

# Package ‘EstimateGroupNetwork’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Perform the Joint Graphical Lasso and Selects Tuning Parameters

**Version** 0.1.2

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**Description** Can be used to simultaneously estimate networks (Gaussian Graphical Models) in data from different groups or classes via Joint Graphical Lasso. Tuning parameters are selected via information criteria (AIC / BIC / eBIC) or crossvalidation.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Imports** parallel, igraph, qgraph

**Suggests** mvtnorm, JGL, psych

**NeedsCompilation** no

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`covNoBessel`*Covariance matrix without Bessel's correction*

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**Description**

Computes the Covariance matrix without Bessel's correction, for consistency with package **JGL**

**Usage**

```
covNoBessel(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

`x`                    A dataframe of numeric values.  
`...`                  Arguments to be passed to `cov`

**Value**

A covariance matrix

**Author(s)**

Giulio Costantini

**Examples**

```
library(psych)
data(bfi)
covNoBessel(bfi, use = "complete.obs")
```

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EstimateGroupNetwork    *Estimate Joint Graphical Lasso model on data collected on observations from different groups.*

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**Description**

The Joint Graphical lasso fits gaussian graphical models on data with the same variables observed on different groups or classes of interest (e.g., patients vs. controls; Danaher et al., 2014). The Joint Graphical Lasso relies on two tuning parameters, `lambda1` and `lambda2`: This function performs tuning parameters selection relying on an information criterion (AIC / BIC / extended BIC) or k-fold cross validation and then fits the Joint Graphical Lasso model.

**Usage**

```
EstimateGroupNetwork(X, inputType = c("dataframe", "list.of.dataframes",
  "list.of.covariance.matrices"),
  n, covfun = covNoBessel, groupID, labels,
  method = c("InformationCriterion", "crossvalidation"),
  strategy = c("sequential", "simultaneous"),
  nlambda1 = 100, lambda1.min.ratio = .01, logseq11 = TRUE,
  nlambda2 = 100, lambda2.min.ratio = .01, logseq12 = TRUE,
  k = 10, seed,
  criterion = c("ebic", "bic", "aic"), count.unique = FALSE,
  gamma = .5, dec = 5,
  optimize = TRUE, optmethod = "CG",
  penalty = c("fused", "group"), weights = c("equal", "sample.size"),
  penalize.diagonal = FALSE, maxiter = 500, rho = 1, truncate = 1e-5,
  ncores = 1, simplifyOutput = TRUE)
```

**Arguments****Arguments describing input data**

Can be one of the following.

- A single dataframe including data from all groups, plus a group ID variable which must be specified as groupID.
- A list of dataframes, one by group. Each dataframe must be structured in the same way (the same variables for each group).
- A list of covariance or correlation matrices. Each matrix must be structured in the same way (the same variables for each group). For this type of input, a vector of sample sizes must be given in n.

<b>XinputType</b>	The type of data in input. If missing, the function will attempt to guess the type of input data. Can be one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "dataframe": A single dataframe including data from all groups, plus a group ID variable which must be specified as groupID.</li> <li>- "list.of.dataframes": A list of dataframes, one by group.</li> <li>- "list.of.covariance.matrices": A list of covariance or correlation matrices plus a vector of sample sizes n.</li> </ul>
<b>n</b>	Integer. Vector of sample sizes, one by group, in the same order in which the groups are included in the list of covariance matrices. This argument is relevant only if inputType is "list.of.covariance.matrices" and will be ignored otherwise (with a warning).
<b>covfun</b>	The function used for computing the sample covariance matrix. The default, covNoBessel, computes the covariance matrix without Bessel's correction, for consistency with package <b>JGL</b> .
<b>groupID</b>	a string. The name or number of the variable in the dataframe indicating a variable that identifies different groups. This argument is relevant only if inputType is "dataframe" and will be ignored otherwise.
<b>labels</b>	Optional vector of strings. Name of each variable, in the same order in which they are included in the dataframe. If missing, column names will be used. If no

column names are present, the variables will be simply named "V1", "V2", and so on.

### Arguments connected to tuning parameter selection

method	<p>Methods for selecting tuning parameters. Can be one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "InformationCriterion". Tuning parameters lambda 1 and lambda 2 are selected according to an information criterion. Argument <code>criterion</code> determines which information criterion is used. If the extended Bayes Information Criterion is used (see Foygel and Drton, 2010), the gamma parameter can be regulated through argument <code>gamma</code>. Argument <code>strategy</code> determines whether tuning parameter selection is performed simultaneously for lambda1 and lambda2, or separately for lambda 1 and lambda 2.</li> <li>- "crossvalidation". Tuning parameters lambda 1 and lambda 2 are selected via k-fold crossvalidation. The cost function for the k-fold crossvalidation procedure is the average predictive negative loglikelihood, as defined in Guo et al. (2011, p.5). Parameter <code>k</code> regulates the number of sample splits for the crossvalidations (defaults to 10 splits), whereas parameter <code>seed</code> can be selected to ensure exact reproducibility of the results. Argument <code>strategy</code> determines whether crossvalidation is performed simultaneously for lambda1 and lambda2, or separately for lambda 1 and lambda 2.</li> </ul>
strategy	<p>The strategy adopted for selecting tuning parameters. Can be one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "sequential": Tuning parameter selection is performed by first determining lambda 1 and then selecting lambda 2. This option is faster, but can return less accurate results than the next option.</li> <li>- "simultaneous": Tuning parameter selection is performed simultaneously for lambda 1 and lambda2. This option returns more accurate results, but it is also more computationally intensive and therefore slower.</li> </ul> <p><b>General arguments that influence tuning parameter selection for all methods</b></p>
nlambda1	Integer. Number of candidate lambda 1 values. The candidate lambda 1 values will be spaced between the maximum value of lambda 1 (the one that results in at least one network being completely empty) and a minimum value, given by the maximum multiplied by <code>lambda1.min.ratio</code>
lambda1.min.ratio	Numeric. Ratio of lowest lambda 1 value compared to maximal lambda 1
logseq1	Logical. If FALSE, the candidate lambda 1 values are equally spaced between a minimum and a maximum value; if TRUE the values are logarithmically spaced.
nlambda2	Integer. Number of candidate lambda 2 values. The candidate lambda 2 values will be spaced between the maximum value of lambda 2 (the one that results in all groups having the same network) and a minimum value, given by the maximum multiplied by <code>lambda1.min.ratio</code>
lambda2.min.ratio	Numeric. Ratio of lowest lambda 2 value compared to maximal lambda 2
logseq2	Logical. If FALSE, the candidate lambda 2 values are equally spaced between a minimum and a maximum value; if TRUE the values are logarithmically spaced.

*Parameters for crossvalidation. The following arguments will be ignored if argument method is not "crossvalidation".*

k	Integer. Number of splits for the k-fold cross-validation procedure.
seed	Integer. A seed for the random number generator, to include the exact reproducibility of the results obtained with the k-fold crossvalidation procedure.
<i>Parameters for selecting tuning parameters via an information criterion. The following arguments will be ignored if argument method is not "InformationCriterion".</i>	
criterion	The Information criterion used for tuning parameter selection. Can be "aic", "bic" and "ebic" for Akaike information Criterion (Akaike, 1974), Bayes Information Criterion (Schwarz, 1978), and Extended Bayes Information Criterion (Foygel and Drton, 2010) respectively.
count.unique	Logical. Information criteria such as AIC, BIC and extended BIC include the number of model parameters in their formula. In Danaher et al (2014) an extension of the AIC is proposed in which each network edge is counted as a single parameter each time is different from zero in each group (up to a tolerance level, by default $\text{tol} = 10^5$ , see parameter truncate). Therefore, even if the value of an edge is identical in two groups, it will be counted as two parameters. This option is implemented by selecting <code>count.unique = FALSE</code> . Here we implement an alternative possibility, which can be selected by setting argument <code>count.unique = TRUE</code> : If an edge is identical in two (or more) groups (up to a tolerance level, see parameter dec), it will be counted as a single parameter.
gamma	Numeric. Parameter gamma for the extended Bayes Information Criterion (see Foygel and Drton, 2010).
dec	Integer. This is only relevant if <code>count.unique = TRUE</code> . Edges that are equal across groups up to the dec decimal place will be considered as one parameter in the information criteria.
optimize	Logical. If TRUE, after identifying the best tuning parameters (i.e., associated with the lowest value of an Information Criterion) among the candidate values, use an optimizer to try to further reduce the value of the information criterion. Since this is not a convex optimization problem, there is no guarantee that this step will lead to better results. However, it cannot do any harm either (if the optimization stage does not lead to improvements, the best value among the candidates will be returned). Be advised that setting this argument to TRUE results in longer computational time.
optmethod	If argument Strategy is set to "simultaneous" and argument optimize = TRUE, the optimization stage will consider simultaneous tuning parameters simultaneously. Therefore, function <code>optim</code> will be used for the optimization stage. Argument optmethod can be used to set the optimization method. See parameter method in function <code>optim</code> .
<b>Arguments that influence the Joint Graphical Lasso procedure. See also JGL</b>	
penalty	Can be one of "fused" for Fused Graphical Lasso and "group" for Group Graphical Lasso. Fused is suggested. See Danaher et al. (2014) for details.
weights	If "equal" all groups are equally weighted, if "sample.size" groups are weighted according to sample size.

penalize.diagonal	Logical. If TRUE, the lambda 1 penalty is applied also the diagonal elements of the concentration matrix, otherwise the lambda 1 penalty is applied only to the off-diagonal elements. Notice that the lambda 2 penalty is always applied also to the diagonal elements.
maxiter	Integer. Maximum number of iterations for the Joint Graphical Lasso procedure.
rho	Numeric. A step size parameter for the Joint Graphical Lasso procedure. Large values decrease step size.
truncate	Numeric. At convergence, all values of theta below this number will be set to zero.
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
ncores	Numeric. Number of cores to use if working on a multicore system. ncores = 1 implies no parallel processing
simplifyOutput	Logical. If TRUE, only the estimated network will be returned. If FALSE, a much richer output will be returned. See section value.

### Details

The code for the Joint Graphical Lasso procedure was adapted from the R package **JGL**. Some of the code for the cross-validation procedure was adapted from package **parcor**. Some of the code was inspired by package **qgraph**.

### Value

If `simplifyOutput = TRUE`, a list corresponding to the networks estimated in each group is returned. If `simplifyOutput = FALSE`, a list is returned that includes including

network	A list of matrices, each including the standardized partial correlation network for each group
concentrationMatrix	A list of matrices, each including the unstandardized concentration matrix for each group
correlationMatrix	A list of matrices, each including the correlation matrix for each group
InformationCriteria	A vector including the information criteria AIC, BIC and extended BIC (eBIC), plus additional parameters that were used for their computation: the gamma value for eBIC and the values of parameters dec and count.unique
Miscellaneous	A vector including several input parameters that could be important for replicating the results of the analysis

### Author(s)

Giulio Costantini, Sacha Epskamp

## References

- Akaike, H. (1974), "A new look at the statistical model identification", *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 19 (6): 716-723, doi:10.1109/TAC.1974.1100705
- Danaher, P (2013). JGL: Performs the Joint Graphical Lasso for sparse inverse covariance estimation on multiple classes. R package version 2.3. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=JGL>
- Danaher, P., Wang, P., and Witten, D. M. (2014). The joint graphical lasso for inverse covariance estimation across multiple classes. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Statistical Methodology)*, 76(2), 373-397. <http://doi.org/10.1111/rssb.12033>
- Foygel, R., & Drton, M. (2010). Extended Bayesian Information Criteria for Gaussian Graphical Models. In *NIPS* (pp. 604-612). Chicago
- Guo, J., Levina, E., Michailidis, G., & Zhu, J. (2011). Joint estimation of multiple graphical models. *Biometrika*, 98(1), 1-15. <http://doi.org/10.1093/biomet/asq060>
- Schwarz, G. (1978). "Estimating the dimension of a model." *The annals of statistics* 6.2: 461-464.

## See Also

**JGL**, **qgraph**, **parcor**, **covNoBessel**

## Examples

```
# Toy example, two identical networks with two nodes.
# This example is only meant to test the package. The number
# of candidate lambda1 and lambda2 values (nlambda1 and nlambda2) was
# reduced to 2 to speed up computations for CRAN checking.
Sigma <- list()
Sigma[[1]] <- Sigma[[2]] <- matrix(c(1, .5,
                                   .5, 1), nrow = 2)

recovered <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = Sigma, n = c(100, 100),
                                 nlambda1 = 2, nlambda2 = 2, optimize = FALSE)

## Not run:
library("qgraph")
library("parallel")
library("psych")
library("mvtnorm")

ncores <- 1
# uncomment for parallel processing
# ncores <- detectCores() -1

# In this example, the BFI network of males and females are compared
# Load BFI data
data(bfi)

# remove observations with missing values
bfi2 <- bfi[rowSums(is.na(bfi[,1:26])) == 0,]

# Compute correlations:
CorMales <- cor_auto(bfi2[bfi2$gender == 1,1:25])
```

```

CorFemales <- cor_auto(bfi2[bfi2$gender == 2,1:25])

# Estimate JGL:
Res <- EstimateGroupNetwork(list(males = CorMales, females = CorFemales),
                             n = c(sum(bfi2$gender == 1),sum(bfi2$gender == 2)))

# Plot:
Layout <- averageLayout(Res$males,Res$females)
layout(t(1:2))
qgraph(Res$males, layout = Layout, title = "Males (JGL)")
qgraph(Res$females, layout = Layout, title = "Females (JGL)")

# Example with simulated data
# generate three network structures, two are identical and one is different
nets <- list()
nets[[1]] <- matrix(c(0, .3, 0, .3,
                     .3, 0, -.3, 0,
                     0, -.3, 0, .2,
                     .3, 0, .2, 0), nrow = 4)

nets[[2]] <- matrix(c(0, .3, 0, .3,
                     .3, 0, -.3, 0,
                     0, -.3, 0, .2,
                     .3, 0, .2, 0), nrow = 4)

nets[[3]] <- matrix(c(0, .3, 0, 0,
                     .3, 0, -.3, 0,
                     0, -.3, 0, .2,
                     0, 0, .2, 0), nrow = 4)

# optional: plot the original network structures
par(mfcol = c(3, 1))
lapply(nets, qgraph, edge.labels = TRUE)

# generate nobs = 500 observations from each of the three networks
nobs <- 500
nvar <- ncol(nets[[1]])
set.seed(1)
X <- lapply(nets, function(x) as.data.frame(rmvnorm(nobs, sigma = cov2cor(solve(diag(nvar)-x))))))

# use EstimateGroupNetwork for recovering the original structures
recnets <- list()

# using EBICglasso
recnets$glasso <- list()
recnets$glasso[[1]] <- EBICglasso(S = cor(X[[1]]), n = nobs)
recnets$glasso[[2]] <- EBICglasso(S = cor(X[[2]]), n = nobs)
recnets$glasso[[3]] <- EBICglasso(S = cor(X[[3]]), n = nobs)

# Using Akaike information criterion without count.unique option
recnets$AIC1 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",

```

```

criterion = "aic", ncores = ncores)
# Using Akaike information criterion with count.unique option
recnets$AIC2 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
criterion = "aic", ncores = ncores, count.unique = TRUE)
# Using Bayes information criterion without count.unique option
recnets$BIC1 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
criterion = "bic", ncores = ncores)
# Using Bayes information criterion with count.unique option
recnets$BIC2 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
criterion = "bic", ncores = ncores, count.unique = TRUE)
# Using extended Bayes information criterion (gamma = .5 by default)
# without count.unique option
recnets$eBIC1 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
ncores = ncores, criterion = "ebic")
# Using extended Bayes information criterion (gamma = .5 by default) with
# count.unique option
recnets$eBIC2 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
ncores = ncores, criterion = "ebic", count.unique = TRUE)
# Use a more computationally intensive search strategy
recnets$eBIC3 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
ncores = ncores, criterion = "ebic", count.unique = TRUE, strategy = "simultaneous")
# Add also the "optimization" stage, which may or may not improve the results
# (but cannot do any harm either)
recnets$eBIC3 <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "InformationCriterion",
ncores = ncores, criterion = "ebic", count.unique = TRUE, strategy = "simultaneous",
optimize = TRUE)
# Using k-fold crossvalidation (k = 10 by default)
recnets$cv <- EstimateGroupNetwork(X = X, method = "crossvalidation",
ncores = ncores, seed = 1)

# Compare each network with the data generating network using correlations
correl <- data.frame(matrix(nrow = length(recnets), ncol = length(nets)))
row.names(correl) <- names(recnets)

for(i in seq_along(recnets))
{
  for(j in seq_along(nets))
  {
    nt1 <- nets[[j]]
    nt2 <- recnets[[i]][[j]]
    correl[i, j] <- cor(nt1[lower.tri(nt1)], nt2[lower.tri(nt2)])
  }
}
correl

# sort the methods in order of performance in recovering the original network
# notice that this is not a complete simulation and is not indicative of performance
# in settings other than this one
sort(rowMeans(correl))

## End(Not run)

```

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