Package 'Rdrw'

July 21, 2025

Version 1.0.2
Date 2020-9-8
Title Univariate and Multivariate Damped Random Walk Processes
Author Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak
Maintainer Hyungsuk Tak <hyungsuk.tak@gmail.com></hyungsuk.tak@gmail.com>

Depends R (>= 2.2.0)

Imports mvtnorm(>= 1.0-11)

Description We provide a toolbox to fit and simulate a univariate or multivariate damped random walk process that is also known as an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process or a continuous-time autoregressive model of the first order, i.e., CAR(1) or CARMA(1, 0). This process is suitable for analyzing univariate or multivariate time series data with irregularly-spaced observation times and heteroscedastic measurement errors. When it comes to the multivariate case, the number of data points (measurements/observations) available at each observation time does not need to be the same, and the length of each time series can vary. The number of time series data sets that can be modeled simultaneously is limited to ten in this version of the package. We use Kalman-filtering to evaluate the resulting likelihood function, which leads to a scalable and efficient computation in finding maximum likelihood estimates of the model parameters or in drawing their posterior samples. Please pay attention to loading the data if this package is used for astronomical data analyses; see the details in the manual. Also see Hu and Tak (2020) <doi:10.48550/arXiv.2005.08049>.

License GPL-2
Encoding UTF-8
NeedsCompilation no
Repository CRAN
Date/Publication 2020-09-08 17:50:02 UTC

Contents

Index

drw																							2
drw.si	m																						7
Rdrw																							9
																							11

drw

Fitting univariate and multiviarate damped random walk processes

Description

The function drw fits univariate and multivariate damped random walk processes on multiple time series data sets possibly with known measurement error standard deviations via state-space representation. This function drw evaluates the resulting likelihood function of the model parameters via Kalman-filtering whose minimum complexity is linear in the number of unique observation times. The function returns the maximum likelihood estimates or posterior samples of the model parameters. For astronomical data analyses, users need to pay attention to loading the data because R's default is to load only seven effective digits; see details below.

Usage

```
drw(data1, data2, data3, data4, data5,
    data6, data7, data8, data9, data10,
   n.datasets, method = "mle",
   bayes.n.burn, bayes.n.sample,
   mu.UNIFprior.range = c(-30, 30),
    tau.IGprior.shape = 1, tau.IGprior.scale = 1,
    sigma2.IGprior.shape = 1, sigma2.IGprior.scale = 1e-7)
```

Arguments

data1

An $(n_1 \text{ by } 3)$ matrix for time series data 1. The first column has n_1 observation times, the second column contains n_1 measurements (magnitudes), the third column includes n_1 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_1 zeros.

data2

Optional if more than one time series data set are available. An $(n_2 \text{ by } 3)$ matrix for time series data 2. The first column has n_2 observation times, the second column contains n_2 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_2 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_2 zeros.

data3

Optional if more than two time series data sets are available. An $(n_3 \text{ by } 3)$ matrix for time series data 3. The first column has n_3 observation times, the second column contains n_3 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_3 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_3

Optional if more than three time series data sets are available. An $(n_4 \text{ by } 3)$ matrix for time series data 4. The first column has n_4 observation times, the second column contains n_4 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_4 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_4 zeros.

data4

data5 Optional if more than four time series data sets are available. An $(n_5 \text{ by } 3)$

matrix for time series data 5. The first column has n_5 observation times, the second column contains n_5 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_5 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_5

zeros.

data6 Optional if more than five time series data sets are available. An $(n_6 \text{ by } 3)$

matrix for time series data 6. The first column has n_6 observation times, the second column contains n_6 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_6 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_6

zeros.

Optional if more than six time series data sets are available. An $(n_7 \text{ by } 3)$ matrix

for time series data 7. The first column has n_7 observation times, the second column contains n_7 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_7 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error

standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_7 zeros.

Optional if more than seven time series data sets are available. An $(n_8 \text{ by } 3)$ matrix for time series data 8. The first column has n_8 observation times, the second column contains n_8 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_8 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement

error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_8

zeros.

data8

data9 Optional if more than eight time series data sets are available. An $(n_9 \text{ by } 3)$

matrix for time series data 9. The first column has n_9 observation times, the second column contains n_9 measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_9 measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_9

zeros.

data10 Optional if more than nine time series data sets are available. An $(n_{10} \text{ by } 3)$

matrix for time series data 10. The first column has n_{10} observation times, the second column contains n_{10} measurements/observations/magnitudes, the third column includes n_{10} measurement error standard deviations. If the measurement error standard deviations are unknown, the third column must be a vector of n_{10} zeros. The current version of package allows up to ten time series data sets. If users have more than ten time series data sets to be modeled simultane-

ously, please contact the authors.

n.datasets The number of time series data sets to be modeled simultaneously. An integer

value inclusively between 1 to 10. For example, if "n.datasets = 3", then users

must enter data1, data2, and data3 as inputs of drw.

method If method = "mle", it returns maximum likelihood estimates of the model pa-

rameters. If method = "bayes" it produces posterior samples of the model pa-

rameters.

bayes.n.burn Required for method = "bayes". The number of warming-up iterations for a

Markov chain Monte Carlo method.

bayes.n.sample Required for method = "bayes". The size of a posterior sample for each param-

eter for a Markov chain Monte Carlo method.

mu.UNIFprior.range

Required for method = "bayes". The range of the Uniform prior on each long-term avaerage μ_j of the process, where j goes from 1 to the total number of time series data sets. The default range is (-30, 30) for astronomical applications.

tau. IGprior. shape

Required for method = "bayes". The shape parameter of the invserse-Gamma prior on each timescale τ_j of the process, where j goes from 1 to the total number of time series data sets. The default shape parameter is one for astronomical applications.

tau.IGprior.scale

Required for method = "bayes". The scale parameter of the invserse-Gamma prior on each timescale τ_j , where j goes from 1 to the total number of time series data sets. The default scale parameter is one for astronomical applications.

sigma2. IGprior. shape

Required for method = "bayes". The shape parameter of the invserse-Gamma prior on each short-term variability (variance) σ_j^2 , where j goes from 1 to the total number of time series data sets. The default shape parameter is one for astronomical applications.

sigma2.IGprior.scale

Required for method = "bayes". The scale parameter of the invserse-Gamma prior on each short-term variability (variance) σ_j^2 , where j goes from 1 to the total number of time series data sets. The default shape parameter is 1e-7 for astronomical applications.

Details

The multivariate damped random walk process $\mathbf{X}(t)$ is defined by the following stochastic differential equation:

$$d\mathbf{X}(t) = -D_{\tau}^{-1}(\mathbf{X}(t) - \mu)dt + D_{\sigma}d\mathbf{B}(t),$$

where $\mathbf{X}(t) = \{X_1(t), \dots, X_k(t)\}$ is a vector of k measurements/observations/magnitudes of the k time series data sets in continuous time $t \in R$, D_{τ} is a $k \times k$ diagonal matrix whose diagonal elements are k timescales with each τ_j representing the timescale of the j-th time series data, $\mu = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k\}$ is a vector for long-term averages of the k time series data sets, D_{σ} is $k \times k$ diagonal matrix whose diagonal elements are short-term variabilities (standard deviation) of k time series data sets, and finally $\mathbf{B}(t) = \{B_1(t), \dots, B_k(t)\}$ is a vector for k standard Brownian motions whose k(k-1)/2 pairwise correlations are modeled by correlation parameters ρ_{jl} $(1 \le j < l \le k)$ such that $dB_j(t)B_l(t) = \rho_{jl}dt$.

We evaluate this continuous-time process at n discrete observation times $\mathbf{t} = \{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$. The observed data $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ are multiple time series data measured at irregularly spaced observation times \mathbf{t} with possibly known measurement error standard deviations, $\delta = \{\delta_1, \dots, \delta_n\}$. Since one or more time series observations can be measured at each observation time t_i , the length of a vector x_i can be different, depending on how many time series observations are available at the i-th observation time. We assume that these observed data \mathbf{x} are realizations of the latent time series data sets $\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{t}) = \{\mathbf{X}(t_1), \dots, \mathbf{X}(t_n)\}$ with Gaussian measurement errors whose variances are δ . This is a typical setting of state-space modeling. We note that if the measurement error variances are unknown, δ must be set to zeros, which means that the observed data directly measure the latent values.

Please note that when astronomical time series data are loaded on R by read.table, read.csv, etc., some decimal places of the the observation times are automatically rounded because R's default is to load seven effective digits. For example, R will load the observation time 51075.412789 as 51075.41. This default will produce many ties in observation times even though there is actually no tie in observation times. To prevent this, please type "options(digits = 11)" before loading the data if the observation times are in seven effective digits.

Value

The outcomes of drw are composed of:

- **mu** The maximum likelihood estimate(s) of the long-term average(s) if method is "mle", and the posterior sample(s) of the long-term average(s) if method is "bayes". In the former case (mle), it is a vector of length k, where k is the number of time series data sets used. In the later case (bayes), it is an (m by k) matrix where m is the size of the posterior sample.
- **sigma** The maximum likelihood estimate(s) of the short-term variability (standard deviation) parameter(s) if method is "mle", and the posterior sample(s) of the short-term variability parameter(s) if method is "bayes". In the former case (mle), it is a vector of length k, where k is the number of time series data sets used. In the later case (bayes), it is an (m by k) matrix where m is the size of the posterior sample.
- tau The maximum likelihood estimate(s) of the timescale(s) if method is "mle", and the posterior sample(s) of the timescale(s) if method is "bayes". In the former case (mle), it is a vector of length k, where k is the number of time series data sets used. In the later case (bayes), it is an (m by k) matrix where m is the size of the posterior sample.
- **rho** Only when more than one time series data set are used. The maximum likelihood estimate(s) of the (cross-) correlation(s) if method is "mle", and the posterior sample(s) of the (cross-) correlation(s) if method is "bayes". In the former case (mle), it is a vector of length k(k-1)/2, where k is the number of time series data sets used, i.e., $\rho_{12},\ldots,\rho_{1k},\rho_{23},\ldots,\rho_{2k},\ldots,\rho_{k-1,k}$. In the later case (bayes), it is an (m by k(k-1)/2) matrix where m is the size of the posterior sample.
- **mu.accept.rate** Only when method is "bayes". The MCMC acceptance rate(s) of the long-term average parameter(s).
- **sigma.accept.rate** Only when method is "bayes". The MCMC acceptance rate(s) of the short-term variability parameter(s).
- tau.accept.rate Only when method is "bayes". The MCMC acceptance rate(s) of the timescale(s).
- **rho.accept.rate** Only when more than one time series data set are used with method = "bayes". The MCMC acceptance rate(s) of the (cross-) correlation(s).
- **data.comb** The combined data set if more than one time series data set are used, and data1 if only one time series data set is used. This output is only available when method is set to "bayes".

Author(s)

Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak

References

Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak (2020+), "Modeling Stochastic Variability in Multi-Band Time Series Data," arXiv:2005.08049.

Examples

```
######## Fitting a univariate damped random walk process
##### Fitting a univariate damped random walk process based on a simulation
n1 <- 20
# the number of observations in the data set
obs.time1 <- cumsum(rgamma(n1, shape = 3, rate = 1))
# the irregularly-spaced observation times
y1 <- rnorm(n1)
# the measurements/observations/magnitudes
measure.error.SD1 <- rgamma(n1, shape = 0.01)</pre>
# optional measurement error standard deviations,
# which is typically known in astronomical time series data
# if not known in other applications, set them to zeros, i.e.,
# measure.error.SD1 <- rep(0, n1)</pre>
data1 <- cbind(obs.time1, y1, measure.error.SD1)</pre>
# combine the single time series data set into an n by 3 matrix
# Note that when astronomical time series data are loaded on R (e.g., read.table, read.csv),
# the digits of the observation times are typically rounded to seven effective digits.
# That means rounding may occur, which produces ties in observation times even though
# the original observation times are not the same.
# In this case, type the following code before loading the data.
# options(digits = 11)
res1.mle <- drw(data1 = data1, n.datasets = 1, method = "mle")</pre>
# obtain maximum likelihood estimates of the model parameters and
# assign the result to object "res1.mle"
names(res1.mle)
# to see the maximum likelihood estimates,
# type "res1.mle$mu", "res1.mle$sigma", "res1.mle$tau"
res1.bayes <- drw(data1 = data1, n.datasets = 1, method = "bayes",
                  bayes.n.burn = 10, bayes.n.sample = 10)
# obtain 10 posterior samples of each model parameter and
# save the result to object "res1.bayes"
# names(res1.bayes)
# to work on the posterior sample of each parameter, try
# "res1.bayes$mu.accept.rate", "res1.bayes$sigma.accept.rate", "res1.bayes$tau.accept.rate"
# "hist(res1.bayes$mu)", "mean(res1.bayes$mu)", "sd(res1.bayes$mu)",
# "median(log(res1.bayes$sigma, base = 10))",
# "quantile(log(res1.bayes$tau, base = 10), prob = c(0.025, 0.975))"
```

drw.sim 7

```
##### Fitting a multivariate damped random walk process based on simulations
n2 <- 10
# the number of observations in the second data set
obs.time2 <- cumsum(rgamma(n2, shape = 3, rate = 1))
# the irregularly-spaced observation times of the second data set
y2 <- rnorm(n2)
# the measurements/observations/magnitudes of the second data set
measure.error.SD2 <- rgamma(n2, shape = 0.01)</pre>
# optional measurement error standard deviations of the second data set,
# which is typically known in astronomical time series data
# if not known in other applications, set them to zeros, i.e.,
# measure.error.SD2 <- rep(0, n2)</pre>
data2 <- cbind(obs.time2, y2, measure.error.SD2)</pre>
# combine the single time series data set into an n by 3 matrix
res2.mle <- drw(data1 = data1, data2 = data2, n.datasets = 2, method = "mle")
# obtain maximum likelihood estimates of the model parameters and
# assign the result to object "res2.mle"
res2.bayes <- drw(data1 = data1, data2 = data2, n.datasets = 2, method = "bayes",
                  bayes.n.burn = 10, bayes.n.sample = 10)
# obtain 10 posterior samples of each model parameter and
# save the result to object "res2.bayes"
# names(res2.bayes)
# to work on the posterior sample of each parameter, try
# "hist(res2.bayes$mu[, 1])", "colMeans(res2.bayes$mu)", "apply(res2.bayes$mu, 2, sd)",
# "hist(log(res2.bayes$sigma[, 2], base = 10))",
# "apply(log(res2.bayes$sigma, base = 10), 2, median)",
# "apply(log(res2.bayestau, base = 10), 2, quantile, prob = c(0.025, 0.975))"
```

drw.sim

Simulating univariate and multiviarate damped random walk processes

Description

The function drw.sim simulates time series data set(s) following either univariate or multivariate damped random walk process.

8 drw.sim

Usage

```
drw.sim(time, n.datasets, measure.error.SD, mu, sigma, tau, rho)
```

Arguments

time A vector containing observation times. Let us use n to denote the length of this

vector.

n.datasets Any positive integer value that denotes the number of time series data sets to be

simulated. In simulation, there is no upper limit in the number of time series

data sets. Let's use k to denote this number of time series data sets.

measure.error.SD

Optional if measurement error standard deviations are known and available. If one time series data set is simulated, it is a vector of length n containing measurement error standard deviations. If more than one time series data sets are simulated, it is an n by k matrix composed of measurement error standard deviations. If such information is not available, it is automatically set to zeros.

mu A vector of length k, containing the long-term average parameter(s) of the pro-

cess

sigma A vector of length k, containing the short-term variability parameter(s) (standard

deviation) of the process.

tau A vector of length k, containing the timescale parameter(s) of the process.

rho Required if more than one time series data sets are simulated (k > 1). A vector

of length k(k-1)/2, containing the cross-correlation parameters of the process. For example, if k=3, this is a vector composed of ρ_{12} , ρ_{13} , ρ_{23} . If k=5, this

is a vector composed of ρ_{12} , ρ_{13} , ρ_{14} , ρ_{15} , ρ_{23} , ρ_{24} , ρ_{25} , ρ_{34} , ρ_{35} , ρ_{45} .

Details

Given the n observation times and model parameter values (mu, sigma, tau, rho) possibly with known measurement error standard deviations, this function simulates k time series data sets.

Value

The outcome of drw. sim is composed of:

x An n by k matrix composed of k simulated time series data each with length n. That is, each column is corresponding to one simulated time series data set.

Author(s)

Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak

References

Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak (2020+), "Modeling Stochastic Variability in Multi-Band Time Series Data," arXiv:2005.08049.

Rdrw 9

Examples

```
######## Simulating a multivariate damped random walk process
n <- 100
k <- 5
obs.time <- cumsum(rgamma(n, shape = 3, rate = 1))</pre>
tau \leftarrow 100 + 20 * (1 : 5) #rnorm(k, 0, 5)
sigma <- 0.01 * (1 : 5)
\#tau <- c(1 : 5) \#rnorm(k, 0, 5)
#sigma <- 0.05 + 0.007 * (0 : 4) #rnorm(k, 0, 0.002)
mu < -17 + 0.5 * (1 : 5)
rho.m \leftarrow matrix(0, k, k)
for(i in 1 : k) {
  for(j in 1 : k) {
    rho.m[i, j] = 1.1^{-abs(i - j)}
}
rho <- rho.m[upper.tri(rho.m)]</pre>
measure.error.band <- c(0.010, 0.014, 0.018, 0.022, 0.026)
measure.error <- NULL
for(i in 1 : k) {
  measure.error <- cbind(measure.error, rnorm(n, measure.error.band[i], 0.002))</pre>
x \leftarrow drw.sim(time = obs.time, n.datasets = 5, measure.error.SD = measure.error,
             mu = mu, sigma = sigma, tau = tau, rho = rho)
plot(obs.time, x[, 1], xlim = c(min(obs.time), max(obs.time)), ylim = c(17, 20),
     xlab = "time", ylab = "observation")
points(obs.time, x[, 2], col = 2, pch = 2)
points(obs.time, x[, 3], col = 3, pch = 3)
points(obs.time, x[, 4], col = 4, pch = 4)
points(obs.time, x[, 5], col = 5, pch = 5)
\#\#\#\#\#\#\# Simulating a univariate damped random walk process
x \leftarrow drw.sim(time = obs.time, n.datasets = 1, measure.error.SD = measure.error[, 1],
             mu = mu[1], sigma = sigma[1], tau = tau[1])
plot(obs.time, x)
```

10 Rdrw

Description

The R package **Rdrw** provides a toolbox to fit and simulate univariate and multivariate damped random walk processes, possibly with known measurement error standard deviations via state-space representation. The damped random walk process is also known as an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process or a continuous-time auto-regressive model with order one, i.e., CAR(1) or CARMA(1, 0). The package **Rdrw** adopts Kalman-filtering to evaluate the resulting likelihood function of the model parameters, leading to a linear complexity in the number of unique observation times. The package provides two functionalities; (i) it fits the model and returns the maximum likelihood estimates or posterior samples of the model parameters; (ii) it simulates time series data following the univariate or multivariate damped random walk process.

Details

Package: Rdrw
Type: Package
Version: 1.0.2
Date: 2020-9-8
License: GPL-2
Main functions: drw, drw. sim

Author(s)

Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak

References

Zhirui Hu and Hyungsuk Tak (2020+), "Modeling Stochastic Variability in Multi-Band Time Series Data," arXiv:2005.08049.

Index

```
\begin{array}{l} \text{drw, 2, } 10 \\ \text{drw.sim, 7, } 10 \\ \\ \text{Rdrw, 9} \\ \\ \text{Rdrw-package (Rdrw), 9} \end{array}
```