# Package: tmle3shift (via r-universe)

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**Title** Targeted Learning of the Causal Effects of Stochastic Interventions

Version 0.2.2

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Description Targeted maximum likelihood estimation (TMLE) of population-level causal effects under stochastic treatment regimes and related nonparametric variable importance analyses. Tools are provided for TML estimation of the counterfactual mean under a stochastic intervention characterized as a modified treatment policy, such as treatment policies that shift the natural value of the exposure. The causal parameter and estimation were described in Díaz and van der Laan (2013) <doi:10.1111/j.1541-0420.2011.01685.x> and an improved estimation approach was given by Díaz and van der Laan (2018) <doi:10.1007/978-3-319-65304-4\_14>.

**Depends** R (>= 3.4.0)

License GPL-3

**Imports** R6, uuid, methods, data.table, assertthat, tmle3 (>= 0.2.0)

**Suggests** testthat, knitr, rmarkdown, covr, stats, ggplot2, sl3 (>= 1.4.5), txshift (>= 0.3.8), haldensify (>= 0.2.3), hal9001, xgboost, speedglm, Rsolnp, nnls

Remotes github::tlverse/sl3, github::tlverse/tmle3

URL https://tlverse.org/tmle3shift

BugReports https://github.com/tlverse/tmle3shift/issues

Encoding UTF-8 LazyData true

LazyLoad yes

VignetteBuilder knitr

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE, r6 = FALSE)

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Repository https://tlverse.r-universe.dev

RemoteUrl https://github.com/tlverse/tmle3shift

RemoteRef HEAD

**RemoteSha** 0c3b8f07d8f5282332fbb822ea12b216f708f7c3

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## **Description**

Shifts a likelihood factor according to a shift\_function and a given magnitude of the desired shift (shift\_delta). In effect, get\_likelihood(tmle\_task) from tmle3 will instead be the likelihood from the original\_lf, but for a shifted value  $A' = \text{shift}_{\text{function}}(A, W)$ .

## **Format**

R6Class object.

# Value

LF\_base object

## Constructor

```
define_lf(LF_shift, name, type = "density", original_lf, shift_function, ...)
name character, the name of the factor. Should match a node name in the specification in tmle3_Task$npsem.
original_lf LF_base object, the likelihood factor to shift.
shift_function function, defines the shift.
shift_inverse function, the inverse of a given shift_function.
```

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shift\_delta numeric, specification of the magnitude of the desired shift (on the level of the treatment).

max\_shifted\_ratio A numeric value indicating the maximum tolerance for the ratio of the counterfactual and observed intervention densities. In particular, the shifted value of the intervention is assigned to a given observational unit when the ratio of the counterfactual intervention density to the observed intervention density is below this value.

... Not currently used.

### Fields

original\_lf LF\_base object, the likelihood factor to shift.

shift\_function function, defines the shift.

shift\_inverse function, the inverse of a given shift\_function.

shift\_delta numeric, specification of the magnitude of the desired shift (on the level of the treatment).

max\_shifted\_ratio A numeric value indicating the maximum tolerance for the ratio of the counterfactual and observed intervention densities. In particular, the shifted value of the intervention is assigned to a given observational unit when the ratio of the counterfactual intervention density to the observed intervention density is below this value.

... Additional arguments passed to the base class.

#### References

"Stochastic Treatment Regimes." Díaz, Iván and van der Laan, Mark (2018). In Targeted Learning in Data Science: Causal Inference for Complex Longitudinal Studies, 167–80. Springer Science & Business Media.

"Population Intervention Causal Effects Based on Stochastic Interventions." Díaz, Iván and van der Laan, Mark J (2012). Biometrics 68 (2). Wiley Online Library: 541–49.

Param\_MSM\_linear

Parameter for Linear Working Marginal Structural Model

## **Description**

Parameter definition for targeting the parameters of a linear working marginal structural model (MSM): EY = beta0 + beta1 \* delta, in order to summarize the variable importance results of a grid of shift interventions.

#### **Format**

R6Class object.

## Value

Param\_base object

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## Constructor

```
define_param(Param_MSM_linear, observed_likelihood, intervention_list, ..., outcome_node)
observed_likelihood A Likelihood corresponding to the observed likelihood.
intervention_list A list of objects inheriting from LF_base, representing the intervention.
... Not currently used.
outcome_node character, the name of the node that should be treated as the outcome.
```

## **Fields**

cf\_likelihood the counterfactual likelihood for this treatment.
intervention\_list A list of objects inheriting from LF\_base, representing the intervention.

shift\_additive

Additive Shifts of Continuous-Valued Interventions Without Bounds

## **Description**

Additive Shifts of Continuous-Valued Interventions Without Bounds

## Usage

```
shift_additive(tmle_task, delta = 0, ...)
shift_additive_inv(tmle_task, delta = 0, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

A tmle3\_Task object containing data and nodes, as described and implemented in the tmle3 package. Please refer to the documentation and supporting materials of that package for details.

delta

A numeric value giving a value of the shift to be applied to the treatment. This is an additive shift so the value is merely to be added to the observed value of the treatment node "A". In the case of the inverse additive shift, the specified value will be subtracted from the observed value of the treatment node "A".

... Additional arguments (currently unused).

#### See Also

```
Other shifting_interventions: shift_additive_bounded()
Other shifting_interventions: shift_additive_bounded()
```

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tmle3\_Spec\_shift

Defines a TML Estimator for the Outcome under a Shifted Treatment

# Description

Defines a TML Estimator for the Outcome under a Shifted Treatment

```
tmle3_Spec_vimshift_delta
```

Defines a TML Estimator for Variable Importance for Continuous Interventions

# Description

Defines a TML Estimator for Variable Importance for Continuous Interventions

```
tmle3_Spec_vimshift_msm
```

Defines a TML Estimator for Variable Importance for Continuous Interventions

# Description

Defines a TML Estimator for Variable Importance for Continuous Interventions

tmle\_shift

Outcome under Shifted Treatment

# Description

O = (W, A, Y) W = Covariates A = Treatment (binary or categorical) Y = Outcome (binary or bounded continuous)

# Usage

```
tmle_shift(
    shift_fxn = shift_additive,
    shift_fxn_inv = shift_additive_inv,
    shift_val = 1,
    max_shifted_ratio = 5,
    ...
)
```

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## Arguments

shift\_fxn A function defining the type of shift to be applied to the treatment. For a simple

example, see shift\_additive.

shift\_fxn\_inv A function defining the inverse of the type of shift to be applied to the treat-

ment. For a simple example, see shift\_additive\_inv.

shift\_val A numeric, specification of the magnitude of the desired shift (on the level of

the treatment). This is a value passed to the functions above for modulating

the treatment.

max\_shifted\_ratio

A numeric value indicating the maximum tolerance for the ratio of the counterfactual and observed intervention densities. In particular, the shifted value of the intervention is assigned to a given observational unit when the ratio of counterfactual intervention density to the observed intervention density is below this

value.

... Additional arguments (currently unused).

tmle\_vimshift\_delta

Outcome Under a Grid of Shifted Interventions via Delta Method

#### **Description**

O = (W, A, Y) W = Covariates A = Treatment (binary or categorical) Y = Outcome (binary or bounded continuous)

## Usage

```
tmle_vimshift_delta(
    shift_fxn = shift_additive,
    shift_fxn_inv = shift_additive_inv,
    shift_grid = seq(-1, 1, by = 0.5),
    max_shifted_ratio = 5,
    weighting = c("identity", "variance"),
    ...
)
```

## **Arguments**

shift\_fxn A function defining the type of shift to be applied to the treatment. For an

example, see shift\_additive.

shift\_fxn\_inv A function defining the inverse of the type of shift to be applied to the treat-

ment. For an example, see shift\_additive\_inv.

shift\_grid A numeric vector, specification of a selection of shifts (on the level of the treat-

ment) to be applied to the intervention. This is a value passed to the functions above for computing various values of the outcome under modulated values of

the treatment.

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max\_shifted\_ratio

A numeric value indicating the maximum tolerance for the ratio of the counterfactual and observed intervention densities. In particular, the shifted value of the intervention is assigned to a given observational unit when the ratio of counterfactual intervention density to the observed intervention density is below this value.

weighting

A character indicating the type of weighting used for construction of the marginal structural model. "identity" applies the same weight to all individual estimates while "variance" applies weights based on the inverse variance of the estimate. It would be expected that variance-based weighting would yield more stable estimates of the parameter of the MSM. The default remains the identity weighting.

... Additional arguments, passed to shift functions.

tmle\_vimshift\_msm

Outcome Under a Grid of Shifted Interventions via Targeted Working MSM

## **Description**

O = (W, A, Y) W = Covariates A = Treatment (binary or categorical) Y = Outcome (binary or bounded continuous)

## Usage

```
tmle_vimshift_msm(
    shift_fxn = shift_additive,
    shift_fxn_inv = shift_additive_inv,
    shift_grid = seq(-1, 1, by = 0.5),
    max_shifted_ratio = 5,
    weighting = c("identity", "variance"),
    ...
)
```

#### **Arguments**

shift\_fxn A function defining the type of shift to be applied to the treatment. For an

example, see shift\_additive.

shift\_fxn\_inv A function defining the inverse of the type of shift to be applied to the treat-

ment. For an example, see shift\_additive\_inv.

shift\_grid A numeric vector, specification of a selection of shifts (on the level of the treat-

ment) to be applied to the intervention. This is a value passed to the functions above for computing various values of the outcome under modulated values of

the treatment.

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max\_shifted\_ratio

A numeric value indicating the maximum tolerance for the ratio of the counterfactual and observed intervention densities. In particular, the shifted value of the intervention is assigned to a given observational unit when the ratio of counterfactual intervention density to the observed intervention density is below this value.

weighting

A character indicating the type of weighting used for construction of the marginal structural model. "identity" applies the same weight to all individual estimates while "variance" applies weights based on the inverse variance of the estimate. It would be expected that variance-based weighting would yield more stable estimates of the parameter of the MSM. The default remains the identity weighting.

. . . Additional arguments, passed to shift functions.

trend\_msm

Test for a trend in the effect of shift interventions via working MSM

## **Description**

Test for a trend in the effect of shift interventions via working MSM

## **Usage**

```
trend_msm(
  tmle_fit_estimates,
  delta_grid,
  level = 0.95,
  weighting = c("identity", "variance")
)
```

### **Arguments**

tmle\_fit\_estimates

A list corresponding to the \$estimates slot of an object of class tmle3\_Fit, containing estimates of a grid of posited shift interventions.

delta\_grid

A numeric vector giving the individual values of the shift parameter used in computing each of the TML estimates.

level

The nominal coverage probability of the confidence interval.

weighting

A character indicating the type of weighting used for construction of the marginal structural model. "identity" applies the same weight to all individual estimates while "variance" applies weights based on the inverse variance of the estimate. It would be expected that variance-based weighting would yield more stable estimates of the parameter of the MSM. The default is identity-based weighting.

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