

Package ‘GUILDS’

July 21, 2025

Type Package

Title Implementation of Sampling Formulas for the Unified Neutral Model of Biodiversity and Biogeography, with or without Guild Structure

Version 1.4.7

Maintainer Thijs Janzen <thijsjanzen@gmail.com>

Description A collection of sampling formulas for the unified neutral model of biogeography and biodiversity. Alongside the sampling formulas, it includes methods to perform maximum likelihood optimization of the sampling formulas, methods to generate data given the neutral model, and methods to estimate the expected species abundance distribution. Sampling formulas included in the GUILDS package are the Etienne Sampling Formula (Etienne 2005), the guild sampling formula, where guilds are assumed to differ in dispersal ability (Janzen et al. 2015), and the guilds sampling formula conditioned on guild size (Janzen et al. 2015).

License GPL-2

URL <https://github.com/thijsjanzen/GUILDS>

BugReports <https://github.com/thijsjanzen/GUILDS/issues>

Imports nloptr, pracma, Rcpp (>= 0.11.0)

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, testthat

LinkingTo Rcpp

Encoding UTF-8

NeedsCompilation yes

VignetteBuilder knitr

Author Thijs Janzen [aut, cre],
Bart Haegeman [ctb],
Franck Jabot [ctb],
Jerome Chave [ctb]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-03-11 20:10:02 UTC

Contents

GUILDS-package	2
expected.SAD	3
expected.SAD.Guilds	4
expected.SAD.Guilds.Conditional	5
generate.ESF	6
generate.Guilds	7
generate.Guilds.Cond	8
logLikelihood.ESF	9
logLikelihood.Guilds	10
logLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional	11
maxLikelihood.ESF	12
maxLikelihood.Guilds	13
maxLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional	14
preston_plot	16
Index	17

GUILDS-package	<i>Package implementing the Guilds sampling formula for the Neutral Theory of Biodiversity</i>
----------------	--

Description

The GUILDS package contains a number of sampling formula's being the Etienne Sampling Formula (Etienne 2005), the GUILDS sampling formula (Janzen et al. 2014) and the GUILDS sampling formula conditioned on guild Size (Janzen et al. 2015). Furthermore it contains functions to generate data given the guilds model, with or without conditioning on guild size. C++ Code to obtain Sterling numbers of the first kind was adopted from the Tetame program by Jabot et al. (2008).

Updates

Version 1.4 : Cleaner README and Vignettes
 Version 1.4 : Extend support to M1 processors where sizeof(long double) < 16
 Version 1.4 : Comply with _R_CHECK_LENGTH_0_LOGIC2_
 Version 1.3 : GUILDS is now on GitHub: <https://github.com/thijsjanzen/GUILDS>
 Version 1.3 : Wrote code tests to check code integrity, code coverage is >95%
 Version 1.3 : Modified maximum likelihood functions to take into account $\theta_x = \theta_y = \theta / 2$
 Version 1.3 : Added a plotting function to plot Preston style plots
 Version 1.2.1 : Updated the User manual
 Version 1.2 : fixed memory leak issues by adding extra vector access checks
 Version 1.2 : fixed memory leak issues by introducing vectors in KDA code
 Version 1.2 : renamed logLik to avoid shadowing of the function logLik in the package stats
 Version 1.1 : removed malloc header from KDA code

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Maintainer: Thijs Janzen <thijsjanzen@gmail.com>

References

Janzen, T., Haegeman B., Etienne, R.S. (2015) A sampling formula for communities with multiple dispersal syndromes. *Journal of Theoretical Biology* 374: 94-106

Etienne, R.S. (2005). A new sampling formula for neutral biodiversity. *Ecology Letters*, 8(3), 253-260.

Jabot, F., Etienne, R.S., & Chave, J. (2008). Reconciling neutral community models and environmental filtering: theory and an empirical test. *Oikos* 117: 1308-1320

expected.SAD	<i>Calculate the expected species abundance distribution of the standard neutral model, given theta, m and J</i>
--------------	--

Description

This function calculates the expected species abundance distribution of the standard neutral model given theta, m and J, sensu equation 6 from Etienne and Alonso (2005).

Usage

```
expected.SAD(theta, m, J)
```

Arguments

theta	Fundamental biodiversity number theta
m	migration parameter
J	Total number of individuals in the local community

Value

A vector containing the abundances binned into log2 bins (sensu Preston).

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen & Bart Haegeman

References

Etienne, R.S., & Alonso, D. (2005). A dispersal-limited sampling theory for species and alleles. *Ecology Letters*, 8(100), 1147-1156.

Examples

```
SAD <- expected.SAD(theta = 42, m = 0.1, J = 200)
barplot(SAD,
        names.arg=0:(length(SAD)-1),
        xlab="Number of individuals (log2)",
        ylab="Number of Species" )
```

expected.SAD.Guilds	<i>Estimate the expected species abundance distribution of both guilds using the guilds model, provided theta, alpha_x, alpha_y and J.</i>
---------------------	--

Description

This function estimates the expected species abundance distribution of both guilds using the guilds model, provided theta, alpha_x, alpha_y and J. The expected species abundance distribution is approximated by first drawing px from a beta distribution (equation 4 in Janzen et al. 2014). Then, guild sizes are drawn using equation 3 in Janzen et al. 2014. Because the abundance distributions of the two guilds are independent, the distributions can now be obtained using equation 6 in Etienne and Alonso 2005. Because drawing from the beta distribution and equation 3 is inherently stochastic, this function returns the average over a specified number of replicates.

Usage

```
expected.SAD.Guilds(theta, alpha_x, alpha_y, J, n_replicates = 100)
```

Arguments

theta	Fundamental biodiversity number theta
alpha_x	Dispersal ability of guild X
alpha_y	Dispersal ability of guild Y
J	Total number of individuals in the local community, e.g. $J = J_x + J_y$
n_replicates	Number of replicates to use to estimate the abundance distributions.

Value

guildX	Vector containing the mean abundances of species in Guild X, binned into log2 bins
guildY	Vector containing the mean abundances of species in Guild Y, binned into log2 bins

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen & Bart Haegeman

References

Etienne, R.S., & Alonso, D. (2005). A dispersal-limited sampling theory for species and alleles. Ecology Letters, 8(100), 1147-1156.

Examples

```
SADs <- expected.SAD.Guilds(theta = 42, alpha_x = 0.01, alpha_y = 0.1, J = 1000, n_replicates = 3)
par(mfrow=c(1,2));
barplot(SADs$guildX,names.arg=0:(length(SADs$guildX)-1),
xlab="Number of individuals (log2)",
ylab="Number of Species",main="Guild X" )

barplot(SADs$guildY,names.arg=0:(length(SADs$guildY)-1),
xlab="Number of individuals (log2)",
ylab="Number of Species",main="Guild Y" )
```

expected.SAD.Guilds.Conditional

Estimate the expected species abundance distribution of both guilds using the guilds model, provided theta, alpha_x, alpha_y, conditional on the size of guild X, Jx and the size of guild Y, Jy.

Description

This function estimates the expected species abundance distribution of both guilds using the guilds model, provided theta, alpha_x, alpha_y and J. The expected species abundance distribution is approximated by first drawing px from equation 9. Because the abundance distributions of the two guilds are independent, the distributions can now be obtained using equation 6 in Etienne and Alonso 2005. Because drawing from the beta distribution and equation 3 is inherently stochastic, this function returns the average over a specified number of replicates.

Usage

```
expected.SAD.Guilds.Conditional(theta, alpha_x, alpha_y, Jx, Jy, n_replicates = 100)
```

Arguments

theta	Fundamental biodiversity number theta
alpha_x	Dispersal ability of guild X
alpha_y	Dispersal ability of guild Y
Jx	Total number of individuals in guild X
Jy	Total number of individuals in guild Y
n_replicates	Number of replicates to use to estimate the abundance distributions.

Value

guildX	Vector containing the mean abundances of species in Guild X, binned into log2 bins
guildY	Vector containing the mean abundances of species in Guild Y, binned into log2 bins

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen & Bart Haegeman

References

Etienne, R.S., & Alonso, D. (2005). A dispersal-limited sampling theory for species and alleles. Ecology Letters, 8(100), 1147-1156.

Examples

```
SADs <- expected.SAD.Guilds.Conditional(theta = 42,
                                         alpha_x = 0.01,
                                         alpha_y = 0.1,
                                         Jx = 100,
                                         Jy = 200,
                                         n_replicates = 3)

par(mfrow=c(1,2))
barplot(SADs$guildX, names.arg=0:(length(SADs$guildX) - 1),
        xlab = "Number of individuals (log2)",
        ylab = "Number of Species", main = "Guild X" )
barplot(SADs$guildY, names.arg = 0:(length(SADs$guildY) - 1),
        xlab = "Number of individuals (log2)",
        ylab = "Number of Species", main = "Guild Y" )
```

generate.ESF	<i>Generate community data under the standard neutral model of biodiversity, using the urn scheme as described in Etienne 2005</i>
--------------	--

Description

This function generates community data under the standard neutral model of biodiversity, using the urn scheme as described in Etienne 2005

Usage

```
generate.ESF(theta, I, J)
```

Arguments

theta	Fundamental biodiversity number theta
I	Fundamental dispersal number I
J	total number of individuals in the local community

Value

Vector containing the unlabeled species abundances in the local community

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen & Bart Haegeman

References

Etienne, R.S. (2005). A new sampling formula for neutral biodiversity. Ecology Letters, 8(3), 253-260.

Examples

```
generate.ESF(theta = 42, I = 10, J = 2000)
```

generate.Guilds	<i>Generate Artificial data under the GUILDS model</i>
-----------------	--

Description

Using this function it is possible to generate a community dataset consisting of two separate abundance vectors for each guild, where the data generated adhere to the Guilds model.

Usage

```
generate.Guilds(theta, alpha_x, alpha_y, J)
```

Arguments

theta	Fundamental Biodiversity Number theta
alpha_x	Dispersal Ability of Guild X
alpha_y	Dispersal Ability of Guild Y
J	Total number of individuals in the local community (e.g. J_X + J_Y).

Value

guildX	Vector containing the unlabeled abundances of species in Guild X
guildY	Vector containing the unlabeled abundances of species in Guild Y

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
generate.Guilds(theta = 200,
                 alpha_x = 0.005,
                 alpha_y = 0.001,
                 J = 10000)
```

generate.Guilds.Cond	<i>Generate Artificial data under the GUILDS model, conditioned on Guild size</i>
----------------------	---

Description

Using this function it is possible to generate a community dataset consisting of two separate abundance vectors for each guild, where the data generated adhere to the Guilds model. Data generated is conditioned on guild size.

Usage

```
generate.Guilds.Cond(theta, alpha_x, alpha_y, JX, JY)
```

Arguments

theta	Fundamental Biodiversity Number theta
alpha_x	Dispersal Ability of Guild X
alpha_y	Dispersal Ability of Guild Y
JX	Total number of individuals in Guild X
JY	Total number of individuals in Guild Y

Value

guildX	Vector containing the unlabeled abundances of species in Guild X
guildY	Vector containing the unlabeled abundances of species in Guild Y

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
generate.Guilds.Cond(theta = 200,
                     alpha_x = 0.005,
                     alpha_y = 0.001,
                     JX = 15000,
                     JY = 5000);
```

logLikelihood.ESF	<i>Likelihood of the Etienne sampling formula</i>
-------------------	---

Description

This function calculates the likelihood of the Etienne Sampling Formula, provided abundance data and parameter values.

Usage

```
logLikelihood.ESF(theta, m, abund)
```

Arguments

theta	Parameter value for the fundamental biodiversity number theta
m	Parameter value for migration
abund	Vector containing abundance data

Value

Returns the LogLikelihood

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

References

Etienne, R.S. (2005). A new sampling formula for neutral biodiversity. Ecology Letters, 8(3), 253-260.

Examples

```
A <- c(1,1,1,3,5,8); #Artificial abundance dataset
LL <- logLikelihood.ESF(theta = 7, m = 0.1, abund = A)
```

logLikelihood.Guilds *Likelihood of the Guilds sampling formula*

Description

This function calculates the likelihood of the guilds model, provided abundance data and parameter values.

Usage

```
logLikelihood.Guilds(parameters, model, sadx, sady, verbose = TRUE)
```

Arguments

parameters	parameters corresponds to a vector of parameter values depending on the provided model: - model: "D0" parameters = c(theta, alpha) - model: "D1" parameters = c(theta, alpha X, alpha Y)
model	The chosen model to calculate the likelihood for, please note that the vector of parameters should contain the corresponding parameters in the right order. The user can pick one of these models: - "D0" - "D1"
sadx	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild X
sady	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild Y
verbose	TRUE/FALSE flag, indicates whether intermediate output is shown on screen

Value

returns the LogLikelihood

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
exampleData <- generate.Guilds(theta = 200,
                               alpha_x = 0.005,
                               alpha_y = 0.001,
                               J = 1000)
#theta = 200, alpha X = 0.005, alpha Y = 0.001
parametervals <- c(200, 0.005, 0.001)
LL = logLikelihood.Guilds(parametervals,
                          model = "D1",
```

```
exampleData$guildX,  
exampleData$guildY,  
verbose = TRUE)
```

`logLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional`*Likelihood of the Guilds sampling formula, conditional on guild size*

Description

This function calculates the likelihood of the guilds model, conditional on guild size; provided abundance data and parameter values.

Usage

```
logLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional(parameters, model, sadx, sady, verbose = TRUE)
```

Arguments

parameters	parameters corresponds to a vector of parameter values depending on the provided model: - model: "D0" parameters = c(theta, alpha) - model: "D1" parameters = c(theta, alpha X, alpha Y)
model	The chosen model to calculate the likelihood for, please note that the vector of parameters should contain the corresponding parameters in the right order. The user can pick one of these models: - "D0" - "D1"
sadx	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild X
sady	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild Y
verbose	TRUE/FALSE flag, indicates whether intermediate output is shown on screen

Value

returns the LogLikelihood

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
exampleData <- generate.Guilds.Cond(theta = 200,
                                   alpha_x = 0.005,
                                   alpha_y = 0.001,
                                   JX = 1000,
                                   JY = 2000)
#theta = 200, alpha X = 0.005, alpha Y = 0.001
parametervals <- c(200, 0.005, 0.001)
LL = logLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional(parametervals,
                                       model="D1",
                                       exampleData$guildX,
                                       exampleData$guildY,
                                       verbose=TRUE)
```

maxLikelihood.ESF	<i>Maximization of the loglikelihood given the standard Neutral Model, using the Etienne Sampling Formula</i>
-------------------	---

Description

This function computes the maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters of the Neutral model, using the Etienne Sampling Formula

Usage

```
maxLikelihood.ESF(init_vals, abund, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

init_vals	A vector of initial starting values, of the format c(theta, m)
abund	Vector containing a record of the number of individuals per species
verbose	TRUE/FALSE flag, indicates whether intermediate output is shown on screen

Value

the output is a list containing the following:

par	a vector containing the parameter values at the maximum likelihood c(theta, m)
fvalues	the likelihood at the corresponding parameter values
conv	gives a message on convergence of optimization; conv = 0 means convergence

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

References

Etienne, R.S. (2005). A new sampling formula for neutral biodiversity. Ecology Letters, 8(3), 253-260.

Examples

```
A <- c(1, 1, 1, 3, 5, 8)
maxLikelihood.ESF( c(7, 0.1), abund = A)
```

maxLikelihood.Guilds *Maximization of the loglikelihood under the Guilds Model.*

Description

This function computes the maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters of the guilds model.

Usage

```
maxLikelihood.Guilds(init_vals, model = "D0",
                      sadx, sady, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

init_vals	init_vals corresponds to a vector of parameter values in which to start the Maximum Likelihood algorithm, depending on the provided model: - model: "D0" parameters = c(theta, alpha) - model: "D1" parameters = c(theta, alpha X, alpha Y)
model	The chosen model to calculate the maximum likelihood for, please note that the vector of parameters should contain the corresponding parameters in the right order. The user can pick one of these models: - "D0" - "D1"
sadx	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild X
sady	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild Y
verbose	TRUE/FALSE flag, indicates whether intermediate output is shown on screen

Value

The output is a list containing the following:

par	a vector containing the parameter values at the maximum likelihood
value	the likelihood at the corresponding parameter values
counts	Number of function evaluations required

convergence	-2: invalid input -1: number of maximum function evaluations exceeded 0: success: convergence 1: limit of machine precision reached
message	A character string giving a diagnostic message from the optimizer,
hessian	Hessian matrix (not implemented for this package)

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
## Not run:
J <- 10000

theta <- 100
alpha_x <- 0.1

simul_data <- generate.Guilds(theta, alpha_x, alpha_x, J)

#initial parameters for the D0 model c(theta,alpha)
LL <- maxLikelihood.Guilds(init_vals = c(theta, alpha_x),
                           model = "D0",
                           sadx  = simul_data$guildX,
                           sady  = simul_data$guildY)

## End(Not run)
```

maxLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional

Maximization of the loglikelihood under the Guilds Model, conditioned on guild size.

Description

This function computes the maximum likelihood estimates of the parameters of the guilds model, conditioned on guild size.

Usage

```
maxLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional(init_vals, model, sadx, sady, verbose = TRUE)
```

Arguments

<code>init_vals</code>	<code>init_vals</code> corresponds to a vector of parameter values in which to start the Maximum Likelihood algorithm, depending on the provided model: - model: "D0" parameters = c(theta, alpha) - model: "D1" parameters = c(theta, alpha X, alpha Y)
<code>model</code>	The chosen model to calculate the maximum likelihood for, please note that the vector of parameters should contain the corresponding parameters in the right order. The user can pick one of these models: - "D0" - "D1"
<code>sadx</code>	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild X
<code>sady</code>	The Species Abundance Distribution of guild Y
<code>verbose</code>	TRUE/FALSE flag, indicates whether intermediate output is shown on screen

Value

The output is a list containing the following:

<code>par</code>	a vector containing the parameter values at the maximum likelihood
<code>value</code>	the likelihood at the corresponding parameter values
<code>counts</code>	Number of function evaluations required
<code>convergence</code>	-2: invalid input -1: number of maximum function evaluations exceeded 0: success: convergence 1: limit of machine precision reached
<code>message</code>	A character string giving a diagnostic message from the optimizer,
<code>hessian</code>	Hessian matrix (not implemented for this package)

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
theta = 20
alpha = 0.1
initParams <- c(theta, alpha)
maxLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional(initParams,
                                model = "D0",
                                sadx = 1:20,
                                sady = 1:20,
                                verbose = TRUE)
```

preston_plot	<i>Barplot in Preston style of an abundance dataset</i>
--------------	---

Description

This function first sorts abundances into octaves, and then plots the resulting distribution.

Usage

```
preston_plot(abund, expected, ...)
```

Arguments

abund	vector containing the number of individuals per species
expected	vector containing the expected number of species per octave
...	further graphical arguments that can be passed to <code>barplot()</code>

Author(s)

Thijs Janzen

Examples

```
theta = 10
m = 0.1
J = 1000
I = m * (J - 1) / (1 - m)

abund <- generate.ESF(theta, I, J)
par(mfrow = c(1,2))
preston_plot(abund)
abund.expect <- expected.SAD(theta, m, J)
preston_plot(abund, abund.expect)
```

Index

- * **Etienne Sampling Formula**

- GUILDS-package, [2](#)

- * **GUILDS**

- GUILDS-package, [2](#)

- * **Guilds**

- generate.Guilds.Cond, [8](#)

- * **Neutral Theory**

- generate.Guilds.Cond, [8](#)

- GUILDS-package, [2](#)

expected.SAD, [3](#)

expected.SAD.Guilds, [4](#)

expected.SAD.Guilds.Conditional, [5](#)

generate.ESF, [6](#)

generate.Guilds, [7](#)

generate.Guilds.Cond, [8](#)

GUILDS (GUILDS-package), [2](#)

GUILDS-package, [2](#)

logLikelihood.ESF, [9](#)

logLikelihood.Guilds, [10](#)

logLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional, [11](#)

maxLikelihood.ESF, [12](#)

maxLikelihood.Guilds, [13](#)

maxLikelihood.Guilds.Conditional, [14](#)

preston_plot, [16](#)