# Package 'RobinCar'

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Type Package

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Version 0.3.2
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      Performs robust estimation and inference when using covariate adjustment and/or covariate-
      adaptive randomization in randomized clinical trials.
      Ting Ye, Jun Shao, Yanyao Yi, Qinyuan Zhao (2023) <doi:10.1080/01621459.2022.2049278>.
      Ting Ye, Marlena Bannick, Yanyao Yi, Jun Shao (2023) <doi:10.1080/24754269.2023.2205802>.
      Ting Ye, Jun Shao, Yanyao Yi (2023) <doi:10.1093/biomet/asad045>.
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      nick, Jun Shao, Jingyi Liu, Yu Du, Yanyao Yi, Ting Ye (2024) <doi:10.48550/arXiv.2306.10213>.
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```

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## Description

Generate permuted block treatment assignments

# Usage

```
car_pb(z, trt_label, trt_alc, blocksize = 4L)
```

# Arguments

Z	The car_strata design matrix, as a data frame with factor variables
trt_label	Treatment label
trt_alc	Treatment allocation vector
blocksize	Permuted block blocksize

## Value

A vector of treatment assignments with labels from the 'trt\_label' argument, based on stratified permuted block randomization.

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## **Examples**

car\_ps

Generate Pocock-Simon minimization treatment assignments

## Description

Generate Pocock-Simon minimization treatment assignments

# Usage

```
car_ps(z, treat, ratio, imb_measure, p_bc = 0.8)
```

## Arguments

Z	The car_strata design matrix
treat	A vector of length ${\bf k}$ (the number of treatment arms), which labels the treatment arms being compared.
ratio	A vector of length $k$ (the number of treatment arms), which indicates the allocation ratio, e.g., $c(1,1,1)$ for equal allocation with three treatment arms.
imb_measure	What measure of imbalance should be minimzed during randomization – either "Range" or "SD"
p_bc	The biased probability, i.e., the probability of assigning each patient to the arm that minimizes the imbalance. Default is 0.8

#### Value

res treatment assignment vector

A vector of treatment assignments with labels from the 'treat' argument, based on Pocock-Simon's minimization.

## Author(s)

Ting Ye Yanyao Yi

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## **Examples**

```
# Create car_strata variables
library(fastDummies)
library(dplyr)

x <- runif(100)
z <- cut(x, breaks=c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0))
z <- dummy_cols(z)
A <- car_ps(
    z=z[, 2:5],
    treat=c(0, 1, 2),
    ratio=c(1, 1, 1),
    imb_measure="Range"
)</pre>
```

car\_sr

Generate simple randomization treatment assignments

## Description

Generate simple randomization treatment assignments

## Usage

```
car_sr(n, p_trt)
```

## Arguments

n Number of observations

p\_trt Proportion allotted to treatment

#### Value

A vector of treatment assignments as 0's and 1's based on simple randomization.

# **Examples**

```
car_sr(10, p_trt=0.4)
```

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data\_gen

Data generation function from JRSS-B paper

## Description

Data generation function from JRSS-B paper

## Usage

```
data_gen(
   n,
   theta,
   randomization,
   p_trt,
   case = c("case1", "case2", "case3", "case4", "case5")
)
```

## Arguments

```
n total number of subjects to be generated

theta true treatment effect

randomization randomization method in c("SR","CABC","permuted_block","minimization","urn")

p_trt proportion of treatment arm

case simulation case in the paper
```

## Value

A data frame with the following columns:

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data\_gen2

Data generation function from covariate adjusted log-rank paper

## Description

Data generation function from covariate adjusted log-rank paper

## Usage

```
data_gen2(
   n,
   theta,
   randomization,
   p_trt,
   case = c("case1", "case2", "case3", "case4"),
   blocksize = 4
)
```

## Arguments

n total number of subjects to be generated

theta true treatment effect

 $randomization \quad randomization \\ method \\ in \\ c("SR","CABC","permuted\_block","minimization","urn") \\$ 

p\_trt proportion of treatment arm case simulation case in the paper

blocksize block size for permuted block design

#### Value

A data frame with the following columns:

```
t event time

delta event indicator

I1 assignment to treatment group 1

I0 assignment to treatment group 0

model_w3 covariates

car_strata1, ...

strata variables
```

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```
print.CalibrationResult
```

Print calibration result

## Description

Print calibration result

## Usage

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

## Arguments

x A GLMModel result. If you'd like to calibrate a linear adjustment, use 'robin-car\_glm' instead of 'robincar\_linear'.

... Additional arguments

#### Value

Prints the treatment mean estimates (and variances) based on a calibration on top of a GLM working model, along with the settings used. See RobinCar::robincar\_calibrate().

## **Description**

Print contrast result

## Usage

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

## **Arguments**

- x A ContrastResult object
- ... Additional arguments

#### Value

Prints estimates (and variances) of treatment contrasts based on a linear or GLM working model, along with the settings used. See RobinCar::robincar\_contrast()

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## **Description**

Print glm model result

## Usage

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

#### **Arguments**

x A GLMModelResult object

.. Additional arguments

#### Value

Prints the treatment mean estimates (and variances) based on a GLM working model, along with the settings used. See RobinCar::robincar\_glm().

```
print.LinModelResult Print linear model result
```

## **Description**

Print linear model result

## Usage

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

## **Arguments**

x A LinModelResult object

... Additional arguments

#### Value

Prints the treatment mean estimates (and variances) based on a linear working model, along with the settings used. See RobinCar::robincar\_linear().

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print.TTEResult

Print TTE result

#### **Description**

Print TTE result

## Usage

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

#### **Arguments**

x A TTEResult object... Additional arguments

#### Value

Prints results of time-to-event covariate adjusted analyses including covariate-adjusted (stratified) logrank, robust Cox score, and covariate-adjusted hazard ratio. Prints summary statistics about number of observations and events, possibly by strata, and the test statistics and/or estimates, and p-values. See RobinCar::robincar\_tte() and RobinCar::robincar\_covhr().

robincar\_calibrate

Perform linear or joint calibration

#### **Description**

Uses linear or joint calibration to "calibrate" the estimates from a linear or GLM-type adjustment. Linear calibration fits a linear model with treatment (and treatment-by-covariate interactions) and with the predicted  $\hat{\mu}(X_i) = (\hat{\mu}_1(X_i), \dots, \hat{\mu}_K(X_i))$  as constructed covariates where K is the number of treatment groups; joint calibration also includes  $Z_i$  the strata variables as covariates.

## Usage

```
robincar_calibrate(result, joint = FALSE, add_x = NULL)
```

#### Arguments

result	A GLMModelResult
joint	If true, then performs joint calibration with the $\hat{\mu}(X_i)$ and strata $Z_i$ to achieve universality and efficiency gain rather than just linear calibration that uses $\hat{\mu}(X_i)$ .
add_x	Additional x to use in the calibration. Must have been in the original dataset that robincar glm was called on.

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#### Value

A result object that has the same structure as RobinCar::robincar\_glm(), with the argument 'result' included as "original" in the list.

## **Description**

Estimate a treatment contrast using the result of RobinCar::robincar\_linear(), RobinCar::robincar\_glm(), or RobinCar::robincar\_SL() using the delta method.

## Usage

```
robincar_contrast(result, contrast_h, contrast_dh = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

result A LinModelResult or GLMModelResult

contrast\_h An optional function to specify a desired contrast contrast\_dh An optional jacobian function for the contrast

#### Value

A contrast object which has the following attributes:

result A dplyr::tibble() with the label of the treatment contrast (e.g., 1 vs. 0), the

estimate of the treatment contrast, estimated SE, and p-value based on a z-test

with estimate and SE.

varcov The variance-covariance matrix for the treatment contrast estimates.

settings List of model settings used for the contrast.

robincar\_covhr Covariate-adjusted estimators for time to event data

#### Description

Estimate a covariate-adjusted hazard ratio ('adj\_method="CL"'), or a covariate-adjusted stratified hazard ratio ('adj\_method="CSL"').

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#### Usage

```
robincar_covhr(
   df,
   treat_col,
   response_col,
   event_col,
   car_strata_cols = NULL,
   covariate_cols = NULL,
   p_trt = 0.5,
   ref_arm = NULL,
   car_scheme = "simple",
   adj_method = "CL",
   interval = c(-10, 10)
)
```

#### **Arguments**

df A data.frame with the required columns treat\_col Name of column in df with treatment variable response\_col Name of the column in df with response variable Name of column in df with event indicator (0/FALSE=no event, 1/TRUE=event) event\_col car\_strata\_cols Names of columns in df with car\_strata variables covariate\_cols Names of columns in df with covariate variables Treatment allocation ratio for the reference arm. p\_trt ref\_arm Reference arm of the treatment group, defaults to NULL, which results in using the first element of 'unique(data[, treat\_col])'. Name of the type of covariate-adaptive randomization scheme. One of: "simcar\_scheme ple", "pocock-simon", "biased-coin", "permuted-block". adj\_method Adjustment method (one of "CL", "CSL")

# Value

interval

An object with attribute named "result", which lists:

theta\_L estimate of the hazard ratio
se\_theta\_L SE estimate of the hazard ratio

theta\_CL estimate of the covariate-adjusted hazard ratio
se\_theta\_CL SE estimate of the covariate-adjusted hazard ratio

Interval for uniroot function

Other attributes are the settings used, data attributes, and the original data frame supplied by the user.

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robincar\_coxscore

Robust cox score adjustment

#### **Description**

Robust cox score adjustment

#### Usage

```
robincar_coxscore(...)
```

#### **Arguments**

... Arguments to robincar\_tte, other than 'adj\_method'

#### Value

A result object with the following attributes:

result A list: "statistic" is the robust Cox score test statistic which can be used to obtain

p-values; "U" and "se" are the numerator and denominator of the test statistic,

respectively.

settings The covariate adjustment settings used.

original\_df The dataset supplied by the user.

robincar\_glm

Covariate adjustment using generalized linear working model

## **Description**

Estimate treatment-group-specific response means and (optionally) treatment group contrasts using a generalized linear working model.

## Usage

```
robincar_glm(
   df,
   treat_col,
   response_col,
   formula = NULL,
   car_strata_cols = NULL,
   car_scheme = "simple",
   g_family = stats::gaussian,
   g_accuracy = 7,
   contrast_h = NULL,
   contrast_dh = NULL
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

df A data.frame with the required columns

treat\_col Name of column in df with treatment variable response\_col Name of the column in df with response variable

formula The formula to use for adjustment specified using as.formula("..."). This over-

rides car\_strata\_cols and covariate\_cols.

car\_strata\_cols

Names of columns in df with car strata variables

car\_scheme Name of the type of covariate-adaptive randomization scheme. One of: "sim-

ple", "pocock-simon", "biased-coin", "permuted-block".

g\_family Family that would be supplied to glm(...), e.g., binomial. If no link speci-

fied, will use default link, like behavior in glm. If you wish to use a negative binomial working model with an unknown dispersion parameter, then use

'g\_family="nb"'.

g\_accuracy Level of accuracy to check prediction un-biasedness.

contrast\_h An optional function to specify a desired contrast

contrast\_dh An optional jacobian function for the contrast (otherwise use numerical deriva-

tive)

#### **Details**

The output is the AIPW estimator given by (for each treatment group a):

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \hat{\mu}_a(X_i) + \frac{1}{n_a} \sum_{i:A_i=a} \{Y_i - \hat{\mu}(X_i)\}$$

where  $Y_i$  is the outcome,  $A_i$  is the treatment assignment,  $X_i$  are the covariates,  $n_a = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i = a$ , and  $\hat{\mu}_a$  is the estimated conditional mean function based on the GLM working model. This working model has treatment a-specific coefficients if 'adj\_method' is "heterogeneous". Otherwise, they are shared across the treatment arms. Alternatively, if 'formula' is used, the working model can be specified according to the user.

Importantly, the estimated variance accounts for misspecification of the working model, and for covariate-adaptive randomization.

#### Value

If 'contrast\_h' argument is used, outputs a 'main' and a 'contrast' object. The 'main' object has the following structure:

result A dplyr::tibble() with the treatment label, treatment mean estimate using AIPW,

estimated SE, and p-value based on a z-test with estimate and SE.

varcov The variance-covariance matrix for the treatment mean estimates.

settings List of model settings used in covariate adjustment.

original\_df The original dataset provided by the user.

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mod	The fit from the glm() working model used for covariate adjustment.
mu_a	Predicted potential outcomes for each treatment category (columns) and individual (rows). These are the $\hat{\mu}_a$
g.estimate	The G-computation estimate based only on $\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\hat{\mu}_a(X_i)$ . This is equivalent to the AIPW estimate when a canonical link function is used.
data	Attributes about the dataset.

The 'contrast' object has a structure that is documented in RobinCar::robincar\_contrast().

robincar\_linear

Covariate adjustment using linear working model

# Description

Estimate treatment-group-specific response means and (optionally) treatment group contrasts using a linear working model for continuous outcomes.

## Usage

```
robincar_linear(
   df,
   treat_col,
   response_col,
   car_strata_cols = NULL,
   covariate_cols = NULL,
   car_scheme = "simple",
   adj_method = "ANOVA",
   contrast_h = NULL,
   contrast_dh = NULL
)
```

## **Arguments**

df	A data.frame with the required columns	
treat_col	Name of column in df with treatment variable	
response_col	Name of the column in df with response variable	
car_strata_cols		
	Names of columns in df with car_strata variables	
covariate_cols	Names of columns in df with covariate variables. **If you want to include the strata variables as covariates also, add them here.**	
car_scheme	Name of the type of covariate-adaptive randomization scheme. One of: "simple", "pocock-simon", "biased-coin", "permuted-block".	

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adj_method	Name of linear adjustment method to use. One of: "ANOVA", "ANCOVA", "ANHECOVA".
contrast_h	An optional function to specify a desired contrast
contrast_dh	An optional jacobian function for the contrast (otherwise use numerical derivative)

## **Details**

\* Adjustment method "ANOVA" fits a linear model with formula 'Y ~ A' where 'A' is the treatment group indicator and 'Y' is the response. \* "ANCOVA" fits a linear model with 'Y ~ A + X' where 'X' are the variables specified in the 'covariate\_cols' argument. \* "ANHECOVA" fits a linear model with 'Y ~ A\*X', the main effects and treatment-by-covariate interactions.

#### Value

See value of RobinCar::robincar\_glm(), this function is a wrapper using a linear link function.

Toblifical_logi ank	robincar_logrank	Robust (potentially stratified) logrank adjustment
---------------------	------------------	--

## Description

Perform a robust covariate-adjusted logrank test ("CL") that can be stratified ("CSL") if desired.

## Usage

```
robincar_logrank(adj_method, ...)
```

## Arguments

adj_method	Adjustment method, one of "CL", "CSL"
	Additional arguments to 'robincar_tte'

#### Value

A result object with the following attributes:

result	A list: "statistic" is the adjusted logrank test statistic which can be used to obtain p-values; "U" and "se" are the numerator and denominator of the test statistic, respectively.
settings	The covariate adjustment settings used.
original_df	The dataset supplied by the user.

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#### **Examples**

```
library(magrittr)
library(dplyr)
library(forcats)
set.seed(0)
n=100
data.simu0=data_gen(n=n,
                     theta=0,
                     randomization="permuted_block",
                    p_{trt=0.5}
                   case="case2") %>% mutate(strata1=sample(letters[1:3],n,replace=TRUE),
                                             strata2=sample(LETTERS[4:5],n,replace=TRUE))
out <- robincar_logrank(df=data.simu0,</pre>
                         treat_col="I1",
                        p_trt=0.5,
                        ref_arm=0,
                         response_col="t",
                        event_col="delta",
                         covariate_cols=c("model_z1", "model_z2"),
                         car_scheme="simple",
                         adj_method=c("CL"))
set.seed(0)
n=100
data.simu0=data_gen(n=n,
                    theta=0,
                    randomization="permuted_block",
                    p_trt=0.5,
                     case="case1")
data.simu <- data.simu0 %>%
  tidyr::pivot_longer(cols=starts_with("car_strata"),
                      names_prefix="car_strata",
                      names_to="strt") %>%
  filter(value==1) %>% select(-value) %>%
  mutate(strt=forcats::as_factor(strt)) %>%
  select(t,strt) %>%
  left_join(data.simu0, .)
out1 <- robincar_logrank(df=data.simu,</pre>
                          treat_col="I1",
                          p_{trt=0.5}
                          ref_arm=0,
                          response_col="t",
                          event_col="delta",
                          car_strata_cols="strt",
                          covariate_cols=NULL,
                          car_scheme=c("permuted-block"),
                          adj_method=c("CSL")
)
```

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robincar\_SL

BETA: Covariate adjustment using working models from the super learner libraries through the AIPW package with cross-fitting.

## **Description**

Estimate treatment-group-specific response means and (optionally) treatment group contrasts using a generalized linear working model.

#### Usage

```
robincar_SL(
   df,
   treat_col,
   response_col,
   car_strata_cols = NULL,
   covariate_cols = NULL,
   car_scheme = "simple",
   covariate_to_include_strata = NULL,
   SL_libraries = c(),
   SL_learners = c(),
   k_split = 2,
   g_accuracy = 7,
   contrast_h = NULL,
   contrast_dh = NULL
)
```

## **Arguments**

df	A data.frame with the required columns	
treat_col	Name of column in df with treatment variable	
response_col	Name of the column in df with response variable	
car_strata_cols		
	Names of columns in df with car_strata variables	
covariate_cols	Names of columns in df with covariate variables	
car_scheme	Name of the type of covariate-adaptive randomization scheme. One of: "simple", "pocock-simon", "biased-coin", "permuted-block".	
covariate_to_include_strata		
	Whether to include car_strata variables in covariate adjustment. Defaults to F for ANOVA and ANCOVA; defaults to T for ANHECOVA. User may override by passing in this argument.	
SL_libraries	Vector of super-learner libraries to use for the covariate adjustment (see Super-Learner::listWrappers)	
SL_learners	Optional list of super-learner "learners" to use for the covariate adjustment (see SuperLearner::create.Learner())	

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k_split	Number of splits to use in cross-fitting
g_accuracy	Level of accuracy to check prediction un-biasedness (in digits).
contrast_h	An optional function to specify a desired contrast
contrast_dh	An optional jacobian function for the contrast (otherwise use numerical derivative)

#### **Details**

\*WARNING: This function is still under development and has not been extensively tested.\* This function currently only works for two treatment groups. Before using this function, you must load the SuperLearner library with 'library(SuperLearner)', otherwise the function call will fail.

#### Value

See value of RobinCar::robincar\_glm, but the working model for  $\hat{\mu}(X_i)$  is based on the AIPW::AIPW package that uses specified SuperLearner libraries and cross-fitting. Also, 'mod' attribute is an object of class AIPW::AIPW.

## **Examples**

```
library(SuperLearner)
library(ranger)
n <- 1000
set.seed(10)
DATA2 <- data.frame(A=rbinom(n, size=1, prob=0.5),
                    y=rbinom(n, size=1, prob=0.2),
                    x1=rnorm(n),
                    x2=rnorm(n).
                    x3=as.factor(rbinom(n, size=1, prob=0.5)),
                    z1=rbinom(n, size=1, prob=0.5),
                     z2=rbinom(n, size=1, prob=0.5))
DATA2[, "y"] <- NA
As <- DATA2$A == 1
DATA2[DATA2$A == 1, "y"] <- rbinom(
  sum(As),
  size=1,
  prob=exp(DATA2[As,]$x1)/(1+exp(DATA2[As,]$x1)))
DATA2[DATA2$A == 0, "y"] <- rbinom(
  n-sum(As),
  size=1,
  prob=exp(1 +
    5*DATA2[!As,]$x1 + DATA2[!As,]$x2)/
    (1+exp(1 + 5*DATA2[!As,]$x1 + DATA2[!As,]$x2)))
DATA2$A <- as.factor(DATA2$A)</pre>
sl.mod <- robincar_SL(</pre>
  df=DATA2,
  response_col="y",
  treat_col="A",
  car_strata_cols=c("z1"),
  covariate_cols=c("x1"),
```

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```
SL_libraries=c("SL.ranger"),
  car_scheme="permuted-block",
  covariate_to_include_strata=TRUE
)
sl.mod$result
```

robincar\_SL\_median

BETA: Covariate adjustment using working models from the super learner libraries through the AIPW package with cross-fitting, with median adjustment.

## Description

Estimate treatment-group-specific response means and (optionally) treatment group contrasts using a generalized linear working model. Perform median adjustment to limit randomness induced from cross-fitting.

## Usage

```
robincar_SL_median(
 n_times,
  seed,
 df,
  treat_col,
 response_col,
 car_strata_cols = NULL,
  covariate_cols = NULL,
  car_scheme = "simple",
  covariate_to_include_strata = NULL,
  SL_libraries = c(),
  SL_learners = c(),
 k_split = 2,
 g_{accuracy} = 7,
 contrast_h = NULL,
  contrast_dh = NULL
)
```

#### **Arguments**

n_times	Number of times to run the robincar_SL function
seed	Seed to set before running the set of functions
df	A data frame with the required columns
treat_col	Name of column in df with treatment variable
response_col	Name of the column in df with response variable

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car_strata_cols		
	Names of columns in df with car_strata variables	
covariate_cols	Names of columns in df with covariate variables	
car_scheme	Name of the type of covariate-adaptive randomization scheme. One of: "simple", "pocock-simon", "biased-coin", "permuted-block".	
covariate_to_include_strata		
	Whether to include car_strata variables in covariate adjustment. Defaults to F for ANOVA and ANCOVA; defaults to T for ANHECOVA. User may override by passing in this argument.	
SL_libraries	Vector of super-learner libraries to use for the covariate adjustment (see Super-Learner::listWrappers)	
SL_learners	Optional list of super-learner "learners" to use for the covariate adjustment (see SuperLearner::create.Learner())	
k_split	Number of splits to use in cross-fitting	
g_accuracy	Level of accuracy to check prediction un-biasedness (in digits).	
contrast_h	An optional function to specify a desired contrast	
contrast_dh	An optional jacobian function for the contrast (otherwise use numerical derivative)	

#### **Details**

\*WARNING: This function is still under development and has not been extensively tested.\* This function currently only works for two treatment groups. Before using this function, you must load the SuperLearner library with 'library(SuperLearner)', otherwise the function call will fail.

## Value

See value of RobinCar::robincar\_SL. Attributes 'mods' and 'mu\_as' are lists of 'mod' and 'mu\_a' attributes, respectively, for each replicate of 'robincar\_SL' used in the median.

robincar\_tte

Covariate adjustment for time to event data

## **Description**

Perform a covariate-adjusted logrank test ('adj\_method="CL"'), covariate-adjusted stratified logrank test ('adj\_method="CSL"'), or a covariate-adjusted robust Cox score test ('adj\_method="coxscore"').

# Usage

```
robincar_tte(
  df,
  treat_col,
  response_col,
  event_col,
```

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```
adj_method,
  car_strata_cols = NULL,
  covariate_cols = NULL,
  p_trt = 0.5,
  ref_arm = NULL,
  sparse_remove = TRUE,
  car_scheme = "simple"
)
```

## Arguments

df A data frame with the required columns treat\_col Name of column in df with treatment variable Name of the column in df with response variable response\_col Name of column in df with event indicator (0/FALSE=no event, 1/TRUE=event) event\_col Adjustment method (one of "CL", "CSL", or "coxscore") adj\_method car\_strata\_cols Names of columns in df with car\_strata variables covariate\_cols Names of columns in df with covariate variables Treatment allocation ratio for the reference arm. p\_trt ref\_arm Reference arm of the treatment group, defaults to NULL, which results in using the first element of 'unique(data[, treat\_col])'. sparse\_remove Remove sparse car\_strata from calculation Name of the type of covariate-adaptive randomization scheme. One of: "simcar\_scheme

#### **Details**

'robincar\_coxscore' and 'robincar\_logrank' are wrapper functions around 'robincar\_tte'.

ple", "pocock-simon", "biased-coin", "permuted-block".

#### Value

For adjustment method "CL" or "CSL", see value of RobinCar::robincar\_logrank(); for adjustment method "coxscore" see value of RobinCar::robincar\_coxscore().

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