# Package 'EpiNow2'

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**Type** Package

**Title** Estimate and Forecast Real-Time Infection Dynamics

**Version** 1.9.0

**Description** Estimates the time-varying reproduction number, rate of spread, and doubling time using a renewal equation approach combined with Bayesian inference via Stan. Supports Gaussian process and random walk priors for modelling changes in transmission over time. Accounts for delays between infection and observation (incubation period, reporting delays), right-truncation in recent data, day-of-week effects, and observation overdispersion. Can estimate relationships between primary and secondary outcomes (e.g., cases to hospitalisations or deaths) and forecast both. Runs across multiple regions in parallel. Based on Abbott et al. (2020) <doi:10.12688/wellcomeopenres.16006.1> and Gostic et al. (2020) <doi:10.1101/2020.06.18.20134858>.

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---

`+.dist_spec` *Creates a delay distribution as the sum of two other delay distributions.*

---

## Description

Creates a delay distribution as the sum of two other delay distributions.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
e1 + e2
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `e1` | The first delay distribution (of type <dist_spec>) to combine. |
| `e2` | The second delay distribution (of type <dist_spec>) to combine. |

## Value

A delay distribution representing the sum of the two delays

## Examples

```
# A fixed lognormal distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = 1.6, sdlog = 1, max = 20
)
dist1 + dist1

# An uncertain gamma distribution with shape and rate normally distributed
# as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(3, 0.5),
  rate = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)
dist1 + dist2
```

## ==.dist_spec *Compares two delay distributions*

### Description

Compares two delay distributions

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
e1 == e2

## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
e1 != e2
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| e1 | The first delay distribution (of type <dist_spec>) to combine. |
| e2 | The second delay distribution (of type <dist_spec>) to combine. |

### Value

TRUE or FALSE

### Examples

```
Fixed(1) == Normal(1, 0.5)
```

## add_breakpoints *Add breakpoints to certain dates in a data set.*

### Description

Add breakpoints to certain dates in a data set.

### Usage

```
add_breakpoints(data, dates = as.Date(character(0)))
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date). confirm must be numeric and date must be in date format. Optionally, data can also have a logical accumulate column which indicates whether data should be added to the next data point. This is useful when modelling e.g. weekly incidence data. See also the fill_missing() function which helps add the accumulate column with the desired properties when dealing with non-daily data. If any accumulation is done this happens after truncation as specified by the truncation argument. If all entries of confirm are missing (NA) the returned estimates will represent the prior distributions. |
| dates | A vector of dates to use as breakpoints. |

### Value

A data.table with breakpoint set to 1 on each of the specified dates.

### Examples

```
reported_cases <- add_breakpoints(example_confirmed, as.Date("2020-03-26"))
```

---

## apply_zero_threshold *Convert zero case counts to* NA *(missing) if the 7-day average is above a threshold.*

---

### Description

This function aims to detect spurious zeroes by comparing the 7-day average of the case counts to a threshold. If the 7-day average is above the threshold, the zero case count is replaced with NA.

### Usage

```
apply_zero_threshold(data, threshold = Inf, obs_column = "confirm")
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date). confirm must be numeric and date must be in date format. Optionally, data can also have a logical accumulate column which indicates whether data should be added to the next data point. This is useful when modelling e.g. weekly incidence data. See also the fill_missing() function which helps add the accumulate column with the desired properties when dealing with non-daily data. If any accumulation is done this happens after truncation as specified by the truncation argument. If all entries of confirm are missing (NA) the returned estimates will represent the prior distributions. |
| threshold | Numeric, defaults to Inf. Indicates if detected zero cases are meaningful by using a threshold number of cases based on the 7-day average. If the average is above this threshold at the time of a zero observation count then the zero is replaced with a missing (NA) count and thus ignored in the likelihood. |

obs_column — Character (default: "confirm"). If given, only the column specified here will be used for checking missingness. This is useful if using a data set that has multiple columns of hwich one of them corresponds to observations that are to be processed here.

## Value

A data.table with the zero threshold applied.

---

# as_forecast_sample *Convert EpiNow2 model output to a* forecast_sample *object*

---

## Description

**[Experimental]** Convert outputs of EpiNow2 fitting and forecasting functions to `forecast_sample` objects via `scoringutils::as_forecast_sample()` for evaluating predictive performance. Methods are provided for objects returned by `epinow()`, `estimate_infections()`, `forecast_secondary()`, and `estimate_truncation()`.

These methods extract sample-level posterior predictions via `get_predictions()` with `format = "sample"`, merge them with the supplied observations on `date`, and pass the result to `scoringutils::as_forecast_sample`

scoringutils is an optional dependency; calling these methods without it installed gives an informative error.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_infections'
as_forecast_sample(data, observations, horizon = 0, ...)

## S3 method for class 'epinow'
as_forecast_sample(data, observations, horizon = 0, ...)

## S3 method for class 'forecast_secondary'
as_forecast_sample(data, observations, horizon = 0, ...)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_truncation'
as_forecast_sample(data, observations, horizon = -Inf, ...)
```

## Arguments

data — Output of `epinow()`, `estimate_infections()`, `forecast_secondary()`, or `estimate_truncation()`.

observations — A <data.frame> of observed values to score against. Must contain a `date` column. For `epinow()` and `estimate_infections()` objects must also contain a `confirm` column; for `forecast_secondary()` objects a `secondary` column; for `estimate_truncation()` objects a `confirm` column representing the latest, least-truncated observations.

| | |
|---|---|
| horizon | Numeric scalar lower bound on the horizon column of get_predictions() output. Predictions with a horizon value at or above this bound are retained. Defaults to 0 for epinow(), estimate_infections() and forecast_secondary() (i.e. forecast period only) and to -Inf for estimate_truncation() (keep all reconstructed horizons). Pass horizon = -Inf to disable filtering. |
| ... | Additional arguments passed to scoringutils::as_forecast_sample(). forecast_unit is set automatically from the object class (forecast_date, date, horizon, plus dataset for estimate_truncation()) and cannot be overridden. |

## Value

A forecast_sample object as returned by scoringutils::as_forecast_sample(). Rows for which observations does not provide a value on the corresponding date are dropped.

## See Also

get_predictions() for the underlying sample extraction.

## Examples

```
library(scoringutils)

# samples and calculation time have been reduced for this example
# for real analyses, use at least samples = 2000
fit <- estimate_infections(example_confirmed[1:40],
  generation_time = gt_opts(example_generation_time),
  delays = delay_opts(example_incubation_period + example_reporting_delay),
  rt = rt_opts(prior = LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 0.2)),
  stan = stan_opts(samples = 100, warmup = 200)
)

forecast_obj <- as_forecast_sample(fit, observations = example_confirmed)
score(forecast_obj)
```

---

# backcalc_opts *Back Calculation Options*

---

## Description

Defines a list specifying the optional arguments for the back calculation of cases. Only used if rt = NULL.

## Usage

```
backcalc_opts(
  prior = c("reports", "none", "infections"),
  prior_window = 14,
  rt_window = 1
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| prior | A character string defaulting to "reports". Defines the prior to use when deconvolving. Currently implemented options are to use smoothed mean delay shifted reported cases ("reports"), to use the estimated infections from the previous time step seeded for the first time step using mean shifted reported cases ("infections"), or no prior ("none"). Using no prior will result in poor real time performance. No prior and using infections are only supported when a Gaussian process is present . If observed data is not reliable then it a sensible first step is to explore increasing the `prior_window` wit a sensible second step being to no longer use reported cases as a prior (i.e set `prior = "none"`). |
| prior_window | Integer, defaults to 14 days. The mean centred smoothing window to apply to mean shifted reports (used as a prior during back calculation). 7 days is minimum recommended settings as this smooths day of the week effects but depending on the quality of the data and the amount of information users wish to use as a prior (higher values equalling a less informative prior). |
| rt_window | Integer, defaults to 1. The size of the centred rolling average to use when estimating Rt. This must be odd so that the central estimate is included. |

## Value

A <backcalc_opts> object of back calculation settings.

## Examples

```
# default settings
backcalc_opts()
```

---

# bootstrapped_dist_fit *Fit a Subsampled Bootstrap to Integer Values and Summarise Distribution Parameters*

---

## Description

Fits an integer adjusted distribution to a subsampled bootstrap of data and then integrates the posterior samples into a single set of summary statistics. Can be used to generate a robust reporting delay that accounts for the fact the underlying delay likely varies over time or that the size of the available reporting delay sample may not be representative of the current case load.

## Usage

```
bootstrapped_dist_fit(
  values,
  dist = "lognormal",
  samples = 2000,
  bootstraps = 10,
  bootstrap_samples = 250,
  max_value,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| values | Integer vector of values. |
| dist | Character string, which distribution to fit. Defaults to lognormal ("lognormal") but gamma ("gamma") is also supported. |
| samples | Numeric, number of samples to take overall from the bootstrapped posteriors. |
| bootstraps | Numeric, defaults to 1. The number of bootstrap samples (with replacement) of the delay distribution to take. If samples is less than bootstraps, samples takes the value of bootstraps. |
| bootstrap_samples | Numeric, defaults to 250. The number of samples to take in each bootstrap if the sample size of the supplied delay distribution is less than its value. |
| max_value | Numeric, defaults to the maximum value in the observed data. Maximum delay to allow (added to output but does impact fitting). |
| verbose | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should progress messages be printed. |

## Value

A <dist_spec> object summarising the bootstrapped distribution

## Examples

```
# lognormal
# bootstraps and samples have been reduced for this example
# for real analyses, use more
delays <- rlnorm(500, log(5), 1)
out <- bootstrapped_dist_fit(delays,
  samples = 500, bootstraps = 2,
  dist = "lognormal"
)
out
```

## bound_dist *Define bounds of a* <dist_spec>

### Description

This sets attributes for further processing

### Usage

```
bound_dist(x, max = Inf, cdf_cutoff = 0)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec>. |
| max | Numeric, maximum value of the distribution. The distribution will be truncated at this value. Default: Inf, i.e. no maximum. |
| cdf_cutoff | Numeric; the desired CDF cutoff. Any part of the cumulative distribution function beyond 1 minus the value of this argument is removed. Default: 0, i.e. use the full distribution. |

### Value

a <dist_spec> with relevant attributes set that define its bounds

## c.dist_spec *Combines multiple delay distributions for further processing*

### Description

This combines the parameters so that they can be fed as multiple delay distributions to epinow() or estimate_infections().

Note that distributions that already are combinations of other distributions cannot be combined with other combinations of distributions.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
c(...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| ... | The delay distributions to combine |

### Value

Combined delay distributions (with class <dist_spec>)

## Examples

```
# A fixed lognormal distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = 1.6, sdlog = 1, max = 20
)
dist1 + dist1

# An uncertain gamma distribution with shape and rate normally distributed
# as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(3, 0.5),
  rate = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)
c(dist1, dist2)
```

---

# calc_CrI *Calculate Credible Interval*

---

## Description

Adds symmetric a credible interval based on quantiles.

## Usage

```
calc_CrI(samples, summarise_by = NULL, CrI = 0.9)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| samples | A data.table containing at least a value variable |
| summarise_by | A character vector of variables to group by. |
| CrI | Numeric between 0 and 1. The credible interval for which to return values. Defaults to 0.9. |

## Value

A data.table containing the upper and lower bounds for the specified credible interval.

## Examples

```
samples <- data.frame(value = 1:10, type = "car")
# add 90% credible interval
calc_CrI(samples)
# add 90% credible interval grouped by type
calc_CrI(samples, summarise_by = "type")
```

## calc_CrIs *Calculate Credible Intervals*

### Description

Adds symmetric credible intervals based on quantiles.

### Usage

```
calc_CrIs(samples, summarise_by = NULL, CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9))
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| samples | A data.table containing at least a value variable |
| summarise_by | A character vector of variables to group by. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |

### Value

A data.table containing the summarise_by variables and the specified lower and upper credible intervals.

### Examples

```
samples <- data.frame(value = 1:10, type = "car")
# add credible intervals
calc_CrIs(samples)
# add 90% credible interval grouped by type
calc_CrIs(samples, summarise_by = "type")
```

## calc_summary_measures *Calculate All Summary Measures*

### Description

Calculate summary statistics and credible intervals from a <data.frame> by group.

### Usage

```
calc_summary_measures(
  samples,
  summarise_by = NULL,
  order_by = NULL,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9)
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| samples | A data.table containing at least a value variable |
| summarise_by | A character vector of variables to group by. |
| order_by | A character vector of parameters to order by, defaults to all summarise_by variables. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |

### Value

A data.table containing summary statistics by group.

### Examples

```
samples <- data.frame(value = 1:10, type = "car")
# default
calc_summary_measures(samples)
#  by type
calc_summary_measures(samples, summarise_by = "type")
```

---

## calc_summary_stats *Calculate Summary Statistics*

---

### Description

Calculate summary statistics from a <data.frame> by group. Currently supports the mean, median and standard deviation.

### Usage

```
calc_summary_stats(samples, summarise_by = NULL)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| samples | A data.table containing at least a value variable |
| summarise_by | A character vector of variables to group by. |

### Value

A data.table containing the upper and lower bounds for the specified credible interval

### Examples

```
samples <- data.frame(value = 1:10, type = "car")
# default
calc_summary_stats(samples)
#  by type
calc_summary_stats(samples, summarise_by = "type")
```

## clean_nowcasts *Clean Nowcasts for a Supplied Date*

### Description

This function removes nowcasts in the format produced by EpiNow2 from a target directory for the date supplied.

### Usage

```
clean_nowcasts(date = Sys.Date(), nowcast_dir = ".")
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| date | Date object. Defaults to today's date |
| nowcast_dir | Character string giving the filepath to the nowcast results directory. Defaults to the current directory. |

### Value

No return value, called for side effects

## clean_regions *Clean Regions*

### Description

Removes regions with insufficient time points, and provides logging information on the input.

### Usage

```
clean_regions(data, non_zero_points)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date), and region (region). |
| non_zero_points | Numeric, the minimum number of time points with non-zero cases in a region required for that region to be evaluated. Defaults to 7. |

### Value

A dataframe of cleaned regional data

### See Also

regional_epinow()

## collapse *Collapse nonparametric distributions in a <dist_spec>*

### Description

This convolves any consecutive nonparametric distributions contained in the <dist_spec>.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
collapse(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec> |
| ... | ignored |

### Value

A <dist_spec> where consecutive nonparametric distributions have been convolved

### Examples

```
# A fixed gamma distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- Gamma(mean = 5, sd = 1, max = 20)

# An uncertain lognormal distribution with meanlog and sdlog normally
# distributed as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = Normal(3, 0.5),
  sdlog = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)

# The maxf the sum of two distributions
collapse(discretise(dist1 + dist2, strict = FALSE))
```

## convert_to_logmean *Convert mean and sd to log mean for a log normal distribution*

### Description

Convert from mean and standard deviation to the log mean of the lognormal distribution. Useful for defining distributions supported by `estimate_infections()`, `epinow()`, and `regional_epinow()`.

## Usage

```
convert_to_logmean(mean, sd)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| mean | Numeric, mean of a distribution |
| sd | Numeric, standard deviation of a distribution |

## Value

The log mean of a lognormal distribution

## Examples

```
convert_to_logmean(2, 1)
```

---

# convert_to_logsd *Convert mean and sd to log standard deviation for a log normal distribution*

---

## Description

Convert from mean and standard deviation to the log standard deviation of the lognormal distribution. Useful for defining distributions supported by `estimate_infections()`, `epinow()`, and `regional_epinow()`.

## Usage

```
convert_to_logsd(mean, sd)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| mean | Numeric, mean of a distribution |
| sd | Numeric, standard deviation of a distribution |

## Value

The log standard deviation of a lognormal distribution

## Examples

```
convert_to_logsd(2, 1)
```

`convolve_and_scale` *Convolve and scale a time series*

## Description

This applies a lognormal convolution with given, potentially time-varying parameters representing the parameters of the lognormal distribution used for the convolution and an optional scaling factor. This is akin to the model used in `estimate_secondary()` and `simulate_secondary()`.

## Usage

```
convolve_and_scale(
  data,
  type = c("incidence", "prevalence"),
  family = c("none", "poisson", "negbin"),
  delay_max = 30,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `data` | A `<data.frame>` containing the `date` of report and `primary` cases as a numeric vector. |
| `type` | A character string indicating the type of observation the secondary reports are. Options include:<br>• "incidence": Assumes that secondary reports equal a convolution of previously observed primary reported cases. An example application is deaths from an infectious disease predicted by reported cases of that disease (or estimated infections).<br>• "prevalence": Assumes that secondary reports are cumulative and are defined by currently observed primary reports minus a convolution of secondary reports. An example application is hospital bed usage predicted by hospital admissions. |
| `family` | Character string defining the observation model. Options are Negative binomial ("negbin"), the default, Poisson ("poisson"), and "none" meaning the expectation is returned. |
| `delay_max` | Integer, defaulting to 30 days. The maximum delay used in the convolution model. |
| `...` | Additional parameters to pass to the observation model (i.e `rnbinom` or `rpois`). |

## Details

Up to version 1.4.0 this function was called `simulate_secondary()`.

## Value

A `<data.frame>` containing simulated data in the format required by `estimate_secondary()`.

## See Also

estimate_secondary()

## Examples

```
# load data.table for manipulation
library(data.table)

#### Incidence data example ####

# make some example secondary incidence data
cases <- example_confirmed
cases <- as.data.table(cases)[, primary := confirm]

# Assume that only 40 percent of cases are reported
cases[, scaling := 0.4]

# Parameters of the assumed log normal delay distribution
cases[, meanlog := 1.8][, sdlog := 0.5]

# Simulate secondary cases
cases <- convolve_and_scale(cases, type = "incidence")
cases
#### Prevalence data example ####

# make some example prevalence data
cases <- example_confirmed
cases <- as.data.table(cases)[, primary := confirm]

# Assume that only 30 percent of cases are reported
cases[, scaling := 0.3]

# Parameters of the assumed log normal delay distribution
cases[, meanlog := 1.6][, sdlog := 0.8]

# Simulate secondary cases
cases <- convolve_and_scale(cases, type = "prevalence")
cases
```

---

# delay_opts *Delay Distribution Options*

---

## Description

Returns delay distributions formatted for usage by downstream functions.

## Usage

```
delay_opts(dist = Fixed(0), default_cdf_cutoff = 0.001, weight_prior = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| dist | A delay distribution or series of delay distributions. Default is a fixed distribution with all mass at 0, i.e. no delay. |
| default_cdf_cutoff | Numeric; default CDF cutoff to be used if an unconstrained distribution is passed as dist. If dist is already constrained by having a maximum or CDF cutoff this is ignored. Note that this can only be done for <dist_spec> objects with fixed parameters. |
| weight_prior | Logical; if TRUE (default), any priors given in dist will be weighted by the number of observation data points, in doing so approximately placing an independent prior at each time step and usually preventing the posteriors from shifting. If FALSE, no weight will be applied, i.e. any parameters in dist will be treated as a single parameters. |

## Value

A <delay_opts> object summarising the input delay distributions.

## See Also

convert_to_logmean() convert_to_logsd() bootstrapped_dist_fit() Distributions vignette("delays") for background on delay distributions

## Examples

```
# no delays
delay_opts()

# A single delay that has uncertainty
delay <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = Normal(1, 0.2),
  sdlog = Normal(0.5, 0.1),
  max = 14
)
delay_opts(delay)

# A single delay without uncertainty
delay <- LogNormal(meanlog = 1, sdlog = 0.5, max = 14)
delay_opts(delay)

# Multiple delays (in this case twice the same)
delay_opts(delay + delay)
```

`discretise` *Discretise a <dist_spec>*

## Description

Discretise a <dist_spec>

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
discretise(x, strict = TRUE, remove_trailing_zeros = TRUE, ...)

discretize(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `x` | A `<dist_spec>` |
| `strict` | Logical; If `TRUE` (default) an error will be thrown if a distribution cannot be discretised (e.g., because no finite maximum has been specified or parameters are uncertain). If `FALSE` then any distribution that cannot be discretised will be returned as is. |
| `remove_trailing_zeros` | Logical; If `TRUE` (default), trailing zeroes in the resulting PMF will be removed. If `FALSE`, trailing zeroes will be retained. |
| `...` | ignored |

## Value

A `<dist_spec>` where all distributions with constant parameters are nonparametric.

## Methodological details

The probability mass function is computed using the `{primarycensored}` package, which provides double censored PMF calculations. This correctly represents the probability mass function of a double censored distribution arising from the difference of two censored events.

The probability mass function of the discretised probability distribution is a vector where the first entry corresponds to the integral over the (0,1] interval of the corresponding continuous distribution (probability of integer 0), the second entry corresponds to the (0,2] interval (probability mass of integer 1), the third entry corresponds to the (1, 3] interval (probability mass of integer 2), etc.

## References

Charniga, K., et al. "Best practices for estimating and reporting epidemiological delay distributions of infectious diseases using public health surveillance and healthcare data", *arXiv e-prints*, 2024. doi:10.48550/arXiv.2405.08841 Park, S. W., et al., "Estimating epidemiological delay distributions for infectious diseases", *medRxiv*, 2024. doi:10.1101/2024.01.12.24301247 Abbott S., et al., "primarycensored: Primary Event Censored Distributions", 2025. doi:10.5281/zenodo.13632839

## Examples

```
# A fixed gamma distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- Gamma(mean = 5, sd = 1, max = 20)

# An uncertain lognormal distribution with meanlog and sdlog normally
# distributed as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = Normal(3, 0.5),
  sdlog = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)

# The maxf the sum of two distributions
discretise(dist1 + dist2, strict = FALSE)
```

---

`Distributions` *Probability distributions*

---

## Description

Constructors for the probability distributions supported by EpiNow2 as `dist_spec` objects.

## Usage

```
LogNormal(meanlog, sdlog, mean, sd, ...)

Gamma(shape, rate, scale, mean, sd, ...)

Normal(mean, sd, ...)

Exp(rate, mean, ...)

Weibull(shape, scale, mean, sd, ...)

NonParametric(pmf, ...)

Fixed(value, ...)

Dirichlet(alpha, prior, concentration, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `meanlog`, `sdlog` | mean and standard deviation of the distribution on the log scale with default values of `0` and `1` respectively. |
| `mean`, `sd` | mean and standard deviation of the distribution |
| `...` | arguments to define the limits of the distribution that will be passed to `bound_dist()` |
| `shape`, `scale` | shape and scale parameters. Must be positive, `scale` strictly. |

`rate` an alternative way to specify the scale.

`pmf` Probability mass of the given distribution; this is passed as either a zero-indexed numeric vector (i.e. the fist entry represents the probability mass of zero) or a `dist_spec` (e.g. generated by `Dirichlet()`). If a numeric vector is not summing to one it will be normalised to sum to one internally.

`value` Value of the fixed (delta) distribution

`alpha` A positive numeric vector of concentration parameters.

`prior` Either a numeric PMF vector (zero-indexed, i.e. the first entry represents probability mass at zero) or a `dist_spec` object. If a `dist_spec` object is provided it will be discretised and the PMF extracted. If numeric, it will be normalised to sum to one internally.

`concentration` A positive scalar controlling how tightly the Dirichlet prior concentrates around the supplied PMF. The Dirichlet alpha vector is computed as `alpha_i = concentration * p_i` where `p_i` is the prior PMF. Guidance on values:

- `concentration = 1`: weak prior, each alpha equals the PMF value (near-uniform for roughly equal PMF entries)
- `concentration = 5-20`: moderate flexibility around the reference shape
- `concentration = 50+`: strong anchoring to the reference PMF

## Details

Probability distributions are ubiquitous in EpiNow2, usually representing epidemiological delays (e.g., the generation time for delays between becoming infecting and infecting others; or reporting delays)

They are generated using functions that have a name corresponding to the probability distribution that is being used. They generated `dist_spec` objects that are then passed to the models underlying EpiNow2. All parameters can be given either as fixed values (a numeric value) or as uncertain values (a `dist_sepc`). If given as uncertain values, currently only normally distributed parameters (generated using `Normal()`) are supported.

Each distribution has a representation in terms of "natural" parameters (the ones used in stan) but can sometimes also be specified using other parameters such as the mean or standard deviation of the distribution. If not given as natural parameters then these will be calculated from the given parameters. If they have uncertainty, this will be done by random sampling from the given uncertainty and converting resulting parameters to their natural representation.

Currently available distributions are lognormal, gamma, normal, fixed (delta), nonparametric, and estimated nonparametric. The nonparametric is a special case where the probability mass function is given directly as a numeric vector. The estimated nonparametric allows the PMF to be estimated during model fitting using a Dirichlet prior.

## Value

A `dist_spec` representing a distribution of the given specification.

## See Also

`vignette("delays")` for an overview of how delay distributions are used in EpiNow2

## Examples

```
LogNormal(mean = 4, sd = 1)
LogNormal(mean = 4, sd = 1, max = 10)
# If specifying uncertain parameters, use the natural parameters
LogNormal(meanlog = Normal(1.5, 0.5), sdlog = 0.25, max = 10)
Gamma(mean = 4, sd = 1)
Gamma(shape = 16, rate = 4)
Gamma(shape = Normal(16, 2), rate = Normal(4, 1))
Normal(mean = 4, sd = 1)
Normal(mean = 4, sd = 1, max = 10)
Exp(rate = 1)
Exp(mean = 4)
Weibull(shape = 1, scale = 1)
Weibull(shape = 1, scale = 1, max = 10)
Weibull(mean = 4, sd = 1)
NonParametric(c(0.1, 0.3, 0.2, 0.4))
NonParametric(c(0.1, 0.3, 0.2, 0.1, 0.1))

# With a Dirichlet prior
NonParametric(pmf = Dirichlet(c(1, 1, 1, 1)))
Fixed(value = 3)
Fixed(value = 3.5)
Dirichlet(c(1, 1, 1, 1))
Dirichlet(prior = c(0.1, 0.3, 0.4, 0.2), concentration = 10)
```

---

# dist_fit *Fit an Integer Adjusted Exponential, Gamma or Lognormal distributions*

---

## Description

Fits an integer adjusted exponential, gamma or lognormal distribution using stan.

## Usage

```
dist_fit(
  values = NULL,
  samples = 1000,
  cores = 1,
  chains = 2,
  dist = "exp",
  verbose = FALSE,
  backend = "rstan"
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| values | Numeric vector of values |

| | |
|---|---|
| samples | Numeric, number of samples to take. Must be >= 1000. Defaults to 1000. |
| cores | Numeric, defaults to 1. Number of CPU cores to use (no effect if greater than the number of chains). |
| chains | Numeric, defaults to 2. Number of MCMC chains to use. More is better with the minimum being two. |
| dist | Character string, which distribution to fit. Defaults to exponential ("exp") but gamma ("gamma") and lognormal ("lognormal") are also supported. |
| verbose | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should verbose progress messages be printed. |
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |

## Value

A stan fit of an interval censored distribution

## Examples

```
# integer adjusted exponential model
dist_fit(rexp(1:100, 2),
  samples = 1000, dist = "exp",
  cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1), verbose = TRUE
)


# integer adjusted gamma model
dist_fit(rgamma(1:100, 5, 5),
  samples = 1000, dist = "gamma",
  cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1), verbose = TRUE
)

# integer adjusted lognormal model
dist_fit(rlnorm(1:100, log(5), 0.2),
  samples = 1000, dist = "lognormal",
  cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1), verbose = TRUE
)
```

---

# epinow *Real-time Rt Estimation, Forecasting and Reporting*

---

## Description

This function wraps the functionality of estimate_infections() in order to estimate Rt and cases by date of infection and forecast these infections into the future. In addition to the functionality of estimate_infections() it produces additional summary output useful for reporting results and interpreting them as well as error catching and reporting, making it particularly useful for production use e.g. running at set intervals on a dedicated server.

## Usage

```
epinow(
  data,
  generation_time = gt_opts(),
  delays = delay_opts(),
  truncation = trunc_opts(),
  rt = rt_opts(),
  backcalc = backcalc_opts(),
  gp = gp_opts(),
  obs = obs_opts(),
  forecast = forecast_opts(),
  stan = stan_opts(),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  return_output = is.null(target_folder),
 output = c("samples", "plots", "latest", "fit", "timing", "estimate_infections"),
  plot_args = list(),
  target_folder = NULL,
  target_date,
  logs = tempdir(),
  id = "epinow",
  verbose = interactive()
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date). confirm must be numeric and date must be in date format. Optionally, data can also have a logical accumulate column which indicates whether data should be added to the next data point. This is useful when modelling e.g. weekly incidence data. See also the fill_missing() function which helps add the accumulate column with the desired properties when dealing with non-daily data. If any accumulation is done this happens after truncation as specified by the truncation argument. If all entries of confirm are missing (NA) the returned estimates will represent the prior distributions. |
| generation_time | A call to gt_opts() (or its alias generation_time_opts()) defining the generation time distribution used. For backwards compatibility a list of summary parameters can also be passed. |
| delays | A call to delay_opts() defining delay distributions and options. See the documentation of delay_opts() and the examples below for details. |
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| rt | A list of options as generated by rt_opts() defining Rt estimation. Defaults to rt_opts(). To generate new infections using the non-mechanistic model instead of the renewal equation model, use rt = NULL. The non-mechanistic model |

internally uses the setting `rt = rt_opts(use_rt = FALSE, future = "project", gp_on = "R0")`.

backcalc
: A list of options as generated by `backcalc_opts()` to define the back calculation. Defaults to `backcalc_opts()`.

gp
: A list of options as generated by `gp_opts()` to define the Gaussian process. Defaults to `gp_opts()`. Set to `NULL` to disable the Gaussian process.

obs
: A list of options as generated by `obs_opts()` defining the observation model. Defaults to `obs_opts()`.

forecast
: A list of options as generated by `forecast_opts()` defining the forecast options. Defaults to `forecast_opts()`. If NULL then no forecasting will be done.

stan
: A list of stan options as generated by `stan_opts()`. Defaults to `stan_opts()`. Can be used to override `data`, `init`, and `verbose` settings if desired.

CrIs
: Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate.

return_output
: Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should output be returned, this automatically updates to TRUE if no directory for saving is specified.

output
: A character vector of optional output to return. Supported options are samples ("samples"), plots ("plots"), the run time ("timing"), copying the dated folder into a latest folder (if `target_folder` is not null, set using "latest"), the stan fit ("fit"), and the full `estimate_infections()` return object ("estimate_infections"). The default is to return all options.

plot_args
: A list of optional arguments passed to `plot.estimate_infections()`.

target_folder
: Character string specifying where to save results (will create if not present).

target_date
: Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified.

logs
: Character path indicating the target folder in which to store log information. Defaults to the temporary directory if not specified. Default logging can be disabled if `logs` is set to NULL. If specifying a custom logging setup then the code for `setup_default_logging()` and the `setup_logging()` function are a sensible place to start.

id
: A character string used to assign logging information on error. Used by `regional_epinow()` to assign errors to regions. Alter the default to run with error catching.

verbose
: Logical, defaults to `TRUE` when used interactively and otherwise `FALSE`. Should verbose debug progress messages be printed. Corresponds to the "DEBUG" level from `futile.logger`. See `setup_logging` for more detailed logging options.

## Value

An <epinow> object (inheriting from <estimate_infections>) containing:

- `fit`: The stan fit object.
- `args`: A list of arguments used for fitting (stan data).
- `observations`: The input data (<data.frame>).
- `timing`: The run time (if `output` includes "timing").

## See Also

get_samples() get_predictions() get_parameters() estimate_infections() forecast_infections() regional_epinow()

## Examples

```
# set number of cores to use
old_opts <- options()
options(mc.cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1))

# set an example generation time. In practice this should use an estimate
# from the literature or be estimated from data
generation_time <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(1.3, 0.3),
  rate = Normal(0.37, 0.09),
  max = 14
)
# set an example incubation period. In practice this should use an estimate
# from the literature or be estimated from data
incubation_period <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = Normal(1.6, 0.06),
  sdlog = Normal(0.4, 0.07),
  max = 14
)
# set an example reporting delay. In practice this should use an estimate
# from the literature or be estimated from data
reporting_delay <- LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 1, max = 10)

# example case data
reported_cases <- example_confirmed[1:40]

# estimate Rt and nowcast/forecast cases by date of infection
# samples and calculation time have been reduced for this example
# for real analyses, use at least samples = 2000
out <- epinow(
  data = reported_cases,
  generation_time = gt_opts(generation_time),
  rt = rt_opts(prior = LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 0.1)),
  delays = delay_opts(incubation_period + reporting_delay),
  stan = stan_opts(samples = 100, warmup = 200)
)
# summary of the latest estimates
summary(out)
# plot estimates
plot(out)

# summary of R estimates
summary(out, type = "parameters", params = "R")

options(old_opts)
```

## epinow2_cmdstan_model *Load and compile an EpiNow2 cmdstanr model*

### Description

The function has been adapted from a similar function in the epinowcast package (Copyright holder: epinowcast authors, under MIT License).

### Usage

```
epinow2_cmdstan_model(
  model = "estimate_infections",
  dir = system.file("stan", package = "EpiNow2"),
  verbose = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| model | A character string indicating the model to use. Needs to be present in dir (with extension .stan). Defaults to "estimate_infections". |
| dir | A character string specifying the path to any stan files to include in the model. If missing the package default is used. |
| verbose | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should verbose messages be shown. |
| ... | Additional arguments passed to cmdstanr::cmdstan_model(). |

### Value

A cmdstanr model.

## estimate_delay *Estimate a Delay Distribution*

### Description

**[Deprecated]** Estimate a log normal delay distribution from a vector of integer delays.

**This function is deprecated.** Please use estimate_dist() instead, which provides better handling of censoring and truncation.

### Usage

```
estimate_delay(delays, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| delays | Integer vector of delays |
| ... | Arguments to pass to internal methods. |

### Value

A <dist_spec> summarising the bootstrapped distribution

### See Also

estimate_dist() for the recommended replacement

### Examples

```
delays <- rlnorm(500, log(5), 1)
# Old way (deprecated):
# estimate_delay(delays, samples = 1000, bootstraps = 10)

# New way: see ?estimate_dist and
# vignette("estimate_dist_workflow") for date-based usage
```

---

## estimate_dist *Estimate a delay distribution using primarycensored*

---

### Description

**[Experimental]** Fit a delay distribution accounting for primary and secondary event censoring (double interval censoring) and right truncation. Estimation is done via MCMC using a Stan model that vendors likelihood functions from the primarycensored package. For more flexible delay distribution modelling (e.g. time-varying delays, partial pooling, or regression on covariates), see the epidist package. If you use this function, please cite primarycensored in addition to EpiNow2.

### Usage

```
estimate_dist(
  data,
  dist = "lognormal",
 priors = switch(dist, lognormal = list(meanlog = Normal(1, 1), sdlog = Normal(0.5,
    0.5)), gamma = list(shape = Normal(2, 2), rate = Normal(0.5, 0.5)), normal =
   list(mean = Normal(5, 5), sd = Normal(1, 1)), exp = list(rate = Normal(0.5, 0.5)),
    weibull = list(shape = Normal(2, 2), scale = Normal(5, 5))),
  primary = "uniform",
  primary_params = numeric(0),
  stan = stan_opts(),
  max_value = NULL,
  obs_time_threshold = 2,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A data.frame with date columns:<br>• pdate_lwr (required): lower bound of primary event date<br>• pdate_upr (optional): upper bound of primary event date (default: pdate_lwr + 1)<br>• sdate_lwr (required): lower bound of secondary event date<br>• sdate_upr (optional): upper bound of secondary event date (default: sdate_lwr + 1)<br>• obs_date (optional): observation/censoring date (default: max(sdate_upr))<br>• n (optional): observation count/weight (default: 1) |
| dist | Character string, which distribution to fit. One of "lognormal" (default), "gamma", "normal", "exp", or "weibull". |
| priors | A list of <dist_spec> objects specifying priors for the distribution parameters. Names must match the parameters of the chosen distribution. Defaults depend on dist:<br>• lognormal: list(meanlog = Normal(1, 1), sdlog = Normal(0.5, 0.5))<br>• gamma: list(shape = Normal(2, 2), rate = Normal(0.5, 0.5))<br>• normal: list(mean = Normal(5, 5), sd = Normal(1, 1))<br>• exp: list(rate = Normal(0.5, 0.5))<br>• weibull: list(shape = Normal(2, 2), scale = Normal(5, 5)) |
| primary | Character string specifying the primary event distribution. One of:<br>• "uniform" (default): uniform distribution over the primary window<br>• "expgrowth": exponential growth distribution. Requires primary_params to supply a fixed growth rate. |
| primary_params | Numeric vector of parameters for the primary distribution. Only used when primary = "expgrowth", in which case it should be a single numeric value for the growth rate. The growth rate is passed as fixed data to Stan, not estimated. |
| stan | A list of stan options as generated by stan_opts(). Defaults to stan_opts(). Can be used to override data, init, and verbose settings if desired. |
| max_value | Numeric, maximum delay value for PMF. If not provided, inferred from data. |
| obs_time_threshold | Numeric, multiplier for the obs-time-to-Inf heuristic. Observations where relative_obs_time > max(delay_upr) * obs_time_threshold are treated as untruncated. Default 2, following epidist. Set to Inf to disable. |
| verbose | Logical, print progress messages? Defaults to FALSE. |

## Details

The model fits an interval-censored delay distribution while accounting for:

- Primary event censoring (e.g., daily reporting of exposure)
- Secondary event censoring (e.g., daily reporting of symptom onset)
- Right truncation (observation window effects)

- Per-observation truncation times (via `obs_date`)

When a data frame with date columns is provided, observations are aggregated by unique combinations of `(delay_lwr, delay_upr, pwindow, relative_obs_time)` to reduce the number of likelihood evaluations. Observations where the relative observation time is much larger than the maximum observed delay are treated as untruncated (observation time set to infinity).

The `primarycensored` Stan functions are vendored (included in the package), so the model is precompiled and runs without needing `primarycensored` at runtime.

**Limitations:**

- Delay distributions are limited to lognormal, gamma, normal, exponential, and weibull.
- The primary event distribution is limited to uniform or exponential growth with a fixed rate. Primary event parameters are not estimated.
- Left truncation is not yet exposed (internally set to `-Inf`).

## Value

An `<estimate_dist>` object (inheriting from `<epinowfit>`) with components:

**fit** The Stan fit object.

**args** The Stan data list used for fitting.

**data** The input data.

Use `get_parameters()` to extract the fitted `<dist_spec>`.

## References

Park SW, et al. (2024) "Estimating epidemiological delay distributions for infectious diseases." doi:10.1101/2024.01.12.24301247

Charniga K, Park SW, et al. (2024) "Best practices for estimating and reporting epidemiological delay distributions of infectious diseases." PLoS Comput Biol 20(10): e1012520. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1012520

Please cite `primarycensored` if you use this function; see `citation("primarycensored")`.

## See Also

`vignette("estimate_dist_workflow", package = "EpiNow2")` for a worked example, and primarycensored::primarycens package for the underlying censoring methodology.

## Examples

```
# Fit lognormal distribution from date-based linelist
if (requireNamespace("primarycensored", quietly = TRUE)) {
  set.seed(1)
  n <- 100
  D <- 30
  pdate_lwr <- as.Date("2023-01-01") + rpois(n, 5)
  delays_sim <- primarycensored::rprimarycensored(
    n = n, rdist = rlnorm,
    meanlog = log(5), sdlog = 0.5,
```

```
    pwindow = 1, D = D
  )
  linelist <- data.frame(
    pdate_lwr = pdate_lwr,
    sdate_lwr = pdate_lwr + delays_sim,
    obs_date = pdate_lwr + D
  )
  result <- estimate_dist(linelist, dist = "lognormal")
}
```

---

`estimate_infections` *Estimate Infections, the Time-Varying Reproduction Number and the Rate of Growth*

---

## Description

Uses a non-parametric approach to reconstruct cases by date of infection from reported cases. It uses either a generative Rt model or non-parametric back calculation to estimate underlying latent infections and then maps these infections to observed cases via uncertain reporting delays and a flexible observation model. See the examples and function arguments for the details of all options. The default settings may not be sufficient for your use case so the number of warmup samples (`stan_args = list(warmup)`) may need to be increased as may the overall number of samples. Follow the links provided by any warnings messages to diagnose issues with the MCMC fit. It is recommended to explore several of the Rt estimation approaches supported as not all of them may be suited to users own use cases. See here for an example of using `estimate_infections` within the `epinow` wrapper to estimate Rt for Covid-19 in a country from the ECDC data source.

## Usage

```
estimate_infections(
  data,
  generation_time = gt_opts(),
  delays = delay_opts(),
  truncation = trunc_opts(),
  rt = rt_opts(),
  backcalc = backcalc_opts(),
  gp = gp_opts(),
  obs = obs_opts(),
  forecast = forecast_opts(),
  stan = stan_opts(),
  id = "estimate_infections",
  verbose = interactive()
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date). confirm must be numeric and date must be in date format. Optionally, data can also have a logical accumulate column which indicates whether data should be added to the next data point. This is useful when modelling e.g. weekly incidence data. See also the fill_missing() function which helps add the accumulate column with the desired properties when dealing with non-daily data. If any accumulation is done this happens after truncation as specified by the truncation argument. If all entries of confirm are missing (NA) the returned estimates will represent the prior distributions. |
| generation_time | A call to gt_opts() (or its alias generation_time_opts()) defining the generation time distribution used. For backwards compatibility a list of summary parameters can also be passed. |
| delays | A call to delay_opts() defining delay distributions and options. See the documentation of delay_opts() and the examples below for details. |
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| rt | A list of options as generated by rt_opts() defining Rt estimation. Defaults to rt_opts(). To generate new infections using the non-mechanistic model instead of the renewal equation model, use rt = NULL. The non-mechanistic model internally uses the setting rt = rt_opts(use_rt = FALSE, future = "project", gp_on = "R0"). |
| backcalc | A list of options as generated by backcalc_opts() to define the back calculation. Defaults to backcalc_opts(). |
| gp | A list of options as generated by gp_opts() to define the Gaussian process. Defaults to gp_opts(). Set to NULL to disable the Gaussian process. |
| obs | A list of options as generated by obs_opts() defining the observation model. Defaults to obs_opts(). |
| forecast | A list of options as generated by forecast_opts() defining the forecast options. Defaults to forecast_opts(). If NULL then no forecasting will be done. |
| stan | A list of stan options as generated by stan_opts(). Defaults to stan_opts(). Can be used to override data, init, and verbose settings if desired. |
| id | A character string used to assign logging information on error. Used by regional_epinow() to assign errors to regions. Alter the default to run with error catching. |
| verbose | Logical, defaults to TRUE when used interactively and otherwise FALSE. Should verbose debug progress messages be printed. Corresponds to the "DEBUG" level from futile.logger. See setup_logging for more detailed logging options. |

## Value

An <estimate_infections> object containing:

- fit: The stan fit object.
- args: A list of arguments used for fitting (stan data).
- observations: The input data (<data.frame>).

## See Also

get_samples() get_predictions() get_parameters() epinow() regional_epinow() forecast_infections() estimate_truncation()

## Examples

```
# set number of cores to use
old_opts <- options()
options(mc.cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1))

# get example case counts
reported_cases <- example_confirmed[1:40]

# set an example generation time. In practice this should use an estimate
# from the literature or be estimated from data
generation_time <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(1.3, 0.3),
  rate = Normal(0.37, 0.09),
  max = 14
)
# set an example incubation period. In practice this should use an estimate
# from the literature or be estimated from data
incubation_period <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = Normal(1.6, 0.06),
  sdlog = Normal(0.4, 0.07),
  max = 14
)
# set an example reporting delay. In practice this should use an estimate
# from the literature or be estimated from data
reporting_delay <- LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 1, max = 10)

# for more examples, see the "estimate_infections examples" vignette
# samples and calculation time have been reduced for this example
# for real analyses, use at least samples = 2000
def <- estimate_infections(reported_cases,
  generation_time = gt_opts(generation_time),
  delays = delay_opts(incubation_period + reporting_delay),
  rt = rt_opts(prior = LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 0.1)),
  stan = stan_opts(samples = 100, warmup = 200)
)
# real time estimates
summary(def)
# summary plot
```

```
plot(def)
options(old_opts)
```

---

`estimate_secondary` *Estimate a Secondary Observation from a Primary Observation*

---

## Description

Estimates the relationship between a primary and secondary observation, for example hospital admissions and deaths or hospital admissions and bed occupancy. See `secondary_opts()` for model structure options. See parameter documentation for model defaults and options. See the examples for case studies using synthetic data and here for an example of forecasting Covid-19 deaths from Covid-19 cases. See here for a prototype function that may be used to estimate and forecast a secondary observation from a primary across multiple regions and here # nolint for an application forecasting Covid-19 deaths in Germany and Poland.

## Usage

```
estimate_secondary(
  data,
  secondary = secondary_opts(),
 delays = delay_opts(LogNormal(meanlog = Normal(2.5, 0.5), sdlog = Normal(0.47, 0.25),
    max = 30), weight_prior = FALSE),
  truncation = trunc_opts(),
  obs = obs_opts(),
  stan = stan_opts(),
  burn_in = 14,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  priors = NULL,
  model = NULL,
  weigh_delay_priors = FALSE,
  verbose = interactive()
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `data` | A <data.frame> containing the `date` of report and both `primary` and `secondary` reports. Optionally this can also have a logical `accumulate` column which indicates whether data should be added to the next data point. This is useful when modelling e.g. weekly incidence data. See also the `fill_missing()` function which helps add the `accumulate` column with the desired properties when dealing with non-daily data. If any accumulation is done this happens after truncation as specified by the `truncation` argument. |
| `secondary` | A call to `secondary_opts()` or a list containing the following binary variables: cumulative, historic, primary_hist_additive, current, primary_current_additive. These parameters control the structure of the secondary model, see `secondary_opts()` for details. |

delays — A call to delay_opts() defining delay distributions between primary and secondary observations See the documentation of delay_opts() for details. By default a diffuse prior is assumed with a mean of 14 days and standard deviation of 7 days (with a standard deviation of 0.5 and 0.25 respectively on the log scale).

truncation — A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate.

obs — A list of options as generated by obs_opts() defining the observation model. Defaults to obs_opts().

stan — A list of stan options as generated by stan_opts(). Defaults to stan_opts(). Can be used to override data, init, and verbose settings if desired.

burn_in — Integer, defaults to 14 days. The number of data points to use for estimation but not to fit to at the beginning of the time series. This must be less than the number of observations.

CrIs — Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate.

priors — A <data.frame> of named priors to be used in model fitting rather than the defaults supplied from other arguments. This is typically useful if wanting to inform an estimate from the posterior of another model fit.

model — A compiled stan model to override the default model. May be useful for package developers or those developing extensions.

weigh_delay_priors — Logical. If TRUE, all delay distribution priors will be weighted by the number of observation data points, in doing so approximately placing an independent prior at each time step and usually preventing the posteriors from shifting. If FALSE (default), no weight will be applied, i.e. delay distributions will be treated as a single parameters.

verbose — Logical, should model fitting progress be returned. Defaults to interactive().

## Value

An <estimate_secondary> object containing:

- fit: The stan fit object.
- args: A list of arguments used for fitting (stan data).
- observations: The input data (<data.frame>).

## See Also

get_samples() get_predictions() get_parameters()

## Examples

```
# set number of cores to use
old_opts <- options()
options(mc.cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1))

# load data.table for manipulation
library(data.table)

#### Incidence data example ####

# make some example secondary incidence data
cases <- example_confirmed
cases <- as.data.table(cases)[, primary := confirm]
# Assume that only 40 percent of cases are reported
cases[, scaling := 0.4]
# Parameters of the assumed log normal delay distribution
cases[, meanlog := 1.8][, sdlog := 0.5]

# Simulate secondary cases
cases <- convolve_and_scale(cases, type = "incidence")
#
# fit model to example data specifying a weak prior for fraction reported
# with a secondary case
inc <- estimate_secondary(cases[1:60],
  obs = obs_opts(scale = Normal(mean = 0.2, sd = 0.2), week_effect = FALSE)
)
plot(inc, primary = TRUE)

# forecast future secondary cases from primary
inc_preds <- forecast_secondary(
  inc, cases[seq(61, .N)][, value := primary]
)
plot(inc_preds, new_obs = cases, from = "2020-05-01")

#### Prevalence data example ####

# make some example prevalence data
cases <- example_confirmed
cases <- as.data.table(cases)[, primary := confirm]
# Assume that only 30 percent of cases are reported
cases[, scaling := 0.3]
# Parameters of the assumed log normal delay distribution
cases[, meanlog := 1.6][, sdlog := 0.8]

# Simulate secondary cases
cases <- convolve_and_scale(cases, type = "prevalence")

# fit model to example prevalence data
prev <- estimate_secondary(cases[1:100],
  secondary = secondary_opts(type = "prevalence"),
  obs = obs_opts(
    week_effect = FALSE,
```

```
    scale = Normal(mean = 0.4, sd = 0.1)
  )
)
plot(prev, primary = TRUE)

# forecast future secondary cases from primary
prev_preds <- forecast_secondary(
  prev, cases[seq(101, .N)][, value := primary]
)
plot(prev_preds, new_obs = cases, from = "2020-06-01")

options(old_opts)
```

---

`estimate_truncation` *Estimate truncation of observed data*

---

## Description

Estimates a truncation distribution from multiple snapshots of the same data source over time. This distribution can then be passed to the `truncation` argument in `regional_epinow()`, `epinow()`, and `estimate_infections()` to adjust for truncated data and propagate the uncertainty associated with data truncation into the estimates.

The model of truncation is as follows:

1. The truncation distribution can be any parametric family supported by `dist_spec` (e.g. log-normal, gamma), with parameters informed by the data.
2. The data set with the latest observations is adjusted for truncation using the truncation distribution.
3. Earlier data sets are recreated by applying the truncation distribution to the adjusted latest observations in the time period of the earlier data set. These data sets are then compared to the earlier observations using the selected observation model (negative binomial or Poisson) with an additive noise term to handle zero observations.

This can be thought of as a Bayesian form of the chain-ladder nowcasting approach in the `baselinenowcast` package. For settings requiring time-varying delays, see `epinowcast`.

## Usage

```
estimate_truncation(
  data,
  truncation = trunc_opts(LogNormal(meanlog = Normal(0, 1), sdlog = Normal(1, 1), max =
    10)),
  obs = obs_opts(),
  noise = Normal(mean = 0, sd = 1),
  stan = stan_opts(),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  filter_leading_zeros = FALSE,
```

```
  zero_threshold = Inf,
  verbose = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A list of <data.frame>s each containing a date variable and a confirm (numeric) variable. Each data set should be a snapshot of the reported data over time. All data sets must contain a complete vector of dates. |
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| obs | A list of observation model options as generated by obs_opts(). The truncation model uses family, dispersion, likelihood and return_likelihood. Other settings (weight, week_effect, scale) are ignored, since week effects and scaling are not modelled here. Defaults to obs_opts(). |
| noise | A dist_spec specifying the prior on the additive noise term applied to expected observations. This small positive offset prevents zero expected counts. Defaults to Normal(mean = 0, sd = 1) with a lower bound of zero (i.e. a half-normal prior). |
| stan | A list of stan options as generated by stan_opts(). Defaults to stan_opts(). Can be used to override data, init, and verbose settings if desired. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| filter_leading_zeros | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should zeros at the start of the time series be filtered out. |
| zero_threshold | Numeric, defaults to Inf. Observations with a primary count less than this threshold are set to zero. |
| verbose | Logical, should model fitting progress be returned. |
| ... | Additional parameters to pass to rstan::sampling(). |

## Value

An <estimate_truncation> object containing:

- observations: The input data (list of <data.frame>s).
- args: A list of arguments used for fitting (stan data).
- fit: The stan fit object.

## See Also

get_samples() get_predictions() get_parameters()

## Examples

```
# set number of cores to use
old_opts <- options()
options(mc.cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1))

# fit model to example data
# See [example_truncated] for more details
# iterations and calculation time have been reduced for this example
# for real analyses, use more
est <- estimate_truncation(example_truncated,
  verbose = interactive(),
  chains = 2, iter = 200
)

# extract the estimated truncation distribution
get_parameters(est)[["truncation"]]
# summarise the truncation distribution parameters
summary(est)
# validation plot of observations vs estimates
plot(est)

# Pass the truncation distribution to `epinow()`.
# Note, we're using the last snapshot as the observed data as it contains
# all the previous snapshots. Also, we're using the default options for
# illustrative purposes only.
out <- epinow(
  generation_time = generation_time_opts(example_generation_time),
  example_truncated[[5]],
  truncation = trunc_opts(get_parameters(est)[["truncation"]])
)
plot(out)
options(old_opts)
```

---

# example_confirmed *Example Confirmed Case Data Set*

---

## Description

An example data frame of observed cases

## Usage

```
example_confirmed
```

## Format

A data frame containing cases reported on each date.

## example_generation_time *Example generation time*

### Description

An example of a generation time estimate. See here for details: https://github.com/epiforecasts/EpiNow2/blob/main/data-raw/generation-time.R

### Usage

```
example_generation_time
```

### Format

A `dist_spec` object summarising the distribution

## example_incubation_period *Example incubation period*

### Description

An example of an incubation period estimate. See here for details: https://github.com/epiforecasts/EpiNow2/blob/main/data-raw/incubation-period.R # nolint

### Usage

```
example_incubation_period
```

### Format

A `dist_spec` object summarising the distribution

## example_reporting_delay *Example reporting delay*

### Description

An example of an reporting delay estimate. See here for details: https://github.com/epiforecasts/EpiNow2/blob/main/data-raw/reporting-delay # nolint

### Usage

```
example_reporting_delay
```

### Format

A `dist_spec` object summarising the distribution

## example_truncated *Example Case Data Set with Truncation*

### Description

An example dataset of observed cases with truncation applied. This data is generated internally for use in the example of `estimate_truncation()`. For details on how the data is generated, see https://github.com/epiforecasts/EpiNow2/blob/main/data-raw/truncated.R #nolint

### Usage

```
example_truncated
```

### Format

A list of `data.tables` containing cases reported on each date until a point of truncation. Each element of the list is a `data.table` with the following columns:

**date** Date of case report.

**confirm** Number of confirmed cases.

## expose_stan_fns *Expose internal package stan functions in R*

### Description

his function exposes internal stan functions in R from a user supplied list of target files. Allows for testing of stan functions in R and potentially user use in R code.

### Usage

```
expose_stan_fns(files, target_dir, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| files | A character vector indicating the target files. |
| target_dir | A character string indicating the target directory for the file. |
| ... | Additional arguments passed to rstan::expose_stan_functions(). |

### Value

No return value, called for side effects

## extract_CrIs *Extract Credible Intervals Present*

### Description

Helper function to extract the credible intervals present in a <data.frame>.

### Usage

```
extract_CrIs(summarised)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| summarised | A <data.frame> as processed by calc_CrIs |

### Value

A numeric vector of credible intervals detected in the <data.frame>.

## Examples

```
samples <- data.frame(value = 1:10, type = "car")
summarised <- calc_CrIs(samples,
  summarise_by = "type",
  CrIs = c(seq(0.05, 0.95, 0.05))
)
extract_CrIs(summarised)
```

---

# extract_inits *Generate initial conditions from a Stan fit*

---

## Description

**[Experimental]** Extracts posterior samples to use to initialise a full model fit. This may be useful for certain data sets where the sampler gets stuck or cannot easily be initialised. In `estimate_infections()`, `epinow()` and `regional_epinow()` this option can be engaged by setting `stan_opts(init_fit = <stanfit>)`.

This implementation is based on the approach taken in epidemia authored by James Scott.

## Usage

```
extract_inits(fit, current_inits, exclude_list = NULL, samples = 50)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `fit` | A `<stanfit>` object. |
| `current_inits` | A function that returns a list of initial conditions (such as `create_initial_conditions()`). Only used in `exclude_list` is specified. |
| `exclude_list` | A character vector of parameters to not initialise from the fit object, defaulting to `NULL`. |
| `samples` | Numeric, defaults to 50. Number of posterior samples. |

## Value

A function that when called returns a set of initial conditions as a named list.

## extract_samples *Extract all samples from a stan fit*

### Description

If the object argument is a <stanfit> object, it simply returns the result of rstan::extract(). If it is a <CmdStanMCMC> it returns samples in the same format as rstan::extract() does for <stanfit> objects.

### Usage

```
extract_samples(stan_fit, pars = NULL, include = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| stan_fit | A <stanfit> or <CmdStanMCMC> object as returned by fit_model(). |
| pars | Any selection of parameters to extract |
| include | whether the parameters specified in pars should be included (TRUE, the default) or excluded (FALSE) |

### Value

List of data.tables with samples

## extract_stan_param *Extract a parameter summary from a Stan object*

### Description

Extracts summarised parameter posteriors from a stanfit object using rstan::summary() in a format consistent with other summary functions in {EpiNow2}.

### Usage

```
extract_stan_param(
  fit,
  params = NULL,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  var_names = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| fit | A <stanfit> objec. |
| params | A character vector of parameters to extract. Defaults to all parameters. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| var_names | Logical defaults to FALSE. Should variables be named. Automatically set to TRUE if multiple parameters are to be extracted. |

### Value

A <data.table> summarising parameter posteriors. Contains a following variables: variable, mean, mean_se, sd, median, and lower_, upper_ followed by credible interval labels indicating the credible intervals present.

---

## fill_missing *Fill missing data in a data set to prepare it for use within the package*

---

### Description

This function ensures that all days between the first and last date in the data are present. It adds an accumulate column that indicates whether modelled observations should be accumulated onto a later data point. point. This is useful for modelling data that is reported less frequently than daily, e.g. weekly incidence data, as well as other reporting artifacts such as delayed weekedn reporting. The function can also be used to fill in missing observations with zeros.

### Usage

```
fill_missing(
  data,
  missing_dates = c("ignore", "accumulate", "zero"),
  missing_obs = c("ignore", "accumulate", "zero"),
  initial_accumulate,
  obs_column = "confirm",
  by = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | Data frame with a date column. The other columns depend on the model that the data are to be used, e.g. estimate_infections() or estimate_secondary(). See the documentation there for the expected format. The data must not already have an accumulate function, otherwise the function will fail with an error. |
| missing_dates | Character. Options are "ignore" (the default), "accumulate" and "zero". This determines how missing dates in the data are interpreted. If set to "ignore", any missing dates in the observation data will be interpreted as missing and skipped in the likelihood. If set to "accumulate", modelled observations on dates that are missing in the data will be accumulated and added to the next non-missing data |

point. This can be used to model incidence data that is reported less frequently than daily. In that case, the first data point is not included in the likelihood (unless `initial_accumulate` is set to a value greater than one) but used only to reset modelled observations to zero. If "zero" then all observations on missing dates will be assumed to be of value 0.

`missing_obs` Character. How to process dates that exist in the data but have observations with NA values. The options available are the same ones as for the `missing_dates` argument.

`initial_accumulate`
Integer. The number of initial dates to accumulate if `missing_dates` or `missing_obs` is set to `"accumulate"`. This argument needs ot have a minimum of 1. If it is set to 1 then no accumulation is happening on the first data point. If it is greater than 1 then dates are added to the beginning of the data set to get be able to have a sufficient number of modelled observations accumulated onto the first data point. For modelling weekly incidence data this should be set to 7. If accumulating and the first data point is not NA and this is argument is not set, then if all dates in the data have the same gap this will be taken as initial accumulation and a warning given to inform the user. If not all gaps are the same the first data point will be removed with a warning.

`obs_column` Character (default: "confirm"). If given, only the column specified here will be used for checking missingness. This is useful if using a data set that has multiple columns of hwich one of them corresponds to observations that are to be processed here.

`by` Character vector. Name(s) of any additional column(s) where data processing should be done separately for each value in the column. This is useful when using data representing e.g. multiple geographies. If NULL (default) no such grouping is done.

## Value

a data.table with an `accumulate` column that indicates whether values are accumulated (see the documentation of the `data` argument in `estimate_infections()`)

## Examples

```
cases <- data.table::copy(example_confirmed)
## calculate weekly sum
cases[, confirm := data.table::frollsum(confirm, 7)]
## limit to dates once a week
cases <- cases[seq(7, nrow(cases), 7)]
## set the second observation to missing
cases[2, confirm := NA]
## fill missing data
fill_missing(cases, missing_dates = "accumulate", initial_accumulate = 7)
```

`filter_leading_zeros` *Filter leading zeros from a data set.*

## Description

Filter leading zeros from a data set.

## Usage

```
filter_leading_zeros(data, obs_column = "confirm", by = NULL)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `data` | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date). `confirm` must be numeric and `date` must be in date format. Optionally, `data` can also have a logical `accumulate` column which indicates whether data should be added to the next data point. This is useful when modelling e.g. weekly incidence data. See also the `fill_missing()` function which helps add the `accumulate` column with the desired properties when dealing with non-daily data. If any accumulation is done this happens after truncation as specified by the `truncation` argument. If all entries of `confirm` are missing (`NA`) the returned estimates will represent the prior distributions. |
| `obs_column` | Character (default: "confirm"). If given, only the column specified here will be used for checking missingness. This is useful if using a data set that has multiple columns of hwich one of them corresponds to observations that are to be processed here. |
| `by` | Character vector. Name(s) of any additional column(s) where data processing should be done separately for each value in the column. This is useful when using data representing e.g. multiple geographies. If NULL (default) no such grouping is done. |

## Value

A data.table with leading zeros removed.

## Examples

```
cases <- data.frame(
  date = as.Date("2020-01-01") + 0:10,
  confirm = c(0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
)
filter_leading_zeros(cases)
```

## filter_opts *Filter Options for a Target Region*

### Description

A helper function that allows the selection of region specific settings if present and otherwise applies the overarching settings.

### Usage

```
filter_opts(opts, region)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| opts | Either a list of calls to an _opts() function or a single call to an _opts() function. |
| region | A character string indicating a region of interest. |

### Value

A list of options

## fix_parameters *Fix the parameters of a* <dist_spec>

### Description

If the given <dist_spec> has any uncertainty, it is removed and the corresponding distribution converted into a fixed one.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
fix_parameters(x, strategy = c("mean", "sample"), ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec> |
| strategy | Character; either "mean" (use the mean estimates of the mean and standard deviation) or "sample" (randomly sample mean and standard deviation from uncertainty given in the <dist_spec> |
| ... | ignored |

### Value

A <dist_spec> object without uncertainty

## Examples

```
# An uncertain gamma distribution with shape and rate normally distributed
# as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(3, 0.5),
  rate = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)

fix_parameters(dist)
```

---

`forecast_infections` *Forecast infections from a given fit and trajectory of the time-varying reproduction number*

---

## Description

This function simulates infections using an existing fit to observed cases but with a modified time-varying reproduction number. This can be used to explore forecast models or past counterfactuals. Simulations can be run in parallel using `future::plan()`.

## Usage

```
forecast_infections(
  estimates,
  R = NULL,
  model = NULL,
  samples = NULL,
  batch_size = 10,
  backend = "rstan",
  verbose = interactive()
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `estimates` | The `estimates` element of an `epinow()` run that has been done with output = "fit", or the result of `estimate_infections()` with `return_fit` set to TRUE. |
| `R` | A numeric vector of reproduction numbers; these will overwrite the reproduction numbers contained in `estimates`, except elements set to NA. Alternatively accepts a `<data.frame>` containing at least `date` and `value` (integer) variables and optionally `sample`. More (or fewer) days than in the original fit can be simulated. |
| `model` | A compiled stan model as returned by `rstan::stan_model()`. |
| `samples` | Numeric, number of posterior samples to simulate from. The default is to use all samples in the `estimates` input. |

| | |
|---|---|
| batch_size | Numeric, defaults to 10. Size of batches in which to simulate. May decrease run times due to reduced IO costs but this is still being evaluated. If set to NULL then all simulations are done at once. |
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |
| verbose | Logical defaults to interactive(). If the progressr package is available, a progress bar will be shown. |

## Value

A <forecast_infections> object containing simulated infections and cases from the specified scenario. The structure is similar to estimate_infections() output but contains samples rather than fit.

## See Also

generation_time_opts() delay_opts() rt_opts() estimate_infections() trunc_opts() stan_opts() obs_opts() gp_opts()

## Examples

```
# set number of cores to use
old_opts <- options()
options(mc.cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1))

# get example case counts
reported_cases <- example_confirmed[1:40]

# fit model to data to recover Rt estimates
# samples and calculation time have been reduced for this example
# for real analyses, use at least samples = 2000
est <- estimate_infections(reported_cases,
  generation_time = generation_time_opts(example_generation_time),
  delays = delay_opts(example_incubation_period + example_reporting_delay),
  rt = rt_opts(prior = LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 0.1), rw = 7),
  obs = obs_opts(scale = Normal(mean = 0.1, sd = 0.01)),
  gp = NULL,
  forecast = forecast_opts(horizon = 0),
  stan = stan_opts(samples = 100, warmup = 200)
)

# update Rt trajectory and simulate new infections using it
# keeping the first 30 days' estimates and adding a 10-day forecast
R <- c(rep(NA_real_, 30), rep(0.8, 10))
sims <- forecast_infections(est, R)
plot(sims)

options(old_opts)
```

## forecast_opts *Forecast options*

### Description

Defines a list specifying the arguments passed to underlying stan backend functions via `stan_sampling_opts()` and `stan_vb_opts()`. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

### Usage

```
forecast_opts(horizon = 7, accumulate)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| horizon | Numeric, defaults to 7. Number of days into the future to forecast. |
| accumulate | Integer, the number of days to accumulate in forecasts, if any. If not given and observations are accumulated at constant frequency in the data used for fitting then the same accumulation will be used in forecasts unless set explicitly here. |

### Value

A <forecast_opts> object of forecast setting.

### See Also

`fill_missing()`

### Examples

```
forecast_opts(horizon = 28, accumulate = 7)
```

## forecast_secondary *Forecast Secondary Observations Given a Fit from estimate_secondary*

### Description

This function forecasts secondary observations using the output of `estimate_secondary()` and either observed primary data or a forecast of primary observations. See the examples of `estimate_secondary()` for one use case. It can also be combined with `estimate_infections()` to produce a forecast for a secondary observation from a forecast of a primary observation. See the examples of `estimate_secondary()` for example use cases on synthetic data. See here for an example of forecasting Covid-19 deaths from Covid-19 cases.

## Usage

```
forecast_secondary(
  estimate,
  primary,
  primary_variable = "reported_cases",
  model = NULL,
  backend = "rstan",
  samples = NULL,
  all_dates = FALSE,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9)
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| estimate | An object of class "estimate_secondary" as produced by estimate_secondary(). |
| primary | A <data.frame> containing at least date and value (integer) variables and optionally sample. Used as the primary observation used to forecast the secondary observations. Alternatively, this may be an object of class "estimate_infections" as produced by estimate_infections(). If primary is of class "estimate_infections" then the internal samples will be filtered to have a minimum date ahead of those observed in the estimate object. |
| primary_variable | A character string indicating the primary variable, defaulting to "reported_cases". Only used when primary is of class <estimate_infections>. |
| model | A compiled stan model as returned by rstan::stan_model(). |
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |
| samples | Numeric, number of posterior samples to simulate from. The default is to use all samples in the primary input when present. If not present the default is to use 1000 samples. |
| all_dates | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should a forecast for all dates and not just those in the forecast horizon be returned. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |

## Value

A list containing: predictions (a <data.frame> ordered by date with the primary, and secondary observations, and a summary of the forecast secondary observations. For primary observations in the forecast horizon when uncertainty is present the median is used), samples a <data.frame> of forecast secondary observation posterior samples, and forecast a summary of the forecast secondary observation posterior.

## See Also

estimate_secondary()

## get_distribution *Get the distribution of a* <dist_spec>

### Description

Get the distribution of a <dist_spec>

### Usage

```
get_distribution(x, id = NULL)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec>. |
| id | Integer; the id of the distribution to use (if x is a composite distribution). If x is a single distribution this is ignored and can be left at its default value of NULL. |

### Value

A character string naming the distribution (or "nonparametric")

### Examples

```
dist <- Gamma(shape = 3, rate = 2, max = 10)
get_distribution(dist)
```

## get_parameters *Get parameters from distributions or fitted models*

### Description

Generic function to extract parameters. For dist_spec objects, extracts the distribution parameters (e.g., shape and rate for Gamma). For fitted model objects, extracts estimated parameters and delays as dist_spec objects that can be used as priors.

### Usage

```
get_parameters(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
get_parameters(x, id = NULL, ...)

## S3 method for class 'epinowfit'
get_parameters(x, ...)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_dist'
get_parameters(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A dist_spec object or fitted model object |
| ... | Additional arguments passed to methods |
| id | Numeric index of the distribution to extract (for multi- component dist_spec objects). If NULL (default), extracts from the first component. |

### Value

For dist_spec: a list of distribution parameters. For fitted models: a named list of dist_spec objects.

### Examples

```
# For dist_spec objects
dist <- Gamma(shape = 3, rate = 2)
get_parameters(dist)

## Not run:
# For fitted models - extract estimated distributions
dists <- get_parameters(fit)
names(dists)

## End(Not run)
```

---

## get_pmf *Get the probability mass function of a nonparametric distribution*

---

### Description

Get the probability mass function of a nonparametric distribution

### Usage

```
get_pmf(x, id = NULL)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec>. |
| id | Integer; the id of the distribution to use (if x is a composite distribution). If x is a single distribution this is ignored and can be left at its default value of NULL. |

### Value

The pmf of the distribution

### Examples

```
dist <- discretise(Gamma(shape = 3, rate = 2, max = 10))
get_pmf(dist)
```

`get_predictions` *Get predictions from a fitted model*

## Description

Extracts predictions from a fitted model. For `estimate_infections()` returns predicted reported cases, for `estimate_secondary()` returns predicted secondary observations. For `estimate_truncation()` returns reconstructed observations adjusted for truncation.

## Usage

```
get_predictions(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_infections'
get_predictions(
  object,
  format = c("summary", "sample", "quantile"),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  quantiles = c(0.05, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95),
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_secondary'
get_predictions(
  object,
  format = c("summary", "sample", "quantile"),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  quantiles = c(0.05, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95),
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'forecast_infections'
get_predictions(
  object,
  format = c("summary", "sample", "quantile"),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  quantiles = c(0.05, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95),
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'forecast_secondary'
get_predictions(
  object,
  format = c("summary", "sample", "quantile"),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  quantiles = c(0.05, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95),
  ...
```

```
)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_truncation'
get_predictions(
  object,
  format = c("summary", "sample", "quantile"),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  quantiles = c(0.05, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | A fitted model object (e.g., from `estimate_infections()`, `estimate_secondary()`, or `estimate_truncation()`) |
| ... | Additional arguments (currently unused) |
| format | Character string specifying the output format:<br>• `"summary"` (default): summary statistics (mean, sd, median, CrIs)<br>• `"sample"`: raw posterior samples for `scoringutils::as_forecast_sample()`<br>• `"quantile"`: quantile predictions for `scoringutils::as_forecast_quantile()` |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to return. Defaults to c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9). Only used when `format = "summary"`. |
| quantiles | Numeric vector of quantile levels to return. Defaults to c(0.05, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95). Only used when `format = "quantile"`. |

## Value

A `data.table` with columns depending on `format`:

- `format = "summary"`: date, mean, sd, median, and credible intervals
- `format = "sample"`: forecast_date, date, horizon, sample, predicted
- `format = "quantile"`: forecast_date, date, horizon, quantile_level, predicted

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# After fitting a model
# Get summary predictions (default)
predictions <- get_predictions(fit)

# Get sample-level predictions for scoringutils
samples <- get_predictions(fit, format = "sample")

# Get quantile predictions for scoringutils
quantiles <- get_predictions(fit, format = "quantile")

## End(Not run)
```

`get_regional_results` *Get Combined Regional Results*

## Description

Summarises results across regions either from input or from disk. See the examples for details.

## Usage

```
get_regional_results(
  regional_output,
  results_dir,
  date,
  samples = TRUE,
  forecast = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `regional_output` | A list of output as produced by `regional_epinow()` and stored in the `regional` list. |
| `results_dir` | A character string indicating the folder containing the `{EpiNow2}` results to extract. |
| `date` | A Character string (in the format "yyyy-mm-dd") indicating the date to extract data for. Defaults to "latest" which finds the latest results available. |
| `samples` | Logical, defaults to `TRUE`. Should samples be returned. |
| `forecast` | Logical, defaults to `FALSE`. Should forecast results be returned. |

## Value

A list of estimates, forecasts and estimated cases by date of report.

## Examples

```
data.table::setDTthreads(1) # limit threads, for example use only
# get example multiregion estimates
regional_out <- readRDS(system.file(
  package = "EpiNow2", "extdata", "example_regional_epinow.rds"
))

# from output
results <- get_regional_results(regional_out$regional, samples = FALSE)
```

`get_samples` *Get posterior samples from a fitted model*

## Description

Extracts posterior samples from a fitted model, combining all parameters into a single data.table with dates and metadata.

## Usage

```
get_samples(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_infections'
get_samples(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'epinow'
get_samples(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'forecast_infections'
get_samples(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_secondary'
get_samples(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'forecast_secondary'
get_samples(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'estimate_truncation'
get_samples(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `object` | A fitted model object (e.g., from `estimate_infections()`) |
| `...` | Additional arguments (currently unused) |

## Value

A `data.table` with columns: date, variable, strat, sample, time, value, type. Contains all posterior samples for all parameters.

## Examples

```
## Not run:
# After fitting a model
samples <- get_samples(fit)
# Filter to specific parameters
R_samples <- samples[variable == "R"]
```

```
## End(Not run)
```

---

gp_opts *Approximate Gaussian Process Settings*

---

## Description

Defines a list specifying the structure of the approximate Gaussian process. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

## Usage

```
gp_opts(
  basis_prop = 0.2,
  boundary_scale = 1.5,
  ls = LogNormal(mean = 21, sd = 7, max = 60),
  alpha = Normal(mean = 0, sd = 0.01),
  kernel = c("matern", "se", "ou", "periodic"),
  matern_order = 3/2,
  w0 = 1
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| basis_prop | Numeric, the proportion of time points to use as basis functions. Defaults to 0.2. Decreasing this value results in a decrease in accuracy but a faster compute time (with increasing it having the first effect). In general smaller posterior length scales require a higher proportion of basis functions. See (Riutort-Mayol et al. 2020 https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.11408) for advice on updating this default. |
| boundary_scale | Numeric, defaults to 1.5. Boundary scale of the approximate Gaussian process. See (Riutort-Mayol et al. 2020 https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.11408) for advice on updating this default. |
| ls | A <dist_spec> giving the prior distribution of the lengthscale parameter of the Gaussian process kernel on the scale of days. Defaults to a Lognormal distribution with mean 21 days, sd 7 days and maximum 60 days: LogNormal(mean = 21, sd = 7, max = 60) (a lower limit of 0 will be enforced automatically to ensure positivity) |
| alpha | A <dist_spec> giving the prior distribution of the magnitude parameter of the Gaussian process kernel. Should be approximately the expected standard deviation of the Gaussian process (logged Rt in case of the renewal model, logged infections in case of the nonmechanistic model). Defaults to a half-normal distribution with mean 0 and sd 0.01: Normal(mean = 0, sd = 0.01) (a lower limit of 0 will be enforced automatically to ensure positivity) |
| kernel | Character string, the type of kernel required. Currently supporting the Matern kernel ("matern"), squared exponential kernel ("se"), periodic kernel, Ornstein-Uhlenbeck #' kernel ("ou"), and the periodic kernel ("periodic"). |

| | |
|---|---|
| matern_order | Numeric, defaults to 3/2. Order of Matérn Kernel to use. Common choices are 1/2, 3/2, and 5/2. If kernel is set to "ou", matern_order will be automatically set to 1/2. Only used if the kernel is set to "matern". |
| w0 | Numeric, defaults to 1.0. Fundamental frequency for periodic kernel. They are only used if kernel is set to "periodic". |

## Value

A <gp_opts> object of settings defining the Gaussian process

## Examples

```
# default settings
gp_opts()

# add a custom length scale
gp_opts(ls = LogNormal(mean = 4, sd = 1, max = 20))

# use linear kernel
gp_opts(kernel = "periodic")
```

---

# growth_to_R *Convert Growth Rates to Reproduction numbers.*

---

## Description

**[Superseded]** See here # nolint for justification. Now handled internally by stan so may be removed in future updates if no user demand.

## Usage

```
growth_to_R(r, gamma_mean, gamma_sd)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| r | Numeric, rate of growth estimates. |
| gamma_mean | Numeric, mean of the gamma distribution |
| gamma_sd | Numeric, standard deviation of the gamma distribution . |

## Value

Numeric vector of reproduction number estimates

## Examples

```
growth_to_R(0.2, 4, 1)
```

gt_opts *Generation Time Distribution Options*

## Description

Returns generation time parameters in a format for lower level model use.

## Usage

```
gt_opts(dist = Fixed(1), default_cdf_cutoff = 0.001, weight_prior = TRUE)

generation_time_opts(
  dist = Fixed(1),
  default_cdf_cutoff = 0.001,
  weight_prior = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| dist | A delay distribution or series of delay distributions . If no distribution is given a fixed generation time of 1 will be assumed. If passing a nonparametric distribution the first element should be zero (see *Details* section) |
| default_cdf_cutoff | Numeric; default CDF cutoff to be used if an unconstrained distribution is passed as dist. If dist is already constrained by having a maximum or CDF cutoff this is ignored. Note that this can only be done for <dist_spec> objects with fixed parameters. |
| weight_prior | Logical; if TRUE (default), any priors given in dist will be weighted by the number of observation data points, in doing so approximately placing an independent prior at each time step and usually preventing the posteriors from shifting. If FALSE, no weight will be applied, i.e. any parameters in dist will be treated as a single parameters. |

## Details

Because the discretised renewal equation used in the package does not support zero generation times, any distribution specified here will be left-truncated at one, i.e. the first element of the nonparametric or discretised probability distribution used for the generation time is set to zero and the resulting distribution renormalised.

## Value

A <generation_time_opts> object summarising the input delay distributions.

## See Also

convert_to_logmean() convert_to_logsd() bootstrapped_dist_fit() Gamma() LogNormal() Fixed()

## Examples

```
# default settings with a fixed generation time of 1
generation_time_opts()

# A fixed gamma distributed generation time
generation_time_opts(Gamma(mean = 3, sd = 2, max = 14))

# An uncertain gamma distributed generation time
generation_time_opts(
  Gamma(
    shape = Normal(mean = 3, sd = 1),
    rate = Normal(mean = 2, sd = 0.5),
    max = 14
  )
)

# An example generation time
gt_opts(example_generation_time)
```

---

# is_constrained *Check if a <dist_spec> is constrained, i.e. has a finite maximum or nonzero CDF cutoff.*

---

## Description

Check if a <dist_spec> is constrained, i.e. has a finite maximum or nonzero CDF cutoff.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
is_constrained(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec> |
| ... | ignored |

## Value

Logical; TRUE if x is constrained

## Examples

```
# A fixed gamma distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- Gamma(mean = 5, sd = 1, max = 20)

# An uncertain lognormal distribution with meanlog and sdlog normally
# distributed as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- LogNormal(
```

```
  meanlog = Normal(3, 0.5),
  sdlog = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)

# both distributions are constrained and therefore so is the sum
is_constrained(dist1 + dist2)
```

---

`make_conf` *Format Credible Intervals*

---

## Description

Combines a list of values into formatted credible intervals.

## Usage

```
make_conf(value, CrI = 90, reverse = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `value` | List of value to map into a string. Requires, `point`, `lower`, and `upper`. |
| `CrI` | Numeric, credible interval to report. Defaults to 90. |
| `reverse` | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should the reported credible interval be switched. |

## Value

A character vector formatted for reporting

## Examples

```
value <- list(median = 2, lower_90 = 1, upper_90 = 3)
make_conf(value)
```

---

`map_prob_change` *Categorise the Probability of Change for Rt*

---

## Description

Categorises a numeric variable into "Increasing" (< 0.05), "Likely increasing" (<0.4), "Stable" (< 0.6), "Likely decreasing" (< 0.95), "Decreasing" (<= 1)

## Usage

```
map_prob_change(var)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| var | Numeric variable to be categorised |

### Value

A character variable.

### Examples

```
var <- seq(0.01, 1, 0.01)
var

map_prob_change(var)
```

---

## max.dist_spec *Returns the maximum of one or more delay distribution*

---

### Description

This works out the maximum of all the (parametric / nonparametric) delay distributions combined in the passed <dist_spec> (ignoring any uncertainty in parameters)

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
max(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | The <dist_spec> to use |
| ... | Not used |

### Value

A vector of means.

### Examples

```
# A fixed gamma distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- Gamma(mean = 5, sd = 1, max = 20)
max(dist1)

# An uncertain lognormal distribution with meanlog and sdlog normally
# distributed as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- LogNormal(
  meanlog = Normal(3, 0.5),
  sdlog = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
```

```
)
max(dist2)

# The max the sum of two distributions
max(dist1 + dist2)
```

---

`mean.dist_spec` *Returns the mean of one or more delay distribution*

---

## Description

This works out the mean of all the (parametric / nonparametric) delay distributions combined in the passed <dist_spec>.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
mean(x, ..., ignore_uncertainty = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `x` | The <dist_spec> to use |
| `...` | Not used |
| `ignore_uncertainty` | Logical; whether to ignore any uncertainty in parameters. If set to FALSE (the default) then the mean of any uncertain parameters will be returned as NA. |

## Examples

```
# A fixed lognormal distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- LogNormal(mean = 5, sd = 1, max = 20)
mean(dist1)

# An uncertain gamma distribution with shape and rate normally distributed
# as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(3, 0.5),
  rate = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)
mean(dist2)

# The mean of the sum of two distributions
mean(dist1 + dist2)
```

## new_dist_spec *Internal function for generating a* dist_spec *given parameters and a distribution.*

### Description

This will convert all parameters to natural parameters before generating a dist_spec. If they have uncertainty this will be done using sampling.

### Usage

```
new_dist_spec(params, distribution, max = Inf, cdf_cutoff = 0)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| params | Parameters of the distribution (including max) |
| distribution | Character; the distribution to use. |
| max | Numeric, maximum value of the distribution. The distribution will be truncated at this value. Default: Inf, i.e. no maximum. |
| cdf_cutoff | Numeric; the desired CDF cutoff. Any part of the cumulative distribution function beyond 1 minus the value of this argument is removed. Default: 0, i.e. use the full distribution. |

### Value

A dist_spec of the given specification.

### Examples

```
new_dist_spec(
  params = list(mean = 2, sd = 1),
  distribution = "normal"
)
```

## obs_opts *Observation Model Options*

### Description

Defines a list specifying the structure of the observation model. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

## Usage

```
obs_opts(
  family = c("negbin", "poisson"),
  dispersion = Normal(mean = 0, sd = 0.25),
  weight = 1,
  week_effect = TRUE,
  week_length = 7,
  scale = Fixed(1),
  likelihood = TRUE,
  return_likelihood = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| family | Character string defining the observation model. Options are Negative binomial ("negbin"), the default, and Poisson. |
| dispersion | A <dist_spec> specifying a prior on the dispersion parameter of the reporting process, used only if familiy is "negbin". Internally parameterised such that this parameter is one over the square root of the phi parameter for overdispersion of the negative binomial distribution. Defaults to a half-normal distribution with mean of 0 and standard deviation of 0.25: Normal(mean = 0, sd = 0.25). A lower limit of zero will be enforced automatically. |
| weight | Numeric, defaults to 1. Weight to give the observed data in the log density. |
| week_effect | Logical defaulting to TRUE. Should a day of the week effect be used in the observation model. |
| week_length | Numeric assumed length of the week in days, defaulting to 7 days. This can be modified if data aggregated over a period other than a week or if data has a non-weekly periodicity. |
| scale | A <dist_spec> specifying a prior on the scaling factor to be applied to map latent infections (convolved to date of report). Defaults to a fixed value of 1, i.e. no scaling: Fixed(1). A lower limit of zero will be enforced automatically. If setting to a prior distribution and no overreporting is expected, it might be sensible to set a maximum of 1 via the max option when declaring the distribution. |
| likelihood | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should the likelihood be included in the model. |
| return_likelihood | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should the likelihood be returned by the model. |

## Value

An <obs_opts> object of observation model settings.

## Examples

```
# default settings
obs_opts()

# Turn off day of the week effect
```

```
obs_opts(week_effect = FALSE)

# Scale reported data
obs_opts(scale = Normal(mean = 0.2, sd = 0.02))
```

---

`opts_list` *Forecast optiong*

---

## Description

Define a list of `_opts()` to pass to `regional_epinow()` `_opts()` accepting arguments. This is useful when different settings are needed between regions within a single `regional_epinow()` call. Using `opts_list()` the defaults can be applied to all regions present with an override passed to regions as necessary (either within `opts_list()` or externally).

## Usage

```
opts_list(opts, reported_cases, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `opts` | An `_opts()` function call such as `rt_opts()`. |
| `reported_cases` | A data frame containing a `region` variable indicating the target regions. |
| `...` | Optional override for region defaults. See the examples for use case. |

## Value

A named list of options per region which can be passed to the `_opt` accepting arguments of `regional_epinow`.

## See Also

`regional_epinow()` `rt_opts()`

## Examples

```
# uses example case vector
cases <- example_confirmed[1:40]
cases <- data.table::rbindlist(list(
  data.table::copy(cases)[, region := "testland"],
  cases[, region := "realland"]
))

# default settings
opts_list(rt_opts(), cases)

# add a weekly random walk in realland
opts_list(rt_opts(), cases, realland = rt_opts(rw = 7))

# add a weekly random walk externally
```

```
rt <- opts_list(rt_opts(), cases)
rt$realland$rw <- 7
rt
```

---

`plot.dist_spec` *Plot PMF and CDF for a dist_spec object*

---

## Description

This function takes a <dist_spec> object and plots its probability mass function (PMF) and cumulative distribution function (CDF) using {ggplot2}.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
plot(x, samples = 50L, res = 1, cumulative = TRUE, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A <dist_spec> object |
| samples | Integer; Number of samples to generate for distributions with uncertain parameters (default: 50). |
| res | Numeric; Resolution of the PMF and CDF (default: 1, i.e. integer discretisation). |
| cumulative | Logical; whether to plot the cumulative distribution in addition to the probability mass function |
| ... | ignored |

## Examples

```
# A fixed lognormal distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- LogNormal(mean = 1.6, sd = 0.5, max = 20)
# Plot discretised distribution with 1 day discretisation window
plot(dist1)
# Plot discretised distribution with 0.01 day discretisation window
plot(dist1, res = 0.01, cumulative = FALSE)

# An uncertain gamma distribution with shape and rate normally distributed
# as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(3, 0.5),
  rate = Normal(2, 0.5),
  max = 20
)
plot(dist2)

# Multiple distributions with 0.1 discretisation window and do not plot the
# cumulative distribution
plot(dist1 + dist2, res = 0.1, cumulative = FALSE)
```

plot.estimate_infections *Plot method for estimate_infections*

## Description

plot method for class <estimate_infections>.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_infections'
plot(x, type = "summary", CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9), ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A list of output as produced by estimate_infections |
| type | A character vector indicating the name of the plot to return. Defaults to "summary" with supported options being "infections", "reports", "R", "growth_rate", "summary", "all". If "all" is supplied all plots are generated. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to report_plots |

## Value

List of plots as produced by report_plots()

## See Also

report_plots()

## Examples

```
# get example output
out <- readRDS(system.file(
  package = "EpiNow2", "extdata", "example_estimate_infections.rds"
))

# plot with error bars instead of ribbons
plot(out, style = "linerange")
```

## plot.estimate_secondary

*Plot method for estimate_secondary*

### Description

plot method for class "estimate_secondary".

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_secondary'
plot(x, primary = FALSE, from = NULL, to = NULL, new_obs = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A list of output as produced by estimate_secondary |
| primary | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should primary reports also be plot? |
| from | Date object indicating when to plot from. |
| to | Date object indicating when to plot up to. |
| new_obs | A <data.frame> containing the columns date and secondary which replace the secondary observations stored in the estimate_secondary output. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to plot function. Not currently in use. |

### Value

A ggplot object.

### See Also

estimate_secondary()

## plot.estimate_truncation

*Plot method for estimate_truncation*

### Description

plot() method for class <estimate_truncation>. Returns a plot faceted over each dataset used in fitting with the latest observations as columns, the data observed at the time (and so truncated) as dots and the truncation adjusted estimates as a ribbon.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_truncation'
plot(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A list of output as produced by estimate_truncation() |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to plot function. Not currently in use. |

### Value

ggplot2 object

### See Also

estimate_truncation()

---

## plot.forecast_infections

*Plot method for forecast_infections*

---

### Description

plot method for class <forecast_infections>.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'forecast_infections'
plot(x, type = "summary", CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9), ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A list of output as produced by forecast_infections |
| type | A character vector indicating the name of the plot to return. Defaults to "summary" with supported options being "infections", "reports", "R", "growth_rate", "summary", "all". If "all" is supplied all plots are generated. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to report_plots |

### Value

List of plots as produced by report_plots()

### See Also

report_plots() forecast_infections()

## plot.forecast_secondary *Plot method for forecast_secondary objects*

### Description

Plot method for forecast secondary observations.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'forecast_secondary'
plot(x, primary = FALSE, from = NULL, to = NULL, new_obs = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | A list of output as produced by estimate_secondary |
| primary | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should primary reports also be plot? |
| from | Date object indicating when to plot from. |
| to | Date object indicating when to plot up to. |
| new_obs | A <data.frame> containing the columns date and secondary which replace the secondary observations stored in the estimate_secondary output. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to plot function. Not currently in use. |

## plot_CrIs *Plot EpiNow2 Credible Intervals*

### Description

Adds credible intervals to a plot, either as ribbons or error bars.

### Usage

```
plot_CrIs(plot, CrIs, alpha, linewidth, style = c("ribbon", "linerange"))
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| plot | A {ggplot2} plot |
| CrIs | Numeric list of credible intervals present in the data. As produced by extract_CrIs(). |
| alpha | Numeric, overall alpha of the target line range. |
| linewidth | Numeric, line width of the default line range. |
| style | Character string indicating the plot style. Options are "ribbon" (default) for shaded ribbon plots or "linerange" for error bars. |

### Value

A {ggplot2} plot.

plot_estimates *Plot Estimates*

## Description

Allows users to plot the output from `estimate_infections()` easily. In future releases it may be depreciated in favour of increasing the functionality of the S3 plot methods.

## Usage

```
plot_estimates(
  estimate,
  reported,
  ylab,
  hline,
  obs_as_col = TRUE,
  max_plot = 10,
  estimate_type = c("Estimate", "Estimate based on partial data", "Forecast"),
  style = c("ribbon", "linerange")
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| estimate | A <data.table> of estimates containing the following variables: date, type (must contain "estimate", "estimate based on partial data" and optionally "forecast"). |
| reported | A <data.table> of reported cases with the following variables: date, confirm. |
| ylab | Character string. Title for the plot y axis. |
| hline | Numeric, if supplied gives the horizontal intercept for a indicator line. |
| obs_as_col | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should observed data, if supplied, be plotted using columns or as points (linked using a line). |
| max_plot | Numeric, defaults to 10. A multiplicative upper bound on the\ number of cases shown on the plot. Based on the maximum number of reported cases. |
| estimate_type | Character vector indicating the type of data to plot. Default to all types with supported options being: "Estimate", "Estimate based on partial data", and "Forecast". |
| style | Character string indicating the plot style for credible intervals. Options are "ribbon" (default) for shaded ribbon plots or "linerange" for error bars. Error bars can be clearer for weekly or aggregated data. |

## Value

A ggplot2 object

## Examples

```
# get example model results
out <- readRDS(system.file(
  package = "EpiNow2", "extdata", "example_estimate_infections.rds"
))

# plot Rt estimates
plot_estimates(
  estimate = summary(out, type = "parameters", param = "R"),
  ylab = "Effective Reproduction No.",
  hline = 1
)
```

---

`plot_summary` *Plot a Summary of the Latest Results*

---

## Description

Used to return a summary plot across regions (using results generated by `summarise_results()`).

May be depreciated in later releases in favour of enhanced S3 methods.

## Usage

```
plot_summary(summary_results, x_lab = "Region", log_cases = FALSE, max_cases)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `summary_results` | A data.table as returned by `summarise_results()` (the `data` object). |
| `x_lab` | A character string giving the label for the x axis, defaults to region. |
| `log_cases` | Logical, should cases be shown on a logged scale. Defaults to `FALSE`. |
| `max_cases` | Numeric, no default. The maximum number of cases to plot. |

## Value

A `{ggplot2}` object

## print.dist_spec *Prints the parameters of one or more delay distributions*

### Description

This displays the parameters of the uncertain and probability mass functions of fixed delay distributions combined in the passed <dist_spec>.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'dist_spec'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | The <dist_spec> to use |
| ... | Not used |

### Value

invisible

### Examples

```
#' # A fixed lognormal distribution with mean 5 and sd 1.
dist1 <- LogNormal(mean = 1.5, sd = 0.5, max = 20)
print(dist1)

# An uncertain gamma distribution with shape and rate normally distributed
# as Normal(3, 0.5) and Normal(2, 0.5) respectively
dist2 <- Gamma(
  shape = Normal(3, 0.5), rate = Normal(2, 0.5), max = 20
)
print(dist2)
```

## print.epinowfit *Print information about an object that has resulted from a model fit.*

### Description

Print information about an object that has resulted from a model fit.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'epinowfit'
print(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | The object containing fit results. |
| ... | Ignored |

### Value

Invisible

---

## regional_epinow *Real-time Rt Estimation, Forecasting and Reporting by Region*

---

### Description

Efficiently runs epinow() across multiple regions in an efficient manner and conducts basic data checks and cleaning such as removing regions with fewer than non_zero_points as these are unlikely to produce reasonable results whilst consuming significant resources. See the documentation for epinow() for further information.

By default all arguments supporting input from _opts() functions are shared across regions (including delays, truncation, Rt settings, stan settings, and gaussian process settings). Region specific settings are supported by passing a named list of _opts() calls (with an entry per region) to the relevant argument. A helper function (opts_list()) is available to facilitate building this list.

Regions can be estimated in parallel using the {future} package (see setup_future()). The progress of producing estimates across multiple regions can be tracked using the {progressr} package. Modify this behaviour using progressr::handlers() and enable it in batch by setting R_PROGRESSR_ENABLE=TRUE as an environment variable.

### Usage

```
regional_epinow(
  data,
  generation_time = gt_opts(),
  delays = delay_opts(),
  truncation = trunc_opts(),
  rt = rt_opts(),
  backcalc = backcalc_opts(),
  gp = gp_opts(),
  obs = obs_opts(),
  forecast = forecast_opts(),
  stan = stan_opts(),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  target_folder = NULL,
  target_date,
  non_zero_points = 2,
  output = c("regions", "summary", "samples", "plots", "latest"),
  return_output = is.null(target_folder),
  summary_args = list(),
```

```
  verbose = FALSE,
  logs = tempdir(check = TRUE),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date), and region (region). |
| generation_time | A call to gt_opts() (or its alias generation_time_opts()) defining the generation time distribution used. For backwards compatibility a list of summary parameters can also be passed. |
| delays | A call to delay_opts() defining delay distributions and options. See the documentation of delay_opts() and the examples below for details. |
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| rt | A list of options as generated by rt_opts() defining Rt estimation. Defaults to rt_opts(). To generate new infections using the non-mechanistic model instead of the renewal equation model, use rt = NULL. The non-mechanistic model internally uses the setting rt = rt_opts(use_rt = FALSE, future = "project", gp_on = "R0"). |
| backcalc | A list of options as generated by backcalc_opts() to define the back calculation. Defaults to backcalc_opts(). |
| gp | A list of options as generated by gp_opts() to define the Gaussian process. Defaults to gp_opts(). Set to NULL to disable the Gaussian process. |
| obs | A list of options as generated by obs_opts() defining the observation model. Defaults to obs_opts(). |
| forecast | A list of options as generated by forecast_opts() defining the forecast opitions. Defaults to forecast_opts(). If NULL then no forecasting will be done. |
| stan | A list of stan options as generated by stan_opts(). Defaults to stan_opts(). Can be used to override data, init, and verbose settings if desired. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| target_folder | Character string specifying where to save results (will create if not present). |
| target_date | Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified. |
| non_zero_points | Numeric, the minimum number of time points with non-zero cases in a region required for that region to be evaluated. Defaults to 7. |
| output | A character vector of optional output to return. Supported options are the individual regional estimates ("regions"), samples ("samples"), plots ("plots"), copying the individual region dated folder into a latest folder (if target_folder is not null, set using "latest"), the stan fit of the underlying model ("fit"), the full estimate_infections() return object ("estimate_infections"), and an overall |

summary across regions ("summary"). The default is to return samples and plots alongside summarised estimates and summary statistics. If `target_folder` is not NULL then the default is also to copy all results into a latest folder.

`return_output` Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should output be returned, this automatically updates to TRUE if no directory for saving is specified.

`summary_args` A list of arguments passed to `regional_summary()`. See the `regional_summary()` documentation for details.

`verbose` Logical defaults to FALSE. Outputs verbose progress messages to the console from `epinow()`.

`logs` Character path indicating the target folder in which to store log information. Defaults to the temporary directory if not specified. Default logging can be disabled if `logs` is set to NULL. If specifying a custom logging setup then the code for `setup_default_logging()` and the `setup_logging()` function are a sensible place to start.

`...` Pass additional arguments to `epinow()`. See the documentation for `epinow()` for details.

## Value

A list of output stratified at the top level into regional output and across region output summary output

## See Also

`epinow()` `estimate_infections()` `setup_future()` `regional_summary()`

## Examples

```
# set number of cores to use
old_opts <- options()
options(mc.cores = ifelse(interactive(), 4, 1))

# uses example case vector
cases <- example_confirmed[1:40]
cases <- data.table::rbindlist(list(
  data.table::copy(cases)[, region := "testland"],
  cases[, region := "realland"]
))

# run epinow across multiple regions and generate summaries
# samples and warmup have been reduced for this example
# for more examples, see the "estimate_infections examples" vignette
def <- regional_epinow(
  data = cases,
  generation_time = gt_opts(example_generation_time),
  delays = delay_opts(example_incubation_period + example_reporting_delay),
  rt = rt_opts(prior = LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 0.2)),
  stan = stan_opts(
    samples = 100, warmup = 200
```

```
  ),
  verbose = interactive()
)
options(old_opts)
```

---

`regional_summary` *Regional Summary Output*

---

## Description

Used to produce summary output either internally in `regional_epinow` or externally.

## Usage

```
regional_summary(
  regional_output = NULL,
  data,
  results_dir = NULL,
  summary_dir = NULL,
  target_date = NULL,
  region_scale = "Region",
  all_regions = TRUE,
  return_output = is.null(summary_dir),
  plot = TRUE,
  max_plot = 10,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `regional_output` | A list of output as produced by `regional_epinow()` and stored in the `regional` list. |
| `data` | A <`data.frame`> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date), and region (`region`). |
| `results_dir` | An optional character string indicating the location of the results directory to extract results from. |
| `summary_dir` | A character string giving the directory in which to store summary of results. |
| `target_date` | A character string giving the target date for which to extract results (in the format "yyyy-mm-dd"). Defaults to latest available estimates. |
| `region_scale` | A character string indicating the name to give the regions being summarised. |
| `all_regions` | Logical, defaults to `TRUE`. Should summary plots for all regions be returned rather than just regions of interest. |
| `return_output` | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should output be returned, this automatically updates to TRUE if no directory for saving is specified. |

| | |
|---|---|
| plot | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should regional summary plots be produced. |
| max_plot | Numeric, defaults to 10. A multiplicative upper bound on the\ number of cases shown on the plot. Based on the maximum number of reported cases. |
| ... | Additional arguments passed to report_plots. |

## Value

A list of summary measures and plots

## See Also

regional_epinow()

## Examples

```
data.table::setDTthreads(1) # limit threads, for example use only
# get example output from regional_epinow model
regional_out <- readRDS(system.file(
  package = "EpiNow2", "extdata", "example_regional_epinow.rds"
))

summary <- regional_summary(
  regional_output = regional_out$regional,
  data = regional_out$summary$reported_cases
)
names(summary)
```

---

# report_plots *Report plots*

---

## Description

**[Superseded]** Returns key summary plots for estimates. May be depreciated in later releases as current S3 methods are enhanced.

## Usage

```
report_plots(summarised_estimates, reported, target_folder = NULL, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| summarised_estimates | A data.table of summarised estimates containing the following variables: variable, median, bottom, and top.<br>It should also contain the following estimates: R, infections, reported_cases_rt, and r (rate of growth). |
| reported | A <data.table> of reported cases with the following variables: date, confirm. |
| target_folder | Character string specifying where to save results (will create if not present). |
| ... | Additional arguments passed to plot_estimates(). |

## Value

A named list of ggplot2 objects, `list(infections, reports, R, growth_rate, summary)`, which correspond to a summary combination (last item) and for the leading items.

## See Also

`plot_estimates()`

`summarised_estimates[variable == "infections"]`, `summarised_estimates[variable == "reported_cases"]`, `summarised_estimates[variable == "R"]`, and `summarised_estimates[variable == "growth_rate"]`, respectively.

## Examples

```
# get example output form estimate_infections
out <- readRDS(system.file(
  package = "EpiNow2", "extdata", "example_estimate_infections.rds"
))

# plot infections
plots <- report_plots(
  summarised_estimates = summary(out, type = "parameters"),
  reported = out$observations
)
plots
```

---

# report_summary *Provide Summary Statistics for Estimated Infections and Rt*

---

## Description

**[Superseded]** Creates a snapshot summary of estimates. May be removed in later releases as S3 methods are enhanced.

## Usage

```
report_summary(
  summarised_estimates,
  rt_samples,
  target_folder = NULL,
  return_numeric = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

`summarised_estimates`
: A data.table of summarised estimates containing the following variables: variable, median, bottom, and top. It should contain the following estimates: R, infections, and r (rate of growth).

| | |
|---|---|
| rt_samples | A data.table containing Rt samples with the following variables: sample and value. |
| target_folder | Character string specifying where to save results (will create if not present). |
| return_numeric | Should numeric summary information be returned. |

## Value

A data.table containing formatted and numeric summary measures

---

# rt_opts *Time-Varying Reproduction Number Options*

---

## Description

Defines a list specifying the optional arguments for the time-varying reproduction number. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

## Usage

```
rt_opts(
  prior = LogNormal(mean = 1, sd = 1),
  use_rt = TRUE,
  rw = 0,
  use_breakpoints = TRUE,
  future = "latest",
  gp_on = c("R_t-1", "R0"),
  pop = Fixed(0),
  pop_period = c("forecast", "all"),
  pop_floor = 1,
  growth_method = c("infections", "infectiousness")
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| prior | A <dist_spec> giving the prior of the initial reproduction number. Ignored if use_rt is FALSE. Defaults to a LogNormal distribution with mean of 1 and standard deviation of 1: LogNormal(mean = 1, sd = 1). A lower limit of 0 will be enforced automatically. |
| use_rt | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should Rt be used to generate infections and hence reported cases. |
| rw | Numeric step size of the random walk, defaults to 0. To specify a weekly random walk set rw = 7. For more custom break point settings consider passing in a breakpoints variable as outlined in the next section. |

use_breakpoints
: Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should break points be used if present as a breakpoint variable in the input data. Break points should be defined as 1 if present and otherwise 0. By default breakpoints are fit jointly with a global non-parametric effect and so represent a conservative estimate of break point changes (alter this by setting gp = NULL).

future
: A character string or integer. This argument indicates how to set future Rt values. Supported options are to project using the Rt model ("project"), to use the latest estimate based on partial data ("latest"), to use the latest estimate based on data that is over 50% complete ("estimate"). If an integer is supplied then the Rt estimate from this many days into the future (or past if negative) past will be used forwards in time.

gp_on
: Character string, defaulting to "R_t-1". Indicates how the Gaussian process, if in use, should be applied to Rt. Currently supported options are applying the Gaussian process to the last estimated Rt (i.e Rt = Rt-1 * GP), and applying the Gaussian process to a global mean (i.e Rt = R0 * GP). Both should produced comparable results when data is not sparse but the method relying on a global mean will revert to this for real time estimates, which may not be desirable.

pop
: A <dist_spec> giving the initial susceptible population size. Used to adjust Rt estimates based on the proportion of the population that is susceptible. Defaults to Fixed(0) which means no population adjustment is done. See also pop_floor for the numerical stability floor used when population adjustment is enabled. When pop is specified, returned Rt estimates are adjusted for susceptible depletion (accounting for population immunity), and unadjusted Rt estimates are also provided in a separate output variable R_unadjusted. Adjusted Rt represents the effective reproduction number given the current susceptible population, whilst unadjusted Rt represents the reproduction number that would occur in a fully susceptible population.

pop_period
: Character string, defaulting to "forecast". Controls when susceptible population adjustment is applied. "forecast" only applies the adjustment to forecasts whilst "all" applies it to both data and forecasts.

pop_floor
: Numeric. Minimum susceptible population used as a floor when adjusting for population depletion. This prevents numerical instability (division by zero) when the susceptible population approaches zero. Defaults to 1.0. Can be interpreted as representing a minimal ongoing import level. Note that if pop_floor > 0, cumulative infections can exceed the population size, though this effect is negligible when pop_floor is very small compared to the population size.

growth_method
: Method used to compute growth rates from Rt. Options are "infections" (default) and "infectiousness". The option "infections" uses the classical approach, i.e. computing the log derivative on the number of new infections. The option "infectiousness" uses an alternative approach by Parag et al., which computes the log derivative of the infectiousness (i.e. the convolution of past infections with the generation time) and shifts it by the mean generation time. This can provide better stability and temporal matching with Rt. Note that, due to the temporal shift the "infectiousness" method results in undefined (NaN) growth rates for the most recent time points (equal to the mean generation time).

## Value

An <rt_opts> object with settings defining the time-varying reproduction number.

## References

Parag, K. V., Thompson, R. N. & Donnelly, C. A. Are epidemic growth rates more informative than reproduction numbers? Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A (Statistics in Society) 185, S5–S15 (2022).

## Examples

```
# default settings
rt_opts()

# add a custom length scale
rt_opts(prior = LogNormal(mean = 2, sd = 1))

# add a weekly random walk
rt_opts(rw = 7)
```

---

# run_region *Run epinow with Regional Processing Code*

---

## Description

Internal function that handles calling epinow(). Future work will extend this function to better handle stan logs and allow the user to modify settings between regions.

## Usage

```
run_region(
  target_region,
  generation_time,
  delays,
  truncation,
  rt,
  backcalc,
  gp,
  obs,
  stan,
  CrIs,
  data,
  target_folder,
  target_date,
  return_output,
  output,
  complete_logger,
```

```
  verbose,
  progress_fn = NULL,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| target_region | Character string indicating the region being evaluated |
| generation_time | A call to gt_opts() (or its alias generation_time_opts()) defining the generation time distribution used. For backwards compatibility a list of summary parameters can also be passed. |
| delays | A call to delay_opts() defining delay distributions and options. See the documentation of delay_opts() and the examples below for details. |
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| rt | A list of options as generated by rt_opts() defining Rt estimation. Defaults to rt_opts(). To generate new infections using the non-mechanistic model instead of the renewal equation model, use rt = NULL. The non-mechanistic model internally uses the setting rt = rt_opts(use_rt = FALSE, future = "project", gp_on = "R0"). |
| backcalc | A list of options as generated by backcalc_opts() to define the back calculation. Defaults to backcalc_opts(). |
| gp | A list of options as generated by gp_opts() to define the Gaussian process. Defaults to gp_opts(). Set to NULL to disable the Gaussian process. |
| obs | A list of options as generated by obs_opts() defining the observation model. Defaults to obs_opts(). |
| stan | A list of stan options as generated by stan_opts(). Defaults to stan_opts(). Can be used to override data, init, and verbose settings if desired. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date), and region (region). |
| target_folder | Character string specifying where to save results (will create if not present). |
| target_date | Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified. |
| return_output | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should output be returned, this automatically updates to TRUE if no directory for saving is specified. |
| output | A character vector of optional output to return. Supported options are the individual regional estimates ("regions"), samples ("samples"), plots ("plots"), copying the individual region dated folder into a latest folder (if target_folder is not null, set using "latest"), the stan fit of the underlying model ("fit"), the full estimate_infections() return object ("estimate_infections"), and an overall summary across regions ("summary"). The default is to return samples and plots alongside summarised estimates and summary statistics. If target_folder is not NULL then the default is also to copy all results into a latest folder. |

| | |
|---|---|
| complete_logger | Character string indicating the logger to output the completion of estimation to. |
| verbose | Logical defaults to FALSE. Outputs verbose progress messages to the console from epinow(). |
| progress_fn | Function as returned by progressr::progressor(). Allows the use of a progress bar. If NULL (default), no progress bar is used. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to epinow(). See the documentation for epinow() for details. |

## Value

A list of processed output as produced by process_region()

## See Also

regional_epinow()

---

R_to_growth *Convert Reproduction Numbers to Growth Rates*

---

## Description

**[Superseded]** See here # nolint for justification. Now handled internally by stan so may be removed in future updates if no user demand.

## Usage

```
R_to_growth(R, gamma_mean, gamma_sd)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| R | Numeric, Reproduction number estimates |
| gamma_mean | Numeric, mean of the gamma distribution |
| gamma_sd | Numeric, standard deviation of the gamma distribution . |

## Value

Numeric vector of reproduction number estimates

## Examples

```
R_to_growth(2.18, 4, 1)
```

`secondary_opts` *Secondary Reports Options*

## Description

Returns a list of options defining the secondary model used in `estimate_secondary()`. This model is a combination of a convolution of previously observed primary reports combined with current primary reports (either additive or subtractive). It can optionally be cumulative. See the documentation of `type` for sensible options to cover most use cases and the returned values of `secondary_opts()` for all currently supported options.

## Usage

```
secondary_opts(type = c("incidence", "prevalence"), ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `type` | A character string indicating the type of observation the secondary reports are. Options include:<br>• "incidence": Assumes that secondary reports equal a convolution of previously observed primary reported cases. An example application is deaths from an infectious disease predicted by reported cases of that disease (or estimated infections).<br>• "prevalence": Assumes that secondary reports are cumulative and are defined by currently observed primary reports minus a convolution of secondary reports. An example application is hospital bed usage predicted by hospital admissions. |
| `...` | Overwrite options defined by type. See the returned values for all options that can be passed. |

## Value

A `<secondary_opts>` object of binary options summarising secondary model used in `estimate_secondary()`. Options returned are `cumulative` (should the secondary report be cumulative), `historic` (should a convolution of primary reported cases be used to predict secondary reported cases), `primary_hist_additive` (should the historic convolution of primary reported cases be additive or subtractive), `current` (should currently observed primary reported cases contribute to current secondary reported cases), `primary_current_additive` (should current primary reported cases be additive or subtractive).

## See Also

`estimate_secondary()`

## Examples

```
# incidence model
secondary_opts("incidence")

# prevalence model
secondary_opts("prevalence")
```

---

`setup_default_logging` *Setup Default Logging*

---

## Description

Sets up default logging. Usage of logging is currently being explored as the current setup cannot log stan errors or progress.

## Usage

```
setup_default_logging(
  logs = tempdir(check = TRUE),
  mirror_epinow = FALSE,
  target_date = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `logs` | Character path indicating the target folder in which to store log information. Defaults to the temporary directory if not specified. Default logging can be disabled if `logs` is set to NULL. If specifying a custom logging setup then the code for `setup_default_logging()` and the `setup_logging()` function are a sensible place to start. |
| `mirror_epinow` | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should internal logging be returned from `epinow()` to the console. |
| `target_date` | Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified. |

## Value

No return value, called for side effects

## Examples

```
setup_default_logging()
```

## setup_future *Set up Future Backend*

### Description

A utility function that aims to streamline the set up of the required future backend with sensible defaults for most users of `regional_epinow()`. More advanced users are recommended to setup their own {future} backend based on their available resources. Running this requires the {future} package to be installed.

### Usage

```
setup_future(
  data,
  strategies = c("multisession", "multisession"),
  min_cores_per_worker = 4
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A <data.frame> of disease reports (confirm) by date (date), and region (region). |
| strategies | A vector length 1 to 2 of strategies to pass to `future::plan()`. Nesting of parallelisation is from the top level down. The default is to set up nesting parallelisation with both using `future::multisession()` (`future::multicore()` will likely be a faster option on supported platforms). For single level parallelisation use a single strategy or `future::plan()` directly. See `future::plan()` for options. |
| min_cores_per_worker | Numeric, the minimum number of cores per worker. Defaults to 4 which assumes 4 MCMC chains are in use per region. |

### Value

Numeric number of cores to use per worker. If greater than 1 pass to `stan_args = list(cores = "output from setup future")` or use `future = TRUE`. If only a single strategy is used then nothing is returned.

## setup_logging *Setup Logging*

### Description

Sets up {futile.logger} logging, which is integrated into {EpiNow2}. See the documentation for {futile.logger} for full details. By default {EpiNow2} prints all logs at the "INFO" level and returns them to the console. Usage of logging is currently being explored as the current setup cannot log stan errors or progress.

## Usage

```
setup_logging(
  threshold = "INFO",
  file = NULL,
  mirror_to_console = FALSE,
  name = "EpiNow2"
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| threshold | Character string indicating the logging level see (?futile.logger for details of the available options). Defaults to "INFO". |
| file | Character string indicating the path to save logs to. By default logs will be written to the console. |
| mirror_to_console | Logical, defaults to FALSE. If saving logs to a file should they also be duplicated in the console. |
| name | Character string defaulting to EpiNow2. This indicates the name of the logger to setup. The default logger for EpiNow2 is called EpiNow2. Nested options include: Epinow2.epinow which controls all logging for epinow() and nested functions, EpiNow2.epinow.estimate_infections (logging in estimate_infections(), and EpiNow2.epinow.estimate_infections.fit (logging in fitting functions). |

## Value

Nothing

---

# simulate_infections *Simulate infections using the renewal equation*

---

## Description

Simulations are done from given initial infections and, potentially time-varying, reproduction numbers. Delays and parameters of the observation model can be specified using the same options as in estimate_infections().

## Usage

```
simulate_infections(
  R,
  initial_infections,
  day_of_week_effect = NULL,
  generation_time = generation_time_opts(),
  delays = delay_opts(),
  truncation = trunc_opts(),
  obs = obs_opts(),
```

```
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  backend = "rstan",
  seeding_time = NULL,
  pop = Fixed(0),
  pop_period = c("forecast", "all"),
  pop_floor = 1,
  growth_method = c("infections", "infectiousness")
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| R | a data frame of reproduction numbers (column R) by date (column date). Column R must be numeric and date must be in date format. If not all days between the first and last day in the date are present, it will be assumed that R stays the same until the next given date. |
| initial_infections | numeric; the initial number of infections (i.e. before R applies). Note that results returned start the day after, i.e. the initial number of infections is not reported again. See also seeding_time |
| day_of_week_effect | either NULL (no day of the week effect) or a numerical vector of length specified in obs_opts() as week_length (default: 7) if week_effect is set to TRUE. Each element of the vector gives the weight given to reporting on this day (normalised to 1). The default is NULL. |
| generation_time | A call to gt_opts() (or its alias generation_time_opts()) defining the generation time distribution used. For backwards compatibility a list of summary parameters can also be passed. |
| delays | A call to delay_opts() defining delay distributions and options. See the documentation of delay_opts() and the examples below for details. |
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| obs | A list of options as generated by obs_opts() defining the observation model. Defaults to obs_opts(). |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |
| seeding_time | Integer; the number of days before the first time point of R; default is NULL, in which case it is set to the maximum of the generation time. The minimum is 1 , i.e. the first reproduction number given applies on the day after the index cases given by initial_infections. If the generation time is longer than 1 day on average, a seeding time of 1 will always lead to an initial decline (as there are no infections before the initial ones). Instead, if this is greater than 1, an initial |

part of the epidemic (before the first value of R given) of `seeding_time` days is assumed to have followed exponential growth roughly in line with the growth rate implied by the first value of R.

`pop` A `<dist_spec>` giving the initial susceptible population size. Used to adjust Rt estimates based on the proportion of the population that is susceptible. Defaults to `Fixed(0)` which means no population adjustment is done. See also `pop_floor` for the numerical stability floor used when population adjustment is enabled. When `pop` is specified, returned Rt estimates are adjusted for susceptible depletion (accounting for population immunity), and unadjusted Rt estimates are also provided in a separate output variable `R_unadjusted`. Adjusted Rt represents the effective reproduction number given the current susceptible population, whilst unadjusted Rt represents the reproduction number that would occur in a fully susceptible population.

`pop_period` Character string, defaulting to "forecast". Controls when susceptible population adjustment is applied. "forecast" only applies the adjustment to forecasts whilst "all" applies it to both data and forecasts.

`pop_floor` Numeric. Minimum susceptible population used as a floor when adjusting for population depletion. This prevents numerical instability (division by zero) when the susceptible population approaches zero. Defaults to 1.0. Can be interpreted as representing a minimal ongoing import level. Note that if pop_floor > 0, cumulative infections can exceed the population size, though this effect is negligible when pop_floor is very small compared to the population size.

`growth_method` Method used to compute growth rates from Rt. Options are "infections" (default) and "infectiousness". The option "infections" uses the classical approach, i.e. computing the log derivative on the number of new infections. The option "infectiousness" uses an alternative approach by Parag et al., which computes the log derivative of the infectiousness (i.e. the convolution of past infections with the generation time) and shifts it by the mean generation time. This can provide better stability and temporal matching with Rt. Note that, due to the temporal shift the "infectiousness" method results in undefined (NaN) growth rates for the most recent time points (equal to the mean generation time).

## Details

In order to simulate, all parameters that are specified such as the mean and standard deviation of delays or observation scaling, must be fixed. Uncertain parameters are not allowed.

## Value

A data.table of simulated infections (variable `infections`) and reported cases (variable `reported_cases`) by date.

## Examples

```
R <- data.frame(
  date = seq.Date(as.Date("2023-01-01"), length.out = 14, by = "day"),
  R = c(rep(1.2, 7), rep(0.8, 7))
)
```

```
sim <- simulate_infections(
  R = R,
  initial_infections = 100,
  generation_time = generation_time_opts(
    fix_parameters(example_generation_time)
  ),
  delays = delay_opts(fix_parameters(example_reporting_delay)),
  obs = obs_opts(family = "poisson")
)
```

---

`simulate_secondary` *Simulate secondary observations from primary observations*

---

## Description

Simulations are done from a given trajectory of primary observations by applying any given delays and observation parameters.

## Usage

```
simulate_secondary(
  primary,
  day_of_week_effect = NULL,
  secondary = secondary_opts(),
  delays = delay_opts(),
  truncation = trunc_opts(),
  obs = obs_opts(),
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  backend = "rstan"
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `primary` | a data frame of primary reports (column `primary`) by date (column `date`). Column `primary` must be numeric and `date` must be in date format. |
| `day_of_week_effect` | either `NULL` (no day of the week effect) or a numerical vector of length specified in `obs_opts()` as `week_length` (default: 7) if `week_effect` is set to TRUE. Each element of the vector gives the weight given to reporting on this day (normalised to 1). The default is `NULL`. |
| `secondary` | A call to `secondary_opts()` or a list containing the following binary variables: cumulative, historic, primary_hist_additive, current, primary_current_additive. These parameters control the structure of the secondary model, see `secondary_opts()` for details. |
| `delays` | A call to `delay_opts()` defining delay distributions and options. See the documentation of `delay_opts()` and the examples below for details. |

| | |
|---|---|
| truncation | A call to trunc_opts() defining the truncation of the observed data. Defaults to trunc_opts(), i.e. no truncation. See the estimate_truncation() help file for an approach to estimating this from data where the dist list element returned by estimate_truncation() is used as the truncation argument here, thereby propagating the uncertainty in the estimate. |
| obs | A list of options as generated by obs_opts() defining the observation model. Defaults to obs_opts(). |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |

## Details

In order to simulate, all parameters that are specified such as the mean and standard deviation of delays or observation scaling, must be fixed. Uncertain parameters are not allowed.

A function of the same name that was previously based on a reimplementation of that model in R with potentially time-varying scalings and delays is available as ‘convolve_and_scale()

## Value

A data.table of simulated secondary observations (column secondary) by date.

## Examples

```
## load data.table to manipulate `example_confirmed` below
library(data.table)
cases <- as.data.table(example_confirmed)[, primary := confirm]
sim <- simulate_secondary(
  cases,
  delays = delay_opts(fix_parameters(example_reporting_delay)),
  obs = obs_opts(family = "poisson")
)
```

---

# stan_laplace_opts *Stan Laplace algorithm Options*

---

## Description

**[Experimental]** Defines a list specifying the arguments passed to cmdstanr::laplace().

## Usage

```
stan_laplace_opts(backend = "cmdstanr", trials = 10, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |
| trials | Numeric, defaults to 10. Number of attempts to use rstan::vb()] before failing. |
| ... | Additional parameters to pass to `cmdstanr::laplace()`. |

### Value

A list of arguments to pass to `cmdstanr::laplace()`.

### Examples

```
stan_laplace_opts()
```

---

## stan_opts *Stan Options*

---

### Description

Defines a list specifying the arguments passed to underlying stan backend functions via `stan_sampling_opts()` and `stan_vb_opts()`. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

### Usage

```
stan_opts(
  object = NULL,
  samples = 2000,
  method = c("sampling", "vb", "laplace", "pathfinder"),
  backend = c("rstan", "cmdstanr"),
  return_fit = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | Stan model object. By default uses the compiled package default if using the "rstan" backend, and the default model obtained using `epinow2_cmdstan_model()` if using the "cmdstanr" backend. |
| samples | Numeric, defaults to 2000. Number of posterior samples. |
| method | A character string, defaulting to sampling. Currently supports MCMC sampling ("sampling") or approximate posterior sampling via variational inference ("vb") and, as experimental features if the "cmdstanr" backend is used, approximate posterior sampling with the laplace algorithm ("laplace") or pathfinder ("pathfinder"). |
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |

| | |
|---|---|
| return_fit | Logical, defaults to TRUE. Should the fit stan model be returned. |
| ... | Additional parameters to pass to underlying option functions, stan_sampling_opts() or stan_vb_opts(), depending on the method |

## Value

A <stan_opts> object of arguments to pass to the appropriate rstan functions.

## See Also

stan_sampling_opts() stan_vb_opts()

## Examples

```
# using default of [rstan::sampling()]
stan_opts(samples = 1000)

# using vb
stan_opts(method = "vb")
```

---

# stan_pathfinder_opts *Stan pathfinder algorithm Options*

---

## Description

**[Experimental]** Defines a list specifying the arguments passed to cmdstanr::laplace().

## Usage

```
stan_pathfinder_opts(backend = "cmdstanr", samples = 2000, trials = 10, ...)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| backend | Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr". |
| samples | Numeric, defaults to 2000. Number of posterior samples. |
| trials | Numeric, defaults to 10. Number of attempts to use rstan::vb()] before failing. |
| ... | Additional parameters to pass to cmdstanr::laplace(). |

## Value

A list of arguments to pass to cmdstanr::laplace().

## Examples

```
stan_laplace_opts()
```

stan_sampling_opts *Stan Sampling Options*

## Description

Defines a list specifying the arguments passed to either `rstan::sampling()` or `cmdstanr::sample()`. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

## Usage

```
stan_sampling_opts(
  cores = getOption("mc.cores", 1L),
  warmup = 250,
  samples = 2000,
  chains = 4,
  control = list(),
  save_warmup = FALSE,
  seed = as.integer(runif(1, 1, 1e+08)),
  future = FALSE,
  max_execution_time = Inf,
  backend = c("rstan", "cmdstanr"),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `cores` | Number of cores to use when executing the chains in parallel, which defaults to 1 but it is recommended to set the mc.cores option to be as many processors as the hardware and RAM allow (up to the number of chains). |
| `warmup` | Numeric, defaults to 250. Number of warmup samples per chain. |
| `samples` | Numeric, default 2000. Overall number of posterior samples. When using multiple chains iterations per chain is samples / chains. |
| `chains` | Numeric, defaults to 4. Number of MCMC chains to use. |
| `control` | List, defaults to empty. control parameters to pass to underlying `rstan` function. By default `adapt_delta = 0.9` and `max_treedepth = 12` though these settings can be overwritten. |
| `save_warmup` | Logical, defaults to FALSE. Should warmup progress be saved. |
| `seed` | Numeric, defaults uniform random number between 1 and 1e8. Seed of sampling process. |
| `future` | Logical, defaults to `FALSE`. Should stan chains be run in parallel using `future`. This allows users to have chains fail gracefully (i.e when combined with `max_execution_time`). Should be combined with a call to `future::plan()`. |

`max_execution_time`
: Numeric, defaults to Inf (seconds). If set wil kill off processing of each chain if not finished within the specified timeout. When more than 2 chains finish successfully estimates will still be returned. If less than 2 chains return within the allowed time then estimation will fail with an informative error.

`backend`
: Character string indicating the backend to use for fitting stan models. Supported arguments are "rstan" (default) or "cmdstanr".

`...`
: Additional parameters to pass to `rstan::sampling()` or `cmdstanr::sample()`.

## Value

A list of arguments to pass to `rstan::sampling()` or `cmdstanr::sample()`.

## Examples

```
stan_sampling_opts(samples = 2000)
```

---

# stan_vb_opts *Stan Variational Bayes Options*

---

## Description

Defines a list specifying the arguments passed to `rstan::vb()` or `cmdstanr::variational()`. Custom settings can be supplied which override the defaults.

## Usage

```
stan_vb_opts(samples = 2000, trials = 10, iter = 10000, ...)
```

## Arguments

`samples`
: Numeric, default 2000. Overall number of approximate posterior samples.

`trials`
: Numeric, defaults to 10. Number of attempts to use rstan::vb()] before failing.

`iter`
: Numeric, defaulting to 10000. Number of iterations to use in `rstan::vb()`.

`...`
: Additional parameters to pass to `rstan::vb()` or `cmdstanr::variational()`, depending on the chosen backend.

## Value

A list of arguments to pass to `rstan::vb()` or `cmdstanr::variational()`, depending on the chosen backend.

## Examples

```
stan_vb_opts(samples = 1000)
```

summary.epinow *Summary output from epinow*

## Description

summary method for class "epinow". This method inherits from summary.estimate_infections() and supports the same arguments.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'epinow'
summary(
  object,
  output = NULL,
  type = c("snapshot", "parameters"),
  target_date = NULL,
  params = NULL,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | An <epinow> object as produced by epinow(). |
| output | **[Deprecated]** Use the type argument instead. Previously supported "estimates", "forecast", and "estimated_reported_cases". |
| type | A character vector of data types to return. Defaults to "snapshot" but also supports "parameters". "snapshot" returns a summary at a given date (by default the latest date informed by data). "parameters" returns summarised parameter estimates that can be further filtered using params to show just the parameters of interest and date.<br>Note: type = "samples" is deprecated. Use get_samples() instead. |
| target_date | Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified. |
| params | A character vector of parameters to filter for. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Pass additional summary arguments to summary.estimate_infections() |

## Value

Returns a <data.frame> of summary output

## See Also

summary.estimate_infections() epinow()

## summary.estimate_dist *Summarise results from estimate_dist*

### Description

**[Experimental]** Returns parameter summary statistics for the fitted delay distribution model.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_dist'
summary(object, CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9), ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | A fitted model object from estimate_dist() |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Additional arguments (currently unused) |

### Value

A <data.table> with summary statistics for the delay distribution parameters.

## summary.estimate_infections *Summary output from estimate_infections*

### Description

summary method for class "estimate_infections".

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_infections'
summary(
  object,
  type = c("snapshot", "parameters"),
  target_date = NULL,
  params = NULL,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | A list of output as produced by "estimate_infections". |
| type | A character vector of data types to return. Defaults to "snapshot" but also supports "parameters". "snapshot" returns a summary at a given date (by default the latest date informed by data). "parameters" returns summarised parameter estimates that can be further filtered using params to show just the parameters of interest and date.<br>Note: type = "samples" is deprecated. Use get_samples() instead. |
| target_date | Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified. |
| params | A character vector of parameters to filter for. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to report_summary when type = "snapshot". |

### Value

Returns a <data.frame> of summary output

### See Also

summary.epinow() estimate_infections() report_summary()

---

## summary.estimate_secondary

*Summarise results from estimate_secondary*

---

### Description

Returns a summary of the fitted secondary model including posterior parameter estimates with credible intervals.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_secondary'
summary(
  object,
  type = c("compact", "parameters"),
  params = NULL,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | A fitted model object from estimate_secondary() |
| type | Character string indicating the type of summary to return. Options are "compact" (default) which returns delay distribution parameters and scaling factors, or "parameters" for all parameters or a filtered set. |
| params | Character vector of parameter names to include. Only used when type = "parameters". If NULL (default), returns all parameters. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Additional arguments (currently unused) |

### Value

A <data.table> with summary statistics (mean, sd, median, credible intervals) for model parameters. When type = "compact", returns only key parameters (delay distribution parameters and scaling factors). When type = "parameters", returns all or filtered parameters.

---

## summary.estimate_truncation

*Summarise results from estimate_truncation*

---

### Description

Returns parameter summary statistics for the fitted truncation model.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'estimate_truncation'
summary(object, CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9), ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | A fitted model object from estimate_truncation() |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Additional arguments (currently unused) |

### Value

A <data.table> with summary statistics for the truncation distribution parameters.

summary.forecast_infections *Summary output from forecast_infections*

## Description

summary method for class "forecast_infections".

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'forecast_infections'
summary(
  object,
  type = c("snapshot", "parameters"),
  target_date = NULL,
  params = NULL,
  CrIs = c(0.2, 0.5, 0.9),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| object | A list of output as produced by "forecast_infections". |
| type | A character vector of data types to return. Defaults to "snapshot" but also supports "parameters". "snapshot" returns a summary at a given date (by default the latest date informed by data). "parameters" returns summarised parameter estimates that can be further filtered using params to show just the parameters of interest and date. |
| target_date | Date, defaults to maximum found in the data if not specified. |
| params | A character vector of parameters to filter for. |
| CrIs | Numeric vector of credible intervals to calculate. |
| ... | Pass additional arguments to report_summary when type = "snapshot". |

## Value

Returns a <data.frame> of summary output

## See Also

summary.estimate_infections() forecast_infections() report_summary()

trunc_opts *Truncation Distribution Options*

## Description

Returns a truncation distribution formatted for usage by downstream functions. See `estimate_truncation()` for an approach to estimate these distributions.

## Usage

```
trunc_opts(dist = Fixed(0), default_cdf_cutoff = 0.001, weight_prior = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| `dist` | A delay distribution or series of delay distributions reflecting the truncation. It can be specified using the probability distributions interface in `EpiNow2` (See `?EpiNow2::Distributions`) or estimated using `estimate_truncation()`, which returns a `dist` object, suited for use here out-of-box. Default is a fixed distribution with maximum 0, i.e. no truncation. |
| `default_cdf_cutoff` | Numeric; default CDF cutoff to be used if an unconstrained distribution is passed as `dist`. If `dist` is already constrained by having a maximum or CDF cutoff this is ignored. Note that this can only be done for <dist_spec> objects with fixed parameters. |
| `weight_prior` | Logical; if TRUE, the truncation prior will be weighted by the number of observation data points, in doing so approximately placing an independent prior at each time step and usually preventing the posteriors from shifting. If FALSE (default), no weight will be applied, i.e. the truncation distribution will be treated as a single parameter. |

## Value

A <trunc_opts> object summarising the input truncation distribution.

## See Also

`convert_to_logmean()` `convert_to_logsd()` `bootstrapped_dist_fit()` `Distributions`

## Examples

```
# no truncation
trunc_opts()

# truncation dist
trunc_opts(dist = LogNormal(mean = 3, sd = 2, max = 10))
```

update_secondary_args *Update estimate_secondary default priors*

## Description

This functions allows the user to more easily specify data driven or model based priors for `estimate_secondary()` from example from previous model fits using a <data.frame> to overwrite other default settings. Note that default settings are still required.

## Usage

```
update_secondary_args(data, priors, verbose = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| data | A list of data and arguments as returned by `create_stan_data()`. |
| priors | A <data.frame> of named priors to be used in model fitting rather than the defaults supplied from other arguments. This is typically useful if wanting to inform a estimate from the posterior of another model fit. Priors that are currently use to update the defaults are the scaling fraction ("fraction_observed"), and delay parameters ("delay_params"). The <data.frame> should have the following variables: `variable`, `mean`, and `sd`. |
| verbose | Logical, defaults to `FALSE`. Should verbose progress messages be returned. |

## Value

A list as produced by `create_stan_data()`.

## Examples

```
priors <- data.frame(variable = "fraction_observed", mean = 3, sd = 1)
data <- list(obs_scale_mean = 4, obs_scale_sd = 3)
update_secondary_args(data, priors)
```

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