

# Package ‘mirt’

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**Title** Multidimensional Item Response Theory

**Description** Analysis of dichotomous and polytomous response data using unidimensional and multidimensional latent trait models under the Item Response Theory paradigm. Exploratory and confirmatory models can be estimated with quadrature (EM) or stochastic (MHRM) methods. Confirmatory bi-factor and two-tier analyses are available for modeling item testlets. Multiple group analysis and mixed effects designs also are available for detecting differential item functioning and modelling item and person covariates.

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**LazyData** yes

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**License** GPL (>= 3)

**Repository** CRAN

**Maintainer** Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

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<https://github.com/philchalmers/mirt/wiki>

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**Author** Phil Chalmers [aut, cre, cph],  
 Joshua Pritikin [ctb],  
 Alexander Robitzsch [ctb],  
 Mateusz Zoltak [ctb]

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mirt-package	<i>Full information maximum likelihood estimation of IRT models.</i>
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## Description

Full information maximum likelihood estimation of multidimensional IRT models

## Details

Analysis of dichotomous and polytomous response data using unidimensional and multidimensional latent trait models under the Item Response Theory paradigm. Exploratory and confirmatory models can be estimated with quadrature (EM) or stochastic (MHRM) methods. Confirmatory bi-factor and two-tier analyses are available for modeling item testlets. Multiple group analysis and mixed effects designs also are available for detecting differential item functioning and modeling item and person covariates.

Users interested in the most recent version of this package can visit <https://github.com/philchalmers/mirt> and follow the instructions for installing the package from source. Questions regarding the package can be sent to the mirt-package Google Group, located at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mirt-package>. User contributed files, workshop files, and evaluated help files are also available on the package wiki (<https://github.com/philchalmers/mirt/wiki>).

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

---

 anova-method

*Compare nested models with likelihood-based statistics*


---

**Description**

Compare nested models using likelihood ratio, AIC, BIC, etc.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass'
anova(object, object2, verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class SingleGroupClass, MultipleGroupClass, or MixedClass
object2	a second model estimated from any of the mirt package estimation methods
verbose	logical; print additional information to console?

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
x <- mirt(Science, 1)
x2 <- mirt(Science, 2)
anova(x, x2)

## End(Not run)
```

---

 averageMI

*Collapse values from multiple imputation draws*


---

**Description**

This function computes updated parameter and standard error estimates using multiple imputation methodology. Given a set of parameter estimates and their associated standard errors the function returns the weighted average of the overall between and within variability due to the multiple imputations according to Rubin's (1987) methodology.

**Usage**

```
averageMI(par, SEpar, as.data.frame = TRUE, digits = 4)
```

**Arguments**

par	a list containing parameter estimates which were computed the imputed datasets
SEpar	a list containing standard errors associated with par
as.data.frame	logical; return a data.frame instead of a list? Default is TRUE
digits	number of digits to round result. Default is 4

**Value**

returns a list or data.frame containing the updated averaged parameter estimates, standard errors, and t-values with the associated degrees of freedom and two tailed p-values

**References**

Rubin, D.B. (1987) Multiple Imputation for Nonresponse in Surveys. Wiley & Sons, New York.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

#simulate data
set.seed(1234)
N <- 1000

# covariates
X1 <- rnorm(N); X2 <- rnorm(N)
covdata <- data.frame(X1, X2)
Theta <- matrix(0.5 * X1 + -1 * X2 + rnorm(N, sd = 0.5))

#items and response data
a <- matrix(1, 20); d <- matrix(rnorm(20))
dat <- simdata(a, d, 1000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=Theta)

mod1 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch', covdata=covdata, formula = ~ X1 + X2)
coef(mod1, simplify=TRUE)

#draw plausible values for secondary analyses
pv <- fscores(mod1, plausible.draws = 10)
pvmods <- lapply(pv, function(x, covdata) lm(x ~ covdata$X1 + covdata$X2),
                covdata=covdata)

# compute Rubin's multiple imputation average
so <- lapply(pvmods, summary)
par <- lapply(so, function(x) x$coefficients[, 'Estimate'])
SEpar <- lapply(so, function(x) x$coefficients[, 'Std. Error'])
averageMI(par, SEpar)

## End(Not run)
```

**Description**

bfactor fits a confirmatory maximum likelihood two-tier/bifactor model to dichotomous and polytomous data under the item response theory paradigm. The IRT models are fit using a dimensional

reduction EM algorithm so that regardless of the number of specific factors estimated the model only uses the number of factors in the second-tier structure plus 1. For the bifactor model the maximum number of dimensions is only 2 since the second-tier only consists of a ubiquitous unidimensional factor. See [mirt](#) for appropriate methods to be used on the objects returned from the estimation.

### Usage

```
bfactor(data, model, model2 = paste0("G = 1-", ncol(data)), group = NULL,
        quadpts = NULL, invariance = "", ...)
```

### Arguments

data	a matrix or data.frame that consists of numerically ordered data, with missing data coded as NA
model	a numeric vector specifying which factor loads on which item. For example, if for a 4 item test with two specific factors, the first specific factor loads on the first two items and the second specific factor on the last two, then the vector is <code>c(1, 1, 2, 2)</code> . For items that should only load on the second-tier factors (have no specific component) NA values may be used as place-holders. These numbers will be translated into a format suitable for <code>mirt.model()</code> , combined with the definition in <code>model2</code> , with the letter 'S' added to the respective factor number
model2	a two-tier model specification object defined by <code>mirt.model()</code> or a string to be passed to <code>mirt.model</code> . By default the model will fit a unidimensional model in the second-tier, and therefore be equivalent to the bifactor model
group	a factor variable indicating group membership used for multiple group analyses
quadpts	number of quadrature nodes to use after accounting for the reduced number of dimensions. Scheme is the same as the one used in <a href="#">mirt</a> , however it is in regards to the reduced dimensions (e.g., a bifactor model has 2 dimensions to be integrated)
invariance	see <a href="#">multipleGroup</a> for details, however, the specific factor variances and means will be constrained according to the dimensional reduction algorithm
...	additional arguments to be passed to the estimation engine. See <a href="#">mirt</a> for more details and examples

### Details

`bfactor` follows the item factor analysis strategy explicated by Gibbons and Hedeker (1992), Gibbons et al. (2007), and Cai (2010). Nested models may be compared via an approximate chi-squared difference test or by a reduction in AIC or BIC (accessible via [anova](#)). See [mirt](#) for more details regarding the IRT estimation approach used in this package.

The two-tier model has a specific block diagonal covariance structure between the primary and secondary latent traits. Namely, the secondary latent traits are assumed to be orthogonal to all traits and have a fixed variance of 1, while the primary traits can be organized to vary and covary with other primary traits in the model.

$$\Sigma_{two-tier} = \begin{pmatrix} G & 0 \\ 0 & \text{diag}(S) \end{pmatrix}$$

The bifactor model is a special case of the two-tier model when  $G$  above is a 1x1 matrix, and therefore only 1 primary factor is being modeled. Evaluation of the numerical integrals for the two-tier model requires only  $ncol(G) + 1$  dimensions for integration since the  $S$  second order (or 'specific') factors require only 1 integration grid due to the dimension reduction technique.

Note: for multiple group two-tier analyses only the second-tier means and variances should be freed since the specific factors are not treated independently due to the dimension reduction technique.

### Value

function returns an object of class `SingleGroupClass` ([SingleGroupClass-class](#)) or `MultipleGroupClass` ([MultipleGroupClass-class](#)).

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

### References

Cai, L. (2010). A two-tier full-information item factor analysis model with applications. *Psychometrika*, 75, 581-612.

Chalmers, R., P. (2012). mirt: A Multidimensional Item Response Theory Package for the R Environment. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 48(6), 1-29.

Gibbons, R. D., & Hedeker, D. R. (1992). Full-information Item Bi-Factor Analysis. *Psychometrika*, 57, 423-436.

Gibbons, R. D., Darrell, R. B., Hedeker, D., Weiss, D. J., Segawa, E., Bhaumik, D. K., Kupfer, D. J., Frank, E., Grochocinski, V. J., & Stover, A. (2007). Full-Information item bifactor analysis of graded response data. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 31, 4-19.

### See Also

[mirt](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:

###load SAT12 and compute bifactor model with 3 specific factors
data(SAT12)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))
specific <- c(2,3,2,3,3,2,1,2,1,1,1,3,1,3,1,2,1,1,3,3,1,1,3,1,3,3,1,3,2,3,1,2)
mod1 <- bfactor(data, specific)
summary(mod1)
itemplot(mod1, 18, drop.zeros = TRUE) #drop the zero slopes to allow plotting

###Try with fixed guessing parameters added
guess <- rep(.1,32)
mod2 <- bfactor(data, specific, guess = guess)
coef(mod2)
anova(mod1, mod2)
```

```

## don't estimate specific factor for item 32
specific[32] <- NA
mod3 <- bfactor(data, specific)
anova(mod1, mod3)

# same, but decalred manually (not run)
#sv <- mod2values(mod1)
#sv$value[220] <- 0 #parameter 220 is the 32 items specific slope
#sv$est[220] <- FALSE
#mod3 <- bfactor(data, specific, pars = sv) #with excellent starting values

#####
# mixed itemtype example

#simulate data
a <- matrix(c(
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,0.5,NA,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5,
  1,NA,0.5),ncol=3,byrow=TRUE)

d <- matrix(c(
  -1.0,NA,NA,
  -1.5,NA,NA,
  1.5,NA,NA,
  0.0,NA,NA,
  2.5,1.0,-1,
  3.0,2.0,-0.5,
  3.0,2.0,-0.5,
  3.0,2.0,-0.5,
  2.5,1.0,-1,
  2.0,0.0,NA,
  -1.0,NA,NA,
  -1.5,NA,NA,
  1.5,NA,NA,
  0.0,NA,NA),ncol=3,byrow=TRUE)
items <- rep('dich', 14)
items[5:10] <- 'graded'

sigma <- diag(3)
dataset <- simdata(a,d,2000,itemtype=items,sigma=sigma)

```



```
specific <- c(rep(1,7),rep(2,7))
simmod <- bfactor(dataset, specific)
coef(simmod)

#####
# Two-tier model

#simulate data
set.seed(1234)
a <- matrix(c(
0,1,0.5,NA,NA,
0,1,0.5,NA,NA,
0,1,0.5,NA,NA,
0,1,0.5,NA,NA,
0,1,0.5,NA,NA,
0,1,0.5,NA,NA,
0,1,NA,0.5,NA,
0,1,NA,0.5,NA,
0,1,NA,0.5,NA,
1,0,NA,0.5,NA,
1,0,NA,0.5,NA,
1,0,NA,0.5,NA,
1,0,NA,NA,0.5,
1,0,NA,NA,0.5,
1,0,NA,NA,0.5,
1,0,NA,NA,0.5,
1,0,NA,NA,0.5),ncol=5,byrow=TRUE)

d <- matrix(rnorm(16))
items <- rep('dich', 16)

sigma <- diag(5)
sigma[1,2] <- sigma[2,1] <- .4
dataset <- simdata(a,d,2000,itemtype=items,sigma=sigma)

specific <- c(rep(1,5),rep(2,6),rep(3,5))
model <- '
  G1 = 1-8
  G2 = 9-16
  COV = G1*G2'

#quadpts dropped for faster estimation, but not as precise
simmod <- bfactor(dataset, specific, model, quadpts = 9, TOL = 1e-3)
coef(simmod, simplify=TRUE)
summary(simmod)
itemfit(simmod, QMC=TRUE)
M2(simmod, QMC=TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

Bock1997

*Description of Bock 1997 data***Description**

A 3-item tabulated data set extracted from Table 3 in Chapter Two.

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Bock, R. D. (1997). The Nominal Categories Model. In van der Linden, W. J. & Hambleton, R. K. *Handbook of modern item response theory*. New York: Springer.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(Bock1997)
head(dat)
mod <- mirt(dat, 1, 'nominal')

#reproduce table 3 in Bock (1997)
fs <- round(fscores(mod, verbose = FALSE)[,c('F1', 'SE_F1')], 2)
fttd <- residuals(mod, type = 'exp')
table <- data.frame(fttd[, -ncol(fttd)], fs)
table

#using nominal.highlow matrix to specify lowest and highest categories
(nominal.highlow <- matrix(c(4,4,4,1,1,1), 2, byrow = TRUE))
mod <- mirt(dat, 1, 'nominal', nominal.highlow=nominal.highlow)
coef(mod)

## End(Not run)
```

boot.mirt

*Calculate bootstrapped standard errors for estimated models***Description**

Given an internal mirt object estimate the bootstrapped standard errors. It may be beneficial to run the computations using multi-core architecture (e.g., the `parallel` package). Parameters are organized from the freely estimated values in `mod2values(x)` (equality constraints will also be returned in the bootstrapped estimates).

**Usage**

```
boot.mirt(x, R = 100, ...)
```

**Arguments**

```
x          an estimated model object
R          number of draws to use (passed to the boot() function)
...       additional arguments to be passed on to boot(...)
```

**See Also**

[PLCI.mirt](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

#standard
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
booted <- boot.mirt(mod, R=20)
plot(booted)
booted

#run in parallel using snow back-end using all available cores
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
booted <- boot.mirt(mod, parallel = 'snow', ncpus = parallel::detectCores())
booted

## End(Not run)
```

---

coef-method

*Extract raw coefs from model object*


---

**Description**

Return a list (or data.frame) of raw item and group level coefficients.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass'
coef(object, CI = 0.95, printSE = FALSE,
      rotate = "none", Target = NULL, digits = 3, IRTpars = FALSE,
      rawug = FALSE, as.data.frame = FALSE, simplify = FALSE,
      verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class <code>SingleGroupClass</code> , <code>MultipleGroupClass</code> , or <code>MixedClass</code>
CI	the amount of converged used to compute confidence intervals; default is 95 percent confidence intervals
printSE	logical; print the standard errors instead of the confidence intervals?
rotate	see <code>mirt</code> for details. The default rotation is 'none'
Target	a dummy variable matrix indicting a target rotation pattern
digits	number of significant digits to be rounded
IRTpars	logical; convert slope intercept parameters into traditional IRT parameters? Only applicable to unidimensional models
rawug	logical; return the untransformed internal g and u parameters? If FALSE, g and u's are converted with the original format along with delta standard errors
as.data.frame	logical; convert list output to a data.frame instead?
simplify	logical; if all items have the same parameter names (indicating they are of the same class) then they are collapsed to a matrix, and a list of length 2 is returned containing a matrix of item parameters and group-level estimates
verbose	logical; allow information to be printed to the console?
...	additional arguments to be passed

**See Also**

[summary-method](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
x <- mirt(dat, 1)
coef(x)
coef(x, IRTpars = TRUE)
coef(x, simplify = TRUE)

#with computed information matrix
x <- mirt(dat, 1, SE = TRUE)
coef(x)
coef(x, printSE = TRUE)
coef(x, as.data.frame = TRUE)

#two factors
x2 <- mirt(Science, 2)
coef(x2)
coef(x2, rotate = 'varimax')

## End(Not run)
```

---

 createItem

*Create a user defined item with correct generic functions*


---

### Description

Initializes the proper S4 class and methods necessary for mirt functions to use in estimation. To use the defined objects pass to the `mirt(..., customItems = list())` command, and ensure that the classes are properly labeled and unique in the list.

### Usage

```
createItem(name, par, est, P, gr = NULL, hss = NULL, lbound = NULL,
           ubound = NULL)
```

### Arguments

name	a character indicating the item class name to be defined
par	a named vector of the starting values for the parameters
est	a logical vector indicating which parameters should be freely estimated by default
P	the probability trace function for all categories (first column is category 1, second category two, etc). First input contains a vector of all the item parameters, the second input must be a matrix called Theta, and the third input must be the number of categories called ncat. Function also must return a matrix object of category probabilities
gr	gradient function (vector of first derivatives) of the log-likelihood used in estimation. The function must be of the form <code>gr(x, Theta)</code> , where <code>x</code> is the object defined by <code>createItem()</code> and <code>Theta</code> is a matrix of latent trait parameters. Tabulated (EM) or raw (MHRM) data are located in the <code>x@dat</code> slot, and are used to form the complete data log-likelihood. If not specified a numeric approximation will be used
hss	Hessian function (matrix of second derivatives) of the log-likelihood used in estimation. If not specified a numeric approximation will be used (required for the MH-RM algorithm only). The input is identical to the <code>gr</code> argument
lbound	optional vector indicating the lower bounds of the parameters. If not specified then the bounds will be set to <code>-Inf</code>
ubound	optional vector indicating the lower bounds of the parameters. If not specified then the bounds will be set to <code>Inf</code>

### Details

The `summary()` function will not return proper standardized loadings since the function is not sure how to handle them (no slopes could be defined at all!). Instead loadings of .001 are filled in as place-holders.

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

name <- 'old2PL'
par <- c(a = .5, b = -2)
est <- c(TRUE, TRUE)
P.old2PL <- function(par,Theta, ncat){
  a <- par[1]
  b <- par[2]
  P1 <- 1 / (1 + exp(-1*a*(Theta - b)))
  cbind(1-P1, P1)
}

x <- createItem(name, par=par, est=est, P=P.old2PL)

#So, let's estimate it!
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
sv <- mirt(dat, 1, c(rep('2PL',4), 'old2PL'), customItems=list(old2PL=x), pars = 'values')
tail(sv) #looks good
mod <- mirt(dat, 1, c(rep('2PL',4), 'old2PL'), customItems=list(old2PL=x))
coef(mod)
mod2 <- mirt(dat, 1, c(rep('2PL',4), 'old2PL'), customItems=list(old2PL=x), method = 'MHRM')
coef(mod2)

###non-linear
name <- 'nonlin'
par <- c(a1 = .5, a2 = .1, d = 0)
est <- c(TRUE, TRUE, TRUE)
P.nonlin <- function(par,Theta, ncat=2){
  a1 <- par[1]
  a2 <- par[2]
  d <- par[3]
  P1 <- 1 / (1 + exp(-1*(a1*Theta + a2*Theta^2 + d)))
  cbind(1-P1, P1)
}

x2 <- createItem(name, par=par, est=est, P=P.nonlin)

mod <- mirt(dat, 1, c(rep('2PL',4), 'nonlin'), customItems=list(nonlin=x2))
coef(mod)

###nominal response model (Bock 1972 version)
Tnom.dev <- function(ncat) {
  T <- matrix(1/ncat, ncat, ncat - 1)
  diag(T[-1, ]) <- diag(T[-1, ]) - 1
  return(T)
}
```

```

name <- 'nom'
par <- c(alp=c(3,0,-3),gam=rep(.4,3))
est <- rep(TRUE, length(par))
P.nom <- function(par, Theta, ncat){
  alp <- par[1:(ncat-1)]
  gam <- par[ncat:length(par)]
  a <- Tnom.dev(ncat) %%% alp
  c <- Tnom.dev(ncat) %%% gam
  z <- matrix(0, nrow(Theta), ncat)
  for(i in 1:ncat)
    z[,i] <- a[i] * Theta + c[i]
  P <- exp(z) / rowSums(exp(z))
  P
}

nom1 <- createItem(name, par=par, est=est, P=P.nom)
nommod <- mirt(Science, 1, 'nom1', customItems=list(nom1=nom1))
coef(nommod)
Tnom.dev(4) %%% coef(nommod)[[1]][1:3] #a
Tnom.dev(4) %%% coef(nommod)[[1]][4:6] #d

## End(Not run)

```

---

deAyala

*Description of deAyala data*


---

## Description

Mathematics data from de Ayala (2009; pg. 14); 5 item dataset in table format.

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

## References

de Ayala, R. J. (2009). *The theory and practice of item response theory*. Guilford Press.

## Examples

```

## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(deAyala)
head(dat)

## End(Not run)

```

**Description**

This function runs the Wald and likelihood-ratio approaches for testing differential item functioning (DIF). This is primarily a convenience wrapper to the `multipleGroup` function for performing standard DIF procedures. Independent models can be estimated in parallel by defining a parallel object with `mirtCluster`, which will help to decrease the runtime. For best results, the baseline model should contain a set of 'anchor' items and have freely estimated hyper-parameters in the focal groups.

**Usage**

```
DIF(MGmodel, which.par, scheme = "add",
    items2test = 1:ncol(MGmodel@Data$data), seq_stat = "SABIC",
    Wald = FALSE, p.adjust = "none", return_models = FALSE, max_run = Inf,
    plotdif = FALSE, type = "trace", verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>MGmodel</code>	an object returned from <code>multipleGroup</code> to be used as the reference model
<code>which.par</code>	a character vector containing the parameter names which will be inspected for DIF
<code>scheme</code>	type of DIF analysis to perform, either by adding or dropping constraints across groups. These can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>'add'</b> parameters in <code>which.par</code> will be constrained each item one at a time for items that are specified in <code>items2test</code>. This is beneficial when examining DIF from a model with parameters freely estimated across groups, and when inspecting differences via the Wald test</li> <li><b>'drop'</b> parameters in <code>which.par</code> will be freely estimated for items that are specified in <code>items2test</code>. This is useful when supplying an overly restrictive model and attempting to detect DIF with a slightly less restrictive model</li> <li><b>'add_sequential'</b> sequentially loop over the items being tested, and at the end of the loop treat DIF tests that satisfy the <code>seq_stat</code> criteria as invariant. The loop is then re-run on the remaining invariant items to determine if they are now displaying DIF in the less constrained model, and when no new invariant item is found the algorithm stops and returns the items that displayed DIF</li> <li><b>'drop_sequential'</b> sequentially loop over the items being tested, and at the end of the loop treat items that violate the <code>seq_stat</code> criteria as demonstrating DIF. The loop is then re-run, leaving the items that previously demonstrated DIF as variable across groups, and the remaining test items that previously showed invariance are re-tested. The algorithm stops when no more items showing DIF are found and returns the items that displayed DIF</li> </ul>



<code>items2test</code>	a numeric vector, or character vector containing the item names, indicating which items will be tested for DIF. In models where anchor items are known, omit them from this vector. For example, if items 1 and 2 are anchors in a 10 item test, then <code>items2test = 3:10</code> would work for testing the remaining items (important to remember when using sequential schemes)
<code>seq_stat</code>	select a statistic to test for in the sequential schemes. Potential values are (in descending order of power) 'AIC', 'AICc', 'SABIC', and 'BIC'. If a numeric value is input that ranges between 0 and 1, the 'p' value will be tested (e.g., <code>seq_stat = .05</code> will test for the difference of $p < .05$ in the add scheme, or $p > .05$ in the drop scheme), along with the specified <code>p.adjust</code> input
<code>Wald</code>	logical; perform Wald tests for DIF instead of likelihood ratio test?
<code>p.adjust</code>	string to be passed to the <code>p.adjust</code> function to adjust p-values. Adjustments are located in the <code>adj_pvals</code> element in the returned list
<code>return_models</code>	logical; return estimated model objects for further analysis? Default is FALSE
<code>max_run</code>	a number indicating the maximum number of cycles to perform in sequential searches. The default is to perform search until no further DIF is found
<code>plotdif</code>	logical; create item plots for items that are displaying DIF according to the <code>seq_stat</code> criteria? Only available for 'add' type schemes
<code>type</code>	the type of plot argument passed to <code>plot()</code> . Default is 'trace', though another good option is 'infotrace'. For ease of viewing, the <code>facet_item</code> argument to <code>mirt's plot()</code> function is set to TRUE
<code>verbose</code>	logical print extra information to the console?
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to be passed to <code>multipleGroup</code> and <code>plot</code>

### Details

Generally, the precomputed baseline model should have been configured with two estimation properties: 1) a set of 'anchor' items, where the anchor items have various parameters that have been constrained to be equal across the groups, and 2) contain freely estimated latent mean and variance terms in all but one group (the so-called 'reference' group). These two properties help to fix the metric of the groups so that item parameter estimates do not contain latent distribution characteristics.

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

### See Also

[multipleGroup](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:

#simulate data where group 2 has a smaller slopes and more extreme intercepts
set.seed(12345)
```

```

a1 <- a2 <- matrix(abs(rnorm(15,1,.3)), ncol=1)
d1 <- d2 <- matrix(rnorm(15,0,.7),ncol=1)
a2[1:2, ] <- a1[1:2, ]/3
d1[c(1,3), ] <- d2[c(1,3), ]/4
head(data.frame(a.group1 = a1, a.group2 = a2, d.group1 = d1, d.group2 = d2))
itemtype <- rep('dich', nrow(a1))
N <- 1000
dataset1 <- simdata(a1, d1, N, itemtype)
dataset2 <- simdata(a2, d2, N, itemtype, mu = .1, sigma = matrix(1.5))
dat <- rbind(dataset1, dataset2)
group <- c(rep('D1', N), rep('D2', N))

#### no anchors, all items tested for DIF by adding item constrains one item at a time.
# define a parallel cluster (optional) to help speed up internal functions
mirtCluster()

# Information matrix with crossprod (not controlling for latent group differences)
model <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group, SE = TRUE)

#test whether adding slopes and intercepts constrains results in DIF. Plot items showing DIF
resulta1d <- DIF(model, c('a1', 'd'), plotdif = TRUE)
resulta1d

#same as above, but using Wald tests with Benjamini & Hochberg adjustment
resulta1dWald <- DIF(model, c('a1', 'd'), Wald = TRUE, p.adjust = 'fdr')
resulta1dWald
round(resulta1dWald$adj_pvals, 4)

#test whether adding only slope constraints results in DIF for all items
resulta1 <- DIF(model, 'a1')
resulta1

#following up on resulta1d, to determine whether it's a1 or d parameter causing DIF
(a1s <- DIF(model, 'a1', items2test = 1:3))
(ds <- DIF(model, 'd', items2test = 1:3))

#### using items 4 to 15 as anchors
itemnames <- colnames(dat)
model_anchor <- multipleGroup(dat, model = 1, group = group,
  invariance = c(itemnames[4:15], 'free_means', 'free_var'))
anchor <- DIF(model_anchor, c('a1', 'd'), items2test = 1:3)
anchor

### drop down approach (freely estimating parameters accross groups) when
### specifying a highly constrained model with estimated latent parameters
model_constrained <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group,
  invariance = c(colnames(dat), 'free_means', 'free_var'))
dropdown <- DIF(model_constrained, 'd', scheme = 'drop')
dropdown

### sequential searches using SABIC as the selection criteria
# starting from completely different models
model <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group)

```

```

stepup <- DIF(model, c('a1', 'd'), scheme = 'add_sequential')
stepup

#step down procedure for highly constrained model
model <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group, invariance = itemnames)
stepdown <- DIF(model, c('a1', 'd'), scheme = 'drop_sequential')
stepdown

## End(Not run)

```

---

DiscreteClass-class    *Class "DiscreteClass"*

---

### Description

Defines the object returned from `mdirt`.

### Slots

**iter:** Object of class "numeric", number of iterations  
**pars:** Object of class "list", estimated parameter objects list  
**shortpars:** Object of class "numeric", unique estimated parameters  
**model:** Object of class "list", list containing original model  
**K:** Object of class "numeric", number of item categories  
**itemloc:** Object of class "numeric", index for tabdata  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**AIC:** Object of class "numeric", Akaike's information criteria  
**BIC:** Object of class "numeric", Bayesian information criteria  
**G2:** Object of class "numeric", G squared stat  
**p:** Object of class "numeric", p-value for G2  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**RMSEA:** Object of class "numeric", root mean-square error of approximation for G2  
**TLI:** Object of class "numeric", Tucker-Lewis index for G2  
**CFI:** Object of class "numeric", CFI for G2  
**logLik:** Object of class "numeric", observed log-likelihood  
**SElogLik:** Object of class "numeric", Monte Carlo standard error for log-likelihood  
**Prior:** Object of class "numeric", prior distribution used during estimation. Empty unless `empiricalhist = TRUE`  
**F:** Object of class "matrix", unrotated factor loadings  
**h2:** Object of class "numeric", commonalities  
**Theta:** Object of class "matrix", ability grid  
**P1:** Object of class "numeric", normed likelihoods for tabulated response

**prodlist:** Object of class "list", list containing product combination of factors  
**converge:** Object of class "numeric", convergence diagnostic  
**quadpts:** Object of class "numeric", number of quadrature points  
**esttype:** Object of class "character", indicates whether estimation was 'EM' or 'MHRM'  
**constrain:** Object of class "list", list of constraints  
**null.mod:** Object of class "SingleGroupClass", null model  
**condnum:** Object of class "numeric", condition number of information matrix  
**bfactor:** Object of class "list", contains information from bfactor() estimation  
**secondorder test:** Object of class "logical", indicate whether information matrix passes second-order test  
**infomethod:** Object of class "character", indicates which information estimation method was used  
**TOL:** Object of class "numeric", tolerance stopping criteria  
**CUSTOM.IND:** Object of class "integer", an internal index  
**SLOW.IND:** Object of class "integer", an internal index  
**Call:** Object of class "call", call

## Methods

```

print signature(x = "DiscreteClass")
show signature(object = "DiscreteClass")
anova signature(object = "DiscreteClass")
coef signature(x = "DiscreteClass")
summary signature(object = "DiscreteClass")
residuals signature(object = "DiscreteClass")
  
```

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

---

DTF

*Differential test functioning statistics*

---

## Description

Function performs various omnibus differential test functioning procedures on an object estimated with `multipleGroup()`. If the latent means/covariances are suspected to differ then the input object should contain a set of 'anchor' items to ensure that only differential test features are being detected rather than group differences. Returns signed (average area above and below) and unsigned (total area) statistics, with descriptives such as the percent average bias between group total scores for each statistic. If a grid of Theta values is passed, these can be evaluated as well to determine specific DTF location effects. For best results, the baseline model should contain a set of 'anchor' items and have freely estimated hyper-parameters in the focal groups. See [DIF](#) for details.

**Usage**

```
DTF(mod, draws = NULL, CI = 0.95, npts = 1000, theta_lim = c(-6, 6),
    Theta_nodes = NULL, plot = "none", auto.key = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>mod</code>	a <code>multipleGroup</code> object which estimated only 2 groups
<code>draws</code>	a number indicating how many draws to take to form a suitable multiple imputation estimate of the expected test scores (usually 100 or more). Returns a list containing the imputation distribution and null hypothesis test for the sDTF statistic
<code>CI</code>	range of confidence interval when using draws input
<code>npts</code>	number of points to use in the integration. Default is 1000
<code>theta_lim</code>	lower and upper limits of the latent trait (theta) to be evaluated, and is used in conjunction with <code>npts</code>
<code>Theta_nodes</code>	an optional matrix of Theta values to be evaluated in the draws for the sDTF statistic. However, these values are not averaged across, and instead give the bootstrap confidence intervals at the respective Theta nodes. Useful when following up a large uDTF/sDTF statistic to determine where the difference between the test curves are large (while still accounting for sampling variability). Returns a matrix with observed variability
<code>plot</code>	a character vector indicating which plot to draw. Possible values are 'none', 'func' for the test score functions, and 'sDTF' for the evaluated sDTF values across the integration grid. Each plot is drawn with imputed confidence envelopes
<code>auto.key</code>	logical; automatically generate key in lattice plot?
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to be passed to <code>lattice</code> and <code>boot</code>

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Chalmers, R. P., Counsell, A., and Flora, D. B. (in press). It might not make a big DIF: Improved Differential Test Functioning statistics that account for sampling variability. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*.

**See Also**

[multipleGroup](#), [DIF](#)

**Examples**

```

## Not run:
set.seed(1234)
n <- 30
N <- 500

# only first 5 items as anchors
model <- 'F = 1-30
          CONSTRAINB = (1-5, a1), (1-5, d)'

a <- matrix(1, n)
d <- matrix(rnorm(n), n)
group <- c(rep('Group_1', N), rep('Group_2', N))

## -----
# groups completely equal
dat1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype = 'dich')
dat2 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype = 'dich')
dat <- rbind(dat1, dat2)
mod <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group=group, SE=TRUE, SE.type='crossprod',
                    invariance=c('free_means', 'free_var'))
plot(mod)

DTF(mod)
mirtCluster()
DTF(mod, draws = 1000) #95% C.I. for sDTF containing 0. uDTF is very small
DTF(mod, draws = 1000, plot='sDTF') #sDTF 95% C.I.'s across Theta always include 0

## -----
## random slopes and intercepts for 15 items, and latent mean difference
## (no systematic DTF should exist, but DIF will be present)
set.seed(1234)
dat1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype = 'dich', mu=.50, sigma=matrix(1.5))
dat2 <- simdata(a + c(numeric(15), runif(n-15, -.2, .2)),
               d + c(numeric(15), runif(n-15, -.5, .5)), N, itemtype = 'dich')
dat <- rbind(dat1, dat2)
mod1 <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group=group)
plot(mod1) #does not account for group differences! Need anchors

mod2 <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group=group, SE=TRUE, SE.type = 'crossprod',
                    invariance=c('free_means', 'free_var'))
plot(mod2)

#significant DIF in multiple items...
# DIF(mod2, which.par=c('a1', 'd'), items2test=16:30)
DTF(mod2)
DTF(mod2, draws=1000) #non-sig DTF due to item cancellation

## -----
## systematic differing slopes and intercepts (clear DTF)
dat1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype = 'dich', mu=.50, sigma=matrix(1.5))
dat2 <- simdata(a + c(numeric(15), rnorm(n-15, 1, .25)), d + c(numeric(15), rnorm(n-15, 1, .5)),

```

```

      N, itemtype = 'dich')
dat <- rbind(dat1, dat2)
mod3 <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group=group, SE=TRUE, SE.type='crossprod',
                      invariance=c('free_means', 'free_var'))
plot(mod3) #visable DTF happening

# DIF(mod3, c('a1', 'd'), items2test=16:30)
DTF(mod3) #unsigned bias. Signed bias indicates group 2 scores generally higher on average
DTF(mod3, draws=1000)
DTF(mod3, draws=1000, plot='func')
DTF(mod3, draws=1000, plot='sDTF') #multiple DTF areas along Theta

# evaluate specific values for sDTF
Theta_nodes <- matrix(seq(-6,6,length.out = 100))
sDTF <- DTF(mod3, Theta_nodes=Theta_nodes)
head(sDTF)
sDTF <- DTF(mod3, Theta_nodes=Theta_nodes, draws=100)
head(sDTF)

## End(Not run)

```

---

expand.table

*Expand summary table of patterns and frequencies*

---

## Description

The `expand.table` function expands a summary table of unique response patterns to a full sized data-set. The response frequencies must be on the rightmost column of the input data.

## Usage

```
expand.table(tabdata)
```

## Arguments

`tabdata` An object of class `data.frame`, `matrix`, or `table` with the unique response patterns and the number of frequencies in the rightmost column.

## Value

Returns a numeric matrix with all the response patterns.

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

## Examples

```
## Not run:
data(LSAT7)
head(LSAT7)
LSAT7full <- expand.table(LSAT7)
head(LSAT7full)

## End(Not run)
```

---

expected.item	<i>Function to calculate expected value of item</i>
---------------	---

---

## Description

Given an internal mirt object extracted from an estimated model compute the expected value for an item given the ability parameter(s).

## Usage

```
expected.item(x, Theta, min = 0)
```

## Arguments

x	an extracted internal mirt object containing item information
Theta	a vector (unidimensional) or matrix (multidimensional) of latent trait values
min	a constant value added to the expected values indicating the lowest theoretical category. Default is 0

## See Also

[extract.item](#), [expected.test](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
extr.2 <- extract.item(mod, 2)
Theta <- matrix(seq(-6,6, length.out=200))
expected <- expected.item(extr.2, Theta, min(Science[,1])) #min() of first item
head(data.frame(expected, Theta=Theta))

## End(Not run)
```



---

expected.test	<i>Function to calculate expected test score</i>
---------------	--

---

### Description

Given an estimated model compute the expected test score. Returns the expected values in the same form as the data used to estimate the model.

### Usage

```
expected.test(x, Theta, group = NULL, mins = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

x	an estimated mirt object
Theta	a matrix of latent trait values
group	a number signifying which group the item should be extracted from (applies to 'MultipleGroupClass' objects only)
mins	logical; include the minimum value constants in the dataset. If FALSE, the expected values for each item are determined from the scoring 0:(ncat-1)

### See Also

[expected.item](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(deAyala)
model <- 'F = 1-5
          CONSTRAIN = (1-5, a1)'
mod <- mirt(dat, model)

Theta <- matrix(seq(-6,6,.01))
tscore <- expected.test(mod, Theta)
tail(cbind(Theta, tscore))

## End(Not run)
```

---

extract.group	<i>Extract a group from a multiple group mirt object</i>
---------------	--

---

### Description

Extract a single group from an object defined by [multipleGroup](#).

### Usage

```
extract.group(x, group)
```

### Arguments

x	mirt model of class 'MultipleGroupClass'
group	a number signifying which group should be extracted

### See Also

[extract.item](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
set.seed(12345)
a <- matrix(abs(rnorm(15,1,.3)), ncol=1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(15,0,.7),ncol=1)
itemtype <- rep('dich', nrow(a))
N <- 1000
dataset1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype)
dataset2 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype, mu = .1, sigma = matrix(1.5))
dat <- rbind(dataset1, dataset2)
group <- c(rep('D1', N), rep('D2', N))
models <- 'F1 = 1-15'

mod_configural <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group)
group.1 <- extract.group(mod_configural, 1) #extract first group
summary(group.1)
plot(group.1)

## End(Not run)
```

---

extract.item	<i>Extract an item object from mirt objects</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

Extract the internal mirt objects from any estimated model.

**Usage**

```
extract.item(x, item, group = NULL, drop.zeros = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	mirt model of class 'SingleGroupClass' or 'MultipleGroupClass'
item	a number or character signifying which item to extract
group	a number signifying which group the item should be extracted from (applies to 'MultipleGroupClass' only)
drop.zeros	logical; drop slope values that are numerically close to zero to reduce dimensionality? Useful in objects returned from <a href="#">bfactor</a> or other confirmatory models that contain several zero slopes

**See Also**

[extract.group](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
extr.1 <- extract.item(mod, 1)

## End(Not run)
```

---

fixef	<i>Compute latent regression fixed effect expected values</i>
-------	---

---

**Description**

Create expected values for fixed effects parameters in latent regression models.

**Usage**

```
fixef(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` an estimated model object from the `mixedmirt` or `mirt` function

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**See Also**

`mirt`, `mixedmirt`

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

#simulate data
set.seed(1234)
N <- 1000

# covariates
X1 <- rnorm(N); X2 <- rnorm(N)
covdata <- data.frame(X1, X2)
Theta <- matrix(0.5 * X1 + -1 * X2 + rnorm(N, sd = 0.5))

#items and response data
a <- matrix(1, 20); d <- matrix(rnorm(20))
dat <- simdata(a, d, 1000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=Theta)

#conditional model using X1 and X2 as predictors of Theta
mod1 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch', covdata=covdata, formula = ~ X1 + X2)

#latent regression fixed effects (i.e., expected values)
fe <- fixef(mod1)
head(fe)

# with mixedmirt()
mod1b <- mixedmirt(dat, covdata, 1, lr.fixed = ~ X1 + X2, fixed = ~ 0 + items)
fe2 <- fixef(mod1b)
head(fe2)

## End(Not run)
```

## Description

Computes MAP, EAP, ML (Embretson & Reise, 2000), EAP for sum-scores (Thissen et al., 1995), or WLE (Warm, 1989) factor scores with a multivariate normal prior distribution using equally spaced quadrature. EAP scores for models with more than three factors are generally not recommended since the integration grid becomes very large, resulting in slower estimation and less precision if the quadpts are too low. Therefore, MAP scores should be used instead of EAP scores for higher dimensional models. Multiple imputation variants are possible for each estimator if a parameter information matrix was computed, which are useful if the sample size/number of items were small. As well, if the model contained latent regression predictors this information will be used in computing MAP and EAP estimates (for these models, `full.scores=TRUE` by default). Finally, plausible value imputation is also available, and will also account for latent regression predictor effects.

## Usage

```
fcores(object, rotate = "oblimin", Target = NULL, full.scores = FALSE,
  method = "EAP", quadpts = NULL, response.pattern = NULL,
  plausible.draws = 0, returnER = FALSE, return.acov = FALSE,
  mean = NULL, cov = NULL, verbose = TRUE, full.scores.SE = FALSE,
  theta_lim = c(-6, 6), MI = 0, QMC = FALSE, custom_den = NULL,
  custom_theta = NULL, min_expected = 1, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>object</code>	a computed model object of class <code>SingleGroupClass</code> , <code>MultipleGroupClass</code> , or <code>DiscreteClass</code>
<code>rotate</code>	prior rotation to be used when estimating the factor scores. See <a href="#">summary-method</a> for details. If the object is not an exploratory model then this argument is ignored
<code>Target</code>	target rotation; see <a href="#">summary-method</a> for details
<code>full.scores</code>	if <code>FALSE</code> (default) then a summary table with factor scores for each unique pattern is displayed. Otherwise a matrix of factor scores for each response pattern in the data is returned
<code>method</code>	type of factor score estimation method. Can be expected a-posteriori ("EAP"), Bayes modal ("MAP"), weighted likelihood estimation ("WLE"), maximum likelihood ("ML"), or expected a-posteriori for sum scores ("EAPsum"). Can also be "plausible" for a single plausible value imputation for each case, and this is equivalent to setting <code>plausible.draws = 1</code>
<code>quadpts</code>	number of quadratures to use per dimension. If not specified, a suitable one will be created which decreases as the number of dimensions increases (and therefore for estimates such as EAP, will be less accurate). This is determined from the switch statement <code>quadpts &lt;- switch(as.character(nfact), '1'=61, '2'=31, '3'=15, '4'=9, '5'</code>
<code>response.pattern</code>	an optional argument used to calculate the factor scores and standard errors for a given response vector or matrix/data.frame

<code>plausible.draws</code>	number of plausible values to draw for future researchers to perform secondary analyses of the latent trait scores. Typically used in conjunction with latent regression predictors (see <code>mirt</code> for details), but can also be generated when no predictor variables were modeled. If <code>plausible.draws</code> is greater than 0 a list of plausible values will be returned
<code>returnER</code>	logical; return empirical reliability (also known as marginal reliability) estimates as a numeric values?
<code>return.acov</code>	logical; return a list containing covariance matrices instead of factors scores? <code>impute = TRUE</code> not supported with this option
<code>mean</code>	a vector for custom latent variable means. If <code>NULL</code> , the default for 'group' values from the computed <code>mirt</code> object will be used
<code>cov</code>	a custom matrix of the latent variable covariance matrix. If <code>NULL</code> , the default for 'group' values from the computed <code>mirt</code> object will be used
<code>verbose</code>	logical; print verbose output messages?
<code>full.scores.SE</code>	logical; when <code>full.scores == TRUE</code> , also return the standard errors associated with each respondent? Default is <code>FALSE</code>
<code>theta_lim</code>	lower and upper range to evaluate latent trait integral for each dimension. If omitted, a range will be generated automatically based on the number of dimensions
<code>MI</code>	a number indicating how many multiple imputation draws to perform. Default is 0, indicating that no MI draws will be performed
<code>QMC</code>	logical; use quasi-Monte Carlo integration? If <code>quadpts</code> is omitted the default number of nodes is 15000
<code>custom_den</code>	a function used to define the integration density (if required). The <code>NULL</code> default assumes that the multivariate normal distribution with the 'GroupPars' hyper-parameters are used. At the minimum must be of the form: <code>function(Theta, ...)</code> where <code>Theta</code> is a matrix of latent trait values (will be a grid of values if <code>method == 'EAPsum'</code> or <code>method == 'EAP'</code> , otherwise <code>Theta</code> will have only 1 row). Additional arguments may included and are caught through the <code>fscores(...)</code> input. The function <i>must</i> return a numeric vector of density weights (one for each row in <code>Theta</code> )
<code>custom_theta</code>	a matrix of custom integration nodes to use instead of the default, where each column corresponds to the respective dimension in the model
<code>min_expected</code>	when computing goodness of fit tests when <code>method = 'EAPsum'</code> , this value is used to collapse across the conditioned total scores until the expected values are greater than this value. Note that this only affect the goodness of fit tests and not the returned EAP for sum scores table
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to be passed to <code>nlm</code>

### Details

The function will return either a table with the computed scores and standard errors, the original data matrix with scores appended to the rightmost column, or the scores only. By default the latent means

and covariances are determined from the estimated object, though these can be overwritten. Iterative estimation methods can be estimated in parallel to decrease estimation times if a [mirtCluster](#) object is available.

If the input object is a discrete latent class object estimated from [mdirt](#) then the returned results will be with respect to the posterior classification for each individual. The method inputs for 'DiscreteClass' objects may only be 'EAP', for posterior classification of each response pattern, or 'EAPsum' for posterior classification based on the raw sum-score.

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

### References

- Embretson, S. E. & Reise, S. P. (2000). Item Response Theory for Psychologists. Erlbaum.
- Thissen, D., Pommerich, M., Billeaud, K., & Williams, V. S. L. (1995). Item Response Theory for Scores on Tests Including Polytomous Items with Ordered Responses. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 19, 39-49.
- Warm, T. A. (1989). Weighted likelihood estimation of ability in item response theory. *Psychometrika*, 54, 427-450.

### See Also

[averageMI](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:

mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
tabscores <- fscores(mod)
head(tabscores)
fullscores <- fscores(mod, full.scores = TRUE)
fullscores_with_SE <- fscores(mod, full.scores = TRUE, full.scores.SE=TRUE)
head(fullscores)
head(fullscores_with_SE)

#change method argument to use MAP estimates
fullscores <- fscores(mod, full.scores = TRUE, method='MAP')
head(fullscores)

#calculate MAP for a given response vector
fscores(mod, method='MAP', response.pattern = c(1,2,3,4))
#or matrix
fscores(mod, method='MAP', response.pattern = rbind(c(1,2,3,4), c(2,2,1,3)))

#use custom latent variable properties (diffuse prior for MAP is very close to ML)
fscores(mod, method='MAP', cov = matrix(1000))
fscores(mod, method='ML')
```

```

#WLE estimation, run in parallel using available cores
mirtCluster()
fscores(mod, method='WLE')

#multiple imputation using 30 draws for EAP scores. Requires information matrix
mod <- mirt(Science, 1, SE=TRUE)
fscores(mod, MI = 30)

# plausible values for future work
pv <- fscores(mod, plausible.draws = 5)
lapply(pv, function(x) c(mean=mean(x), var=var(x), min=min(x), max=max(x)))

## define a custom_den function. EAP with a uniform prior between -3 and 3
fun <- function(Theta, ...) as.numeric(dunif(Theta, min = -3, max = 3))
head(fscores(mod, custom_den = fun))

# custom MAP prior: standard truncated normal between 5 and -2
library(msm)
# need the :: scope for parallel to see the function (not require if no mirtCluster() defined)
fun <- function(Theta, ...) msm::dtnorm(Theta, mean = 0, sd = 1, lower = -2, upper = 5)
head(fscores(mod, custom_den = fun, method = 'MAP'))

## End(Not run)

```

---

imputeMissing

*Imputing plausible data for missing values*


---

## Description

Given an estimated model from any of mirt's model fitting functions and an estimate of the latent trait, impute plausible missing data values. Returns the original data in a `data.frame` without any NA values. If a list of Theta values is supplied then a list of complete datasets is returned instead.

## Usage

```
imputeMissing(x, Theta, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	an estimated model <code>x</code> from the mirt package
<code>Theta</code>	a matrix containing the estimates of the latent trait scores (e.g., via <code>fscores</code> ). Can also be a <code>list</code> input containing different estimates for Theta (e.g., plausible value draws)
<code>...</code>	additional arguments to pass

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>



## Examples

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
(original <- mirt(dat, 1))
NAperson <- sample(1:nrow(dat), 20, replace = TRUE)
NAitem <- sample(1:ncol(dat), 20, replace = TRUE)
for(i in 1:20)
  dat[NAperson[i], NAitem[i]] <- NA
(mod <- mirt(dat, 1))
scores <- fscores(mod, method = 'MAP', full.scores = TRUE)

#re-estimate imputed dataset (good to do this multiple times and average over)
fulldata <- imputeMissing(mod, scores)
(fullmod <- mirt(fulldata, 1))

#with multipleGroup
group <- rep(c('group1', 'group2'), each=500)
mod2 <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group, TOL=1e-2)
fs <- fscores(mod2, full.scores=TRUE)
fulldata2 <- imputeMissing(mod2, fs)

#supply list of plausible value estimates (the best approach when Theta's are imprecise)
pv <- fscores(mod, plausible.draws = 5)
fulldata_list <- imputeMissing(mod, pv)
str(fulldata_list)

## End(Not run)
```

---

itemfit

*Item fit statistics*

---

## Description

itemfit calculates the  $Z_h$  values from Drasgow, Levine and Williams (1985),  $\chi^2$  values for unidimensional models, and S-X2 statistics for unidimensional and multidimensional models (Kang & Chen, 2007; Orlando & Thissen, 2000). For Rasch, partial credit, and rating scale models infit and outfit statistics are also produced. Poorly fitting items should be inspected with [itemGAM](#) to diagnose whether the functional form of the IRT model was misspecified or could be improved.

## Usage

```
itemfit(x, Zh = TRUE, X2 = FALSE, S_X2 = TRUE, group.size = 150,
  mincell = 1, S_X2.tables = FALSE, empirical.plot = NULL,
  empirical.CI = 0, method = "EAP", Theta = NULL, impute = 0,
  digits = 4, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	a computed model object of class <code>SingleGroupClass</code> , <code>MultipleGroupClass</code> , or <code>DiscreteClass</code>
Zh	logical; calculate Zh and associated statistics (infit/outfit)? Disable this if you are only interested in computing the S-X2 quickly
X2	logical; calculate the X2 statistic for unidimensional models?
S_X2	logical; calculate the S_X2 statistic?
group.size	approximate size of each group to be used in calculating the $\chi^2$ statistic
mincell	the minimum expected cell size to be used in the S-X2 computations. Tables will be collapsed across items first if polytomous, and then across scores if necessary
S_X2.tables	logical; return the tables in a list format used to compute the S-X2 stats?
empirical.plot	a single numeric value or character of the item name indicating which item to plot (via <code>itemplot</code> ) and overlay with the empirical $\theta$ groupings. Only applicable when <code>type = 'X2'</code> . The default is NULL, therefore no plots are drawn
empirical.CI	a numeric value indicating the width of the empirical confidence interval ranging between 0 and 1 (default of 0 plots not interval). For example, a 95 interval would be plotted if <code>empirical.CI = .95</code> . Only applicable to dichotomous items
method	type of factor score estimation method. See <a href="#">fscores</a> for more detail
Theta	a matrix of factor scores for each person used for statistics that require empirical estimates. If supplied, arguments typically passed to <code>fscores()</code> will be ignored and these values will be used instead. Also required when estimating statistics with missing data via imputation
impute	a number indicating how many imputations to perform (passed to <code>imputeMissing</code> ) when there are missing data present. Will return a <code>data.frame</code> object with the mean estimates of the stats and their imputed standard deviations
digits	number of digits to round result to. Default is 4
...	additional arguments to be passed to <code>fscores()</code>

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

- Drasgow, F., Levine, M. V., & Williams, E. A. (1985). Appropriateness measurement with polychotomous item response models and standardized indices. *Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*, 38, 67-86.
- Kang, T. & Chen, Troy, T. (2007). An investigation of the performance of the generalized S-X2 item-fit index for polytomous IRT models. ACT
- Orlando, M. & Thissen, D. (2000). Likelihood-based item fit indices for dichotomous item response theory models. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 24, 50-64.
- Reise, S. P. (1990). A comparison of item- and person-fit methods of assessing model-data fit in IRT. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 14, 127-137.
- Wright B. D. & Masters, G. N. (1982). *Rating scale analysis*. MESA Press.

**See Also**

[personfit](#), [itemGAM](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

#make some data
set.seed(1234)
a <- matrix(rlnorm(20, meanlog=0, sdlog = .1), ncol=1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(20), ncol=1)
items <- rep('dich', 20)
data <- simdata(a,d, 2000, items)

x <- mirt(data, 1)
raschfit <- mirt(data, 1, itemtype='Rasch')
fit <- itemfit(x)
fit

itemfit(x, empirical.plot = 1) #empirical item plot
itemfit(x, empirical.plot = 1, empirical.CI = .99) #empirical item plot with 99% CI's

#method='ML' agrees better with eRm package
itemfit(raschfit, method = 'ML') #infit and outfit stats

#same as above, but inputting ML estimates instead
Theta <- fscores(raschfit, method = 'ML', full.scores=TRUE)
itemfit(raschfit, Theta=Theta)

#similar example to Kang and Chen 2007
a <- matrix(c(.8,.4,.7, .8, .4, .7, 1, 1, 1, 1))
d <- matrix(rep(c(2.0,0.0,-1,-1.5),10), ncol=4, byrow=TRUE)
dat <- simdata(a,d,2000, itemtype = rep('graded', 10)) - 1
head(dat)

mod <- mirt(dat, 1)
itemfit(mod)

mod2 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch')
itemfit(mod2)

#massive list of tables
tables <- itemfit(mod, S_X2.tables = TRUE)

#observed and expected total score patterns for item 1 (post collapsing)
tables$O[[1]]
tables$E[[1]]

# fit stats with missing data (run in parallel using all cores)
data[sample(1:prod(dim(data)), 500)] <- NA
raschfit <- mirt(data, 1, itemtype='Rasch')
```

```

mirtCluster() # run in parallel
itemfit(raschfit, impute = 10)

## End(Not run)

```

---

itemGAM	<i>Parametric smoothed regression lines for item response probability functions</i>
---------	---

---

### Description

This function uses a generalized additive model (GAM) to estimate response curves for items that do not seem to fit well in a given model. Using a stable auxiliary model, traceline functions for poorly fitting dichotomous or polytomous items can be inspected using point estimates (or plausible values) of the latent trait. Plots of the tracelines and their associated standard errors are available to help interpret the misfit. This function may also be useful when adding new items to an existing, well established set of items, especially when the parametric form of the items under investigation are unknown.

### Usage

```

itemGAM(item, Theta, formula = resp ~ s(Theta, k = 10), CI = 0.95,
        theta_lim = c(-3, 3), return.models = FALSE, ...)

## S3 method for class 'itemGAM'
plot(x, y = NULL, ...)

```

### Arguments

item	a single poorly fitting item to be investigated. Can be a vector or matrix
Theta	a list or matrix of latent trait estimates typically returned from <a href="#">fscores</a>
formula	an R formula to be passed to the <code>gam</code> function. Default fits a spline model with 10 nodes. For multidimensional models, the traits are assigned the names 'Theta1', 'Theta2', ..., 'ThetaN'
CI	a number ranging from 0 to 1 indicating the confidence interval range. Default provides the 95 percent interval
theta_lim	range of latent trait scores to be evaluated
return.models	logical; return a list of GAM models for each category? Useful when the GAMs should be inspected directly, but also when fitting multidimensional models (this is set to TRUE automatically for multidimensional models)
...	additional arguments to be passed to <code>gam</code> or <code>lattice</code>
x	an object of class 'itemGAM'
y	a NULL value ignored by the plotting function

**See Also**[itemfit](#)**Examples**

```
## Not run:
set.seed(10)
N <- 1000
J <- 30

a <- matrix(1, J)
d <- matrix(rnorm(J))
Theta <- matrix(rnorm(N, 0, 1.5))
dat <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=Theta)

# make a bad item
ps <- exp(Theta^2 + Theta) / (1 + exp(Theta^2 + Theta))
item1 <- sapply(ps, function(x) sample(c(0,1), size = 1, prob = c(1-x, x)))

ps2 <- exp(2 * Theta^2 + Theta + .5 * Theta^3) / (1 + exp(2 * Theta^2 + Theta + .5 * Theta^3))
item2 <- sapply(ps2, function(x) sample(c(0,1), size = 1, prob = c(1-x, x)))

#' # how the actual item looks in the population
plot(Theta, ps, ylim = c(0,1))
plot(Theta, ps2, ylim = c(0,1))

baditems <- cbind(item1, item2)
newdat <- cbind(dat, baditems)

badmod <- mirt(newdat, 1)
itemfit(badmod) #clearly a bad fit for the last two items
mod <- mirt(dat, 1) #fit a model that does not contain the bad items
itemfit(mod)

#### Pure non-parametric way of investigating the items
library(KernSmoothIRT)
ks <- ksIRT(newdat, rep(1, ncol(newdat)), 1)
plot(ks, item=c(1,31,32))
par(ask=FALSE)

# Using point estimates from the model
Theta <- fscores(mod, full.scores=TRUE)
IG0 <- itemGAM(dat[,1], Theta) #good item
IG1 <- itemGAM(baditems[,1], Theta)
IG2 <- itemGAM(baditems[,2], Theta)
plot(IG0)
plot(IG1)
plot(IG2)

# same as above, but with plausible values to obtain the standard errors
ThetaPV <- fscores(mod, plausible.draws=10)
IG0 <- itemGAM(dat[,1], ThetaPV) #good item
```

```

IG1 <- itemGAM(baditems[,1], ThetaPV)
IG2 <- itemGAM(baditems[,2], ThetaPV)
plot(IG0)
plot(IG1)
plot(IG2)

## for polytomous test items
SAT12[SAT12 == 8] <- NA
dat <- key2binary(SAT12,
                 key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))
dat <- dat[,-32]
mod <- mirt(dat, 1)

# Kernal smoothing is very sensitive to which category is selected as 'correct'
# 5th category as correct
ks <- ksIRT(cbind(dat, SAT12[,32]), c(rep(1, 31), 5), 1)
plot(ks, items = c(1,2,32))

# 3rd category as correct
ks <- ksIRT(cbind(dat, SAT12[,32]), c(rep(1, 31), 3), 1)
plot(ks, items = c(1,2,32))

# splines approach
Theta <- fscores(mod, full.scores=TRUE)
IG <- itemGAM(SAT12[,32], Theta)
plot(IG)

ThetaPV <- fscores(mod, plausible.draws=10)
IG2 <- itemGAM(SAT12[,32], ThetaPV)
plot(IG2)

# assuming a simple increasing parametric form (like in a standard IRT model)
IG3 <- itemGAM(SAT12[,32], Theta, formula = resp ~ Theta)
plot(IG3)
IG3 <- itemGAM(SAT12[,32], ThetaPV, formula = resp ~ Theta)
plot(IG3)

### multidimensional example by returning the GAM objects
mod2 <- mirt(dat, 2)
Theta <- fscores(mod2, full.scores=TRUE)
IG4 <- itemGAM(SAT12[,32], Theta, formula = resp ~ s(Theta1, k=10) + s(Theta2, k=10),
              return.models=TRUE)
names(IG4)
plot(IG4[[1L]], main = 'Category 1')
plot(IG4[[2L]], main = 'Category 2')
plot(IG4[[3L]], main = 'Category 3')

## End(Not run)

```

**Description**

Given an internal mirt item object extracted by using `extract.item`, compute the item information.

**Usage**

```
iteminfo(x, Theta, degrees = NULL, total.info = TRUE, use_degrees = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	an extracted internal mirt object containing item information
<code>Theta</code>	a vector (unidimensional) or matrix (multidimensional) of latent trait values
<code>degrees</code>	a vector of angles in degrees that are between 0 and 90 that jointly sum to 90. Only applicable when the input object is multidimensional
<code>total.info</code>	logical; return the total information curve for the item? If FALSE, information curves for each category are returned as a matrix
<code>use_degrees</code>	logical; use degrees argument for multidimensional information? If FALSE, information will be calculated without reference to any angle

**See Also**

[extract.item](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
extr.2 <- extract.item(mod, 2)
Theta <- matrix(seq(-4,4, by = .1))
info.2 <- iteminfo(extr.2, Theta)

#do something with the info?
plot(Theta, info.2, type = 'l', main = 'Item information')

#category information curves
cat.info <- iteminfo(extr.2, Theta, total.info = FALSE)
plot(Theta, cat.info[,1], type = 'l', ylim = c(0, max(cat.info)),
     ylab = 'info', main = 'Category information')
for(i in 2:ncol(cat.info))
  lines(Theta, cat.info[,i], col = i)

## Customized test information plot
T1 <- T2 <- 0
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
mod1 <- mirt(dat, 1)
mod2 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch')
for(i in 1:5){
  T1 <- T1 + iteminfo(extract.item(mod1, i), Theta)
  T2 <- T2 + iteminfo(extract.item(mod2, i), Theta)
}
plot(Theta, T2/T1, type = 'l', ylab = 'Relative Test Information', las = 1)
```

```
lines(Theta, T1/T1, col = 'red')

## End(Not run)
```

---

itemplot

*Displays item surface and information plots*


---

### Description

itemplot displays various item based IRT plots, with special options for plotting items that contain several 0 slope parameters. Supports up to three dimensional models.

### Usage

```
itemplot(object, item, type = "trace", degrees = 45, CE = FALSE,
         CEalpha = 0.05, CEdraws = 1000, drop.zeros = FALSE, rot = list(xaxis =
         -70, yaxis = 30, zaxis = 10), theta_lim = c(-6, 6), shiny = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

object	a computed model object of class <code>SingleGroupClass</code> or <code>MultipleGroupClass</code> . Input may also be a list for comparing similar item types (e.g., 1PL vs 2PL)
item	a single numeric value, or the item name, indicating which item to plot
type	plot type to use, information ('info'), standard errors ('SE'), item trace lines ('trace'), information and standard errors ('infoSE') or information and trace lines ('infotrace'), relative efficiency lines ('RE'), expected score 'score', or information and trace line contours ('infocontour' and 'tracecontour'; not supported for <code>MultipleGroupClass</code> objects)
degrees	the degrees argument to be used if there are exactly two factors. See <a href="#">iteminfo</a> for more detail
CE	logical; plot confidence envelope?
CEalpha	area remaining in the tail for confidence envelope. Default gives 95% confidence region
CEdraws	draws number of draws to use for confidence envelope
drop.zeros	logical; drop slope values that are numerically close to zero to reduce dimensionality? Useful in objects returned from <a href="#">bfactor</a> or other confirmatory models that contain several zero slopes
rot	a list of rotation coordinates to be used for 3 dimensional plots
theta_lim	lower and upper limits of the latent trait (theta) to be evaluated, and is used in conjunction with <code>npts</code>
shiny	logical; run interactive display for item plots using the shiny interface. This primarily is an instructive tool for demonstrating how item response curves behave when adjusting their parameters
...	additional arguments to be passed to <code>lattice</code> and <code>coef()</code>



**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

data(LSAT7)
fulldata <- expand.table(LSAT7)
mod1 <- mirt(fulldata,1,SE=TRUE)
mod2 <- mirt(fulldata,1, itemtype = 'Rasch')
mod3 <- mirt(fulldata,2)

itemplot(mod1, 2)
itemplot(mod1, 2, CE = TRUE)
itemplot(mod1, 2, type = 'info')
itemplot(mod1, 2, type = 'info', CE = TRUE)

mods <- list(twoPL = mod1, onePL = mod2)
itemplot(mods, 1, type = 'RE')

#multidimensional
itemplot(mod3, 3, type = 'info')
itemplot(mod3, 3, type = 'infocontour')
itemplot(mod3, 3, type = 'tracecontour')

#polytomous items
pmod <- mirt(Science, 1, SE=TRUE)
itemplot(pmod, 3)
itemplot(pmod, 3, CE = TRUE)
itemplot(pmod, 3, type = 'score')
itemplot(pmod, 3, type = 'infotrace')

# use the directlabels package to put labels on tracelines
library(directlabels)
plt <- itemplot(pmod, 3)
direct.label(plt, 'top.points')

# uncomment to run interactive shiny applet
# itemplot(shiny = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

key2binary

*Score a test by converting response patterns to binary data*

---

**Description**

The key2binary function will convert response pattern data to a dichotomous format, given a response key.

**Usage**

```
key2binary(fulldata, key)
```

**Arguments**

`fulldata` an object of class `data.frame`, `matrix`, or `table` with the response patterns

`key` a vector consisting of the 'correct' response to the items. Each value corresponds to each column in `fulldata`

**Value**

Returns a numeric matrix with all the response patterns in dichotomous format.

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
data(SAT12)
head(SAT12)
key <- c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5)

dicho.SAT12 <- key2binary(SAT12,key)
head(dicho.SAT12)

## End(Not run)
```

---

LSAT6

*Description of LSAT6 data*

---

**Description**

Data from Thissen (1982); contains 5 dichotomously scored items obtained from the Law School Admissions Test, section 6.

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Thissen, D. (1982). Marginal maximum likelihood estimation for the one-parameter logistic model. *Psychometrika*, 47, 175-186.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(LSAT6)
head(dat)
model <- 'F = 1-5
          CONSTRAIN = (1-5, a1)'
(mod <- mirt(dat, model))
coef(mod)

#equivalently, but with a different parameterization
mod2 <- mirt(dat, 1, itemtype = 'Rasch')
anova(mod, mod2) #equal
coef(mod2)
sqrt(coef(mod2)$GroupPars[2]) #latent SD equal to the slope in mod

## End(Not run)
```

---

 LSAT7

*Description of LSAT7 data*


---

**Description**

Data from Bock & Lieberman (1970); contains 5 dichotomously scored items obtained from the Law School Admissions Test, section 7.

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Bock, R. D., & Lieberman, M. (1970). Fitting a response model for  $n$  dichotomously scored items. *Psychometrika*, 35(2), 179-197.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
head(dat)
(mod <- mirt(dat, 1))
coef(mod)

## End(Not run)
```

---

M2 *Compute the M2 model fit statistic*


---

**Description**

Computes the M2 (Maydeu-Olivares & Joe, 2006) statistic for dichotomous data and the M2\* statistic for polytomous data (collapsing over response categories for better stability; see Cai and Hansen, 2013), as well as associated fit indices that are based on fitting the null model.

**Usage**

```
M2(obj, calcNull = TRUE, quadpts = NULL, theta_lim = c(-6, 6),
  impute = 0, CI = 0.9, residmat = FALSE, QMC = FALSE, suppress = 1,
  ...)
```

**Arguments**

obj	an estimated model object from the mirt package
calcNull	logical; calculate statistics for the null model as well? Allows for statistics such as the limited information TLI and CFI
quadpts	number of quadrature points to use during estimation. If NULL, a suitable value will be chosen based on the rubric found in <a href="#">fscores</a>
theta_lim	lower and upper range to evaluate latent trait integral for each dimension
impute	a number indicating how many imputations to perform (passed to <a href="#">imputeMissing</a> ) when there are missing data present. This requires a precomputed Theta input. Will return a data.frame object with the mean estimates of the stats and their imputed standard deviations
CI	numeric value from 0 to 1 indicating the range of the confidence interval for RMSEA. Default returns the 90% interval
residmat	logical; return the residual matrix used to compute the SRMSR statistic? Only the lower triangle of the residual correlation matrix will be returned (the upper triangle is filled with NA's)
QMC	logical; use quasi-Monte Carlo integration? Useful for higher dimensional models. If quadpts not specified, 15000 nodes are used by default
suppress	a numeric value indicating which parameter residual dependency combinations to flag as being too high. Absolute values for the standardized residuals greater than this value will be returned, while all values less than this value will be set to NA. Must be used in conjunction with the argument residmat = TRUE
...	additional arguments to pass

**Value**

Returns a data.frame object with the M2 statistic, along with the degrees of freedom, p-value, RMSEA (with 90% confidence interval), SRMSR if all items were ordinal, and optionally the TLI and CFI model fit statistics

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Cai, L. & Hansen, M. (2013). Limited-information goodness-of-fit testing of hierarchical item factor models. *British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*, 66, 245-276.

Maydeu-Olivares, A. & Joe, H. (2006). Limited information goodness-of-fit testing in multidimensional contingency tables *Psychometrika*, 71, 713-732.

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
(mod1 <- mirt(dat, 1))
M2(mod1)
M2(mod1, residmat=TRUE) #lower triangle of residual correlation matrix

#M2 imputed with missing data present (run in parallel)
dat[sample(1:prod(dim(dat)), 250)] <- NA
mod2 <- mirt(dat, 1)
mirtCluster()
M2(mod2, impute = 10)

## End(Not run)
```

---

marginal\_rxx

*Function to calculate the marginal reliability*


---

**Description**

Given an estimated model and a prior density function, compute the marginal reliability. This is only available for unidimensional tests.

**Usage**

```
marginal_rxx(mod, density = dnorm, theta_lim = c(-6, 6), ...)
```

**Arguments**

mod	an object of class 'SingleGroupClass'
density	a density function to use for integration. Default assumes the latent traits are from a normal (Gaussian) distribution
theta_lim	a vector containing the range of integration
...	additional arguments passed to the density function

**See Also**

[extract.group](#), [testinfo](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
  
dat <- expand.table(deAyala)  
mod <- mirt(dat, 1)  
  
# marginal estimate  
marginal_rxx(mod)  
  
# empirical estimate (assuming the same prior)  
fscores(mod, returnER = TRUE)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

MDIFF

*Compute multidimensional difficulty index*

---

**Description**

Returns a matrix containing the MDIFF values (Reckase, 2009).

**Usage**

```
MDIFF(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an object of class 'SingleGroupClass'

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Reckase, M. D. (2009). Multidimensional Item Response Theory. Springer.

**See Also**

[extract.group](#), [MDISC](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:

mod <- mirt(Science, 2)
MDIFF(mod)

## End(Not run)
```

---

 mdirt

*Multidimensional discrete item response theory*


---

## Description

mdirt fits a variety of item response models with discrete latent variables. Posterior classification accuracy for each response pattern may be obtained via the `fcores` function. The `summary()` function will display the category probability values given the class membership, which can also be displayed graphically with `plot()`, while `coef()` displays the raw coefficient values (and their standard errors, if estimated). Finally, `anova()` is used to compare nested models.

## Usage

```
mdirt(data, model, itemtype = "lca", nruns = 1, return_max = TRUE,
      group = NULL, GenRandomPars = FALSE, verbose = TRUE, pars = NULL,
      technical = list(), ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>data</code>	a matrix or data.frame that consists of numerically ordered data, with missing data coded as NA
<code>model</code>	number of classes to fit, or alternatively a <code>mirt.model</code> definition
<code>itemtype</code>	item types to use. Can be the 'lca' model for defining ordinal item response models (dichotomous items are a special case), 'nlca' for the unordered latent class model
<code>nruns</code>	a numeric value indicating how many times the model should be fit to the data when using random starting values. If greater than 1, GenRandomPars is set to true by default
<code>return_max</code>	logical; when nruns > 1, return the model that has the most optimal maximum likelihood criteria? If FALSE, returns a list of all the estimated objects
<code>group</code>	a factor variable indicating group membership used for multiple group analyses
<code>GenRandomPars</code>	logical; use random starting values
<code>verbose</code>	logical; turn on messages to the R console
<code>pars</code>	used for modifying starting values; see <code>mirt</code> for details

technical technical input list, most interesting for discrete latent models by building a customTheta input. The default builds the integration grid for the latent class model with customTheta = diag(nclasses); see [mirt](#) for further details

... additional arguments to be passed to the estimation engine. See [mirt](#) for more details and examples

### 'lca' model definition

The latent class IRT model with two latent classes has the form

$$P(x = k|\theta_1, \theta_2, a1, a2) = \frac{\exp(s_k(a1\theta_1 + a2\theta_2))}{\sum_j^K \exp(s_j(a1\theta_1 + a2\theta_2))}$$

where the  $\theta$  values generally take on discrete points (such as 0 or 1), and the  $s_k$ 's are the scoring values for each category. If the model is selected to be 'lca' then the  $s_k$  values are fixed to  $s_k = 0:(ncat - 1)$ , whereas if the model is 'nlca' the  $s_k$  are all fixed to 1. For proper identification, the first category slope parameters ( $a1$  and  $a2$ ) are never freely estimated.

### See Also

[fscores](#), [mirt.model](#), [M2](#), [itemfit](#), [boot.mirt](#), [mirtCluster](#), [wald](#), [coef-method](#), [summary-method](#), [anova-method](#), [residuals-method](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
#LSAT6 dataset
dat <- expand.table(LSAT6)

# fit with 2-3 latent classes
(mod2 <- mdir(dat, 2))
(mod3 <- mdir(dat, 3))
summary(mod2)
residuals(mod2)
residuals(mod2, type = 'exp')
anova(mod2, mod3)
M2(mod2)
itemfit(mod2)

#generate classification plots
plot(mod2)
plot(mod2, facet_items = FALSE)

# available for polytomous data
mod <- mdir(Science, 2)
summary(mod)
plot(mod)

# classification based on response patterns
fscores(mod2)
```



```

# classify individuals either with the largest posterior probability....
fs <- fscores(mod2, full.scores=TRUE)
head(fs)
classes <- matrix(1:2, nrow(fs), 2, byrow=TRUE)
class_max <- classes[t(apply(fs, 1, max) == fs)]
table(class_max)

# ... or by probability sampling (closer to estimated class proportions)
class_prob <- apply(fs, 1, function(x) sample(1:2, 1, prob=x))
table(class_prob)

# fit with random starting points (run in parallel to save time)
mirtCluster()
mod <- mdirt(dat, 2, nrns=10)

#-----
# Grade of measurement model

# define a custom Theta grid for including a 'fuzzy' class membership
(Theta <- matrix(c(1, 0, .5, .5, 0, 1), nrow=3, ncol=2, byrow=TRUE))
(mod_gom <- mdirt(dat, 2, technical = list(customTheta = Theta)))
summary(mod_gom)

#-----
# Multidimensional discrete model

dat <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))

# define Theta grid for three latent classes
(Theta <- matrix(c(0,0,0, 1,0,0, 0,1,0, 0,0,1, 1,1,0, 1,0,1, 0,1,1, 1,1,1),
  ncol=3, byrow=TRUE))
(mod_discrete <- mdirt(dat, 3, technical = list(customTheta = Theta)))
summary(mod_discrete)

## End(Not run)

```

---

MDISC

---

*Compute multidimensional discrimination index*


---

### Description

Returns a vector containing the MDSIC values (Reckase, 2009).

### Usage

MDISC(x)

**Arguments**

x an object of class 'SingleGroupClass'

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**References**

Reckase, M. D. (2009). *Multidimensional Item Response Theory*. Springer.

**See Also**

[extract.group](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

mod <- mirt(Science, 2)
MDISC(mod)

## End(Not run)
```

---

mirt	<i>Full-Information Item Factor Analysis (Multidimensional Item Response Theory)</i>
------	--

---

**Description**

mirt fits an unconditional maximum likelihood factor analysis model to any mixture of dichotomous and polytomous data under the item response theory paradigm using either Cai's (2010) Metropolis-Hastings Robbins-Monro (MHRM) algorithm or with an EM algorithm approach outlined by Bock and Aiken (1981) using rectangular or quasi-Monte Carlo integration grids. Models containing 'explanatory' person or item level predictors can only be included by using the [mixedmirt](#) function, though latent regression models can be fit using the formula input below. Tests that form a two-tier or bi-factor structure should be estimated with the [bfactor](#) function, which uses a dimension reduction EM algorithm for modeling item parcels. Multiple group analyses (useful for DIF and DTF testing) are also available using the [multipleGroup](#) function.

**Usage**

```
mirt(data, model, itemtype = NULL, guess = 0, upper = 1, SE = FALSE,
      covdata = NULL, formula = NULL, SE.type = "crossprod", method = "EM",
      optimizer = NULL, pars = NULL, constrain = NULL, parprior = NULL,
      calcNull = TRUE, draws = 5000, survey.weights = NULL, quadpts = NULL,
      TOL = NULL, gpcm_mats = list(), grsm.block = NULL, key = NULL,
```

```
nominal.highlow = NULL, large = FALSE, GenRandomPars = FALSE,
accelerate = "Ramsay", empiricalhist = FALSE, verbose = TRUE,
solnp_args = list(), alabama_args = list(), control = list(),
technical = list(), ...)
```

## Arguments

data	a matrix or data.frame that consists of numerically ordered data, with missing data coded as NA
model	a string to be passed (or an object returned from) <code>mirt.model</code> , declaring how the IRT model is to be estimated (loadings, constraints, priors, etc). For exploratory IRT models, a single numeric value indicating the number of factors to extract is also supported
itemtype	type of items to be modeled, declared as a vector for each item or a single value which will be repeated globally. The NULL default assumes that the items follow a graded or 2PL structure, however they may be changed to the following: 'Rasch', '2PL', '3PL', '3PLu', '4PL', 'graded', 'grsm', 'gpcm', 'nominal', 'ideal', 'PC2PL', 'PC3PL', '2PLNRM', '3PLNRM', '3PLuNRM', and '4PLNRM', for the Rasch/partial credit, 2 parameter logistic, 3 parameter logistic (lower or upper asymptote estimated), 4 parameter logistic, graded response model, rating scale graded response model, generalized partial credit model, nominal model, ideal-point model, 2-3PL partially compensatory model, and 2-4 parameter nested logistic models, respectively. User defined item classes can also be defined using the <code>createItem</code> function
guess	fixed pseudo-guessing parameters. Can be entered as a single value to assign a global guessing parameter or may be entered as a numeric vector corresponding to each item
upper	fixed upper bound parameters for 4-PL model. Can be entered as a single value to assign a global guessing parameter or may be entered as a numeric vector corresponding to each item
SE	logical; estimate the standard errors by computing the parameter information matrix? See <code>SE.type</code> for the type of estimates available
covdata	a data.frame of data used for latent regression models
formula	an R formula (or list of formulas) indicating how the latent traits can be regressed using external covariates in <code>covdata</code> . If a named list of formulas is supplied (where the names correspond to the latent trait names in <code>model</code> ) then specific regression effects can be estimated for each factor. Supplying a single formula will estimate the regression parameters for all latent traits by default
SE.type	type of estimation method to use for calculating the parameter information matrix for computing standard errors and <code>wald</code> tests. Can be 'MHRM' for stochastic approximation, 'BL' for the Bock and Lieberman approach (numerical evaluation of observed Hessian), 'Fisher' for the expected information, 'complete' for information based on the complete-data Hessian used in EM algorithm (EM only), 'SEM' for the supplemented EM (disables the <code>accelerate</code> option; EM only), 'crossprod' for standard error computations based on the variance of the Fisher scores, 'Louis' for Louis' (1982) computation of the observed information matrix, and 'sandwich' for the sandwich covariance estimate.

Note that for 'SEM' option increasing the number of iterations (NCYCLES and TOL, see below) will help to improve the accuracy, and will be run in parallel if a `mirtCluster` object has been defined. Bootstrapped and profiled-likelihood standard errors are also possible, but must be run with the `boot.mirt` and `PLCI.mirt` functions, respectively

method	<p>a character object specifying the estimation algorithm to be used. The default is 'EM', for the standard EM algorithm with fixed quadrature, or 'QMCEM' for quasi-Monte Carlo EM estimation. The option 'MHRM' may also be passed to use the MH-RM algorithm, as well as 'BL' for the Bock and Lieberman approach (generally not recommended for serious use).</p> <p>The 'EM' is generally effective with 1-3 factors, but methods such as the 'QMCEM' or 'MHRM' should be used when the dimensions are 3 or more</p>
optimizer	<p>a character indicating which numerical optimizer to use. By default, the EM algorithm will use the 'BFGS' when there are no upper and lower bounds, and 'L-BFGS-B' when there are. Another good option which supports bound constraints is the 'nlnmb'. Other options include the Newton-Raphson ('NR'), which often will be more efficient than the 'BFGS' but not as stable for more complex IRT models (such as the nominal or nested logit models) and does not support upper and lower bound constraints. As well, the 'Nelder-Mead' and 'SANN' estimators are also available, but their routine use generally is not required or recommended. The MH-RM algorithm uses the 'NR' by default, and currently cannot be changed.</p> <p>Additionally, estimation subroutines from the <code>Rsolnp</code> and <code>alabama</code> packages are available by passing the arguments 'solnp' and 'alabama', respectively. This should be used in conjunction with the <code>solnp_args</code> and <code>alabama_args</code> specified below. If equality constraints were specified in the model definition only the parameter with the lowest parnum in the <code>pars = 'values'</code> data.frame is used in the estimation vector passed to the objective function, and group hyper-parameters are omitted. Equality an inequality functions should be of the form <code>function(p, optim_args)</code>, where <code>optim_args</code> is a list of internally parameters that largely can be ignored when defining constraints (though use of <code>browser()</code> here may be helpful). Note: for the 'alabama' optimizer, the starting values should be adjusted such that all constraints are met prior to the first maximization-step. The 'solnp' optimizer is less sensitive to this initial condition restriction, but it may also if the model is unstable early in the EM cycles</p>
pars	<p>a data.frame with the structure of how the starting values, parameter numbers, estimation logical values, etc, are defined. The user may observe how the model defines the values by using <code>pars = 'values'</code>, and this object can in turn be modified and input back into the estimation with <code>pars = mymodifiedpars</code></p>
constrain	<p>a list of user declared equality constraints. To see how to define the parameters correctly use <code>pars = 'values'</code> initially to see how the parameters are labeled. To constrain parameters to be equal create a list with separate concatenated vectors signifying which parameters to constrain. For example, to set parameters 1 and 5 equal, and also set parameters 2, 6, and 10 equal use <code>constrain = list(c(1,5), c(2,6,10))</code>. Constraints can also be specified using the <code>mirt.model</code> syntax (recommended)</p>

parprior	a list of user declared prior item probabilities. To see how to define the parameters correctly use <code>pars = 'values'</code> initially to see how the parameters are labeled. Can define either normal (e.g., intercepts, lower/guessing and upper bounds), log-normal (e.g., for univariate slopes), or beta prior probabilities. To specify a prior the form is <code>c('priortype', ...)</code> , where normal priors are <code>parprior = list(c(parnumbers, 'norm', mean, sd))</code> , <code>parprior = list(c(parnumbers, 'lnorm', mean, sd))</code> for log-normal, and <code>parprior = list(c(parnumbers, 'beta', alpha, beta))</code> for beta. Priors can also be specified using <code>mirt.model</code> syntax (recommended)
calcNull	logical; calculate the Null model for additional fit statistics (e.g., TLI)? Only applicable if the data contains no NA's and the data is not overly sparse, otherwise it is ignored
draws	the number of Monte Carlo draws to estimate the log-likelihood for the MH-RM algorithm. Default is 5000
survey.weights	a optional numeric vector of survey weights to apply for each case in the data (EM estimation only). If not specified, all cases are weighted equally (the standard IRT approach). The sum of the <code>survey.weights</code> must equal the total sample size for proper weighting to be applied
quadpts	number of quadrature points per dimension (must be larger than 2). By default the number of quadrature uses the following scheme: <code>switch(as.character(nfact), '1'=61, '2'=31, '3'=21, '4'=16, '5'=12, '6'=9, '7'=7, '8'=5, '9'=4, '10'=3, '11'=3, '12'=3, '13'=3, '14'=3, '15'=3, '16'=3, '17'=3, '18'=3, '19'=3, '20'=3, '21'=3, '22'=3, '23'=3, '24'=3, '25'=3, '26'=3, '27'=3, '28'=3, '29'=3, '30'=3, '31'=3, '32'=3, '33'=3, '34'=3, '35'=3, '36'=3, '37'=3, '38'=3, '39'=3, '40'=3, '41'=3, '42'=3, '43'=3, '44'=3, '45'=3, '46'=3, '47'=3, '48'=3, '49'=3, '50'=3, '51'=3, '52'=3, '53'=3, '54'=3, '55'=3, '56'=3, '57'=3, '58'=3, '59'=3, '60'=3, '61'=3, '62'=3, '63'=3, '64'=3, '65'=3, '66'=3, '67'=3, '68'=3, '69'=3, '70'=3, '71'=3, '72'=3, '73'=3, '74'=3, '75'=3, '76'=3, '77'=3, '78'=3, '79'=3, '80'=3, '81'=3, '82'=3, '83'=3, '84'=3, '85'=3, '86'=3, '87'=3, '88'=3, '89'=3, '90'=3, '91'=3, '92'=3, '93'=3, '94'=3, '95'=3, '96'=3, '97'=3, '98'=3, '99'=3, '100'=3)</code> . However, if the method input is set to 'QMCEM' and this argument is left blank then the default number of quasi-Monte Carlo integration nodes will be set to 5000 in total
TOL	convergence threshold for EM or MH-RM; defaults are .0001 and .001. If <code>SE.type = 'SEM'</code> and this value is not specified, the default is set to <code>1e-5</code> . If <code>empiricalhist = TRUE</code> and TOL is not specified then the default <code>3e-5</code> will be used. To evaluate the model using only the starting values pass <code>TOL = NaN</code>
gpcm_mats	a list of matrices specifying how the scoring coefficients in the (generalized) partial credit model should be constructed. If omitted, the standard gpcm format will be used (i.e., <code>seq(0, k, by = 1)</code> for each trait). This input should be used if traits should be scored different for each category (e.g., <code>matrix(c(0:3, 1, 0, 0, 0), 4, 2)</code> for a two-dimensional model where the first trait is scored like a gpcm, but the second trait is only positively indicated when the first category is selected). Can be used when <code>itemtypes</code> are 'gpcm' or 'Rasch', but only when the respective element in <code>gpcm_mats</code> is not NULL
grsm.block	an optional numeric vector indicating where the blocking should occur when using the grsm, NA represents items that do not belong to the grsm block (other items that may be estimated in the test data). For example, to specify two blocks of 3 with a 2PL item for the last item: <code>grsm.block = c(rep(1,3), rep(2,3), NA)</code> . If NULL the all items are assumed to be within the same group and therefore have the same number of item categories
key	a numeric vector of the response scoring key. Required when using nested logit item types, and must be the same length as the number of items used. Items that are not nested logit will ignore this vector, so use NA in item locations that are not applicable
nominal.highlow	optional matrix indicating the highest (row 1) and lowest (row 2) categories to be used for the nominal response model. Using this input may result in better

numerical stability. The matrix input should be a 2 by nitems numeric matrix, where each number represents the *reduced* category representation (mirt omits categories that are missing, so if the unique values for an item are c(1,2,5,6) they are treated as being the same as c(1,2,3,4). Viewing the starting values will help to identify the categories)

**large** either a logical, indicating whether the internal collapsed data should be returned, or a list of internally computed data tables. If TRUE is passed, a list containing the organized tables is returned. This list object can then be passed back into large to avoid reorganizing the data again (useful when the dataset are very large and computing the tabulated data is computationally burdensome).

The best strategy for large data is to always pass the internal data to the estimation function, shown below:

**Compute organized data** e.g., `internaldat <- mirt(Science, 1, large = TRUE)`

**Pass the organized data to all estimation functions** e.g., `mod <- mirt(Science, 1, large = internaldat)`

**GenRandomPars** logical; generate random starting values prior to optimization instead of using the fixed internal starting values?

**accelerate** a character vector indicating the type of acceleration to use. Default is 'Ramsay', but may also be 'squarem' for the SQUAREM procedure (specifically, the gSqS3 approach) described in Varadhan and Roldand (2008). To disable the acceleration, pass 'none'

**empiricalhist** logical; estimate prior distribution using an empirical histogram approach. Only applicable for unidimensional models estimated with the EM algorithm. The number of cycles, TOL, and quadpts are adjusted accomodate for less precision during estimation (TOL = 3e-5, NCYCLES = 2000, quadpts = 199)

**verbose** logical; print observed- (EM) or complete-data (MHRM) log-likelihood after each iteration cycle? Default is TRUE

**solnp\_args** a list of arguments to be passed to the `solnp::solnp()` function for equality constraints, inequality constraints, etc

**alabama\_args** a list of arguments to be passed to the `alabama::constrOptim.nl()` function for equality constraints, inequality constraints, etc

**control** a list passed to the respective optimizers (i.e., `optim()`, `nlmminb()`, etc)

**technical** a list containing lower level technical parameters for estimation. May be:

**MAXQUAD** maximum number of quadratures, which you can increase if you have more than 4GB or RAM on your PC; default 20000

**theta\_lim** range of integration grid for each dimension; default is c(-6, 6)

**NCYCLES** maximum number of EM or MH-RM cycles; defaults are 500 and 2000

**BURNIN** number of burn in cycles (stage 1) in MH-RM; default 150

**SEMCYCLES** number of SEM cycles (stage 2) in MH-RM; default 50

**set.seed** seed number used during estimation. Default is 12345

**SEtol** standard error tolerance criteria for the S-EM and MHRM computation of the information matrix. Default is 1e-3

- symmetric\_SEM** logical; force S-EM information matrix to be symmetric? Default is TRUE so that computation of standard errors are more stable. Setting this to FALSE can help to detect solutions that have not reached the ML estimate
- gain** a vector of two values specifying the numerator and exponent values for the RM gain function  $(val1/cycle)^{val2}$ . Default is `c(0.15, 0.65)`
- warn** logical; include warning messages during estimation? Default is TRUE
- message** logical; include general messages during estimation? Default is TRUE
- customK** a numeric vector used to explicitly declare the number of response categories for each item. This should only be used when constructing mirt model for reasons other than parameter estimation (such as to obtain factor scores), and requires that the input data all have 0 as the lowest category. The format is the same as the `mod@K` slot in all converged models
- customPriorFun** a custom function used to determine the normalized density for integration in the EM algorithm. Must be of the form `function(Theta, Etable){...}`, and return a numeric vector with the same length as number of rows in Theta. The Etable input contains the aggregated table generated from the current E-step computations. For proper integration, the returned vector should sum to 1 (i.e., normalized). Note that if using the Etable it will be NULL on the first call, therefore the prior will have to deal with this issue accordingly
- customTheta** a custom Theta grid, in matrix form, used for integration. If not defined, the grid is determined internally based on the number of `quadpts`
- MHcand** a vector of values used to tune the MH sampler. Larger values will cause the acceptance ratio to decrease. One value is required for each group in unconditional item factor analysis (`mixedmirt()` requires additional values for random effect). If null, these values are determined internally, attempting to tune the acceptance of the draws to be between .1 and .4
- parallel** logical; use the parallel cluster defined by `mirtCluster`? Default is TRUE
- ... additional arguments to be passed

### Value

function returns an object of class `SingleGroupClass` ([SingleGroupClass-class](#))

### Confirmatory and Exploratory IRT

Specification of the confirmatory item factor analysis model follows many of the rules in the structural equation modeling framework for confirmatory factor analysis. The variances of the latent factors are automatically fixed to 1 to help facilitate model identification. All parameters may be fixed to constant values or set equal to other parameters using the appropriate declarations. Confirmatory models may also contain 'explanatory' person or item level predictors, though including predictors is currently limited to the `mixedmirt` function.

When specifying a single number greater than 1 as the `model` input to `mirt` an exploratory IRT model will be estimated. Rotation and target matrix options are available if they are passed to

generic functions such as `summary-method` and `fscores`. Factor means and variances are fixed to ensure proper identification.

If the model is an exploratory item factor analysis estimation will begin by computing a matrix of quasi-polychoric correlations. A factor analysis with `nfact` is then extracted and item parameters are estimated by  $a_{ij} = f_{ij}/u_j$ , where  $f_{ij}$  is the factor loading for the  $j$ th item on the  $i$ th factor, and  $u_j$  is the square root of the factor uniqueness,  $\sqrt{1 - h_j^2}$ . The initial intercept parameters are determined by calculating the inverse normal of the item facility (i.e., item easiness),  $q_j$ , to obtain  $d_j = q_j/u_j$ . A similar implementation is also used for obtaining initial values for polytomous items.

### A note on upper and lower bound parameters

Internally the  $g$  and  $u$  parameters are transformed using a logit transformation ( $\log(x/(1-x))$ ), and can be reversed by using  $1/(1 + \exp(-x))$  following convergence. This also applies when computing confidence intervals for these parameters, and is done so automatically if `coef(mod, rawug = FALSE)`.

As such, when applying prior distributions to these parameters it is recommended to use a prior that ranges from negative infinity to positive infinity, such as the normally distributed prior via the 'norm' input (see `mirt.model`).

### Convergence for quadrature methods

Unrestricted full-information factor analysis is known to have problems with convergence, and some items may need to be constrained or removed entirely to allow for an acceptable solution. As a general rule dichotomous items with means greater than .95, or items that are only .05 greater than the guessing parameter, should be considered for removal from the analysis or treated with prior parameter distributions. The same type of reasoning is applicable when including upper bound parameters as well. For polytomous items, if categories are rarely endorsed then this will cause similar issues. Also, increasing the number of quadrature points per dimension, or using the quasi-Monte Carlo integration method, may help to stabilize the estimation process in higher dimensions. Finally, solutions that are not well defined also will have difficulty converging, and can indicate that the model has been misspecified (e.g., extracting too many dimensions).

### Convergence for MH-RM method

For the MH-RM algorithm, when the number of iterations grows very high (e.g., greater than 1500) or when `Max Change = .2500` values are repeatedly printed to the console too often (indicating that the parameters were being constrained since they are naturally moving in steps greater than 0.25) then the model may either be ill defined or have a very flat likelihood surface, and genuine maximum-likelihood parameter estimates may be difficult to find. Standard errors are computed following the model convergence by passing `SE = TRUE`, to perform an additional MH-RM stage but treating the maximum-likelihood estimates as fixed points.

### Additional helper functions

Additional functions are available in the package which can be useful pre- and post-estimation. These are:



- mirt.model** Define the IRT model specification use special syntax. Useful for defining between and within group parameter constraints, prior parameter distributions, and specifying the slope coefficients for each factor
- coef-method** Extract raw coefficients from the model, along with their standard errors and confidence intervals
- summary-method** Extract standardized loadings from model. Accepts a rotate argument for exploratory item response model
- anova-method** Compare nested models using likelihood ratio statistics as well as information criteria such as the AIC and BIC
- residuals-method** Compute pairwise residuals between each item using methods such as the LD statistic (Chen & Thissen, 1997), as well as response pattern residuals
- plot-method** Plot various types of test level plots including the test score and information functions and more
- itemplot** Plot various types of item level plots, including the score, standard error, and information functions, and more
- createItem** Create a customized itemtype that does not currently exist in the package
- imputeMissing** Impute missing data given some computed Theta matrix
- fscores** Find predicted scores for the latent traits using estimation methods such as EAP, MAP, ML, WLE, and EAPsum
- wald** Compute Wald statistics follow the convergence of a model with a suitable information matrix
- M2** Limited information goodness of fit test statistic based to determine how well the model fits the data
- itemfit and personfit** Goodness of fit statistics at the item and person levels, such as the S-X2, infit, outfit, and more
- boot.mirt and PLCI.mirt** Compute estimated parameter confidence intervals via the bootstrap and profiled-likelihood methods
- mirtCluster** Define a cluster for the package functions to use for capitalizing on multi-core architecture to utilize available CPUs when possible. Will help to decrease estimation times for tasks that can be run in parallel

## IRT Models

The parameter labels use the follow convention, here using two factors and  $k$  as the number of categories.

**Rasch** Only one intercept estimated, and the latent variance of  $\theta$  is freely estimated. If the data have more than two categories then a partial credit model is used instead (see 'gpcm' below).

$$P(x = 1|\theta, d) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(\theta + d))}$$

**2-4PL** Depending on the model  $u$  may be equal to 1 and  $g$  may be equal to 0.

$$P(x = 1|\theta, \psi) = g + \frac{(u - g)}{1 + \exp(-(a_1 * \theta_1 + a_2 * \theta_2 + d))}$$

**graded** The graded model consists of sequential 2PL models, and here  $k$  is the predicted category.

$$P(x = k|\theta, \psi) = P(x \geq k|\theta, \phi) - P(x \geq k + 1|\theta, \phi)$$

**grsm** A more constrained version of the graded model where graded spacing is equal across item blocks and only adjusted by a single 'difficulty' parameter ( $c$ ) while the latent variance of  $\theta$  is freely estimated. Again,

$$P(x = k|\theta, \psi) = P(x \geq k|\theta, \phi) - P(x \geq k + 1|\theta, \phi)$$

but now

$$P = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a_1 * \theta_1 + a_2 * \theta_2 + d_k + c))}$$

**gpcm/nominal** For the gpcm the  $d$  values are treated as fixed and ordered values from 0:( $k-1$ ) (in the nominal model  $d_0$  is also set to 0). Additionally, for identification in the nominal model  $ak_0 = 0$ ,  $ak_{(k-1)} = (k - 1)$ .

$$P(x = k|\theta, \psi) = \frac{\exp(ak_{k-1} * (a_1 * \theta_1 + a_2 * \theta_2) + d_{k-1})}{\sum_1^k \exp(ak_{k-1} * (a_1 * \theta_1 + a_2 * \theta_2) + d_{k-1})}$$

For partial credit model (when `itemtype = 'Rasch'`; unidimensional only) the above model is further constrained so that  $ak = (0, 1, \dots, k - 1)$ ,  $a_1 = 1$ , and the latent variance of  $\theta_1$  is freely estimated.

In the nominal model this parametrization helps to identify the empirical ordering of the categories by inspecting the  $ak$  values. Larger values indicate that the item category is more positively related to the latent trait(s) being measured. For instance, if an item was truly ordinal (such as a Likert scale), and had 4 response categories, we would expect to see  $ak_0 < ak_1 < ak_2 < ak_3$  following estimation. If on the other hand  $ak_0 > ak_1$  then it would appear that the second category is less related to the trait than the first, and therefore the second category should be understood as the 'lowest score'.

NOTE: The nominal model can become numerical unstable if poor choices for the high and low values are chosen, resulting in  $ak$  values greater than  $\text{abs}(1\theta)$  or more. It is recommended to choose high and low anchors that cause the estimated parameters to fall between 0 and the number of categories - 1 either by theoretical means or by re-estimating the model with better values following convergence.

**ideal** The ideal point model has the form, with the upper bound constraint on  $d$  set to 0:

$$P(x = 1|\theta, \psi) = \exp(-0.5 * (a_1 * \theta_1 + a_2 * \theta_2 + d)^2)$$

**partcomp** Partially compensatory models consist of the product of 2PL probability curves.

$$P(x = 1|\theta, \psi) = g + (1 - g) \left( \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a_1 * \theta_1 + d_1))} * \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(a_2 * \theta_2 + d_2))} \right)$$

**2-4PLNRM** Nested logistic curves for modeling distractor items. Requires a scoring key. The model is broken into two components for the probability of endorsement. For successful endorsement the probability trace is the 1-4PL model, while for unsuccessful endorsement:

$$P(x = 0|\theta, \psi) = (1 - P_{1-4PL}(x = 1|\theta, \psi)) * P_{nominal}(x = k|\theta, \psi)$$

which is the product of the compliment of the dichotomous trace line with the nominal response model. In the nominal model, the slope parameters defined above are constrained to be 1's, while the last value of the  $ak$  is freely estimated.

### HTML help files, exercises, and examples

To access examples, vignettes, and exercise files that have been generated with knitr please visit <https://github.com/philchalmers/mirt/wiki>.

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

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### See Also

[bfactor](#), [multipleGroup](#), [mixedmirt](#), [expand.table](#), [key2binary](#), [mod2values](#), [extract.item](#), [iteminfo](#), [testinfo](#), [probtrace](#), [simdata](#), [averageMI](#), [fixef](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
#load LSAT section 7 data and compute 1 and 2 factor models
data <- expand.table(LSAT7)

(mod1 <- mirt(data, 1))
coef(mod1)
(mod2 <- mirt(data, 1, SE = TRUE)) #standard errors with crossprod method
(mod2 <- mirt(data, 1, SE = TRUE, SE.type = 'SEM')) #standard errors with SEM method
coef(mod2)
(mod3 <- mirt(data, 1, SE = TRUE, SE.type = 'BL')) #standard errors with BL method
residuals(mod1)
plot(mod1) #test score function
plot(mod1, type = 'trace') #trace lines
plot(mod2, type = 'info') #test information
plot(mod2, MI=200) #expected total score with 95% confidence intervals

#estimated 3PL model for item 5 only
(mod1.3PL <- mirt(data, 1, itemtype = c('2PL', '2PL', '2PL', '2PL', '3PL')))
coef(mod1.3PL)

#internally g and u pars are stored as logits, so usually a good idea to include normal prior
# to help stabilize the parameters. For a value around .182 use a mean
# of -1.5 (since 1 / (1 + exp(-(-1.5))) == .182)
model <- 'F = 1-5
        PRIOR = (5, g, norm, -1.5, 3)'
mod1.3PL.norm <- mirt(data, model, itemtype = c('2PL', '2PL', '2PL', '2PL', '3PL'))
coef(mod1.3PL.norm)
#limited information fit statistics
M2(mod1.3PL.norm)

#unidimensional ideal point model
idealpt <- mirt(data, 1, itemtype = 'ideal')
plot(idealpt, type = 'trace', facet_items = TRUE)
plot(idealpt, type = 'trace', facet_items = FALSE)
```

```

#two factors (exploratory)
mod2 <- mirt(data, 2)
coef(mod2)
summary(mod2, rotate = 'oblimin') #oblimin rotation
residuals(mod2)
plot(mod2)
plot(mod2, rotate = 'oblimin')

anova(mod1, mod2) #compare the two models
scores <- fscores(mod2) #save factor score table
scoresfull <- fscores(mod2, full.scores = TRUE) #factor scores for each response pattern

#confirmatory (as an example, model is not identified since you need 3 items per factor)
# Two ways to define a confirmatory model: with mirt.model, or with a string

# these model definitions are equivalent
cmodel <- mirt.model('
  F1 = 1,4,5
  F2 = 2,3')
cmodel2 <- 'F1 = 1,4,5
           F2 = 2,3'

cmo <- mirt(data, cmodel)
# cmo <- mirt(data, cmodel2) # same as above
coef(cmo)
anova(cmo, mod2)
#check if identified by computing information matrix
(cmo <- mirt(data, cmodel, SE = TRUE))

#####
#data from the 'ltm' package in numeric format
pmod1 <- mirt(Science, 1)
plot(pmod1)
summary(pmod1)

#Constrain all slopes to be equal with the constrain = list() input or mirt.model() syntax
#first obtain parameter index
values <- mirt(Science,1, pars = 'values')
values #note that slopes are numbered 1,5,9,13, or index with values$parnum[values$name == 'a1']
(pmod1_equalslopes <- mirt(Science, 1, constrain = list(c(1,5,9,13))))
coef(pmod1_equalslopes)

# using mirt.model syntax, constrain all item slopes to be equal
model <- 'F = 1-4
        CONSTRAIN = (1-4, a1)'
(pmod1_equalslopes <- mirt(Science, model))
coef(pmod1_equalslopes)

coef(pmod1_equalslopes)
anova(pmod1_equalslopes, pmod1) #significantly worse fit with almost all criteria

pmod2 <- mirt(Science, 2)

```

```

summary(pmod2)
plot(pmod2, rotate = 'oblimin')
itemplot(pmod2, 1, rotate = 'oblimin')
anova(pmod1, pmod2)

#unidimensional fit with a generalized partial credit and nominal model
(gpcmod <- mirt(Science, 1, 'gpcm'))
coef(gpcmod)

#for the nominal model the lowest and highest categories are assumed to be the
# theoretically lowest and highest categories that related to the latent trait(s), however
# a custom nominal.highlow matrix can be passed to declare which item category should be
# treated as the 'highest' and 'lowest' instead
(nomod <- mirt(Science, 1, 'nominal'))
coef(nomod) #ordering of ak values suggest that the items are indeed ordinal
anova(gpcmod, nomod)
itemplot(nomod, 3)

## example applying survey weights.
# weight the first half of the cases to be more representative of population
survey.weights <- c(rep(2, nrow(Science)/2), rep(1, nrow(Science)/2))
survey.weights <- survey.weights/sum(survey.weights) * nrow(Science)
unweighted <- mirt(Science, 1)
weighted <- mirt(Science, 1, survey.weights=survey.weights)

#####
#empirical dimensionality testing that includes 'guessing'

data(SAT12)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))

mod1 <- mirt(data, 1)
slot(mod1, 'time') #time elapsed for each estimation component

#optionally use Newton-Raphson for (generally) faster convergence in the M-step's
mod1 <- mirt(data, 1, optimizer = 'NR')
slot(mod1, 'time')

mod2 <- mirt(data, 2, optimizer = 'NR')
#difficulty converging with reduced quadpts, reduce TOL
mod3 <- mirt(data, 3, TOL = .001, optimizer = 'NR')
anova(mod1,mod2)
anova(mod2, mod3) #negative AIC, 2 factors probably best

#same as above, but using the QMCEM method for generally better accuracy in mod3
mod3 <- mirt(data, 3, method = 'QMCEM', TOL = .001, optimizer = 'NR')
anova(mod2, mod3)

#with fixed guessing parameters
mod1g <- mirt(data, 1, guess = .1)
coef(mod1g)

```

```
#####
#graded rating scale example

#make some data
set.seed(1234)
a <- matrix(rep(1, 10))
d <- matrix(c(1,0.5,-.5,-1), 10, 4, byrow = TRUE)
c <- seq(-1, 1, length.out=10)
data <- simdata(a, d + c, 2000, itemtype = rep('graded',10))

mod1 <- mirt(data, 1)
mod2 <- mirt(data, 1, itemtype = 'grsm')
coef(mod2)
anova(mod2, mod1) #not sig, mod2 should be preferred
itemplot(mod2, 1)
itemplot(mod2, 5)
itemplot(mod2, 10)

#####
# 2PL nominal response model example (Suh and Bolt, 2010)
data(SAT12)
SAT12[SAT12 == 8] <- NA #set 8 as a missing value
head(SAT12)

#correct answer key
key <- c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5)
scoredSAT12 <- key2binary(SAT12, key)
mod0 <- mirt(scoredSAT12, 1)

#for first 5 items use 2PLNRM and nominal
scoredSAT12[,1:5] <- as.matrix(SAT12[,1:5])
mod1 <- mirt(scoredSAT12, 1, c(rep('nominal',5),rep('2PL', 27)))
mod2 <- mirt(scoredSAT12, 1, c(rep('2PLNRM',5),rep('2PL', 27)), key=key)
coef(mod0)$Item.1
coef(mod1)$Item.1
coef(mod2)$Item.1
itemplot(mod0, 1)
itemplot(mod1, 1)
itemplot(mod2, 1)

#compare added information from distractors
Theta <- matrix(seq(-4,4,.01))
par(mfrow = c(2,3))
for(i in 1:5){
  info <- iteminfo(extract.item(mod0,i), Theta)
  info2 <- iteminfo(extract.item(mod2,i), Theta)
  plot(Theta, info2, type = 'l', main = paste('Information for item', i), ylab = 'Information')
  lines(Theta, info, col = 'red')
}
par(mfrow = c(1,1))

#test information
plot(Theta, testinfo(mod2, Theta), type = 'l', main = 'Test information', ylab = 'Information')
```

```

lines(Theta, testinfo(mod0, Theta), col = 'red')

#####
# using the MH-RM algorithm
data(LSAT7)
fulldata <- expand.table(LSAT7)
(mod1 <- mirt(fulldata, 1, method = 'MHRM'))

#Confirmatory models

#simulate data
a <- matrix(c(
  1.5,NA,
  0.5,NA,
  1.0,NA,
  1.0,0.5,
  NA,1.5,
  NA,0.5,
  NA,1.0,
  NA,1.0),ncol=2,byrow=TRUE)

d <- matrix(c(
  -1.0,NA,NA,
  -1.5,NA,NA,
  1.5,NA,NA,
  0.0,NA,NA,
  3.0,2.0,-0.5,
  2.5,1.0,-1,
  2.0,0.0,NA,
  1.0,NA,NA),ncol=3,byrow=TRUE)

sigma <- diag(2)
sigma[1,2] <- sigma[2,1] <- .4
items <- c(rep('dich',4), rep('graded',3), 'dich')
dataset <- simdata(a,d,2000,items,sigma)

#analyses
#CIFA for 2 factor crossed structure

model.1 <- '
  F1 = 1-4
  F2 = 4-8
  COV = F1*F2'

#compute model, and use parallel computation of the log-likelihood
mirtCluster()
mod1 <- mirt(dataset, model.1, method = 'MHRM')
coef(mod1)
summary(mod1)
residuals(mod1)

#####
#bifactor

```



```

model.3 <- '
  G = 1-8
  F1 = 1-4
  F2 = 5-8'

mod3 <- mirt(dataset,model.3, method = 'MHRM')
coef(mod3)
summary(mod3)
residuals(mod3)
anova(mod1,mod3)

#####
#polynomial/combinations
data(SAT12)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))

model.quad <- '
  F1 = 1-32
  (F1*F1) = 1-32'

model.combo <- '
  F1 = 1-16
  F2 = 17-32
  (F1*F2) = 1-8'

(mod.quad <- mirt(data, model.quad))
summary(mod.quad)
(mod.combo <- mirt(data, model.combo))
anova(mod.quad, mod.combo)

#non-linear item and test plots
plot(mod.quad)
plot(mod.combo, type = 'SE')
itemplot(mod.quad, 1, type = 'score')
itemplot(mod.combo, 2, type = 'score')
itemplot(mod.combo, 2, type = 'infocontour')

## empirical histogram examples (normal, skew and bimodality)
#make some data
set.seed(1234)
a <- matrix(rlnorm(50, .2, .2))
d <- matrix(rnorm(50))
ThetaNormal <- matrix(rnorm(2000))
ThetaBimodal <- scale(matrix(c(rnorm(1000, -2), rnorm(1000,2)))) #bimodal
ThetaSkew <- scale(matrix(rchisq(2000, 3))) #positive skew
datNormal <- simdata(a, d, 2000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=ThetaNormal)
datBimodal <- simdata(a, d, 2000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=ThetaBimodal)
datSkew <- simdata(a, d, 2000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=ThetaSkew)

normal <- mirt(datNormal, 1, empiricalhist = TRUE)
plot(normal, type = 'empiricalhist')

```

```

histogram(ThetaNormal, breaks=30)

bimodal <- mirt(datBimodal, 1, empiricalhist = TRUE)
plot(bimodal, type = 'empiricalhist')
histogram(ThetaBimodal, breaks=30)

skew <- mirt(datSkew, 1, empiricalhist = TRUE)
plot(skew, type = 'empiricalhist')
histogram(ThetaSkew, breaks=30)

#####
# non-linear parameter constraints with Rsolnp package (alabama supported as well):
# Find Rasch model subject to the constraint that the intercepts sum to 0

dat <- expand.table(LSAT6)

#free latent mean and variance terms
model <- 'Theta = 1-5
         MEAN = Theta
         COV = Theta*Theta'

#view how vector of parameters is organized internally
sv <- mirt(dat, model, itemtype = 'Rasch', pars = 'values')
sv[sv$est, ]

#constraint: create function for solnp to compute constraint, and declare value in eqB
eqfun <- function(p, optim_args) sum(p[1:5]) #could use browser() here, if it helps
solnp_args <- list(eqfun=eqfun, eqB=0)

mod <- mirt(dat, model, itemtype = 'Rasch', optimizer = 'solnp', solnp_args=solnp_args)
print(mod)
coef(mod)
(ds <- sapply(coef(mod)[1:5], function(x) x[, 'd']))
sum(ds)

# same likelihood location as: mirt(dat, 1, itemtype = 'Rasch')

#####
# latent regression Rasch model

#simulate data
set.seed(1234)
N <- 1000

# covariates
X1 <- rnorm(N); X2 <- rnorm(N)
covdata <- data.frame(X1, X2)
Theta <- matrix(0.5 * X1 + -1 * X2 + rnorm(N, sd = 0.5))

#items and response data
a <- matrix(1, 20); d <- matrix(rnorm(20))
dat <- simdata(a, d, 1000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=Theta)

```

```

#unconditional Rasch model
mod0 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch')

#conditional model using X1 and X2 as predictors of Theta
mod1 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch', covdata=covdata, formula = ~ X1 + X2)
coef(mod1, simplify=TRUE)
anova(mod0, mod1)

#bootstrapped confidence intervals
boot.mirt(mod1, R=5)

#draw plausible values for secondary analyses
pv <- fscores(mod1, plausible.draws = 10)
pvmods <- lapply(pv, function(x, covdata) lm(x ~ covdata$X1 + covdata$X2),
                covdata=covdata)
#population characteristics recovered well, and can be averaged over
so <- lapply(pvmods, summary)
so

# compute Rubin's multiple imputation average
par <- lapply(so, function(x) x$coefficients[, 'Estimate'])
SEpar <- lapply(so, function(x) x$coefficients[, 'Std. Error'])
averageMI(par, SEpar)

#####
# Example using Gauss-Hermite quadrature with custom input functions

library(fastGHQuad)
data(SAT12)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
                  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))
GH <- gaussHermiteData(50)
Theta <- matrix(GH$x)

# This prior works for uni- and multi-dimensional models
prior <- function(Theta, Etable){
  P <- grid <- GH$w / sqrt(pi)
  if(ncol(Theta) > 1)
    for(i in 2:ncol(Theta))
      P <- expand.grid(P, grid)
  if(!is.vector(P)) P <- apply(P, 1, prod)
  P
}

GHmod1 <- mirt(data, 1, optimizer = 'NR',
              technical = list(customTheta = Theta, customPriorFun = prior))
coef(GHmod1, simplify=TRUE)

Theta2 <- as.matrix(expand.grid(Theta, Theta))
GHmod2 <- mirt(data, 2, optimizer = 'NR', TOL = .0002,
              technical = list(customTheta = Theta2, customPriorFun = prior))
summary(GHmod2, suppress=.2)

```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

mirt.model	<i>Specify model loadings</i>
------------	-------------------------------

---

### Description

The `mirt.model` function scans/reads user input to specify the confirmatory model. Item locations must be used in the specifications if no `itemnames` argument is supplied. This is called implicitly by estimation functions when a string is passed to the `model` argument.

### Usage

```
mirt.model(input = NULL, itemnames = NULL, file = "", COV = NULL,
  quiet = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>input</code>	input for writing out the model syntax. Can either be a string declaration of class character or the so-called Q-matrix or class matrix that specifies the model either with integer or logical values. If the Q-matrix method is chosen covariances terms can be specified with the <code>COV</code> input
<code>itemnames</code>	a character vector or factor indicating the item names. If a data.frame or matrix object is supplied the names will be extracted using <code>colnames(itemnames)</code> . Supplying this input allows the syntax to be specified with the raw item names rather than item locations
<code>file</code>	a input specifying an external file that declares the input.
<code>COV</code>	a symmetric, logical matrix used to declare which covariance terms are estimated
<code>quiet</code>	logical argument passed to <code>scan()</code> to suppress console read message
<code>...</code>	additional arguments for <code>scan()</code>

### Details

Factors are first named and then specify which numerical items they affect (i.e., where the slope is not equal to 0), separated either by commas or by - to indicate a range of items. Products between factors may be specified by enclosing the left hand term within brackets. To finish the declaration of a model simply enter a blank line with only a carriage return (i.e., the 'enter' or 'return' key), or instead read in an input version of the model syntax.

There is an optional keyword for specifying the correlation between relationships between factors called `COV`, and non-linear factor products can be included by enclosing the product combination on the left hand side of the declaration (e.g.,  $(F1 * F1)$  would create a quadratic factor for  $F1$ ).

**COV** Specify the relationship between the latent factors. Estimating a correlation between factors is declared by joining the two factors with an asterisk (e.g., F1\*F2), or with an asterisk between three or more factors to estimate all the possible correlations (e.g., F1\*F2\*F3)

**MEAN** A comma separated list specifying which latent factor means to freely estimate. E.g., MEAN = F1, F2 will free the latent means for factors F1 and F2

**CONSTRAIN** A bracketed, comma separated list specifying equality constraints between items.

The input format is CONSTRAIN = (items, ..., parameterName(s), OptionalGroup), (items, ..., parameterName(s), OptionalGroup). If OptionalGroup is omitted then the constraints are applied within all groups.

For example, in a single group 10-item dichotomous tests, using the default 2PL model, the first and last 5 item slopes (a1) can be constrained to be equal by using CONSTRAIN = (1-5, a1), (6-10, a1), or some combination such as CONSTRAIN = (1-3,4,5,a1), (6,7,8-10,a1).

When constraining parameters to be equal across items with different parameter names, a balanced bracketed vector must be supplied. E.g., setting the first slope for item 1 equal to the second slope in item 3 would be CONSTRAIN = (1, 3, a1, a2)

**CONSTRAINB** A bracketed, comma separate list specifying equality constraints between groups.

The input format is CONSTRAINB = (items, ..., parameterName), (items, ..., parameterName).

For example, in a two group 10-item dichotomous tests, using the default 2PL model, the first 5 item slopes (a1) can be constrained to be equal across both groups by using CONSTRAINB = (1-5, a1), or some combination such as CONSTRAINB = (1-3,4,5,a1)

**PRIOR** A bracketed, comma separate list specifying prior parameter distributions. The input format is PRIOR = (items, ..., parameterName, priorType, val1, val2, OptionalGroup), (items, ..., parameterName, priorType, val1, val2, OptionalGroup).

If OptionalGroup is omitted then the priors are defined for all groups.

For example, in a single group 10-item dichotomous tests, using the default 2PL model, defining a normal prior of N(0,2) for the first 5 item intercepts (d) can be defined by PRIOR = (1-5, d, norm, 0, 2)

**LBOUND** A bracketed, comma separate list specifying lower bounds for estimated parameters (used in optimizers such as L-BFGS-B and nlm). The input format is LBOUND = (items, ..., parameterName, value), (items, ..., parameterName, value).

For example, in a single group 10-item dichotomous tests, using the 3PL model and setting lower bounds for the 'g' parameters for the first 5 items to 0.2 is accomplished with LBOUND = (1-5, g, 0.2)

**UBOUND** same as LBOUND, but specifying upper bounds in estimated parameters

**START** A bracketed, comma separate list specifying the starting values for individual parameters.

The input is of the form (items, ..., parameterName, value). For instance, setting the 10th and 12th to 15th item slope parameters (a1) to 1.0 is specified with START = (10, 12-15, a1, 1.0)

For more hands on control of the starting values pass the argument pars = 'values' through whatever estimation function is being used

**FIXED** A bracketed, comma separate list specifying which parameters should be fixed at their starting values (i.e., not freely estimated). The input is of the form (items, ..., parameterName).

For instance, fixing the 10th and 12th to 15th item slope parameters (a1) is accomplished with FIXED = (10, 12-15, a1)

For more hands on control of the estimated values pass the argument pars = 'values' through whatever estimation function is being used

**NEXPLORE** Number of exploratory factors to extract. Usually this is not required because passing a numeric value to the model argument in the estimation function will generate an exploratory factor analysis model, however if different start values, priors, lower and upper bounds, etc, are desired then this input can be used

**Value**

Returns a model specification object to be used in `mirt`, `bfactor`, `multipleGroup`, or `mixedmirt`

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com> and Alexander Robitzsch

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

# interactively through the console (not run)
#model <- mirt.model()
# F1 = 1,2,3,4-10
# F2 = 10-20
# (F1*F2) = 1,2,3,4-10
# COV = F1*F2

#Or alternatively with a string input
s <- 'F1 = 1,2,3,4-10
      F2 = 10-20
      (F1*F2) = 1,2,3,4-10
      COV = F1*F2'
model <- mirt.model(s)

# strings can also be passed to the estimation functions directly,
# which silently calls mirt.model(). E.g., using the string above:
# mod <- mirt(data, s)

#Q-matrix specification
Q <- matrix(c(1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,1,1), ncol=2, dimnames = list(NULL, c('Factor1', 'Factor2')))
COV <- matrix(c(FALSE, TRUE, TRUE, FALSE), 2)
model <- mirt.model(Q, COV=COV)

## constrain various items slopes and all intercepts in single group model to be equal,
# and use a log-normal prior for all the slopes
s <- 'F = 1-10
      CONSTRAIN = (1-3, 5, 6, a1), (1-10, d)
      PRIOR = (1-10, a1, lnorm, .2, .2)'
model <- mirt.model(s)

## constrain various items slopes and intercepts across groups for use in multipleGroup(),
# and constrain first two slopes within 'group1' to be equal
s <- 'F = 1-10
      CONSTRAIN = (1-2, a1)
      CONSTRAINB = (1-3, 5, 6, a1), (1-10, d)'
model <- mirt.model(s)
```

```

## specify model using raw item names
data(data.read, package = 'sirt')
dat <- data.read

# syntax with variable names
mirtsyn2 <- "
  F1 = A1,B2,B3,C4
  F2 = A1-A4,C2,C4
  MEAN = F1
  COV = F1*F1, F1*F2
  CONSTRAIN=(A2-A4,a2),(A3,C2,d)
  PRIOR = (C3,A2-A4,a2,lnorm, .2, .2),(B3,d,norm,0,.0001)"
# create a mirt model
mirtmodel <- mirt.model(mirtsyn2, itemnames=dat)
# or equivalently:
# mirtmodel <- mirt.model(mirtsyn2, itemnames=colnames(dat))

# mod <- mirt(dat , mirtmodel)

## End(Not run)

```

---

mirtCluster

*Define a parallel cluster object to be used in internal functions*


---

## Description

This function defines a object that is placed in a relevant internal environment defined in mirt. Internal functions such as `calcLogLik`, `fscores`, etc, will utilize this object automatically to capitalize on parallel processing architecture. The object defined is a call from `parallel::makeCluster()`. Note that if you are defining other parallel objects (for simulation designs, for example) it is not recommended to define a `mirtCluster`.

## Usage

```
mirtCluster(ncores, remove = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

<code>ncores</code>	number of cores to be used in the returned object which is passed to <code>parallel::makeCluster()</code> . If no input is given the maximum number of available cores will be used
<code>remove</code>	logical; remove previously defined <code>mirtCluster()</code> ?

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:

#make 4 cores available for parallel computing
mirtCluster(4)

#' #stop and remove cores
mirtCluster(remove = TRUE)

#use all available cores
mirtCluster()

## End(Not run)
```

---

MixedClass-class      *Class "MixedClass"*

---

**Description**

Defines the object returned from [mixedmirt](#).

**Slots**

**Data:** Object of class "list", contains various data matrices and properties  
**iter:** Object of class "numeric", number of iterations  
**pars:** Object of class "list", estimated parameter objects list  
**shortpars:** Object of class "numeric", unique estimated parameters  
**model:** Object of class "list", list containing original model  
**K:** Object of class "numeric", number of item categories  
**itemloc:** Object of class "numeric", index for tabdata  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**AIC:** Object of class "numeric", Akaike's information criteria  
**BIC:** Object of class "numeric", Bayesian information criteria  
**G2:** Object of class "numeric", G squared stat  
**p:** Object of class "numeric", p-value for G2  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**RMSEA:** Object of class "numeric", root mean-square error of approximation for G2  
**TLI:** Object of class "numeric", Tucker-Lewis index for G2  
**CFI:** Object of class "numeric", CFI for G2  
**logLik:** Object of class "numeric", observed log-likelihood  
**SElogLik:** Object of class "numeric", Monte Carlo standard error for log-likelihood



**F:** Object of class "matrix", unrotated factor loadings  
**h2:** Object of class "numeric", commonalities  
**Theta:** Object of class "matrix", ability grid  
**P1:** Object of class "numeric", normed likelihoods for tabulated response  
**prodlist:** Object of class "list", list containing product combination of factors  
**converge:** Object of class "numeric", convergence diagnostic  
**quadpts:** Object of class "numeric", number of quadrature points  
**eststype:** Object of class "character", indicates whether estimation was 'EM' or 'MHRM'  
**cand.t.var:** Object of class "numeric", parameter used to control the MH sampler for Theta  
**random:** Object of class "list", typically null, except for internal mixed model usage  
**null.mod:** Object of class "SingleGroupClass", null model  
**condnum:** Object of class "numeric", condition number of information matrix  
**secondordertest:** Object of class "logical", indicate whether information matrix passes second-order test  
**infomethod:** Object of class "character", indicates which information estimation method was used  
**TOL:** Object of class "numeric", tolerance stopping criteria  
**CUSTOM.IND:** Object of class "integer", an internal index  
**SLOW.IND:** Object of class "integer", an internal index  
**formulas:** Object of class "list", list of formula  
**covdata:** Object of class "data.frame", covariate data  
**itemdesign:** Object of class "data.frame", item design data  
**Call:** Object of class "call", call

### Methods

**coef** signature(object = "MixedClass")  
**print** signature(x = "MixedClass")  
**residuals** signature(object = "MixedClass")  
**show** signature(object = "MixedClass")  
**summary** signature(object = "MixedClass")  
**logLik** signature(object = "MixedClass")  
**anova** signature(object = "MixedClass")

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

## Description

`mixedmirt` fits MIRT models using FIML estimation to dichotomous and polytomous IRT models conditional on fixed and random effect of person and item level covariates. This can also be understood as 'explanatory IRT' if only fixed effects are modeled, or multilevel/mixed IRT if random and fixed effects are included. The method uses the MH-RM algorithm exclusively. Additionally, computation of the log-likelihood can be sped up by using parallel estimation via `mirtCluster`.

## Usage

```
mixedmirt(data, covdata = NULL, model, fixed = ~1, random = NULL,
  itemtype = "Rasch", lr.fixed = ~1, lr.random = NULL,
  itemdesign = NULL, constrain = NULL, pars = NULL,
  return.design = FALSE, SE = TRUE, internal_constraints = TRUE,
  technical = list(SEtol = 1e-04), ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>data</code>	a matrix or data.frame that consists of numerically ordered data, with missing data coded as NA
<code>covdata</code>	a data.frame that consists of the <code>nrow(data)</code> by <code>K</code> 'person level' fixed and random predictors
<code>model</code>	an object returned from, or a string to be passed to, <code>mirt.model()</code> to declare how the IRT model is to be estimated. See <code>mirt.model</code> for more details
<code>fixed</code>	a right sided R formula for specifying the fixed effect (aka 'explanatory') predictors from <code>covdata</code> and <code>itemdesign</code> . To estimate the intercepts for each item the keyword <code>items</code> is reserved and automatically added to the <code>itemdesign</code> input. If any polytomous items are being model the <code>items</code> are argument is not valid since all intercept parameters are freely estimated and identified with the parameterizations found in <code>mirt</code> , and the first column in the fixed design matrix (commonly the intercept or a reference group) is omitted
<code>random</code>	a right sided formula or list of formulas containing crossed random effects of the form <code>v1 + ... v_n   G</code> , where <code>G</code> is the grouping variable and <code>v_n</code> are random numeric predictors within each group. If no intercept value is specified then by default the correlations between the <code>v</code> 's and <code>G</code> are estimated, but can be suppressed by including the <code>~ -1 + ...</code> or <code>0</code> constant. <code>G</code> may contain interaction terms, such as <code>group:items</code> to include cross or person-level interactions effects
<code>itemtype</code>	same as <code>itemtype</code> in <code>mirt</code> , except does not support the following item types: <code>c('PC2PL', 'PC3PL', '2PLNRM', '3PLNRM', '3PLuNRM', '4PLNRM')</code>
<code>lr.fixed</code>	an R formula (or list of formulas) to specify regression effects in the latent variables from the variables in <code>covdata</code> . This is used to construct models such

as the so-called 'latent regression model' to explain person-level ability/trait differences. If a named list of formulas is supplied (where the names correspond to the latent trait names in model) then specific regression effects can be estimated for each factor. Supplying a single formula will estimate the regression parameters for all latent traits by default

lr.random	(CURRENTLY DISABLED) a list of random effect terms for modeling variability in the latent trait scores, where the syntax uses the same style as in the random argument. Useful for building so-called 'multilevel IRT' models which are non-Rasch (multilevel Rasch models do not require these, and can be built using the fixed and random inputs alone)
itemdesign	a data.frame object used to create a design matrix for the items, where each <code>nrow(itemdesign) == nitems</code> and the number of columns is equal to the number of fixed effect predictors (i.e., item intercepts). By default an <code>items</code> variable is reserved for modeling the item intercept parameters
constrain	a list indicating parameter equality constraints. See <a href="#">mirt</a> for more detail
pars	used for parameter starting values. See <a href="#">mirt</a> for more detail
return.design	logical; return the design matrices before they have (potentially) been reassigned?
SE	logical; compute the standard errors by approximating the information matrix using the MHRM algorithm? Default is TRUE
internal_constraints	logical; use the internally defined constraints for constraining effects across persons and items? Default is TRUE. Setting this to FALSE runs the risk of under-identification
technical	the technical list passed to the MH-RM estimation engine, with the <code>SEtol</code> default increased to .0001. See <a href="#">mirt</a> for further details
...	additional arguments to be passed to the MH-RM estimation engine. See <a href="#">mirt</a> for more details and examples

## Details

For dichotomous response models, `mixedmirt` follows the general form

$$P(x = 1|\theta, \psi) = g + \frac{(u - g)}{1 + \exp(-1 * [\theta a + X\beta + Z\delta])}$$

where  $X$  is a design matrix with associated  $\beta$  fixed effect intercept coefficients, and  $Z$  is a design matrix with associated  $\delta$  random effects for the intercepts. For simplicity and easier interpretation, the unique item intercept values typically found in  $X\beta$  are extracted and reassigned within `mirt`'s 'intercept' parameters (e.g., 'd'). To observe how the design matrices are structured prior to reassignment and estimation pass the argument `return.design = TRUE`.

Polytomous IRT models follow a similar format except the item intercepts are automatically estimated internally, rendering the `items` argument in the fixed formula redundant and therefore must be omitted from the specification. If there are a mixture of dichotomous and polytomous items the intercepts for the dichotomous models are also estimated for consistency.

The decomposition of the  $\theta$  parameters is also possible to form latent regression and multilevel IRT models by using the `lr.fixed` and `lr.random` inputs. These effects decompose  $\theta$  such that

$$\theta = VT + W\zeta + \epsilon$$

where  $V$  and  $W$  are fixed and random effects design matrices for the associated coefficients.

To simulate maximum a posteriori estimates for the random effect terms use the `randef` function.

### Value

function returns an object of class `MixedClass` ([MixedClass-class](#)).

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

### References

Chalmers, R. P. (2015, in press). Extended Mixed-Effects Item Response Models with the MH-RM Algorithm. *Journal of Educational Measurement*.

### See Also

[mirt](#), [randef](#), [fixef](#), [boot.mirt](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:

#make some data
set.seed(1234)
N <- 750
a <- matrix(rlnorm(10,.3,1),10,1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(10), 10)
Theta <- matrix(sort(rnorm(N)))
pseudoIQ <- Theta * 5 + 100 + rnorm(N, 0 , 5)
pseudoIQ <- (pseudoIQ - mean(pseudoIQ))/10 #rescale variable for numerical stability
group <- factor(rep(c('G1','G2','G3'), each = N/3))
data <- simdata(a,d,N, itemtype = rep('dich',10), Theta=Theta)
covdata <- data.frame(group, pseudoIQ)
#use parallel computing
mirtCluster()

#specify IRT model
model <- 'Theta = 1-10'

#model with no person predictors
mod0 <- mirt(data, model, itemtype = 'Rasch')

#group as a fixed effect predictor (aka, uniform dif)
mod1 <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, model, fixed = ~ 0 + group + items)
```

```

anova(mod0, mod1)
summary(mod1)
coef(mod1)

#same model as above in lme4
wide <- data.frame(id=1:nrow(data),data,covdata)
long <- reshape2::melt(wide, id.vars = c('id', 'group', 'pseudoIQ'))
library(lme4)
lmod0 <- glmer(value ~ 0 + variable + (1|id), long, family = binomial)
lmod1 <- glmer(value ~ 0 + group + variable + (1|id), long, family = binomial)
anova(lmod0, lmod1)

#model using 2PL items instead of Rasch
mod1b <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, model, fixed = ~ 0 + group + items, itemtype = '2PL')
anova(mod1, mod1b) #better with 2PL models using all criteria (as expected, given simdata pars)

#continuous predictor with group
mod2 <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, model, fixed = ~ 0 + group + items + pseudoIQ)
summary(mod2)
anova(mod1b, mod2)

#view fixed design matrix with and without unique item level intercepts
withint <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, model, fixed = ~ 0 + items + group, return.design = TRUE)
withoutint <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, model, fixed = ~ 0 + group, return.design = TRUE)

#notice that in result above, the intercepts 'items1 to items 10' were reassigned to 'd'
head(withint$X)
tail(withint$X)
head(withoutint$X) #no intercepts design here to be reassigned into item intercepts
tail(withoutint$X)

#####
### random effects
#make the number of groups much larger
covdata$group <- factor(rep(paste0('G',1:50), each = N/50))

#random groups
rmod1 <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, 1, fixed = ~ 0 + items, random = ~ 1|group)
summary(rmod1)
coef(rmod1)

#random groups and random items
rmod2 <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, 1, random = list(~ 1|group, ~ 1|items))
summary(rmod2)
eff <- randef(rmod2) #estimate random effects

#random slopes with fixed intercepts (suppressed correlation)
rmod3 <- mixedmirt(data, covdata, 1, fixed = ~ 0 + items, random = ~ -1 + pseudoIQ|group)
summary(rmod3)
eff <- randef(rmod3)
str(eff)

#####

```

```

##LLTM, and 2PL version of LLTM
data(SAT12)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))
model <- 'Theta = 1-32'

# Suppose that the first 16 items were suspected to be easier than the last 16 items,
# and we wish to test this item structure hypothesis (more intercept designs are possible
# by including more columns).
itemdesign <- data.frame(itemorder = factor(c(rep('easier', 16), rep('harder', 16))))

#notice that the 'fixed = ~ ... + items' argument is omitted
LLTM <- mixedmirt(data, model = model, fixed = ~ 0 + itemorder, itemdesign = itemdesign,
  SE = TRUE) # SE argument ensures that the information matrix is computed accurately
summary(LLTM)
coef(LLTM)
wald(LLTM)
L <- matrix(c(-1, 1, 0), 1)
wald(LLTM, L) #first half different from second

#compare to items with estimated slopes (2PL)
twoPL <- mixedmirt(data, model = model, fixed = ~ 0 + itemorder, itemtype = '2PL',
  itemdesign = itemdesign)
#twoPL not mixing too well (AR should be between .2 and .5), decrease MHCand
twoPL <- mixedmirt(data, model = model, fixed = ~ 0 + itemorder, itemtype = '2PL',
  itemdesign = itemdesign, technical = list(MHCand = 0.8))
anova(twoPL, LLTM) #much better fit
summary(twoPL)
coef(twoPL)

wald(twoPL)
L <- matrix(0, 1, 34)
L[1, 1] <- 1
L[1, 2] <- -1
wald(twoPL, L) #n.s., which is the correct conclusion. Rasch approach gave wrong inference

##LLTM with item error term
LLTMwithError <- mixedmirt(data, model = model, fixed = ~ 0 + itemorder, random = ~ 1|items,
  itemdesign = itemdesign)
summary(LLTMwithError)
#large item level variance after itemorder is regressed; not a great predictor of item difficulty
coef(LLTMwithError)

#####
### Polytomous example

#make an arbitrary group difference
covdat <- data.frame(group = rep(c('m', 'f'), nrow(Science)/2))

#partial credit model
mod <- mixedmirt(Science, covdat, model=1, fixed = ~ 0 + group)
coef(mod)

```

```

#gpcm to estimate slopes
mod2 <- mixedmirt(Science, covdat, model=1, fixed = ~ 0 + group,
                 itemtype = 'gpcm')
summary(mod2)
anova(mod, mod2)

#graded model
mod3 <- mixedmirt(Science, covdat, model=1, fixed = ~ 0 + group,
                 itemtype = 'graded')
coef(mod3)

#####
# latent regression with Rasch and 2PL models

set.seed(1)
n <- 300
a <- matrix(1, 10)
d <- matrix(rnorm(10))
Theta <- matrix(c(rnorm(n, 0), rnorm(n, 1), rnorm(n, 2)))
covdata <- data.frame(group=rep(c('g1','g2','g3'), each=n))
dat <- simdata(a, d, N=n*3, Theta=Theta, itemtype = 'dich')

#had we known the latent abilities, we could have computed the regression coeffs
summary(lm(Theta ~ covdata$group))

#but all we have is observed test data. Latent regression helps to recover these coeffs
#Rasch model approach (and mirt equivalent)
rmod0 <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch') # unconditional

# these two models are equivalent
rmod1a <- mirt(dat, 1, 'Rasch', covdata = covdata, formula = ~ group)
rmod1b <- mixedmirt(dat, covdata, 1, fixed = ~ 0 + items + group)
anova(rmod0, rmod1b)
coef(rmod1a, simplify=TRUE)
summary(rmod1b)

# 2PL, requires different input to allow Theta variance to remain fixed
mod0 <- mirt(dat, 1) # unconditional
mod1a <- mirt(dat, 1, covdata = covdata, formula = ~ group, itemtype = '2PL')
mod1b <- mixedmirt(dat, covdata, 1, fixed = ~ 0 + items, lr.fixed = ~group, itemtype = '2PL')
anova(mod0, mod1b)
coef(mod1a)$lr.betas
summary(mod1b)

# specifying specific regression effects is accomplished by passing a list of formula
model <- 'F1 = 1-5
        F2 = 6-10'
covdata$contvar <- rnorm(nrow(covdata))
mod2 <- mirt(dat, model, itemtype = 'Rasch', covdata=covdata,
            formula = list(F1 = ~ group + contvar, F2 = ~ group))
coef(mod2)[11:12]
mod2b <- mixedmirt(dat, covdata, model, fixed = ~ 0 + items,

```

```

      lr.fixed = list(F1 = ~ group + contvar, F2 = ~ group))
summary(mod2b)

#####
## Simulated Multilevel Rasch Model

set.seed(1)
N <- 2000
a <- matrix(rep(1,10),10,1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(10))
cluster = 100
random_intercept = rnorm(cluster,0,1)
Theta = numeric()
for (i in 1:cluster)
  Theta <- c(Theta, rnorm(N/cluster,0,1) + random_intercept[i])

group = factor(rep(paste0('G',1:cluster), each = N/cluster))
covdata <- data.frame(group)
dat <- simdata(a,d,N, itemtype = rep('dich',10), Theta=matrix(Theta))

# null model
mod1 <- mixedmirt(dat, covdata, 1, fixed = ~ 0 + items, random = ~ 1|group)
summary(mod1)

# include level 2 predictor for 'group' variance
covdata$group_pred <- rep(random_intercept, each = N/cluster)
mod2 <- mixedmirt(dat, covdata, 1, fixed = ~ 0 + items + group_pred, random = ~ 1|group)

# including group means predicts nearly all variability in 'group'
summary(mod2)
anova(mod1, mod2)

## End(Not run)

```

---

mod2values

---

*Convert an estimated mirt model to a data.frame*


---

### Description

Given an estimated model from any of mirt's model fitting functions this function will convert the model parameters into the design data frame of starting values and other parameter characteristics (similar to using the pars = 'values' for obtaining starting values).

### Usage

```
mod2values(x)
```

### Arguments

x                    an estimated model x from the mirt package



**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
mod <- mirt(dat, 1)
values <- mod2values(mod)
values

#use the converted values as starting values in a new model, and reduce TOL
mod2 <- mirt(dat, 1, pars = values, TOL=1e-5)

## End(Not run)
```

---

multipleGroup

*Multiple Group Estimation*


---

**Description**

multipleGroup performs a full-information maximum-likelihood multiple group analysis for any combination of dichotomous and polytomous data under the item response theory paradigm using either Cai's (2010) Metropolis-Hastings Robbins-Monro (MHRM) algorithm or with an EM algorithm approach. This function may be used for detecting differential item functioning (DIF), though the [DIF](#) function may provide a more convenient approach.

**Usage**

```
multipleGroup(data, model, group, invariance = "", method = "EM",
  rotate = "oblimin", ...)
```

**Arguments**

data	a matrix or data.frame that consists of numerically ordered data, with missing data coded as NA
model	string to be passed to, or a model object returned from, <a href="#">mirt.model</a> declaring how the global model is to be estimated (useful to apply constraints here)
group	a character vector indicating group membership
invariance	a character vector containing the following possible options: 'free_means' for freely estimating all latent means (reference group constrained to 0) 'free_var' for freely estimating all latent variances (reference group constrained to 1's) 'slopes' to constrain all the slopes to be equal across all groups

'intercepts' to constrain all the intercepts to be equal across all groups, note for nominal models this also includes the category specific slope parameters

Additionally, specifying specific item name bundles (from `colnames(data)`) will constrain all freely estimated parameters in each item to be equal across groups. This is useful for selecting 'anchor' items for vertical and horizontal scaling, and for detecting differential item functioning (DIF) across groups

method a character object that is either 'EM', 'QMCEM', or 'MHRM' (default is 'EM'). See [mirt](#) for details

rotate rotation if models are exploratory (see [mirt](#) for details)

... additional arguments to be passed to the estimation engine. See [mirt](#) for details and examples

### Details

By default the estimation in `multipleGroup` assumes that the models are maximally independent, and therefore could initially be performed by sub-setting the data and running identical models with `mirt` and aggregating the results (e.g., log-likelihood). However, constraints may be automatically imposed across groups by invoking various invariance keywords. Users may also supply a list of parameter equality constraints to by `constrain` argument, or define equality constraints using the `mirt.model` syntax (recommended).

### Value

function returns an object of class `MultipleGroupClass` ([MultipleGroupClass-class](#)).

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

### See Also

[mirt](#), [DIF](#), [extract.group](#)

### Examples

```
## Not run:
#single factor
set.seed(12345)
a <- matrix(abs(rnorm(15,1,.3)), ncol=1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(15,0,.7),ncol=1)
itemtype <- rep('dich', nrow(a))
N <- 1000
dataset1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype)
dataset2 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype, mu = .1, sigma = matrix(1.5))
dat <- rbind(dataset1, dataset2)
group <- c(rep('D1', N), rep('D2', N))
models <- 'F1 = 1-15'

mod_configural <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group) #completely separate analyses
#limited information fit statistics
```

```

M2(mod_configural)

mod_metric <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, invariance=c('slopes')) #equal slopes
#equal intercepts, free variance and means
mod_scalar2 <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group,
                             invariance=c('slopes', 'intercepts', 'free_var','free_means'))
mod_scalar1 <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, #fixed means
                             invariance=c('slopes', 'intercepts', 'free_var'))
mod_fullconstrain <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group,
                                   invariance=c('slopes', 'intercepts'))
slot(mod_fullconstrain, 'time') #time of estimation components

#optionally use Newton-Raphson for (generally) faster convergence in the M-step's
mod_fullconstrain <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, optimizer = 'NR',
                                   invariance=c('slopes', 'intercepts'))
slot(mod_fullconstrain, 'time') #time of estimation components

summary(mod_scalar2)
coef(mod_scalar2, simplify=TRUE)
residuals(mod_scalar2)
plot(mod_configural)
plot(mod_configural, type = 'info')
plot(mod_configural, type = 'trace')
plot(mod_configural, type = 'trace', which.items = 1:4)
itemplot(mod_configural, 2)
itemplot(mod_configural, 2, type = 'RE')

anova(mod_metric, mod_configural) #equal slopes only
anova(mod_scalar2, mod_metric) #equal intercepts, free variance and mean
anova(mod_scalar1, mod_scalar2) #fix mean
anova(mod_fullconstrain, mod_scalar1) #fix variance

#test whether first 6 slopes should be equal across groups
values <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, pars = 'values')
values
constrain <- list(c(1, 63), c(5,67), c(9,71), c(13,75), c(17,79), c(21,83))
equalslopes <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, constrain = constrain)
anova(equalslopes, mod_configural)

#same as above, but using mirt.model syntax
newmodel <- '
  F = 1-15
  CONSTRAINB = (1-6, a1)'
equalslopes <- multipleGroup(dat, newmodel, group = group)
coef(equalslopes, simplify=TRUE)

#####
#DIF test for each item (using all other items as anchors)
itemnames <- colnames(dat)
refmodel <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, SE=TRUE,
                          invariance=c('free_means', 'free_var', itemnames))

```

```

#loop over items (in practice, run in parallel to increase speed). May be better to use ?DIF
estmodels <- vector('list', ncol(dat))
for(i in 1:ncol(dat))
  estmodels[[i]] <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, verbose = FALSE, calcNull=FALSE,
                                invariance=c('free_means', 'free_var', itemnames[-i]))

(anovas <- lapply(estmodels, anova, object2=refmodel, verbose=FALSE))

#family-wise error control
p <- do.call(rbind, lapply(anovas, function(x) x[2, 'p']))
p.adjust(p, method = 'BH')

#same as above, except only test if slopes vary (1 df)
#constrain all intercepts
estmodels <- vector('list', ncol(dat))
for(i in 1:ncol(dat))
  estmodels[[i]] <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, verbose = FALSE, calcNull=FALSE,
                                invariance=c('free_means', 'free_var', 'intercepts',
                                itemnames[-i]))

(anovas <- lapply(estmodels, anova, object2=refmodel, verbose=FALSE))

#quickly test with Wald test using DIF()
mod_configural2 <- multipleGroup(dat, models, group = group, SE=TRUE)
DIF(mod_configural2, which.par = c('a1', 'd'), Wald=TRUE, p.adjust = 'fdr')

#####
#multiple factors

a <- matrix(c(abs(rnorm(5,1,.3)), rep(0,15),abs(rnorm(5,1,.3))),
            rep(0,15),abs(rnorm(5,1,.3))), 15, 3)
d <- matrix(rnorm(15,0,.7),ncol=1)
mu <- c(-.4, -.7, .1)
sigma <- matrix(c(1.21,.297,1.232,.297,.81,.252,1.232,.252,1.96),3,3)
itemtype <- rep('dich', nrow(a))
N <- 1000
dataset1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype)
dataset2 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype, mu = mu, sigma = sigma)
dat <- rbind(dataset1, dataset2)
group <- c(rep('D1', N), rep('D2', N))

#group models
model <- '
  F1 = 1-5
  F2 = 6-10
  F3 = 11-15'

#define mirt cluster to use parallel architecture
mirtCluster()

#EM approach (not as accurate with 3 factors, but generally good for quick model comparisons)
mod_configural <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group) #completely separate analyses
mod_metric <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group, invariance=c('slopes')) #equal slopes

```

```

mod_fullconstrain <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group, #equal means, slopes, intercepts
                                invariance=c('slopes', 'intercepts'))

anova(mod_metric, mod_configural)
anova(mod_fullconstrain, mod_metric)

#same as above, but with MHRM (generally more accurate with 3+ factors, but slower)
mod_configural <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group, method = 'MHRM')
mod_metric <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group, invariance=c('slopes'), method = 'MHRM')
mod_fullconstrain <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group, method = 'MHRM',
                                invariance=c('slopes', 'intercepts'))

anova(mod_metric, mod_configural)
anova(mod_fullconstrain, mod_metric)

#####
#polytomous item example
set.seed(12345)
a <- matrix(abs(rnorm(15,1,.3)), ncol=1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(15,0,.7),ncol=1)
d <- cbind(d, d-1, d-2)
itemtype <- rep('graded', nrow(a))
N <- 1000
dataset1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype)
dataset2 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype, mu = .1, sigma = matrix(1.5))
dat <- rbind(dataset1, dataset2)
group <- c(rep('D1', N), rep('D2', N))
model <- 'F1 = 1-15'

mod_configural <- multipleGroup(dat, model, group = group)
plot(mod_configural)
plot(mod_configural, type = 'SE')
itemplot(mod_configural, 1)
itemplot(mod_configural, 1, type = 'info')
fs <- fscores(mod_configural)
head(fs[["D1"]])
fscores(mod_configural, method = 'EAPsum')

# constrain slopes within each group to be equal (but not across groups)
model2 <- 'F1 = 1-15
          CONSTRAIN = (1-15, a1)'
mod_configural2 <- multipleGroup(dat, model2, group = group)
plot(mod_configural2, type = 'SE')
plot(mod_configural2, type = 'RE')
itemplot(mod_configural2, 10)

#####
## empirical histogram example (normal and bimodal groups)
set.seed(1234)
a <- matrix(rlnorm(50, .2, .2))
d <- matrix(rnorm(50))
ThetaNormal <- matrix(rnorm(2000))
ThetaBimodal <- scale(matrix(c(rnorm(1000, -2), rnorm(1000,2)))) #bimodal

```

```

Theta <- rbind(ThetaNormal, ThetaBimodal)
dat <- simdata(a, d, 4000, itemtype = 'dich', Theta=Theta)
group <- rep(c('G1', 'G2'), each=2000)

EH <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group=group, empiricalhist = TRUE, invariance = colnames(dat))
coef(EH, simplify=TRUE)
plot(EH, type = 'empiricalhist', npts = 60)

#dif test for item 1
EH1 <- multipleGroup(dat, 1, group=group, empiricalhist = TRUE, invariance = colnames(dat)[-1])
anova(EH, EH1)

## End(Not run)

```

---

MultipleGroupClass-class

*Class "MultipleGroupClass"*

---

### Description

Defines the object returned from `multipleGroup`.

### Slots

**iter:** Object of class "numeric", number of iterations  
**pars:** Object of class "list", estimated parameter objects list  
**shortpars:** Object of class "numeric", unique estimated parameters  
**model:** Object of class "list", list containing original model  
**K:** Object of class "numeric", number of item categories  
**itemloc:** Object of class "numeric", index for tabdata  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**AIC:** Object of class "numeric", Akaike's information criteria  
**BIC:** Object of class "numeric", Bayesian information criteria  
**G2:** Object of class "numeric", G squared stat  
**p:** Object of class "numeric", p-value for G2  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**RMSEA:** Object of class "numeric", root mean-square error of approximation for G2  
**TLI:** Object of class "numeric", Tucker-Lewis index for G2  
**CFI:** Object of class "numeric", CFI for G2  
**logLik:** Object of class "numeric", observed log-likelihood  
**SElogLik:** Object of class "numeric", Monte Carlo standard error for log-likelihood  
**Prior:** Object of class "numeric", prior distribution used during estimation. Empty unless `empiricalhist = TRUE`

F: Object of class "matrix", unrotated factor loadings  
h2: Object of class "numeric", commonalities  
Theta: Object of class "matrix", ability grid  
P1: Object of class "numeric", normed likelihoods for tabulated response  
prodlist: Object of class "list", list containing product combination of factors  
converge: Object of class "numeric", convergence diagnostic  
quadpts: Object of class "numeric", number of quadrature points  
esttype: Object of class "character", indicates whether estimation was 'EM' or 'MHRM'  
constrain: Object of class "list", list of constraints  
invariance: Object of class "character", invariance input  
null.mod: Object of class "SingleGroupClass", null model  
condnum: Object of class "numeric", condition number of information matrix  
bfactor: Object of class "list", contains information from bfactor() estimation  
secondordertest: Object of class "logical", indicate whether information matrix passes second-order test  
infomethod: Object of class "character", indicates which information estimation method was used  
TOL: Object of class "numeric", tolerance stopping criteria  
CUSTOM.IND: Object of class "integer", an internal index  
SLOW.IND: Object of class "integer", an internal index  
Call: Object of class "call", call

### Methods

```
coef signature(object = "MultipleGroupClass")  
print signature(x = "MultipleGroupClass")  
show signature(object = "MultipleGroupClass")  
anova signature(object = "MultipleGroupClass")
```

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

---

 personfit

*Person fit statistics*


---

### Description

personfit calculates the Zh values from Drasgow, Levine and Williams (1985) for unidimensional and multidimensional models. For Rasch models infit and outfit statistics are also produced. The returned object is a data.frame consisting either of the tabulated data or full data with the statistics appended to the rightmost columns.

### Usage

```
personfit(x, method = "EAP", Theta = NULL, stats.only = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	a computed model object of class SingleGroupClass or MultipleGroupClass
method	type of factor score estimation method. See <a href="#">fscores</a> for more detail
Theta	a matrix of factor scores used for statistics that require empirical estimates. If supplied, arguments typically passed to fscores() will be ignored and these values will be used instead
stats.only	logical; return only the person fit statistics without their associated response pattern?
...	additional arguments to be passed to fscores()

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

### References

- Drasgow, F., Levine, M. V., & Williams, E. A. (1985). Appropriateness measurement with polychotomous item response models and standardized indices. *Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*, 38, 67-86.
- Reise, S. P. (1990). A comparison of item- and person-fit methods of assessing model-data fit in IRT. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 14, 127-137.
- Wright B. D. & Masters, G. N. (1982). *Rating scale analysis*. MESA Press.

### See Also

[itemfit](#)



**Examples**

```

## Not run:

#make some data
set.seed(1234)
a <- matrix(rlnorm(20),ncol=1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(20),ncol=1)
items <- rep('dich', 20)
data <- simdata(a,d, 2000, items)

x <- mirt(data, 1)
fit <- personfit(x)
head(fit)

#using precomputed Theta
Theta <- fscores(x, method = 'MAP', full.scores = TRUE)
head(personfit(x, Theta=Theta))

#multiple group Rasch model example
set.seed(12345)
a <- matrix(rep(1, 15), ncol=1)
d <- matrix(rnorm(15,0,.7),ncol=1)
itemtype <- rep('dich', nrow(a))
N <- 1000
dataset1 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype)
dataset2 <- simdata(a, d, N, itemtype, sigma = matrix(1.5))
dat <- rbind(dataset1, dataset2)
group <- c(rep('D1', N), rep('D2', N))
models <- 'F1 = 1-15'
mod_Rasch <- multipleGroup(dat, models, itemtype = 'Rasch', group = group)
coef(mod_Rasch)
pf <- personfit(mod_Rasch, method='MAP')
head(pf)

## End(Not run)

```

---

PLCI.mirt

---

*Compute profiled-likelihood (or posterior) confidence intervals*


---

**Description**

Computes profiled-likelihood based confidence intervals. Supports the inclusion of equality constraints. Object returns the confidence intervals and whether the respective interval could be found.

**Usage**

```

PLCI.mirt(mod, alpha = 0.05, parnum = NULL, plot = FALSE, npts = 24,
  ...)

```

**Arguments**

mod	a converged mirt model
alpha	two-tailed alpha critical level
parnum	a numeric vector indicating which parameters to estimate. Use <a href="#">mod2values</a> to determine parameter numbers. If NULL, all possible parameters are used
plot	logical; plot the parameter relationship in the likelihood space for two parameters?
npts	number of points to evaluate and plot if plot = TRUE
...	additional arguments to pass to the estimation functions

**See Also**

[boot.mirt](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
mirtCluster() #use all available cores to estimate CI's in parallel
dat <- expand.table(LSAT7)
mod <- mirt(dat, 1)

result <- PLCI.mirt(mod)
result

mod2 <- mirt(Science, 1)
result2 <- PLCI.mirt(mod2)
result2

#only estimate CI's slopes
sv <- mod2values(mod2)
parnum <- sv$parnum[sv$name == 'a1']
result3 <- PLCI.mirt(mod2, parnum=parnum)
result3

# plot the confidence envelope for parameters 1 and 2
PLCI.mirt(mod2, parnum=c(1,2), plot=TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

---

plot-method

*Plot various test-implied functions from models*

---

**Description**

Plot various test implied response functions from models estimated in the mirt package.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass,missing'
plot(x, y, type = "score", npts = 50,
     theta_angle = 45, theta_lim = c(-6, 6),
     which.items = 1:ncol(x@Data$data), MI = 0, CI = 0.95, rot = list(xaxis
     = -70, yaxis = 30, zaxis = 10), facet_items = TRUE, auto.key = TRUE,
     main = NULL, drape = TRUE, colorkey = TRUE, ehist.cut = 1e-10,
     add.ylab2 = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	an object of class SingleGroupClass, MultipleGroupClass, or DiscreteClass
y	an arbitrary missing argument required for R CMD check
type	type of plot to view; can be 'info' to show the test information function, 'rxx' for the reliability function, 'infocontour' for the test information contours, 'SE' for the test standard error function, 'trace' and 'infotrace' for all item probability information or trace lines (only available when all items are dichotomous), 'infoSE' for a combined test information and standard error plot, and 'score' and 'scorecontour' for the expected total score surface and contour plots. If empiricalhist = TRUE was used in estimation then the type 'empiricalhist' also will be available to generate the empirical histogram plot
npts	number of quadrature points to be used for plotting features. Larger values make plots look smoother
theta_angle	numeric values ranging from 0 to 90 used in plot. If a vector is used then a bubble plot is created with the summed information across the angles specified (e.g., theta_angle = seq(0, 90, by=10))
theta_lim	lower and upper limits of the latent trait (theta) to be evaluated, and is used in conjunction with npts
which.items	numeric vector indicating which items to be used when plotting. Default is to use all available items
MI	a single number indicating how many imputations to draw to form bootstrapped confidence intervals for the selected test statistic. If greater than 0 a plot will be drawn with a shaded region for the interval
CI	a number from 0 to 1 indicating the confidence interval to select when MI input is used. Default uses the 95% confidence (CI = .95)
rot	allows rotation of the 3D graphics
facet_items	logical; apply grid of plots across items? If FALSE, items will be placed in one plot for each group
auto.key	logical parameter passed to the lattice package
main	argument passed to lattice. Default generated automatically
drape	logical argument passed to lattice. Default generated automatically
colorkey	logical argument passed to lattice. Default generated automatically

ehist.cut	a probability value indicating a threshold for excluding cases in empirical histogram plots. Values larger than the default will include more points in the tails of the plot, potentially squishing the 'meat' of the plot to take up less area than visually desired
add.ylab2	logical argument passed to lattice. Default generated automatically
...	additional arguments to be passed to lattice

### Examples

```
## Not run:
x <- mirt(Science, 1, SE=TRUE)
plot(x)
plot(x, type = 'info')
plot(x, type = 'infotrace')
plot(x, type = 'infotrace', facet_items = FALSE)
plot(x, type = 'infoSE')
plot(x, type = 'rxx')

# confidence interval plots when information matrix computed
plot(x)
plot(x, MI=100)
plot(x, type='info', MI=100)
plot(x, type='SE', MI=100)
plot(x, type='rxx', MI=100)

# use the directlabels package to put labels on tracelines
library(directlabels)
plt <- plot(x, type = 'trace')
direct.label(plt, 'top.points')

set.seed(1234)
group <- sample(c('g1','g2'), nrow(Science), TRUE)
x2 <- multipleGroup(Science, 1, group)
plot(x2)
plot(x2, type = 'trace')
plot(x2, type = 'trace', which.items = 1:2)
plot(x2, type = 'trace', which.items = 1, facet_items = FALSE) #facet by group
plot(x2, type = 'info')

x3 <- mirt(Science, 2)
plot(x3, type = 'info')
plot(x3, type = 'SE')

## End(Not run)
```

**Description**

Print model object summaries to the console.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass'  
print(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an object of class SingleGroupClass, MultipleGroupClass, or MixedClass

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
x <- mirt(Science, 1)  
print(x)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

probtrace                    *Function to calculate probability trace lines*

---

**Description**

Given an internal mirt object extracted from an estimated model compute the probability trace lines for all categories.

**Usage**

```
probtrace(x, Theta)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an extracted internal mirt object containing item information  
Theta                a vector (unidimensional) or matrix (unidimensional/multidimensional) of latent trait values

**See Also**

[extract.item](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
extr.2 <- extract.item(mod, 2)
Theta <- matrix(seq(-4,4, by = .1))
traceline <- probtrace(extr.2, Theta)

head(data.frame(traceline, Theta=Theta))

## End(Not run)
```

---

randef

---

*Compute posterior estimates of random effect*


---

**Description**

Stochastically compute random effects for MixedClass objects with Metropolis-Hastings samplers and averaging over the draws. Returns a list of the estimated effects.

**Usage**

```
randef(x, ndraws = 1000, thin = 10, return.draws = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	an estimated model object from the <code>mixedmirt</code> function
ndraws	total number of draws to perform. Default is 1000
thin	amount of thinning to apply. Default is to use every 10th draw
return.draws	logical; return a list containing the thinned draws of the posterior?

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
#make an arbitrary groups
covdat <- data.frame(group = rep(paste0('group', 1:49), each=nrow(Science)/49))

#partial credit model
mod <- mixedmirt(Science, covdat, model=1, random = ~ 1|group)
summary(mod)

effects <- randef(mod, ndraws = 2000, thin = 20)
head(effects$Theta)
head(effects$group)
```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

```
residuals-method      Compute model residuals
```

---

## Description

Return model implied residuals for linear dependencies between items or at the person level.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass'
residuals(object, type = "LD", digits = 3,
  df.p = FALSE, full.scores = FALSE, printvalue = NULL, tables = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE, Theta = NULL, suppress = 1, theta_lim = c(-6, 6),
  quadpts = NULL, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	an object of class <code>SingleGroupClass</code> or <code>MultipleGroupClass</code> . Bifactor models are automatically detected and utilized for better accuracy
type	type of residuals to be displayed. Can be either 'LD' or 'LDG2' for a local dependence matrix based on the X2 or G2 statistics (Chen & Thissen, 1997), 'Q3' for the statistic proposed by Yen (1984), or 'exp' for the expected values for the frequencies of every response pattern
digits	number of significant digits to be rounded
df.p	logical; print the degrees of freedom and p-values?
full.scores	logical; compute relevant statistics for each subject in the original data?
printvalue	a numeric value to be specified when using the <code>res='exp'</code> option. Only prints patterns that have standardized residuals greater than <code>abs(printvalue)</code> . The default (NULL) prints all response patterns
tables	logical; for LD type, return the observed, expected, and standardized residual tables for each item combination?
verbose	logical; allow information to be printed to the console?
Theta	a matrix of factor scores used for statistics that require empirical estimates (i.e., Q3). If supplied, arguments typically passed to <code>fscores()</code> will be ignored and these values will be used instead
suppress	a numeric value indicating which parameter local dependency combinations to flag as being too high. Absolute values for the standardized estimates greater than this value will be returned, while all values less than this value will be set to NA
theta_lim	range for the integration grid

quadpts            number of quadrature nodes to use. The default is extracted from model (if available) or generated automatically if not available  
 ...                additional arguments to be passed to fscores()

## References

Chen, W. H. & Thissen, D. (1997). Local dependence indices for item pairs using item response theory. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 22, 265-289.

Yen, W. (1984). Effects of local item dependence on the fit and equating performance of the three parameter logistic model. *Applied Psychological Measurement*, 8, 125-145.

## Examples

```
## Not run:

x <- mirt(Science, 1)
residuals(x)
residuals(x, tables = TRUE)
residuals(x, type = 'exp')
residuals(x, suppress = .15)

# with and without supplied factor scores
Theta <- fscores(x, full.scores=TRUE)
residuals(x, type = 'Q3', Theta=Theta)
residuals(x, type = 'Q3', method = 'ML')

## End(Not run)
```

---

SAT12

*Description of SAT12 data*

---

## Description

Data obtained from the TESTFACT (Woods et al., 2003) manual, with 32 response pattern scored items for a grade 12 science assessment test (SAT) measuring topics of chemistry, biology, and physics. The scoring key for these data is [1, 4, 5, 2, 3, 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 2, 4, 2, 1, 5, 3, 4, 4, 1, 4, 3, 3, 4, 1, 3, 5, 1, 3, 1, 5, 4, 5], respectively. However, careful analysis using the nominal response model suggests that the scoring key for item 32 may be incorrect, and should be changed from 5 to 3.

## Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

## References

Wood, R., Wilson, D. T., Gibbons, R. D., Schilling, S. G., Muraki, E., & Bock, R. D. (2003). TESTFACT 4 for Windows: Test Scoring, Item Statistics, and Full-information Item Factor Analysis [Computer software]. Lincolnwood, IL: Scientific Software International.



**Examples**

```
## Not run:
#score the data (missing scored as 0)
head(SAT12)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))
head(data)

#score the data, missing (value of 8) treated as NA
SAT12missing <- SAT12
SAT12missing[SAT12missing == 8] <- NA
data <- key2binary(SAT12missing,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,5))
head(data)

#potentially better scoring for item 32 (based on nominal model finding)
data <- key2binary(SAT12,
  key = c(1,4,5,2,3,1,2,1,3,1,2,4,2,1,5,3,4,4,1,4,3,3,4,1,3,5,1,3,1,5,4,3))

## End(Not run)
```

---

 Science

*Description of Science data*


---

**Description**

A 4-item data set borrowed from ltm package in R, first example of the grm() function. See more complete documentation therein.

**Author(s)**

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
mod <- mirt(Science, 1)
plot(mod, type = 'trace')

## End(Not run)
```

---

show-method	<i>Show model object</i>
-------------	--------------------------

---

### Description

Print model object summaries to the console.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass'
show(object)
```

### Arguments

object            an object of class SingleGroupClass, MultipleGroupClass, or MixedClass

### Examples

```
## Not run:
x <- mirt(Science, 1)
show(x)

## End(Not run)
```

---

simdata	<i>Simulate response patterns</i>
---------	-----------------------------------

---

### Description

Simulates response patterns for compensatory and noncompensatory MIRT models from multivariate normally distributed factor ( $\theta$ ) scores, or from a user input matrix of  $\theta$ 's.

### Usage

```
simdata(a, d, N, itemtype, sigma = NULL, mu = NULL, guess = 0,
        upper = 1, nominal = NULL, Theta = NULL, gpcm_mats = list(),
        returnList = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

a            a matrix of slope parameters. If slopes are to be constrained to zero then use NA. a may also be a similar matrix specifying factor loadings if factor.loads = TRUE

d            a matrix of intercepts. The matrix should have as many columns as the item with the largest number of categories, and filled empty locations with NA

N            sample size

itemtype	a character vector of length <code>nrow(a)</code> (or 1, if all the item types are the same) specifying the type of items to simulate. Can be 'dich', 'graded', 'gpcm', 'nominal', 'nestlogit', or 'partcomp', for dichotomous, graded, generalized partial credit, nominal, nested logit, and partially compensatory models. Note that for the gpcm, nominal, and nested logit models there should be as many parameters as desired categories, however to parametrize them for meaningful interpretation the first category intercept should equal 0 for these models (second column for 'nestlogit', since first column is for the correct item trace line). For nested logit models the 'correct' category is always the lowest category (i.e., == 1). It may be helpful to use <a href="#">mod2values</a> on data-sets that have already been estimated to understand the itemtypes more intimately
sigma	a covariance matrix of the underlying distribution. Default is the identity matrix
mu	a mean vector of the underlying distribution. Default is a vector of zeros
guess	a vector of guessing parameters for each item; only applicable for dichotomous items. Must be either a scalar value that will affect all of the dichotomous items, or a vector with as many values as to be simulated items
upper	same as guess, but for upper bound parameters
nominal	a matrix of specific item category slopes for nominal models. Should be the dimensions as the intercept specification with one less column, with NA in locations where not applicable. Note that during estimation the first slope will be constrained to 0 and the last will be constrained to the number of categories minus 1, so it is best to set these as the values for the first and last categories as well
Theta	a user specified matrix of the underlying ability parameters, where <code>nrow(Theta) == N</code> and <code>ncol(Theta) == ncol(a)</code>
gpcm_mats	a list of matrices specifying the scoring scheme for generalized partial credit models (see <a href="#">mirt</a> for details)
returnList	logical; return a list containing the data, item objects defined by <code>mirt</code> containing the population parameters and item structure, and the latent trait matrix Theta? Default is FALSE

### Details

Returns a data matrix simulated from the parameters, or a list containing the data, item objects, and Theta matrix.

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <[rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com](mailto:rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com)>

### References

Reckase, M. D. (2009). *Multidimensional Item Response Theory*. New York: Springer.

**Examples**

```

## Not run:
### Parameters from Reckase (2009), p. 153

set.seed(1234)

a <- matrix(c(
  .7471, .0250, .1428,
  .4595, .0097, .0692,
  .8613, .0067, .4040,
  1.0141, .0080, .0470,
  .5521, .0204, .1482,
  1.3547, .0064, .5362,
  1.3761, .0861, .4676,
  .8525, .0383, .2574,
  1.0113, .0055, .2024,
  .9212, .0119, .3044,
  .0026, .0119, .8036,
  .0008, .1905, 1.1945,
  .0575, .0853, .7077,
  .0182, .3307, 2.1414,
  .0256, .0478, .8551,
  .0246, .1496, .9348,
  .0262, .2872, 1.3561,
  .0038, .2229, .8993,
  .0039, .4720, .7318,
  .0068, .0949, .6416,
  .3073, .9704, .0031,
  .1819, .4980, .0020,
  .4115, 1.1136, .2008,
  .1536, 1.7251, .0345,
  .1530, .6688, .0020,
  .2890, 1.2419, .0220,
  .1341, 1.4882, .0050,
  .0524, .4754, .0012,
  .2139, .4612, .0063,
  .1761, 1.1200, .0870), 30, 3, byrow=TRUE)*1.702

d <- matrix(c(.1826, -.1924, -.4656, -.4336, -.4428, -.5845, -1.0403,
  .6431, .0122, .0912, .8082, -.1867, .4533, -1.8398, .4139,
  -.3004, -.1824, .5125, 1.1342, .0230, .6172, -.1955, -.3668,
  -1.7590, -.2434, .4925, -.3410, .2896, .006, .0329), ncol=1)*1.702

mu <- c(-.4, -.7, .1)
sigma <- matrix(c(1.21, .297, 1.232, .297, .81, .252, 1.232, .252, 1.96), 3, 3)

dataset1 <- simdata(a, d, 2000, itemtype = 'dich')
dataset2 <- simdata(a, d, 2000, itemtype = 'dich', mu = mu, sigma = sigma)

#mod <- mirt(dataset1, 3, method = 'MHRM')
#coef(mod)

```

```

### Unidimensional graded response model with 5 categories each

a <- matrix(rlnorm(20,.2,.3))

# for the graded model, ensure that there is enough space between the intercepts,
# otherwise closer categories will not be selected often (minimum distance of 0.3 here)
diffs <- t(apply(matrix(runif(20*4, .3, 1), 20), 1, cumsum))
diffs <- -(diffs - rowMeans(diffs))
d <- diffs + rnorm(20)

dat <- simdata(a, d, 500, itemtype = 'graded')
# mod <- mirt(dat, 1)

### An example of a mixed item, bifactor loadings pattern with correlated specific factors

a <- matrix(c(
.8,.4,NA,
.4,.4,NA,
.7,.4,NA,
.8,NA,.4,
.4,NA,.4,
.7,NA,.4),ncol=3,byrow=TRUE)

d <- matrix(c(
-1.0,NA,NA,
1.5,NA,NA,
0.0,NA,NA,
0.0,-1.0,1.5, #the first 0 here is the recommended constraint for nominal
0.0,1.0,-1, #the first 0 here is the recommended constraint for gpcm
2.0,0.0,NA),ncol=3,byrow=TRUE)

nominal <- matrix(NA, nrow(d), ncol(d))
#the first 0 and last (ncat - 1) = 2 values are the recommended constraints
nominal[4, ] <- c(0,1.2,2)

sigma <- diag(3)
sigma[2,3] <- sigma[3,2] <- .25
items <- c('dich','dich','dich','nominal','gpcm','graded')

dataset <- simdata(a,d,2000,items,sigma=sigma,nominal=nominal)

#mod <- bfactor(dataset, c(1,1,1,2,2,2), itemtype=c(rep('2PL', 3), 'nominal', 'gpcm','graded'))
#coef(mod)

#### Unidimensional nonlinear factor pattern

theta <- rnorm(2000)
Theta <- cbind(theta,theta^2)

a <- matrix(c(
.8,.4,
.4,.4,
.7,.4,

```

```

.8,NA,
.4,NA,
.7,NA),ncol=2,byrow=TRUE)
d <- matrix(rnorm(6))
itemtype <- rep('dich',6)

nonlindata <- simdata(a,d,2000,itemtype,Theta=Theta)

#model <- '
#F1 = 1-6
#(F1 * F1) = 1-3'
#mod <- mirt(nonlindata, model)
#coef(mod)

#### 2PLNRM model for item 4 (with 4 categories), 2PL otherwise

a <- matrix(rlnorm(4,0,.2))

#first column of item 4 is the intercept for the correct category of 2PL model,
# otherwise nominal model configuration
d <- matrix(c(
-1.0,NA,NA,NA,
 1.5,NA,NA,NA,
 0.0,NA,NA,NA,
 1, 0.0,-0.5,0.5),ncol=4,byrow=TRUE)

nominal <- matrix(NA, nrow(d), ncol(d))
nominal[4, ] <- c(NA,0,.5,.6)

items <- c(rep('dich',3),'nestlogit')

dataset <- simdata(a,d,2000,items,nominal=nominal)

#mod <- mirt(dataset, 1, itemtype = c('2PL', '2PL', '2PL', '2PLNRM'), key=c(NA,NA,NA,1))
#coef(mod)
#itemplot(mod,4)

#return list of simulation parameters
listobj <- simdata(a,d,2000,items,nominal=nominal, returnList=TRUE)
str(listobj)

## End(Not run)

```

---

SingleGroupClass-class

*Class "SingleGroupClass"*


---

**Description**

Defines the object returned from `mirt` when model is exploratory.

**Slots**

**Data:** Object of class "list", contains various data matrices and properties  
**iter:** Object of class "numeric", number of iterations  
**pars:** Object of class "list", estimated parameter objects list  
**shortpars:** Object of class "numeric", unique estimated parameters  
**model:** Object of class "list", list containing original model  
**K:** Object of class "numeric", number of item categories  
**itemloc:** Object of class "numeric", index for tabdata  
**AIC:** Object of class "numeric", Akaike's information criteria  
**BIC:** Object of class "numeric", Bayesian information criteria  
**G2:** Object of class "numeric", G squared stat  
**p:** Object of class "numeric", p-value for G2  
**df:** Object of class "numeric", degrees of freedom  
**RMSEA:** Object of class "numeric", root mean-square error of approximation for G2  
**TLI:** Object of class "numeric", Tucker-Lewis index for G2  
**CFI:** Object of class "numeric", CFI for G2  
**logPrior:** Object of class "numeric", log-prior distribution values  
**logLik:** Object of class "numeric", observed log-likelihood  
**SElogLik:** Object of class "numeric", Monte Carlo standard error for log-likelihood  
**F:** Object of class "matrix", unrotated factor loadings  
**h2:** Object of class "numeric", commonalities  
**Theta:** Object of class "matrix", ability grid  
**P1:** Object of class "numeric", normed likelihoods for tabulated response  
**prodlist:** Object of class "list", list containing product combination of factors  
**converge:** Object of class "numeric", convergence diagnostic  
**quadpts:** Object of class "numeric", number of quadrature points  
**esttype:** Object of class "character", indicates whether estimation was 'EM' or 'MHRM'  
**null.mod:** Object of class "SingleGroupClass", null model  
**condnum:** Object of class "numeric", condition number of information matrix  
**secondordertest:** Object of class "logical", indicate whether information matrix passes second-order test  
**bfactor:** Object of class "list", an empty list  
**infomethod:** Object of class "character", indicates which information estimation method was used  
**TOL:** Object of class "numeric", tolerance stopping criteria

CUSTOM.IND: Object of class "integer", an internal index  
 SLOW.IND: Object of class "integer", an internal index  
 random: Object of class "list", typically null, except for internal mixed model usage  
 exploratory: Object of class "logical", indicates whether model contains slopes that should be rotated  
 Call: Object of class "call", call

### Methods

**anova** signature(object = "SingleGroupClass")  
**coef** signature(object = "SingleGroupClass")  
**plot** signature(x = "SingleGroupClass", y = "missing")  
**print** signature(x = "SingleGroupClass")  
**residuals** signature(object = "SingleGroupClass")  
**show** signature(object = "SingleGroupClass")  
**summary** signature(object = "SingleGroupClass")

### Author(s)

Phil Chalmers <rphilip.chalmers@gmail.com>

---

summary-method

*Summary of model object*

---

### Description

Transforms coefficients into a standardized factor loading's metric. For MixedClass objects, the fixed and random coefficients are printed.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleGroupClass'
summary(object, rotate = "oblimin",
  Target = NULL, suppress = 0, digits = 3, printCI = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE, ...)
```

### Arguments

**object** an object of class SingleGroupClass, MultipleGroupClass, or MixedClass  
**rotate** a string indicating which rotation to use for exploratory models, primarily from the GPArotation package (see documentation therein).  
 Rotations currently supported are: 'promax', 'oblimin', 'varimax', 'quartimin', 'targetT', 'targetQ', 'pstT', 'pstQ', 'oblimax', 'entropy', 'quartimax', 'simplimax', 'bentlerT', 'bentlerQ', 'tandemI', 'tandemII', 'geominT',



	'geominQ', 'cfT', 'cfQ', 'infomaxT', 'infomaxQ', 'mccammon', 'bifactorT', 'bifactorQ'.
	For models that are not exploratory this input will automatically be set to 'none'
Target	a dummy variable matrix indicting a target rotation pattern. This is required for rotations such as 'targetT', 'targetQ', 'pstT', and 'pstQ'
suppress	a numeric value indicating which (possibly rotated) factor loadings should be suppressed. Typical values are around .3 in most statistical software. Default is 0 for no suppression
digits	number of significant digits to be rounded
printCI	print a confidence interval for standardized loadings (e.g., printCI = .95 gives a 95% confidence interval)
verbose	logical; allow information to be printed to the console?
...	additional arguments to be passed

**See Also**

[coef-method](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
x <- mirt(Science, 2)
summary(x)
summary(x, rotate = 'varimax')

#print confidence interval (requires computed information matrix)
x2 <- mirt(Science, 1, SE=TRUE)
summary(x2, printCI=.95)

## End(Not run)
```

---

testinfo

*Function to calculate test information*


---

**Description**

Given an estimated model compute the test information.

**Usage**

```
testinfo(x, Theta, degrees = NULL, group = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

x	an estimated mirt object
Theta	a matrix of latent trait values
degrees	a vector of angles in degrees that are between 0 and 90 that jointly sum to 90. Only applicable when the input object is multidimensional
group	a number signifying which group the item should be extracted from (applies to 'MultipleGroupClass' objects only)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
dat <- expand.table(deAyala)
(mirt(dat, 1, '2PL', pars = 'values'))
mod <- mirt(dat, 1, '2PL', constrain = list(c(1,5,9,13,17)))

Theta <- matrix(seq(-4,4,.01))
tinfo <- testinfo(mod, Theta)
plot(Theta, tinfo, type = 'l')

#compare information loss between two tests
dat.smaller <- dat[,-c(1,2)]
mod2 <- mirt(dat.smaller, 1, '2PL', constrain = list(c(1,5,9)))
tinfo2 <- testinfo(mod2, Theta)

#removed item informations
plot(Theta, iteminfo(extract.item(mod, 1), Theta), type = 'l')
plot(Theta, iteminfo(extract.item(mod, 2), Theta), type = 'l')

#most loss of info around -1 when removing items 1 and 2; expected given item info functions
plot(Theta, tinfo2 - tinfo, type = 'l')

## End(Not run)
```

---

 wald

---

*Wald statistics for mirt models*


---

**Description**

Compute a Wald test given an L vector or matrix of numeric contrasts. Requires that the model information matrix be computed (including SE = TRUE when using the EM method). Use `wald(model)` to observe how the information matrix columns are named, especially if the estimated model contains constrained parameters (e.g., 1PL).

**Usage**

```
wald(object, L, C = 0)
```

**Arguments**

object	estimated object from <code>mirt</code> , <code>bfactor</code> , <code>multipleGroup</code> , <code>mixedmirt</code> , or <code>mdirt</code>
L	a coefficient matrix with dimensions <code>nconstrasts x npars</code> . Omitting this value will return the column names of the information matrix used to identify the (potentially constrained) parameters
C	a constant vector of population parameters to be compared along side L, where <code>length(C) == ncol(L)</code> . By default a vector of 0's is constructed

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
#View parnumber index
data(LSAT7)
data <- expand.table(LSAT7)
mod <- mirt(data, 1, SE = TRUE)
coef(mod)

# see how the information matrix relates to estimated parameters, and how it lines up
# with the parameter index
(infonames <- wald(mod))
index <- mod2values(mod)
index[index$est, ]

#second item slope equal to 0?
L <- matrix(0, 1, 10)
L[1,3] <- 1
wald(mod, L)

#simultaneously test equal factor slopes for item 1 and 2, and 4 and 5
L <- matrix(0, 2, 10)
L[1,1] <- L[2, 7] <- 1
L[1,3] <- L[2, 9] <- -1
L
wald(mod, L)

#logLikelihood tests (requires estimating a new model)
cmodel <- 'theta = 1-5
          CONSTRAIN = (1,2, a1), (4,5, a1)'
mod2 <- mirt(data, cmodel)
#or, equivalently
#mod2 <- mirt(data, 1, constrain = list(c(1,5), c(13,17)))
anova(mod2, mod)

## End(Not run)
```

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