

Package ‘simTool’

May 9, 2026

Type Package

Title Conduct Simulation Studies with a Minimal Amount of Source Code

Version 1.1.9

Maintainer Marsel Scheer <scheer@freescience.de>

Description Tool for statistical simulations that have two components.

One component generates the data and the other one analyzes the data. The main aims of the package are the reduction of the administrative source code (mainly loops and management code for the results) and a simple applicability of the package that allows the user to quickly learn how to work with it. Parallel computing is also supported. Finally, convenient functions are provided to summarize the simulation results.

Depends R (>= 2.14.0)

Imports dplyr (>= 0.7.2), purrr (>= 0.2.3), tidyr (>= 1.0.0), tibble (>= 2.0.0), vctrs (>= 0.3.0), parallel, methods

Suggests ggplot2, knitr, boot, broom, rmarkdown, tinytest, lintr, roxygen2, covr

License GPL-3

VignetteBuilder knitr

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

URL <https://marselscheer.github.io/simTool/>

BugReports <https://github.com/MarselScheer/simTool/issues>

NeedsCompilation no

Author Marsel Scheer [aut, cre]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2026-01-24 11:20:02 UTC

Contents

eval_tibbles	2
expand_tibble	5

eval_tibbles *Workhorse for simulation studies*

Description

Generates data according to all provided constellations in `data_tibble` and applies all provided constellations in `proc_tibble` to them.

Usage

```
eval_tibbles(
  data_grid,
  proc_grid = expand_tibble(proc = "length"),
  replications = 1,
  discard_generated_data = FALSE,
  post_analyze = identity,
  summary_fun = NULL,
  group_for_summary = NULL,
  ncpus = 1L,
  cluster = NULL,
  cluster_seed = rep(12345, 6),
  cluster_libraries = NULL,
  cluster_global_objects = NULL,
  envir = globalenv(),
  simplify = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

<code>data_grid</code>	a <code>data.frame</code> or <code>tibble</code> where the first column is a character vector with function names. The other columns contain parameters for the functions specified in the first column. Parameters with <code>NA</code> are ignored. If a column with name <code>.truth</code> exist, then the corresponding entry is passed to functions generated from <code>proc_grid</code> and the function specified in <code>post_analyze</code> .
<code>proc_grid</code>	similar as <code>data_grid</code> the first column must contain function names. The other columns contain parameters for the functions specified in the first column. The data generated according to <code>data_grid</code> will always be passed to the first unspecified argument of the functions specified in the first column of <code>proc_grid</code> . If a function specified in <code>proc_grid</code> has an argument <code>.truth</code> , then the corresponding entry in the <code>.truth</code> column from <code>data_grid</code> is passed to the <code>.truth</code> parameter or if no column <code>.truth</code> exist in <code>data_grid</code> , then all parameters used for the data generation are passed to the <code>.truth</code> parameter.
<code>replications</code>	number of replications for the simulation

discard_generated_data	if TRUE the generated data is deleted after all function constellations in <code>proc_grid</code> have been applied. Otherwise, ALL generated data sets will be part of the returned object.
post_analyze	this is a convenience function, that is applied directly after the data analyzing function. If this function has an argument <code>.truth</code> , then the corresponding entry in the <code>.truth</code> column from <code>data_grid</code> is passed to the <code>.truth</code> parameter or if no column <code>.truth</code> exist in <code>data_grid</code> , then all parameters used for the data generation are passed to the <code>.truth</code> parameter.
summary_fun	named list of univariate function to summarize the results (numeric or logical) over the replications, e.g. <code>list(mean = mean, sd = sd)</code> .
group_for_summary	if the result returned by the data analyzing function or <code>post_analyze</code> is a <code>data.frame</code> with more than one row, one usually is interested in summarizing the results while grouping for some variables. This group variables can be passed as a character vector into <code>group_for_summary</code>
ncpus	a cluster of <code>ncpus</code> workers (R-processes) is created on the local machine to conduct the simulation. If <code>ncpus</code> equals one no cluster is created and the simulation is conducted by the current R-process.
cluster	a cluster generated by the <code>parallel</code> package that will be used to conduct the simulation. If <code>cluster</code> is specified, then <code>ncpus</code> will be ignored.
cluster_seed	if the simulation is done in parallel manner, then the combined multiple-recursive generator from L'Ecuyer (1999) is used to generate random numbers. Thus <code>cluster_seed</code> must be a (signed) integer vector of length 6. The 6 elements of the seed are internally regarded as 32-bit unsigned integers. Neither the first three nor the last three should be all zero, and they are limited to less than 4294967087 and 4294944443 respectively.
cluster_libraries	a character vector specifying the packages that should be loaded by the workers.
cluster_global_objects	a character vector specifying the names of R objects in the global environment that should be exported to the global environment of every worker.
envir	must be provided if the functions specified in <code>data_grid</code> or <code>proc_grid</code> are not part of the global environment.
simplify	usually the result column is nested, by default it is tried to unnest it.

Value

The returned object list of the class `eval_tibbles`, where the element `simulations` contain the results of the simulation.

Note

If `cluster` is provided by the user the function `eval_tibbles` will NOT stop the cluster. This has to be done by the user. Conducting parallel simulations by specifying `ncpus` will internally create a cluster and stop it after the simulation is done.

Author(s)

Marsel Scheer

Examples

```

rng <- function(data, ...) {
  ret <- range(data)
  names(ret) <- c("min", "max")
  ret
}

### The following line is only necessary
### if the examples are not executed in the global
### environment, which for instance is the case when
### the online-documentation
### http://marselscheer.github.io/simTool/reference/eval\_tibbles.html
### is build. In such case eval_tibble() would search the
### above defined function rng() in the global environment where
### it does not exist!
eval_tibbles <- purrr::partial(eval_tibbles, envir = environment())

dg <- expand_tibble(fun = "rnorm", n = c(5L, 10L))
pg <- expand_tibble(proc = c("rng", "median", "length"))

eval_tibbles(dg, pg, rep = 2, simplify = FALSE)
eval_tibbles(dg, pg, rep = 2)
eval_tibbles(dg, pg,
  rep = 2,
  post_analyze = purrr::compose(as.data.frame, t)
)
eval_tibbles(dg, pg, rep = 2, summary_fun = list(mean = mean, sd = sd))

regData <- function(n, SD) {
  data.frame(
    x = seq(0, 1, length = n),
    y = rnorm(n, sd = SD)
  )
}

eg <- eval_tibbles(
  expand_tibble(fun = "regData", n = 5L, SD = 1:2),
  expand_tibble(proc = "lm", formula = c("y~x", "y~I(x^2)")),
  replications = 3
)
eg

presever_rownames <- function(mat) {
  rn <- rownames(mat)
  ret <- tibble::as_tibble(mat)
  ret$term <- rn
  ret
}

```

```

eg <- eval_tibbles(
  expand_tibble(fun = "regData", n = 5L, SD = 1:2),
  expand_tibble(proc = "lm", formula = c("y~x", "y~I(x^2)")),
  post_analyze = purrr::compose(presever_rownames, coef, summary),
  # post_analyze = broom::tidy, # is a nice out of the box alternative
  summary_fun = list(mean = mean, sd = sd),
  group_for_summary = "term",
  replications = 3
)
eg$simulation

dg <- expand_tibble(fun = "rexp", rate = c(10, 100), n = c(50L, 100L))
pg <- expand_tibble(proc = c("t.test"), conf.level = c(0.8, 0.9, 0.95))
et <- eval_tibbles(dg, pg,
  ncpus = 1,
  replications = 10^1,
  post_analyze = function(ttest, .truth) {
    mu <- 1 / .truth$rate
    ttest$conf.int[1] <= mu && mu <= ttest$conf.int[2]
  },
  summary_fun = list(mean = mean, sd = sd)
)
et

dg <- dplyr::bind_rows(
  expand_tibble(fun = "rexp", rate = 10, .truth = 1 / 10, n = c(50L, 100L)),
  expand_tibble(fun = "rnorm", .truth = 0, n = c(50L, 100L))
)
pg <- expand_tibble(proc = c("t.test"), conf.level = c(0.8, 0.9, 0.95))
et <- eval_tibbles(dg, pg,
  ncpus = 1,
  replications = 10^1,
  post_analyze = function(ttest, .truth) {
    ttest$conf.int[1] <= .truth && .truth <= ttest$conf.int[2]
  },
  summary_fun = list(mean = mean, sd = sd)
)
et
### need to remove the locally adapted eval_tibbles()
### otherwise executing the examples would mask
### eval_tibbles from simTool-namespae.
rm(eval_tibbles)

```

expand_tibble

Creates a tibble from All Combinations

Description

Actually a wrapper for [expand.grid](#), but character vectors will stay as characters.

Usage

```
expand_tibble(...)
```

Arguments

... vectors, factors or a list containing these.

Value

See [expand.grid](#) but instead of a `data.frame` a `tibble` is returned.

Author(s)

Marsel Scheer

See Also

[expand.grid](#)

Examples

```
expand_tibble(fun = "rnorm", mean = 1:4, sd = 2:5)
```

Index

`data.frame`, [6](#)

`eval_tibbles`, [2](#)

`expand.grid`, [5](#), [6](#)

`expand_tibble`, [5](#)

`tibble`, [6](#)