cbsots Tutorial

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1 Introduction

Package cbsodataR can be used to retrieve data from the CBS open data interface Most tables are complex multi-dimensional tables, and extracting timeseries with appropriate names will usually require some further R programming. The purpose of cbsots is to take this programming off your hands.

The packages provides the Shiny App "CBS Timeseries Coding" for specifying which portions of the table you want to retrieve and how the names of the individual timeseries (the so-called "timeseries coding") should be constructed, and a separate function get_ts for actually creating the timeseries based on the timeseries coding created with the Shiny App.

The workflow when using package cbsots to retrieve timeseries thus consists of two separate steps:

- 1. Create or modify the timeseries coding for one or more CBS tables with Shiny App "CBS Timeseries Coding". The timeseries coding is stored in an rds file.
- 2. Use function get_ts to retrieve the timeseries, using the timeseries coding read from the rds file created in step 1.

Step 1 (using the Shiny App) is only necessary if you add a new table, or want to modify the timeseries coding for an existing table.

In this tutorial, an example of this approach is presented. You can follow this tutorial step by step.

2 Table 70076ned: consumption households

For this tutorial we will use CBS table 70076ned, that contains the consumption of households in the Netherlands for different kinds of goods and services. The table contains different types of consumption timeseries, such as volume changes, value changes, volume indices and value indices.

The language of this table is Dutch. Package cbsots currently only supports Dutch tables. There are a few English table provided by the CBS open data portal, but the overwhelming majority of the tables are only provided in Dutch. In this tutorial, the timeseries names that we use will also be based on Dutch terminology, because most users of package cbsots are familiar with naming conventions based on the Dutch terminology.

The aim of this tutorial is to retrieve the following six timeseries:

Table 1: Table 1: Names of the timeseries that we want to retrieve from table 70076ned

Name	Dutch Description	English Description
cvi c_divi	Totale consumptie, volume-indexcijfers Consumptie diensten, volume-indexcijfers	Total consumption, volume indices Consumption of services, volume indices
c_govi cwi c_diwi c_gowi	Consumptie goederen, volume-indexcijfers Totale consumptie, waarde-indexcijfers Consumptie diensten, waarde-indexcijfers Consumptie goederen, waarde-indexcijfers	Consumption of goods, volume indices Total consumption, value indices Consumption of services, value indices Consumption of goods, value indices

All indices have base year 2000, so the timeseries have the value 100 in 2000.

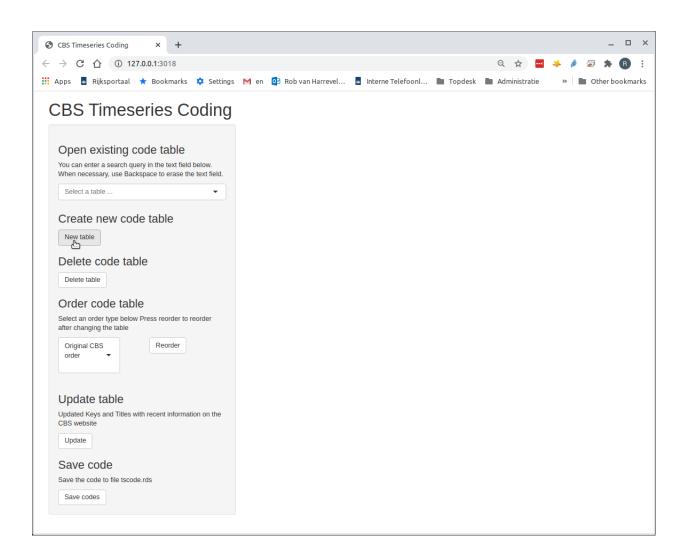
3 Starting the the Shiny App

In the remaining part of this Tutorial, I will show how to obtain these timeseries using cbosts. You can follow all examples step by step. Because the examples will create an rds file with timeseries coding, I recommend you to run the R code from a clean working directory.

The first step is to start the Shiny app with function edit_ts_code:

```
> library(cbsots)
> edit_ts_code("tscode.rds")
```

The first argument ("tscode.rds") specifies the name of the rds file were the timeseries coding is stored. The file should not exist yet at this point. The Shiny App should now open in your internet browser:



4 Creating a new table in the the Shiny App

Since the file "tscode.rds" does not exist yet, there are no existing code tables yet. To create the timseries coding for table 7006ned, press the New table button underneath the text "Create new code table". After a while, a window titled "New table" (see the picture below) appears which allows you to select from the list of available tables. There is some delay between the moment that you press the button and when the Windows appears, because a list of available tables has to be downloaded from the CBS website.

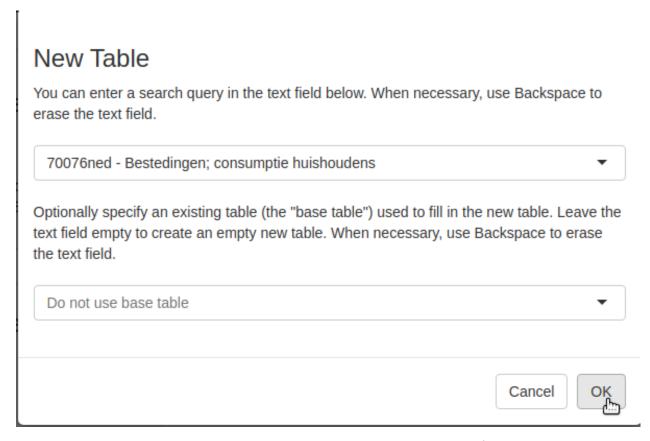
New Table

You can enter a search query in the text field below. When necessary, use Backspace to erase the text field.



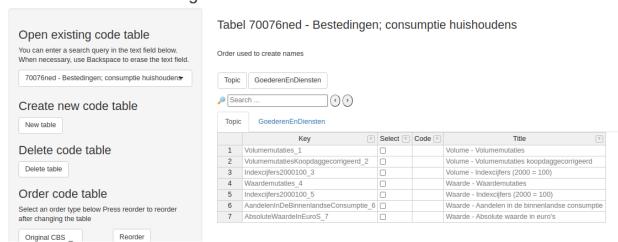
In the drop down list, you can enter a search query, for example "consumptie" (see the picture above). Now a list of table titles containing the word "consumptie" appears. Alternative, you could also have entered the search query "70076" to obtain a list of tables containing "70076" in the title (there is only one such table). From the list, select "70076ned - Bestedingen; consumptie huishoudens". Do not specify the base table in the second drop down list, and press the OK button (see below):

 $^{^{1}}$ The use of the base table will be described in vignette "The CBS Timeseries Coding Shiny App", which unfortunately still has to be written

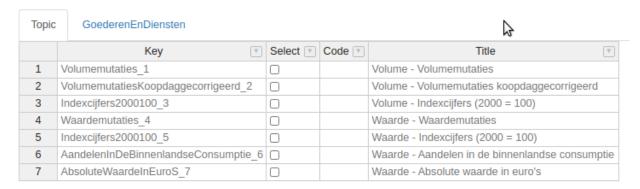


Now information about table "70076ned" will be displayed in the Shiny App (some texts are quite small and may be difficult to read, but below I will zoom in on relevant parts of the Shiny App):

CBS Timeseries Coding



The right panel shows, among others, two tabs containing a table. Let us have a closer look at the table in the selected tab:



CBS table 70076ned contains two dimensions: "Topic" and "GoederenEnDiensten" (Goods and Services), besides the time dimension (years, quarters etc.) that is disregarded in the Shiny App. Every CBS table has a dimension called "Topic", and usually has one or more extra dimensions, such as "GoederenEnDiensten" for this table.

For this particular table, the different "Topics" correspond to different types of consumption timeseries, for example volumemutaties (volume changes), waardemutaties (value changes), and indexcijfers (indices) for both volume and value. Each Topic has a *Key* (a short identifier) and a *Title* (a more detailed description). The *Select* and *Code* columns are the columns that can be modified.

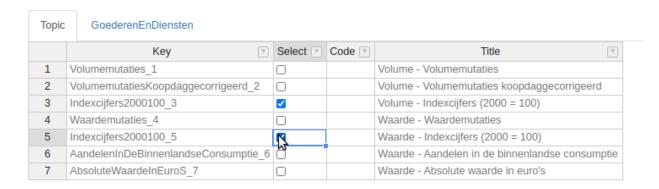
In the next figure upper part of the table for dimension "GoederenEnDiensten" (Goods and Services) is shown. This table is quite long (there are 38 rows), but only the first seven rows are shown. Here find entries for among others, "Consumptie binnenland" (domestic consumption), "Goederen" (Goods), "Voedingsmiddelen" (nourishment), and "Aardappelen, groenten, en fruit" (potatoes, vegatables and fruit).



5 Selecting dimension keys

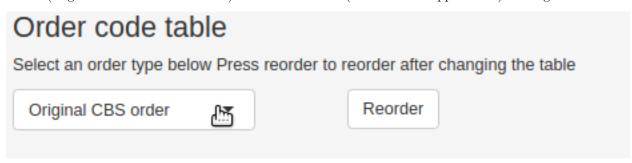
This table contains 7 Topic and 38 entries for dimensions "GoederenEnDiensten", so there are 266 timeseries available for this table. As explained in section 2, we are only interested in a subset of 6 timeseries. The Select columns in the tables for "Topic" and "GoederenEnDiensten" determine which timeseries are downloaded.

We are only interested in volume and value indices, so we start by selecting the corresponding Topics (move the mouse to the square and press the left mouse button):

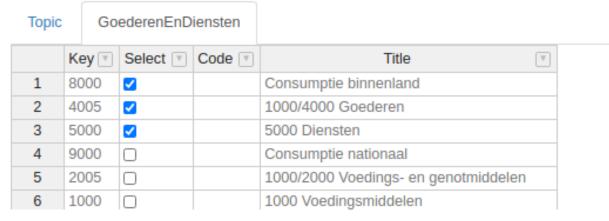


For the dimension "GoederenEnDiensten", select the rows with titles 8000 - Binnenlandse consumtpie (domestic consumption). 4005 - Goederen (Goods) and 5000 - Diensten (Services). To select the last row, scroll down the table.

Because the selected rows are quite far apart in the table, we cannot see at one glance which rows have been selected. It is possible to change the order of the row so that selected rows appear first. On the left panel of the Shiny App, underneath the text "Order code table", you can select the ordering type: "Original CBS order" (original order of selected table) or "Selected first" (selected rows appear first). See figure below:



After changing the order from "Original CBS order" to "Selected first", the result is:



If you select another row, for example the row with Title "2000 - Genotmiddelen", then the ordering does not change immediately. Press the button Reorder to reorder the table again, so that all selected rows appear first in the table.

6 Specifying the Code

The next step is to fill in data for the Code columns. The text in the Code columns are used to create timeseries names. The names of the timeseries are created by pasting the texts in the Code columns for each combination of "Topic" and "Goederen En Diensten".

As explained in Section 2, the names of the timeseries that we want to create should have a prefix based on the type of "GoederenEnDiensten" (Goods and Services): c___ (total consumption), c_go (goods), and c_di (services). We also want suffix vi for volume indices and wi for value indices.

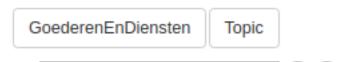
However, by default the text in the code column for "Topic" are the prefixes, and code for the second dimension (here "GoederenEnDiensten") the suffixes.². Which dimension is used for the prefixes and which dimension for the suffixes is determined by the ordering of the buttons above the tabs with dimension table, above the Search text field. See the selection of the Shiny App below:

Order of dimensions used to create names:

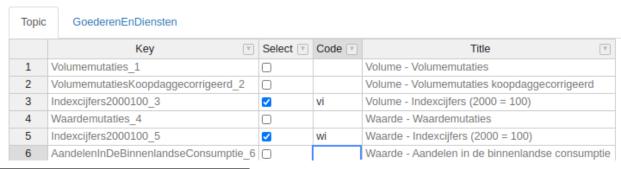


The ordering the these buttons can be changed in the Shiny App: move the mouse cursor to the button Topic, then press the left mouse button and drag it to the right of button Topic. Now you can release the button. As a result you will get:

Order of dimensions used to create names:



Now fill in the Code columns for selected rows:

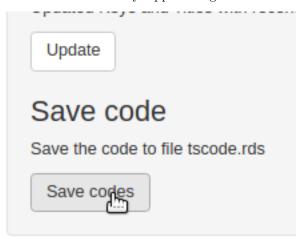


²If a table has more than two dimension, the code for the intermediate dimensions are used as infixes



7 Saving the timeseries coding

The final step is to save the timeseries coding to a file "tscode.rds": press the Save codes buttons on the lower left side of the Shiny App. Changes are not saved automatically. See the figure below):



8 Retrieving timeseries with get_ts

To create the timeseries, first read the timeseries coding created by the Shiny App:

```
> ts_code <- readRDS("tscode.rds")
Then function get_ts can be used to finally create the timeseries:
> data <- get_ts("70076NED", ts_code)

Downloading table 70076ned ...
Filters:
$GoederenEnDiensten
[1] " 8000" " 4005" " 5000"</pre>
```

Retrieving data from table '70076ned'

http://opendata.cbs.nl/ODataFeed/odata/70076ned/TypedDataSet?\$format=json&\$filter=(GoederenEnDiensten%2

Done!

The result is a list with class table_ts, with components "Y" (annual timeseries), "Q" (quarterly timeseries) and "M" (monthly timeseries):

> data

```
table ts object
Frequency Y:
Topleft part of the result (the first 6 rows and 10 columns):
     c___vi c__wi c_divi c_diwi c_govi c_gowi
1995
       80.5
               71.5
                      80.1
                              69.0
                                     80.9
                                             73.9
                                     84.9
1996
       84.1
              76.1
                      83.3
                              73.8
                                             78.3
1997
       87.3
               80.8
                      86.8
                              79.2
                                     87.7
                                             82.5
1998
       91.7
               86.7
                              85.1
                                     92.2
                                             88.2
                      91.1
1999
       96.4
               92.9
                      95.8
                              91.8
                                     97.0
                                             94.1
                                    100.0
2000 100.0 100.0
                     100.0
                            100.0
                                           100.0
Frequency Q:
Topleft part of the result (the first 6 rows and 10 columns):
       c___vi c__wi c_divi c_diwi c_govi c_gowi
1995Q1
         79.9
                 70.5
                        79.5
                                67.9
                                       80.4
                                               73.1
                        80.4
1995Q2
                 71.6
                                69.1
                                       80.6
                                               74.1
         80.5
1995Q3
         79.5
                 70.7
                        80.5
                                69.9
                                       78.5
                                               71.5
1995Q4
         82.1
                 73.1
                        80.1
                                69.3
                                       84.0
                                               76.9
1996Q1
         83.6
                 75.1
                        82.1
                                72.2
                                       85.0
                                               77.9
1996Q2
         83.8
                 76.0
                        83.3
                                73.6
                                       84.3
                                               78.3
Frequency M:
Topleft part of the result (the first 6 rows and 10 columns):
        c___vi c__wi c_divi c_diwi c_govi c_gowi
1995M01
                  71.1
                         78.6
                                 67.3
                                        83.3
                                                74.9
          80.9
1995M02
          76.1
                  66.9
                         79.1
                                 67.6
                                        73.1
                                                66.3
          82.8
                  73.5
                         80.6
                                 68.7
                                        84.9
                                                78.2
1995M03
1995M04
          78.8
                  70.2
                         79.8
                                 68.6
                                        77.9
                                                71.8
1995M05
          80.4
                  71.6
                         80.7
                                 69.3
                                        80.2
                                                73.9
1995M06
          82.3
                  73.1
                         80.8
                                 69.4
                                        83.6
                                                76.8
```

If you are only interested in, for example, annual timeseries, you can specify argument frequencies = "Y". It is also possible to specify the minimum year (argument min_year). More details are provided in the description of function get_ts.

By default, get_ts stores all data downloaded from the CBS in directory raw_cbs_data. The name of the directory can be specified with argument raw_cbs_dir. If you run get_ts a second time, you may notice that the result is much faster, because now the data in directory raw_cbs_data is read:

```
> data <- get_ts("70076NED", ts_code)</pre>
```

By default, get_ts only downloads data from the CBS is there is no data in directory raw_cbs_data, or if you have selected a new key in a dimension for the timeseries coding. This behaviour can be changed by specifying argument refresh = TRUE. In that casr data are always downloaded from the CBS website, so that the data returned by get_ts are always the actual values of the CBS data. There is also argument download: if FALSE, get_ts will never download data. For details, check the documentation of function get_ts.