

Package ‘OrdMonReg’

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Type Package

Title Compute Least Squares Estimates of One Bounded or Two Ordered Isotonic Regression Curves

Version 1.0.4

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Description We consider the problem of estimating two isotonic regression curves $g1^*$ and $g2^*$ under the constraint that they are ordered, i.e. $g1^* \leq g2^*$. Given two sets of n data points y_1, \dots, y_n and z_1, \dots, z_n that are observed at (the same) deterministic design points x_1, \dots, x_n , the estimates are obtained by minimizing the Least Squares criterion $L(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - a_i)^2 w1(x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - b_i)^2 w2(x_i)$ over the class of pairs of vectors (a, b) such that a and b are isotonic and $a_i \leq b_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. We offer two different approaches to compute the estimates: a projected subgradient algorithm where the projection is calculated using a PAVA as well as Dykstra's cyclical projection algorithm.

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NeedsCompilation no

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OrdMonReg-package	<i>Compute Least Squares Estimates of One Bounded or Two Ordered Isotonic Regression Curves</i>
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Description

We consider the problem of estimating two isotonic regression curves g_1° and g_2° under the constraint that $g_1^\circ \leq g_2^\circ$. Given two sets of n data points y_1, \dots, y_n and z_1, \dots, z_n that are observed at (the same) deterministic design points x_1, \dots, x_n , the estimates are obtained by minimizing the Least Squares criterion

$$L(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - a_i)^2 w_1(x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - b_i)^2 w_2(x_i)$$

over the class of pairs of vectors (a, b) such that a and b are isotonic and $a_i \leq b_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. We offer two different approaches to compute the estimates: a projected subgradient algorithm where the projection is calculated using a pool-adjacent-violaters algorithm (PAVA) as well as Dykstra's cyclical projection algorithm.

Additionally, functions to solve the bounded isotonic regression problem described in Barlow et al. (1972, p. 57) are provided.

Details

Package:	OrdMonReg
Type:	Package
Version:	1.0.4
Date:	2026-04-26
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Author(s)

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

Barlow, R. E., Bartholomew, D. J., Bremner, J. M., Brunk, H. D. (1972). *Statistical inference under order restrictions. The theory and application of isotonic regression*. John Wiley and Sons, London - New York - Sydney.

Dykstra, R.L. (1983). An Algorithm for Restricted Least Squares Regression. *J. Amer. Statist. Assoc.*, **78**, 837–842.

See Also

Other versions of bounded regression are implemented in the packages **cir**, **Iso**, **monreg**. The function **BoundedIsoMean** is a generalization of the function `isoMean` in the package **logcondens**.

Examples

```
## examples are provided in the help files of the main functions of this package:
?BoundedAntiMean
?BoundedAntiMeanTwo
```

astar_1, bstar_n	<i>Computes explicitly known values of the estimates in the two ordered functions antitonic regression problem</i>
------------------	--

Description

These functions compute the values a_1^* and b_n^* , the value of the estimate of the upper function at x_1 and the value of the lower estimated function at x_n in the two ordered antitonic regression functions problem. These values can be computed via explicit formulas, unlike the values at $x \in x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}$, which are received via a projected subgradient algorithm. However, b_n^* enters this algorithm as an auxiliary quantity.

Usage

```
astar_1(g1, w1, g2, w2)
bstar_n(g1, w1, g2, w2)
```

Arguments

g1	Vector in R^n , measurements of upper function.
w1	Vector in R^n , weights for upper function.
g2	Vector in R^n , measurements of lower function.
w2	Vector in R^n , weights for lower function.

Value

Values of a_1^* and b_n^* are returned.

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

See Also

This function is used by [BoundedAntiMeanTwo](#).

BoundedAntiMean, BoundedIsoMean

*Compute least square estimate of an iso- or antitonic function,
 bounded below and above by fixed functions*

Description

This function computes the bounded least squares isotonic regression estimate, where the bounds are two functions such that the estimate is above the lower and below the upper function. To find the solution, we use the pool-adjacent-violaters algorithm for a suitable set function M , as discussed in Balabdaoui et al. (2009). The problem was initially posed in Barlow et al. (1972), including a remark (on p. 57) that the PAVA can be used to solve it. However, a formal proof is not given in Barlow et al. (1972). A short note detailing this proof is available from the authors of Balabdaoui et al. (2009) on request.

Usage

```
BoundedIsoMean(y, w, a = NA, b = NA)
BoundedAntiMean(y, w, a = NA, b = NA)
```

Arguments

y	Vector in R^n of measurements.
w	Vector in R^n of weights.
a	Vector in R^n that gives lower bound.
b	Vector in R^n that gives upper bound.

Details

The *bounded isotonic regression problem* is given by: For $x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_n$ let $y_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ be measurements of some quantity at the x_i 's, with true mean function $g^\circ(x)$. The goal is to estimate g° using least squares, i.e. to minimize

$$L(a) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (y_i - a_i)^2$$

over the class of vectors a that are isotonic and satisfy

$$a_{L,i} \leq a_i \leq a_{U,i} \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, n$$

and two *fixed* isotonic vectors a_L and a_U . This problem can be solved using a suitable modification of the pool-adjacent-violators algorithm, see Barlow et al. (1972, p. 57) and Balabdaoui et al. (2009).

The function BoundedAntiMean solves the same problem for antitonic curves, by simply invoking BoundedIsoMean flipping some of the arguments.

Value

The bounded isotonic (antitonic) estimate $(\hat{g}^\circ)_{i=1}^n$.

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References

- Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.
- Barlow, R. E., Bartholomew, D. J., Bremner, J. M., Brunk, H. D. (1972). *Statistical inference under order restrictions. The theory and application of isotonic regression*. John Wiley and Sons, London - New York - Sydney.

See Also

The functions [BoundedAntiMeanTwo](#) and [BoundedIsoMeanTwo](#) for the problem of estimating *two* ordered antitonic (isotonic) regression functions. The function [BoundedIsoMean](#) depends on the function [MA](#).

Examples

```
## -----
## generate data
## -----
set.seed(23041977)
n <- 35
x <- 1:n / n
f0 <- - 3 * x + 5
g0 <- 1 / (x + 0.5) ^ 2 + 1
g <- g0 + 3 * rnorm(n)

## -----
## compute estimate
## -----
g_est <- BoundedAntiMean(g, w = rep(1 / n, n), a = -rep(Inf, n), b = f0)

## -----
## plot observations and estimate
## -----
par(mar = c(4.5, 4, 3, 0.5))
plot(0, 0, type = 'n', main = "Observations, upper bound and estimate
  for bounded antitonic regression", xlim = c(0, max(x)), ylim =
  range(c(f0, g)), xlab = expression(x), ylab = "observations and estimate")
points(x, g, col = 1)
lines(x, g0, col = 1, lwd = 2, lty = 2)
lines(x, f0, col = 2, lwd = 2, lty = 2)
lines(x, g_est, col = 3, lwd = 2)
legend("bottomleft", c("truth", "data", "upper bound", "estimate"),
  lty = c(1, 0, 1, 1), lwd = c(2, 1, 2, 2), pch = c(NA, 1, NA, NA),
  col = c(1, 1:3), bty = 'n')

## Not run:
## -----
## 'BoundedIsoMean' is a generalization of 'isoMean' in the
## package 'logcondens'
## -----
library(logcondens)
n <- 50
y <- sort(runif(n, 0, 1)) ^ 2 + rnorm(n, 0, 0.2)

isoMean(y, w = rep(1 / n, n))
BoundedIsoMean(y, w = rep(1 / n, n), a = -rep(Inf, n), b = rep(Inf, n))

## End(Not run)
```

BoundedAntiMeanTwo, BoundedIsoMeanTwo

Compute solution to the problem of two ordered isotonic or antitonic curves

Description

See details below.

Usage

```
BoundedIsoMeanTwo(g1, w1, g2, w2, K1 = 1000, K2 = 400,
  delta = 10-4, errorPrec = 10, output = TRUE)
BoundedAntiMeanTwo(g1, w1, g2, w2, K1 = 1000, K2 = 400,
  delta = 10-4, errorPrec = 10, output = TRUE)
```

Arguments

g1	Vector in R^n , measurements of upper function.
w1	Vector in R^n , weights for upper function.
g2	Vector in R^n , measurements of lower function.
w2	Vector in R^n , weights for lower function.
K1	Upper bound on number of iterations.
K2	Number of iterations where step length is changed from the inverse of the norm of the subgradient to a <i>diminishing</i> function of the norm of the subgradient.
delta	Upper bound on the error, defines stopping criterion.
errorPrec	Computation of stopping criterion is expensive. Therefore, the stopping criterion is only evaluated at every errorPrec-th iteration of the algorithm.
output	Should intermediate results be output?

Details

We consider the problem of estimating two isotonic (antitonic) regression curves g_1° and g_2° under the constraint that $g_1^\circ \leq g_2^\circ$. Given two sets of n data points y_1, \dots, y_n and z_1, \dots, z_n that are observed at (the same) deterministic design points x_1, \dots, x_n with weights $w_{1,i}$ and $w_{2,i}$, respectively, the estimates are obtained by minimizing the Least Squares criterion

$$L_2(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - a_i)^2 w_{1,i} + \sum_{i=1}^n (z_i - b_i)^2 w_{2,i}$$

over the class of pairs of vectors (a, b) such that a and b are isotonic (antitonic) and $a_i \leq b_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$. The estimates are computed with a projected subgradient algorithm where the projection is calculated using a suitable version of the pool-adjacent-violaters algorithm (PAVA).

The algorithm is implemented for antitonic curves in the function BoundedAntiMeanTwo. The function BoundedIsoMeanTwo solves the same problem for isotonic curves, by simply invoking BoundedAntiMeanTwo and suitably flipping some of the arguments.

Value

g1	The estimated function \hat{g}_1° .
g2	The estimated function \hat{g}_2° .
L	Value of the least squares criterion at the minimum.
error	Value of error.
k	Number of iterations performed.
tau	Step length at final iteration.

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

See Also

The functions [BoundedAntiMean](#) and [BoundedIsoMean](#) for the problem of estimating *one* anti-tonic (isotonic) regression function bounded above and below by *fixed* functions. The function [BoundedAntiMeanTwo](#) depends on the functions [BoundedAntiMean](#), [bstar_n](#), [LSfunctional](#), and [Subgradient](#).

Examples

```
## =====
## The first example uses simulated data
## For the analysis of the mechIng dataset see below
## =====

## -----
## initialization
## -----
set.seed(23041977)
n <- 100
x <- 1:n
g1 <- 1 / x^2 + 2
g1 <- g1 + 3 * rnorm(n)
g2 <- 1 / log(x+3) + 2
g2 <- g2 + 4 * rnorm(n)
w1 <- runif(n)
w1 <- w1 / sum(w1)
```

```

w2 <- runif(n)
w2 <- w2 / sum(w2)

## -----
## compute estimates
## -----

shor <- BoundedAntiMeanTwo(g1, w1, g2, w2, errorPrec = 20,
  delta = 10^(-10))

## corresponding isotonic problem
shor2 <- BoundedIsoMeanTwo(-g2, w2, -g1, w1, errorPrec = 20,
  delta = 10^(-10))

## the following vectors are equal
shor$g1 - -shor2$g2
shor$g2 - -shor2$g1

## -----
## for comparison, compute estimates via cyclical projection
## algorithm due to Dykstra (1983) (isotonic problem)
## -----
dykstra1 <- BoundedIsoMeanTwoDykstra(-g2, w2, -g1, w1,
  delta = 10^(-10))

## the following vectors are equal
shor2$g1 - dykstra1$g1
shor2$g2 - dykstra1$g2

## -----
## Checking of solution
## -----
# This compares the first component of shor$g1 with a^*_1:
c(shor$g1[1], astar_1(g1, w1, g2, w2))

## -----
## plot original functions and estimates
## -----
par(mfrow = c(1, 1), mar = c(4.5, 4, 3, 0.5))
plot(x, g1, col = 2, main = "Original observations and estimates in problem
two ordered antitonic regression functions", xlim = c(0, max(x)), ylim =
range(c(shor$g1, shor$g2, g1, g2)), xlab = expression(x),
ylab = "measurements and estimates")
points(x, g2, col = 3)
lines(x, shor$g1 + 0.01, col = 2, type = 's', lwd = 2)
lines(x, shor$g2 - 0.01, col = 3, type = 's', lwd = 2)
legend("bottomleft", c(expression("upper estimated function g"[1]*"*"),
  expression("lower estimated function g"[2]*"*")), lty = 1, col = 2:3,
  lwd = 2, bty = "n")

## =====
## Analysis of the mechIng dataset

```

```

## =====

## -----
## input data
## -----
data(mechIng)
x <- mechIng$x
n <- length(x)
g1 <- mechIng$g1
g2 <- mechIng$g2
w1 <- rep(1, n)
w2 <- w1

## -----
## compute unordered estimates
## -----
g1_pava <- BoundedIsoMean(y = g1, w = w1, a = NA, b = NA)
g2_pava <- BoundedIsoMean(y = g2, w = w2, a = NA, b = NA)

## -----
## compute estimates via cyclical projection algorithm due to
## Dykstra (1983)
## -----
dykstra1 <- BoundedIsoMeanTwoDykstra(g1, w1, g2, w2,
  delta = 10^-10, output = TRUE)

## -----
## compute smoothed versions
## -----
g1_mon <- dykstra1$g1
g2_mon <- dykstra1$g2

kernel <- function(x, X, h, Y){
  tmp <- dnorm((x - X) / h)
  res <- sum(Y * tmp) / sum(tmp)
  return(res)
}
h <- 0.1 * n^(-1/5)

g1_smooth <- rep(NA, n)
g2_smooth <- g1_smooth
for (i in 1:n){
  g1_smooth[i] <- kernel(x[i], X = x, h, g1_mon)
  g2_smooth[i] <- kernel(x[i], X = x, h, g2_mon)
}

## -----
## plot original functions and estimates
## -----
par(mfrow = c(2, 1), oma = c(0, 0, 2, 0), mar = c(4.5, 4, 2, 0.5),
  cex.main = 0.8, las = 1)

plot(0, 0, type = 'n', xlim = c(0, max(x)), ylim =

```

```

    range(c(g1, g2, g1_mon, g2_mon)), xlab = "x", ylab =
      "measurements and estimates", main = "ordered antitonic estimates")
points(x, g1, col = grey(0.3), pch = 20, cex = 0.8)
points(x, g2, col = grey(0.6), pch = 20, cex = 0.8)
lines(x, g1_mon + 0.1, col = 2, type = 's', lwd = 3)
lines(x, g2_mon - 0.1, col = 3, type = 's', lwd = 3)
legend(0.2, 10, c(expression("upper isotonic function g"[1]*"*"),
  expression("lower isotonic function g"[2]*"*")), lty = 1, col = 2:3,
  lwd = 3, bty = "n")

plot(0, 0, type = 'n', xlim = c(0, max(x)), ylim =
  range(c(g1, g2, g1_mon, g2_mon)), xlab = "x", ylab = "measurements and
  estimates", main = "smoothed ordered antitonic estimates")
points(x, g1, col = grey(0.3), pch = 20, cex = 0.8)
points(x, g2, col = grey(0.6), pch = 20, cex = 0.8)
lines(x, g1_smooth + 0.1, col = 2, type = 's', lwd = 3)
lines(x, g2_smooth - 0.1, col = 3, type = 's', lwd = 3)
legend(0.2, 10, c(expression("upper isotonic smoothed function " *tilde(g)[1]*"*"),
  expression("lower isotonic smoothed function " *tilde(g)[2]*"*")),
  lty = 1, col = 2:3, lwd = 3, bty = "n")

par(cex.main = 1)
title("Original observations and estimates in mechanical engineering example",
  line = 0, outer = TRUE)

```

BoundedIsoMeanTwoDykstra

Compute solution to the problem of two ordered isotonic or antitonic curves

Description

See details below.

Usage

```

BoundedIsoMeanTwoDykstra(g1, w1, g2, w2, K1 = 1000,
  delta = 10-8, output = TRUE)

```

Arguments

g1	Vector in R^n , measurements of upper function.
w1	Vector in R^n , weights for upper function.
g2	Vector in R^n , measurements of lower function.
w2	Vector in R^n , weights for lower function.
K1	Upper bound on number of iterations.
delta	Upper bound on the error, defines stopping criterion.
output	Should intermediate results be output?

Details

See BoundedIsoMeanTwo for a description of the problem. This function computes the estimates via Dykstra's (see Dykstra, 1983) cyclical projection algorithm.

The algorithm is implemented for isotonic curves.

Value

g1	The estimated function \hat{g}_1° .
g2	The estimated function \hat{g}_2° .
L	Value of the least squares criterion at the minimum.
error	Value of error (norm of difference two consecutive projections).
k	Number of iterations performed.

Warning

Note that we have chosen a very simply stopping criterion here, namely the algorithm stops if the norm of two consecutive projections is smaller than δ . If n is very small, it may happen that two consecutive projections are equal although L is not yet minimal (note that this typically happens if $g_1 = g_2$). If that is the case, we suggest to set $\delta < 0$ and let the algorithm run a sufficient number of iterations (specified by K1) to verify that the least squares criterion value can not be decreased anymore.

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

Dykstra, R.L. (1983). An Algorithm for Restricted Least Squares Regression. *J. Amer. Statist. Assoc.*, **78**, 837–842.

See Also

The functions [BoundedAntiMean](#) and [BoundedIsoMean](#) for the problem of estimating *one* anti-tonic (isotonic) regression function bounded above and below by *fixed* functions. The function [BoundedAntiMeanTwoDykstra](#) depends on the functions discussed in [mink](#).

Examples

```
## examples are provided in the help file of the main function of this package:
?BoundedIsoMeanTwo
```

disp *Function to display numbers in outputs*

Description

Function that facilitates output of numbers

LSfunctional *Compute least squares criterion for two ordered isotonic regression functions*

Description

Computes the value of the least squares criterion in the problem of two ordered isotonic regression functions.

Usage

LSfunctional(f1, g1, w1, f2, g2, w2)

Arguments

f1	Vector in R^n , specifies values of upper function at which criterion should be evaluated.
g1	Vector in R^n , measurements of upper function.
w1	Vector in R^n , weights for upper function.
f2	Vector in R^n , specifies values of lower function at which criterion should be evaluated.
g2	Vector in R^n , measurements of lower function.
w2	Vector in R^n , weights for lower function.

Details

This function simply computes for the above vectors

$$L(f1, f2) = \sum_{i=1}^n w1_i (f1_i - g1_i)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n w2_i (f2_i - g2_i)^2.$$

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

See Also

This function is used by [BoundedAntiMeanTwo](#).

 MA

Compute bounded weighted average

Description

This function computes the bounded weighted mean for any subset of indices.

Usage

MA(g, w, A = NA, a, b)

Arguments

g	Vector in R^n of measurements.
w	Vector in R^n of weights.
A	Subset of 1:n, denoting the subsets of the above vectors to compute the average with.
a	Vector in R^n that gives lower bound.
b	Vector in R^n that gives upper bound.

Details

This function computes the bounded average

$$MA[A] = \max\{\min\{Av[A], \min_{x \in A} b(x)\}, \max_{x \in A} a(x)\},$$

see Balabdaoui et al. (2009) for details.

Value

The bounded weighted average is returned.

Author(s)

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

See Also

This function is used by [BoundedIsoMean](#).

mechIng	<i>Mechanical engineering dataset used to illustrate ordered isotonic regression</i>
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Description

Dataset that contains the data analyzed in Balabdaoui et al. (2009).

Usage

```
data(mechIng)
```

Format

A data frame with 1495 observations on the following 3 variables.

- x Location of measurements.
- g1 Measurements of the upper isotonic curve.
- g2 Measurements of the lower isotonic curve.

Details

In Balabdaoui et al. (2009), ordered isotonic regression is illustrated using stress-strain curves from dynamical material tests.

Source

The data was taken from Shim and Mohr (2009).

References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered monotone regression curves*. Preprint.

Shim, J. and Mohr, D. (2009). Using split Hopkinson pressure bars to perform large strain compression tests on polyurea at low, intermediate and high strain rates. *International Journal of Impact Engineering*, **36(9)**, 1116–1127.

See Also

See the examples in [BoundedIsoMeanTwo](#) for the analysis of this data.

minK

Compute projections on restriction cones in Dykstra's algorithm.

Description

Internal functions for Dykstra's algorithm to compute bounded monotone regression estimates.

Details

These functions are not intended to be called by the user.

`minK1` Compute projection of (a, b) on the set $\{(a, b) : a \text{ is increasing.}\}$.

`minK2` Compute projection of (a, b) on the set $\{(a, b) : b \text{ is increasing.}\}$.

`minK3` Compute projection of (a, b) on the set $\{(a, b) : a \leq b\}$.

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered antitonic regression curves*. Preprint.

Dykstra, R.L. (1983). An Algorithm for Restricted Least Squares Regression. *J. Amer. Statist. Assoc.*, **78**, 837–842.

See Also

This functions are used by `BoundedIsoMeanTwoDykstra`.

Subgradient *Computes a subgradient for the projected subgradient algorithm*

Description

This function computes a subgradient of the function Ψ .

Usage

Subgradient(b, g1, w1, g2, w2, B, Gsi)

Arguments

b	Vector in R^{n-1} at which subgradient should be computed.
g1	Vector in R^n , measurements of upper function.
w1	Vector in R^n , weights for upper function.
g2	Vector in R^n , measurements of lower function.
w2	Vector in R^n , weights for lower function.
B	Value of b_n^* .
Gsi	Matrix in $R^{n \times n}$ that contains the quantities $G_{s,i}$ defined in Balabdaoui et al. (2009).

Value

The subgradient at b .

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References

Balabdaoui, F., Rufibach, K., Santambrogio, F. (2009). *Least squares estimation of two ordered antitonic regression curves*. Preprint.

See Also

This function is used by [BoundedAntiMeanTwo](#).

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