

Package ‘autoFlagR’

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Type Package

Title AI-Driven Anomaly Detection for Data Quality

Version 1.0.0

Description Automated data quality auditing using unsupervised machine learning.

Provides AI-driven anomaly detection for data quality assessment, primarily designed for Electronic Health Records (EHR) data, with benchmarking capabilities for validation and publication. Methods based on: Liu et al. (2008) <[doi:10.1109/ICDM.2008.17](https://doi.org/10.1109/ICDM.2008.17)>, Breunig et al. (2000) <[doi:10.1145/342009.335388](https://doi.org/10.1145/342009.335388)>.

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URL <https://github.com/vikrant31/autoFlagR>,
<https://vikrant31.github.io/autoFlagR/>

BugReports <https://github.com/vikrant31/autoFlagR/issues>

Encoding UTF-8

Imports isoline, dbSCAN, dplyr, ggplot2, pROC, PRROC, knitr, gt, scales, rmarkdown (≥ 2.0)

Suggests testthat, pkgdown, ggnewscale

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Contents

calculate_benchmark_metrics	2
calculate_feature_importance	2

create_rmd_template	3
extract_benchmark_metrics	4
flag_top_anomalies	5
generate_audit_report	6
get_top_anomalies	7
prep_for_anomaly	8
score_anomaly	9

Index**11****calculate_benchmark_metrics***Calculate Benchmarking Metrics***Description**

Computes AUC-ROC, AUC-PR, and Top-K Recall metrics for evaluating anomaly detection performance against ground truth.

Usage

```
calculate_benchmark_metrics(scores, ground_truth, contamination = 0.05)
```

Arguments

scores	Numeric vector of anomaly scores
ground_truth	Binary vector (0/1) of true anomaly labels
contamination	Expected proportion of anomalies

Value

List of benchmarking metrics

calculate_feature_importance*Calculate Feature Importance for Anomalies***Description**

Calculates which feature contributes most to each record's anomaly score. This provides a "reason code" explaining why each record was flagged as anomalous.

Usage

```
calculate_feature_importance(flagged_data, metadata, top_k = 1, max_cols = 10)
```

Arguments

flagged_data	A data frame with anomaly scores and is_anomaly flags, typically the output of flag_top_anomalies().
metadata	Metadata from prep_for_anomaly(), containing information about numeric and categorical columns.
top_k	Integer indicating how many top contributing features to consider. Default is 1 (returns only the most important feature).
max_cols	Integer indicating maximum number of columns to consider for feature importance. If NULL, uses all columns. Default is 10 for performance.

Value

The input data frame with additional columns:

reason_feature	Name of the feature contributing most to the anomaly
reason_value	The value of that feature for this record
reason_code	A brief description combining feature name and value
reason_deviation	The standardized deviation from the median (for numeric) or frequency (for categorical)

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(
  patient_id = 1:50,
  age = rnorm(50, 50, 15),
  cost = rnorm(50, 10000, 5000)
)
scored_data <- score_anomaly(data, id_cols = "patient_id")
flagged_data <- flag_top_anomalies(scored_data)
metadata <- attr(scored_data, "metadata")
flagged_data <- calculate_feature_importance(flagged_data, metadata)
```

Description

Creates a default R Markdown template for audit reports.

Usage

```
create_rmd_template(template_path, output_format = "pdf")
```

Arguments

- `template_path` Path where the template should be created
- `output_format` Output format ("pdf", "html", or "docx")

Value

No return value, called for side effects. Creates an R Markdown template file at the specified path.

`extract_benchmark_metrics`

Extract Benchmark Metrics from Scored Data

Description

Extracts benchmarking metrics from a data frame that was scored with `score_anomaly()` using ground truth labels.

Usage

```
extract_benchmark_metrics(scored_data)
```

Arguments

- `scored_data` A data frame with anomaly scores, typically the output of `score_anomaly()` with a `ground_truth_col` specified.

Value

A list containing benchmarking metrics, or NULL if no metrics are available.

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(
  patient_id = 1:50,
  age = rnorm(50, 50, 15),
  is_error = sample(c(0, 1), 50, replace = TRUE, prob = c(0.95, 0.05))
)
scored_data <- score_anomaly(data, ground_truth_col = "is_error")
metrics <- extract_benchmark_metrics(scored_data)
print(metrics$auc_roc)
```

flag_top_anomalies *Flag Top Anomalies Based on Score Threshold*

Description

Categorizes records as anomalous or normal based on their anomaly scores, using either a fixed threshold or a contamination rate.

Usage

```
flag_top_anomalies(data_with_scores, threshold = NULL, contamination = 0.05)
```

Arguments

data_with_scores	A data frame containing an <code>anomaly_score</code> column, typically the output of <code>score_anomaly()</code> .
threshold	Numeric value between 0 and 1. Records with <code>anomaly_score >= threshold</code> are flagged as anomalous. If <code>NULL</code> (default), uses the contamination rate from the <code>score_anomaly()</code> attributes.
contamination	Numeric value between 0 and 1. If <code>threshold</code> is <code>NULL</code> , this proportion of records with the highest scores will be flagged. Default is 0.05 (5%).

Value

The input data frame with an additional `is_anomaly` logical column indicating whether each record is flagged as anomalous.

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(  
  patient_id = 1:50,  
  age = rnorm(50, 50, 15),  
  cost = rnorm(50, 10000, 5000)  
)  
scored_data <- score_anomaly(data)  
flagged_data <- flag_top_anomalies(scored_data, contamination = 0.05)
```

`generate_audit_report` *Generate Automated Data Quality Audit Report*

Description

Executes the complete anomaly detection pipeline (preprocessing, scoring, flagging) and generates a professional PDF, HTML, or DOCX report with visualizations and prioritized audit listings.

Usage

```
generate_audit_report(
  data,
  filename = "dq_audit_report",
  output_dir = NULL,
  output_format = "pdf",
  method = "iforest",
  contamination = 0.05,
  top_n = 100,
  id_cols = NULL,
  exclude_cols = NULL,
  ground_truth_col = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	A data frame containing the data to be audited.
<code>filename</code>	Character string for the output file (without extension). Default is "dq_audit_report".
<code>output_dir</code>	Character string specifying the directory for the output file. If <code>NULL</code> (default), uses <code>tempdir()</code> . Users should specify a directory explicitly for production use.
<code>output_format</code>	Character string indicating the output format. Options: "pdf" (default), "html", or "docx" (for editable Word document). Note: PDF format provides the best color rendering for heat map tables. DOCX format is generated by first creating a PDF, then converting to DOCX.
<code>method</code>	Character string indicating the anomaly detection method. Passed to <code>score_anomaly()</code> . Default is "iforest".
<code>contamination</code>	Numeric value between 0 and 1. Passed to <code>score_anomaly()</code> . Default is 0.05.
<code>top_n</code>	Integer indicating the number of top anomalous records to display in the prioritized audit listing. Default is 100.
<code>id_cols</code>	Character vector of column names to exclude from scoring. Passed to <code>prep_for_anomaly()</code> .
<code>exclude_cols</code>	Character vector of additional columns to exclude. Passed to <code>prep_for_anomaly()</code> .
<code>ground_truth_col</code>	Character string naming a column with ground truth labels. If provided, benchmarking metrics will be included in the report.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments passed to <code>score_anomaly()</code> .

Value

Invisibly returns the path to the generated report file.

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(
  patient_id = 1:50,
  age = rnorm(50, 50, 15),
  cost = rnorm(50, 10000, 5000),
  gender = sample(c("M", "F"), 50, replace = TRUE)
)
# Generate HTML report (fastest, no LaTeX/pandoc required)
generate_audit_report(data, filename = "my_audit", output_format = "html",
                      output_dir = tempdir())
```

`get_top_anomalies` *Get Top Anomalous Records*

Description

Convenience function to extract the top N most anomalous records from scored data.

Usage

```
get_top_anomalies(scored_data, n = 100)
```

Arguments

<code>scored_data</code>	A data frame with anomaly scores.
<code>n</code>	Integer indicating the number of top records to return. Default is 100.

Value

A data frame containing the top N most anomalous records, sorted by `anomaly_score` (descending).

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(
  patient_id = 1:50,
  age = rnorm(50, 50, 15),
  cost = rnorm(50, 10000, 5000)
)
scored_data <- score_anomaly(data)
top_10 <- get_top_anomalies(scored_data, n = 10)
```

`prep_for_anomaly` *Prepare Data for Anomaly Detection*

Description

Preprocesses data for unsupervised anomaly detection by handling identifiers, scaling numerical features, and encoding categorical variables.

Usage

```
prep_for_anomaly(
  data,
  id_cols = NULL,
  exclude_cols = NULL,
  scale_method = "mad"
)
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	A data frame containing the data to be preprocessed.
<code>id_cols</code>	Character vector of column names to exclude from scoring (e.g., patient IDs, encounter IDs). If <code>NULL</code> , attempts to auto-detect common ID column patterns.
<code>exclude_cols</code>	Character vector of additional columns to exclude from scoring. Default is <code>NULL</code> .
<code>scale_method</code>	Character string indicating the scaling method for numerical variables. Options: " <code>mad</code> " (Median Absolute Deviation, default), " <code>minmax</code> " (min-max normalization), or " <code>none</code> " (no scaling).

Value

A list containing:

<code>prepared_data</code>	A numeric matrix ready for anomaly detection
<code>metadata</code>	<p>A list with mapping information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>original_data</code>: The original data frame • <code>id_cols</code>: Column names used as identifiers • <code>numeric_cols</code>: Column names of numeric variables • <code>categorical_cols</code>: Column names of categorical variables • <code>excluded_cols</code>: Column names excluded from scoring

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(  
  patient_id = 1:20,  
  age = rnorm(20, 50, 15),  
  cost = rnorm(20, 10000, 5000),  
  gender = sample(c("M", "F"), 20, replace = TRUE)  
)  
prep_result <- prep_for_anomaly(data, id_cols = "patient_id")
```

score_anomaly

Score Anomalies Using Unsupervised Machine Learning

Description

Calculates anomaly scores for each record using Isolation Forest or Local Outlier Factor algorithms. Optionally evaluates performance against ground truth labels for benchmarking.

Usage

```
score_anomaly(  
  data,  
  method = "iforest",  
  contamination = 0.05,  
  ground_truth_col = NULL,  
  id_cols = NULL,  
  exclude_cols = NULL,  
  ...  
)
```

Arguments

data	A data frame containing the data to be scored.
method	Character string indicating the anomaly detection method. Options: "iforest" (Isolation Forest, default) or "lof" (Local Outlier Factor).
contamination	Numeric value between 0 and 1 indicating the expected proportion of anomalies in the data. Default is 0.05 (5%).
ground_truth_col	Character string naming a column in data that contains binary ground truth labels (0/1 or FALSE/TRUE) for known anomalies. If provided, benchmarking metrics will be calculated. Default is NULL.
id_cols	Character vector of column names to exclude from scoring. Passed to <code>prep_for_anomaly()</code> .
exclude_cols	Character vector of additional columns to exclude. Passed to <code>prep_for_anomaly()</code> .
...	Additional arguments passed to the underlying algorithm. For Isolation Forest: <code>ntrees</code> , <code>sample_size</code> , <code>max_depth</code> . For LOF: <code>minPts</code> (number of neighbors; deprecated <code>k</code> is converted to <code>minPts</code>).

Value

A data frame with the original data plus an `anomaly_score` column. If `ground_truth_col` is provided, the result includes an attribute `benchmark_metrics` containing: `auc_roc` (Area Under the ROC Curve), `auc_pr` (Area Under the Precision-Recall Curve), `top_k_recall` (List of recall values for top K records: K = 10, 50, 100, 500), and `contamination_rate` (Actual proportion flagged as anomalous).

Examples

```
data <- data.frame(  
  patient_id = 1:50,  
  age = rnorm(50, 50, 15),  
  cost = rnorm(50, 10000, 5000)  
)  
scored_data <- score_anomaly(data, method = "iforest", contamination = 0.05)
```

Index

calculate_benchmark_metrics, 2
calculate_feature_importance, 2
create_rmd_template, 3

extract_benchmark_metrics, 4

flag_top_anomalies, 5

generate_audit_report, 6
get_top_anomalies, 7

prep_for_anomaly, 8

score_anomaly, 9