

Package ‘iForecast’

July 30, 2021

Type Package

Title Machine Learning Time Series Forecasting

Version 1.0.3

Date 2021-07-30

Author Ho Tsung-wu

Maintainer Ho Tsung-wu <tsungwu@ntnu.edu.tw>

Description Compute both static and recursive time series forecasts of machine learning models.

License GPL (>= 2)

LazyData TRUE

LazyLoad yes

Depends R (>= 3.5),caret,zoo

Imports magrittr

Suggests data.table, DescTools, forecast, h2o, keras, kernlab,
lubridate, tensorflow, tibble, timeSeries, timeDate, timetk

NeedsCompilation no

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2021-07-30 06:20:02 UTC

R topics documented:

data-sets	2
iForecast	2
rollingWindows	4
ttsAutoML	5
ttsCaret	6
ttsLSTM	9

Index	11
--------------	-----------

 data-sets

Economic and Financial Data Sets

Description

ES_15m is 15-min realized absolute variance of e-mini S&P 500. macrodata contains monthly US unemployment(unrate), ES_Daily is daily realized absolute variance of e-mini S&P 500. macrodata contains monthly US unemployment(unrate) and year-to-year changes in three regional business cycle indices (OECD, NAFTA, and G7). bc contains monthly business cycle data, bc is binary indicator(0=recession, 1=boom) of Taiwan's business cycle phases, IPI_TWN is industrial production index of Taiwan, LD_OECD, LD_G7, and LD_NAFTA are leading indicators of OECD, G7 and NAFTA regions; all four are monthly rate of changes.

Usage

```
data(ES_15m)
data(macrodata)
data(ES_Daily)
data(bc)
```

Value

an object of class "zoo".

 iForecast

Extract predictions and class probabilities from train objects

Description

It generates both the static and recursive time series plots of machine learning prediction object generated by ttsCaret, ttsAutoML and ttsLSTM.

Usage

```
iForecast(Model, newdata, type)
```

Arguments

Model	Object of trained model.
newdata	The dataset for prediction, the column names must be the same as the trained data.
type	If type="staticfit", it computes the direct (static) forecasting values of insample model fit; if type="recursive", it computes the recursive (dynamic) forecasting values of insample model; for recursive forecasts, AR term is required.

Details

This function generates forecasts of `ttsCaret`, `ttsAutoML`, and `ttsLSTM`.

Value

`prediction` The forecasted time series target variable. For binary case, it returns both probabilities and class.

Author(s)

Ho Tsung-wu <tsungwu@ntnu.edu.tw>, College of Management, National Taiwan Normal University.

Examples

```
# Cross-validation takes time, example below is commented.
## Machine Learning by library(caret)
#Case 1. Low frequency, regression type
data("macrodata")
dep <- macrodata[569:669,"unrate",drop=FALSE]
ind <- macrodata[569:669,-1,drop=FALSE]
train.end <- "2018-12-01"# Choosing the end dating of train

models <- c("svm","rf","rpart","gamboost","BstLm","bstSm","blackboost")[3]
type <- c("none","trend","season","both")[1]
Caret <- ttsCaret(y=dep, x=ind, arOrder=c(1), xregOrder=c(1),
  method=models, tuneLength =1, train.end, type=type,
  trControl= trainControl(method = "cv"))
testData1 <- window(Caret$data,start="2019-01-01",end=end(Caret$data))
P1 <- iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="staticfit")
P2 <- iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="recursive")

#tail(cbind(testData1[,1],P1))
#tail(cbind(testData1[,1],P2))

#Case 2. Low frequency, binary type
data(bc) #binary dependent variable, business cycle phases
dep=bc[,1,drop=FALSE]
ind=bc[,-1]

train.end=as.character(rownames(dep))[as.integer(nrow(dep)*0.8)]
test.start=as.character(rownames(dep))[as.integer(nrow(dep)*0.8)+1]

#Caret = ttsCaret(y=dep, x=ind, arOrder=c(1), xregOrder=c(1), method=models,
#               tuneLength =10, train.end, type=type)

#testData1=window(Caret$data,start=test.start,end=end(Caret$data))

#head(Caret$dataused)
#P1=iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="staticfit")
#P2=iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="recursive")
```

```
#tail(cbind(testData1[,1],P1),10)
#tail(cbind(testData1[,1],P2),10)
```

rollingWindows	<i>Rolling timeframe for time series analysis</i>
----------------	---

Description

It extracts time stamp from a timeSeries object and separates the time into in-sample training and out-of-sample testing ranges.

Usage

```
rollingWindows(x,training="18m",testing = "6m")
```

Arguments

x	The time series matrix of dependent variable, with timeSeries or zoo format.
training	The range of insample training period, the default is 18 months(18m), where the k-fold cross-section is performed.
testing	The range of out-of-sample testing period, the default is 6 months(6m).

Details

This function is similar to the backtesting framework in portfolio analysis. Rolling windows fixes the origin and the training sample grows over time, moving windows can be achieved by placing window() on dependent variable at each iteration.

Value

window	The time labels of from and to
--------	--------------------------------

.

Author(s)

Ho Tsung-wu <tsungwu@ntnu.edu.tw>, College of Management, National Taiwan Normal University.

Examples

```
data(macrodta)
dep=macrodta[,1,drop=FALSE]
ind=macrodta[,-1,drop=FALSE]

timeframe=rollingWindows(dep,training="300m",testing="6m")
FROM=timeframe$from
TO=timeframe$to
```

```

type=c("none","trend","season","both")[1]
models=c("rf","rpart","svm","knn","nnet")[4]
t0=1
# you may change this to "for (to in 1: length(TO))" to perform rolling CV
#output = ttsCaret(y=dep, x=ind, arOrder=c(1), xregOrder=c(1), method=models,
#                 tuneLength =10, train.end=as.character(TO[t0]), type=type)
#if(t0==length(TO)) {
# testdata=window(output$dataused,start=T0[t0],end=end(Y))[-1,]
#} else {testdata=window(output$dataused,start=T0[t0],end=T0[t0+1])[-1,]}

#P1=iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData,type="staticfit") # static forecasts generated
#P2=iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData,type="recursive") # dynamic forecasts generated

#tail(cbind(testData[,1],P1),10)
#tail(cbind(testData[,1],P2),10)

```

ttsAutoML	<i>Train time series by automatic machine learning of h2o provided by H2O.ai</i>
-----------	--

Description

It generates both the static and recursive time series plots of H2O.ai object generated by package h2o provided by H2O.ai.

Usage

```
ttsAutoML(y,x=NULL,train.end,arOrder=2,xregOrder=0,maxSecs=30)
```

Arguments

y	The time series vector of target variable, or the dependent variable, with zoo format, must have dimension. y can be either binary or continuous.
x	The time series matrix of input variables, or the independent variables, with zoo format.
train.end	The end date of training data, must be specified. The default dates of train.start and test.end are the start and the end of input data; and the test.start is the 1-period next of train.end.
arOrder	The autoregressive order of the target variable, which may be sequentially specified like arOrder=1:5; or discontinuous lags like arOrder=c(1,3,5); zero is not allowed.
xregOrder	The distributed lag structure of the input variables, which may be sequentially specified like xregOrder=1:5; or discontinuous lags like xregOrder=c(0,3,5); zero is allowed since contemporaneous correlation is allowed.
maxSecs	The maximal run time specified, in seconds. Default=20.

Details

This function calls the `h2o.automl` function from package `h2o` to execute automatic machine learning estimation. When execution finished, it computes two types of time series forecasts: static and recursive. The procedure of `h2o.automl` automatically generates a lot of time features.

Value

<code>output</code>	Output object generated by train function of <code>caret</code> .
<code>arOrder</code>	The autoregressive order of the target variable used.
<code>data</code>	The dataset of imputed.
<code>dataused</code>	The data used by <code>arOrder</code> , <code>xregOrder</code>

Author(s)

Ho Tsung-wu <tsungwu@ntnu.edu.tw>, College of Management, National Taiwan Normal University.

Examples

```
# Cross-validation takes time, example below is commented.
data("macrodata")
dep<-macrodata[, "unrate", drop=FALSE]
ind<-macrodata[, -1, drop=FALSE]

# Choosing the dates of training and testing data
train.end<-"2008-12-01"

#autoML of H2O.ai

#autoML <- ttsAutoML(y=dep, x=ind, train.end, arOrder=c(2,4),
# xregOrder=c(0,1,3), maxSecs =30)
#testData2 <- window(autoML$data, start="2009-01-01", end=end(autoML$data))
#P1<-iForecast(Model=autoML, newdata=testData2, type="staticfit")
#P2<-iForecast(Model=autoML, newdata=testData2, type="recursive")

#tail(cbind(testData2[,1], P1))
#tail(cbind(testData2[,1], P2))
```

ttsCaret

Train time series by caret and produce two types of time series forecasts: static and recursive

Description

It generates both the static and recursive time series plots of machine learning prediction object generated by package `caret`.

Usage

```
ttsCaret(
  y,
  x=NULL,
  method,
  train.end,
  arOrder=2,
  xregOrder=0,
  type,
  tuneLength =10,
  trControl=trainControl(method = "cv"))
```

Arguments

y	The time series vector of target variable, or the dependent variable, with zoo format, must have dimension. y can be either binary or continuous.
x	The time series matrix of input variables, or the independent variables, with zoo format.
method	The train_model_list of caret. While using this, make sure that the method allows regression. Methods in c("svm", "rf", "rpart", "gamboost", "BstLm", "bstSm", "blackboost") are feasible.
train.end	The end date of training data, must be specified. The default dates of train.start and test.end are the start and the end of input data; and the test.start is the 1-period next of train.end.
arOrder	The autoregressive order of the target variable, which may be sequentially specified like arOrder=1:5; or discontinuous lags like arOrder=c(1,3,5); zero is not allowed.
xregOrder	The distributed lag structure of the input variables, which may be sequentially specified like xregOrder=0:5; or discontinuous lags like xregOrder=c(0,3,5); zero is allowed since contemporaneous correlation is allowed.
type	The additional input variables. We have four selection: "none"=no other variables, "trend"=inclusion of time dummy, "season"=inclusion of seasonal dummies, "both"=inclusion of both trend and season. No default.
tuneLength	The same as the length specified in train function of package caret.
trControl	The same as trainControl function list in package caret. Default is trainControl(method = "cv").

Details

This function calls the train function of package caret to execute estimation. When execution finished, we compute two types of time series forecasts: static and recursive.

Value

output	Output object generated by train function of caret.
arOrder	The autoregressive order of the target variable used.
data	The dataset of imputed.
dataused	The data used by arOrder, xregOrder, and type

Author(s)

Ho Tsung-wu <tsungwu@ntnu.edu.tw>, College of Management, National Taiwan Normal University.

Examples

```
# Cross-validation takes time, example below is commented.
## Machine Learning by library(caret)
library(zoo)
#Case 1. Low frequency
data("macrodata")
dep <- macrodata[569:669,"unrate",drop=FALSE]
ind <- macrodata[569:669,-1,drop=FALSE]
train.end <- "2018-12-01"# Choosing the end dating of train

models <- c("svm","rf","rpart","glm")[3]
type <- c("none","trend","season","both")[1]
Caret <- ttsCaret(y=dep, x=NULL, arOrder=c(1), xregOrder=c(1),
  method=models, tuneLength =1, train.end, type=type,
  trControl= trainControl(method = "cv"))
testData1 <- window(Caret$data,start="2019-01-01",end=end(Caret$data))
P1 <- iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="staticfit")
P2 <- iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="recursive")

tail(cbind(testData1[,1],P1,P2))

#Case 2. High frequency
#head(ES_15m)
#head(ES_Daily)
#dep <- ES_15m #SP500 15-minute realized absolute variance
#ind <- NULL
#train.end <- as.character(rownames(dep))[as.integer(nrow(dep)*0.9)]

#models<-c("svm","rf","rpart","gamboost","BstLm","bstSm","blackboost")[1]
#type<-c("none","trend","season","both")[1]
# Caret <- ttsCaret(y=dep, x=ind, arOrder=c(3,5), xregOrder=c(0,2,4),
# method=models, tuneLength =10, train.end, type=type,
# trControl= trainControl(method = "cv"))
#testData1<-window(Caret$data,start="2009-01-01",end=end(Caret$data))
#P1<-iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="staticfit")
#P2<-iForecast(Model=Caret,newdata=testData1,type="recursive")
```


ttsLSTM

*Train time series by LSTM of tensorflow provided by kera***Description**

It generates both the static and recursive time series plots of deep learning LSTM object generated by package tensorflow provided by kera.

Usage

```
ttsLSTM(y,x=NULL,train.end,arOrder=2,xregOrder=0,type,memoryLoops=10,dim3=5)
```

Arguments

y	The time series vector of target variable, or the dependent variable, with zoo format, must have dimension. y can be only continuous, binary case is not allowed at this version.
x	The time series matrix of input variables, or the independent variables, with zoo format.
train.end	The end date of training data, must be specified. The default dates of train.start and test.end are the start and the end of input data; and the test.start is the 1-period next of train.end.
arOrder	The autoregressive order of the target variable, which may be sequentially specified like arOrder=1:5; or discontinuous lags like arOrder=c(1,3,5); zero is not allowed. Default is 2.
xregOrder	The distributed lag structure of the input variables, which may be sequentially specified like xregOrder=1:5; or discontinuous lags like xregOrder=c(0,3,5); zero is allowed since contemporaneous correlation is allowed.
type	The additional input variables. We have four selection: "none"=no other variables, "trend"=inclusion of time dummy, "season"=inclusion of seasonal dummies, "both"=inclusion of both trend and season. No default.
memoryLoops	Length of LSTM learning network loop, to achieve better learning results, this not is suggested to be the same as the length of data row. Default is 10..
dim3	The third dimension of LSTM array. Default is 5..

Details

This function calls the function fit of package tensorflow to execute Long-Short Term Memory (LSTM) estimation. When execution finished, it computes two types of time series forecasts: static and recursive.

Value

output	Output object generated by train function of caret.
batch.size	The batch.size used for LSTM network.
k	The third dimension of array in LSTM network.
SHAPE	The shape size of array in LSTM network.
arOrder	the autoregressive order of the target variable used.
data	The dataset of used.
dataused	The data used by arOrder, xregOrder, and type

Author(s)

Ho Tsung-wu <tsungwu@ntnu.edu.tw>, College of Management, National Taiwan Normal University.

Examples

```
# Cross-validation takes time, example below is commented.
data("macrodata")
dep<-macrodata[, "unrate", drop=FALSE]
ind<-macrodata[, -1, drop=FALSE]

# Choosing the dates of training and testing data
train.end<-"2008-12-01"

#RNN with LSTM network
#LSTM<-ttsLSTM(y=dep, x=ind, train.end, arOrder=c(2,4), xregOrder=c(1,4),
# memoryLoops=5, type=c("none", "trend", "season", "both")[4])

#testData3<-window(LSTM$data, start="2009-01-01", end=end(LSTM$data))
#P1<-iForecast(Model=LSTM, newdata=testData3, type="staticfit")
#P2<-iForecast(Model=LSTM, newdata=testData3, type="recursive")

#tail(cbind(testData3[, 1], P1, P2))
```

Index

* **datasets**

data-sets, [2](#)

bc (data-sets), [2](#)

data-sets, [2](#)

ES_15m (data-sets), [2](#)

ES_Daily (data-sets), [2](#)

iForecast, [2](#)

macrodata (data-sets), [2](#)

rollingWindows, [4](#)

ttsAutoML, [5](#)

ttsCaret, [6](#)

ttsLSTM, [9](#)