# Package: Landmarking (via r-universe)

September 3, 2024

Title Analysis using Landmark Models

Version 1.0.2

Description The landmark approach allows survival predictions to be updated dynamically as new measurements from an individual are recorded. The idea is to set predefined time points, known as ``landmark times", and form a model at each landmark time using only the individuals in the risk set. This package allows the longitudinal data to be modelled either using the last observation carried forward or linear mixed effects modelling. There is also the option to model competing risks, either through cause-specific Cox regression or Fine-Gray regression.

To find out more about the methods in this package, please see <a href="https://isobelbarrott.github.io/Landmarking/articles/Landmarking">https://isobelbarrott.github.io/Landmarking/articles/Landmarking</a>.

**License** GPL (>= 2) **Encoding** UTF-8

LazyData true

LazyDataCompression bzip2

**Imports** nlme, riskRegression, dplyr, pec, methods, prodlim, stats, survival, mstate, ggplot2,

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**VignetteBuilder** knitr **Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE)

URL https://github.com/isobelbarrott/Landmarking/

BugReports https://github.com/isobelbarrott/Landmarking/issues

Config/testthat/edition 3

Repository https://isobelbarrott.r-universe.dev

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# Description

Randomly assigns a k-fold cross-validation number to each individual in a dataset.

# Usage

```
add_cv_number(data_long, individual_id, k, seed = 1)
```

# Arguments

data_long	Data frame in long format i.e. there may be more than one row per individual
individual_id	Character string specifying the column name in data_long which contains the individual identifiers
k	Integer specifying the number of folds for cross-validation.
seed	The value of the seed (default is 1)

## **Details**

This function randomly divides the n individual IDs into k groups, each with n/k members (or as close to this number as possible).

## Value

Data frame data\_long updated to contain a new column cross\_validation\_number indicating the fold to which the individual has been assigned.

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#### Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

## **Examples**

data\_repeat\_outcomes Simulated repeat measurement and time-to-event data

## **Description**

A simulated dataset which is a combination of longitudinal (repeat measurement) data and time-to-event data. This dataset contains simulated data from 3000 patients.

The longitudinal (repeat measurement) data is formed using an LME model, whose parameters were based on CVD risk assessments recorded at primary care practices in New Zealand.

A LME model was fitted to this dataset and values of sbp\_stnd and tchdl\_stnd were estimated at landmark age 60. These values (along with the other baseline covariates) were used to simulate time-to-event data from a cause specific model with parameters based on CVD events of patients at primary care practices in New Zealand.

## Usage

```
data_repeat_outcomes
```

#### **Format**

A dataset with 9031 rows and 12 columns:

id Patient ID

**smoking** Smoking status, 0 indicates the patient has never smoked, 1 indicates the patient has quit smoking, and 2 indicates the patient is a current smoker

**diabetes** Diabetes status, 0 indicates the patient is not diagnosed with diabetes, and 1 indicates the patient is diagnosed with diabetes

ethnicity Ethnicity, one of five ethnicities

dob Date of birth

**index** An index indicating assessment number for a patient

sbp\_stnd Standardised systolic blood pressure

tchdl\_stnd Standardised total cholesterol to HDL ratio

response\_time\_tchdl\_stnd Age that total cholesterol to HDL ratio was recorded

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**response\_time\_sbp\_stnd** Age that systolic blood pressure was recorded, this is the same as the date that the fixed measures were recorded

**event\_status** Event status, 0 indicates censoring, 1 indicates CVD event, and 2 indicates death from other causes

event\_time Event time

find\_LME\_risk\_set

Find the risk set for a landmark model (LME)

## **Description**

This function is a helper function for fit\_LME\_landmark.

## Usage

```
find_LME_risk_set(
  data_long,
  x_L,
  x_hor,
  predictors_LME,
  predictors_LME_time,
  responses_LME_time,
  individual_id,
  event_time,
  event_status
)
```

## **Arguments**

data\_long Data frame in long format i.e. there may be more than one row per individual

x\_LNumeric specifying the landmark time(s)x\_horNumeric specifying the horizon time(s)

predictors\_LME Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the predictor variables in the LME model

predictors\_LME\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contains the time at which the predictor variables were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as predictors\_LME. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in predictors\_LME.

responses\_LME Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the response variables in the LME model

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responses\_LME\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which response variables were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as responses\_LME. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in responses\_LME.

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

individual identifiers

event\_time Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

event time

event status (where 0=censoring, 1=event of interest, if there are competing

events these are labelled 2 or above).

#### **Details**

This function finds the risk set for each of landmark times in x\_L. This means that each of the individuals has a LME value for all predictors\_LME at the landmark time and has not experienced an event up to (and including) the landmark time.

## Value

List with elements corresponding to each landmark time in x\_L. Each element is a data frame, containing only those individuals in the risk set at each of the landmark times x\_L.

### Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

find\_LOCF\_risk\_set

*Find the risk set for a landmark model (LOCF)* 

## Description

This function is a helper function for fit\_LOCF\_landmark.

## Usage

```
find_LOCF_risk_set(
  data_long,
  x_L,
  x_hor,
  covariates,
  covariates_time,
  individual_id,
  event_time,
  event_status
)
```

#### **Arguments**

data\_long Data frame in long format i.e. there may be more than one row per individual

x\_LNumeric specifying the landmark time(s)x\_horNumeric specifying the horizon time(s)

covariates Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the covariates

covariates\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which covariates were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as covariates. In the latter case the order of ele-

ments must correspond to the order of elements in covariates.

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

individual identifiers

event\_time Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

event time

event\_status Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

event status (where 0=censoring, 1=event of interest, if there are competing

events these are labelled 2 or above).

#### **Details**

This function finds the risk set for each of landmark times in x\_L. This means that each of the individuals has a LOCF value for all covariates at the landmark time and has not experienced an event up to (and including) the landmark time.

## Value

List with elements corresponding to each landmark time in  $x_L$ . Each element is a data frame, containing only those individuals in the risk set at each of the landmark times  $x_L$ .

#### Author(s)

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fit\_LME\_landmark

Fit a landmarking model using a linear mixed effects (LME) model for the longitudinal submodel

## Description

This function performs the two-stage landmarking analysis.

## Usage

```
fit_LME_landmark(
  data_long,
  x_L,
  x_hor,
  predictors_LME,
  responses_LME,
  predictors_LME_time,
  responses_LME_time,
  random_slope_longitudinal = TRUE,
  random_slope_survival = TRUE,
  include_data_after_x_L = TRUE,
  individual_id,
  cross_validation_df,
  standardise_time = FALSE,
  lme_control = nlme::lmeControl(),
  event_time,
  event_status,
  survival_submodel = c("standard_cox", "cause_specific", "fine_gray"),
)
```

## **Arguments**

data\_long

Data frame or list of data frames each corresponding to a landmark age x\_L (each element of the list must be named the value of x\_L it corresponds to). Each data frame contains repeat measurements data and time-to-event data in long format.

x\_L

Numeric specifying the landmark time(s)

x\_hor

Numeric specifying the horizon time(s)

predictors\_LME Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which correspond to the predictor variables in the LME model

responses\_LME

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which correspond to the response variables in the LME model

predictors\_LME\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contains the time at which the predictor variables were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as predictors\_LME. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in predictors\_LME.

responses\_LME\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which response variables were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as responses\_LME. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in responses\_LME.

random\_slope\_longitudinal

Boolean indicating whether to include a random slope in the LME model. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

random\_slope\_survival

Boolean indicating whether to include the random slope estimate from the LME model. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information. as a covariate in the survival submodel. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

include\_data\_after\_x\_L

Boolean indicating whether to include all longitudinal data, including data after the landmark age x\_L, in the model development dataset. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the individual identifiers

Integer specifying the number of folds for cross-validation. An alternative to setting parameter cross\_validation\_df for performing cross-validation; if both are missing no cross-validation is used.

cross\_validation\_df

k

List of data frames containing the cross-validation fold each individual is assigned to. Each data frame in the list should be named according to the landmark time x\_L that they correspond. Each data frame should contain the columns individual\_id and a column cross\_validation\_number which contains the cross-validation fold of the individual. An alternative to setting parameter k for performing cross-validation; if both are missing no cross-validation is used.

standardise\_time

event time

Boolean indicating whether to standardise the time variable in the LME model by subtracting the mean and dividing by the standard deviation. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the event time

event\_status Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the event status (where 0=censoring, 1=event of interest, if there are competing events these are labelled 2 or above).

survival\_submodel

Character string specifying which survival submodel to use. Three options: the standard Cox model i.e. no competing risks ("standard\_cox"), the cause-specific regression model ("cause\_specific"), or the Fine Gray regression model ("fine\_gray")

Integer specifying the number of bootstrap samples to take when calculating standard error of c-index and Brier score

## Details

b

Firstly, this function selects the individuals in the risk set at the landmark time  $x_L$ . Specifically, the individuals in the risk set are those that have entered the study before the landmark time  $x_L$  (there

is at least one observation for each of the predictors\_LME and responses\_LME on or before  $x_L$ ) and exited the study after the landmark age (event\_time is greater than  $x_L$ ).

Secondly, if the option to use cross validation is selected (using either parameter k or cross\_validation\_df), then an extra column cross\_validation\_number is added with the cross-validation folds. If parameter k is used, then the function add\_cv\_number randomly assigns these folds. For more details on this function see ?add\_cv\_number. If the parameter cross\_validation\_df is used, then the folds specified in this data frame are added. If cross-validation is not selected then the landmark model is fit to the entire group of individuals in the risk set (this is both the training and test dataset).

Thirdly, the landmark model is then fit to each of the training datasets. There are two parts to fitting the landmark model: using the longitudinal data and using the survival data. Using the longitudinal data is the first stage and is performed using fit\_LME\_longitudinal. See ?fit\_LME\_longitudinal more for information about this function. Using the survival data is the second stage and is performed using fit\_survival\_model. This function censors the individuals at the time horizon x\_L and fits the survival model. See ?fit\_survival\_model more for information about this function.

Fourthly, the performance of the model is then assessed on the set of predictions from the entire set of individuals in the risk set by calculating Brier score and C-index. This is performed using get\_model\_assessment. See ?get\_model\_assessment more for information about this function.

#### Value

List containing containing information about the landmark model at each of the landmark times. Each element of this list is named the corresponding landmark time, and is itself a list containing elements: data, model\_longitudinal, model\_LME, model\_LME\_standardise\_time, model\_survival, and prediction\_error.

data has one row for each individual in the risk set at x\_L and contains the value of the predictors\_LME using the LOCF approach and predicted values of the responses\_LME using the LME model at the landmark time x\_L. It also includes the predicted probability that the event of interest has occurred by time x\_hor, labelled as "event\_prediction". There is one row for each individual.

model\_longitudinal indicates that the longitudinal approach is LME.

model\_LME contains the output from the lme function from package nlme. For a model using cross-validation, model\_LME contains a list of outputs with each element in the list corresponds to a different cross-validation fold.

model\_LME\_standardise\_time contains a list of two objects mean\_response\_time and sd\_response\_time if the parameter standardise\_time=TRUE is used. This is the mean and standard deviation use to normalise times when fitting the LME model.

model\_survival contains the outputs from the survival submodel functions, including the estimated parameters of the model. For a model using cross-validation, model\_survival will contain a list of outputs with each element in the list corresponding to a different cross-validation fold.

prediction\_error contains a list indicating the c-index and Brier score at time x\_hor and their standard errors if parameter b is used.

#### Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

## **Examples**

```
library(Landmarking)
data(data_repeat_outcomes)
data_model_landmark_LME <-</pre>
  fit_LME_landmark(
    data_long = data_repeat_outcomes,
   x_L = c(60, 61),
    x_{hor} = c(65, 66),
    k = 10,
   predictors_LME = c("ethnicity", "smoking", "diabetes"),
   predictors_LME_time = "response_time_sbp_stnd",
    responses_LME = c("sbp_stnd", "tchdl_stnd"),
    responses_LME_time = c("response_time_sbp_stnd", "response_time_tchdl_stnd"),
    individual_id = "id",
    standardise_time = TRUE,
    lme_control = nlme::lmeControl(maxIter = 100, msMaxIter = 100),
   event_time = "event_time",
   event_status = "event_status",
    survival_submodel = "cause_specific"
```

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} {\it Fit a landmarking model using a linear mixed effects (LME) model for} \\ \it the longitudinal data \end{tabular}$ 

## **Description**

This function is a helper function for fit\_LME\_landmark.

# Usage

```
fit_LME_longitudinal(
   data_long,
   x_L,
   predictors_LME,
   responses_LME_time,
   responses_LME_time,
   standardise_time = FALSE,
   random_slope_longitudinal = TRUE,
   random_slope_survival = TRUE,
   include_data_after_x_L = TRUE,
   cv_name = NA,
   individual_id,
   lme_control = nlme::lmeControl()
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

data\_long Data frame containing repeat measurement data and time-to-event data in long

format.

x\_L Numeric specifying the landmark time(s)

predictors\_LME Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the predictor variables in the LME model

responses\_LME Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the response variables in the LME model

predictors\_LME\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contains the time at which the predictor variables were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as predictors\_LME. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in predictors\_LME.

responses\_LME\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which response variables were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as responses\_LME. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in responses\_LME.

standardise\_time

Boolean indicating whether to standardise the time variable in the LME model by subtracting the mean and dividing by the standard deviation. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

random\_slope\_longitudinal

Boolean indicating whether to include a random slope in the LME model. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

random\_slope\_survival

Boolean indicating whether to include the random slope estimate from the LME model as a covariate in the survival submodel. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

include\_data\_after\_x\_L

Boolean indicating whether to include all longitudinal data, including data after the landmark age x\_L, in the model development dataset. See Details section of fit\_LME\_longitudinal for more information.

cv\_name Character string specifying the column name in data\_long that indicates cross-

validation fold

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

individual identifiers

lme\_control Object created using nlme::lmeControl(), which will be passed to the control

argument of the 1me function

## **Details**

For an individual i, the LME model can be written as

$$Y_i = X_i \beta + Z_i U_i + \epsilon_i$$

where

- $Y_i$  is the vector of responses at different time points for the individual
- $X_i$  is the matrix of predictors for the fixed effects at these time points
- $\beta$  is the vector of coefficients for the fixed effects
- $Z_i$  is the matrix of predictors for the random effects
- $U_i$  is the matrix of coefficients for the random effects
- $\epsilon_i$  is the error term, typically from N(0,  $\sigma$ )

By using an LME model to fit repeat measures data, rather than a linear model, we can allow measurements from the same individuals to be more similar than measurements from different individuals. This is done through the random intercept and/or random slope.

Extending this model to the case where there are multiple random effects, denoted k, we have

$$Y_{ik} = X_{ik}\beta_k + Z_{ik}U_{ik} + \epsilon_{ik}$$

Typically the random effects are assumed to be from the multivariate normal (MVN) distribution  $MVN(0, \Sigma_u)$  and we choose a certain covariance structure for  $\Sigma_u$ . The function fit\_LME\_landmark uses this distribution with unstructured covariance for the random effects when fitting the LME model (i.e. no constraints are imposed on the values).

To fit the LME model the function lme from the package nlme is used. The random intercept is always included in the LME model. Additionally, the random slope can be included in the LME model using the parameter random\_slope\_longitudinal=TRUE.

It is important to distinguish between the validation set and the development set for fitting the LME model in this function. The development dataset either includes all the repeat measurements (including those after the landmark age x\_L), or only the repeat measurements recorded up to and including the landmark age x\_L. This is controlled using the parameter include\_data\_after\_x\_L. The validation set only includes the repeat measurements recorded up until and including the landmark age x\_L, i.e. it does not include future data in its predictions.

Using the fitted model, the values of the best linear unbiased predictions (BLUPs) at the landmark age x\_L are calculated. These BLUPs are the predictions of the values of the responses\_LME the landmark age x\_L. The values of the predictors in this prediction are the LOCF values of the predictors\_LME at the landmark age x\_L. In the function fit\_LME\_landmark, these predictions are used as covariates in the survival model along with the LOCF values of predictors\_LME. Additionally, the estimated value of the random slope can be included as predictors in the survival model using the parameter random\_slope\_survival=TRUE.

There is an important consideration about fitting the linear mixed effects model. As the variable responses\_LME\_time gets further from 0, the random effects coefficients get closer to 0. This causes computational issues as the elements in the covariance matrix of the random effects,  $\Sigma_u$ , are constrained to be greater than 0. Using parameter standard\_time=TRUE can prevent this issue by standardising the time variables to ensure that the responses\_LME\_time values are not too close to 0.

#### Value

List containing elements: data\_longitudinal, model\_longitudinal, model\_LME, and model\_LME\_standardise\_time.

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data\_longitudinal has one row for each individual in the risk set at x\_L and contains the value of the covariates at the landmark time x\_L of the predictors\_LME using the LOCF model and responses\_LME using the LME model.

model\_longitudinal indicates that the LME approach is used.

model\_LME contains the output from the lme function from package nlme. For a model using cross-validation, model\_LME contains a list of outputs with each element in the list corresponds to a different cross-validation fold.

model\_LME\_standardise\_time contains a list of two objects mean\_response\_time and sd\_response\_time if the parameter standardise\_time=TRUE is used. This is the mean and standard deviation used to normalise times when fitting the LME model.

fit\_LOCF\_landmark

Fit a landmark model using a last observation carried forward (LOCF) method for the longitudinal data

## **Description**

This function performs the two-stage landmarking analysis.

## Usage

```
fit_LOCF_landmark(
   data_long,
   x_L,
   x_hor,
   covariates,
   covariates_time,
   k,
   cross_validation_df,
   individual_id,
   event_time,
   event_status,
   survival_submodel = c("standard_cox", "cause_specific", "fine_gray"),
   b
)
```

## **Arguments**

data_long	Data frame or list of data frames each corresponding to a landmark age x_l	-
	(analy alament of the list must be named the value of v. Lit companyed to)	

(each element of the list must be named the value of x\_L it corresponds to). Each data frame contains repeat measurements data and time-to-event data in

long format.

x\_L Numeric specifying the landmark time(s)

x\_hor Numeric specifying the horizon time(s)

covariates Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the covariates

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covariates\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which covariates were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as covariates. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in covariates.

k

Integer specifying the number of folds for cross-validation. An alternative to setting parameter cross\_validation\_df for performing cross-validation; if both are missing no cross-validation is used.

cross\_validation\_df

List of data frames containing the cross-validation fold each individual is assigned to. Each data frame in the list should be named according to the landmark time x\_L that they correspond. Each data frame should contain the columns individual\_id and a column cross\_validation\_number which contains the cross-validation fold of the individual. An alternative to setting parameter k for performing cross-validation; if both are missing no cross-validation is used.

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the individual identifiers

event\_time Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the event time

Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the event status (where 0=censoring, 1=event of interest, if there are competing events these are labelled 2 or above).

survival\_submodel

event\_status

Character string specifying which survival submodel to use. Three options: the standard Cox model i.e. no competing risks ("standard\_cox"), the cause-specific regression model ("cause\_specific"), or the Fine Gray regression model ("fine\_gray")

Integer specifying the number of bootstrap samples to take when calculating standard error of c-index and Brier score

### **Details**

b

Firstly, this function selects the individuals in the risk set at the landmark time  $x_L$ . Specifically, the individuals in the risk set are those that have entered the study before the landmark time  $x_L$  (there is at least one observation for each of the predictors\_LME and random\_effects on or before  $x_L$ ) and exited the study after the landmark age (event\_time is greater than  $x_L$ ).

Secondly, if the option to use cross validation is selected (using either parameter k or cross\_validation\_df), then an extra column cross\_validation\_number is added with the cross-validation folds. If parameter k is used, then the function add\_cv\_number randomly assigns these folds. For more details on this function see ?add\_cv\_number. If the parameter cross\_validation\_df is used, then the folds specified in this data frame are added. If cross-validation is not selected then the landmark model is fit to the entire group of individuals in the risk set (this is both the training and test dataset).

Thirdly, the landmark model is then fit to each of the training datasets. There are two parts to fitting the landmark model: using the longitudinal data and using the survival data. Using the longitudinal data is the first stage and is performed using fit\_LOCF\_longitudinal. See ?fit\_LOCF\_longitudinal more for information about this function. This function censors the

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individuals at the time horizon x\_L and fits the survival model. Using the survival data is the second stage and is performed using fit\_survival\_model. See ?fit\_survival\_model more for information about this function.

Fourthly, the performance of the model is then assessed on the set of predictions from the entire set of individuals in the risk set by calculating Brier score and C-index. This is performed using get\_model\_assessment. See ?get\_model\_assessment more for information about this function.

#### Value

List containing containing information about the landmark model at each of the landmark times. Each element of this list is named the corresponding landmark time, and is itself a list containing elements: data, model\_longitudinal, model\_survival, and prediction\_error.

data has one row for each individual in the risk set at x\_L and contains the value of the covariates at the landmark time x\_L using the LOCF approach. It also includes the predicted probability that the event of interest has occurred by time x\_hor, labelled as "event\_prediction". There is one row for each individual.

model\_longitudinal indicates that the longitudinal approach is LOCF.

model\_survival contains the outputs from the function used to fit the survival submodel, including the estimated parameters of the model. For a model using cross-validation, model\_survival contains a list of outputs with each element in the list corresponding to a different cross-validation fold. For more information on how the survival model is fitted please see ?fit\_survival\_model which is a function used within fit\_LOCF\_landmark.

prediction\_error contains a list indicating the c-index and Brier score at time x\_hor and their standard errors if parameter b is used. For more information on how the prediction error is calculated please see ?get\_model\_assessment which is the function used to do this within fit\_LOCF\_landmark.

#### Author(s)

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## **Examples**

```
library(Landmarking)
data(data_repeat_outcomes)
data_model_landmark_LOCF <-
   fit_LOCF_landmark(
     data_long = data_repeat_outcomes,
     x_L = c(60, 61),
     x_{hor} = c(65, 66),
     covariates =
       c("ethnicity", "smoking", "diabetes", "sbp_stnd", "tchdl_stnd"),
     covariates time =
       c(rep("response_time_sbp_stnd", 4), "response_time_tchdl_stnd"),
     k = 10,
     individual_id = "id",
     event_time = "event_time",
     event_status = "event_status",
     survival_submodel = "cause_specific"
  )
```

fit\_LOCF\_longitudinal Find the last observation carried forward (LOCF) values for covariates in a dataset

#### **Description**

This function is a helper function for fit\_LOCF\_landmark.

## Usage

```
fit_LOCF_longitudinal(
  data_long,
  x_L,
  covariates,
  covariates_time,
  cv_name = NA,
  individual_id
)
```

# Arguments

Data frame in long format i.e. there may be more than one row per individual data\_long Numeric specifying the landmark time(s) x\_L Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which covariates correspond to the covariates covariates\_time Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which covariates were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as covariates. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in covariates. Character string specifying the column name in data\_long that indicates crosscv\_name validation fold Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the individual\_id

# Details

This function extracts the LOCF value for each of the covariates in data\_long up to (and including) time  $x_L$ .

#### Value

List containing data\_longitudinal, model\_longitudinal, and call.

data\_longitudinal has one row for each individual in data\_long and contains the LOCF value of covariates at the landmark time x\_L.

model\_longitudinal indicates that the LOCF approach is used.

individual identifiers

call contains the call of the function.

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## Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

fit\_survival\_model

Fit a survival sub-model as part of a landmarking analysis

## **Description**

This function is a helper function for fit\_LOCF\_landmark\_model and fit\_LME\_landmark\_model.

# Usage

```
fit_survival_model(
  data,
  individual_id,
  cv_name = NA,
  covariates,
  event_time,
  event_status,
  survival_submodel = c("standard_cox", "cause_specific", "fine_gray"),
  x_hor
)
```

## **Arguments**

data	Data frame containing covariates and time-to-event data, one row for each indi-
	vidual.
المائد المساطنين فالمسائد	Character string and if the column name in data which contains the indi

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data which contains the individual identifiers

cv\_name Character string specifying the column name in data that indicates cross-validation fold. If no cross-validation is needed, set this parameter to NA.

covariates Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the covariates

event\_time Character string specifying the column name in data which contains the event

time

event\_status Character string specifying the column name in data which contains the event

status (where 0=censoring, 1=event of interest, if there are competing events these are labelled 2 or above). Events at time x\_hor should be labelled censored.

survival\_submodel

Character string specifying which survival submodel to use. Three options: the standard Cox model i.e. no competing risks ("standard\_cox"), the cause-specific regression model ("cause\_specific"), or the Fine Gray regression

model("fine\_gray")

x\_hor Numeric specifying the horizon time(s)

#### **Details**

This function fits the survival model from the landmark model framework. The individuals are censored at the time horizon x\_hor and the survival model is fitted with covariates specified in parameter covariates.

For the survival model, there are three choices of model:

- the standard Cox model, this is a wrapper function for coxph from the package survival
- the cause-specific model, this is a wrapper function for CSC from package riskRegression
- the Fine Gray model, this is a wrapper function for FGR from package riskRegression

The latter two models estimate the probability of the event of interest in the presence of competing events.

#### Value

List containing data\_survival and model\_survival

data\_survival contains the predicted risk of event by the horizon time x\_hor.

model\_survival contains the outputs from the function used to fit the survival submodel, including the estimated parameters of the model. For a model using cross-validation, model\_survival contains a list of outputs with each element in the list corresponding to a different cross-validation fold.

## Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

```
get_model_assessment Compute C-index and Brier score
```

#### **Description**

Performs model assessment by computing the C-index and Brier score at time x\_hor. There is the option to calculate their standard errors using bootstraping.

## Usage

```
get_model_assessment(
  data,
  individual_id,
  event_prediction,
  event_status,
  event_time,
  x_hor,
  b
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

data Data frame containing survival outcomes and the event predictions from the

model, there should be one row for each individual

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data which contains the indi-

vidual identifiers

event\_prediction

Character string specifying the column name in data containing the predicted

probability of the event of interest

status (where 0=censoring, 1=event of interest, if there are competing events these are labelled 2 or above). Events at time x\_hor should be labelled censored.

event\_time Character string specifying the column name in data which contains the event

time.

x\_hor Numeric specifying the horizon time(s)

b Integer specifying the number of bootstrap samples to take when calculating

standard error of c-index and Brier score

#### **Details**

There are two factors in assessing the performance of a prediction model; its discrimination and its calibration. The c-index is a commonly used metric which assesses discrimination, this refers to the ability of the model to separate individuals into those that will have an event and those that will not. The c-index at a horizon time x\_hor looks at the pairs of individuals where one individual has the event at a time T and the other has not had the event at time T. It is calculated as the proportion of these pairs where their relative risk prediction agrees with the actual outcomes for the two individuals. This is extended to the competing risks case by comparing individuals where one had the event of interest at time T and the other individual either did not experience the event before this time T or experienced a competing event.

The Brier score gives an indication of the calibration of a model (and its discrimination to an extent), this refers to the agreement between the risk prediction and the outcome. The Brier score is calculated as the average mean squared error of the predicted risk and the event outcome (where an event is 1 and not experiencing the event is 0). This is extended to the competing risks case by including the competing risk events as not experiencing the event.

For both the c-index and Brier score calculations, inverse probability censoring weighting (IPCW) is used to create weights which account for the occurrence of censoring. The censoring model assumes for this function is the Kaplan Meier model, i.e. censoring occurs independently of covariates.

The c-index is calculated using the cindex function in package pec. The Brier score is calculated using pec function in package pec.

#### Value

List containing C-index, Brier score and their standard errors

## Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

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## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
library(Landmarking)
data(data_repeat_outcomes)
data_model_landmark_LOCF <-
  fit_LOCF_landmark(
   data_long = data_repeat_outcomes,
   x_L = c(60, 61),
    x_{hor} = c(65, 66),
    covariates =
      c("ethnicity", "smoking", "diabetes", "sbp_stnd", "tchdl_stnd"),
    covariates_time =
      c(rep("response_time_sbp_stnd", 4), "response_time_tchdl_stnd"),
    k = 10,
    individual_id = "id",
    event_time = "event_time",
   event_status = "event_status",
    survival_submodel = "cause_specific"
get_model_assessment(data = data_model_landmark_LOCF[["60"]]$data,
  individual_id = "id",
  event_prediction = "event_prediction",
  event_status = "event_status",
  event_time = "event_time",
  x_hor = 65,
  b = 100)
## End(Not run)
```

mixoutsamp

Calculate point estimates from a linear mixed effects (LME) model for new data

## **Description**

This function allows the user to make out-of-sample predictions from an LME model.

### Usage

```
mixoutsamp(model, newdata)
```

## **Arguments**

model

Object of class 1me containing the fitted LME model

newdata

Data frame containing data for which to make predictions. The response variable should be set to NA for the rows of the data the user wishes to make predictions for. The columns in the data should have the same names as those used to fit the model. The variables should also be of the same type as in the data used to fit the mixed model (numeric, factor etc).

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#### Value

List containing preddata and random. Data frame preddata is a version of newdata updated to contain columns corresponding to the fixed effects values (fixed), random effects values (random), and fitted values (fitted). Data frame random contains the values of random effects components for each individual.

#### Author(s)

This code was originally written by Ruth Keogh (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) which can be viewed at github.com/ruthkeogh/landmark\_CF. There have been further contributions from Jessica Barrett (MRC Biostatistics Unit, University of Cambridge), David Stevens (University of Liverpool), and Mike Sweeting (University of Leicester).

plot.landmark

Create a calibration plot

## **Description**

Creates a calibration plot for the landmark model fitted by fit\_LME\_landmark\_model or fit\_LOCF\_landmark\_model. This function plots the observed frequencies of the event of interest against the predicted probabilities of the event of interest.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'landmark'
plot(x, x_L, n, x_lims, y_lims, ...)
```

# Arguments

X	Object inheriting the class landmark, this should be the output from either fit_LME_landmark_model or fit_LOCF_landmark_model. It should contain a list of landmark models corresponding to different landmark times x_L.
x_L	Numeric specifying the landmark time. This indicates which landmark model in x to use.
n	Numeric specifying the number of bins to use.
x_lims	Vector of length 2 specifying the limits of the x axes
y_lims	Vector of length 2 specifying the limits of the y axes
	Arguments passed to ggplot2::labs to modify axis, legend, and plot labels

#### **Details**

This function bins the predicted probabilities of the event of interest into n bins. The event of interest is the event with event\_status=1 when fitting the landmark model. For each of the n sets of individuals, the Aalen-Johansen estimator is fit to that set and used to calculate the risk of an event at the horizon time. The predictions (from the landmark model) and the observed frequencies (from the Aalen-Johansen estimator) are plotted against each other. For a perfect prediction model, the points will be plotted along the y=x line.

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## Value

Calibration plot showing the value of predicted probabilities against observed frequencies, with a y=x line.

## **Examples**

```
library(Landmarking)
data(data_repeat_outcomes)
data_model_landmark_LOCF <-</pre>
 fit_LOCF_landmark(
    data_long = data_repeat_outcomes,
    x_L = c(60, 61),
   x_{hor} = c(65, 66),
   covariates =
      c("ethnicity", "smoking", "diabetes", "sbp_stnd", "tchdl_stnd"),
   covariates_time =
      c(rep("response_time_sbp_stnd", 4), "response_time_tchdl_stnd"),
   k = 10,
    individual_id = "id",
   event_time = "event_time",
   event_status = "event_status",
    survival_submodel = "cause_specific"
 plot(x=data_model_landmark_LOCF,x_L=60,n=5)
 plot(x=data_model_landmark_LOCF,x_L=61,n=5)
```

predict.landmark

Predict the risk of an event for a new individual using the landmark model

## **Description**

This function predicts the risk of an event for new data using the landmark model fitted by fit\_LME\_landmark or fit\_LOCF\_landmark. The 'event' is defined as event for which event\_status is 1.

#### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'landmark'
predict(object, x_L, x_hor, newdata, cv_fold = NA, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

object

Object inheriting the class landmark, this should be the output from either fit\_LME\_landmark or fit\_LOCF\_landmark. It should contain a list of landmark models corresponding to different landmark times x\_L.

x\_L

Numeric specifying the landmark time. This indicates which landmark model in object to use.

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x_hor	Numeric specifying the horizon time. The function assesses the risk of event before this time.
newdata	Data frame containing new data to return the risk prediction of the event of interest. The data should be in in long format and the columns must contain the covariates and time variables that are used to fit the model. For the LME model this the variables predictors_LME, responses_LME, predictors_LME_time, and responses_LME_time. For the LOCF model this is covariates and covariates_time.
cv_fold	If cross validation is used to fit fit_LME_landmark or fit_LOCF_landmark, then the cross validation fold to use when making risk predictions needs to be specified.
	Arguments passed on to riskRegression::predictRisk

## Value

Data frame newdata updated to contained a new column event\_prediction

## **Examples**

```
library(Landmarking)
data(data_repeat_outcomes)
data_model_landmark_LOCF <-</pre>
  fit_LOCF_landmark(
    data_long = data_repeat_outcomes,
   x_L = c(60, 61),
   x_{hor} = c(65, 66),
    covariates =
      c("ethnicity", "smoking", "diabetes", "sbp_stnd", "tchdl_stnd"),
   covariates_time =
     c(rep("response_time_sbp_stnd", 4), "response_time_tchdl_stnd"),
   k = 10,
    individual_id = "id",
   event_time = "event_time",
   event_status = "event_status",
    survival_submodel = "cause_specific"
  )
 newdata <-
   rbind(
     data.frame(
       id = c(3001, 3001, 3001),
       response_time_sbp_stnd = c(57, 58, 59),
       smoking = c(0, 0, 0),
       diabetes = c(0, 0, 0),
       ethnicity = c("Indian", "Indian", "Indian"),
       sbp\_stnd = c(0.45, 0.87, 0.85),
       tchdl_stnd = c(-0.7, 0.24, 0.3),
       response_time_tchdl_stnd = c(57, 58, 59)
     )
   )
 predict(object=data\_model\_landmark\_LOCF, x\_L=60, x\_hor=62, newdata=newdata, cv\_fold=1)
```

return\_ids\_with\_LOCF Select individuals in a dataset with a last observation carried forward (LOCF) at a landmark time

## Description

To fit the LOCF model, all individuals must have at least one non-NA entry by landmark time x\_L for all covariates. This function selects these individuals and removes the other rows.

## Usage

```
return_ids_with_LOCF(
  data_long,
  individual_id,
  x_L,
  covariates,
  covariates_time
)
```

## **Arguments**

data\_long Data frame with repeated measurements data in long format

individual\_id Character string specifying the column name in data\_long which contains the

individual identifiers

x\_L Numeric specifying the landmark time(s)

covariates Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which

correspond to the covariates

covariates\_time

Vector of character strings specifying the column names in data\_long which contain the times at which covariates were recorded. This should either be length 1 or the same length as covariates. In the latter case the order of elements must correspond to the order of elements in covariates.

#### **Details**

Individuals have a LOCF if there is a non-NA entry for each of the covariates in covariates up until (not including) time x\_L.

## Value

List of data frames which correspond to each landmark time x\_L. Each data frame is an updated version of data\_long which contains only rows of individuals with a LOCF at age x\_L, other rows are removed.

## Author(s)

Isobel Barrott <isobel.barrott@gmail.com>

# Examples

```
library(Landmarking)
data(data_repeat_outcomes)
data_repeat_outcomes <-
    return_ids_with_LOCF(
        data_long = data_repeat_outcomes,
        individual_id = "id",
        covariates =
            c("ethnicity", "smoking", "diabetes", "sbp_stnd", "tchdl_stnd"),
        covariates_time =
            c(rep("response_time_sbp_stnd", 4), "response_time_tchdl_stnd"),
        x_L = c(60,61)
)</pre>
```

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