

# Package ‘tsensembler’

April 13, 2018

**Title** Dynamic Ensembles for Time Series Forecasting

**Version** 0.0.4

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**Description** A framework for dynamically combining forecasting models for time series forecasting predictive tasks. It leverages machine learning models from other packages to automatically combine expert advice using metalearning and other state-of-the-art forecasting combination approaches. The predictive methods receive a data matrix as input, representing an embedded time series, and return a predictive ensemble model. The ensemble use generic functions 'predict()' and 'forecast()' to forecast future values of the time series. Moreover, an ensemble can be updated using methods, such as 'update\_weights()' or 'update\_base\_models()'. A complete description of the methods can be found in: Cerqueira, V., Torgo, L., Pinto, F., and Soares, C. "Arbitrated Ensemble for Time Series Forecasting." to appear at: Joint European Conference on Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery in Databases. Springer International Publishing, 2017; and Cerqueira, V., Torgo, L., and Soares, C.: "Arbitrated Ensemble for Solar Radiation Forecasting." International Work-Conference on Artificial Neural Networks. Springer, 2017 <doi:10.1007/978-3-319-59153-7\_62>.

**Imports** xts, RcppRoll, methods, ranger, glmnet, earth, kernlab,  
Cubist, nnet, gbm, zoo, pls, forecast, opera, softImpute

**Suggests** testthat

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 6.0.1

**URL** <http://github.com/vcerqueira/tsensembler>

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2018-04-13 20:11:02 UTC

## R topics documented:

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ADE

*Arbitrated Dynamic Ensemble*

### Description

Arbitrated Dynamic Ensemble (ADE) is an ensemble approach for adaptively combining forecasting models. A metalearning strategy is used that specializes base models across the time series. Each meta-learner is specifically designed to model how apt its base counterpart is to make a prediction for a given test example. This is accomplished by analysing how the error incurred by a given learning model relates to the characteristics of the data. At test time, the base-learners are weighted according to their degree of competence in the input observation, estimated by the predictions of the meta-learners.

### Usage

```
ADE(form, data, specs, lambda = 50, omega = 0.5, select_best = FALSE,
     all_models = FALSE, aggregation = "linear", sequential_reweight = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

|       |                                                                                                                           |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| form  | formula;                                                                                                                  |
| data  | data to train the base models                                                                                             |
| specs | object of class <code>model_specs-class</code> . Contains the parameter setting information for training the base models; |

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| lambda              | window size. Number of observations to compute the recent performance of the base models, according to the committee ratio <b>omega</b> . Essentially, the top <i>omega</i> models are selected and weighted at each prediction instance, according to their performance in the last <i>lambda</i> observations. Defaults to 50 according to empirical experiments; |
| omega               | committee ratio size. Essentially, the top <i>omega</i> * 100 percent of models are selected and weighted at each prediction instance, according to their performance in the last <i>lambda</i> observations. Defaults to .5 according to empirical experiments;                                                                                                    |
| select_best         | Logical. If true, at each prediction time, a single base model is picked to make a prediction. The picked model is the one that has the lowest loss prediction from the meta models. Defaults to FALSE;                                                                                                                                                             |
| all_models          | Logical. If true, at each prediction time, all base models are picked to make a prediction. The models are weighted according to their predicted loss and the aggregation function. Defaults to FALSE;                                                                                                                                                              |
| aggregation         | Type of aggregation used to combine the predictions of the base models. The options are:<br><b>softmax</b> default<br><b>erfc</b> the complementary Gaussian error function<br><b>linear</b> a linear scaling                                                                                                                                                       |
| sequential_reweight | Besides ensemble heterogeneity we encourage diversity explicitly during the aggregation of the output of experts. This is achieved by taking into account not only predictions of performance produced by the arbiters, but also the correlation among experts in a recent window of observations.                                                                  |

## References

- Cerqueira, Vitor; Torgo, Luis; Pinto, Fabio; and Soares, Carlos. "Arbitrated Ensemble for Time Series Forecasting" to appear at: Joint European Conference on Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery in Databases. Springer International Publishing, 2017.
- V. Cerqueira, L. Torgo, and C. Soares, "Arbitrated ensemble for solar radiation forecasting," in International Work-Conference on Artificial Neural Networks. Springer, Cham, 2017, pp. 720–732

## See Also

[model\\_specs-class](#) for setting up the ensemble parameters for an **ADE** model; [forecast](#) for the forecasting method that uses an **ADE** model for forecasting future values; [predict](#) for the method that predicts new held out observations; [update\\_weights](#) for the method used to update the weights of an **ADE** model between successive predict or forecast calls; [update\\_ade\\_meta](#) for updating (retraining) the meta models of an **ADE** model; [update\\_base\\_models](#) for the updating (retraining) the base models of an **ADE** ensemble (and respective weights); [ade\\_hat-class](#) for the object that results from predicting with an **ADE** model; and [update\\_ade](#) to update an **ADE** model, combining functions [update\\_base\\_models](#), [update\\_meta\\_ade](#), and [update\\_weights](#).

**Examples**

```

specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_ppr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = list(
    bm_glm = list(alpha = c(0, .5, 1)),
    bm_svr = list(kernel = c("rbfdot", "polydot"),
                  C = c(1, 3)),
    bm_ppr = list(nterms = 4)
  )
)

data("water_consumption")
train <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
train <- train[1:300, ] # toy size for checks

model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

```

---

base\_ensemble

*base\_ensemble*


---

**Description**

**base\_ensemble** is a S4 class that contains the base models comprising the ensemble. Besides the base learning algorithms – `base_models` – `base_ensemble` class contains information about other meta-data used to compute predictions for new upcoming data.

**Usage**

```
base_ensemble(base_models, pre_weights, form, colnames)
```

**Arguments**

|                          |                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>base_models</code> | a list comprising the base models;                                                                     |
| <code>pre_weights</code> | normalized relative weights of the base learners according to their performance on the available data; |
| <code>form</code>        | formula;                                                                                               |
| <code>colnames</code>    | names of the columns of the data used to train the <b>base_models</b> ;                                |

---

build\_base\_ensemble    *Wrapper for creating an ensemble*

---

### Description

Using the parameter specifications from `model_specs-class`, this function trains a set of regression models.

### Usage

```
build_base_ensemble(form, data, specs)
```

### Arguments

|       |                                                                                                                               |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| form  | formula;                                                                                                                      |
| data  | data.frame for training the predictive models;                                                                                |
| specs | object of class <code>model_specs-class</code> . Contains the information about the parameter setting of the models to train. |

### Value

An S4 class with the following slots: **base\_models**, a list containing the trained models; **pre\_weights**, a numeric vector describing the weights of the base models according to their performance in the training data; and **colnames**, the column names of the data, used for reference.

### Examples

```
data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
specs <- model_specs(c("bm_ppr", "bm_svr"), NULL)
M <- build_base_ensemble(target ~., dataset, specs)
```

---

build\_committee\_set    *Build committee set*

---

### Description

A function for creating the committee set without the final training of the models.

### Usage

```
build_committee_set(form, data, specs, lambda, alpha, depth = NULL,
  aggregate_subsets, aggregate_hypos)
```

**Arguments**

|                   |                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| form              | formula                                                                                                                   |
| data              | training data                                                                                                             |
| specs             | object of class <code>model_specs-class</code> . Contains the parameter setting information for training the base models; |
| lambda            | smoothing window size                                                                                                     |
| alpha             | contiguity interval size                                                                                                  |
| depth             | depth size how large is the maximum size of the subsets. If NULL, defaults to no. of predictors minus one.                |
| aggregate_subsets | aggregation approach for the set of subsets.                                                                              |
| aggregate_hypos   | final aggregation approach. How should the combined opinions be aggregated.                                               |

---

constructive\_aggregation

*Constructive aggregation constructor*

---

**Description**

Constructive aggregation via out-performance contiguity This method denotes the idea of rearranging a portfolio of models (**base\_ensemble**) into different overlapping subsets. These subsets are aggregated (**aggregate\_subsets**) into combined opinions, forming new models. These models are combined into a final decision through **aggregate\_hypos**.

**Usage**

```
constructive_aggregation(form, data, specs, lambda = 100, alpha = 30,
  depth = NULL, aggregate_subsets = "simple", aggregate_hypos = "simple")
```

**Arguments**

|                   |                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| form              | formula                                                                                                                   |
| data              | training data                                                                                                             |
| specs             | object of class <code>model_specs-class</code> . Contains the parameter setting information for training the base models; |
| lambda            | smoothing window size                                                                                                     |
| alpha             | contiguity interval size                                                                                                  |
| depth             | depth size how large is the maximum size of the subsets. If NULL, defaults to no. of predictors minus one.                |
| aggregate_subsets | aggregation approach for the set of subsets.                                                                              |
| aggregate_hypos   | final aggregation approach. How should the combined opinions be aggregated.                                               |

## Examples

```

specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_ppr", "bm_svr", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = list(
    bm_glm = list(alpha = c(0, .5, 1)),
    bm_svr = list(kernel = c("rbfdot", "polydot"),
                  C = c(1, 3)),
    bm_ppr = list(nterms = 4)
  )
)

data("water_consumption")
waterc <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
train <- waterc[1:300, ] # toy size for checks
test <- waterc[301:320, ] # toy size for checks

model <- constructive_aggregation(target ~., train, specs, 10,5,NULL,"window_loss","simple")
preds <- predict(model, test)

```

## Description

A Dynamic Ensemble for Time Series (DETS). The DETS ensemble method we present settles on individually pre-trained models which are dynamically combined at run-time to make a prediction. The combination rule is reactive to changes in the environment, rendering an online combined model. The main properties of the ensemble are:

- heterogeneity** Heterogeneous ensembles are those comprised of different types of base learners. By employing models that follow different learning strategies, use different features and/or data observations we expect that individual learners will disagree with each other, introducing a natural diversity into the ensemble that helps in handling different dynamic regimes in a time series forecasting setting;
- responsiveness** We promote greater responsiveness of heterogeneous ensembles in time series tasks by making the aggregation of their members' predictions time-dependent. By tracking the loss of each learner over time, we weigh the predictions of individual learners according to their recent performance using a non-linear function. This strategy may be advantageous for better detecting regime changes and also to quickly adapt the ensemble to new regimes.

## Usage

```
DETS(form, data, specs, lambda = 50, omega = 0.5, select_best = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| form        | formula;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| data        | data frame to train the base models;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| specs       | object of class <code>model_specs-class</code> . Contains the parameter setting information for training the base models;                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| lambda      | window size. Number of observations to compute the recent performance of the base models, according to the committee ratio <b>omega</b> . Essentially, the top <i>omega</i> models are selected and weighted at each prediction instance, according to their performance in the last <i>lambda</i> observations. Defaults to 50 according to empirical experiments; |
| omega       | committee ratio size. Essentially, the top <i>omega</i> models are selected and weighted at each prediction instance, according to their performance in the last <i>lambda</i> observations. Defaults to .5 according to empirical experiments;                                                                                                                     |
| select_best | Logical. If true, at each prediction time, a single base model is picked to make a prediction. The picked model is the one that has the lowest loss prediction from the meta models. Defaults to FALSE;                                                                                                                                                             |

**References**

Cerqueira, Vitor; Torgo, Luis; Oliveira, Mariana, and Bernhard Pfahringer. "Dynamic and Heterogeneous Ensembles for Time Series Forecasting." Data Science and Advanced Analytics (DSAA), 2017 IEEE International Conference on. IEEE, 2017.

**See Also**

`model_specs-class` for setting up the ensemble parameters for an **DETS** model; `forecast` for the method that uses an **DETS** model for forecasting future values; `predict` for the method that predicts new held out observations; `update_weights` for the method used to update the weights of an **DETS** model between successive predict or forecast calls; `update_base_models` for the updating (retraining) the base models of an **DETS** ensemble (and respective weights); and `dets_hat-class` for the object that results from predicting with an **DETS** model.

**Examples**

```
specs <- model_specs(
  c("bm_ppr", "bm_svr"),
  list(bm_ppr = list(nterms = c(2, 4)),
       bm_svr = list(kernel = c("vanilladot", "polydot"), C = c(1,5)))
)

data("water_consumption");
train <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5);

model <- DETS(target ~., train, specs, lambda = 30, omega = .2)
```



---

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| embed_timeseries | <i>Embedding a Time Series</i> |
|------------------|--------------------------------|

---

## Description

This function embeds a time series into an Euclidean space. This implementation is based on the function `embed` of **stats** package and has theoretical background on reconstruction of attractors (see Takens, 1981). This shape transformation of the series allows for the use of any regression tool available to learn the time series. The assumption is that there are no long-term dependencies in the data.

## Usage

```
embed_timeseries(timeseries, embedding.dimension)
```

## Arguments

`timeseries` a time series of class `"xts"`.  
`embedding.dimension`  
an integer specifying the embedding dimension.

## Value

An embedded time series

## See Also

[embed](#) for the details of the embedding procedure.

## Examples

```
## Not run:  
require(xts)  
ts <- as.xts(rnorm(100L), order.by = Sys.Date() + rnorm(100L))  
embedded.ts <- embed.timeseries(ts, 20L)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

---

 forecast

*Forecasting using an ensemble predictive model*


---

### Description

Generic function for forecasting future values of a time series from an [ADE-class](#) model or a [DETS-class](#) model.

### Usage

```
forecast(object, h)

## S4 method for signature 'ADE'
forecast(object, h)

## S4 method for signature 'DETS'
forecast(object, h)
```

### Arguments

`object` predictive model object. A [ADE-class](#) or a [DETS-class](#) ensemble object;  
`h` steps to forecast

### Note

the `forecast` generic in **tsenssembler** assumes that the data is purely auto-regressive (no external variables), and that the target variable is the first column of the data provided. For a different data setup, the `predict` methods ([predict](#)) can be used (with successive calls with updates for multi-step forecasting).

### See Also

[predict](#) for the predict method; [update\\_weights](#) for updating the weights of a model after forecasting; [update\\_base\\_models](#) for updating the base models of an ensemble.

### Examples

```
specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_svr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = NULL
)

data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
train <- dataset[1:500, ]

model <- DETS(target ~., train, specs)
model2 <- ADE(target ~., train, specs, lambda = 30)
```

```
next_vals_dets <- forecast(model, h = 2)
next_vals_ade <- forecast(model2, h = 2)
```

---

learning\_base\_models    *Training the base models of an ensemble*

---

### Description

This function uses *train* to build a set of predictive models, according to *specs*

### Usage

```
learning_base_models(train, form, specs)
```

### Arguments

|       |                                                   |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------|
| train | training set to build the predictive models;      |
| form  | formula;                                          |
| specs | object of class <a href="#">model_specs-class</a> |

### Value

A series of predictive models (*base\_model*), and the weights of the models computed in the training data (*preweights*).

### See Also

[build\\_base\\_ensemble](#).

### Examples

```
data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
specs <- model_specs(c("bm_ppr", "bm_svr"), NULL)
M <- build_base_ensemble(target ~., dataset, specs)
```

---

 model\_recent\_performance

*Recent performance of models using EMASE*


---

### Description

This function computes **EMASE**, Erfc Moving Average Squared Error, to quantify the recent performance of the base models.

### Usage

```
model_recent_performance(Y_hat, Y, lambda, omega, pre_weights)
```

### Arguments

|             |                                                                                              |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Y_hat       | A data.frame containing the predictions of each base model;                                  |
| Y           | known true values from past data to compare the predictions to;                              |
| lambda      | Window size. Number of periods to average over when computing <b>MASE</b> ;                  |
| omega       | Ratio of top models in the committee;                                                        |
| pre_weights | The initial weights of the models, computed in the available data during the learning phase; |

### Value

A list containing two objects:

**model\_scores** The weights of the models in each time point

**top\_models** Models in the committee in each time point

### See Also

Other weighting base models: [EMASE](#), [build\\_committee](#), [get\\_top\\_models](#), [model\\_weighting](#), [select\\_best](#)

---

 model\_specs

*Setup base learning models*


---

### Description

This class sets up the base learning models and respective parameters setting to learn the ensemble.

### Usage

```
model_specs(learner, learner_pars = NULL)
```

## Arguments

|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| learner      | <p>character vector with the base learners to be trained. Currently available models are:</p> <p><b>bm_gaussianprocess</b> Gaussian Process models, from the <b>kernlab</b> package. See <a href="#">gausspr</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_gaussianprocess</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_ppr</b> Projection Pursuit Regression models, from the <b>stats</b> package. See <a href="#">ppr</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_ppr</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_glm</b> Generalized Linear Models, from the <b>glmnet</b> package. See <a href="#">glmnet</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_glm</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_gbm</b> Generalized Boosted Regression models, from the <b>gbm</b> package. See <a href="#">gbm</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_gbm</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_randomforest</b> Random Forest models, from the <b>ranger</b> package. See <a href="#">ranger</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_randomforest</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_cubist</b> M5 tree models, from the <b>Cubist</b> package. See <a href="#">cubist</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_cubist</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_mars</b> Multivariate Adaptive Regression Splines models, from the <b>earth</b> package. See <a href="#">earth</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_mars</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_svr</b> Support Vector Regression models, from the <b>kernlab</b> package. See <a href="#">ksvm</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_svr</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_ffnn</b> Feedforward Neural Network models, from the <b>nnet</b> package. See <a href="#">nnet</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_ffnn</a> for the function implementation.</p> <p><b>bm_pls_pcr</b> Partial Least Regression and Principal Component Regression models, from the <b>pls</b> package. See <a href="#">mvr</a> for a complete description and possible parametrization. See <a href="#">bm_pls_pcr</a> for the function implementation.</p> |
| learner_pars | <p>a list with parameter setting for the <b>learner</b>. For each model, a inner list should be created with the specified parameters.</p> <p>Check each implementation to see the possible variations of parameters (also exemplified below).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

## Examples

```
# A PPR model and a GLM model with default parameters
model_specs(learner = c("bm_ppr", "bm_glm"), learner_pars = NULL)

# A PPR model and a SVR model. The listed parameters are combined
# with a cartesian product.
# With these specifications an ensemble with 6 predictive base
```

```

# models will be created. Two PPR models, one with 2 nterms
# and another with 4; and 4 SVR models, combining the kernel
# and C parameters.
specs <- model_specs(
  c("bm_ppr", "bm_svr"),
  list(bm_ppr = list(nterms = c(2, 4)),
       bm_svr = list(kernel = c("vanilladot", "polydot"), C = c(1,5)))
)

# All parameters currently available (parameter values can differ)
model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_ppr", "bm_svr", "bm_randomforest",
             "bm_gaussianprocess", "bm_cubist", "bm_glm",
             "bm_gbm", "bm_pls_pcr", "bm_ffnn", "bm_mars"
             ),
  learner_pars = list(
    bm_ppr = list(
      nterms = c(2,4),
      sm.method = "supsmu"
    ),
    bm_svr = list(
      kernel = "rbfdot",
      C = c(1,5),
      epsilon = .01
    ),
    bm_glm = list(
      alpha = c(1, 0)
    ),
    bm_randomforest = list(
      num.trees = 500
    ),
    bm_gbm = list(
      interaction.depth = 1,
      shrinkage = c(.01, .005),
      n.trees = c(100)
    ),
    bm_mars = list(
      nk = 15,
      degree = 3,
      thresh = .001
    ),
    bm_ffnn = list(
      size = 30,
      decay = .01
    ),
    bm_pls_pcr = list(
      method = c("kernelpls", "simpls", "cppls")
    ),
    bm_gaussianprocess = list(
      kernel = "vanilladot",
      tol = .01
    ),
    bm_cubist = list(

```

```
        committees = 50,  
        neighbors = 0  
    )  
)  
)
```

---

model\_weighting      *Model weighting*

---

### Description

This is an utility function that takes the raw error of models and scales them into a 0-1 range according to one of three strategies:

### Usage

```
model_weighting(x, trans = "softmax", ...)
```

### Arguments

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| x     | A object describing the loss of each base model                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| trans | Character value describing the transformation type. The available options are <b>softmax</b> , <b>linear</b> and <b>erfc</b> . The softmax and erfc provide a non-linear transformation where the weights decay exponentially as the relative loss of a given model increases (with respect to all available models). The linear transformation is a simple normalization of values using the max-min method. |
| ...   | Further arguments to normalize and proportion functions <code>\(na.rm = TRUE\)</code>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

### Details

**erfc** using the complementary Gaussian error function

**softmax** using a softmax function

**linear** A simple normalization using max-min method

These tranformations culminate into the final weights of the models.

### Value

An object describing the weights of models

### See Also

Other weighting base models: [EMASE](#), [build\\_committee](#), [get\\_top\\_models](#), [model\\_recent\\_performance](#), [select\\_best](#)

---

 predict

*Predicting new observations using an ensemble*


---

## Description

Initially, the predictions of the base models are collected. Then, the predictions of the loss to be incurred by the base models **E\_hat** (estimated by their associate meta models) are computed. The weights of the base models are then estimated according to **E\_hat** and the committee of top models. The committee is built according to the *lambda* and *omega* parameters. Finally, the predictions are combined according to the weights and the committee setup.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'ADE'
predict(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'DETS'
predict(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'base_ensemble'
predict(object, newdata)
```

## Arguments

|         |                                                |
|---------|------------------------------------------------|
| object  | an object of class <a href="#">ADE-class</a> ; |
| newdata | new data to predict                            |

## Examples

```
##### Predicting with an ADE ensemble

specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_glm", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = NULL
)

data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
train <- dataset[1:1000, ]
test <- dataset[1001:1500, ]

model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

preds <- predict(model, test)

## Not run:
```



```
##### Predicting with a DETS ensemble

specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_svr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = NULL
)

data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
train <- dataset[1:700, ]
test <- dataset[701:1000, ]

model <- DETS(target ~., train, specs, lambda = 50, omega = .2)

preds <- predict(model, test)

## End(Not run)

## Not run:
##### Predicting with a base ensemble

model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

basepreds <- predict(model@base_ensemble, test)

## End(Not run)
```

## Description

This package implements ensemble methods for time series forecasting tasks. Dynamically combining different forecasting models is a common approach to tackle these problems.

## Details

The main methods in **tsensembler** are in [ADE-class](#) and [DETS-class](#):

**ADE** Arbitrated Dynamic Ensemble (ADE) is an ensemble approach for dynamically combining forecasting models using a metalearning strategy called arbitrating. A meta model is trained for each base model in the ensemble. Each meta-learner is specifically designed to model the error of its associate across the time series. At forecasting time, the base models are weighted according to their degree of competence in the input observation, estimated by the predictions of the meta models

**DETS** Dynamic Ensemble for Time Series (DETS) is similar to **ADE** in the sense that it adaptively combines the base models in an ensemble for time series forecasting. DETS follows a more traditional approach for forecaster combination. It pre-trains a set of heterogeneous base models, and at run-time weights them dynamically according to recent performance. Like **ADE**, the ensemble includes a committee, which dynamically selects a subset of base models that are weighted with a non-linear function

The ensemble methods can be used to predict new observations or forecast future values of a time series. They can also be updated using generic functions (check see also section).

## References

Cerqueira, Vitor; Torgo, Luis; Pinto, Fabio; and Soares, Carlos. "Arbitrated Ensemble for Time Series Forecasting" to appear at: Joint European Conference on Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery in Databases. Springer International Publishing, 2017.

V. Cerqueira, L. Torgo, and C. Soares, "Arbitrated ensemble for solar radiation forecasting," in International Work-Conference on Artificial Neural Networks. Springer, 2017, pp. 720–732

Cerqueira, Vitor; Torgo, Luis; Oliveira, Mariana, and Bernhard Pfahringer. "Dynamic and Heterogeneous Ensembles for Time Series Forecasting." Data Science and Advanced Analytics (DSAA), 2017 IEEE International Conference on. IEEE, 2017.

## See Also

[ADE-class](#) for setting up an **ADE** model; and [DETS-class](#) for setting up an **DETS** model; see [forecast](#) to check the generic function for forecasting future values of a time series using an ensemble from *tsensembler*; see also [update\\_weights](#) and [update\\_base\\_models](#) to check the generic function for updating the predictive models in an ensemble.

## Examples

```
## Not run:

data("water_consumption")
# embedding time series into a matrix
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)

# splitting data into train/test
train <- dataset[1:1000,]
test <- dataset[1001:1020, ]

# setting up base model parameters
specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_ppr", "bm_glm", "bm_svr", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = list(
    bm_glm = list(alpha = c(0, .5, 1)),
    bm_svr = list(kernel = c("rbfdot", "polydot"),
                  C = c(1,3)),
    bm_ppr = list(nterms = 4)
  )
)
```

```

# building the ensemble
model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

# forecast next value and update base and meta models
# every three points;
# in the other points, only the weights are updated
predictions <- numeric(nrow(test))
for (i in seq_along(predictions)) {
  predictions[i] <- predict(model, test[i, ])$y_hat
  if (i %% 3 == 0) {
    model <-
      update_base_models(model,
                          rbind.data.frame(train, test[seq_len(i), ]))

    model <- update_ade_meta(model, rbind.data.frame(train, test[seq_len(i), ]))
  }
  else
    model <- update_weights(model, test[i, ])
}

point_forecast <- forecast(model, h = 5)

# setting up an ensemble of support vector machines
specs2 <-
  model_specs(learner = c("bm_svr"),
              learner_pars = list(
                bm_svr = list(kernel = c("vanilladot", "polydot",
                                         "rbfdot"),
                              C = c(1,3,6))
              ))

model <- DETS(target ~., train, specs2)
preds <- predict(model, test)$y_hat

## End(Not run)

```

---

update\_ade

*Updating an ADE model*


---

## Description

**update\_ade** is a generic function that combines [update\\_base\\_models](#), [update\\_ade\\_meta](#), and [update\\_weights](#).

**Usage**

```
update_ade(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'ADE'
update_ade(object, newdata)
```

**Arguments**

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| object  | a <a href="#">ADE-class</a> object.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| newdata | data used to update the ADE model. This should be the data used to initially train the models (training set), together with new observations (for example, validation set). Each model is retrained using newdata. |

**See Also**

[ADE-class](#) for building an ADE model; [update\\_weights](#) for updating the weights of the ensemble (without retraining the models); [update\\_base\\_models](#) for updating the base models of an ensemble; and [update\\_ade\\_meta](#) for updating the meta-models of an ADE model.

Other updating models: [update\\_ade\\_meta](#), [update\\_weights](#)

**Examples**

```
specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_svr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = NULL
)

data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
# toy size for checks
train <- dataset[1:300, ]
validation <- dataset[301:400, ]
test <- dataset[401:500, ]

model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

preds_val <- predict(model, validation)
model <- update_ade(model, rbind.data.frame(train, validation))

preds_test <- predict(model, test)
```

## Description

The `update_ade_meta` function uses new information to update the meta models of an [ADE-class](#) ensemble. As input it receives a [ADE-class](#) model object class and a new dataset for updating the weights of the base models in the ensemble. This new data should have the same structure as the one used to build the ensemble. Updating the base models of the ensemble is done using the `update_base_models` function.

## Usage

```
update_ade_meta(object, newdata)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'ADE'
update_ade_meta(object, newdata)
```

## Arguments

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>object</code>  | a <a href="#">ADE-class</a> object.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <code>newdata</code> | data used to update the meta models. This should be the data used to initially train the meta-models (training set), together with new observations (for example, validation set). Each meta model is retrained using <code>newdata</code> . |

## See Also

[ADE-class](#) for building an ADE model; [update\\_weights](#) for updating the weights of the ensemble (without retraining the models); and [update\\_base\\_models](#) for updating the base models of an ensemble.

Other updating models: [update\\_ade](#), [update\\_weights](#)

## Examples

```
## Not run:
specs <- model_specs(
  learner = c("bm_svr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"),
  learner_pars = NULL
)

data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
train <- dataset[1:1000, ]
validation <- dataset[1001:1200, ]
test <- dataset[1201:1500, ]

model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

preds_val <- predict(model, validation)
model <- update_ade_meta(model, rbind.data.frame(train, validation))

preds_test <- predict(model, test)

## End(Not run)
```

---

update\_base\_models      *Update the base models of an ensemble*

---

### Description

This is a generic function for updating the base models comprising an ensemble.

### Usage

```
update_base_models(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'ADE'
update_base_models(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'DETS'
update_base_models(object, newdata)
```

### Arguments

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| object  | an ensemble object, of class <a href="#">DETS-class</a> or <a href="#">ADE-class</a> ;                                                                                                     |
| newdata | new data used to update the models. Each base model is retrained, so newdata should be the past data used for initially training the models along with any further available observations. |

### Details

**update\_base\_models** function receives a model object and a new dataset for retraining the base models. This new data should have the same structure as the one used to build the ensemble.

### See Also

[ADE-class](#) for the ADE model information, and [DETS-class](#) for the DETS model information; [update\\_ade\\_meta](#) for updating the meta models of an ADE ensemble. See [update\\_weights](#) for the method used to update the weights of the ensemble. Updating the weights only changes the information about the recent observations for computing the weights of the base models, while updating the model uses that information to retrain the models.

### Examples

```
data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)
# toy size for checks execution time
train <- dataset[1:300,]
test <- dataset[301:305, ]

specs <- model_specs(c("bm_ppr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"), NULL)
```

```

model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

predictions <- numeric(nrow(test))
for (i in seq_along(predictions)) {
  predictions[i] <- predict(model, test[i, ])%y_hat
  model <-
    update_base_models(model,
                       rbind.data.frame(train, test[seq_len(i), ]))
}

####

specs2 <- model_specs(c("bm_ppr", "bm_randomforest", "bm_svr"), NULL)

modeldets <- DETS(target ~., train, specs2)

predictions <- numeric(nrow(test))
# predict new data and update models every three points
# in the remaining points, the only the weights are updated
for (i in seq_along(predictions)) {
  predictions[i] <- predict(modeldets, test[i, ])%y_hat

  if (i %% 3 == 0)
    modeldets <-
      update_base_models(modeldets,
                         rbind.data.frame(train, test[seq_len(i), ]))
  else
    modeldets <- update_weights(modeldets, test[seq_len(i), ])
}

```

---

update\_weights

*Updating the weights of base models*


---

### Description

Update the weights of base models of a [ADE-class](#) or [DETS-class](#) ensemble. This is accomplished by using computing the loss of the base models in new recent observations.

### Usage

```

update_weights(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'ADE'
update_weights(object, newdata)

## S4 method for signature 'DETS'
update_weights(object, newdata)

```

**Arguments**

|         |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| object  | a <a href="#">ADE-class</a> or <a href="#">DETS-class</a> model object;                                                                                           |
| newdata | new data used to update the most recent observations of the time series. At prediction time these observations are used to compute the weights of the base models |

**Note**

Updating the weights of an ensemble is only necessary between different calls of the functions `predict` or `forecast`. Otherwise, if consecutive known observations are predicted (e.g. a validation/test set) the updating is automatically done internally.

**See Also**

[update\\_weights](#) for the weight updating method for an [ADE](#) model, and [update\\_weights](#) for the same method for a [DETS](#) model

Other updating models: [update\\_ade\\_meta](#), [update\\_ade](#)

**Examples**

```
data("water_consumption")
dataset <- embed_timeseries(water_consumption, 5)

# toy size for checks
train <- dataset[1:300,]
test <- dataset[301:305, ]

specs <- model_specs(c("bm_ppr", "bm_glm", "bm_mars"), NULL)
## same with model <- DETS(target ~., train, specs)
model <- ADE(target ~., train, specs)

# if consecutive known observations are predicted (e.g. a validation/test set)
# the updating is automatically done internally.
predictions1 <- predict(model, test)@y_hat

# otherwise, the models need to be updated
predictions <- numeric(nrow(test))
# predict new data and update the weights of the model
for (i in seq_along(predictions)) {
  predictions[i] <- predict(model, test[i, ] )@y_hat

  model <- update_weights(model, test[i, ])
}

all.equal(predictions1, predictions)
```



---

|                   |                                                          |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| water_consumption | <i>Water Consumption in Oporto city (Portugal) area.</i> |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

A time series of classes xts and zoo containing the water consumption levels a specific delivery point at Oporto town, in Portugal.

**Usage**

```
water_consumption
```

**Format**

The time series has 1741 values from Jan, 2012 to Oct, 2016 in a daily granularity.

**consumption** consumption of water, raw value from sensor

**Source**

<https://www.addp.pt/home.php>

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