

Package ‘mcen’

July 22, 2025

Type Package

Title Multivariate Cluster Elastic Net

Version 1.2.1

Date 2023-03-22

Author Ben Sherwood [aut, cre], Brad Price [aut]

Depends R (>= 3.0.0), glmnet, flexclust, Matrix, parallel, faraway,
methods, stats

Maintainer Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>

Description Fits the Multivariate Cluster Elastic Net (MCEN) presented in Price & Sherwood (2018) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.1707.03530](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.1707.03530)>. The MCEN model simultaneously estimates regression coefficients and a clustering of the responses for a multivariate response model. Currently accommodates the Gaussian and binomial likelihood.

ByteCompile TRUE

License MIT + file LICENSE

NeedsCompilation yes

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2023-03-22 22:10:08 UTC

Contents

beta_adjust	2
beta_adjust_bin	3
bin_horse	3
CalcHorseBin	4
CalcHorseEBin	5
cluster	5
cluster.vals	6
coef.cv.mcen	7
coef.mcen	7
cv.mcen	8
get_best_cvm	9
matrix_multiply	10

mcen	11
mcen.init	12
mcen_bin_workhorse	13
mcen_workhorse	14
predict.cv.mcen	15
predict.mcen	16
pred_eval	16
pred_eval.mbinom_mcen	17
pred_eval.mgauss_mcen	17
print.cv.mcen	18
print.mcen	19
randomly_assign	19
SetEq	20
squared_error	20
vl_binom	21
Index	22

beta_adjust	<i>Adjusts the value of the coefficients to account for the scaling of x and y.</i>
-------------	---

Description

Adjusts the value of the coefficients to account for the scaling of x and y.

Usage

beta_adjust(beta, sigma_x, sigma_y, mean_x, mean_y)

Arguments

beta	The estiamte of beta with scaled data.
sigma_x	Sample tandard deviations of the original predictors.
sigma_y	Sample standard deviations of the orignal responses.
mean_x	Sample means of the original predictors .
mean_y	Sample means of the original responses.

Value

Returns the adjusted coefficients

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

beta_adjust_bin	<i>Adjusts the value of the binomial coefficients to account for the scaling of x.</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Adjusts the value of the binomial coefficients to account for the scaling of x .

Usage

```
beta_adjust_bin(beta, sigma_x)
```

Arguments

beta	The estimate of beta with scaled data.
sigma_x	Sample standard deviations of the original predictors.

Value

Returns the adjusted coefficients

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

bin_horse	<i>The workhorse function for the binomial updates in mcen. It uses IRWLS glmnet updates to solve the regression problem.</i>
-----------	---

Description

The workhorse function for the binomial updates in mcen. It uses IRWLS glmnet updates to solve the regression problem.

Usage

```
bin_horse(Y, X, delta, gamma_y, y_clusters, set_length, eps, maxiter)
```

Arguments

Y	the matrix of responses
X	the matrix of predictors with the intercept included
delta	the tuning parameter for the lasso penalty
gamma_y	the tuning parameter for the ridge fusion penalty
y_clusters	the cluster assignments from the provided clustering algorithm
set_length	the size of each cluster corresponding to a given response. r dimensions with each element containing the cluster size of that responses cluster.
eps	the tolerance for conversion normally 1e-5
maxiter	the maximum number of iterations

Value

Returns a matrix of coefficients

Author(s)

Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

CalcHorseBin	<i>Creates the the working response for all responses for glmnet binomial family</i>
--------------	--

Description

Creates the the working response for all responses for glmnet binomial family

Usage

```
CalcHorseBin(Y, X, Beta)
```

Arguments

Y	is the matrix of responses result is the list of vectors needed for the working responses in glmnet
X	the matrix of predictors.
Beta	current iteration of the regression coefficients

Author(s)

Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

CalcHorseEBin	<i>Creates the probabilities and working response for the glmnet update for a given response with a binomial family</i>
---------------	---

Description

Creates the probabilities and working response for the glmnet update for a given response with a binomial family

Usage

```
CalcHorseEBin(X, Beta, Y, r)
```

Arguments

X	the matrix of predictors.
Beta	current iteration of the regression coefficients
Y	is the matrix of responses
r	the response of interest result is a list of things needed for the working response in glmnet

Author(s)

Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

cluster	<i>Wrapper function for different clustering methods</i>
---------	--

Description

Wrapper function for different clustering methods

Usage

```
cluster(x, cNum, clusterMethod = "kmeans", clusterIterations = 100,  
clusterStartNum = 30)
```

Arguments

x	data to be clustered. Clustering will be done on the columns.
cNum	number of cluster centers
clusterMethod	"kmean" for kmeans function, "kmeanspp" for kcca implementation of kmeans++
clusterIterations	number of maximum iterations for clustering
clusterStartNum	random number of starting points used

Value

Returns cluster assignments

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

cluster.vals	Returns the cluster values from a cv.mcen object.
--------------	---

Description

Returns the cluster values from a cv.mcen object.

Usage

```
cluster.vals(obj)
```

Arguments

obj	The cv.mcen object.
-----	---------------------

Value

Returns the clusters from the model with the smallest cross-validation error.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x%%beta + rnorm(400)
mcen_fit <- cv.mcen(x,y,ky=2,gamma_y=3)
mcen_cluster <- cluster.vals(mcen_fit)
```

coef.cv.mcen	<i>Returns the coefficients from the cv.mcen object with the smallest cross-validation error.</i>
--------------	---

Description

Returns the coefficients from the cv.mcen object with the smallest cross-validation error.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.mcen'
coef(object, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The cv.mcen object.
...	Additional values to be passed.

Value

The matrix of coefficients for the best MCEN model as determined by cross-validation.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x%*%beta + rnorm(400)
mcen_fit <- cv.mcen(x,y,ky=2,gamma_y=3)
best_coef <- coefficients(mcen_fit)
```

coef.mcen	<i>Returns the coefficients from an mcen object.</i>
-----------	--

Description

Returns the coefficients from an mcen object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mcen'
coef(object, delta = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The mcen object.
delta	The L1 tuning parameter
...	Additional values to pass on.

Value

The matrix of coefficients.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x*%beta + rnorm(400)
mcen_fit <- mcen(x,y,ky=2,gamma_y=3,delta=c(1,2))
best_coef <- coefficients(mcen_fit,delta=1)
```

cv.mcen

Cross validation for mcen function

Description

Cross validation for mcen function

Usage

```
cv.mcen(x, y, family = "mgaussian", ky = seq(2, 4), gamma_y = seq(0.1,
  5.1, 0.5), nfolds = 10, folds = NULL, cluster_y = NULL, delta=NULL, n.cores = 1,
  ...)
```

Arguments

x	Matrix set of predictors.
y	Matrix set of responses.
family	The exponential family the response corresponds to.
ky	A vector with the number of possible clusters for y.
gamma_y	Set of tuning parameter for clustering penalty in response categories.
nfolds	Number of folds used in the cross-validation.
folds	A vector of length n, where this identifies what fold of the kfold cross validation each observation belongs to.

cluster_y	a priori definition of clusters. If clusters are provided they will remain fixed and are not estimated. Objective function is then convex.
delta	Tuning parameter for the L1 penalty
n.cores	Number of cores used for parallel processing.
...	The variables passed to mcen

Value

Returns a cv.mcen object.

models	A list of mcen objects.
cv	Cross validation results.
ky	The same value as the input ky.
gamma_y	The same value as the input gamma_y.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

References

Price, B.S. and Sherwood, B. (2018). A Cluster Elastic Net for Multivariate Regression. arXiv preprint arXiv:1707.03530. <http://arxiv-export-lb.library.cornell.edu/abs/1707.03530>.

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x*%beta + rnorm(400)
cv_fit <- cv.mcen(x,y,ky=2)
```

get_best_cvm	<i>Gets the index position for the model with the smallest cross-validation error.</i>
--------------	--

Description

Gets the index position for the model with the smallest cross-validation error.

Usage

```
get_best_cvm(model)
```

Arguments

model	The cv.mcen object.
-------	---------------------

Value

Returns the index for the model with the smallest cross-validation error.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x%%beta + rnorm(400)
mcen_fit <- cv.mcen(x,y,ky=2,gamma_y=3)
get_best_cvm(mcen_fit)
```

matrix_multiply

matrix multiply

Description

matrix multiply

Usage

```
matrix_multiply(beta, x)
```

Arguments

beta	Matrix of coefficients.
x	Design matrix.

Value

Returns x times beta

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

mcen

*Fits an MCEN model***Description**

Fits an MCEN model

Usage

```
mcen(x, y, family = "mgaussian", ky = NULL, delta = NULL, gamma_y = 1,
     ndelta = 25, delta.min.ratio = NULL, eps = 1e-05,
     scale_x = TRUE, scale_y = TRUE, clusterMethod = "kmeans",
     clusterStartNum = 30, clusterIterations = 10, cluster_y = NULL,
     max_iter = 10, init_beta = NULL, n.cores = 1)
```

Arguments

x	Matrix of predictors.
y	Matrix of responses.
family	Type of likelihood used two options "mgaussian" or "mbinomial".
ky	Clusters for response.
delta	L1 penalty.
gamma_y	Penalty for with y clusters difference in predicted values.
ndelta	Number of delta parameters.
delta.min.ratio	Ratio between smallest and largest delta.
eps	Convergence criteria.
scale_x	Whether x matrix should be scaled, default is True.
scale_y	Whether y matrix should be scaled, default is True.
clusterMethod	K-means function used kmeans or kmeanspp.
clusterStartNum	Number of random starting points for clustering.
clusterIterations	Number of iterations for cluster convergence.
cluster_y	An a priori definition of clusters. If clusters are provided they will remain fixed and are not estimated. Objective function is then convex.
max_iter	Maximum number of iterations for coefficient estimates.
init_beta	Clustering step requires an initial estimate, default is to use elastic net solution.
n.cores	Number of cores used for calculation default is 1.

Value

returns a MCEN object

beta	List of the coefficient estimates.
delta	Value of delta.
gamma_y	Value of gamma_y.
ky	Value of ky.
y_clusters	List of the clusters of y.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

References

Price, B.S. and Sherwood, B. (2018). A Cluster Elastic Net for Multivariate Regression. arXiv preprint arXiv:1707.03530. <http://arxiv-export-lb.library.cornell.edu/abs/1707.03530>.

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x%%beta + rnorm(400)
mcen_fit <- mcen(x,y,ky=2,delta=1)
```

mcen.init

Provides initial estimates for the mcen functionF

Description

Provides initial estimates for the mcen functionF

Usage

```
mcen.init(x, y, family = "mgaussian", delta = NULL, gamma_y = 1,
  intercept = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	the n x p design matrix
y	the n x y matrix of responses
family	type of likelihood used two options "mgaussian" or "mbinomial"
delta	sparsity tuning parameter
gamma_y	tuning parameter for clustering responses
intercept	whether an intercept should be included in the model

Value

matrix of coefficients

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

mcen_bin_workhorse	<i>Calculates cluster assignment and coefficient estimates for a binomial mcen.</i>
--------------------	---

Description

Calculates cluster assignment and coefficient estimates for a binomial mcen.

Usage

```
mcen_bin_workhorse(beta, delta = NULL, y, x, family = "mbinomial",
  ky = NULL, gamma_y = 1, eps = 1e-05, clusterMethod = "kmeans",
  clusterIterations = 100, clusterStartNum = 30, cluster_y = NULL,
  max_iter = 10)
```

Arguments

beta	Initial estimate of coefficients.
delta	Tuning parameter for L1 penalty.
y	Matrix of responses.
x	Matrix of predictors.
family	type of likelihood used two options "mgaussian" or "mbinomial"
ky	Number of clusters used for grouping response variables.
gamma_y	Tuning parameter for the penalty between fitted values for responses in the same group.
eps	Convergence criteria
clusterMethod	Which clustering method was used, currently support kmeans or kmeanspp
clusterIterations	Number of iterations for cluster convergence
clusterStartNum	Number of random starting points for clustering
cluster_y	An a priori definition of clusters. If clusters are provided they will remain fixed and are not estimated. Objective function is then convex.
max_iter	The maximum number of iterations for estimating the coefficients

Author(s)

Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

mcen_workhorse

*Estimates the clusters and provides the coefficients for an mcen object***Description**

Estimates the clusters and provides the coefficients for an mcen object

Usage

```
mcen_workhorse(beta, delta = NULL, xx, xy, family = "mgaussian",
  ky = NULL, gamma_y = 0.5, eps = 1e-05, clusterMethod = "kmeans",
  clusterIterations = 100, clusterStartNum = 30, cluster_y = NULL,
  max_iter = 10, x = x)
```

Arguments

beta	The initial value of the coefficients
delta	The sparsity (L1) tuning parameter
xx	Matrix of transpose of x times x.
xy	Matrix of transpose of x times y.
family	Type of likelihood used two options "mgaussian" or "mbinomial"
ky	Number of clusters for the response
gamma_y	Penalty for the y clusters difference in predicted values
eps	Convergence criteria
clusterMethod	Which clustering method was used, currently support kmeans or kmeanspp
clusterIterations	Number of iterations for cluster convergence
clusterStartNum	Number of random starting points for clustering
cluster_y	An a priori definition of clusters. If clusters are provided they will remain fixed and are not estimated. Objective function is then convex.
max_iter	The maximum number of iterations for estimating the coefficients
x	The design matrix

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

predict.cv.mcen	<i>Makes predictions from the model with the smallest cross-validation error.</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Makes predictions from the model with the smallest cross-validation error.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.mcen'  
predict(object, newx, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The cv.mcen object.
newx	The X matrix of predictors.
...	Additional parameters to be sent to predict.

Value

Returns the predicted values from the model with the smallest cross-validation error.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)  
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)  
y <- x%*%beta + rnorm(400)  
mcen_fit <- cv.mcen(x,y,ky=2,gamma_y=3)  
new_x <- matrix(rnorm(12),ncol=4)  
mcen_preds <- predict(mcen_fit, new_x)
```

predict.mcen	<i>predictions from a mcen model</i>
--------------	--------------------------------------

Description

predictions from a mcen model

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mcen'
predict(object, newx, ...)
```

Arguments

object	The mcen object.
newx	A matrix of new observations.
...	Additional variables to be sent to predict.

Value

Returns predictions for each beta of an mcen object

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(400),ncol=4)
beta <- matrix(c(1,1,0,0,0,0,-1,-1,0,0,-1,-1,1,1,0,0),ncol=4)
y <- x%%beta + rnorm(400)
mcen_fit <- mcen(x,y,ky=2,delta=1)
new_x <- matrix(rnorm(12),ncol=4)
mcen_preds <- predict(mcen_fit, new_x)
```

pred_eval	<i>Calculates the out of sample likelihood for an mcen object</i>
-----------	---

Description

Calculates the out of sample likelihood for an mcen object

Usage

```
pred_eval(obj, test_x, test_y)
```

Arguments

obj	The mcen object.
test_x	The matrix of test predictors.
test_y	The matrix of test responses.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

pred_eval.mbinom_mcen *Evaluates prediction error for multiple binomial responses.*

Description

Evaluates prediction error for multiple binomial responses.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mbinom_mcen'  
pred_eval(obj, test_x, test_y)
```

Arguments

obj	The mbinom_mcen object.
test_x	A matrix of the test predictors.
test_y	A matrix of the test responses.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

pred_eval.mgauss_mcen *Calculates the prediction error for a mgauss_mcen object.*

Description

Calculates the prediction error for a mgauss_mcen object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mgauss_mcen'  
pred_eval(obj, test_x, test_y)
```

Arguments

obj	The mgauss_mcen object.
test_x	The matrix of test predictors.
test_y	The matrix of test responses.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

print.cv.mcen	<i>Prints nice output for a cv.mcen object.</i>
---------------	---

Description

Prints nice output for a cv.mcen object.

Usage

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

Arguments

x	The cv.mcen object.
...	Additional parameters.

Value

Prints out information about where the cv.mcen object was minimized.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

print.mcen	<i>Prints nice output for an mcen object.</i>
------------	---

Description

Prints nice output for an mcen object.

Usage

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

Arguments

x	The mcen object.
...	Additional parameters.

Value

Prints out some basic information about the mcen object.

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

randomly_assign	<i>randomly assign n samples to k groups</i>
-----------------	--

Description

randomly assign n samples to k groups

Usage

```
randomly_assign(n, k)
```

Arguments

n	number of samples
k	number of groups

Value

Returns assignments of n into k groups

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

SetEq	<i>SetEq test set equivalence of two clustering sets</i>
-------	--

Description

SetEq test set equivalence of two clustering sets

Usage

```
SetEq(set1, set2)
```

Arguments

set1	is the cluster assignments of the previous iteration
set2	is the cluster assignments of the current clusters

Value

Returns a logical saying if the two clusterings are equal

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

squared_error	<i>Calculates sum of squared error between two vectors or matrices</i>
---------------	--

Description

Calculates sum of squared error between two vectors or matrices

Usage

```
squared_error(pred, test_y)
```

Arguments

pred	the predictions
test_y	the testing response values

Value

returns the sum of the squared differences between pred and test_y

Author(s)

Ben Sherwood <ben.sherwood@ku.edu>, Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

vl_binom

*Calculates out of sample error on the binomial likelihood***Description**

Calculates out of sample error on the binomial likelihood

Usage

```
vl_binom(pred, test_y)
```

Arguments

pred	The predicted values.
test_y	The test response values.

Author(s)

Brad Price <brad.price@mail.wvu.edu>

Index

`beta_adjust`, [2](#)
`beta_adjust_bin`, [3](#)
`bin_horse`, [3](#)

`CalcHorseBin`, [4](#)
`CalcHorseEBin`, [5](#)
`cluster`, [5](#)
`cluster.vals`, [6](#)
`coef.cv.mcen`, [7](#)
`coef.mcen`, [7](#)
`cv.mcen`, [8](#)

`get_best_cvm`, [9](#)

`matrix_multiply`, [10](#)
`mcen`, [11](#)
`mcen.init`, [12](#)
`mcen_bin_workhorse`, [13](#)
`mcen_workhorse`, [14](#)

`pred_eval`, [16](#)
`pred_eval.mbinom_mcen`, [17](#)
`pred_eval.mgauss_mcen`, [17](#)
`predict.cv.mcen`, [15](#)
`predict.mcen`, [16](#)
`print.cv.mcen`, [18](#)
`print.mcen`, [19](#)

`randomly_assign`, [19](#)

`SetEq`, [20](#)
`squared_error`, [20](#)

`vl_binom`, [21](#)