in the support of the distribution.

3.13 Simulation (in package "distrSim")

From version 1.6 on, `simulation` is available in package "distrSim".

For the classes `Simulation` and `ContSimulation`, we normally will not save the current values of the simulation, as they can easily be reproduced knowing the values of the other slots of this class. So when declaring a new object of either of the two classes, the slot `Data` will be empty (`NULL`). To fill it with the simulated values, we have to apply the method `simulate` to the object. This has to be redone whenever another slot of the object is changed. To guarantee reproducibility, we use the slot `seed`.

This slot is controlled and set through Paul Gilbert's "setRNG" package. By default, `seed` is set to `setRNG()`, which returns the current "state" of the random number generator (RNG). So the user does not need to specify a value for `seed`, and nevertheless may reproduce his samples: He simply uses `simulate` to fill the `Data` slot. If the user wants to, he may also set the `seed` explicitly via the replacement function `seed()`, but has to take care of the correct format himself, confer the documentation of `setRNG`. One easy way to fill the `Data` slot of a simulation `X` with "new" random numbers is

```
> X <- Simulation()
> seed(X) <- setRNG()
> simulate(X)
> Data(X)[1:10]
[1] -0.1152901  1.6610856 -0.5629996 -0.6683605  1.8187793  1.2977440
[7] -1.8455649  0.8289848 -1.5627997 -0.9419792
```

3.14 Evaluate (in package "distrTEst")

From version 1.6 on `evaluate` is available in "distrTEst".

In an object of class `Evaluation` we store relevant information about an evaluation of a statistical procedure (estimator/test/predictor) on an object of class `Dataclass`, including the concrete results of this evaluation. An object of class `Evaluation` is generated by an application of method `evaluate` which takes as arguments an object of class `Dataclass` and a procedure of type `function`. As an example, confer Example~13.8. For data of class `Contsimulation`, the result takes a slightly different, combining evalutions on ideal and real data.

3.15 Is-Relations

By means of `setIs`, we have "told" R that a distribution object `obj` of class

- "Unif" with `Min` $\doteq 0$ and `Max` $\doteq 1$ also is a Beta distribution with parameters `shape1 = 1, shape2 = 1`
- "Geom" also is a negative Binomial distribution with parameters `size = 1, prob = prob(obj)`
- "Cauchy" with `location` $\doteq 0$ and `scale` $\doteq 1$ also is a T distribution with parameters `df = 1, ncp = 0`
- "Exp" also is a Gamma distribution with parameters `shape = 1, scale = 1/rate(obj)` and a Weibull distribution with parameters `shape = 1, scale = 1/rate(obj)`
- "Chisq" with non-centrality `ncp` $\doteq 0$ also is a Gamma distribution with parameters `shape = df(obj)/2, scale = 2`
- "DiscreteDistribution" (from version 1.9 on) with an equally spaced support also is a "LatticeDistribution"

3.16 Further methods

When iterating/chaining mathematical operations on a univariate distribution, generation process of random variables can become clumsy and slow. To cope with this, we introduce a sort of “Forget-my-past”-method `simplifyr` that replaces the chain of mathematical operations in the `r`-method by drawing with replacement from a large sample ($10^{\text{RtoDPQ.e}}$) of these.

3.17 Functionals (in package "distrEx")

3.17.1 Expectation

The most important contribution of package "distrEx" is a general expectation operator. In basic statistic courses, the expectation E may come as $E[X]$, $E[f(X)]$, $E[X|Y = y]$, or $E[f(X)|Y = y]$. Our operator (or in S4-language “generic function”) `E` covers all of these situations (or *signatures*).

default call The most frequent call will be `E(X)` where `X` is an (almost) arbitrary distribution object. More precisely, if `X` is of a specific distribution class like `Pois`, it is evaluated exactly using analytic terms. Else if it is of class `DiscreteDistribution` we use a sum over the support of `X`, and if it is of class `AbscontDistribution` we use numerical integration⁸; for `X` of class `UnivarLebDecDistribution`, expectations for discrete and absolutely continuous part are evaluated separately and subsequently combined according to their respective

⁸i.e., we first try (really(!): `try`) `integrate` and if this fails we use Gauß-Legendre integration according to [6], see also `?distrExIntegrate`

weights. If we only know that X is of class `UnivariateDistribution` we use Monte-Carlo integration. This also is the default method in for class `MultivariateDistribution`, while for `DiscreteMVDistribution` we again use sums. For an object Y of a subclass of class union `AffLinDistribution`, we determine the expectation as $Y@a * E(Y@X0) + Y@b$ and hence use analytic terms for $X0$ if available.

with a function as argument we proceed just as without: if X is of class `DiscreteDistribution`, we use a sum over the support of X , and if X is of class `AbscontDistribution` we use numerical integration; else we use Monte-Carlo integration.

in addition: with a condition as argument we simply use the corresponding `d` respective `r` slots with the additional argument `cond`.

exact evaluation is available for X of class `Arcsine`, `Beta` (for noncentrality 0), `Binom`, `Cauchy`, `Chisq`, `Dirac`, `Exp`, `Fd`, `Gammad`, `Geom`, `Gumbel`, `Hyper`, `Logis`, `Lnorm`, `Nbinom`, `Norm`, `Pareto`, `Pois`, `Td`, `Unif`, `Weibull`.

examples

```
> D4 ← LMCondDistribution(theta = 1)
> D4 # corresponds to Norm(cond, 1)

Distribution object of class: AbscontCondDistribution
theta: 1
intercept: 0
scale: 1
## cond:
name: conditioning by an Euclidean space
Range: Euclidean Space with dimension 1

> N ← Norm(mean = 2)
> E(D4, cond = 1)

[1] 0.9999998

> E(D4, cond = 1, useApply = FALSE)

[1] 0.9999998

> E(as(D4, "UnivariateCondDistribution"), cond = 1)

[1] 0.9990046
```

```

> E(D4, function(x){x^2}, cond = 2)
[1] 4.999993

> E(D4, function(x){x^2}, cond = 2, useApply = FALSE)
[1] 4.999993

> E(N, function(x){x^2})
[1] 4.999993

> E(as(N, "UnivariateDistribution"), function(x){x^2},
+     useApply = FALSE) # crude Monte-Carlo
[1] 5.007244

> E(D4, function(x, cond){cond*x^2}, cond = 2,
+     withCond = TRUE)
[1] 9.999987

> E(D4, function(x, cond){cond*x^2}, cond = 2,
+     withCond = TRUE, useApply = FALSE)
[1] 9.999987

> E(N, function(x){2*x^2})
[1] 9.999987

> E(as(N, "UnivariateDistribution"), function(x){2*x^2},
+     useApply = FALSE) # crude Monte-Carlo
[1] 10.02683

> Y ← 5 * Binom(4, .25) - 3
> Y
Distribution Object of Class: AffLinLatticeDistribution

> E(Y)
[1] 2

```

Controlling integration range: From version 2.1 on, `E` gains arguments `low` and `upp` to restrict evaluation of the integrand to a given integration domain; these arguments can also be passed through by other functionals based on expectation, like `var`, `sd`, `skewness`, and `kurtosis`.

```
> E(Cauchy(), low=3, upp=5)
[1] 0
> var(Cauchy(), low=3, upp=5)
[1] 0.5739097
```

Controlling accuracy: From version 2.1 on, our expectation methods gain explicit arguments to set accuracy locally; i.e.; the MC-methods have an argument `Nsim` defaulting to global option `MCIterations`, while the methods for class `AbscontDistribution` using numerical integration have an argument `rel.tol` defaulting to global option `ErelativeTolerance`. To obtain a sensible integration range automatically, these methods use both quantile and scale based methods; more precisely you may pass on arguments `lowerTruncQuantile` and `upperTruncQuantile`, defaulting to global options `ElowerTruncQuantile`, and `EupperTruncQuantile`, respectively, by means of these we determine lower and upper quantiles l_0, u_0 . In addition, we determine scale based bounds as median $\pm s_f \text{IQR}$ where s_f is a scaling factor to be passed on as argument `IQR.fac` which defaults to global option `IQR.fac`.

```
> E(N, function(x)x^2)
[1] 4.999993
> E(N, function(x)x^2, lowerTruncQuantile = 1e-5)
[1] 4.999933
> var(Cauchy(), low =3, upperTruncQuantile = 1e-5, IQR.fac = 10)
[1] 4.979597
> var(Cauchy(), low =3, upperTruncQuantile = 1e-10, IQR.fac = 20)
[1] 11.03040
```

3.17.2 Variance

The next-common functional is the variance. In order to keep a unified notation we will use the same name as for the empirical variance, i.e., `var`.

masking "stats"-method `var` To cope with the different argument structure of the empirical variance, i.e. `var(x, y = NULL, na.rm = FALSE, use)` and our functional variance, i.e., `var(x, fun = function(t) {t}, cond, withCond = FALSE, useApply = TRUE, ...)` we have to mask the original "stats"-method:

```
> var <- function(x, ...)
+   {dots <- list(...)
+     if(hasArg(y)) y <- dots$"y"
+     na.rm <- ifelse(hasArg(na.rm), dots$"na.rm", FALSE)
+     if(!hasArg(use))
+       use <- ifelse(na.rm, "complete.obs", "all.obs")
+     else use <- dots$"use"
+     if(hasArg(y))
+       stats::var(x = x, y = y, na.rm = na.rm, use)
+     else
+       stats::var(x = x, y = NULL, na.rm = na.rm, use)
+   }
```

before registering `var` as generic function. Doing so, if the `x` (or the first) argument of `var` is not of class `UnivariateDistribution`, `var` behaves identically to the "stats" package

default method if `x` is of class `UnivariateDistribution`, `var` just returns the variance of distribution `X` — or of `fun(X)` if a function is passed as argument `fun`, or, if a condition argument `cond` (for $Y = y$), $\text{Var}[X|Y = y]$ respectively $\text{Var}[f(X)|Y = y]$ — just as for `E`. The same goes for corresponding arguments controlling the accuracy of `E` locally from version 2.1 on (see paragraph “Controlling accuracy”): These may simply passed through in a call to `var`.

For an object `Y` of a subclass of class union `AffLinDistribution`, we determine the variance as `Y@a\textasciicircum2 *var(Y@X0)` and hence use analytic terms for `X0` if available.

exact evaluation is provided for specific distributions if no function and no condition argument is given: this is available for `X` of class `Arcsine`, `Beta` (for noncentrality 0), `Binom`, `Cauchy`, `Chisq`, `Dirac`, `Exp`, `Fd`, `Gammad`, `Geom`, `Gumbel`, `Hyper`, `Logis`, `Lnorm`, `Nbinom`, `Norm`, `Pareto`, `Pois`, `Unif`, `Td`, `Weibull`.

3.17.3 Further functionals

By the same techniques we provide the following functionals for univariate distributions:

- standard deviation: `sd`
- skewness: `skewness` (code contributed by G. Jay Kerns, `gkerns@ysu.edu`)
- kurtosis: `kurtosis` (code contributed by G. Jay Kerns, `gkerns@ysu.edu`)

- median: `median` (not for function arguments)
- median of absolute deviations: `mad` (not for function/condition arguments)
- interquartile range: `IQR` (not for function arguments)

For details, see `?skewness`.

3.18 Truncated moments (in package "distrEx")

For Robust Statistics, the first two truncated moments are very useful. These are realized as generic functions `m1df` and `m2df`: They use the expectation operator for general univariate distributions, but are overloaded for most specific distributions:

- `Binom`
- `Pois`
- `Norm`
- `Exp`
- `Chisq`

3.19 Distances (in package "distrEx")

For several purposes like Goodness-of-fit tests or minimum-distance estimators, distances between distributions are useful. This applies in particular to Robust Statistics. In package "distrEx", we provide the following distances:

- Kolmogoroff distance (`KolmogorovDist`)
- total variation distance (`TotalVarDist`)
- Hellinger distance (`HellingerDist`)
- Cramér von Mises distance (`CvMDist`) with an additional argument for the weighting measure μ (defaulting to second operand Q):

$$d_\mu(P, Q)^2 = \int \left(Q((-\infty; t]) - P((-\infty; t]) \right)^2 \mu(dt)$$

- convex-contamination “distance” (asymmetric!) (`ContaminationSize`) defined as

$$d(Q, P) := \inf\{r > 0 \mid \exists \text{ probability } H : Q = (1 - r)P + rH\}$$

- from version 2.1 on: an asymmetric version of total variation distance ([AsymTotalVarDist](#)): to given ratio $\rho \geq 0$ of negative to positive part of the deviation we set

$$d_{v;\rho}(Q, P) := \int (dQ - c dP)_+$$

where $c \in \mathbb{R}$ is such that

$$\rho \int (dQ - c dP)_+ = \int (dQ - c dP)_-$$

- minimal total variation distance ([OAsymTotalVarDist](#)):

$$d_{v;\text{opt}}(Q, P) := \min_c \int (dQ - c dP)_+ + (dQ - c dP)_-$$

Methods using numerical integration use a similar technique as for the expectation mentioned in subsection [3.17.1](#), combining scale and quantile based methods to obtain a sensible integration range automatically.

3.20 Functions for demos (in package "distrEx")

To illustrate the possibilities with packages "distr" and "distrEx" we include two major demos to "distrEx", each with extra code to it — one for the CLT and one for the LLN.

From version 2.0 on, we have started a new package "distrTeach", which is to use the capabilities of packages "distr" and "distrEx" for illustrating topics of Stochastics and Statistics as taught in secondary school. So far we have moved the illustrations for the CLT and the LLN just mentioned to it.

3.20.1 CLT for arbitrary summand distribution

By means of our convolution algorithm as well as with the operators `E` and `sd` an illustration for the CLT is readily written: function `illustrateCLT`, respectively demo `illustCLT`. For plotting, we have particular methods for discrete and absolute continuous distributions. The user may specify a given summand distribution, an upper limit for the consecutive sums to be considered and a pause between the corresponding plots in seconds. From version 1.9 on, we also include a `TclTk`-based version of this demo, where the user may enter the distribution argument (i.e.; the summands' distribution) into a text line and control the sample size by a slider in some widget: `illustCLT_tcl` From version 2.0 on, this functionality has moved to package "distrTeach".

3.20.2 LLN for arbitrary summand distribution

From version 1.9 on, similarly, we provide an illustration for the LLN: function `illustrateLLN`, respectively `demo illustLLN`. The user may specify a vector of sample sizes to be considered, the number of replicates to be drawn and a pause between the corresponding plots in seconds, also, optionally, the limiting expectation (in case of class `Cauchy`: the non-limiting median) is drawn as a line and Chebyshev/CLT-based (pointwise) confidence bands and their respective empirical coverages are displayed. From version 2.0 on, this functionality has moved to package "`distrTeach`".

3.20.3 Deconvolution example

To illustrate conditional distributions and their implementation in "`distrEx`", we consider the following situation: We consider a signal $X \sim P^X$ which is disturbed by noise $\varepsilon \sim P^\varepsilon$, independent from X ; in fact we observe $Y = X + \varepsilon$ and want to reconstruct X by means of Y . By means of the generating function `PrognCondDistribution` of package "`distrEx`", for absolutely continuous P^X, P^ε , we may determine the factorized conditional distribution $P^{X|Y=y}$, and based on this either its (posterior) mode oder (posterior) expectation; also see `demo(Pronose, package="distrEx")`.

4 Package `distrMod`

The package "`distrMod`" aims for an object orientated (S4-style) implementation of probability models and introduces several new S4-classes for this purpose. Moreover, it includes functions to compute minimum criterion estimators – in particular, minimum distance and maximum likelihood (i.e., minimum negative log-likelihood) estimators.

4.1 Symmetry Classes

As symmetry is a property which usually cannot be proven via numerical computations, we introduce the S4-class `Symmetry` and corresponding subclasses which may serve as slots which indicate that there exists a certain symmetry. So far, we have subclasses for the symmetry of distributions as well as for the symmetry of functions; confer Figure~[19](#).

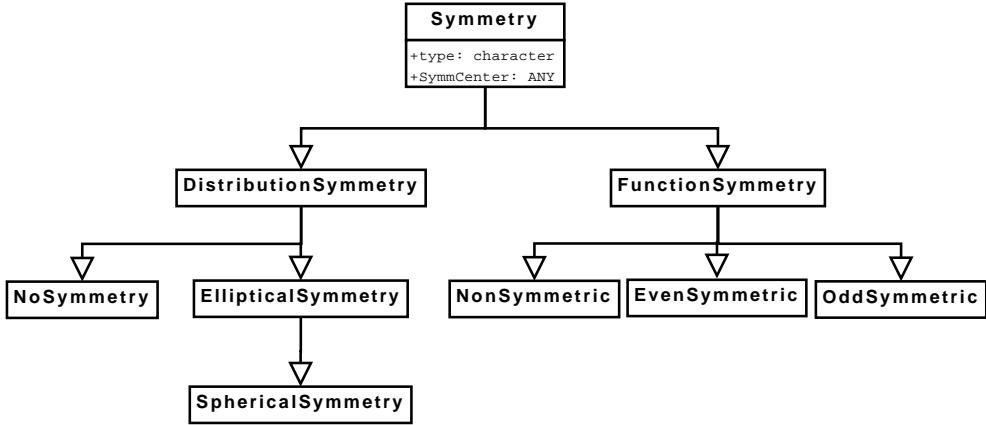


Figure 19: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `Symmetry` where we do not repeat inherited slots

4.2 Model Classes

Based on class `Distribution` and its subclasses we define classes for families of probability measures. So far, we specialised this to parametric families of probability measures; confer Figure~20. But it would also be possible to derive subclasses for other (e.g., semi-parametric) families of probability measures. In case of L_2 -differentiable (i.e., smoothly parameterized) parametric families we introduce several additional slots, in particular the slot `L2deriv` which is of class `EuclRandVarList`. Hence, package "distrMod" depends on package "RandVar"~[4]. Note that for general central distribution in the one-dimensional location and scale model, we need to determine a consistency factor for the MAD (when used as scale estimator). From version 2.1 on this consistency factor is determined automatically.

4.3 Parameter in a parametric family: class `ParamFamParameter`

In many applications, it is not the whole parameter of a parametric family which is of interest, but rather parts of it, while the rest of it either is known and fixed or has to be estimated as a nuisance parameter; in other situations, we are interested in a (smooth) transformation of the parameter. This all is realized in a class design for the parameter of a parametric family —class `ParamFamParameter`, the formal class of a slot of class `ParamFamily`. It has slots `name` (the name of the parameter), `main` (the interesting aspect of the parameter), `nuisance` an unknown part of the parameter of secondary interest, but which has to be estimated, for instance for confidence intervals, and `fixed` a known and fixed part of the parameter. Besides these it also has a slot `trafo` which also sort of arises in class `Estimate`.

`trafo` realizes partial influence curves; i.e.; we are only interested in some possibly lower

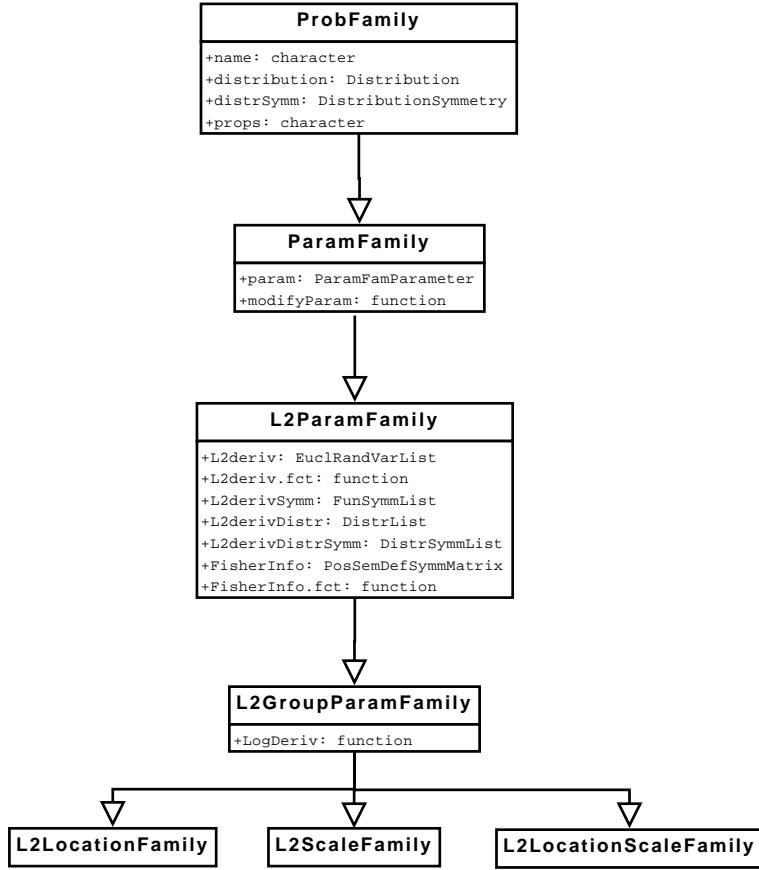


Figure 20: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `ProbFamily` where we do not repeat inherited slots

dimensional smooth (not necessarily linear or even coordinate-wise) aspect/transformation τ of the parameter θ .

To be coherent with the corresponding *nuisance* implementation, we make the following convention:

The full parameter θ is split up coordinate-wise in a main parameter θ' and a nuisance parameter θ'' (which is unknown, too, hence has to be estimated, but only is of secondary interest) and a fixed, known part θ''' .

Without loss of generality, we restrict ourselves to the case that transformation τ only acts on the main parameter θ' — if we want to transform the whole parameter, we only have to assume both nuisance parameter θ'' and fixed known part of the parameter θ''' have length 0.

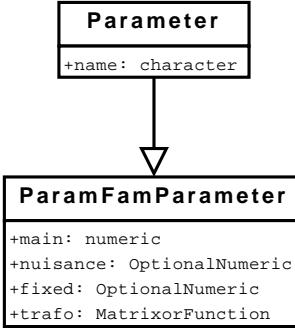


Figure 21: Inheritance relations and slots of `ParamFamParameter` where we do not repeat inherited slots

To the implementation: Slot `trafo` can either contain a (constant) matrix D_θ or a function

$$\tau: \Theta' \rightarrow \tilde{\Theta}, \quad \theta \mapsto \tau(\theta)$$

mapping main parameter θ' to some range $\tilde{\Theta}$.

If slot value `trafo` is a function, besides $\tau(\theta)$, it will also return the corresponding derivative matrix $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \tau(\theta)$. More specifically, the return value of this function `theta` is a list with entries `fval`, the function value $\tau(\theta)$, and `mat`, the derivative matrix.

In case `trafo` is a matrix D , we interpret it as such a derivative matrix $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \tau(\theta)$, and, correspondingly, $\tau(\theta)$ is the linear mapping $\tau(\theta) = D \theta$.

According to the signature, method `trafo` will return different return value types. For signatures `Estimate,missing`, `Estimate,ParamFamParameter`, and `ParamFamily,ParamFamParameter`, it will return a list with entries `fct`, the function τ , and `mat`, the matrix $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \tau(\theta)$. Function τ will then return the list `list(fval, mat)` mentioned above. For signatures `ParamFamily,missing` and `ParamFamParameter,missing`, it will just return the corresponding matrix.

From version 2.1 on, there are helper functions `trafo.fct()` (see `? trafo.fct`) and `trafoEst`. While `trafo.fct()` allows to access “function” aspect of the transformation, returning the corresponding function, `trafoEst` transforms an existing estimator of class `estimate` consistently (i.e.; with corresponding `untransfromed.estimate` and `untransformed.asvar` information and transformed `asvar`) by a “trafo” function; see `?trafoEst`.

4.4 Risk Classes

The risk classes are up to now (i.e, version 2.0) not used inside of the distr-family. They are however used in the RobASt-family~[4]. We distinguish between various finite-sample and asymptotic risks; confer Figure~24. The bias and norm classes given in Figure~22 and Figure~23, respectively, occur as slots of the risk classes.

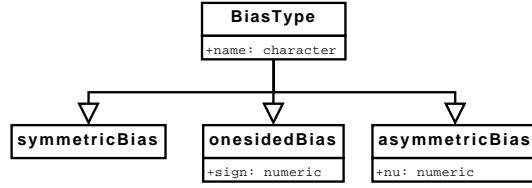


Figure 22: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `BiasType` where we do not repeat inherited slots

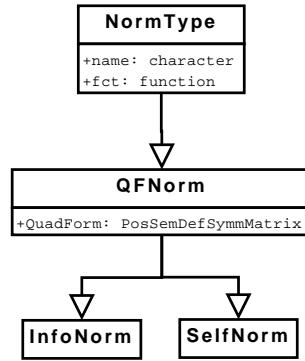


Figure 23: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `NormType` where we do not repeat inherited slots

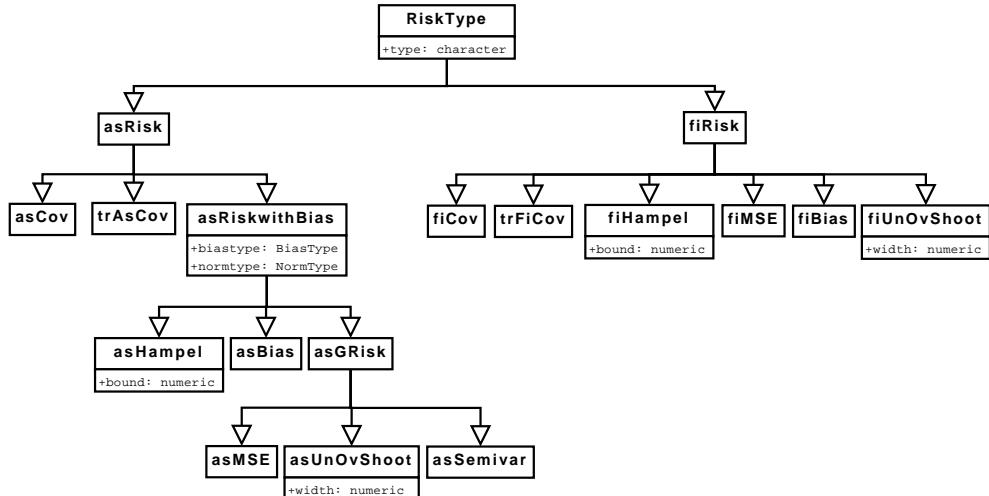


Figure 24: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `RiskType` where we do not repeat inherited slots

4.5 Minimum Criterion Estimation

The S4-classes and methods defined inside of our distr-family enable us to define general functions for the computation of minimum criterion estimators – in particular, minimum distance and maximum likelihood (i.e., minimum negative log-likelihood) estimators. The main function for this purpose is `MCEstimator`. As an example we can use the negative log-likelihood as criterion; i.e., compute the maximum likelihood estimator.

```
> library(distrMod)
> x <- rgamma(50, scale = 0.5, shape = 3)
> G <- GammaFamily(scale = 1, shape = 2)
> negLoglikelihood <- function(x, Distribution){
+   res <- -sum(log(Distribution@d(x)))
+   names(res) <- "Negative Log-Likelihood"
+   return(res)
+ }
> MCEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G, criterion = negLoglikelihood)
```

Evaluations of Minimum criterion estimate:

```
An object of class 'MCEstimate'
generated by call
  MCEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G, criterion = negLoglikelihood)
samplesize: 50
estimate:
  scale      shape
0.4250389  3.3063606
(0.0875653) (0.6307624)
asymptotic (co)variance (multiplied with samplesize):
  scale      shape
scale  0.383384 -2.55729
shape -2.557290 19.89306
Criterion:
```

52.63278

The user can specialize the behavior of `MCEstimator` on two layers: instance-individual or class-individual.

Using the first layer, we may specify model-individual starting values / search intervals by slot `startPar` of class `ParamFamily`, pass on special control parameters to functions `optim` / `optimize` by a `...` argument in function `MCEstimator`, and we may enforce valid parameter values by specifying function slot `makeOKPar` of class `ParamFamily`; also one can specify a penalty value penalizing invalid parameter values. E.g.; in case of the censored Poisson distribution family in demo `censoredPois` to this package these functions are defined as

```
> ## search interval for reasonable parameters
```

```

>     startPar ← function(x, ...) c(.Machine$double.eps,max(x))
>     ## what to do in case of leaving the parameter domain
>     makeOKPar ← function(param) {if(param ≤ 0) return(.Machine$double.eps)
+                                         return(param)}

```

In some situations, one would rather like to define rules for groups of models or to be even more flexible; this can be achieved using the class-individual layer: We may use method dispatch to find the “right” function to determine the MC estimator; to this end subclasses to class `L2ParamFamily` have to be defined, which has already been done, e.g. in case of class `PoisFamily`. In general these sub classes will not have any new slots. E.g.; the code to define class `PoisFamily` simply is

```
> setClass("PoisFamily", contains = "L2ParamFamily")
```

For group models, like the location scale model, there may be additional slots and intermediate classes. E.g.,

```
> setClass("NormLocationFamily", contains = "L2LocationFamily")
```

Then, for these subclasses, particular methods may be defined; so far, in package `"distrMod"` we have particular `validParameter` methods for classes `ParamFamily`, `L2ScaleFamily`, `L2LocationFamily`, and `L2LocationScaleFamily`. E.g.; the code to signature `L2ScaleFamily` simply is

```

> setMethod("validParameter", signature(object = "L2ScaleFamily"),
+           function(object, param, tol=.Machine$double.eps){
+             if(is(param, "ParamFamParameter"))
+               param ← main(param)
+             if(!all(is.finite(param))) return(FALSE)
+             if(length(param) != 1) return(FALSE)
+             return(param > tol)})

```

To move the whole model from one parameter value to the other, so far we have `modifyModel` methods for classes `L2ParamFamily`, `L2LocationFamily`, `L2ScaleFamily`, `L2LocationScaleFamily`, `GammaFamily`, and `ExpScaleFamily`, where the second argument to dispatch on so far has to be of class `ParamFamParameter`. E.g.; the code to signature `model="GammaFamily"` is

```

> setMethod("modifyModel", signature(model = "GammaFamily",
+                                     param = "ParamFamParameter"),
+           function(model, param, ...){
+             M ← modifyModel(as(model, "L2ParamFamily"), param = param,
+                             .withCall = FALSE)
+             M@L2derivSymm ← FunSymmList(OddSymmetric(SymmCenter =
+                                                       prod(main(param))),
+                                         NonSymmetric())
+             class(M) ← class(model)
+             return(M)
+           })

```

We also allow for particular methods within function `MCEstimator`, as therein we call method `mceCalc`; so far there only is a method for `signature(x = "numeric", PFam = "ParamFamily")`. Similarly, and more important, the same technique is applied for the wrapper function `MLEstimator`.

In case of the maximum likelihood estimator as well as in case of minimum distance (MD) estimation there are the function `MLEstimator` and `MDEstimator` which provide user-friendly interfaces to `MCEstimator`. Hence, the maximum likelihood estimator and for instance the Kolmogorov MD estimator can more easily be computed as follows.

```
> MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)
```

Evaluations of Maximum likelihood estimate:

```
An object of class "JEstimate"
generated by call
MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)
samplesize: 50
estimate:
  scale      shape
0.4250389  3.3063606
(0.0875653) (0.6307624)
asymptotic (co)variance (multiplied with samplesize):
  scale      shape
scale  0.383384 -2.55729
shape -2.557290 19.89306
Criterion:
negative log-likelihood
52.63278
```

```
> MDEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G, distance = KolmogorovDist)
```

Evaluations of Minimum Kolmogorov `distance` estimate:

```
An object of class "JEstimate"
generated by call
MDEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G, distance = KolmogorovDist)
samplesize: 50
estimate:
  scale      shape
0.3962524  3.4295059
Criterion:
Kolmogorov distance
0.0569817
```

Within `MLEstimator`, we call method `mleCalc`, which then dispatches according to its arguments `x` and `PFam` as in case of method `mceCalc`. So far `x` must inherit from class `numeric`,

and there are particular methods for argument `PFam` of classes `ParamFamily`, `BinomFamily`, `PoisFamily`, `NormLocationFamily`, `NormScaleFamily`, and `NormLocationScaleFamily`. More specifically, `mleCalc` must have an extra `...` argument to cope with different callings from `MLEstimator`; additional arguments are possible of course. The return value must be a list with prescribed structure; to this end function `meRes()` is helpful which produces this structure. E.g. the `mleCalc`-method for `signature(x="numeric", PFam="NormScaleFamily")` is

```
> setMethod( "mleCalc ", signature(x = "numeric", PFam = "NormScaleFamily ") ,
+           function(x, PFam, ... ){
+             n <- length(x)
+             theta <- sqrt((n-1)/n)*sd(x); mn <- mean(distribution(PFam))
+             ll <- -sum(dnorm(x, mean=mn, sd = theta , log=TRUE))
+             names(ll) <- "neg.Loglikelihood"
+             crit.fct <- function(sd)
+               -sum(dnorm(x, mean=mn, sd = sd, log=TRUE))
+             param <- ParamFamParameter(name = "scale parameter",
+                                         main = c("sd"=theta))
+             if (!hasArg(Infos)) Infos <- NULL
+             return(meRes(x, theta, ll, param, crit.fct, Infos = Infos))
+           })
```

We also provide a coercion to class `mle` from package "stats4", hence making profiling by the `profile`-method therein possible. In order to be able to do so, we need to fill a functional slot `criterion.fct` of class `MCEstimate`. In many examples this is straightforward, but in higher dimensions, helper function `get.criterion.fct` can be useful, e.g. it handles the general case for `signature(PFam="ParamFamily")`.

The results of our computations in functions `MCEstimator`, `MDEstimator`, and `MLEstimator` are objects of S4-class `MCEstimate` which inherits from S4-class `Estimate`. The definitions are given in Figure~25. For class `MCEstimate`, we have a method `confint`, which produces

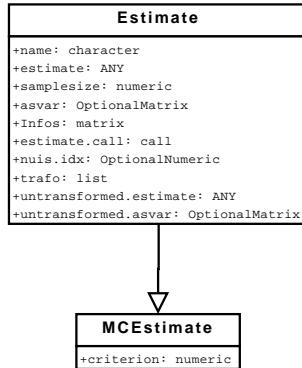


Figure 25: Inheritance relations and slots of the corresponding (sub-)classes for `Estimate` where we do not repeat inherited slots

confidence intervals (of class `Confint`). For class `Confint` as well as for class `Estimate` we have particular `show` and `print` methods where you may scale the output by setting global options with `distrModOptions`, see also subsection ~5.3. As example consider the following:

```
> require(distrMod)
> ## some transformation
> mtrafo <- function(x){
+   nms0 <- c("scale", "shape")
+   nms <- c("shape", "rate")
+   fval0 <- c(x[2], 1/x[1])
+   names(fval0) <- nms
+   mat0 <- matrix(c(0, -1/x[1]^2, 1, 0), nrow = 2, ncol = 2,
+                  dimnames = list(nms, nms0))
+   list(fval = fval0, mat = mat0)}
> set.seed(123)
> x <- rgamma(50, scale = 0.5, shape = 3)
> ## parametric family of probability measures
> G <- GammaFamily(scale = 1, shape = 2, trafo = mtrafo)
> ## MLE
> res <- MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)
> print(res, digits = 4, show.details="maximal")
```

Evaluations of Maximum likelihood estimate:

```
An object of class "Estimate"
generated by call
  MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)
samplesize: 50
estimate:
  shape      rate
  2.8676    2.3152
(0.5435) (0.4795)
asymptotic (co)variance (multiplied with samplesize):
  shape      rate
shape 14.77 11.92
rate  11.92 11.50
untransformed estimate:
  scale      shape
  0.43193   2.86756
(0.08946) (0.54347)
asymptotic (co)variance of untransformed estimate (multiplied with samplesize):
  scale      shape
scale  0.4001 -2.224
shape -2.2244 14.768
Transformation of main parameter:
function (x)
{
```

```

nms0 ← c("scale", "shape")
nms ← c("shape", "rate")
fval0 ← c(x[2], 1/x[1])
names(fval0) ← nms
mat0 ← matrix(c(0, -1/x[1]^2, 1, 0), nrow = 2, ncol = 2,
               dimnames = list(nms, nms0))
list(fval = fval0, mat = mat0)
}
Trafo / derivative matrix:
  scale shape
shape  0.00    1
rate   -5.36    0
Criterion:
negative log-likelihood
                    48.97

> print(res, digits = 4, show.details="medium")

Evaluations of Maximum likelihood estimate:
-----
An object of class "JAGSestimate"
generated by call
  MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)
samplesize: 50
estimate:
  shape      rate
  2.8676    2.3152
(0.5435) (0.4795)
asymptotic (co)variance (multiplied with samplesize):
  shape      rate
shape 14.77 11.92
rate  11.92 11.50
Criterion:
negative log-likelihood
                    48.97

> print(res, digits = 4, show.details="minimal")

Evaluations of Maximum likelihood estimate:
-----
  shape      rate
  2.8676    2.3152
(0.5435) (0.4795)

> ci ← confint(res)
> print(ci, digits = 4, show.details="maximal")

```

```

A[n] asymptotic (CLT-based) confidence interval:
      2.5 % 97.5 %
shape 1.802   3.933
rate  1.375   3.255
Type of estimator: Maximum likelihood estimate
samplesize: 50
Call by which estimate was produced:
MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)
Transformation of main parameter by which estimate was produced:
function (x)
{
  nms0 <- c("scale", "shape")
  nms <- c("shape", "rate")
  fval0 <- c(x[2], 1/x[1])
  names(fval0) <- nms
  mat0 <- matrix(c(0, -1/x[1]^2, 1, 0), nrow = 2, ncol = 2,
    dimnames = list(nms, nms0))
  list(fval = fval0, mat = mat0)
}
Trafo / derivative matrix at which estimate was produced:
  scale shape
shape  0.00   1
rate   -5.36   0

> print(ci, digits = 4, show.details="medium")

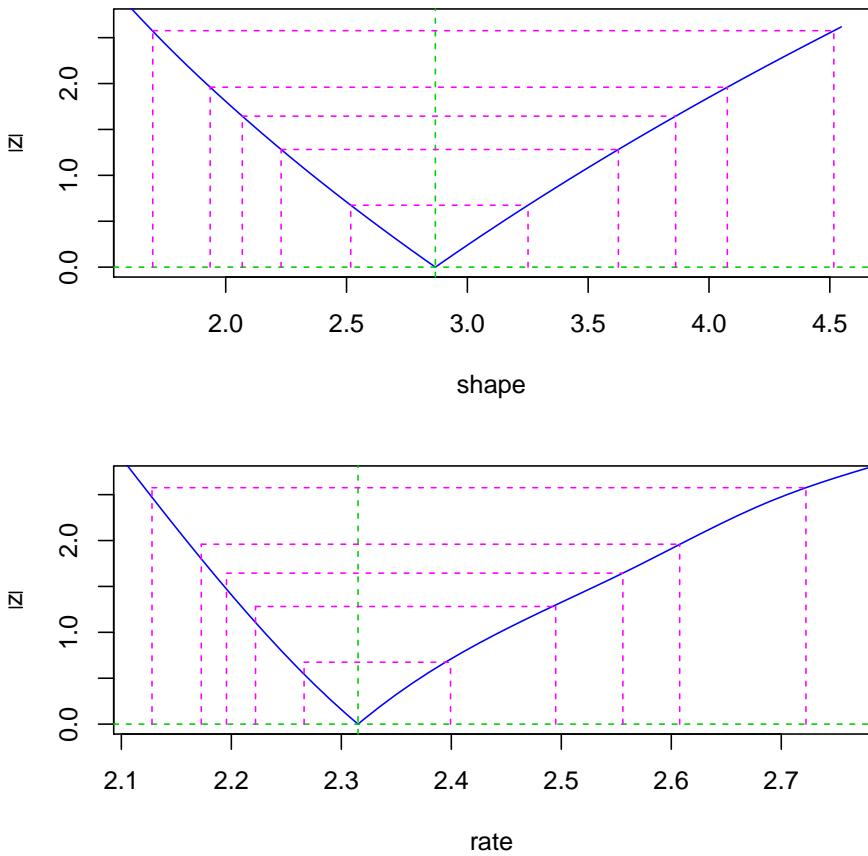
A[n] asymptotic (CLT-based) confidence interval:
      2.5 % 97.5 %
shape 1.802   3.933
rate  1.375   3.255
Type of estimator: Maximum likelihood estimate
samplesize: 50
Call by which estimate was produced:
MLEstimator(x = x, ParamFamily = G)

> print(ci, digits = 4, show.details="minimal")

A[n] asymptotic (CLT-based) confidence interval:
      2.5 % 97.5 %
shape 1.802   3.933
rate  1.375   3.255

> ## some profiling
> par(mfrow=c(2,1))
> plot(profile(res))

```



5 Options

5.1 Options for "distr"

Analogously to the `options` command in R you may specify a number of global “constants” to be used within the package. These include

- `DefaultNrFFTGridPointsExponent`: the binary logarithm of the number of grid-points used in FFT —default 12
- `DefaultNrGridPoints`: number of grid-points used for a continuous variable —default 4096
- `DistrResolution`: the finest step length that is permitted for a grid for a discrete variable —default 1e-06

- `RtoDPQ.e`: For simulational determination of `d`, `p` and `q`, $10^{RtoDPQ.e}$ random variables are simulated —default 5
- `TruncQuantile`: to work with compact support, random variables are truncated to their lower/upper `TruncQuantile`-quantile —default $1e-05$.
From version 1.9 on, for $\varepsilon = \text{TruncQuantile}$, we use calls of form `q(X)(eps, lower.tail = FALSE)` instead of `q(X)(1-eps)` to gain higher precision.
- `warningSim`: controls whether a warning issued at printing/showing a `Distribution` object the slots of which have been filled starting with simulations —default `TRUE`
- `warningArith`: controls whether a warning issued at printing/showing a `Distribution` object produced by arithmetics operating on distributions —default `TRUE`
- `withgaps`: controls whether in the return value of arithmetic operations the slot `gaps` of an the `AbscontDistribution` part is filled automatically based on empirical evaluations via `setgaps` —default `TRUE`
- `simplifyD`: controls whether in the return value of arithmetic operations there is a call to `simplifyD` or not —default `TRUE`
- `DistrCollapse`: logical; shall support points with distance smaller than `DistrResolution` be collapsed; default value: `TRUE`
- `withSweave`: logical; is code run in Sweave (then no new graphic devices are opened); default value: `FALSE`
- `DistrCollapse.Unique.Warn`: logical; shall a warning be issued upon collapsing? default value: `TRUE`
- `use.generalized.inverse.by.default` which is a logical variable giving the default value for argument `generalized` of our method `solve` in package "distrMod". This argument decides whether our method `solve` is to use generalized inverses if the original `solve`-method from package "base" fails; if the option is set to `FALSE`, in case of failure, and unless argument `generalized` is not explicitly set to `TRUE`, `solve` will throw an error as is the "base"-method behavior. The default value of this option is `TRUE`.

All current options may be inspected by `distroptions()` and modified by `distroptions("<options-name>"=<value>")`.

As `options`, `distroptions("<options-name>")` returns a list of length 1 with the value of the corresponding option, so here, just as `getOption`, `getdistrOption("<options-name>")` will be preferable, which only returns the value.

5.2 Options for "distrEx"

Up to version 0.4-4 we used the function `distrExOptions(arg = "missing", value = -1)` to manage some global options for "distrEx", i.e.:

`distrExOptions()` returns a list of these options, `distrExOptions(arg=x)` returns option `x`, and `distrExOptions(arg=x,value=y)` sets the value of option `x` to `y`.

From version 1.9 on, we use a mechanism analogue to the `distoptions/getdistrOption` commands: You may specify certain global output options to be used within the package with `distrExoptions/getdistrExOption`. These include

- `MCIterations`: number of Monte-Carlo iterations used for crude Monte-Carlo integration; defaults to `1e5`.
- `GLIntegrateTruncQuantile`: If `integrate` fails and there are infinite integration limits, the function `GLIntegrate` is called inside of `distrExIntegrate` with the corresponding quantiles `GLIntegrateTruncQuantile` resp. `1-GLIntegrateTruncQuantile` as finite integration limits; defaults to `10*.Machine$double.eps`.
- `GLIntegrateOrder`: The order used for the Gauß-Legendre integration inside of `distrExIntegrate`; defaults to 500.
- `ElowerTruncQuantile`: The lower limit of integration used inside of `E` which corresponds to the `ElowerTruncQuantile`-quantile; defaults to `1e-7`.
- `EupperTruncQuantile`: The upper limit of integration used inside of `E` which corresponds to the `(1-ElowerTruncQuantile)`-quantile; defaults to `1e-7`.
- `ErelativeTolerance`: The relative tolerance used inside of `E` when calling `distrExIntegrate`; defaults to `.Machine$double.eps^0.25`.
- `m1dfLowerTruncQuantile`: The lower limit of integration used inside of `m1df` which corresponds to the `m1dfLowerTruncQuantile`-quantile; defaults to `0`.
- `m1dfRelativeTolerance`: The relative tolerance used inside of `m1df` when calling `distrExIntegrate`; defaults to `.Machine$double.eps^0.25`.
- `m2dfLowerTruncQuantile`: The lower limit of integration used inside of `m2df` which corresponds to the `m2dfLowerTruncQuantile`-quantile; defaults to `0`.
- `m2dfRelativeTolerance`: The relative tolerance used inside of `m2df` when calling `distrExIntegrate`; defaults to `.Machine$double.eps^0.25`.
- `nDiscretize`: number of support values used for the discretization of objects of class "`AbscontDistribution`"; defaults to 100.

- **hSmooth**: smoothing parameter to smooth objects of class "DiscreteDistribution". This is done via convolution with the normal distribution `Norm(mean = 0, sd = hSmooth)`; defaults to `0.05`.
- **IQR.fac**: for determining sensible integration ranges, we use both quantile and scale based methods; for the scale based method we use the median of the distribution \pm `IQR.fac` \times the IQR; defaults to 15.

5.3 Options for "distrMod"

Just as with to the `distroptions/getdistrOption` commands you may specify certain global output options to be used within the package with `distrModoptions/getdistrModOption`. These include

- `show.details` which controls the detailedness for method `show` for objects of classes of the "distrXXX" family of packages. Possible values are
 - `"maximal"`: all information is shown
 - `"minimal"`: only the most important information is shown
 - `"medium"`: somewhere in the middle; see actual `show`-methods for details.

The default value is `"maximal"`.

5.4 Options for "distrSim"

Just as with to the `distroptions/getdistrOption` commands you may specify certain global output options to be used within the package with `distrSimoptions/getdistrSimOption`. These include

- **MaxNumberofPlottedObs** the maximal number of observation plotted in a plot of an object of class `Dataclass`; defaults to 4000
- **MaxNumberofPlottedObsDims**: the maximum number of observations to be plotted in a plot of an object of class `Dataclass` and descendants; defaults to 6.
- **MaxNumberofPlottedRuns**: the maximum number of runs to be plotted in a plot of an object of class `Dataclass` and descendants (one run/panel); defaults to 6.
- **MaxNumberofSummarizedObsDims**: the maximum number of observations to be summarized of an object of class `Dataclass` and descendants; defaults to 6.
- **MaxNumberofSummarizedRuns**: the maximum number of runs to be summarized of an object of class `Dataclass` and descendants; defaults to 6.

5.5 Options for "distrTEst"

Just as with the `distroptions`/`getdistrOption` commands you may specify certain global output options to be used within the package with `distrTEstoptions`/`getdistrTEstOption`. These include

- `MaxNumberofPlottedEvaluations`: the maximal number of evaluations to be plotted in a plot of an object of class `EvaluationList`; defaults to 6
- `MaxNumberofPlottedEvaluationDims`: the maximal number of evaluation dimensions to be plotted in a plot of an object of class `Evaluation`; defaults to 6
- `MaxNumberofSummarizedEvaluations`: the maximal number of evaluations to be summarized of an object of class `EvaluationList`; defaults to 15
- `MaxNumberofPrintedEvaluations`: the maximal number of evaluations printed of an object of class `EvaluationList`; defaults to 15

6 Further Documentation

6.1 Help pages

Additional information can be obtained during an R session, using help files and startup messages.

Startup messages Upon loading packages from the `distrXXX` family of packages with `require` or `library`, by default startup messages pop up giving some starting points where to look for further information; howto scale/switch off these startup messages will be discussed in the next section.

Package help file A starting point is doubtless the package help files, called e.g. by `?distr`. We give an ASCII form of a class graph with all the S4 classes in the corresponding package, and indicate the implemented methods and functions. From version 2.1 this help file for "distr" has a new section "Extension packages" pointing to the various extensions of this package.

Individual help files Of course, for looking up the syntax of a function the help pages available with `? / help` are extremely useful. Note that for our packages, help pages are also available for internal (i.e.; non exported) functions.

6.2 NEWS file

To get more details on the implementation process you may also consult a corresponding NEWS file where all relevant changes are listed at the package version where they have been implemented. You may inspect this NEWS file with `NEWS(<pkgname>)`.

6.3 Vignettes

Besides this large (or huge) vignette, there are also some minor vignettes available, assembling documentation somewhat more coherent than in the help pages. From version 2.1 on, e.g., there is a new vignette “How to generate new distributions in packages distr, distrEx” in package “`distr`” which is to encourage the implementation of new distributions and distribution classes by third parties.

6.4 Articles

Of course we plan to publish some of our findings in peer-reviewed journals; so the part of this vignette dealing with package “`distrMod`” will form the basis for an article on this package by the present authors.

7 Startup Messages

For the management of startup messages, from version ~1.7, we use package “`startupmsg`”: When loading/attaching packages “`distr`”, “`distrEx`”, “`distrSim`”, or “`distrTEst`” for each package a disclaimer is displayed.

You may suppress these start-up banners/messages completely by setting `options("StartupBanner" = "off")` somewhere before loading this package by `library` or `require` in your R-code / R-session.

If option “`StartupBanner`” is not defined (default) or setting `options("StartupBanner" = NULL)` or `options("StartupBanner" = "complete")` the complete start-up banner is displayed.

For any other value of option “`StartupBanner`” (i.e., not in `c(NULL, "off", "complete")`) only the version information is displayed.

The same can be achieved by wrapping the `library` or `require` call into either `onlytypeStartupMessages(<code>, atypes = "version")` or `suppressStartupMessages(<code>)`.

8 System/version requirements, license, etc.

8.1 System requirements

As our package is completely written in R, there are no dependencies on the underlying OS; of course, there is the usual speed gain possible on recent machines. We have tested our package on a Pentium[~]II with 233 MHz, on Pentium[~]III's with 0.8–2.1 GHz, and on an Athlon with 2.5 GHz giving a reasonable performance.

8.2 Required version of R

Contrary to the hardware required, if you want to use `library` or `require` to use "distr" within R code, you need at least R Version 1.8.1, as we make use of name space operations only available from that version on; also, the command `setClassUnion`, which is used in some sources, is only available from that version on.

On the other hand, if the package may be pasted in by `source`, the code works with R from version 1.7.0 on—but without using name-spaces, which is only available from 1.8.0 on. Due to some changes in R from version 1.8.1 to 1.9.0 and from 1.9.1 to 2.0.0, we have to provide different `zip/tar.gz`-Files for these versions.

Versions of "distr" from version number 1.5 onwards are only supplied for R Version 2.0.1 patched and later. After a reorganization, versions of "distr" from version number 1.6 onwards are only supplied for R Version 2.2.0 patched and later.

8.3 Dependencies

In package "distr", from version 2.0, we make use of `D1ss` from [Martin Mächler's](#) package "`sfsmisc`". In package "distrEx", we need [Alec Stephenson's](#) package "`evd`" for the extreme value distributions implemented therein, as well as [Vincent Goulet's](#) and Mathieu Pigeon's package "`actuar`" for the (single parameter) Pareto distribution (from "distrEx" version 2.1 on) which has been ported to our framework by [Nataliya Horbenko](#).

In package "distrSim", and consequently also in package "distrTEst" we use [Paul Gilbert's](#) package "`setRNG`" to be installed from [CRAN](#) for the control of the seed of the random number generator in our simulation classes. More precisely, for our version ≤ 1.6 we need his version < 2006.2-1, and for our version ≥ 1.7 we need his version $\geq 2006.2-1$.

From package version 1.7/0.4-3 on, we also need package "`startupmsg`" by the first of the present authors, which also is available on [CRAN](#).

8.4 License

This software is distributed under the terms of the GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE Version 2, June 1991, more specifically under `LGPL-3` confer

<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/gpl.html>, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GNU_Lesser_General_Public_License

9 Details to the implementation

- As the normal distribution is closed under affine transformations, we have overloaded the corresponding methods.
- For the general convolution algorithm for univariate probability distribution functions/densities by means of FFT, which we use in the overloaded "+"-operator, confer[~][5].
- Exact convolution methods are implemented for the normal, the Poisson, the binomial, the negative binomial, the Gamma (and the `Exp`), and the χ^2 distribution
- Exact formulae for scale transformations are implemented for the Exp-/Gamma-distribution, the Weibull and the log-normal distribution (the latter two from version 1.9 on).
- Exact formulae for affine linear transformations are available for the normal, the logistic and the Cauchy distribution (the latter two from version 1.9 on).
- Instances of any class transparent to the user are initialized by `<classname>([<slotname>=<value>, ...])` where except for class `DataClass` in package "distrSim" all classes have default values for all their slots; in `DataClass`, the slot `Data` has to be specified.
- Multiplication (and Division) is implemented as corresponding exponentials of the convolution of the logarithms (evaluated separately for positive and negative parts).
- Exponentiation also uses the exp-log trick.
- Multiplication, Exponentiation, and Min/Maximum of an `AbscontDistribution` and a `DiscreteDistribution` as an intermediate step produce a `UnivarMixingDistribution`, with one mixing component for each element of the support of the `DiscreteDistribution`. As a last step, this `UnivarMixingDistribution` is then “flattened”.
- As suggested in [3] all slots are accessed and modified by corresponding accessor- and replacement functions —templates for which were produced by `standardMethods`.

We strongly discourage the use of the `@`-operator to modify or even access slots `r`, `d`, `p`, and `q`, confer Example[~]13.7.

10 A general utility

Following [3], the programmer of S4-classes should provide accessor and replacement functions for the inspection/modification of any newly introduced slot. This can be quite a task when you have a lot of classes/slots. As these functions all have the same structure, it would be nice to automatically generate templates for them. Faced with this problem in developing this package, Thomas Stabla has written such a utility, `standardMethods` — which the authors of this package recommend for any developer of S4-classes. For more details, see `?standardMethods`.

11 Odds and Ends

11.1 What should be done and what we could do —for version >2.2.3

- application of analytic FourierTransforms instead of FFT where appropriate —perhaps also to be controlled by a parameter/option
- use the `q`-slot applied to `rnorm` in `simplifir` for continuous distributions
- further exact formulae for binary arithmetic operations like `"*"`
- goodness of fit tests for distribution-objects
- defining a subgroup of `Math2` of invertible binary operators

11.2 What should be done but for which we lack the know-how

- multivariate distributions
- conditional distributions
- copula

12 Acknowledgement

In order to give our acknowledgements their due place in the manual, we insert them before some rather extensive presentation of examples, because otherwise they would probably get lost or overseen by most of the readers.

We thank Martin Mächler and Josef Leydold for their helpful suggestions in conceiving the package. John Chambers also gave several helpful hints and insights when responding to our requests concerning the S4-class concept in `r-devel/ r-help`. We got stimulating replies to an RFC on `r-devel` by Duncan Murdoch and Gregory Warnes. We also thank Paul Gilbert for drawing our attention to his package `setRNG` and making it available as

stand-alone version. In the last few days before the release on CRAN, Kurt Hornik and Uwe Ligges were very kind, helping us to find the clue how to pass all necessary checks by R CMD check. We also thank G. Jay Kerns for contributing code for the skewness and kurtosis functionals.

Last not least a big "thank you" to Torsten Hothorn as editor of R-News, for his patience with our endless versions until we finally came to a publishable version.

13 Examples

13.1 12-fold convolution of uniform (0, 1) variables

Code also available under

```
http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/  
/mathe7/DISTR/NormApprox.R
```

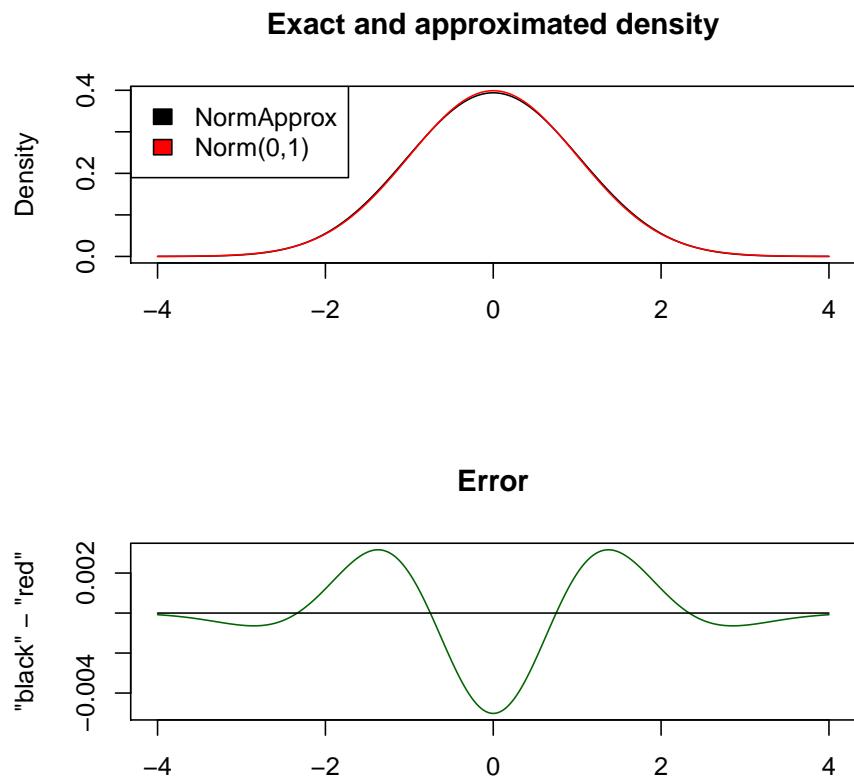
This example shows how easily we may get the distribution of the sum of 12 i.i.d. $\text{ufo}(0, 1)$ -variables minus 6— which was used as a fast generator of $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ -variables in times when evaluations of \exp , \log , \sin and \tan were expensive, confer [7], example C, p. 163. The user should not be confused by expressions like $U+U$: this *does not* mean $2U$ but rather convolution of two independent identically distributed random variables.

```
> require(distr)
> N <- Norm(0,1)
> U <- Unif(0,1)
> U2 <- U + U
> U4 <- U2 + U2
> U8 <- U4 + U4
> U12 <- U4 + U8
> NormApprox <- U12 - 6
> x <- seq(-4,4,0.001)
> opar <- par(no.readonly = TRUE)
> par(mfrow = c(2,1))
> plot(x, d(NormApprox)(x),
+       type = "l",
+       xlab = "",
+       ylab = "Density",
+       main = "Exact and approximated density")
> lines(x, d(N)(x),
+        col = "red")
> legend("topleft",
+        legend = c("NormApprox", "Norm(0,1)"),
+        fill = c("black", "red"))
> plot(x, d(NormApprox)(x) - d(N)(x),
+       type = "l",
+       xlab = "",
```

```

+      ylab = "\\"black\" - \\"red\\",
+      col = "darkgreen",
+      main = "Error")
> lines(c(-4,4), c(0,0))
> par(opar)

```



13.2 Comparison of exact convolution to FFT for normal distributions

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/ConvolutionNormalDistr.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/ConvolutionNormalDistr.R)

This example illustrates the exactness of the numerical algorithm used to compute the convolution:
We know that $\mathcal{L}(A + B) = \mathcal{N}(5, 13)$ — if the second argument of \mathcal{N} is the variance

```

> require(distr)
> ## initialize two normal distributions

```

```

> A ← Norm(mean=1, sd=2)
> B ← Norm(mean=4, sd=3)
> ## convolution via addition of moments
> AB ← A+B
> ## casting of A,B as absolutely continuous distributions
> ## that is, ``forget'' that A,B are normal distributions
> A1 ← as(A, "AbscontDistribution")
> B1 ← as(B, "AbscontDistribution")
> ## for higher precision we change the global variable
> ## "TruncQuantile" from 1e-5 to 1e-8
> oldeps ← getdistrOption("TruncQuantile")
> eps ← 1e-8
> distroptions("TruncQuantile" = eps)
> ## support of A1+B1 for FFT convolution is
> ## [q(A1)(TruncQuantile),
> ## q(B1)(TruncQuantile, lower.tail = FALSE)]
>
> ## convolution via FFT
> AB1 ← A1+B1
> #####
> ## plots of the results
> #####
> par(mfrow=c(1,3))
> low ← q(AB)(1e-15)
> upp ← q(AB)(1e-15, lower.tail = FALSE)
> x ← seq(from = low, to = upp, length = 10000)
> ## densities
> plot(x, d(AB)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x, d(AB1)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("Densities")
> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+        fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## cdfs
> plot(x, p(AB)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x, p(AB1)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("CDFs")
> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+        fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## quantile functions
> x ← seq(from = eps, to = 1-eps, length = 1000)
> plot(x, q(AB)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x, q(AB1)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("Quantile functions")
> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+        fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## Since the plots of the results show no

```

```

> ## recognizable differences, we also compute
> ## the total variation distance of the densities
> ## and the Kolmogorov distance of the cdfs
>
> ## total variation distance of densities
> total.var <- function(z, N1, N2){
+   0.5*abs(d(N1)(z) - d(N2)(z))
+ }
> dv <- integrate(total.var, lower=-Inf, upper=Inf, rel.tol=1e-8, N1=AB, N2=AB1)
> cat("Total variation distance of densities:\t")

Total variation distance of densities:

> print(dv) # 4.25e-07

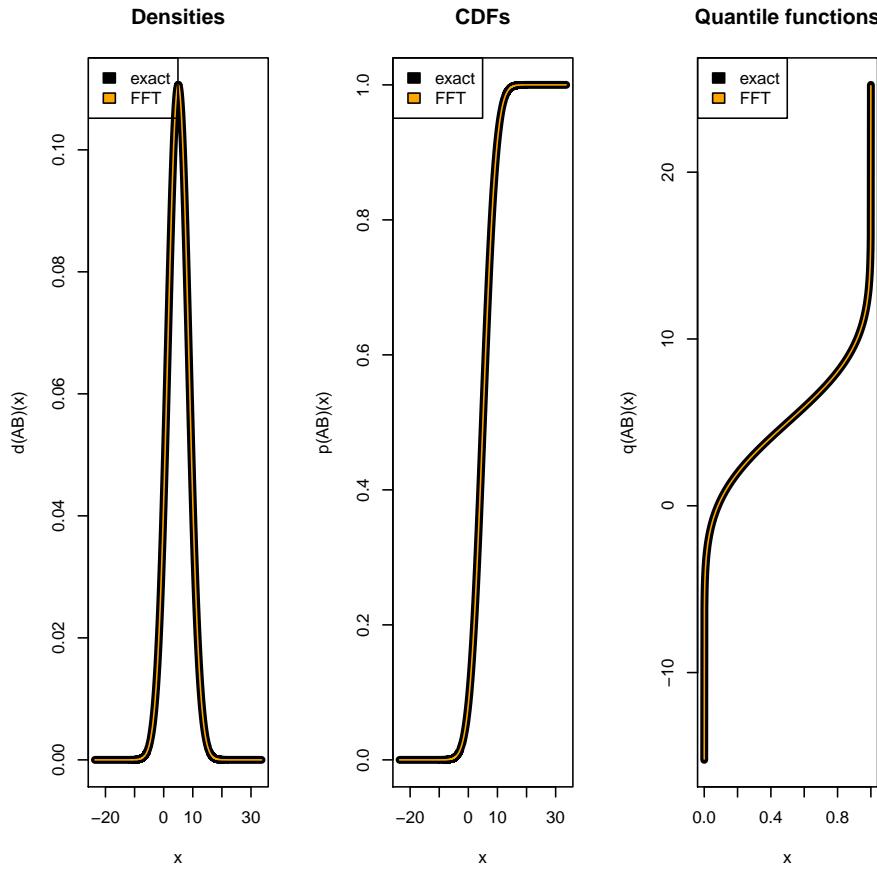
4.247055e-07 with absolute error < 9.8e-09

> ### meanwhile realized in package "distrEx"
> ### as TotalVarDist(N1,N2)
>
> ## Kolmogorov distance of cdfs
> ## the distance is evaluated on a random grid
> z <- r(Unif(Min=low, Max=upp))(1e5)
> dk <- max(abs(p(AB)(z)-p(AB1)(z)))
> cat("Kolmogorov distance of cdfs:\t", dk, "\n")

Kolmogorov distance of cdfs:      7.269299e-07

> # 2.03e-07
>
> ### meanwhile realized in package "distrEx"
> ### as KolmogorovDist(N1,N2)
>
> ## old distroptions
> distroptions("TruncQuantile" = oldeps)
>
> NA

```



13.3 Comparison of FFT to RtoDPQ

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/ComparisonFFTandRtoDPQ.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/ComparisonFFTandRtoDPQ.R)

This example illustrates the exactness (or rather not-so-exactness) of the simulational default algorithm used to compute the distribution of transformations of group `math`.

```
> require(distr)
> #####
> ## Comparison 1 - FFT and RtoDPQ
> #####
>
> N1 <- Norm(0,3)
> N2 <- Norm(0,4)
> rnew1 <- function(n) r(N1)(n) + r(N2)(n)
```

```

> X ← N1 + N2
>      # exact formula ->  $N(0, 5)$ 
> Y ← N1 + as(N2, "AbscontDistribution")
>      # approximated with FFT
> Z ← new("AbscontDistribution", r = rnew1)
>      # approximated with RtoDPQ
>
> # density-plot
>
> x ← seq(-15, 15, 0.01)
> plot(x, d(X)(x),
+       type = "l",
+       lwd = 3,
+       xlab = "",
+       ylab = "density",
+       main = "Comparison 1",
+       col = "black")
> lines(x, d(Y)(x),
+        col = "yellow")
> lines(x, d(Z)(x),
+        col = "red")
> legend("topleft",
+        legend = c("Exact", "FFT-Approximation",
+                  "RtoDPQ-Approximation"),
+        fill = c("black", "yellow", "red"))
> ##### Comparison 2 - "Exact" Formula and RtoDPQ
> #####
>
> B ← Binom(size = 6, prob = 0.5) * 10
> N ← Norm()
> rnew2 ← function(n) r(B)(n) + r(N)(n)
> Y ← B + N
>      # "exact" formula
> Z ← new("AbscontDistribution", r = rnew2)
>      # approximated with RtoDPQ
>
> # density-plot
>
> x ← seq(-5, 65, 0.01)
> plot(x, d(Y)(x),
+       type = "l",
+       xlab = "",
+       ylab = "density",
+       main = "Comparison 2",
+       col = "black")

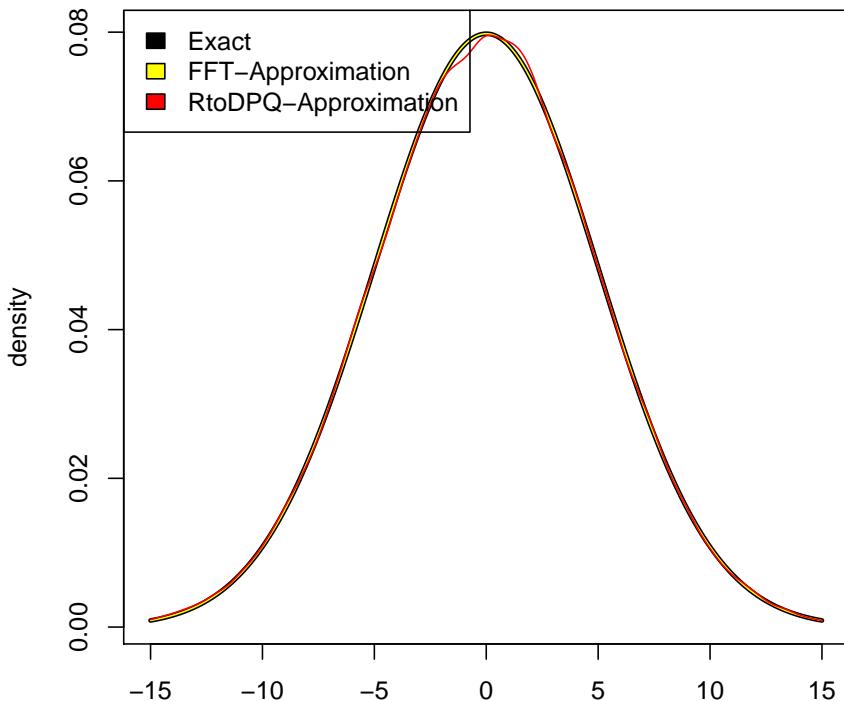
```

```

> lines(x, d(Z)(x),
+       col = "red")
> legend("topleft",
+        legend = c("Exact", "RtoDQP-Approximation"),
+        fill = c("black", "red"))

```

Comparison 1



13.4 Comparison of exact and approximate stationary regressor distribution

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/StationaryRegressorDistr.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/StationaryRegressorDistr.R)

Another illustration for the use of package "distr". In case of a stationary AR(1)-model, for non-normal innovation distribution, the stationary distribution of the observations must be approximated by finite convolutions. That these approximations give fairly good results for approx-

imations down to small orders is exemplified by the Gaussian case where we may compare the approximation to the exact stationary distribution.

```

> require(distr)
> ## Approximation of the stationary regressor
> ## distribution of an AR(1) process
> ##       $X_t = \phi X_{t-1} + V_t$ 
> ## where  $V_t$  i.i.d  $N(0,1)$  and  $\phi \in (0,1)$ 
> ## We obtain
> ##       $X_t = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \phi^j V_{t-j}$ 
> ## i.e.,  $X_t \sim N(0, 1/(1-\phi^2))$ 
> phi <- 0.5
> ## casting of  $V$  as absolutely continuous distributions
> ## that is, ``forget'' that  $V$  is a normal distribution
> V <- as(Norm(), "AbscontDistribution")
> ## for higher precision we change the global variable
> ## "TruncQuantile" from 1e-5 to 1e-8
> oldeps <- getdistrOption("TruncQuantile")
> eps <- 1e-8
> distroptions("TruncQuantile" = eps)
> ## Computation of the approximation
> ##       $H = \sum_{j=1}^n \phi^j V_{t-j}$ 
> ## of the stationary regressor distribution
> ## (via convolution using FFT)
> H <- V
> n <- 15
> ## may take some time
> ### switch off warnings [would be issued due to
> ### very unequal variances...]
> old.warn <-getOption("warn")
> options("warn" = -1)
> for(i in 1:n){Vi <- phi^i*V; H <- H + Vi}
> options("warn" = old.warn)
> ## the stationary regressor distribution (exact)
> X <- Norm(sd=sqrt(1/(1-phi^2)))
> ##### plots of the results
> par(mfrow=c(1,3))
> low <- q(X)(1e-15)
> upp <- q(X)(1e-15, lower.tail = FALSE)
> x <- seq(from = low, to = upp, length = 10000)
> ## densities
> plot(x, d(X)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x, d(H)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("Densities")

```

```

> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+        fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## cdfs
> plot(x, p(X)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x, p(H)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("CDFs")
> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+        fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## quantile functions
> x <- seq(from = eps, to = 1-eps, length = 1000)
> plot(x, q(X)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x, q(H)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("Quantile functions")
> legend("topleft",
+        legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+        fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## Since the plots of the results show no
> ## recognizable differences, we also compute
> ## the total variation distance of the densities
> ## and the Kolmogorov distance of the cdfs
>
> ## total variation distance of densities
> total.var <- function(z, N1, N2){
+  0.5*abs(d(N1)(z) - d(N2)(z))
+ }
> dv <- integrate(f = total.var, lower = -Inf,
+                   upper = Inf, rel.tol = 1e-7,
+                   N1=X, N2=H)
> cat("Total variation distance of densities:\t")

```

Total variation **distance** of densities:

```
> print(dv) # ~ 5.0e-06
```

2.095842e-05 with absolute error < 1.7e-08

```

> ### meanwhile realized in package "distrex"
> ### as TotalVarDist(N1,N2)
>
>
> ## Kolmogorov distance of cdfs
> ## the distance is evaluated on a random grid
> z <- r(Unif(Min=low, Max=upp))(1e5)
> dk <- max(abs(p(X)(z)-p(H)(z)))
> cat("Kolmogorov distance of cdfs:\t", dk, "\n")

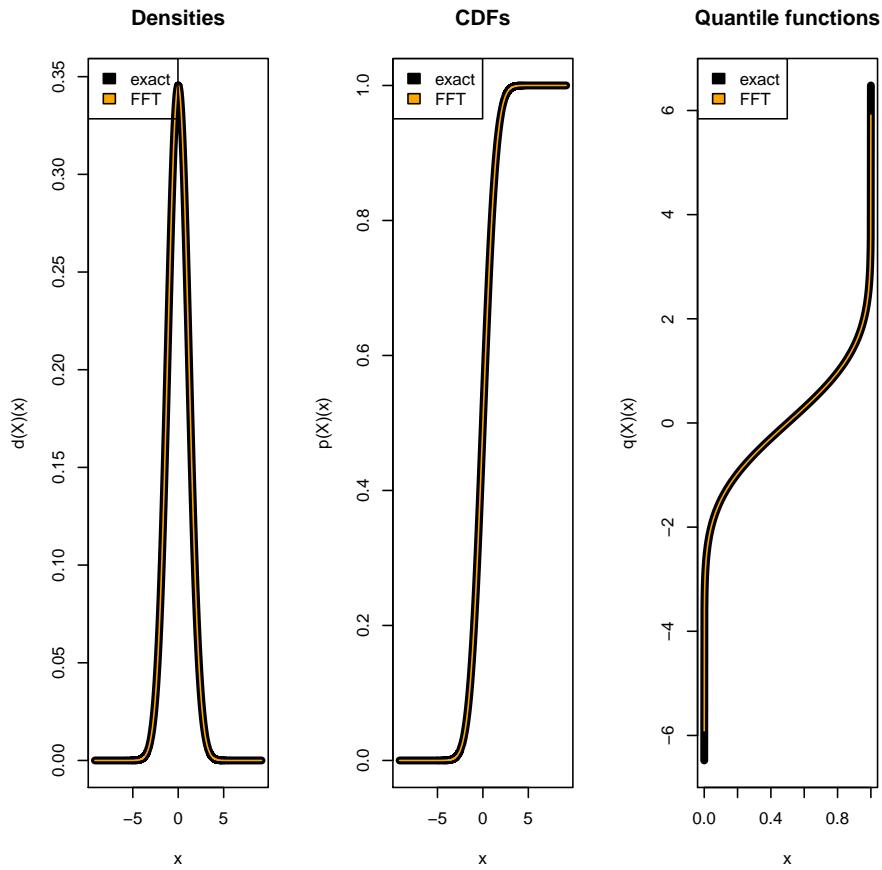
```

Kolmogorov **distance** of cdfs: 1.12407e-05

```

> # ~2.5e-06
>
> #### meanwhile realized in package "distrEx"
> #### as KolmogorovDist(N1,N2)
>
>
> ## old distroptions
> distroptions("TruncQuantile" = oldeps)
>
> NA

```



13.5 Truncation and Huberization/winsorization

has been integrated to the package itself, see section [^3.8](#)

13.6 Distribution of minimum and maximum of two independent random variables

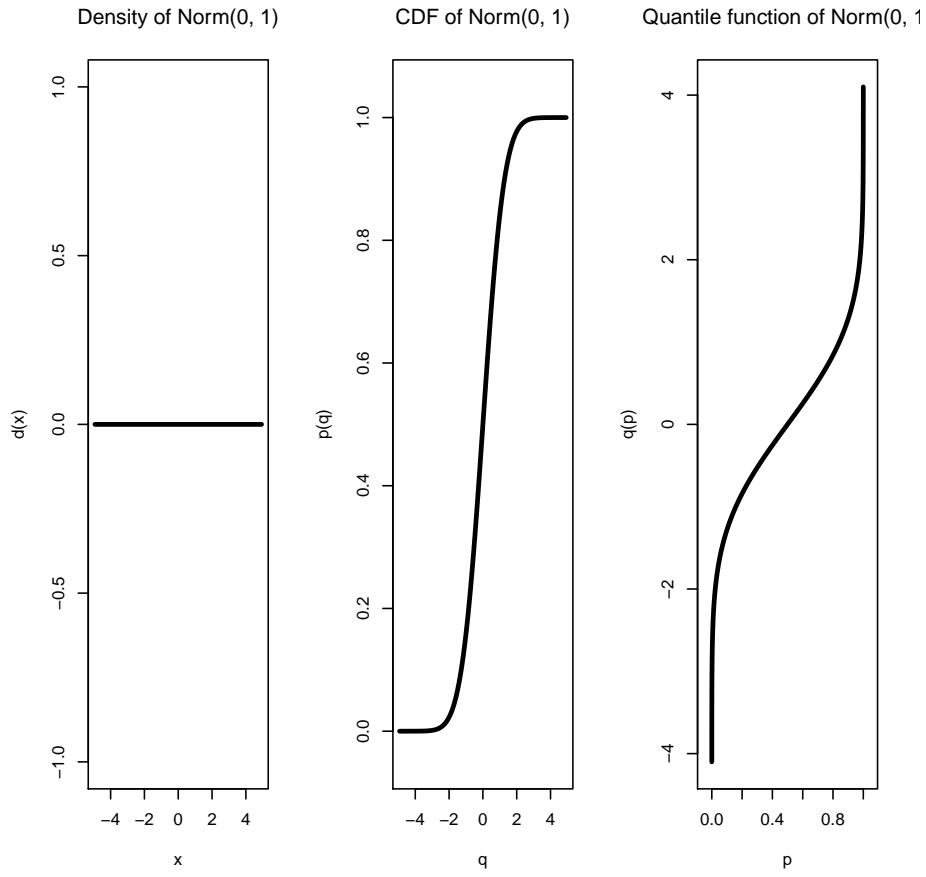
has been integrated to the package itself, see section [^3.8](#)

13.7 Instructive destructive example

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/destructive.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/destructive.R)

```
> #####  
> ## Demo: Instructive destructive example  
> #####  
> require(distr)  
> ## package "distr" encourages  
> ## consistency but does not  
> ## enforce it---so in general  
> ## do not modifiy  
> ## slots d,p,q,r!  
>  
> N <- Norm()  
> B <- Binom()  
> N@d <- B@d  
> plot(N, lwd = 3)
```



13.8 A simulation example

needs packages "distrSim"/"distrTEst"

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/SimulateandEstimate.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/SimulateandEstimate.R)

```
> require(distrTEst)
>      ### also loads distrSim
> sim <- new("Simulation",
+           seed = setRNG(),
+           distribution = Norm(mean = 0, sd = 1),
+           filename="sim_01",
+           runs = 1000,
+           samplesize = 30)
```

```

> contsim ← new( "Contsimulation",
+                 seed = setRNG(),
+                 distribution.id = Norm(mean = 0, sd = 1),
+                 distribution.c = Norm(mean = 0, sd = 9),
+                 rate = 0.1,
+                 filename="contsim_01",
+                 runs = 1000,
+                 samplesize = 30)
> simulate(sim)
> simulate(contsim)
> sim

filename of Simulation: sim_01
Seed: Kind: Mersenne-Twister
      Normal Kind: Inversion
      first 6 numbers: 1635409154      -0519020138      0383807185
                           0917289334      0999594824      0755616855
number of runs: 1000
dimension of the observations: 1
size of sample: 30
object was generated by version: 1.9
Distribution:
Distribution Object of Class: Norm
  mean: 0
  sd: 1

> summary(contsim)

name of simulation: contsim_01
rate of contamination: 0.100000
real Data:
dimension of the observations: 1
number of runs: 1000
size of sample: 30
, , 1

[ ,1]
Min.   -4.99000
1st Qu. -0.88490
Median  -0.28710
Mean    -0.45310
3rd Qu.  0.03286
Max.    1.48000

, , 2

```

[,1]
 Min. -1.6530
 1st Qu. -0.6321
 Median 0.4523
 Mean 0.2240
 3rd Qu. 0.9791
 Max. 2.3770

, , 3

[,1]
 Min. -1.67300
 1st Qu. -0.65620
 Median -0.03022
 Mean 1.08100
 3rd Qu. 0.66640
 Max. 21.18000

, , 4

[,1]
 Min. -6.4830
 1st Qu. -0.9419
 Median -0.3277
 Mean -0.1277
 3rd Qu. 0.5790
 Max. 8.7710

, , 5

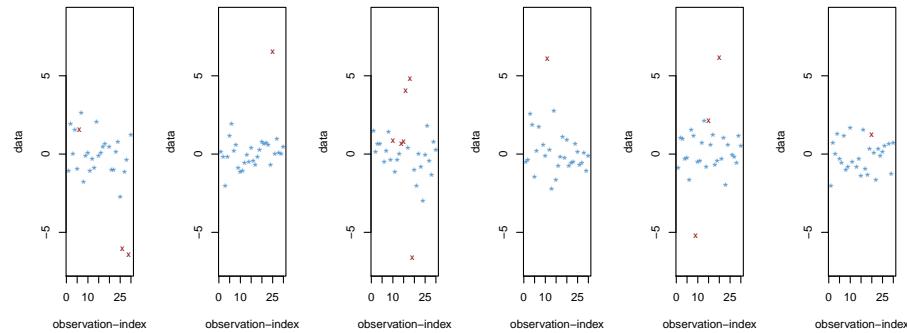
[,1]
 Min. -16.39000
 1st Qu. -0.76000
 Median 0.01563
 Mean -0.58960
 3rd Qu. 0.73350
 Max. 9.75000

, , 6

[,1]
 Min. -2.5600
 1st Qu. -0.9525
 Median -0.1216
 Mean -0.2789
 3rd Qu. 0.6028

Max. 1.6720

> **plot**(contsim)



```
> require(distrTEst)
> psim  $\leftarrow$  function(theta ,y ,m0){
+   mean(pmin(pmax(-m0, y - theta ), m0))
+ }
> mestimator  $\leftarrow$  function(x, m = 0.7) {
+   uniroot(f = psim,
+           lower = -20,
+           upper = 20,
+           tol = 1e-10,
+           y = x,
+           m0 = m,
+           maxiter = 20)$root
+ }
> result.id.mean  $\leftarrow$  evaluate(sim , mean)
> result.id.mest  $\leftarrow$  evaluate(sim , mestimator)
> result.id.median  $\leftarrow$  evaluate(sim , median)
> result.cont.mean  $\leftarrow$  evaluate(contsim , mean)
> result.cont.mest  $\leftarrow$  evaluate(contsim , mestimator)
> result.cont.median  $\leftarrow$  evaluate(contsim , median)
> elist  $\leftarrow$  EvaluationList(result.cont.mean ,
+                         result.cont.mest ,
+                         result.cont.median )
> elist
```

An EvaluationList Object
name of Evaluation List: a **list** of "Evaluation" objects
name of Dataobject: object
name of Datafile: contsim_01

An Evaluation Object

```

estimator: mean
Result: 'data.frame': 1000 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ mean.id: num -0.0207 0.0453 0.0259 0.0357 0.0562 ...
 $ mean.re: num 0.37 0.244 -0.243 -0.119 0.768 ...

An Evaluation Object
estimator: mestimator
Result: 'data.frame': 1000 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ mstm.id: num -0.12097 0.07503 0.00958 -0.1117 -0.00998 ...
 $ mstm.re: num -0.1061 0.0843 0.0968 -0.1071 0.2346 ...

An Evaluation Object
estimator: median
Result: 'data.frame': 1000 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ medn.id: num -0.1147 0.052 0.0188 -0.1361 -0.2055 ...
 $ medn.re: num -0.0449 0.052 0.0922 -0.1361 0.2292 ...

> summary(elist)

name of Evaluation List: a list of "Evaluation" objects
name of Dataobject: object
name of Datafile: contsim_01

name of Evaluation: object
estimator: mean
Result:
      mean.id          mean.re
Min.   :-0.631972   Min.   :-1.77518
1st Qu.:-0.119414   1st Qu.:-0.36959
Median : -0.009219   Median : -0.01502
Mean   : -0.003697   Mean   : -0.01512
3rd Qu.: 0.122659   3rd Qu.: 0.31638
Max.   : 0.678129   Max.   : 2.66958

name of Evaluation: object
estimator: mestimator
Result:
      mstm.id          mstm.re
Min.   :-0.668594   Min.   :-0.801157
1st Qu.:-0.139717   1st Qu.:-0.155832
Median : -0.009166   Median : -0.006478
Mean   : -0.004723   Mean   : -0.006237
3rd Qu.: 0.120341   3rd Qu.: 0.147719
Max.   : 0.744287   Max.   : 0.770694

name of Evaluation: object

```

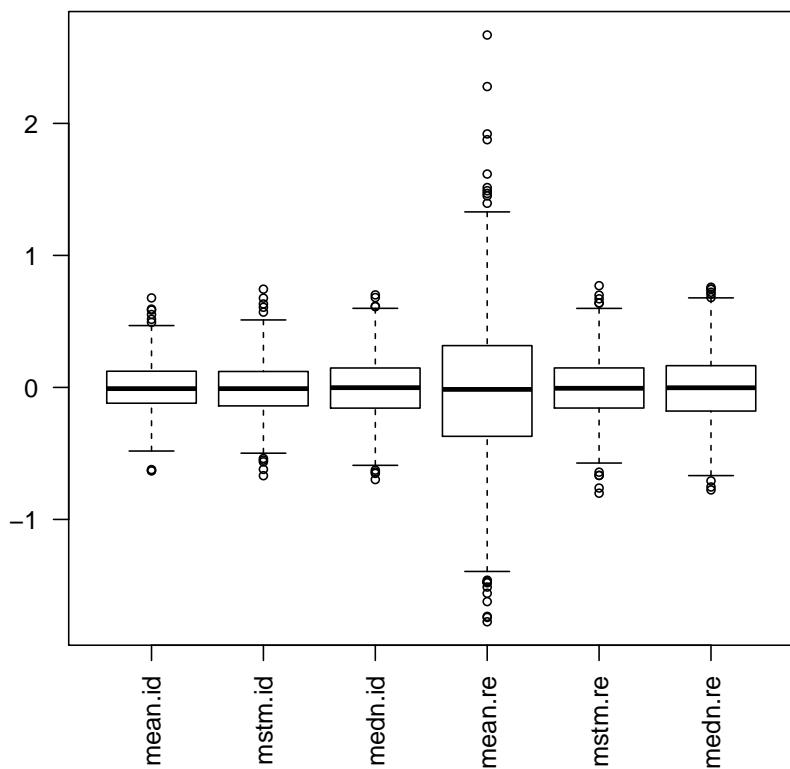
```

estimator: median
Result:
  medn.id           medn.re
  Min.   : -0.697893  Min.   : -0.776439
  1st Qu.: -0.156873  1st Qu.: -0.178822
  Median : -0.001966  Median : -0.002736
  Mean   : -0.005605  Mean   : -0.006292
  3rd Qu.:  0.147137  3rd Qu.:  0.164611
  Max.   :  0.701003  Max.   :  0.759162

```

```
> plot(elist, cex = 0.7, las = 2)
```

1. coordinate



Output by **plot/show**-method for an object of class **Evaluation**

```
> result.cont.mest
```

An Evaluation Object
name of Dataobject: object

```

name of Datafile: contsim_01
estimator: mestimator
Result: 'data.frame': 1000 obs. of 2 variables:
 $ mstm.id: num -0.12097 0.07503 0.00958 -0.1117 -0.00998 ...
 $ mstm.re: num -0.1061 0.0843 0.0968 -0.1071 0.2346 ...

Output by summary-method for an object of class EvaluationList
> summary(elist)

name of Evaluation List: a list of "Evaluation" objects
name of Dataobject: object
name of Datafile: contsim_01


---


name of Evaluation: object
estimator: mean
Result:
  mean.id          mean.re
Min.   :-0.631972  Min.   :-1.77518
1st Qu.:-0.119414 1st Qu.:-0.36959
Median : -0.009219 Median : -0.01502
Mean   : -0.003697 Mean   : -0.01512
3rd Qu.: 0.122659 3rd Qu.: 0.31638
Max.   : 0.678129  Max.   : 2.66958


---


name of Evaluation: object
estimator: mestimator
Result:
  mstm.id          mstm.re
Min.   :-0.668594  Min.   :-0.801157
1st Qu.:-0.139717 1st Qu.:-0.155832
Median : -0.009166 Median : -0.006478
Mean   : -0.004723 Mean   : -0.006237
3rd Qu.: 0.120341 3rd Qu.: 0.147719
Max.   : 0.744287  Max.   : 0.770694


---


name of Evaluation: object
estimator: median
Result:
  medn.id          medn.re
Min.   :-0.697893  Min.   :-0.776439
1st Qu.:-0.156873 1st Qu.:-0.178822
Median : -0.001966 Median : -0.002736
Mean   : -0.005605 Mean   : -0.006292
3rd Qu.: 0.147137 3rd Qu.: 0.164611
Max.   : 0.701003  Max.   : 0.759162

```

In this example we present a standard robust simulation study that — in variations — arises in almost every paper on Robust Statistics. We do this with the tools provided by our package...

13.9 Expectation of a given function under a given distribution

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/Expectation.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/Expectation.R)

This code is for illustration only; in the mean-time, the expectation- and variance operators implemented in this example have been included to package "distrEx" where their functionality has further been extended. As in examples~13.5 and 13.6, we illustrate the use of package "distr" by implementing a general evaluation of expectation and variance under a given distribution.

```
> require("distrEx")
> # Example
> id <- function(x) x
> sq <- function(x) x^2
> # Expectation and Variance of Binom(6,0.5)
> B <- Binom(6, 0.5)
> E(B, id)

[1] 3

> E(B, sq) - E(B, id)^2

[1] 1.5

> # Expectation and Variance of Norm(1,1)
> N <- Norm(1, 1)
> E(N, id)

[1] 0.9999998

> E(N, sq) - E(N, id)^2

[1] 0.9999944
```

13.10 n -fold convolution of absolutely continuous distributions

Code also available under

[http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/
mathe7/DISTR/nFoldConvolution.R](http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/DISTR/nFoldConvolution.R)

Might be useful for teaching the CLT: a straightforward implementation of the n -fold convolution of an arbitrary implemented absolutely continuous distribution — to show accuracy of our method we compare it to the exact formula valid for n -fold convolution of normal distributions.

From version 1.9 this is integrated to package "distr".

```

> ##########
> ## Demo: n-fold convolution of absolutely continuous
> ## probability distributions
> #########
> require(distr)
> if(!isGeneric("convpow"))
+   setGeneric("convpow",
+   function(D1, ...) standardGeneric("convpow"))
> #########
> ## Function for n-fold convolution
> ## -- absolute continuous distribution --
> #########
>
> ## implementation of Algorithm 3.4. of
> # Kohl, M., Ruckdeschel, P., Stabla, T. (2005):
> # General purpose convolution algorithm for distributions
> # in S4-Classes by means of FFT.
> # Technical report, Feb. 2005. Also available in
> # http://www.uni-bayreuth.de/departments/math/org/mathe7/
> # /RUCKDESCHEL/pubs/comp.pdf
>
>
> setMethod("convpow",
+           signature(D1 = "AbscontDistribution"),
+           function(D1, N){
+             if((N < 1) || (!identical(floor(N), N)))
+               stop("N has to be a natural greater than 0")
+
+             m ← getdistrOption("DefaultNrFFTGridPointsExponent")
+
+             ##STEP 1
+
+             lower ← ifelse((q(D1)(0) > - Inf), q(D1)(0),
+                           q(D1)(getdistrOption("TruncQuantile")))
+             upper ← ifelse((q(D1)(1) < Inf), q(D1)(1),
+                           q(D1)(getdistrOption("TruncQuantile")), lower.tail = FALSE))
+
+             ##STEP 2
+
+             M ← 2^m
+             h ← (upper - lower)/M
+             if(h > 0.01)
+               warning(paste("Grid for approxfun too wide, ",
+                            "increase DefaultNrFFTGridPointsExponent", sep=""))
+             x ← seq(from = lower, to = upper, by = h)
+             p1 ← p(D1)(x)

```

```

+
+    ##STEP 3
+
+        p1 ← p1[2:(M + 1)] – p1[1:M]
+
+    ##STEP 4
+
+        ## computation of DFT
+        pn ← c(p1, numeric((N–1)*M))
+        fftpn ← fft(pn)
+
+    ##STEP 5
+
+        ## convolution theorem for DFTs
+        pn ← Re(fft(fftpn^N, inverse = TRUE)) / (N*M)
+        pn ← (abs(pn) ≥ .Machine$double.eps)*pn
+        i.max ← N*M–(N–2)
+        pn ← c(0, pn[1:i.max])
+        dn ← pn / h
+        pn ← cumsum(pn)
+
+    ##STEP 6(density)
+
+        ## density
+        x ← c(N*lower, seq(from = N*lower+N/2*h,
+                            to = N*upper–N/2*h, by=h), N*upper)
+        dnf1 ← approxfun(x = x, y = dn, yleft = 0, yright = 0)
+
+    ##STEP 7(density)
+
+        standardizer ← sum(dn[2:i.max]) + (dn[1]+dn[i.max+1]) / 2
+        dnf2 ← function(x) dnf1(x) / standardizer
+
+    ##STEP 6(cdf)
+
+        ## cdf with continuity correction h/2
+        pnf1 ← approxfun(x = x+0.5*h, y = pn,
+                           yleft = 0, yright = pn[i.max+1])
+
+    ##STEP 7(cdf)
+
+        pnf2 ← function(x) pnf1(x) / pn[i.max+1]
+
+
+        ## quantile with continuity correction h/2
+        yleft ← ifelse(((q(D1)(0) == -Inf) |

```

```

+
+                               (q(D1)(0) == -Inf)) ,
+                               -Inf , N*lower)
+
+ yright <- ifelse(((q(D1)(1) == Inf)| 
+                               (q(D1)(1) == Inf)) ,
+                               Inf , N*upper)
+
+ w0 <- options( "warn ")
+
+ options(warn = -1)
+
+ qnfun1 <- approxfun(x = pnfun2(x+0.5*h) ,
+                               y = x+0.5*h, yleft = yleft , yright = yright)
+
+ qnfun2 <- function(x){
+
+   ind1 <- (x == 0)*(1:length(x))
+
+   ind2 <- (x == 1)*(1:length(x))
+
+   y <- qnfun1(x)
+
+   y <- replace(y, ind1[ind1 != 0] , yleft)
+
+   y <- replace(y, ind2[ind2 != 0] , yright)
+
+   return(y)
+
+ }
+
+ options(w0)
+
+
+ rnew = function(N) apply(matrix(r(e1)(n*N) ,
+                               ncol=N) , 1 , sum)
+
+
+ return(new( "AbscontDistribution" , r = rnew ,
+                               d = dnf1 , p = pnfun2 , q = qnfun2 ))
+
+ )

```

[1] "convpow"

```

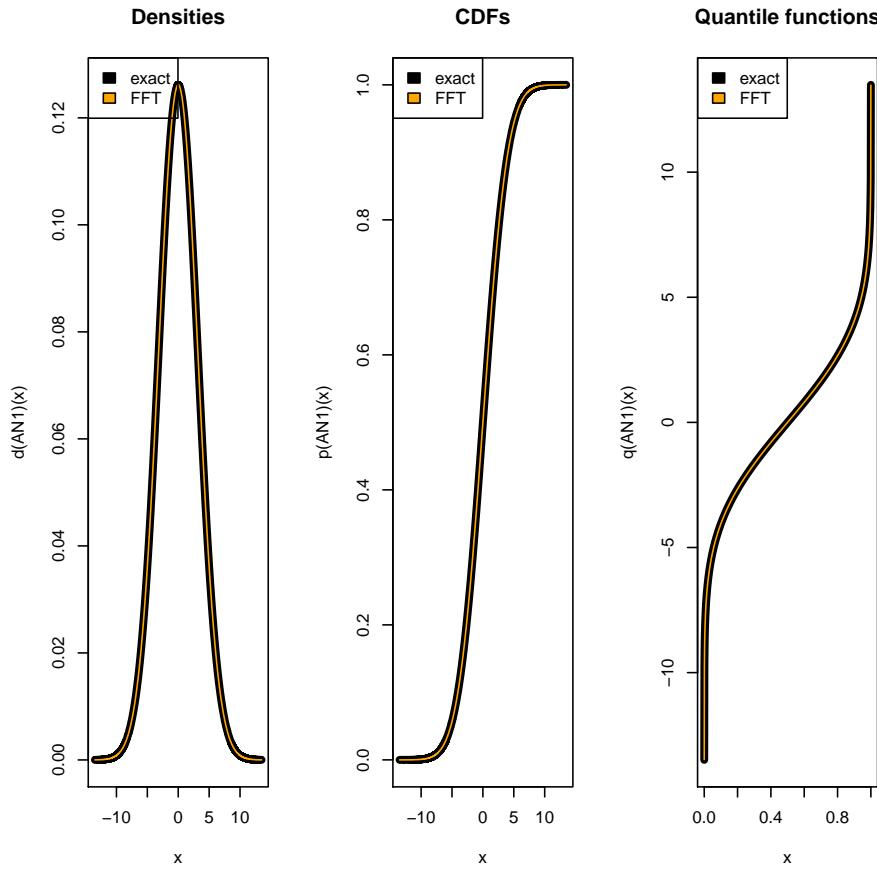
> ## initialize a normal distribution
> A <- Norm(mean=0, sd=1)
> ## convolution power
> N <- 10
> ## convolution via FFT
> AN <- convpow(as(A, "AbscontDistribution") , N)
> ## ... for the normal distribution , 'convpow' has an "exact"
> ##      method by version 1.9 so the as(..) is needed to
> ##      see how the algorithm above works
>
> ## convolution exact
> AN1 <- Norm(mean=0, sd=sqrt(N))
> ## plots of the results
> eps <- getdistrOption("TruncQuantile")
> par(mfrow=c(1,3))
> low <- q(AN1)(eps)
> upp <- q(AN1)(eps, lower.tail = FALSE)
> x <- seq(from = low , to = upp , length = 10000)

```

```

> ## densities
> plot(x, d(AN1)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x , d(AN)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("Densities")
> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+         fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## cdfs
> plot(x, p(AN1)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x , p(AN)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("CDFs")
> legend("topleft", legend=c("exact", "FFT"),
+         fill=c("black", "orange"))
> ## quantile functions
> x <- seq(from = eps, to = 1-eps, length = 1000)
> plot(x, q(AN1)(x), type = "l", lwd = 5)
> lines(x , q(AN)(x), col = "orange", lwd = 1)
> title("Quantile functions")
> legend("topleft",
+         legend = c("exact", "FFT"),
+         fill = c("black", "orange"))

```



References

- [1] Bengtsson H. The R.oo package - object-oriented programming with references using standard R code. In: Hornik K., Leisch F. and Zeileis A. (Eds.) *Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Distributed Statistical Computing (DSC 2003)*. Vienna, Austria. Published as <http://www.ci.tuwien.ac.at/Conferences/DSC-2003/> 7
- [2] Chambers J.M. *Programming with data. A guide to the S language.* Springer. <http://cm.bell-labs.com/stat/Sbook/index.html> 7
- [3] Gentleman R. *Object Orientated Programming. Slides of a Short Course held in Auckland.* <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/S-Workshop/Gentleman/Methods.pdf> 83, 84
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- [6] Press W.H., Teukolsky S.A., Vetterling W.T. and Flannery B.P. *Numerical recipes in C. The art of scientific computing.* Cambridge Univ. Press, 2. Aufl. [57](#)
- [7] Rice J.A. *Mathematical statistics and data analysis.* The Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole Statistics/Probability Series. Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole Advanced Books & Software, Pacific Grove, California. [85](#)
- [8] Ruckdeschel P., Kohl M., Stabla T., and Camphausen F. S4 Classes for Distributions. *R-News*, **6**(2): 10–13. http://CRAN.R-project.org/doc/Rnews/Rnews_2006-2.pdf [4](#)