

# Package ‘iForecast’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Machine Learning Time Series Forecasting

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**Description** Compute static, onestep and multistep time series forecasts for machine learning models.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**LazyData** TRUE

**LazyLoad** yes

**Depends** R (>= 3.5),caret

**Imports** magrittr

**Suggests** data.table, forecast, h2o, kernlab, lubridate, tibble,  
timeSeries, timeDate, timetk, zoo

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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 data-sets

*Economic and Financial Data Sets*


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### 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".

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 iForecast

*Extract predictions and class probabilities from train objects*


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### 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="static", it computes the (static) forecasting values of insample model fit. If type="dynamic", it iteratively computes the multistep forecasting values given the insample estimated model. For dynamic 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")[1]
type <- c("none","trend","season","both")[1]
#output <- ttsCaret(y=dep, x=ind, arOrder=c(1), xregOrder=c(1),
# method=models, tuneLength =1, train.end, type=type,resampling="cv",preProcess = #"center")
# testData1 <- window(output$data,start="2019-01-01",end=end(output$data))
#P1 <- iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="static")
#P2 <- iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="dynamic")

#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]

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

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

#head(output$dataused)
#P1=iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="static")
#P2=iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="dynamic")

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

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

---

iForecast-ttsAutoML *Defunct functions in package 'iForecast'*

---

**Description**

These functions are defunct and no longer available.

**Details**

Defunct function is: ttsAutoML New function is: tts.autoML

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iForecast-ttsCaret *Defunct functions in package 'iForecast'*

---

**Description**

These functions are defunct and no longer available.

**Details**

Defunct function is: ttsCaret New function is: tts.caret

---

iForecast-ttsLSTM *Defunct functions in package 'iForecast'*

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**Description**

These functions are defunct and no longer available.

**Details**

Defunct functions are: ttsLSTM

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rollingWindows	<i>Rolling timeframe for time series analysis</i>
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**Description**

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

**Usage**

```
rollingWindows(x,estimation="18m",by = "6m")
```

**Arguments**

x	The time series matrix (vector) with timeSeries or zoo format of "
estimation	The range of insample estimation period, the default is 18 months(18m), where the k-fold cross-section is performed. Week and day are also supported (see example).
by	The range of out-of-sample validation/testing period, the default is 6 months(6m).Week and day are also supported (see example).

**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
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**Author(s)**

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

**Examples**

```
data(macrodata)
y=macrodata[,1,drop=FALSE]
timeframe=rollingWindows(y,estimation="300m",by="6m")
#estimation="300m", because macrodata is monthly
FROM=timeframe$from
TO=timeframe$to

data(ES_Daily)
y=ES_Daily[,1,drop=FALSE]
```

```

timeframe=rollingWindows(y,estimation ="60w",by="1w")
#60 weeks as estimation window and move by 1 week.

FROM=timeframe$from
TO=timeframe$to

y=ES_Daily[,1,drop=FALSE]
timeframe=rollingWindows(y,estimation ="250d",by="1d")
#250-day as estimation window and move by 1 days.

```

---

tts.autoML                      *Train time series by automatic machine learning of h2o provided by H2O.ai*

---

### Description

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

### Usage

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

### Arguments

y	The time series object of the target variable, or the dependent variable, with timeSeries or zoo format, must have dimension. y can be either binary or continuous. Time format must be "
x	The time series matrix of input variables, or the independent variables, with timeSeries or zoo format. Time format must be "
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**

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

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

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

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tts.caret	<i>Train time series by caret and produce two types of time series forecasts: static and dynamic</i>
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**Description**

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

**Usage**

```
tts.caret(
  y,
  x=NULL,
  method,
  train.end,
  arOrder=2,
  xregOrder=0,
  type,
  tuneLength =10,
  preProcess = NULL,
  resampling="boot",
  Number=NULL,
  Repeat=NULL)
```

**Arguments**

y	The time series object of the target variable, or the dependent variable, with timeSeries or zoo format, must have dimension. y can be either binary or continuous. Timestamp format must be "
x	The time series matrix of input variables, or the independent variables, with timeSeries or zoo format. Timestamp format must be "
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.
preProcess	Whether to pre-process the data, current possibilities are "BoxCox", "YeoJohnson", "expoTrans", "center", "scale", "range", "knnImpute", "bagImpute", "medianImpute", "pca", "ica" and "spatialSign". The default is no pre-processing.
resampling	The method for resampling, as trainControl function list in package caret. The default is "boot" for bootstrapping with 25 replications. Current choices are



	c("cv","boot","repeatedcv","LOOCV") where "cv" is K-fold CV with a default K=10 or specified by the "Number" below, "LOOCV" denotes the leave-one-out CV
Number	The number of K for K-Fold CV, default (NULL) is 10; for "boot" option, the default number of replications is 25
Repeat	The number for the repetition for "repeatedcv".

### 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.
training.Pred	All tuned prediction values of training data, using besTunes to extract the best prediction.

### Author(s)

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### 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("glm","knn","nnet","rpart","rf","svm","enet","gbm","lasso","bridge")[2]
type <- c("none","trend","season","both")[1]
output <- tts.caret(y=dep, x=NULL, arOrder=c(1), xregOrder=c(1),
  method=models, tuneLength =1, train.end, type=type,
  resampling=c("boot","cv","repeatedcv")[1],preProcess = "center")

testData1 <- window(output$dataused,start="2019-01-01",end=end(dep))
P1 <- iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="static")
P2 <- iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="dynamic")

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]
# output <- tts.caret(y=dep, x=ind, arOrder=c(3,5), xregOrder=c(0,2,4),
# method=models, tuneLength =10, train.end, type=type,
# resampling=c("boot","cv","repeatedcv")[2],preProcess = "center")
#testData1<-window(output$data,start="2009-01-01",end=end(output$data))
#P1<-iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="static")
#P2<-iForecast(Model=output,newdata=testData1,type="dynamic")
```

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