

# Package ‘skm’

July 23, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Selective k-Means

**Version** 0.1.5.4

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**Description** Algorithms for solving selective k-means problem, which is defined as finding  $k$  rows in an  $m \times n$  matrix such that the sum of each column minimal is minimized.  
In the scenario when  $m == n$  and each cell value in matrix is a valid distance metric, this is equivalent to a k-means problem. The selective k-means extends the k-means problem in the sense that it is possible to have  $m != n$ , often the case  $m < n$  which implies the search is limited within a small subset of rows. Also, the selective k-means extends the k-means problem in the sense that the instance in row set can be instance not seen in the column set, e.g., select 2 from 3 internet service provider (row) for 5 houses (column) such that minimize the overall cost (cell value) - overall cost is the sum of the column minimal of the selected 2 service provider.

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**LazyData** TRUE

**URL** <http://github.com/gyang274/skm>

**BugReports** <http://github.com/gyang274/skm/issues>

**RoxygenNote** 5.0.1

**Depends** R (>= 3.0.0), magrittr, data.table

**Imports** methods, plyr, Rcpp (>= 0.12.5), RcppParallel

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppArmadillo, RcppParallel

**SystemRequirements** GNU make

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Repository** CRAN

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col_max_idx	<i>col_max_idx</i>
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## Description

calculate colvec max value index within limited range

## Usage

```
col_max_idx(u, wlmt)
```

## Arguments

u	u: a numeric colvec
wlmt	wlmt: limit search on colvec on indices within wlmt

**Value**

id an index of max value in u within wlmt w.r.t to original index

**Note**

cpp use index start from 0 vs r use index start from 1  
in case of equal std:min/std:max take first index seen

**See Also**

Other matrix\_minmax: [col\\_max\\_val](#), [col\\_min\\_idx](#), [col\\_min\\_val](#), [col\\_rgn\\_val](#)

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<code>col_max_val</code>	<i>col_max_val</i>
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**Description**

calculate colvec max value within limited range

**Usage**

`col_max_val(u, wlmt)`

**Arguments**

u                    u: a numeric colvec  
wlmt                wlmt: limit search on colvec on indices within wlmt

**Value**

vd min value in u within wlmt w.r.t to original index

**See Also**

Other matrix\_minmax: [col\\_max\\_idx](#), [col\\_min\\_idx](#), [col\\_min\\_val](#), [col\\_rgn\\_val](#)

---

col_min_idx	<i>col_min_idx</i>
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---

**Description**

calculate colvec min value index within limited range

**Usage**

```
col_min_idx(u, wlmt)
```

**Arguments**

u	u: a numeric colvec
wlmt	wlmt: limit search on colvec on indices within wlmt

**Value**

id an index of min value in u within wlmt w.r.t to original index

**Note**

cpp use index start from 0 vs r use index start from 1  
in case of equal std:min/std:max take first index seen

**See Also**

Other matrix\_minmax: [col\\_max\\_idx](#), [col\\_max\\_val](#), [col\\_min\\_val](#), [col\\_rgn\\_val](#)

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col_min_val	<i>col_min_val</i>
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---

**Description**

calculate colvec min value within limited range

**Usage**

```
col_min_val(u, wlmt)
```

**Arguments**

u	u: a numeric colvec
wlmt	wlmt: limit search on colvec on indices within wlmt

**Value**

vd min value in u within wlmt w.r.t to original index

**See Also**

Other matrix\_minmax: [col\\_max\\_idx](#), [col\\_max\\_val](#), [col\\_min\\_idx](#), [col\\_rgn\\_val](#)

---

col\_rgn\_val

*col\_rgn\_val*

---

**Description**

calculate colvec range = max - min value within limited range

**Usage**

col\_rgn\_val(u, wlmt)

**Arguments**

u	u: a numeric colvec
wlmt	wlmt: limit search on colvec on indices within wlmt

**Value**

vd max - min value in u within wlmt w.r.t to original index

**See Also**

Other matrix\_minmax: [col\\_max\\_idx](#), [col\\_max\\_val](#), [col\\_min\\_idx](#), [col\\_min\\_val](#)

---

dist\_wlatlng

*dist\_wlatlng*

---

**Description**

calculate distance btwn coordinate1<lat1, lng1> and coordinate2<lat2, lng2>

**Usage**

dist\_wlatlng(.lat1, .lng1, .lat2, .lng2, .measure = "mi")

**Arguments**

.lat1	latitude of coordinate1
.lng1	longitude of coordinate1
.lat2	latitude of coordinate2
.lng2	longitude of coordinate2
.measure	- mi or km

**Details**

calculate the great circle distance between 2 points with Haversine formula, which deliberately ignores elevation differences.

Haversine formula (from R.W. Sinnott, "Virtues of the Haversine", Sky and Telescope, vol. 68, no. 2, 1984, p. 159):

$$dlon = lon2 - lon1$$

$$dlat = lat2 - lat1$$

$$a = \sin^2(dlat/2) + \cos(lat1) * \cos(lat2) * \sin^2(dlon/2)$$

$$c = 2 * \arcsin(\min(1, \sqrt{a}))$$

$$d = R * c$$


---

dist_wlatlng_cpp	<i>dist_wlatlng_cpp</i>
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---

**Description**

calculate distance between coordinate1<lat1, lng1> and coordinate2<lat2, lng2>

**Usage**

```
dist_wlatlng_mi_cpp(lat1, lng1, lat2, lng2)
```

```
dist_wlatlng_km_cpp(lat1, lng1, lat2, lng2)
```

```
distSgl_wlatlng_cpp(lat1, lng1, lat2, lng2, measure = "mi")
```

```
distRpl_wlatlng_cpp(lat1, lng1, lat2, lng2, measure = "mi",
  distRpl_GS = 100L)
```

**Arguments**

lat1	latitude of coordinate1
lng1	longitude of coordinate1
lat2	latitude of coordinate2
lng2	longitude of coordinate2

measure	"mi" (mile) or "km" (kilometer)
distRpl_GS	The grain size of a parallel algorithm sets a minimum chunk size for parallelization. In other words, at what point to stop processing input on separate threads (as sometimes creating more threads can degrade the performance of an algorithm by introducing excessive synchronization overhead). Default is 100.

## Details

calculate the great circle distance between 2 points with Haversine formula, which deliberately ignores elevation differences.

Haversine formula (from R.W. Sinnott, "Virtues of the Haversine", Sky and Telescope, vol. 68, no. 2, 1984, p. 159):

$$dlon = lon2 - lon1$$

$$dlat = lat2 - lat1$$

$$a = \sin^2(dlat/2) + \cos(lat1) * \cos(lat2) * \sin^2(dlon/2)$$

$$c = 2 * \arcsin(\min(1, \sqrt{a}))$$

$$d = R * c$$

dist\_wlatlng\_mi\_cpp:

calculate distance between coordinate1<lat1, lng1> and coordinate2<lat2, lng2> in mile

dist\_wlatlng\_km\_cpp:

calculate distance between coordinate1<lat1, lng1> and coordinate2<lat2, lng2> in kilometer

distSgl\_wlatlng\_cpp:

calculate distance between coordinate1<lat1, lng1> and coordinate2<lat2, lng2> in mile (measure = "mi") or kilometer (measure = "km"), default is mile.

implement as serial computing over vector of lat1, lng1, lat2, lng2

distRpl\_wlatlng\_cpp:

calculate distance between coordinate1<lat1, lng1> and coordinate2<lat2, lng2> in mile (measure = "mi") or kilometer (measure = "km"), default is mile.

implement as parallel computing over vector of lat1, lng1, lat2, lng2 via RcppParallel

---

skmRpl\_mlp\_cpp

*skmRpl\_mlp\_cpp*

---

## Description

solve skm with multiple runs in parallel

## Usage

```
skmRpl_mlp_cpp(x, k, s_must, max_it, max_at, skmRpl_GS = 100L)
```

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix often $m < n$ , as a convention index rows of x with s, and cols of x with t so $x(i, j)$ can be expressed as $(s_i, t_j)$ equally.
k	number of index to be selected from x row index start from 0.
s_must	an index vector set should be selected before selecting other index.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result. max number of iterations within a single initial run on optimal path.
max_at	max number of attempts or repeats on running for optimal results, max number of random initialization for finding optimal results.
skmRpl_GS	skmRpl_GS: RcppParallel grain size when run skmRpl_mlp_cpp

**Details**

refer skm\_sgl\_cpp

**Value**

skmSolution skmSolution present in r list

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skmSolution	<i>skmSolution</i>
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---

**Description**

class skmSolution, which often returned via skm solver implemented in cpp

**Usage**

```
skmSolution
```

**Format**

An object of class C++Class of length 1.

**Details**

an skmSolution instance has two member variable:

o: objective  $\text{sum}(\min(x.\text{subview}(i \text{ in } s, \text{all } j), \min \text{ over all } i), \text{sum over all } j)$

s: selected index set of row index start from 0



---

 skm\_gdp\_cpp

*skm\_gdp\_cpp*


---

**Description**

solve selective kmeans via a greedy propagation.

**Usage**

skm\_gdp\_cpp(x, k = 0L)

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix of s - t - dist
k	number of index to be selected from x row index start from 0.

**Details**

skm\_gdp\_cpp init with an input m x n matrix x and want to select an index set s of size k from x row index started from 0 such that

minimize  $\sum(\min(x.\text{subview}(i \text{ in } s, \text{all } j), \min \text{ over all } i), \text{sum over all } j)$

skm\_gdp\_cpp solve the problem with greedy propagation via selecting the current best addon index from the index set left, addon index is defined as such index when addon to the selected one can bring the most improvement.

since skm\_gbp\_cpp would select index one by one, and no return, e.g., if select index A for k = 1, then selection on k = 2 would build on k = 1, so index A is always present in the solution, so all index can be ranked w.r.t when it would be considered as the best addon. as a result skm\_gbp\_cpp a parameter k is not always required, so default k = 0 will return a vector of size m, and user can select to top k as solution for k.

**Value**

s a ranked index 0 - m - 1 where the top k would minimize  $\sum(\min(x.\text{subview}(i \text{ in } s(0..k-1), \text{all } j), \min \text{ over all } i), \text{sum over all } j)$

---

 skm\_minmax\_cpp

*skm\_minmax\_cpp*


---

**Description**

skm via min-max on in cpp - subroutine of skm\_sgl\_cpp calls

**Usage**

skm\_minmax\_cpp(x, s\_must)

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix often m > n
s_must	matrix x row index start from 0 that must be selected with priority

**Details**

skm\_minmax\_cpp init an input m x n matrix x, and a priority vector s\_must would select n indicies from m such that:

minimize sum(min(x(i, j) where i <1..n> and j <1..n> each use <1..n> once))

so in case m <= n it simply select all m - should always be apply on matrix with m > n - it is designed as a expectation step in skm\_cpp on updating s.

it select i in <1..m> such that i has the colwise\_min\_idx on column j where j has max difference of (colwise\_max\_val - colwise\_min\_val), it then remove row i col j from matrix and repeat.

s\_must presents the indices with priority so that the selection must select first indicies within s\_must and then select other indicies outside s\_must.

an example skm\_minmax\_cpp is superior in bound worst case compare to greedy: x = [1 100; 4 200; 2 400; 9 900]: greedy 1 then 200, min-max 100 then 2, and greedy give [1 100; 4 200] with 201 and minmax give [1 100; 2 400] with 102.

---

 skm\_mlp\_cpp

*skm\_mlp\_cpp*


---

**Description**

solve skm with multiple runs in serial and return all w. optim

**Usage**

skm\_mlp\_cpp(x, k, s\_must, max\_it, max\_at)

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix often m < n, as a convention index rows of x with s, and cols of x with t so x(i, j) can be expressed as (s_i, t_j) equally.
k	number of index to be selected from x row index start from 0.
s_must	an index vector set should be selected before selecting other index.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result. max number of iterations within a single initial run on optimal path.
max_at	max number of attempts or repeats on running for optimial results, max number of random initialization for finding optimial results.

**Details**

refer skm\_sgl\_cpp

**Value**

skmSolution skmSolution present in r list

**See Also**

Other skm: [skm\\_mls\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgi\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgs\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_sgl\\_cpp](#)

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skm_mls	<i>skm_mls</i>
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**Description**

a selective k-means problem solver - wrapper over skm\_mls\_cpp

**Usage**

```
skm_mls(x, k = 1L, s_colname = "s", t_colname = "t", d_colname = "d",
        w_colname = NULL, s_ggrp = integer(0L), s_must = integer(0L),
        max_it = 100L, max_at = 100L, auto_create_ggrp = TRUE,
        extra_immaculatism = TRUE, extra_at = 10L)
```

**Arguments**

x	data.table with s - t - d(s, t): s<source> - t<target> - d<distance> where s<source> and t<target> must characters and d<distance> must numeric. aware d<distance> is not necessary as an euclidean or any distance and even necessary as symmetric - d(s, t) can be unequal to d(t, s) - view d as such a measure of the cost of assigning one to the other!
k	number of centers
s_colname	s<source>
t_colname	t<target>
d_colname	d<distance> - view d as cost of assigning t into s. also modify the input data or build in the algorithm can solve problem with a different fixed cost on using each s as source - i prefer to moddify data so that the algorithm is clean and clear - i will show a how to in vignette
w_colname	w<weighting> - optional: when not null will optimize toward objective to minimize $d = d * w$ such as weighted cost of assigning t into s
s_ggrp	s_init will be stratified sampling from s w.r.t s_ggrp.
s_must	length $\leq k-1$ s must in result: conditional optimizing.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result.
max_at	max number of attempts/repeats on running for optimial.
auto_create_ggrp	boolean indicator of whether auto creating the group structure using the first letter of s when s_ggrp is integer(0).

extra_immaculatism	boolean indicator of whether making extra runs for improving result consistency when multiple successive k is specified, e.g., $k = c(9L, 10L)$ .
extra_at	an integer specifying the number of extra runs when argument extra_immaculatism is TRUE.

### Details

a selective k-means problem is defined as finding a subset of k rows from a m x n matrix such that the sum of each column minimal is minimized.

skm\_mls would take data.table (data.frame) as inputs, rather than a matrix, assume that a data.table of s - t - d(s, t) for all combination of s and t, choose k of s that minimizes sum(min(d(s, t) over selected k of s) over t).

### Value

data.table  
 o - objective - based on d\_colname  
 w - weighting - based on w\_colname  
 k - k<k-list> - based on k - input  
 s - s<source> - based on s\_colname  
 d - weighed average value of d\_colname weighed by w\_column when s are selected.

---

 skm\_mls\_cpp

*skm\_mls\_cpp*


---

### Description

solve skm with multiple runs in serial and return all w. optim and s\_init stratified sampled w.r.t g

### Usage

```
skm_mls_cpp(x, k, g, s_must, max_it, max_at)
```

### Arguments

x	an m x n matrix often $m < n$ , as a convention index rows of x with s, and cols of x with t so $x(i, j)$ can be expressed as $(s_i, t_j)$ equally.
k	number of index to be selected from x row index start from 0.
g	stratify structure, often info on grouping of v so that algorithm should make random initialization from stratified sample across groups.
s_must	an index vector set should be selected before selecting other index.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result. max number of iterations within a single initial run on optimal path.
max_at	max number of attempts or repeats on running for optimal results, max number of random initialization for finding optimal results.

**Details**

refer skm\_sgl\_cpp

**Value**

skmSolution skmSolution present in r list

**See Also**

Other skm: [skm\\_mlp\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgi\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgs\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_sgl\\_cpp](#)

---

skm\_rgi\_cpp

*skm\_rgi\_cpp*

---

**Description**

solve skm with single and random size k s\_init

**Usage**

```
skm_rgi_cpp(x, k, s_must, max_it)
```

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix often m < n, as a convention index rows of x with s, and cols of x with t so x(i, j) can be expressed as (s_i, t_j) equally.
k	number of index to be selected from x row index start from 0.
s_must	an index vector set should be selected before selecting other index.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result. max number of iterations within a single initial run on optimal path.

**Details**

refer skm\_sgl\_cpp

**Value**

skmSolution

**See Also**

Other skm: [skm\\_mlp\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_mls\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgs\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_sgl\\_cpp](#)

---

 skm\_rgs\_cpp

*skm\_rgs\_cpp*


---

**Description**

solve skm with single and random size k s\_init stratified sampled w.r.t g

**Usage**

```
skm_rgs_cpp(x, k, g, s_must, max_it)
```

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix often m < n, as a convention index rows of x with s, and cols of x with t so x(i, j) can be expressed as (s_i, t_j) equally.
k	number of index to be selected from x row index start from 0.
g	stratify structure, often info on grouping of v so that algorithm should make random initialization from stratified sample across groups.
s_must	an index vector set should be selected before selecting other index.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result. max number of iterations within a single initial run on optimal path.

**Details**

refer skm\_sgl\_cpp

**Value**

skmSolution

**See Also**

Other skm: [skm\\_mlp\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_mls\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgi\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_sgl\\_cpp](#)

---

 skm\_sgl\_cpp

*skm\_sgl\_cpp*


---

**Description**

solve skm with single and a fixed given s\_init

**Usage**

```
skm_sgl_cpp(x, s_init, s_must, max_it)
```

**Arguments**

x	an m x n matrix often $m < n$ , as a convention index rows of x with s, and cols of x with t so $x(i, j)$ can be expressed as $(s_i, t_j)$ equally.
s_init	an init vector of k index to start the search of optimal index set of k, length of s_init also defined the number of index want to be select.
s_must	an index vector set should be selected before selecting other index.
max_it	max number of iterations can run for optimizing result. max number of iterations within a single initial run on optimal path.

**Details**

a numeric m x n matrix x often  $m \ll n$  and want to select a subset of k from m such that it minimize the  $\sum(\min(x(i, j) - \text{minimum w.r.t each } j \text{ over all } i \text{ within selected index set}), \text{ over all } i)$

if  $m == n$  and  $x(i, j)$  as euclidean distance then it is equivalent to kmeans

skm can select a combined set for deploying resource, for example, where to build 5 warehouses on united states, which often different than build these warehouses via select the current best one by one.

**Value**

skmSolution

**See Also**

Other skm: [skm\\_mlp\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_mls\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgi\\_cpp](#), [skm\\_rgs\\_cpp](#)

---

source_zip_list	<i>source_zip_list</i>
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---

**Description**

a list of zip code used in skm package demonstration.

**Usage**

source\_zip\_list

**Format**

a character vector of length 51 includes one 5 digits zip code selected from each state, where the most central zip code in each state selected.

---

stratified\_sampling     *stratified\_sampling*

---

### Description

select k elements from vector v w.r.t stratify structure group g. TODO - implementing via template so v is flexible as vec or uvec.

### Usage

```
stratified_sampling(v, k, g)
```

### Arguments

v                    <vector> v: a numeric candidate v from which draw sample.  
k                    <integer> k: selection sample size.  
g                    <vector> g: stratify structure g - info on grouping of v so that the selected sample is stratified across groups.

### Value

s <vector> s: a vector select from v length k stratified by g.

### Note

v is required as an integer vector for using in skm

---

zip2012                    *zip2012*

---

### Description

a zip code database with latitude, longitude, population and income.

### Usage

```
zip2012
```



**Format**

A data table with 28844 rows and 9 variables:

**zip** zip code, 5 digits zip code in U.S.

**lat** latitude

**lng** longitude

**pop** population

**ink** income

**city** city

**state** state

**p\_pop** percentage of population w.r.t total population

**p\_ink** percentage of income w.r.t total income

**Source**

<http://federalgovernmentzipcodes.us/>

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