

# Package: VLTimeCausality (via r-universe)

September 2, 2024

**Title** Variable-Lag Time Series Causality Inference Framework

**Version** 0.1.5

**Description** A framework to infer causality on a pair of time series of real numbers based on variable-lag Granger causality and transfer entropy. Typically, Granger causality and transfer entropy have an assumption of a fixed and constant time delay between the cause and effect. However, for a non-stationary time series, this assumption is not true. For example, considering two time series of velocity of person A and person B where B follows A. At some time, B stops tying his shoes, then running to catch up A. The fixed-lag assumption is not true in this case. We propose a framework that allows variable-lags between cause and effect in Granger causality and transfer entropy to allow them to deal with variable-lag non-stationary time series. Please see Chainarong Amornbunchornvej, Elena Zheleva, and Tanya Berger-Wolf (2021) <[doi:10.1145/3441452](https://doi.org/10.1145/3441452)> when referring to this package in publications.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://github.com/DarkEyes/VLTimeSeriesCausality>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/DarkEyes/VLTimeSeriesCausality/issues>

**Language** en-US

**Encoding** UTF-8

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**Imports** ggplot2 (>= 3.0)

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, markdown

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.1

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

**RemoteUrl** <https://github.com/darkeyes/vltime-series-causality>

**RemoteRef** HEAD**RemoteSha** e5e140b4376787b15e4140afc9408d47a44232bb

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checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries  
*checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries*

---

## Description

checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries is a support function that can compare two adjacency matrices: groundtruth and inferred matrices. It re

## Usage

```
checkMultipleSimulationVLtimeseries(trueAdjMat, adjMat)
```

## Arguments

trueAdjMat	a groundtruth matrix.
adjMat	an inferred matrix.

## Value

This function returns a list of precision prec, recall rec, and F1 score F1 of inferred vs. groundtruth matrices.

**Examples**

```
## Generate simulation data
#G<-matrix(FALSE,10,10) # groundtruth
#G[1,c(4,7,8,10)]<-TRUE
#G[2,c(5,7,9,10)]<-TRUE
#G[3,c(6,8,9,10)]<-TRUE
#TS <- MultipleSimulationVLTimeseries()
#out<-multipleVLGrangerFunc(TS)
#checkMultipleSimulationVLTimeseries(trueAdjMat=G,adjMat=out$adjMat)
```

---

followingRelation      *followingRelation*

---

**Description**

followingRelation is a function that infers whether Y follows X.

**Usage**

```
followingRelation(Y, X, timeLagWindow, lagWindow = 0.2)
```

**Arguments**

Y	is a numerical time series of a follower
X	is a numerical time series of a leader
timeLagWindow	is a maximum possible time delay in the term of time steps.
lagWindow	is a maximum possible time delay in the term of percentage of length(X). If timeLagWindow is missing, then timeLagWindow=ceiling(lagWindow*length(X)). The default is 0.2.

**Value**

This function returns a list of following relation variables below.

followVal	is a following-relation value s.t. if followVal is positive, then Y follows X. If followVal is negative, then X follows Y. Otherwise, if followVal is zero, there is no following relation between X, Y.
nX	is a time series that is rearranged from X by applying the lags optIndexVec in order to imitate Y.
optDelay	is the optimal time delay inferred by cross-correlation of X, Y. It is positive if Y is simply just a time-shift of X (e.g. $Y[t]=X[t-optDelay]$ ).
optCor	is the optimal correlation of $Y[t]=X[t-optDelay]$ for all t.
optIndexVec	is a time series of optimal warping-path from DTW that is corrected by cross correlation. It is approximately that $Y[t]=X[optIndexVec[t]]$ .
VLval	is a percentage of elements in optIndexVec that is not equal to optDelay.
ccfout	is an output object of ccf function.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLTimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-followingRelation(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

---

GrangerFunc

*GrangerFunc*


---

**Description**

GrangerFunc is a Granger Causality function. It tests whether X Granger-causes Y.

**Usage**

```
GrangerFunc(
  Y,
  X,
  maxLag = 1,
  alpha = 0.05,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  gamma = 0.5,
  family = gaussian
)
```

**Arguments**

Y	is a numerical time series of effect
X	is a numerical time series of cause
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is 1.
alpha	is a significance level of F-test to determine whether X Granger-causes Y. The default is 0.05.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
gamma	is a parameter to determine whether X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio.
family	is a parameter of family of function for Generalized Linear Models function (glm). The default is gaussian.

**Value**

This function returns of whether X Granger-causes Y.

f test	F-statistic of Granger causality.
p. val	A p-value from F-test.
BIC_H0	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y past.
BIC_H1	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y,X past.
XgCsY	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio where <code>BICDiffRatio</code> $\geq$ gamma.
XgCsY_ftest	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using F-test where <code>p. val</code> $\geq$ alpha.
XgCsY_BIC	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC where <code>BIC_H0</code> $\geq$ <code>BIC_H1</code> .
maxLag	A maximum possible time delay.
H0	glm object of Y regressing on Y past.
H1	glm object of Y regressing on Y, X past.
BICDiffRatio	Bayesian Information Criterion difference ratio: $(BIC\_H0 - BIC\_H1) / BIC\_H0$ .

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLTimeseries()
# Run the function
out <- GrangerFunc(Y=TS$Y, X=TS$X)
```

---

MultipleSimulationVLTimeseries

*MultipleSimulationVLTimeseries*

---

**Description**

MultipleSimulationVLTimeseries is a support function for generating a set of time series `TS[, 1], ... TS[, 10]`. `TS[,1], TS[,2], TS[,3]` are causes X time series that are generated independently. The rest of time series are Y time series that are effects of some causes `TS[,1], TS[,2], TS[,3]`. `TS[,1]` causes `TS[,4], TS[,7], TS[,8]`, and `TS[,10]`. `TS[,2]` causes `TS[,5], TS[,7], TS[,9]`, and `TS[,10]`. `TS[,3]` causes `TS[,6], TS[,8], TS[,9]`, and `TS[,10]`.

**Usage**

```
MultipleSimulationVLTimeseries(
  n = 200,
  lag = 5,
  YstFixInx = 110,
  YfnFixInx = 170,
  XpointFixInx = 100,
  arimaFlag = TRUE,
  seedVal = -1
)
```

**Arguments**

n	is length of time series.
lag	is a time lag between X and Y s.t. $Y[t]$ is approximately $X[t-lag]$ .
YstFixInx	is the starting point of variable lag part.
YfnFixInx	is the end point of variable lag part.
XpointFixInx	is a point in X s.t. $Y[YstFixInx:YfnFixInx]=X[XpointFixInx]$ .
arimaFlag	is ARMA model flag. If it is true, then X is generated by ARMA model. If it is false, then X is generated by sampling of the standard normal distribution.
seedVal	is a seed parameter for generating random noise.

**Value**

This function returns a list of time series TS.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries()
```

---

multipleVLGrangerFunc *multipleVLGrangerFunc*

---

**Description**

multipleVLGrangerFunc is a function that infers Variable-lag Granger Causality of all pairwise of m time series  $TS[,1], \dots, TS[,m]$ .

**Usage**

```
multipleVLGrangerFunc(
  TS,
  maxLag,
  alpha = 0.05,
  gamma = 0.3,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  causalFlag = 0,
  VLflag = TRUE,
  family = gaussian
)
```

**Arguments**

TS	is a numerical time series of effect where $TS[t, k]$ is an element at time $t$ of $k$ th time series.
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is $0.2 * \text{length}(Y)$ .
alpha	is a significance level of F-test to determine whether $X$ Granger-causes $Y$ . The default is 0.05.
gamma	is a parameter to determine whether $X$ Granger-causes $Y$ using BIC difference ratio. The default is 0.3.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
causalFlag	is a choice of criterion for inferring causality: causalFlag=0 for BIC difference ratio, causalFlag=1 for f-test, or causalFlag=2 for BIC.
VLflag	is a flag of Granger causality choice: either VLflag=TRUE for VL-Granger or VLflag=FALSE for Granger causality.
family	is a parameter of family of function for Generalized Linear Models function (glm). The default is gaussian.

**Value**

This function returns of a list of an adjacency matrix of causality where  $\text{adjMat}[i, j]$  is true if  $TS[, i]$  causes  $TS[, j]$ .

**Examples**

```
## Generate simulation data
#TS <- MultipleSimulationVLtimeseries()
## Run the function
#out<-multipleVLGrangerFunc(TS)
```

---

multipleVLTransferEntropy  
*multipleVLTransferEntropy*

---

**Description**

multipleVLTransferEntropy is a function that infers Variable-lag Transfer Entropy of all pairwise of  $m$  time series  $TS[, 1], \dots, TS[, m]$ .

**Usage**

```
multipleVLTransferEntropy(
  TS,
  maxLag,
  nboot = 0,
  lx = 1,
  ly = 1,
  VLflag = TRUE,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.05
)
```

**Arguments**

TS	is a numerical time series of effect where $TS[t, k]$ is an element at time $t$ of $k$ th time series.
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is $0.2 * \text{length}(Y)$ .
nboot	is a number of times of bootstrapping for <code>RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy()</code> function.
lx, ly	are lag parameters of <code>RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy()</code> .
VLflag	is a flag of Granger causality choice: either <code>VLflag=TRUE</code> for VL-Granger or <code>VLflag=FALSE</code> for Granger causality.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then <code>maxLag</code> is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the <code>maxLag</code> value to infer Granger causality.
alpha	is a significant-level threshold for TE bootstrapping by Dimpfl and Peter (2013).

**Value**

This function returns of a list of an adjacency matrix of causality where `adjMat[i, j]` is true if `TS[, i]` causes `TS[, j]`.

**Examples**

```
## Generate simulation data
#out1<-SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
#TS<-cbind(out1$X,out1$Y)
## Run the function
#out2<-multipleVLTransferEntropy(TS,maxLag=1)
```



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plotTimeSeries	<i>plotTimeSeries</i>
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**Description**

plotTimeSeries is a function for visualizing time series

**Usage**

```
plotTimeSeries(X, Y, strTitle = "Time Series Plot", TSnames)
```

**Arguments**

X	is a 1st numerical time series
Y	is a 2nd numerical time series. If it is not supplied, the function plots only X.
strTitle	is a string of the plot title
TSnames	is a list of legend of X, Y where TSnames[1] is a legend of X and TSnames[2] is a legend of Y.

**Value**

This function returns an object of ggplot class.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
plotTimeSeries(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

---

SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries	<i>SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries</i>
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---

**Description**

SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries is a support function for generating time series X, Y where X VL-Granger-causes Y.

**Usage**

```
SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries(
  n = 200,
  lag = 5,
  YstFixInx = 110,
  YfnFixInx = 170,
  XpointFixInx = 100,
  arimaFlag = TRUE,
  seedVal = -1,
  expflag = FALSE,
  causalFlag = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

n	is length of time series.
lag	is a time lag between X and Y s.t. $Y[t]$ is approximately $X[t-lag]$ .
YstFixInx	is the starting point of variable lag part.
YfnFixInx	is the end point of variable lag part.
XpointFixInx	is a point in X s.t. $Y[YstFixInx:YfnFixInx] = X[XpointFixInx]$ .
arimaFlag	is ARMA model flag. If it is true, then X is generated by ARMA model. If it is false, then X is generated by sampling of the standard normal distribution.
seedVal	is a seed parameter for generating random noise. If it is not -1, then the rnorm is set the random seed with seedVal.
expflag	is the flag to set the relation between $Y[i+lag]$ and $X[i]$ . If it is false Y, X has a linear relation, otherwise, they have an exponential relation.
causalFlag	is a flag. If it is true, then X causes Y. Otherwise, X, Y have no causal relation.

**Value**

This function returns a list of time series X, Y where X VL-Granger-causes Y.

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
```

---

TSNANNearestNeighborPropagation  
*TSNANNearestNeighborPropagation*

---

### Description

TSNANNearestNeighborPropagation is a function that fills NA values with nearest real values in the past ( or future if the first position of time series is NA), for time series X.

### Usage

```
TSNANNearestNeighborPropagation(X)
```

### Arguments

X is a T-by-D matrix numerical time series

### Value

This function returns a list of following relation variables below.

Xout is a T-by-D matrix numerical time series that all NAN have been filled with nearest real values.

### Examples

```
# Load example data

z<-1:20
z[2:5]<-NA
z<-TSNANNearestNeighborPropagation(z)
```

---

VLGrangerFunc *VLGrangerFunc*

---

### Description

VLGrangerFunc is a Variable-lag Granger Causality function. It tests whether X VL-Granger-causes Y.

**Usage**

```
VLGrangerFunc(
  Y,
  X,
  alpha = 0.05,
  maxLag,
  gamma = 0.5,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  family = gaussian
)
```

**Arguments**

Y	is a numerical time series of effect
X	is a numerical time series of cause
alpha	is a significance level of f-test to determine whether X Granger-causes Y. The default is 0.05.
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is $0.2 * \text{length}(Y)$ .
gamma	is a parameter to determine whether X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio. The default is 0.5.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
family	is a parameter of family of function for Generalized Linear Models function (glm). The default is gaussian.

**Value**

This function returns of whether X Granger-causes Y.

f test	F-statistic of Granger causality.
p. val	A p-value from F-test.
BIC_H0	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y past.
BIC_H1	Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) derived from Y regressing on Y,X past.
XgCsY	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC difference ratio where $\text{BICDiffRatio} \geq \text{gamma}$ .
XgCsY_f test	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using f-test where $\text{p. val} \geq \text{alpha}$ .
XgCsY_BIC	The flag is true if X Granger-causes Y using BIC where $\text{BIC}_H0 \geq \text{BIC}_H1$ .
maxLag	A maximum possible time delay.
H0	glm object of Y regressing on Y past.
H1	glm object of Y regressing on Y, X past.
followOut	is a list of variables from function followingRelation.
BICDiffRatio	Bayesian Information Criterion difference ratio: $(\text{BIC}_H0 - \text{BIC}_H1) / \text{BIC}_H0$ .

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-VLGrangerFunc(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

---

VLTransferEntropy      *VLTransferEntropy*

---

**Description**

VLTransferEntropy is a Variable-lag Transfer Entropy function. It tests whether X VL-Transfer-Entropy-causes Y.

**Usage**

```
VLTransferEntropy(
  Y,
  X,
  maxLag,
  nboot = 0,
  lx = 1,
  ly = 1,
  VLflag = TRUE,
  autoLagflag = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.05
)
```

**Arguments**

Y	is a numerical time series of effect
X	is a numerical time series of cause
maxLag	is a maximum possible time delay. The default is 0.2*length(Y).
nboot	is a number of times of bootstrapping for RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy() function.
lx, ly	are lag parameters of RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy().
VLflag	is a flag of Transfer Entropy choice: either VLflag=TRUE for VL-Transfer Entropy or VLflag=FALSE for Transfer Entropy.
autoLagflag	is a flag for enabling the automatic lag inference function. The default is true. If it is set to be true, then maxLag is set automatically using cross-correlation. Otherwise, if it is set to be false, then the function takes the maxLag value to infer Granger causality.
alpha	is a significant-level threshold for TE bootstrapping by Dimpfl and Peter (2013).

**Value**

This function returns of whether  $X$  (VL-)Transfer-Entropy-causes  $Y$ .

TEratio	is a Transfer Entropy ratio. If it is greater than one , then $X$ causes $Y$ .
res	is an object of output from <code>RTransferEntropy::transfer_entropy()</code>
followOut	is a list of variables from function <code>followingRelation</code> .
XgCsY_trns	The flag is true if $X$ (VL-)Transfer-Entropy-causes $Y$ using Transfer Entropy ratio where <code>TEratio &gt; 1</code> if $X$ causes $Y$ . Additionally, if <code>nboot &gt; 1</code> , the flag is true only when <code>pval &lt;= alpha</code> .
pval	It is a p-value for TE bootstrapping by Dimpfl and Peter (2013).

**Examples**

```
# Generate simulation data
TS <- SimpleSimulationVLtimeseries()
# Run the function
out<-VLTransferEntropy(Y=TS$Y,X=TS$X)
```

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