# Package 'penppml'

December 16, 2022

Title Penalized Poisson Pseudo Maximum Likelihood Regression

Version 0.2.1

Description A set of tools that enables efficient estimation of penalized

Poisson Pseudo Maximum Likelihood regressions, using lasso or ridge penalties, for models that feature one or more sets of high-dimensional fixed effects. The methodology is based on Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva, and Zylkin (2021) <http: //hdl.handle.net/10986/35451> and takes advantage of the method of alternating projections of Gaure (2013) <doi:10.1016/j.csda.2013.03.024> for dealing with HDFE, as well as the coordinate descent algorithm of Friedman, Hastie and Tibshirani (2010) <doi:10.18637/jss.v033.i01> for fitting lasso regressions. The package is also able to carry out cross-validation and to implement the plugin lasso of Belloni, Chernozhukov, Hansen and Kozbur (2016) <doi:10.1080/07350015.2015.1102733>.

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LazyDataCompression gzip

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LinkingTo Rcpp, RcppEigen

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BugReports https://github.com/tomzylkin/penppml/issues

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## **R** topics documented:

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AtA

#### Description

Computes A'A using C++.

A matrix.

## Usage

AtA(A)

## Arguments

А

bootstrap
-----------

Bootstrap Lasso Implementation (in development)

## Description

This function performs standard plugin lasso PPML estimation for bootreps samples drawn again with replacement and reports those regressors selected in at least a certain fraction of the bootstrap repetitions.

## Usage

```
bootstrap(
  data,
  dep,
  indep = NULL,
  cluster_id = NULL,
  fixed = NULL,
  selectobs = NULL,
  bootreps = 250,
 boot_threshold = 0.01,
  colcheck_x = FALSE,
  colcheck_x_fes = FALSE,
  post = FALSE,
  gamma_val = NULL,
  verbose = FALSE,
  tol = 1e-06,
  hdfetol = 0.01,
  penweights = NULL,
 maxiter = 1000,
  . . .
)
```

## Arguments

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the names of the independent variables or their column numbers.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
cluster_id	A string denoting the cluster-id with which to perform cluster bootstrap.
fixed	A vector with the names or column numbers of factor variables identifying the fixed effects, or a list with the desired interactions between variables in data.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use (either a logical vector or a numeric vector with row numbers, as usual when subsetting in R).
bootreps	Number of bootstrap repetitions.
<pre>boot_threshold</pre>	Minimal threshold. If a variable is selected in at least this fraction of times, it is reported at the end of the iterations.
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.
colcheck_x_fes	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
post	Logical. If TRUE, estimates a post-penalty regression with the selected variables.
gamma_val	Numerical value that determines the regularization threshold as defined in Belloni, Chernozhukov, Hansen, and Kozbur (2016). NULL default sets parameter to $0.1/\log(n)$ .
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, it prints information to the screen while evaluating.
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
hdfetol	$To learnee \ parameter \ for \ the \ within-transformation \ step, \ passed \ on \ to \ collapse:: fhd within.$
penweights	Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso when method == "plugin".
maxiter	Maximum number of iterations (a number).
	Further arguments, including:
	• tol: Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
	<ul> <li>hdfetol: Tolerance parameter for the within-transformation step, passed on to collapse::fhdwithin.</li> </ul>
	• penweights: Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso.
	• colcheck_x: Logical. If TRUE, checks for perfect multicollinearity in x.
	<ul> <li>colcheck_x_fes: Logical. If TRUE, checks whether x is perfectly explained by fes.</li> </ul>
	• maxiter: Maximum number of iterations in hdfeppml used to get first
	guess of mu.
	<ul> <li>verbose: Logical. If TRUE, prints information to the screen while evaluat- ing.</li> </ul>
	• post: Logical. If TRUE, it carries out a post-lasso estimation with just the
	selected variables and reports the coefficients from this regression.

#### cluster\_matrix

#### **Details**

This function enables users to implement the "bootstrap" step in the procedure described in Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva and Zylkin (2020). To do this, Plugin Lasso is run B times. The function can also perform a post-selection estimation.

#### Value

A matrix with coefficient estimates for all dependent variables.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", STATA Journal, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", Computational Statistics & Data Analysis, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", Journal of Statistical Software, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

```
## Not run: bs1 <- bootstrap(data=trade3, dep="export",</pre>
                 cluster_id="clus",
                 fixed=list(c("exp", "time"),
                 c("imp", "time"), c("exp", "imp")),
                 indep=7:22, bootreps=10, colcheck_x = TRUE,
                 colcheck_x_fes = TRUE,
                 boot_threshold = 0.01,
                 post=TRUE, gamma_val=0.01, verbose=FALSE)
```

## End(Not run)

cluster\_matrix Cluster-robust Standard Error Estimation

#### Description

cluster\_matrix is a helper for computation of cluster-robust standard errors.

#### Usage

```
cluster_matrix(e, cluster, x)
```

## Arguments

е	Vector of residuals.
cluster	Vector of clusters.
х	Regressor matrix.

## Value

Gives the XeeX matrix.

collinearity\_check Checking for Perfect Multicollinearity

## Description

collinearity\_check checks for perfect multicollinearity in a model with high-dimensional fixed effects. It calls lfe::demeanlist in order to partial out the fixed effects, and then uses stats::lm.wfit to discard linearly dependent variables.

## Usage

```
collinearity_check(
  y,
  x = NULL,
  fes = NULL,
  hdfetol,
  colcheck_x_fes = FALSE,
  colcheck_x = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a numeric vector).
х	Regressor matrix.
fes	List of fixed effects.
hdfetol	Tolerance for the centering, passed on to lfe::demeanlist.
colcheck_x_fes	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.

## Value

A numeric vector containing the variables that pass the collinearity check.

compute\_fes

## Description

This function is a helper for xvalidate that computes FEs using PPML First Order Conditions (FOCs).

## Usage

```
compute_fes(
  y,
  fes,
  x,
  b,
  insample_obs = rep(1, n),
  onlymus = FALSE,
  tol = 1e-08,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector).
fes	List of fixed effects.
x	Regressor matrix.
b	A vector of coefficient estimates.
insample_obs	Vector of observations used to estimate the b coefficients
onlymus	Logical. If TRUE, returns only the conditional means.
tol	A tolerance parameter.
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, prints messages to the console while evaluating.

## Value

If onlymus = TRUE, the vector of conditional means. Otherwise, a list with two elements:

- mu: conditional means.
- fe\_values: fixed effects.

countries

## Description

An auxiliary data set with basic geographic information about country ISO 3166 codes included in the trade data set.

#### Usage

countries

#### Format

A data frame with 249 rows and 4 variables.

- iso: Country ISO 3166 code.
- name: Country name.
- region: Continent.
- subregion: sub-continental region.

#### Source

The source of the data set is Luke Duncalfe's ISO-3166-Countries-with-Regional-Codes repository on GitHub (https://github.com/lukes/ISO-3166-Countries-with-Regional-Codes# readme).

eigenMatMult

Faster Matrix Multiplication

#### Description

Faster matrix multiplication using C++.

## Usage

eigenMatMult(A, B)

eigenMapMatMult(A, B)

#### Arguments

A, B Matrices.

fastolsCpp

## Description

Finds Least Squares solutions using C++.

## Usage

```
fastolsCpp(X, y)
```

## Arguments

Х	Regressor matrix.
У	Dependent variable (a vector).

## Value

The vector of parameter (beta) estimates.

fastridge	Finding Ridge Regression Solutions
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## Description

A wrapper around fastridgeCpp, for faster computation of the analytical solution for ridge regression.

## Usage

fastridge(x, y, weights = rep(1/n, n), lambda, standardize = TRUE)

## Arguments

х	Regressor matrix.
У	Dependent variable (a numeric vector).
weights	Vector of weights.
lambda	Penalty parameter.
standardize	Logical. If TRUE, x is standardized using the weights.

## Value

A vector of coefficient (beta) estimates.

fastridgeCpp

## Description

Finds Ridge solutions using C++.

## Usage

fastridgeCpp(X, y, lambda)

## Arguments

Х	Regressor matrix.
У	Dependent variable (a vector).
lambda	Penalty parameter (a number).

## Value

The vector of parameter (beta) estimates.

|--|

## Description

Computes standard deviation using C++.

## Usage

faststddev(X, w)

## Arguments

Х	Regressor matrix.
W	Weights.

## Value

Vector of standard deviations of the parameter estimates.

fastwmean

## Description

Computes weighted mean using C++.

## Usage

fastwmean(X, w)

## Arguments

Х	Regressor matrix.
W	Weights.

## Value

Weighted mean.

genfes

Generating a List of Fixed Effects

## Description

genfes generates a list of fixed effects by creating interactions of paired factors.

## Usage

genfes(data, inter)

## Arguments

data	A data frame including the factors.
inter	A list: each element includes the variables to be interacted (both names and column

## Value

A list containing the desired interactions of vars, with the same length as inter.

genmodel

## Description

genmodel transforms a data frame into the needed components for our main functions (a y vector, a x matrix and a fes list).

## Usage

```
genmodel(
   data,
   dep = NULL,
   indep = NULL,
   fixed = NULL,
   cluster = NULL,
   selectobs = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the name of the independent variable or a column number.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
fixed	A vector with the names or column numbers of factor variables identifying the fixed effects, or a list with the desired interactions between variables in data.
cluster	Optional. A string with the name of the clustering variable or a column num- ber. It's also possible to input a vector with several variables, in which case the interaction of all of them is taken as the clustering variable.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use.

## Value

A list with four elements:

- y: y vector.
- x: x matrix.
- fes: list of fixed effects.
- cluster: cluster vector.

hdfeppml

#### Description

hdfeppml fits an (unpenalized) Poisson Pseudo Maximum Likelihood (PPML) model with highdimensional fixed effects (HDFE).

#### Usage

```
hdfeppml(
   data,
   dep = 1,
   indep = NULL,
   fixed = NULL,
   cluster = NULL,
   selectobs = NULL,
   ...
)
```

#### Arguments

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the name of the independent variable or a column number.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
fixed	A vector with the names or column numbers of factor variables identifying the fixed effects, or a list with the desired interactions between variables in data.
cluster	Optional. A string with the name of the clustering variable or a column num- ber. It's also possible to input a vector with several variables, in which case the interaction of all of them is taken as the clustering variable.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use (either a logical vector or a numeric vector with row numbers, as usual when subsetting in R).
	Further options. For a full list, see hdfeppml_int.

## Details

This function is a thin wrapper around hdfeppml\_int, providing a more convenient interface for data frames. Whereas the internal function requires some preliminary handling of data sets (y must be a vector, x must be a matrix and fixed effects fes must be provided in a list), the wrapper takes a full data frame in the data argument, and users can simply specify which variables correspond to y, x and the fixed effects, using either variable names or column numbers.

More formally, hdfeppml\_int performs iteratively re-weighted least squares (IRLS) on a transformed model, as described in Correia, Guimarães and Zylkin (2020) and similar to the ppmlhdfe package in Stata. In each iteration, the function calculates the transformed dependent variable, partials out the fixed effects (calling collapse:fhdwithin) and then solves a weighted least squares problem (using fast C++ implementation).

#### Value

A list with the following elements:

- coefficients: a 1 x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates.
- residuals: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the residuals of the model.
- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance:
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.
- se: standard errors of the coefficients.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

## Examples

hdfeppml\_int

#### Description

hdfeppml\_int is the internal algorithm called by hdfeppml to fit an (unpenalized) Poisson Pseudo Maximum Likelihood (PPML) regression with high-dimensional fixed effects (HDFE). It takes a vector with the dependent variable, a regressor matrix and a set of fixed effects (in list form: each element in the list should be a separate HDFE).

## Usage

```
hdfeppml_int(
 у,
  x = NULL,
  fes = NULL,
  tol = 1e-08,
  hdfetol = 1e-04,
  colcheck_x = TRUE,
  colcheck_x_fes = TRUE,
 mu = NULL,
  saveX = TRUE,
  init_z = NULL,
  verbose = FALSE,
 maxiter = 1000,
  cluster = NULL,
  vcv = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector)
x	Regressor matrix.
fes	List of fixed effects.
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
hdfetol	Tolerance parameter for the within-transformation step, passed on to collapse::fhdwithin.
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.
colcheck_x_fes	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
mu	A vector of initial values for mu that can be passed to the command.
saveX	Logical. If TRUE, it returns the values of x and z after partialling out the fixed effects.
init_z	Optional: initial values of the transformed dependent variable, to be used in the first iteration of the algorithm.

verbose	Logical. If TRUE, it prints information to the screen while evaluating.
maxiter	Maximum number of iterations (a number).
cluster	Optional: a vector classifying observations into clusters (to use when calculating SEs).
VCV	Logical. If TRUE (the default), it returns standard errors.

#### Details

More formally, hdfeppml\_int performs iteratively re-weighted least squares (IRLS) on a transformed model, as described in Correia, Guimarães and Zylkin (2020) and similar to the ppmlhdfe package in Stata. In each iteration, the function calculates the transformed dependent variable, partials out the fixed effects (calling collapse::fhdwithin, which uses the algorithm in Gaure (2013)) and then solves a weighted least squares problem (using fast C++ implementation).

#### Value

A list with the following elements:

- coefficients: a 1 x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates.
- residuals: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the residuals of the model.
- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance:
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.
- se: standard errors of the coefficients.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

## iceberg

#### Examples

```
iceberg
```

Iceberg Lasso Implementation (in development)

## Description

A function performs standard plugin lasso PPML estimation (without fixed effects) for several dependent variables in a single step. This is still IN DEVELOPMENT: at the current stage, only coefficient estimates are are provided and there is no support for clustered errors.

#### Usage

```
iceberg(data, dep, indep = NULL, selectobs = NULL, ...)
```

#### Arguments

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the names of the independent variables or their column numbers.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use (either a logical vector or a numeric vector with row numbers, as usual when subsetting in R).
	Further arguments, including:
	<ul> <li>tol: Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.</li> <li>glmnettol: Tolerance parameter to be passed on to glmnet::glmnet.</li> <li>penweights: Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso.</li> <li>colcheck: Logical. If TRUE, checks for perfect multicollinearity in x.</li> <li>K: Maximum number of iterations.</li> <li>verbose: Logical. If TRUE, prints information to the screen while evaluating.</li> </ul>

- lambda: Penalty parameter (a number).
- phipost: Logical. If TRUE, it carries out a post-lasso estimation with just the selected variables and reports the coefficients from this regression.

#### Details

This functions enables users to implement the "iceberg" step in the two-step procedure described in Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva and Zylkin (2020). To do this after using the plugin method in mlfitppml, just select all the variables with non-zero coefficients in dep and the remaining regressors in indep. The function will then perform separate lasso estimation on each of the selected dependent variables and report the coefficients.

#### Value

A matrix with coefficient estimates for all dependent variables.

### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

manyouter

Many Outer Products

#### Description

Compute a large number of outer products (useful for clustered SEs) using C++.

## mlfitppml

## Usage

manyouter(A, B, c)

## Arguments

А, В	Numeric vectors.
с	Integer.

mlfitppml

#### General Penalized PPML Estimation

## Description

mlfitppml is a general-purpose wrapper function for penalized PPML estimation. This is a flexible tool that allows users to select:

- Penalty type: either lasso or ridge.
- Penalty parameter: users can provide a single global value for lambda (a single regression is estimated), a vector of lambda values (the function estimates the regression using each of them, sequentially) or even coefficient-specific penalty weights.
- Method: plugin lasso estimates can be obtained directly from this function too.
- Cross-validation: if this option is enabled, the function uses IDs provided by the user to perform k-fold cross-validation and reports the resulting RMSE for all lambda values.

#### Usage

```
mlfitppml(
   data,
   dep = 1,
   indep = NULL,
   fixed = NULL,
   cluster = NULL,
   selectobs = NULL,
   ...
)
```

#### Arguments

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the name of the independent variable or a column number.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
fixed	A vector with the names or column numbers of factor variables identifying the fixed effects, or a list with the desired interactions between variables in data.

cluster	Optional. A string with the name of the clustering variable or a column num- ber. It's also possible to input a vector with several variables, in which case the interaction of all of them is taken as the clustering variable.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use (either a logical vector or a numeric vector with row numbers, as usual when subsetting in R).
	Further arguments, including:
	• penalty: A string indicating the penalty type. Currently supported: "lasso" and "ridge".
	• method: The user can set this equal to "plugin" to perform the plugin algo- rithm with coefficient-specific penalty weights (see details). Otherwise, a single global penalty is used.
	• post: Logical. If TRUE, estimates a post-penalty regression with the selected variables.
	• xval: Logical. If TRUE, cross-validation is performed using the IDs pro- vided in the IDs argument as folds. Note that, by default, observations are assigned individual IDs, which makes the cross-validation algorithm very time-consuming.
	For a full list of options, see mlfitppml_int.

#### Details

This function is a thin wrapper around mlfitppml\_int, providing a more convenient interface for data frames. Whereas the internal function requires some preliminary handling of data sets (y must be a vector, x must be a matrix and fes must be provided in a list), the wrapper takes a full data frame in the data argument, and users can simply specify which variables correspond to y, x and the fixed effects, using either variable names or column numbers.

For technical details on the algorithms used, see hdfeppml (post-lasso regression), penhdfeppml (standard penalized regression), penhdfeppml\_cluster (plugin lasso), and xvalidate (cross-validation).

### Value

A list with the following elements:

- beta: if post = FALSE, a length(lambdas) x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates from the penalized regressions. If post = TRUE, this is the matrix of coefficients from the post-penalty regressions.
- beta\_pre: if post = TRUE, a length(lambdas) x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates from the penalized regressions.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- lambdas: vector of penalty parameters.
- ses: standard errors of the coefficients of the post-penalty regression. Note that these are only provided when post = TRUE.
- rmse: if xval = TRUE, a matrix with the root mean squared error (RMSE column 2) for each value of lambda (column 1), obtained by cross-validation.
- phi: coefficient-specific penalty weights (only if method == "plugin").

#### mlfitppml\_int

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

mlfitppml\_int

General Penalized PPML Estimation

#### Description

mlfitppml\_int is the internal wrapper called by mlfitppml for penalized PPML estimation. This in turn calls penhdfeppml\_int, penhdfeppml\_cluster\_int and hdfeppml\_int as needed. It takes a vector with the dependent variable, a regressor matrix and a set of fixed effects (in list form: each element in the list should be a separate HDFE). This is a flexible tool that allows users to select:

- · Penalty type: either lasso or ridge.
- Penalty parameter: users can provide a single global value for lambda (a single regression is estimated), a vector of lambda values (the function estimates the regression using each of them, sequentially) or even coefficient-specific penalty weights.
- Method: plugin lasso estimates can be obtained directly from this function too.
- Cross-validation: if this option is enabled, the function uses IDs provided by the user to perform k-fold cross-validation and reports the resulting RMSE for all lambda values.

## Usage

```
mlfitppml_int(
 у,
 х,
 fes,
 lambdas,
 penalty = "lasso",
  tol = 1e-08,
 hdfetol = 1e-04,
  colcheck_x = FALSE,
  colcheck_x_fes = TRUE,
 post = TRUE,
  cluster = NULL,
 method = "bic",
  IDs = 1:n,
 verbose = FALSE,
 xval = FALSE,
  standardize = TRUE,
 vcv = TRUE,
 penweights = NULL,
 K = 15,
 gamma_val = NULL,
 mu = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector)
х	Regressor matrix.
fes	List of fixed effects.
lambdas	Vector of penalty parameters.
penalty	A string indicating the penalty type. Currently supported: "lasso" and "ridge".
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
hdfetol	Tolerance parameter for the within-transformation step, passed on to collapse: : fhdwithin
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.
colcheck_x_fes	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
post	Logical. If TRUE, estimates a post-penalty regression with the selected variables.
cluster	Optional: a vector classifying observations into clusters (to use when calculating SEs).
method	The user can set this equal to "plugin" to perform the plugin algorithm with coefficient-specific penalty weights (see details). Otherwise, a single global penalty is used.

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#### mlfitppml\_int

IDs	A vector of fold IDs for k-fold cross validation. If left unspecified, each observation is assigned to a different fold (warning: this is likely to be very resource-intensive).
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, it prints information to the screen while evaluating.
xval	Logical. If TRUE, it carries out cross-validation.
standardize	Logical. If TRUE, x variables are standardized before estimation.
vcv	Logical. If TRUE (the default), the post-estimation model includes standard errors.
penweights	Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso when method == "plugin".
К	Maximum number of iterations for the plugin algorithm to converge.
gamma_val	Numerical value that determines the regularization threshold as defined in Bel- loni, Chernozhukov, Hansen, and Kozbur (2016). NULL default sets parameter to 0.1/log(n).
mu	A vector of initial values for mu that can be passed to the command.

## Details

For technical details on the algorithms used, see hdfeppml\_int (post-lasso regression), penhd-feppml\_int (standard penalized regression), penhdfeppml\_cluster\_int (plugin lasso), and xvalidate (cross-validation).

### Value

A list with the following elements:

- beta: if post = FALSE, a length(lambdas) x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates from the penalized regressions. If post = TRUE, this is the matrix of coefficients from the post-penalty regressions.
- beta\_pre: if post = TRUE, a length(lambdas) x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates from the penalized regressions.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- lambdas: vector of penalty parameters.
- ses: standard errors of the coefficients of the post-penalty regression. Note that these are only
  provided when post = TRUE.
- rmse: if xval = TRUE, a matrix with the root mean squared error (RMSE column 2) for each value of lambda (column 1), obtained by cross-validation.
- phi: coefficient-specific penalty weights (only if method == "plugin").

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC. Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

```
# First, we need to transform the data (this is what mlfitppml handles internally). Start by
# filtering the data set to keep only countries in the Americas:
americas <- countries$iso[countries$region == "Americas"]</pre>
trade <- trade[(trade$imp %in% americas) & (trade$exp %in% americas), ]</pre>
# Now generate the needed x, y and fes objects:
y <- trade$export
x <- data.matrix(trade[, -1:-6])</pre>
fes <- list(exp_time = interaction(trade$exp, trade$time),</pre>
            imp_time = interaction(trade$imp, trade$time),
            pair
                     = interaction(trade$exp, trade$imp))
# Finally, we try mlfitppml_int with a lasso penalty (the default) and two lambda values:
reg <- mlfitppml_int(y = y, x = x, fes = fes, lambdas = c(0.1, 0.01))</pre>
# We can also try plugin lasso:
reg <- mlfitppml_int(y = y, x = x, fes = fes, cluster = fes$pair, method = "plugin")</pre>
# For an example with cross-validation, please see the vignette.
```

penhdfeppml

**One-Shot Penalized PPML Estimation with HDFE** 

#### Description

penhdfeppml fits a penalized PPML regression for a given type of penalty and a given value of the penalty parameter. The penalty can be either lasso or ridge, and the plugin method can be enabled via the method argument.

#### Usage

```
penhdfeppml(
   data,
   dep = 1,
   indep = NULL,
   fixed = NULL,
   cluster = NULL,
```

```
selectobs = NULL,
...
```

#### Arguments

)

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the name of the independent variable or a column number.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
fixed	A vector with the names or column numbers of factor variables identifying the fixed effects, or a list with the desired interactions between variables in data.
cluster	Optional. A string with the name of the clustering variable or a column num- ber. It's also possible to input a vector with several variables, in which case the interaction of all of them is taken as the clustering variable.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use (either a logical vector or a numeric vector with row numbers, as usual when subsetting in R).
	Further options, including:
	• penalty: A string indicating the penalty type. Currently supported: "lasso" and "ridge".
	• method: The user can set this equal to "plugin" to perform the plugin algo- rithm with coefficient-specific penalty weights (see details). Otherwise, a single global penalty is used.
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For a full list of options, see penhdfeppml\_int.

## Details

This function is a thin wrapper around penhdfeppml\_int, providing a more convenient interface for data frames. Whereas the internal function requires some preliminary handling of data sets (y must be a vector, x must be a matrix and fes must be provided in a list), the wrapper takes a full data frame in the data argument, and users can simply specify which variables correspond to y, x and the fixed effects, using either variable names or column numbers.

More formally, penhdfeppml\_int performs iteratively re-weighted least squares (IRLS) on a transformed model, as described in Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva and Zylkin (2021). In each iteration, the function calculates the transformed dependent variable, partials out the fixed effects (calling lfe::fhdwithin) and then and then calls glmnet::glmnet if the selected penalty is lasso (the default). If the user has selected ridge, the analytical solution is instead computed directly using fast C++ implementation.

For information on how the plugin lasso method works, see penhdfeppml\_cluster.

#### Value

If method == "lasso" (the default), an object of class elnet with the elements described in glmnet, as well as:

- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- phi: coefficient-specific penalty weights (only if method == "plugin".
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.

If method == "ridge", a list with the following elements:

- beta: a 1 x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates.
- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

penhdfeppml\_cluster Plugin Lasso Estimation

#### Description

Performs plugin lasso - PPML estimation with HDFE. This is an internal function, called by mlfitppml and penhdfeppml when users select the method = "plugin" option, but it's made available as a stand-alone option for advanced users who may prefer to avoid some overhead imposed by the wrappers.

#### Usage

```
penhdfeppml_cluster(
   data,
   dep = 1,
   indep = NULL,
   fixed = NULL,
   cluster = NULL,
   selectobs = NULL,
   ...
)
```

## Arguments

data	A data frame containing all relevant variables.
dep	A string with the name of the independent variable or a column number.
indep	A vector with the names or column numbers of the regressors. If left unspecified, all remaining variables (excluding fixed effects) are included in the regressor matrix.
fixed	A vector with the names or column numbers of factor variables identifying the fixed effects, or a list with the desired interactions between variables in data.
cluster	A string with the name of the clustering variable or a column number. It's also possible to input a vector with several variables, in which case the interaction of all of them is taken as the clustering variable. Note that this is NOT OPTIONAL in this case: our plugin algorithm requires clusters to be specified.
selectobs	Optional. A vector indicating which observations to use (either a logical vector or a numeric vector with row numbers, as usual when subsetting in R).
	Further options. For a full list of options, see penhdfeppml_cluster_int.

## Details

This function is a thin wrapper around penppml\_cluster\_int, providing a more convenient interface for data frames. Whereas the internal function requires some preliminary handling of data sets (y must be a vector, x must be a matrix and fes must be provided in a list), the wrapper takes a full data frame in the data argument, and users can simply specify which variables correspond to y, x and the fixed effects, using either variable names or column numbers. The plugin method uses coefficient-specific penalty weights that account for heteroskedasticity. The penalty parameters are calculated automatically by the function using statistical theory - for a brief discussion of this, see Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva and Zylkin (2021), and for a more in-depth analysis, check Belloni, Chernozhukov, Hansen, and Kozbur (2016), which introduced the specific implementation used in this package. Heuristically, the penalty parameters are set at a level high enough so that the absolute value of the score for each regressor must be statistically large relative to its standard error in order for the regressors to be selected.

#### Value

An object of class elnet with the elements described in glmnet, as well as the following:

- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- phi: coefficient-specific penalty weights.
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

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penhdfeppml\_cluster\_int

Plugin Lasso Estimation

## Description

Performs plugin lasso - PPML estimation with HDFE. This is an internal function, called by mlfitppml\_int and penhdfeppml\_int when users select the method = "plugin" option, but it's made available as a stand-alone option for advanced users who may prefer to avoid some overhead imposed by the wrappers.

#### Usage

```
penhdfeppml_cluster_int(
 у,
 х,
  fes,
  cluster,
  tol = 1e-08,
  hdfetol = 1e-04,
  glmnettol = 1e-12,
  penalty = "lasso",
  penweights = NULL,
  saveX = TRUE,
 mu = NULL,
  colcheck_x = TRUE,
  colcheck_x_fes = TRUE,
 K = 15,
  init_z = NULL,
  post = FALSE,
  verbose = FALSE,
  lambda = NULL,
  gamma_val = NULL
)
```

#### Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector)
x	Regressor matrix.
fes	List of fixed effects.
cluster	Optional: a vector classifying observations into clusters (to use when calculating SEs).
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
hdfetol	Tolerance parameter for the within-transformation step, passed on to collapse::fhdwithin
glmnettol	Tolerance parameter to be passed on to glmnet.

penalty	Only "lasso" is supported at the present stage.
penweights	Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso when method == "plugin".
saveX	Logical. If TRUE, it returns the values of x and z after partialling out the fixed effects.
mu	A vector of initial values for mu that can be passed to the command.
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.
colcheck_x_fes	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
К	Maximum number of iterations.
init_z	Optional: initial values of the transformed dependent variable, to be used in the first iteration of the algorithm.
post	Logical. If TRUE, estimates a post-penalty regression with the selected variables.
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, it prints information to the screen while evaluating.
lambda	Penalty parameter (a number).
gamma_val	Numerical value that determines the regularization threshold as defined in Bel- loni, Chernozhukov, Hansen, and Kozbur (2016). NULL default sets parameter to 0.1/log(n).

## Details

The plugin method uses coefficient-specific penalty weights that account for heteroskedasticity. The penalty parameters are calculated automatically by the function using statistical theory - for a brief discussion of this, see Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva and Zylkin (2021), and for a more in-depth analysis, check Belloni, Chernozhukov, Hansen, and Kozbur (2016), which introduced the specific implementation used in this package. Heuristically, the penalty parameters are set at a level high enough so that the absolute value of the score for each regressor must be statistically large relative to its standard error in order for the regressors to be selected.

#### Value

An object of class elnet with the elements described in glmnet, as well as the following:

- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- phi: coefficient-specific penalty weights.
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

penhdfeppml\_int One-Shot Penalized PPML Estimation with HDFE

#### Description

penhdfeppml\_int is the internal algorithm called by penhdfeppml to fit a penalized PPML regression for a given type of penalty and a given value of the penalty parameter. It takes a vector with the dependent variable, a regressor matrix and a set of fixed effects (in list form: each element in the list should be a separate HDFE). The penalty can be either lasso or ridge, and the plugin method can be enabled via the method argument.

#### Usage

```
penhdfeppml_int(
    y,
    x,
    fes,
```

```
lambda,
  tol = 1e-08,
 hdfetol = 1e-04,
 glmnettol = 1e-12,
 penalty = "lasso",
 penweights = NULL,
 saveX = TRUE,
 mu = NULL,
 colcheck_x = FALSE,
 colcheck_x_fes = TRUE,
 init_z = NULL,
 post = FALSE,
 verbose = FALSE,
 standardize = TRUE,
 method = "placeholder",
 cluster = NULL,
 debug = FALSE,
 gamma_val = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector)
х	Regressor matrix.
fes	List of fixed effects.
lambda	Penalty parameter (a number).
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
hdfetol	Tolerance parameter for the within-transformation step, passed on to collapse: : fhdwithin.
glmnettol	Tolerance parameter to be passed on to glmnet.
penalty	A string indicating the penalty type. Currently supported: "lasso" and "ridge".
penweights	Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso when method == "plugin".
saveX	Logical. If TRUE, it returns the values of x and z after partialling out the fixed effects.
mu	A vector of initial values for mu that can be passed to the command.
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.
<pre>colcheck_x_fes</pre>	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
init_z	Optional: initial values of the transformed dependent variable, to be used in the first iteration of the algorithm.
post	Logical. If TRUE, estimates a post-penalty regression with the selected variables.
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, it prints information to the screen while evaluating.
standardize	Logical. If TRUE, x variables are standardized before estimation.

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method	The user can set this equal to "plugin" to perform the plugin algorithm with coefficient-specific penalty weights (see details). Otherwise, a single global penalty is used.
cluster	Optional: a vector classifying observations into clusters (to use when calculating SEs).
debug	Logical. If TRUE, this helps with debugging penalty weights by printing output of the first iteration to the console and stopping the estimation algorithm.
gamma_val	Numerical value that determines the regularization threshold as defined in Belloni, Chernozhukov, Hansen, and Kozbur (2016). NULL default sets parameter to 0.1/log(n).

#### Details

More formally, penhdfeppml\_int performs iteratively re-weighted least squares (IRLS) on a transformed model, as described in Breinlich, Corradi, Rocha, Ruta, Santos Silva and Zylkin (2020). In each iteration, the function calculates the transformed dependent variable, partials out the fixed effects (calling collapse::fhdwithin) and then and then calls glmnet if the selected penalty is lasso (the default). If the user selects ridge, the analytical solution is instead computed directly using fast C++ implementation.

For information on the plugin lasso method, see penhdfeppml\_cluster\_int.

#### Value

If method == "lasso" (the default), an object of class elnet with the elements described in glmnet, as well as:

- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- phi: coefficient-specific penalty weights (only if method == "plugin".
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.

If method == "ridge", a list with the following elements:

- beta: a 1 x ncol(x) matrix with coefficient (beta) estimates.
- mu: a 1 x length(y) matrix with the final values of the conditional mean  $\mu$ .
- deviance.
- bic: Bayesian Information Criterion.
- x\_resid: matrix of demeaned regressors.
- z\_resid: vector of demeaned (transformed) dependent variable.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

Gaure, S (2013). "OLS with multiple high dimensional category variables", *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, 66, 8-18.

Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

Belloni, A., V. Chernozhukov, C. Hansen and D. Kozbur (2016). "Inference in high dimensional panel models with an application to gun control", *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, 34, 590-605.

#### Examples

plugin\_lasso\_int Iceberg Lasso Implementation (in development)

#### Description

This is the internal function upon which the iceberg wrapper is built. It performs standard plugin lasso PPML estimation without fixed effects, relying on glmnet::glmnet. As the other internals in the package, it needs a y vector and an x matrix.

#### Usage

plugin\_lasso\_int(
 y,
 x,

select\_fes

```
tol = 1e-08,
glmnettol = 1e-12,
penweights = NULL,
colcheck = FALSE,
K = 50,
verbose = FALSE,
lambda = NULL,
phipost = FALSE
```

#### Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector).
х	Regressor matrix.
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
glmnettol	Tolerance parameter to be passed on to glmnet::glmnet.
penweights	Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso.
colcheck	Logical. If TRUE, checks for perfect multicollinearity in x.
К	Maximum number of iterations.
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, prints information to the screen while evaluating.
lambda	Penalty parameter (a number).
phipost	Logical. If TRUE, it carries out a post-lasso estimation with just the selected variables and reports the coefficients from this regression.

## Value

A list with 14 elements, including beta, which is the only one we use in the wrapper. For a full list, see glmnet.

select\_fes

Filtering fixed effect lists

## Description

A helper function for xvalidate that filters a list of fixed effects and returns the modified list. Used to split the fixed effects for cross-validation.

## Usage

select\_fes(fe\_list, select\_obs, list = TRUE)

## Arguments

fe_list	A list of fixed effects.
<pre>select_obs</pre>	A vector of selected observations / rows.
list	Logical. If TRUE, it returns a list. Otherwise, a data frame.

#### Value

A modified list of fixed effects.

standardize\_wt Weighted Standardization

## Description

Performs weighted standardization of x variables. Used in fastridge.

## Usage

```
standardize_wt(x, weights = rep(1/n, n), intercept = TRUE, return.sd = FALSE)
```

#### Arguments

х	Regressor matrix.
weights	Weights.
intercept	Logical. If TRUE, adds an intercept.
return.sd	Logical. If TRUE, it returns standard errors for the means.

#### Value

If return.sd == FALSE, it gives the matrix of standardized regressors. If return.sd == TRUE, then it returns the vector of standard errors of the means of the variables.

trade

International trade agreements data set

## Description

A panel data set containing bilateral trade flows between 210 exporters and 262 importers between 1964 and 2016. The data set also contains information about trade agreements in force between country pairs, as well as 16 dummies for specific provisions in those agreements (a small selection from a broader data set).

#### Usage

trade

trade

## Format

A data frame with 194,092 rows and 22 variables:

exp Exporter country (ISO 3166 code)

imp Importer country (ISO 3166 code).

time Year.

export Merchandise trade exports in USD.

- id Agreement ID code.
- agreement Agreement name.

ad\_prov\_14 Anti-dumping actions allowed and with specific provisions for material injury.

cp\_prov\_23 Does the agreement contain provisions that promote transparency?

tbt\_prov\_07 Technical Regulations - Is the use of international standards promoted?

tbt\_prov\_33 Does the agreement go beyond the TBT (Technical Barriers to Trade) Agreement?

tf\_prov\_41 Harmonization and common legal framework

tf\_prov\_45 Issuance of proof of origin

ser\_prov\_47 Does the agreement contain a standstill provision?

inv\_prov\_22 Does the agreement grant Fair and Equitable Treatment (FET)?

et\_prov\_38 Prohibits export-related performance requirements, subject to exemptions.

ipr\_prov\_44 Stipulates that GIs can be registered and protected through a TM system

- env\_prov\_18 Does the agreement require states to control ozone-depleting substances?
- **ipr\_prov\_15** Incorporates/reaffirms all multilateral agreements to which both parties are a party (general obligation)
- moc\_prov\_21 Does the transfer provision explicitly exclude "good faith and non-discriminatory application of its laws" related to bankruptcy, insolvency or creditor rights protection?
- ste\_prov\_30 Does the agreement regulate subsidization to state enterprises?

**Im\_prov\_10** Does the agreement include reference to internationally recognized labor standards?

cp\_prov\_26 Does the agreement regulate consumer protection?

#### Source

Data on international trade flows was obtained from Comtrade. Provision data comes from: Mattoo, A., N. Rocha, M. Ruta (2020). Handbook of deep trade agreements. Washington, DC: World Bank.

xeex

## Description

Given matrix ee' and matrix X, compute X(k)'ee'X(k) for each regressor X.

#### Usage

xeex(X, e, S)

#### Arguments

Х	Regressor matrix
e	Residuals.
S	Cluster sizes.

## Value

The matrix product X(k)'ee'X(k).

xvalidate

Implementing Cross Validation

## Description

This is the internal function called by mlfitppml\_int to perform cross-validation, if the option is enabled. It is available also on a stand-alone basis in case it is needed, but generally users will be better served by using the wrapper mlfitppml.

## Usage

```
xvalidate(
  y,
  x,
  fes,
  IDs,
  testID = NULL,
  tol = 1e-08,
  hdfetol = 1e-04,
  colcheck_x = TRUE,
  colcheck_x_fes = TRUE,
  init_mu = NULL,
  init_x = NULL,
  init_z = NULL,
```

## xvalidate

```
verbose = FALSE,
cluster = NULL,
penalty = "lasso",
method = "placeholder",
standardize = TRUE,
penweights = rep(1, ncol(x_reg)),
lambda = 0
```

## Arguments

У	Dependent variable (a vector)
х	Regressor matrix.
fes	List of fixed effects.
IDs	A vector of fold IDs for k-fold cross validation. If left unspecified, each observation is assigned to a different fold (warning: this is likely to be very resource-intensive).
testID	Optional. A number indicating which ID to hold out during cross-validation. If left unspecified, the function cycles through all IDs and reports the average RMSE.
tol	Tolerance parameter for convergence of the IRLS algorithm.
hdfetol	$To learnee \ parameter \ for \ the \ within-transformation \ step, \ passed \ on \ to \ collapse:: fhd within.$
colcheck_x	Logical. If TRUE, this checks collinearity between the independent variables and drops the collinear variables.
colcheck_x_fes	Logical. If TRUE, this checks whether the independent variables are perfectly explained by the fixed effects drops those that are perfectly explained.
init_mu	Optional: initial values of the conditional mean $\mu$ , to be used as weights in the first iteration of the algorithm.
init_x	Optional: initial values of the independent variables.
init_z	Optional: initial values of the transformed dependent variable, to be used in the first iteration of the algorithm.
verbose	Logical. If TRUE, it prints information to the screen while evaluating.
cluster	Optional: a vector classifying observations into clusters (to use when calculating SEs).
penalty	A string indicating the penalty type. Currently supported: "lasso" and "ridge".
method	The user can set this equal to "plugin" to perform the plugin algorithm with coefficient-specific penalty weights (see details). Otherwise, a single global penalty is used.
standardize	Logical. If TRUE, x variables are standardized before estimation.
penweights	Optional: a vector of coefficient-specific penalties to use in plugin lasso when method == "plugin".
lambda	Penalty parameter, to be passed on to penhdfeppml_int or penhdfeppml_cluster_int.

#### Details

xvalidate carries out cross-validation with the user-provided IDs by holding out each one of them, sequentially, as in the k-fold procedure (unless testID is specified, in which case it just uses this ID for validation). After filtering out the holdout sample, the function simply calls penhdfeppml\_int and penhdfeppml\_cluster\_int to estimate the coefficients, it predicts the conditional means for the held-out observations and finally it calculates the root mean squared error (RMSE).

## Value

A list with two elements:

- rmse: root mean squared error (RMSE).
- mu: conditional means.

#### References

Breinlich, H., Corradi, V., Rocha, N., Ruta, M., Santos Silva, J.M.C. and T. Zylkin (2021). "Machine Learning in International Trade Research: Evaluating the Impact of Trade Agreements", Policy Research Working Paper; No. 9629. World Bank, Washington, DC.

Correia, S., P. Guimaraes and T. Zylkin (2020). "Fast Poisson estimation with high dimensional fixed effects", *STATA Journal*, 20, 90-115.

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Friedman, J., T. Hastie, and R. Tibshirani (2010). "Regularization paths for generalized linear models via coordinate descent", *Journal of Statistical Software*, 33, 1-22.

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#### Examples

```
# First, we need to transform the data. Start by filtering the data set to keep only countries in
# the Americas:
americas <- countries$iso[countries$region == "Americas"]</pre>
trade <- trade[(trade$imp %in% americas) & (trade$exp %in% americas), ]</pre>
# Now generate the needed x, y and fes objects:
y <- trade$export</pre>
x <- data.matrix(trade[, -1:-6])</pre>
fes <- list(exp_time = interaction(trade$exp, trade$time),</pre>
            imp_time = interaction(trade$imp, trade$time),
                   = interaction(trade$exp, trade$imp))
            pair
# We also need to create the IDs. We split the data set by agreement, not observation:
id <- unique(trade[, 5])</pre>
nfolds <- 10
unique_ids <- data.frame(id = id, fold = sample(1:nfolds, size = length(id), replace = TRUE))
cross_ids <- merge(trade[, 5, drop = FALSE], unique_ids, by = "id", all.x = TRUE)</pre>
# Finally, we try xvalidate with a lasso penalty (the default) and two lambda values:
## Not run: reg <- xvalidate(y = y, x = x, fes = fes, lambda = 0.001,
                          IDs = cross_ids$fold, verbose = TRUE)
```

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## xvalidate

## End(Not run)

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