

# Package ‘msu’

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**Title** Multivariate Symmetric Uncertainty and Other Measurements

**Version** 0.0.1

**Description** Estimators for multivariate symmetrical uncertainty based on the work of Gustavo Sosa et al. (2016) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.1709.08730](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1709.08730)>, total correlation, information gain and symmetrical uncertainty of categorical variables.

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categorical\_sample\_size  
*Estimate the sample size for a variable in function of its categories.*

---

### Description

Estimate the sample size for a variable in function of its categories.

### Usage

```
categorical_sample_size(categories, increment = 10)
```

### Arguments

categories      A vector containing the number of categories of each variable.  
increment      A number as a constant to which the sample size is incremented as a product.

### Value

The sample size for a categorical variable based on a ordered permutation heuristic approximation of its categories.

---

information\_gain      *Estimating information gain between two categorical variables.*

---

### Description

Information gain (also called mutual information) is a measure of the mutual dependence between two variables (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutual\\_information](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutual_information)).

### Usage

```
information_gain(x, y)
```

```
IG(x, y)
```

### Arguments

x                      A factor representing a categorical variable.  
y                      A factor representing a categorical variable.

**Value**

Information gain estimation based on Sannon entropy for variables x and y.

**Examples**

```
information_gain(factor(c(0,1)), factor(c(1,0)))
information_gain(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,1,1)))
information_gain(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,0,1)))
## Not run:
information_gain(c(0,1), c(1,0))

## End(Not run)
```

---

joint\_shannon\_entropy *Estimation of the Joint Shannon entropy for two categorical variables.*

---

**Description**

The joint Shannon entropy provides an estimation of the measure of uncertainty between two random variables (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint\\_entropy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_entropy)).

**Usage**

```
joint_shannon_entropy(x, y)

joint_H(x, y)
```

**Arguments**

x	A factor as the represented categorical variable.
y	A factor as the represented categorical variable.

**Value**

Joint Shannon entropy estimation for variables x and y.

**See Also**

[shannon\\_entropy](#) for the entropy for a single variable and [multivar\\_joint\\_shannon\\_entropy](#) for the entropy associated with more than two random variables.

**Examples**

```
joint_shannon_entropy(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,0,1)))
joint_shannon_entropy(factor(c('a','b','c')), factor(c('c','b','a')))
## Not run:
joint_shannon_entropy(1)
joint_shannon_entropy(c('a','b'), c('d','e'))

## End(Not run)
```

**Description**

MSU is a generalization of symmetrical uncertainty (SU) where it is considered the interaction between two or more variables, whereas SU can only consider the interaction between two variables. For instance, consider a table with two variables X1 and X2 and a third variable, Y (the class of the case), that results from the logical XOR operator applied to X1 and X2

X1	X2	Y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

For this case

$$MSU(X1, X2, Y) = 0.5.$$

This, in contrast to the measurements obtained by SU of the variables X1 and X2 against Y,

$$SU(X1, Y) = 0$$

and

$$SU(X2, Y) = 0.$$

**Usage**

```
msu(table_variables, table_class)
```

**Arguments**

`table_variables`

A list of factors as categorical variables.

`table_class`

A factor representing the class of the case.

**Value**

Multivariate symmetrical uncertainty estimation for the variable set `{table_variables, table_class}`. The result is rounded to 7 decimal places.

**See Also**

[symmetrical\\_uncertainty](#)

**Examples**

```
# completely predictable
msu(list(factor(c(0,0,1,1))), factor(c(0,0,1,1)))
# XOR
msu(list(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,0,1))), factor(c(0,1,1,0)))
## Not run:
msu(c(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,0,1))), factor(c(0,1,1,0)))
msu(list(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,0,1))), c(0,1,1,0))

## End(Not run)
```

---

```
multivar_joint_shannon_entropy
```

*Estimation of joint Shannon entropy for a set of categorical variables.*

---

**Description**

The multivariate joint Shannon entropy provides an estimation of the measure of the uncertainty associated with a set of variables (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint\\_entropy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_entropy)).

**Usage**

```
multivar_joint_shannon_entropy(table_variables, table_class)
```

```
multivar_joint_H(table_variables, table_class)
```

**Arguments**

```
table_variables
```

A list of factors as categorical variables.

```
table_class
```

A factor representing the class of the case.

**Value**

Joint Shannon entropy estimation for the variable set `table.variables`, `table.class`.

**See Also**

[shannon\\_entropy](#) for the entropy for a single variable and [joint\\_shannon\\_entropy](#) for the entropy associated with two random variables.

**Examples**

```
multivar_joint_shannon_entropy(list(factor(c(0,1)), factor(c(1,0))),
  factor(c(1,1)))
```

---

```
new_informative_variable
```

*Create an informative uniform categorical random variable.*

---

### Description

The sampling for the items of the created variable is done with replacement.

### Usage

```
new_informative_variable(variable_labels, variable_class,
  information_level = 1)
```

### Arguments

`variable_labels`

A factor as the labels for the new informative variable.

`variable_class` A factor as the class of the variable.

`information_level`

A integer as the information level of the new variable.

### Value

A factor that represents an informative uniform categorical random variable created using the Kononenko method.

---

```
new_variable
```

*Create a uniform categorical random variable.*

---

### Description

The sampling for the items of the created variable is done with replacement.

### Usage

```
new_variable(elements, n)
```

### Arguments

`elements`

A vector with the elements from which to choose to create the variable.

`n`

An integer indicating the number of items to be contained in the variable.

### Value

A factor that represents a uniform categorical variable.

**Examples**

```
new_variable(c(0,1), 4)
new_variable(c('a','b','c'), 10)
```

---

new\_xor\_variables      *Create a set of categorical variables using the logical XOR operator.*

---

**Description**

Create a set of categorical variables using the logical XOR operator.

**Usage**

```
new_xor_variables(n_variables = 2, n_instances = 1000, noise = 0)
```

**Arguments**

n_variables	An integer as the number of variables to be created. It is the number of column variables of the table, an additional column is added as a result of the XOR operator over the instances.
n_instances	An integer as the number of instances to be created. It is the number of rows of the table.
noise	A float number as the noise level for the variables.

**Value**

A set of random variables constructed using the logical XOR operator.

**Examples**

```
new_xor_variables(2, 4, 0)
new_xor_variables(5, 10, 0.5)
```

---

rel\_freq      *Relative frequency of values of a categorical variable.*

---

**Description**

Relative frequency of values of a categorical variable.

**Usage**

```
rel_freq(variable)
```

**Arguments**

variable            A factor as a categorical variable

**Value**

Relative frequency distribution table for the values in variable.

**Examples**

```
rel_freq(factor(c(0,1)))
rel_freq(factor(c('a','a','b')))
## Not run:
rel_freq(c(0,1))

## End(Not run)
```

---

sample\_size            *Estimate the sample size for a categorical variable.*

---

**Description**

Estimate the sample size for a categorical variable.

**Usage**

```
sample_size(max, min = 1, z = 1.96, error = 0.05)
```

**Arguments**

max            A number as the maximum value of the possible categories.  
min            A number as the minimum value of the possible categories.  
z              A number as the confidence coefficient.  
error          Admissible sampling error.

**Value**

The sample size for a categorical variable based on a variance heuristic approximation.

---

shannon_entropy	<i>Estimation of Shannon entropy for a categorical variable.</i>
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---

**Description**

The Shannon entropy estimates the average minimum number of bits needed to encode a string of symbols, based on the frequency of the symbols (see [http://www.bearcave.com/misl/misl\\_tech/wavelets/compression/shannon.html](http://www.bearcave.com/misl/misl_tech/wavelets/compression/shannon.html)).

**Usage**

```
shannon_entropy(x)
```

$H(x)$

**Arguments**

x                    A factor as the represented categorical variable.

**Value**

Shannon entropy estimation of the categorical variable.

**Examples**

```
shannon_entropy(factor(c(1,0)))
shannon_entropy(factor(c('a','b','c'))))
## Not run:
shannon_entropy(1)
shannon_entropy(c('a','b','c'))

## End(Not run)
```

---

symmetrical_uncertainty	<i>Estimating Symmetrical Uncertainty of two categorical variables.</i>
-------------------------	---

---

**Description**

Symmetrical uncertainty (SU) is the product of a normalization of the information gain (IG) with respect to entropy.  $SU(X,Y)$  is a value in the range  $[0,1]$ , where  $SU(X,Y) = 0$  if X and Y are totally independent and  $SU(X,Y) = 1$  if X and Y are totally dependent.

**Usage**

```
symmetrical_uncertainty(x, y)
```

$SU(x, y)$

**Arguments**

x                    A factor as the represented categorical variable.  
y                    A factor as the represented categorical variable.

**Value**

Symmetrical uncertainty estimation based on Sannon entropy. The result is rounded to 7 decimal places.

**See Also**

[msu](#)

**Examples**

```
# completely predictable
symmetrical_uncertainty(factor(c(0,1,0,1)), factor(c(0,1,0,1)))
# XOR factor variables
symmetrical_uncertainty(factor(c(0,0,1,1)), factor(c(0,1,1,0)))
symmetrical_uncertainty(factor(c(0,1,0,1)), factor(c(0,1,1,0)))
## Not run:
symmetrical_uncertainty(c(0,1,0,1), c(0,1,1,0))

## End(Not run)
```

---

total_correlation	<i>Estimation of total correlation for a set of categorical random variables.</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

Total Correlation is a generalization of information gain (IG) to measure the dependency of a set of categorical random variables (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Total\\_correlation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Total_correlation)).

**Usage**

```
total_correlation(table_variables, table_class)
```

```
C(table_variables, table_class)
```

**Arguments**

table\_variables                    A list of factors as categorical variables.  
table\_class                    A factor representing the class of the case.

**Value**

Total correlation estimation for the variable set `table.variables`, `table.class`.

**Examples**

```
total_correlation(list(factor(c(0,1)), factor(c(1,0))), factor(c(0,0)))
total_correlation(list(factor(c('a','b')), factor(c('a','b'))),
  factor(c('a','b')))
## Not run:
total_correlation(list(factor(c(0,1)), factor(c(1,0))), c(0,0))
total_correlation(c(factor(c(0,1)), factor(c(1,0))), c(0,0))

## End(Not run)
```

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