

# Package ‘SparseFactorAnalysis’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Scaling Count and Binary Data with Sparse Factor Analysis

**Version** 1.0

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**Description** Multidimensional scaling provides a means of uncovering a latent structure underlying observed data, while estimating the number of latent dimensions. This package presents a means for scaling binary and count data, for example the votes and word counts for legislators. Future work will include an EM implementation and extend this work to ordinal and continuous data.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Depends** directlabels, proto, ggplot2

**Imports** Rcpp (>= 0.11.4), MASS, VGAM, truncnorm

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Repository** CRAN

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SparseFactorAnalysis-package

*Sparse factor analysis for mixed binary and count data.*

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## Description

Multi-dimensional scaling provides a means of uncovering a latent structure underlying observed data. This package presents a means for scaling binary and count data, for example the votes and word counts for legislators.

## Details

Package: SparseFactorAnalysis  
Type: Package  
Version: 1.0  
Date: 2015-03-21  
License: GPL (>= 2)

## Author(s)

Marc Ratkovic, In Song Kim, John Londregan, and Yuki Shiraito Maintainer: Marc Ratkovic (ratkovic@princeton.edu)

## References

In Song Kim, John Londregan, and Marc Ratkovic. 2015. "Voting, Speechmaking, and the Dimensions of Conflict in the US Senate." Working paper.

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plot.sfa

*Plotting output from sparse factor analysis.*

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## Description

Function for plotting coefficients from sparse factor analysis. Returns one of two types of plots: either a summary of estimated dimensionality or a scatterplot of two dimensions.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sfa'  
plot(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

`x` Object from output of class `sfa`.  
`...` Additional items to pass to `plot`. Options below.

**Details**

The function produces either a summary of estimated dimensionality or a scatter plot of points between two dimensions. See options below.

`type` Either "dim" or "scatter". Whether to return a summary of dimensionality or scatterplot between two dimensions.

`main`, `ylabel`, `xlabel` Main title, y axis label, and x axis label.

`dims.scatter` Which two dimensions to plot against each other.

`scatter.by` Either row or col. Whether to produce scatterplot of two rows or of two columns.

`topbottom` Number of points to label at the extreme of each dimension. Only used for `type="scatter"`.

**Author(s)**

Marc Ratkovic

**References**

In Song Kim, John Londregan, and Marc Ratkovic. 2015. "Voting, Speechmaking, and the Dimensions of Conflict in the US Senate." Working paper.

**See Also**

[sfa](#)

**Examples**

```
## See sfa() for example.
```

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sfa

*Sparse factor analysis for mixed binary and count data.*

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**Description**

Scaling mixed binary and count data while estimating the underlying latent dimensionality.

**Usage**

```
sfa(M, missing.mat=NULL, gibbs=100, burnin=100, max.optim=50,
     thin=1, save.curr="UDV_curr", save.each=FALSE, thin.save=25,
     maxdim=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>M</code>	Matrix to be scaled.
<code>missing.mat</code>	Matrix indicating missing data. Should be the same size as <code>M</code> , with a 1 denoting a missing observation and a 0 otherwise. Defaults to all zeroes.
<code>gibbs</code>	Number of posterior samples to draw
<code>burnin</code>	Number of burnin samples.
<code>max.optim</code>	Number of iterations to fit the cutpoints using <code>optim</code> . This is generally faster than the Hamiltonian Monte Carlo estimates, and is useful for the first part of the burnin phase.
<code>thin</code>	Extent of thinning of the MCMC chain. Only every <code>thin</code> draw is saved to the output.
<code>save.curr</code>	Name of file in which to save object.
<code>save.each</code>	Whether to save with a new name at each thinned draw.
<code>thin.save</code>	How many thinned draws to wait between saving output.
<code>maxdim</code>	Number of latent dimensions to fit. Should be greater than the number of estimated dimensions.

**Details**

The function `sfa` is the main function in the package, `SparseFactorAnalysis`. It takes in a matrix which in `rows` has the same data type—either binary or count. For example, every row may consist of roll call votes or word counts, and the columns may correspond with legislators. The method combines the two data types, scales both, and selects the underlying latent dimensionality.

**Value**

<code>dim.sparse</code>	Output for sparse estimates of dimensionality.
<code>dim.mean</code>	Non-sparse estimates of posterior mean of dimensionality.
<code>rowdim1</code>	Posterior samples of first dimension of spatial locations for each observation <code>i</code> .
<code>rowdim2</code>	Posterior samples of second dimension of spatial locations for row unit of observation.
<code>coldim1</code>	Posterior samples of first dimension of spatial locations for column unit of observation.
<code>coldim2</code>	Posterior samples of second dimension of spatial locations for column unit of observation.
<code>lambda.lasso</code>	Posterior samples for tuning parameter used for dimension selection.
<code>Z</code>	Posterior mean of fitted values, on a z-scale.
<code>rowdims.all</code>	Posterior mean of all row spatial locations.
<code>coldims.all</code>	Posterior mean of all column spatial locations.

**Author(s)**

Marc Ratkovic and Yuki Shiraito

## References

In Song Kim, John Londregan, and Marc Ratkovic. 2015. "Voting, Speechmaking, and the Dimensions of Conflict in the US Senate." Working paper.

## See Also

[plot.sfa](#), [summary.sfa](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
##Sample size and dimensions.
set.seed(1)
n.sim<-50
k.sim<-500

##True vector of dimension weights.
d.sim<-rep(0,n.sim)
d.sim[1:3]<-c(2, 1.5, 1)*3

##Formulate true latent dimensions.
U.sim<-matrix(rnorm(n.sim^2,sd=.5), nr=n.sim, nc=n.sim)
V.sim<-matrix(rnorm(n.sim*k.sim,sd=.5), nr=k.sim, nc=n.sim)
Theta.sim<-U.sim%*%diag(d.sim)%*%t(V.sim)

##Generate binary outcome and count data.
probs.sim<-pnorm((-1+Theta.sim+rep(1,n.sim)%*%t(rnorm(k.sim,sd=.5)) +
  rnorm(n.sim,sd=.5)%*%t(rep(1,k.sim))  ))
votes.mat<-
  apply(probs.sim[1:25,],c(1,2),FUN=function(x) rbinom(1,1,x))
count.mat<-
  apply(probs.sim[26:50, ],c(1,2),FUN=function(x) rpois(1,20*x))
M<-rbind(votes.mat,count.mat)

## Run sfa
sparse1<-sfa(M, maxdim=10)

##Analyze results.
summary(sparse1)
plot(sparse1,type="dim")
plot(sparse1,type="scatter")

##Compare to true data generating process

plot(sparse1$Z,Theta.sim)
abline(c(0,1))

## End(Not run)
```

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`summary.sfa`*Summaries from sparse factor analysis.*

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### Description

Returns a summary for the dimensionality estimate, first and second dimensions, and additional dimensions as desired.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'sfa'  
summary(object, ... )
```

### Arguments

`object` Object of type `sfa`.  
`...` Additional items to pass to `summary`. Options below.

### Details

Generates a table for an object of class `sfa`. Additional arguments to pass `summary` below.

`interval` A number between 0 and 1. Length of symmetric posterior credible interval.

`topbottom` A positive integer. How many observations at the top and bottom of each dimension to print.

`print.dims` Optional. Additional dimensions besides the first two for which to return the top and bottom `topbottom` observations.

### References

Ratkovic, Marc and Tingley, Dustin. 2015. "Sparse Estimation with Uncertainty: Subgroup Analysis in Large Dimensional Design." Working paper.

### See Also

[sfa](#)

### Examples

```
## See sfa() for example.
```

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