

Package ‘trinROC’

July 22, 2025

Title Statistical Tests for Assessing Trinormal ROC Data

Version 0.7

Date 2024-10-02

Description Several statistical test functions as well as a function for exploratory data analysis to investigate classifiers allocating individuals to one of three disjoint and ordered classes. In a single classifier assessment the discriminatory power is compared to classification by chance. In a comparison of two classifiers the null hypothesis corresponds to equal discriminatory power of the two classifiers.
See also “ROC Analysis for Classification and Prediction in Practice” by Nakas, Bantis and Gatsonis (2023), ISBN 9781482233704.

Depends R (>= 3.3.0)

Imports ggplot2, rgl, gridExtra

License LGPL-2.1

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Suggests testthat, knitr, rmarkdown, MASS, reshape

VignetteBuilder knitr

URL <https://www.math.uzh.ch/pages/trinROC/>

BugReports <https://git.math.uzh.ch/reinhard.furrer/trinROC/-/issues>

NeedsCompilation no

Author Samuel Noll [aut],
Reinhard Furrer [aut, cre] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6319-2332>>),
Benjamin Reiser [ctb],
Christos T. Nakas [ctb],
Annina Cincera [aut]

Maintainer Reinhard Furrer <reinhard.furrer@uzh.ch>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-10-04 15:20:02 UTC

Contents

trinROC-package	2
boot.test	3
boxcoxROC	5
cancer	7
emp.vus	7
findmu	8
krebs	9
roc.eda	10
roc3.test	12
rocsurf.emp	14
rocsurf.trin	15
trinROC.test	16
trinVUS.test	18
Index	21

trinROC-package	<i>trinROC: Statistical Tests for Assessing Trinormal ROC Data</i>
-----------------	--

Description

Several statistical test functions as well as a function for exploratory data analysis to investigate classifiers allocating individuals to one of three disjoint and ordered classes. In a single classifier assessment the discriminatory power is compared to classification by chance. In a comparison of two classifiers the null hypothesis corresponds to equal discriminatory power of the two classifiers. See also "ROC Analysis for Classification and Prediction in Practice" by Nakas, Bantis and Gatsonis (2023), ISBN 9781482233704.

Details

See vignette("Overview", package = "trinROC") for an overview of the package. Further, `sd()`, `var()` and `cov()` are chosen with `options(trinROC.MLE = TRUE)` according to the maximum likelihood estimates (default). Change to sample estimates by setting `options(trinROC.MLE = FALSE)`

Author(s)

Maintainer: Reinhard Furrer <reinhard.furrer@uzh.ch> ([ORCID](#))

Authors:

- Samuel Noll <uncle.sam@gmx.net>
- Annina Cincera <annina.cincera@sunrise.ch>

Other contributors:

- Benjamin Reiser [contributor]
- Christos T. Nakas <cnakas@uth.gr> [contributor]

References

Noll, S., Furrer, R., Reiser, B. and Nakas, C. T. (2019). Inference in ROC surface analysis via a trinormal model-based testing approach. *Stat*, **8**(1), e249.

See Also

Useful links:

- <https://www.math.uzh.ch/pages/trinROC/>
- Report bugs at <https://git.math.uzh.ch/reinhard.furrer/trinROC/-/issues>

boot.test

Bootstrap test for three-class ROC data

Description

A statistical test function to assess three-class ROC data. It can be used for assessment of a single classifier or comparison of two independent / correlated classifiers, using the Bootstrap test.

Usage

```
boot.test(
  x1,
  y1,
  z1,
  x2 = 0,
  y2 = 0,
  z2 = 0,
  dat = NULL,
  paired = FALSE,
  n.boot = 1000,
  conf.level = 0.95,
  alternative = c("two.sided", "less", "greater")
)
```

Arguments

x1, y1, z1	Non-empty numeric vectors of data from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class from Classifier 1.
x2, y2, z2	Numeric vectors of data from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class from Classifier 2, only needed in a comparison of two classifiers.
dat	A data frame of the following structure: The first column represents a factor with three levels, containing the true class membership of each measurement. The levels are ordered according to the convention of higher values for more severe disease status. The second column contains all measurements obtained from Classifier 1 (in the case of single marker assessment). In the case of comparison of two markers, column three contains the measurements from the Classifier.

paired	A logical indicating whether data arose from a paired setting. If TRUE, each class must have equal sample size for both classifiers.
n.boot	An integer indicating the number of bootstrap replicates sampled to obtain the variance of the VUS. Default is 1000.
conf.level	confidence level of the interval. A numeric value between (0,1) yielding the significance level $\alpha = 1 - \text{conf.level}$.
alternative	character string specifying the alternative hypothesis, must be one of "two.sided" (default), "greater" or "less". You can specify just the initial letter. For two sided test, notice $H_0 : Z = (VUS_1 - VUS_2) / (\text{Var}(VUS_1) + \text{Var}(VUS_2) - 2\text{Cov}(VUS_1, VUS_2))^{0.5}$.

Details

Based on the reference standard, the Bootstrap test assesses the discriminatory power of classifiers by comparing the volumes under the ROC surfaces (VUS). It distinguishes between single classifier assessment, where a classifier is compared to the chance plane with $VUS=1/6$, and comparison between two classifiers. The latter case tests the equality between VUS_1 and VUS_2 . The data can arise in a unpaired or paired setting. If paired is TRUE, a correlation is introduced which has to be taken into account. Therefore the sets of the two classifiers have to have classwise equal size. The data can be input as the data frame `dat` or as single vectors `x1`, `y1`, `z1`, The implemented methods to evaluate the VUS and $\text{var}(VUS)$, $\text{cov}(vus.1, vus.2)$ are based on the empirical model assumptions and resampling techniques. This means, there are no underlying distributions assumed in any of the classes.

Value

A list of class "htest" containing the following components:

statistic	the value of the Z-statistic.
p.value	the p-value for the test.
estimate	a data frame containing the estimated parameters from Classifier 1 and Classifier 2 (if specified).
null.value	a character expressing the null hypothesis.
alternative	a character string describing the alternative hypothesis.
method	a character string indicating what type of extended Metz–Kronman test was performed.
data.name	a character string giving the names of the data.
Summary	A data frame representing the number of NA's as well as the means and the standard deviations per class.
Sigma	The covariance matrix of the VUS.

References

Nakas, C. T. and C. T. Yiannoutsos (2004). Ordered multiple-class ROC analysis with continuous measurements. *Statistics in Medicine*, **23**(22), 3437–3449.

See Also

[trinROC.test](#), [trinVUS.test](#).

Examples

```
data(cancer)
data(krebs)

# investigate a single marker:
boot.test(dat = krebs[,c(1,2)], n.boot=500)

# result is equal to:
x1 <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="healthy", 2])
y1 <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="intermediate", 2])
z1 <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="diseased", 2])
boot.test(x1, y1, z1, n.boot=500)

# comparison of marker 2 and 6:
boot.test(dat = krebs[,c(1,2,5)], paired = TRUE)

# result is equal to:
x2 <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="healthy", 5])
y2 <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="intermediate", 5])
z2 <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="diseased", 5])
boot.test(x1, y1, z1, x2, y2, z2, paired = TRUE)
```

boxcoxROC

Box-Cox transformation on three-class ROC data

Description

A transformation function for three-class ROC data in order to obtain normally distributed classes.

Usage

```
boxcoxROC(
  x,
  y,
  z,
  lambda = seq(-2, 2, 0.05),
  lambda2 = NULL,
  eps = 0.02,
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

<code>x, y, z</code>	vectors containing the data of the three classes "healthy", "intermediate" and "diseased" to be transformed. In two-class ROC analysis only.
<code>lambda</code>	vector of possible lambdas the log-likelihood function is evaluated.
<code>lambda2</code>	numeric shifting parameter. For the implemented Box-Cox transformation positive measurements in <code>x</code> , <code>y</code> , <code>z</code> are required. <code>lambda2</code> is used to shift these measurements.
<code>eps</code>	numeric; indicating the bandwidth around zero, where <code>lambda</code> is treated to be zero and the data is log-transformed.
<code>verbose</code>	logical; indicating whether output should be displayed (default) or not.

Details

A Box-Cox transformation computing

$$X^{(\lambda)} = \begin{cases} (X^\lambda - 1)/\lambda, & \text{if } \lambda \neq 0, \\ \log(X), & \text{else } \lambda = 0, \end{cases}$$

with optimal λ estimated from the likelihood kernel function, as formally described in the supplementary material in Bantis et al. (2017). If the data include any nonpositive observations, a shifting parameter `lambda2` can be included in the transformation given by:

$$X^{(\lambda)} = \begin{cases} ((X + \lambda_2)^\lambda - 1)/\lambda, & \text{if } \lambda \neq 0, \\ \log(X + \lambda_2), & \text{else } \lambda = 0. \end{cases}$$

Value

A list with components:

<code>xbc, ybc, zbc</code>	The transformed vectors.
<code>lambda</code>	estimated optimal parameter.
<code>shapiro.p.value</code>	p-values obtained from <code>shapiro.test()</code> of the original and transformed data.

References

Bantis LE, Nakas CT, Reiser B, Myall D and Dalrymple-Alford JC (2015) Construction of joint confidence regions for the optimal true class fractions of receiver operating characteristic (roc) surfaces and manifolds. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research* **26**(3): 1429–1442.

Box, G. E. P. and Cox, D. R. (1964). An analysis of transformations (with discussion). *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*, **26**, 211–252.

See Also

[shapiro.test](#) and [boxcox](#) from the package MASS.

Examples

```
data(cancer)
x1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 9])
y1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 9])
z1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 9])

boxcoxROC(x1, y1, z1)
```

cancer	<i>Synthetic data set to investigate three-class ROC data.</i>
--------	--

Description

A dataset containing randomly generated measurements from three diagnostic classes as they may arise in a cancer investigation.

Usage

```
cancer
```

Format

A data frame with 100 rows and 10 variables (9 classifiers):

trueClass A factor, indicating the class membership of the individuals.

Class1, Class2, Class3, Class4, Class5, Class6, Class7, Class8, Class9 Measurements of a specific classifier obtained from the patients that underwent the clinical study.

emp.vus	<i>Empirical VUS calculation</i>
---------	----------------------------------

Description

This function computes the empirical Volume Under the Surface (VUS) of three-class ROC data.

Usage

```
emp.vus(x, y, z, dat = NULL, old.version = TRUE)
```

Arguments

x, y, z	Numeric vectors containing the measurements from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class.
dat	A data frame of the following structure: The first column represents a factor with three levels, containing the true class membership of each measurement. The levels are ordered according to the convention of higher values for more severe disease status. The second column contains all measurements obtained from Classifier.
old.version	A logical to switch computation method to the old version, which is up to 50% faster in computation (at N=50).

Details

This function computes the empirical VUS of three-class ROC data using the `expand.grid` function. It has been shown to be faster than computation using the `merge` function (`VUS.merge()`) or direct geometrical implementation. The measurements can be input as separate vectors `x`, `y`, `z` or as a data frame `dat`.

Value

It returns the numeric VUS of the data.

References

Scurfield, B. K. (1996). Multiple-event forced-choice tasks in the theory of signal detectability. *Journal of Mathematical Psychology* **40.3**, 253–269.

Nakas CT and Yiannoutsos CT (2004) Ordered multiple-class roc analysis with continuous measurements. *Statistics in Medicine* **23**(22): 3437–3449.

Examples

```
data(krebs)
x1 <- with(krebs, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 4])
y1 <- with(krebs, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 4])
z1 <- with(krebs, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 4])

emp.vus(x1, y1, z1)
# Alternatively:
emp.vus(dat = krebs[,c(1,4)])
```

 findmu

Determine equidistant means of trinormal ROC data simulation

Description

A function that computes the equidistant means μ_{uy} and μ_{uz} for a specific μ_{ux} . The VUS as well as the set of standard errors are given as arguments to the function.

Usage

```
findmu(mux = 0, sdx = 1, sdy = 1, sdz = 1, VUS = 1/6, step = 0.001)
```

Arguments

<code>mux</code>	The numeric mean of the healthy class. Default is zero.
<code>sdx, sdy, sdz</code>	The numeric standard errors of the healthy, intermediate and diseased class, for which the according means have to be determined given a specific VUS.
<code>VUS</code>	The Volume Under the Surface. A numeric value between 1/6 and 1. Default is 1/6.
<code>step</code>	A numeric indicating the step size each iteration takes in order to find the closest set of means. Default set to 0.001.

Details

Defaults are: $VUS = 1/6$, standard errors for all three classes equal 1. The searching algorithm is stepwise increasing the differences $muy - mux$ and $muz - mux$ according to the variable `step`. The algorithm stops when the computed VUS exceeds the preferred VUS. The according parameters `mux`, `muy`, `muz` are returned with the computed VUS.

Remark: The bigger VUS and the smaller `step` is chosen, the longer the computation lasts.

Value

A data frame with the following components:

<code>mux</code>	The initial mean of the healthy class
<code>muy</code>	The mean of the intermediate class computed for the specified VUS.
<code>muz</code>	The mean of the diseased class computed for the specified VUS.
<code>VUS</code>	The VUS computed for <code>mux</code> , <code>muy</code> and <code>muz</code> .

Examples

```
# find equidistant means with mux=2.7 and VUS = 0.45:
findmu(mux = 2.7, VUS = 0.45)
# specify standard errors:
findmu(mux = 2.7, sdx = 1.1, sdy = 1.3, sdz = 1.5, VUS = 0.45)
```

```
krebs
```

Synthetic small data set to investigate three-class ROC data.

Description

A dataset containing randomly generated measurements from three diagnostic classes as they may arise in a cancer investigation. For illustration, this dataset has been chosen to be smaller than the data set [cancer](#).

Usage

krebs

Format

A data frame with 50 rows and 5 variables (4 classifiers):

trueClass A factor, indicating the class membership of the individuals.

Fac1, Fac2, Fac3, Fac4 Measurements obtained from the patients that underwent the clinical study.

roc.eda

Exploratory data analysis for a three-class ROC marker

Description

A function that investigates data that arose from a single marker and contains the reference standard of the three classes "healthy", "intermediate" and "diseased".

Usage

```
roc.eda(
  x,
  y,
  z,
  dat = NULL,
  type = c("empirical", "trinormal"),
  plotVUS = FALSE,
  saveVUS = FALSE,
  sep.dens = FALSE,
  scatter = FALSE,
  conf.level = 0.95,
  n.boot = 1000,
  verbose = TRUE,
  alternative = c("two.sided", "less", "greater"),
  class.labels = c("healthy", "intermediate", "diseased")
)
```

Arguments

x, y, z	numeric vectors containing the measurements from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class.
dat	a data frame of the following structure: The first column represents a factor with three levels, containing the true class membership of each measurement. The levels are ordered according to the convention of higher values for more severe disease status.
type	a character, specifying if the empirical VUS and tests or the trinormal VUS and tests are computed.

plotVUS	a logical whether to evaluate and plot the VUS (default is FALSE). Note: To save a png plotVUS needs to be TRUE too.
saveVUS	a logical whether to save a PNG of the VUS in your current working directory (default is FALSE).
sep.dens	a logical indicating if the density plots should be plotted on separate x-axes (TRUE) or on a common axis (FALSE, is default).
scatter	a logical indicating if the measurements per class plot should be plotted as a boxplot (default) or as a scatterplot (scatter = TRUE).
conf.level	A numeric value between 0 and 1 yielding the significance level $\alpha = 1 - \text{conf.level}$.
n.boot	an integer incating the number of bootstrap replicates sampled to obtain the variance of the VUS. Default is 1000.
verbose	a logical, indicating whether output should be displayed or not. Default is TRUE.
alternative	a character string specifying the alternative hypothesis, must be one of "two.sided" (default), "greater" or "less".
class.labels	a vector of character strings of length 3 specifying the labels of the three classes used for the axis labeling in the boxplot.

Details

For the preliminary assessment of a classifier, exploratory data analysis (EDA) on the markers is necessary. This function assesses measurements from a single marker and computes the VUS, statistical tests and returns a summary table as well as some plots of the data.

Value

A list with class "hctest" containing the following components:

statistic	The value of the test(s).
p.value	The p-value for the test(s).
VUS	the VUS computed with the specific method defined in type.
dat.summary	A data frame displaying size, mean and standard deviation of the three classes.
alternative	The alternative hypothesis.
type	a character containing the the method used for the exploratory data analysis.
data.name	a character containing the name of the data.
xVUS, yVUS, zVUS	(if plotVUS = TRUE) numeric vectors and matrices computed by rocsurf.emp or rocsurf.trin, used for displaying the surface with package rgl.
histROC	a ggplot2 object, displaying the histograms and densities of the three classes.
meas.overview	A ggplot2 object, displaying the boxplots (if scatter = FALSE) or scatter plots of the three classes (if scatter = TRUE).

Warning

If type = "empirical", computation may take a while, as roc.eda calls the function boot.test().

See Also

[trinROC.test](#), [trinVUS.test](#) for trinormal data investigation, [boot.test](#) for empirical data analysis. [rocsurf.emp](#), [rocsurf.trin](#) for the surface plot.

Examples

```
data(krebs)

# empirical EDA:
x <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="healthy", 5])
y <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="intermediate", 5])
z <- with(krebs, krebs[trueClass=="diseased", 5])
roc.eda(x, y, z, type = "e", plotVUS = FALSE)

# equal data input via:
# roc.eda(dat = krebs[,c(1,5)], type = "e", plotVUS = FALSE)

data(cancer)
# trinormal EDA:
roc.eda(dat = cancer[,c(1,10)], type = "trin", plotVUS = FALSE)
# trinormal EDA with different plots:
roc.eda(dat = cancer[,c(1,5)], type = "t", sep.dens = TRUE, scatter = TRUE)
```

roc3.test	<i>Statistical test function for computing multiple tests on three-class ROC data</i>
-----------	---

Description

A statistical test function that assesses three-class ROC data with the trinormal based ROC test, the trinormal VUS test and the Bootstrap test.

Usage

```
roc3.test(
  dat,
  type = c("ROC", "VUS", "Bootstrap"),
  paired = FALSE,
  conf.level = 0.95,
  n.boot = 1000,
  p.adjust = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

dat A data frame of the following structure: The first column represents a factor with three levels, containing the true class membership of each measurement. The levels are ordered according to the convention of higher values for more severe disease status.

type	A character, specifying which tests are applied to dat. "ROC" implies the trinormal based ROC test, "VUS" the trinormal VUS test and "Bootstrap" the Bootstrap test.
paired	A logical indicating whether data arose from a paired setting. If data is paired, each class must have equal sample size for both classifiers.
conf.level	confidence level of the interval. A numeric value between (0,1) yielding the significance level $\alpha = 1 - \text{conf.level}$.
n.boot	An integer inciating the number of Bootstrap replicates sampled to obtain the variance of the VUS. Default is 1000.
p.adjust	A logical, indicating whether a FDR adjustment should be applied to the p-values. Default is FALSE.

Details

For the preliminary assessment of a classifier, different statistical tests have been proposed in the literature. This function can be used for either comparison of single classifiers to a null hypothesis of being not better than a random allocation function or comparison of two classifiers under the null hypothesis of having equal discriminatory power. Depending on the specification of the user, (s)he can apply the trinormal based ROC test (LINK), the test developed by Xiong et. al. or the Bootstrap test or any combination of these tests. More information of the specific tests can be obtained by calling `?functionname`. If more than two markers are present, a pairwise comparison between each marker is realized.

Value

A list with components:

Overview	a data frame with number of columns according to number of markers. Rows contain the following information about the makers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Index according to smallest VUS 2. VUS 3. P-values of statistical test specified by type 4. Number of NA's
0.orig	the unsorted Overview.
P.values	a list, containing the upper triangular matrices of the optionally adjusted p-values of the statistical tests chosen by type.
Test.Values	a list, containing the upper triangular matrices of the test values of the statistical tests chosen by type.

Note

If `type = "Bootstrap"`, the Bootstrap test is evaluated. This may take some time, especially with sample sizes > 100 .

Examples

```
data(krebs)
roc3.test(krebs, type = c("ROC", "VUS"), paired = TRUE)[c("Overview", "P.values")]
```

rocsurf.emp

*Empirical ROC surface plot***Description**

Function for computation of the empirical ROC surface.

Usage

```
rocsurf.emp(x, y, z, plot = TRUE, saveVUS = FALSE)
```

Arguments

<code>x, y, z</code>	Vectors containing the data of the three classes "healthy", "intermediate" and "diseased".
<code>plot</code>	logical. If TRUE (default), the VUS is plotted using <code>surface3d</code> from the package <code>rgl</code> .
<code>saveVUS</code>	A logical whether to save a PNG of the VUS in your current working directory (default is FALSE).

Details

This function takes three-class ROC data and computes the three dimensional surface using the R-package `rgl`. The ROC surface is defined as

$$z = ROCs(t_-, t_+) = F_0(c_+) - F_0(c_-) = F_0(G_+^{-1}(t_+)) - F_0(F_-^{-1}(t_-)),$$

where c_- , c_+ are the two cut-off points and F_- , F_0 , F_+ the cdf of the three classes with $G = 1 - F$.

Value

A list with the following components:

<code>t1, t2, zVUS</code>	The matice containing the surface values.
<code>x, y, z</code>	The original data.

See Also

[surface3d](#).

Examples

```
data(cancer)
x1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 9])
y1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 9])
z1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 9])
```

```
rocsurf.emp(x1, y1, z1)
```

rocsurf.trin	<i>Trinormal ROC surface plot</i>
--------------	-----------------------------------

Description

Function for computation of the trinormal ROC surface.

Usage

```
rocsurf.trin(x, y, z, p = 300, plot = TRUE, saveVUS = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x, y, z	Vectors containing the data of the three classes "healthy", "intermediate" and "diseased".
p	An integer for the precision of the surface. p gives the number of gridpoints per axis.
plot	logical. If TRUE (default), the VUS is plotted using surface3d from the package rgl.
saveVUS	A logical whether to save a PNG of the VUS in your current working directory (default is FALSE).

Details

This function takes three-class ROC data and computes the three dimensional surface using the R-package rgl. The ROC surface is defined as

$$z = ROCs(t_-, t_+) = F_0(c_+) - F_0(c_-) = F_0(G_+^{-1}(t_+)) - F_0(F_-^{-1}(t_-)),$$

where c_- , c_+ are the two cut-off points and F_- , F_0 , F_+ the cdf of the three classes with $G = 1 - F$.

Value

A list with the following components:

t1, t2	The vectors $t_- = F_-^{-1}(c_-)$ and $t_+ = F_+^{-1}(c_+)$
zVUS	The matrix containing the surface values.
x, y, z	The original data.

References

Xiong, C., G. Van Belle, et al. (2006). Measuring and estimating diagnostic accuracy when there are three ordinal diagnostic groups. *Statistics in Medicine* 25(7), 1251–1273.

Examples

```

data(cancer)
x1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 8])
y1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 8])
z1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 8])

rocsurf.trin(x1, y1, z1)

```

trinROC.test

Trinormal based ROC test

Description

A statistical test function to assess three-class ROC data. It is possible to investigate a single classifier or make a comparison of two independent / correlated classifiers.

Usage

```

trinROC.test(
  x1,
  y1,
  z1,
  x2 = 0,
  y2 = 0,
  z2 = 0,
  dat = NULL,
  paired = FALSE,
  conf.level = 0.95
)

```

Arguments

x1, y1, z1	(non-empty) numeric vectors of data from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class from Classifier 1.
x2, y2, z2	numeric vectors of data from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class from Classifier 2.
dat	a data frame of the following structure: The first column represents a factor with three levels, containing the true class membership of each measurement. The levels are ordered according to the convention of higher values for more severe disease status. The second column contains all measurements obtained from Classifier 1 (in the case of single marker assessment). In the case of comparison of two markers, column three contains the measurements from the Classifier.
paired	a logical indicating whether data arose from a paired setting. If TRUE, each class must have equal sample size for both classifiers.
conf.level	confidence level of the interval. A numeric value between (0,1) yielding the significance level $\alpha = 1 - \text{conf.level}$.

Details

The trinormal ROC model is a parametric model in three-class ROC analysis. It is based on normality in each of the three classes D_- (healthy), D_0 (intermediate) and D_+ (diseased) with denoted distributions $N(\mu_-, \sigma_-^2)$, $N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$ and $N(\mu_+, \sigma_+^2)$. A classifier of a trinormal ROC model classifies individuals into one of the three ordered classes based on two cut-off points $c_- < c_+$. We define $t_- = F_-(c_-)$ and $t_+ = 1 - F_+(c_+) = G_+(c_+)$. Now, the ROC surface can be written as

$$ROC_s(t_-, t_+) = \Phi\left(\frac{\Phi^{-1}(1 - t_+) + d}{c}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{\Phi^{-1}(t_-) + b}{a}\right)$$

with parameters a, b, c and d given by $a = \frac{\hat{\sigma}_0}{\hat{\sigma}_-}$, $b = \frac{\hat{\mu}_- - \hat{\mu}_0}{\hat{\sigma}_-}$, $c = \frac{\hat{\sigma}_0}{\hat{\sigma}_+}$, $d = \frac{\hat{\mu}_+ - \hat{\mu}_0}{\hat{\sigma}_+}$. It is a surface in the unit cube that plots the probability of a measurement to get assigned to the intermediate class as the two thresholds c_- , c_+ are varying.

Based on the reference standard, the trinormal based ROC test can be used to assess the discriminatory power of such classifiers. It distinguishes between single classifier assessment, where a classifier is compared to some hypothetical distributions in the classes, and comparison between two classifiers. The latter case tests for equality between the parameters a, b, c and d of the ROC curves. The data can arise in a unpaired or paired setting. If paired is TRUE, a correlation is introduced which has to be taken into account. Therefore the sets of the two classifiers have to have classwise equal size. The data can be input as the data frame `dat` or as single vectors `x1`, `y1`, `z1`, `...`

As the Chi-squared test is by definition a one-sided test, the variable `alternative` cannot be specified in this test. For this 'goodness of fit' test, we assume the parameters a_1, \dots, d_1 and a_2, \dots, d_2 to have a pairwise equivalent normal distribution (in large sample sets).

Value

A list of class "htest" containing the following components:

<code>statistic</code>	the value of the chi-squared statistic.
<code>parameter</code>	the degrees of freedom for the chi-squared statistic.
<code>p.value</code>	the p-value for the test.
<code>conf.int</code>	a confidence interval for the test.
<code>estimate</code>	a data frame containing the estimated VUS and parameters a, b, c and d from Classifier 1 and Classifier 2 (if specified).
<code>null.value</code>	a character expressing the null hypothesis.
<code>alternative</code>	a character string describing the alternative hypothesis.
<code>method</code>	a character string indicating what type of trinormal based ROC test was performed.
<code>data.name</code>	a character string giving the names of the data.
<code>CovMat</code>	the covariance matrix of the chi-squared statistic.
<code>Summary</code>	a data frame representing the number of NA's as well as the means and the standard deviations per class.

References

Noll, S., Furrer, R., Reiser, B. and Nakas, C. T. (2019). Inference in ROC surface analysis via a trinormal model-based testing approach. *Stat*, **8**(1), e249.

See Also

[trinVUS.test](#), [boot.test](#).

Examples

```
data(cancer)
data(krebs)

# investigate a single marker:
trinROC.test(dat = cancer[,c(1,3)])
trinROC.test(dat = krebs[,c(1,5)])

# result is equal to:
x1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 3])
y1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 3])
z1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 3])
trinROC.test(x1, y1, z1)

# comparison of marker 2 and 6:
trinROC.test(dat = cancer[,c(1,3,5)], paired = TRUE)
trinROC.test(dat = cancer[,c(1,3,5)], paired = FALSE)

# result is equal to:
x2 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 5])
y2 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 5])
z2 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 5])
trinROC.test(x1, y1, z1, x2, y2, z2, paired = TRUE)
```

trinVUS.test

Trinormal VUS test

Description

A statistical test function to assess three-class ROC data. It can be used for assessment of a single classifier or comparison of two independent / correlated classifiers, using the statistical test developed by Xiong et al. (2007).

Usage

```
trinVUS.test(
  x1,
  y1,
  z1,
  x2 = 0,
```

```

y2 = 0,
z2 = 0,
dat = NULL,
paired = FALSE,
conf.level = 0.95,
alternative = c("two.sided", "less", "greater")
)

```

Arguments

x1, y1, z1	non-empty numeric vectors of data from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class from Classifier 1.
x2, y2, z2	numeric vectors of data from the healthy, intermediate and diseased class from Classifier 2, only needed in a comparison of two classifiers.
dat	a data frame of the following structure: The first column represents a factor with three levels, containing the true class membership of each measurement. The levels are ordered according to the convention of higher values for more severe disease status. The second column contains all measurements obtained from Classifier 1 (in the case of single marker assessment). In the case of comparison of two markers, column three contains the measurements from the Classifier.
paired	logical; indicating whether data arose from a paired setting. If TRUE, each class must have equal sample size for both classifiers.
conf.level	confidence level of the interval. A numeric value between (0,1) yielding the significance level $\alpha = 1 - \text{conf.level}$.
alternative	character string specifying the alternative hypothesis, must be one of "two.sided" (default), "greater" or "less". You can specify just the initial letter. For two sided test, notice $H_0 : Z = (VUS_1 - VUS_2) / (\text{Var}(VUS_1) + \text{Var}(VUS_2) - 2\text{Cov}(VUS_1, VUS_2))^{0.5}$.

Details

Based on the reference standard, this trinormal VUS test assesses the discriminatory power of classifiers by comparing the volumes under the ROC surfaces (VUS). It distinguishes between single classifier assessment, where a classifier is compared to the chance plane with $VUS=1/6$, and comparison between two classifiers. The latter case tests the equality between VUS_1 and VUS_2 . The data can arise in a unpaired or paired setting. If `paired` is TRUE, a correlation is introduced which has to be taken into account. Therefore the sets of the two classifiers have to have classwise equal size. The data can be input as the data frame `dat` or as single vectors `x1`, `y1`, `z1`, ...

Value

A list of class "htest" containing the following components:

statistic	the value of the Z-statistic.
p.value	the p-value for the test.
conf.int	a confidence interval for the test.

estimate	a data frame containing the estimated VUS from Classifier 1 and Classifier 2 (if specified).
null.value	a character expressing the null hypothesis.
alternative	a character string describing the alternative hypothesis.
method	a character string indicating what type of trinormal VUS test was performed.
data.name	a character string giving the names of the data.
Summary	a data frame representing the number of NA's as well as the means and the standard deviations per class.
Sigma	the covariance matrix of the VUS.

References

- Xiong, C., Van Belle, G. Miller J. P., Morris, J. C. (2006). Measuring and estimating diagnostic accuracy when there are three ordinal diagnostic groups. *Statistics in Medicine*, **25**(7), 1251–1273.
- Xiong, C., van Belle, G., Miller, J. P., Yan, Y., Gao, F., Yu, K., and Morris, J. C. (2007). A parametric comparison of diagnostic accuracy with three ordinal diagnostic groups. *Biometrical Journal*, **49**(5), 682–693. doi:10.1002/bimj.200610359.

See Also

[trinROC.test](#), [boot.test](#).

Examples

```
data(cancer)
data(krebs)

# investigate a single marker:
trinVUS.test(dat = cancer[,c(1,3)])
trinVUS.test(dat = krebs[,c(1,5)])

# result is equal to:
x1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 3])
y1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 3])
z1 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 3])
trinVUS.test(x1, y1, z1)

# comparison of marker 2 and 6:
trinVUS.test(dat = cancer[,c(1,3,5)], paired = TRUE)
trinVUS.test(dat = cancer[,c(1,3,5)], paired = FALSE)

# result is equal to:
x2 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="healthy", 5])
y2 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="intermediate", 5])
z2 <- with(cancer, cancer[trueClass=="diseased", 5])
trinVUS.test(x1, y1, z1, x2, y2, z2, paired = TRUE)
```

Index

* datasets

cancer, [7](#)

krebs, [9](#)

boot.test, [3](#), [12](#), [18](#), [20](#)

boxcox, [6](#)

boxcoxROC, [5](#)

cancer, [7](#), [9](#)

emp.vus, [7](#)

findmu, [8](#)

krebs, [9](#)

roc.eda, [10](#)

roc3.test, [12](#)

rocsurf.emp, [12](#), [14](#)

rocsurf.trin, [12](#), [15](#)

shapiro.test, [6](#)

surface3d, [14](#)

trinROC (trinROC-package), [2](#)

trinROC-package, [2](#)

trinROC.test, [5](#), [12](#), [16](#), [20](#)

trinVUS.test, [5](#), [12](#), [18](#), [18](#)