Package ‘projpred’

April 1, 2020

Title  Projection Predictive Feature Selection
Version  1.1.6
Maintainer  Juho Piironen <juho.t.piironen@gmail.com>
Description  Performs projection predictive feature selection for generalized linear models
  The package is compatible with the 'rstanarm' and 'brms' packages, but other
  reference models can also be used. See the package vignette for more
  information and examples.
Depends  R (>= 3.5.0)
Imports  loo (>= 2.0.0), ggplot2, Rcpp, utils
LinkingTo  Rcpp, RcppArmadillo
License  GPL-3
Encoding  UTF-8
LazyData  TRUE
RoxygenNote  7.0.2
Suggests  rstanarm, brms, testthat, knitr, rmarkdown, glmnet, bayesplot
  (>= 1.5.0)
BugReports  https://github.com/stan-dev/projpred/issues
NeedsCompilation  yes
Author  Juho Piironen [cre, aut],
  Markus Paasiniemi [aut],
  Aki Vehtari [aut],
  Jonah Gabry [ctb],
  Paul-Christian Bürkner [ctb],
  Marco Colombo [ctb]
Repository  CRAN
Date/Publication  2020-04-01 14:10:02 UTC
R topics documented:

- cv-indices .................................................. 2
- cv_varsel .................................................... 3
- df_binom ...................................................... 5
- df_gaussian ................................................... 6
- get-refmodel ............................................... 6
- init_refmodel ............................................... 7
- mesquite .................................................... 10
- predict.refmodel .......................................... 11
- print-vsel ................................................... 12
- proj-pred .................................................... 12
- project ....................................................... 14
- projpred ..................................................... 16
- suggest_size ............................................... 17
- varsel ....................................................... 18
- varsel-statistics .......................................... 21

---

Index 23

---

cv-indices

Create cross-validation indices

Description

Divide indices from 1 to \( n \) into subsets for \( k \)-fold cross validation. These functions are potentially useful when creating the \( \text{cvfits} \) and \( \text{cvfun} \) arguments for \text{init_refmodel}. The returned value is different for these two methods, see below for details.

Usage

\[
\text{cvfolds}(n, k, \text{seed} = \text{NULL})
\]
\[
\text{cvind}(n, k, \text{out} = \text{c("foldwise", "indices"), seed} = \text{NULL})
\]

Arguments

- \( n \) Number of data points.
- \( k \) Number of folds. Must be at least 2 and not exceed \( n \).
- \( \text{seed} \) Random seed so that the same division could be obtained again if needed.
- \( \text{out} \) Format of the output, either 'foldwise' (default) or 'indices'. See below for details.
Value

cvfolds returns a vector of length n such that each element is an integer between 1 and k denoting which fold the corresponding data point belongs to. The returned value of cvind depends on the out-argument. If out='foldwise', the returned value is a list with k elements, each having fields tr and ts which give the training and test indices, respectively, for the corresponding fold. If out='indices', the returned value is a list with fields tr and ts each of which is a list with k elements giving the training and test indices for each fold.

Examples

```r
### compute sample means within each fold
n <- 100
y <- rnorm(n)
cv <- cvind(n, k=5)
cvmeans <- lapply(cv, function(fold) mean(y[fold$tr]))
```

---

cv_varsel  

*Cross-validate the variable selection (varsel)*

Description

Perform cross-validation for the projective variable selection for a generalized linear model.

Usage

```r
cv_varsel(
  fit,
  method = NULL,
  cv_method = NULL,
  ns = NULL,
  nc = NULL,
  nspred = NULL,
  ncpred = NULL,
  relax = NULL,
  nv_max = NULL,
  intercept = NULL,
  penalty = NULL,
  verbose = T,
  nloo = NULL,
  K = NULL,
  lambda_min_ratio = 1e-05,
  nlambda = 150,
  thresh = 1e-06,
  regul = 1e-04,
)```

validate_search = T,
seed = NULL,
)

Arguments

fit
method
cv_method
ns
nc
nspred
ncpred
relax
nv_max
intercept
penalty
verbose
nloo
K
lambda_min_ratio
nlambda
thresh
regul
validate_search

Same as in varsel.
Same as in varsel.
The cross-validation method, either 'LOO' or 'kfold'. Default is 'LOO'.
Number of samples used for selection. Ignored if nc is provided or if method=’L1’.
Number of clusters used for selection. Default is 1 and ignored if method=’L1’
(L1-search uses always one cluster).
Number of samples used for prediction (after selection). Ignored if ncpred is given.
Number of clusters used for prediction (after selection). Default is 5.
Same as in varsel.
Same as in varsel.
Same as in varsel.
Same as in varsel.
Whether to print out some information during the validation, Default is TRUE.
Number of observations used to compute the LOO validation (anything between 1 and the total number of observations). Smaller values lead to faster computation but higher uncertainty (larger errorbars) in the accuracy estimation. Default is to use all observations, but for faster experimentation, one can set this to a small value such as 100. Only applicable if cv_method = ‘LOO’.
Number of folds in the k-fold cross validation. Default is 5 for genuine reference models and 10 for datafits (that is, for penalized maximum likelihood estimation).
Same as in varsel.
Same as in varsel.
Same as in varsel.
Amount of regularization in the projection. Usually there is no need for regularization, but sometimes for some models the projection can be ill-behaved and we need to add some regularization to avoid numerical problems.
Whether to cross-validate also the selection process, that is, whether to perform selection separately for each fold. Default is TRUE and we strongly recommend not setting this to FALSE, because this is known to bias the accuracy estimates for the selected submodels. However, setting this to FALSE can sometimes be useful because comparing the results to the case where this parameter is TRUE gives idea how strongly the feature selection is (over)fitted to the data (the difference corresponds to the search degrees of freedom or the effective number of parameters introduced by the selectin process).
df_binom

seed
Random seed used in the subsampling LOO. By default uses a fixed seed.
...
Additional arguments to be passed to the get_refmodel-function.

Value
An object of type cvsel that contains information about the feature selection. The fields are not meant to be accessed directly by the user but instead via the helper functions (see the vignettes or type ?projpred to see the main functions in the package.)

Examples

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ### Usage with stanreg objects
  n <- 30
  d <- 5
  x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n)
  y <- x[,1] + 0.5*rnorm(n)
  data <- data.frame(x,y)
  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~., gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
  cvs <- cv_varsel(fit)
  varsel_plot(cvs)
}
```

---

**df_binom**  
Binomial toy example.

**Description**
Binomial toy example.

**Usage**
df_binom

**Format**
A simulated classification dataset containing 100 observations.

- `y` target, 0 or 1.
- `x` features, 30 in total.

**Source**
http://web.stanford.edu/~hastie/glmnet/glmnetData/BNExample.RData
df_gaussian  

**Gaussian toy example.**

**Description**

Gaussian toy example.

**Usage**

df_gaussian

**Format**

A simulated regression dataset containing 100 observations.

- \( y \) target, real-valued.
- \( x \) features, 20 in total. Mean and sd approximately 0 and 1.

**Source**

http://web.stanford.edu/~hastie/glmnet/glmnetData/QSExample.RData

get-refmodel  

**Get reference model structure**

**Description**

Generic function that can be used to create and fetch the reference model structure for all those objects that have this method. All these implementations are wrappers to the \texttt{init_refmodel}-function so the returned object has the same type.

**Usage**

get_refmodel(object, ...)

```r
## S3 method for class 'refmodel'
get_refmodel(object, ...)
```

```r
## S3 method for class 'vsel'
get_refmodel(object, ...)
```

```r
## S3 method for class 'cvsel'
get_refmodel(object, ...)
```

```r
## S3 method for class 'stanreg'
get_refmodel(object, ...)
```
init_refmodel

### S3 method for class 'brmsfit'
get_refmodel(object, ...)

**Arguments**

- **object**: Object based on which the reference model is created. See possible types below.
- **...**: Arguments passed to the methods.

**Value**

An object of type `refmodel` (the same type as returned by `init_refmodel`) that can be passed to all the functions that take the reference fit as the first argument, such as `varsel`, `cv_varsel`, `project`, `proj_predict` and `proj_linpred`.

**Examples**

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ### Usage with stanreg objects
  dat <- data.frame(y = rnorm(100), x = rnorm(100))
  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y ~ x, family = gaussian(), data = dat)
  ref <- get_refmodel(fit)
  print(class(ref))

  # variable selection, use the already constructed reference model
  vs <- varsel(ref)
  # this will first construct the reference model and then execute
  # exactly the same way as the previous command (the result is identical)
  vs <- varsel(fit)
}
```

---

**init_refmodel Custom reference model initialization**

**Description**

Initializes a structure that can be used as a reference fit for the projective variable selection. This function is provided to allow construction of the reference fit from arbitrary fitted models, because only limited information is needed for the actual projection and variable selection.

**Usage**

```r
init_refmodel(
  z,
  y,
  family,
```
x = NULL,
predfun = NULL,
dis = NULL,
offset = NULL,
wobs = NULL,
wsample = NULL,
intercept = TRUE,
cvfun = NULL,
cvfits = NULL,
...)

Arguments

z Predictor matrix of dimension \( n \)-by-\( dz \) containing the training features for the reference model. Rows denote the observations and columns the different features.

y Vector of length \( n \) giving the target variable values.

family \textit{family} object giving the model family

x Predictor matrix of dimension \( n \)-by-\( dx \) containing the candidate features for selection (i.e. variables from which to select the submodel). Rows denote the observations and columns the different features. Notice that this can different from \( z \). If missing, same as \( z \) by default.

predfun Function that takes a \( nt \)-by-\( dz \) test predictor matrix \( zt \) as an input (\( nt = \# \) test points, \( dz = \) number of features in the reference model) and outputs a \( nt \)-by-\( S \) matrix of expected values for the target variable \( y \), each column corresponding to one posterior draw for the parameters in the reference model (the number of draws \( S \) can also be 1). Notice that the output should be computed without any offsets, these are automatically taken into account internally, e.g. in cross-validation. If omitted, then the returned object will be 'data reference', that is, it can be used to compute penalized maximum likelihood solutions such as Lasso (see examples below and in the quickstart vignette.)

dis Vector of length \( S \) giving the posterior draws for the dispersion parameter in the reference model if there is such a parameter in the model family. For Gaussian observation model this is the noise std \( sigma \).

offset Offset to be added to the linear predictor in the projection. (Same as in function \textit{glm}.)

wobs Observation weights. If omitted, equal weights are assumed.

wsample vector of length \( S \) giving the weights for the posterior draws. If omitted, equal weights are assumed.

intercept Whether to use intercept. Default is TRUE.

cvfun Function for performing K-fold cross-validation. The input is an \( n \)-element vector where each value is an integer between 1 and \( K \) denoting the fold for each observation. Should return a list with \( K \) elements, each of which is a list with fields \textit{predfun} and \textit{dis} (if the model has a dispersion parameter) which are defined the same way as the arguments \textit{predfun} and \textit{dis} above but are computed using
only the corresponding subset of the data. More precisely, if `cvres` denotes
the list returned by `cvfun`, then `cvres[[k]]$predfun` and `cvres[[k]]$dis` must
be computed using only data from indices `folds != k`, where `folds` is the n-
element input for `cvfun`. Can be omitted but either `cvfun` or `cvfits` is needed
for K-fold cross-validation for genuine reference models. See example below.

`cvfits`  
A list with K elements, that has the same format as the value returned by `cvind`
but each element of `cvfits` must also contain a field `omitted` which indicates
the indices that were left out for the corresponding fold. Usually it is easier to
specify `cvfun` but this can be useful if you have already computed the cross-
validation for the reference model and would like to avoid recomputing it. Can
be omitted but either `cvfun` or `cvfits` is needed for K-fold cross-validation for
genuine reference models.

...  
Currently ignored.

**Value**  
An object that can be passed to all the functions that take the reference fit as the first argument, such as `varsel`, `cv_varsel`, `proj_predict` and `proj_linpred`.

**Examples**

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  # generate some toy data
  set.seed(1)
  n <- 100
  d <- 10
  x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n, ncol=d)
  b <- c(c(1,1),rep(0,d-2)) # first two variables are relevant
  y <- x %*% b + rnorm(n)
  data <- data.frame(x=I(x), y=y)

  # fit the model (this uses rstanarm for posterior inference,
  # but any other tool could also be used)
  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~x, family=gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
  draws <- as.matrix(fit)
  a <- draws[,1] # intercept
  b <- draws[2:(ncol(draws)-1)] # regression coefficients
  sigma <- draws[,ncol(draws)] # noise std

  # initialize the reference model structure
  predfun <- function(xt) t( b %*% t(xt) + a )
  ref <- init_refmodel(x,y, gaussian(), predfun=predfun, dis=sigma)

  # variable selection based on the reference model
  vs <- cv_varsel(ref)
  varsel_plot(vs)

  # pass in the original data as 'reference'; this allows us to compute
  # traditional estimates like Lasso
```

dref <- init_refmodel(x,y,gaussian())
lasso <- cv_varsel(dref, method='l1') # lasso
varsel_plot(lasso, stat='rmse')
}

mesquite

Mesquite data set.

Description


Usage

mesquite

Format

The outcome variable is the total weight (in grams) of photosynthetic material as derived from actual harvesting of the bush. The predictor variables are:

- **diam1**: diameter of the canopy (the leafy area of the bush) in meters, measured along the longer axis of the bush.
- **diam2**: canopy diameter measured along the shorter axis
- **canopy height**: height of the canopy.
- **total height**: total height of the bush.
- **density**: plant unit density (# of primary stems per plant unit).
- **group**: group of measurements (0 for the first group, 1 for the second group)

Source

http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/arm/examples/
**predict.refmodel**  
*Predict method for reference model objects*

**Description**

Compute the predictions using the reference model, that is, compute the expected value for the next observation, or evaluate the log-predictive density at a given point.

**Usage**

```r
## S3 method for class 'refmodel'
predict(  
  object,  
  znew,  
  ynew = NULL,  
  offsetnew = NULL,  
  weightsnew = NULL,  
  type = c("response", "link"),  
  ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

- **object** The object of class `refmodel`.
- **znew** Matrix of predictor values used in the prediction.
- **ynew** New (test) target variables. If given, then the log predictive density for the new observations is computed.
- **offsetnew** Offsets for the new observations. By default a vector of zeros.
- **weightsnew** Weights for the new observations. For binomial model, corresponds to the number trials per observation. Has effect only if `ynew` is specified. By default a vector of ones.
- **type** Scale on which the predictions are returned. Either 'link' (the latent function value, from -inf to inf) or 'response' (the scale on which the target y is measured, obtained by taking the inverse-link from the latent value).
- **...** Currently ignored.

**Value**

Returns either a vector of predictions, or vector of log predictive densities evaluated at `ynew` if `ynew` is not `NULL`.  

print-vsel

Print methods for vsel/cvsel objects

Description

The print methods for vsel/cvsel objects created by `varsel` or `cv_varsel` rely on `varsel_stats` to display a summary of the results of the projection predictive variable selection.

Usage

```r
## S3 method for class 'vsel'
print(x, digits = 2, ...)

## S3 method for class 'cvsel'
print(x, digits = 2, ...)
```

Arguments

- `x` An object of class vsel/cvsel.
- `digits` Number of decimal places to be reported (2 by default).
- `...` Further arguments passed to `varsel_stats`.

Value

Returns invisibly the data frame produced by `varsel_stats`.

proj-pred

Extract draws of the linear predictor and draw from the predictive distribution of the projected submodel

Description

`proj_linpred` extracts draws of the linear predictor and `proj_predict` draws from the predictive distribution of the projected submodel or submodels. If the projection has not been performed, the functions also perform the projection.

Usage

```r
proj_linpred(
  object,
  xnew,
  ynew = NULL,
  offsetnew = NULL,
  weightsnew = NULL,
  nv = NULL,
)```
transform = FALSE,
integrated = FALSE,
...
)

proj_predict(
  object,
  xnew,
  offsetnew = NULL,
  weightsnew = NULL,
  nv = NULL,
  draws = NULL,
  seed_samp = NULL,
  ...
)

Arguments

object Either an object returned by varsel, cv_varsel or init_refmodel, or alternatively any object that can be converted to a reference model.

xnew The predictor values used in the prediction. If vind is specified, then xnew should either be a dataframe containing column names that correspond to vind or a matrix with the number and order of columns corresponding to vind. If vind is unspecified, then xnew must either be a dataframe containing all the column names as in the original data or a matrix with the same columns at the same positions as in the original data.

ynew New (test) target variables. If given, then the log predictive density for the new observations is computed.

offsetnew Offsets for the new observations. By default a vector of zeros.

weightsnew Weights for the new observations. For binomial model, corresponds to the number trials per observation. For proj_linpred, this argument matters only if ynew is specified. By default a vector of ones.

nv Number of variables in the submodel (the variable combination is taken from the variable selection information). If a vector with several values, then results for all specified model sizes are returned. Ignored if vind is specified. By default use the automatically suggested model size.

transform Should the linear predictor be transformed using the inverse-link function? Default is FALSE. For proj_linpred only.

integrated If TRUE, the output is averaged over the parameters. Default is FALSE. For proj_linpred only.

... Additional argument passed to project if object is an object returned by varsel or cv_varsel.

draws Number of draws to return from the predictive distribution of the projection. The default is 1000. For proj_predict only.

seed_samp An optional seed to use for drawing from the projection. For proj_predict only.
**project**

**Projection to submodels**

**Description**

Perform projection onto submodels of selected sizes or a specified feature combination.

**Usage**

```r
project(
  object,
  nv = NULL,
  vind = NULL,
  relax = NULL,
  ns = NULL,
  nc = NULL,
  intercept = NULL,
  seed = NULL,
  regul = 1e-04,
  ...
)
```

**Value**

If the prediction is done for one submodel only (nv has length one or vind is specified) and ynew is unspecified, a matrix or vector of predictions (depending on the value of integrated). If ynew is specified, returns a list with elements pred (predictions) and lpd (log predictive densities). If the predictions are done for several submodel sizes, returns a list with one element for each submodel.

**Examples**

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ## Usage with stanreg objects
  n <- 30
  d <- 5
  x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n)
  y <- x[,1] + 0.5*rnorm(n)
  data <- data.frame(x,y)

  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~, gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
  vs <- varsel(fit)

  # compute predictions with 4 variables at the training points
  pred <- proj_linpred(vs, xnew=x, nv = 4)
  pred <- proj_predict(vs, xnew=x, nv = 4)
}
```
Arguments

object Either a refmodel-type object created by get_refmodel or init_refmodel, or an object which can be converted to a reference model using get_refmodel.

nv Number of variables in the submodel (the variable combination is taken from the varsel information). If a list, then the projection is performed for each model size. Default is the model size suggested by the variable selection (see function suggest_size). Ignored if vind is specified.

vind Variable indices onto which the projection is done. If specified, nv is ignored.

relax If TRUE, then the projected coefficients after L1-selection are computed without any penalization (or using only the regularization determined by regul). If FALSE, then the coefficients are the solution from the L1-penalized projection. This option is relevant only if L1-search was used. Default is TRUE for genuine reference models and FALSE if object is datafit (see init_refmodel).

ns Number of samples to be projected. Ignored if nc is specified. Default is 400.

nc Number of clusters in the clustered projection.

intercept Whether to use intercept. Default is TRUE.

seed A seed used in the clustering (if nc!−ns). Can be used to ensure same results every time.

regul Amount of regularization in the projection. Usually there is no need for regularization, but sometimes for some models the projection can be ill-behaved and we need to add some regularization to avoid numerical problems.

... Currently ignored.

Value

A list of submodels (or a single submodel if projection was performed onto a single variable combination), each of which contains the following elements:

kl The kl divergence from the reference model to the submodel.
weights Weights for each draw of the projected model.
dis Draws from the projected dispersion parameter.
alpha Draws from the projected intercept.
beta Draws from the projected weight vector.
vind The order in which the variables were added to the submodel.
intercept Whether or not the model contains an intercept.

family_kl A modified family-object.

Examples

if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ### Usage with stanreg objects
  n <- 30
  d <- 5
x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n)
y <- x[,1] + 0.5*ranorm(n)
data <- data.frame(x,y)

fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~., gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
vs <- varsel(fit)

# project onto the best model with 4 variables
proj4 <- project(vs, nv = 4)

# project onto an arbitrary variable combination (variable indices 1, 3 and 5)
proj <- project(fit, vind=c(1,3,5))

projpred

Projection predictive feature selection

Description
Description

projpred is an R package to perform projection predictive variable selection for generalized linear models. The package is aimed to be compatible with rstanarm but also other reference models can be used (see function init_refmodel).

Currently, the supported models (family objects in R) include Gaussian, Binomial and Poisson families, but more will be implemented later. See the quickstart-vignette for examples.

Functions

varsel, cv_varsel, init_refmodel, suggest_size Perform and cross-validate the variable selection. init_refmodel can be used to initialize a reference model other than rstanarm-fit.

project Get the projected posteriors of the reduced models.

proj_predict, proj_linpred Make predictions with reduced number of features.

varsel_plot, varsel_stats Visualize and get some key statistics about the variable selection.

References


suggest_size

Suggest model size

Description
This function can be used for suggesting an appropriate model size based on a certain default rule. Notice that the decision rules are heuristic and should be interpreted as guidelines. It is recommended that the user studies the results via varsel_plot and/or varsel_stats and makes the final decision based on what is most appropriate for the given problem.

Usage
suggest_size(
  object,
  stat = "elpd",
  alpha = 0.32,
  pct = 0,
  type = "upper",
  baseline = NULL,
  warnings = TRUE,
  ...
)

Arguments

object
The object returned by varsel or cv_varsel.

stat
Statistic used for the decision. Default is 'elpd'. See varsel_stats for other possible choices.

alpha
A number indicating the desired coverage of the credible intervals based on which the decision is made. E.g. \(\alpha=0.32\) corresponds to 68% probability mass within the intervals (one standard error intervals). See details for more information.

pct
Number indicating the relative proportion between baseline model and null model utilities one is willing to sacrifice. See details for more information.

type
Either 'upper' (default) or 'lower' determining whether the decisions are based on the upper or lower credible bounds. See details for more information.

baseline
Either 'ref' or 'best' indicating whether the baseline is the reference model or the best submodel found. Default is 'ref' when the reference model exists, and 'best' otherwise.

warnings
Whether to give warnings if automatic suggestion fails, mainly for internal use. Default is TRUE, and usually no reason to set to FALSE.

... Currently ignored.
Details

The suggested model size is the smallest model for which either the lower or upper (depending on argument type) credible bound of the submodel utility $u_k$ with significance level $\alpha$ falls above $u_{base} - \text{pct} \times (u_{base} - u_0)$

Here $u_{base}$ denotes the utility for the baseline model and $u_0$ the null model utility. The baseline is either the reference model or the best submodel found (see argument baseline). The lower and upper bounds are defined to contain the submodel utility with probability 1-$\alpha$ (each tail has mass $\alpha/2$).

By default $\text{ratio}=0$, $\alpha=0.32$ and type='upper' which means that we select the smallest model for which the upper tail exceeds the baseline model level, that is, which is better than the baseline model with probability 0.16 (and consequently, worse with probability 0.84). In other words, the estimated difference between the baseline model and submodel utilities is at most one standard error away from zero, so the two utilities are considered to be close.

NOTE: Loss statistics like RMSE and MSE are converted to utilities by multiplying them by -1, so calls such as `suggest_size(object, stat='rmse', type='upper')` should be interpreted as finding the smallest model whose upper credible bound of the negative RMSE exceeds the cutoff level (or equivalently has the lower credible bound of RMSE below the cutoff level). This is done to make the interpretation of the argument type the same regardless of argument stat.

Examples

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ### Usage with stanreg objects
  n <- 30
  d <- 5
  x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n)
  y <- x[,1] + 0.5*rnorm(n)
  data <- data.frame(x,y)
  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~., gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
  vs <- cv_varsel(fit)
  suggest_size(vs)
}
```

---

**varsel**  
*Variable selection for generalized linear models*

**Description**

Perform the projection predictive variable selection for generalized linear models using generic reference models.
Usage

```r
varsel(
  object,
  d_test = NULL,
  method = NULL,
  ns = NULL,
  nc = NULL,
  nspred = NULL,
  ncpred = NULL,
  relax = NULL,
  nv_max = NULL,
  intercept = NULL,
  penalty = NULL,
  verbose = F,
  lambda_min_ratio = 1e-05,
  nlambda = 150,
  thresh = 1e-06,
  regul = 1e-04,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

- **object**: Either a refmodel-type object created by `get_refmodel` or `init_refmodel`, or an object which can be converted to a reference model using `get_refmodel`.
- **d_test**: A test dataset, which is used to evaluate model performance. If not provided, training data is used. Currently this argument is for internal use only.
- **method**: The method used in the variable selection. Possible options are 'L1' for L1-search and 'forward' for forward selection. Default is 'forward' if the number of variables in the full data is at most 20, and 'L1' otherwise.
- **ns**: Number of posterior draws used in the variable selection. Cannot be larger than the number of draws in the reference model. Ignored if nc is set.
- **nc**: Number of clusters to use in the clustered projection. Overrides the ns argument. Defaults to 1.
- **nspred**: Number of samples used for prediction (after selection). Ignored if ncpred is given.
- **ncpred**: Number of clusters used for prediction (after selection). Default is 5.
- **relax**: If TRUE, then the projected coefficients after L1-selection are computed without any penalization (or using only the regularization determined by regul). If FALSE, then the coefficients are the solution from the L1-penalized projection. This option is relevant only if method='L1'. Default is TRUE for genuine reference models and FALSE if object is datafit (see `init_refmodel`).
- **nv_max**: Maximum number of variables until which the selection is continued. Defaults to min(20, D, floor(0.4*n)) where n is the number of observations and D the number of variables.
- **intercept**: Whether to use intercept in the submodels. Defaults to TRUE.
penalty Vector determining the relative penalties or costs for the variables. Zero means that those variables have no cost and will therefore be selected first, whereas Inf means that those variables will never be selected. Currently works only if method == 'L1'. By default 1 for each variable.

verbose If TRUE, may print out some information during the selection. Defaults to FALSE.

lambda_min_ratio Ratio between the smallest and largest lambda in the L1-penalized search. This parameter essentially determines how long the search is carried out, i.e., how large submodels are explored. No need to change the default value unless the program gives a warning about this.

nlambda Number of values in the lambda grid for L1-penalized search. No need to change unless the program gives a warning about this.

thresh Convergence threshold when computing L1-path. Usually no need to change this.

regul Amount of regularization in the projection. Usually there is no need for regularization, but sometimes for some models the projection can be ill-behaved and we need to add some regularization to avoid numerical problems.

Additional arguments to be passed to the get_refmodel-function.

Value

An object of type vsel that contains information about the feature selection. The fields are not meant to be accessed directly by the user but instead via the helper functions (see the vignettes or type ?projpred to see the main functions in the package.)

Examples

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ### Usage with stanreg objects
  n <- 30
  d <- 5
  x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n)
  y <- x[,1] + 0.5*rnorm(n)
  data <- data.frame(x,y)
  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~., gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
  vs <- varsel(fit)
  varsel_plot(vs)
}
```
Description

`varsel_stats` can be used to obtain summary statistics related to variable selection. The same statistics can be plotted with `varsel_plot`.

Usage

```r
varsel_plot(
  object,
  nv_max = NULL,
  stats = "elpd",
  deltas = F,
  alpha = 0.32,
  baseline = NULL,
  ...
)

varsel_stats(
  object,
  nv_max = NULL,
  stats = "elpd",
  type = c("mean", "se"),
  deltas = F,
  alpha = 0.32,
  baseline = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

- **object**: The object returned by `varsel` or `cv_varsel`.
- **nv_max**: Maximum submodel size for which the statistics are calculated. For `varsel_plot` it must be at least 1.
- **stats**: One or several strings determining which statistics to calculate. Available statistics are:
  - elpd: (Expected) sum of log predictive densities
  - mlpd: Mean log predictive density, that is, elpd divided by the number of datapoints.
  - mse: Mean squared error (gaussian family only)
  - rmse: Root mean squared error (gaussian family only)
  - acc/pctcorr: Classification accuracy (binomial family only)
  - auc: Area under the ROC curve (binomial family only)
Default is elpd.

deltas
If TRUE, the submodel statistics are estimated relative to the baseline model (see argument baseline) instead of estimating the actual values of the statistics. Defaults to FALSE.

alpha
A number indicating the desired coverage of the credible intervals. For example alpha=0.32 corresponds to 68% probability mass within the intervals, that is, one standard error intervals.

baseline
Either 'ref' or 'best' indicating whether the baseline is the reference model or the best submodel found. Default is 'ref' when the reference model exists, and 'best' otherwise.

... Currently ignored.

type
One or more items from 'mean', 'se', 'lower' and 'upper' indicating which of these to compute (mean, standard error, and lower and upper credible bounds). The credible bounds are determined so that 1-alpha percent of the mass falls between them.

Examples

```r
if (requireNamespace('rstanarm', quietly=TRUE)) {
  ### Usage with stanreg objects
  n <- 30
d <- 5
  x <- matrix(rnorm(n*d), nrow=n)
y <- x[,1] + 0.5*rnorm(n)
data <- data.frame(x,y)

  fit <- rstanarm::stan_glm(y~., gaussian(), data=data, chains=2, iter=500)
  vs <- cv_varsel(fit)
  varsel_plot(vs)

  # print out some stats
  varsel_stats(vs, stats=c('mse'), type = c('mean','se'))
}
```
Index

∗Topic datasets
  df_binom, 5
  df_gaussian, 6
  mesquite, 10

  cv-indices, 2
  cv_varsel, 3, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 21
  cvfolds (cv-indices), 2
  cvind (cv-indices), 2

  df_binom, 5
  df_gaussian, 6

  family, 8, 15

  get-refmodel, 6
  get_refmodel, 15, 19
  get_refmodel (get-refmodel), 6

  init_refmodel, 2, 6, 7, 7, 13, 15, 16, 19

  mesquite, 10

  predict.refmodel, 11
  print-vsel, 12
  print.cvsel (print-vsel), 12
  print.vsel (print-vsel), 12
  proj-pred, 12
  proj_linpred, 7, 9, 16
  proj_linpred (proj-pred), 12
  proj_predict, 7, 9, 16
  proj_predict (proj-pred), 12
  project, 7, 13, 14, 16
  projpred, 16

  suggest_size, 16, 17

  varsel, 4, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 21
  varsel-statistics, 21
  varsel_plot, 16
  varsel_plot (varsel-statistics), 21
  varsel_stats, 12, 16
  varsel_stats (varsel-statistics), 21