

# Package ‘moderncor’

June 24, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Unified Interface for Modern and Classical Correlation Coefficients

**Version** 0.2.0

**Description** Provides a single unified interface for computing a wide variety of classical and modern correlation and association measures. Continuous methods include classical correlations (Pearson, Spearman, Kendall), modern dependence measures (distance correlation, maximal information coefficient, Hilbert-Schmidt independence criterion, Chatterjee's xi, Hoeffding's D, mutual information), robust correlations (biweight midcorrelation, percentage bend, Winsorized), ordinal correlations (polychoric, tetrachoric), partial and semi-partial correlations, and nonparametric measures (ball correlation, Bergsma-Dassios tau\*). Categorical association measures (Cramer's V, phi coefficient, Goodman-Kruskal gamma, Somers' D, contingency coefficient, Tschuprow's T) are available via `moderncor_cat()`.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://github.com/ToshihiroIguchi/moderncor>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/ToshihiroIguchi/moderncor/issues>

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Imports** stats, energy, XICOR

**Suggests** minerva, Hmisc, dHSIC, infotheo, WRS2, psych, ppcor, Ball, TauStar, DescTools, testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown

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as.data.frame.moderncor

*Convert moderncor object to a data.frame*

---

### Description

Convert moderncor object to a data.frame

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'moderncor'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

### Arguments

x	An object of class "moderncor".
row.names	Ignored.
optional	Ignored.
...	Additional arguments.

### Value

A data.frame.

---

```
as.data.frame.moderncor_cat
```

*Convert moderncor\_cat object to a data.frame*

---

**Description**

Convert moderncor\_cat object to a data.frame

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'moderncor_cat'  
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class "moderncor_cat".
row.names	Ignored.
optional	Ignored.
...	Additional arguments.

**Value**

A data.frame.

---

```
available_methods
```

*List all available correlation methods*

---

**Description**

List all available correlation methods

**Usage**

```
available_methods()
```

**Value**

A data.frame with method names, labels, and package requirements.

**Examples**

```
available_methods()
```

---

`available_methods_cat` *List all available categorical association methods*

---

**Description**

List all available categorical association methods

**Usage**

```
available_methods_cat()
```

**Value**

A data.frame with method names, labels, package requirements, and type.

**Examples**

```
available_methods_cat()
```

---

`method_info` *Get detailed information about a specific correlation method*

---

**Description**

Get detailed information about a specific correlation method

**Usage**

```
method_info(method)
```

**Arguments**

`method` Character: the method name.

**Value**

A list with method details.

**Examples**

```
method_info("pearson")
```

---

 moderncor

---

*Compute classical and modern correlation coefficients*


---

## Description

This function provides a single unified interface to compute a wide range of classical and modern correlation and association measures.

## Usage

```
moderncor(
  x,
  y = NULL,
  z = NULL,
  method = c("pearson", "spearman", "kendall", "dcor", "mic", "hsic", "xi", "hoeffding",
    "mutual_info", "biweight", "percentage_bend", "winsorized", "polychoric",
    "tetrachoric", "partial", "semi_partial", "ball", "tau_star"),
  alternative = c("two.sided", "less", "greater"),
  p_value = TRUE,
  use = c("complete.obs", "everything", "pairwise.complete.obs"),
  method_partial = c("pearson", "spearman", "kendall"),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

x	A numeric vector, matrix, or data.frame.
y	A numeric vector, or NULL if x is a matrix or data.frame.
z	A numeric vector, matrix, or data.frame representing control variables. Required for partial and semi-partial correlations.
method	Character: the association method to compute. Must be one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "pearson": Pearson product-moment correlation (linear).</li> <li>• "spearman": Spearman rank correlation (monotonic).</li> <li>• "kendall": Kendall rank correlation (monotonic).</li> <li>• "dcor": Distance correlation (general dependence).</li> <li>• "mic": Maximal Information Coefficient (general dependence).</li> <li>• "hsic": Hilbert-Schmidt Independence Criterion (general dependence).</li> <li>• "xi": Chatterjee's Xi correlation (functional dependence).</li> <li>• "hoeffding": Hoeffding's D statistic (general dependence).</li> <li>• "mutual_info": Mutual Information (information-theoretic dependence).</li> <li>• "biweight": Biweight midcorrelation (robust).</li> <li>• "percentage_bend": Percentage bend correlation (robust).</li> <li>• "winsorized": Winsorized correlation (robust).</li> <li>• "polychoric": Polychoric correlation (ordinal).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "tetrachoric": Tetrachoric correlation (ordinal).</li> <li>• "partial": Partial correlation controlling for variables in z.</li> <li>• "semi_partial": Semi-partial correlation controlling for variables in z.</li> <li>• "ball": Ball correlation (general dependence).</li> <li>• "tau_star": Bergsma-Dassios Tau* (general dependence).</li> </ul>
alternative	Character: alternative hypothesis. Must be one of "two.sided", "less", or "greater". Note that this is only supported for classic methods (Pearson, Spearman, Kendall). For modern and general dependence measures, it is ignored with a warning.
p_value	Logical: whether to compute the p-value. Default is TRUE. For some modern methods (e.g. MIC, HSIC, Mutual Information), computing p-values can be slow because they rely on permutation tests. Set to FALSE for fast computation of estimates only.
use	Character: how to handle missing values. Must be one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "complete.obs": Remove observations with missing values (default).</li> <li>• "everything": Keep missing values (results in NA if present).</li> <li>• "pairwise.complete.obs": Compute correlations pairwise using all complete observations for each pair (only applicable for matrix/data.frame inputs).</li> </ul>
method_partial	Character: correlation method to use for partial/semi-partial. Must be one of "pearson", "spearman", or "kendall".
...	Additional arguments passed to the underlying compute functions. For example, B for the number of permutations in MIC or Mutual Information, or R for distance correlation.

## Details

Most methods delegate both the estimate and the p-value to the original implementing package. The biweight midcorrelation is an exception: because no CRAN package provides it (the reference implementation lives in the Bioconductor-only **WGCNA** package), `moderncor` computes the estimate from the standard formula (Wilcox 2012) and approximates its p-value with a Student's t statistic,  $t = r\sqrt{(n-2)/(1-r^2)}$  on  $n-2$  degrees of freedom (the same approximation used by `WGCNA:bicorAndPvalue`). This p-value is therefore approximate and should be interpreted with care for small samples or heavily contaminated data.

## Value

An object of class "moderncor".

## References

Wilcox, R. R. (2012). *Introduction to Robust Estimation and Hypothesis Testing* (3rd ed.). Academic Press.

**Examples**

```
# Generate some non-linear data (parabolic relationship)
set.seed(123)
x <- runif(100, -1, 1)
y <- x^2 + rnorm(100, sd = 0.1)

# Pearson correlation (close to 0 due to non-linearity)
moderncor(x, y, method = "pearson")

# Distance correlation (captures non-linear association)
moderncor(x, y, method = "dcor")

# Chatterjee's Xi correlation
moderncor(x, y, method = "xi")

# Compute correlation matrix for iris dataset (first 4 columns)
moderncor(iris[, 1:4], method = "pearson")
```

---

moderncor\_cat

---

*Compute correlation/association coefficients for categorical variables*


---

**Description**

Compute correlation/association coefficients for categorical variables

**Usage**

```
moderncor_cat(
  x,
  y = NULL,
  method = c("cramers_v", "phi", "gamma", "somers_d", "contingency", "tschuprow"),
  use = c("complete.obs", "everything", "pairwise.complete.obs"),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	A factor vector, character vector, numeric vector (treated as categorical), data.frame, or matrix.
y	A factor vector, character vector, numeric vector (treated as categorical), or NULL.
method	Character: the categorical association method to compute. Must be one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"cramers_v": Cramer's V.</li> <li>"phi": Phi Coefficient.</li> <li>"gamma": Goodman-Kruskal Gamma (for ordinal factors).</li> <li>"somers_d": Somers' D (for ordinal factors).</li> </ul>

- "contingency": Contingency Coefficient.
  - "tschuprow": Tschuprow's T.
- use Character: how to handle missing values. Must be one of: "complete.obs", "everything", or "pairwise.complete.obs".
- ... Additional arguments passed to the underlying compute functions.

**Value**

An object of class "moderncor\_cat".

---

print.moderncor      *Print a moderncor object*

---

**Description**

Print a moderncor object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'moderncor'
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object of class "moderncor".

digits              Integer: number of decimal places to print.

...                  Additional arguments.

**Value**

The input object invisibly.

---

print.moderncor\_cat      *Print a moderncor\_cat object*

---

**Description**

Print a moderncor\_cat object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'moderncor_cat'
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object of class "moderncor\_cat".  
digits               Integer: number of decimal places to print.  
...                   Additional arguments.

**Value**

The input object invisibly.

---

```
print.summary.moderncor
```

*Print a summary.moderncor object*

---

**Description**

Print a summary.moderncor object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.moderncor'  
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object of class "summary.moderncor".  
digits               Integer: number of decimal places to print.  
...                   Additional arguments.

**Value**

The input object invisibly.

---

```
print.summary.moderncor_cat
```

*Print a summary.moderncor\_cat object*

---

**Description**

Print a summary.moderncor\_cat object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.moderncor_cat'  
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x                    An object of class "summary.moderncor\_cat".  
 digits              Integer: number of decimal places to print.  
 ...                  Additional arguments.

**Value**

The input object invisibly.

---

summary.moderncor      *Summarize a moderncor object*

---

**Description**

Summarize a moderncor object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'moderncor'
summary(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object              An object of class "moderncor".  
 ...                  Additional arguments.

**Value**

An object of class "summary.moderncor".

---

summary.moderncor\_cat   *Summarize a moderncor\_cat object*

---

**Description**

Summarize a moderncor\_cat object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'moderncor_cat'
summary(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object              An object of class "moderncor\_cat".  
 ...                  Additional arguments.

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**Value**

An object of class "summary.moderncor\_cat".

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