

Package ‘synthesizer’

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Type Package

Title Fast, Robust, and High-Quality Synthetic Data Generation with a
Tuneable Privacy-Utility Trade-Off

Version 0.5.0

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Description Synthesize numeric, categorical, mixed and time series data. Data
circumstances including mixed (or zero-inflated) distributions and missing
data patterns are reproduced in the synthetic data. A single parameter allows
balancing between high-quality synthetic data that represents correlations of
the original data and lower quality but more privacy safe synthetic data
without correlations. Tuning can be done per variable or for the whole
dataset.

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URL <https://github.com/markvanderloo/synthesizer>

Imports stats

VignetteBuilder simplermardown

Depends R (>= 3.5.0)

Suggests tinytest, simplermardown

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

NeedsCompilation no

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make_synthesizer	Create a function that generates synthetic data
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Description

Create a function that accepts a non-negative integer *n*, and that returns synthetic data sampled from the empirical (multivariate) distribution of *x*.

Usage

```
make_synthesizer(x, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'numeric'  
make_synthesizer(x, na.rm = FALSE, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'integer'  
make_synthesizer(x, na.rm = FALSE, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'logical'  
make_synthesizer(x, na.rm = FALSE, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'factor'  
make_synthesizer(x, na.rm = FALSE, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'character'  
make_synthesizer(x, na.rm = FALSE, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'ts'  
make_synthesizer(x, ...)  
  
## S3 method for class 'data.frame'  
make_synthesizer(x, na.rm = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

<i>x</i>	[vector data.frame] Template data to be synthesized.
<i>...</i>	arguments passed to other methods
<i>na.rm</i>	[logical] Remove missing values before creating a synthesizer

Value

A function accepting a single integer argument: the number of synthesized values or records to return. For objects of class *ts* *n* must be equal to the length of the original data (this is set as the default).

See Also

Other synthesis: [synthesize\(\)](#)

Examples

```
synth <- make_synthesizer(cars$speed)
synth(10)
```

```
synth <- make_synthesizer(iris)
synth(6)
synth(150)
synth(250)
```

synthesize

Create synthetic version of a dataset

Description

Create n values or records based on the empirical (multivariate) distribution of y . For data frames it is possible to decorrelate synthetic from the original variables by lowering the value for the `rankcor` parameter.

Usage

```
synthesize(x, na.rm = FALSE, n = NROW(x), rankcor = 1)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	[vector data.frame] data to synthesize.
<code>na.rm</code>	[logical] Remove missing values before creating a synthesizer. Set to TRUE to avoid synthesizing missing values.
<code>n</code>	[integer] Number of values or records to synthesize.
<code>rankcor</code>	[numeric] in $[0, 1]$. Either a single rank correlation value that is applied to all variables, or a vector of the form <code>c(variable1=utility1, ...)</code> . Variables not explicitly mentioned will have <code>rankcor=1</code> . See also the note below. Ignored for all types of <code>x</code> , except for objects of class <code>data.frame</code> .

Value

A data object of the same type and structure as `x`.

Note

The utility of a synthetic variable is lowered by decorrelating the rank correlation between the real and synthetic data. If `rankcor=1`, the synthetic data will be ordered such that it has the same rank order as the original data. If `rankcor=0`, no such reordering will take place. For values between 0 and 1, blocks of data are randomly selected and randomly permuted iteratively until the rank correlation between original and synthetic data drops below the parameter.

See Also

Other synthesis: [make_synthesizer\(\)](#)

Examples

```
synthesize(cars$speed,10)
synthesize(cars)
synthesize(cars,25)

s1 <- synthesize(iris, rankcor=1)
s2 <- synthesize(iris, rankcor=0.5)
s3 <- synthesize(iris, rankcor=c("Species"=0.5))

oldpar <- par(mfrow=c(2,2), pch=16, las=1)
plot(Sepal.Length ~ Sepal.Width, data=iris, col=iris$Species, main="Iris")
plot(Sepal.Length ~ Sepal.Width, data=s1, col=s1$Species, main="Synthetic Iris")
plot(Sepal.Length ~ Sepal.Width, data=s2, col=s2$Species, main="Low utility Iris")
plot(Sepal.Length ~ Sepal.Width, data=s3, col=s3$Species, main="Low utility Species")
par(oldpar)
```

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