

Package ‘prinvars’

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Title Principal Variables
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Description Provides methods for reducing the number of features within a data set. See Bauer JO (2021) <doi:10.1145/3475827.3475832> and Bauer JO, Drabant B (2021) <doi:10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104754> for more information on principal loading analysis.
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 'pla.R'
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Block-class	<i>Block</i>
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Description

Class used within the package to keep the structure and information about the generated blocks.

Slots

- features a vector of numeric which contains the indices of the block.
- explained_variance a numeric which contains the variance explained of the blocks variables based on the whole data set.
- is_valid a logical which indicates if the block structure is valid.

pla	<i>Principal Loading Analysis</i>
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Description

This function performs a principal loading analysis on the given data matrix and returns the results as an object of class pla.

Usage

```
pla(  
  x,  
  cor = FALSE,  
  scaled_ev = FALSE,  
  thresholds = 0.33,  
  threshold_mode = "cutoff",  
  expvar = "approx",  
  check = "rnc",  
  ...  
)
```

Arguments

- x a numeric matrix or data frame which provides the data for the principal loading analysis.
- cor a logical value indicating whether the calculation should use the correlation or the covariance matrix.
- scaled_ev a logical value indicating whether the eigenvectors should be scaled.

thresholds	a numeric value or list of numeric values used to determine "small" values inside the eigenvectors. If multiple values are given, a list of pla results will be returned.
threshold_mode	a character string indicating how the threshold is determined and used. cutoff indicates the usage of a threshold value. percentage indicates that the cutoff value is determined by the maximum element of each vector multiplied with the threshold value.
expvar	a character string indicating the method used for calculating the explained variance. approx uses the explained variance of each eigenvector i.e. its eigenvalue. exact uses the variance of each variable.
check	a character string indicating if only rows or rows as well as columns are used to detect the underlying block structure. rows checks if the rows fulfill the required structure. rnc checks if rows and columns fulfill the required structure.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

single or list of pla class containing the following attributes:

x	a numeric matrix or data frame which equals the input of x.
c	a numeric matrix or data frame which is the covariance or correlation matrix based on the input of cov.
loadings	a matrix of variable loadings (i.e. a matrix containing the eigenvectors of the dispersion matrix).
threshold	a numeric value which equals the input of thresholds.
threshold_mode	a character string which equals the input of threshold_mode.
blocks	a list of blocks which are identified by principal loading analysis.

See Bauer JO (2021). "Correlation Based Principal Loading Analysis." In *2021 4th International Conference on Mathematics and Statistics*, 27–34. ISBN 9781450389907, doi: [10.1145/3475827.3475832](https://doi.org/10.1145/3475827.3475832). and Bauer JO, Drabant B (2021). "Principal loading analysis." *Journal of Multivariate Analysis*, **184**, 104754. ISSN 0047259X, doi: [10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104754](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104754). for more information.

Examples

```
if(requireNamespace("AER")){
  require(AER)
  data("OECDGrowth")

  ## the scales in OECDGrowth differ hence using the
  ## correlation matrix is highly recommended

  pla(OECDGrowth, thresholds = 0.5) ## not recommended
  pla(OECDGrowth, cor=TRUE, thresholds = 0.5)

  ## we obtain three blocks: (randd), (gdp85,gdp60) and
  ## (invest, school, popgrowth). Block 1, i.e. the 1x1 block
  ## (randd), explains only 5.76% of the overall variance.
  ## Hence, discarding this block seems appropriate.

  pla_obj = pla(OECDGrowth, cor=TRUE, thresholds = 0.5)
```

```

pla.drop_blocks(pla_obj, c(1)) ## drop block 1

## Sometimes, considering the blocks we keep rather than
## the blocks we want to discard might be more convenient.

pla.keep_blocks(pla_obj, c(2,3)) ## keep block 2 and block 3
}

```

pla.drop_blocks	<i>Drop Blocks</i>
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Description

Used to pass the indices of the blocks we want to discard.

Usage

```
pla.drop_blocks(object, blocks, ...)
```

Arguments

object	a pla object.
blocks	a list of numeric values indicating the indices of the blocks that should be removed.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

list of the following attributes:

x	a numeric matrix or data frame containing the reduced set of original variables.
cc_matrix	a numeric matrix or data frame which contains the conditional dispersion matrix. Depending on the pla procedure, this is either the conditional covariance matrix or the conditional correlation matrix.

Examples

```

if(requireNamespace("AER")){
  require(AER)
  data("OECDGrowth")

  pla(OECDGrowth,cor=TRUE,thresholds = 0.5)

  ## we obtain three blocks: (randd), (gdp85,gdp60) and
  ## (invest, school, popgrowth). Block 1, i.e. the 1x1 block
  ## (randd), explains only 5.76% of the overall variance.
  ## Hence, discarding this block seems appropriate.

  pla_obj = pla(OECDGrowth,cor=TRUE,thresholds = 0.5)
  pla.drop_blocks(pla_obj, c(1)) ## drop block 1
}

```

pla.keep_blocks	<i>Keep Blocks</i>
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Description

Used to pass the indices of the blocks we want to keep (i.e. which we do not want to be discarded).

Usage

```
pla.keep_blocks(object, blocks, ...)
```

Arguments

object	a pla object.
blocks	a list of numeric values indicating the indices of the blocks that should be kept.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

list of the following attributes:

x	a numeric matrix or data frame containing the reduced set of original variables.
cc_matrix	a numeric matrix or data frame which contains the conditional dispersion matrix. Depending on the pla procedure, this is either the conditional covariance matrix or the conditional correlation matrix.

Examples

```
if(requireNamespace("AER")){
  require(AER)
  data("OECDGrowth")

  pla(OECDGrowth,cor=TRUE,thresholds = 0.5)

  ## we obtain three blocks: (randd), (gdp85,gdp60) and
  ## (invest, school, popgrowth). Block 1, i.e. the 1x1 block
  ## (randd), explains only 5.76% of the overall variance.
  ## Hence, discarding this block seems appropriate. Therefore,
  ## we keep block 2 and block 3

  pla_obj = pla(OECDGrowth,cor=TRUE,thresholds = 0.5)
  pla_obj$keep_blocks(c(2,3)) ## keep block 2 and block 3
}
```

print.pla	<i>Print Function for pla S3</i>
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Description

Prints the blocks, threshold, threshold_mode and the loadings.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'pla'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

x	a pla object.
...	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

A pla object which equals the input of x.

Examples

```
if(requireNamespace("AER")){
  require(AER)
  data("OECDGrowth")

  pla_obj = pla(OECDGrowth,cor=TRUE,thresholds = 0.5)
  print(pla_obj)
}
```

show,Block-method	<i>Block - Show Prints the blocks structure.</i>
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Description

Block - Show
Prints the blocks structure.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'Block'
show(object)
```

Arguments

object	block.
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Value

No return value.

Examples

```
block <- new("Block", features = c(2, 5), explained_variance = 0.03)
print(block)
```

str,Block-method	<i>Block - str Generic function to create a string out of the blocks structure.</i>
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Description

Block - str

Generic function to create a string out of the blocks structure.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'Block'
str(object)
```

Arguments

object block.

Value

A string representing the Block.

Examples

```
block <- new("Block", features = c(2, 5), explained_variance = 0.03)
str(block)
```

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