

# Package ‘InformativeCensoring’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Multiple Imputation for Informative Censoring

**Version** 0.3.4

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**Description** Multiple Imputation for Informative Censoring.  
This package implements two methods. Gamma Imputation  
from Jackson et al. (2014) <DOI:10.1002/sim.6274> and Risk Score Imputation  
from Hsu et al. (2009) <DOI:10.1002/sim.3480>.

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**LazyLoad** yes

**Depends** R (>= 3.1.2), survival (>= 2.36-1)

**Imports** boot, dplyr (>= 0.4.3), parallel

**Suggests** knitr, testthat

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**URL** <https://github.com/scientific-computing-solutions/InformativeCensoring>

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|  |    |
|--|----|
| InformativeCensoring-package . . . . . | 2  |
| col.headings . . . . .                 | 3  |
| cox.zph . . . . .                      | 3  |
| ExtractSingle . . . . .                | 4  |
| gammaImpute . . . . .                  | 5  |
| GammaImputedData.object . . . . .      | 7  |
| GammaImputedSet.object . . . . .       | 7  |
| GammaStat.object . . . . .             | 8  |
| GammaStatList.object . . . . .         | 8  |
| ImputeStat . . . . .                   | 9  |
| MakeTimeDepScore . . . . .             | 10 |
| NN.options . . . . .                   | 11 |
| ScoreImpute . . . . .                  | 11 |
| ScoreImputedData.object . . . . .      | 13 |
| ScoreImputedSet.object . . . . .       | 13 |
| ScoreInd . . . . .                     | 14 |
| ScoreStat.object . . . . .             | 15 |
| ScoreStatList.object . . . . .         | 15 |
| ScoreStatSet . . . . .                 | 16 |
| ScoreStatSet.object . . . . .          | 16 |
| ScoreTD.object . . . . .               | 17 |
| ScoreTimeDep . . . . .                 | 17 |
| summary.ScoreStatSet . . . . .         | 18 |

|              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| <b>Index</b> | <b>19</b> |
|--------------|-----------|

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InformativeCensoring-package

*Perform methods of multiple imputation for time to event data*

---

**Description**

Perform methods of multiple imputation for time to event data

**Details**

See Nonparametric comparison of two survival functions with dependent censoring via nonparametric multiple imputation. Hsu and Taylor *Statistics in Medicine* (2009) 28:462-475 for Hsu's method

See Relaxing the independent censoring assumption in the Cox proportional hazards model using multiple imputation. Jackson et al., *Statistics in Medicine* (2014) 33:4681-4694 for Jackson's method

**Author(s)**

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---

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| col.headings | <i>Specify the columns of the data frame required by score imputation method</i> |
|--------------|--|

---

**Description**

Specify the columns of the data frame required by score imputation method

**Usage**

```
col.headings(arm, has.event, time, Id, DCO.time, to.impute,
             censor.type = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| arm         | column name which will contain the subject's treatment group  |
| has.event   | column name which will contain whether the subject has an event (1) or not(0)   |
| time        | column name of censoring/event time   |
| Id          | column name of subject Id   |
| DCO.time    | column name of the time at which the subject would have been censored had they not had an event before data cut off   |
| to.impute   | column name of the logical column as to whether events should be imputed  |
| censor.type | column name of the column containing the reason for censoring, 0=had event, 1=non-administrative censoring 2=administrative censoring – only subjects with 1 in this column count as having an 'event' in the Cox model for censoring (optionally used – if not used then all subjects who are censored are used) |

**Value**

A list contain the given arguments

---

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| cox.zph | <i>Test Cox proportional hazards assumption</i> |
|---------|---|

---

**Description**

See cox.zph function in the survival package

**Usage**

```
cox.zph(fit, transform = "km", global = TRUE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| fit       | the result of fitting a Cox regression model, using the <code>coxph</code> function.   |
| transform | a character string specifying how the survival times should be transformed before the test is performed. Possible values are "km", "rank", "identity" or a function of one argument. |
| global    | should a global chi-square test be done, in addition to the per-variable tests.  |
| ...       | Additional arguments to <code>cox.zph</code> , for example <code>index</code> if <code>fit</code> is a <code>GammaStatList</code> object   |

**See Also**

[cox.zph](#)

---

ExtractSingle

*Extract a single risk score/gamma imputed data set/model fit*

---

**Description**

Extract a single risk score/gamma imputed data set/model fit

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'GammaImputedSet'
ExtractSingle(x, index)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'GammaStatList'
ExtractSingle(x, index)
```

```
ExtractSingle(x, index)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'ScoreImputedSet'
ExtractSingle(x, index)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'ScoreStatList'
ExtractSingle(x, index)
```

**Arguments**

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| x     | The multiple imputed object                                  |
| index | Integer, which imputed data set/model fit should be returned |

**Value**

The individual data set/model fit

gammaImpute

*Perform gamma-Imputation for a given data set***Description**

This function performs the Imputation described in Relaxing the independent censoring assumptions in the Cox proportional hazards model using multiple imputation. (2014) D. Jackson et al. Statist. Med. (33) 4681-4694

**Usage**

```
gammaImpute(formula, data, m, gamma, gamma.factor, bootstrap.strata = rep(1,
  nrow(data)), DCO.time, ..., parallel = c("no", "multicore", "snow")[1],
  ncpus = 1L, cl = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| formula          | The model formula to be used when fitting the models to calculate the cumulative hazard. A formula for coxph can include strata terms but not cluster or tt and only right-censored Surv objects can be used. Note the function does not allow multiple strata to be written as strata(W1)+strata(W2), use strata(W1,W2) instead  |
| data             | A time to event data set for which event times are to be imputed  |
| m                | The number of imputations to be created   |
| gamma            | Either column name containing the value of gamma or a vector of values giving the subject specific size of the step change in the log hazard at censoring. If a subject has NA in this column then no imputation is performed for this subject (i.e. the subject's censored time remains unchanged after imputation). If a subject has already had an event then the value of gamma is ignored. If gamma.factor is also used then the subject specific gamma are all multiplied by gamma.factor. At least one of gamma and gamma.factor must be included. |
| gamma.factor     | If used, a single numeric value. If no gamma then the step change in log hazard for all subjects at censoring is given by gamma.factor. If gamma is used then for each subject, the step change in log hazard is given by gamma.factor multiplied by the subject specific gamma. At least one of gamma and gamma.factor must be included.   |
| bootstrap.strata | The strata argument for stratified bootstrap sampling, see argument strata for the function boot::boot for further details. If argument is not used then standard sampling with replacement will be used  |
| DCO.time         | Either column name containing the subject's data cutoff time or a vector of DCO.times for the subjects or a single number to be used as the DCO.time for all subjects (if imputed events are > this DCO.time then subjects are censored at DCO.time in imputed data sets)   |
| ...              | Additional parameters to be passed into the model fit function  |

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <code>parallel</code> | The type of parallel operation to be used (if any).   |
| <code>ncpus</code>    | integer: number of processes to be used in parallel operation: typically one would chose this to be the number of available CPUs  |
| <code>cl</code>       | An optional parallel or snow cluster for use if <code>parallel="snow"</code> . If not supplied, a cluster on the local machine is created for the duration of the call. |

**Details**

See the Gamma Imputation vignette for further details

**Value**

A `GammaImputedSet` object containing the imputed data sets

**See Also**

[GammaImputedSet.object](#) [GammaImputedData.object](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
data(nwtco)
nwtco <- nwtco[1:500,]

#creating 2 imputed data sets (m=2) for speed, would normally create more
ans <- gammaImpute(formula=Surv(edrel,rel)~histol + instit,
                   data = nwtco, m=2, gamma.factor=1, DCO.time=6209)

#subject specific gamma (multiplied by gamma.factor to give the jump)
#NA for subjects that are not to be imputed
jumps <- c(rep(NA,10),rep(1,490))
DCO.values <- rep(6209,500)

ans.2 <- gammaImpute(formula=Surv(edrel,rel)~histol + instit + strata(stage),
                    data = nwtco, m=2, bootstrap.strata=strata(nwtco$stage),
                    gamma=jumps, gamma.factor=1, DCO.time=DCO.values)

#can also use column names
nwtco$gamma <- jumps
nwtco$DCO.time <- DCO.values
ans.3 <- gammaImpute(formula=Surv(edrel,rel)~histol + instit + strata(stage),
                    data = nwtco, m=2, bootstrap.strata=strata(nwtco$stage),
                    gamma="gamma", DCO.time="DCO.time")

## End(Not run)
```

---

GammaImputedData.object  
GammaImputedData *object*

---

**Description**

An object which contains

**Slots**

`data` A data frame containing the time to event data with 3 new columns `impute.time` and `impute.event`, the imputed event/censoring times and event indicators (for subjects whose data is not imputed these columns contain the unchanged event/censoring time and event indicator) and `internal_gamma_val` which is the value of gamma used for each subject in this data set  
`default.formula` The default model formula which will be used when fitting the imputed data

---

GammaImputedSet.object  
GammaImputedSet *object*

---

**Description**

An object which contains the set of gamma imputed data frames. Use the `ExtractSingle` function to extract a single `GammaImputedData` objects. Use the `ImputeStat` function to fit models to the entire set of imputed data frames

**Details**

It contains the following:

**Slots**

`data` A data frame containing the unimputed time to event data (along with a column `internal_gamma_val` which is the value of gamma used for each subject in this data set)  
`m` The number of imputed data sets  
`gamma.factor` The value of `gamma.factor` used with the imputation  
`impute.time` A matrix (1 column per imputed data set) containing the imputed times  
`impute.event` A matrix (1 column per imputed data set) containing the imputed event indicators  
`default.formula` The default model formula which will be used when fitting the imputed data

**See Also**

[GammaImputedData.object](#)

---

GammaStat.object      GammaStat *object*

---

### Description

An S3 object which contains the point estimate and test statistic after fitting a model to a GammaImputedData object.

### Details

The function `print.GammaStat` has been implemented

The object contains the following:

### Slots

`model` The model used to create the fit

`method` The model used for the fit

`estimate` A point estimate of the test statistic

`var` The estimate for the variance of the test statistic

---

GammaStatList.object      GammaStatList *object*

---

### Description

The object containing the results of fitting models to a GammaImputedSet object.

### Details

A `summary.GammaStatList` has been implemented which performs Rubin's multiple imputation rules.

The object contains the following

### Slots

`fits` A list of GammaStat objects containing the model fits for the imputed data sets

`statistics` A list with two elements: `estimates` and `vars` which contain the coefficient estimates and their variances one column per covariate one row per imputed data set

`m` The number of model fits



---

ImputeStat

*S3 generic to fit model(s) to risk score/gamma Imputed objects*


---

**Description**

S3 generic to fit model(s) to risk score/gamma Imputed objects

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'GammaImputedData'
ImputeStat(object, method = c("Cox", "weibull",
  "exponential")[1], formula = NULL, ...)

## S3 method for class 'GammaImputedSet'
ImputeStat(object, method = c("Cox", "weibull",
  "exponential")[1], formula = NULL, ..., parallel = c("no", "multicore",
  "snow")[1], ncpus = 1L, cl = NULL)

ImputeStat(object, method = c("logrank", "Wilcoxon", "Cox", "weibull",
  "exponential")[1], formula, ...)

## S3 method for class 'ScoreImputedSet'
ImputeStat(object, method = c("logrank", "Wilcoxon",
  "Cox")[1], formula = NULL, ..., parallel = c("no", "multicore",
  "snow")[1], ncpus = 1L, cl = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| object  | A ScoreImputedData, ScoreImputedSet, GammaImputedData or GammaImputedSet object to fit the model to   |
| method  | The type of statistical model to fit. There are three methods which can be performed when using Risk Score imputation<br>"logrank": a logrank test using <code>survival::survdiff</code><br>"Wilcoxon": Peto & Peto modification of the Gehan-Wilcoxon test using <code>survival::survdiff</code> with <code>rho=1</code><br>"Cox": Fit a cox model using <code>survival::coxph</code>  |
| formula | For gamma imputation the model can be "Cox" (using <code>survival::coxph</code> ), "weibull" or "exponential" both using <code>survival::coxph</code><br>The model formula to fit. If no formula argument is used, then <code>object\$default.formula</code> will be used. For risk score imputation this is <code>~ treatment.group</code> and for gamma imputation this is the formula used when fitting the Cox model<br>For <code>method="Cox"</code> , additional covariates can be included by explicitly giving a formula argument. For logrank/Wilcoxon only additional strata terms can be included. |

In all cases only the right hand side of the formula is required The survival object on the left hand side is created automatically E.g. for a Cox model could use formula= $\sim$ arm + covar1. The cluster and tt options cannot be used See the vignettes for further details

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| ...      | Additional arguments which are passed into the model fit function  |
| parallel | The type of parallel operation to be used (if any), can be used for GammaImputedSet and ScoreImputedSet  |
| ncpus    | integer: number of processes to be used in parallel operation: typically one would chose this to be the number of available CPUs, can be used for GammaImputedSet and ScoreImputedSet.                         |
| cl       | An optional parallel or snow cluster for use if parallel="snow". If not supplied, a cluster on the local machine is created for the duration of the call, can be used for GammaImputedSet and ScoreImputedSet. |

### See Also

[ScoreStat.object](#) [ScoreImputedData.object](#)

---

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| MakeTimeDepScore | <i>Create a valid ScoreTD object</i> |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|

---

### Description

Create a valid ScoreTD object

### Usage

```
MakeTimeDepScore(data, Id, time.start, time.end)
```

### Arguments

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| data       | A data frame of time dependent covariates   |
| Id         | The column name of the subject Id   |
| time.start | The covariates are valid for the time [time.start,time.end] where time.start is the column name of time.start |
| time.end   | The covariates are valid for the time [time.start,time.end] where time.end is the column name of time.end     |

### Value

A ScoreTD object

---

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| NN.options | <i>Create a list of options which control the nearest neighbour algorithm for risk score imputation</i> |
|------------|---|

---

**Description**

Create a list of options which control the nearest neighbour algorithm for risk score imputation

**Usage**

```
NN.options(NN = 5, w.censoring = 0.2, min.subjects = 20)
```

**Arguments**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| NN           | The (maximum) number of subjects to be included in the risk set  |
| w.censoring  | The weighting on the censoring risk score when calculating distances for the nearest neighbour calculation A weighting of (1-w.censoring) is used for the event risk score   |
| min.subjects | If using time dependent score imputation include at least this number of subjects when fitting the Cox model (i.e. include some subjects who were censored/had event earlier than the censored observation if necessary) |

**Value**

A list of options used within the ScoreImputedData function

---

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| ScoreImpute | <i>Perform risk score multiple imputation method</i> |
|-------------|--|

---

**Description**

Perform risk score multiple imputation method

**Usage**

```
ScoreImpute(data, event.model, censor.model = event.model, col.control,
  NN.control = NN.options(), time.dep = NULL, m, bootstrap.strata = rep(1,
  nrow(data)), ..., parallel = c("no", "multicore", "snow")[1], ncpus = 1L,
  cl = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| <code>data</code>             | The data set for which imputation is required  |
| <code>event.model</code>      | The right hand side of the formula to be used for fitting the Cox model for calculating the time to event score e.g. $\sim Z1+Z2+Z3$ .   |
| <code>censor.model</code>     | The right hand side of the formula to be used for fitting the Cox model for calculating the time to censoring score if not included then <code>event.model</code> will be used   |
| <code>col.control</code>      | A list of the columns names of data which are used by the imputation algorithm See example below and for further details of these columns and their purpose see <a href="#">col.headings</a>   |
| <code>NN.control</code>       | Parameters which control the nearest neighbour algorithm. See <a href="#">NN.options</a>   |
| <code>time.dep</code>         | A ScoreTD object, to be included if the time dependent score imputation method is to be used, otherwise it should be NULL  |
| <code>m</code>                | The number of data sets to impute  |
| <code>bootstrap.strata</code> | When performing the bootstrap procedure for fitting the models, how should the data be stratified (see <code>strata</code> argument to <code>boot::boot</code> ). if argument is not used then standard sampling with replacement is used to generate the bootstrap data |
| <code>...</code>              | Additional arguments passed into the Cox model Note the <code>subset</code> and <code>na.action</code> arguments should not be used ( <code>na.fail</code> will be used when fitting the Cox model)  |
| <code>parallel</code>         | The type of parallel operation to be used (if any).  |
| <code>ncpus</code>            | integer: number of processes to be used in parallel operation: typically one would chose this to be the number of available CPUs   |
| <code>cl</code>               | An optional parallel or snow cluster for use if <code>parallel="snow"</code> . If not supplied, a cluster on the local machine is created for the duration of the call.  |

**Details**

Note that `coxph` may fail to converge and the following output Warning in `fitter(X, Y, strats, offset, init, control, weights = weights, : Ran out of iterations and did not converge`

It is possible to use ridge regression by including a ridge term in the model formula (e.g.  $\sim Z1+ridge(Z2, theta=1)$ ). See [ridge](#) for further details

**Value**

A `ScoreImputedSet` object

**See Also**

[ScoreImputedSet.object](#)

**Examples**

```

data(ScoreInd)

col.control <- col.headings(has.event="event", time="time",
                           Id="Id", arm="arm",
                           DCO.time="DCO.time",
                           to.impute="to.impute")

## Not run:
ans <- ScoreImpute(data=ScoreInd, event.model=~Z1+Z2+Z3+Z4+Z5,
                  col.control=col.control, m=5,
                  bootstrap.strata=ScoreInd$arm,
                  NN.control=NN.options(NN=5, w.censoring = 0.2))

## End(Not run)

```

---

ScoreImputedData.object  
 ScoreImputedData *object*

---

**Description**

An object which contains

**Slots**

**data** A data frame containing the time to event data with 2 new columns `impute.time` and `impute.event`, the imputed event/censoring times and event indicators (for subjects whose data is not imputed these columns contain the unchanged event/censoring time and event indicator)

**col.control** The list of column names the risk score imputation method requires see [col.headings](#) for further details. If `sensor.type` was not used then `col.control$sensor.type="using_has.event_col"`

**default.formula** The default model formula which will be used when fitting the imputed data using a Cox model

---

ScoreImputedSet.object  
 ScoreImputedSet *object*

---

**Description**

An object which contains the set of score imputed data frames. Use the `ExtractSingle` function to extract a single `ScoreImputedData` object. Use the `ScoreStat` function to fit models to the entire set of imputed data frames

**Details**

It contains the following:

**Slots**

`data` A data frame containing the unimputed time to event data  
`col.control` The list of column names the score imputation method requires see [col.headings](#) for further details  
`m` The number of imputed data sets  
`impute.time` A matrix (1 column per imputed data set) containing the imputed times  
`impute.event` A matrix (1 column per imputed data set) containing the imputed event indicators  
`default.formula` The default model formula which will be used when fitting the imputed data using a Cox model

**See Also**

[ScoreImputedData.object](#)

---

ScoreInd

*Simulated time to event data with 5 time independent covariates*

---

**Description**

This dataset is inspired by the simulation described in Hsu and Taylor, *Statistics in Medicine* (2009) 28:462-475 with an additional `DCO.time` column

**Format**

A `data.frame` containing a row per subject with eleven columns:

**Fields**

`Id` subject identifier  
`arm` factor for treatment group control=0, active=1  
`Z1` binary time independent covariate  
`Z2` continuous time independent covariate  
`Z3` binary time independent covariate  
`Z4` continuous time independent covariate  
`Z5` binary time independent covariate  
`event` event indicator (1 yes, 0 no)  
`time` subject censoring/event time (in years)  
`to.impute` logical, should an event time be imputed for this subject? (this is ignored if subject has event time)  
`DCO.time` The time the subject would have been censored if they had not had an event or been censored before the data cut off date

---

ScoreStat.object      *ScoreStat object*

---

**Description**

An S3 object which contains the point estimate and test statistic after fitting a model to a ScoreImputedData object.

**Details**

The functions `print.ScoreStat` and `as.vector.ScoreStat` have been included

The object contains the following:

The test statistic should be normally distributed and hence for the logrank test  $Z = (O_2 - E_2)/\sqrt{V_2}$ , i.e. the square root of the standard Chi squared statistic (with the appropriate sign)

**Slots**

`model` The model used to create the fit

`method` The method used for the fit

`estimate` A point estimate of the test statistic

`var` The estimate for the variance of the test statistic

`statistic` The test statistic given by `estimate/sqrt(var)`

---

ScoreStatList.object      *ScoreStatList*

---

**Description**

The object containing the results of fitting models to a ScoreImputedSet object.

**Details**

A `summary.ScoreStatList` has been implemented.

The object contains the following

**Slots**

`fits` A list of ScoreStat objects containing the model fits for the imputed data sets

`statistics` A ScoreStatSet object containing the statistics

`m` The number of model fits

**See Also**

[ScoreStatSet.object](#) [ScoreStat.object](#)

---

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| ScoreStatSet | <i>S3 generic to create a ScoreStatSet object</i> |
|--------------|---|

---

**Description**

S3 generic to create a ScoreStatSet object

**Usage**

```
ScoreStatSet(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    The object to convert into a ScoreStatSet object

**Value**

A ScoreStatSet object

**See Also**

[ScoreStatSet.object](#)

---

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| ScoreStatSet.object | <i>An object which contains the test statistic and estimators for a set of model fits to imputed data using risk score imputation</i> |
|---------------------|---|

---

**Description**

The object is a Mx3 matrix, one row per imputed data set and columns: estimate (the point estimates), var (their variances) and Z (the test statistic). M must be > 4

**Details**

Note the Z should be ~ standard normal (so we do not use the chi\_squared test statistic see [ScoreStat.object](#) for further details)

The summary.ScoreStatSet function will apply the MI averaging procedures and estimates of the test statistic and p-value

**See Also**

[summary.ScoreStatSet](#)



---

|                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| ScoreTD.object | A ScoreTD <i>object</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------|

---

### Description

This data frame holds time dependent covariates for use with risk score imputation

### Details

The data frame contains the following columns: 'Id' for subject ID  
 'time.start' and 'time.end' the range of time for which the covariate values are valid - i.e. [time.start,time.end]  
 Additional columns are the time dependent covariates

All data for a single subject should be stored in consecutive rows, sorted by time and the starting time of a row should match the ending time of the previous row

### See Also

[MakeTimeDepScore](#)

---

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| ScoreTimeDep | <i>Simulated time dependent variables for time to event data</i> |
|--------------|--|

---

### Description

This data set contains time dependent covariates for the [ScoreInd](#) time to event data.

### Format

A data.frame containing 1 row per subject-visit

### Fields

Id The Subject Id

start The covariate given in each row are for a given subject from time 'start' ...

end ... until time end

W1 The value of a (binary) time dependent variable for the subject with the given 'Id' between times 'start' and 'end'

W2 The value of a (continuous) time dependent variable for the subject with the given 'Id' between times 'start' and 'end'

---

summary.ScoreStatSet *Summary object of ScoreStatSet object*

---

### **Description**

This object contains the multiple imputed averages/p-values of a set of estimates from risk score imputed data sets.

### **Details**

A `print.summary.ScoreStatSet` function has been implemented

This object contains three lists `meth1` and `meth2` and `methRubin` `meth1` averages the point estimates to produce an F test statistic, `meth2` averages the test statistics and produces a t test statistic and `methRubin` follows Rubin's standard rules and is used for calculating confidence intervals

See the vignette for further details.

`meth1`, `meth2` and `methRubin` are lists with the following elements: `estimate`: average estimator for `meth1`, NOTE: for `meth2` this is the average test statistic,  
`var`: estimate of variance of "estimate" field  
`test.stat`: test statistic  
`distribution`: distribution of statistical test (i.e. F or t)  
`p.value`: p-value of test

# Index

col.headings, [3](#), [12–14](#)  
cox.zph, [3](#), [4](#)

ExtractSingle, [4](#)

gammaImpute, [5](#)  
GammaImputedData.object, [6](#), [7](#), [7](#)  
GammaImputedSet.object, [6](#), [7](#)  
GammaStat.object, [8](#)  
GammaStatList.object, [8](#)

ImputeStat, [9](#)  
InformativeCensoring  
    (InformativeCensoring-package),  
    [2](#)  
InformativeCensoring-package, [2](#)

MakeTimeDepScore, [10](#), [17](#)

NN.options, [11](#), [12](#)

ridge, [12](#)

ScoreImpute, [11](#)  
ScoreImputedData.object, [10](#), [13](#), [14](#)  
ScoreImputedSet.object, [12](#), [13](#)  
ScoreInd, [14](#), [17](#)  
ScoreStat.object, [10](#), [15](#), [15](#), [16](#)  
ScoreStatList.object, [15](#)  
ScoreStatSet, [16](#)  
ScoreStatSet.object, [15](#), [16](#), [16](#)  
ScoreTD.object, [17](#)  
ScoreTimeDep, [17](#)  
summary.ScoreStatSet, [16](#), [18](#)