

# Package: nbpInference (via r-universe)

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**Title** Inference on Average Treatment Effects for Continuous Treatments

**Version** 1.0.2

**Maintainer** Anthony Frazier <anthony.frazier@colostate.edu>

**Description** Conduct inference on the sample average treatment effect for a matched (observational) dataset with a continuous treatment. Equipped with calipered non-bipartite matching, bias-corrected sample average treatment effect estimation, and covariate-adjusted variance estimation. Matching, estimation, and inference methods are described in Frazier, Heng and Zhou (2024) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2409.11701](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2409.11701)>.

**Imports** nbpMatching, stats, Rdpack

**RdMacros** Rdpack

**URL** <https://github.com/AnthonyFrazierCSU/nbpInference>

**License** GPL (>= 3)

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**Repository** <https://anthonyfraziercsu.r-universe.dev>

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bias.corrected.neyman *Bias-corrected Neyman Sample Average Treatment Effect Estimator*

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### Description

This function estimates the sample average treatment effect for a set of matched pairs using the bias-corrected Neyman estimator, defined in Frazier et al. (2024).

### Usage

```
bias.corrected.neyman(Y, Z, pairs, pmat, xi)
```

### Arguments

Y	a 2I-length vector of outcome values
Z	a 2I-length vector of treatment values
pairs	an I x 2 dataframe containing the indices of observations that form our set of matched pairs. An appropriate pairs dataframe can be formed using the <a href="#">nbp.caliper</a> function.
pmat	a 2I x 2I matrix where the diagonals equal zero, and the off-diagonal elements (i, j) contain the probability the ith observation has $Z = \max(Z_i, Z_j)$ and the jth observation has $Z = \min(Z_i, Z_j)$ . We can create a p-matrix using the <a href="#">make.pmatrix</a> function. A p-matrix can be created using the <a href="#">make.pmatrix</a> function.
xi	a number in the range 0 to 0.5, the cutoff related to the treatment assignment probability caliper.

### Value

I x 2 dataframe

### See Also

Other inference: [classic.neyman\(\)](#), [covAdj.variance\(\)](#), [make.pmatrix\(\)](#), [nbp.caliper\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
set.seed(12345)
X <- rnorm(100, 0, 5)
Z <- X + rnorm(100, 0, (1+sqrt(abs(X))))
Y <- X + Z + rnorm(100, 0, 0.5)
pmat <- make.pmatrix(Z, X)
pairs <- nbp.caliper(Z, X, pmat, xi = 0.1, M = 10000)
bias.corrected.neyman(Y, Z, pairs, pmat, xi = 0.1)
```

---

`classic.neyman`*Classic Neyman Sample Average Treatment Effect Estimator*

---

## Description

This function estimates the sample average treatment effect for a set of matched pairs using the classic Neyman estimator. For references on the classic Neyman estimator, see Baiocchi et al. (2010); Zhang et al. (2022); Heng et al. (2023)

## Usage

```
classic.neyman(Y, Z, pairs)
```

## Arguments

<code>Y</code>	a 2I-length vector of outcome values, which must be numeric.
<code>Z</code>	a 2I-length vector of treatment values, which must be numeric.
<code>pairs</code>	an I x 2 dataframe containing the indices of observations that form our set of matched pairs. An appropriate pairs dataframe can be formed using the <a href="#">nbp.caliper</a> function.

## Value

the sample average treatment effect (numeric)

## See Also

Other inference: [bias.corrected.neyman\(\)](#), [covAdj.variance\(\)](#), [make.pmatrix\(\)](#), [nbp.caliper\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
set.seed(12345)
X <- rnorm(100, 0, 5)
Z <- X + rnorm(100, 0, (1+sqrt(abs(X))))
Y <- X + Z + rnorm(100, 0, 0.5)
pmat <- make.pmatrix(Z, X)
pairs <- nbp.caliper(Z, X, pmat, xi = 0.1, M = 10000)
classic.neyman(Y, Z, pairs)
```

---

covAdj.variance      *Covariate-Adjusted Variance Estimation*

---

### Description

This function calculates the covariate-adjusted conservative variance estimator For the (classic or bias-corrected) Neyman estimator. For details on the definition of the covariate-adjusted Neyman estimator, see Fogarty (2018) and Frazier et al. (2024).

### Usage

```
covAdj.variance(Y, Z, X, pairs, pmat, xi, Q)
```

### Arguments

Y	a 2I-length vector of outcome values
Z	a 2I-length vector of treatment values
X	a 2I x k matrix of covariate values
pairs	an I x 2 dataframe containing the indices of observations that form our set of matched pairs. An appropriate pairs dataframe can be formed using the <a href="#">nbp.caliper</a> function.
pmat	a 2I x 2I matrix where the diagonals equal zero, and the off-diagonal elements (i, j) contain the probability the ith observation has $Z = \max(Z_i, Z_j)$ and the jth observation has $Z = \min(Z_i, Z_j)$ . We can create a p-matrix using the <a href="#">make.pmatrix</a> function. A p-matrix can be created using the <a href="#">make.pmatrix</a> function.
xi	a number in the range 0 to 0.5, the cutoff related to the treatment assignment probability caliper.
Q	an arbitrary I x L numeric (real-valued) matrix, where $L < I$

### Value

a 2I x 2I numeric matrix

### See Also

Other inference: [bias.corrected.neyman\(\)](#), [classic.neyman\(\)](#), [make.pmatrix\(\)](#), [nbp.caliper\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
set.seed(12345)
X <- rnorm(100, 0, 5)
Z <- X + rnorm(100, 0, (1+sqrt(abs(X))))
Y <- X + Z + rnorm(100, 0, 0.5)
pmat <- make.pmatrix(Z, X)
pairs <- nbp.caliper(Z, X, pmat, xi = 0.1, M = 10000)
covAdj.variance(Y, Z, X, pairs, pmat, xi = 0.1)
```

---

generate.data.dose      *Generate example data with five covariates*

---

**Description**

This function creates some example data using the data generation process described in simulation 1 of (Frazier et al. 2024). The dataframe contains a treatment variable Z, outcome variable Y, and five covariates X1,...,X5.

**Usage**

```
generate.data.dose(N)
```

**Arguments**

N                      Number of observations to simulate, which should be a positive whole number.

**Value**

an N x 7 matrix containing treatment, outcome, and covariates.

**See Also**

Other data generation: [generate.data.dose2\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
generate.data.dose(N = 100)
```

---

generate.data.dose2      *Generate sample data with six covariates*

---

**Description**

This function creates some example data using the data generation process for the secondary set of simulations described in the supplementary materials of Frazier A, Heng S, Zhou W (2024). “Bias Reduction in Matched Observational Studies with Continuous Treatments: Calipered Non-Bipartite Matching and Bias-Corrected Estimation and Inference.” *arXiv e-prints*, arXiv-2409.. The dataframe contains a treatment variable Z, outcome variable Y, and five covariate X1,...,X6

**Usage**

```
generate.data.dose2(N)
```

**Arguments**

N                      Number of observations to simulate, which should be a positive whole number.

**Value**

an  $N \times 8$  matrix containing treatment, outcome, and covariates.

**See Also**

Other data generation: [generate.data.dose\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
generate.data.dose2(N = 100)
```

---

make.pmatrix

*Make matrix of treatment assignment probabilities*

---

**Description**

This function creates a  $N \times N$  matrix where the diagonals equal zero, and the off-diagonal elements  $(i, j)$  contain the probability the  $i$ th observation has  $Z = \max(Z_i, Z_j)$  and the  $j$ th observation has  $Z = \min(Z_i, Z_j)$ , conditioned on covariates. Uses the "model-based" conditional density estimation method described in (Frazier et al. 2024).

**Usage**

```
make.pmatrix(Z, X)
```

**Arguments**

**Z** an  $N$ -length vector of treatment values, which must be numeric.  
**X** an  $N \times k$  matrix of covariate values, which must be numeric.

**Value**

an  $N \times N$  numeric matrix. Each entry represents the probability the  $i$ th observation has  $Z = \max(Z_i, Z_j)$  and the  $j$ th observation has  $Z = \min(Z_i, Z_j)$ , conditioned on covariates.

**See Also**

Other inference: [bias.corrected.neyman\(\)](#), [classic.neyman\(\)](#), [covAdj.variance\(\)](#), [nbp.caliper\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
set.seed(12345)
X <- rnorm(100, 0, 5)
Z <- X + rnorm(100, 0, (1+sqrt(abs(X))))
make.pmatrix(Z, X)
```

## Description

This function creates a  $I \times 2$  dataframe containing the indices of observations that form our set of matched pairs. It uses the `nbpMatch` package (Lu et al. 2011) along with a p-matrix in order to create  $I$  matched pairs using a treatment assignment caliper. A p-matrix can be created using the [make.pmatrix](#) function.

## Usage

```
nbp.caliper(Z, X, pmat, xi = 0, M = 0)
```

## Arguments

<code>Z</code>	a $2I$ -length vector of treatment values, which must be numeric.
<code>X</code>	a $2I \times k$ matrix of covariate values, which must be numeric.
<code>pmat</code>	a $2I \times 2I$ symmetric matrix where the diagonals equal zero, and the off-diagonal elements $(i, j)$ contain the probability the $i$ th observation has $Z = \max(Z_i, Z_j)$ and the $j$ th observation has $Z = \min(Z_i, Z_j)$ . A p-matrix can be made using the <code>make.pmatrix</code> function.
<code>xi</code>	a number in the range 0 to 0.5, the cutoff related to the treatment assignment probability caliper.
<code>M</code>	an integer determining the penalty of the treatment assignment probability caliper. If a potential matched pair between observations $i$ and $j$ has treatment assignment probability less than $xi$ or greater than $1-xi$ , add $M$ to the distance matrix in the $(i, j)$ and $(j, i)$ entry.

## Value

$I \times 2$  dataframe

## See Also

Other inference: [bias.corrected.neyman\(\)](#), [classic.neyman\(\)](#), [covAdj.variance\(\)](#), [make.pmatrix\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
set.seed(12345)
X <- rnorm(100, 0, 5)
Z <- X + rnorm(100, 0, (1+sqrt(abs(X))))
pmat <- make.pmatrix(Z, X)
nbp.caliper(Z, X, pmat, xi = 0.1, M = 10000)
```

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