Package: GPvecchia (via r-universe)

October 29, 2026

Type Package

Title Scalable Gaussian-Process Approximations

Version 0.1.8

Date 2026-01-28

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Description Fast scalable Gaussian process approximations, particularly well suited to spatial (aerial, remote-sensed) and environmental data, described in more detail in Katzfuss and Guinness (2017) <doi:10.48550/arXiv.1708.06302>. Package also contains a fast implementation of the incomplete Cholesky decomposition (IC0), based on Schaefer et al. (2019) <doi:10.48550/arXiv.1706.02205> and MaxMin ordering proposed in Guinness (2018) <doi:10.48550/arXiv.1609.05372>.

Encoding UTF-8

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Imports Rcpp (>= 1.1.1), methods, stats, sparseinv, fields, Matrix(>= 1.5.1), parallel, GpGp, FNN

LinkingTo Rcpp, RcppArmadillo, BH

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Suggests mvtnorm, knitr, rmarkdown, testthat

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation yes

Repository https://cran.r-universe.dev

Date/Publication 2026-01-31 07:40:56 UTC

RemoteUrl https://github.com/cran/GPvecchia

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha 438f274c212d4b34b800009aaf1c1e29a52a4fc4

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`calculate_posterior_VL` *Vecchia Laplace extension of GPVecchia for non-Gaussian data*

Description

Vecchia Laplace extension of GPVecchia for non-Gaussian data

Usage

```
calculate_posterior_VL(
  z,
  vecchia.approx,
 likelihood_model = c("gaussian", "logistic", "poisson", "gamma", "beta", "gamma_alt"),
  covparms,
  covmodel = "matern",
  likparms = list(alpha = 2, sigma = sqrt(0.1)),
```

```
  max.iter = 50,
  convg = 1e-06,
  return_all = FALSE,
  y_init = NA,
  prior_mean = rep(0, length(z)),
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

z	an array of real numbers representing observations
vecchia.approx	a vecchia object as generated by vecchia_specify()
likelihood_model	text describing likelihood model to be used for observations. Can be "gaussian","logistic", "poisson", "gamma", or "beta"
covparms	covariance parameters as a vector
covmodel	type of the model covariance or selected elements of the covariance matrix
likparms	likelihood parameters for the likelihood_model, as a list. Default values are sqrt(.1) for Gaussian noise and 2 for the alpha parameter for Gamma data.
max.iter	maximum iterations to perform
convg	convergence criteria. End iterations if the Newton step is this small
return_all	Return additional posterior covariance terms, TRUE or FALSE
y_init	Specify initial guess for posterior mode
prior_mean	specify the prior latent mean
verbose	if TRUE messages about the posterior estimation will be displayed

Value

multivariate normal posterior parameters calculated by the Vecchia-Laplace approximation

Examples

```
z=rnorm(10); locs=matrix(1:10,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=5)
calculate_posterior_VL(z,vecchia.approx,"gaussian",covparms=c(1,2,.5))
```

---

createL *create the sparse triangular L matrix for specific parameters*

Description

create the sparse triangular L matrix for specific parameters

Usage

```
createL(vecchia.approx, covmodel, covparms = NULL)
```

Arguments

vecchia.approx	object returned by vecchia_specify
covmodel	covariance model. currently implemented: matern: with covparms (var,range,smoothness) esqe: exponential + squared exp with covparms (var1,range1,var2,range2) If covmodel is a function it has to be able to take a distance matrix and return a vector with distances which is of length k.
covparms	vector of covariance parameters

Value

list containing the sparse lower triangular L,

Examples

```
z=rnorm(9); locs=matrix(1:9,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=5)
L = createL(vecchia.approx, covparms=c(1,2,.5), 'matern')
```

---

createU *create the sparse triangular U matrix for specific parameters*

Description

create the sparse triangular U matrix for specific parameters

Usage

```
createU(vecchia.approx, covparms, nuggets, covmodel = "matern")
```

Arguments

vecchia.approx	object returned by vecchia_specify
covparms	vector of covariance parameters
nuggets	nugget variances – if a scalar is provided, variance is assumed constant
covmodel	covariance model. currently implemented:

Value

list containing the sparse upper triangular U, plus additional objects required for other functions

Examples

```
z=rnorm(9); locs=matrix(1:9,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=5)
U.obj=createU(vecchia.approx,covparms=c(1,2,.5),nuggets=.2)
```

getMatCov *extract the required elements from the covariance matrix*

Description

This function takes the entire covariance matrix and creates a matrix of covariances based on the vecchia approximatino object

Usage

```
getMatCov(V, covariances, factor = FALSE)
```

Arguments

V	the object returned by vecchia_specify
covariances	The full covariance matrix or a covariance function
factor	True if we are passing a factor of a matrix

Value

matrix of size n x (m+1) with only those elements that are used by the incomplete Cholesky decomposition

getMatCovFromFactorCpp *Calculate the covariance values required by HV for matrix factors passed as sparse matrices*

Description

Calculate the covariance values required by HV for matrix factors passed as sparse matrices

Usage

```
getMatCovFromFactorCpp(F, revNNarray)
```

Arguments

F	factor of a matrix in a sparse format
revNNarray	array with the neighbourhood structure

Value

matrix with covariance values

GPvecchia *GPvecchia: fast, scalable Gaussian process approximations*

Description

The package can be used for parameter inference and prediction for Gaussian and non-Gaussian spatial data using many popular GP approximation methods.

ic0 *Incomplete Cholesky decomposition of a sparse matrix passed in the compressed sparse row format*

Description

Incomplete Cholesky decomposition of a sparse matrix passed in the compressed sparse row format

Usage

```
ic0(ptrs, inds, vals)
```

Arguments

ptrs	pointers to the beginning of the row
inds	indices of nonzero elements in a row
vals	nonzero values

Value

vector of the values of the incomplete Cholesky factor

ichol *Wrapper for incomplete Cholesky decomposition*

Description

Wrapper for incomplete Cholesky decomposition

Usage

```
ichol(M, S = NULL)
```

Arguments

M	the matrix to be decomposed
S	sparsity pattern matrix given

Value

the incomplete Cholesky factor in the sparse format

Examples

```
A = matrix(runif(25), ncol = 5)
A = t(A) * A + 2 * Matrix::Diagonal(5)
S = Matrix::Matrix(c(rep(1, 5), c(0, 1, 1, 0, 0), c(0, 0, 1, 0, 1),
c(0, 0, 0, 1, 0), c(0, 0, 0, 0, 1)), ncol = 5, byrow = TRUE)
I1 = ichol(A, S)
I2 = ichol(A * S)
```

MaternFun *Calculate Matern covariance function*

Description

Calculate Matern covariance function

Usage

```
MaternFun(distmat, covparms)
```

Arguments

distmat	A matrix with distances between points
covparms	A vector with parameters (marg. variance, range, smoothness)

Value

A matrix with covariance values corresponding to the distance matrix

order_coordinate *Sorted coordinate ordering*

Description

Return the ordering of locations sorted along one of the coordinates or the sum of multiple coordinates

Usage

```
order_coordinate(locs, coordinate)
```

Arguments

locs	A matrix of locations. Each row of locs contains a location, which can be a point in Euclidean space R^d, a point in space-time R^d x T, a longitude and latitude (in degrees) giving a point on the sphere, or a longitude, latitude, and time giving a point in the sphere-time domain.
coordinate	integer or vector of integers in {1,...,d}. If a single integer, coordinates are ordered along that coordinate. If multiple integers, coordinates are ordered according to the sum of specified coordinate values. For example, when d=2, coordinate = c(1,2) orders from bottom left to top right.

Value

A vector of indices giving the ordering, i.e. the first element of this vector is the index of the first location.

Examples

```
n <- 100             # Number of locations
d <- 2               # dimension of domain
locs <- matrix( runif(n*d), n, d )
ord1 <- order_coordinate(locs, 1 )
ord12 <- order_coordinate(locs, c(1,2) )
```

order_dist_to_point *Distance to specified point ordering*

Description

Return the ordering of locations increasing in their distance to some specified location

Usage

```
order_dist_to_point(locs, loc0, lonlat = FALSE)
```

Arguments

locs	A matrix of locations. Each row of locs contains a location, which can be a point in Euclidean space R^d, a point in space-time R^d x T, a longitude and latitude (in degrees) giving a point on the sphere, or a longitude, latitude, and time giving a point in the sphere-time domain.
loc0	A vector containing a single location in R^d.
lonlat	TRUE/FALSE whether locations are longitudes and latitudes.

Value

A vector of indices giving the ordering, i.e. the first element of this vector is the index of the location nearest to loc0.

Examples

```
n <- 100             # Number of locations
d <- 2               # dimension of domain
locs <- matrix( runif(n*d), n, d )
loc0 <- c(1/2,1/2)
ord <- order_dist_to_point(locs,loc0)
```

---

order_maxmin_exact *Maximum minimum distance ordering*

Description

Return the indices of an exact maximum-minimum distance ordering. The first point is chosen as the "center" point, minimizing L2 distance. Dimensions d=2 and d=3 handled separately, dimensions d=1 and d>3 handled similarly. Algorithm is exact and scales quasilinearly.

Usage

```
order_maxmin_exact(locs)
```

Arguments

locs	Observation locations

Value

A vector of indices giving the ordering, i.e. the first element of this vector is the index of the first location.

Examples

```
n=100; locs <- cbind(runif(n),runif(n))
ord <- order_maxmin_exact(locs)
```

order_maxmin_exact_obs_pred *Maximum minimum distance ordering for prediction*

Description

Return the indices of an exact maximum-minimum distance ordering. The first point is chosen as the "center" point, minimizing L2 distance. Dimensions d=2 and d=3 handled separately, dimensions d=1 and d>3 handled similarly. Algorithm is exact and scales quasilinearly.

Usage

```
order_maxmin_exact_obs_pred(locs, locs_pred)
```

Arguments

locs	Observation locations
locs_pred	Prediction locations

Value

A vector of indices giving the ordering, i.e. the first element of this vector is the index of the first location.

Examples

```
n=100; locs <- cbind(runif(n),runif(n))
locs_pred = cbind(runif(n), runif(n))
ord <- order_maxmin_exact_obs_pred(locs, locs_pred)
```

order_middleout *Middle-out ordering*

Description

Return the ordering of locations increasing in their distance to the average location

Usage

```
order_middleout(locs, lonlat = FALSE)
```

Arguments

locs	A matrix of locations. Each row of locs contains a location, which can be a point in Euclidean space R^d, a point in space-time R^d x T, a longitude and latitude (in degrees) giving a point on the sphere, or a longitude, latitude, and time giving a point in the sphere-time domain.
lonlat	TRUE/FALSE whether locations are longitudes and latitudes.

Value

A vector of indices giving the ordering, i.e. the first element of this vector is the index of the location nearest the center.

Examples

```
n <- 100             # Number of locations
d <- 2               # dimension of domain
locs <- matrix( runif(n*d), n, d )
ord <- order_middleout(locs)
```

---

order_outsidein *Outside-in ordering*

Description

Return the ordering of locations decreasing in their distance to the average location. Reverses middleout.

Usage

```
order_outsidein(locs, lonlat = FALSE)
```

Arguments

locs	A matrix of locations. Each row of locs contains a location, which can be a point in Euclidean space R^d, a point in space-time R^d x T, a longitude and latitude (in degrees) giving a point on the sphere, or a longitude, latitude, and time giving a point in the sphere-time domain.
lonlat	TRUE/FALSE whether locations are longitudes and latitudes.

Value

A vector of indices giving the ordering, i.e. the first element of this vector is the index of the location farthest from the center.

Examples

```
n <- 100            # Number of locations
d <- 2              # dimension of domain
locs <- matrix( runif(n*d), n, d )
ord <- order_outsidein(locs)
```

`SelInv` *selected inverse of a sparse matrix*

Description

selected inverse of a sparse matrix

Usage

```
SelInv(cholmat)
```

Arguments

`cholmat`	cholesky factor L of a positive definite sparseMatrix A

Value

sparse inverse of A, with same sparsity pattern as L

Examples

```
A=Matrix::sparseMatrix(1:9,1:9,x=4); L=Matrix::chol(A)
SelInv(L)
```

`V2covmat` *compute covariance matrix from V.ord Do not run this function for large n or n.p!!!*

Description

compute covariance matrix from V.ord Do not run this function for large n or n.p!!!

Usage

```
V2covmat(preds)
```

Arguments

`preds`	Object returned by vecchia_prediction()

Value

Covariance matrix at all locations in original order

Examples

```
z=rnorm(5)
locs=matrix(1:5,ncol=1)
vecchia_specify=function(z,locs,m=5,locs.pred=(1:5)+.5)
V2covmat(vecchia_prediction(vecchia.approx,covparms=c(1,2,.5),nuggets=.2))
```

`vecchia_estimate` *estimate mean and covariance parameters of a Matern covariance function using Vecchia*

Description

estimate mean and covariance parameters of a Matern covariance function using Vecchia

Usage

```
vecchia_estimate(
  data,
  locs,
  X,
  m = 20,
  covmodel = "matern",
  theta.ini,
  output.level = 1,
  reltol = sqrt(.Machine$double.eps),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`data`	data vector of length n
`locs`	n x d matrix of spatial locations
`X`	n x p matrix of trend covariates. default is vector of ones (constant trend). set to NULL if data are already detrended
`m`	number of neighbors for vecchia approximation. default is 20
`covmodel`	covariance model. default is Matern. see `vecchia_likelihood` for details.
`theta.ini`	initial values of covariance parameters. nugget variance must be last.
`output.level`	passed on to trace in the `stats::optim` function
`reltol`	tolerance for the optimization function; by default set to the sqrt of machine precision
`...`	additional input parameters for `vecchia_specify`

Value

object containing detrended data z, trend coefficients beta.hat, covariance parameters theta.hat, and other quantities necessary for prediction

Examples

```
n=10^2; locs=cbind(runif(n),runif(n))
covparms=c(1,.1,.5); nuggets=rep(.1,n)
Sigma=exp(-fields::rdist(locs)/covparms[2])+diag(nuggets)
z=as.numeric(t(chol(Sigma))%*%rnorm(n));
data=z+1
vecchia.est=vecchia_estimate(data,locs,theta.ini=c(covparms,nuggets[1]))
```

---

vecchia_laplace_likelihood

Wrapper for VL version of vecchia_likelihood

Description

Wrapper for VL version of vecchia_likelihood

Usage

```
vecchia_laplace_likelihood(
  z,
  vecchia.approx,
  likelihood_model,
  covparms,
  likparms = list(alpha = 2, sigma = sqrt(0.1)),
  covmodel = "matern",
  max.iter = 50,
  convg = 1e-05,
  return_all = FALSE,
  y_init = NA,
  prior_mean = rep(0, length(z)),
  vecchia.approx.IW = NA
)
```

Arguments

z	an array of real numbers representing observations
vecchia.approx	a vecchia object as generated by vecchia_specify()
likelihood_model	text describing likelihood model to be used for observations
covparms	covariance parameters as a vector

likparms	likelihood parameters for the likelihood_model, as a list
covmodel	describes the covariance model, "matern" by default
max.iter	maximum iterations to perform
convg	convergence criteria. End iterations if the Newton step is this small
return_all	Return additional posterior covariance terms
y_init	Specify initial guess for posterior mode
prior_mean	specify the prior latent mean
vecchia.approx.IW	an optional vecchia approximation object, can reduce computation if method is called repeatedly

Value

(multivariate normal) loglikelihood implied by the Vecchia approximation

Examples

```
z=rnorm(10); locs=matrix(1:10,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=5)
vecchia_laplace_likelihood(z,vecchia.approx,"gaussian",covparms=c(1,2,.5))
```

---

vecchia_laplace_likelihood_from_posterior

Wrapper for VL version of vecchia_likelihood

Description

Wrapper for VL version of vecchia_likelihood

Usage

```
vecchia_laplace_likelihood_from_posterior(
  z,
  posterior,
  vecchia.approx,
  likelihood_model,
  covparms,
  likparms = list(alpha = 2, sigma = sqrt(0.1)),
  covmodel = "matern",
  max.iter = 50,
  convg = 1e-05,
  return_all = FALSE,
  y_init = NA,
  prior_mean = rep(0, length(z)),
  vecchia.approx.IW = NA
)
```

Arguments

z	an array of real numbers representing observations
posterior	posterior distribution obtained from calculate_posterior_VL()
vecchia.approx	a vecchia object as generated by vecchia_specify()
likelihood_model	text describing likelihood model to be used for observations
covparms	covariance parameters as a vector
likparms	likelihood parameters for the likelihood_model, as a list
covmodel	describes the covariance model, "matern" by default
max.iter	maximum iterations to perform
convg	convergence criteria. End iterations if the Newton step is this small
return_all	Return additional posterior covariance terms
y_init	Specify initial guess for posterior mode
prior_mean	specify the prior latent mean
vecchia.approx.IW	an optional vecchia approximation object, can reduce computation if method is called repeatedly

Value

(multivariate normal) loglikelihood implied by the Vecchia approximation

---

vecchia_laplace_prediction *Wrapper for VL version of vecchia_prediction*

Description

Wrapper for VL version of vecchia_prediction

Usage

```
vecchia_laplace_prediction(
  vl_posterior,
  vecchia.approx,
  covparms,
  pred.mean = 0,
  var.exact = FALSE,
  covmodel = "matern",
  return.values = "all"
)
```

Arguments

vl_posterior	a posterior estimate object produced by calculate_posterior_VL
vecchia.approx	a vecchia object as generated by vecchia_specify()
covparms	covariance parameters as a vector
pred.mean	provides the prior latent mean for the prediction locations
var.exact	should prediction variances be computed exactly, or is a (faster) approximation acceptable
covmodel	covariance model, 'matern' by default.
return.values	either 'mean' only, 'meanvar', 'meanmat', or 'all'

Value

(multivariate normal) loglikelihood implied by the Vecchia approximation

Examples

```
z=rnorm(10); locs=matrix(1:10,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=5)
vl_posterior = calculate_posterior_VL(z,vecchia.approx,"gaussian",covparms=c(1,2,.5))
locs.pred=matrix(1:10+.5,ncol=1)
vecchia.approx.pred = vecchia_specify(locs, m=5, locs.pred=locs.pred )
vecchia_laplace_prediction(vl_posterior,vecchia.approx.pred,covparms=c(1,2,.5))
```

---

vecchia_likelihood *evaluation of the likelihood*

Description

evaluation of the likelihood

Usage

```
vecchia_likelihood(z, vecchia.approx, covparms, nuggets, covmodel = "matern")
```

Arguments

z	the observed data
vecchia.approx	a vecchia object as generated by vecchia_specify()
covparms	covariance parameters as a vector
nuggets	either a single (constant) nugget or a vector of nugget terms for the observations
covmodel	covariance model, 'matern' by default

Value

(multivariate normal) loglikelihood implied by the Vecchia approximation

Examples

```
z=rnorm(5); locs=matrix(1:5,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=3)
vecchia_likelihood(z,vecchia.approx,covparms=c(1,2,.5),nuggets=.2)
```

`vecchia_lincomb` *linear combination of predictions compute the distribution of a linear combination Hy*

Description

linear combination of predictions compute the distribution of a linear combination Hy

Usage

```
vecchia_lincomb(H, U.obj, V.ord, cov.mat = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`H`	sparse matrix with n.all columns specifying the linear combination
`U.obj`	U matrix is the full joint approximated cholesky matrix
`V.ord`	ordered V matrix from vecchia_prediction() or U2V()
`cov.mat`	logical TRUE or FALSE – should the entire covariance matrix be returned (only do if H has a small number of rows)

Value

Variance of linear combination of predictions.

Examples

```
n=5; z=rnorm(n); locs=matrix(1:n,ncol=1); n.p=5
vecchia.approx = vecchia_specify(locs,m=3,locs.pred=locs+.5)
preds=vecchia_prediction(z,vecchia.approx,covparms=c(1,2,.5),nuggets=.2)
H=Matrix::sparseMatrix(i=rep(1,n.p),j=n+(1:n.p),x=1/n.p)
vecchia_lincomb(H,vecchia.approx,preds$V.ord,cov.mat=TRUE)
```

vecchia_pred *make spatial predictions using Vecchia based on estimated parameters*

Description

make spatial predictions using Vecchia based on estimated parameters

Usage

```
vecchia_pred(vecchia.est, locs.pred, X.pred, m = 30, ...)
```

Arguments

vecchia.est	object returned by vecchia_estimate
locs.pred	n.p x d matrix of prediction locations
X.pred	n.p x p matrix of trend covariates at prediction locations. does not need to be specified if constant or no trend was used in vecchia_estimate
m	number of neighbors for vecchia approximation. default is 30.
...	additional input parameters for vecchia_specify

Value

object containing prediction means mean.pred and variances var.pred

Examples

```
n=10^2; locs=cbind(runif(n),runif(n))
covparms=c(1,.1,.5); nuggets=rep(.1,n)
Sigma=exp(-fields::rdist(locs)/covparms[2])+diag(nuggets)
z=as.numeric(t(chol(Sigma))%*%rnorm(n));
data=z+1
vecchia.est=vecchia_estimate(data,locs,theta.ini=c(covparms,nuggets[1]))
n.p=30^2; grid.oneside=seq(0,1,length=round(sqrt(n.p)))
locs.pred=as.matrix(expand.grid(grid.oneside,grid.oneside))
vecchia.pred=vecchia_pred(vecchia.est,locs.pred)
```

`vecchia_prediction` *Vecchia prediction*

Description

Vecchia prediction

Usage

```
vecchia_prediction(
  z,
  vecchia.approx,
  covparms,
  nuggets,
  var.exact,
  covmodel = "matern",
  return.values = "all"
)
```

Arguments

`z`	observed data
`vecchia.approx`	a vecchia object as generated by vecchia_specify()
`covparms`	covariance parameters as a vector
`nuggets`	nugget
`var.exact`	should prediction variances be computed exactly, or is a (faster) approximation acceptable
`covmodel`	covariance model, 'matern' by default.
`return.values`	either 'mean' only, 'meanvar', 'meanmat', or 'all'

Value

posterior mean and variances at observed and unobserved locations; V matrix

Examples

```
z=rnorm(5); locs=matrix(1:5,ncol=1); vecchia.approx=vecchia_specify(locs,m=3,locs.pred=locs+.5)
vecchia_prediction(z,vecchia.approx,covparms=c(1,2,.5),nuggets=.2)
```

vecchia_specify *specify a general vecchia approximation*

Description

specify the vecchia approximation for later use in likelihood evaluation or prediction. This function does not depend on parameter values, and only has to be run once before repeated likelihood evaluations.

Usage

```
vecchia_specify(
  locs,
  m = -1,
  ordering,
  cond.yz,
  locs.pred,
  ordering.pred,
  pred.cond,
  conditioning,
  mra.options = NULL,
  ic0 = FALSE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

locs	nxd matrix of observed locs
m	Number of nearby points to condition on
ordering	options are 'coord' or 'maxmin'
cond.yz	options are 'y', 'z', 'SGV', 'SGVT', 'RVP', 'LK', and 'zy'
locs.pred	nxd matrix of locations at which to make predictions
ordering.pred	options are 'obspred' or 'general'
pred.cond	prediction conditioning, options are 'general' or 'independent'
conditioning	conditioning on 'NN' (nearest neighbor) or 'firstm' (fixed set for low rank) or 'mra'
mra.options	Settings for number of levels and neighbors per level
ic0	Specifies if ic0 decomposition should be used as opposed to regular Cholesky
verbose	Provide more detail when using MRA calculations. Default is false.

Value

An object that specifies the vecchia approximation for later use in likelihood evaluation or prediction.

Examples

```
locs=matrix(1:5,ncol=1); vecchia_specify(locs,m=2)
```

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