

# Package ‘SparseSignatures’

June 5, 2026

**Version** 2.23.0

**Date** 2026-03-09

**Title** SparseSignatures

**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0), NMF

**Imports** nlasso, nnls, parallel, data.table, Biostrings,  
GenomicRanges, IRanges, BSgenome, GenomeInfoDb, ggplot2,  
gridExtra, reshape2, RhpcBLASctl

**Suggests** BiocGenerics, BSgenome.Hsapiens.1000genomes.hs37d5,  
BiocStyle, testthat, knitr,

**Name** An R package for the extraction of sparse mutational signatures  
from whole genome sequencing data

## Description

Point mutations occurring in a genome can be divided into 96 categories based on the base being mutated, the base it is mutated into and its two flanking bases. Therefore, for any patient, it is possible to represent all the point mutations occurring in that patient's tumor as a vector of length 96, where each element represents the count of mutations for a given category in the patient. A mutational signature represents the pattern of mutations produced by a mutagen or mutagenic process inside the cell. Each signature can also be represented by a vector of length 96, where each element represents the probability that this particular mutagenic process generates a mutation of the 96 above mentioned categories. In this R package, we provide a set of functions to extract and visualize the mutational signatures that best explain the mutation counts of a large number of patients.

**Encoding** UTF-8

**License** file LICENSE

**URL** <https://github.com/danro9685/SparseSignatures>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/danro9685/SparseSignatures>

**biocViews** BiomedicalInformatics, SomaticMutation

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/SparseSignatures>

**git\_branch** devel

**git\_last\_commit** 888f9fb

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2026-04-28

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.24

**Date/Publication** 2026-06-04

**Author** Daniele Ramazzotti [aut] (ORCID:  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6087-2666>),  
 Avantika Lal [aut],  
 Keli Liu [ctb],  
 Luca De Sano [cre, aut] (ORCID:  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9618-3774>),  
 Robert Tibshirani [ctb],  
 Arend Sidow [aut]

**Maintainer** Luca De Sano <luca.desano@gmail.com>

## Contents

background . . . . .	2
background2 . . . . .	3
cv_example . . . . .	3
import.trinucleotides.counts . . . . .	4
imported_data . . . . .	5
lambdaRangeAlphaEvaluation . . . . .	5
lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation . . . . .	7
lambda_range_example . . . . .	8
mutation_categories . . . . .	9
nmfLasso . . . . .	9
nmfLassoBootstrap . . . . .	11
nmfLassoCV . . . . .	12
nmf_LassoK_example . . . . .	14
patients . . . . .	15
patients.plot . . . . .	16
sigAssignmentCV . . . . .	16
sigAssignmentEvaluation . . . . .	18
sigAssignmentLasso . . . . .	19
signatures.plot . . . . .	20
ssm560_reduced . . . . .	21
startingBetaEstimation . . . . .	21
starting_betas_example . . . . .	22
<b>Index</b>	<b>24</b>

---

background	<i>germline replication error</i>
------------	-----------------------------------

---

## Description

germline replication error estimated in Rahbari, Raheleh, et al. (2016).

## Usage

data(background)

**Format**

vector of rates

**Value**

vector of rates for the 96 trinucleotides

**Source**

Rahbari, Raheleh, et al. "Timing, rates and spectra of human germline mutation." *Nature genetics* 48.2 (2016): 126.

---

background2	<i>COSMIC replication error</i>
-------------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

background replication error signature derived from COSMIC SBS5.

**Usage**

data(background2)

**Format**

vector of rates

**Value**

vector of rates for the 96 trinucleotides

**Source**

COSMIC database (<https://cancer.sanger.ac.uk/cosmic/signatures>) v3.

---

cv_example	<i>example of results obtained with the function nmf.LassoCV on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

example of results obtained with the function nmf.LassoCV on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

**Usage**

data(cv\_example)

**Format**

results obtained with the function `nmf.LassoCV` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

**Value**

results obtained with the function `nmf.LassoCV` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

---

```
import.trinucleotides.counts  
import.trinucleotides.counts
```

---

**Description**

Make trinucleotides counts matrix from input data for a given reference genome.

**Usage**

```
import.trinucleotides.counts(data, reference = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	a data.frame with variants having 6 columns: sample name, chromosome, start position, end position, ref, alt.
<code>reference</code>	a BSgenome object with the reference genome to be used to retrieve flanking bases.

**Value**

A matrix with trinucleotides counts per patient.

**Examples**

```
data(ssm560_reduced)  
library("BSgenome.Hsapiens.1000genomes.hs37d5")  
trinucleotides_counts = import.trinucleotides.counts(data=ssm560_reduced,  
reference=BSgenome.Hsapiens.1000genomes.hs37d5)
```

---

imported_data	<i>example of imported data from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

example of imported data from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

**Usage**

```
data(imported_data)
```

**Format**

results obtained with the function `import.counts.data` on the data from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

**Value**

results obtained with the function `import.counts.data` on the data from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

---

lambdaRangeAlphaEvaluation	<i>lambdaRangeAlphaEvaluation</i>
----------------------------	-----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Estimate the range of lambda values for alpha to be considered in the signature inference. Note that too small values of lambda result in dense exposures, but too large values lead to bad fit of the counts.

**Usage**

```
lambdaRangeAlphaEvaluation(
  x,
  K = 5,
  beta = NULL,
  background_signature = NULL,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  nmf_runs = 10,
  lambda_values = c(0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2),
  iterations = 30,
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
  num_processes = Inf,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  log_file = ""
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	count matrix for a set of <code>n</code> patients and 96 trinucleotides.
<code>K</code>	numeric value (minimum 2) indicating the number of signatures to be discovered.
<code>beta</code>	starting beta for the estimation. If it is NULL, starting beta is estimated by NMF.
<code>background_signature</code>	background signature to be used. If not provided, a warning is thrown and an initial value for it is estimated by NMF. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
<code>normalize_counts</code>	if true, the input count matrix <code>x</code> is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.
<code>nmf_runs</code>	number of iteration (minimum 1) of NMF to be performed for a robust estimation of starting beta. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
<code>lambda_values</code>	value of LASSO to be used for alpha between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher <code>lambda_values</code> is, the sparser are the resulting exposures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.
<code>iterations</code>	Number of iterations to be performed. Each iteration corresponds to a first step where beta is fitted and a second step where alpha is fitted.
<code>max_iterations_lasso</code>	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
<code>num_processes</code>	Number of processes to be used during parallel execution. To execute in single process mode, this parameter needs to be set to either NA or NULL.
<code>seed</code>	Seed for reproducibility.
<code>verbose</code>	boolean; Shall I print all messages?
<code>log_file</code>	log file where to print outputs when using parallel. If parallel execution is disabled, this parameter is ignored.

**Value**

A list corresponding to results of the function `nmfLasso` for each value of lambda to be tested. This function allows to test a good range of lambda values for alpha to be considered. One should keep in mind that too small values generate dense solution, while too high ones leads to poor fit. This behavior is resampled in the values of `loglik_progression`, which should be increasing: too small values of lambda results in unstable log-likelihood through the iterations, while too large values make log-likelihood drop.

**Examples**

```
data(background)
data(patients)
res = lambdaRangeAlphaEvaluation(x=patients[1:100,],
  K=5,background_signature=background,
  nmf_runs=1,lambda_values=c(0.01,0.05),
  num_processes=NA,
  seed=12345)
```

---

```
lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation
      lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation
```

---

## Description

Estimate the range of lambda values for beta to be considered in the signature inference. Note that too small values of lambda result in dense signatures, but too large values lead to bad fit of the counts.

## Usage

```
lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation(
  x,
  K = 5,
  beta = NULL,
  background_signature = NULL,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  nmf_runs = 10,
  lambda_values = c(0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2),
  iterations = 30,
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
  num_processes = Inf,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  log_file = ""
)
```

## Arguments

x	count matrix for a set of n patients and 96 trinucleotides.
K	numeric value (minimum 2) indicating the number of signatures to be discovered.
beta	starting beta for the estimation. If it is NULL, starting beta is estimated by NMF.
background_signature	background signature to be used. If not provided, a warning is thrown and an initial value for it is estimated by NMF. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
normalize_counts	if true, the input count matrix x is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.
nmf_runs	number of iteration (minimum 1) of NMF to be performed for a robust estimation of starting beta. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
lambda_values	value of LASSO to be used for beta between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher lambda_values is, the sparser are the resulting signatures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.
iterations	Number of iterations to be performed. Each iteration corresponds to a first step where beta is fitted and a second step where alpha is fitted.

max_iterations_lasso	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
num_processes	Number of processes to be used during parallel execution. To execute in single process mode, this parameter needs to be set to either NA or NULL.
seed	Seed for reproducibility.
verbose	boolean; Shall I print all messages?
log_file	log file where to print outputs when using parallel. If parallel execution is disabled, this parameter is ignored.

### Value

A list corresponding to results of the function `nmfLasso` for each value of `lambda` to be tested. This function allows to test a good range of `lambda` values for `beta` to be considered. One should keep in mind that too small values generate dense solution, while too high ones leads to poor fit. This behavior is resampled in the values of `loglik_progression`, which should be increasing: too small values of `lambda` results in unstable log-likelihood through the iterations, while too large values make log-likelihood drop.

### Examples

```
data(background)
data(patients)
res = lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation(x=patients[1:100,],
  K=5,
  background_signature=background,
  nmf_runs=1,
  lambda_values=c(0.01,0.05),
  num_processes=NA,
  seed=12345)
```

---

`lambda_range_example` *example of results obtained with the function `lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).*

---

### Description

example of results obtained with the function `lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

### Usage

```
data(lambda_range_example)
```

### Format

results obtained with the function `lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

**Value**

results obtained with the function `lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

---

mutation\_categories     *trinucleotides mutation categories*

---

**Description**

96 trinucleotides mutation categories

**Usage**

```
data(mutation_categories)
```

**Format**

matrix of 96 trinucleotides mutation categories

**Value**

matrix of 96 trinucleotides mutation categories

---

nmfLasso                     *nmfLasso*

---

**Description**

Perform the discovery of  $K$  somatic mutational signatures given a set of observed counts  $x$ .

**Usage**

```
nmfLasso(  
  x,  
  K,  
  beta = NULL,  
  background_signature = NULL,  
  normalize_counts = TRUE,  
  nmf_runs = 10,  
  lambda_rate_alpha = 0.05,  
  lambda_rate_beta = 0.05,  
  iterations = 30,  
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,  
  seed = NULL,  
  verbose = TRUE  
)
```

**Arguments**

x	count matrix for a set of n patients and 96 trinucleotides.
K	numeric value (minimum 2) indicating the number of signatures to be discovered.
beta	starting beta for the estimation. If it is NULL, starting beta is estimated by NMF.
background_signature	background signature to be used. If not provided, a warning is thrown and an initial value for it is estimated by NMF. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
normalize_counts	if true, the input count matrix x is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.
nmf_runs	number of iteration (minimum 1) of NMF to be performed for a robust estimation of starting beta. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
lambda_rate_alpha	value of LASSO to be used for alpha between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the exposure values to 0 within one step. The higher lambda_rate_alpha is, the sparser are the resulting exposure values, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.
lambda_rate_beta	value of LASSO to be used for beta between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher lambda_rate_beta is, the sparser are the resulting signatures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.
iterations	Number of iterations to be performed. Each iteration corresponds to a first step where beta is fitted and a second step where alpha is fitted.
max_iterations_lasso	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
seed	Seed for reproducibility.
verbose	boolean; Shall I print all messages?

**Value**

A list with the discovered signatures. It includes 6 elements: alpha: matrix of the discovered exposure values beta: matrix of the discovered signatures starting\_alpha: initial alpha on which the method has been applied starting\_beta: initial beta on which the method has been applied loglik\_progression: log-likelihood values during the iterations. This values should be increasing, if not the selected value of lambda is too high best\_loglik: log-likelihood of the best signatures configuration

**Examples**

```
data(patients)
data(starting_betas_example)
beta = starting_betas_example[["5_signatures", "Value"]]
res = nmfLasso(x=patients[1:100,],
              K=5,
              beta=beta,
```

```

lambda_rate_alpha=0.05,
lambda_rate_beta=0.05,
iterations=5,
seed=12345)

```

---

nmfLassoBootstrap	<i>nmfLassoBootstrap</i>
-------------------	--------------------------

---

## Description

Perform the evaluation of different nmfLasso solutions by bootstrap for K (unknown) somatic mutational signatures given a set of observations  $x$ . The estimation can slow down because of memory usage and intensive computations, when a big number of bootstrap repetitions is asked and when the analysis is performed for a big range of signatures (K). In this case, an advice may be to split the computation into multiple smaller sets.

## Usage

```

nmfLassoBootstrap(
  x,
  K = 3:10,
  starting_beta = NULL,
  background_signature = NULL,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  nmf_runs = 10,
  bootstrap_repetitions = 50,
  iterations = 30,
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
  num_processes = Inf,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  log_file = ""
)

```

## Arguments

$x$	count matrix for a set of $n$ patients and 96 trinucleotides.
K	a range of numeric value (each of them greater than 1) indicating the number of signatures to be discovered.
starting_beta	a list of starting beta value for each configuration of K. If it is NULL, starting betas are estimated by NMF.
background_signature	background signature to be used. If not provided, a warning is thrown and an initial value for it is estimated by NMF. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
normalize_counts	if true, the input count matrix $x$ is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.
nmf_runs	number of iteration (minimum 1) of NMF to be performed for a robust estimation of starting beta. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.

<code>bootstrap_repetitions</code>	Number of time bootstrap should be repeated. Higher values result in better estimate, but are computationally more expensive.
<code>iterations</code>	Number of iterations to be performed. Each iteration corresponds to a first step where beta is fitted and a second step where alpha is fitted.
<code>max_iterations_lasso</code>	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
<code>num_processes</code>	Number of processes to be used during parallel execution. To execute in single process mode, this parameter needs to be set to either NA or NULL.
<code>seed</code>	Seed for reproducibility.
<code>verbose</code>	boolean; Shall I print all messages?
<code>log_file</code>	log file where to print outputs when using parallel. If parallel execution is disabled, this parameter is ignored.

### Value

A list of 3 elements: stability, RSS and evar. Here, stability reports the estimated cosine similarity for alpha and beta at each bootstrap repetition; RSS reports for each configuration the estimated residual sum of squares; finally, evar reports the explained variance.

### Examples

```
data(background)
data(patients)
res = nmfLassoBootstrap(x=patients[1:100,],
  K=3:5,
  background_signature=background,
  nmf_runs=1,
  bootstrap_repetitions=2,
  num_processes=NA,
  seed=12345)
```

---

nmfLassoCV

*nmfLassoCV*


---

### Description

Perform the assessment of different nmfLasso solutions by cross validation for K (unknown) somatic mutational signatures given a set of observations x. The estimation can slow down because of memory usage and intensive computations, when a big number of cross validation repetitions is asked and when the grid search is performed for a lot of configurations. In this case, an advice may be to split the computation into multiple smaller sets.

**Usage**

```
nmfLassoCV(
  x,
  K = 3:10,
  starting_beta = NULL,
  background_signature = NULL,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  nmf_runs = 10,
  lambda_values_alpha = c(0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1),
  lambda_values_beta = c(0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1),
  cross_validation_entries = 0.01,
  cross_validation_iterations = 5,
  cross_validation_repetitions = 50,
  iterations = 30,
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
  num_processes = Inf,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  log_file = ""
)
```

**Arguments**

**x** count matrix for a set of n patients and 96 trinucleotides.

**K** a range of numeric value (each of them greater than 1) indicating the number of signatures to be discovered.

**starting\_beta** a list of starting beta value for each configuration of K. If it is NULL, starting betas are estimated by NMF.

**background\_signature** background signature to be used. If not provided, a warning is thrown and an initial value for it is estimated by NMF. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.

**normalize\_counts** if true, the input count matrix x is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.

**nmf\_runs** number of iteration (minimum 1) of NMF to be performed for a robust estimation of starting beta. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.

**lambda\_values\_alpha** value of LASSO to be used for alpha between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher lambda\_rate\_alpha is, the sparser are the resulting exposures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.

**lambda\_values\_beta** value of LASSO to be used for beta between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher lambda\_rate\_beta is, the sparser are the resulting exposures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.

**cross\_validation\_entries** Percentage of cells in the count matrix to be replaced by 0s during cross validation.

cross_validation_iterations	For each configuration, the first time the signatures are discovered form a matrix with a percentage of values replaced by 0s. This may result in poor fit/results. Then, we perform predictions of these entries and replace them with such predicted values. This parameter is the number of restarts to be performed to improve this estimate and obtain more stable solutions.
cross_validation_repetitions	Number of time cross-validation should be repeated. Higher values result in better estimate, but are computationally more expensive.
iterations	Number of iterations to be performed. Each iteration corresponds to a first step where beta is fitted and a second step where alpha is fitted.
max_iterations_lasso	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
num_processes	Number of processes to be used during parallel execution. To execute in single process mode, this parameter needs to be set to either NA or NULL.
seed	Seed for reproducibility.
verbose	boolean; Shall I print all messages?
log_file	log file where to print outputs when using parallel. If parallel execution is disabled, this parameter is ignored.

### Value

A list of 2 elements: `grid_search_mse` and `grid_search_loglik`. Here, `grid_search_mse` reports the mean squared error for each configuration of performed cross validation; `grid_search_loglik` reports for each configuration the number of times the algorithm converged.

### Examples

```
data(background)
data(patients)
res = nmfLassoCV(x=patients[1:100,],
  K=3:5,
  background_signature=background,
  nmf_runs=1,
  lambda_values_alpha=c(0.00),
  lambda_values_beta=c(0.00),
  cross_validation_repetitions=2,
  num_processes=NA,
  seed=12345)
```

---

nmf_LassoK_example	<i>example of results obtained with the function nmf.LassoK on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).</i>
--------------------	---

---

### Description

example of results obtained with the function `nmf.LassoK` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

**Usage**

```
data(nmf_LassoK_example)
```

**Format**

results obtained with the function `nmf.LassoK` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

**Value**

results obtained with the function `nmf.LassoK` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

---

patients

*point mutations for 560 breast tumors*

---

**Description**

dataset of counts of the point mutations detected in 560 breast tumors published in Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

**Usage**

```
data(patients)
```

**Format**

counts of the point mutations

**Value**

counts of point mutations for 560 tumors and 96 trinucleotides

**Source**

Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. "Landscape of somatic mutations in 560 breast cancer whole-genome sequences." *Nature* 534.7605 (2016): 47.

---

patients.plot                      *patients.plot*

---

### Description

Plot trinucleotides counts for a set of given patients.

### Usage

```
patients.plot(
  trinucleotides_counts,
  samples = rownames(trinucleotides_counts),
  freq = FALSE,
  xlabels = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

trinucleotides\_counts                      trinucleotides counts matrix.

samples                      name of the samples. This should match a rownames in trinucleotides\_counts.

freq                      boolean value; shall I display rates instead of counts?

xlabels                      boolean value; shall I display x labels?

### Value

A ggplot2 object.

### Examples

```
data(patients)
patients.plot(trinucleotides_counts=patients,samples=c("PD10010a","PD10011a","PD10014a"))
```

---

sigAssignmentCV                      *sigAssignmentCV*

---

### Description

Perform the assessment of different sigAssignmentLasso solutions by cross validation for a given set of somatic mutational signatures and observations  $x$ . The estimation can slow down because of memory usage and intensive computations, when a big number of cross validation repetitions is asked and when the grid search is performed for a lot of configurations. In this case, an advice may be to split the computation into multiple smaller sets.

**Usage**

```
sigAssignmentCV(
  x,
  beta,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  lambda_values_alpha = c(0, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1),
  cross_validation_entries = 0.01,
  cross_validation_iterations = 5,
  cross_validation_repetitions = 50,
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
  num_processes = Inf,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  log_file = ""
)
```

**Arguments**

x	count matrix for a set of n patients and 96 trinucleotides.
beta	beta to be fixed during the estimation of alpha.
normalize_counts	if true, the input count matrix x is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.
lambda_values_alpha	value of LASSO to be used for alpha between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher lambda_rate_alpha is, the sparser are the resulting exposures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.
cross_validation_entries	Percentage of cells in the count matrix to be replaced by 0s during cross validation.
cross_validation_iterations	For each configuration, the first time the signatures are discovered form a matrix with a percentage of values replaced by 0s. This may result in poor fit/results. Then, we perform predictions of these entries and replace them with such predicted values. This parameter is the number of restarts to be performed to improve this estimate and obtain more stable solutions.
cross_validation_repetitions	Number of time cross-validation should be repeated. Higher values result in better estimate, but are computationally more expensive.
max_iterations_lasso	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
num_processes	Number of processes to be used during parallel execution. To execute in single process mode, this parameter needs to be set to either NA or NULL.
seed	Seed for reproducibility.
verbose	boolean; Shall I print all messages?
log_file	log file where to print outputs when using parallel. If parallel execution is disabled, this parameter is ignored.

**Value**

A list of 2 elements: `grid_search_mse` and `grid_search_loglik`. Here, `grid_search_mse` reports the mean squared error for each configuration of performed cross validation; `grid_search_loglik` reports for each configuration the number of times the algorithm converged.

**Examples**

```
data(patients)
data(starting_betas_example)
beta = starting_betas_example[["5_signatures", "Value"]]
res = sigAssignmentCV(x=patients[1:100,],
  beta=beta,
  lambda_values_alpha=c(0.00),
  cross_validation_repetitions=2,
  num_processes=NA,
  seed=12345)
```

---

```
sigAssignmentEvaluation
```

```
sigAssignmentEvaluation
```

---

**Description**

Estimate the range of lambda values for alpha to be considered in the signature assignment. Note that too small values of lambda result in dense exposures, but too large values lead to bad fit of the counts.

**Usage**

```
sigAssignmentEvaluation(
  x,
  beta,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  lambda_values = c(0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2),
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
  num_processes = Inf,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE,
  log_file = ""
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	count matrix for a set of <code>n</code> patients and 96 trinucleotides.
<code>beta</code>	beta to be fixed during the estimation of alpha.
<code>normalize_counts</code>	if true, the input count matrix <code>x</code> is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.

lambda_values	value of LASSO to be used for alpha between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the signatures to 0 within one step. The higher lambda_values is, the sparser are the resulting exposures, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.
max_iterations_lasso	Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.
num_processes	Number of processes to be used during parallel execution. To execute in single process mode, this parameter needs to be set to either NA or NULL.
seed	Seed for reproducibility.
verbose	boolean; Shall I print all messages?
log_file	log file where to print outputs when using parallel. If parallel execution is disabled, this parameter is ignored.

### Value

A list corresponding to results of the function sigAssignmentLasso for each value of lambda to be tested. This function allows to test a good range of lambda values for alpha to be considered. One should keep in mind that too small values generate dense solution, while too high ones leads to poor fit. This behavior is resampled in the values of loglik\_progression, which should be increasing: too small values of lambda results in unstable log-likelihood through the iterations, while too large values make log-likelihood drop.

### Examples

```
data(patients)
data(starting_betas_example)
beta = starting_betas_example[["5_signatures", "Value"]]
res = sigAssignmentEvaluation(x=patients[1:100,],
  beta=beta,
  lambda_values=c(0.01,0.05),
  num_processes=NA,
  seed=12345)
```

---

sigAssignmentLasso      *sigAssignmentLasso*

---

### Description

Perform the assignment of somatic mutational signatures to patients given a set of observed counts x and signatures beta.

### Usage

```
sigAssignmentLasso(
  x,
  beta,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  lambda_rate_alpha = 0.05,
  max_iterations_lasso = 10000,
```

```

    seed = NULL,
    verbose = TRUE
)

```

### Arguments

**x** count matrix for a set of n patients and 96 trinucleotides.

**beta** beta to be fixed during the estimation of alpha.

**normalize\_counts** if true, the input count matrix x is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.

**lambda\_rate\_alpha** value of LASSO to be used for alpha between 0 and 1. This value should be greater than 0. 1 is the value of LASSO that would shrink all the exposure values to 0 within one step. The higher lambda\_rate\_alpha is, the sparser are the resulting exposure values, but too large values may result in a reduced fit of the observed counts.

**max\_iterations\_lasso** Number of maximum iterations to be performed during the sparsification via Lasso.

**seed** Seed for reproducibility.

**verbose** boolean; Shall I print all messages?

### Value

A list with the discovered signatures and their assignment to patients. It includes 2 elements: alpha: matrix of the assigned exposure values beta: matrix of the discovered signatures

### Examples

```

data(patients)
data(starting_betas_example)
beta = starting_betas_example[["5_signatures", "Value"]]
res = sigAssignmentLasso(x=patients[1:100,], beta=beta, lambda_rate_alpha=0.05, seed=12345)

```

---

signatures.plot

*signatures.plot*

---

### Description

Plot the inferred mutational signatures.

### Usage

```
signatures.plot(beta, useRowNames = FALSE, xlabels = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

**beta** matrix with the inferred mutational signatures.

**useRowNames** boolean value; shall I use the rownames from beta as names for the signatures?

**xlabels** boolean value; shall I display x labels?

**Value**

A ggplot2 object.

**Examples**

```
data(nmf_LassoK_example)
signatures.plot(beta=nmf_LassoK_example$beta)
```

---

ssm560_reduced	<i>a reduced version of the point mutations for 560 breast tumors in the format compatible with the import function</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

reduced version of the dataset of counts of the point mutations detected in 560 breast tumors published in Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

**Usage**

```
data(ssm560_reduced)
```

**Format**

reduced version of the counts of the point mutations in the format compatible with the import function

**Value**

reduced version of the counts of point mutations for 560 tumors and 96 trinucleotides in the format compatible with the import function

**Source**

Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. "Landscape of somatic mutations in 560 breast cancer whole-genome sequences." Nature 534.7605 (2016): 47.

---

startingBetaEstimation	<i>startingBetaEstimation</i>
------------------------	-------------------------------

---

**Description**

Perform a robust estimation of the starting betas for the nmfLasso method

**Usage**

```
startingBetaEstimation(
  x,
  K = 3:10,
  background_signature = NULL,
  normalize_counts = TRUE,
  nmf_runs = 10,
  seed = NULL,
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

x	count matrix for a set of n patients and 96 trinucleotides.
K	numeric value (minimum 2) indicating the number of signatures to be discovered.
background_signature	background signature to be used. If not provided, a warning is thrown and an initial value for it is estimated by NMF. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
normalize_counts	if true, the input count matrix x is normalize such that the patients have the same number of mutation.
nmf_runs	number of iteration (minimum 1) of NMF to be performed for a robust estimation of starting beta. If beta is not NULL, this parameter is ignored.
seed	Seed for reproducibility.
verbose	boolean; Shall I print all messages?

**Value**

A list containing the starting beta values for each configuration of K.

**Examples**

```
data(background)
data(patients)
res = startingBetaEstimation(x=patients[1:100,],
  K=3:5,
  background_signature=background,
  nmf_runs=1,
  seed=12345)
```

---

starting\_betas\_example

*example of results obtained with the function starting.betas.estimation on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).*

---

**Description**

example of results obtained with the function `starting.betas.estimation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016).

**Usage**

```
data(starting_betas_example)
```

**Format**

results obtained with the function `starting.betas.estimation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

**Value**

results obtained with the function `starting.betas.estimation` on the counts input from Nik-Zainal, Serena, et al. (2016)

# Index

background, [2](#)  
background2, [3](#)  
  
cv\_example, [3](#)  
  
import.trinucleotides.counts, [4](#)  
imported\_data, [5](#)  
  
lambda\_range\_example, [8](#)  
lambdaRangeAlphaEvaluation, [5](#)  
lambdaRangeBetaEvaluation, [7](#)  
  
mutation\_categories, [9](#)  
  
nmf\_LassoK\_example, [14](#)  
nmfLasso, [9](#)  
nmfLassoBootstrap, [11](#)  
nmfLassoCV, [12](#)  
  
patients, [15](#)  
patients.plot, [16](#)  
  
sigAssignmentCV, [16](#)  
sigAssignmentEvaluation, [18](#)  
sigAssignmentLasso, [19](#)  
signatures.plot, [20](#)  
ssm560\_reduced, [21](#)  
starting\_betas\_example, [22](#)  
startingBetaEstimation, [21](#)