Package 'RCTrep'

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Title Validation of Estimates of Average Treatment Effects Derived from Observational Data

Author person(``Lingjie", ``Shen", email = ``L.Shen@uvt.nl, role = c("aut``, "cre"))

Type Package

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testthat (>= 3.0.0)

```
Maintainer The package maintainer <yourself@somewhere.net>
Description The software compares and validate estimates of (conditional) average treatment ef-
      fects obtained using observational data by a) making it easy to obtain and visualize esti-
      mates derived using a large variety of methods, and b) ensuring that estimates are easily com-
      pared to a gold standard (i.e., estimates derived from randomized controlled trials). RCTrep of-
      fers a generic protocol for treatment effect validation based on four simple steps, namely, set-
      selection, estimation, diagnosis, and validation. The package provides a simple dash-
      board to review the obtained results.
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Encoding UTF-8
LazyData true
Imports mytnorm,
      MASS,
      MatchIt,
      ggplot2,
      ggpubr,
      PSweight,
      numDeriv,
      R6,
      dplyr,
      geex,
      optmatch,
      BART,
      fastDummies,
      tidyr,
      copula,
      shiny,
      shinydashboard,
      glue,
      stats,
      utils
Suggests rmarkdown,
      knitr,
```

2 call_dashboard

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base

R topics documented:

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Description

Visualizing validation results according to four steps, namely, set-selection, estimation, diagnosis, and validation

Usage

```
call_dashboard(source.obj = NULL, target.obj = NULL, source.obj.rep = NULL)
```

Arguments

source.obj	an instantiated object of class TEstimator. The estimates of conditional average treatment effects are compared to those from target.obj.
target.obj	an instantiated object of class TEstimator. The estimates of conditional average treatment effect are regarded as unbiased of truth.
source.obj.rep	an instantiated object of class SEstimator. The estimates of conditional average treatment effects are compared to those from target.obj.

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Examples

```
## Not run:
source.data <- RCTrep::source.data</pre>
target.data <- RCTrep::target.data</pre>
vars_name <- list(confounders_treatment_name = c("x1","x2","x3","x4","x5","x6"),</pre>
                   treatment_name = c('z'),
                   outcome_name = c('y')
confounders_sampling_name <- c("x2","x6")</pre>
Estimate conditional average treatment effect
source.obj <- TEstimator_wrapper(</pre>
Estimator = "G_computation",
data = source.data,
 vars_name = vars_name,
 outcome_method = "glm",
 outcome_form=y \sim x1 + x2 + x3 + z + z:x1 + z:x2 +z:x3+ z:x6,
name = "RWD",
 data.public = FALSE
target.obj <- TEstimator_wrapper(</pre>
Estimator = "Crude",
data = target.data,
 vars_name = vars_name,
 name = "RCT",
 data.public = FALSE,
 isTrial = TRUE
)
Estimate the weighted conditional average treatment effect of source.obj
strata <- c("x1","x4")
source.rep.obj <- SEstimator_wrapper(Estimator = "Exact",</pre>
                                       target.obj = target.obj,
                                       source.obj = source.obj,
                                       confounders_sampling_name =
                                       confounders_sampling_name)
source.rep.obj$EstimateRep(stratification = strata, stratification_joint = TRUE)
call_dashboard(source.obj = source.obj,
               target.obj = target.obj,
               source.obj.rep = source.obj.rep)
## End(Not run)
```

DGM

Generating RCT data or observational data for examples used in the package

Description

Generating RCT data or observational data for examples used in the package

DGM

Usage

```
DGM(
   trial,
   n,
   var_name,
   p_success,
   tau,
   y0,
   log.ps = NULL,
   binary = FALSE,
   noise = 1,
   ...
)
```

Arguments

trial	Logical indicating whether the treatment is randomly assigned in the generated data. If TRUE, RCT data is generated. Otherwise, observational data is generated.
n	A numeric value indicating the number of observations in the generated data
var_name	A character vector indicating the names of covariates
p_success	the success probability of binary variables of covariates
tau	a character indicating the generation of the true treatment effect of each individual
y0	a character indicating the generation of the potential outcome under control
log.ps	a numeric value indicating the logit of propensity score
binary	logical indicating whether the outcome is binary or continous variable
noise	a numeric value indicating the standard error of normal distribution for noise term of continuous outcome generation
	an optional argument indicating pairwise correlation between covariates.

Value

a data frame

Examples

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```
p_success_rwd, tau, y0, log.ps,
binary = FALSE, noise=1, rho1, rho2)
## End(Not run)
```

DR

R6 class: Doubly robust estimator base class

Description

A base R6 class for doubly robust estimator of average treatment effect that implements comment methods.

Super class

```
RCTrep::TEstimator -> DR
```

Methods

Public methods:

- DR\$new()
- DR\$clone()

Method new():

```
Usage:
DR$new(
    df,
    vars_name,
    name,
    treatment_method,
    treatment_formula,
    outcome_method,
    outcome_formula,
    two_models,
    isTrial,
    ...
)
```

Method clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

```
Usage:
DR$clone(deep = FALSE)
Arguments:
deep Whether to make a deep clone.
```

6 Fusion

Fusion

Validation of estimates of conditional average treatment effects in objects of class TEstimator and SEstimator.

Description

Validation of estimates of conditional average treatment effects in objects of class TEstimator and SEstimator.

Validation of estimates of conditional average treatment effects in objects of class TEstimator and SEstimator.

Methods

Public methods:

- Fusion\$new()
- Fusion\$plot()
- Fusion\$print()
- Fusion\$evaluate()
- Fusion\$clone()

Method new():

```
Usage:
```

Fusion\$new(..., stratification = NULL, stratification_joint = NULL)

Arguments:

... objects of class TEstimator and SEstimator.

stratification a character vector specifying variables. The variables are used to select subpopulations individually or in combination depending on stratification_joint. Default value is NULL.

stratification_joint a logical indicating if subpopulations are selected based on levels of individual variable in stratification or levels of combined variables in stratification. Default value is NULL.

Method plot():

Usage:

Fusion\$plot()

Method print():

Usage:

Fusion\$print()

Method evaluate():

Usage:

Fusion\$evaluate()

Method clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

Usage:

Fusion\$clone(deep = FALSE)

Arguments:

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

GenerateSyntheticData

GenerateSyntheticData Generating the synthetic RCT data given marginal distribution of each covariate

Description

Generating the synthetic RCT data given marginal distribution of each covariate

Usage

```
GenerateSyntheticData(margin_dis, N, margin, var_name, pw.cor = 0)
```

Arguments

margin_dis	a character indicating the distribution of each variable, allowable options is "bernoulli_categorical" and "bernoulli"
N	a numeric value indicating the sample size for the simulated data
margin	a list containing the marginal distribution of variables; if margin_dis="bernoulli_categorical", then margin should be list(x1=c("x1",nlevels(x1),level1, level2,,leveln, plevel1, plevel1, plevel2,,plevel3), x2=c()); if margin_dis="bernoulli", margin=list(p(x1=1),p(x2=1),,p(xn=1))
var_name	a vector indicating the name of variables, the order should be in line with margin
pw.cor	a vector containing the pairwise correlation of these variables, default is NULL; when margin_dis="bernoulli", then pw.cor must be specified

IPW

R6 class: Inverse propensity score weighting estimator base class

Description

A base R6 class for inverse propensity score weighting estimator of average treatment effect that implements comment methods.

Super class

```
RCTrep::TEstimator -> IPW
```

Methods

Public methods:

- IPW\$new()
- IPW\$diagnosis_t_ignorability()
- IPW\$clone()

Method new():

```
Usage:
```

```
IPW$new(df, vars_name, name, treatment_method, treatment_formula, isTrial, ...)
```

Method diagnosis_t_ignorability():

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Usage:

IPW\$diagnosis_t_ignorability(stratification, stratification_joint = TRUE)

Method clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

Usage:

IPW\$clone(deep = FALSE)

Arguments:

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

quasar.obj

An object of class TEstimator_Synthetic using quasar.synthetic

Description

An object of class TEstimator_Synthetic using quasar.synthetic

Usage

quasar.obj

Format

An object of class Synthetic_TEstimator (inherits from TEstimator, R6) of length 14.

quasar.synthetic

A synthetic QUASAR trial dataset, where outcome is a binary variable, treatment is a binary variable.

Description

A synthetic QUASAR trial dataset, where outcome is a binary variable, treatment is a binary variable.

Usage

```
quasar.synthetic
```

Format

'quasar.synthetic' A data frame with 5934 rows and 3 variables:

Stage2 binary variable, 1 indicating stage 2 and 0 indicating stage 3

male binary variable, 1 indicating male and 0 indicating female

age categorical variable, 1 indicating [23,50], 2 indicating [50,59], 3 indicating [60,69], 4 indicating [70,86]

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RCTREP

Replicate treatment effect estimates obtained from a randomized control trial using real world data

Description

The function RCTREP is used to replicate the estimate of treatment effect from a target randomized control trial based on real-world data (RWD). This function estimate the treatment effect of RWD to ensure the internal validity of the estimates within the study population (namely, the observational data) and weight the resulting estimates to the target population (namely, the RCT) to enable external validity. The function currently implement the following types of estimators of treatment effect: G_computation, inverse propensity score weighting (IPW), and augmented propensity score weighting. The function implement the following two types of weighting estimators to generalize the resulting estimates of treatment effect from RWD to the target RCT: exact matching weights, and selection score weights. Since we regard the sample in the RCT as the target population, weights for each individual in RWD is p/(1-p) so that the weighted population of RWD is representative to the target population.

Usage

```
RCTREP(
  TEstimator = "G_computation",
  SEstimator = "Exact",
  source.data = source.data,
  target.data = target.data,
  source.name = "RWD",
  target.name = "RCT",
  vars_name,
  confounders_sampling_name,
  outcome_method = "glm",
  treatment_method = "glm"
  weighting_method = "glm",
  outcome_formula = NULL,
  treatment_formula = NULL,
  selection_formula = NULL,
  stratification = NULL,
  stratification_joint = FALSE,
  strata_cut_source = NULL,
  strata_cut_target = NULL,
  two_models = FALSE,
  data.public = TRUE,
)
```

Arguments

TEstimator

A character specifying an estimator for average treatment effect. The allowed estimators for TEstimator are: "G_computation", "IPW", and "DR". The corresponding object will be created by the wrapper function TEstimator_wrapper(). The default is "G_computation", which, along with outcome_method="glm" model the potential outcomes.

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SEstimator A character specifying an estimator for weight. The allowed estimators are:

"Exact", "Subclass", "ISW". The default is "Exact", which, implements the exact matching on variables in confounders_sampling_name to balance the

population covariates between source.data and target.data.

source.data A data frame containing variables named in vars_name and possible other vari-

ables. source.obj is instantiated using source.data.

target.data A data frame containing variables named in vars_name and possible other vari-

ables. target.obj is instantiated using target.data.

 $source.name \qquad A \ character \ indicating \ the \ name \ of \ source.obj.$

target.name A character indicating the name of target.obj.

vars_name A list containing four vectors confounders_treatment_name, treatment_name,

and outcome_name. confounders_treatment_name is a character vector containing the adjustment variables, which, along with TEstimator and the corresponding outcome_method or treatment_method to correct for confounding; outcome_name is a character vector of length one containing the variable name of outcome; treatment_name is a character vector of length one containing the

variable name of treatment.

confounders_sampling_name

a character vector specifying variable names. The weights are estimated using the estimator specified in SEstimator based on the variables.

outcome_method, treatment_method, weighting_method

A character specifying which model for outcome, treatment, and weight to use. Possible values are found using names(getModelInfo()). See http://doi.org/10.1001/journal.org/

//topepo.github.io/caret/train-models-by-tag.html.

outcome_formula, treatment_formula, selection_formula

An optional object of class formula describing the outcome model specification,

treatment model specification, and selection model specification.

stratification An optional character vector containing variables to select subgroups. source.obj will compute both weighted and unweighted average treatment effects of the

subgroups, targe.obj will calculate the average treatment effects of the sub-

groups.

stratification_joint

An optional logical indicating if the subgroups are selected based on levels of combined variables in stratification or levels of individual variable in

stratification.

strata_cut_source

An optional list containing lists. Each component is a list with tag named by a variable in source.data to discretize, containing break which is a vector specifying the interval of range of the variable to divide, lable which is a character vector specifying how to code value in the variable according to which interval they fall. The leftmost interval corresponds to level one, the next leftmost to level two and so on. This parameter is useful in the case we concern the integrated treatment effect conditioning on variables with multiple levels (for instance, continuous variable or ordinal variable with multiple levels). Note that we first model based on these continuous variables, then we discretize these variables according to strata_cut. The variables in data of TEstimator object are discretized, and the weight is calculated based on the discretized variables.

strata_cut_target

An optional list containing lists. Each component is a list with tag named by a variable in target.data to discretize. The

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two_models	An optional logical indicating whether potential outcomes should be modeled separately when TEstimator="DR". Default is FALSE.
data.public	An optional logical indicating whether the data in the output objects are public. Default is TRUE.
•••	An optional argument passed to fit() of each estimator object for model training and tuning. See https://topepo.github.io/caret/model-training-and-tuning.html for details.

Details

An R6 object is constructed by a wrapper function TEstimator_wrapper and SEstimator_wrapper with user's input of data and estimators for treatment effect and weight. TEstimator_wrapper() returns initialized objects source.obj and target.obj. TEstimator_wrapper() replicates the target RCT estimates of target.obj via the class method RCTrep() with input of source object source.obj, target object target.obj, and estimator of weights SEstimator.

Value

A list of length two with two R6 class objects source.obj=source.obj and target.obj=target.obj.

Examples

```
## Not run:
library(RCTrep)
source.data <- RCTrep::source.data</pre>
target.data <- RCTrep::target.data</pre>
Estimator <- "IPW"
strata <- c("Stage2", "pT")</pre>
strata_joint <- TRUE
vars_name <- list(</pre>
       confounders_internal = c("Stage2", "age", "pT"),
      confounders_external = c("Stage2", "age", "pT"),
      treatment_name = c("combined_chemo"),
      outcome_name = c("vitstat")
outcome_form <- vitstat ~ Stage2 + age + combined_chemo + pT +
    Stage 2: combined\_chemo + pT: combined\_chemo + pT: combined\_chemo + pT: Stage 2: combined\_chem
 strata_cut <- list(age = list(</pre>
     breaks = c(
            min(data$age),
            50, 60, 70, max(data$age)
      ),
      labels = c(1, 2, 3, 4)
output <- RCTREP(</pre>
      Estimator = "G_computation", two_models = FALSE,
       source.data = source.data, target.data = target.data,
      vars_name = vars_name,
      outcome_formula = outcome_form,
      stratification = strata, stratification_joint = TRUE, strata_cut = strata_cut
output$source.obj
output$target.obj
## End(Not run)
```

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SEstimator_wrapper

R6 class which estimates the weighted conditional average treatment effects in source.obj based on input objects source.obj and target.obj of class TEstimator.

Description

R6 class which estimates the weighted conditional average treatment effects in source.obj based on input objects source.obj and target.obj of class TEstimator.

Usage

```
SEstimator_wrapper(
   Estimator,
   target.obj,
   source.obj,
   confounders_sampling_name,
   method = "glm",
   sampling_formula = NULL,
   ...
)
```

html for details.

Arguments

source.data

A data set of simulated observational data, where outcome is continuous variable, treatment is a binary variable.

probability. See https://topepo.github.io/caret/model-training-and-tuning.

Description

A data set of simulated observational data, where outcome is continuous variable, treatment is a binary variable.

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Usage

```
source.data
```

Format

```
## 'source.data' A data frame with 5000 rows and 8 variables:
```

- **x1** binary variable, $x1 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.2)$
- x2 binary variable, $x2 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.2)$
- x3 binary variable, $x3 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.8)$
- x4 binary variable, x4 ~ rbinom(5000,1,0.8)
- **x5** binary variable, $x5 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.7)$
- **x6** binary variable, $x6 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.8)$
- **z** binary variable indicating treatment and control. pp = x1*x2+x3*x4+5*x5+x6, $p(z=1) = p = 1/1+e^-(pp-mean(pp))/sd(pp)*sqrt(3)/pi$, $z \sim rbinom(5000,1,p)$
- y continuous variable indicating outcome, $y \sim x1 + 6*x2+x6+2*z + rnorm(5000,0,1)$

target.data

A data set of simulated RCT data, where outcome is continuous variable, treatment is a binary variable.

Description

A data set of simulated RCT data, where outcome is continuous variable, treatment is a binary variable.

Usage

```
target.data
```

Format

```
## 'target.data' A data frame with 5000 rows and 8 variables:
```

- **x1** binary variable, $x1 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.7)$
- x2 binary variable, $x2 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.9)$
- x3 binary variable, $x3 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.2)$
- **x4** binary variable, x4 ~ rbinom(5000,1,0.3)
- **x5** binary variable, $x5 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.2)$
- **x6** binary variable, $x6 \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.3)$
- **z** binary variable indicating treatment and control, $z \sim rbinom(5000,1,0.5)$
- y continuous variable indicating outcome, $y \sim x1 + 6*x2+x6+2*z + rnorm(5000,0,1)$

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TEstimator

R6 class: Estimator base class

Description

A base R6 class for estimator of average treatment effect that implements the common methods, such as RCTrep, get_CATE(), plot_CATE(), inheritted by G_computation, IPW, and DR class.

Methods

Public methods:

- TEstimator\$new()
- TEstimator\$get_CATE()
- TEstimator\$plot_CATE()
- TEstimator\$plot_y1_y0()
- TEstimator\$diagnosis_t_overlap()
- TEstimator\$diagnosis_y_overlap()
- TEstimator\$diagnosis_t_ignorability()
- TEstimator\$clone()

Method new(): Create a new Estimator object

Usage:

TEstimator\$new(df, vars_name, name)

Arguments:

df A data frame containing variables in vars_name

vars_name vars_name A list containing four vectors confounders_internal, treatment_name, and outcome_name. confounders_internal is a character vector containing the adjustment variables, which, along with Estimator and the corresponding outcome_method or treatment_method to correct for confounding; outcome_name is a character vector of length one containing the variable name of outcome; treatment_name is a character vector of length one containing the variable name of treatment.

Method get_CATE(): Replicating the average treatment effect of target.obj. If stratification is specified, then replicating the conditional average treatment effect stratified by stratification and stratification_joint by weighting based on the residual variables, namely, variables that are specified in confounders_treatment_name while not in stratification.

Get conditional average treatment effect of subgroups defined by stratification and stratification_joint. If stratification_joint=FALSE, then the method return conditional average treatment effect of subgroups stratified by each of variables in stratification.

Usage:

TEstimator\$get_CATE(stratification, stratification_joint = TRUE)

Arguments:

stratification An optional string vector containing variables to define subgroup. If !is.NULL(stratification) source.obj will compute both weighted and unweighted conditional average treatment effect based on these variables, target.obj will calculate the conditional average treatment effect based on these variables.

stratification An string vector containing variables to define subgroup.

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stratification_joint An optional logical defining the subgroup based on joint distribution of variables or univariate distribution in stratification when stratification is specified.

stratification_joint An logical defining the subgroup based on joint distribution of variables or univariate distribution in stratification.

target.obj An object of class Estimator or list.

Usage:

TEstimator\$plot_CATE(

weighting_estimator A string specifying a weighting estimator for generalizing/transporting the estimates to target.obj. The allowed estimators are: "balancing", and "modeling".

weighting_method A string specifying which model for selection to use. Possible values are found using names(getModelInfo()). See http://topepo.github.io/caret/train-models-by-tag. html.

Returns: A data frame. If stratification_joint=TRUE, then the method returns a data frame with N rows and J columns, where N represents the number of subgroups, and J is equal to the sum of number of variables in stratification and 3 (three additional columns with name cate, se, and size, representing the estimated conditional average treatment effect of this subgroup, standard error of the estimate, and the sample size of the subgroup). If stratification_joint=FALSE, then the method returns a data frame with N rows and 5 columns, where N represents the number of subgroups stratified by each variable in stratification and 5 columns with name name, value, cate, se, and size, representing the name of a variable used to stratify the population, a level of the variable, the estimated conditional average treatment effect of this subgroup, standard error of the estimate, and the sample size of the subgroup).

Method plot_CATE(): Plot the forest plot of conditional average treatment effect of subgroups defined by stratification and stratification_joint. The method first call public method get_CATE(stratification, stratification_joint), then plot the results.

```
stratification = private$confounders_treatment_name,
   stratification_joint = TRUE
 )
 Arguments:
 stratification An string vector containing variables to define subgroup.
 stratification_joint An logical defining the subgroup based on joint distribution of vari-
     ables or univariate distribution in stratification.
Method plot_y1_y0():
 Usage:
 TEstimator$plot_y1_y0(
   stratification,
   stratification_joint = TRUE,
   seperate = FALSE
Method diagnosis_t_overlap():
 Usage:
 TEstimator$diagnosis_t_overlap(stratification, stratification_joint = TRUE)
Method diagnosis_y_overlap():
 Usage:
```

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```
TEstimator$diagnosis_y_overlap(stratification, stratification_joint = TRUE)

Method diagnosis_t_ignorability():
    Usage:
    TEstimator$diagnosis_t_ignorability()

Method clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.
    Usage:
    TEstimator$clone(deep = FALSE)
    Arguments:
    deep Whether to make a deep clone.
```

TEstimator_wrapper

Estimator for average treatment effect wrapper function

Description

The function Estimate is used to estimate the average treatment effect obtained from data. If TEstimator is G_computation and outcome_method is BART, then make sure that treatment and outcome column is integer/numeric, no matter the outcome is binary or continuous.

Usage

```
TEstimator_wrapper(
   Estimator,
   data,
   vars_name,
   name = "",
   outcome_method = "glm",
   treatment_method = "glm",
   two_models = FALSE,
   outcome_formula = NULL,
   treatment_formula = NULL,
   data.public = TRUE,
   isTrial = FALSE,
   strata_cut = NULL,
   ...
)
```

Arguments

Estimator

A character specifying an estimator for conditional average treatment effect. The allowed estimators for TEstimator are: "G_computation", "IPW", and "DR".

The corresponding object will be created by the wrapper function TEstimator_wrapper().

The default is "G_computation", which, along with outcome_method="glm"

model the potential outcomes.

data

A data frame containing variables named in vars_name and possible other vari-

ables.

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vars_name

A list containing four vectors confounders_treatment_name, treatment_name, and outcome_name. confounders_treatment_name is a character vector containing the adjustment variables, which, along with TEstimator and the corresponding outcome_method or treatment_method to correct for confounding; outcome_name is a character vector of length one containing the variable name of outcome; treatment_name is a character vector of length one containing the variable name of treatment.

name A character indicating the name of the output object

outcome_method A character specifying a model for outcome. Possible values are found using

 $names (\texttt{getModelInfo()}). \ See \ \texttt{http://topepo.github.io/caret/train-models-by-tag.}$

html. Default is "glm".

treatment_method

A character specifying a model for treatment. Possible values are found using names(getModelInfo()). See http://topepo.github.io/caret/train-models-by-tag.html. Default is "glm".

two_models

An optional logical indicating whether potential outcomes should be modeled separately when TEstimator="DR". Default is FALSE.

outcome formula

An optional object of class formula describing the outcome model specification when Estimator="G_computation" or Estimator="DR".

treatment_formula

An optional object of class formula describing the treatment model specification when Estimator="IPW" or Estimator="DR"

data.public

An optional logical indicating whether individual-level data is public in the output object. Default is TRUE.

isTrial

An optional logical indicating whether the treatment assignment of data is random or unknown.

strata_cut

An optional list containing lists. Each component is a list with tag named by a variable in data to discretize, containing break which is a vector specifying the interval of range of the variable to divide, lable which is a character vector specifying how to code value in the variable according to which interval they fall. The leftmost interval corresponds to level one, the next leftmost to level two and so on. This parameter is useful in the case we concern the integrated treatment effect conditioning on variables with multiple levels (for instance, continuous variable or ordinal variable with multiple levels). Note that we first model based on these continuous variables, then we discretize these variables according to strata_cut. The variables in data of the output object are discretized.

. . .

An optional argument passed to the private function fit() of each class for model training and tuning. See https://topepo.github.io/caret/model-training-and-tuning.html for details.

Value

An object of class TEstimator.

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