

# The mitools Package

October 28, 2008

**Title** Tools for multiple imputation of missing data

**Version** 2.0

**Author** Thomas Lumley

**Description** Tools to perform analyses and combine results from multiple-imputation datasets.

**Maintainer** Thomas Lumley <tlumley@u.washington.edu>

**Suggests** RODBC, DBI

**License** GPL 2

## R topics documented:

MIcombine . . . . .	1
MIextract . . . . .	3
imputationList . . . . .	4
smi . . . . .	5
with.imputationList . . . . .	6
<b>Index</b>	<b>8</b>

---

MIcombine *Multiple imputation inference*

---

## Description

Combines results of analyses on multiply imputed data sets. A generic function with methods for `imputationResultList` objects and a default method. In addition to point estimates and variances, `MIcombine` computes Rubin's degrees-of-freedom estimate and rate of missing information.

**Usage**

```
MIcombine(results, ...)
## Default S3 method:
MIcombine(results, variances, call=sys.call(), df.complete=Inf, ...)
## S3 method for class 'imputationResultList':
MIcombine(results, call=NULL, df.complete=Inf, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>results</code>	A list of results from inference on separate imputed datasets
<code>variances</code>	If <code>results</code> is a list of parameter vectors, <code>variances</code> should be the corresponding variance-covariance matrices
<code>call</code>	A function call for labelling the results
<code>df.complete</code>	Complete-data degrees of freedom
<code>...</code>	Other arguments, not used

**Details**

The `results` argument in the default method may be either a list of parameter vectors or a list of objects that have `coef` and `vcov` methods. In the former case a list of variance-covariance matrices must be supplied as the second argument.

The complete-data degrees of freedom are used when a complete-data analysis would use a t-distribution rather than a Normal distribution for confidence intervals, such as some survey applications.

**Value**

An object of class `MIresult` with `summary` and `print` methods

**References**

put references to the literature/web site here

**See Also**

[MIextract, with.imputationList](#)

**Examples**

```
data(smi)
models<-with(smi, glm(drinkreg~wave*sex, family=binomial()))
summary(MIcombine(models))

betas<-MIextract(models, fun=coef)
vars<-MIextract(models, fun=vcov)
summary(MIcombine(betas, vars))
```

---

MIextract	<i>Extract a parameter from a list of results</i>
-----------	---------------------------------------------------

---

### Description

Used to extract parameter estimates and standard errors from lists produced by `with.imputationList`.

### Usage

```
MIextract(results, expr, fun)
```

### Arguments

<code>results</code>	A list of objects
<code>expr</code>	an expression
<code>fun</code>	a function of one argument

### Details

If `expr` is supplied, it is evaluated in each element of `results`. Otherwise each element of `results` is passed as an argument to `fun`.

### Value

A list

### See Also

`with.imputationList`, `MIcombine`

### Examples

```
data(smi)
models<-with(smi, glm(drinkreg~wave*sex, family=binomial()))

betas<-MIextract(models, fun=coef)
vars<-MIextract(models, fun=vcov)
summary(MIcombine(betas, vars))
```

---

imputationList      *Constructor for imputationList objects*

---

## Description

Create and update `imputationList` objects to be used as input to other MI routines.

## Usage

```
imputationList(datasets, ...)
## Default S3 method:
imputationList(datasets, ...)
## S3 method for class 'character':
imputationList(datasets, dbtype, dbname, ...)
## S3 method for class 'imputationList':
update(object, ...)
## S3 method for class 'imputationList':
rbind(...)
## S3 method for class 'imputationList':
cbind(...)
```

## Arguments

<code>datasets</code>	a list of data frames corresponding to the multiple imputations, or a list of names of database tables or views
<code>dbtype</code>	"ODBC" or a database driver name for <code>DBI::dbDriver()</code>
<code>dbname</code>	Name of the database
<code>object</code>	An object of class <code>imputationList</code>
<code>...</code>	Arguments <code>tag=expr</code> to update will create new variables <code>tag</code> by evaluating <code>expr</code> in each imputed dataset. Arguments to <code>imputationList()</code> are passed to the database driver

## Details

When the arguments to `imputationList()` are character strings a database-based imputation list is created. This can be a database accessed through ODBC with the `RODBC` package or a database with a DBI-compatible driver. The `dbname` and `...` arguments are passed to `dbConnect()` or `odbcConnect()` to create a database connection. Data are read from the database as needed.

For a database-backed object the `update()` method creates variable definitions that are evaluated as the data are read, so that read-only access to the database is sufficient.

## Value

An object of class `imputationList` or `DBimputationList`

## Examples

```
data.dir<-system.file("dta",package="mitools")
files.men<-list.files(data.dir,pattern="m\\.dta$",full=TRUE)
men<-imputationList(lapply(files.men, foreign::read.dta))
files.women<-list.files(data.dir,pattern="f\\.dta$",full=TRUE)
women<-imputationList(lapply(files.women, foreign::read.dta))
men<-update(men, sex=1)
women<-update(women,sex=0)
all<-rbind(men,women)
all<-update(all, drinkreg=as.numeric(drkfre)>2)
all
```

---

 smi

---

*Multiple imputations*


---

## Description

An `imputationList` object containing five imputations of data from the Victorian Adolescent Health Cohort Study.

## Usage

```
data(smi)
```

## Format

The underlying data are in a data frame with 1170 observations on the following 12 variables.

**id** a numeric vector

**wave** a numeric vector

**mmetro** a numeric vector

**parsmk** a numeric vector

**drkfre** a factor with levels `Non drinker not in last wk` `<3 days last wk` `>=3 days last wk`

**alcdos** a factor with levels `Non drinker not in last wk av` `<5units/drink_day av` `=>5units/drink_day`

**alcdhi** a numeric vector

**smk** a factor with levels `non/ex-smoker` `<6 days` `6/7 days`

**cistot** a numeric vector

**mdrkfre** a numeric vector

**sex** a numeric vector

**drinkreg** a logical vector

**Source**

Carlin, JB, Li, N, Greenwood, P, Coffey, C. (2003) "Tools for analysing multiple imputed datasets" The Stata Journal 3; 3: 1-20.

**Examples**

```
data(smi)
with(smi, table(sex, drkfre))
modell<-with(smi, glm(drinkreg~wave*sex, family=binomial()))
MIcombine(modell)
summary(MIcombine(modell))
```

---

```
with.imputationList
```

*Evaluate an expression in multiple imputed datasets*

---

**Description**

Performs a computation of each of imputed datasets in data

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'imputationList':
with(data, expr, fun, ...)
```

**Arguments**

data	An imputationList object
expr	An expression
fun	A function taking a data frame argument
...	Other arguments, passed to fun

**Details**

If `expr` is supplied, evaluate it in each dataset in `data`; if `fun` is supplied, it is evaluated on each dataset. If all the results inherit from "imputationResult" the return value is an `imputationResultList` object, otherwise it is an ordinary list.

**Value**

Either a list or an `imputationResultList` object

**See Also**

[imputationList](#)

**Examples**

```
data(smi)
models<-with(smi, glm(drinkreg~wave*sex, family=binomial()))
tables<-with(smi, table(drkfre, sex))
with(smi, fun=summary)
```

# Index

- \*Topic **datasets**
  - smi, 5
- \*Topic **htest**
  - MIcombine, 1
- \*Topic **manip**
  - imputationList, 4
  - MIcombine, 1
  - MIextract, 3
  - with.imputationList, 6
  
- cbind.imputationList
  - (*imputationList*), 4
  
- dim.imputationList
  - (*imputationList*), 4
- dimnames.imputationList
  - (*imputationList*), 4
  
- imputationList, 4, 6
  
- MIcombine, 1, 3
- MIextract, 2, 3
  
- print.imputationList
  - (*imputationList*), 4
- print.MIresult (*MIcombine*), 1
  
- rbind.imputationList
  - (*imputationList*), 4
  
- smi, 5
- summary.MIresult (*MIcombine*), 1
  
- update.imputationList
  - (*imputationList*), 4
  
- vcov.MIresult (*MIcombine*), 1
  
- with.imputationList, 2, 3, 6