

# Package ‘SLOPE’

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**Title** Sorted L1 Penalized Estimation

**Version** 0.5.0

**Description** Efficient implementations for Sorted L-One Penalized Estimation (SLOPE): generalized linear models regularized with the sorted L1-norm (Bogdan et al. (2015) <[doi:10/gfgwzt](https://doi.org/10/gfgwzt)>). Supported models include ordinary least-squares regression, binomial regression, multinomial regression, and Poisson regression. Both dense and sparse predictor matrices are supported. In addition, the package features predictor screening rules that enable fast and efficient solutions to high-dimensional problems.

**License** GPL-3

**LazyData** true

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports** checkmate, foreach, ggplot2, glmnet, Matrix, methods, mice,  
Rcpp

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abalone	<i>Abalone</i>
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## Description

This data set contains observations of abalones, the common name for any of a group of sea snails. The goal is to predict the age of an individual abalone given physical measurements such as sex, weight, and height.

**Usage**

abalone

**Format**

A list with two items representing 211 observations from 9 variables

**sex** sex of abalone, 1 for female

**infant** indicates that the person is an infant

**length** longest shell measurement in mm

**diameter** perpendicular to length in mm

**height** height in mm including meat in shell

**weight\_whole** weight of entire abalone

**weight\_shucked** weight of meat

**weight viscera** weight of viscera

**weight\_shell** weight of shell

**rings** rings. +1.5 gives the age in years

**Details**

Only a stratified sample of 211 rows of the original data set are used here.

**Source**

Pace, R. Kelley and Ronald Barry, Sparse Spatial Autoregressions, Statistics and Probability Letters, 33 (1997) 291-297.

**See Also**

Other datasets: [bodyfat](#), [heart](#), [student](#), [wine](#)

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bodyfat

*Bodyfat*

---

**Description**

The response ( $y$ ) corresponds to estimates of percentage of body fat from application of Siri's 1956 equation to measurements of underwater weighing, as well as age, weight, height, and a variety of body circumference measurements.

**Usage**

bodyfat

**Format**

A list with two items representing 252 observations from 14 variables

**age** age (years)

**weight** weight (lbs)

**height** height (inches)

**neck** neck circumference (cm)

**chest** chest circumference (cm)

**abdomen** abdomen circumference (cm)

**hip** hip circumference (cm)

**thigh** thigh circumference (cm)

**knee** knee circumference (cm)

**ankle** ankle circumference (cm)

**biceps** biceps circumference (cm)

**forearm** forearm circumference (cm)

**wrist** wrist circumference (cm)

**Source**

<http://lib.stat.cmu.edu/datasets/bodyfat>

<https://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvmtools/datasets/regression.html>

**See Also**

Other datasets: [abalone](#), [heart](#), [student](#), [wine](#)

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caretSLOPE

*Model objects for model tuning with caret (deprecated)*

---

**Description**

This function can be used in a call to `caret::train()` to enable model tuning using caret. Note that this function does not properly work with sparse feature matrices and standardization due to the way resampling is implemented in caret. So for these cases, please check out `trainSLOPE()` instead.

**Usage**

```
caretSLOPE()
```

**Value**

A model description list to be used in the method argument in `caret::train()`.

**See Also**

[caret::train\(\)](#), [trainSLOPE\(\)](#), [SLOPE\(\)](#)

Other model-tuning: [plot.TrainedSLOPE\(\)](#), [trainSLOPE\(\)](#)

---

 coef.SLOPE

*Obtain coefficients*


---

**Description**

This function returns coefficients from a model fit by [SLOPE\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'SLOPE'
coef(object, alpha = NULL, exact = FALSE, simplify = TRUE, sigma, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class 'SLOPE'.
alpha	penalty parameter for SLOPE models; if NULL, the values used in the original fit will be used
exact	if TRUE and the given parameter values differ from those in the original fit, the model will be refit by calling <a href="#">stats::update()</a> on the object with the new parameters. If FALSE, the predicted values will be based on interpolated coefficients from the original penalty path.
simplify	if TRUE, <a href="#">base::drop()</a> will be called before returning the coefficients to drop extraneous dimensions
sigma	deprecated. Please use alpha instead.
...	arguments that are passed on to <a href="#">stats::update()</a> (and therefore also to <a href="#">SLOPE()</a> ) if exact = TRUE and the given penalty is not in object

**Details**

If exact = FALSE and alpha is not in object, then the returned coefficients will be approximated by linear interpolation. If coefficients from another type of penalty sequence (with a different lambda) are required, however, please use [SLOPE\(\)](#) to refit the model.

**Value**

Coefficients from the model.

**See Also**

[predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [SLOPE\(\)](#)

Other SLOPE-methods: [deviance.SLOPE\(\)](#), [plot.SLOPE\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#), [score\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
fit <- SLOPE(mtcars$mpg, mtcars$vs, path_length = 1)
coef(fit)
```

---

deviance.SLOPE	<i>Model deviance</i>
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---

## Description

Model deviance

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SLOPE'
deviance(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

object	an object of class 'SLOPE'.
...	ignored

## Value

For Gaussian models this is twice the residual sums of squares. For all other models, two times the negative loglikelihood is returned.

## See Also

[SLOPE\(\)](#)

Other SLOPE-methods: [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#), [plot.SLOPE\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#), [score\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
fit <- SLOPE(abalone$x, abalone$y, family = "poisson")
deviance(fit)
```

---

heart	<i>Heart disease</i>
-------	----------------------

---

### Description

Diagnostic attributes of patients classified as having heart disease or not.

### Usage

heart

### Format

270 observations from 17 variables represented as a list consisting of a binary factor response vector *y*, with levels 'absence' and 'presence' indicating the absence or presence of heart disease and *x*: a sparse feature matrix of class 'dgCMatrix' with the following variables:

**age** age

**bp** diastolic blood pressure

**chol** serum cholesterol in mg/dl

**hr** maximum heart rate achieved

**old\_peak** ST depression induced by exercise relative to rest

**vessels** the number of major blood vessels (0 to 3) that were colored by fluoroscopy

**sex** sex of the participant: 0 for male, 1 for female

**angina** a dummy variable indicating whether the person suffered angina-pectoris during exercise

**glucose\_high** indicates a fasting blood sugar over 120 mg/dl

**cp\_typical** typical angina

**cp\_atypical** atypical angina

**cp\_nonanginal** non-anginal pain

**ecg\_abnormal** indicates a ST-T wave abnormality (T wave inversions and/or ST elevation or depression of > 0.05 mV)

**ecg\_estes** probable or definite left ventricular hypertrophy by Estes' criteria

**slope\_flat** a flat ST curve during peak exercise

**slope\_downsloping** a downwards-sloping ST curve during peak exercise

**thal\_reversible** reversible defect

**thal\_fixed** fixed defect

### Preprocessing

The original dataset contained 13 variables. The nominal of these were dummycoded, removing the first category. No precise information regarding variables *chest\_pain*, *thal* and *ecg* could be found, which explains their obscure definitions here.

**Source**

Dua, D. and Karra Taniskidou, E. (2017). UCI Machine Learning Repository <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/>. Irvine, CA: University of California, School of Information and Computer Science.

<https://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvmtools/datasets/binary.html#heart>

**See Also**

Other datasets: [abalone](#), [bodyfat](#), [student](#), [wine](#)

---

plot.SLOPE

*Plot coefficients*

---

**Description**

Plot the fitted model's regression coefficients along the regularization path.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'SLOPE'
plot(
  x,
  intercept = FALSE,
  x_variable = c("alpha", "deviance_ratio", "step"),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	an object of class "SLOPE"
intercept	whether to plot the intercept
x_variable	what to plot on the x axis. "alpha" plots the scaling parameter for the sequence, "deviance_ratio" plots the fraction of deviance explained, and "step" plots step number.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

**Value**

An object of class "ggplot", which will be plotted on the current device unless stored in a variable.

**See Also**

[SLOPE\(\)](#), [plotDiagnostics\(\)](#)

Other SLOPE-methods: [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#), [deviance.SLOPE\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#), [score\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
fit <- SLOPE(heart$x, heart$y)
plot(fit)
```

---

plot.TrainedSLOPE      *Plot results from cross-validation*

---

**Description**

Plot results from cross-validation

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'TrainedSLOPE'
plot(
  x,
  measure = c("auto", "mse", "mae", "deviance", "auc", "misclass"),
  plot_min = TRUE,
  ci_alpha = 0.2,
  ci_border = FALSE,
  ci_col = "salmon",
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	an object of class 'TrainedSLOPE', typically from a call to <a href="#">trainSLOPE()</a>
measure	any of the measures used in the call to <a href="#">trainSLOPE()</a> . If measure = "auto" then deviance will be used for binomial and multinomial models, whilst mean-squared error will be used for Gaussian and Poisson models.
plot_min	whether to mark the location of the penalty corresponding to the best prediction score
ci_alpha	alpha (opacity) for fill in confidence limits
ci_border	color (or flag to turn off and on) the border of the confidence limits
ci_col	color for border of confidence limits
...	words

**Value**

An object of class "ggplot", which will be plotted on the current device unless stored in a variable.

**See Also**

[trainSLOPE\(\)](#)

Other model-tuning: [caretSLOPE\(\)](#), [trainSLOPE\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# Cross-validation for a SLOPE binomial model
set.seed(123)
tune <- trainSLOPE(subset(mtcars, select = c("mpg", "drat", "wt")),
  mtcars$hp,
  q = c(0.1, 0.2),
  number = 10
)
plot(tune, ci_col = "salmon")
```

---

plotDiagnostics

*Plot results from diagnostics collected during model fitting*

---

### Description

This function plots various diagnostics collected during the model fitting resulting from a call to [SLOPE\(\)](#) *provided that* `diagnostics = TRUE`.

### Usage

```
plotDiagnostics(
  object,
  ind = max(object$diagnostics$penalty),
  xvar = c("time", "iteration")
)
```

### Arguments

<code>object</code>	an object of class "SLOPE".
<code>ind</code>	either "last"
<code>xvar</code>	what to place on the x axis. <code>iteration</code> plots each iteration, <code>time</code> plots the wall-clock time.

### Value

An object of class "ggplot", which will be plotted on the current device unless stored in a variable.

### See Also

[SLOPE\(\)](#), [ggplot2::theme\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
x <- SLOPE(abalone$x, abalone$y, diagnostics = TRUE)
plotDiagnostics(x)
```

---

predict.SLOPE                    *Generate predictions from SLOPE models*

---

**Description**

Return predictions from models fit by [SLOPE\(\)](#).

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'SLOPE'
predict(object, x, alpha = NULL, type = "link", simplify = TRUE, sigma, ...)

## S3 method for class 'GaussianSLOPE'
predict(
  object,
  x,
  sigma = NULL,
  type = c("link", "response"),
  simplify = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'BinomialSLOPE'
predict(
  object,
  x,
  sigma = NULL,
  type = c("link", "response", "class"),
  simplify = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'PoissonSLOPE'
predict(
  object,
  x,
  sigma = NULL,
  type = c("link", "response"),
  exact = FALSE,
  simplify = TRUE,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'MultinomialSLOPE'
predict(
  object,
  x,
```

```

sigma = NULL,
type = c("link", "response", "class"),
exact = FALSE,
simplify = TRUE,
...
)

```

### Arguments

object	an object of class "SLOPE", typically the result of a call to <a href="#">SLOPE()</a>
x	new data
alpha	penalty parameter for SLOPE models; if NULL, the values used in the original fit will be used
type	type of prediction; "link" returns the linear predictors, "response" returns the result of applying the link function, and "class" returns class predictions.
simplify	if TRUE, <a href="#">base::drop()</a> will be called before returning the coefficients to drop extraneous dimensions
sigma	deprecated. Please use alpha instead.
...	ignored and only here for method consistency
exact	if TRUE and the given parameter values differ from those in the original fit, the model will be refit by calling <a href="#">stats::update()</a> on the object with the new parameters. If FALSE, the predicted values will be based on interpolated coefficients from the original penalty path.

### Value

Predictions from the model with scale determined by type.

### See Also

[stats::predict\(\)](#), [stats::predict.glm\(\)](#), [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#)

Other SLOPE-methods: [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#), [deviance.SLOPE\(\)](#), [plot.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#), [score\(\)](#)

### Examples

```

fit <- with(mtcars, SLOPE(cbind(mpg, hp), vs, family = "binomial"))
predict(fit, with(mtcars, cbind(mpg, hp)), type = "class")

```

---

print.SLOPE	<i>Print results from SLOPE fit</i>
-------------	-------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Print results from SLOPE fit

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

x                    an object of class 'SLOPE' or 'TrainedSLOPE'  
...                   other arguments passed to [print\(\)](#)

**Value**

Prints output on the screen

**See Also**

[SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#)

Other SLOPE-methods: [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#), [deviance.SLOPE\(\)](#), [plot.SLOPE\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [score\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
fit <- SLOPE(wine$x, wine$y, family = "multinomial")  
print(fit, digits = 1)
```

---

regularizationWeights	<i>Generate Regularization (Penalty) Weights for SLOPE</i>
-----------------------	--

---

**Description**

This function generates sequences of regularizations weights for use in [SLOPE\(\)](#) (or elsewhere).

**Usage**

```
regularizationWeights(
  n_lambda = 100,
  type = c("bh", "gaussian", "oscar", "lasso"),
  q = 0.2,
  theta1 = 1,
  theta2 = 0.5,
  n = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

n_lambda	The number of lambdas to generate. This should typically be equal to the number of predictors in your data set.
type	The type of lambda sequence to use. See documentation for in <a href="#">SLOPE()</a> , including that related to the lambda parameter in that function.
q	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence, with usage varying depending on the type of path used and has no effect is a custom lambda sequence is used. Must be greater than $1e-6$ and smaller than 1.
theta1	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence when lambda == "OSCAR". This parameter basically sets the intercept for the lambda sequence and is equivalent to $\lambda_1$ in the original OSCAR formulation.
theta2	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence when lambda == "OSCAR". This parameter basically sets the slope for the lambda sequence and is equivalent to $\lambda_2$ in the original OSCAR formulation.
n	The number of rows (observations) in the design matrix.

**Details**

Please see [SLOPE\(\)](#) for detailed information regarding the parameters in this function, in particular the section *Regularization Sequences*.

Note that these sequences are automatically scaled (unless a value for the alpha parameter is manually supplied) when using [SLOPE\(\)](#). In this function, no such scaling is attempted.

**Value**

A vector of length n\_lambda with regularization weights.

**See Also**

[SLOPE\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
# compute different penalization sequences
bh <- regularizationWeights(100, q = 0.2, type = "bh")
```

```

gaussian <- regularizationWeights(
  100,
  q = 0.2,
  n = 300,
  type = "gaussian"
)

oscar <- regularizationWeights(
  100,
  theta1 = 1.284,
  theta2 = 0.0182,
  type = "oscar"
)

lasso <- regularizationWeights(100, type = "lasso") * mean(oscar)

# Plot a comparison between these sequences
plot(bh, type = "l", ylab = expression(lambda))
lines(gaussian, col = "dark orange")
lines(oscar, col = "navy")
lines(lasso, col = "red3")

legend(
  "topright",
  legend = c("BH", "Gaussian", "OSCAR", "lasso"),
  col = c("black", "dark orange", "navy", "red3"),
  lty = 1
)

```

---

score

---

*Compute one of several loss metrics on a new data set*


---

## Description

This function is a unified interface to return various types of loss for a model fit with [SLOPE\(\)](#).

## Usage

```

score(object, x, y, measure)

## S3 method for class 'GaussianSLOPE'
score(object, x, y, measure = c("mse", "mae"))

## S3 method for class 'BinomialSLOPE'
score(object, x, y, measure = c("mse", "mae", "deviance", "misclass", "auc"))

## S3 method for class 'MultinomialSLOPE'
score(object, x, y, measure = c("mse", "mae", "deviance", "misclass"))

```

```
## S3 method for class 'PoissonSLOPE'
score(object, x, y, measure = c("mse", "mae"))
```

### Arguments

object	an object of class "SLOPE"
x	feature matrix
y	response
measure	type of target measure. "mse" returns mean squared error. "mae" returns mean absolute error, "misclass" returns misclassification rate, and "auc" returns area under the ROC curve.

### Value

The measure along the regularization path depending on the value in measure.#

### See Also

[SLOPE\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#)

Other SLOPE-methods: [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#), [deviance.SLOPE\(\)](#), [plot.SLOPE\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
x <- subset(infert, select = c("induced", "age", "pooled.stratum"))
y <- infert$case

fit <- SLOPE(x, y, family = "binomial")
score(fit, x, y, measure = "auc")
```

---

SLOPE

*Sorted L-One Penalized Estimation*

---

### Description

Fit a generalized linear model regularized with the sorted L1 norm, which applies a non-increasing regularization sequence to the coefficient vector ( $\beta$ ) after having sorted it in decreasing order according to its absolute values.

### Usage

```
SLOPE(
  x,
  y,
  family = c("gaussian", "binomial", "multinomial", "poisson"),
  intercept = TRUE,
  center = !inherits(x, "sparseMatrix"),
```

```

scale = c("l2", "l1", "sd", "none"),
alpha = c("path", "estimate"),
lambda = c("bh", "gaussian", "oscar", "lasso"),
alpha_min_ratio = if (NROW(x) < NCOL(x)) 0.01 else 1e-04,
path_length = if (alpha[1] == "estimate") 1 else 20,
q = 0.1 * min(1, NROW(x)/NCOL(x)),
theta1 = 1,
theta2 = 0.5,
prox_method = c("stack", "pava"),
screen = TRUE,
screen_alg = c("strong", "previous"),
tol_dev_change = 1e-05,
tol_dev_ratio = 0.995,
max_variables = NROW(x),
solver = c("fista", "admm"),
max_passes = 1e+06,
tol_abs = 1e-05,
tol_rel = 1e-04,
tol_rel_gap = 1e-05,
tol_infeas = 0.001,
tol_rel_coef_change = 0.001,
diagnostics = FALSE,
verbosity = 0,
sigma,
n_sigma,
lambda_min_ratio
)

```

### Arguments

x	the design matrix, which can be either a dense matrix of the standard <i>matrix</i> class, or a sparse matrix inheriting from <code>Matrix::sparseMatrix</code> . Data frames will be converted to matrices internally.
y	the response, which for family = "gaussian" must be numeric; for family = "binomial" or family = "multinomial", it can be a factor.
family	model family (objective); see <b>Families</b> for details.
intercept	whether to fit an intercept
center	whether to center predictors or not by their mean. Defaults to TRUE if x is dense and FALSE otherwise.
scale	type of scaling to apply to predictors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "l1" scales predictors to have L1 norms of one.</li> <li>• "l2" scales predictors to have L2 norms of one.#'</li> <li>• "sd" scales predictors to have a population standard deviation one.</li> <li>• "none" applies no scaling.</li> </ul>
alpha	scale for regularization path: either a decreasing numeric vector (possibly of length 1) or a character vector; in the latter case, the choices are:

- "path", which computes a regularization sequence where the first value corresponds to the intercept-only (null) model and the last to the almost-saturated model, and
- "estimate", which estimates a *single* alpha using Algorithm 5 in Bogdan et al. (2015).

When a value is manually entered for alpha, it will be scaled based on the type of standardization that is applied to  $x$ . For `scale = "l2"`, alpha will be scaled by  $\sqrt{n}$ . For `scale = "sd"` or `"none"`, alpha will be scaled by  $n$ , and for `scale = "l1"` no scaling is applied. Note, however, that the alpha that is returned in the resulting value is the **unstandardized** alpha.

<code>lambda</code>	either a character vector indicating the method used to construct the lambda path or a numeric non-decreasing vector with length equal to the number of coefficients in the model; see section <b>Regularization sequences</b> for details.
<code>alpha_min_ratio</code>	smallest value for lambda as a fraction of lambda_max; used in the selection of alpha when alpha = "path".
<code>path_length</code>	length of regularization path; note that the path returned may still be shorter due to the early termination criteria given by <code>tol_dev_change</code> , <code>tol_dev_ratio</code> , and <code>max_variables</code> .
<code>q</code>	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence, with usage varying depending on the type of path used and has no effect if a custom lambda sequence is used. Must be greater than $1e-6$ and smaller than 1.
<code>theta1</code>	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence when lambda == "OSCAR". This parameter basically sets the intercept for the lambda sequence and is equivalent to $\lambda_1$ in the original OSCAR formulation.
<code>theta2</code>	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence when lambda == "OSCAR". This parameter basically sets the slope for the lambda sequence and is equivalent to $\lambda_2$ in the original OSCAR formulation.
<code>prox_method</code>	method for calculating the proximal operator for the Sorted L1 Norm (the SLOPE penalty). Please see <a href="#">sortedL1Prox()</a> for more information.
<code>screen</code>	whether to use predictor screening rules (rules that allow some predictors to be discarded prior to fitting), which improve speed greatly when the number of predictors is larger than the number of observations.
<code>screen_alg</code>	what type of screening algorithm to use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "strong" uses the set from the strong screening rule and check against the full set</li> <li>• "previous" first fits with the previous active set, then checks against the strong set, and finally against the full set if there are no violations in the strong set</li> </ul>
<code>tol_dev_change</code>	the regularization path is stopped if the fractional change in deviance falls below this value; note that this is automatically set to 0 if a alpha is manually entered
<code>tol_dev_ratio</code>	the regularization path is stopped if the deviance ratio $1 - \text{deviance}/(\text{null} - \text{deviance})$ is above this threshold

max_variables	criterion for stopping the path in terms of the maximum number of unique, nonzero coefficients in absolute value in model. For the multinomial family, this value will be multiplied internally with the number of levels of the response minus one.
solver	type of solver use, either "fista" or "admm"; all families currently support FISTA but only family = "gaussian" supports ADMM.
max_passes	maximum number of passes (outer iterations) for solver
tol_abs	absolute tolerance criterion for ADMM solver
tol_rel	relative tolerance criterion for ADMM solver
tol_rel_gap	stopping criterion for the duality gap; used only with FISTA solver.
tol_infeas	stopping criterion for the level of infeasibility; used with FISTA solver and KKT checks in screening algorithm.
tol_rel_coef_change	relative tolerance criterion for change in coefficients between iterations, which is reached when the maximum absolute change in any coefficient divided by the maximum absolute coefficient size is less than this value.
diagnostics	whether to save diagnostics from the solver (timings and other values depending on type of solver)
verbosity	level of verbosity for displaying output from the program. Setting this to 1 displays basic information on the path level, 2 a little bit more information on the path level, and 3 displays information from the solver.
sigma	deprecated; please use alpha instead
n_sigma	deprecated; please use path_length instead
lambda_min_ratio	deprecated; please use alpha_min_ratio instead

## Details

SLOPE() solves the convex minimization problem

$$f(\beta) + \alpha \sum_{i=j}^p \lambda_j |\beta|_{(j)},$$

where  $f(\beta)$  is a smooth and convex function and the second part is the sorted L1-norm. In ordinary least-squares regression,  $f(\beta)$  is simply the squared norm of the least-squares residuals. See section **Families** for specifics regarding the various types of  $f(\beta)$  (model families) that are allowed in SLOPE().

By default, SLOPE() fits a path of models, each corresponding to a separate regularization sequence, starting from the null (intercept-only) model to an almost completely unregularized model. These regularization sequences are parameterized using  $\lambda$  and  $\alpha$ , with only  $\alpha$  varying along the path. The length of the path can be manually, but will terminate prematurely depending on arguments `tol_dev_change`, `tol_dev_ratio`, and `max_variables`. This means that unless these arguments are modified, the path is not guaranteed to be of length `path_length`.

**Value**

An object of class "SLOPE" with the following slots:

<code>coefficients</code>	a three-dimensional array of the coefficients from the model fit, including the intercept if it was fit. There is one row for each coefficient, one column for each target (dependent variable), and one slice for each penalty.
<code>nonzeros</code>	a three-dimensional logical array indicating whether a coefficient was zero or not
<code>lambda</code>	the lambda vector that when multiplied by a value in alpha gives the penalty vector at that point along the regularization path
<code>alpha</code>	vector giving the (unstandardized) scaling of the lambda sequence
<code>class_names</code>	a character vector giving the names of the classes for binomial and multinomial families
<code>passes</code>	the number of passes the solver took at each step on the path
<code>violations</code>	the number of violations of the screening rule at each step on the path; only available if <code>diagnostics = TRUE</code> in the call to <code>SLOPE()</code> .
<code>active_sets</code>	a list where each element indicates the indices of the coefficients that were active at that point in the regularization path
<code>unique</code>	the number of unique predictors (in absolute value)
<code>deviance_ratio</code>	the deviance ratio (as a fraction of 1)
<code>null_deviance</code>	the deviance of the null (intercept-only) model
<code>family</code>	the name of the family used in the model fit
<code>diagnostics</code>	a <code>data.frame</code> of objective values for the primal and dual problems, as well as a measure of the infeasibility, time, and iteration; only available if <code>diagnostics = TRUE</code> in the call to <code>SLOPE()</code> .
<code>call</code>	the call used for fitting the model

**Families****Gaussian**

The Gaussian model (Ordinary Least Squares) minimizes the following objective:

$$\frac{1}{2} \|y - X\beta\|_2^2$$

**Binomial**

The binomial model (logistic regression) has the following objective:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log(1 + \exp(-y_i (x_i^T \beta + \beta_0)))$$

with  $y \in \{-1, 1\}$ .

**Poisson**

In poisson regression, we use the following objective:

$$-\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i (x_i^T \beta + \beta_0) - \exp(x_i^T \beta + \beta_0))$$

### Multinomial

In multinomial regression, we minimize the full-rank objective

$$-\sum_{i=1}^n \left( \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} y_{ik} (x_i^T \beta_k + \beta_{0,k}) - \log \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \exp(x_i^T \beta_k + \beta_{0,k}) \right)$$

with  $y_{ik}$  being the element in a  $n$  by  $(m - 1)$  matrix, where  $m$  is the number of classes in the response.

### Regularization Sequences

There are multiple ways of specifying the  $\lambda$  sequence in `SLOPE()`. It is, first of all, possible to select the sequence manually by using a non-increasing numeric vector, possibly of length one, as argument instead of a character. The greater the differences are between consecutive values along the sequence, the more clustering behavior will the model exhibit. Note, also, that the scale of the  $\lambda$  vector makes no difference if `alpha = NULL`, since `alpha` will be selected automatically to ensure that the model is completely sparse at the beginning and almost unregularized at the end. If, however, both `alpha` and `lambda` are manually specified, then the scales of both do matter, so make sure to choose them wisely.

Instead of choosing the sequence manually, one of the following automatically generated sequences may be chosen.

#### BH (Benjamini–Hochberg)

If `lambda = "bh"`, the sequence used is that referred to as  $\lambda^{(\text{BH})}$  by Bogdan et al, which sets  $\lambda$  according to

$$\lambda_i = \Phi^{-1}(1 - iq/(2p)),$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ , where  $\Phi^{-1}$  is the quantile function for the standard normal distribution and  $q$  is a parameter that can be set by the user in the call to `SLOPE()`.

#### Gaussian

This penalty sequence is related to BH, such that

$$\lambda_i = \lambda_i^{(\text{BH})} \sqrt{1 + w(i-1) \cdot \text{cumsum}(\lambda^2)_i},$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ , where  $w(k) = 1/(n - k - 1)$ . We let  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_1^{(\text{BH})}$  and adjust the sequence to make sure that it's non-increasing. Note that if  $p$  is large relative to  $n$ , this option will result in a constant sequence, which is usually not what you would want.

#### OSCAR

This sequence comes from Bondell and Reich and is a linear non-increasing sequence, such that

$$\lambda_i = \theta_1 + (p - i)\theta_2.$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ . We use the parametrization from Zhong and Kwok (2021) but use  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  instead of  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  to avoid confusion and abuse of notation.

**lasso**

SLOPE is exactly equivalent to the lasso when the sequence of regularization weights is constant, i.e.

$$\lambda_i = 1$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ . Here, again, we stress that the fact that all  $\lambda$  are equal to one does not matter as long as `alpha == NULL` since we scale the vector automatically. Note that this option is only here for academic interest and to highlight the fact that SLOPE is a generalization of the lasso. There are more efficient packages, such as **glmnet** and **biglasso**, for fitting the lasso.

**Solvers**

There are currently two solvers available for SLOPE: FISTA (Beck and Teboulle 2009) and ADMM (Boyd et al. 2008). FISTA is available for families but ADMM is currently only available for `family = "gaussian"`.

**References**

- Bogdan, M., van den Berg, E., Sabatti, C., Su, W., & Candès, E. J. (2015). SLOPE – adaptive variable selection via convex optimization. *The Annals of Applied Statistics*, 9(3), 1103–1140. doi: [10/gfgwzt](https://doi.org/10/gfgwzt)
- Bondell, H. D., & Reich, B. J. (2008). Simultaneous Regression Shrinkage, Variable Selection, and Supervised Clustering of Predictors with OSCAR. *Biometrics*, 64(1), 115–123. JSTOR. doi: [10.1111/j.15410420.2007.00843.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.15410420.2007.00843.x)
- Boyd, S., Parikh, N., Chu, E., Peleato, B., & Eckstein, J. (2010). Distributed Optimization and Statistical Learning via the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers. *Foundations and Trends® in Machine Learning*, 3(1), 1–122. doi: [10.1561/22000000016](https://doi.org/10.1561/22000000016)
- Beck, A., & Teboulle, M. (2009). A Fast Iterative Shrinkage-Thresholding Algorithm for Linear Inverse Problems. *SIAM Journal on Imaging Sciences*, 2(1), 183–202. doi: [10.1137/080716542](https://doi.org/10.1137/080716542)

**See Also**

[plot.SLOPE\(\)](#), [plotDiagnostics\(\)](#), [score\(\)](#), [predict.SLOPE\(\)](#), [trainSLOPE\(\)](#), [coef.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#), [print.SLOPE\(\)](#), [deviance.SLOPE\(\)](#), [sortedL1Prox\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
# Gaussian response, default lambda sequence
fit <- SLOPE(bodyfat$x, bodyfat$y)

# Poisson response, OSCAR-type lambda sequence
fit <- SLOPE(
  abalone$x,
  abalone$y,
  family = "poisson",
  lambda = "oscar",
  theta1 = 1,
  theta2 = 0.9
)
```

```

# Multinomial response, custom alpha and lambda
m <- length(unique(wine$y)) - 1
p <- ncol(wine$x)

alpha <- 0.005
lambda <- exp(seq(log(2), log(1.8), length.out = p * m))

fit <- SLOPE(
  wine$x,
  wine$y,
  family = "multinomial",
  lambda = lambda,
  alpha = alpha
)

```

sortedL1Prox

*Sorted L1 Proximal Operator***Description**

The proximal operator for the Sorted L1 Norm, which is the penalty function in SLOPE. It solves the problem

$$\arg \min_x \left( J(x, \lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \|x - v\|_2^2 \right)$$

where  $J(x, \lambda)$  is the Sorted L1 Norm.

**Usage**

```
sortedL1Prox(x, lambda, method = c("stack", "pava"))
```

**Arguments**

x	A vector. In SLOPE, this is the vector of coefficients.
lambda	A non-negative and decreasing sequence of weights for the Sorted L1 Norm. Needs to be the same length as x.
method	Method used in the prox. "stack" is a stack-based algorithm (Algorithm 4 in Bogdan et al.). "pava" is the PAVA algorithm used in isotonic regression (also Algorithm 3 in Bogdan et al.).

**Value**

An evaluation of the proximal operator at x and lambda.

**Source**

M. Bogdan, E. van den Berg, Chiara Sabatti, Weijie Su, and Emmanuel J. Candès, "SLOPE – adaptive variable selection via convex optimization," *Ann Appl Stat*, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 1103–1140, 2015, doi: 10.1214/15-AOAS842.

---

student	<i>Student performance</i>
---------	----------------------------

---

### Description

A data set of the attributes of 382 students in secondary education collected from two schools. The goal is to predict the grade in math and Portuguese at the end of the third period. See the cited sources for additional information.

### Usage

student

### Format

382 observations from 13 variables represented as a list consisting of a binary factor response matrix  $y$  with two responses: portugese and math for the final scores in period three for the respective subjects. The list also contains  $x$ : a sparse feature matrix of class 'dgCMatrix' with the following variables:

**school\_ms** student's primary school, 1 for Mousinho da Silveira and 0 for Gabriel Pereira

**sex** sex of student, 1 for male

**age** age of student

**urban** urban (1) or rural (0) home address

**large\_family** whether the family size is larger than 3

**cohabitation** whether parents live together

**Medu** mother's level of education (ordered)

**Fedu** fathers's level of education (ordered)

**Mjob\_health** whether the mother was employed in health care

**Mjob\_other** whether the mother was employed as something other than the specified job roles

**Mjob\_services** whether the mother was employed in the service sector

**Mjob\_teacher** whether the mother was employed as a teacher

**Fjob\_health** whether the father was employed in health care

**Fjob\_other** whether the father was employed as something other than the specified job roles

**Fjob\_services** whether the father was employed in the service sector

**Fjob\_teacher** whether the father was employed as a teacher

**reason\_home** school chosen for being close to home

**reason\_other** school chosen for another reason

**reason\_rep** school chosen for its reputation

**nursery** whether the student attended nursery school

**internet** Pwhether the student has internet access at home

## Preprocessing

All of the grade-specific predictors were dropped from the data set. (Note that it is not clear from the source why some of these predictors are specific to each grade, such as which parent is the student's guardian.) The categorical variables were dummy-coded. Only the final grades (G3) were kept as dependent variables, whilst the first and second period grades were dropped.

## Source

P. Cortez and A. Silva. Using Data Mining to Predict Secondary School Student Performance. In A. Brito and J. Teixeira Eds., Proceedings of 5th FUTURE BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE (FUBUTEC 2008) pp. 5-12, Porto, Portugal, April, 2008, EUROSIS, ISBN 978-9077381-39-7. <http://www3.dsi.uminho.pt/pcortez/student.pdf>

Dua, D. and Karra Taniskidou, E. (2017). UCI Machine Learning Repository <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/>. Irvine, CA: University of California, School of Information and Computer Science.

## See Also

Other datasets: [abalone](#), [bodyfat](#), [heart](#), [wine](#)

---

trainSLOPE

*Train a SLOPE model*

---

## Description

This function trains a model fit by `SLOPE()` by tuning its parameters through cross-validation.

## Usage

```
trainSLOPE(
  x,
  y,
  q = 0.2,
  number = 10,
  repeats = 1,
  measure = c("mse", "mae", "deviance", "misclass", "auc"),
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

- x the design matrix, which can be either a dense matrix of the standard *matrix* class, or a sparse matrix inheriting from `Matrix::sparseMatrix`. Data frames will be converted to matrices internally.
- y the response, which for `family = "gaussian"` must be numeric; for `family = "binomial"` or `family = "multinomial"`, it can be a factor.

q	parameter controlling the shape of the lambda sequence, with usage varying depending on the type of path used and has no effect if a custom lambda sequence is used. Must be greater than 1e-6 and smaller than 1.
number	number of folds (cross-validation)
repeats	number of repeats for each fold (for repeated <i>k</i> -fold cross validation)
measure	measure to try to optimize; note that you may supply <i>multiple</i> values here and that, by default, all the possible measures for the given model will be used.
...	other arguments to pass on to <a href="#">SLOPE()</a>

### Details

Note that by default this method matches all of the available metrics for the given model family against those provided in the argument `measure`. Collecting these measures is not particularly demanding computationally so it is almost always best to leave this argument as it is and then choose which argument to focus on in the call to [plot.TrainedSLOPE\(\)](#).

### Value

An object of class "TrainedSLOPE", with the following slots:

summary	a summary of the results with means, standard errors, and 0.95 confidence levels
data	the raw data from the model training
optima	a <code>data.frame</code> of the best (mean) values for the different metrics and their corresponding parameter values
measure	a <code>data.frame</code> listing the used metrics and their labels
model	the model fit to the entire data set
call	the call

### Parallel operation

This function uses the **foreach** package to enable parallel operation. To enable this, simply register a parallel backend using, for instance, `doParallel::registerDoParallel()` from the **doParallel** package before running this function.

### See Also

[foreach::foreach\(\)](#), [plot.TrainedSLOPE\(\)](#)

Other model-tuning: [caretSLOPE\(\)](#), [plot.TrainedSLOPE\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
# 8-fold cross-validation repeated 5 times
tune <- trainSLOPE(subset(mtcars, select = c("mpg", "drat", "wt")),
  mtcars$hp,
  q = c(0.1, 0.2),
  number = 8,
  repeats = 5,
  measure = "mse"
)
```

---

wine	<i>Wine cultivars</i>
------	-----------------------

---

**Description**

A data set of results from chemical analysis of wines grown in Italy from three different cultivars.

**Usage**

wine

**Format**

178 observations from 13 variables represented as a list consisting of a categorical response vector  $y$  with three levels:  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  representing different cultivars of wine as well as  $x$ : a sparse feature matrix of class 'dgCMatrix' with the following variables:

**alcohol** alcoholic content  
**malic** malic acid  
**ash** ash  
**alcalinity** alcalinity of ash  
**magnesium** magnemium  
**phenols** total phenols  
**flavanoids** flavanoids  
**nonflavanoids** nonflavanoid phenols  
**proanthocyanins** proanthocyanins  
**color** color intensity  
**hue** hue  
**dilution** OD280/OD315 of diluted wines  
**proline** proline

**Source**

Dua, D. and Karra Taniskidou, E. (2017). UCI Machine Learning Repository <http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/>. Irvine, CA: University of California, School of Information and Computer Science.

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/hadley/rminds/master/1-data/wine.csv>

<https://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvmtools/datasets/multiclass.html#wine>

**See Also**

Other datasets: [abalone](#), [bodyfat](#), [heart](#), [student](#)

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