

Package ‘PoDBAY’

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Description Set of functions that implement the PoDBAY method, described in the publication 'A method to estimate probability of disease and vaccine efficacy from clinical trial immunogenicity data' by Julie Dudasova, Regina Laube, Chandni Valiathan, Matthew C. Wiener, Ferdous Gheyas, Pavel Fiser, Justina Ivanauskaite, Frank Liu and Jeffrey R. Sachs (NPJ Vaccines, 2021), <[doi:10.1038/s41541-021-00377-6](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41541-021-00377-6)>.

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<i>assignPoD</i>	<i>Assign probability of disease (PoD)</i>
------------------	--

Description

Function assigns subject-level probability of disease based on PoD curve and subject level titer.

Arguments

x numeric vector - vector of estimated PoD values

Details

The input into the function is either calculated using PoD function or if the PoD curve is unknown the same arbitrary PoD can be assigned to the whole population.

Value

Subject level probability of disease for the population

<i>BlindSampling</i>	<i>Immunogenicity subset: vaccinated, control, non-diseased</i>
----------------------	---

Description

Function creates non-diseased immunogenicity subset, and vaccinated and control immunogenicity subsets based on chosen method. The immunogenicity subsets are provided in the form of population class objects (see the Population-class function for more details).

Usage

```
BlindSampling(diseased,
              nondiseased,
              method = list(name = "Full", value = NA))
```

Arguments

diseased	Population-class object: diseased subjects, created using ExtractDiseased function
nondiseased	Population-class object: non-diseased subjects, created using ExtractNondiseased function
method	named list: "name" possible inputs "Full", "Ratio", "Fixed"; "value" = numeric value

Details

For details about the method parameter see ImmunogenicitySubset function.

Value

- ImmunogenicityVaccinated: vaccinated subjects in the immunogenicity subset, Population-class object (N, mean, stdDev, titers)
- ImmunogenicityControl: control subjects in the immunogenicity subset, Population-class object (N, mean, stdDev, titers)
- ImmunogenicityNondiseased: non-diseased subjects in the immunogenicity subset, Population-class object (N, mean, stdDev, titers)

Examples

```
# Data preparation
data(diseased)
data(nondiseased)

## Example 1
# Creating immunogenicity subset, method = "Full"
ImmunogenicitySubsetFull <-
  BlindSampling(diseased,
                nondiseased,
                method = list(name = "Full",
                              value = NA))

## Example 2
# Creating of immunogenicity subset, method = "Ratio"
ImmunogenicitySubsetRatio <-
  BlindSampling(diseased,
                nondiseased,
                method = list(name = "Ratio",
                              value = 4))

## Example 3
# Creating of immunogenicity subset, method = "Fixed"
ImmunogenicitySubsetFixed <-
  BlindSampling(diseased,
                nondiseased,
                method = list(name = "Fixed",
```

```
value = 100))
```

ClinicalTrial

Clinical trial: estimation of case-count efficacy

Description

Function assigns disease status (DS) to vaccinated and control groups and based on that calculates the case-count efficacy. Vaccinated and control groups are provided in the form of population class objects (see the Population-class function for more details).

Input populations need to contain information about Probability of disease (PoD) for each subject - calculated using `population$assignPoD(PoD(x))`. See PoD function for further details.

Usage

```
ClinicalTrial(vaccinated, control, CI = 0.95)
```

Arguments

vaccinated	Population-class object: vaccinated subjects with assigned PoD
control	Population-class object: control subjects with assigned PoD
CI	numeric: value from (0, 1) interval, confidence level of interest

Value

- vaccinated: vaccinated subjects with assigned DS, Population-class object
- control: control subjects with assigned DS, Population-class object
- efficacy: case-count efficacy
- confidenceInterval: case-count efficacy confidence interval calculated with `waldCI()` function

Examples

```
# Loading vaccinated, control population data with PoD information
data(vaccinated)
data(control)

# Estimating the disease status and case-count efficacy with 95% confidence interval
CT <- ClinicalTrial(vaccinated, control, CI = 0.95)

CT$efficacy
CT$confidenceInterval

CT$vaccinated
```

ClinicalTrialCoverage *Clinical trial function expanded for usage in simulations when the calculation of coverage probability is needed for three confidence intervals: 80%, 90%, and user-defined*

Description

Function works the same way as `ClinicalTrial` function but it also calculates 80% and 90% confidence intervals.

Usage

```
ClinicalTrialCoverage(vaccinated, control, CI = 0.95)
```

Arguments

<code>vaccinated</code>	Population-class object: vaccinated subjects with assigned PoD
<code>control</code>	Population-class object: control subjects with assigned PoD
<code>CI</code>	numeric: value from (0, 1) interval, confidence level of interest

Value

- `vaccinated`: vaccinated subjects with assigned DS, Population-class object
- `control`: control subjects with assigned DS, Population-class object
- `efficacy`: case-count efficacy
- `confidenceInterval`: confidence interval calculated with `waldCI` function
- `confidenceInterval90`: 90% confidence interval calculated with `waldCI` function
- `confidenceInterval80`: 80% confidence interval calculated with `waldCI` function

<code>control</code>	<i>Dataset containing the information for control subjects</i>
----------------------	--

Description

A dataset containing the `N`, `mean`, `stdDev`, `titers` of control subjects. The dataset is provided in the form of population class object (see the `Population-class` function for more details).

Usage

```
control
```

Format

Population class object:

N number of subjects

mean mean of titers

stdDev standard deviation of titers

titers subject level titers

 cppMLE

Maximum likelihood estimation: cpp

Description

Function calculates the log likelihood value which is used after the initial guesses of the parameters are set in the PoDMLE function.

Usage

```
cppMLE(params,
        nondiseasedTiters,
        diseasedTiters,
        adjustTiters = FALSE,
        adjustFrom = log2(10),
        adjustTo = log2(5))
```

Arguments

params	named numeric vector: PoD curve parameters ("et50", "slope", "pmax")
nondiseasedTiters	numeric vector: non-diseased subjects titers
diseasedTiters	numeric vector: diseased subjects titers
adjustTiters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

cppMLE function is used inside of PoDMLE function and estimates the PoD curve paramers.

Based on the provided titers for diseased and non-diseased groups the PoD curve parameters which maximize the log likelihood are chosen as optimal.

Difference between MLE and cppMLE is only that cppMLE use cppPoD function instead of PoD. This step significantly improves the computation speed and provides the same results.

Value

log likelihood, numeric value

Examples

```
# Data preparation
data(diseased)
data(nondiseased)
data(PoDParams)

# MLE calculation
cppMLE(PoDParams, nondiseased$titters, diseased$titters)
```

 cppPoD

Probability of disease calculation

Description

Function calculates probability of disease (PoD) for given titers according to a PoD curve.

Usage

```
cppPoD(titer, pmax, et50, slope, adjustTitters = FALSE, adjustFrom = 0, adjustTo = 0)
```

Arguments

titer	numeric vector: vector of subject level titers
pmax	numeric: maximum PoD
et50	numeric: titer value corresponding to pmax/2 value, $PoD(et50) = pmax/2$
slope	numeric: slope of the PoD curve
adjustTitters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

See PoD function for more details. These two functions are equivalent. Usage of cppPoD significantly improves the computation speed over the PoD function.

Value

vector of PoDs

diseased	<i>Dataset containing the information for diseased subjects</i>
----------	---

Description

A dataset containing the N, mean, stdDev, titers of diseased subjects. The dataset is provided in the form of population class object (see the Population-class function for more details).

Usage

diseased

Format

Population class object:

N number of subjects

mean mean of titers

stdDev standard deviation of titers

titters subject level titers

EfficacyCI	<i>PoDBAY efficacy summary: mean, median, confidence intervals</i>
------------	--

Description

Function summarizes PoDBAY efficacy statistics (mean, median, confidence intervals) based on the set of estimated efficacies and chosen confidence level. (Set of efficacies is a vector obtained by number of replications specified by repeatCount. These replications are performed for calculation of a confidence interval. For more details, see the supplementary material of the article).

Usage

EfficacyCI(efficacySet, ci = 0.95)

Arguments

efficacySet numeric vector: estimated PoDBAY efficacies from PoDBAYEfficacy function.

ci numeric: required confidence level

Details

Confidence intervals are calculated using quantiles of estimated efficacies.

Value

named list: mean, median, CILow, CIHigh

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(efficacySet)

## Example 1
EfficacyCI(efficacySet, ci = 0.95)
```

EfficacyCICoverage *PoDBAY efficacy summary at three confidence levels*

Description

Function summarizes PoDBAY efficacy statistics (mean, median, confidence intervals) at 80%, 90% and user-defined confidence levels, based on the set of estimated efficacies. (Set of efficacies is a vector obtained by number of replications specified by repeatCount. These replications are performed for calculation of a confidence interval. For more details, see the supplementary material of the article).

Usage

```
EfficacyCICoverage(efficacySet, ci = 0.95)
```

Arguments

efficacySet numeric vector: estimated PoDBAY efficacies from PoDBAYEfficacy function.
ci numeric: value from (0, 1) interval, confidence level of interest

Details

Confidence intervals are calculated using quantiles of estimated efficacies.

Value

named list: mean, median, CILow, CIHigh

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(efficacySet)

## Example 1
EfficacyCICoverage(efficacySet, ci = 0.95)
```

efficacyComputation *PoDBAY efficacy equation*

Description

Function calculates the PoDBAY efficacy based on the PoD curve parameters and titer distribution parameters (mean, sd) for vaccinated and control groups.

Usage

```
efficacyComputation(PoDParameters,
                   means = NA,
                   standardDeviations = NA,
                   adjustTiters = FALSE,
                   adjustFrom = NA,
                   adjustTo = NA)
```

Arguments

PoDParameters	named data frame ("pmax", "slope", "et50"): PoD curve parameters
means	named list ("vaccinated", "control"): mean values of vaccinated and control subjects titers
standardDeviations	named list ("vaccinated", "control"): standard deviations of vaccinated and control subjects titers
adjustTiters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

$$Efficacy = 1 - \frac{E[PoD_{vaccinated}]}{E[PoD_{control}]}$$

E[PoD] for each group is calculated as integral from -Inf to Inf of (titer density function) * (PoD Curve); for further details see Example2 and ExpectedPoD function.

Value

efficacy: numeric value

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(vaccinated)
data(control)
data(PoDParams)

## Example 1
means <- list(vaccinated = vaccinated$mean, control = control$mean)

standardDeviations <- list(vaccinated = vaccinated$stdDev, control = control$stdDev)

efficacyComputation(PoDParams, means, standardDeviations)
```

efficacySet	<i>Estimated PoDBAY efficacies</i>
-------------	------------------------------------

Description

A dataset containing estimated set of PoDBAY efficacies. (Set of efficacies is a vector obtained by number of replications specified by repeatCount. These replications are performed for calculation of a confidence interval. For more details, see the supplementary material of the article).

Usage

```
efficacySet
```

Format

```
vector
```

numeric vector PoDBAY efficacies

efficacySquaredError	<i>Optimization objective function: efficacy squared error</i>
----------------------	--

Description

Function calculates squared difference between input (reference value, or for example true in the simulation setup) efficacy and efficacy calculated based on input parameters of PoD curve and input titer distributions of vaccinated and control groups.

Usage

```
efficacySquaredError(params,
                     TrueEfficacy,
                     titerFun,
                     adjustTiters = FALSE,
                     adjustFrom = 0,
                     adjustTo = 0)
```

Arguments

params	numeric vector: vector of et50 and slope; efficacy calculation is independent of Pmax and thus Pmax is excluded
TrueEfficacy	numeric value: input efficacy value
titerFun	list: list of probability density functions for vaccinated and control groups
adjustTiters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

Function is used inside the PoDEfficacySquaredError function for calculation of the PoD parameters.

Value

Squared difference between calculated and reference efficacy

Examples

```
## Example 1
data(vaccinated)
data(control)
data(PoDParams)

# Choosing et50 and slope as the inputs
params <- list("et50" = 4, "slope" = 6)

# Using probability density function from the populations

titerFun <-
  list(
    function(x) {dnorm(x, mean = vaccinated$mean, sd = vaccinated$stdDev)},
    function(x) {dnorm(x, mean = control$mean, sd = control$stdDev)}
  )

# Assigning true efficacy
TrueEfficacy <- 0.53
```

```
# Squared difference between true and calculated efficacy
efficacySquaredError(params, TrueEfficacy, titerFun)
```

estimatedParameters	<i>Estimated PoD curve parameters</i>
---------------------	---------------------------------------

Description

A dataset containing estimated set of PoD curve parameters. (Set of PoD curve parameters is a vector obtained by number of replications specified by repeatCount. These replications are performed for calculation of a confidence interval. For more details, see the supplementary material of the article).

Usage

```
estimatedParameters
```

Format

data frame

pmax pmax: maximum PoD

et50 et50: titer value corresponding to the pmax/2

slope slope: slope of the PoD curve

ExpectedPoD	<i>Expected probability of disease</i>
-------------	--

Description

Function calculates the integral of multiplication of two functions: PoD curve and titer probability density function.

Usage

```
ExpectedPoD(f.pod, f.titer)
```

Arguments

f.pod function(x): PoD curve, estimated sigmoid function relating titers to a probability of disease

f.titer function(x): titer probability density function, distribution of titer values in a group.

Details

Function calculates integral from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$ of titer probability density function multiplied by the PoD curve.

It is used mainly in the PoDBAY efficacy calculation efficacyComputation.

Value

Value of the integral of the multiplication of the two functions

Examples

```
# Example 1
data(vaccinated)
data(control)
data(PoDParams)

# Defining the PoD curve
funPoD <- function(x) PoD(x, pmax = PoDParams$pmax, et50 = PoDParams$et50, slope = PoDParams$slope)

# Defining the titer distribution for vaccinated and control groups
funVaccinated <- function(x) dnorm(x, mean = vaccinated$mean, sd = vaccinated$stdDev)
funControl <- function(x) dnorm(x, mean = control$mean, sd = control$stdDev)

# Calculating the expected probability of disease
aucVaccinated <- ExpectedPoD(funPoD, funVaccinated)
aucControl <- ExpectedPoD(funPoD, funControl)

# PoDBAY efficacy estimation
efficacy <- 1 - aucVaccinated/aucControl
```

ExtractDiseased

Diseased subjects extraction

Description

Function extracts diseased subjects from vaccinated and control groups if the data have assigned disease status (for example using ClinicalTrial function). The vaccinated and control data are provided in the form of population class objects (see the Population-class function for more details).

Usage

```
ExtractDiseased(vaccinated, control)
```

Arguments

vaccinated	Population-class object: vaccinated subjects with assigned disease status
control	Population-class object: control subjects with assigned disease status

Value

diseased subjects, Population-class object: a subset of control and vaccinated subjects with disease status = TRUE.

Examples

```
## Example 1
# Data preparation
data(vaccinated)
data(control)

# Estimating the disease status and case-count efficacy with CI
ClinicalTrial(vaccinated, control, CI = 0.95)

# Extracting the disease cases
ExtractDiseased(vaccinated, control)
```

ExtractNondiseased *Non-diseased subjects extraction*

Description

Function extracts non-diseased subjects from vaccinated and control groups if the data have assigned disease status (for example using ClinicalTrial function). The vaccinated and control data are provided in the form of population class objects (see the Population-class function for more details).

Usage

```
ExtractNondiseased(vaccinated, control)
```

Arguments

vaccinated	Population-class object: vaccinated subjects with assigned disease status
control	Population-class object: control subjects with assigned disease status

Value

non-diseased subjects, Population-class object: a subset of control and vaccinated subjects with disease status = FALSE.

Examples

```
## Example 1
# Data preparation
data(vaccinated)
data(control)

# Estimating the disease status and case-count efficacy with CI
ClinicalTrial(vaccinated, control, CI = 0.95)

# Extracting the non-diseased subjects
ExtractNondiseased(vaccinated, control)
```

fitPoD	<i>PoD curve: fitting function</i>
--------	------------------------------------

Description

Function calculates the root mean squared error (RMSE) between provided PoD values and calculated PoD values. The latter are calculated using for provided titers and provided PoD curve parameters.

By using the input titers PoDParamPointEstimation function and median of the estimated set of PoD curve parameters (output of PoDParamEstimation function), the point estimate of PoD curve can be obtained (for details see PoDParamPointEstimation function).

Usage

```
fitPoD(params, TittersInput, CurveTittersMedian)
```

Arguments

params	named data frame ("pmax", "slope", "et50"): provided PoD curve parameters
TittersInput	numeric vector: provided titers
CurveTittersMedian	numeric vector: provided PoD values

Details

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i^N (PoD_{median}(titters) - PoD_{optimized}(titters))^2}{N}}$$

Value

negative RMSE

Examples

```

## Data preparation
data(estimatedParameters)
data(PoDParams)

## Example 1

# grid of titers
TittersInput <- seq(from = 0, to = 20, by = 0.01)

# for each estimated PoD curve calculate functional values
functionValues <-
  matrix(NA,
        nrow = nrow(estimatedParameters$resultsPriorReset),
        ncol = length(TittersInput))

for (i in 1:nrow(estimatedParameters$resultsPriorReset)) {
  functionValues[i,] <- PoD(TittersInput,
    pmax = estimatedParameters$resultsPriorReset[i,1],
    et50 = estimatedParameters$resultsPriorReset[i,3],
    slope = estimatedParameters$resultsPriorReset[i,2], adjustTitters = FALSE)
}

# functional values corresponding to the median of the estimated PoD curve parameters
CurveTittersMedian <- apply(functionValues, 2, median)

# squared error of CurveTittersMedian and functional values of "params" curve
fitPoD(PoDParams, TittersInput, CurveTittersMedian)

```

GenerateNondiseased *Generation of upsampled non-diseased subjects titers*

Description

Function upsamples (by random sampling with replacement) titers from the immunogenicity subset to the required size.

If the size of the immunogenicity subset matches the required size, nothing happens and the original titers from the immunogenicity subset are returned.

Usage

```
GenerateNondiseased(blindNondiseasedTitters, nondiseasedCount)
```

Arguments

`blindNondiseasedTitters`
 numeric vector: vector of non-diseased subjects titer values

```
nondiseasedCount
      numeric: total number of non-diseased subjects, required size of the non-diseased
      population
```

Details

The inputs should come from immunogenicity subset. "nondiseasedCount" represents number of all non-diseased patients in the clinical trial.

Immunogenicity subset populations are obtained from function `BlindSampling`. Immunogenicity subset represents a sample from the non-diseased population.

In this function, sampling with replacement to the required "nondiseasedCount" of the immunogenicity subset is performed. The function is used inside `PoDParamEstimation` function.

Value

nondiseasedTiters: numeric vector of all non-diseased subjects titers

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(nondiseased)

## Example 1
# Creating immunogenicity subset, method = "Full"
NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset <-
  ImmunogenicitySubset(diseased,
                       nondiseased,
                       method = list(name = "Full",
                                     value = "NA"))

# Number of all non-diseased subjects in the clinical trial
nondiseasedGenerationCount <- nondiseased$N

# Upsampling of non-diseased titers
GenerateNondiseased(NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset$titers, nondiseasedGenerationCount)
```

generatePopulation *Population class object generation*

Description

Function generates the population class object using provided summary statistics.

Usage

```
generatePopulation(N, mean, stdDev, unknownDistribution = FALSE, UDFunction = NULL)
```

Arguments

N	numeric: number of subjects in the population
mean	numeric: mean of titers
stdDev	numeric: standard deviation of titers
unknownDistribution	logical: TRUE if there is an unknown factor affecting the shape of titer distribution
UDFunction	function: function defining the unknown factor affecting the shape of titer distribution

Value

generated population class object with all its characteristics defined in the input parameters

Examples

```
# Example 1: empty population
population0 <- generatePopulation()

# Example 2
population1 <- generatePopulation(N = 100,
                                 mean = 5,
                                 stdDev = 2)
```

<code>getDiseasedCount</code>	<i>Diseased count</i>
-------------------------------	-----------------------

Description

Function calculates the number of diseased subjects (disease status = TRUE) in the `Population`-class object.

Details

Input into the function, "diseaseStatus", is taken from the `Population`-class object attribute. Information about disease status is written into the `Population`-class object by the `ClinicalTrial()` function.

Value

numeric: number of the diseased subjects in the `Population`-class object

getDiseasedTiters	<i>Diseased titers</i>
-------------------	------------------------

Description

Function returns titers of diseased subjects (disease status = TRUE) in the Population-class object.

Details

Input into the function, "diseaseStatus", is taken from the Population-class object attribute. Information about disease status is written into the Population-class object by the ClinicalTrial() function.

Value

numeric vector: titers of diseased subjects in the Population-class object

getNondiseasedCount	<i>Non-diseased count</i>
---------------------	---------------------------

Description

Function calculates the number of non-diseased subjects (disease status = FALSE) in the Population-class object.

Details

Input into the function, "diseaseStatus", is taken from the Population-class object attribute. Information about disease status is written into the Population-class object by the ClinicalTrial() function.

Value

numeric: number of the non-diseased subjects in the Population-class object

getNondiseasedTiters *Non-diseased titers*

Description

Function returns titers of non-diseased subjects (disease status = FALSE) in the Population-class object.

Details

Input into the function, "diseaseStatus", is taken from the Population-class object attribute. Information about disease status is written into the Population-class object by the ClinicalTrial() function.

Value

numeric vector: titers of non-diseased subjects in the Population-class object

getTiters *Subject level titers*

Description

Returns subject level titers. If titers are not yet generated, the function generates them based on Population-class object attributes: N, mean, stdDev.

Details

Inputs into the function (N, mean, stdDev) are taken from the Population-class object attributes.

Value

Subject level titers

getUnknown	<i>Generate unknown</i>
------------	-------------------------

Description

Function generates unknown part of the titers which is eventually added to the original titers in popX and to the original titer distribution in popFun.

Arguments

n numeric: number of subjects in the population

Details

Input into the function: UDFunction is taken from the Population-class object. UDFunction is used for generating the unknown part of the titer distribution.

Value

unknown part of the titers

ImmunogenicitySubset	<i>Immunogenicity subset</i>
----------------------	------------------------------

Description

Function creates the immunogenicity subset based on the chosen method.

Usage

```
ImmunogenicitySubset(diseased,
                     nondiseased,
                     method = list(name = "Full", value = NA))
```

Arguments

diseased	Population-class object: diseased subjects with assigned vaccination status
nondiseased	Population-class object: non-diseased subjects with assigned vaccination status
method	named list: a selected method for creating the immunogenicity subset method\$name <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full: subject level titer information is available for all diseased and all non-diseased subjects, i.e. immunogenicity subset is the full clinical trial • Ratio: subject level titer information is available for all diseased and some non-diseased subjects.

- Fixed: subject level titer information is available for all diseased and some non-diseased subjects.

method\$value

- Full: value = NA; immunogenicity sample is the full clinical trial (non-diseased subset contains all non-diseased in the trial; diseased subset contains all disease cases in the trial)
- Ratio: value = number of non-diseased divided by number of diseased subjects; ratio of diseased vs. non-diseased subjects in the immunogenicity subset (non-diseased subset contains only non-diseased subjects, as the selection is done in the end of the study, when the disease status is known; diseased subset contains all disease cases in the trial)
- Fixed: value = size of the immunogenicity subset, pre-defined number of subjects assayed for titers independently of their future disease status (non-diseased subset could rarely contain some diseased subjects, as the selection is done at the enrollment and prior the knowledge of future disease status; diseased subset contains all disease cases in the trial)

Details

The total immunogenicity subset consists of the diseased immunogenicity subset and non-diseased immunogenicity subset. For all three methods implemented, we assume that the diseased immunogenicity subset contains all disease cases in the trial. Based on the chosen method, the size of the non-diseased immunogenicity subset can be derived as follows:

Size = number of subjects in the non-diseased immunogenicity subset

Titers = values of titers from which we want to sample in order to simulate the non-diseased immunogenicity subset

#Diseased = total number of diseased in the clinical trial

#Nondiseased = total number of non-diseased in the clinical trial

- method\$name = "Full"
Size = #Nondiseased
Titers = Nondiseased Titers
- method\$name = "Ratio"
Size = method\$value * #Diseased
Titers = Nondiseased Titers
- method\$name = "Fixed"
Size = method\$value
Titers = Nondiseased Titers + Diseased Titers

Value

Immunogenicity subset with subject level information about vaccination status and disease status, provided in the form of Population-class object

Examples

```
## Example 1
# Data preparation
data(diseased)
data(nondiseased)

ImmunogenicitySubset(diseased,
                     nondiseased,
                     method = list(name = "Ratio",
                                   value = 4))
```

incorrectInput	<i>Error message</i>
----------------	----------------------

Description

Error message: the input value for "name" is incorrent

Usage

```
incorrectInput(name)
```

Arguments

name	name of the input value
------	-------------------------

Value

error message: "the input value for "name" is incorrect"

incorrectPopulationInput	<i>Population class error message</i>
--------------------------	---------------------------------------

Description

Error message: the input value for "name" is incorrect.

Usage

```
incorrectPopulationInput(name)
```

Arguments

name	name of the input value
------	-------------------------

Value

error message: "The input value for "name" is incorrect. Input needs to be a population class object."

JitterMean

Population mean jittering

Description

Function jitters the mean of the population.

Jittering is adding noise to the mean. The jittered mean is sampled from the distribution with the population mean and population standard deviation divided by the number of subjects in the population. The input population is provided in the form of population class objects (see the Population-class function for more details).

$$Mean_{jitter} \sim N\left(mean, \frac{sd}{N}\right)$$

Usage

```
JitterMean(blindPopulation)
```

Arguments

blindPopulation
Population-class object with N, mean, stdDev attributes

Value

Jittered mean, numeric value

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(vaccinated)

## Example 1
vaccinated$mean
JitterMean(vaccinated)
```

MLE *Maximum Likelihood estimation*

Description

Function calculates the log likelihood value which is used after the initial guesses of the parameters are set in the PoDMLE function.

Usage

```
MLE(params,  
     nondiseasedTiters,  
     diseasedTiters,  
     adjustTiters = FALSE,  
     adjustFrom = log2(10),  
     adjustTo = log2(5))
```

Arguments

params	named numeric vector: PoD curve parameters (et50, slope, pmax)
nondiseasedTiters	numeric vector: non-diseased subjects titers
diseasedTiters	numeric vector: diseased subjects titers
adjustTiters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

MLE function is used inside of PoDMLE function and estimates the PoD curve parameters.

Based on the provided titers for diseased and non-diseased subjects the PoD curve parameters which maximize the log likelihood are chosen as optimal estimates of parameters.

Value

log likelihood, numeric value

Examples

```
# Data preparation  
data(diseased)  
data(nondiseased)  
data(PoDParams)
```

```
# MLE calculation
MLE(PoDParams, nondiseased$titters, diseased$titters)
```

nondiseased	<i>Dataset containing the information for non-diseased subjects</i>
-------------	---

Description

A dataset containing the N, mean, stdDev, titters of non-diseased subjects. The dataset is provided in the form of population class object (see the `Population-class` function for more details).

Usage

```
nondiseased
```

Format

Population class object:

N number of subjects

mean mean of titters

stdDev standard deviation of titters

titters subject level titters

numToBool	<i>Numeric to boolean</i>
-----------	---------------------------

Description

Converts numeric format to boolean format.

Usage

```
numToBool(x)
```

Arguments

x numeric value (0, 1)

Details

If the function is supposed to be used on a vector, the form `sapply("vector", numToBool)` needs to be applied.

Value

boolean value (T, F)

Examples

```
dStatus <- c(0,0,1,1,0,1)
sapply(dStatus, numToBool)
```

PmaxEstimation	<i>PoD curve parameter, pmax, estimation</i>
----------------	--

Description

Function finds the pmax parameter of the PoD curve using control subjects summary statistics (mean, sd), observed incidence rate and previously estimated et50 and slope by PoDEfficiencySquaredError function.

Usage

```
PmaxEstimation(IncidenceRate,
               params,
               control,
               adjustTiters = FALSE,
               adjustFrom = NA,
               adjustTo = NA)
```

Arguments

IncidenceRate	numeric: observed incidence rate in overall (control) subjects
params	numeric vector: et50 and slope
control	Population-class object: control subjects (mean, sd)
adjustTiters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Value

PoD curve parameter pmax

Examples

```
## Example 1
data(vaccinated)
data(control)

# Assigning true efficacy
TrueEfficacy <- 0.53

# PoD curve parameters (et50, slope) estimation
params <- PoDEfficacySquaredError(TrueEfficacy, vaccinated, control)

# Assigning incidence rate (observed incidence rate)
IncidenceRate <- 0.2

# pmax estimation
pmax <- PmaxEstimation(IncidenceRate, params, control)

# combining PoD curve parameters
PoDParams <- unlist(c(params, pmax))
```

PoD

Probability of disease calculation

Description

Function calculates probability of disease (PoD) corresponding to given titers according to a sigmoid PoD curve.

Usage

```
PoD(titer, pmax, et50, slope, adjustTitters = FALSE, adjustFrom = 0, adjustTo = 0)
```

Arguments

titer	numeric vector: subject level titers
pmax	numeric: maximum PoD
et50	numeric: titer values corresponding to pmax/2 value, $PoD(et50) = pmax/2$
slope	numeric: slope of the PoD curve
adjustTitters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

PoD is calculated as:

$$PoD = p_{max} \frac{\left(\frac{et50}{titer}\right)^\gamma}{1 + \left(\frac{et50}{titer}\right)^\gamma}, \text{ for } titer > 0$$

and

$$PoD = p_{max}, \text{ for } titer \leq 0$$

Value

vector of PoDs

Examples

```
data(vaccinated)
data(PoDParams)
```

```
PoD(vaccinated$titer, pmax = PoDParams$pmax, et50 = PoDParams$et50, slope = PoDParams$slope)
```

PoDBAY

PoDBAY

Description

PoDBAY package accompanies the article 'A method to estimate probability of disease and vaccine efficacy from clinical trial immunogenicity data'. It helps to setup the workflow for vaccine efficacy estimation and clinical trial simulation using the PoDBAY method.

Details

It has two main applications:

- Estimation of vaccine efficacy using subject level immunogenicity data
- Simulation of clinical trial

Author(s)

Pavel Fiser, Tomas Bartonek, Julie Dudasova

PoDBAYEfficacy	<i>PoDBAY efficacy estimation</i>
----------------	-----------------------------------

Description

Function calculates the PoDBAY efficacy based on the set of PoD curve parameters calculated in PoDParamEstimation function, vaccinated and control immunogenicity subset means and standard deviations.

Usage

```
PoDBAYEfficacy(estimatedParameters,
               blindVaccinated,
               blindControl,
               adjustTiters = FALSE,
               adjustFrom = log2(10),
               adjustTo = log2(5))
```

Arguments

estimatedParameters	named data frame ("pmax", "slope", "et50"): set of estimated PoD curve parameters
blindVaccinated	Population-class object: vaccinated subjects from immunogenicity subset, containing N, mean, standard deviation information
blindControl	Population-class object: control subjects from immunogenicity subset, containing N, mean, standard deviation information
adjustTiters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

Application of efficacyComputation function to the all PoD curves (each characterized by three PoD parameters) estimated by PoDParamEstimation function.

Inputs into the efficacyComputation are:

- PoDParameters: i 'th estimated PoD parameters from PoDParamEstimation. $i = 1, \dots, N$, where N = number of estimations in which MLE converges. See PoDMLE for details.
- means: jittered means of immunogenicity subset. See JitterMeans for details.
- standardDeviations: standard deviations of the vaccinated and control subjects from the immunogenicity subset.

Value

efficacySet, set of PoDBAY efficacies corresponding to estimated set of PoD curve parameters

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(diseased)
data(nondiseased)
data(estimatedParameters)

## Example 1
# Creating immunogenicity subset, method = "Ratio", value = 4
ImmunogenicitySubset <-
  BlindSampling(diseased,
                nondiseased,
                method = list(name = "Ratio",
                              value = 4))

# Estimating PoD curve parameters
nondiseasedGenerationCount <- nondiseased$N

estimatedParameters <- PoDParamEstimation(diseased$titters,
                                           ImmunogenicitySubset$ImmunogenicityNondiseased$titters,
                                           nondiseasedGenerationCount,
                                           repeatCount = 10)

# Estimating PoDBAY efficacy
PoDBAYEfficacy(estimatedParameters$results,
               ImmunogenicitySubset$ImmunogenicityVaccinated,
               ImmunogenicitySubset$ImmunogenicityControl)
```

PoDCI

PoD curve confidence ribbon

Description

Supplementary function for PoDCurvePlot function. Function calculates the confidence ribbon around the PoD curve.

Usage

```
PoDCI(data, ci = 0.95)
```

Arguments

data	numeric vector for which we the confidence intervals should be calculated
ci	numeric: required confidence level

Value

lower bound of CI median value upper bound of CI

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data <- 0:100

## Example 1
PoDCI(data,
      ci = 0.95)
```

PoDCurvePlot

PoD curve: plot

Description

Supplementary function for plotting the PoD curve with the confidence ribbon (of a required level). Input values are related to PoDBAY package structure. See vignette("EfficacyEstimation", package = "PoDBAY") for an example of application of this function.

Usage

```
PoDCurvePlot(titers,
             estimatedParameters,
             ci = 0.95)
```

Arguments

titers numeric vector: grid of titers at which the confidence ribbon should be calculated

estimatedParameters estimatedParameters named data frame (pmax, slope, et50): set of estimated PoD curve parameters, output of PoDParamEstimation function.

ci numeric, required confidence level

Value

PoD curve plot

Examples

```
## Data preparation
library(ggplot2)
data(PoDParams)
data(estimatedParameters)

## Example 1
# titers for which we want calculate the confidence intervals
titters <- seq(from = 0, to = 15, by = 0.01)

# squared error of CurveTittersMedian and functional values of "params" curve
PoDCurvePlot(titters,
              estimatedParameters,
              ci = 0.95)
```

PoDEfficacySquaredError

Optimization function: finds PoD curve paramaters (et50, slope)

Description

Function finds PoD curve parameters (et50, slope) using population summary statistics (mean, sd) and input (reference value, or for example true in the simulation setup) efficacy. Efficacy is independent of pmax parameter thus pmax is estimated separately using PmaxEstimation function.

Usage

```
PoDEfficacySquaredError(TrueEfficacy,
                        vaccinated,
                        control,
                        initialSlope = 6,
                        adjustTitters = FALSE,
                        adjustFrom = NA,
                        adjustTo = NA)
```

Arguments

TrueEfficacy	numeric: input reference efficacy
vaccinated	Population-class object: vaccinated group (mean, sd)
control	Population-class object: control group (mean, sd)
initialSlope	numeric: initial slope parameter for the optimization function
adjustTitters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

Function returns et50 and slope PoD curve parameters obtained using efficacySquaredError i.e. the optimal (output) parameters et50 and slope correspond to the minimal squared difference between input reference efficacy and calculated efficacy.

Pmax parameter is not obtained as efficacy is independent on pmax.

The optim function is used for optimization with method = "L-BFGS-B", 1000 maximum iterations, (0.1,Inf) boundaries for et50 and (-slopeBoundary, slopeBoundary) boundaries for slope.

NOTE: The reason for slope boundary settings is because from certain value of slope parameter the shape of the PoD curve and the corresponding PoD values for given titers are almost identical. This parameter is supposed to limit the resulting slope value and help MLE to converge to optimal parameters. The value of "slopeBoundaries" is calculated from data according to Dunning, 2015 (<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12874-015-0096-9>).

Value

PoD curve parameters (et50, slope)

Examples

```
## Example 1
data(vaccinated)
data(control)

# Assigning reference efficacy
TrueEfficacy <- 0.53

# PoD curve parameter estimation
PoDEfficacySquaredError(TrueEfficacy, vaccinated, control)
```

PoDMLE

Setup for the maximum likelihood estimation (MLE)

Description

Function estimates the optimal PoD curve parameters (pmax, et50, slope) using diseased and non-diseased titers. Initial guess of the slope parameter needs to be provided as an input to the optimization, as well as the lowTiterPercent parameter, which is needed for initial guess of the pmax parameter calculation.

Usage

```
PoDMLE(nondiseasedTiters,
       diseasedTiters,
       adjustTiters = FALSE,
       adjustFrom = log2(10),
       adjustTo = log2(5),
```

```
initialSlope = 6,
lowTiterPercent = 0.2)
```

Arguments

nondiseasedTiters numeric vector: non-diseased subjects titers

diseasedTiters numeric vector: diseased subjects titers

adjustTiters boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function

adjustFrom numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value

adjustTo numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

initialSlope numeric: initial guess of the slope parameter for the optimization function

lowTiterPercent numeric: value in the interval (0,1) - it represents a fraction of bottom titer values of the whole clinical trial used for calculation of initial guess of the pmax parameter.

Details

Initial guess of pmax = (number of diseased in the bottom titers + 0.5) / (number of non-diseased and diseased in the bottom titers + 0.5), Initial et50 = intersection point of distributions of non-diseased and diseased groups. If L-BFGS-B optimization fails to converge, a new et50 initial guess is set to median value of all titers.

PoDMLE function estimates the PoD curve parameters by maximizing the likelihood value (see MLE function for details) based on the provided titers for diseased and non-diseased groups.

The optim function is used for optimization with method = "L-BFGS-B", 500 maximum iterations, (0.1,Inf) boundaries for et50, (1e-6,1) boundaries for pmax and (-slopeBoundary, slopeBoundary) boundaries for slope.

NOTE: The reason for slope boundary settings is because from certain value of slope parameter the shape of the PoD curve and the corresponding PoD values for given titers are almost identical. This parameter is expected to limit the resulting slope value and help MLE to converge to optimal parameters. The value of "slopeBoundaries" is calculated as described by Dunning, 2015 (<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12874-015-0096-9>).

Value

list("et50", "slope", "pmax"), named list of PoD paraters: if MLE converges.

Null: if MLE does not converge.

Examples

```
## EXAMPLE 1:
# Data preparation
data(diseased)
data(nondiseased)
```

```

# PoD curve parameter estimation
PoDMLE(nondiseased$titters,
        diseased$titters)

## EXAMPLE 2:
## initialSlope and lowTiterPercent variables are adjusted.
PoDMLE(nondiseased$titters,
        diseased$titters,
        initialSlope = 5,
        lowTiterPercent = 0.3)

```

PoDParamEstimation *PoD curve parameters estimation*

Description

Function estimates the PoD curve parameters (pmax, slope, et50) using PoDMLE function. Number of PoD curves estimated equals to the repeatCount input parameter.

The estimation is performed using provided diseased and non-diseased subject level data.

Usage

```

PoDParamEstimation(diseasedTitters,
                   nondiseasedTitters,
                   nondiseasedGenerationCount,
                   repeatCount = 500,
                   adjustTitters = FALSE,
                   adjustFrom = log2(10),
                   adjustTo = log2(5))

```

Arguments

diseasedTitters	numeric vector: all diseased titers, subject level data
nondiseasedTitters	numeric vector: non-diseased titers from immunogenicity subset, subject level data
nondiseasedGenerationCount	numeric: total number of non-diseased subjects in the clinical trial
repeatCount	numeric: how many times is the dataset bootstrapped and the PoD curve parameter estimation performed
adjustTitters	boolean: set to TRUE if titer values should be adjusted, for details see PoD function
adjustFrom	numeric: value specifying the detection limit, all values below the detection limit will be adjusted to adjustTo value
adjustTo	numeric: value to which titers below the detection limit will be adjusted

Details

diseasedTiters: subject level titers of all diseased in the clinical trial

nondiseasedTiters: subject level titers of non-diseased subjects in the immunogenicity subset

There are two possible scenarios

- Full: Full information about non-diseased titers is available, i.e subject level data for all non-diseased subjects from the clinical trial (nondiseasedGenerationCount = number of all non-diseased subjects in the clinical trial).
- Ratio or Fixed: Information about non-diseased titers is available only for the immunogenicity subset. In order to compensate for these missing titers we upsampling of this subset to the total number of non-diseased (nondiseasedGenerationCount) in the trial is needed.

nondiseasedGenerationCount: number of all non-diseased subjects in the clinical trial

NOTE: Number of estimated parameters can be lower than repeatCount as MLE does not necessary converge in all estimations; failcount (number of iterations in which MLE failed to converge) is also returned; for details see MLE function.

Function steps

- Upsample non-diseased if needed (needed for methods Ratio and Fixed) - from immunogenicity subset size ($N = \text{NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset}N$) to the whole trial size ($N = \text{nondiseasedGenerationCount}$). For details see GenerateNondiseased function.
- Estimate PoD curve: resultsPriorReset
- Reset disease status: the purpose is to estimate the confidence intervals of the PoD curve and its parameters
Part of the reset disease status procedure is the non-parametric bootstrap: titers of diseased and non-diseased subjects are pooled, and associated PoDs are calculated using their titer values and estimated PoD curve. Based on the subject level probabilities (PoDs), the disease status is reestimated.
- Re-estimate PoD curve: new diseased and non-diseased titers are used to reestimate the PoD curve

Value

results: PoD curve parameters after resetting the disease status, named data.frame of estimated PoD curve parameters (pmax, slope, et50); see details for more information

resultsPriorReset: PoD curve parameters prior to resetting the status, named data.frame of estimated PoD curve parameters (pmax, slope, et50); see details for more information

failcount: number of iterations in which MLE failed to converge; see details for more information

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(diseased)
data(nondiseased)

## Example 1
```

```

# Creating immunogenicity subset, method = "Full"
NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset <-
  ImmunogenicitySubset(diseased,
                       nondiseased,
                       method = list(name = "Full",
                                     value = "NA"))

# Number of all non-diseased subjects in the clinical trial
nondiseasedGenerationCount <- nondiseased$N

PoDParamEstimation(diseased$titers,
                  NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset$titers,
                  nondiseasedGenerationCount,
                  repeatCount = 10)

## Example 2
# Creating immunogenicity subset, method = "Ratio", value = 4
NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset <-
  ImmunogenicitySubset(diseased,
                       nondiseased,
                       method = list(name = "Ratio",
                                     value = 4))

# Number of all non-diseased subjects in the clinical trial
nondiseasedGenerationCount <- nondiseased$N

PoDParamEstimation(diseased$titers,
                  NondiseasedImmunogenicitySubset$titers,
                  nondiseasedGenerationCount,
                  repeatCount = 10)

```

PoDParamPointEstimation

PoD curve point estimate

Description

Function returns PoD curve parameters corresponding to the point estimate of PoD curve.

Usage

```

PoDParamPointEstimation(resultsPriorReset,
                       titers = seq(from = 0, to = 20, by = 0.01),
                       optim_titers = FALSE)

```


Arguments

resultsPriorReset	named data frame ("pmax", "slope", "et50"): set of estimated PoD curve parameters before resetting the disease status; for further details see PoDParamEstimation function.
titers	numeric vector: a grid of titers for PoD curve point estimate calculation
optim_titers	logical: TRUE for a predefined sequence of titers

Details

For each of estimated PoD curves in resultsPriorReset, the function values (probabilities of disease, PoD) for provided grid of titers are calculated.

Median of function values (PoDs) at each provided titer is calculated.

Subsequently, the PoD curve model is fitted to the median datapoints using fitPoD function, in order to get PoD curve parameters close to this median curve.

Value

paramsPointEstimate: named data frame of PoD curve parameters corresponding to the PoD curve point estimate

Examples

```
## Data preparation
data(estimatedParameters)

## Example 1
# titers for which we want to optimize the functional values
titers <- seq(from = 0, to = 20, by = 0.01)

# Point estimate of PoD curve
PoDParamPointEstimation(estimatedParameters$resultsPriorReset, titers)
```

PoDParams

PoD curve parameters

Description

A dataset containing PoD curve parameters

Usage

PoDParams

Format

data frame

pmax pmax: maximum PoD

et50 et50: titer value corresponding to the pmax/2

slope slope: slope of the PoD curve

PoDParamsCI	<i>Confidence intervals of PoD curve parameters</i>
-------------	---

Description

Function calculates confidence intervals of the PoD curve parameters (pmax, et50, slope) at user-defined confidence level.

Usage

```
PoDParamsCI(estimatedParameters, ci = 0.95)
```

Arguments

estimatedParameters

output of PoDParamEstimation function

ci

numeric: value from (0, 1) interval, confidence level of interest

Value

CI of all PoD curve parameters

PoDParamsCICoverage	<i>Confidence intervals of PoD curve parameters at three confidence levels</i>
---------------------	--

Description

Function calculates confidence intervals (80%, 90% and user-defined) of the PoD curve parameters (pmax, et50, slope).

Usage

```
PoDParamsCICoverage(estimatedParameters, ci = 0.95)
```


PoDs numeric: subject level probability of disease (PoD), generated with `assignPoD` method
 diseaseStatus logical: subject level disease status (TRUE if diseased), generated with `ClinicalTrial` function

popX *Add noise to population titers*

Description

Function adds noise to population titers accounting for an unknown factor affecting the titer distribution.

Details

Inputs into the function: `N`, `unknownDistribution` and `getUnknown()` method are taken from the `Population`-class object.

Value

subject level titers

vaccinated *Dataset containing the information for vaccinated subjects*

Description

A dataset containing the `N`, `mean`, `stdDev`, `titers` of vaccinated subjects. The dataset is provided in the form of population class object (see the `Population`-class function for more details).

Usage

vaccinated

Format

Population class object:

N number of subjects

mean mean of titers

stdDev standard deviation of titers

titers subject level titers

waldCI	<i>Wald confidence interval estimation</i>
--------	--

Description

Function calculates and returns case-count efficacy confidence intervals estimated using Wald's method.

Input data need to contain information about disease status on individual level.

Usage

```
waldCI(vaccinated, control, confLevel = 0.95)
```

Arguments

vaccinated	Population-class object: vaccinated subjects, containing information about disease status
control	Population-class object: control subjects, containing information about disease status
confLevel	numeric: value from (0, 1) interval, confidence level of interest

Details

Confidence interval of the relative risk is calculated using the Wald method. (Wald, A. Tests of statistical hypotheses concerning several parameters when the number of observations is large. Transactions of the American Mathematical Society 54, 426-482 (1943)).

Value

Named list of lower and upper confidence interval bound

Examples

```
# Loading vaccinated and control populations data with PoD information
data(vaccinated)
data(control)

# Estimating the disease status and case-count efficacy with 95% confidence interval
set.seed(1)
CT <- ClinicalTrial(vaccinated, control, CI = 0.95)

waldCI(vaccinated, control)
```

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