

Package ‘ConvertPar’

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Type Package

Title Estimating IRT Parameters via Machine Learning Algorithms

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Description A tool to estimate IRT item parameters (2 PL) using CTT-based item statistics from small samples via artificial neural networks and regression trees.

Imports neuralnet, mirt, RWeka, stats

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conv.ann	<i>Estimating IRT Item Parameters with Small Samples via Artificial Neural Networks</i>
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Description

This function can be used to estimate IRT item parameters (2 PL) using CTT-based item statistics from small samples via artificial neural networks.

Usage

```
conv.ann(small.data, train.data, model="2PL", layers=1, learningrate=NULL, threshold=0.01)
```

Arguments

small.data	matrix or data frame: contains small sample dichotomous participant response matrix.
train.data	matrix or data frame: contains a dichotomous response matrix to use training of ANN model. This matrix should be contain as much as possible participants for more accurate estimations. The "gen.data" function can be used to obtain a simulative response matrix.
model	string: option for desired IRT model. 'Rasch' or '2PL' ('2PL' is default)
layers	vector: a vector of integers specifying the number of hidden neurons (vertices) in each layer.
learningrate	numeric: a numeric value specifying the learning rate.
threshold	numeric: a numeric value specifying the threshold for the partial derivatives of the error function as stopping criteria.

Value

This function returns a list including following:

- a matrix: Predicted IRT Parameters
- a matrix: Item Parameters of Training Data

Examples

```
## Generating item and ability parameters (1000 participants, 100 items)

a <- rlnorm(100,0,0.3)
b <- rnorm(100,0,1)
responses <- matrix(NA, nrow=1000, ncol=100)
theta <- rnorm(1000, 0,1)

### Defining Response Function (2 PL)

pij <- function(a,b,theta) {
  1/(1+exp(-1*a*(theta-b)))
}

### Creating Response Matrix and column names.

for( i in 1:1000 ) {
  for( j in 1:100 ) {
    responses[i,j]<-ifelse(pij(a=a[j], b=b[j], theta[i]) < runif(1) , 0 ,1)
  }
}
```

```

names<-paste("i",1:ncol(responses),sep = "_")

colnames(responses)<-names
train<-as.data.frame(responses)

small.index<-sample(1:nrow(train),100,replace=FALSE)

small<-train[small.index,]

### Conducting Function

conv.ann(small.data=small, train.data=train, model="2PL",layers=c(2,2),
learningrate=NULL,treshold=0.01)

```

conv.rt	<i>Estimating IRT Item Parameters with Small Samples via Regression Trees</i>
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Description

This function can be used to estimate IRT item parameters (2 PL) using CTT-based item statistics from small samples via Regression Trees.

Usage

```
conv.rt(small.data, train.data, model="2PL",pruned=TRUE,min.inst=10)
```

Arguments

small.data	matrix or data frame: contains small sample dichotomous participant response matrix.
train.data	matrix or data frame: contains a dichotomous response matrix to use training of ANN model. This matrix should be contain as much as possible participants for more accurate estimations.The "gen.data" function can be used to obtain a simulative response matrix.
model	string: option for desired IRT model. 'Rasch' or '2PL' ('2PL' is default)
pruned	a logical: Use unpruned tree/rules. Default is TRUE
min.inst	numeric: Minimum number of items per leaf (Default 10).

Value

This function returns a list including following:

- a matrix: Predicted IRT Parameters
- a matrix: Item Parameters of Training Data
- a list: Tree Models and Regression Equations

Examples

```

## Generating item and ability parameters (1000 participants, 100 items)

a <- rlnorm(100,0,0.3)
b <- rnorm(100,0,1)
responses <- matrix(NA, nrow=1000, ncol=100)
theta <- rnorm(1000, 0,1)

### Defining Response Function (2 PL)

pij <- function(a,b,theta) {
  1/(1+exp(-1*a*(theta-b)))
}

### Creating Response Matrix and column names.

for( i in 1:1000 ) {
  for( j in 1:100 ) {
    responses[i,j]<-ifelse(pij(a=a[j], b=b[j], theta[i]) < runif(1) , 0 ,1)
  }
}

names<-paste("i",1:ncol(responses),sep = "_")

colnames(responses)<-names
train<-as.data.frame(responses)

small.index<-sample(1:nrow(train),100,replace=FALSE)

small<-train[small.index,]

### Conducting Function

conv.rt(small.data=small,
train.data=train,
model="2PL",
pruned=TRUE,
min.inst=10)

```

gen.data

*Generating Dichotomous Data Sets based on Logistic IRT Models
(Rasch, 2PL, 3PL).*

Description

This function can be used for generating dichotomous response matrices based on Logistic IRT Models. Sample size, item number, parameter distributions can be specified.

Usage

```
gen.data(model="2PL", samplesize=1000, itemsize=100,  
theta.mean=0, theta.sd=1, a.mean=0, a.sd=0.2, b.mean=0,  
b.sd=1, c.min=0, c.max=0.25)
```

Arguments

model	string: option for desired IRT model. 'Rasch', '2PL' or '3PL' ('2PL' is default)
samplesize	numeric: Desired Sample size (Default 1000).
itemsize	numeric: Desired item number (Default 100).
theta.mean	numeric: mean value of theta normal distribution (Default 0).
theta.sd	numeric: standart deviation of theta normal distribution (Default 1).
a.mean	numeric: mean value of a parameters log normal distribution (Default 0).
a.sd	numeric: standart deviation of a parameters log normal distribution (Default 0.2).
b.mean	numeric: mean value of b parameters normal distribution (Default 0).
b.sd	numeric: standart deviation of b parameters normal distribution (Default 1).
c.min	numeric: minimum value of c parameters uniform distribution (Default 0).
c.max	numeric: maximum value of c parameters uniform distribution (Default 0.25).

Value

This function returns a a data frame containing simulated dichotomous response matrix.

Examples

```
gen.data(model="2PL",  
samplesize=1000,  
itemsize=100,  
theta.mean=0,  
theta.sd=1,  
a.mean=0,  
a.sd=0.2,  
b.mean=0,  
b.sd=1,  
c.min=0,  
c.max=0.25)
```

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