

Package ‘bases’

May 29, 2025

Title Basis Expansions for Regression Modeling

Version 0.1.2

Description Provides various basis expansions for flexible regression modeling, including random Fourier features (Rahimi & Recht, 2007) <https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper_files/paper/2007/file/013a006f03dbc5392effeb8f18fda755-Paper.pdf>, exact kernel / Gaussian process feature maps, Bayesian Additive Regression Trees (BART) (Chipman et al., 2010) <[doi:10.1214/09-AOAS285](https://doi.org/10.1214/09-AOAS285)> prior features, and a helpful interface for n-way interactions. The provided functions may be used within any modeling formula, allowing the use of kernel methods and other basis expansions in modeling functions that do not otherwise support them. Along with the basis expansions, a number of kernel functions are also provided, which support kernel arithmetic to form new kernels. Basic ridge regression functionality is included as well.

Depends R (>= 3.6.0)

Imports rlang, stats

Suggests recipes, tibble, testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown

LinkingTo cpp11

License MIT + file LICENSE

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

VignetteBuilder knitr

Config/testthat/edition 3

URL <https://corymccartan.com/bases/>,
<https://github.com/CoryMcCartan/bases/>

BugReports <https://github.com/CoryMcCartan/bases/issues>

NeedsCompilation yes

Author Cory McCartan [aut, cre, cph] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6251-669X>>)

Maintainer Cory McCartan <mccartan@psu.edu>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-05-29 19:40:27 UTC

Contents

b_bart	2
b_inter	4
b_ker	5
b_rff	6
kernel-arith	8
kernels	9
ridge	10
step_basis	11

Index **14**

b_bart	<i>Bayesian Additive Regression Tree (BART) features</i>
--------	--

Description

Generates random features from a BART prior on symmetric trees. Equivalently, the features are the interaction of a small number of indicator functions. The number of interacted indicators is the depth of the symmetric tree, and is drawn from a prior on the tree depth which is calibrated to match the traditional BART prior of Chipman et al. (2010). The variable at each tree node is selected uniformly, and thresholds are selected uniformly from the range of each variable.

Usage

```
b_bart(
  ...,
  trees = 100,
  depths = bart_depth_prior()(trees),
  vars = NULL,
  thresh = NULL,
  drop = NULL,
  ranges = NULL
)
```

```
bart_depth_prior(mean_depth = 1.25)
```

Arguments

...	The variable(s) to build features for. A single data frame or matrix may be provided as well. Missing values are not allowed.
trees	The number of trees to sample.

depths	The depths of each tree. By default, these are drawn from a Poisson distribution calibrated to produce trees with around 2.5 leaves, on average, matching the traditional BART prior.
vars	Integer indices of the variables to use for each tree. If provided, overrides those generated automatically by sampling uniformly from the available input features. Provided in flat form, so should have length equal to <code>sum(depths)</code> .
thresh	The thresholds for each variable. If provided, overrides those generated automatically by sampling uniformly from ranges, which defaults to the range of each input feature. Provided in flat form, so should have length equal to <code>sum(depths)</code> .
drop	Columns in the calculated indicator matrix to drop. By default, any leaves which match zero input rows are dropped. If provided, overrides this default.
ranges	The range of the input features, provided as a matrix with two rows and a column for each input feature. The first row is the minimum and the second row is the maximum.
mean_depth	The mean prior depth of each tree, where a single node has depth zero and a two-leaf tree has depth 1. This value minus one becomes the rate parameter of a Poisson distribution, whose samples are then shifted up by one. In this way, no zero-depth trees (which produce trivial features) are sampled.

Value

A matrix of indicator variables encoding the random features.

Functions

- `bart_depth_prior()`: Poisson depth prior for random trees, parametrized in terms of mean tree depth. Returns a function which generates samples from the prior with argument giving the number of samples. The default prior closely matches the average number of leaves in the original (asymmetric) BART prior.

References

Hugh A. Chipman. Edward I. George. Robert E. McCulloch. "BART: Bayesian additive regression trees." *Ann. Appl. Stat.* 4 (1) 266 - 298, March 2010. <https://doi.org/10.1214/09-AOAS285>

Examples

```
X = with(mtcars, b_bart(cyl, disp, hp, drat, wt, trees = 50))
all(colSums(X) > 0) # TRUE; empty leaves are pruned away
# each row belongs to 1 leaf node per tree; some trees pruned away
all(rowSums(X) == rowSums(X)[1]) # TRUE
all(rowSums(X) <= 50) # TRUE

x = 1:150
y = as.numeric(BJsales)
m = ridge(y ~ b_bart(x, trees=25))
plot(x, y)
lines(x, fitted(m), type="s", col="blue")
```

b_inter

N-way interaction basis

Description

Generates a design matrix that contains all possible interactions of the input variables up to a specified maximum depth. The default "symbox" standardization, which maps inputs to $[-0.5, 0.5]^d$, is strongly recommended, as it means that the interaction terms will have smaller variance and thus be penalized more by methods like the Lasso or ridge regression (see Gelman et al., 2008).

Usage

```
b_inter(
  ...,
  depth = 2,
  stdize = c("symbox", "box", "scale", "none"),
  shift = NULL,
  scale = NULL
)
```

Arguments

...	The variable(s) to build features for. A single data frame or matrix may be provided as well. Missing values are not allowed.
depth	The maximum interaction depth. The default is 2, which means that all pairwise interactions are included.
stdize	How to standardize the predictors, if at all. The default "scale" applies <code>scale()</code> to the input so that the features have mean zero and unit variance, "box" scales the data along each dimension to lie in the unit hypercube, and "symbox" scales the data along each dimension to lie in $[-0.5, 0.5]^d$.
shift	Vector of shifts, or single shift value, to use. If provided, overrides those calculated according to <code>stdize</code> .
scale	Vector of scales, or single scale value, to use. If provided, overrides those calculated according to <code>stdize</code> .

Value

A matrix with the rescaled and interacted features.

References

Gelman, A., Jakulin, A., Pittau, M. G., & Su, Y. S. (2008). A weakly informative default prior distribution for logistic and other regression models.

Examples

```
# default: all pairwise interactions
lm(mpg ~ b_inter(cyl, hp, wt), mtcars)

# how number of features depends on interaction depth
for (d in 2:6) {
  X = with(mtcars, b_inter(cyl, disp, hp, drat, wt, depth=d))
  print(ncol(X))
}
```

b_ker

*Exact kernel feature basis***Description**

Generates a design matrix that exactly represents a provided kernel, so that the Gram matrix is equal to the kernel matrix. The feature map is

$$\phi(x') = K_{x,x}^{-1/2} k_{x,x'}$$

where $K_{x,x}$ is the kernel matrix for the data points x and $k_{x,x'}$ is the vector of kernel function evaluations at the data points and the new value. While exact, this function is not particularly computationally efficient. Both fitting and prediction require backsolving the Cholesky decomposition of the kernel matrix for the original data points.

Usage

```
b_ker(
  ...,
  kernel = k_rbf(),
  stdize = c("scale", "box", "symbox", "none"),
  x = NULL,
  shift = NULL,
  scale = NULL
)
```

Arguments

... The variable(s) to build features for. A single data frame or matrix may be provided as well. Missing values are not allowed.

kernel A kernel function. If one of the recognized kernel functions such as `k_rbf()` is provided, then the computations will be exact. Otherwise, the fast Fourier transform of the provided kernel function is used to generate the random features. The kernel should be shift-invariant and decay to zero at positive and negative infinity.

stdize	How to standardize the predictors, if at all. The default "scale" applies scale() to the input so that the features have mean zero and unit variance, "box" scales the data along each dimension to lie in the unit hypercube, and "symbox" scales the data along each dimension to lie in $[-0.5, 0.5]^d$.
x	The (training) data points at which to evaluate the kernel. If provided, overrides
shift	Vector of shifts, or single shift value, to use. If provided, overrides those calculated according to stdize.
scale	Vector of scales, or single scale value, to use. If provided, overrides those calculated according to stdize.

Value

A matrix of kernel features.

Examples

```
data(quakes)

# exact kernel ridge regression
k = k_rbf(0.1)
m = ridge(depth ~ b_ker(lat, long, kernel = k), quakes)
cor(fitted(m), quakes$depth)^2

# Forecasting example involving combined kernels
data(AirPassengers)
x = seq(1949, 1961 - 1/12, 1/12)
y = as.numeric(AirPassengers)
x_pred = seq(1961 - 1/2, 1965, 1/12)

k = k_per(scale = 0.2, period = 1) * k_rbf(scale = 4)
m = ridge(y ~ b_ker(x, kernel = k, stdize="none"))
plot(x, y, type='l', xlab="Year", ylab="Passengers (thousands)",
      xlim=c(1949, 1965), ylim=c(100, 800))
lines(x_pred, predict(m, newdata = list(x = x_pred)), lty="dashed")
```

b_rff

Random Fourier feature basis

Description

Generates a random Fourier feature basis matrix for a provided kernel, optionally rescaling the data to lie in the unit hypercube. A good review of random features is the Liu et al. (2021) review paper cited below. Random features here are of the form

$$\phi(x) = \cos(\omega^T x + b),$$

where ω is a vector of frequencies sampled from the Fourier transform of the kernel, and $b \sim \text{Unif}[-\pi, \pi]$ is a random phase shift. The input data x may be shifted and rescaled before the feature mapping is applied, according to the stdize argument.

Usage

```

b_rff(
  ...,
  p = 100,
  kernel = k_rbf(),
  stdize = c("scale", "box", "symbox", "none"),
  n_approx = nextn(4 * p),
  freqs = NULL,
  phases = NULL,
  shift = NULL,
  scale = NULL
)

```

Arguments

...	The variable(s) to build features for. A single data frame or matrix may be provided as well. Missing values are not allowed.
p	The number of random features.
kernel	A kernel function. If one of the recognized kernel functions such as <code>k_rbf()</code> is provided, then the computations will be exact. Otherwise, the fast Fourier transform of the provided kernel function is used to generate the random features. The kernel should be shift-invariant and decay to zero at positive and negative infinity.
stdize	How to standardize the predictors, if at all. The default "scale" applies <code>scale()</code> to the input so that the features have mean zero and unit variance, "box" scales the data along each dimension to lie in the unit hypercube, and "symbox" scales the data along each dimension to lie in $[-0.5, 0.5]^d$.
n_approx	The number of discrete frequencies to use in calculating the Fourier transform of the provided kernel. Not used for certain kernels for which an analytic Fourier transform is available; see above.
freqs	Matrix of frequencies to use; <code>ncol(freqs)</code> must match the number of predictors. If provided, overrides those calculated automatically, thus ignoring p and kernel.
phases	Vector of phase shifts to use. If provided, overrides those calculated automatically, thus ignoring p and kernel.
shift	Vector of shifts, or single shift value, to use. If provided, overrides those calculated according to stdize.
scale	Vector of scales, or single scale value, to use. If provided, overrides those calculated according to stdize.

Details

To reduce the variance of the approximation, a moment-matching transformation is applied to ensure the sampled frequencies have mean zero, per Shen et al. (2017). For the Gaussian/RBF kernel, second moment-matching is also applied to ensure the analytical and empirical frequency covariance matrices agree.

Value

A matrix of random Fourier features.

References

Rahimi, A., & Recht, B. (2007). *Random features for large-scale kernel machines*. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 20.

Liu, F., Huang, X., Chen, Y., & Suykens, J. A. (2021). Random features for kernel approximation: A survey on algorithms, theory, and beyond. *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 44(10), 7128-7148.

Shen, W., Yang, Z., & Wang, J. (2017, February). Random features for shift-invariant kernels with moment matching. In *Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence* (Vol. 31, No. 1).

Examples

```
data(quakes)

m = ridge(depth ~ b_rff(lat, long), quakes)
plot(fitted(m), quakes$depth)

# more random feaues means a higher ridge penalty
m500 = ridge(depth ~ b_rff(lat, long, p = 500), quakes)
c(default = m$penalty, p500 = m500$penalty)

# A shorter length scale fits the data better (R^2)
m_025 = ridge(depth ~ b_rff(lat, long, kernel = k_rbf(scale = 0.25)), quakes)
c(
  len_1 = cor(quakes$depth, fitted(m))^2,
  len_025 = cor(quakes$depth, fitted(m_025))^2
)
```

kernel-arith

Kernel arithmetic

Description

Kernel functions (see [?kernels](#)) may be multiplied by constants, multiplied by each other, or added together.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'kernel'
x * k2

## S3 method for class 'kernel'
k1 + k2
```


Arguments

x	a numeric or a kernel function
k2	a kernel function
k1	a kernel function

Value

A new kernel function, with class `c("kernel", "function")`.

Examples

```
x = seq(-1, 1, 0.5)
k = k_rbf()
k2 = k_per(scale=0.2, period=0.3)

k_add = k2 + 0.5*k
print(k_add)
image(k_add(x, x))
```

kernels

Kernel functions

Description

These functions return vectorized kernel functions that can be used to calculate kernel matrices, or provided directly to other basis functions. These functions are designed to take a maximum value of one when identical inputs are provided. Kernels can be combined with arithmetic expressions; see [?kernel-arith](#).

Usage

```
k_rbf(scale = 1)

k_lapl(scale = 1)

k_rq(scale = 1, alpha = 2)

k_matern(scale = 1, nu = 1.5)

k_per(scale = 1, period = 1)
```

Arguments

scale	The kernel length scale.
alpha	The shape/df parameter. $\alpha = 1$ is the Cauchy kernel.
nu	The smoothness parameter. $\nu = 0.5$ is the Ornstein–Uhlenbeck kernel.
period	The period, in the same units as scale.

Value

A function which calculates a kernel matrix for vector arguments x and y . The function has class `c("kernel", "function")`.

Functions

- `k_rbf()`: Radial basis function kernel
- `k_lapl()`: Laplace kernel
- `k_rq()`: Rational quadratic kernel.
- `k_matern()`: Matérn kernel.
- `k_per()`: Periodic (exp-sine-squared) kernel.

Examples

```
k = k_rbf()
x = seq(-1, 1, 0.5)
k(0, 0)
k(0, x)
k(x, x)

k = k_per(scale=0.2, period=0.3)
round(k(x, x))
```

ridge

Ridge regression

Description

Lightweight routine for ridge regression, fitted via a singular value decomposition. The penalty may be automatically determined by leave-one-out cross validation. The intercept term is unpenalized.

Usage

```
ridge(formula, data, penalty = "auto", ...)

## S3 method for class 'ridge'
fitted(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'ridge'
coef(object, ...)

## S3 method for class 'ridge'
predict(object, newdata, ...)
```

Arguments

formula	A model formula; see formula . The intercept term is unpenalized; to fit a penalized intercept, remove the intercept and add your own to the design matrix.
data	An optional data frame or object in which to interpret the variables occurring in formula.
penalty	The ridge penalty. Must be a single numeric or the string "auto", in which case the penalty will be determined via leave-one-out cross validation to minimize the mean squared error.
...	Further arguments, passed on to model.frame() and model.matrix() . These must be provided to predict.ridge() as well, if used.
object	A fitted ridge() model.
newdata	A data frame containing the new data to predict

Value

An object of class `ridge` with components including:

- `coef`, a vector of coefficients.
- `fitted`, a vector of fitted values.
- `penalty`, the penalty value.

Methods (by generic)

- `fitted(ridge)`: Fitted values
- `coef(ridge)`: Coefficients
- `predict(ridge)`: Predicted values

Examples

```
m_lm = lm(mpg ~ ., mtcars)
m_ridge = ridge(mpg ~ ., mtcars, penalty=1e3)
plot(fitted(m_lm), fitted(m_ridge), ylim=c(10, 30))
abline(a=0, b=1, col="red")
```

step_basis

Recipe step for basis expansions

Description

`step_basis()` is a single function that creates a *specification* of a recipe step that will create new columns that are basis expansions, using any of the basis expansion functions in this package.

Usage

```
step_basis(
  recipe,
  ...,
  role = NA,
  trained = FALSE,
  fn = NULL,
  options = list(),
  object = NULL,
  prefix = deparse(substitute(fn)),
  skip = FALSE,
  id = recipes::rand_id("basis")
)
```

Arguments

recipe	A recipe object.
...	One or more selector functions to choose variables for this step. See recipes::selections() for more details.
role	For model terms created by this step, what analysis role should they be assigned? By default, the new columns created by this step from the original variables will be used as predictors in a model.
trained	A logical to indicate if the quantities for preprocessing have been estimated.
fn	The basis function to use, e.g., b_rff() .
options	A list of options for the basis function fn.
object	The basis object created once the step has been trained.
prefix	The prefix to use for the new column names. Numbers will be appended, per recipes::names0() , to create column names.
skip	A logical. Should the step be skipped when the recipe is baked by recipes::bake() ?
id	A character string that is unique to this step to identify it.

Value

An updated version of recipe with the new step added to the sequence of any existing operations.

Tuning Parameters

There are no tuning parameters made available to the `tunable` interface.

Case Weights

The underlying operation does not use case weights.

Examples

```
rec = recipes::recipe(depth ~ lat + long + mag, quakes)
rec_rff = step_basis(rec, lat, long, fn = b_rff,
                    options = list(p = 5, kernel = k_rbf(2), stdize="none"))
recipes::bake(recipes::prep(rec_rff), new_data=NULL)
```

Index

- * **interfaces**
 - step_basis, 11
- * **kernels**
 - kernel-arith, 8
 - kernels, 9
- *.kernel (kernel-arith), 8
- +.kernel (kernel-arith), 8
- ?kernels, 8

- b_bart, 2
- b_inter, 4
- b_ker, 5
- b_rff, 6
- b_rff(), 12
- bart_depth_prior (b_bart), 2

- coef.ridge (ridge), 10

- fitted.ridge (ridge), 10
- formula, 11

- k_lapl (kernels), 9
- k_matern (kernels), 9
- k_per (kernels), 9
- k_rbf (kernels), 9
- k_rbf(), 5, 7
- k_rq (kernels), 9
- kernel-arith, 8
- kernels, 9

- model.frame(), 11
- model.matrix(), 11

- predict.ridge (ridge), 10
- predict.ridge(), 11

- recipes::bake(), 12
- recipes::names0(), 12
- recipes::selections(), 12
- ridge, 10
- ridge(), 11

- step_basis, 11