Package ‘IRCcheck’

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Title Irrepresentable Condition Check
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Description Check the irrepresentable condition (IRC) in both L1-regularized regression <doi:10.1109/TIT.2006.883611>
and Gaussian graphical models. The IRC requires that the important and unimportant variables are not correlated, at least not all that much, and it is necessary for consistent model selection. Exploring the IRC as a function of the number of variables, assumed sparsity, and effect size can provide valuable insights into the model selection properties of L1-regularization.

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IRCcheck-package  
**IRCcheck: Irrepresentable Condition Check**

**Description**

L1 regularization requires the IRC for consistent model selection, that is, with more data, the true model is converged upon. This package allows for checking the IRC in both regression and Gaussian graphical models.

Importantly, the IRC cannot be checked in real data. The primary use for this package is to explore the IRC in a *true* model that may be used in a simulation study. Alternatively, it is very informative to simply look at the IRC as a function of sparsity and the number of variables, including the regularization path and false selections.

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constrained  
*Constrained Precision Matrix*

**Description**

Compute the maximum likelihood estimate, given certain elements are constrained to zero (e.g., an adjacency matrix). This approach is described in Hastie et al. (2009).

**Usage**

```r
constrained(Sigma, adj)
```

**Arguments**

- **Sigma**: Covariance matrix
- **adj**: Matrix with constraints. A zero indicates that element should be constrained to zero.

**Value**

A list containing the inverse covariance matrix and the covariance matrix.

**Note**

The algorithm is written in c++.

**References**

Examples

```r
# random adj
# 90 % sparsity (roughly)
p <- 20
adj <- matrix(sample(0:1, size = p^2, replace = TRUE,
    prob = c(0.9, 0.1) ),
    nrow = p, ncol = p)
adj <- symm_mat(adj)
diag(adj) <- 1

# random correlation matrix
set.seed(1)
cors <- cov2cor(
    solve(
        rWishart(1, p + 2, diag(p))[,,1])
)

# constrain to zero
net <- constrained(cors, adj = adj)
```

---

**gen_net**  
*Generate True Partial Correlation Matrix*

**Description**

Generate True Partial Correlation Matrix

**Usage**

`gen_net(p = 20, edge_prob = 0.3, lb = 0.05, ub = 0.3)`

**Arguments**

- `p` : number of variables (nodes)
- `edge_prob` : connectivity
- `lb` : lower bound for the partial correlations
- `ub` : upper bound for the partial correlations

**Value**

A list with the true structure, adjacency matrix, and correlation matrix.
Note
The function checks for a valid matrix (positive definite), but sometimes this will still fail. For example, for larger \( p \), to have large partial correlations this requires a sparse GGM (accomplished by setting edge_prob to a small value).

Examples

```r
ture_net <- gen_net(p = 10)
```

**irc_ggm**

*Irrepresentable Condition: Gaussian Graphical Model*

**Description**
Check the IRC (or Incoherence condition) in Gaussian graphical Models, following Equation (8) in (Ravikumar et al. 2008).

**Usage**
```
irc_ggm(true_network, cores = 2)
```

**Arguments**
- `true_network`: A matrix of dimensions \( p \) by \( p \), assumed to be a partial correlation matrix.
- `cores`: Integer. Number of cores for parallel computing (defaults to 2)

**Value**
infinity norm (greater than 1 the IRC is violated, with closer to zero better).

**References**

**Examples**

```r
# generate network
net <- gen_net(p = 20, edge_prob = 0.3, lb = 0.05, ub = 0.3)

# check irc
irc_ggm(net$pcors)

# random adj
# 90 % sparsity (roughly)
p <- 20
```
**irc_regression**

```
adj <- matrix(sample(0:1, size = p^2, replace = TRUE, prob = c(0.9, 0.1)), nrow = p, ncol = p)

adj <- symm_mat(adj)

diag(adj) <- 1

# random correlation matrix
set.seed(1)
cors <- cov2cor(
  solve(
    rWishart(1, p + 2, diag(p))[,1]
  )
)

# constrain to zero
net <- constrained(cors, adj = adj)

irc_ggm(net$wadj)

# random adj
# 50 % sparsity (roughly)
p <- 20
adj <- matrix(sample(0:1, size = p^2, replace = TRUE, prob = c(0.5, 0.5)), nrow = p, ncol = p)

adj <- symm_mat(adj)
diag(adj) <- 1

# random correlation matrix
set.seed(1)
cors <- cov2cor(
  solve(
    rWishart(1, p + 2, diag(p))[,1]
  )
)

# constrain to zero
net <- constrained(cors, adj = adj)

irc_ggm(net$wadj)
```

---

**irc_regression**

**Irrepresentable Condition: Regression**

**Description**

Check the IRC in multiple regression, following Equation (2) in (Zhao and Yu 2006).
Usage

irc_regression(X, which_nonzero)

Arguments

X A matrix of dimensions $n$ (observations) by $p$ (variables).
which_nonzero Numeric vector with the location of the nonzero relations (a.k.a., the active set).

Value

infinity norm (greater than 1 the IRC is violated)

Note

It is common to take $1 -$ the infinity norm, thereby indicating the IRC is violated when the value is negative.

References


Examples

# data
# note: irc_met (block diagonal; 1st 10 active)
cors <- rbind(
  cbind(matrix(.7, 10,10), matrix(0, 10,10)),
cbind(matrix(0, 10,10), matrix(.7, 10,10))
)
diag(cors) <- 1

X <- MASS::mvrnorm(2500, rep(0, 20), Sigma = cors, empirical = TRUE)

# check IRC
irc_regression(X, which_nonzero = 1:10)

# generate data
y <- X %*% c(rep(1,10), rep(0, 10)) + rnorm(2500)

fit <- glmnet::glmnet(X, y, lambda = seq(10, 0.01, length.out = 400))

# plot
plot(fit, xvar = "lambda")

# Example (more or less) from Zhao and Yu (2006)
# section 3.3
# number of predictors
p <- 2^4

# number active (q in Zhao and Yu 2006)
n_beta <- 4/8 * p

# betas
beta <- c(rep(1, n_beta), rep(0, p - n_beta))

check <- NA
for(i in 1:100){
  cors <- cov2cor(solve(rWishart(1, p, diag(p))[,1]))
  # predictors
  X <- MASS::mvrnorm(500, rep(0, p), Sigma = cors, empirical = TRUE)
  check[i] <- irc_regression(X, which_nonzero = which(beta != 0))
}

# less than 1
mean(check < 1)

# or greater than 0
mean(1 - check > 0)

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**symm_mat**  
*Symmetric Matrix Copy the upper triangular of a matrix into the lower triangular portion of the matrix.*

**Description**

Symmetric Matrix  
Copy the upper triangular of a matrix into the lower triangular portion of the matrix.

**Usage**

`symm_mat(x)`

**Arguments**

- `x`  
  A matrix of dimensions `p` by `p`.

**Value**

A matrix
Examples

adj <- matrix(sample(0:1, size = 25, replace = TRUE), 5, 5)
symm_mat(adj)
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