

# Package ‘pesel’

May 9, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Automatic Estimation of Number of Principal Components in PCA

**Version** 0.7.5

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**Maintainer** Piotr Sobczyk <pj.sobczyk@gmail.com>

**Description** Automatic estimation of number of principal components in PCA with Penalized SEMi-integrated Likelihood (PESEL). See Piotr Sobczyk, Malgorzata Bogdan, Julie Josse ``Bayesian dimensionality reduction with PCA using penalized semi-integrated likelihood" (2017) <[doi:10.1080/10618600.2017.1340302](https://doi.org/10.1080/10618600.2017.1340302)>.

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://github.com/psobczyk/pesel>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/psobczyk/pesel/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 3.1.3),

**Imports** stats, graphics

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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pesel-package

*Automatic estimation of number of principal components in PCA*

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## Description

Automatic estimation of number of principal components in PCA with Penalized SEmi-integrated Likelihood (PESEL).

## Details

Version: 0.7.5

## Author(s)

Piotr Sobczyk, Julie Josse, Malgorzata Bogdan

Maintainer: Piotr Sobczyk <pj.sobczyk@gmail.com>

## References

Piotr Sobczyk, Malgorzata Bogdan, Julie Josse "Bayesian dimensionality reduction with PCA using penalized semi-integrated likelihood", Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics 2017

## Examples

```
# EXAMPLE 1 - noise
with(set.seed(23), pesel(matrix(rnorm(10000), ncol = 100), npc.min = 0))

# EXAMPLE 2 - fixed effects PCA model
sigma <- 0.5
k <- 5
n <- 100
numb.vars <- 10
# factors are drawn from normal distribution
factors <- replicate(k, rnorm(n, 0, 1))
# coefficients are drawn from uniform distribution
coeff <- replicate(numb.vars, rnorm(k, 0, 1))
SIGNAL <- scale(factors %**% coeff)
X <- SIGNAL + replicate(numb.vars, sigma * rnorm(n))
pesel(X)
```

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pesel	<i>Automatic estimation of number of principal components in PCA with Penalized SEMi-integrated Likelihood (PESEL)</i>
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### Description

Underlying assumption is that only small number of principal components, associated with largest singular values, is relevant, while the rest of them is noise. For a given numeric data set, function estimates the number of PCs according to penalized likelihood criterion. Function adjusts the model used to the case when number of variables is larger than the number of observations.

### Usage

```
pesel(
  X,
  npc.min = 0,
  npc.max = 10,
  prior = NULL,
  scale = TRUE,
  method = c("heterogenous", "homogenous"),
  asymptotics = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

X	a data frame or a matrix containing only continuous variables
npc.min	minimal number of principal components, for all the possible number of PCs between npc.min and npc.max criterion is computed
npc.max	maximal number of principal components, if greater than dimensions of X, $\min(\text{ncol}(X), \text{nrow}(X))-1$ is used, for all the possible number of PCs between npc.min and npc.max criterion is computed
prior	a numeric positive vector of length $\text{npc.max}-\text{npc.min}+1$ . Prior distribution on number of principal components. Defaults to uniform distribution
scale	a boolean, if TRUE (default value) then data is scaled before applying criterion
method	name of criterion to be used
asymptotics	a character, asymptotics ('n' or 'p') to be used. Default is NULL for which asymptotics is selected based on dimensions of X

### Details

Please note that no categorical variables and missing values are allowed.

### Value

number of components

## Examples

```
# EXAMPLE 1 - noise
with(set.seed(23), pesel(matrix(rnorm(10000), ncol = 100), npc.min = 0))

# EXAMPLE 2 - fixed effects PCA model
sigma <- 0.5
k <- 5
n <- 100
numb.vars <- 10
# factors are drawn from normal distribution
factors <- replicate(k, rnorm(n, 0, 1))
# coefficients are drawn from uniform distribution
coeff <- replicate(numb.vars, rnorm(k, 0, 1))
SIGNAL <- scale(factors %*% coeff)
X <- SIGNAL + replicate(numb.vars, sigma * rnorm(n))
pesel(X)
```

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pesel\_heterogeneous     *PEnalized SEMi-integrated Likelihood for heterogeneous singular values and large number of variables*

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## Description

Derived under assumption that number of variables tends to infinity while number of observations is limited.

## Usage

```
pesel_heterogeneous(X, minK, maxK)
```

## Arguments

X	a matrix containing only continuous variables
minK	minimal number of principal components fitted
maxK	maximal number of principal components fitted

## Value

numeric vector, PESEL criterion for each k in range [minK, maxK]

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pesel_homogeneous	<i>PEnalized SEMi-integrated Likelihood for homogeneous singular values and large number of variables</i>
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**Description**

Derived under assumption that number of variables tends to infinity while number of observations is limited.

**Usage**

```
pesel_homogeneous(X, minK, maxK)
```

**Arguments**

X	a matrix containing only continuous variables
minK	minimal number of principal components fitted
maxK	maximal number of principal components fitted

**Value**

numeric vector, PESEL criterion for each k in range [minK, maxK]

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