

# Package ‘SIR’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Simulation and Inference for Deterministic Epidemic Models

**Version** 0.1.6

**Description** Tools for simulating and analyzing deterministic compartmental epidemic models using ordinary differential equations. The package currently supports classical SIR and SIRS models, including cumulative infection tracking and stochastic observation processes based on Poisson or negative binomial likelihoods. The output of simulations is returned as a dedicated S3 object with associated plotting and summary methods, facilitating reproducible epidemic modeling workflows.

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stats

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**BugReports** <https://github.com/vcastellar/SIR/issues>

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compute\_growth\_metrics

*Compute short-horizon growth metrics from an infection time series*

---

## Description

Computes two related growth metrics from a univariate time series of (typically) **cumulative** counts:

1. **Daily percent increase** (inc\_pct): for each time step  $t$ ,

$$inc\_pct_t = (x_{t+1} - x_t) / x_t$$

This is the one-step *relative* change, using the current value  $x_t$  as the denominator.

2. **Doubling time in days** (doubling\_days): first computes a 4-point **left-aligned** moving average of inc\_pct (call it  $\alpha_t$ ), then converts that average growth rate into an implied doubling time under constant-rate exponential growth:

$$\alpha_t = \text{mean}(inc\_pct_t, inc\_pct_{t+1}, inc\_pct_{t+2}, inc\_pct_{t+3})$$

$$doubling\_days_t = \log(2) / \log(1 + \alpha_t)$$

The doubling-time formula comes from solving  $2 = (1 + \alpha)^k$  for  $k$ . If  $1 + \alpha_t \leq 0$  or  $\alpha_t = 0$  then the logarithm or division may yield non-finite values; infinite results are replaced with NA.

## Usage

```
compute_growth_metrics(infected)
```

## Arguments

**infected** A univariate time series (typically a `ts`) of counts ordered in time. In most epidemiological uses this is a **cumulative** count series, but the function will work for any numeric series with positive values.

## Details

### Windowing / alignment

The percent increase is computed for adjacent pairs  $(x_t, x_{t+1})$ . The 4-point moving average of `inc_pct` is **left-aligned**, meaning the value at position  $t$  summarizes growth from  $t$  through  $t + 3$ .

### Practical notes

- If `infected` contains zeros, `inc_pct` will be `Inf` or `NaN` at those points. This will propagate into `alpha` and `doubling_days`.
- Negative or decreasing series can produce  $\alpha < 0$ , for which  $\log(1 + \alpha)$  may be undefined when  $1 + \alpha \leq 0$ .

## Value

A named list with three numeric vectors:

**inc\_pct** Vector of length `length(infected) - 1` with the one-step relative increases.

**doubling\_days** Vector of length `length(infected) - 4` with the implied doubling time (in days) computed from the 4-point moving average of `inc_pct`.

**alpha** Vector of length `length(infected) - 4` with the 4-point moving average of `inc_pct`.

## Examples

```
infected <- ts(c(100, 110, 121, 133, 146, 161))
out <- compute_growth_metrics(infected)
out$inc_pct
out$doubling_days
```

---

`fit_epi_model`

*Fit an epidemic model by trajectory matching*

---

## Description

Fits a deterministic compartmental epidemic model to observed data by minimizing a trajectory-matching loss (RMSE or log-RMSE) between the observed time series and the corresponding model-predicted trajectory.

The observable used for fitting is selected via the `target` argument and must correspond to one of the outputs declared by the underlying `epi_model` (e.g. "incidence", "I", "S").

No probabilistic observation model is assumed. Parameter estimates should be interpreted as providing the best deterministic approximation to the observed trajectory under the chosen loss.

**Usage**

```
fit_epi_model(
  x,
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  loss = c("logrmse", "rmse"),
  init = NULL,
  target = "incidence",
  n_starts = 100,
  control = list(maxit = 500),
  seed = NULL,
  eps = 1e-06,
  verbose = TRUE,
  optim_method = "L-BFGS-B",
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	Numeric vector of observed data used for fitting.
<code>model</code>	An object of class "epi_model" defining the epidemic model.
<code>loss</code>	Loss function to minimize. One of "logrmse" (default) or "rmse".
<code>init</code>	Named list or vector specifying the initial state of the model. Names must match <code>model\$state_names</code> .
<code>target</code>	Character string specifying which model output is matched to <code>x</code> . Must be one of <code>model\$outputs</code> (e.g. "incidence", "I", "S").
<code>n_starts</code>	Integer. Number of random multi-start initializations used to reduce sensitivity to local minima.
<code>control</code>	Control list passed to <code>optim</code> for the final optimization step (e.g. <code>maxit</code> ).
<code>seed</code>	Optional integer. If provided, sets the random seed for reproducible multi-start initialization.
<code>eps</code>	Small positive constant used for numerical stability in the log-RMSE loss.
<code>verbose</code>	Logical. If TRUE, progress information from the multi-start and final optimization phases is printed.
<code>optim_method</code>	Character string specifying the optimization algorithm passed to <code>optim</code> . Defaults to "L-BFGS-B". Methods that do not support box constraints (e.g. "Nelder-Mead") are handled automatically.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments passed directly to <code>ode</code> for numerical integration of the ODE system (e.g. <code>method</code> , <code>rtol</code> , <code>atol</code> ).

**Value**

An object of class "fit\_epi\_model" containing the fitted parameters, optimization diagnostics, the selected fitting target, and the ODE control settings used during fitting.

**See Also**

[simulate\\_epi](#), [predict.fit\\_epi\\_model](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
## -----
## Example 1: Fit incidence using log-RMSE
## -----
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  parms = SIR_MODEL$defaults,
  init = list(S = 1e6, I = 20, R = 0),
  seed = 22
)

x_inc <- sim$incidence$inc

fit_inc <- fit_epi_model(
  x = x_inc,
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  target = "incidence",
  loss = "logrmse",
  init = list(S = 1e6, I = 6, R = 0)
)

print(fit_inc)

## -----
## Example 2: Fit a state variable using a different optimizer
## -----
fit_I <- fit_epi_model(
  x = sim$states$I,
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  target = "I",
  init = list(S = 1e6, I = 10, R = 0),
  optim_method = "Nelder-Mead",
  method = "rk4",
  rtol = 1e-8,
  atol = 1e-10
)

print(fit_I)

## End(Not run)
```

## Description

Objects of class "fit\_epi\_model" represent the result of fitting a deterministic epidemic model to incidence data by minimizing a trajectory-matching loss (RMSE or log-RMSE).

No probabilistic observation model is assumed. The fitted parameters should be interpreted as providing the best deterministic approximation to the observed incidence trajectory under the chosen loss.

## Usage

```
new_fit_epi_model(  
  model,  
  par,  
  optim,  
  loss,  
  target,  
  init,  
  ini0,  
  x,  
  ode_control = NULL  
)
```

## Contents

A "fit\_epi\_model" object is a named list with components:

**model** The fitted epi\_model object.

**par** Named numeric vector of fitted parameters.

**loss** Loss minimized ("rmse" or "logrmse").

**target** Model output used for fitting (e.g. "incidence", "I").

**value** Final loss value.

**optim** Object returned by stats::optim().

**convergence** Convergence code from optim().

**message** Optional convergence message.

**init** Initial condition arguments passed by the user.

**ini0** Initial state vector used internally.

**x** Observed data used for fitting.

## See Also

[fit\\_epi\\_model](#), [predict.fit\\_epi\\_model](#)

---

new_epi_model	Create a new epidemic model object
---------------	------------------------------------

---

## Description

Constructs an object of class "epi\_model" representing a deterministic compartmental epidemic model. In addition to the ODE system, the model must explicitly declare which output of the right-hand side corresponds to the latent incidence rate.

## Usage

```
new_epi_model(
  name,
  rhs,
  state_names,
  par_names,
  outputs = state_names,
  lower = NULL,
  upper = NULL,
  defaults = NULL,
  init = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

name	Character scalar. Human-readable name of the model (e.g. "SIR").
rhs	Function defining the ODE system. Must have signature <code>function(time, state, parms)</code> and return a list whose first element is the vector of state derivatives.
state_names	Character vector of state variable names.
par_names	Character vector of parameter names.
lower	Optional named numeric vector of lower parameter bounds.
upper	Optional named numeric vector of upper parameter bounds.
defaults	Optional named numeric vector of default parameter values.
init	Optional named numeric vector of default initial conditions.
incidence	Character scalar. Name of the rhs output corresponding to the latent incidence rate.

## Details

### Incidence:

The rhs function may return additional named outputs besides the state derivatives. One of these outputs must represent the **latent incidence rate** (e.g. force of infection or case-generation rate). The incidence argument specifies the name of this output. This makes the definition of epidemic cases explicit and allows generic functions such as `simulate_epi()`, `fit_epi_model()`, and `summary()` to operate consistently across models.

**Value**

An object of class "epi\_model".

**Examples**

```
sir_model <- new_epi_model(
  name = "SIR",
  rhs = sir_rhs,
  state_names = c("S", "I", "R"),
  par_names = c("beta", "gamma"),
  incidence = "incidence"
)
```

---

```
plot.epi_model_predict
```

*Plot predictions from a fitted epidemic model*

---

**Description**

Plot method for objects of class "epi\_model\_predict". The function displays the observed incidence data used for fitting together with the model-predicted incidence trajectory.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'epi_model_predict'
plot(x, type_obs = "h", col_obs = "black", col_pred = "red", lwd_pred = 2, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class "epi_model_predict".
type_obs	Plot type for observed data (default: "h").
col_obs	Color for observed incidence.
col_pred	Color for predicted incidence.
lwd_pred	Line width for predicted incidence.
...	Further graphical parameters passed to <a href="#">plot</a> .

**Value**

Invisibly returns the input object x.



plot.sim\_epi

*Plot a simulated epidemic*

## Description

Plot method for objects of class "sim\_epi" as returned by [simulate\\_epi](#). The function can display either the compartmental state trajectories defined by the underlying [epi\\_model](#) or the observed incidence time series, depending on the value of the what argument.

Unlike earlier versions, this method does not assume a specific compartmental structure (e.g. SIR or SEIR). The set of states to be plotted is taken directly from the epi\_model used to generate the simulation.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sim_epi'
plot(
  x,
  what = c("states", "incidence"),
  scale = c("auto", "full", "small", "log"),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

x	Object of class "sim_epi" as returned by <a href="#">simulate_epi</a> .
what	Character string specifying the type of plot to produce. Either "states" to plot compartmental state trajectories or "incidence" to plot observed incidence counts.
scale	Character string specifying the scale for state plots. One of "auto", "full", "small", or "log". This argument is ignored when what = "incidence".
...	Additional graphical parameters passed to base plotting functions such as <a href="#">plot</a> and <a href="#">matplot</a> .

## Details

When what = "states", the function plots the time evolution of all state variables defined in x\$model\$state\_names, using the simulated trajectories stored in x\$states. The time variable is taken from the time column of x\$states and is not considered a state.

When what = "incidence", the function plots the observed incidence counts generated by the observation model and stored in x\$incidence. If no observation model was specified during simulation (i.e. obs = "none"), this option results in an error.

If available, the time unit stored in the sim\_epi object (i.e. x\$time\_unit) is used to label the time axis. This affects only the plot labels and does not change the numerical values of time.

**Value**

Invisibly returns the input object `x`.

**See Also**

`simulate_epi`, `summary.sim_epi`, `print.sim_epi`

**Examples**

```
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  time_unit = "days",
  parms = c(beta = 0.3, gamma = 0.1),
  init = c(S = 999990, I = 10, R = 0, C = 10),
  obs = "poisson",
  seed = 1
)

# Plot all model states
plot(sim)

# Plot observed incidence (requires an observation model)
plot(sim, what = "incidence")
```

---

`predict.fit_epi_model` *Predict epidemic dynamics from a fitted epidemic model*

---

**Description**

Computes forward predictions from a fitted epidemic model by solving the underlying ODE system using the estimated parameters.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'fit_epi_model'
predict(object, n_days, init = NULL, times = NULL, method = "lsoda", ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	An object of class <code>"fit_epi_model"</code> .
<code>n_days</code>	Integer. Number of days to predict ahead.
<code>init</code>	Named numeric vector of initial states. If <code>NULL</code> , the initial state is reconstructed using <code>object\$ini0</code> .
<code>times</code>	Optional numeric vector of time points. Overrides <code>n_days</code> . Defaults to <code>0:(n_days - 1)</code> when <code>NULL</code> .
<code>method</code>	Integration method passed to <code>deSolve::ode()</code> .
<code>...</code>	Currently unused.

**Value**

An object of class "epi\_model\_predict".

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  n_days = 200,
  parms = c(beta = 0.30, gamma = 0.10),
  init = list(S = 1e6, I = 20, R = 0),
  obs = "poisson"
)
plot(sim)
inc_obs <- sim$incidence$inc
plot(seq_along(inc_obs) - 1, inc_obs,
     type = "l", xlab = "Day", ylab = "Incidence")
fit <- fit_epi_model(inc_obs,
                    loss = "logrmse",
                    model = SIRS_MODEL,
                    init = list(I0 = 6, N = 1e6))
init <- tail(sim$states, n = 1)[, -1]
pred <- predict(
  object = fit,
  n_days = 1000,
  init = init
)
plot(pred)
plot(sim)
plot(pred$states$time, pred$states$I)
plot(pred$states$I, col = "red", lty = 2)
lines(pred$states$S, col = "blue", lty = 2)

## End(Not run)
```

---

print.epi\_model

---

*Print an epidemic model object*


---

**Description**

Provides a concise, human-readable summary of an epi\_model object. The printed output includes the model name, state variables, parameters, the declared model outputs, and the underlying system of differential equations.

This method is automatically called when an object of class "epi\_model" is printed at the console.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

`x`                      An object of class "epi\_model".  
`...`                    Further arguments (ignored).

**Details**

The `epi_model` class explicitly declares the set of model outputs via the `outputs` field. These outputs may include state variables, derived quantities such as incidence, or any other observable returned by the model's right-hand side (`rhs`) function.

Parameter bounds are shown when available. The model equations are printed by deparsing the `rhs` function for inspection.

**Value**

Invisibly returns the input object `x`.

**Examples**

```
SIR_MODEL
```

---

```
print.fit_epi_model      Print a fitted epidemic model
```

---

**Description**

Print method for objects of class "fit\_epi\_model".

The function displays a concise, human-readable summary of the result of fitting an epidemic model to incidence data. The printed output includes the model name, the loss function used for fitting, the final objective value, convergence information from the optimizer, and the estimated model parameters.

This method is automatically called when an object of class "fit\_epi\_model" is printed at the console.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

`x`                      An object of class "fit\_epi\_model" as returned by [fit\\_epi\\_model](#).  
`...`                    Further arguments (ignored).

**Details**

The reported objective value corresponds to the value of the loss function evaluated at the estimated parameter vector. Convergence information and optional messages are taken directly from the underlying optimization routine.

The printed parameter estimates represent point estimates obtained by minimizing the chosen loss function; no uncertainty quantification is provided by this method.

**Value**

Invisibly returns the input object `x`.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
fit <- fit_epi_model(
  x = incidence_data,
  model = SIR_MODEL
)

fit

## End(Not run)
```

---

print.sim_epi	<i>Print a simulated epidemic</i>
---------------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Print method for objects of class "sim\_epi" as returned by [simulate\\_epi](#). The function provides a concise, human-readable summary of a simulated epidemic, including the underlying epidemic model, the simulation time horizon, the parameter values used, and selected outcome metrics derived from the simulation results.

Unlike earlier versions, this method does not assume a specific compartmental structure (such as SIR or SEIR). Model-specific information is obtained directly from the [epi\\_model](#) object stored in `x$model`.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	Object of class "sim_epi" as returned by <a href="#">simulate_epi</a> .
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments ignored by this method; included for compatibility with the generic <a href="#">print</a> function.

## Details

This method is automatically dispatched when an object of class "sim\_epi" is printed. It is intended to give a quick overview of the simulation without displaying the full internal structure of the object.

If available, the time unit stored in the `sim_epi` object (i.e. `x$time_unit`) is used to label the simulation horizon and reported event times. This affects only the printed labels and does not change the numerical values of time.

The printed output typically includes:

- the name of the epidemic model,
- the simulated time horizon,
- the parameter values used in the simulation,
- basic outcome summaries (e.g. peak prevalence or total infections), when such quantities are available.

## Value

Invisibly returns the input object `x`.

## See Also

[simulate\\_epi](#), [summary.sim\\_epi](#), [plot.sim\\_epi](#)

## Examples

```
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  time_unit = "days",
  parms = c(beta = 0.30, gamma = 0.10),
  init = c(S = 999990, I = 10, R = 0, C = 10),
  seed = 1
)

sim
```

---

SEIRS\_MODEL

*SEIRS epidemic model with latent period and waning immunity*

---

## Description

An `epi_model` object representing a deterministic **SEIRS** (Susceptible–Exposed–Infectious–Recovered–Susceptible) compartmental epidemic model with a latent (exposed) period and waning immunity.

The model describes the spread of an infection in a closed population where susceptible individuals become infected at rate  $\lambda(t)$  and enter the exposed compartment E. Exposed individuals progress to the infectious compartment at rate  $\sigma$ . Infectious individuals recover at rate  $\gamma$ , and recovered individuals lose immunity at rate  $\omega$ , returning to the susceptible compartment.

**Usage**

SEIRS\_MODEL

**Format**

An object of class "epi\_model".

**Details****State variables:**

The model is defined in terms of the following state variables:

**S(t)** Number of susceptible individuals at time  $t$ .**E(t)** Number of exposed (infected but not yet infectious) individuals at time  $t$ .**I(t)** Number of infectious (actively infected) individuals at time  $t$ .**R(t)** Number of recovered individuals with temporary immunity at time  $t$ .

The total population size is conserved:

$$N = S(t) + E(t) + I(t) + R(t).$$

**Model outputs:**

The SEIRS model declares the following outputs:

**"S"** Susceptible population size.**"E"** Exposed (latent) population size.**"I"** Infectious population size.**"R"** Recovered (temporarily immune) population size.**"incidence"** Rate of progression from E to I,  $\sigma E(t)$ , representing the instantaneous incidence of new infectious cases returned by the model's right-hand side.All declared outputs may be used as observables in generic utilities such as [fit\\_epi\\_model](#) via the target argument.**Parameters:**

The SEIRS model depends on the following parameters:

**beta** Transmission rate (per day).**sigma** Rate of progression from exposed to infectious (per day);  $1/\sigma$  is the mean latent period.**gamma** Recovery/removal rate from infectious to recovered (per day);  $1/\gamma$  is the mean infectious period.**omega** Rate of waning immunity from R back to S (per day);  $1/\omega$  is the mean immunity duration.**Model equations:**

New infections occur at rate

$$\lambda(t) = \beta \frac{S(t) I(t)}{N}.$$

Case incidence (entries into I) occurs at rate

$$\text{incidence}(t) = \sigma E(t).$$

The system of ordinary differential equations is:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dS}{dt} &= -\lambda(t) + \omega R(t), \\ \frac{dE}{dt} &= \lambda(t) - \sigma E(t), \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \sigma E(t) - \gamma I(t), \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma I(t) - \omega R(t).\end{aligned}$$

#### Usage:

This predefined model object is intended to be used with generic utilities such as [simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), and [predict.fit\\_epi\\_model](#) that operate on `epi_model` objects.

#### See Also

[simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), [new\\_epi\\_model](#)

#### Examples

```
## Simulate a SEIRS epidemic
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SEIRS_MODEL,
  times = 0:300,
  parms = c(beta = 0.3, sigma = 0.2, gamma = 0.14, omega = 0.01),
  init = c(S = 1e6, E = 0, I = 20, R = 0),
  obs = "poisson"
)

plot(sim)

## Plot observed incidence
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## Fit the model to observed incidence
fit_inc <- fit_epi_model(
  x = sim$incidence$inc,
  model = SEIRS_MODEL,
  init = SEIRS_MODEL$init,
  target = "incidence"
)

fit_inc
```



SEIR\_MODEL

*SEIR epidemic model with latent (exposed) period***Description**

An `epi_model` object representing a deterministic **SEIR** (Susceptible–Exposed–Infectious–Recovered) compartmental epidemic model with a latent (exposed) period.

The model describes the spread of an infection in a closed population where susceptible individuals become infected at rate  $\lambda(t)$  and enter the exposed compartment E. Exposed individuals progress to the infectious compartment at rate `sigma` and subsequently recover with permanent immunity.

**Usage**

SEIR\_MODEL

**Format**

An object of class "`epi_model`".

**Details****State variables:**

The model is defined in terms of the following state variables:

**S(t)** Number of susceptible individuals at time  $t$ .

**E(t)** Number of exposed (infected but not yet infectious) individuals at time  $t$ .

**I(t)** Number of infectious (actively infected) individuals at time  $t$ .

**R(t)** Number of recovered (immune) individuals at time  $t$ .

The total population size is conserved:

$$N = S(t) + E(t) + I(t) + R(t).$$

**Model outputs:**

The SEIR model declares the following outputs:

"S" Susceptible population size.

"E" Exposed (latent) population size.

"I" Infectious population size.

"R" Recovered (immune) population size.

"incidence" Rate of progression from E to I,  $\sigma E(t)$ , representing the instantaneous incidence of new infectious cases returned by the model's right-hand side.

All declared outputs may be used as observables in generic utilities such as `fit_epi_model` via the `target` argument.

**Parameters:**

The SEIR model depends on the following parameters:

**beta** Transmission rate (per day).

**sigma** Rate of progression from exposed to infectious (per day);  $1/\sigma$  is the mean latent period.

**gamma** Recovery/removal rate from infectious to recovered (per day);  $1/\gamma$  is the mean infectious period.

#### Model equations:

New infections occur at rate

$$\lambda(t) = \beta \frac{S(t) I(t)}{N}.$$

Progression from exposed to infectious occurs at rate

$$\text{incidence}(t) = \sigma E(t).$$

The system of ordinary differential equations is:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dS}{dt} &= -\lambda(t), \\ \frac{dE}{dt} &= \lambda(t) - \sigma E(t), \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \sigma E(t) - \gamma I(t), \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma I(t).\end{aligned}$$

#### Usage:

This predefined model object is intended to be used with generic utilities such as [simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), and [predict.fit\\_epi\\_model](#) that operate on `epi_model` objects.

#### See Also

[simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), [new\\_epi\\_model](#)

#### Examples

```
## Simulate a SEIR epidemic
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SEIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  parms = c(beta = 0.3, sigma = 0.2, gamma = 0.14),
  init = c(S = 1e6, E = 5, I = 10, R = 0),
  obs = "poisson"
)

plot(sim)

## Plot observed incidence
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## Fit the model to observed incidence
fit_inc <- fit_epi_model(
  x = sim$incidence$inc,
```

```

    model = SEIR_MODEL,
    init = SEIR_MODEL$init,
    target = "incidence"
  )

  fit_inc

```

simulate\_epi

*Simulate an epidemic model defined by an epi\_model object*

## Description

Simulates a deterministic compartmental epidemic model specified via an `epi_model` object. The model is solved as a system of ordinary differential equations (ODEs) using `ode`. Optionally, a stochastic observation process can be applied to a model-defined incidence process to generate reported incidence counts.

The function is fully model-agnostic: all model-specific information (state variables, parameters, default values, ODE right-hand side, and optional incidence definition) is read directly from the supplied `epi_model`.

## Usage

```

simulate_epi(
  model,
  times,
  time_unit = "days",
  parms = NULL,
  init = NULL,
  obs = c("none", "poisson", "negbin"),
  size = 20,
  seed = NULL,
  ...
)

```

## Arguments

<code>model</code>	An object of class "epi_model" defining the epidemic model to simulate.
<code>times</code>	Numeric vector of time points at which to solve the ODE system. Must be strictly increasing and of length $\geq 2$ . The first value typically corresponds to the initial time (e.g. 0).
<code>time_unit</code>	Character string specifying the unit of time associated with <code>times</code> . One of "days", "weeks", "month", or "year". This is used only for printing and plotting labels and does not affect the numerical simulation. The optional <code>time_unit</code> argument can be used to label the time axis in printed summaries and plots, but does not affect the numerical solution.

parms	Named numeric vector of model parameters. Names must match <code>model\$par_names</code> . Any missing parameters are taken from <code>model\$defaults</code> , if available.
init	Named numeric vector giving the initial values of the state variables. Names must exactly match <code>model\$state_names</code> .
obs	Character string specifying the observation model. One of "none", "poisson", or "negbin".
size	Numeric. Dispersion (size) parameter for the negative binomial observation model.
seed	Optional integer. If provided, sets the random seed for reproducible observation draws.
...	Additional arguments passed directly to <a href="#">ode</a> , such as <code>method</code> , <code>rtol</code> , or <code>atol</code> .

## Details

### Model structure:

The `model` argument must be an object of class "epi\_model", typically created with [new\\_epi\\_model](#).

At minimum, the model must define:

- an ODE right-hand side function (`model$rhs`);
- the state variables (`model$state_names`);
- the model parameters (`model$par_names`).

Optionally, the model may define a latent incidence process by returning a variable named "incidence" as an additional output of the ODE right-hand side function. If no such variable is defined, no incidence time series is produced.

### Time grid:

The model is simulated at the time points specified by the numeric vector `times`. This vector must be strictly increasing and of length  $\geq 2$ . The first value typically corresponds to the initial time (e.g. 0).

This design follows the interface of [ode](#) and provides full control over the temporal resolution of the simulation, including irregular or non-integer time grids.

### Initial conditions:

The initial state `init` must be supplied explicitly as a named numeric vector whose names match `model$state_names`. No automatic construction of initial conditions is performed.

### Observation model:

If the model defines a latent incidence process, it can optionally be converted into reported incidence counts using a simple observation model:

`obs = "poisson"` Reported counts are drawn from a Poisson distribution with mean equal to the latent incidence.

`obs = "negbin"` Reported counts are drawn from a negative binomial distribution with mean equal to the latent incidence and dispersion parameter `size`.

`obs = "none"` No stochastic observation model is applied; the observed incidence is taken to be equal to the latent incidence.

If the model does not define a latent incidence process, the arguments `obs` and `size` are ignored and no incidence outputs are produced.

**Numerical integration:**

The ODE system is solved using `ode`. Additional arguments passed via `...` are forwarded directly to `deSolve::ode()`, allowing full control over the numerical integration. In particular, the integration method can be specified using the `method` argument.

If `method` is not supplied, `deSolve::ode()` uses its default integration method (typically `"lsoda"`).

**Value**

An object of class `"sim_epi"`, containing:

**model** The `epi_model` object used to generate the simulation.

**params** A list of model parameter values used in the simulation.

**states** A data frame with columns `time` and the model state variables, containing the simulated state trajectories.

**incidence** A data frame with columns `time` and `inc` containing the observed (reported) incidence counts, or `NULL` if no incidence process is defined by the model.

**incidence\_cum** A data frame with columns `time` and `cases_cum` containing cumulative observed cases, or `NULL`.

**See Also**

`new_epi_model`, `ode`, `plot.sim_epi`, `print.sim_epi`

**Examples**

```
## -----
## Example 1: SIR model with model-defined incidence
## -----

sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  time_unit = "week",
  parms = c(beta = 0.30, gamma = 0.10),
  init = c(S = 1e6 - 10, I = 10, R = 0, C = 10),
  seed = 1,
  method = 'lsoda'
)

# Plot state trajectories defined by the model
plot(sim)

# Plot observed incidence (requires the model to define incidence)
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## -----
## Example 2: Using a different numerical integration method
## -----
```

```

sim_rk4 <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  parms = c(beta = 0.30, gamma = 0.10),
  init = c(S = 1e6 - 10, I = 10, R = 0, C = 10),
  method = "rk4"
)

plot(sim_rk4)

## -----
## Example 3: Model without an incidence definition
## -----

sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SI_MODEL,
  times = 30:100,
  parms = c(beta = 0.25),
  init = c(S = 999, I = 1)
)

plot(sim)
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## -----
## Example 4: Stochastic observation model
## -----

sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:150,
  parms = c(beta = 0.35, gamma = 0.12),
  init = c(S = 1e5 - 5, I = 5, R = 0, C = 5),
  obs = "negbin",
  size = 20,
  seed = 123
)

plot(sim, what = "incidence")

```

---

SIRS\_MODEL

*SIRS epidemic model with waning immunity*


---

### Description

An `epi_model` object representing a deterministic **SIRS** (Susceptible–Infectious–Recovered–Susceptible) compartmental epidemic model with waning immunity.

The model describes the spread of an infection in a closed population where susceptible individuals become infectious, subsequently recover, and may lose immunity over time, returning to the susceptible compartment at rate  $\omega$ .

### Usage

SIRS\_MODEL

### Format

An object of class "epi\_model".

### Details

#### State variables:

The model is defined in terms of the following state variables:

**S(t)** Number of susceptible individuals at time  $t$ .

**I(t)** Number of infectious (actively infected) individuals at time  $t$ .

**R(t)** Number of recovered individuals with temporary immunity at time  $t$ .

The total population size is conserved:

$$N = S(t) + I(t) + R(t).$$

#### Model outputs:

The SIRS model declares the following outputs:

"S" Susceptible population size.

"I" Infectious population size.

"R" Recovered (temporarily immune) population size.

"incidence" Instantaneous rate of new infections  $\lambda(t)$  returned by the model's right-hand side.

All declared outputs may be used as observables in generic utilities such as [fit\\_epi\\_model](#) via the target argument.

#### Parameters:

The SIRS model depends on the following parameters:

**beta** Transmission rate (per day).

**gamma** Recovery/removal rate (per day).

**omega** Rate of waning immunity from R back to S (per day).

#### Model equations:

New infections occur at rate

$$\lambda(t) = \beta \frac{S(t) I(t)}{N}.$$

The system of ordinary differential equations is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dt} &= -\lambda(t) + \omega R(t), \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \lambda(t) - \gamma I(t), \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma I(t) - \omega R(t). \end{aligned}$$

**Usage:**

This predefined model object is intended to be used with generic utilities such as `simulate_epi`, `fit_epi_model`, and `predict.fit_epi_model` that operate on `epi_model` objects.

**See Also**

`simulate_epi`, `fit_epi_model`, `new_epi_model`

**Examples**

```
## Simulate a SIRS epidemic
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIRS_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  parms = c(beta = 0.3, gamma = 0.1, omega = 0.02),
  init = c(S = 1e6, I = 20, R = 0)
)

plot(sim)

## Plot observed incidence (if an observation model is used)
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## Fit the model to observed incidence
fit_inc <- fit_epi_model(
  x = sim$incidence$inc,
  model = SIRS_MODEL,
  init = SIRS_MODEL$init,
  target = "incidence"
)

fit_inc
```

---

SIR\_MODEL

*SIR epidemic model*


---

**Description**

An `epi_model` object representing a deterministic **SIR** (Susceptible–Infectious–Recovered) compartmental epidemic model.

The model describes the spread of an infection in a closed population where susceptible individuals become infectious and subsequently recover with permanent immunity.

**Usage**

SIR\_MODEL



**Format**

An object of class "epi\_model".

**Details****State variables:**

The model is defined in terms of the following state variables:

**S(t)** Number of susceptible individuals at time  $t$ .

**I(t)** Number of infectious (actively infected) individuals at time  $t$ .

**R(t)** Number of removed/recovered individuals at time  $t$ .

The total population size is conserved:

$$N = S(t) + I(t) + R(t).$$

**Model outputs:**

The SIR model declares the following outputs:

"S" Susceptible population size.

"I" Infectious population size.

"R" Recovered (removed) population size.

"incidence" Instantaneous rate of new infections  $\lambda(t)$  returned by the model's right-hand side.

All declared outputs may be used as observables in generic utilities such as [fit\\_epi\\_model](#) via the target argument.

**Parameters:**

The SIR model depends on the following parameters:

**beta** Transmission rate (per day).

**gamma** Recovery/removal rate (per day).

**Model equations:**

New infections occur at rate

$$\lambda(t) = \beta \frac{S(t) I(t)}{N}.$$

The system of ordinary differential equations is:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dS}{dt} &= -\lambda(t), \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \lambda(t) - \gamma I(t), \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= \gamma I(t).\end{aligned}$$

**Usage:**

This predefined model object is intended to be used with generic utilities such as [simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), and [predict.fit\\_epi\\_model](#) that operate on epi\_model objects.

**See Also**

[simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), [new\\_epi\\_model](#)

## Examples

```
## Simulate a SIR epidemic
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  times = 0:200,
  parms = c(beta = 0.3, gamma = 0.1),
  init = c(S = 1e6, I = 10, R = 0)
)

plot(sim)

## Plot observed incidence (if an observation model is used)
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## Fit the model to observed incidence
fit_inc <- fit_epi_model(
  x = sim$incidence$inc,
  model = SIR_MODEL,
  init = SIR_MODEL$init,
  target = "incidence"
)

fit_inc
```

---

SI\_MODEL

*SI epidemic model*


---

## Description

An `epi_model` object representing a deterministic **SI** (Susceptible–Infectious) compartmental epidemic model.

The model describes the spread of an infection in a closed population where individuals move irreversibly from the susceptible compartment *S* to the infectious compartment *I*. No recovery or removal process is included.

## Usage

```
SI_MODEL
```

## Format

An object of class `"epi_model"`.

## Details

### State variables:

The model is defined in terms of the following state variables:

**S(t)** Number of susceptible individuals at time  $t$ .

**I(t)** Number of infectious individuals at time  $t$ .

The total population size is conserved:

$$N = S(t) + I(t).$$

#### Model outputs:

The SI model declares the following outputs:

"S" Susceptible population size.

"I" Infectious population size.

"incidence" Instantaneous rate of new infections  $\lambda(t)$  returned by the model's right-hand side.

All declared outputs may be used as observables in generic utilities such as [fit\\_epi\\_model](#) via the target argument.

#### Parameters:

The SI model depends on a single parameter:

**beta** Transmission rate (per day).

#### Model equations:

New infections occur at rate

$$\lambda(t) = \beta \frac{S(t) I(t)}{N}.$$

The system of ordinary differential equations is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dt} &= -\lambda(t), \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= \lambda(t). \end{aligned}$$

#### Usage:

This predefined model object is intended to be used with generic utilities such as [simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), and [predict.fit\\_epi\\_model](#) that operate on `epi_model` objects.

#### See Also

[simulate\\_epi](#), [fit\\_epi\\_model](#), [new\\_epi\\_model](#)

#### Examples

```
## Simulate an SI epidemic
sim <- simulate_epi(
  model = SI_MODEL,
  times = 0:100,
  parms = c(beta = 0.4),
  obs = "negbin",
  init = SI_MODEL$init
)

plot(sim)
```

```
## Plot observed incidence
plot(sim, what = "incidence")

## Fit the model to observed incidence
fit_inc <- fit_epi_model(
  x = sim$incidence$inc,
  model = SI_MODEL,
  init = SI_MODEL$init,
  target = "incidence"
)

fit_inc
```

summary.sim\_epi

*Summarize a simulated epidemic*

## Description

Summary method for objects of class "sim\_epi" as returned by [simulate\\_epi](#). The function computes and returns a small set of epidemiologically meaningful summary quantities derived from the simulation.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sim_epi'
summary(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

**object** Object of class "sim\_epi" as returned by [simulate\\_epi](#).  
**...** Currently unused; included for compatibility with generic [summary](#).

## Details

The summary includes:

**model** The epidemic model simulated (e.g. "sir" or "sirs").

**R0** The basic reproduction number, computed as  $R_0 = \beta/\gamma$ .

**peak\_I** The maximum number of infectious individuals observed during the simulation.

**total\_infections** The total number of infection events, computed as the maximum value of the cumulative infection variable  $C(t)$ .

This method is automatically dispatched when calling `summary()` on an object of class "sim\_epi".

## Value

A named list with summary statistics describing the simulated epidemic.

**See Also**

[simulate\\_epi](#), [plot.sim\\_epi](#)

**Examples**

```
sim <- simulate_epi(n_days = 300, model = SIRS_MODEL, omega = 1/180, seed = 1)

summary(sim)
```

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