The USGSwsQWSR R package

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1 Introduction to USGSwsQWSR package

The USGSwsQWSR package was designed to simplify the process of gathering water quality sample data and unit surrogate data, running a stepwise regression using the USGSwsQW censReg function, and analyzing those results. This vignette will first show a general overview workflow (2), then a more detailed description of the workflow with working examples (3).

2 General Workflow

```
library("USGSwsQWSR")
#Sample data included with package:
DTComplete <- StLouisDT
UV <- StLouisUV
QWcodes <- StLouisQWcodes
siteINFO <- StLouisInfo</pre>
investigateResponse <- "SuspSed"</pre>
transformResponse <- "lognormal"</pre>
DT <- DTComplete[c(investigateResponse,
                    getPredictVariables(names(UV)),
                    "decYear", "sinDY", "cosDY", "datetime")]
DT <- na.omit(DT)
predictVariables <- names(DT) [-which(names(DT))</pre>
                   %in% c(investigateResponse, "datetime", "decYear"))]
#Check predictor variables
predictVariableScatterPlots (DT, investigateResponse)
# Create 'kitchen sink' formula:
kitchenSink <- createFullFormula(DT,investigateResponse)</pre>
#Run stepwise regression with "kitchen sink" as upper bound:
returnPrelim <- prelimModelDev (DT, investigateResponse, kitchenSink,
                                 "BIC", #Other option is "AIC"
                                 transformResponse)
steps <- returnPrelim$steps</pre>
modelResult <- returnPrelim$modelStuff</pre>
modelReturn <- returnPrelim$DT.mod</pre>
# Analyze steps found:
plotSteps (steps, DT, transformResponse)
analyzeSteps (steps, investigateResponse, siteINFO)
# Analyze model produced from stepwise regression:
resultPlots (DT, modelReturn, siteINFO)
resultResidPlots(DT, modelReturn, siteINFO)
```

```
# Create prediction plots
predictionPlot(UV,DT,modelReturn,siteINFO=siteINFO)
```

3 Workflow Details

In this section, we will step through the basic workflow.

3.1 Data Retrieval

Data retrieval is currently supported by web service calls to the National Water Information Service (NWIS). The first step is to get the discrete sample data that the regressions are modeling. In this example, we will look at the St Louis River at Scanlon (USGS site ID 04024000). If we don't know the sample data that is available, we can use the whatQW function to discover that information.

```
library (USGSwsQWSR)
```

```
site <- "04024000"
QWcodes <- whatQW(site, minCount=20)
head (QWcodes)
   parameter_cd startDate
                               endDate count service
25
          00010 1964-10-28 2013-12-30
                                          265
                                                   qw
26
          00020 1974-10-30 2013-12-30
                                          154
                                                   qw
28
          00025 1981-10-20 2013-12-30
                                          135
                                                   qw
32
          00041 2010-10-07 2013-06-11
                                          55
                                                   qw
34
          00055 2010-10-07 2013-04-27
                                           35
                                                   qw
37
          00061 1960-07-28 2013-07-17
                                          310
                                                    qw
```

Most likely, there will be a known set of parameters that are to be modeled. If the parameter codes for these analytes are known, the data from NWIS can be accessed directly with the function importNWISqw. The following example shows the process, and then lists the column names returned in the QW dataframe.

This brings the data in automatically as a 'qw' object. This means that censoring information is embedded within each data point. If any processing needs to be done to the data, it might be easier to import the raw data first, then convert to 'qw' objects with the makeQWObjects function.

Next, the unit value data that will be used as surrogates for the analytes should be retrieved. If the parameters are not known, they can be discovered using the getDataAvailability function, filtering just the "uv" (unit value) data:

Finally, the unit value data can be retrieved with the getMultipleUV function. Because of the potentially large amount of data being returned, the web service call is automatically split into individual parameter codes.

```
UVpCodes <- c("00010","00060","00095","00300","00400","63680")
UV <- getMultipleUV(site, startDate, endDate, UVpCodes)</pre>
```

```
names (UV)

[1] "agency_cd" "site_no" "datetime" "tz_cd"

[5] "Wtemp" "Wtemp_cd" "Flow" "Flow_cd"

[9] "SpecCond" "SpecCond_cd" "DO" "DO_cd"

[13] "pH" "pH_cd" "Turb" "Turb_cd"
```

- 3.2 Data Merging
- 3.3 Data Investigation
- 3.4 Stepwise Regression
- 3.5 Model Analysis

A Getting Started in R

This section describes the options for downloading and installing the dataRetrieval package.

A.1 New to R?

If you are new to R, you will need to first install the latest version of R, which can be found here: http://www.r-project.org/.

There are many options for running and editing R code, one nice environment to learn R is RStudio. RStudio can be downloaded here: http://rstudio.org/. Once R and RStudio are installed, the dataRetrieval package needs to be installed as described in the next section.

At any time, you can get information about any function in R by typing a question mark before the functions name. This will open a file (in RStudio, in the Help window) that describes the function, the required arguments, and provides working examples.

```
library (USGSwsQWSR)
?plotSteps
```

To see the raw code for a particular code, type the name of the function:

```
plotSteps
```

A.2 R User: Installing QWSR

Before installing USGSwsQWSR, the dependent packages must be first be installed:

After installing the package, you need to open the library each time you re-start R. This is done with the simple command:

library (USGSwsQWSR)