# **R** documentation

of 'inla.spde2.pcmatern.Rd'
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inla.spde2.pcmatern

Matern SPDE model object with PC prior for INLA

### **Description**

Create an inla. spde2 model object for a Matern model, using a PC prior for the parameters.

# Usage

```
inla.spde2.pcmatern(
  mesh,
  alpha = 2,
  param = NULL,
  constr = FALSE,
  extraconstr.int = NULL,
  extraconstr = NULL,
  fractional.method = c("parsimonious", "null"),
  n.iid.group = 1,
  prior.range = NULL,
  prior.sigma = NULL
```

## **Arguments**

mesh The mesh to build the model on, as an inla.mesh() or inla.mesh.1d() object.

alpha Fractional operator order,  $0 < \alpha \le 2$  supported, for  $\nu = \alpha - d/2 > 0$ .

param Further model parameters. Not currently used.

constr If TRUE, apply an integrate-to-zero constraint. Default FALSE.

extraconstr.int

Field integral constraints.

extraconstr Direct linear combination constraints on the basis weights.

fractional.method

Specifies the approximation method to use for fractional (non-integer) alpha values. 'parsimonious' gives an overall approximate minimal covariance error, 'null' uses approximates low-order properties.

n.iid.group If greater than 1, build an explicitly iid replicated model, to support constraints applied to the combined replicates, for example in a time-replicated spatial model. Constraints can either be specified for a single mesh, in which case it's applied to the average of the replicates (ncol(A) should be mesh\$n for 2D meshes, mesh\$m for 1D), or as general constraints on the collection of replicates (ncol(A) should be mesh\$n \* n.iid.group for 2D meshes, mesh\$m \* n.iid.group for 1D).

prior.range A length 2 vector, with (range0,Prange) specifying that  $P(\rho < \rho_0) = p_\rho$ , where  $\rho$  is the spatial range of the random field. If Prange is NA, then range0 is used as a fixed range value.

prior.sigma A length 2 vector, with (sigma0,Psigma) specifying that  $P(\sigma > \sigma_0) = p_\sigma$ , where  $\sigma$  is the marginal standard deviation of the field. If Psigma is NA, then sigma0 is used as a fixed range value.

#### **Details**

This method constructs a Matern SPDE model, with spatial range  $\rho$  and standard deviation parameter  $\sigma$ . In the parameterisation

$$(\kappa^2 - \Delta)^{\alpha/2} (\tau x(u)) = W(u)$$

the spatial scale parameter  $\kappa = \sqrt{8\nu}/\rho$ , where  $\nu = \alpha - d/2$ , and  $\tau$  is proportional to  $1/\sigma$ .

Stationary models are supported for  $0<\alpha\leq 2$ , with spectral approximation methods used for non-integer  $\alpha$ , with approximation method determined by fractional.method.

Integration and other general linear constraints are supported via the constr, extraconstr.int, and extraconstr parameters, which also interact with n.iid.group.

The joint PC prior density for the spatial range,  $\rho$ , and the marginal standard deviation,  $\sigma$ , and is

$$\pi(\rho, \sigma) = \frac{d\lambda_{\rho}}{2} \rho^{-1 - d/2} \exp(-\lambda_{\rho} \rho^{-d/2})$$
$$\lambda_{\sigma} \exp(-\lambda_{\sigma} \sigma)$$

where  $\lambda_{\rho}$  and  $\lambda_{\sigma}$  are hyperparameters that must be determined by the analyst. The practical approach for this in INLA is to require the user to indirectly specify these hyperparameters through

$$P(\rho < \rho_0) = p_\rho$$

and

$$P(\sigma > \sigma_0) = p_{\sigma}$$

where the user specifies the lower tail quantile and probability for the range  $(\rho_0$  and  $p_\rho)$  and the upper tail quantile and probability for the standard deviation  $(\sigma_0$  and  $\alpha_\sigma)$ .

This allows the user to control the priors of the parameters by supplying knowledge of the scale of the problem. What is a reasonable upper magnitude for the spatial effect and what is a reasonable lower scale at which the spatial effect can operate? The shape of the prior was derived through a construction that shrinks the spatial effect towards a base model of no spatial effect in the sense of distance measured by Kullback-Leibler divergence.

The prior is constructed in two steps, under the idea that having a spatial field is an extension of not having a spatial field. First, a spatially constant random effect  $(\rho = \infty)$  with finite variance is more complex than not having a random effect  $(\sigma = 0)$ . Second, a spatial field with spatial variation  $(\rho < \infty)$  is more complex than the random effect with no spatial variation. Each of these extensions are shrunk towards the simpler model and, as a result, we shrink the spatial field towards the base model of no spatial variation and zero variance  $(\rho = \infty)$  and  $(\rho = 0)$ .

The details behind the construction of the prior is presented in Fuglstad, et al. (2016) and is based on the PC prior framework (Simpson, et al., 2015).

#### Value

An inla. spde2 object.

#### Author(s)

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#### References

Fuglstad, G.-A., Simpson, D., Lindgren, F., and Rue, H. (2016) Constructing Priors that Penalize the Complexity of Gaussian Random Fields. arXiv:1503.00256

Simpson, D., Rue, H., Martins, T., Riebler, A., and Sørbye, S. (2015) Penalising model component complexity: A principled, practical approach to constructing priors. arXiv:1403.4630

#### See Also

```
inla.mesh.2d(), inla.mesh.create(), inla.mesh.1d(), inla.mesh.basis(), inla.spde2.matern(),
inla.spde2.generic()
```

# **Examples**

```
## Spatial interpolation
  n = 100
  field.fcn = function(loc) (10*cos(2*pi*2*(loc[,1]+loc[,2])))
  loc = matrix(runif(n*2),n,2)
  ## One field, 2 observations per location
  idx.y = rep(1:n,2)
  y = field.fcn(loc[idx.y,]) + rnorm(length(idx.y))
  mesh = inla.mesh.2d(loc, max.edge=0.05, cutoff=0.01)
  spde = inla.spde2.pcmatern(mesh,
           prior.range=c(0.01,0.1), prior.sigma=c(100,0.1))
  data = list(y=y, field=mesh$idx$loc[idx.y])
  formula = y \sim -1 + f(field, model=spde)
  result = inla(formula, data=data, family="normal")
  ## Plot the mesh structure:
  plot(mesh)
  if (require(rgl)) {
   col.pal = colorRampPalette(c("blue","cyan","green","yellow","red"))
   ## Plot the posterior mean:
   plot(mesh, rgl=TRUE,
         result$summary.random$field[,"mean"],
         color.palette = col.pal)
```

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```
## Plot residual field:
   plot(mesh, rgl=TRUE,
         result$summary.random$field[,"mean"]-field.fcn(mesh$loc),
         color.palette = col.pal)
  }
  result.field = inla.spde.result(result, "field", spde)
  par(mfrow=c(2,1))
  plot(result.field$marginals.range.nominal[[1]],
       type="l", main="Posterior density for range")
  plot(inla.tmarginal(sqrt, result.field$marginals.variance.nominal[[1]]),
       type="l", main="Posterior density for std.dev.")
  par(mfrow=c(1,1))
## Spatial model
  set.seed(1234234)
  ## Generate spatial locations
  n0bs = 200
  loc = matrix(runif(n0bs*2), nrow = n0bs, ncol = 2)
  ## Generate observation of spatial field
  nu = 1.0
  rhoT = 0.2
  kappaT = sqrt(8*nu)/rhoT
  sigT = 1.0
  Sig = sigT^2*inla.matern.cov(nu = nu,
                               kappa = kappaT,
                               x = as.matrix(dist(loc)),
                               d = 2
                               corr = TRUE)
 L = t(chol(Sig))
  u = L %*% rnorm(n0bs)
  ## Construct observation with nugget
 sigN = 0.1
  y = u + sigN*rnorm(nObs)
  ## Create the mesh and spde object
  mesh = inla.mesh.2d(loc,
                      max.edge = 0.05,
                      cutoff = 0.01)
  spde = inla.spde2.pcmatern(mesh,
                             prior.range = c(0.01, 0.05),
                             prior.sigma = c(10, 0.05))
  ## Create projection matrix for observations
  A = inla.spde.make.A(mesh = mesh,
                       loc = loc)
  ## Run model without any covariates
  idx = 1:spde n.spde
  res = inla(y \sim f(idx, model = spde) - 1,
             data = list(y = y, idx = idx, spde = spde),
             control.predictor = list(A = A))
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