

# Package ‘VLTimeCausality’

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**Title** Variable-Lag Time Series Causality Inference Framework

**Version** 0.1.0

**Description** A framework to infer causality on a pair of time series of real numbers based on variable-lag Granger causality and transfer entropy. Typically, Granger causality and transfer entropy have an assumption of a fixed and constant time delay between the cause and effect. However, for a non-stationary time series, this assumption is not true. For example, considering two time series of velocity of person A and person B where B follows A. At some time, B stops tying his shoes, then running to catch up A. The fixed-lag assumption is not true in this case. We propose a framework that allows variable-lags between cause and effect in Granger causality and transfer entropy to allow them to deal with variable-lag non-stationary time series. Please see Chainarong Amornbunchornvej, Elena Zhelleva, and Tanya Berger-Wolf (2019) <arXiv:1912.10829> when referring to this package in publications.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://github.com/DarkEyes/VLTimeSeriesCausality>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/DarkEyes/VLTimeSeriesCausality/issues>

**Language** en-US

**Encoding** UTF-8

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**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0),  
dtw,  
tseries,  
RTransferEntropy

**Imports** ggplot2 (>= 3.0)

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 7.0.0

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checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries  
*checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries*

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## Description

checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries is a support function that can compare two adjacency matrices: groundtruth and inferred matrices. It re

## Usage

```
checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries(trueAdjMat, adjMat)
```

## Arguments

trueAdjMat      a groundtruth matrix.  
adjMat            an inferred matrix.

## Value

This function returns a list of precision prec, recall rec, and F1 score F1 of inferred vs. groundtruth matrices.

## Examples

```
# Generate simulation data
G<-matrix(FALSE,10,10) # groundtruth
G[1,c(4,7,8,10)]<-TRUE
G[2,c(5,7,9,10)]<-TRUE
G[3,c(6,8,9,10)]<-TRUE
TS <- MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries()
out<-multipleVLGrangerFunc(TS)
checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries(trueAdjMat=G,adjMat=out$adjMat)
```

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followingRelation	<i>followingRelation</i>
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### Description

followingRelation is a function that infers whether Y follows X.

### Usage

```
followingRelation(Y, X, timeLagWindow, lagWindow = 0.2)
```

### Arguments

Y	is a numerical time series of a follower
X	is a numerical time series of a leader
timeLagWindow	is a maximum possible time delay in the term of time steps.
lagWindow	is a maximum possible time delay in the term of percentage of length(X). If timeLagWindow is missing, then timeLagWindow=ceiling(lagWindow*length(X)). The default is 0.2.

### Value

This function returns a list of following relation variables below.

follVal	is a following-relation value s.t. if follVal is positive, then Y follows X. If follVal is negative, then X follows Y. Otherwise, if follVal is zero, there is no following relation between X,Y.
nX	is a time series that is rearranged from X by applying the lags optIndexVec in order to imitate Y.
optDelay	is the optimal time delay inferred by cross-correlation of X,Y. It is positive if Y is simply just a time-shift of X (e.g. $Y[t]=X[t-\text{optDelay}]$ ).
optCor	is the optimal correlation of $Y[t]=X[t-\text{optDelay}]$ for all t.
optIndexVec	is a time series of optimal warping-path from DTW that is corrected by cross correlation. It is approximately that $Y[t]=X[\text{optIndexVec}[t]]$ .
VLval	is a percentage of elements in optIndexVec that is not equal to optDelay.
ccfout	is an output object of ccf function.

### Examples

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-followingRelation(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

---

GrangerFunc

*GrangerFunc*


---

### Description

GrangerFunc is a Granger Causality function. It tests whether X Granger-causes Y.

### Usage

```
GrangerFunc(
  Y,
  X,
  maxLag = 1,
  alpha = 0.05,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  gamma = 0.5,
  family = gaussian
)
```

### Arguments

Y	is a numerical time series of effect
X	is a numerical time series of cause
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is 1.
alpha	is a significance level of F-test to determine whether X Granger-causes Y. The default is 0.05.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
gamma	is a parameter to determine whether X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio.
family	is a parameter of family of function for Generalized Linear Models function (glm). The default is gaussian.

### Value

This function returns of whether X Granger-causes Y.

ftest	F-statistic of Granger causality.
p.val	A p-value from F-test.
BIC_H0	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y past.
BIC_H1	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y,X past.
XgCsY	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio where BICDiffRatio $\geq$ gamma.
XgCsY_ftest	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using F-test where p.val $\geq$ alpha.
XgCsY_BIC	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC where BIC_H0 $\geq$ BIC_H1.

maxLag	A maximum possible time delay.
H0	glm object of Y regressing on Y past.
H1	glm object of Y regressing on Y,X past.
BICDiffRatio	Bayesian Information Criterion difference ratio: $(\text{BIC\_H0}-\text{BIC\_H1})/\text{BIC\_H0}$ .

### Examples

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-GrangerFunc(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

---

MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries

*MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries*

---

### Description

MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries is a support function for generating a set of time series  $\text{TS}[,1], \dots, \text{TS}[,10]$ .  $\text{TS}[,1], \text{TS}[,2], \text{TS}[,3]$  are causes X time series that are generated independently. The rest of time series are Y time series that are effects of some causes  $\text{TS}[,1], \text{TS}[,2], \text{TS}[,3]$ .  $\text{TS}[,1]$  causes  $\text{TS}[,4], \text{TS}[,7], \text{TS}[,8]$ , and  $\text{TS}[,10]$ .  $\text{TS}[,2]$  causes  $\text{TS}[,5], \text{TS}[,7], \text{TS}[,9]$ , and  $\text{TS}[,10]$ .  $\text{TS}[,3]$  causes  $\text{TS}[,6], \text{TS}[,8], \text{TS}[,9]$ , and  $\text{TS}[,10]$ .

### Usage

```
MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries(
  n = 200,
  lag = 5,
  YstFixInx = 111,
  YfnFixInx = 150,
  XpointFixInx = 100,
  arimaFlag = TRUE
)
```

### Arguments

n	is length of time series.
lag	is a time lag between X and Y s.t. $Y[t]$ is approximately $X[t-\text{lag}]$ .
YstFixInx	is the starting point of variable lag part.
YfnFixInx	is the end point of variable lag part.
XpointFixInx	is a point in X s.t. $Y[\text{YstFixInx}:\text{YfnFixInx}] = X[\text{XpointFixInx}]$ .
arimaFlag	is ARMA model flag. If it is true, then X is generated by ARMA model. If it is false, then X is generated by sampling of the standard normal distribution.

### Value

This function returns a list of time series TS.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries()
```

---

```
multipleVLGrangerFunc  multipleVLGrangerFunc
```

---

**Description**

multipleVLGrangerFunc is a function that infers Variable-lag Granger Causality of all pairwise of  $m$  time series  $TS[1,1], \dots, TS[m,m]$ .

**Usage**

```
multipleVLGrangerFunc(
  TS,
  maxLag,
  alpha = 0.05,
  gamma = 0.3,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  causalFlag = 0,
  VLflag = TRUE,
  family = gaussian
)
```

**Arguments**

TS	is a numerical time series of effect where $TS[t,k]$ is an element at time $t$ of $k$ th time series.
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is $0.2 * \text{length}(Y)$ .
alpha	is a significance level of F-test to determine whether X Granger-causes Y. The default is 0.05.
gamma	is a parameter to determine whether X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio. The default is 0.3.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
causalFlag	is a choice of criterion for inferring causality: causalFlag=0 for BIC difference ratio, causalFlag=1 for f-test, or causalFlag=2 for BIC.
VLflag	is a flag of Granger causality choice: either VLflag=TRUE for VL-Granger or VLflag=FALSE for Granger causality.
family	is a parameter of family of function for Generalized Linear Models function (glm). The default is gaussian.

**Value**

This function returns of a list of an adjacency matrix of causality where  $\text{adjMat}[i,j]$  is true if  $TS[i]$  causes  $TS[j]$ .

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-multipleVLGrangerFunc(TS)
```

---

```
multipleVLTransferEntropy
      multipleVLTransferEntropy
```

---

**Description**

multipleVLTransferEntropy is a function that infers Variable-lag Transfer Entropy of all pairwise of m time series  $TS[1], \dots, TS[m]$ .

**Usage**

```
multipleVLTransferEntropy(
  TS,
  maxLag,
  nboot = 0,
  lx = 1,
  ly = 1,
  VLflag = TRUE,
  autoLagflag = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

TS	is a numerical time series of effect where $TS[t,k]$ is an element at time t of kth time series.
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is $0.2 * \text{length}(Y)$ .
nboot	is a number of times of bootstrapping for <code>RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy()</code> function.
lx, ly	are lag parameters of <code>RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy()</code> .
VLflag	is a flag of Granger causality choice: either <code>VLflag=TRUE</code> for VL-Granger or <code>VLflag=FALSE</code> for Granger causality.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.

**Value**

This function returns of a list of an adjacency matrix of causality where  $\text{adjMat}[i,j]$  is true if  $TS[i]$  causes  $TS[j]$ .

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
out1<-SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
TS<-cbind(out1$X,out1$Y)
# Run the function
out2<-multipleVLTransferEntropy(TS,maxLag=1)
```

---

plotTimeSeries	<i>plotTimeSeries</i>
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**Description**

plotTimeSeries is a function for visualizing time series

**Usage**

```
plotTimeSeries(X, Y, strTitle = "Time Series Plot", TSnames)
```

**Arguments**

X	is a 1st numerical time series
Y	is a 2nd numerical time series. If it is not supplied, the function plots only X.
strTitle	is a string of the plot title
TSnames	is a list of legend of X,Y where TSnames[1] is a legend of X and TSnames[2] is a legend of Y.

**Value**

This function returns an object of ggplot class.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
plotTimeSeries(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```



---

SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries

*SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries*


---

## Description

SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries is a support function for generating time series X,Y where X VL-Granger-causes Y.

## Usage

```
SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries(
  n = 200,
  lag = 5,
  YstFixInx = 110,
  YfnFixInx = 170,
  XpointFixInx = 100,
  arimaFlag = TRUE
)
```

## Arguments

n	is length of time series.
lag	is a time lag between X and Y s.t. $Y[t]$ is approximately $X[t-lag]$ .
YstFixInx	is the starting point of variable lag part.
YfnFixInx	is the end point of variable lag part.
XpointFixInx	is a point in X s.t. $Y[YstFixInx:YfnFixInx] = X[XpointFixInx]$ .
arimaFlag	is ARMA model flag. If it is true, then X is generated by ARMA model. If it is false, then X is generated by sampling of the standard normal distribution.

## Value

This function returns a list of time series X,Y where X VL-Granger-causes Y.

## Examples

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
```

---

VLGrangerFunc

*VLGrangerFunc*


---

## Description

VLGrangerFunc is a Variable-lag Granger Causality function. It tests whether X VL-Granger-causes Y.

## Usage

```
VLGrangerFunc(
  Y,
  X,
  alpha = 0.05,
  maxLag,
  gamma = 0.5,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  family = gaussian
)
```

## Arguments

Y	is a numerical time series of effect
X	is a numerical time series of cause
alpha	is a significance level of f-test to determine whether X Granger-causes Y. The default is 0.05.
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is 0.2*length(Y).
gamma	is a parameter to determine whether X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio. The default is 0.5.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
family	is a parameter of family of function for Generalized Linear Models function (glm). The default is gaussian.

## Value

This function returns of whether X Granger-causes Y.

ftest	F-statistic of Granger causality.
p.val	A p-value from F-test.
BIC_H0	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y past.
BIC_H1	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y,X past.
XgCsY	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio where BICDiffRatio $\geq$ gamma.
XgCsY_ftest	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using f-test where p.val $\geq$ alpha.
XgCsY_BIC	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC where BIC_H0 $\geq$ BIC_H1.

maxLag	A maximum possible time delay.
H0	glm object of Y regressing on Y past.
H1	glm object of Y regressing on Y,X past.
folloOut	is a list of variables from function followingRelation.
BICDiffRatio	Bayesian Information Criterion difference ratio: $(BIC\_H0 - BIC\_H1) / BIC\_H0$ .

### Examples

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out <- VLGrangerFunc(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

---

VLTransferEntropy	<i>VLTransferEntropy</i>
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### Description

VLTransferEntropy is a Variable-lag Transfer Entropy function. It tests whether X VL-Transfer-Entropy-causes Y.

### Usage

```
VLTransferEntropy(
  Y,
  X,
  maxLag,
  nboot = 0,
  lx = 1,
  ly = 1,
  VLflag = TRUE,
  autoLagflag = TRUE
)
```

### Arguments

Y	is a numerical time series of effect
X	is a numerical time series of cause
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is $0.2 * \text{length}(Y)$ .
nboot	is a number of times of bootstrapping for RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy() function.
lx, ly	are lag parameters of RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy().
VLflag	is a flag of Transfer Entropy choice: either VLflag=TRUE for VL-Transfer Entropy or VLflag=FALSE for Transfer Entropy.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.

**Value**

This function returns of whether X (VL-)Transfer-Entropy-causes Y.

TEratio	is a Transfer Entropy ratio. If it is greater than one , then X causes Y.
res	is an object of output from RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy()
folloOut	is a list of variables from function followingRelation.
XgCsY_trns	The flag is true if X (VL-)Transfer-Entropy-causes Y using Transfer Entropy ratio ratio where TEratio >1 if X causes Y.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-VLTransferEntropy(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

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