## Package 'missRanger'

May 15, 2018

Title	Fast	Imputation	of Missing	Values
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Version 1.0.3

**Description** Alternative implementation of the beautiful 'MissForest' algorithm used to impute mixed-type data sets by chaining tree ensembles, intro-

duced by Stekhoven, D.J. and Buehlmann, P. (2012) <doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btr597>. Under the hood, it uses the lightning fast random jungle package 'ranger'. Between the iterative model fitting, we offer the option of using predictive mean matching. This firstly avoids imputation with values not already present in the original data (like a value 0.3334 in 0-1 coded variable). Secondly, predictive mean matching tries to raise the variance in the resulting conditional distributions to a realistic level. This would allow e.g. to do multiple imputation when repeating the call to missRanger().

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## **R** topics documented:

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Adds Missing Values to a Data Set

#### **Description**

Takes a data frame and replaces randomly part of the values by missing values.

#### Usage

```
generateNA(data, p = 0.1, seed = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

data A data.frame.

p Proportion of missing values to approximately add to each column of data.

seed An integer seed.

#### Value

data with missing values.

#### **Examples**

```
head(generateNA(iris))
```

imputeUnivariate

Univariate Imputation

#### **Description**

Fills missing values of a vector of any type by sampling with replacement from the non-missing values. Requires at least one non-missing value to run.

## Usage

```
imputeUnivariate(x)
```

## Arguments

Χ

A vector of any type possibly containing missing values.

#### Value

A vector of the same length and type as x but without missing values.

## **Examples**

```
imputeUnivariate(c(NA, 0, 1, 0, 1))
imputeUnivariate(c("A", "A", NA))
imputeUnivariate(as.factor(c("A", "A", NA)))
```

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Fast Imputation of Missing Values by Chained Tree Ensembles

#### **Description**

Uses the "ranger" package [1] to do fast missing value imputation by chained tree ensembles, see [2] and [3]. Between the iterative model fitting, it offers the option of predictive mean matching. This firstly avoids imputation with values not present in the original data (like a value 0.3334 in a 0-1 coded variable). Secondly, predictive mean matching tries to raise the variance in the resulting conditional distributions to a realistic level and, as such, allows to do multiple imputation when repeating the call to missRanger(). The iterative chaining stops as soon as maxiter is reached or if the average out-of-bag estimate of performance stops improving. In the latter case, except for the first iteration, the second last (i.e. best) imputed data is returned.

#### Usage

```
missRanger(data, maxiter = 10L, pmm.k = 0L, seed = NULL, verbose = 1, \dots)
```

#### **Arguments**

data	A data.frame or tibble with missing values to impute.
maxiter	Maximum number of chaining iterations.
pmm.k	Number of candidate non-missing values to sample from in the predictive mean matching step. $0$ to avoid this step.
seed	Integer seed to initialize the random generator.
verbose	Controls how much info is printed to screen. 0 to print nothing. 1 (default) to print a "." per iteration and variable, 2 to print the OOB prediction error per iteration and variable (1 minus R-squared for regression).
	Arguments passed to ranger. If the data set is large, better use less trees (e.g. num.trees = 100) and/or a low value of sample.fraction. The following arguments are incompatible: formula, data, write.forest, probability, split.select.weights, dependent.variable.name, and classification.

## Value

An imputed data.frame.

#### References

- [1] Wright, M. N. & Ziegler, A. (2016). ranger: A Fast Implementation of Random Forests for High Dimensional Data in C++ and R. Journal of Statistical Software, in press. http://arxiv.org/abs/1508.04409.
- [2] Stekhoven, D.J. and Buehlmann, P. (2012). 'MissForest nonparametric missing value imputation for mixed-type data', Bioinformatics, 28(1) 2012, 112-118, doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btr597
- [3] Van Buuren, S., Groothuis-Oudshoorn, K. (2011). mice: Multivariate Imputation by Chained Equations in R. Journal of Statistical Software, 45(3), 1-67. http://www.jstatsoft.org/v45/i03/

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#### **Examples**

```
irisWithNA <- generateNA(iris)
irisImputed <- missRanger(irisWithNA, pmm.k = 3, num.trees = 100)
head(irisImputed)
head(irisWithNA)

# With extra trees algorithm
irisImputed_et <- missRanger(irisWithNA, pmm.k = 3, num.trees = 100, splitrule = "extratrees")
head(irisImputed_et)</pre>
```

pmm

Predictive Mean Matching

#### **Description**

This function is used internally only but might help others to implement an efficient way of doing predictive mean matching on top of any prediction based missing value imputation. It works as follows: For each predicted value of a vector xtest, the closest k predicted values of another vector xtrain are identified by k-nearest neighbour. Then, one of those neighbours is randomly picked and its corresponding observed value in ytrain is returned.

#### Usage

```
pmm(xtrain, xtest, ytrain, k = 1L, seed = NULL)
```

#### **Arguments**

xtrain	Vector with predicted values in the training data set.
xtest	Vector with predicted values in the test data set.
ytrain	Vector with observed response in the training data set.
k	Number of nearest neighbours to choose from. Set $k = 0$ if no predictive mean matching is to be done.
seed	Integer random seed.

### Value

Vector with predicted values in the test data set based on predictive mean matching.

## **Examples**

```
 \begin{array}{l} pmm(xtrain=c(0.2,\ 0.2,\ 0.8),\ xtest=0.3,\ ytrain=c(0,\ 0,\ 1),\ k=1)\ \#\ 0 \\ pmm(xtrain=c(0.2,\ 0.2,\ 0.8),\ xtest=0.3,\ ytrain=c(0,\ 0,\ 1),\ k=3)\ \#\ 0 \ or\ 1 \\ pmm(xtrain=c("A",\ "A",\ "B"),\ xtest="B",\ ytrain=c("B",\ "A",\ "B"),\ k=1)\ \#\ B \\ pmm(xtrain=c("A",\ "A",\ "B"),\ xtest="B",\ ytrain=c("B",\ "A",\ "B"),\ k=2)\ \#\ A \ or\ B \\ \end{array}
```

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