

# Package ‘fbi’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Factor-Based Imputation and FRED-MD Data Set

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**Description** Factor-Based imputation of missing values in panel data and manipulation of the FRED-MD Data Set. It estimates the factor model in the panel data based on the methods in Bai and Ng (2002) <doi:10.1111/1468-0262.00273> and Bai and Ng (2019) <doi:10.1016/j.jeconom.2019.04.021>. It then computes the missing values using the Tall-Wide method (Bai and Ng (2019) <arXiv:1910.06677>) or the Tall-Project method (Bai, Cahan, and Ng (2019), unpublished manuscript). It also facilitates loading, preparing, and interpreting the FRED-MD data set <https://research.stlouisfed.org/econ/mccracken/fred-databases>.

**URL** <https://github.com/cykbennie/fbi>

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**Imports** stats, readr, pracma

**License** GPL-3 + LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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fbi-package

*Factor-Based Imputation and FRED-MD/QD Data Set*

## Description

The fbi package contains functions to estimate factor models and impute missing data based on factor models. It also includes functions to load and prepare the FRED-MD/QD data set.

## Details

See `vignette("factor_fred", package = "fbi")` for an example using the FRED-MD dataset (<https://research.stlouisfed.org/econ/mccracken/fred-databases/>).

## Author(s)

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## References

Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2002), *Determining the number of factors in approximate factor models*. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/1468-0262.00273>

Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2017), *Rank regularized estimation of approximate factor models*. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0304407619300764>

apc

*Factor Model of Balanced Panel Data***Description**

apc estimates the factor model of a given balanced panel data.

**Usage**

```
apc(X, kmax)
```

**Arguments**

X                      a matrix of size T by N.  
 kmax                   integer, indicating the maximum number of factors.

**Value**

a list of elements:

Fhat

Lamhat

Chat

d

d0

ehat

Chat                   euqals Fhat x Lamhat'

**Author(s)**

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Serena Ng <serena.ng@columbia.edu>

Jushan Bai <jushan.bai@columbia.edu>

**References**

Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2002), *Determining the number of factors in approximate factor models*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0262.00273>

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demeanXY	<i>Demean Panel Data</i>
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### Description

demeanXY demeans the panel data.

### Usage

```
demeanXY(X, N, T, N0, T0)
```

### Arguments

X	detaframe or matrix of the original panel data.
N	integer, total number of columns of the panel data.
T	integer, total number of rows of the panel data.
N0	integer, the number of columns in the panel data with full data availability.
T0	integer, the number of rows in the panel data with full data availability.

### Value

a list of elements:

X1	demeaned data
FE	estimated fixed effects matrix

### Author(s)

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 Serena Ng <serena.ng@columbia.edu>  
 Jushan Bai <jushan.bai@columbia.edu>

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describe_md	<i>Describe selected variables in the FRED-MD Data Set</i>
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### Description

describe\_md provides a description of the selected variables in the FRED-MD data set.

### Usage

```
describe_md(varname, name.only = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

varname	string or a vector strings of the format "X1" to "X135".
name.only	logical. If TRUE, return a dataframe with variable names and types of transformation only; if FALSE, return a dataframe with more details.
verbose	logical, indicating whether or not descriptions should be printed.

**Value**

a vector of variable names, or a data frame with detailed descriptions.

**Author(s)**

Yankang (Bennie) Chen <yankang.chen@yale.edu>

**References**

Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2015), *FRED-MD Updated Appendix*. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/Appendix\\_Tables\\_Update.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/Appendix_Tables_Update.pdf)

**Examples**

```
library(fbi)
varnames <- describe_md(c("X32", "X56"), name.only = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
```

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describe_qd	<i>Describe selected variables in the FRED-QD Data Set</i>
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**Description**

describe\_qd provides a description of the selected variables in the FRED-QD data set.

**Usage**

```
describe_qd(varname, name.only = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

varname	string or a vector strings of the format "X1" to "X135".
name.only	logical. If TRUE, return a dataframe with variable names and types of transformation only; if FALSE, return a dataframe with more details.
verbose	logical, indicating whether or not descriptions should be printed.

**Value**

a vector of variable names, or a data frame with detailed descriptions.

**Author(s)**

Yankang (Bennie) Chen <yankang.chen@yale.edu>

**References**

Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2020), *FRED-QD Updated Appendix*. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/FRED-QD\\_appendix.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/FRED-QD_appendix.pdf)

**Examples**

```
library(fbi)
varnames <- describe_qd(c("X32", "X56"), name.only = TRUE, verbose = FALSE)
```

fredmd

*Loading FRED-MD Data Set***Description**

fredmd loads the official FRED-MD data set and provides a few tools to manipulate the data set.

**Usage**

```
fredmd(date_start = NULL, date_end = NULL, transform = TRUE, local = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

date_start	Date or NULL, the start date (included) of the data selection. If NULL, select till the latest data available.
date_end	Date or NULL, the end date (included) of the data selection. If NULL, select up to the earliest data available.
transform	logical, indicating Whether or not the FRED-MD data set should be transformed according to the transformation code.
local	logical, indicating Whether or not the FRED-MD data set should be loaded from the local files or downloaded online

**Value**

a subset of the (transformed) FRED-MD data of class fredmd.

**Author(s)**

Yankang (Bennie) Chen <yankang.chen@yale.edu>

**References**

Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2015), *FRED-MD and FRED-QD: Monthly and Quarterly Databases for Macroeconomic Research*. <https://research.stlouisfed.org/econ/mccracken/fred-databases/>

**Examples**

```
library(fbi)
data <- fredmd(date_start = NULL, date_end = NULL, transform = TRUE, local = FALSE)
```

---

fredmd_description	<i>FRED-MD Data Set Description</i>
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### Description

A description of the FRED-MD data set.

### Usage

```
data(fredmd_description)
```

### Format

A data frame with 135 rows and 9 variables. The variables are as follows:

**id** series ID number

**tcode** code of transformation

**ttype** type of transformation

**fred** variable name used in the FRED-MD data set

**description** description of the series

**gsi** variable name used in the Global Insights Basic Economics Database (GSI)

**gsi:description** description of the series in GSI

**group** group of the series

**edited** logical, indicating if the data has been edited

**varname** "X" + id

### Source

The fredmd\_description data were obtained from Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2015), *FRED-MD Updated Appendix*. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/Appendix\\_Tables\\_Update.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/Appendix_Tables_Update.pdf)

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fredqd	<i>Loading FRED-QD Data Set</i>
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### Description

fredqd loads the official FRED-QD data set and provides a few tools to manipulate the data set.

### Usage

```
fredqd(date_start = NULL, date_end = NULL, transform = TRUE, local = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>date_start</code>	Date or NULL, the start date (included) of the data selection. If NULL, select till the latest data available.
<code>date_end</code>	Date or NULL, the end date (included) of the data selection. If NULL, select up to the earliest data available.
<code>transform</code>	logical, indicating Whether or not the FRED-QD data set should be transformed according to the transformation code.
<code>local</code>	logical, indicating Whether or not the FRED-QD data set should be loaded from the local files or downloaded online

**Value**

a subset of the (transformed) FRED-QD data of class `fredqd`.

**Author(s)**

Yankang (Bennie) Chen <yankang.chen@yale.edu>

**References**

Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2015), *FRED-MD and FRED-QD: Monthly and Quarterly Databases for Macroeconomic Research*. <https://research.stlouisfed.org/econ/mccracken/fred-databases/>

**Examples**

```
library(fbi)
data <- fredqd(date_start = NULL, date_end = NULL, transform = TRUE, local = FALSE)
```

---

<code>fredqd_description</code>	<i>FRED-QD Data Set Description</i>
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**Description**

A description of the FRED-QD data set.

**Usage**

```
data(fredqd_description)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 248 rows and 10 variables. The variables are as follows:

**id** series ID number

**sw\_id** series ID number in SW (2012)

**tcode** code of transformation

**ttype** type of transformation

**sw\_factors** logical, indicating whether a series was used in SW (2012) when constructing factors

**fred\_mnemonic** mnemonic in FRED-QD



**sw\_mnemonic** mnemonic used in SW (2012)

**description** a brief definition of the series

**group** group of the series

**varname** "X" + id

## Source

The fredqd\_description data were obtained from Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2020), *FRED-QD Updated Appendix*. [https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/FRED-QD\\_appendix.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-md/FRED-QD_appendix.pdf)

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removeFE

*Remove Fixed Effects from the Panel Data*

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## Description

removeFE removes fixed effects from the panel data.

## Usage

```
removeFE(X, N, T, N0, T0)
```

## Arguments

X	detaframe or matrix of the original panel data.
N	integer, total number of columns of the panel data.
T	integer, total number of rows of the panel data.
N0	integer, the number of columns in the panel data with full data availability.
T0	integer, the number of rows in the panel data with full data availability.

## Value

a list of elements:

X1	demeaned data
FE	estimated fixed effects matrix

## Author(s)

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res_overlay.tptw	<i>Residual Overlay</i>
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## Description

res\_overlay estimates the covariance and correlation matrix of the unbalanced panel data using the method of residual overlay.

## Usage

```
res_overlay.tptw(object, method = 1, S = 500)
```

## Arguments

object	an object of class 'tptw', i.e. the output of <a href="#">tp_apc</a> or <a href="#">tw_apc</a> .
method	integer 1 to 4, indicating which residual overlay method to use. They correspond to the four methods described in the paper.
S	the number of iterations.

## Value

a list of elements:

method	the method of residual overlay
S	the number of iterations
cov	estimated covariance matrix
cor	estimated correlation matrix

## Author(s)

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 Serena Ng <serena.ng@columbia.edu>  
 Jushan Bai <jushan.bai@columbia.edu>

## References

Cahan, E., Bai, J. and Ng, S. 2019, Factor Based Imputation of Missing Data and Covariance Matrix Estimation. unpublished manuscript, Columbia University

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rm_outliers.fredmd	<i>Remove outliers of the FRED-MD Data Set</i>
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**Description**

rm\_outliers.fredmd removes outliers of the FRED-MD data set produced by the [fredmd](#) function.

**Usage**

```
rm_outliers.fredmd(object)
```

**Arguments**

object                    an object of class [fredmd](#).

**Value**

FRED-MD data of class fredmd with outliers removed.

**Author(s)**

Yankang (Bennie) Chen <yankang.chen@yale.edu>

**References**

Michael W. McCracken and Serena Ng (2015), *FRED-MD and FRED-QD: Monthly and Quarterly Databases for Macroeconomic Research*. <https://research.stlouisfed.org/econ/mccracken/fred-databases/>

**Examples**

```
library(fbi)
data <- fredmd(date_start = NULL, date_end = NULL, transform = TRUE)
newdata <- rm_outliers.fredmd(data)
```

---

rpca	<i>Estimation of Approximate Factor Models</i>
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---

**Description**

rpca estimates the approximate factor models of the given matrix.

**Usage**

```
rpca(X, kmax, standardize = FALSE, tau = 0)
```

**Arguments**

X	a matrix of size T by N.
kmax	integer, indicating the maximum number of factors.
standardize	logical, indicating Whether or not X should be centered and scaled.
tau	numeric, specifying the parameter in the rank-regularized estimation. If $\tau = 0$ , then rank regularization is not used.

**Value**

a list of elements:

X  
 kmax  
 standardize  
 tau  
 ic2  
 pc2k  
 pc20  
 Fhat  
 Lamhat  
 Chat  
 Sigma  
 IC2  
 PC2k  
 PC20  
 fhat  
 lamhat  
 d  
 d0

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**References**

- Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2002), *Determining the number of factors in approximate factor models*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0262.00273>
- Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2019), *Rank regularized estimation of approximate factor models*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeconom.2019.04.021>

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se.rpca	<i>Standard Error of <math>C^{\text{hat}}</math></i>
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---

**Description**

se.rpca produces the estimated standard error of  $C^{\text{hat}}$  produced by the [rpca](#) function.

**Usage**

```
se.rpca(object, xpoints, qq)
```

**Arguments**

object	an object of class <a href="#">rpca</a> .
xpoints	placeholder.
qq	placeholder.

**Value**

standard error of  $C^{\text{hat}}$

**Author(s)**

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**References**

Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2002), *Determining the number of factors in approximate factor models*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0262.00273>  
 Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2017), *Rank regularized estimation of approximate factor models*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeconom.2019.04.021>

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tnt	<i>Estimate Treatment Effect</i>
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---

**Description**

tnt estimates the treatment effect.

**Usage**

```
tnt(data, param)
```

**Arguments**

data	list containing x1, x2, y0, y1, N0, N1, T0, and T1.
param	list containing K, r, do_FE, do_IFE, and maxit1.

**Value**

a list of elements:

est

SE

V

it1

**Author(s)**

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**References**

Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2019), *Matrix Completion, Counterfactuals, and Factor Analysis of Missing Data*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.06677>

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tp\_apc

---

*Tall-Project Imputation of Missing Value in Panel Data*


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**Description**

tp\_apc imputates the missing values in a given panel data using the method of "Tall-Project".

**Usage**

```
tp_apc(X, kmax, center = FALSE, standardize = FALSE, re_estimate = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

X	a matrix of size T by N with missing values.
kmax	integer, indicating the maximum number of factors.
center	logical, indicating whether or not X should be demeaned
standardize	logical, indicating whether or not X should be scaled.
re_estimate	logical, indicating whether or not output factors, 'Fhat', 'Lamhat', and 'Chat', should be re-estimated from the imputed data.

**Value**

a list of elements:

Fhat                estimated F

Lamhat            estimated Lambda

Chat               euqals Fhat x Lamhat'

data               X with missing data imputed

X                   the original data with missing values

kmax	the maximum number of factors
center	logical, indicating whether or not X was demeaned in the algorithm
standardize	logical, indicating whether or not X was scaled in the algorithm
re_estimate	logical, indicating whether or not output factors, 'Fhat', 'Lamhat', and 'Chat', were re-estimated from the imputed data

### Author(s)

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Jushan Bai <jushan.bai@columbia.edu>

### References

Cahan, E., Bai, J. and Ng, S. 2019, Factor Based Imputation of Missing Data and Covariance Matrix Estimation. unpublished manuscript, Columbia University

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tw_apc	<i>Tall-Wide Imputation of Missing Value in Panel Data</i>
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---

### Description

tw\_apc imputates the missing values in a given panel data using the method of "Tall-Wide".

### Usage

```
tw_apc(X, kmax, center = FALSE, standardize = FALSE, re_estimate = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

X	a matrix of size T by N with missing values.
kmax	integer, indicating the maximum number of factors.
center	logical, indicating whether or not X should be demeaned
standardize	logical, indicating whether or not X should be scaled.
re_estimate	logical, indicating whether or not output factors, 'Fhat', 'Lamhat', and 'Chat', should be re-estimated from the imputed data.

### Value

a list of elements:

Fhat	estimated F
Lamhat	estimated Lambda
Chat	euqals Fhat x Lamhat'
data	X with missing data imputed
X	the original data with missing values
kmax	the maximum number of factors
center	logical, indicating whether or not X was demeaned in the algorithm
standardize	logical, indicating whether or not X was scaled in the algorithm
re_estimate	logical, indicating whether or not output factors, 'Fhat', 'Lamhat', and 'Chat', were re-estimated from the imputed data

**Author(s)**

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Jushan Bai <jushan.bai@columbia.edu>

**References**

Jushan Bai and Serena Ng (2019), *Matrix Completion, Counterfactuals, and Factor Analysis of Missing Data*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.06677>



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