

Package ‘babebi’

April 23, 2026

Type Package

Title Bayesian Estimation and Validation for Small-N Designs with Rater Bias

Version 0.1.0

Description Approximate Bayesian inference and Monte Carlo validation for small-N repeated-measures designs with two time points and two raters. The package is intended for applications in which sample size is limited and the observed outcome may be affected by rater-specific bias. User-supplied data are standardised into a common long-format structure. Pre-post effects are analysed using difference scores in a linear model with a rater indicator as covariate. Posterior summaries for the regression coefficients are obtained from a large-sample normal approximation centred at the least-squares estimate with plug-in covariance under a flat improper prior. Evidence for a non-zero pre-post effect, adjusted for rater differences, is summarised using a BIC-based approximation to the Bayes factor for comparison between models with and without the pre-post effect. Monte Carlo validation uses design quantities estimated from the observed data, including sample size, mean pre-post change, and second-rater additive discrepancy, and summarises inferential performance in terms of bias, root mean squared error, credible interval coverage, posterior tail probabilities, and mean Bayes factor values. For background on the BIC approximation and Bayes factors, see Schwarz (1978)

<[doi:10.1214/aos/1176344136](https://doi.org/10.1214/aos/1176344136)> and Kass and Raftery (1995)

<[doi:10.1080/01621459.1995.10476572](https://doi.org/10.1080/01621459.1995.10476572)>.

License GPL-3

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

Imports stats, graphics

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown

Config/testthat/edition 3

NeedsCompilation no

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Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2026-04-23 20:10:09 UTC

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babebi	<i>Run the babebi workflow on user-supplied data</i>
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Description

Fits the babebi model to observed data and, optionally, performs Monte Carlo validation calibrated on the observed design.

Usage

```
babebi(
  data,
  id,
  time,
  rater,
  outcome,
  time_order = NULL,
  rater_order = NULL,
  validate = TRUE,
  R = 1000,
  N = NULL,
  delta = NULL,
```

```

    bias_r2 = NULL,
    n_draws = 4000,
    seed = NULL
  )

```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	A data frame in long format.
<code>id</code>	Unquoted column name identifying subjects or a character string.
<code>time</code>	Unquoted column name identifying time points or a character string.
<code>rater</code>	Unquoted column name identifying raters or a character string.
<code>outcome</code>	Unquoted column name containing the observed score or a character string.
<code>time_order</code>	Optional character vector of length 2 giving the order of the time factor: baseline first, follow-up second.
<code>rater_order</code>	Optional character vector of length 2 giving the order of the rater factor: reference rater first, second rater second.
<code>validate</code>	Logical; if TRUE, run Monte Carlo validation after model fitting.
<code>R</code>	Number of Monte Carlo repetitions when <code>validate = TRUE</code> .
<code>N</code>	Optional override for the sample size used in validation.
<code>delta</code>	Optional override for the pre-post effect used in validation.
<code>bias_r2</code>	Optional override for the additive bias of the second rater used in validation.
<code>n_draws</code>	Number of posterior draws used in model fitting.
<code>seed</code>	Optional integer seed for reproducibility.

Value

A named list containing:

fit A `babebi_fit` object returned by `fit_model()`.

validation A `babebi_validation` object returned by `montecarlo_from_data()` when `validate = TRUE`, otherwise NULL.

call The original function call.

Examples

```

dat <- data.frame(
  id = rep(1:4, each = 4),
  time = rep(c("pre", "pre", "post", "post"), times = 4),
  rater = rep(c("r1", "r2"), times = 8),
  y = c(
    3.0, 3.2, 3.8, 4.0,
    2.9, 3.1, 3.5, 3.7,
    3.4, 3.6, 4.0, 4.1,
    3.1, 3.3, 3.9, 4.0
  )
)

```

```
res <- babebi(  
  data = dat,  
  id = id,  
  time = time,  
  rater = rater,  
  outcome = y,  
  time_order = c("pre", "post"),  
  rater_order = c("r1", "r2"),  
  validate = TRUE,  
  R = 100,  
  n_draws = 500,  
  seed = 123  
)  
  
print(res$fit)  
summary(res$fit)  
plot(res$fit)  
print(res$validation)
```

fit_model

Fit the babebi model to observed data

Description

Fits the current babebi model to a fully observed 2 (time) x 2 (rater) repeated-measures dataset. Estimation is based on difference scores and a linear model including a rater indicator as covariate.

Usage

```
fit_model(  
  data,  
  id,  
  time,  
  rater,  
  outcome,  
  time_order = NULL,  
  rater_order = NULL,  
  n_draws = 4000,  
  seed = NULL  
)
```

Arguments

data	A data frame in long format.
id	Unquoted column name identifying subjects or a character string.
time	Unquoted column name identifying time points or a character string.

rater	Unquoted column name identifying raters or a character string.
outcome	Unquoted column name containing the observed score or a character string.
time_order	Optional character vector of length 2 giving the order of the time factor: baseline first, follow-up second.
rater_order	Optional character vector of length 2 giving the order of the rater factor: reference rater first, second rater second.
n_draws	Number of posterior draws used for approximation.
seed	Optional integer seed used to initialise the random-number generator for posterior sampling.

Details

Posterior draws are obtained from a large-sample normal approximation to the posterior of the regression coefficients under an improper flat prior.

Value

A named list of class `babebi_fit`.

Examples

```
dat <- data.frame(
  id = rep(1:4, each = 4),
  time = rep(c("pre", "pre", "post", "post"), times = 4),
  rater = rep(c("r1", "r2"), times = 8),
  y = c(
    3.0, 3.2, 3.8, 4.0,
    2.9, 3.1, 3.5, 3.7,
    3.4, 3.6, 4.0, 4.1,
    3.1, 3.3, 3.9, 4.0
  )
)

fit <- fit_model(
  data = dat,
  id = id,
  time = time,
  rater = rater,
  outcome = y,
  time_order = c("pre", "post"),
  rater_order = c("r1", "r2"),
  n_draws = 500,
  seed = 123
)

print(fit)
summary(fit)
plot(fit)
```

montecarlo_from_data *Run Monte Carlo calibration from user-supplied data*

Description

Uses observed data to estimate the sample size, mean pre-post change, and mean additive discrepancy of the second rater for the Monte Carlo engine, then runs a single Monte Carlo validation cell.

Usage

```
montecarlo_from_data(
  data,
  id,
  time,
  rater,
  outcome,
  time_order = NULL,
  rater_order = NULL,
  R = 1000,
  N = NULL,
  delta = NULL,
  bias_r2 = NULL,
  seed = NULL
)
```

Arguments

data	A data frame in long format.
id	Unquoted column name identifying subjects or a character string.
time	Unquoted column name identifying time points or a character string.
rater	Unquoted column name identifying raters or a character string.
outcome	Unquoted column name containing the observed score or a character string.
time_order	Optional character vector of length 2 giving the order of the time factor: baseline first, follow-up second.
rater_order	Optional character vector of length 2 giving the order of the rater factor: reference rater first, second rater second.
R	Number of Monte Carlo repetitions.
N	Optional override for the sample size used in the simulation. Defaults to the observed number of subjects.
delta	Optional override for the pre-post effect used in the simulation. Defaults to the value estimated from the data.
bias_r2	Optional override for the additive bias of the second rater. Defaults to the value estimated from the data.
seed	Optional integer seed used to initialise the random-number generator for simulation.

Value

A one-row data frame of class `babebi_validation` with Monte Carlo performance summaries. The attributes `calibrated_design` and `call` store the design estimated from the observed data and the original call.

Examples

```
dat <- data.frame(
  id = rep(1:4, each = 4),
  time = rep(c("pre", "pre", "post", "post"), times = 4),
  rater = rep(c("r1", "r2"), times = 8),
  y = c(
    3.0, 3.2, 3.8, 4.0,
    2.9, 3.1, 3.5, 3.7,
    3.4, 3.6, 4.0, 4.1,
    3.1, 3.3, 3.9, 4.0
  )
)

mc <- montecarlo_from_data(
  data = dat,
  id = id,
  time = time,
  rater = rater,
  outcome = y,
  time_order = c("pre", "post"),
  rater_order = c("r1", "r2"),
  R = 100,
  seed = 123
)

print(mc)
```

plot.babebi_fit *Plot a babebi fit object*

Description

Plot a babebi fit object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'babebi_fit'
plot(x, ...)
```

Arguments

`x` An object of class `babebi_fit`.
`...` Further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

No return value, called for its side effects.

```
print.babebi_fit      Print a babebi fit object
```

Description

Print a babebi fit object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'babebi_fit'  
print(x, digits = 3, ...)
```

Arguments

x	An object of class babebi_fit.
digits	Number of digits to print.
...	Further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

The input object, invisibly.

```
print.babebi_validation  
      Print a babebi validation object
```

Description

Print a babebi validation object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'babebi_validation'  
print(x, digits = 3, ...)
```

Arguments

x	An object of class babebi_validation.
digits	Number of digits to print.
...	Further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

The input object, invisibly.

```
print.summary.babebi_fit
```

Print a summary of a babebi fit object

Description

Print a summary of a babebi fit object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.babebi_fit'  
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x	An object of class <code>summary.babebi_fit</code> .
...	Further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

The input object, invisibly.

```
summary.babebi_fit
```

Summarise a babebi fit object

Description

Summarise a babebi fit object

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'babebi_fit'  
summary(object, digits = 3, ...)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class <code>babebi_fit</code> .
digits	Number of digits to print.
...	Further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

An object of class `summary.babebi_fit`.

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