

Package: gamtree (via r-universe)

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Title GAM-based Recursive Partitioning

Version 0.0.3

Description Recursively partitions the observations in a dataset, based on the parameters of a generalized additive model (GAM). Function `splinetree` implements partitioning based on parametric or non-penalized spline models. It offers faster computational speed and more flexibility for modeling multilevel and longitudinal data. Function `gamtree` implements partitioning based on semi-parametric or penalized spline models, a.k.a. smoothing splines. It requires less user involvement in correctly specifying the splines and knots, but has a heavier computational load and offers less flexibility in modeling multilevel and longitudinal data. Packages `mgcv` and `splines` are used for spline and model estimation, packages `partykit` and `merDeriv` are used for partitioning and derivative computations.

Depends R (>= 3.5.3), `glmertree`, `lme4`

Imports `Formula`, `splines`, `mgcv`, `partykit`, `gamm4`, `merDeriv`, `nlme`, `grid`

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Suggests `testthat`

Config/pak/sysreqs `cmake` `make`

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coef.gamtree	<i>Extract coefficients from a GAM tree.</i>
--------------	--

Description

coef.gamtree extracts fixed- or random-effects coefficients from a GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
coef(object, which = "fixed", ...)
```

Arguments

object	an object of class "gamtree".
which	character. Either "fixed" (default) or "random", indicating that fixed- or random-effects coefficients should be returned, respectively.
...	further arguments to be passed to fixef.merMod or ranef.merMod .

`eco`*Example dataset of light-response curves*

Description

The data comprises light-response curves, which describe the relationship between photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) and photosynthetic rate (Pn). Observations are repeated measures on the same plants. Variable 'Specimen' provides an identifier for individual plants. Dataset was copied from <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/37037445/using-mob-trees-partykit-package-with-nls-model> For illustrating the functionality of package `gamtree`, two variables were added: `Specimen`, which identifies individual plants, and `noise` an artificially generated continuous covariate that is pure (gaussian) noise.

Usage

```
data(eco)
```

Format

```
## 'eco' A data.frame with 628 observations of 5 variables:
```

Species categorical partitioning variable, indicator for specie (signal).

PAR continuous predictor variable for the node-specific model (signal).

Pn continuous response variable.

Specimen identification number of individual plants.

noise artificially generated continuous covariate (noise).

Source

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/37037445/using-mob-trees-partykit-package-with-nls-model>

Examples

```
summary(eco)
```

`fitted.gamm4`*Internal function for extracting fitted values from MOB-based GAM trees.*

Description

`fitted.gamm4` extract fitted values from objects of class `gamm4`.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamm4'
fitted(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object an object of class gamm4.
 ... currently not used.

fixef.gamtree	<i>Extract fixed-effects coefficients from a GAM tree.</i>
---------------	--

Description

fixef.gamtree extracts fixed-effects coefficients from a GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
fixef(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object an object of class "gamtree".
 ... further arguments to be passed to [fixef.merMod](#).

gamtree	<i>Recursively partition a dataset based on penalized GAMs.</i>
---------	---

Description

gamtree recursively partitions a dataset into subgroups with penalized GAMs, characterized by differences in the parameter estimates.

Usage

```
gamtree(  
  formula,  
  data,  
  weights = NULL,  
  REML = TRUE,  
  method = "mob",  
  cluster = NULL,  
  offset = NULL,  
  verbose = FALSE,
```

```

  parm = c(1, 2, 4),
  gam_ctrl = list(),
  tree_ctrl = list(),
  alt_formula = NULL,
  ...
)

```

Arguments

formula	specifies the model formula, consisting of three parts: the response variable followed by a tilde ('~'); the terms for the node-specific GAMs, followed by a vertical bar (' ') and the potential partitioning variables (separated by a '+'). The 'by' argument of function <code>s</code> may NOT be used in the node-specific GAM formulation. Refrain from using the dot('.') to specify all remaining variables in data, this may yield unexpected results; make sure to specify each variable in the corresponding part of the model formula. See Examples.
data	data.frame containing the variables specified in formula.
weights	numeric vector of length <code>nrow(data)</code> ; optional case weights. A weight of 2, for example, is equivalent to having made exactly the same observation twice.
REML	logical, defaults to TRUE. Passed on to 'gamm4' and in turn 'lmer' (but not 'glmer') fitting routines to control whether REML or ML estimation is used.
method	character, one of "ctree" or "mob", indicates which partitioning algorithm should be used. See details below.
cluster	optional, a name referring to a column of data, or a numeric or factor vector with a cluster ID to be employed for clustered covariances in the parameter stability tests. Most useful if <code>method = "mob"</code> , for <code>method = "ctree"</code> probably less so as it may yield overly conservative splitting. This argument should be used when the partitioning variables are not measured on the individual observation level, but on a higher level. E.g., when the response variables consists of repeated measurements of the same respondents.
offset	numeric vector of length <code>nrow(data)</code> . Supplies model offset for use in fitting. Note that this offset will always be completely ignored when predicting.
verbose	logical. Should progress be printed to the command line in every iteration? If true, the iteration number, information on the splitting procedure, and the log-likelihood (with df) value of the fitted full mixed-effects gam model is printed.
parm	vector of one or more integers, indicating which parameters should be included in the parameter stability tests. The default <code>c(1, 2, 4)</code> includes the intercept, linear slope and error variance of the smoothing spline. The 3rd parameter is the variance of smooth term. It is excluded by default, because its inclusion yields too high power in many situations.
gam_ctrl	a list of fit control parameters to replace defaults returned by <code>gam.control</code> .
tree_ctrl	a list of one or more control parameters as accepted by <code>mob_control</code> (to be passed to function <code>mob</code> if <code>method = "mob"</code>), or <code>ctree_control</code> (to be passed to function <code>ctree</code> if <code>method = "ctree"</code>). Note: arguments <code>xtype</code> and <code>ytype</code> of <code>mob_control</code> are set to "data.frame", by default, this cannot be changed. Argument <code>parm</code> of <code>mob_control</code> will be overruled by the argument of the same name of the current function.

alt_formula list with two elements, for specifying non-standard model formulae for GAM. E.g., the formula list required for use of the `multinom` family.

... additional arguments to be passed to function `gam4`.

Details

MOB is short for model-based recursive partitioning, ctree is short for conditional inference tree. MOB is based more strongly on parametric theory, thereby allowing for easy inclusion of clustering structures into the estimation procedure (see also argument `cluster`), yielding similar to a GEE-type approach for estimation of multilevel and longitudinal data structures. Yet, computation time for MOB is much larger than for ctree, which is mostly due to how it searches for the optimal splitting value, after the variable for splitting has been selected. ctree uses tests based on permutation theory, and thereby offers a less parametrically oriented approach. It is much faster than MOB, but does not provide a natural way of accounting for multilevel or longitudinal data structures.

Value

Returns an object of class "gamtree". This is a list, containing (amongst others) the GAM-based recursive partition (in `$tree`). The following methods are available to extract information from the fitted object: `predict.gamtree`, for obtaining predicted values for training and new observations; `plot.gamtree` for plotting the tree and variables' effects; `coef.gamtree`, `fixef.gamtree` and `ranef.gamtree` for extracting estimated coefficients. `VarCorr.gamtree` for extracting random-effects (co)variances, `summary.gamtree` for a summary of the fitted models.

See Also

`predict.gamtree` `plot.gamtree` `coef.gamtree` `summary.gamtree`

Examples

```
gt_m <- gamtree(Pn ~ s(PAR, k = 5L) | Species, data = eco, cluster = Specimen)
summary(gt_m)
gt_c <- gamtree(Pn ~ s(PAR, k = 5L) | Species, data = eco, method = "ctree")
summary(gt_c)
```

plot.gamtree

Plotting method for GAM trees

Description

Takes a fitted GAM tree and plots the smooth functions fitted in each of the terminal nodes of the tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
plot(
  x,
  which = "both",
  ylim = "firstnode",
  treeplot_ctrl = list(),
  gamplot_ctrl = list(),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	object of class gamtree.
which	character. The default ("both") plots the tree structure, followed by the model fitted in the terminal nodes. Alternatively, "tree" will plot the tree structure, and "terms" will plot the smooth (and parametric) terms from the terminal-node-specific and global model. Note that the fitted curves in the tree do not convey a conditional function of the predictor on the x -axis (as plotted when "terms" is specified). They are a function of the predictor on the x -axis, as well as all other predictors in the model and could thus be referred to as 'marginal' fitted curves.
ylim	"firstplot" (default), NULL, or a numeric vector of length 2. Only used for plotting the terminal-node models (not the tree). Specifies how the limits of the y-axes of the terminal node plots should be chosen. The default ("firstnode") uses the observations in the first node to determine the limits of the y-axes for all plots. Alternatively, NULL will determine the limits of the y-axes separately for each plot. Alternatively, a numeric vector of length two may be specified, specifying the lower and upper limits of the y-axes.
treeplot_ctrl	list of (named) arguments to be passed to plot.party .
gamplot_ctrl	list of (named) arguments to be passed to plot.gam . Note that not all arguments of plot.gam are supported. .
...	further arguments, currently not used.

Warning

The plotted terms by default also represent confidence bands. These should be taken with a big grain of salt, because they do NOT account for the searching of the tree structure; they assume the tree structure was known in advance. They should be interpreted as overly optimistic and with caution.

Examples

```
gt <- gamtree(Pn ~ s(PAR, k = 5L) | Species, data = eco,
              cluster = Specimen)
plot(gt, which = "tree") # default is which = 'both'
plot(gt, which = "terms")
```

plot.splinetree	<i>Plotting function for visualization of spline-based (g)lmertrees.</i>
-----------------	--

Description

plot.splinetree takes a fitted (g)lmertree with splines and plots it. It is a wrapper for [plot.glmertree](#) and [plot.lmertree](#), with critical adjustments for better visualization of spline models in the terminal nodes.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'splinetree'
plot(x, which = "all", fitted = "marginal", ...)
```

Arguments

x	fitted object of class (g)lmertree containing splines specified by setup.spline in the terminal node model.
which	character, "both", "tree" or "ranef". Other options are available, see plot.glmertree and plot.lmertree , but might be less helpful for spline models.
fitted	character, "marginal" (default), "combined" or "none". Specifies whether and how fitted values should be computed and visualized. See plot.lmertree or plot.glmertree for further detail.
...	additional arguments to be passed to plot.lmertree or plot.glmertree .

See Also

[setup.spline](#) [predict.splinetree](#) [plot.lmertree](#) [plot.glmertree](#)

Examples

```
st <- splinetree(Pn ~ ns(PAR, df = 5) | Specimen | Species, data = eco,
                 cluster = Specimen)
plot(st)
```

predict.gamm4	<i>Internal function for extracting predictions from MOB-based GAM trees.</i>
---------------	---

Description

predict.gamm4 extract predictions from objects of class gamm4.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamm4'
predict(object, newdata, ...)
```

Arguments

object	an object of class gamm4.
newdata	an optional data.frame in which to look for variables with which to predict. If omitted, the fitted values are used.
...	currently not used.

predict.gamtree	<i>Get predictions from fitted GAM tree</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Takes a fitted GAM tree (of class "gamtree") and returns predictions given a new set of values for the model covariates, or for the original covariate values used for fitting the GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
predict(object, newdata = NULL, type = "link", ...)
```

Arguments

object	an object of class gamtree.
newdata	a data.frame containing the values of the model covariates for which predictions should be returned. The default (NULL) returns predictions for the original training data.
type	character vector of length 1, specifying the type of prediction to be returned. "response" (the default) returns values on the scale of the response variable. Alternatively, "link" (only available if method = "mob") returns values on the scale of the linear predictor; "node" returns an integer vector of node identifiers.
...	further arguments to be passed to predict.party .

Value

Returns a vector of predicted values.

predict.splinetree *Predict method for spline-based (g)lmertrees.*

Description

predict.splinetree computes predictions for a fitted (g)lmertree that is based on splines.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'splinetree'
predict(object, newdata, ...)
```

Arguments

object	fitted object of class (g)lmertree containing splines specified by setup.spline in the terminal node model.
newdata	data.frame with observations for which predictions should be computed.
...	additional arguments to be passed to predict.lmertree or predict.glmertree .

See Also

[setup.spline](#) [predict.splinetree](#) [lmertree](#) [glmertree](#)

Examples

```
st <- splinetree(Pn ~ ns(PAR, df = 5) | Specimen | Species, data = eco,
                 cluster = Specimen)
predict(st, newdata = eco[1L:5L, ])
```

print.gamtree *Print method for a fitted GAM tree*

Description

Prints the local and/or global terms in a fitted GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x	object of class gamtree.
...	further arguments to be passed to print.modelparty or

Examples

```
gt <- gamtree(Pn ~ s(PAR, k = 5L) | Species, data = eco, cluster = Specimen)
gt ## or: print(gt)
```

ranef.gamtree	<i>Extract random-effects coefficients from a GAM tree.</i>
---------------	---

Description

ranef.gamtree extracts random-effects coefficients from a GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
ranef(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	an object of class "gamtree".
...	further arguments to be passed to ranef.merMod .

setup.spline	<i>Set up splines bases for use with function (g)lmertree.</i>
--------------	--

Description

setup.spline takes a dataset and spline specification as input, and returns the dataset with spline bases added.

Usage

```
setup.spline(spline, data, ...)
```

Arguments

spline	character vector of length 1, describing the spline basis to be created. Currently, functions ns and bs are supported. See Examples.
data	a data.frame containing the variable referred to in spline.
...	additional arguments to be passed to the function specified in spline.

Value

a data.frame with a many rows and columns as data. The spline consists of df basis functions, but is contained in a single column named spline, followed by the name of the predictor variable specified.

See Also

[plot.splinetree](#) [predict.splinetree](#) [lmertree](#) [glmertree](#)

Examples

```
data <- setup.spline("ns(PAR, df = 3)", data = eco)
head(data)
matplot(x = data$PAR[order(data$PAR)],
        y = data$spline.PAR[order(data$PAR),], type = "l")
data <- setup.spline("bs(PAR, degree = 2, df = 4)", data = eco)
head(data)
matplot(x = data$PAR[order(data$PAR)],
        y = data$spline.PAR[order(data$PAR),], type = "l")
```

splinetree

Fit a (g)lmertree using spline-based partitioning.

Description

splinetree is a wrapper for functions (g)lmertree to simplify fitting, visualizing and predicting spline-based trees.

Usage

```
splinetree(formula, data, family = "gaussian", ...)
```

Arguments

formula	A four-part function See Examples below, and lmertree or glmertree .
data	a data.frame containing the variable referred to in spline.
family	family specification for glmertree . See glm documentation for families.
...	additional arguments to be passed to function lmertree (default, i.e., family = "gaussian") or glmertree (family other than gaussian).

Value

A object of class "splinetree" and "lmertree" or "glmertree".

See Also

[plot.splinetree](#) [predict.splinetree](#) [lmertree](#) [glmertree](#)

Examples

```
sp <- splinetree(Pn ~ ns(PAR, df = 5) | Specimen | Species, data = eco)
sp
```

summary.gamtree	<i>Summary method for a fitted GAM tree</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Prints a summary of the local and/or global terms in a fitted GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
summary(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	object of class gamtree.
...	further arguments to be passed to summary.gam.

Warning

The printed results by default also provide standard error and significance tests. These should be taken with a big grain of salt, because they do NOT account for the searching of the tree structure; they assume the tree structure was known in advance. They thus should be interpreted as overly optimistic and with caution.

Examples

```
## GAM tree without global terms:
gt <- gamtree(Pn ~ s(PAR, k = 5L) | Species, data = eco, cluster = Specimen)
summary(gt)
```

VarCorr.gamtree	<i>Extract random-effects covariance matrices from a GAM tree.</i>
-----------------	--

Description

VarCorr.gamtree extracts fixed-effects random-effects covariance matrices from the nodes of a GAM tree.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'gamtree'
VarCorr(x, sigma = 1, which = "terminal", ...)
```

Arguments

x	an object of class "gamtree".
sigma	an optional numeric value used as a multiplier for the standard deviations.
which	character. "terminal" (default) returns (co)variances for all terminal nodes, "inner" returns the (co)variances for all inner (splitting) nodes, "all" returns covariances for all nodes.
...	additional arguments to be passed to VarCorr.merMod .

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