

Package ‘ezcox’

May 8, 2026

Type Package

Title Easily Process a Batch of Cox Models

Version 1.0.4

Date 2023-5-8

Maintainer Shixiang Wang <w_shixiang@163.com>

Description A tool to operate a batch of univariate or multivariate Cox models and return tidy result.

License GPL-3

URL <https://github.com/ShixiangWang/ezcox>

BugReports <https://github.com/ShixiangWang/ezcox/issues>

Depends R (>= 3.5)

Imports dplyr (>= 0.8.3), forestmodel, ggplot2, magrittr (>= 1.5), methods, purrr (>= 0.3.2), rlang (>= 0.1.2), scales, survival, tibble, utf8, utils

Suggests covr (>= 3.2.1), furr, future, knitr, prettydoc, rmarkdown, roxygen2 (>= 6.1.1), testthat (>= 2.1.0)

VignetteBuilder knitr

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

NeedsCompilation no

Author Shixiang Wang [aut, cre] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9855-7357>>)

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2023-05-08 09:50:11 UTC

Contents

clean_model_dir	2
ezcox	2

ezcox_group	4
ezcox_parallel	5
filter_ezcox	7
forester	8
get_models	9
show_forest	10
show_models	11

Index	13
--------------	-----------

clean_model_dir	<i>Clean ezcox Model File Directory</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Clean ezcox Model File Directory

Usage

```
clean_model_dir(model_dir = file.path(tempdir(), "ezcox"))
```

Arguments

model_dir a path for storing model results.

Value

nothing

Examples

```
clean_model_dir()
```

ezcox	<i>Run Cox Analysis in Batch Mode</i>
-------	---------------------------------------

Description

Run Cox Analysis in Batch Mode

Usage

```
ezcox(  
  data,  
  covariates,  
  controls = NULL,  
  time = "time",  
  status = "status",  
  global_method = c("likelihood", "wald", "logrank"),  
  keep_models = FALSE,  
  return_models = FALSE,  
  model_dir = file.path(tempdir(), "ezcox"),  
  verbose = TRUE,  
  ...  
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	a data.frame containing variables, time and os status.
<code>covariates</code>	column names specifying variables.
<code>controls</code>	column names specifying controls. The names with pattern "*: ()" will be treated as interaction/combination term, please make sure all column names in data are valid R variable names.
<code>time</code>	column name specifying time, default is 'time'.
<code>status</code>	column name specifying event status, default is 'status'.
<code>global_method</code>	method used to obtain global p value for cox model, should be one of "likelihood", "wald", "logrank". The likelihood-ratio test, Wald test, and score logrank statistics. These three methods are asymptotically equivalent. For large enough N, they will give similar results. For small N, they may differ somewhat. The Likelihood ratio test has better behavior for small sample sizes, so it is generally preferred.
<code>keep_models</code>	If TRUE, keep models as local files.
<code>return_models</code>	default FALSE. If TRUE, return a list contains cox models.
<code>model_dir</code>	a path for storing model results.
<code>verbose</code>	if TRUE, print extra info.
<code>...</code>	other parameters passing to <code>survival::coxph()</code> .

Value

a ezcox object

Author(s)

Shixiang Wang w_shixiang@163.com

Examples

```
library(survival)

# Build unvariable models
t1 <- ezcox(lung, covariates = c("age", "sex", "ph.ecog"))
t1

# Build multi-variable models
# Control variable 'age'
t2 <- ezcox(lung, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age")
t2

# Return models
t3 <- ezcox(lung,
  covariates = c("age", "sex", "ph.ecog"),
  return_models = TRUE
)
t3
t4 <- ezcox(lung,
  covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age",
  return_models = TRUE
)
t4
```

ezcox_group

Group Cox Analysis and Visualization

Description

Group Cox Analysis and Visualization

Usage

```
ezcox_group(
  data,
  grp_var,
  covariate,
  controls = NULL,
  time = "time",
  status = "status",
  sort = FALSE,
  decreasing = TRUE,
  add_all = FALSE,
  add_caption = TRUE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  headings = list(variable = "Group", n = "N", measure = "Hazard ratio", ci = NULL, p =
    "p"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

data	a data.frame containing variables, time and os status.
grp_var	a group column.
covariate	a covariable for cox analysis.
controls	column names specifying controls. The names with pattern "*: ()" will be treated as interaction/combination term, please make sure all column names in data are valid R variable names.
time	column name specifying time, default is 'time'.
status	column name specifying event status, default is 'status'.
sort	if TRUE, sort the models by the HR values.
decreasing	logical, should the sort order be increasing or decreasing?
add_all	if TRUE, add a group for all data rows.
add_caption	if TRUE, add caption to the plot.
verbose	if TRUE, print extra info.
headings	a list for setting the heading text.
...	other arguments passing to <code>forestmodel::forest_model()</code> .

Value

a list.

Examples

```
library(survival)
ezcox_group(lung, grp_var = "sex", covariate = "ph.ecog")
ezcox_group(lung, grp_var = "sex", covariate = "ph.ecog", controls = "age")
p <- ezcox_group(lung,
  grp_var = "sex", covariate = "ph.ecog",
  controls = "age", add_all = TRUE
)
```

ezcox_parallel

Parallely Run Cox Analysis in Batch Mode

Description

Parallely Run Cox Analysis in Batch Mode

Usage

```
ezcox_parallel(
  data,
  covariates,
  controls = NULL,
  time = "time",
  status = "status",
  batch_size = 100,
  global_method = c("likelihood", "wald", "logrank"),
  keep_models = FALSE,
  return_models = FALSE,
  model_dir = file.path(tempdir(), "ezcox"),
  parallel = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	a <code>data.frame</code> containing variables, time and os status.
<code>covariates</code>	column names specifying variables.
<code>controls</code>	column names specifying controls.
<code>time</code>	column name specifying time, default is 'time'.
<code>status</code>	column name specifying event status, default is 'status'.
<code>batch_size</code>	processing size in a batch.
<code>global_method</code>	method used to obtain global p value for cox model, should be one of "likelihood", "wald", "logrank". The likelihood-ratio test, Wald test, and score logrank statistics. These three methods are asymptotically equivalent. For large enough N, they will give similar results. For small N, they may differ somewhat. The Likelihood ratio test has better behavior for small sample sizes, so it is generally preferred.
<code>keep_models</code>	If TRUE, keep models as local files.
<code>return_models</code>	default FALSE. If TRUE, return a list contains cox models.
<code>model_dir</code>	a path for storing model results.
<code>parallel</code>	if TRUE, do parallel computation by furrr package.
<code>verbose</code>	if TRUE, print extra info. If <code>parallel</code> is TRUE, set <code>verbose</code> to FALSE may speed up.

Value

a `ezcox` object

Author(s)

Shixiang Wang w_shixiang@163.com

Examples

```
library(survival)
t <- ezcox_parallel(lung, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age")
t
```

filter_ezcox

Filter ezcox

Description

Filter ezcox

Usage

```
filter_ezcox(x, levels = "auto", type = c("both", "contrast", "ref"))
```

Arguments

x	a ezcox object from ezcox() .
levels	levels to filter, default is 'auto', it will filter all control variables.
type	default is 'both' for filtering both contrast level and reference level. It can also be 'contrast' for filtering only contrast level and 'ref' for filtering only reference level.

Value

a ezcox object

Author(s)

Shixiang Wang w_shixiang@163.com

Examples

```
library(survival)
lung$ph.ecog <- factor(lung$ph.ecog)
zz <- ezcox(lung, covariates = c("sex", "age"), controls = "ph.ecog")
zz
filter_ezcox(zz)
filter_ezcox(zz, c("0", "2"))
filter_ezcox(zz, c("0", "2"), type = "contrast")
t <- filter_ezcox(zz, c("0", "2"), type = "ref")
t
```

 forester

Create a forest plot for simple data

Description

Create a forest plot for simple data

Usage

```
forester(
  data,
  display_cols = c("Variable", "HR", "lower_95", "upper_95"),
  estimate_precision = 2,
  null_line_at = 1,
  font_family = "mono",
  x_scale_linear = TRUE,
  xlim = NULL,
  xbreaks = NULL,
  point_sizes = 3,
  point_shape = 16,
  label_hjust = 0,
  label_vjust = -1,
  label_color = "blue",
  label_size = 3
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	Data frame (required). The information to be displayed as the forest plot.
<code>display_cols</code>	4 columns stand for axis text and the forest data, default using <code>c("term", "HR", "conf.low", "conf.high")</code> .
<code>estimate_precision</code>	Integer. The number of decimal places on the estimate (default 2).
<code>null_line_at</code>	Numeric. Default 0. Change to 1 if using relative measures such as OR, RR.
<code>font_family</code>	String. The font to use for the ggplot. Default "mono".
<code>x_scale_linear</code>	Logical. Default TRUE, change to FALSE for log scale
<code>xlim</code>	Vector. Manually specify limits for the x axis as a vector length 2, i.e. <code>c(low, high)</code>
<code>xbreaks</code>	Vector. X axis breaks to label. Specify limits in xlim if using this option.
<code>point_sizes</code>	Vector. Length should be equal to 1 or <code>nrow(left_side_data)</code> . The sizes of the points in the center plot, where 3.25 is the default.
<code>point_shape</code>	Vector. Length should be equal to 1 or <code>nrow(left_side_data)</code> . The shapes of the points in the center plot, where 16 (a filled circle) is the default.
<code>label_hjust</code> , <code>label_vjust</code> , <code>label_color</code> , <code>label_size</code>	<code>hjust</code> , <code>vjust</code> color and size for the label text.

Value

a ggplot object.

Examples

```
library(survival)

t1 <- ezcox(lung, covariates = c(
  "age", "sex",
  "ph.karno", "pat.karno"
))
p <- forester(t1, xlim = c(0, 1.5))
p
p2 <- forester(t1, xlim = c(0.5, 1.5))
p2
```

get_models

Get Model List from ezcox Object

Description

Models are renamed by the formulas.

Usage

```
get_models(x, variables = NULL)
```

Arguments

x a ezcox object from [ezcox\(\)](#).
variables a character vector representing variables to select.

Value

a named list with class ezcox_models

Examples

```
library(survival)
zz <- ezcox(lung, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age", return_models = TRUE)
mds <- get_models(zz)
str(mds, max.level = 1)
```

show_forest

*Show Forest Plot***Description**

This is a wrapper of function `ezcox`, `get_models` and `show_models`. It focus on generating forest plot easily and flexibly.

Usage

```
show_forest(
  data,
  covariates,
  controls = NULL,
  time = "time",
  status = "status",
  merge_models = FALSE,
  model_names = NULL,
  vars_to_show = NULL,
  drop_controls = FALSE,
  add_caption = TRUE,
  point_size = 3,
  point_shape = 15,
  color = "red",
  banded = TRUE,
  headings = list(variable = "Variable", n = "N", measure = "Hazard ratio", ci = NULL, p
    = "p"),
  model_dir = file.path(tempdir(), "ezcox"),
  verbose = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	a data.frame containing variables, time and os status.
<code>covariates</code>	a character vector optionally listing the variables to include in the plot (defaults to all variables).
<code>controls</code>	column names specifying controls. The names with pattern " <code>*: ()</code> " will be treated as interaction/combination term, please make sure all column names in <code>data</code> are valid R variable names.
<code>time</code>	column name specifying time, default is 'time'.
<code>status</code>	column name specifying event status, default is 'status'.
<code>merge_models</code>	if 'TRUE', merge all models and keep the plot tight.
<code>model_names</code>	model names to show when <code>merge_models=TRUE</code> .

vars_to_show	default is NULL, show all variables (including controls). You can use this to choose variables to show, but remember, the models have not been changed.
drop_controls	works when covariates=NULL and models is a ezcox_models, if TRUE, it removes control variables automatically.
add_caption	if TRUE, add caption to the plot.
point_size	size of point.
point_shape	shape value of point.
color	color for point and segment.
banded	if TRUE (default), create banded background color.
headings	a list for setting the heading text.
model_dir	a path for storing model results.
verbose	if TRUE, print extra info.
...	other arguments passing to <code>forestmodel::forest_model()</code> .

Value

a ggplot object

Examples

```
library(survival)
show_forest(lung, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age")
show_forest(lung, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age", merge_models = TRUE)
show_forest(lung,
  covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age", merge_models = TRUE,
  drop_controls = TRUE
)
p <- show_forest(lung,
  covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age", merge_models = TRUE,
  vars_to_show = "sex"
)
p
```

show_models

Show Cox Models

Description

Show Cox Models

Usage

```
show_models(
  models,
  model_names = NULL,
  covariates = NULL,
  merge_models = FALSE,
  drop_controls = FALSE,
  headings = list(variable = "Variable", n = "N", measure = "Hazard ratio", ci = NULL, p
    = "p"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

models	a ezcox_models from get_models() or a (named) list of Cox models.
model_names	model names to show when merge_models=TRUE.
covariates	a character vector optionally listing the variables to include in the plot (defaults to all variables).
merge_models	if 'TRUE', merge all models and keep the plot tight.
drop_controls	works when covariates=NULL and models is a ezcox_models, if TRUE, it removes control variables automatically.
headings	a list for setting the heading text.
...	other arguments passing to forestmodel::forest_model() .

Value

a ggplot object

Examples

```
library(survival)
zz <- ezcox(lung, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"), controls = "age", return_models = TRUE)
mds <- get_models(zz)
show_models(mds)
show_models(mds, model_names = paste0("Model ", 1:2))
show_models(mds, covariates = c("sex", "ph.ecog"))
show_models(mds, drop_controls = TRUE)
show_models(mds, merge_models = TRUE)
p <- show_models(mds, merge_models = TRUE, drop_controls = TRUE)
p
```

Index

`clean_model_dir`, 2

`ezcox`, 2, 10

`ezcox()`, 7, 9

`ezcox_group`, 4

`ezcox_parallel`, 5

`filter_ezcox`, 7

`forester`, 8

`forestmodel::forest_model()`, 5, 11, 12

`get_models`, 9, 10

`get_models()`, 12

`show_forest`, 10

`show_models`, 10, 11

`survival::coxph()`, 3