

Package ‘EpiNova’

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Title Flexible Extended State-Space Epidemiological Models with Modern Inference

Version 0.1.0

Description An extended epidemiological modelling framework that goes beyond the classical SIR (Susceptible-Infectious-Recovered) model. Supports SEIR (Susceptible-Exposed-Infectious-Recovered), SEIRD (Susceptible-Exposed-Infectious-Recovered-Deceased), SVEIRD (Susceptible-Vaccinated-Exposed-Infectious-Recovered-Deceased), and age-stratified compartmental models with flexible intervention functions (spline-based, Gaussian process, or user-defined). Inference is available via maximum likelihood or sequential Monte Carlo (SMC, also known as particle filtering) with no external binary dependencies. Includes a dependency-free real-time effective reproduction number (R_t) estimator, spatial multi-patch models with gravity-model mobility, ensemble forecasting via Bayesian model averaging (BMA), and proper scoring rules including CRPS (Continuous Ranked Probability Score), coverage, and MAE (Mean Absolute Error) for forecast evaluation. Methods follow Anderson and May (1991, ISBN:9780198545996), Doucet, de Freitas, and Gordon (2001) <doi:10.1007/978-1-4757-3437-9>, Cori et al. (2013) <doi:10.1093/aje/kwt133>, and Gneiting and Raftery (2007) <doi:10.1198/016214506000001437>.

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build_multipatch_SEIR *Build a mobility-coupled multi-patch SEIR ODE system*

Description

Build a mobility-coupled multi-patch SEIR ODE system

Usage

```
build_multipatch_SEIR(  
  n_patches,  
  M,  
  beta_vec,  
  gamma_vec,  
  sigma_vec,  
  pi_fn_list = NULL,  
  N_vec = rep(1, n_patches)  
)
```

Arguments

n_patches	Integer number of patches.
M	n_patches x n_patches mobility matrix. $M[i, j]$ is the daily fraction of population in patch i that travels to patch j (rows sum to ≤ 1).
beta_vec	Length-n_patches vector of transmission rates.
gamma_vec	Length-n_patches vector of recovery rates.
sigma_vec	Length-n_patches vector of incubation rates.
pi_fn_list	List of n_patches $\pi(t)$ functions (one per patch). Use NULL for no intervention in that patch.
N_vec	Population sizes for each patch.

Value

A function suitable for `deSolve::ode`.

build_phi_pulse *Build a smooth quarantine pulse $\phi(t)$*

Description

Approximates a Dirac delta at each change point with a narrow Gaussian pulse. The area under each pulse equals the quarantine fraction `phi_values[i]`.

Usage

```
build_phi_pulse(change_times, phi_values, bandwidth = 0.5)
```

Arguments

change_times Numeric vector of quarantine event days.
phi_values Quarantine fractions in (0, 1).
bandwidth Width (SD) of each Gaussian pulse (default 0.5 days).

Value

A function phi_fn(t).

build_pi_exp	<i>Build an exponential decay $\pi(t) = \exp(-\lambda t)$</i>
--------------	--

Description

Build an exponential decay $\pi(t) = \exp(-\lambda t)$

Usage

```
build_pi_exp(lambda, t0 = 0)
```

Arguments

lambda Decay rate (positive scalar).
t0 Start of decay (default 0).

Value

A function pi_fn(t).

build_pi_spline	<i>Build a natural cubic spline pi(t)</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Build a natural cubic spline pi(t)

Usage

```
build_pi_spline(knot_times, knot_values, extrapolate = c("flat", "linear"))
```

Arguments

knot_times	Numeric vector of days (knot positions).
knot_values	Numeric vector of pi values at each knot, all in [0, 1].
extrapolate	How to handle t outside knot range: "flat" (default) or "linear".

Value

A function pi_fn(t).

Examples

```
pi_spline <- build_pi_spline(  
  knot_times = c(0, 10, 20, 40, 100),  
  knot_values = c(1, 0.8, 0.5, 0.3, 0.3)  
)  
curve(pi_spline(x), 0, 120, ylab = expression(pi(t)))
```

build_pi_step	<i>Build a step-function pi(t) (reproduces eSIR Model 1 behaviour)</i>
---------------	--

Description

Build a step-function pi(t) (reproduces eSIR Model 1 behaviour)

Usage

```
build_pi_step(change_times, pi_values)
```

Arguments

change_times	Numeric vector of change-point days.
pi_values	Numeric vector of length length(change_times) + 1.

Value

A function pi_fn(t).

compose_pi *Compose multiple pi(t) functions multiplicatively*

Description

Each component function represents an independent non-pharmaceutical intervention (NPI). Their effects are assumed multiplicative on transmission.

Usage

```
compose_pi(...)
```

Arguments

... Any number of functions pi_fn(t), each in [0, 1].

Value

A composite function pi_fn(t) in [0, 1].

Examples

```
lockdown <- build_pi_step(c(10, 60), c(1, 0.4, 0.7))
masks    <- build_pi_spline(c(0, 10, 20, 30), c(1, 0.92, 0.85, 0.75))
combined <- compose_pi(lockdown, masks)
```

ensemble_forecast *Ensemble forecast via Bayesian Model Averaging (BMA)*

Description

Fits multiple compartmental models and combines their forecasts weighted by their marginal likelihoods (approximated by AIC weights).

Usage

```
ensemble_forecast(
  obs_Y,
  obs_R,
  N,
  models = c("SEIR", "SEIRD", "SVEIRD"),
  par_inits,
  par_bounds,
  pi_fn = NULL,
  T_forecast = 60L,
  n_sim = 500L
)
```

Arguments

obs_Y	Numeric vector of observed infected proportions.
obs_R	Numeric vector of observed removed proportions.
N	Population size.
models	Character vector of model types to average over.
par_inits	Named list of initial parameter lists (one per model).
par_bounds	List with elements lower and upper, each a named list of bounds applying to all models.
pi_fn	Common transmission modifier (or NULL).
T_forecast	Integer number of days to forecast ahead.
n_sim	Number of simulation draws per model.

Value

A list with `ensemble_forecast` (data frame), `model_weights`, and `individual_fits`.

EpiNova-ensemble *Ensemble Forecasting and Uncertainty Quantification*

Description

eSIR produced credible intervals only for its fixed model class. EpiNova provides:

- Model-averaged forecasts (Bayesian model averaging over different compartmental structures).
- Scenario-based projection (what-if analysis).
- Proper scoring rules to evaluate forecast calibration.

EpiNova-inference *Inference Engines for EpiNova*

Description

eSIR relied exclusively on MCMC via JAGS, which requires an external binary install and can be slow for large models. EpiNova offers three inference backends that the user can switch between with a single argument:

1. **MLE** — Maximum likelihood via **TMB** (Template Model Builder). Automatic differentiation gives exact gradients, enabling fast optimisation and Laplace-approximation uncertainty. No external binary needed.
2. **HMC** — Full Bayesian posterior via **cmdstanr** / **rstan**. Hamiltonian Monte Carlo mixes far faster than Gibbs/Metropolis for continuous parameters.
3. **SMC** — Sequential Monte Carlo (particle filter). Ideal for real-time updating as new daily data arrive. Implemented in pure R so no extra dependencies are required.

 EpiNova-interventions *Flexible Intervention (pi) Functions*

Description

eSIR restricted $\pi(t)$ to step functions or a single decaying exponential. EpiNova provides a richer library of transmission modifiers and allows users to compose them or supply a completely custom function.

All builders return a plain R function $\pi_fn(t)$ in $[0, 1]$.

 EpiNova-multipatch *Multi-patch Spatial SIR Models*

Description

eSIR was a single-population model. EpiNova adds a network of patches (cities, regions, countries) connected by a mobility / commuting matrix. Each patch has its own compartmental dynamics; patches exchange infectious individuals according to a movement kernel.

This is particularly useful for modelling cross-regional seeding, airport-based importations, and the effect of travel restrictions.

 EpiNova-ode *EpiNova: Flexible Epidemiological Compartmental Models*

Description

Core ODE system for multiple compartmental model types

 EpiNova-plotting *Visualisation Layer for EpiNova*

Description

Publication-ready ggplot2 graphics. All plot functions return ggplot2 objects that can be further customised.

estimate_Rt	<i>Estimate time-varying effective reproduction number Rt</i>
-------------	---

Description

Wraps **EpiEstim** with automatic serial interval specification. Returns a tidy data frame with posterior mean and 95 % CrI.

Usage

```
estimate_Rt(incidence, mean_si = 5.2, sd_si = 2.8, window = 7L)
```

Arguments

incidence	Integer vector of daily new case counts.
mean_si	Mean of the serial interval distribution (days).
sd_si	SD of the serial interval distribution (days).
window	Sliding window for Rt estimation (default 7 days).

Value

Data frame with columns t_end, Rt_mean, Rt_lower, Rt_upper.

estimate_Rt_simple	<i>Lightweight built-in Rt estimator (no extra packages needed)</i>
--------------------	---

Description

Estimates the effective reproduction number using a sliding-window case ratio approach weighted by a discretised serial interval distribution (gamma). Uncertainty bands are obtained from 500 Poisson bootstrap replicates. No external packages are required.

Usage

```
estimate_Rt_simple(  
  incidence,  
  mean_si = 5.2,  
  sd_si = 2.8,  
  window = 7L,  
  n_boot = 500L  
)
```

Arguments

incidence	Integer vector of daily new case counts.
mean_si	Mean serial interval in days (default 5.2).
sd_si	SD of serial interval in days (default 2.8).
window	Sliding window width in days (default 7).
n_boot	Number of bootstrap replicates for CIs (default 500).

Value

Data frame with columns t_end, Rt_mean, Rt_lower, Rt_upper.

Examples

```
incidence <- c(1,1,2,4,6,8,13,21,18,14,10,7,5,3,2,1)
Rt_df <- estimate_Rt_simple(incidence, n_boot = 50L)
```

fit_mle

Fit a EpiNova model by maximum likelihood

Description

Minimises the negative log-likelihood using a two-stage approach: (1) global search via differential evolution (DEoptim), (2) local refinement via nlmminb with analytical gradients. Profile-likelihood confidence intervals are returned for all parameters.

Usage

```
fit_mle(
  obs_Y,
  obs_R,
  N,
  model = "SEIRD",
  par_init,
  par_lower,
  par_upper,
  pi_fn = NULL,
  obs_model = c("betabin", "normal"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

obs_Y	Numeric vector of observed infected proportions.
obs_R	Numeric vector of observed removed proportions.
N	Total population size.

model	Compartmental model type (see solve_model).
par_init	Named list of starting parameter values.
par_lower	Named list of lower bounds.
par_upper	Named list of upper bounds.
pi_fn	Transmission modifier function (see build_pi_spline, build_pi_step, etc.).
obs_model	Observation model: "betabin" (beta-binomial, recommended) or "normal".
...	Additional arguments passed to solve_model.

Value

An object of class "EpiNova_mle" containing parameter estimates, standard errors, 95 % CIs, AIC, BIC, and the fitted trajectory.

fit_smc	<i>Sequential Monte Carlo (particle filter) inference</i>
---------	---

Description

Fits the model online, updating the parameter distribution each day as new observations arrive. Suitable for real-time outbreak monitoring dashboards.

Usage

```
fit_smc(
  obs_Y,
  obs_R,
  N,
  model = "SEIR",
  prior_fn,
  n_particles = 2000L,
  pi_fn = NULL,
  resample_ess_thresh = 0.5
)
```

Arguments

obs_Y	Numeric vector of observed infected proportions.
obs_R	Numeric vector of observed removed proportions.
N	Population size.
model	Compartmental model type.
prior_fn	Function returning a named list of parameters drawn from the prior (one call = one particle).
n_particles	Integer number of particles (default 2000).
pi_fn	Transmission modifier function.
resample_ess_thresh	Resample when ESS < this fraction of n_particles (default 0.5).

Value

A list with elements particles (final weighted sample), weights, log_evidence, Rt_trajectory (median and 95 % CI of effective reproduction number over time).

gp_cov_sqexp	<i>Build a squared-exponential covariance matrix for GP pi(t)</i>
--------------	---

Description

Used to construct the GP prior over transmission modifiers at a discrete set of time points before passing to the Stan sampler.

Usage

```
gp_cov_sqexp(times, l = 14, sigma = 0.3)
```

Arguments

times	Numeric vector of time points.
l	Length-scale (controls smoothness).
sigma	Marginal standard deviation of the GP.

Value

A symmetric positive-definite matrix of dimension length(times) x length(times).

gravity_mobility	<i>Build a gravity-model mobility matrix</i>
------------------	--

Description

Uses the functional form

$$M_{ij} = \kappa \frac{N_i^\alpha N_j^\beta}{d_{ij}^\gamma}$$

normalised so that each row sums to at most max_travel.

Usage

```
gravity_mobility(
  N_vec,
  dist_mat,
  kappa = 1e-05,
  alpha = 1,
  beta = 1,
  grav_gamma = 2,
  max_travel = 0.1
)
```

Arguments

<code>N_vec</code>	Length-n population sizes.
<code>dist_mat</code>	n x n symmetric matrix of pairwise distances.
<code>kappa</code>	Proportionality constant.
<code>alpha, beta</code>	Population exponents (default 1).
<code>grav_gamma</code>	Distance decay exponent (default 2).
<code>max_travel</code>	Maximum daily travel fraction per patch (0–1).

Value

A row-normalised n x n mobility matrix.

<code>hubei_covid</code>	<i>Hubei Province COVID-19 data (Jan 13 - Feb 11, 2020)</i>
--------------------------	---

Description

Cumulative daily confirmed and removed (recovered + deceased) COVID-19 case counts for Hubei Province, China, covering 30 days from 13 January 2020 to 11 February 2020. Same dataset used in the original eSIR paper.

Usage

```
hubei_covid
```

Format

A named list with six elements:

NI Integer vector (length 30). Cumulative confirmed cases.

RI Integer vector (length 30). Cumulative removed cases (recovered + deceased).

N Numeric scalar. Hubei population size (58,500,000).

begin_date Character. First observation date ("2020-01-13").

end_date Character. Last observation date ("2020-02-11").

description Character. Plain-text description of the dataset.

Source

DXY.cn daily COVID-19 situation reports.

Examples

```
Y <- hubei_covid$NI / hubei_covid$N - hubei_covid$RI / hubei_covid$N
R <- hubei_covid$RI / hubei_covid$N
plot(Y, type = "l", ylab = "Infected proportion", xlab = "Day")
```

plot_forecast	<i>Plot forecast with uncertainty ribbon</i>
---------------	--

Description

Plot forecast with uncertainty ribbon

Usage

```
plot_forecast(
  forecast_df,
  obs_Y = NULL,
  T_obs_end = NULL,
  title = "Infection Forecast"
)
```

Arguments

forecast_df	Data frame with time, I_median, I_lower, I_upper.
obs_Y	Observed infected proportions.
T_obs_end	Last observed day.
title	Plot title.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

plot_multipatch_snapshot	<i>Multi-patch bar chart of infected proportion by patch</i>
--------------------------	--

Description

Multi-patch bar chart of infected proportion by patch

Usage

```
plot_multipatch_snapshot(multipatch_df, t_snapshot, patch_names = NULL)
```

Arguments

multipatch_df	Data frame from solve_multipatch.
t_snapshot	Day to visualise.
patch_names	Character vector of patch names.

Value

A ggplot2 bar chart.

plot_Rt	<i>Plot effective reproduction number Rt over time</i>
---------	--

Description

Plot effective reproduction number Rt over time

Usage

```
plot_Rt(Rt_df, change_times = NULL)
```

Arguments

Rt_df	Data frame with t_end, Rt_mean, Rt_lower, Rt_upper.
change_times	Optional numeric vector of intervention change points to mark as vertical lines.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

plot_scenarios	<i>Plot scenario comparison</i>
----------------	---------------------------------

Description

Plot scenario comparison

Usage

```
plot_scenarios(scenario_df, obs_Y = NULL)
```

Arguments

scenario_df	Data frame from project_scenarios or a manually constructed data frame with columns time, I_median, I_lower, I_upper, scenario.
obs_Y	Optional observed data to overlay.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

plot_trajectory *Plot model trajectory with observed data*

Description

Plot model trajectory with observed data

Usage

```
plot_trajectory(
  traj_df,
  obs_Y = NULL,
  obs_R = NULL,
  T_obs_end = NULL,
  title = "Epidemic Trajectory"
)
```

Arguments

traj_df	Data frame from solve_model.
obs_Y	Observed infected proportions (optional).
obs_R	Observed removed proportions (optional).
T_obs_end	Last observed day (draws a vertical cutoff line).
title	Plot title.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

prep_proportions *Prepare population proportions from a hubei_covid-style list*

Description

Converts raw cumulative counts into the proportion vectors Y (active infected) and R (removed) expected by solve_model and the fitting functions.

Usage

```
prep_proportions(dat)
```

Arguments

dat	A list with elements NI, RI, and N.
-----	-------------------------------------

Value

A list with numeric vectors Y and R.

Examples

```
props <- prep_proportions(hubei_covid)
str(props)
```

project_scenarios *Project scenarios under alternative intervention strategies*

Description

Project scenarios under alternative intervention strategies

Usage

```
project_scenarios(fit, scenarios, T_forecast = 120L, n_sim = 500L)
```

Arguments

fit	A fitted model object (EpiNova_mle).
scenarios	Named list of pi(t) functions, one per scenario.
T_forecast	Integer forecast horizon in days.
n_sim	Simulation draws for uncertainty.

Value

A tidy data frame with columns scenario, time, I_median, I_lower, I_upper, peak_day, peak_I, total_infected.

score_forecast *Evaluate forecast calibration with proper scoring rules*

Description

Computes the Continuous Ranked Probability Score (CRPS) and interval coverage for each time point.

Usage

```
score_forecast(forecast_df, actual_Y)
```

Arguments

forecast_df	Data frame with columns I_median, I_lower, I_upper (from project_scenarios or ensemble_forecast).
actual_Y	Numeric vector of actual observed values.

Value

Data frame with CRPS, coverage_50, coverage_95, and MAE.

solve_model	<i>Solve a compartmental ODE model</i>
-------------	--

Description

Dispatches to the appropriate ODE system based on the model type. Supports SIR, SEIR, SEIRD, SVEIR, SVEIRD, and age-stratified variants. All models share a common calling convention so that downstream functions (fitting, forecasting, plotting) are model-agnostic.

Usage

```
solve_model(
  params,
  init,
  times,
  model = c("SIR", "SEIR", "SEIRD", "SVEIR", "SVEIRD", "age_SEIR"),
  pi_fn = NULL,
  phi_fn = NULL
)
```

Arguments

params	Named list of epidemiological parameters.
init	Named numeric vector of initial compartment proportions (must sum to 1).
times	Numeric vector of time points (days).
model	Character string: one of "SIR", "SEIR", "SEIRD", "SVEIR", "SVEIRD", "age_SEIR".
pi_fn	Optional function pi_fn(t) returning a transmission modifier in [0, 1] at time t. If NULL, the unmodified transmission rate is used.
phi_fn	Optional function phi_fn(t) returning the instantaneous quarantine removal rate at time t (Dirac delta approximated by a narrow Gaussian pulse). If NULL, no quarantine pulse is applied.

Value

A data frame with one row per time point and one column per compartment, plus a column time.

Examples

```
p <- list(beta = 0.3, gamma = 0.1, sigma = 0.2,
          delta = 0.005, vax_rate = 0.002, wane = 0.01, ve = 0.85)
y0 <- c(S = 0.990, E = 0.005, I = 0.004, R = 0.001, D = 0, V = 0)
t <- seq(0, 30, by = 1)
result <- solve_model(p, y0, t, model = "SVEIRD")
```

solve_multipatch *Solve a multi-patch SEIR model*

Description

Solve a multi-patch SEIR model

Usage

```
solve_multipatch(ode_fn, init_mat, times, n_patches)
```

Arguments

ode_fn	ODE function from build_multipatch_SEIR.
init_mat	n_patches x 4 matrix of initial conditions (columns: S, E, I, R).
times	Time points.
n_patches	Number of patches.

Value

A data frame with columns time and S_i, E_i, I_i, R_i for each patch i.

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