

# Package ‘limSolve’

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**Version** 1.5.7.1

**Title** Solving Linear Inverse Models

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**Depends** R (>= 2.10)

**Imports** quadprog, lpSolve, MASS

**Description** Functions that (1) find the minimum/maximum of a linear or quadratic function:  
min or max (f(x)), where  $f(x) = \|Ax-b\|^2$  or  $f(x) = \sum(a_i*x_i)$   
subject to equality constraints  $Ex=f$  and/or inequality constraints  $Gx \geq h$ ,  
(2) sample an underdetermined-  
or overdetermined system  $Ex=f$  subject to  $Gx \geq h$ , and if applicable  $Ax \sim b$ ,  
(3) solve a linear system  $Ax=B$  for the unknown  $x$ . It includes banded and tridiagonal linear systems.

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limSolve-package	<i>Solving Linear Inverse Models</i>
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## Description

Functions that:

- (1.) Find the minimum/maximum of a linear or quadratic function:  $\min$  or  $\max$  ( $f(x)$ ), where  $f(x) = \|Ax - b\|^2$  or  $f(x) = \text{sum}(ai * xi)$  subject to equality constraints  $Ex = f$  and/or inequality constraints  $Gx \geq h$ .
- (2.) Sample an underdetermined- or overdetermined system  $Ex = f$  subject to  $Gx \geq h$ , and if applicable  $Ax = b$ .
- (3.) Solve a linear system  $Ax = B$  for the unknown  $x$ . Includes banded and tridiagonal linear systems.

The package calls Fortran functions from LINPACK

## Details

limSolve is designed for solving linear inverse models (LIM).

These consist of linear equality and, or inequality conditions, which can be solved either by least squares or by linear programming techniques.

Amongst the possible applications are: food web quantification, flux balance analysis (e.g. metabolic networks), compositional estimation, and operations research problems.

The package contains several examples to exemplify its use

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert (Maintainer),  
Karel Van den Meersche  
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**References**

Van den Meersche K, Soetaert K, Van Oevelen D (2009). `xsample()`: An R Function for Sampling Linear Inverse Problems. *Journal of Statistical Software, Code Snippets*, 30(1), 1-15.

<https://www.jstatsoft.org/v30/c01/>

**See Also**

[Blending](#), [Chemtax](#), [RigaWeb](#), [E\\_coli](#), [Minkdiet](#) the examples.

[ldei](#), [lsei](#), [linp](#), [ldp](#), [nls](#) to solve LIM

[xranges](#), [varranges](#) to estimate ranges of unknowns and variables

[xsample](#), [varsample](#) to create a random sample of unknowns and variables

[Solve](#), [Solve.banded](#), [Solve.tridiag](#), to solve non-square, banded and tridiagonal linear systems of equations.

[resolution](#) row and column resolution of a matrix

package vignette `limSolve`

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
## show examples (see respective help pages for details)  
example(Blending)  
example(Chemtax)  
example(E_coli)  
example(Minkdiet)  
  
## run demos  
demo("limSolve")  
  
## open the directory with original E_coli input file  
browseURL(paste(system.file(package="limSolve"), "/doc", sep=""))  
  
## show package vignette with tutorial about xsample  
vignette("xsample")  
  
## show main package vignette  
vignette("limSolve")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

Blending

*A linear inverse blending problem***Description**

A manufacturer produces a feeding mix for pet animals.

The feed mix contains two nutritive ingredients and one ingredient (filler) to provide bulk.

One kg of feed mix must contain a minimum quantity of each of four nutrients as below:

Nutrient	A	B	C	D
gram	80	50	25	5

The ingredients have the following nutrient values and cost

(gram/kg)	A	B	C	D	Cost/kg
Ingredient 1	100	50	40	10	40
Ingredient 2	200	150	10	-	60
Filler	-	-	-	-	0

The problem is to find the composition of the feeding mix that minimises the production costs subject to the constraints above.

Stated otherwise: what is the optimal amount of ingredients in one kg of feeding mix?

Mathematically this can be estimated by solving a linear programming problem:

$$\min(\sum Cost_i * x_i)$$

subject to

$$x_i \geq 0$$

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

Where the Cost (to be minimised) is given by:

$$x_1 * 40 + x_2 * 60$$

The equality ensures that the sum of the three fractions equals 1:

$$1 = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$$

And the inequalities enforce the nutritional constraints:

$$100 * x_1 + 200 * x_2 > 80$$

$$50 * x_1 + 150 * x_2 > 50$$

and so on

The solution is Ingredient1 ( $x_1$ ) = 0.5909, Ingredient2 ( $x_2$ )=0.1364 and Filler ( $x_3$ )=0.2727.

**Usage**

Blending

**Format**

A list with matrix G and vector H that contain the inequality conditions and with vector Cost, defining the cost function.

Columnnames of G or names of Cost are the names of the ingredients, rownames of G and names of H are the nutrients.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>.

**See Also**

[linp](#) to solve a linear programming problem.

**Examples**

```
# Generate the equality condition (sum of ingredients = 1)
E <- rep(1, 3)
F <- 1

G <- Blending$G
H <- Blending$H

# add positivity requirement
G <- rbind(G, diag(3))
H <- c(H, rep(0, 3))

# 1. Solve the model with linear programming
res <- linp(E = t(E), F = F, G = G, H = H, Cost = Blending$Cost)

# show results
print(c(res$X, Cost = res$solutionNorm))

dotchart(x = as.vector(res$X), labels = colnames(G),
         main = "Optimal blending with ranges",
         sub = "using linp and xranges", pch = 16,
         xlim = c(0, 1))

# 2. Possible ranges of the three ingredients
(xr <- xranges(E, F, G, H))
segments(xr[,1], 1:ncol(G), xr[,2], 1:ncol(G))
legend("topright", pch = c(16, NA), lty = c(NA, 1),
      legend = c("Minimal cost", "range"))

# 3. Random sample of the three ingredients
# The inequality that all x > 0 has to be added!
```

```

xs <- xsample(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H)$X

pairs(xs, main = "Blending, 3000 solutions with xsample")

# Cost associated to these random samples
Costs <- as.vector(varsample(xs, EqA = Blending$Cost))
hist(Costs)
legend("topright", c("Optimal solution",
  format(res$solutionNorm, digits = 3)))

```

---

 Chemtax

*An overdetermined linear inverse problem: estimating algal composition based on pigment biomarkers.*

---

## Description

Input files for assessing the algal composition of a field sample, based on the pigment composition of the algal groups (measured in the laboratory) and the pigment composition of the field sample.

In the example there are 8 types of **algae**:

- Prasinophytes
- Dinoflagellates
- Cryptophytes
- Haptophytes type 3 (Hapto3s)
- Haptophytes type 4 (Hapto4s)
- Chlorophytes
- Cynechococcus
- Diatoms

and 12 **pigments**:

Perid = Peridinin, 19But = 19-butanoyloxyfucoxanthin, Fucox = fucoxanthin,  
 19Hex = 19-hexanoyloxyfucoxanthin, Neo = neoxanthin, Pras = prasinoxanthin,  
 Viol = violaxanthin, Allox = alloxanthin, Lutein = lutein,  
 Zeax = zeaxanthin, Ch1b = chlorophyll b, Ch1a = chlorophyll a

The input data consist of:

1. the pigment composition of the various algal groups, for instance determined from cultures (the Southern Ocean example -table 4- in Mackey et al., 1996)
2. the pigment composition of a field sample.

Based on these data, the algal composition of the field sample is estimated, under the assumption that the pigment composition of the field sample is a weighted average of the pigment composition of algae present in the sample, where weighting is proportional to their biomass.

As there are more measurements (12 pigments) than unknowns (8 algae), the resulting linear system is overdetermined.

It is thus solved in a least squares sense (using function `lsei`):

$$\min(\|Ax - b\|^2)$$

subject to

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

If there are 2 algae A, B, and 3 pigments 1, 2, 3 then the 3 approximate equalities ( $A * x = B$ ) would be:

$$f_{1,S} = p_A * f_{A,1} + p_B * f_{B,1}$$

$$f_{2,S} = p_A * f_{A,2} + p_B * f_{B,2}$$

$$f_{3,S} = p_A * f_{A,3} + p_B * f_{B,3}$$

where  $p_A$  and  $p_B$  are the (unknown) proportions of algae A and B in the field sample (S), and  $f_{A,1}$  is the relative amount of pigment 1 in alga A, etc...

The equality ensures that the sum of fractions equals 1:

$$1 = p_A + p_B$$

and the inequalities ensure that fractions are positive numbers

$$p_A > 0$$

$$p_B > 0$$

It should be noted that in the actual *Chemtax* programme the problem is solved in a more complex way. In *Chemtoz*, the A-coefficients are also allowed to vary, while here they are taken as they are (constant). *Chemtax* then finds the "best fit" by fitting both the fractions, and the non-zero coefficients in A.

## Usage

`Chemtax`

## Format

A list with the input ratio matrix (`Ratio`) and a vector with the field data (`Field`)

- The input ratio matrix `Ratio` contains the pigment compositions (columns) for each algal group (rows); the compositions are scaled relative to `Ch1a` (last column).
- The vector with the `Field` data contains the pigment composition of a sample in the field, also scaled relative to `Ch1a`; the pigments are similarly ordered as for the input ratio matrix.

The rownames of matrix `Ratio` are the algal group names, columnnames of `Ratio` (=names of `Field`) are the pigments

**Author(s)**

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**References**

Mackey MD, Mackey DJ, Higgins HW, Wright SW, 1996. CHEMTAX - A program for estimating class abundances from chemical markers: Application to HPLC measurements of phytoplankton. *Marine Ecology-Progress Series* 144 (1-3): 265-283.

Van den Meersche, K., Soetaert, K., Middelburg, J., 2008. A Bayesian compositional estimator for microbial taxonomy based on biomarkers. *Limnology and Oceanography Methods*, 6, 190-199.

R-package BCE

**See Also**

[lsei](#), the function to solve for the algal composition of the field sample.

**Examples**

```
# 1. Graphical representation of the chemtax example input data
palette(rainbow(12, s = 0.6, v = 0.75))

mp      <- apply(Chemtax$Ratio, MARGIN = 2, max)
pstars  <- rbind(t(t(Chemtax$Ratio)/mp) ,
                sample = Chemtax$Field/max(Chemtax$Field))
stars(pstars, len = 0.9, key.loc = c(7.2, 1.7), scale=FALSE, ncol=4,
      main = "CHEMTAX pigment composition", draw.segments = TRUE,
      flip.labels=FALSE)

# 2. Estimating the algal composition of the field sample
Nx      <- nrow(Chemtax$Ratio)

# equations that have to be met exactly Ex=f:
# sum of all fraction must be equal to 1.
EE <- rep(1, Nx)
FF <- 1

# inequalities, Gx>=h:
# all fractions must be positive numbers
GG <- diag(nrow = Nx)
HH <- rep(0, Nx)

# equations that must be reproduced as close as possible, Ax ~ b
# = the field data; the input ratio matrix and field data are rescaled
AA      <- Chemtax$Ratio/rowSums(Chemtax$Ratio)
BB      <- Chemtax$Field/sum(Chemtax$Field)

# 1. Solve with lsei method
X <- lsei(t(AA), BB, EE, FF, GG, HH)$X
(Sample <- data.frame(Algae = rownames(Chemtax$Ratio),
                    fraction = X))
```



```
# plot results
barplot(X, names = rownames(Chemtax$Ratio), col = heat.colors(8),
       cex.names = 0.8, main = "Chemtax example solved with lsei")

# 2. Bayesian sampling;
# The standard deviation on the field data is assumed to be 0.01
# jump length not too large or NO solutions are found!
xs <- xsample(t(AA), BB, EE, FF, GG, HH, sdB = 0.01, jmp = 0.025)$X
pairs(xs, main= "Chemtax, Bayesian sample")
```

E\_coli

*An underdetermined linear inverse problem: the Escherichia Coli Core Metabolism Model.*

## Description

Input matrices and vectors for performing Flux Balance Analysis of the E.coli metabolism (as from [http://gcrp.ucsd.edu/Downloads/Flux\\_Balance\\_Analysis](http://gcrp.ucsd.edu/Downloads/Flux_Balance_Analysis)).

The original input file can be found in the package subdirectory /inst/docs/E\_coli.input

There are 53 substances:

GLC, G6P, F6P, FDP, T3P2, T3P1, 13PDG, 3PG, 2PG, PEP, PYR, ACCOA, CIT, ICIT, AKG, SUCCOA, SUCC, FUM, MAL, OA, ACTP, ETH, AC, LAC, FOR, D6PGL, D6PGC, RL5P, X5P, R5P, S7P, E4P, RIB, GLX, NAD, NADH, NADP, NADPH, HEXT, Q, FAD, FADH, AMP, ADP, ATP, GL3P, CO2, PI, PPI, O2, COA, GL, QH2

and 13 externals:

Biomass, GLCxt, GLxt, RIBxt, ACxt, LACxt, FORxt, ETHxt, SUCCxt, PYRxt, PIxt, O2xt, CO2xt

There are 70 unknown reactions (named by the gene encoding for it):

GLK1, PGI1, PFKA, FBP, FBA, TPIA, GAPA, PGK, GPMA, ENO, PPSA, PYKA, ACEE, ZWF, PGL, GND, RPIA, RPE, TKTA1, TKTA2, TALA, GLTA, ACNA, ICDA, SUCA, SUCC1, SDHA1, FRDA, FUMA, MDH, DLD1, ADHE2, PFLA, PTA, ACKA, ACS, PCKA, PPC, MAEB, SFCA, ACEA, ACEB, PPA, GLPK, GPSA1, RBSK, NUOA, FDOH, GLPD, CYOA, SDHA2, PNT1A, PNT2A, ATPA, GLCUP, GLCPTS, GLUP, RIBUP, ACUP, LACUP, FORUP, ETHUP, SUCCUP, PYRUP, PIUP, O2TX, CO2TX, ATPM, ADK, Growth

The lsei model contains:

- 54 equalities ( $Ax=B$ ): the 53 mass balances (one for each substance) and one equation that sets the ATP drain flux for constant maintenance requirements to a fixed value (5.87)
- 70 unknowns ( $x$ ), the reaction rates
- 62 inequalities ( $Gx>h$ ). The first 28 inequalities impose bounds on some reactions. The last 34 inequalities impose that the reaction rates have to be positive (for unidirectional reactions only).
- 1 function that has to be maximised, the biomass production (growth).

As there are more unknowns (70) than equations (54), there exist an infinite amount of solutions (it is an underdetermined problem).

**Usage**

E\_coli

**Format**

A list with the matrices and vectors that constitute the mass balance problem: A, B, G and H and Maximise, with the function to maximise.

The columnnames of A and G are the names of the unknown reaction rates; The first 53 rownames of A give the names of the components (these rows constitute the mass balance equations).

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**References**

originated from the url [http://gcrp.ucsd.edu/Downloads/Flux\\_Balance\\_Analysis](http://gcrp.ucsd.edu/Downloads/Flux_Balance_Analysis)

Edwards, J.S., Covert, M., and Palsson, B., (2002) Metabolic Modeling of Microbes: the Flux Balance Approach, *Environmental Microbiology*, 4(3): pp. 133-140.

**Examples**

```
# 1. parsimonious (simplest) solution
pars <- lsei(E = E_coli$A, F = E_coli$B, G = E_coli$G, H = E_coli$H)$X

# 2. the optimal solution - solved with linear programming
#   some unknowns can be negative

LP <- linp(E = E_coli$A, F = E_coli$B, G = E_coli$G, H = E_coli$H,
          Cost = -E_coli$Maximise, ispos = FALSE)
(Optimal <- LP$X)

# 3. ranges of all unknowns, including the central value and all solutions
xr <- xranges(E = E_coli$A, F = E_coli$B, G = E_coli$G, H = E_coli$H,
             central = TRUE, full = TRUE)

# the central point is a valid solution:
X <- xr[,"central"]
max(abs(E_coli$A%*%X - E_coli$B))
min(E_coli$G%*%X - E_coli$H)

# 4. Sample solution space; the central value is a good starting point
#   for algorithms cda and rda - but these need many iterations
## Not run:
xs <- xsample(E = E_coli$A, F = E_coli$B, G = E_coli$G, H = E_coli$H,
             iter = 50000, out = 5000, type = "rda", x0 = X)$X
pairs(xs[,10:20], pch = ".", cex = 2, main = "sampling, using rda")

## End(Not run)
```

```

# using mirror algorithm takes less iterations,
# but an iteration takes more time ; it is better to start in a corner...
# (i.e. no need to use X as starting value)
xs <- xsample(E = E_coli$A, F = E_coli$B, G = E_coli$G, H = E_coli$H,
             iter = 2000, out = 500, jmp = 50, type = "mirror")$X
pairs(xs[,10:20], pch = ".", cex = 2, main = "sampling, using mirror")

# Print results:
data.frame(pars = pars, Optimal = Optimal, xr[,1:2],
           Mean = colMeans(xs), sd = apply(xs, 2, sd))

# Plot results
par(mfrow = c(1, 2))
nr <- length(Optimal)/2

ii <- 1:nr
dotchart(Optimal[ii], xlim = range(xr), pch = 16)
segments(xr[ii,1], 1:nr, xr[ii,2], 1:nr)

ii <- (nr+1):length(Optimal)
dotchart(Optimal[ii], xlim = range(xr), pch = 16)
segments(xr[ii,1], 1:nr, xr[ii,2], 1:nr)
mtext(side = 3, cex = 1.5, outer = TRUE, line = -1.5,
      "E coli Core Metabolism, optimal solution and ranges")

```

---

ldei

*Weighted Least Distance Programming with equality and inequality constraints.*

---

### Description

Solves the following **underdetermined** inverse problem:

$$\min(\sum x_i^2)$$

subject to

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

uses least distance programming subroutine ldp (FORTRAN) from Linpack

The model has to be UNDERdetermined, i.e. the number of independent equations < number of unknowns.

### Usage

```

ldei(E, F, G = NULL, H = NULL,
     tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps), verbose = TRUE,
     lower = NULL, upper = NULL)

```

**Arguments**

E	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equality constraints $Ex = F$ ; if the columns of E have a names attribute, they will be used to label the output.
F	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the equality constraints.
G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequality constraints $Gx \geq H$ ; if the columns of G have a names attribute and the columns of E do not, they will be used to label the output.
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequality constraints.
tol	tolerance (for singular value decomposition, equality and inequality constraints).
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G^*x \geq H$ .

**Value**

a list containing:

X	vector containing the solution of the least distance with equalities and inequalities problem.
unconstrained.solution	vector containing the unconstrained solution of the least distance problem, i.e. ignoring $Gx \geq h$ .
residualNorm	scalar, the sum of absolute values of residuals of equalities and violated inequalities; should be zero or very small if the problem is feasible.
solutionNorm	scalar, the value of the quadratic function at the solution, i.e. the value of $\sum w_i * x_i^2$ .
IsError	logical, TRUE if an error occurred.
type	the string "Idei", such that how the solution was obtained can be traced.
numiter	the number of iterations.

**Note**

One of the steps in the Idei algorithm is the creation of an orthogonal basis, constructed by Singular Value Decomposition. As this makes use of random numbers, it may happen - for problems that are difficult to solve - that Idei sometimes finds a solution or fails to find one for the same problem, depending on the random numbers used to create the orthogonal basis. If it is suspected that this is happening, trying a few times may find a solution. (example RigaWeb is such a problem).

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>.

## References

- Lawson C.L. and Hanson R.J. 1974. Solving Least Squares Problems, Prentice-Hall
- Lawson C.L. and Hanson R.J. 1995. Solving Least Squares Problems. SIAM classics in applied mathematics, Philadelphia. (reprint of book)

## See Also

[Minkdiet](#), for a description of the Mink diet example.

[lsei](#), [linp](#)

[ldp](#)

## Examples

```
#-----
# A simple problem
#-----
# minimise x1^2 + x2^2 + x3^2 + x4^2 + x5^2 + x6^2
# subject to:
#-x1          + x4 + x5      = 0
#   - x2      - x4          + x6 = 0
# x1 + x2 + x3                > 1
#           x3              + x5 + x6 < 1
# xi > 0

E <- matrix(nrow = 2, byrow = TRUE, data = c(-1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0,
                                             0,-1, 0, -1, 0, 1))
F <- c(0, 0)
G <- matrix(nrow = 2, byrow = TRUE, data = c(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0,
                                             0, 0, -1, 0, -1, -1))
H   <- c(1, -1)
ldei(E, F, G, H)

#-----
# Imposing bounds
#-----

ldei(E, F, G, H, lower = 0.25)
ldei(E, F, G, H, lower = c(0.25, 0.25, 0.25, NA, NA, 0.5))

#-----
# parsimonious (simplest) solution of the mink diet problem
#-----
E <- rbind(Minkdiet$Prey, rep(1, 7))
F <- c(Minkdiet$Mink, 1)

parsimonious <- ldei(E, F, G = diag(7), H = rep(0, 7))
data.frame(food = colnames(Minkdiet$Prey),
           fraction = parsimonious$X)
dotchart(x = as.vector(parsimonious$X),
         labels = colnames(Minkdiet$Prey),
         main = "Diet composition of Mink estimated using ldei",
```

```
xlab = "fraction")
```

---

 ldp

*Least Distance Programming*


---

### Description

Solves the following inverse problem:

$$\min(\sum x_i^2)$$

subject to

$$Gx \geq h$$

uses least distance programming subroutine ldp (FORTRAN) from Linpack

### Usage

```
ldp(G, H, tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps), verbose = TRUE,
    lower = NULL, upper = NULL)
```

### Arguments

G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequality constraints $Gx \geq H$ ; if the columns of G have a names attribute, they will be used to label the output.
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequality constraints.
tol	tolerance (for inequality constraints).
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G*x \geq H$ .

### Value

a list containing:

X	vector containing the solution of the least distance problem.
residualNorm	scalar, the sum of absolute values of residuals of violated inequalities; should be zero or very small if the problem is feasible.
solutionNorm	scalar, the value of the quadratic function at the solution, i.e. the value of $\sum w_i * x_i^2$ .
IsError	logical, TRUE if an error occurred.
type	the string "ldp", such that how the solution was obtained can be traced.
numiter	the number of iterations.

**Author(s)**

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**References**

Lawson C.L.and Hanson R.J. 1974. Solving Least Squares Problems, Prentice-Hall

Lawson C.L.and Hanson R.J. 1995. Solving Least Squares Problems. SIAM classics in applied mathematics, Philadelphia. (reprint of book)

**See Also**

[ldei](#), which includes equalities.

**Examples**

```
# parsimonious (simplest) solution
G <- matrix(nrow = 2, ncol = 2, data = c(3, 2, 2, 4))
H <- c(3, 2)

ldp(G, H)

# imposing bounds on the first unknown
ldp(G, H, lower = c(1, NA))
```

---

linp

*Linear Programming.*


---

**Description**

Solves a linear programming problem,

$$\min(\sum Cost_i.x_i)$$

subject to

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

$$x_i \geq 0$$

(optional)

This function provides a wrapper around [lp](#) (see note) from package lpSolve, written to be consistent with the functions [lsei](#), and [ldei](#).

It allows for the x's to be negative (not standard in lp).

**Usage**

```
linp(E = NULL, F = NULL, G = NULL, H = NULL, Cost,
     ispos = TRUE, int.vec = NULL, verbose = TRUE,
     lower = NULL, upper = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

E	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equality constraints $Ex = F$ ; if the columns of E have a names attribute, they will be used to label the output.
F	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the equality constraints.
G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequality constraints $Gx \geq H$ ; if the columns of G have a names attribute, and the columns of E do not, they will be used to label the output.
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequality constraints.
Cost	numeric vector containing the coefficients of the cost function; if Cost has a names attribute, and neither the columns of E nor G have a name, they will be used to label the output.
ispos	logical, when TRUE then the unknowns (x) must be positive (this is consistent with the original definition of a linear programming problem).
int.vec	when not NULL, a numeric vector giving the indices of variables that are required to be an integer. The length of this vector will therefore be the number of integer variables.
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G*x \geq H$ .
...	extra arguments passed to R-function lp.

**Value**

a list containing:

X	vector containing the solution of the linear programming problem.
residualNorm	scalar, the sum of absolute values of residuals of equalities and violated inequalities. Should be very small or zero for a feasible linear programming problem.
solutionNorm	scalar, the value of the minimised Cost function, i.e. the value of $\sum Cost_i.x_i$ .
IsError	logical, TRUE if an error occurred.
type	the string "linp", such that how the solution was obtained can be traced.

**Note**

If the requirement of nonnegativity are relaxed, then strictly speaking the problem is not a linear programming problem.

The function lp may fail and terminate R for very small problems that are repeated frequently...

Also note that sometimes multiple solutions exist for the same problem.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>



## References

Michel Berkelaar and others (2007). lpSolve: Interface to Lpsolve v. 5.5 to solve linear or integer programs. R package version 5.5.8.

## See Also

[ldei](#), [lsei](#),

[lp](#) the original function from package lpSolve

[Blending](#), a linear programming problem.

## Examples

```
#-----
# Linear programming problem 1, not feasible
#-----

# maximise x1 + 3*x2
# subject to
#-x1 -x2 < -3
#-x1 + x2 < -1
# x1 + 2*x2 < 2
# xi > 0

G <- matrix(nrow = 3, data = c(-1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 2))
H <- c(3, -1, 2)
Cost <- c(-1, -3)
(L <- linp(E = NULL, F = NULL, Cost = Cost, G = G, H = H))
L$residualNorm

#-----
# Linear programming problem 2, feasible
#-----

# minimise x1 + 8*x2 + 9*x3 + 2*x4 + 7*x5 + 3*x6
# subject to:
#-x1          + x4 + x5      = 0
#  - x2      - x4          + x6 = 0
# x1 + x2 + x3          > 1
#          x3          + x5 + x6 < 1
# xi > 0

E <- matrix(nrow = 2, byrow = TRUE, data = c(-1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0,
                                             0,-1, 0, -1, 0, 1))
F <- c(0, 0)
G <- matrix(nrow = 2, byrow = TRUE, data = c(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0,
                                             0, 0, -1, 0, -1, -1))
H <- c(1, -1)
Cost <- c(1, 8, 9, 2, 7, 3)
(L <- linp(E = E, F = F, Cost = Cost, G = G, H = H))
L$residualNorm
```

```

# Including a lower bound:
linp(E = E, F = F, Cost = Cost, G = G, H = H, lower = 0.25)

#-----
# Linear programming problem 3, no positivity
#-----
# minimise x1 + 2x2 -x3 +4 x4
# subject to:
# 3x1 + 2x2 + x3 + x4 = 2
# x1 + x2 + x3 + x4 = 2

# 2x1 + x2 + x3 + x4 >=-1
# -x1 + 3x2 +2x3 + x4 >= 2
# -x1 + x3 >= 1

E <- matrix(ncol = 4, byrow = TRUE,
            data =c(3, 2, 1, 4, 1, 1, 1, 1))
F <- c(2, 2)

G <- matrix(ncol = 4, byrow = TRUE,
            data = c(2, 1, 1, 1, -1, 3, 2, 1, -1, 0, 1, 0))
H <- c(-1, 2, 1)
Cost <- c(1, 2, -1, 4)

linp(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H, Cost, ispos = FALSE)

```

---

Isei

*Least Squares with Equalities and Inequalities*


---

### Description

Solves an Isei inverse problem (Least Squares with Equality and Inequality Constraints)

$$\min(\|Ax - b\|^2)$$

subject to

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

Uses either subroutine Isei (FORTRAN) from the LINPACK package, or solve.QP from R-package quadprog.

In case the equality constraints  $Ex = f$  cannot be satisfied, a generalized inverse solution residual vector length is obtained for  $f - Ex$ .

This is the minimal length possible for  $\|f - Ex\|^2$ .

**Usage**

```
lsei (A = NULL, B = NULL, E = NULL, F = NULL, G = NULL, H = NULL,
      Wx = NULL, Wa = NULL, type = 1, tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps),
      tolrank = NULL, fulloutput = FALSE, verbose = TRUE,
      lower = NULL, upper = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

A	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the quadratic function to be minimised, $\ Ax - B\ ^2$ ; if the columns of A have a names attribute, they will be used to label the output.
B	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the quadratic function to be minimised.
E	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equality constraints, $Ex = F$ ; if the columns of E have a names attribute, and the columns of A do not, they will be used to label the output.
F	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the equality constraints.
G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequality constraints, $Gx \geq H$ ; if the columns of G have a names attribute, and the columns of A and E do not, they will be used to label the output.
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequality constraints.
Wx	numeric vector with weighting coefficients of unknowns (length = number of unknowns).
Wa	numeric vector with weighting coefficients of the quadratic function (Ax-B) to be minimised (length = number of number of rows of A).
type	integer code determining algorithm to use 1=lsei, 2=solve.QP from R-package quadprog (see note).
tol	tolerance (for singular value decomposition, equality and inequality constraints).
tolrank	only used if type = 1; if not NULL then tolrank should be a two-valued vector containing the rank determination tolerance for the equality constraint equations (1st value) and for the reduced least squares equations (2nd value).
fulloutput	if TRUE, also returns the covariance matrix of the solution and the rank of the equality constraints - only used if type = 1.
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G*x \geq H$ .

**Value**

a list containing:

X                    vector containing the solution of the least squares problem.

residualNorm	scalar, the sum of absolute values of residuals of equalities and violated inequalities.
solutionNorm	scalar, the value of the minimised quadratic function at the solution, i.e. the value of $\ Ax - b\ ^2$ .
IsError	logical, TRUE if an error occurred.
type	the string "lsei", such that how the solution was obtained can be traced.
covar	covariance matrix of the solution; only returned if fulloutput = TRUE.
RankEq	rank of the equality constraint matrix.; only returned if fulloutput = TRUE.
RankApp	rank of the reduced least squares problem (approximate equations); only returned if fulloutput = TRUE.

**Note**

See comments in the original code for more details; these comments are included in the 'docs' subroutine of the package.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**References**

- K. H. Haskell and R. J. Hanson, An algorithm for linear least squares problems with equality and nonnegativity constraints, Report SAND77-0552, Sandia Laboratories, June 1978.
- K. H. Haskell and R. J. Hanson, Selected algorithms for the linearly constrained least squares problem - a users guide, Report SAND78-1290, Sandia Laboratories, August 1979.
- K. H. Haskell and R. J. Hanson, An algorithm for linear least squares problems with equality and nonnegativity constraints, *Mathematical Programming* 21 (1981), pp. 98-118.
- R. J. Hanson and K. H. Haskell, Two algorithms for the linearly constrained least squares problem, *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software*, September 1982.
- Berwin A. Turlach R and Andreas Weingessel (2007). quadprog: Functions to solve Quadratic Programming Problems. R package version 1.4-11. S original by Berwin A. Turlach R port by Andreas Weingessel.

**See Also**

[ldei](#), [linp](#),

`solve.QR` the original function from package `quadprog`.

**Examples**

```
# -----
# example 1: polynomial fitting
# -----
x <- 1:5
y <- c(9, 8, 6, 7, 5)
plot(x, y, main = "Polynomial fitting, using lsei", cex = 1.5,
```

```

      pch = 16, ylim = c(4, 10))

# 1-st order
A <- cbind(rep(1, 5), x)
B <- y
cf <- lsei(A, B)$X
abline(coef = cf)

# 2-nd order
A <- cbind(A, x^2)
cf <- lsei(A, B)$X
curve(cf[1] + cf[2]*x + cf[3]*x^2, add = TRUE, lty = 2)

# 3-rd order
A <- cbind(A, x^3)
cf <- lsei(A, B)$X
curve(cf[1] + cf[2]*x + cf[3]*x^2 + cf[4]*x^3, add = TRUE, lty = 3)

# 4-th order
A <- cbind(A, x^4)
cf <- lsei(A, B)$X
curve(cf[1] + cf[2]*x + cf[3]*x^2 + cf[4]*x^3 + cf[5]*x^4,
      add = TRUE, lty = 4)
legend("bottomleft", c("1st-order", "2nd-order", "3rd-order", "4th-order"),
      lty = 1:4)

# -----
# example 2: equalities, approximate equalities and inequalities
# -----

A <- matrix(nrow = 4, ncol = 3,
            data = c(3, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 2, 0))
B <- c(2, 1, 8, 3)
E <- c(0, 1, 0)
F <- 3
G <- matrix(nrow = 2, ncol = 3, byrow = TRUE,
            data = c(-1, 2, 0, 1, 0, -1))
H <- c(-3, 2)

lsei(E = E, F = F, A = A, B = B, G = G, H = H)

# -----
# example 3: bounds added
# -----

lsei(E = E, F = F, A = A, B = B, G = G, H = H,
     lower = c(2, NA, 0))
lsei(E = E, F = F, A = A, B = B, G = G, H = H,
     upper = 2)

```

Minkdiet

*An underdetermined linear inverse problem: estimating diet composition of Southeast Alaskan Mink.*

### Description

Input data for assessing the diet composition of mink in southeast Alaska, using C and N isotope ratios (d13C and d15N).

The data consist of

1. the input matrix Prey, which contains the C (1st row) and N (2nd row) isotopic values of the prey items (columns), corrected for fractionation.
2. the input vector Mink, with the C and N isotopic value of the predator, mink

There are seven prey items as food sources:

- fish
- mussels
- crabs
- shrimp
- rodents
- amphipods
- ducks

The d13C and d15N for each of these prey items, and for mink (the predator) was assessed. The isotopic values of the preys were corrected for fractionation.

The problem is to find the diet composition of mink, e.g. the fraction of each of these food items in the diet.

Mathematically this is by solving an lsei (least squares with equalities and inequalities) problem:  $Ex = f$  subject to  $Gx > h$ .

The equalities  $Ex = f$ :

$$d13CMink = p1 * d13Cfish + p2 * d13Cmussels + \dots + p7 * d13Cducks$$

$$d15NMink = p1 * d15Nfish + p2 * d15Nmussels + \dots + p7 * d15Nducks$$

$$1 = p1 + p2 + p3 + p4 + p5 + p6 + p7$$

and inequalities  $Gx > h$ :

$$pi \geq 0$$

are solved for  $p1, p2, \dots, p7$ .

The first two equations calculate the isotopic ratio of the consumer (Mink) as a weighted average of the ratio of the food sources

Equation 3 assures that the sum of all fraction equals 1.

As there are 7 unknowns and only 3 equations, the model is UNDERdetermined, i.e. there exist an infinite amount of solutions.

This model can be solved by various techniques:

1. least distance programming will select the "simplest" solution. See [ldei](#).
2. the remaining uncertainty ranges of the fractions can be estimated using linear programming. See [xranges](#)
3. the statistical distribution of the fractions can be estimated using an MCMC algorithm which takes a sample of the solution space. See [xsample](#)

### Usage

Minkdiet

### Format

a list with matrix Prey and vector Mink.

- Prey contains the isotopic composition (13C and 15N) of the 7 possible food items of Mink
- Mink contains the isotopic composition (13C and 15N) of Mink

columnnames of Prey are the food items, rownames of Prey (=names of Mink) are the names of the isotopic elements.

### Author(s)

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

### References

Ben-David M, Hanley TA, Klein DR, Schell DM (1997) Seasonal changes in diets of coastal and riverine mink: the role of spawning Pacific salmon. Canadian Journal of Zoology 75:803-811.

### See Also

[ldei](#) to solve for the parsimonious solution

[xranges](#) to solve for the uncertainty ranges

[xsample](#) to sample the solution space

### Examples

```
# 1. visualisation of the data
plot(t(Minkdiet$Prey), xlim = c(-25, -13), xlab = "d13C", ylab = "d15N",
     main = "Minkdiet", sub = "Ben-David et al. (1979)")

text(t(Minkdiet$Prey)-0.1, colnames(Minkdiet$Prey))

points(t(Minkdiet$Mink), pch = 16, cex = 2)
text(t(Minkdiet$Mink)-0.15, "MINK", cex = 1.2)
legend("bottomright", pt.cex = c(1, 2), pch = c(1, 16),
      c("food", "predator"))

# 2. Generate the food web model input matrices
# the equalities:
```

```

E <- rbind(Minkdiet$Prey, rep(1, 7))
F <- c(Minkdiet$Mink, 1)

# the inequalities (all pi>0)
G <- diag(7)
H <- rep(0, 7)

# 3. Select the parsimonious (simplest) solution
parsimonious <- ldei(E, F, G = G, H = H)

# 4. show results
data.frame(food = colnames(Minkdiet$Prey),
           fraction = parsimonious$X)

dotchart(x = as.vector(parsimonious$X), labels = colnames(Minkdiet$A),
         main = "Estimated diet composition of Mink",
         sub = "using ldei and xrange", pch = 16)

# 5. Ranges of diet composition
iso <- xrange(E, F, ispos = TRUE)
segments(iso[,1], 1:ncol(E), iso[,2], 1:ncol(E))
legend("topright", pch = c(16, NA), lty = c(NA, 1),
       legend = c("parsimonious", "range"))

pairs(xsample(E = E, F = F, G = diag(7), H = rep(0, 7), iter = 1000)$X,
      main = "Minkdiet 1000 solutions, using xsample")

```

---

nnls

*Nonnegative Least Squares*


---

### Description

Solves the following inverse problem:

$$\min(\|Ax - b\|^2)$$

subject to

$$x \geq 0$$

Uses subroutine nnls (FORTRAN) from Linpack

### Usage

```
nnls(A, B, tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps), verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

A numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equality constraints  $Ax = B$ ; if the columns of A have a names attribute, the names will be used to label the output.



B	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the equality constraints.
tol	tolerance (for singular value decomposition and for the "equality" constraints).
verbose	logical to print npls error messages.

### Value

a list containing:

X	vector containing the solution of the nonnegative least squares problem.
residualNorm	scalar, the sum of absolute values of residuals of violated inequalities (i.e. $\sum x_{[<0]}$ ); should be zero or very small if the problem is feasible.
solutionNorm	scalar, the value of the quadratic function at the solution, i.e. the value of $\min(\ Ax - b\ ^2)$ .
IsError	logical, TRUE if an error occurred.
type	the string "npls", such that how the solution was obtained can be traced.
numiter	the number of iterations.

### Author(s)

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

### References

Lawson C.L. and Hanson R.J. 1974. Solving Least Squares Problems, Prentice-Hall

Lawson C.L. and Hanson R.J. 1995. Solving Least Squares Problems. SIAM classics in applied mathematics, Philadelphia. (reprint of book)

### See Also

[ldei](#), which includes equalities

### Examples

```
A <- matrix(nrow = 2, ncol = 3, data = c(3, 2, 2, 4, 2, 1))
B <- c(-4, 3)
npls(A, B)
```

---

resolution	<i>Row and column resolution of a matrix.</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

Given an input matrix or its singular value decomposition, calculates the resolution of the equations (rows) and of the unknowns (columns) of the matrix.

**Usage**

```
resolution (s, tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps))
```

**Arguments**

s	either a matrix or its singular value decomposition.
tol	tolerance for the singular values.

**Value**

a list containing:

row	resolution of the rows (equations).
col	resolution of the columns (variables).
nsolvable	number of solvable unknowns - the rank of the matrix.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>  
 Dick van Oevelen <dick.vanoevelen@nioz.nl>

**References**

Menke, W., 1989. Geophysical Data Analysis: Discrete Inverse Theory. Revised edition. International Geophysics Series. Academic Press, London.

**See Also**

[svd](#), the singular value decomposition

**Examples**

```
resolution (matrix(nrow = 3, runif(9))) #3rows,3columns
resolution (matrix(nrow = 3, runif(12))) #3rows,4columns
resolution (matrix(nrow = 3, runif(6))) #3rows,2columns
resolution (cbind(c(1, 2, 3), c(2, 3, 4), c(3, 5, 7))) # r3=r1+r2,c3=c1+c2
```

---

RigaWeb

*An underdetermined linear inverse problem: the Gulf of Riga \*spring\* planktonic food web*

---

## Description

Input matrices and vectors for estimating the flows in the planktonic food web of the Gulf of Riga. (as in Donali et al. (1999)).

The original input file can be found in the package subdirectory /inst/docs/RigaSpring.input

There are 7 functional compartments: P1,P2,B,N,Z,D,OC (two phytoplankton groups, Bacteria, Nanozooplankton, Zooplankton, Detritus and DOC).

and 2 externals: CO2 and SED (sedimentation)

These are connected with 26 flows: P1->CO2, P2->CO2, Z->CO2, N->CO2, B->CO2, CO2->P1, CO2->P2, P1->Z, P1->N, P1->DOC, P1->SED, P2->DOC, P2->Z, P2->D, P2->SED, N->DOC, N->Z, Z->DOC, Z->D, Z->SED, D->Z, D->DOC, D->SED, B->N, B->SED, DOC->B

The lsei model contains:

- 14 equalities ( $Ax=B$ ): the 7 mass balances (one for each compartment) and 7 measurement equations
- 26 unknowns ( $x$ ), the flow values
- 45 inequalities ( $Gx>h$ ). The first 19 inequalities impose bounds on some combinations of flows. The last 26 inequalities impose that the flows have to be positive.

As there are more unknowns (26) than equations (14), there exist an infinite amount of solutions (it is an underdetermined problem).

## Usage

RigaWeb

## Format

A list with the matrices and vectors that constitute the mass balance problem: A, B, G and H.

The columnnames of A and G are the names of the unknown reaction rates; The first 14 rownames of A give the names of the components (these rows constitute the mass balance equations).

## Author(s)

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

## References

Donali, E., Olli, K., Heiskanen, A.S., Andersen, T., 1999. Carbon flow patterns in the planktonic food web of the Gulf of Riga, the Baltic Sea: a reconstruction by the inverse method. *Journal of Marine Systems* 23, 251..268.

**Examples**

```

E <- RigaWeb$A
F <- RigaWeb$B
G <- RigaWeb$G
H <- RigaWeb$H

# 1. parsimonious (simplest) solution
pars <- lsei(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H)$X

# 2. ranges of all unknowns, including the central value
xr <- xranges(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H, central = TRUE)

# the central point is a valid solution:
X <- xr["central"]
max(abs(E%*X - F))
min(G%*X - H)

## Not run: # this does not work on windows i386!
# 3. Sample solution space; the central value is a good starting point
# for algorithms cda and rda - but these need many iterations
xs <- xsample(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H,
             iter = 10000, out = 1000, type = "rda", x0 = X)$X
# better convergence using 50000 iterations, but this takes a while
xs <- xsample(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H,
             iter = 50000, out = 1000, type = "rda", x0 = X)$X

pairs(xs, pch = ".", cex = 2, gap = 0, upper.panel = NULL)

# using mirror algorithm takes less iterations,
# but an iteration takes more time ; it is better to start in a corner...
# (i.e. no need to use X as starting value)
xs <- xsample(E = E, F = F, G = G, H = H,
             iter = 1500, output = 500, type = "mirror")$X
pairs(xs, pch = ".", cex = 2, gap = 0, upper.panel = NULL,
      yaxt = "n", xaxt = "n")

# Print results:
data.frame(pars = pars, xr[,1:2], Mean = colMeans(xs), sd = apply(xs, 2, sd))

## End(Not run)

```

Solve

*Generalised inverse solution of  $Ax = B$* **Description**

Generalised inverse solution of

$$Ax = B$$

**Usage**

```
Solve (A, B = diag(nrow = nrow(A)), tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps))
```

**Arguments**

A	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equations $Ax = B$ .
B	numeric matrix containing the right-hand sides of the equations; the default is the unity matrix, in which case the function will return the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of matrix A.
tol	tolerance for selecting singular values.

**Value**

a vector with the generalised inverse solution.

**Note**

Solve uses the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of matrix A (function [ginv](#) from package MASS). [solve](#), the R default requires a square, positive definite A. Solve does not have this restriction.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**References**

package MASS:

Venables, W. N. & Ripley, B. D. (2002) Modern Applied Statistics with S. Fourth Edition. Springer, New York. ISBN 0-387-95457-0

**See Also**

[ginv](#) to estimate the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of a matrix, in package MASS,  
[solve](#) the R default

**Examples**

```
A <- matrix(nrow = 4, ncol = 3, data = c(1:8, 6, 8, 10, 12)) # col3 = col1+col2
B <- 0:3
X <- Solve(A, B)           # generalised inverse solution
A %*% X - B               # should be zero (except for roundoff)
(gA <- Solve(A))         # generalised inverse of A
```

Solve.banded

*Solution of a banded system of linear equations***Description**

Solves the linear system of equations

$$Ax = B$$

by Gaussion elimination

where A has to be square, and *banded*, i.e. with the only nonzero elements in bands near the diagonal.

The matrix A is either inputted as a full square matrix or as the non-zero bands.

uses lapack subroutine dgbsv (FORTRAN)

**Usage**

```
Solve.banded(abd, nup, nlow, B = rep(0, times = ncol(abd)),
             full = (nrow(abd) == ncol(abd)))
```

**Arguments**

abd	either a matrix containing the (nonzero) bands, rotated row-wise (anti-clockwise) only, or a full square matrix.
nup	number of nonzero bands above the diagonal; ignored if full matrix is inputted.
nlow	number of nonzero bands below the diagonal; ignored if full matrix is inputted.
B	Right-hand side of the equations, a vector with length = number of rows of A, or a matrix with number of rows = number of rows of A.
full	if TRUE: full matrix is inputted, if FALSE: banded matrix is input.

**Details**

If the input matrix abd is square, it is assumed that the full, square A is inputted, unless full is set to FALSE.

If abd is not square, then the number of columns denote the number of unknowns, while the number of rows equals the nonzero bands, i.e. nup+nlow+1

**Value**

matrix with the solution, X, of the banded system of equations  $A X = B$ , the number of columns of this matrix = number of columns of B.

**Note**

A similar function but that requires a totally different input can now also be found in the `Matrix` package

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**References**

J.J. Dongarra, J.R. Bunch, C.B. Moler, G.W. Stewart, LINPACK Users' Guide, SIAM, 1979.

**See Also**

[Solve.tridiag](#) to solve a tridiagonal system of linear equations.

[Solve](#) the generalised inverse solution,

[solve](#) the R default

**Examples**

```
# 1. Generate a banded matrix of random numbers, full format
nup <- 2                # nr nonzero bands above diagonal
ndwn <- 3              # nr nonzero bands below diagonal
nn <- 10               # nr rows and columns of A
A <- matrix(nrow = nn, ncol = nn, data = runif(1 : (nn*nn)))
A [row(A) < col(A) - nup | row(A) > col(A) + ndwn] <- 0
diag(A) <- 1          # 1 on diagonal is easily recognised

# right hand side
B <- runif(nrow(A))

# solve it, using the default solver and banded (inputting full matrix)
Full <- solve(A, B)
Band1 <- Solve.banded(A, nup, ndwn, B)

# 2. create banded form of matrix A
Aext <- rbind(matrix(ncol = ncol(A), nrow = nup, 0),
              A,
              matrix(ncol = ncol(A), nrow = ndwn, 0))

abd <- matrix(nrow = nup + ndwn + 1, ncol = nn,
              data = Aext[col(Aext) <= row(Aext) &
                          col(Aext) >= row(Aext) - ndwn - nup])

# print both to screen
A
abd

# solve problem with banded version
Band2 <- Solve.banded(abd, nup, ndwn, B)

# compare 3 methods of solution
cbind(Full, Band1, Band2)

# same, now with 3 different right hand sides
B3 <- cbind(B, B*2, B*3)
```

Solve.banded(abd, nup, ndwn, B3)

---

Solve.block

*Solution of an almost block diagonal system of linear equations*

---

### Description

Solves the linear system  $A*X=B$  where A is an almost block diagonal matrix of the form:

TopBlock

... Array(1) ... ..

... .. Array(2) ... ..

...

... .. Array(Nblocks)...

... .. BotBlock

The method is based on Gauss elimination with alternate row and column elimination with partial pivoting, producing a stable decomposition of the matrix A without introducing fill-in.

uses FORTRAN subroutine colrow

### Usage

Solve.block(Top, AR, Bot, B, overlap)

### Arguments

Top	the first block of the almost block diagonal matrix A.
AR	intermediary blocks; AR(.,.,K) contains the kth block of matrix A.
Bot	the last block of the almost block diagonal matrix A.
B	Right-hand side of the equations, a vector with length = number of rows of A, or a matrix with number of rows = number of rows of A.
overlap	the number of columns in which successive blocks overlap, and where overlap = nrow(Top) + nrow(Bot).

### Value

matrix with the solution, X, of the block diagonal system of equations  $Ax=B$ , the number of columns of this matrix = number of columns of B.

### Note

A similar function but that requires a totally different input can now also be found in the Matrix package



**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**References**

J. C. Diaz , G. Fairweather , P. Keast, 1983. FORTRAN Packages for Solving Certain Almost Block Diagonal Linear Systems by Modified Alternate Row and Column Elimination, ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software (TOMS), v.9 n.3, p.358-375

**See Also**

[Solve.tridiag](#) to solve a tridiagonal system of linear equations.

[Solve.banded](#) to solve a banded system of linear equations.

[Solve](#) the generalised inverse solution,

[solve](#) the R default

**Examples**

```
# Solve the following system: Ax=B, where A is block diagonal, and

# 0.0 -0.98 -0.79 -0.15
# -1.00 0.25 -0.87 0.35
# 0.78 0.31 -0.85 0.89 -0.69 -0.98 -0.76 -0.82
# 0.12 -0.01 0.75 0.32 -1.00 -0.53 -0.83 -0.98
# -0.58 0.04 0.87 0.38 -1.00 -0.21 -0.93 -0.84
# -0.21 -0.91 -0.09 -0.62 -1.99 -1.12 -1.21 0.07
#
# 0.78 -0.93 -0.76 0.48 -0.87 -0.14 -1.00 -0.59
# -0.99 0.21 -0.73 -0.48 -0.93 -0.91 0.10 -0.89
# -0.68 -0.09 -0.58 -0.21 0.85 -0.39 0.79 -0.71
# 0.39 -0.99 -0.12 -0.75 -0.68 -0.99 0.50 -0.88
# 0.71 -0.64 0.0 0.48
# 0.08 100.0 50.00 15.00

B <- c(-1.92, -1.27, -2.12, -2.16, -2.27, -6.08,
      -3.03, -4.62, -1.02, -3.52, 0.55, 165.08)

AA <- matrix (nrow = 12, ncol = 12, 0)
AA[1,1:4] <- c( 0.0, -0.98, -0.79, -0.15)
AA[2,1:4] <- c(-1.00, 0.25, -0.87, 0.35)
AA[3,1:8] <- c( 0.78, 0.31, -0.85, 0.89, -0.69, -0.98, -0.76, -0.82)
AA[4,1:8] <- c( 0.12, -0.01, 0.75, 0.32, -1.00, -0.53, -0.83, -0.98)
AA[5,1:8] <- c(-0.58, 0.04, 0.87, 0.38, -1.00, -0.21, -0.93, -0.84)
AA[6,1:8] <- c(-0.21, -0.91, -0.09, -0.62, -1.99, -1.12, -1.21, 0.07)
AA[7,5:12] <- c( 0.78, -0.93, -0.76, 0.48, -0.87, -0.14, -1.00, -0.59)
AA[8,5:12] <- c(-0.99, 0.21, -0.73, -0.48, -0.93, -0.91, 0.10, -0.89)
AA[9,5:12] <- c(-0.68, -0.09, -0.58, -0.21, 0.85, -0.39, 0.79, -0.71)
AA[10,5:12] <- c( 0.39, -0.99, -0.12, -0.75, -0.68, -0.99, 0.50, -0.88)
AA[11,9:12] <- c( 0.71, -0.64, 0.0, 0.48)
AA[12,9:12] <- c( 0.08, 100.0, 50.00, 15.00)
```

```
## Block diagonal input.
Top <- matrix(nrow = 2, ncol = 4, data = AA[1:2 , 1:4] )
Bot <- matrix(nrow = 2, ncol = 4, data = AA[11:12, 9:12])
Blk1 <- matrix(nrow = 4, ncol = 8, data = AA[3:6 , 1:8] )
Blk2 <- matrix(nrow = 4, ncol = 8, data = AA[7:10 , 5:12])

AR <- array(dim = c(4, 8, 2), data = c(Blk1, Blk2))
overlap <- 4

# answer = (1, 1, ..., 1)
Solve.block(Top, AR, Bot, B, overlap = 4)

# Now with 3 different B values
B3 <- cbind(B, 2*B, 3*B)
Solve.block(Top, AR, Bot, B3, overlap = 4)
```

---

Solve.tridiag

*Solution of a tridiagonal system of linear equations*


---

## Description

Solves the linear system of equations

$$Ax = B$$

where A has to be square and *tridiagonal*, i.e with nonzero elements only on, one band above, and one band below the diagonal.

## Usage

```
Solve.tridiag ( diam1, dia, diap1, B=rep(0,times=length(dia)))
```

## Arguments

diam1	a vector with (nonzero) elements below the diagonal.
dia	a vector with (nonzero) elements on the diagonal.
diap1	a vector with (nonzero) elements above the diagonal.
B	Right-hand side of the equations, a vector with length = number of rows of A, or a matrix with number of rows = number of rows of A.

## Details

If the length of the vector dia is equal to N, then the lengths of diam1 and diap1 should be equal to N-1

**Value**

matrix with the solution,  $X$ , of the tridiagonal system of equations  $Ax=B$ . The number of columns of this matrix equals the number of columns of  $B$ .

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**See Also**

[Solve.banded](#), the function to solve a banded system of linear equations.

[Solve.block](#), the function to solve a block diagonal system of linear equations.

[Solve](#) the generalised inverse solution,

[solve](#) the R default

**Examples**

```
# create tridagonal system: bands on diagonal, above and below
nn <- 20 # nr rows and columns of A
aa <- runif(nn)
bb <- runif(nn)
cc <- runif(nn)

# full matrix
A <- matrix(nrow = nn, ncol = nn, data = 0)
diag(A) <- bb
A[cbind(1:(nn-1), 2:nn)] <- cc[-nn]
A[cbind(2:nn, 1:(nn-1))] <- aa[-1]
B <- runif(nn)

# solve as full matrix
solve(A, B)

# same, now using tridiagonal algorithm
as.vector(Solve.tridiag(aa[-1], bb, cc[-nn], B))

# same, now with 3 different right hand sides
B3 <- cbind(B, B*2, B*3)
Solve.tridiag(aa[-1], bb, cc[-nn], B3)
```

**Description**

Given the linear constraints

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

and a set of "variables" described by the linear equations

$$Var = EqA.x + EqB$$

finds the minimum and maximum values of the variables by successively minimising and maximising each variable equation

**Usage**

```
varranges(E=NULL, F=NULL, G=NULL, H=NULL, EqA, EqB=NULL,
  ispos=FALSE, tol=1e-8, verbose=TRUE, lower=NULL, upper=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

E	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equalities $Ex = F$ .
F	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the equalities.
G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequalities $Gx \geq H$ .
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequalities.
EqA	numeric matrix containing the coefficients that define the variable equations.
EqB	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the variable equations.
ispos	if TRUE, it is imposed that unknowns are positive quantities.
tol	tolerance for equality and inequality constraints.
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G*x \geq H$ .

**Value**

a 2-column matrix with the minimum and maximum value of each equation (variable)

**Note**

uses linear programming function [lp](#) from package lpSolve.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

## References

Michel Berkelaar and others (2010). lpSolve: Interface to Lp\_solve v. 5.5 to solve linear/integer programs. R package version 5.6.5. <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=lpSolve>

## See Also

[Minkdiet](#), for a description of the Mink diet example.

[xranges](#), to estimate ranges of inverse unknowns.

[xsample](#), to randomly sample the lsei problem

[lp](#): linear programming function from package lpSolve.

## Examples

```
# Ranges in the contribution of food 3+4+5 in the diet of Mink (try ?Minkdiet)

E   <- rbind(Minkdiet$Prey, rep(1, 7))
F   <- c(Minkdiet$Mink, 1)
EqA <- c(0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0)           # sum of food 3,4,5
(isoA <- varranges(E, F, EqA = EqA, ispos = TRUE)) # ranges of part of food 3+4+5

# The same, but explicitly imposing positivity
varranges(E, F, EqA = EqA, G = diag(7), H = rep(0, 7))

# The same, but shorter - using lower bound:
varranges(E, F, EqA = EqA, lower=0)
```

---

varsample	<i>Samples the probability density function of variables of linear inverse problems.</i>
-----------	--

---

## Description

Uses random samples of an under- or overdetermined linear problem to estimate the distribution of equations

Based on a random sample of  $x$  (e.g. produced with [xsample](#)), produces the corresponding set of "variables" consisting of linear equations in the unknowns.

$$Var = EqA.x + EqB$$

## Usage

```
varsample (X, EqA, EqB=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

X	matrix whose rows contain the sampled values of the unknowns $x$ in $EqA * x = EqB$ .
EqA	numeric matrix containing the coefficients that define the variables.
EqB	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the variable equation.

**Value**

a matrix whose rows contain the sampled values of the variables.

**Author(s)**

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

**See Also**

[Minkdiet](#), for a description of the Mink diet example.

[varranges](#), to estimate ranges of inverse variables.

[xsample](#), to randomly sample the lsei problem.

**Examples**

```
# The probability distribution of vertebrate and invertebrate
# food in the diet of Mink
# food items of Mink are (in that order):

# fish mussels crabs shrimp rodents amphipods ducks
# V   I       I   I       V       I           V
# V= vertebrate, I = invertebrate

# In matrix form:
VarA <- matrix(ncol = 7, byrow = TRUE, data = c(
  0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, # invertebrates
  1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1) # vertebrates

# first sample the Minkdiet problem
E <- rbind(Minkdiet$Prey, rep(1, 7))
F <- c(Minkdiet$Mink, 1)
X <- xsample(E = E, F = F, G = diag(7), H = rep(0, 7), iter = 1000)$X

#then determine Diet Composition in terms of vertebrate and invertebrate food
DC <- varsample(X = X, EqA = VarA)
hist(DC[,1], freq = FALSE, xlab = "fraction",
     main = "invertebrate food in Mink diet", col = "lightblue")
```

---

 xranges
 

---



---

*Calculates ranges of the unknowns of a linear inverse problem*


---

### Description

Given the linear constraints

$$Ex = f$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

finds the minimum and maximum values of all elements of vector  $x$

This is done by successively minimising and maximising each  $x$ , using linear programming.

### Usage

```
xranges(E = NULL, F = NULL, G = NULL, H = NULL,
        ispos = FALSE, tol = 1e-8, central = FALSE, full=FALSE,
        verbose = TRUE, lower = NULL, upper = NULL)
```

### Arguments

E	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the equalities $Ex = F$ .
F	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the equalities.
G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequalities $Gx \geq H$ .
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequalities.
ispos	if TRUE, it is imposed that unknowns are positive quantities.
tol	tolerance for equality and inequality constraints.
central	if TRUE, the mean value of all range solutions is also outputted.
full	if TRUE, all range solutions are also outputted.
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G*x \geq H$ .

### Details

The ranges are estimated by successively minimising and maximising each unknown, and using linear programming (based on function `lp` from R-package `lpSolve`).

By default linear programming assumes that all unknowns are positive. If all unknowns are indeed to be positive, then it will generally be faster to set `ispos` equal to TRUE. If `ispos` is FALSE, then a system double the size of the original system must be solved.

`xranges` outputs only the minimum and maximum value of each flow unless:

`full` is `TRUE`. In this case, all the results of the successive minimisation and maximisation will be outputted, i.e. for each linear programming application, not just the value of the unknown being optimised but also the corresponding values of the other unknowns will be outputted.

If `central` is `TRUE`, then the mean of all the results of the linear programming will be outputted. This may be a good starting value for `xsample`

Note: the columns corresponding to the `central` value and the `full` results are valid solutions of the equations  $Ex = F$  and  $Gx \geq H$ . This is not the case for the first two columns (with the minimal and maximal values).

### Value

a matrix with at least two columns:

column 1 and 2: the minimum and maximum value of each `x`

if `central` is `TRUE`: column 3 = the central value

if `full` is `TRUE`: next columns contain all valid range solutions

### Author(s)

Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

### References

Michel Berkelaar and others (2010). lpSolve: Interface to Lp\_solve v. 5.5 to solve linear/integer programs. R package version 5.6.5. <http://CRAN.R-project.org/package=lpSolve>

### See Also

[Minkdiet](#), for a description of the Mink diet example.

[varranges](#), for range estimation of variables,

[xsample](#), to randomly sample the lsei problem

[lp](#): linear programming from package lpSolve

### Examples

```
# Estimate the ranges in the Diet Composition of Mink
E <- rbind(Minkdiet$Prey, rep(1, 7))
F <- c(Minkdiet$Mink, 1)
(DC <- xranges(E, F, ispos = TRUE))

# The same, but explicitly imposing positivity using G and H
xranges(E, F, G = diag(7), H = rep(0, 7))

# and using lower bound
xranges(E, F, lower = 0, verbose = FALSE)
```



---

xsample	<i>Randomly samples an underdetermined problem with linear equality and inequality constraints</i>
---------	--

---

### Description

Random sampling of inverse linear problems with linear equality and inequality constraints. Uses either a "hit and run" algorithm (random or coordinate directions) or a mirroring technique for sampling.

The Markov Chain Monte Carlo method produces a sample solution for

$$Ex = f$$

$$Ax \simeq B$$

$$Gx \geq h$$

where  $Ex = F$  have to be met exactly, and  $x$  is distributed according to  $p(\mathbf{x}) \propto e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{Ax}-\mathbf{b})^T \mathbf{W}^2(\mathbf{Ax}-\mathbf{b})}$

### Usage

```
xsample(A = NULL, B = NULL, E = NULL, F =NULL,
        G = NULL, H = NULL, sdB = NULL, W = 1,
        iter = 3000, outputlength = iter, burninlength = NULL,
        type = "mirror", jmp = NULL, tol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps),
        x0 = NULL, fulloutput = FALSE, test = TRUE, verbose=TRUE,
        lower = NULL, upper = NULL)
```

### Arguments

A	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the (approximate) equality constraints, $Ax \simeq B$ .
B	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the (approximate) equality constraints.
E	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the (exact) equality constraints, $Ex = F$ .
F	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the (exact) equality constraints.
G	numeric matrix containing the coefficients of the inequality constraints, $Gx \geq H$ .
H	numeric vector containing the right-hand side of the inequality constraints.
sdB	vector with standard deviation on B. Defaults to NULL.
W	weighting for $Ax \simeq B$ . Only used if sdB=NULL and the problem is overdetermined. In that case, the error of B around the model $Ax$ is estimated based on the residuals of $Ax \simeq B$ . This error is made proportional to $1/W$ . If sdB is not NULL, $W = \text{diag}(sdB^{-1})$ .
iter	integer determining the number of iterations.

outputlength	number of iterations kept in the output; at most equal to iter.
burninlength	a number of extra iterations, performed at first, to "warm up" the algorithm.
type	type of algorithm: one of: "mirror", (mirroring algorithm), "rda" (random directions algorithm) or "cda" (coordinates directions algorithm).
jmp	jump length of the transformed variables $q$ : $x = x_0 + Zq$ (only if type=="mirror"); if jmp is NULL, a reasonable value is determined by xsample, depending on the size of the NULL space.
tol	tolerance for equality and inequality constraints; numbers whose absolute value is smaller than tol are set to zero.
x0	initial (particular) solution.
fulloutput	if TRUE, also outputs the transformed variables $q$ .
test	if TRUE, xsample will test for hidden equalities (see details). This may be necessary for large problems, but slows down execution a bit.
verbose	logical to print warnings and messages.
upper, lower	vector containing upper and lower bounds on the unknowns. If one value, it is assumed to apply to all unknowns. If a vector, it should have a length equal to the number of unknowns; this vector can contain NA for unbounded variables. The upper and lower bounds are added to the inequality conditions $G * x \geq H$ .

## Details

The algorithm proceeds in two steps.

1. the equality constraints  $Ex = F$  are eliminated, and the system  $Ex = f, Gx \geq h$  is rewritten as  $G(p + Zq) \geq h$ , i.e. containing only inequality constraints and where  $Z$  is a basis for the null space of  $E$ .
2. the distribution of  $q$  is sampled numerically using a random walk (based on the Metropolis algorithm).

There are three algorithms for selecting new samples: rda, cda (two hit-and-run algorithms) and a novel mirror algorithm.

- In the rda algorithm first a random direction is selected, and the new sample obtained by uniformly sampling the line connecting the old sample and the intersection with the planes defined by the inequality constraints.
- the cda algorithm is similar, except that the direction is chosen along one of the coordinate axes.
- the mirror algorithm is yet unpublished; it uses the inequality constraints as "reflecting planes" along which jumps are reflected. In contrast to cda and rda, this algorithm also works with unbounded problems (i.e. for which some of the unknowns can attain Inf).

For more information, see the package vignette `vignette(xsample)` or the file `xsample.pdf` in the packages 'docs' subdirectory.

Raftery and Lewis (1996) suggest a minimum of 3000 iterations to reach the extremes.

If provided, then  $x_0$  should be a valid particular solution (i.e.  $E * x_0 = b$  and  $G * x_0 \geq h$ ), else the algorithm will fail.

For larger problems, a central solution may be necessary as a starting point for the `rda` and `cda` algorithms. A good starting value is provided by the "central" value when running the function `xranges` with option `central` equal to `TRUE`.

If the particular solution ( $x_0$ ) is not provided, then the parsimonious solution is sought, see `ldei`.

This may however not be the most efficient way to start the algorithm. The parsimonious solution is usually located near the edges, and the `rda` and `cda` algorithms may not get out of this corner. The `mirror` algorithm is insensitive to that. Here it may be even better to start in a corner (as this position will always never be reached by random sampling).

The algorithm will fail if there are hidden equalities. For instance, two inequalities may together impose an equality on an unknown, or, inequalities may impose equalities on a linear combination of two or more unknowns.

In this case, the basis of the null space  $Z$  will be deficient. Therefore, `xsample` starts by checking if such hidden equalities exist. If it is suspected that this is NOT the case, set `test` to `FALSE`. This will speed up execution slightly.

It is our experience that for small problems either the `rda` and `cda` algorithms are often more efficient. For really large problems, the `mirror` algorithm is usually much more efficient; select a jump length (`jmp`) that ensures good random coverage, while still keeping the number of reflections reasonable. If unsure about the size of `jmp`, the default will do.

See `E_coli` for an example where a relatively large problem is sampled.

## Value

a list containing:

<code>X</code>	matrix whose rows contain the sampled values of $x$ .
<code>acceptedratio</code>	ratio of acceptance (i.e. the ratio of the accepted runs / total iterations).
<code>Q</code>	only returned if <code>fulloutput</code> is <code>TRUE</code> : the transformed samples $Q$ .
<code>p</code>	only returned if <code>fulloutput</code> is <code>TRUE</code> : probability vector for all samples (e.g. one value for each row of $X$ ).
<code>jmp</code>	the jump length used for the random walk. Can be used to check the automated jump length.

## Author(s)

Karel Van den Meersche  
 Karline Soetaert <karline.soetaert@nioz.nl>

## References

Van den Meersche K, Soetaert K, Van Oevelen D (2009). `xsample()`: An R Function for Sampling Linear Inverse Problems. *Journal of Statistical Software, Code Snippets*, 30(1), 1-15.

<https://www.jstatsoft.org/v30/c01/>

**See Also**

[Minkdiet](#), for a description of the Mink diet example.  
[ldei](#), to find the least distance solution  
[lsei](#), to find the least squares solution  
[varsample](#), to randomly sample variables of an lsei problem.  
[varranges](#), to estimate ranges of inverse variables.

**Examples**

```
#-----
# A simple problem
#-----
# Sample the probability density function of x1,...x4
# subject to:
# x1 + x2          + x4 = 3
#      x2 -x3  + x4 = -1
# xi  > 0

E <- matrix(nrow = 2, byrow = TRUE, data = c(1, 1, 0, 1,
                                             0, 1, -1, 1))
F  <- c(3, -1)

xs <- xsample(E = E, F = F, lower = 0)
pairs(xs)

#-----
# Sample the underdetermined Mink diet problem
#-----
E <- rbind(Minkdiet$Prey, rep(1, 7))
F <- c(Minkdiet$Mink, 1)

# Here the Requirement x > 0 is been imposed in G and H.
pairs(xsample(E = E, F = F, G = diag(7), H = rep(0, 7), iter = 5000,
             output = 1000, type = "cda")$X,
      main = "Minkdiet 1000 solutions, - cda")
```

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