

Package ‘PSTR’

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Type Package

Title Panel Smooth Transition Regression Modelling

Version 1.1.0

Description Provides the Panel Smooth Transition Regression (PSTR) modelling.

The modelling procedure consists of three stages: Specification, Estimation and Evaluation.

The package offers sharp tools helping the package user(s) to conduct model specification tests, to do PSTR model estimation, and to do model evaluation.

The tests implemented in the package allow for cluster-dependency and are heteroskedasticity-consistent.

The wild bootstrap and wild cluster bootstrap tests are also implemented.

Parallel computation (as an option) is implemented in some functions for bootstrap tests.

The package suits tasks running many cores on super-computation servers.

Depends R (>= 3.0.0)

License GPL-3

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LazyData true

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Imports tibble, snowfall, ggplot2

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown

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EstPSTR	<i>Estimate the PSTR model.</i>
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Description

This function implements the estimation of the [PSTR](#) model.

Usage

```
EstPSTR(use, im = 1, iq = NULL, par = NULL, useDelta = FALSE,
        vLower = 2, vUpper = 2, method = "L-BFGS-B")
```

Arguments

use	an object of the class <code>PSTR</code> , created by NewPSTR function.
im	specifies the number of switches in the transtion function. The default value is 1.
iq	a column number (in <code>mQ</code>) or variable name specifying the transition variable to use.
par	initial values for the parameters γ or δ , and c to be optimized over. It is a vector of length <code>im+1</code> , where <code>im</code> is the number of switches. when missing, the function will choose the initial values automatically.
useDelta	whether delta is used in <code>par</code> in the estimation.
vLower	a vector or number of the lower offsets determining the lower bounds of the parameters. The lower bounds of the parameters are <code>par - vLower</code> .
vUpper	a vector or number of the upper offsets determining the upper bounds of the parameters. The upper bounds of the parameters are <code>par + vUpper</code> .
method	the method to be used in optimization. See the function <code>stats::optim</code> .

Details

The function needs the return value (an object of the class `PSTR`) from the [NewPSTR](#). It copies the object, reuses its contents to estimate the correspondng `PSTR` model, and then returns a new object of the class `PSTR` containing the results from the estimation. The user can choose to save the return value to a new object or simply to overwrite the object returned from `NewPSTR`.

The PSTR model to be estimated takes the logistic form in nonlinearity. Remember the g function in the model. It takes the form

$$g(q_{it}; \gamma, c) = \left(1 + \exp \left(-\gamma \prod_{j=1}^m (q_{it} - c_j) \right) \right)^{-1}$$

with $\gamma > 0$ and $c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_m$. γ can be reparametrized as $\gamma = \exp \delta$ where δ is a real number.

The user should have obtained the information about which transition variable (q_{it}) to use (from [LinTest](#) and/or [WCB_LinTest](#)) in estimation before running the function to estimate the model.

The estimation function never change the existing values in the input PSTR object. It adds more values (attributes) into the input object and return.

Value

a new object of the class PSTR containing the results from the estimation.

The object is a list containing the components made in [NewPSTR](#) and the following new components:

iq	specify which transition variable will be used in estimation. The default value NULL implies a linear panel regression model.
delta	the estimate of δ .
c	the estimates of c .
vg	the values of the transition function given the estimates of δ and c and the transition variables q_{it} .
beta	the estimates of the coefficient parameters.
vU	the residuals.
s2	the variance of the residuals.
cov	the covariance matrix of the estimates which is cluster-dependency and heteroskedasticity consistent.
est	a vector of all the estimates
se	a vector of the standard errors of all the estimates which is cluster-dependency and heteroskedasticity consistent.
mbeta	a vector of the estimates of the parameters in the second extreme regime.
mse	a vector of the standard errors of the estimates of the parameters in the second extreme regime.
convergence	an integer code showing the convergence, see <code>opt.im</code> .
par	a vector of the initial values used in the optimization. Note that the first element is always delta, no matter whether gamma is used as input.

Author(s)

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See Also

[NewPSTR](#), [LinTest](#) and [WCB_LinTest](#)

Examples

```
pstr = NewPSTR(Hansen99, dep='inva', indep=4:20, indep_k=c('vala','debt','cfa','sales'),
  tvars=c('vala'), iT=14) # create a new PSTR object

# estimate a linear panel regression model
pstr = EstPSTR(use=pstr)
print(pstr, "estimates", digits=6)

# "L-BFGS-B" is used by default
pstr = EstPSTR(use=pstr, im=1, iq=1, useDelta=TRUE, par=c(1.6,.5), vLower=4, vUpper=4)
# You can also choose the method yourself.
pstr = EstPSTR(use=pstr, im=1, iq=1, useDelta=TRUE, par=c(1.6,.5), method='CG')

print(pstr, "estimates", digits=6)

# The estimation of a linear panel regression model with fix effects is also implemented.
pstr0 = EstPSTR(use=pstr)

print(pstr0, "estimates")
```

 EvalTest

Conduct the evaluation tests.

Description

These functions conduct the evaluation tests against two alternatives: 1. the parameters are time-varying and 2. there is remaining nonlinearity (remaining heterogeneity).

Usage

```
EvalTest(use, type = c("time-varying", "heterogeneity"), vq = NULL)
```

```
WCB_TVTest(use, iB = 100, parallel = F, cpus = 4)
```

```
WCB_HETest(use, vq, iB = 100, parallel = F, cpus = 4)
```

Arguments

use	an object of the class PSTR, created by EstPSTR function.
type	a character vector specifying the types of the evaluation tests to be conducted. The value can be taken either or both of "time-varying" "heterogeneity". By default, do both.

<code>vq</code>	a vector of a new transition variable for the no remaining nonlinearity test.
<code>iB</code>	specify the number of repetitions in the bootstrap procedure. By default, it is 100.
<code>parallel</code>	a boolean value showing if the parallel computation is applied.
<code>cpus</code>	number of cores used in the parallel computation. The value will be ignored if <code>parallel=F</code> .

Details

`EvalTest` implements the evaluation tests.

`WCB_TVTest` implements the wild bootstrap (WB) and the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) evaluation test of no time-varying parameters.

`WCB_HETest` implements the wild bootstrap (WB) and the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) evaluation test of no remaining nonlinearity (no remaining heterogeneity).

The functions need the return value (an object of the class `PSTR`) from the `EstPSTR`. Note that the `PSTR` model should be estimated before conducting the evaluation tests. They copy the object, reuse its contents, especially the estimates, to produce the evaluation test results, and then return a new object of the class `PSTR`. The user can choose to save the return value to a new object or simply to overwrite the object returned from `EstPSTR`. See the example below.

The functions conduct two kinds of evaluation tests. The first kind of tests does the time-varying evaluation tests. The second kind of tests does the no remaining nonlinearity (no remaining heterogeneity) evaluation tests based on the vector of a new transition variable that the user input in the arguments.

The results of the evaluation tests include four kinds of tests

- χ^2 -version LM test: the LM test with asymptotically χ^2 distribution under the null hypothesis.
- F-version LM test: the LM test with asymptotically F distribution under the null hypothesis. The finite sample actual size is supposed to be improved.
- χ^2 -version HAC test: the HAC LM test with asymptotically χ^2 distribution under the null hypothesis, which is heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation consistent.
- F-version HAC test: the HAC LM test with asymptotically F distribution under the null hypothesis, which is heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation consistent. The finite sample actual size is supposed to be improved.

The wild bootstrap (WB) evaluation tests are heteroskedasticity robust, while the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) ones are both cluster-dependency and heteroskedasticity robust. Cluster-dependency implies that there can be dependency (autocorrelation) within individual, but no correlation across individuals. The WB and WCB tests may take quite a long time to run which depends on the model specification and the number of repetitions `iB`. It is strongly recommended to use super-computation server with many cores to run the code instead of a personal computer. The user may first try a small number of repetitions `iB` and estimate the time consumed for a larger number of `iB`.

The functions never change the existing values in the input `PSTR` object. They add more values (attributes) into the input object and return.

Value

a new object of the class PSTR containing the results from the evaluation tests.

The return object from EvalTest contains the following new components:

tv	a list of the time-varying evaluation tests. The length of the list is the maximal number of switches. Each element of the list corresponds to the time-varying evaluation test results based on different number of switches.
ht	a list of the no remaining nonlinearity (no remaining heterogeneity) evaluation tests. The length of the list is the maximal number of switches. Each element of the list corresponds to the time-varying evaluation test results based on different number of switches. The input vector of a new transition variable is used to compute the tests.

The return object from WCB_TVTest contains the following new component:

wcb_tv	a matrix containing the results from the WB and WCB time-varying tests. Each row of the matrix contains the p-value of the WB and WCB tests.
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The return object from WCB_HETest contains the following new component:

wcb_ht	a matrix containing the results from the WB and WCB no remaining nonlinearity (heterogeneity) tests. Each row of the matrix contains the p-value of the WB and WCB tests.
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Author(s)

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See Also

[NewPSTR](#), [LinTest](#), [WCB_LinTest](#) and [EstPSTR](#)

Examples

```
pstr = NewPSTR(Hansen99, dep='inva', indep=4:20, indep_k=c('vala', 'debta', 'cfa', 'sales'),
  tvars=c('vala'), iT=14) # create a new PSTR object

# Estimate the model first
pstr = EstPSTR(use=pstr, im=1, iq=1, useDelta=T, par=c(1.6, .5), method='CG')

# Then you can evaluate the model
pstr = EvalTest(use=pstr, vq=pstr$mQ[,1])

print(pstr, "eval")

# You can do the wild bootstrap and wild cluster bootstrap

library(snowfall)

pstr = WCB_TVTest(use=pstr, iB=4, parallel=T, cpus=2)
```

```
# pstr$mQ[,1] is the transition variable stored in the object
# You can also try other transition variables.
pstr = WCB_HETest(use=pstr, vq=pstr$mQ[,1], iB=4, parallel=T, cpus=2)

print(pstr, "eval")

# Don't forget to change the values of iB and cpus during experiments.
```

Hansen99

A balanced panel of 565 US firms observed for the years 1973–1987

Description

A dataset containing a balanced panel data of annual observations over the period 1973-1987 (15 years) for 560 US firms for the variables described below.

Usage

Hansen99

Format

A tibble with 7840 rows and 20 variables:

cusip Committee on Uniform Security Identification Procedures firm code number, the first 6 digits (CNUM)

year 2-digit year of the data

inva investment to assets ratio

dt_75 dummy variable for 1975

dt_76 dummy variable for 1976

dt_77 dummy variable for 1977

dt_78 dummy variable for 1978

dt_79 dummy variable for 1979

dt_80 dummy variable for 1980

dt_81 dummy variable for 1981

dt_82 dummy variable for 1982

dt_83 dummy variable for 1983

dt_84 dummy variable for 1984

dt_85 dummy variable for 1985

dt_86 dummy variable for 1986

dt_87 dummy variable for 1987

vala lagged total market value to assets ratio ("Tobin's Q")

debta lagged long term debt to assets ratio

cfa lagged cash flow to assets ratio

sales lagged sales during the year (million USD)

Details

The structure of the dataset is such that the time index runs "fast", while the firm index runs "slow"; that is, first all 14 observations for the first firm are given, then the 14 observations for the second firm, etc.

Since we used one year lagged variables of "vala", "debta", "cfa" and "cfa" as regressors, the records in 1973 are skipped.

All values are nominal and millions of dollars except where otherwise noted. Stocks are end of year.

Source

http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~bhansen/progs/joe_99.html

LinTest

Conduct the linearity tests.

Description

These functions conduct the linearity tests against the alternative of a logistic smooth transition nonlinear component.

Usage

LinTest(use)

WCB_LinTest(use, iB = 100, parallel = F, cpus = 4)

Arguments

use	an object of the class PSTR, created by NewPSTR function.
iB	specify the number of repetitions in the bootstrap procedure. By default, it is 100.
parallel	a boolean value showing if the parallel computation is applied.
cpus	number of cores used in the parallel computation. The value will be ignored if parallel=F.

Details

LinTest implements the linearity tests.

WCB_LinTest implements the wild bootstrap (WB) and the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) linearity tests.

The functions need the return value (an object of the class PSTR) from the `NewPSTR`. They copy the object, reuse its contents to produce the linearity test results, and then return a new object of the class PSTR. The user can choose to save the return value to a new object or simply to overwrite the object returned from `NewPSTR`. See the example below.

The functions conduct two kinds of linearity tests.

The first kind of tests does the linearity tests based on each potential transition variable specified in the argument `tvars` when the user calls the `NewPSTR` function. For each potential transition variable, the function conducts linearity tests for numbers of switches from 1 up to `im`. The linearity tests has the null hypothesis

$$H_0^i : \beta_i = \beta_{i-1} = \beta_{i-2} = \dots = \beta_1 = 0$$

for $i = 1, \dots, m$, where m is the maximal number of switches `im`.

The second kind does the linearity tests for selecting the number of switches based on each potential transition variable. The linearity tests for selecting the number of switches has the null hypothesis

$$H_0^i : \beta_i = 0 | \beta_{i+1} = \beta_{i+2} = \dots = \beta_m = 0$$

for $i = 1, \dots, m$, where m is the maximal number of switches `im`.

The results of the linearity tests include four kinds of tests

- χ^2 -version Linearity test: the linearity LM test with asymptotically χ^2 distribution under the null hypothesis of linearity.
- F-version Linearity test: the linearity LM test with asymptotically F distribution under the null hypothesis of linearity. The finite sample actual size is supposed to be improved.
- χ^2 -version HAC Linearity test: the linearity LM test with asymptotically χ^2 distribution under the null hypothesis of linearity, which is heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation consistent.
- F-version HAC Linearity test: the linearity LM test with asymptotically F distribution under the null hypothesis of linearity, which is heteroskedasticity and autocorrelation consistent. The finite sample actual size is supposed to be improved.

The wild bootstrap (WB) tests are heteroskedasticity robust, while the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) ones are both cluster-dependency and heteroskedasticity robust. Cluster-dependency implies that there can be dependency (autocorrelation) within individual, but no correlation across individuals. The WB and WCB tests may take quite a long time to run which depends on the model specification and the number of repetitions `iB`. It is strongly recommended to use super-computation server with many cores to run the code instead of a personal computer. The user may first try a small number of repetitions `iB` and estimate the time consumed for a larger number of `iB`.

The two functions never change the existing values in the input PSTR object. They add more values (attributes) into the input object and return.

Value

a new object of the class `PSTR` containing the results from the linearity tests.

The object is a list containing the components made in `NewPSTR` and the following new components:

<code>test</code>	a list of the linearity test results. The length is the number of potential transition variables specified when creating the object of the class <code>PSTR</code> by calling <code>NewPSTR</code> . See argument <code>tvars</code> in <code>NewPSTR</code> . Each element of the list corresponds to the linearity test results based on the corresponding transition variable, and the element is also a list whose elements correspond to different numbers of switches.
<code>sqtest</code>	a list of the linearity test results for selecting number of switches. It has the same length as <code>test</code> . Each element of the list corresponds to the linearity test results based on the corresponding transition variable, and the element is also a list whose elements correspond to different numbers of switches.
<code>wcb_test</code>	a list of the linearity test results. The length is the number of potential transition variables specified when creating the object of the class <code>PSTR</code> by calling <code>NewPSTR</code> . See argument <code>tvars</code> in <code>NewPSTR</code> . Each element of the list is a matrix containing the linearity test results (p-values) based on the corresponding transition variable. The rows are different numbers of switches, and two columns from WB to WCB.
<code>wcb_sqtest</code>	a list of the linearity test results for selecting number of switches. It has the same length as <code>test</code> . Each element of the list is a matrix containing the linearity test results based on the corresponding transition variable. The rows are different numbers of switches, and two columns from WB to WCB.

Author(s)

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See Also

[NewPSTR](#)

Examples

```
pstr = NewPSTR(Hansen99, dep='inva', indep=4:20, indep_k=c('vala', 'debta', 'cfa', 'sales'),
  tvars=c('vala'), iT=14) # create a new PSTR object

pstr = LinTest(pstr)

print(pstr, "tests")

# Don't forget to attach the package for the parallel computation.
library(snowfall)

# you should not run this on personal computer!
# pstr = WCB_LinTest(use=pstr, iB=5000, parallel=T, cpus=50)
```

```
# a light version for checking on your personal computer.
pstr = WCB_LinTest(use=pstr, iB=4, parallel=T, cpus=2)

print(pstr, "tests")
```

NewPSTR

Create an object of the class PSTR.

Description

Create an object of the S3 class PSTR for later usage. This function should be run prior to the other functions in the package. It will return an object which you will use as an input for the other functions. It builds up the basic settings for the Panel Smooth Transition Regression (PSTR) Modelling.

Usage

```
NewPSTR(data, dep, indep, indep_k = NULL, tvars, im = 1, iT)
```

Arguments

data	a tibble of data. The number of rows of data must be the sample size iT times individuals number N.
dep	column number or name of the dependent variable.
indep	a vector of column numbers or names of the independent variables.
indep_k	a vector of column numbers or names of the independent variables in the non-linear part. If indep_k is not given (= NULL), the nonlinear part will be the same as the linear part.
tvars	a vector of column numbers or names of the potential transition variables to be tested.
im	maximal number of switches in the transition function used in the linearity evaluation tests, by default im=1.
iT	sample size.

Details

Potential transition variables in tvars will be tested one by one in, for example, LinTest function. There is no need to specify the number of individuals, as it will be obtained automatically inside the function given the number of rows and the sample size iT. NAs in data are removed automatically inside the function.

Value

An object of the class PSTR for later usage.

The object is a list containing the following components:

iT	the time length of the panel
iN	the number of individuals
vY	the vector of the dependent variable
mX	the matrix of the explanatory variables in the linear part
mK	the matrix of the explanatory variables in the nonlinear part
mQ	the matrix of the potential transition variables
im	the maximal number of switches used in the linearity test

Author(s)

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See Also

[LinTest](#)

Examples

```
pstr = NewPSTR(Hansen99, dep='inva', indep=4:20, indep_k=c('vala', 'debta', 'cfa', 'sales'),
              tvars=c('vala', 'debta'), iT=14)

pstr

print(pstr, "summary")
```

plot_transition

Plot the transition function of the estimated PSTR model.

Description

This function plots the transition function of the estimated PSTR model.

Usage

```
plot_transition(obj, logx = F, size = 1.5, color = "black", ...)
```

Arguments

obj	an object of the class PSTR returned from some functions in the package. Note that the corresponding PSTR model must be estimated first.
logx	specify whether to use log transformation for x-axis.
size	the size of the circle.
color	the color of the circle.
...	expression or strings of names passed to the labs function in ggplot2. The names should be some of "x", "y", "title", "subtitle", and "caption".

Details

The function uses some functions in the ggplot2 package and aims to give a quick plot of the transition function. The user can customize the title, subtitle, caption, x and y labels, for details, read the help file for the labs function in ggplot2.

Value

A ggplot object. The user can plot it simply by print the object.

Author(s)

Yukai Yang, <yukai.yang@statistik.uu.se>

See Also

Functions which return an object of the class PSTR and can be input into this function

[EstPSTR](#)

Examples

```
pstr = NewPSTR(Hansen99, dep='inva', indep=4:20, indep_k=c('vala','debta','cfa','sales'),
  tvars=c('vala'), iT=14) # create a new PSTR object

# estimate the PSTR model
pstr = EstPSTR(use=pstr, im=1, iq=1, useDelta=TRUE, par=c(1.6,.5), method='CG')

# plot the transition function

ret = plot_transition(pstr)
# plot by running
ret

ret = plot_transition(pstr, color = "blue", size = 2,
  x="customize the label for x axis",y="customize the label for y axis",
  title="The Title",subtitle="The subtitle",caption="Make a caption here.",logx=TRUE)
ret
```

`print.PSTR`*Print the object of the class PSTR.*

Description

This function prints the object of the class PSTR.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'PSTR'  
print(x, mode = c("su", "e"), digits = 4, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	an object of the class PSTR returned from some functions in the package. See below "See Also" for a list of these functions.
<code>mode</code>	a vector of character strings specifying which results to print. It takes the values <code>c('summary', 'tests', 'estimates', 'evaluation')</code> . By default <code>'su'</code> and <code>'e'</code> which means all.
<code>digits</code>	integer indicating the number of decimal places (for the round function inside) to be used. Negative values are allowed (see round).
<code>...</code>	further arguments passed to or from other methods. Ignored here.

Author(s)

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See Also

Functions which return an object of the class PSTR:

[NewPSTR](#), [LinTest](#), [WCB_LinTest](#), [EstPSTR](#), [EvalTest](#), [WCB_TVTest](#) and [WCB_HETest](#)

Examples

```
pstr = NewPSTR(Hansen99, dep='inva', indep=4:20, indep_k=c('vala', 'debta', 'cfa', 'sales'),  
             tvars=c('vala', 'debta', 'cfa', 'sales'), iT=14)  
print(pstr)  
print(pstr, mode='summary', digits=2)
```

PSTR	<i>PSTR: A package implementing the Panel Smooth Transition Regression (PSTR) modelling.</i>
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Description

The package implements the Panel Smooth Transition Regression (PSTR) modelling.

Details

The modelling procedure consists of three stages: Specification, Estimation and Evaluation. The package offers tools helping the package users to conduct model specification tests, to do PSTR model estimation, and to do model evaluation.

The cluster-dependency and heteroskedasticity-consistent tests are implemented in the package.

The wild bootstrap and cluster wild bootstrap tests are also implemented.

Parallel computation (as an option) is implemented in some functions, especially the bootstrap tests. Therefore, the package suits tasks running many cores on super-computation servers.

The Panel Smooth Transition Regression (PSTR) model is defined to be

$$y_{it} = \mu_i + \beta_0' x_{it} + \beta_1' z_{it} g_{it} + u_{it}$$

where g_{it} is the transition function taking the logistic form with the transition variable for individual i , x_{it} contains the explanatory variables in the linear part, and z_{it} contains the explanatory variables in the nonlinear part, and they can be different.

Author and Maintainer

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References

González, A., Teräsvirta, T., van Dijk, D. and Yang, Y. (2017) *Panel Smooth Transition Regression Models*

Function for Initialization

`NewPSTR` initialize the modelling by creating an object of the class PSTR.

Functions for Model Specification

`LinTest` implements the linearity tests.

`WCB_LinTest` implements the wild bootstrap (WB) and the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) linearity tests.

Function for Model Estimation

`EstPSTR` implements the estimation of the PSTR model.

Functions for Model Evaluation

`EvalTest` implements the evaluation tests.

`WCB_TVTest` implements the wild bootstrap (WB) and the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) evaluation test of no time-varying parameters.

`WCB_HETest` implements the wild bootstrap (WB) and the wild cluster bootstrap (WCB) evaluation test of no remaining nonlinearity (no remaining heterogeneity).

Other Functions

`version` shows the version number and some information of the package.

`print.PSTR` prints the object of the class PSTR.

`plot_transition` plots the transition function of an estimated PSTR model.

Data

`Hansen99` a balanced panel of 565 US firms observed for the years 1973–1987.

version

Show the version number of some information.

Description

This function shows the version number and some information of the package.

Usage

```
version()
```

Author(s)

Yukai Yang, <yukai.yang@statistik.uu.se>

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