

Package ‘niarules’

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Type Package

Title Numerical Association Rule Mining using Population-Based Nature-Inspired Algorithms

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Description Framework is devoted to mining numerical association rules through the utilization of nature-inspired algorithms for optimization. Drawing inspiration from the 'NiaARM' 'Python' and the 'NiaARM' 'Julia' packages, this repository introduces the capability to perform numerical association rule mining in the R programming language.

Fister Jr., Iglesias, Galvez, Del Ser, Osaba and Fister (2018) <[doi:10.1007/978-3-030-03493-1_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-03493-1_9)>.

URL <https://github.com/firefly-cpp/niarules>

BugReports <https://github.com/firefly-cpp/niarules/issues>

Depends R (>= 4.0.0)

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Imports stats, utils

Suggests testthat

NeedsCompilation no

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add_attribute	<i>Add an attribute to the "rule" list.</i>
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Description

This function adds an attribute to the existing list.

Usage

```
add_attribute(rules, name, type, border1, border2, value)
```

Arguments

rules	The current rules list.
name	The name of the feature in the rule.
type	The type of the feature in the rule.
border1	The first border value in the rule.
border2	The second border value in the rule.
value	The value associated with the rule.

Value

The updated rules list.

Examples

```
rules <- list()
new_rules <- add_attribute(rules, "feature1", "numerical", 0.2, 0.8, "EMPTY")
```

build_rule	<i>Build rules based on a candidate solution.</i>
------------	---

Description

This function takes a candidate solution vector and a features list and builds rule.

Usage

```
build_rule(solution, features)
```

Arguments

solution	The solution vector.
features	The features list.

Value

A rule.

calculate_border	<i>Calculate the border value based on feature information and a given value.</i>
------------------	---

Description

This function calculates the border value for a feature based on the feature information and a given value.

Usage

```
calculate_border(feature_info, value)
```

Arguments

feature_info	Information about the feature.
value	The value to calculate the border for.

Value

The calculated border value.

Examples

```
feature_info <- list(type = "numerical", lower_bound = 0, upper_bound = 1)
border_value <- calculate_border(feature_info, 0.5)
```

calculate_fitness	<i>Calculate the fitness of an association rule.</i>
-------------------	--

Description

This function calculates the fitness of an association rule using support and confidence.

Usage

```
calculate_fitness(supp, conf)
```

Arguments

supp	The support of the association rule.
conf	The confidence of the association rule.

Value

The fitness of the association rule.

calculate_selected_category	<i>Calculate the selected category based on a value and the number of categories.</i>
-----------------------------	---

Description

This function calculates the selected category based on a given value and the total number of categories.

Usage

```
calculate_selected_category(value, num_categories)
```

Arguments

value The value to calculate the category for.
num_categories The total number of categories.

Value

The calculated selected category.

Examples

```
selected_category <- calculate_selected_category(0.3, 5)
```

check_attribute	<i>Check if the attribute conditions are satisfied for an instance.</i>
-----------------	---

Description

This function checks if the attribute conditions specified in the association rule are satisfied for a given instance row.

Usage

```
check_attribute(attribute, instance_row)
```

Arguments

attribute An attribute with type and name information.
instance_row A row representing an instance in the dataset.

Value

TRUE if conditions are satisfied, FALSE otherwise.

cut_point	<i>Calculate the cut point for an association rule.</i>
-----------	---

Description

This function calculates the cut point, denoting which part of the vector belongs to the antecedent and which to the consequent of the mined association rule.

Usage

```
cut_point(sol, num_attr)
```

Arguments

sol	The cut value from the solution vector.
num_attr	The number of attributes in the association rule.

Value

The cut point value.

differential_evolution	<i>Implementation of Differential Evolution metaheuristic algorithm.</i>
------------------------	--

Description

This function uses Differential Evolution, a stochastic population-based optimization algorithm, to find the optimal numerical association rule.

Usage

```
differential_evolution(
  d = 10,
  np = 10,
  f = 0.5,
  cr = 0.9,
  nfes = 1000,
  features,
  data,
  is_time_series = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

d	Dimension of the problem (default: 10).
np	Population size (default: 10).
f	The differential weight, controlling the amplification of the difference vector (default: 0.5).
cr	The crossover probability, determining the probability of a component being replaced (default: 0.9).
nfes	The maximum number of function evaluations (default: 1000).
features	A list containing information about features, including type and bounds.
data	A data frame representing instances in the dataset.
is_time_series	A boolean indicating whether the dataset is time series.

Value

A list containing the best solution, its fitness value, and the number of function evaluations and list of identified association rules.

evaluate

Evaluate a candidate solution, with optional time series filtering.

Description

This function evaluates the fitness of an association rule using support and confidence. If time series data is used, it restricts evaluation to the specified time range.

Usage

```
evaluate(solution, features, instances, is_time_series = FALSE)
```

Arguments

solution	A vector representing a candidate solution.
features	A list containing information about features.
instances	A data frame representing dataset instances.
is_time_series	A boolean flag indicating if time series filtering is required.

Value

A list containing fitness and identified rules.

extract_feature_info	<i>Extract feature information from a dataset, excluding timestamps.</i>
----------------------	--

Description

This function analyzes the given dataset and extracts information about each feature.

Usage

```
extract_feature_info(data, timestamp_col = "timestamp")
```

Arguments

data	The dataset to analyze.
timestamp_col	Optional. The name of the timestamp column to exclude from features.

Value

A list containing information about each feature, including type and bounds/categories.

feature_position	<i>Get the position of a feature.</i>
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Description

This function returns the position of a feature in the vector, considering the type of the feature.

Usage

```
feature_position(features, feature)
```

Arguments

features	The features list.
feature	The name of the feature to find.

Value

The position of the feature.

Examples

```
features <- list(
  feature1 = list(type = "numerical"),
  feature2 = list(type = "categorical"),
  feature3 = list(type = "numerical")
)
position <- feature_position(features, "feature2")
```

fix_borders*Fix Borders of a Numeric Vector*

Description

This function ensures that all values greater than 1.0 are set to 1.0, and all values less than 0.0 are set to 0.0.

Usage

```
fix_borders(vector)
```

Arguments

vector A numeric vector to be processed.

Value

A numeric vector with borders fixed.

format_rule_parts*Format Rule Parts*

Description

This function formats the parts of an association rule into a string.

Usage

```
format_rule_parts(parts)
```

Arguments

parts A list containing parts of an association rule.

Value

A formatted string representing the rule parts.

map_to_ts

Map solution boundaries to time series instances.

Description

This function maps the lower and upper bounds of the solution vector to a subset of the dataset.

Usage

```
map_to_ts(lower, upper, instances)
```

Arguments

lower	The lower bound in [0, 1].
upper	The upper bound in [0, 1].
instances	The full dataset.

Value

A list with 'low', 'up', and 'filtered_instances'.

print_association_rules

Print Numerical Association Rules

Description

This function prints association rules including antecedent, consequence, support, confidence, and fitness. For time series datasets, it also includes the start and end timestamps instead of indices.

Usage

```
print_association_rules(rules, is_time_series = FALSE, timestamps = NULL)
```

Arguments

rules	A list containing association rules.
is_time_series	A boolean flag indicating if time series information should be included.
timestamps	A vector of timestamps corresponding to the time series data.

Value

Prints the association rules.

print_feature_info	<i>Print feature information extracted from a dataset.</i>
--------------------	--

Description

This function prints the information extracted about each feature.

Usage

```
print_feature_info(feature_info)
```

Arguments

`feature_info` The list containing information about each feature.

Value

A message is printed to the console for each feature, providing information about the feature's type, and additional details such as lower and upper bounds for numerical features, or categories for categorical features. No explicit return value is generated.

problem_dimension	<i>Calculate the dimension of the problem, excluding timestamps.</i>
-------------------	--

Description

Calculate the dimension of the problem, excluding timestamps.

Usage

```
problem_dimension(feature_info, is_time_series = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`feature_info` A list containing information about each feature.
`is_time_series` Boolean indicating if time series data is present.

Value

The calculated dimension based on the feature types.

read_dataset	<i>Read a CSV Dataset</i>
--------------	---------------------------

Description

Reads a dataset from a CSV file and optionally parses a timestamp column.

Usage

```
read_dataset(
  dataset_path,
  timestamp_col = "timestamp",
  timestamp_formats = c("%d/%m/%Y %H:%M:%S", "%H:%M:%S %d/%m/%Y")
)
```

Arguments

`dataset_path` A string specifying the path to the CSV file.

`timestamp_col` A string specifying the timestamp column name (default: "timestamp").

`timestamp_formats` A vector of date-time formats to try for parsing timestamps.

Value

A data frame containing the dataset.

rs	<i>Simple Random Search</i>
----	-----------------------------

Description

This function generates a vector of random solutions for a specified length.

Usage

```
rs(candidate_len)
```

Arguments

`candidate_len` The length of the vector of random solutions.

Value

A vector of random solutions between 0 and 1.

Examples

```
candidate_len <- 10
random_solutions <- rs(candidate_len)
print(random_solutions)
```

supp_conf

*Calculate support and confidence for an association rule.***Description**

This function calculates the support and confidence for the given antecedent and consequent in the dataset instances.

Usage

```
supp_conf(antecedent, consequent, instances, features)
```

Arguments

antecedent	The antecedent part of the association rule.
consequent	The consequent part of the association rule.
instances	A data frame representing instances in the dataset.
features	A list containing information about features, including type and bounds.

Value

A list containing support and confidence values.

write_association_rules_to_csv

*Write Association Rules to CSV file***Description**

This function writes association rules to a CSV file. For time series datasets, it also includes start and end timestamps instead of indices.

Usage

```
write_association_rules_to_csv(
  rules,
  file_path,
  is_time_series = FALSE,
  timestamps = NULL
)
```

Arguments

<code>rules</code>	A list of association rules.
<code>file_path</code>	The file path for the CSV output.
<code>is_time_series</code>	A boolean flag indicating if time series information should be included.
<code>timestamps</code>	A vector of timestamps corresponding to the time series data.

Value

No explicit return value. The function writes association rules to a CSV file.

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