

Package ‘snreg’

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Type Package

Title Regression with Skew-Normally Distributed Error Term

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Description Models with skew-normally distributed and thus asymmetric error terms, implementing the methods developed in Badunenko and Henderson (2023) ``Production analysis with asymmetric noise'' <[doi:10.1007/s11123-023-00680-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11123-023-00680-5)>. The package provides tools to estimate regression models with skew-normal error terms, allowing both the variance and skewness parameters to be heteroskedastic. It also includes a stochastic frontier framework that accommodates both i.i.d. and heteroskedastic inefficiency terms.

URL <https://olegbadunenko.github.io/snreg/>

Imports Formula, npsf

License GPL-3

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banks07	<i>U.S. Commercial Banks Data</i>
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Description

banks07 is a data frame containing selected variables for 500 U.S. commercial banks, randomly sampled from approximately 5000 banks, based on the dataset of Koetter et al. (2012) for year 2007. The dataset is provided solely for illustration and pedagogical purposes and is not suitable for empirical research.

Usage

```
data(banks07)
```

Format

A data frame with the following variables:

- year Year (2007).
- id Entity (bank) identifier.
- TA Gross total assets.
- LLP Loan loss provisions.
- Y1 Total securities (thousands of USD).
- Y2 Total loans and leases (thousands of USD).
- W1 Cost of fixed assets divided by the cost of borrowed funds.
- W2 Cost of labor (thousands of USD) divided by the cost of borrowed funds.
- W3 Price of financial capital.
- ER Equity-to-assets ratio (gross).
- TC Total operating cost.
- LA Ratio of total loans and leases to gross total assets.
- SDROA Standard deviation of return on assets.
- ZSCORE Z-score risk measure.

`ZSCORE3` Alternative Z-score risk measure.
`lnsdroa` Natural logarithm of SDROA.
`lnzscore` Natural logarithm of ZSCORE.
`lnzscore3` Natural logarithm of ZSCORE3.
`ms_county` Market share in county.
`scope` Scope measure.

Details

U.S. Commercial Banks Data (2007)

The dataset was created by sampling and transforming variables as shown in the section **Examples**. It is intended to illustrate the usage of functions from this package (e.g. stochastic frontier models with skew-normal noise).

Source

<http://qed.econ.queensu.ca/jae/2014-v29.2/restrepo-tobon-kumbhakar/>

References

- Koettter, M., Kolari, J., & Spierdijk, L. (2012). *Enjoying the quiet life under deregulation? Evidence from adjusted Lerner indices for U.S. banks*. Review of Economics and Statistics, **94**(2), 462–480.
- Restrepo-Tobon, D. & Kumbhakar, S. (2014). *Enjoying the quiet life under deregulation? Not Quite*. Journal of Applied Econometrics, **29**(2), 333–343.

Examples

```

## -----
## Construct sample panel dataset (banks00_07)
## -----


# Download data from the link in "Source"
banks00_07 <- read.delim("2b_QLH.txt")

# rename 'entity' to 'id'
colnames(banks00_07)[colnames(banks00_07) == "entity"] <- "id"

# keep only years 2000–2007
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[
  banks00_07$year >= 2000 & banks00_07$year <= 2007, ]

# restrict sample to interquartile range of total assets
q1q3 <- quantile(banks00_07$TA, probs = c(.25, .75))
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[
  banks00_07$TA >= q1q3[1] & banks00_07$TA <= q1q3[2], ]

# generate required variables
banks00_07$TC <- banks00_07$TOC
  
```

```

banks00_07$ER <- banks00_07$Z / banks00_07$TA    # Equity ratio
banks00_07$LA <- banks00_07$Y2 / banks00_07$TA    # Loans-to-assets ratio

# keep only needed variables
keep.vars <- c("id", "year", "Ti", "TC", "Y1", "Y2", "W1", "W2",
              "ER", "LA", "TA", "LLP")
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[, colnames(banks00_07) %in% keep.vars]

# number of periods per id
t0 <- as.vector( by(banks00_07$id, banks00_07$id,
                      FUN = function(qq) length(qq)) )
banks00_07$Ti <- rep(t0, times = t0)

# keep if Ti > 4
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[banks00_07$Ti > 4, ]

# complete observations only
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[complete.cases(banks00_07), ]

# sample 500 banks at random
set.seed(816376586)
id_names <- unique(banks00_07$id)
ids2choose <- sample(id_names, 500)
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[banks00_07$id %in% ids2choose, ]

# recompute Ti
t0 <- as.vector( by(banks00_07$id, banks00_07$id,
                      FUN = function(qq) length(qq)) )
banks00_07$Ti <- rep(t0, times = t0)
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[banks00_07$Ti > 4, ]

# sort
banks00_07 <- banks00_07[order(banks00_07$id, banks00_07$year), ]

banks07 <- banks00_07[banks00_07$year == 2007, ]

```

Description

`coef.snreg` is the S3 method for extracting the estimated regression coefficients from an object of class "snreg".

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'snreg'
coef(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	an object of class "snreg", typically returned by snreg .
...	additional arguments (currently unused).

Details

Coefficients from an snreg Model

This method simply returns the `coef` component stored inside the fitted "snreg" object. If the object does not contain coefficient estimates (e.g., if estimation was not completed in a scaffold), an informative error is raised.

Value

A numeric vector containing the model coefficients.

See Also

[snsf](#), [snreg](#), [lm.mle](#), [vcov.snreg](#), [residuals.snreg](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

data("banks07")
head(banks07)

# Translog cost function specification

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
  I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise and skewness

formSV <- NULL # variance equation; constant variance
formSK <- NULL # skewness equation; constant skewness

m1 <- snreg(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v = formSK
)

coef(m1)
```

*lm.mle**Linear Regression via MLE*

Description

`lm.mle` fits a linear regression model by maximum likelihood, allowing for optional multiplicative heteroskedasticity in the disturbance variance via a log-linear specification provided through `ln.var.v`.

Usage

```
lm.mle(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  ln.var.v = NULL,
  technique = c("bfgs"),
  lmtol = 1e-05,
  reltol = 1e-12,
  maxit = 199,
  optim.report = 1,
  optim.trace = 10,
  print.level = 0,
  digits = 4,
  only.data = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>formula</code>	an object of class <code>formula</code> specifying the regression: typically $y \sim x_1 + \dots$, where y is the dependent variable and the x 's are regressors.
<code>data</code>	an optional <code>data.frame</code> containing the variables referenced in <code>formula</code> . If not found in <code>data</code> , variables are taken from <code>environment(formula)</code> .
<code>subset</code>	an optional logical or numeric vector specifying the subset of observations to be used in estimation.
<code>ln.var.v</code>	optional one-sided formula; e.g. $\ln.var.v \sim z_1 + z_2$. When provided, the error variance is modeled as $\log(\sigma_i^2) = w_i^\top \gamma_v$. If <code>NULL</code> , the variance is homoskedastic.
<code>technique</code>	character vector specifying the preferred optimization routine(s) in order of preference. Recognized keywords (for future implementation) include "bfgs" "bhhh", "nm" (Nelder–Mead), "bfgs", and "cg". Default is "bfgs". This scaffold records but does not execute the chosen routine.
<code>lmtol</code>	numeric. Convergence tolerance based on scaled gradient (when applicable). Default <code>1e-5</code> .
<code>reltol</code>	numeric. Relative convergence tolerance for likelihood maximization. Default <code>1e-12</code> .

maxit	integer. Maximum number of iterations for the optimizer. Default 199.
optim.report	integer. Verbosity level for reporting progress (if implemented). Default 1.
optim.trace	integer. Trace level for optimization (if implemented). Default 1.
print.level	integer. Printing level for summaries. Default 0.
digits	integer. Number of digits for printing. Default 4.
only.data	logical. If TRUE, returns only constructed data/matrices without estimation. Default FALSE.
...	additional arguments reserved for future methods (e.g., bounds, penalties).

Details

Linear Model by Maximum Likelihood (with optional heteroskedasticity)

This function fits a maximum-likelihood linear model.

The model is

$$y_i = x_i^\top \beta + \varepsilon_i, \quad \varepsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i^2).$$

When `ln.var.v` is supplied, the variance follows

$$\log(\sigma_i^2) = w_i^\top \gamma_v,$$

otherwise $\sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2$ is constant (homoskedastic).

This function:

- Builds the model frame and `X, y`.
- Builds `Zv` for the log-variance index when `ln.var.v` is provided.
- Returns a structured object with placeholders for `coef, vcov, loglik`.

Insert your MLE engine to estimate β , and (optionally) σ^2 or γ_v ; compute standard errors via AIM/OPG as required by `vcetype`.

Value

A list of class "snreg" containing:

par	Numeric vector of MLE parameter estimates.
value	Maximized log-likelihood.
ll	Maximized log-likelihood (alias).
counts	Number of function evaluations (from <code>optim</code>).
convergence	Convergence code from <code>optim</code> .
message	Message returned by <code>optim</code> .
hessian	Observed Hessian matrix at optimum.
coef	Named coefficient vector; equal to <code>par</code> .
vcov	Variance-covariance matrix <code>solve(-hessian)</code> .
sds	Standard errors: <code>sqrt(diag(vcov))</code> .
ctab	Coefficient table with columns: <code>Estimate, Std.Err, Z value, Pr(>z)</code> .
esample	Logical vector: observations used in estimation.
n	Number of observations in estimation sample.

The object inherits the default `optim` components and is assigned class "snreg".

See Also[snsf](#), [snreg](#)**Examples**

```

library(snreg)

data("banks07")
head(banks07)

# Translog cost function specification

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
  I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise (ln.var.v = NULL)

formSV <- NULL # variance equation; constant variance

m1 <- lm.mle(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data    = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV
)

summary(m1)

# Specification 2: heteroskedastic

formSV <- ~ log(TA) # variance equation; heteroskedastic noise (variance depends on TA)

m2 <- lm.mle(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data    = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV
)

summary(m2)

```

print.summary.snreg *Print Summary of snreg Results*

Description

Prints the contents of a "summary.snreg" object in a structured format. The method reports convergence status (based on gradient-Hessian scaling), log-likelihood, estimation results, and—when present—summaries for technical/cost efficiencies and marginal effects.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.snreg'  
print(x, digits = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

- x an object of class "summary.snreg" (produced by [summary.snreg](#)).
digits integer indicating the number of digits to print; default NULL (internally set to 4).
... additional arguments (currently unused).

Details**Print Method for Summary of snreg Objects**

This method expects a fitted "snreg" object.

Value

The input obj is returned (invisibly) after printing.

See Also

[summary.snreg](#)

residuals.snreg

Residuals for snreg Objects

Description

`residuals.snreg` is the S3 method for extracting residuals from a fitted `snreg` model. Residuals may be returned either for the full data or only for the estimation sample.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'snreg'  
residuals(object, esample = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

- object an object of class "snreg", typically produced by [snreg](#).
esample logical. If TRUE (default), residuals are returned only for observations used in estimation (others are NA). If FALSE, the raw vector of residuals (`obj$resid`) is returned.
... additional arguments (currently unused).

Details

Extract Residuals from an *snreg* Model

This method simply accesses the `obj$resid` component of a fitted "snreg" object. An informative error is produced if residuals are not available.

Value

A numeric vector of residuals. If `esample = TRUE`, the vector matches the length of the original data and contains NA for non-estimation observations. If `esample = FALSE`, only the computed residuals are returned.

See Also

[snsf](#), [snreg](#), [lm.mle](#), [vcov.snreg](#), [coef.snreg](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

data("banks07")
head(banks07)

# Translog cost function specification

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
  I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise and skewness

formSV <- NULL # variance equation; constant variance
formSK <- NULL # skewness equation; constant skewness

m1 <- snreg(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v = formSK
)
residuals(m1)
```

Description

`snreg` fits a linear regression model where the disturbance term follows a skew-normal distribution. The function supports multiplicative heteroskedasticity of the noise variance via a log-linear specification (`ln.var.v`) and allows the skewness parameter to vary linearly with exogenous variables (`skew.v`).

Usage

```
snreg(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  init.sk = NULL,
  ln.var.v = NULL,
  skew.v = NULL,
  start.val = NULL,
  technique = c("nr"),
  vcetype = c("aim"),
  lmtol = 1e-05,
  reltol = 1e-12,
  maxit = 199,
  optim.report = 1,
  optim.trace = 1,
  print.level = 0,
  digits = 4,
  only.data = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>formula</code>	an object of class <code>formula</code> specifying the regression: typically $y \sim x_1 + \dots$, where y is the dependent variable and x 's are regressors.
<code>data</code>	an optional <code>data.frame</code> containing the variables in <code>formula</code> . If not found in <code>data</code> , variables are taken from <code>environment(formula)</code> .
<code>subset</code>	an optional logical or numeric vector specifying the subset of observations to be used in estimation.
<code>init.sk</code>	numeric. Initial value for the (global) skewness parameter of the noise; can be <code>NULL</code> if <code>skew.v</code> is supplied with its own coefficients to initialize.
<code>ln.var.v</code>	optional one-sided formula; e.g. <code>ln.var.v ~ z1 + z2</code> . Specifies exogenous variables entering the (log) variance of the random noise component. If <code>NULL</code> , the noise variance is homoskedastic.
<code>skew.v</code>	optional one-sided formula; e.g. <code>skew.v ~ z3 + z4</code> . Specifies exogenous variables determining the skewness of the noise via a linear index; if <code>NULL</code> , the skewness is constant (scalar).
<code>start.val</code>	optional numeric vector of starting values for all free parameters (regression coefficients, variance/heteroskedasticity parameters, skewness parameters).

<code>technique</code>	character vector giving the preferred maximization routine(s) in order of preference. Currently recognized keywords include "nr" (Newton–Raphson), "bhhh", "nm" (Nelder–Mead), "bfgs", "cg". This scaffold does not implement them yet, but records the choice.
<code>vcetype</code>	character specifying the variance-covariance estimator type: "aim" for the approximated information matrix or "opg" for the outer product of gradients. Default is "aim".
<code>lmtol</code>	numeric. Convergence tolerance based on the scaled gradient (if applicable). Default is 1e-5.
<code>reltol</code>	numeric. Relative convergence tolerance for likelihood maximization. Default is 1e-12.
<code>maxit</code>	integer. Maximum number of iterations for the optimizer. Default is 199.
<code>optim.report</code>	integer. Verbosity for reporting progress (if implemented). Default is 1.
<code>optim.trace</code>	integer. If positive, tracing information is printed (if implemented). Default is 1.
<code>print.level</code>	integer. Printing level for summaries: 1—print estimation results; 2—print optimization details; 3—print compact summary. Default 3.
<code>digits</code>	integer. Number of digits for printing. Default 4.
<code>only.data</code>	logical. If TRUE, the function returns only the constructed model matrices and design sets (no estimation). Default FALSE.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments reserved for future methods (e.g., box constraints).

Details

Linear Regression with Skew-Normal Errors

The model is

$$y_i = x_i^\top \beta + \varepsilon_i, \quad \varepsilon_i \sim SN(0, \sigma_i^2, \alpha_i),$$

where SN denotes the skew-normal distribution (Azzalini).

Heteroskedasticity in the noise variance (if specified via `ln.var.v`) is modeled as

$$\log(\sigma_i^2) = w_i^\top \gamma_v,$$

and the (optional) covariate-driven skewness (if specified via `skew.v`) as

$$\alpha_i = s_i^\top \delta.$$

This function constructs the model frame and design matrices for β , γ_v , and δ , and is designed to be paired with a maximum likelihood routine to estimate parameters and (optionally) their asymptotic covariance via either AIM or OPG.

Value

An object of class "snreg" containing the maximum-likelihood results and, depending on the optimization routine, additional diagnostics:

`par` Numeric vector of parameter estimates at the optimum.

`coef` Named numeric vector equal to `par`.
`vcov` Variance–covariance matrix of the estimates.
`sds` Standard errors, computed as `sqrt(diag(vcov))`.
`ctab` Coefficient table with columns: Estimate, Std.Err, Z value, Pr(>z).
`RSS` Residual sum of squares.
`esample` Logical vector indicating which observations were used in estimation.
`n` Number of observations used in the estimation sample.
`skewness` Vector of the fitted skewness index.
`hessian` (BFGS only) Observed Hessian at the optimum. If `vcetype == "opg"`, this is set to the negative outer product of the individual gradients; otherwise a numerical Hessian is computed.
`value` (BFGS only) Objective value returned by `optim`. With `control$fnyscale = -1`, this equals the maximized log-likelihood.
`counts` (BFGS only) Number of iterations / function evaluations returned by `optim`.
`convergence` (BFGS only) Convergence code from `optim`.
`message` (BFGS only) Additional `optim` message, if any.
`ll` Maximized log-likelihood value.
`gradient` (NR only) Gradient at the solution.
`gg` (NR only) Optional gradient-related diagnostic.
`gHg` (NR only) Optional Newton-step diagnostic.
`theta_rel_ch` (NR only) Relative parameter change metric across iterations.

The returned object has class "snreg".

References

- Azzalini, A. (1985). *A Class of Distributions Which Includes the Normal Ones*. Scandinavian Journal of Statistics, 12(2), 171–178.
- Azzalini, A., & Capitanio, A. (2014). *The Skew-Normal and Related Families*. Cambridge University Press.

See Also

`snsf`, `lm.mle`

Examples

```
library(snreg)

data("banks07")
head(banks07)

# Translog cost function specification

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
```

```

I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise and skewness

formSV <- NULL    # variance equation; constant variance
formSK <- NULL    # skewness equation; constant skewness

m1 <- snreg(
  formula  = spe.tl,
  data     = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v   = formSK
)
summary(m1)

# Specification 2: heteroskedastic

formSV <- ~ log(TA)    #' variance equation; heteroskedastic noise (variance depends on TA)
formSK <- ~ ER          #' skewness equation; with determinants (skewness is determined by ER)

m2 <- snreg(
  formula  = spe.tl,
  data     = banks07,
  prod     = myprod,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v   = formSK
)
summary(m2)

```

snsf

Stochastic Frontier Model with a Skew-Normally Distributed Error Term

Description

nsnf performs maximum likelihood estimation of the parameters and technical or cost efficiencies in a Stochastic Frontier Model with a skew-normally distributed error term.

Usage

```

snsf(
  formula,
  data,
  subset,
  distribution = "e",
  prod = TRUE,
  start.val = NULL,

```

```

  init.sk = NULL,
  ln.var.u = NULL,
  ln.var.v = NULL,
  skew.v = NULL,
  mean.u = NULL,
  technique = c("nr"),
  vcetype = c("aim"),
  optim.method = "bfgs",
  optim.report = 1,
  optim.trace = 1,
  reltol = 1e-12,
  optim.reltol = 1e-12,
  lmtol = 1e-05,
  maxit = 199,
  print.level = 0,
  threads = 1,
  only.data = FALSE,
  digits = 4,
  ...
)

```

Arguments

formula	an object of class <code>formula</code> specifying the frontier: a typical model is $y \sim x_1 + \dots$, where y is the log of output (or total cost), and x 's are inputs (or outputs and input prices, in logs). See Details .
data	an optional <code>data.frame</code> containing the variables in <code>formula</code> . If not found in <code>data</code> , variables are taken from <code>environment(formula)</code> .
subset	an optional logical or numeric vector specifying a subset of observations for which the model is estimated and efficiencies are computed.
distribution	character scalar specifying the distribution of the inefficiency term: default "e" (exponential). "h" (half-normal) and "t" (truncated normal) to be implemented.
prod	logical. If TRUE, estimates correspond to a stochastic <i>production</i> frontier and technical efficiencies are returned; if FALSE, estimates correspond to a stochastic <i>cost</i> frontier and cost efficiencies are returned. Default is TRUE.
start.val	optional numeric vector of starting values for the optimizer.
init.sk	numeric. Initial value for the skewness parameter of the noise component; default is 0.5.
ln.var.u	optional one-sided formula; e.g. <code>ln.var.u = ~ z3 + z4</code> . Specifies exogenous variables entering the (log) variance of the inefficiency component. If NULL, the inefficiency variance is homoskedastic, i.e., $\sigma_{u0}^2 = \exp(\gamma_{u0}[0])$.
ln.var.v	optional one-sided formula; e.g. <code>ln.var.v = ~ z1 + z2</code> . Specifies exogenous variables entering the (log) variance of the random noise component. If NULL, the noise variance is homoskedastic, i.e., $\sigma_{v0}^2 = \exp(\gamma_{v0}[0])$.
skew.v	optional one-sided formula; e.g. <code>skew.v = ~ z5 + z6</code> . Allows the skewness of the noise to depend linearly on exogenous variables. If NULL, the skewness is constant across units.

<code>mean.u</code>	optional one-sided formula; e.g. <code>mean.u = ~z7 + z8</code> . Specifies whether the mean of the pre-truncated normal distribution of the inefficiency term is a linear function of exogenous variables. In cross-sectional models, used only when <code>distribution = "t"</code> . If <code>NULL</code> , the mean is constant across units. To be implemented.
<code>technique</code>	Optimization technique to use.
<code>vcetype</code>	Type of variance-covariance matrix estimation.
<code>optim.method</code>	character. Method passed to <code>stats::optim</code> when <code>optim = TRUE</code> . Default is <code>"bfgs"</code> .
<code>optim.report</code>	integer. Verbosity level for reporting during optimization (if implemented). Default is 1.
<code>optim.trace</code>	integer. Trace level for optimization (if implemented). Default is 1.
<code>reltol</code>	numeric. Relative convergence tolerance used when maximizing the log-likelihood.
<code>optim.reltol</code>	numeric. Relative tolerance specifically for <code>optim</code> ; default <code>1e-8</code> .
<code>lmtol</code>	numeric. Convergence tolerance based on the scaled gradient (when applicable). Default is <code>1e-5</code> .
<code>maxit</code>	numeric. Maximum number of iterations for the optimizer. Default is 199.
<code>print.level</code>	integer. Printing level: 1—estimation results; 2—optimization details; 3—summary of (cost/technical) efficiencies; 4—unit-specific point and interval estimates of efficiencies. Default is 0.
<code>threads</code>	Number of threads for parallel computation.
<code>only.data</code>	Logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , return only processed data.
<code>digits</code>	integer. Number of digits for displaying estimates and efficiencies. Default is 4.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments (currently unused).
<code>optim</code>	logical. If <code>TRUE</code> , estimation proceeds via <code>stats::optim</code> ; if <code>FALSE</code> , an internal routine (if provided) would be used. Default is <code>FALSE</code> .
<code>report</code>	Reporting level for optimization progress.
<code>trace</code>	Logical; if <code>TRUE</code> , trace optimization progress.

Details

Stochastic Frontier Model with a Skew-Normally Distributed Error Term

Models for `snsf` are specified symbolically. A typical model has the form $y \sim x_1 + \dots$, where y represents the logarithm of outputs or total costs and $\{x_1, \dots\}$ is a set of inputs (for production) or outputs and input prices (for cost), all typically in logs.

Options `ln.var.u` and `ln.var.v` allow for multiplicative heteroskedasticity in the inefficiency and/or noise components; i.e., their variances can be modeled as exponential functions of exogenous variables (including an intercept), as in Caudill et al. (1995).

Value

An object of class "snreg" with maximum-likelihood estimates and diagnostics:

- `par` Numeric vector of ML parameter estimates at the optimum.
- `coef` Named numeric vector equal to `par`.
- `vcov` Variance–covariance matrix of the estimates.
- `sds` Standard errors, $\sqrt{\text{diag}(\text{vcov})}$.
- `ctab` Coefficient table with columns Coef., SE, z, P>|z|.
- `ll` Maximized log-likelihood value.
- `hessian` (When computed) Observed Hessian or OPG used to form `vcov`.
- `value` (Optim-only, before aliasing) Objective value from `optim`.
- `counts` (Optim-only) Iteration and evaluation counts from `optim`.
- `convergence` Convergence code).
- `message` (Optim-only) Message returned by `optim`, if any.
- `gradient` (NR-only) Gradient at the solution.
- `gg` (NR-only) Gradient-related diagnostic.
- `gHg` (NR-only) Newton-step diagnostic.
- `theta_rel_ch` (NR-only) Relative parameter change metric across iterations.
- `resid` Regression residuals.
- `RSS` Residual sum of squares `crossprod(resid)`.
- `shat2` Residual variance estimate `var(resid)`.
- `shat` Residual standard deviation $\sqrt{\text{shat2}}$.
- `aic` Akaike Information Criterion.
- `bic` Bayesian Information Criterion.
- `Mallows` Mallows' C_p -like statistic.
- `u` Estimated inefficiency term (vector). Returned for models with an inefficiency component (e.g., exponential).
- `eff` Efficiency scores $\exp(-u)$ (technical or cost, depending on `prod`).
- `sv` Estimated (possibly unit-specific) standard deviation of the noise term.
- `su` Estimated (possibly unit-specific) standard deviation or scale of the inefficiency term. For exponential models.
- `skewness` Estimated skewness index (e.g., from the skewness equation).
- `esample` Logical vector marking observations used in estimation.
- `n` Number of observations used.

The returned object has class "snreg".

Author(s)

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References

- Badunenko, O., & Henderson, D. J. (2023). *Production analysis with asymmetric noise*. Journal of Productivity Analysis, **61**(1), 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11123-023-00680-5>
- Caudill, S. B., Ford, J. M., & Gropper, D. M. (1995). *Frontier estimation and firm-specific inefficiency measures in the presence of heteroskedasticity*. Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, **13**(1), 105–111.

See Also

[sf](#), [snreg](#), [lm.mle](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

data("banks07")

# Translog cost function specification

myprod <- FALSE

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
  I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise, skewness, inefficiency

formSV <- NULL # variance equation; constant variance
formSK <- NULL # skewness equation; constant skewness
formSU <- NULL # inefficiency variance equation; constant variance

m1 <- snsf(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data = banks07,
  prod = myprod,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v = formSK,
  ln.var.u = formSU
)

# Specification 2: heteroskedastic

formSV <- ~ log(TA) # variance equation; heteroskedastic noise (variance depends on TA)
formSK <- ~ ER # skewness equation; with determinants (skewness is determined by ER)
formSU <- ~ LA + ER # inefficiency variance equation; heteroskedastic noise of inefficiency
# ([variance of] inefficiency depends on LA and ER)#
m2 <- snsf(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data = banks07,
```

```

prod      = myprod,
ln.var.v = formSV,
skew.v   = formSK,
ln.var.u = formSU
)

```

su*Summary Utility (su)***Description**

Computes a compact table of summary statistics for each variable in a vector, matrix, or data frame. The following metrics are returned per variable: number of observations (Obs), missing values (NAs), mean, standard deviation (StDev), interquartile range (IQR), minimum (Min), user-specified quantiles (probs), and maximum (Max).

Usage

```

su(
  x,
  mat.var.in.col = TRUE,
  digits = 4,
  probs = c(0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.9),
  print = FALSE
)

```

Arguments

- x** a numeric vector, matrix, or data frame. For matrices, variables are assumed to be in columns; set `mat.var.in.col = FALSE` to treat rows as variables.
- mat.var.in.col** logical. If TRUE (default), a matrix is interpreted as variables in columns. If FALSE, the matrix is transposed so that rows are treated as variables.
- digits** integer. Number of digits to use when printing (only affects printed output when `print = TRUE`). Default is 4.
- probs** numeric vector of probabilities in [0, 1] for which quantiles are computed. Default is `c(0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.9)`.
- print** logical. If TRUE, prints the transposed summary table using the specified number of digits. Default is FALSE.

Details

Compact Summary Statistics for Vectors, Matrices, and Data Frames

Input handling:

- If x is a matrix with a single row or column, it is treated like a vector. Column or row names are used (if available). Otherwise, a default name is created.
- If x is a matrix with multiple variables, variables are taken as columns. Use `mat.var.in.col = FALSE` to transpose and treat rows as variables.
- If x is a vector, its deparsed symbol name is used as the variable name.
- If x is a data frame, each column is summarized.

Missing values are excluded in all summary computations.

Value

A matrix (coercible to `data.frame`) where each row corresponds to a variable and columns contain the summary statistics: Obs, NAs, Mean, StDev, IQR, Min, the requested probs quantiles (named), and Max. The returned object is given class "snreg" for compatibility with package-specific print/summarization methods.

Examples

```
# Vector
set.seed(1)
v <- rnorm(100)
su(v, print = TRUE)

# Matrix: variables in columns
M <- cbind(x = rnorm(50), y = runif(50))
su(M)

# Matrix: variables in rows
Mr <- rbind(x = rnorm(50), y = runif(50))
su(Mr, mat.var.in.col = FALSE)

# Data frame
DF <- data.frame(a = rnorm(30), b = rexp(30), c = rbinom(30, 1, 0.3))
out <- su(DF)
head(out)
```

Description

Produces a summary object for objects of class "snreg". The function assigns the class "summary.snreg" to the fitted model object, enabling a dedicated print method (`print.summary.snreg`) to display results in a structured format.

Usage

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

Arguments

- | | |
|--------|---|
| object | an object of class "snreg", typically returned by snreg . |
| ... | additional arguments (currently not used). |

Details

Summary Method for snreg Objects

This method expects a fitted "snreg" object.

`summary.snreg` does not modify the contents of the object; it only updates the class attribute to "summary.snreg". The corresponding print method ([print.summary.snreg](#)) is responsible for formatting and displaying estimation details, such as convergence criteria, log-likelihood, coefficient tables, and (if present) heteroskedastic and skewness components.

Value

An object of class "summary.snreg", identical to the input object except for its class attribute.

See Also

[snreg](#), [print.summary.snreg](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

data("banks07")
head(banks07)

# Translog cost function specification

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
  I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise and skewness

formSV <- NULL # variance equation; constant variance
formSK <- NULL # skewness equation; constant skewness

m1 <- snreg(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data    = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v   = formSK
)
```

```
summary(m1)
```

TOwen

Compute Owen's T Function T(h, a)

Description

TOwen1 computes an Owen's T -function variant (or a related special function) for vectors h and a based on the t function in https://people.sc.fsu.edu/~jburkardt/c_src/owen/owen.html. Non-finite inputs (in h or a) produce NA at corresponding positions, while finite pairs are computed in C in a vectorized fashion.

Usage

```
TOwen(h, a, threads = 1)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| <code>h</code> | numeric vector of h arguments. |
| <code>a</code> | numeric vector of a arguments. Must be either the same length as <code>h</code> or of length 1 (will be recycled by standard R rules). |
| <code>threads</code> | integer. Number of threads to request from the C implementation (if supported). Default is 1. |

Details

Owen's T Function via C Backend

Owen's T function is commonly defined as

$$T(h, a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^a \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{2}h^2(1+t^2))}{1+t^2} dt,$$

for real h and a .

The function accepts vector inputs and:

- Computes results only for entries where both h and a are finite.
- Returns NA where either h or a is non-finite.
- Optionally passes a `threads` hint to the C backend (ignored if not supported).

Value

A numeric vector of length `length(h)` containing $T(h_i, a_i)$. Elements where either h_i or a_i is not finite are NA. The returned object is given class "snreg" for downstream compatibility with your package's print/summary helpers.

See Also

[pnorm](#), [dnorm](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

# Basic usage. Vectorized 'a'
h <- c(-1, 0, 1, 2)
a <- 0.5
TOwen(h, a)

# Vectorized 'a' with non-finite entries; non-finite entries yield NA
a2 <- c(0.2, NA, 1, Inf)
TOwen(h, a2)
```

TOwen1

*Compute Owen's T Function T(h, a)***Description**

TOwen1 computes an Owen's T -function variant (or a related special function) for vectors h and a based on the `tha` function in https://people.sc.fsu.edu/~jb Burkardt/c_src/owen/owen.html. Non-finite inputs in h or a yield NA at the corresponding positions.

Usage

```
TOwen1(h, a, threads = 1)
```

Arguments

h	numeric vector of h arguments.
a	numeric vector of a arguments. Must be either the same length as h or of length 1 (will be recycled by standard R rules).
threads	integer. Number of threads to request from the C implementation (if supported). Default is 1.

Details**Owen's T Function Variant via C Backend**

Owen's T function is commonly defined as

$$T(h, a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^a \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}h^2(1+t^2)\right)}{1+t^2} dt,$$

for real h and a .

Value

A numeric vector of length `length(h)` with the computed values. Elements where either `h` or `a` is non-finite are NA. The returned vector is given class "snreg" for downstream compatibility.

See Also

[TOwen](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

# Basic usage. Vectorized 'a':
h <- c(-1, 0, 1, 2)
a <- 0.3
TOwen1(h, a)

# Vectorized 'a' with non-finite entries:
a2 <- c(0.2, NA, 1, Inf)
TOwen1(h, a2)
```

`vcov.snreg`

Extract the Variance-Covariance Matrix

Description

`vcov.snreg` is the `vcov` S3 method for objects of class "snreg". It returns the model-based variance-covariance matrix stored in the fitted object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'snreg'
vcov(object, ...)
```

Arguments

- `object` an object of class "snreg", typically returned by [snreg](#).
- `...` additional arguments (currently unused).

Details

Variance-Covariance Matrix for snreg Objects

This method expects a fitted "snreg" object.

This method simply returns the `vcov` component stored in `object`. If your estimator did not compute standard errors (e.g., because estimation hasn't been run yet in a scaffold), this field may be `NULL`, and the method will error accordingly.

Value

A numeric matrix containing the variance-covariance of the estimated parameters.

See Also

[snsf](#), [snreg](#), [lm.mle](#), [coef.snreg](#), [residuals.snreg](#)

Examples

```
library(snreg)

data("banks07")
head(banks07)

# Translog cost function specification

spe.tl <- log(TC) ~ (log(Y1) + log(Y2) + log(W1) + log(W2))^2 +
  I(0.5 * log(Y1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(Y2)^2) +
  I(0.5 * log(W1)^2) + I(0.5 * log(W2)^2)

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise and skewness

# Specification 1: homoskedastic noise, skewness, inefficiency

formSV <- NULL #' variance equation; constant variance
formSK <- NULL #' skewness equation; constant skewness

m1 <- snreg(
  formula = spe.tl,
  data    = banks07,
  ln.var.v = formSV,
  skew.v   = formSK
)
vcov(m1)
```

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