

Package ‘VirtualPop’

March 18, 2024

Type Package

Title Simulation of Populations by Sampling Waiting-Time Distributions

Version 2.0.2

Imports msm,HMDHFDplus

Suggests knitr, kableExtra, ggplot2, foreign, lubridate, xml2, eha,
survival, survminer, rmarkdown

BuildResaveData best

VignetteBuilder knitr

LazyData true

Date 2024-03-18

Maintainer Frans Willekens <willekens@nidi.nl>

Description Constructs a virtual population from fertility and mortality rates for any country, calendar year and birth cohort in the Human Mortality Database <<https://www.mortality.org>> and the Human Fertility Database <<https://www.humanfertility.org>>. Fertility histories are simulated for every individual and their offspring, producing a multi-generation virtual population.

License GPL-2

NeedsCompilation no

Depends R (>= 4.3.0),

Encoding UTF-8

BugReports <https://github.com/willekens/VirtualPop/issues>

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Author Frans Willekens [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6125-0212>>),
Tim Riffe [ctb] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2673-4622>>)

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-03-18 10:30:02 UTC

R topics documented:

BuildViP	2
Children	3
dLH	4
e0	5
GetData	6
GetGenerations	7
GetRates	8
GetRatesC	9
H_pw	10
Lifespan	11
PartnerSearch	11
pw_root	12
r.pw_exp	13
rates	14
ratesC	14
Sim_bio	15
Index	17

BuildViP

Builds a Virtual Population in a Single Step

Description

Builds a virtual population from mortality and fertility rates retrieved from the Human Mortality Database (HMD) and the Human Fertility Database (HFD) in a single step.

Usage

```
BuildViP(
  user = NULL,
  pw_HMD = NULL,
  pw_HFD = NULL,
  countrycode,
  cohort = NULL,
  refyear = NULL,
  ncohort,
  ngen,
  mort = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

user	User name (e-mail address)
pw_HMD	Password Human Mortality Database
pw_HFD	Password Human Fertility Database

countrycode	Code of country selected
cohort	Birth cohort (for virtual population based on cohort data)
refyear	Reference year (for virtual population based on period data)
ncohort	Size of initial cohort
ngen	Number of generations
mort	Presence or absence of mortality (optional). Default: mortality is present (mort=TRUE). If mortality is absent, mort=FALSE.

Value

dLH Dataframe with virtual population (one row per individual) (See description of dLH object).

Examples

```
## Registration is required to be able to download data from the HMD and HFD
## HMD: https://www.mortality.org
## HFD: https://www.humanfertility.org
## Not run:
# Period data
dLH <- BuildViP(user,pw_HMD,pw_HFD,
                countrycode="USA",
                refyear=2021,
                ncohort=1000,
                ngen=4)

# Cohort data
dLHc <- BuildViP(user,pw_HMD,pw_HFD,
                 countrycode="USA",
                 cohort=1964,
                 ncohort=1000,
                 ngen=4)

## End(Not run)
```

Children	<i>Generates Individual Fertility Histories</i>
----------	---

Description

Builds individual fertility histories from conditional fertility rates. Children() uses the function Sim_bio().

Usage

```
Children(dat0, rates, mort = NULL)
```

Arguments

<code>dat0</code>	Data frame with data on individual members of the virtual population (dLH format)
<code>rates</code>	Mortality and fertility rates. The object 'rates' is produced by the function <code>Getrates()</code> .
<code>mort</code>	Presence or absence of mortality (optional). Default: mortality is present (<code>mort=TRUE</code>). If mortality is absent, set <code>mort=FALSE</code> .

Value

List object with two components:

<code>data</code>	Data frame with updated information on members of the virtual population
<code>dch</code>	Data frame with information on children

Examples

```
# The example generates data on children of the first 10 female members of
# the first generation of the virtual population.
utils::data(dLH,package="VirtualPop")
utils::data(rates,package="VirtualPop")
dat0 <- dLH[dLH$sex=="Female" & dLH$gen==1,][1:10,]
out <- VirtualPop::Children(dat0=dat0,rates=rates)
```

dLH	<i>Individual fertility histories based on period data and in the presence of mortality (USA 2021)</i>
-----	--

Description

Fertility histories based on period data and in the presence of mortality. The histories are simulated from age-specific death rates and conditional fertility rates of USA 2021.

Usage

```
data(dLH,package="VirtualPop")
```

Format

A data frame with data about 7,000 individuals (2000 in initial cohort).

ID Identification number

gen Generation

cohort Birth cohort (year of birth)

sex Sex. A factor with levels Males and Females

bdated Date of birth (decimal date)
ddated Date of death (decimal date)
x_D Age at death (decimal number)
IDmother ID of mother
IDfather ID of father
jch Child's line number in the nuclear family (household)
IDpartner ID of partner
udated Date of union formation
nch Number of children ever born to the individual

The object has four attributes:

- Country
- type: Type of data used to produce the histories (period data or cohort data)
- refyear: Calendar year for which period data are used. If cohort data are used, refyear is missing (NA)
- cohort: Year of birth of cohort for which the data are used. If period data are used, cohort is missing (NA)

Source

The virtual population is produced from period mortality rates by age and period fertility rates by age and parity from the United States 2021. The data are from the Human Mortality Database (HMD) and the Human Fertility Database (HFD).

e0 *Mean Ages at Death and Probabilities of Surviving to Selected Ages, by Sex*

Description

Computes (a) Life expectancy at birth, (b) Probability of surviving at age 65, and (c) Probability of surviving at age 85

Usage

e0(d)

Arguments

d The name of the database. If missing, dLH is used if it exists.

Value

<code>e0</code>	Mean ages at death
<code>Prob65</code>	Probability of surviving at age 65
<code>Prob85</code>	Probability of surviving at age 85

Examples

```
utils::data(dLH, package="VirtualPop")
e0(d=dLH)
```

GetData	<i>Reads Data from the HMD and HFD into R</i>
---------	---

Description

Reads data from the HMD and HFD into R. The function uses the `readHMDweb()` and the `readHFDweb()` functions of the `HMDHFDplus` package.

Usage

```
GetData(country, user, pw_HMD, pw_HFD)
```

Arguments

<code>country</code>	Code of the selected country. The code must be one of the country codes of HMD and HFD.
<code>user</code>	email address of the user, used at registration with the HMD and HFD. It is assumed that the same email address is used for both HMD and HFD.
<code>pw_HMD</code>	Password to access HMD, provided at registration.
<code>pw_HFD</code>	Password to access HFD, provided at registration

Value

<code>data_raw</code>	A list object with four elements:
<code>country</code>	Country
<code>LTf</code>	Life table for female population for all years available in the HMD
<code>LTm</code>	Life table for male population for all years available in the HMD
<code>fert_rates</code>	Conditional fertility rates for all years available in the HFD

Examples

```
## Not run:
data_raw <- GetData(country="USA", user, pw_HMD, pw_HFD)

## End(Not run)
```

GetGenerations	<i>Builds a Multi-Generation Virtual Population from demographic parameters</i>
----------------	---

Description

Builds a virtual population from mortality rates by age and sex, and fertility rates by age of mother and parity.

Usage

```
GetGenerations(rates, ncohort = NULL, ngen = NULL, mort = NULL)
```

Arguments

rates	List object with death rates (ASDR) and birth rates (ASFR). Produced by function VirtualPop::GetRates(). Rates of USA 2021 are distributed with the VirtualPop package.
ncohort	Size of hypothetical birth cohort (first generation)
ngen	Number of generations to be simulated. No upper limit.
mort	Presence or absence of mortality. This parameter is optional. Default is TRUE. If mortality is absent, mort=FALSE.

Value

dataAllgen	The database of simulated individual lifespans and fertility histories (all generations).
------------	---

The object dataAllgen has four attributes:

country	The country
type	The type of data (period data or cohort data).
refyear	The calendar year for which the period data are used (reference year).
cohort	The birth cohort (if applicable).

Examples

```
utils::data(rates,package = "VirtualPop")
dLH <- VirtualPop::GetGenerations (rates=rates,ncohort=1000,ngen=4)
```

GetRates	<i>Retrieves Period Mortality and Fertility Rates from HMD and HFD for a Selected Country and Selected Year</i>
----------	---

Description

The rates are retrieved from the life tables and fertility tables included in the raw data downloaded from the HMD and HFD.

Usage

```
GetRates(data, refyear)
```

Arguments

data	data (the object data_raw, produced by the GetData() function.)
refyear	Reference year, which is the year of period data

Value

A list object with three elements:

ASDR	Age-specific death rates, by sex for reference year
ASFR	Age-specific birth rates by birth order for reference year
ratesM	Matrix of transition rates in format required for multistate modelling

The object returned by the function has three attributes:

country	Country
type	Type of data (period data or cohort data)
year	Calendar year for which period death rates are used to complete cohort experience in case of incomplete mortality experience (reference year).

Examples

```
## Not run:
# Not run because passwords needed
# Input data: data_raw produced by GetData().
rates <- GetRates(data=data_raw,refyear=2021)

## End(Not run)
```

GetRatesC	<i>Retrieves Cohort Data from the HMD and HFD and Obtains Cohort Rates</i>
-----------	--

Description

Retrieves cohort data from the HMD and HFD and produces cohort rates (death rates by age and sex and conditional fertility rates by age and parity). The function combines the steps of (a) data retrieval and (b) extraction of mortality and fertility rates.

Usage

```
GetRatesC(country, user, pw_HMD, pw_HFD, refcohort)
```

Arguments

country	Code of the country selected. The code must be one of the country codes of HMD and HFD.
user	Name of the user, used at registration with the HMD and HFD. It is assumed that the same name is used for both HMD and HFD.
pw_HMD	Password to access HMD, provided at registration.
pw_HFD	Password to access HFD, provided at registration
refcohort	Year of birth of cohort for which the data are used for the simulation.

Value

A list object with three elements:

ASDR	Age-specific death rates by sex for selected birth cohort
ASFR	Age-specific fertility rates by parity for selected birth cohort
ratesM	Matrix of transition rates in format required for multistate modelling

The object returned by the function has five attributes:

country	Country
type	Type of data (period data or cohort data)
cohort	Birth cohort (year of birth)
refyear	Calendar year for which period death rates are used to complete cohort experience in case of incomplete mortality experience (reference year).
start_pASDR	Lowest age for which cohort data are missing. The mortality rates of that age and higher ages are borrowed from period data collected in the reference year.

Examples

```
## Not run:
ratesC <- GetRatesC(country="USA",user,pw_HMD,pw_HFD,refcohort)

## End(Not run)
```

H_pw

Computes Cumulative Hazard at Duration t under a Piecewise Exponential Model

Description

Computes cumulative hazard at duration t from piecewise-constant rates.

Usage

```
H_pw(t, breakpoints, rates)
```

Arguments

t	Duration at which cumulative hazard is required. It may be a vector of durations.
breakpoints	Breakpoints: values of time at which piecewise-constant rates change.
rates	Piecewise-constant rates

Value

Cumulative hazard at duration t

See Also

functions `pw_root()` and `r_pw_exp()`: Function `H_pw()` is called by `pw_root()`, which is called by `r_pw_exp()`.

Examples

```
# Example 1
breakpoints <- c(0, 10, 20, 30, 60)
rates <- c(0.01,0.02,0.04,0.15)
z <- VirtualPop::H_pw(t=0:40, breakpoints=breakpoints, rates=rates)

# Example 2
utils::data(rates,package="VirtualPop")
ages <- as.numeric(rownames(rates$ASDR))
breakpoints <- c(ages,120)
zz <- VirtualPop::H_pw(t=ages, breakpoints=breakpoints, rates=rates$ASDR[,1])
```

Lifespan	<i>Generates Individual Lifespan(s)</i>
----------	---

Description

Uses age-specific death rates to simulate length of life. The function generates age(s) at death and date(s) of death. The function uses the function `rpexp()` of the `msm` package and `uniroot()` of base R

Usage

```
Lifespan(data, ASDR, mort = NULL)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	Data frame with individual data. If the object "data" includes date of birth (bdated; decimal date), then the date of death is computed.
<code>ASDR</code>	Age-specific death rates
<code>mort</code>	Presence or absence of mortality. This parameter is optional. Default is TRUE. If mortality is (should be) absent, <code>mort=FALSE</code> .

Value

LS	Data frame with age(s) at death and date(s) of death
----	--

Examples

```
utils::data(dLH,package="VirtualPop")
utils::data(rates,package="VirtualPop")
d <- VirtualPop::Lifespan (dLH[1:5,1:5],ASDR=rates$ASDR)
```

PartnerSearch	<i>Simple Partner Search Simulation</i>
---------------	---

Description

In this simple model, a partner is an individual of a different sex selected at random among members of the same generation. The function is called by `GetGenerations()`.

Usage

```
PartnerSearch(dLH)
```

Arguments

dLH Database

Value

dLH Updated version of database (dLH), which includes, for each individual without a partner and able to find a partner, the ID of the partner.

Examples

```
utils::data(dLH,package="VirtualPop")
d <- VirtualPop::PartnerSearch(dLH=dLH)
```

pw_root

The Function for which the Root is Sought.

Description

The function `pw_root()` specifies the mathematical function $g(t)$. The equation to be solved is $g(t)=0$, with $g(t)$ the cumulative hazard function of the piecewise exponential distribution + $\log(u)$ with u a random draw from standard uniform distribution (see vignette "Piecewise_exponential", Section 2.2.4).

Usage

```
pw_root(t, breakpoints, rates, uu)
```

Arguments

t Vector of durations for which the equation $g(t)=0$ should be solved.
breakpoints Breakpoints
rates Piecewise-constant rates
uu Random draw from standard uniform distribution.

Details

`pw_root` is an argument of the function `uniroot()` of base R (argument "f"). It is required by `uniroot()`. The function `uniroot()` is called by `r.pw_exp()`. See also Functions `H_pw()` and `r.pw_exp()`.

Value

Vector of differences between cumulative hazard and $-\log(uu)$ for different values of t .

Examples

```
breakpoints <- c(0, 10, 20, 30, 60)
rates <- c(0.01,0.02,0.04,0.15)
z <- VirtualPop::pw_root (t= c(10,18.3,23.6,54.7),breakpoints,rates,uu=0.43)
```

r.pw_exp

Draws Waiting Times from a Piecewise-Exponential Distribution.

Description

The function produces n realizations of a piecewise-exponentially distributed random waiting time.

Usage

```
r.pw_exp(n, breakpoints, rates)
```

Arguments

n	Number of random draws
breakpoints	Breakpoints in piecewise-exponential distribution
rates	Piecewise-constant rates

Value

Vector of waiting times, drawn randomly from a piecewise-exponential survival function.

Examples

```
breakpoints <- c(0, 10, 20, 30, 60)
rates <- c(0.01,0.02,0.04,0.15)
pw_sample <- VirtualPop::r.pw_exp (n=10, breakpoints, rates=rates)
```

rates	<i>Period rates</i>
-------	---------------------

Description

Data consisting of period rates of mortality by age and sex and fertility by age and parity, USA 2021

Usage

```
data(rates,package="VirtualPop")
```

Format

A list of three objects.

ASDR Mortality rates

ASFR Fertility rates

ratesM Multistate transition rates

The dataset has three attributes:

- Country
- Type of rates: period rates or cohort rates
- Calendar year for which period death rates are used to complete cohort experience in case of incomplete mortality experience (reference year).

Source

The data are downloaded from the Human Mortality Database (HMD) and the Human Fertility Database (HFD). Country: USA. Year: 2021

ratesC	<i>Cohort rates</i>
--------	---------------------

Description

Cohort rates of mortality by age and sex and fertility by age and parity, USA birth cohort 1964

Usage

```
data(ratesC,package="VirtualPop")
```

Format

A list of three objects.

ASDR Mortality rates

ASFR Fertility rates

ratesM Multistate transition rates

The object returned by the function has five attributes:

- Country
- type: Type of data (period data or cohort data)
- cohort: Birth cohort (year of birth)
- year: Calendar year for which period death rates are used to complete cohort experience in case of incomplete mortality experience (reference year).
- start_pASDR: Lowest age for which cohort data are missing. The mortality rates of that age and higher ages are borrowed from period data collected in the reference year.

Source

The data are downloaded from the Human Mortality Database (HMD) and the Human Fertility Database (HFD). Country: USA. Cohort: 1964

Sim_bio

Generic Function to Generate Single Life History

Description

The function generates a single life history from age-specific transition rates (`rates$ratesM`) and an initial state. `RatesM` is an object with the rates in the proper format for multistate modelling. The user supplies the starting age and ending age of the simulation.

Usage

```
Sim_bio(datsim, ratesM)
```

Arguments

<code>datsim</code>	Dataframe with, for each individual, ID, date of birth, starting and ending times (ages) of the simulation, and the state occupied at the start of the simulation (see vignette "Tutorial").
<code>ratesM</code>	Multistate transition rates in standard (multistate) format

Details

The function is called from the function `VirtualPop::Children()`. It uses the `rpxp()` function of the `msm` package.

Value

age_startSim	Age at start of simulation
age_endSim	Age at end of simulation
nstates	Number of states
path	path: sequence of states occupied
ages_trans	Ages at transition

Examples

```
# Fertility history is simulated from starting age to ending age
# Individual starts in state "par0"
utils::data(rates,package="VirtualPop")
popsim <- data.frame(ID=1,born=2000.450,start=0,end=80,st_start="par0")
ch <- VirtualPop::Sim_bio (datsim=popsim,ratesM=rates$ratesM)
```


Index

BuildViP, [2](#)

Children, [3](#)

dLH, [4](#)

e0, [5](#)

GetData, [6](#)

GetGenerations, [7](#)

GetRates, [8](#)

GetRatesC, [9](#)

H_pw, [10](#)

Lifespan, [11](#)

PartnerSearch, [11](#)

pw_root, [12](#)

r.pw_exp, [13](#)

rates, [14](#)

ratesC, [14](#)

Sim_bio, [15](#)