

# Package ‘abctools’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Tools for ABC Analyses

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**Suggests** ggplot2, abc.data

**Imports** methods

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**LazyLoad** yes

**URL** <https://github.com/dennisprangle/abctools>

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abctools-package	<i>Tools for ABC analyses</i>
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## Description

Tools for approximate Bayesian computation including summary statistic selection and assessing coverage.

## Details

Package:	abctools
Type:	Package
Version:	1.1.4
Date:	31-10-2022
License:	GPL-2   GPL-3
LazyLoad:	yes

## Author(s)

Matt Nunes and Dennis Prangle

Maintainer: Matthew Nunes <m.nunes@lancaster.ac.uk>

## References

This package is described in:

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

For details on methods for summary statistics selection, see:

Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.

Fearnhead, P. and Prangle, D. (2012) Constructing summary statistics for approximate Bayesian computation: semi-automatic approximate Bayesian computation. *J. R. Stat. Soc. B* **74**, Part 3, 1–28.

Joyce, P. and P. Marjoram (2008) Approximately sufficient statistics and Bayesian computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **7** Article 26.

Nunes, M. A. and Balding, D. J. (2010) On Optimal Selection of Summary Statistics for Approximate Bayesian Computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **9**, Iss. 1, Art. 34.

Details of ABC coverage methods appear in:

Prangle D., Blum M. G. B., Popovic G., Sisson S. A. (2014) Diagnostic tools of approximate Bayesian computation using the coverage property. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics* **56**, Issue 4, 309–329.

### See Also

[abc](#)

---

AS.select

*Summary statistics selection using approximate sufficiency.*

---

### Description

This function uses approximate sufficiency to assess subsets of summary statistics for ABC inference.

### Usage

```
AS.select(obs, param, sumstats, obspar=NULL, abcmethod=abc,
grid=10, inturn=TRUE, limit=ncol(sumstats), allow.none=FALSE,
do.err=FALSE, final.dens=FALSE, errfn=rsse, trace=TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

obs	(matrix of) observed summary statistics.
param	matrix of simulated model parameter values.
sumstats	matrix of simulated summary statistics.
obspar	optional observed parameters (for use to assess simulation performance).
abcmethod	a function to perform ABC inference, e.g. the abc function from package <i>abc</i> .
grid	the number of bins into which to divide the posterior sample for the approximate sufficiency calculation.

<code>inturn</code>	a boolean value indicating whether "bad" statistics should be dropped and tested sequentially ( <code>inturn=TRUE</code> ) or all at the end ( <code>inturn=FALSE</code> ).
<code>limit</code>	an optional integer indicating whether to limit summary selection to subsets of a maximum size.
<code>allow.none</code>	a boolean values indicating whether an empty subset of statistics is considered in the selection procedure.
<code>do.err</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the simulation error should be returned. Note: if <code>do.err=TRUE</code> , <code>obspar</code> must be supplied.
<code>final.dens</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the posterior sample should be returned.
<code>errfn</code>	an error function to assess ABC inference performance.
<code>trace</code>	whether to show progress messages.
<code>...</code>	any other optional arguments to the ABC inference procedure (e.g. arguments to the <code>abc</code> function).

### Details

The summary selection procedure works by sequentially testing randomly chosen statistics for inclusion, using the ratio of ABC posterior samples to determine whether a statistic is added. Since adding a statistic may result in a suboptimal subset of summaries, the included statistics are then individually dropped and retested, to determine whether a smaller subset of statistics is equally / more informative than the accepted set of statistics.

### Value

A list with the following components:

<code>best</code>	the final subset of included statistics.
<code>err</code>	simulation error (if <code>obspar</code> is supplied and <code>do.err=TRUE</code> ).
<code>post.sample</code>	an array of dimension <code>nacc x npar x ndatasets</code> giving the posterior sample for each observed dataset. Not returned if <code>final.dens=FALSE</code> .

### Note

The approximate sufficiency techniques described here are only suitable for single parameters only.

### Author(s)

Matt Nunes

### References

- Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.
- Joyce, P. and P. Marjoram (2008) Approximately sufficient statistics and Bayesian computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **7** Article 26.
- Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

**See Also**[AS.test](#)**Examples**

```
# load example data:

data(coal)
data(coalobs)

param<-coal[,2]
simstats<-coal[,4:6]

# use matrix below just in case to preserve dimensions.

obsstats<-matrix(coalobs[,4:6],nrow=1)

# example of AS.select:

## Not run:
tmp <-AS.select(obsstats, param, simstats, tol=.1, method="neuralnet",
nument=5, allow.none=FALSE, inturn=TRUE)

tmp$best

## End(Not run)
```

---

AS.test	<i>Test for relative approximate sufficiency between two posterior samples.</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

The function tests to determine adding a (set of) statistics is informative in ABC inference.

**Usage**

```
AS.test(grid = 10, x1, x2, supp=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

grid	the number of bins into which to divide the posterior sample for the approximate sufficiency calculation.
x1	the posterior sample using the first set of summary statistics.
x2	the posterior sample using the second (alternative) set of summary statistics.
supp	the "support" of the prior (e.g. uniform bounds).

## Details

After dividing each posterior sample into a number of bins (specified by `grid`), the function computes the ratio of the posterior densities. This is seen as a measure of information added (sufficiency) by using the alternative posterior sample instead of the first posterior sample. If the ratio exceeds a particular threshold (a number of standard deviations away from the expected counts in each bin), then the alternative set of summaries is seen as being more informative.

## Value

`extreme` a boolean value indicating whether the alternative posterior sample is more informative than the first (i.e. the extra summary statistics add information).

## Author(s)

Matt Nunes

## References

Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.

Joyce, P. and P. Marjoram (2008) Approximately sufficient statistics and Bayesian computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **7** Article 26.

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

## See Also

[AS.select](#)

## Examples

```
#create two fake posterior samples:  
  
x1<-runif(10000)  
x2<-rnorm(10000)  
  
AS.test(x1=x1,x2=x2,supp=range(x2))
```

---

`coal`*Examples of coalescent data*

---

**Description**

Data generated from a coalescent model for genetic variation.

**Usage**

```
data(coal)
```

**Format**

Matrices of parameters (first 2 columns) and summary statistics (remaining columns) from a coalescent model.

**Details**

"coal" contains 100,000 simulated datasets to use for an ABC analysis. "coalobs" contains 100 which can each be used as observed datasets. This allows methods to be tested on many different observations.

The parameters are the scaled mutation rate ( $\theta$ ) and scaled recombination rate ( $\rho$ ).

The summary statistics are the number of segregating sites (segsites), independent Uniform[0,25] random noise (unif), the pairwise mean number of nucleotidic differences (meandiff), the mean  $R^2$  across pairs separated by  $< 10\%$  of the simulated genomic regions (R2), the number of distinct haplotypes (nhap), the frequency of the most common haplotype (fhap), and the number of singleton haplotypes (shap).

To simulate a dataset 5,001 basepair DNA sequences for 50 individuals are generated from the coalescent model, with recombination, under the infinite-sites mutation model, using the software ms (Hudson 2002)

Data of this form has been analysed in several ABC papers. See the references for more details.

**References**

- Blum, M. G. B., M. A. Nunes, D. Prangle and S. A. Sisson 'A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation' *Statistical Applications in Genetics and Molecular Biology* 13 (2014)
- Hudson, R. R. 'Generating samples under a Wright-Fisher neutral model of genetic variation' *Bioinformatics* 18 (2002)
- Joyce, P. and P. Marjoram 'Approximately sufficient statistics and Bayesian computation' *Statistical Applications in Genetics and Molecular Biology* 7 (2008)
- Nunes, M. A. and D. J. Balding 'On optimal selection of summary statistics for approximate Bayesian computation' *Statistical Applications in Genetics and Molecular Biology* 9 (2010)
- Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* 7 (2016)

combat *table of combinations*

---

### Description

This function creates a table of binary masks representing combinations of statistics.

### Usage

```
combat(n, limit = NULL)
```

### Arguments

`n` number of statistics

`limit` an optional (integer) value indicating whether to limit the table to subsets up to a certain size.

### Value

`m` The matrix of binary masks.

### Author(s)

Matt Nunes

### Examples

```
#  
# Find all binary masks of a set of statistics {C1,C2,C3,C4},  
# listing all singlets, pairs, triples and then the whole set:  
  
combat(4, TRUE)
```

---

cov.pi *Coverage property diagnostics*

---

### Description

These functions produce diagnostic statistics for an ABC analysis to judge when the tolerance level is small enough to produce roughly no approximation error. This is done by running analyses for many pseudo-observed test data sets and assessing whether the results satisfy the "coverage property" (roughly speaking: credible intervals have the claimed coverage levels).



**Usage**

```
cov.pi(param, sumstat, testsets, tol, eps, diagnostics = c(),
        multicore = FALSE, cores, method = "rejection", nacc.min=20, ...)
```

```
cov.mc(index, sumstat, testsets, tol, eps, diagnostics = c(),
        multicore = FALSE, cores, method = "rejection", nacc.min=20, ...)
```

```
covstats.pi(raw, diagnostics = c("KS", "CGR"), nacc.min = 20)
```

```
covstats.mc(raw, index, diagnostics = c("freq", "loglik.binary",
    "loglik.multi"), nacc.min = 20)
```

**Arguments**

param	A data frame of parameter values. It must have the same number of rows as sumstat and contain numeric values only.
index	A vector of model indices. Any value which can be converted to factor is ok (e.g. character or numeric entries). It must have the same length as nrow(sumstat).
sumstat	A data frame of summary statistic values whose the ith row has been simulated using param[i,] or index[i].
testsets	A numeric vector giving the rows of sumstat to be used as pseudo-observed data to test the coverage property.
tol	A vector of proportions of ABC acceptances which will be investigated.
eps	A vector of ABC thresholds which will be investigated. These are used when tol is missing. One of eps and tol must be supplied.
diagnostics	A character vector containing diagnostics to be calculated. Allowable values for parameter inference are "KL" (Kullback-Leibler based test) or "CGR" (Cook, Gelman and Rubin test). Allowable values for model choice are "freq" (a separate frequency-based test for each model), "loglik.binary" (a separate log-likelihood based test for each model) or "loglik.multi" (single log-likelihood based test). If diagnostics is empty only raw results will be returned.
multicore	Whether to use the <a href="#">parallel</a> package to perform analyses of test datasets in parallel.
cores	Number of cores to use when multicore==TRUE.
method	Method used for ABC analysis. The default is "rejection". For alternatives see <a href="#">abc</a> (parameter inference) or <a href="#">postpr</a> (model choice).
nacc.min	Minimum number of ABC acceptances required to compute diagnostics. See Values for details of how this is used.
...	Extra arguments to be supplied to the function performing abc analysis i.e. <a href="#">abc</a> (parameter inference) or <a href="#">postpr</a> (model choice).
raw	Raw output component from cov.pi or cov.mc for which diagnostics are to be calculated.

## Details

These functions are intended to be applied as follows (i) random models/parameters are generated, data sets simulated for each and summary statistics calculated (ii) these are input to `cov.pi` (parameter inference) or `cov.mc` (model choice) which outputs raw results and diagnostics (see below) (iii) the output can be passed to `covstats.pi` or `covstats.mc` if further diagnostics are required later (or to find diagnostics for a subset of the pseudo-observed data).

The `cov.pi` and `cov.mc` functions operate by performing many ABC analyses. The user specifies which datasets amongst those simulated will be used as pseudo-observed "test" data to be analysed. The results of each analysis are compared to the known model/parameters which produced the data to see whether they are consistent in a particular sense (i.e. if the coverage property is satisfied). Various diagnostics are provided to judge this easily, and determine what happens as the ABC threshold is varied. Raw results are also returned which can be investigated in more detail.

All ABC analyses use a rejection sampling algorithm implemented by the `abc` package. The user may specify regression post-processing as part of this analysis.

## Value

Output of `cov.pi` or `cov.mc` is a list of two data frames, `raw` and `diag`. The `covstats.pi` and `covstats.mc` functions just return the latter data frame.

For parameter inference, `raw` contains estimated cdfs (referred to as `p0` estimates in Prangle et al 2013) of the true parameter values for each input configuration (i.e. for every `tol/eps` value at every test dataset). `diag` is a data frame of `tol/eps` value, parameter name, diagnostic name and p-value. Here the p-value relates to the test statistic used as a diagnostic. It is NA if any analyses had fewer than `nacc.min` acceptances (Diagnostics based on a small number of acceptances can be misleading.)

For model choice, `raw` contains estimated model weights for each input configuration, and `diag` is a data frame of `tol/eps` value, model, diagnostic name and p-value (NA under the same conditions as before.)

In both cases, `raw` also reports the number of acceptances. Note that `raw` contains `p0` estimates/weights of NA if regression correction is requested but there are too few acceptances to compute it.

## Author(s)

Dennis Prangle

## References

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) `abctools`: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

Prangle D., Blum M. G. B., Popovic G., Sisson S. A. (2014) Diagnostic tools of approximate Bayesian computation using the coverage property. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics* **56**, Issue 4, 309–329.

## See Also

`mc.ci` for a diagnostic plot of raw model choice results

`abc` and `postpr` to perform ABC for a given dataset

## Examples

```
##The examples below are chosen to run relatively quickly (<5 mins)
##and do not represent recommended tuning choices.
## Not run:
data(musigma2)
library(ggplot2)
##Parameter inference example
parameters <- data.frame(par.sim)
sumstats <- data.frame(stat.sim)
covdiag <- cov.pi(param=parameters, sumstat=sumstats, testsets=1:100,
tol=seq(0.1,1,by=0.1), diagnostics=c("KS"))

#Plot of diagnostic results
qplot(x=tol, y=pvalue, facets=~parameter, data=covdiag$diag)
#Plot of raw results for tol=0.5
qplot(x=mu, data=subset(covdiag$raw, tol==0.5))
#Plot of raw results for tol=0.5
qplot(x=sigma2, data=subset(covdiag$raw, tol==0.5))

#Compute CGR statistic and plot
cgrouit <- covstats.pi(covdiag$raw, diagnostics="CGR")
qplot(x=tol, y=pvalue, facets=~parameter, data=cgrouit)

##Model choice example, based on simple simulated data
index <- sample(1:2, 1E4, replace=TRUE)
sumstat <- ifelse(index==1, rnorm(1E4,0,1), rnorm(1E4,0,exp(1E4,1)))
sumstat <- data.frame(ss=sumstat)
covdiag <- cov.mc(index=index, sumstat=sumstat, testsets=1:100,
tol=seq(0.1,1,by=0.1), diagnostics=c("freq"))
qplot(x=tol, y=pvalue, data=covdiag$diag)
llout <- covstats.mc(covdiag$raw, index=index,
diagnostics="loglik.binary")
qplot(x=tol, y=pvalue, data=llout)
mc.ci(covdiag$raw, tol=0.5, modname=1, modtrue=index[1:200])

## End(Not run)
```

---

mc.ci

*Diagnostic plots for model choice coverage output*


---

## Description

Plots credible interval estimates for raw model choice output from `cov.mc`. This is used to investigate whether the coverage property holds and validate whether diagnostic statistics are acting as intended.

## Usage

```
mc.ci(raw, tol, eps, modname, modtrue, nbins=5,
bintype=c("interval", "quantile"), bw=FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

raw	The raw item from the list output by cov.mc.
tol	The value of tol to test.
eps	The value of eps to test. This is used when tol is missing. One of eps and tol must be supplied.
modname	The name of the model to test.
modtrue	Vector containing the true models generating the pseudo-observed test data. i.e. modtrue[i] is the model generating dataset i.
nbins	Number of bins to display.
bintype	How to choose the bins (see Details).
bw	Whether to produce a black and white image. Default is FALSE. Colour is used to make different bins stand out.
...	Additional plotting arguments - anything that can be used by plot.

### Details

This function provides a plot which can be used as an informal test of the model choice coverage hypothesis for a particular value of eps or tol and choice of model. The plot is more flexible than the diagnostics, but not suitable as the basis of a formal test.

For each pseudo-observed data set, the ABC probability that the model is modname is taken from raw, and the true model is taken from modtrue. The probabilities are binned into nbins intervals, either of equal length or based on nbins+1 equally spaced empirical quantiles. The function estimates the observed probability of modname within each bin using Bayesian inference for a binomial proportion under a uniform prior. The plot shows the mean and 95% credible interval plotted against predicted probabilities. Informally, the coverage property should be rejected if predicted values are too unlikely given the observed values.

### Author(s)

Dennis Prangle

### References

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

Prangle D., Blum M. G. B., Popovic G., Sisson S. A. (2014) Diagnostic tools of approximate Bayesian computation using the coverage property. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics* **56**, Issue 4, 309–329.

### See Also

[cov.mc](#) to produce the input for this function

## Examples

```
##The examples below are chosen to run relatively quickly (<5 mins)
##and do not represent recommended tuning choices.
## Not run:
index <- sample(1:2, 1E4, replace=TRUE)
sumstat <- ifelse(index==1, rnorm(1E4,0,1), rnorm(1E4,0,exp(1E4,1)))
sumstat <- data.frame(ss=sumstat)
covdiag <- cov.mc(index=index, sumstat=sumstat, testsets=1:100,
tol=seq(0.1,1,by=0.1), diagnostics=c("freq"))
mc.ci(covdiag$raw, tol=0.5, modname=1, modtrue=index[1:100])

## End(Not run)
```

---

mincrit	<i>Summary statistics selection by minimizing a posterior sample measure.</i>
---------	---

---

## Description

The function cycles through all possible subsets of summary statistics and computes a criterion from the posterior sample. The subset which achieves the minimum is chosen as the most informative subset.

## Usage

```
mincrit(obs, param, sumstats, obspar = NULL, abcmethod = abc,
crit = nn.ent, sumsubs = 1:ncol(sumstats), limit=length(sumsubs),
do.only = NULL, verbose = TRUE, do.crit = TRUE, do.err = FALSE,
final.dens = FALSE, errfn = rsse, ...)
```

## Arguments

obs	(matrix of) observed summary statistics.
param	matrix of simulated model parameter values.
sumstats	matrix of simulated summary statistics.
obspar	optional observed parameters (for use to assess simulation performance).
abcmethod	a function to perform ABC inference, e.g. the <code>abc</code> function from package <i>abc</i> .
crit	a function to minimize to measure information from a posterior sample, e.g. <code>nn.ent</code> .
sumsubs	an optional index into the summary statistics to limit summary selection to a specific subset of summaries.
limit	an optional integer indicating whether to limit summary selection to subsets of a maximum size.
do.only	an optional index into the summary statistics combination table. Can be used to limit entropy calculations to certain summary statistics subsets only.

<code>verbose</code>	a boolean value indicating whether informative statements should be printed to screen.
<code>do.crit</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the measure on the posterior sample should be returned.
<code>do.err</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the simulation error should be returned. Note: if <code>do.err=TRUE</code> , <code>obspar</code> must be supplied.
<code>final.dens</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the posterior sample should be returned.
<code>errfn</code>	an error function to assess ABC inference performance.
<code>...</code>	any other optional arguments to the ABC inference procedure (e.g. arguments to the <code>abc</code> function).

### Details

The function uses a criterion (e.g. sample entropy) as a proxy for information in a posterior sample. The criterion for each possible subset of statistics is computed, and the best subset is judged as the one which minimises this vector of values.

### Value

A list with the following components:

<code>best</code>	the best subset(s) of statistics.
<code>critvals</code>	the calculated criterion values (if <code>do.crit=TRUE</code> ).
<code>err</code>	simulation error (if <code>obspar</code> is supplied and <code>do.err=TRUE</code> ).
<code>order</code>	the subsets considered during the algorithm (same as the input <code>do.only</code> ).
<code>post.sample</code>	an array of dimension <code>nacc x npar x ndatasets</code> giving the posterior sample for each observed dataset. Not returned if <code>final.dens=FALSE</code> .
<code>sumsubs</code>	an index into the subsets considered during the algorithm.

### Warning

These functions are computationally intensive due to the cyclic ABC inference procedure.

### Author(s)

Matt Nunes

### References

- Nunes, M. A. and Balding, D. J. (2010) On Optimal Selection of Summary Statistics for Approximate Bayesian Computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **9**, Iss. 1, Art. 34.
- Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) `abctools`: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

### See Also

[nn.ent](#)

## Examples

```
# load example data:

data(coal)
data(coalobs)

param<-coal[1:50000,2]
simstats<-coal[1:50000,4:6]

# use matrix below just in case to preserve dimensions.

obsstats<-matrix(coalobs[1,4:6],nrow=1)
obsparam<-matrix(coalobs[1,1])

# example of entropy minimization algorithm:

tmp <-mincrit(obsstats, param, simstats, tol=.01, method="rejection",
do.crit=TRUE)

tmp$critvals
```

---

nn.ent	<i>Works out entropy of a sample.</i>
--------	---------------------------------------

---

## Description

The function computes the k nearest neighbour sample entropy.

## Usage

```
nn.ent(th, k=4)
```

## Arguments

th	The sample from which to compute the entropy.
k	The order (number of neighbours) of the sample entropy calculation.

## Details

The sample entropy gives a measure of information in a (posterior) sample, or lack of it.

## Value

The k nearest neighbour entropy from the sample.

**Warning**

For high-dimensional posterior samples, the `nn.ent` calculation is quite computationally intensive.

**Author(s)**

Matt Nunes

**References**

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) `abctools`: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

Singh, H. et al. (2003) Nearest neighbor estimates of entropy. *Am. J. Math. Man. Sci.*, **23**, 301–321.

Shannon, C. E. and Weaver, W. (1948) A mathematical theory of communication. *Bell Syst. Tech. J.*, **27**, 379–423.

**See Also**

[mincrit](#)

**Examples**

```
# create a dummy sample to calculate an entropy measure:  
  
theta<-rnorm(10000)  
  
nn.ent(theta)
```

---

recalibrationABC

*ABC inference with a recalibration adjustment*

---

**Description**

This function post-processes ABC output with the aim of calibrating its credible intervals to have the correct probabilities. The approach can be thought of as extending coverage tests to correct deviations from the desired posterior. See the reference for details.

**Usage**

```
recalibrationABC(target, param, sumstat, eps, tol, method="rejection",  
multicore=FALSE, cores=NULL, abc.p.options=list(method="loclinear"), ...)
```



**Arguments**

target	A vector of the observed summary statistics.
param	A data frame of the simulated parameter values.
sumstat	A data frame of the simulated summary statistics.
eps	The ABC acceptance threshold i.e. max acceptable distance. This or tol must be specified (but not both).
tol	The ABC acceptance tolerance i.e. proportion of simulations to accept. This or eps must be specified (but not both).
method	A character string indicating the type of ABC algorithm to be applied. Possible values are "rejection", "loclinear", "neuralnet" and "ridge".
multicore	Whether to use the <code>parallel</code> package to perform analyses of test datasets in parallel.
cores	Number of cores to use when <code>multicore==TRUE</code> .
abc.p.options	A list of further arguments to be supplied to the <code>abc</code> command when applying regression correction to the p-values based on the summary statistics.
...	Further arguments to be supplied to the <code>abc</code> command when performing inference for each simulated data set. Typically these will control regression correction. If omitted no correction is performed.

**Value**

A list with the following components is returned.

`sample.abc` is the ordinary ABC output sample (with any regression correction requested). The rows represent accepted samples and the columns represent the parameters.

`sample.recal` is the ABC output sample following recalibration. The rows are Monte Carlo draws from an approximation to the posterior and the columns represent the parameters.

`sample.regrecal` is the ABC output sample following coverage correction including regression correction of p-values. It has a similar form to `sample.recal`.

`weights` are weights for the ABC output. These apply to all types of ABC.

Each row of `pvalues` corresponds to a particular accepted dataset. It gives the p-values of the true parameters within the ABC sample generated from this data.

Each row of `pvalues.reg` corresponds to `pvalues` after a regression-adjustment has been performed on them.

`svalues` is a subset of the rows of `sumstat` corresponding to accepted datasets. These can be used in conjunction with `pvalues` to perform a recalibration correction manually.

**Author(s)**

Dennis Prangle and Guilherme Rodrigues

**References**

G. S. Rodrigues, D. Prangle and S. A. Sisson (2017) Recalibration: A post-processing method for approximate Bayesian computation. *In submission*

## Examples

```
## Not run:
data(musigma2)
P <- data.frame(par.sim)
S <- data.frame(stat.sim)
out <- recalibrationABC(target=stat.obs, param=P, sumstat=S, tol=0.3)
plot(rbind(out$sample.plain[1:500,], out$sample.recal[1:500,]),
     col=c(rep("red",500), rep("blue", 500)))
##Red shows plain ABC sample, blue shows recalibrated output

## End(Not run)
```

---

rsse

*Simulation error measures.*

---

## Description

Computes error measures between two sets of data.

## Usage

```
rsse(a, b, v = 1)
sse(a, b, v = 1)
```

## Arguments

**a** Dataset 1, of dimension (n x p)  
**b** Dataset 2: of dimension (1 x p) or a vector.  
**v** an optional factor to normalise the data before computation of the RSSE.

## Value

The RSSE between dataset a and b.

## Author(s)

Matt Nunes

## Examples

```
a<-matrix(rnorm(1000),ncol=2)
b<-runif(2)

rsse(a,b)
```

saABC

*Summary statistic construction by semi-automatic ABC***Description**

saABC fits parameter estimators based on simulated data to be used as summary statistics within ABC. Fitting is by linear regression. Some simple diagnostics are provided for assistance.

**Usage**

```
saABC(theta, X, plot = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

theta	A $n \times d$ matrix or data frame of simulated parameter values. $\text{theta}[i, j]$ is the $i$ th simulated value of parameter $j$ .
X	A $n \times p$ matrix or data frame of simulated data and/or associated transformations. $X[i, ]$ is a vector of the data for parameter values $\text{theta}[i, ]$ . A constant term should not be included.
plot	When <code>plot==TRUE</code> , a plot of parameter values against fitted values is produced for each parameter as a side-effect.

**Details**

The semi-automatic ABC method of Fearnhead and Prangle (2012) is as follows:

- 1) Simulate parameter vectors  $\theta_i$  and corresponding data sets  $x_i$  for  $i=1,2,\dots,N$ .
- 2) Use the simulations to fit an estimator of each parameter as a linear combination of  $f(x)$ , where  $f(x)$  is a vector of transformations of  $x$  (including a constant term).
- 3) Run ABC using these simulations.

The saABC function automates step 2 of this process. The user must supply simulated parameter values `theta` and corresponding  $f(x)$  values `x` (n.b. excluding the constant term). The function returns weights for the linear combinations which can easily be used for step 3. In particular, fitted weights are returned as a matrix of weights for the columns of `x` and a vector of constants. The vector can usually be discarded, as it is not needed to find differences between summary statistics.

The function also returns BIC values for each parameter so that the user can judge the quality of the fits, and compare different choices of  $f(x)$ . Diagnostic plots of supplied parameter values against fitted values are also optionally provided. These are useful for exploratory purposes when there are a small number of parameters, but provide less protection from overfitting than BIC values.

**Value**

B0	Vector of constant terms from fitted regressions.
B	Matrix of weights from fitted regressions.
BICs	Vector of BIC values for each fitted regression.

**Author(s)**

Dennis Prangle

**References**

Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.

Fearnhead, P. and Prangle, D. (2012) Constructing summary statistics for approximate Bayesian computation: semi-automatic approximate Bayesian computation. *J. R. Stat. Soc. B* **74**, Part 3, 1–28.

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

**Examples**

```
set.seed(1)
theta <- matrix(runif(2E3), ncol=2)
colnames(theta) <- c("Mean", "Variance")

X <- replicate(5, rnorm(1E3, theta[,1], theta[,2]))

saABC(theta, X)$BICs
saABC(theta, cbind(X, X^2))$BICs ##Variance parameter estimated better
```

---

selectsumm

*Generic function for selecting summary statistics in ABC inference.*


---

**Description**

The function implements functions which implement summary statistics selection methods.

**Usage**

```
selectsumm(obs, param, sumstats, obspar=NULL, ssmethod = mincrit,
verbose = TRUE, final.dens = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

obs	(matrix of) observed summary statistics.
param	matrix of simulated model parameter values.
sumstats	matrix of simulated summary statistics.
obspar	optional observed parameters (for use to assess simulation performance).
ssmethod	a function to perform summary statistics selection. Current methods are AS.select and mincrit.

verbose	a boolean value indicating whether informative statements should be printed to screen.
final.dens	a boolean value indicating whether the posterior sample should be returned.
...	any other optional arguments to the summary selection procedure.

### Details

The function is essentially a wrapper for more specific summary selection methods, and is designed to be flexible for future additions and minimization criteria. See the help files for each summary selection method for more details.

### Value

A list with the following components:

best	the best subset(s) of statistics.
critvals	the calculated criterion values (if <code>do.crit=TRUE</code> ).
err	simulation error (if <code>obspar</code> is supplied and <code>do.err=TRUE</code> ).
order	the subsets considered during the algorithm (same as the input <code>do.only</code> ).
post.sample	an array of dimension <code>nacc x npar x ndatasets</code> giving the posterior sample for each observed dataset. Not returned if <code>final.dens=FALSE</code> .
sumsubs	an index into the subsets considered during the algorithm.

### Author(s)

Matt Nunes

### References

Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.

Fearnhead, P. and Prangle, D. (2012) Constructing summary statistics for approximate Bayesian computation: semi-automatic approximate Bayesian computation. *J. R. Stat. Soc. B* **74**, Part 3, 1–28.

Joyce, P. and P. Marjoram (2008) Approximately sufficient statistics and Bayesian computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **7** Article 26.

Nunes, M. A. and Balding, D. J. (2010) On Optimal Selection of Summary Statistics for Approximate Bayesian Computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **9**, Iss. 1, Art. 34.

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

### See Also

[mincrit](#), [AS.select](#)

## Examples

```
# load example data:

data(coal)
data(coalobs)

param<-coal[,2]
simstats<-coal[,4:6]

# use matrix below just in case to preserve dimensions.

obsstats<-matrix(coalobs[1,4:6],nrow=1)

tmp<-selectsumm(obsstats, param, simstats, ssmethod =AS.select, tol =.1,
method = "rejection", allow.none = FALSE, inturn = TRUE, hcorr = TRUE)

tmp$best
```

---

semiauto.abc

*Performs semi-automatic ABC based on summary statistics regression.*

---

## Description

Performs semi-automatic ABC based on summary statistics regression.

## Usage

```
semiauto.abc(obs, param, sumstats, obspar=NULL, abcmethod = abc,
saprop = 0.5, abcprop = 0.5, overlap = FALSE, satr = list(),
plot = FALSE, verbose = TRUE, do.err = FALSE, final.dens = FALSE,
errfn = rsse, ...)
```

## Arguments

obs	(matrix of) observed summary statistics.
param	matrix of simulated model parameter values.
sumstats	matrix of simulated summary statistics.
obspar	optional observed parameters (for use to assess simulation performance).
abcmethod	a function to perform ABC inference, e.g. the abc function from package <i>abc</i> .
saprop	a proportion, denoting the proportion of simulated datasets with which to perform semi-automatic ABC regression.
abcprop	a proportion, denoting the proportion of simulated datasets with which to perform ABC using abcmethod.

overlap	a boolean value indicating whether the simulated datasets specified by saprop and abcprop are disjoint (overlap=FALSE) or not.
satr	a list of functions indicating transformations of the summary statistics sumstats. These must be <i>*suitable*</i> functions, and must each return a vector, matrix or array with the number of elements being a multiple of the rows of sumstats. See details and examples sections for more information
plot	When plot==TRUE, a plot of parameter values against fitted values is produced for each parameter as a side-effect. This is most useful when the number of parameters is reasonably small.
verbose	a boolean value indicating whether informative statements should be printed to screen.
do.err	a boolean value indicating whether the simulation error should be returned. Note: if do.err=TRUE, obspar must be supplied.
final.dens	a boolean value indicating whether the posterior sample should be returned.
errfn	an error function to assess ABC inference performance.
...	any other optional arguments to the ABC inference procedure (e.g. arguments to the abc function).

### Details

This function is essentially a wrapper for saABC. See the details section of saABC for more details on the implementation. The argument satr can be almost anything sensible in function form, see Examples section for example specifications.

### Value

A list with the following components:

err	simulation error (if obspar is supplied and do.err=TRUE).
post.sample	an array of dimension nacc x npar x ndatasets giving the posterior sample for each observed dataset. Not returned if final.dens=FALSE.
sainfo	A list with the following information about the semi-automatic ABC run: saprop, abcprop, overlap, satr. See arguments for more details.

### Warning

The argument satr must be supplied with valid functions. Whilst there are checks, these are minimal, since doing sophisticated checks is quite difficult.

### Author(s)

Matt Nunes and Dennis Prangle

## References

Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.

Fearnhead, P. and Prangle, D. (2012) Constructing summary statistics for approximate Bayesian computation: semi-automatic approximate Bayesian computation. *J. R. Stat. Soc. B* **74**, Part 3, 1–28.

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) abctools: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

## See Also

[saABC](#), [selectsumm](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
data(coal)
data(coalobs)

param<-coal[,2]
simstats<-coal[,4:6]

# use matrix below just in case to preserve dimensions.

obsstats<-matrix(coalobs[1,4:6],nrow=1)
obsparam<-matrix(coalobs[1,1])

# perform semi-automatic ABC with summary statistics defined by
# X, X^2,X^3,X^4:
# other alternative specifications for this could be:
# list(function(x){ cbind(x,x^2,x^3,x^4) })
# list(as.function(alist(x=,cbind(x,x^2,x^3)))) etc

tmp<-semiauto.abc(obsstats, param, simstats,tol=.01,method="rejection",
satr=list(function(x){outer(x,Y=1:4,"^")}))

tmp$sa.info

# both these functions may be problematic:

tmp<-semiauto.abc(obsstats, param, simstats,tol=.01,method="rejection",
satr=list(unique,sum))

## End(Not run)
```



---

<code>stage2</code>	<i>stage2</i>
---------------------	---------------

---

## Description

Summary statistics selection for ABC inference using estimated posterior error.

## Usage

```
stage2(obs, param, sumstats, obspar = NULL, init.best, dsets = 100,
sumsubs = 1:ncol(sumstats), limit = length(sumsubs), do.only=NULL,
do.err = FALSE, final.dens = FALSE, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>obs</code>	observed summary statistics.
<code>param</code>	matrix of simulated model parameter values.
<code>sumstats</code>	matrix of simulated summary statistics.
<code>obspar</code>	optional observed parameters (for use to assess simulation performance).
<code>init.best</code>	an initial estimate of the best summary statistics subset. Can be either an index into the summaries combination table (see <a href="#">compmat</a> ) or a vector of indices into <code>1:nstats</code> . See details.
<code>dsets</code>	the number of simulated datasets to treat as observed when estimating the posterior error. See details.
<code>sumsubs</code>	an optional index into the summary statistics to limit summary selection to a specific subset of summaries.
<code>limit</code>	an optional integer indicating whether to limit summary selection to subsets of a maximum size.
<code>do.only</code>	an optional index into the summary statistics combination table. Can be used to limit entropy calculations to certain summary statistics subsets only.
<code>do.err</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the simulation error should be returned. Note: if <code>do.err=TRUE</code> , <code>obspar</code> must be supplied.
<code>final.dens</code>	a boolean value indicating whether the posterior sample should be returned.
<code>...</code>	any other optional arguments to the ABC inference procedure (e.g. arguments to the <code>abc</code> function).

## Details

The function uses the `init.best` set of summaries to determine the `dsets` simulated datasets which are closest (in Euclidean norm) to the observed dataset. Since the model parameters generating the summary statistics are known for these simulated datasets, for each candidate subset of summary statistics, we can compute the error under ABC inference for each of these datasets. The best subset of summary statistics is that which minimizes this (average) error over all `dsets` datasets.

**Value**

A list with the following components:

<code>best</code>	the best subset of statistics.
<code>closest</code>	the indices of the <code>dsets</code> simulated datasets closest to the observed dataset as measured by the <code>init.best</code> subset of summaries.
<code>err</code>	simulation error (if <code>obspar</code> is supplied and <code>do.err=TRUE</code> ).
<code>order</code>	the subsets considered during the algorithm (same as the input <code>do.only</code> ).
<code>post.sample</code>	an array of dimension <code>nacc x npar x ndatasets</code> giving the posterior sample for each observed dataset. Not returned if <code>final.dens=FALSE</code> .
<code>sumsubs</code>	an index into the subsets considered during the algorithm.

**Warning**

This function is computationally intensive due to its cyclic ABC inference procedure.

**Author(s)**

Matt Nunes

**References**

Blum, M. G. B, Nunes, M. A., Prangle, D. and Sisson, S. A. (2013) A comparative review of dimension reduction methods in approximate Bayesian computation. *Stat. Sci.* **28**, Issue 2, 189–208.

Nunes, M. A. and Balding, D. J. (2010) On Optimal Selection of Summary Statistics for Approximate Bayesian Computation. *Stat. Appl. Gen. Mol. Biol.* **9**, Iss. 1, Art. 34.

Nunes, M. A. and Prangle, D. (2016) `abctools`: an R package for tuning approximate Bayesian computation analyses. *The R Journal* **7**, Issue 2, 189–205.

**Examples**

```
# load example data:

data(coal)
data(coalobs)

param<-coal[,2]
simstats<-coal[,5:8]

# use matrix below just in case to preserve dimensions.

obsstats<-matrix(coalobs[1,5:8],nrow=1)
obsparam<-matrix(coalobs[1,1])

## Not run:
tmp<-stage2(obsstats, param, simstats, init.bes=c(1,3), dsets = 10)
```

*stage2*

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tmp\$best

## End(Not run)

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