

# Package ‘bsem’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Bayesian Structural Equation Models

**Version** 1.0.0

**Maintainer** Renato Panaro <renatovp@ime.usp.br>

**Description** Flexible routines to allow structural equation modeling particular cases using 'rstan' integration. 'bsem' includes Bayesian semi Confirmatory Factor Analysis, Confirmatory Factor Analysis, and Structural Equation Model. VD Mayrink (2013) <doi:10.1214/12-AOAS607>.

**License** GPL-3

**Biarch** true

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0), coda (>= 0.19-3), lattice (>= 0.20-38), magrittr (>= 1.5), viridis (>= 0.5.1)

**Imports** visNetwork (>= 2.0.9), shiny (>= 1.5.0), methods, Rcpp (>= 0.12.0), rstan (>= 2.18.1), rstantools (>= 1.5.1), DiagrammeR (>= 1.0.5)

**LinkingTo** BH (>= 1.66.0), Rcpp (>= 0.12.0), RcppEigen (>= 0.3.3.3.0), rstan (>= 2.18.1), StanHeaders (>= 2.18.0)

**Suggests** knitr, devtools, roxygen2, testthat (>= 2.1.0), covr, rmarkdown, bayesplot, tidybayes, ggplot2, gridExtra (>= 2.3), shinythemes (>= 1.1.2), ggfortify (>= 0.4.1), shinyjs (>= 1.1), shinycssloaders (>= 0.3), plotly (>= 4.9.2.1), ggridges (>= 0.5.2), fmsb (>= 0.5.3), visdat (>= 0.5.3), DT (>= 0.14), tidyr (>= 1.1.0), dplyr (>= 1.0.0), reshape2 (>= 1.4.4)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**SystemRequirements** GNU make

**BugReports** <https://github.com/rvpanaro/bsem/issues>

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**URL** <https://github.com/rvpanaro/bsem>

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Author** Renato Panaro [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1903-2091>>, <https://rvpanaro.github.io/>),  
 Vinícius Mayrink [aut] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5683-8326>>, <http://www.est.ufmg.br/~vdinizm/>),  
 Marcelo Costa [aut]  
 (<http://somos.ufmg.br/professor/marcelo-azevedo-costa>)

**Repository** CRAN

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## R topics documented:

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| bsem-package . . . . . | 2  |
| arrayplot . . . . .    | 3  |
| plot.bsem . . . . .    | 4  |
| print.bsem . . . . .   | 5  |
| runShiny . . . . .     | 6  |
| sem . . . . .          | 6  |
| simdata . . . . .      | 9  |
| summary.bsem . . . . . | 10 |

**Index** 12

---

bsem-package                      *The 'bsem' package.*

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## Description

The bsem package allows Bayesian analysis for particular cases of structural equation models (SEMs) based on rstan integration. Examples include confirmatory factor analysis and confirmatory SEM. The full SEM model (outer and inner models), enables the evaluation of user-defined latent variables along with the analysis of established linear relationships among the latent scores.

## References

- Mayrink, V. D., & Lucas, J. E. (2013). Sparse latent factor models with interactions: Analysis of gene expression data. *The Annals of Applied Statistics*, 7(2), 799-822.
- Mayrink, V. D., & Lucas, J. E. (2015). Bayesian factor models for the detection of coherent patterns in gene expression data. *Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics*, 29(1), 1-33.

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`arrayplot`*Array Plotting*

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**Description**

Graphical representation for matrix class objects using lattice package

**Usage**

```
arrayplot(  
  y,  
  mini = -max(abs(min(y)), max(y)),  
  maxi = max(abs(min(y)), max(y)),  
  colors = 1,  
  ylab = "",  
  xlab = "",  
  main = ""  
)
```

**Arguments**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <code>y</code>      | a numerical data.frame or matrix object                         |
| <code>mini</code> , | minimum color range (might cause blank spots if misspecified)   |
| <code>maxi</code> , | maximum color range (might cause blank spots if misspecified)   |
| <code>colors</code> | 1 = blue/red, 0 = white/black                                   |
| <code>ylab</code>   | y axis label passed to <code>lattice::levelplot</code> function |
| <code>xlab</code>   | x axis label passed to <code>lattice::levelplot</code> function |
| <code>main</code>   | plot title passed to <code>lattice::levelplot</code> function   |

**Author(s)**

VD Mayrink

**See Also**

[simdata](#), [summary.bsem](#), [plot.bsem](#), [sem](#), [runShiny](#)

**Examples**

```
dt <- simdata()  
  
arrayplot(dt$real$alpha)  
arrayplot(dt$real$alpha, colors = 0)
```

---

plot.bsem

*'bsem' object plot*


---

### Description

'bsem' object plot

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'bsem'
plot(x, digits = 2, fontsize = 15, width = 5, size = 10, ...)
```

### Arguments

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| x        | an object of class bsem  |
| digits   | number of digits to display  |
| fontsize | edge fontsize (estimates character size)                                 |
| width    | lines width  |
| size     | nodes size (for both: ellipses and boxes)                                |
| ...      | further arguments passed to <code>visNetwork::visNetwork</code> function |

### Value

a `visNetwork` graph:

The ellipsoidal nodes represent the latent variables

The boxes represent the manifest variables

The dashed lines represent the linear relations between latent scores or between latent scores and exogenous variables

The solid lines represent the relationship between the manifest and latent variables

The recursive solid lines refer to the error variance estimate of each manifest or exogenous variable

### Author(s)

RVPanaro

### See Also

[sem](#), [simdata](#), [arrayplot](#), [summary.bsem](#), [print.bsem](#)

## Examples

```
dt <- bsem::simdata()
names(dt)

semfit <- bsem::sem(
  data = dt$data,
  blocks = dt$blocks,
  paths = dt$paths,
  exogenous = dt$exogenous,
  signals = dt$signals,
  cores = 1
)
plot(semfit)
```

---

|            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| print.bsem | <i>'bsem' object print</i> |
|------------|----------------------------|

---

## Description

'bsem' object print

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'bsem'
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

## Arguments

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| x      | an object of class bsem                           |
| digits | number of digits to display                       |
| ...    | further arguments passed to or from print methods |

## Value

none

## See Also

[simdata](#), [arrayplot](#), [summary.bsem](#), [sem](#), [runShiny](#)

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`runShiny`*Run a shiny app*

---

**Description**

An introduction to the bsem package @details

**signals** this option is not allowed, it is only available in [sem](#)

**stanfit** S4 object of class stanfit

**Usage**

```
runShiny()
```

**Author(s)**

RV Panaro

**See Also**

[sem](#), [simdata](#), [arrayplot](#), [summary.bsem](#), [print.bsem](#)

**Examples**

```
## Not run:  
library("bsem")  
runShiny()  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

`sem`*sem: The SEM Function*

---

**Description**

Structural Equation Models (SEM) and particular cases using rstan interface

**Usage**

```
sem(  
  data,  
  blocks,  
  paths,  
  exogenous,  
  signals,
```

```

row_names = rownames(data),
prior_specs = list(beta = c("normal(0,1)"), sigma2 = c("inv_gamma(2.1, 1.1)"), gamma0
  = c("normal(0,1)"), gamma = c("normal(0,1)"), tau2 = c("inv_gamma(2.1, 1.1)")),
cores = parallel::detectCores(),
pars = c("alpha", "lambda", "sigma2"),
iter = 2000,
chains = 4,
scaled = FALSE,
verbose = FALSE,
refresh = 100,
...
)

```

### Arguments

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| data        | a mandatory 'matrix' object where the columns are variables and the rows are observations   |
| blocks      | a mandatory named list of colnames (or integers in 1:ncol(data)) indicating the manifest variables corresponding to each block; generic names are assumed for latent variables internally if not defined                                  |
| paths       | list referring to the inner model paths; a list of characters or integers referring to the scores relationship; the jth first latent variable are explained if names(paths) is NULL   |
| exogenous   | list referring to the inner model exogenous; a list of characters or integers referring to relationship between exogenous and latent variables; the lth first columns are explained if names(exogenous) is NULL                           |
| signals     | list referring to the signals of the factor loadings initial values; must be true: (length(signals) == length(blocks)) && (lengths(signals) == lengths(blocks)); (not allowed in runShiny)  |
| row_names   | optional identifier for the observations (observation = row)  |
| prior_specs | prior settings for the Bayesian approach; only 'normal' and 'cauchy' for gamma0, gamma and beta; 'gamma', 'lognormal' and 'inv_gamma' for sigma2 and tau2 are available, those prior specifications are ignored if not needed (FA or SEM) |
| cores       | number of core threads to be used   |
| pars        | allows parameters to omitted in the outcome; options are any subset of default c("alpha", "lambda", "sigma2")   |
| iter        | number of iterations  |
| chains      | number of chains  |
| scaled      | logical; indicates whether to center and scale the data; default FALSE  |
| verbose     | logical; see <a href="#">sampling</a> ; default FALSE   |
| refresh     | defaults to 100; see <a href="#">sampling</a> ;   |
| ...         | further arguments passed to Stan such as warmup, adapt_delta and others, see <a href="#">sampling</a> .   |

## Details

Fits the SEM to specific data

Consider:

- the outer model as: – outer blocks:

$$X_{pxn} = \alpha_{pxk} \lambda_{kxn} + \epsilon_{pxn}$$

where  $X$  is the data matrix with variables in the rows and sample elements in the columns,  $\alpha_{pxj}$  is the column vector of loadings for the  $j$ th latent variable and  $\lambda_{jxn}$  is the row vector of scores for the  $j$ th unobserved variable,  $j = 1, \dots, k$ . Normality is assumed for the errors as  $\epsilon_{ij} \sim N(0, \sigma_i^2)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, p$ .

- the inner model as:

– inner paths:

$$\lambda_{jxn} = \beta \lambda^{(-j)} + \nu$$

where  $\beta$  is a column vector of constant coefficients and  $\lambda^{(-j)}_{(k-1)xn}$  represents a subset of the matrix of scores, i.e. at least excluding the  $j$ th row scores. The error assumes  $\nu_j \sim N(0, 1)$ .

– inner exogenous:

$$Y_{lxn} = \gamma_0 + \gamma \lambda + \xi$$

where  $\gamma$  is a column vector of constant coefficients and  $\gamma_0$  is the intercept.  $\lambda_{kxn}$  is the matrix of scores and the error assumes  $\xi_l \sim N(0, \tau_l^2)$ .

## Value

An object of class `bsem`; a list of 14 to 19:

**stanfit** S4 object of class `stanfit`

**posterior** the list of posterior draws separated by chains

**model** character; pointer to pre-defined stan model

**mean\_alpha** matrix of factor loadings posterior means

**mean\_lambda** matrix of factor scores posterior means

**mean\_sigma2** vector of error variances posterior means

**mean\_beta** vector of regression coefficients posterior means

**mean\_tau2** vector of inner paths error variances posterior means

**mean\_gamma** vector of inner paths regression coefficients posterior means

**mean\_gamma0** vector of inner paths intercept posterior means

**stats** posterior descriptives statistics

**blocks** list of blocks

**paths** list of paths

**credint** Highest posterior density intervals (HPD)

**h** vector of posterior communalities

**PTVE** vector of total variance proportions

**R2** adjusted coefficient of determination

**SQE** explained sums of squares

**SQT** total sums of squares



**Author(s)**

Renato Panaro

**See Also**[plot.bsem](#), [simdata](#), [arrayplot](#), [summary.bsem](#), [print.bsem](#)**Examples**

```
dt <- bsem::simdata()
names(dt)

semfit <- bsem::sem(
  data = dt$data,
  blocks = dt$blocks,
  paths = dt$paths,
  exogenous = dt$exogenous,
  signals = dt$signals,
  cores = 1
)
summary(semfit)
```

---

`simdata`*Simulated data*

---

**Description**

Function to generate artificial data from a structural equation model

**Usage**

```
simdata(
  paths = list(3:4, 4:5),
  blocks = list(1:3, 4:7, 8:10, 11:16, 17:21),
  sigma2 = runif(Nv, 0.1, 0.9),
  exogenous = list(1:2),
  beta = list(c(1, -0.5), c(-1, 0.5)),
  gamma0 = list(c(1.5)),
  gamma = list(c(0.5, -1)),
  tau2 = list(c(0.49)),
  Nv = 21,
  Ne = 30,
  Nna = 0,
  save = FALSE,
  name = "dt"
)
```

**Arguments**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| paths      | list referring to the inner model paths; a list of integers referring to the scores relationship; the jth first latent variable are explained |
| blocks     | list of integers in 1:ncol(data) indicating the manifest variables corresponding to each block  |
| sigma2     | outer model error variances   |
| exogenous, | minimum color range (might cause blank spots if misspecified)   |
| beta       | inner paths regression coefficients   |
| gamma0     | inner exogenous intercept   |
| gamma      | inner exogenous regression coefficients   |
| tau2       | inner exogenous error variance  |
| Nv         | number of endogenous variables in the database (default = 21)   |
| Ne         | number of sample elements in the database (default = 30)  |
| Nna        | number of missing observations in each database (default = 0)   |
| save       | logical (default = FALSE); whether to save in the local filepath  |
| name       | rdata name used if save = TRUE  |

**See Also**

[plot.bsem](#), [sem](#), [arrayplot](#), [summary.bsem](#), [print.bsem](#)

**Examples**

```
dt <- bsem::simdata()

arrayplot(dt$real$alpha)
arrayplot(dt$real$alpha, colors = 0)
arrayplot(dt$real$alpha, colors = 1)
arrayplot(dt$real$alpha, -4, 4)
```

---

summary.bsem

*'bsem' object summary*


---

**Description**

'bsem' object summary

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'bsem'
summary(object, digits = 4, ...)
```

**Arguments**

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| object | an object of class <code>spb</code>                 |
| digits | number of digits to display                         |
| ...    | further arguments passed to or from summary methods |

**Value**

none

# Index

arrayplot, [3](#), [4-6](#), [9](#), [10](#)

bsem (bsem-package), [2](#)

bsem-package, [2](#)

plot.bsem, [3](#), [4](#), [9](#), [10](#)

print.bsem, [4](#), [5](#), [6](#), [9](#), [10](#)

runShiny, [3](#), [5](#), [6](#)

sampling, [7](#)

sem, [3-6](#), [6](#), [10](#)

simdata, [3-6](#), [9](#), [9](#)

summary.bsem, [3-6](#), [9](#), [10](#), [10](#)