

Package ‘StochBlock’

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Type Package

Title Stochastic Blockmodeling of One-Mode and Linked Networks

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Maintainer Aleš Žiberna <ales.ziberna@fdv.uni-lj.si>

Description Stochastic blockmodeling of one-mode and linked networks as implemented in Škulj and Žiberna (2022) <doi:10.1016/j.socnet.2022.02.001>. The optimization is done via CEM (Classification Expectation Maximization) algorithm that can be initialized by random partitions or the results of k-means algorithm. The development of this package is financially supported by the Slovenian Research Agency (<<https://www.arrs.si/>>) within the research programs P5-0168 and the research projects J7-8279 (Blockmodeling multilevel and temporal networks) and J5-2557 (Comparison and evaluation of different approaches to blockmodeling dynamic networks by simulations with application to Slovenian co-authorship networks).

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Imports blockmodeling, doParallel, doRNG, foreach, Rcpp (>= 1.0.0)

LinkingTo Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

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NeedsCompilation yes

Author Aleš Žiberna [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1534-6971>>),
Fabio Ashtar Telarico [ctb] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8740-7078>>)

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R topics documented:

findActiveParam	2
ICLStochBlock	2
llStochBlock	4

stochBlock	6
stochBlockKMin	9
stochBlockORP	11
weightsMILoglik	14

Index	17
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findActiveParam	<i>Finds the active model's parameters</i>
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Description

Finds the active model's parameters

Usage

```
findActiveParam(M, n, k, na.rm = TRUE)
```

Arguments

M	matrix
n	number of units (equal to number of M's rows)
k	parameters to retrieve
na.rm	logical, whether to ignore NA data

Value

An array containing the parameters

ICLStochBlock	<i>Function that computes integrated classification likelihood based on stochastic one-mode and linked block modeling. If c1u is a list, the method for linked/multilevel networks is applied. The support for multirelational networks is not tested.</i>
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Description

Function that computes integrated classification likelihood based on stochastic one-mode and linked block modeling. If c1u is a list, the method for linked/multilevel networks is applied. The support for multirelational networks is not tested.

Usage

```
ICLStochBlock(
  M,
  clu,
  weights = NULL,
  uWeights = NULL,
  diagonal = c("ignore", "seperate", "same"),
  limitType = c("none", "inside", "outside"),
  limits = NULL,
  weightClusterSize = 1,
  addOne = TRUE,
  eps = 0.001
)
```

Arguments

M	A matrix representing the (usually valued) network. For multi-relational networks, this should be an array with the third dimension representing the relation.
clu	A partition. Each unique value represents one cluster. If the network is one-mode, then this should be a vector, else a list of vectors, one for each mode. Similarly, if units are comprised of several sets, clu should be the list containing one vector for each set.
weights	The weights for each cell in the matrix/array. A matrix or an array with the same dimensions as M.
uWeights	The weights for each unin. A vector with the length equal to the number of units (in all sets).
diagonal	How should the diagonal values be treated. Possible values are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ignore - diagonal values are ignored • seperate - diagonal values are treated seperately • same - diagonal values are treated the same as all other values
limitType	Type of limit to use. Forced to 'none' if limits is NULL. Otherwise, one of either outer or inner.
limits	If diagonal is "ignore" or "same", an array with dimensions equal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of clusters (of all types) • number of clusters (of all types) • number of relations • 2 - the first is lower limit and the second is upper limit <p>If diagonal is "seperate", a list of two array. The first should be as described above, representing limits for off diagonal values. The second should be similar with only 3 dimensions, as one of the first two must be omitted.</p>
weightClusterSize	The weight given to cluster sizes (logprobabilites) compared to ties in loglikelihood. Defaults to 1, which is "classical" stochastic blockmodeling.

addOne	Should one tie with the value of the tie equal to the density of the superBlock be added to each block to prevent block means equal to 0 or 1 and also "shrink" the block means toward the superBlock mean. Defaults to TRUE.
eps	If addOne = FALSE, the minimal deviation from 0 or 1 that the block mean/density can take.

Value

The value of ICL

See Also

[llStochBlock](#); [weightsMLoglik](#)

Examples

```
# Create a synthetic network matrix
set.seed(2022)
library(blockmodeling)
k<-2 # number of blocks to generate
blockSizes<-rep(20,k)
IM<-matrix(c(0.8,.4,0.2,0.8), nrow=2)
clu<-rep(1:k, times=blockSizes)
n<-length(clu)
M<-matrix(rbinom(n*n,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n)
clu<-sample(1:2,nrow(M),replace=TRUE)
plotMat(M,clu) # Have a look at this random partition
ICL_pre<-ICLStochBlock(M,clu) # Calculate its ICL
ICL_pre
res<-stochBlock(M,clu=clu) # Optimizing the partition
plot(res) # Have a look at the optimized partition
ICL_post<-res$ICL # Calculate its ICL
ICL_post
# We expect the ICL pre-optimisation to be smaller:
ICL_pre<ICL_post
```

llStochBlock	<i>Function that computes criterion function used in stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling. If clu is a list, the method for linked/multilevel networks is applied</i>
--------------	---

Description

Function that computes criterion function used in stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling. If clu is a list, the method for linked/multilevel networks is applied

Usage

```
llStochBlock(
  M,
  clu,
  weights = NULL,
  uWeights = NULL,
  diagonal = c("ignore", "seperate", "same"),
  limitType = c("none", "inside", "outside"),
  limits = NULL,
  weightClusterSize = 1,
  addOne = TRUE,
  eps = 0.001
)
```

Arguments

M	A matrix representing the (usually valued) network. For multi-relational networks, this should be an array with the third dimension representing the relation.
clu	A partition. Each unique value represents one cluster. If the network is one-mode, than this should be a vector, else a list of vectors, one for each mode. Similarly, if units are comprised of several sets, clu should be the list containing one vector for each set.
weights	The weights for each cell in the matrix/array. A matrix or an array with the same dimensions as M.
uWeights	The weights for each unit. A vector with the length equal to the number of units (in all sets).
diagonal	How should the diagonal values be treated. Possible values are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ignore - diagonal values are ignored • seperate - diagonal values are treated separately • same - diagonal values are treated the same as all other values
limitType	Type of limit to use. Forced to 'none' if limits is NULL. Otherwise, one of either outer or inner.
limits	If diagonal is "ignore" or "same", an array with dimensions equal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of clusters (of all types) • number of clusters (of all types) • number of relations • 2 - the first is lower limit and the second is upper limit <p>If diagonal is "seperate", a list of two array. The first should be as described above, representing limits for off diagonal values. The second should be similar with only 3 dimensions, as one of the first two must be omitted.</p>
weightClusterSize	The weight given to cluster sizes (log-probabilities) compared to ties in loglikelihood. Defaults to 1, which is "classical" stochastic blockmodeling.

addOne	Should one tie with the value of the tie equal to the density of the superBlock be added to each block to prevent block means equal to 0 or 1 and also "shrink" the block means toward the superBlock mean. Defaults to TRUE.
eps	If addOne = FALSE, the minimal deviation from 0 or 1 that the block mean/density can take.

Value

- the value of the log-likelihood criterion for the partition `clu` on the network represented by `M` for binary stochastic blockmodel.

Examples

```
# Create a synthetic network matrix
set.seed(2022)
library(blockmodeling)
k<-2 # number of blocks to generate
blockSizes<-rep(20,k)
IM<-matrix(c(0.8,.4,0.2,0.8), nrow=2)
clu<-rep(1:k, times=blockSizes)
n<-length(clu)
M<-matrix(rbinom(n*n,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n)
clu<-sample(1:2,nrow(M),replace=TRUE)
plotMat(M,clu) # Have a look at this random partition
ll_pre<-llStochBlock(M,clu) # Calculate its loglikelihood
res<-stochBlockORP(M,k=2,rep=10) # Optimizing the partition
plot(res) # Have a look at the optimized partition
ll_post<-llStochBlock(M,clu(res)) # Calculate its loglikelihood
# We expect the loglikelihood pre-optimization to be smaller:
(-ll_pre)<(-ll_post)
```

stochBlock	<i>Function that performs stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling by optimizing a single partition. If <code>clu</code> is a list, the method for linked/multilevel networks is applied</i>
------------	--

Description

Function that performs stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling by optimizing a single partition. If `clu` is a list, the method for linked/multilevel networks is applied

Usage

```
stochBlock(
  M,
  clu,
  weights = NULL,
```

```

uWeights = NULL,
diagonal = c("ignore", "seperate", "same"),
limitType = c("none", "inside", "outside"),
limits = NULL,
weightClusterSize = 1,
addOne = TRUE,
eps = 0.001
)

```

Arguments

M	A matrix representing the (usually valued) network. For multi-relational networks, this should be an array with the third dimension representing the relation.
clu	A partition. Each unique value represents one cluster. If the network is one-mode, than this should be a vector, else a list of vectors, one for each mode. Similarly, if units are comprised of several sets, clu should be the list containing one vector for each set.
weights	The weights for each cell in the matrix/array. A matrix or an array with the same dimensions as M.
uWeights	The weights for each unin. A vector with the length equal to the number of units (in all sets).
diagonal	How should the diagonal values be treated. Possible values are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ignore - diagonal values are ignored • seperate - diagonal values are treated seperately • same - diagonal values are treated the same as all other values
limitType	Type of limit to use. Forced to 'none' if limits is NULL. Otherwise, one of either outer or inner.
limits	If diagonal is "ignore" or "same", an array with dimensions equal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of clusters (of all types) • number of clusters (of all types) • number of relations • 2 - the first is lower limit and the second is upper limit <p>If diagonal is "seperate", a list of two array. The first should be as described above, representing limits for off diagonal values. The second should be similar with only 3 dimensions, as one of the first two must be omitted.</p>
weightClusterSize	The weight given to cluster sizes (logprobabilites) compared to ties in loglikeli-hood. Defaults to 1, which is "classical" stochastic blockmodeling.
addOne	Should one tie with the value of the tie equal to the density of the superBlock be added to each block to prevent block means equal to 0 or 1 and also "shrink" the block means toward the superBlock mean. Defaults to TRUE.
eps	If addOne = FALSE, the minimal deviation from 0 or 1 that the block mean/density can take.

Value

A list of class `opt.par` normally passed other commands with `StockBlockORP` and containing:

<code>clu</code>	A vector (a list for multi-mode networks) indicating the cluster to which each unit belongs;
<code>IM</code>	Image matrix of this partition;
<code>weights</code>	The weights for each cell in the matrix/array. A matrix or an array with the same dimensions as <code>M</code> .
<code>uWeights</code>	The weights for each unit. A vector with the length equal to the number of units (in all sets).
<code>err</code>	The error as the sum of the inconsistencies between this network and the ideal partitions.
<code>ICL</code>	Integrated Criterion Likelihood for this partition

Author(s)

Aleš, Žiberna

References

Škulj, D., & Žiberna, A. (2022). Stochastic blockmodeling of linked networks. *Social Networks*, 70, 240-252.

See Also

[stochBlockORP](#)

Examples

```
# Create a synthetic network matrix
set.seed(2022)
library(blockmodeling)
k<-2 # number of blocks to generate
blockSizes<-rep(20,k)
IM<-matrix(c(0.8,.4,0.2,0.8), nrow=2)
clu<-rep(1:k, times=blockSizes)
n<-length(clu)
M<-matrix(rbinom(n*n,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n)
clu<-sample(1:2,nrow(M),replace=TRUE)
plotMat(M,clu) # Have a look at this random partition
res<-stochBlock(M,clu) # Optimising the partition
plot(res) # Have a look at the optimised partition

# Create a synthetic linked-network matrix
set.seed(2022)
library(blockmodeling)
IM<-matrix(c(0.8,.4,0.2,0.8), nrow=2)
clu<-rep(1:2, each=20) # Partition to generate
```



```

n<-length(clu)
nClu<-length(unique(clu)) # Number of clusters to generate
M1<-matrix(rbinom(n^2,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n) # First network
M2<-matrix(rbinom(n^2,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n) # Second network
M12<-diag(n) # Linking network
nn<-c(n,n)
k<-c(2,2)
M1<-matrix(0, nrow=sum(nn),ncol=sum(nn))
M1[1:n,1:n]<-M1
M1[n+1:n,n+1:n]<-M2
M1[n+1:n, 1:n]<-M12
plotMat(M1) # Linked network
clu1<-sample(1:2,nrow(M1),replace=TRUE)
clu2<-sample(3:4,nrow(M1),replace=TRUE)
plotMat(M1,list(clu1,clu2)) # Have a look at this random partition
res<-stochBlock(M1,list(clu1,clu2)) # Optimising the partition
plot(res) # Have a look at the optimised partition

```

stochBlockKMint

A function for using k-means to initialize the stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling.

Description

A function for using k-means to initialize the stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling.

Usage

```

stochBlockKMint(
  M,
  k,
  nstart = 100,
  perm = 0,
  sharePerm = 0.2,
  save.initial.param = TRUE,
  deleteMs = TRUE,
  max.iden = 10,
  return.all = FALSE,
  return.err = TRUE,
  seed = NULL,
  maxTriesToFindNewPar = perm * 10,
  skip.par = NULL,
  printRep = ifelse(perm <= 10, 1, round(perm/10)),
  n = NULL,
  nCores = 1,
  useParLapply = FALSE,
  cl = NULL,

```

```

    stopcl = is.null(cl),
    ...
)

```

Arguments

M	A square matrix giving the adjacency relationg between the network's nodes (aka vertexes)
k	The number of clusters used in the generation of partitions.
nstart	number of random starting points for the classical k-means algorithm (for each set of units). Defaults to 100.
perm	Number or partitions obtained by randomly permuting the k-means partition - if 0, no permutations are made, only the original partition is analyzed.
sharePerm	The probability that a unit will have their randomly assigned. Defaults to 0.20.
save.initial.param	Should the inital parameters(approaches, ...) of using stochBlock be saved. The default value is TRUE.
deleteMs	Delete networks/matrices from the results of to save space. Defaults to TRUE.
max.iden	Maximum number of results that should be saved (in case there are more than max.iden results with minimal error, only the first max.iden will be saved).
return.all	If FALSE, solution for only the best (one or more) partition/s is/are returned.
return.err	Should the error for each optimized partition be returned. Defaults to TRUE.
seed	Optional. The seed for random generation of partitions.
maxTriesToFindNewPar	The maximum number of partition try when trying to find a new partition to optimize that was not yet checked before - the default value is rep * 1000.
skip.par	The partitions that are not allowed or were already checked and should therefore be skipped.
printRep	Should some information about each optimization be printed.
n	The number of units by "modes". It is used only for generating random partitions. It has to be set only if there are more than two modes or if there are two modes, but the matrix representing the network is one mode (both modes are in rows and columns).
nCores	Number of cores to be used. Value 0 means all available cores. It can also be a cluster object.
useParLapply	Should parLapplyLB be used (otherwise foreach is used). Defaults to true as it needs less dependencies. It might be removed in future releases and only allow the use of parLapplyLB.
cl	The cluster to use (if formed beforehand). Defaults to NULL.
stopcl	Should the cluster be stopped after the function finishes. Defaults to is.null(cl).
...	Arguments passed to other functions, see stochBlock .

Value

A list containing:

M	The one- or multi-mode matrix of the network analyzed
res	If return.all = TRUE - A list of results the same as best - one best for each partition optimized.
best	A list of results from stochblock, only without M.
err	If return.err = TRUE - The vector of errors or inconsistencies of the empirical network with the ideal partitions.
nIter	The vector of the iterations on each starting partition. If many of the values equalmaxiter, then maxiter may be too small.
checked.par	If selected - A list of checked partitions. If merge.save.skip.par is TRUE, this list also includes the partitions in skip.par.
call	The call to this function.
initial.param	If selected - The initial parameters are used.

Author(s)

Aleš, Žiberna

References

Škulj, D., & Žiberna, A. (2022). Stochastic blockmodeling of linked networks. *Social Networks*, 70, 240-252.

stochBlockORP	<i>A function for optimizing multiple random partitions using stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling. Similar to optRandomParC, but calling stochBlock for optimizing individual partitions.</i>
---------------	--

Description

A function for optimizing multiple random partitions using stochastic one-mode and linked blockmodeling. Similar to optRandomParC, but calling stochBlock for optimizing individual partitions.

Usage

```
stochBlockORP(
  M,
  k,
  rep,
  save.initial.param = TRUE,
  deleteMs = TRUE,
  max.iden = 10,
  return.all = FALSE,
```

```

return.err = TRUE,
seed = NULL,
parGenFun = blockmodeling::genRandomPar,
mingr = NULL,
maxgr = NULL,
addParam = list(genPajekPar = TRUE, probGenMech = NULL),
maxTriesToFindNewPar = rep * 10,
skip.par = NULL,
printRep = ifelse(rep <= 10, 1, round(rep/10)),
n = NULL,
nCores = 1,
useParLapply = FALSE,
cl = NULL,
stopcl = is.null(cl),
...
)

```

Arguments

M	A square matrix giving the adjacency relationg between the network's nodes (aka vertexes)
k	The number of clusters used in the generation of partitions.
rep	The number of repetitions/different starting partitions to check.
save.initial.param	Should the inital parameters(approaches, ...) of using stochBlock be saved. The default value is TRUE.
deleteMs	Delete networks/matrices from the results of to save space. Defaults to TRUE.
max.iden	Maximum number of results that should be saved (in case there are more than max.iden results with minimal error, only the first max.iden will be saved).
return.all	If FALSE, solution for only the best (one or more) partition/s is/are returned.
return.err	Should the error for each optimized partition be returned. Defaults to TRUE.
seed	Optional. The seed for random generation of partitions.
parGenFun	The function (object) that will generate random partitions. The default function is genRandomPar . The function has to accept the following parameters: k (number o of partitions by modes, n (number of units by modes), seed (seed value for random generation of partition), addParam (a list of additional parameters).
mingr	Minimal allowed group size.
maxgr	Maximal allowed group size.
addParam	A list of additional parameters for function specified above. In the usage section they are specified for the default function genRandomPar .
maxTriesToFindNewPar	The maximum number of partition try when trying to find a new partition to optimize that was not yet checked before - the default value is rep * 1000.
skip.par	The partitions that are not allowed or were already checked and should therefore be skipped.

<code>printRep</code>	Should some information about each optimization be printed.
<code>n</code>	The number of units by "modes". It is used only for generating random partitions. It has to be set only if there are more than two modes or if there are two modes, but the matrix representing the network is one mode (both modes are in rows and columns).
<code>nCores</code>	Number of cores to be used. Value 0 means all available cores. It can also be a cluster object.
<code>useParLapply</code>	Should <code>parLapplyLB</code> be used (otherwise <code>foreach</code> is used). Defaults to <code>true</code> as it needs less dependencies. It might be removed in future releases and only allow the use of <code>parLapplyLB</code> .
<code>cl</code>	The cluster to use (if formed beforehand). Defaults to <code>NULL</code> .
<code>stopcl</code>	Should the cluster be stopped after the function finishes. Defaults to <code>is.null(cl)</code> .
<code>...</code>	Arguments passed to other functions, see stochBlock .

Value

A list of class "opt.more.par" containing:

<code>M</code>	The one- or multi-mode matrix of the network analyzed
<code>res</code>	If <code>return.all = TRUE</code> - A list of results the same as <code>best</code> - one best for each partition optimized.
<code>best</code>	A list of results from <code>stochblock</code> , only without <code>M</code> .
<code>err</code>	If <code>return.err = TRUE</code> - The vector of errors or inconsistencies = <code>-log-likelihoods</code> .
<code>ICL</code>	Integrated classification likelihood for the best partition.
<code>checked.par</code>	If selected - A list of checked partitions. If <code>merge.save.skip.par</code> is <code>TRUE</code> , this list also includes the partitions in <code>skip.par</code> .
<code>call</code>	The call to this function.
<code>initial.param</code>	If selected - The initial parameters are used.
<code>Random.seed</code>	<code>.Random.seed</code> at the end of the function.
<code>cl</code>	Cluster used for parallel computations if supplied as an input parameter.

Warning

It should be noted that the time needed to optimise the partition depends on the number of units (aka nodes) in the networks as well as the number of clusters due to the underlying algorithm. Hence, partitioning networks with 100 units and large number of blocks (e.g., >5) can take a long time (from 20 minutes to a few hours or even days).

Author(s)

Aleš, Žiberna

References

Škulj, D., & Žiberna, A. (2022). Stochastic blockmodeling of linked networks. *Social Networks*, 70, 240-252.

Examples

```

# Simple one-mode network
library(blockmodeling)
k<-2
blockSizes<-rep(20,k)
IM<-matrix(c(0.8,.4,0.2,0.8), nrow=2)
if(any(dim(IM)!=c(k,k))) stop("invalid dimensions")

set.seed(2021)
clu<-rep(1:k, times=blockSizes)
n<-length(clu)
M<-matrix(rbinom(n*n,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n)
diag(M)<-0
plotMat(M)

resORP<-stochBlockORP(M,k=2, rep=10, return.all = TRUE)
resORP$ICL
plot(resORP)
clu(resORP)

# Linked network
library(blockmodeling)
set.seed(2021)
IM<-matrix(c(0.8,.4,0.2,0.8), nrow=2)
clu<-rep(1:2, each=20)
n<-length(clu)
nClu<-length(unique(clu))
M1<-matrix(rbinom(n^2,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n)
M2<-matrix(rbinom(n^2,1,IM[clu,clu]),ncol=n, nrow=n)
M12<-diag(n)
nn<-c(n,n)
k<-c(2,2)
M1<-matrix(0, nrow=sum(nn),ncol=sum(nn))
M1[1:n,1:n]<-M1
M1[n+1:n,n+1:n]<-M2
M1[n+1:n, 1:n]<-M12
plotMat(M1)

resM1<-stochBlockORP(M=M1, k=k, n=nn, rep=10)
resM1$ICL
plot(resM1)
clu(resM1)

```

weightsMLoglik

Computes weights for parts of the multilevel network based on random errors using the SS approach with complete blocks only (compatible with k-means)

Description

Computes weights for parts of the multilevel network based on random errors using the SS approach with complete blocks only (compatible with k-means)

Usage

```
weightsMLoglik(
  mlNet,
  cluParts,
  k,
  mWeights = 1000,
  sumFun = sd,
  nCores = 0,
  weightClusterSize = 0,
  paramGenPar = list(genPajekPar = FALSE),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

mlNet	A multilevel/linked network - The code assumes only one relation → a matrix.
cluParts	A partition splitting the units into different sets
k	A vector of number of clusters for each set of units in the network.
mWeights	The number of repetitions for computing random errors. Defaults to 1000
sumFun	The function to compute the summary of errors, which is then used to compute the weights by computing 1/summary. Defaults to sd.
nCores	The number of to use for parallel computing. 0 means all available - 1, 1 means only once core - no parallel computing.
weightClusterSize	The weight given to cluster sizes. Defaults to 0, as only this is weighted my the tie-based weights.
paramGenPar	The parameter addParam from genRandomPar (see documentation there). Default here is paramGenPar=list(genPajekPar = FALSE), which is different from the default in genRandomPar . The same value is used for generating partitions for all partitions.
...	Parameters passed to llStochBlock

Value

Weights and "intermediate results":

errArr	A 3d array of errors (mWeights for each part of the network)
errMatSum	errArr summed over all repetitions.
weightsMat	A matrix of weights, one for each part. An inverse of errMatSum with NaNs replaced by zeros.

Author(s)

Aleš, Žiberna

References

Škulj, D., & Žiberna, A. (2022). Stochastic blockmodeling of linked networks. *Social Networks*, 70, 240-252.

See Also

[l1StochBlock](#); [ICLStochBlock](#)

Index

findActiveParam, [2](#)

genRandomPar, [12](#), [15](#)

ICLStochBlock, [2](#), [16](#)

llStochBlock, [4](#), [4](#), [15](#), [16](#)

stochBlock, [6](#), [10](#), [13](#)

stochBlockKMin, [9](#)

stochBlockORP, [8](#), [11](#)

weightsMLoglik, [4](#), [14](#)