

# Package ‘glmmsel’

June 26, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Generalised Linear Mixed Model Selection

**Version** 1.0.3

**Description** Provides tools for fitting sparse generalised linear mixed models with l0 regularisation. Selects fixed and random effects under the hierarchy constraint that fixed effects must precede random effects. Uses coordinate descent and local search algorithms to rapidly deliver near-optimal estimates. Gaussian and binomial response families are currently supported. For more details see Thompson, Wand, and Wang (2025) <[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2506.20425](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2506.20425)>.

**URL** <https://github.com/ryan-thompson/glmmsel>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/ryan-thompson/glmmsel/issues>

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

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**Imports** ggplot2, Rcpp

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**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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**NeedsCompilation** yes

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**Repository** CRAN

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|                 |                                                   |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| coef.cv.glmmssl | <i>Coefficient function for cv.glmmssl object</i> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|

---

Description

Extract cluster coefficients for a cross-validated value of the regularisation parameter.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.glmmssl'  
coef(object, lambda = "lambda.min", ...)
```

Arguments

- object            an object of class cv.glmmssl
- lambda           a value of the regularisation parameter
- ...              any other arguments

Value

An array of coefficients.

Author(s)

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| coef.glmmssl | <i>Coefficient function for glmmssl object</i> |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Extracts coefficients for a specified value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'glmmssl'  
coef(object, lambda = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| object | an object of class glmmssl              |
| lambda | a value of the regularisation parameter |
| ...    | any other arguments                     |

**Value**

An array of coefficients.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|            |                                                                 |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| cv.glmmssl | <i>Cross-validated generalised linear mixed model selection</i> |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Fits the regularisation path for a sparse generalised linear mixed model and then cross-validates this path.

**Usage**

```
cv.glmmssl(  
  x,  
  y,  
  cluster,  
  family = c("gaussian", "binomial"),  
  lambda = NULL,  
  nfold = 10,  
  folds = NULL,  
  cv.loss = NULL,  
  interpolate = TRUE,  
  ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

|                          |                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>x</code>           | a predictor matrix                                                                                                                                        |
| <code>y</code>           | a response vector                                                                                                                                         |
| <code>cluster</code>     | a vector of length <code>nrow(x)</code> with the <code>j</code> th element identifying the cluster that the <code>j</code> th observation belongs to      |
| <code>family</code>      | the likelihood family to use; 'gaussian' for a continuous response or 'binomial' for a binary response                                                    |
| <code>lambda</code>      | the regularisation parameter for the overlapping penalty on the fixed and random slopes                                                                   |
| <code>nfold</code>       | the number of cross-validation folds                                                                                                                      |
| <code>folds</code>       | an optional vector of length <code>nrow(x)</code> with the <code>j</code> th entry identifying the fold that the <code>j</code> th observation belongs to |
| <code>cv.loss</code>     | an optional cross-validation loss-function to use; should accept a vector of predicted values and a vector of actual values                               |
| <code>interpolate</code> | a logical indicating whether to interpolate the <code>lambda</code> sequence for the cross-validation fits                                                |
| <code>...</code>         | any other arguments for <code>glmmsel()</code>                                                                                                            |

**Value**

An object of class `cv.glmmsel`; a list with the following components:

|                         |                                                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>cv.mean</code>    | a vector of cross-validation means                               |
| <code>cv.sd</code>      | a vector of cross-validation standard errors                     |
| <code>lambda</code>     | a vector of cross-validated regularisation parameters            |
| <code>lambda.min</code> | the value of <code>lambda</code> minimising <code>cv.mean</code> |
| <code>fit</code>        | the fit from running <code>glmmsel()</code> on the full data     |

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <[ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au](mailto:ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au)>

**References**

Thompson, R., Wand, M. P., and Wang, J. J. J. (2025). 'Scalable subset selection in linear mixed models'. arXiv: [2506.20425](#).

**Examples**

```
# Generate data
set.seed(1234)
n <- 100
m <- 4
p <- 10
s <- 5
x <- matrix(rnorm(n * p), n, p)
```

```

beta <- c(rep(1, s), rep(0, p - s))
u <- cbind(matrix(rnorm(m * s), m, s), matrix(0, m, p - s))
cluster <- sample(1:m, n, replace = TRUE)
xb <- rowSums(x * sweep(u, 2, beta, '+')[cluster, ])
y <- rnorm(n, xb)

# Fit sparse linear mixed model
fit <- cv.glmmse1(x, y, cluster)
plot(fit)
fixef(fit)
ranef(fit)
coef(fit)
predict(fit, x[1:3, ], cluster[1:3])

```

---

|       |                               |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| fixef | <i>Fixed effects function</i> |
|-------|-------------------------------|

---

## Description

Generic function for extracting fixed effects from model objects.

## Usage

```
fixef(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

|        |                     |
|--------|---------------------|
| object | a model object      |
| ...    | any other arguments |

## Value

Depends on the specific method implementation.

## Author(s)

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|                  |                                                     |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| fixef.cv.glmmse1 | <i>Fixed effects function for cv.glmmse1 object</i> |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Extract fixed effects for a cross-validated value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.glmmse1'
fixef(object, lambda = "lambda.min", ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| object | an object of class cv.glmmse1           |
| lambda | a value of the regularisation parameter |
| ...    | any other arguments                     |

**Value**

A matrix of fixed effects.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|               |                                                  |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| fixef.glmmse1 | <i>Fixed effects function for glmmse1 object</i> |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Extracts fixed effects for a specified value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'glmmse1'
fixef(object, lambda = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| object | an object of class glmmse1              |
| lambda | a value of the regularisation parameter |
| ...    | any other arguments                     |

**Value**

A matrix of fixed effects.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

glmmse1

*Generalised linear mixed model selection*

---

**Description**

Fits the regularisation path for a sparse generalised linear mixed model (GLMM).

**Usage**

```
glmmse1(  
  x,  
  y,  
  cluster,  
  family = c("gaussian", "binomial"),  
  local.search = FALSE,  
  max.nnz = 100,  
  nlambdas = 100,  
  lambda.step = 0.99,  
  lambda = NULL,  
  alpha = 0.8,  
  intercept = TRUE,  
  random.intercept = TRUE,  
  standardise = TRUE,  
  eps = 1e-04,  
  max.cd.iter = 10000,  
  max.ls.iter = 100,  
  max.bls.iter = 30,  
  t.init = 1,  
  t.scale = 0.5,  
  max.pql.iter = 100,  
  active.set = TRUE,  
  active.set.count = 3,  
  sort = TRUE,  
  screen = 100,  
  warn = TRUE  
)
```

**Arguments**

|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>x</code>                | a predictor matrix                                                                                                                                                             |
| <code>y</code>                | a response vector                                                                                                                                                              |
| <code>cluster</code>          | a vector of length <code>nrow(x)</code> with the <code>j</code> th element identifying the cluster that the <code>j</code> th observation belongs to                           |
| <code>family</code>           | the likelihood family to use; 'gaussian' for a continuous response or 'binomial' for a binary response                                                                         |
| <code>local.search</code>     | a logical indicating whether to perform local search after coordinate descent; typically leads to higher quality solutions                                                     |
| <code>max.nnz</code>          | the maximum number of predictors ever allowed to be active                                                                                                                     |
| <code>nlambda</code>          | the number of regularisation parameters to evaluate when <code>lambda</code> is computed automatically                                                                         |
| <code>lambda.step</code>      | the step size taken when computing <code>lambda</code> from the data; should be a value strictly between 0 and 1; larger values typically lead to a finer grid of subset sizes |
| <code>lambda</code>           | an optional vector of regularisation parameters                                                                                                                                |
| <code>alpha</code>            | the hierarchical parameter                                                                                                                                                     |
| <code>intercept</code>        | a logical indicating whether to include a fixed intercept                                                                                                                      |
| <code>random.intercept</code> | a logical indicating whether to include a random intercept; applies only when <code>intercept = TRUE</code>                                                                    |
| <code>standardise</code>      | a logical indicating whether to scale the data to have unit root mean square; all parameters are returned on the original scale of the data                                    |
| <code>eps</code>              | the convergence tolerance; convergence is declared when the relative maximum difference in consecutive parameter values is less than <code>eps</code>                          |
| <code>max.cd.iter</code>      | the maximum number of coordinate descent iterations allowed                                                                                                                    |
| <code>max.ls.iter</code>      | the maximum number of local search iterations allowed                                                                                                                          |
| <code>max.bls.iter</code>     | the maximum number of backtracking line search iterations allowed                                                                                                              |
| <code>t.init</code>           | the initial value of the gradient step size during backtracking line search                                                                                                    |
| <code>t.scale</code>          | the scaling parameter of the gradient step size during backtracking line search                                                                                                |
| <code>max.pql.iter</code>     | the maximum number of penalised quasi-likelihood iterations allowed                                                                                                            |
| <code>active.set</code>       | a logical indicating whether to use active set updates; typically lowers the run time                                                                                          |
| <code>active.set.count</code> | the number of consecutive coordinate descent iterations in which a subset should appear before running active set updates                                                      |
| <code>sort</code>             | a logical indicating whether to sort the coordinates before running coordinate descent; typically leads to higher quality solutions                                            |
| <code>screen</code>           | the number of predictors to keep after gradient screening; smaller values typically lower the run time                                                                         |
| <code>warn</code>             | a logical indicating whether to print a warning if the algorithms fail to converge                                                                                             |

**Value**

An object of class `glmmse1`; a list with the following components:

|                               |                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>beta0</code>            | a vector of fixed intercepts                                                            |
| <code>gamma0</code>           | a vector of random intercept variances                                                  |
| <code>beta</code>             | a matrix of fixed slopes                                                                |
| <code>gamma</code>            | a matrix of random slope variances                                                      |
| <code>u</code>                | an array of random coefficient predictions                                              |
| <code>sigma2</code>           | a vector of residual variances                                                          |
| <code>loss</code>             | a vector of loss function values                                                        |
| <code>cd.iter</code>          | a vector indicating the number of coordinate descent iterations for convergence         |
| <code>ls.iter</code>          | a vector indicating the number of local search iterations for convergence               |
| <code>pql.iter</code>         | a vector indicating the number of penalised quasi-likelihood iterations for convergence |
| <code>nnz</code>              | a vector of the number of nonzeros                                                      |
| <code>lambda</code>           | a vector of regularisation parameters used for the fit                                  |
| <code>family</code>           | the likelihood family used                                                              |
| <code>clusters</code>         | a vector of cluster identifiers                                                         |
| <code>alpha</code>            | the value of the hierarchical parameter used for the fit                                |
| <code>intercept</code>        | whether a fixed intercept is included in the model                                      |
| <code>random.intercept</code> | whether a random intercept is included in the model                                     |

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <[ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au](mailto:ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au)>

**References**

Thompson, R., Wand, M. P., and Wang, J. J. J. (2025). 'Scalable subset selection in linear mixed models'. arXiv: [2506.20425](https://arxiv.org/abs/2506.20425).

**Examples**

```
# Generate data
set.seed(1234)
n <- 100
m <- 4
p <- 10
s <- 5
x <- matrix(rnorm(n * p), n, p)
beta <- c(rep(1, s), rep(0, p - s))
u <- cbind(matrix(rnorm(m * s), m, s), matrix(0, m, p - s))
cluster <- sample(1:m, n, replace = TRUE)
xb <- rowSums(x * sweep(u, 2, beta, '+')[cluster, ])
```

```

y <- rnorm(n, xb)

# Fit sparse linear mixed model
fit <- glmmssl(x, y, cluster)
plot(fit)
fixef(fit, lambda = 10)
ranef(fit, lambda = 10)
coef(fit, lambda = 10)
predict(fit, x[1:3, ], cluster[1:3], lambda = 10)

```

---

|                 |                                            |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| plot.cv.glmmssl | <i>Plot function for cv.glmmssl object</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|

---

### Description

Plot the cross-validation loss as a function of the regularisation parameter.

### Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'cv.glmmssl'
plot(x, ...)

```

### Arguments

|     |                               |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| x   | an object of class cv.glmmssl |
| ... | any other arguments           |

### Value

A plot of the cross-validation results.

### Author(s)

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|              |                                         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|
| plot.glmmssl | <i>Plot function for glmmssl object</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------|

---

### Description

Plots the coefficients as a function of the regularisation parameter.

### Usage

```

## S3 method for class 'glmmssl'
plot(x, cluster = NULL, ...)

```

**Arguments**

|         |                                        |
|---------|----------------------------------------|
| x       | an object of class glmmsel             |
| cluster | the cluster whose coefficients to plot |
| ...     | any other arguments                    |

**Value**

A plot of the coefficient profiles.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|                    |                                               |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| predict.cv.glmmsel | <i>Predict function for cv.glmmsel object</i> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Generates predictions for new data using a cross-validated value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.glmmsel'
predict(object, x.new, cluster.new, lambda = "lambda.min", ...)
```

**Arguments**

|             |                                                                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| object      | an object of class cv.glmmsel                                      |
| x.new       | a matrix of new values for the predictors                          |
| cluster.new | a vector identifying the clusters that the rows of x.new belong to |
| lambda      | a value of the regularisation parameter                            |
| ...         | any other arguments                                                |

**Value**

A matrix of predictions.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|                 |                                            |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| predict.glmmse1 | <i>Predict function for glmmse1 object</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Generates predictions for new data using a specified value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'glmmse1'
predict(object, x.new, cluster.new, lambda = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|             |                                                                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| object      | an object of class glmmse1                                         |
| x.new       | a matrix of new values for the predictors                          |
| cluster.new | a vector identifying the clusters that the rows of x.new belong to |
| lambda      | a value of the regularisation parameter                            |
| ...         | any other arguments                                                |

**Value**

A matrix of predictions.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|       |                                |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| ranef | <i>Random effects function</i> |
|-------|--------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Generic function for extracting random effects from model objects.

**Usage**

```
ranef(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                     |
|--------|---------------------|
| object | a model object      |
| ...    | any other arguments |

**Value**

Depends on the specific method implementation.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|                  |                                                      |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| ranef.cv.glmmse1 | <i>Random effects function for cv.glmmse1 object</i> |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Extract random effects for a cross-validated value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'cv.glmmse1'
ranef(object, lambda = "lambda.min", ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| object | an object of class cv.glmmse1           |
| lambda | a value of the regularisation parameter |
| ...    | any other arguments                     |

**Value**

A matrix of random effects.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au>

---

|               |                                                   |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| ranef.glmmse1 | <i>Random effects function for glmmse1 object</i> |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Extracts random effects for a specified value of the regularisation parameter.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'glmmse1'
ranef(object, lambda = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| object | an object of class <code>glmmse1</code> |
| lambda | a value of the regularisation parameter |
| ...    | any other arguments                     |

**Value**

A matrix of random effects.

**Author(s)**

Ryan Thompson <[ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au](mailto:ryan.thompson-1@uts.edu.au)>

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