

Package ‘Mhorseshoe’

May 7, 2026

Title Approximate Algorithm for Horseshoe Prior

Version 0.1.5

Description Provides exact and approximate algorithms for the horseshoe prior in linear regression models, which were proposed by Johndrow et al. (2020) <<https://www.jmlr.org/papers/v21/19-536.html>>.

Encoding UTF-8

Imports stats, Rcpp (>= 1.0.11)

LinkingTo Rcpp

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

License MIT + file LICENSE

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, ggplot2, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

VignetteBuilder knitr

Config/testthat/edition 3

NeedsCompilation yes

Author Kang Mingi [aut, cre],
Lee Kyoungjae [aut]

Maintainer Kang Mingi <leehuimin115@g.skku.edu>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-10-20 10:00:02 UTC

Contents

approx_horseshoe	2
exact_horseshoe	4
Index	7

approx_horseshoe *Run approximate MCMC algorithm for horseshoe prior*

Description

The approximate MCMC algorithm for the horseshoe prior

Usage

```
approx_horseshoe(
  y,
  X,
  burn = 1000,
  iter = 5000,
  auto.threshold = TRUE,
  tau = 1,
  s = 0.8,
  sigma2 = 1,
  alpha = 0.05,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

y	Response vector, $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$.
X	Design matrix, $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$.
burn	Number of burn-in samples. The default is 1000.
iter	Number of samples to be drawn from the posterior. The default is 5000.
auto.threshold	Argument to set whether to use the the adaptive threshold selection method.
tau	Initial value of the global shrinkage parameter τ when starting the algorithm. The default is 1.
s	s^2 is the variance of tau's MH proposal distribution. 0.8 is a good default. If set to 0, the algorithm proceeds by fixing the global shrinkage parameter τ to the initial setting value.
sigma2	Initial value of error variance σ^2 . The default is 1.
alpha	100(1 - α)% credible interval setting argument.
...	There are additional arguments <i>threshold</i> , <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>w</i> , <i>t</i> , <i>p0</i> , and <i>p1</i> . <i>threshold</i> is used when auto.threshold=FALSE is selected and threshold is set directly. The default value is <i>threshold</i> = 1/ <i>p</i> . <i>a</i> and <i>b</i> are arguments of the internal rejection sampler function, and the default values are <i>a</i> = 1/5, <i>b</i> = 10. <i>w</i> is the argument of the prior for σ^2 , and the default value is <i>w</i> = 1. <i>t</i> , <i>p0</i> , and <i>p1</i> are arguments of the adaptive threshold selection method, and the default values are <i>t</i> = 10, <i>p0</i> = 0, <i>p1</i> = -4.6×10^{-4} .

Details

This function implements the approximate algorithm introduced in Section 2.2 of Johndrow et al. (2020) and the method proposed in this package, which improves computation speed when $p \gg N$. The approximate algorithm introduces a threshold and uses only a portion of the total p columns for matrix multiplication, reducing the computational cost compared to the existing MCMC algorithms for the horseshoe prior. The "auto.threshold" argument determines whether the threshold used in the algorithm will be selected by the adaptive method proposed in this package. For more information, browse `Vignettes("Mhorseshoe")`.

Value

BetaHat	Posterior mean of β .
LeftCI	Lower bound of $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ credible interval for β .
RightCI	Upper bound of $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ credible interval for β .
Sigma2Hat	Posterior mean of σ^2 .
TauHat	Posterior mean of τ .
LambdaHat	Posterior mean of λ_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$.
ActiveMean	Average number of elements in the active set per iteration in this algorithm.
BetaSamples	Posterior samples of β .
LambdaSamples	Posterior samples of local shrinkage parameters.
TauSamples	Posterior samples of global shrinkage parameter.
Sigma2Samples	Posterior samples of σ^2 .
ActiveSet	$\mathbb{R}^{iter \times p}$ Matrix indicating active elements as 1 and non-active elements as 0 per iteration of the MCMC algorithm.

References

Johndrow, J., Orenstein, P., & Bhattacharya, A. (2020). Scalable Approximate MCMC Algorithms for the Horseshoe Prior. In *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 21, 1-61.

Examples

```
# Making simulation data.
set.seed(123)
N <- 200
p <- 100
true_beta <- c(rep(1, 10), rep(0, 90))

X <- matrix(1, nrow = N, ncol = p) # Design matrix X.
for (i in 1:p) {
  X[, i] <- stats::rnorm(N, mean = 0, sd = 1)
}

y <- vector(mode = "numeric", length = N) # Response variable y.
e <- rnorm(N, mean = 0, sd = 2) # error term e.
for (i in 1:10) {
```

```

    y <- y + true_beta[i] * X[, i]
  }
y <- y + e

# Run with auto.threshold set to TRUE
result1 <- approx_horseshoe(y, X, burn = 0, iter = 100,
                           auto.threshold = TRUE)

# Run with fixed custom threshold
result2 <- approx_horseshoe(y, X, burn = 0, iter = 100,
                           auto.threshold = FALSE, threshold = 1/(5 * p))

# posterior mean
betahat <- result1$BetaHat

# Lower bound of the 95% credible interval
leftCI <- result1$LeftCI

# Upper bound of the 95% credible interval
RightCI <- result1$RightCI

```

exact_horseshoe

Run exact MCMC algorithm for horseshoe prior

Description

The exact MCMC algorithm for the horseshoe prior introduced in section 2.1 of Johndrow et al. (2020).

Usage

```

exact_horseshoe(
  y,
  X,
  burn = 1000,
  iter = 5000,
  tau = 1,
  s = 0.8,
  sigma2 = 1,
  alpha = 0.05,
  ...
)

```

Arguments

y	Response vector, $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$.
X	Design matrix, $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$.

burn	Number of burn-in samples. The default is 1000.
iter	Number of samples to be drawn from the posterior. The default is 5000.
tau	Initial value of the global shrinkage parameter τ when starting the algorithm. The default is 1.
s	s^2 is the variance of tau's MH proposal distribution. 0.8 is a good default. If set to 0, the algorithm proceeds by fixing the global shrinkage parameter τ to the initial setting value.
sigma2	Initial value of error variance σ^2 . The default is 1.
alpha	100(1 - α)% credible interval setting argument.
...	There are additional arguments <i>threshold</i> , <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , and <i>w</i> . <i>a</i> and <i>b</i> are arguments of the internal rejection sampler function, and the default values are $a = 1/5$, $b = 10$. <i>w</i> is the argument of the prior for σ^2 , and the default value is $w = 1$.

Details

The exact MCMC algorithm introduced in Section 2.1 of Johndrow et al. (2020) is implemented in this function. This algorithm uses a blocked-Gibbs sampler for (τ, β, σ^2) , where the global shrinkage parameter τ is updated by an Metropolis-Hastings algorithm. The local shrinkage parameter λ_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$ is updated by the rejection sampler.

Value

BetaHat	Posterior mean of β .
LeftCI	Lower bound of 100(1 - α)% credible interval for β .
RightCI	Upper bound of 100(1 - α)% credible interval for β .
Sigma2Hat	Posterior mean of σ^2 .
TauHat	Posterior mean of τ .
LambdaHat	Posterior mean of λ_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$.
BetaSamples	Samples from the posterior of β .
LambdaSamples	Lambda samples through rejection sampling.
TauSamples	Tau samples through MH algorithm.
Sigma2Samples	Samples from the posterior of the parameter σ^2 .

References

Johndrow, J., Orenstein, P., & Bhattacharya, A. (2020). Scalable Approximate MCMC Algorithms for the Horseshoe Prior. In *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 21, 1-61.

Examples

```
# Making simulation data.
set.seed(123)
N <- 50
p <- 100
true_beta <- c(rep(1, 10), rep(0, 90))
```

```
X <- matrix(1, nrow = N, ncol = p) # Design matrix X.
for (i in 1:p) {
  X[, i] <- stats::rnorm(N, mean = 0, sd = 1)
}

y <- vector(mode = "numeric", length = N) # Response variable y.
e <- rnorm(N, mean = 0, sd = 2) # error term e.
for (i in 1:10) {
  y <- y + true_beta[i] * X[, i]
}
y <- y + e

# Run exact_horseshoe
result <- exact_horseshoe(y, X, burn = 0, iter = 100)

# posterior mean
betahat <- result$BetaHat

# Lower bound of the 95% credible interval
leftCI <- result$LeftCI

# Upper bound of the 95% credible interval
RightCI <- result$RightCI
```

Index

`approx_horseshoe`, [2](#)

`exact_horseshoe`, [4](#)