Package 'CatReg'

December 3, 2025

Type Package

Title Solution Paths for Linear and Logistic Regression Models with Categorical Predictors, with SCOPE Penalty
Version 2.0.4
Date 2025-12-03
Description Computes solutions for linear and logistic regression models with potentially high-dimensional categorical predictors. This is done by applying a nonconvex penalty (SCOPE) and computing solutions in an efficient path-wise fashion. The scaling of the solution paths is selected automatically. Includes functionality for selecting tuning parameter lambda by k-fold cross-validation and early termination based on information criteria. Solutions are computed by cyclical block-coordinate descent, iterating an innovative dynamic programming algorithm to compute exact solutions for each block.
License GPL (>= 2)
Imports Rcpp (>= 1.0.1),Rdpack
LinkingTo Rcpp
NeedsCompilation yes
RdMacros Rdpack
RoxygenNote 7.3.3
Author Benjamin Stokell [aut], Daniel Grose [ctb, cre], Rajen Shah [ctb]
Maintainer Daniel Grose <dan.grose@lancaster.ac.uk></dan.grose@lancaster.ac.uk>
Repository CRAN
Date/Publication 2025-12-03 11:00:09 UTC
Contents
CorrelatedDesignMatrix2predict.scope2predict.scope.logistic3scope4scope.logistic6UniformDesignMatrix9

2 predict.scope

Index 11

CorrelatedDesignMatrix

Create a design matrix of categorical variables with correlated columns.

Description

Function for use in simulations. Created design matrix of categorical variables with correlated columns

Usage

```
CorrelatedDesignMatrix(n, cov_mat, c)
```

Arguments

n Number of observations

cov_mat p x p covariance matrix. Controls correlations of pairs of marginally U[0,1] ran-

dom variables that are subsequently binned to assign categories for each variable

c Number of categories within each variable

Value

A data frame of categorical (factor) variables.

Examples

```
# Generate matrix of marginal U[0,1] variables, 0.5 pairwise correlation, that are # discretised into factor variables cov_mat = 0.5 * diag(10) + 0.5 * matrix(1, 10, 10) x = CorrelatedDesignMatrix(100, cov_mat, 8)
```

predict.scope

Computes SCOPE predictions

Description

Computes SCOPE predictions on new data.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'scope'
predict(object, newdata, include_intercept = TRUE, ...)
```

predict.scope.logistic 3

Arguments

object SCOPE model as outputted by scope. Must have simply.the.best = TRUE

newdata New covariates on which to make predictions. Must be of the same form as the

model was trained on

include_intercept

If TRUE, a column of 1s will be added to the (continuous) design matrix. Must

match format of training data.

... Additional arguments to pass to other predict methods

Value

Returns n-length vector of predictions

See Also

scope

```
predict.scope.logistic
```

Computes SCOPE logistic predictions

Description

Computes SCOPE logistic predictions on new data

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'scope.logistic'
predict(object, newdata, probs = TRUE, include_intercept = TRUE, ...)
```

Arguments

object SCOPE model as outputted by scope.logistic. Must have simply.the.best =

TRUE

newdata New covariates on which to make predictions. Must be of the same form as the

model was trained on

probs If TRUE returns probabilities, if FALSE returns binary predictions

include_intercept

If TRUE, a column of 1s will be added to the (continuous) design matrix. Must

match format of training data.

... Additional arguments to pass to other predict methods

Value

Returns n-length vector of predictions

4 scope

See Also

```
scope.logistic
```

scope

Compute solution for SCOPE linear models.

Description

Computes solution for SCOPE linear models. Performs K-fold cross-validation for regularisation parameter lambda and can incorporate both linear and categorical (including logical) variables.

Usage

```
scope(
  Х,
  у,
  gamma = 8,
  lambda = NULL,
  nlambda = 100,
  lambda_min_ratio = 0.01,
  nfolds = 5,
  include_intercept = TRUE,
  return_full_beta = FALSE,
 max_iter = 1000,
  early_stopping = ifelse(pshrink > 1, TRUE, FALSE),
  early_stopping_rounds = 20,
  early_stopping_criterion = "AIC",
  noise_variance = NULL,
  terminate_eps = 1e-07,
  silent = TRUE,
  only_cross_validate = FALSE,
  grid_safe = 10,
 block_order = NULL,
  fold_assignment = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x Data frame of covariates: Can include a mix of continuous and categorical variables (no scaling of continuous covariates is performed within the program). By default an intercept will be added to the linear part; see include_intercept

y Response vector of length n

gamma Concavity parameter in MCP; see Zhang (2010)

lambda If NULL default sequence will be generated. Matrix of values (p_categorical times nlambda) of penalty parameter lambda. Must be non-negative and each

row decreasing. Note that if lambda = 0 then no shrinkage will occur.

scope 5

nlambda Length of default sequence of lambda values generated if lambda = NULL

lambda_min_ratio

Ratio of largest to smallest value on default sequence of lambda values

nfolds Number of folds in cross-validation. If nfolds = 1, no cross-validation is per-

formed

include_intercept

If TRUE, a column of 1s will be added to the (continuous) design matrix

return_full_beta

If TRUE with cross-validation, the entire solution path will be returned instead

of just the optimal point

max_iter Maximum number of iterations at each point on the lambda path

early_stopping Early stopping based on information criterion. By default is TRUE if there are

more than 1 categorical variables

early_stopping_rounds

Number of iterations that information criterion must have not decreased for to

terminate

early_stopping_criterion

If "AIC", Akaike Information Criterion is used for early stopping. Otherwise if a positive number is given, modified Bayes Information Criterion is used with

this integer as the parameter (Wang et al., 2009)

noise_variance If noise variance is known, this will be used for scaling the default values of

lambda. Otherwise this will be scaled automatically

terminate_eps Epsilon for convergence criterion, is multiplied by null deviance to get terminate

criterion for objective value

silent If FALSE then progress updates will be printed as solutions are computed. Use-

ful for tuning and diagnosing convergence issues.

only_cross_validate

If TRUE then cross-validation scores for each value of lambda will be returned,

but not the estimates themselves

grid_safe As the automatically generated sequence of lambda values is adjusted during

the first fold but fixed thereafter. For subsequent folds, this sets computation to begin at a larger value of lambda to ensure that the first solution along the path is zero so as to maintain the advantages of the pathwise approach. This specifies

how many larger values of lambda should be used

block_order By default the order in block coordinate descent is randomly sampled. Alterna-

tively a permutation vector can be included here

fold_assignment

By default the assignments for cross-validation are randomly sampled automat-

ically. Alternatively assignments can be included here

Value

A list of objects. Some may not be returned depending on value of arguments K, simply.cross.validated, return.full.beta.

6 scope.logistic

• lambda - A matrix of the values of lambda used to compute the solution path. Columns correspond to different points on the path, rows correspond to the categorical variables. Lambda is scaled depending on the number of categories present in the data.

- cverrors Provided nfolds > 1 then the cross-validation error for each point on the grid will be returned
- beta.full Contains full solution path. If nfolds > 1 then will only be returned if simply.cross.validated
 = FALSE and return.full.beta = TRUE. First object [[1]] is coefficients of continuous variables, [[2]] is a list of coefficients for categorical variables
- beta.best Contains solution at CV-optimal point. Requires nfolds > 1 to be returned. This must not be NULL in order to use predict.scope. First object [[1]] is coefficients of continuous variables, [[2]] is a list of coefficients for categorical variables
- fold.assign Contains fold assignments for cross-validation

References

Zhang C (2010). "Nearly unbiased variable selection under minimax concave penalty." *The Annals of Statistics*, **38**(2). ISSN 0090-5364.

Wang H, Li B, Leng C (2009). "Shrinkage tuning parameter selection with a diverging number of parameters." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Statistical Methodology)*, **71**(3), 671-683.

Examples

scope.logistic

Computes solution for SCOPE logistic models

Description

Computes solution for SCOPE logistic models, computing along a path and iterating local quadratic approximations at each point. Performs K-fold cross-validation for regularisation parameter lambda and can incorporate both linear and categorical (including logical) variables. This function uses a Proximal Newton algorithm and is not guaranteed to converge. It is recommended for developer use only.

scope.logistic 7

Usage

```
scope.logistic(
  Х,
 у,
  gamma = 8,
  lambda = NULL,
  nlambda = 100,
  lambda_min_ratio = 0.01,
  nfolds = 5,
  include_intercept = TRUE,
  return_full_beta = FALSE,
 max_iter = 1000,
 max_out_iter = 1000,
  early_stopping = ifelse(pshrink > 1, TRUE, FALSE),
  early_stopping_rounds = 20,
  early_stopping_criterion = "AIC",
  noise_variance = NULL,
  terminate_eps = 1e-07,
  silent = TRUE,
  only_cross_validate = FALSE,
  grid_safe = 10,
  block_order = NULL,
  fold_assignment = NULL,
  zero_penalty = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

Data frame of covariates: Can include a mix of continuous and categorical variables (no scaling of continuous covariates is performed within the program). By default an intercept will be added to the linear part; see include intercept

y Response vector of length n

gamma Concavity parameter in MCP; see Zhang (2010)

lambda If NULL default sequence will be generated. Matrix of values (p_categorical

times nlambda) of penalty parameter lambda. Must be non-negative and each

row decreasing. Note that if lambda = 0 then no shrinkage will occur.

nlambda Length of default sequence of lambda values generated if lambda = NULL

lambda_min_ratio

Ratio of largest to smallest value on default sequence of lambda values

nfolds Number of folds in cross-validation. If nfolds = 1, no cross-validation is per-

formed

include_intercept

If TRUE, a column of 1s will be added to the (continuous) design matrix

return_full_beta

If TRUE with cross-validation, the entire solution path will be returned instead of just the optimal point

8 scope.logistic

max_iter	Maximum number of iterations at each local quadratic approximation	
max_out_iter	Maximum number of local quadratic approximations at each value of lambda	
early_stopping	Early stopping based on information criterion. By default is TRUE if there are more than 1 categorical variables	
early_stopping_rounds		
	Number of iterations that information criterion must have not decreased for to terminate	
early_stopping_criterion		
	If "AIC", Akaike Information Criterion is used for early stopping. Otherwise if a positive number is given, modified Bayes Information Criterion is used with this integer as the parameter (Wang et al., 2009)	
noise_variance	If noise variance is known, this will be used for scaling the default values of lambda. Otherwise this will be scaled automatically	
terminate_eps	Epsilon for convergence criterion, is multiplied by null deviance to get terminate criterion for objective value	
silent	If FALSE then progress updates will be printed as solutions are computed. Useful for tuning and diagnosing convergence issues.	
only_cross_validate		
	If TRUE then cross-validation scores for each value of lambda will be returned, but not the estimates themselves	
grid_safe	As the automatically generated sequence of lambda values is adjusted during the first fold but fixed thereafter. For subsequent folds, this sets computation to begin at a larger value of lambda to ensure that the first solution along the path is zero so as to maintain the advantages of the pathwise approach. This specifies how many larger values of lambda should be used	
block_order	By default the order in block coordinate descent is randomly sampled. Alternatively a permutation vector can be included here	
fold_assignment		
	By default the assignments for cross-validation are randomly sampled automatically. Alternatively assignments can be included here	
zero_penalty	Fits unpenalised logistic regression model. Used for testing purposes only.	

Value

A list of objects. Some may not be returned depending on value of arguments K, simply.cross.validated, return.full.beta.

- lambda A matrix of the values of lambda used to compute the solution path. Columns correspond to different points on the path, rows correspond to the categorical variables. Lambda is scaled depending on the number of categories present in the data.
- cverrors Provided nfolds > 1 then the cross-validation error for each point on the grid will be returned
- beta.full Contains full solution path. If nfolds > 1 then will only be returned if simply.cross.validated = FALSE and return.full.beta = TRUE. First object [[1]] is coefficients of continuous variables, [[2]] is a list of coefficients for categorical variables

UniformDesignMatrix 9

• beta.best - Contains solution at CV-optimal point. Requires nfolds > 1 to be returned. This must not be NULL in order to use predict.scope. First object [[1]] is coefficients of continuous variables, [[2]] is a list of coefficients for categorical variables

• fold.assign - Contains fold assignments for cross-validation

References

Zhang C (2010). "Nearly unbiased variable selection under minimax concave penalty." *The Annals of Statistics*, **38**(2). ISSN 0090-5364.

Wang H, Li B, Leng C (2009). "Shrinkage tuning parameter selection with a diverging number of parameters." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Statistical Methodology)*, **71**(3), 671-683.

Examples

```
## Not run:
x = UniformDesignMatrix(200, 5, 5)
y = (as.integer(x[ , 1 ]) < 3) + rnorm(200)
y = as.integer(y > 0.8)
scope_mod = scope.logistic(x, y)
x_new = UniformDesignMatrix(10, 5, 5)
predict(scope_mod, x_new)
## End(Not run)
```

 ${\tt UniformDesignMatrix}$

Create a design matrix of categorical variables.

Description

Function for use in simulations, creating design matrix of categorical variables where each column is uniformly randomly distributed and independent.

Usage

```
UniformDesignMatrix(n, p, c)
```

Arguments

n	Number of observations
p	Number of variables
С	Number of categories within each variable

Value

A data frame of categorical (factor) variables.

Examples

x = UniformDesignMatrix(100, 10, 8)

Index

```
CorrelatedDesignMatrix, 2

predict.scope, 2

predict.scope.logistic, 3

scope, 3, 4

scope.logistic, 4, 6

UniformDesignMatrix, 9
```