# Package 'SHELF'

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Type Package

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Description Implements various methods for eliciting a probability distribution for a single parameter from an expert or a group of experts. The expert provides a small number of probability judgements, corresponding to points on his or her cumulative distribution function. A range of parametric distributions can then be fitted and displayed, with feedback provided in the form of fitted probabilities and percentiles. For multiple experts, a weighted linear pool can be calculated. Also includes functions for eliciting beliefs about population distributions, eliciting multivariate distributions using a Gaussian copula, eliciting a Dirichlet distribution, and eliciting distributions for variance parameters in a random effects meta-analysis model. R Shiny apps for most of the methods are included.

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BugReports https://github.com/OakleyJ/SHELF/issues

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SHELF-package

Tools to Support the Sheffield Elicitation Framework

# Description

Implements various methods for eliciting a probability distribution for a single parameter from an expert or a group of experts. The expert provides a small number of probability judgements, corresponding to points on his or her cumulative distribution function. A range of parametric distributions can then be fitted and displayed, with feedback provided in the form of fitted probabilities and percentiles. For multiple experts, a weighted linear pool can be calculated. Also includes functions

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for eliciting beliefs about population distributions, eliciting multivariate distributions using a Gaussian copula, eliciting a Dirichlet distribution, and eliciting distributions for variance parameters in a random effects meta-analysis model. R Shiny apps for most of the methods are included.

Package: SHELF
Type: Package
Version: 1.8.0
Date: 2021-06-18
License: GPL-2 | GPL-3

#### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

#### References

The SHELF homepage

```
## Not run:
## 1) Elicit judgements from two experts individually
# Expert A states P(X<30)=0.25, P(X<40)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# Expert B states P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<25)=0.5, P(X<35)=0.75
# Both experts state 0<X<100.
## 2) Fit distributions to each expert's judgements
v \leftarrow matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35), 3, 2)
p < -c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)</pre>
## 3) Plot the fitted distributions, including a linear pool
plotfit(myfit, lp = T)
## 4) Now elicit a single 'consensus' distribution from the two experts
# Suppose they agree P(X<25)=0.25, P(X<30)=0.5, P(X<40)=0.75
v < -c(25, 30, 40)
p < -c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)
## 5) Plot the fitted density, and report some feedback, such as the
# fitted 5th and 95th percentiles
plotfit(myfit, ql = 0.05, qu = 0.95)
feedback(myfit, quantiles = c(0.05, 0.95))
## Can also use interactive plotting
v \leftarrow matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35), 3, 2)
p < -c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)</pre>
# plot each distribution
plotfit(myfit, int = TRUE)
```

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```
## plot the distribution for one expert only
plotfit(myfit, int = TRUE, ex = 1)

## Enter judgements in interactive mode
elicit()

#' ## Enter separate judgements for each expert in interactive mode
elicitMultiple()

## End(Not run)
```

cdffeedback

Feedback for the elicited distribution of the population CDF

### **Description**

Report the median and 100(1-alpha)% credible interval for point on the population CDF

### Usage

```
cdffeedback(
  medianfit,
  precisionfit,
  quantiles = c(0.05, 0.95),
  vals = NA,
  alpha = 0.05,
  median.dist = "best",
  precision.dist = "gamma",
  n.rep = 10000
)
```

### **Arguments**

medianfit The output of a fitdist command following elicitation of the expert's beliefs

about the population median.

precisionfit The output of a fitprecision command following elicitation of the expert's beliefs

about the population precision.

quantiles A vector of quantiles  $q_1, \ldots, q_n$  required for feedback

vals A vector of population values  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  required for feedback

alpha The size of the 100(1-alpha)% credible interval

median.dist The fitted distribution for the population median. Can be one of "normal",

"lognormal" or "best", where "best" will select the best fitting out of normal

and lognormal.

precision.dist The fitted distribution for the population precision. Can either be "gamma" or

"lognormal".

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n.rep The number of randomly sampled CDFs used to estimated the median and credible interval.

#### **Details**

Denote the uncertain population CDF by

$$P(X \le x | \mu, \sigma^2),$$

where  $\mu$  is the uncertain population median and  $\sigma^{(}-2)$  is the uncertain population precision. Feedback can be reported in the form of the median and 100(1-alpha)% credible interval for (a) an uncertain probability  $P(X \leq x | \mu, \sigma^2)$ , where x is a specified population value and (b) an uncertain quantile  $x_q$  defined by  $P(X \leq x_q | \mu, \sigma^2) = q$ , where q is a specified population probability.

#### Value

Fitted median and 100(1-alpha)% credible interval for population quantiles and probabilities.

\$quantiles Each row gives the fitted median and 100(1-alpha)% credible interval for each

uncertain population quantile specified in quantiles: the fitted median and 100(1-alpha)% credible interval for the value of  $x_{q_i}$  where  $P(X \le x_{q_i} | \mu, \sigma^2) =$ 

 $q_i$ .

\$probs Each row gives the fitted median and 100(1-alpha)% credible interval for each

uncertain population probability specified in probs: the fitted median and 100(1-

alpha)% credible interval for the value of  $P(X \le x_i | \mu, \sigma^2)$ .

# **Examples**

```
## Not run: 
 prfit <- fitprecision(interval = c(60, 70), propvals = c(0.2, 0.4), trans = "log") 
 medianfit <- fitdist(vals = c(50, 60, 70), probs = c(0.05, 0.5, 0.95), lower = 0) 
 cdffeedback(medianfit, prfit, quantiles = c(0.01, 0.99), 
 vals = c(65, 75), alpha = 0.05, n.rep = 10000) 
 ## End(Not run)
```

cdfplot

Plot distribution of CDF

### Description

Plot the elicited pointwise median and credible interval for an uncertain population CDF

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### Usage

```
cdfplot(
  medianfit,
  precisionfit,
  lower = NA,
  upper = NA,
  ql = 0.025,
  qu = 0.975,
  median.dist = "best",
  precision.dist = "gamma",
  n.rep = 10000,
  n.X = 100,
  fontsize = 18
)
```

# Arguments

| medianfit      | The output of a fitdist command following elicitation of the expert's beliefs about the population median.   |
|----------------|--|
| precisionfit   | The output of a fitdist command following elicitation of the expert's beliefs about the population precision.  |
| lower          | lower limit on the x-axis for plotting.  |
| upper          | upper limit on the x-axis for plotting.  |
| ql             | lower quantile for the plotted pointwise credible interval.  |
| qu             | upper quantile for the plotted pointwise credible interval.  |
| median.dist    | The fitted distribution for the population median. Can be one of "normal", "lognormal" or "best", where "best" will select the best fitting out of normal and lognormal. |
| precision.dist | The fitted distribution for the population precision. Can either be "gamma" or "lognormal".  |
| n.rep          | The number of randomly sampled CDFs used to estimated the median and credible interval.  |
| n.X            | The number of points on the x-axis at which the CDF is evaluated.  |
|                |  |

# **Examples**

fontsize

Font size used in the plots.

compareIntervals 7

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|--------|--------|-------|------|
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| CUIIDa | 1 5 11 | ıceıv | атэ  |

Plot fitted intervals for each expert

# Description

Following elicitation of distributions from individual experts, plot fitted probability intervals for each expert.

### Usage

```
compareIntervals(
  fit,
  interval = 0.95,
  dist = "best",
  fs = 12,
  xlab = "x",
  ylab = "expert"
)
```

### **Arguments**

| fit      | An object of class elicitation  |
|----------|---|
| interval | The probability p for each interval (i.e. the fitted probability for each expert that the displayed interval contains the uncertain quantity will be $p$ )  |
| dist     | The distribution fitted to each expert's probabilities. Options are "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", and "best" (for best fitting). Can be a vector if different distributions are desired for each expert. |
| fs       | font size used in the plot.   |
| xlab     | A string or expression giving the x-axis label.   |
| ylab     | A string or expression giving the y-axis label.   |
|          |   |

```
## Not run: v \leftarrow matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35, 40, 50, 60, 35, 40, 50), 3, 4) p \leftarrow c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75) myfit \leftarrow fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100) compareIntervals(myfit, interval = 0.5)
```

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condDirichlet

Plot conditional distributions from an elicited Dirichlet prior

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can choose to condition on one of the category probability values, and then display the resulting conditional marginal distributions for the remaining categories

### Usage

```
condDirichlet(d)
```

### **Arguments**

d

A fitted Dirichlet distribution, produced from a fitDirichlet command.

### **Details**

Press Esc in the R console window to exit the elicitation session.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

copulaSample 9

| copulaSample | Generate correlated samples from elicited marginal distributions us-<br>ing a multivariate normal copula |
|--------------|--|
|              | ing a manivariate normal copina  |

### **Description**

Takes elicited marginal distributions and elicited concordance probabilities: pairwise probabilities of two uncertain quantities being greater than their medians, and generates a correlated sample, assuming the elicited marginal distributions and a multivariate normal copula

### Usage

```
copulaSample(..., cp, n, d = NULL)
```

### **Arguments**

| • • • | A list of objects of class elicitation. command, one per marginal distribution, separated by commas.   |
|-------|--|
| ср    | A matrix of pairwise concordance probabilities, with element i,j the elicited probability $P(X_i > m_i, X_j > m_j \text{ or } X_i < m_i, X_j < m_j)$ , where $m_i$ and $m_j$ are the elicited medians of the uncertain quantities $X_i$ and $X_j$ . Only the upper triangular elements in the matrix need to be specified; the remaining elements can be set at 0. |
| n     | The sample size to be generated  |
| d     | A vector of distributions to be used for each elicited quantity: a string with elements chosen from "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta". The default is to use the best fitting distribution in each case.   |

# Value

A matrix of sampled values, one row per sample.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
p1 <- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
v1 <- c(0.5, 0.55, 0.6)
v2 <- c(0.22, 0.3, 0.35)
v3 <- c(0.11, 0.15, 0.2)
myfit1 <- fitdist(v1, p1, 0, 1)
myfit2 <- fitdist(v2, p1, 0, 1)
myfit3 <- fitdist(v3, p1, 0, 1)
quad.probs <- matrix(0, 3, 3)</pre>
```

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```
quad.probs[1, 2] <- 0.4
quad.probs[1, 3] <- 0.4
quad.probs[2, 3] <- 0.3
copulaSample(myfit1, myfit2, myfit3, cp=quad.probs, n=100, d=NULL)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

elicit

Elicit judgements and fit distributions interactively

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify judgements, fit distributions and plot the fitted density functions with additional feedback. Probabilities can be specified directly, or the roulette elicitation method can be used.

### Usage

elicit()

### **Details**

Click on the "Help" tab for instructions. Click the "Quit" button to exit the app and return the results from the fitdist command. Click "Download report" to generate a report of all the fitted distributions.

#### Value

An object of class elicitation, which is returned once the Quit button has been clicked. See fitdist for details.

#### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
elicit()
## End(Not run)
```

elicitBivariate 11

elicitBivariate

Elicit a bivariate distribution using a Gaussian copula

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify judgements, fit distributions, plot the fitted density functions, and plot samples from the joint distributions. A joint distribution is constructed using a Gaussian copula, whereby the correlation parameter is determined via the elicitation of a concordance probability (a probability that the two uncertain quantities are either both greater than their medians, or both less than their medians.)

# Usage

```
elicitBivariate()
```

#### **Details**

Click on the "Help" tab for instructions. Click the "Quit" button to exit the app and return the results from the fitdist command. Click "Download report" to generate a report of all the fitted distributions for each uncertain quantity, and "Download sample" to generate a csv file with a sample from the joint distribution.

### Value

A list, with two objects of class elicitation, and the elicited concordance probability. See fitdist for details.

# Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
elicit()
## End(Not run)
```

12 elicitConcProb

| elicitConcProb | Elicit a concordance probability for two uncertain quantities, and plot a joint sample |
|----------------|--|
|                |  |

### **Description**

Given two elicited marginal distributions, open a browser in which one specifies a quadrant probability  $P(X_1 > m_1, X_2 > m_2)$ , where  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  are the elicited medians of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ . A joint sample from the distribution of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  is generated, using the two elicited marginal distributions and a bivariate normal copula.

# Usage

```
elicitConcProb(fit1, fit2, m1, m2, d = c("best", "best"), n = 10000)
```

### Arguments

| fit1 | An elicitation fit produced from the fitdist command for the first uncertain quantity $X_1$ .  |
|------|--|
| fit2 | An elicitation fit produced from the fitdist command for the second uncertain quantity $X_2$ .   |
| m1   | The elicited (or fitted) median of X_1.  |
| m2   | The elicited (or fitted) median of X_2.  |
| d    | A vector of distributions to be used for each elicited quantity: a string with elements chosen from "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "hist". The default is to use the best fitting distribution in each case. |
| n    | The number of sampled (X_1, X_2) pairs to be plotted.  |

### Value

A matrix of sampled values, one row per sample.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
p1 <- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
v1 <- c(0.5, 0.55, 0.6)
v2 <- c(0.22, 0.3, 0.35)
myfit1 <- fitdist(v1, p1, 0, 1)
myfit2 <- fitdist(v2, p1, 0, 1)
elicitConcProb(myfit1, myfit2, 0.55, 0.3, d=c("beta", "beta"))
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

elicitDirichlet 13

elicitDirichlet

Elicit a Dirichlet distribution interactively

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can elicit a Dirichlet distribution

### Usage

```
elicitDirichlet()
```

#### **Details**

Click on the "Help" tab for instructions. Click the "Quit" button to exit the app and return the results from the fitdist command. Click "Download report" to generate a report of all the fitted distributions.

### Value

The parameters of the fitted Dirichlet distribution, which are returned once the Quit button has been clicked.

#### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
elicit()
## End(Not run)
```

elicitExtension

Elicitation with the extension method

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify judgements, fit distributions, and produce various plots. Judgements are specified for the distribution of the conditioning variable Y, the median function (median of X given Y), and the distribution of X given that Y takes its median value. Plots are provided for the two elicited distributions, the median function, the conditional distribution of X for any specified Y, and the marginal distribution of X.

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### Usage

```
elicitExtension()
```

#### **Details**

Click the "Quit" button to exit the app and return the results from the fitdist command. Click "Download report" to generate a report of all the fitted distributions for each uncertain quantity, and "Download sample" to generate a csv file with a sample from the marginal distribution of X.

#### Value

A list, with two objects of class elicitation. See fitdist for details.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
elicitExtension()
## End(Not run)
```

elicitHeterogen

Elicit a prior distribution for a random effects variance parameter

### **Description**

Opens a shiny app for the roulette elicitation method. The user clicks in the grid to allocate 'probs' to 'bins'. The elicited probability inside each bin is the proportion of probs in each bin. This will fit a distribution to the ratio R of the 'largest' (97.5th percentile) to 'smallest' (2.5th percentile) treatment effect. A distribution for the variance effects variance parameter is inferred from the distribution of R, assuming that the random effects are normally distributed.

### Usage

```
elicitHeterogen(
  lower = 1,
  upper = 10,
  gridheight = 10,
  nbins = 9,
  scale.free = TRUE,
  sigma = 1
)
```

elicitHeterogen 15

### **Arguments**

The lower limit on the x-axis of the roulette grid.

upper

The upper limit on the x-axis of the roulette grid.

gridheight The maximum number of probs that can be allocated to a single bin.

nbins The number of equally sized bins drawn between lower and upper.

scale.free Logical. Default is TRUE for a scale free treatment effect, such as an odds ratio,

hazard ratio or relative risk. Set to FALSE for a treatment effect that is scale dependent, or is on the probit scale. An approximation to the treatment effect on

the logit scale will be used (assuming a dichotomised response).

sigma Individual observation standard deviation, required if scale.free is FALSE.

#### Value

BUGS code for incorporating the prior within a BUGS model. Additionally, a list with outputs

allocation table of bins, with number of probs allocated to each bin.

Gamma parameters of the fitted gamma distribution.

Log.normal parameters of the fitted lognormal distribution.

sum of squares of elicited - fitted probabilities for each distribution.

best.fitting the distribution with the lowest sum of squares.

#### Note

Regarding the option "spread end probs over empty bins" (unchecked as the default): suppose for example, the leftmost and rightmost non-empty bins are [10,20] and [70,80], and each contain one prob, with 20 probs used in total. If the option is unchecked, it is assumed P(X<20) = P(X>70) = 0.05 and P(X<10) = P(X>80) = 0. If the option is checked, it is assumed P(X<20) = P(X>70) = 0.05 only.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
elicitHeterogen()
## End(Not run)
```

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elicitMixture

Elicit a mixture distribution using the extension method

# Description

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify judgements, fit distributions and plot the fitted density function.

### Usage

```
elicitMixture()
```

### **Details**

Click the "Quit" button to exit the app and return the fitted distributions. Click "Download report" to generate a report of all the fitted distributions.

### Value

When the Quit button is clicked, a list, with elements

```
fit an object of class elicitation. See fitdist for details. extensionProbs the probability mass function for the extension variable.
```

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
elicitMixture()
## End(Not run)
```

elicitMultiple 17

| elicitMultiple | Elicit individual judgements and fit distributions for multiple experts |
|----------------|---|
|                |   |

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify judgements, fit distributions and plot the fitted density functions and a (weighted) linear pool with additional feedback.

### Usage

```
elicitMultiple()
```

### **Details**

Click the "Quit" button to exit the app and return the results from the fitdist command. Click "Download report" to generate a report of all the fitted distributions.

#### Value

An object of class elicitation, which is returned once the Finish button has been clicked. See fitdist for details.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
elicitMultiple()
## End(Not run)
```

 ${\tt elicitQuartiles}$ 

Elicit judgements and fit distributions interactively using the quartile method

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify the quartiles, fit distributions and plot the fitted density functions with additional feedback.

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### Usage

```
elicitQuartiles()
```

#### **Details**

Parameter limits determine which distributions can be fitted. Finite lower limits are needed for the gamma, lognormal and log-t distributions, and both limits must be finite for to fit a beta distribution. If a histogram is fitted without specifying finite limits, endpoints are chosen based on fitting a normal distribution.

Click the Finish button to quit the elicitation session.

### Value

An object of class elicitation, which is returned once the Finish button has been clicked. See fitdist for details.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
elicitQuartiles()
## End(Not run)
```

elicitTertiles

Elicit judgements and fit distributions interactively using the tertile method

### **Description**

Opens up a web browser (using the shiny package), from which you can specify the median and tertiles, fit distributions and plot the fitted density functions with additional feedback.

### **Usage**

```
elicitTertiles()
```

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#### **Details**

Parameter limits determine which distributions can be fitted. Finite lower limits are needed for the gamma, lognormal and log-t distributions, and both limits must be finite for to fit a beta distribution. If a histogram is fitted without specifying finite limits, endpoints are chosen based on fitting a normal distribution.

Click the Finish button to quit the elicitation session.

#### Value

An object of class elicitation, which is returned once the Finish button has been clicked. See fitdist for details.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
elicitTertiles()
## End(Not run)
```

feedback

Report quantiles and probabilities from the fitted probability distributions

### **Description**

Having fitted appropriate distributions to one or more expert's judgements individually using the fitdist command, use this command to get quantiles and probabilities from the fitted distributions

### Usage

```
feedback(fit, quantiles = NA, values = NA, dist = "best", ex = NA, sf = 3)
```

### **Arguments**

fit An object of class elicitation.

quantiles A vector of desired quantiles for feedback. If this argument is left out, the default

is to use the same quantiles that were elicited from the experts.

values A vector of desired probabilities; desired values of a for reporting back fitted

values of P(X<a). If this argument is left out, the default is to use the same

values provided by the experts.

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| dist | If fit contains judgements from multiple experts, dist is distribution to be used for calculating probabilities and quantiles. Options are "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", or "best". The default option, "best", uses the best fitting distribution for each expert.    |
|------|---|
| ex   | If fit contains judgements from multiple experts, specifying a value for ex will select a single expert for feedback. Note that for a single expert, feedback is given for all suitable types of distribution, but for multiple experts, feedback is given for one type of distribution only. |
| sf   | The number of significant figures to be displayed in the output.  |

#### Value

 $\label{eq:fitted_quantiles} Fitted\ quantiles\ for\ each\ expert$ 

fitted.probabilities

Fitted probabilities for each expert

distributions The distribution used to calculate fitted probabilities/quantiles for each expert,

if feedback is given for multiple experts.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
# Two experts
# Expert 1 states P(X<30)=0.25, P(X<40)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# Expert 2 states P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<25)=0.5, P(X<35)=0.75
# Both experts state 0<X<100.

v <- matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35), 3, 2)
p <- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)

feedback(myfit)

# Feedback P(X<60) and the tertiles
feedback(myfit, values=60, quantiles=c(0.33,0.66))

# Compare fitted tertiles for different distributions, expert 2 only
feedback(myfit, quantiles=c(0.33,0.66), ex=2)

## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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|  | lculate quantiles for the marginal distributions of a Dirichlet distrition |
|--|--|
|--|--|

### **Description**

Given a (elicited) Dirichlet distribution, calculate quantiles for each marginal beta distribution corresponding to the elicited quantiles

### Usage

```
feedbackDirichlet(d, quantiles = c(0.1, 0.9), sf = 2)
```

### **Arguments**

d A vector of parameters of the Dirichlet distribution

quantiles The desired quantiles for feedback

sf The number of significant figures displayed

### Value

Quantiles for each marginal distribution

# Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

fitDirichlet

Fit a Dirichlet distribution to elicited marginal distributions for proportions

### **Description**

Takes elicited beta distributions for a set of proportions as inputs, and fits a Dirichlet distribution. The beta parameters are adjusted so that the expectations sum to 1, and then the sum of the Dirichlet parameters is chosen based on the sums of the beta parameters for each elicited marginal

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### Usage

```
fitDirichlet(
    ...,
    categories = NULL,
    n.fitted = "opt",
    plotBeta = TRUE,
    xlab = "x",
    ylab = expression(f[X](x)),
    fs = 12,
    silent = FALSE
)
```

### **Arguments**

... Multiple arguments, each an objects of class elicitation, one per marginal proportion, separated by commas. The sequence can be specified as a single argument by containing all the elicitation objects within a single list object.

 $argument\ by\ containing\ all\ the\ {\tt elicitation}\ objects\ within\ a\ single\ {\tt list}\ object.$ 

categories A vector of strings labelling the marginal proportions.

n.fitted The method used to determine the sum of the Dirichlet parameters. Use "opt"

for best fitting, derived by matching standard deviations from the elicited marginals and the fitted Dirichlet; "min" for a conservative choice based on the smallest equivalent sample size (sum of the beta parameters) from the elicited marginals; "med" for the median of the smallest and largest largest equivalent sample size from the elicited marginals; "mean" for the mean of all the equivalent sample

sizes from the elicited marginals.

plotBeta logical. Plot the original elicited marginals and the fitted marginals from the

Dirichlet fit.

xlab x-axis label on the marginal distribution plot. ylab y-axis label on the marginal distribution plot.

fs The font size used in the plot.

silent Set to TRUE to supress printing of results to the console.

#### Value

The parameters of the fitted Dirichlet distribution.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

#### References

Zapata-Vazquez, R., O'Hagan, A. and Bastos, L. S. (2014). Eliciting expert judgements about a set of proportions. Journal of Applied Statistics 41, 1919-1933.

fitdist 23

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
p1 < -c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
v1 <- c(0.5, 0.55, 0.6)
v2 \leftarrow c(0.22, 0.3, 0.35)
v3 <- c(0.11, 0.15, 0.2)
myfit1 \leftarrow fitdist(v1, p1, 0, 1)
myfit2 \leftarrow fitdist(v2, p1, 0, 1)
myfit3 \leftarrow fitdist(v3, p1, 0, 1)
d <- fitDirichlet(myfit1, myfit2, myfit3,</pre>
                    categories = c("A","B","C"),
                    n.fitted = "opt")
# Note that this will also work:
d <- fitDirichlet(list(myfit1, myfit2, myfit3),</pre>
                    categories = c("A", "B", "C"),
                    n.fitted = "opt")
## End(Not run)
```

fitdist

Fit distributions to elicited probabilities

### **Description**

Takes elicited probabilities as inputs, and fits parametric distributions using least squares on the cumulative distribution function. If separate judgements from multiple experts are specified, the function will fit one set of distributions per expert.

### Usage

```
fitdist(
  vals,
  probs,
  lower = -Inf,
  upper = Inf,
  weights = 1,
  tdf = 3,
  expertnames = NULL,
  excludelogt = FALSE
)
```

### **Arguments**

vals

A vector of elicited values for one expert, or a matrix of elicited values for multiple experts (one column per expert). Note that the an elicited judgement about X should be of the form  $P(X \le vals[i,j]) = probs[i,j]$ 

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probs A vector of elicited probabilies for one expert, or a matrix of elicited values for

multiple experts (one column per expert). A single vector can be used if the probabilities are the same for each expert. For each expert, the smallest elicited probability must be less than 0.4, and the largest elicited probability must be

greater than 0.6.

lower A single lower limit for the uncertain quantity X, or a vector of different lower

limits for each expert. Specifying a lower limit will allow the fitting of distribu-

tions bounded below.

upper A single upper limit for the uncertain quantity X, or a vector of different lower

limits for each expert. Specifying both a lower limit and an upper limit will

allow the fitting of a Beta distribution.

weights A vector or matrix of weights corresponding to vals if weighted least squares is

to be used in the parameter fitting.

tdf The number of degrees of freedom to be used when fitting a t-distribution.

expertnames Vector of names to use for each expert.

excludelogt Set to TRUE to exclude log-t and mirror log-t when identifying best fitting dis-

tribution.

#### Value

An object of class elicitation. This is a list containing the elements

Normal Parameters of the fitted normal distributions.

Student.t Parameters of the fitted t distributions. Note that (X - location) / scale has a

standard t distribution. The degrees of freedom is not fitted; it is specified as an

argument to fitdist.

Gamma Parameters of the fitted gamma distributions. Note that E(X - 1 ower) = shape / 1

rate.

Log.normal Parameters of the fitted log normal distributions: the mean and standard devia-

tion of log(X - lower).

Log. Student.t Parameters of the fitted log student t distributions. Note that (log(X-lower) -

location) / scale has a standard t distribution. The degrees of freedom is not

fitted; it is specified as an argument to fitdist.

Beta Parameters of the fitted beta distributions. X is scaled to the interval [0,1] via Y

= (X - lower)/(upper - lower), and E(Y) = shape1 / (shape1 + shape2).

mirrorgamma Parameters of ('mirror') gamma distributions fitted to Y = upper - X. Note that

E(Y) = shape / rate.

mirrorlognormal

Parameters of ('mirror') log normal distributions fitted to Y = upper - X.

mirrorlogt Parameters of ('mirror') log Student-t distributions fitted to Y = upper - X.

Note that (log(Y) - location) / scale has a standard t distribution. The degrees of

freedom is not fitted; it is specified as an argument to fitdist.

ssq Sum of squared errors for each fitted distribution and expert. Each error is the

difference between an elicited cumulative probability and the corresponding fit-

ted cumulative probability.

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best.fitting The best fitting distribution for each expert, determined by the smallest sum of squared errors.

vals The elicited values used to fit the distributions.

probs The elicited probabilities used to fit the distributions.

The lower and upper limits specified by each expert (+/- Inf if not specified).

#### Note

The least squares parameter values are found numerically using the optim command. Starting values for the distribution parameters are chosen based on a simple normal approximation: linear interpolation is used to estimate the 0.4, 0.5 and 0.6 quantiles, and starting parameter values are chosen by setting E(X) equal to the 0.5th quantile, and  $Var(X) = (0.6 \text{ quantile} - 0.4 \text{ quantile})^2 / 0.25$ . Note that the arguments lower and upper are not included as elicited values on the cumulative distribution function. To include a judgement such as  $P(X \le a) = 0$ , the values a and 0 must be included in vals and probs respectively.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
# One expert, with elicited probabilities
\# P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<30)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# and X>0.
v \leftarrow c(20,30,50)
p < -c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
fitdist(vals=v, probs=p, lower=0)
# Now add a second expert, with elicited probabilities
# P(X<55)=0.25, P(X<60=0.5), P(X<70)=0.75
v \leftarrow matrix(c(20,30,50,55,60,70),3,2)
p < -c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
fitdist(vals=v, probs=p, lower=0)
# Two experts, different elicited quantiles and limits.
# Expert A: P(X<50)=0.25, P(X<60=0.5), P(X<65)=0.75, and provides bounds 10<X<100
# Expert B: P(X<40)=0.33, P(X<50=0.5), P(X<60)=0.66, and provides bounds 0<X
v \leftarrow matrix(c(50,60,65,40,50,60),3,2)
p \leftarrow matrix(c(.25,.5,.75,.33,.5,.66),3,2)
1 < -c(10,0)
u <- c(100, Inf)
fitdist(vals=v, probs=p, lower=l, upper=u)
## End(Not run)
```

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fitprecision

Fit a distribution to judgements about a population precision

### **Description**

Takes elicited probabilities about proportion of a population lying in a specified interval as inputs, converts the judgements into probability judgements about the population precision, and fits gamma and lognormal distributions to these judgements using the fitdist function.

# Usage

```
fitprecision(
  interval,
  propvals,
  propprobs = c(0.05, 0.95),
  med = interval[1],
  trans = "identity",
  pplot = TRUE,
  tdf = 3,
  fontsize = 12
)
```

### **Arguments**

interval A vector specifying the endpoints of an interval  $[k_1, k_2]$ .

Propvals A vector specifying two values  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  for the proportion.

propprobs A vector specifying two probabilities  $p_1, p_2$ .

med The hypothetical value of the population median.

trans A string variable taking the value "identity", "log" or "logit" correspond-

ing to whether the population distribution is normal, lognormal or logit-normal

respectively.

pplot Plot the population distributions with median set at  $k_1$  and precision fixed at the

two elicited quantiles implied by propvals and propprobs.

tdf Degrees of freedom in the fitted log Student-t distribution.

fontsize Font size used in the plots.

### **Details**

The expert provides a pair of probability judgements

$$P(\theta < \theta_1) = p_1,$$

and

$$P(\theta < \theta_2) = p_2,$$

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where  $\theta$  is the proportion of the population that lies in the interval  $[k_1, k_2]$ , conditional on the population median taking some hypothetical value ( $k_1$  by default).  $k_1$  can be set to -Inf, or  $k_2$  can be set to Inf; in either case, the hypothetical median value must be specified. If both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are finite, the hypothetical median must be one of the interval endpoints. Note that, unlike the fitdist command, a 'best fitting' distribution is not reported, as the distributions are fitted to two elicited probabilities only.

### Value

Gamma Parameters of the fitted gamma distribution. Note that E(precision) = shape /

rate.

Log.normal Parameters of the fitted log normal distribution: the mean and standard deviation

of log precision.

Log. Student.t Parameters of the fitted log student t distributions. Note that (log(X-1ower) -

location) / scale has a standard t distribution. The degrees of freedom is not

fitted: it is specified as an input argument.

vals The elicited values  $\theta_1, \theta_2$ 

probs The elicited probabilities  $p_1, p_2$ 

limits The lower and upper limits specified by each expert (+/- Inf if not specified).

transform Transformation used for a normal population distribution.

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
fitprecision(interval=c(60, 70), propvals=c(0.2, 0.4), trans = "log")
## End(Not run)
```

generateReport

Generate a report to show the fitted distributions

### Description

Renders an Rmarkdown document to display the density function of each fitted distribution, the parameter values, and the R command required to sample from each distribution.

### Usage

```
generateReport(
   fit,
   output_format = "html_document",
   sf = 3,
   expert = 1,
   view = TRUE,
   clean = TRUE
)
```

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### **Arguments**

fit An object of class 'elicitation'.

output\_format the output format for the document. One of "html\_document", "pdf\_document"

(requires LaTeX to be installed), or "word\_document" (requires Word to be in-

stalled).

sf number of significant figures to be displayed for the fitted parameters.

expert if the fit object contains judgements from multiple experts, the single expert's

distributions to be displayed.

view set to TRUE to open the document after it has been compiled.

clean set to TRUE to clean intermediate files that are created during rendering.

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
# One expert, with elicited probabilities
# P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<30)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# and X>0.
v <- c(20,30,50)
p <- c(0.25,0.5,0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals=v, probs=p, lower=0)
generateReport(myfit)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

linearPoolDensity

Obtain points on the density function of a linear pool

### **Description**

Takes an object of class elicitation, evaluates a (weighted) linear pool, and returns points on the density function at a sequence of values of the elicited parameter

# Usage

```
linearPoolDensity(fit, xl = -Inf, xu = Inf, d = "best", lpw = 1, nx = 200)
```

# Arguments

| fit | An object of class elicitation.  |
|-----|--|
| xl  | The lower limit in the sequence of parameter values. The default is the 0.001 quantile of the fitted distribution (or the 0.001 quantile of a fitted normal distribution, if a histogram fit is chosen). |
| xu  | The upper limit in the sequence of parameter values. The default is the 0.999 quantile of the fitted distribution (or the 0.999 quantile of a fitted normal distribution, if a histogram fit is chosen). |

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| d   | The distribution fitted to each expert's probabilities. Options are "normal",   |
|-----|---|
|     | "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "hist" (for a histogram fit), and    |
|     | "best" (for best fitting)   |
| lpw | A vector of weights to be used in linear pool, if unequal weighting is desired. |
| nx  | The number of points in the sequence from x1 to xu.                             |

### Value

A list, with elements

x a sequence of values for the uncertain parameterfx the density function of the linear pool, evaluated at each element in x.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
# Two experts
# Expert 1 states P(X<30)=0.25, P(X<40)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# Expert 2 states P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<25)=0.5, P(X<35)=0.75
# Both experts state 0<X<100.

v <- matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35), 3, 2)
p <- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)
linearPoolDensity(myfit)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

makeCDFPlot

Plot the elicited cumulative probabilities

### **Description**

Plots the elicited cumulative probabilities and, optionally, a fitted CDF. Elicited are shown as filled circles, and limits are shown as clear circles.

# Usage

```
makeCDFPlot(
  lower,
  v,
  p,
  upper,
```

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```
fontsize = 12,
fit = NULL,
dist = NULL,
showFittedCDF = FALSE,
showQuantiles = FALSE,
ql = 0.05,
qu = 0.95,
ex = 1,
sf = 3,
xaxisLower = lower,
xaxisUpper = upper,
xlab = "x",
ylab = expression(P(X <= x))</pre>
```

# Arguments

| lower         | lower limit for the uncertain quantity  |
|---------------|---|
| V             | vector of values, for each value x in $Pr(X \le x) = p$ in the set of elicited probabilities  |
| p             | vector of probabilities, for each value p in $Pr(X \le x) = p$ in the set of elicited probabilities   |
| upper         | upper limit for the uncertain quantity  |
| fontsize      | font size to be used in the plot  |
| fit           | object of class elicitation   |
| dist          | the fitted distribution to be plotted. Options are "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "mirrorgamma", "mirrorlognormal", "mirrorlogt" "hist" (for a histogram fit) |
| showFittedCDF | logical. Should a fitted distribution function be displayed?  |
| showQuantiles | logical. Should quantiles from the fitted distribution function be displayed?   |
| ql            | a lower quantile to be displayed.   |
| qu            | an upper quantile to be displayed.  |
| ex            | if the object fit contains judgements from multiple experts, which (single) expert's judgements to show.  |
| sf            | number of significant figures to be displayed.  |
| xaxisLower    | lower limit for the x-axis.   |
| xaxisUpper    | upper limit for the x-axis.   |
| xlab          | x-axis label.   |
| ylab          | y-axis label.   |
|               |   |

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### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
vQuartiles <- c(30, 35, 45)
pQuartiles<- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = vQuartiles, probs = pQuartiles, lower = 0)
makeCDFPlot(lower = 0, v = vQuartiles, p = pQuartiles,
upper = 100, fit = myfit, dist = "gamma",
showFittedCDF = TRUE, showQuantiles = TRUE)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

pdfplots

Plot fitted population pdfs

# Description

Plot fitted population pdfs at combinations of two different values of the population mean and variance.

# Usage

```
pdfplots(
  medianfit,
  precisionfit,
  alpha = 0.05,
  tails = 0.05,
  lower = NA,
  upper = NA,
  n.x = 100,
  d = "best",
  fontsize = 18
)
```

### **Arguments**

| medianfit    | The output of a fitdist command following elicitation of the expert's beliefs about the population median.    |
|--------------|---|
| precisionfit | The output of a fitdist command following elicitation of the expert's beliefs about the population precision. |
| alpha        | Value between 0 and 1 to determine choice of means and variances used in plots                                |
| tails        | Value between 0 and 1 to determine the tail area shown in the pdf plots                                       |
| lower        | lower limit on the x-axis for plotting.   |

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| upper    | upper limit on the x-axis for plotting.  |
|----------|--|
| n.x      | The number of points on the x-axis at which the pdf is plotted.  |
| d        | The fitted distribution for the population median. Can be one of "normal", "lognormal" or "best", where "best" will select the best fitting out of normal and lognormal. |
| fontsize | Font size used in the plots.   |

### **Details**

Four pdfs are plotted, using each combination of the alpha/2 and 1-alpha/2 quantiles of the fitted distributions for the population median and standard deviation

#### Value

A plot and a list, containing

mu The two population mean values used in the plots.

sigma The two population standard deviation values used in the plots.

#### References

```
multiplot function obtained from http://www.cookbook-r.com/Graphs/Multiple_graphs_
on_one_page_(ggplot2)/
```

### **Examples**

```
## Not run: prfit <- fitprecision(interval = c(60, 70), propvals = c(0.2, 0.4), trans = "log") medianfit <- fitdist(vals = c(50, 60, 70), probs = c(0.05, 0.5, 0.95), lower = 0) pdfplots(medianfit, prfit, alpha = 0.01) ## End(Not run)
```

plinearpool

Probabilities quantiles and samples from a (weighted) linear pool

### Description

Calculates a linear pool given a set of elicited judgements in a fit object. Then calculates required probabilities or quantiles from the pooled cumulative distribution function, or generates a random sample.

### Usage

```
plinearpool(fit, x, d = "best", w = 1)
qlinearpool(fit, q, d = "best", w = 1)
rlinearpool(fit, n, d = "best", w = 1)
```

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# Arguments

| fit | The output of a fitdist command.  |
|-----|---|
| Х   | A vector of required cumulative probabilities $P(X \le x)$  |
| d   | Scalar or vector of distributions to use for each expert. Options for each vector element are "hist", "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "best". If given as a scalar, same choice is used for all experts. |
| W   | A vector of weights to be used in the weighted linear pool.   |
| q   | A vector of required quantiles  |
| n   | Number of random samples from the linear pool   |

#### **Details**

Quantiles are calculate by first calculating the pooled cumulative distribution function at 100 points, and then using linear interpolation to invert the CDF.

### Value

A probability or quantile, calculate from a (weighted) linear pool (arithmetic mean) of the experts' individual fitted probability.

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
# Expert 1 states P(X<30)=0.25, P(X<40)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# Expert 2 states P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<25)=0.5, P(X<35)=0.75
# Both experts state 0<X<100.

v <- matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35), 3, 2)
p <- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)
plinearpool(myfit, x=c(20, 50, 80))
qlinearpool(myfit, q=c(0.05, 0.5, 0.95))
# give more weight to first expert
plinearpool(myfit, x=c(20, 50, 80), w=c(0.7, 0.3))
# force the use of gamma distributions for each expert
qlinearpool(myfit, q=c(0.05, 0.5, 0.95), d="gamma")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

```
plotConditionalDensities
```

Plot density of the target variable, conditional on the extension variable

# Description

Plots kernel density estimates of the target variable, conditional on each of a set of specified values of the extension variable. The plot makes use of the function ggridges::geom\_density\_ridges(), and so uses kernel density estimates rather than the exact conditional density function.

# Usage

```
plotConditionalDensities(
   y,
   fitX,
   yCP,
   xMed,
   medianY,
   link = "identity",
   dist = "best",
   N = 1e+05,
   xLimits = NULL,
   fs = 12
)
```

# Arguments

| У       | vector of values for the extension variable at which to condition on.   |
|---------|---|
| fitX    | an object of class elicitation specifying the c-distribution: the distribution of the target variable, conditional on the extension variable taking its median value.                   |
| yCP     | vector of conditioning points for the extension variable.   |
| xMed    | vector of medians of the target variable, corresponding to each value of the extension variable in yCP.   |
| medianY | the median value of the extension variable.   |
| link    | link in the median function. One of "identity", "log" or "logit"  |
| dist    | choice of parametric distribution for the c-distribution. Options are "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "hist" (for a histogram fit), and "best" (for best fitting). |
| N       | sample size used in the kernel density estimate   |
| xLimits | x-axis limits   |
| fs      | font size   |

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
myfitX \leftarrow fitdist(vals = c(5.5, 9, 14),
probs = c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75),
lower = 0)
plotConditionalDensities(y = c(2, 6, 10),
fitX = myfitX,
yCP = c(3, 5, 7, 9.5, 13.5),
xMed = c(2, 6.5, 9, 13, 20),
medianY = 7,
link = "log",
dist = "lognormal",
xLimits = c(0, 60)
# Example with the logit link
myfitXlogit \leftarrow fitdist(vals = c(0.2, 0.25, 0.3),
probs = c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75),
lower = 0,
upper = 1)
plotConditionalDensities(y = c(2, 6, 10),
 fitX = myfitXlogit,
 yCP = c(2, 4, 6, 8, 10),
 xMed = c(0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9),
 medianY = 6,
 link = "logit",
 dist = "beta")
## End(Not run)
```

 $\verb|plotConditionalMedianFunction||$ 

Plot the conditional median function

### Description

Produces a plot of the conditional median function, given a set of conditioning points for the extension variable, a set of corresponding medians of the target variable, given the extension variable, and a choice of link. The identity link is the default, a log link can be used for non-negative target variables, and a logit link can be used for target variables constrained to lie between 0 and 1.

### Usage

```
plotConditionalMedianFunction(
  yCP,
  xMed,
  yLimits = NULL,
  link = "identity",
  xlab = "Y",
  ylab = "median of X given Y",
  fs = 12,
  ybreaks = NULL,
  xbreaks = NULL
)
```

# Arguments

| yCP     | vector of conditioning points for the extension variable.   |
|---------|---|
| xMed    | vector of medians of the target variable, corresponding to each value of the extension variable in yCP. |
| yLimits | limits for the extension variable, used to set the axis limits in the plot                              |
| link    | link in the median function. One of "identity", "log" or "logit".                                       |
| xlab    | x-axis label  |
| ylab    | y-axis label  |
| fs      | font size   |
| ybreaks | tick marks on the y-axis  |
| xbreaks | tick marks on the axis  |

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
plotConditionalMedianFunction(yCP = c(3, 5, 7, 9.5, 13.5),
    xMed = c(2, 6.5, 9, 13, 20),
    yLimits = c(0, 20),
    link = "log")

plotConditionalMedianFunction(yCP = c(2, 4, 6, 8, 10),
    xMed = c(0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9),
    yLimits = c(0, 15),
    link = "logit")

## End(Not run)
```

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plotfit

Plot the fitted density function for one or more experts

### **Description**

Plots the fitted density function for one or more experts. Can also plot a fitted linear pool if more than one expert. If plotting the density function of one expert, or the linear pool only, can also indicated desired lower and upper fitted quantiles.

### Usage

```
plotfit(
  fit,
  d = "best",
  x1 = -Inf,
  xu = Inf,
  q1 = NA,
  qu = NA,
  1p = FALSE,
  ex = NA,
  sf = 3,
  ind = TRUE,
  lpw = 1,
  fs = 12,
  lwd = 1,
  xlab = "x",
  ylab = expression(f[X](x)),
  legend_full = TRUE,
  percentages = FALSE,
  returnPlot = FALSE
)
```

# Arguments

| fit | An object of class elicitation.   |
|-----|---|
| d   | The distribution fitted to each expert's probabilities. Options are "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "mirrorgamma", "mirrorlognormal", "mirrorlogt" "hist" (for a histogram fit), and "best" (for best fitting) |
| x1  | The lower limit for the x-axis. The default is the 0.001 quantile of the fitted distribution (or the 0.001 quantile of a fitted normal distribution, if a histogram fit is chosen).   |
| xu  | The upper limit for the x-axis. The default is the 0.999 quantile of the fitted distribution (or the 0.999 quantile of a fitted normal distribution, if a histogram fit is chosen).   |
| ql  | A lower quantile to be indicated on the density function plot. Only displayed when plotting the density function for a single expert.   |

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| qu          | An upper quantile to be indicated on the density function plot. Only displayed when plotting the density function for a single expert.   |
|-------------|--|
| lp          | For multiple experts, set 1p = TRUE to plot a linear pool.   |
| ex          | If judgements have been elicited from multiple experts, but a density plot for one expert only is required, the expert to be used in the plot.   |
| sf          | The number of significant figures to be displayed for the parameter values.  |
| ind         | If plotting a linear pool, set ind = FALSE to suppress plotting of the individual density functions.   |
| 1pw         | A vector of weights to be used in linear pool, if unequal weighting is desired.  |
| fs          | The font size used in the plot.  |
| lwd         | The line width used in the plot.   |
| xlab        | A string or expression giving the x-axis label.  |
| ylab        | A string or expression giving the y-axis label.  |
| legend_full | If plotting a linear pool, set ind = TRUE for each expert to be plotted with a different colour, and ind = FALSE for each expert to be plotted with the same colour, reducing the legend size. |
| percentages | Set to TRUE to use percentages on the x-axis.  |
| returnPlot  | Set to TRUE to return the plot as a ggplot object.   |
|             |  |

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

```
## Not run:
# Two experts
# Expert 1 states P(X<30)=0.25, P(X<40)=0.5, P(X<50)=0.75
# Expert 2 states P(X<20)=0.25, P(X<25)=0.5, P(X<35)=0.75
# Both experts state 0<X<100.

v <- matrix(c(30, 40, 50, 20, 25, 35), 3, 2)
p <- c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)

# Plot both fitted densities, using the best fitted distribution plotfit(myfit)

# Plot a fitted beta distribution for expert 2, and show 5th and 95th percentiles plotfit(myfit, d = "beta", ql = 0.05, qu = 0.95, ex = 2)

# Plot a linear pool, giving double weight to expert 1
plotfit(myfit, lp = T, lpw = c(2,1))</pre>
```

plotQuartiles 39

```
# Plot a linear pool, giving double weight to expert 1, # show 5th and 95th percentiles, surpress plotting of individual distributions, # and force use of Beta distributions plotfit(myfit, d = "beta", lp = T, lpw = c(2,1), ql = 0.05, qu = 0.95, ind=FALSE) ## End(Not run)
```

plotQuartiles

Plot elicted quartiles, median and plausible range for each expert

### **Description**

Displays a horizontal bar for each expert, to represent the expert's plausible range. The coloured sections indicate the experts' quartiles: four intervals judged by the expert to be equally likely. The experts' medians are shown as dashed lines.

### Usage

```
plotQuartiles(
  vals,
  lower,
  upper,
  fs = 12,
  expertnames = NULL,
  xl = NULL,
  xlabel = "X"
)
```

### **Arguments**

vals a matrix of elicited tertiles and medians: one column per expert, first row is the

25th percentile, 2nd row is the median, last row is the 75th percentile.

lower a vector of lower plausible limits: one per expert upper a vector of upper plausible limits: one per expert

fs font size to be used in the plot expertnames vector of experts' names x1 vector of limits for x-axis

xlabel x-axis label

#### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

40 plotTertiles

### **Examples**

plotTertiles

Plot elicted tertiles, median and plausible range for each expert

### Description

Displays a horizontal bar for each expert, to represent the expert's plausible range. The coloured sections indicate the experts' tertiles: three intervals judged by the expert to be equally likely. The experts' medians are shown as dashed lines.

### Usage

```
plotTertiles(
  vals,
  lower,
  upper,
  fs = 12,
  percentages = FALSE,
  expertnames = NULL,
  xl = NULL,
  xlabel = "X"
)
```

### Arguments

vals a matrix of elicited tertiles and medians: one column per expert, first row is the

33rd percentile, 2nd row is the median, last row is the 66th percentile.

lower a vector of lower plausible limits: one per expert upper a vector of upper plausible limits: one per expert

fs font size to be used in the plot

percentages set to TRUE to use percentages on the x-axis

expertnames vector of experts' names x1 vector of limits for x-axis

xlabel x-axis label

sampleFit 41

### Author(s)

Jeremy Oakley <j.oakley@sheffield.ac.uk>

### **Examples**

sampleFit

Sample from the elicited distributions

### **Description**

Generates a random sample from all distributions specified within an object of class elicitation

### Usage

```
sampleFit(fit, n, expert = 1)
```

### **Arguments**

fit An object of class elicitation

n The required sample size for each elicitation

expert Specify which expert's distributions to sample from, if multiple experts' judge-

ments have been elicited.

#### Value

A matrix of sampled values, one column per distribution. Column names are given to label the distributions.

```
## Not run:
v <- c(20,30,50)
p <- c(0.25,0.5,0.75)
myfit <- fitdist(vals = v, probs = p, lower = 0, upper = 100)
samplefit(myfit, n = 10)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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sample Marginal Fit

Sample from the marginal distribution of the target variable

### **Description**

As part of the Extension Method, this function will generate a random sample from the marginal distribution of the target variable, using a sample from the marginal distribution of the extension variable, the specified c-distribution, and the appropriate judgements used to construct the median model.

### Usage

```
sampleMarginalFit(
  fitX,
  sampleY,
  medianY,
  yCP,
  xMed,
  dist = "best",
  link = "identity"
)
```

### **Arguments**

| fitX    | an object of class elicitation specifying the c-distribution: the distribution of the target variable, conditional on the extension variable taking its median value.                   |
|---------|---|
| sampleY | a sample from the marginal distribution of the extension variable.  |
| medianY | the median value of the extension variable.   |
| yCP     | vector of conditioning points for the extension variable.   |
| xMed    | vector of medians of the target variable, corresponding to each value of the extension variable in yCP.   |
| dist    | choice of parametric distribution for the c-distribution. Options are "normal", "t", "gamma", "lognormal", "logt", "beta", "hist" (for a histogram fit), and "best" (for best fitting). |
| link    | link in the median function. One of "identity", "log" or "logit"  |
|         |   |

### Value

a vector containing a sample from the marginal distribution of the target variable.

```
## Not run:
myfitX <- fitdist(vals = c(5.5, 9, 14),
probs = c(0.25, 0.5, 0.75),</pre>
```

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```
lower = 0)
ry <- rgamma(10, 5.19, 0.694)
sampleMarginalFit(fitX = myfitX,
    sampleY = ry,
    medianY = 7,
    yCP = c(3, 5, 7, 9.5, 13.5),
    xMed = c(2, 6.5, 9, 13, 20),
    dist = "lognormal",
    link = "log")
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

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