

Package ‘bspline’

May 16, 2025

Type Package

Title B-Spline Interpolation and Regression

Version 2.5.0

Description Build and use B-splines for interpolation and regression.

In case of regression, equality constraints as well as monotonicity and/or positivity of B-spline weights can be imposed. Moreover, knot positions can be on regular grid or be part of optimized parameters too (in addition to the spline weights).

For this end, 'bspline' is able to calculate

Jacobian of basis vectors as function of knot positions. User is provided with

functions calculating spline values at arbitrary points. These

functions can be differentiated and integrated to obtain B-splines calculating

derivatives/integrals at any point. B-splines of this package can

simultaneously operate on a series of curves sharing the same set of

knots. 'bspline' is written with concern about computing

performance that's why the basis and Jacobian calculation is implemented in C++.

The rest is implemented in R but without notable impact on computing speed.

URL <https://github.com/MathsCell/bspline>

BugReports <https://github.com/MathsCell/bspline/issues>

License GPL-2

Encoding UTF-8

Imports Rcpp (>= 1.0.7), nlsic (>= 1.1.0), arrApply

LinkingTo Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Suggests RUnit

Copyright INRAE/INSA/CNRS

NeedsCompilation yes

Author Serguei Sokol [aut, cre]

Maintainer Serguei Sokol <sokol@insa-toulouse.fr>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-05-16 16:50:02 UTC

Contents

bcurve	2
bsc	3
bsp	4
bspline	5
bsppar	6
dbsp	7
diffn	7
dmat	8
ibsp	9
iknots	9
imat	10
ipk	11
jacw	11
par2bsp	12
parr	12
pbsc	13
smbbsp	14
Index	17

bcurve	<i>nD B-curve governed by (x,y,...) control points.</i>
--------	---

Description

nD B-curve governed by (x,y,...) control points.

Usage

bcurve(xy, n = 3)

Arguments

- xy Real matrix of (x,y,...) coordinates, one control point per row.
- n Integer scalar, polynomial order of B-spline (3 by default)

Details

The curve will pass by the first and the last points in 'xy'. The tangents at the first and last points will coincide with the first and last segments of control points. Example of signature is inspired from this [blog](#).

Value

Function of one argument calculating B-curve. The argument is supposed to be in [0, 1] interval.

Examples

```
# simulate doctor's signature ;)
set.seed(71);
xy=matrix(rnorm(16), ncol=2)
tp=seq(0,1,len=301)
doc_signtr=bcurve(xy)
plot(doc_signtr(tp), t="l", xaxt='n', yaxt='n', ann=FALSE, frame.plot=FALSE,
      xlim=range(xy[,1]), ylim=range(xy[,2]))
# see where control points are
text(xy, labels=seq(nrow(xy)), col=rgb(0, 0, 0, 0.25))
# join them by segments
lines(bcurve(xy, n=1)(tp), col=rgb(0, 0, 1, 0.25))

# randomly curved wire in 3D space
## Not run:
if (requireNamespace("rgl", quietly=TRUE)) {
  xyz=matrix(rnorm(24),ncol=3)
  tp=seq(0,1,len=201)
  curv3d=bcurve(xyz)
  rgl::plot3d(curv3d(tp), t="l", decorate=FALSE)
}

## End(Not run)
```

bsc	<i>Basis matrix and knot Jacobian for B-spline of order 0 (step function) and higher</i>
-----	--

Description

This function is analogous but not equivalent to `splines:bs()` and `splines2::bSpline()`. It is also several times faster.

Usage

```
bsc(x, xk, n = 3L, cjac = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector, abscissa points
xk	Numeric vector, knots
n	Integer scalar, polynomial order (3 by default)
cjac	Logical scalar, if TRUE makes to calculate Jacobian of basis vectors as function of knot positions (FALSE by default)

Details

For $n=0$, step function is defined as constant on each interval $[x_k[i]; x_k[i+1]]$, i.e. closed on the left and open on the right except for the last interval which is closed on the right too. The Jacobian for step function is considered 0 in every x point even if in points where $x=x_k$, the derivative is not defined.

For $n=1$, Jacobian is discontinuous in such points so for these points we take the derivative from the right.

Value

Numeric matrix (for `cjac=FALSE`), each column correspond to a B-spline calculated on x ; or List (for `cjac=TRUE`) with components

mat basis matrix of dimension $n_x \times n_w$, where n_x is the length of x and $n_w=n_k-n-1$ is the number of basis vectors

jac array of dimension $n_x \times (n+2) \times n_w$ where $n+2$ is the number of support knots for each basis vector

See Also

[`splines::bs()`], [`splines2::bSpline()`]

Examples

```
x=seq(0, 5, length.out=101)
# cubic basis matrix
n=3
m=bsc(x, xk=c(rep(0, n+1), 1:4, rep(5, n+1)), n=n)
matplot(x, m, t="l")
stopifnot(all.equal(numeric(c(m), c(splines::bs(x, knots = 1:4, degree = n, intercept = TRUE)))))
```

bsp

Calculate B-spline values from their coefficients qw and knots xk

Description

Calculate B-spline values from their coefficients qw and knots xk

Usage

```
bsp(x, xk, qw, n = 3L)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector, abscissa points at which B-splines should be calculated. They are supposed to be non decreasing.
xk	Numeric vector, knots of the B-splines. They are supposed to be non decreasing.
qw	Numeric vector or matrix, coefficients of B-splines. <code>NROW(qw)</code> must be equal to <code>length(xk)-n-1</code> where n is the next parameter
n	Integer scalar, polynomial order of B-splines, by default cubic splines are calculated.

Details

This function does nothing else than calculate a dot-product between a B-spline basis matrix calculated by `bsc()` and coefficients `qw`. If `qw` is a matrix, each column corresponds to a separate set of coefficients. For `x` values falling outside of `xk` range, the B-splines values are set to 0. To get a function calculating spline values at arbitrary points from `xk` and `qw`, cf. `par2bsp()`.

Value

Numeric matrix (column number depends on `qw` dimensions), B-spline values on `x`.

See Also

[`bsc`], [`par2bsp`]

bspline

bspline: build and use B-splines for interpolation and regression.

Description

Build and use B-splines for interpolation and regression. In case of regression, equality constraints as well as monotonicity requirement can be imposed. Moreover, knot positions (not only spline coefficients) can be part of optimized parameters too. User is provided with functions calculating spline values at arbitrary points. This functions can be differentiated to obtain B-splines calculating derivatives at any point. B-splines of this package can simultaneously operate on a series of curves sharing the same set of knots. 'bspline' is written with concern about computing performance that's why the basis calculation is implemented in C++. The rest is implemented in R but without notable impact on computing speed.

bspline functions

`bsc`: basis matrix (implemented in C++)
`bsp`: values of B-spline from its coefficients
`dbsp`: derivative of B-spline
`par2bsp`: build B-spline function from parameters
`bspapar`: retrieve B-spline parameters from its function

smbsp: build smoothing B-spline

fitsmbsp: build smoothing B-spline with optimized knot positions

diffn: finite differences

Author(s)

Maintainer: Serguei Sokol <sokol@insa-toulouse.fr>

See Also

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/MathsCell/bspline>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/MathsCell/bspline/issues>

bsppar

Retrieve parameters of B-splines

Description

Retrieve parameters of B-splines

Usage

bsppar(f)

Arguments

f Function, B-splines such that returned by par3bsp(), smbsp(), ...

Value

List having components: n - polynomial order, qw - coefficients, xk - knots

dbsp	<i>Derivative of B-spline</i>
------	-------------------------------

Description

Derivative of B-spline

Usage

```
dbsp(f, nderiv = 1L, same_xk = FALSE)
```

Arguments

f	Function, B-spline such as returned by <code>smbasp()</code> or <code>par2bsp()</code>
nderiv	Integer scalar ≥ 0 , order of derivative to calculate (1 by default)
same_xk	Logical scalar, if TRUE, indicates to calculate derivative on the same knot grid as original function. In this case, coefficient number will be incremented by 2. Otherwise, extreme knots are removed on each side of the grid and coefficient number is maintained (FALSE by default).

Value

Function calculating requested derivative

Examples

```
x=seq(0., 1., length.out=11L)
y=sin(2*pi*x)
f=smbasp(x, y, nki=2L)
d_f=dbsp(f)
xf=seq(0., 1., length.out=101) # fine grid for plotting
plot(xf, d_f(xf)) # derivative estimated by B-splines
lines(xf, 2*pi*cos(2*pi*xf), col="blue") # true derivative
xk=bsppar(d_f)$xk
points(xk, d_f(xk), pch="x", col="red") # knot positions
```

diffn	<i>Finite differences</i>
-------	---------------------------

Description

Calculate dy/dx where x,y are first and the rest of columns in the entry matrix 'm'

Usage

```
diffn(m, ndiff = 1L)
```

Arguments

m	2- or more-column numeric matrix
ndiff	Integer scalar, order of finite difference (1 by default)

Value

Numeric matrix, first column is midpoints of x, the second and following are dy/dx

dmat	<i>Differentiation matrix of B-spline</i>
------	---

Description

Calculate matrix for obtaining coefficients of first-derivative B-spline. They can be calculated as $dqw = Md \% \% qw$. Here, dqw are coefficients of the first derivative, Md is the matrix returned by this function, and qw are the coefficients of differentiated B-spline.

Usage

```
dmat(nqw = NULL, xk = NULL, n = NULL, f = NULL, same_xk = FALSE, nderiv = 1L)
```

Arguments

nqw	Integer scalar, row number of qw matrix (i.e. degree of freedom of a B-spline)
xk	Numeric vector, knot positions
n	Integer scalar, B-spline polynomial order
f	Function from which previous parameters can be retrieved. If both f and any of previous parameters are given then explicitly set parameters take precedence over those retrieved from f.
same_xk	Logical scalar, the same meaning as in dbsp
nderiv	Integer scalar, order of differentiation (default 1)

Value

Numeric matrix of size $nqw-1 \times nqw$

ibsp	<i>Indefinite integral of B-spline</i>
------	--

Description

Indefinite integral of B-spline

Usage

```
ibsp(f, const = 0, nint = 1L)
```

Arguments

f	Function, B-spline such as returned by <code>smbasp()</code> or <code>par2bsp()</code>
const	Numeric scalar or vector of length <code>ncol(qw)</code> where <code>qw</code> is weight matrix of <code>f</code> . Defines starting value of weights for indefinite integral (0 by default).
nint	Integer scalar ≥ 0 , defines how many times to take integral (1 by default)

Details

If `f` is B-spline, then following identity is held: `dbsp(ibsp(f))` is identical to `f`. Generally, it does not work in the other sens: `ibsp(dbasp(f))` is not `f` but not very far. If we can get an appropriate constant $C=f(\min(x))$ then we can assert that `ibsp(dbasp(f), const=C)` is the same as `f`.

Value

Function calculating requested integral

iknots	<i>Estimate internal knot positions equalizing jumps in n-th derivative</i>
--------	---

Description

Normalized total variation of n -th finite differences is calculated for each column in `y` then averaged. These averaged values are smoothed (if requested) and sampled to find knot positions which equalize the jumps of n -th derivative. If any of found knots fall inside a same `x` interval, TV is smoothed till no such situation occurs.

Usage

```
iknots(x, y, nki = 1L, n = 3L, lenfit = 12L, smooth = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector
y	Numeric vector or matrix
nki	Integer scalar, number of internal knots to estimate (1 by default)
n	Integer scalar, polynomial order of B-spline (3 by default)
lenfit	Integer scalar, length of knots for linear spline to fit the total variation if greater than 0, otherwise full linear interpolation is used (12 by default)
smooth	Logical scalar, should total variation be smoothed? (FALSE by default)

Value

Numeric vector, estimated knot positions

imat	<i>Integration matrix of B-spline</i>
------	---------------------------------------

Description

Calculate matrix for obtaining coefficients of indefinite integral of B-spline. They can be calculated as `iqw=Mi %*% qw`. Here, `iqw` are coefficients of the indefinite integral of B-spline, `Mi` is the matrix returned by this function, and `qw` are the coefficients of integrated B-spline. As per the nature of the indefinite integral, this coefficients are defined up to arbitrary additive constant.

Usage

```
imat(nqw = NULL, xk = NULL, n = NULL, f = NULL)
```

Arguments

nqw	Integer scalar, row number of <code>qw</code> matrix (i.e. degree of freedom of a B-spline)
xk	Numeric vector, knot positions
n	Integer scalar, B-spline polynomial order
f	Function from which previous parameters can be retrieved. If both <code>f</code> and any of previous parameters are given then explicitly set parameters take precedence over those retrieved from <code>f</code> .

Value

Numeric matrix of size `nqw+1 x qw`

ipk	<i>Intervals of points in knot intervals</i>
-----	--

Description

Find first and last+1 indexes iip s.t. $x[iip]$ belongs to interval starting at $xk[iik]$

Usage

```
ipk(x, xk)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric vector, abscissa points (must be non decreasing)
xk	Numeric vector, knots (must be non decreasing)

Value

Integer matrix of size $(2 \times \text{length}(xk)-1)$. Indexes are 0-based

jacw	<i>Knot Jacobian of B-spline with weights</i>
------	---

Description

Knot Jacobian of B-spline with weights

Usage

```
jacw(jac, qws)
```

Arguments

jac	Numeric array, such as returned by <code>bsc(..., cjac=TRUE)</code>
qws	Numeric matrix, each column is a set of weights forming a B-spline. If qws is a vector, it is coerced to 1-column matrix.

Value

Numeric array of size $n_x \times \text{ncol}(qw) \times n_k$, where $n_x = \text{dim}(jac)[1]$ and n_k is the number of knots $\text{dim}(jac)[3]+n+1$ (n being polynomial order).

par2bsp	<i>Convert parameters to B-spline function</i>
---------	--

Description

Convert parameters to B-spline function

Usage

```
par2bsp(n, qw, xk, covqw = NULL, sdy = NULL, sdqw = NULL)
```

Arguments

n	Integer scalar, polynomial order of B-splines
qw	Numeric vector or matrix, coefficients of B-splines, one set per column in case of matrix
xk	Numeric vector, knots
covqw	Numeric Matrix, covariance matrix of qw (can be estimated in smbbsp).
sdy	Numeric vector, SD of each y column (can be estimated in smbbsp).
sdqw	Numeric Matrix, SD of qw thus having the same dimension as qw (can be estimated in smbbsp).

Value

Function, calculating B-splines at arbitrary points and having interface `f(x, select, fsd=0.)` where `x` is a vector of abscissa points. Parameter `select` is passed to `qw[, select, drop=FALSE]` and can be missing or `NULL` in which case all columns of `qw` are used. `fsd` is a factor for SD to be added to the B-spline. Column names in the result matrix returned by `f()` will be inherited from `qw`.

parr	<i>Polynomial formulation of B-spline</i>
------	---

Description

Polynomial formulation of B-spline

Usage

```
parr(xk, n = 3L)
```

Arguments

xk	Numeric vector, knots
n	Integer scalar, polynomial order (3 by default)

Value

Numeric 3D array, the first index runs through $n+1$ polynomial coefficients; the second – through $n+1$ supporting intervals; and the last one through $nk-n-1$ B-splines (here $nk=length(xk)$). Knot interval of length 0 will have corresponding coefficients set to 0.

pbsc

Polynomial B-spline Calculation of Basis Matrix

Description

Polynomial B-spline Calculation of Basis Matrix

Usage

```
pbsc(x, xk, coeffs)
```

Arguments

x	Numeric,vector, abscissa points
xk	Numeric vector, knots
coeffs	Numeric 3D array, polynomial coefficients such as calculated by parr

Details

Polynomials are calculated recursively by Cox-de Boor formula. However, it is not applied to final values but to polynomial coefficients. Multiplication by a linear functions gives a raise of polynomial degree by 1.

Polynomial coefficients stored in the first dimension of coeffs are used as in the following formula $p[1]*x^n + p[1]*x^{(n-1)} + \dots + p[n+1]$.

Resulting matrix is the same as returned by `bsc(x, xk, n=dim(coeffs)[1]-1)`

Value

Numeric matrix, basis vectors, one per column. Row number is `length(x)`.

See Also

[bsc](#)

Examples

```
n=3
x=seq(0, 5, length.out=101)
xk=c(rep(0, n+1), 1:4, rep(5, n+1))
# cubic polynomial coefficients
coeffs=parr(xk)
# basis matrix
```

```

m=pbsc(x, xk, coeffs)
matplot(x, m, t="l")
stopifnot(all.equal(numeric(c(m), c(bsc(x, xk))))))

```

smbbsp

Smoothing B-spline of order $n \geq 0$

Description

Optimize smoothing B-spline coefficients (smbbsp) and knot positions (fitsmbbsp) such that residual squared sum is minimized for all y columns.

Usage

```

smbbsp(
  x,
  y,
  n = 3L,
  xki = NULL,
  nki = 1L,
  lieq = NULL,
  monotone = 0,
  positive = 0,
  mat = NULL,
  estSD = FALSE,
  tol = 1e-10,
  regular_grid = FALSE
)

```

```

fitsmbbsp(
  x,
  y,
  n = 3L,
  xki = NULL,
  nki = 1L,
  lieq = NULL,
  monotone = 0,
  positive = 0,
  control = list(),
  estSD = FALSE,
  tol = 1e-10,
  regular_grid = FALSE
)

```

Arguments

x Numeric vector, abscissa points

y	Numeric vector or matrix or data.frame, ordinate values to be smoothed (one set per column in case of matrix or data.frame)
n	Integer scalar, polynomial order of B-splines (3 by default)
xki	Numeric vector, strictly internal B-spline knots, i.e. lying strictly inside of x bounds. If NULL (by default), they are estimated with the help of <code>iknots()</code> . This vector is used as initial approximation during optimization process. Must be non decreasing if not NULL.
nki	Integer scalar, internal knot number (1 by default). When <code>nki==0</code> , it corresponds to polynomial regression. If <code>xki</code> is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
lieq	List, equality constraints to respect by the smoothing spline, one list item per y column. By default (NULL), no constraint is imposed. Constraints are given as a 2-column matrix (<code>xe</code> , <code>ye</code>) where for each <code>xe</code> , an <code>ye</code> value is imposed. If a list item is NULL, no constraint is imposed on corresponding y column.
monotone	Numeric scalar or vector, if <code>monotone > 0</code> , resulting B-spline weights must be increasing; if <code>monotone < 0</code> , B-spline weights must be decreasing; if <code>monotone == 0</code> (default), no constraint on monotonicity is imposed. If 'monotone' is a vector it must be of length <code>ncol(y)</code> , in which case each component indicates the constraint for corresponding column of y.
positive	Numeric scalar, if <code>positive > 0</code> , resulting B-spline weights must be ≥ 0 ; if <code>positive < 0</code> , B-spline weights must be decreasing; if <code>positive == 0</code> (default), no constraint on positivity is imposed. If 'positive' is a vector it must be of length <code>ncol(y)</code> , in which case each component indicates the constraint for corresponding column of y.
mat	Numeric matrix of basis vectors, if NULL it is recalculated by <code>bsc()</code> . If provided, it is the responsibility of the user to ensure that this matrix be adequate to <code>xki</code> vector.
estSD	Logical scalar, if TRUE, indicates to calculate: SD of each y column, covariance matrix and SD of spline coefficients. All these values can be retrieved with <code>bsppar()</code> call (FALSE by default). These estimations are made under assumption that all y points have uncorrelated noise. Optional constraints are not taken into account of SD.
tol	Numerical scalar, relative tolerance for small singular values that should be considered as 0 if <code>s[i] <= tol*s[1]</code> . This parameter is ignored if <code>estSD=FALSE</code> (1.e-10 by default).
regular_grid	Logical scalar, should regular knot grid be used when <code>xki=NULL</code> (FALSE by default)
control	List, passed through to <code>nlsic()</code> call

Details

If constraints are set, we use `nlsic::lsie_ln()` to solve a least squares problem with equality constraints in least norm sens for each y column. Otherwise, `nlsic::ls_ln_svd()` is used for the whole y matrix. The solution of least squares problem is a vector of B-splines coefficients `qw`, one vector per y column. These vectors are used to define B-spline function which is returned as the result.

NB. When $nki \geq \text{length}(x) - n - 1$ (be it from direct setting or calculated from $\text{length}(xki)$), it corresponds to spline interpolation, i.e. the resulting spline will pass exactly by (x,y) points (well, up to numerical precision).

Border and external knots are fixed, only strictly internal knots can move during optimization. The optimization process is constrained to respect a minimal distance between knots as well as to bound them to x range. This is done to avoid knots getting unsorted during iterations and/or going outside of a meaningful range.

Value

Function, smoothing B-splines respecting optional constraints (generated by `par2bsp()`).

See Also

`bsppar` for retrieving parameters of B-spline functions; `par2bsp` for generating B-spline function; `iknots` for estimation of knot positions

Examples

```
x=seq(0, 1, length.out=11)
y=sin(pi*x)+rnorm(x, sd=0.1)
# constraint B-spline to be 0 at the interval ends
fsm=smbbsp(x, y, nki=1, lieq=list(rbind(c(0, 0), c(1, 0))))
# check parameters of found B-splines
bsppar(fsm)
plot(x, y) # original "measurements"
# fine grained x
xfine=seq(0, 1, length.out=101)
lines(xfine, fsm(xfine)) # fitted B-splines
lines(xfine, sin(pi*xfine), col="blue") # original function
# visualize knot positions
xk=bsppar(fsm)$xk
points(xk, fsm(xk), pch="x", col="red")
# fit broken line with linear B-splines
x1=seq(0, 1, length.out=11)
x2=seq(1, 3, length.out=21)
x3=seq(3, 4, length.out=11)
y1=x1+rnorm(x1, sd=0.1)
y2=-2+3*x2+rnorm(x2, sd=0.1)
y3=4+x3+rnorm(x3, sd=0.1)
x=c(x1, x2, x3)
y=c(y1, y2, y3)
plot(x, y)
f=fitsmbbsp(x, y, n=1, nki=2)
lines(x, f(x))
```


Index

bcurve, [2](#)
bsc, [3](#), [13](#)
bsp, [4](#)
bspline, [5](#)
bspline-package (bspline), [5](#)
bsppar, [6](#)

dbsp, [7](#), [8](#)
diffn, [7](#)
dmat, [8](#)

fitsmbasp (smbasp), [14](#)

ibsp, [9](#)
iknots, [9](#)
imat, [10](#)
ipk, [11](#)

jacw, [11](#)

par2bsp, [12](#)
parr, [12](#), [13](#)
pbsc, [13](#)

smbasp, [12](#), [14](#)