# Package 'decisionSupport'

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Type Package

Title Quantitative Support of Decision Making under Uncertainty

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Description Supporting the quantitative analysis of binary welfare based decision making processes using Monte Carlo simulations. Decision support is given on two levels: (i) The actual decision level is to choose between two alternatives under probabilistic uncertainty. This package calculates the optimal decision based on maximizing expected welfare. (ii) The meta decision level is to allocate resources to reduce the uncertainty in the underlying decision problem, i.e to increase the current information to improve the actual decision making process. This problem is dealt with using the Value of Information Analysis (VIA). The Expected Value of Information (EVI) for arbitrary prospective estimates can be calculated as well as Individual and Clustered Expected Value of Perfect Information (EVPI). The probabilistic calculations are done via Monte Carlo simulations. This Monte Carlo functionality can be used on its own.

```
Depends R (>= 3.1.3)

Imports msm (>= 1.5),
    mvtnorm (>= 1.0.2),
    nleqslv (>= 2.6),
    rriskDistributions (>= 2.0)

Suggests eha (>= 2.4.2),
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```

Collate 'rmvnorm90ci_exact.R'
'paramposnorm90ci.R'
'rposnorm90ci_numeric.R'
'rdistq_fit.R'
'rdist90ci_exact.R'
'paramtnormci.R'
'r0_1norm90ci_numeric.R'
'random_estimate_1d.R'
'random.R'
'estimate.R'
'mcSimulation.R'
'welfareDecisionAnalysis.R'
'eviSimulation.R'
'individualEvpiSimulation.R'
'estimate_read_csv_old.R'
'uncertaintyAnalysis.R'
'decisionSupport-package.R'
'rposnorm90ci_iter.R'

# ${\sf R}$ topics documented:

as.data.frame.mcSimulation
corMat
corMat.estimate
decisionSupport
estimate
estimate_read_csv
estimate_read_csv_old
estimate_write_csv
eviSimulation
hist.mcSimulation
individualEvpiSimulation
mcSimulation
names.estimate
paramposnorm90ci
paramtnormci
print.mcSimulation
print.summary.eviSimulation
print.summary.mcSimulation
print.summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis
r0_1norm90ci_numeric
random
random.default
random.estimate
random_estimate_1d
rdist90ci_exact
rdistq_fit
rmvnorm90ci_exact

	1 .	C	α.	1
2C (	1ata	trame	mcSimul	latı∩n

Index	•	39
	uncertaintyAnalysis	
	summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis	35
	summary.mcSimulation	
	summary.eviSimulation	33
	sort.summary.eviSimulation	32
	rposnorm90ci_numeric	32
	rposnorm90ci_iter	31
	row.names.estimate	31

```
as.data.frame.mcSimulation
```

Coerce to a Data Frame.

# Description

Functions to check if an object is a data frame, or coerce it if possible.

# Usage

# Arguments

x	An object of class mcSimulation.	
row.names	NULL or a character vector giving the row names for the data frame. Missing values are not allowed.	
optional	logical. If TRUE, setting row names and converting column names (to syntactic names: see make.names) is optional.	
	additional arguments to be passed to or from methods.	
stringsAsFactors		
	logical: should the character vector be converted to a factor?	

# See Also

```
as.data.frame
```

4 corMat.estimate

corMat

Return the Correlation Matrix of x.

# Description

Return the correlation matrix of x.

# Usage

```
corMat(rho)
```

# Arguments

rho

a distribution.

corMat.estimate

Return the correlation matrix of an estimate object.

# Description

This function returns the full correlation matrix of an estimate object.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate'
corMat(rho)
```

# Arguments

rho

an estimate object.

# See Also

```
estimate, row.names.estimate, names.estimate
```

decisionSupport 5

decisionSupport

Quantitative Support of Decision Making under Uncertainty

### **Description**

The **decisionSupport** package supports the quantitative analysis of welfare based decision making processes using Monte Carlo simulations. This is an important part of the Applied Information Economics (AIE) approach developed in Hubbard (2014). These decision making processes can be categorized into two levels of decision making:

- 1. The actual problem of interest of a policy maker which we call the *underlying welfare based decision* on how to influence an ecological-economic system based on a particular information on the system available to the decision maker and
- 2. the *meta decision* on how to allocate resources to reduce the uncertainty in the underlying decision problem, i.e to increase the current information to improve the underlying decision making process.

The first problem, i.e. the underlying problem, is the problem of choosing the decision which maximizes expected welfare. The welfare function can be interpreted as a von Neumann-Morgentstern utility function. Whereas, the second problem, i.e. the meta decision problem, is dealt with using the *Value of Information Analysis (VIA)*. Value of Information Analysis seeks to assign a value to a certain reduction in uncertainty or, equivalently, increase in information. Uncertainty is dealt with in a probabilistic manner. Probabilities are transformed via Monte Carlo simulations.

### **Details**

The functionality of this package is subdivided into three main parts: (i) the welfare based analysis of the underlying decision, (ii) the meta decision of reducing uncertainty and (iii) the Monte Carlo simulation for the transformation of probabilities and calculation of expectation values. Furthermore, there is a wrapper function around these three parts which aims at providing an easy-to-use interface.

# Welfare based Analysis of the Underlying Decision Problem:

Welfare Decision Analysis: Implementation: welfareDecisionAnalysis

Utility Functions: Implementation: ToDo

**The Meta Decision of Reducing Uncertainty:** The meta decision of how to allocate resources for uncertainty reduction can be analyzed with this package in two different ways: via (i) Expected Value of Information Analysis or (ii) via Partial Least Squares (PLS) analysis and Variable Importance in Projection (VIP).

 $\textit{Expected Value of Information (EVI):} \ Implementation: eviSimulation, individual \textit{EvpiSimulation}$ 

Partial Least Squares (PLS) analysis and Variable Importance in Projection (VIP): Implementation: ToDo

Solving the Practical Problem of Calculating Expectation Values by Monte Carlo Simulation:

6 decisionSupport

Estimates: Implementation: estimate

Multivariate Ranom Number Generation: Implementation: random.estimate

Monte Carlo Simulation: Implementation: mcSimulation

Uncertainty Analysis: A wrapper function: Implementation: uncertainty Analysis

### **Package Options**

ToDo

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### References

Hubbard, Douglas W., *How to Measure Anything? - Finding the Value of "Intangibles" in Business*, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, New Jersey, 2014, 3rd Ed, http://www.howtomeasureanything.com/.

Hugh Gravelle and Ray Rees, Microeconomics, Pearson Education Limited, 3rd edition, 2004.

#### See Also

welfareDecisionAnalysis, eviSimulation, mcSimulation

estimate\_read\_csv 7

estimate

Create an Estimate Object

### Description

This function creates an object of class estimate. #ToDo: detailed description #ToDo: Implement characterization of distribution by mean and sd. Eventually, also by other quantiles.

#### **Usage**

```
estimate(..., correlation_matrix = NULL)
```

### **Arguments**

... arguments that can be coerced to a data frame comprising the base of the estimate.

correlation\_matrix

numeric matrix containing the correlations of the variables.

#### **Details**

The parameters in . . . provide the base information of an estimate.

The structure of the estimate base information (mandatory): Mandatory columns:

Column name R-type Explanation
distribution character Distribution types
variable character Variable names

### Value

An object of type estimate which is a list whith components base and correlation\_matrix. base is a data.frame with mandatory column distribution. The row.names are the names of the variables. correlation\_matrix is a symmetric matrix with row and column names being the subset of the variables supplied in base which are correlated. Its elements are the corresponding correlations.

### See Also

row.names.estimate, names.estimate, corMat, estimate\_read\_csv, estimate\_write\_csv,
random.estimate

estimate\_read\_csv

Read an Estimate from CSV - File.

8 estimate\_read\_csv

### **Description**

This function reads an estimate from the specified csv files. In this context, an estimate of a variable is defined by its distribution type, its 90%-confidence interval [lower, upper] and its correlation to other variables. #ToDo: Implement characterization of distribution by mean and sd. Eventually, also by other quantiles.

### Usage

```
estimate_read_csv(fileName, strip.white = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

fileName	Name of the file containing the base information of the estimate that should be read.
strip.white	logical. Allows the stripping of leading and trailing white space from unquoted character fields (numeric fields are always stripped). See scan for further details (including the exact meaning of 'white space'), remembering that the columns may include the row names.
	Further parameters to be passed to read.csv.

#### **Details**

An estimate might consists of uncorrelated and correlated variables. This is reflected in the input file structure, which is described in the following.

# Value

An object of type estimate.

#### **CSV** input file structures

The estimate is read from one or two csv files: the basic csv file which is mandatory and the correlation csv file which is optional. The basic csv file contains the definition of the distribution of all variables ignoring potential correlations. The correlation csv file only defines correlations.

Column name	R-type	Explanation
lower	numeric	ToDo
upper	numeric	ToDo
distribution	character	ToDo
variable	character	ToDo

#### Optional columns:

Column name	R-type	Explanation
description	character	ToDo
median	numeric	ToDo

estimate\_read\_csv\_old

start	integer	ToDo
end	integer	ToDo
indicator	logical	ToDo

Columns without names are ignored. Rows where the variable field is empty are also dropped.

9

### See Also

```
estimate_write_csv, read.csv, estimate
```

```
estimate_read_csv_old Read an Estimate from CSV - File (depreciated standard).
```

# **Description**

This function reads an estimate from the specified csv files. In this context, an estimate of a variable is defined by its distribution type, its 90%-confidence interval [lower, upper] and its correlation to other variables. #ToDo: Implement characterization of distribution by mean and sd. Eventually, also by other quantiles.

### Usage

```
estimate_read_csv_old(fileName, strip.white = TRUE, ...)
```

# Arguments

fileName	Name of the file containing the base information of the estimate that should be read.
strip.white	logical. Allows the stripping of leading and trailing white space from unquoted character fields (numeric fields are always stripped). See scan for further details (including the exact meaning of 'white space'), remembering that the columns may include the row names.
	Further parameters to be passed to read.csv.

### **Details**

An estimate might consists of uncorrelated and correlated variables. This is reflected in the input file structure, which is described in the following.

10 estimate\_write\_csv

# Value

An object of type estimate.

### **CSV** input file structures

The estimate is read from one or two csv files: the basic csv file which is mandatory and the correlation csv file which is optional. The basic csv file contains the definition of the distribution of all variables ignoring potential correlations. The correlation csv file only defines correlations.

Column name	R-type	Explanation
lower	numeric	ToDo
upper	numeric	ToDo
distribution	character	ToDo
variable	character	ToDo

### Optional columns:

Column name	R-type	Explanation
description	character	ToDo
median	numeric	ToDo
start	integer	ToDo
end	integer	ToDo
indicator	logical	ToDo

Columns without names are ignored. Rows where the variable field is empty are also dropped.

The structure of the correlation file (optional): File name structure: <br/>
#ToDo

### See Also

```
estimate_read_csv, read.csv, estimate
```

```
estimate_write_csv Write an Estimate to CSV - File.
```

# Description

This function writes an estimate to the specified csv file(s).

```
estimate_write_csv(estimate, fileName, varNamesAsColumn = TRUE,
  quote = FALSE, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

estimate Estimate object to write to file fileName.

fileName character. Output file name which must end with .csv.

varNamesAsColumn

logical; If TRUE the variable names will be written as a separate column, oth-

erwise as row names.

quote a logical value (TRUE or FALSE) or a numeric vector. If TRUE, any character

or factor columns will be surrounded by double quotes. If a numeric vector, its elements are taken as the indices of columns to quote. In both cases, row and column names are quoted if they are written. If FALSE, nothing is quoted.

Parameter is passed on to write.csv.

... Further parameters to be passed to write.csv.

### Value

An object of type estimate.

#### See Also

```
estimate_read_csv, estimate, write.csv
```

eviSimulation

Expected Value of Information (EVI) Simulation

# Description

The Expected Value of Information (EVI) is calculated based on a Monte Carlo simulation of the values of two different decision alternatives.

# Usage

```
eviSimulation(model, currentEstimate, prospectiveEstimate, numberOfSimulations,
  functionSyntax = "data.frameNames")
```

### **Arguments**

model

either a function or a list with two functions: list(p1,p2). In the first case the function is the net benefit of project approval vs. the status quo. In the second case the element p1 is the function valuing the first project and the element p2 valueing the second project.

currentEstimate

estimate object describing the distribution of the input variables as currently estmated.

```
prospectiveEstimate
```

estimate object describing the prospective distribution of the input variables which could hypothetically achieved by collecting more information, viz. improving the measurement.

numberOfSimulations

integer; number of simulations to be used in the underlying Monte Carlo analysis

functionSyntax function character; function syntax used in the model function(s).

#### **Details**

This principle is along the line described in Hubbard (2014). The Expected Value of Information is the decrease in the EOL for an information improvement from the current estimate (I\_current) to a better prospective (or hypothetical) information (I\_prospective): EVI := EOL(I\_current) - EOL(I\_prospective). Thus, the EVI depends on the model for valueing a decision, the current information, i.e. the current estimate, and the specification of a hypothetical improvement in information, i.e. a prospective estimate.

### Value

An object of class eviSimulation with the following elements:

evi Expected Value of Information (EVI) of gained by the prospective estimate w.r.t. the current estimate

#### See Also

 $welfare {\tt DecisionAnalysis}, {\tt mcSimulation}, {\tt estimate}$ 

### **Examples**

```
# Example 1 Only one prospective estimate:
numberOfSimulations=10000
# Create the estimate object:
variable=c("revenue","costs")
distribution=c("posnorm", "posnorm")
lower=c(10000, 5000)
upper=c(100000, 50000)
currentEstimate<-estimate(variable, distribution, lower, upper)</pre>
prospectiveEstimate<-currentEstimate</pre>
revenueConst<-mean(c(currentEstimate$base["revenue","lower"],</pre>
                  currentEstimate$base["revenue", "upper"]))
prospectiveEstimate$base["revenue",]<-data.frame(distribution="const",</pre>
                                           lower=revenueConst,
                                           upper=revenueConst,
                                           row.names="revenue",
                                           stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
# (a) Define the model function without name for the return value:
profit<-function(x){</pre>
```

```
x$revenue-x$costs
# Calculate the Expected Value of Information:
eviSimulationResult<-eviSimulation(model=profit,</pre>
                               currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                               prospectiveEstimate=prospectiveEstimate,
                               numberOfSimulations=numberOfSimulations,
                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(eviSimulationResult))
# (b) Define the model function with a name for the return value:
profit<-function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs)
# Calculate the Expected Value of Information:
eviSimulationResult<-eviSimulation(model=profit,</pre>
                               currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                               prospectiveEstimate=prospectiveEstimate,
                               numberOfSimulations=numberOfSimulations,
                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary((eviSimulationResult)))
# (c) Two decision variables:
decisionModel<-function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs,
     Costs=-x$costs)
}
# Calculate the Expected Value of Information:
eviSimulationResult<-eviSimulation(model=decisionModel,</pre>
                               currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                               prospectiveEstimate=prospectiveEstimate,
                               numberOfSimulations=numberOfSimulations,
                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary((eviSimulationResult)))
# Example 2 A list of prospective estimates:
numberOfSimulations=10000
# Define the model function with a name for the return value:
profit<-function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs)
}
# Create the estimate object:
variable=c("revenue","costs")
distribution=c("posnorm", "posnorm")
lower=c(10000, 5000)
upper=c(100000, 50000)
currentEstimate<-estimate(variable, distribution, lower, upper)</pre>
perfectInformationRevenue<-currentEstimate
```

```
revenueConst<-mean(c(currentEstimate$base["revenue","lower"],</pre>
                    currentEstimate$base["revenue", "upper"]))
perfectInformationRevenue$base["revenue",]<-data.frame(distribution="const",</pre>
                                                    lower=revenueConst,
                                                    upper=revenueConst,
                                                     row.names="revenue",
                                                     stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
# (a) A list with one element
prospectiveEstimate<-list(perfectInformationRevenue=perfectInformationRevenue)</pre>
# Calculate the Expected Value of Information:
eviSimulationResult<-eviSimulation(model=profit,</pre>
                                 currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                                 prospectiveEstimate=prospectiveEstimate,
                                 numberOfSimulations=numberOfSimulations,
                                 functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(eviSimulationResult))
# (b) A list with two elements
perfectInformationCosts<-currentEstimate</pre>
costsConst<-mean(c(currentEstimate$base["costs","lower"],</pre>
                  currentEstimate$base["costs", "upper"]))
perfectInformationCosts$base["costs",]<-data.frame(distribution="const",</pre>
                                                 lower=costsConst,
                                                 upper=costsConst,
                                                 row.names="costs",
                                                 stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
prospectiveEstimate<-list(perfectInformationRevenue=perfectInformationRevenue,</pre>
                         perfectInformationCosts=perfectInformationCosts)
# Calculate the Expected Value of Information:
eviSimulationResult<-eviSimulation(model=profit,
                                 currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                                 prospectiveEstimate=prospectiveEstimate,
                                 numberOfSimulations=numberOfSimulations,
                                 functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(eviSimulationResult))
# Example 3 A list of prospective estimates and two decision variables:
numberOfSimulations=10000
# Create the current estimate object:
variable=c("revenue","costs")
distribution=c("posnorm", "posnorm")
lower=c(10000, 5000)
upper=c(100000, 50000)
currentEstimate<-estimate(variable, distribution, lower, upper)</pre>
# Create a list of two prospective estimates:
perfectInformationRevenue<-currentEstimate
revenueConst<-mean(c(currentEstimate$base["revenue","lower"],</pre>
                    currentEstimate$base["revenue", "upper"]))
perfectInformationRevenue$base["revenue",]<-data.frame(distribution="const",</pre>
                                                    lower=revenueConst,
```

hist.mcSimulation 15

```
upper=revenueConst,
                                                         row.names="revenue",
                                                         stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
perfectInformationCosts<-currentEstimate</pre>
costsConst<-mean(c(currentEstimate$base["costs","lower"],currentEstimate$base["costs","upper"]))</pre>
perfectInformationCosts$base["costs",]<-data.frame(distribution="const",</pre>
                                                     lower=costsConst,
                                                     upper=costsConst,
                                                     row.names="costs",
                                                     stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
prospectiveEstimate<-list(perfectInformationRevenue=perfectInformationRevenue,</pre>
                           perfectInformationCosts=perfectInformationCosts)
# Define the model function with two decision variables:
decisionModel<-function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs,
      Costs=-x$costs)
}
# Calculate the Expected Value of Information:
eviSimulationResult<-eviSimulation(model=decisionModel,
                                    currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                                    prospectiveEstimate=prospectiveEstimate,
                                    numberOfSimulations=numberOfSimulations,
                                    functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(sort(summary(eviSimulationResult)), decreasing=TRUE, along="Profit")
```

hist.mcSimulation

Plot Histogram of results of a Monte Carlo Simulation

# **Description**

This function plots the histograms of the results of mcSimulation.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mcSimulation'
hist(x, breaks = 100, col = NULL, xlab = NULL,
    main = paste("Histogram of ", xlab), ..., colorQuantile = c("GREY",
    "YELLOW", "ORANGE", "DARK GREEN", "ORANGE", "YELLOW", "GREY"),
    colorProbability = c(1, 0.95, 0.75, 0.55, 0.45, 0.25, 0.05),
    resultName = NULL)
```

### **Arguments**

x An object of class mcSimulation.

breaks one of

- a vector giving the breakpoints between histogram cells,
- a function to compute the vector of breakpoints,

- a single number giving the number of cells for the histogram,
- a character string naming an algorithm to compute the number of cells (see 'Details'),
- a function to compute the number of cells.

In the last three cases the number is a suggestion only; the breakpoints will be set to pretty values. If breaks is a function, the x vector is supplied to it as the only argument.

col a colour to be used to fill the bars. The default of NULL yields unfilled bars.

xlab character; x label of the histogram. If it is not provided, i.e. equals NULL the

name of the chosen variable by argument resultName is used.

main character; main title of the histogram.
... Further arguments to be passed to hist.

colorQuantile character vector encoding the color of the quantiles defined in argument colorProbability. colorProbability

numeric vector; defines the quantiles that shall be distinguished by the colors chosen in argument colorQuantile. Must be of the same length as colorQuantile.

resultName

character; indicating the name of the component of the simulation function (model\_function) which results histogram shall be generated. If model\_function is single valued, no name needs to be supplied. Otherwise, one valid name has to be specified. Defaults to NULL.

#### Value

an object of class "histogram". For details see hist.

### See Also

mcSimulation, hist. For a list of colors available in R see colors.

individualEvpiSimulation

Individual Expected Value of Perfect Information Simulation

#### **Description**

The Individual Expected Value of Perfect Information (Individual EVPI) is calculated based on a Monte Carlo simulation of the values of two different decision alternatives.

```
individualEvpiSimulation(model, currentEstimate,
  perfectProspectiveNames = row.names(currentEstimate),
  perfectProspectiveValues = colMeans(random(rho = currentEstimate, n =
    numberOfSimulations)[, perfectProspectiveNames]), numberOfSimulations,
  functionSyntax = "data.frameNames")
```

#### **Arguments**

model either a function or a list with two functions: list(p1,p2). In the first case the

function is the net benefit of project approval vs. the status quo. In the second case the element p1 is the function valuing the first project and the element p2

valueing the second project.

currentEstimate

estimate object describing the distribution of the input variables as currently estmated.

perfectProspectiveNames

character vector; input variable names that are assumed to be known perfectly with prospective information.

perfectProspectiveValues

numeric vector of the same length as perfectProspectiveNames with the corresponding values assumed to be known perfectly.

numberOfSimulations

integer; number of simulations to be used in the underlying Monte Carlo analysis

functionSyntax function character; function syntax used in the model function(s).

#### **Details**

This principle is along the line described in Hubbard (2014). The Expected Value of Information is the decrease in the EOL for an information improvement from the current estimate (I\_current) to a better prospective (or hypothetical) information (I\_prospective): EVI := EOL(I\_current) - EOL(I\_prospective). If one variables under I\_prospective is assumed to be known with certainty the EVI is called the Individual Expected Value of Perfect Information (Individual EVPI). More precisely, if one assumes under I\_prospective to perfectly know ( $x_1, ..., x_k$ ) to equal ( $a_1, ..., a_k$ ) then one can specify the notation as Individual EVPI[ $x_i = a_i$ ]. Summarizing, the Individual EVPI depends on the model for valueing a decision, the current information, i.e. the current estimate, and the specification of the variable that is assumed to be known with certainty, viz. the improvement in information, i.e. a prospective estimate.

#### Value

An object of class eviSimulation with the following elements:

evi Expected Value of Information (EVI) of gained by the prospective estimate w.r.t. the current estimate

#### See Also

eviSimulation, welfareDecisionAnalysis, mcSimulation, estimate

### **Examples**

```
# Number of simulations:
n=100000
# Create the current estimate from text:
```

18 mcSimulation

```
estimateText<-"variable, distribution, lower, upper
              revenue1, posnorm,
                                   100,
               revenue2, posnorm,
                                        50,
                                               2000
                                        50,
                                               2000
               costs1, posnorm,
                                        100,
                                               1000"
               costs2,
                         posnorm,
currentEstimate<-estimate(read.csv(header=TRUE, text=estimateText,
                          strip.white=TRUE, stringsAsFactors=FALSE))
# The model function:
profitModel <- function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue1 + x$revenue2 - x$costs1 - x$costs2)
# Calculate the Individual EVPI:
individualEvpiResult<-individualEvpiSimulation(model=profitModel,
                                               currentEstimate=currentEstimate,
                                               numberOfSimulations=n,
                                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(sort(summary(individualEvpiResult)),decreasing=TRUE,along="Profit")
```

mcSimulation

Perform a Monte Carlo Simulation.

### **Description**

This method solves the following problem. Given a multivariate random variable  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$  with joint probability distribution P, i.e.

$$x \sim P$$
.

Then the continuous function

$$f: \mathbb{R}^k \to \mathbb{R}^l, y = f(x)$$

defines another random variable with distribution

$$y \sim f(P)$$
.

Given a probability density  $\rho$  of x that defines P the problem is the determination of the probability density  $\phi$  that defines f(P). This method samples the probability density  $\phi$  of y by Monte Carlo simulation.

# Usage

```
mcSimulation(estimate, model_function, ..., numberOfSimulations,
  randomMethod = "calculate", functionSyntax = "data.frameNames")
```

### Arguments

estimate Filename or estimate object representing the joint probability distribution of the

input variables.

model\_function A numeric function; The function that describes the value of a certain project.

mcSimulation 19

```
... Optional arguments of model_function.

numberOfSimulations

The number of Monte Carlo simulations to be run.

randomMethod character. The method to be used to sample the distribution representing the input estimate.

functionSyntax character. The syntax which has to be used to implement the model function. Possible values are globalNames, data.frameNames or matrixNames. Details are given below.
```

#### **Details**

#### Value

An object of class mcSimulation.

```
    phi an l-variate probability distribution
    x a dataframe containing the sampled x – values
    y a dataframe containing the simulated y – values
```

### See Also

print.mcSimulation, summary.mcSimulation, hist.mcSimulation, estimate, random.estimate

# Examples

```
# Example 1 (Creating the estimate from the command line):
# Create the estimate object:
variable=c("revenue","costs")
distribution=c("norm", "norm")
lower=c(10000, 5000)
upper=c(100000, 50000)
\verb|costBenefitEstimate| <-estimate(variable, distribution, lower, upper)|\\
# (a) Define the model function without name for the return value:
profit1<-function(x){</pre>
  x$revenue-x$costs
}
# Perform the Monte Carlo simulation:
predictionProfit1<-mcSimulation( estimate=costBenefitEstimate,</pre>
                            model_function=profit1,
                            numberOfSimulations=100000,
```

20 mcSimulation

```
functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(predictionProfit1))
hist(predictionProfit1,xlab="Profit")
# (b) Define the model function with a name for the return value:
profit1<-function(x){</pre>
 list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs)
# Perform the Monte Carlo simulation:
predictionProfit1<-mcSimulation( estimate=costBenefitEstimate,</pre>
                            model_function=profit1,
                            numberOfSimulations=100000,
                             functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(predictionProfit1, classicView=TRUE))
hist(predictionProfit1)
# (c) Using global names in the model function syntax
# (CAVE: currently slow!):
profit1<-function(){</pre>
 list(Profit=revenue-costs)
}
# Perform the Monte Carlo simulation:
predictionProfit1<-mcSimulation( estimate=costBenefitEstimate,</pre>
                            model_function=profit1,
                            numberOfSimulations=10000,
                             functionSyntax="globalNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(predictionProfit1, probs=c(0.05,0.50,0.95)))
hist(predictionProfit1)
# Example 2(Reading the estimate from file):
# Define the model function:
profit2<-function(x){</pre>
 Profit<-x[["sales"]]*(x[["productprice"]] - x[["costprice"]])</pre>
 list(Profit=Profit)
# Read the estimate of sales, productprice and costprice from file:
inputFileName=system.file("extdata", "profit-4.csv",package="decisionSupport")
parameterEstimate<-estimate_read_csv(fileName=inputFileName)</pre>
print(parameterEstimate)
# Perform the Monte Carlo simulation:
predictionProfit2<-mcSimulation( estimate=parameterEstimate,</pre>
                            model_function=profit2,
                            numberOfSimulations=100000,
                            functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the simulation results:
print(summary(predictionProfit2))
hist(predictionProfit2)
```

names.estimate 21

names.estimate

Return the column names of an estimate object.

### Description

This function returns the column names of an estimate object which is identical to names (x\$base).

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate'
names(x)
```

### **Arguments**

Χ

an estimate object.

### See Also

```
estimate, row.names.estimate, corMat.estimate
```

paramposnorm90ci

Return parameters of positive normal random distribution based on the 90%-confidence interval.

# Description

This function calculates the distribution parameters from the 90%-confidence interval.

# Usage

```
paramposnorm90ci(lower, upper, relativeTolerance = 0.05, method = "numeric")
```

# **Arguments**

lower numeric; lower bound of the 90% confidence intervall. upper numeric; upper bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

relative Tolerance

numeric; the relative tolerance level of deviation of the generated confidence

interval from the specified interval.

method The method to calculate the parameters. Default is "numeric".

### **Details**

#ToDo

22 print.mcSimulation

paramtnormci	Return parameters of truncated normal random distribution based on
	a confidence interval.

### **Description**

This function calculates the distribution parameters of a truncated normal distribution from an arbitrary confidence interval.

### Usage

```
paramtnormci(p, ci, lowerTrunc = -Inf, upperTrunc = Inf,
  relativeTolerance = 0.05, method = "numeric")
```

### **Arguments**

p numeric vector; probabilities of upper and lower bound of the corresponding

confidence interval.

ci numeric vector; lower and upper bound of the confidence interval.

lowerTrunc numeric; lower truncation point of the distribution.
upperTrunc numeric; upper truncation point of the distribution.

relativeTolerance

numeric; the relative tolerance level of deviation of the generated confidence

interval from the specified interval.

method The method to calculate the parameters. Default is "numeric".

# **Details**

#ToDo

print.mcSimulation Print Basic Results from Monte Carlo Simulation.

# Description

This function prints basic results from Monte Carlo simulation and returns it invisible.

```
## S3 method for class 'mcSimulation' print(x, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

- x An object of class mcSimulation.
- ... Further arguments #ToDo

### See Also

mcSimulation

```
\verb"print.summary.eviSimulation"
```

Print the Summarized EVI Simulation Results.

# Description

This function prints the summary of of eviSimulation obtained by summary.eviSimulation.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.eviSimulation' print(x, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

- x An object of class summary.eviSimulation.
- ... Further arguments #ToDo

### See Also

eviSimulation

```
\verb"print.summary.mcSimulation"
```

Print the Summary of a Monte Carlo Simulation.

# **Description**

This function prints the summary of of mcSimulation obtained by summary.mcSimulation.

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.mcSimulation' print(x, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

- x An object of class mcSimulation.
- ... Further arguments #ToDo

#### See Also

mcSimulation

```
print.summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis
```

Print the Summarized Decsion Analysis Results..

# **Description**

 $This function\ prints\ the\ summary\ of\ of\ welfare {\tt DecisionAnalysis}\ obtained\ by\ summary\ . welfare {\tt DecisionAnalysis}\ .$ 

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis' print(x, \ldots)
```

# **Arguments**

- x An object of class summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis.
- ... Further arguments #ToDo

### See Also

welfareDecisionAnalysis

# **Description**

This function generates normal random numbers truncated to [0,1] based on the 90% confidence interval calculating the distribution parameter numerically from the 90%-confidence interval.

```
r0_1norm90ci_numeric(n, lower, upper, relativeTolerance = 0.05)
```

random 25

# **Arguments**

n Number of generated observations.

lower numeric; lower bound of the 90% confidence intervall. upper numeric; upper bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

relativeTolerance

numeric; the relative tolerance level of deviation of the generated confidence

interval from the specified interval.

### **Details**

#ToDo

random

Generate random numbers for a certain probability distribution.

# **Description**

This function generates multivariate random numbers for general multivariate distributions.

# Usage

```
random(rho, n, method, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

rho Distribution to be randomly sampled.n Number of generated observations.

method Particular method to be used for random number generation.

... Optional arguments to be passed to the particular random number generating

function.

random.default

Generate random numbers based on the first two moments of a certain

probability distribution.

# **Description**

This function generates random numbers for general multivariate distributions that can be characterized by the joint first two moments, viz. the mean and covariance.

```
## Default S3 method:
random(rho, n, method, ...)
```

26 random.estimate

# **Arguments**

rho list; Distribution to be randomly sampled.

n Number of generated observations

method Particular method to be used for random number generation.

... Optional arguments to be passed to the particular random number generating

function.

random.estimate

Generate Random Numbers for an Estimate.

# Description

This function generates random numbers for general multivariate distributions that are defined as an estimate.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate'
random(rho, n, method = "calculate", ...)
```

### **Arguments**

rho estimate object; Multivariate distribution to be randomly sampled.

n Number of generated observations

method Particular method to be used for random number generation.

... Optional arguments to be passed to the particular random number generating

function.

# **Details**

Generation of uncorrelated components: Implementation: random\_estimate\_1d

Generation of correlated components: Implementation: rmvnorm90ci\_exact

# See Also

estimate

random\_estimate\_1d 27

### **Examples**

```
variable=c("revenue","costs")
distribution=c("norm","norm")
lower=c(10000, 5000)
upper=c(100000, 50000)
estimateObject<-estimate(variable, distribution, lower, upper)
x<-random(rho=estimateObject, n=10000)
apply(X=x, MARGIN=2, FUN=quantile, probs=c(0.05, 0.95))
cor(x)
colnames(x)
summary(x)
hist(x[,"revenue"])
hist(x[,"costs"])</pre>
```

random\_estimate\_1d

Generate univariate random numbers based on an estimate.

# **Description**

This function generates random numbers for general univariate distributions.

# Usage

```
random_estimate_1d(rho, n, method = "calculate", ...)
```

### **Arguments**

rho	estimate object; Univariate distribution to be randomly sampled.
n	Number of generated observations
method	Particular method to be used for random number generation.
	Optional arguments to be passed to the particular random number generating function.

### **Details**

method can be either "calculate" (the default) or "fit".

The follwing table shows the available distributions and the implemented generation method:

Identification	Distribution	method
const	ToDo	calculate
norm	Normal distribution	calculate, fit
posnorm	ToDo	calculate
0_1norm	ToDo	calculate
beta	Beta distribution	fit
cauchy	ToDo	fit
logis	ToDo	fit
t	ToDo	fit

28 rdist90ci\_exact

chisq	ToDo	fit
chisqnc	ToDo: implement?	fit
exp	ToDo	fit
f	ToDo	fit
gamma	ToDo	fit
lnorm	ToDo	fit
unif	ToDo	calculate, fit
weibull	ToDo	fit
triang	ToDo	fit
gompertz	ToDo	fit
pert	ToDo	fit
tnorm	Truncated normal distribution	fit

### See Also

For method="calculate": rdist90ci\_exact, rposnorm90ci\_numeric and r0\_1norm90ci\_numeric; for method="fit": rdistq\_fit

rdist90ci_exact	Generate univariate random numbers based on the 90%-confidence
	interval.

# Description

This function generates random numbers for general univariate distributions based on the 90% confidence interval.

# Usage

```
rdist90ci_exact(distribution, n, lower, upper)
```

# **Arguments**

distribution character; A character string that defines the univariate distribution to be ran-

domly sampled.

n Number of generated observations.

lower numeric; lower bound of the 90% confidence intervall. upper numeric; upper bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

# **Details**

The follwing table shows the available distributions and their identification as a character string:

Distribution encoding	Distribution
const	ToDo
norm	ToDo
pos_norm	ToDo

rdistq\_fit 29

norm_0_1	ToDo
pois	ToDo
binom	ToDo
unif	ToDo
lnorm	ToDo
lnorm lim2	ToDo

rdistq_fit	Generate univariate random numbers based on quantiles.	

# Description

This function generates random numbers for a set of univariate distributions based on the distribution quantiles. Internally, this is achieved by fitting the distribution function to the given quantiles using rriskFitdist.perc.

# Usage

```
rdistq_fit(distribution, n, percentiles = c(0.05, 0.5, 0.95), quantiles)
```

# Arguments

distribution	A character string that defines the univariate distribution to be randomly sampled.
n	Number of generated observations.
percentiles	Numeric vector giving the percentiles.
quantiles	Numeric vector giving the quantiles.

### **Details**

The follwing table shows the available distributions and their identification as a character string:

Identification	Distribution	Number of quantiles
norm	Normal distribution	>=2
beta	Beta distribution	ToDo
cauchy	ToDo	ToDo
logis	ToDo	ToDo
t	ToDo	ToDo
chisq	ToDo	ToDo
chisqnc	ToDo: implement?	ToDo
exp	ToDo	ToDo
f	ToDo	ToDo
gamma	ToDo	ToDo
lnorm	ToDo	ToDo
unif	ToDo	ToDo
weibull	ToDo	ToDo

30 rmvnorm90ci\_exact

triang	Triangular Distribution, Note: package mc2d needed.	ToDo
gompertz	Gompertz distribution, Note: package eha needed.	ToDo
pert	The (modified) PERT distribution, Note: package mc2d needed.	ToDo
tnorm	Truncated normal distribution	ToDo

The default for percentiles is 0.05, 0.5 and 0.95, so for the default, the quantiles argument should be a vector with 3 elements. If this is to be longer, the percentiles argument has to be adjusted to match the length of quantiles.

#### Value

ToDo

rmvnorm90ci\_exact Generate normal distributed multivariate random numbers based on the 90%-confidence interval.

# Description

This function generates normal distributed multivariate random numbers based on the 90%-confidence interval.

### Usage

```
rmvnorm90ci_exact(n, lower, upper, correlationMatrix)
```

# **Arguments**

Number of generated observations.

lower numeric vector; lower bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

upper numeric vector; upper bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

correlationMatrix

numeric symmetric matrix; correlation matrix; In particular, all diagonal ele-

ments must be equal to 1.

row.names.estimate 31

row.names.estimate

Return the variable names of an estimate object.

# Description

This function returns the variable names of an estimate object which is identical to row.names(x\$base).

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate'
row.names(x)
```

#### Arguments

Χ

an estimate object.

### See Also

```
estimate, names.estimate, corMat.estimate
```

rposnorm90ci\_iter

Generate positive normal random numbers based on the 90%-confidence interval.

### **Description**

This function generates positive normal random numbers based on the 90% confidence interval using an iteration algorithm.

### Usage

```
rposnorm90ci_iter(n, lower, upper, relativeTolerance = 0.05, maxIter = 40)
```

# **Arguments**

n Number of generated observations.

lower numeric; lower bound of the 90% confidence intervall. upper numeric; upper bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

 ${\tt relativeTolerance}$ 

numeric; the relative tolerance level of deviation of the generated confidence

interval from the specified interval.

maxIter numeric; maximum number of iterations.

### **Details**

The generation of random numbers is repeated until the generated 90% - confidence interval is close enough to the desired value.

rposnorm90ci\_numeric Generate positive normal random numbers based on the 90%-confidence interval.

### **Description**

This function generates positive normal random numbers based on the 90% confidence interval calculating the distribution parameter numerically from the 90%-confidence interval.

### Usage

```
rposnorm90ci_numeric(n, lower, upper, relativeTolerance = 0.05)
```

# **Arguments**

n Number of generated observations.

lower numeric; lower bound of the 90% confidence intervall. upper numeric; upper bound of the 90% confidence intervall.

relativeTolerance

numeric; the relative tolerance level of deviation of the generated confidence

interval from the specified interval.

#### **Details**

#ToDo

```
sort.summary.eviSimulation
```

Sort Summarized EVI Simulation Results..

### **Description**

Sort summarized EVI simulation results according to their EVI.

### Usage

```
## $3 method for class 'summary.eviSimulation'
sort(x, decreasing = TRUE, ...,
   along = row.names(x$summary$evi)[[1]])
```

#### **Arguments**

x An object of class summary.eviSimulation.

decreasing logical; if the evi should be sorted in decreasing order.

... Further arguments #ToDo

along character; the name of the valuation variable along which evi should be sorted.

summary.eviSimulation 33

### Value

An object of class summary.eviSimulation.

#### See Also

```
eviSimulation, summary.eviSimulation, sort
```

summary.eviSimulation Summarize EVI Simulation Results

### **Description**

summary.eviSimulation produces result summaries of the results of Expected Value of Information (EVI) simulation obtained by the function eviSimulation.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'eviSimulation'
summary(object, ..., digits = max(3,
   getOption("digits") - 3))
```

### **Arguments**

object An object of class eviSimulation.

... Further arguments passed to summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis.

digits how many significant digits are to be used for numeric and complex x. The de-

fault, NULL, uses getOption("digits"). This is a suggestion: enough decimal places will be used so that the smallest (in magnitude) number has this many significant digits, and also to satisfy nsmall. (For the interpretation for complex

numbers see signif.)

#### Value

An object of class summary.eviSimulation.

### See Also

```
eviSimulation, print.summary.eviSimulation, summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis
```

summary.mcSimulation Summarize Results from Monte Carlo Simulation.

# Description

A summary of the results of a Monte Carlo simulation obtained by the function mcSimulation is produced.

# Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mcSimulation'
summary(object, ..., digits = max(3,
   getOption("digits") - 3), variables.y = names(object$y), variables.x = if
   (classicView) names(object$x), classicView = FALSE, probs = c(0, 0.1,
   0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1))
```

# Arguments

object	An object of class mcSimulation.
• • •	$Further \ arguments \ passed \ to \ summary. \ data. frame \ (classic \ View=TRUE) \ or \ format \ (classic \ View=FALSE).$
digits	how many significant digits are to be used for numeric and complex x. The default, NULL, uses getOption("digits"). This is a suggestion: enough decimal places will be used so that the smallest (in magnitude) number has this many significant digits, and also to satisfy nsmall. (For the interpretation for complex numbers see signif.)
variables.y	character or character vector; Names of the components of the simulation function (model_function) which results shall be displayed. Defaults to all components.
variables.x	character or character vector; Names of the components of the input variables to the simulation function, i.e. the names of the variables in the input estimate which random sampling results shall be displayed. Defaults to all components.
classicView	logical; if TRUE the results are summarized using summary.data.frame, if FALSE further output is produced and the quantile information can be chosen. Cf. section Value and argument probs. Default is FALSE.
probs	numeric vector of quantiles that shall be displayed if classicView=FALSE.

# Value

An object of class summary.mcSimulation.

chance\_loss
 chance\_zero
 chance\_gain

### See Also

```
mcSimulation, print.summary.mcSimulation, summary.data.frame
```

```
summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis
```

Summarize Decsion Analysis Results.

# Description

summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis produces result summaries of the results of decision analysis simulation obtained by the function welfareDecisionAnalysis.

# Usage

```
## $3 method for class 'welfareDecisionAnalysis'
summary(object, ..., digits = max(3,
    getOption("digits") - 3))
```

# **Arguments**

object	An object of class welfareDecisionAnalysis.
	Further arguments passed to format.
digits	how many significant digits are to be used for numeric and complex x. The default, NULL, uses <pre>getOption("digits")</pre> . This is a suggestion: enough decimal places will be used so that the smallest (in magnitude) number has this many significant digits, and also to satisfy nsmall. (For the interpretation for complex

### Value

An object of class summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis.

numbers see signif.)

### See Also

welfareDecisionAnalysis, print.summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis, format

36 uncertaintyAnalysis

uncertaintyAnalysis Uncertainty Analysis Wrapper Function.

# Description

This function performs a Monte Carlo simulation from input files and analyses the results via Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR) and calculates the Variable Importance on Projection (VIP). Results are safed as plots.

# Usage

```
uncertaintyAnalysis(inputFilePath, outputDirectory, modelFunction,
   NumberofSimulations, randomMethod = "calculate",
   functionSyntax = "globalNames", write_table = TRUE, indicators = FALSE,
   log_scales = FALSE, oldInputStandard = FALSE)
```

# **Arguments**

inputFilePath Path to input csv file, which gives the input estimate. outputDirectory Path were the result plots and tables are safed. modelFunction The model function. NumberofSimulations The number of Monte Carlo simulations to be performed. randomMethod ToDo functionSyntax ToDo write\_table logical; If the full Monte Carlo simulation results and PLSR results should be written to file. indicators logical; If indicator variables should be respected specially. log\_scales logical; If the scales in the pls plots should be logarithmic.

logical; If the old input standard should be used (estimate\_read\_csv\_old).

### See Also

oldInputStandard

mcSimulation, estimate, estimate\_read\_csv

welfareDecisionAnalysis

Analysis of the Underlying Welfare Based Decision Problem

### **Description**

The optimal choice between two different opportunities is calculated. This decision is based on minimizing the Expected Net Loss (ENL).

# Usage

```
welfareDecisionAnalysis(estimate, model, numberOfSimulations,
functionSyntax = "data.frameNames")
```

### Arguments

estimate estimate object describing the distribution of the input variables.

model either a function or a list with two functions: list(p1,p2). In the first case the

function is the net benefit of project approval vs. the status quo. In the second case the element p1 is the function valuing the first project and the element p2

valueing the second project.

numberOfSimulations

integer; number of simulations to be used in the underlying Monte Carlo analysis

 $function Syntax \quad function \ character; function \ syntax \ used \ in \ the \ model \ function(s).$ 

### **Details**

This principle is along the line described in Hubbard (2014). The Expected Opportunity Loss (EOL) is defined as the Expected Net Loss (ENL) for the best decision. The best decision minimises the ENL. The EOL is always conditional on the available information (I): EOL=EOL(I). Here, the available information is the supplied estimate. One can show that in the case of two alternatives, minimization of EOL is equivalent to maximization of the Expected Net Benefit.

# Value

An object of class welfareDecisionAnalysis with the following elements:

enbPa Expected Net Loss (ENL) in case of project approval (PA) enbSq Expected Net Loss (ENL) in case of status quo (SQ)

eol Expected Oportunity Loss (EOL)

optimalChoice The optimal choice, i.e. either project approval (PA) or the status quo (SQ)

### See Also

mcSimulation, estimate, summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis

### **Examples**

```
# Example 1 (Creating the estimate from the command line):
# Create the estimate object:
variable=c("revenue","costs")
distribution=c("posnorm", "posnorm")
lower=c(10000, 5000)
upper=c(100000, 50000)
costBenefitEstimate<-estimate(variable, distribution, lower, upper)</pre>
# (a) Define the model function without name for the return value:
profit<-function(x){</pre>
x$revenue-x$costs
# Perform the decision analysis:
myAnalysis<-welfareDecisionAnalysis(estimate=costBenefitEstimate,
                               model=profit,
                               numberOfSimulations=100000,
                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the analysis results:
print(summary((myAnalysis)))
# (b) Define the model function with a name for the return value:
profit<-function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs)
}
# Perform the decision analysis:
myAnalysis<-welfareDecisionAnalysis(estimate=costBenefitEstimate,</pre>
                               model=profit,
                               numberOfSimulations=100000,
                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the analysis results:
print(summary((myAnalysis)))
# (c) Two decsion variables:
decisionModel<-function(x){</pre>
list(Profit=x$revenue-x$costs,
  Costs=-x$costs)
}
# Perform the decision analysis:
myAnalysis<-welfareDecisionAnalysis(estimate=costBenefitEstimate,</pre>
                               model=decisionModel,
                               numberOfSimulations=100000,
                               functionSyntax="data.frameNames")
# Show the analysis results:
print(summary((myAnalysis)))
```

# **Index**

```
as.data.frame, 3
                                                  print.mcSimulation, 19, 22
as.data.frame.mcSimulation, 3
                                                  print.summary.eviSimulation, 23, 33
                                                  print.summary.mcSimulation, 23, 35
beta, 27, 29
                                                  print.summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis,
                                                           24, 35
colors, 16
corMat, 4, 7
                                                  r0_1norm90ci_numeric, 24, 28
corMat.estimate, 4, 21, 31
                                                  random, 25
                                                  random.default, 25
data.frame, 7
                                                  random.estimate, 6, 7, 19, 26
decisionSupport, 5
                                                  random_estimate_1d, 26, 27
decisionSupport-package
                                                  rdist90ci_exact, 28, 28
        (decisionSupport), 5
                                                  rdistq_fit, 28, 29
                                                  read.csv, 8-10
estimate, 4, 6, 7, 8-12, 17, 19, 21, 26, 31, 36,
                                                  rmvnorm90ci_exact, 26, 30
        37
                                                  row.names, 7
estimate_read_csv, 7, 7, 10, 11, 36
                                                  row.names.estimate, 4, 7, 21, 31
estimate_read_csv_old, 9, 36
                                                  rposnorm90ci_iter, 31
estimate_write_csv, 7, 9, 10
                                                  rposnorm90ci_numeric, 28, 32
eviSimulation, 5, 6, 11, 17, 23, 33
                                                  rriskFitdist.perc, 29
fit, 27, 28
                                                  scan, 8, 9
format, 34, 35
                                                  signif, 33-35
                                                  sort, 33
getOption, 33-35
                                                  sort.summary.eviSimulation, 32
gompertz, 30
                                                  summary.data.frame, 34, 35
hist. 16
                                                  summary.eviSimulation, 23, 33, 33
hist.mcSimulation, 15, 19
                                                  summary.mcSimulation, 19, 23, 34
                                                  summary.welfareDecisionAnalysis, 24, 33,
individualEvpiSimulation, 5, 16
make.names, 3
                                                  tnorm, 28, 30
mcSimulation, 6, 12, 15–17, 18, 23, 24, 34–37
                                                  triang, 30
names.estimate, 4, 7, 21, 31
                                                  uncertaintyAnalysis, 6, 36
norm, 27, 29
                                                  welfareDecisionAnalysis, 5, 6, 12, 17, 24,
paramposnorm90ci, 21
                                                           35, 37
paramtnormci, 22
                                                  write.csv, 11
pert, 30
pretty, 16
```