

# Package ‘ClusterStability’

February 8, 2016

**Type** Package

**Depends** R (>= 2.2.4), Rcpp, clusterCrit, cluster, copula (>= 0.999),  
WeightedCluster

**LinkingTo** Rcpp

**Title** Assessment of Stability of Individual Objects or Clusters in  
Partitioning Solutions

**Version** 1.0.3

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**Description** Allows one to assess the stability of individual objects, clusters  
and whole clustering solutions based on repeated runs of the K-means and K-medoids  
partitioning algorithms.

**License** GPL-3

**LazyLoad** yes

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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ClusterStability-package

*Assessment of the stability of individual objects, clusters and a whole clustering solution based on repeated runs of a clustering algorithm.*

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## Description

The ClusterStability package uses a probabilistic framework and some well-known clustering criteria (e.g. Calinski-Harabasz, Silhouette, Dunn and Davies-Bouldin) to compute the stability scores (*ST*) of each individual object (i.e., *element*) in the clustering solution provided by the K-means and K-medoids partitioning algorithms.

## Details

Package: ClusterStability  
Type: Package  
Version: 1.0.2  
Date: 2015-10-14  
License: GPL-2  
Maintainer: Etienne Lord <m.etienne.lord@gmail.com>,  
Vladimir Makarenkov <makarenkov.vladimir@uqam.ca>

Function [ClusterStability](#) computes the individual and global stability scores (*ST*) for a partitioning solution using either K-means or K-medoids (the approximate solution is provided).

Function [ClusterStability\\_exact](#) is similar to the [ClusterStability](#) function but uses the Stirling numbers of the second kind to compute the exact stability scores (but is limited to a small number of objects).

Function [Kcombination](#) computes the *k*-combination of a set of numbers for a given *k*.

Function [Reorder](#) returns the re-ordered partitioning of a series of clusters.

Function [Stirling2nd](#) computes the Stirling numbers of the second kind.

## Author(s)

Etienne Lord, François-Joseph Lapointe and Vladimir Makarenkov

## See Also

[ClusterStability](#), [ClusterStability\\_exact](#), [Kcombination](#), [Reorder](#), [Stirling2nd](#)

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ClusterStability	<i>Calculates the approximate stability score (ST) of individual objects in a clustering solution (the approximate version allowing one to avoid possible variable overflow errors).</i>
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### Description

This function will return the individual stability score  $ST$  and the global score  $ST_{global}$  using either the K-means or K-medoids algorithm and four different clustering indices: Calinski-Harabasz, Silhouette, Dunn or Davies-Bouldin.

### Usage

```
ClusterStability(dat, k, replicate, type)
```

### Arguments

dat	the input dataset: either a matrix or a dataframe.
k	the number of classes for the K-means or K-medoids algorithm (default=3).
replicate	the number of replicates to perform (default=1000).
type	the algorithm used in the partitioning: either 'kmeans' or 'kmedoids' algorithm (default=kmeans).

### Value

Returns the individual ( $ST$ ) and global ( $ST_{global}$ ) stability scores for the four clustering indices: Calinski-Harabasz ( $ch$ ), Silhouette ( $sil$ ), Dunn ( $dunn$ ) or Davies-Bouldin ( $db$ ).

### Examples

```
## Calculates the stability scores of individual objects of the Iris dataset
## using K-means, 100 replicates (random starts) and k=3
ClusterStability(dat=iris[1:4],k=3,replicate=100,type='kmeans');
```

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ClusterStability_exact	<i>Calculates the exact stability score (ST) for individual objects in a clustering solution.</i>
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### Description

This function will return the exact individual stability score  $ST$  and the exact global score  $ST_{global}$  using either the K-means or K-medoids algorithm and four different clustering indices: Calinski-Harabasz, Silhouette, Dunn or Davies-Bouldin. **Variable overflow errors are possible for large numbers of objects.**

**Usage**

```
ClusterStability_exact(dat, k, replicate, type)
```

**Arguments**

`dat` the input dataset: either a matrix or a dataframe.  
`k` the number of classes for the K-means or K-medoids algorithm (default=3).  
`replicate` the number of replicates to perform (default=1000).  
`type` the algorithm used in the partitioning: either 'kmeans' or 'kmedoids' algorithm (default=kmeans).

**Value**

Returns the exact individual (*ST*) and global (*ST\_global*) stability scores for the four clustering indices: Calinski-Harabasz (*ch*), Silhouette (*sil*), Dunn (*dunn*) or Davies-Bouldin (*db*).

**Examples**

```
## Calculate the stability scores of individual objects of the Iris dataset
## using K-means, 100 replicates (random starts) and k=3
ClusterStability_exact(dat=iris[1:4],k=3,replicate=100,type='kmeans');
```

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Kcombination	<i>Kcombination returns the list of all possible combinations of a set of numbers of a given length k.</i>
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**Description**

This function, given a vector of numbers, will return all the possible combinations of a given length *k*.

**Usage**

```
Kcombination(data, k, selector)
```

**Arguments**

`data` the vector of numbers (*i.e.* elements) to consider.  
`k` the length of the returned combination (between 2 and 6 in this version).  
`selector` if set, returns only the combinations containing this number.

**Value**

Return a list of all possible combinations for the given vector of numbers.

**Examples**

```

## Returns the k-combination of the list of numbers: 1,2,3 of length=2.
## i.e. (1,2), (1,3), (2,3)
Kcombination(c(1,2,3),k=2)
## Returns only the k-combination containing the number 1.
## i.e. (1,2), (1,3)
Kcombination(c(1,2,3),k=2,selector=1)

```

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Reorder	<i>This function returns the ordering of a partitioning solution in ascending order.</i>
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**Description**

This function returns the ordered partition of a set of numbers in ascending order and reordered to start at one. This is an auxiliary function.

**Usage**

```
Reorder(data)
```

**Arguments**

data                    vector of partition numbers to reorder.

**Value**

A vector of ordered partition numbers for this data.

**Examples**

```

Reorder(c(1,3,4,4,3,1))
# Expected : 1 2 3 3 2 1

```

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Stirling2nd	<i>Stirling2nd function computes the Stirling numbers of the second kind.</i>
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**Description**

This function returns the estimated Stirling numbers of the second kind *i.e.*, the number of ways of partitioning a set of  $n$  objects into  $k$  nonempty groups.

**Usage**

```
Stirling2nd(n,k)
```

**Arguments**

n                    number of objects.  
k                    number of groups (*i.e.* classes).

**Value**

The Stirling number of the 2nd kind for  $n$  elements and  $k$  groups or *NaN* (if the Stirling number for those  $n$  and  $k$  is greater than 1e300).

**Examples**

```
Stirling2nd(n=3,k=2)
# Expected value=3
Stirling2nd(n=300,k=20)
# Expected value=NaN
```

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Undocumented functions

*Undocumented functions*

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**Description**

The following functions are for internal computation only: *calculate\_global\_PSG*, *calculate\_indices*, *calculate\_singleton*, *is\_partition\_group*, *p\_n\_k*, *p\_tilde\_n\_k*, *calculate\_individual\_PSG\_approximative*, *calculate\_individual\_PSG\_exact*, *calculate\_individual\_PSG*.

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