

# Package ‘unfold’

August 26, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Mapping Hidden Geometry into Future Sequences

**Version** 1.0.0

**Maintainer** Giancarlo Vercellino <giancarlo.vercellino@gmail.com>

**Description** A variational mapping approach that reveals and expands future temporal dynamics from folded high-dimensional geometric distance spaces, unfold turns a set of time series into a 4D block of pairwise distances between reframed windows, learns a variational mapper that maps those distances to the next reframed window, and produces horizon-wise predictive functions for each input series. In short: it unfolds the future path of each series from a folded geometric distance representation.

**License** GPL-3

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**Imports** torch (>= 0.11.0), purrr (>= 1.0.1), imputeTS (>= 3.3),  
lubridate (>= 1.9.2), ggplot2 (>= 3.5.1), scales (>= 1.3.0),  
abind (>= 1.4-5), coro (>= 1.1.0)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** [https://rpubs.com/giancarlo\\_vercellino/unfold](https://rpubs.com/giancarlo_vercellino/unfold)

**Suggests** knitr, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0)

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

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dummy_set	<i>Tech Stock Time Series Dataset</i>
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**Description**

A multivariate dataset for closing prices for several major tech stocks over time. Source: YahooFinance.

**Usage**

```
data(dummy_set)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 2133 observations of 4 variables:

**dates** Character vector of dates in "YYYY-MM-DD" format.

**TSLA.Close** Numeric. Closing prices for Tesla.

**MSFT.Close** Numeric. Closing prices for Microsoft.

**MARA.Close** Numeric. Closing prices for MARA Holdings.

**Examples**

```
data(dummy_set)
plot(as.Date(dummy_set$dates), dummy_set$TSLA.Close, type = "l")
```

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unfold	<i>unfold: Mapping Hidden Geometry into Future Sequences</i>
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**Description**

A variational mapping approach that reveals and expands future temporal dynamics from folded high-dimensional geometric distance spaces, unfold turns a set of time series into a 4D block of pairwise distances between reframed windows, learns a variational mapper that maps those distances to the next reframed window, and produces horizon-wise predictive functions for each input series. In short: it unfolds the future path of each series from a folded geometric distance representation.

**Usage**

```

unfold(
  ts_set,
  horizon,
  metric = "euclidean",
  latent_dim = 32,
  enc_hidden = c(512, 256),
  dec_hidden = c(256, 512),
  p_drop = 0.1,
  out_kind = "linear",
  epochs = 30,
  batch_size = 64,
  lr = 0.001,
  beta = 1,
  beta_warmup = 0,
  grad_clip = NULL,
  valid_split = 0.2,
  verbose = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.1,
  dates = NULL,
  patience = NULL,
  n_bases = 10,
  seed = 42
)

```

**Arguments**

ts_set	A data frame containing the time series, one column per series.
horizon	Integer. Forecast horizon; controls reframing and output functions.
metric	Distance metric fro the 4D tensor; one of "euclidean", "mahalanobis", "cosine". Default: "euclidean".
latent_dim	Integer. Latent dimensionality of the variational mapper. Default: 32.
enc_hidden, dec_hidden	Integer vectors. Hidden layer widths for encoder/decoder MLPs, defaulting to c(512, 256) and c(256, 512) respectively.
p_drop	Dropout probability in encoder/decoder. Default: 0.1.
out_kind	Output nonlinearity of the decoder; one of "linear", "tanh" (used by the VAM). Default: "linear".
epochs	Integer. Training epochs. Default: 30.
batch_size	Integer. Dimension of batch. Default: 64.
lr	Double. Learning rate. Default: 1e-3.
beta	Double. KL weight for the variational objective. Default: 1.
beta_warmup	Integer. If > 0, linearly warm up beta over this many epochs. Default: 0.
grad_clip	Optional max norm for gradient clipping. If you never see exploding losses or NaNs, you can leave it NULL, otherwise, if training diverges, try clipping (1 to 5) and monitor if loss becomes smoother. Default: NULL.

<code>valid_split</code>	Double. Proportion of samples held out for validation during VAM training. Default: 0.2.
<code>verbose</code>	Logical. Print training progress. Default: TRUE.
<code>alpha</code>	Double. Forecasting confidence interval used in plotted graphs. Default: 0.1.
<code>dates</code>	Character. Vector with the original time series dates in text format, used for plotting purposes. Default: NULL.
<code>patience</code>	Integer Epochs of stagnation before early stopping. Default: NULL.
<code>n_bases</code>	Integer Maximum number of distributions to use for the Gaussian mixture. Default: 10.
<code>seed</code>	Random seed for reproducibility. Default: 42.

### Value

A named list with the following components:

- ‘**description**’ Character string giving a short description of the model (parameters, activations and so on).
- ‘**model**’ A fitted variational mapper object of class `vam_fit`. This object contains the trained network plus helper methods (encode, decode, reconstruct, predict, etc.).
- ‘**dist\_array**’ A numeric 4D array containing pairwise distances between reframed time-series windows: shape  $N \times N \times M \times M$ , where  $N$  is the number of reframed time-series windows and  $M$  the number of time series.
- ‘**loss\_plot**’ A ggplot plot object showing the training and validation loss curves across epochs.
- ‘**pred\_funs**’ For each time series, a length-horizon list containing four gaussian mix distribution functions (dfun, pfun, qfun, rfun).
- ‘**graph\_plot**’ A list including ggplot graphs for each time series reproducing the predicted horizon with confidence interval `alpha`.
- ‘**time\_log**’ An object measuring the elapsed time for the computation (preprocessing, training, prediction, etc.).

### Author(s)

**Maintainer:** Giancarlo Vercellino <giancarlo.vercellino@gmail.com> [copyright holder]

### See Also

Useful links:

- [https://rpubs.com/giancarlo\\_vercellino/unfold](https://rpubs.com/giancarlo_vercellino/unfold)

### Examples

```
if (requireNamespace("torch", quietly = TRUE)) {
  set.seed(42)

  # --- Create a small synthetic dataset with 3 series ---
  T <- 100
```

```
ts_set <- data.frame(
  A = cumsum(rnorm(T, mean = 0.02, sd = 0.1)) + 10,
  B = cumsum(rnorm(T, mean = 0.01, sd = 0.08)) + 8,
  C = cumsum(rnorm(T, mean = 0.00, sd = 0.12)) + 12
)

# --- Fit the model ---
fit <- unfold(
  ts_set      = ts_set,
  horizon     = 3,
  metric      = "euclidean",
  latent_dim  = 16,
  enc_hidden  = c(64, 32),
  dec_hidden  = c(32, 64),
  epochs      = 5,
  batch_size  = 16,
  verbose     = FALSE
)

# --- Inspect predictive functions ---
names(fit$pred_funs)      # series names
names(fit$pred_funs$A)    # "t1" "t2" "t3"

# Example: call predictive function for series A, horizon t1
f_t1 <- fit$pred_funs$A$t1$rfun
# Example: draw 500 simulated values
# sims <- f_t1(500)
}
```

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