

# Package ‘plasso’

October 31, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Cross-Validated Post-Lasso

**Version** 0.1.3

**Description** Provides tools for cross-validated Lasso and Post-Lasso estimation.

Built on top of the 'glmnet' package by Friedman, Hastie and Tibshirani (2010) <[doi:10.18637/jss.v033.i01](https://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v033.i01)>, the main function `plasso()` extends the standard 'glmnet' output with coefficient paths for Post-Lasso models, while `cv.plasso()` performs cross-validation for both Lasso and Post-Lasso models and different ways to select the penalty parameter  $\lambda$  as discussed in Knaus (2021) <[doi:10.1111/rssa.12623](https://doi.org/10.1111/rssa.12623)>.

**License** GPL-3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://github.com/MCKnaus/plasso>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/MCKnaus/plasso/issues>

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|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| coef.cv.plasso | <i>Extract coefficients from a <code>cv.plasso</code> object</i> |
|----------------|--|

---

### Description

Extract coefficients for both Lasso and Post-Lasso from a `cv.plasso` object.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.plasso'
coef(object, ..., s = c("optimal", "all"), se_rule = 0)
```

### Arguments

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| object  | <code>cv.plasso</code> object   |
| ...     | Pass generic <code>coef</code> options  |
| s       | Determines whether coefficients are extracted for all values of lambda ("all") or only for the optimal lambda ("optimal") according to the specified standard error-rule.   |
| se_rule | If equal to 0, predictions from cross-validated MSE minimum (default). Negative values go in the direction of smaller models, positive values go in the direction of larger models (e.g. <code>se_rule=-1</code> creates the standard 1SE rule). This argument is not used for <code>s="all"</code> . |

### Value

List object containing coefficients for both the Lasso and Post-Lasso models respectively.

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| lasso  | Sparse <code>dgMatrix</code> with Lasso coefficients      |
| plasso | Sparse <code>dgMatrix</code> with Post-Lasso coefficients |

**Examples**

```

# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit cv.plasso to the data
p.cv = plasso::cv.plasso(X,y)
# get estimated coefficients along whole lambda sequence
coefs = coef(p.cv, s="all")
head(coefs$plasso)
# get estimated coefficients for optimal lambda value according to 1-standard-error rule
coef(p.cv, s="optimal", se_rule=-1)

```

---

coef.plasso

*Extract coefficients from a [plasso](#) object*


---

**Description**

Extract coefficients for both Lasso and Post-Lasso from a [plasso](#) object.

**Usage**

```

## S3 method for class 'plasso'
coef(object, ..., s = NULL)

```

**Arguments**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| object | <a href="#">plasso</a> object  |
| ...    | Pass generic <a href="#">coef</a> options  |
| s      | If Null, coefficients are returned for all lambda values. If a value is provided, the closest lambda value of the <a href="#">plasso</a> object is used. |

**Value**

List object containing coefficients that are associated with either all values along the lambda input sequence or for one specifically given lambda value for both the Lasso and Post-Lasso models respectively.

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| lasso  | Sparse <a href="#">dgCMatrix-class</a> object with Lasso coefficients      |
| plasso | Sparse <a href="#">dgCMatrix-class</a> object with Post-Lasso coefficients |

**Examples**

```

# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit plasso to the data
p = plasso::plasso(X,y)
# get estimated coefficients along whole lambda sequence
coefs = coef(p)
head(coefs$plasso)
# get estimated coefficients for specific lambda approximation
coef(p, s=0.05)

```

---

cv.plasso

*Cross-Validated Lasso and Post-Lasso*


---

**Description**

`cv.plasso` uses the `glmnet` package to estimate the coefficient paths and cross-validates least squares Lasso AND Post-Lasso.

**Usage**

```
cv.plasso(x, y, w = NULL, kf = 10, parallel = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| x        | Matrix of covariates (number of observations times number of covariates matrix) |
| y        | Vector of outcomes  |
| w        | Vector of weights   |
| kf       | Number of folds in k-fold cross-validation                                      |
| parallel | Set as TRUE for parallelized cross-validation. Default is FALSE.                |
| ...      | Pass <code>glmnet</code> options  |

**Value**

cv.plasso object (using a list structure) including the base `glmnet` object and cross-validation results (incl. optimal Lambda values) for both Lasso and Post-Lasso model.

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| call         | the call that produced this  |
| lasso_full   | base <code>glmnet</code> object  |
| kf           | number of folds in k-fold cross-validation   |
| cv_MSE_lasso | cross-validated MSEs of Lasso model (for every iteration of k-fold cross-validation) |

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| cv_MSE_plasso   | cross-validated MSEs of Post-Lasso model (for every iteration of k-fold cross-validation) |
| mean_MSE_lasso  | averaged cross-validated MSEs of Lasso model  |
| mean_MSE_plasso | averaged cross-validated MSEs of Post-Lasso model   |
| ind_min_l       | index of MSE optimal lambda value for Lasso model   |
| ind_min_pl      | index of MSE optimal lambda value for Post-Lasso model                                    |
| lambda_min_l    | MSE optimal lambda value for Lasso model  |
| lambda_min_pl   | MSE optimal lambda value for Post-Lasso model   |
| names_l         | Names of active variables for MSE optimal Lasso model                                     |
| names_pl        | Names of active variables for MSE optimal Post-Lasso model                                |
| coef_min_l      | Coefficients for MSE optimal Lasso model  |
| coef_min_pl     | Coefficients for MSE optimal Post-Lasso model   |
| x               | Input matrix of covariates  |
| y               | Matrix of outcomes  |
| w               | Matrix of weights   |

## Examples

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit cv.plasso to the data
p.cv = plasso::cv.plasso(X,y)
# get basic summary statistics
print(summary(p.cv, default=FALSE))
# plot cross-validated MSE curves and number of active coefficients
plot(p.cv, legend_pos="bottomleft")
# get coefficients at MSE optimal lambda value for both Lasso and Post-Lasso model
coef(p.cv)
# get coefficients at MSE optimal lambda value according to 1-standard-error rule
coef(p.cv, se_rule=-1)
# predict fitted values along whole lambda sequence
pred = predict(p.cv, s="all")
head(pred$plasso)
```

---

 plasso

*Lasso and Post-Lasso*


---

### Description

`plasso` implicitly estimates a Lasso model using the `glmnet` package and additionally estimates coefficient paths for a subsequent Post-Lasso model.

### Usage

```
plasso(x, y, w = NULL, ...)
```

### Arguments

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <code>x</code>   | Matrix of covariates (number of observations times number of covariates matrix) |
| <code>y</code>   | Vector of outcomes  |
| <code>w</code>   | Vector of weights   |
| <code>...</code> | Pass <code>glmnet</code> options  |

### Value

List including base `glmnet` (i.e. Lasso) object and Post-Lasso coefficients.

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <code>call</code>        | the call that produced this  |
| <code>lasso_full</code>  | base <code>glmnet</code> object  |
| <code>beta_plasso</code> | matrix of coefficients for Post-Lasso model stored in sparse column format |
| <code>x</code>           | Input matrix of covariates   |
| <code>y</code>           | Matrix of outcomes   |
| <code>w</code>           | Matrix of weights  |

### Examples

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit plasso to the data
p = plasso::plasso(X,y)
# plot coefficient paths for Post-Lasso model
plot(p, lasso=FALSE, xvar="lambda")
# plot coefficient paths for Lasso model
plot(p, lasso=TRUE, xvar="lambda")
# get coefficients for specific lambda approximation
coef(p, s=0.05)
# predict fitted values along whole lambda sequence
```

```
pred = predict(p)
head(pred$plasso)
```

---

plot.cv.plasso      *Plot of cross-validation curves*

---

### Description

Plot of cross-validation curves.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.plasso'
plot(
  x,
  ...,
  legend_pos = c("bottomright", "bottom", "bottomleft", "left", "topleft", "top",
    "topright", "right", "center"),
  legend_size = 0.5,
  lasso = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| x           | <code>cv.plasso</code> object   |
| ...         | Pass generic <code>plot</code> options  |
| legend_pos  | Legend position. Only considered for joint plot ( <code>lass=FALSE</code> ).                      |
| legend_size | Font size of legend   |
| lasso       | If set as True, only the cross-validation curve for the Lasso model is plotted. Default is False. |

### Value

Plots the cross-validation curves for both Lasso and Post-Lasso models (incl. upper and lower standard deviation curves) for a fitted `cv.plasso` object.

### Examples

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit cv.plasso to the data
p.cv = plasso::cv.plasso(X,y)
# plot cross-validated MSE curves and number of active coefficients
plot(p.cv, legend_pos="bottomleft")
```

---

plot.plasso

*Plot coefficient paths*


---

### Description

Plot coefficient paths of (Post-) Lasso model.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'plasso'
plot(x, ..., lasso = FALSE, xvar = c("norm", "lambda", "dev"), label = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| x     | <a href="#">plasso</a> object  |
| ...   | Pass generic <a href="#">plot</a> options  |
| lasso | If set as True, coefficient paths for Lasso instead of Post-Lasso is plotted. Default is False.  |
| xvar  | X-axis variable: norm plots against the L1-norm of the coefficients, lambda against the log-lambda sequence, and dev against the percent deviance explained. |
| label | If TRUE, label the curves with variable sequence numbers   |

### Value

Produces a coefficient profile plot of the coefficient paths for a fitted [plasso](#) object.

### Examples

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit plasso to the data
p = plasso::plasso(X,y)
# plot coefficient paths for Post-Lasso model
plot(p, lasso=FALSE, xvar="lambda")
# plot coefficient paths for Lasso model
plot(p, lasso=TRUE, xvar="lambda")
```



---

predict.cv.plasso      *Predict after cross-validated (Post-) Lasso*

---

## Description

Prediction for cross-validated (Post-) Lasso.

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.plasso'
predict(
  object,
  ...,
  newx = NULL,
  type = c("response", "coefficients"),
  s = c("optimal", "all"),
  se_rule = 0
)
```

## Arguments

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| object  | Fitted <code>cv.plasso</code> model object  |
| ...     | Pass generic <code>predict</code> options   |
| newx    | Matrix of new values for x at which predictions are to be made. If no value is supplied, x from fitting procedure is used. This argument is not used for <code>type="coefficients"</code> .   |
| type    | Type of prediction required. "response" returns fitted values, "coefficients" returns beta estimates.   |
| s       | Determines whether prediction is done for all values of lambda ("all") or only for the optimal lambda ("optimal") according to the standard error-rule.   |
| se_rule | If equal to 0, predictions from cross-validated MSE minimum (default). Negative values go in the direction of smaller models, positive values go in the direction of larger models (e.g. <code>se_rule=-1</code> creates the standard 1SE rule). This argument is not used for <code>s="all"</code> . |

## Value

List object containing either fitted values or coefficients for both the Lasso and Post-Lasso models respectively.

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| lasso  | Matrix with Lasso predictions or coefficients      |
| plasso | Matrix with Post-Lasso predictions or coefficients |

**Examples**

```

# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit cv.plasso to the data
p.cv = plasso::cv.plasso(X,y)
# predict fitted values along whole lambda sequence
pred = predict(p.cv, s="all")
head(pred$plasso)
# predict fitted values for optimal lambda value (according to cross-validation)
pred_optimal = predict(p.cv, s="optimal")
head(pred_optimal$plasso)
# predict fitted values for new feature set X
X_new = head(X, 10)
pred_new = predict(p.cv, newx=X_new, s="optimal")
pred_new$plasso
# get estimated coefficients along whole lambda sequence
coefs = predict(p.cv, type="coefficients", s="all")
head(coefs$plasso)
# get estimated coefficients for optimal lambda value according to 1-standard-error rule
predict(p.cv, type="coefficients", s="optimal", se_rule=-1)

```

---

predict.plasso

*Predict for (Post-) Lasso models*

---

**Description**

Prediction for (Post-) Lasso models.

**Usage**

```

## S3 method for class 'plasso'
predict(
  object,
  ...,
  newx = NULL,
  type = c("response", "coefficients"),
  s = NULL
)

```

**Arguments**

object            Fitted [plasso](#) model object  
 ...               Pass generic [predict](#) options

|      |   |
|------|---|
| newx | Matrix of new values for x at which predictions are to be made. If no value is supplied, x from fitting procedure is used. This argument is not used for type="coefficients". |
| type | Type of prediction required. "response" returns fitted values, "coefficients" returns beta estimates.   |
| s    | If Null, prediction is done for all lambda values. If a value is provided, the closest lambda value of the <code>plasso</code> object is used.                                |

### Value

List object containing either fitted values or coefficients for both the Lasso and Post-Lasso models associated with all values along the lambda input sequence or for one specifically given lambda value.

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| lasso  | Matrix with Lasso predictions or coefficients      |
| plasso | Matrix with Post-Lasso predictions or coefficients |

### Examples

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit plasso to the data
p = plasso::plasso(X,y)
# predict fitted values along whole lambda sequence
pred = predict(p)
head(pred$plasso)
# get estimated coefficients for specific lambda approximation
predict(p, type="coefficients", s=0.05)
```

---

```
print.cv.plasso      Print cross-validated (Post-) Lasso model
```

---

### Description

Printing main insights from cross-validated (Post-) Lasso model.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.plasso'
print(x, ..., digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3))
```

**Arguments**

x                    `cv.plasso` object  
 ...                 Pass generic `print` options  
 digits              Integer, used for number formatting

**Value**

Prints basic statistics for different lambda values of a fitted `plasso` object, i.e. cross-validated MSEs for both Lasso and Post-Lasso model as well as the number of active variables.

---

```
print.plasso                    Print (Post-) Lasso model
```

---

**Description**

Printing main insights from (Post-) Lasso model.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'plasso'
print(x, ..., digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3))
```

**Arguments**

x                    `plasso` object  
 ...                 Pass generic `print` options  
 digits              Integer, used for number formatting

**Value**

Prints `glmnet`-like output.

---

```
print.summary.cv.plasso                    Print summary of (Post-) Lasso model
```

---

**Description**

Prints summary information of `cv.plasso` object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'summary.cv.plasso'
print(x, ..., digits = max(3L, getOption("digits") - 3L))
```

**Arguments**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| x      | Summary of plasso object (either of class <code>summary.cv.plasso</code> or <code>summary</code> ) |
| ...    | Pass generic R <code>print</code> options  |
| digits | Integer, used for number formatting  |

**Value**

Prints information from `summary.cv.plasso` object into console.

---

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <code>summary.cv.plasso</code> | <i>Summary of cross-validated (Post-) Lasso model</i> |
|--------------------------------|---|

---

**Description**

Summary of cross-validated (Post-) Lasso model.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.plasso'
summary(object, ..., default = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| object  | <code>cv.plasso</code> object  |
| ...     | Pass generic <code>summary</code> summary options  |
| default | TRUE for <code>glmnet</code> -like summary output, FALSE for more specific summary information |

**Value**

For specific summary information: `summary.cv.plasso` object (using list structure) containing optimal lambda values and associated MSEs for both cross-validated Lasso and Post-Lasso model. For default: `summaryDefault` object.

**Examples**

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit cv.plasso to the data
p.cv = plasso::cv.plasso(X,y)
# get informative summary statistics
print(summary(p.cv, default=FALSE))
# set default=TRUE for standard summary statistics
print(summary(p.cv, default=TRUE))
```

---

|                |                                       |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| summary.plasso | <i>Summary of (Post-) Lasso model</i> |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Summary of (Post-) Lasso model.

**Usage**

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

**Arguments**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| object | <a href="#">plasso</a> object                        |
| ...    | Pass generic <a href="#">summary</a> summary options |

**Value**

Default [summary](#) object

---

|          |                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| toeplitz | <i>Simulated 'Toeplitz' Data</i> |
|----------|----------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Simulated data from a DGP with an underlying causal relationship between covariates  $X$  and the target  $y$ . The covariates matrix  $X$  consists of 10 variables whose effect size on target  $y$  is defined by the vector  $c(1, -0.83, 0.67, -0.5, 0.33, -0.17, 0, \dots, 0)$  with the first six effect sizes decreasing in absolute terms continuously from 1 to 0 and alternating in their sign. The true causal effect of all other covariates is 0. The variables in  $X$  follow a normal distribution with mean zero while the covariance matrix follows a Toeplitz matrix. The target  $y$  is then a linear transformation of  $X$  plus a vector of standard normal random variables (i.e. error term). (See vignette for more details.)

**Usage**

```
data(toeplitz)
```

**Format**

An object of class `standardGeneric` of length 1.

**Examples**

```
# load toeplitz data
data(toeplitz)
# extract target and features from data
y = as.matrix(toeplitz[,1])
X = toeplitz[,-1]
# fit cv.plasso to the data
p.cv = plasso::cv.plasso(X,y)
```

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