

Package ‘swag’

July 23, 2025

Type Package

Title Sparse Wrapper Algorithm

Version 0.1.0

Maintainer Samuel Orso <Samuel.Orso@unige.ch>

Description An algorithm that trains a meta-learning procedure that combines screening and wrapper methods to find a set of extremely low-dimensional attribute combinations. This package works on top of the 'caret' package and proceeds in a forward-step manner. More specifically, it builds and tests learners starting from very few attributes until it includes a maximal number of attributes by increasing the number of attributes at each step. Hence, for each fixed number of attributes, the algorithm tests various (randomly selected) learners and picks those with the best performance in terms of training error. Throughout, the algorithm uses the information coming from the best learners at the previous step to build and test learners in the following step. In the end, it outputs a set of strong low-dimensional learners.

License GPL (>= 2)

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData false

Depends R (>= 4.0.0)

Imports caret, Rdpack (>= 0.7), stats

Suggests doParallel, e1071, foreach, ggplot2, glmnet, grDevices, iterators, kernlab, knitr, lattice, methods, mlbench, ModelMetrics, nlme, parallel, plyr, pROC, randomForest, recipes, remotes, reshape2, stats4, rmarkdown, utils, withr

RdMacros Rdpack

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

VignetteBuilder knitr

URL <https://github.com/SMAC-Group/SWAG-R-Package/>

BugReports <https://github.com/SMAC-Group/SWAG-R-Package/issues/>

NeedsCompilation no

Author Samuel Orso [aut, cre],
 Gaetan Bakalli [aut],
 Cesare Miglioli [aut],
 Stephane Guerrier [ctb],
 Roberto Molinari [ctb]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2020-11-10 15:30:02 UTC

Contents

predict.swag	2
swag	3
swagControl	4

Index	6
--------------	----------

predict.swag	<i>Predict method for SWAG</i>
--------------	--------------------------------

Description

Gives predictions for different [train](#) learners obtained by swag.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'swag'
predict(
  object,
  newdata = NULL,
  type = c("best", "cv_performance", "attribute"),
  cv_performance = NULL,
  attribute = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class swag .
newdata	an optional set of data to predict on. If NULL the original training data are used.
type	type of prediction required. The default is "best", it takes the best model (with lowest CV errors). The option "cv_performance" (which requires cv_performance) allows to set a level of CV errors under which models are predicted. The option "attribute" (which requires attribute) allows to specify an attribute at which models are predicted.
cv_performance	a level of CV errors (between 0 and 1) combines with type "cv_performance".
attribute	an attribute combines with type "attribute".
...	Not used for the moment.

Details

Currently the different `train` learners are trained (again) to make the predictions.

Value

Predictions .

Author(s)

Gaetan Bakalli, Samuel Orso and Cesare Miglioli

 swag

Spare Wrapper AlGorithm (swag)

Description

swag is used to trains a meta-learning procedure that combines screening and wrapper methods to find a set of extremely low-dimensional attribute combinations. swag works on top of the `caret` package and proceeds in a forward-step manner.

Usage

```
swag(
  x,
  y,
  control = swagControl(),
  auto_control = TRUE,
  caret_args_dyn = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	A matrix or data.frame of attributes
<code>y</code>	A vector of binary response variable.
<code>control</code>	see swagControl
<code>auto_control</code>	A boolean, whether some control parameters are adjusted depending on <code>x</code> and <code>y</code> (see swagControl).
<code>caret_args_dyn</code>	If not null, a function that can modify arguments for <code>train</code> dynamically (see the details).
<code>...</code>	Arguments to be passed to <code>train</code> functions (see the details).

Details

Currently we expect the user to replace `...` with the arguments one would use for `train`. This requires to know how to use `train` function. If `...` is left unspecified, default values of `train` are used. But this might lead to unexpected results.

The function `caret_args_dyn` is expected to take as a first argument a list with all arguments for `train` and as a second argument the number of attributes (see examples in the vignette).

More specifically, `swag` builds and tests learners starting from very few attributes until it includes a maximal number of attributes by increasing the number of attributes at each step. Hence, for each fixed number of attributes, the algorithm tests various (randomly selected) learners and picks those with the best performance in terms of training error. Throughout, the algorithm uses the information coming from the best learners at the previous step to build and test learners in the following step. In the end, it outputs a set of strong low-dimensional learners. See Molinari et al. (2020) for more details.

Value

`swag` returns an object of class "swag". It is a list with the following components:

<code>x</code>	same as <code>x</code> input
<code>y</code>	same as <code>y</code> input
<code>control</code>	the control used (see swagControl)
<code>CVs</code>	a list containing cross-validation errors from all trained models
<code>VarMat</code>	a list containing information about which models are trained
<code>cv_alpha</code>	a vector of size <code>pmax</code> containing the cross-validation error at <code>alpha</code> (see swagControl)
<code>IDs</code>	a list containing information about trained model that performs better than corresponding <code>cv_alpha</code> error
<code>args_caret</code>	arguments used for <code>train</code>
<code>args_caret_dyn</code>	same as <code>args_caret_dyn</code> input

Author(s)

Gaetan Bakalli, Samuel Orso and Cesare Miglioli

References

Molinari R, Bakalli G, Guerrier S, Miglioli C, Orso S, Scaillet O (2020). "SWAG: A Wrapper Method for Sparse Learning." Version 1: 23 June 2020, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.12837.pdf>.

swagControl

Control for swag function

Description

The Spare Wrapper ALgorithm depends on some meta-parameters that are described below.

Usage

```
swagControl(pmax = 3, m = 100, alpha = 0.05, seed = 163L, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

pmax	A integer representing the maximum number of attributes per learner.
m	A integer representing the maximum number of learners per dimension explored.
alpha	A double representing the proportion of screening.
seed	An integer that controls the reproducibility.
verbose	A boolean for printing current progress of the algorithm.

See Also

[swag](#)

Index

`predict.swag`, 2

`swag`, 2, 3, 5

`swagControl`, 3, 4, 4

`train`, 2–4