

# Package ‘pempi’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Proportion Estimation with Marginal Proxy Information

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**Description** A system contains easy-to-use tools for the conditional estimation of the prevalence of an emerging or rare infectious diseases using the methods proposed in Guerrier et al. (2023) <[arXiv:2012.10745](#)>.

**Depends** R (>= 4.0.0)

**License** AGPL-3

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**URL** <https://github.com/stephaneguerrier/pempi>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/stephaneguerrier/pempi/issues>

**NeedsCompilation** no

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conditional_mle	<i>Compute MLE based on the full information R1, R2, R3 and R4.</i>
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### Description

Proportion estimated using the MLE and confidence intervals based the asymptotic distribution of the estimator.

### Usage

```
conditional_mle(
  R1 = NULL,
  R2 = NULL,
  R3 = NULL,
  R4 = NULL,
  n = R1 + R2 + R3 + R4,
  pi0,
  gamma = 0.05,
  alpha0 = 0,
  alpha = 0,
  beta = 0,
  V = NULL,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

R1	A numeric that provides the number of participants in the survey sample that were tested positive with both (medical) testing devices (and are, thus, members of the sub-population).
R2	A numeric that provides the number of participants in the survey sample that are tested positive only with the first testing device (and are, thus, members of the sub-population).
R3	A numeric that provides the number of participants in the survey sample that are tested positive only with the second testing device.
R4	A numeric that provides the number of participants that are tested negative with the second testing device (and are either members of the sub-population and have tested negative with the first testing device or are not members of the sub-population).

n	A numeric that provides the sample size. Default value $R1 + R2 + R3 + R4$ . If this value is provided it is used to verify that $R1 + R2 + R3 + R4 = n$ .
pi0	A numeric that provides the prevalence or proportion of people (in the whole population) who are positive, as measured through a non-random, but systematic sampling (e.g. based on medical selection).
gamma	A numeric that is used to compute a $(1 - \text{gamma})$ confidence region for the proportion. Default value is $0.05$ .
alpha0	A numeric that corresponds to the probability that a random participant has been incorrectly declared positive through the nontransparent procedure. In most applications, this probability is likely very close to zero. Default value is $0$ .
alpha	A numeric that provides the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R. Default value is $0$ .
beta	A numeric that provides the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R. Default value is $0$ .
V	A numeric that corresponds to the average of squared sampling weights. Default value is NULL.
...	Additional arguments.

### Value

A `cpreval` object with the structure:

- estimate: Estimated proportion.
- sd: Estimated standard error of the estimator.
- ci\_asym: Asymptotic confidence interval at the  $1 - \text{gamma}$  confidence level.
- gamma: Confidence level (i.e.  $1 - \text{gamma}$ ) for confidence intervals.
- method: Estimation method (in this case `mle`).
- measurement: A vector with `(alpha0, alpha, beta)`.
- beta0: Estimated false negative rate of the official procedure.
- ci\_beta0: Asymptotic confidence interval ( $1 - \text{gamma}$  confidence level) for `beta0`.
- boundary: A boolean variable indicating if the estimates falls at the boundary of the parameter space.
- pi0: Value of `pi0` (input value).
- sampling: Type of sampling considered ("`random`" or "`weighted`").
- V: Average sum of squared sampling weights if `weighted/stratified` is used (otherwise NULL).
- n: Sample size.
- avar\_beta0: Estimated asymptotic variance of `beta0`
- ...: Additional parameters.

### Author(s)

Stephane Guerrier, Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser, Christoph Kuzmics

## Examples

```
# Samples without measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 3/100, pi0 = 1/100, n = 1500, seed = 18)
conditional_mle(R1 = X$R1, R2 = X$R2, R3 = X$R3, R4 = X$R4, pi0 = X$pi0)

# With measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 30/1000, pi0 = 10/1000, n = 1500, alpha0 = 0.001,
alpha = 0.01, beta0 = 0.05, beta = 0.05, seed = 18)
conditional_mle(R1 = X$R1, R2 = X$R2, R3 = X$R3, R4 = X$R4, pi0 = X$pi0)
conditional_mle(R1 = X$R1, R2 = X$R2, R3 = X$R3, R4 = X$R4, pi0 = X$pi0,
alpha0 = 0.001, alpha = 0.01, beta = 0.05)
```

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covid19\_austria

*COVID-19 Data from Statistics Austria*

---

## Description

Data collected in Austria in 2020 (see e.g. SORA, 2020; Kowarik et al., 2021, for more details), allowing to estimate COVID-19 prevalence.

## Usage

```
covid19_austria
```

## Format

A matrix with 2290 rows and 3 variables:

**Y** Binary variable, 1 if participant  $i$  is tested positive in the survey sample, 0 otherwise.

**Z** Binary variable, 1 if participant  $i$  was declared positive with the official procedure, 0 otherwise.

**weights** Sampling weights.

## Source

Statistics Austria. 2020. "Prävalenz von SARS-CoV-2-Infektionen liegt bei 0.031."

---

get_prob	<i>Compute success probabilities (tau_j's)</i>
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---

**Description**

Compute joint probabilities of  $P(W = j, Y = k)$  for  $j, k = 0, 1$ .

**Usage**

```
get_prob(theta, pi0, alpha, beta, alpha0)
```

**Arguments**

theta	A numeric that provides the true prevalence of a given disease.
pi0	A numeric that provides the prevalence or proportion of people (in the whole population) who are positive, as measured through a non-random, but systematic sampling (e.g. based on medical selection).
alpha	A numeric that provides the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R.
beta	A numeric that provides the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R.
alpha0	A numeric that corresponds to the probability that a random participant has been incorrectly declared positive through the nontransparent procedure. In most applications, this probability is likely very close to zero.

**Value**

A vector containing tau1, tau2, tau3 and tau4.

**Author(s)**

Stephane Guerrier

**Examples**

```
prob1 = get_prob(theta = 0.02, pi0 = 0.01, alpha = 0, beta = 0, alpha0 = 0)
prob1
sum(prob1)

prob2 = get_prob(theta = 0.02, pi0 = 0.01, alpha = 0.001, beta = 0, alpha0 = 0.001)
prob2
sum(prob2)
```

---

marginal_mle	<i>Compute (marginalized) MLE based on the partial information R1 and R3.</i>
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### Description

Proportion estimated using the MLE and confidence intervals based the asymptotic distribution of the estimator.

### Usage

```
marginal_mle(
  R1,
  R3,
  n,
  pi0,
  gamma = 0.05,
  alpha = 0,
  beta = 0,
  alpha0 = 0,
  V = NULL,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

R1	A numeric that provides the number of participants in the survey sample that were tested positive with both (medical) testing devices (and are, thus, members of the sub-population).
R3	A numeric that provides the number of participants in the survey sample that are tested positive only with the second testing device.
n	A numeric that provides the sample size.
pi0	A numeric that provides the prevalence or proportion of people (in the whole population) who are positive, as measured through a non-random, but systematic sampling (e.g. based on medical selection).
gamma	A numeric that is used to compute a (1 - gamma) confidence region for the proportion. Default value is 0.05.
alpha	A numeric that provides the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
beta	A numeric that provides the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
alpha0	A numeric that corresponds to the probability that a random participant has been incorrectly declared positive through the nontransparent procedure. In most applications, this probability is likely very close to zero. Default value is 0.

V	A numeric that corresponds to the average of squared sampling weights. Default value is NULL and for the moment this method is currently only implemented for random sampling.
...	Additional arguments.

**Value**

A cpreval object with the structure:

- estimate: Estimated proportion.
- sd: Estimated standard error of the estimator.
- ci\_asym: Asymptotic confidence interval at the 1 - gamma confidence level.
- gamma: Confidence level (i.e. 1 - gamma) for confidence intervals.
- method: Estimation method (in this case marginal mle).
- measurement: A vector with (alpha0, alpha, beta).
- beta0: Estimated false negative rate of the official procedure.
- ci\_beta0: Asymptotic confidence interval (1 - gamma confidence level) for beta0.
- boundary: A boolean variable indicating if the estimates falls at the boundary of the parameter space.
- pi0: Value of pi0 (input value).
- sampling: Type of sampling considered ("random" or "weighted").
- V: Average sum of squared sampling weights if weighted/stratified is used (otherwise NULL).
- n: Sample size.
- avar\_beta0: Estimated asymptotic variance of beta0
- ...: Additional parameters

**Author(s)**

Stephane Guerrier, Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser, Christoph Kuzmics

**Examples**

```
# Samples without measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 3/100, pi0 = 1/100, n = 1500, seed = 18)
conditional_mle(R1 = X$R1, R2 = X$R2, R3 = X$R3, R4 = X$R4, n = X$n, pi0 = X$pi0)

# With measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 30/1000, pi0 = 10/1000, n = 1500, alpha0 = 0.001,
alpha = 0.01, beta0 = 0.05, beta = 0.05, seed = 18)
marginal_mle(R1 = X$R1, R3 = X$R3, n = X$n, pi0 = X$pi0)
marginal_mle(R1 = X$R1, R3 = X$R3, n = X$n, pi0 = X$pi0,
alpha0 = 0.001, alpha = 0.01, beta0 = 0.05, beta = 0.05)
```

---

moment\_estimator      *Compute moment-based estimator.*

---

### Description

Proportion estimated using the moment-based estimator and confidence intervals based the asymptotic distribution of the estimator as well as the Clopper-Pearson approach.

### Usage

```
moment_estimator(
  R3,
  n,
  pi0,
  gamma = 0.05,
  alpha = 0,
  beta = 0,
  alpha0 = 0,
  V = NULL,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

R3	A numeric that provides the number of participants in the survey sample that are tested positive only with the second testing device.
n	A numeric that provides the sample size.
pi0	A numeric that provides the prevalence or proportion of people (in the whole population) who are positive, as measured through a non-random, but systematic sampling (e.g. based on medical selection).
gamma	A numeric that is used to compute a (1 - gamma) confidence region for the proportion. Default value is 0.05.
alpha	A numeric that provides the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
beta	A numeric that provides the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
alpha0	A numeric that corresponds to the probability that a random participant has been incorrectly declared positive through the nontransparent procedure. In most applications, this probability is likely very close to zero. Default value is 0.
V	A numeric that corresponds to the average of squared sampling weights. Default value is NULL.
...	Additional arguments.



**Value**

A cpreval object with the structure:

- estimate: Estimated proportion.
- sd: Estimated standard error of the estimator.
- ci\_asym: Asymptotic confidence interval at the  $1 - \gamma$  confidence level.
- ci\_cp: Confidence interval ( $1 - \gamma$  confidence level) based on the Clopper-Pearson approach.
- gamma: Confidence level (i.e.  $1 - \gamma$ ) for confidence intervals.
- method: Estimation method (in this case moment estimator).
- measurement: A vector with (alpha0, alpha, beta).
- beta0: Estimated false negative rate of the official procedure.
- ci\_beta0: Asymptotic confidence interval ( $1 - \gamma$  confidence level) for beta0.
- boundary: A boolean variable indicating if the estimates falls at the boundary of the parameter space.
- pi0: Value of pi0 (input value).
- sampling: Type of sampling considered ("random" or "weighted").
- V: Average sum of squared sampling weights if weighted/stratified is used (otherwise NULL).
- n: Sample size.
- avar\_beta0: Estimated asymptotic variance of beta0
- ...: Additional parameters.

**Author(s)**

Stephane Guerrier, Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser, Christoph Kuzmics

**Examples**

```
# Samples without measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 3/100, pi0 = 1/100, n = 1500, seed = 18)
moment_estimator(R3 = X$R3, n = X$n, pi0 = X$pi0)

# With measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 3/100, pi0 = 1/100, n = 1500, alpha0 = 0.001,
alpha = 0.01, beta = 0.05, seed = 18)
moment_estimator(R3 = X$R3, n = X$n, pi0 = X$pi0)
moment_estimator(R3 = X$R3, n = X$n, pi0 = X$pi0, alpha0 = 0.001,
alpha = 0.01, beta = 0.05)
```

---

sim\_Rs *Simulate data (R, R0, R1, R2, R3 and R4)*

---

### Description

Simulation function for random variables of interest.

### Usage

```
sim_Rs(theta, pi0, n, alpha0 = 0, alpha = 0, beta = 0, seed = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

theta	A numeric that provides the true prevalence of a given disease.
pi0	A numeric that provides the prevalence or proportion of people (in the whole population) who are positive, as measured through a non-random, but systematic sampling (e.g. based on medical selection).
n	A numeric that corresponds to the sample size.
alpha0	A numeric that corresponds to the probability that a random participant has been incorrectly declared positive through the nontransparent procedure. In most applications, this probability is likely very close to zero. Default value is 0.
alpha	A numeric that provides the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
beta	A numeric that provides the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
seed	A numeric that provides the simulation seed. Default value is NULL.
...	Additional arguments.

### Value

A `cpreval_sim` object (`list`) with the structure:

- R: the number of participants in the survey sample that were tested positive.
- R0: the number of participants in the survey sample that were tested positive with the first testing device (and are, thus, members of the sub-population).
- R1: the number of participants in the survey sample that were tested positive with both (medical) testing devices (and are, thus, members of the sub-population).
- R2: the number of participants in the survey sample that are tested positive only with the first testing device (and are, thus, members of the sub-population).
- R3: the number of participants in the survey sample that are tested positive only with the second testing device.
- R4: the number of participants that are tested negative with the second testing device (and are either members of the sub-population and have tested negative with the first testing device or are not members of the sub-population).

- n: the sample size.
- alpha: the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R.
- beta: the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R.
- alpha0: the alpha0 probability (as defined above).
- ...: additional arguments.

### Author(s)

Stephane Guerrier

### Examples

```
# Samples without measurement error
sim_Rs(theta = 3/100, pi0 = 1/100, n = 1500, seed = 18)

# With measurement error
sim_Rs(theta = 3/100, pi0 = 1/100, n = 1500, alpha0 = 0,
alpha = 0.01, beta = 0.05, seed = 18)
```

---

survey_mle	<i>Compute proportion in the survey sample (standard estimator)</i>
------------	---

---

### Description

Proportion estimated using the survey sample and confidence intervals based on the Clopper-Pearson and the standard asymptotic approach.

### Usage

```
survey_mle(R, n, pi0 = 0, alpha = 0, beta = 0, gamma = 0.05, V = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

R	A numeric that provides the people of positive people in the sample.
n	A numeric that provides the sample size.
pi0	A numeric that provides the prevalence or proportion of people (in the whole population) who are positive, as measured through a non-random, but systematic sampling (e.g. based on medical selection). Default value is 0 and in this case this information is not used in the estimation procedure.
alpha	A numeric that provides the False Negative (FN) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
beta	A numeric that provides the False Positive (FP) rate for the sample R. Default value is 0.
gamma	A numeric that is used to compute a (1 - gamma) confidence region for the proportion. Default value is 0.05.
V	A numeric that corresponds to the average of squared sampling weights. Default value is NULL.
...	Additional arguments.

**Value**

A cpreval object with the structure:

- estimate: Estimated proportion.
- sd: Estimated standard error of the estimator.
- ci\_asym: Asymptotic confidence interval at the  $1 - \gamma$  confidence level.
- gamma: Confidence level (i.e.  $1 - \gamma$ ) for confidence intervals.
- method: Estimation method (in this case sample survey).
- measurement: A vector with  $(\alpha_0, \alpha, \beta)$ .
- boundary: A boolean variable indicating if the estimates falls at the boundary of the parameter space.
- pi0: Value of  $\pi_0$  (input value).
- sampling: Type of sampling considered ("random" or "weighted").
- V: Average sum of squared sampling weights if weighted/stratified is used (otherwise NULL).
- ...: Additional parameters.

**Author(s)**

Stephane Guerrier, Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser, Christoph Kuzmics

**Examples**

```
# Samples without measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 30/1000, pi0 = 10/1000, n = 1500, seed = 18)
survey_mle(R = X$R, n = X$n)

# With measurement error
X = sim_Rs(theta = 30/1000, pi0 = 10/1000, n = 1500, alpha = 0.01, beta = 0.05, seed = 18)
survey_mle(R = X$R, n = X$n)
survey_mle(R = X$R, n = X$n, alpha = 0.01, beta = 0.05)
```

---

update\_prevalence

*Update prevalence using new case prevalence rates*

---

**Description**

Updated prevalence and confidence intervals using new case prevalence rates

**Usage**

```
update_prevalence(
  pi0_new,
  x,
  gamma = 0.05,
  print = NULL,
  plot = NULL,
  col_line = "#2e5dc1",
  col_ci = "#2E5DC133",
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

pi0_new	A numeric or vector of new case prevalence rates
x	A cpreval object.
gamma	A numeric that used to compute a (1 - gamma) confidence region for the proportion. Default value is 0.05.
print	A boolean indicating whether or not the output should be print.
plot	A boolean indicating whether or not a plot should be made.
col_line	Color of the estimated prevalence.
col_ci	Color of the estimated prevalence confidence interval.
...	Additional arguments.

**Value**

A matrix object whose columns corresponds to pi0, estimate, sd and CI.

**Author(s)**

Stephane Guerrier

**Examples**

```
# Austrian data (November 2020)
pi0 = 93914/7166167
data("covid19_austria")

# Weighted sampling
n = nrow(covid19_austria)
R1w = sum(covid19_austria$weights[covid19_austria$Y == 1 & covid19_austria$Z == 1])
R2w = sum(covid19_austria$weights[covid19_austria$Y == 0 & covid19_austria$Z == 1])
R3w = sum(covid19_austria$weights[covid19_austria$Y == 1 & covid19_austria$Z == 0])
R4w = sum(covid19_austria$weights[covid19_austria$Y == 0 & covid19_austria$Z == 0])

# Assumed measurement errors
alpha0 = 0
alpha = 1/100
```

```
beta = 10/100

# MME
mme = moment_estimator(R3 = R3w, n = n, pi0 = pi0, alpha = alpha, beta = beta,
                      alpha0 = alpha0, V = mean(covid19_austria$weights^2))

mme

# Update prevalence using a new pi0, say = 1.5%, instead of 1.31%
update_prevalence(1.5/100, mme)

pi0_new = seq(from = 0.005, to = 0.03, length.out = 100)
update_prevalence(pi0_new, mme)
```

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