

# Package: OOS (via r-universe)

October 30, 2024

**Title** Out-of-Sample Time Series Forecasting

**Version** 1.0.0

**Description** A comprehensive and cohesive API for the out-of-sample forecasting workflow: data preparation, forecasting - including both traditional econometric time series models and modern machine learning techniques - forecast combination, model and error analysis, and forecast visualization.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://github.com/tylerJPike/OOS>,  
<https://tylerjpike.github.io/OOS/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/tylerJPike/OOS/issues>

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE)

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Depends** R (>= 4.0.0)

**Imports** caret, dplyr, forecast, furrr, future, ggplot2, glmnet,  
imputeTS, lme4, lubridate, magrittr, purrr, sandwich, stats,  
tidyr, vars, xts, zoo

**Suggests** knitr, testthat, rmarkdown, quantmod

**Repository** <https://tylerjpike.r-universe.dev>

**RemoteUrl** <https://github.com/tylerjpike/oos>

**RemoteRef** HEAD

**RemoteSha** 3de023f38e0d9880ac8f595fa4806ed5a40ff325

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chart_forecast	<i>Chart forecasts</i>
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### Description

Chart forecasts

### Usage

```
chart_forecast(Data, Title, Ylab, Freq, zeroline = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

Data	data.frame: oos.forecast object
Title	string: chart title
Ylab	string: y-axis label
Freq	string: frequency (acts as sub-title)
zeroline	boolean: if TRUE then add a horizontal line at zero

**Value**

ggplot2 chart

**Examples**

```
# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A)

# run forecast_univariate
forecast.uni =
  forecast_univariate(
    Data = Data,
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date,10),
    method = c('naive', 'auto.arima', 'ets'),
    horizon = 1,
    recursive = FALSE,
    freq = 'month')

forecasts =
  dplyr::left_join(
    forecast.uni,
    data.frame(date, observed = A),
    by = 'date'
  )

# chart forecasts
chart.forecast =
  chart_forecast(
    forecasts,
    Title = 'test',
    Ylab = 'Index',
    Freq = 'Monthly',
    zeroline = TRUE)
```

---

chart\_forecast\_error *Chart forecast errors*

---

**Description**

Chart forecast errors

**Usage**

```
chart_forecast_error(Data, Title, Ylab, Freq, zeroline = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: oos.forecast object
Title	string: chart title
Ylab	string: y-axis label
Freq	string: frequency (acts as sub-title)
zeroline	boolean: if TRUE then add a horizontal line at zero

**Value**

ggplot2 chart

**Examples**

```
# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A)

# run forecast_univariate
forecast.uni =
  forecast_univariate(
    Data = Data,
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date,10),
    method = c('naive','auto.arima', 'ets'),
    horizon = 1,
    recursive = FALSE,
    freq = 'month')

forecasts =
  dplyr::left_join(
    forecast.uni,
    data.frame(date, observed = A),
    by = 'date'
  )

# chart forecast errors
chart.errors =
  chart_forecast_error(
    forecasts,
    Title = 'test',
    Ylab = 'Index',
    Freq = 'Monthly',
    zeroline = TRUE)
```

---

data_impute	<i>Impute missing values</i>
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---

**Description**

A function to impute missing values. Is used as a data preparation helper function and is called internally by forecast\_univariate, forecast\_multivariate, and forecast\_combine.

**Usage**

```
data_impute(Data, method = "kalman", variables = NULL, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: data frame of target variable, exogenous variables, and observed date (named 'date')
method	string: select which method to use from the imputeTS package; 'interpolation', 'kalman', 'locf', 'ma', 'mean', 'random', 'remove', 'replace', 'seadec', 'seasplit'
variables	string: vector of variables to standardize, default is all but 'date' column
verbose	boolean: show start-up status of impute.missing.routine

**Value**

data.frame with missing data imputed

---

data_outliers	<i>Clean outliers</i>
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---

**Description**

A function to clean outliers. Is used as a data preparation helper function and is called internally by forecast\_univariate, forecast\_multivariate, and forecast\_combine.

**Usage**

```
data_outliers(
  Data,
  variables = NULL,
  w.bounds = c(0.05, 0.95),
  trim = FALSE,
  cross_section = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: data frame of target variable, exogenous variables, and observed date (named 'date')
variables	string: vector of variables to standardize, default is all but 'date' column
w.bounds	double: vector of winsorizing minimum and maximum bounds, c(min percentile, max percentile)
trim	boolean: if TRUE then replace outliers with NA instead of winsorizing bound
cross_section	boolean: if TRUE then remove outliers based on cross-section (row-wise) instead of historical data (column-wise)

**Value**

data.frame with a date column and one column per forecast method selected

---

data_reduction	<i>Dimension reduction via principal components</i>
----------------	---

---

**Description**

A function to estimate principal components.

**Usage**

```
data_reduction(Data, variables = NULL, ncomp, standardize = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: data frame of target variable, exogenous variables, and observed date (named 'date')
variables	string: vector of variables to standardize, default is all but 'date' column
ncomp	int: number of factors to create
standardize	boolean: normalize variables (mean zero, variance one) before estimating factors

**Value**

data.frame with a date column and one column per forecast method selected

---

data_subset	<i>Create information set</i>
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---

**Description**

A function to subset data recursively or with a rolling window to create a valid information set. Is used as a data preparation helper function and is called internally by forecast\_univariate, forecast\_multivariate, and forecast\_combine.

**Usage**

```
data_subset(Data, forecast.date, rolling.window, freq)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: data frame of target variable, exogenous variables, and observed date (named 'date')
forecast.date	date: upper bound of information set
rolling.window	int: size of rolling window, NA if expanding window is used
freq	string: time series frequency; day, week, month, quarter, year; only needed for rolling window factors

**Value**

data.frame bounded by the given date range

---

forecast_accuracy	<i>Calculate forecast accuracy</i>
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**Description**

A function to calculate various loss functions, including MSE, RMSE, MAE, and MAPE.

**Usage**

```
forecast_accuracy(Data)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: data frame of forecasts, model names, and dates
------	---

**Value**

data.frame of numeric error results

## Examples

```
# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A)

# run forecast_univariate
forecast.uni =
  forecast_univariate(
    Data = Data,
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date,10),
    method = c('naive','auto.arima', 'ets'),
    horizon = 1,
    recursive = FALSE,
    freq = 'month')

forecasts =
  dplyr::left_join(
    forecast.uni,
    data.frame(date, observed = A),
    by = 'date'
  )

# forecast accuracy
forecast.accuracy = forecast_accuracy(forecasts)
```

---

forecast\_combine

*Forecast with forecast combinations*

---

## Description

A function to combine forecasts out-of-sample. Methods available include: uniform weights, median forecast, trimmed (winsorized) mean, n-best, ridge regression, lasso regression, elastic net, peLASSO, random forest, tree-based gradient boosting machine, and single-layer neural network. See package website for most up-to-date list of available models.

## Usage

```
forecast_combine(
  Data,
  method = "uniform",
  n.max = NULL,
  rolling.window = NA,
  trim = c(0.5, 0.95),
  burn.in = 1,
```



```

    parallel.dates = NULL
  )

```

### Arguments

Data	data.frame: data frame of forecasted values to combine, assumes 'date' and 'observed' columns, but 'observed' is not necessary for all methods
method	string: the method to use; 'uniform', 'median', 'trimmed.mean', 'n.best', 'peLasso', 'lasso', 'ridge', 'elastic', 'RF', 'GBM', 'NN'
n.max	int: maximum number of forecasts to select in n.best method
rolling.window	int: size of rolling window to evaluate forecast error over, use entire period if NA
trim	numeric: a two element vector with the winsorizing bounds for the trimmed mean method; c(min, max)
burn.in	int: the number of periods to use in the first model estimation
parallel.dates	int: the number of cores available for parallel estimation

### Value

data.frame with a row for each combination method and forecasted date

### Examples

```

# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
B = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
C = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A, B, C)

# run forecast_univariate
forecast_multi =
  forecast_multivariate(
    Data = Data,
    target = 'A',
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date, 5),
    method = c('ols', 'var'),
    horizon = 1,
    freq = 'month')
# include observed valuesd
forecasts =
  dplyr::left_join(
    forecast_multi,
    data.frame(date, observed = A),
    by = 'date'
  )

# combine forecasts
combinations =
  forecast_combine(

```

```
forecasts,  
method = c('uniform', 'median', 'trimmed.mean',  
           'n.best', 'lasso', 'peLasso'),  
burn.in = 5,  
n.max = 2)
```

---

forecast\_comparison    *Compare forecast accuracy*

---

### Description

A function to compare forecasts. Options include: simple forecast error ratios, [Diebold-Mariano test](#), and [Clark and West test](#) for nested models

### Usage

```
forecast_comparison(  
  Data,  
  baseline.forecast,  
  test = "ER",  
  loss = "MSE",  
  horizon = NULL  
)
```

### Arguments

Data	data.frame: data frame of forecasts, model names, and dates
baseline.forecast	string: column name of baseline (null hypothesis) forecasts
test	string: which test to use; ER = error ratio, DM = Diebold-Mariano, CM = Clark and West
loss	string: error loss function to use if creating forecast error ratio
horizon	int: horizon of forecasts being compared in DM and CW tests

### Value

numeric test result

## Examples

```
# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A)

# run forecast_univariate
forecast.uni =
  forecast_univariate(
    Data = Data,
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date,10),
    method = c('naive', 'auto.arima', 'ets'),
    horizon = 1,
    recursive = FALSE,
    freq = 'month')

forecasts =
  dplyr::left_join(
    forecast.uni,
    data.frame(date, observed = A),
    by = 'date'
  )

# run ER (MSE)
er.ratio.mse =
  forecast_comparison(
    forecasts,
    baseline.forecast = 'naive',
    test = 'ER',
    loss = 'MSE')
```

---

forecast\_date

*Set forecasted date*

---

## Description

A function to subset data recursively or with a rolling window to create a valid information set. Is used as a data preparation helper function and is called internally by forecast\_univariate, forecast\_multivariate, and forecast\_combine.

## Usage

```
forecast_date(forecast.date, horizon, freq)
```

**Arguments**

forecast.date    date: date forecast was made  
horizon         int: periods ahead of forecast  
freq            string: time series frequency; day, week, month, quarter, year; only needed for rolling window factors

**Value**

date vector

---

forecast\_multivariate *Forecast with multivariate models*

---

**Description**

A function to estimate multivariate forecasts out-of-sample. Methods available include: vector auto-regression, linear regression, lasso regression, ridge regression, elastic net, random forest, tree-based gradient boosting machine, and single-layer neural network. See package website for most up-to-date list of available models.

**Usage**

```
forecast_multivariate(  
  Data,  
  forecast.dates,  
  target,  
  horizon,  
  method,  
  rolling.window = NA,  
  freq,  
  lag.variables = NULL,  
  lag.n = NULL,  
  outlier.clean = FALSE,  
  outlier.variables = NULL,  
  outlier.bounds = c(0.05, 0.95),  
  outlier.trim = FALSE,  
  outlier.cross_section = FALSE,  
  impute.missing = FALSE,  
  impute.method = "kalman",  
  impute.variables = NULL,  
  impute.verbose = FALSE,  
  reduce.data = FALSE,  
  reduce.variables = NULL,  
  reduce.ncomp = NULL,  
  reduce.standardize = TRUE,  
  parallel.dates = NULL,
```

```

    return.models = FALSE,
    return.data = FALSE
)

```

### Arguments

Data	data.frame: data frame of target variable, exogenous variables, and observed date (named 'date'); may alternatively be a ts, xts, or zoo object to forecast
forecast.dates	date: dates forecasts are created
target	string: column name in Data of variable to forecast
horizon	int: number of periods into the future to forecast
method	string: methods to use
rolling.window	int: size of rolling window, NA if expanding window is used
freq	string: time series frequency; day, week, month, quarter, year
lag.variables	string: vector of variables to lag each time step, if lag.n is not null then the default is all non-date variables
lag.n	int: number of lags to create
outlier.clean	boolean: if TRUE then clean outliers
outlier.variables	string: vector of variables to purge of outlier, default is all but 'date' column
outlier.bounds	double: vector of winsorizing minimum and maximum bounds, c(min percentile, max percentile)
outlier.trim	boolean: if TRUE then replace outliers with NA instead of winsorizing bound
outlier.cross_section	boolean: if TRUE then remove outliers based on cross-section (row-wise) instead of historical data (column-wise)
impute.missing	boolean: if TRUE then impute missing values
impute.method	string: select which method to use from the imputeTS package; 'interpolation', 'kalman', 'locf', 'ma', 'mean', 'random', 'remove', 'replace', 'seadec', 'seasplit'
impute.variables	string: vector of variables to impute missing values, default is all numeric columns
impute.verbose	boolean: show start-up status of impute.missing.routine
reduce.data	boolean: if TRUE then reduce dimension
reduce.variables	string: vector of variables to impute missing values, default is all numeric columns
reduce.ncomp	int: number of factors to create
reduce.standardize	boolean: normalize variables (mean zero, variance one) before estimating factors
parallel.dates	int: the number of cores available for parallel estimation
return.models	boolean: if TRUE then return list of models estimated each forecast.date
return.data	boolean: if True then return list of information.set for each forecast.date

**Value**

data.frame with a row for each forecast by model and forecasted date

**Examples**

```
# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
B = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
C = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A, B, C)

# run forecast_univariate
forecast_multi =
  forecast_multivariate(
    Data = Data,
    target = 'A',
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date, 5),
    method = c('ols', 'var'),
    horizon = 1,
    # information set
    rolling.window = NA,
    freq = 'month',
    # data prep
    lag.n = 4,
    outlier.clean = TRUE,
    impute.missing = TRUE)
```

---

forecast\_univariate    *Forecast with univariate models*

---

**Description**

A function to estimate univariate forecasts out-of-sample. Methods available include all forecast methods from the forecast package. See package website for most up-to-date list of available models.

**Usage**

```
forecast_univariate(
  Data,
  forecast.dates,
  methods,
  horizon,
  recursive = TRUE,
  rolling.window = NA,
```

```

    freq,
    outlier.clean = FALSE,
    outlier.variables = NULL,
    outlier.bounds = c(0.05, 0.95),
    outlier.trim = FALSE,
    outlier.cross_section = FALSE,
    impute.missing = FALSE,
    impute.method = "kalman",
    impute.variables = NULL,
    impute.verbose = FALSE,
    parallel.dates = NULL,
    return.models = FALSE,
    return.data = FALSE
)

```

### Arguments

Data	data.frame: data frame of variable to forecast and a date column; may alternatively be a ts, xts, or zoo object to forecast
forecast.dates	date: dates forecasts are created
methods	string: models to estimate forecasts
horizon	int: number of periods to forecast
recursive	boolean: use sequential one-step-ahead forecast if TRUE, use direct projections if FALSE
rolling.window	int: size of rolling window, NA if expanding window is used
freq	string: time series frequency; day, week, month, quarter, year
outlier.clean	boolean: if TRUE then clean outliers
outlier.variables	string: vector of variables to purge of outliers, default is all but 'date' column
outlier.bounds	double: vector of winsorizing minimum and maximum bounds, c(min percentile, max percentile)
outlier.trim	boolean: if TRUE then replace outliers with NA instead of winsorizing bound
outlier.cross_section	boolean: if TRUE then remove outliers based on cross-section (row-wise) instead of historical data (column-wise)
impute.missing	boolean: if TRUE then impute missing values
impute.method	string: select which method to use from the imputeTS package; 'interpolation', 'kalman', 'locf', 'ma', 'mean', 'random', 'remove', 'replace', 'seadec', 'seasplit'
impute.variables	string: vector of variables to impute missing values, default is all numeric columns
impute.verbose	boolean: show start-up status of impute.missing.routine
parallel.dates	int: the number of cores available for parallel estimation
return.models	boolean: if TRUE then return list of models estimated each forecast.date
return.data	boolean: if True then return list of information.set for each forecast.date

**Value**

data.frame with a row for each forecast by model and forecasted date

**Examples**

```
# simple time series
A = c(1:100) + rnorm(100)
date = seq.Date(from = as.Date('2000-01-01'), by = 'month', length.out = 100)
Data = data.frame(date = date, A)

# estimate univariate forecasts
forecast.uni =
  forecast_univariate(
    Data = Data,
    forecast.dates = tail(Data$date,5),
    method = c('naive','auto.arima', 'ets'),
    horizon = 1,
    recursive = FALSE,
    # information set
    rolling.window = NA,
    freq = 'month',
    # data prep
    outlier.clean = TRUE,
    impute.missing = TRUE)
```

---

instantiate.data\_impute.control\_panel

*Create interface to control data\_impute model estimation*

---

**Description**

A function to create the data imputation method arguments list for user manipulation.

**Usage**

```
instantiate.data_impute.control_panel()
```

**Value**

data\_impute.control\_panel



---

```
instantiate.forecast_combinations.control_panel
```

*Create interface to control forecast\_combine model estimation*

---

**Description**

A function to create the forecast combination technique arguments list for user manipulation.

**Usage**

```
instantiate.forecast_combinations.control_panel(covariates = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

`covariates`      int: the number of features that will go into the model

**Value**

```
forecast_combinations.control_panel
```

---

```
instantiate.forecast_multivariate.ml.control_panel
```

*Create interface to control forecast\_multivariate ML estimation*

---

**Description**

A function to create the multivariate forecast methods arguments list for user manipulation.

**Usage**

```
instantiate.forecast_multivariate.ml.control_panel(  
  covariates = NULL,  
  rolling.window = NULL,  
  horizon = NULL  
)
```

**Arguments**

`covariates`      int: the number of features that will go into the model  
`rolling.window` int: size of rolling window, NA if expanding window is used  
`horizon`        int: number of periods into the future to forecast

**Value**

```
forecast_multivariate.ml.control_panel
```

---

```
instantiate.forecast_multivariate.var.control_panel
```

*Create interface to control forecast\_multivariate VAR estimation*

---

**Description**

A function to create the multivariate forecast methods arguments list for user manipulation.

**Usage**

```
instantiate.forecast_multivariate.var.control_panel()
```

**Value**

```
forecast_multivariate.var.control_panel
```

---

```
instantiate.forecast_univariate.control_panel
```

*Create interface to control forecast\_univariate model estimation*

---

**Description**

A function to create the univariate forecast method arguments list for user manipulation.

**Usage**

```
instantiate.forecast_univariate.control_panel()
```

**Value**

```
forecast_univariate.control_panel
```

---

loss_function	<i>Calculate error via loss functions</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

A function to calculate various error loss functions. Options include: MSE, RMSE, MAE, and MAPE. The default is MSE loss.

**Usage**

```
loss_function(forecast, observed, metric = "MSE")
```

**Arguments**

forecast	numeric: vector of forecasted values
observed	numeric: vector of observed values
metric	string: loss function

**Value**

numeric test result

---

n.lag	<i>Create n lags</i>
-------	----------------------

---

**Description**

A function to create 1 through n lags of a set of variables. Is used as a data preparation helper function and is called internally by forecast\_univariate, forecast\_multivariate, and forecast\_combine.

**Usage**

```
n.lag(Data, lags, variables = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

Data	data.frame: data frame of variables to lag and a 'date' column
lags	int: number of lags to create
variables	string: vector of variable names to lag, default is all non-date variables

**Value**

data.frame

---

NBest	<i>Select N-best forecasts</i>
-------	--------------------------------

---

**Description**

A function to subset the n-best forecasts; assumes column named observed.

**Usage**

```
NBest(forecasts, n.max, window = NA)
```

**Arguments**

forecasts	data.frame: a data frame of forecasts to combine, assumes one column named "observed"
n.max	int: maximum number of forecasts to select
window	int: size of rolling window to evaluate forecast error over, use entire period if NA

**Value**

data.frame with n columns of the historically best forecasts

---

standardize	<i>Standardize variables (mean 0, variance 1)</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

Standardize variables (mean 0, variance 1)

**Usage**

```
standardize(X)
```

**Arguments**

X	numeric: vector to be standardized
---	------------------------------------

**Value**

numeric vector of standardized values

---

`winsorize`*Winsorize or trim variables*

---

**Description**

Winsorize or trim variables

**Usage**`winsorize(X, bounds, trim = FALSE)`**Arguments**

<code>X</code>	numeric: vector to be winsorized or trimmed
<code>bounds</code>	double: vector of winsorizing minimum and maximum bounds, c(min percentile, max percentile)
<code>trim</code>	boolean: if TRUE then replace outliers with NA instead of winsorizing bound

**Value**

numeric vector of winsorized or trimmed values

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