

# Using glmnetr

Walter K. Kremers, Mayo Clinic, Rochester MN

10 May 2023

## The Package

For some datasets, for example when there are collinearities in the design matrix  $x$ , *glmnet* may have very long run times when fitting the relaxed lasso model, making it difficult to get solutions either from *cv.glmnet* or even *glmnet*. In this package, *glmnetr*, we provide a workaround and solve for the unpenalized relaxed model where  $\gamma=0$  for the linear, logsitc and Cox regression model structures using the *stats* `glm()` function and the R *survival* package `coxph()` function. If you are not fitting relaxed lasso models, or if you are able to reasonably quickly get convergence using *glmnet*, then this package may not be of much benefit to you. Note, while this package may allow one to fit relaxed lasso models that have difficulties converging using *glmnet*, this package does not afford the full function and versatility of *glmnet*.

In addition to fitting the relaxed lasso model this package also includes the function `cv.glmnetr()` to perform a cross validation (CV) to identify hyperparameters for a lasso fit, much like the `cv.glmnet()` function of the *glmnet* package. Additionally, the package includes the function `nested.glmnetr()` to perform a nested CV to assess the fit of a cross validation informed lasso model fit. If though you are fitting not a relaxed lasso model but an elastic-net model, then the R-packages *nestedcv* (<https://cran.r-project.org/package=nestedcv>), ‘*glmnetSE*’ (<https://cran.r-project.org/package=glmnetSE>) or others may provide greater functionality when performing a nested CV.

As with the *glmnet* package, this package passes most relevant information to the output object which can be evaluated using `plot`, `summary` and `predict` functions. Use of the *glmnetr* package has many similarities to the *glmnet* package and it is recommended that the user of *glmnetr* first become familiar with the *glmnet* package (<https://cran.r-project.org/package=glmnet>), with the “An Introduction to glmnet” and “The Relaxed Lasso” being especially helpful in this regard.

## Data requirements

The basic data elements for input to the *glmnetr* analysis programs are similar to those of *glmnet* and include 1) a matrix of predictors and 2) an outcome variable or variables in vector form. For the estimation of the “fully” relaxed models (where  $\gamma=0$ ) the package is set up to fit the “gaussian” and “binomial” models using the *stats* `glm()` function and Cox survival models using the `coxph()` function of the *survival* package. When fitting the Cox model the outcome model variable is interpreted as the “time” variable in the Cox model, and one must also specify 3) a variable for event, again in vector form, and optionally 4) a variable for start time, also in vector form. Row  $i$  of the predictor matrix and element  $i$  of the outcome vector(s) are to include the data for the same sampling unit.

## An example dataset

To demonstrate usage of *glmnetr* we first generate a data set for analysis, run an analysis and evaluate using the `plot()`, `summary()` and `predict()` functions.

The code

```
# Simulate data for use in an example relaxed lasso fit of survival data
# first, optionally, assign a seed for random number generation to get applicable results
set.seed(116291949)
simdata=glmnet.simdata(nrows=1000, ncols=100, beta=NULL)
```

generates simulated data for analysis. We extract data in the format required for input to the *glmnet* programs.

```
# Extract simulated survival data
xs = simdata$xs      # matrix of predictors
y_ = simdata$y      # vector of survival times
event = simdata$event # indicator of event vs. censoring
```

Inspecting the predictor matrix we see

```
# Check the sample size and number of predictors
print(dim(xs))
```

```
## [1] 1000 100
```

```
# Check the rank of the design matrix, i.e. the degrees of freedom in the predictors
rankMatrix(xs)[[1]]
```

```
## [1] 94
```

```
# Inspect the first few rows and some select columns
print(xs[1:10,c(1:12,18:20)])
```

```
##      X1 X2 X3 X4 X5 X6 X7 X8 X9 X10 X11 X12      X18      X19      X20
## [1,]  1  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  1  0.1513225 -0.4034383  0.35250844
## [2,]  1  0  0  0  1  0  0  1  0  0  0  0 -1.1610480  0.5533030  0.14578868
## [3,]  1  0  0  1  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0 -0.3292269  0.3086399 -0.48443836
## [4,]  1  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  2.0635214 -0.5500741 -0.02173104
## [5,]  1  0  0  0  1  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0.3905722 -0.6836452 -0.37643201
## [6,]  1  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  0 -0.2397597  1.6909447  0.49599945
## [7,]  1  0  1  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  0  0 -0.5592424  0.2314638 -0.53198341
## [8,]  1  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0 -1.0050514  0.5319574  0.54287646
## [9,]  1  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  1.2548034  0.8213164  0.17067691
## [10,] 1  0  0  0  1  0  0  0  1  0  0  0 -0.3079151 -0.6105910 -0.88711869
```

## Cross validation (CV) informed relaxed lasso model fit

To fit a relaxed lasso model and get reasonable hyperparameters for lambda and gamma, and summarize the cross-validated “tuned” model fit, we can use the function `cv.glmnet()` and `summary()` functions.

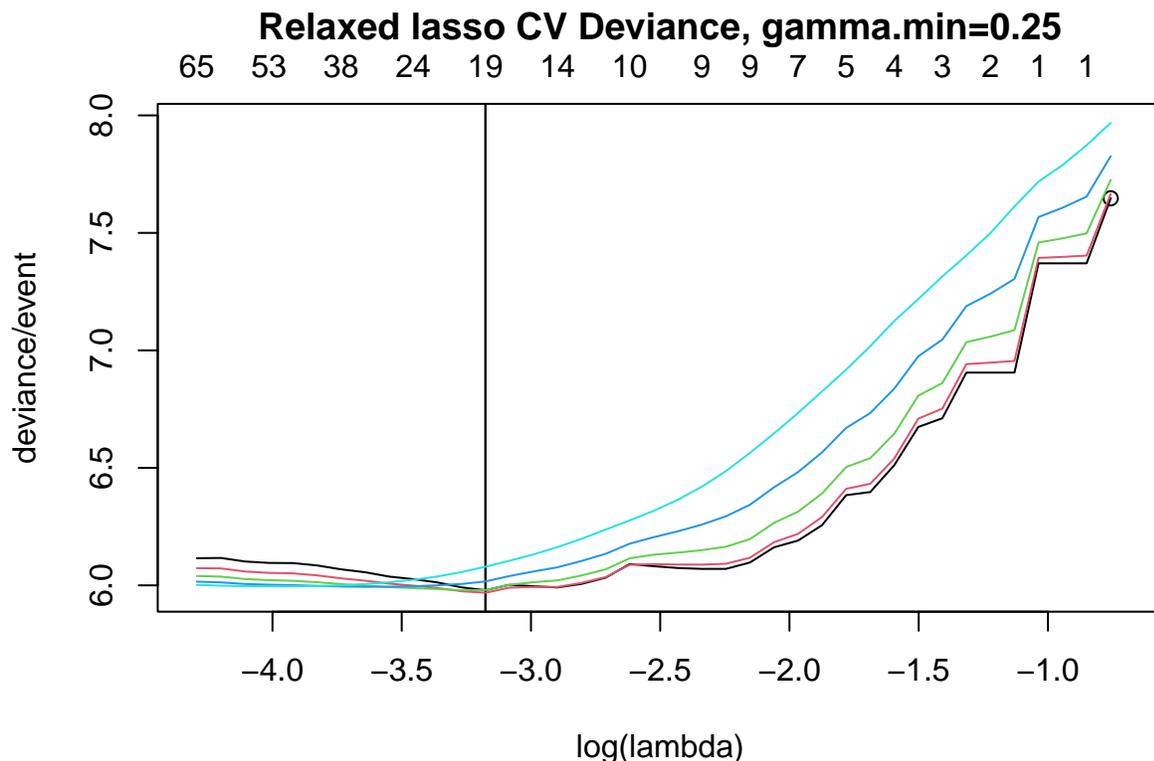
```
# Fit a relaxed lasso model informed by cross validation
cv.cox.fit = suppressWarnings( cv.glmnet(xs, NULL, y_, event, family="cox", track=0) )
```

Note, in the derivation of the relaxed lasso model fits, individual coefficients may be unstable even when the model may be stable which elicits warning messages. Thus we “wrapped” the call to `cv.glmnet()` within the `suppressWarnings()` function to suppress excessive warning messages in this vignette. The first term in the call to `cv.glmnet()`, `xs`, is the design matrix for predictors. The second input term, here `NULL`, is for the start time in case (start, stop) time data setup is used in a Cox survival model. The third term is the outcome variable for the linear regression or logistic regression model and the time of event or censoring in case of the Cox model, and finally the fourth term is the event indicator variable for the Cox model taking the value 1 in case of an event or 0 in case of censoring at time  $y_*$ . The fourth term would be `NULL` for either linear or logistic regression. Currently the options for family are “gaussian” for linear regression, “binomial” for logistic regression (both using the `stats glm()` function) and “cox” for the Cox proportional hazards regression model using the `coxph()` function of the R *survival* package. If one sets `track=1` the program will update progress in the R console, else for `track=0` it will not. | Before numerically summarizing the model fit, or inspecting the coefficient estimates, we plot the average deviances using the `plot` function.

```
# Plot cross validation average deviances for a relaxed lasso model
```

```
plot(cv.cox.fit)
```

```
## min CV average deviance (max log likelihood) for
## relaxed at log(lambda) = -3.176, gamma.min = 0.25, df = 19
## fully relaxed at log(lambda) = -3.176, df = 19
## fully penalized at log(lambda) = -3.92, df = 47
```

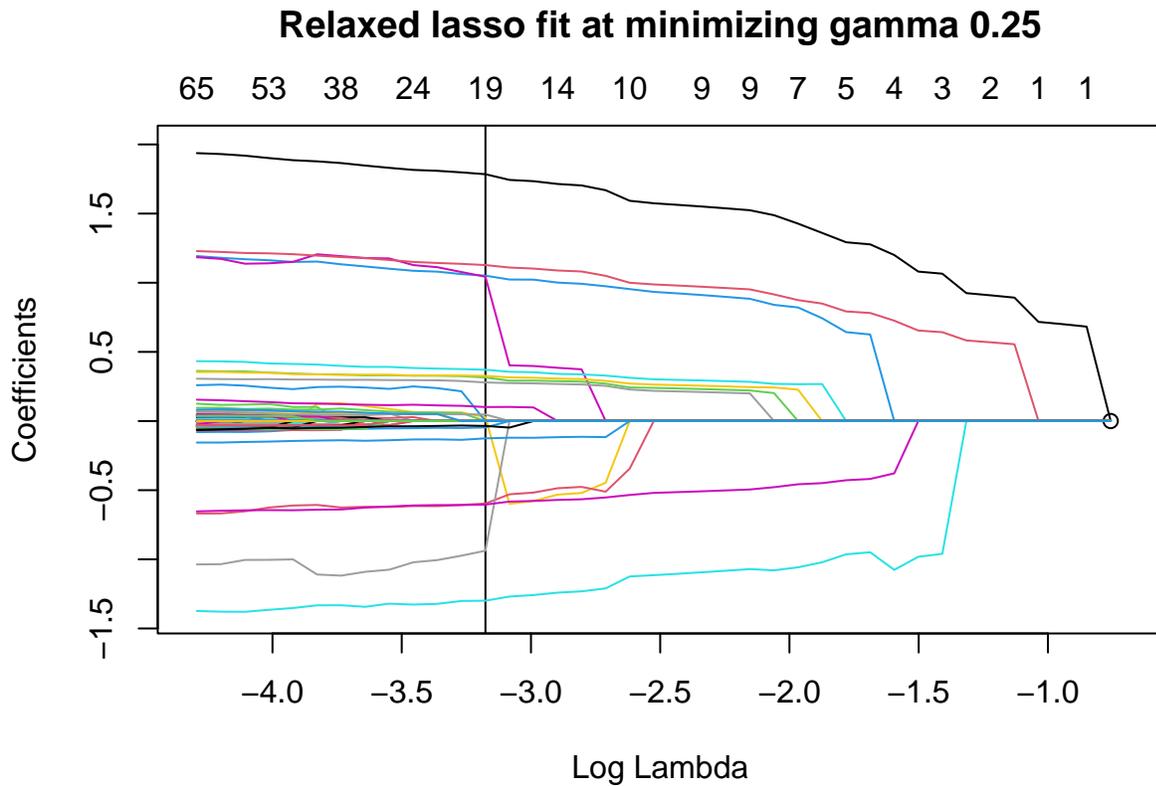


In that to maximize the log-likelihoods is to minimize deviance we inspect these curves for a minimum. The minimizing lambda is indicated by the left most vertical line, here about  $\log(\lambda) = -3.18$ . The minimizing gamma is 0.25 and described in the title. Whereas there is no legend here for gamma, when non-zero coefficients start to enter the model as the penalty is reduced, here shown to the right, deviances

will tend to be smaller for  $\gamma = 0$ , greater for  $\gamma = 1$  and in between for other  $\gamma$  values. From this figure we also see that at  $\lambda=0.25$  the deviance is hardly distinguishable for  $\gamma$  ranging from 0.5 to 1. More relevant we see that the fully relaxed lasso ( $\gamma=0$ ) and indicated by the right most vertical line, achieves a “nearly” minimal deviance at about -3.18.

```
# Plot coefficients informed by a cross validation
plot(cv.cox.fit, coefs=TRUE)
```

```
## min CV average deviance (max log likelihood)
## at log(lambda.min) = -3.176, gamma.min = 0.25, df = 19
```

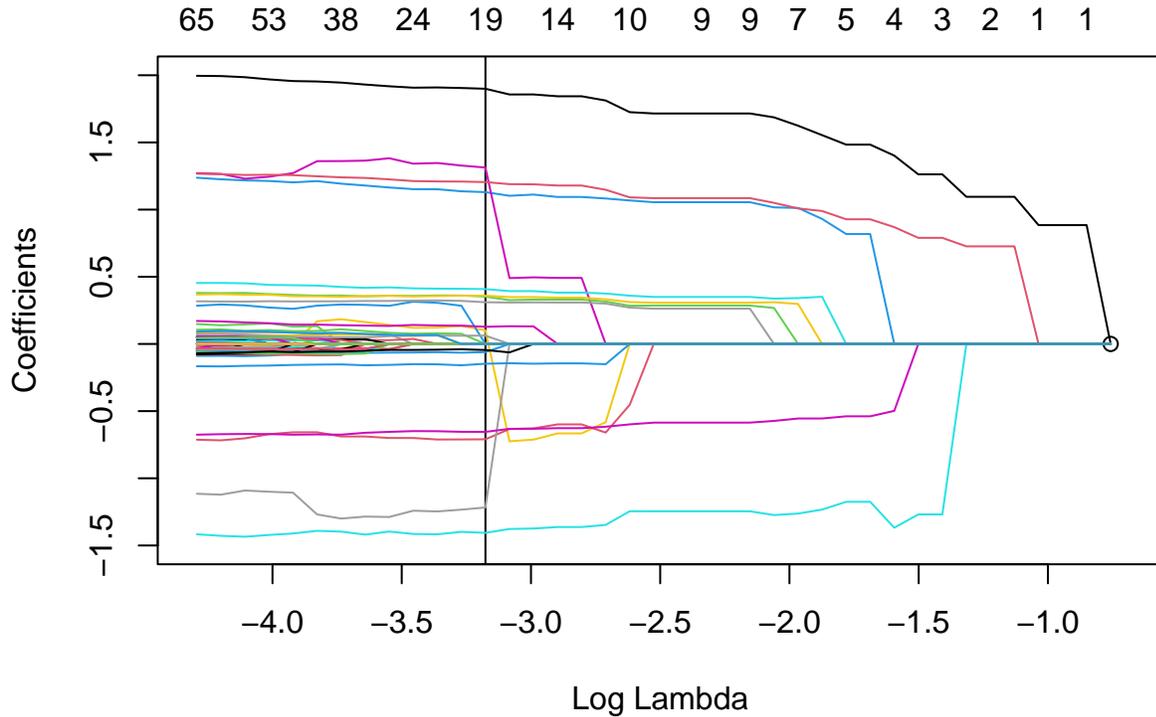


In this plot of coefficients we use the same orientation for  $\lambda$  as in the plot for deviances with larger values of the  $\lambda$  penalty to the right and corresponding to fewer non-zero coefficients. The displayed coefficients are for the minimizing  $\gamma=0.25$  as noted in the tile, and the minimizing  $\lambda$  indicated by the vertical line. Now, since the fully relaxed lasso had a deviance almost that of the relaxed lasso model we also plot the coefficients using the option  $\text{gam}=0$ .

```
# Plot fully relaxed coefficients informed by a cross validation
plot(cv.cox.fit, coefs=TRUE, gam=0)
```

```
## Fully relaxed min CV average deviance (max log likelihood)
## at log(lambda.min) = -3.176, df = 19
```

## Fully relaxed lasso fit for gamma = 0



In addition to simply showing how the coefficients change as the lambda penalty is decreased, this plot shows how the coefficients change for the un-penalized (fully relaxed) model with  $\gamma=0$  as lambda decreases. In particular we see the coefficients become slightly larger in magnitude as the lambda penalty decreases and also as additional terms come into the model. This is not unexpected as omitted terms from the Cox model tend to bias coefficients toward 0 more than increase the standard error. We also see, as too indicated in the deviance plot, the number of model non-zero coefficients, 19, to be substantially less than the 19 from the relaxed lasso fit and the 47 from the fully penalized lasso fit.

| The summary function describes the relaxed lasso fit informed by CV.

```
# Summarize relaxed lasso model fit informed by cross validation
summary(cv.cox.fit)
```

```
##
## The relaxed minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.04174656 , index = 27 and gamma = 0.25
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 19, average deviance = 5.968454 and beta =
##      X4      X5      X7      X10     X14
## 1.050952e+00 -1.298945e+00 2.912949e-02 -5.966936e-01 1.043615e+00
##      X15     X16     X18     X19     X20
## -1.719568e-16 -9.378331e-01 1.127645e+00 3.149391e-01 -1.253247e-01
##      X21     X22     X23     X24     X25
## 3.707304e-01 -6.039354e-01 3.263490e-01 2.789101e-01 1.784703e+00
##      X38     X60     X88     X97
## 1.011793e-01 -4.634282e-02 4.740086e-02 -3.554883e-02
##
## The fully relaxed (gamma=0) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.04174656 and index = 27
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 18, average deviance = 5.979322 and beta =
##      X4      X5      X7      X10     X14     X16
```

```

## 1.13007247 -1.40608907 0.10131046 -0.70979788 1.31295142 -1.21733981
##      X18      X19      X20      X21      X22      X23
## 1.20478920 0.35239213 -0.14717719 0.40835954 -0.65459813 0.35923974
##      X24      X25      X38      X60      X88      X97
## 0.31047201 1.89931095 0.12748386 -0.06098768 0.06178655 -0.04535854
##
## The UNrelaxed (gamma=1) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.019833 and index = 35
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 47, average deviance = 5.995847
##
##
## Order coefficients entered into the lasso model (1st to last):
## [1] "X25" "X18" "X5" "X22" "X4" "X21" "X23" "X19" "X24" "X10"
## [11] "X7" "X20" "X14" "X38" "X97" "X16" "X60" "X88" "X12" "X43"
## [21] "X71" "X100" "X34" "X32" "X50" "X58" "X41" "X49" "X64" "X84"
## [31] "X91" "X98" "X39" "X40" "X66" "X73" "X74" "X11" "X61" "X69"
## [41] "X70" "X96" "X63" "X77" "X89" "X99" "X28"

```

In the summary output we first see the relaxed lasso model fit based upon the (lambda, gamma) pair which minimizes the cross validated average deviance. Next is the model fit based upon the lambda that minimizes the cross validated average deviance along the path where gamma=0, that is among the fully relaxed lasso models. After that is information on the fully penalized lasso fit, but without the actual coefficient estimates. These estimates can be printed using the option *printg1=TRUE*, but are suppressed by default for space. Finally, the order that coefficients enter the lasso model as the penalty is decreased is provided, which gives some indication of relative model importance of the coefficients. Because, though, the differences in successive lambda values used in the numerical algorithms may allow multiple new terms to enter into the model between successive numerical steps, the ordering in this list may not be strict. If the user would want they could read lambda from output\$lambda, set up a new lambda with finer steps and rerun the model. Our experience though is that this does not generally lead to a meaningfully different model and so is not done by default or as option. | One can as well use the predict function to get the coefficients for the lasso model, or the xs\_new\*beta for a new design matrix xs\_new. In contrast to the summary function which simply displays coefficients, the predict function provides an output object in vector form (or a list with two vectors) and so can more easily be used for further calculations. By default the summary function will use the (lambda, gamma) pair that minimizes the average CV deviances. One can also specify lam=NULL and gam=1 to use the fully penalized lasso best fit, that use the solution that minimizes the CV deviance with respect to lambda while holding gamma=1, or gam=0 to use the fully relaxed lasso best fit, that is minimizes while holding gamma=0. One can also numerically specify both lam for lambda and gam for gamma. Within the package lambda and gamma usually denote vectors for the search algorithm and so other names are used here.

```

# Get coefficients
beta = predict(cv.cox.fit)

```

```

##
## (lambda, gamma) pair minimizing CV average deviance is used

```

```

# Print out the non-zero coefficients
beta$beta

```

```

##      X4      X5      X7      X10      X14
## 1.050952e+00 -1.298945e+00 2.912949e-02 -5.966936e-01 1.043615e+00
##      X15      X16      X18      X19      X20
## -1.719568e-16 -9.378331e-01 1.127645e+00 3.149391e-01 -1.253247e-01
##      X21      X22      X23      X24      X25

```

```
## 3.707304e-01 -6.039354e-01 3.263490e-01 2.789101e-01 1.784703e+00
## X38 X60 X88 X97
## 1.011793e-01 -4.634282e-02 4.740086e-02 -3.554883e-02
```

```
# Print out all coefficients
beta$beta_
```

```
## X1 X2 X3 X4 X5
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 1.050952e+00 -1.298945e+00
## X6 X7 X8 X9 X10
## 0.000000e+00 2.912949e-02 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 -5.966936e-01
## X11 X12 X13 X14 X15
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 1.043615e+00 -1.719568e-16
## X16 X17 X18 X19 X20
## -9.378331e-01 0.000000e+00 1.127645e+00 3.149391e-01 -1.253247e-01
## X21 X22 X23 X24 X25
## 3.707304e-01 -6.039354e-01 3.263490e-01 2.789101e-01 1.784703e+00
## X26 X27 X28 X29 X30
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X31 X32 X33 X34 X35
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X36 X37 X38 X39 X40
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 1.011793e-01 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X41 X42 X43 X44 X45
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X46 X47 X48 X49 X50
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X51 X52 X53 X54 X55
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X56 X57 X58 X59 X60
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 -4.634282e-02
## X61 X62 X63 X64 X65
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X66 X67 X68 X69 X70
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X71 X72 X73 X74 X75
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X76 X77 X78 X79 X80
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X81 X82 X83 X84 X85
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X86 X87 X88 X89 X90
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 4.740086e-02 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X91 X92 X93 X94 X95
## 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## X96 X97 X98 X99 X100
## 0.000000e+00 -3.554883e-02 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
```

```
# Get the predicted (linear predictors) for the original data set
predicted = predict(cv.cox.fit, xs)
```

```
##
## (lambda, gamma) pair minimizing CV average deviance is used
```

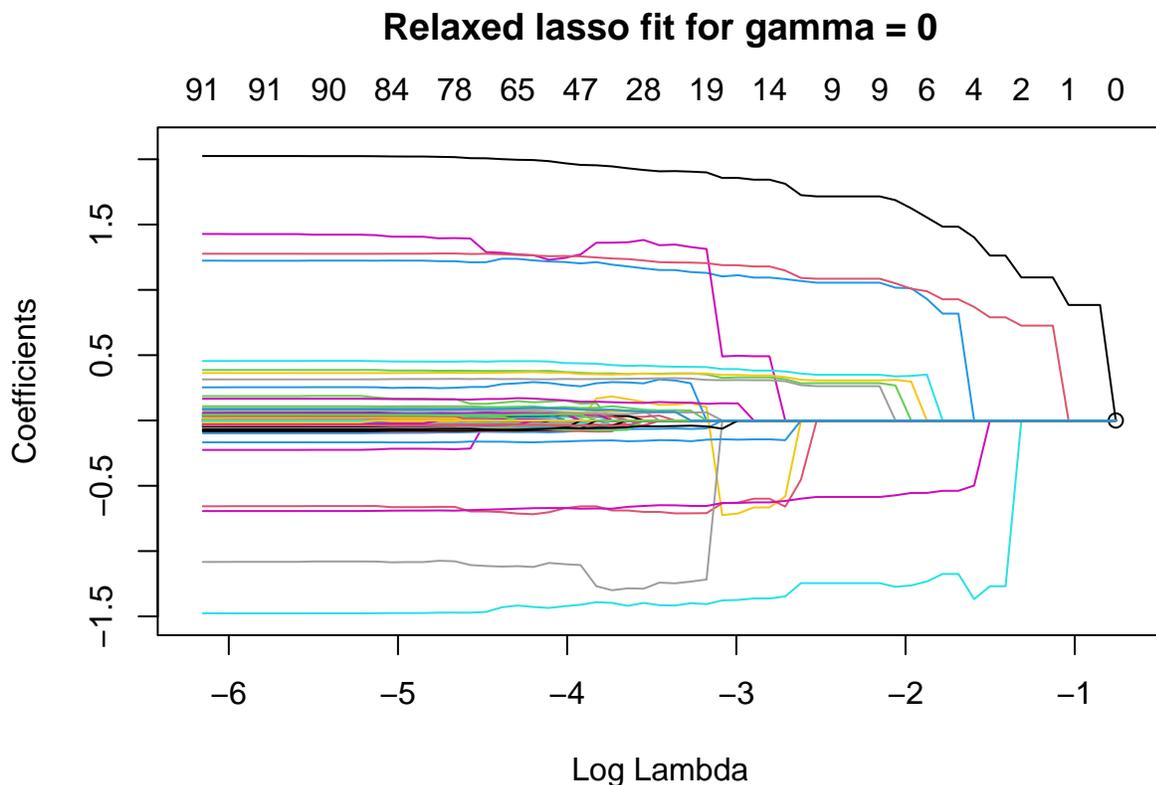
```
# Print out the first few predicted
predicted[1:20]
```

```
## [1] -0.6446191 -3.4901590  4.3166516  1.3425973 -0.1500069  1.2901788
## [7] -3.8608813  0.3456247  6.1151657  1.5431362  1.0919012 -1.7379752
## [13]  0.7941607  2.7537587 -0.6522066  0.5313555  0.8459184  3.3600472
## [19] -2.4937645  1.9657998
```

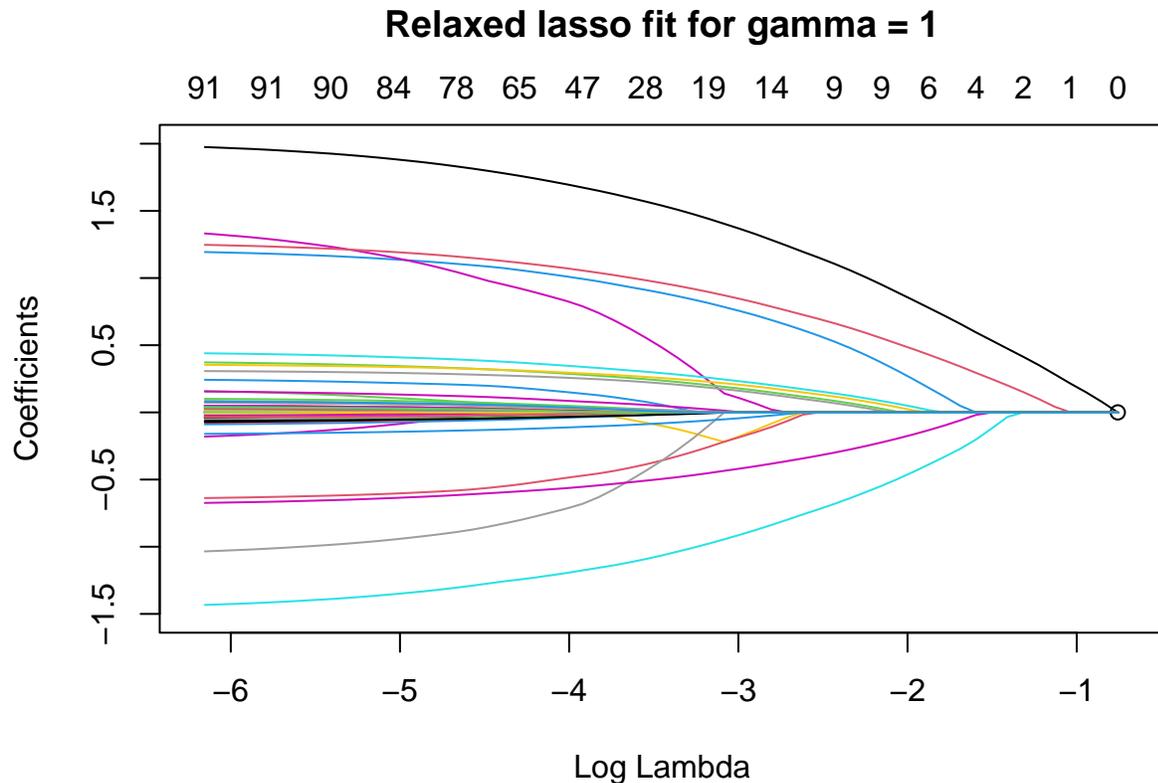
## Model fit without cross validation

We can as well fit a relaxed lasso model without doing a CV. For this case one can still plot the coefficients but when the minimizing lambda and gamma are not informed by CV one is to specify which gamma should be used for the plots. By default  $\gamma=1$ , i.e. for the fully penalized lasso model, is used for the plots. One can plot the coefficient estimates for different gamma values, but these will usually be more meaningful when informed by the CV “tuned” hyperparameters values for lambda and gamma. One can also use the `predict()` function, again to output either coefficients or predicted, i.e.  $\text{xs\_new} \cdot \beta$  for a new design matrix `xs_new`. Such predicted are often, for example in `coxph()`, included in the analysis output object under the name `linear.predictors`.

```
# Fit a model without cross validation
cox.fit = suppressWarnings( glmnet(xs, NULL, y_, event, family="cox") )
# Plot coefficients of the fully relaxed lasso model
plot(cox.fit, gam=0)
```



```
# Plot coefficients of the fully penalized lasso model
plot(cox.fit, gam=1)
```



```
# Get an arbitrary set of coefficients for this example
lam = cox.fit$lambda[ $\min(20, \text{length}(\text{cox.fit}\$lambda))$ ]
predict(cox.fit, lam=lam, gam=1)$beta
```

```
##          X4          X5          X18          X19          X21          X22
## 0.57070332 -0.72134172 0.69568763 0.10226018 0.15736601 -0.32166378
##          X23          X24          X25
## 0.13364644 0.08477203 1.15172274
```

## Nested cross validation

Because the values for lambda and gamma informed by CV are specifically chosen to give a best fit, model fit statistics for the CV derived model will be biased. To address this one can perform a CV on the CV derived estimates, that is a nested cross validation as argued for in SRDM ( Simon R, Radmacher MD, Dobbin K, McShane LM. Pitfalls in the Use of DNA Microarray Data for Diagnostic and Prognostic Classification. J Natl Cancer Inst (2003) 95 (1): 14-18. <https://academic.oup.com/jnci/article/95/1/14/2520188> ). This is done here by the nested.glmnet() function.

```
# A nested cross validation to evaluate a cross validation informed lasso model fit
# nested.cox.fit = nested.glmnet(xs=NULL,y_,event,family="cox",track=1)
nested.cox.fit = suppressWarnings(nested.glmnet(xs=NULL,y_,event,family="cox",track=0))
summary(nested.cox.fit)
```

```
##
## Sample information including number of records, events, number of columns in
## design (predictor, X) matrix, and df (rank) of design matrix:
##      family           n      nevents      xs.columns      xs.df
##      "cox"           "1000"      "698"           "100"           "94"
## null.dev/events
##      "12.43"
##
## Tuning parameters for models :
##      folds_n      seed
##      "10" "438083155"
##
## Nested Cross Validation averages for LASSO (1se and min), Relaxed LASSO, and gamma=0 LASSO :
##
##      deviance per event :
##      1se      min      1seR      minR 1seR.GO minR.GO      ridge
##      6.0016  5.9406  5.9646  5.9174  5.9820  5.9200  6.1080
##
##      deviance per event (linearly calibrated) :
##      1se      min      1seR      minR 1seR.GO minR.GO      ridge
##      5.9351  5.9259  5.9349  5.9105  5.9631  5.9110  6.0284
##
##      number of nonzero model terms :
##      1se      min      1seR      minR 1seR.GO minR.GO
##      22.0    45.5    12.9    20.5    11.1    17.7
##
##      linear calibration coefficient :
##      1se      min      1seR      minR 1seR.GO minR.GO      ridge
##      1.2555  1.0811  1.1475  1.0269  0.9927  0.9474  1.2988
##
##      agreement (concordance) :
##      1se      min      1seR      minR 1seR.GO minR.GO      ridge
##      0.8718  0.8729  0.8729  0.8741  0.8720  0.8735  0.8653
##
## Naive agreement for cross validation informed LASSO :
##      1se      min      1seR      minR 1seR.GO minR.GO      ridge
##      0.8754  0.8794  0.8740  0.8759  0.8796  0.8813  0.8820
```

```
#names(nested.cox.fit)
```

Before providing analysis results the output first reports sample size and since this is for a Cox regression, the number of events, followed by the number of predictors and the df (degrees of freedom) of the design matrix, as well as some information on “Tuning parameters” which reflect the earlier work to compare the lasso model with stepwise procedures as described in JWHT (James, Witten, Hastie and Tibshirani, An Introduction to Statistical Learning with applications in R, 2nd ed., Springer, New York, 2021). In general we have found in practice that the lasso does better and so we do not present results here. (The tuned stepwise fits also take a long to run, part of the earlier motivation for the lasso model development.)

Next are the nested cross validation results. First are the per record (or per event in case of the Cox model) log-likelihoods which reflect the amount of information in each observation. Since we are not using large sample theory to base inferences we feel the per record are more intuitive, and they allow comparisons between datasets with unequal sample sizes. Next are the average number of model terms which reflect the complexity of the different models, even if in a naive sense, followed by the agreement statistics, here concordance, These nested cross validated concordances should be essentially unbiased for the given design, unlike the naive concordances where the same data are used to derive the model and calculate the concordances (see SRDM).

In addition to evaluating the CV informed relaxed lasso model using another layer of CV, the `nested.glmnet()` function also runs `cv.glmnet()` based upon the whole data set. Here we see, not unexpectedly, that the concordances estimated from the nested CV are slightly smaller than the concordances naively calculated using the original dataset. Depending on the data the nested CV and naive agreement measures, here concordance, can be very similar or disparate.

Following JWHT we provide information on the minimizing lasso models as well as the “1SE” models, which are near to the minimizing lasso model fits, but of simpler nature. We though focus on the minimizing lasso fits recognizing that relaxed lasso and fully relaxed lasso fits generally provide models of simpler form while still optimizing a fit.

A summary for the CV fit can be produced by using the `summary()` function directly on a `nested.glmnet()` output using the option `cvfit=TRUE`. Else one can also extract the CV fit by extracting the `object$cv.glmnet.fit`, where `object` is the output object obtained when running `nested.glmnet()`. The `plot()` and `predict()` functions can be applied directly to a `nested.glmnet()` object without the `cvfit` option for further evaluation or calculations for the CV model fit.

```
# Summary of the CV fit from a nested CV output
summary(nested.cox.fit, cvfit=TRUE)
```

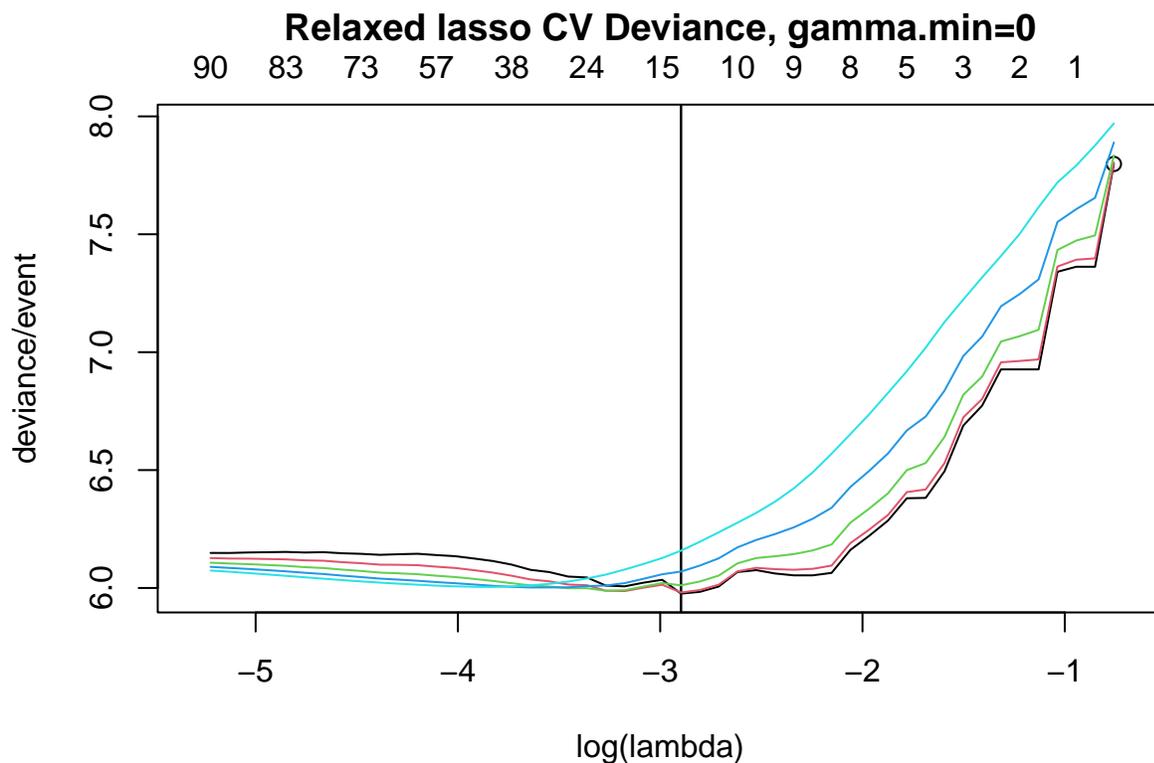
```
##
## The relaxed minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.0551865 , index = 24 and gamma = 0
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 14, average deviance = 5.976064 and beta =
## X4 X5 X7 X10 X14 X18 X19
## 1.0941352 -1.3627747 -0.6659735 -0.5988756 0.4916291 1.1792301 0.3302211
## X20 X21 X22 X23 X24 X25
## -0.1444546 0.3820778 -0.6270995 0.3448224 0.3085746 1.8435742
##
## The fully relaxed (gamma=0) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.0551865 and index = 24
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 13, average deviance = 5.976064 and beta =
## X4 X5 X7 X10 X14 X18 X19
## 1.0941352 -1.3627747 -0.6659735 -0.5988756 0.4916291 1.1792301 0.3302211
## X20 X21 X22 X23 X24 X25
## -0.1444546 0.3820778 -0.6270995 0.3448224 0.3085746 1.8435742
##
## The UNrelaxed (gamma=1) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.02176669 and index = 34
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 44, average deviance = 6.004446
##
##
## Order coefficients entered into the lasso model (1st to last):
## [1] "X25" "X18" "X5" "X22" "X4" "X21" "X23" "X19" "X24" "X10"
## [11] "X7" "X20" "X14" "X38" "X97" "X16" "X60" "X88" "X12" "X43"
## [21] "X71" "X100" "X34" "X32" "X50" "X58" "X41" "X49" "X64" "X84"
## [31] "X91" "X98" "X39" "X40" "X66" "X73" "X74" "X11" "X61" "X69"
## [41] "X70" "X96" "X63" "X77"
```

Observe, the summary here is slightly different than obtained above running `cv.glmnet()`. This is because

the model is derived using a new call (instance) of the `cv.glmnet()` function, and each CV uses by default a new random partitioning of the data.

```
# Plot CV deviances from a nested CV output  
plot(nested.cox.fit)
```

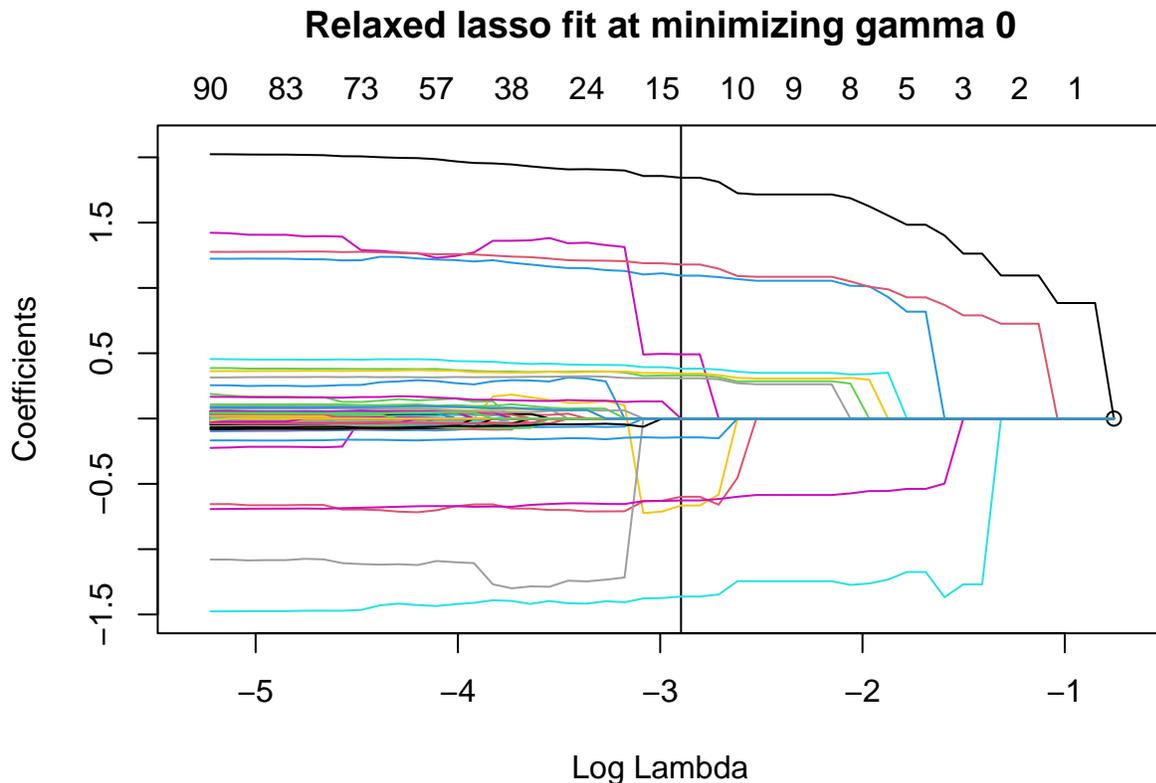
```
## min CV average deviance (max log likelihood) for  
##   relaxed at log(lambda) = -2.897, gamma.min = 0, df = 14  
##   fully relaxed at log(lambda) = -2.897, df = 14  
##   fully penalized at log(lambda) = -3.827, df = 44
```



and

```
# Plot coefficients from a nested CV output  
plot(nested.cox.fit, coefs=TRUE)
```

```
## min CV average deviance (max log likelihood)  
##   at log(lambda.min) = -2.897, gamma.min = 0, df = 14
```



Summarizing, the `summary()` function with the `cvfit=TRUE` option as well as the `plot()` and `predict()` functions for a `nested.glmnetr()` object are then essentially the same as those for a `cv.glmnetr()` output object. The `summary()` function without the `cvfit=TRUE` option, though, regards the evaluation of the `cv.glmnetr()` fit and is different.

```
# ... or use the predict function on the CV fit embedded in the nested CV output
predict(nested.cox.fit)$beta
```

```
##
## (lambda, gamma) pair minimizing CV average deviance is used

##      X4      X5      X7      X10     X14     X18     X19
## 1.0941352 -1.3627747 -0.6659735 -0.5988756 0.4916291 1.1792301 0.3302211
##      X20     X21     X22     X23     X24     X25
## -0.1444546 0.3820778 -0.6270995 0.3448224 0.3085746 1.8435742
```

Again, the plots and summary outputs from the `nested.glmnetr()` output are slightly different from what we saw above when summarizing the `cv.glmnetr()` output due to random data partitions for the CV folds.

## More example data and relaxed lasso fits

The `glmnetr.simdata()` can be used to obtain example data not only survival analyses but also for linear models and logistic models. The `glmnetr.simdata()` output object list contains not only `xs` for the predictor matrix, `yt` for time to event or censoring and `event` for event indication but also `y_` for a normally distributed

random variable for the linear model setting and yb for the logistic model setting. Below we show examples extracting and analyzing simulated data and for the linear model and logistic model structures.

```
#####
# use the same simulated data output object from above, that is from the call
# simdata=glmnet.simdata(nrows=1000, ncols=100, beta=NULL)
#
# extract linear regression model data
# xs = simdata$xs      # just as a comment as we did this above
yg = simdata$y_       # vector of Gaussian (normal) outcomes
# run a linear regression lasso model
cv.lin.fit = suppressWarnings(cv.glmnet(xs,NULL,yg,NULL,family="gaussian",track=0))
summary(cv.lin.fit)
```

```
##
## The relaxed minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.04387766 , index = 41 and gamma = 0.5
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 36, average deviance = 1.133719 and beta =
##      X4      X5      X8      X10      X11
## 1.156675e+00 -1.537799e+00  2.423071e-02 -2.673614e-01  2.198368e-01
##      X12      X14      X16      X17      X18
## 1.110225e-01  9.998525e-01 -7.624610e-01  5.504475e-14  1.261942e+00
##      X19      X20      X21      X22      X23
## 3.715401e-01 -1.107816e-01  3.979336e-01 -5.649323e-01  3.010190e-01
##      X24      X25      X34      X39      X42
## 2.972343e-01  1.812780e+00 -3.544152e-02 -3.169479e-02 -4.820850e-02
##      X43      X44      X49      X50      X59
## 5.888187e-02 -2.919455e-02  3.113022e-02 -4.853789e-02  3.452154e-02
##      X61      X62      X72      X74      X79
## 3.113425e-02  3.786370e-02  3.168401e-02  3.435060e-02 -4.954525e-02
##      X83      X85      X87      X89      X91
## 3.259592e-02 -3.054763e-02 -4.482892e-02  3.973656e-02  4.161309e-02
##      X93
## 5.228151e-02
##
## The fully relaxed (gamma=0) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.05285079 and index = 39
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 29, average deviance = 1.147383 and beta =
##      X4      X5      X10      X11      X12      X14
## 1.20081248 -1.56120791 -0.37574751  0.26079629  0.17613590  1.22237202
##      X16      X18      X19      X20      X21      X22
## -0.96787628  1.28082345  0.39684005 -0.13359011  0.42388504 -0.58702071
##      X23      X24      X25      X42      X43      X49
## 0.31994642  0.31143832  1.84143659 -0.06802143  0.08228061  0.04727775
##      X50      X59      X61      X62      X72      X79
## -0.06763110  0.05154905  0.05362791  0.05577944  0.04777248 -0.06587503
##      X85      X87      X89      X91      X93
## -0.05354526 -0.06693239  0.05407041  0.06285454  0.07167155
##
## The UNrelaxed (gamma=1) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.02084544 and index = 49
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 66, average deviance = 1.135301
##
## Order coefficients entered into the lasso model (1st to last):
## [1] "X25" "X18" "X5" "X4" "X22" "X21" "X19" "X23" "X24" "X14"
## [11] "X20" "X7" "X11" "X16" "X10" "X43" "X79" "X12" "X50" "X93"
```

```
## [21] "X42" "X62" "X87" "X89" "X91" "X49" "X72" "X59" "X61" "X85"
## [31] "X39" "X44" "X8" "X34" "X74" "X83" "X69" "X31" "X38" "X63"
## [41] "X96" "X58" "X60" "X67" "X78" "X97" "X100" "X51" "X75" "X6"
## [51] "X48" "X80" "X82" "X36" "X57" "X26" "X52" "X35" "X45" "X54"
## [61] "X56" "X65" "X71" "X73" "X90" "X94"
```

```
# plot(cv.lin.fit, coefs=TRUE)
#
# extract logistic regression model data
# xs = simdata$xs      # just as a comment as we did this above
yb = simdata$yb      # vector of binomial (0 or 1) outcomes
# run a logistic regression lasso model
cv.bin.fit = suppressWarnings(cv.glmnet(xs,NULL,yb,NULL,family="binomial",track=0))
summary(cv.bin.fit)
```

```
##
## The relaxed minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.02485487 , index = 24 and gamma = 0.25
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 14, average deviance = 0.735743 and beta =
##      X4      X5      X10      X14      X15
## 1.060961e+00 -1.687002e+00 -6.478079e-01 1.011264e+00 -6.972769e-06
##      X18      X19      X21      X22      X23
## 1.314353e+00 4.849272e-01 5.516476e-01 -5.177897e-01 2.617840e-01
##      X24      X25      X56      X62
## 2.299604e-01 1.785416e+00 2.081971e-01 1.754919e-01
##
## The fully relaxed (gamma=0) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.02727819 and index = 23
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 13, average deviance = 0.738002 and beta =
##      X4      X5      X10      X14      X18      X19      X21
## 1.2374336 -1.8818186 -0.8451849 1.2406944 1.4661944 0.5654731 0.6316013
##      X22      X23      X24      X25      X56      X62
## -0.6047495 0.3187711 0.2896245 1.9904577 0.2621416 0.2200204
##
## The UNrelaxed (gamma=1) minimum is obtained for lambda = 0.00741582 and index = 37
## with df (number of non-zero terms) = 55, average deviance = 0.756728
##
##
## Order coefficients entered into the lasso model (1st to last):
## [1] "X25" "X18" "X5" "X21" "X4" "X19" "X22" "X14" "X23" "X24"
## [11] "X56" "X62" "X10" "X20" "X50" "X78" "X85" "X54" "X9" "X32"
## [21] "X52" "X86" "X11" "X29" "X42" "X51" "X8" "X60" "X71" "X95"
## [31] "X34" "X63" "X92" "X26" "X57" "X74" "X90" "X91" "X93" "X59"
## [41] "X68" "X33" "X35" "X36" "X46" "X64" "X73" "X76" "X79" "X81"
## [51] "X84" "X87" "X30" "X82" "X100"
```

```
# plot(cv.bin.fit, coefs=TRUE)
```

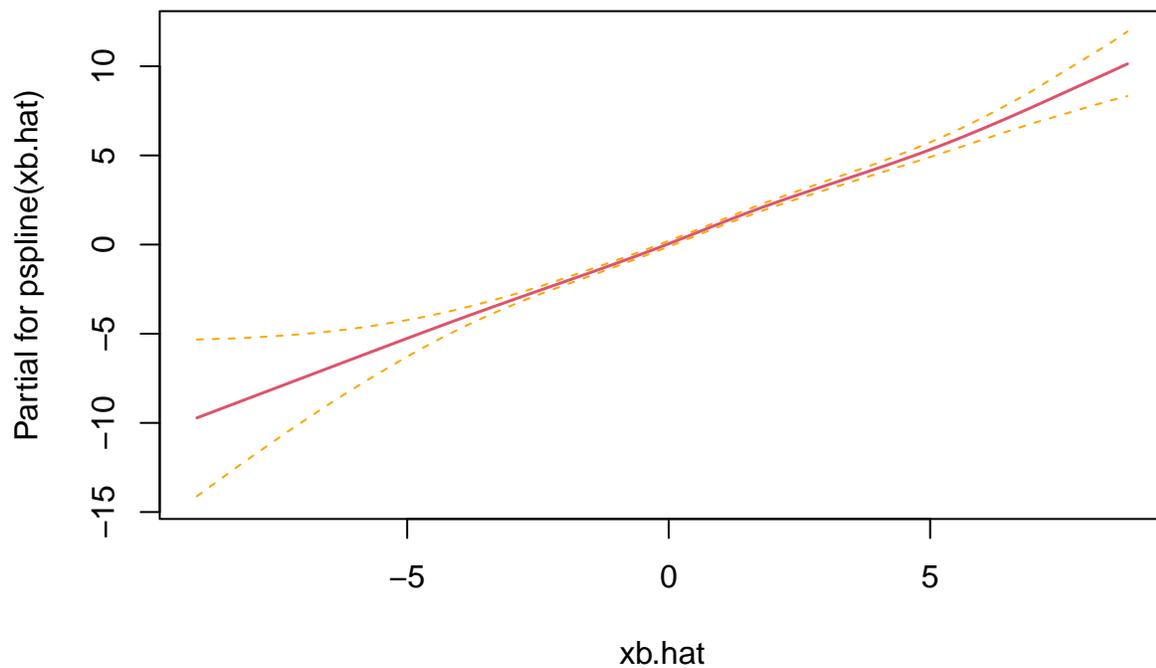
## Further model assessment

One can also fit a spline to the predicted values obtained from the predict functions. This may help to understand nonlinearities in the predicted values, but may also give inflated hazard ratios.

```
# Get predicted from CV relaxed lasso model embedded in nested CV outputs & Plot
xb.hat = predict( object=cv.cox.fit , xs_new=xs, lam=NULL, gam=NULL, comment=FALSE)
# describe the distribution of xb.hat
round(1000*quantile(xb.hat,c(0.01,0.05,0.1,0.25,0.5,0.75,0.90,0.95,0.99)))/1000
```

```
##      1%      5%     10%    25%    50%    75%    90%    95%    99%
## -5.839 -4.122 -3.233 -1.804 -0.070  1.578  3.188  3.989  5.449
```

```
# Fit a spline to xb.hat using coxph, and plot
fit1 = coxph(Surv(y_, event) ~ pspline(xb.hat))
termplot(fit1,term=1,se=TRUE)
```



From this spline fit we see the predicted values are approximately linear with the log hazard ratio.