

# Package ‘nmmf’

April 13, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Nonnegative Matrix Factorization

**Version** 1.4

**Date** 2026-04-12

**Maintainer** Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>

**Depends** R (>= 4.0)

**Imports** Rcpp, ClusterR, Compositional, graphics, Matrix, osqp,  
parallel, quadprog, rangen, Rfast, Rglpk, sparcl, stats

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppEigen

**Suggests** Rfast2

## Description

Nonnegative matrix factorization (NMF) is a technique to factorize a matrix with nonnegative values into the product of two matrices. Covariates are also allowed. Parallel computing is an option to enhance the speed and high-dimensional and large scale (and/or sparse) data are allowed. Relevant papers include: Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353 <doi:10.1109/TKDE.2012.51> and Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730 <doi:10.1137/07069239X>.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Author** Michail Tsagris [aut, cre],  
Nikolaos Kontemeniotis [aut],  
Christos Adam [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0009-0003-3244-7034>>)

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2026-04-12 23:30:02 UTC

## Contents

nmmf-package . . . . .	2
init . . . . .	3
nmmf.hals . . . . .	4
nmmf.manh . . . . .	5
nmmf.qp . . . . .	7
nmmf.sqp . . . . .	8
nmmfqp.cv . . . . .	10
nmmfqp.pred . . . . .	11
nmmfqp.reg . . . . .	13

<b>Index</b>	<b>15</b>
--------------	-----------

---

nmmf-package	<i>Nonnegative Matrix Factorization</i>
--------------	---

---

## Description

Nonnegative matrix factorization (NMF) is implemented.

## Details

Package: nmmf  
 Type: Package  
 Version: 1.4  
 Date: 2026-04-12  
 License: GPL-2

## Maintainers

Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

## Author(s)

Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>, Nikolaos Kontemeniotis <kontemeniotisn@gmail.com> and Christos Adam <pada4m4@gmail.com>.

## References

- Erichson N. B., Mendible A., Wihlborn S. and Kutz J. N. (2018). Randomized nonnegative matrix factorization. *Pattern Recognition Letters*, 104: 1-7.
- Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.
- Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.
- Cutler A. and Breiman L. (1994). Archetypal analysis. *Technometrics*, 36(4): 338–347.

---

init

*Initialization strategies for the NMF based on the k-means*

---

## Description

Initialization strategies for the NMF based on the k-means algorithm.

## Usage

```
init(x, k, bs = 1)
```

## Arguments

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| x  | An $n \times D$ numerical matrix with data.  |
| k  | The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .                 |
| bs | The batch size in case the user wants to use the mini-batch k-means algorithm. If bs=1, the classical k-means is used. |

## Details

The function initializes the H matrix for the NMF using the k-means algorithm.

## Value

The  $H$  matrix, an  $k \times D$  matrix.

## Author(s)

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

## References

Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.

Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

## See Also

[nmf.qp](#)

## Examples

```
x <- as.matrix(iris[, 1:4])
mod <- nmf.qp(x, 2)
plot(mod$W, colour = iris[, 5])
```

---

nmf.hals

*NMF minimizing using the hierarchical ALS algorithm*

---

## Description

NMF minimizing using the hierarchical ALS algorithm.

## Usage

```
nmf.hals(x, k, maxiter = 2000, tol = 1e-6, history = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

x	An $n \times D$ numerical matrix with data.
k	The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .
maxiter	The maximum number of iterations allowed.
tol	The tolerance value to terminate the quadratic programming algorithm.
history	If this is TRUE, the reconstruction error at each iteration is returned.

## Details

Nonnegative matrix factorization using the hierarchical alternating least squares algorithm is performed. The objective function to be minimized is the square of the Frobenius norm.

**Value**

W	The $W$ matrix, an $n \times k$ matrix with the mapped data.
H	The $H$ matrix, an $k \times D$ matrix.
Z	The reconstructed data, $Z = WH$ .
obj	The reconstruction error, $\ x - Z\ _F^2$ .
error	If the argument history was set to TRUE the reconstruction error at each iteration will be performed, otherwise this is NULL.
iters	The number of iterations performed.
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

**References**

Erichson N. B., Mendible A., Wihlborn S. and Kutz J. N. (2018). Randomized nonnegative matrix factorization. Pattern Recognition Letters, 104: 1-7. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1711.02037>

**See Also**

[nmf.qp](#), [nmf.sqp](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- as.matrix(iris[, 1:4])
mod <- nmf.qp(x, 2)
group <- as.numeric(iris[, 5])
plot(mod$W, col = group)
```

---

nmf.manh

*Simplicial NMF minimizing the Manhattan distance*


---

**Description**

NMF minimizing the Manhattan distance.

**Usage**

```
nmf.manh(x, k, W = NULL, H = NULL, k_meds = TRUE,
maxiter = 1000, tol = 1e-6, ncores = 1)
```

**Arguments**

x	An $n \times D$ matrix with data. Zero values are allowed.
k	The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .
W	If you have an initial estimate for W supply it here. Otherwise leave it NULL.
H	If you have an initial estimate for H supply it here, otherwise leave it NULL.
k_meds	If this is TRUE, then the K-medoids algorithm is used to initiate the W and H matrices.
maxiter	The maximum number of iterations allowed.
tol	The tolerance value to terminate the quadratic programming algorithm.
ncores	Do you want the update of W to be performed in parallel? If yes, specify the number of cores to use.

**Details**

Nonnegative matrix factorization minimizing the Manhattan distance.

**Value**

W	The $W$ matrix, an $n \times k$ matrix with the mapped data.
H	The $H$ matrix, an $k \times D$ matrix.
Z	The reconstructed data, $Z = WH$ .
obj	The reconstruction error, $\ x - Z\ _F^2$ .
error	If the argument history was set to TRUE the reconstruction error at each iteration will be performed, otherwise this is NULL.
iters	The number of iterations performed.
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

**References**

Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.

Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

**See Also**

[nmf.qp](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- as.matrix(iris[, 1:4])
mod <- nmf.qp(x, 3)
group <- as.numeric(iris[, 5])
plot(mod$W, col = group)
```

nmf.qp

*NMF minimizing the Frobenius norm***Description**

NMF minimizing the Frobenius norm using quadratic programming.

**Usage**

```
nmf.qp(X, k, H_init = NULL, k_means = TRUE, bs = 1, lr_h = 0.1, tol = 1e-6,
       maxiter = 1000, ridge = 1e-8, ncores = 1)
```

**Arguments**

<code>X</code>	An $n \times D$ numerical matrix with data.
<code>k</code>	The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .
<code>H_init</code>	If you have an initial estimate for H supply it here, otherwise leave it NULL.
<code>k_means</code>	If this is TRUE, then the K-means algorithm is used to initiate the W and H matrices.
<code>bs</code>	If you use the K-means algorithm for initialization, you may want to use the mini batch K-means if you have millions of observations. In this case, you need to define the number of batches.
<code>lr_h</code>	If <code>veo</code> is TRUE, then the exponentiated gradient descent method is used to update the H matrix. In this case you need to supply the value of the learning rate, which is 0.1 by default.
<code>tol</code>	The tolerance value to terminate the quadratic programming algorithm.
<code>maxiter</code>	The maximum number of iterations allowed.
<code>ridge</code>	A small quantity added in the diagonal of the $D$ matrix.
<code>ncores</code>	Do you want the update of W to be performed in parallel? If yes, specify the number of cores to use.

**Details**

Nonnegative matrix factorization using quadratic programming is performed. The objective function to be minimized is the square of the Frobenius norm. If the variables are more than the sample size a hybrid algorithm based on quadratic programming (for W) and exponentiated gradient descent (for H) is applied.

**Value**

W	The $W$ matrix, an $n \times k$ matrix with the mapped data.
H	The $H$ matrix, an $k \times D$ matrix.
Z	The reconstructed data, $Z = WH$ .
obj	The reconstruction error, $\ x - Z\ _F^2$ .
iters	The number of iterations performed.
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris, Nikolaos Kontemeniotis and Christos Adam.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>, Nikolaos Kontemeniotis <kontemeniotisn@gmail.com> and Christos Adam <pada4m4@gmail.com>.

**References**

Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.

Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

**See Also**

[nmf.hals](#), [nmf.sqp](#)

**Examples**

```
X <- as.matrix(iris[, 1:4])
mod <- nmf.qp(X, 2)
group <- as.numeric(iris[, 5])
plot(mod$W, col = group)
```

---

nmf.sqp

*NMF minimizing the Frobenius norm*

---

**Description**

NMF minimizing the Frobenius norm using sequential quadratic programming.

**Usage**

```
nmf.sqp(x, k, H = NULL, maxiter = 1000, tol = 1e-4, ridge = 1e-8,
history = FALSE, ncores = 1)
```

**Arguments**

x	An $n \times D$ dgC class sparse matrix with data.
k	The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .
H	If you have an initial estimate for H supply it here, otherwise leave it NULL.
maxiter	The maximum number of iterations allowed.
tol	The tolerance value to terminate the quadratic programming algorithm. The value is set to $1e-4$ in this case because with large scale and/or sparse data the computation time is really high. So, we sacrifice some accuracy over speed.
ridge	A small quantity added in the diagonal of the $D$ matrix.
history	If this is TRUE, the reconstruction error at each iteration is returned.
ncores	Do you want the update of W to be performed in parallel? If yes, specify the number of cores to use.

**Details**

Nonnegative matrix factorization using quadratic programming is performed. The objective function to be minimized is the square of the Frobenius norm. This function is suitable for large scale sparse data, and parallel computing is a must in this case. Note that we do not use k-means here and that the reconstructed matrix  $Z$  is not returned with this function for capacity purposes.

**Value**

W	The $W$ matrix, an $n \times k$ matrix with the mapped data.
H	The $H$ matrix, an $k \times D$ matrix.
obj	The reconstruction error, $\ x - Z\ _F^2$ .
error	If the argument history was set to TRUE the reconstruction error at each iteration will be performed, otherwise this is NULL.
iters	The number of iterations performed.
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

**References**

- Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.
- Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

**See Also**[nmf.qp](#)**Examples**

```
x <- as.matrix(iris[, 1:4])
mod <- nmf.qp(x, 2)
group <- as.numeric(iris[, 5])
plot(mod$W, col = group)
```

nmfqp.cv

*K-fold cross-validation for choosing the rank in NMF***Description**

K-fold cross-validation for choosing the rank in NMF.

**Usage**

```
nmfqp.cv(x, k = 3:10, k_means = TRUE, bs = 1, veo = FALSE, lr_h = 0.1, maxiter = 1000,
tol = 1e-6, ridge = 1e-8, ncores = 1, folds = NULL, nfold = 10, graph = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	An $n \times D$ matrix with compositional data. Zero values are allowed.
k	The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .
k_means	If this is TRUE, then the K-means algorithm is used to initiate the W and H matrices.
bs	If you use the K-means algorithm for initialization, you may want to use the mini batch K-means if you have millions of observations. In this case, you need to define the number of batches.
veo	If the number of variables exceeds the number of observations set this is equal to TRUE. In this case, the sparse k-means algorithm of Witten and Tibshirani (2010) is used to initialize the H matrix.
lr_h	If veo is TRUE, then the exponentiated gradient descent method is used to update the H matrix. In this case you need to supply the value of the learning rate, which is 0.1 by default.
maxiter	The maximum number of iterations allowed.
tol	The tolerance value to terminate the quadratic programming algorithm.
ridge	A small quantity added in the diagonal of the $D$ matrix.
ncores	Do you want the update of W to be performed in parallel? If yes, specify the number of cores to use.
folds	If you have the list with the folds supply it here. You can also leave it NULL and it will create folds.
nfold	The number of folds to produce.
graph	If this is TRUE, the plot of the predicted error will be plotted.

**Details**

K-fold cross-validation to select the optimal rank  $k$ .

**Value**

sse	The matrix with the sum of squares of residuals.
mspe	A vector with the mean squares of residuals.
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

**References**

Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.

Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

**See Also**

[nmf.qp](#), [nmfqp.pred](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- as.matrix(iris[1:100, 1:4])
mod <- nmfqp.cv(x, 2:3)
```

---

nmfqp.pred

*Prediction of new values using NMF*

---

**Description**

Prediction of new values using NMF.

**Usage**

```
nmfqp.pred(xnew, H, ridge = 1e-8, ncores = 1)
```

**Arguments**

xnew	An $n \times D$ numerical matrix with new data.
H	The H matrix produced by the NMF on the observed data.
ridge	A small quantity added in the diagonal of the $D$ matrix.
ncores	Do you want the update of $W$ to be performed in parallel? If yes, specify the number of cores to use.

**Details**

Based on an already NMF that was produced by minimizing the square of the Frobenius norm, the function estimates the  $W$  and  $Z$  matrices for some new data.

**Value**

Wnew	The $W$ matrix for the new data, an $n \times k$ matrix with the mapped data.
Znew	The reconstructed new data, $Z_{new} = W_{new}H_{new}$ .
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

**References**

Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.

Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

**See Also**

[nmf.sqp](#)

**Examples**

```
x <- as.matrix(iris[1:140, 1:4])
xnew <- as.matrix(iris[141:150, 1:4])
mod <- nmf.qp(x, 2)
pred <- nmfqp.pred(xnew, mod$H)
```

nmfqp.reg

*NMF with covariates minimizing the Frobenius norm***Description**

NMF with covariates minimizing the Frobenius norm using quadratic programming.

**Usage**

```
nmfqp.reg(X, Z, k, H_init, maxiter = 1000, tol = 1e-6, ncores = 1)
```

**Arguments**

X	An $n \times D$ numerical matrix with data.
Z	An $n \times q$ matrix with the covariates.
k	The number of lower dimensions. It must be less than the dimensionality of the data, at most $D - 1$ .
H_init	If you have an initial estimate for H supply it here, otherwise leave it NULL.
maxiter	The maximum number of iterations allowed.
tol	The tolerance value to terminate the quadratic programming algorithm.
ncores	Do you want the update of W to be performed in parallel? If yes, specify the number of cores to use.

**Details**

Nonnegative matrix factorization with covariates using quadratic programming is performed. The objective function to be minimized is the square of the Frobenius norm of the residuals produced by the reconstructed matrix.

**Value**

B	The $B$ matrix, an $q \times D$ matrix with the coefficients of the covariates.
W	The $W$ matrix, an $n \times k$ matrix with the mapped data.
H	The $H$ matrix, an $k \times D$ matrix.
fitted	The reconstructed data, $fitted = ZB + WH$ .
obj	The reconstruction error, $\ x - fitted\ _F^2$ .
iters	The number of iterations performed.
runtime	The runtime required by the algorithm.

**Author(s)**

Michail Tsagris.

R implementation and documentation: Michail Tsagris <mtsagris@uoc.gr>.

**References**

Wang Y. X. and Zhang Y. J. (2012). Nonnegative matrix factorization: A comprehensive review. *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, 25(6): 1336-1353.

Kim H. and Park H. (2008). Nonnegative matrix factorization based on alternating nonnegativity constrained least squares and active set method. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 30(2): 713-730.

**See Also**

[nmf.sqp](#)

**Examples**

```
X <- as.matrix(iris[, 1:3])
Z <- model.matrix(X ~., data = iris[, 4:5])[, -1]
mod <- nmfqp.reg(X, Z, 2)
```

# Index

`init`, 3

`nmf.hals`, 4, 8

`nmf.manh`, 5

`nmf.qp`, 4–6, 7, 10, 11

`nmf.sqp`, 5, 8, 8, 12, 14

`nmfqp.cv`, 10

`nmfqp.pred`, 11, 11

`nmfqp.reg`, 13

`nnmf-package`, 2