

# Package ‘pim’

May 9, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Fit Probabilistic Index Models

**Version** 2.0.4

**Date** 2025-01-07

**Author** Joris Meys [aut, cre],  
Jan De Neve [aut],  
Nick Sabbe [aut],  
Gustavo Guimaraes de Castro Amorim [aut]

**Maintainer** Joris Meys <Joris.Meys@UGent.be>

**Description** Fit a probabilistic index model as described in  
Thas et al, 2012: <[doi:10.1111/j.1467-9868.2011.01020.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9868.2011.01020.x)>. The interface to the  
modeling function has changed in this new version. The old version is  
still available at R-Forge.

**Depends** R (>= 3.0)

**Imports** methods, utils, stats4, nleqslv, BB

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**URL** <https://github.com/CenterForStatistics-UGent/pim>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/CenterForStatistics-UGent/pim/issues>

**Collate** 'CreateScoreFun.R' 'DysData.R' 'EngelData.R' 'Estimators.R'  
'pim.poset-class.R' 'pim.environment-class.R' 'pim-package.R'  
'pim.formula-class.R' 'pim-class.R' 'pim.summary-class.R'  
'Extract.pim.summary.R' 'FEVData.R' 'Getters.R' 'Getters\_pim.R'  
'Getters\_pim.formula.R' 'InternalFunctions.R'  
'InternalObjects.R' 'LR.R' 'MHDData.R' 'P.R' 'SUDData.R'  
'add.poset.R' 'as.data.frame.pim.environment.R'  
'as.matrix.pim.summary.R' 'coef.R' 'confint.pim.R'  
'create.poset.R' 'formula.R' 'has.intercept.R' 'is.complete.R'  
'make.posfun.R' 'model.matrix.pim.R' 'new.pim.R'  
'new.pim.env.R' 'new.pim.formula.R' 'new.pim.poset.R' 'nobs.R'  
'penv.R' 'pim.R' 'pim.fit.R' 'pimdata.R' 'poset.R' 'print.R'  
'response.R' 'sandwich.estimator.R' 'summary.R' 'vcov.R'  
'vcov.estimators.R' 'vcov.internal.R' 'zzz.R'

**Suggests** testthat, MASS

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2025-01-08 11:30:02 UTC

## Contents

pim-package . . . . .	3
.make.posfun . . . . .	4
add.poset . . . . .	4
as.data.frame . . . . .	5
as.matrix.pim.summary . . . . .	6
classes . . . . .	7
coef . . . . .	8
confint.pim . . . . .	9
create.poset . . . . .	10
CreateScoreFun . . . . .	10
DysData . . . . .	11
EngelData . . . . .	11
estimators . . . . .	12
Extract.pim.summary . . . . .	14
FEVData . . . . .	15
formula . . . . .	15
has.intercept . . . . .	16
has.specials . . . . .	18
is.complete . . . . .	19
L . . . . .	20
MHData . . . . .	21
model.matrix.pim . . . . .	21
new.pim . . . . .	23
new.pim.env . . . . .	23
new.pim.formula . . . . .	25
new.pim.poset . . . . .	26
nobs.pim.environment-method . . . . .	28
P . . . . .	29
penv . . . . .	30
pim . . . . .	31
pim-class . . . . .	34
pim-getters . . . . .	34
pim.environment-class . . . . .	35
pim.fit . . . . .	36
pim.formula-class . . . . .	37
pim.poset-class . . . . .	38
pim.summary-class . . . . .	39

<i>pim-package</i>	3
pimdata . . . . .	39
poset . . . . .	40
print . . . . .	41
response . . . . .	42
sandwich.estimator . . . . .	43
SUData . . . . .	44
summary.pim . . . . .	44
vcov . . . . .	45
vcov.estimators . . . . .	45
vcov.internal . . . . .	47
<b>Index</b>	<b>48</b>

---

pim-package	<i>Probabilistic Index Models</i>
-------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

Fit a probabilistic index model. Note that this version is NOT compatible with the previous version used in the original publications on probabilistic index models. If you want to try out the original code, please install the package `pimold` from R-Forge. You can install the old package using:

## Details

```
install.packages('pimold', repos = 'https://R-Forge.R-project.org')
```

## Author(s)

Joris Meys <Joris.Meys@UGent.be> Jan De Neve <Jan.DeNeve@UGent.be> original package and engine code by Nick Sabbe.

## References

<https://r-forge.r-project.org/projects/pim/>

## See Also

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/CenterForStatistics-UGent/pim>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/CenterForStatistics-UGent/pim/issues>

---

<code>.make.posfun</code>	<i>Create a poset function</i>
---------------------------	--------------------------------

---

### Description

This function creates a poset function from a poset. The function is not exported and shouldn't be called by the user.

### Usage

```
.make.posfun(poset)
```

### Arguments

<code>poset</code>	a vector with the columns as indices
--------------------	--------------------------------------

### Value

A function that takes a single vector as argument, and that returns the vector with the poset vector applied to it.

---

<code>add.poset</code>	<i>Add a poset to a <code>pim.environment</code> object</i>
------------------------	---

---

### Description

This function adds a poset to a `pim.environment` object.

### Usage

```
add.poset(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'  
add.poset(x, overwrite = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	a <code>pim.environment</code> object
<code>...</code>	further parameters passed to <code>new.pim.poset</code> .
<code>overwrite</code>	a logical value indicating whether the poset should be overwritten if it's already present. Defaults to <code>FALSE</code> to avoid problems.

### Value

The object with a (new) poset attached.

**Warning**

Although it might be tempting to pass the argument `nobs` to `new.pim.poset`, you shouldn't. The necessary information is taken from the respective slot in the `pim.environment` object.

If you provide a matrix or a list as value for the argument `compare`, note that you can easily create a poset that doesn't use all the observations. This might or might not be your intention. If the poset you try to create contains indices that go beyond the number of observations, you will get errors.

**See Also**

`new.pim.poset` for the possible values of the arguments `compare` and `nobs`.

**Examples**

```
data(DysData)
Dysenv <- new.pim.env(DysData)
Dysenv
DysenvAll <- add.poset(Dysenv, overwrite = TRUE,
                      compare = 'all', nobs = nobs(DysData))
compare(Dysenv)
compare(DysenvAll)
```

---

as.data.frame

---

*Convert a pim.environment to a data frame*


---

**Description**

This function extracts all data from a `pim.environment` and returns it as a data frame. Note that this is the original data frame, not the one with pseudo observations.

**Usage**

```
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
```

```
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	a <code>pim.environment</code> object
<code>row.names</code>	<code>NULL</code> or a character vector giving the row names for the data frame. Missing values are not allowed.
<code>optional</code>	logical. if <code>TRUE</code> , setting row names and converting column names (to syntactic names: see <code>make.names</code> ) is optional
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to be passed to or from methods, including <code>stringsAsFactors</code> . For more information, see the function <code>as.data.frame</code> from the base package.

**Details**

TO DO: Insert link to how to get pseudo observations out.

**Value**

a data frame.

**Examples**

```
# Create a pim environment
data("DysData")
Dys <- new.pim.env(DysData)
str(as.data.frame(Dys))
```

---

as.matrix.pim.summary *Convert a pim.summary object to a matrix*

---

**Description**

This function converts a summary object to a matrix so values can be extracted from it.

**Usage**

```
as.matrix(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.summary'
as.matrix(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim'
as.matrix(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    a pim.summary object

...                  additional arguments to be passed to or from methods. This one is ignored.

**Value**

a matrix with the estimate, standard error, Z value and probability for every coefficient.

---

classes

*Extract information from `pim.environment` and `pim.poset` objects*

---

## Description

These functions serve to extract the information contained in the objects of class `pim.environment` and `pim.poset`.

## Usage

```
classes(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
classes(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
names(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.poset'
names(x)

compare(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
compare(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.poset'
compare(x)

model(object, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
model(object)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.summary'
model(object)

link(object, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
link(object)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.summary'
link(object)
```

## Arguments

`x` an object of class `pim.environment` or `pim.poset`

object            an object of class `pim` or `pim.summary`  
 ...              arguments passed to and from other methods.

### Value

`classes()`: A named vector with the classes of the data contained in the `pim.environment`  
`names()`: For an object of class `pim.environment` the names of the variables in the object. For an object of class `pim.poset`, the name of the poset functions inside the environment  
`compare()`: A character value indicating how the comparison is defined in a `pim.poset` object, or the poset-slot of a `pim.environment` object respectively.  
`model()`: a character value that displays the type of model (difference, marginal, regular or customized)  
`link()`: a character value that displays the type of link (difference, marginal, regular or customized)

### See Also

[nobs](#), [poset](#), [is.complete](#), [pim.environment-class](#), [pim.poset-class](#), [pim-class](#), [pim.summary-class](#)

### Examples

```
data(DysData)
DysPimEnv <- new.pim.env(DysData, poset=TRUE)
classes(DysPimEnv)
names(DysPimEnv)
compare(DysPimEnv)

themodel <- pim(SPC_D2 ~ Chemo, data = DysData, model = 'difference')
model(themodel)
thesummary <- summary(themodel)
model(thesummary)
```

---

coef

*Extract the coefficients from a `pim` or `pim.summary` object*

---

### Description

This function works like [coef](#) from the `stats` package. It extracts the coefficients from the objects.

### Usage

```
coef(object, ...)
```

## S4 method for signature 'pim'

```
coef(object, ...)
```

## S4 method for signature 'pim.summary'

```
coef(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object            a pim or pim.summary object  
 ...              currently ignored.

**Value**

a named vector with the coefficients.

**Examples**

```
data("FEVData")
Model <- pim(FEV~ Age + Smoke*Sex , data=FEVData)
coef(Model)
summ <- summary(Model)
coef(summ)
```

---

 confint.pim

---

*Calculate Wald confidence intervals around the coefficients of a PIM*


---

**Description**

This function returns Wald confidence intervals around the coefficients of a fitted [pim](#) object

**Usage**

```
confint(object, parm, level = 0.95, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
confint(object, parm, level = 0.95, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.summary'
confint(object, parm, level = 0.95, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object            a [pim](#) or [pim.summary](#) object  
 parm             a specification of which parameters are to be given confidence intervals. Either a vector of numbers or a vector of names. If missing, all parameters are considered  
 level            The confidence level required.  
 ...              extra arguments to methods

---

<code>create.poset</code>	<i>Create a poset</i>
---------------------------	-----------------------

---

### Description

This function creates a poset for use in a pim model based on a number of observations and a comparison type. This function is called from `new.pim.poset` and returns a list that can be used as a value for its argument `compare`.

### Usage

```
create.poset(compare = c("unique", "all"), n)
```

### Arguments

<code>compare</code>	a character value, either 'unique' or 'all'
<code>n</code>	an single integer value indicating how many observations there are in the model.

### Value

A named list with 2 elements, called "L" and "R", containing the selection indices for the left hand and right hand side of a pim.

### Examples

```
create.poset(n=10)
create.poset('all', n=4)
```

---

<code>CreateScoreFun</code>	<i>Create a score function for use in a pim.</i>
-----------------------------	--

---

### Description

This function creates a suitable score function for the fitting process of a probabilistic index model.

### Usage

```
CreateScoreFun(Z, Y, link = c("probit", "logit", "identity"), W = NULL)
```

### Arguments

<code>Z</code>	the model matrix of pseudo-observations
<code>Y</code>	a vector with the response of the pseudo-observations
<code>link</code>	a character vector indicating the link function to be used.
<code>W</code>	a vector with weights.

**Value**

a function used for estimating the coefficients by the estimator functions.

**NOTE**

This function is not exported.

---

DysData

*This is the Dysphagia data*

---

**Description**

This is the Dysphagia data

**Details**

These are the columns and their meanings

- out Outcome: a factor with values 1 to 4, indicating the outcome
- chemo Whether the patient underwent chemotherapy ("ja" is yes, "nee" is no)
- SNP\_XRCC1\_\_77 Genotype of this SNP. A factor with three levels: "TT", "TC" and "CC"
- SPC\_D2 Dose of radiation that reached 2
- SNP\_XRCC1\_\_77TC 1 if SNP\_XRCC1\_\_77 is "TC", 0 otherwise

---

EngelData

*This is the engel data*

---

**Description**

This is the engel data

**Details**

These are the columns and their meanings

- foodexp Food expenditure (FE)
- income Household income (HI)

**Description**

This page documents different possibilities for solving the score function of a probabilistic index model or [pim](#). All functions mentioned on this page, are essentially wrappers around different solver functions.

**Usage**

```
estimator.nleqslv(
  x,
  y,
  start = rep(0, ncol(x)),
  link = "logit",
  construct = NULL,
  ...
)
```

```
estimator.glm(x, y, start = rep(0, ncol(x)), link = "logit", ...)
```

```
estimator.BB(
  x,
  y,
  start = rep(0, ncol(x)),
  link = "logit",
  construct = NULL,
  method = c(1, 2, 3),
  control = list(NM = c(FALSE, TRUE)),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	a model matrix for the respective pim model. See also <a href="#">model.matrix</a> .
<code>y</code>	a vector with the response for the respective pim model.
<code>start</code>	a vector as long as there are columns in <code>x</code> , containing the starting values for the algorithm
<code>link</code>	a character vector describing the link function. This link function is used to adapt the calculation depending on the link used in the fitting process.
<code>construct</code>	a function that creates the score function used by either <a href="#">nleqslv</a> or <a href="#">BBsolve</a> for numerical optimization. See Details. The estimator <code>estimator.glm</code> doesn't allow for specification of your own score function.
<code>...</code>	extra arguments passed down to the actual solver function. See details.

method	A vector of integers specifying which Barzilai-Borwein steplengths should be used in a consecutive manner. The methods will be used in the order specified. More information on the help page of <a href="#">BBsolve</a> .
control	a list with extra controlling parameters for <a href="#">BBsolve</a> . See the help page of <a href="#">BBsolve</a> for more information.

### Details

All functions share the same three arguments, being the design matrix  $x$ , the response vector  $y$  and the start values for the estimating function. If you follow the same principles, you can write your own wrapper function for any solver function of your choice.

The solvers `estimator.nleqslv` and `estimator.BBsolve` allow for specification of your own score function as well. For this, you have the possibility to provide a constructor function that takes three arguments

**x** The model matrix

**y** the vector with pseudo-observations

**link** a character vector specifying the link

The function should return a function that can be used in either `nleqslv` or `BBsolve`. If you don't specify this constructor function, the package will use the constructor function `CreateScoreFun` to provide the score function.

### Value

a list with following elements:

**coef** the estimated coefficients

### WARNING

If you specify your own score function without changing the estimators for the variance-covariance matrix, this vcov matrix will be blatantly wrong!!!!

### See Also

[nleqslv](#), [glm.fit](#), [BBsolve](#) for more information on the fitting algorithms.

[vcov.estimators](#), [pim.fit](#) and [pim](#) for more information on the fitting process

### Examples

```
# This is a reimplementaion of the identity link
myconstruct <- function(x,y,link){
  # this function is returned
  function(beta){
    xb <- as.vector(x %*% beta)
    colSums(x * (y - xb))
  }
}
```

```

data(ChickWeight)
themodel <- pim(weight ~ Diet, data = ChickWeight,
construct = myconstruct)

# compare coefficients to
themodel2 <- pim(weight ~ Diet, data = ChickWeight,
link = "identity")
coef(themodel)
coef(themodel2)

# Note that this example uses a wrong estimate for the variance-covariance matrix
# You have to specify the correct vcov estimator as well

```

---

Extract.pim.summary     *Extract method for pim.summary objects*

---

### Description

This method allows to extract data directly from a [pim.summary](#) object. It's exactly the same as extracting from `as.matrix(thesummary)`.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.summary'
x[i, j, drop = TRUE]
```

### Arguments

x	a <a href="#">pim.summary</a> object to extract information from.
i	indices specifying row to extract or replace. They are used in the same way as you would after transforming x to a matrix.
j	see i, but for columns
drop	see <a href="#">Extract</a>

### Value

the selected matrix

### Examples

```

data(FEVData)
Model <- pim(FEV~ Smoke*Sex , data=FEVData)

thesummary <- summary(Model)
thesummary[,2:3]
thesummary["Sex"]

```

---

FEVData

*This is the Childhood respiratory disease data*


---

### Description

This is the Childhood respiratory disease data

### Details

These are the columns and their meanings

- FEV Forced Expiratory Volme (FE)
- Age Age of the child
- Height Height of the child
- Sex Gender of the child (1 for boys, 0 for girls)
- Smoke 1 if the child smokes, 0 otherwise

---

formula

*Extract the formula from a pim or pim.formula object*


---

### Description

This function allows you to extract a formula from a [pim](#) or a [pim.formula](#) object. In the latter case, you extract the original formula.

### Usage

```
formula(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
formula(x, orig = FALSE, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
formula(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	a pim or pim.formula object
...	arguments passed to other methods
orig	a logical value indicating whether the original formula (TRUE) or the pim.formula object (FALSE) should be returned. Defaults to FALSE

**Details**

This function is based on [formula](#) from the stats package. It creates a generic and can hence be used more or less in the same way. Yet, as the pim package is dependent on the correct binding between the formula objects and different environments, it is advised not to change the environments tied to the formulas and to use this function only to extract the desired information.

**Value**

a [pim.formula](#) if x is a pim object and orig = TRUE. Otherwise a [formula](#) object.

**See Also**

[pim.formula-class](#) and [pim-class](#) for more information on the classes.

**Examples**

```
data("DysData")
themodel <- pim(SPC_D2 ~ Chemo, data = DysData)

thepimform <- formula(themodel)
formula(thepimform)
formula(themodel, orig = TRUE)
```

---

has.intercept

*Check whether formula has an explicit intercept*


---

**Description**

This function checks whether an intercept is present in a formula of some form. It works for a [formula](#), a [terms.object](#) a [pim.formula](#) object or a character vector representing a formula.

**Usage**

```
has.intercept(x)

## S4 method for signature 'character'
has.intercept(x)

## S4 method for signature 'formula'
has.intercept(x)

## S4 method for signature 'terms'
has.intercept(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
has.intercept(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim'  
has.intercept(x)
```

### Arguments

x either a formula, `pim.formula`, `terms.object` or a character vector representing a formula.

### Details

In case of a `terms.object`, this function only checks whether the `intercept` attribute is larger than 0. In all other cases, the function checks whether it can find a + 1 somewhere in the formula, indicating that an intercept has to be fit in a `pim`.

### Value

a single logical value

### WARNING

This function will return FALSE for a standard formula that is used in the context of a marginal model. Keep in mind that when specifying `model = 'marginal'` in a call to `pim`, the model will contain an intercept regardless of the outcome of `has.intercept`

### Note

This function is meant to be used in the context of a `pim` call. Although the function should work for standard formulas as well, correct results are not guaranteed when used outside a `pim` context.

### Examples

```
data("FEVData")  
# Create the "model frame"  
FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData, compare="unique")  
# create the formula and bind it to the pim.environment.  
FEVform <- new.pim.formula(  
  Age ~ I(L(Height) - R(Height)) ,  
  FEVenv  
)  
has.intercept(FEVform)  
FEVform2 <- new.pim.formula(Age ~ Height + 1, FEVData)  
has.intercept(FEVform2)
```

---

has.specials                      *Extract information from a pim.formula object*

---

## Description

This group of functions provides an easy way to extract the extra information saved in a [pim.formula](#) object. Take a look at the help page of [pim.formula](#) for more information.

## Usage

```
has.specials(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
has.specials(x)

terms(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
terms(x)

lhs(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
lhs(x)
```

## Arguments

x	an object of the class <code>pim.formula</code>
...	arguments passed to other methods

## Value

`has.specials()`: a single TRUE or FALSE value indicating whether the formula right-hand side contains any special functions.

`terms()`: the [terms](#) object of the `pim.formula` object

`lhs()`: an object of class `call` containing the left hand side of the formula as used in the `pim`.

## See Also

the class [pim.formula-class](#)

[response](#) for extracting the pseudoresponse variable, [model.matrix](#) for extracting the design matrix of pseudo-observations, [formula](#) for extracting the `pim.formula` and [penv](#) for extracting the `pim` environment.

**Examples**

```
data("FEVData")
# Create the "model frame"
FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData, compare="unique")

# create the formula and bind it to the pim.environment.
FEVform <- new.pim.formula(
  Age ~ I(L(Height) - R(Height)) ,
  FEVenv
)
lhs(FEVform)
has.specials(FEVform)
penv(FEVform)

FEVform2 <- new.pim.formula(
  FEV ~ Height*Sex,
  FEVenv
)

has.specials(FEVform2)
terms(FEVform2)
```

---

`is.complete`*Check whether a pim environment is complete*

---

**Description**

Objects of class `pim.environment` can be created with or without a poset. To check whether an object has a poset included, you use the function `is.complete`

**Usage**

```
is.complete(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` an object of class `pim.environment`

**Value**

a single value TRUE or FALSE

**Note**

This function is not written as an S4 method. Might be rewritten to S4 later on.

## Examples

```
# the constructor returns an empty environment without poset
is.complete(new.pim.env())

# Constructing a pim environment with a poset
data("FEVData")
FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData, compare="unique")
is.complete(FEVenv)
```

---

L

*Specify the left hand and right hand side of an expression used in pims*

---

## Description

These functions allow you to specify the left hand side and right hand side of a term in a pim model. The user should only use this functions within a formula using the `pim` function. Use in a different context will return an error.

## Usage

`L(x)`

`R(x)`

`PP(x)`

## Arguments

`x` any vector specified in a formula

## Details

These specific functions are actually not used by the function `pim`. `pim` calls the internal function `.make.posfun` to create the actual functions `L` and `R` to work with the specified posets of the model of interest.

The actual functions used by `pim` are saved in a specific environment, a `pim.environment`, which resides in the `pim-class` object returned by `pim`. This way of working is chosen in order to avoid unnecessary copying of data.

The function `PP` serves simply as short for  $R(x) - L(x)$ . If used outside the context of a pim model, it will generate multiple warnings (see section warning).

## Value

a vector with the pseudo-observations for `x`, based on the poset used to create the function. If used in a wrong context (i.e. not in a call to `pim`), it returns `x` unchanged and throws a warning.

**warning**

These functions serve only as placeholder. During the fitting process of a pim, they get updated to include the posets (the indices that determine which observations are compared) Note that this makes the functions behave fundamentally different from what you would expect R. The result of these functions depends on the context in which they are called.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
pim(income~(L(foodexp) - R(foodexp)), data=Engeldata)
L(1:10) # Gives a warning

## End(Not run)
```

---

MHData

*This is the Mental health data*


---

**Description**

This is the Mental health data

**Details**

These are the columns and their meanings

- mental Mental impairment (MI)
- ses Socioeconomic status
- life Life index (LI)

---

model.matrix.pim

*Create a model matrix for a probabilistic index model*


---

**Description**

This function creates a model matrix for use in a probabilistic index model. This model matrix can be passed to [pim.fit](#).

**Usage**

```

model.matrix(object, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
model.matrix(object, data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
model.matrix(
  object,
  data,
  model = c("difference", "marginal", "regular", "customized"),
  ...
)

```

**Arguments**

object	a <a href="#">pim.formula</a> object that contains the formula necessary for constructing the model matrix.
...	extra arguments passed to or from other methods. This is currently only implemented in concordance with the generic <a href="#">model.matrix</a> function.
data	an optional argument specifying the data frame for which the model matrix should be constructed. See also <a href="#">model.matrix</a> in the stats package.
model	a single character value with possible values "difference" (the default), "marginal", "regular" or "customized". See also <a href="#">pim</a> .

**Value**

a design matrix for a pim model

**Examples**

```

data("FEVData")
# Create the "model frame"
FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData, compare="unique")
# This includes the poset
pos <- poset(FEVenv, as.list=TRUE)

# create the formula and bind it to the pim.environment.
FEVform <- new.pim.formula(
  Age ~ I(L(Height) - R(Height)) ,
  FEVenv
)

# Use this formula object to construct the model matrix
# use the default model ( difference )
MM <- model.matrix(FEVform)

# Use this formula object to construct the pseudo response
Y <- response(FEVform)

```

```
# Now pim.fit can do what it does
res <- pim.fit(MM,Y, estim = "estimator.glm", penv=FEVenv)
```

---

new.pim	<i>Create an object of class pim</i>
---------	--------------------------------------

---

### Description

This function is the constructor for an object of class `pim`. It is nothing but a placeholder for `new("pim", ...)`. This function is not exported.

### Usage

```
new.pim(...)
```

### Arguments

... Data to include in the new object. See [new](#)

### Value

an object of class `pim`. See [pim-class](#)

---

new.pim.env	<i>Constructor for a pim.environment</i>
-------------	--

---

### Description

This functions serves as a constructor for an object of the class `pim.environment`. In most cases, calling this function directly is not necessary.

### Usage

```
new.pim.env(data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'missing'
new.pim.env(data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'environment'
new.pim.env(
  data,
  compare = "unique",
  env = parent.frame(),
  vars = NULL,
```

```

    classes = NULL,
    ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'list'
new.pim.env(data, compare = "unique", vars = NULL, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame'
new.pim.env(data, compare = "unique", vars = NULL, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
new.pim.env(data, ...)

```

### Arguments

data	a data frame, a list or an environment containing the data for a probabilistic index model.
...	extra parameters for construction of the poset, like the argument compare from <a href="#">new.pim.poset</a> .
compare	a character vector, matrix or list that defines how the set of pseudo observations (poset) should be constructed. if set to NULL, no poset is constructed. See also <a href="#">new.pim.poset</a> for more information on how to specify a custom poset.
env	an environment that is the parent environment of the object.
vars	An optional character vector with the names of the variables that should be included in the pim environment. Note that the variable names should be found in the object passed to argument data.
classes	An optional character vector with the classes of the variables in the environment, given in the same order as the argument data.names.

### Details

This function is called during the preparation of the model matrix for a pim. The resulting object is used to evaluate the formula of a pim, and stores information on how this is done.

Note that the parent of the environment is actually the [pim.poset](#) object in the poset slot. The parent you set using the env argument, is the parent of the [pim.poset](#) object. This ensures that when a formula is evaluated in the [pim.environment](#) it will use a suitable search path to find all functions and objects.

### Value

an object of the class [pim.environment](#)

### Examples

```

new.pim.env() # Creates an empty object

# Starting from a data frame
data(DysData)

```

```

env1 <- new.pim.env(DysData)

env2 <- new.pim.env(DysData, compare=NULL)
poset(env2)
env3 <- new.pim.env(DysData, compare="all")
poset(env3)

data(FEVDData)
env4 <- new.pim.env(FEVDData, vars=c('Age', 'Sex'))
ls(env4)

```

---

new.pim.formula            *Constructor for pim.formula*

---

## Description

This function reworks a formula to a `pim.formula` for use in a probabilistic index model. This function is only meant to be used internally, but is exported. It should be used only in concordance with `model.matrix.pim`

## Usage

```

new.pim.formula(formula, data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,pim.environment'
new.pim.formula(formula, data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'formula,ANY'
new.pim.formula(formula, data, ...)

```

## Arguments

formula	a formula object
data	either a <code>pim.environment</code> object containing the data for the pim, or an object that can be converted to a <code>pim.environment</code> by <code>new.pim.env</code>
...	extra arguments to <code>new.pim.env</code>

## Details

It is the constructor to be used for a `pim.formula` object, and should only be used in conjunction with `model.matrix.pim` and `pim.fit` as shown in the examples.

## Value

a `pim.formula` object.

**See Also**

[pim.formula-class](#) for more information on the class itself. [PO](#), [L](#) and [R](#) for some functions that can be used in a `pim.formula`

```
#' @examples data("FEVData") # Create the "model frame" FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData,
compare="unique") # This includes the poset pos <- poset(FEVenv, as.list=TRUE)
```

```
# create the formula and bind it to the pim.environment. FEVform <- new.pim.formula( Age ~
I(L(Height) - R(Height)) , FEVenv )
```

```
# Use this formula object to construct the model matrix # use the default model ( difference ) MM
<- model.matrix(FEVform)
```

```
# Use this formula object to construct the pseudo response Y <- response(FEVform)
```

```
# Now pim.fit can do what it does res <- pim.fit(MM,Y, estim = "estimator.glm", penv=FEVenv)
```

---

new.pim.poset

*Create a pim.poset environment*

---

**Description**

This function allows you to create a [pim.poset](#) environment that can be added to a [pim.environment](#) object. You can use this function to create a custom poset, but in general it's safer to use the relevant arguments of the [pim](#) function. That way more safety checks are carried out.

**Usage**

```
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent = parent.frame(), ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'character,numeric'
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent = parent.frame(), ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'matrix,numeric'
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent = parent.frame(), ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'list,numeric'
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent, comp.value = "custom", ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'matrix,missing'
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent = parent.frame(), ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'list,missing'
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent = parent.frame(), ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'missing,numeric'
new.pim.poset(compare, nob, parent = parent.frame(), ...)
```

**Arguments**

compare	A character value, matrix or list indicating how the poset should be constructed. Defaults to the default value of <code>create.poset</code> . See Details section for more information.
nobs	An integer value determining the number of observations this poset is created for. If compare is not a character value, the number of observations
parent	An optional environment that serves as the parent for the <code>pim.poset</code> environment. By default this is the environment from which the function is called. Note that for a correct functioning, the parent environment should be set to the <code>pim.environment</code> this object is part of. This is done automatically by the function <code>add.poset</code> .
...	arguments passed to other methods.
comp.value	a character value to be used as value for the compare slot of the object. Defaults to 'custom' and should be left at the default without a very good reason to change it.

**Details**

A poset (or pseudo observation set) in the context of probabilistic index models is a set of indices that determines which observations are compared with one another. It is used to construct the pseudo-observations on which the model is fitted. You can think of a poset as a "pseudo-observation set".

The most convenient way to use this function, is by specifying a character value for the argument `compare`. The value "unique" creates a poset in such a way that only unique combinations of two observations are used in the model. The value "all" creates all possible L-R combinations between the observations.

If you want to define the poset yourself, you can pass either a matrix or a list with 2 elements as value for the argument `compare`. Columns of the matrix or elements of the list should either be named "L" and "R", or be unnamed. When unnamed, the function takes the first column/element as the left poset, and the second column/element as the right poset. If the (col)names are anything else but "L" and "R", these names are ignored and the first column is seen as "L".

**Value**

an `pim.poset` object that can be used to replace the poset in a `pim` environment.

**Note**

You can omit the argument `compare` if you supply a value for `nobs`. You can also omit the argument `nobs` if you provide a matrix or list as value for `compare`. The function will try to deduct the number of observations from the highest index value present in the matrix/list

You can't omit both arguments together though, as the function needs at least some information on the number of observations the poset is designed for.

**Warning**

Changing the value of `comp.value` by hand might result in errors or a wrongly fitted model. The argument exists for internal purposes and possible extensions later on, but should not be used.

**See Also**

[add.poset](#) for more information on how to adapt the poset of a `pim.environment` object.

**Examples**

```
mypos <- new.pim.poset('unique',n=10) # creates empty environment
ls(mypos)
# Using the created poset functions L and R
# Note this is purely as illustration, this makes no sense
# in the context of a pim analysis.
mypos$L(1:10)
mypos$R(1:10)
```

---

nobs,pim.environment-method

*Extract the number of observations*

---

**Description**

This function extracts the number of observations in an object of class `pim.environment`, or the number of observations for which a `pim.poset` is constructed. If applied to a matrix or `data.frame`, it returns the number of rows. For any other object it does the same as [length](#).

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
nobs(object)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.poset'
nobs(object)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix'
nobs(object)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame'
nobs(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            an object of the class `pim.environment` or `pim.poset`

**Details**

This package imports the generic `nobs` from the package `stats4`.

**Value**

In case the function is called on a `pim.environment` or a `pim.poset` object, an integer with the number of (foreseen) observations. If the `pim.environment` is empty, it returns `0`.

In all other cases, it returns the output of either `nrow` (for matrices and `data.frames`) or `length`.

---

P	<i>Probability function</i>
---	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

This functions transform a comparison or otherwise logical value to a numeric value for use in a `pim`.

**Usage**

`P(x)`

`PO(x, y = NULL)`

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	for <code>P</code> , a logical value. For <code>PO</code> a numeric value.
<code>y</code>	a numeric value or <code>NULL</code> . If <code>NULL</code> , the function will try to calculate <code>PO(L(x), R(x))</code> , provided the functions <code>L</code> and <code>R</code> are defined correctly. This is the case when <code>PO</code> is used in the context of a probabilistic index model fitted with <code>pim</code> .

**Details**

These functions are constructed purely for notation. `P` is completely equivalent to `as.numeric`, apart from an extra control to check whether it actually makes sense to do so. The function `PO` is just short for  $P(x < y) + 0.5 * P(x == y)$

**Value**

A numeric value of 0, 0.5 or 1. 1 if  $x < y$ , 0.5 if  $x == y$  and 0 if  $x > y$

**See Also**

`pim` and `pim.formula` for more information on how this is used inside a `pim` context.

**Examples**

```
# Check in pim
```

---

penv *Extract a pim environment from a model or formula*

---

### Description

This function allows you to extract the `pim.environment` object from either a `pim` object or a `pim.formula` object.

### Usage

```
penv(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
penv(x)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
penv(x)
```

### Arguments

`x` either a `pim` or a `pim.formula` object

### Value

In case of a `pim` object, the `pim.environment` contained therein. In case of a `pim.formula` object, the environment itself. See the help page `pim.formula-class`.

### Examples

```
data("FEVData")
# Create the "model frame"
FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData, compare="unique")

# create the formula and bind it to the pim.environment.
FEVform <- new.pim.formula(
  Age ~ I(L(Height) - R(Height)) ,
  FEVenv
)
theEnv <- penv(FEVform)
ls(theEnv)

themodel <- pim(Age ~ Height, FEVenv)
thePEnv <- penv(themodel)
thePEnv

ls(thePEnv)
# Note that this is a different environment, and that it only contains
# the variables in the formula, contrary to the environment created
# by new.pim.formula
```

**Description**

This function fits a probabilistic index model, also known as PIM. It can be used to fit standard PIMs, as well as many different flavours of models that can be reformulated as a pim. The most general models are implemented, but the flexible formula interface allows you to specify a wide variety of different models.

**Usage**

```
pim(
  formula,
  data,
  link = c("logit", "probit", "identity"),
  compare = if (model == "marginal") "all" else "unique",
  model = c("difference", "marginal", "regular", "customized"),
  na.action = getOption("na.action"),
  weights = NULL,
  keep.data = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

formula	An object of class <a href="#">formula</a> (or one that can be coerced to that class): A symbolic description of the model to be fitted. The details of model specification are given under 'Details'.
data	an optional data frame, list or environment that contains the variables in the model. Objects that can be coerced by <a href="#">as.data.frame</a> can be used too.
link	a character vector with a single value that determines the used link function. Possible values are "logit", "probit" and "identity". The default is "logit".
compare	a character vector with a single value that describes how the model compares observations. It can take the values "unique" or "all". Alternatively you can pass a matrix with two columns. Each row represents the rownumbers in the original data frame that should be compared to eachother. See Details.
model	a single character value with possible values "difference" (the default), "marginal", "regular" or "customized". If the formula indicates a customized model (by the use of <a href="#">L()</a> or <a href="#">R()</a> ), this parameter is set automatically to "customized". Currently, only the options "difference", "marginal" and "customized" are implemented.
na.action	the name of a function which indicates what should happen when the data contains NAs. The default is set by the <code>na.action</code> setting of <a href="#">options</a> , and is <a href="#">na.fail</a> when unset.

weights	Currently not implemented.
keep.data	a logical value indicating whether the model matrix should be saved in the object. Defaults to FALSE. See Details.
...	extra parameters sent to <a href="#">pim.fit</a>

## Details

PIMs are based on a set of pseudo-observations constructed from the comparison between a range of possible combinations of 2 observations. We call the set of pseudo observations *poset* in the context of this package.

By default, this poset takes every unique combination of 2 observations (`compare = "unique"`). You can either use a character value, or use a matrix or list to identify the set of observation pairs that have to be used as pseudo-observations. Note that the matrix and list should be either nameless, or have the (col)names 'L' and 'R'. If any other names are used, these are ignored and the first column/element is considered to be 'L'. See also [new.pim.poset](#).

It's possible to store the model matrix and psuedo responses in the resulting object. By default this is not done (`keep.data = FALSE`) as this is less burden on the memory and the [pim.formula](#) object contains all information to reconstruct both the model matrix and the pseudo responses. If either the model matrix or the pseudo responses are needed for further calculations, setting `keep.data` to TRUE might reduce calculation time for these further calculations.

## Value

An object of class `pim`. See [pim-class](#) for more information.

## The enhanced formula interface

In case you want to fit a standard PIM, you can specify the model in mostly the same way as for [lm](#). There's one important difference: a PIM has by default no intercept. To add an intercept, use `+ 1` in the formula.

Next to this, you can use the functions `L` and `R` in a formula to indicate which part of the poset you refer to. Remember a poset is essentially a matrix-like object with indices referring to the pseudo-observations. Using `L()` and `R()` you can define exactly how the pseudo-observations fit in the model. Keep in mind that any calculation done with these functions, has to be wrapped in a call to `I()`, just like you would do in any other formula interface.

You don't have to specify the model though. If you choose the option `model = 'difference'`, every variable in the formula will be interpreted as  $I(R(x) - L(x))$ . If you use the option `model = 'marginal'`, every variable will be interpreted as  $R(X)$ .

If you don't specify any special function (i.e. `L`, `R`, `P` or `PO`), the lefthand side of the formula is defined as  $PO(y)$ . The function `PO` calculates pseudo observations; it is 1 if the value of the dependent variable for the observation from the L-poset is smaller than, 0 if it is larger than and 0.5 if it is equal to the value for value from the R-poset (see also `PO`)

## See Also

[pim-class](#) for more information on the returned object, [pim.fit](#) for more information on the fitting itself, [pim-getters](#), `coef`, `confint`, `vcov` etc for how to extract information like coefficients, variance-covariance matrix, ..., [summary](#) for some tests on the coefficients.

**Examples**

```

data('FEVData')
# The most basic way to use the function
Model <- pim(FEV~ Smoke*Sex , data=FEVData)

# A model with intercept
# The argument xscaln is passed to nleqslv via pim.fit and estimator.nleqslv
# By constructing the estimator functions wisely, you can control most of
# the fitting process from the pim() function.
data('EngelData')
Model2 <- pim(foodexp ~ income + 1, data=EngelData,
  compare="all",
  xscaln = 'auto')

# A marginal model
# It makes sense to use the identity link in combination with the
# score estimator for the variance-covariance matrix
data('DysData')
Model3 <- pim(SPC_D2 ~ out, data = DysData,
  model = 'marginal', link = 'identity',
  vcov.estim = score.vcov)

# A Model using logical comparisons, this is also possible!
# Model the chance that both observations have a different
# outcome in function of whether they had a different Chemo treatment
Model6 <- pim(P(L(out) != R(out)) ~ I(L(Chemo) != R(Chemo)),
  data=DysData,
  compare="all")

# Implementation of the friedman test in the context of a pim
# warpbreaks data where we consider tension as a block
# To do so, you provide the argument compare with a custom
# set of comparisons
data(warpbreaks)
wb <- aggregate(warpbreaks$breaks,
  by = list(w = warpbreaks$wool,
            t = warpbreaks$tension),
  FUN = mean)
comp <- expand.grid(1:nrow(wb), 1:nrow(wb))
comp <- comp[wb$t[comp[,1]] == wb$t[comp[,2]],] # only compare within blocks
m <- pim(x ~ w, data = wb, compare = comp, link = "identity", vcov.estim = score.vcov)
summary(m)
friedman.test(x ~ w | t, data = wb)
## Not run:
# This illustrates how a standard model is actually built in a pim context
Model4 <- pim(PO(L(Height),R(Height)) ~ I(R(Age) - L(Age)) + I(R(Sex) - L(Sex)),
  data=FEVData,
  estim = "estimator.BB")
# is the same as
Model5 <- pim(Height ~ Age + Sex, data = FEVData, estim = "estimator.BB")
summary(Model4)
summary(Model5)

```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

pim-class

*Class pim*

---

### Description

This class contains the fitting information resulting from a call to `pim`.

### Slots

`formula` The `pim.formula` object used in the fit

`coef` a numeric vector with the fitted coefficients

`vcov` a numeric matrix containing the variance-covariance matrix of the fitted coefficients

`penv` a `pim.environment` object containing the data used to fit this

`fitted` a numeric vector containing the raw fitted

`link` a character vector describing the used link function

`estimators` a list with the elements `coef` and `vcov`, containing either a character value with the name of the used estimator, or the function itself.

`model.matrix` If `keep.data` is set to TRUE while calling `pim` the original model matrix. Otherwise an empty matrix with 0 rows and columns.

`response` If `keep.data` is set to TRUE while calling `pim` the original response vector. Otherwise an empty numeric vector.

`keep.data` a logical value indicating whether the original data is kept in the object. This is set using the argument `keep.data` of the function `pim`. `model` a character value with the value "difference", "marginal", "regular" or "customized", indicating which type of pim model has been fitted.

---

pim-getters

*Getters for slots of a pim object*

---

### Description

Getters for slots of a pim object

### Usage

```
keep.data(x)
```

```
fitted(object, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim'
```

```
fitted(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x a pim object  
 object a pim object  
 ... arguments passed to other methods. Currently ignored.

**Value**

keep.data(): a single logical value indicating whether the model matrix and pseudo responses were stored in the `pim` object.

fitted(): a numeric vector with the fitted values for the pseudo-observations.

**Examples**

```
data('FEVData')
themodel <- pim(FEV ~ Age + Height, data = FEVData)
keep.data(themodel)
fitted(themodel)
```

---

pim.environment-class *The pim.environment class*

---

**Description**

This S4 class inherits from the S3 class `environment`. The environment serves as a container to hold the data, poset and the poset related functions of a probabilistic index model generated by the function `pim`. The objects of this class behave much like an environment, but contain some extra slots with information on the objects inside the environment.

**Slots**

poset an environment of class `pim.poset` containing the poset-related functions (normally these are `L` and `R`). This environment has the object itself as parent.

data.names a character vector containing the names of the vectors that represent the data

nobs integer value indicating the number of observations in the environment

classes a `_named_` list containing the classes of the objects inside the environment. Note that the value should be the one given by `class`.

is.complete a logical value indicating whether or not the poset was added before.

**Note**

This class is not exported, so it can't be extended as for now. Although it is possible to use the function `new` for creation of new instances, users are strongly advised to use the function `new.pim.env` in case they need to manually create a new instance of the class `pim.environment`.

---

pim.fit

*Fitter function for a probabilistic index model*

---

### Description

This is the basic computing engine called by `pim` to get the estimates for the coefficients and the variance-covariance matrices. This function currently only spits out these components using the sandwich estimators.

### Usage

```
pim.fit(
  x,
  y,
  link = "logit",
  estim = "estimator.nleqslv",
  start = rep(0, ncol(x)),
  vcov.estim = "sandwich.vcov",
  weights = NULL,
  penv,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

<code>x</code>	a model matrix with as many rows as <code>y</code> .
<code>y</code>	a vector with the pseudo-responses
<code>link</code>	a character vector with a link function
<code>estim</code>	a character vector or a function indicating the solver to be used for estimating the coefficients. By default this is the function <code>nleqslv</code> . Other possibilities are given in the help page on <a href="#">estimators</a> .
<code>start</code>	A numeric vector with the starting values for the fitting algorithm, if required.
<code>vcov.estim</code>	a function to determine the variance-covariance matrix. Possibilities are <code>sandwich.vcov</code> and <code>link{score.vcov}</code> . Defaults to <code>sandwich.vcov</code>
<code>weights</code>	currently not implemented
<code>penv</code>	An environment, <code>pim.environment</code> or <code>pim.poset</code> object containing the poset functions. Alternatively this can be a list of two numeric vectors, containing the poset indices for the left and right side of the <code>pim</code> .
<code>...</code>	Further arguments that need to be passed to the estimation function. The most relevant is <code>construct</code> , allowing you to write your own score function for the numerical optimization. See also <a href="#">estimators</a>

**Value**

A list with the following elements

**coefficients** a numeric vector with the coefficients

**vcov** a numeric matrix with the variance-covariance matrix for the coefficients

**fitted** a numeric vector with the raw fitted values

**estim** a list with two components named `coef` and `vcov` containing information on the used estimators for both.

**See Also**

[model.matrix](#) for how to construct a valid model matrix for a pim, [pim](#) for the general user interface

---

pim.formula-class	<i>Class pim.formula</i>
-------------------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

This class contains information on the formula passed in a call to [pim](#). The object is used to create the model matrix of a pim (see [model.matrix](#))

**Details**

Although a future version of this package will include the possibility to fit survival models, this is currently not implemented. If the [pim](#) function encounters special functions on the left-hand side (i.e. when `has.lhs.fun` is TRUE), the model won't be calculated.

The slot `penv` contains a reference to an environment. In most cases, this will be the environment contained in a [pim.environment](#) object. Note though that the `pim.formula` object only contains a link to the environment. The extra slots contained in the `pim.environment` object are NOT copied to the `pim.formula`. Also keep in mind that the environment linked to the `pim.environment` object will continue to exist even after deleting the `pim.environment` itself, and this for as long as the `pim.formula` object exists.

This class is not exported and hence cannot be extended. It serves internal use in the pim package only.

**Slots**

`terms` a [terms.object](#) derived from the formula

`has.specials` a logical value indicating whether the right-hand side of the original formula contains special functions like [L](#) and [R](#)

`has.lhs.fun` a logical value indicating whether the left-hand side of the original formula contains special functions. These exclude the functions [P](#) and [PO](#) but include functions like [Surv](#). See [Details](#)

`predictors` a character vector with the names of all the variables mentioned in the right-hand side of the formula.

**response** an character vector with the name of the response variable.  
**lhs** a call with the processed left-hand side of the formula  
**orig** a formula object with the original formula  
**penv** an environment object to which the formula is related (i.e. the environment containing possible L and R function definitions.) See Details.  
**has.intercept** a logical value indicating whether the formula has an explicit intercept (indicated by + 1)

### Note

This class is not exported, so it can't be extended as for now. Although it is possible to use the function `new` for creation of new instances, users are strongly advised to use the function `new.pim.formula` in case they need to manually create a new instance of the class `pim.formula`.

---

pim.poset-class

*The pim.poset class*

---

### Description

The `pim.poset` class is an S4 class that inherits from `environment` and contains the poset functions for a `pim`. It's a class used internally and should not be adapted by the user. The correct interpretation of the formula is dependent on this object. The object mainly functions as a slot in object of class `pim.environment`.

### Slots

**compare** a character value with the type of poset. This can take the values "unique", "all" and "custom".  
**nobs** an integer value describing the number of observations for which this poset is meant to be used.

### Note

The `pim.poset` class doesn't really make sense to be used on itself. It is part of the `pim.environment` class and shouldn't be used outside this context.

---

pim.summary-class      *Class pim.summary*

---

### Description

This class contains the summary information from a probabilistic index model , and is created by using the function [summary](#) on an object of the [pim-class](#).

### Details

The class `pim.summary` can be treated like a matrix to get out the coefficients, standard errors, Z values and/or p values.

### Slots

`formula` contains an object of the class [pim.formula](#) containing the model fitted.

`model` a character vector describing the type of model. See also the argument `model` of the function [pim](#)

`link` a character value that contains the link. See also the argument `link` of the function [pim](#)

`coef` a numeric vector with the coefficients

`se` a numeric vector with the standard errors for the coefficients

`zval` a numeric vector containing the Z values for the coefficients, testing whether the coefficient differs significantly from 0.

`pr` a numeric vector containing the related p-values for the coefficients.

`h0` a numeric value or a numeric vector containing the null hypothesis. See the argument at [summary.pim](#)

### See Also

[pim](#) for more info on how to construct the model and [summary.pim](#) for the constructor.

---

pimdata      *The data contained in the pim package*

---

### Description

The `pim` package contains different datasets for use in examples and tests. Currently, you find the datasets [DysData](#), [EngelData](#) and [FEVData](#). More information can be found on the respective help pages.

## Details

The data contained in the package has following structures

- **EngelData**: A single numeric predictor variable and a response
- **FEVData**: A data frame with a numeric response variable and 4 additional numeric predictor values.
- **DysData**: A dataframe with 3 factors and a numeric variable as predictors. The outcome is a factor with 4 levels.
- **SNP\_XRCC1\_\_77** Genotype of this SNP. A factor with three levels: "TT", "TC" and "CC"
- **SPC\_D2** Dose of radiation that reached 2
- **SNP\_XRCC1\_\_77TC** 1 if SNP\_XRCC1\_\_77 is "TC", 0 otherwise

---

poset

*Extract the poset as a matrix or list*

---

## Description

This function allows you to extract the poset from either a [pim.environment](#) or a [pim.poset](#) object. The poset can be extracted as a matrix or a list.

## Usage

```
poset(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
```

```
poset(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.poset'
```

```
poset(x, as.list = FALSE)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'environment'
```

```
poset(x, as.list = FALSE)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim'
```

```
poset(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
```

```
poset(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

x	an object of class <a href="#">pim.environment</a> , <a href="#">pim.formula</a> , <a href="#">pim</a> or <a href="#">pim.poset</a> , or an environment derived from either object.
...	arguments passed to other methods. Currently ignored.
as.list	a logical value indicating whether the poset should be returned as list or as a matrix. Defaults to FALSE, which returns a matrix

**Value**

When `x` contains a poset, either a matrix or a list (when `as.list` is TRUE) with the indices that make up the poset. If there's no poset, the function returns a missing value.

The returned matrix has 2 columns, each named after the respective poset function. In case a list is requested, the function returns a named list with 2 elements, each element containing the indices related to the poset function of the same name (either `L` or `R`).

**Examples**

```
data(DysData)
DysPimEnv <- new.pim.env(DysData)
poset(DysPimEnv)
```

---

<code>print</code>	<i>Print methods for the different object types</i>
--------------------	---

---

**Description**

Printing `pim`, `pim.environment`, `pim.formula` and `pim.poset` objects.

**Usage**

```
print(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
print(x, digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 3L), show.vcov = FALSE, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.environment'
print(x, digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 3L), n = 6L, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.poset'
print(x, digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 3L), n = 6L, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
print(x, digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 3L), ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	the object
<code>...</code>	arguments passed to other methods. Currently ignored
<code>digits</code>	an integer that defines the number of digits printed
<code>show.vcov</code>	a logical value indicating whether the variance- covariance matrix should be shown or not. Defaults to FALSE
<code>n</code>	number of observations shown by <code>print</code>

**Value**

invisible NULL

**Examples**

```
data(FEVData)
Model <- pim(FEV~ Smoke*Sex , data=FEVData)
print(Model)
print(penv(Model))
# You get the drift
```

---

response

*Extract response from a pim.formula or a pim object*

---

**Description**

This function extracts the response from a [pim.formula](#) for use in [pim.fit](#).

**Usage**

```
response(object)

## S4 method for signature 'pim.formula'
response(object)

## S4 method for signature 'pim'
response(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            an object of class pim or pim.formula.

**Value**

The response variable with pseudo-observations for a pim.

**See Also**

[pim-class](#) and [pim.formula-class](#) for more information on the classes, and [pim](#), [pim.fit](#) and [pim.formula](#) for more information on related functions.

**Examples**

```

data('FEVData')
Model <- pim(FEV~ Smoke*Sex , data=FEVData)
response(Model)

# In pieces
FEVenv <- new.pim.env(FEVData, compare="unique")
FEVform <- new.pim.formula(
  Age ~ I(L(Height) - R(Height)) ,
  FEVenv
)
response(FEVform)

```

---

sandwich.estimator      *Pseudo-observation variance sandwich estimator*

---

**Description**

The functions described here all implement an estimator for the variance of the coefficients. This function is not exported.

**Usage**

```

sandwich.estimator(
  U,
  U.diff,
  g1,
  g2,
  shared.factor = 1,
  switched.factor = 1,
  self.factor = 1
)

```

**Arguments**

U	See the formula for sandwich estimator: holds $U_{ij}$
U.diff	See the formula for sandwich estimator: holds the partial derivatives of U.
g1, g2	Index in the original observations of the "left" and "right" part of the pseudo-observations.
shared.factor	Factor by which all $U_{ij}U_{ik}$ or $U_{ij}U_{lj}$ will be multiplied
switched.factor	Factor by which all $U_{ij}U_{ki}$ or $U_{ij}U_{jl}$ will be multiplied
self.factor	Factor by which all $U_{ij}U_{ij}$ or $-U_{ij}U_{ji}$ will be multiplied

**Value**

The matrix of the sandwich estimator

---

SUData	<i>This is the Surgical unit data</i>
--------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This is the Surgical unit data

**Details**

These are the columns and their meanings

- EnT Enzyme function test score
- Gender Gender of the patient (0: male, 1: female)
- Alcohol History of alcohol use (0: none, 1: moderate, 2: severe)
- SurvivalTime Survival time of each patient (the outcome of interest)

---

summary.pim	<i>The summary function for the pim class</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

The function `summary` is a generic function. We provide a method for objects of the `pim-class`.

**Usage**

```
summary(object, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'pim'
```

```
summary(object, h0 = 0, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	an object of the class <code>pim</code> .
<code>...</code>	arguments passed to other methods. Currently ignored.
<code>h0</code>	a numeric value or a vector as long as the number of coefficients with the value that defines the null hypothesis to test against

**Value**

a `pim.summary` object

**Examples**

```
data(FEVDData)
```

```
Model <- pim(FEV~ Age + Smoke*Sex , data=FEVDData)
```

```
summary(Model)
```

---

`vcov`*Methods for vcov*

---

**Description**

This package defines an S4 generic for `vcov` and methods for list and pim classes.

**Usage**

```
vcov(object, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'pim'  
vcov(object, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'list'  
vcov(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	any object.
<code>...</code>	arguments passed to other methods. Currently ignored

**Value**

the variance-covariance matrix

**See Also**

`vcov` in the stats package.

**Examples**

```
data(FEVDData)  
Model <- pim(FEV~ Age + Smoke*Sex , data=FEVDData)  
vcov(Model)
```

---

`vcov.estimators`*vcov estimators for pim*

---

**Description**

`sandwich.vcov` and `score.vcov` are two similar estimators for the variance-covariance matrix of a probabilistic index model. These functions are meant to be used within a call to `pim` as a value for the argument `vcov`.

**Usage**

```
sandwich.vcov(fitted, X, Y, W, link, poset, ...)
```

```
score.vcov(fitted, X, Y, W, link, poset, ...)
```

**Arguments**

fitted	The fitted values (calculated as $X \%*\% \text{coef}$ with $X$ the design matrix and $\text{coef}$ the coefficients)
X	the design matrix
Y	a numeric vector with pseudoresponses
W	a numeric vector with weights. If weights are not applicable, set to NULL (the default)
link	a character vector with the link function
poset	a list with the left and right indices. See <a href="#">poset</a> for more information.
...	arguments passed to downstream methods.

**Details**

You can create your own estimating functions for the variance-covariance matrix. To do so, you have to make sure that your function allows for the exact same arguments. As the function `pim.fit` calculates the fitted values already, there's no need to incorporate the calculation of these inside the function.

**Value**

the variance-covariance matrix

**Note**

You should only use `score.vcov` in combination with an identity link

**See Also**

[sandwich.estimatedors](#) for more information on the actual fitting process. [pim](#) for a few examples in how these are used

---

`vcov.internal`*Internal functions for vcov estimation*

---

**Description**

These functions serve as preparation functions to calculate the variance-covariance matrix of a pim using any of the `vcov.estimators` provided in this package. The result of these preparation functions is used by the `sandwich.estimator` and `score.estimator` functions respectively.

**Usage**

```
U.sandwich(Zbeta, Z, Y, link, W = NULL)
```

```
U.score(Zbeta, Z, Y, link, W = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

Zbeta	fitted values
Z	design matrix
Y	pseudo responses
link	character vector with link function
W	vector with weights

**Note**

These functions should NOT be called by the user

# Index

- \* **DysData**
  - pimdata, 39
- \* **Dysphagia**
  - DysData, 11
- \* **EngelData**
  - pimdata, 39
- \* **FEVData**
  - pimdata, 39
- \* **FEV**
  - FEVData, 15
  - MHData, 21
- \* **SU**
  - SUData, 44
- \* **data**
  - DysData, 11
  - EngelData, 11
  - FEVData, 15
  - MHData, 21
  - pimdata, 39
  - SUData, 44
- \* **engel**
  - EngelData, 11
- \* **package**
  - pim-package, 3
- \* **pim**
  - pimdata, 39
  - .make.posfun, 4, 20
  - [,pim.summary-method
    - (Extract.pim.summary), 14
  - add.poset, 4, 27, 28
  - add.poset,pim.environment-method
    - (add.poset), 4
  - as.data.frame, 5, 5, 31
  - as.data.frame,pim.environment-method
    - (as.data.frame), 5
  - as.matrix (as.matrix.pim.summary), 6
  - as.matrix,pim-method
    - (as.matrix.pim.summary), 6
  - as.matrix,pim.summary-method
    - (as.matrix.pim.summary), 6
  - as.matrix.pim.summary, 6
  - as.numeric, 29
  - BBsolve, 12, 13
  - class, 35
  - classes, 7
  - classes,pim.environment-method
    - (classes), 7
  - coef, 8, 8, 32
  - coef,pim-method (coef), 8
  - coef,pim.summary-method (coef), 8
  - compare (classes), 7
  - compare,pim.environment-method
    - (classes), 7
  - compare,pim.poset-method (classes), 7
  - confint, 32
  - confint (confint.pim), 9
  - confint,pim-method (confint.pim), 9
  - confint,pim.summary-method
    - (confint.pim), 9
  - confint.pim, 9
  - create.poset, 10, 27
  - CreateScoreFun, 10, 13
  - DysData, 11, 39, 40
  - EngelData, 11, 39, 40
  - environment, 35, 38
  - estimator.BB (estimators), 12
  - estimator.glm (estimators), 12
  - estimator.nleqslv (estimators), 12
  - estimators, 12, 36
  - Extract, 14
  - Extract.pim.summary, 14
  - FEVData, 15, 39, 40
  - fitted (pim-getters), 34
  - fitted,pim-method (pim-getters), 34

- formula, [15](#), [16](#), [18](#), [31](#)
- formula,pim-method (formula), [15](#)
- formula,pim.formula-method (formula), [15](#)
- getters-pim (pim-getters), [34](#)
- glm.fit, [13](#)
- has.intercept, [16](#)
- has.intercept,character-method (has.intercept), [16](#)
- has.intercept,formula-method (has.intercept), [16](#)
- has.intercept,pim-method (has.intercept), [16](#)
- has.intercept,pim.formula-method (has.intercept), [16](#)
- has.intercept,terms-method (has.intercept), [16](#)
- has.specials, [18](#)
- has.specials,pim.formula-method (has.specials), [18](#)
- is.complete, [8](#), [19](#)
- keep.data (pim-getters), [34](#)
- L, [20](#), [26](#), [29](#), [31](#), [32](#), [35](#), [37](#), [41](#)
- length, [28](#), [29](#)
- lhs (has.specials), [18](#)
- lhs, (has.specials), [18](#)
- lhs,pim.formula-method (has.specials), [18](#)
- link (classes), [7](#)
- link,pim-method (classes), [7](#)
- link,pim.summary-method (classes), [7](#)
- lm, [32](#)
- make.names, [5](#)
- MHData, [21](#)
- model (classes), [7](#)
- model,pim-method (classes), [7](#)
- model,pim.summary-method (classes), [7](#)
- model.matrix, [12](#), [18](#), [22](#), [37](#)
- model.matrix (model.matrix.pim), [21](#)
- model.matrix,pim-method (model.matrix.pim), [21](#)
- model.matrix,pim.formula-method (model.matrix.pim), [21](#)
- model.matrix.pim, [21](#), [25](#)
- na.fail, [31](#)
- names (classes), [7](#)
- names,pim.environment-method (classes), [7](#)
- names,pim.poset-method (classes), [7](#)
- new, [23](#), [35](#), [38](#)
- new.pim, [23](#)
- new.pim.env, [23](#), [25](#), [35](#)
- new.pim.env,ANY-method (new.pim.env), [23](#)
- new.pim.env,data.frame-method (new.pim.env), [23](#)
- new.pim.env,environment-method (new.pim.env), [23](#)
- new.pim.env,list-method (new.pim.env), [23](#)
- new.pim.env,missing-method (new.pim.env), [23](#)
- new.pim.formula, [25](#), [38](#)
- new.pim.formula,formula,ANY-method (new.pim.formula), [25](#)
- new.pim.formula,formula,pim.environment-method (new.pim.formula), [25](#)
- new.pim.poset, [4](#), [5](#), [10](#), [24](#), [26](#), [32](#)
- new.pim.poset,character,numeric-method (new.pim.poset), [26](#)
- new.pim.poset,list,missing-method (new.pim.poset), [26](#)
- new.pim.poset,list,numeric-method (new.pim.poset), [26](#)
- new.pim.poset,matrix,missing-method (new.pim.poset), [26](#)
- new.pim.poset,matrix,numeric-method (new.pim.poset), [26](#)
- new.pim.poset,missing,numeric-method (new.pim.poset), [26](#)
- nleqslv, [12](#), [13](#), [36](#)
- nobs, [8](#), [28](#)
- nobs,data.frame-method (nobs,pim.environment-method), [28](#)
- nobs,matrix-method (nobs,pim.environment-method), [28](#)
- nobs,pim.environment-method, [28](#)
- nobs,pim.poset-method (nobs,pim.environment-method), [28](#)
- nrow, [29](#)

- options, [31](#)
- P, [29](#), [32](#), [37](#)
- penv, [18](#), [30](#)
- penv, pim-method (penv), [30](#)
- penv, pim.formula-method (penv), [30](#)
- pim, [9](#), [12](#), [13](#), [15](#), [17](#), [20](#), [22](#), [26](#), [29](#), [31](#), [34–40](#), [42](#), [45](#), [46](#)
- pim-class, [34](#)
- pim-getters, [34](#)
- pim-package, [3](#)
- pim.environment, [4](#), [5](#), [7](#), [19](#), [20](#), [23–28](#), [30](#), [34](#), [36–38](#), [40](#)
- pim.environment
  - (pim.environment-class), [35](#)
- pim.environment-class, [35](#)
- pim.fit, [13](#), [21](#), [25](#), [32](#), [36](#), [42](#)
- pim.formula, [15](#), [16](#), [18](#), [22](#), [25](#), [29](#), [32](#), [34](#), [39](#), [40](#), [42](#)
- pim.formula (pim.formula-class), [37](#)
- pim.formula-class, [37](#)
- pim.poset, [7](#), [24](#), [26–28](#), [35](#), [36](#), [40](#)
- pim.poset (pim.poset-class), [38](#)
- pim.poset-class, [38](#)
- pim.summary, [9](#), [14](#), [44](#)
- pim.summary (pim.summary-class), [39](#)
- pim.summary-class, [39](#)
- pimdata, [39](#)
- PO, [26](#), [32](#), [37](#)
- PO (P), [29](#)
- poset, [8](#), [40](#), [46](#)
- poset, environment-method (poset), [40](#)
- poset, pim-method (poset), [40](#)
- poset, pim.environment-method (poset), [40](#)
- poset, pim.formula-method (poset), [40](#)
- poset, pim.poset-method (poset), [40](#)
- PP (L), [20](#)
- print, [41](#)
- print, pim-method (print), [41](#)
- print, pim.environment-method (print), [41](#)
- print, pim.formula-method (print), [41](#)
- print, pim.poset-method (print), [41](#)
  
- R, [29](#), [31](#), [32](#), [35](#), [37](#), [41](#)
- R (L), [20](#)
- response, [18](#), [42](#)
- response, pim-method (response), [42](#)
- response, pim.formula-method (response), [42](#)
  
- sandwich.estimator, [43](#), [46](#), [47](#)
- sandwich.vcov, [36](#)
- sandwich.vcov (vcov.estimators), [45](#)
- score.estimator, [47](#)
- score.estimator (sandwich.estimator), [43](#)
- score.vcov (vcov.estimators), [45](#)
- SUData, [44](#)
- summary, [32](#), [39](#), [44](#)
- summary (summary.pim), [44](#)
- summary, pim-method (summary.pim), [44](#)
- summary.pim, [39](#), [44](#)
- Surv, [37](#)
  
- terms, [18](#)
- terms (has.specials), [18](#)
- terms, (has.specials), [18](#)
- terms, pim.formula-method (has.specials), [18](#)
- terms.object, [16](#), [37](#)
  
- U.sandwich (vcov.internal), [47](#)
- U.score (vcov.internal), [47](#)
  
- vcov, [32](#), [45](#), [45](#)
- vcov, list-method (vcov), [45](#)
- vcov, pim-method (vcov), [45](#)
- vcov.estimators, [13](#), [45](#), [47](#)
- vcov.internal, [47](#)