

# Package ‘FastStepGraph’

January 20, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** A Fast Algorithm for Sparse Precision Matrix Estimation

**Version** 0.1.1

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**Description** It implements an improved and computationally faster version of the original Stepwise Gaussian Graphical Algorithm for estimating the Omega precision matrix from high-dimensional data.  
Zamar, R., Ruiz, M., Lafti, G. and Nogales, J. (2021)  
<[doi:10.52933/jdssv.v1i2.11](https://doi.org/10.52933/jdssv.v1i2.11)>.

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**URL** <https://github.com/juancolonna/FastStepGraph>

**Depends** R (>= 4.3),

**Imports** doParallel (>= 1.0), foreach (>= 1.5), MASS (>= 7.3)

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, devtools

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Language** en-US

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2023-10-12 16:10:02 UTC

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|------------------|--|
| cv.FastStepGraph | <i>Searches for the optimal combination of alpha_f and alpha_b parameters using Cross-Validation</i> |
|------------------|--|

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## Description

cv.FastStepGraph implements the cross-validation for the Fast Step Graph algorithm.

## Usage

```
cv.FastStepGraph(
    x,
    n_folds = 5,
    alpha_f_min = 0.2,
    alpha_f_max = 0.8,
    b_coef = 0.5,
    n_alpha = 32,
    nei_max = 5,
    data_scale = FALSE,
    data_shuffle = TRUE,
    max.iterations = NULL,
    return_model = FALSE,
    parallel = FALSE,
    n_cores = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| x              | Data matrix (of size n x p).   |
| n_folds        | Number of folds for the cross-validation procedure (default value 5).  |
| alpha_f_min    | Minimum threshold value for the cross-validation procedure (default value 0.2).  |
| alpha_f_max    | Minimum threshold value for the cross-validation procedure (default value 0.8).  |
| b_coef         | This parameter applies the empirical rule $\alpha_b = b\_coef * \alpha_f$ during the initial search for the optimal $\alpha_f$ parameter while $\alpha_b$ remains fixed, after finding optimal $\alpha_f$ , $\alpha_b$ is varied to find its optimal value. The default value of $b\_coef$ is 0.5. |
| n_alpha        | Number of elements in the grid for the cross-validation (default value 32).  |
| nei_max        | Maximum number of variables in every neighborhood (default value 5).   |
| data_scale     | Boolean parameter (TRUE or FALSE), when to scale data to zero mean and unit variance (default FALSE).  |
| data_shuffle   | Boolean parameter (default TRUE), when samples (rows of X) must be randomly shuffled.  |
| max.iterations | Maximum number of iterations (integer), the defaults values is set to $p*(p-1)$ .  |

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| return_model | Default FALSE. If set to TRUE, at the end of cross-validation, FastStepGraph is called with the optimal parameters alpha_f and alpha_b, returning vareps, beta, Edges and Omega.                   |
| parallel     | Boolean parameter (TRUE or FALSE), when to run Cross-Validation in parallel using a multicore architecture (default FALSE).  |
| n_cores      | An 'int' value specifying the number of cores do you want to use if 'parallel=TRUE'. If n_cores is not specified, the maximum number of cores on your machine minus one will be set automatically. |

**Value**

A list with the values:

|             |                            |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| alpha_f_opt | the optimal alpha_f value. |
| alpha_b_opt | the optimal alpha_b value. |
| CV.loss     | minimum loss.              |

If return\_model=TRUE, then also returns:

|        |                             |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| vareps | Response variables.         |
| beta   | Regression coefficients.    |
| Edges  | Estimated set of edges.     |
| Omega  | Estimated precision matrix. |

**Author(s)**

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Prof. Marcelo Ruiz, PhD. <mruiz@exa.unrc.edu.ar>

**Examples**

```
data <- FastStepGraph::SigmaAR(30, 50, 0.4) # Simulate Gaussian Data
res <- FastStepGraph::cv.FastStepGraph(data$X, data_scale=TRUE)
```

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FastStepGraph

*Fast Stepwise Gaussian Graphical Model*

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**Description**

Improved and faster implementation of the Stepwise Gaussian Graphical Algorithm.

**Usage**

```
FastStepGraph(
  x,
  alpha_f,
  alpha_b = NULL,
  nei.max = 5,
  data_scale = FALSE,
  max.iterations = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <code>x</code>              | Data matrix (of size <code>n_samples</code> x <code>p_variables</code> ).   |
| <code>alpha_f</code>        | Forward threshold (no default value).   |
| <code>alpha_b</code>        | Backward threshold. If <code>alpha_b=NULL</code> , then the rule <code>alpha_b &lt;- 0.5*alpha_f</code> is applied. |
| <code>nei.max</code>        | Maximum number of variables in every neighborhood (default value 5).  |
| <code>data_scale</code>     | Boolean parameter (TRUE or FALSE), when to scale data to zero mean and unit variance (default FALSE).               |
| <code>max.iterations</code> | Maximum number of iterations (integer), the defaults values is set to $p*(p-1)$ .                                   |

**Value**

A list with the values:

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <code>vareps</code> | Response variables.         |
| <code>beta</code>   | Regression coefficients.    |
| <code>Edges</code>  | Estimated set of edges.     |
| <code>Omega</code>  | Estimated precision matrix. |

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**Examples**

```
data <- FastStepGraph::SigmaAR(30, 50, 0.4) # Simulate Gaussian Data
G <- FastStepGraph::FastStepGraph(data$X, alpha_f = 0.22, alpha_b = 0.14, data_scale=TRUE)
```

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`SigmaAR`*Simulate Covariance Matrix with an Auto-regressive (AR) Model*

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**Description**

Helper function to simulate Simulate Gaussian Data with an Autoregressive (AR) Model

**Usage**

```
SigmaAR(n_rows, p_columns, phi)
```

**Arguments**

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <code>n_rows</code>    | Number of samples (rows of X).      |
| <code>p_columns</code> | Number of variables (columns of X). |
| <code>phi</code>       | Auto-regression coefficient.        |

**Value**

A list with the values:

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <code>Sigma</code> | A covariance matrix.                                 |
| <code>Omega</code> | A precision matrix.                                  |
| <code>X</code>     | A normalized data matrix with Gaussian distribution. |

**Author(s)**

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**Examples**

```
data <- FastStepGraph::SigmaAR(30, 50, 0.4) # Simulate Gaussian Data
```

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