

# Package ‘FAVAR’

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**Title** Bayesian Analysis of a FAVAR Model

**Version** 0.1.3

**Description**

Estimate a FAVAR model by a Bayesian method, based on Bernanke et al. (2005) <[DOI:10.1162/0033553053327452](https://doi.org/10.1162/0033553053327452)>.

**License** GPL-3

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doParallel, Matrix

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**Suggests** testthat, vars, patchwork

**NeedsCompilation** no

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ar2ma	<i>ar2ma</i>
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## Description

Convert auto regression (AR) coefficients to moving average (MA) coefficients

## Usage

```
ar2ma(ar, p, n = 11, CharValue = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

ar	AR coefficients matrix which is k x kp dimension, k is numbers of variables, and no constant.
p	lags orders of AR.
n	lags orders of MA generated.
CharValue	logical value, whether compute character value.

## Details

the formula is,

$$A_s = F_1 * A_{s-1} + F_2 * A_{s-2} + \dots + F_p * A_{s-p}$$

where A is MA coefficients, F is AR coefficients.

## Value

a matrix which is MA coefficients.

## Examples

```
require(vars)
data(Canada)
ar <- Bcoef(VAR(Canada, p = 2, type = "none"))
ar
ar2ma(ar, p = 2)
```

BGM

*Separate R From X***Description**

$X$  may include some information related with  $R$ . The function extract factors from  $X$  which is not related with  $R$  by iteration based on Boivin et al. (2009).

**Usage**

```
BGM(X, R, K = 2, tolerance = 0.001, nmax = 100)
```

**Arguments**

$X$	a large matrix from which principle components are extracted.
$R$	a numeric vector which we are interesting in, for example interest rates.
$K$	the number of extracted principle components.
tolerance	the difference between factors when iterating.
nmax	the max iterations, see details.

**Details**

The algorithm is as follows:

1. Extract the first  $K$  principal components noted  $F_t^{(0)}$  from  $X$ .
2. Regress  $X$  on  $F_t^{(0)}$  and  $R_t$ , and get regression coefficients  $\beta_R^{(0)}$  of  $R_t$ .
3. compute  $X_0^{(0)} = X_t - R_t \beta_R$ .
4. Extract the first  $K$  principal components noted  $F_t^{(1)}$  from  $X_t \setminus \{R_t\}$ .
5. repeat step 2 - step 4 until precision you want.

**Value**

the first  $K$  principle components, i.e.  $F_t^{(n)}$ , not containing the information  $R$ .

**References**

Boivin, J., M.P. Giannoni and I. Mihov, Sticky Prices and Monetary Policy: Evidence from Disaggregated US Data. American Economic Review, 2009. 99(1): p. 350-384.

**Examples**

```
data('regdata')
BGM(X = regdata[,1:115], R = regdata[,ncol(regdata)], K = 2)
```

**Description**

Estimate a VAR base on Bayesian method

**Usage**

```
BVAR(
  data,
  plag = 2,
  iter = 10000,
  burnin = 5000,
  prior = list(b0 = 0, vb0 = 0, nu0 = 0, s0 = 0, mn = list(kappa0 = NULL, kappa1 =
    NULL)),
  ncores = 1
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	a ts object which include all endogenous variables in VAR
<code>plag</code>	a lag order in VAR
<code>iter</code>	iterations of the MCMC
<code>burnin</code>	the first random draws discarded in MCMC
<code>prior</code>	a list whose elements is named. $b_0$ is the prior of mean of $\beta$ , and $vb_0$ is the prior of the variance of $\beta$ . $\nu_0$ is the degree of freedom of Wishart distribution for $\Sigma^{-1}$ , i.e., a shape parameter, and $s_0^{-1}$ is scale parameters for the Wishart distribution. $mn$ sets the Minnesota prior. If <code>prior\$mn\$kappa0</code> is not NULL, $b_0, vb_0$ is neglected.
<code>ncores</code>	the number of CPU cores in parallel computations.

**Value**

a list:

- `A`, the samples drawn for the coefficients of VAR
- `sigma`, the samples drawn for the variance-covariance of the coefficients of VAR
- `sumr1t`, a list include `varcoef`, `varse`, `q25`, `q975` which are means, standard errors, 0.25 quantiles and 0.975 quantiles of `A`.

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coef.favar	<i>Extract Coefficients of a FAVAR Model</i>
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**Description**

Extract Coefficients of a FAVAR Model

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'favar'
coef(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	a class 'favar'.
...	additional arguments affecting the coefficients produced.

**Value**

A list

**fct\_loading** Factor loading matrix in a factor equation.

**varcoef** regression coefficients in VAR equations.

---

FAVAR	<i>FAVAR</i>
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---

**Description**

Estimate a FAVAR model by Bernanke et al. (2005).

**Usage**

```
FAVAR(
  Y,
  X,
  fctmethod = "BBE",
  slowcode,
  K = 2,
  plag = 2,
  factorprior = list(b0 = 0, vb0 = NULL, c0 = 0.01, d0 = 0.01),
  varprior = list(b0 = 0, vb0 = 0, nu0 = 0, s0 = 0, mn = list(kappa0 = NULL, kappa1 =
    NULL)),
  nburn = 5000,
  nrep = 15000,
  standardize = TRUE,
  ncores = 1
)
```

**Arguments**

Y	a matrix. Observable economic variables assumed to drive the dynamics of the economy.
X	a matrix. A large macro data set. The meanings of X and Y is same as ones of Bernanke et al. (2005).
fctmethod	'BBE' or 'BGM'. 'BBE' (default) means the factors extracted method by Bernanke et al. (2005), and 'BGM' means the factors extracted method by Boivin et al. (2009).
slowcode	a logical vector that identifies which columns of X are slow moving. Only when fctmethod is set as 'BBE', slowcode is valid.
K	the number of factors extracted from X.
plag	the lag order in the VAR equation.
factorprior	A list whose elements is named sets the prior for the factor equation. $b\theta$ is the prior of mean of regression coefficients $\beta$ , and $vb\theta$ is the prior of the variance of $\beta$ , and $c\theta/2$ and $d\theta/2$ are prior parameters of the variance of the error $\sigma^{-2}$ , and they are the shape and scale parameters of Gamma distribution, respectively.
varprior	A list whose elements is named sets the prior of VAR equations. $b\theta$ is the prior of mean of VAR coefficients $\beta$ , and $vb\theta$ is the prior of the variance of $\beta$ , it's a scalar that means priors of variance is same, or a vector whose length equals the length of $\beta$ . $nu\theta$ is the degree of freedom of Wishart distribution for $\Sigma^{-1}$ , i.e., a shape parameter, and $s\theta$ is a inverse scale parameter for the Wishart distribution, and it's a matrix with $ncol(s\theta)=nrow(s\theta)=$ the number of endogenous variables in VAR. If it's a scalar, it means the entry of the matrix is same. $mn$ sets the Minnesota prior. If $varprior\$kappa\theta$ is not NULL, $b\theta$ , $vb\theta$ is neglected. $mn$ 's element $kappa\theta$ controls the tightness of the prior variance for self-variables lag coefficients, the prior variance is $\kappa_0/lag^2$ , another element $kappa1$ controls the cross-variables lag coefficients spread, the prior variance is $\frac{\kappa_0\kappa_1}{lag^2} \frac{\sigma_m^2}{\sigma_n^2}$ , $m \neq n$ . See details.
nburn	the number of the first random draws discarded in MCMC.
nrep	the number of the saved draws in MCMC.
standardize	Whether standardize? We suggest it does, because in the function VAR equation and factor equation both don't include intercept.
ncores	the number of CPU cores in parallel computations.

**Details**

Here we simply state the prior distribution setting of VAR. VAR could be written by (Koop and Korobilis, 2010),

$$y_t = Z_t\beta + \varepsilon_t, \varepsilon_t \sim N(0, \Sigma)$$

You can write down it according to data matrix,

$$Y = Z\beta + \varepsilon, \varepsilon \sim N(0, I \otimes \Sigma)$$

where  $Y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_T)'$ ,  $Z = (Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_T)'$ ,  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_T)$ . We assume that prior distribution of  $\beta$  and  $\Sigma^{-1}$  is,

$$\beta \sim N(b_0, V_{b_0}), \Sigma^{-1} \sim W(S_0^{-1}, \nu_0)$$

Or you can set the Minnesota prior for variance of  $\beta$ , for example, for the  $m$ th equation in  $y_t = Z_t\beta + \varepsilon_t$ ,

- $\frac{\kappa_0}{l^2}$ ,  $l$  is lag order, for won lags of endogenous variables
- $\frac{\kappa_0 \kappa_1}{l^2} \frac{\sigma_m^2}{\sigma_n^2}$ ,  $m \neq n$ , for lags of other endogenous variables in the  $m$ th equation, where  $\sigma_m$  is the standard error for residuals of the  $m$ th equation.

Based on the priors, you could get corresponding post distribution for the parameters by Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm. More details, see Koop and Korobilis (2010).

## Value

An object of class "favar" containing the following components:

**varr1t** A list. The estimation results of VAR including estimated coefficients A, their variance-covariance matrix sigma, and other statistical summary for A.

**Lamb** A array with 3 dimension. and Lamb[i, , ] is factor loading matrix for factor equations in the  $i$ th sample of MCMC.

**factorx** Extracted factors from  $X$ .

**model\_info** Model information containing nburn, nrep,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $p$ , the number of endogenous variables in the VAR.

## References

1. Bernanke, B.S., J. Boivin and P. Elias, Measuring the Effects of Monetary Policy: A Factor-Augmented Vector Autoregressive (FAVAR) Approach. Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2005. 120(1): p. 387-422.
2. Boivin, J., M.P. Giannoni and I. Mihov, Sticky Prices and Monetary Policy: Evidence from Disaggregated US Data. American Economic Review, 2009. 99(1): p. 350-384.
3. Koop, G. and D. Korobilis, Bayesian Multivariate Time Series Methods for Empirical Macroeconomics. 2010: Now Publishers.

## See Also

[summary.favar](#), [coef.favar](#) and [irf](#). All of them are S3 methods of the "favar" object, and [summary.favar](#) that prints the estimation results of a FAVAR model, and [coef.favar](#) that extracts the coefficients in a FAVAR model, and [irf](#) that computes the impulse response in a FAVAR model.

## Examples

```
# data('regdata')
# fit <- FAVAR(Y = regdata[,c("Inflation", "Unemployment", "Fed_funds")],
#             X = regdata[,1:115], slowcode = slowcode, fctmethod = 'BBE',
#             factorprior = list(b0 = 0, vb0 = NULL, c0 = 0.01, d0 = 0.01),
```

```

#           varprior = list(b0 = 0, vb0 = 10, nu0 = 0, s0 = 0),
#           nrep = 15000, nburn = 5000, K = 2, plag = 2)
##---- print FAVAR estimation results-----
# summary(fit,xvar = c(3,5))
##---- or extract coefficients-----
# coef(fit)
##---- plot impulse response figure-----
# library(patchwork)
# dt_irf <- irf(fit,resvar = c(2,9,10))

```

---

GI

*Generalized Impulse Response Function (GIRF)*


---

### Description

Compute GIRF of linear VAR by Koop et al. (1996)

### Usage

```
GI(ma, sig_u, imp_var = 1, unit = "sd")
```

### Arguments

ma	a list, it's MA coefficients from ar2ma
sig_u	a covariance matrix from VAR models. Note the order of variables in sig_u is same with one of ma[[i]].
imp_var	a numerical scalar which specifies the impulse variable.
unit	'sd' is one standard deviation shock which is default, and 'one' is one unit shock.

### Value

a data frame, its row is variables and its column is horizons.

### References

Koop, G., M.H. Pesaran and S. Potter, Impulse Response Analysis in Nonlinear Multivariate Models. *Journal of Econometrics*, 1996. 74: p. 119-147.



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 irf

*Impulse Response Function for FAVAR*


---

### Description

Based on a shock to one standard deviation, compute the IRF.

### Usage

```
irf(
  fit,
  irftype = "orth",
  tcode = "level",
  resvar = 1,
  impvar = NULL,
  nhor = 10,
  ci = 0.8,
  showplot = TRUE
)
```

### Arguments

<code>fit</code>	a "favar" object.
<code>irftype</code>	'orth' is orthogonal IRF, and 'gen' is generalized IRF.
<code>tcode</code>	a scalar 'level' or a vector whose length equal $\text{ncol}(X) + \text{ncol}(Y)$ . $X, Y$ is the parameters of the FAVAR function. If the variable is taken the logarithm('ln') or the first difference of logarithm('Dln'), the IRF needs to return to its level value, and you can set the parameters. Default is 'level'.
<code>resvar</code>	It's column indexes in $\text{cbind}(XY)$ that specify response variables. It's a scalar or a vector. A change variable cause a change of another variable, and the former is viewed as impulse variable, the latter is viewed as response variable.
<code>impvar</code>	Specify a impulse variable. A numeric scalar which is position of variables in VAR equation. If it's NULL that is default, its position is the last.
<code>nhor</code>	IRF horizon, default is 10.
<code>ci</code>	confidence interval, default is 0.8.
<code>showplot</code>	whether show figure. TRUE is default. If multiple pictures would be printed, the package patchwork is needed to be loaded.

### Value

A list containing 2 elements. The first element is a object from `ggplot2::ggplot`, the second element is raw data for IRF.

### Examples

```
# see FAVAR function
```

---

irf_single	<i>Compute Impulse Response for Every Sample of MCMC</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

Compute Impulse Response for Every Sample of MCMC

**Usage**

```
irf_single(i, varrlt, Lamb, Ynum, type = "orth", impvar = 1, nhor)
```

**Arguments**

i	the <i>i</i> th sample in MCMC
varrlt	estimation results for VAR equations, and it's got by BayesVAR.
Lamb	a array with 3 dimension. and Lamb[i, , ] is factor loading matrix for factor equations.
Ynum	the ncol(Y).
type	'orth' is orthogonal IRF, and 'gen' is generalized IRF.
impvar	a numeric scalar which is position of variables in VAR equation. If it's NULL that is default, its position is the last.
nhor	IRF horizon, default is NULL

**Value**

IRF matrix, the dimension is ncol(Xmatrix) + ncol(Y)xnhor.

---

regdata	<i>Sample Data</i>
---------	--------------------

---

**Description**

A matrix containing a large macro data set regdata.

**Usage**

```
regdata
```

**Format**

A matrix regdata with 190 rows and 118 variables,

**X** X is the first column through the 115th column in regdata, a large macro data set

**Y** Y is the 116th column through the 118th column in regdata, driving the dynamics of the economy

**Source**

<https://sites.google.com/site/garykoop/home/computer-code-2>

---

slowcode

*Slow-moving or Not*

---

**Description**

A logic vector, record the variables that are the 1st column through the 115th column in regdata is slow-moving or not.

**Usage**

slowcode

**Format**

An object of class logical of length 115.

**Source**

<https://sites.google.com/site/garykoop/home/computer-code-2>

---

summary.favar

*Print Results of FAVAR*

---

**Description**

S3 method for class "favar".

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'favar'
summary(object, xvar = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object            a "favar" object from function FAVAR.  
 xvar             a numeric vector, which variables in X was printed. It's a index. If it's NULL, estimation results for  $X = F + Y$  is not printed.  
 ...              additional arguments affecting the summary produced.

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects

**Examples**

```
# see FAVAR function
```

---

tcode

*Transformation Form for X*

---

**Description**

Record the transformation form for the 1st column through the 115th column in regdata, and 'level' is Level, 'ln' is logarithm, 'Dln' is first difference of logarithm.

**Usage**

```
tcode
```

**Format**

An object of class character of length 118.

**Source**

<https://sites.google.com/site/garykoop/home/computer-code-2>

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