# Package 'CVST'

July 21, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Fast Cross-Validation via Sequential Testing

**Version** 0.2-3

**Date** 2022-02-19

**Depends** kernlab,Matrix

**Author** Tammo Krueger, Mikio Braun

**Maintainer** Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

**Description** The fast cross-validation via sequential testing (CVST) procedure is an improved cross-validation procedure which uses non-parametric testing coupled with sequential analysis to determine the best parameter set on linearly increasing subsets of the data. By eliminating underperforming candidates quickly and keeping promising candidates as long as possible, the method speeds up the computation while preserving the capability of a full cross-validation. Additionally to the CVST the package contains an implementation of the ordinary k-fold cross-validation with a flexible and powerful set of helper objects and methods to handle the overall model selection process. The implementations of the Cochran's Q test with permutations and the sequential testing framework of Wald are generic and can therefore also be used in other contexts.

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`CVST-package` *Fast Cross-Validation via Sequential Testing*

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## Description

The fast cross-validation via sequential testing (CVST) procedure is an improved cross-validation procedure which uses non-parametric testing coupled with sequential analysis to determine the best parameter set on linearly increasing subsets of the data. By eliminating under-performing candidates quickly and keeping promising candidates as long as possible, the method speeds up the computation while preserving the capability of a full cross-validation. Additionally to the CVST the package contains an implementation of the ordinary k-fold cross-validation with a flexible and powerful set of helper objects and methods to handle the overall model selection process. The implementations of the Cochran's Q test with permutations and the sequential testing framework of Wald are generic and can therefore also be used in other contexts.

## Details

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| Title: | Fast Cross-Validation via Sequential Testing |
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| Depends: | kernlab,Matrix |
| Author: | Tammo Krueger, Mikio Braun |
| Maintainer: | Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com> |
| Description: | The fast cross-validation via sequential testing (CVST) procedure is an improved cross-validation procedure wh |
| License: | GPL (>=2.0) |

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## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger, Mikio Braun

Maintainer: Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

Tammo Krueger, Danny Panknin, and Mikio Braun. Fast cross-validation via sequential testing. Journal of Machine Learning Research 16 (2015) 1103-1155. URL https://jmlr.org/papers/volume16/krueger15a/krueger15a.pdf.

Abraham Wald. *Sequential Analysis*. Wiley, 1947.

W. G. Cochran. The comparison of percentages in matched samples. *Biometrika*, 37 (3-4):256–266, 1950.

M. Friedman. The use of ranks to avoid the assumption of normality implicit in the analysis of variance. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 32 (200):675–701, 1937.

## Examples

```
ns = noisySine(100)
svm = constructSVMLearner()
params = constructParams(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=10^(-3:3), nu=c(0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3))
opt = fastCV(ns, svm, params, constructCVSTModel())
```

---

# cochranq.test *Cochran's Q Test with Permutation*

---

## Description

Performs the Cochran's Q test on the data. If the data matrix contains too few elements, the chisquare distribution of the test statistic is replaced by a permutation variant.

## Usage

```
cochranq.test(mat)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| mat | The data matrix with the individuals in the rows and treatments in the columns. |

## Value

Returns a htest object with the usual entries.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

W. G. Cochran. The comparison of percentages in matched samples. *Biometrika*, 37 (3-4):256–266, 1950.

Kashinath D. Patil. Cochran's Q test: Exact distribution. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 70 (349):186–189, 1975.

Merle W. Tate and Sara M. Brown. Note on the Cochran Q test. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 65 (329):155–160, 1970.

## Examples

```
mat = matrix(c(rep(0, 10), 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0,
1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1), ncol=4)
cochranq.test(mat)
mat = matrix(c(rep(0, 7), 1, rep(0, 12), 1, 1, 0, 1,
rep(0, 5), 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1), nrow=8)
cochranq.test(mat)
```

---

`constructCVSTModel` *Setup for a CVST Run.*

---

## Description

This is an helper object of type `CVST.setup` conatining all necessary parameters for a CVST run.

## Usage

```
constructCVSTModel(steps = 10, beta = 0.1, alpha = 0.01,
similaritySignificance = 0.05, earlyStoppingSignificance = 0.05,
earlyStoppingWindow = 3, regressionSimilarityViaOutliers = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `steps` | Number of steps CVST should run |
| `beta` | Significance level for H0. |
| `alpha` | Significance level for H1. |
| `similaritySignificance` | Significance level of the similarity test. |
| `earlyStoppingSignificance` | Significance level of the early stopping test. |

earlyStoppingWindow
: Size of the early stopping window.

regressionSimilarityViaOutliers
: Should the less strict outlier-based similarity measure for regression tasks be used.

## Value

A CVST.setup object suitable for fastCV.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

Tammo Krueger, Danny Panknin, and Mikio Braun. Fast cross-validation via sequential testing. Journal of Machine Learning Research 16 (2015) 1103-1155. URL https://jmlr.org/papers/volume16/krueger15a/krueger15a.pdf.

## See Also

fastCV

---

# constructData *Construction and Handling of* CVST.data *Objects*

---

## Description

The CVST methods needs a structured interface to both regression and classification data sets. These helper methods allow the construction and consistence handling of these types of data sets.

## Usage

```
constructData(x, y)
getN(data)
getSubset(data, subset)
getX(data, subset = NULL)
shuffleData(data)
isClassification(data)
isRegression(data)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | The feature data as vector or matrix. |
| y | The observed values (regressands/labels) as list, vector or factor. |
| data | A CVST.data object generated via constructData. |
| subset | A index set. |

## Value

`constructData` returns a `CVST.data` object. `getN` returns the number of data points in the data set. `getSubset` returns a subset of the data as a `CVST.data` object, while `getX` just return the feature data. `shuffleData` returns a randomly shuffled instance of the data.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## Examples

```
nsine = noisySine(10)
isClassification(nsine)
isRegression(nsine)
getN(nsine)
getX(nsine)
nsineShuffeled = shuffleData(nsine)
getX(nsineShuffeled)
getSubset(nsineShuffeled, 1:3)
```

---

# constructLearner *Construction of Specific Learners for CVST*

---

## Description

These methods construct a `CVST.learner` object suitable for the CVST method. These objects provide the common interface needed for the `CV` and `fastCV` methods. We provide kernel logistic regression, kernel ridge regression, support vector machines and support vector regression as fully functional implementation templates.

## Usage

```
constructLearner(learn, predict)
constructKlogRegLearner()
constructKRRLearner()
constructSVMLearner()
constructSVRLearner()
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `learn` | The learning methods which takes a `CVST.data` and list of parameters and return a model. |
| `predict` | The prediction method which takes a model and `CVST.data` and returns the corresponding predictions. |

## Details

The nu-SVM and nu-SVR are build on top the corresponding implementations of the `kernlab` package (see reference). In the list of parameters these implementations expect an entry named `kernel`, which gives the name of the kernel that should be used, an entry named `nu` specifying the nu parameter, and an entry named `C` giving the C parameter for the nu-SVR.

The KRR and KLR also expect `kernel` and necessary other parameters to construct the kernel. Both methods expect a lambda parameter and KLR additonally a tol and maxiter parameter in the parameter list.

Note that the lambda of KRR/KLR and the C parameter of SVR are scaled by the data set size to allow for comparable results in the fast CV loop.

## Value

Returns a learner of type `CVST.learner` suitable for `CV` and `fastCV`.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

Alexandros Karatzoglou, Alexandros Smola, Kurt Hornik, Achim Zeileis. kernlab - An S4 Package for Kernel Methods in R *Journal of Statistical Software* Vol. 11, Issue 9, Nov 2004. DOI: doi: 10.18637/jss.v011.i09.

Volker Roth. Probabilistic discriminative kernel classifiers for multi-class problems. In *Proceedings of the 23rd DAGM-Symposium on Pattern Recognition*, pages 246–253, 2001.

## See Also

`CV` `fastCV`

## Examples

```
# SVM
ns = noisySine(100)
svm = constructSVMLearner()
p = list(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=100, nu=.1)
m = svm$learn(ns, p)
nsTest = noisySine(1000)
pred = svm$predict(m, nsTest)
sum(pred != nsTest$y) / getN(nsTest)
# Kernel logistic regression
klr = constructKlogRegLearner()
p = list(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=100, lambda=.1/getN(ns), tol=10e-6, maxiter=100)
m = klr$learn(ns, p)
pred = klr$predict(m, nsTest)
sum(pred != nsTest$y) / getN(nsTest)
# SVR
ns = noisySinc(100)
```

```
svr = constructSVRLearner()
p = list(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=100, nu=.1, C=1*getN(ns))
m = svr$learn(ns, p)
nsTest = noisySinc(1000)
pred = svr$predict(m, nsTest)
sum((pred - nsTest$y)^2) / getN(nsTest)
# Kernel ridge regression
krr = constructKRRLearner()
p = list(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=100, lambda=.1/getN(ns))
m = krr$learn(ns, p)
pred = krr$predict(m, nsTest)
sum((pred - nsTest$y)^2) / getN(nsTest)
```

---

`constructParams` *Construct a Grid of Parameters*

---

## Description

This is a helper function which, geiven a named list of parameter choices, expand the complete grid and returns a `CVST.params` object suitable for `CV` and `fastCV`.

## Usage

```
constructParams(...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `...` | The parameters that should be expanded. |

## Value

Returns a `CVST.params` wich is basically a named list of possible parameter vallues.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## See Also

`fastCV`

## Examples

```
params = constructParams(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=10^(-1:5), nu=c(0.1, 0.2))
# the expanded grid contains 14 parameter lists:
length(params)
```

constructSequentialTest

*Construct and Handle Sequential Tests.*

## Description

These functions handle the construction and calculation with sequential tests as introduced by Wald (1947). `getCVSTTest` constructs a special sequential test as introduced in Krueger (2011). `testSequence` test a sequence of 0/1 whether it is distributed according to H0 or H1.

## Usage

```
constructSequentialTest(piH0 = 0.5, piH1 = 0.9, beta, alpha)
getCVSTTest(steps, beta = 0.1, alpha = 0.01)
testSequence(st, s)
plotSequence(st, s)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `piH0` | Probability of the binomial distribution for H0. |
| `piH1` | Probability of the binomial distribution for H1. |
| `beta` | Significance level for H0. |
| `alpha` | Significance level for H1. |
| `steps` | Number of steps the CVST procedure should be executed. |
| `st` | A sequential test of type `CVST.sequentialTest`. |
| `s` | A sequence of 0/1 values. |

## Value

`constructSequentialTest` and `getCVSTTest` return a `CVST.sequentialTest` with the specified properties. `testSequence` returns 1, if H1 can be expected, -1 if H0 can be accepted, and 0 if the test needs more data for a decission. `plotSequence` gives a graphical impression of the this testing procedure.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

Abraham Wald. *Sequential Analysis*. Wiley, 1947.

Tammo Krueger, Danny Panknin, and Mikio Braun. Fast cross-validation via sequential testing. Journal of Machine Learning Research 16 (2015) 1103-1155. URL https://jmlr.org/papers/volume16/krueger15a/krueger15a.pdf.

## See Also

fastCV

## Examples

```
st = getCVSTTest(10)
s = rbinom(10,1, .5)
plotSequence(st, s)
testSequence(st, s)
```

---

CV *Perform a k-fold Cross-validation*

---

## Description

Performs the usual k-fold cross-validation procedure on a given data set, parameter grid and learner.

## Usage

```
CV(data, learner, params, fold = 5, verbose = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | The data set as CVST.data object. |
| learner | The learner as CVST.learner object. |
| params | the parameter grid as CVST.params object. |
| fold | The number of folds that should be generated for each set of parameters. |
| verbose | Should the procedure report the performance for each model? |

## Value

Returns the optimal parameter settings as determined by k-fold cross-validation.

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

M. Stone. Cross-validatory choice and assessment of statistical predictions. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series B*, 36(2):111–147, 1974.

Sylvain Arlot, Alain Celisse, and Paul Painleve. A survey of cross-validation procedures for model selection. *Statistics Surveys*, 4:40–79, 2010.

## See Also

fastCV constructData constructLearner constructParams

### Examples

```
ns = noisySine(100)
svm = constructSVMLearner()
params = constructParams(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=10^(-3:3), nu=c(0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3))
opt = CV(ns, svm, params)
```

---

## fastCV *The Fast Cross-Validation via Sequential Testing (CVST) Procedure*

---

### Description

CVST is an improved cross-validation procedure which uses non-parametric testing coupled with sequential analysis to determine the best parameter set on linearly increasing subsets of the data. By eliminating underperforming candidates quickly and keeping promising candidates as long as possible, the method speeds up the computation while preserving the capability of a full cross-validation.

### Usage

```
fastCV(train, learner, params, setup, test = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `train` | The data set as `CVST.data` object. |
| `learner` | The learner as `CVST.learner` object. |
| `params` | the parameter grid as `CVST.params` object. |
| `setup` | A `CVST.setup` object containing the necessary parameter for the CVST procedure. |
| `test` | An independent test set that should be used at each step. If `NULL` then the remaining data after learning a model at each step is used instead. |
| `verbose` | Should the procedure report the performance after each step? |

### Value

Returns the optimal parameter settings as determined by fast cross-validation via sequential testing.

### Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

### References

Tammo Krueger, Danny Panknin, and Mikio Braun. Fast cross-validation via sequential testing. Journal of Machine Learning Research 16 (2015) 1103-1155. URL https://jmlr.org/papers/volume16/krueger15a/krueger15a.pdf.

## See Also

CV constructCVSTModel constructData constructLearner constructParams

## Examples

```
ns = noisySine(100)
svm = constructSVMLearner()
params = constructParams(kernel="rbfdot", sigma=10^(-3:3), nu=c(0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3))
opt = fastCV(ns, svm, params, constructCVSTModel())
```

---

# noisyDonoho *Generate Donoho's Toy Data Sets*

---

## Description

This function allows to generate noisy variants of the toy signals introduced by Donoho (see reference section). The scaling is chosen to reflect the setting as discussed in the original paper.

## Usage

```
noisyDonoho(n, fun = doppler, sigma = 1)
blocks(x, scale = 3.656993)
bumps(x, scale = 10.52884)
doppler(x, scale = 24.22172)
heavisine(x, scale = 2.356934)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| n | Number of data points that should be generated. |
| fun | Function to use to generate the data. |
| sigma | Standard deviation of the noise component. |
| x | Number of data points that should be generated. |
| scale | Scaling parameter. |

## Value

Returns a data set of type CVST.data

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

David L. Donoho and Jain M. Johnstone. Ideal spatial adaptation by wavelet shrinkage. *Biometrika*, 81 (3) 425–455, 1994.

## See Also

constructData

## Examples

```
bumpsSet = noisyDonoho(1000, fun=bumps)
plot(bumpsSet)
dopplerSet = noisyDonoho(1000, fun=doppler)
plot(dopplerSet)
```

---

noisySine *Regression and Classification Toy Data Set*

---

## Description

Regression and Classification Toy Data Set based on the sine and sinc function.

## Usage

```
noisySine(n, dim = 5, sigma = 0.25)
noisySinc(n, dim = 2, sigma = 0.1)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| n | Number of data points that should be generated. |
| dim | Intrinsic dimensionality of the data set (see references for details). |
| sigma | Standard deviation of the noise component. |

## Value

Returns a data set of type CVST.data

## Author(s)

Tammo Krueger <tammokrueger@googlemail.com>

## References

Tammo Krueger, Danny Panknin, and Mikio Braun. Fast cross-validation via sequential testing. Journal of Machine Learning Research 16 (2015) 1103-1155. URL https://jmlr.org/papers/volume16/krueger15a/krueger15a.pdf.

## See Also

constructData

## Examples

```
nsine = noisySine(1000)
plot(nsine, col=nsine$y)
nsinc = noisySinc(1000)
plot(nsinc)
```

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